

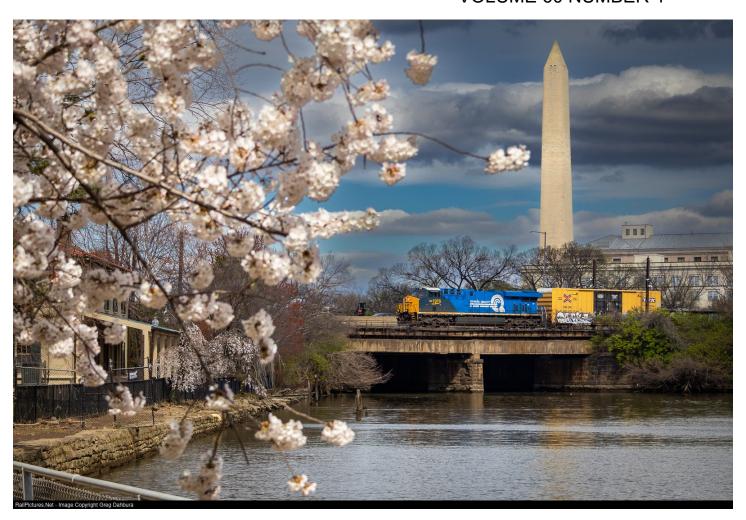
THE



FLATWHEEL

APRIL 2025

VOLUME 60 NUMBER 4



With the "Conrail" heritage unit leading and cherry blossoms in full bloom, M421 heads south on some of the southernmost mainline trackage on the former Conrail system.

In This Issue

APRIL 2025

FEATURES:

AMREC's Spring Slide Show Spring Layout Tours Want Professional Skirting For Your Layout?

Please send any articles for the May Flatwheel to:

doleksa@icloud.com

by April 26th

Thank You

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Calendar of Events Upcoming Activities & Celebrations

April

• Division 4 Meeting (North Olmsted Cabin)

April 11th 6:30 pm

May

• Division 4 Meeting (North Olmsted Cabin)

May 9th 6:30 pm

• 2025 MCR Convention Buckeye Express Dublin, Ohio

May 15th - 18th

Memorial Day Remembrance - May 30

June

• Division 4 picnic

June 14th

July

NMRA 90th National Convention

July 14th – 19th Novi, Michigan

August

• End of Summer Picnic - August 28

September

- Labor Day Weekend Celebration September 5
- Fall Harvest Festival September 22

October

- Halloween Spooktacular October 31
- Oktoberfest October 10

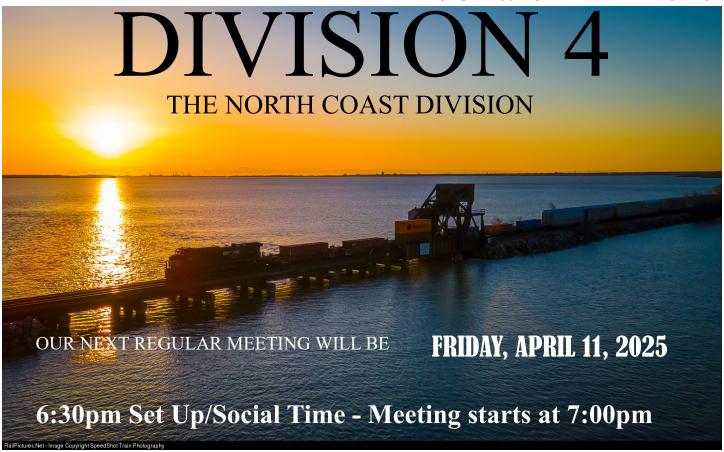
Calendar of Events Upcoming Activities & Celebrations

November

- Veterans Day Ceremony November 11
- Thanksgiving Feast November 24

December

- Winter Wonderland December 12
- Christmas Celebration December 25
- New Years Eve Party December 31



