

# The Pie Card

Volume 54, October, 2020, Number 10

Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association



## From the Superintendent's Desk

By Fred Soward



If you missed the September Business Meeting, you may not know that we have cancelled this year's Christmas/End-of-Year Party/Celebration. You all know the why – out of an abundance of caution for our members and the guests who they would bring with them

to the event.

Way back in January, to secure the facility for this year's event, we signed a contract that locked us into a December 2020 date. When it became apparent in the latter part of the summer that the virus would not subside enough for us to be safe in that type of an event, we contacted the venue about our options. It was not a happy discussion. The venue did not agree with our cautionary stance, instead insisting that we could hold the event in a larger part of the facility by keeping couples/individuals six feet or more away from other couples/individuals. We would not be able to socialize and visit with each other as we always have and, quite honestly, how much of a social event would that be for us and for our guests?

After attempting to convince the management at the venue that our group is in the most vulnerable age group, few options were available to us if we did not continue with the December 2020 date: (1) Cancel immediately and pay a penalty of \$1,600 or (2) Delay the event until December 2021 and agree to an additional year with both events increasing in cost by 3% each year. The BoD unanimously, but with a significant amount of irritation, agreed to take the second option. Then, when we were ready to move forward, we were presented with a third option: Cancel this year, pay a \$500 cancellation penalty, lock in a 2021 date with no price increase, and no requirement for an event in 2022. Again, the BoD unanimously agreed to this final option.

Fast forward to late September and now the venue has agreed to roll our entire \$1,000 forward to the 2021 event but increase the cost per plate by \$3.00. It's a good deal and we'd likely have been hit with that cost increase per plate in any scenario. Y'all should thank Mike Berry for being the diligent treasurer we all know he is for working this out with the venue.

Our 2019 event was one of the best with an excellent meal and attentive service. I have no doubt the next event at this venue will equal our 2019 event, provided, of course, that it's safe to do so by then. If not, we will revisit this again late next summer. Until then, let's all stay safe and keep having fun with the world's greatest hobby!

## SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

Bob Dawson Division Clerk

The September meeting was held on Saturday September 19 at 2 PM. The meeting was again held virtually using the Zoom Conferencing platform. Twenty-four members and guests were in attendance. Visitors from the Central Indiana Division were Tom Cain, our guest presenter, and Tom Horback. Also visiting was Bruce McKeown, a frequent presenter at our Division 8 meetings. "New" member Bruce DeMaeyer was recognized. Bruce has relocated to Louisville from Lexington where he was a member of Division 10.

Achievement Program chairman Joe Fields reported that the AP mentors list has been updated on the Division 8 Website. Joe said to contact him if you have something to be judged. Joe said we can do it safely. Joe said Civil Engineer Merit and AP Certificates will be presented to Fred Soward at the October 4 Celebration Station. Speaking of the Celebration Station, hand sanitizer will be available for purchase. Members who haven't picked up their free sanitizer can do so, and Model Contest winners can pick up their certificates.

The Charlie Keeling Model Contest subject for September was photographs. For the first time the contest was divided into two categories: Model Photo and Prototype Photo. See Barry Christensen's contest report on page 2, and first place photos on page 3. (Continued on page 2)

## TIME TABLE

**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.

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

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

~~**Dec 5**, Div 8 Christmas Party. CANCELLED~~

**Dec 12**, Sat 2 PM, Div 8 Gathering on Zoom.

**CHARLIE KEELING VIRTUAL MODEL CONTEST***Barry Christensen Contest Chairman*

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

The September edition was another first for Division 8 as we had two separate contests and votes, one for model photos and one for prototype photos. This year's photo entries had fascinating stories behind them, sparking interest and curiosity.

There were six entries in the model photo contest. Russ Weis came in first with "Signal with Freight House in the Background." Kevin Jones came in second with "Monon Freights Meet at Orleans, Indiana." There was a tie for third between Bob Frankrone with "Santa Fe 'F' Unit Locomotive" and Ron Ellison with "P & L 4504."

There were nine entries in the prototype photo contest. There was a three-way tie for first with "Deteriorating Caboose" by Bob Frankrone, "Norfolk Southern SD70 at Youngtown Yard" by Craig Hatter, and "UP freight ... at Kansas City" by Kevin Jones.

There was a four-way tie for second with "Awaiting the Morning Run" by Joe Fields, "Fireman Checking his Fire" by Eric Waggoner, "Clear View" by Rick Geerts, and "Canadian National #6060" by Russ Weis.

