



The Kingpin

Newsletter of the
Mid Central Region
National Model Railroad Association
October 2019



photo: Tom Miller



Tom Miller, MCR Education Chair, describes his visit to the Cumbres and Toltec in this edition.

Table of Contents

From the President	2	Committee Reports	24-32
National Convention Report	3-6	AP Report (Awards)	33-35
BOD Minutes	7-10	MCR Contacts	36
Division Reports	11-23	Cumbres & Toltec	37-42

Message from the President

Bob Weinheimer MMR®

The MCR Board of Directors met September 29 in Columbus, Ohio for its fall meeting. We passed two motions of interest. First was to formalize our participation in the 2022 convention with the Mid West Region and North Central Region. This tri-Regional convention will take place in early May in Indianapolis. The other item was to direct the webmaster to set up a separate page or set of pages to archive the reports of the officers, board members, and committee managers presented ahead of the board meetings. Heretofore they had been archived behind a password controlled wall but still published in the Kingpin. Except for some with financial information, all current and new reports will be available to anybody to see on the MCR web site.

There is more to say about conventions. In May we will be meeting once again in Pittsburgh with the members of the Keystone Division as our hosts. If you remember the 2012 convention, the venue was right across the street from Wheeling and Lake Erie's Rook Yard, quite an active spot. The hotel for the 2020 convention will be the same facility. Please plan on attending.

In 2021 we will be in Erie, PA. The Alleghany Western Division will be hosting a Regional convention for the first time since they moved to the Mid Central Region. I had the opportunity to visit the venue in September and it is truly spectacular. There are two hotels, a Marriott and Hilton, directly connected to the facility so weather will be no issue. With two convention hotels, those of us who are members of loyalty programs can stay at whichever we prefer.

I need to address another issue that seems to come up every other year. Over the coming winter most Divisions in the Region will be having elections for officers. Unfortunately, I am hearing from some term limited Superintendents that there has been trouble finding members willing to run for these offices. What are you afraid of? Yes, being a Division officer has some responsibilities, but these positions are not time sinks. You have the opportunity to give back to the NMRA, not just take from it. Are you dissatisfied with something in your Division? Run for office and you will be in a position to change things. What is expected of a Superintendent? You will typically run your Division meetings. You will be expected to write a couple of reports to the Board each year but that is usually just an update from the last report. One of the more important items is to confirm in writing each year that your officers are NMRA members, this is a requirement for insurance coverage. Finally, the Superintendents are asked to nominate members for the NMRA President's Award for service to a Division, the MCR Directors Award, and the Wenderfer Award for service to the Division. Talk to your Superintendent, I'm sure he can tell you what it is like to lead your Division. Finally, if you serve two terms as Superintendent, you can earn the Association Official certificate in the Achievement Program. What are you waiting for? Run for office!



While this was the view from the convention center parking lot, it is characteristic of much of the scenery in the Salt Lake City area.



At least one tour included a visit to the Great Salt Lake. Wading was for the adventurous as it required a walk to the wash stand afterward. A couple of us described the scene as something from another planet.



Endicott Copper Mine is open to the public and was part of a tour. Old equipment is on display.



The National Park Service does an excellent job of interpretation in its portrayal of the driving of the golden spike. They honored our tour visits by letting us participate in the reenactment ceremony.



The Union Pacific station was a few light rail stops north of the convention hotel. The interior was empty but well maintained and accessible. The stained glass made the visit worthwhile.

Behind the station was a public recreation area surrounded by shops. A lot of children were taking advantage of the wading pool while mothers (for the most part) sat under the umbrellas.





City transportation. The convention included a weeklong pass. The hotel was near the center of town and gave easy access to most of the rail lines.



The convention hotel: Little America. The usual highrise in the background, which held our clinic rooms as well as some guests. The rest of us stayed in the numerous outlying two story structures. The whole complex took up a city block, which is huge in Salt Lake City.

National Model Railroad Association Mid-Central Region
Board of Directors Meeting
Schmidt's Restaurant - Columbus, Ohio
Minutes
September 29, 2019

Attendance:

Bob Weinheimer, President; Dave Neff, Vice President; Bob McKay, Treasurer; Jerry Doyle, Secretary; Jim DiPaola, Division 1; Keith DeVault, Division 2; Mark Stiver, Division 3; Lee Sheffield, Division 4; Dave Neff (P), Division 5; Greg Short, Division 6; John Shields, Division 7; Fred Soward, Division 8; Dan Mulhearn, Division 9; Bob Belt, Division 10; Howdy Veihdeffer, Division 11; and Mike Hauk (P), Division 12.

Also in attendance were Michael Wolf; Gail Yarnell, Asst. Sup. Div. 3; Chuck Endreola; Dick Briggs, Projects; Jeff Hedge; Bruce DeMaeyer; Don Wilke, Webmaster; David Ellis; Bruce McDonald; Paul Novak, Membership; Frank Benders, Asst. Sup. Div. 2; Steve Zapytowski, Contests; Bernadine Zapytowski, and Barbara Soward

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Weinheimer at 12:55 p.m.

Minutes of the last BOD meeting:

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as corrected from the May 3, 2019 BOD meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

President's Comments:

Members of the Niagara Frontier Region in the Buffalo area are looking to leave that Region and its International Division due to the inconveniences of crossing the border between the US and Canada to attend events. There are approximately 40 members and they are in the midst of being polled to satisfy the NMRA requirements for a move between Regions. There is another issue: where to go if they leave. Some are interested in the Northeastern Region and attended its convention last weekend in Syracuse. Others are interested in the Mid Central Region based on interactions with the Alleghany Western Division and its activities in the Erie, PA area. The leadership of both Regions has indicated their willingness to accept these members; it is now up to them to perform the due diligence necessary to make a well-founded choice. The Niagara Frontier Region has given its approval for these folks to move on, it now up to them to make the choice of their destination.

The NMRA's map of Regions in North America is finally in the process of being updated. A current version is now in the hands of the IT group to get it up on the web site. This has been a long-term problem as the old map cannot be edited and changes made over the past years have not been included. That problem goes away as the new map can be edited relatively easily.

The NMRA and youth program is under discussion with the development of standards for participants and indemnification issues. The Scout program will continue unchanged.

Planning for the three-way joint convention for 2022 is moving forward. Fred Soward will be giving us an update today. We do need to formally agree to participate, that will be the subject of yet another motion today.

Treasurer's Report:

Bob McKay reported the MCR financial situation. He noted expenditures and revenue for the preceding period.

BOD Minutes continued

Vice-Presidents Report:

Dave Neff reported on reconstituting the MCR clinician database. This will require work on each division's part. The availability of clinicians to other divisions and stipends will be considered. The information would be available on a restricted basis to address privacy concerns. A question was asked about criteria for sharing the database with members outside the division. This will be addressed moving forward. The idea of including an abstract on the clinics was also suggested.

Committee Reports

Achievement Program:

Frank Koch was not present but encourages each division to promote AP participation.

Contest:

Steve Zapytowski nothing further report beyond report submitted. Bob Weinheimer informed the group that the NMRA has decided Lego models would be included in the Arts & Crafts category in future contests.

Education:

Tom Miller was not attending. Bob Weinheimer suggested everyone read Tom's report.

King Pin:

Dave Williams was not present but reported the deadline is October 10 for the next *King Pin*.

