



THE



FLATWHEEL

APRIL 2018

VOLUME 53, NUMBER 4



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APRIL 2018

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Member Dave Lawler provided this great shot taken in 1997. This is former C&O Baldwin-Lima Hamilton RS-4-TC #4005 built in 1954. Today it is operating on the Hocking Valley Scenic Railway in Nelsonville, Ohio. Almost looks like a photo of a model!

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

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

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

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

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

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

APPOINTED POSITIONS

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

Achievement - Bruce Brintrall MMR,
brintrall@mindspring.com

Layout Tours - Ron Morgan, ronalco844@gmail.com

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

Flatwheel Editor - Bruce Bowie, in2trains@gmail.com

Membership - Bill & Billy Ferry, clevelandbill@mac.com

Modules - Scott Benson, sbenson440@zoominternet.net

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

DIVISION 4

THE NORTH COAST DIVISION

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE APRIL 13TH.

WE OFFER GOOD FELLOWSHIP, FREE SOFT-DRINKS/COFFEE AND AN INFORMATIVE CLINIC ON SOME ASPECT OF OUR HOBBY. JOIN US!

Photo from Go Fund Me website by Edward J. Baker, funds to benefit Lorain Lighthouse Foundation, Inc.

WHEN & WHERE WE MEET

The North Coast Division holds 10 meetings a year (none in July and August). Meetings are on the 2nd Friday of each month. A

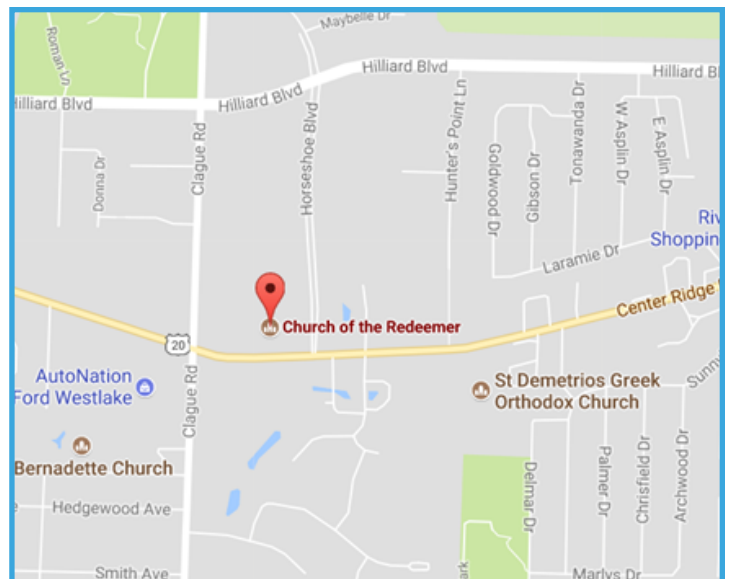
social half hour starts at 7:00 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 7:30. After a short break, a railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Meetings are held at the Church of the Redeemer, 23500 Center Ridge Rd, Cleveland, OH 44145. Visitors are welcome to attend any meeting.

The Division's newsletter, *The Flatwheel* is published monthly (except during July and August) by Division 4 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, or Division 4.

The Flatwheel is typically electronically published no later than the Monday preceding the monthly meeting. Submissions are due no later than the 26th of the prior month, for example, August 26th for the September *Flatwheel*.

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

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.



AN EDITORIAL

There are three areas of our hobby that I enjoy the most; operations (and the friends it provides), structure/rolling stock construction and model/layout photography.

When I build structures, I really enjoy making the structure look as real and true to prototype as possible. I add interior and exterior lighting for most structures.

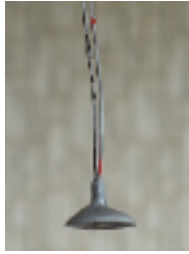
I have blue rope lighting installed on my layout. I purchased my rope lighting a number of years ago. It is a series of tiny light bulbs. New rope lighting utilizes LED's and would be the way to go if doing it today. While not typically utilized during operations (maybe a night OP session down the road guys?), it is really neat to run trains through scenes with the locomotive and caboose lights lit passing structures with both interior and exterior lights on. The blue rope lighting provides enough lighting to "see" the trains and track while making the overall scene appear moon lit.

I am a decent modeler, not great. A few years ago I purchased Ngineering's Gooseneck Light Kit. These very 'to scale' kits make a great looking finished light fixture. HOWEVER, soldering 38 gauge magnet wire to TINY LED's, then fishing



the wire I can't even feel in my fingers through .012" diameter tubing is, to say the least, challenging. AND, my eyes were much better when I was doing this than they are now.

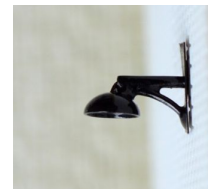
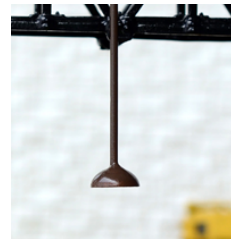
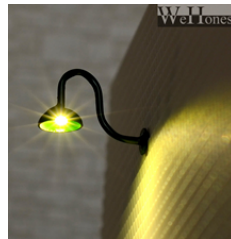
Shortly after starting my current East Broad Top roundhouse project, I came across a Chinese Ebay vendor selling OO/HO LED light fixtures. The price was very reasonable at \$5 for a package of 5. I ordered them. When they arrived I was very happily surprised at their quality as well as scale size. And they even supplied the resistors you need!



The EBT roundhouse lights were installed in the days of "knob & tube" wiring with the lamp shade suspended by the two wires feeding it. I purchased the LED light that similarly had just the two wires coming out of the shade. With them installed I think the effect came out pretty well.



I have since found this same company makes a number of different styles, all commonly used on the structures we model.



The only downside in this age of instant gratification and common 2-day shipping is delivery is by standard postal service. It takes several weeks for the package to arrive all the way from China, so plan ahead!

I will be bringing some to the April meeting so you can see them for yourselves. 🚂



BRUCE BOWIE
EDITOR

HERBIE'S RUMBLINGS



HELP EVERY MODEL RAILROADER BECOME INJURY EXEMPT

Model railroading continues to keep us running in Northeast Ohio. Railfest was earlier this month, and the Narrow Gauge event is now over, but there are a number of other shows coming up, including Mt. Hope (formerly Dalton), Medina, and Salem. Also, the 4-H group has received a large quantity of engines, cars and electronics, some of which will be available to our members.

