



UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

November 2024

FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Sam Delauter, Superintendent

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Thanks to everyone who attended the October meeting and many thanks to the members of the St. Albans C&O Modelers who hosted us after our meeting. For those that may not know, SACOM opened their doors for us to view and operate on their layout after our October meeting. I hope everyone had ample time to view and operate their layout. Also, at our meeting, Matt Goodman made a visit to give a presentation on the MCR Regional Convention. For those who have not been to a regional convention, please make sure to do so in 2025. Also while Matt was here he gave a mini clinic on "Tools" and a mini clinic on "Wiring". There were several tools, items and techniques that I had never seen before. Thank you Matt for stopping in and seeing and giving your presentations.

As we get closer to the end of the year, we get closer to the completion of this years Memorial Challenge. We will present the finished T-TRAK modules at the December meeting. However before we get to the December meeting, we will be participating in the Huntington Train. While the show falls a little later this year, it is still the weekend of Thanksgiving. Please keep working on your modules and if you will have your module completed before the show, please let us know so that your module can take part in the train show.

Unlike past years, we will be meeting at the St. Albans Historical Society Building for the December meeting. While we really enjoyed meeting at Diehl's, there were some issues with members being able to hear all of the presentation. Also this year we will be presenting the completed T-TRAK modules from the challenge. We will be hooking up all of our modules and running trains on them. Unfortunately Diehl's would not be able to accommodate us for that setup. At our December event we will be starting the meeting at 11AM instead of 1PM. This is to make sure that we have plenty of time host the meeting and setup T-TRAK. This could also play to our favor if there is inclement weather that day. One last thing, since we normally eat at Diehl's, we will be organizing snacks and finger foods so that we do have a little food to be festive with.

One more thing I would like to mention, at the October meeting, Randy and myself brought a few things to talk about during the allotted time for our MADD program. For those not familiar with this program, here is what MADD stands for: Models, Artifacts, Displays, and Discussions. As the name suggests this is a very open forum to bring something to show and tell about. Please take the time at our upcoming meetings to bring something fun or something that means something to you or just about anything to share with our membership.

Our November meeting will be Nov. 9th at the St. Albans Historical Society Building in St. Albans, WV. Doors open at 12:00PM, meeting starts at 1:00 PM. Robert Osburn will be giving a clinic on "Adhesives" and the contest will be "Passenger Cars". Due to the Memorial Challenge and other activities at the December meeting, the clinic and contest will be the final ones of the year.

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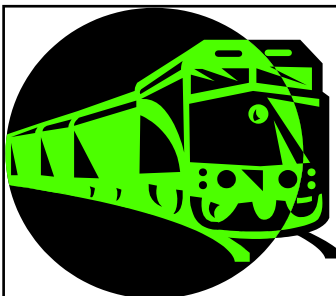
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Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

1:00 PM Saturday November 9

St. Albans Historical Society

Division Membership Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting
[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 882 7811 5781

- **Welcome and Call to Order (Acknowledge members present)**
- **Treasurers Report**
- **Superintendents Report**
- **Assistant Superintendent Report**
- **Contest: Passenger Cars**
- **Adjourn Business Meeting**
- **5 Minute Break**
- **Raffle (always need new items)**
- **Clinic: Robert Osburn will tell us about adhesives**

**Next Meeting
December 14**

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9 *THE COAL DIVISION*

St Albans Historical Society

St Albans, WV

October 12, 2024

Minutes

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Sam Delauter at 1:30 p.m.

Division Clerk Report

September minutes approved.

Treasury Balance is \$9,272.50.

Company Store \$10.

Raffle \$45.

Pike Ads \$0.

Recent expenses were reimbursement of \$50 to Mark Maynard for the September picnic in Portsmouth, Ohio. We also received reimbursement of \$200 for the August picnic.

Superintendent Report

Sam Delauter reminded everyone about operations at SACOM after the meeting.

Assistant Superintendent Report

No report.

