



The Pie Card

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



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From the Superintendent's Desk



Why is model railroading "The World's Greatest Hobby"?

I believe it is because you can get enjoyment seeing your train run around the Christmas tree, or having multiple trains running during an ops session, or anything in between.

I must admit it's always enjoyable for me to see a Lionel, or American Flyer layout, with all the animation from the tower operator running down the stairs to the noise of the barrels falling off a gondola. But then that is going in circles, you say.

I've been to a great HO layout which is a continuous loop, so yes, the trains are running in circles. However, you would never know it since different sides of the layout are at different levels. As the train snakes through some hillside cuts, you lose sight of it and forget that you saw the same train a few minutes ago. The layout runs flawlessly and has great scenery.

We have all seen some layouts that have so much detail that you want to spend all day checking out a junk pile, or a side alley looking at the dog rummaging through some well-placed garbage cans. I have seen a number of these layouts with all their details and they are fantastic; however, there is usually just main line running.

Then there are the layouts that are mostly yards and industries so there is little or no main line running, just loads of transfers and switching to be done. Chuck Hitchcock's Argentine Industrial switching layout is one of these types. Chuck's layout was featured in February 2007, Model Railroader. I got to visit Chuck's layout last year and it is great. The many industries are spaced far enough apart to make the layout visually pleasing, yet close enough so your switching movements are short.

There is nothing right or wrong with any of these layouts. Of course, no matter what side of the scale you fall, one usually doesn't see the logic in building, or running a layout any other way. But that's what makes model railroading a great hobby, for you can build and run your layout to your level of enjoyment.

So keep 'em rolling and enjoy "The World's Greatest Hobby."

Russ Weis

AT THE MARCH MEETING

Bob Dawson, Clerk

The March meeting was Thursday, March 19 at Iroquois Post American Legion. Mike Berry chaired the meeting as Russ Weis was out of town. Mike outlined the Board of Directors' suggestion for the Summer Picnic. The picnic would be an outing to EnterTrainment Junction north of Cincinnati, by chartered bus. Tentative date, Saturday July 18. The price per person is still to be determined but part of the cost would be subsidized by the Division. Included would be admission, a meal, and a "back stage" tour. Comments were positive and a show of hands indicated 20 or so from the group present. During discussion, it was suggested that a visit to Bob Lawson's layout be included as a part of the trip. Bob Dawson said once we have a firm plan, he will contact Bob Lawson to work it out. The Board of Directors will work on it more and get back with the members. The contest results are elsewhere in this issue. The official minutes for the meeting are available for review on the Division Website.

TIME TABLE

- Apr 11-12**, K & I Club Open House
- Apr 25**, Sat, 2 PM, Div. 8 Meeting, K&I Model Railroad Club, Buckner, KY
- May 23**, Sat, 2 PM, Div. 8 Mtg, Iroquois Post
- Jun 20**, Sat, 2 PM, Div. 8 Mtg., Iroquois Post
- July**, Div. 8 Picnic, TBA
- Aug 15**, Sat, 2 PM, Div. 8 Mtg. Iroquois Post.
- Sept 19**, Sat, 2 PM, Div. Mtg. Iroquois Post

CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST

April	Passenger Cars
May	Caboose
June	Open Loads
July	NO CONTEST
August	MOW Equipment
September	Photographs
October	Steam Locomotives
November	Displays/Dioramas
December	NO CONTEST
January	Freight Cars
February	Diesel Locomotives
March	Commercial Structures

We ran the contest a bit differently at the March meeting. Because of the cancelled February meeting due to the inclement weather, we double-headed the entries and brought models for both the February and March contests.

There were eleven Diesel Locomotives entered in the delayed February contest. Because of the number of entries, we had two first place finishers – Bill Lynch (HO scale Norfolk Southern Heritage units – Southern and Savannah & Atlantic) and Mike Shane (HO scale Jefferson & Ohio Valley F3 pair). Joe Fields came in second with his O Scale L&N GP7. Nearly everyone else came in third place with two votes apiece

There were nine Commercial Structure entries for the March contest. Nat King took first place with his HO scale lighted maintenance shop. John Czerwinski took second place with his HO scale NMRA Headquarters building.

Point standings for the year as a result of both February and March contests: Bob Kuchler is leading the group at twenty-one points; Nat King is in second with ten points; Bob Johnson and Patrick Hardesty are tied at third with nine points; Bill Lynch is in fourth place with eight points; Fred Soward is in fifth place with seven points; Bob Frankrone is in sixth place with six points; Ed Brennan and Jack Diehl are tied in seventh place with five points; John Kelly, Mike Shane, and Russ Weiss are next with four points; there is a two-way tie at three points apiece for John Bowman and John Czerwinski; there is also a two-way tie at two points apiece for Barry Christensen and Joe Fields; rounding out the crew with one point apiece are Craig Hatter, Mark Norman, Rick Maloney, and Tom Lindquist.

