

The Kingpin

The Columbus HO Model Railroad Club

The Columbus HO Model Railroad Club was founded in 1934 and is celebrating it's Diamond Jubilee this year. They are having a public open house on Sunday, November 8th, from 2 to 4 p.m. Contact Howard Smith, MMR, for information at 614-871-0500.



Mid-Central Region
Board of Director's Meeting
Schmidt's Restaurant, Columbus, OH
11 October 2009

Board of Directors Meeting Mid-Central Region National Model Railroad Association 1 May 2009, Columbus, Ohio

The Board of Directors of the MCR (Mid-Central Region) met May 1, 2009 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

President Dick Briggs called the meeting to order at 9:00 p.m.

President Briggs asked the secretary to call the roll. All officers were present. All division superintendents except for Division 5 were

BOD Meeting
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From the President.....

July is here and hopefully everyone is enjoying the great summer weather. As you have noticed the *Kingpin* has taken on a fresh NEW look. The newsletter has just stepped in to the 21st Century, thanks to Don Wilke, who has done a great job in updating the format. The new format will allow us to print the *Kingpin* at a much reduced cost and allow for a full color issue available on the region's web site.

After much discussion with all the experts in the region, the Board of Directors decided at the spring meeting to change the format, frequency and

President
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MCR holds first annual "Superintendents Breakfast"

At the recent Mid-Central Region Annual Spring Convention, the first ever "Superintendents Breakfast" was held in Columbus, Ohio. This event was put together by MCR V.P., Merlyn Jarman, who is also Superintendent of Cincinnati Division 7.

Breakfast
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Continued: President

delivery methods for the *Kingpin*. Effective with this issue there will be only one printed issue each year mailed to all members. Two additional issues will be published in the spring and fall soon after the BOD meetings. These will be available on the region web site. For those members who do not have the capability or desire to read the *Kingpin* on line, they can request that a paper copy be mailed to them. Please fill out the form on page 7 and return to me by October 1, 2009 to continue receiving the *Kingpin* by regular mail. The winter issue will contain all of the convention information as well as the ballots for election years and will continue to be mailed to all MCR members.

We realize that some members will not be entirely happy about these changes, but with the ever increasing postage and printing fees and the static level of income on the regional level we are forced to adjust our thinking

so that we can stop the red ink. These changes will allow us to balance the budget and avoid the possibility of subscription charges for the newsletter like other regions.

Authors wanted...

There are no articles in the files to be published. Please submit your articles on anything of interest to Don Wilke at webmaster@midcentral-region-nmra.org. This is also a great place to advertise events held by your division that may be of interest to all. Please contact Don directly for information regarding format for text and photos. The electronic format will allow for more space and color photos.

This is a great way to earn points towards the AP Author Certificate. So join in and contribute, after all, this is your newsletter.

***Kingpin* Deadlines...**

Fall issue: October 20, 2009

Winter issue: December 1, 2009

**Continued: Breakfast**

The idea for this meeting was in response to the needs of MCR Division Superintendents to have a forum where ideas could be exchanged and concepts could be discussed about what's working and what's not in other Divisions. Conventions and Board of Directors meetings are busy affairs where chance meetings may involve two or more Division Superintendents. However, there has not been any

real scheduled "talk time" for a majority of the Superintendents to swap ideas and concepts that could improve the operations of their respective Divisions.

This year's event centered on the topic of "Gaining and maintaining NMRA Membership". It's focus was on what ideas are working in the various MCR Divisions for

Breakfast

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MCR Officers

MCR President:

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MCR Vice President:

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MCR Secretary:

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- Division 11: Paul Kurutz
Division11super@midcentral-region-nmra.org

MCR 2009 Election Results

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| President | Richard Briggs |
| Vice President | Merlyn Jarman |
| Secretary | Bob Weinheimer |
| Treasurer | Paul Smith |



Continued: BOD Meeting

present, Division 5 was represented by proxy by its assistant superintendent.

Chuck White, Manager of the upcoming North Central Region convention, made a presentation promoting their convention in Fort Wayne, IN October 15-18.

The President asked for a motion to accept the minutes as published. Motion was made, seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Outgoing Treasurer Gary Sole reported that the Treasurer's records have been handed over to the new Treasurer, Paul Smith. President Dick Briggs asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded, and passed by the Board Members.

