



The Pie Card



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

Volume 48

April 2009

Number 4

From the Superintendent's Desk



Why are you a model railroader? By extension, there is a corollary. Why might someone join our wonderful hobby?

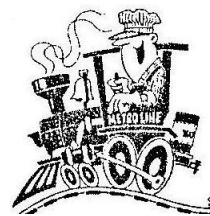
As most of us are aware, we face a few challenges in our hobby and organization. Stated plainly, we are an aging group. That, in itself, is a wonderful thing. Personally, I look forward to each new day I have on this earth of ours to share with one another. With age comes experience. Personally, I'm happy to have experiences. Some have been wonderful. Others, well, they have been tragic. Collectively though, they have helped me, and I'm suspect you, become better people.

Every challenge presents its own opportunity. The younger generation has numerous opportunities that were beyond anyone's imagination a generation ago. The electronic revolution has changed our lives and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. This generation, our pool of future members, is accustomed to the almost instant gratification offered by electronics. Can we attract this generation to our hobby? I, for one, believe that the answer is yes. Absolutely, yes!

The instant gratification of electronic games is much like candy. It might provide an instant rush of satisfaction, but it fades quickly. While candy is a pleasant treat, it does lack the substance

needed to sustain a person. Those who get into gaming are always looking for the next new game. Some of these folks will eventually look for something with a bit more substance. I believe we have something to offer. For one thing, model railroading is undergoing a technological revolution. Many of the skills the new generation has to offer fit well with model railroading. This is something we should share with our potential members. Another thing the hobby has to offer is permanence. Whether we are talking about a basement empire or a portable module, there is something tangible there.

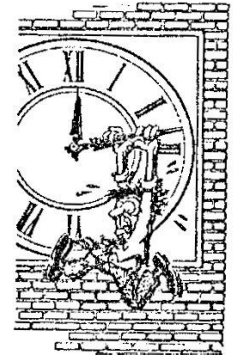
Of course, these are just a couple of my perspectives. How do you see it? What do our potential members see? Do they see a group of warm, friendly, welcoming hobbyists enthusiastic to embrace a new member? Conversely, do they encounter a group of crusty "experts" who believe membership must be earned through some arcane and unspoken process? Let's hope we are warm, friendly, and welcoming. If not, tomorrow is a new day. Let us actively seek out and warmly welcome these new members. Our experience combined with their technological expertise will take us and our hobby to levels we can only dream of.



Mark

To join the Division 8 email list, send an email to Jack Diehl: diehl8500@insightbb.com.

TIMETABLE



TIME TABLE

Apr 16, Division 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, to be announced

Apr 30-May 3, Mid-Central Region Convention, Columbus, OH

May 16, Division 8 Meeting, Saturday, 2:00 PM, location to be announced.

May 30, Saturday, Layout Tours Cincinnati

Jun 18, Division 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, The Johnson's

Jul, No Meeting, Annual Picnic, TBA

Aug 20, Division 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, Bob Frankrone's

(Note that several meetings will be on Thursday evenings this year. Check the Time Table each month for meeting location.)

DIVISION 8 ACHIEVES

I just received word from Frank Koch that Jim Ward has been approved for his Author's AP Award. The Certificate will be forthcoming. The rest are being reviewed to see where I messed up.. One of these days I will get things right I promise.

Jerry Ashley MMR, AP Chairman

APRIL MEETING INFORMATION-NEW LOCATION!

The April Meeting will be Thursday, April 16, 7:30 PM. We will meet at the Sam Swope Boy Scout Center 12001 Sycamore Station Place. See photo, map and directions on page 3.

MODEL CONTEST

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
January	Freight Cars
February	Diesels
March	Commercial Structures

Bob Frankrone and Charlie Keeling shared the honors for the March Contest. See pictures on page 3. Point standings to date are:

<i>Bob Johnson</i>	<i>6 points</i>
<i>Bob Frankrone and Charlie Keeling</i>	<i>5 points</i>
<i>Nat King, Bill Lynch, and Bob Sobotka</i>	<i>3 points</i>
<i>Jack Diehl</i>	<i>2 points</i>
<i>Tom Lindquist, Rick Maloney, and Herman Weir</i>	<i>1 point</i>

THANKS FOR ANOTHER GREAT TRAIN SHOW

Thanks from the Train Show Committee to all of you who came and supported our Spring Train Show. Special thanks to Ruthie Lynch, Cecil and Brenda Stewart, John Manning, Rick Maloney, Bob Kuchler who helped with dealer check in and admissions. Thanks also to participating layouts and clubs: K & I Model RR Club, Southern Indiana Railroad, Dennis Sanders, Radcliff Model Railroaders, T-Track, and Louisville Live Steamers. Also, L & N Trains and Things, Scale Reproductions, and Short'n'Sassy Embroidery who provided door prizes. Our next show will be November 21, 2009.

