



THE



FLATWHEEL

JUNE 2017

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 6



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












**25 REGION CONVENTION
REPORTS**



THIS IS OUR LARGEST ISSUE EVER @ 38 PAGES!

*SIX FEATURES AND A SLEW OF
INFORMATIVE COLUMNS. THANKS
TO ALL OUR AUTHORS WHO WITHOUT
THEIR HELP THIS WOULD NOT BE
POSSIBLE! - EDITOR*

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This month's cover photo replicates the August 1973 MODEL RAILROADER cover. Read this month's editorial for its significance.

NORTH COAST LEADERSHIP

ELECTED OFFICERS

Superintendent - Steve Kaplan (216) 561-1648
spk@skaplanassociates.com

Assistant Superintendent - Lee Sheffield
lakeshorenyc@yahoo.com

Secretary - Dave Williams (440) 838-4996
dave_wms@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer - Greg Noeth (216) 789-2086
gjnoeth@yahoo.com

Trustee East - Fred Obreza (216) 587-4419
chevy5664@sbcglobal.net

Trustee Quad County - Jim Moore (419) 684-5833
moorez@aol.com

Trustee West - Gary Schaefer, trains.ohio@yahoo.com

Trustee at Large - Brian Haas, haasland@msn.com

Trustee at Large - John Hemsath (440) 871-9676
hemsathj@gmail.com

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Great Berea Train Show - David James h (440)-717-1778
c (440)-785-9907 david.j@brtcharter.com

Achievement - Bruce Brintnall MMR,
brintnall@mindspring.com

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Contests - David Lawler, davelawler@oh.rr.com

Historian/Archivist = Frank Bongiovanni

Raffle - Mike Klein, pstlw@cox.net

Co. Store Manager - Chuck Klein, cbklein765@gmail.com

Clinics - Larry Madson, lmadson@roadrunner.com

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N.O.A.R.S. Representative - Bill Kovacs

Webmaster - Ben Lanza, blqt@nls.net

Refreshments - Joe Filipiak, graftonpotter@frontier.com

Training Day - Gary Schaefer, trains.ohio@yahoo.com

NOT a good photographer!! HOWEVER, I take many

Let me repeat that, I am NOT a good photographer!!

photos usable in this publication and for use in presentations such as our clinics. A number of my photos have appeared in *The Flatwheel* during Dave Williams long time as editor. Thanks Dave! An even higher percentage have appeared since I have taken on the role as your editor. Duh.

So how do I take the photos, such as this month's cover photo? Today, I use my smartphone's built-in camera for 99% of the photos I take. I keep considering the purchase of a good quality DSLR and lens, but when I consider the improvement better equipment would bring to my second hobby versus the cost, I don't see the value.

My current smartphone is now three generations old, making the quality and features of its camera hardware wanting when compared to the latest and greatest. Yet again, the value is not there for me to buy a new phone.

The only camera feature I thought might help that my phone's original camera app lacked was the ability to manually focus. I corrected this by downloading one of the many available free camera app's, Camera ZOOM FX. I now have the manual focus I wanted, along with some other handy features.

Post processing is the other magical tool I often use. This is a fancy term for using software or apps to edit your photos after taking them. Again, there are many free or inexpensive apps for this. I happen to use Google Photos to store all my photos. It has a built-in editing tool. I used it to crop this month's cover photo to eliminate some unwanted fascia. I also used its "Auto" tool to improve the contrast and brightness. Personally I am very happy with the results.

This issue is the last before the summer hiatus. Please use this time to enjoy family, friends and this great hobby we share. And take your camera/phone along! Take photos of the places you visit, the layouts you see and the prototypes that go rolling by. Send them to me for use in *The Flatwheel*. I would love to be overloaded with photos (& articles) by September!! 🚂

OVERLOAD ME!

BRUCE BOWIE
EDITOR



AN EDITORIAL

August 1973 I was a young married man about to start my senior year of engineering college. Along with that I was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. And while I was only out of the home I was raised in a few short years I already had my own personal subscription to *Model Railroader* magazine (and *RMC*)! Life was full and good!!

When the August 1973 *MR* issue arrived I was captivated by the cover photo. It showed a SLR (single lens reflex) camera sitting in a model scene with a HO scale figure "adjusting" the aperture. Note - back then cameras with automatic focus and lens settings had yet to be invented, unlike today's auto everything. At the time I owned a Canon SLR with photography a close second in hobby interests to my always number one, model railroading. The cover captured my two hobby interests all in one picture. How cool!

The recent April *MR* issue celebrated *MR*'s 1000th issue. The Railway Post Office column asked readers what was their all-time favorite issue of *Model Railroader*. The article then used the cover photo of the reader's favorite issue along with their response. As I read the responses I flipped to page 26 and there was MY favorite cover photo, August 1973.

I am not a good photographer! Let me repeat that, I am

HERBIE'S RUMBLINGS



HELP EVERY MODEL RAILROADER BECOME INJURY EXEMPT

All of us who attended the MCR Convention in Louisville enjoyed ourselves. There were some very interesting clinics - many new ones. I did not get a chance to take any tours, but heard lots of great comments from those who did. Next year the Convention is in Cincinnati, and in 2019 it's in Boardman. Division One is hosting that one, and will be looking for layouts for either tours or operating sessions, as well as numerous volunteer opportunities..

Thanks to those of you who have already signed up for various tasks at the Great Berea Train Show. I will have the sheets again at the June 9th meeting. After that, we will post the areas we need help with on the website. The names and contact info will not show on the website.

The June meeting is also your opportunity to sign up for the annual picnic. Lee Sheffield will have the details for you.

Please remember to engage the new members and/or guests in conversation before the meeting, and during

the break. They can be identified by a green name tag (or no name tag if they sneak past Bill Ferry.)

The Division's Fast Tracks tools and supplies have sat idle for a few months now. They are an excellent way to come up with that turnout you need. We have #4, #6 and #8 jigs, and can arrange for you to borrow others from members who own them. That includes crossovers (single or double - left or right) and a gauntlet. You can call me at 216-561-1648 to arrange it - I can bring the stuff to the meeting, or arrange to meet you somewhere.

Remember, you can get some great ideas all year long about what other Divisions, as well as Regions, are doing by visiting their websites and reading their newsletters. The easiest way to find them is to start at <http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org/divisions2.html>. In fact, you can access every Division in the NMRA by going to the NMRA website and hitting the "Regions" button on line three.

See you at the meeting. 🚂

**STEVE KAPLAN, SUPERINTENDENT
THE NORTH COAST DIVISION**



Cumbres & Toltec Ry #487 -
Photo by Dave Lawler.

