



# The Pie Card

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



Volume 50

October 2016

Number 10

## **From the Superintendent's Desk**



Last month I attended the National Narrow Gauge Convention in Maine. That's three conventions for me this year. You may remember I wrote about attending the same convention a couple of years ago in Kansas City and what makes this convention different from the ones most of us usually attend.

They do have a show, and granted most of the items for sale are for the larger scales, however, there are lots of vendors selling stains, pastels, and roofing material that can be used with any scale. This show had many unique HO parts, so out came the wallet.

No surprise, Tony Koester was a clinician who will also be at our convention next year, but a big surprise was Sam Swanson of Cincinnati, who was also there giving a clinic. Sam has also agreed to do a clinic for us, so it was nice to talk with both Sam and Tony while I was there.

Next year the Narrow Gauge convention will be held in Denver, and Tony had mentioned he had already signed up for that. I thought to myself, wow he has already put his money down a year in advance. Then I thought, it's Tony Koester, they will probably ask him to do a clinic, so he would be going anyway.

So, how many of YOU have signed up for OUR convention? I'll confess that I have not, but my check and registration are in the mail now.

I know many of you are thinking, as I did, that I know I'm going to our convention - I'm doing a clinic there or helping with the company store, so no big rush to register.

Perhaps I'm the only one who doesn't pay any attention to what my registration number is. I don't care if I'm number one, or number five hundred, but there are tons of members who do.

And the point of this message is we haven't received many registrations and some people MAY start to think few are registering because they'll wait and do Cincy the following year. After all, this year we had Columbus and Indy, what's Louisville have to offer?

You may say, we have Tony, Miles, and Model Railroader coming, it's going to be a great convention! I believe you, but if everyone thinks it won't be due to lack of registrations, they may skip ours and wait until Cincy the next year. If you went to the convention in Columbus this year you heard that in 2018 they, too, will have Tony, and will also have Lou Sassi.

So follow my lead and send a strong message by sending in your registrations - the clock is ticking!

*Russ Weis*

**IN THIS ISSUE:** October Meeting Information + Christmas Party News + Pike Showcase + Achievement Program + Modeling Modern Reflective Windows + Pee-wee Valley Mail by Rail Salute + Division 8 Train Show Flyer

## **TIME TABLE**

**Oct 15** - Sat, 2PM Div.8 Mtg., Iroquois Post.

**Nov 17** - Thur, 7:30PM Div. 8 Mtg, Sou.Ind Club, Jeffersonville.

**Nov 19** - Sat, 10-3, Div8 Train Show and Sale, Moose Lodge.

**Dec 3** - Sat 5 PM. Holiday Party J. Harrods, Prospect, KY

**Jan 21** - Sat, 2PM Div.8 Mtg., Iroquois Post.

## CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST

Fred Soward, Contest Chairman

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

Four people submitted four photos as entries in this month's contest. Patrick Hardesty won with a photo of him standing proudly in front of a 4-6-2 steam locomotive. Robin White came in second with a BNSF photo at Sandpoint, Idaho. Sandpoint is located on the shore of Lake Pend Oreille (pronounced PAWN-doh-RAY). This is where you will find the only operating Amtrak station in the entire state of Idaho and is also the location of the oldest active passenger depot that remains from the Northern Pacific Railway. Bob Johnson came in third with a photo of a Cass Shay.

Contest standings for the year: Patrick Hardesty and Bill Lynch are tied in first place with 4 points; Craig Hatter and Robin White are in second place with 3 points; Bob Johnson is in third with 2 points and Barry Christensen is in fourth with 1 point.

Next month is steam locomotives. Bring your favorite steam locomotive to share with the group.

The judging is strictly people's choice. I'll have blank contest entry forms for anyone who needs one, but you can save yourself some time at the meeting by downloading the entry form from the Division 8 website or Facebook page and completing it prior to arriving at the meeting. 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.

Ron Ellison won the gift card drawing.

### SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

The Division met on September 17, 2016 at the Iroquois Post American Legion on St. Andrew's Church Road. Barry Christensen asked how many more meetings the Post owed us for the work we did on the lights at their old location. Tom Guenthner said he would check on this. There was no new business discussed. Mike Berry ran the contest for Fred Soward. Bob Johnson noted that no one is coming to the Toy Mall to run trains on Sundays. Mike Berry gave the program, "Knowing Your Freight Cars" a Norfolk Southern Training Film. Bob Kuchler provided refreshments. The official minutes are posted on the Division Web Site.



### OCTOBER MEETING INFORMATION:

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2 PM AT IROQUOIS POST AMERICAN LEGION, 7323 ST. ANDREWS CHURCH RD, 40214.**

From New Cut Road, turn west on Palatka Road to St. Andrew's Church Rd. (second traffic light). Turn left, the new location is on the left. Go through the driveway to left of the building, there is parking in the rear. Enter at the back door.

Russ Weis will be presenting the program about converting to NCE DCC System with a question and answer forum. Mike Berry will provide the refreshments.

### DIVISION 8 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday December 3, 2016  
J. Harrod's Restaurant & Bar  
7507 Upper River Road  
Prospect, KY 40059  
We gather at 5 PM  
Dinner at 6 PM



We will enjoy a buffet dinner. Cost is \$25/Person

**PLEASE SEND YOUR RESERVATION WITH PAYMENT TO:**  
Mike Berry  
14404 Forest Glenn Ct.  
Louisville, KY 40245

### MAINTENANCE TIES FUND 2016

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. \$40 John Ottman, Stephen Taylor, John Czwerwinski; \$33 Jim Kuzirian; \$25 Ed Brennan; \$20 Charles Brohm.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Meeting was held September 22. Meeting locations were discussed. Bob Dawson said we had eight meetings remaining on our agreement with the post. This would take us thru September 2017 (No meetings in May (convention), July, or December, with at least one meeting offsite. Backup locations were discussed. J. Harrods was selected for the Christmas Party. 2016-2017 budget was approved.



## OPERATING SESSION

*Photos by Rick Tipton*

Russ Weis hosted an operating session on his NYC-Eastern Division last month. Set in the early Fifties, the layout depicts New York Central's main line from Albany to Buffalo.

<< Among those attending were these two wild and crazy guys. Rob Cooper (left) and Bob Kuchler (right) worked Albany (behind them).

Ron Ellison and Greg Bergman were handling the business at the west end of Buffalo's freight yard; beyond on the right wall is Buffalo Union Station (note all the headend and passenger cars). Because of Buffalo's location, NYC and Canadian National passenger trains are prominent here...



<< Fred Soward switching industries at the east end of Buffalo's freight yard. Fred's using one of the NCE cordless throttles to work that 0-8-0.



Above: Bill Wright's HO Burlington Northern.  
Photo By Bob Dawson.

Above Right: Christ Broughton's N-Scale Pennsylvania Railroad.  
Photo by Russ Weis

Right: Tom Guenthner's HO L&N. The area in front is Harlan, a large switching problem off the main line; note Kentucky Mine Supply, which among other things distributes explosives for coal mines along the Cumberland Valley Division.

*Photo by Bob Dawson*



#### **TRACKSIDE WITH RUSS WEIS**

Russ took this picture on a visit to the Boothbay Railway Village in Maine. This is one of three 2-foot gauge Henschel steam locomotives operated by the museum railroad

#### **NOT GETTING THE PIE CARD ON EMAIL?**

If you have email you should be receiving the E-Pie Card each month on your computer. If you are not, contact Tom Guenthner: [tom@aye.net](mailto:tom@aye.net).

**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**

Joe Fields, AP Chairman



I want to thank all of my fellow modelers who are participating in the Achievement Program. I was pleased to present several certificates at our September Division 8 meeting. Congratulations to Chris Broughton (left) for completing his Master Builder Motive Power, congratulations also to Charlie Fackler for obtaining an additional Master Model Railroader certificate for Chief Dispatcher. Finally congratulations to Jim Fackler who was awarded three Master Model Railroader certificates in the areas of Chief Dispatcher, Association Volunteer, and Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical. Jim also received his Golden Spike award.

