



THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 45 NBR 05 MAY 2011

Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four



Art Bumpus, Division 4 Superintendent On Q

Hello. Our next meeting is May 13th. The model contest will be ice reefers of any kind. Our next event of import is the staffing of the modular group setup at Thomas the Tank at the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. The dates are May 21, 22, 27, 28, and 29. Volunteers to man the modules are needed. Remember, this is our opportunity to get ourselves in front of lots of children...important for the future of our hobby! See or call Scott Benson for details.

There are a number of things to report from our last Board of Director's meeting. First, the Board has endorsed the idea of an Official Beneficiary Committee. This idea comes forth from a recommendation made by Frank Bongiovanni to develop a resource for the families of deceased members from the Division. This is to provide help, as may be requested by those families. The Division is looking for volunteers to work on the committee. Please let me know if you are interested. At this point in time, the committee is comprised of Steve Kaplan, Chuck Klein, Jim Moore, and Frank Bongiovanni. Steve Kaplan will chair the committee and will report to the Division the role, scope, and implemented services of the group for the Division.

Second, we are in the process of changing the venue for our next Holiday/Awards Party. We are currently looking at several restaurants as possible sites. As we evaluate the prices, locations, and menus, a decision will be made and announced in the June meeting and the next newsletter.

Third, we will be making some changes to our upcoming Division meetings. Among them, we will be increasing the amount of "social time" for members to talk with their compatriots. This has been identified as a subject of importance by several members. This period of time will be from 7:00 to 7:30 PM. At 7:30 PM the business portion of the meeting will begin with a projected end time of 8:00 PM. This will be followed by another half hour of social time for the members to converse among themselves. From 8:30 PM to 8:45 PM we will conduct the raffle. This will be followed by the clinic program from 8:45 PM to 10:00 PM. In those instances where we do not anticipate much "business" for the business portion of the meeting, we will hold the clinics prior to the business meeting, with the business portion of the meeting occurring at the end of the meeting. These changes are effective with the May 13th meeting.

In order for us to manage this, we will be relying upon the membership to review the committee reports in the Flat Wheel and will forgo most committee reports within the meeting itself. Committee chairs will only report out information of a time sensitive nature within meetings as necessary.

These changes are fluid. We want to try new ideas in order to increase the quality and interest of our meetings. Changes will be made as we determine "what works and what doesn't". We are reviewing the subject of "clinics" and will be looking to change the subject matter to more hands on types of clinics which will include and involve Division members in those clinics (building a small kit or having breakout groups to discuss solutions to questions posed by members are examples). That's about all for this month. So, ...remember, never trade steam for water.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes General Membership Minutes – April 8, 2011 NMRA, Mid Central Region Division 4

Location: Church Of The Redeemer, 23500 Center Ridge Road, Westlake, OH 44145

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Art Bumpus at 7:45. Art asked to dispense with the regular business meeting and for brief reports from committee heads so that we could get to the auction.

Gary Sole reported that we had a very good Training Day on April 3. Dave Lawler announced the winners from March: 1st Jeff Lauren; 2nd Art Bumpus; 3rd tie-Tom McInerney and Gary Dunn. May contest is 40 foot ice reefers and milk cars are okay.

John Hemsath talked about how well the open houses were attended and thanked the members who were open. Larry Madson announced May's clinic is Jim Semon with a slide presentation on Canadian rail. Dennis Whitaker membership chair reported one new members and 2 re-rail.

April New Member: MICHAEL HYDOCK

April Re-Rails: JIMMIE CRILE LEONARD PACIFICO

Lee Sheffield announced that the open house at the refurbished NYC station in Elyria was called off. Cuyahoga Valley RR Club is holding open house April 9th and 10th from 12 – 5 each day. Art asked for a motion to close the meeting, Al Halvorsen made the motion and Al Seman seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm for a good time by all during the auction.

