



The Kingpin

Newsletter of the
Mid Central Region
National Model Railroad Association
September 2022



All photos: David M. Williams unless otherwise noted

Big Boy on display at the National Transportation Museum during the National Convention tour.

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St Louis Union Station

more pictures on page 9

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President's Report

For the most part, all is relatively well in the land of the Mid-Central Region. Overall NMRA membership is relatively stable, with just enough new and re-stated members to balance out transfers, deaths, and non-renewals. Divisions are holding actual as well as virtual and hybrid meetings, and Train Shows are once again on the schedule. Some Divisions have hosted mini-meets, and others have had clinic and modeling presentations given by members from outside the region.

On the national level, NMRA is unveiling a new communication tool within the next couple months entitled NMRA Interchange or some such. It is designed to provide an opportunity for members of a Division (or Region) with similar specific interests---such as Pennsy RR for example, to communicate on-line easily as in a break-out chat room as I currently understand it.

During the past few weeks a couple of on-line email discussion threads have emerged within our Region and others as well....

--No Regions or Divisions have errors and omissions insurance covering Division or Regional officers. The NMRA insurance policy does not include this, and insurance Providers have indicated the cost is prohibitive.

-- Regarding Financial Responsibilities:

Each Division and Region is a separate entity from NMRA national in regard to financial actions. There is no required reporting specific financial information or liability from Divisions to Region or Region to National. The MCR only requests that each Division indicate that they are 'financially sound'. For those Divisions with incorporated 501c.3 status, individual state requirements apply. It is strongly recommended the Divisions DO NOT publish financial information on their website, as the general public and persons of ill will would have access to such information which is the province of only NMRA members. Each Division has the opportunity to maintain transparency of such information only for their individual members., through individual requests or otherwise as Division officers see fit. It is also highly recommended that each Division conduct a financial audit annually or when a change in treasurer occurs.

Dave Neff

Congratulations to Robert Osborn
on receiving the President's Award
at the National Convention.

In RMC

Congratulations to **Bob Belt** on the article on his locomotive in the most recent Railroad Model Craftsman.

Contest Chair

The Region is in need of a Contest Chairman. Responsibilities pertain to the Region's annual Model/Photo/Crafts contests held during the annual regional convention. Outgoing Chair Stephen Zapatowski MMR® will assist you in getting started (you don't need MMR® after your name for this job). Contact President David Neff if you're interested.

National Convention



The National Transportation Museum was a tour on Monday. The weather was hot but no rain. The museum's collection is extensive, including a building devoted to automobiles and a DC-3 aircraft.



The Marriott was convention central. Located in the older part of town, the area featured a variety of eclectic stores and restaurants.

National Convention Awards for MCR Members

Frank Koch, MCR AP Chairman sent the following information that he received from the National for AP awards:

Sam Swanson, Division 7 - GOLD AWARD - Reid's Cove Pier

Sam Swanson, Division 7 - 1st Place Non-Revenue Cars - Concrete Mixing Box Car

Fred Soward, Division 8 - 3rd Place Freight Cars - C&O Chessie System B-104 Box Car

Jim Grell, Division 4 - Honorable Mention Freight Cars - ATSF BX-3 Box Car

Additionally, Fred Soward MMR provided the following:

Bob Frankrone

Model Contest Chairman's Award

The Model Contest Chairman's Award is selected solely by the contest chair to recognize an outstanding, exceptional entry. It has always been presented to a modeler with a structure, locomotive, or rolling stock entry. As explained by the chair during the presentation, this year's winning entry, which was displayed in the contest room, but not entered for popular voting by the attendees nor entered for judging, truly epitomizes the spirit of a "Celebration of Models" by the modeler. This person has consistently displayed his modeling work year after year, with no expectation of receiving any award, merely for the purpose of showing his work to others as examples of what they could accomplish.

Fred Soward

Iwata "Most Realistic Rolling Stock Award" - C&O Chessie System B-104 Boxcar

3rd Place, Scratch Built Freight Car - C&O Chessie System B-104 Boxcar

1st Place, Working on the Railroad Photo - "Lunch Break"

3rd Place, Working on the Railroad Photo - "McCloud Scrapping"

Honorable Mention, Working on the Railroad Photo - "Double Diamond Work Day"

Barbara Soward

Honorable Mention, Color Print Prototype "Autumn Rails"

1st Place, Railroadiana Crafts - Division 8 Apron

1st Place, General Crafts - Schlep Bag & Bucket Hat

3rd Place, General Crafts - Triangle Pouch



Barb Soward

Bob Frankrone



Fred Soward MMR®



Photos on this page provided
by

Fred Soward MMR®

Please see the October issue of the NMRA Magazine for a complete listing of winner and photos.



Saturday's banquet was on the hotel's 21st floor and had a spectacular views of St Louis on three sides as well as elegant dining. The guest speaker was actor and train enthusiast Michael Gross.

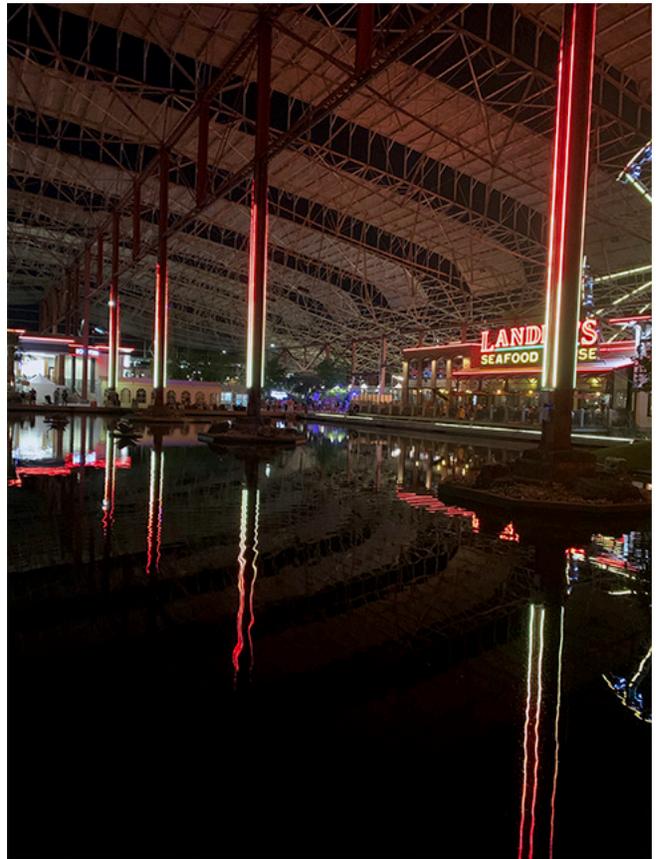
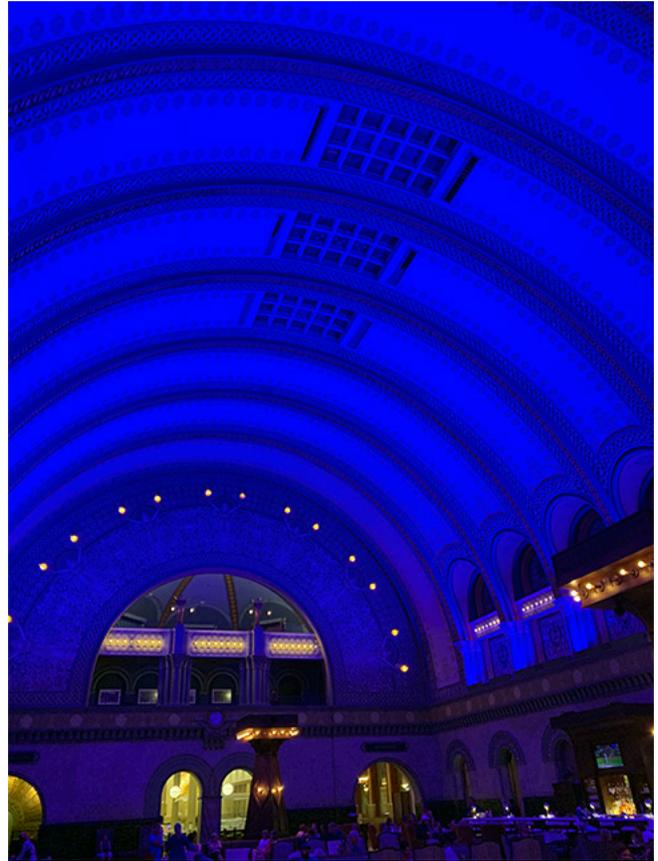
The Mid Central Region was well represented at the convention, the banquet, and especially at our table. Here are John Shields (l) and Paul Musselman (r), caught at a rare moment of less than stellar joviality. Paul said that he never reads the Kingpin but we got along anyhow. Maybe because of that.



Dessert. The food and service were excellent.

There was an excellent video in the recent *Turntable* by *That Train Couple*. Their images of the National Train Show are way better than any description that I could give here. And a cool fact - they're members of MCR's Division 1!