Membership:

Paul Novak discussed getting inactive members back on the active member list. Members must initiate this process themselves. He noted that Division 0 is on the books for members who have moved away but still wish to stay involved with the MCR.

Modules:

Bruce DeMaeyer announced the modular display at the 2020 Pittsburgh convention will be much larger than last year's display.

Nominations:

Bob Shreve was not present. His report addressed being able to vote electronically. The logistics of how this would be done were discussed. A recommendation should be ready for voting in May.

Projects:

Dick Briggs reported on using kits as door prizes for regional conventions. These will be provided free for promotional purposes.

Webmaster:

Don Wilke reported that the website averages 11,000 unique visitors per month. The most hits were from the US. Second highest was the Russian Federation.

BOD Minutes continued

Division Reports:

Division 1 – Jim DiPaola, Nothing new to add to the report already submitted for the meeting.

Division 2 – Keith Devault Nothing new to add to the report already submitted for the meeting.

Division 3 – Mark Stiver reported on Training Day and Carillone Parks Railfest and other activities.

Division 4 – Lee Sheffield, Nothing new to add to the report submitted for the meeting. Train show in Berea next weekend.

Division 5 – Mike Beuhner (David Neff Proxy). Their BSA program operates from the Painesville, Ohio depot and now has a waiting list.

Division 6 – Greg Short, October 20 train show.

Division 7 – John Shields The NMRA magazine had a write up for publicity on their show. He reported over 500 likes on their FB page

Division 8 – Fred Soward reported that membership and attendance is up. They have started a YouTube channel featuring division clinics.

Division 9 – Dan Mulhearn noted the hard work of Division 9 members

Nothing new to add to the report already submitted for the meeting.

Division 10 – Bob Belt reported on efforts to create an area at the Ravenna Museum

Division 11 – Howdy Veiheffer thanked everyone from the MCR for help during his tenure as superintendent.

Division 12 – Mike Hauk (Brad White proxy) thanked the other divisions for help in their recent Mini-Meet.

Old Business:

2019 Convention – Nothing new to add to the report.

2020 Convention – Keith DeVault reported that rooms are booked There is a 3,500 square foot display area and 2,000 for the contest area. There will be separate rooms for the various functions. Rooms are now available for booking. Registration is \$60. Electronic registration is available. The Pennsylvania Trolley Museum may be available for one of the tours. The white elephant form is available for anyone to use in their divisions.

2021 Convention – Mike Hauk distributed a flyer for The Northern Express May 20-23, 2021. He noted they will need help from other divisions in staffing the convention.

2022 Joint MCR/NCR/MWR Convention Proposal -- Fred Soward reported on the planning activities. The bulk of the activities will be handled by the Indianapolis group. The date is planned to be May 4-7, 2022. The schedule will be heavy on morning and evening clinics with time at midday for self-guided layout tours. The venue will be Marriott East with free parking. A name for the convention has yet to be picked, the working name is Tri-Con. Fred Soward, Bob Weinheimer and Jerry Doyle are representing MCR on the planning committee. The question of venues was discussed, a deciding factor in choosing Indianapolis was the large number of layouts in the area.

Motion: 2022 Tri-Regional Convention

Approve participation in the 2022 Tri-Regional Convention with the Mid West Region and the North Central Region. One quarter of any proceeds would come to the Mid Central Region.

One third of any loss would come from the Mid Central Region.

-Fred Soward motioned, John Shields seconded. Passed unanimously.

--continued on next page

BOD Minutes continued

New Business:

NMRA Long Range Plan -- Dick Briggs will be contacting Division superintendents for input planning for 2025.

Website Firewall -- Don Wilke, Bob Weinheimer. The question of how much content is publicly available was discussed. Don said that financial information would be redacted from the public content area.

Motion: BOD Reports on the Web

Motion to replicate current and future Division reports and committee reports submitted for Board of Director meetings to a web page open to all members. The exceptions will be the Region Treasurer report or any report containing numerical financial information, those reports will be kept on the password protected page.

-Bob Belt motioned, Keith Devault seconded. Motion passed unanimously

Bob Belt asked about the amount of time records should be retained. Bob Weinheimer suggested he contact Bob Amsler, NMRA General Counsel, for guidance on this.

For the Good of the Order:

Several Division Superintendents distributed flyers or announced upcoming train shows.

Some shows have a discounted admission for NMRA members and one allowed early admittance with a current membership card.

Mike Hauk announced Division 12 will be handling the concessions at the Erie train show.

Spring BOD meeting Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania -- May 29, 2020.

Adjourned 1:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jerry Doyle, MCR Region Secretary

Division 1

As of August 31, 2019 Division 1 has 96 members. Our membership has stayed between 95 and 100 members for the last 5 years. We continue to setup our HO and N scale modules at various train shows to help attract new members. We are looking to take a different approach to the modeling contest at our monthly events. Each year the number of entries keeps dropping so we are looking to not doing a monthly contest but a bring and show event where you show something you've completed or are working on. Contests can be intimidating to some people so hopefully a more relaxed setting will cause more models to be brought to our Division meetings. We are also encouraging our members to bring their questions on "how to" to the meetings.

On July 5, 2019 Division 1 member and past Superintendent David Hazlett passed away. David saw the potential Division 1 has to do good things and worked very hard to help us reach that potential. David lived long enough to see the Division host a Regional Convention which made him very proud. David will be well remembered for the many operating sessions he hosted on his DH Rail layout. David will be missed by all of us here at Division 1.

Division 1 was very happy to host the 2019 MCR Convention in Boardman, Ohio this past May. While we didn't have enough people sign up for the tours to pay for bus rides a very successful car-pooling was done and the attendees made it to all the tours. On one prototype tour the company president gave the tour since the group was so small. I would like to thank all the Division 1 members, the wives and volunteers who helped make the "The Bullet" a very successful convention.

Jim DiPaola, Superintendent

Division 2

Our membership currently stands at 228, and we are working very hard with our inactive list to see if we can get them to renew their membership.

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, has shown great success in securing new members. Our Annual Model Railroad Jamboree held at Robert Morris University which is open to regular NMRA and non NMRA members, provides us with another opportunity for recruiting members. We feature well known guest speakers at the dinner banquet along with a day of clinics which are suitable for everyone.

Division meetings are held 10 months of the year at different sites in the Division. Each August, the division hosts a family picnic at a park near the mainline of Norfolk Southern. We wish the trains would wait before passing while we hold our business meeting.

Our newsletter, *The Keystone Flyer*, published 10 times a year to coincide with each meeting, is emailed to each member, as well as numerous former members around the country. The Flyer can be accessed on our website: www.keystone-division.org; the web version is in color. The website gives a greater opportunity for more information. We mail the newsletter only to about 20 members that do not have computer access. The website chairman does a great job in posting the flyer and other important news items that affect our division. Switching to an online version versus the postal delivery, we save thousands of dollars each year in the cost of printing and postage.

We have established a T-Trak Committee and with great response, we now have some modules set up at the Greenberg Shows, Jamboree and hope to have over 100 modules at the Regional Convention in 2020. It has shown great success in retaining members with this new NMRA project.

Plans are continuing for the 2020 Steel City Express Regional Convention to be held May 28 to May 31 at the Greentree Hilton in Pittsburgh. We have a Vendor Room, along with T-Trak displays and a whole room entirely for white elephant and raffles. So, plan on spending some time in the Steel City.

