

The Kingpin



A publication of the Mid-Central Region of The National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

From the President's desk...

WOW! What a great convention! Many thanks to the folks from Division 9 for hosting a great gathering in Charleston. If you did not attend, you missed a super time. The clinics, industrial tours, and venue were top notch.

Division 5 is busily preparing to host next year's Mid-Central Regional Convention to be held at the Geneva-on-the-Lake Lodge. Convention details and registration information can be found on Division 5's WEB Site and will soon be posted on the Region's WEB Site.

At the Board of Directors Meeting the board decided to present awards to the Division producing the most growth in members each year, both in percentage and actual number. It is hoped that we will see a positive growth in new members in the next year. The Mid-Central Region's membership is slowly shrinking and we need to place recruiting and retaining members on the top of our list of priorities. Several of our Divisions have posted positive growth figures but the gains made do not offset the losses incurred. The recipients will be announced at the fall board meeting.

This was the first Regional Contest with a "Peoples Choice" category. Hopefully this will serve as motivation for members to enter the contests in the future. We will be working over the next few months to refine the process in an effort to reduce the labor intensive aspects of tabulation and scoring.

Finally, I want to thank all the members who have contributed their time and effort over the past year keeping model railroading "The Worlds Greatest Hobby". I especially want to thank the outgoing Superintendents for all of their hard work and efforts over the past years.

Dick Briggs, MMR, Mid-Central Region President

The Coalfield Express

Well, *The Coalfield Express* was a great success. We ended up with 168 primary registrants with family members bringing us up to a total count of 221. We even had about a dozen registrants from the Mid-Eastern Region. While we do not yet have a final financial accounting, the event was profitable to the Coal Division. Mid-Central Region President Dick Briggs wrote to say "The convention was well done and everyone I talked with had a wonderful time. This will be a bench mark that conventions will be compared to for a long time."



A highlight of the convention was the venue, The Embassy Suites Hotel in downtown Charleston. The guest accommodations were outstanding. The sales staff was very helpful; they worked with us well in advance of the convention to anticipate all of our needs. Even so, when we needed more tables for various functions they appeared very quickly.

The Coalfield Express
Continued on page 2.

Continued: *The Coalfield Express*

Clinics were numerous and well received. Clinic organizer Gary Burdette had to deal with several last minute cancellations but other clinicians offered to do additional clinics or to repeat a clinic. The raffle and silent auction were so popular that both ran out of table space. We received nearly 100 items from manufacturers of model railroad items for the raffle. The contest had so many entries that we had to get 10 additional tables. I don't have a count of the number of models entered but there were over 100 photo entries. The tours did not sell quite as well as expected but were profitable and well enjoyed. The tours to the strip mine and the power plant received numerous positive comments. The three operating layouts sold out their Thursday evening operating sessions early, one owner opened up an extra session Friday evening. The Scenic Mountaineers Model Railroad Association displayed three of their N scale layouts. The Coal Heritage Trail brought a series of displays depicting the history of coal mining in West Virginia. The Sunday layout tours were well attended. I had 75 visitors. Even the fellows in Parkersburg had about 35 each.

We sold 149 banquet tickets, a much higher number than in recent years. Those who attended the banquet actually enjoyed the meal, it brought numerous favorable comments. Our guest speaker, Tom Dixon, the founder of the Chesapeake and Ohio Historical Society, gave an inspirational presentation reminding us that modelers are the future preservationists and historians of the railroad past.

Contest winners were recognized with Division 9's own Gary Burdette winning Best of Show for his coke car. MCR Webmaster Don Wilke was presented the Director's Award. Division 9 Superintendent and banquet Master of Ceremonies, Lin Young, was presented the Wenderfer Award.

We took a significant risk holding this convention in an upscale hotel. Our concerns included having to pay for unused hotel sleeping rooms and uneaten banquet meals. Those concerns turned out to be unfounded. The number of sleeping rooms reserved for the convention was typical for an MCR event but they were all sold by the middle of February. As noted above, banquet ticket sales were very high. A visit to nearly every division in the region was likely

The Coalfield Express

Continued on page 3.

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9

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Continued: *The Coalfield Express*

useful at helping members understand the excellent value offered by The Embassy Suites.

I must say that the success of this convention was due to the efforts of everybody who attended. From the clinicians to the contest entrants and judges to the folks who just came to enjoy the events, it was all of you who made it work. Without you, all the good planning and work by the convention committee and Division 9 members would have been for naught. Thank you for coming to Charleston!

The Coalfield Express, 2010 MCR Convention

Bob Weinheimer, MMR

2010 Convention Manager

NMRA 75th Anniversary



2010 is the 75th Anniversary of The National Model Railroad Association. Members of the Mid-Central Region and Model Railroad Clubs in The Mid-Central Region helped with the formation of The NMRA.

