



The Pie Card



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

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Number 3

From the Superintendent's Desk



A common topic of conversation in model railroading circles is how to attract and retain new and younger members. The topic repeats itself in our periodicals, conversations, conventions, and so forth. Just as often are heard all of the reasons why people do not join the NMRA – electronic games, instant gratification, and the myriad opportunities that are available. What is particularly interesting about this is we find ourselves conducting both sides of the conversation.

Curiously, the parties left out of this conversation are our prospective members. Without reaching out to them and hearing their voice we will never understand the underlying cause of their not joining us.

Over the last few years, we've had conversations and/or have informally surveyed all of these: members, non-members, former members, hobby shops, and anyone else who might be a potential member. In truth, it's much the same process used in growing one's business. The first step is to gain an understanding of the person, their interests and needs. Our role is not to sell the benefits of being a member of the NMRA, our role is to understand their needs and see if what we do will benefit them. If they do, membership will naturally follow. What has been learned is that prospective members are looking for an organization that will understand where they are as a modeler and help them to grow. They are seeking a warm, inviting, vibrant organization that welcomes them as they are and where they are in skills. While they admire the skills of the experienced modelers among us, they really are looking for someone to help them grow as well. Are we that organization? Are we warm, inviting, and vibrant? If not, we know what our next steps need to be.

Mark

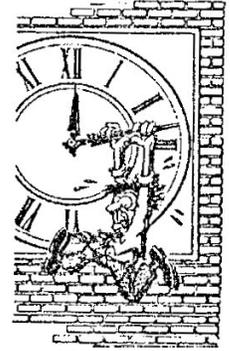
FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Bob Dawson, Pie Card Editor

One of the "perks" of belonging to an organization such as NMRA, is the sharing of information among the members. You don't have to "re-invent the wheel" each time you start a new project or run into a problem. In this issue of the Pie Card, Tom Guenther and Tom Lindquist share some of their ideas. Tom's article "A FREE WIRELESS THROTTLE FOR YOUR LAYOUT" tells you how you may be able to add an additional wireless throttle to your layout. In the photo section, you can see how Tom Lindquist organizes his model paints for easy access. The monthly Division meeting feature clinics on modeling skills and operating ideas you can use on your layout.



TIMETABLE



- March 17, Sat, 2 PM, Conference Center
- March 24, Sat, 10 AM-3PM, Division 8 Train Show
- Apr 19, Thur, 7:30 PM, Conference Center
- 26-29 Apr, MCR Convention, Pittsburgh
- May 19, Sat, 2 PM Mark & Bobbi Hedge
- Jun 21, Thur, 7:30 PM, Bob & Ramona Johnson's
- July, NO MEETING, Summer Picnic TBA

MARCH MEETING INFORMATION

This month's meeting is Saturday March 17, 2 PM, at the AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL CENTER (former Naval Ordnance Plant). We will meet in Building 91, the Conference Center on Rochester Ave. This location can be accessed from either Southside Drive or Strawberry Lane. Turn south on Technology Drive. The Conference Center is on the right and clearly marked. If you are using a GPS system, enter 119 Rochester Ave, 40214. Bob Lawson will present a clinic building and weathering techniques. Most of us have seen Bob's two layouts, both of which have appeared in Model Railroader Magazine. Ruth and Bill Lynch will provide refreshments.

MODEL CONTEST**MARCH**

April
 May
 June
 July
 August
 September
 October
 November
 December
 January
 February

COMMERICAL STRUCTURES

Passenger Cars
 Cabooses
 Open Loads
 NO CONTEST
 MOW Equipment
 Photos
 Steam Locomotives
 Displays/Dioramas.
 NO CONTEST
 Freight Car
 Diesels

Enter your favorite model in the contest. The judging is strictly "people's 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.

DIVISION 8 TRAINSHOW

We are on track for another successful show. Mark and Bobbi Hedge report they have received 87 table reservations as of the 28th of February. Cecil Stewart is signing up the layouts and working on the floor plan. If you could give a clinic at the show, call Russ Weis. This will be our second show at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, Triple Crown Pavilion Conference Center. Mark your calendar, Saturday, March 24. There is still time to reserve a table. Remember, for NMRA members it is \$15 per table. Call 812-288-8037 to reserve your table. As always, we need volunteers to help on Saturday to get the dealers to their tables, and man the entrance door.

