



The Kingpin

Newsletter of the
Mid Central Region NMRA Inc
November 2015



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I want to take this opportunity to welcome about 23 members who have transferred into our Region. For a number of years we have been reporting that there was a proposal to transfer a number of counties in New York and Pennsylvania from the Niagara Frontier Region to the MCR. It has finally come to fruition, resulting in the transfer of three New York and five Pennsylvania counties. NMRA members in Chatauqua (NY), Erie (PA) and Crawford (PA) are now members of our Division Five, while those in Allegany (NY), Cattaraugus (NY), McKean (PA), Warren (PA) and Potter (PA) went to Division Eleven. At this time only about 25 members were involved, but we have the list of many more former members that may now decide to rejoin.

In the last Kingpin we introduced the new regional project – the laser cut Canal Winchester schoolhouse. One of the first purchasers was Charlie Getz, our NMRA President. Charlie liked the HO kit so much that he then ordered the O Scale version. He emailed me that he was writing it up for the Narrow Gauge and Short Line Gazette. A picture of Dave Williams' finished kit is with the ordering info later in this Kingpin. Also, Division Four modeler Jim Grell took some stained glass window trim and built the kit as a church, Quantities are limited, so get your orders in.

For some time, there has been an "Officers' Archive" of minutes, Division reports, and other committee reports in a password protected section of our website. In a polling of the Board, everyone who responded agreed that there was nothing there that should not be available to all of the members, so we will be removing the password requirement, and including a link on the website to those "Archives".

No Division has come forth to volunteer to host the 2019 Convention yet. Guys (and gals) – give it some consideration and step up.

Each of the Divisions received a box of about a hundred DVDs from various clinics at the 2012 NMRA National Convention (with some earlier ones). Someone in your Division has a set – I encourage you to look at the list and try some. In September, I attended the Division Five monthly meeting – the originally scheduled speaker notified them that he had to put his presentation off one month, so one of these DVDs was selected as the program --- Advanced Techniques for Laser Kit Assembly" by Charlie Getz,

Be sure to read the Fall Board meeting minutes on the EduTRAIN project – it will also provide you with clinics. However, it just provides the visual presentation of the exhibits or displays – one of you will study the techniques, and actually give the oral presentation.

Get your registrations in for the 2016 MCR convention in Columbus. The web site, <http://2016convention.div6-mcr-nmra.org>, is under development but is a good place to learn about the convention. Look for an issue of the KingPin around the first of January for full details.

Get busy on your model railroading projects – let's double the number of AP certificates over the next six months. Be sure to get to one or more of the many Fall shows – pick up something to work on, and enjoy the Fall and Winter.

Steve Kaplan
MCR President

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FROM THE EDITOR

As this issue was being prepared we learned of the death of Michael Scott Kaplan, son of Steve and Patty Kaplan. Please keep Steve and Patty in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Details are at www.div4.org

As you can see, the bulk of this issues contains material related to the recent Mid Central Region NMRA Board of Directors meeting. "Mid Central Region NMRA Inc" sounds a bit awkward that's our new name. This action was taken as part of the drive to have 501c3 status available to the entire NMRA. As in the past, the minutes are published here. In addition, the reports submitted by each Division Superintendent are included. These reports are normally presented orally at the meeting but their inclusion here lets all members see what is going on in other Divisions.

The Region as well as several Divisions have car or structure projects, these are described with ordering information in the last few pages.

This is certainly the season for train shows and there is quite a list on pages 4 and 5. We owe thanks to the webmaster of Division 11 for the bulk of this list. The list was edited slightly but still contains information for many events in the Region as well as areas nearby.

What is missing from this issue is an article by a member. Past issues have contained trip reports among other features contributed by the readers. The KingPin "pays" two points per page toward the Achievement Program's Author certificate. If you need the points, send me something

The next issue of the KingPin will come to you in late December or early January. Each member will receive a paper copy and the Christmas mailing season may affect delivery times. This issue is required by our Regulations to be a paper copy as it contains full details for the 2016 convention to be held April 28 to May 1 in Dublin, Ohio and hosted by the Buckeye Division. All activities, schedules, and extra fare events will be available as well as a paper registration form. In the meantime, the web site, <http://2016convention.div6-mcr-nmra.org>, is under development but is a good place to learn about the convention.

While the paper copy will have a limited number of pages due to printing and mailing costs, there will be an expanded electronic version if there are enough contributions of content to make the effort worthwhile. If you have something you want to see in the electronic version, please let me know.

**National Model Railroad Association
Mid-Central Region
Board of Directors Meeting
September 27 2015**

The meeting was brought to order by President Steve Kaplan at 1:00 PM. The meeting place was Schmidt's Sausage House in Columbus, Ohio. Present at this meeting were President Steve Kaplan, Vice President Mike Hohn, Treasurer Jerry Doyle, and Secretary Art Bumpus. Divisions were represented by Division Superintendents in Divisions 2, Mike Hohn; 5, Dave Neff; 6, Greg Short; 7, Bob Shreve; 8, Russ Weis; and 9, Gary Burdette. Proxies for Divisions included Division 1, Jim Peters; Division 3, Eric Zimmerman; Division 4, Lee Sheffield; Division 10, Bob Belt; and Division 11, Howard Veiheffer. Special guest Mike Brestel, NMRA Insurance Coordinator and At Large World Wide Director, attended for NMRA National.

