



THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 45 NBR 01 JANUARY 2011

Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four



Art Bumpus Division 4 Superintendent On Q

Our Board of Trustees will have their annual meeting just prior to our regular meeting on January 14th at 7:00 PM. Any and all Division members are invited to air their ideas and thoughts to the Trustees. The results of that meeting will then be presented to the Board and membership during the regular meeting. I encourage you to attend this meeting to express your views. We are especially looking for recommendations from the membership to enhance your enjoyment of our meetings and activities.

Jerry Krueger recently gave a Division clinic using his own video camera with the projector to give a clear view of his techniques to the audience. We were so impressed with this method of clinic delivery that the Board felt it worthwhile for the Division to have a video camera available for other clinicians. Larry Madson has located a camera that will be used in conjunction with our projector to enhance live clinic presentations. If you have a clinic for the Division that could utilize the camera, contact Larry to get on his clinic schedule.

One of the advantages of being a model railroader is the diversity of interests and skill sets that can be learned or enhanced, especially if you are also participating in the building of a layout. There is carpentry, wiring, scenery, kit building of structures, kit building of rolling stock, painting, weathering, soldering, casting, or learning the use of power tools like drill presses, lathes, milling machines, cameras for photography.....the list goes on and on. For example, a dear friend of mine taught me the basics of bridge building from an engineering and cost point of view. (I'm referring to prototype bridges.) From that, you can construct a model bridge for a particular place that is custom built for that location (just like the real bridges). Mediums of concrete, stone, brick, wood, and steel, are used singly, or in combination with one another to create a prototype single or multi-span bridge. For the modeler, the use of wood, plastic, and plaster are used to replicate prototype materials. And when some basic rules are followed, you will have a custom built bridge that is entirely believable. At any rate, my point is that there is so much to learn in any one aspect of model railroading, and there are so many different subject areas to learn about, there is something of interest for everyone.

For me, something that I know nothing about is the making of molds and the use of resins for casting. I've signed up for a course on this at the Amherst (Massachusetts) model train show. MMR's Fran and Miles Hale will be leading a group of modelers on a two day clinic that covers this subject and also a few others. I've always wanted to do this, but never had the time to learn how to do it. I'm now at the point in layout construction where these skills will prove useful in individualizing scenes to tell a story. So I'm looking forward to some new learning that will expand a repertoire of so many different skills in the building of a layout. I guess that is why its called "The World's Greatest Hobby"

In the meantime, remember, never trade steam for water.

Meeting Minutes

The Division did not have a business meeting in December due to the Awards/Holiday Banquet.

Dean Freytag

Noted author and modeler Dean Freytag passed away on Christmas evening. Dean provided an astounding amount of information to the hobby on the various aspects of the steel industry through his books and clinics and of course, his own layout in Ashland. The Division was fortunate to have Dean give at least two clinics at our meetings in recent years. We extend our sympathy to Dean's many friends in the Division.

Module Group Year-end Wrap-up

2010 was another great year for modular layout activities. We participated in 13 events through the year. In addition to our own Spring TRAINing and Carnival, we displayed at train shows (Springfield MA, Lodi, Medina), railroad interest events (MRPS open house, Canal Center Train Day, Last Stop Willoughby), a hobby shop, two library events, and wrapped up the year at the Christmas Connection holiday show at the I-X center with a 54 ft layout. For the year, division members staffed the layout displays for over 750 hours of volunteer time, not including set-up and tear-down!! Those who participated regularly could have earned over 30 Time Units towards the Association Volunteer Achievement certificate through their commitment to promoting the hobby to the public. We're looking forward to a similarly fantastic 2011. We have 5 new members with modules in work, which will give us a lot of variety and flexibility for staffing future events. We all find different ways to enjoy this wonderful hobby; if you're interested in expanding your experiences into modular layouts, contact me or another module group participant and we'll get you started! Whatever your interests, we wish you a fruitful 2011 in your pursuits in model railroading.

Scott Benson

RAFFLE REPORT

Thanks to all who participated in the raffle at The Holiday Banquet. I would like to thank: Pat and John Henning , Linda Klein, Bernie's Bargains , Robert and his wife- sorry I forgot the last name, and many more whose names escape me . The mind is one of the first things to go you know. I thank the entire populous of DIVISION 4, because without your donations and participation throughout the year, these raffles would not exist. Last but not least, I would like to thank the original RAFFLE DUDE, Chuck Klein for filling in , in my absence.

