



# UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

December 2022

## IN THIS ISSUE

Head of the Holler	1
Contact List	2
Meeting Agenda	2
Directions to Diehl's	3
Meeting Minutes	4
Office Down the Hall	5
Clinics	5
Contest	6
Achievement Program	7
Editor's Comments	7
Passenger Manifest	8
Library Corner	8
Pike Ads	10
Upcoming Meetings	11

## FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Bob Osburn, Superintendent

I was in Louisville at the Division 8 train show and missed our November meeting. I would like to thank Sam Delauter for presiding over the business portion of the meeting and keeping everything running smoothly. From the feedback I have received, the meeting was well attended and the Mini-Clinics seem to be getting lots of support.

The Appalachian Model Railroad Society held their Train Show on November 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup> in Huntington, WV. Division 9's modular T-TRAK was again on display at the show and drew plenty of viewers and comments from those attending the show. Herb Parsons and Sam Delauter spent all three days there with the display answering questions and keeping trains running. Thanks, Herb and Sam, for a job well done.

The December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature our Christmas luncheon at Diehl's Restaurant in Nitro, WV. This will also be the time we display our finished project for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Gary Burdette Challenge. A servo animation packet was offered for the 2022 Challenge. It should be exciting to see the results. If you can't attend the luncheon, please send me pictures of your project so we can display them during the meeting via email at [super@coaldivision.org](mailto:super@coaldivision.org). The Christmas Luncheon will start at 1:00 p.m., a map and directions are on page 3. I look forward to seeing you there.

**DIVISION OFFICERS**

Superintendent  
Robert Osburn  
super@coaldivision.org

Assistant Superintendent  
Sam Delauter  
asstsuper@coaldivision.org

Clerk- Jerry Doyle  
304-638-2826  
clerk@coaldivision.org

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Achievement Program Chairmen  
Bob Weinheimer MMR  
304-546-5896  
ap@coaldivision.org

Clinic  
Sam Delauter  
clinic@coaldivision.org

Contest  
Dale Osburn  
contest@coaldivision.org

Education  
Vacant

Election  
Bill Wadsworth  
304-768-3266  
nominating@coaldivision.org

Membership  
John Harris  
membership@coaldivision.org

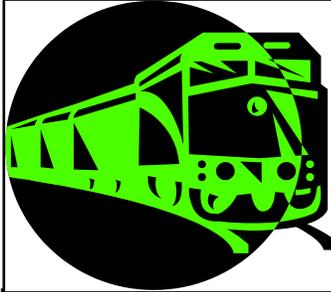
Raffle  
Tom Harris  
raffle@coaldivision.org

