



UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

February 2020

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FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Dan Mulhearn, Superintendent

I start this month with my apologies for missing our December and January events. I have been struggling with vertigo and have fallen six times since September. I have opted out on several op sessions, and believe me, when I do that I am not feeling well. I am really hoping to feel better for our February event.

I have been thinking about my years in model railroading, since when at 16 years I traded my Lionel trains for a Varney docksider and some Varney and Mantua HO rolling stock. There was not much knowledge of prototype railfanning but that was what I was interested in. My first modeling goal was a free-lanced version of the Long Island RR positing that Austin Corbin's dream of a deep water port at Montauk, saving two days sailing to New York, had come to be. I had GP30s and GP35s in Long Island grey and orange delivering sea going traffic to the New York Harbor ferry service or even a proposed tunnel link to the mainland railroads on the New Jersey side. My next prototype was the New Haven with heavy electrics, ALCOs, and FL9s but there was little available in HO in the early 60s. Then, in 1960, I fell in love with the Erie Lackawanna, in particular the former Erie Delaware Division between New York and Pennsylvania along the Delaware River. Unfortunately, the EL moved most of the service to the DL&W Scranton side except for the interchange to the former New Haven, later Penn Central, at Maybrook, NY. PC soon cut this practice and the Poughkeepsie bridge connection ceased.

So after a couple of years of modeling the Erie Lackawanna, my prototype Central New England was created. This was the original CNE from interchange with the Lehigh and Hudson, Lehigh, and New England at Maybrook, NY to Hartford and New Haven. So, New Haven took over the CNE and it expanded to branches to Portland, Maine and west to Harrisburg, PA. CNE bought into the Cumberland RR from Harrisburg to connections with the Southern, N&W and Chessie in southern Virginia.

Now I am modeling the N&W/NS Pocahontas Division Clinch Valley subdivision with certain modelers license.

So, what are you hoping to model? Id love to hear about it.

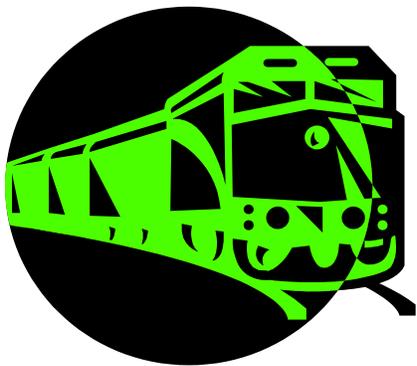
FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Bob Osburn, Assistant Superintendent

I would like to thank everyone who attended the January meeting. The attendance was great, the Depot was warm, clean, and the restroom even worked! Unfortunately, the business meeting was a little longer than expected, but we had a lot of items to discuss as is reflected in the minutes contained within this newsletter. Randy Allio gave an excellent clinic on using Pan Pastels. Not only did he show us how to weather and paint structures and rolling stock with this medium, but also gave us a lesson on using other products to finish our models. Again, thanks to Randy, we really enjoyed and learned a lot from your clinic. Speaking of clinics, in the February 2020 edition of the NMRA magazine appears an interesting article titled "*EduTRAIN™--Get on Board!*" I'll have a copy of this article at the February meeting but I'm going to leave it to Bob Weinheimer to fill in the details. If you are working on your Author or Volunteer AP, the changes the NMRA Board is getting ready to approve could help. In the same article written by Jim Macino, he states, "the primary purpose of the

Continues next page

Cover: Tom Harris with his Chief Dispatcher certificate, photo by Dale Osburn



Coal Division
Monthly Railfun Event
Steam Engines

Saturday February 8, 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 Bob Weinheimer "Introduction
 to JMRI for Locomotive Programming"

Continued from page 2 NMRA is the education of all our members. While camaraderie, providing standards, and sitting through Division meetings are fun, education is the basis of our association" and I must agree! Over the past several years that I have been active with Division 9, the clinics have been an important part of why I stay on board. Yes, I enjoy my railroad family and the business must be taken care of, but I hope we channel our efforts more toward the very rewarding aspect of education. Sam Delauter is working very hard to provide quality clinics for our monthly meetings, but he is always in need of your help. Our monthly contest, the square foot challenge, the MADD sessions, our field trips, and T-TRAK must also be recognized as educational. This is why these programs are important and need your support. We all have something to contribute!

