



UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

December 2021

FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER
Bob Osburn, Superintendent

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It was great to be back at St. Albans for an in-person meeting once again. The attendance was excellent for our small group. Talking and seeing so many members again was something we all really needed and enjoyed. We welcomed new member Bill Grosse who has moved into our Region. Bill is the past Superintendent of the New Jersey Division in the Mid Eastern Region. We also had a very interesting guest, Nevin Wilson, who we hope will become a member of our group soon. These gentlemen are very experienced modelers and would be a great addition to Division 9. Thanks for attending the November meeting and hope to see you again soon.

As stated before, the November meeting was an in-person meeting at St. Albans which was also presented virtually. I would like to apologize for the sound issues with this virtual attempt but we are still refining our techniques and correcting problems as we gain more experience. The virtual offering is a great way to join us if you can't be there and will become an important aspect of our regular meetings for those who can't attend in-person.

A short business session, contest, raffle, and clinic were the features of the December meeting. The clinic hosted by Greg McCartney pertaining to *JMRI* was very interesting and left us with a lot of information about the many possibilities for use *JMRI* offers. I am always amazed at the knowledge our members have about different aspects of modeling when giving a clinic and Greg's presentation was a great example. Thanks to Greg!

After a two year absence because of COVID-19, the December 11th meeting will feature once again our Christmas luncheon at Diehl's Restaurant in Nitro, WV. This will also be the time we display our finished project for the 5th Annual Gary Burdette Challenge. A wooden trestle bridge kit was offered for the 2021 Challenge and we had a record number of 16 challenge takers. From the feedback I have received everyone has enjoyed the trestle kit and it should be exciting to see the results. If you can't attend the luncheon please send me pictures of you trestle so we can display them during the meeting (super@coaldivision.org).

The Christmas Luncheon will start at Noon with lunch at 1:00 pm at Diehl's. A map showing the restaurant location is on page 3.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the December 11th Christmas Luncheon!

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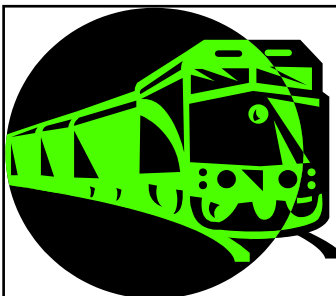
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Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

Saturday December 11, 2021

Diehl's Restaurant, Nitro, WV

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 12:00 | Set up and view the challenge entries
Buy raffle tickets, etc.
Socialize |
| 1:00 | Lunch |
| 2:00 | Superintendent's briefing |
| 3:00 | Raffle results |

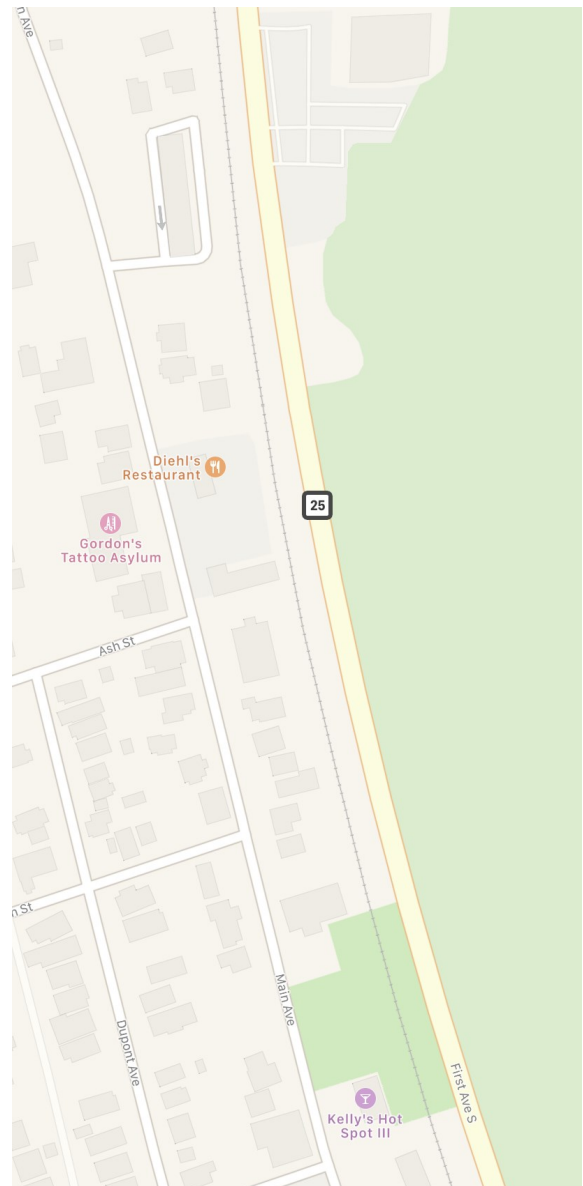
Next Event

Saturday January 8

St. Albans Historical Society

December Meeting Directions

The December event will be a luncheon at Diehl's Restaurant, 125 Main Avenue, Nitro, WV. Main Avenue runs along the railroad on the opposite side of the tracks from WV 25 (First Avenue). Main Avenue intersects the approach to the Nitro St. Albans bridge, a turn onto Main from either direction is one easy way to get to the restaurant.



FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Sam Delauter, Assistant Superintendent

As I am writing this article, I am in recovery mode from a busy Thanksgiving week and a busy weekend at the Huntington Train Show. I thought that I was going to have a week that I could relax and work on projects this week but that didn't happen. My grandmother in Indiana passed away at 102 years of age. While I was sad to see her go, I was happy that she wasn't having to deal with the problems she was having. The last few months were hard for her, however she had 102 years good health and few issues.

At the beginning of the week, I set out from Hurricane and spent a couple of days in Huntington, IN. Surprisingly, I saw five trains on the trip to Indiana. This was a big change from typically seeing none. After spending a couple of days with the family, I drove back on Thanksgiving day. Since I usually am riding with the family and figuring that this would be my last trip to Indiana for the foreseeable future, I decided to take a different route home than what I normally take. After checking Google maps I found that I could stop in Marion, OH and take about the same amount of time and have about the same mileage as our usual trip. With that I knew which way I was going to go home. For those that may not know, Marion OH, was the division point between the west end and the east end on the Erie. I'm sure that if you are reading this you probably like railroad history and railfanning. Marion is a place that would be of interest to you. At one time not only did Marion have the depot and the Erie yard, it also had quite a few railroads crossing at the depot.

The Erie had a double track main that ran east to west along their main line from Chicago to New York City. What makes it interesting to people who may not be a fan of the Erie is that there is a pair of double tracks on both the east and west side of the station. At one point you could have seen Erie, N&W, NYC, PRR, and C&O trains each day of the week. Today there are three mainlines all of which are doubletracked. In my brief time in Marion, I caught two trains on two different mainlines. While seeing the trains, depot, and interlocking tower was nice, what I really wanted to see was the ex Erie caboose. Erie C306 is on static display in Marion and is nicely maintained. While no one was at the depot to give tours, the caboose is accessible while the depot is closed. It was really great to get to climb on the platforms of the C306. I was excited to see C306 not only because I model the Erie but because I had an uncle who worked for the Erie and he would have ridden on this caboose on many runs.

While I didn't think I would get to spend much time at the Huntington train show, I actually got to spend the weekend there. For those that did not know, the show has moved into the main floor of the arena. Between vendors and exhibitors, the floor was pretty full. There were about a dozen layouts at the show and probably close to two dozen vendors. Even though I only ran on the KVR layout on Friday night and Saturday morning, I had a lot of fun at the show.

I'll see everyone at Diehl's in December and as always: Be kind to yourself and even better to others.

CLINICS

Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

The November clinic was by Greg McCarthy on JMRI. While we have had clinics in the past on JMRI, Greg gave a different perspective on what you can do with JMRI. I typically think of JMRI as a program to program locos, Greg showed us that you can do a lot more with it than just programming.

The December meeting will not have a clinic as we will be displaying the dioramas from the Gary Burdette Square Foot Challenge. We have had a couple of volunteers for clinics in 2022 but we still need more volunteers for clinics. Please let me know if you would like to give a clinic and I can get you on the schedule.

ELECTION TIME

Bill Wadsworth, Nominations Chair

It is time to prepare for the 2022 elections. As discussed in the November meeting we need at least one candidate each for Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. The candidates are to be reported at the January meeting at which time nominations can be made from the floor. The ballots are then prepared and mailed out to the members in early February, and must be returned by the

March meeting.

If you know of someone who is willing to serve in one of these positions, please contact me, preferably before or at the January meeting. Thank you. Bill Wadsworth (304-768-3266), Nominations Committee Chair.

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9
THE COAL DIVISION
St Albans Historical Society

November 13, 2021

Minutes

Robert welcomed everyone in attendance. Robert welcomed new member Bill Grosse and guest Nevin Wilson.

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Robert Osburn at 1:00 p.m.

Division Clerk Report

October minutes approved
 Treasury Balance is \$8,424.35.