The upcoming clinic will be given by Brian Haas as a Make-and-Take on creating trees. If you want to make and take, you will need to bring a few items – see the list in the clinic section of this Flatwheel. (tools needed will be listed in the April Flatwheel Clinic Column). The 4-H group will also be making a presentation that night.

Congratulations to Lee Sheffield,, Ron Morgan and Jeff Lauren on their election to new posts for the coming turn, as well as to Dave Williams. Greg Noeth, Gary Shaefer. Jim Moore, Brian Haas and Fred Obreza who are staying on in their current positions. And of course, thanks and Kudos to John Hemsath for his service – get well soon John and get back into service.

Our annual picnic will be on July 21st, and we are returning to the live steamers in Lester This year the Cuyahoga Valley and West Shore Model Railroad Club will be joining us.

It's not too late to get yourself (and your spouse) signed up for the 2018 Regional Convention in Cincinnati, May 17-20. It promises to be a good one with lots of activities. Also, now is the time to make plans to attend the National NMRA Convention and Train Show in Kansas City August 5-12, 2018. In addition to great clinics, and some of the greatest layouts in the hobby, remember what an important rail center KC is, and has always been. The prototype opportunities will be amazing.

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).

Don't forget to take home a few DVD's from our library. See Chuck in the Company Store. And, see me if you want to check out a set of Fast Tracks tools. We have #4, #6 and #8 turnout kits available. Also available are other turnout fixtures owned by individual members who have agreed to loan them out – these include a #5 turnout, a crossover and a gauntlet track.

See you at the meeting, 🚂



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

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Friday March 9, 2018

Superintendent Steve Kaplan called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

Bill Ferry, Membership Chair, introduced new members in attendance.

Steve reported that Division assets stand at \$46,350. Treasurer Greg Noeth was not able to attend the meeting.

Dave Lawler, Contest Chair, said that the evening's contest was express reefers. He then gave a brief review of the contest winners from last month, noting that the late Rich Mayich's final contest entry had tied for first place. Dave said that he considering an award to be given in Rich's memory. The April contest will be for a small restaurant or diner.

Bruce Bowie gave a brief description of his recently purchased airbrush supplies, on display for the evening.

Larry Madson, Clinic Chair, reported that he had a short video to present during the evening's pizza consumption. Next month's clinic will be a

make-and-take led by Brian Haas on his method of tree making. A list of tools needed will be included in Larry's Flatwheel column. **NOTE: Brian will be providing all the sedum you will use at the clinic - Editor** The May clinic will be given by Chuck and Mike Klein of the 1958 C&O Steam Finale. June will be Don Wetzel's program on the NYC jet powered locomotive (Don was the engineer). Larry said that he had Fall clinics in the works.



Bruce Bowie holding his merit award certificate for his Portage River Bridge

Bruce Brintnall MMR, Achievement Program Chair, presented Bruce Bowie with his certificate for the bridge he recently built for Jim Moore's layout. The bridge received Railroad Model Craftsman's Dremel Model of the Month award.

Ron Morgan, Layout Tour Chair, said that Frank Feko and

Jim Peters (Division 1) would have their layouts open for the upcoming Spring Tour. Ron is looking for layouts around the west side of Cleveland for the next tour.

Assistant Superintendent Lee Sheffield reported that the Division picnic will be on Saturday July 21, 2018 starting around noon at the Northeastern Ohio Live Steamers (NEOLS) location in Medina. We will be



That's Brian on the right in the above photo. Stocking up on pizza in readiness to talk trees next month Brian??

joined by the Cuyahoga Valley & West Shore railroad club.

Mike Klein, Raffle Dude, gave a description of all the evening's raffle prizes.

Bruce Bowie, Flatwheel Editor said that the Flatwheel deadline is March 26th (*As always - Editor*).

Chuck Klein, Nominating Committee Chair, asked for any final nominations for elected positions for the June 2018 – May 2020 term. No new nominations were received. Chuck named all candidates: Lee Sheffield for Superintendent, Ron Morgan for Assistant Superintendent, Greg Noeth for Treasurer, Dave Williams for Secretary, Gary Shaefer for Director West, Fred Obreza for Director East, Jim Moore for Director, Quad Counties, Brian Haas for Director-at-Large, and Jeff Lauren for Director-at-Large. Jeff Lauren agreed to replace original candidate for Director-at-Large John Hemsath MMR, who withdrew due to an expected lengthy recovery time from a recent traffic accident. Noting that each office had a single candidate, Chuck made a motion to elect by acclamation all candidates. The motion was seconded by David James. Chuck's inquiry for discussion met with no response. A verbal vote by the membership was unanimous in approval of the motion.

Chuck continued in his capacity as Company Store Chair, stating that plans for a Davies Steel car were well



underway. Chuck showed a picture of the car, which will also appear in an upcoming Flatwheel issue.

David James, Great Berea Train Show Chair, reminded everyone that we're under six months to the Show. He has sweatshirts and other apparel available. Sign-up sheets will be available soon for volunteers.

Joe Filipiak gave a tribute to Rich Mayich, pointing out that Rich had hesitated to enter the Division contests because he didn't think his skills were good enough (**secretary's note: !**). Joe pointed out that Rich's participation had encouraged an increase in both the

quantity and quality of recent entries by others.

Joe Kurilec MMR and Scott Benson thanked everyone who volunteered during the Great Lakes Science Center's Science of Trains exhibit. Certificates of Appreciation from the Science Center were given to volunteers who had participated in either modeling demonstrations or modular layout staffing by Joe and Scott. Scott then talked about recent and upcoming events for the modular group, including participation in Railfest and the National Train Show in Kansas City this summer.



Joe Filpiak receiving his Certificate of Appreciation for his support of the Division's months long effort at the Great Lakes Science Center. Joe was just one of many to receive such a certificate.

Meeting adjourned at 8 pm.

Dave Williams, Secretary

THIS & THAT

You Can Travel Cross-Country by Train for Only \$186

time.com/money

By [PERRI ORMONT](#)
[BLUMBERG/SOUTHERN LIVING](#)

March 10, 2018

THIS STORY ORIGINALLY APPEARED ON [Southern Living](#)

There are many things you can buy for \$186. A red coat just like Kate Middleton's. A fancy dinner on the town for two. A few pairs of spring shoes.

How about a 3,397-mile trip across America? It turns out, if you depart from Emeryville, California with a final destination of New York City, rates are as low as \$186 on Amtrak.com. (When we checked the site on February 23rd, the earliest departing date for this rate was April 7th, so be sure to book your ticket at least a few weeks in advance.)



