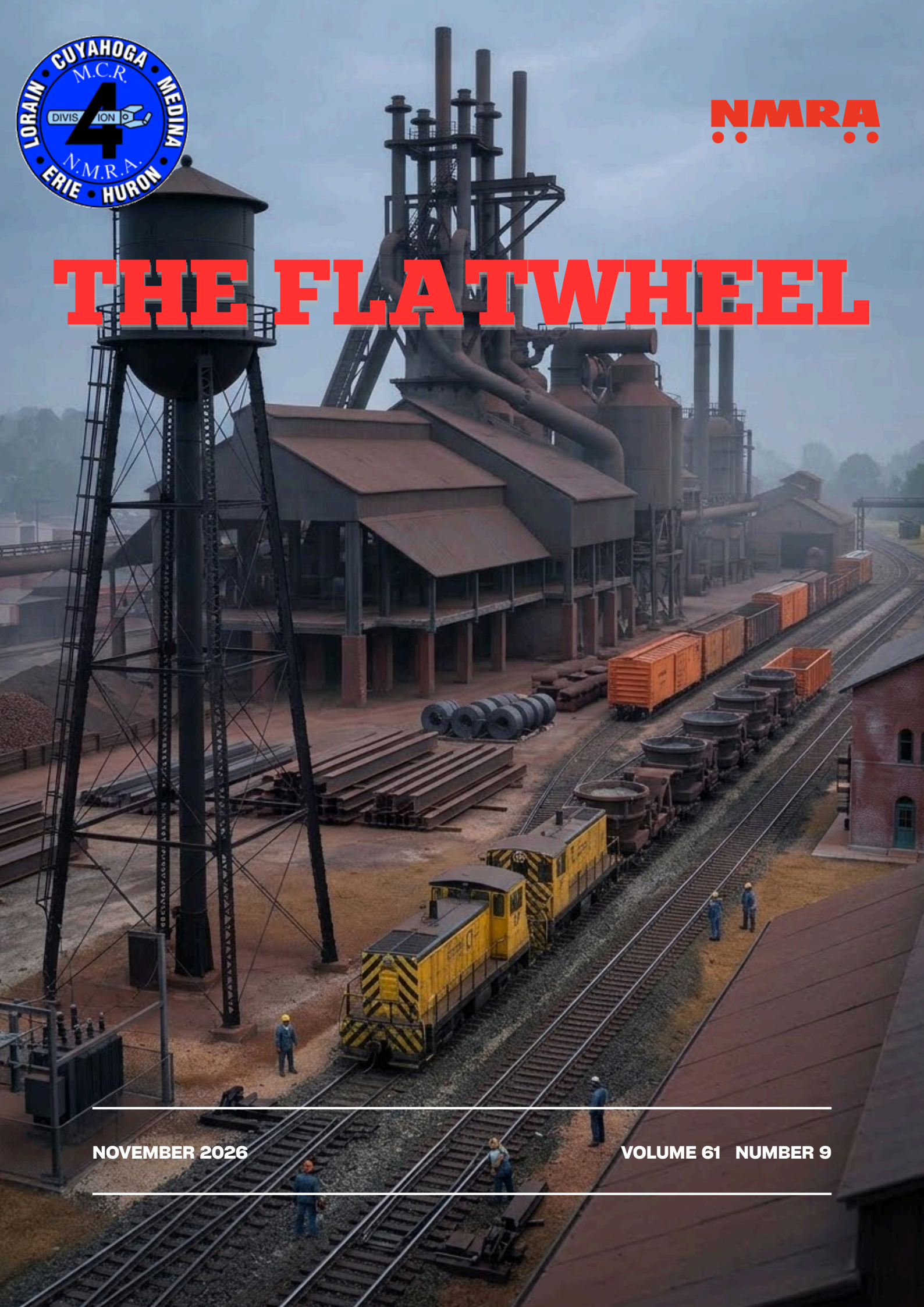


THE FLATWHEEL

NOVEMBER 2026

VOLUME 61 NUMBER 9

The Flatwheel

Official Publication of the North Coast Division
Mid Central Region
National Model Railroad Association

November 2026 | div4.org | Volume 61 Number 9

In this issue ...

Online Navigation: Click on any page to be taken there. Click on any footer to return here.

23 NMRA Division 4 Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion

34 OPs in the Land

35 Division 8 - Mid Central Region

36 Painting Bricks

38 Open House Eerie Mad River Model Railroad Club

3 Editor's Corner
3 Division 4 Officers
4 Meeting Information
6 Superintendent's Report
7 September Meeting Minutes
10 September Meeting Pictures
15 Module Group
15 Raffle
16 Company Store
17 Contest Table
18 Membership Report
19 Clinic Corner
21 N-Scale Modules Group
22 2026-27 Program Schedule
39 What's On Your Workbench?
41 Railfan Pic of the Month
42 Model of the Month
43 What's New?
47 What's Going On?
49 About Us

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: December 2026. Due out approximately December 1st. Deadline for submissions: November 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

Hello everyone,

I hope you had the opportunity to attend the Great Berea Train Show and are enjoying the warm weather while it lasts. This month's Flatwheel features our group trip to the East Broad Top Railroad, so be sure to check it out.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed content. Your support and submissions are greatly appreciated and help make each issue a success.

I am currently looking for photographs for future cover pages. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find high-quality images that are both freely available and free from copyright restrictions. If you have a layout, I encourage you to take a few photos of your favorite scenes and submit them for consideration. I am also seeking submissions for our Railfan of the Month and Model of the Month features. Many of you have captured outstanding railroad photographs over the years, and I would love to showcase them. Likewise, if you have a favorite model you've built and are particularly proud of, please send along a photo and share your work with fellow members.

As always, I welcome your feedback and ideas. If there is a feature you would like to see added, or if you feel something is missing from the newsletter, please send me an email at donnmradiv4@gmail.com. Reader input is invaluable and helps ensure Flatwheel continues to grow and improve.

Thank you, and I hope you enjoy this month's issue of Flatwheel.

Best regards,

Don Oleksa

Division 4 - The North Coast Division Meeting Information



NOTICE

We been informed by the North Olmsted Cabin that the walkway at the front of the building is being demolished and replaced after November 4th. This is a three week project and will create an unsafe access to the building for our members. In view of this, we will be **CANCELING** our **November 13th meeting** and will resume at our next meeting on December 11th.

