

The Pie Card

Volume 55, July 2021, Number 7



Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association



From the Superintendent's Desk

By Fred Soward

If it's summer, it must be time for a picnic. And, of course, I'm talking about the Division 8 Picnic at The Depot Railroad Museum in Salem, Indiana. This year, the meet, greet, and visit all begins at 11:00 AM. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon.

We're planning picnic-fare (hot dogs, hamburgers, and more) so be sure to bring your appetite.

Add the date of the picnic, Saturday, July 31, 2021, to your calendar now. Then either call or email Mike Berry before July 17, 2021, to let him know you and your guests will be there so that we know we'll have enough food for everyone. Be sure to check the flyer in this issue of The Pie Card for Mike's phone number & email address. Your cost is just \$5.00 per person, paid to Mike when you arrive -- Division 8 is picking up the rest of the cost of your meal and your guest's meal as well.

We expect that anyone attending this year's picnic will have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. If you're not feeling well, then just like any other event – stay at home and take care of yourself. We plan to ask everyone to wear a face mask at the event, except when enjoying the meal. We may relax that requirement closer to the event, but regardless of that, anyone wishing to wear a face mask at the event is welcome to do so.

As usual, we'll be presenting the end-of-year contest awards and gift cards to the top three participants in the Division 8 Charlie Keeling Monthly Modeling Contest. Because we've not been meeting face-to-face, we will also be handing out monthly contest certificates for individuals who finished in first place over the past few months. I'm pretty sure Mark Norman has at least one Achievement Program certificate to present as well.

One last thing, renowned photographer and railroad historian Charlie Buccola will be our guest speaker at this year's picnic. He'll be spending about 15-minutes speaking with us about some of the local railroad history surrounding the Salem, Indiana area. Stay tuned for more details.

Hope to see y'all at our first face-to-face event at the end of the month!

JUNE MEETING REPORT

The meeting was held on Saturday June 19, 2021 at 2 PM on Zoom. The attendance was 23. Fred Soward reminded members that the Division 8 Picnic is Saturday, July 31, at the Depot Museum in Salem, IN. Reservations are due July 17 to Mike Berry (*details and contact information for making reservations is elsewhere in this issue*). Ron Ellison reported that the Division 8 Train Show and Sale is a GO for November 13, 2021.

Fred reported that the Mid Central Region Convention, Indy Junction 2022, is May 18-22, 2022. You can sign up for updates on the Convention Website.

The meeting presentation was by James Knabb, of the Lone Star Region in Texas. James gave an interesting program "Next Generation in Model Railroading". James discussed how 35 years and younger model railroader have different expectations of the hobby than past model railroaders".

The minutes for the June meeting are posted on the Division Web Site. Go to the members pages. You can also view the meeting on the Division 8 YouTube Channel.

TIME TABLE

Jul 6-10, NMRA National Convention (virtual)

Jul 10, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Gathering on Zoom

Jul 24, NMRAX (virtual)

Jul 31, Sat Noon-3PM, Div 8 Picnic, Salem, IN

Aug 14, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Gathering on Zoom

Aug 21, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Mtg. Hybrid meeting, 600 Room and Zoom

Aug 28, Sat, NMRAX, Virtual

CHARLIE KEELING VIRTUAL MODELING CONTEST*Barry Christensen, Chairman*

July	NO CONTEST
August	MOW equipment and highway vehicles
September	Photos (model) and photos (prototype)
October	Steam locomotives
November	Displays (no size limit)
December	NO CONTEST
January	Freight cars
February	Non-steam motive power
March	Structures
April	Passenger cars
May	Cabooses
June	Open loads

The last installment of this contest year, the June Charlie Keeling Virtual Model Contest, was the ever-popular category of "open loads." There were six entries representing a variety of well-modeled subjects. Honorable mentions go to Craig Hatter for "NYC auto rack with load," to Steve Lasher for "transformer on depressed flatcar," and to Joe Martin for "scrap metal gondola load."

