



NMRA

THE FLATWHEEL

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The Flatwheel

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Mid Central Region
National Model Railroad Association



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div4.org

Volume 61 Number 7

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The Flatwheel

The Division's newsletter, The Flatwheel, is published monthly (except during July and August) by Division 4 of the Mid-Central Region (MCR) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). All comments are welcome. Views expressed in The Flatwheel do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the NMRA, MCR, or Division 4.

Submissions: The Flatwheel welcomes any model or prototype railroad-related material. Members are encouraged to send in articles, letters to the editor, reviews, etc. The editors reserve the right to, when necessary, paraphrase portions of the text in order to fit the space available.

Next Issue: October 2026. Due out approximately October 1st. Deadline for submissions: September 26th. Email all submissions to donnmradiv4@gmail.com.

Division 4 Officers

Superintendent

Bert Wisbar

Assistant Superintendent

Gary Sole

Secretary

Chris Shick

Treasurer

Greg Noeth

Directors

John Janda - East

Gary Schaefer - West

Fred Wagner - Quad

Brian Haas - At Large

Jeff Lauren - At Large

Appointed Positions

GBTS - David James

Achievement - John Hemsath, MMR

Layout Tours - John Witt MMR

Contest - Joe Filipiak

Historian - Frank Bongiovanni

Raffle - Adam Woodie

Company Store - Scott Benson

Clinics - Jerry Krueger

Flatwheel - Don Oleksa

Membership - Craig Butler

Modules - Adam Woodie

N Scale - Ramhog Shearer

N.O.A.R.S. - Bill Kovacs

Webmaster - Chuck Shick

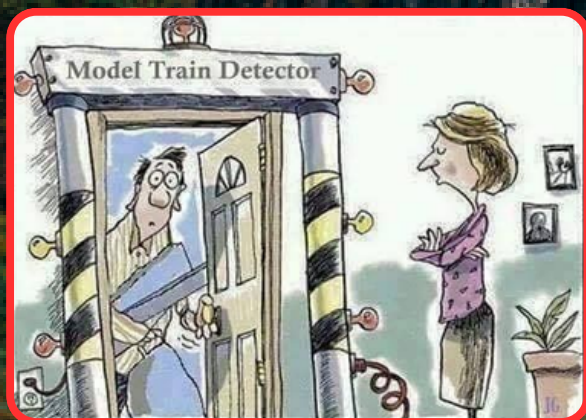
Refreshments - Don Glass

Training Day - Gary Schaefer

Editor's Corner

Welcome aboard to the new Flatwheel! Why the change? For one, Microsoft is discontinuing Publisher and we need a new platform for editing. Also, we figured that the newsletter could use a new fresh magazine look. We want to provide more content and features to enhance what we currently produce. We need your help though! We need content from you in the form of pictures, articles, humor or anything you think would be of interest to the group that is related to model railroading. If you think there is a section that we should add, or something that is missing, please send me an email at donnmradiv4@gmail.com. I would love to get more reader feedback. Thanks and I hope you enjoy the new Flatwheel!

Don Oleksa



BUT HONEY... YOU SAID YOU WANTED A
JORDAN SPREADER FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY!

by Joe Filipiak

Division 4 - The North Coast Division

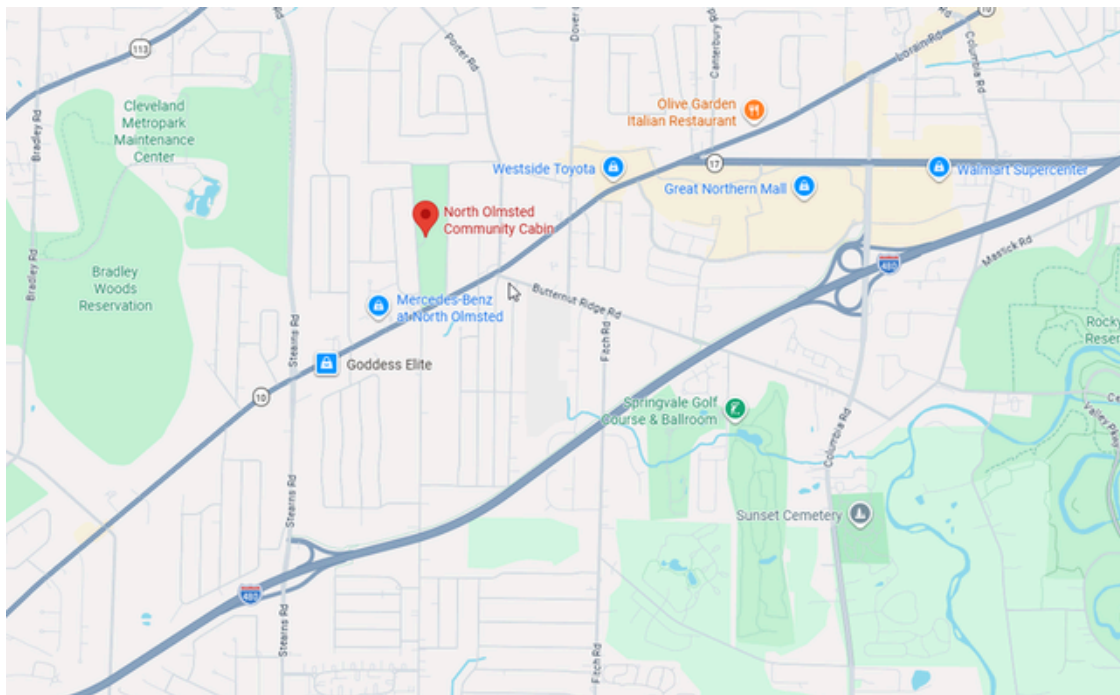
Meeting Information

Our Next Regular Meeting will be **Friday, September 11th, 2026**
6:30pm Set Up/Social Time - **Meeting Starts at 7:00pm**



When & Where We Meet

The North Coast Division holds 10 meetings a year (none in July and August). Meetings are on the 2nd Friday of each month. A set up/social half hour starts at 6:30 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 7:00. After a short break, a railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Starting January, 2025, the meetings are held at the North Olmsted Community Cabin, 28114 Lorain Rd, North Olmsted, OH 44070 . Visitors are welcome to attend any meeting.



Superintendent's Report

Train of Thought

I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful summer. As we begin the 2026-2027 session of our division, I look forward to a great and exciting year. We planned and had many members join us for a trip to the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum. It was a great day with Bram Bailey, Lee Sheffield, and Tim Sheffield hosting and taking the time to allow us to ride on a multitude of different trolley cars and to tour their repair shops.



We have a weekend trip planned to go to the East Broad Top in October. The trip leaves in the afternoon of October 15th to Altoona, East Broad Top on the 16th, and to the Railroaders Museum and Horseshoe Curve on the 17th, returning home in the evening. We will travel on a tour bus supplied by BRT transportation. Let me know if you are interested in going. I look forward to perhaps having more trips in the future.

I want to thank Don Oleska for creating the new look for the Flatwheel. We discussed freshening up the look, and I believe Don nailed it. He is always looking for content, with pictures when possible, to add to the Flatwheel. Let him know how much you appreciate his work.

On a final note, Gordy shared with us some statistics in Chattanooga. In the '80s, there were over 32,000 members. Currently, there are approximately 15,000 members, and they are predicting 10,000 members in the next 5 years. Gordy and his board of directors are looking at this, and one of their first items was to lower the annual membership to \$50 per year from the \$68 it has been for years. This is a good start; however, it comes down to each and every one of us doing our part to encourage friends and other modelers to join the NMRA to have access to the great resources that are available to them. For me, it has been a great community to be a part of, to learn from one another, and to operate on some great railroads.

I unfortunately will not be at our business meeting in September due to being on vacation, but you will be in good hands with Gary Sole. I look forward to seeing you all in October.

Keep smiling, keep railroading, and above all, keep having fun.

Bert Wisbar

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Board of Directors Meeting, June 9, 2026, Olmsted Falls Depot

Meeting opened at 7:00 PM by Superintendent-elect Bert Wisbar. He took a few minutes to congratulate the newly elected officers. There were 17 members present.

New Business:

East Broad Top Bus Trip - Bert Wisbar - The trip will consist of a bus ride, 2 nights in a hotel (on your own), food (on your own), admission for a lot of cool behind-the-scenes tours (\$121.00), and a run over to Altoona. Possible dates are October 16, 17, and 18. Gary Schaefer made a motion to use Division funds to pay for the bus. Brian Haas seconded the motion. The eligible voting members of the board carried the motion.

Pennsylvania Trolley Museum - Bert Wisbar - A one-day trip possibly July 18th. Meet up somewhere and carpool there and back. \$25.00 admission; meals will be on your own. Bram Bailey promises a good time.

Back-Ups - Bert Wisbar - We need to update our current "Back-Up list." Each position should have a back-up and a possible replacement. Everyone has until July 9th to complete this task.

