

The Pie Card

Volume 56, December, 2022, Number 12



Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

By Ron Ellison

We've just celebrated Thanksgiving and we're looking forward to Christmas. So, it's a good time to be thinking about saying some thank you's and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. It's also a time of year when we think about sharing Model Trains with those that haven't discovered the joy they bring – especially around the holidays.

We lost 2 good members recently. First Nat King and then John Stoltz. They were good men. And both set some examples for us all to emulate. They both shared the Model Railroading Hobby with many they met. They were both quiet men and they shared the hobby with quiet purpose. And with the death of these 2 members, a reminder, especially this time of year when we're thinking about being thankful, to tell your friends you're grateful for their friendship while they're still here. Don't wait until they're gone. Because that's too late.

Speaking of sharing the Model Railroading Hobby. I was also reminded that member Bob Johnson has been sharing his layouts, trains of all sizes, and toy collections for 50 years now. That's a lot of sharing. Bob says he might be slowing down now. And that may be so. But he is still there to participate. Member Bob Frankrone always mentions that when he first became involved with Division 8 and met Bob Johnson, he told him, "If you are going to be a member, participate". Follow the example of Bob Johnson because what he says are not just words. He sets an example with his actions. And Thank You Bob Johnson.

This fiscal year, the Division 8 Board of Directors made a commitment to do more community outreach. The Board would like to share that this holiday season we were able to coordinate the gift of 2 HO starter train sets to families that might not be able to afford such a luxury. Many thanks to Roundhouse Electric Trains and Scale Reproductions, who each donated a train set. Holy Family Parish St. Vincent de Paul Program will locate 2 families who have appropriate aged children and an interest in receiving a starter train set. Photos of the train sets are on page 7.

We placed a short note with each set crediting the local hobby shop for each gift along with their contact information. We also included Division 8 contact information and a link to the NMRA website Beginners Guide.

We can only hope that years from now, a new member will go to a meeting, and when asked, "How did you get interested in model railroading", the reply will be, "I received a train set one Christmas from Division 8 in Louisville, Kentucky".

The Division 8 Board of Directors wishes you a very Merry Christmas and the best in the new year. Enjoy your trains and share them with friends and family during the holidays and throughout the year.

NOVEMBER MEETING REPORT

By Bob Dawson, Division 8 Clerk

The November meeting was held on Saturday, November 19 on Zoom and in the 600 Room, 600 N. Hurstbourne Parkway. This was our last meeting in the 600 Room. Attendance was 31, with 22 attending in person and 9 attending virtually on Zoom. The program was presented by Stephen Priest MMR® owner of Class One Model Works. The minutes for the November meeting are posted on the Division website. Go to the members pages. You can also view the meeting on the Division 8 YouTube Channel.

TIME TABLE

Dec 3, Sat, Div 8 Christmas Party

Dec 10-11, Great Train Show, Kentucky Exposition Center.

Dec 10, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Virtual Bull Session.

Jan 14, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Virtual Gathering.

Jan 21, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

Jan 29, Sat, Central Indiana Train Show, Lebanon, IN.

Feb 11, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Virtual Gathering.

Feb 18, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

Mar 11, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

Mar 11, Sat, Div 7 Flea Market & Trade Show, West Chester, OH.

Mar 18, Sat. Div 8 Train Show & Sale.

DECEMBER 2022 CHARLIE KEELING HYBRID MODEL CONTEST

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

For November, the 2022-2023 Charlie Keeling Hybrid Model Contest had four entries in the displays category, no size limit. Honorable mention goes to Bob Frankrone for his Old-Time Freight Station.

Third place goes to Stan White for his Summer Morning in Smallville. Second place goes to Ed Brennan for his November 2022 Diorama. First place goes to Rick Geerts for his Hooterville Restaurant Row. Congratulations to our display builders!

The revised point totals are now: Rick Geerts with 12, Ed Brennan with 11, Bob Frankrone with 10, Steve Lasher and Stan White with 6 each, Jacob Butler with 5, Kevin Jones with 3, Eric Waggoner and Russ Weis with 2 each, and Joe Martin with 1.

The December Contest is **HIGHWAY VEHICLES**

We will send out a reminder but below are some of the Contest timeline dates for December:

- December 3rd - First day to submit entries
- December 10th - Last day to submit entries
- December 15th - Members will receive the Contest Ballot
- December 15th & 16th - Voting in the Contest Ballot ends @ 10:00 PM on the 16th
- December 17th - Winners announced by email - 1st, 2nd and 3rd

If you need more information, go here - <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/contest.html>.

