



UP THE HOLLER

Newsletter of Division 9
THE COAL DIVISION

Mid Central Region NMRA

June 2015



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From the Head the Holler By Gary J. Burdette, MMR

It has been a busy month in the Coal Division. We started things out at our annual “Steel is King Day” in Parkersburg. Thanks to Dave, Rhonda, their son Davey, and Paul for all the hard work making for a great outing and meeting. The food, trains, and friendship shared can’t be beat.

Part of the business at hand involved changing responsibility for clinics and the raffle to Bob Osburn and Dennis McGeeny, respectively. A special thank you to Paul Lapointe and Dan Mulhearn for their stellar efforts in managing these programs the last couple of years. These two activities have been a high point for our division and are anticipated each month.

A possible schedule conflict for the September meeting in Portsmouth was noted. Plans were coming together for layout and museum tours (and a possible train ride) in Elkins after about a year in the works.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to schedule the September meeting for the third Saturday in Elkins. The Portsmouth meeting is tentatively moved to October. More information on both will follow.

May 10th was National Train Day at the St. Albans Depot with a couple of our guys helping out. Thanks, especially, to Bob Mersheimer and the extras that he saw to as part of the show. Bill Bartley arranged things for the backdrop for the Amtrak and Operation Displays. Valerie Little from the Chamber of Commerce had activities scheduled, as well. Thanks to everyone for their hard work.

The end of the month saw several of us attending the Mid-Central Region Convention in Lexington, Ky. Tours, clinics, contests, and other activities provided attendees with much enjoyment. New friendships were made and old ties renewed. Dan Kennedy won Best-of-Show for his huge basic oxygen steel plant. Larry Richards won several awards including first, second, and third place in diesel, first in cabooses, second in passenger cars, and second in displays (several being of merit status). Your humble super took second in non-revenue with a merit score and People’s Choice Cars, third in displays, first in Railroadiana, with a People’s Choice in Arts and Crafts. The division was well represented with attendees, clinicians, and modelers.

Marion, Ohio and the old depot marks the locale for the June meeting with the Buckeye Division. There will be morning and afternoon clinics, a surprise at lunch, and the business meeting. Oh, did I mention that there will be lots of trains? Also, there will be a flea market to relieve you of your money. This has always been a lot of fun.

In July, Bob Weinheimer has invited us to his house to meet (in the afternoon) and run some trains. Here will be an opportunity to hit Chuck’s and/or Sherri’s and eat at Rio Grande or Diehl’s before gathering at the Pennsylvania Southern at our regularly scheduled meeting time.

We are looking at “Picnic on the Platform” for the August meeting at the St. Albans Depot. This has become a yearly event with a lot of appeal. We’ll see who can bring what at the July meeting.

Finally, the CSXT/Chessie System Historical Society 2015 Joint Convention will be based at the St. Albans Depot on June 4, 5, 6, and 7. We plan some simple slide shows in the evenings around 7:00 at the end of a day of rail fanning. All the Division 9 members are welcome to attend and bring some C&O, Chessie, or CSX photos from our area to show.

Hopefully, all of you will be able to take part in this busy schedule of railroad activities. See you soon!

OLD FRIENDS

Dan Mulhearn, Assistant Superintendent

I renamed my column for this month as a remembrance of the wonderful convention we just attended at Lexington, KY last weekend. As it happened, I was surfing my favorite Sirius channels on the drive home. On Willie's Roadhouse up came Willie himself singing the song *Old Friends* along with the late Ray Price and the late Roger Miller. I got to thinking about all the old friends I have made in this hobby; some going back almost fifty years and some just a few years. Some have passed on and I think especially, this year, about Howard Smith. When I thought I had all my ducks in a row as contest chairman at our 2010 Charleston convention, Howard quickly disabused me of that notion. Howard got me squared away with a gentle voice and a smile but he was all business about the running of the contest. It was always a treat to see Howard at joint meetings or conventions, his quiet manner and his obvious enjoyment of our hobby were always in evidence. There are old friends I see regularly and those seen only occasionally. They bring so many different skills and personalities to the hobby and I am blessed to know them. This year my wife and I will be traveling to the National at Portland, OR with old friend, Bruce Knapp. We will all be on the Cardinal and the Empire Builder on the way out and are looking forward to a fun but less adventurous experience than when we met on the way to Sacramento in 2011 and ended up in Los Angeles. Of course, Amtrak, in its wisdom is not allowing us to ride the same train back, figuring they are taking enough of a chance letting us ride out together. One last comment on this old friends theme. Last Saturday a bus load of us rode out to see the NS yard which serves the large Toyota plant outside Lexington. There were people who knew each other and there were several brand new old friends made in the seats around. After introductions the talk quickly turned to what railroad do you model? What's your era? The bus was soon a roar with conversations about railroads, prototype and model.

