



THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 49 NBR 06 JUNE 2014



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

Superintendent's Message – June 2014

There's something wrong with our timing – this first superintendent's report really comes at the end of our operational year, so it's hard to get excited about upcoming goals, events and programs when we haven't discussed them yet. However, the Board will be meeting on the 10th, so I will have more to say at the Friday 13th (good luck!) meeting.

We are going to have some openings for Committee participation – please call me at 216-533-4319 if you want to get involved.

We all appreciate the accomplishments of the outgoing Board and Committee members for all their hard work and support during Art's tenure as Superintendent, during which the Division has grown an all time high of 230 members.

About 80 to 85 of these 230 members regularly attend meetings. And, only 65 members took the time to vote in the recent contested election. While I appreciate your support in electing me as Superintendent, there must be some reason why so few took the time to return their ballots. One of the main thrusts of this administration will be to increase member participation in all activities.

Speaking of activities, there are still a few seats available for the upcoming road trip to Horseshoe Curve. At last count, we have 81 signed up so far.

At the June meeting, we will have the signup sheets for The Great Berea Train Show (formerly the Carnival of Model Railroading). The new name signifies our intention to continue increasing the stature of the Show. This year you will see heightened publicity in the form of television spots, and perhaps more print media.

Our clinics this past year have been very informative. Those members who have not been attending meetings are really missing out. This month we will welcome Richard Todd on "New Lightweight Layout Materials, or How to build a layout without consulting a structural engineer". Richard is a member of Division 3 (Dayton). We will be looking to bring a few more visiting clinicians next year, but we need more of you to step up and give one. By the way, as a follow up to Bruce Bowie's presentation last month, how many of you took advantage of Harbor Freight's "free" electronic fly swatter over the Memorial Day weekend?

Lastly – there are a lot of you who have never furnished us with email addresses. You are missing out on some opportunities. For example, Division Five invited our members to their layout tours, but the notice came too late for last month's FlatWheel, and we could not put the addresses on the website. Those members who have furnished an email address got the information – the rest did not. If you don't have an email address, let us know. I, or several of our Board members, will be glad to assist you in obtaining a free one, and showing you how to use it at your local public library. If you have one, let us know – your privacy will be protected, but we will have a way to get info to you.

See you on the 13th.

Steve Kaplan
Division 4 MCR Superintendent.

General Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Div 4 meeting on May 9, 2014

Welcome by Art Bumpus

Membership - We have now 230 members. Membership co-chair Joe Mehalic introduced several new members.

From Bruce Bowie, Treasurer: Treasury assets – \$38,148.00

Convention - we are 9 weeks until the National Convention. Everything continues to move forward. The Convention now has over 800 registrants. Clinics are list on the web site..Patty Kaplan, volunteer coordinator, spoke looking for more volunteers. If are ready to volunteer, please complete the form to get ready for the convention. This is mainly for the downtown volunteers.

Program\clinics Larry Madson– Bruce Bowie is the speaker tonight. Next month is Richard Todd (Div 3) on how to build a layout without consulting a structure engineer.

Module Group - tomorrow is at the Midwest roundhouse, next show is at the convention. Over 100 modules set for the convention. Contest – Dave Lawler – tonight was the B-B units. No contest next month.

Old Business – Horseshoe Curve Field Trip – is now open to anyone who wishes to go.

Election results – Steve Kaplan Superintendent, Lee Sheffield Asst Supt., Bruce Bowie treasure, David James secretary, new trustees – Fred Obreza, John Hemsath, Dave Williams, and returning trustees are Jim Moore and Larry Madson.

New business – BOD has decided that because of the convention we will forgo the summer picnic this year and we will also not be putting on the Training Day event in November. The BOD will revisit this at another meeting.

This is Art Bumpus' last meeting and many thanks for all the help and fun that we have had. Art then presented the new Division 4 Superintendent Steve Kaplan, with the Mickley Gavel and turned over the duties of superintendent.

