



UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

August 2022

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FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Bob Osburn, Superintendent

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The August 13th meeting will feature our *Picnic on the Platform*. This is always a special gathering for the Coal Division and usually we have the highest attendance of the year for this event. (I guess we need to have food at all our meetings!!) We will be having our picnic outdoors under the St Albans Historical Society shelter. This is located next to the Depot and Historical Society buildings. The Historical Society building will be open for use in case of foul weather, high heat index, or for restroom use. We **are not** going to conduct our regular business session but we will still be having the **contest, clinic, and raffle**.

We will start cooking around 12:30 and hope everything will be ready to eat around 1:00. The meal will feature hamburgers and hotdogs (with all the trimmings), potato salad, baked beans, coleslaw, chips, dessert, and an assortment of drinks. We will have tables set up under the shelter or inside if necessary, and a few chairs will be available if you can't bring one. It would be appreciated if you could arrive a little early and help with setup.

This year we are reaching out through the newsletter to past members and welcome them to share with us a great time to get together. It would be great to see you again! We have also invited members of SACOM and the St. Albans Historical Society to join us for this special outing.

Beside the picnic, the August meeting will have a lot more to offer. Dale Osburn will be presenting a clinic on his technique for making ground foam. This is really a simple but messy process and he will explain and demonstrate the steps involved on how you can make your own ground foam from start to finish. The contest will be anything Electrical/Electronics used on a model railroad. This should be very interesting and feature a variety of entries. Remember if you can't bring your entry to the meeting, just bring some pictures and explain your entry. Tom Harris will also have a great selection of items for the raffle during the meeting.

At the July meeting members got a sneak preview of the 2022 Gary Burdette Memorial Challenge. This year's project will be servo animation. Each member who would like to participate will be given a packet containing the necessary components to make something move. The packets will be distributed at the October 8th meeting. A hands-on clinic will be conducted during this meeting where you will be able to assemble the components and practice movement of a servo. Your finished animation projects will be featured at the December meeting.

Our picnics are always enjoyed by the members and a large turnout is normal. Hope to see you at the August 13th Picnic on the Platform. With COVID-19 still a concern, please do the necessary things you feel comfortable doing to protect yourself and others: [We Are All in This Together](#)

DIVISION OFFICERS

Superintendent
Robert Osburn
super@coaldivision.org

Assistant Superintendent
Sam Delauter
asstsuper@coaldivision.org

Clerk- Jerry Doyle
304-638-2826
clerk@coaldivision.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Achievement Program Chairmen
Bob Weinheimer MMR
304-546-5896
ap@coaldivision.org

Clinic
Sam Delauter
clinic@coaldivision.org

Contest
Dale Osburn
contest@coaldivision.org

Education
Vacant

Election
Bill Wadsworth
304-768-3266
nominating@coaldivision.org

Membership
John Harris
membership@coaldivision.org

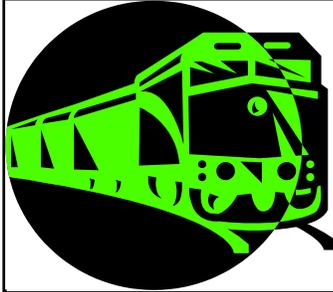
Raffle
Tom Harris
raffle@coaldivision.org

T-Trak
Sam Delauter
samdelauter@gmail.com
304-514-8302

DIVISION STAFF

Editor
Bob Weinheimer MMR®
editor@coaldivision.org

Webmaster
Bob Weinheimer MMR®
webmaster@coaldivision.org



Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

Saturday August 13, 2022

Picnic on the Platform

12:30 **Cooking starts**

1:00 **Start eating!**

Later **Contest, clinic, and raffle**

Next Event

Saturday September 17

West Portsmouth, OH

FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Sam Delauter, Assistant Superintendent

During his clinic, Robert Osburn spoke about how much he enjoys painting with Vallejo paints. While I personally have not used these paints before, Robert is having really great results. While I am not trying to sway anyone to change the brand and type of paint that they are using, I think it is good to have as many options as possible.

Like many of you, I had to find an alternate set of paints when Floquil was discontinued a number of years back. I tried several brands with unsatisfactory results. Of the brands that I tried, Vallejo was not one of them. After a number of growing pains from a number of different types of paint, I settled on Tru-Color Paint. I say growing pains because I have learned that when you are shooting paint through an airbrush, each brand and type of paint (i.e.: solvent, waterborne) has to be addressed differently than others. I've found in my own usage that there is a learning curve to get a good solid coat of paint.

