



THE FLATWHEEL

JANUARY 2025

VOLUME 60 NUMBER 1



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BNSF H-PVODEN1-14 with 5973 in swoosh lettering crawls in the trench around the classic Crescent turn into a softened beautiful full sun view in a sea of endless Moffat Cement. Friday morning March 15, 2024.

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Please send any articles for the February Flatwheel to:

doleksa@icloud.com

by January 26th

Thank You

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DIVISION 4

THE NORTH COAST DIVISION

OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025

6:30pm Set Up/Social Time - Meeting starts at 7:00pm

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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**

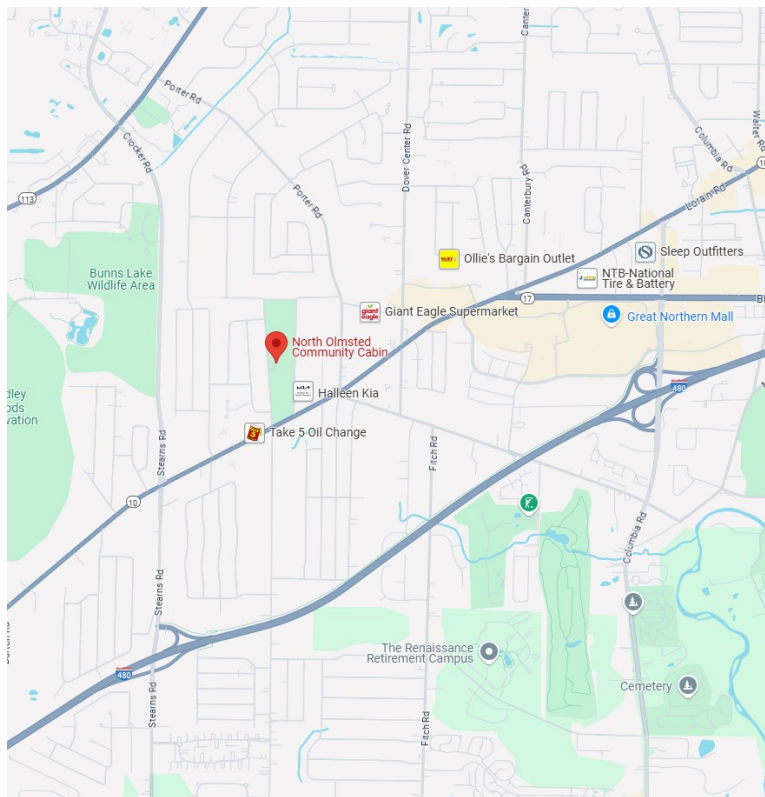
month. A set up/social half hour starts at 6:30 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 7:00. After a short break, a railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Starting January, 2025, the meetings are held at the **North Olmsted Community Cabin**, 28114 Lorain Rd, North Olmsted, OH 44070. 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.



GREETINGS FROM THE CAB

Greetings from the cab.

Christmas is behind us and a New Year is ahead of us. I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas with family and friends.

The new year brings a big change to the division in the form of a new meeting location. Bert Wisbar and I did the required walk through in December and all went well. The city has not started the updates to the Cabin, but should be starting shortly. These updates include a new sound system, screen, WI-FI connection and a overhead projector. This project will be ongoing over the next several months with the hope of being finished in February. The Cabin has good space for all of our needs. It may take several months to iron out the wrinkles, but overall, I believe we have a really good meeting place. Also, the meeting start time will be 7:00 pm.

Like the Church of the Redeemer in Westlake, all tables and chairs will be set up and taken down by the membership. Set up will start at 6:30 pm, so come early and help out. Take down will be right after the meeting. See the Flatwheel or website for map and directions.

Just a reminder, the MCR Convention will be in Columbus May 15th thru 18th and the National Convention will be in Novi, Michigan, just outside Detroit on July 14th thru 19th 2025. This would be about a two to three hour's drive from Cleveland. If you have never attended a national convention before, this would be a great opportunity to do so. The Division 4 modular group is making plans to display at the national train show on Saturday and Sunday as part of the convention.

