



UP THE HOLLER

The Newsletter of Division 9

THE COAL DIVISION

Mid Central Region

National Model Railroad Association

www.coaldivision.org

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Comments from the Head of The Holler Lin Young, Superintendent

I got caught short this month getting my notes to our new editor. We have changed the format for the *UP THE HOLLER* as you noticed last month. Instead of a quarterly news letter, or should I say magazine produced by Greg McCartney; you will get a monthly news letter by Dan Mulhearn. Those who have an email address will get the news letter electronically while those without will get a paper version via USPS. We thank Greg for the years he gave us as our editor. We welcome Dan who stepped into a big job as our editor. Dan is changing the format to a four page monthly issue rather than a quarterly production.

I am missing the February meeting but will see you in March. As you already know our clinics until May will be rehearsals of convention presentations. I heard the January meeting went well in spite of the multimedia technical failure. That is the reason we are practicing our presentations.

Our May convention registration continues at a record pace. The tours are about 25% and the operating sessions are already full. We are confident the tours will fill up, so if you want to go on one or more of them, we suggest you sign up soon. We don't have many Division 9 registrations as this is written so get your check book out and send in your registration to Bob Weinheimer. Remember we want to provide the "Benchmark" convention for the Mid Central Region.

Go to our web site for the contest and clinic information. Bob Weinheimer keeps it up to date regularly with anything you need to know about our Division.

Keep up the good work and I will see you at our March meeting.

Coal Division Elections 2010

Bill Wadsworth, Nominating Committee Chairman

The ballots for the 2010 election of Officers were recently mailed and you should have received yours by the time you read this. There is a mistake in the return date noted on the ballot. According to the Division 9 constitution all ballots must be returned by the March meeting; which this year is March 13, 2010. To accommodate this need, all ballots returned by mail must arrive on or before March 12th. I can also accept hand delivered ballots prior to the start of the March 13th meeting. That still allows more than the 30 days specified; so this should not be a problem. Thank you for your understanding.

Assistant Superintendent's Report
Bob Weinheimer; Assistant Superintendent

The Convention has taken up nearly all of my NMRA time in recent months, so I will describe it's progress as part of the assistant superintendents report.

The *KINGPIN* went out in early January and registration activity really picked up. As of January 29th we have 72 primary registrants with 24 family members. The tours are filling up nicely with 15 to 20 tickets sold to each. The banquet is selling very well with about 50 takers so far. Our original plan was to have ten tables of ten plus a twelve seat head table. If we sell these spots early we can get additional tables. The trick is to not commit to the additional seats too early in case they do not sell. Alas, all the operating sessions are sold out. John Harris is working to determine if he can open his layout again on the Friday evening to host some of the overflow. Lin and I can not as we are required to be at the MCR Board of Directors Meeting Friday evening.

We just sent out 97 letters to manufacturers, distributors and sellers of model railroad merchandise requesting items for the raffle. We will also accept donated items from members. Look for a couple of Pennsylvania Southern hopper cars to show up in the raffle.

We have just about completed the definition of staff-

ing requirements for the Convention. These will be posted on a staffing page on the web site along with contact information for the various chairmen. If you see an activity that sounds interesting to you, get in touch to offer your services. If we don't get volunteers we will start calling and asking. This is your chance to pick your job.

We plan to use our April 10 membership meeting as a practice session for all convention processes. Please do your best to attend if you have a role to play at the convention.

Finally, if you plan to stay at the convention hotel, I strongly suggest making a reservation sooner rather than later. The hotel is filling up quite fast, faster than normally expected for a function of this sort. You do not have to pay in advance. You can cancel before the afternoon of your scheduled arrival. No reservations can be made after April 20. There is another activity at the Hotel the same weekend and we can get no more rooms than the current number committed by the Hotel.

If you have questions about the Convention, please email me at rmweinheimer@ntelos.net or call me at 304 343 1428.

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



HINTON DIVISION
Gary Burdette - Superintendent
 Point Pleasant WV



SHAMOKIN DIVISION
 DENNIS MCGEENEY ROAD FOREMAN
 SUMMERSVILLE, WV
 DENNAPAT@VERIZON.NET
 304-872-7262

**VOTE EARLYL
 (BUT NOT OFTEN)
 ELECTION BALLOTS DUE
 MARCH 12 BY MAIL
 MARCH 13 IN PERSON**



Ed Keith, MMR
 President
 Chesapeake, OH

**PENNSYLVANIA
 SOUTHERN**

Bob Weinheimer, President
 398 Mount View Drive Charleston, WV 25314
www.pennsylvaniasouthern.com

Page 1 photo is of the mine on the Pie Holler branch of Dan George's now dismantled G&PC. Fortunately your editor was able to acquire these buildings from the buyer of Dan's layout and they will reappear on the George Creek Branch of the Clinch Valley Sub on my abuilding N&W layout.