T-TRAK  
Sam Delauter  
samdelauter@gmail.com  
304-514-8302

**DIVISION STAFF**

Editor  
Bob Weinheimer MMR®  
editor@coaldivision.org

Webmaster  
Bob Weinheimer MMR®  
webmaster@coaldivision.org



## Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

*Saturday December 10, 2021*

*Diehl's Restaurant, Nitro, WV*

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

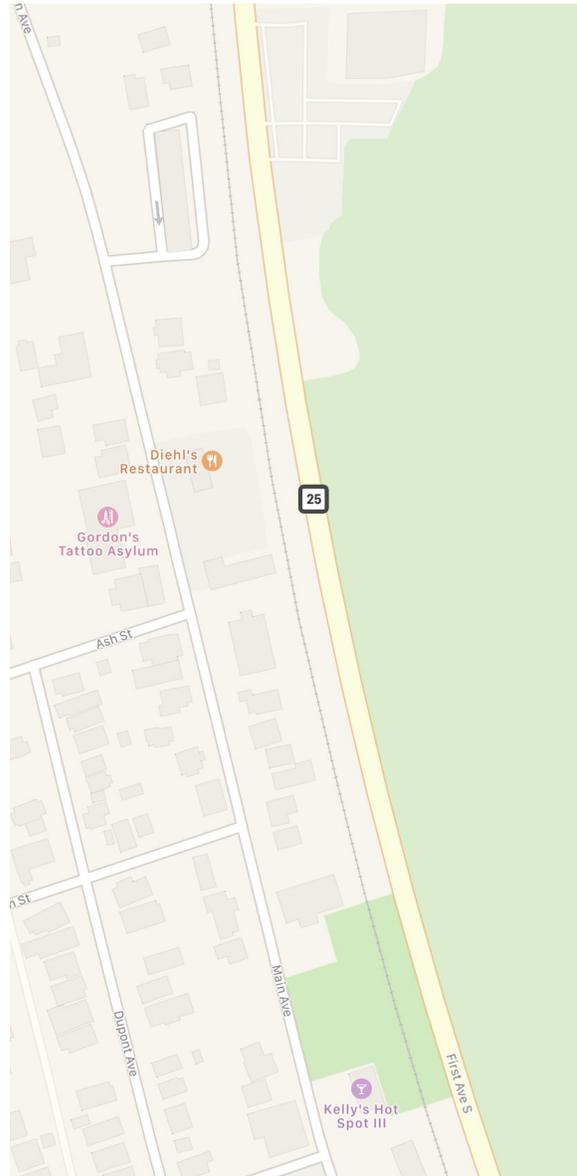
### Next Event

**Saturday January 14**

**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.



**NMRA MCR DIVISION 9**  
***THE COAL DIVISION***  
**St. Albans Historical Society**  
**November 12, 2022**  
**Minutes**

Meeting called to order by Assistant Superintendent Sam Delauter at 1:00 p.m.

**Division Clerk Report**

September minutes approved.  
 Treasury Balance is \$8,4274.71. We anticipate some reimbursement from NMRA National for the August picnic.  
 Company Store \$0.  
 Raffle \$46.  
 Pike Ads \$0.

**Superintendent Report** Robert was away attending a train show in Louisville.

**Assistant Superintendent Report** Sam Delauter mentioned the amount of effort that goes into *Up The Holler* and the work done by those people.

**Newsletter - Up the Holler**

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

Bob mentioned that the past NMRA president Pete Magoun expressed how much he liked the item remembering Allen McClelland by Jerry Doyle. There was some discussion about Allen's hospitality and how much he influenced our hobby. A few members shared stories of their interactions with him.

**Achievement Program**

Bob Weinheimer presented Bill Grosse with his AP certificate for Association Official. Sam Delauter asked if it was time for Bob's clinic on the AP program. Bob reminded everyone that materials in the newsletter can count as credit towards the Model Railroad Author AP certificate.

**Library**

Bill Wadsworth commented that there hasn't been much interest in the clinic library. He will no longer be bringing it to meetings but will still bring items on request.

**Clinic**

There were several mini clinics today:  
*Modeling the Virginia & Truckee* by Don Cipolla  
*Scrap Loads* by Bob Weinheimer  
*Scrap Metal Loads* by Bill Grosse  
*Making Ballast Using Sand* by Bob Weinheimer  
 Sam commented that mini clinics have been well received. Slots are still open for 2023.

**Contest**

Today's contest is passenger cars. Dale had kits available for the Gary Burdette Square Foot Modeling Challenge.

**Membership**

John Harris reported that membership is down at 44. Several lapsed members have been active recently. John echoed earlier comments on Allen McClelland's hospitality and influence on the hobby.

**Raffle**

Dale Osburn handled the raffle today.

**T TRAK**

Several members are putting on a joint display with the C&OHS to operate a display at the Huntington Model Railroad Show on Thanksgiving Weekend.

**Education**

No report.

**Old Business**

No one expressed interest in taking a display to the Huntington show.

Bill Wadsworth asked if it was time to bring back Gary Burdette's list of member skills. Mark Maynard suggested that would be a great job for the librarian. Sam Delauter mentioned that would be a good use for the upcoming Discord message system.

**New Business**

Jerry Doyle mentioned starting a group focused on operations. It would meet at one of our members' operating layouts on another Saturday on a rotating basis. He will be contacting those people. It will be open to any members interested in learning more about prototypic operations.

Sam Delauter has been contacted about participating with the COHS in a T TRAK display at the Huntington Model Railroad Show in November.

Dale Osburn asked about getting name badges. John said he has traditionally taken requests once per year, but they can be ordered anytime.

Continued next page

November Minutes Continued

### Announcements

Bob Weinheimer spoke with Dan Mulhearn this week. Dan passed along greetings. Bob was perusing the NMRA Bulletin online archives and found the announcement of the formation of the Mid-Central Region on March 23, 1946. He also updated everyone on the Discord messaging system. It should be available by the end of November.

