



THE



FLATWHEEL

FEBRUARY 2017



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











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This month's cover photo shows Cumbres & Toltec engines 487 and 463 with their fires banked, keeping them ready for the next day's run. Photo by Bruce Bowie during a visit in late September 2016

ELECTED OFFICERS

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

Assistant Superintendent - Lee Sheffield
lakeshorenyc@yahoo.com

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

Treasurer - Greg Noeth (216) 789-2086
gjnoeth@yahoo.com

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

Trustee Quad County - Jim Moore (419) 684-5833
moorez@aol.com

Trustee West - Gary Schaefer

Trustee at Large - Brian Haas, haasland@msn.com

Trustee at Large - John Hemsath (440) 871-9676
hemsathj@gmail.com

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Great Berea Train Show - David James h (440)-717-1778
c (440)-785-9907 david.j@brtcharter.com

Achievement - Bruce Brintnall MMR,
brintnall@mindspring.com

Layout Tours - Ron Morgan, ronalco@sbcglobal.net

Contests - David Lawler, davelawler@oh.rr.com

Historian/Archivist = Frank Bongiovanni

Raffle - Mike Klein, pstlw@cox.net

Co. Store Manager - Chuck Klein, cbklein765@gmail.com

Clinics - Larry Madson, lmadson@roadrunner.com

Flatwheel Editor - Bruce Bowie, in2trains@gmail.com

Membership - Bill & Billy Ferry, clevelandbill@mac.com

Modules - Scott Benson, sbenson440@zoominternet.net

N.O.A.R.S. Representative - Bill Kovacs

Webmaster - Ben Lanza, blqt@nls.net

Refreshments - Joe Filipiak, graftonpotter@frontier.com

Training Day - Gary Schaefer

NORTH COAST LEADERSHIP



AN EDITORIAL

This is my first *Flatwheel* as your new editor. I must use this opportunity to thank Dave and Julie Williams for their 12 year career as our editors AND publishers. Dave with the help of his spouse not only acted as the editor but also for most of those 12 years as publisher.

Publishing the *Flatwheel* entailed printing the final version, making copies, folding, stapling, stamping and mailing 220 +/- units to our members, 10 times per year! This was all on top of the time and effort it took Dave to generate the monthly edition. And oh yeah, he also took most of the photos used in the *Flatwheel*.

THANK YOU DAVE & JULIE FROM ALL OF US!

This makes for a perfect segue into this month's editorial topic....volunteering. Ours is an organization totally dependent on volunteers to function in each and every activity we as members take advantage of, from setting up and running the meetings, providing refreshments, organizing the clinics, operating the raffle, planning field trips and so on and so on.

We have over 200 members with 80 or so attending our monthly meetings. Yet, when you look at the list of (9) elected and (15) appointed positions on page 3 of this issue you see names that have been appearing for

years in one role or another.

I met a guy in 2003, Tom Beutler, who said he could introduce me to a group of modelers in the Akron area who had round robin operating sessions in their homes. Tom was and continues to be a strong proponent of the NMRA, so he also dragged me to a Division meeting, showing me the advantages to be gained by membership. I joined, and it wasn't long before the Division needed a Quad-County trustee as the position was called back then. My hand went up and the rest is history. I have held numerous positions including both elected and appointed, and now *The Flatwheel* editor.

I have no regrets. To the contrary, my life has literally changed for the better because of the decision to get involved in our Division. I have made dozens of friends I would not otherwise have. I have built railroads that never would have been built without the help of some the friends I have met through the Division. These are all friends I will have the rest of my life and there are no rewards of more value than that!

Note I said above "involved in our Division", not just joined. As much as there is to be gained from attending our meetings, there is so much more when you get involved. I took a breather from actively participating after stepping down from the treasurer's position in 2015. While our meetings are a productive way to spend 10 Friday nights per year, I found I was not getting as much from them as before. When I thought about it, it was not being in a position to add value to our Division that was the basis of this malady.

So I fixed it. When a position came open and Superintendent Kaplan was looking for a volunteer, up went my hand. And already I am again having that good feeling from helping out.

'LET YOUR HAND GO UP'

Listen to Steve's requests for help and let YOUR hand go up. You will never regret it.

Also, time spent as a volunteer can go towards your Association Volunteer AP Certificate!

