



# THE FLATWHEEL



VOL 47 NBR 10 DECEMBER 2012

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

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## Art Bumpus, Division 4 Superintendent On Q

Our next meeting isn't a meeting! It's the Division Awards Banquet on December 14th. The venue is Michaud's Party Center on Pearl Rd in Strongsville. The price is \$15.00 per person with kids 15 and under free. Plan on arriving at 6:00 to 6:30 with dinner served at 7:00. Place your reservation with Rich at [rietre@hotmail.com](mailto:rietre@hotmail.com) or call him at 440-572-9245. Let Rich know how many reservations are needed, including the kids.

Our raffle dudes will have the special Christmas raffle, and we'll also have some entertainment from the Denny Franz singers. Naturally, Santa will also make an appearance.

One of the delightful parts of our great hobby is the opportunity to meet such nice people. While we celebrate the holiday season, we should take a few minutes to reflect on that. Friends are difficult to come by. Enjoy their presence.

To all, I wish a wonderful Holiday Season.

And remember, never trade steam for water.



The Flatwheel

# General Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2012

Superintendent Art Bumpus called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM. A welcome was extended to all.

Treasurer Rich Tressa reported a balance of, \$44,223.97 as of October 31.

Art asked the following visitors and new members to introduce themselves: Joe & Sam Meredith, members of the 4H club; Gerry Deucher, guest; and new members Steve Waller and G Smith from Denver.

Scott Benson reported on the activities for the Module group, Carnival, iHobby, Avon Lake Library, Training Day and Berea Library. Larry Madson has several kits for sell to those who want to join the group or add to another module.

Dave Lawler announced the winners from October: small house, Jim Grell 1st and George Gelehrter 2nd . November contest is heavy weight flat cars. January is head end cars.

Dave Williams, Flat Wheel editor, reported November 29 as deadline for December issue.

Rich Tressa reminded members about the December 14th Awards Dinner . Social at 6PM, dinner at 7pm.

Show and Tell: Bram Bailey new passenger cars; Al Halvorsen, a train set he brought many years ago; and Mark Fillapale, bridges he has made after real bridges.

John Hemsath thanked all who visited the layout on Sunday November 4. On November 10th, the Cuyahoga Valley & West Shore Model RR Club, Paul Novak & Sons Gold Creek Railway, Ron Morgan Union Pacific Railroad and Strongsville Society of Model Railroad Engineers will be open. Members were encouraged to support our members' layouts.

Gary Sole reported 99 people attended Training Day to learn about model railroading. Lee Sheffield was very busy with the build and take home table. Gary asked that a letter of thanks be sent to the 4H group.

Dennis Whitaker told the group about a member who donated his railroad to Div. 4. Approximately \$500.00 was raised from the selling of his equipment.

Mike Klein, the "Raffle Dude," reported he has many great prizes for the December Awards Dinner. This month has another fine selection.

We are still looking for someone to take over the refreshment job.

Art Bumpus outlined the purposed balanced budget for 2013. Al Halvorsen moved to accept the budget for 2013. Gary Sole seconded . Motion passed.

Tonight's clinic was Gerry Deucher, who presented a slide show on Short Lines RR.

Art closed the meeting at 8:10pm.

Raffle followed at 8:30pm.

Jim Moore VP

## Membership by Tom Beutler

### December 2012 Birthdays:

DAVID E ANDERSON  
FRANK L FEKO  
PATRICIA HENNING  
WILLIAM J KOSTKA  
JEFFREY R LAUREN  
LEE D SOULE  
STEPHEN M.TWAROGOWSKI  
DENNIS F WHITAKER  
ED J WOSKOWICZ

RUSSELL L CONSER  
JOHN H HEMSATH  
CHARLES B KLEIN  
BEN LANZA  
JOSEPH H SAUNDERS  
CHARLES D SPENCER  
MICHAEL VOLLMAR  
JOSEPH WITOUSKI

### New Members:

ALFRED T BRENNAN  
DANIEL LASZIO

PARMA OH  
BRECKSVILLE OH

### Rerail Members:

WILLIAM JENKS  
FRED WAGNER

VERMILION OH  
BELLEVUE OH

### RAFFLE REPORT

Thanks to all who participated and supported the November raffle. It was a great success. We have a great Christmas Raffle in store for the party in December, including another great picture, once again donated by Pat and John Henning. Ladies baskets as well. There will be something for everyone, young and old. Come join the fun. MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY NEW YEAR and HAPPY HOLIDAYS to all.