Going on vacation this summer? Going to see some great railroading? Be it a layout or a prototype, take a photo and email it to me. See it in print AND earn a Raffle Buck for each photo used in The Flatwheel! - Editor



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 7, 2017

Superintendent Steve Kaplan opened the meeting at 7:30 pm. He requested that all members take time to sign up for various volunteer duties for the upcoming (October) Great Berea Train Show.

Membership co-chair Bill Ferry reported that the Division had no new members for the month, then asked for recent new members and visitors to introduce themselves.

Steve invited everyone to Baker's Square after the evening's clinic to continue social interaction.

Treasurer Greg Noeth reported Division assets of \$48,881.72. The Berea Fair Board is not yet able to accept the first payment for the Train Show; expected to be completed soon.

Clinic chair Larry Madson said that the evening's clinic would be on Imagineering, presented by Bruce Brintnall, MMR, and Steve Kaplan. The June clinic would be on Tree Making by George Keller and Joe Filipiak. Clinics for next season are being arranged; let Larry know soon if you are interested in being on the clinic schedule.

Lee Sheffield reported that the module group would have a work party in June and was preparing for a display at the Nickel Plate convention in the Fall.

Contest chair Dave Lawler said that the evening's contest was for small engine houses or car maintenance facilities. Tonight begins the start of two subcategories: diorama or model by itself. Members will vote once for each subcategory using two separate ballots. There will be no contest in June, and the season's winners will be announced. Dave announced last month's winners and asked each to describe their model.

Great Berea Train Show Chair David James encouraged everyone to sign up for volunteer positions for the Show and reiterated that the Fair Board contract wasn't finalized quite yet.

Steve requested a show of hands for people planning to go to the Mid Central Region's convention next weekend, and received a fairly large response (estimated 20 or more).

Layout chair Ron Morgan reminded everyone that Saturday (the 13th) would be the second round of the Spring Open Houses and encouraged everyone to visit the layouts, citing the enormous amount of work that layout owners put in to host. Ron said that the Fall tour was already in the planning stage.

Chuck Klein gave a report on merchandise available at the Company Store.

Mike Klein listed items that would be raffled off tonight.

Jim Grell announced that Kato USA would be displaying products in the near future at Depot Trains in Cleveland. Details appear elsewhere in this Flatwheel.

Bruce Bowie announced that the Flatwheel deadline is May 26th.

Lee Sheffield reminded everyone that the picnic will be July 22nd at NEOLS, between noon at 3 pm. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and brats will be provided; please bring a side dish.

Steve reported that the Rules (formerly Bylaws) are on the Division website (www.div4.org). Steve requested a motion to dispense with the reading of the Rules during the meeting, and acceptance of the Rules. The motion was made, seconded, and passed by unanimous vote of the members present (estimate: 100).

Steve said that the church's new AED unit had been installed in the hallway and that a plaque listing the AED as donated by the Division in memory of Bob Orlando was on order. Steve said that the initial class in CPR/AED for church members and Division members didn't come together but would probably be scheduled later.

Rich Tressa thanked everyone who attended his wife's service or sent a card.

Someone asked about a possible field trip for the Fall. Lee Sheffield is look for suggestions.

Bill Cramer reminded everyone of the V&O Mini Convention in Willard OH next weekend.

Don Glass said that NS was removing signals that could be acquired in Lorain.

Joe Kurilec, MMR, requested that the Medina 4H group write an article on their activities for the NMRA Magazine. Joe volunteered to help them.

As a follow-up on his recent clinic, Lee Sheffield is looking for people to share in a bulk order of 5000 2-56 stainless steel screws.

Adam Woodie said that the railroad artifacts at Quaker

Square in Akron would be auctioned off on May 20th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm. 🚂

DAVID M. WILLIAMS SECRETARY



THIS & THAT

GREAT IDEA - Your Editor had the recent opportunity to operate on member and Quad County Trustee Jim Moore's

Cold Creek & Lake Erie RR. A new feature I saw when there was the use of color pins to act as stops for the numerous Caboose Hobbies ground throws. Stops have been described in the hobby press for a long time as a good practice for protecting the throws from being over thrown, e.g., the throw head pressed all the way down to the ground.



This is the first time I have seen the added use of colored pins to highlight the route selected. Jim uses three different color schemes, one for each use; yard turnouts, mainline turnouts and double crossover turnouts. -Editor

DEPOT TRAIN & HOBBY - From member Jim Grell. Depot Train & Hobby is hosting a meet & greet with the Kato factory people, on Tuesday, June 20, from 11 am to 1 pm. Kato will have a drawing for one of their HO locomotives at the end of the event.



**DIFFERENT DATE THAN
ANNOUNCED AT THE MAY MEETING!!**

HI EVERYBODY - From Joe Kurilec, MMR, While at Home Depot (5-14-17) I saw Sandy & Bob from now closed Parma

Hobby shop. They said hi to all of their past customers and they really miss them.

RUMORS - From Joe Kurilec, MMR, Heard a rumor about problems at Stewart's Hobbies in Willoughby. I talked with them and they said all was well. GREAT!

TOMAR - Another from Joe Kurilec, MMR, A recent visit to Tomar Industries web site made note that the business was for sale.

<https://tomarindustries.com/>

I did talk to the owner about website problems. They are trying to get a certificate renewed for the site. The links on the left of the home page do not link! (as of 5-14-17)

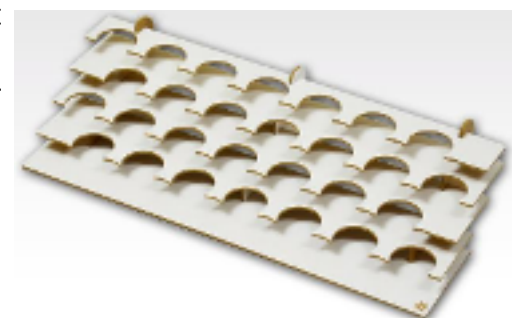
ORGANIZED WORKSHOP - From Joe Kurilec, MMR, In the April 2017 issue of Model Railroader, "News & Products" column was a modular paint shelf showcased. I went to The Hobby Zone website.

www.hobbyzone.biz

I found many items that really help organize the workbench area. My paint rack was full so these modular paint racks were a great find!

I ordered Rack number S01xb. This rack has larger cutouts for paint bottles 41mm in size. I also found a shelf rack that could be hung. Rack number S03b.

These products are well engineered and easy to assemble.



Viewing Hobby Zone's site you'll find a ton of modular items for your workbench.



