



THE

FLATWHEEL

DECEMBER 2020



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DECEMBER 2020

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SOME VIEWS ON A NEW YORK CENTRAL BUSINESS CAR.

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ELECTED OFFICERS

**NORTH
COAST
LEADERSHIP**

Superintendent - Lee Sheffield, lakeshorenyc@yahoo.com

Assistant Superintendent - Ron Morgan,
ronalco844@gmail.com

Secretary - Chris Shick, craftqween@sbcglobal.net

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

Director East—Fred Obreza (216)-587-4419, chevy5664@sbcglobal.net

Director West - Gary Schaefer, trains.ohio@yahoo.com

Director Quad County - Fred Wagner (419)-908-8251
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jflrn@sbcglobal.net

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Great Berea Train Show - David James, c(440)-785-9907
Achievement - John Hemsath MMR® hemsathj@gmail.com
Layout Tours -Ron Morgan, ronalco844@gmail.com
Contests - Joe Filipiak, graftonpotter@frontier.com
Historian/Archivist - Frank Bongiovanni
Raffle - Adam Woodie, woo3482@hotmail.com

Co. Store Manager - Scott Benson,
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N.O.A.R.S. Representative -Bill Kovacs

Webmaster—Ben Lanza, blqt@nls.net

Refreshments—Don Glass

Training Day - Gary Schaefer, trains.ohio@yahoo.com

DIVISION 4

THE NORTH COAST DIVISION

**OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2020.
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AN INFORMATIVE CLINIC ON SOME ASPECT OF OUR HOBBY. JOIN US!**

WHEN & WHERE WE MEET

The North Coast Division holds 10 meetings a year (none in July and August). Meetings are on the 2nd Friday of each month. A social half hour starts at 7:00 p.m.

followed by a short business meeting at 7:30. After a short break, a railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Starting September, 2020, the meetings are held at the **Westlake City Recreation Center**, 28955 Hilliard Blvd, Westlake, OH 44145. Visitors are welcome to attend any meeting.

The Division's newsletter, *The Flatwheel* is published monthly (except during July and August) by Division 4 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, or Division 4.

The Flatwheel is typically electronically published no later than the Monday preceding the monthly meeting. Submissions are due no later than the 26th of the prior month, for example, August 26th for the September *Flatwheel*.

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

**Westlake City Recreation Center
28955 Hilliard Blvd
Westlake, OH 44145**



FROM THE SUPER

“Driving the train doesn’t set its course. The real job is laying the track.” *Ed Catmull*

The holiday season is upon us. As you read this Thanksgiving will be upon us and Christmas will be just around the corner. Coming up soon the Awards Banquet at Carrie Cerrino’s... That was last years opening to my December 2019 column in the newsletter. Boy what a change this year brings. The Award's Banquet was always something to look forward to. Good food, good friends, good music and our yearly awards. But instead it is just another canceled event. And with it the cancellation of the December meeting. With which we intended to try and throw a little cheer into an otherwise hapless year.

I was real close to canceling the November meeting and would have if it wasn't for the budget. Expecting only a handful of members showing up we had around 40 people attending. It is apparent that our members are tired of being holed up in their homes. The budget was presented and those in attendance approved it. Joe presented the contest winners from last month and we had our raffle. We didn't have a clinic so it ended up being a short meeting. When I signed up for this job I never predicted I would have to present a budget with so much red. But we tried to be conservative with next years numbers and train show income. When things clear up next year I hope we can have a great show and get back in the black.

Next spring is following the same script as this years, canceled, canceled canceled. Division 5 has already canceled their show in March. The regional convention in Erie has just been canceled. And the New York Central and Norfolk & Western Historical Society conventions have been canceled.