Submitted by Jim Moore for Secretary, Bruce Bowie



Congratulations to Mike Oster on his retirement from the Parma Heights Police Department. Mike and Pat shared a cake with the Division during the April meeting.

Membership by Dennis Whitaker

May 2011 Birthdays:

BRIAN BARNT	JIMMIE CRILE
MICHAEL J DORY, PHD	RONALD FIEDLER
WILLIAM GORRIS	MYRON KRAJEWSKI
STEVE RIDDLEBAUGH	R JIM ROLLBUHLER
FRITZ SCHAUFELE	PETER M STROTH

New Member:

MICHAEL HYDOCK	GARFIELD HEIGHTS
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Re-Rail Members:

JIMMIE CRILE	GARFIELD HEIGHTS
LEONARD PACIFICO	BRECKSVILLE

Jimmie Crile 1939 - 2011

Word reached us just before printing that member Jimmie Crile passed away. The service was held on Wednesday, April 27, 2011.

The Clinic Corner

May Clinic

We welcome Jim Semon as our guest clinician for the May meeting. His program will be a slide presentation *Our Trip on Via's Canadian to Steam Expo* from Toronto to Vancouver in 1986. Time permitting he will show slides of the NKP.

A Digital Projector for the Division

The Division 4 digital projector is available for use by division members for presenting clinic programs in digital format. Anyone wishing to present a program in digital format contact Larry Madson. phone: 440-934-2643 or email lmadson@roadrunner.com.

2011 - 2012 Clinic Programs

Any Division member wishing to present a program for the 2011 – 2012 season, please contact me.

Larry Madson

BOD Meeting Minutes

Location: United Church of Christ, Strongsville, Ohio

Art Bumpus, Superintendent, called the meeting of elected officers to order at 7:13 P.M. All elected officers were present with exception of Trustee Larry Madson. Additionally, committee chairs Dennis Whitaker, Mike Oster, John Hemsath, Dave Lawler and Joe Mehalic were present.

The agenda for the meeting included; increasing meeting interest, resources for widows, TRAINing Day and the Xmas Dinner.

Discussion on various resources and aids to help families with train collections after a member passes away were discussed. The BOD agreed to form a Beneficiaries Committee to look further at the issue and to develop a plan of action in this regard. Steve Kaplan, Jim Moore and Chuck Klein volunteered to be members of the Committee. Other Div 4 members will be contacted for participation.

While meeting participation has been very good, a number of ideas were discussed on making the meetings more interesting. Ideas included; move model contest to the back wall for improved access, more hands on clinics, moving the business meeting to after the clinic, providing more time to socialize between the business meeting and the clinic, breakout sessions to discuss specific topics in lieu of formal clinics, reduce the business meeting duration (typically 45 minutes currently) by placing more content on the web/Flatwheel, AP judging during the clinic period, clinic topic with laser kit contest, AP certificate how to clinic, field trips vs. formal Division sponsored tours, forum in response to submitted questions, business meeting start time at 7:30 with socializing time starting at 7 PM and/or from 8 to 8:30 PM and raffle at 8:30 with clinic start at 8:45 PM, announcements in the Flatwheel and/or a web based calendar, chalkboard for announcements, themed bring and brag.

Spring TRAINing was again very successful. A different venue was discussed but consensus was the current location provides benefits (price, central location, known location). Holding the event at a different time of year was also discussed. One idea was to hold it after the Thomas The Tank event to take advantage of the potential marketing opportunity. Also discussed was holding it in November to coincide with National Model Railroad month and as a lead in to Xmas.

