



THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 44 NBR 4 APRIL 2010

Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four



Chuck Klein Division 4 Superintendent

From the Cab of 765



Hello Everyone:

April has arrived. I'd like to thank those members who manned the Division 4 table at the Railfest Train Show in Kirtland: Lee Sheffield, Tim Sheffield, Joe Mihalic, Rob Kaiser, Chuck Baad, Kenny Orchard, Dave Williams and John Hemsath.

As mentioned at our last meeting Ben Lanza is the new Division 4 Webmaster. Dave Williams will continue as editor of the Flatwheel. Frank Bongiovanni has stepped forward to be Archivist/Historian.

We have a change in the date for the June picnic at NEOL's in Lester, OH. We are scheduled for Saturday the 12th. As discussed during the March meeting, earlier information indicated that we would have to change the date, but NEOL's has made changes to accommodate us on Saturday June 12th.

We will present *Training Day* on Sunday April 11th. If you want to participate, please sign-up at the April meeting. We would like people to demonstrate different model railroading techniques (painting, weathering, decaling etc.).

Remember the May meeting is the third Friday, the 21st. May will be a busy month. John Hemsath is coordinating with Division 5 on layout tours. The Mid Central Region Convention in Charleston, West Virginia will take place the weekend of our regular meeting night. Saturday the 22nd is the 100th Anniversary of Scouting Camporee at the Berea Fairground. We will be sponsoring the Railroad Merit Badge information table. Merit Badge counselors step forward! We will need some individuals to help out. I believe Dave Williams and Rich Tressa will be working this event.

As always there is a last but not least. The Division 4 Board has decided not to go forward with the quest for a National Convention in 2014. We will be informing Henry Jordan the Manager of Meeting & Trade Show Department NMRA of our decision.

See everyone the 9th.

Chuck

General Meeting Minutes

Location: Church of the Redeemer, Westlake Ohio

Chuck Klein, Superintendent, called the meeting to order at 7:46 P.M.

Chuck welcomed everyone and thanked those who have signed up to man our table at Division 5's upcoming show. There will be a BOD meeting at the Strongsville United Church of Christ, corner of SR 42 & SR 82 at 7 PM, Tuesday, March 24th. All members are welcome to attend. The bid for hosting the 2014 National Convention will be on the BOD agenda. Frank Bongiovanni has volunteered to take on the role of Division Historian. Ben Lanza has taken on the role of Webmaster for the Division's website to ease the load on our outstanding *Flatwheel* editor, Dave Williams. George Gehlether advised of two corrections to the February 12, 2010 minutes; Dave Lawler was left off as tied with George for 2nd place in this season's 1st half contest winners and Division 4 is considering hosting the 2014 National Convention rather than Division 5 as reported in the minutes. (corrections made to archive copy, sec.). Motion was made to approve the minutes as amended, passed. The Treasurer reported \$33,031.59 in current assets.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Contests- Chairman Bob Lavinski reported an outstanding display for tonight's contest on railroad derricks 'accompanied' by a tender or boom car and asked all in attendance to please vote. Last month's contest winners were: 3rd – George Gehlether, 2nd – Dave Lawler and 1st – Jim Grell for their locomotives with snow plows. Next month's contest is cabooses of any nature (including cabin cars for us Pennsy fans, sec.). The Show 'N Tell table included a nice display supporting tonight's clinic and a copy of Steve Riddlebaugh's recently published article in *Garden Railways* magazine.

Modules – Chairman Scott Benson reported a small portion of the modules were setup near the end of February at Parma Hobby and attended by a good number of visitors. The modules will be in place at the upcoming Spring TRAINing. Scott also informed the group the Module Committee has set up a raffle for a module kit (\$80-\$100 value) with tickets costing \$5. Tickets will be made available until the Committee covers the cost of the module.

Spring TRAINing – Chairman Gary Sole reported a signup sheet is available for anyone wanting to participate. Basic kit building is one area needing modelers to show their tips and tricks.

Carnival – Chairman Mike Oster reported things are well along with flyers available if you are attending shows or stopping by hobby shops. Mike also asked the members to support the upcoming Division 5 show as they help support ours in the fall.

Trustee Meeting – Trustee Tom Beutler reported the annual Trustees' Meeting was held prior to tonight's general membership meeting as per the requirement in the Constitution and Bylaws. No issues were presented to the Trustees requiring follow-up.

One Day Trip – Tom Beutler indicated the signup form for the *Oil Creek & Titusville RR* in PA was mailed in this month's *Flatwheel* and will be available on the website shortly. The trip is 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 1st.

Layout Tours – Co-Chairman John Hemsath reported only a couple layouts have been signed up to be on the May open house tour. John will contact the layout owners for their input into whether moving the tours to this fall would be preferable.