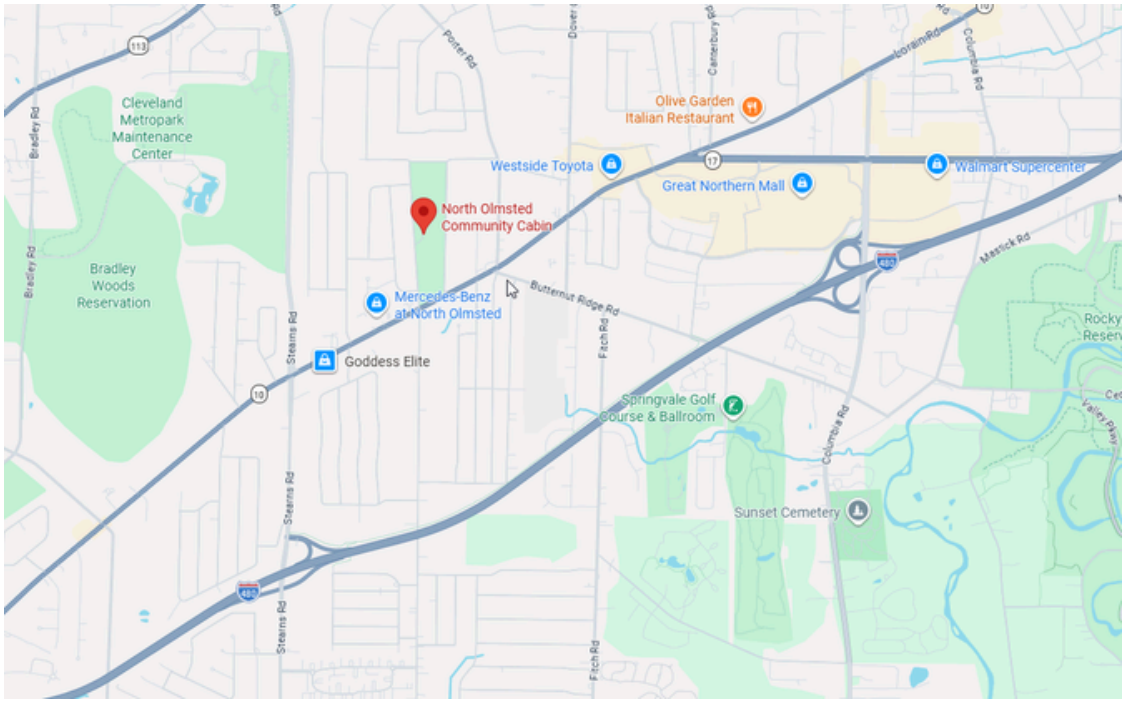
Division 4 - The North Coast Division Meeting Information

Our Next Regular Meeting will be **Friday, December 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. All of 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 Message

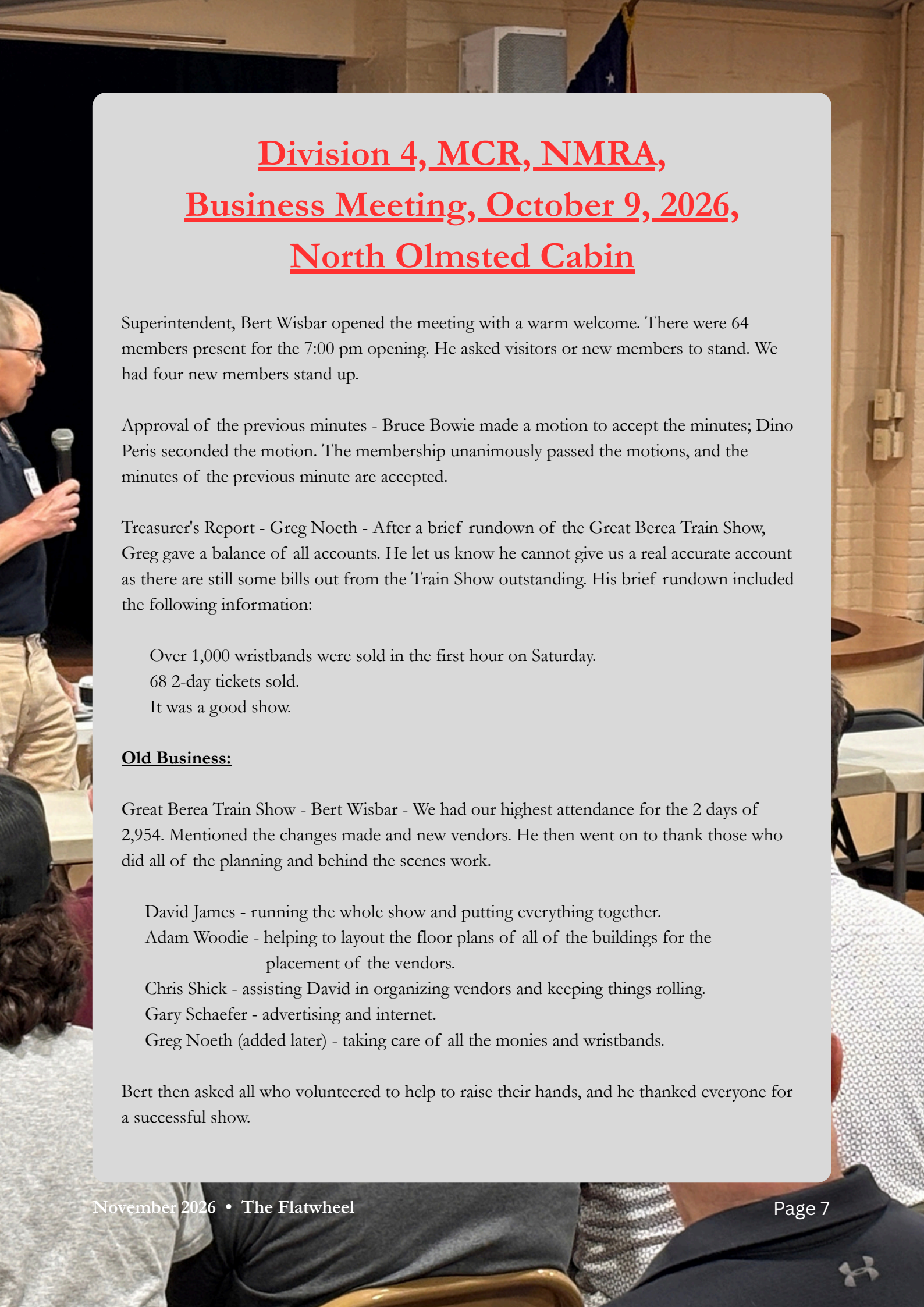
Train of Thought

The year was a whirlwind, culminating in a highly successful Great Berea Train Show. Nearly 3,000 guests attended, including more than 1,000 in Saturday's opening hour, and several first-time vendors are already eager to return. The event is the product of year-round effort—from recruiting vendors and negotiating the fairgrounds contract to assigning spaces, processing paperwork and payments, and coordinating tables and cars. My sincere thanks to David James (Show Coordinator), Chris Shick (Administrator), Greg Noeth (Finance), Gary Schaffer (Advertising), Adam Woodie (Vendor Layout Design), and every volunteer who helped make the show a success.

If you were unable to volunteer this year, we hope you'll join us next year. Volunteering is a rewarding way to support the show, meet fellow enthusiasts, and share in the fun of bringing the event to life.

Bert Wisbar
Superintendent





Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Business Meeting, October 9, 2026, North Olmsted Cabin

Superintendent, Bert Wisbar opened the meeting with a warm welcome. There were 64 members present for the 7:00 pm opening. He asked visitors or new members to stand. We had four new members stand up.