Keith DeVault, Superintendent

Division 3

Division 3's membership continues to be around 138, and our monthly attendance averages between 35 to 45 members. The monthly meetings consist of clinics, a contest, and a raffle. The February meeting is the annual auction. Div. 3's financial position remains strong.

In addition to the monthly meetings, Div. 3 continues to take an active role in the community. In March, the division held TRAINING Day at the Carillon Park. We played an active role at Railfest in June, also at Carillon Park, and had a display at the Montgomery County Fair in July. There will be an active table display at the Dayton Makers' Faire in October, and we will again participate in the University of Dayton's Christmas on Campus in December.

The Dayton Train Show continues to be the biggest activity of Div. 3. This year's show will be the 44th in a row and will happen the first weekend of November, the 2nd and 3rd, at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. We are reducing the size this year, as it was decided not to use the tents again. They were very expensive and not satisfactory to most. Our vendor and exhibitor space is now filled, and our members are working hard to ensure the show is the best it can be. Be assured there will be plenty of railroad displays, activities, and vendors. When the fairgrounds adds additional permanent space, we intend to expand the show once again.

Mark Stiver, Superintendent

Division 4

Membership

Membership stands at 194 as of 08/31/19. That is a minor drop of two members since our spring regional meeting. We continue to invite any and all of the folks we meet during our outside activities to attend a meeting and see what we have to offer. New members and guests when attending their first meeting are asked to introduce themselves and talk about their experiences in model railroading. We continue to emphasize that we are here to work with them to make the hobby more enjoyable. Remembering the first rule of model railroading is to have fun!

Finances

Division 4 remains in very good financial shape.

Activities

Our Module Group continues to be our leading connection with the public. We had a very busy summer with the main event being the Cuyahoga County Fair in August. It was a challenge with the long days, but we invited all of our division members to help staff the layout. Even if the division member didn't have any DCC equipment we had the engines and cars that Scale Trains donated to us during the display at the Science Museum to operate. We had a lot of good comments from the public and the Fair Board loved our setup. So much that before we even took down the layout, they asked us to come back next year. We handed out a lot of fliers for our show in October and we have our fingers crossed that the fliers ended up on the refrigerator and not the waste basket. Our reputation for a good show is bringing us all sorts of venues to display at. In December we will be set up in two locations, the Trees and Trains Display in Lorain and at another first time display, the Cleveland Zoo Holiday Lights event. The common denominator for our popularity I feel is our interaction with the public. Don't sit in the middle and chat amongst yourselves. Get outside the layout and talk to your visitors.

Our meetings continue to be well attended with approx 85 members showing up each month.

We have a new contest chairman who has already given us a creative list of themes for the coming year. The contests continue to be very popular. Clinics following the meetings are well attended.

We also have a new company store chairman. He has some new ideas to get us to open our wallets. And we still have some Davies Steel cars for sale for those steel mill modelers out there.

The Division continues to support and mentor the Medina County 4H Model Railroad group. The 4H in Cuyahoga County is forming a model railroad group so I expect to work with them as we have with the Medina group in the near future. Working with the 4H youngsters has led to a few of the them joining Division 4 as they move on after 4H.

Other activities planned in our Division include Training Day in November which has continued to increase in membership each year. And we have a fall bus trip to the Oil Creek & Titusville railroad with a side visit to the Drake Well Museum planned for October. It will follow our Great Berea Train Show on October 5th & 6th.

Lee Sheffield, Superintendent

Division 5

The Western Reserve Division---Lake, Geauga, and Ashtabula counties in Northeastern Ohio, remains very stable financially, though intermediate in size with about 90 members. Monthly meeting attendance is around 30, and unfortunately half of the full membership are seen just once or not all during the year. We meet at a singular location, midway in the middle county.

At the monthly meetings, we have had good participation in Bring n Brag. Although a specific theme is promoted each month, we encourage any item that has been worked on recently to be the subject of show and tell. Member-delivered clinics continue to be hard to secure, but we've been helped by capturing clinicians from adjacent Divisions 1, 12 and 4.

The annual Division member and family catered picnic was held in July at the Painesville Depot Museum with CSX trains running alongside.

An outdoor movie night took place under starlit skies in August, with excellent amateur movies of NYC runs between Cleveland and Buffalo. All-season movies taken from the cab. An additional highlight that evening was watching the Space Station traverse the sky from northwest to southeast.

In September, a very successful Boy Scout merit badge program was co-sponsored by the Division and Painesville Railroad Depot/Museum. Because we could only accommodate 25 and there was a waiting list, we will offer another program later in the winter or early next spring. One advantage of doing the program at the museum is that there are several model trains/gages running, including the big 1:1s trackside.

Several N scalers, many but not all of whom are Division members, have adopted T-Trak and can now offer a T-Trak layout at any public setup opportunity. Also, unlike many other NMRA Divisions, N scalers are very prominent in Division 5's meetings and Board.

Our long-time Trainwire editor, Lenny Kessler, has had to resign due to health reasons, and the Asst. Supt. Bryan Persing has stepped in to replace him on quick notice.

Dave Neff, former Superintendent

Division 6

Membership: The membership in the Division has remained fairly steady. Our membership recruitment committee has kept up their efforts. This group has made a presence at several train shows in the area over the last several months to help get the word out on what the NMRA is and doing.

Finances: The Division is very healthy financially. Our outlays have become somewhat more substantial due to membership trips and the upcoming swap meet. However we do anticipate recouping some of the funds back from the swap meet

Projects: The Division has sold out of all our old stock. We are looking at doing another project in the future, however it is unclear what it may be.

Boy Scout Merit Badge: This is still on the books to happen at some time but the timing is up to the Scouts, who at this time have not shown much interest and it may mean discontinuing the program.

Train show: The Division 6 Swap Meet is set and coming along nicely. As of early September we have sold nearly 50 tables and look for additional tables to be sold in the near future. The Date is October 20 at the Pritchard-Laughlin Center in Cambridge. This facility was chosen due to it location near I-70 and I-77 giving ease of access to those who wish to attend. As stated before it is our intent to make this an annual event. Please check our website for additional details.

Meetings: Our meetings thus far this year have been well attended. Good weather and meeting content seem to have helped. Our Marion meeting was a great success once again with some very good clinics.

Bus Trip: We held another bus trip for our membership this year going to Age of Steam and the Dennison Depot. Attendance was light for the event even with opening it up to members of a couple of other divisions. Although the attendance was down it did not affect the content of the tours in fact it made it better. The smaller group made fir better content from the tour hosts. Although the day being a success it is unclear if the Division will continue to have the trips mainly due to the cost. We do look at this though as a member benefit and a way to give something back to our members.

Greg Short, Superintendent

Division 7

Our membership count at the end of August was ~235, which is down about 10% over the last 12 months. We have tried to understand the trend and nothing specific jumps out. We may have had a short term increase prior to our convention a year ago and are now seeing these people non-renew. Our monthly meetings continue to draw about 40 to 70 people, depending on the meeting location and speaker (we rotate meeting locations around our division to encourage attendance and to make layout visits convenient). We hold 10 monthly meetings per year.

The division continues to be financially strong and able to plan and execute our yearly plans. Due to sound investing, our net assets are up about 12% since last year. Our Fall Train Show and Spring Flea Market both continue to be very successful. Our cost effective approach to publicizing our Train Show was described in the August 2019 *NMRA Magazine*. We have been consulted by a couple of divisions around the country, and would be glad to have deeper discussions with any of the divisions in the region. We also would welcome any additional ideas that we could reapply.

