



THE FLATWHEEL



Volume 58

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Number 8

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From the Editor: I am pleased to serve Division 4 of the Mid Central Region of the NMRA as Editor of the Flatwheel. My hope is to continue to provide an engaging, entertaining, and educational publication that is a value to our members. I would like to expand what is included each month. I would like to include a Model Builders article, where a member provides a summary of a recent model building project. Another article I would like to add is quarterly layout tour. I would love to hear ideas from you all for additional newsletter offerings.

Looking Forward to Serving, Scott Eastburn

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 electronically published on the Monday prior to the monthly meeting. Submissions are due no later than the 26th of the prior month, for example, September 26th for the October Flatwheel.



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 6:00p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 6:30. After a short break, a railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Our meetings are held at the Westlake City Recreation Center, 28955 Hilliard Blvd, Westlake, OH 44145. Visitors are always welcome.

As I mentioned in my September remarks that I was going to add more signals to my layout in preparation for the Div. 4 Fall Open Houses and the MCR Regional Convention. As of this writing the lower deck of my layout is about 80% completed. Still have about 8 more to go on the lower deck and it will be done. The upper deck requires an additional 3 to be installed. So, progress is being made thanks to the help of Bert Wisbar.

The convention committee is moving forward with plans for the MCR Regional Convention. The various events are starting to come together. If you have not signed up for the convention, please do so. The online registration is now available and more convention information is being added to the website.

The division is in need of replacement for our membership chairman Bill Dluback who has resigned his position for personal reasons. Therefore, a new membership chairman is needed. If interested please let me know.

The Mid Central Region had a BOD meeting on Friday the 22, 2023. Over all the region is doing well and our division is doing quite well.

Our next major division activity will be the member appreciation dinner in December. Start making plans to attend. Last years was very nice.

Meeting notice for the October business meeting. Due to a city function the October business meeting will be the third Friday of the month, Oct. 20th.

Please sign up for the Division Appreciation Dinner at this months meeting.

-

Well, the train is pulling into the yard and this run is over.

Until next time,

Ron



CONVENTION NEWS

The North Coast Limited
2024 Mid-Central Regional Convention

Planning continues for the 2024 Mid-Central Regional Convention. The dates are May 16th – May 19th, 2024. We have selected the Crown Plaza hotel in Middleburg Hts. as the location for the Convention. They have a nice mix of meeting rooms and ballroom space for hosting the convention. The location on Engle Rd and Bagley Rd right off I-71 will make it easy for everyone to get to from throughout the Region.

We are still looking for members to join the committee and help plan the Convention. If you are interested in helping plan the Convention, please send me an email. We can always use more help. As we get closer to the Convention, we will start signing up member to volunteer during the Convention. We will need volunteers in areas such as Registration, Clinics, Bag Check for Yard Sale and Celebration of Modeling, and Help Desk and man more.

We continue to add layouts for layout tours and operating sessions. There is no greater motivator for working on your layout than committing to be open for a layout tour. If you're interested in hosting a layout tour, please contact John Witt and/or Scott Benson for hosting operating sessions.

We have lots of clinic slots to fill for the Convention. If you are interested in giving a clinic, especially after November's presentation, please contact Jerry Krueger.

And, most importantly, registration is now open. The early bird registration rate is \$90 until the end of the year. Also, while most of us live with in commuting distance of Crowne Plaza, consider staying at the hotel one or more nights. Part of the fun of a Convention is seeing old friends from across the Region and the country. Staying at the hotel gives you the opportunity to socialize late into the evening, telling modeling stories and making new friends instead of driving home late only to wake up early and drive back to the Crowne Plaza. We have an excellent room rate – make the Convention a model railroad vacation.