I spoke briefly with Nat about his commercial structure entry. He said it started as a “Roundhouse Electric Trains” find. When he first looked at the structure, he knew he was going to have to spend some time with the interior wiring to get it just the way he wanted it. A bit of rewiring, a little bending of existing wiring, a touch of silicone and paint to hide the interior wiring and he was happy enough with the results to share them with us.

Next month, we are back to our usual schedule with just one contest – Passenger Cars. Continued in column 2, see Contest.



DIVISION MEETING SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2PM AT THE K&I MODEL RAILROAD CLUB IN BUCKNER, KY. This is the **FOURTH** Saturday. The date was changed to avoid a conflict with Thunder Over Louisville.

Directions:

- From Louisville take I-71 to Exit 18 (KY 393).
- Turn North (left) onto KY 393 to LaGrange Rd.(KY 146).
- Cross the railroad tracks and turn right onto KY 146.
- The club is in a former fire house on the left.

Please park across the Street at the Buckner Baptist Church to leave spaces available for handicapped parking in front of the building. **PLEASE BRING A CHAIR.**

MAINTENANCE TIES FUND 2015

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 or spouse 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 are recognized in the Pie Card. Fred and Barbara Soward, \$100, \$60 Bob Johnson; \$ 50 John Ottman, \$40 John Czerwinski; \$25 Ed Brennan; \$20 each John Bowman, Bob Lawson; \$11, Jim Kuzirian.

Contest (continued from column 1)

Bring just one and maybe the K&I club will let us put all the HO scale entries into a “Railfan Special” to run on the layout for photo and video run-bys after we announce winners! As always, 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.

Patrick Hardesty won the February gift card drawing and John Czerwinski won the March gift card drawing.

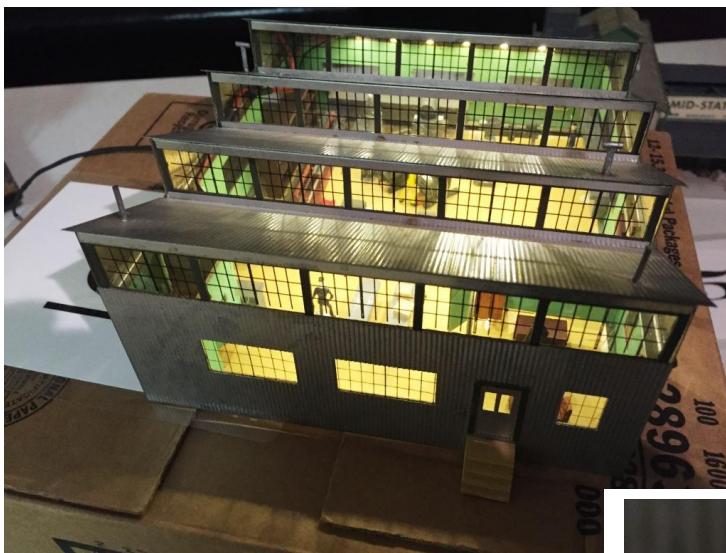
SPRING 2015 TRAINSHOW

Bob Dawson, Chairman

Your train show committee; Mike Berry, Bob Dawson, Tom Guenthner, Mark and Bobbi Hedge, Fred Soward, and Cecil Stewart wants to thank all those who helped and came to the Spring Show. (continued on page 5, see Spring)

FEBRUARY AND MARCH CONTEST FIRST PLACE ENTRIES

February's contest was diesel locomotives. There was a tie for first place. Above left, Bill Lynch's HO scale Norfolk Southern Heritage units – Southern and Savannah & Atlantic; and above right, Mike Shane's HO scale Jefferson & Ohio Valley F3 pair.



Right: A peek though the window of the interior of Nat's shop. This was a "fixer upper". See Contest article on Page 2 for details on how Nat upgraded this model.

March contest was commercial structures.

Left. Nat King took first place with his HO scale lighted maintenance shop

Photos by Fred Soward





TRACKSIDE WITH CHARLIE KEELING

Left: Saturday March 18, 1978. We find Charlie at Illinois Central's Oak Street Yard, Louisville. The Engines are positioned on the viaduct over Oak Street. Visible to the right is the corner of the roundhouse.



