



THE FLATWHEEL

Volume 59

April 2024

Number 4



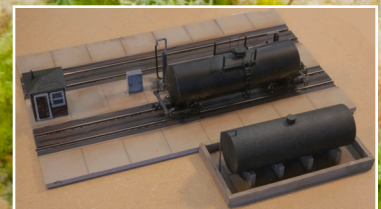
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A Special thank you to Dave Williams for providing the photos from our monthly division meetings and activities.

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, February 26th for the March Flatwheel.



The North Coast Division holds 10 meetings a year (none in July and August). Meetings are on the 2nd Friday of each month. Eight of our meetings are held at the Westlake City Recreation Center, 28955 Hilliard Blvd. Westlake, OH 44145. 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. Two of our meetings are offsite. One is our annual picnic in June and the other is our Membership Appreciation Dinner in December. Visitors are always welcome.

FROM THE SUPER Greetings from the Cab

Greetings from the cab.

The convention committee continues to move forward with plans for the MCR Regional Convention. The various events are starting to come together. There will be 23 layouts that will be open for visitation during the convention and 8 to ten for operation. 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. Sign-up to help at the convention is also available on the convention web site. **Please take the time to sign up to help. This is our convention and your support is necessary in order to make it successful! Don't just belong, participate.**

The HO modular group did another outstanding job this past weekend at the IX Center for the World's Greatest Hobby Roadshow. Large crowd both Saturday and Sunday. Many nice comments about the railroad. Good job to the members that participated.

Our new membership chairman, Craig Butler was also at the show taking care of the membership table. Big thanks to Craig for taking on the job.

The slate of officers and directors is set for starting in June of 2024. All offices and directors are running unopposed, so a ballot will not be necessary. There will be a vote by the membership present at the April business meeting to approve the election.

The annual membership picnic and business meeting is set for **June 8th 2024, from 11am – 4pm** at the Northern Ohio Live Steamers in Lester Ohio. Good food, good fellowship and fun train rides. Mark the date on your calendar. Remember, this will be a regular business meeting.

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

Until the next time,

Ron



CONVENTION NEWS

The North Coast Limited 2024 Mid-Central Regional Convention May 16 – 19, 2024



The North Coast Limited 2024 Convention will be arriving soon. If you have not already registered, you will want to make sure to register soon and book your hotel room. Your hosts, Division 4, The North Coast Division, have full array of activities you can do during your visit to Northeast Ohio. Some of the Convention highlights include:

AWARDS & RECOGNITION BANQUET

The Convention is capped off on Saturday evening with the Awards & Recognition Banquet. Our Banquet speaker will be Mr. Pete Poremba, Executive Director of the Jerry and Laura Jacobson Foundation, dba Ages of Steam Roundhouse Museum. Pete will be talking about how is interest in model trains growing up lead to an over 40-year career in railroading and to him being named Executive Director of the Foundation to carry on Jerry Jacobson's legacy for Ages of Steam Roundhouse. You do not want to miss Pete's presentation.

OPERATING SESSIONS

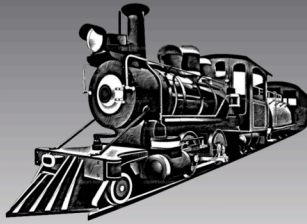
The schedule of Operating Sessions as been posted to the NCL 2024 website. Most operating sessions are on Thursday evening with a few more on Friday evening. Sign up for operating sessions is on a first come – first reserved basis and is done through the NCL 2024 Registration portal. We have eight different layouts hosting operating sessions with over 50 operating positions. Host layouts vary from large home and club layouts to small home layouts.

PROTOTYPE ACTIVITIES

Among the Prototype Activities happening during NCL 2024 are open houses at the Midwest Railway Preservation Society and the Northern Ohio Railway Museum. Midwest Rail is located in the former B&O roundhouse in the Flats industrial section of Cleveland. They have ongoing efforts to restore various pieces of rolling stock as part of their mission. MRPS will be hosting two tours on Saturday morning, The Northern Ohio Railway Museum is located about 30 minutes south in Seville, Ohio, an easy drive down Interstate 77. NORM has an interesting collection of trolley and interurban cars on display and being restored. NORM will be open Saturday morning from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM will rides at 11:00 AM.