Newsletter - Up the Holler

Bob Weinheimer reminded everyone about the deadline is October 28 for the next newsletter. The address for contributions is editor@coaldivision.org.

Achievement Program

Randy Allio was presented with several merit awards and AP Certificates for Structures and Rolling Stock. Bob Weinheimer also showed examples of new NMRA rack cards.

Library

No report.

Clinic

November will be Adhesives and Tapes by Robert Osburn.

Randy Allio mentioned several upcoming clinics.

Today's clinics are the Matt Goodman - Buckeye Express MCR Convention, Robert Osburn - Adding Animations to T'Track Modules, and Operations at SACOM.

Contest

Today's contest is Open Loads. November will be Passenger Cars.

T TRAK

Herb mentioned plans for the Huntington Model RR Show in November. Any members who have their modules finished by November can contact Herb to have them included.

Membership

John Harris reported membership is steady at 44. Five or six shirts are also still available.

Raffle

Tony Puccini had several items for the raffle today. He mentioned that WV Hobbies & Crafts has donated several items for the raffle.

Education

No report.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Sam Delauter updated members on ValleyCon in Hurricane.

After some confusion in their organization, it was decided there will not be enough room for a railroad display.

There was discussion about the December meeting. It was decided to meet earlier at 11 a.m. and to have light refreshments.

Announcements

October 26 -- MOV RR Club Parkersburg show at WVUP

November 29 -- December 1 Huntington Model Railroad Show

Future Meetings:

November 9 -- St Albans Historical Society.

December 14 -- St Albans Historical Society.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Bill Stowe, Assistant Superintendent

I missed October's meeting as I was at the Cincinnati Division train show, and unfortunately won't be at November's meeting due to a family commitment. I do look forward to seeing everyone and their T-TRAK modules at the December meeting.

My own T-TRAK module is making slow but steady progress. The module kit is assembled thanks to great instructions from Bob Osburn! I'm working on the structures now, trying new things (for me). I took the time to map out a story along with looking at potential structures to fit the story. That took a little more time but I've got some craftsmen kits from vendors I haven't used before and am having fun with that. The big challenges will be finishing on time as I got a late start I am trying to make sure that in my enthusiasm with structures that I don't end up trying to put 10 pounds of brown stuff in a 5 pound bag. But I am having fun challenging my skill set.

Along with the T-TRAK module I continue to enjoy reading the books I got from Bob Osburn on railroad history. I read a N&W and B&O history in the summer and currently am reading a C&O history. I'm not originally from this area so for many of you who grew up here this may be stating the obvious. Over the years I've always heard coal associated with West Virginia, the context being mainly about economic impact of demand in a changing environmental and regulatory world. But in reading the histories it has put a very different perspective of how much coal has been a part of West Virginia's growth and development over the years and the growth and development of the railroads servicing the area. So it has been very educational for me beyond the history of the railroads. And I still have a pile of books yet to go!!

CLINICS

Randy Allio, Clinics Chair

The last clinic of the year will be in November, Bob Osburn will give a clinic on adhesives. I'm sure that the group would entertain hearing about your favorite glue.

There will be no clinic in December.

January 2025: Jerry Doyle - Operations

February: Bob Osburn

March: Bob Weinheimer- Achievement Program

April Mini Clinic Event: So far Tony is the only clinician scheduled. Looking for a couple of more clinics.

CLUB NEWS

Clubs within the boundaries of the Coal Division are welcome to submit items of interest for inclusion here. The next editorial deadline for this column is Monday February 26. Items can be sent to editor@coaldivision.org

Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club

By Mark Suek

The Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club enjoyed a successful annual Fall Train Show on October 26 at West Virginia University's Parkersburg campus with more than 250 guests through the door, a record number of vendors and more sales tables in action than at any of our previous 28 shows.

