



UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

January 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

Head of the Holler	1
Contact List	2
Meeting Agenda	2
Zoom Link	3
Office Down the Hall	4
Clinics	4
Library Corner	4
Contest	5
Passenger Manifest	10
Editor's Comments	10
Pike Ads	14
Upcoming Meetings	15

FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Bob Osburn, Superintendent

It's hard to believe another year has passed so fast. 2022 included a lot of positives for the Coal Division. We were able to have a complete year of in-person/virtual meetings that included our regular outings, the Christmas luncheon, and a return to many of the train shows. Attendance has been very good, but I hope we will see more of our members returning as we get back to a more normal existence.

The December Christmas Luncheon and the Memorial Challenge was a great way to finish 2022. This activity seems to be very popular with everyone and something everyone enjoys. We had an outstanding attendance with almost half of our members being present, the Challenge projects were great, and as always the food was delicious. Of course, the main focus of the December meeting was just to be together and to display our 6th Annual Gary Burdette Memorial Challenge projects. We certainly have a creative group of very talented modelers and this year's animation project definitely demonstrated that! Thanks to all who attended the luncheon and to those who participated in the challenge.

The January 14th meeting will find us back at the St. Albans Historical Society building. Again this will be a hybrid meeting, so if you can't be there in-person please join us virtually. During our meeting Dennis Coglianesi, Superintendent Division 2 (the Keystone Division) will join us virtually and share information about the up-coming Mid-Central Regional Convention. The convention "Rails to Pittsburgh" is scheduled on May 4, 2023 through May 7, 2023. His information will be very useful if you are planning on attending. The rest of our January meeting will include a short business session, raffle, and contest. The contest will be "Modeler's Choice" which is always a very popular category giving members a time to display and talk about projects they have finished or are working on. Jerry Doyle will present an overview of the progress he has made on his Crescent Valley railroad for the January clinic.

In closing, I want to thank everyone for your participation and support during 2022. Here's wishing you a very Happy New Year!!

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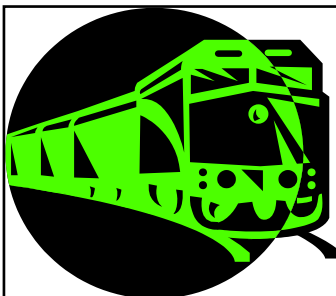
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Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

Saturday January 14 1:00 PM

St. Albans Historical Society

Division Membership Meeting

- **Welcome and Call to Order (Acknowledge members present)**
- **Approval of Minutes from the November meeting**
- **Treasurers Report**
- **Superintendents Report**
- **Assistant Superintendent Report**
- **Contest: Modeler's Choice**
- **Adjourn Business Meeting**
- **5 Minute Break**
- **Raffle (always need new items)**
- **Clinic: Jerry Doyle takes us on a tour of his Crescent Valley**

Next Event

Saturday February 11

St. Albans Historical Society

In Person and Zoom

January **HYBRID** DIVISION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

We've all been doing our part for COVID-19 isolation measures. The end, however, is in sight and our January meeting will be in person as well as via Zoom for those who cannot attend in person.

Our January meeting will be held at the St. Albans Historical Society (next door to the depot) in person and remotely using Zoom. Zoom 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. There will also be a railroad related clinic and possibly more.

Our meeting will be Saturday January 14 at our regular time of 1 p.m.

Please bear with us as we learn our way around producing a hybrid meeting.

Topic: January Meeting

Time: Jan 14, 2023 12:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87161917934>

Meeting ID: 871 6191 7934

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

FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Sam Delauter, Assistant Superintendent

Looking back over the last year we have had several successful events. At the beginning of 2022 was the Kanawha Valley Railroad Association show in Charleston. For that show, we set up our booth and I had a vendor table. Many of our members came out to spend time at the show and staff the booth. This gave us a chance to promote our organization, promote the hobby, and give us an extra chance to spend time together.