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**

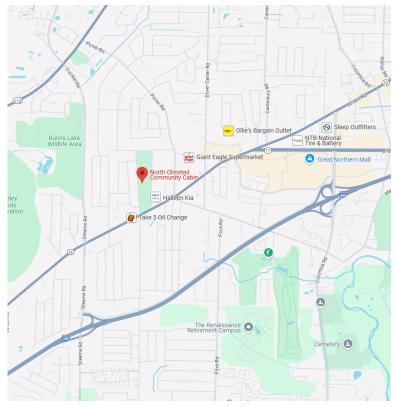
month. A set up/social half hour starts at 6:30 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 7:00. After a short break, a railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Starting January, 2025, the meetings are held at the **North Olmsted Community Cabin**, 28114 Lorain Rd, North Olmsted,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

<u>The Flatwheel</u> is typically electronically published no later than the Monday preceding the monthly meeting. <u>Submissions are due no later than the 26th of the prior month</u>, 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.

Big thank you to all members who helped setup for the meeting and to those who cleaned up after the meeting.

Last month's Division 4 annual pizza party went well. The new vendor provided some very good pizzas. It would have been a little better if we had more members in attendance.

The model contest was by far the largest we have had in a long time. Seems like everyone has a passenger steam engine in their collection. Very nice turn out.

There will be sign up sheets for the division picnic in June. Kindly sign up so Larry can have an idea for planning purposes.

A revised copy of the Division 4 By-lays (two changes) will be going out to the Board of Directors for approval. Once approved by the board it will be presented to the membership for approval.

At the next Board of Directors Meeting, we will discuss the possibility of several items that was discussed at the March membership meeting. Theses included moving the annual member pizza party to February and the annual membership appreciation dinner to November.

Columbus continues to prepare for the 2025 regional convention. Dates for the Columbus convention are May 15th thru 18th. If you have not yet signed up for the Columbus convention, please consider doing so. 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 registered and am looking forward to attending.

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

That's all I have for this month.

Ron



Ron Morgan

Meeting Minutes

Division 4, MCR, NMRA General Meeting Minutes, March 14, 2025 North Olmsted Cabin

Superintendent, Ron Morgan opened the meeting at 6:55 pm. with a warm welcome. Ron asked for new members or visitors to stand and introduce themselves: Mark Sable from Avon Lake and Mark Mallet from North Olmsted stood and introduced themselves.

Gary Schaefer made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Dino Peris seconded the motion. The Division carried the motion, minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

Treasurer, Greg Noeth gave a report on all account balances. He also informed us of the total donation to the Division from the auction.

Membership badges are on the back table along with free literature and old calendars.

Old Business:

Regional and National Convention - Ron Morgan - still plenty of time to sign up for both the Regional Convention in May, In Columbus. The National Convention is in July and will be held in Michigan. It is rumored that the host hotel is sold out.

Railfest - Craig Butler - There is still help needed on Sunday to man the Membership table. Shifts are only an hour long.

New Business:

Division 4 By Laws - Ron Morgan - The By Laws are currently going through revisions and updates. Important points to note: The Secretary is no longer a limited term position. Clarification will be made for as to who is to handle the ballots, the Election Chairperson not the Secretary. Ron then thanked Chuck Shick for all his help with going over and retyping of the current by laws.

Date Changes - Ron Morgan - Ron would like to bring up at the next board meeting the following meeting changes;

Pizza Party to February Auction to March Appreciation Dinner to November (National Railroad Month)

Meeting Minutes

Sign-up Sheets - Ron Morgan - There will be sign-up sheets for the Picnic. The Picnic is on Saturday, June 14th at NEOLS. There will be sign up sheets for The Great Berea Train Show.

What to do in June? - Ron Morgan - Need the members thoughts about what to do in June. Do we do have a meeting on Friday and Picnic on Saturday? or should we meet at the Picnic on Saturday?

Working on Cool Projects - Darall Swift brought part of the objects he will be displaying at Division 2's show in Youngwood, PA. Tim Hohman is really having fun being a part of this group. All due to the fact of the mystery prize he won at the Appreciation Dinner in December.

Committee Reports:

Flat Wheel Deadline - Don Oleska - articles or anything you think may be of interest to be printed, get to Don by March 26th.