We have continued to discuss additional ways to promote the hobby with the general public. We have been engaged in the regional T-Trak efforts. We contributed modules to the Boardman Convention setup and to the Morehead Train Show in support of Divisions 9 and 10. In turn, we have invited the folks in Divisions 8, 9, and 10 to contribute to a T-Trak layout at our Fall Train Show coming up in October.

We are trying to bring in more national caliber clinicians for our monthly meetings [We had Mike Tylick MMR® from Boston at our September meeting] and continue to include two home layout visits after each monthly meeting. We try to find new layouts to showcase in addition to making return visits to the many good layouts we have been able to see in the past.

In May, after a two year hiatus (due to planning and hosting the 2018 regional convention) we once again offered a day-long bus tour of railroad and model layout venues. Rather than traveling out of town this year, we toured a couple of the venues we had for the convention and two new industry venues; plus a new home layout in Middletown. We also included a shop tour of the Cincinnati Streetcar operation.

We will not have a bus tour in 2020. Rather, we are looking to reapply what we note is common in other divisions – a family picnic. We have a committee started on planning this, beginning with a short on-line survey. Our hope is that this might appeal to some of the >50% of our members who never come to our monthly meetings. Any suggestions from divisions already hosting this kind of event would be welcome.

Our community service programs (Boy Scout merit badge program and local libraries book donation programs) continue. We are now investigating providing some support to a local museum that displays a large G gauge layout. This layout was donated by the estate of a long time local modeler. The Cincinnati Garden Railway Club has been the sole sponsor. They solicited additional support on-line this summer. We made a one-time donation, but are now seeing if we might add this to our on-going programs.

We are basically complete with planning for our 52nd Annual Cincinnati Model Train and Trade Show the weekend of October 12th and 13th at Lakota West High School. There will also be a major regional Op SIG event in Cincinnati on Oct 18-20. Some of our members will again be actively involved in the Holiday Junction train display at the Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal starting on November 8th and running through early January. The feature attraction is the large O Scale layout originally built by the B&O Railroad and displayed in Cincinnati for the holidays since 1946.

John Shields, Superintendent

Division 8

Division 8 membership continues to slowly increase in number. Although we have gained several new members this year through new memberships, several longtime members passed this year. Eric Waggoner (Assistant Superintendent) and Cecil Stewart (Membership Chair) are now reviewing the monthly membership spreadsheets for expiring terms and sending reminders as well as making phone calls to individuals who have memberships that have expired more than 30 days prior. Personal/one-on-one phone calls have had significant impact on retention through renewals.

As previously reported, the local KSONS (Kentucky Society of N-Scalers) organization became inactive and disbanded a few years ago. They have reformed as a Free-MON group and their members are rejoining the NMRA using the monies left over from the KSONS group.

The Division is in good financial shape with very successful fall 2018 and spring 2019 Train Show & Sale events.

The fall Train Show & Sale is on track for November in a new facility at Holy Family Parish Gymnasium. The new facility has better lighting, more room for dealers, layouts, and learning stations, will cost less to rent, and has tables onsite which also saves us the cost of renting the tables. We recognize that parking is tighter at the new location, but not so restrictive that it will unduly limit attendance at our events. We envision this as an opportunity to develop a parking plan, rather than as an obstacle. In addition to the local T-TRAK group, the FreeMON group intends to show off their new modules as well.

Following the success of last year's Louisville Train Day, we are considering a 2020 late summer or early fall date at the new Train Show & Sale location. We will not publicly announce that until after we complete the upcoming fall 2019 Train Show & Sale in the new location.

The annual picnic was held in the Salem Depot Museum in Salem, Indiana. Attendance was good and the event was well received by the attendees. Assistant Superintendent Eric Waggoner is researching having the 2020 picnic at the Indiana Live Steamer and Columbus Area Model Railroad Club location near Edinburgh, IN.

Our annual end-of-year event planning is well underway and is scheduled for December 7 in a new venue. Headed by Division 8 member Rick Maloney, our annual Silver Spike award process is progressing as well.

Our self-driving layout tour of Division 10 & Division 8 layouts included 5 layouts. We had 26 people participate in the event.

Our monthly meetings have become nearly standing-room-only events. Russ Weis (Trustee & former Superintendent) continues to come up with great presenters who are providing informative presentations. We are fortunate that several members have recently agreed to open their layouts for visits after meetings. With the assistance of Trustee Ron Ellison, we also started capturing video of the presenters (with their permission) and posting the edited videos on YouTube with links from the Division 8 Facebook page.

Taking advantage of the NMRA "Free Boxcar Shell" offer, we challenged our members to create a diorama/display using the boxcar and a one square foot piece of provided Masonite as the base. We have 18 members working on the project who are planning to display their completed efforts at our November 2019 membership meeting.

The Achievement Program in Division 8 is thriving. We expect that we will have another individual achieve MMR® status before the end of the year. We have two others who are within two AP certificates of their MMR®.

Our marketing efforts continue to expand and gain new ground. Our Facebook page consistently has more interactions than the seven similar pages we are tracking and with one exception has nearly twice the number of total page likes of any of the others.

Fred Soward, Superintendent

Division 9

As I prepare Division Nine's fall report, I can see the rapidly changing leaves in the back yard. We are rapidly approaching the last three months of the year, a time of increased activity and enthusiasm for Division 9, the Region and indeed model railroaders everywhere! As I have said before, thanks to our members, we are proceeding at track speed and seeing clear signals. Perhaps, in recognition of the prototype's installation of Positive Train Control, we should change that. Increasingly lineside signals, except Control Points are disappearing from our main lines. So, it might be proper to say we are proceeding at track speed and seeing all "Clear in the cab."

Division 9 remains in excellent financial condition. Our membership is stable with strong and enthusiastic attendance at our monthly events. Just about every event includes a brief business meeting, a raffle with donated items, a model or photo contest, a company store table, an educational clinic and an opportunity to do show and tell or mini clinic type activities. Most events are followed by a short meeting of our increasingly enthusiastic T Trak group. Our T-Trakers have participated in six displays at shows, most in fellowship with members of other Divisions. Most of our events occur at our regular digs at the C&O St. Albans WV depot. In May we enjoyed "Steel Is King" day in Parkersburg with visits to Dave Stout and Paul Lapointe's steel themed layouts, a visit to the fabulous Mid Ohio Valley Club and, as always, the wonderful picnic lunch provided by Dave and Family. Other Divisions are always invited to our Parkersburg event. June saw our event take place aboard the Tygart Flyer out of Elkins WV. We rode the club car behind vintage FP7as in vintage Western Maryland livery. Thanks so much to Membership Chair John Harris for arranging this great outing. August saw our popular picnic on the platform at the St. Albans depot. Just this past weekend we journeyed to the far western precincts of the Division for a visit to Mark Maynard's Crusty Mountain layout. We enjoyed the layout and new this year was Sugar Grove Tower which is located at a distance from the layout in a former tree house. Through some salvaged CTC panels and the magic of DCC SG can control switches and signals on the layout or cede to local control. Kudos to Mark, his Family and crew for the wonderful barbecue lunch. Fellowship with members of Division 6 who attended was enjoyed. We are looking forward to our remaining events for this year. November will be at the annual Bluefield Train Show. A plan is afoot to have our December event at Diehl's Family Restaurant at Nitro WV.