Jerry Krueger

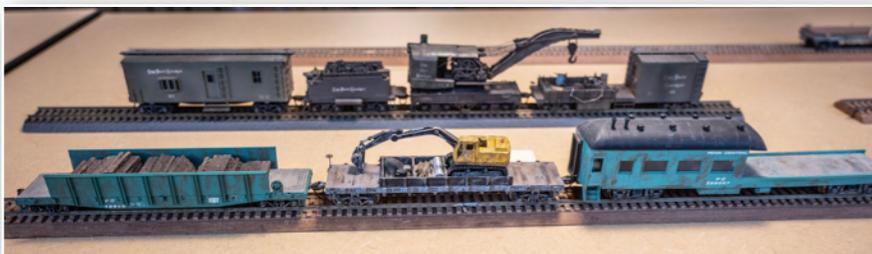


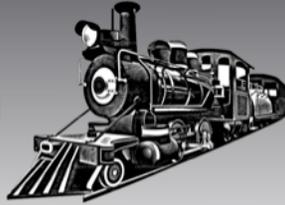
This season's model contest got off to a great start with eight members participating in answering the subject matter challenge of "what could be found on a wreck train". The first-place award in model presentation is Joe Kurilec followed by Craig Butler with his second-place entry. Third place winner is John Hughes. The diorama entries saw Joe Filipiak win first-place with his scene of panel tracks and wrecked tankers. Could it have been another NS wreck? Second-place in dioramas was a neat scene involving a big hook of vintage by Dave Lawler. Congratulations to all who entered and thank you to all who voted.

The October model/diorama contest theme is something that would be found on a work train that was setting telegraph lines along the right-of-way in remote areas where trucks could not reach. If your research didn't give you an idea, then your imagination should kick in. Setting in a telegraph line would require telegraph poles, plenty of cable, cross arms and insulators plus the crew to do the work. What do you think those rail cars would look like? If you have not started yet on your entry, it should not be a problem time wise because you have an extra week to get it done. Our division meeting is the third Friday of October. That is October 20. This should be a fun contest to do because there is no wrong answer to the solution.

The November contest asks the question, WHERE'S THE BEEF? A rail car used in the meat industry. Let's see you sink your teeth into that one but first get going on your telegraph train.

Happy Building-Joe Filipiak

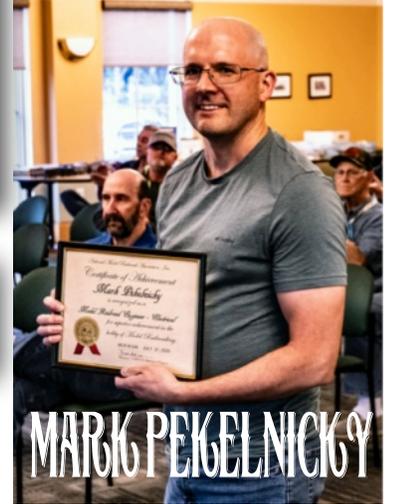




CONTESTS & ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM



NMRA MASTER BUILDER



MARK PEGELNICK

MMR ENGINEER
ELECTRICAL

2023-24 CONTESTS

October	Equipment used to set up telegraph poles, lines
November	Rail cars serving the meat industry
January	Diesel with yours or someone else's road name
February	Support building in engine facility (no roundhouse)
March	Complete an unfinished project
April	Last car on a passenger train
May	Grab bag of provided parts to build a building

HOW DO I GET STARTED IN THE NMRA ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM?



CLICK HERE!



THINK MODULAR

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

Both the Cuyahoga County Fair and Cleveland Oktoberfest have come to their respective conclusions! Attendance was excellent despite the weather at times, such as heavy rains during the fair or heat and humidity during Oktoberfest. Some people visiting the layout even picked up flyers for the upcoming Great Berea Train Show! Speaking of which, that event is less than two weeks away! The module group will have a considerable sized layout on display. Be sure to stop by and say hello or bring out a train and give running on the layout a try.

As you may have heard, the large trailer, owned by David James, was in pretty rough shape after several years of modular hauling service. The wood on the drop gate was rotting. Also, there were rust holes in the steel frame large enough to easily stick your fist into. Given the condition of this trailer, a proposal was presented during August board meeting for the Division to purchase a new trailer. Purchasing a new trailer was approved by the Board of Directors and Elected Officers present. Said new trailer was picked up on Saturday, September 2nd and delivered to David's Bus Garage. Once some additional tie-down locations are installed and some advertising decals added, the new trailer will be ready for service! It has certainly has been a September to remember!

As always, anyone interested in joining the Module Group, please contact me at woo3482@hotmail.com. I will add you to the module group email list and you will receive all of the latest information regarding upcoming events, operating schedules, etc.

