



THE FLATWHEEL

VOL 46 NBR 02 FEBRUARY 2012



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

Art Bumpus, Division 4 Superintendent On Q

Our next meeting date is Friday, February 10th. At 7:00 PM Chuck Klein will convene the annual Trustees meeting. This is your opportunity to speak with your trustees about any ideas you have to improve our Division, suggestions for meetings, or any concerns. The ideas coming from this meeting will be reported out to the membership. So if you have any input to provide that you haven't been able to express to your elected officers at the front table, now is a prime time to express your views.

This meeting is also our annual Membership Appreciation meeting which features FREE PIZZA. Bring an appetite with you and be prepared to engage in conversation with friends. The program will feature a video by Al Halvorsen on his train trip across Canada. The contest for February is about stock cars, like pig/sheep/cattle/etc. Any railroad car for this purpose is an eligible entry.

It's also the time for Division members to consider running for elected office. If you have a desire to hold office, contact Gary Sole or Mike Klein. At a future meeting, they will report out to the membership anyone desirous of holding an elected position. Elected officials commence their terms at the June meeting.

Moving on now with the planning of my Spruce Creek Railway, I'll go over a number of the preferences which I wanted for my model railroad. (This list is not, by any means, complete or exhaustive, but does convey an idea of the design direction:

1. Single track mainline,
2. Mainline radius as large as possible – This became a minimum radius of 36" with one curve at sub-minimum radius of 34",
3. Mountains, bridges, cuts, and fills,
4. Significant elevations - The railroad ranges from an elevation of 42" to 63",
5. Grade maximum of 2 degrees,
6. No hidden helix – The railroad is, itself, a helix,
7. Point to point operation – This became a combination of point to point or point to loop,
8. Location of West Virginia, steam and diesel transition (1938-1956),
9. A secondary branch line,
10. An economy predominantly based on natural resources (coal and lumber with manufacturing based on the consumption of those resources),
11. Lots of switching.

At this point, you will notice that the choice of railroad modeled is not in the list. That's because I didn't know. It would be derived from the success of meeting the design preferences. This, ultimately, narrowed the field for me to two possible railroads, the C&O or B&O. I chose the B&O.

I'm getting close to being able to develop a track plan. Yeah!

So in the meantime, remember, never trade steam for water.

January General Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: Church of the Redeemer, 23500 Center Ridge Road, Westlake, OH 44145

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Art Bumpus at 7:35 PM, wishing everyone a happy new year. (NOTE: There were no minutes for the December 2011 Awards Banquet –sec.) Art noted the meeting turnout was outstanding, particularly given the weather situation. Membership Co-Chair Denny Whitaker introduced two new members; Ed Dillon and Ed Quinones. Denny also introduced a member new to Division 4, Bud Speirling, who moved to the area from New York. Members of the Lorain Model RR Club were also in attendance and introduced.

Chair Larry Madson stated the night's clinic would be a new format. Four members will be setup and simultaneously demonstrating their methods for making trees. Next month is the annual member appreciation event (pizza and soft drinks). During the event, Al Halvorsen will have a video on his train trip across Canada.

The Module Group held a recent business meeting to discuss past and new plans. The next showing will be held February 11-12 at the Lodi Outlet Center. Larry Madson reminded all members the group is open to any member and any member, even without owning a module, is welcome to come and operate their DCC equipment on the modules when setup.

2014 National Convention Co-Chair Jerry Krueger stated the committee met in November and will be holding their next meeting in yet to be determined location sometime in February. Jerry recently met with Positively Cleveland to discuss their support of the convention. Jerry also stated a representative of the group building the new Med-Mart where the convention is scheduled to be held will be invited to an upcoming meeting to review the project and how the convention might make use of the space.

Chair Dave Lawler stated the night's contest is privately owned cars and pickups. Next month's contest will be stock freight cars of any era and style. Winners of last month's contest were; 1st - Brian Harko, 2nd – Jim Grell, 3rd – Art Bumpus. Last month also included a photo contest with winners; Bill Kovacs won an amazing 1st, 2nd and 3rd place with his photos. In addition to Bill winning 3rd place, Al Halvorsen tied and Joe Filipiak tied with two photos.

Next month's *Flatwheel* deadline for submittals is January 26th. It was noted the outstanding quality of the photos in last month's *Flatwheel* taken by our editor, Dave Williams.