My own plans for the future are to continue encouraging in the Achievement Program by the Division members. It may also be time to dip a toe in the water and beginning planning for hosting a future Regional Convention in coming years. Division 9 is a vibrant, successful Division, not particularly because of anything I've done. All credit goes to the Officers, Committee Chairs and members.

Dan Mulhearn, Superintendent

Division 10

Membership: Relatively constant with average now at 66. As of September 2019, NMRA is reporting 67 active members. Monthly meetings average between 20 and 25. As before, we are expecting some losses due to member and family health and gains from new and returning NMRA members.

Finances: Basically, sound with income and outflow balanced. We have recently had several more donations for both T-Trak and the Ravenna project.

Programs: The regular meetings continue to be held on the 1st Sunday of each month except July. The meetings are rotating between Lexington Public Library Branches. Since our clinician pool is small, we have been working with neighboring Divisions to share clinics. We met in June at the Scott County Library in Georgetown, KY as we work around the area to accommodate membership.

Our *Trains Day at the Library* program and T-Trak member involvement has continued to grow since the last report. The third *Trains Day at the Library* event will be held on Saturday, October 19, at the Tates Creek Branch of the Lexington Public Library. The Library staff plans to again publicize the event by having railroad themed programming in the week before the event and by preparing a flyer for distribution throughout the Lexington Public Library system. We will also have a members' O gauge switching layout displayed and operating. The basic audience is children ages up to middle school accompanied by adults.

The Division newsletter – *The Lantern* – and our website are active and in continual update. The new webmaster, Mark Underwood, has made major appearance changes and improvements. The Facebook page has continued to improve due to the work of Brian Jones.

Bob Belt, Superintendent

Division 11

We are still holding at a steady at 32 members.

Our treasury is healthy.

We have two new Leadership Achievement Awards.

We are working on our Build and Take for the young visitors to work on at our upcoming Shows.

We are making plans for a show at the Indiana PA mall Oct 19th

We have lost our venue for the Victorian Christmas in Brookville. We had a great time doing this show and are going to miss it a lot.

Our bi-weekly Op sessions are very well attended.

We still are planning a good attendance at both the Region and National conventions.

We have 10 T-Trak modules in work by members of the Division and plan to add a T-Trak layout to our shows. We have the wiring set up to run the layout with DC or DCC control.

Howdy Veihdeffer, Superintendent

Division 12

Division 12 is running at full speed and our membership continues to grow, last count we were up to 38 members. We are still having some minor issues with the roster from the National office. We have one life member that keeps getting dropped off the roster. Paul Novak is working on getting this resolved.

We have a full schedule of meetings on tap for this year. Most will take place at the Trolley Station in Cambridge Springs, PA. June 8th will be our 2nd annual picnic between the tracks in Westfield, NY.

Our N-Scale T-Trak group is up to 5 members. We have a number of public outings scheduled throughout the remainder of the year.

We have had a few changes and additions to various committee chairs. Dale Desser has taken over as Ops Chair person.

Lee Farnsworth has filled a new Committee chair as Social Chair. Lee is in charge of making arrangements and planning our annual summer picnic and Christmas Party, along with a monthly brunch before our Division meetings.

The other big change was Dick Bradley stepping down from our board of directors at the end of the year. Rob Bennett has filled the position. Below is Rob's bio;

Board of Directors Biography: Rob Bennett. Rob has been a model railroader since his teenage days. His first layout was in the basement of his parents' house and was never completed as his college days took precedence. Then a new job and family kept Rob as an armchair modeler for several decades. Upon moving to Fairview, PA in 2000 the time and family situation was such that a new layout could be undertaken. This was a small layout in an unfinished room of the basement and was based on the German railroads in the late 1930s — 1940s. This was then changed to a more US—based theme modeling the Reading Railroad. The layout was quickly outgrown and plans were launched to totally rebuild the layout. In 2013, upon return from a deployment with the US Air Force to Kabul, Afghanistan the old layout was dismantled, walls torn down and a completely new layout room constructed. The initial concept was that of "railfanning the layout" with minimal operational considerations. This changed upon meeting several local model railroaders and a major reconstruction project was initiated in the summer of 2018 to add improved operations. This work is now nearly complete. Rob enjoys all aspects of the hobby, especially scenery and electronics. His scenery mentor is Josef Brandl from Germany, whose work Rob is trying to emulate. He also enjoys building structures— craftsman kit, kit bashed and scratch built with emphasis on weathering and additional details. He is also getting more into operations and hopes to host operating sessions soon once the layout is a little further along. Rob enjoys meeting and learning

continued on next page

Division 12 continued

from fellow modelers. He has a YouTube channel that is documenting the progress of his current layout. He is very willing to work with others in the division and pass on any knowledge he has gained. The hobby has so many different aspects that one cannot be a master in all —— let's share our knowledge and experience so we all improve as modelers. Rob currently works for ABB Electrical Products Industrial Solution as the Leader, Transformer Repair Technology. He has over 28 years of experience in the Power Transformer repair industry. He is also retired from the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, having served 28 years and retiring as a Lt. Colonel from the 193rd Civil Engineer Squadron in Middletown, PA.

Finally we would like to announce the date of our first Division fund raiser. The Alleghany Western Mini-Meet will be Saturday September 14". As of this writing we are in the final negotiations for the venue. So please keep the date in mind. Information about clinics and layouts that may be open will be posted on the Division website.

Bradley White, Superintendent

The Bullet 2019 Mid Central Region Convention Report

We had one hundred seventy-one registrations which seems to be on par with previous conventions with the exception of the Cincinnati Express in 2018. Additionally, we had thirteen vendor registrations. Of those thirteen vendors, four presented clinics.

A total of thirty-six volunteers which was a comfortable number to help us manage the convention in the hotel. The volunteers are listed on the attached page.

The convention offered fifty-one clinics present by thirty different clinicians. There were six prototype/industrial and non-rail tours offered that were, sadly, not well attended.

[Financial figures not included- editor]

We remain grateful for the opportunity of presenting a convention within our division. The experience was both challenging and rewarding. Division 1 extends it's thanks to those who attended The Bullet 2019, and to all who helped make our convention possible.

We look forward to seeing you in May of 2020 at the Steel City Express.

Jim DiPaola

Steve Zapytowski

The Bullet 2019 Co-Chairs

September 29, 2019

[Original report included acknowledgement of participating volunteers]

Contest Chair Report

Developments since the regional convention in Boardman

Lego models – needed policy change

Lego models are not acceptable as model entries

Lego Models are acceptable as Arts & Crafts Entries

The contest now has a new Excel workbook that sorts every contest item, determines Honorable Mentions, Merit Awards, Best of Show, spits out various reports, generates the script for the presentation, and populates the PowerPoint for the awards ceremony.

The contest has taken possession of a new laptop for use in the contest. Though an older machine it represents a vast improvement in speed and processing power when compared to the laptop previously used for the contest paperwork.

The contest plans to obtain a functional portable office system this year as the former system of cardboard boxes and Rubbermaid bins is cumbersome and often slows down the running of the contest. Details are forthcoming.