With that said, once I got the feel for Tru-Color Paints, I haven't shot a lot of other brands. According to their website TCP is an acrylic solvent based paint. While I won't be of much help to explain what that means, what I can tell you is that you can thin the paint with their thinner or you can thin it with acetone. I have only ever used the latter to thin the paint. They say that their paint is airbrush ready and doesn't need thinning. This caused major issues when I started using their paint. I tend to shoot between 20 and 30psi. No matter what I did, I could not get it through the airbrush. I found by thinning it between 10%-20% was the right mix. Basically I top the bottle off to the top of the larger part of the bottle. This is a little hard to write but if you look at the bottle you'll understand.

As for what paints they offer, they offer many railroad colors and say that they are always working on expanding their line. They also offer many non-road specific colors. They offer the basic white to black group of colors but also offer colors such as iron oxide and some variations. Their iron oxide makes a really nice PRR freight color that I am sure many of roads could use. I'm sure there are other more generic colors that will pass for certain railroad colors.

Since I have started using TCP, I have found the maintenance on my airbrush has gone down. I found that if I run a bit of acetone through the airbrush when I am done that I can remove the needle and leave the airbrush assembled. In the last there was a lot of cleaning involved. Now it seems that most times I can put it back together and shoot some more acetone through it and everything works as it should. I've also found that this keeps the airbrush ready to shoot other brands as the acetone gets the left over paint out of the airbrush. It's never any fun to have to clean your airbrush when you go to paint a project.

While I am not suggesting to ignore proper maintenance on your airbrush, I would suggest finding a brand that works for you but also be willing to use multiple brands or types of paint. The more you are comfortable with the easier your projects will become. I hope that everyone finds a brand that works for them as Robert and myself have. If anyone has any questions about airbrushes or TCP don't hesitate to ask.

CLINICS

Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

At the July meeting we had another clinic by Robert Osburn on DPM structures. We have had a shorter clinic in the past on just the interiors of these buildings. Robert not only spoke on the interiors but also on general construction of the buildings. He also spoke on techniques to kitbash these structures. Prior to speaking on the DPM buildings, he spoke about the upcoming Square Foot Challenge. This gave the Division some insight on what to expect in the coming months. Once again this year looks to be a lot of fun and looks like we will be learning a lot on servo animation. Thank you Robert for speaking on both of these.

At the August meeting, Dale Osburn will be showing us how to save some money making ground foam. We have saved this clinic for a time when we can be outside.

Dale has said that although it will save us some money making ground foam, it is rather messy.

The following month, we will be making a visit to Mark Maynard to the Crusty Mountain. Following that we will be having the Mini Clinic Events. We still need a couple of people to speak at these events. These are a great opportunity to speak on a topic that would not take an entire clinic and is also an opportunity to learn a lot of things in a short time.

August	Making Ground Foam
September	Crusty Mountain
October	Mini Clinics 1
November	Mini Clinics 2
December	Square Foot Challenge

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9
THE COAL DIVISION
St Albans Historical Society

July 9, 2022
Minutes

Members introduced themselves, several members were attending virtually.

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Robert Osburn at 1:00 p.m.

Division Clerk Report

April minutes approved.

Treasury Balance is \$8,425.35. We paid \$105 for use of the venue for three months in June. Other recent expenses were the annual filing fee of \$25 for our WV incorporation with the WV Secretary of State.

Company Store \$0.

Raffle \$TBD.

Pike Ads \$0.

Superintendent Report Robert Osburn thanked everyone for attending in person and virtually. He talked about using YouTube as a resource for modeling. It's especially good for visual learners.

Assistant Superintendent Report Sam Delauter talked about a discussion thread online about graffiti on trains. Apparently some artists are asserting their copyright with manufacturers who duplicate their work on models.

Newsletter - Up the Holler

Bob Weinheimer noted the deadline of July 25 for the August newsletter. The address for contributions is [edi-tor@coaldivision.org](mailto:editor@coaldivision.org).

Achievement Program

Mark Maynard asked about the requirements for Scenery AP certificate. He hopes to have scenery judged at the September meeting.

