



# UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

October 2019

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**DIVISION OFFICERS**

Superintendent  
Dan Mulhearn  
304-466-9188  
[super@coaldvision.org](mailto:super@coaldvision.org)

Assistant Superintendent  
Robert Osburn  
[asstssuper@coaldvision.org](mailto:asstssuper@coaldvision.org)

Clerk— Jerry Doyle  
304-638-2826  
[clerk@coaldvision.org](mailto:clerk@coaldvision.org)

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Achievement Program Chairmen  
Ed Keith MMR  
740-867-5264  
Bob Weinheimer MMR  
304-343-1428  
[ap@coaldvision.org](mailto:ap@coaldvision.org)

Clinic  
Sam Delauter  
[clinic@coaldvision.org](mailto:clinic@coaldvision.org)

Contest  
Dale Osburn  
[contest@coaldvision.org](mailto:contest@coaldvision.org)

Education  
Vacant

Election  
Bill Wadsworth  
304-768-3266  
[nominating@coaldvision.org](mailto:nominating@coaldvision.org)

Membership  
John Harris  
[membership@coaldvision.org](mailto:membership@coaldvision.org)

Raffle  
Tom Harris  
[raffle@coaldvision.org](mailto:raffle@coaldvision.org)

T-Trak  
Sam Delauter  
[samdelauter@gmail.com](mailto:samdelauter@gmail.com)  
304-377-1136

**DIVISION STAFF**

Editor  
Bob Weinheimer MMR  
[editor@coaldvision.org](mailto:editor@coaldvision.org)

Webmaster  
Bob Weinheimer MMR  
[webmaster@coaldvision.org](mailto:webmaster@coaldvision.org)

## **FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER**

### **Dan Mulhearn, Superintendent**

Hello members and friends, I'm back. Last month I had a bad fall resulting in a subdural hematoma and concussion. After several days in the hospital, I went home with double vision. It was impossible to see the keyboard or computer screen. The apparent source of my falls has been diagnosed as BPPV (Vertigo). I am doing better as we speak.

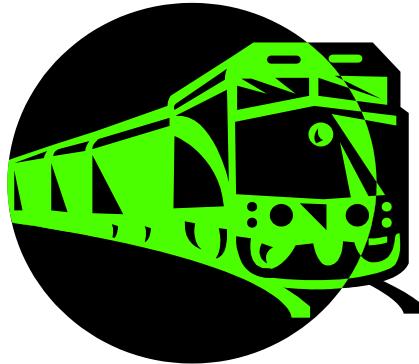
Our October event will be at St. Albans on Saturday October 19th. This change from the original date will allow participation by our T-TRAK team at the Division 7 Cincinnati Train Show October 12th and 13th. This will also allow me to keep my promise to Bruce Knapp to attend this year.

My favorite season is upon us, early fall is so enjoyable with the colors and the pleasant temperatures. It is the best time of year to go out and do some train chasing. As outdoor chores and activities begin to wind down, the mind turns to getting back to the train room and doing some modeling. It is Train Show season and time to pick up the goodies you need to get in the swing of things. It leads one to wonder what you want from your model railroad. Prototype or free lance or maybe a mix? What about an era? There are so many choices, and so many ways to enjoy our hobby. In my own case my favorite facet of the hobby is operating trains in a realistic manner. I am fortunate enough to be a regular operator on Bob Weinheimer's Pennsylvania Southern, Tom Harris' Lakeside Lines, and Bob Burke's Sandy Creek and Southern. It all reflects my love for prototype railroading.

Now excuse me while I clamber up onto my soap box. The Achievement Program: please consider participation in the AP program. It is a wonderful way to improve your modeling, gain new friends and experiences, and give back to the organization with your service. In my own case I am approaching having to choose between cars or locomotives in order to complete my MMR®. I do this with trepidation as I've always considered myself a ten thumbs modeler. Putting on the optivisor turns the thumbs into bananas! But, by golly, I'm going to try it. Instead of being discouraged by the great modeling we see in the Division, the Region, and the NMRA as a whole; take it as a challenge to help you step up your game.

I finally got to attend a Region Board of Directors meeting at Schmidt's Sausage Haus in Columbus. The food was pretty good and plentiful, a great bargain for twenty bucks. Keep in mind all members are invited to attend BOD meetings. The next one will be May 29 during the MCR convention in Pittsburgh.

Cover: SG Tower for Mark Maynard's layout. See page 9 for more photos



**Coal Division  
Monthly Railfun Event  
*Head End Cars***

***Saturday October 19 2019***

12:00 - Depot open

Set up and view MADD displays

View contest entries, contest is Open Loads.

Buy raffle tickets, etc.

Socialize

1:00 - Superintendent's Briefing

1:30 - Sam Delauter tells us about Head End Cars on passenger trains

2:30 - Raffle, Contest Results

## FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

### Bob Osburn, Assistant Superintendent

I always enjoy our September meeting at Mark Maynard's. This outing is always well attended with lots of trains to run, good food, and plenty of fellowship. Mark and his wife put many hours of effort and expense into getting ready for the meeting and we all really appreciate what they do. As usual, Mark always has something new for us to see and this year was no exception. He has made tremendous progress on his remote dispatcher's tower. I think we were all impressed with the amount of work and ingenuity he has put into the working tower. Again, thanks Mark for a great time.

Dale Osburn started distributing the materials for the 2019 Square Foot Challenge at the September meeting. This year each challenger will receive a Styrofoam base and an HO boxcar shell to create a scene. Division 9 usually has 8-10 participants for this project and it is always interesting to see what they come up with. Dale will continue to distribute the packets at the October and November meetings. The finished projects will be displayed and discussed at the December meeting. Remember, this is not a contest but a great fun way for you to practice

new procedures and techniques while participating in a group project. Please join us in this effort.

As noted in the meeting minutes, the October meeting has been moved to October 19<sup>th</sup> (the third Saturday in the month). This move was voted on and approved so members can attend the Cincinnati Model Train Show the weekend of October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Bob Weinheimer has included flyers for this and all upcoming shows by Divisions in the Mid Central Region in this newsletter.

Division 9 T-TRAKers will be well represented at the Cincinnati show. The preliminary diagram of the layout indicated 30 total modules from four MCR Divisions with our group contributing 8 modules. All of these modules will have complete scenery with no bare bones modules present. Because of space limitations, there will also be a separate area where nine other modules will be displayed. If you have any interest in joining the T-TRAK group, please let us know. If you have questions on module assembly, track work, or wiring I may be able to help. I have several modules ready for scenery that I would part with if it would help you get started with T-TRAK.

## CLINICS

### Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

In place of the September clinic, we visited Mark Maynards' layout. Mark graciously provided a cookout and a layout tour for the division. Many of us got to operate on his layout too. The October meeting will be the final formal clinic of the year. It will be on modeling headend equipment.

October	Modeling Head End Equipment
November	Bluefield Train Show
December	Square Foot Challenge

## MONTHLY MODEL CONTEST

### 2019 SCHEDULE

January	Modeler's Choice
February	Steam Locomotives
March	Locomotives Other Than Steam
April	Cabooses
May	Anything Steel Related
June	Non Revenue Except Cabooses
July	Structures
August	Freight Cars
September	Photo, Model or Prototype
October	Open Loads (flats, gondolas, hoppers)
November	Passenger Cars
December	Third Annual Gary Burdette Memorial Modeling Challenge. Details and kick off in October

## 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 28
December	December 2
January	December 30

**NMRA MCR DIVISION 9  
THE COAL DIVISION  
Portsmouth, OH  
September 21, 2019  
Minutes**

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Dan Mulhearn at 1:04 p.m.

**Division Clerk Report**

Bob Weinheimer moved to accept August minutes as published in the newsletter.

**Superintendent Report**

Dan Mulhearn is feeling better and gave a brief rundown.

**Assistant Superintendent Report**

Bob Osburn gave a brief report.  
Several members from Division 6 were in attendance.

**Newsletter - Up the Holler**

Bob Weinheimer welcomes any contributions for future issues.

**Achievement Program**

Bob Weinheimer spoke about achievement program.

**Librarian**

No report, Librarian absent

**Contest**

Dale Osburn talked about the contest. Next month's contest will be open loads.

