



UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

June 2022

IN THIS ISSUE

FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Bob Osburn, Superintendent

Head of the Holler

Contact List

Meeting Agenda

Office Down the Hall

Clinics

Meeting Minutes

Contest

Editor's Comments

Model Railroad Available

Pike Ads

Upcoming Meetings

1 It sure was great to be back at Parkersburg, WV at the “Steel is King Day” for our May
14th meeting. This event was very well attended with members from Division 9 and the Mid
2 -Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club. Both Paul and Dave had made noticeable changes and
2 progress to their model railroads during our absence the last couple of years. We always
2 enjoy this outing with the discussions and insight these two gentlemen incorporate into their
2 railroads. As usual, a short business meeting occurred at Dave’s house following a fantastic
2 lunch provided by Dave’s wife Rhonda. She prepared enough wonderful food to feed an
4 army and I know nobody went home hungry!! Dave was also eager to explain that his wife
4 really helped make this event special for those attending by also doing most of the set-up
4 work. I want to thank both Dave’s and Paul’s families for providing a wonderful day for
4 our model railroad groups; it was greatly appreciated!!

4 Our next meeting will be June 11th at the St. Albans Historical Society building. This
4 meeting will be both in-person and virtual. The virtual part of the clinic is going to be a
4 little tricky because of this being a hands-on presentation. Bob Weinheimer will be instruct-
7 ing us on how to access the NMRA magazine on-line. I’m sure Bob will be creative and
7 find a way to help explain the process to even those attending virtually.

9 We have already been able to secure the use of the Historical Society facility for our
July 9th and August 13th meetings. We will need to discuss our August “Picnic on the Plat-
10 form” at the June meeting. The picnic is something we really enjoy and always have very
10 good attendance (it must be Dale’s grilling technique). I really appreciate you help making
11 this possible. Other good news is that the C&O Historical Society had made an agreement
11 with the City of St. Albans concerning the future of the St. Albans Depot. I hope we can
12 get an update at the June meeting from one of the COHS members and how this may affect
Division 9.

Once again we are seeing an increase in COVID-19 cases in some of our area. Please
attend the in-person meeting if you feel safe or if you need to take the necessary precautions
we have implemented at prior meetings. We will respect any decisions you make to protect
yourself and family.

On a sad and closing note: Ed (Edwin) Keith MMR® passed away Saturday May 7th at
his daughter’s home in Williamsburg, VA.. Ed was a valued member of the Coal Division
and a true friend. Ed joined the NMRA in 1951 becoming a life member. We will surely
miss Ed!! A celebration of Ed’s life will be held in Chesapeake, OH at a later date.

<https://www.bucktroutfuneralhome.net/orbituary/edwin-keith/>

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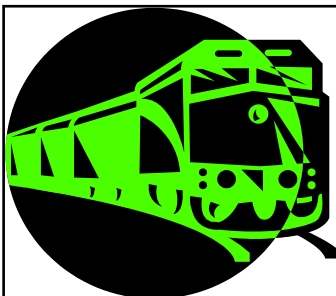
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Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

Saturday June 11 1:00 PM

Division Membership Meeting

- **Welcome and Call to Order (Acknowledge members present)**
- **Approval of Minutes from the May meeting**
- **Treasurers Report**
- **Superintendents Report**
- **Assistant Superintendent Report**
- **Contest: Non Revenue**
- **Adjourn Business Meeting**
- **5 Minute Break**
- **Clinic: Digital Magazine**

Next Event

Saturday July 9

St. Albans, WV

JUNE **HYBRID** DIVISION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

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

Our February 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 June 11 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 June 11 Meeting

Time: Jun 11, 2022 12:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82932877842?pwd=L00wQkdidHZDMEcvK2xXK0U5SnVsQT09>

Meeting ID: 829 3287 7842

Passcode: 390412

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,82932877842#,,,,*390412# US (Washington DC)
+13126266799,,82932877842#,,,,*390412# US (Chicago)

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

In this column I often write about kits that I am building or other projects that I am working on. I thought this month that would write about my recent day running trains at the Kanawha Valley Railroad Association. I took a few locos and my PRR passenger car fleet to the club to run. I figured I would take these as I wouldn't have to haul a lot of equipment and I could test a couple of locos that I had done some work to.

