

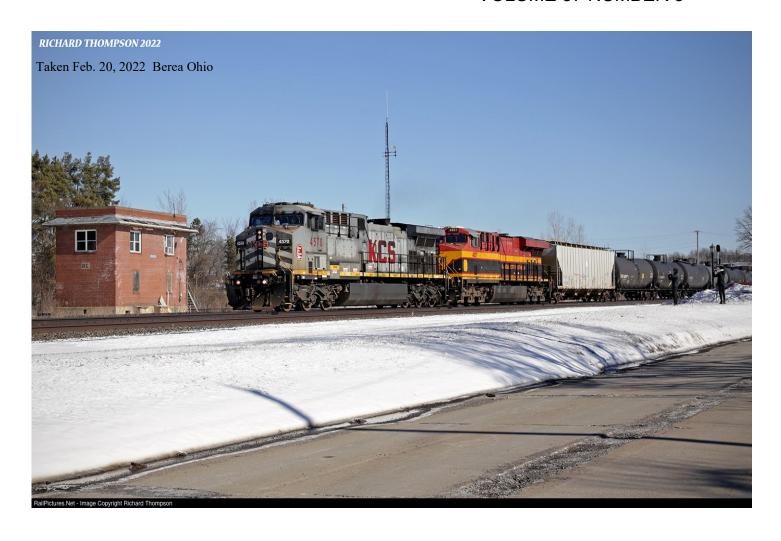




FLATWHEEL

MARCH 2022

VOLUME 57 NUMBER 3



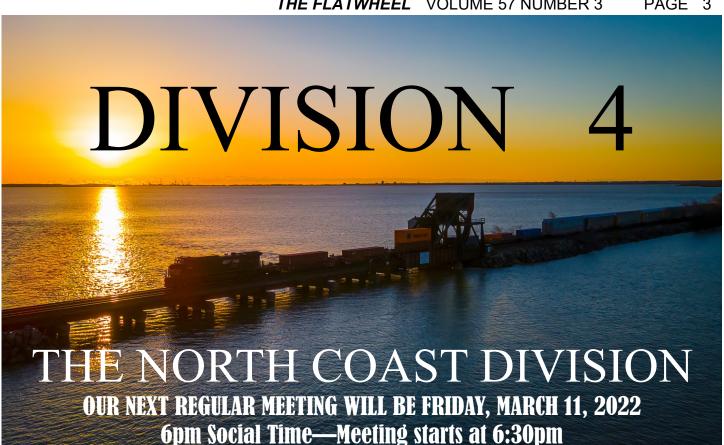
In This Issue MARCH 2022

FEATURES:

16	Div 4 ELECTION CANDIDATES BIOS
19	FEBRUARY MEETING CONTEST TABLE PICTURES
23	SPRINGFIELD MASS Dave Williams

COLUMNS:

2	Table of Contents
3	When and Where We Meet
4	From The Super –Lee
5	George Kelly Passed Away
6	Another Loss
7	Board o Directors Minutes
8	Feb. Meeting Minutes
10	Div4 Leadership
11	Module Group
12	Company Store
13	Contest Table
14	Clinic
15	Raffle
29	What's Going On?
31	Hobby Sources Listings
34	About US



WE MEET

WHEN & WHERE 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 6:00 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 6:30. 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.

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

My usual March Flatwheel column talks about Member Appreciation night and the up and coming Railfest. But this time I have to reflect on the loss of another good friend and Division 4 member George Keller aka Santa's Elf. It seemed we just lost Fred Obreza and now George. They were both active in the Division helping support our great group. The phone call came Saturday night and then word spread quickly among the what seems like thousands of friends and former coworkers via Facebook and emails. George was one the most likable gentlemen I have ever known and would do anything you asked. The word "no" was not in his vocabulary. He could talk your leg off and work on anything and everything. The Train of Life has had another rider depart at their destination. George and Fred will be sorely missed.

Member Appreciation night went well. I counted between 65 to 70 members in attendance and we enjoyed pizza and a video. There was plenty of pizza to go around and a few took some leftovers home.

Division 5 has received the green light from Lakeland Community College to have their show in March. They will be short one room and all participants will be required to wear a mask. We will be helping staff a membership table and we are looking for volunteers to greet and interact with potential new members. Staffing the membership table was one of George's loves of supporting Model Railroading. So, we need to step up and make sure we don't let George down.

