



PEDDLER FREIGHT

Divison 1 - MCR - NMRA

Akron - Canton - Youngstown Division

Serving Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas and Wayne Counties

www.div1-mcr-nmra.org

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September 2019

Superintendent's Bulletin



David Hazlett (left) instructs fellow Div. 1 member Bob Ashley, Jr. during an operating session on the DHRail. David's model railroad-ing and prototype interests were short line operations.

Hello and welcome back from the summer break. I hope everyone had a nice two months of doing whatever you do to relax and enjoy the nice weather. I do hope everyone had some time to

do something railroad related. From railfanning to model railroading there are many activities available. There are still a few brick and mortar hobby stores in northeast Ohio and are worth a trip. Also consider the larger antique barns. Some of them take consignments and there are usually some model railroad items for sale, especially the Athearn blue box kits.

We started July off on a somber note as long time Division 1 member and former Superintendent David Hazlett passed away on July 5th. David is survived by Betty his wife of 49 years and railfanning companion. At the Celebration of Life service for David a map showing some of their trips was displayed. Their trips covered a large part of the United States and the map is a very impressive documentation of those trips. David lived long enough to see our Division host a Regional Convention and he was very proud of th great convention we hosted. David has hosted operations on his layout, DH Rail, that were well attended over the years. The last operating session was held on June 3, 2019. Rest in peace David you are missed.

On September 22, 2019 at 1:00 PM we will hold a Celebration Picnic/Division 1 event at the Cuyahoga Valley Terminal Model Railroad Club in Cuyahoga Falls. The CVT is located just north of Cuyahoga Falls Fire Station # 4, 3089 Northampton Road, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44233 at the Intersection of Northampton Road and West Bath Road. Division 1 will provide the meat and Sam Eisele will do the cooking. Please see the map in this Peddler Freight issue for directions.

All Aboard!!

Jim DiPaola, Superintendent
NMRA, MCR, Division 1



2019-20 Division 1 Events

Interested in hosting a meeting?
Contact any Division 1 officer.

September 22 - Cuyahoga Valley Terminal Model
Railroad Club, Cuyahoga Falls

October 20 - Sam Eisele, Mantua

November 17 - TBA

December 7 - Christmas Luncheon, Location TBA

January 19 - Kent Free Library

February 16 - Kent Free Library

March 15 - TBA

April 19 - TBA

May 17 - TBA

June 28 - Bob Ashley, Jr., Green

Interested in hosting a meeting?
Contact any Division 1 officer.

Division 1, MCR, NMRA Minutes
June 9, 2019
Bob Ashley, Jr, Akron, Ohio

- 1) Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 2:10 pm by Superintendent Jim DiPaola.
 - a) Guests: none
 - b) Contest: 1 sq ft diorama of an offline scene
- 2) Bring-n-Brag:
 - a) Bob Ashley, Jr. showed the group a one-handed soldering iron that advanced the solder with a trigger pull. It is a "Nyleo" and he bought it on-line for \$35.
 - b) Bob also showed us some 3-D printed oil-filled circuit breakers he found on E-bay from Multi Scale Digital for \$18. He compared them to the Walthers product and they are more prototypical.
- 3) The event locations for the 2019-2020 meetings need to be defined.
 - a) Sam Eisele took the October meeting and Bob Ashley, Jr. volunteered for June again.
 - b) David Hazlett suggested that when we meet at a library that we should see if a nearby member might open his layout for a tour. Jim Peters will contact the layout owners.
- 4) BULLET 2019 MCR Convention Wrap-up:
 - a) We have 160+ registrants which was at the upper end of what the other divisions, save Cincinnati, had in attendance.
 - b) There was nothing but good remarks about the convention. People liked the longer times between clinics and for lunch.
 - c) The remaining donated vendor items were raffled off as part of today's 50/50 raffle.
 - d) Mike Bradley reported that all bills and refunds had been paid and the division netted \$10,812.45 from the convention.
 - e) \$1,218 worth of items were sold in the company store and the division made \$121.90 off these sales.
 - f) The convention committee will donate \$500 to the module fund.
 - g) Sam Eisele has volunteered to host a cook-out with the division providing the meat, to celebrate our success. It was thought we would have it for the September meeting at the CVT facility. Frank Williamson will check to see if it is available.
- 5) Business Meeting
 - a) Minutes: A motion was made to approve the April minutes as published in the Peddler Freight. The motion was seconded and passed.
 - b) Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Mike Bradley reported that the division had \$20,118.45 in assets. Consideration was being made to invest \$3,000 in a CD. A motion was made and seconded to accept the April-May, 2019 Treasurer's report subject to audit. The motion passed.
 - c) Committee Reports:
 - i) Peddler Freight – Bruce Hukill was not in attendance.
 - ii) Achievement – Lloyd presented appreciation citations to Steve Zapytowski and Jim DiPaola for their work heading up the convention.
 - iii) Modules – Bob Ashley Jr. reported that the last setup for this year was for the convention and they had good participation. Two people from Columbus helped to gain experience so they could start a module group in their division. Over the summer they will work on the modules in Bob's garage and develop a new one-piece corner module and ways to streamline the module setup. The HO module group purchased a Digitrax DT500D controller for use by the group.
 - d) Membership - Kurt Sanders has volunteered to be the chairman. Next year we will start using name tags employing the neck wallets left over from the convention.
- 6) Old Business:
 - a) We need a Clinic chairman.
 - b) We need a Clerk
 - c) We need a person to take over as apparel chairman.