Jerry Doyle, President
Barboursville, WV

CRESCENT VALLEY



Lin Young, President
Debbie Drive
Gallipolis, OH 45631
www.graftonandgreenbrier.com

MEETING REMINDER
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13
1 PM SOCIAL HOUR
2 PM BUSINESS MEETING

CLINIC: Charlie Venable will practice his convention clinic, "Wiring Oregon Rail Supply Signal Heads"

CONTEST: Diesel Locomotives

Webmaster Report
Bob Weinheimer

Web site activity has seen an upturn in the last couple of months. Here are some recent numbers of web site hits.

June 2009	3012
July	3600
August	4658
Sept.	5027
Oct.	5993
Nov.	4338
Dec.	5121
Jan, 2010	8827

Of course, the *KINGPIN* went our in early January. Needless to say, the most visited pages were those about the convention.

As is often the case, another popular feature of the web site is the layout photo section. Dave Stout sent me some photos of his layout which have been posted on the site. Do you have some good clear photos of your layout which you would like to share? Don't forget that these on line photos can count toward the AP program's



THREE ARROWS
RAILROAD

Tony Puccini, President
6 Garwood Drive Huntington, WV 25705
puccinibaj@hotmail.com

Achievement Program Report
Bob Weinheimer

AP Program activity in the Coal Division has slowed a bit but not stopped completely. Gary Burdette, the proud holder of six certificates, is working diligently on a reproduction of Thurmond WV for his Prototype Model Certificate. This will be Gary's seventh certificate and the last one needed before becoming a Master Model Rail-roader. I hope he can finish the project in the next few weeks, have it judged, and be presented with his MMR certificate and plaque at the Coalfield Express in May. Let's all cheer him on!!

Gary is not alone in activity. Dan Mulhearn has accumulated enough credits to have earned the Association Volunteer Certificate. The paperwork was recently submitted for National approval. Congratulations to Dan!

I know of a couple of other layouts in the Division that are candidates for the Scenery Certificate. We hope to judge them in the coming weeks to the give the owners the recognition they deserve. Check out the AP Program requirements at www.nmra.org to see if you might qualify for a certificate or two.

As a reminder, we attempt to have at least a couple of judges at our meeting site by about 1PM, one hour before the meeting starts. This gives you the opportunity to bring structures, cars or locomotives for judging. I do ask that you have all your paperwork including a judging sheet.

NEW MEMBERS

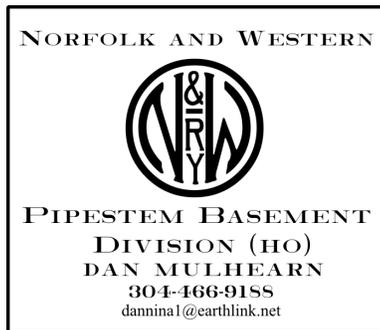
We welcome the following new members:

Jonathan Ramey

Editor's Notes

This is your news letter. I am looking for your model railroad "biography"; products reviews; news and views or whatever you may wish to contribute. It is hoped that as I work on the learning curve this publication will become a better product; however, your input is needed to make this all member's news letter. Thanks; see you at the meeting;

Dan Mulhearn
Editor



February Scale Rails Delayed

Once again, the delivery of the February issue of Scale Rails has been delayed. This is the issue that has both the convention information and the ballot, and it is mailed to every voting member of the NMRA.

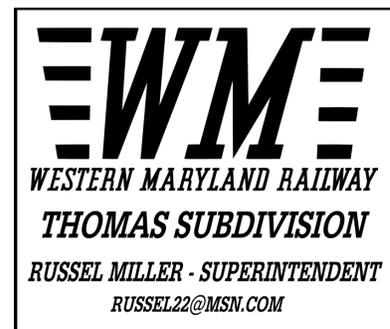
This time the delay is due to the US Post Office's failure to issue a mailing permit. This particular permit was to allow mailing from the printer's plant in Chicago, which is necessary because of the peel-off labels used to validate the ballots. The magazine was prepared on schedule, and the permit application was filed in plenty of time – we thought – but it has still not come through. So the magazines are taking up space at the printing plant as we wait for the fine folks at the Post Office to do their thing.

White River Productions is doing everything they can to hustle up the PO, but anyone who has stood in line for an hour to buy stamps knows how much good that will do. In the meantime there is every possibility that your March issue will arrive before the February one.

I will send another note when the magazine is in the mail.

Mike Brestel
NMRA President

UPDATE: Scale Rails went into the mail Friday January 29. Look for it soon.



Here are a couple of photos of Dave Stout's layout that you can see on the Coal Division web site. Just click [here](#) to see these two and many more. If you want to see photos of your layout on the division web site, just send a note to webmaster@coaldivision.org. Photos by Dave Stout.





Robert Weinheimer MMR
398 Mount View Dr
Charleston, WV 25314

Upcoming Coal Division Meetings

February 13

**West Virginia Hobbies and Crafts
Teays Valley, WV**

March 13

**West Virginia Hobbies and Crafts
Teays Valley, WV**

April 10

**Embassy Suites Hotel
300 Court Street
Charleston, WV**

May 8

**West Virginia Hobbies and Crafts
Teays Valley, WV**