Raffle \$45

Pike Ads \$10

Upcoming expenditures \$35 rental

Jerry Doyle updated everyone on the status of SACOMM and the St Albans depot. SACOMM has chosen to focus solely on the layout and has ended involvement with the depot. He proposed a way to streamline the finances for our future involvement with the depot. A motion on this will be brought up at a future meeting.

Superintendent Report

Robert Osburn updated members on Ed Keith. He is currently recovering at a convalescent facility. Tom Harris brought everyone up to date on Dan Mulhearn also. Robert hoped everyone was enjoying the Gary Burdette Modeling Challenge kits. This year's kit is a wooden trestle.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Sam Delauter hoped everyone took his advice in this month's column and is cleaning up.

Newsletter - Up the Holler

Bob Weinheimer reminded everyone of the November 29 deadline for the next newsletter.

Achievement Program

No report today.

Library

Bill Wadsworth had CDs available to check out. They are available online at www.nmra.org.

Contest

Dale Osburn reported that 14 trestle kits have been distributed. Two HO kits and one N kit are still available. If members can't attend the December meeting, they can still send pictures for the newsletter. Tom Harris commented on the thoroughness of the kits. Robert Osburn hopes everyone can do something that expands their modeling skills with this year's kit.

Today's contest was passenger cars.

Clinic

Greg McCartney gave a presentation on JMRI: Java Model Railroad Interface.

January's clinic will be something by Jerry Doyle.

Bob Weinheimer volunteered to do a clinic on his summer vacation in February.

Membership

We remained steady this past month. We may or may not have a display at the Huntington Model Railroad Show depending on whether any member wants to man the display.

Raffle

Tom Harris was able to cobble together several complete hopper cars from a cache of parts for today's raffle. He was also able to improvise new raffle tickets due to an oversight.

Education

No report.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Sam Delauter moved that we have our December meeting at Diehl's restaurant. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob Weinheimer updated members on work on the online version of Scale Rails. He also noted there may be some changes about credit for volunteer service in the new virtual world of meetings and clinics. Sam Delauter mentioned the online renewal process has become much easier this year.

Announcements

None.

Future Meetings:

December 11 Diehl's restaurant Nitro, WV.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00.

Respectfully submitted,
 Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

CONTEST

Dale Osburn, Contest Chair

The November contest was Passenger Cars. We had three entries for the contest and they were as follows:

First Place

Jim Moon

Great Northern Empire Builder circa 1920-1940

Second Place

Sam Delauter

Erie Stillwell Combine

Third Place

Bob Weinheimer

Pennsylvania Southern Business Car

The contest for December will be the Gary Burdette 5th Annual Wooden Trestle Bridge Challenge. There has been a total of sixteen kits given to members to build for the challenge. Thank You! to Robert Osburn for his many hours of true dedication putting together all the Wooden Trestle Bridge kits for our members. It goes without saying this is one top of the line kit.

Please note: If you cannot attend the meeting in December and would like to have your model represented in the challenge, please submit a picture along with text to Robert Osburn. There will be a slide presentation put

2021	Monthly Model Contest
January	Modeler's Choice
February	Steam Locomotives
March	Locomotive Other Than Steam
April	Kitbashing/Scratch Built (Anything Railroad Related)
May	Anything Steel Related
June	Non Revenue
July	Structures
August	Electronics of a Railroad
September	Photo, Model or Prototype
October	Open Loads
November	Passenger Cars
December	Fifth Annual Gary Burdette Memorial Modeling Challenge

Photos by the Modelers



First Place

Jim Moon

Great Northern Empire Builder circa 1920-1940
Pullman Heavy Weight Steel Side Passenger Cars

- Observation Car
- Combination Coach/Sleeper Car
- Coach Car
- Diner Car

Combination Baggage/U.S. Postage Car

The cars were old Walther's Kits from 1967- 1975. All five cars had full interior details.



Second Place
Sam Delauter
Erie Stillwell Combine

- Funaro and Camerlengo resin kit.
 - Hand bent piping and grab bars.
 - Windows opened by hand (they were all covered in resin).
- All weathering was done using Pastels.



Bob Weinheimer
Pennsylvania Southern Business Car

- Walther's car delivered in Chicago and Northwestern colors.
- Disassembled then stripped.
- Painted.
- Reassembled.
- Lettered.
- Lightly weathered.

PASSENGER MANIFEST

John Harris, Membership Chair

It was great to see everyone at the November Division meeting. Unofficially it seemed to be our most attended in person gathering since COVID shut us down 19 months ago. Additionally it was exciting to welcome some new faces. Nevin Wilson was formerly a member of NMRA and we hope he will rejoin. Also we welcome new member Bill Grosse to the Coal Division.