**Clinic**

No clinic to allow members to enjoy the cookout and layout tour. October will be head end equipment.  
The Square Foot Challenge was discussed. Materials will be handed out today and in October and November.

**Membership**

No report, membership chair absent

**Raffle**

The past couple of raffles have had a light showing the past two meetings.

Division 6 donated two \$15 gift cards for Hobby World

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

Divison 6 spoke about train show in Cambridge OH on October 20.

The November meeting will be in Bluefield, Dan will check on space for meeting.

Sam reserved space for 30-35 people at Deihls for the December meeting. Will stay in contact with Diehls.

Vote was taken and passed to move the October meeting from October 12 to October 19.

**Announcements**

No new announcements

**Future Meetings:**

October 19 - St. Albans Depot  
November 9 - Bluefield, WV Train Show December 9 – Place to be determined  
December 14 - Diehls Restaurant, Nitro WV 12:00 PM

Meeting adjourned at 1:50. Respectfully submitted,  
Sam Delauter, Interim Division 9 Clerk

**COAL DIVISION T-TRAK SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP  
Sam Delauter**

With the Morehead show behind us, it is officially that time of year, train show time. We have several shows coming up that will be here before we know it. The next show will be the show at Lakota West High School in Cincinnati. This show is another multi-division T-TRAK setup. Each member of the group with a scenic module will take part in the layout.

The other shows coming up is the Huntington show and the Kanawha Valley show. All of these shows will be here before we know it, so keep working on those modules. Much like a layout, there are always improvements that can be made. I personally still have work to do on my "completed" modules and a couple of modules that need a ton of work.

## CONTEST

### Dale Osburn

First place at the September contest went to Tom Harris for his Lakeside Lines GP9 2090. Second place went to Ron Rogillio for his photo of the Rock Island passenger train.

In October the contest will be Open Loads (flats, gondolas, hoppers). Looking ahead to November the contest will be Passenger Cars.

Please remember to provide a short written description of

your model. Time will be provided for anyone wanting to speak about their modeling efforts.

We will be passing out materials for the 2019 Gary Burdette Memorial Modeling Challenge at the October meeting at the Depot as well as at the November meeting in Bluefield. If you will not be able to attend and would like to be involved in the contest, please contact me at 304-840-4366 and I will make sure you get the materials for the December contest.



Lakeside Lines GP9 2090 near Covington Junction by Tom Harris.

Lakeside Lines GP9 2090, along with a second GP9, shoves hard on the rear of a long, heavy manifest freight in the cut just east of Covington Junction on the Lakeside Lines HO scale railroad. Multiple exposures were made at f 32 for 15 seconds apiece, then combined with the Helicon Focus program to create this image .

## CONTEST, continued



Rock Island E7A - E8B - E8A Passenger Train by Ron Rogillo

The Rock Island passenger train in the late red and yellow paint scheme photo was taken on Tom Harris's layout and all units were painted by Tom Harris.

### MY WORD

**Bob Weinheimer, Editor**

Well, once again, the coverage of Division events leaves me with a small area to fill. We had a great time at our annual event in Portsmouth hosted by Mark Maynard. The tower he described in the July issue and shown on the cover is now fully functional. On a hot afternoon it was an oasis of air conditioned comfort. The old N&W dispatcher panel was running the layout in the loft of the barn. The pole you see in the photo brings power to the tower as well as the data lines necessary for the DCC controls that are activated by the dispatcher panel. It appeared to work flawlessly during our visit.

Train show season, as Dan Mulhearn notes in his column, is upon us. Just look at the pages of flyers at the back of this issue to see what is happening in the Mid Central Region. It will be a close call but you might still have a chance to head to Berea if this gets out in time. Failing that, there are shows in Cincinnati, Cambridge, OH, Dayton, and Louisville all put on by MCR Divisions.

The Mid Ohio Valley club also has its show October 26 near Parkersburg and there is the Bluefield show in early November. Our November event will be at the Bluefield show which will be in a new venue this year, there will be more about that in the November newsletter.

Dan also mentioned the Achievement Program. Look at the requirements and see where you stand. Some of you may be farther along than you realize, I know that happened to me once I got serious about it. Do not hesitate to take on a project you have never done before. You might not get it right on the first try but that is what learning is all about. If you don't fail, you won't learn.

