



UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

January 2020

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FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Dan Mulhearn, Superintendent

Wow, a new year and a new decade! It is hoped you enjoyed the holidays. My Christmas present arrived a couple of days after Christmas. They were 2 Rapido N&W RS11s I had ordered over a year ago. Thanks, Toy Train Heaven.

We all have expectations from our hobby. That is a spectrum from a train around the tree to a sincere attempt to stage in miniature a prototypical layout to a well thought out free lanced design. You are model railroaders. So, clear in the cab as we roll into 2020, Let's continue the fun, the creativity, the challenge, and the fellowship of our hobby.

FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

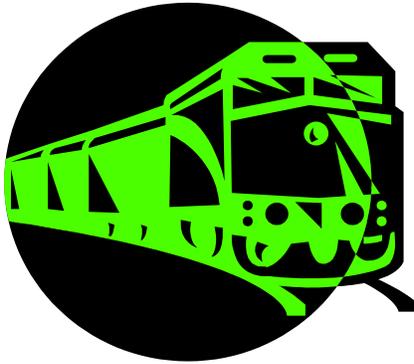
Bob Osburn, Assistant Superintendent

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Let's hope 2020 brings us lots of good news and good times with our family and model railroad community. The end of 2019 is in the record book and for most of us it's a time of reflection and a time to make our New Year's Resolutions. As one of your resolutions I hope you continue your support of the NMRA and Division 9.

During 2019 we saw many positive things happening within the Division. More members participated in the monthly contest, attendance was steady, many interesting clinics were presented, the company store saw growth, the MADD sessions always included interesting discussions, and the 3rd Annual Gary Burdette Challenge saw several wonderful modules. We had our picnic on the platform and made our treks to Portsmouth, Parkersburg, and Bluefield. The rail excursion organized by John Harris to Elkins was a great success, and the T-TRAK group saw tremendous growth with members contributing modules for several shows and events. 2019 saw a Christmas luncheon, organized by Sam Delauter for our December meeting. The luncheon was well-attended and featured great food, great service, and a time for lots of fellowship. We can look back at our accomplishments for 2019 and conclude it was a successful year for Division 9. Thanks for everyone's efforts and support.

Last year at this time I wrote about bringing in new members and this has not changed. Growing our membership should always be one of our most important goals for 2020 and the future. Our membership population is aging, but we can focus on some critical areas as a source of new members. The youth is probably the largest area for growth. They may not become immediate members but just like many of us reflecting on our first train set when we were a youth, the seed is planted—they are out there and waiting for your help. The baby boomer bubble is working its way into and through retirement. In the early stages of retirement, people look for hobbies to fill the time they spent working and they should be a good source of new members. There are a lot of modelers out there that have an interest in model railroading but need information, guidance, and an invitation to participate in our group. Most of this group includes the empty-nester stage (ages 50-67). At this stage in life, they have the desire, extra resources, and a little extra time. We all know someone in this category and all we need to do is reach out! One of the best ways to encourage all age groups is through mentoring. Personally, I would not be where I am today without mentors and modelers who reached out to offer help. Mentors become your friends for life. The New Year is a perfect time for you to make a resolution to become a mentor. It is something you and they will never forget.

Cover: Challenge photo by Dale Osburn



Coal Division
Monthly Railfun Event

Modeler's Choice

Saturday January 11, 2020
C&O Depot, St. Albans, WV

- 12:00 Doors open
Set up and view the contest entries
Buy raffle tickets, etc.
Socialize
- 1:00 Superintendent's Briefing
- 1:30 Contest discussion
- 2:00 Contest and raffle results
- 2:15 Clinic by Randy Allio on the use of pan
pastels for weathering

*After the meeting don't forget to visit the
SACOM layout. See page 9.*

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9
THE COAL DIVISION
Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2019

Meeting called to order at 1:30pm by the Assistant Superintendent.

Minutes of the November meeting were approved as written in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report – No report as clerk was absent.