The Kingpin

The opinions, techniques and materials recommended in *The Kingpin* are solely those of the authors as individuals. They do not reflect the approval, opinions or policies of the Mid-Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Many materials used in many model railroading projects need adequate ventilation and other safeguards. Be aware of these risks before attempting to duplicate the techniques described in these articles. The use of any or all materials and techniques is solely at the risk of the user and the Mid-Central Region has no liability for the use or misuse of any and all materials and techniques described in these articles.

Comments, concerns, compliments, and suggestions should be directed to either:

Kingpin Editor: Dick Briggs, MMR

or

Kingpin Publisher: Don Wilke

**National Model Railroad Association
Mid-Central Region
Board of Directors Meeting
May 14, 2010**

The Mid-Central Region Board of Directors Meeting was held at The Embassy Suites Hotel in Charleston, West Virginia as part of the 2010 Mid-Central Region Convention. The meeting was called to order by MCR President Dick Briggs at 9:00 PM. The roll was taken. All MCR Officers and Division Superintendents or their proxies were present. All committee managers were present except Achievement Program, Special Projects, Membership, and Boy Scout Merit Badge.

MCR Secretary Bob Weinheimer noted that the minutes of the October meeting have been on the MCR WEB Site for some time and asked that they be approved. Chuck Kline so moved with Mark Norman seconding the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

MCR Treasurer Paul Smith asked that the *Treasurer's Report*, previously distributed to board members, be approved. Lin Young so moved with Bill Paulsell seconding the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Committee Reports

Membership: Dick Briggs reported that the Mid-Central Region is down 21 members over the past 12 months. Membership is up in five divisions and down in six divisions. Division 11 had the largest percentage increase in membership. Division 2 had the largest growth, 11 new members. Division 5 had the largest loss, 18 members.

Contest: Howard Smith reported that the number of photos submitted to the contest exceeds 100. He also noted that there will be a judges training program at 8:30 Saturday morning with judging to start at 9:30. Howard will be recruiting judges for the convention and will generate a list of qualified judges.

Achievement Program:
Frank Koch's written report noted that 53 AP certificates

BOD Meeting
Continued on page 5.

Superintendents Breakfast 2010 Report

The "Superintendent's Breakfast" meeting was held Sunday, May 16th in conjunction with the Mid-Central Region Spring Convention in Charleston, West Virginia.

This year's topic was "Building a Successful Achievement Program in Your Division". The meeting was chaired by Merlyn Jarman, V.P. Mid-Central Region. Attendees included Superintendents and Assistant Superintendent's representing most of the Mid-Central Region Divisions. Other attendees included officers of the MCR and Achievement Program coordinators. Special guest was Frank Koch, Executive Assistant Manager for the N.M.R.A. Achievement Program and MCR Region Achievement Program Manager.

Here are notes and suggestions from attendees on helping build the Achievement Program in Mid-Central Divisions:

1. Some portion of clinics at Regional Conventions should be geared toward attendees earning an AP certificate in a specific category such as cars, structures, electrical, etc.
2. Provide a clinic at the Regional Conventions that takes attendees through what is needed to build a model that would earn required points towards earning a judged merit award.
3. Establish a "help list" for your Division that identifies whom in your Division with specific skills can offer help to those trying to earn their AP certificates
4. Take the fear out of what's needed in order to fill out paperwork for in entering models or describing work done to earn points towards AP merit awards or requirements
5. Constantly communicate with Division members about how participating in the AP Program can improve their modeling skills and help them learn new techniques and skills in model railroading.
6. Have coursework

Super's Breakfast
Continued on page 7.

Continued: **BOD Meeting**

were issued to MCR members during the past 12 months. All divisions save 11 had members earn certificates. In addition, there were 40 merit awards and 10 Golden Spike Awards.

Kingpin: Publisher Don Wilke is always looking for good articles for *The Kingpin*. Please send these to editor Dick Briggs and to Don with “Kingpin” in the subject line. Please do not send PDF documents, send Word documents instead. The deadline for the Summer 2010 issue of *The Kingpin* is May 28. Most members receive the Kingpin electronically. When sending an email address, please make certain it is legible.

Convention: Discussion of the various conventions was deferred to later in the meeting. Merlyn Jarman reminded the board members of the Superintendent’s Breakfast to be held Sunday morning. The meeting topic will be “Building a Successful Achievement Program in your Division”.

Special Projects: Members were referred to the written report.

Webmaster: Don Wilke reported that the MCR WEB Site is getting 2000+ page hits per week, although the officers’ portion of the site is getting limited use. Don also needs email addresses for all Superintendents. Please send meeting and events schedules to the webmaster. Put “MCR” in the subject line for all MCR business.

Boy Scout Merit Badge: Dick Briggs reported that Kirk Perkins is the new volunteer for this position. Kirk will review the various existing programs then encourage expansion.