In addition to the BOD elected officials, the meeting was also attended by Bob Weinheimer, Don Wilke, Paul Lapointe, John Retterer, Dick Briggs, Craig Sonnen, John Shield, Tony Puccini, Bob Weiler, and Galon Tonell.

Minutes of the last BOD meeting:

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the last BOD meeting as published in the last issue of the Kingpin newsletter. The motion was seconded and carried with no opposition.

Treasurer's Report:

Jerry Doyle reported a Region Total Net Worth of \$27,050.46 as of September 26, 2015. Jerry also reported that officers will choose at Jerry's lead, a financial institution to house the Region assets when we consolidate Region CD's. Frank Koch's name was also recommended as a resource from National in choosing an institution.

Committee Reports:

Membership - Membership was reported as 1,519 members, down 8 from a year ago.

Contest – Paul Lapointe indicated a need to obtain 1st place ribbons, office supplies, and pre-printed labels. A recommendation was made to insure there is enough administrative horsepower in dealing with information that needs to be completed for each model/individual entering a Regional contest.

Education – Dave Neff reported on Tom Miller's report that Bob Blake is establishing a national Curriculum Committee. The composition of the committee will include experienced modelers, including MMR's from different geographic regions. The committee will gather candidate clinics for review by the committee for inclusion in the EduTRAIN program. Material from the program will be downloadable as a Power Point slide show with a live presenter giving the program and answering questions. Dave's presentation was to obtain Regional buy in. The BOD was receptive to using these "how to" materials.

Achievement Report – A report submitted by Frank Koch shows that one gold spike award, 23 merit awards, and 10 AP certificates were issued for the period of May 2015 to September 2015.

Division Reports:

Reports as submitted by each Division are published in this issue of the Kingpin. In addition, Divisions provided additional supplemental information as follows: Division 1 is producing an N scale little station and freight house from Jaito, Ohio. Division 2 has a new reasurer, new Company Store director, and new FreeMo director. Continuity of leadership is an important aspect of leadership duties. Division 3 has numerous vacant positions due to moving and death. Division 5 will be seeing a membership increase due to the move of NMRA members from the Allegheny Highlands Division. Division 6 is concentrating on the next Regional Convention. Division 7 is producing a 4 car set of C&O cars from Accurail. Division 11 did not submit a written report, however, it reported that membership and finances are stable. Several events have been held as outreach to the public. There was a tourist train trip taken on Pennsylvania Railroad cars.

Old Business:

Conventions:

Bob Weinheimer reported that the next three Regional Conventions are on the books. Presentations were made for the Conventions as follows:

Dick Briggs reported that the Columbus convention will feature an Accurail gondola representing a local Buckeye steel car. The dates of the convention are April 28, 29, and 30, 2016. The room rate for the Dublin convention is \$129.00. But wait, this includes an AM breakfast and a nightly Manager's reception which includes libations. There will be two days of tours including the Age of Steam Roundhouse and the Sutphen fire apparatus plant. In addition, there will be non rail tours available. Dave Adair will present the banquet program on Appalachia coal mining. Modeling with the Masters will feature a kit done on design and laser cutting. There will be numerous non rail activities including a gemologist.

Russ Weis reported on the 2017 Louisville Convention to be held in the Galt House. The name of the convention is the Pan American Convention (a name L&N train). Tours are experiencing security issues (UPS at the airport is an example) but the committee is working with prospective tour operators to meet their needs.

The 2018 Cincinnati Convention has just started its planning activities.

Status of Niagara Frontier Region transfer of counties to MCR Divisions 5 and 11:

Mike Brestel reported that, at long last, all the approvals have been obtained to move 5 PA counties and 3 NY counties to the MCR. The question now for discussion is which counties go to which MCR Divisions. After several minutes of discussion, motions were made by Divisions 5 and 11 that Erie and Crawford counties in PA and Chautauqua County in NY merge with Division 5. Cattaraugus and Alleghany counties from NY and Warren, McKean, and Potter counties from PA would merge with Division 11. The motions were seconded, voted on, and passed without opposition.

MCR Schoolhouse kit project:

Kits are available and Divisions are encouraged to take kits with them at the conclusion of the BOD meeting.

New Business:

Official name change in bylaws, per NMRA National:

Steve Kaplan explained that for the National organization tax filing, the Region needed to change its name to Mid Central Region NMRA Inc. This is simply a boiler plate change. A motion was made to change the bylaws in accordance with National's request. The motion was seconded, voted on, and passed without opposition.

Revised Article III, Section 7:

It was proposed that provisions in the bylaws be made to reimburse Region business travel. A motion was made, seconded, discussed, voted upon, and passed without opposition. The new language reads as follows: "Mid-Central Region Officers, committee Managers and other members may be reimbursed for their actual expenses incurred on behalf of the Region in the performance of their duties, such as postage, telephone charges, travel and stationary as required to complete their duties for the Region, as such expenditures are approved by the Mid-Central President or Executive committee. Travel may be reimbursed at an amount not to exceed the NMRA's established rate. Travel is not reimbursed for conventions or the Fall Board meeting." The purpose of this change is to allow BOD officials and chairs to obtain reimbursement for mileage incurred while performing official Regional business. Examples would include mileage incurred for trips to Divisions needing assistance and training of the EduTRAIN program, tutoring of convention judging for Regional Convention contests, and the like.

