



THE FLATWHEEL

MARCH 2025
VOLUME 60 NUMBER 3



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Here comes the Silverton. In weather conditions that could best be described as "atmospheric", a Denver & Rio Grande Western, Silverton mixed train slowly snakes its way north through the Animas Canyon, bringing some freight loads and a few passengers on the 45-mile odyssey to the lonely mining community, deep in Colorado's San Juan Mountains.

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Please send any articles for the March Flatwheel to:

doleksa@icloud.com

by March 26th

Thank You

Calendar of Events

Upcoming Activities & Celebrations

March

- Avon Lake Library (Module Group)
March 1st 10-4pm and March 2nd noon-4pm
- Div 4 meeting Pizza Party
March 14th 6:30pm
- Railfest NMRA Division 5 (Lakeland Comm College)
March 15th and 16th 10: am – 4:00 pm

April

- Division 4 Meeting (North Olmsted Cabin)
April 11th 6:30 pm

May

- 2025 MCR Convention Buckeye Express Dublin, Ohio
May 15th – 18th
- Memorial Day Remembrance - May 30

June

- Division 4 picnic
June 14th

July

- NMRA 90th National Convention
July 14th – 19th Novi, Michigan

August

- End of Summer Picnic - August 28

Calendar of Events

Upcoming Activities & Celebrations

September

- Labor Day Weekend Celebration - September 5
- Fall Harvest Festival - September 22

October

- Halloween Spooktacular - October 31
- Oktoberfest - October 10

November

- Veterans Day Ceremony - November 11
- Thanksgiving Feast - November 24

December

- Winter Wonderland - December 12
- Christmas Celebration - December 25
- New Years Eve Party - December 31

DIVISION 4

THE NORTH COAST DIVISION

OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2025

6:30pm Set Up/Social Time - Meeting starts at 7:00pm

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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**

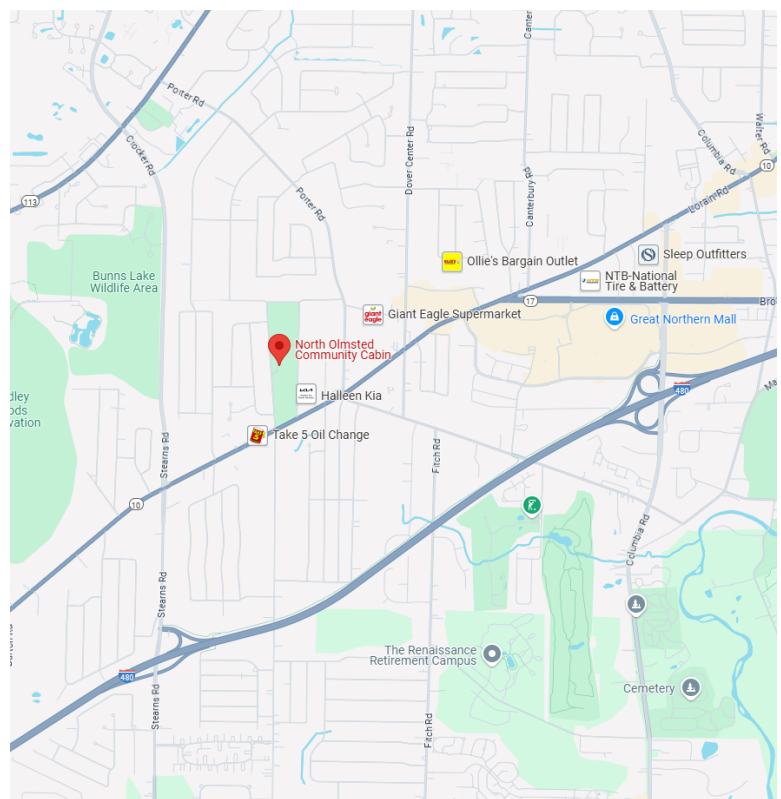
month. A set up/social half hour starts at 6:30 p.m. followed by a short business meeting at 7:00. After a short break, a railroad themed raffle and clinic complete the typical agenda. Starting January, 2025, the meetings are held at the **North Olmsted Community Cabin**, 28114 Lorain Rd, North Olmsted, OH 44070 . 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.



