



# UP THE HOLLER



**DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA**

**March 2022**

**FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER**

**Bob Osburn, Superintendent**

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It appears we are finally seeing some relief from the COVID-19 virus. As cases decline and a new variant hasn't shown its ugly face yet, maybe we can look forward to a new normal. Don't get me wrong, we still have a way to go and we still need to be vigilant and smart to protect ourselves, family, neighbors, and friends. We are very fortunate to have so many companionate and caring members within the Coal Division who have made getting thru the past couple years easier.

The February meeting saw good attendance both in-person and virtually. It was great to see Ed Keith join us virtually while he is recovering from knee surgery; we wish him a speedy and complete recovery. A car float, float dock, tug boat, and water tower were donated for the raffle by Dennis McGeeney. These were very personal items modeled after his experiences on the Reading Railroad and it was very interesting to listen as he described each item and their purpose. Thanks, Dennis. The February clinic presented by Bob Weinheimer titled "NMRA Exhibit in Sacramento, CA" highlighted part of Bob's interesting trip out West. It certainly sounded like he enjoyed every minute of his adventure. Thanks, Bob. As always, we are trying to keep the business session short so we can enjoy the other activities the meeting has to offer. One of the best aspects of the meeting is the opportunity to catch up on other members' model railroad projects, enjoying each other's company, and sharing what's been going on in our lives. I think we are all glad we can safely meet in-person again.

At the February meeting it was decided not to conduct a formal March meeting in St. Albans because the Kanawha Valley Railroad Association's Model Train and Craft Show is that weekend. Instead we hope as many of the Coal Division members as possible can attend and enjoy this show while supporting the efforts of KVRA. John Harris will be setting up our Division's display at this event. Several members have signed-up to man the display during the show but if you are at the event and would like to spend a little time helping at the display it would be welcomed and appreciated. The show will be held March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center (200 Civic Center Dr.) and run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

The April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will find us back at the St. Albans Historical Society building. Again this will be a hybrid meeting so if you can't be there in-person please join us virtually. As for the May meeting, planning is underway for us to once again enjoy "Steel is King" day in Parkersburg, WV. We have been unable to have this annual outing for several years because of COVID-19 and it will be great to see the progress David Stout and Paul Lapointe have made on their railroads (and also have a great lunch)!

Thanks for joining us during the February meeting and I hope to see you at the KVRA show.

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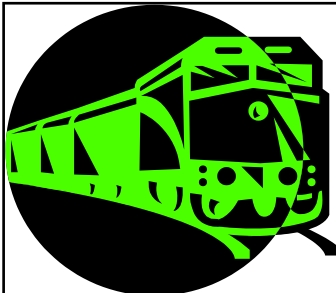
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## Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

16th Annual

### MODEL TRAIN AND CRAFT SHOW

SPONSORED BY: KANAWHA VALLEY RAILROAD ASSOCIATION



### THE CHARLESTON COLISEUM AND CONVENTION CENTER

200 Civic Center Dr, Charleston, WV 25301  
(NEW LOCATION!!!)

## MARCH 12 and 13, 2022

**Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and**

**Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Vendors, layouts and clinics!

**ADMISSION:** \$5.00; Children under 12 free!

**VENDOR TABLES/SPACES - \$25.00**

**Information:** Joe Horter: (304) 539-6721 or Tyler Wylie: (304) 621-2610;  
also jhorter@gmail.com or kvrailroad@gmail.com

## Next Meeting April 9

## In Person and Zoom

## FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

### Sam Delauter, Assistant Superintendent

I haven't been doing much modeling over the last couple of months. I have spent a good bit of time going through my collection to decide what I need and what I really don't need. While doing this, I have been looking at the unbuilt kits that I have waiting to be built. I have quite a few such Bethlehem Car Works kits and Funaro and Camerlengo. As I was sorting through these kits I decided that I needed a little instant gratification in the form of kit building. For those that know what kind of kits I like to build, you're probably thinking that I may have gone a little crazy with that statement. I'll explain what I mean.