One of the questions I asked at the meeting was how many had earned their Golden Spike Award many hands went up but there were also some that

didn't. The Golden Spike Award is pretty easy to earn, all you need to do is show that you have 6 units of rolling stock, construct 8 square feet of scenery, construct 5 structures, have three types of trackage properly ballasted, properly wire trackage for two train operation and have an additional electrical feature such as a lighted building etc. Basically if you have started a layout you qualify for the certificate.

Mark Norman has sent me his Golden Spike application and I will forward it to Frank Koch for final approval, Mark is also about to complete the requirements for the cars, and structures categories.

Now that fall is just around the corner, maybe several of you will get out those projects you put on hold for the summer and get them going again. As always if you need something judged or have any questions, don't hesitate to email or call me. One final thought don't make the requirements or the paper work so hard that you get discouraged there are lots of folks in the Division that are more than willing to help you out when you have problems. Above all have fun with your projects as you enjoy all the wonderful aspects of our hobby.



Photo of Chris Broughton by Russ Weis. These photos were supplied by Joe Fields and Charlie Fackler.

Left: Joe fields presenting Charlie Fackler with his Chief Dispatcher Certificate. Jim Fackler couldn't attend the meeting to receive his awards (pictured bottom left). They were presented to him at the K&I Club Op Session September 21 (date imprint on photo is incorrect).

Charlie Fackler wrote:

I've attached a picture of Jim (blue shirt in center) getting his awards at last Wednesday's ops session. We needed the group to hold the awards.



## MODELING MODERN SOLAR REFLECTIVE WINDOWS

Article and photos by Mark Norman



My layout, St. Johns & Atlantic Transportation, is contemporary representing portions of north and central Florida where I live for some time. Recently, I've been working on the Sanford Amtrak Station. This structure is modern in design with solar reflective windows tinted blue. Located in Florida, there is a strong need to manage heat from the sun.

The front of the station is unique and somewhat challenging to build. The curved front façade with tall windows really stands out. The decision was made to scratch build this station. The challenge was finding transparent blue windows. Fortunately, or so it was thought, Plastruct had just the material... at one point in time. Not finding it at my favorite hobby shop, I searched the Internet finding reference to the material but no supplies.

Calling Plastruct, the gentleman thought for a moment and distinctly remembered it. They no longer carry it nor was there any stock known to be lying on a dusty shelf. Strike one.

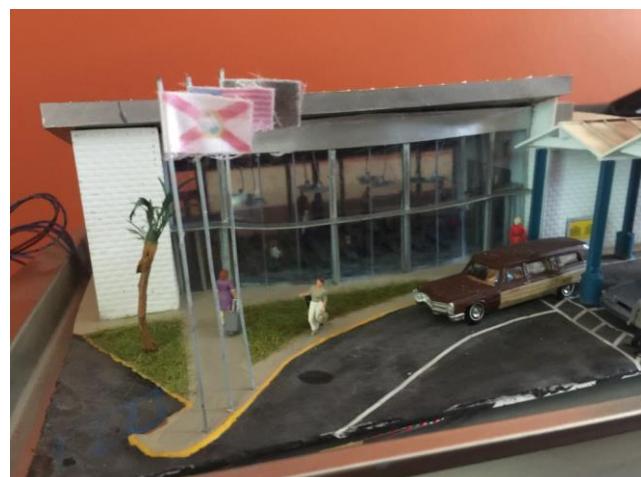
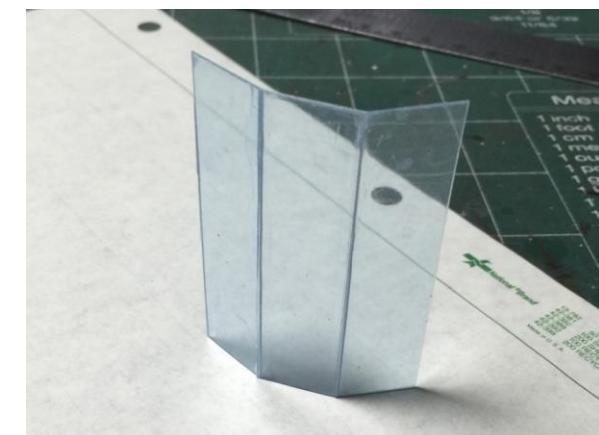
Evergreen Scale Models recently came out with a variety pack of transparent colored styrene. It was back to the hobby shop for the purchase. Opening it up the blue was far too dark. Strike two!