Third place went to Rick Geerts for "concrete pillars," second place to Stan White for "60' flatcar open load," and first place by a landslide to Bob Frankrone for "depressed-center flatcar with structural load."

Final standings for the 2020-2021 Charlie Keeling Virtual Model Contest are as follows: Bob Frankrone in the lead with 21 points; Rick Geerts and Steve Lasher tied with 18 points each; Kevin Jones follows with 15; Russ Weis directly next with 14; Craig Hatter with 13; Joe Fields with 11; Paul Downs with 8; Stan White with 6; Ed Brennan and Bruce DeMaeyer tied with 5 each; Ron Ellison and Al Goodman tied with 4 each; and Daryl Arend, Joe Martin and Eric Waggoner tied with 1 each.

The first, second and third place winners for the 2020-2021 contest year will be determined using scoring rule #9 and will be announced at this year's Division 8 Picnic on Saturday, July 31, at the Salem, Indiana, depot museum. Prizes and certificates will be awarded at that time.

For August 2021, we will begin the 2021-2022 Charlie Keeling Virtual Model Contest year with the revised category of two separate contests for M of W Equipment and also for Highway Vehicles, with separate entries for each, and separate votes for each. Members are invited to submit entries for M of W Equipment and also to submit entries for Highway Vehicles.

**NO MEETING IN JULY**

In place of the meeting, we will meet at the Depot Museum, Salem, IN, July 31, 2021. See details and contact information for making reservations (we need a count for the caterer) on page 7a.

JULY ZOOM GATHERING

On Saturday July 10, 2021 at 2:00 PM we will gather again for the Division 8 ZOOM Gathering. This month the presenters will be:

- Barry Christensen
- Bob Kuchler
- Fred Soward

Each presentation will be approximately 20 minutes including a short Q & A by each presenter. Zoom meeting information will be sent out a few days before the gathering. If you need help connecting, email division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com and someone from the Media Committee will help you. We look forward to seeing you on July 10th!

Division 8 Media Committee

July 2021 MEMBER WELFARE FUND REPORT

The primary purpose of the *Member Welfare Fund* is to provide Division 8 members and their immediate families with get well cards for illness and for sympathy cards and donations on behalf of Division 8 for the death of a relative as defined by the member welfare procedures.

Donations fiscal YTD: Barbara & Fred Soward-\$50; Don & Karen Fowler-\$100; Eric Waggoner-\$20; Mark Norman-\$10, \$20; Ron Ellison-\$25.

If you wish to donate, email the amount to division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com and we'll email you an invoice to pay online. Or call us at (502) 653-5371. A reminder that June 30, 2021 is the end of the Division 8 fiscal year. Donations will be reset on July 1, 2021. Would you like to get next year started? Ask us to email you an invoice for your donation.

MEMBER WELFARE REPORT

At the June meeting Chairman Rick Wehr reported that Bob Johnson had been hospitalized in May and is home now. Carolyn King is in the hospital.



Left:

Bob Frankrone took first place. Bob scratchbuilt the load from various styrene components using plans he scaled from a photo. He detailed the load with nut and washer castings, and used scale lumber and thread to create the tie-down fixtures, adding decals for interest. He weathered the flat car with chalk

Right:

Stan White took second place. The load comprised four 3D print Bob Cats cut from sprues, primed with Rustoleum primer, and then hand painted and decaled. Blocking was cut from 6x6 scale lumber and the tie downs are from Lonestar Models. Stan used pan pastels for most of the weathering.



Left:

At Third Place is Rick Geerts with his load of concrete pillars. Rick fashioned the pillars from Bic disposable razor handles. He filled the hollow handles with expandable foam, cut them to scale length, and then painted them a concrete color. He used Northeastern scale wood for spacers, binding them with 1/16 black automotive pinstripping tape. A-line chains were used as tie downs. The flat car was finished with an added wood floor and weathered.