Once again this year, we were able to make the trip to Parkersburg for Steel Is King and Portsmouth and the Crusty Mountain. Just like at the train show, this gave us a chance for brotherhood and camaraderie. While I made the trek to Parkersburg by myself, I did have a great time car pooling to the Crusty Mountain. Neither of these events could happen without the hospitality of our hosts.

The next event would be the Huntington Train Show. This was the second train show in 2022 that the Coal Division was a part of. It would also mark the return of our T-TRAK layout to train shows. Herb Parsons and I spent the weekend running trains on the layout. While the layout is 2.5' wide the overall footprint of the layout was a

7'x8' L shape. This gave plenty of room to run 30 car trains and not look too busy. Herb and I had a lot of fun running the layout. We weren't the only members there that weekend. Robert Osburn had several vendor tables and the merchandise was flying off of his tables.

The last event of the year was dinner at Diehl's. It has become a tradition to have our December meeting at Diehl's Restaurant. They are always very accommodating, have a great waitstaff, and serve great food. The December meeting is also the culmination of the years square foot challenge. This year was no different. We had a great turnout with a great variety of entrants.

While not a full fledged event, the Mini Clinic Events were a big hit this year. At both events, our members learned a lot about a few different things. These were a great success and I would like to continue with these again in 2023.

I will end this by thanking everyone in the Coal Division for making 2022 a great success. I look forward to this coming year.

CLINICS

Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

In 2022 we had a great group of clinics given by some great clinicians. Thank you to everyone who gave a clinic. At this point, the 2023 schedule is looking rather full. There are still a couple of openings. If you have a clinic that you would like to give or have a suggestion for a clinic, please let me know.

In January Jerry Doyle will take us on a tour of his Crescent Valley layout. Jerry's clinics are always top notch and this one will be no exception.

January - Crescent Valley Tour, Jerry Doyle
 February - Craftsman Kits, Sam Delauter
 March - Switch Machines, Mark Maynard
 April - Wood Kits, Dale Osburn
 May - Steel Is King
 June - Mini Clinics Event
 July - To Be Determined
 August - Winter Scenery, Patrick Miller
 September - Crusty Mountain
 October - Mini Clinics Event
 November - To Be Determined
 December - Square Foot Challenge

LIBRARY CORNER

Bill Wadsworth, Librarian

Due to the inactivity of the library's usage (there have been no withdrawals since February 2020) I have decided to change how we use the library in the future. If a member would like information on a particular subject, please contact me by phone (304 768 3266) or an email (bill3266@frontier.com) and I will bring the appropriate info to the next meeting. If this is not fast enough I can

mail it to them within a few days of the request. Any other ideas or suggestions on the library's usage are welcome and encouraged. I know most of our members have been in model railroading for some time and already have a lot of knowledge and experience, but most of us have a weakness in some particular area(s) and can use a little guidance where these clinics can be a lot of help.

CONTEST
Dale Osburn, Contest Chair

The 2022 Gary Burdette Memorial Modeling Challenge had the most involved members than any of the past challenges. The following members entered this year's event.