Clinics - Ron Morgan - Jerry is working on getting together the clinic for April's meeting.

Company Store - Scott Benson - a few new things like laser kits, ho gauges with clearance gauge, National Convention operating sessions are opening. There are day and night ones available. Scott and Bill Cramer went to visit Larry and Carol Madson at their new home in Rocky River Village.

Module Group - Adam Woodie - layout is set up in Lakeland. We are in a back room, come on out. July we will be at the National Convention and August we will be at the Cuyahoga County Fair.

Raffle - Adam Woodie - Nothing tonight

Layout Tours - John Witt, MMR - nothing tonight

AAP Awards - John Hemsath, MMR - Ben Lanza was judged tonight on his 4th car. He scored 110 out of 125.

Meeting Minutes

Contests - Joe Filipiak - Last months winners for Repurposed Passenger Car are as follows:

Model	1st	Joe Kurilec, MMR
	2nd	Brian Haas
	3rd	Dave Lawler
Diorama	1st	John Puch
	2nd	Tim Bonness
	3rd	Joe Filipiak

Next Month's Contest is: Open Top Side or Side of Building Showing the Interior.

Comments/Concerns - Ron Morgan - Ron offered a "BIG" Welcome to Mike Oster and Art Bumpus. so good to have them back at meeting.

Gary Sole has fliers on the back table for the Division 5 show.

Tom McInnery is at home and doing well. Please keep all of out unwell members in your prayers.

Tim Sheffield made a motion to close the meeting. Dino Peris seconded the motion. Motion carried by the Division and meeting closed at 7:34pm.

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



Chris Shick

Non-Streamlined Models



Dino Paris



Craig Butler

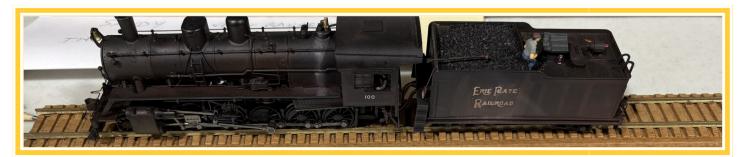


Joe Filipiak



Steve Riddlebaugh

Non-Streamlined Models



Joe Kurilec

Streamlined Models



Dr. George



Joe Kurilec



Joe Leighton

Streamlined Models







Don Glass

Diorama



John Hughes



Joe Filipiak



Pizza Party

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!

Winter is winding down and so are the activities for the Module Group. Avon Lake Library was a great success. We had several families view the layout as well as interact with those members that brought projects to work on. We are already booked again for the first weekend in March of 2026.

Railfest as sponsored by the NMRA Mid-Central Region Division 5, also took place earlier this month. Despite a miscommunication regarding the space requirement for the layout, we were still able to display and have a good time at the show. According to the show organizer, we may end up in the same space next year or moved to a different location. We can deal with that issue in 2026.

Things will be rather quiet for the module group until July. That is when the module group will travel to Novi, Michigan to attend the National Train Show which is held in conjunction with the NMRA National Convention. This event will take place on Saturday, July 19th and Sunday, June 20th. Set up will take place on Friday, July 18th.

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

Company Store

We still have the Division 4 convention cars (Accurail 40' boxcar) for sale. 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)



Reminders:

The Company Store also manages:

- Shirt and hat sales let me know if you want to order a Division 4 shirt.
- FastTracks jig loans always helpful if I know before the meeting if you'd like to check one out. We have (all Code 83) #4, #6 and #8 turnouts, cross-over/double cross-over, and gantlet jigs
- DVD library lots of nice DVDs on modelling techniques available to borrow at each meeting



