

The Pie Card

Volume 56, October, 2022, Number 10



Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association



From the Superintendent's Desk

By Ron Ellison

You may not know this, but one of the ~~punishments~~ perks of being Superintendent is you're also automatically on the Mid Central Region Board of Directors. Of course, the purpose is to represent Division 8 regarding all matters with the Mid Central Region (hereafter known as MCR). The MCR board now meets 4 times a year. Usually face-to-face at the MCR Convention. The other 3 meetings are now on Zoom. The face-to-face meeting and one of the Zoom meetings are scheduled for the spring and fall. So, we just had the fall meeting September 16th. The next face-to-face meeting will be at the 2023 MCR Convention in May. Then we've taken to have a less formal meeting twice a year in between those two meetings. These in between meetings are more informal to share information and any updates from the NMRA.

The interaction is among the MCR officers, MCR committee chairmen and the 12 Superintendents of the MCR. Sharing information about what the region and each division is doing and what is working and not. Reports are requested from all before the meeting and then posted online to review prior to the meeting. The reports are published in the *Kingpin*, the newsletter of the MCR. So, watch for the reports from the fall meeting which should be available in November.

The *Kingpin* used to be mailed. But now, look for it in your inbox. If you want to read the division reports from the Spring MCR BoD meeting or any other editions of the *Kingpin*, go here <https://archive.midcentral-region-nmra.org/NewsLetter.html>. The spring reports begin on page 33 of the July 2022 *Kingpin*. At the same link, you'll also find links to all the division newsletters in the MCR. That information is also available on the Division 8 website here <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/links.html>. There's some good information contained in these newsletters. You should take a look.

So, why do you need to know all this? Because it's part of my job to keep you informed about what's going on in Division 8, the MCR, and the NMRA. And I learned a few things I didn't know at last Friday's BoD. And I like doing that.

One thing I learned was that you can download a desktop app to read the NMRA magazine online. It's of course also available on your phone or tablet. This was also covered in even more detail at our September meeting. If you missed the meeting or want to review what was said, you can watch the presentation from Riley Triggs, NMRA Publications Chairman on the Division 8 YouTube channel here <https://youtu.be/15KfhtA7ypl>. While you're there, like the video and subscribe. It helps the channel. And if you need help reading the *NMRA Magazine* online, email Division 8 division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com. There are easy resources to help. We'll guide you to them or give specific help.

The other thing I want to briefly bring to your attention is the NEW Beginners Guide on the NMRA website. As a model railroader, we're sometimes asked questions from folks just getting started in the hobby. And this is a GREAT resource that's just been completely rewritten and updated. I just found out the project was completed. It's easy to refer folks to because it's accessible from the NMRA home page under Education > Beginner's Guide or here <https://www.nmra.org/beginners-guide>. (continued on page 5)

TIME TABLE

Oct 8, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Virtual Gathering.

Oct 8-9, Div 7 Train Show (Lakota West High School).

Oct 15, Sat. 10AM-3PM Southern Indiana RR Train Show and Swap Meet, Jeffersonville Indiana.

Oct 15, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting 600 Room and Zoom.

Nov 12, Sat. Div 8 Train Show & Sale.

Nov 19, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting 600 Room and Zoom.

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.

SEPTEMBER 2022 CHARLIE KEELING HYBRID MODEL CONTEST

By Barry Christensen, Contest Chairman

October	Steam locomotives
November	Displays (no size limit)
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)

For September, the 2022-2023 Charlie Keeling Hybrid Model Contest had two separate topics: for Photos (Model) and for Photos (Prototype), with separate entries for each, and separate votes for each, color or black and white, digital or on film.

For Photos (Model), honorable mention goes to Ed Brennan for "Crazy Ron on Forklift with 'Black Cat' in the Background," Jacob Butler for "Cleaning up a Derailment," Rick Geerts for "Backdrop Building," and Russ Weis for "L&N Big Emma."

Third place goes to Kevin Jones for "N&W Passenger Train," second place to Bob Frankrone for "Late Afternoon at Valley Cement," and first place to Stan White for "A Busy Day on the Railroad." Congratulations to each model photographer!

