



UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

December 2020

FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER
Bob Osburn, Superintendent

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Where has 2020 gone? It seems only yesterday we were meeting at the Depot and enjoying our model railroad family. What an unusual year we have endured. A Presidential election and a worldwide pandemic have created division and isolation for many of us. We're all looking for the promised "light at the end of the tunnel," hoping we can get back to some sort of normal in the coming year. We still have a few virtual months to go, but I feel we have done a respectable job of keeping the Coal Division together, thanks to everyone who has stayed on-board; your participation is appreciated.

Gary Burdette's Memorial Challenge will highlight the December meeting. I hope you have been busy finishing your creations and are ready to display them during the meeting either virtually or with photos. Hopefully, when we are able to again have a meeting at the Depot we can display the dioramas and photos for everyone to see and enjoy, maybe a small party with refreshments is something we deserve!

During these challenging times, it's nice to have model railroading helping me get thru the day. I have started a daily routine: spending a few hours working on modeling projects in the workshop in the mornings; then working on the attic railroad in the evenings. I have finally finished (we know nothing on a model railroad is ever completely finished) the engine terminal and have started working on the next section which is a town. Adding interior lighting, exterior lighting, lots of details, and some animation to the town is a slow process, but these are the things I like to do. I'll have to admit, being a railroad historian and familiarity with railroad operations is not my strong suit but the longer I'm into model railroading, the more I learn. I try not to jump-into a project so I can say I have it completed, but take my time, think things over, evaluate the structures and details needed, then do a lot of planning ahead of time. This method has served me well over the years yet I envy those that can complete a project in record time with fantastic results.

In closing, I want to again thank those who have helped keep the Coal Division fluid during 2020. A brighter future is not too far away, we'll get thru this even if it is thru phone conversations and virtually. I hope to see you December 12th at our meeting. Be safe and have a Merry Christmas.

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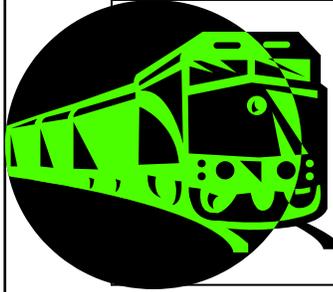
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Upcoming Coal Division Monthly Railfun Events

Saturday December 12

1 PM

Virtual Division Membership Meeting

- **Welcome and Call to Order (Acknowledge members present)**
- **Approval of Minutes from November meeting**
- **Treasurers Report**
- **Superintendents Report**
- **Assistant Superintendent Report**
- **Committee Chairs Reports**
- **Bring and Brag**
- **Open Discussion/Questions (One at a time please)**
- **Adjourn Business Meeting**
- **5 Minute Break**
- **Clinic:**

Next Event

Saturday January 9, 2021

Zoom

NOVEMBER VIRTUAL DIVISION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Jerry Doyle

We've all been doing our part for COVID-19 isolation measures. This means we won't be meeting in person for several months but there is another way to stay connected.

Our December meeting will be held remotely using Zoom which is very easy to use. You can use a laptop (provided it has a webcam), tablet, or smart phone. Just use the link provided below. You'll be prompted on how to connect with your particular device. You can also join

with a voice-only connection by calling one of the numbers listed.

We are planning to conduct a short business meeting followed by show-and-tell where you can show everyone what you've been working on. There will also be a railroad related clinic and possibly more.

Our meeting will be Saturday December 12 at our regular time of 1 p.m.

Topic: NMRA MCR Division 9 December Meeting
Time: Dec 12, 2020 12:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/92799374106>

Meeting ID: 927 9937 4106

Dial by your location

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,94746468328# US (New York)
+13017158592,,94746468328# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

First Time Users

- On a computer: The **FIRST TIME** you open a Zoom meeting link you will be asked to download a small Zoom application file. Follow all the typical steps and allow anything requested by the app as it installs.
- On a smart phone or tablet: **BEFORE** you open the Zoom link, go to the app store and download the Zoom Cloud Meetings app from Meet Happy (the app publisher).