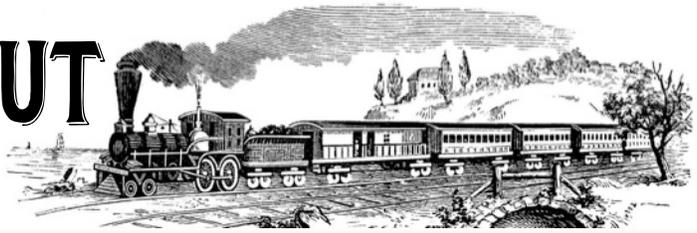
Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie





FALL LAYOUT TOURS



Announcing Fall Layout Tours.. Date October 28th

Division 4 Layout tours – October 28th ---- Cross Buck Signs in the Yards !!!

Chuck Shick – Time - Available 12 to 4 PM

Ron Morgan - Time - Available 12 to 4 PM

Craig Butler - Time - Available 12 to 4 PM

Brian Haas: - Time - Available 12 to 5 PM

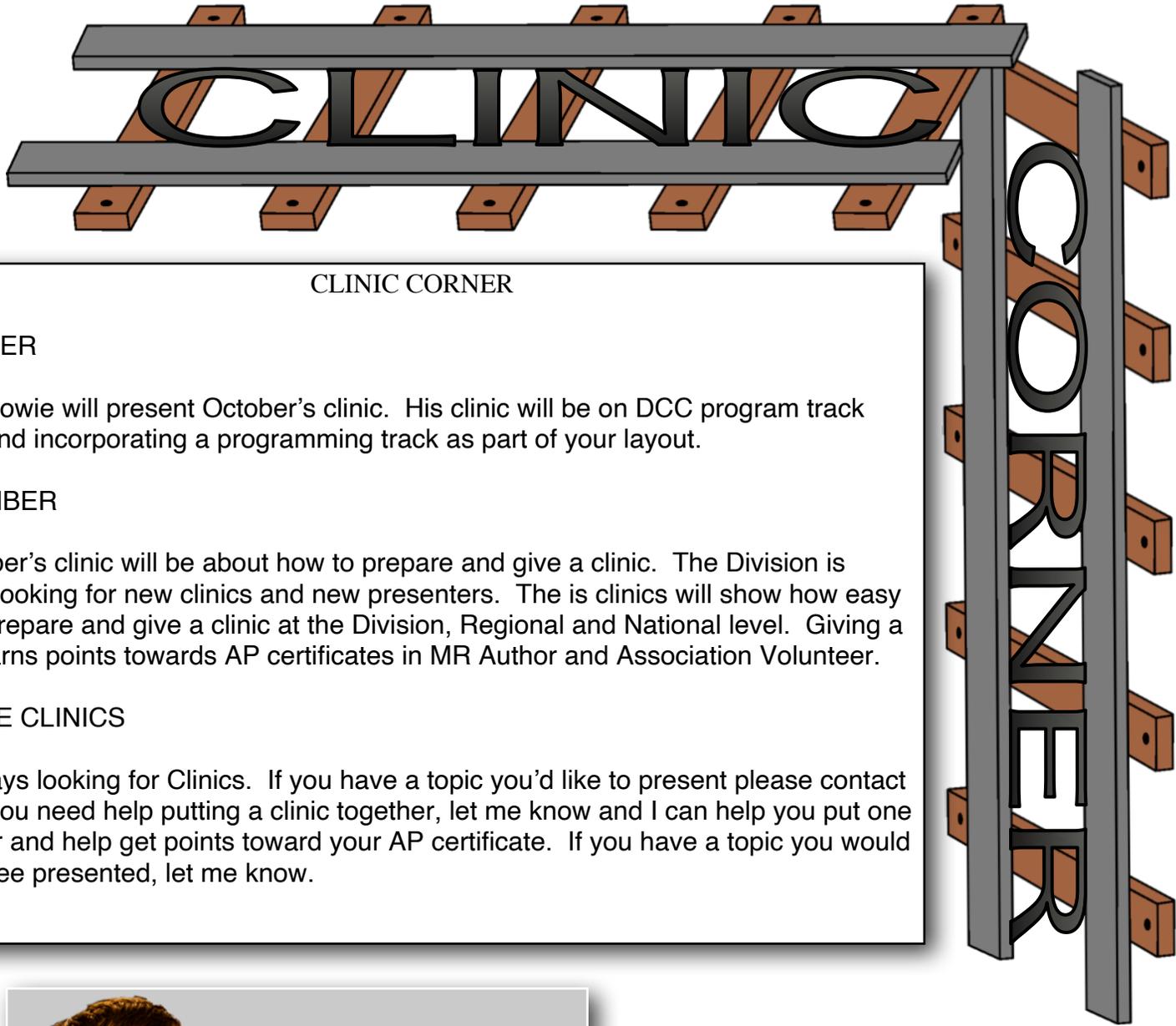
Joe Filipiak - Time - Available 12 to 4 PM

