Official newsletter of Division Four, Mid Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association.

Art Bumpus, Division 4 Superintendent On Q

Our next meeting is April 12th. The contest for this month is geared locomotives. If you have a Heisler, Climax, Shay, or any other locomotive that relies on gears in the drive train, you have a locomotive that is perfect for this contest. The program for this month will be "Railroad Oddities" presented by Joe Kurilec MMR. We will also have a short presentation by John Hemsath on how to qualify for the Golden Spike Award.

I would like to again mention, for those of you who haven't noticed, our web site now has a swap and shop section. If you have items for sale or something you are looking for, get your information to Ben Lanza and he will post it on our website, Div4.org. The swap and shop section will be exclusive to our web site only, and will not be available in the Flatwheel news letter (because of space considerations). See the swap and shop section on the web site to see the common sense rules. From what I can see, there has already been considerable activity on items posted and sold.

One of the challenges for many organizations is how to "engage" visitors and new members to a group. For the visitor/new member, we are a bunch of strangers and it's naturally a little intimidating. The BOD spent some time on this issue and is now implementing some ideas to help our new friends become acclimated to a bunch of "train nuts". During the introduction of visitors/new members portion of the meeting, I will be asking these folks to see Joe Mehalic at the end of the meeting. Joe will then link one of our member volunteers to take the visitor/new member under their "wing" to introduce them to other members of our group. The idea is to link them to a member living in the same general vicinity of the visitor/new member. Joe will also provide a hard copy of our Knowledge Depot to visitors/new members. A number of our BOD members and Committee Chairman have volunteered to take on this activity. If any of the membership would to become volunteers, see Joe Mehalic to let him know of your availability.

My thanks go to all who have, or will be volunteering to help our new visitors/members.

We are also starting a mentoring program. This is a much more intensive relationship with our new friends. Volunteers will engage folks in a one to one relationship in which the mentoring member will provide help/technical assistance/planning/how to demonstrations or any facet of model railroading to our new friend. I am asking any member, who would like to become a mentor, let Joe or me know. We have only a few members who have volunteered to be mentors, and I would welcome any member who would like to become a mentor to come forward. Let me know if you would like to become a mentor.

Until next month, remember, never trade steam for water.

General Meeting Minutes

Opened Friday March 8, 2013 at 735 pm

Joe Mehalic introduced new members. Gary Sole spoke about the Carnival, and discussed the operation of the auction. A motion was made to suspend the balance of the meeting and committee reports. Seconded and passed.

Meeting closed at 744 pm.

Dave James Secretary

Membership by Tom Beutler, Membership co-chair

April 2013 Birthdays:

MICHAEL BAHNTGE **ED DILLON** LOUIS R FALK JAMES FOLEY **BRYAN HARKO** DAVID C JOHNSON HARRY LEVER LAWRENCE P MADSON **ERIC G NEWBERRY** RALPH PESHEK DONALD STETTIN

PAUL R (BUD) SPIERLING

RICHARD E ULMER

New Members:

JAMES DENNIS S. EUCLID **STRONGSVILLE** JOHN MIDEA

GARY SCHAEFER **ELYRIA**

ADAM WOODY NORTH RIDGEVILLE

Re-Rail Members:

TERRANCE K BYRNE **COLUMBIA STATION**

from Membership Co-chair Joe Mehalic:

A special thanks to all those who worked the Division 5 membership table. We were well represented in both the number of members who worked the table and the hours invested. I took home two new member applications on Saturday and mailed them to the NMRA the next day.

We will continue to define a new mentoring program for new members. Stay tuned for more information.

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NMRA National Convention Atlanta Georgia

July 14-20. 2013

BOD Meeting

April 30, 2013.

Meetings start at 7 pm and are held at the church on the NW corner of routes 42 and 82 in Strongsville.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

April	19	Jim Six School
April	26/27	RPM Central
April	27	Pittsburgh Jamboree
April	30	BOD
May	5	Layout Tours
May	11	Layout Tours
May	15-18	Regional Convention, Dayton
July	14-20	National Convention, Atlanta
Oct	4-6	Carnival work days

(Not all events are included)

Training Day

Nov

2013 Pittsburgh Model Railroad Jamboree

Sunday April 27, 2013 Sewall Center Robert Morris University Moon Campus early registration \$22.00

see www.keystonedivision.org for more details

Mid Central Regional Convention May 15-18, 2013 Dayton Ohio

www.mcr2013convention.com







John Roberts HLM, MMR 1947-2013

John Roberts passed away peacefully in Williamsburg, Virginia on March 1, 2013.

