

Division 4, MCR, NMRA Business Meeting, September 12, 2025, North Olmsted Cabin

Assistant Superintendent, Bert Wisbar opened the meeting 7:00 pm with a warm welcome to the 65 members in attendance. He informed us of Gayle Morgan's Memorial Service on Saturday, September 20th. Noon to 1:00 pm will be greeting time, Service starting at 1 with a reception to follow. The Memorial Service for Linda Klein will be held on Monday, September 22nd at St. John Bosco Church. Service is at 11:30 am.

Bert asked for any new members or visitors to stand. Zach Pakis stood introduced himself. He is originally from Virginia and likes to scratch build things.

A motion was made by Jim Rafferty to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Tom Mc Inerny seconded the motion. The Division carried the motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting.

Treasurer, Greg Noeth gave a report on the balance of all accounts. He also told the Division that he renewed the Division's CD's and that the Module Group's check from the Cuyahoga County Fair had been deposited.

Old Business:

Trip to Pennsylvania Trolley Museum - Bert Wisbar - the planned trip for September will be rescheduled for the Spring. Details to follow.

Sign-Up Sheets/ Great Berea Train Show - David James - Everyone please sign up, because without your help our show cannot be the success it has been. David gave us an update on how buildings were going and what changes were made for advertising. Back gate is probably going to be non-existent. This was so the Cat Show people can have access to the food trucks. Bert will be on New Day Cleveland to advertise the Show, on September 24th. We will rely heavily on the Polaris kids to watch for wrist bands at the doors of each individual building.

NMRA 2025 National Convention - Bert Wisbar - It was a great convention with awesome layouts. Jerry Krueger showed pictures and described them to us as they were on the screen. Dayton will host the 2026 Regional Convention in 2026. It will be the first weekend in June.

New Business:

Achievement Program/AP Awards - John Hemsath, MMR - Our own long-time member, John Henning entered three photos into the Model/Photo Contest of the "National Association of 'S' Gaugers" The National Convention was held in Norwich, Connecticut. John took awards in the following:

First Place - in Black and White Model Photo

First Place - in Color Model Photo

Second Place - in Color Model Photo

John was also the recipient of the "John Seltzer Award". This award is given to the individual who has promoted 'S' scale through electronic media. He contributed over 260 photographs of his endeavors in 'S' Scale. John's FLICKER page is in the current Flat Wheel.

Other awards presented tonight were:

Julie Williams received her Volunteer Award for all of her previous work on the Flat Wheel.

Ben Lanza received his Master Builder for Cars,

Tom Mc Inerney received his Chief Dispatcher.

John Hemsath, MMR, invited people who have never done operations before to come over to his layout and learn. He is willing to set up a time with you.

Jerry Kruger explained about the new program set up to help people earn Achievement Awards.

Working on Any Cool Projects - Joe Kurilec, MMR - Joe gave a description and explained all he did to make a special version of Atlantic Coastline engine for Chris, (Which she really loves!)

Division 4 Ops Sessions - Mark Pekelnicky - Mark is also opening his layout for op sessions on weekends for those who want to learn ops and is willing to teach them.

Committee Reports:

Flat Wheel Deadline - Don Oleksa - Deadline is September 26th.

Clinics - Jerry Krueger - Jerry is doing tonight's Clinic. It is the first of our new program.

Company Store - Scott Benson - Scott has regular store stuff like micro brushes and such. a few of the Convention cars that are sure to sell out at the show. Copies of Convention time table are over here also. Fast Track Jigs are in his car, if you need one let Scott know.

Raffle - Adam Woodie - Great things, come on over and see what's here. Purchase your tickets after meeting.

HO Module Group - Adam Woodie - We did Novi, MI in July, the Cuyahoga County Fair in August. Both went great. Upcoming is the Great Berea Train Show in October. Adam will be reaching out to the Zoo for the Wild Winter Lights. Due to construction at Black River Landing, Trees and Trains is cancelled for this year. Then things quiet down until March for Avon Lake Library display and Training Day.

Layout Tours - Bert Wisbar - Bruce Bowie has made many improvements on his layout thanks to his crew. There are 3 homes open on Sunday, November 2nd. Time is 12:30 to 5:00 pm. The list of addresses are up here on the front table.

Contest - Joe Filipiak - Take people up on going to layout operation. He gave us an update on the Grafton Caboose, it is repainted and looks great! There is a painting of New York Central train on the side of a building across from the Grafton Tower. Joe's son helped organize this project, Joe then presented David Williams with his plaque from last year's competition. He won for his Dioramas. Then he went over the contest for this up coming year.

Medina 4-H Winner - Bert Wisbar - A bunch of us went to the Medina County Fair. We looked over all of the interesting modules built by the 4-H'ers. Chuck Shick was our lucky member who won the drawing.

Comments/Concerns - Bert Wisbar - "How are we doing as a Division?" Bert is postponing this until next month when Ron is back to talk about it. Ron has been doing a lot of research.

Bert asked for a moment of silence for all that is currently happening in the world around us.

Dino Peris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bruce Bowie seconded the motion. The Division carried the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

This meeting has reached it's final destination,
Chris Shick
Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA