



# The Pie Card



Division Eight Newsletter - Mid-Central Region, National Model Railroad Association

Volume 47

December, 2008

Number 12



## *From the Superintendent's Desk*

As I write this column, Thanksgiving is but a few days away. By the time you read it, Christmas and New Years will be just before us. It is always a good time of year to take stock of what we have to be thankful for and to map out our next steps.

For many of us, our involvement in this wonderful hobby began at this time of year with a train set under the Christmas tree. It was that way with me also. My dad was in the Air Force and we were stationed at Upper Heyford AFB, England beginning when I was eight. Those were good times. We didn't have a car and relied on walking, buses and trains to get around. One cold Christmas (most of them were cold!), Santa had left a Fleischman Union Pacific diesel running under the tree pulling a few cars. Later a European 0-6-0 steamer was added with three passenger wagons. We quickly learned about the hazards of running the trains on the floor where they picked up dog and cat hairs, carpet fibers and other assorted crud. We upgraded to a 1/4 inch sheet of rough plywood painted green. It may not have been contest quality, but it was full of love and enthusiasm. Dad and I spent hours on that thing. Amazingly, it made the trip back to the states five years later. Dad passed away many years ago. The plywood is long gone. The

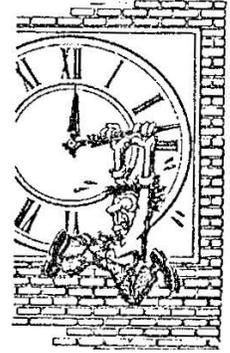
engines and cars are still with me as are a number of structures we built together. More than a layout, we built memories together.

It is now our turn to build memories with our families, one another, and the community at large. My son Sean found a Lionel set under the tree one year and enjoyed it. He's busy these days getting himself established. Sophia has been busy with the Moon Mountain Railway and enjoys that. Work has slowed with the weather turning colder. The layout is in the unheated garage you see. Our focus is now turned to the inside of the house where we can work on cars and structures in comparative comfort.

Looking back, I have much to be thankful for. My childhood was good, not perfect by any means, but good. I have a loving family and good friends. I associate with wonderful people in a great hobby. Whenever I'm confused, there is always someone in the NMRA who has either dealt with this problem before or is willing to tinker with it along with me. That is inspirational! While we each face our challenges, I believe that we all have much to be thankful for. If we share this positive outlook and camaraderie with those outside of the NMRA we will see our membership grow and ourselves grow as individuals.

I would encourage you to keep your eyes and ears open especially this time of year. Right now, there are young mothers and fathers at the hobby shops picking their first train sets. Wouldn't it bring a smile if we

## *TIMETABLE*



**Dec 18**, Thursday, NO MEETING, Holiday Party.

**Dec 20**, Bob Irmischer-Harry Munzer Open Houses

**Jan 15**, Div 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, TBA

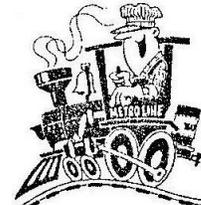
**Jan 17-18**, Great Train Expo, Int'l Convention Center

**Feb 21**, Div 8 Meeting, Saturday 2:00 PM, Meadowview Church

**Mar 19**, Div 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, TBA

**Mar 21**, Div 8 Train Show and Sale, Highland Post

were to be there to help? When you are at the hobby shop, encourage these new people to get involved with us. It will help them enjoy the hobby far more. Maybe they won't spend countless hours picking hairs out of the gears of their locomotives with tweezers like I did.



From my family to each of you – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Mark*

## MAINTENANCE TIES FUND

Do you enjoy the color pages in each issue of the Pie Card? It costs \$ 44 a month to bring them to you. The maintenance tie fund helps defray the cost of the color printing. To support this fund please give your contribution of \$ 5.00 or more to the Pie Card editor, Bob Dawson.