REAL RUST - Those of us who have tried simulating rust on our models know how hard it can be to portray this effect. On my previous layout, I used a two-part solution I found at the local craft store. The first step is to spray or brush on the gray "primer". This is essentially an acrylic paint with actual iron particles suspended in it. NOTE: as the iron particles are quite heavy, be sure to thoroughly mix the paint prior to application. Once the primer is dry, the second step is to apply the activator solution. This product is very thin. It can be brushed or sprayed. It does not add to the thickness of the coating so its application is quite easy. I actually used a misting bottle to apply it to the truss bridge shown below. Set your project down and come back the next day. You will see real rust forming! And it continues to oxidize over the next several days. VERY REALISTIC!! - Editor



MODULE GROUP

As we are heading in to the summer months, the Module Group limits their public displays. However, this is a great time for members considering participating next season to get started building their module(s). Below are a few photos from this past season. Have a great summer break and see you in the fall! 🚂

SCOTT BENSON
MODULE GROUP



THE FOLLOWING WAS SOURCED AT THE EXACTRAIL WEBSITE AND RE-PUBLISHED WITH PERMISSION OF BLAINE HADFIELD, MMR AND OWNER

3 True stories!
1 incontrovertible conclusion

Story 1:

I participate with a group in a movie club. The other night, we watched Spike Jonze's *Her*. In a well composed scene, Joaquin Phoenix's character, Theodore, is walking among the trees and knee-deep snow. In the distant background (and not really intended for the viewer), one could make out structures on the far ridge line.

Snowsheds... My mind ticks over.

Intractably, "That's Donner," I wail. A moment later, I turn to my brother and say, "in a theater full of people, only a railfan would place the snowsheds in the background."

To which my brother replies, "Yeah, only the railfans and the cannibals."

Story 2:

The etymology of the word 'hack/hacker' (as in, "Russia hacked my email!") can be traced through the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) model railroad club. The Tech



MEMBERSHIP

We wish to send Happy Birthday Wishes to the following members celebrating their birthdays in June:

Paul Novak	Franklin Dongiovanni	Bruce Bowie
Leonard Scherry	Leonard Wendorf	Dennis Super
Robert Boyle	George Gelehrter	Terry MacKin
Joseph Filipiak	Howard Seidel	

And with the upcoming Summer hiatus, we don't want to forget July birthdays!

James Stevenson	Michael Klein	Bill Perry
Dennis Romain	David Williams	Joe Mehalic
David Siegfried	Paul Hardwig	
Joseph Andrews	Timothy Baker	

OR August birthdays either!:

William Cramer	Arthur Bumpus	Jerry Krueger
John Hudacko	Glenn Pryor	
Stephen Kaplan	M Kolenich	
Paul Winslow	Thomas Businger	
Robert Kaiser	Richard Dalanno	

MEMBERS: If you look for, but don't find, your birthday in the Flatwheel, it is because the Member Database does not include your birthday information. If you'd like it to be added, please email Bill Ferry, Membership, at ClevelandBill@mac.com or call (440) 570-2112 and leave a message. 🚂

BILL AND BILLY FERRY MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIRS



RAFFLE

Once again the June raffle will have a theme. Once again it will be "Railroads and the Steel industry". However many of the prizes have not been on the raffle table before. As always there is something for everyone. 🚂

THE RAFFLE DUDES



Model Railroad Club (TMRC) was organized in the 1946-1947 school year, and according to the groups website, it is one of the oldest clubs at MIT.

In a March 6, 2014 article in The New Yorker, the origins of the word 'hack' are first documented in the April 1955 TMRC meeting minutes. It says, "anyone working or hacking on the electrical system turn the power off to avoid fuse blowing." According to the president of the American Dialect Society, Jesse Sheidlower, the term held the more benign meaning of simply working on a tech problem. The club was composed of several sub-groups, and according to Ben Zimmer, a language columnist at The Wall Street Journal, the term took on more modern connotations as individuals from one group pranked the system-based telephone relays to mess with railroad operators. When this kind of ritualistic hazing occurred, members would have to "hack" the system in an attempt to solve the problem. In time, the term became how it is known today.

Story 3:

In early 1928, Charles Mintz, a film distributor associated with Universal Studios, demanded that a young Walt Disney take a budget cut for the production of Oswald the Lucky Rabbit. Mintz

COMPANY STORE

The company store currently has for your purchasing pleasure the following items. The items are available for purchase at most monthly meetings. You may also contact the Store Manager, Chuck Klein, cbklein765@gmail.com for other options.

NYC MDT Reefers 4 Numbers available

Set of 4 (2 Steel, 2 Wood) \$72

Wood Side \$18 ea. / Steel Side \$20 ea.

ONLY 7 LEFT!!



MCR Schoolhouse Laser Cut Kit \$45 ea.



Division 4 Patches

\$3 ea.

FREE DVD'S!

I should remind everyone that we have a library of how to DVD's for member use. A \$10.00 deposit for each DVD rented. \$10.00 returned when DVD returned at next meeting. Check the listing by clicking on MEMBERS ONLY, then VIDEO LIBRARY to see a list of over 120 DVD's! 🚂



Division 4 Ball Caps

\$20 ea.

CHUCK KLEIN
STORE
MANAGER



positioned this conversation by informing Disney that most of his current staff were now on contract with him. Disney refused, and he walked away from the cartoon character that was a success in its time. This event catalyzed the creation of Disney studios. Following his meeting with Mintz, Disney boarded the train in California to return home. On this ride, Mickey Mouse was conceptualized.

In 1947, Disney built a model train in his Disney Studio's office--noteworthy because Disney was committed to his business in such a way that this seemed to surprise some people. By 1948, Disney was working long hours, seven days a week. The staff nurse insisted that he take break for the sake of his health. According to Ward Kimball, an associate in the Disney Studio, this gave rise to the first vacation Disney ever took. It was to the Chicago Railroad Fair. Thereafter, he set up a machine shop at the Disney studio for the explicit purpose of building a locomotive, where Disney himself would often work on the project. This locomotive became the well-known Lilly Belle. From there, it was the Carolwood Pacific, Disneyland Railroad, and then a mass-media empire.

So, here is the question: What do cannibals,

CLINIC

June 2017 - "Trees.....Trees.....Trees..... and more Trees"

by George Keller

Learn how to make trees of all kinds using various materials. This will be our last program until September, enjoy your Summer!

This is what you missed last month!

"Imagineering" -

More Ways To Have Fun With Your Model Railroad"

Steve Kaplan and Bruce Brintnall



neo-computer hackers and great creative geniuses have in common?

Answer: one thing: railroads and model railroaders. (Mic drop!) And with that, I rest my case: model railroading is sophisticated.