It was pointed out that it has been a while since there was a need to order name badges. While we were all remote, name badges were pretty much pointless. Many may have misplaced theirs while some new members may wish to order one. Cost of last order was in the \$12 range. I have not confirmed with Fast Signs but I expect a new order will not exceed \$15 sample is shown below



Anyone interested can contact me at AandNRR@aol.com with name and city location or let me

know at December meeting. If there is a price increase beyond that listed I will confirm via email.

I look forward to our Christmas, or if you prefer Holiday, meeting at Diehl's Restaurant where we will present the latest versions of the Gary Burdette Square Foot Challenge. The kit Bob Osburn put together is amazing. It should be interesting to see the many interpretations our members create using this wooden trestle. I have enjoyed working on mine, I just hope I get it finished in time!

As we begin to look past COVID (hopefully no major surges from the Holidays) I am sure continued efforts will be placed both nationally and on the division level on retention and recruitment. I continue to believe that our best efforts toward this cause are in outreach and education. Having a presence at local shows and providing free clinics or demonstrations can go a long way to providing this outreach. Meanwhile, inviting guests who are already interested in the hobby to our division meetings can be an effective method for reaching potential members. Now that we are getting more comfortable with in person activities, give that some thought and consider bringing a friend.

Meanwhile, keep modeling and be safe. I hope to see everyone at the next meeting!

MY WORD

Bob Weinheimer, Editor

As I write this article I have just finished listening to the latest issue of A Modeler's Life podcast by Lionel Strang. His guest this week is NMRA President Gordon Robinson. Gordy talks about how things are going at the NMRA, both good and bad and you will hear of the issues facing us and Gordy's efforts, along with the Board of Directors, to make improvements. Among the items he mentions is the expected cost of the digital version of the NMRA Magazine: \$14 per year. (This has not yet been finalized with a board vote as there are a few details to work out). If you already subscribe to the magazine, and elect to give up the paper issue, you will see a decrease in your membership cost! If you still want the paper copy, expect its price to rise as the print run decreases. Life Members should not worry, you will still get the printed version in addition to the digital version. If you are not a subscriber to the podcast, click [here](#) to go to its web site. To listen, click on one of the links near the top of the page

to download the podcast. If you already listen to podcasts via an app, just search for A Modeler's Life to subscribe.

While on the topic of podcasts, there are others of model railroading interest. The Crossing Gate is produced by members of the Twin Cities Division and features discussions of hobby interest. Model Rail Radio is a call in show that is available as a podcast after the fact. The participants are truly global with regulars from Australia, the United Kingdom, and North America. This one has become a bit irregular as the host and his wife have just become first time parents of twin girls. To say the least, he has become quite busy.

There are a couple of others that have become very irregular and I hesitate to recommend them for regular listening. If you hear of one that others might like, let me know and I'll be sure to mention it here.

Now it's time to work on my modeling challenge!

ASHER'S FIRST MODEL RAILROAD

Bob Osburn

Out of 6 grandsons, the youngest (11 years old) has a great interest in railroads and model railroads. The first thing he wants to do when visiting is to go to the attic and run trains or look at railroad books! For Christmas this year I have been constructing a small layout for him and I hope to make the deadline of December 25th. The layout is a simple N scale oval with a passing siding and two spurs. Kato Uni-track with electric switches was used for reliability and ease of construction. It is built on a 32" x 80" hollow core door with 1" *Styrofoam* bonded to it. Landforms were created with stacked then carved pieces of

Styrofoam covered with Sculptamold. His request included a tunnel, a bridge, and a water feature which were included. The layout is populated with 37 cardstock structures all having basswood or mat board skeletons making the buildings durable and removable. He knows his railroad is under construction and wants to do the detail work himself (cars, people, trees, etc.). Asher has a very good eye for detail and I know he will create something he is very proud of! Now my only challenge now is how to get his first model railroad to Cincinnati and down the chimney!



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:

January	December 20
February	January 31
March	February 28
April	March 28



Four Full Days
Three NMRA Regions
And the RPM Conference
Three Day Train Show
One Convention
May 18-22, 2022

Clinics
Layout Tours
Ops Sessions
Prototype Tours



www.IndyJunction2022.org



RPM
CONFERENCE



We've promised you Registration would be open soon. Well at long last, soon is NOW. Registration is OPEN. You can register for the Convention, and while you're on the website, make a room reservation.

GO HERE now - <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/>

If you've registered for a lot of conventions, you can probably wing it. But if you're a "manual reader", the Registration Committee has provided some great instructions. And we suggest you read through the instructions before you get started.