Most of the kits that I have waiting to be built are flat kits. For those not familiar with the term, this means that instead of the one piece body found in many kits, flat kits have unassembled bodies. When you start a flat kit such as an F&C resin kit, you have a pair of sides, a pair of ends, a roof, and an under frame. These have to be fit together and assembled. There's a lot of hand fitting to make the pieces go together flush and without gaps. After you build several of these kits, they aren't that bad to assemble. Let's now go to that part where I mentioned the instant gratification. The kit that I chose was a pair of Canadian National 8 hatch reefers. I am pretty sure that I bought one of these from Ed Keith at a train show and I think I got the other off of eBay with a couple of other kits that I bought. No matter where I got these kits, they have spent the last couple of years in the same box waiting to be built as a pair.

I'm sure that everyone is still waiting for me to explain the instant gratification of building these flat kits. I'm finally to that part. With several exceptions these kits are pretty straight forward to build. The exceptions are fitting the body together and adding all of the underbody details, mainly the piping. There are only six grab irons on the bodies that need drilled and installed as two of the four corners of the cars use ladders and not grab irons. There will be more on the ladders in a minute. The grab irons on the other corners are to be made from resin parts and brass wire. I substituted grab

irons from Kadee for the resin ones supplied. The term for these grab irons escapes me at the moment but they are the kind commonly found on HO Kadee boxcars. If these brake it will be an easy replacement. Substituting these parts will also make it easier to keep these parts uniform.

Earlier I had mentioned the ladders on these cars. This is something new that I learned while building these kits. There is a difference in Canadian style ladders and American style ladders.

The difference in these ladders is rung spacing and the width. After looking at some pictures and a few freight cars, there definitely is a difference between the styles. This got me thinking about another tidbit that I read years ago on the Bluford Shops website. Some of the Canadian 70 ton 3 bay hoppers had the center hopper bay facing the opposite direction than the American version. As of this writing I am not sure of why these differences exist but maybe someone reading this will know and let me know.

Did I get instant gratification, or close to it, out of this project with these types of kits? I am not sure if I did or not. As I write this article, neither of the reefers have been finished. Most of the parts that I ordered for them did not come until late the last couple of days. One thing that always slows down progress on a kit is putting full brake and train line piping under the car. I enjoy adding piping but I greatly adds to the time needed to complete a kit. With most of the assembly done on these two cars, they are almost ready for the paint booth. One of them will be painted in the 1940-1958 grey paint scheme. The other will be in the aluminum noodle scheme from the 1960s. These cars are a welcome addition to my roster as they had a long life in service and were seen everywhere Canada to Mexico to Florida to California.

## CLINICS

### Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

The February Clinic was by Bob Weinheimer on his trip out west this past year. The majority of it was on the NMRA Magic of Model Railroading display at the California State Railroad Museum. While the video of this display does a good job of representing it, it was nice to hear from someone who was there to give us his perspective.

There will be no clinic in March as there will be no meeting due to the KVRA train show. Looking ahead, Mark Maynard will be giving his car clinic in April. Mark has this to say about the April clinic: "To my fellow model railroaders from the master mechanic of the Crusty Mountain and Wiloby Springs Railroad. In April, I will be reprising my car repair clinic, but this year there will be a

twist. I'm sending out this challenge to anyone who has a 'problem child' car that just does not want to run right on their layout. Bring it with you to the meeting and we'll see if we can figure out the problem. This way, it will be a more of a hands on clinic, being able to see some of the tricks in practical use. So get those cars off the shop desk or out of the drawer and bring them in to the 'urgent care' for train cars."

After April, we don't have any clinics scheduled. Be thinking ahead for other clinics as we do need to schedule these for the upcoming meetings. I hope to see all of you at the KVRA show in March.

**NMRA MCR DIVISION 9**  
***THE COAL DIVISION***  
**St Albans Historical Society**

February 12, 2022

**Minutes**

Members introduced themselves, several members were attending virtually.

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

**Division Clerk Report**

January minutes approved.  
 Treasury Balance is \$8,480.35.  
 Company Store \$0.  
 Raffle \$45.  
 Pike Ads \$0.