Third place went to Ron Ellison for "Rio Grande Southern Galloping Goose No. 7." See Scoring Rule #5 at the Contest Rules page under "Charlie Keeling Monthly Model Contest" on the Division 8 website for how contest points are awarded in this situation.

After tallying points for both contests, Bob Frankrone takes the lead with 8, followed by Craig Hatter and Kevin Jones with 7 each, Joe Fields with 6, Russ Weis with 5, Ron Ellison and Rick Geerts with 3 each, and Eric Waggoner with 1.

Contest photos begin Page 3.

The contest at the October 2020 virtual meeting will be for steam locomotives. For information, go here - <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/contest.html>.

See page 7 for entry and voting timelines for the October Contest

**OCTOBER MEETING INFORMATION**

The October meeting is Saturday October 17, 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 online. Bob Frankrone will present "How to Add a Scene to a Layout in 15 Easy Steps".

**ZOOM GATHERING**

This month's Gathering/Roundtable will be Saturday October 10, at 2 PM to 3:30 PM on Zoom. This month the presenters will be in the following order:

- Paul Downs - Shotgun houses
- Russ Weis & Steve Lasher - Layout update
- Tom Guenther - Layout 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) and someone from the Media Committee will help you. We look forward to seeing you on October 10th!

**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; \$20, Eric Waggoner.

**SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT (From page 1)**

Following the business meeting, Tom Cain (Central Indiana Division) gave his presentation, "Adding Signals to the Eastern Illinois Santa Fe (Model Railroad)."

**MEMBER WELFARE***Rick Wehr Chairman*

John Stoltz was in the Hospital for a few days; John is now better and recovering at home. I found out that I had missed Charlie Fackler's passing, so I also sent a belated card to his family.

**MEMBERSHIP***Stan White Chairman*

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

**Westbound Local train with lead Loco #3698 in the second and third block**

Blocks facing Local #3698 show yellow and red Signal for the blocks entered turns red

Left: Tom Cain's Program

Tom presented "Adding Signals to the Eastern Illinois Santa Fe (Model Railroad). Tom explained types of signal systems and how signals work on his model railroad. He also listed sources of materials.

Photo: Screen Shot from Zoom meeting video.

**CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST**



**FIRST PLACE MODEL PHOTO**

Left: Russ Weis took first place with his "Signal with freight house in the background".



**FIRST PLACE PROTOTYPE PHOTO**

A three-way tie.

Right: Bob Frankrone's "Deteriorating Caboose".



Left:

Kevin Jones,  
"UP Freight  
Kansas City".

Right:

Craig Hatter,  
"NS SD70,  
Youngtown  
Yard  
Louisville."



**WEATHERING A COVERED HOPPER (left)**

*Caption and photo by Chris Broughton MMR*

It's early in the Conrail era, and this H32 hopper's days of wearing PRR reporting marks are numbered.

The model is an N-scale Broadway Limited Imports PRR H32 covered hopper. I disassembled the car and weathered it using artist oils from a tube (burnt sienna followed by burnt umber) thinned with Turpenoid (an odorless thinner). I apply the oils with a Q-tip, then remove most of it from the panels until I get the effect seen in the photo. I used an airbrush to mist-on some grime and a dusting along the sills and trucks. Lastly, it gets sealed with a coat of Tamiya TS-80 clear flat.

**JEWELRY STORE (right)**

*Caption and photos by Joe Fields*

The HO building is a Walthers Cornerstone Jewelry store kit. After painting the brick a dark brown, I trimmed out the concrete parts with concrete color and painted the curved display windows with black and silver trim at the top and bottom. The kit comes with curved clear plastic window showcases along with thin card stock inserts for the display windows. I have a sticker maker so I put the window displays in printed side down to give me a reverse sticker then the window display stickers were applied directly to the curved glass pieces. Also included on the card stock sheet is a nice sign, interior for the jewelry store that makes it look like it has counters etc., venetian blinds for the other windows,



and a piece that looks like a staircase going up to second floor. I added some roof details then weathered the roof, roof details and the brick areas of the building. Woodland Scenics "Just Plug" lights were added along with customers inside and coming out of the store.

**CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST-October 2020 Virtual Contest Entry and Voting and Schedule**

The Charlie Keeling Model Contest year began in August and, as announced at the June General Meeting, the Monthly Contest is now virtual.