Jerry Doyle mentioned that marketing kits for divisions will be available from NMRA National. Bob stated there will be materials focusing on reaching out to people at train shows.

Louisville, KY November 12 (today)  
Huntington Model Railroad Show November 25-27.

### Future Meetings:

December 10 – Diehl’s Restaurant  
January 14 -- St Albans Historical Society

Meeting adjourned at 1:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

## FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

### Sam Delauter, Assistant Superintendent

As you read this newsletter, you will see in the clinics column that we have wrapped up the year on a high note. That isn't the only thing we have wrapped up. Every year during Thanksgiving weekend, the Appalachian Model Railroad Society has their annual train show in Huntington. Several of your fellow Coal Division members were there and were very present as part of the show. While there were quite a few members that stopped by over the course of the weekend, I spent my weekend with fellow Coal Division member Herb Parsons and Robert Osburn.

For those that were unable to stop by, you not only missed a great show but you missed many great deals and great fellowship with our members. T-TRAK made a comeback at the show. This is the first showing that we have had for T-TRAK since COVID. Herb and myself spent the weekend running the layout and talking to the patrons of the show. This year, our layout was a little

smaller than it had been in the past but not by much. While it was smaller we did have 12 modules contributed by Herb, Robert, and myself. We did lose a little bit in size but the quality and completion of the modules has been progressing over the last couple of years. This event was a great chance get out and try to get the T-TRAK layout up and running again at shows. After a successful showing we should look forward to future shows. The next show that we could do T-TRAK at would be the Charleston show in March. This will be a great chance for the Division to get together and come out for a great showing with both T-TRAK and the NMRA booth. The Huntington show was not only a great time of fellowship with friends but also a great event to wrap up the year with the return of T-TRAK. I look forward to seeing each of you at the December meeting at Diehl’s.

## CLINICS

### Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

The November meeting not only saw the last of the clinics for 2022 but also saw the second of two Mini Clinic Events. This event featured four mini clinics: making ballast, a layout tour, and two clinics on making scrap loads. These seemed to be a big hit with the membership and I am scheduling a couple of Mini Clinic Events for 2023. Many thanks go out to Bob Weinheimer, Bill Grosse, and Don Cipolla for their clinics. As the Mini

Clinic Event wrapped up, so did the 2022 clinics. I would like to thank all of the 2022 clinicians for another great year of clinics.

I have almost all of the 2023 clinics lined up and I will announce the schedule in the January 2023 edition of this newsletter. It looks like 2023 will be another great year of clinics for the Coal Division.

## CONTEST

### Dale Osburn, Contest Chair

The month of November was Passenger Cars. We only had one entry for the contest which was Sam Delanter.

First Place  
Sam Delanter  
Bethlehem Car Works Erie Baggage car.

- Built mostly from scratch using a kit for inspiration.
- Brass sides with a plastic core were used in the build.

TCP paints were used along with pastels for weathering. Sam not only did a great job on this model, but he also gave an inside look at how to build such a great model.

We now have 12 members participating in the Gary Burdette Challenge this year. The challenge as many of you know will be "let's move something with a servo". It's not too late to request a kit for the challenge. Please call me at 304-840-4366 if you're interested.

Lastly, we are looking for new ideas for the 2023 contest year. Please make your suggestions by email: [ozzyr111@gmail.com](mailto:ozzyr111@gmail.com)

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's contest entry

## ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM Bob Weinheimer MMR® AP Chair



It was a pleasure to present Bill Grosse with his Association Official Certificate. While Bill is new to the Coal Division, he was very active in the Mid Eastern Region and the New Jersey Division. Bill served as Division Superintendent to earn this certificate. Photo by Dale Osburn.

In other AP news, Jerry Doyle and I spent an afternoon visiting Don Cipolla and his layout. If you thought it looked good in his November video clinic, you need to see it in person. The purpose of our visit was to evaluate his structures and scenery. He passed with flying colors and the paperwork for both certificates is now in the hands of Frank Koch for final approval. Don may very well be our next Master Model Railroader® as he is quite close to four other certificates. He already has Association Volunteer.

### MY WORD Bob Weinheimer, Editor

Well, I didn't leave myself much room this month.