Approval of the previous minutes - Bruce Bowie made a motion to accept the minutes; Dino Peris seconded the motion. The membership unanimously passed the motions, and the minutes of the previous minute are accepted.

Treasurer's Report - Greg Noeth - After a brief rundown of the Great Berea Train Show, Greg gave a balance of all accounts. He let us know he cannot give us a real accurate account as there are still some bills out from the Train Show outstanding. His brief rundown included the following information:

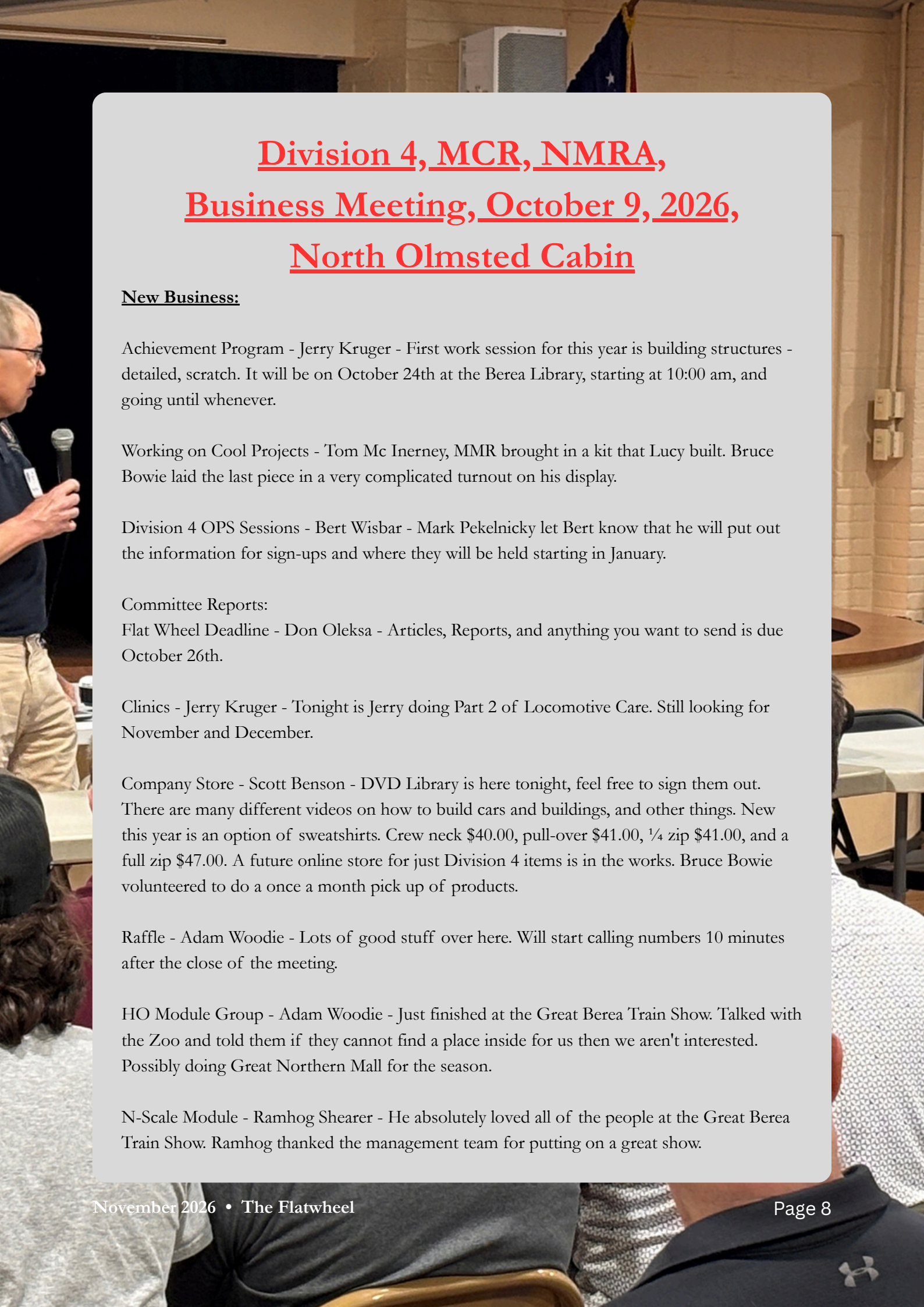
Over 1,000 wristbands were sold in the first hour on Saturday.
68 2-day tickets sold.
It was a good show.

Old Business:

Great Berea Train Show - Bert Wisbar - We had our highest attendance for the 2 days of 2,954. Mentioned the changes made and new vendors. He then went on to thank those who did all of the planning and behind the scenes work.

David James - running the whole show and putting everything together.
Adam Woodie - helping to layout the floor plans of all of the buildings for the placement of the vendors.
Chris Shick - assisting David in organizing vendors and keeping things rolling.
Gary Schaefer - advertising and internet.
Greg Noeth (added later) - taking care of all the monies and wristbands.

Bert then asked all who volunteered to help to raise their hands, and he thanked everyone for a successful show.



Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Business Meeting, October 9, 2026, North Olmsted Cabin

New Business:

Achievement Program - Jerry Kruger - First work session for this year is building structures - detailed, scratch. It will be on October 24th at the Berea Library, starting at 10:00 am, and going until whenever.

Working on Cool Projects - Tom Mc Inerney, MMR brought in a kit that Lucy built. Bruce Bowie laid the last piece in a very complicated turnout on his display.

Division 4 OPS Sessions - Bert Wisbar - Mark Pekelnicky let Bert know that he will put out the information for sign-ups and where they will be held starting in January.

Committee Reports:
Flat Wheel Deadline - Don Oleksa - Articles, Reports, and anything you want to send is due October 26th.

