



UP THE HOLLER
Newsletter of Division 9
THE COAL DIVISION
MID CENTRAL REGION NMRA INC
October 2017



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FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER
Dan Mulhearn, Superintendent

Sure do hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful early fall weather. I love this time of year. We had a great meeting at Portsmouth, with Mark and his crew playing host. The weather was perfect, the food and drink plentiful, and I actually got to switch Critterville. Our October event will be back at the St. Albans depot, then in November we head to Bluefield. I will be unable to attend the October event as that is the day of our annual Property Owners Association business meeting. So, the meeting will be in the very capable hands of Bob Osburn. On the way home from Portsmouth several of us stopped at Bob Osburn's beautiful home. He has done a beautiful and meticulous job making the house over. The high point was how he has adapted David Oliverio's N scale layout to fit in his train room space.

I recently took a week away from home visiting old friends in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Went to one of my favorite places of my childhood., Bear Mountain., NY. I remember hiking to the top and watching the show the New York Central put on every day. On the east shore was the heavy passenger traffic out of Grand Central Station with the occasional freight. This is now Metro North trackage with CSX and Amtrak utilizing running rights. On the west shore is the former New York Central River line which is a very busy freight line for CSX. To top things off, the Hudson River Dayline ship was docked at the Bear Mountain pier. I went on my 8th grade trip from Manhattan to Bear Mountain aboard the Dayline boat. Back then, 1958, they were still running the old paddle wheel steamer. Great memories of childhood and railroading.

I hope to see everyone in Bluefield in November.

From the Office Down the Hall
Bob Osburn
What is a Model Railroader?

The question what is a model railroader was asked of me lately. It seems like a simple question, but the answer is more difficult. I've thought about the answer for several weeks and have finally come to the conclusion that model railroaders have several common characteristics that makes model railroading a hobby very appealing to us.

The first thing that comes to mind is the fact that something or someone instilled into us an interest in railroading. Many say it goes back to their first train set, growing up in a railroad family, living beside a railroad, or just watching those massive pieces of machinery moving down the tracks. Another contributing factor for many is viewing someone else's model railroad at a show or home.

As I think about the model railroaders I know, several common traits seem to appear.

Model railroaders are historians. We cherish our railroad magazines, publications, and books. These seem to fulfil our need to know the how and why of our hobby. Go to any Division 9 member's house or work shop and you will find stacks of information, many with little tabs sticking out of the pages marking a future project or article of interest. We unknowingly pass on the information we have learned to fellow members during our normal conversations.

Model railroaders are hoarders and collectors. It seems impossible for us to get rid of items we have accumulated over the years. Every one of us has boxes of spare parts, old equipment, paints, kits, etc. put back wait-

ing for that special occasion where that perfect item is awaiting us. Needless to say, only a small percent of our hoard will ever be used.

Model railroaders are creative. We can turn uncommon junk, pieces of pipe, discarded packaging, old worn-out model structures and equipment into something really spectacular.

Model railroaders learn to live within their budgets. Sure we all want the latest locomotive or fancy thing-a-ma-jig, but we know our limitations and this doesn't stop us from our hobby.

We all have space limitations. Every one of us would like to have a nice large basement totally devoted to a model railroad—but we don't. Model railroaders adapt to the square footage available. Whether it be a diorama, Z Scale closet railroad, or an outdoor railroad; the fact is we don't even need a layout to be a model railroader.

We seek fellowship and recognition from other model railroaders. It's always nice when non-railroad friends and family view our latest creation, but it's especially rewarding when model railroaders visit or view what we have devoted so much enjoyable time creating.

Model railroaders are artistic with an eye for detail. A dog sleeping on a porch, laundry hanging on the clothes line, using the correct color of paint for a freight car, or the boy fishing by the river; this is how we think and how we put realism into our hobby. **MODEL RAILROADING IS A GREAT HOBBY.**

OCTOBER EVENT: TRACK AND WHEEL CLEANING

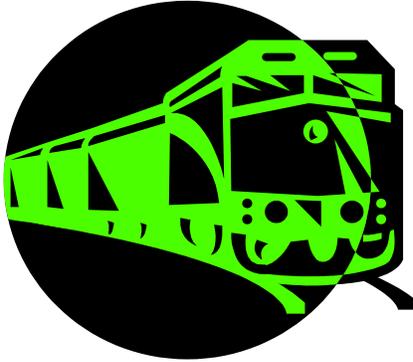
The scheduled clinic for October, Tuning Up and Repairing Rolling Stock to be presented by Mark Maynard has been postponed until a later date. Mark has a family reunion to attend.