A half-hour outside of San Francisco, you'll start by boarding the California Zephyr in Emeryville for a 51-hour-and-40-minute leg to Chicago. The California Zephyr is famous for some of

SCENERY TOOL - I use a blender to "grind up" real dirt to use in my scenery efforts. I like the look and texture using real dirt! The old blender I was using died. I went to my local Goodwill store and found a SUPER heavy duty, industrial strength blender. It was only 6 bucks so I said what the heck. I might add that goodwill stores and Habitat for Humanity stores are a great place to find all sorts of bargains for modeling tools & needs.



While large, it does a nice job of grinding dirt for scenery.

Sample of scenery made with aid of an inexpensive blender



I like the way real dirt looks for scenery projects.....add its free! - Joe Kurilec, MMR

ITS IN THE DETAILS - Director Quad Counties Jim Moore is working on his two Huelett unloaders on his Huron scene. Jim used carefully cut down flex track for the rails the Hueletts used to move up and down along the dock. Note how Jim added nut and bolt castings to the track ties just as the prototype. While this takes quite a bit of time it adds a great deal to the overall scene when completed. *GREAT JOB JIM!*



We are all looking forward to photos of the finished Huron scene!! And an article Mr. Moore? - Editor

GREAT LAKES SCIENCE CENTER - At the Great Lakes Science Center I had a sign in front of my modeling table that was behind of a piece of HO flex track. The sign stated "Please Touch". Parents had to look twice to see if they were reading correctly!

Older HO cars were donated from Depot Hobbies (THANK YOU Jim!) and placed on the track for kids to "try out".

Near the end of the GLSC event I would give kids the cars to take home. That was real crowd pleaser.

Gary Schaefer our master marketing referencer (MMR) found this to a great idea.

One of the donated cars was a caboose. Inside the package was a note from the manufacture about the name "caboose".

The caboose was a office on wheels and living quarters for the crew. The info sheet stated that the name is to believed to have been taken from the nautical term ship's galley. - Joe Kurilec, MMR

ANOTHER STAIN SOURCE - While looking at a Walthers catalog I came across a weathering stain that I never heard of. Joe's weathering Dye. I figured with a weathering item named after "me"....it had to be good!

A one once bottle sells for \$8.45 each. There are six different stain colors. I brushed on the stain with really good

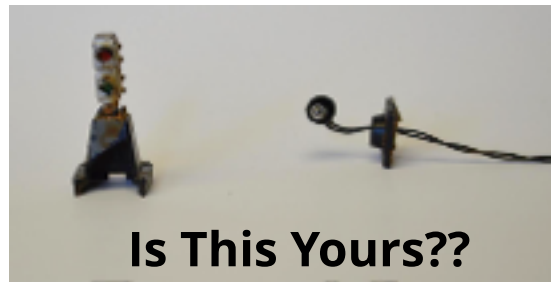


results. Make sure you shake the bottle as the pigments do settle. I also noticed that Joe's has a decal remover. I have not tried that product. - Joe Kurilec, MMR

After Joe's helpful hint, I found this product on eBay in a set of six. List price is \$39.99 available for \$29.99. Thanks Joe! - Editor

IS THIS YOURS? - Joe Kurilec, MMR found

this dwarf signal and light base and / or light fixture at the Great Lakes Science Center. Contact Joe if it is yours. - Editor



A SAD NOTE - Former long time member Tony Smith's wife, Arrie, recently passed away. Below is her obituary.

Born: February 26, 1947

Died: March 15, 2018

Arrie M. Smith went home to be with the Lord on March 15, 2018. Arrie is survived by her beloved husband Anthony L. Smith. Cherished mother of Nolan Presley (Charlene), Kennetta Presley, Angela Sharkey (William), and Sandra Sharkey (Terrance Sr). Loving sister of Artemus Watts III (Earlene), Deborah Watts, Peter Watts, Terry Watts (Doris), Tena Watts, Michael Watts, Del Watts, and Phillip Watts (LaWandra). Grandmother of Aria, Jalysia, Taivon, Kenneth Jr., DeAngelo, Darryl Jr., Xavier, Terrence Jr., and Gavin. Great-Grandmother of Jaevin, Keyion, and Aiyana. Repast will be held at the Pythagoras Temple, 15812 Waterloo Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44110.

the most scenic train views around, as it weaves its way through the Sierra Nevada mountains, the Rockies, and more jaw-dropping landscapes. Watch the scenery change before your eyes in the Sightseer Lounge Cars, which feature extra-large windows and ceiling windows to enhance your viewing experience.



Next, you'll take the Lake Shore Limited for just under 20 hours from Chicago, passing along the south shore of Lake Michigan, New York's Finger Lakes, and the Hudson River before pulling into Manhattan's Penn Station.



Since this Amtrak fare deal means you won't be spending time in cities along the way (though if you don't experience any delays, you'll have a six-hour-and-forty-minute layover in Chicago), we suggest you bring plenty of reading material.

Who's ready to chug across America with us on this bucket list trip?

MODULE GROUP

We're starting a new series of *Flatwheel* articles this month, the "Module Spotlight". We have a large number of modules and even though we display at a lot of events, most North Coast Division members only see a sampling unless they visit all of our events!! In "Module Spotlight", module owners will tell their story of the what, why, how, and where behind their modules. One of the marvelous things about a modular layout is that each module owner can do their own thing, and the combination of those individual ideas makes for an interesting layout for visitors. Bill Ferry starts us off with a great article on Bill and Billy's Amtrak Station module.

North Coast Division modules were displayed at two recent train shows, the Independence Train Show on March 3, and Railfest on March 17-18. The Independence show was held at the Independence High School Field House, which was a terrific venue! A lot of dealers, including some I didn't recognize, and good attendance and sales. I heard a lot of very positive comments about it at Railfest. This is a show that I think will grow; they plan to do it annually in the spring. Railfest was also a great show. Attendance on Saturday was excellent, and dealers I asked reported that they did very well. The two layouts, comprised of completely different modules at each show, ran very well as we like! The layout really brings out a lot of the visitors questions about all aspects of model railroading.

Our application to the Kansas City National Train Show has been officially accepted! Larry Madson and I are working out how to squeeze the best use out of our 41' x 70' space allocation. 🚂

SCOTT BENSON
MODULE GROUP



Photos by Gary Schaefer of the Module Group's efforts at the recent Trainfest



Looks like somebody is enjoying themselves!