Library

Bill Wadsworth reported on the content available in the members-only section at nmra.org. He echoed Robert Osburn's comments on using YouTube as a modeling resource.

Clinic

Today's clinic is a presentation by Robert Osburn on using Design Preservation Models structures. August will be Dale Osburn and making ground foam. There will be mini clinics the two following months.

Contest

Today's contest is structures. There were three entries. The August contest will be model railroad electronics.

Membership

Robert Osburn reported steady membership numbers. Tom Harris commented on the challenge of getting younger members involved. It was noted that SACOM has a much larger percentage of younger members.

Raffle

Tom Harris thanked members for recent donations.

Education

No report.

Old Business

No report.

New Business

Robert Osburn has inquired about getting Internet access at the museum. The SAHS is also interested in this since it's desirable for other events hosted there. As of July, we have no figures as to cost or what our share would be. He also passed around a list of items for next month's picnic. This event qualifies as a recruiting event by NMRA National.

Announcements

There will be a show in Morehead, Kentucky August 13 and 14.

Future Meetings:

August 13 – St Albans Historical Society

September 17 – Mark Maynard's Portsmouth, Ohio

Meeting adjourned at 2:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

CONTEST

Dale Osburn, Contest Chair

Due to an unforeseen circumstance, I was unable to attend the July meeting. A big "thank you" to Robert Osburn for taking over the contest for me.

For the month of August, the contest will be Electronics of a Railroad. See below for some ideas for this contest.

- Working LED lighting diorama.
- Functioning grade crossing.
- Anything servo controlled.
- Any updated engines. (Must be able to display a working unit).

Looking ahead to September, the contest will be Photo, Model or Prototype. We always see a lot of good photos from our members in this category.

For the October meeting, we will be getting a sneak preview for the December Gary Burdette Modeling Challenge. Robert Osburn will be showing the group some new ideas using servos for the December Challenge. During the meeting, we will be having members sign up for the kit that will be distributed in November.

2022	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

There were 3 entries into the contest in the July contest (Structures)

Bill Grosse—Trestle Bridge
 Sam Delauter—DPM Building
 Mark Maynard—30" Safety Railing

The contest was a tie for first place between Bill Grosse and Sam Delauter.



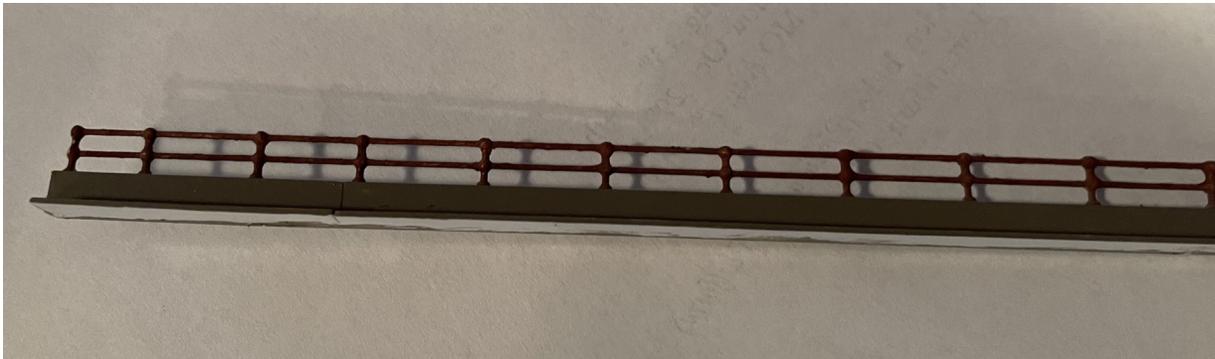
Bill Grosse:

Bill entered his finished Trestle Bridge that was offered for the Gary Burdette Memorial Challenge. The trestle was weathered with Hunter Line stains and the display featured a fully landscaped base.



Sam Delauter:

Sam entered a finished DPM building. It was air-brushed with Tru Color paint. All windows were masked and painted separately. An additional rear building was fabricated from scrap styrene. Roof details were added from several sources and arranged from an article in RMC magazine. A Gold Metal Models fire escape kit was added to the structure.



Mark Maynard:

Mark fabricated a 30" long Safety Railing. The railing will be placed along the track near the 20' (scale feet) drop-off near the city buildings on his layout.