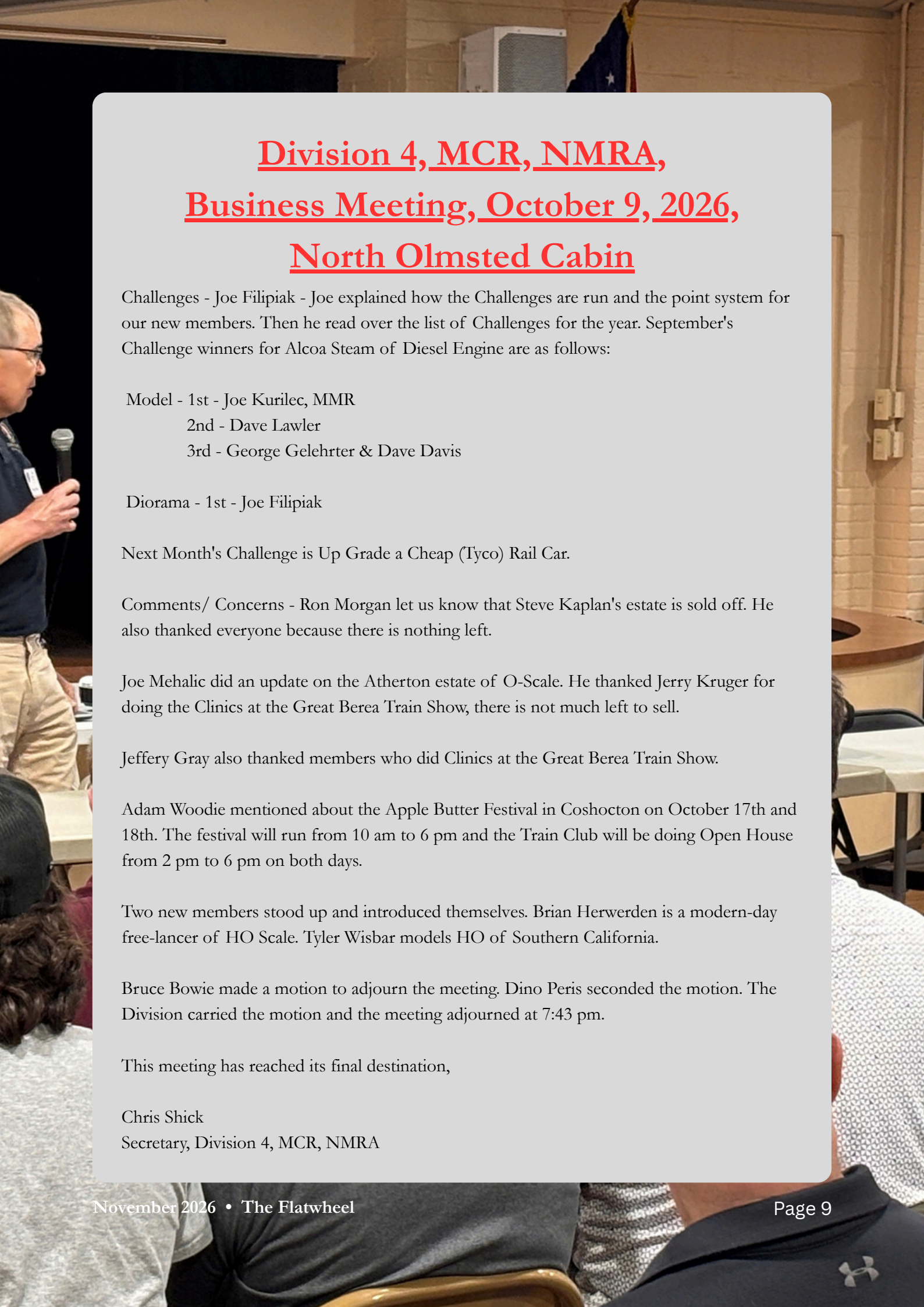
Clinics - Jerry Kruger - Tonight is Jerry doing Part 2 of Locomotive Care. Still looking for November and December.

Company Store - Scott Benson - DVD Library is here tonight, feel free to sign them out. There are many different videos on how to build cars and buildings, and other things. New this year is an option of sweatshirts. Crew neck $40.00, pull-over $41.00, ¼ zip $41.00, and a full zip $47.00. A future online store for just Division 4 items is in the works. Bruce Bowie volunteered to do a once a month pick up of products.

Raffle - Adam Woodie - Lots of good stuff over here. Will start calling numbers 10 minutes after the close of the meeting.

HO Module Group - Adam Woodie - Just finished at the Great Berea Train Show. Talked with the Zoo and told them if they cannot find a place inside for us then we aren't interested. Possibly doing Great Northern Mall for the season.

N-Scale Module - Ramhog Shearer - He absolutely loved all of the people at the Great Berea Train Show. Ramhog thanked the management team for putting on a great show.



Division 4, MCR, NMRA, Business Meeting, October 9, 2026, North Olmsted Cabin

Challenges - Joe Filipiak - Joe explained how the Challenges are run and the point system for our new members. Then he read over the list of Challenges for the year. September's Challenge winners for Alcoa Steam of Diesel Engine are as follows:

Model - 1st - Joe Kurilec, MMR
2nd - Dave Lawler
3rd - George Gelehrter & Dave Davis

Diorama - 1st - Joe Filipiak

Next Month's Challenge is Up Grade a Cheap (Tyco) Rail Car.

Comments/ Concerns - Ron Morgan let us know that Steve Kaplan's estate is sold off. He also thanked everyone because there is nothing left.

Joe Mehalic did an update on the Atherton estate of O-Scale. He thanked Jerry Kruger for doing the Clinics at the Great Berea Train Show, there is not much left to sell.

Jeffery Gray also thanked members who did Clinics at the Great Berea Train Show.

Adam Woodie mentioned about the Apple Butter Festival in Coshocton on October 17th and 18th. The festival will run from 10 am to 6 pm and the Train Club will be doing Open House from 2 pm to 6 pm on both days.

Two new members stood up and introduced themselves. Brian Herwerden is a modern-day free-lancer of HO Scale. Tyler Wisbar models HO of Southern California.

Bruce Bowie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dino Peris seconded the motion. The Division carried the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

This meeting has reached its final destination,

Chris Shick
Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA

Meeting Pictures



Bert Wisbar opens up the meeting



Greg Noeth gives the members the Treasurer's Report

Contest Pictures



Don Glass



Jim Grell



Brian Haas



Dave Lawler

Contest Pictures



Dr. George



Joe Leighton



Joe Kurlic

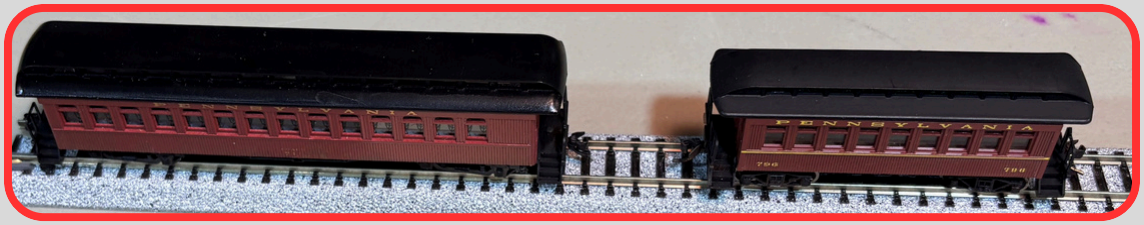


Dino Peris

Contest Pictures



Leon Lavdas



Steven Waller



Joe Filipiak

Contest Pictures



John Hughes



John Helmsath

Module Group

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

The Great Berea Train Show is now in the books for 2026. Both Saturday, October 3rd, and Sunday, October 4th saw a good deal of pedestrian traffic around the layout as well as the show in general. A big thanks to everyone who helped make the event a success.

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!

October's meeting had another great monthly raffle! The next raffle will take place after the November business meeting! As usual, the raffle draw will be held at the conclusion of the monthly business meeting.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the annual awards banquet which is scheduled for January 2027. For those that have not attended in the past, this event has a huge raffle as part of the festivities. Several high value prizes will be up for grabs such as Morning Star Books, multi-train car sets, and much-much more!