**Dec:** Ivan Baugh, Steve Taylor, James Kuzirian, Joe Fields, Ralph Bracewell

**Jan:** James Kuzirian, Joe Fields, Ralph Bracewell

**Feb:** Ralph Bracewell

**Mar:** Ralph Bracewell

**Apr:** Ralph Bracewell

**May:** Ralph Bracewell

**Jun:** Ralph Bracewell

**July:** Ralph Bracewell

**Aug:** Ralph Bracewell

**Sep:** Ralph Bracewell

**Oct:** Ralph Bracewell

**Nov:** Ralph Bracewell

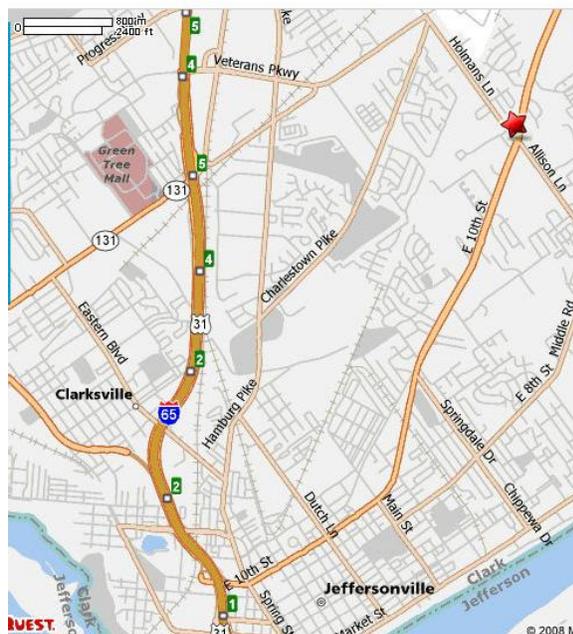
**Dec:** Ralph Bracewell

## IRMSCHER AND MUNZER HOSTING OPEN HOUSES

Bob Irmscher and Harry Munzer are hosting open houses in conjunction with each other to celebrate the Holiday Season on December 20, 2008. Bob will be open from 11 am to 2 pm, and Harry will be open from 1 pm to 5 pm. This will be a great opportunity to see Bob Irmscher's new layout. Bob lives at 5541 Buck Creek Rd., Floyds Knobs, IN. Buck Creek Road is off Hwy 150, left (from Louisville) just past the end of the divided highway. Harry Munzer's Swift Creek Railroad is located at 6265 Buttonwood Rd. Greenville, IN. Buttonwood Rd is left (from Louisville) off US 150. If you have questions or need directions please call (812) 923-1537.

## DIVISION 8 CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year's Division 8 Christmas Party is at "Our Best" Restaurant, 2835 Holmans Lane, Jeffersonville Indiana. We will meet at 6:30 PM Thursday evening, December 18, 2008. Holman's Lane intersects with East 10<sup>th</sup> Street (Indiana Hwy.62) opposite Allison Lane. From Louisville, take I-65 Exit 1 to 10<sup>th</sup> Street/Hwy. 62, go approximately four miles to Holmans Lane. Turn left onto Holman's Lane. The restaurant is behind the Walgreens on the corner. See location map to the right.



## DIDN'T RECEIVE A MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE?

There have been several inquiries throughout the region from members who said they didn't receive a membership renewal notice. Renewal notices are being sent. In some cases they may have been lost in the mail, but in many cases it is a result of members not notifying anyone of address changes. Be sure to update your personal data when sending in your renewal cards. In Division 8, if you have any problems with membership information please contact Bob Sobotka at 502-365-3690.

As to another issue, when checking membership lists supplied from NMRA headquarters it was found that life members had been dropped from the list. I have been informed that this was the result of a programming problem, and has been fixed by the staff at National HQ.

*Mark Norman*

## DIVISION 8 ACHIEVES

Jim Ward's Author award is on its way up the tracks. Ivan and I are ready to judge, just so it is not too cold for us to be out. Our defibrulators do not like cold weather.

*Jerry Ashley MMR*

## DIVISION DISPLAY LAYOUT

**Nat King** is heading a team to build a small operating demonstration layout for use at public shows and exhibitions to promote, NMRA, Division 8 and the Hobby. It is planned for the layout to be in one or two sections small enough to be transported in a mini-van.

