



The KingPin

Newsletter of the
Mid Central Region NMRA Inc
October 2016



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The Regional Board met in Columbus in September. The most significant item was the announcement from the Akron Canton Youngstown Division (One) that they will host the 2019 Regional Convention. A formal bid will be submitted at the spring meeting (in Louisville), but Jim DePaola has indicated that they are looking favorably at a site in Cuyahoga Falls.

Minutes from the Board meeting, as well as the reports of the eleven superintendents start on page 3. Another thing that was discussed at the meeting was the thought of starting to identify our Divisions by their name, and not just a number. These names (see page 6) are more indicative of the location and other facts about each Division. I have attended the conventions of two other regions this year (Mid Continent and Northeastern) and discovered that they generally use only names. In fact, in some instances, it was obvious that many attendees did not know where the various numbers were located.

I reported on the Mid Continent convention in the last Kingpin. Then, in September, Patty and I traveled to Albany, NY for the Northeastern Region convention. Actually, she spent her time in Cooperstown at the Hall of Fame while I attended clinics. Mid Central Region members Dave Williams and Bob McKay were also up at the convention. The clinics were very informational, and I managed to hone my skills through two make and takes. I know that a number of our members will be going up to attend the North Central convention next month, and Bob Weinheimer is on his way back from the Mid Eastern Region convention in Durham, NC as I write this.

I will repeat what I said last time - . you can get some great ideas all year long about what other Divisions, as well as Regions, are doing by visiting their websites and reading their newsletters. The easiest way to find them is to start at <http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org/divisions2.html> . In fact, you can access every Division in the NMRA by going to the NMRA website and hitting the "Regions" button on line three.

Another opportunity to meet people and get fresh ideas is to attend one of the many Historical Society conventions that take place throughout the year. I just returned from the Missouri Pacific one in Jefferson City, MO. In addition to clinics and tours at the convention, I got to see Stephen and Cynthia Priest's layout in Kansas City on the way between the Kansas City airport and Jefferson City. Much work is going on to make this a premier attraction at the 2018 National in Kansas City.

Those of you who missed the National convention in Indianapolis really missed one. While not as good as Cleveland 2014 (of course, I am prejudiced), it was still a great one. Orlando is next, and then Kansas City in 2018.

I want to remind all of you to support the few remaining hobby shops in our areas, but also be sure to read Dave Neff's article on "the other hobby shop" in this Kingpin. You can't beat their price for sanding boards and the sponges you need to apply Pan Pastels.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

From the President's Desk	1
MCR Contacts	2
A Word From the Editor	2
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes	3
Upcoming Events	4
Around the Region	7
MCR 70 Years Old and Still Thriving! by Dick Briggs MMR	12
Indianapolis Contest Results photos by Paul Voelker	17
The "Other" Hobby Store by Dave Neff	23
Why I Am a Model Railroader by Dan Mulhearn	23
Division and Region Project Ads	25

FROM THE EDITOR

This issue contains a number of interesting items. In addition to the usual BOD minutes and Division Superintendent reports there is a report on the success of Mid Central Region members at the Indianapolis convention contest. As you can see, MCR members won Best of Show in the judged model contest and in the judged photo contest.

The program for the 1966 MCR convention has come to light and Dick Briggs has written a few words about it. Dick's comments and the program itself start on page 12. Dave Neff offers us his thoughts on items of interest to model railroaders that can be found in craft stores, or if you are lucky, in the craft section of your local hobby shop. Dan Mulhearn wrote a thoughtful article that was first published in Up The Holler, the newsletter of the Coal Division. It is printed here for all MCR members to see.

As you can see if you read the BOD meeting minutes, the new officers were elected by acclamation as they had no opponents and write in votes are not allowed. Your faithful Editor was elected President of the MCR. While I won't take office until the convention, I must state now that I don't feel it proper to hold that job and to edit the KingPin. A new editor is needed starting with the immediate post convention issue. How big is this job? There are three issues yearly including the convention issue which is almost entirely prepared by the host committee. Two are issued electronically while the convention issue is snail mailed. I spend about 20 hours preparing each issue and will be more than happy to assist in the transition. If you are interested in editing this publication, please contact me and we can discuss the process in more detail.

**National Model Railroad Association
Mid-Central Region
Board of Directors Meeting
September 25, 2016**

The meeting was brought to order by President Steve Kaplan at 12:53 PM. The meeting place was at Schmidt's Restaurant, Columbus, Ohio. Present at the meeting were Steve Kaplan, President; Jerry Doyle, Treasurer; Art Bumpus, Secretary; Jim DiPaola, Division 1; Frank Bender for Keith DeVault, Division 2; Rick Lach, Division 3; Steve Kaplan, Division 4; Dave Neff, Division 5; Greg Short, Division 6; Bob Shreve, Division 7; Russ Weis, Division 8; Gary Burdette, Division 9; Bob Belt for Rick Cobb, Division 10; and Howdy Veidheffer, Division 11.

Also in attendance were Paul Novak, Membership; Paul Lapointe, Contest; Don Wilke, Webmaster; and Bob Weinheimer, Kingpin.

Minutes of the last BOD meeting:

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the April 29, 2016 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 balance of \$28,186.94.

Committee Reports:

Paul Novak of the Membership Committee, reported that there were 1,570 members in August 2016, compared to 1,516 members in August, 2015.

Paul Lapointe, Contest Chairman, reported that scoring for those who submitted contest entries judge in the 2016 Rails to the Capital Convention and National Convention were consistent, validating judging conformity between Region and National.

Don Wilke, Webmaster, reported that a new tab on the Officer Archive will be created for a membership report received by Jerry Doyle from National. That report accompanies the check that NMRA National sends to each Region. Steve Kaplan and Bob Weinheimer will be making calls to review the information and layout design for the Region web site.

Education Report – Tom Miller's written report indicates that the various Education Department programs are essential to the NMRA maintaining its 501 (C) (3) designation as an educational organization. Among the newest deliverables completed and provided through Educational Programs is a Division Superintendents Handbook which will soon be distributed to all Region Superintendents for distribution to all Division Superintendents.

Achievement Program – Summarized information submitted by Frank Koch indicates there were 6 Golden Spike Awards, 16 Merit Awards, and 15 AP Certificate Awards.

Bob Weinheimer, Kingpin Editor, reported that the next Kingpin issue will include convention information.

Nominating Committee – Candidates for the next election of Board of Director officer positions are Bob Weinheimer, President; Mike Hohn, Vice President; Bob McKay, Treasurer; and Jerry Doyle, Secretary. A motion was made and seconded to close nominations for Board of Director officer positions. The motion was passed unanimously. A motion was made and seconded that the slate of candidates be elected by acclamation, since nominations were closed and there was only one candidate for each of the elected positions. The motion was voted on and passed.