Also, the bi-annual Division 4 train auction will be at the February 14th 2025 meeting, so start gathering your auction items for this event. Auction entry forms will be available at the January business meeting and on the division website.

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

That's all I have for this month.

Happy New Year,

Ron



Ron Morgan

2024 Members Appreciation Dinner

The 2024 Members Appreciation Dinner was held once again at Parker's Party Center in Avon Lake on Friday December 6th. After cocktails and appetizers, we were served a buffet dinner of chicken, salmon and prime rib. Music was played throughout the evening by DJ Chop, who also managed to fit in a trivia contest.



2024 Members Appreciation Dinner

Desserts were no issue this year as many attendees brought in plates loaded with cookies and brownies.

Superintendent Ron Morgan held a brief business meeting and presented this year's Denis Novak awards for service to the Division. This year's recipients were Secretary Chris Shick (who also made our table centerpieces) and Clinic Chair Jerry Krueger. Both individuals have contributed much more to the Division than their titles suggest.



2024 Members Appreciation Dinner

Gary Sole spoke briefly about his recent visit to see Mike Oster, and about Mike's decades long involvement in running our train show. Gary related that Mike is on the mend from a recent illness and in good spirits.



2024 Members Appreciation Dinner

The evening was concluded with the annual holiday raffle, organized by Adam Woodie. Adam was assisted by Lee Sheffield in calling out the winning numbers.



Thanks go out to Ron Morgan for MCing, Greg Noeth for handling all the money details, Patty Kaplan for printing everyone's nametag, Chris Shick for the centerpieces, Dave Williams for coordinating with Parker's, and Adam Woodie for doing the raffle while simultaneously being in charge of module displays at two venues.

NORTH COAST OHIO

DIV-4 Leadership

ELECTED OFFICERS

Superintendent - **Ron Morgan**, ronalco844@gmail.com

Assistant Superintendent - **Bert Wisbar**, bert.wisbar@gmail.com

Secretary - **Chris Shick**, chris.shick@hotmail.com

Treasurer - **Greg Noeth** (216)-789-2086, gnoetharch2@aol.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**, brianhaas86@gmail.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 - **John Witt MMR®**, wittjab@ameritech.net

Contests - **Joe Filipiak**, graftonart@gmail.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 - **Don Oleksa**, doleksa@icloud.com

Membership - **Craig Butler**, cb519145@gmail.com

Modules - **Adam Woodie**, woo3482@hotmail.com

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

Webmaster - **Chuck Shick**, chuck.shick@hotmail.com

Refreshments - **Don Glass**

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

MODULE GROUP

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

The module group has been incredibly busy this holiday season! We have seen several great crowds at Wild Winter Lights as well as Trees and Trains. Both events will wrapping up the weekend between Christmas and New Year's Day. January will be rather quiet for the module group but things will pick up in February with World's Greatest Hobby.

Be sure to come on out and see us at any of the upcoming events. As always, anyone interested in joining the module group, please contact me at woo3482@hotmail.com.

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

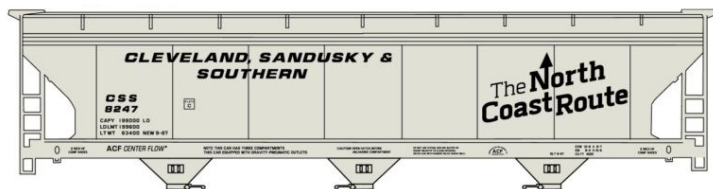


Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

COMPANY STORE

Convention Cars are available!!

We have the Division 4 convention cars for sale for \$28 each; the Accurail ACF 3-bay covered hopper (3 available) and Accurail 40' boxcar (17 available). These are lettered for the Cleveland, Sandusky and Southern Railroad (the modular layout railroad).