ADDRESSES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE OCTOBER 20TH MEETING

OPERATIONS ON THE BAY LINES

Division member John Hemsath hosted the first operating session of the Fall on his masterful BAY LINES RAILROAD. John's layout provided three sessions of switching work for three operators. Each turn took between 45 minutes to an hour to complete. On the BAY LINES John runs four car trains and offers complex switching that is very enjoyable for the operator. Between set outs, pick ups, and freight to be held one must think ahead and be mindful of the other operators on the layout. John's layout is a masterpiece and operated flawlessly
—Scott Eastburn





CLINIC CORNER

OCTOBER

Bruce Bowie will present October's clinic. His clinic will be on DCC program track wiring and incorporating a programming track as part of your layout.

NOVEMBER

November's clinic will be about how to prepare and give a clinic. The Division is always looking for new clinics and new presenters. The is clinics will show how easy it is to prepare and give a clinic at the Division, Regional and National level. Giving a clinic earns points towards AP certificates in MR Author and Association Volunteer.

FUTURE CLINICS

I'm always looking for Clinics. If you have a topic you'd like to present please contact me. If you need help putting a clinic together, let me know and I can help you put one together and help get points toward your AP certificate. If you have a topic you would like to see presented, let me know.



**SEPTEMBER
CLINIC PRESENTER
MORGAN
GRIFFITH**



DIVISION MEETING MINUTES



Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Board of Directors Meeting- August 26, 2023

Superintendent Ron Morgan opened the meeting at 9:43 am, with 20 members present.

Items for Discussion –

Potential Change to Division 4 By Laws – Ron Morgan – Would like to change Article III, Number 3 to add new words to include the position of Secretary to be added to the list of those NOT limited to two terms. Gary Schaefer made a motion to accept the change and Brian Haas seconded. Motion was unanimously carried by the Board, for the changes to be made.

A thought to be revisited at a later time is to add the Webmaster and Flat Wheel Editor to have voting rights on Board issues.

Contract with Westlake Rec Center – Joe Filipiak – Our current contract is up at the end of December 2023. Starting in January 2024 there will be a \$10.00 an hour increase in our price. This will cost us \$180.00 more just from January to June in 2024. We can only have the room from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Our October 2023 meeting will be held on the third Friday of the month because the Rec center has the whole building rented out on our usual meeting night. Joe is going to look at them possibly giving us a discount for us to set up our modules and run them a day for promotional purposes. They need to honor our contract and not start their summer hours until after our June meeting.

Donations – Ron Morgan – We have had request from Joe Filipiak for \$500.00 to be donated to Grafton Caboose. Another request for a donation to Vermillion Nickel Plate Caboose Project, and from NEOLS for Tower Repair \$150.00. All to be talked about at the Budget Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Clinics – Jerry Kruger – September and October are set, looking for November and after the first of the year. Equipment is working fine. Asked for the possibility of purchasing another remote control to use at the Rec Center.

Contests – Joe Filipiak – by passing out ballots during meeting , voting has increased. Please keep giving suggestions for new ideas for contests.

Raffles - Adam Woodie – Raffle supports itself – there is a boat load of inventory.

Modules – Adam Woodie – Cuyahoga County Fair went well and check has been deposited in the Division's account. Octoberfest is coming up, followed up closely by The Great Berea Train Show.

Membership – Bill Dluback – getting brochures together for The Great Berea Train Show. Sending out notices to members whose membership will be expiring 2 months before hand.

Achievement – John Hemsath, MMR – has two more certificates to present. The person will be bringing in his building to be judged at next meeting.

Layouts – John Witt, MMR – October 28th from noon to 4:00 pm. 4 Layouts will be open. John asked if the Grafton Tower could be opened for tours also.

Webmaster – Ben Lanza/Chuck Shick – If an email is sent out asking for information, please respond so they can see if things are getting out. Turn over is going well.