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

DEPOT
TRAIN & HOBBY
4342 W. 130th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44135
(216) 252-8880

Sounds Of Motion
SOM R&R
DCC SALES AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT
6910 SOM Center Rd.
Solon, OH 44139
Phone 440-248-4599
FRANK FEKO
Proprietor
frankfeko@gmail.com

Company Store

If you need a new Division 4 shirt, please contact me!!

If you'd like to borrow any of the FastTracks jigs, please contact me!! We have (all Code 83) #4, #6 and #8 turnouts, cross-over/double cross-over, and gantlet jigs.

Just a few odds and ends at the Company Store table these days. I do have one of the newest N-scale gauges, with clearance piece, available.

Scott Benson

DANIELS HOBBIES
Premium Quality
Est 1978
34E Main Street, Norwalk, OH 44857
M-Sat 10AM-6PM, Closed Sundays
(419)588-2029 | danielshobbies.com

CORNER FIELD
MODEL RAILROAD & HOBBY
16720 Pioneer Road • Middlefield, Ohio 44062
Located in Huntsburg
Tom Elesh, Owner • 440-636-5162
Website: cornerfieldmodelrailroadmuseumandhobby.com
Email: cornerfield@cornerfieldmodelrailroadmuseumandhobby.com

HobbyTown USA
World's Largest Hobby Store Franchisee
Ray and Janet Grenier
Owners
Erie Commons
7982 Plaza Blvd.
Mentor, OH 44060
P 440.946.5588
F 440.974.2119
www.hobbytown.com

MON.-SAT. 10-5
SUN. NOON-5
www.ormandys.com
märklin
EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS
I - HO - Z GAUGES AND PARTS
Ormandy's
TRAINS & TOYS FOR THE CONNOISSEUR
SPECIALIZING IN EUROPEAN TRAINS
BUY & SELL OLD TOYS
JOHN ORMANDY
330-722-1019
330-722-2205 Fax
10 PUBLIC SQUARE
MEDINA, OHIO 44256

JASON'S BRASS POLES
We specialize in trolley model products.
Railroad Trolley & Specialty & Model Railroad Dealer
Brian Weisman - Owner
bweisman@roadrunner.com (TROLLEYS & MODEL RAILROAD DEALER)
http://www.jasonsbrasspoles.com/

Contest Table

The model challenge for October was a wood sided passenger car. Who knew that there were so many models of old wooden passenger cars waiting to be shown. There were reds, grays, and various shades of green. Some were even a bright yellow green. The various scales were represented from N to O scale. Some were even opened to see that the interior had been modelled. Thanks for bringing them in. Three dioramas that ranged from serious to silly were also present. The members that viewed the models picked Joe Kerilec's roof off interior finished car as their favorite. Second place went to Dino Peris and third place went to Jim Grell. The dioramas that the members looked at found John Hemsath's work of a station well worth the first place rating. John Hughes was given second place and Joe Filipiak's halloween diorama came in third. That one was just for fun.

The next model challenge subject matter is to turn a Tyco car or other unworthy, cheap rail car into something that is representative of a worthwhile model. In other words, upgrade a cheap piece of plastic to something that looks more expensive. Now that I have finished this writing, I have a choice of either raking leaves or do some trackside rail fanning. The leaves can wait. If I'm lucky, they will blow away.

Joe Filipiak

WARZONE MATRIX
4704 Rocky River Dr. Cleveland, Ohio44135
1-216-433-1316
7 days a week 11:30 AM to 6:30 PM

EASTERN OHIO TRAINS
The Hobby Home of High Speed Service
2740 Fairmount Blvd.
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106
Phone: 216-215-7377
Fax: 216-371-0931
email: eohss@aol.com
www.easternohiotrains.com
Joe Andrews, Proprietor

Membership Report

Hello Members - We had a great October! The Great Berea Train Show was a big success. Attendance was up and visitors and vendors were happy. At the Membership table, we were able to add six new members to Division 4 and our friends in Division 1 gained one. Division 12 was also well represented at the show. Thanks to our members who volunteered to help staff the Membership table, it is really appreciated. Clinics were well attended and continue to add value to our visitors' experience. If you have a skill or subject to present, please consider sharing your knowledge at one of these events. Help to develop a program is available.

We also had our second road trip of 2026. The trip to the East Broad Top Railroad and the Railroaders Museum and Horseshoe Curve in Altoona, Pa was a great trip. Stay tuned for activities being planned for 2027.

NMRA membership is not just about attending meetings - there's a whole lot more! Getting involved is not hard. Host or attend a layout tour, run with the module group (open to all members), operating sessions, etc. Ask for help if you're not sure how to get involved. See me at a meeting or send an email to cb519145@gmail.com.

Craig Butler
Div4 Membership

Stewart's Hobbies & Collectors' Toys
Trains • Plastic Kits • Die-Cast Cars
Slot Cars • Toy Soldiers
38033 Euclid Ave. • Willoughby, OH 44094
440/942-6632
STORE HOURS: M-F 12-6 THURS. 12-8 SAT. 10-6
ROB STEWART
SANDY STEWART
• Buy • Sell • Trade Old & New

STOCKYARD EXPRESS LLC
O-Gauge MTH Electric Trains & Accessories
Where the bull stays in the barn and the train rolls down the track
- MTH Authorized Service & Demo Center -
MTH - Lionel - Atlas
'O' Trains, track, accessories and more
49293 Plate Rd
Oberlin, OH 44074
(South of Baumhart & SR 20)
Clyde & Diane Lewis
440.774.2131 / 440.774.7575 fax
www.stockyardexpressllc.com
email:stockyardexpress@aol.com

DOLLS AND MINIS
8068 Columbia Road
Olmsted Falls, OH 44138
440-647-1519
www.dollsandminis.com
HOURS: Tuesday thru Saturday
10AM - 6PM

HAVEN HOBBY
38735 Butternut Ridge Rd. Elyria OH 44035
440.412.4848 - havenhobby@gmail.com
www.havenhobby.com

Clinic Corner

NOVEMBER

November's meeting has been cancelled.

DECEMBER

November presentation has been rescheduled for December. The presenter will be Terry Kolenc. Terry lives in Mentor. He is a well known UP modeler with an exceptional eye to detail.Terry's presentation will be on the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike Celebration of the Transcontinental Railroad in 2019. While there will be some historical background on the building of the transcontinental railroad, the primary focus will be on chasing UP 4014 and 844 from Cheyenne to Ogden and some of the return trip. The presentation will also show moving 4014 from the museum in California back to Cheyenne for rebuilding and restoration. Terry will end the presentation will pictures of 4014 this past summer running through Northeast Ohio and Pennsylvania. Terry models the UP out of Cheyenne and is very knowledgeable about operations in that area.