If you have never attended a regional convention you are missing a good dose of model railroading. The folks in Lexington put on a wonderful convention with great clinics and trips. The food at the hotel was wonderful, and reasonably priced. Our Division 9 members walked away with a bunch of awards from the contest room; including Dan Kennedy's Best of Show for his fantastic and large steel mill building.

I am looking forward to seeing more old friends at Marion at our May meeting. Good conversation, clinics, passing trains, lunch at the Shovel! The long ride is more than worth it. See you there.

CONTEST REPORT

Paul Lapointe

May's Contest:

The category was Steel Mill Modeler's Choice.

There were only two entries.

Gary Burdette brought in his scratch-built coke car, shown in the attached diorama picture. Dave Stout entered his realistically weathered slag car (picture unavailable).

The result was a tie! Congratulations to both modelers.



Next Month:

June's meeting is in Marion at the train station. It's an all day joint meeting with Division 6. Their contest is only for Division 6 members. Our contest will be Passenger Cars.

RAFFLE REPORT

Dennis McGeeny

Paul Lapointe had done a great job as raffle chairman over the past few years. His hard work has resulted in good results for the Division and has been a fun part of the monthly meetings. I will be taking over as raffle chairman. We need your donations to make the raffle bigger and better than ever. We all have items we can donate, please bring yours to the meeting.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Bob Weinheimer, MMR

The news this month is that Paul Lapointe has submitted his paperwork for the Model Railroad Author certificate. This was submitted in early May and the absence of any negative feedback suggests to me that it has been approved. Congratulations to Paul!

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9

THE COAL DIVISION

Steel Is King

Dave Stout's Home

Parkersburg, WV

May 2, 2015

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 1:16 p.m. Members introduced themselves.

Division Clerk Report

Treasury balance is currently \$8,963.17

April minutes were approved.

Shirt revenues were \$0.

Raffle revenues \$0.

Superintendent Report

Gary thanked everyone for the good turnout and thanked Dave and Rhonda for hosting the meeting. Recruiting modelers over 40, an effort by the NMRA National was discussed. Gary mentioned having additional activities for the group. He brought some ideas for other clinics for members and the public. Understanding what draws people to the hobby and what the Division and NMRA in general have to offer is key. A modular display layout and clinics live and on DVD might provide additional interest. NMRA National has sent the division a library of clinics on DVD.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Dan thanked Dave and his family for hosting the meeting. Seeing Dave's modeling gives him inspiration in his own efforts.

Achievement Program

Bob mentioned a couple of members who aren't regular meeting attendees who are close to the work for AP certificates. Gary commented that it's a way to challenge yourself to learn and try new things.

Newsletter Chair

Bob said a large percentage of members are reading the newsletters. Contributions are always welcome.

Clinic Chair

Dan needs a clinic for August. We now have a library of NMRA clinics that might be available for checkout and viewing at meetings. Bob Osburn volunteered to take over clinics.

Membership Chair

No report.

Raffle

There was no raffle. Last month netted \$58. Gary thanked Paul for making the raffle fun. Dennis McGeeney volunteered to take over the raffle.

Old Business

Bob Weinheimer mentioned that some bylaws may be changing with the effort to give 501 (c)(3) status to all NMRA divisions and regions.

Howard Smith's collection will be auctioned July 18 in Columbus, Ohio. Details will follow in the newsletter.

New Business

Dan told everyone that Clint Foster has been diagnosed with lung cancer; please keep him in your thoughts.

Jim Porterfield distributed a flyer for the railway heritage tourism program at Davis and Elkins College.

The question of September's meeting was discussed. It was moved and seconded to move the meeting to the third weekend of September to Elkins.

Announcements

MADD:

Nathan Robinette gave a clinic on different types of rail manufactured at Midwest Steel in Pomeroy, Ohio. Gary showed a display about the history of nails and one from Foote Mineral.

