



UP THE HOLLER

Newsletter of Division 9 THE COAL DIVISION

Mid Central Region NMRA

October 2014



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From the Head the Holler By Gary J. Burdette, MMR

The September meeting/picnic is "in the books," and to say we had a wonderful time is an understatement. I believe I can speak for everyone in attendance that the food, friendship, weather, joint meeting, and the railroad were all first-rate. Thanks to Mark and Mark, and Dan, and the wives who had a hand in setting things up. Well done!

The Board of Directors meeting is coming up and we will report things are about the same within the Coal Division. Our membership numbers are holding true and monthly attendance is averaging about the same as usual. This is good because we have been enjoying our get-togethers. We have not experienced any growth, and it would be nice to add numbers to our group. The NMRA has been addressing the same issue. I know of some valid reasons why some have strayed: work, family, finances, change in interests, etc. Our group has always been somewhat informal so that visitors and members could feel that "they" were the key ingredient to the mix of our hobby enjoyment formula. I hope we can continue that notion.

Last time, I mentioned that I wanted you all to get "MADD." That was the "Models, Artifacts, Displays, and Discussions" theme we hope to promote. Over the last several years we have had numerous examples of impromptu presentations of the show-and-tell variety that have been well-received. I want you to feel free to bring in a question, set up a display, show a model (entered in the contest or not), share a family railroad related heirloom or keepsake. It does not have to be a formal talk. The more easy-going things are, the better. We want to put the "model" back into model railroading.

Some model railroad clubs thrive because they are modeling. While we don't have a "club layout," we have access to the St Albans C&O Modelers and Museum pike up on the hill. We are welcome there. If anyone is really serious about building, you may even wish to join their group. I hope to bring the baggage cart into the East end and place some displays on it including the N Scale layout we started before the accident interrupted things. Ok N Scalers, maybe you can schedule some work sessions and have fun finishing the pike. Some historic displays I hope to place in the depot could be built by those interested in the Cars Achievement Program Certificate.

Hopefully, we can think of a lot of ways to have fun and increase our enjoyment of the hobby. Maybe the depot can come into play. We have had a number of donations to the library and will be organizing it. The plans from the CSX shops should be interesting to study and catalog. All of these things may be done, by anyone who is interested, before our meetings and/or at other extra sessions. The main thing is to get MADD.

So, let's go!

FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Dan Mulhearn, Asst. Supt.

Well, here it is time again, already, for my monthly musings. I can't believe how fast this year is going by. I want to start this month by thanking Mark Maynard and his crew for a wonderful event. I actually hung around a while afterward and did some operating. His layout is just full of things to learn and utilize; I particularly like the switch key system. Mark Rooney was disappointed I did not bring any equipment to sell this year. Mark, next year you bring the money and I will be sure to have something for you.

Several of us had an opportunity to trek to the Cincinnati area to operate on Jerry Alber's fabulous Virginian RR. Now you get to sit in the crew lounge and your train orders pop out of a printer slaved to the dispatchers! I want to say how grateful I am to Jerry and his great crew including Allen McClelland for the opportunity. We did the trip in one day including a stop at Tim's trains in Covington on the way home.

Last, but far from least, we had one of the biggest crews in quite a while for Bob Weinheimer's monthly op ses-

sion. It was one of the most enjoyable, smooth, and yet challenging sessions it has been my pleasure to participate in.

I see that after I went out and bought ditch light castings, mini-LEDs and plenty of wire and resistors; Walther's Proto is coming out with an NS GP60 with working ditch lights. I guess all things come to those who wait. Years ago when I was modeling the Erie Lackawanna I really wanted an FM Trainmaster for my Gulf Summit pusher. After breaking down and buying a Hallmark brass Trainmaster, the very next issue of *MR* announced Athearn was going to produce a plastic Trainmaster! Sigh!

In line with my duties; I would once again like to remind everyone that feedback on anything your officers can do to make the Division run better or make our activities more enjoyable is always welcomed. I will not be at our Oct. 11 meeting at the depot as that is the same day as our annual property owners business meeting. My duties as secretary and chairman of the road committee make it mandatory for me to attend. See you soon!

