



# UP THE HOLLER

Newsletter of Division 9  
THE COAL DIVISION

Mid Central Region NMRA

July 2015



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

The big trip to Marion, Ohio for a joint day-long meeting with the Buckeye Division is both history and a success. Several enjoyable clinics, numerous trains passing by, a good meal (walleye, for some), and time spent with friends rounded out a great day.

Great adventure awaits us the third Saturday of September when we will meet at the depot in Elkins, West Virginia. A museum tour, layout visits, and maybe, a train ride are in the planning stages.

A little change in schedule puts us back with the Buckeye Division guys at our yearly trek to Portsmouth, Ohio, albeit in October this time. The cookout, train layout, meeting, and time spent visiting comprises an event eagerly awaited.

With the acquisition of the NMRA DVD files and related list, we have the beginning of a nice library and source of clinics to be used, as needed, over the years. These discs are in the NMRA files at the depot. I have a list for our new clinic chair, Bob Osburn. As he plans for future clinics, this new source of topics will help him fill out a schedule of live presentations, demonstrations, and video clinics.

Bob Osburn has also offered the 2 foot by 4 foot modules, as mentioned previously, to the Coal Division as an outreach project where we can build a club railroad and display it to the public periodically. Since there is little storage room at the depot, the idea of a couple of guys joining forces to adopt a module and build a scene was suggested. We could complete our section of a modular model railroad then join all the components to make a completed, operational pike as the need or opportunity arises. Think about this possibility.

Next on our meeting list is a visit to Bob Weinheimer's Pennsylvania Southern Railroad located in Charleston, West Virginia. He will be open for our social gathering at 1:00 with the usual 2:00 meeting. If you have not seen this layout, you need to do so, as it is of the size and caliber of those seen in the model publications. From track layout, to scenery, and train make-up to operations, all aspects of model railroading may be seen and experienced on Bob's line. Come out and run some trains.

We continue to enjoy the St. Albans Depot. As we return to her beloved confines for a possible "Picnic on the Patio," we will note the presence of some new windows and siding. Both of the local modeling groups who use the station may be encouraged to help with some priming and painting as things progress. Mayor Calloway and his maintenance crew have really made the difference in fixing up the depot in recent months.

Summer would be a good time to get back into the swing of model railroading, or get started with the group. So, everyone think about the things I've mentioned, come up with some ideas of your own, and come out to the gatherings of the guys in the Coal Division this summer.

### MY WORD

**Bob Weinheimer, Editor**

As noted on page 4, I will be hosting the July membership meeting. In addition to the business meeting, we will be running trains. Gary Burdette's words in his column are too nice, I don't quite see the layout as he describes it, you can be the judge.

My normally scheduled July session will be Thursday July 9 and the crew, mostly Coal Division members, will be available to help you run trains. The plan is to pick up where we leave off Thursday evening and keep running through the schedule of trains. If you think you might have an interest in operations, this should be an opportunity to see what it is all about. Even if you are not interested in operations, run a train anyway, it can be lots of fun. The regular operators will be more than glad to guide you through the process and act as pilot crew members.

I am not in a position to offer lunch so please arrive fed. There will be pretzels and liquid refreshments available.

The area that had much of its track replaced a few months back has now had the scenery replaced. Tony Puccini recently helped me get Waynesburg looking good again. While we were at it we also finished the scenery on the liftout section connecting the rest of the layout with Neville Island. Tony was a big help and I think he learned a thing or two in the process.

The next track replacement project is to be in Houston at Thayer Sand and Gravel. Part of the track has been built but it won't be installed until after the meeting.

At the June operating session Bob Mershimer played railfan for a while and photographed some of the coal train action. Look for that on pages 5 and 6.

### Best Wishes to Dennis

**Paul Lapointe**

Best wishes to Dennis McGeeney as he takes over the Raffle and Contest Chairmanships from me. I have been asked to take over from Dick Briggs as Regional Contest Manager for MCR. Dick will be managing next year's Regional in Columbus making him too busy to also serve as Contest Manager.