To enter the December Contest, email 1 to 3 photos in JPG format only along with the Contest Entry Form as a PDF file to division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com. Contest dates will also be listed in the Groups.io Calendar. And as always if you have questions, comments, or need help, email division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com.

We will publish the Contest timeline dates each month in *The Pie Card*.



NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

No meeting in December. The Division 8 Christmas Party is Saturday December 3, 2022 at the Corner Café, 9307 LaGrange Rd., Louisville, KY 40242. We will gather at 4:30 PM and dine at 5:30 PM. Our next meeting is 2 PM, January 21, 2023. We will meet at our new location, Jeffersontown Library, 10635 Watterson Trail, Louisville, KY 40299.

MEMBER WELFARE

By Mike Berry, Member Welfare Chairman

A donation was made to Feeding America in memory of Bob White, father of Division 8 member Robin White. And a donation was made to Hosparus in memory of member John Stoltz. A get well card and gift card were sent to member Tom Guenther after his recent hospitalization. As always, if you hear of a member in the hospital or of one who has lost a loved one, please let the Member Welfare committee know.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Stan White Membership Chairman

As of November 1, the Division has 130 members. There are two new members, Rudy Licandro and Miles Eberle. There were three renewals: Steve Lasher, Robert Schweiss, and Lamont Williams.

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: Ed Brennan-\$50; Eric Waggoner-\$25; Fred and Barbara Soward-\$100; K & I Model Railroad Club-\$25; Rob Cooper-\$200; Stan White-\$50.

If you wish to donate, email the amount to division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com and we'll email you an invoice to pay online. When you pay online, you'll get an immediate receipt of your donation. Or call us at (502) 653-5371 with your donation amount and we'll email you the invoice to pay online. Or use the invoice to send a check. While a check may seem convenient, online payment saves us a trip to the bank - and you a trip to the Post Office. We are a volunteer staff. Please help us save some time. Keep in mind we are a 501(c)(3) Non-profit. Your donation may be tax deductible.

NOVEMBER KEELING MODEL CONTEST-DISPLAYS*Photos by the Modelers***FIRST PLACE**

Left: Rick Geerts' "Hooterville Restaurant Row".

This is a 4' x 2' section that is presently sitting on Rick's breakfast table soon to be added to his layout. The McDonald's restaurant is scratchbuilt. The Subway, Burger King, Pizza Hut, and KFC were kits. Interiors have been added including tables, chairs and counters - all 3D printed. The 3D printed KFC bucket sign is on a 3-rpm motor and turns 360 degrees like they did in the 80's. All buildings are wired with interior and exterior lighting. The trees are modified Woodland Scenics. Grass is a combination mat with static grass added. The parking lots are blacktop sheets with parking stripes added and 3D printed parking blocks. The cars are an assortment from different manufacturers. The track is a 2-track main with a small siding. The overhead billboard was also scratch built. The cell phone tower is a Walthers kit.

SECOND PLACE

Right: Ed Brennan's MMR, "November 2022 Diorama."

Originally built as a 2' x 2 1/2' HO module, it is now incorporated into his layout. The foreground structure is cardstock, downloaded from Scalesscenes with interior and details added.

**THIRD PLACE**

Left: Stan White's "Summer Morning in Smallville".



OCTOBER CONTEST (continued from page 3)

Honorable mention:



Right:

Rick Geerts is holding his first place certificate earned in the November Model Contest. To his right is Robin White standing in for contest Chairman Barry Christensen.

Photo by Barbara Soward



BOB FRANKRONE'S LAYOUT OPEN HOUSE

Left: Following the November meeting, Bob Frankrone opened his layout for members to visit.

Photo by Bob Dawson



Right:

Enjoying Bob's layout, from left to right: Bruce DeMaeyer, Stan White, Robert Hoffman, and Al Goodman. *Photo by Bob Dawson*



Left:

Bob's huge roundhouse greets you when you enter the train room.

Photo by Fred Soward



FROM THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

By Fred Soward MMR®, Division 8 Assistant Superintendent

Photos by Fred Soward

It wasn't nearly as cold as I thought it would be in Michigan last month and the fall colors were awesome around Kalamazoo. All in all, I had a great long weekend attending the Division 9, North Central Region, NMRA, Mini-Convention, October 28-30, 2022. The convention was actually just the first two days, but the local Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club hosted their annual Fall Train Show on the third day, so I'm calling it a three-day convention.