Division Reports:

Reports as submitted by each Division are published in this issue of the Kingpin. Additional information of note reported by the Divisions include:

Division 1 – Jim DiPaola announced Division 1 will host the 2019 Regional Convention. Secretary's note: It is encouraging to see the tremendous growth of Division 1 during the last several years and the willingness of the Division to now participate as host of a Regional Convention.

Division 2 – Frank Bender reports that the Division membership is 254 rather than 242 currently reported.

Division 3 – The Dayton area Division has lost its Annual Train Show venue. An earnest effort to come up with a new venue was successful. The new venue will reduce its square footage utilization from 89,000 to 70,000, but is a workable solution, thanks to the efforts of the committee.

Division 5 - With transferred membership to the western reaches of Division 5, the Division will hold 2 meetings per year in the Erie, Pa area.

Division 6 – Greg Short thanked everyone for attending their Regional Convention which has significantly added to the Division treasury.

Division 8 – Russ Weiss reports that the local Railroad Club requires NMRA membership which has helped bolster Division membership.

Division 9 – Gary Burdette reports that promoting hands on activities and reducing the length of business meetings at Division meetings is helping to draw more attendance.

Division 10 – Bob Belt reports that the University of Kentucky Arboretum has proven to be exciting for children.

Division 11 – The Division is changing from two to three train shows per year. Projects that include make and take for kids is highly successful.

Old Business:

Conventions:

Louisville in 2017 – Russ Weis reported the convention will be at the Galt House Hotel from 5/18/2017 to 5/21/2017. Make your plans to attend.

Cincinnati in 2018 – The budget has been worked out. Primary registration will be \$75.00 and family members will be \$25.00.

Akron area in 2019 – A venue search is now in progress.

Update – Warren County, Pa transfers is now complete.

School House Kit Project – Steve Kaplan asked for information from various folks with kits to report to Jerry Doyle so we can determine the present status of inventory/sales.

New Business:

2019 MCR Convention – Steve Kaplan asked for some details at the next Board of Directors meeting.

Insurance Issue - A question has been asked about the bonding of Division officers. After some discussion it was found that NMRA national does not bond treasurers, paymasters, etc.

Terminology – Steve Kaplan noted that other Regions use their Division name rather than number as we do in our Region. Steve encouraged that we more prominently identify ourselves by Division name, as it is more descriptive of our location.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 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 2017 with another list in convention issue.

What	Where	When	More info
Mid Ohio Valley MRC Train Show and Sale	Parkersburg WV	October 29, 2016	web site
TCA Upstate Chapter Train Show	Horseheads NY	October 29, 2016	notice
Old Eli's Train and Toy Show	Sugarcreek OH	October 29, 2016	pdf flyer
Great Scale Model Train Show	Timonium MD	Oct 29-30, 2016	web site
Medina Model Train & Toy Show	Medina OH	October 30, 2016	web site
Scranton Model Train Show	Scranton PA	October 30, 2016	web page
2-Rail O-Scale Meet	Kirkland OH	November 5, 2016	web page
Div. 5 - The How To's of Building a Model RR	Kirkland OH	November 5, 2016	Call Bob at: 440-256-8141
North Coast Division TRAINing Day	Lorain, OH	November 5, 2016	trainingday@div4.org
Trains and Troops	Strasburg PA	Nov 5-6, 2016	notice
Div. 3 - Dayton Train Show	Springfield OH	Nov 5-6, 2016	web page
Great New York State Model Train Fair	Syracuse NY	Nov 5-6, 2016	web site
Greenberg's Toy and Train show	Harrisburg PA	Nov 5-6, 2016	web site
Model Railroad Open House	Youngstown OH	Nov 5-6, 2016	pdf flyer
Erie Train Show	Erie PA	November 6, 2016	pdf flyer
Clinton Central Fall Train Meet	Mill Hall PA	November 6, 2016	pdf flyer
Division 1 Model Railroad Flea Market	Akron OH	November 6, 2016	pdf flyer
Carbon Model Railroad Society Train Meet	Walnutport PA	Nov 6-7, 2016	web site
First Frost Train Meet	Allentown PA	Nov 12-13, 2016	web site
Greenberg's Train Show	Monroeville PA	Nov 12-13, 2016	notice
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	Nov 12-13, 2016	web site
Model Railroad Open House	Youngstown OH	Nov 12-13, 2016	pdf flyer
Model Train Show and Swap Meet	Fremont OH	November 13, 2016	pdf flyer
Christ UMC Train Show and Social	Clearfield PA	Nov 16-19, 2016	notice
McKeesport MRC Holiday Open House	McKeesport PA	Nov 18-20, 2016	web site
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	Nov 18-20, 2016	web site
Model Railroad Show and Swap	Ft. Wayne IN	November 19, 2016	web site
Central Indiana Division Train Show	Danville IN	November 19, 2016	notice
Central Indiana Division Train Show	Danville IN	November 19, 2016	notice
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	Dec 2-4, 2016	web site
McKeesport MRC Holiday Open House	McKeesport PA	Dec 3-4, 2016	web site
Ohio Valley Lines Holiday Show	Ambridge PA	Dec 3-4, 2016	web site
The Great Train Show	Belleville IL	Dec 3-4, 2016	web site
Greenberg's Train Show	Timonium MD	Dec 3-4, 2016	notice
Model Railroad Open House	Youngstown OH	Dec 3-4, 2016	pdf flyer
Medina Model Train & Toy Show	Medina OH	December 4, 2016	web site
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	December 6, 2016	pdf flyer
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	Dec 9-11, 2016	web site

What	Where	When	More info
Buckeye Train Show	Columbus OH	December 10, 2016	notice
McKeesport MRC Holiday Open House	McKeesport PA	Dec 10-11, 2016	web site
Tiger Tracks Train Show	Rochester NY	Dec 10-11, 2016	web page
Ohio Valley Lines Holiday Show	Ambridge PA	Dec 10-11, 2016	web site
Massillon Train Show & Sale	Massillon OH	December 11, 2016	pdf flyer
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	December 13, 2016	pdf flyer
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	Dec 16-18, 2016	web site
Div. 3 Train Town Train Show & Swap Meet	Lima OH	December 17, 2016	pdf flyer
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	Dec 17-18, 2016	pdf flyer
McKeesport MRC Holiday Open House	McKeesport PA	Dec 17-18, 2016	web site
Ohio Valley Lines Holiday Show	Ambridge PA	Dec 17-18, 2016	web site
Christmas Train and Toy Show	Kirtland OH	December 18, 2016	web site
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	December 20, 2016	pdf flyer
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	December 23, 2016	web site
McKeesport MRC Holiday Open House	McKeesport PA	December 26, 2016	web site
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	Dec 26-31, 2016	web site
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	December 27, 2016	pdf flyer
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	December 30, 2016	pdf flyer
Ohio Valley Lines Holiday Show	Ambridge PA	December 31, 2016	web site
Ohio Valley Lines Holiday Show	Ambridge PA	January 1, 2017	web site
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 3, 2017	pdf flyer
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	Jan 6-8, 2017	web site
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 7, 2017	pdf flyer
Snow Dogs Train Show	Parma OH	January 7, 2017	web page

