



The Pie Card



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

Volume 48

February 2009

Number 2



From the Superintendent's Desk

Last month's column was eerily prophetic albeit without the happy ending found in *The Polar Express*. Indeed, Kelly and I made a quick dash to the Pacific Northwest and back. We fought one blizzard on the way to San Juan Island, faced gale force winds during the twenty hours on island, and then faced a blizzard of historic proportions on the drive back to Seattle. Just like the conductor in the movie, Kelly was coaching me all the way to Seattle in the blinding blizzard – "A bit more to the right! Back to the left a bit..." We did make it back and in fact were able to fly back to Louisville arriving late Monday night before Christmas. It was quite the adventure!

Christmas, as ever, was a wonderful family celebration at church, the Christmas tree, and finally dinner. One bit of excitement happened shortly after Sophia went to bed. She had set a "Santa Trap" consisting of ribbon with sleigh bells tied to it. It was strategically strung around the tree and to the fireplace. No sooner had we collapsed in bed and begun to sleep than the alarm sounded! It seems Santa had come and gone and somehow avoided the trap. He's a clever old gnome! Our cocker spaniel though was curious what was in the packages and tripped the alarm. Sophia screamed "Santa!" The fun began. Following a mumbled threat of sending to the North Pole – one way, she agreed to sleep a while longer.

Winter is upon us and it's full steam ahead for model railroading. I trust this finds each of you enjoying the world's greatest hobby and making progress on

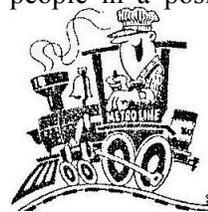
your AP Awards. If you need help, your fellow modelers stand ready to help and advise.

Many of you saw our new display booth at either the division meeting or the Great American Train Show. Wow! This shows our division in a great light! Be sure to thank Bob Frankrone and Eric Waggoner for their donation and Bob Sobotka for his efforts. We have something to anchor the division at public events that can continually be updated and kept current.

The next step is to have our portable division display designed, built, and running in front of the booth. This effort is being lead by the very capable Nat King. Give Nat a call and get involved in this exiting project. You can work toward AP points here to.

At our last meeting, Bill Lynch explained the cumulative point system that is now in effect for our monthly model contests. Jump in there, earn some points, and you may well earn a gift certificate. Thanks Bill!

Some of you may have seen the Fox in the Morning broadcast from Al Oswald's home just before the train show. Al was kind enough to invite Jerry Ashley and me over to participate. Deferring to my elders, I played a supporting role. It was good fun and mentioned by a number of people in a positive way. Maybe we will be invited to the Academy Awards.



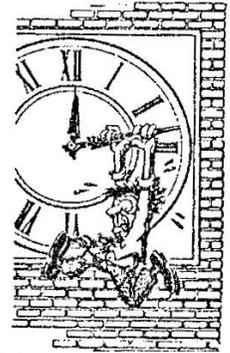
Enjoy the cold weather and let's go have some fun.

Mark

DIVISION 8 EMAIL LIST

To have your name on the Division 8 E-mail list, send an email to **Jack Diehl**: diehljohn@bellsouth.net with the subject Please Add to Email list.

TIMETABLE



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

Mar 19, Div 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, Conference Center

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

Apr 16, Div 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, To be Announced

Apr 30-May 3, Mid Central Region Convention, Columbus, OH

(Note that several meetings will be on Thursday evenings this year due to conflicts with other events. Check the Time Table each month for meeting location.)

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.

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Model Contest

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
December	No Contest
January	Freight Cars

Contest Chairman Bill Lynch is looking forward to your entries.

NEW MONTHLY CONTEST AWARDS PROGRAM

Contest Chairman Bill Lynch announced a new monthly contest awards program at the January meeting for 2009.

- Each person who brings an entry to the meeting will receive one (1) point.
- The person who receives the most votes for the month gets three (3) points.
- If there are 10 or more entries for a month, there will be two awards of three (3) points.
- The person with the second highest number of votes will receive (2) points.
- In case of a tie with nine or less entries, both parties will receive three (3) points, and there will be no second place awarded.
- The prize (to be announced later) will be awarded at the annual Division Picnic.

Points standings will be published each month in *The Pie Card*.

The January Contest winner was Nat King. Point standings are: Nat King (4), Bob Sobotka (3), one point each for Bob Frankrone, John Kelly, Bob Johnson, and Bill Lynch.