FUTURE CLINICS

I'm always looking for Clinics. I'm currently looking for clinics to schedule for the Spring 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.

Jerry Krueger

Clinic Corner

GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD WORK SESSIONS

Structure Building

The last GSA Work Session was held on October 24th at the Berea Public Library. I want to thank everyone that come out and attended. The session was focused on building structures, specifically building a simple kit and then detailing it to meet the GSA criteria. It was a good session. Many different techniques were shared and presented along with making the supplies and materials available for people to try out.

Because we're getting close to the holiday season, which it hard to believe, the next work session will be scheduled after January 1, 2027. There are a few different topics that have been suggested. Suggestions include: decaling, DCC installation and programing, and track laying and wiring to satisfy the GSA criteria. If you have a suggestion for a topic, please email me at jktrains@yahoo.com

The work sessions are hands on opportunities to learn new skills and try out new techniques.They are an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas, share some fellowship and get some work done on maybe a long-delayed project

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

Month	Date	Event	Location	Clinic	Challenge
September	11th	Meeting	North Olmsted Community Cabin		Alco Steam or Diesel Engine
October	3rd & 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		

CANCELED

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion

Twenty-three members of NMRA Division 4 recently traveled to Pennsylvania for a memorable railroad adventure that combined living history, preservation, and modern railroading.

The highlight of the trip was a visit to the historic East Broad Top Railroad in Rockhill Furnace, Pennsylvania. Members were treated to behind-the-scenes tours of the railroad's renowned machine shops and engine facilities, gaining a rare look at one of America's best-preserved narrow-gauge railroads. The East Broad Top is often described as a "time capsule" of steam-era railroading, and the opportunity to see its restoration efforts and working facilities firsthand was a remarkable experience for all who attended.



Arrival at the East Broad Top

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion



Master Mechanic Dave give a tour of the shop



A M-1 Engine that runs on gasoline

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion



Master Mechanic Dave discusses the restoration of the Steam Engines



Locomotive 18 in the Roundhouse

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion



Locomotive 16 getting ready for her morning run



Master Mechanic Dave discusses the operation of a stub switch

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion



A view inside the Machine Shop



A locomotive in the process of being restored

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion

The group also enjoyed a ride aboard the East Broad Top behind steam locomotive No. 16. As the train rolled through the scenic Pennsylvania countryside, passengers experienced the sights, sounds, and atmosphere of narrow-gauge railroading much as travelers would have generations ago. For many participants, experiencing steam locomotive No. 16 in operation was a long-awaited and unforgettable highlight.



Locomotive 16 arriving on time

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion



Locomotive 16 ready for boarding



The East Broad Top Caboose

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion



A veiw from the copula in the Caboose

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion

The adventure continued on Saturday with a visit to the Railroaders Memorial Museum in Altoona. The museum's exhibits tell the story of the men and women whose work helped make Altoona one of the most important railroad centers in the United States. Members explored displays covering the Pennsylvania Railroad, locomotive construction and maintenance, railroad operations, and the communities that grew alongside the railroad industry.



The gang arrives at the museum





Shenanigans inside & outside of the museum

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion

Following the museum visit, the group traveled to the world-famous Horseshoe Curve. Designated a National Historic Landmark, Horseshoe Curve remains one of engineering's great achievements and continues to serve as a vital transportation route across the Allegheny Mountains. Members spent the afternoon watching modern freight trains labor up the grade out of Altoona as they made their climb through the mountains. The combination of powerful locomotives, spectacular scenery, and nonstop rail traffic provided an exciting conclusion to the day's activities.



Horseshoe Curve



Trains on the Horseshoe Curve

NMRA Division 4 Members Enjoy Memorable Pennsylvania Railroad Excursion



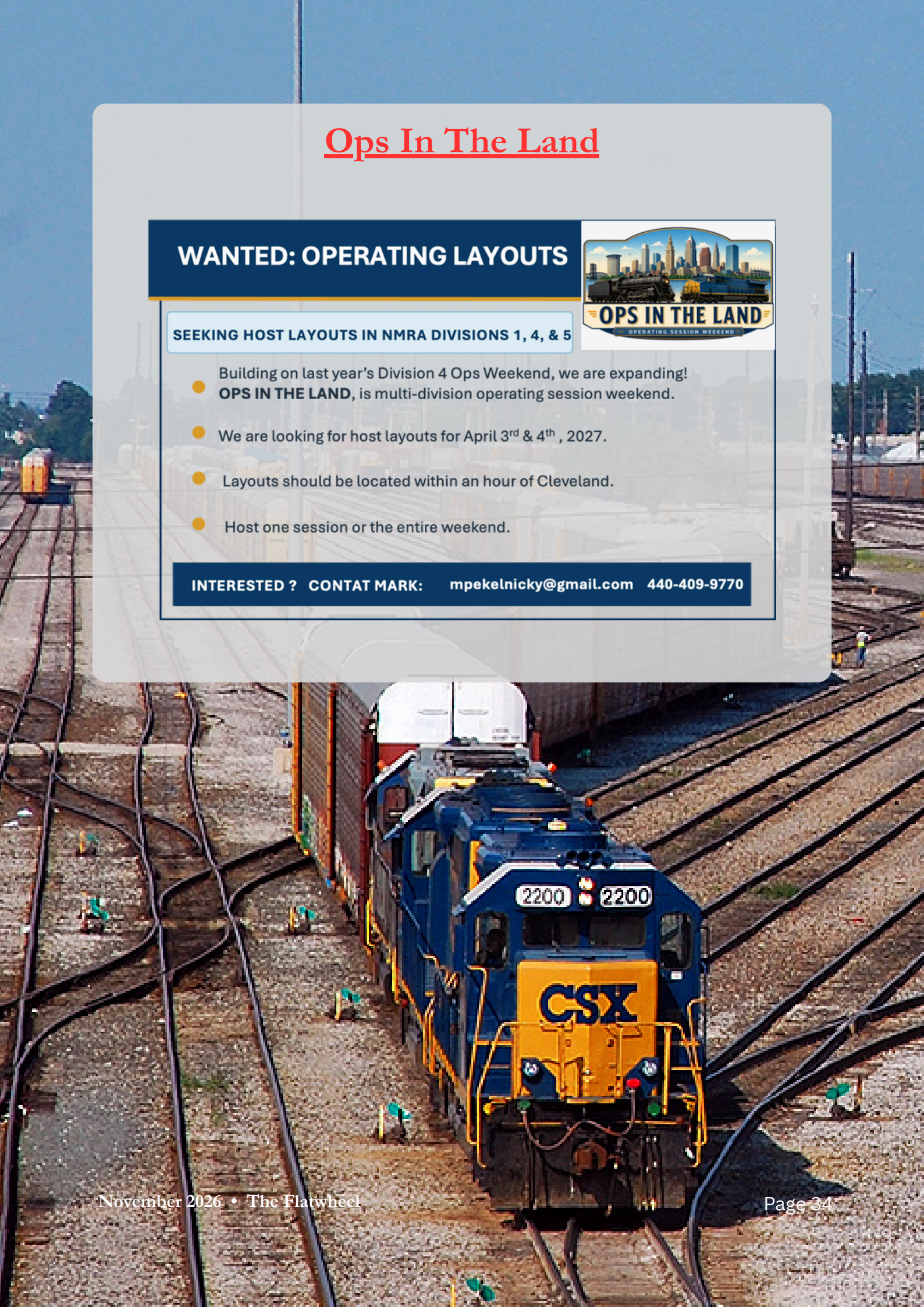
The Motley Crew

The trip offered an outstanding blend of railroad history, preservation, education, and railfanning. Whether touring the shops at East Broad Top, riding behind No. 16, exploring Altoona's rich railroad heritage, or watching trains navigate Horseshoe Curve, participants enjoyed a unique opportunity to experience some of Pennsylvania's most significant railroad landmarks.