Module Spotlight

Module Spotlight: Amtrak

Owner: Billy Ferry

Article by Bill Ferry, Photos by Gary Schaefer

Inspiration: At the time we built this, our first module, Billy was really into Amtrak, something he still follows to this day, though his Amtrak interest has shifted from model trains to rail-fanning, amateur incident investigation, and critique of operations.

Description: Amtrak is a single standard module, 2' x 4', built with a solid top. The station itself is a standard Cornerstone kit, with only a few enhancements: we added a bit of roof equipment such as soil stacks, HVAC, etc, and we divided the interior space.

The standard interior for this kit is a large open room with no interior supports or details at all. We added a central block of rooms, leaving a hallway around the inside perimeter of the building. The central block is literally a block, of wood, which we decorated with a scene cobbled together from various photos on the web of things like "doors" and "ticket windows" and "Amtrak posters". We resized, dragged, and dropped these items into a new graphics file, which we then printed as a photo at a one- hour photo shop. We cut the photo to fit

the block and, voilà, we've got an interior that's painted, decorated, and interesting. We did not yet continue this project to the interior perimeter walls, and we've had a bit of trouble with our photo paper not sticking to the wood block (which may necessitate printing again, and attaching with good boat caulking). *(Hint - try 3M Super 77 spray adhesive - Editor)*

We lit the interior with several blue-white LED's shooting up from the middle of the wood block, reflecting off aluminum foil glued to the underside of the roof. Billy is not fond of the color of the lights, but I think their harshness mimics the fluorescent interiors of commercial buildings of the era. These lights and the outside street lights get a lot of comments from visitors. We hope to ramp this up a bit in our spring modifications. One problem we know of is the LEDs are visible from outside the building (see pic).

We erected the Station building on a graded surface elevated above the surrounding flatlands. The elevation is courtesy of one of my mother's old kitchen cabinet drawer fronts cut to size with a chamfered edge all around. Walthers provided the station platform material. Our first experiment with stairs and handrails leads down to the parking lot.



One thing I thought came out well was the curbs on the parking lot. These are Plastruct of appropriate size, glued into place (we used pushpins instead of re-bar to anchor our "forms"). We then "poured" a blacktop parking lot (cheap paint from the hardware store), striped it with a yellow paint-marker (the kind with actual paint), and used a different black paint (good paint from a hobby shop) to make "oil stains" on some of the parking spots. One of the things that is most realistic in our parking lot is we paid attention to the vintage of the automobiles and we park them the way real people park them ... badly. Sometimes we feign a car-tree collision. One of our biggest failures on the parking lot is that it is completely, perfectly level (unlike the real world); completely, perfectly in good shape (unlike our local world); and in a couple places the grain of the underlying plywood shows through. Ick. I would like to add steel manhole and drain covers, a bit of "terrain", and a pothole or two, but that's far down the priority list.

Our street lights are from Atlas. These are really neat units, keeping the wiring and light below the table, the post is a hollow tube with a light pipe atop. They remove easily for transport (they are delicate). If you should ever use these, keep each light post stored in a separate soft wrapper of some sort. The paint on top of the light (which is molded into the shape of a "fixture" at the end of the light pipe) chips off pretty easily, allowing light to shoot straight up. Ick. Treat yours with kid gloves ... we'll be repainting ours.

Finally, the track on this module is 100% standard, 100-100-83 Atlas, straight through, no switching, nothing. A bit boring, and we have to rely on other modules to get to the local (to disembark passengers!). But it was our first and we wanted to keep it simple. And overall, this is what we did ... a nice, clean, simple layout, if a bit sterile. We've learned a lot and hope to step up our game on this and our new module set, an Intermodal Yard. 🚂



MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBER

John Jones of Westlake

Everybody: please help to welcome John to our club! And John: let us know how we can help you get more from this hobby of ours. We look forward to meeting you (again!).

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

Thomas Atherton

Patty Kaplan

James Raba

Bob Camburn

William Kovacs

Allen Seman

James Grell

Thomas Mcinnerney

Fred Wagner

Carole James

Ronald Morgan

Michael Warman



MEMBERS: If you look for, but don't find, your birthday in the Flatwheel, it is because the Member Database does not include your birth date 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**



Division 4 Members manning the Membership Table at the recent Trainfest show. Thanks guys!!

RAFFLE

Welcome again to another fine April raffle. The April raffle will be a fine assortment great prizes. And I repeat something for everyone. The Raffle Dudes

THE RAFFLE DUDES



And remember, we are "retiring" from this & the Company Store voluntary positions after the June meeting. So put up YOUR hand to take on this fun role!

COMPANY STORE

New project for Division 4

Davies Steel hopper cars

These are based on Dean Freytag's steel mill modeling. Dean 's railroad was the South Ridge Lines the steel mill was known as Davies Steel.

We have designed a 70 ton three bay hopper car that in theory belonged to the South Ridge Lines and was leased to Davies Steel. There will be four pre lettered cars with application of pre-printed decals to expand a fleet of cars to 12 numbers. Price has not been determined yet!! (probably around \$20.00?) Hopefully the cars will be available by June meeting.They will be sold through the company store. A limited number will be available. 🚂



Wood Side, 2 numbers available \$18 ea.



**MCR Schoolhouse
Laser Cut Kit \$45 ea.**



**Division 4 Patches
\$3 ea.**



***SHIRTS WILL BE AVAILABLE
THIS FALL!***

***Polo's along with both short
and long sleeve. Stay tuned.***

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**



Division 4 Apparel Order Form		
Name:		
Street:		
City:	State	Zip
Email:		
Phone:		
Name on shirt:		

Qty	Item	Size (circle)	Price	Amount
	Polo Shirt with pocket	S M L XL 2XL 3XL	\$25.00 \$27.00 \$28.00	
	Polo Shirt no pocket	S M L XL 2XL 3XL	\$24.00 \$26.00 \$27.00	
	Button Front short sleeve	S M L XL 2XL 3XL	\$32.00 \$34.00 \$35.00	
	Button Front long sleeve	S M L XL 2XL 3XL	\$32.00 \$34.00 \$35.00	
	Baseball Cap		\$20.00	
			Total:	

Note: All orders must be paid in full in advance.