Future Meetings

June 13 – Marion, OH Joint Division 6 Meeting

July 11 – Charleston, WV Bob Weinheimer's

August 8 – St Albans Depot

September 19 – Elkins, WV.

October 10 – Portsmouth

November 14 – Bluefield, WV

Meeting adjourned 2:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

MY WORD

Bob Weinheimer, Editor

As Gary Burdette and Dan Mulhearn have noted elsewhere, the Mid-Central Region convention in Lexington was a rousing success. It was a great time seeing old friends as Dan noted and for making new friends. Elsewhere in this issue you can find photos of the contest winning models entered by Coal Division members. Of course, the Best of Show was earned by Dan Kennedy for his massive and most impressive basic oxygen furnace. This was, in my humble opinion, the best and biggest he's ever done. Dan presented a clinic about the construction of the structure, we heard that the family cat even walked through it at least once. I was surprised to see Dan in my clinic on operations. It seems he has negotiated more layout space and is interested in implementing an operating scheme. You can be sure the operators among us will be very willing to help Dan with this project.

As Gary also noted, I have stuck my neck out and offered to host the July membership meeting. We will have trains to run or you can just look at the layout. The track projects I described in past issues will be available for your inspection as well. I am not in a position to serve lunch so you are on your own for that. The doors will open at 12:30pm with the business meeting at 2pm. I will keep the layout operating until about 5pm. As some of you know, parking is tight up here on the hill so please consider car pooling. Alternatively, if the day is nice, park at the Fort Hill Child Development Center on Wilkie Drive and walk about 3/8 of a mile (uphill) if your circumstances permit.

There is an ad in this issue for a structure project by the Buckeye Division, check it out on page 10.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

The goal of the newsletter team is to have this document reach you by email or snail mail at least one week prior to our meetings. We typically do the layout work the Wednesday 10 days before the meeting with distribution Thursday or Friday. For this to happen reliably, we need all items for publication by the Monday 12 days prior to the meeting. If we don't get it on time we can't print it. Please help us give you the most up to date information possible. Here are the deadlines for the next few issues.

July	June 29
August	July 27
September	August 31
October	September 28
November	November 2
December	November 30

The Estate of Howard R. Smith

Saturday, July 18th, 2015

1:00pm (Doors open 11am)

11015 US Route 23, Lockbourne Ohio 43137

(Enter off of State Route 762)

Some of the items offered (In no particular order):

Locomotives to include: Brass engines, steam, diesels, many DCC (some with sound) and more (most in original boxes). Rolling stock such as passenger cars, LOTS of hoppers & box cars, tankers, flatbeds, cabooses etc (most have metal wheels).....Structures (Some built, some new in box); Power supplies and electrical components; DCC equipment; turn outs; track; KD couplers; toggle switches; terminal strips; block detectors and MUCH MUCH MORE!!! Some of the names associated with these items: Bachman, Proto 2000, Athearn, Walther, Akane, Westside Model Co., Digitrax & others. A complete Bachman G-scale Garden train set with track; Several Railroad & related books; tools; Railroad collectibles from artwork to cookie jars; B&O depot step; an original switch stand and signal head straight from the track!; B&O stock certificate; marked oil/ water cans; watch fobs; train displays; and sooo much more not listed above!

Auctioneer's note: Not only being titled as a Master Model Railroader, Howard was an active member of the Columbus Model Railroaders Club and was the recipient of many awards for his artistic abilities and scratch built models. Although his layout was primarily B&O, there are other RR Lines as well. Howard was also the co-owner of "On-Track Hobbies" and there will be some "new stock"/ inventory from their trade shows. Something for everybody that's into HO trains.

Estate of Howard R. Smith, Sharon K. Smith Executor, Franklin Co. PCC #572259

Gibbs Auction Service Inc.

www.gibbsauctionservice.net

(740)-983-1110

Robert H. Gibbs and Associate Auctioneers
Adam Peterson, Apprentice Auctioneer

*Terms posted and announced day of auction, Food available.

(Above information copied and pasted with necessary formatting from auctioneer's web site.)