By all accounts, the excursion was a tremendous success and provided lasting memories for the 23 Division 4 members who made the journey.

Bert Wisbar

Ops In The Land



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

Painting Bricks

On my layout I have a lot of brick buildings and I'm always eager to try a new technique for painting bricks. Dave Williams turned me on to a YouTube video which featured a technique I really like. Here is a link to the video and pictures of the technique as I applied it to a new Walthers kit. The videographer suggests using model paints to daub onto the base coats, but I used craft paints as they are so less expensive. I think you could do the base coats with rattle cans although I used hobby paints in this case and an air brush. He also suggests painting individual bricks afterward, but I chose not to. Finaly I was surprised that he used Bragdon powder gray for mortar. I followed his lead and it actually works! I find Bragdon powders indispensable to my weathering of cars, locomotives, and structures. They are colored powders with a built-in adhesive, so you do not need to overspray them with clear flat. That's why they are the last thing I put on a model. Here is a link to Bragdon's site if you'd like to order some. I use their variety pack and it's lasted for years. I use "Soot" more than any other flavor so, from time-to-time, I order more of that. For this project you could just order one of their grays.

I go very lightly with the gray powder, and not overall – just select areas. I flick it off the end of the brush like flicking the ash off a cigarette. Then ponce it into the mortar joints, blow off the excess, and wipe off the brick faces with a paper towel. If it gets out of control, you can respray the wall with clear flat and the powder will disappear and you can start again. Obviously, you want to do all this before you install the windows or glazing on the windows.

I hope you'll be as happy with this technique as I am.

https://www.bragdonent.com/weather.htm

John Hemsath, MMR



Painting Bricks





Whats On Your Workbench?

I wanted a building for the new section of the layout that could be used at the end of a spur. While going thru the stock of Walthers kits at Depot Hobby, I found the Union Crane & Shovel Company building (#933-4021). This will work!

I always go over the kit parts and mark the part number of the part on the back, cut them off the casting spur and start to assemble sub-assemblies for sanding and painting.

As with most Walthers kit, all the parts fit pretty good. Not this one! All of the smaller doors were over sized(??) and did not fit the openings. I had to do a lot of filing to get the door to fit the openings. Once done, everything fit pretty good. I then masked and painted the parts the colors that I felt look good. When dried, I started to make sub-assemblies.

I did cut the track door to make it look like the door was in an open position. That came out good. My next step was to drill holes for Woodland Scenics "plug & play" lighting system.
I use N scale lights for over door ways. Larger doors get HO scale lights. I feel the smaller N scale lights look a lot better. (I always test the lights before final assembly. It's easier to fix at that point).



Whats On Your Workbench?

Last, I assemble the walls of the structure. I use metal weights to hold corners in position while drying. I use a piece of brass foil (or aluminum foil) under the corners being glued to prevent the model sticking to the workbench…..in this case the foam on my layout. A large space to work with sure helps with assembly!

The last step before final assembly is to weather each assembly. Floors, walls, roofs and other parts. I have been using power chalks with very good result. (easier to clean up)

The last step is to install windows in the model. These are painted black.

Now it's on to fit the structure and position it on the layout.

Joe Kurilec, MMR®



I really like the way to name on the building decal laid flat! Lights are working. Added some plant growth and now it time to detail the outside around the building.

Railfanning Pic of the Month



Samuel Rea Observation

August 6th, 2026 at the Steam Railroading Institute facilities, the home of Pere Marquette 2-8-4 1225, the former PRR observation car "Samuel Rea" exterior was being restored and painted. The car was scheduled to be delivered to Ohio the week of August 10th.

Please submit your favorite Railfan image to donnmradiv4@gmail.com!

Model of the Month

No Submission for the month.



Please submit your newly built Model for Model of the Month to donnmradiv4@gmail.com!

WARZONE MATRIX
4704 Rocky River Dr. Cleveland, Ohio44135
1-216-433-1316
7 days a week 11:30 AM to 6:30 PM

EASTERN OHIO TRAINS
The Hobby Home of High Speed Service
2740 Fairmount Blvd.
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106
Phone: 216-215-7377
Fax: 216-371-0931
email: eohss@aol.com
www.easternohiotrains.com
Joe Andrews, Proprietor

WHAT'S NEW?

HO Scale



Electro-Motive Division SD40-2 diesel locomotive. Chessie System (with Baltimore & Ohio reporting marks), Conrail (as delivered [with and without Operational Cost Comparison stars]; no sill stripes, black number boards, and ditch lights; and white sill stripe and ditch lights), Chicago & North Western (System herald [with and without ATS pickup shoes] and Illinois Railway Museum version), Milwaukee Road (with and without billboard lettering), Southern Ry. (high short hood and gold lettering, standard and Locotrol Master), and Union Pacific (SD40N rebuild in four versions and C&NW patchout in two versions). Prototype-specific details, light-emitting-diode lighting, and metal semi-scale Type E couplers. Minimum radius, 18"; suggested radius, 22". Direct-current model with 21-pin DCC connector, $224.99; with ESU LokSound V5 sound decoder, two cube-type speakers, and ESU-designed PowerPack with two super capcitors, $339.99. RivetCounter line. ScaleTrains, 844-987-2467, scaletrains.com



54-foot 23,000-gallon Funnel Flow tank car. Procor (green and white schemes), Amoco, Chevron, Dow, Exxon, and Union Tank Car Co. Three road numbers per paint scheme. New ProtoMax metal double-shelf couplers, factory-applied manway and protective top filling housing with hatch and pressure relief valve, underbody details, and 100-ton truck with 36" metal wheelsets. Model from previous run with standard couplers shown. $64.98. WalthersProto. Wm. K. Walthers Inc., 414-527-0770, walthers.com

WHAT'S NEW?