EduTRAIN program:

Dave Neff provided more information on the program, which is included in the Education Report within Committee Reports.

Proposed change to National Gold Award criteria:

In contests, it was suggested that a Best of Show Award be a separate award from a first place award. This would mean that a recipient of the Best of Show award would also receive a first place in category award. Individual BOD members were requested to support this change. Very little support was provided by BOD members.

2019 MCR Convention request for bids:

Bob Weinheimer explained that a search is being conducted for the 2019 convention with a stress on recruiting those Divisions who have never conducted a convention or those who have not conducted a convention for some time. He stressed that he was looking for that “one” division to come forward.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Art Bumpus, MCR Region Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

At this time of the year there are so many train shows and related events that a single page does not do the subject justice. Once again the webmaster for Division 11 has compiled an extensive list of events in and near the Mid Central Region. This list should get us to the first of 2016 with another list in convention issue.

What	Where	When	Info
North Central Region Convention	Fort Wayne IN	Oct 29-Nov 1, 2015	web site
Cleveland 2-rail O Scale Meet	Kirtland OH	October 31, 2015	notice
Div. 5 - Building a Model Railroad	Kirtland OH	October 31, 2015	pdf flyer
Mid-Ohio Valley MRC Train Show	Parkersburg WV	October 31, 2015	notice
Railroadiana & Model Train Show	Erie PA	November 1, 2015	notice
Clinton Central MRC Fall Train Meet	Mill Hall PA	November 1, 2015	notice
Division 1 Model Railroad Flea Market	Akron OH	November 1, 2015	notice
Castle Shannon VFD Electric Train Show	Castle Shannon PA	November 1, 2015	notice
Mid-Ohio Valley MRC Show & Sale	Parkersburg WV	November 7, 2015	notice
Central Indiana TCA Train Meet and Show	Beech Grove IN	November 7, 2015	notice
Youngstown Model Railroad Association Open House	Youngstown OH	November 7, 2015	notice
Division 3 - MCR Dayton Train Show	Dayton OH	Nov 7-8, 2015	web site
Greenberg's Great Train and Toy Show	Monroeville PA	Nov 7-8, 2015	web page
Susquehanna Valley Layout Tours	Southeastern PA	Nov 7-8, 2015	web page
Div.4 - Model TRAINing Day	Lorain OH	November 8, 2015	web page
Greater Wayne County Train and Toy Show	Dalton OH	November 8, 2015	notice
Youngstown Model Railroad Association Open House	Youngstown OH	November 8, 2015	notice
TCA Train Show	Jamestown NY	November 14, 2015	pdf flyer
Train Show	Tipton IN	November 14, 2015	notice
Crossroads Railroad Club Open House	Vandalia OH	November 14, 2015	web site
Youngstown Model Railroad Association Open House	Youngstown OH	November 14, 2015	notice
Youngstown Model Railroad Association Open House	Youngstown OH	November 15, 2015	notice
Central Indiana Division Train Show	Danville IN	November 21, 2015	notice
Model Railroad Show and Swap Meet	Ft Wayne IN	November 21, 2015	web page
Railroad History Symposium	Northampton PA	November 21, 2015	pdf flyer
Layout Open Houses/Tours	Warren PA Area	November 21, 2015	notice
Beaver County Fall Train Show	Monaca PA	November 22, 2015	web page
Beaver County Model RR and Hist. Society Open House	Monaca PA	Nov 28-29, 2015	web page
Mid Mon Valley MRC Open House	New Eagle PA	Nov 28-29, 2015	flyer
Kittanning Train Show	Kittanning PA	November 29, 2015	notice
Allegheny Plateau Division Module Show	Brookville PA	Dec 3-6, 2015	notice

