



THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 45 NBR 06 JUNE 2011

Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four



Art Bumpus, Division 4 Superintendent On Q

Hello again. Our next meeting will be our annual picnic on Saturday, June 11th at the Northeast Ohio Live Steamers site in Lester (near Medina). The picnic starts at 12:00 noon. See page 8 for the vectors. The Division will be providing hot dogs and condiments. Those attending should bring a side dish or dessert which will provide a “pot luck” of items to fill your plates. Train rides will be available which cover a decent amount of acreage in this park like setting. It’s a fun time. Come on out and enjoy yourself.

As this is the last meeting until September, we will have signup sheets for volunteers for our Berea train show in October. Please sign up for a couple of hours of time to work in the show. It helps everyone if we have a good number of volunteers, making the load lighter for everyone.

The modular group set up a large number of modules for the Thomas the Tank event at the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. Thanks go out to all those who volunteered to participate in the module event and the NMRA membership table. From what I could see, the traffic going through the tent was large and generated a good deal of interest. I’d like to especially thank those who put in a large number of hours in the planning and execution of the event. Some of those who put in a large amount of time were Scott Benson , Denny Whitaker, and Ken Orchard.

One of the major reasons we wanted to have a modular event at Thomas the Tank Days was to expose the “kids” to model railroading. Consistent with that theme, we will also be moving our Training Day event to November. The idea is to again expose the kids to model railroading and maybe plant an idea in some of their heads to ask Mom and Dad for a model train for Christmas.

This hobby needs a next generation to carry the interest in model railroading!

With the NMRA National Convention coming to Cleveland in 2014, it may seem like a long time away, but it really is not. Especially if you’re one of those guys like me who is trying to get a presentable railroad available for viewing in July, 2014. My advice is, start working now, in earnest, in order to make some realistic progress and have a presentable model railroad. For those who desire being on the model tour circuit, there will be a site visit made by the “layout committee” to identify whether your railroad meets the “threshold” for viewing. If it does, great. If it does not, then you will be given information as to what areas of your railroad need more attention, to be able to be presented as part of the layout tour. This will give you some time to work on those areas before the convention. Be aware, the convention group is searching for a large number of layouts to be available. Distance from Cleveland will be within an approximate two hour (one way) time travel radius. That means, the geographic area for layouts could include Toledo, Columbus, or maybe Pittsburgh. Divisions 4, 5, and 1 will definitely be within the viewing area. If you’re interested in being on the layout circuit for 2014, let Chuck Klein or Jerry Krueger know of your interest.

Here’s hoping everyone has an enjoyable summer. Remember, never trade steam for water.

Meeting Minutes

Location: Church of the Redeemer, Westlake, Ohio

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Art Bumpus. The BOD is trying a new meeting format starting tonight in response to requests from some members. The 7 – 7:30 time slot is open for socializing. The business meeting will be moved to the end of the evening's agenda.

Jim Semon was introduced as tonight's clinician by Dave Williams. Jim is well known as a car, truck and railroad guy. Jim has also authored three books on railroad photography. The night's clinic was a slide presentation of photos taken by Jim when he attended the 1986 Steam Expo in Vancouver, Canada. Jim and his wife rode "The Canadian" VIA train to the event. Two other slide carousels were displayed showing NKP from Toledo to Cleveland.

The business meeting reconvened after the clinic at 9:35 PM. A brief discussion on the new format followed with Art requesting comments be sent to him via email or telephone. It was noted the time allowed for socializing between the clinic and the business meeting will be reduced. The new format will be tried at least once more, the 1st meeting in September, with the adjustments noted.

The Treasurer reported assets were \$30,757.80. Rich went on to thank all the sellers, buyers and auction staff at the recent auction event. The Division netted \$453.

There were no visitors. Scott Benson reported the Division module group will have 100' of railroad set up at the upcoming Thomas The Tank event on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. Divisions 1 will have some modules. Signup sheets for the two weekends event were available. Joe Mehalic reported the membership table at the same event will be staffed with Divisions 1 & 5 members as well as our own. Signup sheets were available.

Dave Lawler reported the night's contest is ice reefers. Last month's winners included: 1st – Jeff Lauren, 2nd – Tom McInerney & 3rd – Art Bumpus. The Shown & Tell table included a 1949 Chicago Railroad Fair plate and an original 1934 Model Craftsmen magazine. Next year's contests themes have been listed on the website and will be listed in the next *Flatwheel*.