President's Report:

President Briggs reported that the Secretary will send welcoming letters to new members of the region. He also noted that we would have a discussion of the *Kingpin*, under New Business.

Committee Reports

Membership Report:

Written report submitted prior to meeting, no oral report.

Contest: Bob Weinheimer reports a total of 46 models and 48 photographs so far in the contest. Bob reported the changes at National Model Contest level along with additional cost to conventions bottom line.

Achievement Program:

Written report submitted

prior to meeting, no oral report.

Editor: Nat King, MCR Editor, is asking for articles from the members for the *Kingpin*.

Conventions: Conventions report deferred to later in the meeting.

Special Projects: Tom Buetler reported total sales of kits for 2008 was \$1,516.84. The total sales of kits year to date is \$108.21. The total inventory is 105 kits on hand.

Webmaster: The Webmaster report was given by Donald Wilke, deferred to later under new business.

Nominating Committee:

Howard R. Smith, MMR, Manager, gave the report on who won the election for Mid Central as follows:

President:

Richard Briggs

Vice President:

Merlyn Jarman

Secretary:

Bob Weinheimer

Treasurer:

Paul Smith

President Briggs asked for a motion to destroy the ballot from the election, seconded and passed by the Board Members.

Audit Committee: Audit Report will be done later as reported by President Briggs.

Education: Tom Miller was appointed to Manage the Education Committee.

BOD Meeting

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Continued: **BOD Meeting**

Historian: The Historian has been working closely with the Webmaster, Don Wilke, to best determine the method for preserving our History. Clearly 21st century technology strongly suggests a digital storage method. In addition to preserving trees, digital records can be backed up to protect against catastrophic events such as fire. To the best of my knowledge, there were not backup copies available. In addition, this added security, the records can be made more readily available to the members.

Conventions:**2008 Convention Report:**

Gary Sole gave the final report for the 2008 convention in Cleveland and turned the report, in book form, over to 2010 Convention Manager Bob Weinheimer.

2009 Convention Report:

Total attendance as of Friday evening was 201 including 143 primary registrants. Tours are doing well. Operating session attendance was 51. Banquet sales to date are 112. The Chocolate Tour attracted 15 people. Break-even was 125 registrants. The highest cost was computer equipment for the clinics. Rentech supplied 3 laptops and two 2,000 lumen projectors for \$600.

2010 Convention Report:

The 2010 Convention has six (6) paid registrations. Their break-even point is 140 full registrations. Our plans for promotions of the convention

include going to a meeting in each division in the region.

2011 Convention Report:

The group is working on securing a hotel for the convention.

Old Business:

The Division 11 boundary issue has been resolved. Clinton County, PA has been transferred from the Mid Eastern Region to MCR, Division 11.

Division Reports

The superintendents gave the division reports.

Full written reports of the superintendents of each Division are available on the MCR web site. Each superintendent presented a very brief summary of the written report.

Division 1: Membership is down.

Division 2: Membership is constant. The Jamboree added 33 Railpass members.

Division 3: Membership is 171. Special projects include a Lone Eagle Payne car. V&O gondolas are now available. The division is in good financial shape. Train show attendance was down but the show was still profitable.

Division 4: An October trip to Cass, WV is planned. An open house and train show was held April 26.

Division 5: Membership is stable with constant attendance. Railfest in January will be up against GATS. A Boy Scout Merit Badge Program is in the works.

Division 6: The division is doing very well. We meet every

six weeks, attendance has been constant. The June meeting will be an all day event in Marion, OH.

Division 7: The division remains healthy with a membership of about 300 and meeting attendance of 60 to 70. The Spring Flea Market was successful. A bus trip to layouts in central Ohio is planned. The W&LE hopper cars sold out, the current project is an Allegheny Midland 3 bay hopper. The board recently donated \$1,000 to the National to assist in defraying the costs of the DCC patent legal fees.

Division 8: Division is working to apply modern business practices to its operations.

Division 9: Membership is about 60, meetings are the second Saturday of the month. We will meet in Portsmouth, OH September 9, Divisions 3, 6, 7, and 10 are invited to join us.

Division 10: The division has found a permanent meeting place at a local church. A trip to the Grosser's layout is planned.

Division 11: The division is financially viable. We have 50 members with meeting attendance of about 25. The jamboree attracted 150 people but the train show was not so good.