Newsletter - Don Oleksa - Looking at a new program to give the Flat Wheel a more modern look. Don would like more content from members. Feedback is also welcome. We need some filler content like comics, a classified section, model of the month, etc. Maybe feature layouts; the bonus is that you get AP points for submissions.

Member Files - Bert Wisbar - Everyone please check your personal information with the NMRA. If they don't have your correct information, then neither does the Division. There was talk about having papers at the meeting for corrections to be made at the meeting. We also talked about reopening the Old Knowledge Depot. A list of members who have knowledge about certain areas will help those looking for assistance on projects.

New Layout/Tour Leader - Bert Wisbar - John Witt, MMR, is stepping down after years of volunteering. A few names were discussed. Bert will speak to them privately to see if they are interested and willing to do the job. A few ideas were discussed to change how tours were done. This was tabled until we have a person in charge.

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Board of Directors Meeting, June 9, 2026, Olmsted Falls Depot

Financial Transparency - Gary Sole - The Division needs to watch carefully regarding spending our money. A plateau should be set on the conservative side. It should be done annually at fiscal year closure.

Prototypical Operation - Looking at a new trend in Model Railroading. Even the magazine is doing quarterly reports on this trend.

Old Business:

Great Berea Train Show - David James - Sales are going well, and applications are coming in. Bert has flyers. Advertising is still out there on Facebook and through flyers. Both seem to be working well at this time. A possible meeting of the Advertising group is scheduled for later this month.

Module Group - Adam Woodie - The Module Group will be pulling out of displaying at Chattanooga. Cuyahoga County Fair setup is August 8th. The Fair runs August 11th through the 16th. Tear down will be on the 17th. The Work Party at the Benson's home may be changed due to a Field Trip to the PA Trolley Museum. We are pulling out of the Zoo this winter; we couldn't get enough to cover the time slots. September 19th and 20th will be set up and running trains at the Great Northern Mall.

Membership - Craig Butler - We started the year with 164 members and are currently at 167. New members are those who are not showing up anymore. What can we do to keep our members coming back? A bunch of suggestions were given: make sure to greet new faces, and maybe assign 2 Board Members per meeting to be greeters. Perhaps someone could call them before the meeting as a reminder of the meeting date.

Budget - Greg Noeth - Greg provided us with a balance on all accounts. He then proceeded to inform us that deposits from the Great Berea Train Show have been made. He finished by letting us know that IRS paperwork is now under control.

General News:

The NMRA Business Meeting is being moved from September 11th to October 9th.

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Board of Directors Meeting, June 9, 2026, Olmsted Falls Depot

Joe Kurilec, MMR, made a suggestion to get Cynthia Priest, MMR, from Model Railroader Magazine to do a clinic. He has spoken to her, and all she would like is to be reimbursed for the cost of travel. Her husband may come also.

Work Sessions on Saturday - Jerry Kruger will set one up for late October, early November.

Ron Morgan - On Friday, there will be the Changing of the Guards. Regional and National are looking at 4-H groups to get youngsters interested in the hobby. This is something to be considered.

Brian Haas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gary Schaefer seconded the motion, and the Board carried it. The meeting closed at 8:38 PM.

This Meeting has reached its Final Destination,

Chris Shick

Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA

I told a train joke... it really went off the rails.

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Business Meeting, June 12, 2026, North Olmsted Cabin

Superintendent, Ron Morgan opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. He asked for any new members or visitors to please stand. There was none. 61 members present.

Approval of the Minutes - Dino Peris made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Craig Butler seconded the motion. The Division carried the motion and the minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report - Greg Noeth - Greg started off by thanking Ron for his job as Superintendent for the last 4 years. He then gave the balance of all the accounts.

Old Business:

Dayton Regional Convention Report - Ron Morgan - Ron asked for a show of hands of those who attended. A few hands went up. Ron went on to tell of all the things they had available to do. Then he let everyone know that it is really getting expensive to host convention.

National Convention Chattanooga, TN - Ron Morgan - modules are not going. Convention is July 27th to August 2nd. It should be a good time.

Cincinnati Regional Convention - Ron Morgan - currently it is only paper filled out registration. It will probably be this way until the first of the year. It will be held early June of 2027. There should be close to 80 layouts to tour.

New Business:

Potential East Broad Top Trip - Bert Wisbar - The bus will leave Thursday, October 15th at a time and place to be determined. Friday, October 16th tour the East Broad Top Facilities in places that are not generally open to the public. Cost is \$121.00 per person. This includes lunch. Hotel should run \$119.00 a night for 2 nights. Saturday, October 17th will be a run over to Altoona and the home. Sign up on the front table.

Potential Washington, PA Trolley Museum Trip - Bert Wisbar - We will meet up (place to be determined) on Saturday, July 18th. Car pool to Washington, PA. \$20.00 per person, meals on your own. Sign up on the front table.

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Business Meeting, June 12, 2026, North Olmsted Cabin

Board of Directors Review - The first meeting of the new Board of Directors was this past Tuesday night. We need everyone to make sure that the NMRA has your correct information. Phone numbers and email addresses.

We have 2 new vendors for the Great Berea Train Show.

Committees:

Flat Wheel - Don Oleksa - Articles and all submissions due to Don by August 26th.

Membership - Craig Butler - we are 167 members strong. Please make sure all your information is correct with the NMRA.

Clinics - Jerry Kruger - Tonight is Bram Bailey, "Study of Transit for Shaker Heights". October will be open projector night. Giving everyone to share their pictures and movies of "Big Boy" journey.

Company Store - Scott Benson - Nothing new this month.

Raffle - Adam Woodie - There are some cars and other stuff over here. Come get your tickets. Raffle will take place 10 minutes after the meeting closes.

HO Module Group - Adam Woodie - Set up for Cuyahoga County Fair is August 8th. The Fair starts August 11th and runs through the 16th. We will be set up and running at Great Northern Mall September 19th and 20th.

N-Scale Module Group - Ramhog Shearer - Dayton wasn't really well attended. N-Scale T-Track is fun. Come over to the Warehouse and find out.

Layout Tours - John Witt, MMR - No report

AP Awards - John Hemsath, MMR - No awards to present tonight.

Great Berea Train Show - David James - Your help is needed in many areas of the show. Security, setting up, selling tickets, assisting with wristbands. We cannot have a successful show without your help. Sign up sheets are on the back table.

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Business Meeting, June 12, 2026, North Olmsted Cabin

Contests - Joe Filipiak - Last Month's winners for Rail Car Loading/Unloading Facility were as follows:

Models - 1st - Joe Kurilec, MMR
2nd - Craig Butler
3rd - Don Glass

Diorama - 1st - Joe Filipiak

September's Challenge will be Everything Alco, Steam or Diesel. Joe has decided to call it a Challenge instead of Contest.

2025-2026 Winners

Models - 1st - Joe Kurilec, MMR
2nd - Craig Butler
3rd - Jim Grell

Dioramas - 1st John Puch
2nd - Dave Lawler

All winners received plaques and checks for their accomplishments.

Changing Of The Guard - Ron called Bert up front and handed off his Superintendent pin. Bert then called Gary Sole up and handed him the Assistant Superintendent pin. Ron gave a Farewell speech about his journey through the NMRA.

New Superintendent, Bert Wisbar presented Ron Morgan with a plaque for all of his strong support of the NMR. The plaque is from the region.

Comments/Concerns:

Chris Shick - I will be placing orders for our "special" Great Berea Train Show shirts at the end of this month. The cost is \$27.00 and if you'd like to order one see me.

Ramhog Shearer - Might be a good idea to team up a old member with a new member. This way they have someone to reach out to with questions.

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Business Meeting, June 12, 2026, North Olmsted Cabin

Bert Wisbar - Made a suggestion to make people feel welcome.

John Hemsath, MMR made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bram Bailey seconded the motion. The Division carried the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

This meeting has reached its final destination,

Chris Shick

Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA



Meeting Pictures



Ron Morgan opens up the meeting



A peaceful transition of power. Bert Wisbar becomes the new superintendent

Meeting Pictures



Ron Morgan accepts a Certificate of
Appreciation



Gary Sole becomes the new Assistant
Superintendent

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Board of Directors Meeting, August 17, 2026 at the James' Homestead

Superintendent, Bert Wisbar opened the meeting at 6:20 pm. He thanked David and Carole James for their hospitality.

New Business:

Chattanooga Convention 2026 - Bert Wisbar - Let those present know who attended the Convention from the Division: Himself, Craig Butler, Jeff Lauren, Scott Benson, Jerry Krueger, David Williams, Chuck and Chris Shick. Bert then talked about the challenge thrown out by the T-Track group. They managed to cover 10,000 sq ft of modules from all over the world. There were many great Clinics and home layouts that were seen. Next year's National Convention will be in Tacoma, Washington, sometime in August.

New Annual Membership Fee - Bert Wisbar - Gordy announced the annual membership fee is dropping to \$50.00. If you have paid for the year at the old rate, your dues will be prorated and last longer. Rail Pass stays the same.

Building Younger Membership - Bert Wisbar - The NMRA is working out details in order to allow younger people to become members. Should have legalities ironed out by February. Just remember to use 2 deep leadership and meet in public places when working with a youth member.

East Broad Top - Bert Wisbar - 24 going and there is still room to go.

Pennsylvania Trolley Museum - Bert Wisbar - 12 members attended. Lee Sheffield, Tim Sheffield, and Bram Bailey did a great job of driving us around on several different Trolleys. Showing us behind the scenes works, along with the regular displays. It was an enjoyable time.

Back-Up People for Officers - Bert Wisbar - We learned a hard lesson recently with the passing of Steve Kaplan. Everyone holding an Officer position should have a back-up in order to keep our Division running smoothly.

Flatwheel - Don Oleksa - others complemented Don on the great job he is currently doing. Don would like to take the Flatwheel in a new direction. This means it will be bigger and bolder. He is looking for members to submit articles, comics, or anything relating to the hobby. Please send it to him. Side note: because of the size of the Flatwheel, it will not come up in the email; it will be a link.

Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Board of Directors Meeting, August 17, 2026 at the James' Homestead

Member Files - everyone was throwing around a bunch of ideas of how to get members to update their information. Most importantly, how do we reach those who have wrong or incomplete contact information for?

Old Business:

Great Berea Train Show - David James

1. Vendors - We are gaining some new vendors, but losing some old ones. There have been many health issues or deaths in their families. They are pulling out for lack of help or not able to make it.
2. Those on the Board for the Show will be doing a "Dialing for Dollars", to hopefully get more vendors.
3. Advertising - Making fliers to go out. Let Gary Schaefer loose on the internet end of things for 3 weeks prior to the Show. Bert Wisbar and Chris Shick will be on "New Day Cleveland", the 29th of September.
4. David is having Chuck send out a memo for volunteers. In this memo it mentions how the Show is the Main source of income for the Division. It is important that we support and volunteer the Show in order for the Division to keep running.
5. Fairgrounds have not raised our rent again this year. Tables and chair rentals are the same cost as last year.
6. Polaris will not be with us again this year, Their advisors are not available.
7. David is going to reach out to the Berea Kiwanis Club to see if they would be willing to help in the ticket booth and other areas.
8. New for this year - there will be a food truck that is for vendors only.

Module Group - Adam Woodie - We will be at Great Northern Mall on September 19th and 20th. Location is in the main section of the mall, right in front of J.C. Penney. As of right now, Trees and Trains are on hold for this year. Gail is having health issues herself. Everything went well with the Cuyahoga County Fair.

Craig Butler made mention to keep an eye out for a new AP Award for Modules.

David James made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brian Haas seconded the motion. Board of Directors meeting came to a close at 7:30 pm.

This meeting has reached its final destination,

Chris Shick

Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA

Module Group

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

Summer is coming to a close but that does not mean the modular group has not been busy. We completed yet another successful display at the 2026 Cuyahoga County Fair. Fall will also be a busy time with our upcoming display at the Great Northern Mall in September as well as the Great Berea Train Show.

As always, anyone interested in joining the module group, please contact me at woo3482@hotmail.com.

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

Raffle

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

Things have been quiet this summer. But do not dispar! Another great monthly raffle is scheduled to take place after the September business meeting! As usual, the raffle draw will be held at the conclusion of the monthly business meeting.

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



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FRANK FEKO
Proprietor
frankfeko@gmail.com

Company Store

See you at the March meeting. I have a handful of finds from the Amherst Model Railroad Show that you might be interested in!

We still have the Division 7 Accurail N&W 2-bay covered hopper (3 available, different #'s). \$20 each.



Reminders:

The Company Store also manages:

- Shirt and hat sales – let me know if you want to order a Division 4 shirt.
- FastTracks jig loans – always helpful if I know before the meeting if you'd like to check one out. We have (all Code 83) #4, #6 and #8 turnouts, cross-over/double cross-over, and gantlet jigs.
- DVD library – lots of nice DVDs on modelling techniques available to borrow at each meeting

Scott Benson



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by Joe Filipiak

Contest Table

Last season for the model subject categories, as varied as it was, saw 30 of our members participate in submitting models and dioramas to meet the challenges for each of the months. I thought it was great to see what everyone did, and apparently, you did too. On average, 85% of those in attendance voted for their favorites. The last model challenge for the 2025 - 2026 season was a loading or unloading facility. First place in the model category was Joe Kurelic, second place went to Craig Butler and third place was awarded to Don Glass. The diorama category had one entry which gave first place to Joe Filipiak. At the end of each season, the points are added up for each member and the top scorers received a plaque and a cash prize. The first place season winner for models was Joe Kurelic. Second place was awarded to Craig Butler and third place was given to Jim Grell. The season diorama winners were John Puch in first place with Dave Lawler taking second place. Congratulations to all who participated and to those who won. Our monthly meetings have a little more excitement and fun because of what you do.

Our new 2026 - 2027 season kicks off with the September meeting challenge of your favorite Alco engine. This can be diesel or steam and goodness knows there are plenty of variations. So show us your favorite Alco. The following list will be the categories for the rest of the season. October is a wooden passenger car. November asks you to turn a Tyco like car into a worthwhile model. December's challenge is a water tank that is trackside. Show us how the rail industry advertises SAFETY for March's challenge. April will find rail cars designed for trailer train use and or flat cars hauling truck trailers or containers. The last challenge of the season will be in May where you need to customize or upgrade an Atlas switch tower. For your convenience, this list will be published in the Flat Wheel every month so you can plan ahead. If there are any questions regarding these categories, please feel free to call me at 440-463-6223.

Joe Filipiak

**Why are trains great at telling jokes?
They always stay on track!**

Membership Report

Hello members! Welcome to the first monthly update for membership issues. First, the good news. Effective July 26, 2026 annual dues to the NMRA have been reduced to \$50.00 per year. This is for regular membership renewal and new members. Included in regular membership is the digital NMRA magazine subscription. Membership with the print version of the magazine is now \$74.00 per year. This is a reduction of \$18.00 per year. For more information, please visit the NMRA web page at <https://www.nmra.org/membership-application-and-renewal>.

There is a new Achievement Program Certificate to help achieve Master Model Railroader (MMR) status. This is for modules. To achieve this certificate, you must build two modules to NMRA standards and display them at public events 3 times in two years. This was announced at the National Convention in Chattanooga last month. More details coming as the complete standard has not been finalized.

Last issue for this month is trips. The division has already had one trip to the Pa. Trolley Museum. The reported a great time was had by all! We have another trip planned for mid-October, this time a 3 day, 2 night trip to the East Broad Top Railroad and the Pa. Railroaders Museum and Horseshoe Curve. This should be a great trip! It's not too late to sign up. If you have a suggestion for future Division trips, please see me at a meeting, or contact me at cb519145@gmail.com.

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Clinic Corner

SEPTEMBER

September's clinic will be by Brian Weisman. Brian has continued going through his collection of railfanning photographs will share more local photos from the 1970s of Penn Central and B & O operations.

I had planned to also give a short presentation about the National Convention regarding news from the National members meeting. Due to a personal commitment, I won't be able to be at the meeting and will do it at a later meeting.

OCTOBER

October's clinic will build on April and May's clinics. April's clinic went through disassembling an old stock locomotive drivetrain, cleaning and improving the mechanism. May's clinic by JT Burke focused on sound decoders and speakers. Building on these clinics, we will take the chassis from the April clinic and go through installing electronics including sound, speaker, lights and programming. This will be followed up with future Saturday work session on chassis upgrades and installing DCC decoders.

FUTURE CLINICS

With Union Pacific's Big Boy #4014 coming through Northeast Ohio twice this summer, I'd like to have a clinic put together of a montage of members pictures and videos of the Big Boy on its journey east of its home territory. If anyone wants to participate, please contact me.

I'm always looking for Clinics. I'm currently looking for clinics to schedule for the 2026 and beyond. If you have a topic you'd like to present a clinic please contact me. If you need help putting a clinic together, let me know and I can help you put one together and help get points toward your AP certificate. If you have a topic you would like to see presented, let me know.

GREAT BERE A TRAIN SHOW MINI-CLINICS

Once again, we will be presenting a series of mini clinics during the Great Berea Train Show on October 4 & October 5. This is Division 4's opportunity to share our knowledge of model railroading with the general public at the Show. Mini clinics should be around 20 minutes in length. Topics should be on model railroading basic to intermediate subjects. Demonstration or hands-on presentations are best to capture interest. Possible topics would be rolling stock performance or maintenance, scenery techniques, basic DCC, track laying and others. If you are interested in give a mini clinic during GBTS please email me at jktrains@yahoo.com.