The layout will be funded by Division 8. If you would like to be part of this project call Nat King at 502-426-8656.

At the Fall Train Show



Another great train show. Above are two scenes from the Radcliff Model Railroad Society's On30 layout. They also brought their T-Track Modules. Bob Johnson set up his vintage Marx Tim Plated Layout and Bruce Goreham his N-Scale Layout. L & N Model Railroad Club supplied the test track. Falls City Live Steamers set up a Thomas Layout (their train rides were cancelled due to inclement weather). Also thanks to our door prize donors: Scale Reproductions the Roundhouse, L & N Trains & Things, Kentucky Flyer RR and Short n Sassy Embroidery.

**Where were you March 15, 1990?** Some of us were attending a Division 8 meeting at Charlie Keeling's house.



Above from left to right: Unknown, John Bowman, Ray Hager, Bob Frankrone, and Herman Weir. *Photo courtesy of Charlie Keeling.*

From rear to front and left to right: Standing - unknown, Bob Dawson, Joe Eiden, Bruce Goreham, Jim Donovan, Bill Redding, Eugene Bleott, and Joe Fields. *Photo courtesy of Charlie Keeling.*

## Louisville Connecting Lines Goes DCC



Above left. Jerry Ashley working with club members Brian Weir and John Kissell. Right, are members Brian Weir (left), John Bowman (rear right) Jim Tungate (right) and Mark Schroder on the floor. (Photos courtesy of Herman Weir.)



**E8A 796 Arrives in Bowling Green.** Painted in classic L & N colors, it arrived at the Historic Bowling Green Rail Park and Train Museum in October. R J. Corman Company provided the equipment to move it off the CSX main and to set it on the Museum Tracks. A dedication ceremony was planned for December 5 as part of the Festival of Trains. (Photos courtesy of Rick Williams.)

## Trackside in Kentuckiana



Is Louisville Metro ready for commuter rail service? Some people think so. On November 8 a test train ran on the P & L between Louisville and Elizabethtown. Here it is crossing St. Andrews Church Road. (Photos courtesy of Bob Dawson.)

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### Minutes for November, 2008

Meeting was called to order by Superintendent Mark Norman at 7:30 PM. Meeting was held November 20, 2008 at the Southern Indiana Railroad Club, First Presbyterian Church, Walnut and Chestnut Streets, Jeffersonville, IN. The meeting was hosted by the Southern Indiana Railroad Club.

- It was moved and carried to accept the minutes for the October Meeting as published in the November Pie Card.
- It was moved and carried to accept the Treasurer’s Report for November for audit.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

- The American Society of Naval Engineers (Eric Waggoner) donated a back-drop display to Division Eight for use in GATS or other train shows as needed. Bob Sobotka is coordinating. The back-drop display is totally portable and comes in two plastic transportation cases. The display however needs some professional signs made and some photographs dry-mounted on foam-sore or photo boards with Velco™ backing. Eric Waggoner has gigabytes of photo files to be reviewed for possible photographic display on the back drops but the Division needs more contributions. Please contact Bob at e-mail address [robertsobotka@insightbb.com](mailto:robertsobotka@insightbb.com) if you have something to contribute.
- Bob Johnson donated two Pelican Cases™ to Division Eight for sale. These cases are high quality protective cases and would be perfect to transport that valuable locomotive to an operating session.

**Committee Reports:**

- Achievement Award. Jim Ward recently received his author’s certificate. Rick Maloney and Bob Kuchler will soon be receiving certificates for structures.
- Nat King has assembled a team and begun to design a portable layout. Around the first of January, Nat King will begin the building and assembly of a small operating demonstration layout for use in public shows. It is planned that the layout to be modular and in one or two sections small enough to be transported in a SUV or minivan. The layout will be funded by Division Eight. If you would like to be a part of the project, contact Nat at 502-426-8656.
- The Christmas Party is December 18TH 2008 at the Our Best Restaurant on Holman’s Lane, Jeffersonville, IN. All interested members should contact Bobbi Hedge for reservations. You will be able to order from the menu and be responsible for your own check. Contact Bobbi at 812-288-8037 or e-mail [bhedge59@yahoo.com](mailto:bhedge59@yahoo.com) if you are interested in attending.
- No report from Mike Berry this month.