Reports

Vice President: Merlyn Jarman reported that there will be a Sunday morning breakfast meeting attended by the region

BOD Meeting

Continued on page 5.

Continued: **BOD Meeting**

officers as well as division superintendents and assistant superintendents. The subject of discussion will be membership. The clinician database has received little attention due to the time requirements of a new job. One goal will be to identify clinicians who would be willing to travel to division meetings.

National President: Mike Brestel explained the NMRA insurance policy. All national, regional, and divisional events in the United States and Canada are covered as are 100% NMRA clubs and NMRA SIGS. It is required that only NMRA members take on roles at any level and that only NMRA members realize the benefits of membership. Non members may attend division meetings but must not hold any office or appointed position, participate in contests, or otherwise receive any benefits of membership.

New Business:

President Briggs gave a talk about the changes to *Kingpin* as follows:

Change the printing to three times a year to save money for the regional.

Explain the change to the membership at division meeting and in the newsletters.

Encourage participation in writing articles for the *Kingpin*.

Next issue will be hard copy using a new printer.

Request forms for sending the *Kingpin* by mail or E-Mail.

Fall issue will be first electronic copy of the *Kingpin*.

President Briggs discussed the true cost of printing the *Kingpin* and the effects on the region's budget in the future. President Briggs said by going with the electronic format, it will save the region money and the need for special projects to raise money for the region could be curtailed in the future.

Under this A, the next issue will be a paper copy printed by a new and less expensive printing company. The issue will contain request forms [see page 7]. These forms can be used to request continued delivery of a paper version or to request an E-Mail be send advising of the posting of a new issue on the MCR web site. Failure to send such a form will result in no paper version and no E-Mail notification. Please note the deadline at the bottom of the form.

The Fall, 2009 issue is will be the first electronic *Kingpin*. The electronic version will be capable of handling many pages, this should encourage greater submission of articles. Note that *Kingpin* articles can be used toward the Achievement Program Author certificate. Division superintendents are requested to explain these changes at meeting and in newsletters.

Webmaster, Don Wilke, talked about the new MCR WEB Site changes. On May 2, the MCR will have two new Archive

Sites, one for the general membership containing some information that was on the original MCR web sites and the other Archive, an MCR Officer's Archive containing information useful for the officers of the Region. The MCR Members Archive can be found as the last menu item on the MCR Web site. Don Wilke will send E-Mails to all MCR Officers and Board Members in about a week announcing the MCR Officers Archive Site.

President Briggs asked for a motion to change the *Kingpin*. Printing from four (4) times a year to three (3) times a year. Gary Sole made and Lin Young seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Division 2 Superintendent, Susan Werner presented a proposal that Division 2 host the 2012 MCR convention. The convention would be at the Sheraton in Mars, PA April 18-22, 2012. A core working group has been established. It is anticipated that 26 operating layouts will be available and that at least 40 layouts will be available for the layout tour. Gary Sole moved to accept the proposal. Bob Fink seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert M. Weinheimer
Secretary, MCR



2009 Mid Central Region Convention Contest Report

| First | Second | Third |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Steam Locomotive | | |
| Frank Telewski | Frank Telewski | Jim Grell |
| Diesel Locomotive | | |
| Gary J. Burdette | Gary J. Burdette | Anthony Parrish |
| Freight Cars | | |
| Gary J. Burdette | Gary J. Burdette | Jerry Ashley, MMR |
| Passenger Cars | | |
| Gary J. Burdette | Jerry Ashley, MMR | |
| Cabooses | | |
| Gary J. Burdette | Bob Frankrone | Jerry Ashley, MMR |
| Non Revenue Cars | | |
| Thomas Atherton | Gary J. Burdette | Jerry Ashley, MMR |
| On Line Structures | | |
| Gary J. Burdette | Roger Mitchell | Roger Mitchell |
| Off Line Structures | | |
| R. Dean Coddington | Jerry Ashley, MMR | |
| On Line Display | | |
| Bob Lawson | Bob Frankrone | |
| Off Line Display | | |
| Larry Richards | Larry Richards | Ken Day |



| Arts & Crafts | Member |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Railroadians Original | Beth Ashley |
| Needlework Pattern | Bobbi Hedge |
| Needlework Original | Bobbi Hedge |

| First | Second | Third |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Model Color Print | | |
| Howard Smith, MMR | Howard Smith, MMR | Howard Smith, MMR |
| Prototype Color Print | | |
| Jane Hancock | Howard Smith, MMR | Howard Smith, MMR |
| Model B&W Print | | |
| Don Wilke | | |
| Prototype B&W Print | | |
| Jim MacKnight | Jane Hancock | Don Wilke |
| Model 35mm Color Slide | | |
| Ken Day | Bob Frankrone | Bob Frankrone |
| Prototype 35mm Color Slide | | |
| Ron Morgan | Ron Morgan | Bob Frankrone |

| Special Awards | Member |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Directors Award | Bob Weinheimer, MMR |
| Wenderfer Award | Scott Firth |