Blaine Hadfield, MMR

For more of Blaine's writings, go to the Exactrail website, then click on BLOGS. - Editor

CLINICS WANTED Help!!!! I need a few more for programs for 2016 -2017. If any of you would like to share your modeling techniques, know of someone I could contact for a program, or have a suggestion for a program topic, please contact me. If you have contacted me previously about a program, please take time to remind me again. Larry Madson , madson@roadrunner.com, 440-934-2643 or 440-864-2305

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. 🚂

LARRY MADSON
CLINIC CHAIRMAN



CONTEST TABLE



The May 2017 contest was for A Small Engine House or Car Repair Shed.

There were 5 entries and 64 total votes in both categories.

Diorama

Model

1st: Rich Mayich

John Witt

2nd: John Hemsath

Dave Lawler

3rd: Jim Grell



The final point standings for this year are as follows:

1st: Rich Mayich (29)

2nd: John Hemsath (22)

3rd: Jim Grell (19)

4th: George Keller (13)

5th: John Witt (12)

Congratulations to these winners! Trophies and gift certificates will be awarded at the June meeting. 🚂

DAVE LAWLER
CONTEST
CHAIRMAN



Saturday July 22nd, 2017

NEOLS

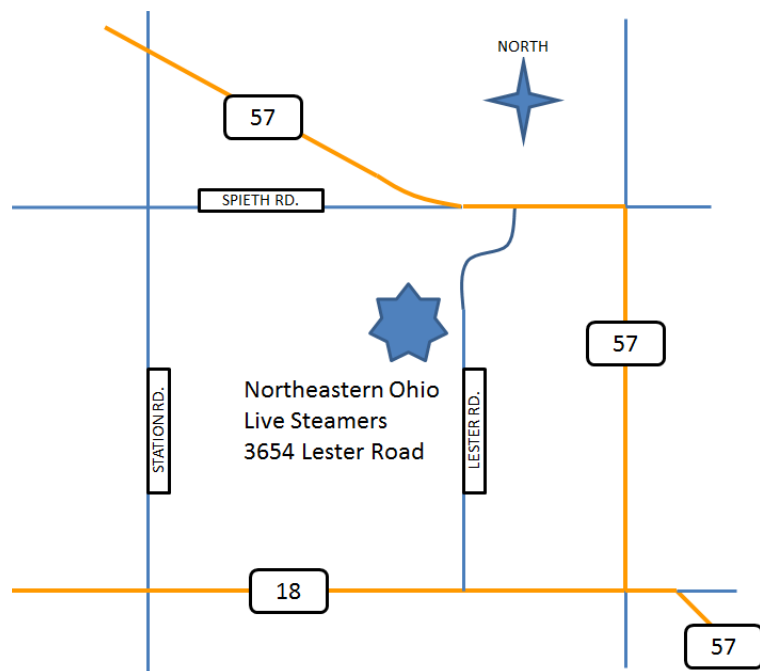
3654 Lester Road

Medina, Ohio 44256

Our annual summer picnic is set to go. Pack up the family and head out to Medina. We will be returning to the Northeastern Ohio Live Steamers (NEOLS) for a day of cooking out and riding trains. Division 4 will be providing the hot dogs, burgers, brats and the fixings. You bring chairs for sitting out under the trees and a side dish to share. There is electricity in the pavilion area so you can bring a crock pot to keep things warm if needed. We will have a selection of soft drinks, but if you want something special bring it along. Please, no alcoholic beverages.

Trains will be running between noon and 3 PM. Arrive any time after 11:00 AM. We expect to eat around noon and then ride trains. We do ask that when you arrive park in the south visitors lot. As you drive in bear to the left. The space is limited around the center area where we eat and out hosts need to drive in to unload their equipment for us to ride.

So be sure to mark the date on your calendars and see you there! 🚂



SUMMER PICNIC!

BY LEE SHEFFIELD
ASSISTANT
SUPERINTENDENT



JUMP ON BOARD THE FLYER EXPRESS

BILL FERRY
GBTS MARKETING
COMMITTEE



As you know, our two largest outreach events take place in the fall: The Great Berea Train Show (GBTS) and TRAINing Day. While we do dabble a bit in television ads for the GBTS, we really don't have the budget to make this our primary method of advertising. Nor should we, because our surveys so far indicate that TV is not the number one way to reach attendees of the GBTS. So what IS the number one way to ensure the GBTS and TRAINing Day attendance? FLYERS.

Yep, good old-fashioned flyers.

We need your help in **TWO WAYS**.

1) Know your neighborhood. Our members come from near and far. Urban and rural. North, South, East and West. But nobody knows YOUR neighborhood better than you. Look for Flyer Distribution Places. Traditionally, we have placed flyers in Libraries, Hobby Shops, Railfan Locations, and Railroad Clubs. We have a list of 88 of these locations ... but I keep getting surprised to hear of a hobby shop I've never heard of, or a new RR club. So check my list below, and see if you can make it better ... add to it ... or let me know of those which should be removed. E-mail to clevelandbill@mac.com.

2) Step up to distribute! Asking one person to visit 88 locations is ... crazy! Asking someone to do a dozen is a lot. But could you do ONE, TWO, or THREE. Pick the locations closest to you, to your work, to home. Places you go. Make it easy on yourself. The KEY to this is that IT GETS DONE. I'll prepare envelopes with enough flyers for each location, and the name of the location ... you just have to drop it off, talk to the owner/manager, and if they allow it, set the flyers in a prominent location.

I will have flyers prepared for the June Meeting, where you can pick them up. I ask only that if you pick them up, make sure to deliver them. Flyers lost in the car's trunk won't attract visitors. (I found out the hard way, when I found an envelope that had slipped down under in my trunk).

So, to recap ...

I'm asking for TWO THINGS: 1) help make the list better, and 2) volunteer to deliver flyers in your neighborhood.