Mid Central Divisions

- 3201 [Division 1 - Akron-Canton-Youngstown Division](#)
- 3202 [Division 2 - The Keystone Division](#)
- 3203 [Division 3 - The Miami Valley Division](#)
- 3204 [Division 4 - The North Coast Division](#)
- 3205 [Division 5 - The Western Reserve Division](#)
- 3206 Division 6 - The Buckeye Division
- 3207 [Division 7 - The Cincinnati Division](#)
- 3208 [Division 8 - Central Kentucky and Southern Indiana](#)
- 3209 [Division 9 - The Coal Division](#)
- 3210 [Division 10 - Kentucky Division](#)
- 3211 [Division 11 - Allegheny Plateau Division](#)

Around the Region

Akron Canton Youngstown Division

Submitted by Jim DiPaola Superintendent

Division 1 currently has 108 members. We have changed to term "Event" rather than meeting as suggested by NMRA President Charlie Getz. We are also going to a shorter business session so we can have a clinic at every monthly event. At our October event we will have a make and take clinic for our members. For a small fee Portland Locomotive Works will provide a laser cut section house and a tube of super glue. Division 1 members will then be assisted by Portland Locomotive Works in assembling the kit. Division 1 currently has two projects for sale. Project 1 is a HO scale and N scale laser cut freight and passenger station kit. Project 2 is a N scale AC&Y boxcar kit. At our September 18, 2016 business session Division 1 members voted to host the 2019 MCR Convention.

Keystone Division

Submitted by Keith DeVault, Superintendent

Our membership currently stands at 242, up fifteen from last year, and currently waiting on six new 6 month memberships to be registered with NMRA Headquarters. This is a great improvement in our recruiting efforts.

We continue our recruitment efforts through our presence at the Greenberg Train Show several times per year and the exhibit of our Free-Mo modules at which we invite guests to run trains. Our Annual Model Railroad Jamboree held in the spring is open to regular NMRA and non NMRA members, providing us another opportunity for recruiting members. We usually have over 100 members and guests at the Jamboree, which is held in April of each year for one day. We feature well known guest speakers at the dinner banquet.

Division meetings are held 10 months of the year at different sites in the Division. Each August, the Division will host a family picnic at a park near the mainline of Norfolk Southern. We expect the trains to wait before passing when we hold our business meeting.

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. The Flyer can be accessed on our website: www.keystonedivision.org. We continue to mail the newsletter, but with people having computer access, the web version is now in color and our website chairman, has it posted before the mailing goes out by USPS.

Miami Valley Division

Submitted by Rick Lach, Superintendent

Division Three membership continues to be steady with monthly averages between 165 and 172. Monthly meeting attendance also remains steady averaging 50 members.

The Division remains in good financial shape with the balance of our assets in certificates of deposit. All our legal documents are in good shape both with the state of Ohio and the IRS. We have hired both a local lawyer and a tax agency, have obtained the appropriate vendor's license, and now pay our state taxes for our country store sales. We continue to be a 501 (c) 3 Non-Profit Organization.

Our monthly newsletter, the Call Board, continues to be published by our Editor, James Hedge. Our new webmaster, Dana Yarnall, has both Division websites (one for the actual Division and the other for the Dayton Train Show) current and up to date, and both show significant activity. Our Facebook account, managed by Gail Richardson, is busy mostly with train show activity.

Since the regional convention in May, we have participated in the annual Carillon Park Railfest in June and our 11th annual Bus Trip in August in which we visited 6 magnificent layouts in the Cincinnati area. We had elections in April, and the new BOG took over as of May 1, 2016. Incumbents Rick Lach (Supt) and Eric Zimmerman (Assistant Supt) were reelected. The Division has rented a storage unit to house our Loop Layout, test track, tug o war and hill climb tracks, company store inventory, VHS tape library, and train show supplies in a effort to consolidate our assets and ease the storage burden in our homes.

However, our biggest news is that on July 25, just 90 days before our large Annual Train Show,

the Dayton Hara Arena announced that it was closing and would not be available for our show. The announcement was catastrophic and left us standing out in the cold with no comparable 89,000 SF venue. Quickly we analyzed over 30 venues, reduced the alternatives to 4, and finally selected a vacant Elder-Beerman store front in a mall with 70,000 SF of usable space. Our committee has worked virtually round-the-clock to make this year's show happen. We not only had to undo the old show, but reinvent a new one with all new characteristics. The biggest problem we continue to face has been to combat the unfounded and sometimes malicious rumors that ran rampant, despite attempts at information processing and rumor control to vendors and exhibitors involved. We have almost doubled our advertising efforts, and hopefully we will produce a new and different version of show in which historically we had between 75-95 vendors selling at between 450-500 tables, and 25,000 SF of running trains in all the gauges. We will continue to offer the Railroading Merit Badge to Boy Scouts, and offer continuous mini-clinics. Using a store front offers many exciting benefits, and we hope this year's show will be as successful as those in the past.

During the past 6 months two members of Division 3 have passed away: Ed Andres and Kathly Lehman. They were active within the Division, and their involvement and warm personalities will be greatly missed.

Looking ahead, we will take our Loop Layout to participate in the University of Dayton's Christmas on Campus Program (for underprivileged kids); we will use our larger module layout, the Dalmatian Switching District, to conduct our Model Railroad TRAINing Day in March 2017, and we are making plans to take the Dalmatian to the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base USO to run trains with the airmen over the holidays.

As our membership gets increasingly older and a little less healthy, we find it increasingly more difficult to fill our leadership positions with eager volunteers. Some new members have stepped up, but it seems to be the same corps group that handles the planning. The new train show format will definitely strain our Division in terms of our ability to provide enough volunteers to carry it out.

North Coast Division

Submitted by Steve Kaplan, Superintendent

Membership

Division 4 membership is currently at a fairly stable 206 members. We continue to see a growing interest in parent and child combos joining the NMRA.

Finances

The Division's finances are stable, with about \$45,000 in liquid assets. The total continues to decrease since we are committed to spending down the windfall profits from the 2014 National Convention on our current membership.

Division accomplishments

In line with the above mentioned "spending plan" we provided a subsidized field trip to Scenic Express on September 17th.

We are currently knee deep in preparations for the annual Great Berea Train Show (October 1st and 2nd), followed by our annual "Training Day" in November. We will also have a month long modular setup in Lorain for its Black River holiday festivities in December.