The October Contest is *Steam Locomotives*.

A reminder will be sent out, but below are some of the Contest timeline dates for October:

- October 3rd - First day to submit entries
- October 10th - Last day to submit entries
- October 14th - Members will receive the contest entries
- October 15th & 16th - Voting in Groups.io, email to Division 8 or phone, text, SMS
- October 17th - 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> . To enter the October Contest, email your Steam Locomotive model photo along with the Contest Entry Form as a PDF file to [division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com](mailto:division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com) . Contest dates will also be listed in the Groups.io Calendar. And 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.

**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**

*Joe Fields, AP Chairman*

When you read this, we will have entered the Fall season with temperatures becoming cooler and chores outside becoming less and less. What better time to get back to those model railroad projects that you put on hold for the summer, or maybe finish or plan a new project with maybe the intent to have it judged for a merit award?

If you need help, there are several folks in the Division who have volunteered to offer advice and help on each of the categories you can choose from for MMR. Here's the list of Division 8 AP Coaches: Author-Rick Tipton, Dispatcher-Bob Dawson, Structures-Chris Broughton, Scenery-Bob Kuchler, Benchwork-Rick Maloney, Cars-Ed Brennan, Engineer-Civil-Fred Soward, Engineer-Electrical-Russ Weis, Volunteer-Bob Frankrone, Motive Power-Joe Fields, Golden Spike-Mark Norman. These folks are listed on the Division 8 web site also. If you have a problem, all you have to do is get in touch with them and they will be glad to arrange a get-together and try to answer any questions you might have.

There's one category not listed, and that's Prototype Modeler. If someone would be interested in coaching this category please let me know. As always if you need something judged, email or call me and I'll arrange to have judges look at your work. That's it for this time and remember to have fun as you build the layout of your dreams.



**MORE PHOTOS FROM SEPTEMBER CONTEST**  
Above: Kevin Jones came in second in model category with "Monon Freights Meet at Orleans, Indiana."



Above Right: One of the four second place prototype category winners "Awaiting the Morning Run" by Joe Fields (taken at Ravenna KY).

**TRACKSIDE WITH LARRY RAMSDELL**

Left:

Larry Ramsdell, son-in-law of Division 8 Superintendent Fred Soward, took this photo of North Shore Mining 653. The crew is working the tailings basin near Silver Bay, MN. The SD40-3 locomotive was originally built as an SD40 and started life as UP 3674. North Shore Mining, a part of the larger Cleveland Cliffs organization, runs a 47-mile railroad from the iron ore mine in Babbitt, MN to the taconite processing plant in Silver Bay, MN.



**STEVE AND RUSS'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE**

*By Steve Lasher*

Russ Weis and I just got back from a recent trip that combined some family business for Russ with some rail-fanning for us. We spent Monday morning in Detroit letting Russ get his business done and headed down to Fostoria, Ohio that afternoon. It took a little while to find the "Iron Triangle" railfan park and get oriented, and of course, we managed to get there during a lull. So, being a wee bit hungry, we opted to go get our motel room (not a lot of choices in Fostoria except the Best Western) and find something to eat.



By the time we got back to the park it was almost dark which is not necessarily a bad thing as the signals are much easier to see after dark. The action led off with a couple of NS trains on the old Nickel Plate. Then CSX got cranked up on the old B&O mainline. By this time it was dark and you could easily see the signals on a three track signal bridge at East Fostoria about 2 miles to the east. The signals at Fostoria and East Fostoria cleared up for an eastbound on the south track and in about 15 minutes or so airhorns

Left: Photo by Russ Weis

from the west announced the first eastbound's arrival. After he passed, lo and behold, the signals cycled to "clear" for a second eastbound following. I told Russ that, to borrow the old quote about "a picture being worth a thousand words"; I could have talked for

hours about how this would work but seeing it in person was far better than any explanation I could give. Being after dark just added to the drama.

The next morning we went back to the park for a couple of hours and NS and CSX didn't disappoint. Being a little pressed for time we reluctantly left for Marion, about an hour's drive from Fostoria.

At Marion we lucked out because that afternoon, Pete White, the former towerman at Marion, was there to give us the guided tour and a demonstration of how interlockings and interlocking signals worked. There are working signals and tower levers that Pete could use to make the demonstration more authentic and, of course, he was an authentic and accurate source for all things railroad-signaling-wise.