FEBRUARY MEETING INFORMATION

The February meeting will be Saturday February 21, 2:00 PM, Meadowview Presbyterian Church, 2944 Breckinridge Lane. In answer to several requests, Jerry Ashley will again present his program on programming DCC decoders (locomotives, switches, etc.) using JMRI software and a PC. Have your questions ready.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Have you seen our new Division 8 display? Division 8 will use the display at shows and events to attract attention and tell folks what we and the NMRA are all about. It was donated to us by Bob Frankrone and Eric Waggoner and signs with Velcro attachments were created to promote the organization. Eric also provided a large selection of pictures on CD from which the photos on the display were chosen. These pictures represent layouts and activities of Division 8 members.

As I write this it has been a couple of weeks since Jerry Ashley and I were invited to speak to the KSONS about Division

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. Donors for 2009 to date are:

\$ 50 or more: Don Fowler, Ralph Bracewell

\$ 25 to \$ 45: Charlie Fackler, Bob Lawson.

\$ 5 to \$ 20: Stephen Taylor, Charlie Buschmann, Eric Waggoner, Bob Frankrone, Bob Johnson, Jim Harrington, Charlie Keeling, Short'n'Sassy Embroidery, Mark Hedge, Jim Kuzirian, Joe Fields, John Ottman, Bill Poteet, Ron Montgomery, Jerry Ashley

VIEW FROM THE YARD OFFICE

Pie Card Editor Bob Dawson

I need photos for the color pages, especially your layout photos. Prototype pictures are welcome also. Photos can be emailed to me in JPEG format, prints by U.S. Mail, or given to me personally at a meeting. Please don't compress emailed photos. This gives me the ability to crop or otherwise edit if necessary.

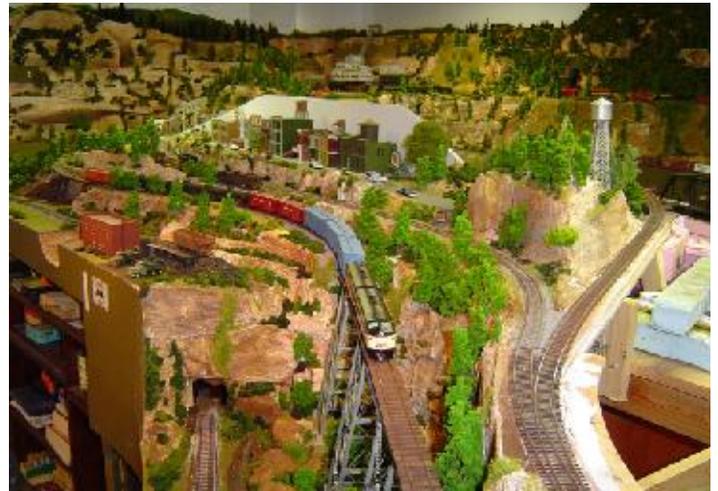
Speaking of color pictures, thanks to all of you who have donated to the Maintenance Ties Fund so far this year. Beginning this month the Fund Report is in a new format. This was done to conserve space, and give recognition and thanks to those who have donated.