What	Where	When	Info
Youngstown Model Railroad Association Open House	Youngstown OH	December 5, 2015	notice
Great Train Show	Ft Wayne IN	Dec 5-6, 2015	web site
Central Ohio MRC Open House	Worthington OH	Dec 5-6, 2015	notice
Beaver County Model RR and Hist. Society Open	Monaca PA	Dec 5-6, 2015	web page
Mid Mon Valley MRC Open House	New Eagle PA	Dec 5-6, 2015	flyer
Medina Model Train & Toy Show	Medina OH	December 6, 2015	web site
Youngstown Model Railroad Association Open House	Youngstown OH	December 6, 2015	notice
Great Train Show	Fort Wayne IN	Dec 5-6, 2015	schedule
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	December 8, 2015	web page
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	December 12, 2015	web page
Central Ohio MRC Open House	Worthington OH	Dec 12-13, 2015	notice
Carbon MR Society Open House	Bowmanstown PA	Dec 12-13, 2015	web page
Coopersburg Area Society of Model Engineers Open	Coopersburg PA	Dec 12-13, 2015	web page
Beaver County Model RR and Hist. Society Open	Monaca PA	Dec 12-13, 2015	web page
Mid Mon Valley MRC Open House	New Eagle PA	Dec 12-13, 2015	flyer
Train and Toy Show	Massillon OH	December 13, 2015	notice
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	Dec 18-19, 2015	web page
Division 3 - MCR Train Show and Swap Meet	Lima OH	December 19, 2015	notice
Central Ohio MRC Open House	Worthington OH	Dec 19-20, 2015	notice
Beaver County Model RR and Hist. Society Open	Monaca PA	Dec 19-20, 2015	web page
Mid Mon Valley MRC Open House	New Eagle PA	Dec 19-20, 2015	flyer
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	Dec 18-19, 2015	web page
Central Ohio MRC Open House	Worthington OH	December 22, 2015	notice
Beaver County Model RR and Hist. Society Open	Monaca PA	Dec 26-27, 2015	web page
Mid Mon Valley MRC Open House	New Eagle PA	Dec 26-27, 2015	flyer
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	December 27, 2015	web page
Wayne Train Show	Wayne NJ	December 27, 2015	web page
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	December 29, 2015	web page
----- 2016 -----			
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 2, 2016	web page
Snow Dogs Train Show	Parma OH	January 2, 2016	web page
Carbon MR Society Open House	Bowmanstown PA	Jan 2-3, 2016	web page
Beaver County Model RR and Hist. Society Open	Monaca PA	Jan 2-3, 2016	web page
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 9, 2016	web page
Allegheny Plateau Division Meeting	Brookville PA	January 10, 2016	
Toy Train and Model Railroad Flea Market	Niles OH	January 10, 2016	none yet
Train Show and Sale	Adamsburg PA	January 10, 2016	notice
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 16, 2016	web page
Greenberg's Great Train and Toy Show	Columbus OH	Jan 16-17, 2016	web page
Model Train Show & Swap Meet	Fremont OH	January 17, 2016	web page
Greenberg's Great Train Show	York PA	Jan 23-24, 2016	web page
Mid Mon Valley MRC Train Show	New Eagle PA	January 31, 2016	flyer
Great Scale Model Train Show	Timonium MD	Feb 6-7, 2016	web site
Medina Model Train & Toy Show	Medina OH	February 7, 2016	web site
Hagerstown Model Railroad Museum Train Sale	Sharpsburg MD	February 13, 2016	pdf flyer
Allegheny Plateau Division Meeting	Hudson PA	February 14, 2016	
Kittanning Train Show	Kittanning PA	February 21, 2016	notice
Greenberg's Great Train and Toy Show	Monroeville PA	Feb 27-28, 2016	web page
Model Train Show & Swap Meet	Fremont OH	February 28, 2016	web page

Around the Region

Division 1

Submitted by Randy Dettmer, Superintendent

BOD Report

Membership: Current membership is at up to 110 at the beginning of September 2015.

Finances: We are financially solvent. We have applied for our vendor tax id from the state of Ohio but haven't received acknowledgement yet.

Web site: We set up a new website and have a new web master.

Projects: We are working on one fund raising project. The first project is a laser cut wood kit of the station and freight house at Jaite, Ohio on the current CVSR, formally B&O. This kit will be offered in HO and N. We have encountered some production issues with the N scale kit and are trying to work it out with the producer. We are considering a second project, an N scale ACY plug door 50 foot boxcar.

Newsletter: This is our largest expense. We are sending our Peddler Freight publication out to every active member and club within the division. Our pike advertisements and advertisers help defray some of the cost. We still have several members that receive mailed copies but we are slowly converting them to email.

Layout Tour: We are planning on starting a layout tour next spring. We will share the details once we get closer.

Modules: Our HO modules and Ntrak modules still participate at the semi-annual Dalton show. We have had one library appearance this year and may have more in the future. We are considering participating at the national convention at Indianapolis in 2016.

Hobby Shop Closures: We unfortunately experienced the closure of two hobby shops in our division this year. Amers in Boardman, OH closed at the end of July. The Whistle Stop in Cuyahoga Falls closed at the end of May.

Train Show: We will have a train show on November 1, 2015.

Division 2

Submitted by Michael Hohn, Superintendent

Our membership currently stands at 241, not too much changed from a year ago. We continue our recruitment efforts through our presence at the Greenberg Train Show several times during the year and the exhibit of our Free-Mo modules at which we invite guests to run the trains. Our Model Railroad Jamboree held in the spring is open to non-NMRA members, providing another opportunity for recruiting members. Our Jamboree was successful this year: we made a little money; 137 people attended, including some nonmembers; we saw some new sign-ups for membership.

Division meetings are held 10 months of the year at sites all around the Division, including West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. Each August, we have a picnic to which the entire family is invited. The picnic has been within sight of a railroad line for added interest to the members. This has been a successful event each year.

Our newsletter, *The Keystone Flyer*, published 10 times a year to coincide with each meeting, is mailed to each member as well as numerous "expatriates" around the country. A color-enhanced version of the *Keystone Flyer* can be accessed on our website, www.keystonedivision.org. We are looking into going to online publication.

We are seeing a lot of turnover in leadership of officers and committee chairs, including the Company Store, Treasurer, Free-Mo module group; we have seen new volunteers step forward as vacancies have occurred.