Elections are right around the corner. By the time you read this edition of the Flatwheel or shortly after you will receive a ballot via email, if we have a valid email address or you will receive a mail in ballot if we do not. Please cast your vote. Ballots shall be received or postmarked by April 15th to be eligible.

Our Director's met before the February meeting and they received a few questions and comments. They will report at the March meeting and we will address their questions and comments to the best of our abilities.

Please continue to welcome any new members and visitors to our meetings. Try to answer their questions the best you can or refer them to another member who might have the answer. Remember, we were all green at some point. See everyone on March 11th.

As always, Model Railroading is Fun !!!

Lee Sheffield



Lee Sheffield

GEORGE KELLER WILL BE MISSED



Attached is a watercolor portrait of our friend, George Keller.

As you know, George was a special person. Kind and loving. Generous and caring. I always looked forward to his thoughtful and creative comments about paintings. I would post on Facebook. He said he "heard" the paintings. Here's one of his comments on a peaceful landscape painting "Smell the fresh air. Hear the breeze moving the leaves and the gentle lapping of water on the shore".

George will be greatly missed by everyone whose life he touched. Rest in peace, my friend.

Best regards,

Tom Hemsath



Here is George doing something else he was passionate about. His many talents will be missed.

https://www.auxterfuneralhomes.com/ obituary/George-Keller

PAGE 6

ANOTHER LOSS

link to the obituary for Paul Holmes. He was a members of Div. 4, and opened his layout for operating sessions and open houses, as well as promoting the hobby.

https://robersonfh.com/obituary/paul-g-holmes/

Sent in by Paul Novak Jr.

Division Four, MCR, NMRA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, Tuesday February 8, 2022

Superintendent called the Board of Directors Meeting to order at 7:02pm. This meeting is being held via Zoom.

Lee asked if as a group we would like to put a bid in to host the 2024 Regional Convention. Jerry Kruger has stepped up to head the committee. We would allow Division 12 their chance to place their bid before us. A brief discussion was held if the board was agreeable to the idea. A motion was made and then seconded. The board voted to put the bid in at the May Regional Meeting. (Sorry when on Zoom I don't see who motions, so I did not get names).

The Directors need to have their annual meeting.

We moved on to discuss the by laws of the Division. It was mentioned to make the following changes for the listing of directors. We will still keep five and they will be listed as follows: 2 for Cuyahoga County one westside and one eastside (not having to be east of the Cuyahoga River), 1 for the West, and 2 At Large. Gary Schaefer made a motion to accept the change to the by law. Brian Haas seconded the motion. Vote was taken and the Board have accepted the by law change.

Since we have more than one person running for Assistant Superintendent, we will be doing a ballot election. Most of the balloting will be done via email. Dave Flebbe has volunteered to be the teller of the election. He will mail those ballots that we don't have email addresses for via USPS. Ballots need to go out by Mid-March and returned no later than April 15ht. Dave will be assisted with email addresses and who is eligible to vote by Ben Lanza. Dave will call National HQ tomorrow to find out who is eligible to vote and who is not.

George Keller is looking for volunteers to work a membership table at Railfest in March. Railfest will be smaller this year and MASKS must be worn at all times.

Jerry Kruger is looking to set a specific time for doing clinics. He would like to let his remote people know to be ready to present at said time. We set the clinic time for 7:30 pm with an hour of allotted time for presentation. This gives us a half hour to clean up and be out of Rec Center by 9:00 pm.

Talked about the Membership Appreciation Night – where the pizza is being ordered from and the cost of it.

Meeting closed at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Shick Secretary, Division Four, MCR, NMRA



Chris Shick

MEETING MINUTES

Division Four, MCR, NMRA Meeting Minutes of February 11. 2022

Superintendent Lee Sheffield opened the meeting at 6:30 pm with a warm welcome on a blustery night.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Greg Noeth gave the treasurer's report of the balances in our accounts.

Elections – Dave Flebbe – We have 2 running for Assistant Superintendent so we will be doing a ballot election. All other offices only have one person running for their position. If you want to be an officer there is still time to fill out a petition.

Pizza Night – Pizza is due by 7:00 pm. Ken Orchard, Burt Wisbar, and David James are our servers tonight. Jerry Kruger has movies for us to watch.