MEETING NOTICE

The June meeting will be a joint meeting with the Buckeye Division on June 13 in Marion, Ohio. This has become an annual event with lots of fun. There are three clinics including one by Coal Division Superintendent Gary Burdette. There will also be a flea market, swap meet, and contests. See Paul Lapointe's column on page 2 for contest details. Of course, Marion is a hot spot for train watching so expect lots of action. While Marion is a bit of a long trip for some members, it is well worth the time in the car. See you there!

Host: Marion Union Station Association

Schedule:

9:00: Marion Union Station opens.

9:45: AP Judging, Flea Market, Swap Meet, & Bring 'n Brag entries.

10:00: Clinic: *Researching, Rail Fanning and Modeling the Winding Gulf* by Frank Bongiovanni.

11:00: Clinic: *Modeling Railroad Depots* by Gary Burdette

12:00: Lunch (on your own)

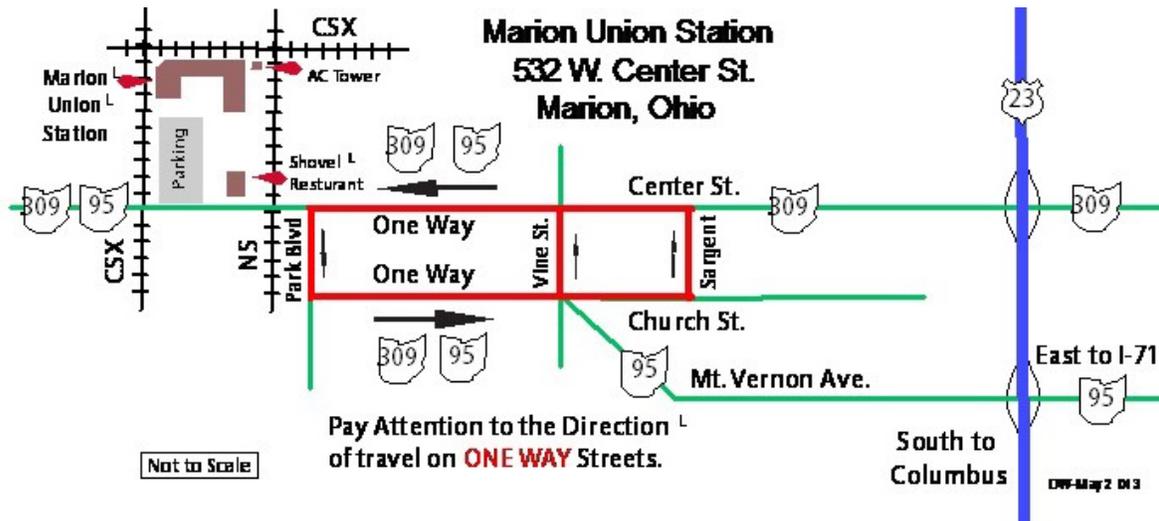
1:30: Bring 'n Brag voting closes

1:30: Clinic: *Prototype Rail Cars* by "Lucky" Lon Wilson

2:30: Joint Division 6 & 9 Business Meeting, raffle, and awards.

All Day: Train Watching!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Layout: Marion Club



Coal Division Members and the Convention Contest

As noted elsewhere in this issue, member of the Coal Division did very well at the recent Mid-Central Region contest. At this time we only have photos for first place winners, others should be available next month. All photos by Don Wilke.

Judged Model Contest

Best of Show: Dan Kennedy for his basic oxygen furnace Dan also won the Peoples Choice Award for Structures.



Caboose: Larry Richards won first place in this category.



Diesel Locomotives: Larry Richards swept this category winning first place: photo below, second place: top of next column and third place: below second.





Displays: Larry Richards took second place and Gary Burdette took third place. Larry won the People's Choice Award for Displays.

Larry's display:



Non-Revenue Cars: Gary Burdette took second place. Gary's model also won the Peoples Choice Award for rolling stock.

Gary's display:



Passenger Cars: Larry Richards took second and third places.



Continues on page 9.

