

NMRA DIVISION 9, MCR

Meeting minutes, March 12, 2011

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: The meeting was held at the home of Lin and Bev Young in Gallipolis, OH. Bob Weinheimer opened the meeting at 2:02PM by thanking Lin and Bev for their hospitality. Following the opening members and guests present introduced themselves.

DIVISION CLERK REPORT: As Jerry was not present there was no minutes of the February meeting nor a treasury report. The February minutes will appear in the UTH newsletter.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Bob congratulated assistant super Gary Burdette on his attaining MMR status. Bob spoke on the NMRA Diamond club and noted that the NMRA image collection is starting to appear on line at nmra.org. Contributions are approaching 100K and another approximately 300K is needed to make the entire NMRA collection available on line. Bob further mentioned that at least four members of Division 9 had contributed to this continuing effort. Bob also mentioned that he was preparing a list of anticipated events which our Division will participate in. The purpose of this is to notify our national insurance program of events for which a claim might be presented. It was noted that the long awaited "members only" section of the NMRA web site had not appeared as of March 12. There were a number of items discussed at the February NMRA Board meeting which Bob passed on to us. The Board decided that all merchandise sold by Regions or Divisions must meet all NMRA standards. This obviously refers to model railroad equipment and not items such as our shirts, name badges, etc. The temporary practice of two NMRA vice presidents put in place in July, 2010 was made permanent. National is working on plans for celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Achievement Program. Regular communications between members and National is being studied. An alternative is needed for those who do not subscribe to the magazine. Better than expected dues and non dues income along with several significant bequests and lower than expected expenses has put National's finances in good shape. Standards for modern clearances for such equipment as "double stacks" is being explored. National is looking for innovative ideas for future conventions. This might include such ideas as holding the convention on a cruise ship with events on board and at the ports of call.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Gary discussed his continuing efforts, along with other members, to develop educational and display materials related to model and prototype railroading and related subjects. Gary presented a handout with several ideas along these lines.

WEBMASTER: Visits continue to grow a bit at a time.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM: Again, congratulations to Gary. All members were urged to look over their activities as they may be much closer to a certificate than they realize.

NOMINATIONS: No report

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: John Harris reports that name badges are available and many are already distributed. John mentioned the need for volunteers to man our table at the Dunbar Show in April.

UTH EDITOR: Submissions still needed; otherwise going well

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dennis McGeeney has gone back to pushing an 18 wheeler and sends his regards. Charlie Venable's wife Brenda is having serious health issues and also has been put out of work by the closing of Flower's Bakery in Bluefield

NEXT MEETINGS: April at Teays Valley and May in Parkersburg WV with layout visits

CONTEST: Freight cars

CLINIC: Operations on Lin's G&G

Respectfully submitted;
Dan Mulhearn, acting Div Clerk