Notices – Midwest Railroad Preservation Society is open this summer on several weekends.

Adjournment at 8:15 PM

David James
Secretary

BOD Meeting on Tuesday June 10, 2014
7 PM
Church of the Redeemer

See everyone at the NMRA National Convention July 13 - 19, 2014,
and the
National Train Show™ July 18 - 20, 2014.

Thank you in advance for your volunteer hours.

Membership by Tom Beutler, Membership co-chair

June 2014 Birthdays:

Charles J Beargie	Franklin V Bongiovanni
Bruce A Bowie	Robert Boyle
Allen Clever	Joseph J Filipiak
George Gelehrter	Harold R McCarty
Kyle McKinley	Paul J Novak Sr
Leonard R Scherry	Howard A Speidel
Dennis Super	Richard Tressa
Leonard Wendorf	

July 2014 Birthdays:

Joseph E Andrews	Aileen Armstrong
Michael C Klein	Joe Mehalic
Dennis K Romain	David A Siegfried
James B Stevenson	David M Williams

August 2014 Birthdays:

Arthur Bumpus	Thomas J Businger
William H Cramer	John R Hudacko
Robert L Kaiser	Stephen P Kaplan
M C Kolenich	Timothy T Krogg
Jerry Krueger	Timothy Sheffield
James R Wenter	Paul Winslow

New Members: NONE

Re-Rail Members:

Wayne J Buran
Robert Dejohn
Mark Demaline
Daniel Raible

At the May Meeting



Outgoing Superintendent Art Bumpus received a map to Baker's Square from incoming Superintendent Steve Kaplan. Art was known to point the wrong way when inviting everyone to gather at the restaurant after the general meeting.



Patty Kaplan explained the important role of volunteers for the upcoming National Convention.

Raffle

The June raffle is another fine theme raffle. It will be *Wheeling and Lake Erie, then and now* on the raffle table.

Once again there will something for everyone.

The Raffle Dudes



Clinician Bruce Bowie showed us how to make a low cost static grass applicator and how to use it.

The Great Berea Train Show - Shirts and Hats

Mike Oster will have samples of the new Train Show shirts and hats available for your review at the June meeting. He will be taking orders. Division members may purchase a shirt for \$15 or a hat for \$16. However, if you place your order for a shirt and hat together, the combined cost is only \$25. If you can't make it to the June meeting, you can still order at the September meeting, or call Mike at 440-243-7286, or email him at osterhere@aol.com.

... and speaking of Mike Oster

Congratulations to Mike's son Michael (OK, he's Patty's son as well) on his pending election to Common Pleas Judge in Butler County. Michael won the primary and will be unopposed in the general election this November. The *Journal News* online article indicated that the primary was a tough race, and that part of Michael's success came from his appearances before the Ohio Supreme Court, arguing a wide range of case types.

Timonium Show Follow-up

Scott Geare, new owner of the Great Scale Train Shows, has cordially responded to David Williams's report of his experience at the April show in Timonium, MD [see *May issue. Editor's Notes*]. Mr. Geare expressed gratitude for David's comments, and tells us he is inspired by them to continue improving the show. At his request, we are limiting distribution of his letter to Division members only. Please let me know if you would like a copy. I can be reached at abumpus@cox.net

Art Bumpus

Editor's Notes

Mr. Geare's response was four pages long, so he takes the new job very seriously. So much for my theory that the show was taken over by a big eastern syndicate (followers of Lucy in *Peanuts* will know the origin of that not-serious sentiment). Everyone should remember that my experience required 12 hours driving and an overnight stay, so any disappointment would be greater than if I lived in the show's immediate area. I worked at Division 11's train show a few weeks ago and heard nothing but rave reviews of Timonium (although not necessarily the April show). I was quite surprised to learn that anyone actually reads my Editor's Notes, so thank you, whoever you are. The dogs barking and the police calls didn't bother me much at the hotel - the "fan only" setting on the A/C makes great white noise. I'd be OK recommending anyone to stay there.