Left: Approximately the same area as in Charlie's picture, but twenty years earlier. The near locomotive is sitting at the sand tower. Again we see the corner of the roundhouse in the right side of the photo. A really sharp eye can pick out the "pinkish" bricks of the L & N General Office Building in the distance.

Below left. Another view of the same area, but this time looking south. The ash hoist with a gondola for receiving the ash is to the left of the locomotive.

The photographer is unknown. The pictures are from Charles Arrington.



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Above: Some of the crowd at the show.

PIKE SHOWCASE

Right: Recently out shopped L&N Big Emma 2-8-4 #1963 eases up to the coal dock while sister Emma #1970, looking a bit worse for wear, tops off its tender with black diamonds. While the 1963 is one of four passenger versions (equipped with steam heat) of "modern steam power" on the L&N, it will soon be earning its keep hauling coal in Eastern Kentucky.

The models are by Division Point and Westside. The meet takes place on Ed Brennan's freelanced L&N Blackberry Branch.

Ed took the photo.



Spring Show continued from page 2.

Helping with dealer move in Saturday morning were: Patrick Hardesty, Fred and Barbara Soward, Tom Guentner, Herman Weir, and Bob Kuckler. Bill Lynch, Herman Weir helped with admissions. Layouts were provided by Southern Indiana Railroad Club, Dennis Sanders with his Lionel layout, and Joe Martin's T-Track N Scale layout. Security was provided by LMPD Sgt. Todd Whitehead. I'm sure I have missed someone, but thanks to everyone. A report on the show will be given at the April meeting.

This was our last show at Highland Post. We are leaving with great reluctance, but the post property is up for sale and they couldn't guarantee a date for our Fall Show. Our Fall Show will be November 21, at Moose Lodge #5, 4615 Fegenbush Lane.



**THOROUGHBRED LIMITED
2015 MID-CENTRAL REGION
CONVENTION**
May 14-17, 2015
Lexington, Kentucky

Here is your chance to attend a convention close to home. Join our friends in Lexington. The Convention Hotel is the Crown Plaza (Campbell House) 1375 Broadway, Lexington, KY 40504. Convention Registration is \$80. There will be a full schedule of clinics, including a "Building with the Masters" make and take clinic. Guided tours include: TT RR Yard Tour, Bluegrass RR Museum with train ride and lunch, NS/Toyota Intermodal Yard, plus others. For information, registration forms, or to register on line:

<http://thoroughbredlimited2015.yolasite.com/>, or go to Division 8 Website, click on links, go to Division 10 and click on Convention. There is also a link to the hotel on the Convention Site.



MAKE A STATIC GRASS APPLICATOR FOR A DOLLAR

By Bob Dawson

That was the subject of the clinic Mike Berry gave at the March meeting.

You could spend as much as \$189 to purchase the Noch electronic applicator at the left. Others on the market can cost from \$40 to \$150.

Mike got the idea from a video he watched on YouTube.

In one of the videos the modeler made his applicator starting with an electronic fly swatter. Mike found that Harbor Freight offered these free as a store promotion. So Mike went and picked up one (actually several).

OK, what was the dollar spent on. Mike went to a dollar store and bought a tea strainer set for a dollar. He only



used the large strainer in the set. The head of the flyswatter was cut off and the head of the strainer attached in its place. Mike secured it with Cyanoacrylate (CA) adhesive.

There is some rewiring to be done. The handle of the flyswatter comes apart to insert the batteries and gives you access to a circuit board. One of the wires is reattached from the swatter head to the strainer and another to a metal "T" pin that will be used as a ground.

Besides the strainer and swatter, you will need some wire, a pin or nail, and an alligator clip. Mike already had these items. Reinsert batteries and you are ready to start "planting" your grass.



Left: Mike concluded his clinic by demonstrating how it worked.

Various brands of static grass, sometimes called flock, are available. Common brands are Faller and Woodland Scenics.

PICTURES FROM THE SPRING SHOW



OFFICERS:
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MID CENTRAL REGION OFFICERS

President:	Merlyn Jarman	812-539-3232
Vice-president:	Bob Weinheimer MMR	304-343-1428
Secretary:	Art Bumpus	

THE PIE CARD

Division Eight, MCR, NMRA
 Box 99041
 Louisville, KY 40269-0041

Editor & Publisher:
 Bob Dawson
 Asst. Editor: Rick Tipton

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Please address all correspondence to Bob Dawson, Editor, 7305 Ticonderoga Dr., Louisville, KY 40214 or email: dawsob@aol.com.

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