Education: Please see the previously submitted report.

Division Superintendents’ Reports

Note that all superintendents submitted written reports. Noted here are brief verbal comments made by the superintendents or their proxies.



MCR Sec: Bob Weinheimer; Tres: Paul Smith; Pres: Dick Briggs; V.P.: Merlyn Jarman

Division 1: David Hazlett reported that membership is around 100 and that the division’s new officers will take office in June.

Division 2: Susan Werner reported that membership is up to about 260 and that members have earned 4 AP certificates. The AP is receiving increased emphasis in Division 2.

Division 3: Wil Davis reported that 35 to 40 members attend each meeting. Clinics include hands on building projects. The division is in good financial shape. The annual train show is scheduled for November.

Division 4: Chuck Klein reported that the Training Day Program was a success. This program demonstrates model railroading techniques to the public. Art Bumpus will be the new superintendent and Jim Moore will be the new assistant superintendent. The division is working on a bid for the 2014 NMRA National Convention.

Division 5: Dale Smith reported a membership drop of 18 members, including some deaths. Meeting attendance is 30 to 40. *The Railfest* was a success. Division 5 will be hosting the 2011 MCR Regional Convention.

Division 6: Bob Lee reported that attendance is good and that the division is working on member retention.

Division 7: Randy Kerka reported that the flea market was good and that 60 to 90 members come to meetings. An upcoming meeting will feature mini-clinics. The division has an annual bus trip and a train show in the fall.

Division 8: Mark Norman reported that the division now has several well trained AP judges thanks to a program presented by Bob Weinheimer. The division has a new web site and reports that its membership program is doing well.

Division 9: Lin Young reported that the division

BOD Meeting
Continued on page 6.

Continued: **BOD Meeting**

has 62 members and regularly has 20 or more members at its meetings. Lin also noted that Division 9 is hosting the 2010 MCR Convention.

Division 10: Bill Paulsell reported on a series of layout visits for its summer meetings. The division had a successful diorama contest. Pete Birdsong has been nominated as the division's new superintendent.

Division 11: Galon Tonnell reported that a large number of dissatisfied members left but were replaced by a greater number of new members. *The Jamboree* worked well in spite of the changes. The division has a new web site.



MCR Board of Directors Meeting

Old Business

2009 Convention: No report.

2010 Convention: Bob Weinheimer reported that attendance at the convention was 221. All events are moving along smoothly.

2011 Convention: Matt Kross referred the board to an extensive written report. He noted that the big push is about to start. There may be some possible joint activity with historical societies.

2012 Convention: Susan Werner referred the board to her written report but noted that the convention will be April 26-29 at the Radisson in Pittsburgh.

Clinician Database: Merlyn Jarman reported the database is on the MCR web site. It contains 57 clinics that can be searched by author or topic.

Kingpin Printing: Dick Briggs reported that we have seen a 75% reduction in printing costs. The electronic version is in color.

New Business

MCR Shirts: MCR President Dick Briggs reported that new MCR shirts are available. They are navy blue with the region logo embroidered onto the shirt. Shirts are \$30 without a name, \$34 with your name embroidered. Dick also reported

that the latest project, a tool house, is at the laser cutter. This structure will be less expensive than the baggage building.

501C3: Jerry Doyle led the discussion on this issue. If we obtain 501C3 status, the IRS will recognize the MCR as a charitable organization. Features of this status include the deductibility of donations and being exempt from paying income taxes. The organization must be educational and cannot have gross income exceeding \$25,000. There is a filing fee and a probationary period. Bill Paulsell moved that the MCR apply for 501C3 status.

The motion was seconded by Chuck Kline. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Operations Guidebook: Dick Briggs reported that the Region and Division Operations Guidebook is not yet available but will be sent to superintendents when it does become available.

2014 NMRA National Convention: Chuck Kline described the efforts to have the 2014 NMRA National Convention in Cleveland. This would likely be a joint event with Divisions 1 and 5. Susan Werner moved to support Division 4's effort to host the 2014 NMRA National Convention. The motion was seconded by Merlyn Jarman and passed on a voice vote.

Membership Certificates: Chuck Kline moved that the region present certificates to the division with the greatest percentage increase in membership and the division with the greatest number increase in membership. The motion was seconded by Bill Paulsell and passed on a voice vote.

MCR Mission Statement: Dick Briggs read the draft mission statement. It will remain tabled pending further review.

MCR Regulations: Lin Young introduced a motion to change the MCR Regulations to clarify the number of terms to which an officer can be elected if initially taking

BOD Meeting
Continued on page 7.

Continued: **BOD Meeting**

office between elections. The motion was seconded by David Hazlett. Considerable discussion ensued as it was not clear to all members that the proposed wording actually did what Lin wanted: to allow the officer to serve two full terms. Indeed, it appeared the officer might not be allowed to ever serve in that office again. The motion was withdrawn.