Finally, it's about time to be thinking about the next MCR convention. It will be in Pittsburgh in the same hotel as 2012, right across the street from an active railroad yard. What more can you ask for? Check it out at <https://www.keystonedivision.org/convention/index.html>. You can even register on line.

## PASSENGER MANIFEST

### John Harris, Membership Manager

Over the last few months, several of us have shared comments on our wonderful experiences in attending the National Model Railroad (NMRA) Convention in Salt Lake City. I think it is safe to say that all who attended brought back with them a ton of information, plenty of new acquisitions, a bunch of memories, and certainly some inspiration. While these are the obvious benefits of attending a convention such as this, I have come to realize that perhaps the most important takeaway for me was motivation. Over the past few years progress on the Alleghany and New River Road has been less than impressive. In fact, outside of relocating the hidden staging for Clifton Forge to immediately below the hidden staging for Hanley and construction of the few craftsman structures and freight cars, progress had been at a virtual standstill. It seems as though work and life in general had completely sidetracked progress.

Attending the convention, however, seems to have re-energized the creative process. Operating on both the Eudalys' layouts planted the seeds for some minor tweaks to my track layout that would correct some potential operating flaws. One involved creating an additional siding at Quinimont that would eliminate a bottle neck of having to spot empties for loads on one of the legs of the wye. While this required a realignment of the riverbank along the north bank of the New River was so obvious that it needed to be done, I am surprised it took me so long to recognize it.

Another tweak allowed me to finally resolve an area of the NF&G that had been underutilized. The area in question had previously been reserved for a rural scene reminiscent of my grandparents' farm in Roane County. While the NF&G goes nowhere near Roane County, I had rationalized that this "artistic license" was in fact justifiable. In reality, what was missing was the most important industry on the line, the Meadow River Lumber Company. When the NF&G was built, the Meadow River Lumber

Company was the most active and most productive hard wood lumber yard in the country, if not the world, yet I had failed to provide other than one small siding and building to pay homage to this important industry. While the sheer scale of the lumberyard would require considerable real estate, it was apparent that the small piece of unsceniced area that I had left would have to serve. As a result, I reworked the track plan to provide two sidings for finished lumber and one siding disappearing behind the mill structure itself for receipt of logs. I believe with the creative use of some photo backdrops I will be able to create a convincing scene that provides a much needed, added dimension of operation.

Meanwhile, I was also motivated to dust off a laser cut craftsman kit of the Babcock Coal and Coke tipple obtained from the C&O Historical Society a year ago. My newfound energies allowed me to not only start construction of this interesting model, I was also inspired to make it operational. By making the head house removable and lining the coal bin with styrene I am in the process of using PVC pipe with styrene and mini electromagnetic push-pull solenoids to open and close the chutes for 3 grades of live coal to be loaded into hoppers. While this continues to be a work in progress, I am sure it will make its way to a Division 9 clinic at some point in time.

So for me, attendance at both Regional and National Conventions has proven to be extremely productive. If you are new to the hobby or had been around for a while and have just not taken the time to attend an NMRA event outside of the Division, I would encourage you to look into attending one in the near future. The Mid-Central Region Convention will be in Pittsburgh in 2020 and the NMRA National Convention is in St. Louis. Both are well within driving range from the area. Not only will you come back with a wealth of information and perhaps a purchase or two, you might just get "Fired Up" to do something creative.

**Our Visit to the Crusty Mountain and Wiloby Springs**  
**Photos by Dale Osburn except where noted**



SG Tower, shown on the cover of this issue, is the real dispatch office for the railroad. Switches are controlled from here and communication is by radio. Those lines on the pole carry power for the climate controlled office as well as DCC data for macro execution. Left photo by Bob Weinheimer, right photo by Dale Osburn.