The module group is busy with two events as last year. The international Trees and Trains setup opens on the 28th. It is being presented as a window display like the days of Higbee's downtown many years ago. When you peer into the windows you will see the train layout with many decorated trees in the background. For our second year we are set up at the Cleveland Zoo Wild Winter Lights. The layout is much bigger this year but the covid situation brings with it a unique twist. We are set up in a pavilion tarped off on three sides. It is good in a sense that we can keep ourselves safely at a distance from the visitors but it brings another condition with it, weather !!! Yes, we are protected from rain or snow but not from the frigid temperatures. The last night I was there the temp was in the low 40's. We have a space heater to help but the wind is not our friend. I never thought I would have to use winter weight lubrication on my locomotives. The zoo has been selling out every night as they only allow 3000 reservations per evening. And they added the option of driving through the display two nights a week. Check out the Metro Parks Zoo website for further information.

In closing, be safe, keep those hands washed and wear your masks when out and about. Keep working on those model railroad projects while you are staying home.

When things clear up we each should have a lot to show others.

As of this writing we are planning on having a meeting in January. If things change I will keep you posted.

As always, Model Railroading is Fun !!!



Lee Sheffield, Superintendent

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NMRA MCR Division 4 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for Friday, November 10, 2020 Zoom online Meeting

Those present: Lee Sheffield, David James (host), Steven Kaplan, Chuck Shick, Chris Shick, Joe Kurilec, John Hemsath, Ben Lanza, Ron Morgan, Greg Noeth, Fred Obreza, Frank Bongiovanni, Adam Woodie, Gary Schafer, Brian Haas

Lee started the meeting at 7:15

Last years income and expenditures were gone over.

A motion was made by Chris Shick to send a check to Church of the Redeemer, seconded by Fred Obreza. Motion carried.

We then started on going over possible income and expenditures for 2021. The income from the train show was estimated low at \$5000 due to the possibility the Covid virus could still be around and we would have to allow for increased expenditures for hand sanitizer and such.

Brian Haas motioned we accept the proposed budget. Gary Schafer seconded, motion was carried.

Some thoughts for next year include:

Making sure the Training Day flyer includes: "Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult".

BOD meetings will continue on Zoom.

Possibility of setting up Zoom meetings for Monthly meetings. Chuck Shick volunteered to set up a computer on Friday to test a Zoom meeting for those unable to attend. It will be a view only non participation.

Frank Bongiovanni informed us that the NYC and Norfolk Western conventions are going to be cancelled for 2021.

Ron Morgan says he needs at least 4 months to set up a bus trip. We will table the possibility of there being one next year until May's BOD meeting.

For anyone intending to run trains at the Zoo you need to be at the Zoo by 4:30 to clean the tracks and to have the trains rolling by 5:30 . Set up is on Sunday, November 15th at 9:00 am.

Trees and Trains set up is on Saturday, November 21st at 10:00am.

A discussion was brought up that when eating and conversing, mask is not worn. Putting others at risk. So for the present time it was decided there would be no more doughnuts at the meetings until such time as the virus is over. Beverages will still be provided. Lee said he would call Don Glass and let him know to not bring doughnuts this Friday.

Next board meeting in February.

Ron Morgan motioned to adjourn.

Seconded by Brian Haas.

Meeting ended at 8:15



Chris Shick,
Secretary

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

NMRA MCR Division 4 General Meeting Minutes for Friday, November 13, 2020 Westlake Recreation Center, Westlake Ohio

Superintendent Lee Sheffield opened the meeting at 7:29 pm.

He then asked our Veterans to identify themselves by standing or raising their hand. He thanked them for their service.

Asked for additions or corrections to minutes from last meeting, they were approved.

Treasurer's report was given by Greg Noeth.

Membership – George Keller – the new name tags were made for those who were here last meeting. If you don't have a new tag then place your name tag in the empty back slot of the container and George will make you a new one. He is weeding out old ones as he goes on. By the way George I like the new name tags.

Budget – Lee Sheffield – Lee went over last years income and expenditures line by line. He then presented the possible income and expenditures for 2021.

Bram Bailey made a motion to accept the 2021 budget.

Seconded by Dave Flebbe.

Motion carried.

Clinics – Gary Sole – absent tonight

New members introduced themselves: Please be sure to welcome the following, Brent Repenning, Morgan Griffith, and guest Kendra Agnew.