St Louis Union Station at Night



New Product Announcement

The Coshocton Model Railroad Club (A.M.R.E.C) located at the Fairgrounds in Coshocton Ohio sent the Kingpin two of their anniversary cars. Here's what they have to say on their Facebook page:

The Associated Model Railroad Engineers of Coshocton (AMREC) is proud to be celebrating our 50th anniversary in 2022! The club is located in the beautiful hills of Eastern Ohio at the Coshocton County Fairgrounds. We have a dedicated 50'x150' free standing building and our layout features hand-laid rail, a working interlocking from Quincy, Ohio and both DC & DCC operations. We host regular active JMRI generated switch list operating sessions that members and guests alike enjoy.

To mark this special occasion, we are offering custom created matching 50' box car kits produced by Accurail for sale. Numbered as 151972 and 152022, these cars have our layout road name TWVO (Toledo Walhonding Valley & Ohio). There is also an included a number jumble decal sheet in the kits to create your own custom numbers.

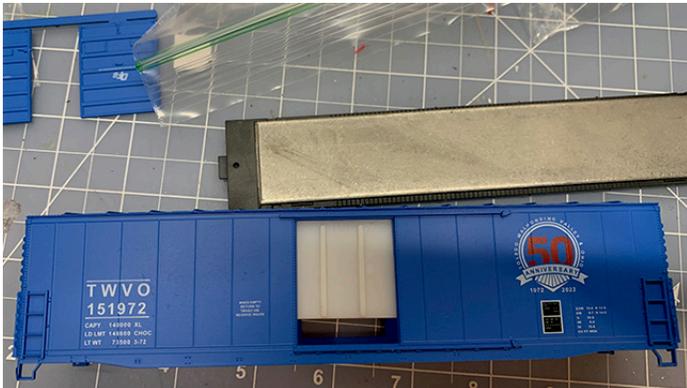
Kits are \$20 each or 2 or more, \$17.50 each. Shipping is \$10 no matter how many you purchase! Contact amrecrrclub@gmail.com for more information or send check/money order with desired quantity + \$10 shipping to Richard Jones 214 S 18th Street Coshocton, OH 43812.

My first comment is that the postage on the box was over \$9, so including the box, label, and packing materials, \$10 is a fair shipping charge.

My second comment is that the Club's Treasurer Richard Jones and I were in the same college class. In a perfect world, we would have started a layout on campus but that didn't happen.

And third, I contacted National to see what the title should be here. We bandied about on "Review" but it turns out that an actual reviewer has to know how to use rulers and calipers and do things with numbers and consult specification charts, so "New Product Announcement" was OK'd instead. (Thanks Cinthia Priest and Mark Juett MMR®).

The kit is an Accurail, and you, gentle reader, almost certainly have had more experience than I in assembling these things. In any case, the assembly was straightforward.



(left) Backing pieces are provided to glue the doors in place, which keeps us less talented types from visible glue errors around the door edges. If you want to model the doors as open, you'll want another method for adding weight as the metal bar obscures the floor.

(right) The couplers come pre-broken - careless handling is optional! OK, they were just unassembled.



...and voila! A minimum effort produces a nice car!



National Model Railroad Association Mid Central Region
Board of Directors Meeting
Hybrid (Indy Junction 2022, Indianapolis, IN, and via Zoom) Meeting
Minutes
May 22, 2022

Attendance:

Jerry Doyle, Vice President; Fred Soward, Secretary; John Shields, Treasurer; Dennis Conglianese, Division 2; Ric Zimmerman, Division 3; Ron Morgan, Division 4; Matt Kross, Division 5 (via Zoom); Carter Jastram (proxy), Division 6; Chuck Endreola, Division 7; Fred Soward, Division 8; Jerry Doyle (proxy), Division 9; Larry Smith, Division 10; Rich Kosakowski, Division 11; and Mike Hauk, Division 12.

Also in attendance were Bruce DeMaeyer, Modules; Bob Shreve, Nominations; Dave Williams, Kingpin

Keith Devault; John Doehring; Ron Ellison; Scott Kremer; Gordy Robinson; Barbara Soward; Cecil Stewart; Tony Valerius; Bob Weinheimer

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Jerry Doyle at 8:30 AM.

Agenda suspended to allow two guests to address the group

Indy Junction 2022 lead Scott Kremer

The financial results of the Indy Junction 2022 convention are not yet finalized, however it looks like there will be a surplus to be distributed to the three host regions (MWR, NCR, MCR).

Scott told us that we were to take three of the nine projectors which had been purchased for and used during the convention. The projectors, recommended by the NCR because of their performance during their recently-concluded 2021 region convention, were purchased by the convention staff for less than \$300 each. The three projectors were inventoried for completeness and are being transported to Division 2 for the next MCR convention.

We also received 12 tablecloths which were provided to Bruce DeMaeyer for future MCR T-TRAK events.

continued on next page

The initial attendance report for Indy Junction 2022 is 495 registered attendees including NMRA, non-NMRA (RPM), and family members.

Gordy Robinson, NMRA President:

Met a lot of people in all three participating regions. Thanks to everyone who put the convention together. It's the first opportunity for all of us to meet for quite a while. What is done at the Region and Division levels is really what's important to the NMRA, it's where the rubber meets the road, and is vitally important. At the National level, we're trying to change the culture change people's experience with National. We've obviously done the digital magazine, over 1,400 people set it up for use during the first month. Nobody wants to increase the cost of being a member of the NMRA. If anything, the Board is trying to do things to introduce new either value for your dollar or to reduce costs. That process is ongoing, but unfortunately, the Board had to make that increase this year. If not, the future cost would have been about \$130. There should be lots of communication coming out from HQ NMRA, hopefully not information overload, with dispatches, time-tables, and other emails to every level of the organization.

New things on the horizon: the education survey that was recently released; the NMRA Exchange (Discord) which is the Division & Region communication toolkit, scheduled to be available in August; revisions to the "at risk persons" policy to be more inclusive of families. We need to be working more with families and with young adults.

From what he's seen, the MCR is a healthy region with healthy Divisions with great leadership. He encourages us to keep going and to continue on. Gordy said he's been to most Divisions through virtual meetings. If any Division wants him to attend a virtual meeting, send him an email invitation at president@nmra.org. He will also do a clinic about what's going on at the NMRA and "what's coming down the pike." Gordy's "virtual door" is always open. Contact him thru president@NMRA.org or on the phone number 254-326-4599 and he will find an answer to the question. Please do not call during US evening hours (6:00 PM to midnight (ET)) as that's sleeping time in Orkney.

Minutes of the last BoD meeting:

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as corrected from the October 29, 2021, Mid Central Region Board of Directors meeting. The correction is that there will **not** be an additional cost to Life Members for the digital magazine. Motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Vice President's Comments:

Jerry Doyle said that he talked with Dave Neff who is recovering at home from his extended hospital stays. He has been home for more than two weeks. Dave was very tired, said that he felt that he was "on the mend," but was good on the phone for only about five or ten minutes before taking a rest. He intends to be back with us in the fall. Thank you to the MCR volunteers (Bruce DeMaeyer, Ron Ellison, Barbara Soward, & Fred Soward) who helped with the Indy Junction 2022 convention.

Jerry wants to start an MCR Technology Ad Hoc Committee beginning with the group of individuals who hosted the Zoom how-to sessions for the Region early during the Pandemic. The idea is not so much to teach technology, but to help others within the Region enable technology. The group would be available as a resource for Divisions to turn to when they want to do things with technology, but do not have the knowledge immediately available. Technology is not going away any-time soon. The next Division 9 meeting is “how to get to the NMRA digital magazine.”

Jerry briefly discussed “V” scale – virtual scale, specifically train simulators. It’s a serious hobby for many and we should, as a group, take a look at the audience that is there.

Treasurer’s Report:

John Shields reported that his report is online and current. He said that there is a small increase to the reported balance and that we have covered our expenses for the last six months.

Committee Reports

Contest

Jerry Doyle reported that Steve Zapytowski has submitted his resignation as the MCR Contest Committee Chair. Jerry asked all Division Superintendents to ask their membership for volunteers. Bruce DeMaeyer asked the BoD to formally thank Steve for his efforts as the MCR Contest Committee Chair.

Kingpin

Dave Williams did not have a report because he said he did not receive any of the emails requesting reports.

Modules:

Bruce DeMaeyer said that the committee met their objective for the T-TRAK layout at Indy Junction 2022. There were 110 modules primarily from Mid Central Region with modules from CinTRAK and LanTRAK. He has met with the 2023 MCR Convention Committee chair and T-TRAK everything is on track for Pittsburgh.

Nominations:

Bob Shreve said that the committee is ready to begin work for the next MCR election cycle. He will send an email to all MCR Superintendents announcing the election and to solicit nominations. All four of the current BoD officers are eligible for another term in their current positions. Slate of candidates will be provided to the BoD at the fall meeting. If the entire slate of candidates is running unopposed, the BoD may make an election by acclamation. Bob Shreve will contact Bob Belt and Jim DePaulo to confirm that they will again with him on the nominating committee. Jerry, as acting MCR President, will then appoint them to the for the upcoming election..