Also available at \$25 each:

The Division 7 Accurail N&W 2-bay covered hopper (3 available, different #'s)



The Division 6 Accurail 41' Steel Gondola lettered for The Buckeye Steel Castings Co (3 available)



I'll have these at the January Division meeting. If you do not plan to attend and want me to hold some for you, please let me know!



Scott Benson

CLINICS

JANUARY

There is a change of plans for the January clinic from what was in last month's Flatwheel. We will have some friends from Division 6 attending the January meeting to give a presentation on the 2025 Mid—Central Regional Convention, Buckeye Express, in Columbus in May 2025. The 2025 budget is also on the agenda for January's meeting. With both the budget and the MCR Convention presentation on the agenda, it's been decided to move the presentation originally planned for January to later in the year. In its place will be the What's in My Toolbox mini-clinic originally presented at GBTS in October.

FEBRUARY

February is the bi-annual auction. There is no clinic.

FUTURE CLINICS

I'm always looking for Clinics. I'm currently looking for clinics to schedule for the 2024-2025 meeting year. 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.



RAFFLE

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

The annual awards banquet and associated raffle was a great success! We will have a typical monthly raffle in January of 2025. As usual there will be something for everyone! Be sure to buy your tickets early before the regularly business meeting begins.

Until next time!

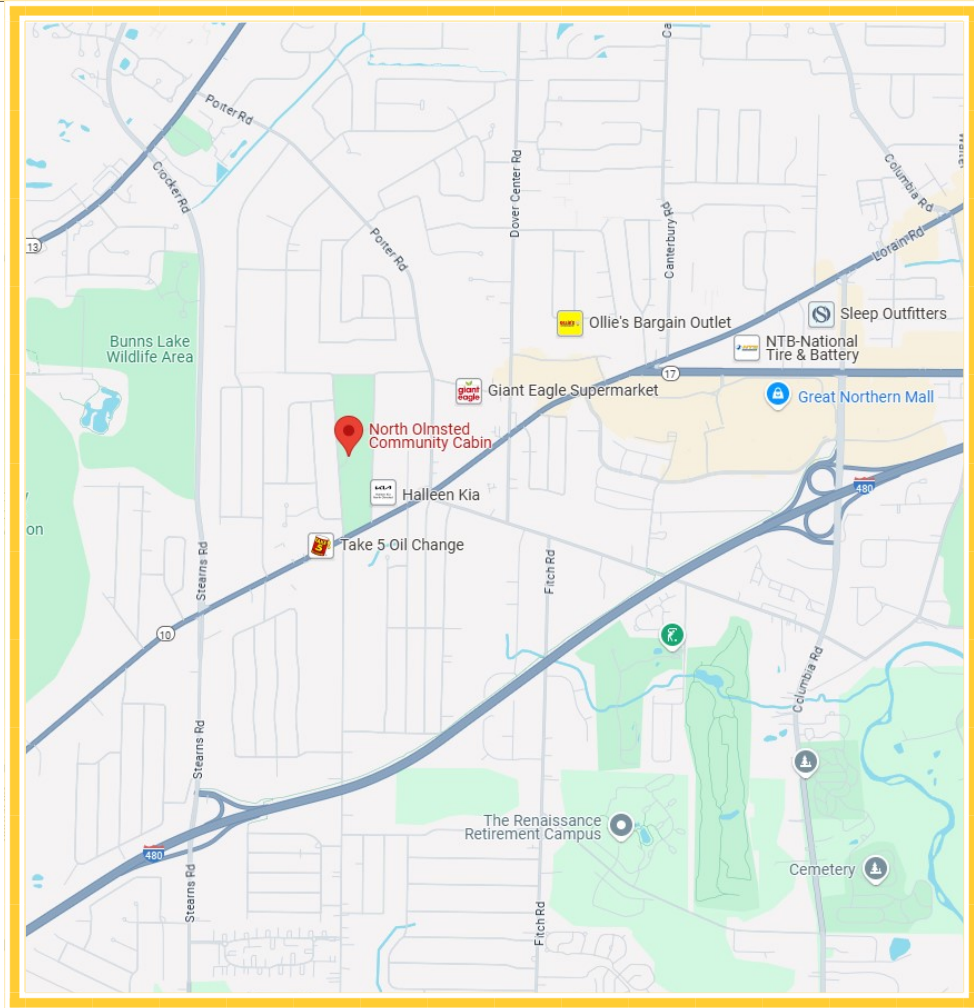
Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