Company Store – Mr. Sheffield and Mr. Sheffield reported the new items reported last month have not yet been received but should be in stock by the April meeting.

Clinics – Chairman Larry Madson stated Al Haverson and his bride would be providing tonight's clinic on the Owosso TrainFestival 2009. Next month Chuck Klein will rehearse the clinic he will be presenting at the national convention this summer in Milwaukee. The May clinic will be Dave Lawler presenting how to use Xmas LEDs on your layout. Larry would like to see more clinics next year on modeling techniques and asked anyone with a clinic idea to contact him.

Raffle – Klein The Younger reported a nice mix of train items for tonight's raffle including a very nice book on PRR structures. Next month's raffle will be theme based with the theme a well guarded secret.

Membership Chairman Dennis Whitaker stated we had two new members recently join plus one past member "re-rail".

OLD BUSINESS – Contact Rich Tressa if you need a new or properly colored name badge.

NEW BUSINESS – Tony Demsey, VP Medina 4H Club came to thank the Division for their recent donation to the 4H Club. The funds will be used for a staging yard as well as seed money for new modules and module skirts. Their modules will be on display at the Medina Fairgrounds. Jerry Krueger asked any member wanting to assist the 4H members to come to the Lafayette Township Hall on the 4th Sunday each month.

MISCELLANEOUS- Chuck reported scheduling problems with the June Meeting/Picnic. After discussion, it was agreed to move the meeting to June 19th. [Changed later to **June 12th** -ed.] Pete Stroh reported he has a house rented for the Cass Railfan event, May 21, 22 & 23 in the Cass area. The house is not full and anyone wishing to rent part of the house should contact Pete.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Bruce Bowie, Secretary

in2trains@neo.rr.com

cell 419-541-1416

Membership

March 2010 Birthdays:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| THOMAS ATHERTON | ROBERT W BUTLER |
| JAMES A GRELL | JOSEPH F JANSKY |
| WILLIAM D KOVACS | STEVE LACONTE |
| RICHARD W MAAG | RONALD E MORGAN |
| LESLIE J RACHOCKI | MICHAEL SEEHOLZER |
| JOHN WITT | |

New Members:

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| KEVIN HINKLE | CLEVELAND, OH |
| THOMAS MacCOLL | CLEVELAND, OH |

RAFFLE REPORT

Hello everyone. Thanks again for another great raffle participation last month. In April we'll have a great theme raffle. On the raffle table we will have *The Van Sweringen Brothers Raffle*. Everyone is probably thinking it's going to be just Nickel Plate, but it's going to be much more. Come, see, and partake. And we'll see you there.

THE RAFFLE DUDES

Holiday Party/Awards Banquet

The 2010 Div 4 Holiday Party is scheduled, and booked, on Friday, December 10th at 7:00 pm. Same menu as last time. The address is Mapleside Farms & Restaurant, 294 Pearl Road, Brunswick, Ohio 44212. Their web site is as follows: www.mapleside.com

Rich Tressa

Cuyahoga Valley & West Shore Model Railroad Club Announcements

Annual Spring Open House

Saturday April 17, 2010
Sunday April 18, 2010
noon to 5 pm both days
\$2 donation, kids are free

Olmsted Falls Depot
25802 Garfield Ave.
Olmsted Falls, OH

24th annual Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday April 24, 2010

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
8888 Prospect Road
Strongsville OH

4:30 to 6:30 pm
Adults \$7, Children 6-12 \$3

DIVISION FOUR OFFICERS

The Flatwheel is online at 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. 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 place 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 May Flatwheel is Thursday April 29, 2010.



Diamond in Marion Ohio

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c (419) 541-1416

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Trustee at Large

Larry Madson (440) 934-2643 lmadson@roadrunner.com

Trustee at Large

Tom Beutler (419) 231-1038 tombeutler@bex.net

Carnival Appointed

Mike Oster

Achievement/Membership

Bruce Brintnall MMR

Modules

Scott Benson

Layouts

John and Tom Hemsath

N.O.A.R.S. Representative

Chuck Beargie

Contests

Bob Lavinski

Webmaster

Ben Lanza

Historian/Archivist

Frank Bongiovanni

Raffle

Mike Klein

Company Store

Tim Sheffield

Clinics

Larry Madson

Flatwheel Editor

Dave Williams

from Bruce Bowie

My apologies to Pancho in the 1948 classic film *Treasure of the Sierra Madre*. The summer furloughs are over and the work crews have all been called back to the PRR's Bald Eagle Branch. The primary project for this work season is scenery, starting with backdrops, to be followed by land forms. Unfortunately, management forgot to schedule the installation of curved corners earlier in the work plans, so that task was required before we could start the backdrops. The good news is the crew has been up to the task and now has most of the new curved corners installed. As the photos show, with the new curved corners completed, the corners simply disappear from the mind's eye when viewing the layout. As the backdrop and scenery are completed the corners will be totally gone from view!

