



The Pie Card

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



Volume 49

November 2010

Number 11



From the Superintendent's Desk

A few days ago, I had the opportunity to attend the Mid-Central Region Board of Directors meeting. The minutes are available on the region web site. Let me take this opportunity to cover a few highlights. Financially, the region is solvent and cash flow is positive. The by-laws regarding term limits were amended to bring them in line with national. The clinician database is growing; this lists fellow modelers and the clinics they give. It is a resource for us when looking for clinicians.

Likewise, you have the opportunity to register and share your talents. Our fellow divisions are healthy. The Mid-Central Region convention this spring is shaping up to be a fantastic event. Now is the time to register and begin making your travel plans. I hope to see many of you there.

Back in our own division, a number of you got to see Chuck Davis' clinic on dual magnet uncoupling. He was gracious enough to freely share these materials with us. Many of you seem intrigued as orders for magnets continue to arrive in my inbox. While the Swap Meet is still several days in the future as this is written, it promises to be excellent. The committee has worked hard. The bus tour to the southern end of our region will surely be a great adventure. The Christmas Party is coming together with improvements that will make it more fun than before. This brief rundown, barely scratches the surface. The division is active and credit goes to each of you.

Mark

DIVISION CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year our Christmas Party will again be held at the KYANA Car Club, 3821 Hunsinger Lane. The date is THURSDAY evening, December 16, 2010. The meal will be a buffet catered again by Halls catering and will feature a choice of three meats, four vegetables, and several salad and dessert choices. Cost for NMRA members is \$ 15.00 per person (\$ 30 per couple), non-NMRA members \$ 20/person. Bruce Goreham is taking reservations. You can email Bruce at bgoreham@bellsouth.net or call him at 502-491-3996. Make out checks to "Division 8 MCR NMRA" and mail to: Division Eight, MCR, NMRA, P. O. Box 99041, Louisville, KY 402691-0041; or give it to Bruce at a meeting.

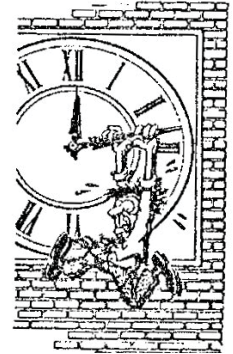
YOUR PHOTOS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tom Guentner

December is just down the rail and around the bend. We are getting close to the big December event. Yes, the Division Christmas party is getting close. We want to put on a slideshow of all the activities that our members have participated in during the past year. To do that I need any and all of your photos that show these activities. Include any photos of your layout. These can be at any stage of completion. So get busy and gather those photos, take new ones. Got any photos of years past? Get them together also.

Then send them to me at: kingpin@insightbb.com and use Division Christmas Party as the subject It will be fun to see the progress on your layout.

TIMETABLE



Nov 18, Div. 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, Southern Indiana Railroad Club

Nov 20, Div. 8 Train Show, Highland Post, 10 AM to 3 PM

Dec 16, Christmas Party. Thursday, KYANA Car Club

Jan 15, Div 8 Meeting, Saturday, 2:00 PM, Conference Center

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting is Thursday, November 18, at 7:30 PM in Jeffersonville, Indiana. . The meeting is being hosted by the Southern Indiana Model Railroad Club. They are located in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church, Walnut and Chestnut Streets, Jeffersonville. Take exit 0 from I-65 right onto Court Avenue. Continue on Court Avenue ½ miles to Walnut Street. Turn right on Walnut and go two blocks to Chestnut. Turn left on Chestnut, the church is on the southeast corner, park in the lot on the east side of the church. Enter from the parking lot. The club is in the basement.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Joe Fields, AP Chairman

Master Model Builder-Structures paper work for Ed Brennan has been submitted to the Mid-Central Region AP Chairman.

HOSPITALIZED

Ivan Baugh's wife, Jean, was recently hospitalized, and at Jefferson Place Rehabilitation and Nursing Home at this time. Ivan said she will have surgery soon. Tom Guentner's wife Betty had surgery November 2.

Model Contest DISPLAYS/DIORAMAS

NOVEMBER

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

Enter your favorite model in the contest. The judging is strictly "peoples' choice". If you would also like your model to be judged for the Achievement program, contact Joe Fields and he will arrange to have AP judges present.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Pie Card Editor Bob Dawson

Just a reminder, the Pie Card is going electronic beginning with the January 2011 issue. I need to know who DOES NOT have access to email. You can call me at 502-368-2607 or let me know at the November meeting. SO FAR I HAVE ONLY RECEIVED ONE REQUEST TO HAVE THE PIE CARD MAILED.