New Meeting Location in 2025

We are moving to the North Olmsted Senior Center called the Cabin. The address is 28114 Lorain Road, North Olmsted, OH 44070. The contract has been signed and first meeting at the new location will be Friday, January 10th, 2025.



New Meeting Location in 2025

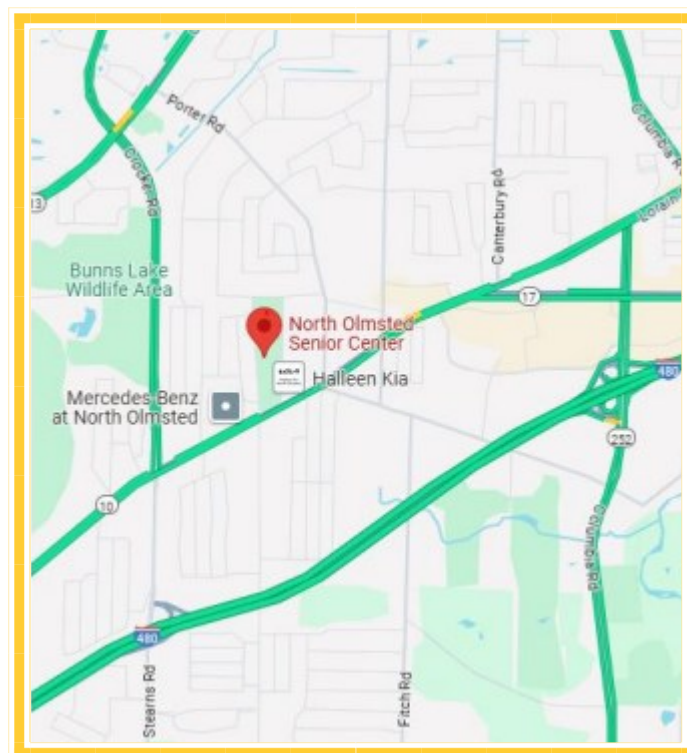
North Olmsted Senior Center
28114 Lorain Road
North Olmsted, OH 44070

From west: I-90 eastbound – Exit 156 (Crocker Rd.)
Right to South on Crocker Rd. – 4.2 mi. to Lorain Rd.
Left on Lorain Rd. – 0.5 mi. to West Park Dr.
Left on West Park Dr. – 0.2 mi. – Building on right

From east: I-90 westbound – Exit 159 (Columbia Rd.)
Right to South on Columbia Rd. – 3.3 mi. to Lorain Rd.
Right on Lorain Rd. – 2.3 mi. to West Park Dr.
Right on West Park Dr. – 0.2 mi. – Building on right

From west: I-480 eastbound – Exit 3 (Stearns Rd.)
Left on Stearns Rd. – 0.8 mi. to Lorain Rd.
Right on Lorain Rd. – 0.5 mi. to West Park Dr.
Left on West Park Dr. – 0.2 mi. – Building on right

From east: I-480 westbound – Exit 6B (North Olmsted)
Right to north on Great Northern Blvd. – 0.2 mi. to Brookpark Rd.
Left on Brookpark Rd. – 0.7 mi. to Lorain Rd.
Slight Left on Lorain Rd. – 1.1 mi. to West Park Dr.
Right on West Park Dr. – 0.2 mi. – Building on right



2025 Auction Information

The Division 4 Auctioneers are getting warmed up for this coming year's Model Auction at the February 14, Meeting 2025!

Ron will probably keep the meeting short!

