



# THE FLATWHEEL



VOL 48 NBR 01 JANUARY 2013

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

The Division Awards Banquet was a very nice affair. The food was excellent, the table discussions were interesting, the raffle was great, and the awards appreciated. The Bruce Brintnall award was presented to Joe Mehalic. Joe's efforts at making sure outreach occurred at many venues, which brought in train lovers, were outstanding. Joe was able to insure the booths were manned and ready to provide answers to anyone who might be interested in joining the NMRA. The Dennis Novak award was presented to Mike Oster. This was Mike's third receipt of the award, and deservedly so. His efforts to assure that we had a fully subscribed show were also outstanding. This year's Carnival was more difficult than in years past. We exhausted the waiting list of dealers, but Mike was still able to deliver. THANKS Mike!

Our next meeting is January 11th. The contest for this month is head end cars. This would include cars like RPO, Baggage, Horse, Milk, Silk, and any other car that did not hold passengers. These cars should have express trucks (4 wheel or 6 wheel) and the cars would have plumbing for backup brake systems. The clinic for this month is a presentation by our soft spoken and amiable Frank Bongiovanni. He has come up with Scratchbuilding 98. This is a prequel to Scratchbuilding 101. For those of you who are intimidated by the idea of scratchbuilding, Frank will debunk that notion with this clinic.

While I'm on the subject of clinics, Larry is always eager to hear from members who have some knowledge about just about any subject that can be presented to the membership in the format of a clinic. For those of you who are contemplating offering a clinic for the 2014 National Convention, the Division meeting is a great way to test run your presentation. And for those who are contemplating making a presentation at the National (myself included) now is the time to come forward and get a little practice at a Division meeting which irons out the kinks for a National Convention presentation.

While Joe Mehalic is beating the bushes to enlist new membership in the NMRA, it's up to the experienced Division members to engage our newer members. And one way to make that happen is for our newer members to let us know what would be of help to you. Take the time to express this to any of the elected officers. Your elected officials are really interested in engaging you to help you improve your information base or skill sets. If you would like to see a specific clinic, let us know. We really do enjoy sharing our knowledge and/or techniques to anyone willing to listen.

And remember, never trade steam for water.

# General Meeting Minutes

There was no business meeting in December.

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Membership by Tom Beutler, Membership co-chair

## January 2013

### Birthdays:

WILLIAM C DEPTOWICZ  
JOE DUGAN  
ALECK J HALVORSEN  
JOHN E HENNING  
JOHN FRANCIS JANDA  
RAYMOND LITTEN  
JEFFREY A MARTIN  
RICHARD MAYICH  
TIMOTHY J RADACHI  
JOHN R SPENCER  
J TED SHULTZ

### New Members:

NONE

### Rerail Members:

JOHN C. STEWART

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### BOD Meetings

January `` 8, 2013  
February 26, 2013  
April ````30, 2013.

Meetings start at 7 pm and are held at the church on the NW corner of routes 42 and 82 in Strongsville..

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## RAFFLE REPORT

Thanks to all who participated and supported the Holiday Raffle. Special thanks to, in no particular order, John and Pat Henning, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kaiser, Steve Riddlebaugh, Chuck and Linda Klein, Tom Atherton, Emil and Connie Orenick of State Tool and Die, Bernies Bargains, and last but not least the DIVISION 4 membership. Without your participation and donations We could not have the raffles throughout the year as well as the Holiday Raffles. See you in January. HAPPY NEW YEAR to all.

The Raffle Dudes

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## 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

### January 2013 Clinic Frank Bongiovanni - Scratchbuilding 98

Frank will present his clinic for those who would like to do a scratchbuilding project, but are too timid to give it a try. Hence this clinic is for those who are not ready for Scratchbuilding 101

### February 2013 Program Mike Mereness – Division 3 MCR

Mike will present a program that will hopefully convince you to attend the MCR Spring Convention in Dayton, May 15 - 18, 2013

### 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



**Operations  
Dayton  
2013**



Mid Central Regional Convention  
May 15-18, 2013  
Dayton Ohio

[www.mcr2013convention.com](http://www.mcr2013convention.com)



NMRA National Convention  
Atlanta Georgia

July 14-20. 2013

**PEACHTREE EXPRESS**  
NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION  
[nmra2013.org](http://nmra2013.org)



## **MODEL RAILROAD SPRING FLEA MARKET & SWAP MEET**

Sponsored by Cincinnati Division 7 NMRA  
[www:cincy-div7.org](http://www:cincy-div7.org)

**Saturday, MARCH 9, 2013**

**10 AM to 3 PM**

**LAKOTA WEST FRESHMAN CAMPUS**

**5050 TYLERSVILLE ROAD  
WEST CHESTER, OH. 45069**

**FEATURING LOCAL MEMBERS & HOBBY DEALERS**

**\$4.00 ADMISSION**

**\$3.00 YOUTH (11-15 years of age)**

**Under 10 years of age FREE**

**TABLES \$17 (each 30 inches x 8 ft)**

**Table Reservations: [rhord@fuse.net](mailto:rhord@fuse.net)**

**All SCALES of Model Railroad Equipment  
plus Videos, Memorabilia and More**

***Don't miss this Model Train buy-sell-swap event !***



Military personnel and their families spent the day visiting the modular group's layout when Santa wasn't around. The layout's lower legs allowed children to operate on both sides.