NMRA InfoNet News
May 2015 Tom Draper – HLM, DSA, FA
Director – Support Services

From Don Phillips,
 NMRA Publications Department Manager:
 Publications Department

I'm excited to be able to let everyone know just what the NMRA Publications Department is responsible for doing. Here's what we're involved in:

NMRA Magazine — Kevin EuDaly of White River Productions, along with editor Cinthia Priest and Advertising Sales Manager/Graphic Designer Todd Gillette, continue to put out a state-of-the-art, professional-quality product. With a constant variation of articles, there is usually something of interest to everyone, no matter which branch of the hobby you follow. As an in-house periodical, the Magazine is heavily subsidized by National, thus allowing us to limit the number of advertisements. This gives us a far better article-to-advertisement ratio than the average trade magazine. That, coupled with a current subscription price of only \$1.83 an issue, makes the NMRA Magazine just about the best buy in model railroading you'll ever find. Periodically the subject of going digital with an electronic magazine comes up. Each time, after much discussion, it has been decided - - - Maybe sometime in the future, but as for today, it's just not practical for our organization.

NMRA Calendar — At the end of each year, U.S. members receive the official NMRA calendar for the coming year. Not only does it show the dates of all NMRA-related events throughout the year and some of the winning models from the previous National Convention, it also features 13 great model railroad photos. If you were to go out and buy a comparable calendar from a retail source, expect to pay at least ten dollars and up (mostly up). Just one more of the many benefits of being a NMRA member. The Calendar is one of our main fundraising efforts, thanks to the contributions of those members who submit the photos, put the calendar together, and send in contributions after receiving it. The Calendar is available to non-U.S. members for a small fee that covers postage and handling. Non-U.S. members can order one or more Calendars by contacting HQ at nmrahq@aol.com . We have the hard work of Mike Brestel, Tom Morrison, and all the photographic contributors to thank for a really great NMRA Calendar year after year. **NMRA Books** — A search of the NMRA web site will bring up a list of the current

NMRA Books we have available for sale to both members and the public. Here again, members receive a discount. Although the book committee continues to look for worthy titles, there are no immediate plans for new publications. The Book Committee is headed by Mike

Brestel, who is assisted as necessary by other members of the Publications Department.

NMRA Data Sheets — Over the years the NMRA Data Sheets have become a wealth of model railroad knowledge. In them a member can find out just about anything he or she might want to know about prototype and model railroading, from soldering techniques to where the air compressor was located on a certain prototype locomotive. Thanks to the efforts of Van Fehr and David Johnson, (the current NMRA Data Sheets manager/directors), who are constantly adding new data. Go on the web site and check it out. With a couple of key strokes you can get information it would take hours to research on your own.

NMRA eBulletin — For getting important information out to the members quickly, the eBulletin has proved invaluable but it takes a lot of work from a crew of volunteers to put it together. Among those are Gerry Leone, Chuck Diljak, Page Martin, and Ben Sevier and the NMRA IT team. One of the things that cause a lot of extra work is when members fail to notify HQ when they change their email address. A simple email to the division membership chairman would do it – he or she can then forward it to HQ for action.

When I took over as Publications Manager from Mike Brestel, I knew I had some big shoes to fill. Fortunately I inherited a great committee consisting of Larry DeYoung, Tony Koester, Gerry Leone, and Mike, who covered for me while I got my feet wet. While they carried the ball, I took it upon myself to check out the various departments that came under The Carolina Piedmont Herald May 2015 10 Publication's responsibilities. Although I had been a member for some time, attended division meetings regularly and even served as editor of my division's newsletter for eight years, I was astounded to learn about the member benefits I had been unaware of.

For instance, I had no idea that as a member I was entitled to a free classified ad in the monthly magazine. Nobody told me that. Nor was I aware of the staggering amount of information that was available to me on the Data Sheets. This is especially true, now that you can go to the NMRA web site and click on just about any subject you can think of. And that's just in the area covered by the Publications Department. This makes me wonder how many of our members – even long-time, involved members – are even aware of all the extra benefits available to them, most at absolutely no charge!

Continued next page

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Stopping the bleeding has to take place on the division level, and the best way is with your monthly articles, where you can reach not only the new members, but the older ones as well. Why not devote some space each month to informing your membership of all the things the NMRA has available for them? Who knows, it may help keep some of the hangers-on around for a while longer, maybe long enough to get more involved in the NMRA.

What can it hurt? You know you're always trying to think of something to write about – your members will thank you for filling them in on a whole new world of topics they're not even aware of now.