John was NMRA President, 2004-2006, Vice President, 2000-2004, Eastern District Director, 2009-2013, MCR President and Trustee, 1989-1993, and over the years held a number of other elected and volunteer offices throughout the NMRA. He was a well-known model railroad author and was the builder of several highly regarded layouts in HO and O scale.

John is survived by his wife, Suzie, his children, John (Collette) and Whitney, and two granddaughters.

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, memorial gifts be sent to the Diamond Club, National Model Railroad Association, Inc., 4121 Cromwell Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37421. Cards and letters may be sent to the family at:

104 Heritage Pointe, Williamsburg, VA, 23188.

information provided by Rich Tressa

RAFFLE REPORT

The April raffle will be Chesapeake and Ohio night. Once again there is something for everyone. Thanks. See you at the April meeting.

The Raffle Dudes

Rape Crisis Project

John and Annette Reynolds say thank you to the Division for the donation of train cars for an awareness project at the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center. They have enough cars for the time being.

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A view of Division 5's Railfest 2013 during one the infrequent slow moments.

Medina 4H Meetings

Here are the 2013 Meeting Dates:

April 28 May 19 June 23 July 21

July 27 - Fair judging August 4 - Fair Takedown

September 22 October 27

The group is looking for Division 4 members for the April, May and June meetings to do some demonstrations – possibly an engine/car clinic in June? Also, please recycle your old couplers and wheelsets – what you replaced on your cars is often still better than what some of the kids are trying to work with. The upcoming Saturday meetings start at 10 am. Locations vary within the Medina area and will be provided to you by Jerry Krueger <code>jakrueq@neo.rr.com</code>.



The Youngstown Model Railroad Club's O Scale layout features long trains running over a lengthy mainline. This club's layout will be featured on a tour during our 2014 National Convention.

Read the Flatwheel online at www.div4.org

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

Deadline for the May Flatwheel is Thursday April 25, 2013.

DIVISION FOUR OFFICERS

Elected

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Trustee at Large

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Appointed

Carnival Mike Oster

Achievement

Bruce Brintnall MMR

Membership Co-Chairs

Tom Beutler/Joe Mehalic

Lavouts

John and Tom Hemsath hemsathi@gmail.com

Modules Scott Benson

Contests

David Lawler

N.O.A.R.S. Representative Chuck Beargie

Historian/Archivist

Frank Bongiovanni

Webmaster

Ben Lanza

Raffle

Mike Klein

Refreshments Joe Filipiak

Company Store Tim Sheffield

Clinics

Larry Madson

Flatwheel Editor

Dave Williams

April 2013

Contest Corner

conducted by Dave Lawler

There was no contest in March due to the Div. 4 Auction.

The contest for April is for GEARED LOCOMOTIVES, Shay, Climax, Heisler, Duplex or other geared locomotives.

February contest winners please bring your Gas Station models for Show and Tell.

I will be handing out the Trophies and Gift certificates for the first quarter contests.

Layout Tours in May

Layout tours will be on Sunday May 5th and Saturday May 11th.. The May issue of the Flatwheel will contain full information but save the dates.

The Clinic Corner

April 2013 Program

"Oddities & a Brief History"

Presented by Joe Kurilec MMR

Joe has prepared a DVD of railroad oddities he will present.

May 2013 Program

Joe Filipiak - Backgrounds From Photos

Joe will show us a technique that anyone can do to produce realistic backdrops.

Clinics Wanted

Any Division member with an idea for a program subject or wishing to present a program for the 2013 - 2014 season, please contact me.

Clinic Presentation Aids

Division 4 has a digital projector available for use by division members for presenting clinic programs in digital format. We now also have a carousel slide projector with carousels. The division also has a video camera available for program enhancement. Anyone wishing to use the camera or the projectors for their program, contact Larry Madson.

phone: 440-934-2643 or email lmadson@roadrunner.com.

Larry Madson

THE FLATWHEEL

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Next meeting:

Friday April 12, 2013

Church of the Redeemer 23500 Center Ridge Road Westlake Ohio 44145

Social time starts at 7 pm Business meeting 7:30 pm

Division website: www.div4.org

Auctioneer Gary Sole gathers bids during the Division's bi-annual auction in March.