Division 3

Submitted by Rick Lach, Superintendent

Division Three membership continues to be steady with monthly averages between 165 – 170 members. Monthly meeting

attendance also remains steady averaging 50 members. The division continues to be financially sound. All our legal documents are in good shape both with the state of Ohio and the IRS. We use both a local lawyer and a tax agency, have obtained the appropriate vendor's license, and pay our state taxes for our country store sales.

Perhaps the biggest news during this period lies in our division leadership positions. Nick Folger, our Train Show Manager for the past 6 years, passed away on August 4, 2015 after a year long battle with cancer. Ray Baldwin, our overall Manager of the 2013 MCR Convention, BOG member and Division Director of Training, and manager of the Exhibitors for our annual train show, moved out of state. And Kathy Lehman, our Division Hostess for our general meetings, stepped down after working that position for over six years. All these functions have been filled. The division also experienced the deaths of two other members during this time.

The Call Board, our monthly newsletter, continues under the management of Mr. J. Hedge as Editor, who does an excellent job of summarizing all our events and edits all our news. Our Face Book page continues to attract a following with a significant increase in "likes" from around the world, and we get over 200 visits a week.

The division is now seeing positive results to actions that took place six months ago. In place of the single train show manager, we established a Train Show Committee of 12 members, all veterans of working on previous train shows, which has met five times since the last show. The larger committee has broken down into smaller tiger teams which have met 6 times and have ironed out the smaller details. This concept seems to work well. In November 2015 we will conduct our 40th Annual Dayton Train Show and expect 100 vendors, over 500 tables, 35 exhibitors, and 4500 attendees over the two days. We will also conduct the Railroading Merit Badge. Since this is our show's 40th Anniversary, we plan to include some events which will make this one special and highlight the division's history.

We are also now beginning to reap the benefits of the refocused emphasis on the NMRA Achievement Program. In the spring we brought in Dick Briggs to explain paperwork for contests and Frank Koch to summarize the AP program. We established a Director of Training position and devised a matrix for calculating time units for the Volunteer Certificate. We have judges standing by for the construction certificates. To date, we have 3 approved certificates with several standing in the wings.

Our new Webmasters, Gail Richardson and Dana Yarnall, have totally revamped our division website in the last few months. It is now current and linked to other appropriate sites. We also have included an In Memoriam section (to honor members who have died); an Honor Roll section (listing all division AP certificate winners by category, Golden Spike Award Winners, and our two MMRs), and a Leadership Heritage section (listing our Supt's, Assistant Supt's, and Chief Clerks elected since the division was founded in 1959). We will also expand our division history section.

Featured speakers and topics for our monthly general meetings included:

- May: Scratchbuilding Buildings For Your Railroad by Pastor Doug Campbell
- June: Painting Backdrops for Your Railroad by John Listerman
- July: Design and Planning of your Layout by Eric Zimmerman
- August: No meeting, but we did complete our 10th Annual Bus Trip
- September: Locomotive Servicing Facilities by Ed Swain

In June, the division participated in the local Carillon Park Railfest with a booth that included our travelling loop layout of all the gauges, an NMRA membership section, and a section highlighting our upcoming train show. This year the Railfest hosted nearly 4000 people in downtown Dayton, and Division 3 was able to complete some great public outreach.

Per our annual tradition, Division 3 takes the month of August off to accommodate summer vacations and simply to regenerate our batteries. So we do not have a BOG meeting, a General Meeting, or publish the division newsletter in August.

However, in August, the division did sponsor our 10th Annual Bus Trip, this year featuring a visit to the collection at the Age of Steam Roundhouse, as well as visiting the large layout in Coshocton, OH, and the depot in Marion. 36 members took the trip, which was our farthest away in terms of miles. As our members insist, this was our best trip

yet, and we thank Mike Mereness and Wil Davis for planning it!

Future plans include in December, taking our loop layout of all scales to participate in the University of Dayton's "Christmas on Campus" program. We join about 15 other layouts and run trains, distribute candy, and greet people in a large banquet room on the UD campus for over 3000 underprivileged kids and invitees from the local area. Last year this event was very successful, and we will expand our program for this year.

Early in 2016 we plan to conduct our 6th Annual Model Railroading TRAINING Day in either February or March 2016 – this is an ambitious calendar, but it is also one that satisfies the requirements to educate the public on railroading for our non-profit status.

At this point I have been the superintendent of Division 3 for approximately one and a half years. It has been an honor and a privilege to lead the division through some dynamic programs and to be involved with great volunteers. Hopefully our refocus on the AP program will document and honor our outstanding volunteers. However, on an unfortunate note, we have seen an unprecedented number of our volunteers resign for serious health reasons: death, back and knee, cancer, heart issues, and relocation. While we are resilient, it does take a significant amount of time and effort to keep filling vacant positions with enthusiastic volunteers. I am proud of the efforts our members make in stepping up on short notice.

The members of our current BOG and leadership team are all veteran members of the NMRA, active members of Division 3, and have pledged to do their best to carry on the traditions of Division 3 and work on improving the great programs the division already has. With this in mind, we all look forward to an active and enthusiastic future.