Sam Delauter
Car Ramps

John Harris
Water Tower

Mark Maynard
Space Ship

Herb Parsons
Train order Signal

Patrick Miller
Semaphore

Jerry Doyle
Car Brake

Bill Grosse
Gate

Bob Osburn
Gate

Dale Osburn
Auto Grease Rack

2023	Monthly Model Contest
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

Square Foot Challenge
Photos by Herb Parsons



Bill Grosse
Moving gate

Square Foot Challenge
Photos by Herb Parsons



Sam Delauter: Car Ramp



John Harris: Water Tower

Square Foot Challenge
Photos by Herb Parsons



Robert Osburn: Gate

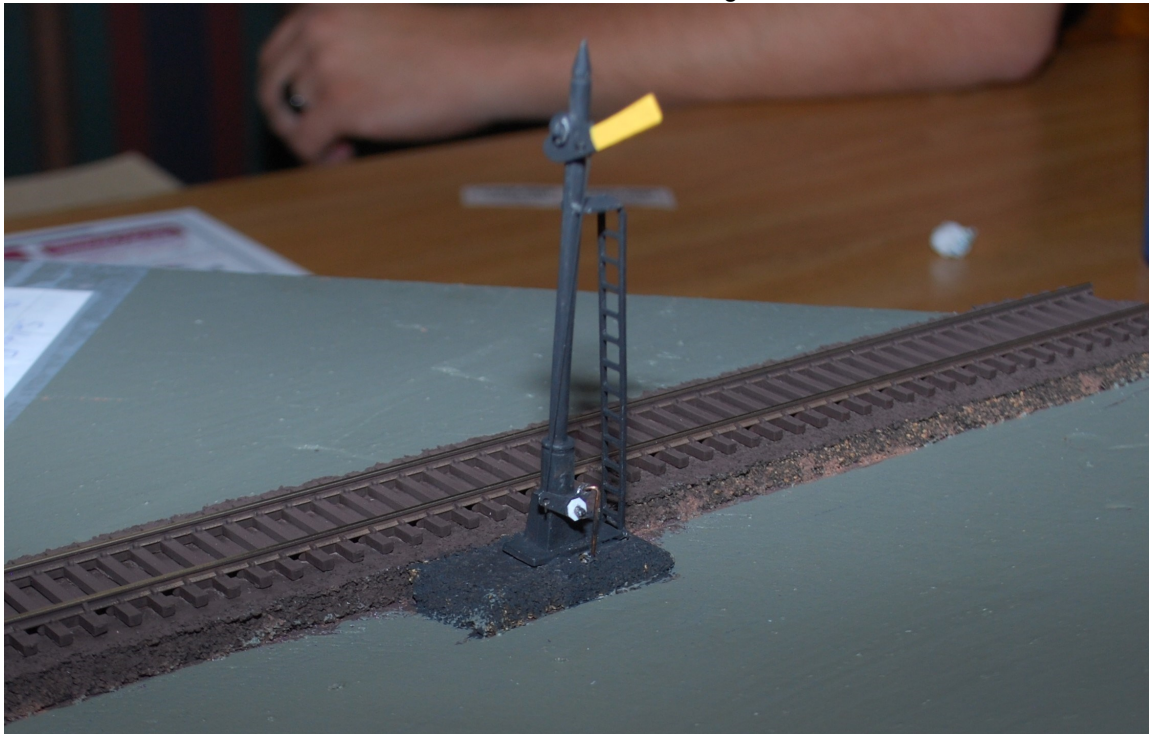


Dale Osburn: Car Ramp

Square Foot Challenge
Photos by Herb Parsons



Herb Parsons: Train order signal



Patrick Murphy: Semaphore signal

Square Foot Challenge
Photos by Herb Parsons



Mark Maynard:
Space ship

PASSENGER MANIFEST

John Harris, Membership Chair

Again, the Division 9 luncheon was a tremendous success. Thanks to everyone that participated in Gary Burdette Memorial Challenge. It was good to see the varieties of entries. For me personally, it was good to get out of my comfort zone and try something completely new. Outside of installing 40 or so tortoise machines, all controlled by double pole, double throw micro switches with LED indicator lights, I have not added any motorized action to the Allegheny & New River Road other than the locomotives themselves. While some last minute electrical issues prevented the sound portion of the diorama from working, it was good to see that my steam locomotives now can have something to “quench their thirst” with an active water spout.

It was also good to see some of the other approaches as there were several that have an application for most of us. Operating semaphores, functioning gates and doors, and automobile lifts all have their place in model railroading. Even fully functional space craft can find a place in the hobby. Kudos to Mark Maynard for the most creative, out of this world approach to the Challenge.

Regardless of approach taken, I believe Gary would have again been well pleased with the outcomes. Trying something different and learning something new was always his approach. Thanks to Robert Osburn for once

again providing us with the opportunity to learn something new, and as such, keep Gary’s spirit alive. Continuing to learn new techniques is one of the great member benefits for those in our division.