19 people attended.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The business meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Jim Williams, Clerk

Division 1 membership as of June: 99

N-SCALE REPORT

A Stark County Fair Board member inquired if Division One Module Group was going to setup this year at the Fair and was informed that staffing and the lack of overnight security were the main reasons that precluded our participation. Last year tools disappeared, including a Dremel Set.

NTRAK section of Division 1 module group has no setup currently scheduled, but it is still two months until November (Model Railroad Month) to book a display site. Due to limited staffing, two days with set up time is preferred. A work day or two may be needed before any outing to eliminate some of the gremlins encountered at the regional convention.

New modules based on 3' x 6' plastic tables for a large yard or linear layout were not completed over the summer, but most of the material is readily available with the exception of easy to use leg jacks.

N scale T-TRAK module components that will allow operation of T-TRAK layout based upon member's individual modules are being assembled.

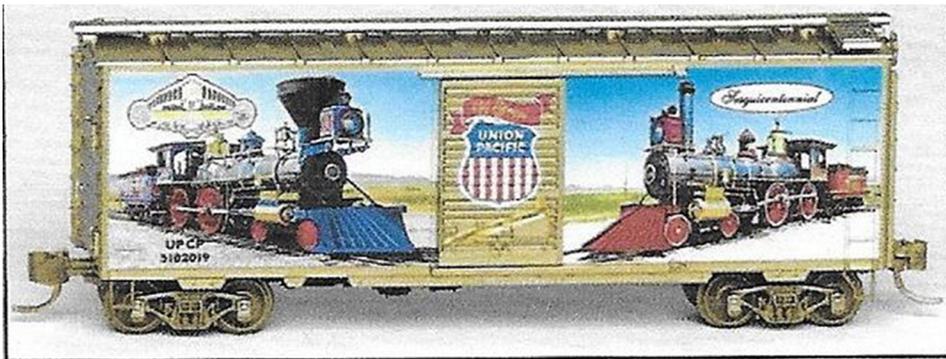
T-TRAK and NTRAK Layouts operated flawlessly after the usual startup trials at both the National NMRA and N-Scale Enthusiast Conventions. Coverage of the T-TRAK layouts was excellent due to the efforts of a dedicated photographer and writer from the Kentucky T-TRAK group.

Bruce Hukill, our camera shy Peddler Freight editor attended the N-Scale Convention in Chicago, but after reviewing 82 group photos he was not found. He did indicate he had a good time.

*Editor's note: Pictured right is your editor with two of the giants of N scale - Bill and Wayne Reid. Their **Cumberland Valley Systems** layout was featured on a layout tour offered during the N Scale Enthusiasts Convention.*



The Author's Car shown below was presented in Chicago to Don Bonk acknowledging his clinic given at the 2018 N-Scale convention which was held in Salt Lake City.



2018 Author Car

Below is the **Tootsie Roll** Car that all attendees at the banquet received. Chicago is the home of *Tootsie Roll Industries*. While it would be nice to own one of these, the Heinz Pickle Car from the Pittsburgh Convention is the author's favorite.



Our Thanks to Micro-Trains Line for the 2019 Convention banquet car.

The Future of the Monthly Modeling Contest

Over the last few years, there has been a growing apathy towards the monthly modeling contest. Participation has decreased and the lines between the various categories have been blurred. The reasons for the decreased interest in these contests is unclear, but they have essentially devolved into a non-contest. Despite the presence of good modelers in the Division and a wide variety of interesting contest topics, a willingness to submit models has evaporated.

Although I don't know the exact origin of the contests or when they began, there have been well-defined rules and criteria for the contest for years. The contests have been a forum and an opportunity to showcase your best work and to motivate consistent modeling effort. At the very least, the modeler has an opportunity to display an earlier effort or upgrade an older model.

With these thoughts in mind, I will put forth a few reasons why I believe the contest interest has dwindled and some possible solutions.

First of all, I think there are too many armchair modelers. Too many spend their time thinking about modeling, looking at modeling magazines or websites, or just attending train shows. There is not enough active modeling and actual building of things.