### 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.

August	July 27
September	August 31
October	September 28
November	November 2
December	November 30
January	December 21
February	February 1
March	February 29
April	March 28
May	April 25

## Improve your modeling with a few sheets of paper.

That's exactly what happens when you participate in the National Model Railroad Association's Achievement Program. One Merit Award here, another there, and pretty soon you're on your way to becoming a Master Model Railroader. All the while learning and having a ton of fun.

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## NMRA MCR DIVISION 9 *THE COAL DIVISION*

Marion Union Station

Marion, OH

Joint Meeting with MCR Division 6

June 13, 2015

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:40 p.m.

### **Raffle**

There was no raffle.

### **Division Clerk Report**

Treasury balance is currently \$8,963.17

May minutes were approved.

Shirt revenues were \$0.

Raffle revenues \$0.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Dennis McGeeney will be taking over as contest chair.

### **Superintendent Report**

Gary Burdette reminded members the September meeting will be in Elkins and the October meeting will be in Portsmouth, Oh.

### **Announcements**

Gary reported on recent developments with the St Albans depot. New windows and siding are being installed. We will need help with paint after the siding is completed. He invited everyone to visit at our meetings.

### **Assistant Superintendent Report**

None

### **Achievement Program**

Bob Weinheimer mentioned Paul Lapointe will probably be receiving his Author AP certificate in the near future.

### **Future Meetings**

July 11 – Charleston, WV Bob Weinheimer's

August 8 – St Albans Depot

September 19 – Elkins, WV.

October 10 – Portsmouth, OH

November 14 – Bluefield, WV

### **Newsletter Chair**

Most all members are receiving their newsletter electronically. Our Facebook page has nearly 600 likes.

Meeting adjourned 3:43 p.m.

### **Clinic Chair**

August clinic Bob Weinheimer - Fast Tracks track building system.

Respectfully submitted,

### **Contest Chair**

Railroad photos will the July Contest.

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

### **Membership Chair**

Gary mentioned membership is steady. We try to plan meetings around the region. The September meeting will be in Elkins, WV.