GREETINGS FROM THE CAB

Greetings from the Cab.

The first two meetings at the North Olmsted Cabin went very well with over 70 members in attendance per meeting. A big thanks to those members who helped with set-up and tear down. I have been informed that the updates that have been planned for the facility have been completed. The new screen, wi-fi, sound system and projector are installed. I will have a walk through with the director on Monday March 10th to check out the updates.

Last month's Division 4 Bi-annual auction went really well. A big thanks to our auctioneers and crew for another great job. Can't wait for the next one.

Speaking of meetings, can you say "PIZZA". Our annual membership pizza party is up next. Jerry is working on an interesting program for the members. Meeting will start at 7 pm.

Columbus continues to prepare for the 2025 regional convention. Dates for the Columbus convention are May 15th thru 18th . If you have not yet signed up for the Columbus convention, please consider doing so. Speaking of conventions, just a reminder the National Convention will be held in Novi, Michigan on July 14th thru 19th, just several hours away. A great opportunity to attend a national convention. I am registered and am looking forward to attending.

Well, the train is pulling into the yard and another run is over.

That's all I have for this month.

Ron



Ron Morgan

Meeting Minutes

Division 4, MCR, NMRA General Meeting Minutes, February 14, 2025 North Olmsted Cabin

Superintendent, Ron Morgan opened the meeting at precisely 7:00 pm. He asked for any new members or visitors to please introduce themselves. John Augustine a member who it is his first time to a meeting introduced himself, Ron welcomed him.

A motion was made by Dino Peris to accept the minutes of the last meeting . Craig Butler seconded the motion The Division carried the motion and the minutes of the last meeting are accepted.

Treasurer, Greg Noeth gave a report on the balance of all accounts.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Bram Bailey let us know about the restoration of "The Terrible Trolley" at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum. He asked for donation. He is matching donations from the Division members.

Committee Reports:

Flat Wheel Deadline - Dan Oleksa - articles due by February 26th.

Clinics - Jerry Kruger - Next month is pizza night and movies.

Membership - Craig Butler - sign up sheets on Membership table for the IX Center this weekend, and for Railfest at Lakeland College, March 15th and 16th.

Comments/Concerns:

Gary Schaefer - Display and mini training day at Avon Lake Public Library, March 1st and 2nd. Bring stuff to work on and show attendees your work.

Joe Kurelic - Mike Oster is still cancer free and improving. He did have a pacemaker installed.

Howard Toll - let us know that Art Bumpus is back in the hospital after a fall at home.

Ron Morgan - Tom Mc Inerney is still in the clinic and should be released soon.

Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting. The Division carried the motion to close the meeting. Meeting closed at 7:10 pm.

Auction was held immediately after.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Shick
Secretary, Division 4, MCR, NMRA



Chris Shick

NORTH COAST OHIO

DIV-4 Leadership

ELECTED OFFICERS

Superintendent - **Ron Morgan**, ronalco844@gmail.com

Assistant Superintendent - **Bert Wisbar**, bert.wisbar@gmail.com

Secretary - **Chris Shick**, chris.shick@hotmail.com

Treasurer - **Greg Noeth** (216)-789-2086, gnoetharch2@aol.com

Director East - **John Janda**, c(440)-334-0869, jjanda101@gmail.com

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

Director Quad Co. - **Fred Wagner** (419)-908-8251, boonedog0219@gmail.com

Director at Large - **Brian Haas**, brianhaas86@gmail.com

Director at Large - **Jeff Lauren** (216)-798-1896, jflrn@sbcglobal.net

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Great Berea Train Show - **David James**, c(440)-785-9907