Division

Submitted by Steve Kaplan, Superintendent

Membership

Division 4 membership is currently at 219 members. A new Membership Chairman is now in place, and is preparing for some heavy action at our upcoming Great Berea Train Show October 2nd and 3rd.

Finances

The Division's finances are stable, with a little over \$50,000 in liquid assets.

Division accomplishments

We have just completed a subsidized field trip to the Age of Steam Roundhouse. This enabled many of the members who missed the Convention trip because of Convention Committee duties, to see it. Additional field trips are also being planned. Attendance at Division meetings is averaging 85 to 100. Our clinic programs are carefully thought out to inspire members to participate, and we see that 85% of the meeting attendees are in fact staying until the end of the ensuing clinics. Contest entries remain robust and special attention is being offered to new members to engage them and make them feel they are welcome and encouraged to participate in division meetings. Business meetings now have a tradition of lasting between 30 and 40 minutes, with the rest of our meetings devoted to items of interest to modelers.

Special attention to the Achievement Program is now being addressed, including our judges doing an open judging and report of structures or rolling stock brought by a member to the monthly meeting.

Our newsletter, the Flatwheel, is now only published in electronic form. Response to this action has gone well, although there are still some members (less than 10%) who have not responded to our mailings and calls of offers to help.

Our module group continues to set up at about 10 to 12 shows and libraries throughout the year. One highlight is our setup at the Twinsburg Armory for their annual holiday party in December. One significant aspect of our module group's operation, is that members stand in front of the modules, and are quick to hand the controllers to interested youths to allow them to run the trains.

Division 5**Submitted by Dave Neff, Superintendent**

Division 5 co-sponsored an exhibition of the replica Lincoln Funeral Train with and at the Painesville, Ohio Depot Museum June 6-7. This successful event drew 5,000 visitors during the two days and created great visibility for both prototype and model railroading, as there were also two operating model railroad displays in the building. Most importantly, the Painesville populace and the city fathers further realized the value of such an asset within their midst, pledging more support personally and financially for the continued restoration of the depot.

The Division's finances continue to be stable and solvent under the leadership of Treasurer Bonnie Lette. Bring and Brag has been especially successful with many members displaying their current projects in several scales. Programming continues monthly with members offering 30-40 minute clinics, and we anticipate using more of the clinic CDS provided by National, as well as plugging into the fledgling EduTrain program for additional programs, which are so constructed that members other than the authors can give them.

A tour of Warthens Carving Museum and the Age of Steam Roundhouse was planned for Sept. 12 for members and their spouses. Several layout open houses are planned for Saturday Oct. 24 and November 7, sandwiching our 'How to Build a Model Railroad' free-to-the-public event on October 31, reflecting November's National Model Railroad Month.

Both the HO and N modular groups are slated to hold two---week long setups at Lake County's 'Country Lights' Christmas exhibition event in December.

As usual, there are concerns over getting more registered members to attend meetings, as well as officer and committee chair succession. Monthly attendance averages about 33 out of 90+ on the roles.

Division 6**Submitted by Greg Short, Superintendent**

Membership: Membership in Division 6 has remained steady with no major shifts in membership either add or losing. We have not had a push or event to add new members over the summer. At some time it is the wish of the Super to find a fresh idea to begin to attract some new members, however it does take the help of the membership and at the present we are in the planning of the 2016 convention and we are using our membership to that.

Finances: Division 6 is financially doing well, we have had no real outlay of funds and our latest building project is into the profit side. We are in the planning for a new project to coincide with the 2016 Convention as an additional fund raiser.

Newsletter: With the recent decision to discontinue a printed version of the newsletter we have noticed a slight increase in meeting attendance. By no longer printing it we have also had a major decrease in the outlay of funds. It has also allowed for a greater amount of content as well as being in color which makes the newsletter more attractive.

Projects: The Midland Station kit has been a good sell. The project is on the profit side now. As some would know this project was originally to be offered at the 2016 convention, however we decided to offer it sooner which now leaves us with a need for an offering for the convention. At the present we are in contact with Accurail for a kit to be offered in conjunction with the convention. Details will be released soon.

Convention: Division 6 is working very hard to insure that the 2016 Convention will be a success. For those who have had the pleasure of doing such a project you do understand the logistics as well as resources it takes. Due to this we have curtailed most other Division activities and projects excepting meetings, in sure that the attendees will have a pleasant experience. We do hope that everyone will attend as there is a super program planned. Please visit the Convention website and stay up to date on all that is planned.

Meetings: Please allow me to invite any member of the MCR to one of our meetings. Watch our timetable on the website for our meeting times and locations. We have a special meeting planned for later this year in which we are going to

do a home movie day, and show some movies taken some time ago by some of our members. We also were pleased to see the turn out to our annual summer meeting in Marion. We hold this meeting annually in conjunction with Division 9 and it is always well attended.

Division 7

Submitted by Bob Shreve, Superintendent

Our membership count in August was 252. Our monthly meetings draw about 60 to 80 people, depending on the meeting location and speaker.

Our recent postcard campaign to try to move more of our inventory of car project kits seems to have done the trick. The car project chairman was able to greatly reduce the inventory in his basement. Our next project will be a C & O 40' single sheath wood door boxcar. The prototype car was a USRA design with steel ends. They were built in 1919 by two companies, with cars numbered in the range of 600 – 1599. We hope to have cars available in October.