For mail orders, send order form and check
made payable to **Division 4 MCR/NMRA** to:
Larry Madson
37863 N Doovys St.
Avon, OH 44011

**PRINT THIS PAGE & ALONG WITH FUNDS MAIL TO:
LARRY MADSON, 37863 N. Doovy's Street, Avon, OH 44011**

CLINIC

April 2018

Make and Take --- Trees!, Trees! Trees!

Brian Haas

Learn how to make trees for your layout. For those who wish to participate we recommend bringing with you the following tools and supplies:

Hobby knife with #11 blade

Sprue cutters or small side cutters

Super glue, I like the kind with a brush

Craft paints for trunk, browns or grays

Small paint brushes

Something to take your tree home in

**PS - Brian will provide the sedum
needed for your trees!**



May 2018

1958 B&O Steam Finale

Chuck and Mike Klein

CLINICS WANTED

Help!!!! I am looking for programs for January through June 2019. 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

lmadson@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.

LARRY MADSON

CLINIC CHAIRMAN



CONTEST TABLE

MARCH CONTEST REPORT

The March contest was for EXPRESS REFRIGERATOR CARS wood or steel.

There were 9 entries and only 19 votes cast. This was a very poor voter turnout, possibly attributable to the location of the contest in the back corner of the room or an overwhelming desire to eat pizza (*most likely pizza - Editor*). In any case, I think it is best not to have a contest on "Pizza Night" going forward.

Additionally, a few of the entries were not Express Refrigerator cars.

DIORAMA

Honorable Mention: George Keller

MODEL

1st: John Hemsath

2nd: TIED: Jeff Lauren, Dave Lawler,
Steve Riddlebaugh, Gary Schaefer

3rd: Jim Grell

Honorable Mention: Dave Flebbe, John Puch

The April contest is for a Small Café or Diner. Examples below:



**DAVE "MR. CHEERIOS" LAWLER
CONTEST CHAIRMAN**



ELECTIONS ARE OVER!



**BY CHUCK KLEIN
ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

MEMBERS:

Nominations were closed at the March 9th meeting. As there were no contested positions, the slate of outstanding candidates shown below were elected by a motion to elect by acclamation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW OFFICERS!

And beginning with the June meeting, these gentlemen will be running our Division. If you have any ideas you would like to see implemented, please let them know.

Officers:

Superintendent Lee Sheffield

Asst. Super Ron Morgan

Secretary Dave Williams

Treasurer Greg Noeth

Directors:

East Fred Obreza

West Gary Schaefer

Quad-County Jim Moore

At-Large Brian Haas

At-Large Jeff Lauren

THE RE-APPLICATION OF DISCARDED GAS GRILLS



BY DAVE LAWLER
PHOTOS BY THE AUTHOR

As many of you must by now realize, I'm pretty good at re-directing items destined for garbage dumps or landfills into useful alternatives.

So here's one of my favorites:

The Re-application Of Discarded Gas Grills

A: Watch your neighbors tree lawns for a worn out, discarded grill.

B: Run down and drag it home before the trash truck arrives.

C. Grab whatever tools you deem necessary and knock off the grill part leaving only the mobile base. Wear old gloves because the grill parts are usually greasy.

D: Place the greasy grill parts on your tree lawn for the trash truck

E: Get some 5/8" – 3/4" plywood and attach it to the top of the mobile base.

F: PRESTO! You now have a sturdy rolling work table or tool stand. I have a couple that have been in service almost twenty years.

Helpful Hint: Mrs. Cheerios says that the best time to find discarded grills is right after Father's Day 'cause many Dads get new ones as gifts.



MOBILE TOOL STANDS





MOBILE WORK BENCHES



MY PATH TO AN MMR PART 2



BY JOHN HEMSATH,
MMR 602

Editor's note: In the first part of this article the author talked about how he began his journey to becoming an MMR and specifically about gaining his Association Volunteer and Master Builder Cars certificates. In this section he discusses the paperwork you'll need and several additional certificates.

Paperwork

When your work is to be judged, you have to fill out paper work. The Judges' Score Sheet is one page long. I've seen them filled in with no addendum, in pencil, and the model earned a merit award. Your paper work is not being judged. It's just there to aid the judges who don't need much help. As a contest judge, I can assure you that if you attach a sheaf of explanatory pages to your judges' score sheet, the judges may thumb through them, but they won't read them. "Don't make it any harder than it has to be!"

So how can you make it easier on yourself? Keep notes on every model you build whether it is to be judged or not. Keep notes on every project on the layout; track laying, wiring, power, scenery, etc. I used to hand write these and kept them in a 3-ring binder. Now I have a computer at my bench and keep all these notes as files. For example: Boxcar – steel, Boxcar – single sheathed, Boxcar –double sheathed, tank cars, structures off line, structures on line, etc. Here's the sort of information I record; kit manufacturer, commercial parts added by me, decals, wheel sets and trucks, paint colors and brand, what did I scratch build? Weathering techniques; oils, powders, spray, etc., article I followed, prototype information I used. I also often take photos of the model in process. Every photo I took to use toward my MMR was taken by a simple digital pocket camera with no adjustments for f-stops or focus. When it comes time to fill in the judges' score sheet, you've got all the data you need. You won't forget anything important. It will take you no time at all. You can do it in pencil.

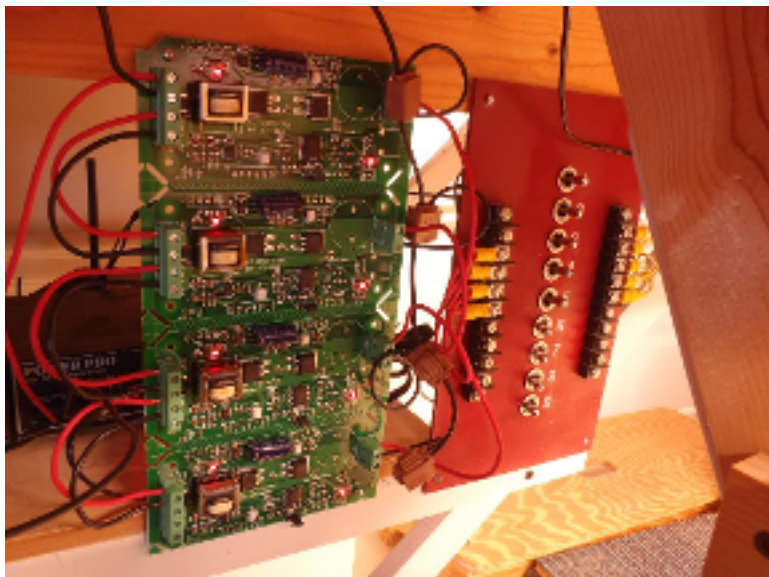
**Chief Dispatcher, Model
Railroad Engineer Electrical,
Model Railroad Engineer Civil**

Read all the requirements for each. If you can incorporate the requirements and the electives you get to choose into your own layout design, you will be hours and hours ahead of where I was. Remember, one track diagram will work for each of these certificates.