This is the Division's opportunity to show off the benefits of being an NMRA member.

Jerry Krueger

Clinic Corner

GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD WORK SESSIONS

Structure Building

The Division will continue with the Golden Spike Work sessions this “modeling year”. The work session’s goal is to help members work towards the first step in the NMRA achievement program – The Golden Spike Award. The sessions other goals include teaches modeling skills to members, giving members an opportunity to try new techniques and building fellowship among members.

It has been a challenge finding a good date on the calendar to schedule the first work session. The Division has a lot of activities already schedule and I don’t want to schedule a work session that conflicts with another Division activity.

The first GSA work session will be on Saturday, October 24th at the Berea Public Library. NOTE: This is a change in location because the Strongsville Library meeting rooms were booked.

Continuing with the Golden Spike goals under Model Railroad Setting we while work a building structure kit. To qualify for the Golden Spike the structure must be “scratchbuilt, craftsman or detail commercial kit”. We will focus on building a basic structure kit and detailing it. To qualify, the modeler must do more than just glue the parts together. Painting, weather, and detailing the exterior and interior. Attendees should bring a simple building kit and tools need to paint and assemble the kit. I like starting with simple kits such as DPM Models, Smalltown USA, Walthers and, if you can still find them, City Classics. The work session will go through prepping, painting and assembling the kits and show various ways of detailing building kits.

Anyone interested in attending or who has question should contact Jerry Krueger at jktrains@yahoo.com.

Topics for other work sessions include: DCC installations and programming, laying trackwork and ballasting for the Golden Spike, and scenery. All sessions are hands-on work sessions.

Jerry Krueger

N-Scale Modules Group

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

Interested in the N-Scale Module Group? Please reach out to me using my contact information below.

PO BOX 46848

BEDFORD HTS.OH.44146

216-225-6133

Email: Ramhog5@aol.com

Ramhog Shearer

N Scale T-Trak layout



2026-2027 Program Schedule

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Clinic</u>	<u>Challenge</u>
September	11th	Meeting	North Olmsted Community Cabin		Alco Steam or Diesel Engine
October	3 rd & 4th	GBTS	Berea Fairgrounds		
October	9th	Meeting	North Olmsted Community Cabin	Open Projector Night	Wooden Passenger Car
October	15th-17th	Field Trip	Rockhill, PA		
November	13th	Meeting	North Olmsted Community Cabin		Turn Tyco Type Car into Worthwhile Project
December	11th	Meeting	North Olmsted Community Cabin		Trackside Water Tank
January	TBD	Awards Dinner	TBD		
February	12th	Member Appreciation Night	North Olmsted Community Cabin		
March	12th	Auction	North Olmsted Community Cabin		Rail Industry Advertising Safety
April	9th	Meeting	North Olmsted Community Cabin		Trailer Train, Flat Car with Container or Truck Load
May	14th	Meeting	North Olmsted Community Cabin		Upgrade Atlas Switch Tower
June	11th	Meeting	North Olmsted Community Cabin		

Depot 150

DEPOT-150



Celebrating 150 Years of the Olmsted Falls Depot 1876-2026

Join us for a community celebration honoring one of Olmsted Falls' most beloved historic landmarks — a symbol of railroading heritage, small-town charm, and generations of local stories.

Free Admission!

Family Friendly

All Ages Welcome

Food Trucks will be on hand

www.olmstedfallsdepot.org

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EVENT

Date: September 12th and 13th

Time: 10am - 4pm

Location: Olmsted Falls Depot,
25802 Garfield Ave

Presentation on Saturday at 1:00pm

Hosted by the Olmsted Falls Depot and
Model Railroad Museum

EVENT FEATURES

- **Historical Exhibits**
Rare photos, artifacts, and stories from the Depot's 150-year journey.
- **Guided Tours**
Learn about the depot history, architecture and restoration efforts.
- **Model Railroad Displays**
Presented by local hobbyists and NMRA members — fun for all ages
- **Community Presentations**
Hear from local historians and preservationists.



Depot 150

The Olmsted Falls Depot and Model Railroad Museum is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the opening of the depot on September 12 & 13, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day. A short celebration presentation will occur at 1:00 PM on Saturday.

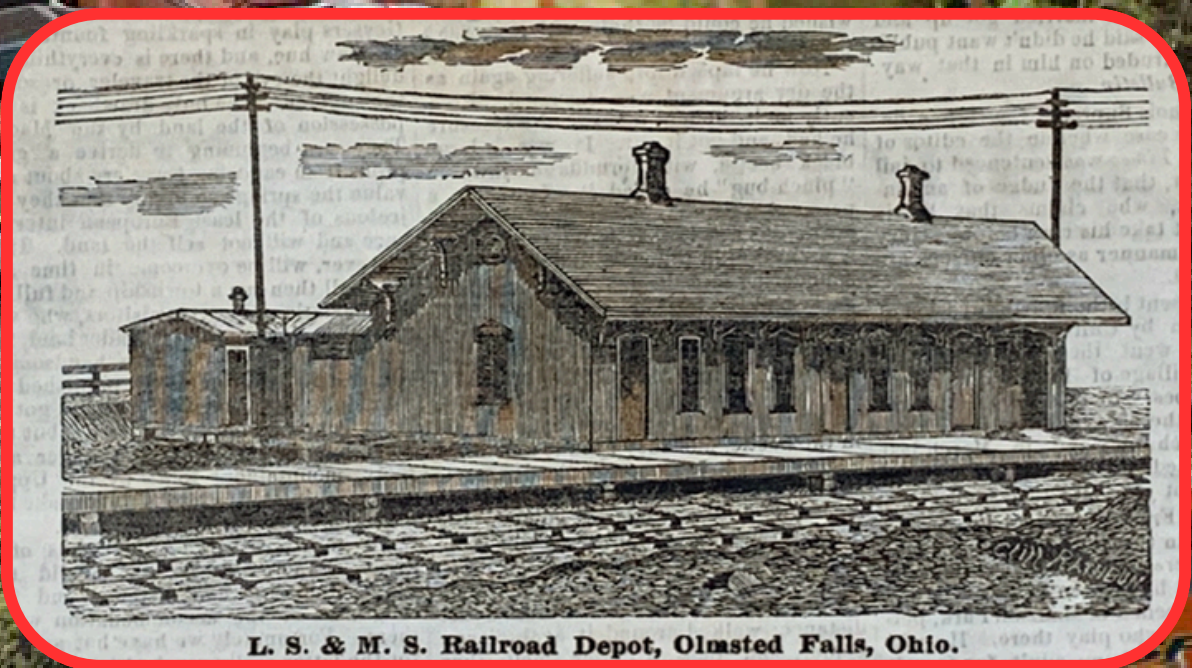
Depot history tours will be held throughout each day. Historical and railroad-related organizations will be on hand with information displays, including the New York Central Historical Society, Midwest Railway Preservation Society, Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, Olmsted Falls Historical Society, Berea Historical Society and Operation Lifesaver.

Come help us celebrate this historic anniversary!!

Check the museum website for more information, OlmstedFallsDepot.org

Image Courtesy of Berea Historical Society

Scott Benson





New York Central System Historical Society



NYCSHS 2025 Mini Convention - Cleveland

When: Sunday - September 27, 2026

Where: Berea Historical Society, 118 E. Bridge Street, Berea OH 44017

Cost: NYCSHS Members / Non-members \$20.00



Schedule

Doors open for coffee and donuts (provided) at 8:30. Clinics start at 9:00. The schedule is still a work in progress and clinic times will be provided, as soon as they become available.

Speaker Schedule & Topic (as of 7/29/26)

- Alex Schneider - President, NYCSHS: Layout Friendly Bridges.
- Robert McQueen - Vice-President, NYCSHS: A Case Study - Modeling an EMD GP7 - Class DES-4a.
- Seth Lakin - Chair, NYCSHS Modeling Committee: Using Layout Design Elements to model Michigan City, Indiana; Five railroads in one city.
- Steve Lasher: Techniques for upgrading older locomotives for DCC and Sound.
- David MacKay, Past President, NYCHS: The Standard NYCS 19000 caboose, and why it's not really a "standard".
- Frank Bongiovanni: Yes, Virginia, NYCS had articulated steam locomotives and electric locomotives.



New York Central System Historical Society



Registration

Please fill out and mail, or copy and attach to an email the following information to our Mini Con registrar, Ralph Schiring:

NAME:

Name on badge:

Address:

of Registrants:

Emergency Contact: Name, Relationship, Phone/cell/mobile #

Ralph Schiring

NYCSHS Mini

16623 Oak Street

Omaha, NE 68130-2051

Email: Ralph C. Schiring

Please be sure to include an emergency medical contact. We really need you to provide this information, otherwise your registration will NOT be processed.