As for what's been happening with my attic railroad, the progress is slow but steady. The winter weather has

given me some extra time for modeling and research. I am always surprised at how much railroad knowledge and history I gain as I research some current modeling project. Recently this had been the case as I work on structures for my engine terminal. I have learned an engine terminal is a complicated and complex collection of unique function specific assemblies. What was there, at what time period was it there, how did it work, is it appropriate for my particular railroad, and the questions keep going. I'm not a rivet counter and I realize most of the visitors to the layout are family and friends who probably know less about a railroad than I do. However, I would like to represent a realistic and believable setting for the terminal and be able to communicate what's going on to others that may ask. Now I know just enough about engine terminals to be dangerous!

HAPPY MODELING!

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9
THE COAL DIVISION
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2019

Meeting called to order at 12:46pm by Assistant Superintendent Robert Osburn, as the Superintendent was absent due to illness.

Sam reported that Greg Barker had died. It was moved and approved to send flowers, and Tony Puccini said he would handle it.

Treasurer's Report – Although the treasurer was absent, Robert had several items to pass along from him. They are looking for clinics for the Pittsburgh convention and would appreciate any help the members could give. Also, an application fee of \$275 has been paid to the Internal Revenue Service for 501(c)3 status.

Newsletter Chair – Bob Weinheimer noted that the meeting minutes for December needed to be approved. It was so moved and the motion was approved. He noted that NMRA President Peter Magoun was impressed with our dioramas done in December.

Achievement Program Chair – Bob Weinheimer reported that T-TRAK modules displayed at the various shows are eligible for points toward the Association Volunteer certificate. Tom Harris received the Chief Dispatcher Award.

Librarian – The library is available today.

Membership Chair – John Harris reports we plan to set up our booth at the St. Albans train show and volunteers are needed to man it. We now have 50 members although some are not active. Robert suggested we put together a “welcome” package for new members.

Contest Chair – Dale Osburn is looking for ideas for future meetings and would welcome any suggestions. Steam locos are the theme for February.

Clinic Chair – In February Bob Weinheimer will talk on using JMRI, and in March Fred Soward from Division 8 will discuss the square foot challenge and repurposing boxcars. We need some mini-clinics for the St. Albans train show.

Raffle Chair – Tom Harris thanked the members for their donations. He has a loop of track available if anyone would like it.

Old Business – We have one candidate each for Superintendent (Robert Osburn) and Assistant Superintendent (Sam Delauter). Nominations were opened to the floor, and there were none so it was moved and approved to elect the candidates by acclamation.

New Business – C&O Historical Society has a train show in Clifton Forge February 15 and 16. Also the C&O convention will be in Charleston Oct. 21-25, at the same time as the fall train ride.

Announcements – Mark Maynard knows of a train layout for sale. Let him know if you're interested. SACOM has an open house today, after the meeting.

Next Meeting: St. Albans depot on February 8, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55pm

Respectfully submitted by Bill Wadsworth, Acting Clerk

MISSING SWITCH KEYS

If you by chance walked away from our September meeting with an extra key in your pocket, it might be one of the missing keys from Mark Maynard's layout. Mark would like to get them back so please return it if you have one.

CONTEST
Dale Osburn
 Photos by Dale Osburn

In January 2020, the winners were as follows:

First Place: Larry Richards for his Gas Station diorama:

Second Place: Dennis McGeeney for his Midwest Steel Building diorama:

Third Place: Robert Osburn for his Engine Terminal Structures:

The February contest will be steam locomotives. We look forward to seeing members who model steam locomotives at the next contest.

Please be thinking ahead about what you have from your layout that can be entered in the March contest which will be locomotives other than steam.



First Place Larry Richards
 Gas Station diorama:

B.T.S laser cut gas station; garage was scratch built. This diorama included many scratch built details along with power lines, roadways, and L.E.D interior lighting.

Second Place
Dennis McGeeney
 Midwest Steel Building diorama:

The HO scale Midwest Steel Building had many added details which included large tractor trailer trucks, scale people and tons of roof details.