To join a Zoom meeting:

- See the meeting invitation above
- Open that link 10 minutes prior to the meeting
- Accept any requests for video and/or microphone
- MUTE your microphone

Other pointers

- Make sure your connection is strong
- If you have a weak connection, disconnect other devices from your home network
- For your first time, don't wait until the last minute to join
- Use the **Chat** button to view and make comments or post questions
- Click the **Invite** button to send meeting information to others
- If everything freezes, click **Leave Meeting** and rejoin using the original invitation
- You do not need to create a Zoom account to participate in a Zoom meeting

Thanks to Paul Downs of MCR Division 8 for these tips.

FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Sam Delauter, Assistant Superintendent

I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving and found some time to model. Unfortunately, as I write this article, I am not at the Huntington Train Show. Like most things in 2020, it has become another victim of COVID. With the weekend free due to the cancelation, I figured it was as good a time as ever to work on my square foot challenge. I got a late start this year for a number of reasons. Last year I missed out due to the preparations for T-TRAK for the Huntington show. I really wanted to be involved this year.

While I have built a lot of craftsman rolling stock kits, I have never built a structure or done scenery in HO before. While nothing that I am doing is truly new other than the scale, it sure all felt new. Maybe it's just the change of scales or maybe it's the lack of having a stash of HO to fall back on other than the kit and some generic stuff like foam. It felt new and most likely yielded different results than if I had built the kit in N or Z scale. I would challenge everyone who has not modeled in a different scale than they are used to, to try even a small diorama in a different scale.

During the construction of my diorama, I had some new things and techniques that I wanted to try. One of is the method Tom Harris uses to make mountains. I have been a big fan of using plaster cloth in this application. I have my own method that I use and have been happy with. I'm not sure if I developed it or if I saw it some-

where and stole the idea. I don't like how messy my method is. However Tom's gets rid of so much of said mess. Although they give different results, they give great results depending on the application or type of hillside or mountain that you want to model.

One thing that I wanted to achieve with the diorama is to make a nice scene to photograph HO scale rolling stock that I build or weather. Using the square foot challenge to not only try new techniques and methods has been a lot of fun. Speaking of fun, the craftsman kit that Robert produced was great fun to build. Although I did modify it a little to fit the space that I gave it, I did build it mostly per the instructions. While I have done kits that required similar cutting, it didn't feel like it took as much effort to build. This is due to the quality of the kit that Robert produced. I don't know if he is looking to start selling kits but I could see people wanting to buy one of these kits. Many thanks to Robert for making this as fun as it was.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the December meeting and seeing how their Square Foot Challenge turned out. One last thing, I was listening to Sirius radio the other day. Although I don't remember what station or who the host was, they said something that has stuck with me and I'll leave you with it. "Be kind to yourself and be better to others".

CLINICS

Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

With the year coming to a close, I thought it would be a good chance to take a look back at the clinics over the last year. In addition to the schedule from 2020, Mark Maynard, Bob Weinheimer, Randy Allio and Robert Osborn gave clinics during the Kanawha Valley Railroad Associations train show February 22-23. Thank you to

everyone who gave a clinic within the last year. Looking ahead to 2021, Jerry Doyle will be giving the clinic in January on the C&O. I am looking to start filling the clinic schedule for 2021. If you would be willing to give a clinic or have any ideas for clinics that you would like to see, drop me a line..

January	Randy Allio: Weathering and Painting with Pan Pastels
February	Bob Weinheimer: Basics of JMRI
March	Fred Soward: Repurposing Models
April	No Meeting
May	Jerry Doyle: A Railfan Adventure on the D&RGW
June	Paul Lapointe: Appalachians in 8 Inches
July	David Oliverio: Virtual Layout Tour
August	Jerry Doyle: Lessons learned on the Grafton and Greenbrier
September	Sam Delauter: Building a Resin Flat Car
October	Tom Harris: Making Mountains
November	Bob Weinheimer: NMRA Web Site Tour
December	Square Foot Challenge

**NMRA MCR DIVISION 9
THE COAL DIVISION**

**Virtual Meeting
Using Zoom
November 14, 2020
Minutes**

Members caught up each other and the various railroad projects.

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Bob Osburn at 1:15 p.m.

Division Clerk Report

October minutes approved
Treasury Balance is \$8,455.35.
Company Store \$0.
Raffle \$0. Pike Ads \$0.