As our wise webmaster Ben Lanza always says in his emails, 'DON'T JUST BELONG - PARTICIPATE'. 🚂

NOTE: All errors and omissions are mine. Please send your ideas, comments, suggestions and constructive criticisms relative to the the *Flatwheel* to the editor at in2trains@gmail.com.

BRUCE BOWIE
EDITOR



HERBIE'S RUMBLINGS



HELP EVERY MODEL RAILROADER BECOME INJURY EXEMPT

This will be a short one - since as I submit this to Bruce, seven of us are on our way to Springfield, Mass to attend the Amherst Show. This is probably the largest annual train show in the country, with close to 20,000 attending over the two day weekend. We are taking 5 modules, and will be joining in the large display of the Hub Division.

The February meeting is our biennial auction, so get your items ready. Forms were available at the January meeting, and are also out on the website. Our favorite auctioneers - Lee Sheffield and Frank Bongiovanni will be in their usual entertainment mode, and the numbers will be handled by Greg Noeth, Bruce Bowie and Tom Beutler. A reminder - bring your checkbook - all purchases must be settled BEFORE the sellers are paid.

The March meeting will be our annual Member Appreciation Night (I.e. Pizza Night).

By now all of you should have received the paper ballots for the election of the NMRA Central District Director, and you will note that I am one of the candidates. If you want to save the postage, AND if NMRA HQ has your email address, you will be able to vote on-line starting next week or so. You will receive an email that, when you click on a designated box, will get you to the "voting booth" and identify you to the computer.

The position is an important one, and I feel that both of us candidates are very qualified, but I hope that you will appreciate the representation that I would be able to give you if chosen. My candidate statement is on the back of the ballot, and was also reproduced in the last Kingpin.

More important, however, is that all of the members should cast a ballot.

By the way, we used the new electronic voting for the recent RAC Director election - it is really a smooth easy procedure. The deadline for voting is February 28th.

Please get out the Kingpin you recently received and get your registration in for this year's Mid-Central Region Convention in Louisville. It should prove to be a really great one.

Remember, you can get some great ideas all year long

TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE REGION CONVENTION!

about what other Divisions, as well as Regions, are doing by visiting their websites and reading their newsletters. The easiest way to find them is to start at <http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org/divisions2.html>. In fact, you can access every Division in the NMRA by going to the NMRA website and hitting the "Regions" button on line three.

See you at the Auction. 🚂

**STEVE KAPLAN,
SUPERINTENDENT**

THE NORTH COAST DIVISION



PS - The Division Board will meet at the Church on Tuesday, February 7th. All members are invited to attend these Board meetings.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 11, 2016

NMRA MCR Division 4 January 2017 General Meeting Minutes

(Secretary's note: I got bumped on Clague Rd. and was 15 minutes late to the meeting. Thanks to Greg Noeth for taking the beginning Minutes.)

The meeting started at approximately 7:30 pm with a welcome to all by Superintendent Steve Kaplan.

Membership co-chair Bill Ferry announced new member Ian Sly. There were no visitors.

Steve invited everyone to gather again after the clinic at Baker's Square on Lorain Rd in North Olmsted. Steve continued with a review of the Awards Banquet, thanking all who were involved in the planning, with additional thanks to George Keller for his "Elf on the Shelf" for the children.

Steve presented the following awards: Novak Award to John Hemsath, and Member Award to Ken Orchard.



Treasurer Greg Noeth reported that Division assets total \$51,837.52.

Clinic Chair Larry Madson said that the evening's clinic would be presented by Darl Swift on how he selects freight cars for his layout.

A report by the Module Group indicated that they had completed 75 shifts (300 hours) at the Lorain Trees & Trains Show. Their next event will be the Medina Train Show on February 5, 2017. A Division 4 modular layout is being planned for the 2018 National Train Show in Kansas City, MO. The Group held their annual planning meeting on January 12, 2017.

John Hemsath reviewed the November winning entries

and asked their modelers to describe their work. Gary Schaeffer brought in the 2017 Wheeling & Lake Erie calendar which had accepted two of his photos. Tim Sheffield said that Home Depot is again selling Homasote sheets. Tonight's contest is an observation or business car.

Frank Bongiovanni and Lee Sheffield briefed everyone on the Bi-Annual Auction scheduled for the February meeting. Topics included forms, paddles, bidding, \$1 increments, and bundling smaller less valuable things together. Help will be needed. Arrive early if possible and help set up- Frank plans to be at the church by 6:30 pm.

Frank also mentioned the MCR Convention to encourage attendance as well as giving thought to presenting clinics there.