As we begin this New Year, I hope that we will see additional opportunities to expand the member experience. Participation in local shows is certainly one of these, particularly with the T-TRAK modules. I encourage everyone to pick up the challenge and create their own module. I for one am looking forward to joining in on the experience. While I have plenty of things that need my attention on my layout, creating something completely different and in a different scale will open up other opportunities. Perhaps I will do something new, perhaps a different era, add a new industry, or even try a new locale. Then again, perhaps I could simply model a section of the C&O that is not currently within the limits of the A&NRR.

Regardless, I think the T-TRAK concept is a great opportunity for those with a layout and those without, to get more involved with the hobby and expand the benefits of their membership in NMRA. We will be looking into other activities that help to expand the experience as we move into 2023. Suggestions are always welcome. Keep modeling and be safe. See you at January meeting.

MY WORD

Bob Weinheimer, Editor

The Square Foot Challenge sure turned out a number of very fascinating entries. I thank Herb Parsons for taking all the photos you saw on the preceding pages.

As noted by others in this newsletter, the December event was great. I didn’t leave room for an Achievement Program item but I did enjoy handing out Merit Award certificates to Robert Osburn and Don Cipolla. I also had the pleasure of presenting Patrick Miller with his Chief Dispatcher certificate and Don with his Structures and Scenery certificates. The room was a bit crowded and we were not able to get photos.

On the National level, I hope you all saw the January eBulletin. In it Gordy tells us the NMRA Interchange should be rolling out soon. A couple of Coal Division members are already signed up to use it and I expect it will be available to all in the coming days. Check your email for the official announcement. As we did with the rollout of the digital magazine, I, and perhaps Sam Delauter and Jerry Doyle, will try to give you an orientation to this new member benefit once it is fully in place.

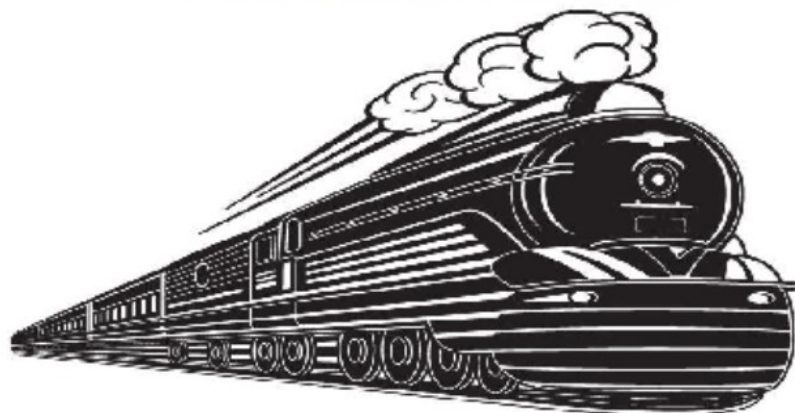
The NMRA Board of Directors will have its winter meeting at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA on Friday January 27, the day before the start of the show. If you are headed to the huge train show that that weekend, you are welcome to observe the meeting. To do so, it will be necessary to get you into the venue as it is not open to the public that day, so you must send an email to Mike Cummings, NMRA Secretary, at secy@nmra.org to arrange entrance. Even if you don’t go the meeting but are at the show, the NMRA will have a booth hosted by the Northeastern Region.

As some of you know, I normally travel to New Hampshire for Christmas. While I have wanted to attend this show, heading right back to New England a month later, in the winter, has never appealed to me but this year I have a real incentive to do so with the board meeting.

In the meantime, it looks like Sam has a good lineup of clinics so I hope you can attend our meetings even if only virtually.