Division Reports:

Division 1 – No report as no one from Division 1 was in attendance.

Division 2 – Dennis Conglianese: The recently concluded Jamboree went well.

Division 3 – Ric Zimmerman: The Division has moved to hybrid meetings for the past couple months and have been successful. Successful train show; first in two years because of the Pandemic. Membership has dropped over the past couple years (140 to 115), primarily because of deaths. Covid seems to have created a malaise or general lack of interest in modeling. Ric has told the membership that everyone's job in the Division is to recruit. Some members are challenged to attend in-person meetings because they are care-givers for family members. Hybrid meetings are challenging for some of their members because of technology.

Division 4 – Ron Morgan: Nothing additional to report.

Division 5 – Matt Kross: Reiterated the Division membership's concerns about the online magazine and the NMRA membership price increase that came with it. The greatest concern was from members who had not been taking the print magazine and their dues increased by \$18. Several said they will not renew their membership and one has already followed through with that. Matt send an email to the NMRA and MCR BoD. All Superintendents should have received the email.

Division 6 – Carter Jastram (proxy): Membership holding steady. Taking back the concept to have an off-site Zoom co-host in case the on-site network connection goes down.

Division 7 – Chuck Endreola: Added a few new members since the report was submitted. Reminded everyone about the Division 7 Mini-Meet with Rich Mahaney presenting three clinics. Check the Division 7 website for more information. Chuck is sending a flyer by email to all Superintendents and requested that the information be shared in meetings and newsletters. Attendance is free.

Division 8 – Fred Soward: Nothing additional to report.

Division 9 – Jerry Doyle (proxy): Nothing additional to report. Loss of long-time member, Ed Keith, MMR 201, passed away two weeks ago.

Division 10 – Larry Smith: Nothing additional to report. Planning additional activities to get members out and about.

Division 11 – Rich Kosakowski: In addition to the webmaster having health issues, there are several other Division members with serious health issues.

Division 12 – Mike Hauk: Nothing additional to report. Several attending the meeting thanked Mike and Division 12 for promoting their Thursday Modeling Night events and other virtual events they've opened to everyone.

Discussion Topics

2022 Membership Meeting

The meeting will be virtual using Zoom. Although it was normally conducted during the convention banquet, because of the amount of content already set for Indy Junction 2022, it was decided to not try to hold it during the convention this year. The 2022 MCR Membership Meeting is now set for 7:00 PM, June 24, 2022. The invitation will be sent to the membership by email and will include the Zoom link.

2022 Fall MCR BoD Meeting

The group decided to not go to Schmidt's in Columbus and to instead use Zoom to conduct a virtual meeting. The Fall MCR MR BoD Meeting is now set for 7:00 PM, September 16, 2022.

Old Business

2023 MCR Convention Update

Frank Benders reported on the 2023 MCR convention that will be held in Pittsburgh, May 4-7, 2023. The new location is at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh - Cranberry, 910 Sheraton Dr, Mars, PA 16046, which is about 20 minutes north of the previous Pittsburgh convention hotel. The convention planning is on schedule. The only challenge mentioned by Frank was space for T-TRAK, but a compromise was made in the early stages of planning.

New Business

2023 MCR Convention Update

Keith Devault reported on the 2023 MCR convention that will be held in Pittsburgh, May 4-7, 2023. The new location is at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh - Cranberry, 910 Sheraton Dr, Mars, PA 16046, which is about 20 minutes north of the previous Pittsburgh convention hotel. The convention planning is on schedule. Plenty of room for T-TRAK (up to 300 modules), Free-MO layouts, contest, three clinic room, white elephant (all day Thursday, Friday, Saturday), vendors, layout tours, operating sessions, non-rail tours, and rail tours. The convention flyer is online on the Division 2 website (<http://keystonedivision.org>). Working with hotel for quick food options available in the convention area, similar to what was done at Indy Junction 2022. Room rate is \$114/nite with free parking. Online registration should be available by June 5. Looking for volunteers.

2024 MCR Convention

Ron Morgan reported that Division 4 is interested in hosting the 2024 MCR Convention. A formal proposal will be submitted and presented to the MCR BoD before the Fall 2022 MCR BoD Meeting. John Shields and Bruce DeMaeyer requested that any future MCR Conventions be planned around the annual Ohio N Scale weekend. Usually the third weekend, but not always. John Shields said he would send the future dates to Jerry Doyle & Fred Soward. There is not a conflict with the National Narrow Gauge Convention, which is scheduled for September 11-15, 2024, in Pittsburgh. Jerry Kreuger will be the convention chairman.

Interim MCR Board Meetings

Jerry Doyle said that we will continue to have the informal interim MCR Board Meetings between the formal Spring and Fall MCR Board Meetings.

For the Good of the Order

Rich Kosakowski said that he supported the Division 5 email that Matt Kross sent about member concerns over membership renewals which may be directly affected by the increased cost in dues related to the digital magazine. He also thanked all who organized Indy Junction 2022 convention. He asked if there is a possibility of a repeat of the event in some way, either in Indianapolis or in some other area in or near the MCR area.

Fred Soward addressed Rich's Indy Junction 2022 question by saying that the convention was successful because of the efforts of many people. There were many things that need to be tweaked and improved. The largest challenge was in getting four distinct organizations (MWR, NCR, MCR, and RPM Conference) with unique styles to come together as a working group. Gordy Robinson said that the concept is viable and will be looked at by the NMRA BoD, especially a shorter National Convention, and by working with neighboring regions. Rich Kosakowski suggested having two or more MCR Division working together on future MCR Conventions. Several other individuals supported Rich's suggestion. There was a request for a standardized process/procedure manual for future planning of conventions. Results of the Indy Junction 2022 Convention survey, to be sent soon after the convention concludes, will be shared with the MCR BoD and with the NMRA BoD. Bob Weinheimer said that the MER has a standing committee that coordinates the annual NER Convention.

Gordy Robinson addressed Rich's comments about the membership dues increase. The NMRA in 2020 lost 1,545 members worldwide. Since August 2021, the NMRA has gained 450 members worldwide. Since the dues increased was announced and implemented seven weeks ago, the NMRA has not lost any members. No one wanted to increase the fees. Everyone would like to reduce the fees. The National Team is working very hard to reduce the fees. It's very important to open and read emails and communications that are sent out. Gordy said he would respond to the complaint that was received about the fee increase within the next two weeks. It will be responded to with facts. He said that he did not want anyone to leave the MCR BoD Meeting thinking that we are currently losing members. The NMRA organization has consistently lost membership in the past, with 28,500 members in 1992 and at its lowest level of 15,231 last year when Gordy took office. Membership is now just under 16,000. NMRA membership is now growing. We can continue with what we are doing and finding new ways of working, adding value without cost, and the members who left can come back. The National Team wants to see an organization with 150,000 members and that what they're looking toward. Some hard and tough decisions will have to be made and we won't be fast enough for some people to see the benefits simply because of their age. The team is working incredibly hard to make the changes so that there's a turnaround in memberships. The results are already evident. If a Division is losing members because of the changes, it's likely that others are seeing gains in numbers. If membership is being lost, then we need to introspectively look at the real reasons why, how we are telling members about what is happening, and how we are offering new ways to connect to members. He said that he talked to members during the week at the convention about this topic and about other topics. This email was the only complaint he has heard about the increased membership fees vs the new benefits.

Awards Presentations

Certificate of Appreciation, outgoing Division 1 Superintendent, Mark Stivers
Certificate of Appreciation, outgoing Division 2 Superintendent, Frank Benders
Certificate of Appreciation, outgoing Division 4 Superintendent, Lee Sheffield
Certificate of Appreciation, outgoing Division 7 Superintendent, John Shields
Certificate of Appreciation, outgoing Division 8 Superintendent, Fred Soward
Certificate of Appreciation, outgoing Division 11 Superintendent, Rich Kosakowski
Certificate of Appreciation, outgoing Division 12 Superintendent, Brad White
Region Director's Award, Bob Frankrone

Adjournment

The next Mid Central Region Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, September 16, 2022, via Zoom. The Zoom logon information will be sent closer to the date.

Jerry Doyle closed the meeting with a reminder about dates and times of events during Indy

Adjourned 9:58 AM

Respectfully submitted:

Fred Soward MMR®, Mid Central Region Secretary

Officers' Reports

The Treasurer's Report was received but is not included here.

Division 1 Report

Division 1 is looking forward to getting back to in person meetings at various locations and setting up our modules for public viewing. Elections were held in June 2022 and the results were Jim DiPaola, Superintendent; Sam Eisle, Assistant Superintendent; and Mike Bradley, Treasurer. The biggest task our Division is doing is evaluating our current modules to see if there is a lightweight alternative and an easier set up of modules. As of September 1, 2022, Division 1 currently has 77 members. The past 2 years were hard on our Division as we had several members pass away and others dropped out due to the pandemic. We're working to recruit new members by reaching out at train shows and public events where we can display our modules. 2022 and 2023 will be our rebuilding period. We have members that plan to attend the MCR Regional Convention in Pittsburgh in 2023.

