

The Pie Card

Volume 53, January, Number 1



Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association



From the Superintendent's Desk

By Fred Soward

Happy New Year, Division 8! Welcome to a new year of model railroading. It has been an amazing year of growth and change for the division and the clubs in the area. Looking ahead to 2019, I'm sure we'll see many more positive changes as well as

some unexpected opportunities that will challenge us all this year.

Because New Year's Day is mid-week this year, we'll be putting away all the decorations, including the train 'round the tree, a little later than usual. Once that's done, it'll be time to get serious about our 2019 projects and plans.

Make sure you have our Spring Train Show and Sale on your calendar.

As Ron Ellison would tell you, it's coming up sooner than you expect –

just 83 days from the start of the year. There's always room for more people to help, so let Ron know now how you can lend a hand. Also, if you have just a few things you'd like to sell and not enough for an entire table, consider taking advantage of the Division's sales table. It's a great deal and it frees you from having to buy and manage a full table yourself.

The more I'm reading about this year's Mid Central Region convention in Youngstown, Ohio, the more I'm intrigued. During a couple of the ops sessions (N and HO), there's an "RYT" or Run Your Own Train option, there are several industrial and prototype tours, the hotel room rate is reasonable, and because it's May 2-5, it'll be a great excuse to get out of town during all the Derby weekend madness! T-Trak is slated to have a huge presence at this convention as well. Early registration ends January 31.

I'm sure everyone knows that May 10th is the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike/completion of the transcontinental railroad. Are you doing something special to commemorate the anniversary? The NMRA National Convention is scheduled for July 7-13 in Salt Lake City so the crowds should be a bit lighter than on May 10.

We have July 20 set aside for our annual picnic. Details are being worked out for our visit to French Lick, so stay tuned.

Will we host another Louisville Train Day in 2019? The 2018 LTD was a great success, so the Board is looking at putting one together for this year, but it's not guaranteed that we will have one. The first task is finding a venue that will better support the event. Tom Guenther and Bob Dawson would appreciate your thoughts.

There are a lot of other events coming up this year (check the Division 8 website for more). They can all lead to making us better model railroaders either in skillset or knowledge. Sometimes, the opportunities are right around the corner so not only be prepared to take advantage of them when they make themselves apparent, search them out as well.

TIME TABLE

Jan 12-13, Great Train Show, Kentucky Exposition Center.

Jan 19, Sat 2 PM, Div. 8 Mtg. 600 Room.

Feb 16, Sat 2 PM, Div. 8 Mtg., South Louisville Antique & Toy Mall.

Mar 16, Sat 2 PM, Div. 8 Mtg. 600 Room.

Mar 23, Sat 10AM-3PM, Division 8 Train Show and Sale, Moose Lodge.

Apr 20, Sat 2 PM, Div. 8 Mtg. 600 Room.



THE BULLET
MID CENTRAL REGION CONVENTION
BOARDMAN, OHIO MAY 2 - 5, 2019



Hosted by: Division 1, Akron-Canton-Youngstown, MCR, NMRA

<https://www.div1-mcr-nmra.org/the-acy-bullet-2019>

CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST

Barry Christensen and Bob Kuchler Contest Co-Chairmen

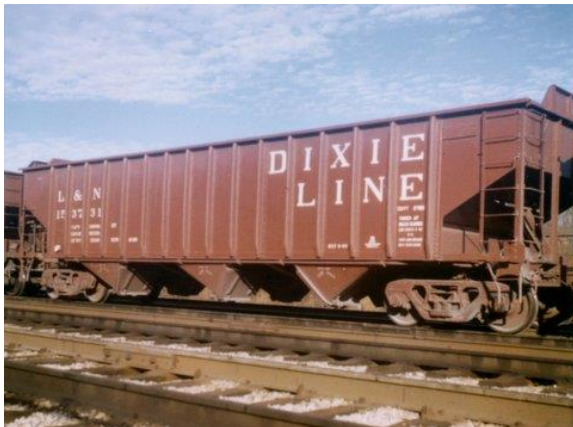
January	Freight Cars
February	Diesel Locomotives
March	Structures
April	Passenger Cars
May	Cabooses
June	Open Loads
July	No Contest
August	MOW Equipment
September	Photos
October	Steam Locomotives
November	Displays/Dioramas
December	NO CONTEST

There was no Charlie Keeling Model Contest in December due to the holiday banquet rather than a regular division meeting.