At the National level, the Interchange should be launching any day now. Over the holiday weekend I noted changes that suggest that some of the key issues have been resolved. Once the program is fully launched, you should see lots of chatter much as you did with the launch of the digital magazine. I anticipate a clinic on the program will be in the works shortly after its rollout. This should give you a chance to see how it works. Posting should be easy, not unlike Facebook in many ways. If you have been

turned off by other social media, please approach this with an open mind. What I have seen in the pilot testing suggests it will be a vital part of membership for those willing to invest the effort to try it out.

In his column, Sam Delauter described the success of the Mini-Clinics. For me it was fun to show off a few tricks. While I showed a way to make scrap, Bill Grosse showed another way that I had never considered: dowels through a pencil sharpener. There is always something to learn!

## PASSENGER MANIFEST

### John Harris, Membership Chair

Over the last month we have all seen many tributes to the legacy of the late Allen McClelland. He was truly one of the most innovative and forward thinking modelers of the last half century. He was an inspiration to many and will long be remembered for pioneering the concepts of “freelanced prototype”, “beyond the basement”, and “good enough modeling”. I will not attempt to elaborate on his many accomplishments or piggyback on the comments other have made at the November Division meeting. Instead, I will reflect on my personal interaction and his impact on my railroad, the Allegheny & New River Road.

My interest in trains began early and included several battery operated tin and plastic train sets, an American Flyer oval layout, I inherited from an uncle, and later an HO layout shared with my younger brother. But after I discovered girls and later cars, my interest in trains waned and even went dormant. Fast forward 15 years of so while I was building an architectural model for one of our office projects and a casual comment made to a girl I was dating about perhaps someday getting back into model railroading. For Christmas that year, she surprised me with a Bachmann steam train. By the next Christmas, that girl was my wife, and one of the gifts was a subscription to Model Railroader. While the subscription would start the next month, the issue she put under the tree featured my first glimpse of Allen McClelland’s V&O.

With that I was hooked. The idea that a model railroad could look so realistic, and have a purpose, and operate in a prototypical fashion was mind boggling. Now the quest began. I would use this as inspiration and set out to create my own version. While I would chose to model the prototype I grew up around and was most familiar with, the seed was planted. I soon stumbled upon Stew Marshall, a former operator on the V&O who then owned a Hobby Shop in central Florida. Stew sold me *The V&O Story*, which was a book published by Carsten that was accumulation of articles in their magazine a few years earlier. With this book, its narrative and the many photos, I better understood the philosophy behind the layout and

was beginning to formulate the basic premise of the A&NRR.

An early volume of Allen Keller’s series “Great Model Railroads” featured the V&O and finally brought the layout to life. I spent many hours watching with fascination as these first and second generation diesels made their way up and over the mountains of Virginia. I would perhaps watch it now if I had a working VCR in the house. Anyone that has one that works is welcome to borrow my copy and see for themselves.

But the real thrill was to get to see the original in person during a MCR convention. The V&O had an open house and I was able to stop by and view first hand on the way to Cincinnati. I was impressed with how personable Allen was as he answered endless questions about the construction and operation of the layout. Several years later, Allen again opened his home to another MCR convention. I was well worth the drive from Columbus over to West Carrollton to once again admire the layout. He had recently expanded the layout into a previously unused area.

This was not long before his masterpiece was dismantled as health issues required a move to a more accessible residence. It was not long however before the V&O was resurrected in a significantly different form. While I never had the opportunity to see this version, it was clear that he focused on exploring new ideas and operations.

While the V&O certainly inspired, Allen’s willingness to share in the hobby was equally impressive. I had the opportunity to see his clinics at several regional and national conventions. He was always approachable and willing to spend time afterward answering questions and sharing stories. I was able to enjoy his company twice during these occasions one on one. These are fond memories for sure. He will be missed. I am thankful that I have 2 V&O boxcars with the original logo that run on my layout that allows me to have a small part of this historical layout.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the December meeting and sharing how each of you have experimented with animation.

