



FLATWHEEL

FEBRUARY 2025

VOLUME 60 NUMBER 2



The reds and yellows of northbound CPKC intermodal train I181 which is crossing the Illinois River near Watts, OK on the afternoon of Friday, January 10, 2025. Following Winter Storm Cora, several inches of snow lay on the ground in eastern Oklahoma.

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Please send any articles for the March Flatwheel to:

doleksa@icloud.com

by February 26th

Thank You

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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**

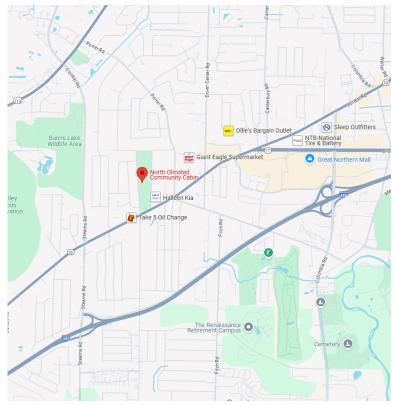
month. A set up/social half hour starts at 6:30 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 7:00. After a short break, a railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Starting January, 2025, the meetings are held at the **North Olmsted Community Cabin**, 28114 Lorain Rd, North Olmsted,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

The first meeting at the North Olmsted Cabin went very well with over 70 members in attendance. A big thanks to those members who helped with set-up and tear down. The first meeting was a learning experience and serval changes will be made for future meetings. I have been informed that the updates that have been planned for the facility will be started soon. Updates include a new screen, wi-fi, sound system and projector. More of that status of the updates will be provided at the next meeting.

Speaking of the next meeting can you say "AUCTION". Our bi-annual auction will be held on February 14th starting at 7:00 pm. As in past years the 10% sellers fee is being waved. The auction forms are out on the Division 4 web site. Items will be accepted starting at 6:30 pm. The sell will last until 10:00 pm. Please prepare your forms in advance.

Also, a reminder that the March meeting will be the annual pizza party. Hopefully by that point in time all of the updates to the Cabin will be completed. The Division 4 Directors will be available to discuss any concerns you might have concerning the division.

The MCR had a BOD meeting on January 17th. The region is doing well. Columbus continues to prepare for the 2025 regional convention. Dates for the Columbus convention are May 15th thru 18th. Dayton will be hosting the 2026 and Cincinnati will be hosting the 2027 convention. If you have not yet signed up for the Columbus convention, please consider doing so. The next MCR Regional Meeting will be at the regional convention in Columbus. Speaking of conventions, just a reminder the National Convention will be held in Novi Michigan on July 14th thru 19th, just several hours away. A great opportunity to attend a national convention. I am planning to register in the near future for both of these events.

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

GREETINGS FROM THE CAB





Chasing Trains Along Route 30 The Lincoln Highway In Nebraska

GREETINGS FROM THE CAB



Chasing Trains Along Route 30 The Lincoln Highway In Nebraska



Ron Morgan

Meeting Minutes

NMRA MCR Division 04 Meeting Minutes for Friday, January 10, 2025 North Olmsted Community Cabin, North Olmsted, OH

Superintendent, Ron Morgan opened the meeting at 7:05pm, with a warm welcome to our first meeting at "The Cabin". It will take us a couple of months of growing pains to get used to our new space. He then thanked everyone who helped set up and those that will help with take down. There is a table in the back with of bunch of freebies, please help yourself! Ron asked for any visitors or new members, there were none. We did have 72 members in attendance.

David James made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Brian Haas seconded the motion. The Division carried the motion and the minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

Treasurer, Greg Noeth gave a balance on all accounts.

Old Business:

Dennis Novak Award - Ron Morgan - Ron presented Jerry Kruger with the second Dennis Novak Award.

New Business:

Budget - Greg Noeth - Greg started off by thanking Ron and crew for finding a nice, new meeting place. He then went over last year's budget and the actual amounts. He then went over the proposed 2025 budget. Greg asked for any questions. David James made a motion to accept the proposed 2025 budget. Bruce Bowie seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the Division to accept the 2025 proposed budget.