At the show, MOVIMRC also offered a bucket raffle and a silent auction as well as the unveiling of our refurbished HO scale modular traveling layout (with an homage to logging railroading in West Virginia), an N scale

layout with excellent autumnal scenery and an N scale layout with train running inside a suitcase. The club had 38 members involved in the show.

MOVIMRC's next events will be its annual Christmas Dinner on November 7, the nomination of club officers for 2025 at the November 14 monthly meeting and the annual Christmas Open House on December 7, which also happens to be National Lionel Train Day as well as Pearl Harbor Day.

CONTEST

Don Cipolla and Mark Maynard Contest Chairs

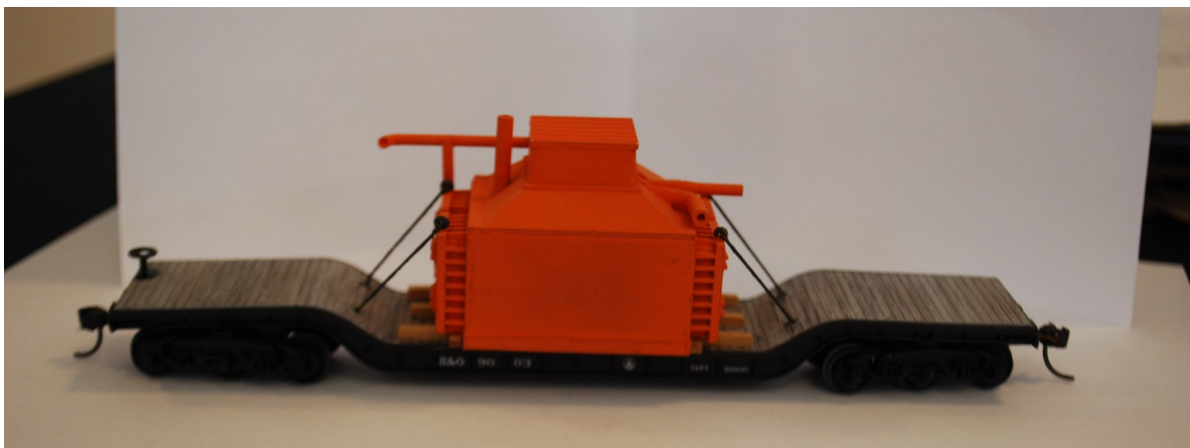
The October contest was open loads. Herb Parsons' large load using three flat cars was the winner. Several loads by Mark Maynard were second and third, it's not clear which were in which place.

The November contest is Passenger Cars.

2024	Monthly Model Contest
January	Modeler's Choice
February	Steam Locomotives
March	Locomotives 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	Annual Memorial Modeling Challenge



First Place, Herb Parsons Herb shows us an oversized load that required three flat cars for transport.



Mark Maynard built this interesting load for a depressed center flat car.



Mark Maynard built this steel bar gondola load.



Mark Maynard built this scrap wheel load

Books for Sale Bill Wadsworth

I have a lot of railroad books which I'll sell at half of what was paid for them (a lot were bought on sale/discount) or best offer, whichever is needed to move them. There are too many to bring to a meeting but if you

call me at 304-768-3266 we can set up a time to meet at my house in Dunbar to look at them. Also I will donate 20% of my sales to Division 9 as thanks for your participation.

Newsletter Deadlines

In order to produce Up The Holler about ten days before the monthly membership meeting, editorial work starts the Monday of the week preceding the meeting. That works out to be the dates below by which I need articles for the next few months.

- December: December 2
- January 2025: December 30
- February 2025: January 27
- March 2025: February 24

T-TRAK Herb Parsons, T-TRAK Chair

I have been in contact with Carl Miller of the Appalachian Model Railroad Society. I informed him that we will possibly need the same number of tables as last year for our T-TRAK layout and I will let him know the total

number after our next meeting. Let me know the number and size of your modules you will bring to the show.

I have also included a photo of my module and Don Cipolla's for the Memorial Challenge.