Superintendent's Report – None, as he was absent due to poor health.

Assistant Superintendent's Report – Robert Osburn welcomed the members and said our first Christmas dinner was well received, as noted by the good turnout for this event.

Achievement Program Chair – Bob Weinheimer noted that judging guidelines are available through the NMRA website to help the members with their projects.

Librarian - The DVDs are not available today but will be at the January meeting. If there is a particular subject a member would like help with please, let me know.

Membership Chair – We presently have 49 members, which is down a bit from before. There is hope for new members from attendance at the February train show in St. Albans. Mini clinics are planned for the show and volunteers are needed.

Contest Chair – There are 4 dioramas for today. For January the theme is modelers choice.

Clinic Chair – Sam reported that the January clinic will be weathering with pastels by Randy Allio, and in February Bob Weinheimer will give a presentation on JMRI.

T-TRAK report – Sam Delauter noted there will be setups for the St. Albans show. The members can bring their engines to run if they are DCC equipped.

Old Business – None

New Business – Nominations for the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent are open. Currently Robert Osburn and Sam Delauter are nominees, respectively. Additional nominations can be made until the January meeting, at which time the nomination process will be closed.

Announcements – Toni Puccini can now run trains on his layout! Larry Richards has begun his layout. The Pennsylvania Southern dispatcher office is being renovated.

Next Meeting – St. Albans depot on Jan. 11, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 2pm.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Wadsworth, Acting Clerk

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 start the layout work the Monday 12 days before the meeting. This allows a day of review by the officers and a proofreader before the electronic version is issued, usually on Wednesday. The paper version is mailed Thursday or Friday. For this to happen reliably, we need all items for publication by that 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

February	January 27
March	March 2
April	March 30
May	April 27
June	May 27
July	July 1
August	July 29
September	September 2

CONTEST
Dale Osburn
 Photos by Dale Osburn

In December, we not only had some great food at Diehl's Restaurant (thanks to Sam Delauter) but had the club's Third Annual Gary Burdette Modeling Challenge. We had four entries which were Dennis McGeeny, Larry Richards, Robert Osburn, and Dale Osburn. Each diorama was well thought out and told a story. It's just unbelievable what can be accomplished in a square foot.