Chuck Klein listed items available at the Company Store. He also mentioned that the Nickel Plate Society's convention would be in Cleveland this year (he's the Chair).

Mike Klein (Raffle) thanked Fred Obreza, Joanne Obreza, Linda Klein and Chuck Klein for their help with the Awards Banquet raffle. Tonight's raffle is a theme raffle flatcars and flatcar loads.

Steve called a brief informal Board meeting to follow.

Flatwheel deadline is January 26th.

Scott Benson gave a report on the Midwest Railway Preservation Society's hard efforts at converting rail yard scrap into cash for building improvements.

Ron Morgan thanked everyone who participated in the Fall layout tours. Winners of the layout visitor contests (e.g., Find all the monkeys) were announced. The next open houses will be in May - if you're interested let Ron know soon. Divisions 1 and 5 are invited to visit as well.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. 🚂

DAVID M. WILLIAMS

SECRETARY



THIS & THAT

HOMASOTE - Tim Sheffield provided a heads up for those of us looking for the hard to find 1/2"x4'x8' homasote. Check out Home Depot. They have begun carrying it in SOME stores, so check availability on-line if you need any.

NICKEL PLATE ROAD HISTORICAL & TECHNICAL SOCIETY

- Chuck Klein gave an early notice of this year's convention to be held in Independence, September 28-30th. This event is open to members and non-members alike. Check their website, nkphs.org, for more information.

FLOQUIL - Joe Kurilec brought to membership's attention

that Joe Fugate, Model Railroad Hobbyist publisher, has written a book entitled Guide to acrylic painting ...in a post-Floquil world. This available as a free download, CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO GO THERE



DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL MEETING - The Directors

are designated as a Steering Committee, and will meet at least once per year independent of Board meetings, to discuss matters of mutual membership concern. This Steering Committee will elect a president for each meeting from its membership. The Division's Directors will hold their 2017 annual meeting at 7 PM, prior to the March general membership meeting (not the typical February due to the bi-ennial auction in February). The meeting will be located in the small room to the left as you enter the Church. All members are invited to share any ideas or concerns as to the Division's operation and direction.

JASON'S BRASS POLES - Member Brian Weisman is taking pre-orders for the new Bowser RS-3 diesels that will be coming out late summer or early Fall. Brian can give \$35 off list on the DCC Sound or DCC ready units such popular roads as the NKP, N&W, Pennsy etc. (see HOBBY SOURCES section for more info)

MODELRAILWAYSCENERY.COM - Joe Kurilec passed along the following:

I first learned of www.ModelRailwayScenery.com at a Division 4 clinic presented by Paul Chappel.

His clinic demonstrated the use of GREAT looking paper models! I have used concrete sheets from this firm and was very pleased. Emails are sent from the firm every so often. (one email provided a link to a FREE building download!)

I just downloaded T026a, Factory Warehouse and am VERY pleased with the product. These downloads can



be printed from your inkjet or color laser printer using any paper stock you want.

The scale of the kits are OO (1.76), which to me makes no difference to me as it is a building.

Model Railway Scenery web site provides a email sign up link. Purchases can be made with PayPal or your credit card using PayPal.

The site is VERY user friendly.

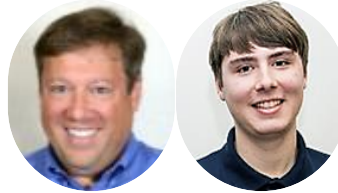
EERIE MAD RIVER MODEL RAILROAD CLUB - Director Jim Moore along with members Bruce Bowie and Gary Dunn presented the Division's recent donation to members of Eerie Mad River Model Railroad Club. The club resides in their own building located at 1309 N. Depot Street, Sandusky, Ohio. Membership is currently open. 🚂



MEMBERSHIP

No report this month.

BILL AND BILLY FERRY
MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIRS



CLINIC

February 2017

Division 4 Biennial Auction

Auctioneers Lee Sheffield and Frank Bongiovanni will be on hand to auction off your unwanted stuff. More information at www.div4.org and go to <auction page>

March 2017

Division 4 Member Appreciation Night aka "Pizza Party"

Come and enjoy an evening of fellowship and pizza with your fellow Division 4 members. The program will be a video, or videos, subjects to be announced in February.

BUYING A WATCH IN 1880

CREDIT: THE DAYLIGHT OBSERVATION ISSUE 4, VOLUME 2016; OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, PACIFIC COAST REGION OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD

If you were in the market for a watch in 1880, would you know where to get one?

