

# The Pie Card

Volume 54, September, 2020, Number 9

Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association



## From the Superintendent's Desk

By Fred Soward

I've posed this question to the Division 8 Board of Directors several times over the past few months - "How do we keep the organization active, engaged, and growing in light of the inability to meet in person, to hold our fall and spring Train Show & Sale events, and to have in-person outreach?" The obvious answer is to do almost everything remotely. But that's only the "what we should do" part of the answer to my question. It doesn't answer "how to get it done" or "who should get it done."

An important piece of the answer lies in the Throttle Committee. Although the BoD is the core of the Division 8 leadership team, it's really the members of the entire Throttle Committee who make the organization run smoothly. If you didn't know, the Throttle Committee includes the BoD plus all the Committee Chairs – all those names and groups listed on the last page of every edition of the Pie Card. Those are the people who routinely reach out to the membership to get things done, whether it is asking someone to do a clinic, or supporting a request for a judge to look at items for the achievement program, or sending a card because of illness or loss.

But that still doesn't fully answer the question.

For the rest of the answer to my question, you just need to look in the mirror. The full, complete, and most important part of the answer to the question is every single member of Division 8 stepping up to the plate to take a turn at something. It can be as involved as becoming a member of the media team or as simple as inviting someone to join us during our next virtual meeting. It can be writing a short article for the Pie Card or giving an hour-long clinic during a general meeting or taking 20-minutes during a gathering meeting to show what model railroad project you're working on right now. None of it has to be perfect – just a best effort. It's also spreading the word, either electronically through your favorite social media app or face-to-face, when and where you can, about the hobby and about the organization.

I encourage you to take a few minutes over the next few days to think about how the person you see in the mirror can help your NMRA Division continue to be active, engaging, and growing, especially right now. Then take that step.

## AUGUST MEETING REPORT

Bob Dawson Division Clerk

The August Division 8 meeting was held on Saturday August 15, 2020 on Zoom. Attendance was 22. This meeting saw our first virtual edition of the Charlie Keeling Model Contest. See the contest article on page 2 for the list of winners and details of their entries.

Fred Soward reported that the National Narrow Gauge Convention that was cancelled has been reborn as a three-day Virtual Convention. It is scheduled over three separate days: August 22, August 29, and September 5. Information at: [www.40nngc.com](http://www.40nngc.com). The NMRA General Meeting will be virtual on Sunday, September 13. You must be registered. The registration deadline is September 4. Registration information can be found on page 9 of the August NMRA Magazine and on the NMRA Website. Following the business meeting Fred Soward presented the five minute "Back to Basics" segment. Fred described the Whyte Notation system primarily used for classifying Steam Locomotives by wheel arrangement.

Following the Back to Basics segment Russ Weis introduced the meeting's presenter, Ed Swain, Division 7.

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 PM. See photos from the meeting beginning on page 3.

## TIME TABLE

**Sep 12**, Sat 2 PM, Div 8 Gathering on Zoom

**Sep 19**, Sat 2 PM, Div 8 Mtg. on Zoom.

**Oct 4**, Sun 1 PM-3PM Div 8 Celebration Station, 600 Bldg. Parking Lot.

**Oct 10**, Sat 2 PM, Div 8 Gathering on Zoom.

**Oct 17**, Sat 2 PM, Div 8 Mtg. on Zoom.

~~**Oct 17**, Sat 10 AM-3 PM, Southern Indiana Train Show, Jeffersonville. CANCELLED~~

**Nov 14**, Sat 2 PM, Div 8 Gathering on Zoom.

**Nov 21**, Sat 2 PM, Div 8 Mtg. On Zoom.

## CHARLIE KEELING VIRTUAL MODEL CONTEST

Barry Christensen Contest Chairmen

September	Photos (model) and photos (prototype)
October	Steam locomotives
November	Displays (no size limit)
December	NO CONTEST (holiday party)
January	Freight cars
February	Non-steam motive power
March	Structures
April	Passenger cars
May	Cabooses
June	Open loads
July	NO CONTEST (picnic)
August	MOW equipment and highway vehicles

The Charlie Keeling Model Contest took an historic step at the August 2020 Division 8 Virtual Meeting on Saturday, August 15. To start the new 2020-2021 model contest year, our first fully virtual contest results were announced. The theme was maintenance of way equipment and highway vehicles. There were five innovative entries with excellent photos and descriptions included. Joe Fields came in first with his Fairmont A6 speeder. Craig Hatter came in second with his set of Penn Central bridge and building crew work trucks. Bob Frankrone came in third with his 25-ton crane and a 40' flatcar.

The September Contest brings something NEW - **You'll need to vote twice because there will be two categories. MODEL photos AND PROTOTYPE photos.**

Members are invited to submit one photo per category for September, color or black and white. The judging is strictly people's choice. In the meantime, if you have any model work to be judged for the Achievement Program, contact Joe Fields and he will arrange to have AP judges present.

