



# The Dispatcher



## Officers for 2004-2006

Superintendent:  
**Jeff Ashby**

Dispatcher:  
**John Reitz**

Treasurer:  
**Gene Cowan**

AP Chairman:  
**Daniel Metzger**

Board of Directors:  
**Glenn Roon**

Division Scribe:  
**Chuck White**

Dispatcher Editor:  
**Rich Mohr**

North Central Region  
NMRA

Northeast Hoosier  
Division 3

Meetings:  
2nd Monday of  
each month  
7:00 pm

## Meeting Notes

North East Hoosier Division 3 - December 13, 2004

Attending: Art Solomon, Dan Brown, Chuck White, Richard G. Berger, Gary Evans, Gene Cowan, Reid Cowan, Jeff Ashby, Mel Wise, John Cartwright, Drake E. Omstead, Rich Swihart, John Phenicie, Glenn Roon, Jr., and guest Ted V. Hansen (15 total)

### Old Business

There was no old business.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Gene advised there were no changes since last month's report.

### ANNUAL MEET FOR 2005

Our 11th Annual!

Alan Bell wasn't available, but Chuck discussed the Home Layout Tour. For Saturday, he has a "North Side" tour planned with the following layouts: Alan Bell, Mark Wilson, Walt Griffin, Carl Dirig, Jeff Ashby and the Garrett MRRC. Sunday will feature a South & West tour with the following layouts: Lon Hawkins, Dan Metzger, Drake Omstead, Bob Kline (who is just down the street from Drake's in Warsaw) and also the Garrett MRRC will be open. Times, maps, etc will be available on the day of the meet.

### CLINIC

Jeff demonstrated how to make your own casting molds (and parts) with a product called "Alumilite." For more information, go to their web site at: [www.alumilite.com](http://www.alumilite.com) Jeff brought several molds he previously had made with Alumilite's Silicon Molding Rubber (RTV). Making the molds is the first part of a 2 step process. For this clinic, Jeff made several N Scale coal loads and a window

detail part with the casting resin. Jeff said the cost of these self made parts & molds is on average about 1/3 of what the product would cost if you purchased a commercially made version. Jeff said the cost savings depend on how many you make of a given part.

Modeling Point – Jeff cuts up his scrap parts, including old RTV molds for use as filler in future molds and parts. The RTV molds can be used to cast plaster parts too.

After about 20 minutes, Jeff's sample cast resin parts had cooled down sufficiently that he was able to separate them from the mold and pass them around for inspection. Jeff also said you don't have a lot of working time with the casting resin – 90 seconds is about the max. Jeff handed out copies of the directions – we'll see if these can be included with this issue of the newsletter.

Everyone attending agreed this was a very impressive and very informative clinic. Nice job Jeff! Thanks!

After the break, we had a brief business meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### RAIL PASS

At TrainFest in Milwaukee Chuck White picked up this application for a temporary NMRA membership. He handed out several of these trial membership applications. For \$9.95 you get a six month "Rail Pass" membership. Rail Pass members can vote, attend conventions and participate in Contests, but cannot hold office. The Rail Pass also includes six months of the NMRA magazine: Scale Rails. Chuck has more of the Rail Pass applications. Contact him if you're interested, or if you know of someone who would be.

**MONTHLY CLINICS**

Clinics for our next several meets were discussed: For January, Chuck White will present: "Why we're hosting the OP-Sig, Operations for your layout, and comments or anecdotes from various operations "experts" about their experiences with Op-Sigs in other parts of the country." For April, Chuck is planning an update on his "Train Chasing 101" clinic. For May, a clinic on "Painting Backdrops" is planned.

**THREE RIVERS OP SIG**

April 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 2005

We have about 9 registrations thus far. Jeff Ashby said his layout would be available and could handle several operators. Drake has received the aprons.

**ACIEVEMENT PROGRAM**

Per last month's comment about individual contacts, plans are to start at Art Solomon's, sometime after the first of the year.

**DRAWING**

There wasn't one - no picked up the certificate from Hobbyland.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

All of the events announced have already occurred.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at approximately 9:00 pm.