You would go to a store, right?

Well, of course you could do that, but if you wanted one that was cheaper and a bit better than most of the store watches, you went to the train station!

Sound a bit funny?

Well, for about 500 towns across the northern United States, that's where the best watches were found.

Why were the best watches found at the train station?

The railroad co. wasn't selling the watches, not at all. The telegraph operator was. Most of the time the telegraph operator was located in the railroad station because the telegraph lines followed the railroad tracks from town to town. It was usually the shortest distance and the right-of-ways had already been secured for the rail line.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and it was the primary way they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at their next station. And it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact, they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about 9 years.

This was all arranged by "Richard", who was a telegraph operator himself. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the

CLINICS WANTED *Help!!!!* I need a few more for programs for 2016-2017. If any of you would like to share your modeling techniques, know of someone I could contact for a program, or have a suggestion for a program topic, please contact me. If you have contacted me previously about a program, please take time to remind me again.

Larry Madson , madson@roadrunner.com, 440-934-2643 or 440-864-2305

Thanks, 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.

LARRY MADSON
CLINIC CHAIRMAN



It was a huge crate of pocket watches. No one ever came to claim them.

So Richard sent a telegram to the manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches. The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them.

So Richard did. He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch. He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit.

That started it all.

He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers.

It worked!

It didn't take long for the word to spread and, before long, people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches. Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watch maker to help him with the orders. That was Alvah. And the rest is history as they say.

The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods. Richard and Alvah left the train station and moved their company to Chicago -- and it's still there.

YES, IT'S A LITTLE KNOWN FACT that for a while in the 1880's, the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station.

It all started with a telegraph operator: Richard SEARS and his partner Alvah ROEBUCK!



COMPANY STORE

The company store currently has for your purchasing pleasure the following items. The items are available for purchase at most monthly meetings. You may also contact the Store Manager, Chuck Klein, cbklein765@gmail.com for other options. 🚚

NYC MDT Reefers 4 Numbers available

Set of 4 (2 Steel, 2 Wood) \$72

Wood Side \$18 ea. / Steel Side \$20 ea.



MCR Schoolhouse
Laser Cut Kit \$45 ea.



Division 4 Patches
\$3 ea.



Division 4 Ball Caps
\$20 ea.

CHUCK KLEIN
STORE
MANAGER



Goose No. 7 on the Cumbres & Toltec, September 2016



About Railroads Societies Publications Collections Membership

NOARS REP CORRECTION

A correction to January's announcement, Bill Kovacs has agreed to take over as Division rep to the Northern Ohio Association of Railroad Societies (NOARS). Bill is also the rep for the Midwest chapter of the National Railway Historical Society (NRHS). It had him listed for Midwest Preservation in the NOARS statement. 🚂

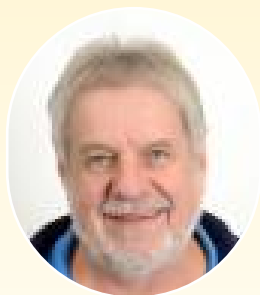


DAVE WILLIAMS
MOST RECENT NOARS REP



A FOCUS ON AREA HOBBY SHOPS

ONE IN A SERIES BY
JOE KURILEC
MMR



PHOTOS BY THE AUTHOR

This month's article will again showcase a few places that I feel are very useful.

While not hobby shops, there are many items for the work bench and layout that can be found locally.

Take the time to visit the interesting places in this article.

BUYERS OUTLET

3340 Warren Road

Cleveland, OH 44111

216-476-1467

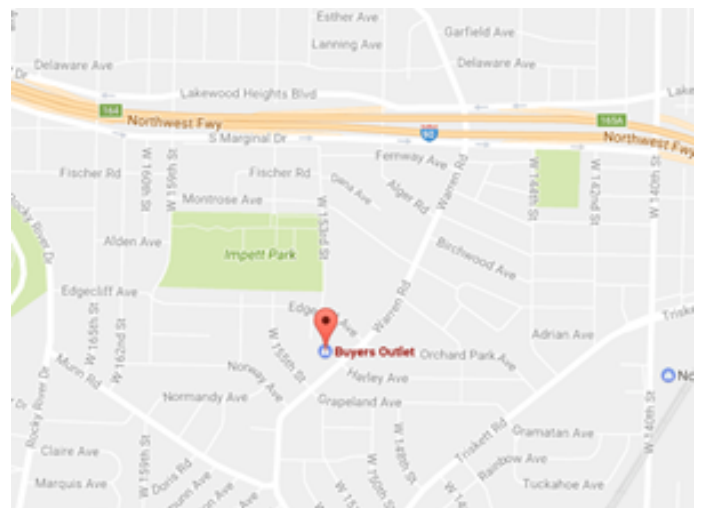
There is no website or email.