We will send out a reminder but below are some of the Contest timeline dates for September:

- September 5th - Entries due starting today
- September 12th - Last day to submit entries
- September 16th - Members will receive the contest entries
- September 17th & 18th - Voting in Groups.io, email to Division 8 or phone, text, SMS
- September 19th - Winners announced at the General Meeting - 1st, 2nd and 3rd

If you need more information, go here - <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/contest.html>. Complete instructions will be posted in Groups.io or emailed to all members starting on September 1st. Contest dates will also be listed in the Groups.io Calendar. As always if you have questions or comments, email [division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com](mailto:division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com).

We will publish the Contest timeline dates each month in The Pie Card.

**MEMBER WELFARE** (See Page 6)



## SEPTEMBER MEETING INFORMATION

The September meeting is Saturday September 19, 2:00 PM. Instead of a face-to-face meeting, the meeting will be virtual using the Zoom conferencing app. To maintain the security of the meeting, connection information will be sent directly to members by email about a week prior to the meeting and will not be published on line. Tom Cain will present the program, "Adding Signals to the Eastern Illinois Santa Fe (Model Railroad)".

## ZOOM GATHERING

This month's gathering will be Saturday September 12, at 2 PM on Zoom. This month the presenters will be in the following order:

- Joe Fields - Scenery Certificate modeling update
- Bob Kuchler - Building Buildings
- Chris Broughton - Layout scenery update

Each presentation will be approximately 20 minutes including a short Q & A by each presenter. Zoom meeting information will be sent out a few days before the gathering. If you need help connecting, email [division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com](mailto:division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com) prior to the start of the meeting and someone from the Media Committee will help you. We look forward to seeing you on September 12!

Presenters for the August 8<sup>th</sup> Gathering were Paul Downs, Russ Weis with Steve Lasher, and Fred Soward. Paul described building a N-Scale model of an L&N elevated track structure in Louisville. Steve Lasher began with a short talk on signaling and then described how the signals are being installed on Russ Weis's NYC layout. Russ was the cameraman and added information. Fred Soward described how he is using WFD-30 NCE CAB Bus Wi-Fi Interface on his Santa Cruz & Felton Railroad. Attendance was 23.

## MAINTENANCE TIES FUND 2020

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 to date: \$30, Ed Brennan; \$25, Stephen Taylor; \$33, James Kuzirian.

## MEMBERSHIP

Stan White Chairman

As of August 26, the most recent data from the NMRA, Division 8 has 130 active members.



Left: Ed Swain's program.

Ed described how he built a HO-Scale lift bridge based on the Louisville Pennsylvania Railroad lift bridge using kit bashing, scratch building, and the use of commercial detail parts in its construction. Ed said he built the model over a period of six or seven months. Following his presentation Ed took questions and comments. Photo: *Screen Shot from Zoom meeting video.*

**CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST**



The August meeting saw Division 8's first VIRTUAL Modeling Contest. The category for August was "Maintenance of Way Equipment and Highway Equipment. Photos were submitted by the entrants for use in the judging.

Left: Joe Fields took first place with his scratch built HO Scale Fairmont Speeder.

Right:

Craig Hatter took second with this kitbashed trio of HO Scale Penn Central MOW trucks.

Craig also entered a kitbashed HO Highway wrecker.



Left:

Bob Frankrone was third with his HO crane & flat car combination. Rick Geerts entered a motorized crane (it actually rotates on the chassis)



**TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE**

By Russ Weis

They say “two heads are better than one” but “too many cooks spoil the broth.” So whether you’re building your first layout, or making changes to your existing one, what’s the right number of people to help you? I have yet to meet any layout owner who has done 100 percent of their layout start to finish. We all need help in certain areas of layout construction.

When Miles and Fran Hale lived in town, Miles would have a Monday night work session where six or eight of us would help Miles build his layout. If you never had the chance to see his layout it was set in the Colorado mountains where he had beautiful rock castings from the floor to eight feet high. Many of us spent our nights getting the molds attached and later painted. I asked Miles if he had to do many redo’s during the week. He replied, some weeks very little and others a great deal. Miles is an MMR and had the confidence and ability to fix the mistakes we had made on those Monday nights. For that, Miles had a first-class layout in a short amount of time. He admitted that sometimes he had quantity not quality.

For me, I like to get it right the first time which is why things get done a little slower on my layout. When I do ask for help, I try to get the best person for the job.

I wanted to have some hills on my backdrop and after watching our own Stan White and Bob Kuchler demonstrate their techniques at one of our meetings, I called on Stan. Both are great painters, and Stan had more time available.



Left:

Backdrop painting by Stan White

Bob Kuchler is also a great tree maker, and after one ops session he suggested I needed trees, so I now have some realistic trees on my layout.