Ron presented Brian Haas with a \$50.00 gift certificate from judging of the Medina County 4 -H modules in August.

Columbus Convention Presentation - Ken Mc Donough (via phone) - Division 6 will be hosting the Buckeye Express Convention in Dublin, Ohio. The dates are May 15th to 18th at the Embassy Suites. Layout tours will be on the way out of the convention on the 18th. There will be other activities to choose from. Thursday and Friday will be operating sessions, those who register first will have first chance at operation. A Swap Meet, Company Store, and other side attractions. All can be found on the website https://buckeyeexpress.div6-mcr-nmra.org/main.html Any questions contact Mike Percy who is the registrar.

Meeting Minutes

.Working on Cool Projects - Bram Bailey - Bram talked and showed his slides on the improvements going on with his Ontario Central Scenery by his crew. He handed the mic over to Dave Lawler, who spoke about the tugboat "Leotta" he built for the OCS layout.

Bruce Bowie was next with his slide presentation of East Broad Top.

At this time, we took a little intermission and held the raffle.

On continuation of Working on Cool Projects, John Hemsath, MMR gave a report on the moving of his Bayline from the old house to his new house.

Mark Pekelnicky was our last presenter with his slide show Conrail/Adrian Secondary. This is his 5th revision and he showed updated progress.

Committee Reports:

Flat Wheel Deadline - Ron Morgan - Articles need to be to Don Oleksa by January 26th.

Clinics - Jerry Krueger - there will be no clinics the next 2 months. February is the Auction, March is Pizza Night, Jerry will show movies while we enjoy our pizza. April needs a presenter if interested let Jerry know.

Company Store - Scott Benson -

Raffle - Adam Woodie - was held during our brief intermission.

Module Group - Adam Woodie - Zoo and Trees and Trains went well this year. Tear down for both was on the 4th. Thanks to all that helped. Next up is World's Greatest Hobby at the IX Center. Set up is February 14th and running on the 15th and 16th of February.

Layout Tours - John Witt, MMR - Spring Tours will be late April, early May. If you are interested in showing your layout please let John know. His NEW PHONE NUMBER IS 440-536-6615 or atwittjab@ameritech.net

AP Awards - John Hemsath, MMR - Ben Lanza has earned 3 awards. On his one box car he scored 112 points out of a possible 120. Great Job Ben!

Meeting Minutes

Contests - Joe Filipiak - Novembers winners of Repurposing of a Passenger Train, are as follows:

Model	1st	Joe Kurilec, MMR
	2nd	Jim Grell
	3rd	John Witt, MMR

Diorama	1st	Dave Williams
	2nd	
	3rd	

There is no Contest next month, March's will be Streamlined Steam Engine that pulled Named Passenger Trains.

Comments/Concerns - Joe Kruilec, MMR gave us an update of Mike Oster. Mike is currently cancer free and improving daily. Still at the Nursing Home.

Ron reminded us next month is the Auction. It will be run as it has in the previous years and there will not be the 10 % charge. He also asked that everyone please help tear down and clean up afterwards.

Craig Butler made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Gary Schaefer seconded the motion to adjourn. The membership carried the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Shick Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA

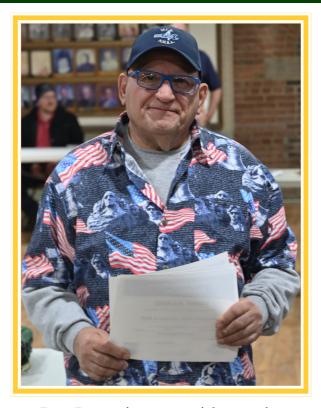


Chris Shick





New Facility Pictures



Ben Lanza has earned 3 awards.



Contest Entry 1



Contest Entry 2.