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 80 to 85% of the meeting attendees are in fact staying until the end of the ensuing clinics. Contest entries have continued to increase, and the competition is tough.

The Division purchased a number of Fast-Tracks tools and supplies, and in some cases we have a waiting list for certain sized jigs. Members who own some of them have stepped up and lent theirs to them, so the program has been a definite success.

To further interest in the Achievement Program, if a member brings a structure, item of rolling stock, or even the paperwork to a meeting, they can have it judged there and comments on the why's of the result are reported as a regular part of the meeting.

Our module group continues to set up at about 10 to 12 shows and libraries throughout the year. One significant aspect of our module group's operations, is that members are out in front of the modules instead of lurking behind, and are quick to hand the controllers to interested youths to allow them to run the trains. Several of our new members have come to us through these displays – including recent father/son combos.

Western Reserve Division

Submitted by Dave Neff, Superintendent

Our Division remains fairly healthy with current membership at 105. A few new members have been added, in addition to the acquisition of existing NMRA members acquired through the transfer of three counties to Division 5 from the Niagara Frontier Region.

The Division sponsored an excursion in the summer to the Medina NY NYC Railroad Museum which was well attended and appreciated. Division members continue to be very active in the restoration of the former NYC Painesville Depot in our area.

Attendance at monthly meetings averages 35-38, and we will be having our second meeting in Erie this year next month to facilitate attendance from our newly acquired counties from the NFR. The main focus and highlight of our monthly meeting is the Bring n Brag, with no requirement to stick to the stated theme. Participation has been excellent. We continue to struggle finding suitable clinic/programs given by our regular membership. The new EduTrain program should offer some possibilities in this regard.

We will be having our annual 'How to Build a Model Railroad' educational meet for the public in November, and our module groups will participate in a month-long holiday show in December at Lake Farmpark. We will also be preparing in the next several months for our annual 'Railfest', held in March, which fully funds our next year's Divisional activities and budget.

Buckeye Division

Submitted by Greg Short, Superintendent

Membership: The membership of Division 6 has remained steady thru the past year. We did experience a spike of Railpass memberships due to hosting the MCR Convention. However it has seemed that we may be able to retain some of these to be full members.

Finances: The Division is in very good financial stand at this time. We have experienced a very good return on hosting the MCR Convention as well as the last two fundraising projects that we have undertaken. The finances have been good enough that the Division recently gave a donation to a upstart local tourist railroad, though not a large donation it is a show of support to them.

Newsletter: Our newsletter continues to grow in content thanks to our editor and due to the fact the cost is now almost nothing from where it had been as a printed version. There has been more content added over the last year.

Projects: The Division has done very well with the Midland Station and Buckeye Steel Gons. Thanks to all in the MCR who have supported us with these. We still have a few stations left and a number of gons for sale yet. Once these are gone we will then look at another project.

Train show: The Division hopes to revive the Division 6 Train Show in the future. We are in the process of forming a committee who will then select a time of year as well as a location. One thing that has been discussed is not to hold it in Columbus as there are already several National shows there already.

Club News: It is with great disappointment that I report that due to the sale of Columbus Castings the Columbus Club is losing its longtime home. I have not heard of the final run date for the Scioto Valley Lines in this location but it is reported soon. It has been reported the Club will look for a new home to hopefully build a new layout in the future. On the opposite side of things the Zanesville Club will be holding it's first open house in the new location. For those who remember the old location and the stairs to get there the new location it much easier to get to, please check the

Supers Signal for updates on both of these.

Cincinnati Division

Submitted by Bob Shreve, Superintendent

Our membership count at end of August was 270. Our monthly meetings draw about 60 to 80 people, depending on the meeting location and speaker.

We currently have three car projects running. Our latest project is Virginian & Ohio 40' steel, plug-door boxcars, in the traditional V&O blue, with damage-free loading symbols (DF-2). Four car numbers are available. Two cars are marked for paper lading only. Two other cars are marked for processed food loading only. We have sold about 18% of the kits in a little over two months. Announcements should be appearing in national magazines in the next several months. Our 2015 project was C & O 40' single sheath wood door boxcars in four numbers. We have sold about 67% of these kits in ten months. Kits are available on E-bay and from Division 7. We still have 22 of the Allegheny Midland 41' 6" steel gondolas. This car project started in 2012 and has now sold 94% of the available kits. All of our car project kits are sourced from Accurail.

Our next event is our 49th annual Cincinnati Model Train & Trade Show. The show this year will be October 8th and 9th 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.

Planning is progressing for the "Cincinnati Express" 2018 MCR regional convention. The dates are May 17th through 20th. The location is the Cincinnati Marriott North Hotel in West Chester, very near to the location of our fall show.

Central Kentucky and Southern Indiana Division

Submitted by Russell Weis, Superintendent

The Division 8 membership has increased by four members since our last report. Note that this increase is due to the local railroad club requiring its members to be NMRA members.

Our Division is still in good financial shape and we have not needed to outlay any funds for next year's convention. With regards to the 2017 convention: rail and non-rail tours have been budgeted. We have seven members who will do ops sessions and thirteen, and adding more members, who will have their layouts open for visit.

Brochures/registration forms were available at the national convention in Indy and all but a few were taken. Registrations have started coming in. We are gearing up for our fall train show in November, and half of the dealer tables have been sold.

Coal Division

Submitted by Gary Burdette, Superintendent

The Coal Division continues to do well. Financially we are in excellent shape and we have just signed three new members: two from our more northern area and one from the central part of the region. They have been welcomed via a greeting card and hopefully will begin attending meetings. An interesting note is the fact a couple of guys from the Mid-East Region, whose Division is not too active, have made friends with our guys in the far eastern reaches of our Division and have come (and participated) in our meetings. Word has it that they are coming to our September meeting in Portsmouth at the far western extremes.

We have been trying to have more discussion and/or hands-on activities. The Models, Artifacts, Displays, and Discussions (M.A.D.D.) portion of our event has shown information on adhesives, vaccu-formed projects, and fiber optics smoke stack safety lighting. Demonstrations on tweaking rolling stock and various tools has been popular. The Spray Day at the Station event has been a lot of fun with Phase I Airbrushing and Phase II - Decaling showing success.

October will bring Phase III-Weathering to complete the sessions. Filling-a-Foot-of-Foam-Scenery is in the planning stages with Scratching a Section House as a related Phase II of the scenery project.

We have revamped our monthly contest with some different categories like Photos, Fine Arts, and Finest Finishes and Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, and Railroad Engineering. The former includes model and prototype photos, and railroad fine art, and special paint jobs on locomotives and rolling stock. The latter includes any type of specially-built gizmos, like animations, throttles, signals, fold-down bridges, removable sections, or any project related to some phase of engineering which doesn't fit a typical contest area, but does represent some nicely-built and/or designed aspect of model railroading. The hope here is to expand the range of the scope of the contest to be more all-inclusive.