Herb Parson's module is above. Photo by Herb Parsons
Don Cipolla MMR®'s module is to the left.
Photo by Don Cipolla

My Word Bob Weinheimer, Editor

People often ask about the value of NMRA membership. We frequently mention fellowship but that may often be discounted. This past weekend I had three NMRA members from the greater Louisville visit for a day and a half of operation. Coal Division member Bill Grosse joined for the day long portion. Some of you know I once resided in suburban Louisville, moving from there in 1985. I did not know any of the visitors during my time there. I came to know them through NMRA activities and other members from that area. Bill moved to our Division recently after a career in New Jersey in the Mid Eastern Region. A past MER officer mentioned to me his move and I was pleased to see he was an operator with great skills. Again, I knew the MER folks after attending their conventions. Would I have met these folks without the NMRA? I consider it highly unlikely. When a new member comes to one of our events, please make sure he or she is welcomed. You never know just what skills or experience they might have that could benefit the Division or some of its members. I sure know this past weekend would not have been enjoyable without that fellowship.

David Oliverio told us of his first operating session in last month's issue. He stopped by for a while Saturday

afternoon and ran a train or two and helped Fred Soward in the Pittsburgh yard. One thing led to another and the next morning after breakfast, before the Kentuckians headed home, we stopped by David's home for a visit to his layout. I had not seen the layout in some time and was very impressed by the progress David has made. I am hoping he will write an article, complete with some photos, about how he got to where he is. Once again, fellowship led to three folks unknown to David stopping for an early Sunday morning visit.

Is anyone planning to head to the big train show in West Springfield, MA in January? The NMRA Board will be meeting the day before the show opens and we will also have a booth at the show. This is quite an event and is something of a bucket list item. If you do plan to go, I suggest purchasing your show ticket online before you head north, click here for the [website](#). If you go, you will also have the opportunity to meet the various National officials include NMRA President Gordy Robinson and other officers and board members. Think it over and if not in 2025, consider another year down the road.

Passenger Manifest

John Harris, Membership Chair

I am sitting on the beach in St Augustine, Florida typing this edition of the Passenger Manifest. I will be returning to West Virginia on the 3rd after a month long trip to the Sunshine State. It has not been all sunshine and fair skies. As you might have seen, Florida has had a couple of significant hurricanes over the past few months. The last one, Milton, promised to wreak havoc on both coasts and we were potentially in it's path.

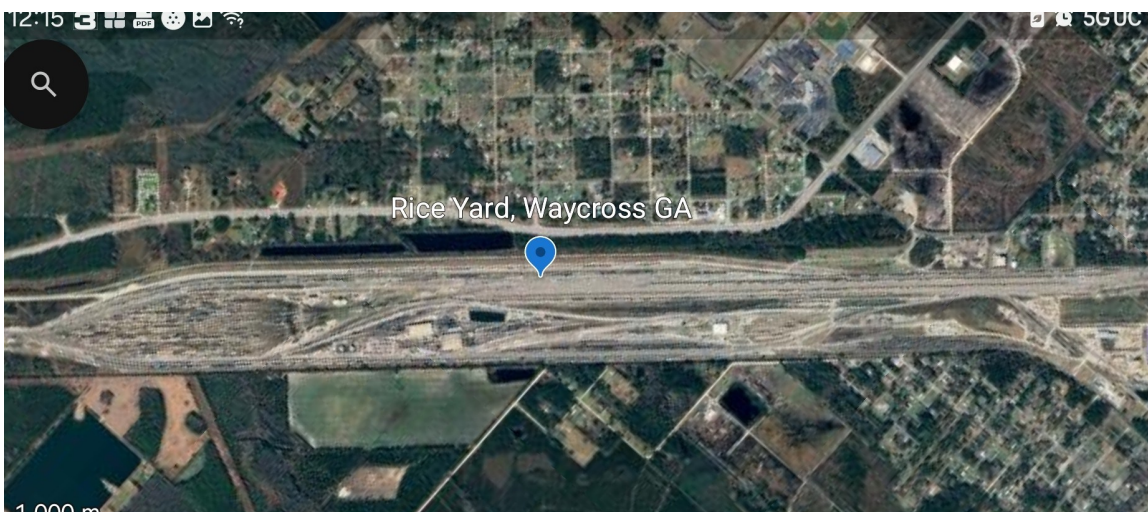
Not wanting to challenge Mother Nature and ride out the storm in an RV on the beach, we chose to evacuate when they closed our resort. The Wednesday before Milton was to hit landfall near Tampa and traveled up Interstate 4, we headed north. But to where?