Our next event is our 48th annual Cincinnati Model Train & Trade Show. The show this year will be October 10th and 11th at the Lakota West High School in West Chester, on the north side of Cincinnati. We'll have lots of vendors and operating layouts on display. See the Division 7 web site for more details.

Division 8

Submitted by Russell Weis, Superintendent

The Division 8 membership has remained about the same since our last report. Recently we did welcome two new members.

Our Division is in good financial shape and at our last BOD meeting we did approve the 2015 – 2016 budget. The decision was made not to roll over our CD, but to put those funds in our money market account as we will need those funds for upcoming expenses associated with our 2017 MCR convention.

With regards to the convention: layout tours and ops sessions are starting to get firmed up. Railroad and non-railroad tours are also shaping up. The convention logo has been approved and the web site is well under way.

Our November train show will be held at a new location as the one we have used for years is in the process of being sold. Table sales are strong, so we anticipate a good show.

Division 9

Submitted by Gary Burdette, Superintendent

As this is being written, members of the Coal Division 9 will have participated in the “Elkins Mountain Railroading Adventure,” in Elkins, West Virginia. This trip away from the Saint Albans depot (our headquarters) took us to the north-central part of our division for our monthly *Railfun Event* (meeting). A visit to the Elkins depot, photo opportunity of vintage WM and C&O diesels, museum tour, and tours of several West Virginia mountain, coal hauling model railroads were all part of the “adventure.” An added treat was the chance to see an active coal mining complex which is in close proximity to the road leading to the village of Helvetia the location of one of the layouts and a real Swiss restaurant with excellent food and quaint surroundings. Quite an outing for a monthly meeting.

For some time we have been naming many of our activities and procedures to reflect a tone of adventure or interest in an effort to inspire participation. Our M.A.D.D. (Models, Artifacts, Displays, and Discussions) program continues to be popular. One month a member, whose company tests resin insulators used in signaling for prototype railroad applications, brought in an insulator for discussion. After he described the process used in the testing, another member noted that, when he first worked for NS, the insulators were made of fiber board. Our outings have been named as well: like “Steel is King” day at the location of two steel mill- themed layouts. Recently, “Picnic on the Platform” saw an enjoyable meeting and luncheon at the St. Albans C&O depot.

Recently, the NMRA has written we should consider up-dating some of our terms from meeting to events, as an example. Hopefully, this re-naming could increase a person's interest in attending an event. Along with naming the event, we have termed the monthly meeting as a *Railfun Event*." Our advisory committee has been rejuvenated to keep the business meetings shorter and on track. Along with this is a new column for our newsletter dealing with Robert's Rules of Order, in an effort to educate the group and streamline business activities. A possible name for the shortened business meetings might be "Superintendent's Briefing." The change in name, also, inspires a change in or modernization of activities.

Over the last couple of years we have continued to enhance our raffle, contests, and clinics. There are always several items up for grab in the raffle, with each participant getting an extra ticket for a \$5.00 purchase. Entering the model contest earns you a point for participation and one free raffle ticket. Re-organization of the contest categories to include Civil, Electrical, or Mechanical Engineer has given a new look to the activity. This division is designed to expand the possibilities for competition and include items the modeler has built which may not fit into another category. Maybe, you have measured, drawn, and photographed a structure for building a model of a depot. The model fits into the "Structures" group, but the plans you drew don't fit anywhere. You may have illuminated a complex signal bridge with lights or LEDs, ran wire, and affixed the wires to terminals, switches, and relays. Bring in the model before you install it and compete for the popular vote. The sky is the limit.

The recently distributed CDs have been studied by our new clinic chair for use as a reference item or as an informational introduction to a hands-on clinic. On many occasions, we have placed photos, plans, and a brief how-to on a poster board and easel as a mini-clinic for viewing prior to the meeting. This little "extra" could be woven into a theme-of-the-month. Along with this is the hands-on aspect so important to building interest and participation. "Spray Day at the Station" has been developed where a couple of members, expert in weathering, will instruct the others (and maybe the public) on techniques. We are still looking at adopting a module and will look to other divisions who have already done so.

The biggest thing has been to advertise ourselves to the public. Our newsletter, "Up the Holler," continues to be widely read. We have set up our display at model shows. Our web site is placed on the schedule board at the depot. More must be done. We have developed a "Beginner's Guide to Model Railroading" pamphlet which has yet to be printed and distributed, but may spread the word. We have developed a mini-poster of 8 1/2 inches x 11 inches with the NMRA logo, web site, etc. which we may place locally.

Division 10
Submitted by Rick Cobb, Superintendent

Highlights: The membership for Division continues to remain steady at 68. Attendance for our monthly meetings is still averaging 28 to 30. The division continues to host local clinics and tours most occurring during our monthly meetings. Our biggest highlight has to be the 2015 Thoroughbred Convention. We have received many complements and overall all attendees enjoyed Lexington and the convention. In August, the division members traveled to Versailles, Ky for a picnic and ride on the Bluegrass Railroad. In October, the Division members are planning a trip to the Lexington Arboretum to view there garden scale railroad.

