



# THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 45 NBR 09 NOVEMBER 2011

Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four



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## Art Bumpus, Division 4 Superintendent On Q

Our next meeting is Friday, November 11, 2011, starting with social time at 7:00PM-7:30PM, followed by our business meeting. The main topic for the business meeting will be our 2012 budget. Your Board of Directors has developed their recommended 2012 budget for the Division. Based on input from you during the budget presentation, we will ask for a membership vote to approve the 2012 operating budget.

Our Carnival Train Show at the beginning of October was another success. Although we were light on manpower, the work crew hunkered down and got the job done. To all those who helped in running the show...THANK YOU. Mike's scorecard now reads 38 wins and no losses.

Tom Hemsath has arranged for layout tours for Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. He is showcasing Medina area layouts. I urge all of you to take some time Saturday afternoon (12:00 – 5:00) and visit the layouts of your fellow model railroaders. Look for Tom's article in the paper (not email) version of this Flatwheel issue giving descriptions and vectors to each layout.

November is a pretty busy month. On November 13<sup>th</sup> we will have TRAINING DAY at the Rocky River Presbyterian Church located at 21750 Detroit Road. Set-up starts at 9:30 AM and the doors open to the public 11:00AM to 4:00PM. TRAINING DAY is an outreach effort by the Division to provide information and demonstrations on various aspects of model railroading. Our primary audience is for children to learn more about model railroading, but we are also finding a number of adults who enjoy the event as well. Gary will have signup sheets at the November meeting for anyone wishing to participate and give a how to clinic. For those who would like to just visit and see what is going on, come on down.

Our December meeting will be our annual awards banquet. Rich will have signup sheets at the November meeting. Price is \$15.00 per adult and kids are free. We'll have Santa make a special appearance at the banquet. The event is being held at Michaud's Party Center on Pearl Road in Strongsville. The date is December 9<sup>th</sup>, our regular meeting night. You should plan on arriving at about 6:30 PM. Rich and I viewed the menu; there will be a selection of buffet dishes to please any palate. Let Rich know how many children will be attending in your party (and their ages) so we can insure Santa has sufficient gifts for your little ones. The best time to sign up is at the November meeting. However, if you can't make it to the November meeting, give Rich a call (440-572-9245), or email him at [rictre@hotmail.com](mailto:rictre@hotmail.com). Deadline for signing up is November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Lastly, Jerry and Chuck will be holding a 2014 National Convention planning meeting during the latter part of November. The tentative date is Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at the IX Center. If you are interested in attending, contact Jerry Krueger or Chuck Klein for the particulars.

That's about all for now, so remember...Never trade steam for water.

## Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: Church of the Redeemer, 23500 Center Ridge Road, Westlake, OH 44145

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Art Bumpus at 7:33 PM. Art welcomed everyone. Membership Co-Chair Joe Mehalic reported nine new members were signed up during the recent Carnival. Joe thanked the members who assisted the effort. Joe was thanked for this outstanding effort by a round of applause. Several visitors introduced themselves. The Treasurer reported assets as of 9/30/2011 stood at \$31,612.06. The Carnival net profit was just over \$10,000 with \$636 revenue from the efforts of Dennis Whitaker and his raffle helpers. Superintendent Bumpus asked all members that worked during the Carnival to stand. Another round of applause was heard in support of these efforts.

CARNIVAL – Chair Mike Oster reported the Carnival was again successful. One change planned for next year is to have more helpers available during Friday afternoon in support of vendors wanting to set up earlier than in the past. Mike noted help was a little lower this year, particularly during the tear down and cleanup.

TRAINING DAY – Chair Gary Sole reported the Sunday, 11/13 event is ready to go. Flyers were available as was a signup sheet. Note was made of the new location for this year's event.

LAYOUT TOURS – Chair John Hemsath informed the group there will be four layouts open in the Medina area for the Saturday, 11/5 event. Detailed information and directions will be included in the upcoming *Flatwheel* with hardcopies mailed to all members. Information will also be placed on the website, [www.div4.org](http://www.div4.org) sans addresses.

CLINICS – Chair Larry Madson stated the night's clinic is a presentation by Dave Williams on mechanical interlocking. Next month Joe Filipiak will present a clinic on brick kilns. A clinic being developed for January or March will have multiple tree making methods presented by separate different members. Currently 4 members have signed up. Larry is looking for 2-3 additional members. If you have made trees, show us your method by contacting Larry.

