



# THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 49 NBR 01 JANUARY 2014

Official newsletter of Division Four, Mid Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association.

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## On Q Art Bumpus, Division 4 Superintendent

Our next Division meeting is Friday, January 10, 2014. Larry Madson has lined up a Question and Answer clinic. Members who have questions on any aspect of model railroading can ask their questions and, with all the experience in the room, can expect to hear several solutions. This is your opportunity to get an answer to that certain something which hasn't presented itself with an answer. David Lawler has set up the January model contest as "2 bay open top hoppers". Coal hoppers, iron ore hoppers, or any other load carried in an open hopper is eligible.

The Board of Directors has selected the organizations who will receive grants for 2013. We are pleased to present awards to The Mad River/Nickel Plate Museum \$500, The Grafton Rail Group \$500, Midwest Rail Historical Society (the restoration group operating out of the W 3rd St. Roundhouse) \$300, and the Medina 4 H Model Railroaders \$300. This is in addition to the \$500 donation to the Polaris Law Enforcement Program (which was matched by our Carnival Train Show vendors) which provided the Polaris Program with a total of \$1,000.

The BOD also discussed having a REALLY nice field trip in August, 2014. I will be asking for membership approval to amend our 2014 budget to finance a trip which will involve transporting members on two buses. Stay tuned for more details which will be presented at our January meeting.

Missed opportunities can result in later regrets. I worked with a woman for 15 years whose husband was a model railroader and NMRA member. Because he had several physical disabilities it was impossible for him to attend Division meetings. It wasn't until his death last year that I put two and two together. I received a returned Region Newsletter stating that he was deceased. That started me thinking about how I missed the chance to know this member, simply because I never mentioned to his wife that I was a model railroader. A missed opportunity. The moral, don't hesitate in letting people know about your personal interests. You could end up with meeting new friends.

Preparation activities for the Cleveland National Convention are accelerating. The registration package will be on the web site in January. This will include tour destinations, dates, and prices which will include prototype tours and model layouts. The NMRA.org magazine will have a registration package in it, shortly thereafter. Interested members should register within the next several weeks to take advantage of the choicest of tours. We really expect sellouts on several of the prototype tours.

And remember, never trade steam for water.

# General Meeting Minutes

The Holiday Party/Awards Banquet took the place of a Division General Meeting in December, therefore, there are no general meeting minutes to report for December.

## Board of Directors meeting for December 17, 2013

Meeting opened at 7:17PM

Welcome

Training Day- We will be in need of a new chair for this event. Gary has resigned from the chair of this event. Art will ask at the next meeting if there is anyone interested in taking on this role in the division. Some discussion followed on prospective new chairs for this event.

Field trip – Art would like to create a trip for the membership to be held sometime in August. Dave James will fine tune the trip. Bruce made a motion to go ahead and create a trip and present to the membership. Seconded by Larry Madson. Motion Passed.

Grants for 2013 –Motion was made by Jim Moore to give the following grants, Nickel Plate Museum in Bellevue (\$500.00), Grafton Railroad Society (\$500.00), Midwest Railroad Preservation Society (\$300.00) and the 4H club of Medina (\$300.00). Seconded by Lee Sheffield. Motion passed.

Board Elections – much discussion on the make up the board and whether there is a need to make any changes on the composition of the board. It was decided that there is no need to make changes at this time.

No further business was brought before the board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM

David James

## Holiday Party / Awards Banquet

The Division held its annual Holiday Party /Awards Banquet at Michaud’s Party Center in Strongsville in December. We all had a good time with the dinner and musical entertainment, as well as a visit from Santa’s Helper for the children. The raffle provided chances for a lot of great gifts. Thanks to Treasurer Bruce Bowie for organizing the event and all who helped to make it a really good party. Superintendent Art Bumpus (suit and tie in the right picture below) gave awards to Pat and Mike Oster (left picture) for their tireless efforts to make our annual train show (fund raiser) happen. Jerry Krueger (right picture) received the Dennis Novak Award for his work to date as Co-Chair of the 2014 NMRA National Convention. Webmaster Ben Lanza was awarded the Bruce Brintnall Member Award for his support of the Division members in various endeavors .



## Membership by Tom Beutler, Membership co-chair

### January 2014

#### Birthdays

Jim Barnett	Roy Cavan
William C Deptowicz J	Joe Dugan
Aleck J Halvorsen	Pauline Handmon P
John E Henning	John Francis Janda
Daniel Laszio	Raymond Litten
Jeffrey A Martin	Richard Mayich
Mathew Nickoson	Edward R Nowicki
Timothy J Radachi	Ted J Shultz
Gary A Sole	John R Spencer
Adam Woodie	

#### New Members:

Dennis Super    Shaker Heights  
Encie Super    Shaker Heights

#### Re-Rail Members:

NONE

### Carl Gedeon

Division member Carl Gedeon passed away last week. Services were on December 28. While his health allowed, Carl could be counted on to work the Division's membership table at events. Denny Whitaker worked with Carl for 25 years at BP and said that Carl introduced him to several Division members and the concept of operating sessions. Thanks to Denny for notifying us of Carl's passing.

# New York Central System Historical Society Inc. Layout Tour Exchange

Mr Bill Feth (Division 1) is coordinator of layout tours for the upcoming NYCSHS convention to be April 25-27, 2014 at the Holiday Inn on Rockside in Independence OH. He is looking for an "availability exchange" of layouts in the area - our convention will be able to visit NYCS layouts not normally part of NMRA tours and the NYCSHS convention will visit NMRA layouts in the area belonging to people outside of their membership. If you have a layout and would be willing to be open during the convention (April 25-27, 2014), please contact John Hemsath: hemsathj@gmail.com by email or at a Division 4 meeting. John will then coordinate information with Bill Feth. Mr Feth has started things rolling by offering his own layout for viewing during our convention, and it sounds like a really good one!