The solution literally appeared to me while stopped at a traffic light at a busy intersection. Across the intersection was a young man in a sports car with light blue tinted headlights. Voila! An Internet search for 'auto window tint film' turned up just the solution. There are two main types. One is strongly adhesive and not really suitable. The other has good adhesion but is far easier to work with as is explained next.

The model of the station was selectively compressed both in size and in the number of window panels. You can judge if it retains the same look and feel. Clear .010" thick clear styrene was cut to size. In this case the section pictured is for three adjacent panels that sit between the large vertical support beams. Rather than cut three panels out, they were lightly scored with an X-acto knife allowing them to be bent as seen in the photograph. Next, a piece of tint film was cut from the roll somewhat larger than needed. This was

placed face down on a clean paper towel. The thin plastic back material was peeled off and thrown away exposing the adhesive. The adhesive is water activated. A small amount of distilled water was put on the film and the styrene panels gently placed over the film. Then it was simply a matter of gently working out any bubbles. The excess film was trimmed away. Next, the film was carefully scored directly above where the styrene had been scored. The result was three flat panels with no bulge between them. After the completed window section was glued in place, small lengths of styrene strip were glued over the areas scored and painted stainless steel. This gives the appearance of three separate panels with less effort and greater strength.

The nearly completed station is seen in the last picture. All that remains are a few more figures and a soundtrack.



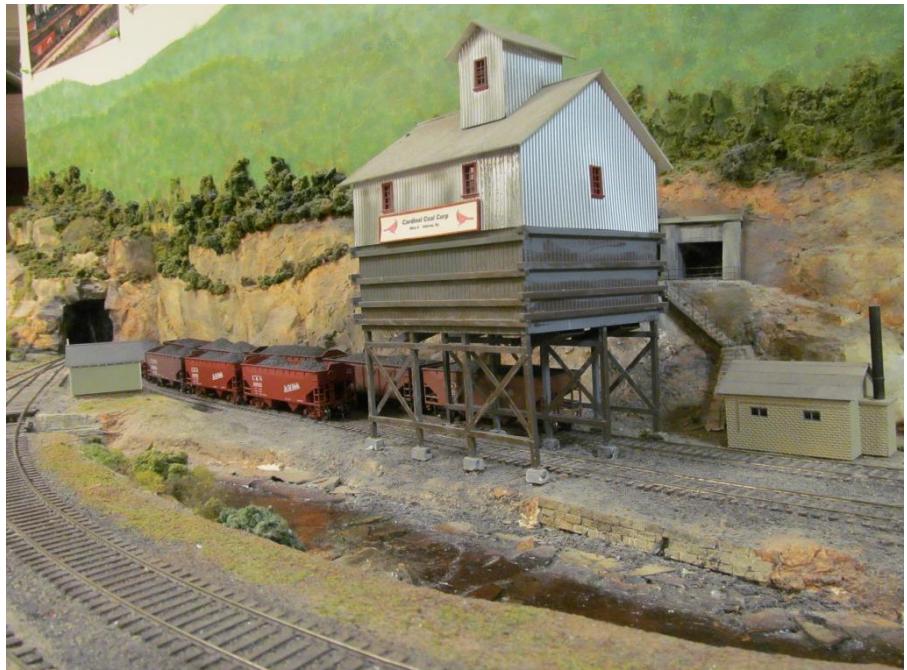
Photos below: Left, film mounted on styrene panels. Right, windows mounted in partially completed model.