- The Auction Item slips are available online and at the upcoming meetings.
- I recommend using websites for determining value of items (keep in mind that sometimes the prices on websites are overstated.)
- Consider if some of the items you are selling should be grouped together.

Frank, Lee and I will be available the evening of the auction, to answer any questions you might have before you register some items for sale. The three of us will probably also be at the next two events coming up in December and January, if you need to ask us something.

Have a Great Holiday Season,

Gary



Gary Shaefer

National Model Railroad Association – NMRA

Mid Central Region – Division 4 – The North Coast Division



We are a 501(c)3 Educational Organization to provide social and educational support for model railroaders and to promote the hobby. We serve members in the Ohio counties of Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lorain, and Medina. There are no dues beyond those required for National NMRA membership. For more information about membership in the National Model Railroad Association, including a 9 month trial membership for \$19.95, please visit our website at www.div4.org or www.nmra.org

Division 4 Meetings

- **Monthly Meetings:** Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of every month, except June (picnic), July, August, and December (Awards Banquet), at the **North Olmsted Senior Center** called The Cabin. The address is **28114 Lorain Road, North Olmsted, OH 44070**. Meetings begin with a social time 6:30 – 7:00PM and the meeting 7:00PM – 9:00PM. Coffee / beverages and donuts are provided. Special June and December events are listed below.
- **Programs / Clinics:** An educational program or modeling clinic is part of our monthly meeting, following the business meeting.
- **Vendors:** A variety of items are usually available for sale before and during the meeting.
- **Company Store:** NMRA and Division 4 merchandise is available, including fund raising projects from other divisions.
- **Raffle:** There is a good selection of items either donated or purchased for the raffle.
- **Model Contests:** Every month there are individual model and model diorama contests for specific areas of interest as determined by our contest chairman.
- **Member Sharing:** Members are invited to display models, photos, railroadiana, or anything that would be of interest to the general membership.

Communications and Division 4 Events:

- **Division 4 website:** www.div4.org is an informative site dedicated to keeping us up to date.
- **The Flatwheel:** The Division's newsletter is emailed to the membership and is also available on the Division's website.
- **The Great Berea Train Show:** The Division hosts one of the area's largest train shows each October at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Middleburg Heights, Ohio. Model railroad manufacturers, vendors, and modular railroads are featured. Modeling seminars and presentations are provided to help modelers improve their skills.
- **Module Group:** Members operate their own modules at shows, museums, and other public venues throughout the year.
- **Layout Open Houses:** Members open their layouts for viewing by other members and their guests on scheduled dates.
- **Division 4 supports the Medina and Cuyahoga County 4H Model Railroad Clubs.**
- **Field Trips:** The Division hosts periodic field trips based on member suggestions.
- **June – Division Picnic:** The June business meeting is combined with our annual division picnic held at Northeast Ohio Live Steamers in Medina, Ohio.
- **December - Annual Awards Banquet:** The December meeting is our annual Awards Banquet and Member Recognition party for members and their spouse or significant other. Held at a local restaurant. There is no business meeting in December.

WHAT'S GOING ON

2025 Jan. 4	Snow Dog Train Show * NEW LOCATION * Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge Association Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 East Bath Road, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223 10 am to 3 pm Adm.: \$6.00 Map Flyer Webpage
2025 Jan. 5	Youngstown Model Railroad Assn. Toy - Train Flea Market Parish Center 4490 Norquest Blvd., Austintown, Ohio 44515 10 am to 3:30pm Adm. \$7.00 Phone Rick Austin at: 832-622-8637 Flyer
2025 Jan. 25	Train Collectors Association - Winter Train Meet * NEW LOCATION * Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds 164 Eastland Rd., Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44017 10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00 Phone: John Twarog at : 330-273-6404 Info & MAP Flyer
2025 Feb. 2	Medina Train and Toy Show Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, Ohio 44256 9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00 Phone: 330-948-4400 Info & Map Flyer

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Jim Lewis

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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



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The restored N&W bay caboose on display in downtown Central, SC sits buried in a nice blanket of snow on a pleasant winter's morning.