So how did we do it? I got the idea from a long forgotten hobby magazine article. We used inexpensive, e.g., *free*, vinyl flooring. We cut the flooring to the length and width needed. We then applied construction adhesive to the wall and positioned the vinyl in place. The corner in the photo was made with a piece of vinyl 34" high by 30" wide. The two edges are 17"-18" out from the corner leaving a nice radius across the center. Once the glue had dried, several applications of drywall joint compound were applied and sanded prior to painting. We have also done much longer pieces including one compound curve.

TIPS: We used Locktite Power Grab adhesive purchased at Lowe's. Power Grab has a great tack quality such that the vinyl did not require nailing or screws yet was water washable. The vinyl flooring used is an older style having a paper or cardboard type backing. This was chosen over newer all vinyl flooring as the older backing is smooth yet takes paint very nicely. It was also easier to talk the store into letting me have it for free, especially as I did not care what color or pattern was on the front (now back) side! Also, as mentioned above, it would be a very simple task if it had been done PRIOR TO BUILDING THE LAYOUT SUPPORT STRUCTURE....DUH!

photos provided by Bruce Bowie



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

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Historical Society 2010 Ohio Mini Convention

Saturday May 15, 2010 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Lafayette United Methodist Church

6201 Lafayette Road

Medina OH \$15 advance, \$18 at the door

contact Bill Cramer: wmhcramer@yahoo.com

Editor's Notes

Well, big oops and an apology from me. March got here faster than normal for me and I completely missed mentioning Division 5's Railfest in the last issue., thinking this was the issue for it. At least we talked about it at the past few meetings. From what I heard about Saturday, attendance didn't suffer at all from the oversight. Sunday seemed a little slow at times while I was there but then I'd never been there on a Sunday before. I am excited about the idea of visiting Division 5's layouts. Both our divisions had open house on the same day a number of years ago and I remember driving from Avon Lake to Ashtabula. I was glad that I did. Division 5 also had some really fun layouts open on the way home from their last Regional Convention, including one that had been built in the 1950's that still ran well - kind of a museum for modelling techniques. There's another Division 5 layout could probably produce the winning photo for the National UP contest (see page 8) with little effort.

Thanks also to everyone who entered the crane contest. I was working hard on a Tichy crane and car, and it just wasn't coming together for me (in all senses). It's much better to show up on meeting night empty handed and see that my best efforts would have been soundly shellaced by the competition than to think I stood a chance with a half-baked conglomeration. Really nice work.

Ben Lanza has added a video section to the website. Be sure to view his time lapse film of the modular display at the Carnival.

The Clinic Corner

April 2010 Clinic – Last Steam Operation on the B&O– Chuck Klein

This month's clinic is an encore presentation of a clinic given February 2008. Chuck is scheduled to give this clinic during the National Convention in Milwaukee by Chuck Klein. This is the story of the "Last Steam Operation" on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. It's also the story of two boys on one of life's adventures with their father. New material, and the pictures will be presented in a digital format.

May 2010 Clinic – Dave Lawler

Dave will present a program showing us how he uses LEDs from Christmas tree lights to make streetlights and other layout illumination projects.

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.

2010 - 2011 Clinic Programs

I am starting to plan the 2011 - 2012 clinic programs. If you have a modeling subject, historical interest, or railfan interest and wish to present a program, contact me.

Larry Madson

Al Halvorsen gave a lively presentation on the Steam Railroading Institute's Train Festival 2009 in Owasso Michigan during his March clinic.



BOD Meeting Tuesday March 23, 2010 Location: United Church of Christ, Strongsville, Ohio

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Chuck Klein at 7:06 P.M. Officers in attendance in addition to the Superintendent: B. Bowie, J. Moore, R. Tressa, Art Bumpus, Harold Mickley, (Quorum). Also in attendance: Layout Tour Co-chair John Hemsath, Gary Dunn, Al Seman, Flatwheel Editor Dave Williams, Webmaster Ben Lanza, Jerry Krueger, Carnival Chair Mike Oster and David James.

Chuck thanked everyone for their attendance followed by a review of the night's agenda.

JUNE PICNIC MEETING - The June Picnic/Meeting has been re-scheduled to the originally planned June 12th (second Saturday).

MODEL TRAINING DAY – The event continues on schedule for Sunday, April 11 from Noon to 4 P.M.