Membership – George Keller – says he's glad to be back. Welcomed new member Robby Koopman. George is taking names for volunteers to work a membership table at Railfest. The dates are the 19th and 20th of March. Time of both days is 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. MASKS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES! If you want to volunteer you get free admission.

Clinics – Jerry Kruger – March Clinic will be Fast Track Jigs and hands on experience put on by Jerry himself, and April is Joe Filipiak.

Board Meeting - the Board Meeting was held on Tuesday, February 8th via Zoom. Board of Directors still need to have their annual meeting. Only changes to y laws: were the titles of the directors. The officers voted and the will be 2 Directors of Cuyahoga County, 1 West, and 2 At Large. By laws are now all updated, signed, and will be posted in a PDF format on Division 4's website.

Module Group – Adam Woodie – Next is a display at Lakeland, then things slow down for a while. There is a possibility of a Work Day at Dave's bus depot to work on the trailer and modules sometime in March.

The Flatwheel – Chuck Shick – Deadline is the 26th of the month, but if you want you can send in your articles earlier.

MEETING MINUTES

AP Awards - John Hemsath - None

Contests – Joe Filipiak – Tonight's contest is Railway Post Office Car, be sure to get over and vote. Last month's contest was Small Depots. The winners are:

Model: 1st – Jim Grell

2nd – John Hemsath 3rd – Joe Filipiak

Diorama: 1st – John Witt

2nd – Steve Riddlebaugh

Next month's contest – Blank Box Car Creations

Company Store - Scott Benson - No Report

Raffles – Adam Woodie – Will resume next month.

New Business or Comments – Ron Morgan – Layout Tours are scheduled for May 1st and 7th. If you want to show your layout, please contact Ron.

Joe Filipiak – has boxes of donated brass flex track. It is free over by the Contest Table.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Shick Secretary, Division Four, MCR, NMRA



Chris Shick

NORTH COAST OHIO

DIV-4 Leadership

ELECTED OFFICERS

Superintendent - Lee Sheffield, <u>lakeshorenyc@yahoo.com</u>

Assistant Superintendent - Ron Morgan, ronalco844@gmail.com

Secretary - Chris Shick, <u>craftqween@sbcglobal.net</u>

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

Director East - John Janda, c(440)-334-0869 jjanda101@gmail.com

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

Director Quad Co. - 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 - Jerry Krueger jakrueg@neo.rr.com

Flatwheel Editor - Chuck Shick. chuck.shick@hotmail.com

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

Modules - Adam Woodie, woo3482@hotmail.com

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

MODULE GROUP

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

The Module Group is currently slated to have a small layout at the upcoming Railfest aka Division 5 show. Said show is scheduled for Saturday, March 19th and Sunday, March 20th. This event will run from 10:00am to 4:00pm each day. We hope to see you there!

For anyone interested in joining the Module Group, please contact me at woo3482@hotmail.

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

COMPANY STORE

The Company Store found some good deals at the Amherst Train Show in January. Stop by the store next meeting and see what is new!

If you're looking to get a Division 4 shirt or ball cap, the Company Store can help you. The order form is available at the Division 4 website and at our meetings.

The Company Store is now managing the FastTracks turnout tools library. We have an inventory of jigs, tools and supplies for use by members. We have HO Code 83 jigs for #4, #5, #6 and #8 turnouts (left or right), #6 Gantlet, and #6 crossovers (single or double). Plus all supplies including the Quicksticks. They will be available at Division 4 meetings, but contact Scott Benson, 440-567-9089, sbenson440@zoominternet.net to arrange to borrow what you need.

We also have our DVD loaning library, mostly covering modeling techniques. DVD loans are free to Division 4 members.



Scott Benson

CONTEST TABLE

The good thing about the ice and rain and snow is that we find ourselves in our train workshop and away from that nasty weather. At least ten modelers were able to work up models for the RPO Contest. Steve Riddlebaugh got first place with his model of a railroad post office car. Second place went to Dave Lawler and third place went to Jim Grell. The dioramas found John Witt's car shop building a RPO car winning first place. Joe Filipiak's diorama depicting an "at speed" scene of a mail bag retrieval.

The March contest is the creative "do something with box cars contest. This should produce some interesting entries. April's contest is a rail car used to haul grain in. Covered hoppers and box cars were and are standard fair for this job. This is a great chance for a grain elevator with a rail car diorama. Modelers, like George Keller, entered projects into the contests because they had fun telling a story. Everyone has a story to tell. What's yours?