DIVISION 8 MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE SUMMARY*Fred Soward*

A couple months ago, in May 2021, we asked all Division 8 members to complete a questionnaire about several aspects of our group. Although we would have loved to hear from everyone, the return rate was pretty good – 46%. The results confirm what we already knew – we are a diverse group of individuals with differing opinions. The results also confirmed that most of us are pleased with where the Division is headed right now and with how we’ve collectively managed the organization through the pandemic.

There are, of course, some things that demand attention. The Board of Directors talked about how to do that. This is the first step in that process – letting you know the results of the questionnaire and letting you know what’s planned, without boring you with all the details.

When we asked about virtual meetings, 11% of the respondents said they do not like virtual meetings. I’m not a real big fan of virtual meetings myself. However, like me, 62% believe that they are a pretty good alternative to no meetings at all. Another 23% said that staying with virtual meetings is good.

When we asked about attending in person or virtually when we resume face-to-face meetings, 66% of the respondents said they like having a choice, 13% said they’ll attend some of both, 17% said they don’t need (or want) virtual meetings, and surprisingly 9% said they don’t need meetings at all. Looking at those numbers leaves no doubt that we should hold hybrid meetings.

We also asked if Zoom is easy to use. Not surprisingly, 83% said yes while 8% reported that there were technical issues that needed to be resolved for them to be able to Zoom. And 9% (exactly the same number as above) said they don’t like virtual meetings at all. We’re working on making additional “how to” documentation available to help those who are struggling with Zoom.

About 10% of our membership attending virtual meetings on a regular basis never attended face-to-face meetings. The reasons are varied but focus on either the distance to drive to a meeting in L’ville or health issues. We can’t leave them behind now that we will be able to meet face-to-face. So, very soon, we’re going to be doing hybrid meetings. We’ll meet face-to-face in the 600 Room and have the Zoom meeting going at the same time for those who prefer to participate from a distance. In case you didn’t know, that’s what we mean by “hybrid meeting” – both face-to-face and virtual at the same time.

There were several questions surrounding use and knowledge of the Division 8 webpage, receiving and reading The Pie Card, the Division 8 Facebook page, and the Division 8 YouTube channel – all valuable methods of getting the word out and being informed about your Division. Most respondents were aware of all these things and were using them to some extent. But, there were enough people who either were not aware that they existed or were not aware of what was available on those methods of communication, that we will be presenting “how-to” sessions over the next several Division 8 Gatherings to make sure everyone is aware of the resources. We will also publish information in The Pie Card that speaks to the same information.

The results on continuing the monthly Gathering sessions were mixed. 42% of respondents said we should continue them, 24% said maybe, and 13% said no. Bottom line – we’re going to continue with the monthly Gathering sessions and Bull Sessions through the end of 2021. Throughout the remainder of the year, we will continue to assess the viability of continuing them based on attendance and your input.

The questionnaire was a great way to share your thoughts with the Division 8 Board of Directors. If you have a concern or a thought about how to do things better or differently, reach out to the BoD. Don’t wait for the next questionnaire. Instead, contact one the BoD members individually or as a group when you have a concern you want to share. You can use email or telephone or even attend a BoD meeting – they’re open and routinely attended by a few non-BoD members. As a Division 8 member, you are always welcome to attend and share your thoughts.

AN ENGINEMAN'S TRIBUTE TO THE CAR DEPARTMENT*By Steve Lasher*

Occasionally, one's idea of what looks like a neat job changes. When I was a kid, back in the fifties (Oh, Ouch!), the standard questions from newly met adults was "what do you want to be when you grow up, kid". The standard, approved answer was "I wanna be a policeman!" or, "I wanna be a Fireman!". Of course, this was a child's view. After you got older and you realized what they did such as go in burning buildings when they had no idea what flammable items that could go "BOOM" might be in there, your enthusiasm could melt away.



