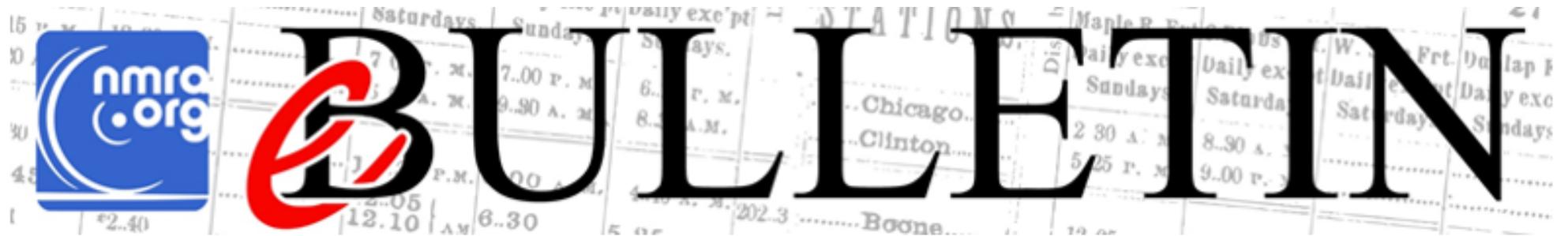


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January / February 2016

## Highball to Indy 2016: Operations and deadlines



While attending *Highball to Indy, 2016* in July, you'll also be able to highball (if given appropriate orders) 53 miles of

the 1964-era Wabash Railroad mainline from Peru to Lafayette, Indiana. We're pleased to announce that the Operations Road Show (ORS) group will be bringing their modular-constructed layout to the Indianapolis Convention.

The purpose of this layout is to provide a learning experience, for both new operators and "seasoned" veterans, in the art of Timetable and Train Order (TT&TO) Operations. ORS offers three-hour operating sessions on a first-come, first-served basis. You may sign up for sessions at the convention. Just like prototype TT&TO Operations, all communication between the dispatcher and the crews as they negotiate the 400 feet of mainline track is by written train orders, car cards, waybills and telephonic OS reports. Each 3-hour session is set up for 6 two-person crews. Crews will choose jobs which can cover all kinds of work, from through freight and passenger trains, to locals and industrial switchers.

### Two good reasons to preregister now

There are at least two good reasons for you to preregister to attend *Highball to Indy, 2016*. The first good reason is that you will be saving money if you preregister soon. Registration fees will increase on February 2, 2016. That's not too far away. Procrastination will

### A few words from the President



### Remember to vote!!!

A very Happy New Year to you all. I hope 2016 is a great model railroad year for us all. The February issue of *NMRA Magazine* will contain the NMRA ballot and is sent to members who normally do not receive the magazine. If you are a voting member of the Association and are located in North America, you will receive this edition of *NMRA Magazine*

In this edition, besides the usual excellent columns and articles, you will find statements of qualifications and a ballot for the offices open. So please vote; the information you need is contained within that issue and your vote is important!

We rely on our members to make the NMRA work and that includes the volunteers seeking office...and you, who vote for those offices. My sincere thanks and appreciation for those who wish to serve; there are no losers. Any of these candidates would serve well but all cannot win. So please read about them and choose the ones you feel best suited to serve. Also note that not every member can vote for every office. The NMRA is your organization, so help us keep it vibrant and relevant.

By the way, overseas members will receive the same information and ballot directly from their Regions.

And if you are not a regular reader of the *NMRA Magazine*, please consider upgrading your membership to include the magazine. It is a world-class modeling magazine but more importantly, a great member benefit to track what your organization is doing.

I frankly am perplexed that members would not want communication from the NMRA although we do try to reach as many as we can with the email you're reading now, the free electronic *NMRA eBulletin*, and the *InfoNet News*, which is sent to Region leaders. But *NMRA Magazine* is the best way to follow your Association and keep current on what is happening. So please consider a subscription.

Speaking of the *NMRA eBulletin*, it also perplexes me that we actually get complaints from members about being "peppered" with email messages! Huh? The *NMRA eBulletin* comes out six times a year. Hardly a daily nuisance! And VP Gerry Leone and Chuck Diljak do a fabulous job of making it readable and interesting.

cost you a minimum of \$20.

The second good reason - and it may be the better reason - is that notices regarding the availability of the registration packet and the opening of housing registration will be emailed first to those convention attendees who have preregistered. If you have preregistered, you'll have an early chance to choose the tours you are interested in and to reserve your hotel room. If you have not preregistered, do it now! Visit [www.nmra2016.org](http://www.nmra2016.org) for access to registration forms.

## What's new at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)

By [Ben Sevier](#), NMRA IT Manager

The NMRA website is continually being updated with information for members. Here are a couple of items you might find interesting:

1. A new "Recruitment" video has been posted to both the home page and promo materials page. See the story about it in this issue of the *eBulletin*.
2. 10 video clinics have been added to the National Convention Clinic Videos. To see them, log into the website with your registered login account, and click on the big red Watch Clinic Videos button on the Member Home page.
3. There have been several new clinic masters added to EduTrain. They're under the Education Menu if you are logged into the website.
4. The Official Minutes of the 2015 Annual Board of Directors meeting has been posted to the website - 'In The News' for logged in members.