Good of the Order

Jerry and Beth Ashley are both home ill. A card was circulated for signature from the group.

Dean Freitag is still in the nursing home in Ashland, Ohio. He can be reached at 419-207-2981.

Dick Briggs will present a report to the membership at the banquet.

NMRA President Mike Brestel noted that it was good to be in West Virginia.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Weinheimer,

MCR Secretary

Continued: **Super's Breakfast**

put together that is a complete step-by-step guide to learning and earning an Achievement Award for each AP category. Coursework would lay out what work is needed to be done, how to do this work to progress towards the AP certificate requirements, and materials needed. In effect, this would be a "home study" course for each AP area of expertise.

7. Give a "letter" after the name of the NMRA member that would indicate they have earned an AP certificate in a particular area of expertise i.e. Joe Jones (S), (E), (St) – (Scenery), (Electrical), (Structures)...etc.
8. Communicate to Division members that every meeting and show is an opportunity to have a model judged.
9. Use a series of Division meetings to focus on one (1) specific subject or AP area for 2-3 months and give clinics teaching and



MCR V.P. Merlyn Jarman holds the attention of the Region's Superintendents at breakfast

showing the work to be done to earn an AP certificate in that area.

10. Use achievement of "Golden Spike" award for Division members that have built a layout as a way to transition into earning AP certificates with the modeling they have already done to build their model railroad i.e. structures, scenery, electrical, etc.

Frank Koch, Mid-Central Region AP Manager stated that he is available to come to Division meetings and talk about the

Achievement Program or help Division AP Managers work with their Members to run an Achievement program clinic.

Frank has a master record spreadsheet that tracks MCR members that are moving towards earning their AP certificates in areas such as Volunteer, Author, as well as the traditional categories of structures, electrical, scenery, etc. Frank's extensive records go back to the early 1960's.

Respectfully submitted,

Merlyn Jarman

Mid-Central Region Vice-President

Rails Of Ages

2011 Mid Central Region Convention
 Hosted by Division 5 – *The Western Reserve Division*
 Celebrating 50 Years Of Railroading
 April 28 – May 1, 2011



Division 9 did a fantastic job in putting on *The Coalfield Express* 2010 MCR Convention in Charleston, West Virginia. They will be a hard act to follow. But Division 5 will do it's best to provide you with another great convention next year. Start thinking about heading up to the northeastern corner of Ohio along the shore of Lake Erie for next year's *Rails Of Ages Convention*. It's a lot flatter up here, so bring your bicycle if you want!

Our convention will be held at The Lodge & Conference Center At Geneva in Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio. This is a relatively new facility (built in 2005) that sits on the shore of Lake Erie. It has plenty of room for us in a very nice facility. The room rate will be \$99 a night. Room reservations can be made now by either calling the hotel directly (866-806-8066) or going to their website at: www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com.



The Lodge & Conference Center At Geneva

Our Group Reservation ID is 4G35KW.

Rails Of Ages WEB Site

Our convention website is online and fully functional. Our Early Registration Form is available at the website or you can request one via mail. You

Rails Of Ages
www.RailsOfAges.org

can register online through our website, but you still have to mail in your payment. Clinicians can also register

The Lodge & Conference Center
At Geneva
866-806-8066
www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com
Group Reservation ID: 4G35KW

through the website. The various rules and guidelines for the silent auction, company store, etc., have been posted on the website. As we get to within a few months of the convention, there will be an area on our website for registrants only where we will post some advance information, such as the layout tour

information, so that you can have more time to plan your convention weekend. Each primary registrant will be provided with a username and password to access this area.

Registration Fees

Early (through 1/31/11): \$45
 Standard: \$60
 Family member (same household): \$15

Industrial and Prototype Tours

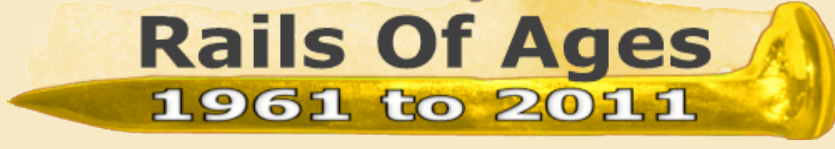
Several industrial tours have been arranged so far. One is to Cristal Global (formerly Millennium Chemicals), a chemical company, that ships and receives via rail. Delta Rail Construction is another company that we will visit. They do prototype railroad construction work and we will be able to take a look at all the equipment that they use. A prototype switching tag-along has been confirmed on the AC&J Railroad, a local shortline. This will be limited to approximately 10 people. The railroad will add a caboose to the end of the train on their normal Friday switching run for attendees to ride in. We will also have a short excursion available on the AC&J on

Rails Of Ages
 Continued on page 9.