The MADD program has been getting a lot of attention, so instead of a clinic we will expand the MADD program for October. The MADD program will be How to Clean Track and Wheels. Everyone is asked to participate by discussion and demonstration of their favorite methods. Please bring any equipment or supplies you normally use for cleaning track and wheels.

The Square Foot Diorama Challenge packets will be

distributed at the October Meeting. HO, N, and Z Scale packets will be available. Larry Richards will have all the information concerning the challenge. If you can't attend the October Meeting and would like to participate in the Square Foot Challenge, every effort will be made to get the packet and information to you.

The Company Store will be open at the October Meeting. If you have any model railroad items you would like to sell please bring them. Remember, each item needs your name and asking price attached.



Coal Division
Monthly Railfun Event
“Clean Track and Wheels”

Saturday October 14, 2017

1:00 - Depot open

Set up and view MADD displays related to track and wheel cleaning

View contest entries, contest is Open Loads.

Buy raffle tickets, etc.

Socialize

2:00 - Superintendent's Briefing

2:30 - MADD discussion of track and wheel cleaning techniques

3:30 - Raffle, Contest Results

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9 *THE COAL DIVISION*

Mark Maynard's House

Portsmouth, OH

September 9, 2017

Joint Meeting with MCR Division 6

Minutes

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Dan Mulhearn at 1:45 p.m.

Raffle

Tom advised the "shelf" is getting thin and could use restocking.

Division Clerk Report

August Minutes approved
Treasury Balance is \$8,897.97
Pike Ads \$10 (already included in balance)
Raffle Revenue \$0 – No Raffle Today
Company Store Revenue \$11

Clinic

Today's clinic – operations on the Krusty Mountain. Mark Maynard volunteered to do a clinic on reliable rolling stock at the October meeting.

Superintendent Report

Dan thanked everyone for coming. He also thanked Mark Maynard for hosting the meeting and providing the nice weather. In addition, he thanked everyone for their support with his recent loss of his wife.

Librarian

No report.

Old Business

None

Assistant Superintendent Report

Bob Osburn thanked Mark Maynard for hosting the meeting.

New Business

MCR President Bob Weinheimer mentioned the Region's Facebook page that is now up and running. The Train Station in Columbus is now a participant in the NMRA discount program. He also explained how to find the program guidelines on the NMRA website.

Newsletter - Up the Holler

Bob Weinheimer is always looking for new material.

Announcements

None

Achievement Program

Bob Weinheimer mentioned he is helping several members with a plan to getting their MMR. He reminded members he is always willing to help anyone with wading through paperwork to earn their AP certificate.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00.

Membership

No report.

Today's MADD is by Mark Maynard about the Ohio & Erie Canal which terminated a short distance from Mark's house. Bob Weinheimer talked about a project using Micro-Mark stall-motor switch machines. Finally Mark Maynard showed his project using servos to control a warehouse door and gate.

Contest

Bob Osburn mentioned the **Square Foot Challenge**. This is not a contest but is intended to promote modeling and creativity. He showed a plan for the card-stock building to be used.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

Mid Central Region Facebook Page

With the help of Matt Goodman of the Buckeye Division and Christina Ganzer Zambri, NMRA Marketing Consultant, the Mid Central Region launched a Facebook page in early August. The goal is to share with the rest of the Region the activities of the various Divisions. Newsletter availability will be posted as well as promotion for train shows sponsored by the Divisions. Click [here](#) to see the page if you are already a Facebook member.

CONTEST

Photos as Noted

The September contest was Photos and produced a large number of entries. Dan Gross took first place with his color photo of Cass. Dan tied with Tom Harris for second place with his black and white photo and Tom's layout photo. Those were the top three so we quit there. Normally somebody takes photos of the contest entries

inclusion in the newsletter. As all of these entries were already in a digital format, the photographers have sent their files for use here. Nothing was lost by taking a picture of a picture.

The October contest is Open Loads and the November contest is Passenger Cars.