PASSENGER MANIFEST

John Harris, Membership Chair

Work schedule and some personal vacation time have prevented me from meeting our editor's deadlines for the last few months. A bout with COVID kept me away from the last membership meeting, but here I am back for the August edition. I look forward to seeing everyone at the cookout.

Yes, you read that correctly. The guy that always attends the meetings with mask on and has tried to be as careful as possible, got both shots and 2 boosters, and still came down with COVID. Fortunately symptoms were relatively mild but still "knocked" me out for 3 days and even now the couch continues to beckon. All that is to say, this variant is pretty aggressive when it comes to potential spread so be careful out there.

As mentioned in "Up the Holler" a while back, I am looking to other activities to further the membership experience. Previous rail fan trips have proven to be popular in the past. We have done a trip to Nelsonville, OH to ride the Hocking Valley Scenic Railway and most recently traveled to Elkins, WV for a ride on the Tygart Valley Flyer. I believe there was even an adventure on the Potomac Eagle a while back. I have not gotten any feedback to tell if there would be interest in another similar trip. I know most of us are looking forward to resuming normal travel soon.

That said, there has been a lot of publicity recently on the return of former C&O, H-6 class mallet 1309, which had been restored to operating condition, repainted into WM colors and is presently in service on the Western

Maryland Scenic Railroad between Cumberland and Frostburg. Several options for type of service are available with prices varying according to the type of service requested. If there is interest in that kind of trip let me know and I will put together an itinerary and more details for a possible summer or even fall rail fanning trip. We can discuss further at the cookout on the 13th.

Meanwhile, Coal Division membership is staying relatively constant. We did dip a bit last month to 48 but the 50 members seem to be the recent average. I have noticed a few regular members who may have recently overlooked renewing. Take a look and see if you might be one of them and get those dues in now. Newest members include Tyler Burr of West Union, OH, Ted Cheatham of Charleston, John Chreene of Gallipolis, and Bill Stowe of Jackson, OH. While these new faces may have been at our most recent meeting, I look forward to meeting them in person at an upcoming event.

And with a few recent new members (or for those who may have lost their original name tags) perhaps now is a good time to process an order for new name tags. The last batch of these approximately 1" tall by 3 1/4" plastic badges with magnetic backing ran \$12.00 each. I'm not sure if inflation has increased that dramatically if at all, but I am guessing they are still in the ballpark. Anyone interested can contact me at meeting or via email at AandNRR@aol.com

Meanwhile, keep modeling and be safe.

MY WORD

Bob Weinheimer, Editor

I was pleased to read Sam Delauter's column. I had tried to use Tru Color paint airbrushed straight from the bottle and hit the same problem he did. I didn't have any appropriate thinner handy so I set it aside. Please exercise caution if using acetone as a thinner. It is extremely flammable so don't use it around any source of ignition including pilot lights for gas appliances.

While working with Sam Swanson on the use of craft paints for the Indy Junction Modeling with the Masters® class, I tried airbrushing that type of paint. I had seen YouTube videos and was amazed to see their use on plastics. I thinned the stuff about 50-50 with tap water and made sure it was very well mixed. I sprayed a thin coat onto a caboose then set it out into the sunshine on the driveway and went back to do a second, third, and fourth. By the time the fourth was basking in the sun the first had dried. After repeating that process about six times I had very nice coats of paint on all four cabooses. I did the same to a boxcar that I might actually letter for the Pennsylvania Southern and put on the layout.

While this is about the first of August, fall will be coming along and with it the train show circuit. I've put ads for several events including the MCR convention in this issue. As I get more I'll put them in as well.

The planning for Picnic on the Platform is coming along nicely but I'll have to miss it. I'll be at the convention in St. Louis. That day includes the National Train Show as well as the banquet. I'll miss the picnic food but Robert Osburn has offered to eat a hamburger for me. I'll also miss the mess that Dale Osburn plans to make with the making of ground foam.

Please be careful about COVID. The press isn't saying much about the CDC guidelines telling us to wear masks indoors with people around. Things are not good but it's up to each of us to make our own decisions about protection and self preservation. I know I plan to mask up for the St. Louis RPM meet as well as the NMRA Board meeting and other events at the convention. I don't have time to get sick.



