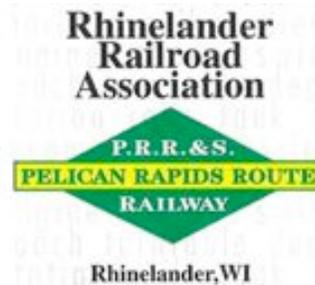


Warrant



November 2010

The Golden Spike was driven at Promontory Point May 10, 1869, now a National Historic Site in Utah cared for by the National Park Service. The “Champaign Photo” by Andrew J. Russell was called “East and West” by the photographer. It shows the completion of the transcontinental railroad: the meeting of the Central Pacific (Jupiter) and Union Pacific (#119) is the most famous of the photos taken that day. Sam Montague of the CP and General Grenville Dodge of the UP were Chief Engineers and shook hands at the historic event captured by Russell on silvered glass.



The hobby of model railroading has a counterpart of sorts. It’s not quite a national pride issue; however, it is a personal accomplishment (pride of sorts) issue. A Golden Spike is awarded, much as Boy Scouts are awarded merit badges, for accomplishing personal model railroading milestones. The Golden Spike is the easiest award to earn from NMRA. You can find the requirements simply by going to the NMRA website. Join me while we look at Paul Wussow’s, NMRA #061632 0A meticulous work of many years. They are illustrations of his efforts to earn a NMRA Golden Spike Award. I’ll lead you by the hand through salient requirements.

First, the applicant must display six pieces of rolling stock made from craftsman, scratch built or detailed commercial kits. Paul’s handiwork is shown on the next several photos taken on the layout of T. Bon French, NMRA # 144164 00. Paul’s work has also been displayed on the Choo Choo store layout in Three Lakes. He’s not just another pretty face. He gets it done.

