



THE

# FLATWHEEL

NOVEMBER 2020



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# NORTH COAST LEADERSHIP

## ELECTED OFFICERS

Superintendent - Lee Sheffield, lakeshorenyc@yahoo.com

Assistant Superintendent - Ron Morgan,  
ronalco844@gmail.com

Secretary - Chris Shick, craftqween@sbcglobal.net

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

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

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

Director Quad County - Fred Wagner (419)-908-8251  
boonedog0219@gmail.com

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

Director at Large - Jeff Lauren, (216)-798-1896  
jflrn@sbcglobal.net

## APPOINTED POSITIONS

Great Berea Train Show - David James, c(440)-785-9907  
Achievement - John Hemsath MMR® hemsathj@gmail.com  
Layout Tours -Ron Morgan, ronalco844@gmail.com  
Contests - Joe Filipiak, graftonpotter@frontier.com  
Historian/Archivist - Frank Bongiovanni  
Raffle - Adam Woodie, woo3482@hotmail.com

Co. Store Manager - Scott Benson,  
sbenson440@zoominternet.net

Clinics - Gary Sole 440-250-2192 gsantafe@wowway.com

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Membership - George Keller, c(419)-217-0396  
gkeller@woh.rr.com

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

Webmaster—Ben Lanza, blqt@nls.net

Refreshments—Don Glass

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

# DIVISION 4

## THE NORTH COAST DIVISION

**OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2020.  
WE OFFER GOOD FELLOWSHIP, FREE SOFT-DRINKS/COFFEE AND  
AN INFORMATIVE CLINIC ON SOME ASPECT OF OUR HOBBY. JOIN US!**

### 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. Starting September, 2020, the meetings are held at the **Westlake City Recreation Center**, 28955 Hilliard Blvd, 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 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*.

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

**Westlake City Recreation Center  
28955 Hilliard Blvd  
Westlake, OH 44145**



# FROM THE SUPER

“Driving the train doesn’t set its course. The real job is laying the track.” *Ed Catmull*

How have your model railroad projects been coming along? Myself, yard chores and other household projects have been taking up my time. But the days are getting shorter and colder leading up to that time when the yard tools get put away till spring. And then it’s time to migrate to the basement and enjoy some model railroading. I guess I shouldn’t say my time has been completely void of model railroading as I have been helping Bram Bailey make trees a few evenings over the past month. Adam Woodie is a master of scenery and has been helping Bram turn his world of hydrocal into something a little more green. Bram and Adam have been making trees through most of the summer and if you have visited Bram’s layout you will realize just how many trees will be needed. We’re talking thousands.

November’s meeting will as always involve our annual budget. The BOD will be meeting via Zoom Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> to put together the 2021 budget. Without the show we will have very little if any income. But on the bright side, if you can find a bright side of this past year, is we didn’t have very many expenses. And thankfully we still have our funds from the 2014 National that we can work from.

With the cancellation of our Awards Banquet we have decided to have a meeting in December. Joe Filipiak has talked with the folks at the Westlake Community Center and got us set up to have the room for our meeting. I will be asking for ideas for what we should do for this meeting. We have already talked about having some sort of holiday themed model contest and I’m sure Adam has lots of goodies stashed away for the Awards Banquet that we could raffle off that evening. Maybe some holiday cookies along with our normal donuts and coffee.

Well we have a new Clinic Chair. I don’t know if it was my pleading on my soapbox in September or the lack of clinic in October that worked. Regardless, Gary Sole has stepped up to be the new Clinic Chair. Please contact Gary with your clinic ideas you have to offer. Several of you contacted me offering to do a clinic at the October meeting and I thank you. But I felt push had come to shove as no one had approached me about taking over the position. Gary raised his hand and stated he would like to be considered for the position. I said your hired before he could change his mind. Thank you, Gary for volunteering.

Another change to a chairperson’s position is Bruce Brintnall<sup>MMR</sup> will be stepping down from the Achievement Chair position. I don’t know how long Bruce held this position, but I believe he was Achievement Chair when I joined the NMRA in 2008. John Hemsath<sup>MMR</sup> has graciously volunteered to take over as Achievement Chair. Thank you, Bruce for all your years of work as Achievement Chair and thank you John for volunteering to taking over.