Continued: **Rails Of Ages**

2011 Mid Central Region Convention

Rails Of Ages
1961 to 2011



steam engine. This is definitely one place you shouldn't miss while attending our convention! Visit their website for more

Saturday.

About 5 to 10 minutes from the convention hotel are the Cleveland-to-Buffalo mainlines of CSX and Norfolk Southern railroads for you to get in a little prototype action. Over the last 50 years, the B&O, B&LE, Erie, EL, FP&E, NYC, PRR, NKP, Conrail, CSX, N&W, and NS have run through northeastern Ohio. A Railroad Archeology tour is planned to look at what is left of the various railroad infrastructure in northeastern Ohio. The Northern Ohio Association of Railway Societies (NOARS) is looking into putting together a brief history of each of the railroads for us to give to convention attendees.

Clinics

In addition to our standard 1 hour clinics, we will also offer *Shortline Clinics*. These will be 10-15 minutes maximum with no computer or projector setups. They will provide a means to showcase articles of 'bring and brag', tricks, tips, and techniques with various tools, etc. This is an excellent means for those who can share information but cannot, or do

not wish to, put on a full clinic. We also have a Clinics Questionnaire on our website for you to fill out to tell us what clinic topics you would like to have available at the convention.

The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum

www.wrmrrm.org

Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum

The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum is located in Mentor, Ohio, about 30 minutes from the convention hotel. It was founded in September of 2004 with the intent of being a fun place where families could come and learn about model railroading and the history of railroads in America. It has grown to be the largest Model Railroad Museum of its kind in the U.S. in just over 4 years! The museum has 16 different scales on display and operating layouts in: 'N', 'HO', 'On3', 'S', 'O', 'O tin plate', 'O 2 rail', 'Standard', Brio, and 'G'. In the last year, they have moved to a much larger facility and are actively working on obtaining the following prototype equipment: a diesel engine, a 1950s-era presidential passenger car, 16 Pullman Standard passenger cars, and a one-of-a-kind 1943

information at: www.wrmrrm.org.

Non-Rail Activities

Northeast Ohio is home to a large number of wineries, covered bridges, antique stores, and specialty museums, so there is plenty to do for those family members not interested in trains. Did you know that Geauga County in northeastern Ohio has the fourth largest Amish settlement in the world! One of our convention activities will be an Amish Dinner in an actual Amish home. We are also planning a luncheon at one of the local wineries as well as tours to some of the local attractions. "The Strip" in downtown Geneva-on-the-Lake, which is located right along the shore of Lake Erie, features lots of tourist attractions. If you prefer other diversions, the hotel is less than an hour away from the casinos in Erie, PA!

Contact Information

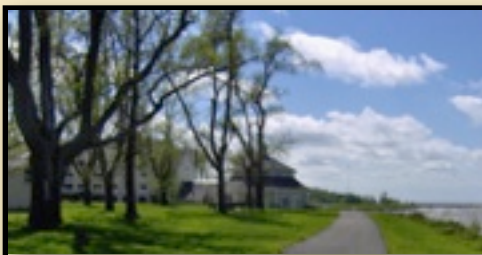
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2011 MCR Convention Website:
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home phone: 440-729-3045
cell phone: 440-668-9462



The Lodge & Conference Center At Geneva



Rails Of Ages

Early Registration Form

April 28th - May 1st 2011



Sponsored by
NMRA, Mid Central Region, Division 5
The Western Reserve Division

Primary registrant **MUST** be an NMRA member at time of Convention
 (see fee for joining if you are not a member)

Primary Registrant Badge Name

NMRA No. Region Division

Address City St/Prv Zip

Phone Email

Number of Persons Attending Names of others

Item	Quantity	Price	Amount
Early Basic Registration (through Jan 31, 2011)	1	45.00	45.00
One Year Full NMRA Membership (only needed if you are not currently an NMRA member Special Discount of \$15 provided by Division 5)		43.00	
Family Members (Same Household)		15.00	
		Total	

Note: Sign-up form for special activities, tours, and extra fare items will be sent out to all early registrants at a later date.
 Activity assignment will be based on the order that the registrations are received.

Make check payable to: NMRA MCR Division 5

Mail to: Convention Registrar, Dennis Lloyd
 75 Newell Street Painesville OH 44077

Phone: (440) 352-7081

Email: Registrar@RailsOfAges.org

Room reservations should be made directly with the convention hotel

The Lodge & Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake

4888 North Broadway

Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio 44041

Phone: (866) 806-8066

www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com

Rate is \$95 per room plus applicable taxes. Reserve under ID Number **4G35KW**



DIVISION 1 MODEL RAILROAD FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2010

11 AM - 4 PM

This is the place for a model railroader to sell or trade his railroad items.