MODULES – Chair Scott Benson informed everyone the module group will be displaying at the Berea Library on November 12 followed the next day at Training Day. They also will again this year be setup for three days, at the Xmas Exposition held at the IX center November 18, 19 & 20. They can use help staffing. You do not have to be a module member to help. Contact Scott if you are available.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM – Chair Bruce Brintnall presented Jim Grell with a long overdue award for a model Jim submitted at the Milwaukee Convention. Ben Lanza was presented with his AP Certificate for Electrical Engineering and Bruce Bowie was presented with his AP Certificate for Scenery. All received a well deserved round of applause.

CONTEST – Chair Dave Lawler informed us the contest tonight is "stores". A number of great models were on display ready for judging. Last month's Dining Cars contest winners; Len Sherry won 1<sup>st</sup> place, George Gelehrter and Jim Grell tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Art Bumpus 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

SHOW 'N TELL – Several books on signaling, including the basis for tonight's clinic, mechanical interlocking were on display. A large, professionally matted photo of O. Winston Link's well known night shot at a drive-in movie location with a N&W train passing in the background was displayed. Steve Riddlebaugh proudly explained he obtained the item at a garage sale for \$10. Joe Filipiak and Brian Haas are involved with the historical Grafton interlocking tower. The tower still has its interlocking mechanism. Joe and Brian have access should any members wish to see it. A model building made entirely of household scrap materials was also shown.

CONTEST – Next month will have two contests; a railroad themed photograph contest as well as a "critter" themed model contest. Critters can be logging, industrial or steam dummies.

COMPANY STORE – Lee Sheffield stated the store has a good supply of convention cars and Midland Road hoppers.

RAFFLE – The raffle had a nice assortment of items including convention cars donated by Harold Taylor's family.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – Signup sheets were available for the annual awards banquet to be held December 9<sup>th</sup>. A donation of used trains was received. The four boxes were donated on behalf of the Division to the Medina 4H group to sell at the recent Carnival as this year's contribution by Division 4. There will be a BOD meeting at 7 PM on October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Strongsville United Church of Christ. Officers and Chairman are needed as the 2012 budget will be reviewed prior to submission to the membership at the November meeting. Any member may attend as well. Division 1 is holding their annual swap meet Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup> at the Akron Yacht Club. This weekend Model Railroader is opening their site to anyone regardless of having a subscription to one of their magazines. This is Jim Moore's last meeting as the temporary refreshment chairman. Anyone interested in taking on this role should contact Art or Jim. (Sec. – David James volunteered after the regular meeting. Thanks David!)

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bruce Bowie, Secretary

## Membership by Dennis Whitaker

### November 2011 Birthdays:

SCOTT BENSON	J DAVID DAVIS
MIKE FAHLER	DONALD GOLDEN
PAUL G JUSTY	BOB KRUEGER
LARRY KUCZYNSKI	MICHAEL A MATOS
CHARLES J MCGOWAN	EMIL J ORENICK
C J PERKINS	DAVID M RICHARDSON
VLADIMIR M SALVA, JR	DOUGLAS STEISKAL
JOSEPH J TOTL	JULIE WILLIAMS

### New Members:

MIKE ANDRZEJEWSKI	BRECKSVILLE
BOB BASSETT	STRONGSVILLE
ERIC HALCIK	EUCLID
HOWARD KARR	BROOK PARK
JASON NORTHEY	BEREA
ELLIOT TEICHMAN	SOUTH EUCLID
DONALD C WETZEL	STRONGSVILLE
AVERY H WILCOX II	LAGRANGE

### Re-Rail Members:

JOHN D REYNOLDS	CLEVELAND
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Our member recruiting efforts at the 2011 Carnival were a huge success due to the extraordinary efforts of those working the membership table. We signed up a total of nine new members. We had a person attend the October meeting who mentioned that he had mailed in the Rail Pass on his own after the show was over with, so our total sign-ups appear to be TEN!

Denny and I would like to personally thank the following members who worked the Membership table during their scheduled time: Mike Fahler, Ben Lanza, Fred Obreza, Chuck Baad, John Hemsath, Tom McInerney, Dave Williams, Lee Sheffield and Steve Kaplan. THANKS GUYS for a job WELL DONE!

Joe Mehalic and Denny Whitaker (Division 4 Co-Chairmen of Membership)



Membership co-chairs Joe Mehalic and Denny Whitaker in front the Membership table at this year's Carnival.



Denny Whitaker also organized the Carnival raffle. Shown here announcing the winning ticket on Sunday afternoon.

## Achievement Program - October Meeting



Ben Lanza received his AP Electrical Certificate.

Jim Grell (r) received Merit recognition for a winning entry during this year's Regional Convention's contest.

Presentations were made by Bruce Brintnall MMR, Achievement Chairman.



## Awards Banquet

Division 4 will be hosting its 2011 Awards Banquet On Friday, December 9th.

The location will be Michaud's Town and Country Party Center, 16808 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Oh. We will be in the Westin Room. It is fully handicap accessible.

Cost is \$15 per person. Kids under 16 are free. The banquet room will be open at 7:00 pm and dinner will be served at 7:30 pm. There will be a full buffet and, of course Santa will be there.

Coffee, tea and soft drinks will be provided. If you wish you may BYOB for your enjoyment of other libations. Set-ups (washes, ice, etc.) will be provided for those who so wish.

The entertainment will be *The Denny Franz Singers*, and, as noted, Santa will be there for kids of all ages.

And as usual we will have a raffle of delightful and desired items for all.

Reservations are required. For further information and to place your reservations, please call Rich Tressa at 440-572-9245 or email him at [rictre@hotmail.com](mailto:rictre@hotmail.com). You may pay at the November meeting or at the Banquet but please advise Rich in advance so we have a head count.



Carnival Chair Mike Oster awarded the vendor raffle checks on Sunday, including the grand prize to the owners of K&D Hobby.

### Model Training Day

Sunday, November 13, 2011  
11 am to 4 pm  
Rocky River Presbyterian Church  
21750 Detroit Road  
Rocky River OH 44116

Volunteers are needed. Come and share your knowledge of the hobby with the community - young and older.

### Raffle Report

Another great raffle in store for the November meeting.

(for) The Raffle Dudes

### Porter Library Display

Division 4 will have a two section display case at Porter Library in Westlake on Center Ridge Rd. for the month of December. They were so pleased with last year's display that they asked us to fill two cases this year. I would like to display more of the modeling handy work of the division. If you would like to display some models, buildings, rolling stock, locomotives etc. I will need them at the November meeting or by Thanksgiving.

Regards  
Chuck Klein



Sesame Street characters made a guest appearance on one retail store entry for October's contest.

Read the Flatwheel online at [www.div4.org](http://www.div4.org)

Yahoo - The Division has a Yahoo group available for members. Send your request to join to [dave\\_wms@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dave_wms@sbcglobal.net). It's best to include "Division 4" in the subject line and include your name.

Members of the Yahoo Group receive an email when the Flatwheel PDF has been posted onto the website. The group is private and does not appear on the Yahoo directory.

We also have an email list to notify you when the Flatwheel is placed on the website. You are no longer required to join the Yahoo Group for this service.

Uncredited photos: D Williams.

The Flatwheel is published monthly (except during July and August) by Division Four of the Mid-Central Region (MCR) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). The Flatwheel can be mailed to all Division Four members free of charge, however we request that all members with Internet access decline receiving a mailed copy. Subscriptions are available to others for \$12.00 annually. All comments are welcome, however, those views expressed in the Flatwheel do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the NMRA, MCR, or Division Four.

Deadline for the November Flatwheel is Thursday November 24, 2011.