Scott Benson

CONTEST TABLE

The annual pizza night division meeting is always fun to be at. Plenty of conversation and tasty pizza to be had for all. The pizza was good but the participation in the model contest was great. There were four members who entered models for the first time this session. One of them even placed in the voting. Way to go Dino. The contest itself was unique in that the model portion of the contest actually had two separate sections to vote on and points were awarded in each of those sections. The first section of the model contest was streamlined steam engines that pulled a named passenger train. First place was awarded to Joe Kurilec. Second place went to Dave Lawler and George Geleurter's steamer can in third. The other section of the model contest was the non-streamlined steam engine that pulled a named passenger train. Since there were two separate sections of the model contest, a member could enter a model in both sections. Joe Kurilec did just that and he won first place in both sections. Second place went to Joe Filipiak and Dino Peris who entered a model for the first time this session won third place. The diorama is a separate section in the monthly contest. First place was awarded to John Hughes. Dave Williams pulled down second place with Joe Filipiak's N&W diorama coming in third. Thanks to all who participated and brought in an entry and thanks to all who voted.

The model contest subject matter for April is an open sided or roof off view of the interior of a building. May will be the last contest of the session and the subject matter for that contest is to build a railroad related item using toilet paper tubes as part of the structure. You can add anything else to the project to complete it. The tubes can be cut and changed in diameter or added together to build your entry. Color and size is unlimited. I think I better sign off now and go count my toilet paper tubes. One can never have enough toilet paper tubes.



Joe Filipiak

CLINICS

APRIL

Galesburg, Illinois – A Railroad Town. Galesburg, IL has been home to major classification yard for over 100 years. First with the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy RR, then the Burlington Northern RR and now with the Burlington Northen Santa Fe Railway. Galesburg still celebrates its railroad heritage with its annual Railroad Days event. I'll look back to the early Railroad Days events that use to attract thousands of visitors each year through photographs and memorabilia.

MAY

May program is still open. If you have a program you would like to present please contact me.

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 have been rather quiet the last couple of months for the raffle due to the Auction in February and Membership Appreciation in March. However, do not despair! The monthly raffle will return at the April meeting! Raffle tickets will be for sale before the business meeting. Winning tickets will be drawn shortly after the conclusion of the business meeting. As always, there is something for everyone!

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

AMREC's Spring Slide Show

Slides / Movies / Operating Layout Saturday, March 29, 2025

10 AM till we are tired

Admission - \$2.00 Donation

Coshocton Model Railroad Club at the Fairgrounds on 7th Street Coshocton, Ohio

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Layout open for Viewing and Operating We do not have a set schedule for showing slides this year. We are basically having a "Free-for-All" all afternoon and evening.

We are asking that those wishing to share their slides limit your show to two 80 slide KODAK trays, (45 minutes, Maximum). We have extra trays if you need them.

We also have a computer and projector available for those with digital pictures. Have your pictures on a flash drive for the computer.

Please bring your BEST STUFF to show. Have the slides placed correctly in the trays, eliminate the over-exposed, under exposed, and out of focus slides. It makes the show more enjoyable for all. For additional information call: 740-622-0633 or see us on Facebook: Facebook.com/amrec.rrclub

Hot Dogs, Coneys, and Potato Chips will be available for a donation. Pop will be for sale.

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

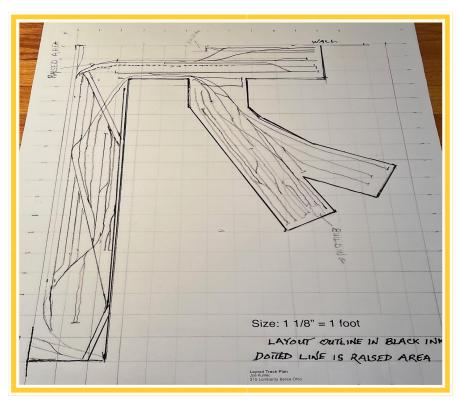
WANT PROFESSIONAL SKIRTING FOR YOUR LAYOUT? By Joe Kurilec, MMR®

All contact information in this article is authorized for publication.

I purchase material from Joann Fabric. Chris & Chuck Shick tried to help make the skirting. Chris came over with her sewing machine and worked very hard on the project. Unfortunately the material I purchased was not very good for this type of project.