The new point totals became: Rick Geerts with 5, Bob Frankrone and Stan White with 4 each, Jacob Butler and Steve Lasher with 3 each, Kevin Jones with 2, and Ed Brennan and Russ Weis with 1 each.

For Photos (Prototype), honorable mention goes to Jacob Butler for "Norfolk Southern 8114," Rick Geerts for "Madison Railroad #5," Kevin Jones for "CSX Autorack Train at Sparta, KY," Joe Martin for "View of P&L North Yard Paducah," and Russ Weis for "Mount Washington Cog Loco."

Third place goes to Eric Waggoner for "Durango & Silverton High Line," second place to Ed Brennan for "Winter Railfanning at its Best," and first place to Bob Frankrone for "Billowing Exhaust." Congratulations to each prototype photographer!

The current point totals are now: Bob Frankrone with 8, (Continued to column 2)



OCTOBER MEETING INFORMATION

The October meeting is 2 PM **Saturday October 15** at the 600 Room, first floor of the 600 Building, 600 N. Hurstbourne Pkwy. 40222. **Use the Whittington Pkwy. (main) entrance.** This will be a hybrid meeting; if you can't be there in person, we'll be using Zoom to broadcast the meeting at the same time. Refreshments and snacks will not be available at the 600 Room for this meeting. To maintain the security of the meeting, the Zoom connection information will be sent directly to members by email about a week prior to the meeting and will not be published online.

We will have two presenters in October. Dennis Conglianese will present, "MCR 2023 Convention, Rails to Pittsburgh; and Bruce DeMaeyer will present, "Signaling the New Layout".

CONTEST (continued)

Rick Geerts with 6, Ed Brennan, Jacob Butler, and Stan White with 4 each, Kevin Jones and Steve Lasher with 3 each, Eric Waggoner and Russ Weis with 2 each, and Joe Martin with 1.

The October Contest is **STEAM LOCOMOTIVES**

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

- October 1st - First day to submit entries
- October 8th - Last day to submit entries
- October 13th - Members will receive the Contest Ballot
- October 13th & 14th - Voting in the Contest Ballot ends @ 10:00 PM on the 14th
- October 15th - Winners announced at the October Meeting 1st, 2nd and 3rd

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

To enter the October 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*.



FIRST PLACE

Left: Bob Frankrone, "Billowing Exhaust."

Bob took this photo at the Cumbres and Toltec yard in Chama, New Mexico in mid-October, 2021. Chama was a division point on the Denver & Rio Grande Western's narrow gauge main from Alamosa CO to Durango CO. Cumbres & Toltec Scenic preserves its crossing of Cumbres Pass, high above Chama.



SECOND PLACE

Right: Ed Brennan, "Winter Railfanning at Its Best." Ed took this photo in March 2018 at Anchorage, KY just east of the former location of HK Tower.



THIRD PLACE

Left: Eric Waggoner, "Durango & Silverton High Line."

Eric took this photo on the Durango and Silverton NG Railroad, September 20, 2006.



FIRST PLACE

Left: Stan White "A busy Day on the Railroad."

It's early in the morning but things are already starting to get busy as two GP40-2's (3070 & 3004) Norfolk Southern patch out from CONRAIL pull loads of gravel from Nugent Sand and Gravel to deliver to customers along the line.

SECOND PLACE

Right: Bob Frankrone "Late Afternoon at Valley Cement."



THIRD PLACE

Left: Kevin Jones "N&W Passenger Train."

Kevin took this photo on Gary Hoover's N&W layout. Featured at the 2022 NMRA National Convention in St. Louis, Missouri.

From the Superintendent's Desk *(continued from page 1)*

One other outcome of the meeting I wanted to mention was the formation of a technology committee. The purpose being to help the region and the division better deal with and understand and work with technology. Many believe, as I've mentioned before, that the key to bringing our hobby to future generations is to find new ways to do the old things. If you're interested in helping, volunteers are needed. And everyone doesn't need to be a tech person. In fact, we need non-tech members to make sure we're communicating effectively.

Happy railroading, Ron

SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

The September meeting was held on Saturday September 17 in the 600 Room and on Zoom. Superintendent Ron Ellison announced during the meeting that we will be saying goodbye to the 600 Room after the November 2022 meeting. He said the Meetings and Programs Committee is searching for a new in-person meeting location. Ron also reported that the Division has a new address (*See page 8 for our new Post Office Box address*).