Contest Entry 3



Contest Entry 5



Contest Entry 6



Contest Entry 7



Contest Entry A



Contest Entry B



Contest Entry C



Contest Entry D

BOD Meeting Minutes

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Board of Directors Meeting, January 7, 2025, Via Zoom

Meeting opened at 7:04 pm by Superintendent, Ron Morgan. There were 9 Board Members present.

Ron turned over the meeting to Treasurer, Greg Noeth. Greg went over the 2025 proposed budget and added a few adjustments were made. new budget sheet will be made with the corrections on it.

Ron asked if there were any thought or questions. As there were none, Brian Haas made a motion to accept the proposed budget. Gary Schaefer seconded the motion. Ron then did a Roll Call vote on the proposed budget. Every member present voted and the proposed budget was accepted to be presented to the membership at next meeting.

Ron went over how meeting should run Friday.

Chris Shick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brian Haas seconded the motion. The Board carried the motion and meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Shick Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA



Chris Shick

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!

Things are rather quiet during the month of January. After a busy holiday season, the module group could certainly use the rest. However, things will pick back up February with the World's Greatest Hobby. This event will be held at the Cleveland International Exposition (IX) Center on Saturday, February 15th and Sunday, February 16th.

After a couple weeks off, the module group will have display at the Avon Lake Library which be held on Saturday, March 1st and Sunday, March 2nd. We would like to have some volunteers come and bring a model railroad project to work on similar to TRAINing Day in the past. There will be plenty of space, tables, and chairs available for our use.

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

CONTEST TABLE

The January Division Meeting was the first meeting held in our new location. It was a cold, snowy night but we had a strong turnout of members. Model railroaders are some of the toughest people I know. Not only did we have a strong attendance, we had a good number of entries both in the model section as well as the diorama area for our viewing pleasure. Thanks to all who participated both in entries and voting. The subject matter for the contest was a repurposed passenger car. The results of the voting gave Joe Kurilec first place in models. Brian Haas was favored with a second place for his Conrail green entry, and third place went to Dave Lawler. John Puch was the favorite in dioramas where he won first place. Second place went to Tim Bonness with his first time entry into the contests and third place went to Joe Filipiak with a SuperDiner. There is no contest for February due to it being Auction Night.

The next contest will be in March with a steam engine that pulled a named passenger train. I realized I caused some confusion by posting the contest for March as a steam engine that pulled a named passenger train then at the meeting announcing that the March contest was to have a stylized steam engine that pulled a named passenger train. Well, out of confusion came opportunity. The March contest will be a Special Contest with two sections in the model portion of the contest. One section will have non stylized steam engines while the other section of the model table will be for stylized steam engines. Dioramas will remain as one area. The ballots will be a special print reflecting the two separate sections in the model entries. When you enter your model, please identify what passenger train that engine pulled. I will have 3x5 index cards available if you need one to put the name on. The April contest is an open sided or top off view of the interior of a building.

It looks like I need to shovel a little more coal in the firebox so I can get on down the line on this sunny winter day that has no degrees attached to it. See you at the next meeting.



Joe Filipiak

CLINICS

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

March is member appreciation night. Pizza is provided by the Division. There is no formal clinic presentation. We will have some railroad / model railroading videos to enjoy as you enjoy a night of pizza and fellowship.

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!

Things seem to run pretty well at the our first meeting at the new location in North Olmsted. The raffle went pretty well. Things will be quiet as far as the raffle goes for February and March. February, of course, will be Auction night and March will be membership appreciation night. With that said, the next regularly scheduled raffle will be at the April monthly meeting.

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

2025 Auction Information

The February Meeting is, "Division 4's Auction!!!"

The Auction is a lot of fun and it benefits all of our members!

This Year there is NO Auction Fee.

A few thoughts:

Group similar items together if practical, and provide a minimum bid for the group. Keep in mind that the auctioneers will also offer their thoughts (if appropriate) prior to starting the bidding. While the three of us like to joke around, we are there to work for the seller, and to provide an accurate description of each item to be sold.