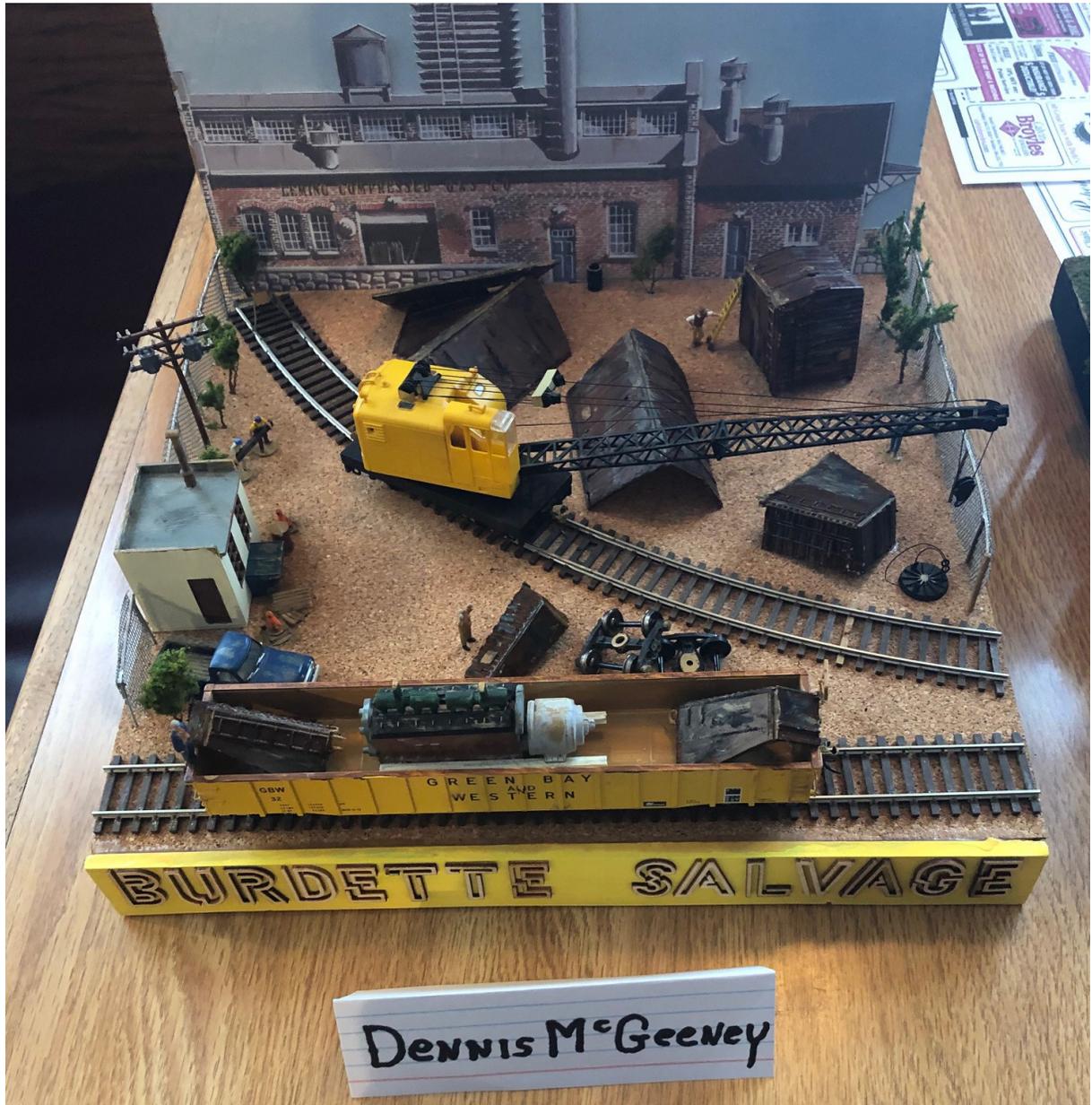
January will be Modeler's Choice which is anything railroad related. So dust off any old projects that are stored away and bring them to our meeting in January at the depot. Please remember just entering will give you one free ticket to the January Raffle. Looking ahead to February, the contest will be Steam Locomotives.



We are missing the rear shot of Bob's display, it shows the dumpsters into which the recycled items end up after being inserted into the slots on this side of the repurposed boxcar. Zoom in to see what recyclable goes into which slot.