Old Business – The June meeting will be on Saturday, June 11th. It will start at noon and again be held at the Northern Ohio Live Steamers in Lester, Ohio. Members are asked to bring a covered dish. The Division will provide the hot dogs. Signup sheets for the fall Carnival will be at the June meeting.

New Business – Brian Barnt is relocating to Chicago for his employer. Brian has done an outstanding job as the refreshment chair. The Division is looking for a new refreshment chair to provide cookies, coffee, etc. at the membership meetings. Contact Art if interested.

The BOD has approved moving Training Day to November. It is felt this is a good idea as November is National Model Railroad Month and also a lead in to Xmas. This would provide parents an opportunity to purchase a train for their child, an event that lead many of us into our lifelong hobby interest. Chair Gary Sole was asked if he could chair the event again. Gary said he could and would see if the church is available.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Bowie Secretary

Since the June meeting is the picnic, there will be no raffle or clinic. Thanks to guest speaker Jim Semon for presenting his slides on a rail trip across Canada as well as other miscellaneous subjects at the may meeting.

Larry and the Raffle Dudes wish everyone a safe and pleasant s Summer.

The Flatwheel is not published in July or August.

Membership by Dennis Whitaker

June 2011 Birthdays:

CHUCK BAAD	CHARLES J BEARGIE
FRANKLIN V BONGIOVANNI	BRUCE A BOWIE
ROBERT BOYLE	DARREN J ERNST
JOSEPH J FILIPIAK	GEORGE GELEHRTER
HAROLD R MCCARTY	PAUL J NOVAK SR
ALFRED G SCHERLER	LEONARD R SCHERRY
HOWARD A SPEIDEL	JOHN C STEWART
RICHARD TRESSA	LEONARD WENDORF

July 2011 Birthdays:

JOSEPH E ANDREWS	EDWARD H CASS
MICHAEL C KLEIN	JOE MEHALIC
DALE D OWENS	LEONARD PACIFICO
DENNIS K ROMAIN	DAVID A SIEGFRIED
JAMES B STEVENSON	DAVID M WILLIAMS

August 2011 Birthdays:

ARTHUR BUMPUS	THOMAS J BUSINGER
JON COBB	WILLIAM H CRAMER
JOHN R HUDACKO	ROBERT L KAISER
STEPHEN P KAPLAN	M C KOLENICH
TIMOTHY T KROGG	JERRY KRUEGER
HAROLD MICKLEY	JOSEPH M POLEFKO
DAVID H SHUTE	PAUL WINSLOW

New Members:

MICHAEL MOORE	ROCKY RIVER
GEORGE D SEKERAK	BAY VILLAGE

Re-Rail Members:

NONE

From the editor

Someone recently asked about a For Sale column in the Flatwheel. That column is actually in here just about all the time, but if no one has anything for sale, the title doesn't appear. We also are interested in promoting shows, dinners, and other events related to the hobby. Remember that we don't have roving reporters or a Young Man About Town to dig into the big stories – you have to let us know. (dave_wms@sbcglobal.net is best)

I was given the job of layout publicity for the 2014 National Convention, and will tell you right up front, it's not going to be a one man job. It's unfortunately already time to start visiting layouts and taking pictures. For *Model Railroader*, we'll need someone with very good drafting skills – and whatever else it takes – to get the accurate layout plans they need. Also of interest for *Model Railroader* – they reserve a certain amount of space each year for National Convention related Trackside Photos – and guess what – Sacramento did not take advantage of the opportunity for this year – let's not do the same. I plan on taking some of the pictures and doing some of the writing but hope I'm joined by some of you. You're welcome to work independently from me as long as we don't duplicate effort – let me know what you're submitting. Committee heads can serve on other committees - I'm looking forward to working on Non-Rail as well. Anybody ready for their layout to be in a National magazine? This will be your biggest chance.

I'll be at the National Convention in Sacramento for the sole purpose of promoting our National, with the hope a small side trip into Nevada.

Thanks. Have a good summer. Dave Williams

Regional Convention

Hosted by Division 5 at Geneva-on-the-Lake



View from the hotel window



Contest judging (above). That's John Hemsath to the far right. Martha Newberry won Best-of-Show for this house (below). We unfortunately did not get the corrected list of other contest winners - Jim Grell received awards for his gas station diorama and a freight car; Gary Dunn won an award for a structure.



Banquet



The banquet speaker was Rick Rowlands, representing his Tod Engine and other restoration projects (<http://www.todengine.org/>). Rick gave a similar clinic at our Regional convention but has covered a lot of ground since then. We've carried pictures of the Tod engine on the Division website for several years.

BOD Meeting Minutes

Location: United Church of Christ, Strongsville, Ohio

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Superintendent Art Bumpus. In addition to the Superintendent, elected officers present included Jim Moore, Rich Tressa, Bruce Bowie, Steve Kaplan, Gary Dunn, Chuck Klein, Larry Madson and Lee Sheffield. Chairpersons in attendance included Mike Oster, Dave Williams, Dennis Whitaker, Joe Mehalic, Gary Sole, Scott Benson and Ben Lanza.

A new site for the December Awards Banquet was discussed. Michaud's Towne & Country in Strongsville will be this year's location. A motion by Chuck Klein, 2nd by Steve Kaplan was passed to hold the event at Michaud's on Friday, December 9th (the 2nd Friday in December, same as our Division meetings). The cost to the Division will be \$28 per dinner. Members attending will be asked to pay \$15 per dinner. Chuck will contact Santa. Rich Tressa will arrange a new musical entertainment revue.

Scott Benson reported everything appears well in hand for the upcoming Thomas The Tank event at Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. Dennis Whitaker reported on the detailed plans for the membership table to be set up at the event. This is a two weekends, five day event. Joe Mehalic will have a signup sheet at the May meeting. Divisions 1 & 5 have offered to assist. A discussion on ways to increase membership was held. A discussion ensued about establishing a mailing database of non-members with an interest in our activities, and particularly our public events, to send out mailers to upcoming division train shows. One successful method is to establish a mailing database of interested parties who are then sent postcards for upcoming events. These are non-members who have expressed interest by signing up for the post card notifications. More to come.

Mike Oster reported everything is in hand given the point in time for this year's Carnival.

Discussion for invigorating our clinics led to a number of ideas being reviewed; move business meeting to end of agenda (to be tried this month – sec.), kit building, multiple mini-clinics similar to those held at the recent Region Convention, professional presenters, bridge theme. These will be looked at for next season.

It was agreed to re-time Spring TRAINing to November (and a new name – sec.) Chair Gary Sole will contact the current church location for possible dates. It was agreed a Saturday and/or different location in the same general area would be doable if necessary to make it happen in November.

Rich Tressa thanked on behalf of the entire Division Gary Sole and Frank Bongiovanni for their great job acting as the auctioneers at the recent Division auction. Art added a thank you to the "back room" boys that worked in support of the verbal end of the auction. Rich reported the Division netted \$453.⁷⁰ from the event.

Rich Tressa requested help from the Superintendent on getting the recipient of a long ago grant disbursement to cash the check, or return it.

Everyone was reminded the June Meeting will again be held at the Northern Ohio Live Steamers in Lester on Saturday, June 11th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bruce Bowie, Secretary

Thomas Days



The real Thomas, giving photo ops.



An imposter, containing numerous energetic children.



As Art mentioned in his column, the Division's modular layout drew a continuous crowd. A good location and lots of action on the really long layout made for an impressive display.



At the Membership table on the first Saturday.
left to right: Denny Whitaker, Larry Brown (Div 1 Membership),
Randy Dettmer (Div 1 Super) and Jim Moore



photo: Joe Mehalic



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 September Flatwheel is Thursday August 25, 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 lakeshoreny@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

FAMILY PICNIC

Saturday June 11, 2011

Steamed hot dogs and buns will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share with everyone; also bring lawn chairs and a card table if you have them (they have about nine picnic tables available). Train rides provided between noon and 3 PM. General meeting at 2 PM. No flip-flops. No running, or sticks or rocks in hands (that includes adults). A Port-a-Pottie and running water are available. As we all know, steam engines can be fussy, so no guarantees on their availability - the “diesels” should be able to handle our excursions around the park in any case.