The Division does not currently have a site reserved for this year's December Annual Awards Dinner. It was felt a change of venue and program should be considered. A number of possible sites were discussed. It was also agreed it is time critical and a reservation needs to be made soon. Several members offered to make contacts during the coming week and get back to Art with the information they find.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary

Bruce Bowie, Secretary

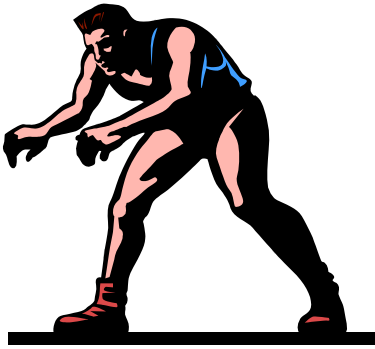
in2trains@neo.rr.com

cell 419-541-1416

Training Day 2011
St. Christopher's Church
Rocky River Oh



Raffle Report



There will be no

TAG TEAM WRESTLING

at this month's raffle. One of

THE KLEIN BROTHERS

has seen

ALL CHALLENGERS

in museums across the country.

BUY TICKETS

for a wonderful raffle with the usual

GREAT PRIZES.



Read the Flatwheel online at www.div4.org

Yahoo - The Division has a Yahoo group available for members. Send your request to join to dave_wms@sbcglobal.net. It's best to include "Division 4" in the subject line and include your name.

Members of the Yahoo Group receive an email when the Flatwheel PDF has been posted onto the website. The group is private and does not appear on the Yahoo directory.

We also have an email list to notify you when the Flatwheel is placed on the website. You are no longer required to join the Yahoo Group for this service.

Uncredited photos: D Williams.

The Flatwheel is published monthly (except during July and August) by Division Four of the Mid-Central Region (MCR) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). The Flatwheel can be mailed to all Division Four members free of charge, however we request that all members with Internet access decline receiving a mailed copy. Subscriptions are available to others for \$12.00 annually. All comments are welcome, however, those views expressed in the Flatwheel do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the NMRA, MCR, or Division Four.

Deadline for the May Flatwheel is Thursday May 26, 2011.