## DIVISION FOUR OFFICERS

Elected

### Superintendent

Art Bumpus (440) 526-9184 [abumpus@cox.net](mailto:abumpus@cox.net)

### Assistant Superintendent

Jim Moore h (419) 684-5833 [moorez@aol.com](mailto:moorez@aol.com)  
c (419) 370-3007 fax (419) 684-7030

### Secretary

Bruce Bowie [in2trains@gmail.com](mailto:in2trains@gmail.com)  
c 419-239-8115

### Treasurer

Rich Tressa (440) 572-9245 [rictre@hotmail.com](mailto:rictre@hotmail.com)

### Trustee East

Steve Kaplan (216) 561-1648 [spk@skaplanassociates.com](mailto:spk@skaplanassociates.com)

### Trustee Quad County

Gary Dunn (419) 625-0413 cell (419) 504-8090  
[trainguy@bex.net](mailto:trainguy@bex.net)

### Trustee West

Chuck Klein (440) 845-4915 [cltrn@aol.com](mailto:cltrn@aol.com)

### Trustee at Large

Larry Madson (440) 934-2643 [lmadson@roadrunner.com](mailto:lmadson@roadrunner.com)

### Trustee at Large

Lee Sheffield [lakeshoreny@yahoo.com](mailto:lakeshoreny@yahoo.com)

Appointed

### Carnival

Mike Oster

### Achievement

Bruce Brintnall MMR

### Layouts

John and Tom Hemsath  
[hemsathj@gmail.com](mailto:hemsathj@gmail.com)

### Contests

David Lawler

### Historian/Archivist

Frank Bongiovanni

### Raffle

Mike Klein

### Company Store

Tim Sheffield

### Clinics

Larry Madson

### Flatwheel Editor

Dave Williams

### Membership Co-Chairs

Dennis Whitaker/Joe Mehalic

### Modules

Scott Benson

### N.O.A.R.S. Representative

Chuck Beargie

### Webmaster

Ben Lanza

**Contest Corner** conducted by Dave Lawler

October 2011 Contest: A Retail Store

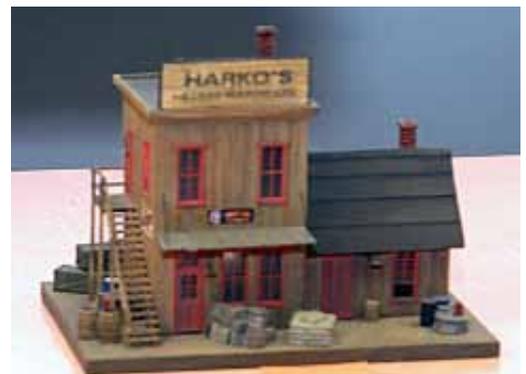
- 1st Brian Harko
- 2nd Jim Grell
- 3rd (tie) Larry Kowicki, Dave Lawler

Current point standings:

- 1st Jim Grell 6 pts.,
- 2nd (tie) Len Scherry, George Gelehrter, Brian Harko 4 pts. each,
- 3rd (tie) Art Bumpus, Larry Kowicki, Dave Lawler 2 pts. each.

November's contests: Models of "CRITTERS" steam, diesel or gasoline fueled, industrial, mining or logging locomotives, maintenance equipment or motor cars.

Also, A PHOTO (TAKEN BY YOU) OF A RAILWAY RELATED SUBJECT CONTEST!



## The Clinic Corner

### November 2011 Clinic “Building A Kiln For The Brick Industry” Presented by Joe Filipiak

The program will include a step by step demonstration on how to build a model brick kiln, Handouts with the step-at-a-time illustrations will be included.

### 2011 - 2012 Clinic Programs

The program on making trees will be presented in January 2012. I need one more member to demonstrate their method of making trees in a hands - on environment where the participants can go from table to table and learn several methods of making trees. Any member interested in demonstrating his/her techniques for making trees, please see me (Larry Madson) at the November meeting.

Any Division member wishing to present a program for the 2011 – 2012 season, please contact me.

### A Digital Projector for the Division

The Division 4 digital projector is available for use by division members for presenting clinic programs in digital format. Anyone wishing to present a program in digital format contact Larry Madson. phone: 440-934-2643 or email [lmadson@roadrunner.com](mailto:lmadson@roadrunner.com).

Larry Madson

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## DIVISION 4 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OCTOBER 25, 2011

LOCATION: Strongsville United Church of Christ

Superintendent Art Bumpus called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Elected officers in attendance: Art Bumpus, Jim Moore, Bruce Bowie, Rich Tressa, Steve Kaplan, Gary Dunn, Chuck Klein, Larry Madson and Lee Sheffield. Chairpersons in attendance: David Lawler, Dave Williams, Dennis Whitaker, Joe Mehalic, Scott Benson, Ben Lanza and David James.