Superintendent Report

Robert Osburn welcomed everyone to our online meeting. He noted that today's meeting is on the 50th anniversary of the Marshall University plane crash in which 75 members of the football team, coaching staff, and community members were killed when their chartered plane crashed at Tri-State Airport just outside the towns of Ceredo and Kenova. The crash had a profound impact in the community, and it is felt to this day. He noted Dale Osburn's involvement in memorials over the years when he worked at Marshall.

Robert and Larry Richards checked in on the St Albans depot last week. Nothing appears to have been disturbed during our extended hiatus from using the depot.

Robert asked Jerry Doyle to provide an overview of recent activities regarding email mailing lists. Through the efforts of Fred Soward, Matt Goodman and Jerry the Mid-Central Region has established an email mailing list to disseminate information and facilitate communications. Jerry has also created a similar list for Division 9 using IO Groups. He has invited members who have supplied their email address. If you haven't supplied an address, then you've not received an invitation. Robert said he sees this as a positive development that allows us to interact with other divisions within the region.

Robert noted that the holidays are coming soon, and this is usually a time of fellowship. Current conditions are going to curtail this. He hopes that we'll be meeting in person again in the spring.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Sam Delauter hopes that everyone enjoyed his kitbashing article in the last *Up the Holler*. He caught members up on the recent T-TRAK get together sponsored by the C&O Historical Society at Clifton Forge, Virginia. Turnout was roughly 40 people. He also mentioned the KVRC is currently still holding meetings with appropriate social distancing.

Newsletter - Up the Holler

Bob Weinheimer is always looking for materials. Circulation is currently over 150.

Achievement Program

Nothing new to report.

Library

Nothing new to report.

Contest

Dale Osburn discussed plans for 2021. He proposed each member showing their contest entries and votes sent to Dale, pictures to be sent to Bob. He also shared a proposed list of contest topics for each month's contest. Bob Weinheimer proposed we use the newly established IO Group to distribute pictures of entries for the month and votes can be taken beforehand. Dale said that nearly all kits for the Gary Burdette modeling challenge have been distributed. Since we aren't meeting in person for December members will need to share pictures they have taken or have the model ready to show.

Today's Bring and Brag featured staging. Bob Weinheimer showed the various staging yards on the Pennsylvania Southern as well as the new dispatcher's office. Tom Harris showed his extensive staging system on his Lakeside Lines. Mark Maynard showed us his improved dispatching office in the "Crow's Nest."

Clinic

Bob Weinheimer gave a presentation about the members-only features of the NMRA website www.nmra.org

Membership

No report.

Raffle

No raffle today.

Education

No report.

Old Business

No report.

New Business

We will have an informal Out of the Holler Zoom meeting this Tuesday, November 17 starting at 7:30.

Announcements

None

Future Meetings:

December 12 – Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 2:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

CONTEST

Dale Osburn, Contest Chair

During November, we had a really interesting Bring and Brag. There were three outstanding entries. Tom Harris showed the group his staging operations on the Lakeside Lines Railroad, Bob Weinheimer had some renovations completed for a new dispatching office for the Pennsylvania Southern Railroad, and Mark Maynard gave the group a tour of his Crusty Mountain and Wiloby Spring Railroad dispatching tower. A big "thank you" to all three members for taking time to provide us with their updates in November.

December will be the Gary Burdette Memorial Modeling Challenge. I look forward to seeing all of the upcoming entries.

Updates for the 2021 Model Contest (Zoom Meeting Procedures) :

- Each month, members will show their entry during the Zoom meeting.
- After all contest entries have been reviewed by the group then voting will take place. During the break, members will vote by sending a text to the contest chair Dale Osburn at 304-840-4366. An addendum to this process can be implemented if needed.
- Contest chair will keep a monthly contest log.
- Winner will be announced after our break.
- All entries/pictures will be sent to Bob Weinheimer. for the newsletter Also, a brief description will be included in the newsletter.

Monthly Model Contest 2021

January	Modeler's Choice
February	Steam Locomotives
March	Locomotive Other Than Steam
April	Kitbashing/Scratch Built (Anything Railroad Related)
May	Anything Steel Related
June	Non Revenue
July	Structures
August	Electronics of a Railroad
September	Photo, Model or Prototype
October	Open Loads
November	Passenger Cars
December	Fifth Annual Gary Burdette Memorial Modeling Challenge

MY WORD

Bob Weinheimer, Editor

This is a slim issue with no feature article, just the news and regular columns. One thing you might have noticed is Sam Delauter's plea for clinicians. This newsletter goes to a wide range of people, if any of you know of anybody who would like to present a clinic, please let Sam know, his contact information is on page 2.