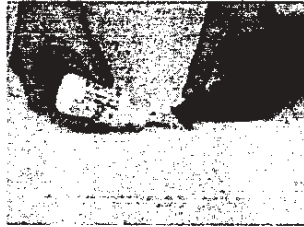
# Alumilite Corporation

## Mold Making & Casting Instructions

### Making Your Mold

1. Pick out your item to be molded and cast.

2. Glue your item on to a piece of non-porous wood or plastic. Note: Super Glue works well.



*Glue Your Item to the Mold base. Shown above is the a gargoyle gaming figure being glued.*

3. Use an old plastic container, wood, angel iron, plastic, Lego's, PVC tubing, or any other non-porous material to make a mold box. Your mold box must be 1/4" to 1/2" inch larger than your item, but not too large that you waste your silicone molding rubber.



*A plastic cup with bottom cut off was used here. This also demonstrates the claying of the edge.*

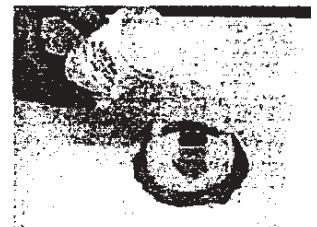
4. Roll out Alumilite's Modeling Clay and seal your mold box to prevent the silicone from leaking. Duct tape and packaging tape also work well.

5. Shake the Quick Set Catalyst and add it to the Quick Set Silicone Base. Mix thoroughly, making sure to scrape the sides and the bottom of the container.



*You can pour and mix the catalyst into the existing silicone rubber container.*

6. Once the Quick Set Silicone is thoroughly mixed, pour the mixed silicone into the mold box, starting from one corner and letting it flow naturally over your item until it is completely covered. Make sure you pour the silicone at least 1/4" over the highest point of the item you are molding.

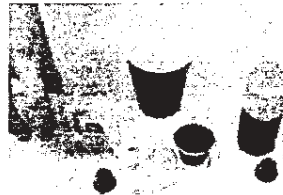


*Pour the Silicone into your mold container.*

7. Let the Quick Set Silicone set up for approximately 4-8 hours. Once the silicone has set up, break away your mold box and demold your original item.

## Casting Your Parts

1. Before casting your part, warm your mold in an oven at 140 degrees F for 15 to 20 minutes or in a microwave oven on high for one minute. This will allow the Super Plastic to set up more uniform and give you a better casting.



*Measure out equal parts of both the A side and B side.*

2. Using Alumilite's Super Plastic, you are now ready to cast exact replica's of your original. First, shake the "B" side of the Super Plastic. Measure out equal amounts of each side in the 1 oz. measuring cups and pour them into a paper or plastic mixing cup. Stir vigorously for approximately 25-30 seconds.



*Pour the A & B side together in a cup.*



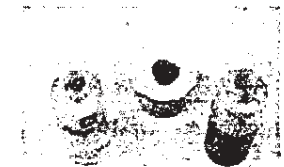
*Thoroughly mix the A & B side together, scraping the sides of the cup for 25-30 seconds.*

3. Pour the Alumilite Super Plastic in your mold from the lowest point allowing the resin to flow naturally into every part of the mold.



*Pour the Alumilite in your mold.*

4. 90 seconds after you started mixing, the material will begin to transform from liquid to solid. This is highlighted by the color change.



*Transforming from liquid to solid.*

5. Wait approximately 3-5 minutes before demolding your part. To demold, gently flex the mold away from the casting and pull it out.



*The original part, mold and the cast Alumilite replica.*

***You are now ready to pour your next exact replica of your original.***

Alumilite Corporation

315 East North Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Phone: 800-447-9344  
Fax: 616-488-4001  
Email: [world@alumilite.com](mailto:world@alumilite.com)  
Website: [www.alumilite.com](http://www.alumilite.com)

*Visit us at [www.alumilite.com](http://www.alumilite.com) for more detailed instructions and for a complete Frequently Asked Question Section on Mold Making and Casting.*