MY WORD

Bob Weinheimer, Editor

As Dan noted, those of us who headed to Cincinnati and Jerry Albers' Virginian had a great time. The layout is quite large and includes much of the Virginian from Mullens, WV north to Alloy. Dan didn't mention that on the way he drove right along the right of way which is visible in places from the West Virginia Turnpike. Allen McClelland still has his hand in modeling the portion of his Virginian and Ohio that meets the Virginian at Alloy. The New York Central and Chesapeake and Ohio are also woven together in that one area. Allen dispatched the V&O and NYC while Allen's son Brad dispatched the Virginian and Brad's two sons ran trains with us. All three generations seem to have caught the model railroading bug. The session was also attended by a group of operators from Tennessee including Allen Keller, the now retired producer of the Great Model Railroads series of videos.

At the Mid-Central Region Board of Directors meeting of September 28 the Board authorized the plan to produce a new structure kit. While it is nominally a one room school, others present saw it as any number of possible alternatives. This kit will not be available for a few months but should be available in HO, O, and S scales.

There are a couple of logistical issues with the O and S scale kits but these will be resolved shortly. We will give you more details as they become available.

It's soon time to be thinking about next year's MCR convention which will be in Lexington, KY May 14-17, 2015. On line registration will be available sometime in October and via paper in January with a special issue of the King-Pin, the MCR newsletter. The venue is the Campbell House, the grand hotel in Lexington. It is receiving a top to bottom rehabilitation that is scheduled to be completed well before the convention. I had the privilege of seeing the project first hand in June and it looks like it will be quite the place. The hotel room rate is \$99 per night. Those with email addresses on file with the NMRA should expect to receive an email announcing the opening of online registration.

I want to close by giving credit to Steve Summers. Steve is a good friend of mine from the Louisville area. He's a great modeler but he also has a good eye for proofreading. Every month, before you see this newsletter, it has been scrutinized by Steve. Even so, any errors that creep through are still mine. Thanks, Steve.

MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting will be October 11 at the St. Albans Depot. As noted elsewhere, the contest will be Open Loads. The clinic will be by Mark Maynard. Mark will show us how to fix troublesome issues with rolling stock. If you have a car that constantly derails or otherwise operates poorly, bring it along and Mark will use it as an example of how to fix things in his clinic.

As usual, the doors open around 1PM with the business meeting starting at 2PM. We'll have the contest and raffle then the clinic.

Everyone who gets this newsletter is more than welcome to attend. Indeed, any model railroader in the area is welcome to join us.

CONTEST REPORT

Paul Lapointe

September's meeting was at Mark Maynard's home in Portsmouth OH. I want to thank Gary Burdette, Dan Mulhearn, and Bob Weinheimer for stepping in to run the contest.

won Second place for scratch built passenger cars at the Cleveland National. The photos were taken by Bob Weinheimer.

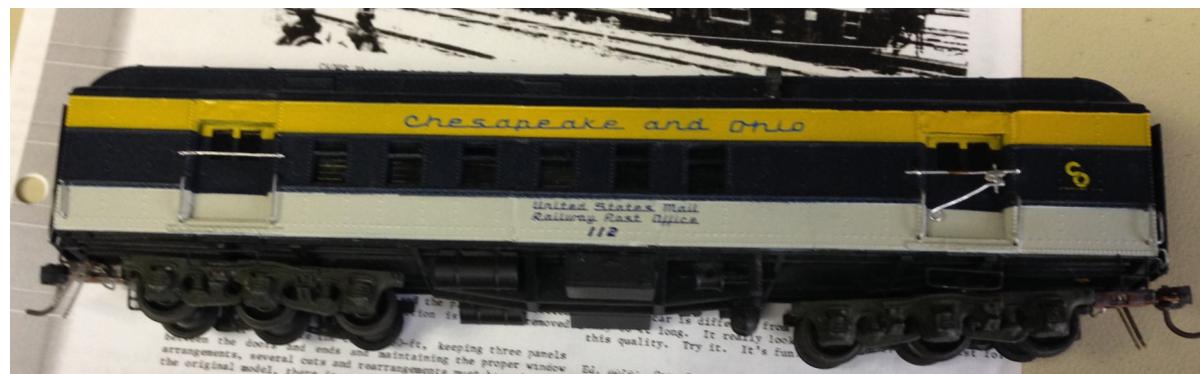
Next Month:

Here are the results: First Place went to Gary Burdette for his C&O RPO car and second place to Larry Richards for his Craigs Fork Railway car, the same passenger car that

October's meeting is back at the C&O Depot. The category will be Open Loads.