Dan Gross's winning entry of a pair of locomotives under steam at Cass.
See the next page for the second place photos.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

The goal of the newsletter team is to have this document reach you by email or snail mail at least one week prior to our meetings. We typically start the layout work the Monday 12 days before the meeting. This allows a day of review by the officers and a proofreader before the electronic version is issued, usually on Wednesday. The paper version is mailed Thursday or Friday. For this to happen reliably, we need all items for publication by that Monday 12 days prior to the meeting. If we don't get it

on time we can't print it. Please help us give you the most up to date information possible. Here are the deadlines for the next few issues

November	October 30
December	November 27
January	January 1
February	January 29

CONTEST (continued)



Tom's photo of a train at Soggy Bottom on his Lakeside Lines layout.



Dan's photo of four engines under steam at Cass.

PORTSMOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

Photos by Jerry Doyle



The weather could not have been better: dry, not too warm, not too cool, lots of food, drink, and trains.



It looks like everybody approves of Mark's layout.



With staging in a location that just hangs out over empty space, a derailment can be trouble. Mark climbs the ladder to set things straight.

MY WORD

Bob Weinheimer, Editor

As many of you know I take a long walk early every weekday morning. To keep from getting too bored I listen to a variety of podcasts. Some are model railroad related and others are computer related.

One of the model railroad podcasts I enjoy is Lionel Strang's "A Modeler's Life". This comes out every couple of weeks with an hour long interview of somebody in the model railroad world. It's always interesting to hear about these folks and their life beyond model railroading as well as within.

Lionel has a long backlog of interviews, it usually takes two to three months from the time it is recorded until it is edited and made available for listening. I was pleasantly surprised to find this morning the latest podcast, one that he had mentioned was actually recorded sometime in September. It's a two hour plus chat with NMRA President Charlie Getz, NMRA Marketing Consultant Christina Zambri, British Region member Gordon

Robinson, and several regular listeners. They touch on a wide variety of topics and explain the logic behind many of the decisions made by the NMRA Board of Directors. As some of you know, I have been to several recent Board meetings and have seen first hand how hard these folks really work. Keep in mind they are all volunteers if you have any doubts about their dedication.

If you are already a subscriber to this podcast, it has arrived in your podcast app. If not, you can go to the podcast's web site by clicking [here](#). Click on the Libsyn button for the easiest way to listen or download for later listening.

On the layout front, the extension of State Line Yard is now complete. With the additional tracks I was able to stage the entire northbound fleet of trains for upcoming operating sessions. The next one is Thursday October 12, we usually get started around 7pm if you care to join us.

NMRA MODEL RAILROAD DIRECTORY

The new NMRA Model Railroad Directory is now online and ready to use!

Now whether you are at home or traveling, you can contact other NMRA members for a layout tour, to talk trains, or even to join in an op session! There are maps, descriptions, photos, videos, and more. And it's only available to NMRA members.

Visit www.nmra.org then click on "Member Home" then "Model RR Directory" to see layouts in your area or to list your own layout (as long as it's an operating home or garden railroad. Join in the fun!)



Editor's note: The Pennsylvania Southern is listed in this directory. Please remember that you must be an NMRA member to use the Directory and that you need to register to use the site if you have not done so already. Here's the link: www.nmra.org/members/layout-directory I tried to copy part of the site but the nice map with all the layout locations doesn't copy at all, you have to go there yourself to see it.



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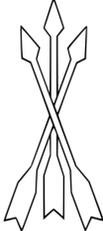
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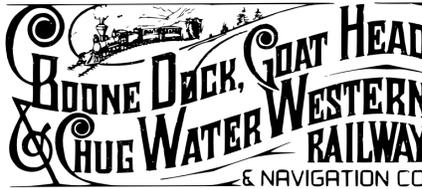
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NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION
 Clint Foster Superintendent
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Alleghany & New River Road
 An Appalachian Coal Hauling Railroad set in the 50's



Bringing a little bit of West Virginia to the rest of America a few tons at a time



John Harris, Chief Engineer
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Western West Virginian



With Connections to the
 B&O, C&O, Western Maryland,
 West Virginia Northern

Woody Higginbotham - Superintendent



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Upcoming Coal Division Events

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October 14
St. Albans Depot

November 11
Bluefield, WV

December 9
St. Albans Depot

January 13, 2018
St. Albans Depot