Division 4 Picnic / 4H Medina – Larry Kuczynski – will try to set up picnic for next June. Larry asked if Division 4 would purchase a plaque to be presented to the 4H Medina module winner. After much discussion it was decided we would purchase the plaque.

Store – Ron Morgan – doing okay

The Great Berea Train Show – Lee Sheffield – 90% of the tables are sold as of now. Well past where we were last year.

Additional – Annual Awards Banquet will be at Parkers on the first Friday in December.

Trailer – Adam Woodie – David James is looking at many different trailers that have the same specs as the current one. Brand new they are running around \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00. Currently the modules that are usually stored in the trailer are sitting at the Fair Grounds in a back room because the old one is no longer useable.

Treasurers Report – Greg Noeth – gave us the current balances of all accounts. He let us know what is still owed for the 2024 Convention and The Great Berea Train Show.

Ron Morgan made a motion to purchase a new trailer for the Module Group. The amount is not to exceed \$12,000.00. The Module Groups future income will repay the Division, to cover the cost of the trailer over the period of years. Fred Wagner seconded the motion. Ron asked each eligible board member individually for their vote. 100% voted to purchase the trailer.

Training Day – Gary Schaefer – it was brought up to have Training Day at The Great Berea Train Show. Adam Woodie suggested that the Avon Lake Library when the Module Group is doing a display out there. We won't need to advertise, no rental fee, and will be in February or March when things are slower. This means there will only be Clinics at The Great Berea Train Show.

2024 Regional Convention Status and Update – Jerry Kruger – our contact at the hotel no longer works for the hotel. He will let us know more of what's going on at the Meeting. If any Division 4 member wants shirts early, Jerry will be taking orders until September 24th. All styles are available. Having other Divisions add convention to their newsletters for more advertisement.

Yard Sale – Ron Morgan – sent all information together for Jerry's approval. Others are asking for a Framework of the Convention times. Jerry said it's just a general time of 8:00 am to 9:00 pm. Layouts and Operations would like set times. Currently we have: 6 committed layouts, 3 possible, and a few from other Divisions are interested in doing layout tours.

Gary Schaefer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Brian Haas seconded the motion. Board carried the motion, meeting adjourned at 11:27 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Shick, Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Regular Meeting, September 8, 2023

Superintendent Ron Morgan opened the meeting at 6:32 pm. He let everyone know tonight is the only night to sign up for The Great Berea Train Show. Sheets are on the back tables, be sure to volunteer.

Ron asked if there were any new members or visitors present, there were none.

Approval of Previous Minutes – Ron Morgan – a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. No one opposed, minutes approved.

Treasurers Report – Ron Morgan – Greg Noeth sent in a balance on all the accounts, Ron read the report aloud for all to hear.

Old Business:

2024 Regional Convention – Jerry Kruger – Advance purchase of shirts is available to Division 4 members until September 24th. Things are progressing. We are having a full banquet on Saturday, not just a meet and greet.

4H prize Winner – Ron Morgan – from the 12 members who went out to vote for the 4H Medina County Fair Modules, Joe Kurilec MMR, won the drawing and received a gift certificate.

New Business:

Board of Directors Meeting Recap – Ron Morgan – Ron let everyone know that the Secretary job will no longer be a limited term job.

Lee Sheffield suggested to make sure to change the wording throughout all of the by laws where needed. David Williams will take care of that.

Larry Kuczynski is now our Medina 4H liaison.

Emergency decision to replace the Module Groups Trailer. The Module Group will repay the Division with future income over the next few years.

The Great Berea Train Show – David James – show is one month away. Sign up to volunteer. There are only 20 tables left. With Mt. Hope closing, we picked up close to 30 vendors from there. Envelope filling will be on the Monday before the show. Meet at David's home to fill the packets around 6:30 pm. Early set up will begin Thursday evening. Mini Clinics will be in Building E, and our Module Display will be in Building D.

National Convention Report – David Williams – David is willing to talk to anyone later about the convention which was held in Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas. 2024 – to be in Long Beach, CA, 2025 – Detroit, MI, 2026 Knoxville, TN.

Show and Tell – Steve Riddlebaugh brought in a 1930 kit for trains. Stop by and take a look.

Working on Any Cool Projects – Morgan Griffith let us know he is working on super detailing a train master from PA.