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CONTEST continued**Third Place Robert Osburn**
Engine Terminal Structures:

Modern Coaling Tower, Cinder Conveyor, Sand Drying House, and Steel Water Tank are Walthers kits weathered with Pan Pastels. The sand storage containment was shortened and the sand house was narrowed. A metal roof was added to the structure along with wall mounted gooseneck lighting.

MONTHLY MODEL CONTEST 2020 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	Fourth Annual Gary Burdette Memorial Modeling Challenge. Details and kick off in October
June	Non Revenue Except Cabooses		
July	Structures		

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM Bob Weinheimer MMR®

It was my pleasure to present Tom Harris with his Chief Dispatcher certificate at the January meeting. If I have it right, that is his third certificate as he has earned Scenery and Author previously. I can see more certificates in Tom's future and hope one day that he becomes a Master Model Railroader®.

Robert Osburn noted upcoming changes to the Author requirement in his column. The EduTrain® program collects clinics that are particularly good as education tools. They are well documented in the notes section of the PowerPoint documents that are used for presentations. The idea is that somebody can pick up the clinic, study it and the notes, then do a credible job of presenting the clinic. The creation of the notes section is something not normally done in a clinic and is a bit of extra effort on the part of the author. In addition, the clinic and its notes are reviewed by a team to assure the entire package is most effective. Normally, the creation and presentation of a clinic at a National convention earns the author 6 credits toward Author. The added effort will now add 2 more credits.

In the meeting minutes it was noted that the showing of our T-TRAK modules at events can earn Association Volunteer credit for the modeler. In order for this to happen, the Division must specifically approve the participation in the show or event. Moving forward, I suggest each such event be put to a vote by the membership in order to meet this documentation requirement.



Bob has just presented Tom with his
Chief Dispatcher certificate.

PASSENGER MANIFEST

John Harris, Membership Chair

As we have all now boarded the 2020 Train, let us hope that the New Year brings us nothing but “high green” signals for the year ahead. I have nothing really new to report to the membership at our February meeting, except to confirm we are now at 50 members within the Division. I will be bringing a sign-up sheets for volunteers for the Kanawha Valley Model Railroad Association Show on February 21, 22 and 23. As previously mentioned, we again have been invited to participate and plan to have the T-TRAK modules, our Division 9 display, and provide some brief, 10-15 minute clinics on “how to model railroad”. Sam Delauter will have more information on the clinics.

While several expressed interest in assisting with manning the Coal Division Display at our January meeting, I will be bringing a sign-up sheet with specific time slots open during Friday, Saturday and Sunday. I will be taking

at least one of the 2 hour sessions and I encourage each of you to consider picking a time that will work for you to be involved. The goal is to spread the word on the benefits of joining our organization. I will have some additional promotional details and provide information about NMRA membership. Handouts will be limited as we have found over the years that handing out information to everyone is a waste as most end up in the trash. It is really the serious modeler we are looking to reach.

I expect to bring a model kit or project or two to work on as I man the booth. This will help pass the time and make the time sitting more productive, but more importantly, perhaps generate some questions and provide opportunities to talk more about the hobby. This should be an excellent opportunity to expand our outreach and potentially increase interest in model railroading.

Pan Pastels® used for weathering and painting

The clinic at our January event was presented by Randy Allio. Randy noted that weathering with Pan Pastels®, something we usually think of when we hear about these products, is far from the only way they can be used. He showed us how he has used them to paint structures and various other items. We even got to try them out ourselves! Thanks for a great clinic!

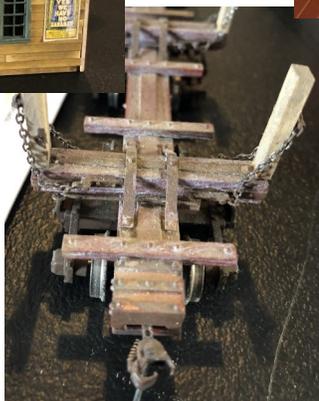


Photo by John Harris

Structures painted with Pan Pastels® and a railcar weathered with Pan Pastels®.
Photos by Dale Osburn

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.