Current contest standings are: Bill Lynch first with 9 points; Rick Maloney and John Stoltz tied for second with 6; Joe Fields third with 5; Steve Lasher and Ron Ellison with 4 points; Bob Johnson, Joe Martin and Mike Shane with 3; Patrick Hardesty with 2; and Russell Weis with 1.

The contest at the January meeting will be for freight cars. There will be blank contest entry forms for anyone who needs one at the meeting. 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.

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.



January Contest: Freight Cars

**JANUARY MEETING INFORMATION**

The January meeting is 2 PM Saturday January 19, at the 600 Room, first floor of the 600 Building, 600 N. Hurstbourne Pkwy. 40222. Use the Whittington Pkwy. entrance. Program: by Fred Soward. Russ Weis is providing refreshments.

MAINTENANCE TIES FUND 2019

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.

Thanks to those who donated during 2018.

REMEMBERING THE CRESCENT HILL & SOUTHERN

Photo by Bob Dawson



above:

A caboose lettered for the late Jerry Ashley's Crescent Hill & Southern was photographed on the K&I Model Railroad travelling layout that was set up over Christmas at the Southwest Regional Library in Valley Station.

Over the years Jerry served terms as Division 8 Superintendent and Trustee. Jerry was also one of the founders of the K&I Model Railroad Club. The Jerry and his CH&S hosted several Division 8 meetings at its location on Franck Ave. in Crescent Hill.

(See Page 5 for more pictures of the K&I at SW Library.)

CHRISTMAS PARTY

2018 SILVER SPIKE AWARD

Right: Jack Diehl receives the 2018 Silver Spike Award from Division Superintendent Fred Soward at the annual Christmas Banquet.

The award is presented in recognition of Exemplary Service to NMRA MCR Division 8.

Over the years, Jack has served the Division in various volunteer positions. After serving for several years as chairman of the Silver Spike Committee, Jack stepped down at the end of 2017. Jack refused to accept nomination for the award while he was chairman, saying it would be a conflict of interest.

Well, his time has come. Congratulations Jack.



Left: Ron Ellison was master of ceremonies at the 2018 Division 8 Christmas Party/Banquet at J. Harrod's Restaurant in Prospect, KY.



Above:

Members and guests look on as Jack Diehl was presented with the Silver Spike Ward.

Photos by Bob Dawson

PIKE SHOWCASE



Above left: Fred Soward “unboxed” the new HO Athearn SD40 in Southern Pacific Daylight paint scheme for a quick run and photo shoot around Tom Guenther’s L&N Layout today. *Photo by Fred Soward*

Above right: The prototype in action on the Southern Pacific. *Photo from Railpictures.net.*

Right: On a not-so-typical day in Bison Springs, we see a visitor in the form of Pennsy E-7 #5863 and its train awaiting clearance to proceed over L&N rails. We don't know why it's here, but it makes a nice change from the daily routine of L&N power. On the adjacent track, The Old Reliable's RS-3 #107 drills a short consist in preparation for return to Blackberry. The action takes place on Ed Brennan's fictional L&N Blackberry Branch somewhere in Eastern Kentucky.

Photo and caption by Ed Brennan, MMR



Left: Bob Lawson’s CNO&TP Division of the Southern Railway.

Over the years Bob has invited Division 8 to visit his layouts. First in Danville, KY and later in Middletown, OH.

At last report Bob is moving to West Chester, OH, and his Middletown layout has been dismantled. Bob plans on replacing it with a new layout in West Chester.