**TWENTY-FOUR SEVEN**

Right: Tom's Fruit Market never closes. A scene modeled in HO on Tom Lindquist's layout

CONTEST REPORT

Bill Lynch, Contest Chairman

Here are the results of the February Contest. First Place was Tom Lindquist's L&N Alco C420, Second Place was Jim Harrington's BNSF SD70MACs. Third Place was Bill Lynch with a pair of NS SD70M-2. John Bowman's Southern ABA set and Charlie Keeling's pair of V&O GP 35's rounded out the contest. Alex Weir, Herman's Weir's Grandson won the door prize drawing. I again would like to thank the Division for the Silver Spike award

Point Standings: 14 points, Jim Harrington; 11 points, Tom Lindquist; 9 points, Charlie Keeling; 8 points, Bill Lynch; 6 points, Bob Johnson; 5 points, Fred Soward; 4 points, Rob Johnson; 3 points, Ed Breenan; 1 point each, Eric Waggoner, Ed Atkins, John Bowman.

Here is a review of the monthly contest awards program:

- 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. The contest cycle begins anew with the August meeting.

Point standings will be published each month in the Pie Card.

MAINTENANCE TIES FUND

The Maintenance Ties Fund helps underwrite the Member Welfare Fund and the printing of the Pie Card for those members who don't have access to a computer. The Member Welfare Fund provides a gift certificate to a member who has been hospitalized. It is also used for an expression of sympathy upon the death of a member or a member's spouse. Donations of \$ 5.00 or more to the maintenance ties fund will continue to be recognized in the Pie Card. Donors for 2012 to date are:

\$5 to \$20: Ray Hager, John Ottman, Charlie Keeling, in memory of Bob Brown, Jack Jackson, Jim Kuziran, Jim Harrington, Ed Brennan

\$25 to \$45: Bob Lawson

\$45 to \$99: Don Fowler, Bob Johnson,

\$100 or more: Tom Lindquist

February Contest Winners



Left: Tom Lindquist took first place with his weathered L & N Alco Century 420.

Right: Second Place was Jim Harrington's BNSF SD70MACs with fuel tender.



HOW ORGANIZED ARE YOU?

Tom Lindquist likes to detail and weather -- check out his winning model on this page. Have you ever looked for a bottle of paint in a drawer full bottles? Did you have to pull out every bottle until you found the right one?

Tom eliminates this problem. He writes the color on the lid of each bottle. The color code tells him whether it is solvent- or water-based. Blue for solvent-based paints such as Floquil, and white for water-based paints such as Polly Scale.

Right: The Southern Pacific's Coast Daylight heads toward the camera pulled by a GS-4 locomotive. This scene was captured on the KSONS N-Scale modular layout while it was set up at the Jeffersonville Public Library last month



Left: More KSONS action. Amtrak with Superliner cars passes a Southern freight.

TRAIN SHOW and SALE

Sponsored by Louisville Division 8 • National Model Railroad Association

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2012 • 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
LOCATION: RAMADA PLAZA

9700 BLUE GRASS PARKWAY

Dealer Tables available

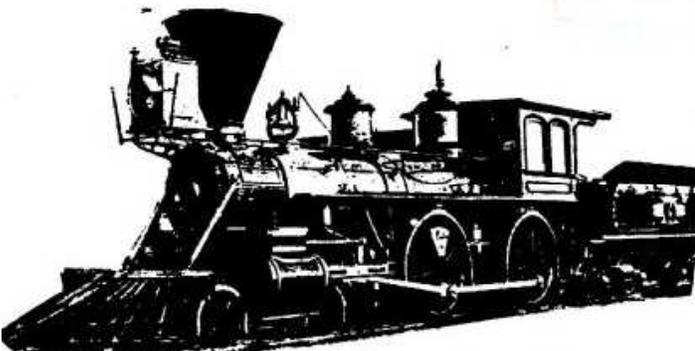
NMRA members: \$ 15/table

non members \$ 20/table

for tables call: (812) 288-8037

Admission: \$ 5.00 per person

Children under 12 FREE with an adult.





This month we have progress reports on two layouts under construction.

Left: The first is Pat Hardesty's N-Scale Layout.

Right: Another view of Patrick Hardesty's layout. Both photos by Russ Weis



Russ Weis is making progress also on his New York Central layout. The mainline and staging is in, and trains can now run over the entire layout.

Left. In this view we are looking at Buffalo on the left (those platform tracks are for the iconic Buffalo Central Station), and Syracuse on the right. To the lower right, the main line continues east to Albany, with staging for New York City.



Above left is the Ky. Mine Supply Company warehouse in Harlan, Kentucky. Above right is Tom Guenther's interpretation of the building. Using a commercial kit, Tom modeled the "spirit" of the structure, piecing together the sign on top of the building using letters for an office supply store.

TRACKSIDE WITH CHARLIE KEELING

(With additional information
by Rick Tipton)

We return to Marion, Ohio (see January Pie Card) this month. Marion was one of the chief yards on the old Erie, sorting out westbound cars for their Chicago destinations, and also separating out cars for the Dayton Branch (most of which headed down to Cincinnati on the B&O). Marion continued this role for Erie Lackawanna.