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/buyersoutletcleveland/



Buyers Outlet is located close to I-90 in the Warren Village Shopping Center (Westpark).



Buyers Outlet has a variety of discounted items. Of interest to the modeler is the tool section. Tools and many small tools for use around the layout are priced very low.

A trip to Buyers Outlet can reward you with some nice items. Take a look around.

ORNAMENTAL PRODUCTS

5105 Pearl Road
 Cleveland, OH 44129
 216-749-5050
 No website or email.
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/Ornamental-Products-Tool-Supply-651401071588229



Ornamental Products is located near the corner of Pearl Road (route 42) and Brookpark Roads.



They have a complete line of General tools and tools that you'll find useful. The tool selection at Ornamental Products is very well stocked. Going there you'll find that special modeling tool, in stock.

PRODUCTION TOOL

10801 Brookpark Road
 Cleveland, OH 44130
 216-265-0000
 Website: www.pts-tools.com/cgi/CGP2HOME



Production Tool is easy to find, located across from Home Depot on Brookpark Road, near I-480.



The staff at Production Tool is always very helpful. They have a complete line of General Tools, Dremel products and other tools.

I've purchased many smaller size drill bits (in stock) and a few longer drill bits for drilling thru benchwork. Items are priced right!

At the counter is a bin with discounted products. I was able to purchase a set of 1-2-3 metal blocks at half the cost of the same item in catalogs! 1-2-3 blocks are small metal blocks very useful to hold items while gluing or to place on models to hold in position for gluing.

GORDON FOOD SERVICE (GFS)

Production Tool also has a FREE 1900 plus page catalog. The catalog has a ton of tools and items that can be used for modeling purposes.



Located in several places around the Cleveland, Ohio area.

Main website: <https://www.gfs.com/en>

I found GFS stores to be a great place to get small plastic containers with lids (for parts, paint mixes, dry weathering pigments and a whole lot of useful places on the workbench).

Aluminum foil containers (I use them for scenery, painting work), plastic table covers (cheap drop cloths) and a nice long chef's apron (put the apron on, attach to front to your work area with Velcro) to catch small parts falling before they get lost on the floor! I am told jewelers use something similar.

Thanks for reading. 🚂

RAFFLE

No report this month



THE RAFFLE DUDES



CONTEST TABLE

January 2017 Contest: Observation or Business Passenger Cars

There were 8 entries and 46 votes.

My thanks to John Hemsath for filling in as contest chairman.

Here are the results:

1st: John Hemsath (HmMMM?) Seriously though, I saw his model under construction and it was excellent.

2nd: Paul Novak Jr.

3rd: Rich Mayich

Honorable Mention: John Witt

Remember modelers there is no contest in February due to the Auction.

The next contest, in **MARCH**, is for **WATER TANKS**; railroad or industrial.

These contest entries can be done as dioramas.

Also, January winners, please remember to bring your winning entries in March for show and tell, especially since I didn't get to see them.

**DAVE LAWLER
CONTEST
CHAIRMAN**



Hello, this being my first article in a long time for the Flatwheel, let me offer some mention of introduction. I first joined Division 4 in 1977 and was active until 1985. In "85" I was a senior in college and engaged to my wife, leaving me little time for modeling. The Late Richard (Dick) Smerke brought me back into the fold in 1990. Last January I attended a Division 4 meeting and purchased a Fairport Painesville & Eastern Accurail boxcar. Actually I purchased two and this is where the Byline starts.



There were two road numbers available and the sample car was built and the only one left with the second number. Chuck agreed to sell me the sample car. I decided that I should build the other car and return it to him at the February meeting in exchange for the remaining kit. However, I was very busy at work and didn't think I had time to spare building car kits.

Well there is an old saying: If you want something done give it to a busy person!