Jim DiPaola, Superintendent

Division 2 Report

The Keystone Division membership stands at 197 as of August 2022.

Our web master is contacting members who have not renewed to find out why, whether it be illness or due to other changes. I have also been contacting members whose membership will be expiring encouraging them to renew. I also send a welcome e-mail to all new members and invite them to our monthly meetings, highlighting the opportunity to meet and engage with members at these meetings.

The Division holds meetings 10 months of the year at varying club sites throughout the Division. We have added items to our agenda to engage the members in the meeting instead of being strictly a series of committee reports. This has received favorable comments from the attendees. We will begin tracking the number of attendees at each meeting to see what locations get the best attendance and identify any trends, positive or negative.

The Keystone Flyer is published 10 times each year to coincide with each meeting. Most are e-mailed to each member as well as to others around the country and can be accessed on our website: www.keystonedivision.org. The web version is in color while a limited number in black and white are sent by mail for those who do not have email access. The website includes resources and other important news items for our division.

Plans for the Regional Convention, "Rails to Pittsburgh" are going well. We are holding monthly meetings with the committee to handle any problems and to keep all plans moving toward a successful and interesting convention. The website is now accepting online registration and payments and has a link to reserve rooms at the conference hotel as well. We have placed pictures and stories of several layouts that will be open for tours to increase interest in attending. We will also be adding bios of clinicians and will soon announce the dinner speaker.

The Division is gaining two MMR members in the near future. Both members are in the middle of their last certificate and should be done before the convention.

Division 2 continues to support our hobby. We are discussing a special award to be presented in memory of Jim Saco, who passed away last year, to recognize individuals that go the extra mile to promote the hobby.

Dennis Coglianese, Superintendent

Division 3 Report

The division finances remain in the black, as we look forward to the Dayton Train Show in early November. This is our primary financial event and has traditionally brought in sufficient funds to offset our expenses.

Our membership has improved by the addition of eight new members since June. Unfortunately, the loss of one of our long time members has been a sad element to this. New membership has been our number one priority and we continue to explore the various ways to seek new members.

We had some success during our Model Railroad Training Day event in mid-August, adding four new Rail Pass members. Wil Davis, our Membership Chairman is excited about improving membership. I am always interested in the methods that our other divisions have been successful for recruiting new members.

As the COVID pandemic continues to wind down, we have continued to support our members through the use of Zoom hybrid meetings. We participated in the annual Dayton Railfest in June, and we recently completed our latest Model Railroad Training Day and are preparing for the annual Dayton Train Show on the first weekend of November. Training Day was a success with the public that attends the event and we are grateful for the use of the Carillon Historical Park and Museum's facilities and the crowd that they bring into the park. Gail Yarnall and her team did an excellent job orchestrating the event. Rick Lach was our "go-to guy" for the annual Railfest event.

Eric Zimmerman, Superintendent

Division 4 Report

Attendance at our division meetings continues to be good. Prior to our summer break the division averaged 70 to 80 members attending. At our June meeting the division recognized 11 members with 50 years or more of membership in the NMRA. One member had 65 years. We appreciate their loyalty and dedication to the division and to the hobby.

Our webmaster, Ben Lanza continues to enlighten us with his weekly "For Division 4 Members Stuck at Home" series. You never know what neat things Ben will find to share with the division.

Membership is holding steady. Definitely would like to see more younger members joining in on the fun. The division had it first youth member participate at the county fair using a member guardian. The process works.

Financially Division 4 remains solid.

Contests continues to be popular. Our contest chairman can come up with some rather interesting challenges.

Fall layout tours are currently being planned. This is always a good time and it gives the layout owner a chance to show off their layout.

Our module group just finished a week at the Cuyahoga County Fair. This has become an annual event. Next will be the October Fest, the Great Berea Train Show Oct 1,2 2022 at the Cuyahoga County Fair Grounds, Training Days, Trees and Trains and Lights at the Zoo. Very active and dedicated group of module holders. Scale Trains will be returning to the Great Berea Train Show along with their Road Show.

Currently the division is working on hosting the 2024 MCR Convention. A presentation will be made during the September 16, 2022 BOD meeting by our convention chairman Jerry Krueger.

All in all, I am happy to report that the Division 4 is doing very well.

Ron Morgan, Superintendent

Division 5 Report

Division 5 meetings and events over the last several months have only been lightly attended. Currently, the biggest problem we are dealing with in Division 5 is the lack of participation and overall member apathy. We are trying to have a few out-of-the-ordinary activities as well as ones that involve spouses and families, but that has not made much difference.

We are fully back to in-person meetings. We do not offer a Zoom meeting option due to WiFi issues at our meeting location as well as lack of manpower. Meeting attendance is currently averaging around 17 compared with pre-covid average of 28.

Our division BOD meetings are held online using Zoom and all division members are invited to attend.

Our division membership is currently at 56. We know we will be losing two members in the near future, one due to moving out of our area, the second due to non-renewal of membership.

We had a division trip on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad on May 21, 2022 that was pulled by NKP #765 steam locomotive. A total of 60 members/family/guests went on the trip and had a great time.

We had an outdoor movie night for our August meeting. For this event, we met at a person's home that has an outdoor movie screen set up. We had an abbreviated meeting, spent some time socializing and viewing the home owner's large collection of prototype railroad signals and memorabilia, then watched several train related videos outdoors. It was a great night for the event and we had a lot of fun but only 10 members and 5 guests attended.

We held our annual division picnic at the end of August at the Painesville Railroad Museum located in an old depot along the CSX mainline in Painesville, OH. The event was totally free to division members and their families/guests and included unlimited food. The entire museum building and grounds were open for viewing. We got to see five CSX trains go by during the picnic. One of the highlights of the event was the museum providing rides in their historic "Collinwood 999" locomotive which is a parade vehicle built by NYC Railroad Collinwood Yard employees 90 years ago as a replica of the NYC 999 steam locomotive. We only had 15 members and 5 spouses attend this event.

We have division layout tours planned for the second and third weekends of October but, at the moment, we only have three layouts signed up.

Our division expenses have been relatively low and our savings balance is high which is good because our annual March train show did not do well this year. This was the first show we were able to have since 2019. This show is our main fundraiser for the year. If it had not been for a last-minute grant from Lake County out of covid-related funds, we would have just barely broken even. Costs of all aspects of the show have gone up significantly and some services that were previously included by the venue have now been dropped, causing us to either arrange for another party to provide the service or no longer offer it (shuttle buses, food service).

Overall, Division 5 is getting by, but we need to find ways to generate enthusiasm amongst our members as well as recruit new members.

Matt Kross, Superintendent

Division 6 Report

Membership

Membership stands at 159 (August EOM).

Summary:

Division 6's membership trend-line has been virtually (and remarkably) flat over the past two years. Over the past year, membership has been at a high of 164 on three separate months, with a low of 156 in August, before a bounce in September, just below our two-year average of 162.

On a personnel side, our Membership Chair of two years has stepped aside and the Division will soon be training a new person in their place. The new Chair has been actively engaged in his current stint with the NMRA, following a previous stint in which he was involved in leadership, so we expect him to pick up the new role quickly.

Recruitment:

Our recruiting efforts continue to focus on setting up our table at local train shows. I'm proud to report that the division table presents better this year due to a new banner that is larger and makes use of our Division and National branding logos. Our next outing will be at our Division's Cambridge, Ohio train show in October. We have members who organize T-Track modules to display on the table to attract attention.

Retention:

Our clinic program remains robust with a variety of topics presented by members and the occasional non-member modeler. Given our steady membership count, this service appears to be valuable.

Finances

Division 6 is in good financial shape. Expenses have remained stable, with no significant spending since the last report.

Education/Other

Achievement Program

The Division AP Program has two modelers working on awards.

Report continued on next page

Meeting Operations

Meetings have remained in person since the last report, with average turnout about 25 members. The Division's meetings consist of a reasonably short business meeting, followed by a single longer clinic or a series of mini-clinics. The latter have become very popular with members. Layout tours are added to the mix about three times per year. Hybrid meetings remain paused due to manpower and training constraints mentioned during the last report.

Other Initiatives

Our third Annual Train Show in Cambridge is scheduled for October 23rd. The Train Show chair has reported thirty tables sold, as of early August. Last year's show returned a small profit. This show takes place in an under-served area of the state, with the goal of the Division to provide this missing service. Cambridge is at the junction of Interstates 70 and 77, more or less equidistant from Columbus, Parkersburg, WV, Wheeling and Akron/Canton, with the larger metro areas of Pittsburgh and Cleveland within reach for the dedicated.

In the last report, we reported that we were in early discussions with Smokestack Hobbies to about helping with on future productions of their annual Hobby Expo. We are happy to report that Division 6 members will be assisting, starting with their March 2023 show. This support will consist mainly of labor (set up, tear down, customer service, and the like). Smokestack Hobbies is a Lancaster-based general hobby store that provides great service to local hobbyists of various stripes, and we are very pleased to help support this aspect of their hobby outreach.