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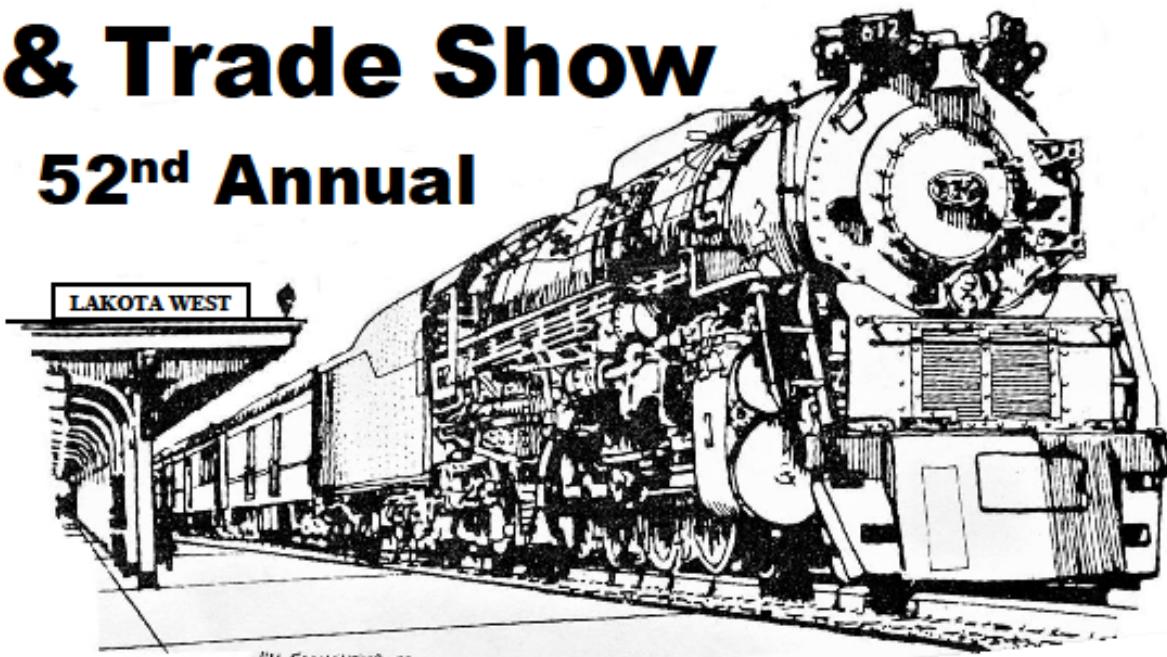
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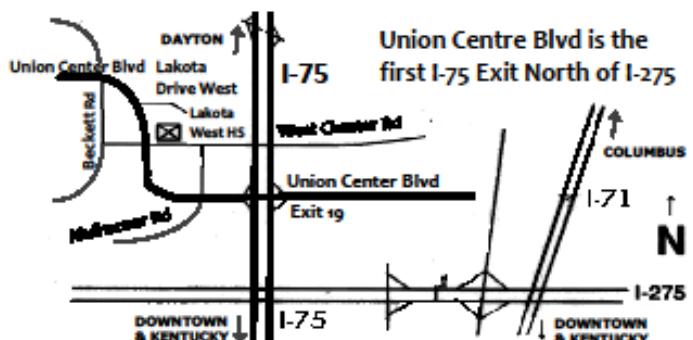
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# NMRA Division 6 Model Railroad Swap Meet

October 20, 2019

11 AM to 4 PM

Pritchard Laughlin Center

7033 Glenn Hwy

Cambridge, OH 43725

Tables \$10 Each

Free Parking - Admission \$5

\$3 for NMRA Members, Seniors (60+)

Kids Under 12 are free

For Info or to reserve a table

Contact Greg at

(740) 607-3223 or [swapmeet@div6-mcr-nmra.org](mailto:swapmeet@div6-mcr-nmra.org)

<https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/swapmeet.html>

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**A MESSAGE FROM THE DAYTON TRAIN SHOW**  
**Gail Yarnall**  
**Chair Dayton Train Show**

**Hello MCR Divisions!**

A situation has occurred with which we need your help. Another train show (for-profit) has moved into our venue two weeks before our show on Oct 19-20 and has also used "Dayton Train Show" in its advertising. This can be confusing to attendees, vendors and exhibitors.

Our show is, as always, the first full weekend in November, on Saturday Nov 2 at 11am-5pm and Sunday Nov 3 at 11am-4pm. Our venue is the New Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 645 Infirmary Rd, Dayton, OH.