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

## DIVISION FOUR OFFICERS

Elected

Superintendent  
Art Bumpus (440) 526-9184 [abumpus@cox.net](mailto:abumpus@cox.net)

Assistant Superintendent  
Jim Moore h (419) 684-5833 [moorez@aol.com](mailto:moorez@aol.com)  
c (419) 370-3007 fax (419) 684-7030

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

Treasurer  
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Trustee West  
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Trustee at Large  
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Trustee at Large  
Lee Sheffield [lakeshorenyc@yahoo.com](mailto:lakeshorenyc@yahoo.com)  
Appointed

Carnival  
Mike Oster

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

Layouts  
John and Tom Hemsath  
[hemsathj@gmail.com](mailto:hemsathj@gmail.com)  
Modules  
Scott Benson

Contests  
David Lawler  
N.O.A.R.S. Representative  
Chuck Beargie

Historian/Archivist  
Frank Bongiovanni  
Webmaster  
Ben Lanza

Raffle  
Mike Klein  
Refreshments  
(open)

Company Store  
Tim Sheffield

Clinics  
Larry Madson

Flatwheel Editor  
Dave Williams

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 February Flatwheel is Thursday Jan 24, 2013.

## Awards Banquet/Holiday Party



Fun, fellowship. and if you're viewing this online, the color red!

The usual generous assortment of raffle prizes, including the always coveted Henning picture.



Membership co-chair Joe Mehalic (left) received the Bruce Brintnall Membership Award during the December Awards Banquet. The award is named after longtime Membership chair Bruce Brintnall (right).

Mike Oster received the Dennis Novak Award for his ongoing work in chairing the Division's primary fundraiser, The Carnival of Model Railroading. The plaque may have room for only one name but all know that Mike's wife Pat shares the award.



There was no model contest in December due to the Awards Banquet/Holiday Party.

The contest for January is head end cars. This would include cars like RPO, Baggage, Horse, Milk, Silk, and any other car found on a passenger train that did not hold passengers. These cars should have express trucks (4 wheel or 6 wheel) and the cars would have plumbing for backup brake systems.

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## Photo Contest Notes

Dave Williams

As we head toward this year's Regional and National Conventions, I want to share a few tips I picked up during last year's Regional photo judging.

-Follow the presentation instructions to the letter.

Judging usually takes hours. The quickest way to separate losers from winners is by immediately eliminating incorrectly matted (or not matted) entries. No plastic or glass covers, and matting, not just glued to some cardboard. Never approach the photo contest as a casual event if you hope to win.

-Make a good print.

Check the print for things introduced by the camera, computer or printer, like lines, blank spots, and extra color dots. Use a magnifying glass. Never have a date stamp on the print!

-One sun on layouts.

This one came as a surprise to me. Most layout articles show us photos with nice even lighting from multiple sources. Contest entries, however, should be set-up to look like they were taken outdoors - one light source simulating the sun (or possibly the moon). There are some variants, like street lighting and reflections - just avoid multiple bright sources.

-Real, but not too real for models.

One of last year's model entries had a telephone in front of an engine. Maybe the photographer was trying for a realistic shot but it didn't wash. You are expected to be able to control model placement.

-Pictures within pictures.

I didn't completely agree on this exercise, but be aware that judges may mentally crop your picture down further to see if you missed an even better picture. Also - and I do agree here - don't chop off parts of important elements (like locomotives). Don't let it look like an old Instamatic shot where the viewfinder always showed 8 feet left of the resulting picture.

-Black and White.

There's a lot more to creating a good B&W print than pushing some button in your photo software, little of which can be adequately covered here. Ask yourself why the picture is better in black and white than color. Good focus, interesting shapes, lines, and shadows are usually more noticeable in B/W than color.

Do not enter the same picture in both color and B/W versions - you haven't doubled your chances of winning since they'll both look worse in comparison to each other. The judges will think that you couldn't figure which one looked better and they won't bother much with either one.

These are a few of the most obvious issues. The competition of really good photographs is usually very intense and there's no set formula available for winning but hopefully I've helped you to avoid several of the less obvious mistakes. Don't be too upset if you don't get an award, at least you've got a good picture to take home.

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Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four

Next meeting:



Church of the Redeemer  
23500 Center Ridge Road  
Westlake Ohio 44145

Friday January 11, 2013

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

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

Division 4's Module Group provided hands-on entertainment and education during the Twinsburg Armory's annual Family Day in December.

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

FIRST CLASS

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