



The Pie Card

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



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October 2010

Number 10



From the Superintendent's Desk

Those who attended the September meeting were treated to a first-class clinic by Gerry Albers and his friend Jim Hode. Gerry gave a clinic on AC-DC-DCC and then Signals by Spreadsheet. He had everyone's undivided attention. This was my second time seeing this clinic and I still was taking notes! Gerry and Jim graciously drove to our meeting, gave the clinic, and returned home. A few follow-up emails have been sent and he has responded to everyone one of them patiently.

This month, Chuck Davis's clinic will be given by me. Essentially, I'm just the presenting his material. It's too is well done and readily applicable to each of our layouts. When approached about his clinic, Chuck was happy to share his materials with me. Living in Norfolk, Virginia made a day trip impractical for him. Instead, he suggested I just do it on his behalf.

This friendly outreach is critical to the success of our hobby. No single person, even the Masters among us, can know everything. Each of us has something worth sharing. Please speak up! Whether you are sharing a simple technique or tool for uncoupling cars or have developed a complex piece of software such as Signals by Spreadsheet, it adds up. We are all better off learning from one another.

Russ Weiss has graciously stepped up to coordinate the clinics. He of course, needs your help. If you have an idea, even if it is incomplete, drop him a message. He will work you into the clinic schedule. Do you need help taking the seed of your idea and growing it into a clinic? Just ask. We will ask around and get someone to help you. We all win! You share an idea the rest of us can use and gain Author points in the process.

There is a parable about not lighting a candle and placing it under a bushel. Let the light of your idea shine for all of us to see.*to see.*

Mark

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

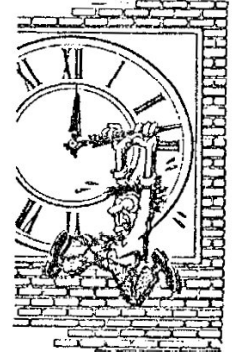
Joe Fields, AP Chairman

I want to personally thank Bob Johnson for giving the AP report at the last Division meeting. Here's an update on how folk's in the Division are doing: I have received certificates for Marissa Pharris for Master Model Railroader Scenery and Volunteer Certificate for Bob Sobotka. Congratulations to these folks. That seems to be all that's going on at this time. Remember if you need something judged give me a call. (502) 964-2679.

K&I CLUB TO REMAIN AT BUCKNER FIRE HOUSE

It was reported in the Pie Card last month that the K & I Model Railroad Club would have to vacate the fire house in Buckner, Kentucky. Club superintendent Nat King tells us that the Club has negotiated with local officials, and the K & I Model Railroad Club is now the sole user of the Buckner Fire House, 3713 Highway 146. Nat said he has been told that there will not be any road or highway construction in or near the Fire House for possibly three or more years. The monthly Operating Sessions are on hold for a while until some removed modules can be replaced or the layout reconfigured. To quote Nat, "Guy's let's have more FUN with our hobby!"

TIMETABLE



Oct 21, Div. 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, Conference Center

Nov 18, Div. 8 Meeting, Thursday, 7:30 PM, Southern Indiana Railroad Club

Nov 20, Div. 8 Train Show, Highland Post, 10 AM to 3 PM

Dec 16, Christmas Party. Thursday, KYANA Car Club

OCTOBER MEETING-DATE CHANGE

The Board of Directors opted to change the date for the October meeting to **THURSDAY, 21 October, 7:30 PM**, Conference Center building 91, Air Port Industrial Center (former Naval Ordnance Station). There was no suitable place at the Scout event to hold a meeting. Also, some members including our superintendent would be tied up helping. The date change enables Mark Norman to present Chuck Davis's clinic on uncoupling with small magnets.

Model Contest**OCTOBER**

November	Displays/Diorama
December	No Contest
January	Freight
February	Diesels
March	Commercial Structures
April	Passenger Cars
May	Cabooses
June	Open Loads
July	No Contest
August	MOW Equipment
September	Photos

Enter your favorite model in the contest. The judging is strictly “peoples’ 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.

DIVISION CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year our Christmas Party will again be held at the KYANA Car Club, 3821 Hunsinger Lane. The date is THURSDAY evening, December 16, 2010. The meal will be a buffet catered again by Halls catering and will feature a choice of three meats, four vegetables, and several salad and dessert choices. Cost for NMRA members is \$ 15.00 per person (\$ 30 per couple), non-NMRA members \$ 20/person. Bruce Goreham is taking reservations. You can email Bruce at bgoreham@bellsouth.net or call him at 502-491-3996. Make out checks to “Division 8 MCR NMRA” and mail to: Division Eight, MCR, NMRA, P. O. Box 99041, Louisville, KY 402691-0041; or give it to Bruce at a meeting.