DIVISION 8 ACHIEVES

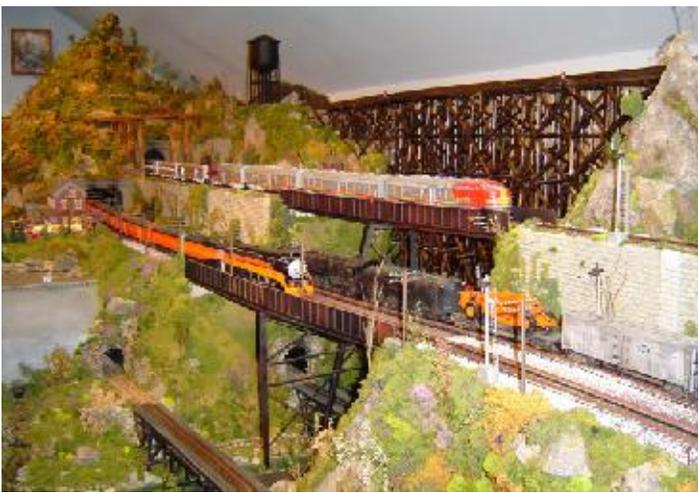
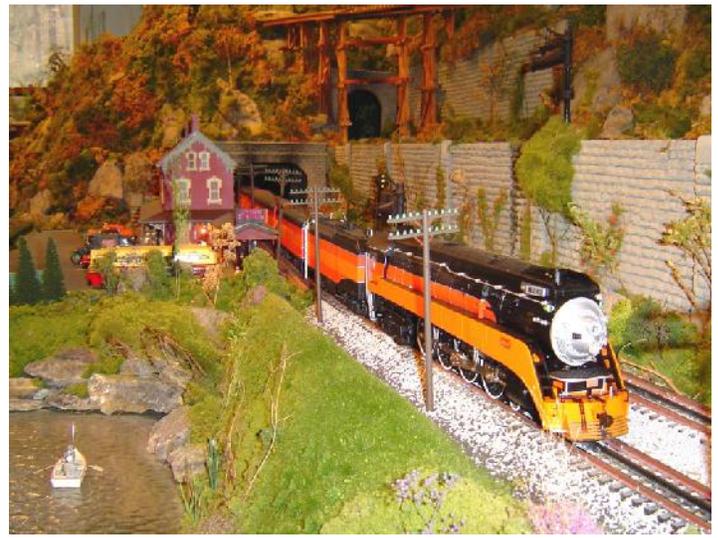
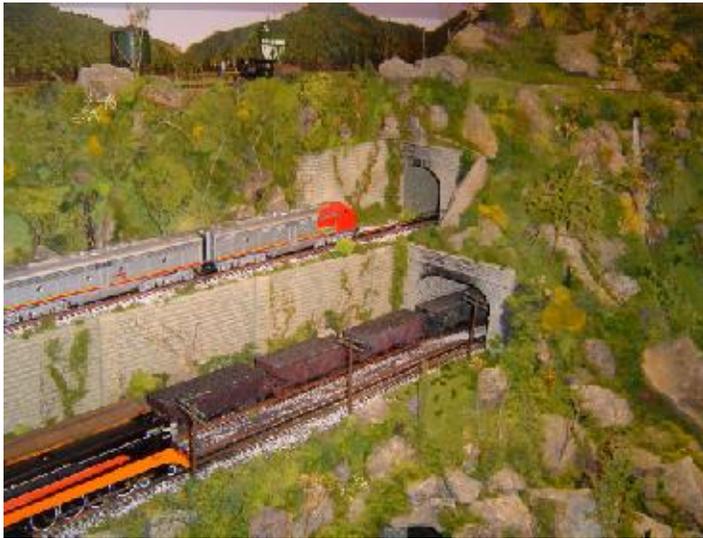
Bob Kuchler's Cars AP Certificate is in the works at Region level. His cars were judged at the January meeting by me and Gary Metcalf MMR. They are N scale cars detailed out the yingyang; all were judged in the 98+ range. Outstanding job, excellent work by an outstanding Model Railroader. You HO Scale folks had better get to work. As of now the next four MMR's from Division 8 will be from the K-sons or N scalers. Chris Broughten is working on his scratchbuilt engines, Rick Maloney is awaiting judging, Bob Kuchler is getting ready for another judging session and Paul Downs needs to fill out his paperwork. I understand that there is an outstanding railroad waiting to be judged in the Second Street area of Louisville, in HO. He just needs to send in his membership application to the NMRA and the paperwork for his scenery, electrical, structures etc.

Jerry Ashley MMR

Pike Showcase



Above: New testle on Tom Gunthner's HO.



Above: Bob Irmischer's new O gauge/ON30 layout.

Pike Show Case Bob Irmscher (continued)



Photo by Jerry Ashley

People



Photo by Bob Johnson

From left to right: Charlie Hansen, Bob Stewart, Unknown, and Bob Norton at March 15, 1990 meeting (photo by Charlie Keeling),

Local rail fans on Banta rail excursion this past November from Columbus, IN to IL and return.

New Show Display

Trackside Kentuckiana



Our new show display at Great Train Expo (photo by Jack Diehl). Read details about the display in the From the Membership Chairman's column.

Illinois Central Gulf Diesel Engines at Oak Street (photo by Charlie Keeling). A reminder: the February contest is Diesel Locomotives.