Matt Goodman, Superintendent

Division 8 Report

Even with COVID Haze in central Kentucky and southern Indiana, we continue to re-engage our members. We are continually seeking new ways to do so. Not every idea works but we continue to inch ahead - slowly but surely.

Division 8 membership numbers have continued to edge up since our last report to the MCR in May 2022. We gained a few new members, 1 or 2 re-rails, and a transfer or 2 from other regions and divisions. We see our membership change as very similar to what the NMRA is reporting on the national and world wide level.

Our Membership Chairman, Stan “Bird Dog” White is on top of our membership. Welcoming new members, reminding those members whose membership is expiring soon, and following up with lapsed members. We’ve formed a small committee with Stan as chairman to review our New Member Onboarding Program. This to have several contacts with members new to us and to present a variety of information without repeating the same information too many times so it seems repetitive.

We continue to have members report to us when we follow up that they received no reminder from NMRA headquarters of their renewal. Of course it’s very hard to determine “just the facts” of that issue. So we continue to try and pick up any slack by watching the monthly membership reports sent out by NMRA headquarters and MCR Membership Chairman Paul Novak. We find the report a very helpful tool. “Bird Dog” White also follows up with Paul Novak on any errors we find on the membership lists. The most common issues arise from typos - a problem that’s not going away as long as humans try to type and write things.

We are always looking for new ways to do the old things. Technology continues to be a challenge for a few of our members. With the help of member spouses, children, grandchildren and our own efforts, we continue to move forward, keeping in mind we need to be inclusive of all members. We are encouraging our members to keep their email addresses current by logging into the NMRA website and checking their information, or asking Stan White to assist them. We remind them occasionally by forwarding our members copies of the NMRA eBulletin and Turntable to make sure they are receiving those. And if they are not receiving NMRA publications to login and check their digits on the Member Info section of the NMRA website. We’re also just instituting a reminder on the 15th of each month that the NMRA Magazine is available to read online.

We are almost 100% digitally connected to our members. We only have 2 members who don’t have email addresses. We mail our monthly newsletter, The Pie Card, to only those 2 along with anything else they may need to know that’s not covered in the newsletter. Everyone else receives our information digitally. But for a few of our group, they read content but replying online is beyond them. However, members can call or text us on our Google Voice number.

We also email The Pie Card each month to all MCR officers, superintendents and newsletter editors. If you are reading this and not receiving The Pie Card, let us know by contacting us at: division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com

Our fiscal year ended on June 30th. There were no surprises in our year end expenses, although income from our 2 train shows, our only source of income other than donations, was higher than expected. Our budget for the 2022/2023 fiscal year has been approved by our board of directors. We are planning on doing some community outreach donations during the new fiscal year. We’ll speak more about that in the spring 2023 Division 8 MCR report.

Report continued on next page

We are looking forward to another successful Division 8 Train Show & Sale on Saturday November 12, 2022. Doors open at 9:00 AM to NMRA members, with membership card in hand, and to the public at 10:00 AM. We are planning on accepting credit cards for admission to the Show for the first time. We're also working on selling advance tickets.

Groups.io email group for our members and a separate group for our board continues to be a successful endeavor for us. We have around 55% participation with all our members. So we think that's successful and a way to stay in touch with members that do not live around Louisville Metro where we have our face-to-face meetings. Lately, we've had great success getting new members to sign up for Groups.io through our New Member Onboarding Program. We've lost very few members once they sign up. We are continuing to send Groups.io members "Monday Train Videos" and the Wednesday Information Update". As we've noted in past reports, this frequently encourages online discussion and keeps members engaged. We do try to keep control of the volume of posts from us so our members aren't baraged with too much content. This is accomplished by including most of the information we send out with the "Monday Videos" or "Wednesday Update".

We have around 26% of members attending hybrid meetings this time of year. That number is expected to go up a bit with the fall season upon us. Participation in our Zoom only meetings is much the same percentage. We find that some members that live in Louisville Metro would rather attend on Zoom. They do that for various personal reasons but the ongoing COVID virus is certainly a factor. It is convenient to attend online from the comfort of home and yet have almost the same experience as the in-person experience. We find that our Zoom participants join a little early and chat with each other much the same as the in-person attendees do before the meeting. We are still attracting members on Zoom who could not conveniently attend our in-person meeting because of their distance from Louisville.

We record our monthly meeting and our monthly gathering and post those to our YouTube channel for those who are unable to attend our meetings at the scheduled day and time. We do edit out a few specific items from these videos, specifically any financial figures, to encourage members to attend our hybrid meeting live. We also record and post our meeting presentations to our YouTube channel unless our presenter objects. Objections by presenters are almost nonexistent but we feel it's polite to ask. You can take a look at our YouTube channel here: [Division 8 Mid Central Region NMRA - YouTube](#) and of course subscribe.

We try to keep our monthly meeting to no more than 30 minutes. We do this by moving some of our committee reports to The Pie Card. Those committee reports that do take place during the meeting are encouraged to be brief but bold. If committee reports contain minutiae, that content goes in The Pie Card or in a separate Groups.io post. So far, no members have requested the business portion of our meeting be longer.

Our Achievement Program is robustly led by Mark Norman, MMR 617. We had two Division 8 members reach MMR status this past year along with individual certificates being awarded to several Division 8 members. That's 13 MMR's overall for Division 8, with 6 of those 13 being current NMRA members. We have 2 members that each just have 2 certificates to go to become MMR. Mark Norman has exhibited some great leadership and encouraged our MMR's to help those Division 8 members who are working within the AP Program on their certificates.

Report continued on next page

Division 8 Report continued

We just began our 3rd year of virtual monthly modeling contests. Although contest entries go up and down with the monthly contest theme, participation seems steady and we expect it to continue to grow. We've made a couple of tweaks to our contest rules for the new contest year. And because of member feedback, we added an archive of past contests for reference. As a reminder, we share our Charlie Keeling Monthly Modeling Contest with everyone on our website here: <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/contest.html>

We continue to market Division 8 through our monthly newsletter distribution, website, YouTube, Facebook and Instagram. We're getting the word out there and trying to cover a variety of media.

Ron Ellison, Superintendent

Division 9 Report

Membership: As with many of the Regions and Divisions of the NMRA membership is something we are very worried about. Our current roster is down to 48. Aging seems to be a major factor in the decline of past members. Recent health problems and a recent death have contributed to this decline for Division 9. We can't stop getting old and with aging our health problems come naturally and unfortunately it results in curtailment of the things we enjoy doing. I think we will continue to see this problem through the NMRA until we find a solution of attracting and keeping members.

Finances: We continue to be in a very stable financial position. The rent for our meeting space is offset by our monthly raffle and usually this raffle even adds to our coffers. Members contribute very nice unwanted items for the raffle making this event a very popular feature to our meeting. Many thanks to Tom Harris our Raffle Coordinator for storing, transporting, organizing, cleaning, and repairing items for the raffle. Other members are very gracious and contribute out of their own pockets for little things that make our group very special.

Meetings: Our monthly meetings continue to be held in the St. Albans Historical Society building. The Historical Society building gives us a very comfortable, clean, and handicap accessible place to conduct our business and be together as a group. The Society members are very helpful and cordial in affording our every need. Our annual Picnic on the Platform was again a great success for our August meeting. This year we had an excellent turn-out which included several guests and a potential new member. As mentioned above our normal monthly meetings are held in St. Albans WVA but we also continue to have some meetings away from our base. In May we go to Parkersburg, WV for Steel is King Day and in September we meet at Portsmouth, OH to Run the Crusty. These events are hosted by fellow members of our Division and are something we always look forward to.

Clinics: Each month we try and keep the business session of the meeting short and focus the main portion of the meeting on a clinic. For the last quarter of the year our Clinic Chair, Sam Delauter is scheduling a series of mini-clinics for each meeting. Each min-clinic will last around 15 minutes or so and several will be given during the clinic portion of the meeting. Sam hopes this will give members an easy/relaxed way to present information they are familiar with and help get them used to presenting in front of an audience.

Education: Education is an important aspect of our division but had taken a somewhat of a back seat. The Division has a very nice display created by our Membership Chair John Harris, but we are still struggling to safely use it at shows and events. Covid is still a major concern with our members and affects participation for manning our display. Hopefully this situation will eventually be in the past. This display is a great education tool serving to promote the NMRA and our Division. The "Gary Burdette Challenge" has become very popular with the members of the Coal Division. This year for the Challenge the division is offering a servo animation project. The intent of the challenge is to get our members out of their comfort zone and trying something new or different. It should really be interesting to see what our members can bring to life.

Achievement Program: Participation in the AP has been slow but we see a number of certificates that appear to be within reach of several members—only the paperwork needs completed. Other division members have offered with their help in completing the necessary paperwork so member achievements can be recognized.