Right:

Trees by Bob Kuchler

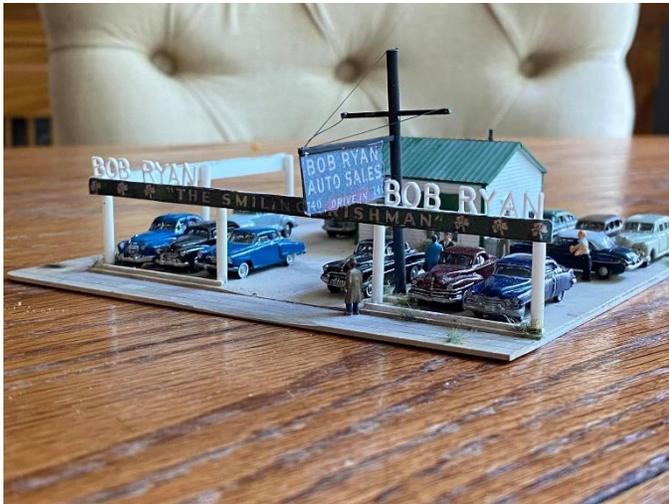


Of course, you have seen in some of my previous articles that Steve Lasher has built many of the structures which are now on the layout. He also has given me countless suggestions on where to place little details to make the layout look, as Steve says, “more railroad.”

Left: Storage shack, detailed by Steve Lasher

So how many you choose to help you with your layout be it new or old is up to you. You’ll have to decide whether you want quantity or quality.

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING DURING THE PANDEMIC?



Left: Bob Kuchler made this N-Scale Model of Bob Ryan’s used car lot. The prototype (shown above) was at 740 So. 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Louisville until it closed in 2005.

If you go to Elizabeth, IN you can see the restored sign and a smaller version of the car lot with antique cars on Hwy. 111. Model photo by Bob Kuchler

Right:

Chris Broughton picked up this rare N-scale N5e brass cabin car (PRR-speak for “caboose”) on eBay. Only one prototype N5e was ever made - a rebuild from a wrecked N5 caboose, which survived through the Conrail era. Chris said he didn’t know if an N-scale model was ever produced, especially in brass, so he was thrilled to get it. Chris stripped and repainted the model, and used custom printed decals to recreate the original one-off paint scheme used on this one-off cabin car as it appeared in 1945.

Photo by Chris Broughton



TRACKSIDE WITH ERIC WAGGONER



Left: Eric with Cindy McCarty. visited the Historic Railpark in Bowling Green recently just to get out of town for the day.

Eric said their tour was led by a young, 22-year old WKU student who was still learning all the exhibits. He took their picture in front of the E8.

Cindy noted that they all had on masks including the locomotive with the distinctive Blue and Cream L&N paint scheme that was so famous and appealing.

**MEMBER WELFARE****SUSAN HILLERICH-EDWARDS**

Bill Edwards' wife Susan passed away peacefully at home on August 3rd, 2020. Susan was born in Cleveland, Ohio on July 21st, 1946. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Robert Hart Hillerich. She is survived by her husband, Bill Edwards; sons, Robert (Kerri), Thomas, and Brian (Teresa); grandchildren, Jessica (Jason Hellmann) Ashley, Casey, Troy (Jeannette), Hart, Colton, Eli, as well as many great grandchildren. Susan had just celebrated 43 years of recovery of which she was very proud. Our condolences to Bill and his family. The Division made a donation in Susan's name to Gilda's Club.

**CHARLIE FACKLER-MMR #539**

Division 8 member Charles John Fackler passed away on Sunday, August 16, 2020, at the Hosparus Health Inpatient Care Center. Charlie was born September 12, 1946 to the late John C. and Marie Fackler.

Charlie is survived by his wife of 50 years, Pamela S. Fackler; three children, John, Jeffrey (Lisa), and Jill Guthrie; and four grandchildren. Charlie was a Master Model Railroader. In addition to Division 8 MCR NMRA, Charlie was a member of the K & I Model Railroad Club, and the L & N Railroad Historical Society.

A donation in his name was made by the Division to the K & I Model Railroad Club.

Left: Charlie with his Master Model Railroader Plaque.  
Photo by Fred Soward

**Groups.io**

If you'd like to join Groups.io, send an email to [division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com](mailto:division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com) and we will send you an invitation with a link to join. Division 8 Groups.io is not a public group and you won't find it by doing a search.

The primary intent of the group is to inform members of Division 8 about NMRA, MCR, and Division 8 activities and functions. Other appropriate topics include prototype and model railroading activities of general interest to the group.