So I set short time goals for myself, learning what could be done in 15, 30 and 60 minutes intervals. With Accurail kits you can cut all the frame & brake casting off the sprues (for two kits), clean the flash off and glue them to the floor in 30 minutes. Then wipe the metal weight down with rubbing alcohol and glue it in place with Aleene's "Tacky Glue". In 15 minutes, you can paint the weight and exposed floor flat black with a rattle-can of Krylon paint; and start prepping the car body. The next 15 minute session you can turn the frames over and paint the underside of the frame, trucks and coupler covers, all in place, with a can of Krylon Camouflage Brown paint (marked non-reflective); and finish up the car body including painting the brake shaft (on wood boxcars). When there were 3 or 4 frames and car bodies ready, they go

THE BYLINE...

BY GARY SOLE
PHOTOS BY THE AUTHOR

together in 15 to 20 minutes. When finished the coupler height and car weight was checked.



Last year between January 15 and the end of May, 85 car kits, from Athearn, Bowser and Accurail were assembled using this process. That's an average of 4.7 kits a week. And one of the kits was an Accurail tri-level auto rack. It's a great way to get car kits off the shelf.



Below are a few hints:

Insert the plastic wheel sets in the trucks when painting them; this keeps the paint from going into the bearing opening.

By painting the floors and trucks the finished model is enhanced.



Screws were used to hold coupler pockets and trucks on all of the cars. This also required drilling and tapping on some kits, less than a 15 minute process per car.

Have fun! And if our Editor likes this article, I'll be back in March? Bridges!

Editor: I loved the theme (I need to learn this practice!) and appreciate the submittal. 🚂

Cumbres & Toltec, late September 2016



2017 NORTH COAST DIVISION AUCTION

Once again Division 4 will be holding the biennial auction at the FEBRUARY meeting. If you're like most of us you have accumulated an abundance of items you do not really need anymore or will never get time to use.

The auction is a perfect place to sell those valuable items to someone that has a use for them and will appreciate them. Gather them up and get ready to sell them off so you can purchase that special engine, car, or building you really want. Not only will you clear out some shelf room and have some funds in your railroad fund. The BOD may suspend the normal 10% fee collected by the Division for his year's auction. The decision will be made at the February 7th BOD meeting, falling after the publication of this issue of the *Flatwheel*.

To save you time Auction Forms are provided on the Division website so that you can fill them out before the meeting. A copy also follows on the next page. Please print out and enter the following information for each item or lot that you will have for sale. It will save a lot of time if you have Auction Forms filled out **BEFORE** the auction starts.

***DO NOT* FILL ANYTHING IN THE SELLER NUMBER AND BUYER NUMBER BOXES PRIOR TO THE AUCTION.**

Fill out your 'Starting Bid' and 'Description' boxes only! If you leave the "Starting Bid" empty, it will be left to the auctioneer's discretion. All bidding will be even dollar increments, no cents, to make the accounting easier on the Treasurer. 🚂

**FRANK BONGIOVANNI & LEE SHEFFIELD
AUCTIONEERS**



Division 4 Auction 2017

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Seller Number: | |
| Minimum Bid: | |
| Description: | |
| Sold for: | |
| 10% Commission: | |
| Net Seller Proceeds: | |
| Buyer Number: | |

Division 4 Auction 2017

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Seller Number: | |
| Minimum Bid: | |
| Description: | |
| Sold for: | |
| 10% Commission: | |
| Net Seller Proceeds: | |
| Buyer Number: | |

Division 4 Auction 2017

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|----------------------|--|
| Seller Number: | |
| Minimum Bid: | |
| Description: | |
| Sold for: | |
| 10% Commission: | |
| Net Seller Proceeds: | |
| Buyer Number: | |

Division 4 Auction 2017

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|----------------------|--|
| Seller Number: | |
| Minimum Bid: | |
| Description: | |
| Sold for: | |
| 10% Commission: | |
| Net Seller Proceeds: | |
| Buyer Number: | |

Division 4 Auction 2017

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|----------------------|--|
| Seller Number: | |
| Minimum Bid: | |
| Description: | |
| Sold for: | |
| 10% Commission: | |
| Net Seller Proceeds: | |
| Buyer Number: | |

Division 4 Auction 2017

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Seller Number: | |
| Minimum Bid: | |
| Description: | |
| Sold for: | |
| 10% Commission: | |
| Net Seller Proceeds: | |
| Buyer Number: | |

2016 Regional Advisory Council

(RAC) Director Election

The RAC Director election opened on Saturday, December 10, 2016 and closed at the end of the day on Tuesday, December 20, 2016.