Concession area available.

The Flea Market will be held at:
The Akron Yacht Club
3575 South Main St.
Akron, Ohio

Tables (@6 feet) are \$10 each.
30 tables available.

Contact:
Bob Ashley, Jr.
3656 Shikellamy Dr.
Akron, OH 44319-3742
330-645-6175 evenings

Request your tables early. Setup starts at 9 am.

Map & additional information at:

http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org/mcr_home_fold/Div1FleaMark.pdf



2010 MCR Convention Best of Show Contest Winners Charleston, West Virginia



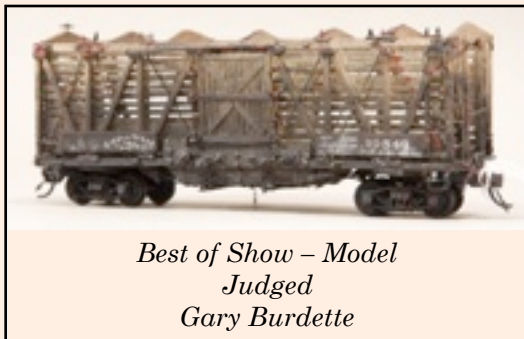
*Best of Show – Model
Popular Choice
Daniel Kennedy*



*Best of Show – Photograph
Popular Choice
Donald Wilke*



*Best of Show – Arts & Crafts
Popular Choice
Bobbi Hedge*



*Best of Show – Model
Judged
Gary Burdette*



*Best of Show – Photograph
Judged
Jane Hancock*



*Best of Show – Arts & Craft
Judged
Dick Briggs*

Additional Contest winners in the MCR Archive at:

http://archive.midcentral-region-nmra.org/conventionFold/2010_contest/10~Index.html

Rails to Pittsburgh Mid-Central Region Convention 2012

The 2012 Mid-Central Regional Convention will be held in the Pittsburgh area April 26 – 29, 2012. The event will be held at the Pittsburgh Radisson Hotel located 4 miles west of the Pittsburgh city center just off of Interstate 376. It is accessible from all the major Interstate highways from all four directions. The hotel boasts an in-house gym and an indoor-outdoor swimming pool. There is restaurant service in the hotel, and all the fast food and other restaurants within ½ mile of the hotel. The Radisson has guaranteed us a sleeping room rate of \$90.00 plus taxes per night. As an added bonus, this hotel is adjacent to Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad's Rook Yard. We are planning

an interesting slate of prototype tours, layout operating sessions, and clinics. We have a very interesting non-rail program planned as well. We have an agreement with the Pittsburgh Glass Factory to provide hands-on experience in making glass art. Instead of a convention car, the committee is considering having a laser cut building, such as a pump house, produced for the convention, which should sell for a very attractive price. This area has so much to offer convention attendees; we should have no difficulty finding plenty of activities for you. We look forward to seeing all of you in 2012.

Welcome **New Members** of The Mid-Central Region

Division 1

Mike Bradfield, Kent, OH;
David McMillion, Kent, OH;
Alfonse Pantalone, Ravenna, OH; Timothy Reder, Kent, OH; Anthony Stetson, Ravenna, OH; Bruce Svoboda, Ravenna, OH; Edward Tringhese, Ravenna, OH; Ray Ward, Ravenna, OH

Division 2

John Ainsworth, Harrison City, PA; Shawn Chapman, Cranberry Twp, PA; John Crellin, Wexford, PA; David Downey, McKnight, PA; Sean Frederick, Wexford, PA; Daniel Grieco, Pittsburgh, PA; Maurice Lyons, Monongahela, PA; Lee Onan, Pittsburgh, PA; Robert South, Latrobe, PA; Edward Swatsworth, Monroeville, PA; Randy Thompson, Commodore, PA; Sam Vastano, Pulaski, PA

Division 3

John Breyer, Beavercreek, OH; Gary Meeker, Dayton, OH; William Montgomery, New Castle, IN; William Russo, Beavercreek, OH; Jonathan Wirt, Piqua, OH

Division 4

Alec Bonawit, Vermilion, OH; Kevin Hinkle, Cleveland, OH; Jeffrey Lauren, North Olmsted, OH; Thomas Mac Coll, Cleveland, OH; Lucy McInerney, Lakewood, OH

Division 5

Randy Hahn, Willoughby, OH; Robert Orlando, Willowich, OH

Division 6

Kim Caito, Plain City, OH; Richard Haas, Kirkersville OH; Retta Retterer, Prospect, OH; Charles Soherer, Chillicothe, OH; Marla Wright, Marysville, OH

Division 7

Charles Nelson, Hamilton, OH; Ken Nordstrom, Milford, OH; James Roughan, Mason,

OH; Jack Simon, Cincinnati, OH; Alan Trueblood, Cincinnati, OH; Michael York, Cincinnati, OH