I want to take this moment to thank all our volunteers that keep Division 4 going. If we didn’t have volunteers, we wouldn’t have a Division to be proud of. Thank You !!!

With that said it is time to wrap it up for this month. As I am finishing this column the bug numbers are rising rapidly. One topic in addition to the budget at the BOD meeting will be the safety of having a meeting in November or December. Time will tell. Keep those hands washed and stay safe. See everyone on November 13<sup>th</sup>.



Remember, Model Railroading is Fun !!!

Lee Sheffield, Superintendent

# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

## NMRA MCR Division 4 General Meeting Minutes for Friday, October 09, 2020 Westlake Recreation Center, Westlake Ohio

Superintendent Lee Sheffield opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Greg Noeth gave the Treasurers report and let us know the audit was done by Larry Kowicki and all was good.

Lee let us know the next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10th at 7:00 pm. Meeting will be done on Zoom and the main topic of discussion will be the budget.

We moved onto Committee reports:

Membership – George Keller – Let him know if you need a color change on your badges. Everyone in attendance should place their badges in the empty X-Y-Z compartment of the container. He then asked for new members and if there were any visitors – there were neither tonight.

Clinics – Lee spoke out because Larry Madson has asked to step down. There was no Clinic listing in last months Flatwheel because no one has stepped forward to take the position. There are a bunch of people willing to do clinics, but no one to organize them. There will be no Clinic this evening, Joe Filipiak suggested we could also do Clinics from the internet. Ramhog Shearer brought up that a person could record their layouts and bring it in to also present as a Clinic. Or we could do virtual visits to other layout this year.

Module Group – Scott Benson spoke on behalf of Adam Woodie. We are doing both Trees and Trains and Zoo Lights at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Trees and Trains will be at Black River Landing and will be done in the old Higbee's fashion with the trains facing the windows and the trees on risers behind the trains. The Zoo Lights will be in a Pavilion with tarps on the sides. It will be outside, but heaters will be provided. Please dress appropriately. Let Adam Woodie know if you want to work either or both and if you want your modules displayed.

Flatwheel – Chuck Shick – Deadline for articles is October 26<sup>th</sup>, be sure to get them in on time.

AP Awards – Bruce Brintnall – not present this evening

Contest – Joe Filipiak – Model Contest Passenger Cars/Sleeper Cars. Joe gave a little history of sleeper cars and recommended to take a trip in an Amtrak sometime.

Last months winners:

Models:           1<sup>st</sup> – Don Glass  
                      2<sup>nd</sup> – Joe Filipiak  
                      3<sup>rd</sup> – Fred Wagner  
Dioramas -       1<sup>st</sup> – George Keller  
                      2<sup>nd</sup> – John Witt

Next month is Rubber wheeled railroad vehicle.

Company Store – Scott Benson – He has Gold Spike postage stamps and lots of new stuff. Like always shirts, hats, finger flashlights and lots of various train DVD's.

A brief show and tell of a small layout inside of a pumpkin was presented

# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Chuck Klein let everyone know there is free stuff on the table. Some maybe pieces parts. Please take what you want.

At this time Gary Sole volunteered to do Clinics. Congratulations!

Kevin Peterson spoke up about an artist he knows named Jan Saunders. She can help paint murals on the walls for your layouts. If you are interested he has some handouts.

Raffle – Tim Sheffield – Tonight there are wonderful articles to see with a little of this and that. Come get your tickets!

In general: Former member Rich Mayich's wife is trying to sell off the rest of his stuff. He specialized in the Erie Railroad.

Since we are not having our annual awards night in December, do we want to have a meeting or just skip it? A motion was made by Chuck Klein to hold a meeting. Seconded by Bram Bailey, motion carried. We will have a December meeting and everyone should bring in Christmas goodies. The meeting will be held on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Contest for that night will be something Christmassy.

Gary Schafer gave a report on the Roads- Rails & Sales. It was a success. Lots of money was raised for the Caboose. He has shirts and lanyards from the event for sale.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12.

Raffle at 8:30.



Chris Shick,  
Secretary

# THIS & THAT

This is the neighbor that I presented at our last meeting. She is an artist that does multiple things, among which is murals. As you can see she can help our people with "backgrounds" for their layouts.

She also does murals for inside homes.

Kevin Peterson

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# MODULE GROUP

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

Things have begun to move in a positive direction regarding the module group.

