



# THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 44 NBR 3 MARCH 2010

Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four



Chuck Klein Division 4 Superintendent

## From the Cab of 765



Hello Everyone:

It seems everyone enjoyed membership appreciation night. The pizza was good, camaraderie was great. Kudos to Denny Whitaker, Membership Chairman. He introduced the new members and had a new sign-up for the evening. Another "thank you" to our past Membership Chairman, Bruce Brintnall MMR. Bruce also received the new Membership Achievement Award. This award will be presented to whoever contributes to promotion of membership for the Division. After 25 years of service to the division the board felt it appropriate to name it "The Bruce Brintnall Membership Award".

Thanks to Bob Weinheimer for coming all the way from Charleston, West Virginia to give us a great preview on the Region Convention to be held May 13th, 14th and 15th in Charleston.

Members enjoyed Bob's talk on the operation of his railroad. Those from the Division who have operated on Bob's layout had some interesting input.

It sounds like Tom Beutler has put an interesting division field trip together to Titusville, PA. From past trips everyone has had a great time on these ventures. We have sign-ups for Training Day. Last year there were some individuals who did not participate but expressed interest to do so this year. Now is your chance. We are still in need of a plan to provide refreshments at this event. If you have any ideas let Gary Sole or me know.

We have people signed-up to work our table at the Division 5 Train Show. I have to do some coordination with Division 5 on this.

I have been asked to set up our June picnic at North East Ohio Live Steamers in Lester. I am arranging for the second Saturday of June – that will be the 12th.

Remember the May meeting is the third Friday, the 21st.

See everyone Friday March 12th.

Chuck

## General Meeting Minutes

Location: Church of the Redeemer, Westlake Ohio

Chuck Klein, Superintendent, called the meeting to order at 7:45 P.M.

Chuck welcomed everyone to the annual Member Appreciation meeting. There are signup sheets for the Spring Training Day, April 11, and manning the Division 4 table at the upcoming Division 5 Show on March 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Several members recently attended a meeting with representatives of the National to discuss the possibility of Division 5 hosting the 2014 National Convention in Cleveland. The largest obstacle from the National's perspective is the lack of suitable hotels and national train show space. There is not one hotel in the Cleveland area with the 600+ rooms necessary. If we sponsored the convention, there would be no cost and we would receive 20% of the net profits. The National organization handles all activities inside the hotel and the local hosting Division handles all activities outside the hotel. It is estimated it would take 150 local individuals to man the convention. Chuck indicated he is not enamored of the idea and indicated there would be more to come.

A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the minutes of the last meeting.

The Treasurer reported assets of \$33,921.<sup>14</sup>, approximately \$2,700 more than the same time last year.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Contests- Chairman Bob Lavinski passed out plaques and gift certificates to the contest winners; 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Jim Grell, 2<sup>nd</sup> place – George Gehlether, and 1<sup>st</sup> place – Jim Moore. This month's contest is locomotives with snow plows. Next month's contest is derricks (cranes) w/ boom car or tender.

One Day Trip – Tom Beutler reported the survey indicated a preference to travel to the Oil Creek & Titusville RR in PA. The trip is tentatively planned for 9/11. The cost will be \$30 for the bus, \$13 for the 3 hour train ride and \$8 for a box lunch. Tom will need your money by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Membership Chairman Dennis Whitaker introduced several new members and re-upped members to the meeting including a husband/wife membership.

Raffle – Klein The Younger reported a potpourri of train items for tonight's raffle including a very nice solid brass watch tower.

Company Store – Superintendent Klein informed the Company Store Manager the Store will be carrying several new items in the new future; Division patches & hats, Division 7 hopper cars (to be traded for Division 4 convention cars).

Modules – A small setup of the module committee will be on display at Parma Hobby Store near the end of February.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Nominations for the upcoming elections were opened to the floor. With no additional nominations, a motion was made, seconded and approved closing the nominations. The full slate is elected by acclimation with exception of Trustee West with Chuck Klein and Harold Mickley nominated. Gary Sole will act as the teller. Serialized ballots will be mailed to each member.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Bruce Brintnall MMR, who recently vacated the position of Membership Chairman after having served a number of years (sec. 25?) was presented by Superintendent Chuck Klein with the first ever Bruce Brintnall Membership Award. Congratulations Bruce!

Guest Bob Weinheimer, Chairman of the upcoming Mid-Central Region Convention made a presentation on the Convention to be held in Charleston, WV, May 13-16.

**MISCELLANEOUS**- It was reported Hydrocal is available in Lakewood at Monster Makers. Tonight's clinic will be operations on the Pennsylvania Southern by Bob Weinheimer.