Art - thanks for a great job as superintendent. Membership is up, money is up and the Division hasn't imploded (or even skipped a beat) under the weight of preparing to host the National Convention.

Division 5 notified us of recent layout tours but they missed the May Flatwheel deadline.

Sorry to say, I've been way to lax in pointing out local layouts in the national model railroad press recently. Congratulations to all who are getting the recognition they deserve. Thanks to Jerry Krueger and Jeff Mitchell for stellar work in promoting publication.

I learned at the May meeting that word of my resignation as editor had spread pretty far, so in the interest of good communications, I'm confirming it here. I'm not going to discuss my reasons - nine years might be reason enough - but I will say the decision was made well in advance of the recent election. Since I was just elected as Trustee West (thanks), I won't be going too far. My final month as editor has not been determined.

I did buy all the components for the static grasser. The Internet has a whole variety of projects involving the tennis racket bug zapper, and most look alarmingly lethal. Yes your honor, I zapped him with my homemade taser. I thought it was safe because I got the plans from Youtube. Anyhow, I'm using a really big strainer in the hopes of static grassing part of my front lawn.

Dave Williams

June 2014
New Lightweight Layout Materials, or
How To Build A Layout Without Consulting A Structural Engineer.
Presented by – Richard Todd Division 3 MCR

After years of building layouts with heavy wood, hydrocal, and other heavy stuff, in 1995 Richard discovered poly iso foam, a light weight rigid roofing insulation. The presentation will show all the materials to use to make scenery that doesn't weigh a ton.

Clinics Wanted

Any Division member with an idea for a program subject or wishing to present a program for the 2014 – 2015 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

Midwest Railway Preservation Society Open House

The Division's modular group set up a display at Midwest's Open House on Saturday May 10th. The modules were well appreciated by visitors waiting to join the next tour. Extra points to everyone for dealing with that locomotive's horn (full size - and volume) just outside the back door - maybe they can move it next time, or use a tuba mute.



left: Div 4 modules set up in the shop area. The bright light at the end was the visitors' entrance.

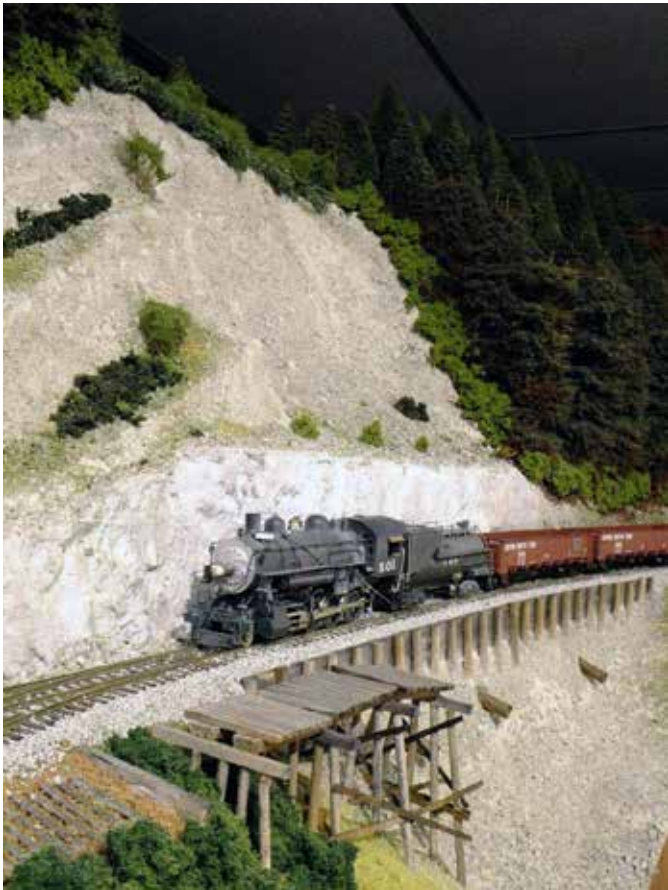
right: The roundhouse as seen from the entranceway.



above: A volunteer demonstrates bolt making for use in steam locomotive 4070's restoration.