Right:

Cardinal Coal Company's Tipple at Inferno, KY on John Campbell's L&N RR.. John's layout will be open for an operating session on Thursday evening of the Pan-American Convention.

*Photo by Bob Dawson*



## CONVENTION NEWS – REGISTRATION IS OPEN

You can now register for the Pan American Convention. Go to the Division 8 Website and click on "2017 Convention". You will find the most current information about the Convention, and a copy of the registration form for downloading.

**Layouts needed.** If you would like to show off your layout to our guests, see Bob Dawson at a meeting or call him at 502-368-2607 or email him at: [dawsobl@aol.com](mailto:dawsobl@aol.com).

## MONTLY OPERATING SESSIONS:

Two local club layouts are open for Operating sessions each month.

- K&I Club in Buckner KY, Third Wednesdays.
- Southern Indiana, Jeffersonville IN, First Thursdays of each month.

Also: The 0-6-0 layout is open for running at the South Louisville Toy and Antique Mall each Sunday. Contact Bob Johnson.

*Left: Photo at K & I Club by Ron Ellison.*

## PEWEE VALLEY TO SALUTE MAIL BY RAIL HERITAGE ON OCTOBER 22

Pewee Valley Historical Society

On Saturday, October 22, 2016, the Pewee Valley Historical Society and Pewee Valley Post Office will celebrate a sometimes-forgotten aspect of the sixth class city's longstanding relationship to the railroad: mail delivery by train.

Just like on the CBS TV sitcom, "Petticoat Junction," that aired from 1963-1970, trains delivered Pewee Valley's mail for more than a century, starting in 1856, when the town's first post office was established. And for many years, the post office was located in a grocery store, similar to Sam Drucker's general store in the popular series.



Opening of the Pewee Valley, Ky., station in 1867.

The last mail-by-rail delivery occurred in 1968, under the late Matthews Fletcher's tenure as Pewee Valley postmaster. Fletcher served from 1963 until 1982. There were three mechanical components to the Mail by Rail system, which allowed trains to deliver and pick up mail without stopping or slowing down as they chugged across the U.S.

The mail crane, positioned beside the track, where the outgoing mail was hung no more than 10 minutes before the mail train was scheduled to pass through; A canvas and leather catcher pouch that could hold up to 50 pounds of outgoing mail and was suspended from the crane's arm by metal rings; and A steel arm known as a mail bag catcher that was affixed to the mail car door and was manually deployed to grab the mail bag from the crane. Outgoing mail was simply kicked out the mail car door with enough force to ensure it wouldn't be sucked up in the train's wake. The whole process was referred to as "mail-on-the-fly" and required great skill on the part of the Railway Mail Service clerks staffing the mail cars.

Fletcher purchased the 800-pound mail crane from the U.S. Postal Service after rail deliveries ceased and stored it, along with a catcher pouch, on his Pewee Valley farm. After his death in 2004, it languished, forgotten, until this past summer, when his grandson, Mike Thompson, discovered the crane and pouch and donated them to the city. Allgeier Welding, Crestwood, Ky., sandblasted, repaired and painted the 19th century crane, which will be installed beside the caboose in Pewee Valley's Town Square. The crane was originally located on the other side of the tracks.

A brief dedication ceremony for the mail crane will be held at noon on October 22, in conjunction with Pewee Valley Arts & Crafts Day. Immediately after the ceremony, Pewee Valley Postmaster Andrea L. Braden and her staff will offer a special commemorative Mail By Rail Station cancellation and post card at the Pewee Valley Museum, 312 Mt. Mercy Drive. The cancellation features the

caboose, Pewee Valley fencing and the mail crane. The postcard features a photo by turn-of-the-20th-century Pewee Valley photographer Kate Matthews. Both were designed by Pewee Valley artist Shelley Schippert. "It's a tradition to have special cancellations designed by local artists," Braden explains.