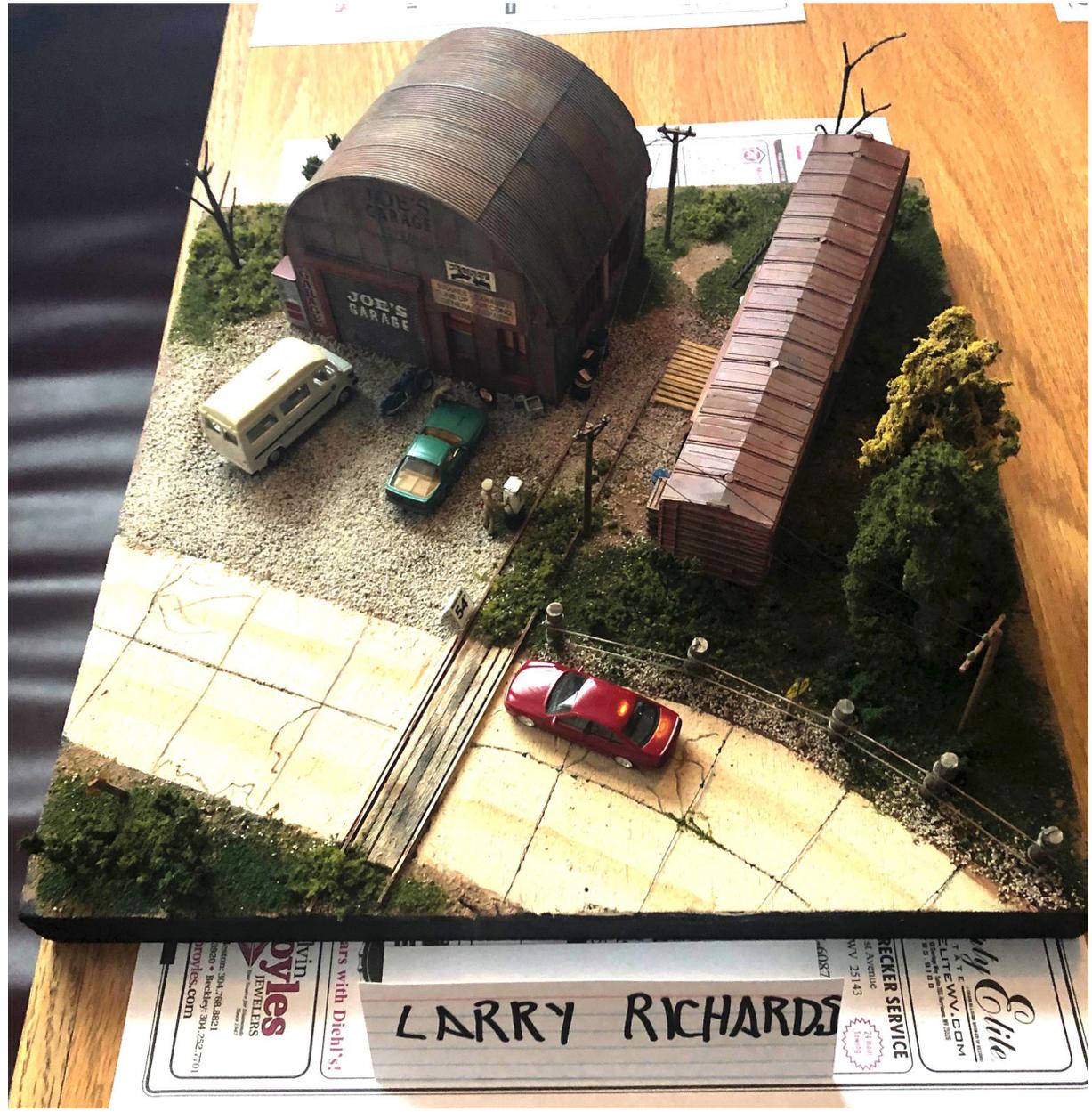
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CONTEST continued



Recycling seems to be a theme this year. While Bob built a recycling center, Dennis recycled the entire boxcar! You can see the pieces...

CONTEST continued



Larry appropriated an abandoned boxcar sitting on an abandoned rail line as a storage shed for the garage.

CONTEST, continued



DALE OSBURN

While there is a shot of Dale's entry on the front page, this is a better close up view of his entry.

SACOM OPEN HOUSE

Bob Mershimer

St. Albans C&O Modelers would like to invite Coal Division members to an open house at our layout after the January 11 meeting at the St. Albans Depot. We will have the clubhouse on 10th Street next to the old St. Albans High School open from about 2:30 to 4:30 to show off the lay-

out. See the photo below of some of the current layout. We would also be glad to accept any volunteer work in future on layout at times to be determined or structures to build for display.



MONTHLY MODEL CONTEST

2019 SCHEDULE

January	Modeler's Choice	August	Freight Cars
February	Steam Locomotives	September	Photo, Model or Prototype
March	Locomotives Other Than Steam	October	Open Loads (flats, gondolas, hoppers)
April	Cabooses	November	Passenger Cars
May	Anything Steel Related	December	Third Annual Gary Burdette Memorial
June	Non Revenue Except Cabooses		Modeling Challenge. Details and kick
July	Structures		off in October

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Bill Wadsworth

It is time to prepare for the 2020 elections. According to our Constitution we need at least one candidate each for Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. The slate of candidates will be reported at the January meeting at which time nominations can be made from the floor. The ballots are then prepared and mailed out to the

members in early February, and must be returned by the March meeting. (For 2020 this is March 14.)