VOLUNTEERS

Every convention needs volunteers to help make sure everything runs smoothly. NCL 2024 is no different. We NEED volunteers during the Convention to help with things such as registration check-in, bag check, contest room monitor, Yard Sale room monitor, clinician check and more. We are trying out a new way of signing up volunteers using the SignUp Genius website. The following link [Div 4 MCR NMRA: North Coast Limited 2024 \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com) will take you to the website so you can sign up for one of the volunteer times. If you have difficulty with SignUp Genius you can always email me directly.

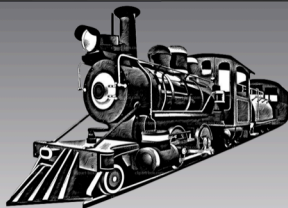


CONTESTS & ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

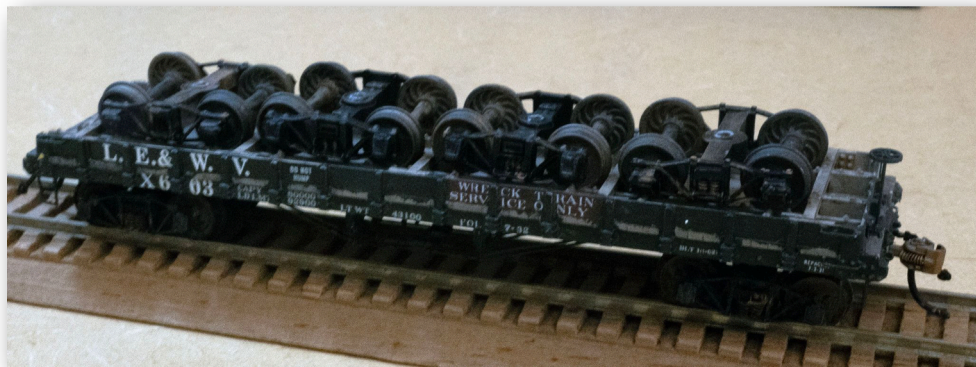
Spring in Ohio is always so much fun. One day you're getting the lawn mower tuned up and the next day you're gassing up the snow blower. One thing is for certain, our model railroading is a constant source of fun. That's what I have been told anyway. Our contests this season have been challenging with the last contest being the most challenging of all. Not many of you were willing to take that unfinished project that has been on the shelf for over 20 years and finally finish it. There were a few courageous modelers who dusted off one of those unfinished wonders and finished it for the contest. First place was awarded to Jim Grell with his railcar. Second place went to Dave Lawler with his building, complete with lights, and third place went to Frank Bongevani with a building that he prayed he could finish in time for the contest. Thank you to all who participated. The contest for April is the last car on a passenger train. This can range from the president's car, or private varnish with open platforms to a simple coach on Amtrak bring up the rear with two little red marker lights. There will be plenty of open track on the contest table for your entry so if you haven't entered anything yet this year, this is an easy contest to put something in. The final contest for this season will be at the May meeting. There should really be some interesting projects. The challenge is to take a bag of parts from the contest table and build it into a building of your own creation. If you want to try this project, please ask for a bag of building parts from me. It's not too late to do this contest which promises to be both a challenge as well as a lot of fun.

Another great thing about spring in Ohio is the birds are back. I have to go now and clean my windshield off. Birds are Mother Nature's poop ball guns.