OCTOBER MEETING REPORT

The Division met Thursday evening, October 21, at the Air Port Industrial Center Conference Building. Ed Brennan, chairman of our Company Store, reported on the Division Shirt Project. Ed said members would be able to choose the color they wanted for their shirt. He said black and blue shirts were not recommended since the logo would not be visible. Ed said the shirts cost per person should be in the \$31 to \$35 price range. He requested an authorization of funds to cover the setup fee and initial expenses. A motion was made, seconded and carried to authorize Ed to spend up to \$125 for set up and initial expenses for the Division polo shirt.

Russ Weis provided refreshments, and Mark Norman presented a clinic developed by Chuck Davis on using small magnets for uncoupling Kadee couplers. Everyone was given a small pack of magnets. Mark said those wanting additional magnets can contact him and he would put together an order.

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 2010 to date are:

MaintenanceTies Fund continued on page 4, column 1

BILL REDDING

NMRA Life Member Bill Redding of New Albany passed away on October 2. Bill was in O Scale and travelled to shows in the area with his modular layout for many years until his health required him to stop. Bill will be missed, our condolences to his family.

CONTEST REPORT

Bill Lynch, Contest Chairman

Tom Lindquist took first place in the October Contest with his L&N HO Mike. Bob Johnson and Jim Harrington tied for second. Point standings to date: Jim Harrington (9); Charlie Keeling (8); Bill Lynch and Tom Lindquist (5); Eric Waggoner and Bob Johnson (4); John Bowman, Steve Summers, Ramona Johnson, Patrick Hardesty, and Bob Kuchler (1).

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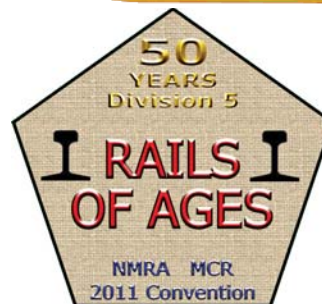
THANKS

The Louisville Connecting Lines was set up at the La-Grange Railroad and Antique Festival in October. The club had a 12 by 28 ft layout, sponsored by Karen's Book Barn. I would like to thank the members who brought modules and helped set up, John Bowman, John Manning, Ethan Davis, Joseph Walker, Herman Weir and Bill Roberts. I would also like to thank the members who helped run trains: Ethan Davis, Joseph Walker, Bill Roberts, Herman Weir and Alex Weir.

Brian Weir

2011 Mid Central Region Convention

Rails Of Ages
1961 to 2011



Check Div. 8 Website, click on links, and go to Division 5, MCR and follow links to "convention".

MID CENTRAL REGION CONVENTION

Apr 28 – May 1, 2011

Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio

Hosted by Division 5

"The Western Reserve
Division"



Model Contest Winner
Tom Lundquist's Model

Traction Models



An HO portable layout modeling the Cincinnati Street Car System. Cincinnati required the use of two poles, one for current pick up, the other for return in the downtown area. This was one of the layouts set up at the Division 7 show last month.

AMTRAK ON TIME



AMTRAK at Pie Falls, WV on its way to Couch. Above right, on time for its station stop at Couch, VA. Two views on Lin Young's HO G & G in Gallipolis, Ohio.

KSONS at New Albany Library



Above left: Bruce Goreham's Southern coal drag. Above right: Steve Shetter's Southern Pacific Passenger Train.
Below: Details of Paul Down's excellent model of Union Station, Louisville. Yes, it's N Scale!



TRACKSIDE

The November contest is dioramas. A model of the L J Hardware and Feed in Lebanon Junction, KY would be a center piece for a great diorama

Maintenance Ties Fund continued from page 2, column 1

\$ 50 or more: Ralph Bracewell

\$ 25 to \$ 45: Charles Fackler, Bob Kuchler, Bob Johnson, Ivan Baugh

\$ 5 to \$ 20: Eric Waggoner, Mike Berry, Mark Norman, Bill Poteet, Charlie Keeling, Stephen Taylor, Jim Harrington, Jim Kuzirian, Russ Weis, Herman Weir, Ronald Rauchmiller, John Ottman, Ed Brennan, Frank Becker, Tom Smart, Tom Lindquist, John Kelley.



OF OUR MODELING HERITAGE IN PRAISE

By Ed Brennan

I recently had the opportunity to have my layout judged for the AP Scenery and Engineer-Electrical certificates. As I was preparing for this evaluation, I couldn't help but reflect on the many individuals who have influenced my model railroading adventures. From the likes of John Allen, I've learned the value of, I won't call it trickery, but I will call it deception. John's use of mirrors on his legendary Gorre & Daphetid to make the layout appear larger is a great example. (By the way, if you've not seen Jack Diehl's gorge module on the Kentucky & Indiana Model Railroad, you're missing a great example of deception.) There can be little doubt that John's talents played a significant role in "hooking" me on model railroading in the first place. His layout's frequent appearance in the Pacific Fast Mail ads on the back cover of Model Railroader during the 1950's brought this hobby to the forefront during my formative years. If you're too young to remember the infamous Dino the dinosaur in John's photos, I'd suggest you check out the history of this intriguing character. What a yard switcher! His only real problem was that the crew could never train him to use the ash pit!