Speaking of clinics, I left in a stripped down version of the call for clinicians for the Northern Express. Unfortunately, the guys in Erie have made the sad decision to cancel the convention. The concern was that COVID would still scare away too many attendees or still be in a position to limit activities. In any case, the longer they waited the more expensive a cancellation would be. I know Brad White and his crew were very much looking forward to hosting us but I feel they did the right thing. Maybe they will be interested in 2024...

While the COVID situation has its bad side with illness and death, we still have to look at some of the positive things that have happened. It turns out that I am not the only out there who has been running my operating sessions by myself. It seems that we are all finding issues

with track in some places that our regular operators have never bothered to mention to us. I have found several that have now been fixed, I hope the layout runs more smoothly when I feel it safe to welcome the crew back into the house.

Another finding may be a bit amusing. Whether you are a mask devotee or hater, those things may have a very different use that has grabbed my attention. If you have worn one for some time inside a building, you know they can get a bit warm and uncomfortable. If you take early morning walks on chilly mornings you may notice your nose and cheeks feeling a bit cold. Wearing a mask may look odd while walking outside but it has proven to be a very effective face warmer. Once again, I am not the only one to have done this, I have seen a few others out there doing the same.

As I am putting this issue together, the weather is turning colder with the prospect of snow as the calendar turns to December. After a wild year, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy and more sane new year.

PASSENGER MANIFEST

John Harris, Membership Chair

I trust everyone has recovered for their Turkey Coma, 2020 version. While my Thanksgiving celebration was certainly different than in year past, I still tried to make in memorable in a good way. Instead of our recent tradition of traveling to our daughter's where she has become master of creating a culinary masterpiece with turkey and all the trimmings, we opted to social distance in our RV overlooking Stonewall Jackson Lake this year. My wife did an awesome job of preparing turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes casserole, green beans and cranberry sauce, all in the close confines of a galley kitchen with limited counter space, a three burner stove and convection oven.

Why this is relevant and what does it have to do with trains you might ask. Well, it reminded me of the close quarters and conditions I have seen in those onboard galleys in the dining cars on the passenger trains of the golden age of railroading. While the wife did not have to contend with the moving and shaking of a moving train, it did take some careful orchestration and planning to maximize efficiency and utilize the limited space available. Now, imagine doing that on a speeding train and preparing, not just dinner for two, but instead, dinner for one hundred or more, while offering multiple choices of entrée, sides and desserts.

I recently came across the menu for a typical named train on the C&O during the 60's. While passenger service was beginning to wane, there was still an impressive selection and you certainly must take note of the prices.

Now imagine white linen tablecloths, napkins, and gold trimmed dinner ware, and etched stem ware as you glide back and forth, speeding along the rails, enjoying the view as the countryside or towns pass by. All the while, waiters in crisp, pressed uniforms take your order, then orchestrate service and still manage to do so without dropping the tray or spilling a drop on these swaying trains. While Amtrak has managed to carry on with an abbreviated version of this rich tradition on some of its cross country trains, most service is a far cry from that of these days gone by.

There are still excursion trains that offer "dinner trains." I have generally been disappointed with the service and food quality offered on any of the local versions. Granted, these trains are not billed as or priced like the service on the "Orient Express," it is

unfortunate that something a little closer to the service and food we see in movies from the 40's and the 50's.

As I model passenger trains on the Allegheny and New River Road, I have tried capture the nostalgia of the steam /diesel transition era. This includes the C&O's "George Washington" and the "Fast Flying Virginian." Each version, whether it is a heavyweight or a streamlined tri color, has a dining car. The streamlined trains have lighted interiors with people. While still on my "to do" list, I plan to create on the computer some details including tableware. While that is way down on the list, it does allow me to at least recreate the elegance of train travel in the period. One can only dream, but then again, when we model, aren't we all trying to capture the spirit and action of the real thing.

Keep modeling and be safe. Hope to see you soon!