If you know of someone who is willing to serve in one of these positions, please contact me at nominating@coalddivision.org, preferably before or at the January meeting. Bill Wadsworth, Nominations Committee.

CLINICS Sam Delauter

I am still working on filling the 2020 clinic schedule. Although I don't have all of the spots filled yet, I do have some clinics that are still in the works.

We have been asked to do some mini clinics at the Kanawha Valley Railroad Association's show in February. We have been asked to do five clinics that are at least 15 minutes long each.

If you have any interest in giving a clinic at our meeting or at the KVRA show, please let me know. Also if you have any ideas for clinics let me know as I may be able to find someone to give a clinic on the topic.

January	Randy Allio will show us how to use pan pastels for weathering
February	Bob Weinheimer will present an introductory clinic on JMRI
March	Fred Soward from Louisville will present a clinic on repurposing freight cars as well as showing us photos of the Division 8 Boxcar Challenge
April	
May	Steel is King in Parkersburg
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	Visit the Crusty Mountain in Portsmouth
November	Bluefield Train Show
December	4th Annual Gary Burdette Memorial Square Foot Challenge

MY WORD Bob Weinheimer, Editor

The highlight of the last month was the 3rd Gary Burdette Memorial Modeling Challenge. The entries are shown on pages 5 through 8. If you are viewing the electronic edition, zoom in to see the level of detail that may not be obvious on the paper version.

To the left you can see the clinic schedule that Sam Delauter is putting together, it looks good and should fill out nicely. MCR Vice President Dave Neff is working on updating the clinician database pending how to do so while keeping in line with the NMRA privacy policy. In the meantime, if you have seen a clinic at a convention that you think we should see at one of our meetings, let Sam know.

Don't forget that SACOM is holding an open house for us after the January meeting, I sure want to see the progress on their layout.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM Bob Weinheimer MMR®

At long last Tom Harris has earned his Chief Dispatcher certificate. I hope to be able to present it to him at the January meeting

If you have anything that is ready to be evaluated and that can be brought to a meeting, let me know so we can be ready to conduct the evaluation. In the last issue I provided a link to the Judging Guidelines that are used, that will give you an idea of what the evaluators are looking for, if you have never had a model evaluated I suggest you look over the guidelines as it should take some mystery out of the process.

T-Trak Sam Delauter

I did not write a T-TRAK article in December, it was well covered elsewhere in this publication. With that said, I want to thank all of the members of this group that came out and gave their time and energy to make our layout at the Huntington Train Show a great success. I also had a good time talking to our new friend Craig Laing. We hope to see him again at the upcoming shows. Speaking of upcoming shows, we will have a T-TRAK meeting in January. We will be discussing the upcoming KVRA show in St. Albans in February.

I hope everyone had a great holiday and a great new year. I will see you all in January.



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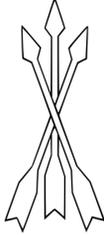
CRUSTY MOUNTAIN AND WILOBY SPRINGS R.R.

Mark Maynard, President
 Portsmouth, OH



CRESCENT VALLEY

Jerry Doyle, President
 Barboursville, WV

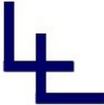


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NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION
 Clint Foster Superintendant
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Alleghany & New River Road
 An Appalachian Coal Hauling Railroad set in the 50's

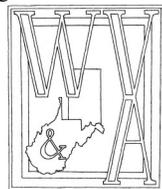


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Upcoming Coal Division Events

January 11, 2020
St. Albans Depot

February 8
St. Albans Depot

March 14
St. Albans Depot

April 13
Location to be announced

May
Steel is King
Parkersburg, WV