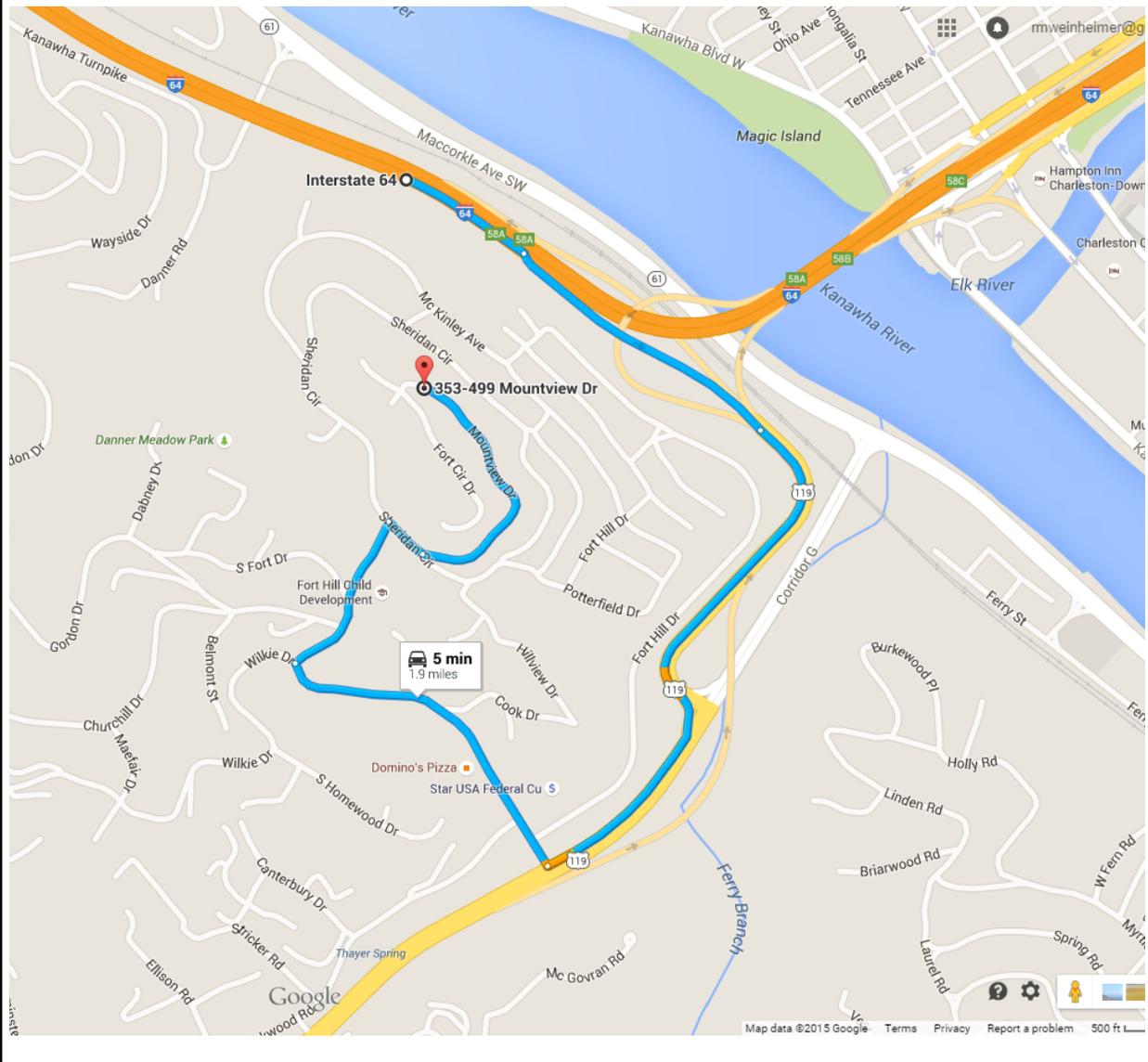
## MEETING NOTICE

The July meeting will be at Bob Weinheimer's home in Charleston, WV. The doors will open at 1PM with the business meeting starting at 2PM. There will be a raffle and the contest is photographs. The normal operating crew will be on hand to assist any member who wants to run a train. If you want to get a feel for operations, here is your chance.

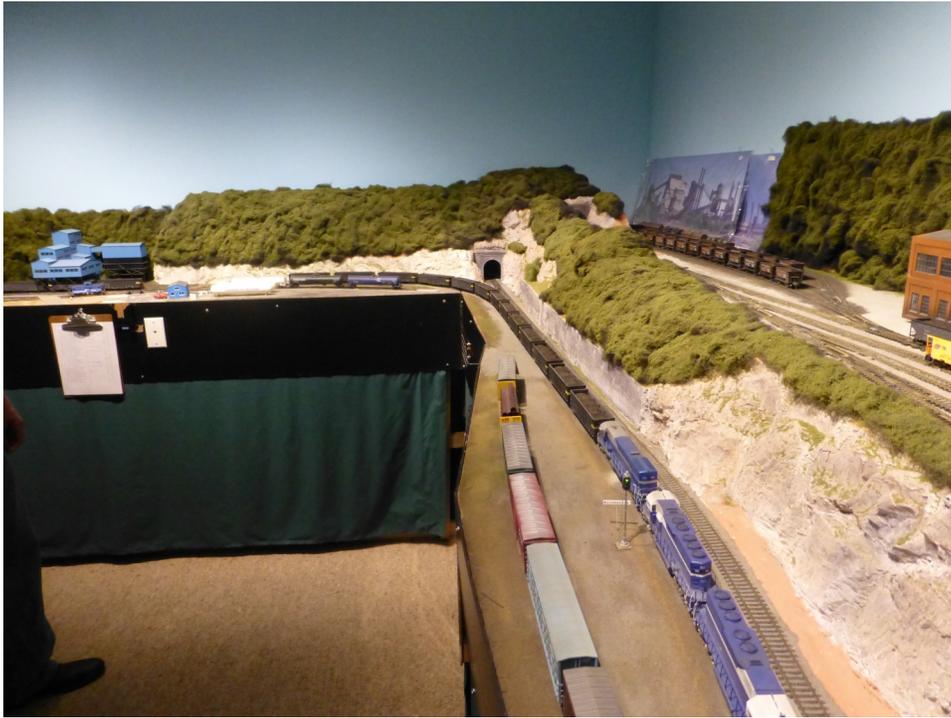
Bob's address is 398 Mount View Drive, put that into your GPS and you should be in good shape. Note that Google Maps does not show the correct location for this address so avoid its use to find your way to the meeting. If GPS isn't your thing, leave I-64, either direction, at exit 58A, US 119/Oakwood Rd. Follow the long ramp to the end then turn right onto US 119. Stay in the right lane, do