Finances: Our Finances have increased due to the convention . Our main income remains donations and our revenue from the auctions. The division is looking at starting a monthly raffle to increase our finances.

Plans: The Division is working on plans with the Boy Scouts. Our vision is to help them earn Merit Badges and possibly build small layouts. We are also beginning to work on a Train show for the Lexington area. A chairperson has been selected and is working on preliminary plans.

Summary: We continue to try and find new ways to reach out and increase membership and attendance, network, have fun, and grow our skill levels.



NMRA's Mid Central Region is proud to announce the release of a one room brick schoolhouse kit made by Mountaineer Precision Products. The prototype was in Canal Winchester, Ohio but seems typical of 19th century schools throughout the rural Midwest. Some of these structures are still in use today for farm equipment storage (the directions say that the Canal Winchester school has been moved and preserved). The kit features laser cut wood construction with plastic brick overlay. The HO scale kit was initially available for sale at the Regional Convention and now O and S scale versions are available. The kit prices are: HO \$45, S \$70, and O \$80. All prices include shipping. Make payment to NMRA Mid-Central Region. Orders should be sent to:

Steve Kaplan
MCR Project Kit
3238 Belvoir Blvd.
Beachwood, OH 44122

Chesapeake & Ohio 40' USRA Single-sheathed Boxcar

The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway purchased 1,000 cars built to the United States Railroad Administration design in 1919. The St. Louis Car Company built 550 cars, numbered 600 – 1149, while Haskell & Barker Car Company built 450 cars, numbered 1150 – 1599. These cars were built with Andrews trucks, Murphy 5-5-5 steel ends and 6-foot wood doors.



They were classified as B5-1 between 1926 and 1935. Many wood-sided cars were rebuilt by the C&O's Raceland Shops in 1931. Two of the cars modeled, nos. 1153 and 1191, were among these cars. There were 986 cars remaining in service in August 1937, and 81 cars in July 1943. During WWII, a number of cars of the original series were converted to flat cars for carrying wheels, and were renumbered into a WH series. In September 1948, the remaining six unmodified wood boxcars were rebuilt in the Raceland Shops, and renumbered as series 1500 – 1505. Modeled cars 1501 and 1505 were in this group of cars, and lasted into the 1960's. The last cars of the original 600 - 1599 series were retired in 1950.

Accurail's 4300-series model represents these cars well, with the exception of the fish-belly underframe, which can be modified to represent a straight center beam by replacing the kit's fish-belly underframe sides with styrene strips. The kit comes with Bettendorf Trucks, a vertical brake staff, and AB brakes.

References: "Chesapeake & Ohio Freight Cars 1937-1946", by Carl Shaver, with Karen Parker and Al Kresse, "C&O Color Guide to Freight and Passenger Equipment", by David H. Hickcox, and various ORERs.

4 car numbers are available: 1153, 1191, 1501 and 1505

Prices: \$20.00 per car, or a set of 4 cars for \$76.00

Ohio residents must add 7% sales tax on the total price of the kits and the shipping/handling fee

Shipping (Priority Mail) & handling is \$6.50 for one car, and \$9.50 for 2 to 4 cars

Note: Customers outside the USA must contact us for shipping charges

Mail check/money order (US dollars) to: Division 7, MCR, NMRA, PO Box 62501, Cincinnati, OH 45262

For Sale!

Division 6 MCR, NMRA, Inc. is offering a limited run, laser cut model of the B & O RR, station located in Grove City, OH for sale. The model is has a footprint of approximately 50' x 20' and is available in N, HO, S and O scales.

Prices for the models as follows:

N Scale \$25.00 HO Scale \$35.00 S Scale \$59.00 O Scale \$69.00

Models can be purchased at any Division 6 meeting or by mail. Send your order with check or money order, payable to: Division 6, MCR, NMRA Inc. to Division 6 Building Sales, 320 S Main St, Prospect, OH. 43342. Include \$5.00 shipping charge per kit.



GROVE CITY, OHIO MIDLAND STATION

This building is currently located next to the Genesee & Wyoming RR track between Park and Grant streets on Front Street in downtown Grove City, Ohio. The building is owned by the Grove City Historical Society who plan to eventually relocate it to Century Park where it can be preserved and enjoyed by future generations.

When the Cincinnati, Midland City and Columbus RR built the station in about 1885 only the South end of the station housing the station agent and waiting room was completed. The freight room was added at a later date.

In 1891 daily passenger service was added between the then village of Grove City and Union Station in downtown Columbus to provide commuter service to the factory workers in the area surrounding the Union Station. Passenger service was discontinued in the 1950's. In 1891 the Baltimore and Ohio RR assumed operation of the Midland Route.

Thoroughbred Limited Convention Cars Still Available

Division 10 has a few Thoroughbred Limited Convention 2015 MCR Accurail HO scale L&N boxcar kits with Kentucky Bourbon distillery "Buffalo Trace" logos and either MCR or L&N reporting marks. See photos in the January 2015 Kingpin. Cars are \$30 each. Please identify which reporting marks you want in your order. Send your order with check or money order, payable to Division 10, MCR, NMRA to Division 10 Car Sales, 3624 Windfair Lane, Lexington, KY 40515. Include \$6 shipping charge for each kit.