HO Scale



First National Bank. Injection-molded plastic kit with ornate roof cupola, detailed brick and masonry exterior, and concrete sidewalk base. Measures 4-½" x 8" x 5-½". $34.98. WalthersTrainline. Wm. K. Walthers Inc., 414-527-0770, walthers.com



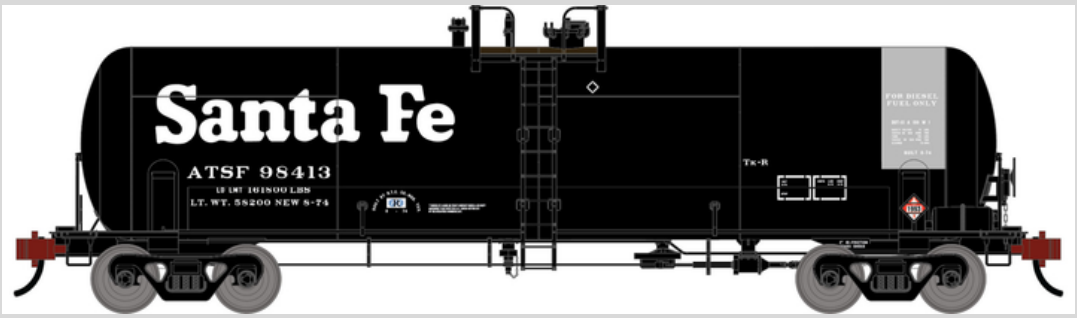
Articulated bulk carriers with six waste containers. Environmental Protection & Improvement Co., General American Marks, Greenfield Logistics, Heritage Environmental Services, and MHF Logistical Solutions Inc. Three road numbers per paint scheme. Die-cast metal body, 100-ton trucks, and metal couplers. Minimum radius, 15". $129.95. Master Line. Atlas Model Railroad Co., 908-687-0880, shop.atlasrr.com

WHAT'S NEW?

HO Scale



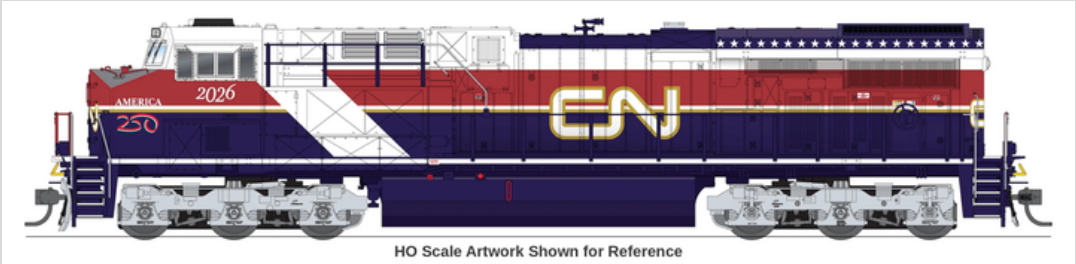
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Cleburne, Texas-rebuilt CF7 diesel locomotive. Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe (red warbonnet); Aberdeen & Rockfish; Ashley, Drew & Northern; Gloster Southern; Indiana Rail Road; Mass Central; Mexicana de Cobre SA de CV; Midsouth; Midwest Coal Hauling; Minnesota Commercial; Pioneer Valley RR; Reading & Northern; Rescar; and Santa Cruz, Big Trees & Pacific Ry. One to four road numbers per paint scheme. Angled cab, prototype-specific details, Cannon & Co. licensed 36" cap top radiator fans, and etched-metal grills and steps. Suggested minimum radius, 18". Direct-current models, $259.95; with ESU LokSound V5 sound decoder and MoPower capacitor system, $369.95. Rapido Trains Inc., 905-474-3314, rapidotrains.com



Richmond Tank Car 20,000-gallon general service tank car. Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe; BNSF Ry. (circle-cross and post-2005 heralds); ExxonMobil; PCS Phosphate; and Pemex. Three road numbers per scheme. Factory-applied brake wheel and ladders, 100-ton roller-bearing trucks with 36" metal wheels, and body-mounted McHenry scale couplers. Minimum radius, 18". $54.99. Athearn Trains, 800-338-4639, athearn.com

WHAT'S NEW?

N Scale



HO Scale Artwork Shown for Reference

General Electric ES44AC diesel locomotive. Canadian National ("Air Force One" and "Screaming Eagle" schemes), BNSF Ry. (United States of America semiquincentennial scheme), Norfolk Southern (Landmark Series [Altoona and Chicago] and "Stars & Stripes" United States of America semiquincentennial schemes), and Union Pacific (Building America scheme). One to three road numbers per scheme. ABS body; die-cast metal chassis; and factory-applied bell, grab irons, and handrails. Direct-current model with 8 ohm speaker, $199.99; with dual-mode Paragon4 sound decoder, $279.99. Broadway Limited Imports, 386-673-8900, broadway-limited.com



Assorted figure sets. Construction workers, fire brigade, passengers, railway officials, and sitting people. Hand-painted plastic figures. Six-pack, $14.98. SceneMaster line. Wm. K. Walthers Inc., 414-527-0770, walthers.com



Pennsylvania RR Z74D business car. Pennsylvania RR (mid 1930s, late 1940s, and 1950s appearance). Detailed interior, light-emitting-diode lighting, and sprung diaphragms. Compatible with codes 55, 70, and 80 rail. Minimum operating radius, 9.75". $79.99. Broadway Limited Imports, 386-673-8900, broadway-limited.com



WHAT'S GOING ON?

2026 - Nov. 1	Erie Model Train Show Rainbow Gardens - Waldameer Park, PA 9 am to 4 pm Adm. $8.00 Phone: 724-992-2035 Info & Map Flyer
2026 - Nov. TBA	Akron Train & Toy Show Emidio's & Sons Expo Center 48 East Bath Road at State Road Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223 9:00 am - 3 pm Adm. $5.00 Phone: 330-724-5253 Map Flyer
2026 - Nov. 14	Train Collectors Association - Thanksgiving Train Show 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 - Nov. 21	Iron and Steel Autumn Railfest Train Show NEW LOCATION & Date SAXON CLUB 710 Meridian Road, Youngstown, Ohio 44509 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Adm. $8.00 Phone: 330-503-5510 Flyer

WHAT'S GOING ON?

2026 - Nov. 21	2 Rail O-Scale Train Meet UAW Hall 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, Ohio 44130 Sat. 11 am - 4 pm Train Show Adm. $5.00 Sun. 9 am - 5 pm Modular Meet Flyer For Table Registration form Click HERE WEB Page For all table information, contact Skyler Shippy (skylersh767@gmail.com)
2026 - Dec. 5 & 6	Olmsted Falls Depot & Model Railroad Museum Open House Olmsted Falls Depot, 25802 Garfield Ave. Olmsted Falls, Oho 44138 11 am to 4 pm Adm. $5.00 Flyer
2026 - Dec. 6	Medina Train and Toy Show Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, Ohio 44256 9 am to 3 pm Adm. $8.00 Phone: 330-948-4400 Info & Map Flyer
2026 - Dec. TBA	Springfield Train Show Clark County Fairgrounds 4401 South Charleston Pike (State Rt. 41) At I-70 Exit 59 10 am - 3 pm Adm. $5.00 Map Flyer

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.