THANK YOU! 🚂

CUYAHOGA COUNTY

Al's Train & Hobby
Bay Village Library
Beachwood Library
Berea Depot Viewing Area
Berea Library
Brecksville Library
Brook Park Library
Brooklyn Library
Chagrin Falls Library
Coin Store & More
Cuyahoga Valley S-Gauge
Cuyahoga Valley West Shore
Depot Trains & Hobby
Eastern Ohio Trains
Fairview Park Library
Garfield Heights Library
Gates Mills Library
Grand Pacific Model Railroad
Hobby House
Independence Hardware & Supply Co.
Independence Library
Jan Dell Flowers Train Shop
Maple Heights Library
Mayfield Library
MetroHealth Library
Middleburg Heights Library
Midwest Railway Preservation Society
Mikes Diecast and Collectables
New York Central System Historical Society, Inc.
Nick's Vintage Trains & Treasure
North Olmsted Library
North Royalton Library
Olmsted Falls Library
Orange Library

Parma Heights Library
Parma Hobby
Parma Library
Parma-Snow Library
Richmond Heights Library
Solon Library
South Euclid-Lyndhurst Library
Southeast Library
Strongsville Library
Trading Post Train Shop
Warrensville Heights Library

ERIE COUNTY

A&B Hobbies and Cycles
Bellevue Public Library
Berlin Township Public Library
Huron Public Library
Kelleys Island Branch Library
Milan Public Library
Monroeville Public Library
Ritter Public Library
Sandusky Library
Vermilion Rail Platform

HURON COUNTY

Bellevue Kemper Rail Park
Huron County Community Library: Greenwich
Huron County Community Library: North Fairfield
Huron County Community Library: Wakeman
Huron County Community Library: Willard
Lake Erie & Southern RR Model Railroad Club
Mad River & NKP Museum
Monroeville Model Railroad Club
Norwalk & Western

Norwalk & Western RR Club

LORAIN COUNTY

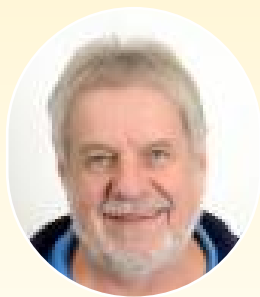
All Ohio Train, Toy & Bear Co.
Ben Franklin Store
Clearview Hobby
Lorain County
Lorain Public Library Avon Branch
Lorain Public Library Columbia Branch
Lorain Public Library Domonkas Branch
Lorain Public Library Main Branch
Lorain Public Library North Ridgeville Branch
Lorain Public Library South Lorain Branch
Stockyard Express
Strongsville Hobby of Elyria
Uncle Ray's Trains

MEDINA COUNTY

Brunswick Library
Buckeye Library
Family Hobby
Highland Library
Lodi Library
Medina Library
NEO Live Steamers
Ormandy's Toys & Trains
Seville Library
OTTAWA COUNTY
Train-O-Rama

A FOCUS ON AREA HOBBY SHOPS

ONE IN A SERIES BY
JOE KURILEC
MMR



PHOTOS BY THE AUTHOR

Thanks for reading the hobby shop articles this past year. The September issue will have one last shop I found.

Thanks for ALL of the nice comments on the series!

This issue of The Flatwheel takes us to Mentor, Ohio.

HOBBYTOWN USA

7982 Plaza Blvd.

Mentor, Ohio 44060

440-974-2116

440-946-5588

HOURS: Mon-Sat. 10AM to 8PM.

Sun. 12PM to 5PM.

WEBSITE: www.hobbytown.com

EMAIL: htumentor@aol.com



HOBBYTOWN USA is located between Routes 2, Lakeland Freeway & I-90. Both freeways have exits that will lead to route 20 Mentor Ave. HOBBYTOWN USA is in the Mentor Mall Shopping Center.





HOBBYTOWN USA is a great place to visit and are VERY customer friendly.



When you enter HOBBYTOWN USA you'll find a good selection of Woodland Scenics products.



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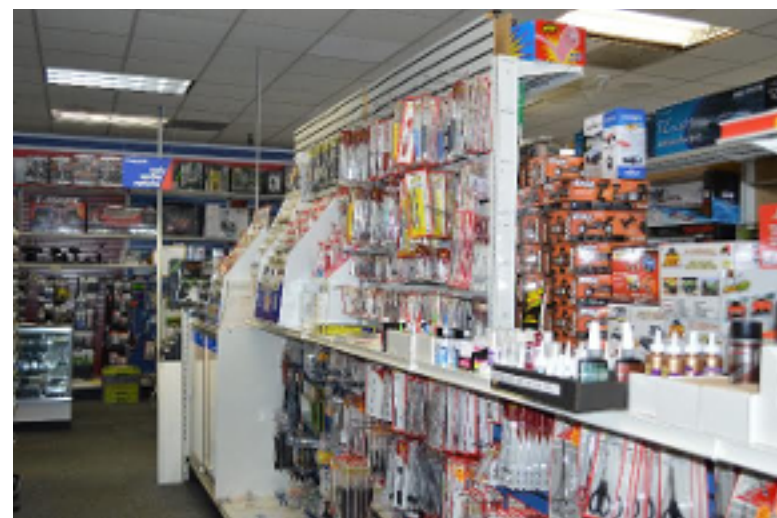
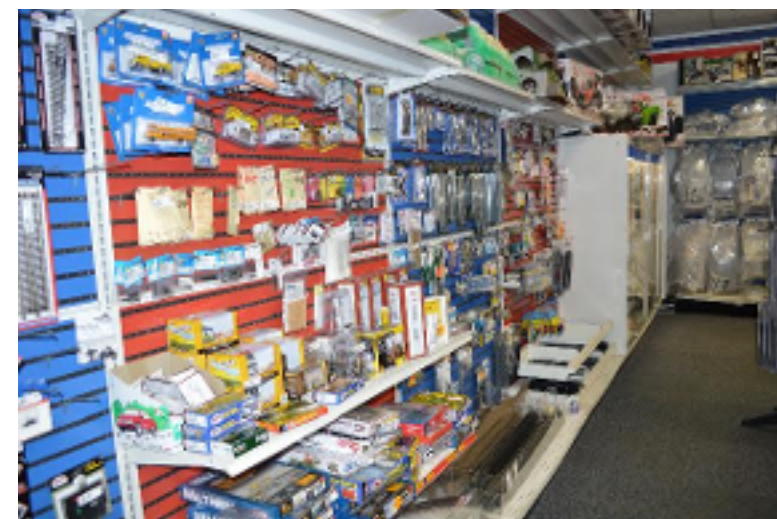
Moving to the back of HOBBYTOWN USA we find a good selection of train sets and Lionel products.

HOBBYTOWN USA has a nice selection of structure kits and rolling stock. Look at ALL of the items hanging on the

parts wall. I found some neat stuff!



One row in HOBBYTOWN USA shop has a complete line of paints, supplies, adhesives, tools AND a lot of scratch building items not found in a lot of other shops (what shops are left)!



**PLEASE PURCHASE SOMETHING
IN YOUR VISITS TO ANY HOBBY
SHOPS!**

THE BYLINE...

BY GARY SOLE



PHOTOS BY THE AUTHOR

Well I'm back and yet another month has passed! Have you built anything lately?