Committee Reports:

Flat Wheel Deadline – Scott Eastburn – September 26th.

Membership – Ron Morgan – Bill is working at Octoberfest, please keep your information up to date.

Clinics – Jerry Kruger – tonight’s presenter is Morgan Griffith show a train simulator. October is Bram Bailey. November and after the first of the year are open. Anyone interested in presenting a 20 to 30 minute Clinic at The Great Berea Train Show let Jerry know. Topic can be anywhere from Beginner to Advanced.

Raffle – Adam Woodie – Lots of choices, come over and visit.

Module Group – Adam Woodie – County Fair went well. We are currently set up and running at the Octoberfest. Tear down begins Sunday at 9:00 am. The Great Berea Train Show is next. Adam went to the Zoo, so that is in the works. Trees and Trains will be in there too.

Layout Tours – Ron Morgan – Currently there are 3 layouts scheduled for October 28th. If you are interested in being added to the list, please contact John Witt, MMR.

Contests – Joe Filipiak – Joe explained about how the contests work. He told us the difference between dioramas and modules. Lastly, he told us all the challenges for the upcoming year.

AP Awards – John Hemsath, MMR – John presented Mark Pekelnicky with his Model Railroad Engineer: Electrical Certificate.

Comments/Concerns; Ron let us know of the passing of Dan Dorko, a long time member of CV & WS.

Gary Schaefer talked about the Lorain Caboose coming closer to being completed. Three of the four sides are painted and it’s looking good. Also on September 23rd is the Annual Roads, Rails & Sales.

One last reminder that Octobers meeting will be the third Friday of the month, not the second.

A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting. Motion carried by the Division and closed at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Shick, Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA



YOU'RE INVITED!

Eerie Mad River Model Railroad Club

1309 N Depot Street
Sandusky, Ohio 44870



Saturday December 2, 2023 featuring steam engines
Saturday December 9, 2023 featuring diesel engines
12 – 4 pm

Layout In Progress – Operating – Scenery 85% complete
Size 25' x 30'
Donations Welcomed
For more information contact Bob Butler 419-271-8885



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SPECIAL FEATURE

MODELU NORTH AMERICAN SCALE FIGURES

By Joe Kurilec, MMR®

Every once in awhile I come across items that I feel would be of interest to Division 4 members. They get published in the Flatwheel.

This is one of those items...and a very good item.

<https://ymw-modelu.com>

While reading the October 2023 issue of Railroad Model Craftsman, Track Test product reviews, I came across a GREAT new line of 3D printed figure on page 30. These are some of the best looking figures I have seen to date. Every detail on the figures is super! Facial details, clothing and WRINKLES in clothing! The details are just great.

The figures come un painted but the owner of Yarmouth Model Works, Pierre Oliver, who is importing and retailing the figures said he could get them painted for the customer if requested. (Model is located in the UK)

Contact him at pierre.oliver@yarmouthmodelworks.com for details.

YMW-MODELU

After many years of providing high quality resin freight car kits and a variety of detail parts, we are delighted to partner with Modelu and bring you the finest 3D printed figures on the market. These beautifully rendered figures will be a highlight in any model railroad scene. As the Modelu line expands, we will be adding new items. If you have ideas, share them with us. We shall see what we can do. Thank you for your interest.

Pierre Oliver
Yarmouth Model Works
Elgin Car Shops



The Mid-Central
Regional Convention
May 16-19 2024
Cleveland, Ohio



Early Registration is \$90.00
through 12/31/2023



www.northcoastlimited2024.org

Convention Merchandise

*The North Coast Limited 2024 Convention offers two
Convention Cars and a Large selection of Men & Women's
apparel*

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

*Layout Tours, Operating Sessions, 4 Clinic Rooms
(including make & take clinics for a small fee)*

*Celebration of Modeling, Yard Sale, Prototype Tours, General interest Tours,
Non-Rail Tours*

*More events are being added as the NCL moves closer to the convention date.
Look for updates on the NCL site!*

*Many Restaurants
are located
within walking
distance of the
Crown Plaza
Hotel.*



**EARLY REGISTRATION
and MERCHANDISE PRESALE
IS NOW OPEN!**

*Register or print out
a registration form
online!*

Crowne Plaza Hotel

7230 Engle Rd, Middleburg Heights, OH, 44130
(855)797-6733

www.northcoastlimited2024.org