If you run into any problems, the Registrar is standing by to help you. He's a person so he'll get back to you within 24 hours. (Likely sooner if you make contact during daylight hours.) Here's the contact link if you need help registering - registration@indyjunction2022.org

As a reminder, the only way to register for **Indy Junction 2022** is online and through the website.

We shared the Convention fees before, but here they are again.

- **\$85.00 Early Registration** - Opening Registration to December 31, 2021
- **\$95.00 Registration** - January 1, 2022 to April 27, 2022
- **\$110.00 Late Registration** - April 28, 2022 to May 21, 2022
- **\$25.00 additional Family Member(s) Registration** - any date
- **\$40.00 Saturday May 21 ONLY**, Individual Registration (One-Day includes Train Show)

And while you're on the site, get a room reserved. We strongly suggest you use the link on the website to reserve your room. Marriott is experiencing some staffing problems for telephone support. They give you some outstanding help once you connect - but there can be some extended hold times to speak with someone on the phone. (We're not kidding - wait times can run from 10 to 30 minutes. Everyone in hospitality is experiencing labor shortages.)

Marriott East Indianapolis Room Rate
\$132.00 per night plus applicable taxes

One final registration tip - If you are accessing the Indy Junction 2022 webpage on your mobile device, phone or tablet, you'll need to click the menu icon on the top of the homepage to see all the pages.

Share this update with someone who hasn't yet signed up for updates on the Indy Junction 2022 website - <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/>

Indy Junction 2022 Marketing Committee

NMRA's Partnership Program



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in and click on the **Benefits** tab to view the **NMRA Partnership Program**. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

<p>Bear Creek Model Railroad, LLC CatzPaw Innovations Clever Models, LLC CMR Products, LLC Daylight Sales (Merchandise) Deepwoods Software Deluxe Materials Digikeijs East Coast Circuits Feight Studios Gatorfoam Great Decals! Green Frog Productions HobbyWorx Tools & Supplies Hot Wire Foam Factory K.I.S.S. Method, Inc. LaBelle Woodworking Co. LARC Products Logic Rail Technologies</p>	<p>MAC Rail Micro-Mark Mine Mount Models miniprints MinuteMan Scale Models Model Railroad Benchwork Model Train Catalogue Modelers Decals & Paint Motrak Models MRC (Model Rectifier Corp) Nick and Nora Designs Northlandz NScale Works by Mike Holly Old West Scenery Ram Track RR-CirKits Rusty Stumps Scale Model Plans Scalecoat Paint</p>	<p>Scenery Solutions Showcase Miniatures Team Track Models The N Scale Architech The Old Depot Gallery Tichy Train Group Touch of the Brush Model Weathering Train Installations, LLC Train Show, Inc. Trainmasters TV/Model Railroad Hobbyist Store *TRAINZ.com*** TSG Multimedia UGEARS Unreal Details USA Airbrush Supply/ Badger Airbrush WiFi Model Railroad, LLC</p>
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[**New Partners in RED *****]

Sept 2021

Partnership Program



Four Full Days

Three Regions

Two Day Train Show

One Convention

May 18-22, 2022

www.IndyJunction2022.org

Introducing the best deal in model railroading.

Join the NMRA for 9 months for just \$19.95!*

- Get discounts from free shipping to 20% off (or more) from manufacturers of all sizes who've partnered with the NMRA
- Contact other NMRA members anywhere in the world for layout tours, train chat or even op sessions through our Model Railroad Directory
- Get access to more than 20,000 photos, slides, plans, drawings, paint schemes and more with the NMRA Online Archives
- Receive 9 monthly issues of *NMRA Magazine*
- Receive reduced rates on layout or collection insurance
- Take part in programs like Modeling with the Masters, the Achievement Program, Estate Counseling, contests, clinics, and more!
- Attend events at your local Division or Region

Sign me up!

Fill out this form and include your payment.

U.S.: Send \$19.95 (U.S.) to NMRA-RailPass Membership,
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**So much bang.
So few bucks.**

*RailPass offer is for new members and those who haven't been NMRA members for two years or more. Individuals can join at RailPass rates only once. Membership renewal will be at the regular membership rate. RailPass members can attend conventions and participate in contests, but cannot vote or hold office.



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NORFOLK AND WESTERN




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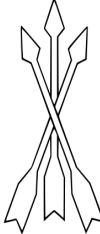
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Jerry Doyle, President
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 AandNRR@aol.com



ROBERT WEINHEIMER MMR
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25314-1041

Upcoming Coal Division Events

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know so we can save
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to get onto the email dis-
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December 11
Diehl's Restaurant
Nitro, WV

January 8
In Person or Zoom?

February 12
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March 12
In Person or Zoom?