Modules were added to the judged model contest this past spring and, while some issues were identified, their inclusion was quite successful. The following are recommendations for next year:

Form 901 – In the non-judged section separate out the check boxes so we have one for both T-TRAK and Other Modules

Form 901 – Get rid of the cut-off claim check at the bottom as we are now using card claim check

Better define group entries in the guidelines. I'd like to avoid having someone enter a bazillion modules as a layout as happened in Boardman. I think that stretches the group entry to the extreme, but as we allowed group entries I don't think that situation was avoidable.

We need a better means of tracking group entries in the paper work. I don't think eating three entry numbers worked that well on the data entry end of the process. It was confusing. There should be just one score sheet for the group. Perhaps we should print a "G" sticker for grouped modules. I could even make stickers that say "G-A", "G-B", etc. This also suggests that we need a group designation on the 901 form, perhaps under the check boxes the Module Contest. We have some space there to add a smaller group designation sticker.

Instead of using the separate tag with the entry # sticker, put an entry number sticker right on to the J, D, or G sticker.

Steve Zapytowski
MCR Contest Chair

BOD Education Manager Report

Executive Summary

NMRA professional video partners have donated several hours' worth of videos in the three years that this program has been in place. Coupled with videos of many of the National Convention clinics, these new videos really make the NMRA Video Library a member benefit. The video clinic is available at: <https://www.nmra.org/members/videos> on the NMEA website. NMRA members are encouraged to use their email address registered on the website to be logged in. Once you're logged in for viewing, then click on "Membership" then "Member Home" on the drop-down menu, then "Benefits" in the red bar and "Member Video Library" on the drop-down menu. Be aware that the videos are listed with the most recent ones first.

There are NMRA clinics aimed at explaining and using social media. These clinics will help give members an additional way to promote themselves, their Divisions and their Regions. Three different clinics were presented in Kansas City and recorded for the NMRA Library. There's one for beginners, one for intermediates, and one for experts. Here are the overviews of each clinic. All three can be found here, or by logging into your member account at nmra.org, clicking on "Education" and then "National Convention Clinic Videos."

For MCR members who are new to social media, consider *Social Media for Beginners* focuses on the individual modeler and includes how to sign up for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. It educates on several topics including "What is social media" and an explanation of how social media can benefit NMRA members. Also available are:

Explanation of a Facebook Page versus a Facebook Group

Explanation of public versus closed or secret Facebook Groups

Examples of good photos and other things to post

Overview of basic administrator and moderator resources

How to view and use tools such as Page Statistics

How to schedule posts

The top things a Division/Region can do to boost visibility of their pages

Mass Communications for Regions & Divisions focuses on social media and other types of communication

Overview of different types of media

Explanation of paid posts/ads

Examples of how to promote events

Overview of advertising options

Explanation of press releases and their purpose

Discussion of podcasts

Discussion on how to run a successful show booth

Examples of current NMRA promotional tools

NMRA members are encouraged to take the time to watch these videos. Direct any questions or comments to Christina Zambri at marketing@nmra.org Model Railroader Video Plus (MRVP) and Model Railroad Academy (MRA), the NMRA Video Library has added over 4 1/2 hours of new, professionally produced videos for NMRA members. With topics ranging from tracklaying pointers to DCC installation to prototype railroad operation, these new videos feature some of the best shows MRVP and MRA have to offer.

All members of the NMRA Mid Central Region are encouraged to stay in touch with the NMRA website which is available at <http://www.nmra.org/edutrain> Any Mid Central Region member who has given a clinic and would like to consider it for distribution are welcome to do so. A clinic that they want to include in the NMRA EduTRAIN® program, do contact Tom Miller NMRA MCR Education Manager at education@midcentralregionnmra.org with a summary of the clinic proposal and we will pass it on to NMRA Education Center.

Thomas Miller Ph.D.

MCR Education Manager

Election Regulation

Following the MCR 2019 elections, several observations were made on ways to improve the nomination and election process.

Compress the timeline for the nomination process. The nominating committee should have their initial candidate slate ready by early to mid-August. Send the announcement of the proposed slate to the MCR membership by Email with the deadline for any additional nominations by petition to be mid-September. This will allow the nomination process to be closed and the slate of candidates finalized prior to the fall BOD meeting. In the event the slate is running unopposed, the BOD can exercise the motion to have an Election by Acclamation at the fall BOD meeting.

Update the MCR regulations to allow an election to be held electronically (Election Buddy, or other similar means). NMRA national elections are utilizing this method.

A grammatical error was noted in several places in the regulations where the word Acclimation is used in place of the proper word Acclamation.

The following pages identify some possible updates to the MCR Regulations to effect these changes. This is a first pass at these updates as a starting point for further discussion. The intent will be to have a set of changes ready for BOD vote at the Spring, 2020 meeting.

Bob Shreve

Nominating Committee Chairman

ARTICLE X. NOMINATIONS, BALLOTS AND VOTING

Section 1. The Region Nominating Committee for Region offices shall be composed of a Manager and at least two (2) other members, all of whom are appointed from different Divisions of the Region by the Mid Central Region President. No current Region officer may serve on this Committee, nor sit with it during its deliberations. The Region Nominating Committee shall report the Region nominations to the Region Secretary by the earlier of the date of the Fall Regional Board meeting or October 31. The Committee report shall then be distributed to the membership in the Fall *KingPin*, or by email, and said distribution shall invite nominations by petition, within the next 30 days. The Region Nominating Committee may use the petition process for their own nominations. The Committees shall obtain enough information for a short biographical sketch about each nominee containing his background, age, family, interests, model railroading experience, and qualifications. These sketches shall be included with the ballot mailing.

Update: The Region Nominating Committee for Region offices shall be composed of a Manager and at least two (2) other

-continued

members, all of whom are appointed from different Divisions of the Region by the Mid Central Region President. No current Region officer may serve on this Committee, nor sit with it during its deliberations. **The Region Nominating Committee shall report the committee's nominations to the Region Secretary at least 45 days prior to the Fall regional BOD meeting. The Committee report shall then be distributed to the membership via US Postal mail or via electronic means, and said distribution shall invite nominations by petition. The deadline for submission of nominations by petition shall be 30 days after the date of the distribution to the membership. The complete nomination process should be completed prior to the Fall regional BOD meeting.** The Region Nominating Committee may use the petition process for their own nominations. The Committees shall obtain enough information for a short biographical sketch about each nominee containing his background, age, family, interests, model railroading experience, and qualifications. These sketches shall be included with the ballot mailing.

Section 2. No change

Section 3. No change

Section 4. No change

Section 5. No change

Section 6. Election for Mid Central Region officers and Division Superintendents shall be conducted by mail ballot. Other Division elective offices or issues may be included on the Division ballots. If after a diligent effort/search, only one candidate is nominated for any Region Officer position, the sole nominee may be elected by a motion to have an Election by Acclimation. In instances where the entire slate of candidates for Region or Division Officers are running unopposed, mailing of ballots will not be necessary if a motion to have an Election by Acclimation is proposed and passed.

Updates: **Election for Mid Central Region officers and Division Superintendents shall be conducted by ballot distributed via US Postal mail, or conducted via electronic means.** Other Division elective offices or issues may be included on the Division ballots. If after a diligent effort/search, only one candidate is nominated for any Region Officer position, the sole nominee may be elected by a motion to have an Election by **Acclamation**. In instances where the entire slate of candidates for Region or Division Officers are running unopposed, **distribution of ballots** will not be necessary if a motion to have an Election by **Acclamation** is proposed and passed.