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 2010 to date are:

\$ 50 or more: Ralph Bracewell

\$ 25 to \$ 45: Charles Fackler, Bob Kuchler, Bob Johnson, Ivan Baugh

\$ 5 to \$ 20: Eric Waggoner, Mike Berry, Mark Norman, Bill Poteet, Charlie Keeling, Stephen Taylor, Jim Harrington, Jim Kuzirian, Russ Weis, Herman Weir, Ronald Rauchmiller, John Ottman, Ed Brennan, Frank Becker, Tom Smart, Tom Lindquist.

EXTRA 2011 WEST

**STEAM LOCOMOTIVES****CONTEST REPORT**

Bill Lynch, Contest Chairman

For the contest (Photos) this month. We had 11 members entering 18 photos. The 2 first place winners were Eric Waggoner, and Charlie Keeling. The second place finish went to Jim Harrington. Point standings: Charlie Keeling (7); Jim Harrington (6); Bill Lynch and Eric Waggoner (4); John Bowman, Tom Lindquist, Steve Summers, Bob Johnson, Ramona Johnson, Patrick Hardesty, and Tom Guentner (1). The October contest is Steam Locomotives.

ELECTRONIC PIE CARD

Just a reminder, the Pie Card is going electronic beginning with the January 2011 issue. The Pie Card will be posted to the Website, members and subscribers will be notified by email when it is “up”. In order to receive the Pie Card, our webmaster, Tom Guentner, must have your email address. If you haven’t already done so, send your email address to Tom at: tom@aye.net. Type in “NMRA” in the subject block. We will be doing trial notifications over the next few months. We need to know who DOES NOT have access to email. Let the editor know at the next meeting.

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SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

Ed Brennan is working on a “company store” that will have Division related items for sale. One of the first items for sale will be Division polo shirts. Suggested color was discussed but no decision reached. Rob Johnson has been appointed “Quarter Master”. Rob is minding a storage cabinet containing Division 8 equipment and supplies. The cabinet is located at Scale Reproductions Hobby Shop. Mark Hedge reported that fifty tables have been sold for the train show to date. It was discussed changing the location of October meeting, and possibly hold it in conjunction with a Boy Scout Merit Badge event.

Gerry Albers and Jim Hodde from Division 7 gave a tremendous presentation on AC, DC and DCC layout design including a good primer on design concepts for DCC operation and signaling.

EXTRA 2011 WEST NMRA CONVENTION

The 2011 NMRA Convention in Sacramento is being billed as the “Unconventional Convention.” Register now at the Convention’s web site: <http://www.x2011.org>.



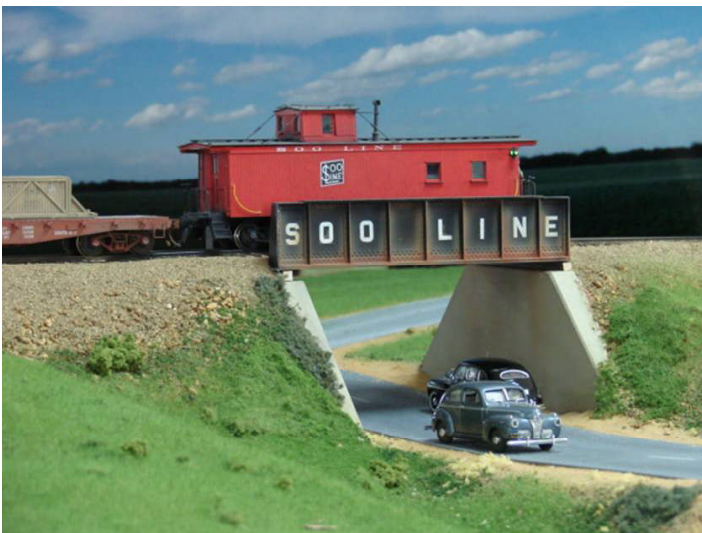
Eric Waggoner's winning contest photo. Eric tied with Charlie Keeling. Charlie's photo was unavailable for publication.

November Layout Tour

Photographs of John Bowling's HO Scale layout which we will visit on the November layout Tour.



Photographs of Ray Grosser's O Scale layout which we will visit on our November Layout tour.



Steam Locomotives

Steam locomotive on Mt. Washington Cog Railway in New Hampshire shown in photograph at right.

Enter your favorite steam locomotive in this month's contest.



FROM THE DIVISION WEBMASTER

Tom Guenther

Your Web Site. (<http://div8-mcr-nmra.org>) is your most up to date place to find out what's going on in Division Eight and the NMRA.