**Superintendent Report** After a hiatus of two years we are planning to hold the May meeting at Dave Stout's home as part of the traditional Steel Is King meeting. Dave Stout and Paul Lapointe will have their layouts open before and after the meeting.

**Assistant Superintendent Report** Sam Delauter mentioned the March railroad show in Charleston which would be discussed later in the meeting.

**Newsletter - Up the Holler**

Bob Weinheimer noted the deadline of February 28 for the March newsletter. The address for contributions is [editor@coaldivision.org](mailto:editor@coaldivision.org)

**Achievement Program**

Nothing new to report.

**Library**

Bill Wadsworth reported on the content available in the members-only section at nmra.org.

**Clinic**

Today's clinic is a presentation by Bob Weinheimer about his visit to some model railroad displays in California. Mark Maynard will be doing a clinic in April on making

any rolling stock operate reliably. Sam mentioned the idea of having mini clinics at future meetings.

**Contest**

Today's contest was steam. Dale Osburn reported we had one entry

**Membership**

Membership is holding steady. John brought a sign-up sheet for manning a display at the Charleston Show.

**Raffle**

Dennis McGeeney donated an entire railroad ferry scene.

**Education**

No report.

**Old Business**

No report.

**New Business**

Robert Osburn brought up our March meeting and the Charleston RR Show. We will not be setting up a T-TRAK display. After some discussion about the logistics of holding a meeting during the show it was moved to not hold a March meeting but man the display instead, the motion passed unanimously.

**Announcements**

None.

**Future Meetings:**

April 9 – St Albans Historical Society

Meeting adjourned at 1:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

## CONTEST

### Dale Osburn, Contest Chair

The February contest had but one entry, Sam Delauter's steam engine. While there will be no contest in March, April will be a wide open event with anything railroad related that is kitbashed or scratch built. Moving on to May and the Steel is King event, the contest will be anything steel related.



Sam Delauter's entry

- NKP 587 as it appeared 1948-1952
- Kitbashed Athearn Genesis
- Bachmann long tender
- Broadway Limited tender trucks
- Over 200 added parts
- Painted with Tru Color paint
- Weathered with chalk

| 2022      | Monthly Model Contest                                   |
|-----------|---|
| January   | Modeler's Choice  |
| February  | Steam Locomotives                                       |
| March     | Locomotive Other Than Steam                             |
| April     | Kitbashing/Scratch Built<br>(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  |

# ***NMRA Magazine***

## **DIGITAL VERSION!**

## **Coming Soon!**

## **Watch your email for details!**

## PASSENGER MANIFEST

### John Harris, Membership Chair

First, I would like to thank those who have volunteered to help man the Coal Division booth at the upcoming KVRA Train Show on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Nevin Wilson, Ron Rogillio, Randy Allio, and Bob Osburn will join me at the show to provide a presence for NMRA as we attempt to enlighten those in attendance of the benefits of membership and engage potential modelers on our purpose. While it is unfortunate that COVID continues to impact our outreach by limiting our T-TRAK and clinic presence, we will still be there to represent the organization and perhaps plant a seed or two for future recruitment.

I continue to be encouraging that we are having such a good turn-out for our most recent meetings, both in person as well as virtual. The efforts to get the bugs worked out of the technical aspects of the virtual meeting have been great and are appreciated. Having joined virtually a time or two myself, I have found the interaction has been seamless and the ability to follow a the presenter and his clinic has been first rate.