Cost

Cost of the this year's Mini Con is \$20 - Cash or Checks only! - The Registrar is NOT equipped to handle credit cards. Wrap any cash up securely, but we really do recommend checks. ALL checks should be payable to "NYCSHS, Inc".

THE GREAT BEREA TRAIN SHOW

★ 52nd YEAR! ★

The Premier Model Railroad Show in Cleveland, Ohio

Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds – Berea, Ohio

Presented by NMRA Division 4, Mid-Central Region



A Weekend of Trains, Fun & Discovery!

- 700+ vendor & display tables
- Operating layouts in multiple scales
- Clinics & demonstrations
- New & used trains, scenery, tools, collectibles
- Local Historical societies & clubs
- Food, free parking, handicap accessible
- Great for enthusiasts, collectors & families



October 3rd & 4th, 2026 • Saturday & Sunday • 10 AM to 4 PM

Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds

19201 East Bagley Road • Berea, Ohio

ADMISSION

Adults: \$10 one day

\$15 two days

Kids under 16: FREE

Join us for our 52nd year – a celebration of trains, creativity, and community!

thegreatbereatrainshow.org

Great Berea Train Show

URGENT CALL TO ACTION — VOLUNTEER NOTICE

Great Berea Train Show | October 3–4, 2026

Division 4 — National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)

August 2026

To All Division 4 Members

This memo is being sent to the full membership of NMRA Division 4 with a clear and direct message: **we need you — and we need you now.**

The Great Berea Train Show is fast approaching — **Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4, 2026** — at the **Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea, Ohio**. As of this writing, we have a **significant and unacceptable number of open volunteer slots** that must be filled before this event can succeed. This is not a gentle reminder. This is a call to action that every member of this division must take seriously.

Why This Matters — To Every One of Us

Let us be direct: **the Great Berea Train Show is not a side project. It is the financial backbone of this entire division.**

Every dollar we spend throughout the year — on programs, activities, publications, member events, and division operations — comes from one place and one place only: the revenue generated by this show. It is **100% of our annual operating budget**. There is no secondary funding source. There is no safety net. There is no “we’ll make it up somewhere else.”

If this show underperforms because we were short-staffed, the consequences are felt by every member of Division 4 — directly and personally.

This is not someone else’s problem. **This is your problem. This is our problem. And the solution is simple: show up.**

Volunteer Positions Available

We currently have open slots across a wide range of roles. No specialized skills are required for most positions — only your time, your reliability, and your commitment to this division. Available roles include, but are not limited to:

- **Building Monitors** — Patrol assigned areas of the show floor, assist attendees, and ensure smooth operations throughout the venue.
- **Wristband Distribution** — Manage entry wristbands at designated check-in points and assist with crowd flow.
- **Ticket Sales & Admission** — Staff ticket booths, handle admissions, and represent Division 4 as the face of this event to the public.
- **Setup & Teardown Crews** — Assist with venue preparation before the show opens and full breakdown after it closes.
- **General Show Floor Support** — Float volunteers to assist wherever they are needed throughout the day.

Great Berea Train Show

If you have a specific skill — logistics, layout, signage, vendor relations — we can absolutely use it. But even if you simply have a free day and a willingness to work, **that is enough. We need you.**

What Is Being Asked of You

We are asking each and every member of Division 4 to do the following:

1. **Block your calendar now.** Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4, 2026 — mark them both. Commit to at least one shift, on one day. Many of us should commit to both.
2. **Commit to at least one shift.** One shift. That is the minimum ask. Many of us can and should do more.
3. **Contact Bert Wisbar immediately.** (440- 897-9246) or email bert.wisbar@gmail.com Do not wait. Do not assume someone else will fill the slot. Reach Bert directly — contact information is below.
4. **Encourage fellow members.** If you know someone who has not yet signed up, reach out to them personally. Peer-to-peer outreach is often the most effective tool we have.

A Word on Accountability

Division 4 has a proud tradition and a strong membership. But traditions are only maintained through active participation — not passive membership. Paying dues and attending meetings is appreciated, but it is not sufficient when the division's financial survival depends on a single annual event.

We recognize that life is busy. We recognize that schedules conflict. But we also recognize that if every member who "couldn't make it" had simply committed to one shift, we would never be in this position.

The division serves you all year long. **October is when you serve the division.**

Sign Up Now — Contact Information

Do not delay. Slots are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. The closer we get to the show dates, the harder coordination becomes for everyone involved.

Volunteer Coordinator & Division Superintendent: Bert Wesbar Cell: (440) 897-9246

Show Manager, Great Berea Train Show: David James Cell: (440) 785-9907

Show Dates: Saturday, October 3 & Sunday, October 4, 2026 **Venue:** Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Berea, Ohio

Respond promptly. Sign up completely. Show up ready.

The Great Berea Train Show cannot succeed without you — and neither can Division 4.

Issued by David James, Show Manager, Great Berea Train Show Division 4 — National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)

East Broad Top Field Trip



We have put together a great weekend of railroading in October to the East Broad Top, Railroaders Museum, in Altoona, & Horseshoe Curve.

The trip will be from October 15th through the 17th, and we will visit the East Broad Top on the 16th and the Railroaders Museum / Horseshoe Curve on the 17th and return home in the evening of the 17th. Transportation will be by BRT Charter Service leaving Quality Inn and Suites located on 4742 Brecksville Rd, Richfield, OH 44286. The cost of transportation has been taken care of.

The cost per person is \$148.00 for entrance to East Broad Top, Railroaders museum, & Horseshoe Curve and we have rooms reserved at the Comfort Inn Duncansville PA. Cost per night is \$119.68. (Hotel information is below)

The schedule is as follows:

10/15/26 (Thursday)

2:45 pm. Arrive at the Quality Inn parking lot (4742 Brecksville Rd, Richfield, OH 44286)

3:00 pm Bus departs

6:51 pm Arrive in Altoona

10/16/26

7:00 am leave for the East Broad Top.

8:30 am arrive at the East Broad Top

8:30am - Arrival at Railroad

9:00am to 11:00am - Master Mechanic's Tour

11:00am to 11:45am - Boxed Lunches & Break

12:00pm to 1:00pm - Northbound Colgate Grove Excursion

1:30pm to 4:30pm - Extended Guided Tour

5:00pm - Departure from Railroad

East Broad Top Field Trip

10/17/26

Railroaders Museum

Horseshoe Curve

Return Home

- Lunch options are your choice of the below wraps, along with a bag of chips, Amish Macaroni Salad, and bottled water:
 - Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap
 - Chicken Caesar Wrap
 - Buffalo Chicken Wrap
 - Vegetarian Wrap

I will need to know your lunch choice above for the East Broad Top, so they know how many lunches to make.

(email me with your choice of wrap to bert.wisbar@gmail.com)

Comfort Inn Duncansville PA

Hotel reservations will need be made by each member @ 814-693-1800, use Group # GF78J5 to get the discounted room rate for our group. Each room has 2 queen size beds so individuals can share a room. (Hotel reservations deadline is September 15th.)

All meals are the members' responsibilities except lunch at the East Broad Top.

East Broad Top would like monies by August 15th.

Send your payment in the amount of \$148.00 to :

Division 4, NMRA

Greg Noeth

2206 Oak Park Ave

Cleveland, Oh. 44109

Look forward to seeing you on this great trip.

If there are any questions, email me at bert.wisbar@gmail.com

Sincerely,

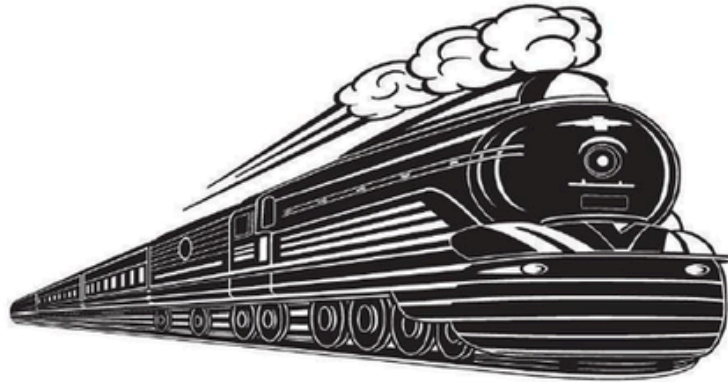
Bert Wisbar

Superintendent

Division 4 MCR

DIVISION 8 - MID CENTRAL
REGION

TRAIN SHOW & SALE
OUR 36TH YEAR



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2026 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
HOLY FAMILY PARISH SAFFIN CENTER
3938 POPLAR LEVEL RD, LOUISVILLE, KY 40213

- 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



TRAIN SHOW INFORMATION



WEBSITE



NMRA National Convention



Several members of our group traveled to Chattanooga, Tennessee, for the Scenic City Express NMRA National Convention, held July 27th–August 2nd. More than 1,400 attendees from around the world gathered for clinics, layout tours, and excursions. One excursion took us to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum, where we rode the Missionary Ridge Local, pulled by Southern 4501, across Chickamauga Creek and through the pre–Civil War Missionary Ridge Tunnel before arriving at the TVRM shops. We enjoyed a special behind-the-scenes tour of TVRM’s Soule Repair Shop, where impressive railroad shop machines maintain steam locomotives, diesel engines, and the museum’s vintage passenger and dining cars.