SCALE REPRODUCTIONS, INC.

3073 Breckinridge Ln. 502-459-5849
 Large selection of HO & N Scale products.
 Walters and Digitrax dealer. Everything you
 need for your layout. Helpful sales staff.
 Mon-Fri 10-7:30, Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5
www.srihobbies.com

MAINTENANCE TIES FUND

Do you enjoy the color pages in each issue of the Pie Card? It costs \$ 44 a month to bring them to you. The maintenance tie fund helps defray the cost of the color printing. To support this fund please give your contribution of \$ 5.00 or more to the Pie Card editor, Bob Dawson. Donors for 2009 to date are:

\$50 or more: Don Fowler, Ralph Bracewell

\$25 to \$45: Charlie Fackler, Bob Lawson, Ivan Baugh.

\$5 to \$20: Stephen Taylor, Charlie Buschmann, Eric Waggoner, Bob Frankrone, Bob Johnson, Jim Harrington, Charlie Keeling, Short'n'Sassy Embroidery, Mark Hedge, Jim Kuzirian, Joe Fields, John Ottman, Bill Poteet, Ron Montgomery, Jerry Ashley, Ed Brennan, Frank Becker, John Henle, Jack Diehl, Cecil Smith, John Ottman, Ryan Eckler, Ron Rauchmiller.

CINCINNATI LAYOUT TOURS IN MAY

Bob Dawson is coordinating a layout tour in the Cincinnati area with Bob Lawson for Saturday May 30. We will visit four layouts. We know the quality of Bob Lawson's work, and he says the other layouts are of top quality also. Bob Lawson will provide lunch. Current plans are to meet at 8 AM at Scale Reproductions and convoy to Bob Lawson's for the first stop arriving at about 10:30 AM. We will spend about an hour each layout. The layouts are as follows:

- Bob Lawson modeling Southern and NC&StL.
- John Miller, modeling seven railroads around Cincinnati,
- John Listermann, B & O Railroad,
- Perry Simpson (in Independence, KY) modeling the L & N.

We head home from Perry Simpson's, and should be back by 6:30 PM. Let Bob Dawson know by the May meeting if you are planning on going, and how many will be with you. Our host, Bob Lawson, needs to know how many meals to prepare.

SWIFT CREEK RAILROAD OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE FOR 2009

Harry Munzer has announced the 2009 open house dates for his Swift Creek Railroad. The dates, all on Saturday, are: May 23, July 11, and September 5. Located in Greenville, Indiana, the Swift Creek is an O-Gauge out door garden layout. Details for each open house will appear in later issues of the Pie Card.

NEW CATEGORIES IN NMRA NATIONAL CONTEST

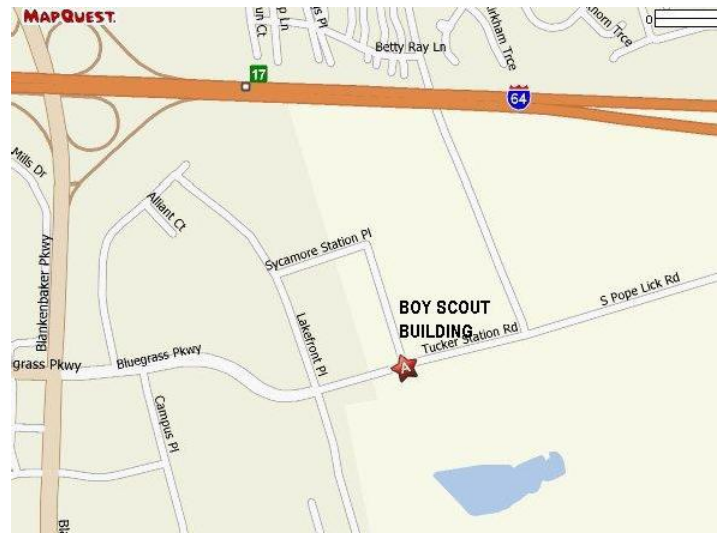
The traditional contest has expanded into a celebration of Models, Photos, and Crafts. In addition to the normal contest events, it will feature:

- Kit Build Contest,
- Model Showcase (non-judged show and tell).
- Peoples Choice Award (Popular Vote),
- Meeting the Entrants Afternoon

See <http://www.nmra.org/convention/contests/whithercontest.html> for details.



March contest was commercial structures. Bob Frankrone (above left) and Charlie Keeling (above right) tied for first place.