Joe Filipiak

CLINICS

The March Clinic will be a demonstration of using Fast Track turnout assembly fixtures. Division owns Fast Track turnout assembly fixtures for #5, #6 and #8 turnouts along with basic supplies needed to build a turnout. The fixtures and filing jigs are available for loan to any Division member. Jerry Krueger will walk through what's involved in using the fixtures to build a turnout and build a turnout as part of the presentation. The presentation will be projected onto the screens in the room so everyone can easily see the process. Turnouts and track constructed using Fast Track fixtures qualify for the Model Railroad Engineer – Civil certificate.

I'm still looking for clinics. If you have an idea for a clinic please contact. If you have suggestions for clinics that you'd like to see please send me an email. I want to schedule clinics that members want to see.



RAFFLE

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

Well membership appreciation night aka pizza night was a sucess! Thanks to all of those that volunteered during the event.

With that said, the monthly raffle will resume at the upcoming March meeting. As always there will be sometime for everyone! Please remember that the meetings are scheduled to begin at 6:30pm so purchase your tickets early!

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

ELECTION OF OFFICERS CANDIDATE BIOS

My name is Ron Morgan and I am running for the position of Division 4 Superintendent.

Trains have been a part of my life since day 1. At one time in my life, my father, grandfather, and uncles all worked for several railroads in my home town of Columbus Ohio. So, it is in my blood.

My wife and I moved to Cleveland in July of 1970 for my work at Ohio Bell after college. My degree was in computer science and I enjoyed my 30-year career with OBT, Ameritech and SBC in data systems.

I joined the NMRA the first time in early 1970's. During that period of time I served as Train Show Chairman for several years and convention chairman of the North Coast Limited MCR Regional Convention in the late 1980's and I was a modular holder in the first modular group the division supported. I also worked with our Div 4 legal counsel at that point in time to annex our western counties into Div. 4 from the North Central Region.

In the early 2000's I rejoined the NMRA and since that time I have served as assistant superintendent for two terms and layout tour chairman for multiple years.

In 1978 I joined the CV&WS Model Railroad club and I have served as vice president, president multiple times, and chairman of the board multiple times.

Gayle and I enjoy going to the regional and national conventions. Over the years we have attended over 14 regional and 14 national conventions. I have given a clinic on my ethanol plant multiple times both on regional and national levels.

Some of you have visited my home layout over the years and I always look forward to hosting an open house to share my love of the hobby. Those who have not, you are always welcome.

I am currently working on becoming an MMR. I have earned 3 certificates and currently I am working on two more. Maybe one of these days.

Gayle and I have been blessed in many ways. And one of them is the friends we have made along and throughout the NMRA journey.

I respectfully ask for your vote of confidence.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS CANDIDATE BIOS

DAVE WILLIAMS—RUNNING FOR ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDANT

I joined the NMRA in 1998 and have served Division 4 as original webmaster, newsletter editor, Director, Secretary, and proxy Division representative at several Regional BOD meetings. I was the Division's representative to the Northern Ohio Association of Railroad Societies (NOARS) and continue as alternate. I'm currently the editor of the regional newsletter. I worked on committees for both the 2008 Regional Convention as well as the 2014 National Convention. Outside the NMRA, I've served as a member of two church boards, including two terms as Board leader.

I've attended 13 National Conventions along with numerous Regional Conventions. I've taken photos for three national magazine articles (two with cover photos) and have been photo judge or assistant at three Regional Conventions. For several years, I recorded the video for selected National clinics for then NMRA Vice President Gerry Leone. Most can be viewed on the NMRA's website or on YouTube (don't search on my name – there aren't any credits). I've also done photos and video as a volunteer for the Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

I served three years as Modeling Coordinator for the Nickel Plate Historical and Technical Society, resigning due to their perpetual convention conflict with our train show.

I model a freelance railroad in western Ohio based on Nickel Plate practices. While I work mostly in HO, I've previously built two small N scale layouts, and done contest entries in a variety of scales, including the somewhat mythical F scale (1:20.3).

Last, but definitely not least, I've worked with Superintendent candidate Ron Morgan several times over the years, and I think we'd make a pretty good team.