Secondly, I believe there is a fear of being judged or assessed. Many are apprehensive about subjecting themselves to evaluation or scrutiny, even amongst longtime friends or acquaintances.

Thirdly, people just don't want to spend the time or have different priorities within the hobby. Good modeling takes time, discipline, planning, and practice. Many don't want to put in the time to develop their skills or go through the learning curve.

Lastly, the recognition of their peers within the Division may not be important to them. Some may feel they have nothing to prove and it just isn't important to them to be recognized as a good modeler.

If these are the problems or barriers to participation, where do we go from here?

How do we enhance the appeal of the contests and make them more accessible or modeler friendly?

I would suggest we drop the word "contest" and move towards more of an exhibition format. The "Railroad Prototype Meetings" have been doing this successfully for years and they get tremendous participation at many of them. Let's focus on volume and participation. Eliminate the idea of a contest and become more of a show and tell. With this approach, there is no judgment and no one is competing. Everyone can bring models in various stages of completion and discuss their techniques, methods, or challenges with the project. The emphasis would be on getting full participation at meetings and as many models as possible on display.

Presently, the contests are very ho-hum affairs with no discussion. There is apathy towards voting and very little acknowledgment of each other's efforts. Consequently, there is no real incentive to participate. The contests are an afterthought within the meeting.

I believe we can do better. Drop the contest format. Eliminate the current categories. Simplify the topics to broad areas of interest. Focus on achieving large numbers of models for display and exhibition only and give people a chance to talk about their models.

Admittedly, there are practical considerations to this new approach, but they are not insurmountable. It would require more designated space for the models. More meeting time would have to be allocated to discussion or presentation and larger meeting venues may be necessary. But, as a consequence, the emphasis would be put on modeling and not formality and protocol.

The intent of this article was not to present just one solution or option for improving the contest, but to spark discussion. Ultimately, maybe the contest should be scrapped. Maybe the interest to continue them is not there. According to my understanding, the reduced contest participation is occurring at every level of the NMRA and it may very well be a sign of the times. But, as the primary organization aimed at promoting model railroading, we have the responsibility and authority to change these trends.

Let's have a discussion and figure out what needs to be done and what the sentiments and options are. Don't think of a contest or exhibition as a burden or judgment, but as an incentive to improve your modeling and a showcase for your efforts. Whatever format will encourage creativity, ingenuity, and a passion for modeling should be at the center of our monthly meetings. First time modelers, youth, and experienced modelers should all feel comfortable and entitled to participate.

Matt Woods
Co-Contest Chair

DIVISION 1 CONTEST - 12" x 12" Offline Scene - May/June Category

FINAL STANDINGS 2018 - 19

STANDARD KIT

Sam Eisele - 6 pts
(1st place)
Frank Williamson - 5 pts
(2nd place)
Glenn Yoder - 4 pts
(3rd place)
Bob Ashley, Jr. - 3 pts
Bruce Hukill - 3 pts
Jim Williams - 2 pts
Matt Woods - 1 pt
Jim DiPaola - 1 pt
Kurt Sanders - 1 pt

KIT - BASHED

Matt Woods - 15 pts
(1st place)
Sam Eisele - 11 pts
(2nd place)
Bob Ashley, Jr. - 7 pts
(3rd place)
Steve Zapytowski - 4 pts
Jim Williams - 4 pts
Glenn Yoder - 4 pts
Jim Peters - 2 pts

CRAFTSMAN KIT

Matt Woods - 12 pts
(1st place)
Sam Eisele - 11 pts
(2nd place)
Kurt Sanders - 4 pts
(3rd place)
Glenn Yoder - 3 pts
Bob Ashley, Jr. - 3 pts

SCRATCH BUILT

Sam Eisele - 14 pts
(1st place)
Matt Woods - 9 pts
(2nd place)
Glenn Yoder - 4 pts
(3rd place)
Kurt Sanders - 3 pts
Frank Williamson - 3 pts
Steve Zapytowski - 3 pts



Awards for the 2018 - 2019 Contests will be awarded at the Septemeber 22 event.

Please see article from Matt Woods on page 4 regarding the future of the Contest.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING
Sunday, September 22, 2019
Cuyahoga Valley Terminal Model Railroad
Cuyahoga Falls Fire Station # 4
3089 Northampton Road
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44233
2 PM

Food will be provided.
Please bring a dessert to share.