Achievement - **John Hemsath MMR®**, hemsathj@gmail.com

Layout Tours - **John Witt MMR®**, wittjab@ameritech.net

Contests - **Joe Filipiak**, graftonart@gmail.com

Historian/Archivist - **Frank Bongiovanni**

Raffle - **Adam Woodie**, woo3482@hotmail.com

Co. Store Manager - **Scott Benson**, sbenson440@zoominternet.net

Clinics - **Jerry Krueger**, jakrueg@neo.rr.com

Flatwheel Editor - **Don Oleksa**, doleksa@icloud.com

Membership - **Craig Butler**, cb519145@gmail.com

Modules - **Adam Woodie**, woo3482@hotmail.com

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

Webmaster - **Chuck Shick**, chuck.shick@hotmail.com

Refreshments - **Don Glass**

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

MODULE GROUP

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

Despite the adverse weather conditions, the module group had a great showing at the World's Greatest Hobby. This event was held at the Cleveland International Exposition (IX) Center on Saturday, February 15th and Sunday, February 16th. Attendance was great on Saturday. Sunday, was steady but on the lighter side due to the heavy snow fall.

Next up is the Avon Lake Library. This event will be held on Saturday, March 1st and Sunday, March 2nd. We would like to have some volunteers come and bring a model railroad project to work on similar to Training Day in the past. There will be plenty of space, tables, and chairs available for our use.

We will have one weekend off and then it is on to Railfest. This event which is sponsored by the NMRA Mid-Central Region Division 5, will be held at the Lakeland Community College in Kirtland. It is a two-day event which takes place on Saturday, March 15th and Sunday, March 16th. Set up will take place on Friday, March 14th in the afternoon.

Be sure to come on out and see us at any of the upcoming events. As always, anyone interested in joining the module group, please contact me at woo3482@hotmail.com.

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

COMPANY STORE

Company Store

I have some new stuff to sell at the March division meeting. Some tools, new HO gauges, little laser kits, etc. Stop by and check it out!

We still have the Division 4 convention cars (Accurail 40' boxcar) for sale. These are lettered for the Cleveland, Sandusky and Southern Railroad (the modular layout railroad).



Also available at \$25 each:

The Division 7 Accurail 's 2-bay covered hopper (3 available, different #'s)



Reminders:

The Company Store also manages:

- Shirt and hat sales – let me know if you want to order a Division 4 shirt.
- FastTracks jig loans – always helpful if I know before the meeting if you'd like to check one out. We have (all Code 83) #4, #6 and #8 turnouts, cross-over/double cross-over, and gantlet jigs
- DVD library – lots of nice DVDs on modelling techniques available to borrow at each meeting



Scott Benson

CONTEST TABLE

There was no contest at our February meeting mainly because we were busy swapping ownership of model railroad goodies through a process called an auction. The March meeting will have a contest which should be an easy one to enter for many of you. The subject for the contest is a steam engine that pulled a named passenger train. Almost all major railroads prided themselves in having fast, comfortable and fancy passenger trains with names like "The Sportsman" or "The Orange Blossom Special" and so on. The steam engines were fast and special. Some even had shrouding to make them stand out. The contest table for the models will be divided in two areas. One area will be for the non shrouded engines and the other area will be for the fancy, shrouded engines. Please identify the name of the passenger train that your engine pulled. There will be index cards at the table for you to write down the name of the train. A third area will be provided for the diorama entries. Special ballots will be given out to reflect the three separate sections.

The April contest is the second to last contest for the session. This contest deals with the interiors of a building. You can show the interior by either a top off or a side off view. The type of building is for you to choose. May will be the last contest for the session. This one is wide open for you to create a model load or a railroad model itself or even a diorama using toilet paper cardboard cores from the roll of toilet paper. You can build whatever you want in the model railroad theme and you can use as many tubes that you want. I am putting together next session's list of contests, so if you have an idea for a contest, please share it with me.

Well, I have to get back to sorting out what I brought home from the auction and ask myself why I felt I really needed that. I guess the answer is simply the fact that it's model railroad stuff!



Joe Filipiak

CLINICS

MARCH

March is member appreciation night. Pizza is provided by the Division. There is no formal clinic presentation. We will have some railroad / model railroading videos to enjoy as you enjoy a night of pizza and fellowship.