An E8A at the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum brought back to its full glory and used to pull excursions.

NMRA National Convention



Southern 4501 is a Baldwin 2-8-2 built in 1911 in Philadelphia, PA. and was used in freight service until 1948. It was sold to the Kentucky & Tennessee and was used to pull coal trains until 1964. Paul Merriman purchased it in 1966 and donated it to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum in 1975.

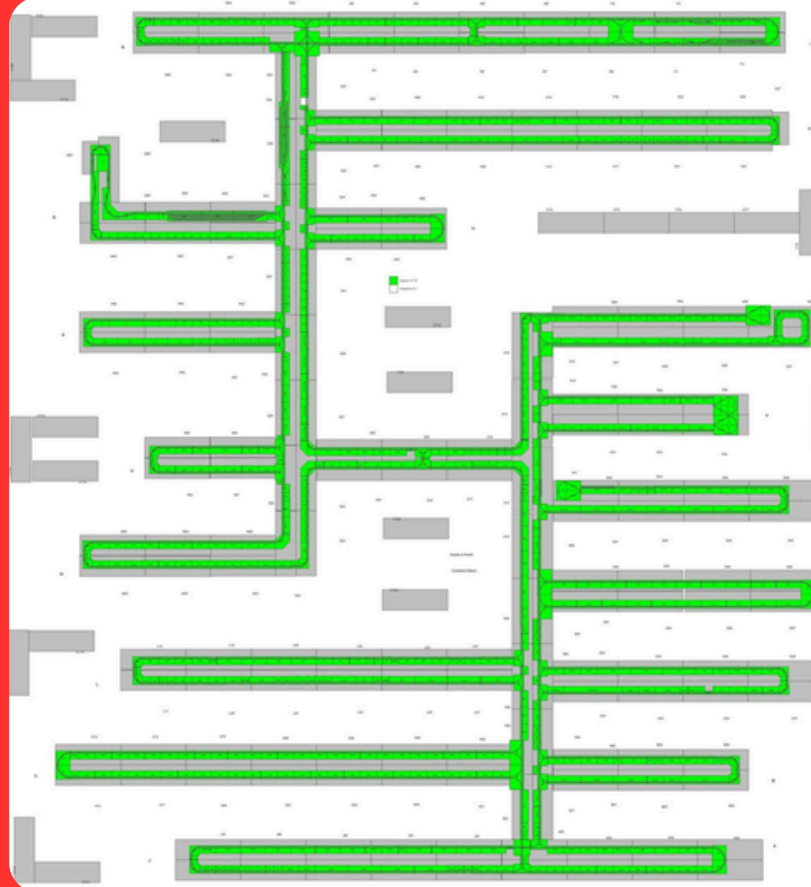
The Operations Road Show (ORS) a division of the N-scale Events Group (NEG) was in attendance and allowed several of us to operate on the display. The display flowed across two ball rooms which was unique due to it being a Fre-mo display. They operated on a fast clock and instructions picked up at different points around the display to pick up and drop off cars at the multitude of businesses along the route.



Craig Butler and Jerry Krueger working as yard masters on the Free-mo display.

NMRA National Convention

A challenge was put out to all members who had T-Trak to bring their sections to create the largest known display and they succeeded with a display that encompassed over 10,000 sq. ft. and consisted of 1,511 single modules from 49 different states, including modules from overseas. It took over two hours to travel the entire layout at a scale 45 mph.



NMRA National Convention

As you can see from the display and layout from the previous page, it was quite a display.

There were many vendors at the National Train Show including Athearn, Bachmann, Scale Trains, and a majority of vendors that will be at the Great Berea Train Show.

Those of us who went had a great time visiting civil war sites, layout tours, excursions and great food.



The next national convention is in Tacoma Washington August 10th – 15th, 2027.



NMRA National Convention

A Report from Chattanooga

A little over two years ago I got back into model railroading after a long hiatus. Like many of us, I was involved in model railroading when I was young from around junior high school through most of my college years. But when it was time to start a career and make my own life other things had to take precedence over model railroading. While I still had the modest basement layout I built with my father until my parents passed and we had to sell the home I grew up in, time to work on it or run trains was rare. I would assume a fairly common story among our membership.

I've had the pleasure now of attending the last two NMRA National Conventions. While there are many great activities at the convention, layout tours are definitely my favorite part. Getting to see such a wide variety of layouts and speak with the owners about them is always a pleasure. So I thought I would share some photographs I took from a select few of the layouts I visited during the National Convention in Chattanooga in late July.

Bill Ormon – Norfolk Southern New Holland Division (HO).

Bill has a lovely layout set up for operations located in the top floor of his home, it was featured in the May 2026 issue of Model Railroader.



A general shot of the main peninsula



An interesting way to label your tracks for ease of operations that looks like it belongs as part of the layout

NMRA National Convention

Ed Tougaw – Intermont & Western (N).

Ed's layout features a nice herniated helix with each rotation of the helix offset at an angle from the previous rotation. I also found his hinged backdrop that allows access to the hidden parts of the helix of note.



The herniated helix



Another view of the helix

Steve Lamb – Sequatchie Valley Lines (HO).

Steve has a nicely detailed switching layout in his basement. Although I have seen articles about using gutter downspouts cut into short pieces for organizing rolling stock not on the layout, this was the first time I've seen it firsthand and Steve uses the method extensively on his layout to keep his rolling stock well organized.



A general view of the main peninsula

NMRA National Convention



Our own Bert Wisbar checking out the scenery

Willie Clonts – Soddy Daisy Southern (HO).

Willie's layout is beautifully detailed with every inch containing more than the eye can take in with only a single viewing, plus more bridges and water scenes than I could count.



A beautiful wooden trestle at the end of a peninsula



A general scene showing the level of detail

NMRA National Convention



Another trestle

Roy Masterson – Southern Railway Cherokee Division (HO).

Roy's layout is a point-to-point layout focusing on operations with some beautiful rock work throughout the layout. The photos show his helix linking the multiple decks of his layout.



A general shot of Roy's hidden helix



Sceniced viewing ports in the rock face hiding the helix allow an operator to follow their train as it passes through the helix

NMRA National Convention

Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders – Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific

The Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders have a 40' x 42' club layout with a great amount of detailed scenes. It would take dozens of photographs to do it justice, I've included three here, photos 17, 18 and 19.



A general view of the main peninsula



Another beautiful bridge scene



A general scene showing the yard

Richard Ingraham

Layout Update

Dear Friends,

It's been three months since the last update, and a few things have happened on the layout.

From the old layout in Bay Village, I kept all the buildings. Many I found I could not use on the new layout, so I was very happy to sell them. Some I have been able to reuse. The Iron Fireman building was made of several old Revell engine house kits. I was able to cut it apart and remake a new Iron Fireman. The Iron Fireman Company existed in Cleveland and made automatic coal stokers for furnaces. Harshaw Chemical was a three-building complex on the old layout. Now it's reconfigured into two adjacent buildings each with its own unflattering billboard. I had to rib Harshaw because brother Tom worked for them at one time in their advertising department. I changed the billboard for the old Miracle Machine Company to Fluke Machinery. "If it works, it's a Fluke."

A brand-new addition is Gubbins Manufacturing. To make it, I cut off the bottom two stories of Walthers' Reliable Warehouse kit using only the top story and reconfiguring the walls and making a new roof. "Gubbins" is British slang for gadgets or fragments. The building had to be low as operators will be reaching over it to do their switching, and it sits on the front edge of the layout. I noticed that the face of the building was in shadow from the overhead lights. To remedy that I installed some track lights in front of layout's valance so I could add light to the edges. I used 3000K LED lamps which are warmer than the overheads and I like the texture it adds to the scene.

Since I was a little boy and reading old issues of Model Builder magazine, I have been influenced by Frank Ellison who lived in New Orleans and built Delta Lines. He was known as the "Dean of Model Railroading", preceding John Allen. He wrote many articles about model railroading in theory and many articles on constructing buildings like his on-Delta Lines. He introduced me to scratch building. Anyway, when we moved to Bay Village, I named my layout Bay Lines. Now that we live in Avon Lake, I'm changing the name to Lake Lines. I've changed the lettering on the diesels and the tenders for the steamers. I have not yet tackled the cabooses as they'll be a lot trickier. I no longer have the paint I used on them.