The election was run using Election buddy, an on-line voting system.

Election administrator Rick Coble sent an email prior to the opening of the election. The email included an example of the election announcement email and instructions to begin voting.

Election buddy then sent an email to all RAC members at the opening of the election on December 10. The announcement included a unique voting key and instructions to begin voting.

Ballots were submitted by 16 of the 18 RAC members. Results of the election were:

Steve August - 9 votes

Steve Barkley - 4 votes

Paul Mangan - 3 votes

Model reviewers wanted for "Research & Test Car column

Based on the results, Steve August was elected RAC Director.

Ever thought you'd like to do product reviews for NMRA Magazine?

We're looking for individuals who want to share their knowledge and passion for models with other NMRA members.

Patent and trademark attorney needed

You'll have fun doing it and you'll be paid author rates!

For more information, contact editor Cynthia Priest at sreditor@pairedrail.com.

The NMRA needs a volunteer patent and trademark attorney to manage the various patents and trademarks owned by the NMRA.

NMRA

INFONET

NEWS

**Tom Draper –
HLM, DSA, FA,
MSA, PA**

**Director –
Support Services**

It will not entail a significant amount of time – most likely just one to two hours a month on the average. The attorney would monitor the patents and trademarks to meet all deadlines for renewal and to

Reminder – NMRA Winter BOD meeting is in Atlanta, GA on February 18-19, 2017

maintain the intellectual property. This position would report to the NMRA General Counsel, Robert J. Amsler, Jr.

Please contact Robert Amsler at nmrlegal@charter.net if you're interested.

The Winter Board of Directors meeting will once again be held in Atlanta, Georgia, on February 18, and 19 at the Drury Inn & Suites. The Budget and Operations meeting will begin at 2:00 PM on Friday, February 17, and the Board will be in caucus that evening. Both of those meetings are only open to invited guests.

Registration for the NMRA 2017 Convention in Orlando, FL is open

The regular, open session of the BOD meeting begins at 9:00 AM on Saturday, February 18. Because the agenda is not yet finalized, there's no way to tell if the meeting will continue on Sunday. All members are invited to attend the open sessions. Watch www.nmra.org for details.

'Greatest Show on Earth' ends in May

Register for the convention on line at www.nmrastores.com and choose the 2017 convention tab. If you'd like a paper registration form, visit www.nmra2017orlando.org.

From Trains Magazine

Fate of 120-car-strong Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus train fleet undetermined

By Chase Gunnoe | January 15, 2017

Chase Gunnoe

ELLENTON, Fla. — When the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus drops its big top for the last time in May, the classic passenger cars and equipment it moves by rail will return to Florida to face an uncertain future.

In a late Saturday news release, managers with Ringling parent company Feld Entertainment say high operating costs and declining ticket sales are forcing them to stop both “Red” and “Blue” tours of the circus in May. The company’s Red unit will make its final performance in Providence, R.I., on May 7 and the Blue unit will finish up in Uniondale, N.Y., on May 21.

Stephen Payne, vice president of corporate communications at Feld Entertainment, tells Trains News Wire that both the Red and Blue trainsets will be deadheaded to Florida at the end of their tours. Payne says a final disposition for the trains and associated equipment has yet to be determined.

The Red unit consists of 54 cars: 34 coaches and 20 flat cars. The Blue unit includes 35 coaches and 21 equipment flat cars. Each unit travels independently across North America.

In addition, the company has five equipment flat cars and three passenger coaches in storage, while six stock cars previously used to haul elephants and other animals are also in storage near the company’s headquarters in Palmetto, Fla.

The company owns and operates more than 120 railcars and is among the largest passenger car operators in North America. The cars operate under “RBBX” reporting marks.

Between 250 and 300 performers and other circus workers travel on each of the two circus trains for more than 40 weeks each year.

Both trains recently started their 2017 tours. The Red unit is in Orlando, Fla., and will be traveling to Jacksonville, Fla., for shows the week of Jan. 16, while the Blue unit will be leaving Miami on Sunday, Jan. 16 headed for Birmingham, Ala.

The Red unit will use CSX Transportation rails to get to Jacksonville, while the Blue unit will travel Florida East Coast rails once departing Miami.

The decision to eliminate both circus trains comes in the wake of the circus' 2016 announcement to stop using elephants in shows. The elephant stock cars have been in storage in Florida since being removed from the train last summer.