## LIBRARY CORNER

### Bill Wadsworth, Librarian

Due to the inactivity of the library's usage (there have been no withdrawals since February 2020) I have decided to change how we use the library in the future. If a member would like information on a particular subject, please contact me by phone (304 768 3266) or an email (bill3266@frontier.com) and I will bring the appropriate info to the next meeting. If this is not fast enough I can

mail it to them within a few days of the request. Any other ideas or suggestions on the library's usage are welcome and encouraged. I know most of our members have been in model railroading for some time and already have a lot of knowledge and experience, but most of us have a weakness in some particular area(s) and can use a little guidance where these clinics can be a lot of help.



**RAILS TO PITTSBURGH 2023**

## RAILS TO PITTSBURGH 2023 Mid Central NMRA Regional Convention! May 4-7, 2023

### EVERYTHING YOU WANT IN A GREAT CONVENTION, AND MORE!

**Clinics – Tours – Contests – Non-Rail Activities – Layout Tours  
Banquet – White Elephant Tables – Door Prizes – Railfanning**

Our convention hotel, the Doubletree by Hilton at Cranberry is conveniently located within easy access to the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Interstate-79 just north of Pittsburgh. You can visit the city, see Station Square, ride the Duquesne or Monongahela Inclines, railfan and enjoy the area. You are just 15 minutes from Norfolk Southern Mainline and 20 minutes from CSX Mainline.

Here are some of the **POTENTIAL** activities available at the RAILS TO PITTSBURGH Convention!

#### A Variety of Rail Tours

Steel Industry History  
The Bridges of Pittsburgh  
Port Authority Light Rail Shops  
The Pennsylvania Trolley Museum  
Allegheny Valley Railroad and Yard

#### Excellent Clinics

Western Pennsylvania Railroads  
Steel and Other Industries  
Operations: Real and Simulated  
Modern Railroad Practices  
Modeling Structures, Rolling Stock and Scenery

#### Non-Rail Tours and Clinics

Pittsburgh Glass Factory Tour,  
Card making, Jewelry,

#### Local Attractions

Carnegie Science Center – National Aviary  
Heinz History Center – Duquesne Incline  
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium  
Phipps Conservatory – The Andy Warhol Museum

#### Railfanning

NS & CSX Mainline Action  
W & LE & Union Railroad  
Variety of Local Short lines



For more information, check our website frequently for updates: [www.keystonedivision.org](http://www.keystonedivision.org)



*Midland Atlantic*  
**Anthony Parrish, CEO**  
 tony765@aol.com

NORFOLK AND WESTERN



PIPESTEM BASEMENT  
 DIVISION (HO)  
 DAN MULHEARN  
 304-466-9188  
 danmulhearn@gmail.com



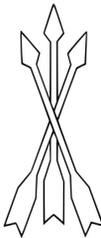
**CRUSTY MOUNTAIN AND WILOBY SPRINGS R.R.**

Mark Maynard, President  
 Portsmouth, OH



Jerry Doyle, President  
 Barboursville, WV

**CRESCENT VALLEY**



**THREE ARROWS RAILROAD**

Tony Puccini, President  
 6 Garwood Drive Huntington, WV 25705  
 puccinibaj@hotmail.com

**PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHERN**

Bob Weinheimer, President  
 398 Mount View Drive Charleston, WV 25314  
 www.pennsylvaniasouthern.com




**LAKESIDE LINES RAILROAD**  
 Thomas K. Harris, President and CEO

274 S. Wye Rd., Wytheville, VA 24382 (276)620-3493  
 tharris@va.net www.lakesidelines.com



Ed Keith, MMR  
 Assistant Superintendent  
 Chesapeake, OH

**BOONE DOCK, GOAT HEAD & CHUG WATER WESTERN RAILWAY & NAVIGATION CO.**

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



John Harris, Chief Engineer  
 AandNRR@aol.com



**HINTON DIVISION**  
 Gary Burdette - Superintendent  
 Point Pleasant WV



**NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION**  
 Clint Foster Superintendant  
 Ronceverte WV



ROBERT WEINHEIMER MMR  
398 MOUNT VIEW DR  
CHARLESTON WV  
25314-1041

## 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@coaldivision.org](mailto:editor@coaldivision.org) to get onto the email distribution list for Up The Holler.

**January 14**  
**In Person and Zoom**

**February 11**  
**In Person and Zoom**

**March 11**  
**In Person and Zoom**

**April 8**  
**In Person and Zoom**