There is no definition in the NMRA Achievement Program for Open Loads. So we'll just go with the obvious: a visible cargo carried by a rail car.



RAFFLE REPORT

Paul Lapointe

With the Division meeting away from the Depot in September, there was no raffle.

all there is in the raffle box. So please take a look around for anything you can donate and bring it to the meeting.

October's meeting is back at the C&O Depot so we will have a raffle. It will look like a train book sale since that's

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9 *THE COAL DIVISION*

St Albans Depot
St Albans, WV
August 9, 2014
Minutes

Meeting promptly called to order at 2:00 p.m. Members introduced themselves.

Old Business
None

Division Clerk Report

Treasury balance is currently \$8,757.92
June minutes were approved.
Shirt revenues were \$0.
Raffle revenues \$48.

New Business
.None

Announcements

Paul mentioned a disk with handouts from the 125 presentations at the National. *Whistles by the Depot* at the St Albans depot on October 4 starting at 7 p.m. Grafton & Greenbrier Saturday operating session September 27. Nathan Robinette showed a track test car built by his father. Bob Osburn showed some uses for LED's including simulating a TV repair shop. Bob mentioned the excellent showing by Division 9 members at the national convention. Gary Burdette, Larry Richards, Bob Osburn, and Dan Mulhern all placed in contests. There was a record number of entries at the convention. Bob announced he will be a candidate for an at-large seat on the NMRA Board of Directors. He also mentioned there will be open seats for MCR president and vice president at the next election.

Superintendent Report

Gary showed educational materials donated by Chris Dunphy. He thanked everyone for coming and enjoying today's cookout. He showed an article about a 4H club that built a layout. Gary discussed some educational topics relating to the NMRA national convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Dan thanked Bob Weinheimer for his report on the Cleveland national convention, which appeared in the last newsletter.

Achievement Program

Bob mentioned some members' progress towards AP certificates.

Newsletter Chair

Bob asked if anyone had difficulty opening the latest newsletter.

Future Meetings

September 13 -- Portsmouth, OH Mark Maynard's home
October 11 -- St Albans Depot

Clinic Chair

Dan mentioned the need for clinics. Next month's clinic will be turnout motorizing by Mark Maynard. Gary mentioned having mini-clinics.

Meeting adjourned 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Membership Chair

No Report.

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

Raffle

The raffle netted \$48.

NMRA MCR DIVISION 9 *THE COAL DIVISION*

Joint Meeting with Division 6 MCR
Mark Maynard's
Portsmouth, OH
September 13, 2014
Minutes

Meeting promptly called to order at 2:00 p.m. Members introduced themselves.

Clinic Chair

Dan mentioned the need for clinics. October clinic will be Car Repair by Mark Maynard.

Division Clerk Report

Treasury balance is currently \$8,770.92
Swap meet revenues \$10.25.

Membership Chair

No Report.

Superintendent Report

Gary thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. A vote on the August minutes will be held at the October meeting. He recapped some things from the national convention in Cleveland. The MCR was well represented in the contests.

Raffle

There was no raffle for Division 9.

Old Business

New Business

Assistant Superintendent Report

Dan had some reflections on the Cleveland national convention. He always welcomes feedback.

Announcements

Whistles by the Depot at the St Albans depot on October 4 starting at 7 p.m.
Grafton & Greenbrier Saturday operating session September 27.

Achievement Program

Bob handed out numerous merit awards for models from contests at the Cleveland convention.

Future Meetings

October 11 – St Albans Depot
November 8 – Bluefield Train Show
December 13 – St Albans Depot

Newsletter Chair

Bob mentioned there will be two months of minutes in the next issue. We are down to distributing five mailed copies of *Up The Holler* all others are received electronically.