So this morning I went out to hang up my new bird feeder. The old one gave out after 22 years. The plastic tube on the new one has antimicrobial protection that's supposed to: "continuously prevent damaging bacterial and fungal growth." It also has a Lifetime Guarantee! Now all that sounds great, but my motivation for the purchase was simply the new one is easier to maintain than the old one; and the old one was broken.

So what's my point of the bird feeder story? Here it is: I've been working to build many of my car kits over the past several months. On May 8, I picked up three more Accurail kits. All are currently built and sitting on the layout waiting to be put back in their boxes. Looking at these new cars, I asked myself this question: Are you ever going to build all of these kits you currently have? Some of the stuff dates back to 1969 and 70; state of the art then, however now is a different story (this question and process started last fall). One example was my Walthers Kit of an impact-test-car. It was based on a John Allen concept and actual car on John's layout.



John Allen's original "Impact" Test Car



An early commercial kit of the same car

Being a big fan of John Allen I bought one in the 70's and built it while living in Vegas (1980 to 1982). I used it on my time-saver layout in my apartment. This past year I sold it to a gentleman at our train show. It was an interesting kit in the 70's that I was never going to use.

Some of these old car kits are interesting models, but when you open the box, the then die-cast parts may be crumbling, the trucks and wheel sets can be a bit crude and converting these kits to KD couples may take longer than building a new car kit. There is also a good chance this older kit has been re-issued with updated details and lettering. Like my bird feeder, I'm looking for ways to simplify my life. With limited time available, do I fix old kits to meet the new standards or work on the layout and run trains? I want to get something running. So the decision is easy for me. If I'm not going to use it, it's in my way!

Summer can be a good time to look at thinning the herd. I spent time doing that last summer, and now I'm glad I did!

Summer is a good time to build bench work, too. You can make a lot of the cuts outside where the dust and debris from your work is easily cleaned up. With some planning you can set the stage so that by fall you can start working

on track, wiring, scenery and backdrop. It is a great way to stay motivated, be outdoors and see real progress in your bench work.

Summer can also be a great time to go through your old hobby magazines. Sit on the patio with your morning coffee and look through them. Be honest about the criteria for keeping them. If you have Trains from November 1940, that's a keeper. The one from 1989 or 2001 probably isn't!

My goal over the past several months has been to provide ideas to get and keep you motivated in the hobby. It is hard for me to get large blocks of time to do my modeling, but I have come to enjoy these short bursts of time. The time constraint helps me stay focused and over time I see the real progress I've been able to make. And that motivates me to do more. Find what works best for you and use it to your advantage. And Have FUN!

To the many friendships, have a great and safe Summer! 🇺🇸

Gary



Ted's welding and fabricating shop -
Photo by Dave Lawler

This photo has nothing to do with the above article by Gary Sole. But it is such a great shot of some magnificent modeling and I needed to fill the bottom of this page anyway, so why not? - Editor

YOU JUST MISSED THE SPRING LAYOUT TOURS!

RON MORGAN
LAYOUT TOUR
CHAIRMAN



Well, the 2017 Spring Layout Tours are now just a North Coast Division historical footnote. If you made it to some of the great layouts available for viewing you know from where I ~~speak~~ write. If you could not take advantage of the opportunity, take heart, your Chairman is already working on the fall event. Below are a few photos from the layouts open on Sunday, May 7th and Saturday May 13th.

NOTE - If you read this month's editorial on taking advantage of your smartphone's camera, all the photos of the layouts seen on Sunday, May 7th, were taken with my three generation old smartphone. And I repeat, again, I AM NOT A GOOD PHOTOGRAPHER, but I think these are nice shots highlighting some even nicer layouts. You too can take such photos, send them to me via email, and see your photos in The Flatwheel (and earn Raffle Bucks)! - Editor



CV & WS



CV & WS



CV & WS



Don Stettin's RR



Don Stettin's RR



Don Stettin's RR



Tom McInerney's RR



Tom McInerney's RR



Tom McInerney's RR



Three from Bruce Britnall's RR



George Keller's RR - Photo by Ron Morgan



Fred Wagner's RR - Photo by Ron Morgan



While this locomotive was not technically on one of the layouts open during the Spring Layout Tours, it WAS taken by Ron Morgan during his travels to the western reaches of our Division to view those layouts available on Saturday, May 13th. Ron did some train watching in Bellevue.



REGION CONVENTION REPORTS

DAVE WILLIAMS
DIV 4 SECRETARY &
MCR KINGPIN EDITOR



JIM MOORE
QUAD COUNTY
TRUSTEE



From Dave Williams: The Mid Central Region's annual convention was held May 18-21, 2017 at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville KY. Division 4 had at least 11 members in attendance; 5 were accompanied by their wives.

Frank Bongiovanni gave a couple of clinics and Ron Morgan also gave a presentation.

Chuck Klein took first place in the Steam Locomotive category with an NKP Mikado, Ron Morgan took home a second place ribbon for his prototype color print of CV 4078.

During the banquet, Steve Kaplan received recognition for his time as the Region's President and Art Bumpus was acknowledged for his time as the Region's Secretary. Bob Orlando posthumously received the Russ Wenderfer Award for service to the hobby. Steve Kaplan cited Bob's organization and participation train shows and other events as part of his achievements. Division 4 presented the Martha Newberry Award to Sam Swanson for his model entitled Reed's Cove.

Look for more convention coverage in the June Kingpin.

From Jim Moore: Good Morning!
It's the first morning after the convention in Louisville and it feels good to sleep in my own bed. The turn out seemed to be quite good. Yes, the hotel was a lot of money, but the rooms were comfortable other than the heating and air conditioning made a lot of noise! The food at the Galt House was Ok, many people opted for the breakfast buffet for \$16.00. For lunch, there was a deli on the bridge where sandwiches ran \$8 - \$10.00. For dinner, many left the hotel and walked a couple of blocks for one of Louisville's finer restaurants.

On to the clinics; once again, very good. They ranged from what went on around Louisville in the 50's to how to install a TCS WOW decoder. Did you know that you can print on cloth or styrene with your laser printer or use your wife's Cricut Explore to cut wood or styrene?

Many of you are probably asking what a Cricut Explore is, right? Well, I didn't know either. It is a machine used by crafters to cut vinyl and paper. Kevin Jones gave the clinic on how to use one for railroading to cut wood and vinyl from a cad program. Check with your wife to see if she has one.