XMAS AWARDS BANQUET – The banquet is scheduled for the 3rd Friday in December but Rich Tressa will see if they have the 2nd Friday available (note: since the BOD meeting Rich has reported the SECOND Friday, December 10th to be the official and confirmed date, bab).

LAYOUT TOURS - John Hemsath reported Division 5 has showed an interest in having some joint layout tours. The BOD agreed to the plan so the eastside tours on May 8th will include additional Division 5 layouts and notification will be given to Division 5 members as well.

CLINICS – Chair Larry Madson had requested the Division consider the purchase of a video camera as an aid when presenting modeling technique type clinics and a table for the projector. Larry was not in attendance and will be asked to price the camera. It was believed the church has a table in the closet that is available at no cost to place the projector and will be investigated at the April meeting. Bruce Bowie offered to donate a tripod for the camera if purchased.

2014 NATIONAL CONVENTION – Chuck read a recently received email from Henry Jordan of the NMRA National Convention team. A lengthy discussion ensued as to the issues involved for the Division to host a national convention. Two primary concerns were raised: Cleveland does not currently have a good combination of hotel and convention space to meet the NMRA Convention needs, approximately 150 local members would be needed to support the week long convention. A motion was made, seconded and passed that Division 4 will not make a bid for the 2014 NMRA National Convention but will consider hosting future national conventions if the issues are resolved. The Secretary will draft a letter to the National so indicating.

CARNIVAL – Chair Mike Oster reported everything on track (pun intended) for the October show.

Chuck thanked Ben Lanza for taking on the webmaster position and Dave Williams for his past dedication to the web site and Flatwheel and continuing as the Flatwheel editor. David James asked for and received clarification on the intention for the donation made by the Division to the Boy Scouts of America. Dave Williams indicated 3/25 as the deadline for the upcoming Flatwheel.

Meeting adjourned around 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Bowie
Secretary

in2trains@neo.rr.com
cell 419-541-1416

The Flatwheel



REVISED - from National

The National Model Railroad Association, Inc.'s 75th Anniversary Photography Contest

Win a cab ride in a Union Pacific steam locomotive!

The National Model Railroad Association and the Union Pacific Railroad are pleased to announce a model photography contest to help celebrate the 75th anniversary of the NMRA. The NMRA will pick one photograph submitted by an NMRA member in good standing depicting one or more models of UP equipment and/or structures in a realistic scene. The photograph will be judged for prototype fidelity of the modeling and scene as well as for photographic art.

The member submitting the photograph will win a cab ride in one of the mainline steam locomotives operated by the Union Pacific on the Kansas City to Jefferson City leg of the Missouri River Eagle Excursion. Airfare (up to \$500.00), two hotel nights, and transportation to and from the excursion will be provided for the winner by the NMRA.

To be eligible, the photograph must be in an envelope postmarked (or originated in transit by a third-party service such as FedEx or UPS) by August 31, 2010, and received no later than September 7, 2010. Only one photograph may be submitted per envelope, but there is no limit on the number of photographs a member may submit. Photographic prints, slides, or digital images are acceptable. Prints must be 8" x 10." Digital images must be taken with a camera of 7.1 megapixels or greater to satisfy the printing requirements. All submitted photographs shall become the property of the NMRA, and the NMRA and Union Pacific may use the photograph in any manner they choose. All members participating in the contest agree to provide to the NMRA the original medium of the photograph (negative, transparency, or digital file) if requested.

Please send all photographs to Robert J. Amsler, Jr., 514 Dover Place, St. Louis MO 63111. Be sure to protect photographs from bending or mishandling in the mail.

March 2010 Contest: R.R. DERRICK w/BOOM CAR and/or FUEL TENDER

There were 10 entries and 48 votes

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 st place | Dave Lawler | Perry Island Steam Crane & Flat Car |
| 2 nd Place | Jim Grell | LE & WV Erie 15 Ton Crane |
| 3 rd Place | Tom McInerney | AH Log Loader |

| Point Standings | | Points |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------|
| 1 st Place | Jim Grell | 7 |
| | Dave Lawler | 7 |
| 2 nd Place | George Gelehrter | 3 |
| 3 rd Place | Jim Moore | 2 |
| | Tom McInerney | 2 |

Model Contest Corner: April's contest is Cabooses, wood or steel.



The March contest required a lot of detail study before voting.

THE FLATWHEEL

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Next meeting: Friday April 9, 2010 at 7:45 pm

Church of the Redeemer
23500 Center Ridge Road
Westlake Ohio 44145

Ready for a wreck:

The March Contest brought out some well detailed crane and car combinations.



Visit the Division's website
for directions

www.div4.org



A 501c(3) Non Profit Educational Organization

FIRST CLASS

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