Minutes for NMRA, Mid Central Region, Division Eight Meeting, 15 January 2009

The meeting was called to order, hosted by Bob Dawson. Eric Waggoner and Bob Frankrone arranged for the use of the old Naval Ordnance Station conference room.

All Officers were present with the exception of the Treasurer. No new members or guests were present for the meeting.

Health Issues (Jack D.) Nothing to report, and received "Thank You" cards from Ed. Brennan (recovering).

Minutes for the November meeting were approved as published in the Pie Card

There was no Treasurer's report presented.

Old Business – Christmas Party went well and was very successful. We needed a sound system for the presenter.

New Business: Masonic Home Kentucky. Bob Johnson has a discussion concerning the Masonic Home and its available space. Bob and Eric Waggoner visited the home and the community room is suitable for future meetings. There is no other use for the spaces for Division Eight. There may some interest by other model railroad groups to use the space, though the spaces are in need of cleaning and there may be some asbestos in the spaces. The doors need to be lockable doors for each club. The reasons the basements are empty is that these basements have asbestos in them and it has never been cleaned up. This project is dead. The buildings were built in the 1920's. If anybody has any suggestions for investigating for NMRA space, contact Eric Waggoner at eric.waggoner@insightbb.com.

Achievement Program. Jerry Ashley reported that he has some certificates to present. . Bob Sobotka, has qualified for his car building Achievement Certificate.

Monthly Contest. Freight Cars. Nat King was the winner. Bill Lynch reported that starting this year points will be awarded to contest winners. Gift certificates presented to modelers who accumulate the most points. Details will be in the Pie Card.

Public Shows, Pie Card, and Meeting Programs. Bob Dawson, The Great Train Expo is this weekend. The NMRA will be there with a booth. The "Red Star of Shame" indicates that you need to pay for your "Pie Card" division magazine. Bob is looking for clinics. Jack Diehl is going to do a clinic as well as Bob Frankrone and Eric Waggoner. Jerry Ashley will do a clinic on programming a DCC locomotive. There will be a trip in May 2009 or later to Bob Lawson's house in Cincinnati to view his new layout plus two other layouts.

KSONs are setting up the layout for the Great Train Expo as well as the 0-6-0's layout club. Louisville Connecting Lines – will be loading up Friday and finish set-up Saturday morning.

The Mid-Central Region Convention is KY Derby Weekend in Columbus, Ohio. There is going to be an

N-Scale meeting the same weekend.

Nat King is working on the Division Eight mobile display.

Bob Sobotka showed us the new NMRA Division Eight display. Eric Waggoner and the American Society of Naval Engineers donated the display and supplied the photographs. Dan-D signs next to the Executive Inn generated the signs. The display looks great and sets up in five minutes.

Mark Norman, Jerry Ashley and Al Oswald will be on Fox Channel 41 in the morning of 16 January 2009 with a live broadcast from Al's basement.

Steve Summers had a great PowerPoint presentation on trestles of the Virginian Railroad.

*Respectfully submitted, Eric Waggoner, Clerk
continued from page 2*

8, what we do, and what we could do for them. And this past weekend (January 17-18) I, Bob Dawson, Mark Norman, Bob Frankrone, Eric Waggoner, Mark Hedge, Jerry Ashley, and others took turns manning the Division table at the Great Train Expo. So now numerous times I have had to "put the sell" on the NMRA and try to recruit new members.

But I wondered who exactly are we looking for? And what are prospective members looking for?

I believe the single best thing the NMRA offers is the camaraderie of fellow model railroaders and the knowledge that can be shared between all. Personally I have found that my membership in the NMRA has accelerated my knowledge and experience in the hobby. Basically I am able to do things that would have taken many years of trial and error simply because I have such a large group of fellow modelers to draw help from.

So I ask each of you, Division 8 members, to identify folks you know and tell them why YOU are a member of the NMRA. Direct them to the division website and give them my phone number (both are located on the last page.) Tell them about the "Rail Pass" program, \$9.95 for a 6 month NMRA membership and a subscription to Scale Rails. Let them see if the NMRA is right for *them*.

Bob Sobotka, Division 8 Membership Chairman



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<http://mcr09convention.dwilke.org/FirstPage.html>

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

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The Pie Card

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IS THERE A RED STAR ON THE FRONT OF YOUR PIE CARD?

For many of you, January is the time to renew your Activity Fee/Pie Card subscription. If you have a "red star" on you address label, it's time to renew.