**GROUPS.IO**

*Division 8 Media Committee*

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 September if you'd like to know what's there:

- #Flea Market Friday the 1st Friday of the month
- September 2020 Charlie Keeling Model Contest
- Operations SIG Virtual Meetup
- Roundhouse Electric Trains Newsletter
- Division 8 Zoom General Meeting Information
- September Zoom Gathering information
- September 2020 NMRAX Virtual Convention
- Prototype Wednesdays
- Monday thru Friday - The most interesting content from around the world wide web

**REVISION TO DIVISION 8 BYLAWS**

A copy of the Division 8 Bylaws with proposed changes has been sent by email to Division 8 Members. If you didn't receive the email from Division 8 with a copy of the Bylaws, check your email or send a request to [Division8.MCR.NMRA@gmail.com](mailto:Division8.MCR.NMRA@gmail.com).

The primary purpose for these changes is to permit electronic voting for Division Elections.

Members will have an opportunity to ask questions and comment at the October meeting, and vote on them at the November meeting.

**CELEBRATION STATION**

Join us at the 600 Building parking lot for our next Celebration Station on Sunday October 4, 2020 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

If you weren't able to get to Celebration Station in July, stop by and pick up your 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. We take credit cards for your secure purchase. Remain in your vehicle and we will come to you. We will be wearing face masks, practicing social distancing and using plenty of Division 8 hand sanitizer.

We will also be presenting any Achievement Certificates earned since the last Celebration Station. And if you earned a Contest Certificate in August or September, stop by and pick it up.

**SILVER SPIKE 2020**

Silver Spike Committee: Rick Maloney, Bob Dawson, Ron Ellison

Plan to join us virtually at the November 21, 2020 Division 8 General Meeting for the 2020 Silver Spike presentation.

The Silver Spike Committee will make their way to the recipient's home and video the presentation to share with the membership.

The Silver Spike 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.



**UPDATED 8/30/20**

**Central Indiana Division  
of the  
National Model Railroad Association**

*Presents the*

**Danville Train Show**  
**Saturday - November 21, 2020**

Masks Required - Hand Sanitizer Stations, - Contact Tracing

**Admission**  
**\$3.00 per person**  
**\$5.00 per family**



**Hendricks County Fair Grounds**  
ON OLD US 36 (E. MAIN ST.) - 12 MILES WEST OF I-465  
CORNER OF E. MAIN ST. & COUNTY ROAD 200 E (across from post office)

**10 AM to 3 PM**

**Show Features**

• Operating Layouts	• Displays
• Dealer Tables	• Model Judging
• 2 Clinics	• Door Prizes
• Free Parking	• Social Distancing

• **Popular Vote Contest** •  
**Favorite 100x100 Scale Feet Street Running Display**  
 Model registration: 10am to 11am  
 Voting open: 11am to 1:30pm  
 Winners announced: 1:30pm  
 All in attendance are asked to be sure and stop by the contest table and vote for your favorite 100"x100" scale display.

Map to Hendricks County  
4-H & Convention Center  
1900 E. Main St., Danville, Indiana 46122-0007



Dealer Tables \$16.00 each [8 foot] Setup from 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM  
 Vendor table request forms at <http://www.cidnmra.org>  
 For information contact John Poray, (317) 627-1660 or [johnporay@gmail.com](mailto:johnporay@gmail.com)

Check out our website at <http://www.cidnmra.org>

Above:

West Buffalo tower has routed a Canadian National transfer over the Suspension bridge to Canada. Van Hobbies engine detailed by Steve Lasher, 8 hatch reefer kit by Bruce McKeown.

Photo by Russ Weis

**OFFICERS**

Superintendent:	Fred Soward	502-499-0770
Asst. Supt:	Eric Waggoner	502-244-6628
Clerk:	Bob Dawson	502-368-2607
Treasurer:	Mike Berry	502-245-1337

**TRUSTEES**

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

**COMMITTEE DIRECTORS**

Achievement Program	Joe Fields	502-396-3503
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 Guenther	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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 Box 99041  
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 502-653-5371

Editor: Bob Dawson  
 Asst. Editor: Rick Tipton  
 Publisher EPieCard-Ron Ellison

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Please address all correspondence to Bob Dawson, Editor, 7305 Ticonderoga Dr., Louisville, KY 40214 or email: dawsobl@aol.com.

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  
 For selections, prices,  
 and order form, go to:  
[div8-mcr-nmra.org](http://div8-mcr-nmra.org) and  
 click on "Company Store".