When Harold Taylor invited me to my first op session, it was a game changer for me. Up to that point I thought I would be lone wolf. I went home and rethought the concept of my layout. I figured out how I could host two guest operators. I made a lot of new friends. Friends who would help me toward my MMR. I began to operate on more layouts and pretty soon the hours added up to the 50 required. But the paper work for the Dispatcher stumped me. I read the advice article, but still did not understand. Finally I attended a clinic at a regional given by Bob Weinheimer, MMR on developing an operating system and it all fell into place. When I got home, I was able to develop a timetable, train chart, and system of operation in very short order.



Electricity has always scared me. My palms sweat when I have to change a light bulb. I am so grateful for LEDs. So when I decided to tackle the Electrical certificate it was with considerable trepidation. However, as I reread

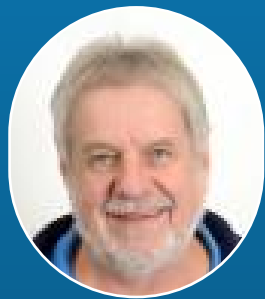


had already accomplished nearly everything I had to do! I had to make diagrams of the wiring, but you can just hand copy what you'll find on line. And the paperwork? Three fill-in-the-blanks pages, 3 pages of my diagrams, and 3 pages of photos and descriptions of what I had done. In my case that was wiring a turnout,, a crossover, a three-way turnout, an animated display, a DCC system, and a simple decoder installation in a locomotive (no lights, no sound). What was I afraid of?

Civil. Same story. When I checked the requirements, I found that I had already completed most of them while building the layout. What I hadn't done was hand lay turnouts. As a kid I had read about it in Model Railroader. Seemed daunting, scary, and, up until now, completely unnecessary. And then a miracle occurred. It was like when my college dropped the foreign language requirement, and I could get my degree. The new miracle was Fast Tracks system of turnout jigs. And the Division will loan them to you! And you can also buy all the track and ties too. And you can follow the how-to videos on line while you're building! The one problem was that I had already laid all the track on my layout. So I built a stand-alone display that incorporated all the requirements, and I felt very pleased with myself. Paperwork: 4 pages of fill-in-the-blanks, and seven pages I created of photos and captions of the completed requirements. If I had made the photos smaller it would have taken fewer pages, but when you're working on a computer, it's not a big deal. While the local judges can easily see what you've done, you also have to show it to the national chair. So you need the photos. The NMRA forms are a piece of cake. Your name, number, etc., and a bunch of check marks in the boxes for what you did. Passing siding: check. Spur: check. Wye: check. Is this hard? 🚂



PROTOTYPE RAILROAD IMAGES, PART 2



BY JOE KURILEC, MMR

My Railcrew Express job took me to Buffalo, New York for this interesting item.

At the CSX Frontier yards I found a new use for a containers. The yards use this as a storage place for tools and other supplies.



It would be an interesting AND easy addition to any layout!



Here is the right side view of the container.

While at Collinwood yards in Cleveland, Ohio I found this Sperry Rail Service truck. This truck does tests on the rails as it drives on the track.

Ultrasonic data is gathered and used by Sperry technicians. If there are problems, technicians use a "walking stick" for manual verification to confirm defects.

Ron Spiga added needed research for this article. At the end of this article are more images of a rail grinding train. 🚂

A YouTube video of this truck working can be viewed at the following link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIqWLUDcWwM)

[v=GIqWLUDcWwM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIqWLUDcWwM)



Some containers were used to ship mail. The LCL Corporation exclusively handled bulk mail. (Thanks to Tony Koester and John Slater for added info.)

The NYC, Pennsy and other railroads used these bulk mail containers. This type of container was used for mail only!



Another use for containers was the shipment of dolomite. Dolomite is a natural limestone used in agriculture. Bill Cramer added dolomite is also used to help preserve the lining of blast furnaces.



Driver side view.



Rear view.



Passenger side. The rail inspection assembly can be seen between the rear tire and truck door.



Taken in 2013 in the Collinwood yards show the rail grinding unit on the train. There were several on this train.

The rail grinders are located behind the black shields just above the rails.



Rail grinding at work!



The lead engine of the grinding train is to the right.



The rear of the grinding train has fire hoses to put out any fires from grinding. The two tank cars carry water to cool the rails.

Thanks to Joe Kurilec, MMR for sharing this very interesting prototype information. Follow Joe's lead, take some photos and pass them on to me with a little caption information. Earn points towards Author AP AND Raffle bucks\$\$ - Editor

THE BYLINE...



BY GARY SOLE
PHOTOS BY THE AUTHOR

In the next few Bylines I'll be talking about participation in Operating (OP) sessions and work sessions. About twelve to fifteen years ago I met a gentleman named Dave Bitte. Dave lived in Rittman, Ohio at that time. He invited me over to his house for an OP session. This was one of the first OP sessions where we ran a variety trains over the layout. By variety, we ran locals, run-throughs, yard-transfers and a few trains that were made up on-line.

Dave modeled eastern Ohio and West Virginia coal country. Interestingly, his layout had full scenery. He accomplished this by having a well-done backdrop that blended well with the mountains and trees. He didn't go to a lot of detail and I seldom noticed because the trains ran well and the concept of the layout was very good.

At one OP session I was running a coal drag and received a "stop order" at the bridge just before the yard lead. While waiting for my clearance, I started examining the bridge in front of me. Now, I had seen this bridge many times and never noticed that it was really part of the benchwork. Our Editor was nearby and I pointed out the bridge and that it was part of the benchwork. He immediately responded, "oh that's a Bitte Bridge."

When I was building my benchwork, I had an area that would require a 27-inch bridge. I didn't want to take the time to build bridge kits and fit them into this area; plus, the bridge needed to be very strong as it is by my electrical box. I remembered Dave's bridge. The pictures that follow are my "Bitte Bridge" with a brief narrative on how it was built.