CONTESTS & ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM





(Former LS & MS Passenger Depot - Opened in 1877)

OLMSTED FALLS DEPOT & MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM

ANNUAL SPRING OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, April 20, 2024 • 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday, April 21, 2024 • 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday, April 27, 2024 • 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday, April 28, 2024 • 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

OPERATING "O", "HO" AND "N" LAYOUTS

- Refreshments
- Check the progress on our "HO" layout, our "N" layout and our "O" gauge layout
- Visit our Caboose and historic markers

ADMISSION:
\$5.00 DONATION
KIDS FREE

OLMSTED FALLS DEPOT & MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM
 Olmsted Falls Depot
 25802 Garfield Ave.
 OLMSTED FALLS, OHIO 44138
 TEL: (440) 235-6566
 Website: www.olmstedfallsdepot.com



Olmsted Falls Depot is on the National Register of Historic Places and has an Ohio Historical Marker

**HOW DO I GET STARTED
IN THE NMRA
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM?**

2023-24 CONTESTS



CLICK HERE!

April	Last car on a passenger train
May	Grab bag of provided parts to build a building



THINK MODULAR

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

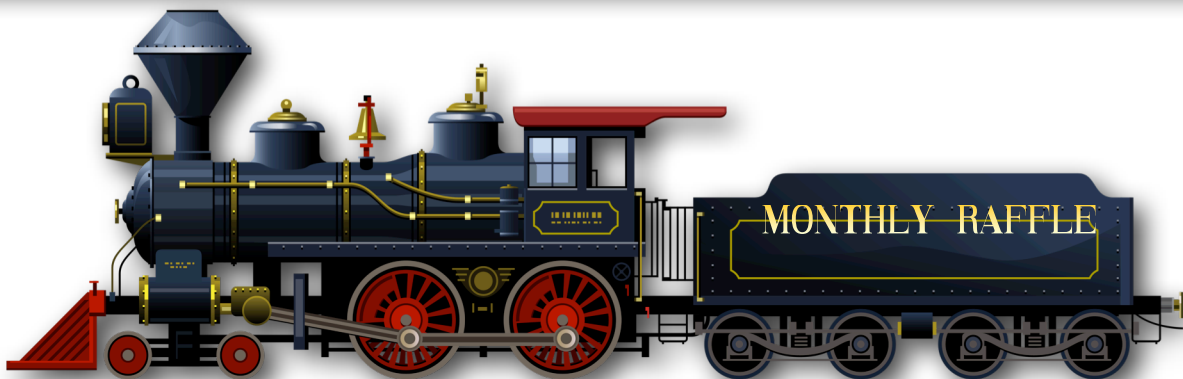
March was a busy month for the module group. At the beginning of the month was the Avon Lake Library Display and the return of TRAINing Day. The two-day event went rather well with good attendance numbers both days. There was a rather nice article written about the model train layout in the Elyria Chronicle newspaper on Monday, March 4th. We have already been asked to return again next year with a few more demonstrations. A big thank you goes to Tim Sheffield, Chuck Shick, Brian Haas, and Jerry Kueger for providing demonstrations / working on projects for the general public to observe and ask questions.

Our second event was the World's Greatest Hobby which was held on March 23rd and 24th at the IX Center in Cleveland. This event drew in a considerable number of show attendees interested in the great hobby of model railroading. We received numerous compliments regarding the layout. A big thank you goes out to Craig Butler for setting up the membership table and display. We made sure to utilize our presence to advertise for the upcoming Great Berea Train Show scheduled for the first full weekend in October. Things will once again quiet down for the module group until August. We will once again be set up at the Cuyahoga County Fair.

As always, anyone interested in joining the module group, please contact me at woo3482@hotmail.com.

