



# THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 45 NBR 02 FEBRUARY 2011



Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four

## Art Bumpus, Division 4 Superintendent On Q

Our next meeting is February 11, 2011. This is our annual membership appreciation night. In addition to the regular activities, the Division will be providing pizza immediately following the short business portion of the meeting. We encourage all members and guests to partake in some good pizza and good conversation. While we're having the pizza, Brian Barnt will have a couple of DVDs running. One is about steam locomotives operating in Cuba. The other is about a Galloping Goose running in Colorado. Take the time to chat with friends, get answers from your colleagues about modeling questions you may have, or just enjoy the pizza.

A couple of months ago I had the opportunity to operate on Bruce Bowie's Bald Eagle branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad. For those of you who haven't had the chance to see his railroad, you should make the effort during his next open house. The home for the layout is on the second floor of what looks like an old time railroad station. The mural on the exterior wall to the driveway of the building tells you this is one serious place to play trains. The first floor comprises a garage, but more importantly, the workshop for the railroad. Add in a stamped tin ceiling, dispatcher station, bathroom with an old fashioned water closet, and the ambiance is created that this is an old railroad station with work area. The second floor contains the layout itself. The railroad is of medium size (ask Bruce for the actual dimensions). However the railroad lends itself to being operated by ten or more people. There are way freights, locals, dispatching, staging, car card operation, and Train Orders. When in operation, the railroad gives the feel of a layout much larger than its physical dimensions. Altogether, it's a great example of a layout that is greater than the sum of its collective parts. Add in the usual cadre of problems that layouts experience during an operating session and you end up hearing a lot of people doing a lot of good natured laughing. And, as Bruce puts it, this is a good thing.

So remember.....never trade steam for water.

### Division Awards Education Grants



Superintendent Art Bumpus is shown awarding grant checks during the January meeting to area organizations promoting a better understanding of railroading. Left picture, Dale Owens (r) accepting for the Mad River & NKP Railroad Museum; center picture, Bill Kovacs (l) and Chuck Beargie (r) accepting for NOARS; and right picture, an officer of the Medina 4H Railroad group receiving a check. Grants to other organizations have been awarded as well. The Division BOD identifies recipients annually as part our 501c(3) educational mission.

# Meeting Minutes

## General Membership Minutes – January 14, 2011 NMRA, Mid-Central Region Division 4

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

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Art Bumpus at 7:45 P.M. Art thanked everyone for attending. Art asked if anyone had not received a Flatwheel with no one indicating a delivery issue. Treasurer Rich Tressa reported Division assets valued at \$34,381.19.

REMINDER - NEXT MONTH IS MEMBER APPRECIATION MONTH WITH PIZZA AND POP PROVIDED TO ALL

MEMBERSHIP: Chair Dennis Whitaker thanked everyone for supporting him in his efforts to maintain an updated roster. Hard copies were made available for anyone without internet access. Dennis also thanked the Module group for their support of having the modules and a membership table at this year's Thomas The Tank event on the Cuyahoga Valley RR.

VISITORS: Art had various visitors, including members of the Lorain County Model Railroad Club introduce themselves.

CARNIVAL: Chair Mike Oster brought the first edition of flyers for this year's Carnival. Mike also thanked Tom Beutler for his offer of assistance again for the upcoming Carnival.

LAYOUT TOURS: John Hemsath informed the group there will be layout tours on two weekends in March this spring rather than the traditional May. The change was made at the suggestion of members who felt the participation might be higher before the weather improves later in the spring. The dates will be Saturday, March 5th and Sunday, March 13th. More details to follow.

CLINICS: Chair Larry Madson stated the night's clinic will be provided by Bram Bailey and Larry himself on installing Tortoise switch machines. February's clinic will be on Cuban Steam by Brian Barnt. There will not be a clinic in March as that will be the once every two years auction night. (Auction has been moved to April - see Clinic/Contest reports this issue. -ed.)

FLATWHEEL: Editor Williams indicated this month's submission deadline is 1/28.

CONTEST: Chair David Lawlor reported the night's contest is dioramas 18" square, or less. Last month's off line structures contest was won by Len Scherry, with Jim Grell winning 2nd place and a 4-way tie for 3rd place by Gary Dunn, Tom Hemsath, Paul Novak Jr. and Bill Reese. Next month's contest is on small maintenance equipment.

OLD BUSINESS: Superintendent Bumpus handed out grants to various organizations: Mad River NKP Museum, \$175; NOARS, \$250; Northeast Ohio Live Steamers, \$250; Medina 4H, \$500 and NMRA Diamond Club project to digitize the entire Kalmbach Memorial Library's photo collection. Members of the organizations present receiving the grants thanked the Division for their support. Art also read his letter sent with the NMRA grant as well as the thank you letter received from the NMRA President thanking the Division for its support of this important project.

NEW BUSINESS: Trustee Chuck Klein reported on the Trustee's Annual Meeting held earlier that evening. Several suggestions were received from members; Take photos of members to establish a yearbook, establish a home layout committee whose members would offer to help other members in building their layouts, have a kit building event, provide better lighting for the contest model displays and contacting more members to take advantage of electronic distribution of the Flatwheel to reduce the Division costs. Dave Lawlor advised the group a program on the Lake Shore Electric would be held Tuesday, January 18th at the Avon Lake Public Library.

