

**NMRA Mid-Central Region Division 9**  
**Minutes**  
**June 14, 2008**

The business meeting of Division 9 was held at WV Hobbies & Crafts.

The meeting was called to order by Asst. Superintendent Bob Weinheimer at 2:00 PM. .

Attendees introduced themselves.

Those attending: Bob Weinheimer, Greg McCartney,

**Clerk Report:** Cash stands at approx \$1100. Our WV charitable status has been approved and we now have a checking account.

Superintendent: Lin was in Columbus attending his grandchild's birthday.

**Asst Super Report:**

Mike Brestel has asked that Division 9 write a "success story" article on how our division was resurrected. Bob has prepared a draft and several members are working on reviewing it. Several members attended the Cleveland regional convention. There was some wonderful modeling in the contests. Bob gave a clinic on operations with good attendance. Bill Wadsworth reported on the tours which included a tour of a Wheeling & Lake Erie museum. Several members also went on layout tours and saw some great layouts. Bob mentioned that many were not fully finished so members shouldn't feel that their layouts need to be complete to be included on our tours for 2010. The Columbus convention is to be held the first weekend of May in 2009.

Webmaster report: In March there were 2200 page views, in April there were 3200, May 3800. This is up from 600-700 in our first few months. The most recent newsletter has been getting lots of views. Layout pictures and minutes are also popular.

Achievement Program: Jerry Doyle has paperwork for association volunteer. Dwight Sherman is very close to Electrical Engineer. Tony Parrish, James Moore, Gary Burdette are all working on their Chief Dispatcher. For the period of April – May we received 15 of the 40 AP awards in the MCR.

2010 Convention – Part of today's clinic will deal with the convention. We had planned on using the Holiday Inn but after considering Embassy Suites the issue was reconsidered. The price for ES is the same as Holiday Inn and the facilities are much nicer. Rooms will be more expensive but the price includes breakfast and happy hour along with a suite. Parking will be cheaper as well. Bob and Lin signed a contract on June 12. The banquet is set for 100 attendees, the price should be in the range of \$45 (the hotel tries to hold the increases to 5% per year). We also need to come up with a name for our convention. We will discuss names at the July meeting. Greg and Jerry will head up the car committee to come up with a souvenir car or cars for the convention.

**Editor's Report:** The deadline for articles for the next issue is June 20. The NMRA court case challenging the Sound DCC patents of Real Rail Effects has been successful.

**Membership Chairman:** none.

**Achievement Program:** Bob reported that 8 applications were submitted in March for the AP programs. Several others are close to submitting additional applications. Details for working with BSA model railroading merit badges were discussed.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

The St Albans club will have a sale on August 9 at 2:00. The possibility of moving our meeting to coincide with this meeting was discussed.

**Announcements:**

The St Albans club will have a sale on August 9.

Future Meetings

July 12 – Lin Young’s in Gallipolis, Ohio, Contest offline Structures, Clinic “Grafton and Greenbrier Operations” by the G&G crew.

August 9 – WV Hobby & Crafts or St Albans.

September 13 – Mark Maynard’s in Portsmouth. We will also have a mini flea market and cookout. Several other divisions will be invited.

October 11 -- Clint Foster’s in Ronceverte, WV.

Other events

Bob Weinheimer gave a clinic on inventorying equipment and 2010 convention planning.

Many tasks will be required such as

**Registrar** (Tony Puccini has volunteered for this job),

**Financial** person (cash flows are important),

**Facilities** , (hotel)

**Clinics** (themes, speakers, equipment, schedule clinics, signs),

**Non-Rail Clinic** (much like rail clinics),

**Publicity** (NMRA function so this is more internal, visit other divisions and promote convention, advertising in Scale Rails),

**Contest** (local works with regional chair, set up registration procedure, tabulate scores, judging is taken care of at regional level, presentation of awards),

**Hotel layouts** (local modular layouts),

**Layout Tours** (identify layouts of members and nonmembers and clubs, establish schedule, develop directions, print tour guide),

**Operating Sessions** (typically on Thursday night, registrar gets list and assigns participants, transportation plan to facilitate),

**Tours: Rail and Industrial** (develop list of potential tours, work with sites to determine if they can accommodate visits, determine special requirements, develop schedule of events to maximize participation and minimize costs),

**Hospitality** (keep suite stocked with refreshments, magazines, videos)

**Raffle** (beat bushes for donations, manage collection of tickets/funds pick winners and distribute items),

**Silent Auction** (log items, determine winners, collect/distribute items money)

Company Store (solicit items from region and other divisions)

Contest Online structures: Members discussed their contest entries and the various methods to build them. Winner JD Cabin by Jerry Doyle.

There was no raffle sale.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Doyle, NMRA MCR Division 9 Clerk.