Thanks for your consideration.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS CANDIDATE BIOS

BERT WISBAR—RUNNING FOR ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDANT

I am a member of the Cuyahoga Valley and Westshore Railroad and have been the Building Superintendent for 4 years and currently Vice President for the club. I model in HO and particularly like Union Pacific. I am a maintenance manager for a food manufacturer and am currently involved with building and equipment maintenance, scheduling of contractors and over seeing contractor projects. I also own my own business servicing church organs and digital pianos and have been doing that for 35 years.

















Rev. Bob McKay of Division 11 drafted me to go to the Springfield Show as a second driver. I stayed overnight as his guest and he showed me his progress on the JMRA/Cats control of his rather extensive N scale Pennsy layout. My Thursday drive to his home in Dubois PA had some snow coming down, and our start on I-80 the next morning had even more. We found our route shared with numerous utility repair vehicles (photo 1) on their way to the coast. Fortunately, by early afternoon on Friday, the snow had stopped, and after checking into our hotel, were able to make our way to Munich Haus in Chicopee Mass. for dinner. It was my third time going to the Show and I haven't had a bad dinner in the area yet.

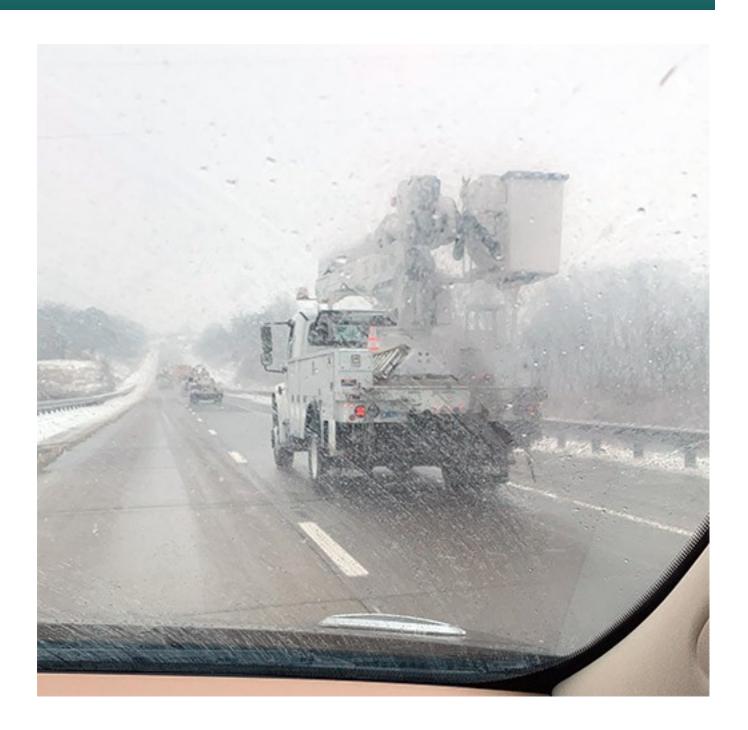
Friday night did dump about four inches of snow in the area, with some pretty good wind gusts showing up continually, but nothing that Bob's careful driving to the Show couldn't handle with ease. Besides, the roads were virtually empty after Friday's dire warnings (I'm pretty sure that those warnings came true not far to the east of Springfield).

We got to the Show about five minutes late, mainly due to our having to wade a few parking lot snow drifts, which meant that we were able to walk right in rather than wait in line. Usually the wait is part of the fun, but the wind would have messed that up pretty good this time around. The first thing I always do is head to the Division's module setup, which is, of course, dead center in the main building. Maybe not quite, but close enough to find them. Scott Benson and Bill Cramer were busy running trains (photo 2). Other Division members were running trains during subsequent passes of the layout (photo 3).