When it comes to locomotives, it is helpful for the auctioneers to know if the unit has sound, is DCC or DC, and operational? Or needs work. I'm sure you get the idea as many of you have participated before in the auction.

I know Lee, Frank and I are looking forward to working together, and hope each of you enjoy "Auction 2025" as much as we will!

On behalf of the Three of Us,

Best regards,

Gary Sole



Gary Sole

"The Great Train Wreck of 1916" by Tom Jewell

Hello! "The Great Train Wreck of 1916" is a free community presentation by Tom Jewell, on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 7pm, at the AHS Hall, 113 South Lake Street, Amherst, Ohio 44001.

Tom will present about the tragic train wreck that took place in Amherst, one early foggy morning on March 29, 1916. Three trains collided, resulting in 27 people being killed and 47 injured, as well as countless people who heroically assisted that day. This crash impacted our community and beyond- and even has a connection with Mary Pickford, a famous silent movie actress.

This presentation is free to attend, with refreshments provided. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Please RSVP at 440-988-7255 or office@amhersthistoricalsociety.org.



"The Great Train Wreck of 1916" by Tom Jewell

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7pm

AHS Hall, 113 South Lake Street, Amherst, Ohio 44001

Free Community Presentation

Tom will present about the tragic train wreck that took place in Amherst, one early foggy morning on March 29, 1916. Three trains collided, resulting in 27 people being killed and 47 injured, as well as countless people who heroically assisted that day. This crash impacted our community and beyond- and even has a connection with Mary Pickford, a famous silent movie actress.

This presentation is free to attend, with refreshments provided.

Please RSVP to 440-988-7255 or office@amhersthistoricalsociety.org



Spring Layout Tours

Think Spring!!

Spring layout tours that is.

Now that you have extra time this winter - make some good progress on your layouts. Everyone in the club would be interested in seeing your improvements.

So get ready for the Late April / Early May tour dates.

Thanks John Witt

Ps - my new phone number is 440-536-6615,

so when I call it won't be a solicitor



JOHN WITT

Achievement Program

Achievement Program

Here is a summary of the Division's participation in the Achievement Program for 2024.

Craig Butler earned his Golden Spike award for the work on his layout.

Ben Lanza earned merit awards for each of three freight cars and another two merit awards for his locomotives.

Mark Pekelnicky earned two merit awards for two cars and another merit award for his handlaid track. Mark also earned his Model Railroad Engineer – Civil certificate.

Congratulations to each of these members for their well-deserved recognition.



John Hemsath

RPM-East Event

RPM-East prototype modeler event in metro-Pittsburgh, PA

The 2025 RPM-East returns to the Westmoreland County Community College in Youngwood, PA, March 21 & Department of our long-running railroad prototype modeler meet is just 40 miles southeast of downtown Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Make plans to rekindle your modeling efforts!

Thirty-eight modelers and historians are scheduled to speak at RPM-East. Many presentation titles have been posted to the RPM-East website. A tentative presentation schedule will be posted to the website in late February.

Early bird registration is only \$40 (until February 28th). RPM-East is sponsored by Division 2, MCR-NMRA. Registration forms, presentation details, op session layouts, and participating vendors can be reviewed at the RPM-East website:

http://hansmanns.org/rpm_east/index.htm

There will be plenty of action over March 21 & Damp; 22.

- two days of prototype and model presentations
- a large display room to share your modeling efforts and learn new techniques
- a variety of vendors selling goods for prototype modeling
- Thursday operating sessions on local model railroads
- Sunday model railroad layouts to visit

There are several hotel options in nearby New Stanton, PA, just off of the Pennsylvania Turnpike. This Google Maps link can help you find lodging.