Module Group – Adam Woodie – Zoo set up is on Sunday, November 15th at 9:00am. The zoo is setting it up on a reservation only with limited amounts permitted. Tuesday and Wednesdays will be drive thru only nights. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sundays are walk thru days. Thursday, November 17th is opening day and run till December 30th.

Trees and Trains will have set up on Saturday, November 21st at 10:00 am. This will be opening the Saturday after Thanksgiving. It will be run on a look through the window to see the trains. Trains are inside and people coming to view will be looking in.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Raffle – Adam Woodie – Lots of inventory and we will be having a lot of good raffle stuff for the next couple of months.

Company Store – Scott Benson – nothing new this month, you can order and purchase hats and shirts through him.

Contest – Joe Filipiak – Last months winners

Models: 1st – Chuck Kline
2nd – John Hemsath
3rd – Dave Flebbe

Diorama: 1st – George Keller
2nd – John Witt

57 attended last month, 41 attending tonight.

January's theme is a building that can be found within a 1 block radius of tracks.

December's meeting is cancelled due to the rise in Covid cases.

Discussion about future meetings on Zoom, but need someone to spearhead it. David James will host the meeting. Ideas were thrown around for a while, but nothing definite was decided upon.

Joe Kurilec asked if anyone had any ideas about an east double track cradle bridge that was on the Chicago line. He has scanned in the documents of it. Also if anyone would be interested in scanning documents (NYC Historical Society) on Wednesdays or Fridays to let him know.

Flatwheel – Chuck Shick – deadline is November 26th.

Raffle will be held at 8:15

No Clinic tonight.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10



Chris Shick,
Secretary

THIS & THAT

Hello,

My name is **Gary Sole** and I'm looking forward to being the Division's clinic guy. Many of you know me, and some may remember when I held this position in 2003-05. I stepped away then because my parents were both in poor health, and saw an opportunity to come back in October. This position is a lot of fun, you meet interesting people, and have to use your imagination. My kind a job! Some interests that are on the agenda are: Current trends in Railroading, Operations-prototype and modeling, Trends in locomotive design, Industries for your layout, The automobile industry and the railroad, and Photography. My modeling interests are western railroads, with a focus on the 1938 to 1948 era; and narrow gauge railroading. The Best part of this hobby for me, is meeting other modelers and seeing what their interests are; and how they portray their interests in the models and layouts they build.

I want to thank Lee for giving me this opportunity to serve the Division. While in the short term, getting clinics may be problematic during the pandemic. I believe that in a few months some will step-forward with clinics on what they have been working on since March! All we can do is wait and see!

Happy Holidays & Merry Christmas,

The Clinic Guy

Gsantafe7@gmail.com

Cell: 216-650-2192 texting me is great!



Gary Sole, Clinics

THIS & THAT

A Visit with Len Sherry by Joe Kurilec, MMR

Bill Cramer invited me to go see long time Division 4 and Cuyahoga Valley & West Shore Model Railroad Club member Len Sherry. We had a nice visit and Len is in very good spirits.

Len has completed a ore boat for the CV&WS, which will be placed on the clubs new dock area.

I mentioned that I would like to get a picture of him and put it in the Flatwheel. Len was happy to and wanted to pass on "Hi!" to all Division members.



MODULE GROUP

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

Things have really turned the corner for the module group these past few weeks. Similar to last year, the module group will be displaying two layouts this holiday season. We are once again displaying a layout at the Cleveland Metropark Zoo as well as the Black River Landing in Lorain.

First up is the Wild Winter Lights event taking place at the Cleveland Metropark Zoo. The module group has returned to the zoo for a second season with a much larger layout than last year. This year, the layout is located in the Pavala Hut pavilion instead of the Education Center. Set up of the layout took place on Sunday, November 15th and the curtain went up for the first public display on Thursday, November 19th. Attendance was on the lighter side opening night but picked up on Friday and Saturday.