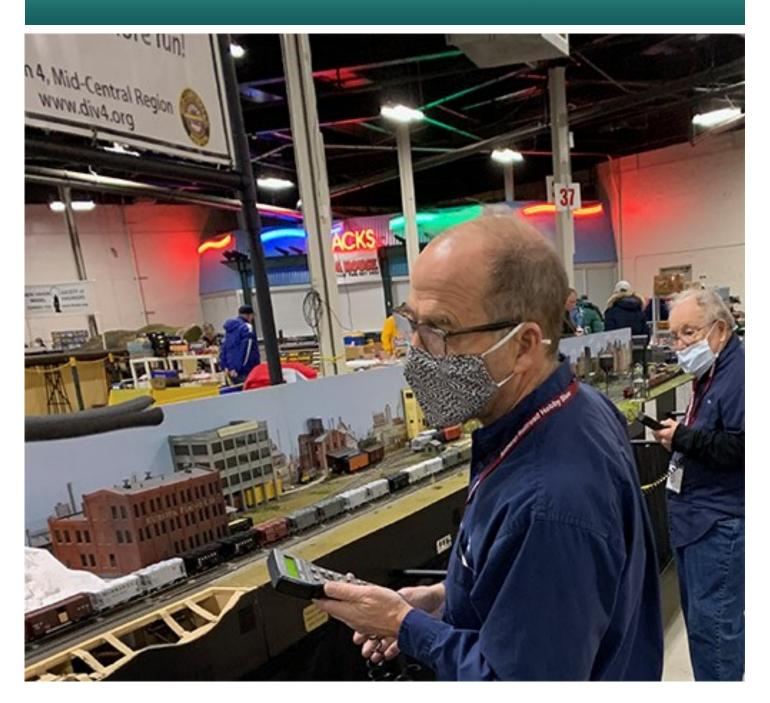
The Show wasn't too busy on Saturday, probably because a lot of people further east weren't able to get out of their homes. That made walking around a lot easier. Unfortunately, a small number of vendors weren't able to show up either (photo 4). There were, however, a surprising number of families in attendance. Maybe not so surprising were how many Division 4 members I saw – I'll guess at least ten, with fifteen being a possibility.

Sunday had a continuation of the wind and low temperatures even though the snow had stopped. We did get to stand in line that time around and I suspect it was the coldest I'll be this winter. It was good to see former Division member Brian Barnt sharing DCC knowledge at Seth Neumann's tables. There's a steam locomotive that makes the trip to the Show every year. Normally it sits outside, but this year it made its way indoors (photo 5).

In closing, the Sunday afternoon trip home was uneventful on clear roads. I did wonder what going through all the curves in Hartford would be like in icy conditions, but that's an adventure waiting for another visit to Springfield.



utility repair vehicles (photo 1) on their way to the coast



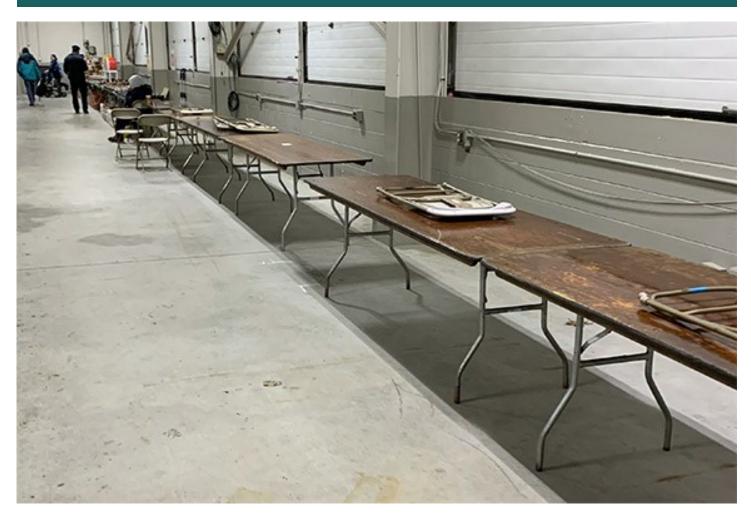
Scott Benson and Bill Cramer were busy running trains (photo 2).

SPRINGFIELD

BY DAVE WILLIAMS



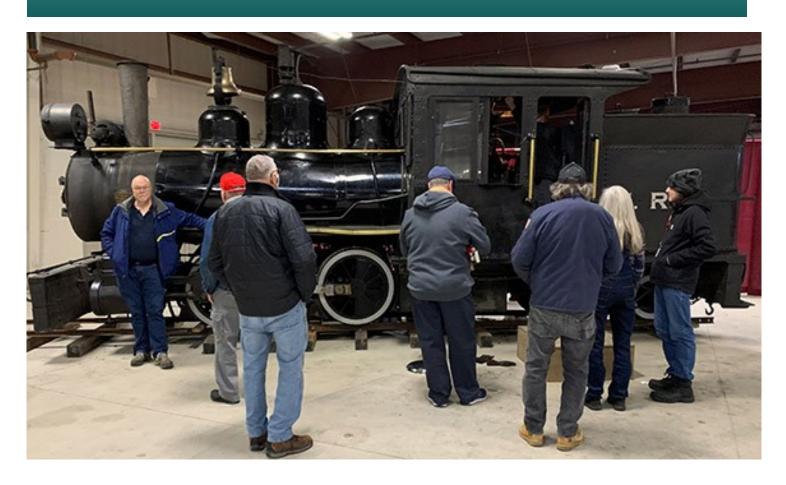
The man behind the black mask is David "Shack" Haralambou. Hopefully everyone knows the man with the hat.