Meeting adjourned 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

The goal of the newsletter team is to have this document reach you by email or snail mail at least one week prior to our meetings. We typically do the layout work the Wednesday 10 days before the meeting with distribution Thursday or Friday. For this to happen reliably, we need all items for publication by the Monday 12 days prior to the meeting. If we don't get it on time we can't print it.

Please help us give you the most up to date information possible. Here are the deadlines for the next few issues.

November	October 29
December	December 1
January	December 15
February	February 2

Plan to attend

PORTLAND DAYLIGHT EXPRESS

NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION



We're working hard to bring you a great
National Convention

August 23 – 29, 2015

Hosted by the Columbia Gorge Model Railroad
Club, who also brought you
the 1994 NMRA National.

The event is to be held at the Doubletree Hotel at
Lloyd Center, near downtown Portland.

Bring the family to explore and enjoy
the Great Pacific Northwest.

Check out our website
<http://www.nmra2015portland.org/>
and follow us on Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/NMRA2015Portland>

NMRA National Convention Portland 2015 Portland Daylight Express

80th NMRA National convention

Dates of event: August 23 – 29, 2015

Location:

Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Portland at Lloyd
Center, 1000 NE Multnomah Street, Portland, Ore-
gon 97232

National Train Show: August 28 – 30, 2015

Location:

Portland Expo Center 2060 N Marine Drive, Port-
land, Oregon 97217

Convention features:

Clinics:

Six Clinic rooms with seven sessions per day pro-
vides more than 200 clinic sessions and more than
125 topics.

Modeling with the Masters:

Master Model Railroaders lead several sessions of 28
each, guiding participants in constructing a project,
which they can take home.

Contests:

The usual NMRA National Model, Photography
and Craft contests offer opportunity for you to have
your best creations evaluated against your peers.

Auction:

The Silent Auction attracts all kinds of hobby items
including models, books, prototype historical gems.
We expect about 3000 lots. Following Cleveland's
lead in 2014 we plan to offer early online registra-
tion of lots for sale. It saves time on the day.

Tours:

We have a great selection of Prototype, Industry,
General Interest and Layout tours. Many of these
facilities are rarely open for public visitation.

Non-Rail:

A full schedule of activities and tours, including a
lunch, is planned for the non-rail family member.

Editor's Note: Yes, Portland is a long way from
the Coal Division but it is a very beautiful city that I
have had the opportunity to see while on a couple
of business trips. Consider combining the conven-
tion with a visit to other locations in and around
Oregon and Washington.

Now that Up The Holler is a monthly publication, your Pike Ad support is much more important. If you don't already have an ad, please consider buying one. We can help with the art work if necessary.



CRESCENT VALLEY

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Barboursville, WV



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NORFOLK AND WESTERN

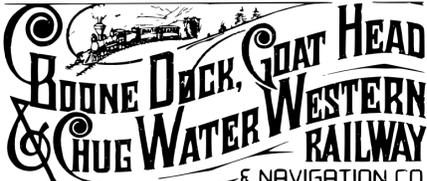
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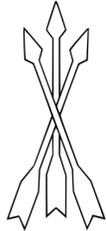
THE CRUSTY ROAD

CRUSTY MOUNTAIN AND WILOBY SPRINGS R.R.

Mark Maynard, President
Portsmouth, OH



Ed Keith, MMR
Assistant Superintendent
Chesapeake, OH



THREE ARROWS RAILROAD

Tony Puccini, President
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HINTON DIVISION

Gary Burdette - Superintendent
Point Pleasant WV



WESTERN MARYLAND RAILWAY

THOMAS SUBDIVISION

RUSSEL MILLER - SUPERINTENDENT
RUSSEL22@MSN.COM



NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION

Clint Foster Superintendent
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
AandNRR@aol.com



Western West Virginian

With Connections to the
B&O, C&O, Western Maryland,
West Virginia Northern

Woody Higginbotham - Superintendent



ROBERT WEINHEIMER MMR
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tribution list for Up The
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Upcoming Coal Division Events

October 11

**St. Albans Depot
Fourth Street and Fourth Avenue
St. Albans, WV**

November 8

Bluefield, WV

December 13

**St. Albans Depot
Fourth Street and Fourth Avenue
St. Albans, WV**

January 10

**St. Albans Depot
Fourth Street and Fourth Avenue
St. Albans, WV**