Division 8

Joshua Crawford, New Castle, KY; Connor Dant, Lagrange, KY; Bob Hill, Jeffersonville, IN; Bob Knust, Louisville, KY; James McCulloch, Louisville, KY

Division 9

John Ewart, Lewisburg, WV; Daniel Kennedy, Hurricane, WV; Robert Mersheimer, Hurricane, WV; Charles Montague, Ashland, KY

Division 10

Ryan Grider, Harrodsburg, KY; John Seybold, Frankfort, KY; Johnnie Wilson, London, KY

Division 11

Raymond Burnette, Du Bois, PA; Robert Netzlof, Brockway, PA; James Pittman, St Marys, PA; Randall Potter, Clarion, PA; Terry Stapleton, Reynoldsville, PA

THE LAYOUT ROOM

by David H. Hazlett, Division 1, Akron

After 35 years as a model railroader, I have lately become extremely aware of a trend in the hobby concerning “THE LAYOUT ROOM.” Were I new to this hobby I would be hard pressed to even contemplate building a model railroad layout. Having to prepare the room to what seems to be today’s standards, leaves me frustrated. First I need to drywall the room, making sure the corners have some type of rounded surface, then I need to paint the walls (now called a backdrop) a useful color (blue). I must decide where to place my track lights in the ceiling that I must put up making sure that I can reposition them on the layout WHICH I have yet to build. At this point I have already spent the money I set aside for the bench work!

WHY? If I am building a museum quality layout, I can see the ‘why’. BUT, if I am building an operating layout or one just for my own pleasure, I cannot see the ‘why’ of these things.

WAIT! Don’t get me wrong! I like seeing these dry-walled, full scenery to the ceiling, track lighted and beautiful layouts. They are not the type of layout I am interested in building. Nor are they the type of layout you are required to build; despite what you see in the magazine articles. (Be sure to build the dry-walled, full scenery, etc. layout if it is what

you wish - and invite me to see it!)

I have a large layout - unfinished. It is in my basement with the concrete block walls which are painted a light green. I have 2' x 4' pegboard shelves on my walls above the layout. They contain the cars and locos which I choose not to run (Aren’t we all collectors?). The shelves leave only one or so feet of wall as a ‘backdrop’. I have square corners.

My basement does have a drop ceiling, which I put in. The ceiling makes for a cleaner layout. Dirt does sift down from the floor above and a ceiling helps control this. My ceiling has 24 shop-lights for lighting. Notice that I said ‘shop-lights’ and they are hung below the ceiling and not within it. Why? Cheaper. Eighteen years ago, when I first started this layout, my operators remarked, “Man, I need sun glasses down here.” They (and I) have gotten older and now they are glad for the light to be able to read the reporting marks and car numbers (if they haven’t forgotten their glasses).

My layout has buildings, but not all that it will have. My switch machines are mostly Atlas and on the surface of the layout. Why? They were the cheapest at the time I started. Now that I could afford more expensive, under the layout,

machines, I find that I cannot easily work under the layout. I am so proud of myself for thinking of that years ago (ha!).

I do not yet have scenery. I will, but not yet. Why? I spent the last 11 years working on DCC, OPERATING the layout and expanding the layout. It has now reached maximum size (I hope). Three areas have not been finalized. Wiring is done. Scenery seems to be in the near future.

Does anyone besides me like the layout? I think they do, as several travel from Sandusky and Youngstown to operate my layout. I travel to their layouts, too. Some of them have the type of layout described in the ‘WAIT?’ paragraph above. While I am operating those layouts do you know what I really see? I see the loco, cars, track and buildings I must deal with to run my train. The scenery? I don’t see it! Do the men who run my layout miss the scenery? Not too much, because they see the loco, cars, track and buildings they must deal with to run their train (at least I hope they do).

You DON’T need a fully finished basement (or attic) to build a layout. Don’t let the magazine articles keep you from starting your layout. Do your own thing! Build YOUR layout! Enjoy it! Have FUN!

Achievement Program

The following members of The Mid-Central Region have earned the following Achievement Program Certificates from December 2009 thru May 2010.