Above. 4-6-2 Michigan Midland steamer is cooling off after running on the 7 1/2" scale outdoor railroad of the Mid-Michigan Railroad Club in Marshall, MI

Four layouts were open for visiting Friday afternoon, as well as registration check-in. Because I didn't leave home ridiculously early for my five-hour drive, I hit just three of them on the way in. As an outdoor riding railroad, The Mid-Michigan Railroad Club has an interesting arrangement with their next-door neighbors. The layout and the neighboring restaurant and visitor center, Cornwell's Turkeyville, actually feed off one-another. Think of Huber's Orchard, Winery, and Restaurant with a 7 1/2" gauge layout next door. And then there was Maynard Mitchel's layout. Quite simply, one of the most highly detailed, smooth-running layouts I've ever seen. Think Bob Lawson with an emphasis on operations and a demand for perfect trackwork.

Foregoing the traditional Convention Awards Dinner banquet, the event hosted an order off the menu dinner that included a presentation at Clara's on the River, a Battle Creek restaurant. It is an interesting venue, located in a former Michigan Central Railroad depot, so it was totally appropriate for this gathering.

I elected to not participate in any operating sessions Friday night, thinking that after my drive, visiting a couple layouts, and having dinner until almost 9:00 PM with the group, I needed to get some rest before Saturday's all-day activities. And Saturday started early with clinics launching at 8:30 AM in a warehouse-like structure that calls itself, "The River Church." Looking around, it's obviously a very modern house of worship that the convention staff has found at a good price – but only for Saturday morning. With four clinics going at the same time, it's the same old story – what to attend becuz they're all interesting presentations! Good news - only three time slots (8:30 to noon) so I only had to make three decisions. All were excellent presentations and I learned something from every one of them.

A quick "on the go" lunch and then it was self-guided layout tours for the afternoon. There were ten layouts to choose from and I decided to hit just four of them based on distances. Initially, I had not planned to visit the Kalamazoo Model Railroad Historical Society. I'm glad one of the layout owners talked me into making that stop. They're doing some really innovative things with LCC signaling and custom electronics. Another quick meal, and it was time for the Saturday evening operating session.

Jim Frankhouser, the layout owner on my last layout visit of the day, was also my guide/mentor for the operating session, so we spent additional time digging deeper into how his layout was built. We ran from about 6:00 PM until nearly 10:00 PM. There was still one crew running trains when I left and if I hadn't had the drive home ahead of me Sunday, I probably would've been the last to leave Saturday evening.

Sunday morning was a little more relaxed becuz the train show started at 10:00 AM and was just a 10-minute drive from the hotel. There were many modular layouts running and many dealer tables as well. The floor space looked to be about twice the size of the Saffin Center. I left about noon and the visitors were steady throughout the time I was there.

(Continued of page 6)



Above. One of many highly-detailed scenes on Maynard Mitchel's HO scale CNW-based layout.

FROM THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT (Continued from page 5)

After all was said and done, a good trip. I learned a few new things. Met up with a bunch of old friends and found a bunch of new friends. The event wasn't perfect, but there were no showstoppers. My only substantial complaints – the advance information was not as solid as it could've been and secondly, as usual, getting the attention of the modular layout owners during the train show was a challenge. If you're going to show off your stufh, you absolutely must be active in talking to your audience. Chatting with your buddies isn't going to win you any new friends or gain any newcomers to the hobby. When Division 8 next hosts a Mid Central Region convention (our turn is coming sooner than you think), I'm going to suggest we follow some of the concepts I saw during this trip. No "convention hotel." No formal "convention banquet & awards ceremony." A much lighter clinic schedule. A location that is much less expensive for presentations/clinics. And maybe linking the convention into a Division 8 Train Show & Sale. Challenges in making all that work? Absolutely. Push back from those who will say, "that's not the way we've done it before?" Without a doubt. Thinking outside the box is something Division 8 has come to be known for over the past 56 years we've been around. So why NOT consider making some of these changes and turning the region convention upside down?

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

By Mark Norman MMR®, AP Chairman

There are incredible resources available on the NMRA website – www.nmra.org. It's well worth your time to spend some time perusing the Education tab. That's where the AP Program is found. The second bullet point – Requirements, concisely explains what is needed to qualify for an award. Essentially, complete the work, provide documentation, have it reviewed and signed off. As mentioned in the last column, much of this can be done electronically. The requirements are what they are. Nothing can be added to nor taken from them. The Forms section has the few required pieces of paper. The Frequently Asked Questions area is particularly helpful and has details by category. "The Masters" Articles were written by MMR®s explaining techniques, evaluations, etc. Definitions are always helpful to ensure we are linguistically in synch. Lastly, there are your fellow modelers who are there to help. Early next year, Fred Soward MMR®, and I will each be giving presentations showing techniques and referencing the AP process.