Rerailing a car on the Louisville, New Albany & Corydon R.R. Photo by Bob Dawson

In a similar manner, after I got to see carmen up close re-railing cars, my respect jumped a thousand-fold. Re-railing a car with only one wheel on the ground close to the rail wasn't all that hard - assuming you had the right equipment. That might not be what you might think, either. Try lugging around some cast steel re-railing frogs sometime and you'll begin to appreciate the virtues of white-oak wedges. Mike Berry and I had a lengthy conversation about wreck trains and re-railing cars and he said that frequently, they'd forgo the re-railing frogs if they could do the job with wedges for just that reason.

Of course, I would say, from an engineer's standpoint, re-railing cars was a pain. The problem was trying to control the movement. It might take quite a bit of tractive effort to even move a car with wheel in the dirt and make it climb up high enough to go over the rail and drop back where it belonged. When it finally did drop back on the rail you had to be able to stop it quickly unless it wasn't a problem if you shot off

down the track at 20mph or so. The easiest way to do this was to use the engine brake, keeping it applied some so that when it did take off, you could slam the throttle closed and the engine brake on full and it would stop dead in its tracks. By the way, this is roughly the same way you spotted cars when they needed to be at exactly the right places like loading doors.

Where the carmen really earned their money, though, was in cleaning up a bigger derailment. The higher the speed prior to the derailment the more cars would be in the ditch and farther away from the track they could go. The physical violence involved in a major derailment could be astonishing. You could look out over several acres of damaged freight cars, freight car parts and lading spilled from the cars. And, unfortunately, back in the days when both animals and people in passenger trains were not uncommon, encountering bodies and body parts was part of the job, too.



L&N "big hook" clearing a wreck on the Lebanon Branch in 1968.
Photo by Charlie Keeling

Back in the days before Hulcher and R. J. Corman, the job fell to the men in the car department. Using a variety of tools and equipment, up to and including the large derrick cranes, it took a lot of skill and experience, not to mention courage, to get the job done. It was not a job for the faint of heart. Somebody had to go crawling around under these derailed cars to put the cable slings in place so that the errant cars could be dragged closer to the track or picked up. Death could come quickly to the careless or unaware. It was a job that, while needing to be done quickly, was intolerant of haste. It was not a job that gave you many second chances.

As long as I didn't fall heir to the ticklish job of running the engine, it was invariably a fascinating scene to watch. It was always a succession of small victories that led to the ultimate victory and a beehive of heavy-duty activity. But that was the back in the days when the job was a job and men were men!

DIVISION 8 PICNIC

2017 Division 8 Picnic at the Depot Museum. Photo by Bob Dawson

Come join us at the Annual Division 8 Picnic, Saturday July 31, 2021. We will gather at the Depot Museum, 206 South College Ave, Salem IN 47167-1304 between 11:00 and 11:30 AM and eat at Noon.

The menu will be "picnic fare" (burgers, hot dogs, etc.) catered by Country Cookin' Restaurant in Salem.

Cost is \$5/person payable at the door. Contact Mike Berry to make a reservation, email: mikeberry063@gmail.com or call him at (502) 640-4428 by Saturday July 17th. We need a head count for the caterer. The annual awards for the Charlie Keeling Model Contest will be presented following the meal. There will be plenty of time to visit the train layout and new additions to museum collections.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

By Mark Norman, AP Chairman

Recently, Ron Ellison asked if I would help out at the train show, focusing on the AP Program. Of course! I think it's fair to say, John Q. Public is even less interested in hearing about the minutiae of the requirements, documentation, et al than most of us are. So, what is the Achievement Program? Quite simply, it's model railroaders helping model railroaders to become better model railroaders. That's it! None of us has cornered the market on skills, ideas, or innovation. Zoom and similar offerings have shrunk the world. We can virtually participate in meetings, gatherings, clinics, and so forth anywhere in the world. There isn't a meeting I've participated in where something wasn't learned. We are beginning to meet in person again, making things better still. Take that first step and help a fellow model railroader or ask for help. We're on this journey together.