Photo by Mark Hedge





CHRISTMAS SEASON OPEN HOUSES

Division 8 members visited the Columbus Area Railroad Club Layout in Edinburg, IN.

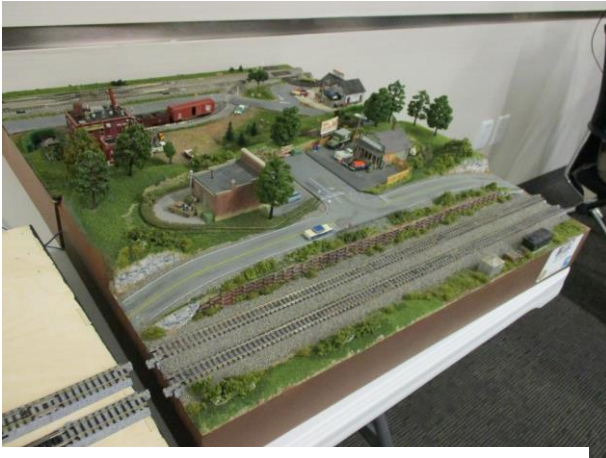
Above: Bob Kuchler checks out the layout. Right: Ron Ellison inspects the mainline.



Above and left:

Continuing what has become an annual tradition, the K & I Model Railroad Club's travelling layout was set up the Southwest Regional Library in Valley Station.

Photos by Bob Dawson

N SCALE T-TRAK FOR DIVISION 8*By Joe Martin*

N-Scale T-Track Module

I believe there is an opportunity to let people know that Model Railroading is FUN and that N Scale T-Trak is a great vehicle to show what can be done to enter into our hobby. As a Special Interest Group of Division 8, it tells people know there is a model railroad organization that can and will support their hobby.

T-Trak is a rapidly growing segment of our hobby of model railroading. It's being used more and more to promote the hobby itself. It encourages potential new members into the hobby by showing them that they can do a lot within a small space and that they need not be overwhelmed by having to create a huge layout. There's the, "Hey, I can do that!" moment when they look at just a single one- or two-foot square area versus an entire basement empire. Many modelers do not have room or budget for a large layout. The T-Trak concept allows them to practice scenery,

electrical, track work, and other techniques without a large expenditure of either time or money.

An N Scale T-Trak module can be as small as one square foot so it can easily be transported. The original T-Trak developed in Japan was just slightly larger than a sheet of paper. These modules were designed to fit on a modeler's lap while riding on a tram, trolley, or train to a show or event. Lee Fitzgerald, the wife of the late N-Trak pioneer Jim Fitzgerald, expanded the standards for the US version to offer more scenery by making the modules wider, while keeping a small footprint. A small oval of four corners and two straight modules can easily fit in the trunk of a car or in the back of a small pickup or SUV.

It's especially nice with T-Trak to be able to setup a layout quickly for visitors and only temporarily take up limited space at home. Four corner modules and two double-wide T-Trak modules (in N scale) will easily fit on a six-foot folding table or on many dining room tables. Include a DC dual power pack or two single power packs and an individual is up and running quickly. All of this can easily be stored in a closet or garage.

For larger runs and longer trains, we can join with other members in a local group to run trains. Sharing ideas on the fly at a show, at a meeting, or other events is a valuable resource for anyone, but especially for someone just starting in the hobby of model railroading. I personally like the larger shows because I can see other participants' modules. They give me creative ideas for my own modules, and I'm able to create long lasting friendships. Even at small local shows, this is of great value. There's nothing quite as fun as hanging out with your fellow model railroad buddies at events.

T-Trak modules can be the starting point for contests or for the NMRA Achievement Program (AP). If you've been putting off working on your AP certificates, you can start small with a single module, expand it into additional modules as time and budget permit, and potentially qualify for several including scenery, electrical, and civil. Joe Fields, our Division AP coordinator, can discuss specifics with you. Even if your projects are not in N scale, you could use the T-Trak standards in other scales to display your projects.