While we continue to use the St. Albans C&O Depot as our headquarters, we still branch out to Portsmouth, Parkersburg, and Bluefield to include occasional visits away from our central location to the fringes of our region. These events include picnics or a train show which adds a little different wrinkle to the activities. We continue to set up our display at the Dunbar, Bluefield, and Huntington train shows meeting many wonderful people. I even made the local television news cast at one show!

The Coal Division newsletter Up the Holler continues to be popular among Division members as well as many outside the Division who receive the publication. Many members send in interesting items, and Bob Weinheimer does a great job of putting everything into a professional-looking format.

As we continue to Ride the Crusty, Picnic on the Platform, or enjoy the Coal Division in the Coal Fields our themed events have sparked a new interest and enthusiasm in our group. We hope to do more.

Kentucky Division **Submitted by Rick Cobb, Superintendent**

Highlights: The membership for Division continues to remain steady around 68. Attendance for our monthly meetings is averaging 28 to 30. The Division continues to host local clinics and tours most occurring during our monthly meetings. A N scale meeting night has been started to help members with their new N scale layouts. It has brought new member to the monthly meeting.

Finances: The Division remain solvent. Our Finances have increased due to the past convention 2015. Our main income remains donations.

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. We have started building a T-Track layout, hoping to encourage the Boy Scouts to add to the current 6 section layout. Division is hoping to attract other organizations with the T-Track layout. The Division has been invited to run trains at the Lexington Arboretum. This can give the Division more exposure interest in our hobby.

Allegheny Plateau Division **Submitted by Howdy Veiheffer, Superintendent**

Membership: At present we have 35 members on the listing. We have added 3 new members since June. We have been averaging around 20 members at our monthly meetings which are held at a different member's home each month where we "run their trains" have a meeting and enjoy great food which is the real reason everyone shows up I think.

Finances: We are financially solvent. We had to dip into our kitty a couple of times at our last DuBois Mall train show. We added a new DCC system for the modular layout and purchased car kits from another vendor to replenish our stock that we use for our build and take project.

Projects: At our annual train show at Dubois Mall and our Christmas train show we have tables set up for our build and take. There are two areas, one has train car kits that members help the younger attendees assemble. After they are built they get to take them to the layout and we place them on the back one of the trains on the module layout and they get to following the train around watching the car they just built pass thru the scenery. The other table has small scenery modules that have been preassembled by members. They have a base and land contours built up of foam and covered with plaster. They are then painted and have scenic materials, rock castings and trees added by attendees. When the young future model railroaders go home they have a lasting memento they can show with pride.

Newsletter: Our newsletter, "The Keystone Corridor" is going great. We are attempting to cut costs by switching to electronic copies.

Web Page: Our web page is as always outstanding. Our web master is continually updating and adding new and interesting information of interest to the model railroading public.

Modules: Our modular 12 x 30 (and growing) HO layout have seen a lot improvement lately. Most of the older modules have been updated and new ones have been added.

Train Shows: Besides our 2 yearly shows mentioned, this year we are adding a new Mall show at the Indiana Mall in Indiana Pa. The Mall is a sister of the one in DuBois and they contacted us and asked if we would be interested in doing one for them. The date of the show will be October 22nd. Achievement Program: Our new Achievement Program Chair has been very busy and so far he has presented 3 Golden Spike Achievements. He has an Official Achievement in progress and a number of us are working on our Dispatcher Achievement through our by-monthly op sessions.

By-monthly Op sessions: We hold Thursday Op sessions on a round-robin format every other week. Sessions start 9:00 am and usually wind up at 4:00 pm. Of course there is always a lunch break which again I think is one of the reasons we hold the sessions. We usually have 6 to 12 operators present and work with a Dispatcher. There are a number of different modes of operation depending on layout owners genre. We get to experience Time Table operation, Form 13 operation and the "Mother may I" operation. We get to use car card/waybills and the painted garbage can lid (read thumb tack) on car method of switching. We get experience as Dispatchers, Yard Masters, Station Agents, Engineers and Conductors which is recorded toward our Dispatcher Achievement Certificate. These op sessions also give the layout owners a little extra push to work on their layouts to improve reliability and scenery.

Proto-type Railroading: At our August meeting we all got together for dinner at Hoss's in St. Mary's for dinner (food again) and a short business meeting then went to the Bucasgahuda and Western narrow gauge railroad for a day of riding trains.

Bring and Brag: Our Bring and Brag has a new committee head and he is in the process of updating and fine tuning things. Already there has been a big improvement in the entries each month.

MCR 70 Years Old and Still Thriving! Dick Briggs MMR

The Mid-Central Region, NMRA, Inc., formed in 1946, is still going strong. We just held our Convention this past spring in Columbus, Ohio. Our 20th Anniversary Convention was held at The Great Southern Hotel in Downtown Columbus. Included is a copy of the Convention Program from that event.

"How the times have changed". Four pages cover the entire program. Unfortunately, many who attended are no longer with us, but Alan McClelland and Joe Slanser can remember how simple it used to be to have a good time. Included is a copy of the Convention Program from that event.

Most of the activities listed in the program now only exist in memories.

The Columbus Museum of Industry and Science is long gone and has been replaced by the new Center of Science and Industry along the Scioto River.

The C&O RR has long ago been merged and remerged into CSX and the Dispatcher's Office in Columbus no longer exists.

The Ohio Railway Museum has somewhat fallen into disrepair and steam locomotives do not operate anymore.

The Columbus Model Railroad Club later moved to a new location at the former Buckeye Steel Castings facility and no longer provides conversion cars for all the popular makes of couplers. The Club, which formed in 1934, has been in continual operation for 82 years and is one of the oldest clubs in the country.

Lastly, only one of the local hobby dealers has survived the last fifty years and that is Hobbyland.
This program was shared with us by John Retterer of Division 6.

LOCAL HOBBY SHOPS

FRANK P. HALL, INC.

185 S. High St. (Basement)
(2 Blocks North of Hotel)

HOBBYLAND

140 Graceland Blvd. (Graceland Shopping Center
near Worthington on High St.)

NWORB'S HOBBY HOUSE

1889 Sullivant
(1/2 mile west of Central)

STRETE HOBBIES

3655 Sullivant
(Far West)

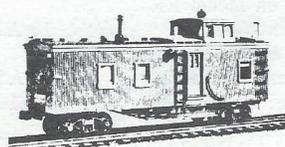
PROGRAM

20th ANNIVERSARY

CONVENTION

MID-CENTRAL REGION

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASS'N.