I started with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch plywood. Cut the piece to the desired length and width. Next, a poplar 1x2 was screwed to the bottom of the plywood to keep it flat. Then I cut a 27-inch indentation on each side of the plywood for a Plastruct I-Beam, glued the plastic I-beam to the plywood with liquid nails and capped the seams in the I-beam with channel stock. Next, I glued some Atlas bridge girders to the top of the Plastruct I-beam. I used the bridge girders that Atlas sells in a 4 pack and the sides from a Warren Truss bridge to add interest.

When everything was dry, it was given two coats of Krylon flat black.

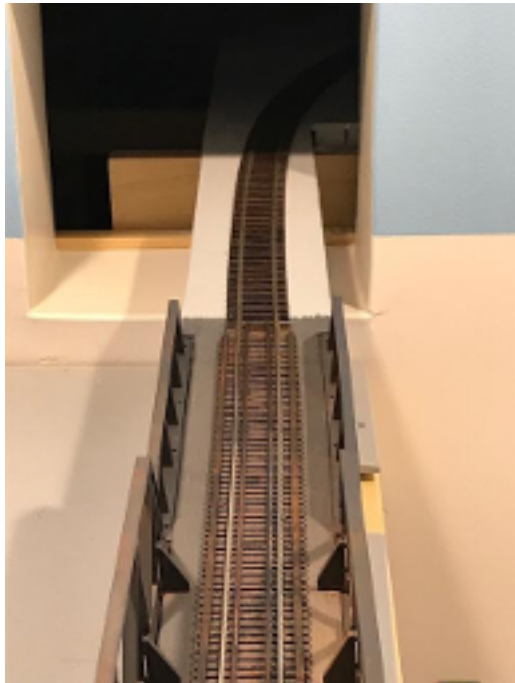
The track is a Micro Engineering Bridge Flex-Trak I found at our show for \$4; and some Campbell's wood bridge guard timbers, with Tichy bolt sets for a touch of detail. Code 70 guardrails finished off the look.

This area of the layout will continue to make the Byline from time to time.

At the end of last year, Dave and his wife moved to

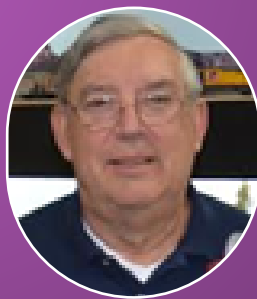
North Carolina. He is missed, but many of us remember the great OP sessions he hosted and the fun we had running his layout. 🚂

Three photos of my
"Bitte" bridge.



This photo was taken on your editor's previous layout. The bridge was built using the same technique described by Gary. Note the "Bitte Bridge Builders" company logo! - Editor

SPRING LAYOUT TOURS



BY RON MORGAN
LAYOUT TOURS CHAIRMAN

The following East side layouts will be open on **Sunday April, 29th 2018** from **Noon to 4 PM**. PLEASE respect these members by showing up ONLY during the time listed. Thank you. 🚂

Ron Morgan, our Layout Tours Chairman had only the following two members offer their layouts for tour this Spring. Please remember it is all our jobs as members to do what we can to help other members. Seeing what and how you are doing on your layout helps those who view it during a tour. This is a large part of what it means to belong to the NMRA. Please keep this in mind as we approach the call for Fall Layout Tours. - Just my opinion, Editor (Don't agree, or see other reasons, email me your opinion and get it printed in The Flatwheel! - Editor

Jim Peters
LITTLE SCIOTO & MINGO JCT.

Freelanced HO 24' x 36' around the wall and peninsula layout with 20% scenery. 8 crew members on operating nights. Jim has been awarded NMRA Achievement certificates for Golden Spike & Associate Volunteer.



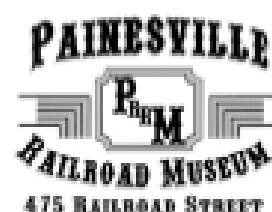
Frank Feko

Southern Ohio and Michigan RR

Freelanced HO scale 20' x 27' double decker with hidden lower and visible upper staging. The time frame is mid-fall 1955 late steam early diesel with Shaker Rapid PCC trolleys in a city scape. Upper deck is single track, 95% sceniced and includes the world's longest "drawbridge" and a full floating "steel viaduct." The under construction lower deck is double track including a "swinging lift bridge" and a "rollout table" engine servicing facility complete with round house and "double E" turntable indexing system. Control is by NCE radio. Frank is the proprietor of Sounds of Motion, DCC Sales and Technical Support. Enter through rear door from patio.



WHAT'S GOING ON?



Date: Saturday March 31, 2018
Location: Painesville Railroad Museum
 475 Railroad St., Painesville, Ohio 44077
Time: 8:00 am – 12:00 noon
Cost: \$7.00/Adults \$5.00 Sr Citizen \$3.00/Children (10 under)
 \$15 family of 4 = 2 Adults 2 Children (10 under)

Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 am



Proceeds Benefit:
Restoration of Painesville Depot
and
Diabetic Children



Lake County Juvenile Diabetes Walk Family
www.lcjdwl.org
 A 501(c)3 Non-profit
 440-479-5451

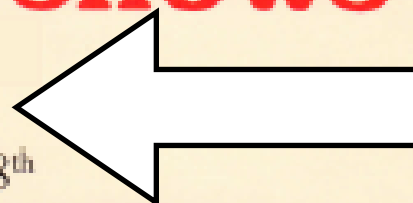
Painesville Railroad Museum
www.painesvilleraillroadmuseum.org
 A 501(c)3 Non-profit
 216-470-5780

2018



MEDINA MODEL RAILROAD & TOY SHOWS

SUNDAY - APRIL 8th
SUNDAY - OCTOBER 28th



CHRISTMAS **X**TRAVAGANZA

SUNDAY DECEMBER 2nd

~ ~ **NEW HOURS 9 AM TO 3 PM** ~ ~

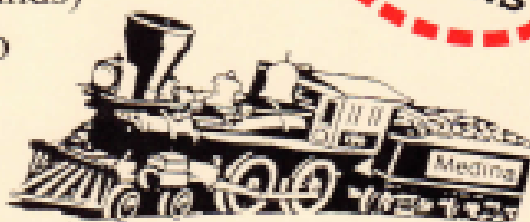
MEDINA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER

(Medina Fairgrounds)

Medina, Ohio



MEMORABILIA



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
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ADDRESS

Conrad & Dowdell Productions, Inc.
9047 Kennard Rd., Lodi, OH 44254
330 / 948-4400 Day of Show 330-722-9363
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TABLES

\$30 Day Show - \$25 if prepaid by Wednesday before show!