Left: Contest Chairman Barry Christensen presented Rick Geerts with his first place certificate for his MOW model in the August Contest at the September meeting. Photo by Barbara Soward.

NMRA Online Publications Editor Riley Triggs presented a program on how to access the NMRA online magazine. Barbara Soward gave a recap of the Gateway 2022 NMRA National Convention and Train Show. NMRA

President Gordy Robinson attended the meeting on Zoom.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Stan White Membership Chairman

As of September 1, the Division has 131 Members. There were seven renewals: Ralph Bracewell, Gary Dean, Wes Gardner, Greg Gardner, Bill Roberts, Robert Wartschlag, and Rick Wehr.

MEMBER WELFARE

By Mike Berry, Member Welfare Chairman

Get well cards and gift cards were sent in September to both Bonnie and Steve Lasher for separate hospital stays. Both are home and recovering well. And sadly, a donation to the American Heart Assoc. was sent from the Division in memory of member Nat King. As always, if you know of any member hospitalized or has a death in the family, let the Member Welfare Committee know.

IN MEMORIAM

Long time Division 8 MCR NMRA member Nat King, age 74, passed away on September 13, 2022. Nat was Superintendent Emeritus of the K&I Model Railroad Club. Nat was a US Army veteran, serving in Vietnam. During his time in Viet Nam, he received the RVN Gallantry Cross w/ Palm and the Bronze Star. Nat is survived by his wife Carolyn, and his two sons, Nathaniel Jr., and Brandon King. He is also survived by two sisters. Our condolences to his family.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

By Mark Norman MMR®, Achievement Program Chairman

Many of us still remember the masthead on Model Railroader – Model Railroading is Fun! That's still a true statement so (*continued on page 6*)

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM *(continued from page 5)*

long as we remember to keep it that way. Since the last column was submitted a few of us participated in fun AP activities. Yes, the AP program is fun, and we endeavor to keep it that way. Fred Soward, Bob Dawson, and I got to visit with Central Indiana Division 6, Midwest Region.

We went to the train show, saw old friends, made new friends, and saw fellow Division 8 members having a great time. It seems we all scored a few new items to purchase and take home. We also got to evaluate some fine models at the show. The three of us would discuss our observations openly and honestly compared to the standards found on the NMRA website. We then stated our scores with each of us taking turns. We rarely differed by more than 4-5 points. We then reviewed why we got to that number and voted again. This was done with appropriate seriousness, yet we remained friendly and set the final score. We then had a friendly banter with the modeler complimenting the good points, clearly explaining deficiencies, and agreeing on improvements. There were smiles all around. Closer to home, Fred and I met with Bruce DeMaeyer a couple of times to assist with his Chief Dispatcher award. By the time this is published the award will be on Bruce's wall. Well done, Bruce!



Above: Bruce DeMaeyer with his Chief Dispatcher Certificate of Achievement.

Photo by Barbara Soward



Left: AP Chairman Mark Norman MMR® Presented Joe Martin with his Association Volunteer Certificate of Achievement. The presentation was made at Scale Reproductions Hobby Shop.

Photo by Barbara Soward

FROM THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

By Fred Soward MMR®, Division 8 Assistant Superintendent

And it's been another busy month. Ron & I've been busy helping Tom Guenthner with benchwork on the new layout. Long days made even longer when the wood shop is in the garage on the first floor and the layout is around the corner, up a flight of stairs, on the second floor. Barbara and I spent the better part of a day with Tom & Mary at the old layout, removing all rolling stock and locomotives in preparation for taking the layout down. With any luck at all, he'll be able to start running basic operating sessions by the first of the year. Maybe sooner than that.

As for our own basement empire, Barbara and I are continuing to host mini-operating sessions that focus on testing the trackwork, the DCC controllers and the operating scheme (multi-use single-sided car cards for now). There's a presentation in there, but not right now. I'm also anxiously awaiting arrival of the new DCC Command Station and boosters I ordered while we were at the NMRA National Convention. That system will replace the NCE PowerCab and cobbled-together WiFi system that we've been using for the past couple years. What we've been using has been sufficient for this testing phase, but with the anticipation that we'll soon be building out into the big room, we'll need to be able to run more than just a couple trains at the same time. More on that later. Good news – all those components we already have on-hand will have a place in the future fully built-out layout.