Pizza was delivered and the meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Bruce Bowie, Secretary

[in2trains@neo.rr.com](mailto:in2trains@neo.rr.com)

cell 419-541-1416

## Membership

### March 2010 Birthdays:

TOM BEUTLER	LOUIS R FALK
JAMES FOLEY	DAVID C JOHNSON
HARRY LEVER, MD	LAWRENCE P MADSON
RONALD H MILLS	ERIC G NEWBERRY
RALPH PESHEK	DONALD STETTIN
RICHARD E ULMER	

### New Members:

JEFFREY R LAUREN	NORTH OLMSTED, OH
LUCY MCINERNEY	LAKWOOD, OH



Bruce Brintnall MMR (right) became the first recipient of the membership award named in his honor. Superintendent Klein (l) presented Bruce with his plaque during the February meeting.

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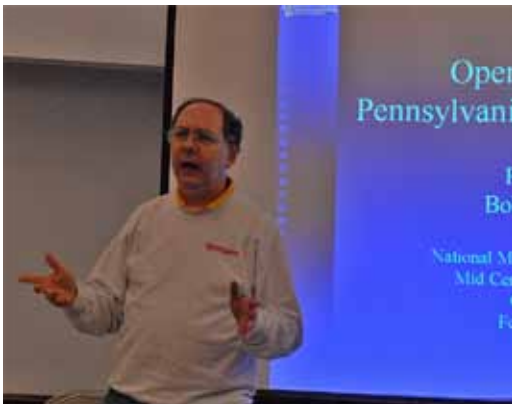
## The Clinic Corner

### March 2010 Clinic – Train Festival 2009 - Al Halvorsen

For those of you who were unable to attend Steam Railroading Institute's Train Festival 2009 in Owasso Michigan, and for those who attended and would like to re-live the experience, Al will present a video program covering the Festival.

### A Digital Projector fo 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).



Bob Weinheimer MMR came up from Charleston WV to talk about the upcoming Region convention hosted by Division 9 in Charleston, and also to present a clinic about operations on his layout. A number of Division 4 members have made the six hour trip to participate on Bob's Pennsylvania Southern.

The Flatwheel is online at [www.div4.org](http://www.div4.org). Click on The Flatwheel bar to bring up a PDF version of this issue (or last month's depending on how fast you are/how slow we are).

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 April Flatwheel is Thursday April 1, 2010.



Crane in Greenfield Village's roundhouse during our field trip a few years back.

## DIVISION FOUR OFFICERS

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**Trustee at Large**  
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**Carnival** Appointed  
 Mike Oster

**Achievement/Membership** **Modules**  
 Bruce Brintnall MMR Scott Benson

**Layouts** **N.O.A.R.S. Representative**  
 John and Tom Hemsath Chuck Beargie

**Contests** **Webmaster**  
 Bob Lavinski Ben Lanza

**Historian/Archivist**  
 position is open

**Raffle**  
 Mike Klein

**Company Store**  
 Tim Sheffield

**Clinics**  
 Larry Madson

**Flatwheel Editor**  
 Dave Williams

## CLINICS AT NMRA '75 LOOK FORWARD AND BACK

(provided by National)

Would you like to learn how to create a modern CTC panel for your layout using CATS? Or maybe you'd like to find out more about building kits made from brass etched parts, or increase your knowledge about chapel cars. Did you even know there were such things as chapel cars?

You can learn about these topics and many more by attending the clinics at NMRA 75, the National Model Railroad Association convention for 2010. This year the NMRA celebrates its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, so it's altogether fitting that our national convention be held in Milwaukee Wisconsin, the city where it all began. The dates are July 11<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>.

While NMRA 75 will take an affectionate look back at our hobby's days of old, it will also be looking ahead to the fresh and new. This year's clinic program reflects that idea very well. Of the 163 clinics scheduled to be presented, 123 are brand new and never before presented at an NMRA national convention. These new clinics will cover everything from scenery to structures to the newest trends in Digital Command Control. So if you're looking for fresh new ideas to enhance your modeling, NMRA 75 is the convention you must not miss!

But not all the new clinics at NMRA 75 are about fresh new ideas. You can look forward to a couple of them that look back. Clinician Paul Hobbs will present Seventy-Five Years Of Development And Achievement In Model Railroading. Paul will review events, processes, inventions, companies and individuals that have made significant contributions to the hobby over the past 75 years. You might also want to see Steve Stewart's new clinic, Seventy-Five Years Of Railroading. Steve examines prototype railroading from what was in 1934 to what will be in 2011. And what could be more appropriate to bring the list of new clinics to an end than one about the history of Milwaukee Road Cabooses?