From another superior modeler, Allen McClellan, I've learned the importance of "getting in and getting out" in scenery detail. Allen's classic Virginian & Ohio layout is a study in maximizing time in the detail process. His "good enough" approach, including not detailing parts of structures that will never be seen, is a tremendous way to maximize effect while minimizing time. Allen's fictitious V&O is about as real as you can get (with its own historical society), and if it's "good enough" for him, it's "good enough" for me. Several of the background structures on my fictitious L&N Blackberry Branch have no back sides. You'll never see them, so why spend valuable time detailing that part of the structure? As a branch, my layout is small by many standards, so this lesson is of particular significance for those of you who have or will have large model railroad empires.

While Walt Disney is not particularly well-known as a model railroader, he also had a huge impact on my involvement and enjoyment in this great hobby through his home large-scale railroad and the subsequent Disneyland Railroad. Walt often used the term "imagineering" to describe those fundamentals that today draw incredible crowds to Disneyland and Walt Disney World. That same "imagineering" is, I'm convinced, a vital part of our model railroading heritage. Whether we model a particular prototype, or, if our railroad is only a "what might have been" adventure, the ability to imagine and conceptualize is vital to the creation of a believable model railroad empire. It's particularly important when, due to space limitations, we have to selectively compress our layout. My L&N Blackberry Branch is a great example of selective compression, and the ability to conceptualize and construct a layout under these conditions is absolutely essential.

Many staff members and contributors to Model Railroader, Railroad Model Craftsman, Scale Rails, and other magazines over the years have provided us a vast array of information. Their ideas invigorate us in the pursuit of this most inclusive hobby. I've made a habit of searching through issues from the '50's, '60's, and '70's to capture the best practices of those decades. It's amazing that, in an era well before the availability of pre-fab structures and ready-to-roll rolling stock, our most talented predecessors were able to fulfill their model railroading dreams through a little craftsmanship, a little planning, and just the right mixture of imagination. In a part of my home layout, I've tried to capture just that combination in the design and fabrication of an ash pit similar to that of a former member of the Dayton area modeling community. I still have the 1975 magazine in which his ash pit was pictured and described. I'm also a firm believer in the value of cardstock as a modeling medium; it's good to see others supporting this renaissance of a material used for many decades but now somewhat relegated to history. (Nice going, Bob Sobotka!)

Detailed layouts and articles, and now videos, by the likes of Whit Towers (Alturas & Lone Pine), Frank Ellison (Delta Lines), Lorrell Joiner (Great Southern), Andy Sperandio, Jim Hediger (Ohio Southern), David Barrow (Cat Mountain & Santa Fe), Tony Koester (Allegheny Midland), Allen Keller (Virginian & Ohio), and others inspire us to new heights in the model railroading arena. Today our hobby shop's shelves are filled with the most detailed rolling stock, structures, and track ever available to us as model railroaders. As we reach for our wallets to purchase that \$50.00 styrene house, let's not forget that the people who formed the foundation of what we now enjoy as a lifetime hobby probably would have built it from scratch (it simply wasn't available)...and at a lot lower cost. I'd suggest that this type of craftsmanship never goes out of style. Perhaps that's why three of the eleven categories in the NMRA's AP program involve construction of motive power, cars, and structures.

Few would disagree that we're at a great time in our hobby, with the availability of almost anything we want to make our layouts more detailed and more enjoyable. As we sound the horn or whistle on that new DCC locomotive, let's not forget the pioneers, many of them Master Model Railroaders, who surveyed the landscape and marked the trails while forming our model railroading heritage.



EXTRA 2011 WEST NMRA CONVENTION

The 2011 NMRA Convention in Sacramento is being billed as the "Unconventional Convention." Register now at the Convention's website - www.x2011west.org

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

Tom Guenthner, webmaster

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Meeting Program			
Russ Weiss	502-245-7991		

The Pie Card is published twelve times a year by Division 8 of the National Model Railroad Association, Mid-Central Region, Bob Dawson, Editor, 7305 Ticonderoga Drive, Louisville, KY 40214.

Please address all correspondence, letters to the editor, articles to *The Pie Card* editor. Deadline for submitted articles is the 22nd day of the previous month. *The Pie Card* goes to the printer by the first of the month.

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The Pie Card

Division Eight, MCR, NMRA

Box 99041

Louisville, KY 40269-0041

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Color Pages Publisher:	
Circulation:	Jerry Ashley
	Bob Dawson
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NEXT MEETING:
THURSDAY, November 18, 2010
Details inside