Around the same time my good friend Dennis Churovich, (CP: 440.724.0737, EM: itdennis58@gmail.com) IT expert & contractor I use, introduced me to a firm that does custom embroidery. She had a friend that does professional sewing, Anita. (Sewlutions by NE, 3341 Broadview Road, Cleveland, OH 44109. (CP: 216.212.6604. You may have to call twice as she screens her calls. EM: Sewlutions.by.ne@gmail.com)

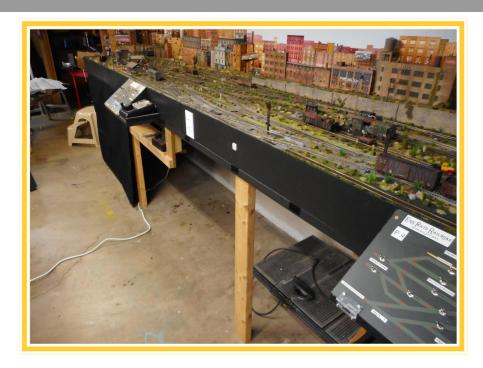
Anita has been sewing for 50 plus years. She is SUPER professional. Her labor and materials that she uses is impeccable. Any member in need of skirting for their layout should give her a call.



Joe Filipiak made a drawing of my layout for a future Model Railroader article. I used this to pencil in dimensions for the need skirting sections. This was given to Anita to start the project.

WANT PROFESSIONAL SKIRTING FOR YOUR LAYOUT?

By Joe Kurilec, MMR®



This view of the layout shows the bench work before installing the skirting.



Here is the same area of the layout with the skirting in place. The gap between the skirts (upper left side of the image) is an area that I need access to.

WANT PROFESSIONAL SKIRTING FOR YOUR LAYOUT? By Joe Kurilec, MMR®



The fabric that Anita used is durable, easy to clean and easy to use at the modelers end. Notice that Anita marked each skirt with ID and measurement for easy installation!



The quality of the stitching is super professional!

WANT PROFESSIONAL SKIRTING FOR YOUR LAYOUT? By Joe Kurilec, MMR®



Industrial Velcro was used and there is a BIG difference in this type compared to the Velcro from craft stores or big box stores. The adhesive used on the Velcro is VERY strong.

Athearn Genesis Electro-Motive Division GP7 diesel locomotive

Price: Direct-current mode, \$229.99; with DCC and sound, \$329.99

Manufacturer: Athearn Trains, 2904 Research Rd., Champaign, IL 61822;

800-338-4639; <u>athearn.com</u>



Electro-Motive Division GP7 features:

- Detailed fuel tank with fuel fillers, fuel gauges, breather pipes, and retention tanks
- See-through cab windows and full cab interior
- Etched metal radiator intake grilles and fan grilles
- Details include couple cut levers, "nub" style walkway tread, windshield wipers, and wire grab irons

Release date: September 2026

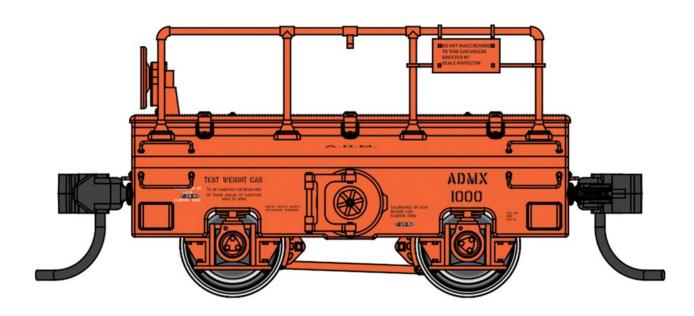
Road names: Alaska RR.; Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific; Conrail; Louisville & Nashville; Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis; Reading; Seaboard Coast Line; Southern; Tennessee Valley; and United States Army.

WalthersProto scale test car

Price: \$49.98

Manufacturer: Wm. K. Walthers Inc., 5601 W. Florist Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53218; 414-527-

0770; walthers.com



Scale test car features:

- Die-cast body
- Factory-installed wire grab irons
- Photo-etched brass placards
- Three different side access doors
- Also available in gray data only scheme Release date: Fall 2025

Road names: Archer Daniels Midland; Burlington Northern; Canadian National; Chesapeake & Ohio; Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific; Conrail; and Union Pacific.