As an added bonus, many of the new clinics at NMRA 75 will be presented by some of the best-known names in model railroading. Names like Jack Burgess, Bruce Chubb, Chuck Hitchcock, Tony Koester, Sam Swanson, Bill Schaumburg, Andy Sperandio, Tony Thompson and Wayne Wesolowski.

Of course NMRA 75 is about much more than clinics. To find out everything you need to know, visit our website at [www.nmra75.org](http://www.nmra75.org). You can even register online. Come celebrate 75 years of model railroading this summer in Milwaukee!

Oh and in case you were wondering, no actual cats were harmed in the making of that CTC clinic.

## RPM REVS UP AT NMRA 75.

(provided by National)

It started 75 years ago in Milwaukee. A group of model railroaders intent in setting interchangeability standards for motive power, rolling stock, and track formed the National Model Railroad Association or NMRA.

It started 25 years ago at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary NMRA convention in Milwaukee. A group of model railroaders interested in the contemporary scene formed The Modern Prototype Modelers. Over the years the emphasis changed to prototype modeling from all eras. As a result the name changed too, and the group became known as Railroad Prototype Modelers or RPM.

Over the years both the NMRA and the RPM continued to grow and now 25 years later, both are meeting once again in Milwaukee.

The event is NMRA 75, the National Model Railroad Association's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary convention. From July 11 through the 16<sup>th</sup>, RPM modelers and NMRA members from all over the world will join together to celebrate the accomplishments of two great organizations.

Just as NMRA standards spawned innovations that have changed the hobby, so too has the innovative modeling of RPM members. In fact the level of detail and the technical excellence of today's models owe much of their origins to the NMRA and the RPM. No doubt about it, there is much to celebrate, which is why you should come to this party!

An entire room will be devoted to RPM models from all over the world and you're invited to bring yours to display as well. The room will be open from Wednesday to Friday during convention week.

In addition to the RPM exhibit, NMRA 75 will offer a huge array of tours, clinics programs, and special events designed for model railroaders and their non-modeling family members. That means NMRA 75 makes for an ideal family vacation this summer!

Get all the details by visiting our website at [www.nmra75.org](http://www.nmra75.org). You can even register online. So join the party. Come celebrate 75 years of model railroading this summer at NMRA '75!

## Editor's Notes

After a couple of slow months we received more material than we could fit this month. I had to go with the time sensitive submissions. Bruce Bowie sent in another really nice article on inventive cornerwork on his layout that will aim for the April issue. Normally quiet National sent *three* articles and a logo this month - Logo for the 75th anniversary is on the website.

I passed the reins of the Division website (www.div4.org) over to Ben Lanza. I knew that Ben was both interested and qualified to take over and I really hadn't been keeping up with the site the way I wanted. I'd managed to paint myself into a technical corner over the years and Ben seemed to have answers where I only had questions. If everyone shows Ben the support that you gave me, it'll work out well. I am still moderator for the Yahoo Group and obviously editor here.

The Business Car column of a recent *Scale Rails* (I think it was February) mentioned the field trip survey that Trustee Tom Beutler ran in the *Flatwheel*. While I always dance around when the *Flatwheel* is mentioned (or any MCR newsletter for that matter), Tom deserves all the credit for getting that National spotlight on Division Four. It would have been mentioned at the February meeting but we were on an abbreviated schedule in order to get everything done that evening on time.

## Click the shutter and win a steam cab ride!

(provided by National)

With the single click of a shutter, you could find yourself riding for a full day in the cab of an historic mainline steam locomotive operated by the Union Pacific! It can happen if your photo is the winner of the National Model Railroad Association's 75th Anniversary Photo Contest.

Your day-long cab ride will begin in Cheyenne, WY in May, 2010, behind some mighty big steam power on its first leg of an excursion. And we'll make sure you're there when the conductor yells "All aboard!" because the winner will also receive airfare (up to \$500), two nights in a hotel, plus transportation to and from the excursion.

If you're an NMRA member in good standing, all you have to do is submit a photograph depicting one or more models of UP equipment and/or structures in a realistic scene. Your photo will be judged for prototype fidelity of both the modeling and the scene, as well as for photographic art. You can submit color prints, color slides, or digital files on CD.

To be eligible, your photo must be postmarked by April 15, 2010 (or originated in transit by a third party service such as FedEx or UPS), and received no later than April 20. Only one photograph may be submitted per envelope, but there's no limit to the number of photos you can submit. All photos become the property of the NMRA, which may use the photo in any manner it chooses. In addition, participants agree to provide the NMRA with the original medium of the photo (negative, transparency, or digital file) if requested.

Send your entries to: Robert J. Amsler, Jr., 514 Dover Place, St. Louis, MO 63111. And if you send a print, be sure to protect it from bending! (You may want to protect transparencies too since folding them tends to hurt both focus and projector. -ed.)