Speaking of Frank Ellison, he liked quirky names for the building on his layout and so do I. He had the Sanky Wanky Coffee Co., Hap Hasard Packing Co., the Antsina Pants Co., and Quick Sand & Gravel. I had one of those on the old layout and right now I'm working on my new version which is called "Quick's Sand & Gravel Company". It will occasionally swap places on the layout with the Icehouse.

Layout Update

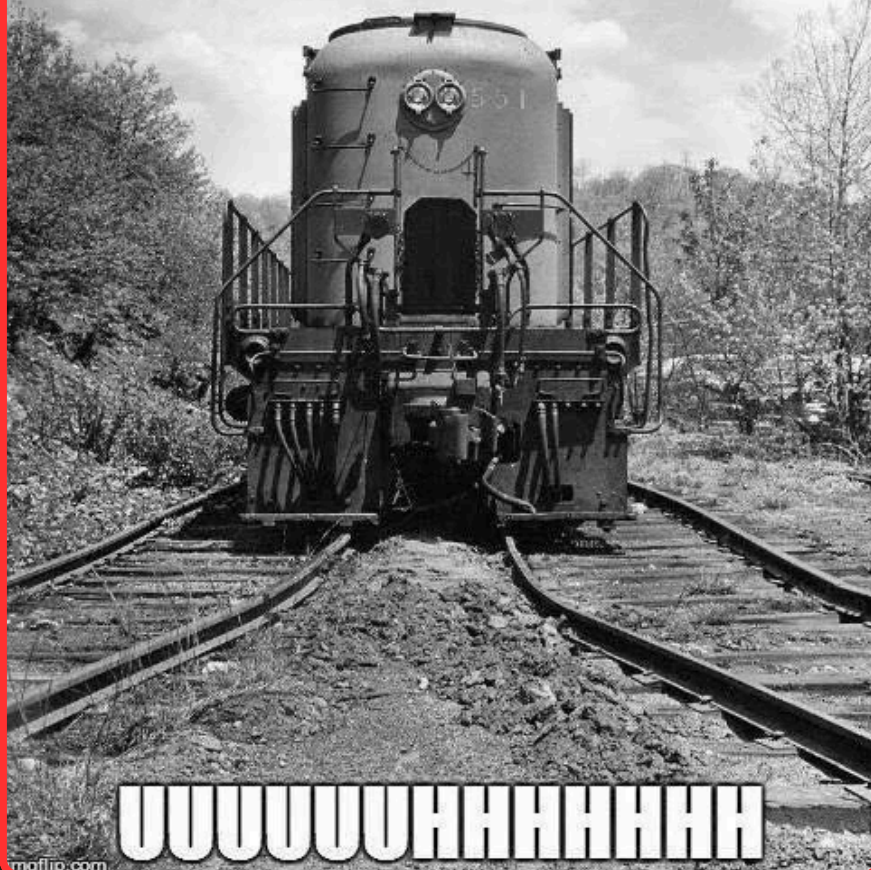
I took a brief break from the railroad and build a great kit of Jules Verne's Nautilus from 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea in 1/144 scale. I read the book while working on the model. The kit was wonderfully engineered with great parts fit. It included photo etched brass details. I hadn't had much experience with PE but managed to make a go of it. The kit also had over 200 laser-cut, self-adhesive masks for the windows. That was tedious, but well worth the effort. I pre-shaded the rivet lines and used washes after the final color coat. I'm pleased with the way it turned out.

So that's what I've been up to. I'm eager to hear what you're doing.

Happy rails to you,

John Hemsath, MMR

**JOHN, YOU THREW THE SWITCH
THE RIGHT WAY DIDN'T YOU?**



UUUUUUHHHHHHH

Whats On Your Workbench?

I have made many Walther's Cornerstone kits. That last few are great. Buildings fit super good and are very symmetrical! This project is a wood water tank, part number 933-3531. Got mine at Depot Hobby while looking at building kits.

The first thing I do is look and ID all of the kit components. I then cut them off of the casting tree, placing them in small containers for sub-assembly.

This works good for me as it cuts down on lost parts! Once I assemble each components, I paint each one separately. The next step is to weather each part. before final assembly.

You'll notice on the inside of the tank are construction notes for me.

This is a fun kit to build.

by Joe Kurilec, MMR®



Railfanning Pic of the Month



Dino Paris

Why don't trains get lost?
Because they follow the rails!

Model of the Month

Two HO scale Rockhill Furnace store houses on the EBT railroad. These were constructed, painted and weathered.

Bruce Bowie



By age 47, it became clear that Lester and his parents had distinctly different ideas on what it meant to grow up and become a successful engineer.

Yes, I Do Have A
**RETIREMENT
PLAN**



I Plan On Modeling.

Estate Sale

Good afternoon, everyone.

Sadly, one of our members, Steve Kaplan, in Division 4, has passed away. We are helping his daughter to get ready to sell his railroad items. There are Walthers kits, built up buildings, freight cars, scenery supplies, codes 83 & 100 flex track, switches. The sale will take place on September 26th and 27th, from 10am - 4pm at 151 Kempton, Berea, OH 44017. Please share this with your membership.

Sincerely,

Bert Wisbar

MCR Division 4 Super

bert.wisbar@gmail.com



Rest In Peace

WHAT'S NEW?

HO Scale



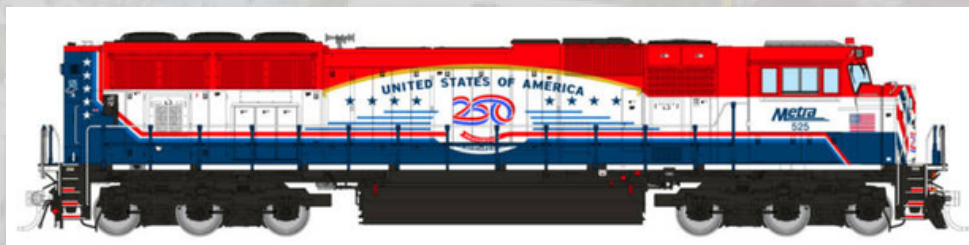
36-foot wood-chip hopper. Baltimore & Ohio, Canadian National, Celotex, Northern Pacific, Southern Ry., and Western Maryland. Two road numbers per paint scheme; also available painted black with data only and undecorated. Separate, factory-applied brake wheel; 33" turned-metal wheelsets; and Proto-Max metal couplers. \$39.98. Walther's Mainline. Wm. K. Walther's Inc., 414-527-0770, walther's.com



Electro-Motive Division GP40 diesel locomotive. Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern (1994+, three lettering styles); Conrail (1976+ blue); CSX (1995+ Blue Down with yellow nose and 1987+ Western Maryland patchout); Denver & Rio Grande Western (1997+ KC Orange and black); Guilford Rail System (1984+ with Boston & Maine reporting marks and 1995+ with Maine Central reporting marks); Kansas City Southern (2013+ Southern Belle scheme [GP40-3]); Milwaukee Road (1973+ orange and black); Missouri-Kansas-Texas (1984+ Conrail patchout); New York Central (1965+ black and white); Rock Island (1979+ blue-and-white and wreck rebuild schemes); Soo Line (1995+ Milwaukee Road patchouts); Wheeling & Lake Erie (2001+ Rio Grande scheme); and Western Maryland (1971+ circus scheme). One to four road numbers per paint scheme. Prototype-specific details; metal side handrails with plastic stanchions, licensed Cannon & Co. 48" radiator and dynamic brake fans; and see-through, etched-metal steps. Minimum radius, 18". Direct-current model, \$249.95; with dual-mode ESU LokSound V5 sound decoder, \$359.95. Rapido Trains, 905-474-3314, rapidotrains.com

WHAT'S NEW?

HO Scale



Electro-Motive Division SD70MACH. Metra (United States of America 250 scheme). Prototype-specific details; heavy, die-cast metal frame; and factory-installed grab irons and handrails. Suggested minimum radius, 22". Preliminary artwork shown. Without sound, \$249.95; with ESU LokSound decoder and MoPower capacitor, \$359.95. Rapido Trains Inc., 905-474-3314, rapidotrains.com



66-foot heavy-duty four-truck flatcar. Conrail, CSX, Denver & Rio Grande Western, Norfolk & Western, and Union Pacific. Two road numbers per paint scheme; also available undecorated. Heavy, die-cast metal construction; RP-25 turned-metal wheelsets; and Proto-Max metal couplers. \$49.98. WaltherMainline. Wm. K. Walthers Inc., 414-527-0770, walthers.com



36-foot wood refrigerator car. New paint schemes: Armour Packing Co., Arnold Bros., Cudahy Refrigerator Line, Hygrade Food Products, Indianapolis Abattoir Corp., Morris Refrigerator Line, and Sioux City Dressed Beef & Canning Co. Two road numbers per paint scheme. Die-cast metal chassis, positionable hatches and doors, and metal couplers. \$56.95. Master Line. Atlas Model Railroad Co., 908-687-0880, shop.atlasrr.com

WHAT'S NEW?