An interesting reason to join

One of the tour guides pointed out that it'll take grant money for Midwest's more major projects to come true. One of the keys to getting a grant is membership count, so just a membership check (as opposed to, say, feeling obligated to clean bricks) will help a lot. General membership is \$35, for seniors \$30. Check out <http://www.midwestrailway.org>



A scene from the layout of this month's clinician, Richard Todd (photo provided by Mr. Todd)

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 August 28, 2014. The deadline is almost always 2 weeks and a day before the next general meeting.

DIVISION FOUR OFFICERS

Elected

Superintendent

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

Assistant Superintendent

Lee Sheffield lakeshoreny@yahoo.com

Secretary

David James h (440) 717-1778 c (440) 785-9907

Treasurer

Bruce Bowie in2trains@gmail.com c (419)-602-3584

Trustee East

Fred Obreza chevy5664@sbcglobal.net (216) 587-4419

Trustee Quad County

Jim Moore moorez@aol.com h (419) 684-5833

Trustee West

Dave Williams h(440) 838-4996 dave_wms@sbcglobal.net

Trustee at Large

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

Trustee at Large

John Hemsath hemsathj@gmail.com

Appointed

Great Berea Train Show

Mike Oster

Achievement

Bruce Brintnall MMR

Layouts

John and Tom Hemsath
hemsathj@gmail.com

Contests

David Lawler

Historian/Archivist

Frank Bongiovanni

Raffle

Mike Klein

Company Store

Tim Sheffield

Clinics

Larry Madson

Flatwheel Editor

Dave Williams

Membership

Tom Beutler

Joe Mehalic

Darrall Swift

Modules

Scott Benson

N.O.A.R.S. Representative

Chuck Beargie

Webmaster

Ben Lanza

Refreshments

Joe Filipiak

Contest Corner conducted by Dave Lawler

The May contest was for "Fallen Flag" B-B Diesel Locomotives.

There were 8 entries and 42 votes cast with the result as follows:

- 1st: Joe Kurilec: Lackawanna switcher
- 2nd: Jerry Krueger: CB&Q GP-7 #208
- 3rd: Stan Dus: NKP GP-9 #484



The point standings and trophy awards are:

- 1st: Jim Grell: 10 points
- 2nd: Joe Kurilec: 9 points
- 3rd: Art Bumpus: 6 points



Congratulations Winners!

And now, the moment I'm sure you've all been waiting for, the CONTEST SCHEDULE for the 2014-2015 season:

2014 - 2015 NMRA MCR Division 4 Contest Schedule	
September:	A Passenger Coach; Not a Combine, Pullman, Diner or Observation, just a plain coach any era wood or steel.
October:	A Dump Truck
November:	Something made from plastic straws - let your imagination run wild.
December:	No Contest; Holiday Party/Awards Banquet
January:	A Non-traditional Tank Car; Chemical, Multi-dome, Fire Tanker, Food Products etc...
February:	A 4-Wheel Lead Truck Steam Locomotive; 4-2-0, 4-4-0, 4-6-0, 4-6-4, 4-8-2, 4-8-4 or Articulated
March:	No Contest; Auction
April:	A Hobby/Toy Store, think of it as a memorial for Wings.
May:	An EMD/GMD Diesel Locomotive
June:	Awards



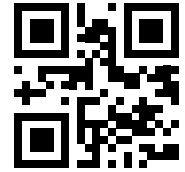
Look for Dave Lawler's layout featured in an upcoming issue of Railroad Model Craftsman!

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Division website: www.div4.org

Next meeting:



Friday June 13, 2014

Church of the Redeemer
23500 Center Ridge Road
Westlake Ohio 44145

Social time starts at 7:00 pm
Business meeting 7:30 pm



photo provided by Richard Todd

June clinician Richard Todd (Division 3) will explain his layout building techniques involving lightweight material.

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

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