The Raffle Dudes

### Refreshment Chair Open

With David James as our new Secretary, we have a vacancy in the ever important area of refreshments. The ideal candidate will use the donations to replenish refreshments and make them available during the general meetings. See any officer if you are willing and able to step into this critical role.

## **The Clinic Corner**

No clinic program in December  
Enjoy the Annual Holiday Awards Banquet

January 2013 Clinic – Frank Bongiovanni - Scratchbuilding 98

For those who are not ready for Scratchbuilding 101

### **Clinics Wanted**

Any Division member with an idea for a program subject or wishing to present a program for the 2012 – 2013 season, please contact me. I am looking for programs for the April, May and June of 2013.

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](mailto:lmadson@roadrunner.com).

Larry Madson

## **Holiday Awards Banquet**

Circle the calendar!!!! This year our Awards Banquet will again be held at Michaud's Town and Country, [www.michaudscatering.com](http://www.michaudscatering.com), located Strongsville on December 14th. We will again be in the Westin Room. Doors will open at 6:00 pm for a Social hour and dinner will be served at 7:00 pm. The Denny Franz Singers will entertain us with great Christmas and holiday selections. They will perform at 8:00 so we all may enjoy their music.

And as always Santa will be there! I hear The Raffle Dudes are working on some very special items??? Cost will be the same, \$15.00 per person. This is a family event so wives, guests and kids are welcome. That includes grandkids too. Kids 15 and under are free. You are welcome to bring "libations" if you wish but please place them securely in your trunk upon departure. Strongsville police are tough.

PLEASE call in or e-mail your reservation to me at 440-572-9245 or [rictre@hotmail.com](mailto:rictre@hotmail.com). ( Best way to reach me is e-mail.)

Rich Tressa

# BOD Minutes

Board of directors meeting October 30, 2012

Meeting opened at 7PM

Budget was discussed at great length and a budget was agreed upon for 2013. This budget will be presented at the next membership meeting. Several ideas were discussed for Grants in 2012; no final determination was made. A proposal was brought to the floor by Lee Sheffield who had a conversation with the promoters of the i-Hobby Show. They had asked if we would consider combining our show with them. After much discussion it was decided to give them our thanks for asking, but no thanks. Our Division show will stay as is.

We will help in the "make and take tables" at the i-Hobby Show for next year and lee Sheffield will be the coordinator.

The board discussed the table and gate rates for the 2013 Carnival. The rates will remain the same as this past year

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

*David James*

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## How to Identify the Parts of a Steam Locomotive - from Dennis Whitaker

Over 30-years ago, Joe Kurilec (NMRA Master Model Railroader #79) created a 70-minute clinic to help modelers identify the visible components of a steam locomotive. He used over 200 photographic slides and an audio tape cassette.

Since none of the parts have changed on steam locomotives and since many NMRA members have steam on their layouts, Joe converted the clinic to DVD. The viewing quality of the 30-year old clinic is a little grainy, the sound is perfect, and the lessons to be learned are superb. Joe Kurilec wants everyone interested in steam locomotives to enjoy his video.

Ben Lanza, Div-4 Webmaster, placed the clinic on our website --- <http://www.div4.org/>. Scroll down about a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the way and click on *Want to learn more about Steam Locos? Here is a video by Joe Kurilec.*

When the clinic opens, Joe gives a 1.5-minute dissertation on why and how he converted the original clinic to DVD. As he is talking, you will be viewing the innards of an Apple computer.

