

## Magazine Storage Units

By Allen Merta, Eastern Iowa Division

Back in January when my wife suggested we gut the basement and reconfigure the walls to create a large workshop and train room, I knew I would be looking for a solution to storing my magazines and other printed material. Currently I have two tall shelving units loaded with 31 years of “stuff.”

I was fortunate enough to attend the NMRA national convention - Cincinnati Limited 2005 – in July. I attended a clinic presented by Tony Koester, a regular columnist for *Model Railroader* magazine, entitled “Raising a Fallen Flag: NKP’s St. Louis Division.” During that clinic, Tony provided a sidebar note on a solution he discovered for magazine storage. I immediately sat up in my chair. He showed a photo of a literature organizer that he purchased at Staples, the office supply store. He screwed lengths of 2 x 4 inch pine to the bottom of the organizers and added swivel casters to the 2 x 4s. I had my solution!

My wife ordered three literature organizers with the thought that we would assemble one, try Tony’s solution and, if it worked, we would complete the other two organizers. If it didn’t work, we could send the other two back to the store.



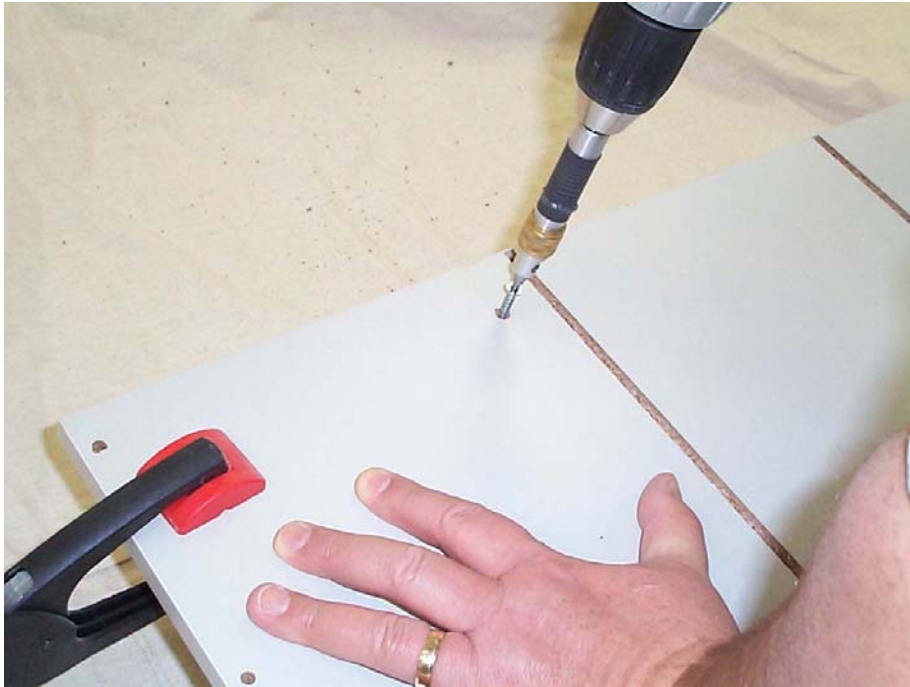
Here is the organizer as it arrived in its box.



**Here are the supplies needed for this project, not including the organizer.**



**Here I am cutting 28-inch lengths of 2 x 4s that will be screwed to the bottom of the literature organizer.**



**I used clamps to hold the 2 x 4s to the bottom of the bottom panel so that I could drive and countersink the screws from inside the organizer.**



**Here is a photo of the underside of the bottom panel with the 2 x 4s and casters.**



**This photo shows the box of the organizer after it was glued and clamped together.**



**Here is the finished magazine storage unit. I found that each slot would not always hold a full 12 months of magazines.**