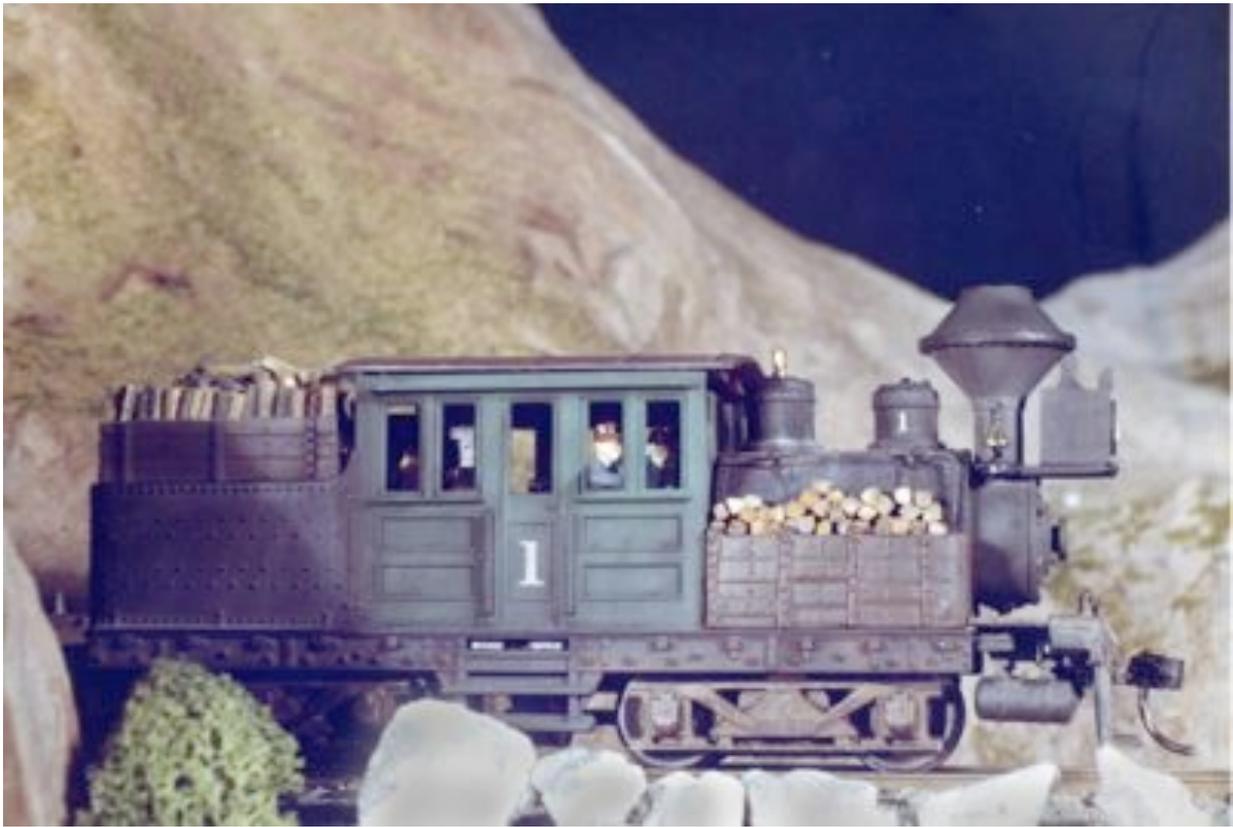


In the left most photo above a 2-8-0 highly detailed kit has a lowered boiler added as a brass casting. The old time tank car was detailed and weathered by Paul. On the above right old #1, a highly detailed MDC kit has lower boiler brass casting, new cab, engineer, fireman painted and weathered with individually cut wood piles detailed ¼ logs.



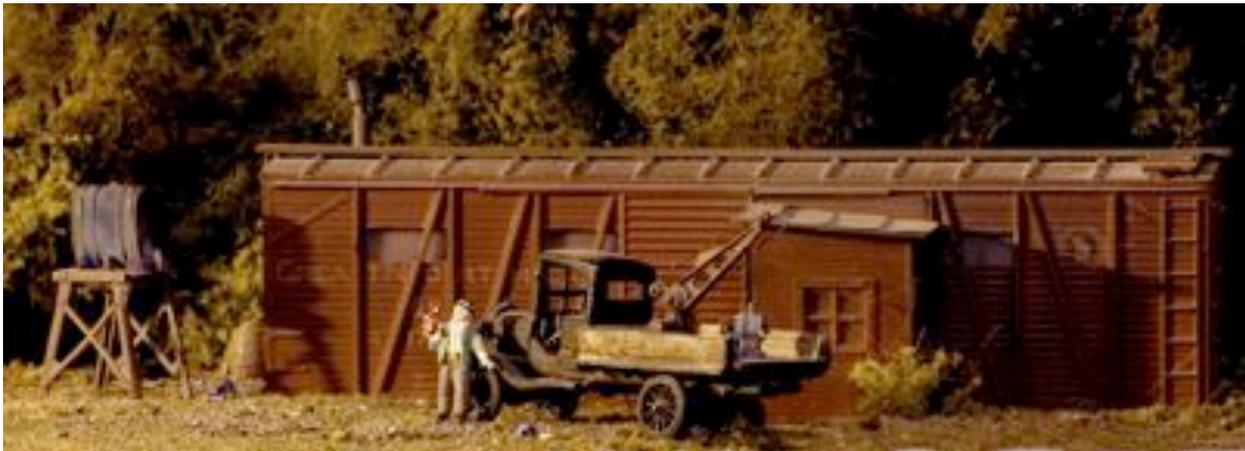
Above, to satisfy the same requirement, and a requirement to detail eight square feet of scenery, Paul displays four box cars. Three of the cars were weathered. One however was new to add complementary color in this fall photo on Paul's photo diorama.

Paul is expert at lighting, lighting design, computer control of lighting, set design, illusion and photography. His craftsmanship is consistent and of high quality. He has a well-designed and implemented layout in Glen Ellyn, Illinois and is just beginning a new layout in Three Lakes. Paul teaches his techniques with little prompting. I've a feeling we've a future class in the offing.



Number 1 on Paul's 622 layout (named for the street address, his 5th layout) won 2nd place at Du Page Division photo contest. It also won an honorable mention at Model Railroader's 50th anniversary contest was held at the Pfister Hotel, July 8 and 9, 1983 in Milwaukee.

The Golden spike award requires five structures be built. It doesn't say they need to be in the same scale nor in a scene. It requires three types of track such as turnout, crossover, crossing be running and ballasted. It does not say how well it must run or how good the workmanship need be. You do need to have your layout wired so that two trains can run simultaneously. It does not demand a Y, a reverse loop or fancy wiring. The last requirement is to have one accessory that works using electrical power (a crossing light or gate or something of your choice).