INDY JUNCTION 2022 CONVENTION-INDIANAPOLIS

Registration will open soon. Here are the expected basic convention fees:

- \$85.00 Early Registration - Opening Registration to December 31, 2021
- \$95.00 Registration - January 1, 2022 to April 27, 2022
- \$110.00 Late Registration - April 28, 2022 to May 21, 2022
- \$25.00 additional Family Member(s) Registration - any date

Sign up on the website to receive convention updates by email

<https://www.indyjunction2022.org/>

KEEP CONNECTED

Here are the ways for Division 8 members to stay in touch and stay together:

- Groups.io
- Join us on Zoom for a virtual meeting - General Meeting and Monthly Gathering and NOW quarterly Bull Session in lieu of the Gathering - Next Bull September 11, 2021
- Division 8 Facebook
- Division 8 Webpage

Ever wonder what you're missing by not joining Groups.io? Why not give it a try? It's the best way to learn what it's all about. We'll send you an invite and you can ride it down the track always and get off at any stop by unsubscribing. We are usually online 30 minutes before the start of any Zoom meeting so if you are unsure of your connection, join early. Or we will help you login on your computer, tablet or smartphone if you contact us at division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com a few days before any meeting. Don't forget you can also dial in to any Zoom meeting from a landline or mobile phone - look for the dial up numbers in the Zoom Meeting Information.

Soon you'll have the chance to attend the meeting via ZOOM or in person. Get Connected! See your friends! Stay in touch!

RAY & RENEE GROSSER OPEN HOUSE

Here's something for you to consider, if you're not too worn out from the Division 8 picnic the day before this event. Larry Smith, Superintendent of Division 10, has shared an invitation to an Open House at the Grosser's on Sunday, August 1, 2021, beginning at 1:00 PM. Trains will be running on their large "ride-on" outdoor layout.

Face masks are not required at this event and social distancing will not be observed. All Division 8 members are welcome to attend. Keep in mind that this is a private event and is NOT sponsored by Division 8, Division 10, the Mid Central Region, or the NMRA.

Renee specifically asked that if anyone brings sweets to please take them home when they leave. She and Ray have personal concerns about sugar so please respect the wishes of your hosts if you make the trip.

The Grosser's home is at 1145 Linn Road, Eubank, KY, which is about 8.5 miles east of the intersection of US 27 and KY 70, south off of KY 70. GPS is supposed to be able to get you there, but if you get totally lost, here are some more specific instructions coming from Eubank on US27: If you travel toward Eubank on US27, when you get to KY70 (yellow flashing light) go east on KY70 five miles until you cross a creek. Immediately across the creek turn right onto Charles Elgin Road. You're now on the blue line route with 3.2 miles to go to the Grosser's. And if that doesn't work, you can call for directions when you're in the area - 606-379-6590.

JOE FIELDS IN NMRA MAGAZINE

If you haven't read your July issue of the NMRA Magazine yet, pick it up and take a look at page 56. There you will find the write up on Joe Fields' Master Model Railroader (MMR #674). Thanks to Mark Norman for his help in getting this article ready for publication.

TRAIN SHOW & SALE

OUR 31ST YEAR



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021 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
- 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: div8trainshow@gmail.com

Sponsored by Division 8 - Mid Central Region - NMRA

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

Website: <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org>
 Facebook: @Division8.MCR.NMRA

All systems are "GO" for the Division 8 Train Show and Sale on Saturday November 13, 2021. The show will again be at the Holy Family Parish Saffin Center, 3938 Poplar Level Rd., Louisville, KY 40213.