Directions

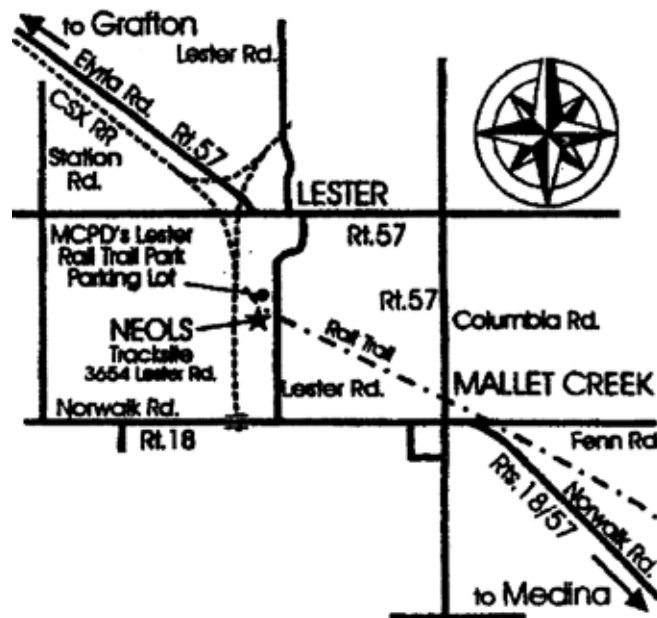
From Cleveland take 171 south to the Route 3 exit.

Turn right at the end of the exit ramp. You will be going west, then south. Turn Right at Fenn Road and follow it west to Marks Road. At Marks, Fenn Road makes a jog left then right. Continue west on Fenn Road to where it merges into Route 18. Continue west on Route 18 to Lester Road. Turn Right on Lester to NEOLS.

From western Cuyahoga county and Lorain County, take Columbia Road (Route 252) south to Spieth Road (Route 57). Turn Right on Spieth Road to Lester Road. Left on Lester to NEOLS.

From Akron and Medina, take Route 18 west to Lester Road, right on Lester to NEOLS.

Northeast Ohio Live Steamers
3654 Lester Rd
Medina OH 44256-7738



Contest Corner

conducted by Dave Lawler



Contest Corner: May 2011, 35'-40' Ice Bunker Refrigerator Cars

There were 39 entries and 39 votes cast.

1st Jim Grell - Quaker City #728 Reefer
2nd Art Bumpus - AT&SF Reefer
3rd (tie) Jeff Lauren - Cleveland Provision Co. Reefer
John Hemsath - Chudahy Reefer



Point Standings/Awards:

1st Jeff Lauren 10 total points
2nd Tom McInerney 8 total points
3rd (tie) Jim Grell and Art Bumpus 6 total points each



2011 -2012 Season Contests

September: Food service passenger cars; diners, tavern, buffet lounge etc., any era, wood or steel.

October: A retail store; grocery, drug, hardware, shoes etc.

November: "Crittters" (Industrial Locomotives); steam, diesel, gasoline etc.

Also in November: A one-time "favorite photo taken by you" contest with separate awards for the winners.

January: Automobiles or pickup trucks; for personal use, no commercial vehicles.

February: Stock cars; any era, railroad type, not NASCAR.

March: Branch Line/Way Freight Train: Steam or diesel era, maximum 5 units including the locomotive.

April: Diorama on a peanut butter jar lid (3" diameter), any subject, any era.

May: 6 axle (C-C) diesel locomotives: Any manufacturer, era, freight or passenger.

As many of you may remember we used to have a regular railway related photo contest in addition to our model contest each month. In time, it got to be a "little much" so we dropped the photos. I think it might be time to try another contest once during next season and if it works out, maybe we can have one every year in the future. I'll get some ribbons or small trophies for the top photos in the contest.

Therefore, in addition to the model contest in NOVEMBER 2011 we're going to have a RAILWAY RELATED SUBJECT, PHOTO TAKEN BY YOU, CONTEST. Please include description of the subject, date and location and be sure to bring your cameras on vacation this summer.

THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 45 NBR 06 JUNE 2011

Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four

Division website
www.div4.org

Next meeting:

Saturday June 11, 2011

Special event: Picnic at NEOLS
starts at noon Map on page 8.



A visit to NKP 755 at the Conneaut Railroad Museum was part of a Regional Convention tour.

A 501(c)(3) Non Profit Educational Organization
FIRST CLASS

Dave Williams
Flatwheel Editor
7769 Oakhurst Circle
Brecksville OH 44141-1121