



UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

April 2022

FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Bob Osburn, Superintendent

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It was great to finally attend a local train show, see old faces again, and catch up on what others are doing. The Kanawha Valley Railroad Association's Model Train and Craft Show held in Charleston was a bit smaller than usual but we know what to blame that on. The KVRA group did a fantastic job organizing and conducting the weekend event. The members of the Coal Division came out in force and represented us well. John Harris did a great job of organizing the set-up, take down, and scheduling members to man the Division display. Also, I would like to thank all of those who took time and helped man the display over the two day event. I know John really appreciated your efforts! As noted before, the show was a bit smaller than usual but I was really surprised to see the large quantity of N Scale products available at this show. This was a bit unusual for our area but was a welcome surprise for those in the Division that have a hard time finding N Scale items. Again, thanks to all of our members who attended the show and I hope you enjoyed the event.

The April 9th 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. This meeting will feature Mark Maynard giving his car repair clinic. Mark is challenging everyone to bring in those pieces of rolling stock that just won't stay on the track. This should be very interesting and we can watch and learn as he performs his magic. The contest for April will be "Kitbashing/Scratch Built" (anything railroad related). This category has always been a favorite for the Division with lots of entries and interesting stories. As for the May meeting, we will once again be able to 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!) This outing is a great time to car pool and enjoy the company of others on the trip to and from Parkersburg.

My modeling efforts have taken a hit during the past month and the culprit is YouTube. I never realized how much you could learn from and enjoy watching YouTube. Live feeds from Rail Stream and Virtual Railfan have certainly taught me a lot about railroad operations. I even joined virtually an Engineer in Norway for a 2 hour trip on the Bergen Line in Norway. Not only was it a cab view but many aspects of construction and operations were explained during this trip and the scenery was spectacular, it was 2 hours definitely not wasted. Any interest you have can be explored on YouTube, give it a try!

I hope to see you at the April 9th meeting in St. Albans, either in person or virtually!!

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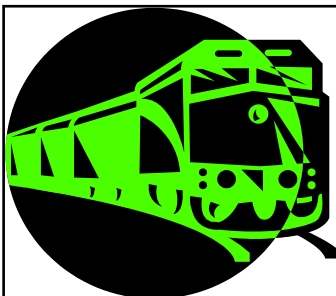
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Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

Saturday April 9, 2022

1 PM

Division Membership Meeting

- **Welcome and Call to Order (Acknowledge members present)**
- **Approval of Minutes from the February meeting**
- **Treasurers Report**
- **Superintendents Report**
- **Assistant Superintendent Report**
- **Contest: Kitbash or scratch built**
- **Adjourn Business Meeting**
- **5 Minute Break**
- **Clinic: Mark Maynard will fix your problem car, bring it for him to show off his skills**

Next Event

Saturday May 14

Steel is King

Parkersburg, WV

APRIL **HYBRID** DIVISION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Jerry Doyle

We've all been doing our part for COVID-19 isolation measures. The end, however, is in sight and our April meeting will be in person as well as via Zoom for those who cannot attend in person.

Our April meeting will be held at the St. Albans Historical Society (next door to the depot) in person and remotely using Zoom. Zoom is very easy to use. You can use a laptop (provided it has a webcam), tablet, or smart phone. Just use the link provided below. You'll be prompted on how to connect with your particular device.

You can also join with a voice-only connection by calling one of the numbers listed.

We are planning to conduct a short business meeting followed by show-and-tell where you can show everyone what you've been working on. There will also be a railroad related clinic and possibly more.

Our meeting will be Saturday April 9 at our regular time of 1 p.m.

Please bear with us as we learn our way around producing a hybrid meeting.

NMRA MCR Division 9 April 9 Meeting

Topic: NMRA MCR Division 9 Meeting
Time: Apr 9, 2022 12:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87989312603>

Meeting ID: 879 8931 2603

First Time Users

- On a computer: The **FIRST TIME** you open a Zoom meeting link you will be asked to download a small Zoom application file. Follow all the typical steps and allow anything requested by the app as it installs.
- On a smart phone or tablet: **BEFORE** you open the Zoom link, go to the app store and download the Zoom Cloud Meetings app from Meet Happy (the app publisher).

To join a Zoom meeting:

- See the meeting invitation above
- Open that link 10 minutes prior to the meeting
- Accept any requests for video and/or microphone

- MUTE your microphone

Other pointers

- Make sure your connection is strong
- If you have a weak connection, disconnect other devices from your home network
- For your first time, don't wait until the last minute to join
- Use the **Chat** button to view and make comments or post questions
- Click the **Invite** button to send meeting information to others
- If everything freezes, click **Leave Meeting** and rejoin using the original invitation
- You do not need to create a Zoom account to participate in a Zoom meeting

FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Sam Delauter, Assistant Superintendent

Instead of a March meeting, many of the Coal Division members were at the Kanawha Valley Railroad Association train show. Even though there was no meeting, I saw most of the Coal Division members that normally attend the monthly meeting.

I spent a lot of time leading up to the show going through my collection. Once I had gone through everything, I had more than a table worth to sell at the show. Since I was a vendor I didn't get to spend much time away from the table. Our booth was beside mine but I was behind our back drop. I didn't get to spend any time at the booth but I did get to pop in from time to time. I am hopeful that the efforts of the division pay off. It looked like there were a few potential new members. I'm sure that time at the booth will be covered in other columns.