not merge into traffic, and turn right at the first light onto Cantley Drive. Go past the pizza shop and up the hill, turn right onto Wilkie Drive. Go to the end of Wilkie and turn right onto Sheridan Circle. Bear left almost immediately onto Mount View Drive. Bob's house is on the right about 1/4 mile in from Sheridan. You can park in the driveway, along the street, or in the gravel area past the house that looks like it should be the neighbor's but is actually city property. Call 304-343-1428 if you get lost.

If Civil War history is of interest, read the historical marker at the foot of Mount View Drive. If the weather is nice, take the time to walk to the top of the hill to see the remnants of the old Fort Scammon.



## Chasing Coal Trains on the Pennsylvania Southern Bob Mershimer



Here we see the loaded Detroit Edison train preparing to depart Waynesburg, PA for its trip to Michigan



Now the train is on Munson Viaduct. Pushers are at the back assisting the climb up the grade to Bridgeville.



Upon arriving at Bridgeville there was a big surprise, the empty Wisconsin Electric train on its way south toward the mine at Waynesburg.



The day ends with the Wisconsin Electric train being spotted in the mine for loading. Cars were temporarily spotted on the newly rebuilt industrial tracks in order to make sure the rotary ends were all properly located for unloading at the power plant.

## The Estate of Howard R. Smith

Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 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

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

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

*Highball to Indy, 2016*  
NMRA National Convention  
[www.NMRA2016.org](http://www.NMRA2016.org)

## Call for Clinics

If you have ever wanted to present a clinic at the National Convention, now is the time. With the 2016 Convention being held in Indianapolis, it should be a short trip from your home division.

If you have presented a clinic at a local or regional event, run through it again to refresh yourself with the information. Make sure the clinic is up to date. When you're ready to share your information and/or techniques with other modelers, send in the form found under the Clinicians heading at <http://www.nmra2016.org/#!/volunteer/c11z2>

If you have presented a clinic at a National Convention before, bring it to Indianapolis. We would like to see it here.

If you have attended a clinic and thought it was helpful, encourage the presenter to consider presenting it at the National Convention.

Time is running short for the applications. Printing schedules require a long lead-time.

Remember, fill out and send in the form found under the Clinicians heading at <http://www.nmra2016.org/#!/volunteer/c11z2>

Dan Goins  
Clinic Chair

## 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.*



NMRA's Mid Central Region is proud to announce the release of a one room brick schoolhouse kit made by Mountaineer Precision Products. The prototype was in Canal Winchester, Ohio but seems typical of 19th century schools throughout the rural Midwest. Some of these structures are still in use today for farm equipment storage (the directions say that the Canal Winchester school has been moved and preserved). The kit features laser cut wood construction with plastic brick overlay. The HO scale kit was initially available for sale at the Regional Convention and now O and S scale versions are available. The kit prices are: HO \$40, S \$65, and O \$75. There is a \$5 per kit shipping fee. Make payment to NMRA Mid-Central Region. Orders should be sent to:

MCR Project Kit  
3238 Belvoir Blvd.  
Beachwood, OH 44122

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Assistant Superintendent  
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**HINTON DIVISION**

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Point Pleasant WV



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RUSSEL MILLER - SUPERINTENDENT  
RUSSEL22@MSN.COM



**NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION**

Clint Foster Superintendent  
Ronceverte WV

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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



ROBERT WEINHEIMER MMR  
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CHARLESTON WV  
25314-1041

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## Upcoming Coal Division Events

**July 11**

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

**August 8**

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

**September 19**

**Elkins, WV**

**October 10**

**Portsmouth, OH**