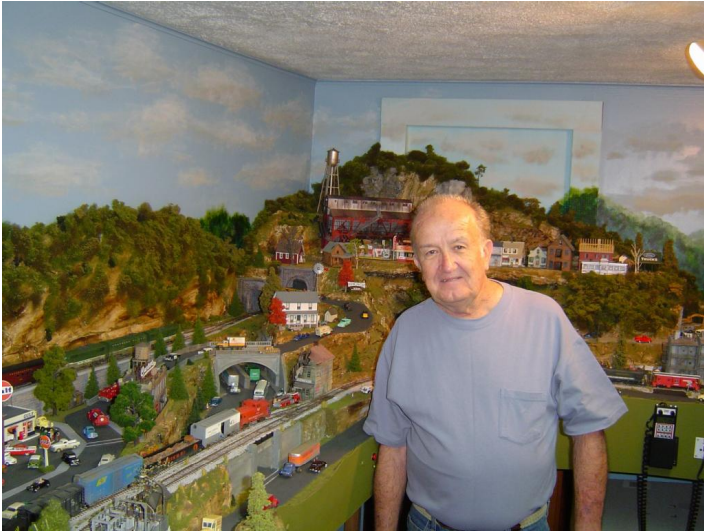
Sam Swope Scout Center, 12001 Sycamore Station Rd. I-64 Exit 17 South (Blankenbaker Pkwy). Left on Bluegrass Pkwy (first traffic light) to Sycamore Station Road (third cross street). Turn left, building is on the NE corner. Enter parking lot in rear.

At the Spring Trainshow



A view of the crowd. Above right: Dennis Sanders' vintage Lionel Layout. (more Train Show pictures on p. 6.

Pike Show Case--John Ottman's HO Railroad

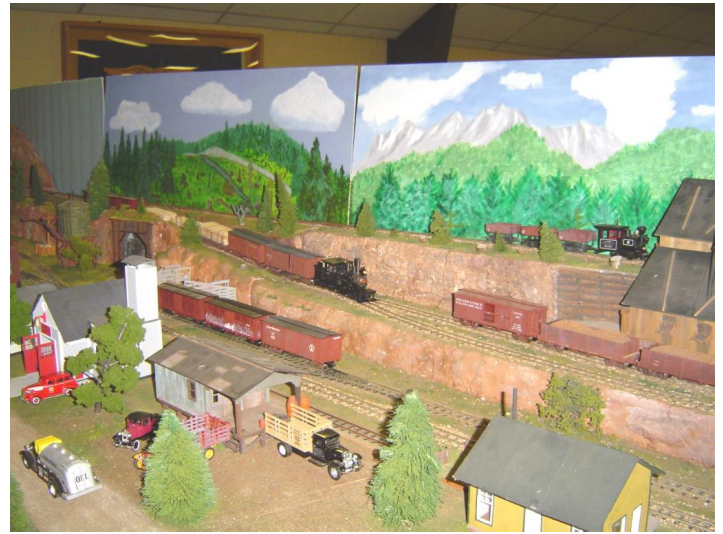




At the Train Show (continued from page 3)



Above: Fall City Live Steamers. Does the locomotive (above right) qualify as scratchbuilt for the Achievement Program? Below left: Southern Indiana layout; below right: Radcliff On30 layout.



Trackside Kentuckiana--Passenger Cars



Above left: L & N Diner “Duncan Hines” at the Bowling Green Railroad Museum. *Photo by Eric Waggoner.*
Above right: Private Car “Sierra Hotel,” Louisville for 2008 Derby visitor at Union Station.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

You may have noticed that Model Railroader Magazine's January issue was their "75th Anniversary Issue." That magazine was first published in January 1934 and is probably the longest continually published magazine of model railroading. Coincidentally the National Model Railroad Association was founded in 1935 and is approaching its own Diamond Jubilee next year. Before the NMRA came into being there were no standards in place that allowed a modeler to mix equipment out of the box from different manufacturers on his track. The NMRA brought standards to this "chaos" (to borrow a term directly from NMRA's website) and from then on equipment meeting these standards could run on any track that met NMRA's standards. Imagine what things would be like if each manufacturer's locomotives and rolling stock could only run together and on their own brand track?

Most of the standards we operate with today were put into place in 1936 but more recently (as early as the late 1980s) the NMRA established the DCC Working Group to investigate and coordinate with manufacturers to establish the standards for DCC equipment we know today. If it weren't for this you would not be able to use a Lenz decoder with Digitrax DCC system for example.

In addition to standards, which are pretty much "set in stone" only to be changed by a NMRA membership vote, the NMRA also publishes recommended practices, or RP's for short. RP's cover less critical items such as wheel sets and may be changed as advances in technology warrant.