The circus, which owners have billed the "Greatest Show on Earth," has roots in Delevan, Wis., that date to 1875 with a traveling circus headlined by P.T. Barnum; and a separate circus started by Baraboo, Wis.'s Ringling Brothers in 1884. The Ringlings bought Barnum & Bailey in 1907 and officially merged the operations in 1919. The Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wis., displays circus and railroad artifacts from the early years of circus entertainment.

On Sunday, Circus World Museum Executive Director Scott O'Donnell fielded a continuous stream of media queries. In an interview, he said the museum would welcome rolling stock from the current circus trains.

"This comes as an absolute surprise," he said about the decision to end the show. "It's not only the end of an American institution, it's also the end of an American brand that's been around longer than baseball, and around longer than Coca-Cola. They're all iconic American imagery."

— Jim Wrinn contributed to this report. 🚂



Emmett Kelly as "Weary Willie"

LAST RUN



BOB ORLANDO

Age 72, of Mayfield Heights, passed away Jan. 13, 2017, beloved husband of 48 years to Sandra (nee Popa) devoted father of Nicholas, Jennifer Gallucci (Thomas), and Kim Pasquale (Michael). loving grandfather of Alexandria, Antonio, Dominic, and Franco. great-grandfather of Zoe. dear brother of James (deceased). Mass of Christian burial Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017., 10:00 A.M. at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 6850 Mayfield Rd, Gates Mills, OH 44040 (PLEASE MEET AT CHURCH). Interment All Souls Cemetery. Family will receive friends to pay tribute to and celebrate the life of Bob at THE DeJOHN-FLYNN-MYLOTT FUNERAL HOME OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, 28890 CHARDON ROAD (between Bishop Rd. and Rt. 91), Wednesday 2-4 & 5-8 P.M. ARRANGEMENTS BY LOPRESTI FUNERAL HOME.

Published in The Plain Dealer from Jan. 14 to Jan. 15, 2017

As reported by Dave Williams - Bob Orlando's visitation room at the funeral home had one of his 4 x 8 layouts (or modules) being run by a young man. Someone said that there were 7 more similar sections in Bob's basement. The middle baseball cap above Bob was from the 2014 convention. Visitation was well attended.

Bob co-presented the March 2016 clinic on LED lighting with Div 5 member Alan Arthur. Bob also ran a train show in Mayfield in the late Spring.

The Division wishes sincere condolences to Bob's family.

Those members in attendance at the January Division meeting know Bob suffered a heart attack during the meeting. The Division wishes to give a big **thank you** to Joe Filipiak and Bruce Bowie for providing CPR and using an AED in their attempt to resuscitate Bob until the rescue squad arrived and Bill Ferry for making the call to EMS and standing by to help if needed. 🚒

THE TRAIN: At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel by our side. As time goes by, other people will board the train; and they will be significant i.e. our siblings, friends, children, and even the love of your life. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone. Others will step down over time and leave a permanent vacuum. Some, however, will go so unnoticed that we don't realize they vacated their seats. This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. Success consists of having a good relationship with all passengers requiring that we give the best of ourselves.

The mystery to everyone is: We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey.

Jean Turbeville Sanders

WHAT'S GOING ON?

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MARCH 5, 2017

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From 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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children under 12 (accompanied by adult) FREE

For more information, contact:

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DIVISION 4, MCR, NMRA

The North Coast Division

The North Coast Division holds 10 meetings a year (none in July and August). Meetings are on the 2nd Friday of the month. A social half hour starts at 7:00 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 7:30. A railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Meetings are held at The Church of The Redeemer, 23500 Center Ridge Road, Westlake, OH 44145. Visitors are welcome to attend any meeting.

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). All comments are welcome. Views expressed in the *Flatwheel* do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the NMRA, MCR,

of Division Four.

Uncredited photos courtesy of the editor or staff photographer Dave Williams.

The Flatwheel is typically electronically published on the Monday preceding the monthly meeting. Submissions are due no later than the 26th of the preceding month.

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. The group is private and does not appear on the Yahoo directory.



About Us

We are Division 4 of the Mid-Central Region of the National Model Railroaders Association. With more than 200 members from Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lorain and Medina counties in the state of Ohio. The North Coast Division meetings are normally held on the second Friday of the month to hear guest speakers, share skills, have railroad related clinics, and to share common problems and successes. Many of us get together informally in round-robin sessions to operate and work on each other's layouts, or just to talk railroads and modeling.