COMPANY STORE: Store Manager Tim Sheffield informed the attendees interest in the Convention Cars had picked up and the inventory of Allegheny Midland coal hoppers was limited.

RAFFLE: Mike thanked everyone for their interest in the raffle and reviewed the items available that night.

MISC: The Region Convention, April 28-May 1, early registration, \$45, deadline is January 31st. Rich Tressa will be Chair of the 2014 National Convention OP and Layout Design SIGS. There is a bus trip Saturday, January 22nd for those wanting to attend the Monroeville, PA train show and associated events. The business meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bruce Bowie, Secretary

**February 2011 Birthdays:**

H BRUCE BLONDER  
GARY B DUNN  
BRAD GLAZE  
TOM HOLTKAMP  
DONALD MARCUSSEN  
MARTHA NEWBERRY  
MICHAEL A OSTER  
JOHN P ROWE  
CHUCK SWORD  
RICHARD P WOODWARD

DENNIS A BROWN  
CARL J GEDEON  
THOMAS F HEMSATH  
DANIEL J KOVACS  
DAVID S NEUZIL  
PAUL J NOVAK JR  
JOHN PUCH  
MICHAEL E SCHAFFER  
HAROLD R TAYLOR

**New Members:**

None

**Re-Rail Members:**

DANIEL J KOVACS

BOD Meeting Dates

February 8  
April 12  
May 10

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**RAFFLE REPORT**

Thanks to all who participated in the January raffle. February's raffle will have a multitude of items. Please take a look and buy your raffle tickets. See you at the meeting.

**THE RAFFLE DUDES**

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Apologies to Dave Lawler and his wife. The announcement for the west side interurban presentation that Dave mentioned during the last meeting was formatted and read to go for the January issue but fell between the cracks. Hope it was well attended as it deserved to be. -editor

... and no, I'm not going to apologize for using the same goofy pizza clip art every year. I bought 'em, I'm gonna use 'em.

## The Clinic Corner

### February 2011 Clinic – Railroad Entertainment Two videos from Brian Barnt

To add to our enjoyment of member appreciation night, Brian will show some railroad videos.. The subjects are Cuban steam and the RGS Galloping Goose.

### March 2011 Clinic – To be announced

***Auction date changed*** – The biannual auction which has traditionally been held at the March meeting has been changed to the April meeting.

Start sorting through your unwanted models and bring them to the April meeting, they are probably someones treasure!

### 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).

### 2010 - 2011 Clinic Programs

Any Division member wishing to present a program for the 2010 – 2011 season, please contact me.

Larry Madson

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## Module Committee

No official report but chair Scott Benson informs us that they're busy again this month:

Brecksville Library Feb 5-6

Lodi Outlet Mall Feb 12-13

The Lodi event is scheduled to include some of our friends from the Medina 4H group.






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

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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 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 Flatheel do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the NMRA, MCR, or Division Four.

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

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## 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@neo.rr.com](mailto:in2trains@neo.rr.com)  
c (419) 541-1416

### 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  
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### 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

open

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### Carnival

Appointed

Mike Oster

### Achievement

Bruce Brintnall MMR

### Layouts

John and Tom Hemsath

### Contests

David Lawler

### Historian/Archivist

Frank Bongiovanni

### Raffle

Mike Klein

### Company Store

Tim Sheffield

### Clinics

Larry Madson

### Flatwheel Editor

Dave Williams

### Membership

Dennis Whitaker

### Modules

Scott Benson

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

Chuck Beargie

### Webmaster

Ben Lanza



## Merit Badge Counseling

photos: Bruce Bowie

Bruce Bowie recently counseled two more Boy Scouts through their Railroad merit badges. The cars that they constructed were donated to them by the Division. While the pictures show the cars moving over Bruce's PRR Bald Eagle Branch on their initial journeys, Bruce assures us that the cars did leave the line with their new owners.



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## 2011 Mid Central Region Convention

Rails of Ages 1961 to 2011  
April 28 through May 1, 2011

Featuring all the standard convention fare: Clinics - Industry Tours - Contests - Non-Rail Activities - Silent Auction - Awards Banquet - Raffle - Layout Tours

To be held at The Lodge & Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake  
[www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com](http://www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com)

Information: Matt Kross, 12049 Sperry Road, Chesterland OH 44026 440-729-3045

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

Time's running short for signing up for this convention. The website and the latest Kingpin now have a listing of available activities, which look very interesting.



## Contest Corner

conducted by Dave Lawler

January 2011 Model Contest: 18" x 18" max dioramas

There were 6 entries with 41 votes cast.

1st Tom McInerney

2nd Gary Dunn

3rd Jim Grell

Point Standings:

1st (tie) Tom McInerney 9, Len Scherry 9

2nd Jim Grell 7

3rd (tie) Jeff Lauren 5, Gary Dunn 5

The February contest will feature small maintenance equipment, handcars, speeders, Hi-Railers or anything else you come up with in this category.

The March contest will be for PASSENGER STEAM LOCOMOTIVES.

There will be NO CONTEST in APRIL because we need all the tables for the AUCTION.

The MAY contest will feature 35 foot and 40 foot ICE REEFERS and will be the last contest for the current season.



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Next meeting:

Friday February 11, 2011 at 7:45 PM

Member Appreciation Night! Pizza!

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

Church of the Redeemer  
23500 Center Ridge Road  
Westlake Ohio 44145



An entry from January's diorama contest.

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

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Brecksville OH 44141-1121