### Did you know?

The Member Home page menu line has many "Members Only" items, including the *NMRA Bulletin* section of *NMRA Magazine*, the Data Sheets that used to be available on CD, the Listing of NMRA Honors, and other items of interest to members.

Why join an organization and then complain about communications from it? Perhaps I am dense but I do not understand, so if you are in that category, please let me know why you feel that way. We certainly do not want to be a nuisance and the overwhelming majority of readers enjoy the *NMRA eBulletin*. Frankly, so do I. Thanks Gerry and Chuck for such a great job.

Those are my thoughts; what are yours?

[Charlie](#)

## New NMRA Recruitment video available for viewing, downloading, and...recruiting!

The NMRA has just released a new video aimed at recruiting new members. This five-minute video is perfect for use at train shows, home layout tours, swap meets, Rotary meetings...wherever there's anyone who may be interested in model railroading.

The video begins by outlining all the reasons model railroading is a great hobby, then tells the viewers that they can get even more out of the hobby by joining the National Model Railroad Association. The video touches on the many benefits of the organization, with "fellowship," "learning," and "fun" being three of the most important.

This new recruitment video can be viewed at - and downloaded from - our website at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org). You'll find a link to view the video on the homepage - look for the large graphic that says "Welcome to Model Railroading." Click on that and you'll be taken to a page where you can watch.

To download the video, log in to the *Members Only* website, click on "Promo Materials" (in the red bar at the top of the page) and you'll be taken to a page that says, "Download the NMRA\_Recruitment\_Video." Click on that and the video will be saved to your hard drive. The video is an MP4 and is about 140 megabytes, so the download should be reasonably quick. Virtually any computer should be able to play it.

The video was produced by NMRA Vice President/Special Projects Gerry Leone, MMR, along with Board member Peter Youngblood, MMR, and Piedmont Division member Norman Lundin.

## A few notes about the ballot in the February issue of *NMRA Magazine*

By [John Stevens](#), NMRA Secretary

The 2016 election ballot will be in the February issue of *NMRA Magazine*. You may find the following information useful.

1. One of the positions up for election is the At-Large Worldwide Director. Since this is a worldwide election, EVERY member of the NMRA worldwide should be receiving a copy of the magazine.
2. You will not see the word BALLOT on the cover of the magazine. Postal regulations in some parts of the world do not allow that.

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Editors:

[Gerry Leone](#), MMR, HLM, and [Chuck Diljak](#)

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*The NMRA eBulletin is an official bi-monthly production of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc. Publishing Department ([Don Phillips](#), Manager). Its purpose is to keep every NMRA member informed about organization news and events. If you know of an NMRA member who is not receiving this mailing, please direct them to [here](#) to update their email address. If you no longer wish to receive these mailings, please don't mark them as SPAM. Instead, click the Safe Unsubscribe link at the bottom of this page. ©2016 National Model Railroad Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy TN 37384.*

3. We will NOT be using the removable mailing labels for this election. There are directions on the ballot telling you how to fill in your membership information.
4. There will be five ballot collection points for this election. Some of those collection points will also be distributing the ballot electronically. If you receive a ballot electronically and decide to return the ballot electronically, please do NOT also return a ballot through the post.
5. The Candidate Statements in *NMRA Magazine* are restricted to 400 words. The candidates are allowed to write longer statements for the website. All Candidate Statements will be posted on the website. You should find a note in the "[IN THE NEWS](#)" section which should have a link to the correct section. Otherwise, you can find them in [NMRA Elections under Organization & Structure](#).

## Notice of the BOD Winter Meeting, 2015

The Winter Board of Directors meeting will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, on February 20, and 21 at the Drury Hotel. The Budget and Operations meeting will begin at 2:00 PM on Friday, February 19, and the Board will be in caucus that evening. Both of those meetings are only open to invited guests.

The regular, open session of the BOD meeting begins at 9:00 AM on Saturday, February 20. Because the agenda is not yet finalized, there's no way to tell if the meeting will continue on Sunday. All members are invited to attend the open sessions. Watch [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) for details.

## Slate of candidates for the 2016 NMRA elections

by [John Stevens](#), NMRA Secretary

The 2016 Slate of Candidates is as follows:

### Atlantic District Director

Peter Bowen  
Kathy Millatt

### At Large Worldwide Director

Mike Brestel  
Bob Ferguson

### Western District Director

Steve Barkley  
Don Fowler  
Stephen Priest

## Region and National Conventions

(Only those Regional conventions occurring in the next three months are listed)



Jul 3-10

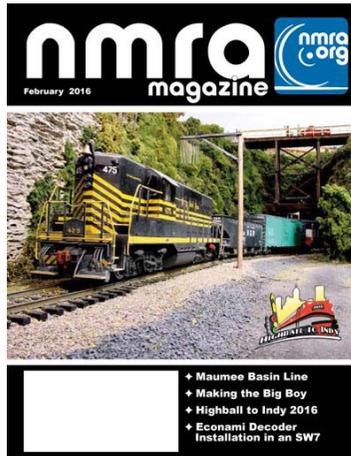
[NMRA National Convention, Indianapolis, IN](#)

## Master Model Railroaders



571: Tom Brennison, SER

## In Future Issues of *NMRA Magazine*



- Making the Big Boy
- Indy 2016 General Convention Tour Info
- Warner Clark's Maumee Basin Line
- Econami Decoder Installation
- Layout Rewiring