If you would like to download a 136 MB copy of the clinic, send an e-Mail to Denny Whitaker at [denny7710@roadrunner.com](mailto:denny7710@roadrunner.com). Denny will send you (1) a link to a folder within his DropBox.Com account and (2) instructions on how to do the download.

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Division member Mark Filippelli brought two of his scratchbuilt bridges to the November meeting. The picture doesn't even begin to justice to these models. Museums will someday fight over them. We not only marvel at their construction but also appreciate the effort and risk undertaken by Mark and his wife to transport them to the meeting.

## Porter Library Display

My Daughter needed a book for school!

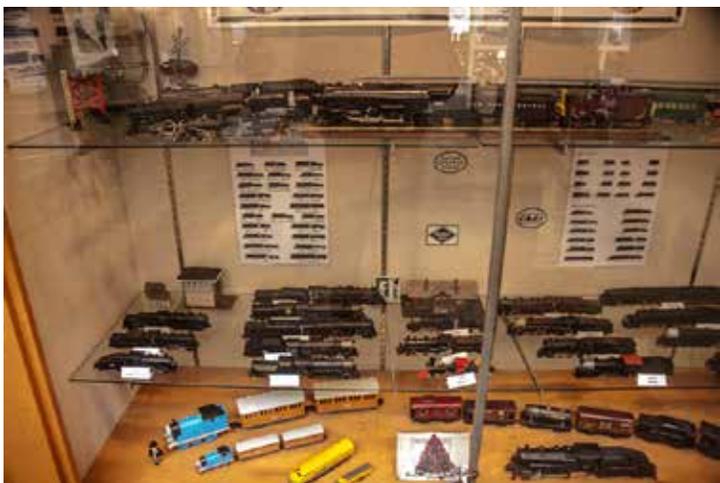
On Thursday's I pick my daughter up from school after band practice. As I write this, yesterday was Thursday and when Alexis got into my van she reminded me that she needed to go to the Library. Porter Library is just down the street so we stopped on our way home. As I was parking the van, I remembered that Chuck told me Division 4 had a display at the Library this month (November).

So when I walked in I started to look for our display; it only took me a minute to find. There it was, just through the main entrance, on the right side. I was amazed! It is truly a professional looking display. Presented are a number of scales from Lionel to "N". Two areas of the display caught my eye. First was a nicely displayed Cleveland trolley flaunt near eye level. Second, was a display of HO steam engines arranged to showcase their profiles. The steamers went from smallest (wheel arrangement) to largest and their common wheel-arrangement name was shown. The signage clearly gives credit for the display to the National Model Railroad Association, Mid-Central Region, Division 4. Along with a separate sign promoting the special \$9.95 N.M.R.A. membership offer; the display is eye-catching and the signage is tastefully done.

I hope members from our Division have a chance to see it.

It's a cool display!

Gary Sole



This year's display at Porter Library in Westlake includes a wide variety of steam locomotives, each carefully labelled with its type.

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Thanks to everyone who loaned items for the display. Chuck Klein is our liason with the library and put the display together with the help of Steve Kaplan.  
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Mom and the boys stop for a long look on the way out of the library. The boys gave the display locks a really good test!



Elves and a bear greet the CVSR's Polar Express at the North Pole (actually Peninsula Ohio, but don't tell the kids).

Read the Flatwheel online at [www.div4.org](http://www.div4.org)

Yahoo - The Division has a Yahoo group available for members. Send your request to join to [dave\\_wms@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 January Flatwheel is Thursday Dec 27, 2012. The deadline is almost always 2 weeks and a day before the next general meeting, no matter what absurd date I come up with at the meeting.