Newsletter: Bob Weinheimer does an excellent job as newsletter editor. The newsletter has become one of the most important tools used by the division especially during the past several years. We realize and respect the decision of several members being reluctant to once again be in a crowd but the newsletter is a wonderful way to still make them an important part of the division.

Robert Osburn, Superintendent

Division 10 Report

Membership: Over the last year we have gone down somewhat in membership. We have added some younger members but lost more to older members who have withdrawal from the hobby due to age or medical conditions or both.

Finances: We still rely on member contributions as our only source of income. Our outflow of funds is modest but still greater than our inflow. Our outflow is mainly Zoom subscription, occasional equipment purchase and sending out paper copies of our newsletter.

Programs: Our Division meets at the local libraries since they have the space and the necessary electronic equipment, along with available parking. The libraries are now masking optional so requires no decision to be made by the members. Our meetings continue to be hybrid, or a combination of in-person and Zoom. Some members dislike Zoom because they like in person meetings only but for some of our members with physical limitations it is the only way they can attend. I also miss the person to person interactions of the previous meetings and I am exploring the idea of a member picnic or a meal at a restaurant at a non-scheduled meeting time for the members to have two or three person interactions. We are hoping to increase in person attendance in the future.

We have had a couple of layout visits for members to attend and members have responded to those. It was a great opportunity for getting together and personal interactions. We now are scheduling our Trains Day at the Library for spring instead of fall since the chance of a schedule conflict is minimized. We are planning to exhibit our T-trak layout at the Ravenna Train Festival in eastern Kentucky again this year. It was a fun experience. We have also planned more participation for our T-trak layout for the coming months.

Our Division 10 website, Facebook, and our newsletter are all still functioning and doing well. We all have to work to keep them all updated and relevant. Still looking to see more submissions from our members to the newsletter for anything related to model trains and even the life-sized trains. Our Facebook editor is doing a great job supplying information to our members. Monthly Modeling is still doing well but still hoping for more members to contribute.

Larry Smith, Superintendent

Division 11 Report

Membership numbers have been holding steady, although we will lose one member by November. Our last Superintendent will be moving to Tarentum (Div. 2). Our loss, their gain. We have been averaging 12 to 15 members at our monthly meetings. About half of our meetings are held at various members homes, some at model railroad clubs, and a few at public locations. In May, we met at the East Broad Top Railroad. The August meeting was at Tyrone next to the NS Pittsburg Line.

The third weekend of September, St. Marys is hosting the Bavarian Fall Festival. The Division is displaying our modular layout at the Knights of Columbus Hall. This will be the first setup since Christmas. We are making improvements but it is slow going.

Within the last year, we have tried to have a short clinic or other activity at our meetings. It is incentive for members to share their knowledge and maybe show off a little bit. We are hoping this will entice more people to attend the meetings.

Al Crate, Superintendant

Division 12 Report

Membership of the Alleghany Western Division currently numbers 38 members. As shown in the recent MCR membership report, this is down from the high over the past year of 43 members in March 2022, and below our 12-month average of 40 members. We have had one member pass away, and one member move out of our division. The rest of the difference is likely due to non-renewals for any number of reasons.

Division 12 continues to support the Erie Train Show at Rainbow Gardens in the Fall and Spring by staffing the concessions in return for a donation from the show promoters and also hosts a division table at the event.

At the time of this writing, we are looking forward to our 2022 Mini-Meet to be held this coming Saturday, September 10th, at the Ambassador Conference Center in Erie, PA. We currently have 33 registrants for a full day of clinics, raffle, continental breakfast, and hors d'oeuvres. Several local layouts will be open for tours and/or op sessions as well. A particular highlight should be a special clinic provided remotely by NMRA President Gordy Robinson, who is to introduce the new NMRA Interchange to our attendees.

The division has been meeting both remotely via Zoom, and in-person when able, including a June picnic at the Westfield NY Railfan Park in conjunction with several other local model railroad and railfan groups. Our weekly Thursday night Zoom workbench chat remains popular, and we often have a dozen or more folks both in and out of our division and the NMRA in attendance.

Division 12 remains on a stable financial footing, and we hope the Mini-Meet will further reinforce our bottom line.

Mike Hauk, Superintendent

Nominating Committee Report

The nominating committee developed the following slate of candidates for the 2023 MCR elections:

President – Dave Neff

Vice President – Jerry Doyle

Secretary – Fred Soward

Treasurer – John Shields

The committee's slate was communicated to the members of the MCR via an email distributed on August 15, 2022. This email included a solicitation for additional candidates to be nominated via the petition process outlined in the MCR regulations. The deadline for additional nominations was September 7, 2022. As of September 12, 2022 no additional nominations were received.

As there is only one candidate for each office, Article X, Section 6 of the current MCR regulations gives the Board of Directors the option of completing the 2023 election process by executing an Election by Acclamation.

We would like to bring this before the board for a vote at the Fall BOD meeting scheduled for September 16th.

Respectfully,

MCR 2023 Elections Nominating Committee

Bob Shreve - Manager

Bob Belt

Jim Dipaola

Kingpin Newsletter Report

The July 2022 Kingpin newsletter was sent to the MCR membership on July 13, 2022. It was sent through MailChimp email to all known MCR email addresses except for about ten members where the recipients have requested to not receive emails (either through the NMRA or by request after a previous MailChimp mailing). The results were:

1050 recipients

637 opened the email

10 mailings bounced (permanent or temporary email address issue)

1 individual requested to no longer receive emails

Due to some one-time difficulties in immediately posting the July newsletter to the MCR website, I used MailChimp's posting service. Since it was a new interface, a few people complained that it didn't work, with a few of those writing later to say that they'd figured it out. I sent a PDF version to everyone having issues. I'm happy to go back to just posting a PDF on the MCR website but it's good to have the MailChimp option as a backup.

Of the current* 1324 members, 1152 have an email address, and of those, MailChimp immediately eliminates about 90 due to what it determines are incorrect addresses.

I also send out emails for notices of elections and Regional meetings as necessary. Incidentally, there seemed to be some question about communication of the recent MCR annual meeting. That notice was sent and successfully delivered to the membership in numbers comparable to the Kingpin mailing, but the open rate was approximately 50 percent. Not a huge surprise that people hadn't heard about the meeting- probably about half!

I've been laboring under the misconception that the annual U.S. postal mailing was done to identify address changes not otherwise known (which have been negligible during the past two years). A check of the MCR By-laws indicates that the annual mailing is to be done to provide members with MCR financial information. However, it was decided several years ago during a BOD meeting that financial data should not be published, and I dropped it accordingly. I had a discussion with Jerry Doyle during the Tri-Regional convention, and his concern was that Ohio law may require financial information be sent to members. I have searched since then and haven't found such a requirement but I'm far from being an expert on either non-profit law or searching the Internet. I'm asking the Board for clarification on this matter. Thanks in advance.

Some confusion on posting events in the Kingpin. Please have your event organizers send me information (dave_wms@sbcglobal.net) and I will do my best to get it into the next Kingpin. A PDF of a flyer is best. As much fun as it seems to be for some people, I'm not really big on tracking down show information but will work with it if it comes my way. No slight is intentional. Obviously with a posting schedule of February/July/October, the Kingpin may not meet your event's needs anyway.

Dave Williams, Editor, Kingpin

* Latest mailing list, not the one used for the July mailing

Membership Report

Below is a table that summarizes the MCR membership by Division and Month since September 2021 :

Division	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22
1	80	80	82	81	82	80	81	80	78	77	76	76
2	185	185	184	184	182	177	181	181	183	178	198	197
3	116	110	114	115	113	112	112	110	110	111	109	113
4	191	194	194	194	192	186	184	188	188	185	188	187
5	56	56	56	54	55	57	58	57	57	56	56	55
6	162	161	163	162	164	162	164	164	162	161	156	159
7	216	218	220	217	220	219	220	216	219	218	217	221
8	123	124	123	125	125	128	128	127	127	130	132	131
9	45	43	43	44	45	47	49	49	48	47	46	47
10	62	62	64	63	64	63	60	59	58	56	58	59
11	29	29	28	29	29	26	27	27	27	26	26	26
12	38	41	41	43	42	43	43	38	38	39	39	38

Deaths	3	1	1	3	1	2	8	0	2	1	1	3
Rail-Pass	27	28	30	36	39	40	45	40	41	39	59	59
New Mems	13	2	14	7	11	9	14	7	6	9	21	8

Paul J. Novak Jr., Membership Chairman

Webmaster's Report

Note: I read all the reports before I post them. Rarely is there an issue. One year a report came through with one paragraph suddenly having a font size change from 13 points to 33 points. And sentences appeared one on top of another. We straightened it out after many texts back and forth. If you don't hear from me, your report format is fine is fine.

Login: I will change the login password near the beginning of the new year. I will send the new login information to the MCR Officers, Superintendents, and Managers at that time.