## The Clinic Corner

January 2014

### January Program - Future Programs, A Group Discussion

Using a panel format with a moderator and panel members, we will have an open discussion about the type of program to be presented at future division meetings. This will be an open discussion, any and all questions accepted.

### February Program - "Life After Floquil"

Several members who are familiar with the "other" paint suppliers, i.e. Scalecoat, Badger Modelflex, Tru-Color, etc. will discuss the paints they use. The program will be a short presentation followed by a group discussion.

If you are interested in participating or contributing to the program, please contact Larry Madson at 440-934-2643 or lmadson@roadrunner.com

## Clinics Wanted

Any Division member with an idea for a program subject or wishing to present a program for the 2013 - 2014 season, please contact me.

Larry

## Clinic Presentation Aids

Division 4 has a digital projector available for use by division members for presenting clinic programs in digital format. We now also have a carousel slide projector with carousels. The division also has a video camera available for program enhancement. Anyone wishing to use the camera or the projectors for their program, contact Larry Madson.

phone: 440-934-2643 or email lmadson@roadrunner.com.

Larry Madson

## U.S. Army Reserve Center Holiday Party

Division 4's Modular Group was once again invited to attend the Twinsburg Armory's annual Holiday Party on December 22, 2013. This event hosts military families for lunch, visits with Santa and other activities, which, of course, includes watching trains run on the modular layout. While the fun that the children receive makes the trip more than worthwhile, it may be an unexpected recruiting tool for us since many of our members are veterans, putting model railroading on the list of things military people might consider for a good hobby. To say that the children were enthusiastic would be an understatement, with a few watching trains for seemingly hours and ignoring the call for the gingerbread house competition. Santa's visit might be another story.



Left: Larry Madson adds cars to a train at one end of the Reserve Center setup.



Right: This guy is probably either inspecting the electrical work or wondering where the train went after it left the access opening.



Left and below: A young man points out features to Mom, then admires a passing train.





David James tests a track connection on the Division's modular layout during setup at the Twinsburg Armory.

## DIVISION FOUR OFFICERS

Elected

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

Trustee Quad County  
Gary Dunn (419) 625-0413 cell (419) 504-8090  
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Trustee at Large  
Larry Madson (440) 934-2643 lmadson@roadrunner.com

Trustee at Large  
Lee Sheffield lakeshorenyc@yahoo.com

Appointed

Great Berea Train Show  
Mike Oster

Achievement	Membership Co-Chairs
Bruce Brintnall MMR	Tom Beutler
	Joe Mehalic
Layouts	Darrall Swift
John and Tom Hemsath	
hemsathj@gmail.com	

Contests	Modules
David Lawler	Scott Benson

Historian/Archivist	N.O.A.R.S. Representative
Frank Bongiovanni	Chuck Beargie

Raffle	Webmaster
Mike Klein	Ben Lanza
Company Store	
Tim Sheffield	

Clinics	Refreshments
Larry Madson	Joe Filipiak

Flatwheel Editor  
Dave Williams

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.

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 next Flatwheel is Thursday January 30, 2014. The deadline is almost always 2 weeks and a day before the next general meeting.

The January 2014 contest will be for 2 bay (pocket) open hoppers with or without load.

There was no contest in December. Could the November contest winners please remember to bring their models to the January meeting.

## World's Greatest Hobby at the IX Center

The Division's modular group will be displaying during this weekend's WGH show.

Saturday January 4, 2014 10 am to 6 pm

Sunday January 5, 2014 10 am to 5 pm

Two day pass \$12, Saturday only \$11, Sunday only \$10

For more information go to [www.wghshow.com/cleveland.html](http://www.wghshow.com/cleveland.html)

## Raffle Report

Once again we had another great Holiday Raffle. I would like to thank, in no particular order, Gary Dunn, Linda Klein, Mike Oster, Connie and Emil from State Tool and Die, and my able assistant Chuck Klein. Last but not least, the Division 4 membership. Without your support throughout the year, the Holiday Raffle would not be possible. January's raffle will be another good one to start 2014. See you at the January meeting. Happy New Year.

### The Raffle Dudes

## IPS is Coming to A Layout Near You (but probably not too soon)

IPS means **Indoor Positioning System** and is the interior equivalent to the now familiar GPS. Instead of using satellites, the indoor system uses three or more sensors inside a facility. Early interest has been for navigation inside shopping malls and probably sports arenas. Not only can you find your store or seat location, you can keep track of the other people in your group (e.g., lost kids). IPS on that scale wouldn't need accuracy beyond a few feet or so. Take it down a (big) notch to room size and you have possibilities for layout use. Each engine or even car could give a precise location to your computer at any given time for display on a dispatcher's board, generate switch lists, or even target your motive power with focused sound from an external source. An after-the-fact track diagram could be drawn by moving one or more cars over all your tracks.

What's the catch? It's all still under development, especially that "precise location" part. One system being considered would use LEDs on the item being tracked with direction sensors in the overhead receivers. These receivers can identify different colors of LEDs if necessary. Even more interesting, white LEDs are also able to transmit frequencies, so they may be able to hide inside things like boxcars. As you can imagine, yet more frequencies being churned out on your layout could play havoc with anything else wireless. Obviously it'll be a while, but stay tuned. -Dave Williams

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Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four

Division website: [www.div4.org](http://www.div4.org)



Next meeting: Friday January 10, 2014

Church of the Redeemer  
23500 Center Ridge Road  
Westlake Ohio 44145

Social time starts at 7 pm  
Business meeting 7:30 pm

The Division's modular group's return loop proved to be a magnet for young viewers during the U.S. Army Reserve's Holiday Party in Twinsburg.

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