Art opened the meeting with a discussion of a request from Membership co-chairs Dennis Whitaker and Joe Mehalic for a one time expenditure of \$240 to purchase banners, etc. to aid in their membership activity. A motion was made and passed in support of the request.

Dennis Whitaker made a request the Division consider contracting the effort required to organize the annual Carnival publicity efforts. Tom Pescha currently handles the publicity for Division 5's show as well as the TrainMaster of Cleveland shows. Tom was a large help to Dennis for this year's show at no

cost and is willing to continue as the lead in that effort going forward for a small fee. A motion was made and passed for the Division to contact Tom and work out the details of an arrangement. Steve Kaplan agreed to act as the Division 4 point person in this effort.

The 2012 budget was discussed in detail using a copy of a spreadsheet showing the 2011 budget and actual YTD expenses. Using the 2011 Carnival income and biannual interest income from the Division's CD as the net income of \$10,476, a balanced budget was developed. This budget will be presented to the membership for their review and request for approval. The Treasurer informed the BOD he will be moving our CD from the present bank to 5/3 at the earliest opportunity.

Ben Lanza asked if the Division intends to have a TRAINing Day activity once a year or twice. After discussion of what the BOD had decided when TRAINing Day was moved from the spring to the fall, it was agreed this would be an agenda item at the next BOD meeting.

continued on page 11

# Prototype Modeling on a Modular Layout Return Loop

## Chapter 2: Planning for Achievement

By Scott Benson

I should not be surprised that progress on the Fox Lake return loop slowed to a crawl over the summer months. But construction has started, and it is time for the next chapter in this story. The main emphasis of this article is to look at what achievement certificates I can pursue through this project. First, a photograph of the prototype, taken during an aerial survey in 1968. ⇨



Evaluating the NMRA Achievement categories, the following seem to be the most relevant to this project:

- Golden Spike
- Structures
- Scenery
- Civil
- Electrical
- Prototype Models (to be covered in a future chapter)

Knowing that multiple projects/models can be applied to any one certificate, let's see just how far this project could get me. Various requirements are highlighted in italics.

**Golden Spike:** This is an "easy" one. The *eight square foot layout* requisite is far exceeded. As can be seen from the photo, there are plenty of choices for modeling *5 structures*. Multiple powered turnouts and a crossing, with the local track separated from the loop, will meet the *trackage and electrical* requirements. When I'm done, all I'll need is *6 pieces of rolling stock* that meet the criteria!

**Master Builder - Scenery:** This certificate could be entirely accomplished within this project! The loop modules will cover 36 square feet, exceeding the 32 square foot minimum. While there are no mountains or rivers in this model, the roads, parking lots, roadbed, wetlands, lawns, drainage, etc will provide plenty of *terrain (35 points)* modeling. Realistic modeling of *structures (20 points)* will be guided by the Fox Lake resources I've acquired. The *background (25 points)* may be my biggest challenge, as I plan to have a backdrop for only a portion of the loop, the rest having an unobstructed view for public display. And well, this part of Wisconsin is kind of flat! It is going to have to be really good! *Lighting (20 points)* may also be a challenge, as this is a pretty rural environment. Building and parking lot/road lighting may be the best path to meeting this. I hope that by choosing the Fox Lake loop theme and developing good modeling techniques, the *realism/conformity (25 points)* will be well established.

**Master Builder - Structures:** This certificate can almost be achieved with this project, although I'm certain it will take me a lot more time. Plenty of varied structures will fit into the module, so meeting the *12 structures with 6 different types* can be done. But, there is no *bridge or trestle* to be seen; that would have to be a separate project. *Scratch-building six* of the structures will be done over time. My first will be the depot on the outside of the end of the loop. I've never had anything judged, so I'll be doing a lot of learning on how to achieve the required *Merit Awards* along the way. The Merit judging criteria of *Construction, Detail, Conformity, Finish and Lettering, and Scratchbuilding* will test my modeling skills. I've concluded that I should make many primary structures removable for revisions, *super-detailing* and separate judging. That will also facilitate safe transport to our modular layout events. I envision getting the module up and running with interim structures, and improving them to certificate worthiness one at a time.