January's raffle will have a variety of items. Please partake. There are theme raffles in the near future.
Thanks,

THE RAFFLE DUDES

Membership by Dennis Whitaker

January 2011 Birthdays:

JIM BARNETT	ROY CAVAN
WILLIAM C DEPTOWICZ	JOE DUGAN
ROBERT GLAZE	ALECK J HALVORSEN
JOHN E HENNING	JOHN FRANCIS JANDA
JOHN T KERR	RAYMOND LITTEN
JEFFREY A MARTIN	EDWARD R NOWICKI
TIMOTHY J RADACHI	JOHN T SHULTZ
GARY A SOLE	JOHN R SPENCER

New Members:

RON BURKETT	BRUNSWICK
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Re-Rail Members:

None

The Clinic Corner

**January 2011 Clinic – All about Tortoises
Presented by Bram Bailey and Larry Madson**

Bram and Larry will be present a clinic on the installation and operation of the Tortoise switch machine. A variety of installation and control techniques used by Bram and Larry will be presented and discussed.

**January 2011 Clinic – Railroad Entertainment
Two videos from Brian Barnt**

To add to our enjoyment of member appreciation night, Brian will show some railroad videos.. The subjects are Cuban steam and the RGS Galloping Goose.

A Digital Projector for the Division

The Division 4 digital projector is available for use by division members for presenting clinic programs in digital format. Anyone wishing to present a program in digital format contact Larry Madson. phone: 440-934-2643 or email lmadson@roadrunner.com.

2010 - 2011 Clinic Programs

Any Division member wishing to present a program for the 2010 – 2011 season, please contact me.

Larry Madson

Trustees Meeting this Month

Our Division Rules state the Trustee's shall have a meeting independent of the officers. Anyone wishing to bring any items to the Trustees concerning the Division are invited to the meeting at 7:00 prior to the regular Division meeting Friday January 14,2011. The Trustees are: Steve Kaplan, Larry Madson, Gary Dunn, and Chuck Klein. We currently have an opening for an At Large Trustee position. The Board will decide from those individuals who have expressed an interest in filling the vacancy.

Chuck Klein
Trustee West

Awards Banquet/Holiday Party



Family and Friends



Buffet Dinner



Carnival Recognition Awards



Children's Gifts from Mr and Mrs Claus



Membership Achievement Award



Raffle Table



Christmas carols



Raffle Winner (one of many)

Hear our Holiday Party's DJ Ray on the radio!:



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 February Flatwheel is Thursday January 24, 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@neo.rr.com
c (419) 541-1416

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

open

Carnival

Appointed

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

Dennis Whitaker

Modules

Scott Benson

N.O.A.R.S. Representative

Chuck Beargie

Webmaster

Ben Lanza



HAVE 50 MODEL RAILROADING CLINICS RIGHT IN YOUR LIVING ROOM.

Just because you can't make it to a national convention doesn't mean you have to miss out. Right now the NMRA's Kalmbach Memorial Library has over 50 DVDs of clinics presented at national conventions from 2002 to 2010. All available to NMRA members for the cost of postage.

So you can see clinics on everything from decoders to design, tools to techniques, helixes to highways, and research to resin casting.

All from the comfort of your very own couch.

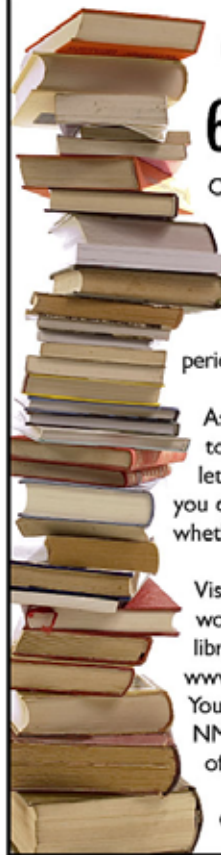
Visit www.nmra.org and go to the Kalmbach Memorial Library page for a complete listing.

Then, get that popcorn ready.



We make it even more fun.

www.nmra.org
423-892-2846



Check out 6,000 train books.

Or 100,000 train photos. Or 50,000 train magazines. In fact, there are a lot of things you should be checking out at the National Model Railroad Association's Kalmbach Memorial Library. You'll find everything from prototype railroad periodicals to vintage model kit instructions.