Section 7. No change

Section 8. No change

Section 9. No change

Section 10. Ballots for Mid Central Region officers shall be included in the appropriate issue of the *KingPin* as required in Article VII, Section 2, above. Ballots for issues and Division officers requiring mail voting and sketches of nominees for office in both the Region and in the several Divisions shall be sent by mail either in the *KingPin* or Division Newsletter or by a separate letter not less than thirty (30) days (forty-five (45) days if mailing is by third class) before the latest date for return of the marked ballots. Nominations by the Committee, by petition or both shall be indicated on the ballot. The name and address of the Teller and the latest date for return of marked ballots shall be clearly indicated. Nominees receiving the largest share of votes for each office and votes on issues shall be certified by the Teller to the Region Secretary not less than three (3) days before the installation meeting. The Teller shall give advance notice to the winners of their election at the earliest possible time to permit their preparation for assumption of the new duties and shall present the ballots and tabulation to the Audit Committee for review before public announcement of the results. Region Officers and Directors elect shall be invited to participate in the Board of Director meeting discussions.

Update: Ballots for Mid Central Region officers shall be included in the appropriate issue of the *KingPin* as required in Article VII, Section 2, above. Ballots for issues and Division officers requiring mail voting and sketches of nominees for office in both the Region and in the several Divisions shall be sent by mail either in the *KingPin* or Division Newsletter or by a separate letter not less than thirty (30) days (forty-five (45) days if mailing is by third class) before the latest date for return of the marked ballots. Nominations by the Committee, by petition or both shall be indicated on the ballot. The name and address of the Teller and the latest date for return of marked ballots shall be clearly indicated. **If conducting an election via electronic means, the sketches of officer nominees, voting deadline, and means of submitting ballots shall be included with the electronic election notification.** Nominees receiving the largest share of votes for each office and votes on issues shall be certified by the Teller to the Region Secretary not less than three (3) days before the installation meeting. The Teller shall give advance notice to the winners of their election at the earliest possible time to permit their preparation for assumption of the new duties and shall present the ballots and tabulation to the Audit Committee for review before public announcement of the results. Region Officers and Directors elect shall be invited to participate in the Board of Director meeting discussions.

Section 11. When an amendment or issue must be submitted by mail independently of an election for officers, the procedure shall be similar to that of Section 1, but the ballots shall be returned to the Secretary or someone appointed by the Secretary for tallying and reporting.

Update: When an amendment or issue must be submitted **for vote by the region membership** independently of an election for officers, the procedure shall be similar to that of Section 10, but the ballots shall be returned to the Secretary or someone appointed by the Secretary for tallying and reporting.

Section 12. No change

Section 13. No change

Section 14. Nothing in these Regulations shall prevent any of the Divisions of this Region from creating an Election by Acclamation process as long as the Division nominating committee has made a diligent effort/search for multiple candidates for each elected office.

Update: Nothing in these Regulations shall prevent any of the Divisions of this Region from creating an Election by **Acclamation** process as long as the Division nominating committee has made a diligent effort/search for multiple candidates for each elected office.

T-TRAK Report

The T-TRAK plans for the 2020 Convention, Steel Town Express, are well under way. Kieth DeVault notified me several weeks ago that the banquet Hall at the hotel has been secured and we are pretty much free to build as big a layout as we can. 30 additional modules were purchased by members at last year's convention so we can expect most of them to come to the convention.

Considerations are being made to host a Member Module Build hands on Clinic occupying most of Thursday, and then the finished modules will be added to the layout on Friday. The cost of the clinic would be about \$50 per module/per builder. The new single Kato Module will be used.

The Call for Modules will take place right after the new year rolls past. All divisions should review their membership on the Regional Committee to determine that they are best represented.

Bruce DeMaeyer

Regional Chair

Membership Report

Division	Sept
0	2
1	91
2	225
3	137
4	196
5	69
6	170
7	231
8	131
9	50
10	65
11	33
12	39

Paul Novak, Membership Chair

“Division 0” represents former MCR members wishing to remain associated with our region.

Website Report

Mail Forward Update: The Email Forwarders did not transfer to the new server. I added everyone to the new server and I hope all of the officers, supers, and managers have been updated correctly. I will have a list at the meeting to double check they are correct.

Group MCR Officers E-mail Address Forwarders: The following group e-mail forwarders are active:
officer@midcentral-region-nmra.org forwards to: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary of the MCR.
super@midcentral-region-nmra.org forwards to all twelve division superintendents.

Division Logos: Did you know all of the division logos in predetermined sizes are available on the Graphic Page in the Officer's Archive? Most publishing program will allow you grab a corner of the logo and make the logo smaller or a little larger.

MMR®: Thanks to all of the people who helped update the MMR® list. Frank add a new MMR® for Division 6 and I will make sure he is on the list. Since Master Model Railroader® is now registered I guess, to be technically correct, I need to add the "Registration Mark" to all Master Model Railroader® and MMR® on the web sites.

MCR WEB Site Statics: GoDaddy has finally allows us to get some web site statics. For the first nine months of this year:

Main MCR Site has had an average of 1,139 Unique Visitors per month viewing 3,578 pages per month. *MCR Archive Site* has had an average of 97 Unique Visitors per month viewing 636 pages per month. *MCR Officers Site* has had an average of 6 Unique Visitors per month viewing 93 pages per month.

During the month of September:

Main MCR Site has had 1,160 visitors from the United States, 379 from the Russian Federation, 170 from Saudi Arabia, 90 from China, and 49 from France.

MCR Archive Site has had 18 visitors from the United States, 27 from Australia, 17 from France, 10 from Germany, and 7 from Sweden.

MCR Officer Site has had 149 visitors from the United States.

Only the top five location are listed for each site. The Main site had over thirty locations and the Officer's Archive only had one location. That's good news as far as I'm concerned.

Don Wilke
MCR Webmaster

MID-CENTRAL REGION AP REPORT

May 1, 2019 - September 21, 2019

MMR®

Michael Wolf Division 6 MMR® #645

Golden Spike Awards

Name	Division
Kurt Sanders	1
Robert DiBenedetto	2
Joel Everly	2
Raymond Helster	2
Mike Fahler	4
Bill Parker	10

Certificates

Name	Division	Certificate
Lloyd Horst	1	Volunteer
Keith DeVault	2	Official
Philip Gliebe	3	Motive Power
Philip Gliebe	3	Motive Power
David Lawler	4	Cars
David Lawler	4	Structures
David Lawler	4	Scenery
David Lawler	4	Volunteer
Michael Wolf	6	Motive Power
Joe Fields	8	Cars
Fred Soward	8	Author
Robert McKay, IV	11	Official
Howard Veihdeffer, Jr.	11	Official
David Ellis	12	Volunteer

Report continues on the next two pages.