## DIVISION FOUR OFFICERS

Elected

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Mike Oster

Achievement  
Bruce Brintnall MMR  
Membership Co-Chairs  
Tom Beutler/Joe Mehalic

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Modules  
Scott Benson

Contests  
David Lawler  
N.O.A.R.S. Representative  
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Historian/Archivist  
Frank Bongiovanni  
Webmaster  
Ben Lanza

Raffle  
Mike Klein  
Refreshments  
(open)

Company Store  
Tim Sheffield

Clinics  
Larry Madson

Flatwheel Editor  
Dave Williams

## Training Day

Thank you to all who helped with Training Day

This year our Training Day was scheduled for November 3<sup>rd</sup>. When planning this several months ago, who would have thought that a major storm would hit the east coast and cause so much damage in northeast Ohio! Just 72 hours after the power was restored to the parish where our event is held. The modular layout guys were setting everything up. As in past years they did a great job and the trains ran well! Thank you.

To the gentlemen who provided demonstrations at Training Day, helped the young people weather their freight cars and in general shared their expertise...Thank You

This year attendance was tracked. We had 99 people attend; and 40 of them were under the age of 21.

With that attendance detail, it brings me to the discussion of three new initiatives started this year that enhanced the Training Day experience for the attendees. I would like to recognize each initiative and the people who inspired them. First, Joe Mehalic and/or Fred Obreza who worked the membership/welcoming table. They greeted each person who entered the hall and offering a quick orientation of the event (that is who was responsible for maintaining the attendance numbers). Nice job! Second, Dave Williams had the idea to collect and bring some "slightly used freight cars" for the younger people to practice their weathering skills on. That was very popular. Thanks Dave; and thanks to everyone who donated their freight cars. The third initiative was Lee Sheffield. Lee collected a number of kits from the I-Hobby Show held just a week or so before our Training Day. He brought those kits to our event and from 10 in the morning until 3 o'clock that afternoon he continuously had people sitting with him building kits. Lee thanks, you did a great job!

That's a brief update on this year's Training Day. I appreciate everyone's help.

Gary

## White Train Sale at Training Day

Thanks to Joe Filipiak for his generous donation of engines, cars and track for the Training Day sale. The idea wasn't to make money but to give children a chance to take home a low cost (usually a dollar) model railroad item, thereby keeping the idea of the hobby alive at home. All proceeds from the sale went as a donation to St Christopher's church. A lot of kids went home with a good souvenir, in many cases enhanced with some additional weathering detail provided at one of the demonstration tables.

Thanks also to Division 11 for the idea, and the Membership table for running the sale, and Gary Sole, for thinking it was a good idea - it was.

On a related subject, thanks to Alexis Sole for once again running the food counter.

Dave Williams

November 2012 contest: Heavy duty, non-traditional flat cars.

There were 6 entries with 41 people casting votes \*.

1st: Jim Grell, 20 votes

2nd: Ken Orchard, 17 votes

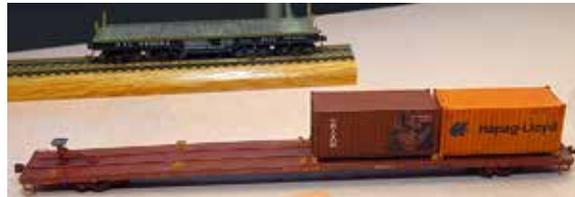
George Gelehrter, 9 votes

The point standing are as follows:

Jim Grell, 11 points; George Gelehrter, 7 points; Art Bumpus, 4 points.

OK, moving right along, the January contest is for Head End Passenger Cars including, Baggage, RPO, Express Reefers, Horse Cars, Milk Cars, Express Box Cars (must be fitted with steam/signal lines for passenger service), Steam Heater Cars etc. Any era, wood or steel.

There is no contest in December so we can all take a break and attend the Christmas festivities.



\* Editor's note: Dave uses a voting system where each ballot has a space for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, so the total of 46 votes from 40 people isn't out of line. As usual, there were a lot of really good entries, with the remaining votes no doubt going toward other models.



# THE FLATWHEEL

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Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four

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

Next meeting: Friday December 14, 2012

Holiday Party/Awards Banquet  
Michaud's Party Center  
Reservations Required

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Jim Moore demonstrates weathering techniques during this year's Training Day.



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

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