**Clubs and Local Layouts:**

- The K&I is having an open house the first weekend in December, 10-4 on Saturday and 11-4 on Sunday, Buckner Kentucky. The KSONs will also be at this event.
- There is no official display this year at Bill Collins Ford for the Thanksgiving weekend however Jeff Miller may have his O-Scale layout up and operating at this location.

**Ill and mending list:**

- Jack Diehl reported that Ivan Baugh has recovered from his stroke and is doing well, and also that Ed Brennan is

recovering.

*Respectfully submitted, Eric L. Waggoner, clerk.*

### FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

NMRA Membership Has Its Privileges

If you were at the last meeting (at Southern Indiana Model Railroad Club and what a nice layout they have!) you may recall I mentioned that I am working on a display we can set up at shows and conventions to recruit new members. It would tell them about all the wonderful things NMRA and Division 8 have to offer. As members we know this. We know about the fellowship and sharing of knowledge through our meetings and events (like the upcoming Christmas Party), the Standards NMRA sets for manufacturers so our trains run well (hopefully!), the Achievement Program, and of course all the conventions.

Then there’s Scale Rails. Do you receive Scale Rails? A year or so ago the magazine underwent a transformation into an honest-to-goodness modeling magazine with much more to offer than NMRA news. Each month there are articles such as construction and improvement of rolling stock, techniques and diagrams for building structures, an electrical circuit plan to add neat effects to your railroad, and for the last several months the ongoing series “Year of the MMR” analyzing how to accomplish each AP certificate offered.

As the annoying infomercial says “Wait - there’s more!” Member Aid where you can call to get answers to membership or modeling questions. There are insurance programs too. Not just the liability insurance program that many of us are familiar with (especially 100% NMRA clubs like the K&I) but insurance plans for your personal layout and collection too.

Finally and the one I believe is most overlooked is the A.C. Kalmbach Memorial Library. They have one of the largest, if not THE largest, collection of model and prototype railroad books, periodicals, photos, videos and reference materials. They are in Chattanooga so they are set up to do the research for you. More information about them can be found at:<http://library.nmra.org/>

So thanks for being an NMRA member. Take advantage of the benefits offered to you and spread the word that the NMRA is the place for model railroaders.

*Bob Sobotka, Division 8 Membership Chairman*

### DIVISION 8 EMAIL LIST

To have your name on the Division 8 E-mail list, send an email to **Jack Diehl:** [diehljohn@bellsouth.net](mailto:diehljohn@bellsouth.net).

### Model Contest

December	No Contest
January	Freight Cars
February	Diesels
March	Commercial Structures
April	Passenger Cars
May	Cabooses
June	Open Loads
July	No Contest
August	MOW Equipment
September	Photos
October	Steam Locomotives
November	Displays/Dioramas

Contest Chairman Bill Lynch is looking forward to your entries.

**Division 8, MCR, NMRA**<http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/>

Ivan W. Baugh, webmaster

**Officers**

Superintendent  
 Mark Norman 502-254-9249  
 Asst. Supt.  
 Bruce Goreham 502-491-3996  
 Clerk  
 Eric Waggoner 502-244-6628  
 Treasurer  
 Jim Ward 502-836-3078

**Trustees**

Bob Frankrone 502-491-9920  
 Don Fowler 502-448-0628  
 Bob Dawson 502-368-2607

**Committee Directors**

Contests  
 Bill Lynch 812-256-2125  
 NMRA Achievement Program  
 Jerry Ashley 502-893-0801  
 Meeting Program  
 Bob Dawson 502-368-2607

**Committees (continued)**

Librarian  
 open  
 Membership  
 Bob Sobotka 502-365-3690  
 Show Programs  
 Mike Berry 502-245-1337  
 Swap Meet  
 Bob Dawson 502-368-2607

**Region Officers**

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 Dick Briggs 614-277-0314  
 Vice President  
 Merlyn Jarman 812-539-3232  
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**The Pie Card**

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**Inside This Issue**

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