The company store was open with car kits for the AM hoppers and Newburgh and South Shore boxcars.

Mike Klein had a great raffle assortment including several N scale rolling stock.

Old Business – Art asked for feedback on this year's location for the Annual Awards Banquet. Consensus was we should schedule next year's event at the same location.

New Business – Jerry Krueger is arranging an informal Division event for those wishing to attend a symposium being organized by Jim Six to be held at the NYC Museum in Elkhart, IN. Those attending would travel via Amtrak for attendance during the Saturday sessions. Those interested in coordinating travel should contact Jerry Krueger. Denny Whitaker added John Reynolds had re-railed. Gary Sole acquiesced to Art's request Gary lead the nominating committee efforts for a slate of officers at this spring's elections. Anyone interested in an elected position should contact Gary Sole. There will be a BOD meeting January 31 at 7 PM held at the United Church of Christ in Strongsville. BOD meetings are open to all members. The annual Trustees' Meeting will be held at 6:45 PM prior to the start of the February regular membership meeting. The purpose of the Trustees' Meeting is to provide all members a communication path for changes or issues they believe would improve the organization. It was noted member Len Sherry is recovering from recent serious medical issues and is in good spirits. Len is seeing visitors at HCR ManorCare, 1211 West Market Street, Akron.

The business meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Bowie, Secretary

Membership by Dennis Whitaker

February 2012 Birthdays:

PHILIP S BARTEK	BOB BASSETT
H BRUCE BLONDER	DENNIS A BROWN
GARY B DUNN	CARL J GEDEON
BRAD GLAZE	BRIAN HAAS
THOMAS F HEMSATH	DANIEL J KOVACS
DONALD MARCUSSEN	DAVID S NEUZIL
PAUL J NOVAK JR	MICHAEL A OSTER
JOHN PUCH	JOHN P ROWE
MICHAEL E SCHAFFER	CHUCK SWORD
RICHARD P WOODWARD	

New Members:

ED DILLON	Elyria
ED QUINONES	Westlake

Re-Rail Members:

BOB BUTLER JR	SANDUSKY
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Correction: The printed edition of the January Flatwheel accidently omitted Harold Taylor from the list of members who passed on during 2011. Thanks to Gary Sole for noticing and calling so that the online edition could be corrected.

Also - a long overdue notice - please let us know about the passing of any prominent railfan/model railroader/hobby shop employee in area, whether or not they were Division members. Jim Moore requested that I report such losses quite a while ago. Notify me at dave_wms@sbcglobal.net. Dave Williams, editor

Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet-Valley Forge

(submitted by Brian Harko)

March 23-25 Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet-Valley Forge at the Desmond Great Valley Hotel, Malvern, Pa .Registration \$35 Prototype clinics, vendors' room, model display room, Friday Op Sessions, Sunday layout tour. Contact Paul Backenstose, at PRRpaul@aol.com, 610-269-2763, or visit www.phillynmra.org for details

Upcoming BOD Meetings

March 27, 2012
May 29, 2012

Railfest - Volunteers Needed

March 17/18, 2012. The Division table will need volunteers for 2 hour shifts. Save a \$7 admission by donating your time. Contact Joe Mehalic or any Division Officer.

Editor's Notes

I really appreciated the meeting recognition I received at Gary Sole's request for the pictures I had in the last Flatwheel. I do my best, but the truth is: get kids around the Division's modules and getting a good picture is just pushing a button. The expressions on their faces of amazement and delight are a reflection of all the work being done by the module group (and the rest of us who support their efforts - at the Armory last month, Joe Mehalic was there to promote membership and I was there to take some pictures - Joe asked me, "What do we do if someone asks a question? We don't know anything about these modules!" I told Joe to just say that we're "admin" - military folks will translate that to mean that we're somehow working but can't help them directly (I'm putting it politely). Joe is incidentally great at working with people and has no problem when questions come up. Me - I just take pictures, and occasionally talk a good race when it comes to model railroading).

I bought and soldered together an LED module for the Arduino I received for Christmas. Unlike the average person who has to make due with a normal soldering iron, I have a top of the line Weller variable temperature soldering station. That allows me to crank the heat up and blow out components like they've been launched into the Sun. Now the red LED comes on and looks sadly at the fried remains of its green and blue brothers. It says, "It could have been a good act", then fades out. I'm probably not ready (or right) for building turnout control yet.