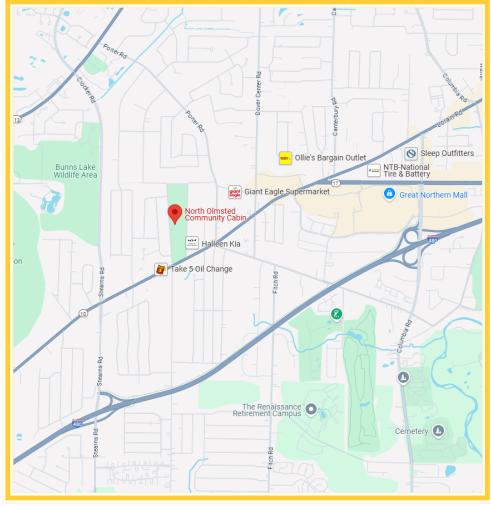
https://goo.gl/maps/Kf55KEzfHJSMmaEV7

Gather your models and make plans to attend the 2025 RPM-East prototype modeler event in Youngwood, PA!

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. Next meeting at the new location will be Friday, February 14th, 2025.





New Meeting Location in 2025

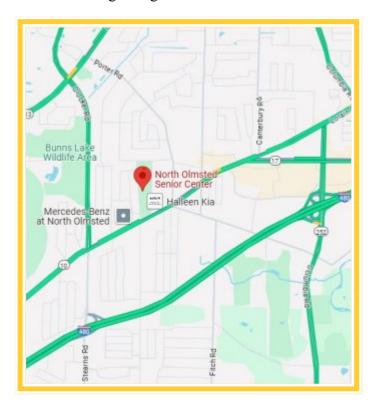
North Olmsted Senior Center 28114 Lorain Road North Olmsted, OH 44070

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



WHAT'S GOING ON

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

2025

Feb. 8

Iron and Steel Winter Blizzard Train show and expo

St. Mary's Assumption Social Center 356 S. Belle Vista Ave., Youngstown, Ohio 44509 10: 00 am to 3:00 pm Adm. \$7:00 under 16 free

For Tables Dennis @330-503-5510 Flyer

2025

Feb. 15

Canfield Train and Toy Show

Canfield Fairgrounds, 7265 Columbiana, Canfield, Ohio 44406 Being held in new Event Center 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Adm. \$7.00

Phone: 330-651-1042

Map Flyer

2025

Feb. 22

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

6001 Archwood Rd. Independence, Oh 44131

10 am - 3 pm Adm. \$7.00

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

WHAT'S GOING ON

2025

Mar. 2

Erie Model Train Show

Rainbow Gardens - Waldameer Park, PA 10 am to 4 pm Adm. \$5.00

Phone: 724-992-2035

2025

Mar. TBA

33rd 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. \$3.00

Flyer

<u>Map</u>

2025

Akron Train & Toy Show

Mar. 9
Emidio's & Sons Expo Center
48 East Bath Road at State Road

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223

9:00 am - 3 pm Adm. \$5.00

Phone: 330-724-5253

Map Flyer

2025

Div. 5 Railfest - Model Railroad Show

Mar. 15-16

Lakeland Community College 7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, Ohio 44094 10 am to 4 pm

Adm. \$9.00 each

\$14.00 couples one day

\$14.00 two day pass - one person \$16.00 Family (2 adults, 2 children) Contact John at railfest@mcr5.org

Info & Map

Flyer |

HOBBY SOURCES IN OUR AREA



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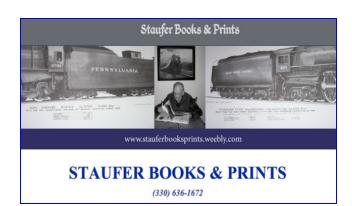
Brian Weisman - Owner

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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Olmsted Falls, OH 44138

440-647-1519

www.dollsandminis.com

HOURS: Tuesday thru Saturday

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



The snow covered cabooses bask in the sunshine during the morning after winter storm Jonas dropped over 30 inches of snow. Cabooses are Whippany Railway Museum's former D&H wood caboose 35886 and the Morristown & Erie's ex Maine Eastern extended vision caboose.