I am also pleased that membership has taken a bit of a spike with several renewals and I am happy to report we have added four new members in recent weeks. Please help me welcome Gary Hamm, William Motsinger, Tyler

Burr, and Bill Stowe to the Coal Division. We hope to see all of you at a membership meeting soon. As noted elsewhere in the newsletter, we will not be meeting in March due to the train show but invite them to stop by the booth at the KVRA show at the Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center as an alternative. I think we are all looking forward to getting out and seeing fellow modelers. I suspect there will be an opportunity for few purchases as well

As we look forward to returning to normal, or perhaps close to it, I want to start looking ahead to other activities to further the membership experience for our members. While our fellowship, clinics, and other educational opportunities are reason to attend, I want to look ahead to opportunities for a Rail Fan trip as weather starts to break and out comfort levels in joining the general public return. I am open to suggestions on potential destinations or activities that help to further our interest in the 1 to 1 scale prototypes. Our last trip to Elkins and the Tygart Valley Flyer was well attended and I look forward to similar trips. Don't hesitate to let me know if you have interest in such a trip or other activity that might be of interest.

Meanwhile, keep modeling and be safe. I hope to see everyone at the train show. Otherwise, I'll see you in April

## MY WORD

### Bob Weinheimer, Editor

The latest Mid Central Region news is that MCR President David Neff is under the weather and out of commission for the next couple of months at the very least. MCR Vice President Jerry Doyle has stepped up and is serving as acting President pending Dave's recovery. Please keep Dave in your thoughts and prayers and realize that Jerry will be up to his eyeballs with MCR management as well as tax season.

The Indy Junction convention is starting to get very real. I'm doing several clinics, perhaps even twice. Recall that this is a three Region convention hosted by Mid Central, Midwest, and North Central Regions. It looks like NMRA President Gordy Robinson will be there to talk to as many members as possible. If you want to meet Gordy, sign up for the convention. It should be a good one as it will include a train show and the former Chicago Railroad Prototype Modeler Meet. All of that is for the registration price. Look at pages 7 and 8 for details and click [here](#) to go to the web site.

Another big event is the return of the NMRA National Convention. This year it will be in St. Louis August 2 through 13. St. Louis is not too far from the Coal Division and I don't expect a convention to be closer to us in

the next few years.

The NMRA Magazine will become digital on April 1, only a very few weeks away. You MUST be registered to use the members only part of the NMRA web site to access the digital magazine. You will be able to access a full page version on a computer screen. On a hand held device such as a phone or tablet, the articles will appear as web pages, all in one stream that you scroll through. This makes it far more readable on small devices. This handheld experience will be available through an app to be available at the Apple and Android app stores. Access to the app version will be through the same username and password used for the members only part of the web site. If you haven't yet gotten access, do it NOW.

There will be a marketing program launching soon that will include a limited number of email blasts with links to videos showing how to do these things. By the time you see this newsletter, the March eBulletin should be out with the start of the marketing effort therein.

To make sure you get all of this information, please be sure your email address is up to date with the NMRA, you can do that on the web site if you are already registered to use it.



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](http://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](mailto: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.

- **\$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



Four Full Days  
Three Regions  
Two Day Train Show  
One Convention  
May 18-22, 2022  
[www.IndyJunction2022.org](http://www.IndyJunction2022.org)

## 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!

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RR-CirKits  
Rusty Stumps  
Scale Model Plans  
Scalecoat Paint

[ **New Partners in RED \*\*\*** ]

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Sept 2021

## Partnership Program

# 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,  
P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy, TN 37384

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Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



**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.



**Midland Atlantic**  
**Anthony Parrish, CEO**  
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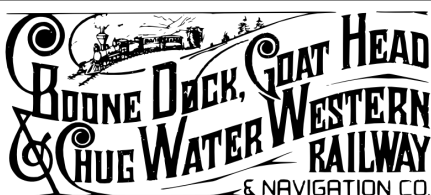


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**NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION**

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An Appalachian Coal Hauling Railroad set in the 50's



Bringing a little bit of West Virginia to the rest of America  
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**John Harris, Chief Engineer**  
 AandNRR@aol.com



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## **Upcoming Coal Division Events**

If you received this news-  
letter 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@coaldivision.org](mailto:editor@coaldivision.org)  
to get onto the email dis-  
tribution list for Up The  
Holler.

**March 12**  
**No Meeting**

**April 9**  
**In Person and Zoom**

**May 14**  
**Steel is King**  
**Parkesburg, WV**

**June 11**  
**In Person and Zoom**