ScaleTrains Rivet Counter Electro-Motive Division SD7

Price: Direct-current model, \$204.99; with DCC and sound, \$304.99

Manufacturer: ScaleTrains, 4901 Old Tasso Rd. NE, Cleveland, TN 37312; 844-987-

2467; scaletrains.com



Electro-Motive Division SD7 features:

- Factory-applied details include wire grab irons, end ladders, photo-etch lift rings, windshield wipers, trainline hoses with silver gladhands, signal hoses with silver gladhands, and air tanks with plumbing
- Underbody air filter details
- Separately applied sand fill hatches
- Sliding cab side windows
- Detailed cab interior with separate floor, rear wall, seats, and control stand
 Release date: October 2025

Road names: Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; Great Northern; Southern Pacific; and Union Pacific.

Athearn Roundhouse 50-foot flatcar

Price: \$39.99

Manufacturer: Athearn Trains, 2904 Research Rd., Champaign, IL 61822;

800-338-4639; <u>athearn.com</u>



50-foot flatcar features:

- Fully assembled
- Separate brake wheel **Release date:** September 2026

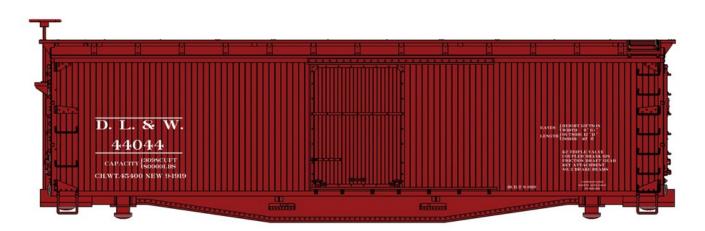
Road names: Boston & Maine, Great Northern, Milwaukee Road, Newhaven, Reading, United States Army, and United States Department of Defense.

Walthers Mainline 40-foot double sheathed wood boxcar

Price: \$34.98

Manufacturer: Wm. K. Walthers Inc., 5601 W. Florist Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53218;

414-527-0770; walthers.com



40-foot double sheathed wood boxcar features:

- Fishbelly underframe
- Vertical handbrake staff
- 5-5-5 Murphy steel ends
- Flat steel roof

Release date: Summer 2025

Road names: Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific; Delaware, Lackawanna & Western; Florida East Coast; New York Central; Northern Pacific; Northwestern Pacific; St. Louis-San Francisco; and St. Louis Southwestern.

WHAT'S GOING ON

2025

Mar. 29

Train Collectors Association - Spring Train Show

Flver

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

 $\overline{2025}$

Mar. 30

Springfield Train Show

Clark County Fairgrounds 4401 South Charleston Pike (State Rt. 41) At I-70 Exit 59 10 am - 3 pm Adm. \$5.00

Map Flyer

2025

Apr. 6

Medina Train and Toy Show

Phone: 330-948-4400

Info & Map Flyer

2025

Apr. 6

Youngstown Model Railroad Assn. Toy - Train Flea Market

Parish Center
4490 Norquest Blvd., Austintown, Ohio 44151
10 am to 3:30pm Adm. \$7.00
Phone Rick Ausstin at: 832-622-8637
Flyer

WHAT'S GOING ON

2025

Apr. 18-19

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 Flyer

2025

Apr. 25-27

Aurora Model Car Club

26701 US 62, Beloit, Ohio 44609 9:30 am to 3 pm Flyer

HOBBY SOURCES IN OUR AREA



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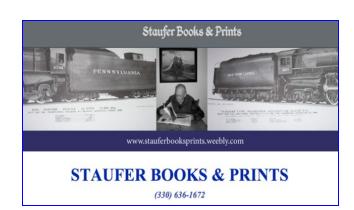
Brian Weisman - Owner

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

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www.uncleraystrainsoh.com

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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



Conductor on Back of Business car in Golden, Colorado. Surrounded by Caboose and Watertower .