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



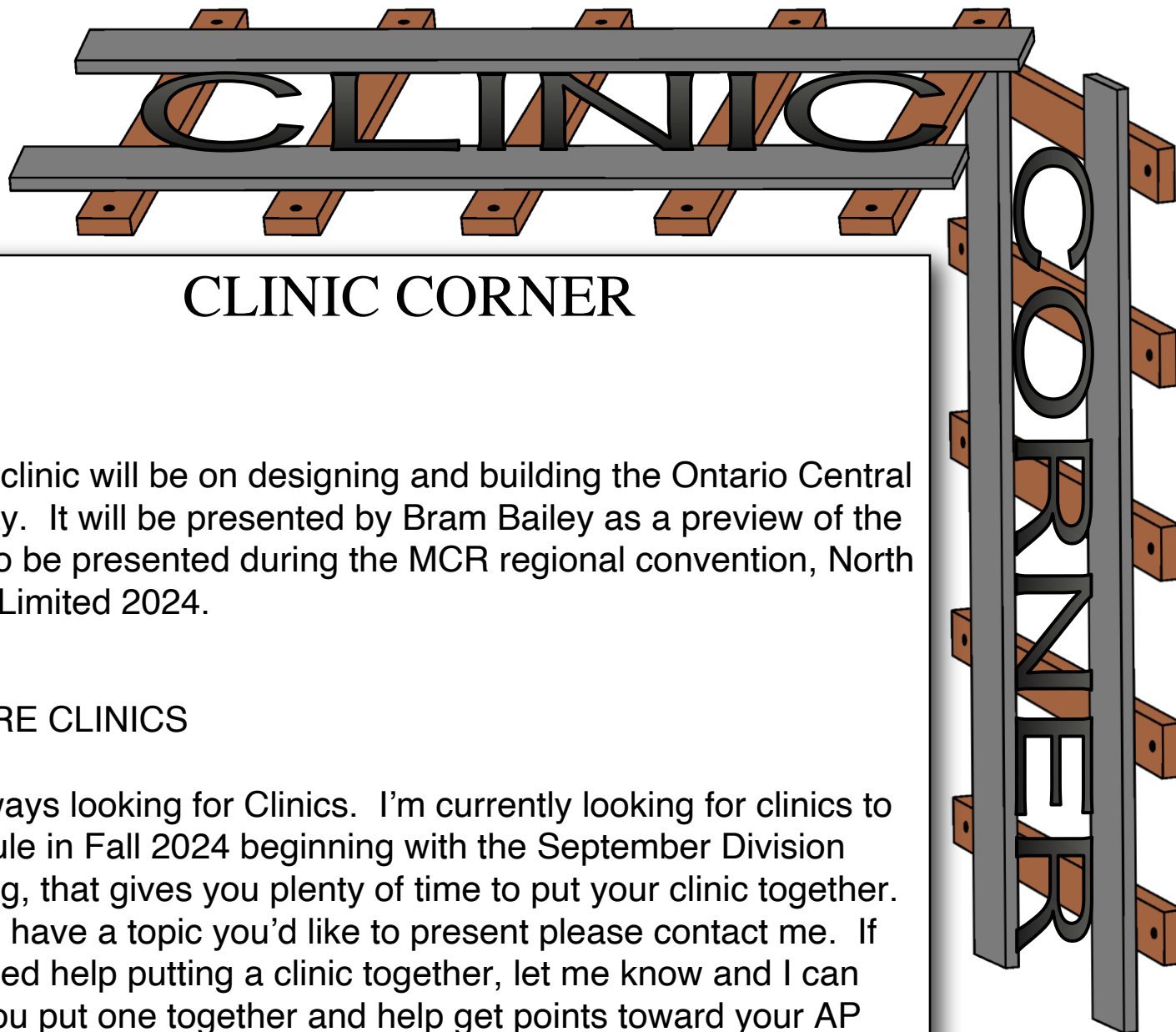
Monthly Raffle

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

March's raffle was exciting and fun. The raffle scheduled to take place in April after the monthly business meeting will be just as good. As always there will be something for everyone! Be sure to purchase your tickets preferably before the start of the business meeting.

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



CLINIC CORNER

APRIL

April's clinic will be on designing and building the Ontario Central Railway. It will be presented by Bram Bailey as a preview of the clinic to be presented during the MCR regional convention, North Coast Limited 2024.