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 Box-car Challenge
April	Making Mountains by Tom Harris
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

T-TRAK Sam Delauter

NMRA Division 9 T-TRAK Special Interest Group (SIG)

Membership

- Must be member of NMRA
- SIG will meet after monthly Division 9 meeting

General Standards

- The standard module will be Masterpiece Modules
- Era will be 1950 to early 1970s
- All main line track that is not Kato Unitrack will be Peco Code 80
- All main line switches must be Peco Electrofrog if Kato Unitrack is not used
- Track on sidings and yards can be of any code
- It is the owners responsibility to clean track before use in a layout

Connections, Wiring and Electronics

- All main line connections to other modules must be made with Kato Unitrack
- Wiring of the module will be wired blue white white blue
- Wiring will connect into the bus wire using Kato Unitrack style power connectors
- NCE will be the standard DCC system but one main line will have the option of being DC in a layout

Club Provided Items

- Black paint will be provided for all visible wooden parts of the module
- Elevator bolts will be used for adjusting feet
- Base color for under ground foam will be Deco Art #DCA12
- Woodland Scenics ground foam Green Blend #T1349 will be used on all edges touching other modules
- Ballast on the main will be Arizona Rock and Mineral Pennsylvania Grey
- Ballast on sidings and yards can be Pennsylvania Grey or Southern Pacific/ Union Pacific Cinder

T-TRAK Sam Delauter

In just a few short weeks the Kanawha Valley Railroad Association show will be upon us. T-Trak will once again participate in this event. As discussed at the last meeting, you do get points toward the Association Volunteer Certificate for participation in T-Trak.

As for the KVRA show, we can get in the venue on Friday from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Setup of the layout will be at 8:00 AM on Saturday morning. Immediately following the show, we will tear the layout down. That should be between 2:30 PM and 3:00 PM. Please try to be there at setup and as much as you can during the show as we will need people to run the layout. Please bring the same modules that you brought to Huntington as we

will try to keep the same setup as that show.

I have been coordinating with the KVRA. Both the T-Trak layout and the NMRA booth will be together again this year. We will need an active showing not only for T-Trak but also to man the NMRA booth. I invite any NMRA member to help run the T-Trak layout whether they are a member of the T-Trak group or not.

Lastly, I would like to thank Ron Rogillo for the donation of an Atlas B&O GP9tt. It will be a great help for the group to have a loco around for any of the members to be able to run at shows.

15th Annual
Kanawha Valley
MODEL TRAIN AND CRAFT SHOW

SPONSORED BY: KANAWHA VALLEY RAILROAD ASSOCIATION



THE ARENA EVENT CENTER

6400 MacCorkle Ave., S.W., Saint Albans, WV

FEBRUARY 22 & 23, 2020

Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and

Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Vendors, layouts and clinics!
Free Parking, Refreshments Available

ADMISSION: \$5.00; Children under 12 free!

VENDOR TABLES/SPACES - \$25.00

Information: Tyler Wylie (304) 621-2610 or
Joe Horter: (304) 539-6721, jhorter@gmail.com or kvrailroad@gmail.com



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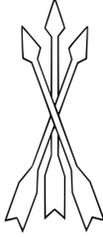
CRUSTY MOUNTAIN AND WILOBY SPRINGS R.R.

Mark Maynard, President
 Portsmouth, OH



CRESCENT VALLEY

Jerry Doyle, President
 Barboursville, WV

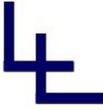


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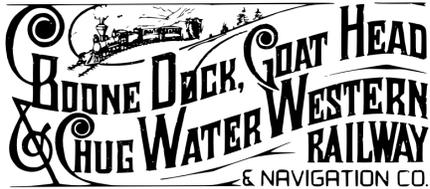
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NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION
 Clint Foster Superintendant
 Ronceverte WV

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

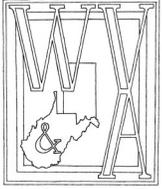


Bringing a little bit of West Virginia to the rest of America a few tons at a time



John Harris, Chief Engineer
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Upcoming Coal Division Events

February 8
St. Albans Depot

March 14
St. Albans Depot

April 13
Location to be announced

May
Steel is King
Parkersburg, WV

June
Location to be announced