Randomly I chose Waycross, GA as it looked far enough north and inland enough to be relatively safe. As it turned out we had less than an inch of rain and winds in the 12 mph range on Thursday. So that was a good choice. What made it even bet-

ter was the fact that Waycross is a major railroad hub. It is home of CSX'S Rice Yard and intersection of 4 routes on the main line. The facility includes a large hump yard, locomotive servicing, and plenty of switching. It is said to be the busiest yard in the southeast. CSX inherited this facility after the Chessie/Seaboard merger. It offered plenty of rail fanning interest.

At one point this included significant passenger traffic as part of the Atlantic Coast Line. The impressive passenger station was long since abandoned by Amtrak and had been repurposed into commercial properties including a visitor center and chamber of commerce. I have included a photo of the station to give you a general idea of its size as well as a Google Earth image of the rail yard.

While having to evacuate was a bit of an inconvenience, it proved to be a fortunate side trip and an opportunity to watch quite a fair number of trains. That is never a bad thing!



TRAIN SHOW & SALE

OUR 34TH YEAR



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2024 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

HOLY FAMILY PARISH SAFFIN CENTER

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- MODEL TRAINS IN ALL SCALES
- OPERATING LAYOUTS AND DISPLAYS
- RETAIL SALES - OVER 100 DEALER TABLES
- MODEL RAILROAD EDUCATION
- JOIN THE NMRA - NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
- HOURLY DOOR PRIZES!
- GREAT FOOD & BEVERAGES
- FREE PARKING

\$6.00 PER PERSON – CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER FREE WITH AN ADULT

SPONSORED BY NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

DIVISION 8 - MID CENTRAL REGION

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

WEBSITE: <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org>

ADVANCE TICKETS: <https://tinyurl.com/November2024TrainShowTickets>

ADVANCE TICKETS



DEALER INFORMATION



WEBSITE





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NORFOLK AND WESTERN



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DIVISION (HO)
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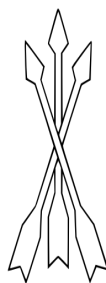
CRUSTY
MOUNTAIN
AND
WILOBY
SPRINGS R.R.

Mark Maynard, President
 Portsmouth, OH



CRESCENT VALLEY

Jerry Doyle, President
 Barboursville, WV

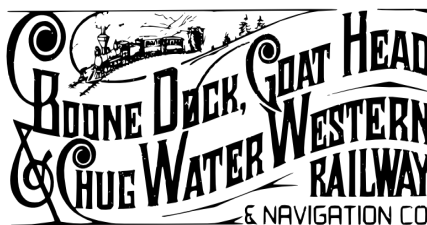


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The
POSSUM
HOLLOW
 Branch

Under Construction

A small N-scale layout of a fictional Appalachian branch line of the Chesapeake & Ohio set in the early 50s or late 70s.

Matt Kearns, Chief Engineer
 South Charleston, WV
 mattkearnswv@gmail.com

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

Upcoming Coal Division Events

November 9

**St. Albans Historical Society
In Person and Zoom**

December 14

**St. Albans Historical Society
In Person and Zoom**

January 11

**St. Albans Historical Society
In Person and Zoom**

February 8

**St. Albans Historical Society
In Person and Zoom**