SOUTHERN HOTEL

COLUMBUS, OHIO

MAY 13 - 14 - 15, 1966

CONVENTION TIMETABLE

EASTERN STANDARD TIME

Friday, May 13		Place
Registration	6:00 — 10:00 P.M.	MR
Manufacturers Display	6:00 — Midnight	M
Hospitality Room	6:30 — Midnight	M4
H O Club Layout	6:30 — 11:00 P.M.	C
Movies - Slides	8:30 — Midnight	M3
Home Layout Tours (Requires 4 hours)		
Start at	6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00	
	8:30, and 9:00 P.M.	MT
Saturday, May 14		
Registration	9:30 A.M.— 6:00 P.M.	MR
Displays	9:30 A.M.— 9:00 P.M.	M
Hospitality Room	9:30 A.M.— 7:00 P.M.	M4
H O Club Layout	9:30 A.M.— 12:30 P.M.	C
Model Contest Entries	9 A.M.—Noon	M1
B.R.T. Contest Entries	9 A.M.—Noon	M1
Clinics — Each 1 Hour		
Parshall on Contests	9 A.M.	M2
McClelland on the V. & O.	10 A.M.	M3
Dean on Model RR		
Photography	10 A.M.	M4
Graf & Parshall on Painting —		
and Weathering	11 A.M.	M3
Slanser on Signaling	11 A.M.	C
President's Trophy Voting	Noon—2 P.M.	M1
Model Contest Judging	2 P.M.—?	M1, M2
Railettes Tour Starts	1:30 P.M.	M4
Home Layout Tours—Require 4 hours		
—Start at 1:00 P.M. 1:30 P.M. 2:00 P.M.		MT
Ohio Railway Muesum Open	1 P.M.—5 P.M.	
(on your own)		
Hospitality Hour	6 P.M.—7 P.M.	M4
Banquet	7 P.M.—9:30 P.M.	MB
MCR Board Meeting	9:30 P.M.	M2
Movies - Slides	10 P.M.—?	M3
Tape - Slide Clinics	10 P.M.—?	M4
CTC Office	10 P.M.—Midnight	MT
Home Layouts	By Appointment	

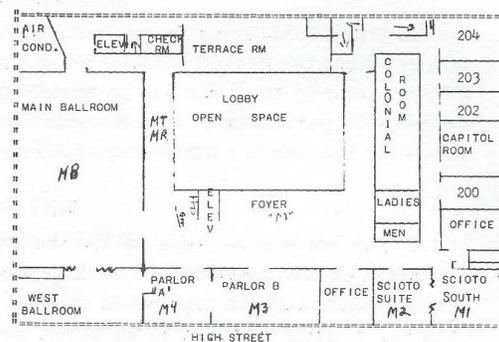
TIMETABLE — (Continued)

Sunday, May 15

M.C.R. Business Meeting	10 A.M.—Noon	M3
HO Club Layout	12:30—2:30 P.M.	C
Live Steam Layout	1:30—4:00 P.M.	LS
Ohio Railway Museum	1 P.M.—5:00 P.M.	ORM
Home Layout Visits	(See Bulletin Board)	

Place Designations

- C — Columbus HO Model Railroad Club
Basement, 204 S. Third St. (1 block north
and 1 block east of hotel)
- LS — Ned Norman's Live Steam Layout
1513 Essex Rd. (about 4 blocks from Vic
Ketcham's Layout)
- M — Southern Hotel Mezzanine Floor Balcony.
- M1 — Scioto South (Contest Room)
- M2 — Scioto Room (Meetings & Clinics)
- M3 — Parlor "B" (Meetings & Clinics)
- M4 — Parlor "A" (Hospitality)
- MB — Ball Room
- MR — Registration Desk on Mezz.
- MT — Tour Dispatcher on Mezz.
- O.R.M. — Ohio Railway Museum, Proprietor's
Rd., Worthington (see map)



Sketch of Southern Hotel Mezzanine

CLINICS

A CONCEPT IN MODEL RAILROADING by Al McClelland

Saturday, May 14 — 10 - 11 A.M.

Al describes the construction of the Virginia and Ohio from its initial conception through the construction techniques to the never finished product by use of slides and live narrative. A discussion period follows the presentation.

JUDGING OF MODEL CONTESTS by Karl Parshall

Saturday, May 14 — 9 - 10 A.M.

Karl describes the ideas and procedures behind the critical judging of model contest entries, with slides and comments to use as examples. All of the contest judges as well as anyone else interested should attend.

MODEL RAILROAD PHOTOGRAPHY by Jack Dean

Saturday, May 14 — 10 - 11 A.M.

Jack describes the methods used for taking good photographs of your models, and then goes through a series of slides of many well known model railroads from all over the country.

PAINTING AND WEATHERING YOUR MODEL by Dave Graf and Karl Parshall

Saturday, May 14 — 11 - 12 A.M.

Dave demonstrates the preparation of a model for painting and the use of pressurized spray can paint for applying the basic "grimy black" primer to metal locomotives and cars. Karl takes over from there explaining and demonstrating the weathering of the model.

SIGNALLING YOUR LAYOUT by Joe Slanser

Saturday, May 14 — 11 - 12 A.M.

Joe explores the application of signals to Model Railroads and demonstrates the usefulness of signals on all but the smallest layouts. Various detection circuits will be discussed, and specific problems presented by the group will be solved (we hope). This clinic is **not** for those who are afraid to use relays or transistors, as effective signalling cannot be achieved without them. This clinic will be held at the HO Club so a live demonstration of signalling can be presented.

MOVIES AND SLIDES

A room has been set aside for the showing of movies and slides on railroad subject matter both Friday and Saturday evenings. If you have any movies or slides to show, contact Mr. Don Dawson or Mr. Paul Winters at the registration desk. In the past we have seen some real gems of home movies, especially of some long-dead steam power. Both 8 and 16MM projectors will be provided for movies and a 35MM for slides.

LAYOUT TOURS

The Layout Tours are arranged in two groups of 5 to 6 layouts which can be visited in a period of about 4 hours time. To allow adequate time at each layout, the tours are arranged to keep driving time between layouts as short as possible.

We have attempted to schedule the tours so that no more than 12 to 18 people will be at any layout at any one time, so please adhere to the printed schedule that the tour dispatcher gives you. You will note that there are different starting times for some groups, this will be necessary because of the varying distances between the layouts so as to keep the congestion down.

You should try to see half of the layouts Friday evening and the other half on Saturday afternoon, however a special tour will be arranged starting at 1 P.M. Saturday for some of those who will be free Saturday only to see eight layouts between 1 and 6 P.M.

Some of the layouts will be open Saturday after the Banquet, and also on Sunday afternoon. Check the Bulletin Board at the Tour Dispatcher's desk for a list of these.