First up, the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo!

The Cleveland Metroparks Zoo has once again contacted the module group and requested a model train layout display at this year's Wild Winter Lights display. This year the layout will be located in a different location due to the COVID restrictions and should see a considerably larger amount of foot traffic than last year.

This event will begin on Thursday, November 19th and end on Wednesday, December 30th. This year the event will be split into two different types of viewing options. First, the event will be open to the public from Thursday through Sundays, until Sunday, December 13th. and then open Thursday, December 17th through Wednesday, December 30th (holidays excluded) . For those individuals that do not desire to be out in public, a drive thru only option will be available on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. beginning Tuesday, November 24th and ending on Wednesday, December 16th. The numbers of individuals to visit the zoo each evening will be limited. Advanced ticket purchases will be required. Please note, the layout will not be operational during the drive thru evenings.

Second up, Trees and Trains!

Trees and Trains will be a "go" at the Black River Landing in downtown Lorain this coming holiday season. This year the event will be set up similar to the old Higbee's window display just like the one in A Christmas Story! This will allow the general public to view the trees and trains from outside the facility and limit the number of people inside the building to only those members operating the layout. This event will be available for viewing every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday beginning Saturday, November 28th and ending on Sunday, December 27th, holidays excluded.

Any member interested in operating on either (or both) layouts during the holiday season, please let me know. You can see me at the monthly meeting to see the printed schedule or email me at [woo3482@hotmail.com](mailto:woo3482@hotmail.com).

Until next time!



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

# COMPANY STORE

There is one last Davies Hopper available; grab it at the next meeting! I have some cars and building kits from our sister divisions (made for their regional conventions). From Division 1: Accurail HO scale ACY gondolas are available – 3 different road numbers (\$20 each), and Micro-Trains N scale ACY 50' PS-1 boxcars – 2 numbers (\$25 each).



From Division 2: HO scale laser-cut wood kits for B&O-prototype Oil/Coal Shed (\$13), Telegraph Office (\$29) and Signal Tower (\$35). These kits, and the Fire Hose Shed and Yard Office kit, are available in various scales. Check out the web site for more info. [https://www.keystonedivision.org/convention\\_kits/convention\\_kits.php](https://www.keystonedivision.org/convention_kits/convention_kits.php) Please let me know if you'd like to order any of these kits, and I'll put in a group order and save on shipping!!



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Shed**

I'll also have more of the Glue Loopers - demand has been hot! And some of the glue pens we saw in the January clinic. More finger LED lights, Golden Spike stamps, HO gages etc. for sale at upcoming meetings.

Division 4 shirts and hats are available through the Company Store. Order at the monthly meeting, or through the form on the Company Store page on our web site. Division 4 patches are also available at \$3 each.

We have a library of how-to DVD's for member use, available at our meetings. A \$10.00 deposit for each DVD rented. \$10.00 returned when DVD returned at next meeting.



Scott Benson

# CONTEST TABLE

The October Model Contest had ten entries which represented a wide variety of sleeper cars. I'm sure the Nickel Plate "City of Cleveland" car had greater comfort than the troop train sleeper. With all the fumes and heat rising up to the roof, I would believe that the poor, hapless soldier that got the top bunk had less than a good night's sleep. Having just mentioned the NKP "City of Cleveland" which was submitted by Chuck Klein, it seems the majority of the members that voted, liked it enough to give it first place in the contest. John Hemsath's whimsically titled entry "Rip Van Winkle" came in second and Dave Flebbe's troop sleeper was in third place.

There were two entries in the diorama displays. George Keller's entry had an interior exposed sleeper. I looked for some magazines in the car but I didn't see any. Then again, I may have missed them because there was so much to see. George's diorama achieved first place with John Witt's fine detailed entry coming in second.

November's contest is to be a rubbered wheeled railroad vehicle. Anything from a lonely pickup truck to an exotic industrial rail car mover. Let's see what you come up with. Because there will not be an Awards Banquet this December, we will have a December meeting at the Westlake Rec Center. There will be a contest for the December's meeting. The subject of the contest is anything Christmas involving trains. This contest promises to be a lot of fun! Anything from a Christmas tree on a flat car, or a caboose with strings of lights, or even the Polar Express. Heck, rails are optional. How about Santa delivering his bags of presents riding in an air borne gondola pulled by reindeer. Well, that ones a little outside the box, but that's alright. It's time to close the Contest Box for now but I hope it's time for you to get started on your entry for the next contest.