Unfortunately,a small number of vendors weren't able to show up either (photo 4) because of the weather.

SPRINGFIELD

BY DAVE WILLIAMS



There's a steam locomotive that makes the trip to the Show every year. Normally it sits outside, but this year it made its way indoors (photo 5)

WHAT'S GOING ON

2022 - March 5

Independence Train Show - KD Trains LLC The Independence High School Fieldhouse

6001 Archwood Rd. Independence, Oh 44131

10 am - 3 pm

Adm. \$7.00

Email: kdtrains@att.net Phone: 216-642-0692

2022 - March 6 Erie Model Train Show

Rainbow Gardens - Waldameer Park, PA

10 am to 4 pm Adm. \$5.00 Phone: 724-992-2035

Info & Map Flyer

2022 - March 6

31th ANNUAL WESTERN RESERVE TOY and COLLECTIBLE SHOW

WESTERN RESERVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3851 U.S. Rt. 20 East Collins, Ohio 44826

9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$2.00

2022 - March 13 Akron Train & Toy Show

Emidio's & Sons Expo Center

48 East Bath Road at State Road

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223

9 am - 3 pm Adm. \$3.00

Phone: 330-724-5253

Map Flver

2022 - March 19 Mt. Hope Train & Toy Show

Mt. Hope Event Center, 8076 St. Rt. 241, Mt. Hope 44666

(for GPS use Millersburg, Oh 44654)

10 am to 4 pm Adm. \$5.00

Phone Jon Ulbright at: 330-262-7488

Info and Map Map Flyer

WHAT'S GOING ON

Div. 5 Railfest - Model Railroad Show



Lakeland Community College

7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, Ohio 44094

10 am to 4 pm Adm. \$8.00

Phone Jim at: 440-357-8890

Info & Map Flyer Dinner

2022 - March 19

Div. 5 Railfest - Dinner

Painesville Railroad Museum (aka NYC Painesville Depot)

475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077

5:30 pm Adm. \$24.00

Guest speaker will be **Tom Pescha** presents:

Cleveland, Painesville and Eastern Railway (CPE interurban)

This dinner is open to anyone who is a railroad enthusiast not just our Railfest vendors.

Phone Tom at 216-470-5780

MAP

-Iver

Dinner

2022 - March 25-26 Militaria Collectors Show at Lakeland (Dean Becker)



Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, Ohio 44094 Fri. 4 pm to 8 pm, Sat. 9 am to 2 pm Adm. \$5.00

email: lakelandmilitariashow@gmial.com

Phone: 440-525-7529

Info and Map **VIDEO** Flyer

2022 - March 26 Train Collectors Association - Spring Train Show

UAW Hall 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, Ohio 44130

Adm. \$6.00 10 am to 3 pm

Phone John Twarog at: 330-273-6404

Info & MAP Flyer **VIDEO**

HOBBY SOURCES IN OUR AREA







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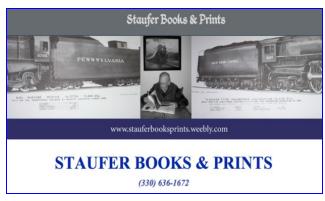
bweisman@roadrunner.com (TROLLEYS & MODEL RAILROAD DEALER)

http://www.jasonsbrasspoles.com/

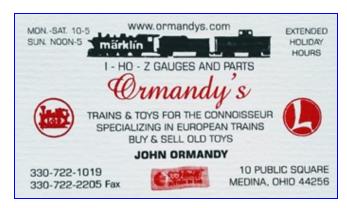
These vendors are members of our own NORTH COAST DIVISION! Give them a try when you need the supplies and services they offer!! - Editor

HOBBY SOURCES IN OUR AREA















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10AM - 6PM

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE DEALERS!

ABOUT US

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.