Don Wilke

MCR Webmaster

Women in Model Railroading (WIMRR)

A New Special Interest Group (SIG) of the NMRA

Contact: wimrr@nmra.org

We are excited to offer the opportunity to women around the world to become members of this new Special Interest Group - Women in Model Railroading! As a recognized SIG within the NMRA, we expect this group to be vibrant in the world of model railroading.

The purpose of the Women in Model Railroading is to introduce, encourage and connect women in or interested in the hobby of model railroading. The SIG is designed for education, enrichment, social interactions, and all-around fun. This group is meant to be inclusive and supportive of all women in the hobby and railfan world. We plan to host a few social meetings per year including online and at train shows/conventions around the country. The SIG will provide women in their local NMRA regions the support needed to create activities or gatherings, in order to grow the hobby and remove perceived barriers for women modelers.

Newsletter:

An email newsletter will be sent once per year and hopefully more often as we grow this group.

Facebook Pages:

“Women in Model Railroading” is for women in the model railroad hobby to share their world.

“The Steam Sisters Group” is for women railfans to post their photos of trains and is open to all. Welcome to the Women in Model Railroading Special Interest Group! We look forward to getting to know you!

Please use this link to join: <https://forms.gle/aKPhcXU1sthKW1MQ8>

Events

The following information will not cover all events. For good coverage of events, go to Bob Frieden's **cleveshows.com** and also check individual MCR division webpages and newsletters, especially Division 11's.

THE GREAT BEREA TRAIN SHOW



THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER
MODEL RAILROAD HOBBY SHOW

Keep up to date on all Division 4 events TEXT Div4 to 22828

Family Fun For All Ages

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

OCTOBER 1ST & 2ND, 2022

10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

PUBLIC MUST USE BAGLEY ROAD ENTRANCE
19201 E. Bagley Road, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130

OPERATING MODEL TRAINS!

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OCTOBER 2022 MODEL RAILROAD CONVENTION – KALAMAZOO/BATTLE CREEK, MI AREA

The NMRA NCR Division 9 is hosting a Model Railroad Convention over two days (OCT 28/29, 2022) which will include layout tours, clinics, a special dinner and hopefully some operating session, all of this is over a Friday afternoon through Saturday time frame. The location is in the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek area of Michigan. The Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club will be hosting their annual fall train show and sale on the Sunday (Oct 30) of that weekend if you would like to attend that also. A weekend of railroading activities. Hotel selection in the area is on your own.

A Registration location on Friday will be announced after you register, registration on Saturday will be at the location where the clinics are being held from 7:30am to 12:30pm. The Saturday registration location and the clinics will be at a facility called The River Church, which located at 517 Walbridge, in downtown Kalamazoo. The building is northeast of the Kalamazoo Amtrak Station, and their parking lot backs up to the train tracks.

Oct 28, Friday afternoon, there will be layout open houses from 4pm to 6:30pm. You must have a paid registration and convention badge to see the layouts. **Registration for the convention will occur at the first layout on the tour.**

Oct 28, Friday evening, there will be a gathering of model railroaders for dinner at Clara's Restaurant in downtown Battle Creek starting at 6:30pm. You need to reserve a spot for this event and dinner will be ordered off the menu with individual bills. Who knows what might be scheduled for education, entertainment, and fun!

Oct 29, Saturday, at the River Church, registration from 7:30am to 8:30am and time to visit with other model railroaders. **Free refreshments and some breakfast foods during registration and the clinics!**

Oct 29, Saturday, 8:30am, 9:45am and 11am. 12 clinics will be presented between four different rooms.

Oct 29, Saturday, Lunch on your own. Then more model railroad layout viewing 1:00pm to 4:00pm, maybe operating sessions on Saturday evening.

More information will all be posted on The NMRA NCR Division 9 website, including information about paying with credit cards for registration and the Friday registration site. The Division 9 website address is -

<http://ncr-div9.com/conventionForm.php>

Registrations at this time can be check or money order made out to NMRA, NCR, Division 9. Cut off the registration form below and mail it to Division 9 Superintendent and Convention Registrar Garry Johnson, 371 32nd Street N, Springfield, MI 49037.

Registration fees are to be paid in US Dollars only: Pre-registration is \$25, the late registration fee is \$30 on or after August 31, 2022. Yup, send your money and registration in now and save some money!

For more information or question contact Rich Mahaney at 269-214-4221 or rcmahaney@gmail.com.

-----REGISTRATION FORM/Cut off and send to Garry, at the address above-----

NAME _____ NMRA Number _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

Are you interested or planning to attend the Friday, Oct 28, 2022 dinner at Clara's in Battle Creek, the cost of dinner will be on your own. YES _____ NO _____

Are you interested in attending operation sessions on Saturday evening? YES _____ NO _____ More information will follow in the future as these get set up.

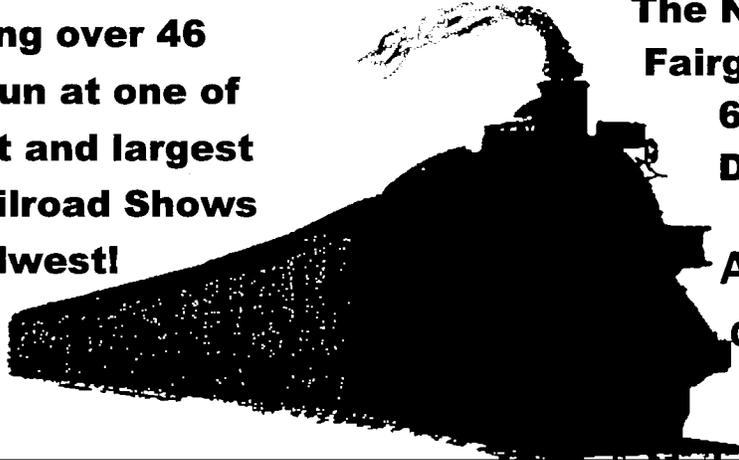


proudly presents the 46th Original



Dayton Train Show SM

Celebrating over 46 years of fun at one of the oldest and largest Model Railroad Shows in the Midwest!



**The New Montgomery County Fairgrounds & Events Center
645 Infirmiry Road
Dayton, OH 45417**

Admission: \$8.00 per adult, children 12 and under free with paid adult.

November 5 & 6, 2022

Saturday 11^{AM} To 5^{PM}

Sunday 11^{AM} To 4^{PM}

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

- Multiple scale operating layouts
- LEGO Trains and layouts
- Historical Societies and Displays
- Hundreds of Dealer Tables
- Stop and Learn Stations
- Prize Drawings

A train the kids can ride (Weather Permitting)

**Activities, layouts and vendors subject to change*

Contact Us by:

Email: NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com

Mail: Dayton Train Show

P. O. Box 341233

Beavercreek, OH 45434

Phone: (937) 424-6413

VENDOR INQUIRIES ARE WELCOME

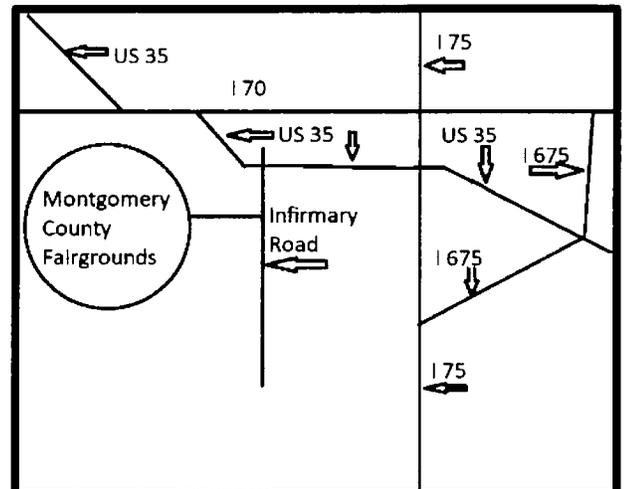
Division 3, Mid-Central Region, National Model Railroad Association is a 501c(3) non-profit organization.



Website

FREE PARKING

See the work of regional and national award-winning modelers from around the area!



Want to know more?

Visit our Website: <http://www.DaytonTrainShow.com>

Like us on Facebook at NMRA Annual Davton Train Show

TRAIN SHOW & SALE

OUR 32ND YEAR



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2022 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Holy Family Parish Saffin Center
3938 POPLAR LEVEL RD, LOUISVILLE, KY 40213

- Model Trains in All Scales
- Operating Layouts and Displays
- Retail Sales - Over 100 Dealer Tables
- Information Stations
- Hourly Door Prizes!
- Great Food & Beverages
- FREE Parking

ADMISSION

\$6.00 Per Person – Children 12 and under free with an adult

Dealer Tables available - \$30 per table

For information or to reserve dealer tables contact:

Mark Hedge - (812) 288-8037 Email: division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com

Sponsored by Division 8 - Mid Central Region - NMRA

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

Website: <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org>

Facebook: @Division8.MCR.NMRA



RAILS TO PITTSBURGH 2023 Mid Central NMRA Regional Convention! May 4-7, 2023

EVERYTHING YOU WANT IN A GREAT CONVENTION, AND MORE!
Clinics – Tours – Contests – Non-Rail Activities – Layout Tours
Banquet – White Elephant Tables – Door Prizes – Railfanning

Our convention hotel, the Doubletree by Hilton at Cranberry is conveniently located within easy access to the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Interstate-79 just north of Pittsburgh. You can visit the city, see Station Square, ride the Duquesne or Monongahela Inclines, railfan and enjoy the area. You are just 15 minutes from Norfolk Southern Mainline and 20 minutes from CSX Mainline.