Wild Winter Lights is open for walk throughs Thursday - Sunday until December 20th. After which the event is open for walk through beginning Monday, December 21st and continuing through January 3, 2021 excluding holidays. There is also a drive through option for those that would still like to view the light displays without leaving your vehicle. This option is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays beginning November 24th and ending on December 16th. It is highly recommended that you purchase tickets in advance as there is a cap on the number of attendees for both options each evening. This event runs from 5:30pm to 9:30pm each night it is open. Please note, the module layout is not part of the drive-thru option.

The module group is still looking for volunteers to assist in operating this layout for this event. If you are interested, please contact me via email and let me know your availability. I can be reached at woo3482@hotmail.com. Oh, one last thing regarding this layout. Dress warm!

Second up is the Trees and Trains event located at the Black River Landing in downtown Lorain. This will be the module group's 6th consecutive year of displaying at this event. Unlike years past, the facility will not be open to the public due to COVID. However, the organizers of the event decided to modify this event by creating a display similar to the old Higbee's holiday window display just like in the movie A Christmas Story. With that in mind, the layout will be facing the windows so that visitors can view it along with trees from outside the facility.

This event begins on Saturday, November 28th and will be open every Friday and Saturday beginning at 5:00pm and every Sunday beginning at 3:00pm. The event will end on Sunday, December 27th.

As you can see, the module group has gone from an empty schedule over the past seven months to a resource stretching November and December. If you are interested in joining the module group or would like to just come out and run a train or two just to see what's like, please don't hesitate to contact me at my email address woo3482@hotmail.com.

Until next time.



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

COMPANY STORE

We have sold the last of the Davies Hoppers! I have some cars and building kits from our sister divisions (made for their regional conventions). From Division 1: Accurail HO scale ACY gondolas are available – 3 different road numbers (\$20 each), and Micro-Trains N scale ACY 50' PS-1 boxcars – 2 numbers (\$25 each).



From Division 2: HO scale laser-cut wood kits for B&O-prototype Oil/Coal Shed (\$13), Telegraph Office (\$29) and Signal Tower (\$35). These kits, and the Fire Hose Shed and Yard Office kit, are available in various scales. Check out the web site for more info. https://www.keystonedivision.org/convention_kits/convention_kits.php Please let me know if you'd like to order any of these kits, and I'll put in a group order and save on shipping!!



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Tower**



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**Fire Hose
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I'll also have more of the Glue Loopers - demand has been hot! And some of the glue pens we saw in the January clinic. More finger LED lights, Golden Spike stamps, HO gages etc. for sale at upcoming meetings.

Division 4 shirts and hats are available through the Company Store. Order at the monthly meeting, or through the form on the Company Store page on our web site. Division 4 patches are also available at \$3 each.

We have a library of how-to DVD's for member use, available at our meetings. A \$10.00 deposit for each DVD rented. \$10.00 returned when DVD returned at next meeting.



Scott Benson

CONTEST TABLE

The November meeting saw an explosion of interest in the Model Contest by the members in attendance. We had, for the first time, more dioramas submitted than models. Another first that happened saw nearly everyone vote for their favorite entry. Only four members out of forty-one members in attendance did not vote. The winners of the diorama entries were; Fred Wagner, taking first place with a neat re-ballasting of track project, George Keller's diorama took second place with his busy Nickel Plate materials transfer building, and third place went to Joe Filipiak who's diorama was on fire. The model winners were Dave Flebbe's entry winning first place and Brian Haas taking second place with his entry. Thanks to all who entered in the contest as well as all the people who voted.

Because the Awards Banquet in December was cancelled, a December meeting was planned in its place along with a model contest with a Christmas theme. Keeping with the un-certainty of 2020 and the rise of Covid infections, the December meeting along with the model contest has had to be cancelled. One thing is certain, that the January meeting or the next meeting we have if the January meeting has to be cancelled, we will have the contest that focuses on a building that can be found within one block of the railroad in a town or city setting. I am looking forward to seeing what you come up with to solve the challenge, whether it's a diner, bar, boarding house, antique store, bank, or something else. Let your imagination loose and have a good time with this project.