TRAIN SHOW & SALE

OUR 33RD YEAR



SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
HOLY FAMILY PARISH SAFFIN CENTER
3938 POPLAR LEVEL RD, LOUISVILLE, KY 40213

- MODEL TRAINS IN ALL SCALES
- OPERATING LAYOUTS AND DISPLAYS
- RETAIL SALES - OVER 100 DEALER TABLES
- MODEL RAILROAD EDUCATION
- JOIN THE NMRA - NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
- HOURLY DOOR PRIZES!
- GREAT FOOD & BEVERAGES
- FREE PARKING

\$6.00 PER PERSON – CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER FREE WITH AN ADULT

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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

WEBSITE: <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org>

ADVANCE TICKETS: <https://tinyurl.com/March2023TrainShowTickets>

ADVANCE TICKETS



DEALER INFORMATION



WEBSITE





MODEL RAILROAD SPRING FLEA MARKET & TRADE SHOW

Sponsored by Cincinnati Division 7, NMRA, Inc.
www.cincy-div7.org/events.html

**Saturday, MARCH 11, 2023
10 AM to 3 PM**

**LAKOTA WEST FRESHMAN CAMPUS
5050 TYLERSVILLE ROAD
WEST CHESTER, OHIO 45069**

FEATURING LOCAL MODELERS & HOBBY DEALERS

**\$7 ADMISSION \$3 YOUTH (11-15 years of age)
FREE under 10 years old TABLES \$20 (30 inches x 8 ft)
Table Reservations: rhord@fuse.net**

**All SCALES of Model Railroad Items, Videos and more
Don't miss this Model Train buy-sell-swap event!
*"A model railroad trade show"***

This event will be operated under all local, state and federal health guidelines in effect during the show. Masks are currently optional. If recommended, hand sanitizer will be available at multiple locations.



RAILS TO PITTSBURGH 2023

RAILS TO PITTSBURGH 2023 Mid Central NMRA Regional Convention! May 4-7, 2023

EVERYTHING YOU WANT IN A GREAT CONVENTION, AND MORE!

**Clinics – Tours – Contests – Non-Rail Activities – Layout Tours
Banquet – White Elephant Tables – Door Prizes – Railfanning**

Our convention hotel, the Doubletree by Hilton at Cranberry is conveniently located within easy access to the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Interstate-79 just north of Pittsburgh. You can visit the city, see Station Square, ride the Duquesne or Monongahela Inclines, railfan and enjoy the area. You are just 15 minutes from Norfolk Southern Mainline and 20 minutes from CSX Mainline.

Here are some of the **POTENTIAL** activities available at the **RAILS TO PITTSBURGH** Convention!

A Variety of Rail Tours

Steel Industry History
The Bridges of Pittsburgh
Port Authority Light Rail Shops
The Pennsylvania Trolley Museum
Allegheny Valley Railroad and Yard

Excellent Clinics

Western Pennsylvania Railroads
Steel and Other Industries
Operations: Real and Simulated
Modern Railroad Practices
Modeling Structures, Rolling Stock and Scenery

Non-Rail Tours and Clinics

Pittsburgh Glass Factory Tour,
Card making, Jewelry,

Local Attractions

Carnegie Science Center – National Aviary
Heinz History Center – Duquesne Incline
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
Phipps Conservatory – The Andy Warhol Museum

Railfanning

NS & CSX Mainline Action
W & LE & Union Railroad
Variety of Local Short lines



For more information, check our website frequently for updates: www.keystonedivision.org




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NORFOLK AND WESTERN




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 DIVISION (HO)
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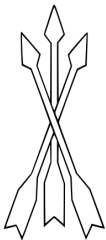
CRUSTY MOUNTAIN AND WILOBY SPRINGS R.R.

Mark Maynard, President
 Portsmouth, OH



Jerry Doyle, President
 Barboursville, WV

CRESCENT VALLEY



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Ed Keith, MMR
 Assistant Superintendent
 Chesapeake, OH

BOONE DOCK, GOAT HEAD & CHUG WATER WESTERN RAILWAY & NAVIGATION CO.

Alleghany & 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



HINTON DIVISION
 Gary Burdette - Superintendent
 Point Pleasant WV



NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION
 Clint Foster Superintendant
 Ronceverte WV



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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.

January 14
In Person and Zoom

February 11
In Person and Zoom

March 11
In Person and Zoom

April 8
In Person and Zoom