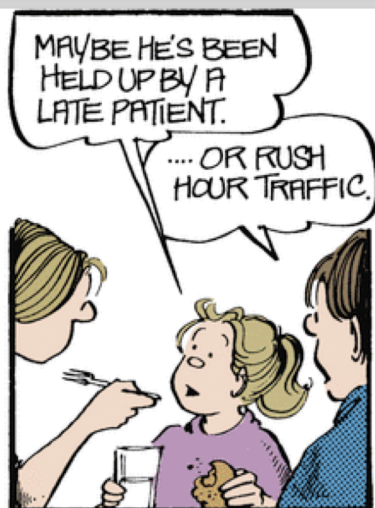
FUTURE CLINICS

I'm always looking for Clinics. I'm currently looking for clinics to schedule in Fall 2024 beginning with the September Division meeting, that gives you plenty of time to put your clinic together.

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.



05-25 www.fborfw.com



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DIVISION MEETING MINUTES



Division 4, MCR, NMRA General Meeting Minutes, March 8, 2024

Our Superintendent, Ron Morgan opened the meeting 6:29 pm. There were no new members or visitors present this evening.

A motion was made by Frank Bongiovanni to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Dino Peris seconded the motion. Motion was carried by the membership to accept the minutes of the last meeting.

Treasurer, Greg Noeth gave a balance on all accounts. Convention account is separate from all other accounts.

Old Business:

Ron Morgan introduced our new Membership Chairman, Craig Butler.

Elections – Ron Morgan – since the slate is set , we will finish up the elections at April's meeting.

2024 Regional Convention Status – Jerry Kruger – things are progressing nicely. Layout schedules will be out soon. Clinics schedule is about 95% done. Hopefully, it will be finalized and out by the end of this weekend. Northern Ohio Railway Museum will be open on Saturday of the Convention. Hours are 10 am to noon, with trolley rides at 11:00am . For the convention cars there are currently 17 box cars and 27 covered hoppers remaining. Get your orders in soon . If you haven't registered , get registered. Volunteer list is on the website under Sign up Genesis.

Division 5 Membership Table – Ron Morgan – remember Division 5 show is the weekend of March 16th and 17th . Ron read off the list of those who volunteered and their names will be on the volunteer list at the show.

New Business:

Show and Tell – John Hemsath, MMR has a few things on the side table. Please help yourself. Greg Noeth showed off a cool railway street sign. Dino Peris brought in blue prints of F-9 and GM 16 to look at. Larry Kowicki brought in free paint and shakers.

Committee Reports:

Flat Wheel Deadline – Ron Morgan – Articles for next month's Flat Wheel need to be to Scott Eastburn by March 26th .

Clinics – Jerry Kruger – Tonight's speaker is Joe Filipiak, presenting Open House Protocol for hosting and visiting. April is Bram Bailey on Ontario Central.

Company Store – Scott Benson – besides the items on the table we have a DVD library for use. Scott also handles the ordering of Division shirts and hats, if interested see him. Lastly the Division's Fast-Track Jig loan system is available through Scott.

Raffle – Adam Woodie – there is rolling stock cars, calendars, and books over there. Raffle will be held 10 minutes after the close of the meeting.

Module Group – Adam Woodie – had a great show at the Avon Lake Library, definitely going back next year. Next up is World's Greatest Hobby at the IX-Center. March 23rd and 24th. Set up is on Friday. Hours on Saturday is 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday 10:00am to 4:00pm. Tear down will begin immediately at the end of the show. There will be nothing until the Cuyahoga County Fair.

Layout Tours – John Witt, MMR –

Contests – Joe Filipiak – The winners of last month's contest of a support building in an engine facility (no roundhouse) are as follows:

Model: 1st – Craig Butler
 2nd – Jim Grell
 3rd – Joe Kurilec

Diorama: 1st – Craig Butler
 2nd – John Puch
 3rd – Joe Filipiak

Next month's contest is Last Car on a Passenger Train

Awards – John Hemsath, MMR –

Comments/Concerns – Ron Morgan – Art Bumpus was moved to Marymount Hospital. We recently lost a 67 year member Jim Stevenson. He had a lot of stuff and there will be a date for a garage sale at a later time.

Public Service Announcement – Frank Bongiovanni will be doing his Estate Planning Clinic twice during the 2024 Convention. Please try to attend as there is important information.