This time Charlie takes us to Marion's engine terminal. The colorful paint scheme on the diesels is an adaptation of Lackawanna's passenger scheme. Note the E units, which were common in FREIGHT service on the Dayton Branch



Especially contrasted to Penn Central, the EL diesel paint looked very good. Unlike most roads, EL paid extra to have their units done in epoxy paint, so they could be washed in an acid solution. And Marion was one of the locations with "locomotive washers". Thus, even these lowly RS3's, which worked the locals on the line, were sparkling clean. That's the brick Marion diesel shop in the background -- and at the time groups could still get tours inside.

FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT



Mark Norman presents Bill Lynch with his Silver Spike Award

Ed Brennan moved to cancel the voting for the 2012 elections and have the Clerk prepare and mail new ballots. Ed said he had found irregularities in the ballots, in particular ballots sent to some non-voting members. His motion was seconded but, in a show-of-hands vote, failed to carry. In the discussion Superintendent Norman said six ballots were found to be sent to those with Family Member classification. All but two were retrieved, and one of those was never received in the mail by the addressee. It is still open for candidates to dispute the results after the vote is counted. Jack Diehl resigned as vote teller. Lamont Williams volunteered to take his place, and was appointed. Jack said he would turn over the sealed ballots received to Lamont. Mark Hedge was appointed “judge” to oversee and help with the ballot counting. The ballots will be counted and results announced at the March meeting.

Our Contest Chairman, Bill Lynch finally received his Silver Spike Award. Bill was unable to attend the Christmas Party, and until now he and Mark were unable to get together. Congratulations Bill!

Bob Dawson provided refreshments and presented a program “The Hub Track -- a Railroad You Can Model”. Bob presented his program in place of Nat King, who had been scheduled. Nat is under the weather and hopefully will be able to give his program in April.

MEMBER WELFARE

Spending some time in the hospital last month were: Tom Guenther, Tom’s wife Betty; Kelly Norman, wife of Mark Norman. All are home now. Let Jack Diehl know if you or a member of your family has been hospitalized, or you have lost a loved one.

A FREE WIRELESS THROTTLE FOR YOUR LAYOUT.

By Tom Guenther

Are you using DecoderPro to help run your layout? If you are, then you have a computer. Do you have an internet access point (wireless internet) in your house? Do you own a iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad or Android Phone?

Then you can add a wireless throttle to your layout for FREE! The APP Store has a FREE app, WiThrottle. All you need to do is run DecoderPro and under the Debug menu click on the last item, Start WiThrottle. A window will open showing your computer name. Now, run WiThrottle on your iPhone or other devices and you now will have a throttle to run a loco on you layout for FREE. A full application is also available with full functions if you need them for only \$9.99.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Joe Fields, Div. 8 Achievement Program Chairman

I recently had the pleasure of visiting Chris Broughton’s layout, and it was a real treat. It is highly detailed with a lot of scratch-built structures, rolling stock. Chris hand casts a lot of the parts for his models. I had stopped by to help him with the paper work for his Motive Power Certification. After going over required paper work it was determined that Chris needed two more write up’s describing how he built two of the locomotives. When I receive these I can finish putting the required paper work together and send it to Frank Koch, Mid-Central Region Achievement Program Chairman. Chris and I also discussed getting started on his paper work for scenery, structures, and car categories.

Just a reminder if you need something judged or have questions about the required paper work, give me a call at (502) 964-2679 or Email me at joedfields@bellsouth.net. To all who are working towards their MMR, keep up the good work.



Charlie Keeling’s latest model project.

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

Tom Guenthner, webmaster

Officers	Committees (continued)
Superintendent Mark Norman 502-254-9249	Librarian open
Asst. Supt. Bruce Goreham 502-491-3996	Membership Cecil Stewart 502-252-7814
Clerk Eric Waggoner 502-244-6628	Show Programs Mike Berry 502-245-1337
Treasurer Mike Berry 502-245-1337	Swap Meet Bob Dawson 502-368-2607
Trustees	Region Officers
Tom Guenthner 502-363-3113	President
Don Fowler 502-448-0628	Dick Briggs 614-277-0314
Bob Dawson 502-368-2607	Vice President
Committee Directors	Merlyn Jarman 812-539-3232
Contests	Secretary
Bill Lynch 812-256-2125	Bob Weinheimer, MMR
NMRA Achievement Program	Treasurer
Joe Fields 502-964-2679	Paul Smith
Meeting Program	
Russ Weiss 502-245-7991	

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Mid-Central Region
Annual Convention
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
April 26-29, 2012

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