Calendar

11 October 2009
MCR BOD Meeting – Columbus, Ohio

15 – 18 October 2009
Mid-Eastern Regional Convention – Hagerstown, Maryland

15 – 18 October 2009
North-Central Regional Convention – Fort Wayne, Indiana

13 – 16 May 2010
Mid-Central Region Convention – Charleston, West Virginia

◆

Pictures of the MCR Conventions Winners are located at:
<http://archive.midcentral-region-nmra.org/conventionFold/>

Continued: **Breakfast** attracting new NMRA Members and what's being done to serve and maintain the existing Division Members.

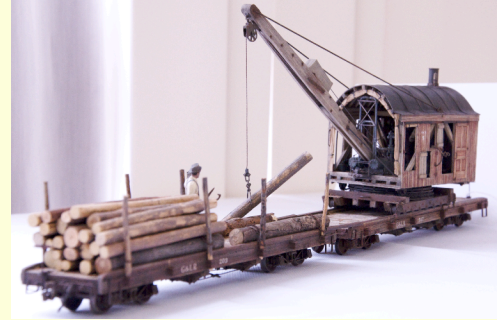
A catered breakfast was served on Sunday morning of the Convention and all MCR Division Superintendents and Assistant Superintendent's along with the MCR officers were invited to attend and participate. As a result of the meeting, there were approximately 19 ideas for attracting new Members and 11 ideas for maintaining current Members! Ideas for attracting new members ranged from using more of the



*Best of Show: Photograph
Winter Wonderland
Dale H. Smith*

NMRA's "Rail Pass" program, working with local radio and TV stations, and holding a model railroad Jamboree that promotes model railroading. The results are posted on the MCR website and can be downloaded.

All agreed that attendees came away with new ideas that could be used in their Division to serve and build their membership. The Convention committee for next year's 2010 "Coalfield Express" convention in Charleston, W.V. has agreed to schedule another "Super's Breakfast" meeting.



*Best of Show: Model
Barnhart Loader & Flat Car
Sam Swanson*



Kingpin Request Form

Check the box to the right if you wish to continue to receive a paper copy of the MCR's *Kingpin*. Cut out this form and send this form to:

MCR President Dick Briggs
4397 Hidden Street
Grove City, Ohio 43123

Use the following only if you need to correct the mailing label on the back of this form.

Name:

Address:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Please Reply by 1 October to
receive the Fall *Kingpin*.

Check the box to the right if you wish to receive an E-Mail notice that the *Kingpin* is available on-line. EITHER send an E-Mail to Don Wilke at webmaster@midcentral-region-nmra.org Subject: Kingpin

OR mail this form to:

MCR President Dick Briggs
4397 Hidden Street
Grove City, Ohio 43123

Your E-Mail address:

(Please print clearly)

Please Reply by 1 October to receive the Fall *Kingpin*.

2010 MCR Convention: Coalfield Express

The 2010 MCR convention, the Coalfield Express, will be hosted by Division 9 and take place in Charleston, WV May 13-16, 2010. The convention hotel will be the Embassy Suites. The room rate is \$139. As explained earlier to division superintendents, this is actually very competitive with other hotels in the area as breakfast and an afternoon happy hour are included in the room rate. In addition, all rooms are suites that are much nicer than normal hotels. The Embassy Suites is also across the street from one of the largest center city shopping malls in the country with an Outback Steakhouse, Bennigans, Chilis, and a fast food court. Meeting room space for our convention is partially subsidized by a grant from the Charleston Visitors and Convention Bureau.

We are still working on the financial aspects of the meeting. As it appears now, the registration fee required to break even with 150 attendees is about \$60. Given the hotel's 2008 prices, we would have to charge about \$42 to cover costs for a meal comparable in scope to the one served this year at the Cleveland convention.



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