John Forsythe from TCS gave two clinics on their WOW decoders; one, "Get to Know WOW Sound," and the second on how to install one. I went to the one on installation where I learned a lot about soldering decoders and that they sell complete kits for different engines and brands at a reasonable cost. A complete kit with speaker and speaker box, replacement board for motor and lights with 21 pin plug and the decoder for your engine for one low price of \$129.95...not bad for everything you get! It takes about an hour to install with complete instructions on line. They also sell small LEDs (3MM) in different colors with motor wire soldered on a circuit board, ten for \$50.

Salt Weathering... have you ever tried it? To me, it looked like a lot of work and not as nice as just using our "regular" ways. Several local members did clinics. Ron Morgan did his Ethanol Plant and Frank Bongiovanni did

two. The first, "Lemon-Aid" was with Bruce Knapp, and then on Sunday, he did the "Motive Power Neapolitan."

The list of presenters included Tony Koester, Dick Briggs, Bob Wienheimer, Fran and Miles Hale, Gary Albers, and others I had not met before. To sum up the clinics...they covered everything from soup to nuts!

Participant numbers were down, possibly due to the cost of being held in downtown Louisville and due to the distance from Pittsburg and Cleveland. In the end, Div 8 put on a very good convention thanks to all who worked on it. If you did not go to the banquet, you missed the best part: Tony Koester and his funny stories! Banquet food was just OK. On Sunday, most open houses did not start until 10:00 or noon. A better time for those traveling would have been 9:00.

If you have never gone to an MCR convention, you are missing out on a great weekend with friends of model railroading throughout our region. Make plans to go. They are fun and educational.

All clinic power points are on the convention web site at www.2017panamerican.org. 🚂

Jim Moore



Photos of North Coast Division members receiving awards at the recent MCR Region Convention.



Photo of North Coast Division member Chuck Klein's winning entry in the Locomotive Model Contest. Member Ron Morgan won for his prototype photo entry but no photograph was available for this article. Still, congratulations to both winners!



WHAT'S GOING ON?

NOTE: THIS IS A DIFFERENT DATE THAN THE ONE JIM ANNOUNCED AT THE MAY MEETING!!

DEPOT TRAIN & HOBBY - From member Jim Grell. Depot Train & Hobby is hosting a meet & greet with the Kato factory people, on Tuesday, June 20, from 11 am to 1 pm. Kato will have a drawing for one of their HO locomotives at the end of the event.



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Jefferson Historical Society presents the first annual

Train Swap and Sale



Saturday, July 15, 2017

10:00 am-3:00 pm Admission \$2.00, Children under 12 FREE!

Good food available at reasonable prices!

Train and Railroad related items only

Jefferson Community Center

11 East Jefferson St., Jefferson, Ohio, 44047

Email jeffersonohiohistoricalsociety@centurylink.net

Website www.jeffersonohiohistoricalsociety.org

Leave a Message 1(440) 576-5333

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Tables (H) _____ @ \$12.00 ea \$ _____

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TOTAL \$ _____

Make checks payable to:

Jefferson Historical Society

P.O. Box 574, Jefferson, Ohio, 44047

The officers and members of the Jefferson Historical Society are not responsible for any loss, damage, injury or lost during this event or related activities.

We are a small, 43 table event.

Return this part
with your payment

NEW SHOW!!

Hello

I am Dave Martin, the chairman, of the Train Show Committee of the Jefferson Ohio Historical Society. We are going to host a train swap and sale event July 15, 2017. I have attached seven pages of information for you to view.

Our event will be located in the Jefferson Community Center in downtown Jefferson. Jefferson is the county seat of Ashtabula County, the largest county in the state of Ohio. Jefferson is located near the center of the county, not far south of Interstate 90.

This is a new event for us. We are beginning simply with a 3,000 sq. ft., 43 table event. But because we are new and in an area that has not been explored, it is hard to predict what may be brought in for sale. Collectors are always looking to upgrade their collections. Our table rental rates are a bargain at \$12.00 and \$16.00, well within the budget of the most frugal hobbyist. While we are hoping to be supported by ordinary people we also want to extend an invitation to professional experts like yourself, to join us.

You may view us on our website
www.jeffersonohiohistoricalsociety.org

If you have a question you may e-mail us at:
jeffersonohiohistoricalsociety@centurylink.net

You may phone us and leave a message
[1-440-576-5333](tel:1-440-576-5333)

2017 RAILROAD HERITAGE WEEKEND MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & SWAP

Saturday, July 29 & Sunday, July 30

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. @ 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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Show Information Contact

General Info.

Jan Dunlap

419 - 238 - 4207

snapshotjan@hotmail.com

Tables

Chuck White

567 - 259 - 3340

Railcarman@frontier.com

RAILROAD MEMORABILIA SHOW

COME AND SEE ARTIFACTS OF RAILROADS
GLORY DAYS

Sunday, August 27, 2017 10 am to 5

PAINESVILLE RAILROAD MUSEUM

475 Railroad Street
Painesville, Ohio 44077
216-470-5780



Admission \$5.00 each, Family \$7.00



See railroad signals, plate reading signs (Driver Wives that were used in the dining cars, railroad lanterns, paper work from different railroads, conductor hats, engineer hats, and much more from railroads of the past. Some items will be for display only by private collectors and some items will be available for purchase.



Vendors - If you wish to only display your item (not sell them) from your table is Free
If you wish to sell items, then your table cost is \$25.00 per table

Food and Drinks available

www.painesvillerailroadmuseum.org

pratt@railnet 601/201 non-profit



Aug. 2017 Railroad Memorabilia Show

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Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Permits _____ Amt. Enclosed \$ _____ No. of Tables _____

Revised 3/25/15

of 250 Tables

Display only - Tables are free

Selling items - Table cost \$25.00 each

Load in Sat. 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Sun. 8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

Make Checks Payable To:

NRHM

Mail To:

Tom Pascoe

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Wiloughby, Ohio 44094

Phone (216) 470-5700

www.painesvillerailroadmuseum.org

Please send table request by Aug. 15, 2017

Photo credit: This part only



TRAIN FEST 2017

SAVE THE DATE!!

Saturday, September 9th

10:00AM - 4:00PM

**TRAIN FEST 2017 IS PART OF THE 2ND ANNUAL PLANES,
TRAINS, & AUTOMOBILES SHOW!!**

MODEL TRAINS & SELLING SHOW WITH VENDORS

DURNING RIVER (N) LAYOUT

MONROEVILLE MODEL RAILROAD GROUP HO GAUGE LAYOUT

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www.willardtrainfest.com

J.Heffley1940@hotmail.com



NOTE: You must be a member of the Society to attend the convention. Membership is \$35.00 per year. See Chuck Klein for more information on membership and the convention.