As an NMRA member, you have easy access to everything – it's all just a phone call, letter, or email away. Our staff will even help you do research about virtually any train topic, whether it's model or prototype.

Visit one of the world's largest train libraries at www.nmra.org. You'll find that the NMRA has a lot to offer modelers.

Check it all out!



We make it even more fun.

www.nmra.org
423-892-2846

Thousands of negatives still need



your positive support.

So do the thousands of plans, photos, and slides from our Kalmbach Memorial Library that we're working to digitize so that members can access them from their own computer. The good news is that the scanning is well underway. The better news is that our image library is even larger than we thought!

Which is why we still need your help. The more funds we receive, the more images we can make available.

If you haven't contributed to the Diamond Club, do it now:

Silver Level – Contribute \$75 and receive a silver 75th Anniversary commemorative pin and have your name listed in *NMRA Magazine*.



Gold Level – Contribute \$750 and receive a gold 75th Anniversary pin, a golf shirt with the Anniversary logo, and have your name listed in *NMRA Magazine*.

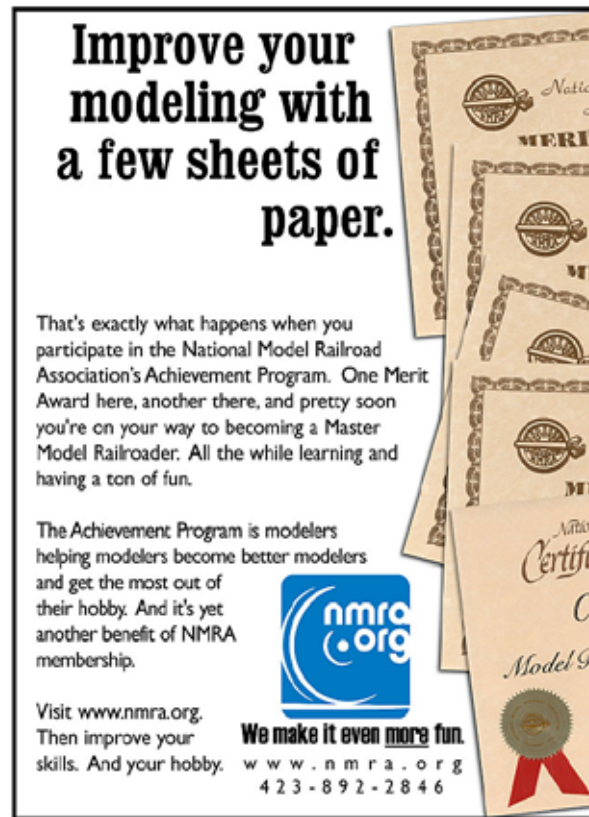
Diamond Level – Contribute \$7,500 and receive a diamond-and-gold Anniversary pin, a golf shirt and sweater with the Anniversary logo and your embroidered name, a print of the NMRA's 75th Anniversary commemorative painting, and have your name and photo printed in *NMRA Magazine*.

Make a contribution that will make a difference for decades.

Visit www.nmra.org/diamondclub or call HQ at 423-892-2846 to contribute.



The January contest will be dioramas. Please limit size to 18" x 18".



Improve your modeling with a few sheets of paper.

That's exactly what happens when you participate in the National Model Railroad Association's Achievement Program. One Merit Award here, another there, and pretty soon you're on your way to becoming a Master Model Railroader. All the while learning and having a ton of fun.

The Achievement Program is modelers helping modelers become better modelers and get the most out of their hobby. And it's yet another benefit of NMRA membership.

Visit www.nmra.org. Then improve your skills. And your hobby.

We make it even more fun.
www.nmra.org
423-892-2846

The advertisement also features several overlapping images of Merit Award certificates and a gold seal with a red ribbon.

2011 Mid Central Region Convention

Rails of Ages 1961 to 2011
April 28 through May 1, 2011

Featuring all the standard convention fare: Clinics - Industry Tours - Contests - Non-Rail Activities - Silent Auction - Awards Banquet - Raffle - Layout Tours

To be held at The Lodge & Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake
www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com

Information: Matt Kross, 12049 Sperry Road, Chesterland OH 44026 440-729-3045

www.RailsOfAges.org

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Division website
www.div4.org

Next meeting:

Friday January 14, 2011 at 7:45 PM

Church of the Redeemer
23500 Center Ridge Road
Westlake Ohio 44145



On the way to Thurmond WV during last year's Regional Convention.

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

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