- The **DEPOT** Headlines of upcoming events and other info.
- **TIMETABLE** Here you can find all the time and dates of the actives meetings, outings, train shows etc. If any time or dates change it will be updated.
- Read all the current and past **PIE CARDS**.
- Find out who is doing what in the Division, click on **BRASS**
- **MEETING CONTEST** What is this all about?
- Are you working on the **ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM** Help is here.
- Would you like to see what other members are doing? Click on **LAYOUTS**
- **MEMBERS PAGES** are available to members only. This contains a membership list, meeting minutes, and other info. Check it out. And lot of information on other pages. Go there TODAY!



Check Div. 8 Website, click on links, and go to Division 5, MCR and follow links to "convention".

<p>MID CENTRAL REGION CONVENTION Apr 28 – May 1, 2011 Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio Hosted by Division 5 "The Western Reserve Division"</p>



OCTOBER IS MODEL RAILROAD TECHNOLOGY MONTH

Tom Guenther

In the past years technology has invaded the modeling railroading community in many ways. The most popular way has been Digital Command Control (DCC). The basic use of DCC is the ability to control of a locomotive instead of controlling a block of track. This can be done with a throttle connected to the system by either a tethered throttle or a non-tethered throttle (radio). The next use is to have sound in the locomotive. Sound also is controlled by the throttles.

The next big use of DCC is the control of signals for your trains. There are a number of things that can be done with signals. Signaling also brings the computer into the layout room. Like the prototype nowadays, most model railroad signal systems are controlled via computer. Most signal systems use the computer to help control them.

Then there is the JMRI software (<http://jmri.sourceforge.net/>). People have used JMRI to do some great things. They've built incredible dispatcher panels, controlled layouts, and built other tools for the model railroading community. And it is FREE. If you haven't looked into this technology this month is the time to give it a try. It is really a lot easier than you may think. Since my retirement and reentering into model railroading, I have had a lot of FUN working with DCC.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Pie Card Editor Bob Dawson

Division 8 has sponsored many activities over the last 45 years. In 1973 Joe O'Gara was our Superintendent. That year the Division hosted its first Mid Central Region Convention. In those days the Region had two conventions a year, a Spring and Fall Convention. The Kentucky Derby has always presented a problem in scheduling anything in the early Spring. In order to make it easier, the Division opted for the Fall Convention. The Ramada Inn Hurstbourne Convention Center was chosen as the site. This was the same venue we used (although it was operating as the Clarion Hotel and Convention Center) for our 2007 Convention. Rick Tipton share some memories from that long ago '73 convention.

This was, of course, Division 8's first regional convention. It was decided (by Johnnie Reid) that the Belle trip was not optional -- it was part of your registration, it was the only Saturday midday activity, and the Saturday lunch (Kentucky Fried Chicken, of course) was served on-board. We bussed the whole gang downtown from the Ramada (sweating bullets that no one would get left behind), and set sail on the Ohio on a really nice-looking fall day. Not sure if we had the boat to ourselves, but I think we went upriver well beyond today's usual ride, and the trip was a great chance for catching up with friends, yakking, and gossiping about model railroading, model railroads, and model railroaders. Newbies at MCR conventions met the veterans, and a great day of scenery, eating, and loafing on the river resulted.

Our annual Christmas Party has also been a division tradition dating back to its earliest days. Elsewhere in this month's issue you will find the details on the date, location, and reservation information for this year's party. One of the things we are planning is a digital slide show of Division members, families, friends, and activities. If you have any pictures from past events, layouts (yours or someone else's), send them to our webmaster Tom Guenther.

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

Tom Guenthner, webmaster

Officers		Committees (continued)	
Superintendent		Librarian	
Mark Norman	502-254-9249	open	
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Bruce Goreham	502-491-3996	Cecil Stewart	502-252-7814
Clerk		Show Programs	
Eric Waggoner	502-244-6628	Mike Berry	502-245-1337
Treasurer		Swap Meet	
Mike Berry	502-245-1337	Bob Dawson	502-368-2607
Trustees		Region Officers	
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Don Fowler	502-448-0628	Dick Briggs	614-277-0314
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Contests		Secretary	
Bill Lynch	812-256-2125	Bob Weinheimer, MMR	
NMRA Achievement Program		Treasurer	
Joe Fields	502-964-2679	Paul Smith	
Meeting Program			
Russ Weiss	502-245-7991		

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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.

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The Pie Card

Division Eight, MCR, NMRA

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NEXT MEETING:**THURSDAY, October 21, 2010****Details inside**