SET-UP

Night Before Show 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

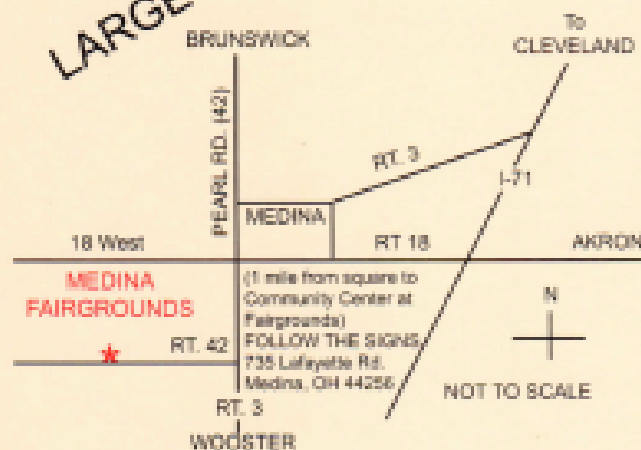
Day of Show - **7 a.m. to 9 a.m.** ~ ~ **New Hours**

Door Prizes • Food & Drink

ADMISSION

Adults \$6.00 • Children under 12 FREE

LARGE PARKING AREA

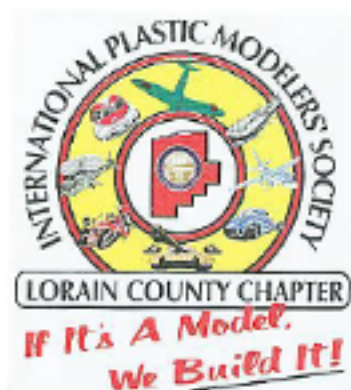


**Youngstown Model Railroad
Assn. Toy - Train Flea Market**
Salem Center Plex
**1098 N. Ellsworth Ave., Salem,
Ohio 44460**
10 am to 3:30pm
Adm. \$5.00
Phone Jim Pope at:
330-547-3614

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**Sunday
April 8, 2018
9 am to 2 pm**

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\$10 Table Rental

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Bucyrus Model Railroad Assoc.
TRAIN SHOW & Swap Meet
32nd Annual Show
Saturday, April 14, 2018

10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

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- Club Layout Open • Videos • Memorabilia • Model Train Parts

FOOD SERVICE BY:
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Participant's Form:

Tables: \$18.00 Prior to April 1,
Thereafter or day of show: \$20.00

Name _____

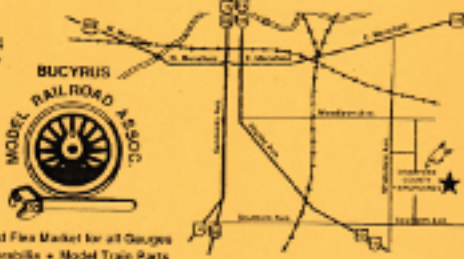
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Type of Display _____

☐ Receipt Requested



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TO THEIR OR THEIR PROPERTY WHILE ATTENDING THIS SHOW. THEY
EXPRESSLY RELEASE THE CRAWFORD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS AND
THE SHOW PROMOTERS FROM ANY LIABILITY.

IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO ATTEND THE SHOW, LET US KNOW ONE WEEK
PRIOR TO THE SHOW TO RECEIVE A REFUND. IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY,
ONLY LET US KNOW BEFORE THE SHOW AND ONLY IF TABLES ARE SOLD PRIOR TO THE SHOW, WE WILL REFUND YOUR
TABLE RESERVATION.

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SALE OF FOOD BY DEALERS IS PROHIBITED

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• Dave Moore 419-462-5639



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NEXT LAKE ERIE CHAPTER MEET: NOVEMBER 24TH, 2018

ADMISSION: Adults \$6 • Children Free
Open to the Public 10 am - 3 pm

For More Information Contact: lcakeerie@gmail.com

MODEL TRAIN DAYS

at

THE PAINESVILLE RAILROAD MUSEUM

475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077

For info call Len at 440-417-6746

MAY 5-6 2018

10 am to 5 pm

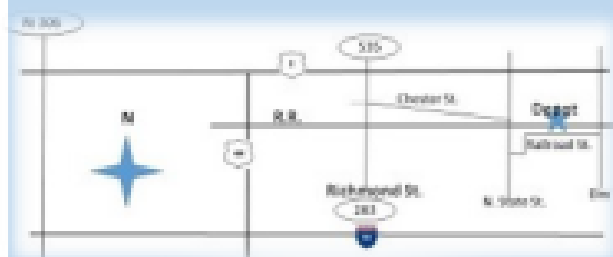
See operating Model Train Layouts in N scale,
HO scale, S scale, O gauge and G gauge.

12 Different Layouts to see!

Model Train flea market on grounds.



Admission: \$5.00 adult, \$3.00 child (3 to 12 year old)
\$12.00 Family (max 2 adults, 3 children)



www.painesvilleraillroadmuseum.org

501(c)(3) non-profit

Direction to Painesville Depot

I-90 (exit 200) to Rt. 44

North on Rt. 44 to Rt. 2

East on Rt. 2 (1.5 miles) to OH 535 / OH 283 (exit 223)

South on OH 283 for 200 feet, left turn (east onto Chester St.)

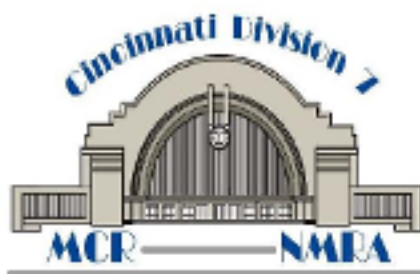
East on Chester St (0.7 miles) to North State Street

South on North State Street (under R.R. Bridge) to Railroad Street.

East on Railroad Street to Depot.

Food and Drinks available.

Proceeds to help the restoration and preservation of the historic NYC Painesville Depot and bring her back to its glory days of the NYC.



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DIVISION 4, MCR, NMRA

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 each month. A social half hour starts at 7:00 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 7:30. After a short break, 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 Division's newsletter, *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, or Division Four.

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

The Flatwheel is typically electronically published no later than the Monday preceding the monthly meeting. Submissions are due no later than the 26th of the prior month, for example, August 26th for the September *Flatwheel*.

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. 🚂



Scratch built model by member Dave Lawler of the Great Lakes lumber steamer Argo in 1/8" to the foot. On display at the National Museum of the Great Lakes in Toledo.



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.