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DESTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION

Photos and article By Tom Guenthner



Ron Ellison



In April 2022 my fiancé and I bought a new patio home. This meant I would be moving! This was an overwhelming undertaking as I lived in my old house for over 50 years. You can imagine what you could accumulate over a 50 year period! Making this move more challenging, earlier this year I damaged my right shoulder (rotator cuff)! What you may know, I created a model railroad layout over a 20 year period that also needed to be dismantled and moved. This train layout was situated in a 33' x 14' area which included scenery .

Now my family has been helping me in my move endeavor. However, moving the train layout was an entirely different matter.

You have read and heard about the help that some of the members of NMRA have pitched in to help move train layouts. Well, here is another story. A fellow member called and said he would be glad to help me with the railroad move. I told him I would be glad to have his help. We made plans to visit the lumber store in early August. On that day he called to tell me another friend and member asked if he could also help. We made the lumber store trip and got enough lumber to get the new layout started with the bench work.



Fred Soward

Some of the new benchwork

Once the basic bench work was finished at our new home, then came the time to tear down the old layout. It took about a month to accomplish this tear down. Then with the help of friends and family, we moved all the items we took down.

So I would like to publicly THANK Fred Soward and Ron Ellison for all the help they have given me with my layout. Without them, I would just be thinking about how to do this massive job. And now, soon, I hope to start running some trains on my new layout.

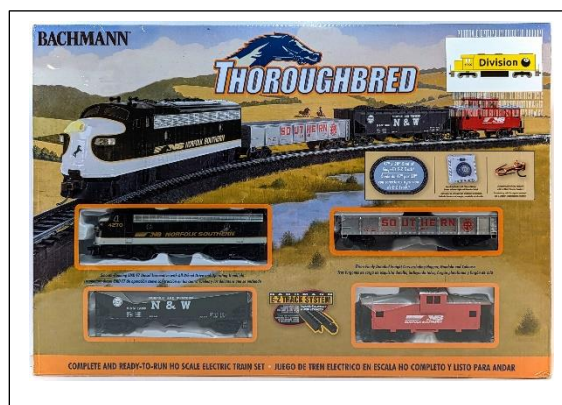
JOHN STOLTZ 1941-2022



John Stoltz passed away November 5th. He was 81 years old. In addition to being a member of Division 8, he was a member of the K&I Model Railroad. John is survived by his wife Carolyn, two sons, and two grandchildren. John was especially known for the HO card stock structures he built. He would download and print the buildings, paste them to card stock, and then add detail parts for realism.

The Division made a donation to Hosparus of Louisville in his memory. Our condolences to John's family.

TRAIN SETS (from page 1)



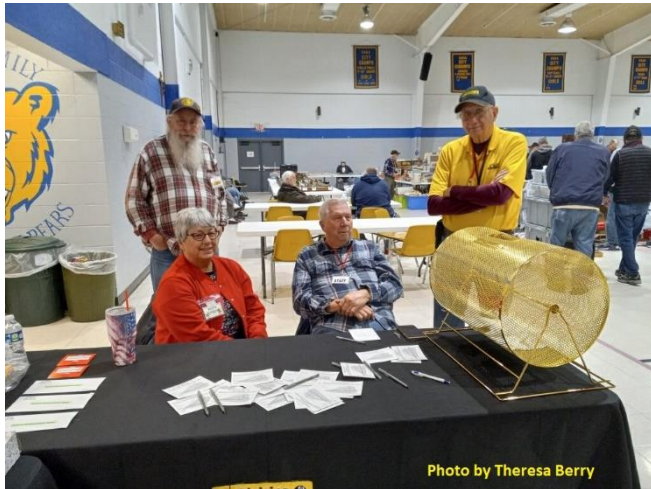
Division 8 is coordinating with Holy Family Parish and the St. Vincent DePaul Society to give two families a gift of HO Train sets they may not otherwise be able to afford.

Thanks to Roundhouse Electric Trains and Scale Reproductions Hobby shops for donating these sets.

FALL TRAIN SHOW 2022

Photos by Bob Dawson unless indicated otherwise

Thanks to everyone who made our Fall Train Show a great success.



Division 8, MCR, NMRA

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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 8-MCR-NMRA
Box 189
Eastwood, KY 40018-0189
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Editor: Bob Dawson
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The Pie Card is published twelve times a year by Division 8 of the National Model Railroad Association, Mid Central Region.

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Deadline for submission of articles is the 20th day of the previous month. The Pie Card goes to press by the first of each month. Photos are preferred to be a JPEG format. Documents should be submitted as a word or similar format. No PDF's please.

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