Over the course of the weekend, I sold a ton of stuff off of my table. At times on Saturday, it seemed like things were just flying off of my table. Sunday was slower but wasn't bad. While I did come home with quite a few things, I managed to sell much more than I bought. The highlights of what I bought were some rare N scale Borden's butterdish milk cars and a brass HOn3 D&RGW K-28 Mikado. I had been looking for these for quite some time. The butterdish cars were much needed for my Erie trains as they were a mainstay of their milk trains for years. I picked up three of these at a very good price. As for the K-28, since it is brass out of my budget I was able to work out a trade for it. I was happy that I was able to work out a deal for a loco that I had wanted for a long time.

CONTEST

Dale Osburn, Contest Chair

There was no contest to report for the month of March as we had no meeting.

The contest for the April meeting will be Kitbashing/Scratch Built (Anything Railroad Related). Looking ahead to May, the contest will be Anything Steel Related.

2022	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

CLINICS

Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

With no meeting in March, we had no clinic.

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. B ring 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.

NMRA Magazine

DIGITAL VERSION!

Coming Soon!

Watch your email for details!

PASSENGER MANIFEST

John Harris, Membership Chair

Thanks to those who helped man the Coal Division booth at the KVVRA Train Show on the 12th and 13th of last month. For those who made it to the show, we could not have asked for a more highly visible location. We were just to the right of the entrance and it was almost impossible not to see us. Turnout seemed to be steady in spite of the sudden snowfall on Saturday. I believe that several fellow railroad enthusiasts were just glad to be able to get out and see some trains.

Traffic at our booth was pretty much as expected, casual visitors with general questions about the models on display or photographs on the backdrop and several more serious modelers with specific modeling questions and interest in NMRA. Generally speaking, the largest portion of those I personally interacted with were those casual types who were there with kids or grandkids that were looking to build a toy train set around the tree or on a tabletop. Still, there were a few that were more seasoned modelers that could follow-up and join, and at least one was a former NMRA member that was earnestly getting back into the hobby. Time will tell if that bears fruit but at least we continue to make ourselves known within the model railroad community.

One of the highlights for me was seeing Dave Stout from Parkersburg at the show. As many of you know Dave has had some health issues that have kept him from attending our meetings of late. It has not, however, deterred him from making more progress on his railroad. He promises to have several changes in store when we join him for "Steel is King" in May. It was also good to see several other members make it to the show. Some

have been attending in person meetings lately and others have not been seen in a while. Perhaps things are about to change as we seem to be seeing a downturn in COVID cases. Still there are new cases daily and we must not let our guard down.

Another highlight of the show was Randy Allio's decision to bring some "dead rail" locomotives and demonstrated their operation on the table display. I understand that it sparked quite a lot of interest both for seasoned modelers and novice alike. It is always good to be able to demonstrate that the hobby is more than connecting a DC power pack to a circle of track and watching trains go around and around. Educating the public to the diversity within model railroading is key to expanding the hobby and broadening the base for new members.

As mentioned in our last "Up the Holler", I am looking ahead to other activities to further the membership experience. It is too early to tell if there would be interest and if details can be worked out but there has been a lot of publicity recently on the return of former C&O H-6 class mallet 1309, which had been restored to operating condition, repainted into WM colors and is presently in service on the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad between Cumberland and Frostburg. Several types of service are available with prices varying according to the type of service requested. If there is interest in that kind of trip, let me know and I will put together an itinerary and more details for a possible summer or even fall rail fanning trip.

I will be attending the April meeting virtually so I will not be with you in person. Meanwhile, keep modeling and be safe.

MY WORD

Bob Weinheimer, Editor

As I write this on March 28, the digital NMRA Magazine is but a few days away. I have had the pleasure of being a beta tester for the web based version. It works very well and even has an option to view each story in a way that resembles reading a web page. Navigation is very easy as well. As a reminder, you MUST be registered to use the members only part of the NMRA web site. I spoke recently to one of our members who is not a very sophisticated computer user and even he was able to get signed up. There will also be apps for Android and Apple phones and tablets, the Android version is already available in their app store. The Apple version is expected any day now.

As long as your email address is on file with the NMRA, you will be getting a couple of emails explaining all you have to do to get access to the digital magazine. I

hear there will be links to videos that will also help. If you subscribe to the Modeler's Life podcast, the April 4 edition will feature NMRA President Gordy Robinson and NMRA Publications Department Head Riley Triggs discussing the digital magazine as well.

Keep in mind that every member except Life Members will be paying a \$14 annual fee for the digital magazine. If you choose to drop the paper version, your cost of membership will actually be lower than it is now for magazine subscribers.

In addition to the good news about the digital magazine, in May we will be returning to Parkersburg for the first Steel is King day since 2019. I look forward to progress on the layouts, Dave has been posting lots of stuff on Facebook. Bring your appetite, we will be well fed!



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 day-light 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.

- **\$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

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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MAC Rail
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miniprints
MinuteMan Scale Models
Model Railroad Benchwork
Model Train Catalogue
Modelers Decals & Paint
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Ram Track
RR-CirKits
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Scale Model Plans
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Sept 2021

Partnership Program



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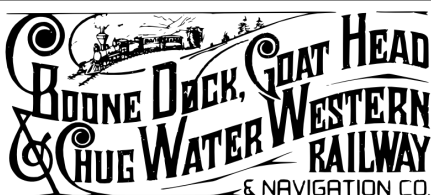
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NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION
 Clint Foster Superintendent
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Alleghany & New River Road
 An Appalachian Coal Hauling Railroad set in the 50's



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



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Upcoming Coal Division Events

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know so we can save
printing and postage
costs. Send a note to
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to get onto the email dis-
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