**Model Railroad Engineer - Civil and Electrical:** Being a part of an overall modular layout, with limited complexity on the Fox Lake loop, means that I will require more projects beyond this module to achieve those certificates. The module will have over *50 feet of track*, but the track plan only includes spurs and a crossing out of the list of *6 types of track*. Six turn-outs, one curved turn-out and a crossing offer the opportunity for scratch-building *3 track components*. Which of those I commit to doing during initial construction is an interesting question! Electrical turnout control with indicators, and wiring the module for use in the division modular layout will support some requirements for the electrical engineer. Discipline in documenting design and construction will help me apply the finished module to these certificates in conjunction with other projects.

continued at bottom of next page

## BOD Minutes continued from page 9

The BOD reviewed the recent request by a Norwalk area module group for a subsidy to help the module group defray their cost of fuel in bringing their large module display to the annual Carnival. A discussion of the pros and cons ensued. A motion was made to not provide a subsidy at this time to any organization displaying a module layout at the annual Carnival. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Division 4 module group and the Membership co-chairs requested new banners are made for display at their events. It was agreed to support this effort with Chuck Klein coordinating the design and purchase.

A discussion was held on the merits of changing the location and timing of the combination summer picnic/meeting. It was agreed we would have a standard meeting in June 2012. A picnic without any meeting involved would be held later in the summer. It was also agreed that a change of venue is

needed after going to the NOLS for the past four years. The membership will be asked for ideas on a new location for the picnic. A motion was made and passed in support of these two changes.

Scot Benson stated he knows of a company that sells workshop style metal stools with custom logos on the seat cushion. Scott will contact them to see what minimum order quantities are involved.

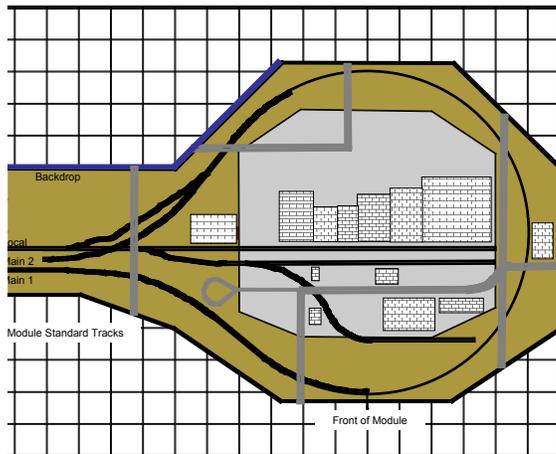
The meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Superintendent Bumpus called the meeting back in session to discuss an upcoming issue. The current bylaws limit elected officers to a maximum of two, two year terms. The Treasurer will be term limited with this coming spring election. Rich has offered to continue as Treasurer if the membership wishes. However, it will take a change in the bylaws to allow appointing a Treasurer. A review of the necessary changes will be made. The BOD agreed to support a request to the membership for the changes at the earliest opportunity.

The meeting adjourned again at 8:35 PM.

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### Scott Benson's Prototype Modeling continued



Shown here is the approximate track plan, showing track, roads and buildings. Consult the April Flatwheel for a reminder on why the module will be a mirror image.

The track plan is roughed out in full-scale (HO) on craft paper. The model will have about half the scale dimensions as the prototype. In my next chapter, I'll look at the industries in the loop and how I will compress the scene. Any ideas and information you might offer on my project would be most appreciated (email me at [Sbenson440@wowway.com](mailto:Sbenson440@wowway.com)).

Framework for the Fox Lake return loop module (5'4" x 10'2")



The Flatwheel

# THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 45 NBR 09 NOVEMBER 2011

Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four

Next meeting: Friday November 11, 2011  
Social time starts at 7 pm  
Business meeting 7:30 pm

Church of the Redeemer  
23500 Center Ridge Road  
Westlake Ohio 44145

Division website  
[www.div4.org](http://www.div4.org)

Online Edition - all members were mailed paper edition.



Another successful Carnival in the books! At left, visitors view the Division's modular layout as traffic waits for a really long coal train to clear the line. Modular Group Chair Scott Benson (aligning an engine in the picture) shares more information of the design and building of a modular return loop based on prototype practice.

THIS SATURDAY: Home layout tours on Nov 5, 2011 - mailed Flatwheel has the details

BOD Meeting Minutes page 9.

... plus all the regular features!

A 501(c)(3) Non Profit Educational Organization  
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