Joe Filipiak

# RAFFLE

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

It was certainly great to have monthly meeting and raffle again after a 6 month pause. Next month will be another great raffle with lots of prizes up for grabs. As always, there will be something for everyone at the upcoming meeting. I hope to see everyone there!



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

# EDITORIAL

This is the newsletter of the members of Division 4. Please send articles that would be interesting to our Members.

Any comments about the Flatwheel to:  
[chuck.shick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chuck.shick@sbcglobal.net)

Thanks



Chuck Shick, Flatwheel Editor

# All You Ever Wanted To Know About How Coal Moves From Tender To Firebox

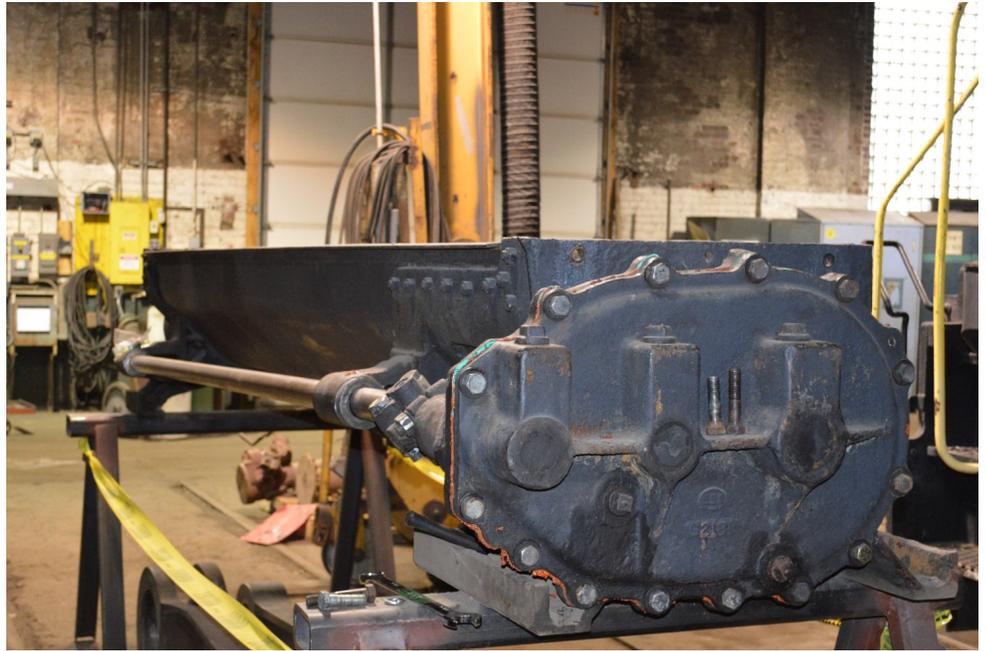
On one of my recent "adventures" to the West 3RD. B&O Roundhouse, located on West 3Rd. in the Cleveland flats area, I was looking for a new addition to their collection. An NYC business car I heard about...but that's for another article. As I walked around the roundhouse, I came upon the tender from the Reading, # 2100, T-1, 4-8-4 being restored there. The tender was moved out to make room for another item. This is one of those moments that really does not happen to often! We're looking at the "front" of the tender! You'll notice (from bottom to top) the water delivery pipes to the locomotive injectors, to the left and right of the truck brake rigging. Centered between those pipes are the drawbar "slots". Right above is the buffer plate between the loco and tender. The coal bunker door has been removed. At the bottom center of the coal bunker is the auger screw that feeds the coal to the loco automatic stoker.

As I walked into the roundhouse, located next to # 2100 was the complete coal auger screw assembly from inside floor of the tender stored outside. This is the front of the auger screw assembly that attaches to the stoker screw auger leading to the firebox.



# All You Ever Wanted To Know About How Coal Moves From Tender To Firebox

Walking to the rear of the auger screw shows the shaft, center left, that provides power to turn the auger screw



I could not find a ladder to get a better view of the inside auger screw so I just pointed my camera and shot! At least I got



By Joe Kurilec, MMR

something that is not viewed to often. Another great rail fanning day with more items for another article!