AP Report continued

Merit Awards

Name	Division	Certificate	Description
Bud Brock	2	STR	Bridge
Bud Brock	2	STR	Tool % Handcar Shed
Richard Turton	2	STR	Sanding Tower at Chiefton, WV
Bud Brock	2	STR	Trestle
Philip Gliebe	3	CAR	CB&Q Outside Braced Bo Cr
Philip Gliebe	3	CAR	Wooden Pickle Vat Car
Philip Gliebe	3	CAR	REA Express Reefer
Philip Gliebe	3	CAR	On30 4-Wheel Caboose
Philip Gliebe	3	CAR	On30 Narrow Gauge Coach
Philip Gliebe	3	MP	On30 6-Wheel Switcher
David Lawler	4	CAR	PRR N6b Caboose
David Lawler	4	CAR	CN Wood Caboose
David Lawler	4	CAR	CP Express Baggage Car
David Lawler	4	CAR	Government of Canada Grain Hopper
David Lawler	4	CAR	CN Wood Truss Rod Coach
David Lawler	4	CAR	CN 8 Hatch overhead Bunker Reefer
David Lawler	4	CAR	Vinegar Tank Car
David Lawler	4	CAR	Steam Crane on Flat Car with Boom Car
Jim Grell	4	CAR	B&LE 50 Ton Hopper (Rebuilt)
George Keller	4	CAR	WKP/NKP Lightweight Passenger Car #151
George Keller	4	CAR	NKP Caboose #425
David Lawler	4	SCE	Scenery - Model Railroad
David Lawler	4	STR	Stone Mechanics Shed
David Lawler	4	STR	Stone Heavy Equipment Repair
David Lawler	4	STR	Locomotive Sand Facility
David Lawler	4	STR	PJ Bracken Coal Company
David Lawler	4	STR	Light House at Roberts Inlet
David Lawler	4	STR	Inland Lake Steamer "Rose Marie"
David Lawler	4	STR	Packing Plant Complex
David Lawler	4	STR	Wooden Howe Truss Bridge
George Keller	4	STR	Heavy Lift Crane
George Keller	4	STR	Forlorn & Forgotten
Linda Kacprzak	5	STR	Bull's Salvage Shop (Barr Mills)
Michael Wolf	6	MP	CNJ Boxcab #1000
Michael Wolf	6	MP	PRR L1s #1299 (kit)
Michael Wolf	6	MP	PRR L1sa #4510 (kit)
Michael Wolf	6	MP	CNJ #1000 Boxcab (scratch)
(scratch)	6	STR	Ezra Cooper Garage (scratch)

Report continues on the next page.

AP Report continued

Merit Awards continued

Name	Division	Certificate	Description
Chuck Endreola	7	STR	Undertaker
Joe Fields	8	CAR	EKCG 250-Ton Crane
Cecil Stewart	8	CAR	NT&NO C-40-3 Caboose #435
Cecil Stewart	8	MP	T&NO F3A&B #303 & #507
Chris Broughton	8	STR	Central Seed Company
Cecil Stewart	8	STR	Bertram Station
Cecil Stewart	8	STR	Wooden Trestle at MP 150.33
Cecil Stewart	8	STR	Burnet Station
Cecil Stewart	8	STR	Old Time Freight Station
Chris Broughton	8	STR	O-Scale Freight House
Bob Belt	10	MP	Steeple Cab YVTC #298 (Kitbash)
Rob Bennett	12	STR	Freight House at North East, PA
Michael Hauk	12	STR	Schopf's Service station
Doug Sandmeyer	12	STR	Mahoning Dispatch

The Spring Convention Contest generated a large number of Merit Awards across the Region. Activity has been good and I urge the Divisions to continue publicizing AP and encouraging the members to participate.

Frank Koch, MCR AP Manager

MCR CONTACTS

MCR President

Bob Weinheimer MMR®
president@midcentral-region-nmra.org
304-343-1428

MCR Vice President:

David Neff

MCR Secretary:

Jerry Doyle
secretary@midcentral-region-nmra.org
304-638-2826

MCR Treasurer:

Bob McKay
treasurer@midcentral-region-nmra.org
914-591-5415

Achievement Program:

Frank Koch
achievement@midcentral-region-nmra.org
513-732-6208

Contest:

Steve Zapytowski MMR®
contest@midcentral-region-nmra.org

Education:

Tom Miller
education@midcentral-region-nmra.org
859-224-8563

Membership:

Paul Novak Jr.
membership@midcentral-region-nmra.org
440-235-2620

Special Projects:

Dick Briggs, MMR®
projects@midcentral-region-nmra.org
614-277-0314

Webmaster:

Donald Wilke
webmaster@midcentral-region-nmra.org
614-846-2558

Kingpin Editor:

Dave Williams
editor@midcentral-region-nmra.org
440-838-4996

Upcoming Events

Once again we point you in the direction of Division 11's listing:

www.div11-mcr-nmra.info/events.htm

Thanks to Division 11 Webmaster Bob Netzlof.

The Kingpin regrets that it cannot accept any third party material for publication. We don't have the staff to determine what constitutes legal use of copied photos, documents or excerpts originating from outside of the NMRA. Thank you for your understanding.

Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad

Tom Miller

Education Manager NMRA MCR & Div 10

Nestled in the foothills of the San Juan mountain range in southwestern Colorado is the *Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad (C&TSRR)*. The 36 inch narrow gauge railway is a sixty four mile segment of the former *Denver & Rio Grande* narrow gauge railroad system that once stretched for hundreds of miles throughout Colorado, as well as parts of New Mexico and Utah.

The elevation of the *Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad* ranges from 7,863 feet at Chama, to 10,015 feet at Cumbres Pass, and back to 7,888 feet at the small town of Antonito. This railway was constructed more than century and a quarter ago and little has changed since the last railroad ties were laid. The *Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad* is today still a fully operational steam railroad jointly owned by the states of Colorado and New Mexico.

Initially constructed in the late 1870s with the first passengers travelling this railway in October 1880, one can relive what it was like to travel by steam powered rail and relive the history, the sights and sounds of the old west. It allows travelers of today to see, hear, and smell the experience of what passenger excursion was like in the old west on the *Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad*. This railroad line traverses a remote, unpopulated section of Colorado and New Mexico, crisscrossing the border eleven times. As one traverses the rugged cliffs and valleys of this narrow gauge railroad, the traveler enjoys the reminiscence of the railroad travelers of more than a century ago. Highlights of the route include the majestic Toltec Gorge, where the tracks hug the cliffs 600 feet above the stream bed; Windy Point, the highest railroad summit in the West with its commanding view of the Chama Valley; two tunnels; and two 100-foot tall trestles. The railroad operates passenger trains seven days a week during May through October.



Train enthusiasts worldwide seek to enjoy the uniqueness of riding this railroad. Traveling with us were two New Zealanders who were both model railroaders and had jobs working on the *Tranzalpine New Zealand* railroad. New Zealand's scenic rail journey on the TranzAlpine traverses across South Island from east to west (or west to east, following a route laid down in the 1860s by stagecoaches carrying provisions to west-coast gold prospectors in New Zealand. Travel on the TransAlpine begins in Christchurch, through suburbs of wooden bungalows eventually streaking out across the low-lying Canterbury Plains not unlike our adventures on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad.

We chose to travel during early fall as this railway provides one of the most unusual ways to enjoy the brilliant fall colors of the Rocky Mountains of Colorado and New Mexico. The Aspens are turning with the seasonal changes. The *Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad* is the highest, longest and most authentic steam railroad in America, voted twice by the readers of USA Today (2017 and 2019) as the “best train ride in the country.”

Sources & Resources

Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad (2019) website. Available at: <https://cumbrestoltec.com/>

Tranzalpine New Zealand Railroad (2018) website. Available at <https://www.greatjourneysfnz.co.nz/tranzalpine/>