NICKEL PLATE ROAD
 HISTORICAL & TECHNICAL SOCIETY, INC.
A 501(c)(3) Not-For-Profit Corporation
 Founded 1966

2017 Convention
Cleveland, OH
September 28-30

NKPHTS 2017 Convention Highlights

Hello everyone from the Cleveland Convention Committee. We welcome you. If you haven't attended an NKPHTS convention in a while we believe this is the one to attend.

The Convention will be held at:

Holiday Inn
6001 Rockside Rd. and I-77
Independence, OH 44131
Phone: (216) 524-8050

The Holiday Inn is offering a special room rate of \$95.00 per night for a single, double or king room. Just mention Nickel Plate Convention when booking. The more nights we book, the more credit we receive toward the cost of the hotel.

We have several sponsors this year. Thanks to HGR Industrial Surplus for covering the room rental of the English Oak Room. On Friday September 29th we will have a luncheon in this facility. We will have a tour of the Terminal Tower. Ladies you might want to consider attending this luncheon as Tower City Center is a shopping mall.

Division 4 MCR NMRA is another sponsor. They will be setting up an HO module layout. You are invited to operate on this layout. Either your equipment or Division 4's. The layout operates on DCC.

Eastern Ohio Trains is another sponsor of the convention. Joe Andrews will have a suite and has invited Tony Koester to set up his "O" gauge modules in the suite. There will be a display room where Jim Carter will set up an additional "O" gauge module layout. Mark Fillipol a noted scale bridge modeler will have several Nickel Plate bridges built to scale on display. You'll be surprised how big the scale size models are. We would like individuals to bring their NKP models all sizes and scales. How about some of those what if models?

On Thursday afternoon September 28th will be the BOD meeting. In the evening we will have two presentations. One Hundred Years of the Shaker Rapid Transit by Blaine Hayes, and the Movable Bridges in the Cleveland Flats by Michael Lytle, that includes the NKP lift bridge over Cuyahoga River.

Our auction will be a little different as it will be a silent auction or as some people call it a "Chinese" auction. You will add your bids to a bid sheet it will close at the end of the banquet. Last bid gets the item.

Friday display rooms will be open. The Luncheon at English Oak Room, Terminal Tower Tour. Friday evening will have another set of programs. Chip Symes will present the first program on Hulett ore loaders. These giant machines were similar to those that were used at Huron. Then National Director David Vaughn will give updates on his O gauge two track layout that has received national coverage in model railroad publications.

Saturday morning is the annual membership meeting. Later in the day twelve people will have an opportunity to operate on the HO Cuyahoga Valley and West Shore dub layout. We will have several self-guided layout tours. We are going to have a program by John J. Bernet at the banquet. If you wonder how this is possible come to the banquet and see. We had a number of ladies at last year's banquet. You guys bring your ladies along. The Saturday evening banquet will also close our Convention. Don't forget your models and don't forget to bring something for the auction even if it is not NKP.

Chuck Klein
 ctklein765@gmail.com

NICKEL PLATE HISTORICAL & TECHNICAL SOCIETY

September 28-30, 2017 (Thursday-Sunday)

Holiday Inn Rockside Road and I-77, Independence, OH 44131

Phone Number: (216) 524-8050

REGISTRATION FORM

FULL NAME _____ MEMBER # _____

Badge Name, Nickname _____

Badge Name Guest/Spouse _____ Guest 2 _____ Guest 3 _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (____) _____ Email Address _____

Indicate number of persons being registered for each.

_____ Member Convention Registration \$49.00 EACH \$ _____

_____ Member Spouse/Affiliate Registration \$25.00 EACH \$ _____

_____ Children under 18 No Charge NO CHARGE

_____ If Registrations postmarked after September 1, 2017 add \$5.00 EACH \$ _____

_____ Non-Members: One (1) Year Dues \$35.00 EACH \$ _____

Convention Registration above covers all activities, except as listed below.

_____ Bus Tour English Oak Room Luncheon \$75.00 EACH \$ _____

(Includes Terminal Observation Deck Tour)

_____ Banquet Dinner – Beef Tenderloin \$40.00 EACH \$ _____

_____ Banquet Dinner – Pretzel Chicken \$33.00 EACH \$ _____

Package Pricing Includes Registration, Terminal Luncheon Tour and Banquet.

_____ Commercial Traveler Beef Tenderloin \$136.50 EACH \$ _____

_____ Nickel Plate Limited Pretzel Chicken \$129.50 EACH \$ _____

_____ Vendors Tables \$20.00 EACH \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

_____ Check if interested in operating on CV&WS (First 12 people) _____

Make Checks Payable To: NKPHTS 2017 CONVENTION

Send To Registrar: NKPHTS 2017 Convention

C/O Michael Klein

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www.dlv4.org



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Contact: Terry Catalano (419) 796-8038



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Sunday, November 19, 2017 10:00am – 3:00pm

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(½ Mile South of E. State Street/Business US Route 20)

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Our Club is located at 8 N. Research Ave., Norwalk, OH 44857 (Second Floor).
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Open Free to the Public

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- > Basic layout framing
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- year railroad support structure (Benchwork)
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Mid-Central Region – Division 5**

MODEL TRAINing DAY

Sunday November 5, 2017
11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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DCC vs. ANALOG

WHAT SCALE IS RIGHT FOR ME

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For More Information: <http://www.div4trainingday.org>

Email: info@div4trainingday.org



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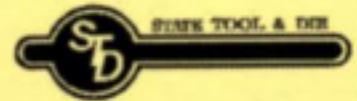
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The North Coast Division

The North Coast Division holds 10 meetings a year (none in July and August). Meetings are on the 2nd Friday of the month. A social half hour starts at 7:00 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 7:30. A railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Meetings are held at The Church of The Redeemer, 23500 Center Ridge Road, Westlake, OH 44145. Visitors are welcome to attend any meeting.

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). All comments are welcome. Views expressed in the *Flatwheel* do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the NMRA, MCR,

of Division Four.

Uncredited photos courtesy of the editor or staff photographer Dave Williams.

The Flatwheel is typically electronically published on the Monday preceding the monthly meeting. Submissions are due no later than the 26th of the preceding month.

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. The group is private and does not appear on the Yahoo directory. 🚂



NKP #765 eastbound at Jaycox Road, Avon Lake
- Model and photo by Dave Lawler



About Us

We are Division 4 of the Mid-Central Region of the National Model Railroaders Association. With more than 200 members from Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lorain and Medina counties in the state of Ohio. The North Coast Division meetings are normally held on the second Friday of the month to hear guest speakers, share skills, have railroad related clinics, and to share common problems and successes. Many of us get together informally in round-robin sessions to operate and work on each other's layouts, or just to talk railroads and modeling.