Black jacks Bar in the afternoon is show above. Paul provides a story on his web page for your enjoyment. Please see www.mmwg.com/rails for more regarding Black jack's Bar. Below, a machine shop is displayed on Paul's layout photo module. A somewhat different view similar to the photo below took Best in Show at the Midwest Regional of NMRA and an Honorable Mention in the manufactures' contest. This model was built with internal lighting and a fire in the center furnace. All items were detailed, painted and weathered.



Paul's work is well beyond the level expected or experienced of or by most of us. I use it as an illustration since Paul is exceptional at providing an illusion. When you get down to what model railroad builders are: we're illusionists. We create a believable or enjoyable scene in our own mind. We satisfy our desire for some inner joy when others and we appreciate the effort put forth. NMRA, in offering the Golden Spike are simply saying "Good Show".

November 2010

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|-----------------------------|----|----|--------------------|----|----|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 Business Meeting | 4 | 5 | 6 NMRA Annual Operate Session Sheboygan |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Work Session | 11 | 12 | 13 Train Fest 9 AM-5: 30 PM |
| 14 Train Fest 9 AM-5: 30 PM | 15 | 16 | 17 Work Session | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Work Session | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | Note: Train Fest State Fair Park Milwaukee |

Nov. 6, 2010- Saturday, WinnebagoLand Division Annual Operating Session- Sheboygan, WI Info at www.wld-nmra.com

Nov. 13-14, 2010- Saturday & Sunday Trainfest- State Fair Park- West Allis, WI Info at www.trainfest.com

Dec. 1st, 2010 – Wednesday, 7 PM, Depot, Annual Meeting of Members RRA, vote on officers for 2011

Dec. 4th, 2010 – Saturday, 1PM Christmas Party for Members, at Jim Brown’s home: 2372 Pine Cone Drive, Tomahawk, WI 54487

Dec 18th, 2010 – Saturday, 1PM Open House at the Depot.. we’ll need member’s to help with the public. Thanks.

January 15-16, 2011- Sat & Sunday 14th Annual Model Railroad Show & Sale- Stevens Point, WI Ramada Hotel- Corner of Business 51 & North Point Drive
Info at www.trainweb.org/cwmr Or Contact Tim at btvictor@charter.net

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by Jim Brown
Jim Brown, President, R.R.A.**

Just a note to let members know what is up coming at the depot:

Members coming down on Wednesdays probably found a mess downstairs in the layout room. We are in the process of a major cleanup. It's been needed for several years.

Also, upcoming on the December first business meeting, our annual meeting, we'll be electing officers for the calendar year 2011. Nominations will be taken at the November business meeting.

On Saturday, December 4th, we will have a Christmas get together at my home starting at 1 pm in the afternoon.

Please bring a dish to pass. If you have any questions or dietary problems we should know about then call me, Jim Brown at 715-282-5232 and we'll try to help you.

Note from your Editor:

First, I'm a day or two tardy in getting this month's issue out due to abnormal medical concerns (not that I'm all that abnormal). Sorry. I'd like to get them done one or two days prior to meetings. Thus, attend one of the Wednesday evening work sessions and I'll be exonerated.

Color Photos in this issue were taken by Paul Wussow and used with his permission. One exception is the black and white photo on page 1 which is copyrighted and perhaps now the property of the National Park Service and thus not to be recopied for any purpose that does not reflect a non-profit educational bent such as our newsletter.

The purpose of any newsletter is to inform. We know we have several constituencies to inform. You might fall into one or more of them. I'll attempt to inform and entertain: the model builder, the model operator, the model designer, the model painter, the one who loves the sound of rail, the smell of rail, the order of things, transportation, history, art, electrical, maintenance, computers, collecting things, polishing things, counting things, talking about stuff, simply the fun of a hobby, the fun dealing with people, loves group projects, is a student or simply a model railroader who loves the real thing and must own a little railroad model because a real one is far too dirty, big, expensive, noisy and just more than the spouse (or landlord) will tolerate.

R.G. Blocks 11/4/2010 rgblocks@me.com or 715-546-2807

We will have a Christmas Open house on Saturday, December 18th starting at 1PM. Members are asked to help out on that day.

Thank you. Hope your Halloween was a sweet treat.

**Jim Brown, President,
Rhineland Railroad Association**

The next business meeting of R.R.A. Will be on Wednesday, December 1st, at 7:00pm.

We'd appreciate your participation by running for an office. Let your feelings be known. You can do it!

Business meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. All other Wednesdays are either work sessions, train running sessions or simply bull sessions.

9000 Visitors explored the depot during the summer of 2010. Many also ran the train.