Even before becoming an NMRA member, I supported the Division 8 shows with my and other T-Trak modules. I plan to continue to do so into the foreseeable future. My wish is that we use T-Trak as a Division resource to encourage potential model railroaders into the NMRA and to provide more opportunities for existing members to actively participate in our events.

Bruce DeMaeyer of Division 10 is working with Mid Central Region to promote model railroading in general, emphasizing N Scale T-Trak as a way to bring new life and new people into the hobby. The first effort is to have all the Divisions in the Mid Central Region bring modules together during the May 2019 MCR Convention in Boardman, Ohio, to operate as a single group layout. This is an excellent opportunity for modelers to be a part of a region wide effort. I have asked the Division 8 Board of Directors to consider sponsoring a Division 8 T-Trak Special Interest Group (SIG) to



further promote the hobby of model railroading, and to promote the NMRA and Division 8. While the focus would primarily be N scale, other scales would be welcome if members are interested.

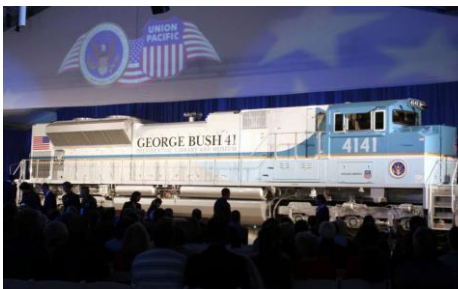
The Division 8 Board of Directors has agreed to support a T-Track Special Interest Group (SIG) with marketing,

encouragement, and show placement. However, the board has not been willing to financially support the initiative because they've not heard from YOU. Please support my ideas in this matter and voice your opinion to the Officers and Trustees. I hope Division 8 can fully participate in the Mid Central Region Project, and if so, together we can decide how to best incorporate it into the organizational structure of the Division.

To learn more, go to the Division 10 website and click on T-Track SIG. You can the link to Division 10 on the Division 8 Website. Editor

PRESIDENTIAL FUNERAL TRAIN

By Bob Dawson



Thursday December 6 2018 a special train left a suburban Houston railyard loaded with the casket of President George H. W. Bush for his final journey after almost a week of ceremonies in Washington and Texas. The train then embarked on a slow roll to his Presidential Library in College Station, Texas, passing thousands of people who stood along the tracks. Many of them held up their phones for pictures and watched from highway overpasses.

The lead unit on the train was Union Pacific SD70Ace #4141 named "George Bush 41" painted to honor Air Force One and honor George H. W. Bush, the 41st President of the United States.

The photo above was taken at its "reveal" at the Bush Presidential Library in 2005. At the time, President Bush, a lover of trains, commented, "I might have left Air Force One behind".

Removed from regular service several years ago, it was in storage at UP's North Little Rock Shop. After the passing of George H. S. Bush on November 30, 2018, UP 4141 was brought out of storage and sent to Houston on December 1, 2018.

Both the train's engineer and conductor on the trip were U.S. Navy veterans. June Nobles, the engineer, served nine years in the U.S. Navy; she has worked for Union Pacific for 15 years. Randy Kuhanek, the train's conductor, served eight years in the Navy and has worked at Union Pacific for 23 years.

TRACKSIDE WITH BILL LYNCH--A VISIT TO UP 4141

By Bill Lynch Photos by Ruth Lynch



I took the pictures on Thursday December 20 at about 1 pm. UP 4141 was on display with UP 1943 the *Spirit of Union Pacific*. They were on display in front of the car shop at Union Pacific's Dupo Yard in Dupo, Illinois. Dupo is across the Mississippi from St. Louis, Missouri. I found out they were there from a fellow member of the railfan group I'm a member of. It took over 12 hours stopping for lunch and dinner to get there. After we got there my contact said that it was for

employees only. We stopped at the Intermodal Yard Tower. When asked if we worked for UP we told him no, that we drove up thinking it would be visible from public property. He was impressed with the trip we made and answered all our questions, and we were escorted back into the yard.



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THE PIE CARD

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