N Scale



Oil loading platform. Injection-molded plastic kit with piping, nozzles, platforms, stairway, safety sign decals, and more. Serves two tracks. Multiple kits can be combined to make larger platform. Measures 5-13/16" x 19/32" x 1-5/8". Cornerstone series. Wm. K. Walther Inc., 414-527-0770, walthers.com



Fairbanks-Morse H15-44 and H16-45 diesel locomotives. New paint schemes. H15-44: Jersey Central Lines. H16-45: Akron, Canton & Youngstown and Chihuahua-Pacific Ry. New road numbers. H15-44: Jersey Central Lines and Monon. H16-45: Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe; Delaware, Lackawanna & Western; and New York, New Haven & Hartford. Back by popular demand. H15-44: Denver & Rio Grande Western, Fairbanks-Morse demonstrator, and Kansas City Southern. H16-45: New York, New Haven & Hartford. One to two road numbers per paint scheme. Light-emitting-diode headlights and classification lights, blackened metal wheels, and painted safety rails. Direct-current model with factory-installed speaker, \$149.95; with ESU LokSound V5 sound decoder, \$269.95. Master Line. Atlas Model Railroad Co., 908-687-0880, shop.atlasrr.com

WHAT'S NEW?

O Scale



Brick freight depot. Kit includes resin walls, doors, brick chimney, roof supports, concrete steps, railings, and electric meter; subroof; roofing material; signs; window glazing; lumber; styrene; and instructions. Designed by James and Anna Cleveland. Measures 7" x 10" (without wood platform). \$195.95. Frenchman River Model Works, 701-256-2129, frenchmanriver.com



18-foot coffin-style pickle car. Kit includes resin sides, ends, roof, roof pieces with hatch covers, floor, and underframe; two roof end pieces; one resin queen post; wire; grab irons; stirrup steps; brake wheel; nut-bolt castings; lumber; decals; and instructions. Trucks, additional brake parts, and couplers not included. Designed by Thomas Yorke. \$64.95.

Frenchman River Model Works, 701-256-2129, frenchmanriver.com

WHAT'S GOING ON?

2026 - Sept. 12 - 13

Depot 150 (Olmsted Falls Depot)
A celebration of the 150th anniversary of the opening of the
Olmsted Falls Depot
Olmsted Falls Depot and Model Railroad Museum
25802 Garfield Ave.
Olmsted Falls, Ohio 44138
10:00 am to 4:00 pm Adm. Free
[Map](#) [Flyer](#) [Web Page](#)

2026 - Sept. 19

Train Collectors Association - Fall Train Meet
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
164 Eastland Rd., Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44017
10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00
Phone: John Twarog at : 330-273-6404

[Info & MAP](#)

[Flyer](#)

2026 - Sept. 26

Iron and Steel Autumn Railfest Train Show
NEW LOCATION
SAXON CLUB
710 Meridian Road, Youngstown, Ohio 44509
9:00 am - 2:00 pm Adm. \$8.00
Phone: 330-503-5510

[Flyer](#)

2026 - Sept. 26

Fostoria Rail Festival
Fostoria Junior/ Senior High School
1001 Park Ave., Fostoria, Ohio
10:00 am to 4 pm Adm. \$6.00
Phone: 419-435-1781

[Flyer](#)

WHAT'S GOING ON?

2026 - Oct. 3 - 4

The Great Berea Train Show
Model Train Show NMRA Div 4
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
19201 E. Bagley Road, Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130
Sat 10 am - 4 pm, Sun 10 am - 4 pm Adm. \$10.00
Phone: 440-785-9907

[Info & Map](#)

[VIDEO](#)

[Flyer](#)

[Web Site](#)

2026 - Oct. 11

Canfield Train and Toy Show
Canfield Fairgrounds, 7265 Columbiana, Canfield, Ohio
44406
Being held in new Event Center
10:00 am to 3:00 pm Adm. \$8.00
Phone: 330-651-1042

[Map](#)

[Flyer](#)

2026 - Oct. 17

Fundraiser Dinner
Painesville Railroad Museum (aka Painesville Depot)
475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077
3:00 pm to 8:00 pm Dinner at 4:00 pm Adm. pre-sale
\$30.00
Phone: 216-470-5780 At the Door
\$35.00

[MAP](#)

[Flyer](#)

[WEB Page](#)

2026 - Oct. 17

Coshocton Train Show
Coshocton County Career Center
23640 Airport Road, Coshocton, Ohio 43812
10:00 am to 3:00 pm Adm. \$5.00
Phone: 330-473-7466

[Map](#)

[Flyer](#)

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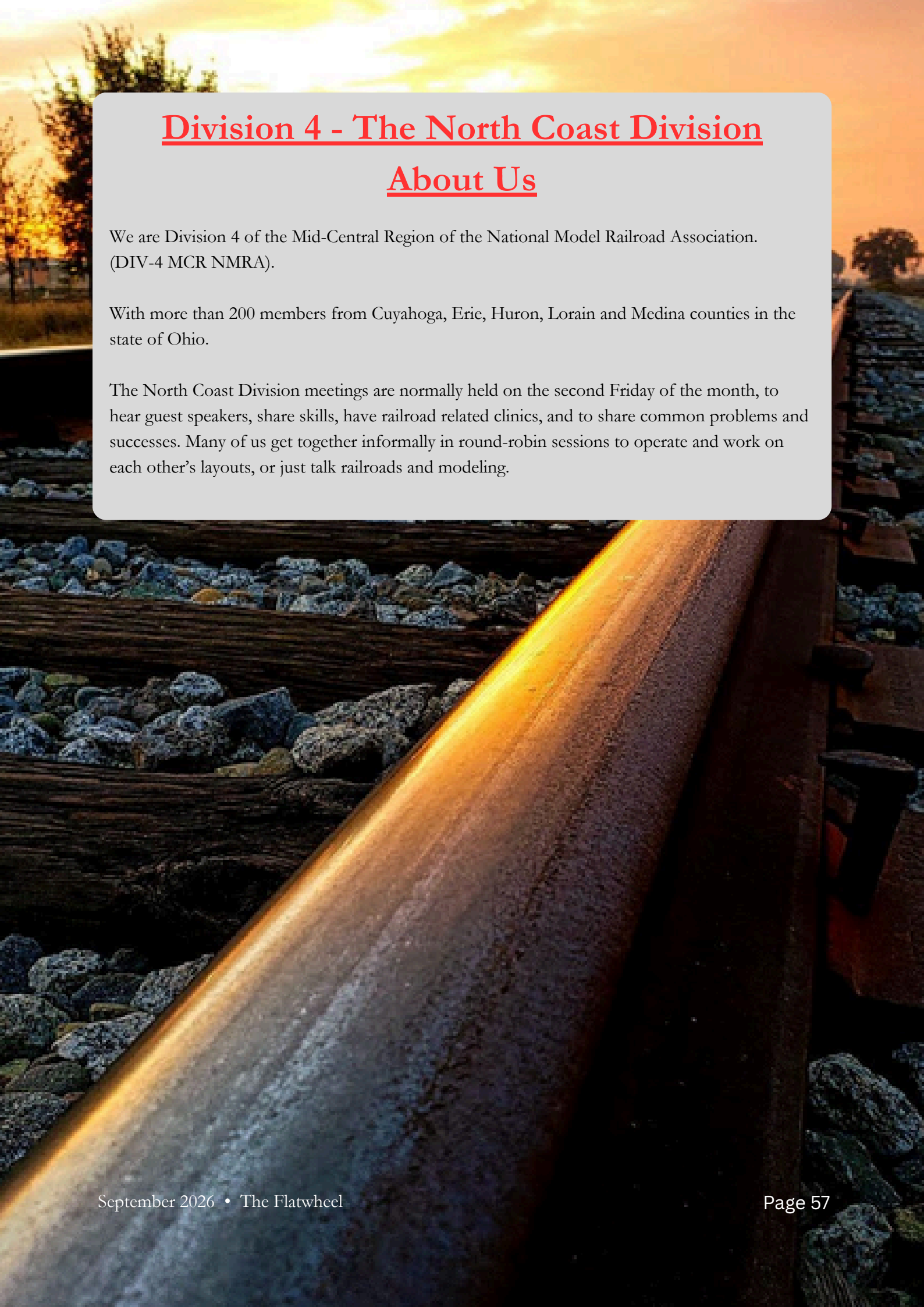
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Division 4 - The North Coast Division

About Us

We are Division 4 of the Mid-Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association. (DIV-4 MCR NMRA).

With more than 200 members from Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lorain and Medina counties in the state of Ohio.

The North Coast Division meetings are normally held on the second Friday of the month, to hear guest speakers, share skills, have railroad related clinics, and to share common problems and successes. Many of us get together informally in round-robin sessions to operate and work on each other's layouts, or just talk railroads and modeling.