Well, it's time to close up the contest box for now and put a ribbon on it. May each and everyone of you have a safe and happy holiday. MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Joe Filipiak

RAFFLE

As the December meeting is cancelled, there is nothing to report for the Raffle.



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

EDITORIAL

This is the newsletter of the members of Division 4. Please send articles that would be interesting to our Members to chuck.shick@sbcglobal.net

Any comments about the Layout of the Flatwheel to: chuck.shick@sbcglobal.net

Thanks



Chuck Shick, Flatwheel Editor

SOME VIEWS ON A NEW YORK CENTRAL BUSINESS CAR.

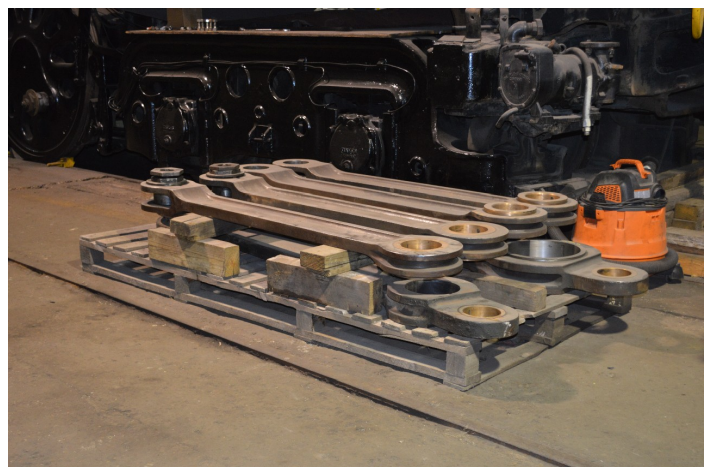
By Joe Kurilec, MMR

I had heard about the B&O roundhouse getting an NYC business car donated. I fired up the buggy and was off to the flats to find if it was true. It sure was! The car was donated by some sports team owner and is in great shape on the outside. It is an old heavyweight with smooth sides added. The business car is Amtrak ready and completely up to standards for rail travel.

The cars name is now America, number 800086. Notice to the left is Reading 2100 engine.

2100 is coming along just fine and looks great! It really is nice to see the NYC two-tone grey paint scheme again.

The trailing truck and other parts of 2100 have been re-painted. Here the side rods for the drivers are stored on a pallet.



SOME VIEWS ON A NEW YORK CENTRAL BUSINESS CAR.

I think this is the dining room area of the business car. Generally, the interior of the business car is in good shape. The kitchen area, which is to the left of this image is being repaired.



Walking thru the center of this image hallway will take us to the end of the observation area at the rear of the business car.



The observation area is in very good shape. The walls and all details look great! This is a really good job of restoring a NYC business car.



By Joe Kurilec, MMR

WHAT'S GOING ON

Please make sure to call , before you go, as these shows could be cancelled at the last minute.

All other shows have already been cancelled, so won't be listed here.

2020 -Dec. 6

Medina Train and Toy Show

Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, Ohio 44256
9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00
Phone: 330-948-4400

2021 - Jan 3

Mansfield Train Show

Fairhaven Hall, Richland County Fairgrounds
750 N. Home Rd., Mansfield, Ohio 44906
10 am - 3 pm Adm. \$7.00
Phone: 419-606-7934

2021 - Jan
TBA

Youngstown Model Railroad Assn. Toy - Train Flea Market

Salem Center Plex
1098 N. Ellsworth Ave., Salem, Ohio 44460
10 am to 3:30pm Adm. \$5.00
Phone Darrel Balakoff at: 330-718-1057

2021 - Jan 30

Train Collectors Association - Winter Train Meet

UAW Hall 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, Ohio 44130
10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00
Phone: Charlie Easton at: 216-233-6135

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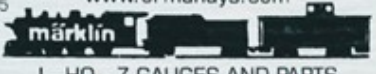
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ABOUT US

We are Division 4 of the Mid-Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association. (DIV-4 MCR NMRA).

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 talk railroads and modeling.



MARC GLUCKSMAN
RIVER RAIL PHOTO