Here's a few topics from August if you'd like to know what's there:

- NMRA Turntable August 2020
- August 2020 Charlie Keeling Model Contest
- Operations SIG Virtual Meetup
- #FleaMarketFriday - The 1st Friday of each month
- Division 8 Zoom General Meeting Information
- August Zoom Gathering
- Cheetos Tuesday Train Videos with Chester
- Work Smarter - With your Smartphone (from Division 12)
- Monday thru Friday - The most interesting content from around the world wide web

Division 8 Media Committee

**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**

*By Joe Fields AP Chairman*



Hi everyone. Not much going on achievement wise. I have received Fred Soward's certificate for Model Railroad Engineer-Civil. Congratulations Fred. He will receive it the next time we can get together. That's about it for now, as always if you need something judged or have question call me or email me. Happy modeling.

**MEDIA COMMITTEE-KEEP CONNECTED**

*Ron Ellison Media Committee Chairman*

These are the ways for Division 8 members to stay in touch and together:

- Groups.io
- Join us on Zoom for a virtual meeting - General Meeting and Monthly Gathering
- Division 8 Facebook
- Division 8 Webpage

You can access all the Mid Central Region newsletters from our webpage here - <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/links.html>. There is some great information here; you can look at any time. Of course *The e-Pie Card* is always accessible on the webpage here - <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/piecard.html>.

We are usually online 30 minutes before the start of any Zoom meeting. So, if you are unsure of connection, join early.

**SILVER SPIKE 2020**

*Silver Spike Committee*

The Silver Spike Committee is happy to announce that we have only a single nomination for the 2020 Silver Spike award. The nominee meets, and exceeds, all nomination criteria. And because there is only 1 nominee, the Board of Directors has decided to make the award by acclamation rather than proceed with a vote of the membership.

We will announce the date of the award presentation in the October *The Pie Card*. The presentation ceremony will be recorded and then later shared with the membership virtually.

As it states on the Division 8 Silver Spike webpage, the award goes to "Individuals who have given exemplary service to Division 8. Oftentimes this service is minimally recognized". That is the case for this year's recipient. The committee looks forward to sharing this year's Silver Spike Winner with the membership of Division 8.

Silver Spike Committee

Rick Maloney, Bob Dawson, Ron Ellison

Right:

Another model in N-Scale built by Bob Kuchler MMR.

*Photo by Bob Kuchler*



**OFFICERS**

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Clerk:	Bob Dawson	502-368-2607
Treasurer:	Mike Berry	502-245-1337

**TRUSTEES**

Tom Guentner	502-363-3113
Russ Weis	502-245-7991
Ron Ellison	502-807-7683

**COMMITTEE DIRECTORS**

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Contests	Barry Christensen	270-272-6069
Librarian	Mike Berry	502-245-1337
Membership	Stan White	502-558-2466
Member Welfare	Rick Wehr	502-500-6398
Media	Ron Ellison	502-807-7683
Meetings & Program	Russ Weis	502-245-7991
Pie Card	Bob Dawson	502-368-2607
Train Show and Sale	Ron Ellison	502-807-7683
Webmaster	Tom Guentner	502-363-3113

**MID CENTRAL REGION OFFICERS**

President:	Bob Weinheimer	304-343-1428
Vice-president:	Dave Neff	440-269-1229
Secretary:	Jerry Doyle	304-638-2826
Treasurer:	Bob McKay	814-591-5415

To contact a Division Officer, Trustee, or Committee Director by email use:  
 Division8.MCR.NMRA@gmail.com. Find us on Facebook at:  
<http://www.facebook.com/Division8.MCR.NMRA/>

**THE PIE CARD**

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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.

**The Company Store is ALWAYS open for business**

24/7/365. Shop anytime here - <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/store.html> .

We take credit cards for your secure purchase. We still take cash or checks but a credit card is the preferred tender. You can email your order to Division8 MCR NMRA@gmail.com. We will email you back an itemized invoice from the Square Virtual Terminal and you then pay online with your credit card.

If you weren't able to get to Celebration Station in July, we can ship you sanitizer. Each member is entitled to 1 FREE bottle. Additional bottles are 1 for \$3, 2 for \$5 or 5 for \$10 - the best value.

Because we won't be meeting face to face through at least the end of this year, pickup of Company Store merchandise is no longer possible. We will ship your order via USPS and invoice you for postage at the least expensive rate along with your merch.

**OR** - we're planning another Celebration Station at the 600 Building on October 4th from 1:00 to 3:00 PM,

Be thinking about winter coming on and possibly a fleece or long sleeve denim shirt. Maybe tell your significant other it might be time to place that holiday order and avoid the Holiday rush. But get your order in right away. The clock waits for no one.

**DIVISION 8 COMPANY STORE IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS**



Available:  
 Division 8 Polo Shirts,  
 Long Sleeve Denim Shirts, Fleece Jackets,  
 and Baseball Caps  
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 click on "Company Store".