At the time of preparation of this program, Winnie Diehlman is gravely ill, so the Diehlman layout will not be open as originally planned. Her illness has been diagnosed as a form of cancer and although she has been responding to treatments, her outlook is not good. It is with great regret that we make this announcement, for Charlie and Winnie are fine people and they have a wonderful layout.

HO CLUB LAYOUT

The Columbus HO Model Railroad Club's Scioto Valley Lines will be operating Friday evening, Saturday morning, and Sunday afternoon during the convention. The club will **not** be open Saturday afternoon so that the club members can have a chance to visit some of the home layouts as guides on the layout tours.

If you have a locomotive that you would like to run over the S.V.L., bring it down anytime the club is open. We have conversion cars for all of the popular makes of couplers.

LIVE STEAM

Weather permitting, Ned Norman will be operating his 1½" scale live steam layout at his home at 1513 Essex Rd. in Upper Arlington. He will have steam up about 1:30 on Sunday and will continue to operate until about 4 P.M. His layout consists of about 1000 feet of track in a waterwings arrangement around his house. Motive power consists of 4-4-0, a 2-6-0, and a narrow gage 0-6-0.

OHIO RAILWAY MUSEUM

The Ohio Railway Museum will be open Saturday from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. and Sunday also from 1 to 5. Traction equipment only will be operated on Saturday; both steam and trolley will run on Sunday. There is no admission charge but donations will be appreciated.

PROTOTYPE TOURS

No specific tours of prototype facilities have been scheduled but if you can find time, Mr. Paul Winters at the registration desk will provide you with directions to interesting prototype facilities. Also Mr. Winters can arrange for a small group to visit the C & O Dispatcher's office to see the CTC board on Saturday evening

RAIETTES TOUR

A tour of the Columbus Museum of Industry and Science has been scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Meet at the Hospitality Room at 1:30 P.M. and go to the Museum in a group.

M.C.R. BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors meeting of the Region has been changed from Friday evening to Saturday evening after the banquet to avoid a conflict with the layout tours. All Region officers, Division supers and committee chairmen are requested to attend.

M.C.R. BUSINESS MEETING

The regular business meeting of the Mid Central Region will be held Sunday morning at 10 A.M. All members who are interested in affairs of the Region should attend.

EQUIPMENT SWAPS

No formal auction or swap shop will be held, however a bulletin board will be provided for you to list the items you have for sale or trade, your price, and your room number. Please also list the time you expect to be at your room.

National Convention Contest Results

Photos by Paul Voelker except as noted

As the Indianapolis convention was close to many in the Mid Central Region, it was not surprising to see many members attending and participating in the contest, now known as the Celebration of Models. Over the next few pages you will see that the efforts of several MCR members were recognized with first, second, or third place scores, merit awards, and special awards.

The Gold Award, otherwise known as Best of Show, was earned by Cincinnati Division member Sam Swanson for his Reed Bros. Boatworks. Sam's model also won the Hunterline Award for the Best Wooden Scratch Built Model.



Judged Model Contest (Scratch Built Class) Freight Cars

Jim Grell of the North Coast Division took first and second place in this category. His first place entry was a Lehigh Valley rebuilt hopper and his second place entry was an M&O auto car. The photo of Jim is receiving his second place award, this was a better shot than the first place photo.



Structures

Steve Zapytowski of the Akron Canton Youngstown Division earned second place for Old Man Baldwin's Cabin. Steve also received Honorable Mention and a merit award for his Tillamook Station. Steve's Tillamook Station also won the National Contest Judge's Award.



Judged Model Contest (Kit Built Class) Steam

John Santel of the Miami Valley Division took first place in this category with his N scale Shay #3.



Non-Revenue

MCR members took first and second place in this category. John Santel won first place with his N scale Logging Fire Train while Sam Swanson took second place with his Kuzman Log Loader. Sam's model also won the Iwata by Anest Iwata Award for Most Realistic Rolling Stock.



John's Fire Train, photo by Don Wilke.

Sam's Log Loader



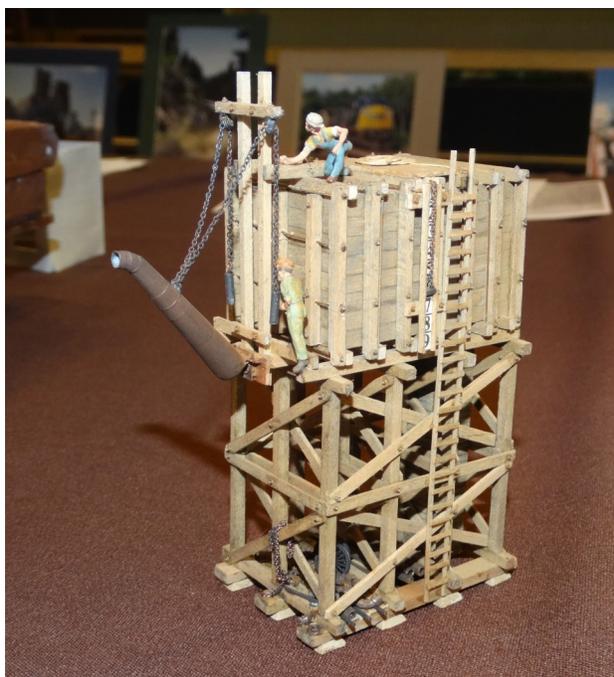
Structures

John Santel won first place for his N scale Double Band Saw Mill. This model also won the Fanatsonics/Pricom Award as the Most Deserving of Sound.



Photo by Don Wilke.

Although it did not score among the winning entries, Steve Zapytowski's Idiotville Water Tank was recognized by Mt. Albert Scale Lumber Company as the Best Use of Scale Lumber.



Judged Photo Contest

We did not receive copies of the photos from the photo contest but several MCR members were recognized for their efforts.

Kurt Sanders of the Western Reserve Division took Best of Show for his color prototype “Driveway”.

Kevin Jones of the Louisville Division 8 took second place in color prototype for “BNSF 5909”.

Neal Schorr of the Keystone Division took first place in color models for “Enola, PA circa 1920”.

Neal Schorr took second place in Working on the Railroad for “Cumbres & Toltec”.

Kurt Sanders took third place in Working on the Railroad for “Flushing the Boiler”.

Ron Morgan of the North Coast Division won the Chairman’s Award for Best Fan Trip for “OPE Cottage Grove, OR”.

Steven Schorr of the Keystone Division won the Chairman’s Award for Best Special Effects for “Sharks at Mattawanna”.



Kurt Sanders' wife Karen accepts the Best of Show award on his behalf.



Neal Schorr accepts his First Place for color models award



Steven Schorr accepts his plaque for Best Special Effects

People's Choice Awards

The Favorite Train award was won by Jim Grell.

Bonnie Lett of the Western Reserve Division won the Prototype Print photo contest.