A Bill – No More Fireballs

From Bloomberg Businessweek

1. In May the U.S. Department of Transportation is expected to release safety standards for tank cars used to haul more than 1 million barrels of highly flammable crude oil daily, most of it from fields in North Dakota through suburbs and cities on their way to refineries across the country. Based on draft rules released last July, the regulations will give tank car owners two or more years to upgrade tankers known as DOT-111s to newer models that are less likely to rupture in a crash.

2. Accidents in February and March triggered major fires

in Illinois, West Virginia, and Ontario. Amid concerns the new DOT rules won't put an end to oil train explosions, Senator Maria Cantwell, a Washington Democrat, has introduced legislation that would require railroads to stop transporting oil in dangerous DOT-111s immediately. It would also require the DOT to set a maximum threshold for the volatility of oil carried by train, shifting some responsibility to oil producers.

3. While Cantwell's bill awaits consideration, the DOT has added restrictions on oil trains. On April 17 the agency issued an order requiring trains carrying flammable oil and ethanol through urban areas – including New York, Chicago, and Washington – to slow to less than 40 mph, a speed limit some railroads voluntarily agreed to in 2014. "This order is necessary because of the recent occurrence of railroad accidents," the department said.

Correction - In the April, 2015 Issue of the InfoNet News an incorrect email address was shown for Tom Winlow, Atlantic District Nominating Chairman. The correct email address for Tom is: tom.winlow@btinternet.com.

If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer. You'll find those addresses at www.nmra.org or in the NMRA Magazine

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Arts and Crafts Railroadiana was won by Gary Burdette, Gary also won the Arts and Crafts Peoples Choice Award.



It is interesting to note that Coal Division members won three of the four possible Peoples Choice Awards for models as well as the Peoples Choice Award for Arts and Crafts. Congratulations to Dan, Gary, and Larry for all of their awards. They proved to the judges that they have the skills and the attendees also loved their work.

For Sale!

Division 6 MCR, NMRA, Inc. is offering a limited run, laser cut model of the B & O RR, station located in Grove City, OH for sale. The model is has a footprint of approximately 50' x 20' and is available in N, HO, S and O scales.

Prices for the models as follows:

N Scale \$25.00 HO Scale \$35.00 S Scale \$59.00 O Scale \$69.00

Models can be purchased at any Division 6 meeting or by mail. Send your order with check or money order, payable to: Division 6, MCR, NMRA Inc. to Division 6 Building Sales, 320 S Main St, Prospect, OH. 43342. Include \$5.00 shipping charge per kit.



GROVE CITY, OHIO MIDLAND STATION

This building is currently located next to the Genesee & Wyoming RR track between Park and Grant streets on Front Street in downtown Grove City, Ohio. The building is owned by the Grove City Historical Society who plan to eventually relocate it to Century Park where it can be preserved and enjoyed by future generations.

When the Cincinnati, Midland City and Columbus RR built the station in about 1885 only the South end of the station housing the station agent and waiting room was completed. The freight room was added at a later date.

In 1891 daily passenger service was added between the then village of Grove City and Union Station in downtown Columbus to provide commuter service to the factory workers in the area surrounding the Union Station. Passenger service was discontinued in the 1950's. In 1891 the Baltimore and Ohio RR assumed operation of the Midland Route.

Now that Up The Holler is a monthly publication, your Pike Ad support is much more important. If you don't already have an ad, please consider buying one. We can help with the art work if necessary.



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Jerry Doyle, President
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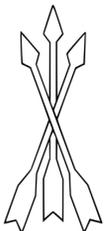
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THOMAS SUBDIVISION**

RUSSEL MILLER - SUPERINTENDENT
RUSSEL22@MSN.COM



NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION

Clint Foster Superintendent
Ronceverte WV

Allegheny & New River Road
An Appalachian Coal Hauling Railroad set in the 50's



Bringing a little bit of West Virginia to the rest of America a few tons at a time



John Harris, Chief Engineer
AandNRR@aol.com

Western West Virginian



With Connections to the
B&O, C&O, Western Maryland,
West Virginia Northern

Woody Higginbotham - Superintendent



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editor@coaldivision.org
to get onto the email dis-
tribution list for Up The
Holler.

Upcoming Coal Division Events

June 13

**Joint Meeting with Division 6
Marion, OH**

July 11

**Bob Weinheimer's Home
Charleston, WV**

August 8

**St. Albans Depot
Fourth Street and Fourth Avenue
St. Albans, WV**

September 12

Elkins, WV