“Congratulations to the following members of the Mid Central Region on a job well done. Keep up the great work! You should feel proud of your accomplishments.” **Dick Briggs, MMR, MCR President**

<p>December <i>Bob Wilmsherr, Loveland, OH</i></p> <p>Association Volunteer <i>Robert Barker, Cincinnati, OH</i> <i>Jim Hembold, Dayton, OH</i> <i>Richard Klaus, Cincinnati, OH</i> <i>Jim Ossman, Cincinnati, OH</i> <i>Richard Scheurer, Harrison, OH</i> <i>Jack Sommer, Oxford, OH</i> <i>Rick Stern, Cincinnati, OH</i></p> <p>January</p> <p>Golden Spike <i>John Hemsmith, Bay Village, OH</i></p> <p>Association Volunteer <i>Mike Dietrich, Cincinnati, OH</i> <i>Paul Gahn, Cincinnati, OH</i> <i>Pat Horman, Cincinnati, OH</i> <i>Stephen Kaplan, Beachwood, OH</i> <i>Don Leedy, West Chester, OH</i> <i>Mike Mereness, Cincinnati, OH</i> <i>Daniel Mulhearn, Pipestem, WVA</i> <i>Neal Schorr, Wexford, PA</i> <i>Phillip Wilkin, Cincinnati, OH</i></p>	<p>February</p> <p>Golden Spike <i>Richard Hartley, Grove City, OH</i></p> <p>March</p> <p>Golden Spike <i>Tom Guenther, Louisville, KY</i> <i>William B Smith, Willowick, OH</i></p> <p>Structures <i>John Retterer, Prospect, OH</i></p> <p>Scenery <i>Edward Brennan, Louisville, KY</i></p> <p>Civil Engineer <i>William Paulsell, Lexington, KY</i></p> <p>Electrical Engineer <i>Edward Brennan, Louisville, KY</i></p> <p>Chief Dispatcher <i>William Paulsell, Lexington, KY</i></p> <p>Association Official <i>Charles Klein, Parma Hts., OH</i></p>	<p>April</p> <p>Structures <i>Georgia Dahlberg, Williamstown, KY</i></p> <p>Civil Engineer <i>Georgia Dahlberg, Williamstown, KY</i></p> <p>Association Volunteer <i>Nornan Courtney, Dayton, OH</i> <i>John Gaffney, Dublin, OH</i></p> <p>May</p> <p>Golden Spike <i>E Roy Ward, Ruffsedale, Pa</i></p> <p>Cars <i>Tom Brueggeman, Cincinnati, OH</i></p> <p>Scenery <i>Steve Pharris, Louisville, KY</i></p> <p>Civil Engineer <i>Steve Pharris, Louisville, KY</i></p> <p>Association Volunteer <i>Vagal Keller, Pittsburgh, PA</i></p>
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If you have questions about the AP program or requirements, start with your local or Region AP manager.

Volunteers recognized at Spring Convention.

At the Mid-Central Region’s Charleston Convention two of our members were recognized for their unselfish service to the hobby and the Mid-Central Region.

Don Wilke was presented the Director’s Award by Mid-Central Region President Dick Briggs. Don received the award for his outstanding service as MCR Web Master, Chief Photographer and *Kingpin* Publisher.

Lin Young was presented the Wenderfer Award by Division 7 Superintendent Merlyn Jarman for his service and leadership in resurrecting Division 9.

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*.

Above are the request forms for *The Kingpin* for your convenience. New members need to fill out and return the forms to insure that they will continue to receive the Mid-Central Region Newsletter - *The Kingpin* - by mail or a reminder via e-mail when it is posted on the web site.

The Kingpin usually is posted to the MCR WEB Site around 30 days after the May Mid-Central Regional Convention or after the October Board of Directors meeting.

Articles on the web site....

Please keep the articles coming. We will endeavor to publish all of them in *The Kingpin* as space permits. The following articles can be found on the MCR WEB Site soon and will be included in the electronic version of *The Kingpin*. As space allows they will be used in the print format.

“Ohio’s Iron Triangle” written by Ken Heyl.

“Wood Log Cars” written by Gary Burdett.

“The Stonewall Express” written by Store Miller.

Remember articles must be in an electronic format when submitted. We can not accept articles from hard copy.

Articles can be found at:

<http://archive.midcentral-region-nmra.org/article.html>

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

MCR Calendar

11 – 18 July 2010

[75th Anniversary Convention](#), NMRA National Convention – Milwaukee, WI

October 2010

Mid-Central Region BOD Meeting

October 2010

Deadline for *The Fall Kingpin*

7 November 2010

Division I Flea Market – Akron, Ohio

28 April – 1 May 2011

[Rails of Ages](#), MCR 2011 Convention – Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio

3 – 9 July 2011

[Extra 2011 West](#), NMRA National Convention – Sacramento, CA

26 – 29 April 2012

2012 MCR Convention – Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

index

From the President	1
Coalfield Express Information	1
MCR Contacts	2
MCR Superintendents	3
NMRA 75 Anniversary	3
MCR BOD Meeting	4
Super's Breakfast	4
2011 Convention – <i>Rails of Ages</i>	8
Division I Flea Market	11
Best of Show Contest Winners	11
2012 MCR Convention	12
New Members List	12
<i>The Layout Room</i>	13
AP Award List	13

Open House? Train Show? Contact The [MCR WEB Master](#) to add an event to *The Kingpin* and the MCR WEB Site calendar.