7th Year

8th Year



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851 W. Main St.
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 Email: michael@mbradley.com Fax: (330) 296-7672

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Steve Zapytowski, MMR 612
 Assistant Superintendent
 Division 1, MCR, NMRA
 330-678-4583
 szapytowski@neo.rr.com

Western Oregon Circa 1900 to 1910 — HO and HOIn





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Jim Peters
 Interested in operation send email:
 jpeters711@yahoo.com

Achievement Program

I would like to encourage everyone to work toward their Golden Spike Award. If you already have your Golden Spike, please look at the various categories in the NMRA Achievement Program. Please feel free to talk to me at any of the Division 1 events or give me a call at (330) 465-7402. Thank you,

Lloyd Horst
AP Chair

Layout Tours

I am always looking for new layout owners to open up their layouts to the division during our annual Spring Layout Tour. Layout owners should be NMRA members. Let me know if you are interested or know of someone that I should contact.

For planning purposes, this year I will schedule layouts that are in the same area of our division, the best way I can divide it up. I have not worked on that yet but imagine viewing the division in quadrants. Also, I would like to move the tour up to March or April, moving away from the regional convention. Share any thoughts you may have on our layout tour either at a meeting or via email. If sharing at a meeting, a business card or slip of paper with your info would be appreciated.

Have you added anything to your layout since our last event? Send me a photo and I will work it into my report. Thanks!

Jim Peters
Layout Tour Chair

Module Group

The HO Module Group will be setting up the modules at the Mt. Hope Train Show on November 2, 2019. More details about set up times to follow.

Bob Ashley, Jr., Module Chairman
(216) 905-8860
Rinkerman250@gmail.com

Train Shows and Open Houses

18th Fostoria Rail Festival - September 28, 2019

Fostoria Junior/Senior High School
1001 Park Avenue, Fostoria, OH
Admission \$4.00, Under 10, Free 10 AM - 4 PM

The Great Berea Train Show - Oct. 5 - 6, 2019

Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
19201 E. Bagley Road, Middleburg Heights, OH
44130
Admission \$8.00, 2-Day \$10.00
Under 16 Free 10 AM - 4 PM

Medina Model RR & Toy Show – Oct. 27, 2019

Medina County Fairgrounds Community Center
735 Lafayette Rd., Medina, OH
Admission \$6.00, under 12, Free 9 AM - 3 PM

Mt. Hope Train & Toy Show – November 2, 2019

Mt. Hope Event Center
8076 St. Rt. 241, Mt. Hope, OH
(GPS, use Millersburg, OH)
Admission \$5.00, under 12, Free 10 AM - 4 PM

HO Modules will be running!

Mansfield Train Show – November 17, 2019

Richland County Fairgrounds
750 N. Home Rd., Mansfield, OH
Admission \$6.00, under 12, Free 10 AM - 4 PM

Medina Model Railroad & Toy Show – December 1, 2019

Medina County Fairgrounds Community Center
735 Lafayette Rd., Medina, OH
Admission \$6.00, under 12, Free 9 AM - 3 PM

Mansfield Train Show – December 29, 2019

Richland County Fairgrounds
750 N. Home Rd., Mansfield, OH
Admission \$6.00, under 12, Free 10 AM - 4 PM

World's Greatest Hobby on Tour – January 4 - 5, 2020

Ohio Expo Center, Lausche Bldg.
750 N. Home Rd., Mansfield, OH
Admission TBD, under 15, Free
Sat. 10 AM - 6 PM, Sun. 10 AM - 5 PM

PEDDLER FREIGHT
223 Pierce Avenue
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Publication of Division 1 - MCR - NMRA
The Akron, Canton, Youngstown Division

First Class

Division 1 Officers

Superintendent - Jim DiPaola	330-297-5571
Asst. Supt. - Steve Zapytowski	330-715-3444
Treasurer - Mike Bradley	330-325-7622

Division 1 Appointees

Clerk - Open	
PF Editor - Bruce Hukill	330-571-4037

Division 1 Volunteer Positions

Achievement Program - Lloyd Horst	330-465-7402
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Apparel - OPEN

Christmas Dinner - Randy Dettmer	330-653-3537
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Clinics - OPEN

Contest - Matt Woods	330-465-8724
- Lloyd Horst	330-465-7402

Membership - Kurt Sanders	330-518-4245
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Modules:

HO/Chair - Bob Ashley Jr.	330-905-8860
NTRAK/T-TRAK - Don Bonk	330-418-6860

Roster - Joe Urbanski	330-283-0516
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Webmaster - Steve Zapytowski	330-715-3444
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WHO TO CONTACT IN
DIVISION 1
AND THE NMRA

Mid-Central Region

President - Bob Weinheimer MMR
email: MCRPREZ@HQ.NMRA.ORG

National Model Railroad Association

President - Charlie Getz
email: PRES@HQ.NMRA.ORG
Vice-President - Dave Thornton
email: VP@HQ.NMRA.ORG

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Checks payable to:

Division 1 - MCR - NMRA, Inc.
may be mailed to:
Bruce Hukill, Editor
223 Pierce Avenue
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