Above: A MONON Freight passes through a Southern Indiana town near Salem, IN. This is one of local scenes recreated on the Depot Museum Layout that fills most of the basement of the Museum. It will be open for our picnic. Photo by Bob Dawson

CINCINNATI SUMMER TRAIN SALE

Saturday July 17, 2021, 10 AM to 4 PM
 For details see flyer or page 8 of this issue or, go to <https://cincy-div7.org/events.html>



DIVISION 8 PICNIC

SATURDAY JULY 31, 2021

DEPOT MUSEUM

206 South College Avenue
Salem, IN 47167-1304

([map link here](#) )

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/vZs2oTTxnVcT817h8>

([webpage link here](#) )

[The Depot Railroad Museum | John Hay Center](#)

COME JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL DIVISION 8 PICNIC

WE WILL GATHER BETWEEN 11:00 and 11:30 and DINE AT 12:00

(WE WILL BE INSIDE IN AIR CONDITIONING)

ANNUAL AWARDS FOR THE MODEL CONTEST WILL BE PRESENTED

There will be plenty of time to visit the train layout
and check out new additions to the museum collections

BUFFET LUNCH \$5.00 / PERSON, PAYABLE AT THE PICNIC

Contact Mike Berry to reserve a place at the picnic table

<mailto:mikeberry063@gmail.com> or (502) 640-4428

RSVP by Saturday July 17, 2021

SEE YOU THERE !

Masks will be required at the picnic except when actually eating the meal. These restrictions may be further lifted based on guidance from government agencies. Everyone attending is expected to have been fully vaccinated.

OFFICERS

Superintendent:	Fred Soward	502-499-0770
Asst. Supt:	Eric Waggoner	502-244-6628
Clerk:	Bob Dawson	502-368-2607
Treasurer:	Mike Berry	502-245-1337

TRUSTEES

Tom Guenther	502-363-3113
Russ Weis	502-245-7991
Ron Ellison	502-807-7683

COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

Achievement Program	Mark Norman	502-797-2062
Contests	Barry Christensen	270-272-6069
Librarian	Mike Berry	502-245-1337
Membership	Stan White	502-558-2466
Member Welfare	Rick Wehr	502-500-6398
Media	Ron Ellison	502-807-7683
Meetings & Program	Russ Weis	502-245-7991
Pie Card	Bob Dawson	502-368-2607
Train Show and Sale	Ron Ellison	502-807-7683
Webmaster	Tom Guenther	502-363-3113

MID CENTRAL REGION OFFICERS

President:	Dave Neff	440-269-1229
Vice-president:	Jerry Doyle	304-638-2826
Secretary:	Fred Soward	502-499-0770
Treasurer:	John Shields	513-561-8691

If you are not sure who to contact, call (502) 653-5371 and tell us your needs. We'll get back to you. To contact Division 8 or any board member or committee director by email use - division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com

THE PIE CARD

Division Eight, MCR, NMRA
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Deadline for submission of articles is the 25th day of the previous month. The Pie Card goes to press by the first of each month.

Sponsored by Cincinnati Division 7 of the
National Model Railroad Association

Cincinnati Summer Model Train Sale

A new Flea Market & Swap Meet, featuring local modeler and dealer sales tables, plus numerous private estate items

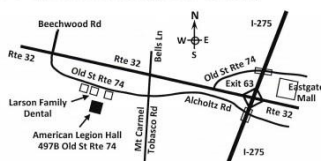
Saturday July 17, 2021
10 am to 4 pm



Mt. Carmel American Legion Hall
497B Old State Rte 74, Cincinnati, OH 45244

\$3 Admission

Further information
<https://cincy-div7.org/events.html>
email: at-large3@cincy-div7.org
phone: 513-662-RAIL



DIVISION 8 COMPANY STORE IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The Company Store is ALWAYS open for business 24/7/365. Shop anytime here at the NEWLY REMODELED STORE FRONT - <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/store.html>.

You can email your order to Division8.MCR.NMRA@gmail.com. Or you can call or text your order to (502) 653-5371. We will confirm your order and email you back an itemized invoice and then pay online with your credit card. We will ship your order via USPS and invoice you for postage at the least expensive rate along with your merch.

You can't wear your Division 8 Company Store duds unless you place an order. A hat, shirt or fleece is a conversation starter about the model railroading hobby. Help spread the word about model railroading! Start a conversation with your Division 8 Company Store merch!