# Projects for my Train layout and Layout room

I think it was May that I last wrote. Since then I attended the October meeting of the Division in Westlake Rec. What a beautiful facility that is! Joe Filipiac did a nice job landing that place. With the masks and spacing of the chairs, I felt comfortable there.

My brother and I worked with Gary Sole on an estate sale of Fritz Schaufele's model railroad collection. While I don't have nearly as much stuff as Fritz, I'm making a concerted effort to cull the herd. And not just model railroad stuff. BTW, it was great of so many of you who were able to take advantage of the sale, and help out Fritz's widow, Joan. She donated all that was left to the Division. There was a charming, 13-year-old lone wolf model railroader who showed up on his bike. We showered him with far more stuff than he bought. He called in his father to help get the loot home. Joan and I agreed that that kid made our day.

I managed to get a few things done on my layout this summer. One significant achievement was the installation of a ceiling exhaust fan in the train room. That has helped to get rid of the hot air buildup during the summer. Working with a home handyman, it took all day to get it in. One surprise after another. But it works! It should work for op sessions too when the BTUs from 4 guys begins to add up.

I mentioned before that I was working on a couple of house cars



# Projects for my Train layout and Layout room

Years ago I bought a Bachman 2-8-0 from an estate sale. This summer I unboxed it and installed a Tsunami decoder and sound in it. It still needs tuning, but it works albeit a bit of a jack rabbit.

I also repainted and decaled it to match an identical consolidation.

, I will beg Denny Whitaker or Ron Spiga to help me get my JMRI working.

I admire how John Puch comes up with interesting new jobs on his layout. I developed one new job; the Acme Turn. Since the Acme Corporation is the largest customer of Bay Lines, they now have their own job. 4 cars in/ 4 cars out/ 4 cars remain in their “yard”. It is not a hard job, but does require long arms to reach their sidings.



# Projects for my Train layout and Layout room

Quick's Sand & Gravel Co. (a salute to Frank Ellison) is a new addition to the layout. It is not served by rail, but it's a place where I can display my Highway Miniatures steam shovel and steam crane out of harm's way. I picked up the space for it by moving the stock pens for Whitaker Meats 6" closer to the front of the layout. That made the operator's reach to uncouple stock cars there a little easier.



I'm still frustrated by not being able to get my Clark Yard wye to work electrically. I sent Bruce Brintnall a drawing of the track with drops and gaps, but nothing was obvious to him either. I replaced the automatic reversing unit with no joy there. At least I know the old reversing unit is probably OK. I just blew \$22 to find that out. Once I overcome my fear of failure, I'm going to start cutting wires to see what happens.

The next big project is to replace a couple of old Walthers turnouts with Pecos and relocate one curved turnout in the same location. I have a short piece of track in that area that my consolidations cannot negotiate. So, I'm hoping to eliminate that problem while I'm at it, plus eliminate two Caboose ground throws. I much prefer Peco's finger flickin' turnouts.

Sparkle and Skye are doing fine. The groomer is coming here tomorrow. We'll see how that goes. It will save me two round trips to the groomer each month if it works out. That's one more hour to work on the trains. Or take a nap.

I hope you are staying safe and healthy.  
Best regards,



John Hemsath ,MMR

# WHAT'S GOING ON

2020 - Nov. 8

## **Norwalk & Western RR Model Train Show**

EHOVE Career Center, 316 West Mason Road, Milan, Ohio 44846

10 am - 3 pm Adm. \$5.00

Phone: (419) 706-8038

2020 - Nov. 15 **Mansfield Train Show**

Fairhaven Hall, Richland County Fairgrounds

750 N. Home Rd., Mansfield, Ohio 44906

10 am - 3 pm Adm. \$7.00

Phone: 419-606-7934

2020 - Nov. 28

## **Train Collectors Association - Thanksgiving Train Show**

UAW Hall 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, Ohio 44130

10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$7.00

Phone John Twarog at : 330-273-6404

2020 -Dec. 6

## **Medina Train and Toy Show**

Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, Ohio 44256

9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00

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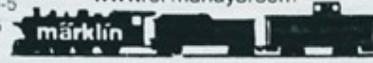
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We are Division 4 of the Mid-Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association. (DIV-4 MCR NMRA).

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 talk railroads and modeling.



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