DIVISION FOUR OFFICERS

Elected

Superintendent

Art Bumpus (440) 526-9184 abumpus@cox.net

Assistant Superintendent

Jim Moore h (419) 684-5833 moorez@aol.com
c (419) 370-3007 fax (419) 684-7030

Secretary

Bruce Bowie in2trains@gmail.com
c 419-239-8115

Treasurer

Rich Tressa (440) 572-9245 rictre@hotmail.com

Trustee East

Steve Kaplan (216) 561-1648 spk@skaplanassociates.com

Trustee Quad County

Gary Dunn (419) 625-0413 cell (419) 504-8090
trainguy@bex.net

Trustee West

Chuck Klein (440) 845-4915 cltrn@aol.com

Trustee at Large

Larry Madson (440) 934-2643 lmadson@roadrunner.com

Trustee at Large

Lee Sheffield lakeshorenyc@yahoo.com

Appointed

Carnival

Mike Oster

Achievement

Bruce Brintnall MMR

Layouts

John and Tom Hemsath

Contests

David Lawler

Historian/Archivist

Frank Bongiovanni

Raffle

Mike Klein

Company Store

Tim Sheffield

Clinics

Larry Madson

Flatwheel Editor

Dave Williams

Membership Co-Chairs

Dennis Whitaker/Joe Mehalic

Modules

Scott Benson

N.O.A.R.S. Representative

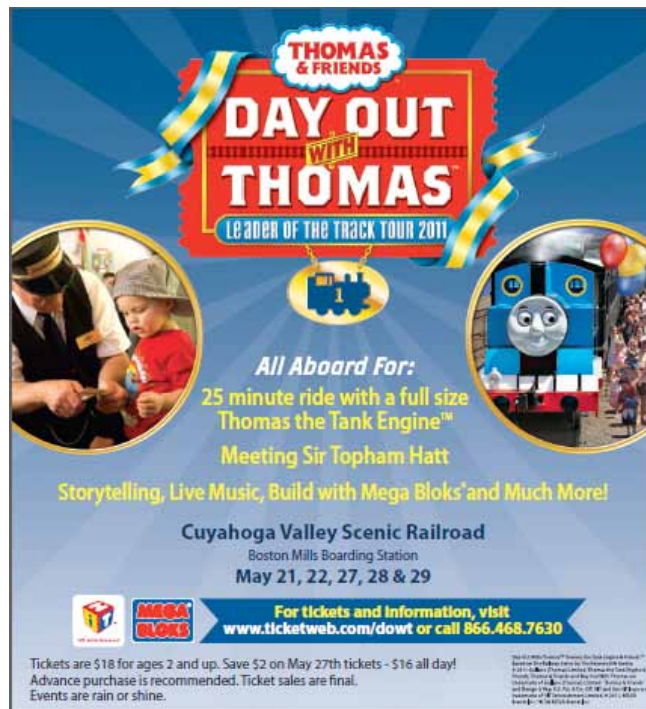
Chuck Beargie

Webmaster

Ben Lanza

DAY OUT WITH THOMAS

Volunteers needed to man the Membership table



Division 1 and Division 4 members will be jointly displaying their Modular layout at the forthcoming “Day Out with Thomas” event. Divisions 1, 4 and 5 will also be simultaneously hosting a membership recruiting table.

Division 4 membership Co-Chairmen, Denny Whitaker and Joe Mehalic will be coordinating the Membership Recruiting table efforts, while Scott Benson is organizing the module members. Bob Ashley, Sr. is the primary organizer for Division 1.

**We will need helpers for this 5-day JOINT-DIVISION 1-4-5 EVENT . . .
Please think about helping out either at the modules or the membership table.**

The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad Manager in charge of the event told us they had over 30,000 attendees last year and expect even a greater crowd this year. This is a great member recruiting opportunity for us!

The Division 1 and 4 Module Groups and our NMRA Member Recruiting Table will be at all 5 days of the Cuyahoga Valley Railroad’s “Day Out with Thomas event on:

May 21	Saturday	9:00 – 5:00
May 22	Sunday	10:00 – 5:00
May 27	Friday	9:00 – 5:00
May 28	Saturday	9:00 – 5:00
May 29	Sunday	9:00 – 5:00

We would like to split “shifts” into morning and afternoon for simplicity. At this time we are not going to set up specific times to volunteer. Please check your division’s web site for additional details.

Contest Corner conducted by Dave Lawler

The May contest is for: 35"-40" Ice Reefers

Could the March winners please bring in their models for display.

More on the Auction



Frank checks the vintage of a fine burgundy boxcar.



Members await bidding to begin. Bram's dog showed an interest but was unable to place a winning bid.



A lot of stuff showed up on the block and went home with new owners.

Al Seman, unmentioned in the last edition

Al Seman received the Division's Grant check for **Northern Ohio Live Steamers** back in March. No picture was taken at the time and Al's name apparently fell off the page in the April Flatwheel mention of the event. Al is the current president of NEOL as well as a very active member of the Division. This picture was taken at this year's Training Day while Al supervised *two* child engineers on the Division's modular layout. Al maintained a brave smile and no collisions were reported on the line during his shift.



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Next meeting: Church of the Redeemer
23500 Center Ridge Road
Westlake Ohio 44145

Division website
www.div4.org

Friday May 13, 2011
Social time starts at 7 pm
(see Art's column)

Auctioneer Gary Sole entertains a bid (and just plain entertains) during the Division's Biannual Auction in April. Frank Bongiovanni (facing camera) shared auctioneer duties while a host of other members moved lots and handled paperwork, including Ken Orchard (standing, middle).



On Line Extra from the Regional Convention:

Martha Newberry won Best of Show in the judged model category

Jim Grell and Gary Dunn also won awards - unfortunately a good list of awards hasn't been made available yet, hope to report in the June Flatwheel.

Congratulations to Martha, Jim, and Gary.

A 501(c)(3) Non Profit Educational Organization
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Dave Williams
Flatwheel Editor
7769 Oakhurst Circle
Brecksville OH 44141-1121