I guess the easiest way to sum up my day was that my rolling stock all ran very well. My locos, on the other hand, did not. The first loco that I put on the track was my Broadway Limited PRR T1 duplex. This loco has run well for me for years, I have run it at the club and open houses numerous times. It has always run really well but in the last couple of years the sound has started cutting out at weird times. The loco ran well to begin with but the sound was odd on this day. It wasn't cutting out or anything but it was rather weak sounding. I ran the loco with the sound off and it was running well. That was until it didn't. I saw the loco running and it started to slow down. At speed step 28, it was running at what would have been speed step 4-8. I immediately pulled the loco and could smell a burnt smell from the tender. I opened the tender. The smell was even stronger but I could not find anything that looked burnt. I am not a huge fan of BLI's decoders. I however don't change them unless need be. This loco will sit on the rip track until I get a new decoder for it.

The second loco that I ran that day was a BLI PRR J1 2-10-4. This is an older PCM made Broadway model, I got it used at a good price at a train show. This loco never has run well, actually it has never run at all. It has a constant shorting problem. Initially I thought it was the old sound board with a plug and play 8 pin motor decoder. I hard wired a basic motor decoder into the loco to try to fix the problem but have still had issues with shorts. Recently I opened up the loco and retouched a number of solder joints. Since the loco ran well at home on a test track, I thought that the problem was fixed. The only way to really know was with a test run at the club. Unfortunately the loco is still shorting out. I guess I will have to send this off to get repaired. Maybe I will send this to the people that David Oliverio is having work on some his locos, they seem to do good work.

The final loco that gave me a headache is a Bachmann PRR K4s Pacific. The loco is DCC ready with an 8 pin plug. I plugged in a decoder that I had previously used in another loco in hopes that it would be ready to go. Once on the layout, the loco ran fine until it got track speed. When I tried to slow the speed of the loco down, there was another problem: it did not respond to any command that I gave it. I am not sure what is causing the problem but I may end up trying another decoder to get the loco running.

While I did not have any luck with these locos hopefully if you are having issues with some of your own this column will let you know that you are not alone.

CLINICS

Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

I hope everyone had a good time at the May meeting in Parkersburg. It was great to see our friends in Parkersburg that we don't see too often. Since we were at Steel is King, there was no clinic.

At the June meeting, we have a couple of things going on. The first being the clinic by Bob Weinheimer. Bob will be doing a hands on clinic to get everyone in the division access to the members only NMRA magazine. If you have not accessed this already come with a internet enabled device so that Bob can help you gain access.

At the June meeting I would like to wrap up conversation for the first of the mini clinics event. I have had several volunteers to give a brief mini clinic. This mini

clinic event is a great opportunity to have a few members talk about a topic that would not fill a regular clinic. The mini clinic event will give our membership the opportunity to learn a lot of helpful little things in a small timeframe

June	NMRA Magazine
July	DPM Interiors
August	Making Ground Foam
September	Crusty Mountain
October	Mini Clinics 1
November	Mini Clinics 2 tentative
December	Square Foot Challenge

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9

THE COAL DIVISION

Parkersburg, WV

May 8, 2022

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 1:14 pm.

Osburn will give a demo on making ground foam for scenery.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written in the newsletter.

Raffle Chair – Needs N scale donations

Treasurer's Report – No report as clerk was absent.

Membership Chair – Robert Osburn reported our number of members is holding steady.

Superintendent's Report – Robert Osburn reported that Ed Keith had passed away, and there would be a memorial service in Chesapeake, Ohio at a time yet to be determined.

Old Business – None

Newsletter Chair – Bob Weinheimer stated that Tuesday, May 31st, is the deadline for material for the June newsletter.