So get modeling and shooting right away. Because this May you may be behind a few horses in Wyoming!

# # #

March 2010

## **Valley Forge Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet**

Desmond Great Valley Hotel and Conference Center  
Malvern, PA

March 26-28, 2010

details at <http://www.phillynmra.org/RPMMeet.html>

An impressive line up of clinicians

## **Central Ohio Prototype Modeler Meet at Marion Station, Marion Ohio**

April 23-24, 2010

(sounds like some events on the evening of April 22 as well)

\$20 registration, \$55 a night at the nearby Comfort Inn

Plenty of prototype and model viewing expected

see <http://home.rr.com/salguy> for more details

- from Frank Bongiovanni

## **Trustees Annual Meeting**

The rules and regulations of the Division require the Trustees to meet at least once a year to discuss matters brought to us by the members of the Division. The Trustees will meet March 12, 2010 at 7:00 PM prior to the regular scheduled Division meeting. The meeting will be held in the Sunday School room on the left after leaving the fellowship hall. Any concerned member who has a topic that they would like to bring to the attention of the Trustees may attend this meeting or you can bring your concerns to the attention of one of the Trustees. The trustees are Steve Kaplan, Jim Moore, Harold Mickley, Larry Madson and Tom Beutler. You can get information on how to contact us elsewhere in this Flatwheel.

## **RAFFLE REPORT**

We have another fine raffle for March. I am putting some final touches for a great theme raffle in April .Stay tuned. See you all at the next meeting.

## **THE RAFFLE DUDES**

## Module Group Update by Scott Benson

After a flurry of events in November, it was a pretty quiet holiday season for the module group. But we're back in action and things are picking up. The tally of volunteer hours for module displays for 2009 is over 600 hours, excluding set-up, tear-down and all the extra time committed to the hobby.

We've had a number of new participants joining since Carnival, with 2 new orders for module kits. Always looking for more module owners; this allows us to support more frequent events.

Larry Madson and Bill Cramer took their steel mill modules out to a big show in Springfield MA in January. It was a huge hit; the two of them spent the whole show entertaining questions about steel mills and the modules. I hope they weren't planning on doing much shopping!

Parma Hobby invited us to participate in an event on Feb 27, in conjunction with promotion for the model railroading training clinics they hold. Thanks to Al Seman for arranging this one. As we're going to press, I'm hoping that the weather worked out! Next up is Training Day, which we are really looking forward to. Then a Mother's Day weekend event at the Strongsville Library. And we're waiting for the Midwest Railway Preservation Society open house schedule, so we can plan for some events there as well! They are planning to construct a return loop module, compatible with ours, that will have a model of their roundhouse and trackage. That should be a big hit for their visitors.

Plenty of opportunities for all to practice their favorite aspect of model railroading: layout construction, trackwork, scenery, electrical features, and of course, operating trains. Catch one of us at the next meeting if you'd like more information.

### At Parma Hobby:



The weather cooperated with Scott's hopes - OK for driving to the hobby shop but not so nice that anyone would be tempted to stay outdoors. Attendance was good, with a lot visitors both knowledgeable and interested in model railroading. The Module Committee proved once again that they're flexible in providing a worthwhile arrangement no matter where they go. Thanks to the people at Parma Hobby for both inviting us and encouraging all their patrons to go upstairs and visit. - Dave Williams



# Contest Corner

conducted by Bob Lavinski

## February 2010 Contest Results

### Any Locomotive with a Snow Plow

There were 5 entries and 21 votes

1st Place	Jim Grell	G4B #375 Steam Loco
2nd Place	Dave Lawler	Canadian Pacific 4-6-0
3rd Place	George Gelehrter	U23B pushing gon. w/plow

### Point Standings

	Points
Jim Grell	4
Dave Lawler	3
George Gelehrter	2

### Model Contest Corner

The month of March, 2010 contest is Derricks with a fuel tender or a boom car or both.

You must have at least one to accompany the Derrick. For a fuel tender most railroads used a retired steam locomotive tender.

Good luck to all who enter

Bob Lavinski



Bob hands out certificates to George Gelehrter (left) and Jim Moore (above) for 2nd and 1st place in the September - January contest period. Jim Grell received a certificate for 3rd place but his photo sat in the toner too long, so we put his model on the cover instead.

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Next meeting: Friday March 12, 2010 at 7:45 pm

Full Membership Mailing

Church of the Redeemer  
23500 Center Ridge Road  
Westlake Ohio 44145

Visit the Division's website  
for directions

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



Jim Grell took 1st place with this locomotive in the February *Locos with Snowplows* contest. Jim also received a certificate for 3rd place in the September - January contests.