Finally NMRA issues Certificates of Conformance to products that meet all NMRA standards and applicable recommended practices. An approved product is authorized to display the NMRA conformance seal. *Scale Rails* publishes reviews of selected products and whether or not it was issued the certificate.

So next time you couple up several cars and locomotives of different manufacturers produced decades apart and run them on a DCC equipped layout (especially a modular one) take a moment to think about how the NMRA has made that event possible.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Bob Frederick - Louisville, KY; Jerry Love - LaGrange, KY; Al Oswald - Louisville, KY

Bob Sobotka, Division 8 Membership Chairman



NMRA National Convention and Train Show **July 5- 12, 2009**

Hartford, CT

HOTELS:

Marriott-Hartford Downtown

Sheraton Hartford

Crowne Plaza Hartford

http://hn2009.org/promo_video

AT THE MARCH MEETING

The March meeting was held Thursday night, March 19 at the Airport Industrial Center Conference Building. Ruthie Lynch and Brenda Stewart provided the refreshments. Bob Frankrone a program of

Local club activities:

- O-6-O Club with the some members from the Falls City Live Steamers has set up at the Antique Toy Mall on Blue Lick Road in Brooks, Ky. In addition to the HO modular layout, a G-Gauge layout is also on display. Operators or invited for Sundays. Contact Bob Johnson if you want to run.
- KSONS will be set up at New Albany Library from April 4 thru April 11.
- Falls City Live Steamers and Southern Indiana Modular Railroad will be set up at the Division 8 Train Show this Saturday.
- K & I Club will be open for Oldham County Days. Dates will be announced later.

Division Meetings and Activities:

- Division 8 Spring Train Show is March 21. Tables are sold out. Southern Indiana Club, Dennis Sanders, and Radcliff Modular club will have their layouts set up. The Falls City Live Steamers will be offering train rides at Strathmoor Presbyterian Church up the street. We will have move parking this year, arrangements have been made to use the school lot behind the legion post.
- Jerry Ashley picked up the display module from Jim Rollwage. Nat King said it will fill our needs, and he has plans to upgrade it with DCC and make some other refinements.
- Several members said they are making plans to attend the Mid-central Region Convention in Columbus, April 30—May 3, 2009.
- The April Meeting will be Thursday April 16, 7:30 PM at the Lincoln Heritage Council Sam ,wope Scout Center off Bluegrass Parkway (see map and directions on pge 3 in this issue of *The Pie Card*).



The 21st Century Limited

Ramada Plaza Hotel & Conference Center

4900 Sinclair Road (614-846-0300), Columbus, OH 43229

April 30th – May 3, 2009

Visit the convention web site for details:

<http://mcr09convention.dwilke.org/FirstPage.html>

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

Ivan W. Baugh, webmaster

Officers

Superintendent
 Mark Norman 502-254-9249
 Asst. Supt.
 Bruce Goreham 502-491-3996
 Clerk
 Eric Waggoner 502-244-6628
 Treasurer
 Jim Ward 502-836-3078

Trustees

Bob Frankrone 502-491-9920
 Don Fowler 502-448-0628
 Bob Dawson 502-368-2607

Committee Directors

Contests
 Bill Lynch 812-256-2125
 NMRA Achievement Program
 Jerry Ashley 502-893-0801
 Meeting Program
 Bob Dawson 502-368-2607

Committees (continued)

Librarian
 open
 Membership
 Bob Sobotka 502-365-3690
 Show Programs
 Mike Berry 502-245-1337
 Swap Meet
 Bob Dawson 502-368-2607

Region Officers

President
 Dick Briggs 614-277-0314
 Vice President
 Merlyn Jarman 812-539-3232
 Secretary
 Tom Atherton 216-898-9435
 Treasurer
 Gary Sole 216-650-2192

The Pie Card is published twelve times a year by Division 8 of the National Model Railroad Association, Mid-Central Region, Bob Dawson, Editor, 7305 Ticonderoga Drive, Louisville, KY 40214.

Please address all correspondence, letters to the editor, articles to *The Pie Card* editor. Deadline for submitted articles is the 22nd day of the previous month. *The Pie Card* goes to the printer by the first of the month.

PIE CARD SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

IF THERE IS A "STAR" STICKER ON THE COVER OF YOUR PIE CARD, YOUR SUBSCRIPTION HAS EXPIRED!

The Pie Card

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

Editor: Bob Dawson
 Asst Editor: Rick Tipton
 Layout Editor: Ivan W. Baugh
 Publisher: Bob Brown
 Color Pages Publisher: Jim Ward
 Circulation: Jerry Ashley
 Bob Dawson
 Ray Rohmann

Inside this Issue

April Meeting Information Page 3
 Pike Showcase-John Ottman Page 4
 Trackside Kentuckiana Page 6