Alleghany Western Mini-Meet 2022

September 10, 2022

Model Railroad Event

Saturday's events at the Ambassador Center
I-90 Exit 24 – 7794 Peach Street
Erie, Pennsylvania

- Registration 8:00-8:45 AM
- A variety of clinics throughout the day
- T-TRAK layout on display
- Option for lunch at the event
- *Awesome* raffle prizes
- *Your* models on display
- Judging offered for merit awards
- Wrap-up and hors d'oeuvres 4:45-5:45 PM



Friday evening before the meet and Sunday afterwards, participate in off-site activities!

- Tour local model railroads and meet with the modelers
- Operate on local model railroads

Watch for program schedules, clinic lists, display and judging information, model railroad tours and ops-sessions, vendors and donors, raffle prizes, and other information on our website:

www.div12mcr.org/mini-meet/



Fourth Annual NMRA Division 6

Train Show

Cambridge Ohio

Sunday

October 23, 2022

10 am to 4 pm



Easy Access from I-70 and I-77

Pritchard Laughlin Center

7033 Glenn Hwy

Cambridge OH 43725



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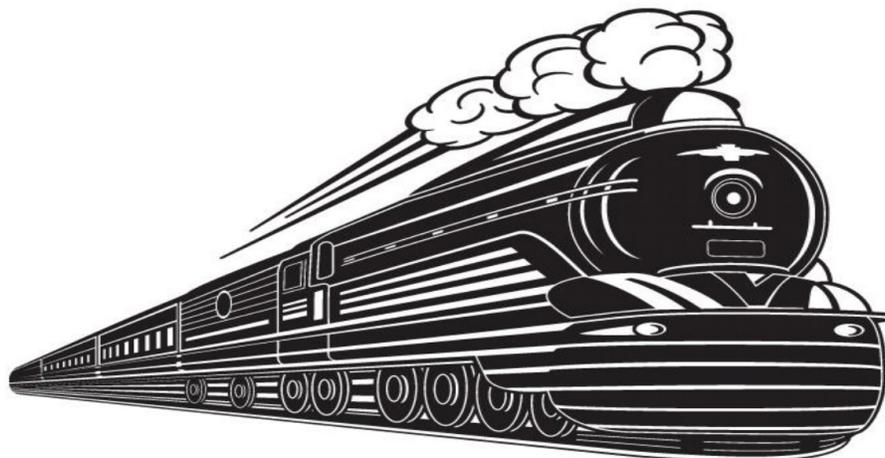
Check out our website for a listing for more information:

<https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/trainshow.html>

Vendors Contact Greg - (740) 607-3223 - trainshow@div6-mcr-nmra.org

TRAIN SHOW & SALE

OUR 32ND YEAR



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2022 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
- Information Stations
- Hourly Door Prizes!
- Great Food & Beverages
- FREE Parking

ADMISSION

\$6.00 Per Person – Children 12 and under free with an adult

Dealer Tables available - \$30 per table

For information or to reserve dealer tables contact:

Mark Hedge - (812) 288-8037 Email: division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com

Sponsored by Division 8 - Mid Central Region - NMRA

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

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

Facebook: @Division8.MCR.NMRA



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



Midland Atlantic
Anthony Parrish, CEO
 tony765@aol.com

NORFOLK AND WESTERN



PIPESTEM BASEMENT
 DIVISION (HO)
 DAN MULHEARN
 304-466-9188
 danmulhearn@gmail.com



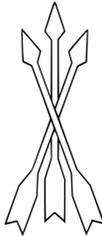
CRUSTY MOUNTAIN AND WILOBY SPRINGS R.R.

Mark Maynard, President
 Portsmouth, OH



Jerry Doyle, President
 Barboursville, WV

CRESCENT VALLEY

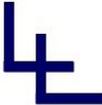


THREE ARROWS RAILROAD

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

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHERN

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




LAKESIDE LINES RAILROAD
 Thomas K. Harris, President and CEO

274 S. Wye Rd., Wytheville, VA 24382 (276)620-3493
 tharris@va.net www.lakesidelines.com



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John Harris, Chief Engineer
 AandNRR@aol.com



HINTON DIVISION
 Gary Burdette - Superintendent
 Point Pleasant WV



NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION
 Clint Foster Superintendant
 Ronceverte WV



ROBERT WEINHEIMER MMR
398 MOUNT VIEW DR
CHARLESTON WV
25314-1041

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.

September 17
West Portsmouth, OH

October 8
In Person and Zoom

November 12
In Person and Zoom

December 10
Group Lunch