FUTURE CLINICS

I'm always looking for Clinics. I'm currently looking for clinics to schedule for the 2024-2025 meeting year. If you have a topic you'd like to present please contact me. If you need help putting a clinic together, let me know and I can help you put one together and help get points toward your AP certificate. If you have a topic you would like to see presented, let me know.



RAFFLE

Greetings Fellow Model Railroaders!

Similar to February, there will be no raffle scheduled for the March monthly business meeting since that is membership appreciation night. Regularly scheduled monthly raffles will resume at the April meeting.

Until next time!

Adam "Hot Box" Woodie



Adam "Hot Box" Woodie

AMREC's Spring Slide Show

Slides / Movies / Operating Layout
Saturday, March 29, 2025

10 AM till we are tired

Admission - \$2.00 Donation

Coshocton Model Railroad Club at the Fair-
grounds on 7th Street Coshocton, Ohio

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Layout open for Viewing and Operating We do not have a set schedule for showing slides this year. We are basically having a "Free-for-All" all afternoon and evening.

We are asking that those wishing to share their slides limit your show to two 80 slide KODAK trays, (45 minutes, Maximum). We have extra trays if you need them.

We also have a computer and projector available for those with digital pictures. Have your pictures on a flash drive for the computer.

Please bring your BEST STUFF to show. Have the slides placed correctly in the trays, eliminate the over-exposed, under exposed, and out of focus slides. It makes the show more enjoyable for all. For additional information call: 740-622-0633 or see us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/amrec.rrclub](https://www.facebook.com/amrec.rrclub)

Hot Dogs, Coneys, and Potato Chips will be available for a donation. Pop will be for sale.

“The Great Train Wreck of 1916” by Tom Jewell

Hello! “The Great Train Wreck of 1916” is a free community presentation by Tom Jewell, on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 7pm, at the AHS Hall, 113 South Lake Street, Amherst, Ohio 44001.

Tom will present about the tragic train wreck that took place in Amherst, one early foggy morning on March 29, 1916. Three trains collided, resulting in 27 people being killed and 47 injured, as well as countless people who heroically assisted that day. This crash impacted our community and beyond- and even has a connection with Mary Pickford, a famous silent movie actress.

This presentation is free to attend, with refreshments provided. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Please RSVP at 440-988-7255 or office@amhersthistoricalsociety.org.



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Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7pm

AHS Hall, 113 South Lake Street, Amherst, Ohio 44001

Free Community Presentation

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This presentation is free to attend, with refreshments provided.

Please RSVP to 440-988-7255 or office@amhersthistoricalsociety.org



Spring Layout Tours

Think Spring !!

Spring layout tours that is.

Now that you have extra time this winter - make some good progress on your layouts. Everyone in the club would be interested in seeing your improvements.

So get ready for the Late April / Early May tour dates.

Thanks John Witt

Ps - my new phone number is 440-536-6615,

so when I call it won't be a solicitor



JOHN WITT

RPM-East Event

RPM-East prototype modeler event in metro-Pittsburgh, PA

The 2025 RPM-East returns to the Westmoreland County Community College in Youngwood, PA, March 21 & 22! The location of our long-running railroad prototype modeler meet is just 40 miles southeast of downtown Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Make plans to rekindle your modeling efforts!

Thirty-eight modelers and historians are scheduled to speak at RPM-East. Many presentation titles have been posted to the RPM-East website. A tentative presentation schedule will be posted to the website in late February.

Early bird registration is only \$40 (until February 28th). RPM-East is sponsored by Division 2, MCR-NMRA. Registration forms, presentation details, op session layouts, and participating vendors can be reviewed at the RPM-East website:

http://hansmanns.org/rpm_east/index.htm

There will be plenty of action over March 21 & 22.

- two days of prototype and model presentations
- a large display room to share your modeling efforts and learn new techniques
- a variety of vendors selling goods for prototype modeling
- Thursday operating sessions on local model railroads
- Sunday model railroad layouts to visit

There are several hotel options in nearby New Stanton, PA, just off of the Pennsylvania Turnpike. This Google Maps link can help you find lodging.