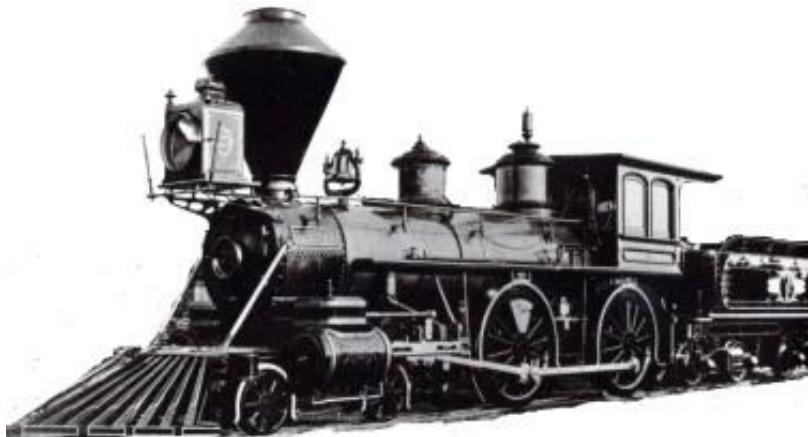
A stamp must be purchased to receive the Mail By Rail Station cancellation. Sheets of Shirley Temple forever stamps, released on April 18, 2016 as part of the U.S. Postal Service's Legends of Hollywood series, will be available for sale at the event for \$9.80. Shirley Temple holds special meaning for Pewee Valley. The child actor played the part of Little Colonel Lloyd Sherman in the 1935 Fox Film classic, "The Little Colonel." The movie was based on an 1895 novel by author Annie Fellows Johnston, who drew her inspiration from real people and real places in Pewee Valley.

Above: Photo of mail crane and pouch on the Milwaukee Road, [Wikipedia](#).

The museum will be open from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on October 22 for the Mail by Rail Station event. The Mail By Rail Station cancellation will be available after the event at the Pewee Valley Post Office, 313 LaGrange Road, from October 24 through November 21, 2016.

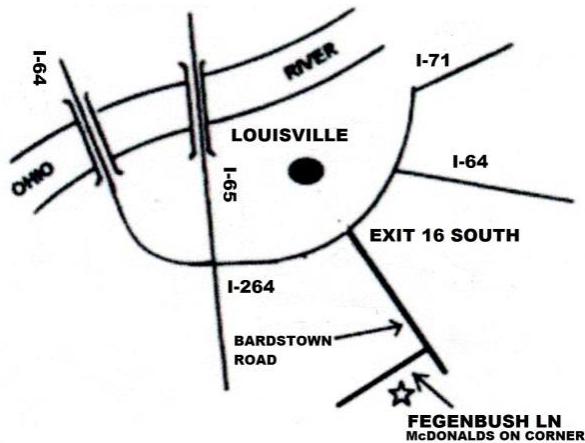
# TRAIN SHOW AND SALE

Sponsored by Louisville Division 8 – National Model Railroad Association



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2016 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
MOOSE LODGE 5  
4615 FEGENBUSH LANE, LOUISVILLE**

- Model Trains in All Scales
- Operating Layouts and Displays
- Retail Sales
- Hourly Door Prizes!



## ADMISSION:

**\$6.00 Per Person – Children 12 and under free with an adult**

Dealer Tables available - \$30 per table

For information or to reserve dealer tables contact:

Mark Hedge - (812)288-8037 E-mail: [div8trainshow@gmail.com](mailto:div8trainshow@gmail.com)

Website: <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org>

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Tom Guenthner

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Bob Dawson 502-368-2607

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Deadline for submission of articles is the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the previous month. The Pie Card goes to press by the first of each month.



Mid-Central NMRA  
Region Convention

**May 18-21, 2017**  
**Louisville, Kentucky**

Louisville, KY 40214  
7305 Ticonderoga Dr.

Division 8, MCR, NMRA

**The PIE CARD**