Due to the closeness of the two shows at the same venue, we need your support. Please notify your members of our days and hours so there is no confusion. Also, if you would please spread the word about our show, it would really help. The money that we clear from this show goes for education and interaction with the pub-

lic. We are a non-profit.

Our flyer is attached and is also available at [www.DaytonTrainShow.com](http://www.DaytonTrainShow.com) under "show flyer." We can also send you some flyers if you wish. Just email us the request at [NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com](mailto:NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com). We will be keeping people up to date with show developments on our websites ([www.DaytonTrainShow.com](http://www.DaytonTrainShow.com) and [www.ModelRailDayton.com](http://www.ModelRailDayton.com)) and on our Facebook Page (NMRA Annual Dayton Train Show). Also, be sure to send us your flyers and publicity materials as well. We are always happy to help you promote your show/event.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at our email (above) or call us at 937-301-0746. If no one answers, please leave your name, phone, and the best days/times for us to contact you. Our volunteers will return your call as soon as we can.

The "Miami Valley" Division 3 of the Mid-Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association  
proudly presents the 44th Annual Original



# Dayton Train Show

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**Admission: \$8.00 per adult,  
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**November 2 & 3, 2019**

**Saturday 11 AM To 5 PM**

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- Hundreds of Dealer Tables
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- Hourly Door Prizes
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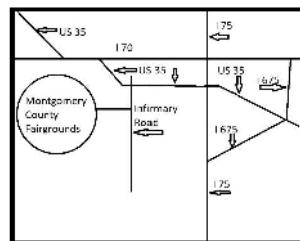
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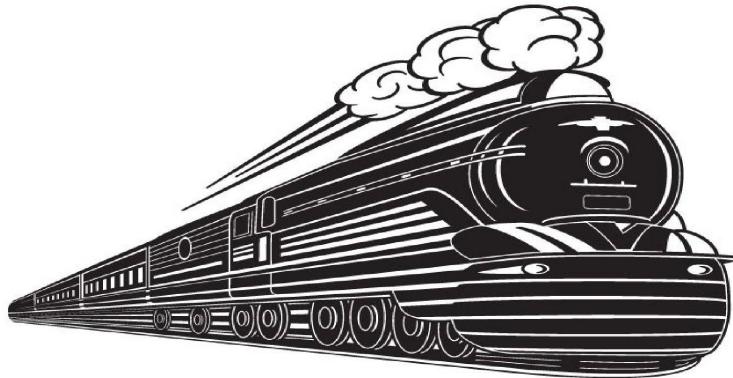


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10/11/18

# TRAIN SHOW & SALE

## OUR 29TH YEAR



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2019 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**Holy Family Parish Saffin Center ( NEW LOCATION )  
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**NMRA members can enter the show at 9:00 AM  
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**Dealer Tables available - \$30 per table**

**Sponsored by Division 8 - Mid Central Region - NMRA**

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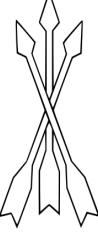
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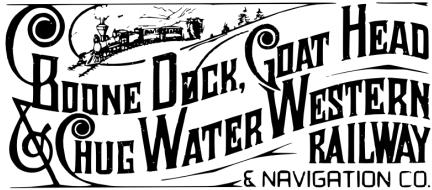
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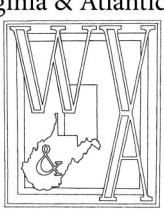


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a few tons at a time



John Harris, Chief Engineer  
[AandNRR@aol.com](mailto:AandNRR@aol.com)

West Virginia & Atlantic Railroad



[www.dewv.edu/center-railway-tourism](http://www.dewv.edu/center-railway-tourism)

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## **Upcoming Coal Division Events**

If you received this newsletter via the US Postal Service and have an email address, please let us know so we can save printing and postage costs. Send a note to editor@coaldvision.org to get onto the email distribution list for Up The Holler.

**October 19 (note date change)**  
**St. Albans Depot**

**November 9**  
**Bluefield, WV**

**December 14**  
**St. Albans Depot**

**January 11, 2020**  
**St. Albans Depot**

**February 8**  
**St. Albans Depot**