The other big news for the month - skirting in the Gilroy Room. Because she was heavily involved, I'll ask Barbara to do a presentation on the trials and tribulations of that project, including putting up the fascia in that room. It didn't go as smoothly as I'd hoped, but way smoother than I feared it might be.

OCTOBER 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: Fred and Barbara Soward-\$100; K & I Model Railroad Club-\$25; Rob Cooper-\$200; Stan White-\$50. *(continued on page 7)*

OCTOBER MEMBER WELFARE FUND REPORT (continued from page 6)

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.

Keep in mind we are a 501(c)(3) Non-profit. Your donation may be tax deductible depending on your own tax situation. Check with your tax advisor.

PIKE SHOWCASE



Above:

Business car Gotham has boarded the executives and inspection lights tested, just waiting to tie on to their train.

Steve Lasher took an ordinary Kato observation car and added interior and inspection lights. He also added drapes, blinds, and figures. The car came with electrical truck pickups and working marker lights. Then Steve added a silent decoder so you can turn on and off the different lights on the car.

For the rivet counters: NYC never had a stainless business car, plus they were never named, but had a single number.

The photo was taken on Russ Weis's New York Central layout.



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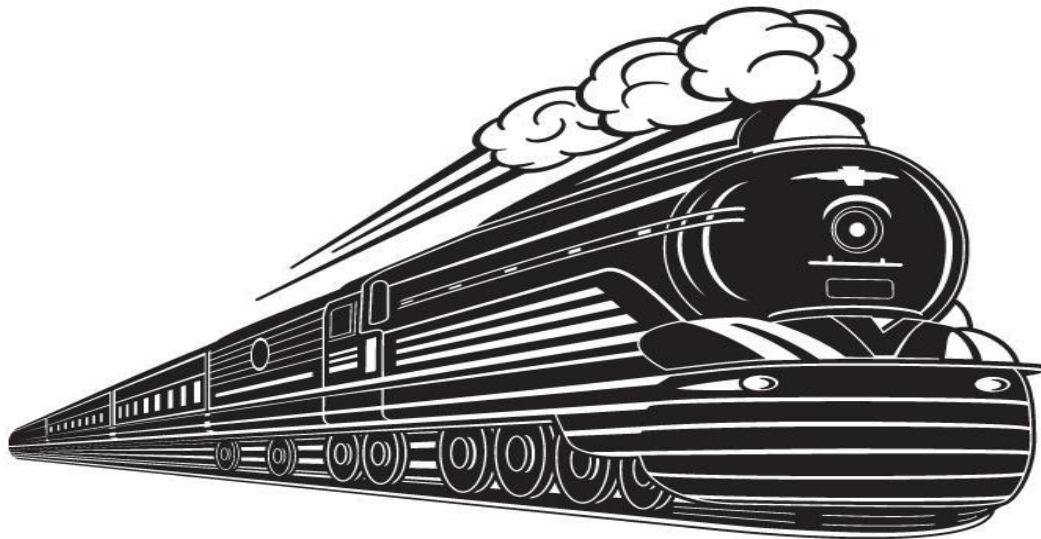


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Division 8, MCR, NMRA

<http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/>**OFFICERS**

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Tom Guenther	502-363-3113
Russ Weis	502-245-7991

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T-Trak	Bruce DeMaeyer	502-618-0248
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

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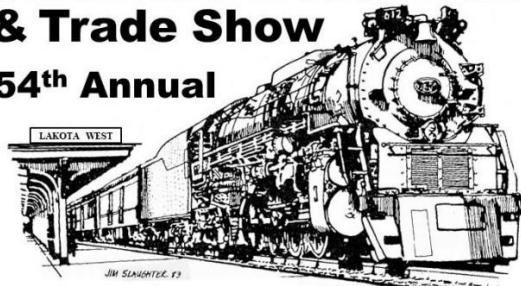
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Please address all correspondence to Bob Dawson, Editor, 7305 Ticonderoga Dr., Louisville, KY 40214 or email: dawsobl@aol.com.

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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