Bridge Plans Available via Email from Lee Soule

I scanned the original August 25, 1988 permit blueprints of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Swing Bridge over the Maumee River at Toledo, OH. The interesting thing is they show the position and draw of the original swing bridge (built circa 1855). The original prints are approx 24" x 36" and the scans are 1:1 of the original. I have no way to print them but I can email them to you, then you could take the files to a local printer or blueprint shop and reproduce them. These are considered public domain files and are approx 3MB total. The originals are white on blue but my scanner is white on black.

If you're interested please send me a direct email to: lee.d.soule@uscg.mil and request an electronic copy of the Permit File for the NS RR Bridge at Mile 5.76 over the Maumee River.

Lee D. Soule

Bridge Management Specialist

9th Coast Guard District (DPB)

Annual Trustee Meeting for Members

As mandated by Division 4 rules and regulations the Trustees will hold a meeting Friday February 10th at 7:00 in the first room to the left when entering the church hall. The meeting is designed to hear any issues that members would like to bring before the Trustees. The Trustees are Steve Kaplan (East), Chuck Klein (West), Gary Dunn (Quad County), Lee Sheffield (At Large), Larry Madson (At Large).

Chuck Klein

The Clinic Corner

February 2012 Program

Presented by

Al Halvorsen

A Busy Station – Durand Michigan

Al will take us on a video tour of Durand Union Station and the Michigan Railroad History Museum.

March Program

For our March program, Chuck and Mike Klein will present a story about Cleveland streetcars (trolleys). A little history but about the Clifton Blvd. and Detroit Ave lines. Their father Bernie was a motorman and motorcoach operator on these lines from the Rocky River Station. Relive a little nostalgia of the 1950's and maybe some of your early memories of your own neighborhood even if it wasn't in Cleveland.

Clinics Wanted

Any Division member wishing to present a program for the 2011 – 2012 season, please contact me. I am looking for programs for the April, May and June meetings.

Larry

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.

Larry Madson

RAFFLE REPORT

Thanks to all who weathered the storm for January's meeting. We will have another great raffle for February's meeting. Something for everyone. See you then.

The Raffle Dudes



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 February 23, 2012.

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@gmail.com
c 419-239-8115

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

Lee Sheffield lakeshoreny@yahoo.com

Appointed

Carnival

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 Co-Chairs

Dennis Whitaker/Joe Mehalic

Modules

Scott Benson

N.O.A.R.S. Representative

Chuck Beargie

Webmaster

Ben Lanza

MCR Regional Convention
Pittsburgh PA (Division 2)
April 26-29, 2012

NMRA National Convention
Grand Rapids MI
July 29-August 4, 2012

Scenes from January's Tree Clinic



The official ballot for NMRA elections appears as an insert in the center of the February 2012 issue of NMRA Magazine, mailed to all voting members. Ballots must be returned to NMRA headquarters, postmarked by April 10 and received by April 15, 2012. Note that you need your address label from the magazine to go onto the ballot.

Here are the candidates as they appear on the ballot:

President:

Charles W. Getz, IV, HLM

Vice President - Administration:

Howard Goodwin
Clark Kooning, MMR
Dave Thornton

Vice President - Special Projects:

Bill Kaufman
James "Lump" Lupfer

At-Large North American Director:

Mike Brestel
Miles Hale, MMR

Eastern District Director:

John Roberts, MMR, HLM

Pacific District Director:

Mike Bartlett
Kelly Loyd
Rob Peterson

Contest Corner

conducted by Dave Lawler

January 2012 Model Contest Report: Privately Owned Autos and Pickup Trucks

There were 16 entries and 29 votes.



- 1st Jim Grell 1931 Lincoln
- 2nd John Hemsath Essex Coach
- 3rd Dave Lawler 1937 Maple Leaf Pickup

Point standings and trophies for the first half 2011-2012

- | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1st | Jim Grell | 13 total points |
| 2nd | Brian Harko | 9 total points |
| 3rd (tie) | George Gelehrter and Dave Lawler | 6 total points |

For February, first contest of the 2nd season half: railway Stock Cars from any era.



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Newsletter of NMRA MCR Division Four



November's Contest Winner: Open Cab #7 by Brian Harko.

Next meeting: **Friday February 10, 2012**

Church of the Redeemer
23500 Center Ridge Road
Westlake Ohio 44145

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

Division website: www.div4.org

February's meeting is Member Appreciation Night. Pizza will be served.

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

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