Here are some of the **POTENTIAL** activities available at the **RAILS TO PITTSBURGH** Convention!

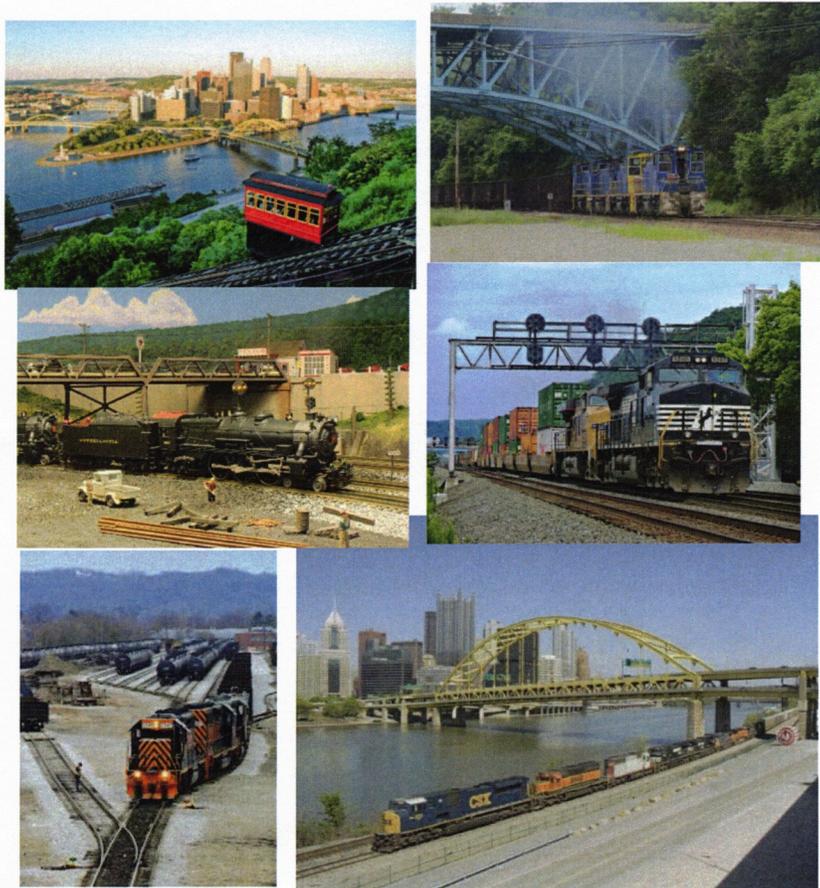
A Variety of Rail Tours
 Steel Industry History
 The Bridges of Pittsburgh
 Port Authority Light Rail Shops
 The Pennsylvania Trolley Museum

Excellent Clinics
 Western Pennsylvania Railroads
 Steel and Other Industries
 Operations: Real and Simulated
 Modern Railroad Practices
 Modeling Structures, Rolling Stock and Scenery

Non-Rail Tours and Clinics
 Pittsburgh Glass Factory Tour,
 Card making, Jewelry,

Local Attractions
 Carnegie Science Center – National Aviary
 Heinz History Center – Duquesne Incline
 Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
 Phipps Conservatory – The Andy Warhol Museum

Railfanning
 NS & CSX Mainline Action
 W & LE & Union Railroad
 Variety of Local Short lines



For more information, check our website frequently for updates: www.keystonedivision.org



RAILS TO PITTSBURGH
Early Registration Form
May 4-7, 2023
NMRA, Mid-Central Region, Division 2



keystonedivision.org

Primary Registrant Badge Name _____ (must be NMRA member)

NMRA No. _____ Region _____ Division _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

Number of persons attending _____

Names of Others _____

Item	Quantity	Price	Amount
Early Basic Registration (Expires Jan. 1, 2023)		\$85.00	
One Year Full NMRA Membership (With print magazine subscription)		\$92.00	
One Year NMRA Membership (Without print magazine subscription)		\$68.00	
Family Members (per person, spouse or child) (Expires Jan. 1, 2023)		\$25.00	
NMRA RAILPASS 9-month* includes digital magazine- *One-time only, new members or members dormant for 2 or more years		\$19.95	
TOTAL AMOUNT			\$

Sign-up form for extra fare items will be sent out to all early registrants at a later date.

Activity assignment will be based on the order that the applications are received.

Make check payable to: **NMRA, Keystone Div 2, Mid-Central Region**

Mail to: **Convention Registrar, Tom Gaus**

3357 New Texas Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15239

Ph. 412-731-8846 e-mail: tom@tomgaus.com

Room reservations are made directly with the convention hotel at \$114.00 per night
 Mention **National Model Railroad Assn.** to get this price when making reservations!

Doubletree by Hilton at Cranberry
910 Sheraton Drive
Mars, Pa 16046
724-776-6900

"T-TRAK Call for Modules

This Call for Modules is intended for those T-TRAK modelers that might be interested in attending the "Rails to Pittsburgh", NMRA Mid Central Regional Convention hosted by the Keystone Division.

The convention will be presented at The Doubletree by Hilton at Cranberry in a suburb of Pittsburgh on May 4-7, 2023.

The large layout will be hosted by the convention as an invitational layout and will be open to all modelers attending the convention.

The layout will occupy half of one of the hotel's Banquet Halls, in a room 64' by 60' and tentatively will be a three branch E shaped layout. The layout plan will support 80 double equivalent modules.

This Call for Modules is particularly directed at T-TRAKers residing in western Pennsylvania, western New York and northern Ohio areas.

If you are interested in participating in this invitational Layout, please send an email to bdemaeyer@att.net

Information about the Convention can be found at
www.keystonedivision.org"

2023 National Convention

The 2023 National Convention will be held in the Dallas Ft. Worth area August 20 - 26, 2023, They've got a great website but no flyer that I can see, so visit <https://www.2023texasexpress.com/> . Registration and hotel registration are open now. If you're concerned about heat, I'm going to assume that it'll be like Orlando was - lead almost melting on the sidewalk but good air conditioning for most activities.

From the Editor...

If you encounter a well intentioned but confused person thinking that model railroading is just grown-ups playing with toys, ask them if they're familiar with flight simulators for the PC. They probably are, and they may also understand the somewhat real life difficulty involved in their use. Then tell them that what we're doing is very similiar but for trains instead of planes.

...

Bottom line on the St Louis National Convention from me - there were some good moments and there were some issues, but if you told me that I had to spend a second week doing pretty much the same thing for the same amount of money, I'd sign up instantly.

If you've ever spent a National convention sitting behind a desk or otherwise volunteering a major chunk of your time away, you learn to appreciate dining because it's the only thing you can do. Even though I'm a number of years past signing folks up for the 2014 Cleveland National (my almost total convention life for three years), I still look for good places to eat. The area of the St Louis convention might be described as funky. If you're an upscale type of person, you might have driven (or Ubered, as the case might be) to more refined facilities, but I found the area around the hotel to have pretty much everything I might need. I was especially fond of a restaurant next to the hotel named Sen, which featured all sorts of Asian cuisine. We also ate at a Mexican restaurant a little further down Washington Ave. that was a lot of fun. I also made it over to Jack Patrick's Bar and Grille a few streets away, although, admittedly, it broke a few rules about walking unknown urban streets after dark by myself. I was happily surprised to see a group of young children playing some sort of bar style table shuffleboard game.

Food schmood you say, what about the convention? Well, the clinics all seem to be very good. I always like the U.K. presentations and the two that I saw were worthwhile. Apparently the provided Powerpoint wasn't the latest, at least at the beginning of the week, and some slides didn't work correctly, but I couldn't tell. There was a clinic on the Harvey Girls. Frank Frankone talked about converting his layout to be more condusive to operations. Jerry Krueger gave a lot of ideas in his Tips & Tricks - most of which I'd never seen before. Incidentally, the St Louis Union Station at Night pictures in this issue were taken Friday night at the Convention when Jerry Krueger drove a couple of us around town - thanks Jerry.

...

I'm glad that I was able to attend both the Tri-Regional and National Conventions, especially since scheduling issues kept me from the Division 2 Jamboree, Division 5 Film Night and Division 12 Mini-Meet. Hoping to be able to do all three in a future year. I don't mean to slight any of the more southern divisions but driving is getting to be less and less fun.

...

If you make it to the Berea Show, look for the Coshocton Car that I put together for this issue to be running on its new home on the Medina 4H Club layout. Way better than collecting dust in my basement where it won't be seen until my estate sale. The second kit will reach a similiar conclusion, probably with a different organization. Thanks to Richard Jones and everyone in their club for the donation.

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