A motion was made by Gary Schaefer to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Lauren seconded the motion and was carried by the membership. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Shick
Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA

TRAIN QUIP

How does a train avoid detection? It covers its tracks.
- Unknown

March 23-24, at the I-XCenter





Division 6 - MCR

The Buckeye Division

National Model Railroad Association

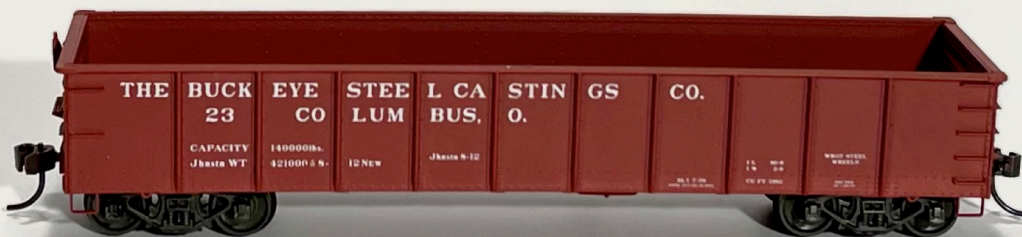
Division 6 of the NMRA Mid-Central Region is currently offering a 41' gondola lettered for Buckeye Steel Castings.

Buckeye Steel was a large steel foundry located in Columbus, Ohio. They produced castings of numerous railroad components, including trucks, couplers and, the famous "Buckeye Truck." These gondolas moved scrap as well as finished products. Interchange partners included C&O and NYC, both railroads having trackage leading into the plant complex.

These car kits are from Accurail's 3700-series of steel gondolas with road number 23. Decals for six other road numbers are available for those ordering more than one car.

Pricing is \$27 per car. Shipping (via USPS Priority) is \$10 for one car and \$17 for two to three cars. Ohio residents, please add 7.5% sales tax on the total price of the kits and the shipping/handling fee. Customers outside the USA, please contact us for shipping arrangements and charges.

For more details or to contact us, visit our Division's Store at <https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/StorePage.html>



TRAIN QUIP

I once asked a conductor how many times a train he was on had gotten derailed. He told me it was hard to keep track.

- Unknown



KINGPIN EDITOR NEEDED

The Mid Central Region is in need of a new Kingpin Editor. The Kingpin is the newsletter of the Mid Central Region and is published three times per year. The new editor will inherit the task from Dave Williams and He is willing to assist his successor get started.

Division members if you are pursuing Master Model Railroader this role provides an opportunity to earn AP points. available!

The procedures/protocols are well established so someone with any prior computer and publishing experience can easily and quickly step in.

If anyone members are see Ron Morgan and he will facilitate contact with Dave.



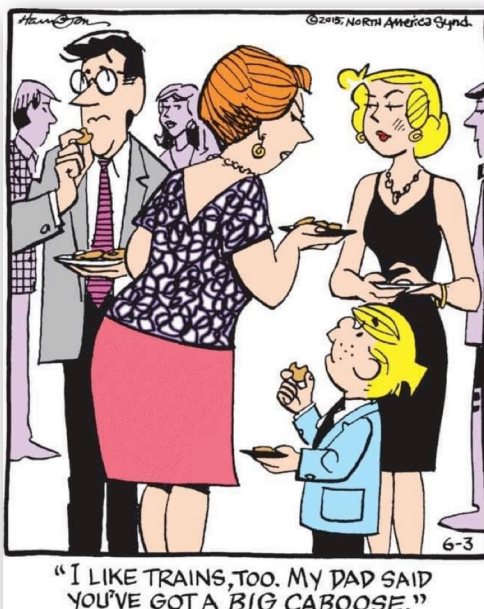
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Glass	Don	No email address



REMEMBERING WHEN...

FROM RON MORGAN



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.***



FREE PARKING

Crown Plaza Hotel

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

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

***Register or print out
a registration form
online!***

www.northcoastlimited2024.org