<https://goo.gl/maps/Kf55KEzfHJSMmaEV7>

Gather your models and make plans to attend the 2025 RPM-East prototype modeler event in Youngwood, PA!

WHAT'S NEW?

Rapido American Car Foundry Helium Car

Price: Single car, \$59.95; six-pack, \$359.70

Manufacturer: Rapido Trains Inc., 500 Alden Road, Unit 21, Markham, Ontario L3R 5H5 Canada; 905-474-3314; rapidotrains.com



American Car Foundry helium car features:

- Detailed underbody includes piping
- Separate grab irons
- Stainless metal roof walk
- Also available unlettered

Release date: To be announced

Road names: ATMX, and MHAX.

WHAT'S NEW

WalthersMainline Railgon 68-foot gondola

Price: \$34.98

Manufacturer: Wm. K. Walthers Inc., 5601 W. Florist Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53218; 414-527-0770; walthers.com



Railgon 68-foot gondola features:

- See-through square load tie-downs along the top chord
- 17-rib sidewalls
- Straight sill
- Detailed brake gear

Release date: Summer 2025

Road names: Arkansas-Oklahoma Railroad, BNSF, CSX, Ferromex, Montana Rail Link, TILX, and Union Pacific.

WHAT'S NEW

Rapido Alco FA-1/FB-1 diesel locomotive

Price: Single unit, direct-current model, \$229.95; with DCC and sound, \$339.95: A-B set, direct-current model, \$429.95; with DCC and sound, \$649.95

Manufacturer: Rapido Trains Inc., 500 Alden Road, Unit 21, Markham, Ontario L3R 5H5 Canada; 905-474-3314; rapidotrains.com



Alco FA-1/FB-1 features:

- Etched side and fan screens
- Underbody piping and conduit
- Separate grab irons and handrails
- Road-specific details
- Multi-color interior

Release date: To be announced

Road names: Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific; Erie Lackawanna; Lehigh Valley; Long Island RR; Soo Line; Missouri Pacific; New York Central; New York, New Haven & Hartford; Spokane, Seattle & Portland; and Wabash.

WHAT'S NEW

WalthersCornerstone Belt Type Transloader

Price: \$21.98

Manufacturer: Wm. K. Walthers Inc., 5601 W. Florist Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53218; 414-527-0770; walthers.com



Belt type transloader features:

- Includes walkway, positionable wheels and low-profile trough
- Molded in white plastic

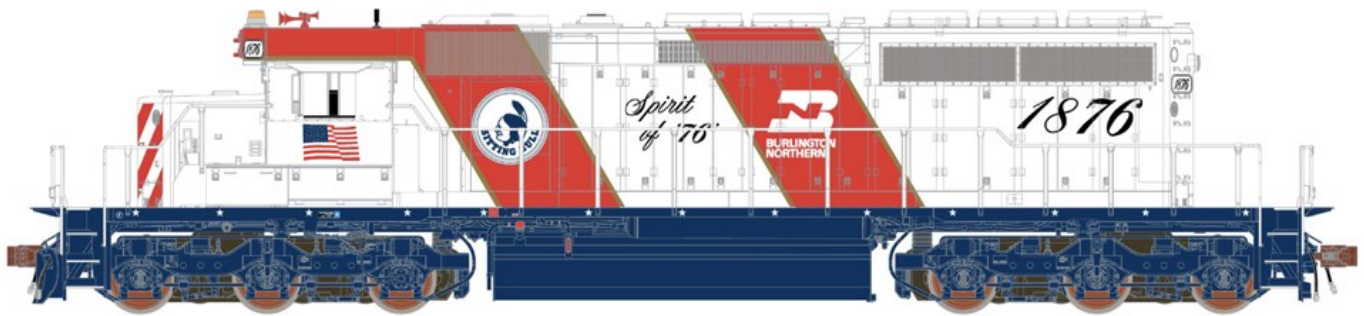
Release date: Winter 2025

WHAT'S NEW

ScaleTrains Rivet Counter Electro-Motive Division SD40-2 Diesel Locomotives

Price: Direct-current model, \$262.99; with DCC and sound, \$387.99

Manufacturer: ScaleTrains, 4901 Old Tasso Rd. NE, Cleveland, TN 37312; 844-987-2467; [scaletrains.com](https://www.scaletrains.com)