New Business – Robert Osburn asked for more help with this year's picnic. Also suggested that the Coal Division consider having a flea market in the future, which was then discussed.

Achievement Program Chair –No report.

Announcements – There will be a train show in August at Morehead, KY and another on Sat., Oct.29th, at WVU Branch in Parkersburg.

Library Chair – No report

Next Meeting – June 11 – St. Albans depot

Contest Chair – No report

Clinic Chair –In June there will be a clinic on accessing the NMRA magazine on the internet. In July Robert Osburn will give clinic on model building, and in August Dale

The meeting was adjourned at 1:44 pm

Respectfully submitted by Bill Wadsworth, Acting Clerk

JUNE CLINIC PRE-WORK

The June clinic will apply only to current NMRA members. Others may watch but only current members may sign up to use the subscription service.

•Come with the email address you use for the NMRA web site as well as a password that you will use for the subscription service. It can be the same you use for the web site if that will help you remember it.

To get the most out of it, there are a few things you should do ahead of the meeting.

- You **MUST** be signed up to use the NMRA Members Only part of the web site. This must be done by Thursday June 9.
- Please bring your smart phone and a tablet such as an iPad if you have one.
- If possible, download the NMRA Magazine application from the Apple or Android stores to any devices you bring.

If you do all of these things, the goal is that you will leave with the ability to read the NMRA Magazine on your phone or tablet. There is a video on the web site that shows you how to get the app for your computer, you should be able to do that from home. That app works only with Chrome based browsers such as Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, and possibly others. It will not work with Firefox and other non Chrome based browsers.



Gateway 2022
ST. LOUIS NMRA

**Gateway 2022
NMRA Convention**

**St Louis, Mo
August 7-13, 2022**

St Louis Marriott Grand Hotel

**Registration and details at
gateway2022.org**



CONTEST

Dale Osburn, Contest Chair

I would like to give a big Thank You to Dave Stout and his wife for the wonderful lunch. Paul Lapointe's layout has taken on some changes since the last visit to his house. Outstanding work with so many improvements!

The contest for the month of May 2022 was Anything Steel Related.

First Place
Dave Stout
Bridge Crane

Second Place
Bob Weinheimer
Scrap Loads

It's my understanding we will be having a clinic on how to build the scrap loads. This will be a clinic we sure don't want to miss!

Third Place
Sam Delanter
Structural load and PRR flatcars

The contest for the month of June will be Non-Revenue.

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



Sam used the following materials for his project.

- Structural load and bolsters by AMB Laserkit
- Flatcars by Funaro and Camerlengo
- Load assembled per instructions
- Mount Vernon decals used on flatcars and bolsters
- Flatcars are resin kits but without underbody detail due to weight
- Cars track well around curves as the load pivots on the cars



Dave added to the model the following:

- Steps
- Railings
- Housing



Bob was inspired by an article in January 2020 NMRA Magazine by Matt Snell. Bob completed the project with the following materials.

- Adapted substrate to conventional gondolas
- Cut wood substrates to fit various size cars
- Adjusted height of load to various size cars
- Liberally brushed white glue over substrate
- Dumped mica chips into glue, pressed in with finger
- After glue dried, trimmed up edges

MY WORD

Bob Weinheimer, Editor

If you didn't make the trip to Indianapolis for the Indy Junction convention you sure missed a good one. There were about 500 people there. The hotel was incredible, it has five large ballrooms that accommodated all the convention activities. Given the size and length (four days) it resembled a small version of a National convention. Some even wondered if it might be a good model for National conventions in the future instead of week long events. I guess time will tell.

NMRA President Gordy Robinson came all the way from his island off the north coast of Scotland. He held a number of meet and greet events including a session with Region and Division leadership. Robert Osburn and Jerry Doyle were at that meeting. Gordy could not walk anywhere without encountering members who wanted to chat with him. From what he said, I think he really enjoyed his visit to Indianapolis.

If you didn't go to Indianapolis, or if you didn't get enough there, there is always the full National convention in St. Louis in August, see the ads below and on page 6 for more. Actor Michael Gross will be the banquet speaker. He's an honest to goodness Santa Fe modeler. At the St. Louis RPM meet a few years back he presented a clinic on some of his modeling work. He's a down to earth guy who seemed to be having a good time at that meet.

As noted on pages 4 and 5, our June clinic will be

getting any member who comes to the meeting with a smart phone leaving able to read the Digital NMRA Magazine on it. In order to make this work well, there are some things that need to be done before the meeting, they are listed on page 5. If you are reading this but are not an NMRA member, please consider joining so you can also subscribe to this wonderful magazine. It's part of your membership so enjoy it!

Looking forward, we hope to have a new Interchange program unveiled at St. Louis. This will include a number of Discord rooms, think of these as chat rooms or meeting rooms. There will be rooms dedicated to each Region, Division, SIG, and other groups within the NMRA. Based on your Division, you will have access to at least your Division's room. Others can be assigned to the room on either an ongoing basis (that's you, Tom Harris) or a shorter term basis such as for a clinician. The aim is to provide a way to conduct online and hybrid meetings without the expense of a Zoom account. I do want the Coal Division to at least give this a try although it is strictly open only to members. It may take a while to get used to but it may have some advantages over Zoom.

The NMRA Board of Directors is working hard to bring even more benefits to your membership. Stay tuned for the details.

NMRA National Convention & Train Show

Sun, August 07, 2022 08:00 AM — Sat, August 13, 2022 06:00 PM (CDT)



Gateway 2022
NMRA 2022 Convention
 St. Louis, Missouri
 August 7 – 15, 2022
gateway2022.org



- Modelling with the Masters
- Layout Tours
- Self Drive Tours
- Prototype Tours
- Operating Sessions
- Non Rail Tours
- Clinics
- Contest
- National Train Show

Banquet with Michael Gross

HO SCALE MODEL RAILROAD AVAILABLE

Past and hopefully future member Steve Lee has a good deal for you: a model railroad free for the taking!

In Steve's words: I have a proposal if anyone in the group or as a whole would be interested:

I have an unfinished 4x13 mountain layout that needs some attention to the right group or person. I will donate this and I trust your discretion on how it should be donated.

The layout breaks down into 3 sections. It is fully loaded with track and turnouts. (Walthers) and Cicuitron slow motion switch motors. Fully wired for DC. It will be necessary to cut the track and wiring to break down into 3 sections. In addition the legs come off as well. It is about 40" high to over 6 feet at highest points. More like an L girder structure.

I would need someone to come and help take apart and carry out to wherever it would go, the layout is in

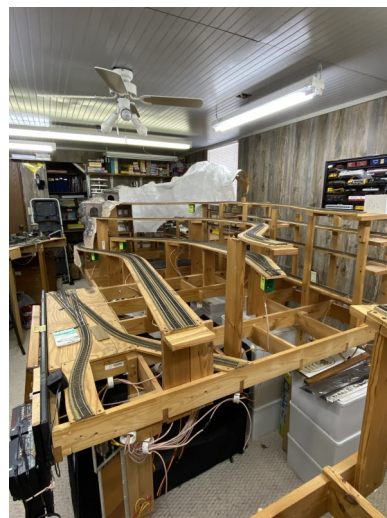
Point Pleasant. All bolts are 7/16 nuts and it is put together in such a way that all is labeled for reassembly except the wiring. The track cutting would take the time to put back together but all doable. And, maybe someone will cut it up and use as needed. I have no problem with that idea. I just want it put to good use. I do not want to just throw it out.

I want some group or person to enjoy and finish the layout in anyway they see fit. It originally was a depiction of the Durango and Silverton narrow gauge in Co.

In addition, I'll throw in 3 mrc tech 2 power packs. These were originally used for the layout.

There is no power or rolling stock included.

Contact the editor (editor@coalddivision.org) if you have a serious interest.





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WME

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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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June 11
In Person and Zoom

July 9
In Person and Zoom

August 13
In Person and Zoom

September 17
Portsmouth, OH