Sam Swanson took third place in the Photo Match contest.



Bonnie Lett receives her plaque for favorite Prototype Print..

That 'Other' Hobby Store
Dave Neff
Division 5 Superintendent

With traditional model hobby stores (planes, trains, boats, cars) fast disappearing and being replaced in many instances by internet shopping, what's a model railroader to do? Well for one thing, take a leisurely stroll around your local 'craft' store (Michaels, Hobby Lobby, Jo-Ann's, and Pat Catan's come to mind). There is a cornucopia of 'stuff' which modelers in all scales can find. Here's a *partial* list I discovered recently while just 'browsing' at one of the aforementioned craft stores:

Hobby tools: xacto knives, cutting mats, punches, scissors, adhesives and glues of all kinds.

Paints: 99 cents acrylic variety all colors; flat and gloss sprays. The costs easily beat the traditional model railroad paint suppliers

Jewelry---chains, beads, wire in several gauges, sizes and colors. Great for detailing.

Scrapbook---removable and permanent glue dots, (I use the glue dots for adhering vinyl backdrops to skyboards), glue sticks (good for decals, roofing).

Floral---dense foam blocks and sheets, moss, lichen, bark (good for rocks), push pins.

Misc: sealable clear bags all sizes for small parts storage; plastic storage boxes and hobby tool totes; Velcro products, hooks, wire ties; push pins; Sculptamold.

Childrens: diorama trees, animals.

Wood products: dowels, sheets, strips in balsa and basswood; hardwood shapes.

Art Section ---stain pens, paint pens, cardstock, foamboard, artists acrylics, oils, chalks.

These are just some of the items you're likely to find---which are very likely not to be found at our traditional model railroad hobby stores---and are not easily found on the internet. Besides, that 'other' hobby store offers us at least two of the sensory experiences---see and touch---although you might want to forego 'taste'!

Editor's note: Here in southern West Virginia we are lucky enough to have nearly all the items mentioned here in the hobby shop's crafts section. Don't overlook what else your hobby shop might have besides the usual hobby supplies.

Why I am a Model Railroader
Dan Mulhearn
Coal Division Assistant Superintendent

I hope you will indulge me as I tell a little story about why I am a model railroader. Probably it could be paraphrased in Gary Burdette's oft told quote about never meeting a train he didn't like.

I am driving south on the interstate, it is flat country and it could be almost anywhere. My exit is ahead, the usual huddle of gas stations, convenience stores and fast food joints. The windows are rolled down and the sweet smell of magnolias fills the air. It is April 1982 in the middle of Mississippi. The sameness of the interstate exit is replaced by the gloom of downtown Grenada. The square surrounding the Illinois Central depot is filled with vacant stores, dirty windows, and for rent signs folded over in resignation. The large brick depot itself is dirty, the platform bricks are uneven and missing in spots. On the north wall the plaque commemorating IC railroaders who served in World War Two is streaked and green with verdigris. Just north of the depot a GP9 sits forlornly with a lot of miles on it since it rolled out of Paducah Shops resplendent in orange and white. Across the main are several sidings slowly sinking into the mud holding various gondolas and pulpwood flats. On the sides of some, just barely visible through the rust, is the old

slogan “Mainline of Mid-America”. The men who built this railroad and scoured Europe for sturdy farmers to till the land must be rolling in their graves that their railroad has become just a tax write off for a large corporation.

The only bright spot in the scene is the agent’s cherry red Chevy pickup. I found him seated behind his ancient typewriter. “No” he said, “nothing running until the Panama.” He was referring to Amtrak’s Panama Limited which was named after the old IC’s most posh limited. Of course, a little later, Willie sang Steve Goodman’s song and the train name changed to “The City of New Orleans.”

The northbound Panama was due a little after sunset so I returned to the depot to watch her by. Pretty much the same scene greeted me. An ancient black man in an equally ancient black truck jounced across the tracks with a small load of cattle for the little slaughterhouse down the road. He flirted his hand in greeting and as his truck hit each rail in the crossing a puff of smoke would jet from his pipe. The mournful lowing of the cattle was a sad quietus to the scene.

Wait, though, a three man crew showed up and after checking in with agent fired up that tired looking GP9. It must be reported that that EMD 567 sounded sweet. They crossed over the main and began sorting cars on the sidings. Things are looking up. A man pulled up in a pickup and put his young son up on the hood so he could see the action. It is great that some men still will take their sons down to the depot to see the trains. Other vehicles begin arriving. People and luggage begin to populate the platform. Hugs and kisses are being exchanged, laughter fills the air.

The three green signals I can see to the south all drop to red. A bright star appears on the southern horizon, a five chime begins blowing for crossings echoing off the buildings. Here he is! The single F40 rolls by screaming in run 8 as they provide power to the train and remain at full throttle at all times. The wee-waw wee-waw of disc brakes sing in the air. The conductor, in the stairwell of the second coach, waves at the little boy on the pickup. We get a friendly wave from the sleeping car attendant as he alights to shepherd his passengers aboard. Luggage comes off, luggage goes on. As departing passengers come off there are more delighted cries, hugs, and kisses. The boarding passengers say their last good byes to friends and family. A terse “highball Grenada”, two chimes of the horn and the Panama rolls north. Two red tail lights rapidly disappear in the countryside. Far away the beautiful down Doppler of the five chime announces it passing to some nameless farm crossing.

The man takes his boy down off the pickup hood and they leave with the boy smiling. Amtrak’s version of the Panama Limited is far from a match for the beautiful streamliner once run by the Illinois Central. As I walk to my truck in the quiet early evening I am smiling like that little boy.

A postscript to this little tale is in order. I did not realize that what freight traffic IC had, except local switchers, ran on their alternate main line which was further west, closer to the Mississippi River. That line today, under Canadian National auspices, is a busy freight line. Amtrak’s Chicago—New Orleans trains have also migrated to that line. The line through Grenada is now operated by a short line and they are doing OK.

I can tell you hundreds of tales like this, exciting, funny, sad, but all fond memories of about seventy years of chasing trains. From the little boy on the platform at the Long Island RR station at Valley Stream, NY to the man who has chased and ridden trains all over this Country; it’s been wonderful. So that’s why I am a model railroader. I guess all this space could have been saved by just saying, like Gary, I never met a train I didn’t like.

CALL FOR CLINICS **Russ Weis, Clinic Chair**

I know I’ve met a number of you this year either in Columbus or Indianapolis and many of you have agreed to be clinicians at next year’s convention here in Louisville. For those of you with whom I have not had the chance to talk, I would like to invite you to Louisville next May to give a clinic or two.

I know it still may be early to commit to coming to Louisville however I would appreciate you letting me know if there is the interest so we can start planning our Time Table.

I look forward to hearing from you at .rweis9818@gmail.com



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.