Electro-Motive Division SD40-2 features:

- Factory-applied details include wire grab irons, wire lift rings, windshield wipers, trainline hoses with silver gladhands, and sand hatch covers
- Road- and road-number-specific details
- 4,000-gallon fuel tank with dual fuel fillers, vertical gauge, round gauge in tank, and vertical breather pipe

Release date: September 2025

Road names: Burlington Northern, CSX, Missouri-Kansas-Texas, Norfolk Southern, Santa Fe, and Union Pacific.

WHAT'S GOING ON

<p>2025 Mar. 2</p>	<p>Erie Model Train Show</p> <p>Rainbow Gardens - Waldameer Park, PA 10 am to 4 pm Adm. \$5.00 Phone: 724-992-2035</p>
<p>2025 Mar. 2</p>	<p>34th ANNUAL WESTERN RESERVE TOY and COLLECTIBLE SHOW WESTERN RESERVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 3851 U.S. Rt. 20 East Collins, Ohio 44826 9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$3.00</p> <p>Map Flyer</p>
<p>2025 Mar. 9</p>	<p>Akron Train & Toy Show</p> <p>Emidio's & Sons Expo Center 48 East Bath Road at State Road Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223 9:00 am - 3 pm Adm. \$5.00 Phone: 330-724-5253</p> <p>Map Flyer</p>
<p>2025 Mar. 15-16</p>	<p>Div. 5 Railfest - Model Railroad Show</p> <p>Lakeland Community College 7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, Ohio 44094 10 am to 4 pm</p> <p>Adm. \$9.00 each \$14.00 couples one day \$14.00 two day pass - one person \$16.00 Family (2 adults, 2 children) Contact John at railfest@mcr5.org</p>

WHAT'S GOING ON

<p>2025 Mar. 15</p>	<p>Div. 5 Railfest - Dinner Painesville Railroad Museum (aka NYC Painesville Depot) 475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077 5:30 pm Adm. \$28.00</p> <p>Guest speaker will be: Railroads of Painesville by Hagan Meinke</p> <p>This dinner is open to anyone who is a railroad enthusiast not just our Railfest vendors. Phone Tom at 216-470-5780</p> <p>MAP Dinner Flyer</p>
<p>2025 Mar. 15</p>	<p>Wooster Train and Toy Show Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster, Ohio 10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$7.00 Phone: 330-651-1042</p> <p>Flyer</p>
<p>2025 Mar. 29</p>	<p>Train Collectors Association - Spring Train Show</p> <p>Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds 164 Eastland Rd., Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44017 10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00 Phone John Twarog at : 330-273-6404</p> <p>Info & MAP Flyer</p>
<p>2025 Mar. 30</p>	<p>Springfield Train Show Clark County Fairgrounds 4401 South Charleston Pike (State Rt. 41) At I-70 Exit 59 10 am - 3 pm Adm. \$5.00</p> <p>Map Flyer</p>

HOBBY SOURCES IN OUR AREA



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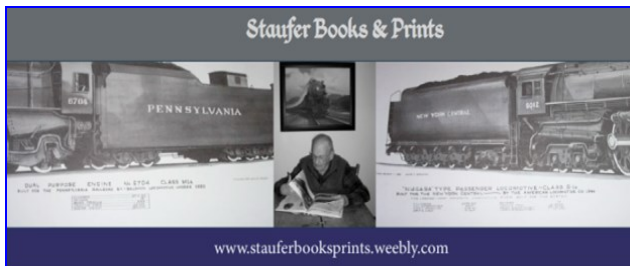
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PLEASE SUPPORT THESE DEALERS!

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



CSX Transportation CSXT 5478 GE ES40DC leading Q512 a mix freight past this old Chessie System Steel Bay Window Caboose that CSX use for a shoving platform thought town in Evansville, Indiana on January 1, 2021