Chessie Tavern Menu

(Choice of One)

Soup du jour, Saltines

Chilled Orange Juice

Tomato Juice

ROAST SIRLOIN OF BEEF, AU JUS..... 3.95

Includes Appetizer, Salad Bowl, Fordhook Lima Beans,
Oven Browned Potatoes, Dinner Rolls
Choice of Beverage and Dessert

PAN FRIED FILLET OF FISH, TARTAR SAUCE 3.75

Includes Appetizer, Salad Bowl, Fordhook Lima Beans,
Oven Browned Potatoes, Dinner Rolls
Choice of Beverage and Dessert

BUTTERFLY PORK CHOPS, APPLE SAUCE 3.50

Includes Appetizer, Salad Bowl, Fordhook Lima Beans,
Oven Browned Potatoes, Dinner Rolls
Choice of Beverage and Dessert

HOT ROAST BEEF SANDWICH WITH GRAVY 2.50

Includes Oven Browned Potatoes
Choice of Beverage and Dessert

Pumpkin Pie .40

Ice Cream, Sweet Wafer .35

Baked Apple with Cream .40

Coffee, Pot .35

Tea, Pot .35

Sanka, Pot .35

Milk .25

Car in charge of.....

American Express, Diners Club and Rail Travel Credit Cards Honored



**THE C&O/B&O RAILROADS
PASSENGER FOOD SERVICE**

K. S. Cox, Superintendent



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in and click on the **Benefits** tab to view the **NMRA Partnership Program**. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

<p>Bear Creek Model Railroad, LLC</p> <p>CatzPaw Innovations</p> <p>Clever Models, LLC</p> <p>CMR Products, LLC</p> <p>Daylight Sales (Merchandise)</p> <p>Deepwoods Software</p> <p>Deluxe Materials</p> <p>Digikeijs</p> <p>East Coast Circuits</p> <p>Gatorfoam</p> <p>Great Decals!</p> <p>Green Frog Productions</p> <p>Hot Wire Foam Factory</p> <p>K.I.S.S. Method, Inc.</p> <p>LaBelle Woodworking Co.</p> <p>LARC Products</p>	<p>Logic Rail Technologies</p> <p>Micro-Mark</p> <p>Mine Mount Models</p> <p>Miniprints</p> <p>MinuteMan Scale Models</p> <p>Model Railroad Benchwork</p> <p>Model Train Catalogue</p> <p>Modelers Decals & Paint</p> <p>Motrak Models</p> <p>MRC (Model Rectifier Corp)</p> <p>Nick and Nora Designs</p> <p>NScale Works by Mike Holly</p> <p>Old West Scenery</p> <p>Ram Track</p> <p>RR-CirKits</p> <p><u>Rusty Stumps</u> ***</p> <p>Scale Model Plans</p>	<p>Scalecoat Paint</p> <p>Scenery Solutions</p> <p>Showcase Miniatures</p> <p>Team Track Models</p> <p>The N Scale Architech</p> <p>The Old Depot Gallery</p> <p>Tichy Train Group</p> <p>Train Installations, LLC</p> <p>Train Show, Inc.</p> <p><u>TSG Multimedia</u> ***</p> <p>Trainmasters TV/Model Railroad Hobbyist Store</p> <p>UGEARS</p> <p>Unreal Details</p> <p>USA Airbrush Supply/ Badger Airbrush</p> <p>WiFi Model Railroad, LLC</p> <p style="font-size: small;">[New Partners in RED ***]</p>
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Nov 2020



NORTHERN EXPRESS

May 20-23, 2021

Request for Clinicians

Sadly, it has been necessary to cancel the Northern Express due to concerns about COVID.



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NORFOLK AND WESTERN



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Jerry Doyle, President
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CRESCENT VALLEY

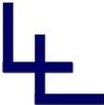


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NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION
 Clint Foster Superintendent
 Ronceverte WV

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

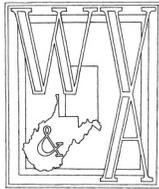


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John Harris, Chief Engineer
 AandNRR@aol.com

West Virginia & Atlantic Railroad



www.dewv.edu/center-railway-tourism
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Upcoming Coal Division Events

If you received this newsletter via the US Postal Service and have an email address, please let us know so we can save printing and postage costs. Send a note to editor@coaldivision.org to get onto the email distribution list for Up The Holler.

December 12
Virtual

January 9
Virtual

February 13
Virtual