

# The Pie Card

Volume 57, April 2023, Number 4



Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association



## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

By Ron Ellison

### The Strange Case of James Hansen

On July 30, 2022, the NMRA membership report we received had an address change - James Hansen. He was not previously a member of Division 8. We assumed he moved into our division from another division or region. He was listed on the membership report as an address change but not as a new member. This is standard practice for these NMRA membership reports when an existing member moves to a new division.

We recognized James as a new member at our August 20, 2022 meeting. He was listed in the September 2022 *The Pie Card* as a renewal. That was incorrect, it was an address change, but a change was at least noted.

On August 1, 2022, I emailed him a welcome letter with full details about Division 8 including a link to the upcoming Gathering. The same day, he was invited to join Groups.io. and we added James to our email list. We did all the things we are supposed to do to welcome a new member to our division.

We continued to send James all Division 8 communications which included the monthly newsletter, the contest ballot, information about our Christmas Party in December. He received it all. But we never had any contact back from James Hansen until this when we sent him the February 2023 *The Pie Card*,

*I'm in Minneapolis, MN, and don't know how I got on your list, so please take me off and stop sending me emails . Thank You,*

For our convenience, he listed his email address. I wrote a short note back apologizing and assured James he wouldn't hear from us again.

James was on our active member list we received from the NMRA January 4, 2023, He disappeared from our active member list received on February 1, 2023. Again, without any explanation or documentation. There is no documentation on the member list when someone leaves our division for any reason including death. They are just gone from the member list - poof.

James IS most likely an NMRA member. According to the information we have received in membership reports, he joined the NMRA 10/01/2010, rerailed 02/01/2018 and his membership was due to expire on 01/31/2023. Perhaps the error in his location was discovered when James renewed his membership. We hope so.

We do our best to take care of our members. But that's not always easy. No one said it would be easy. And the work often involves some sleuthing. All this took time from four of our Division 8 leaders. Myself as Superintendent and Media Chairman, completed the tasks I've already listed; Fred Soward, Assistant Superintendent sent the Groups.io  
(Continued to page 6)

## TIME TABLE

**Apr 8**, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Virtual Gathering.

**Apr 15**, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

**May 4-7**, Rails to Pittsburgh, MCR Regional Convention.

**May 20**, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

**Jun 10**, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

**Jul 8**, Sat 2PM, Div 8, Virtual Bull Session

**Jul 15**, Sat, Div 8 Picnic, EnterTRAINment Junction, West Chester, OH.

**Aug 12**, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

**Aug 20-26**, National NMRA Convention, Grapevine, TX

**Sep 16**, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

**Oct 14**, Sat 2PM, Div 8, Virtual Bull Session

**Oct 14-15**, Div. 7 Cincinnati Train & Trade show, Lakota West H.S. Westchester, OH.

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

## MARCH 2023 CHARLIE KEELING HYBRID MODEL CONTEST REPORT

By Barry Christensen, Contest Chairman

<b>April</b>	<b>Passenger cars</b>
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)
December	Highway vehicles
January	Freight cars
February	Non-steam motive power
March	Structures

For March, Division 8's Charlie Keeling Hybrid Model Contest topic was structures. There were seven entries, covering a huge variety of structures.

Honorable mention goes to Bob Frankrone for his L&N car repair facility, to Rick Geerts for his downtown merchants, to Steve Lasher for his Clinton St tower, and to Stan White for his yard security office. Third place goes to Ed Brennan for his S. MacDonald and Son Clock Works. Second place goes to Charlie Buccola for his L&N HK tower. First place goes to Al Goodman for his St Jakobus Cathedral and Cemetery. Congratulations to our modelers for bringing these structures to life in miniature.

The revised point totals are now: Rick Geerts with 19, Ed Brennan with 18, Bob Frankrone with 15, Steve Lasher with 14, Jacob Butler with 12, Stan White with 10, Al Goodman and Russ Weis with 4 each, Charlie Buccola and Kevin Jones with 3 each, Eric Waggoner with 2, and Joe Martin with 1.

Please note that April contest entries will begin on the first Friday of April, which is April 1<sup>st</sup>, no fooling! The April Contest is **Passenger Cars**.

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

- April 1st - First day to submit entries
- April 8th - Last day to submit entries
- April 13th - Members will receive the Contest Ballot
- April 13th & 14th - Voting in the Contest Ballot ends @ 10:00 PM on the 14th
- April 15th - Winners announced at the meeting - 1st, 2nd and 3rd
- May 6th - First day to submit May entries, Cabooses

If you need more information, go here - <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/site/html/contest.html>. (Continued in column 2)



## APRIL MEETING INFORMATION

The April meeting is 2 PM **Saturday April 15th** at the Jeffersontown Library, 10635 Watterson Trail, Louisville, KY 40299. 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. Our presenter will be Fred Soward, "Don't Throw Out that Trash with the Trash (Adventures in Repurposing)."

Daryl Arend's layout will be open after the meeting, see page 5 for details.

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Stan White Membership Chairman

As of the last report received from Mid Central Region, we have 123 active members. We welcome one new member, Patricia Harding. Five members have renewed their membership: Mike Berry, Don Fowler, Al Goodman, Kenneth Pettit, and Steven Summers.

## MEMBER WELFARE REPORT

Mike Berry Member Welfare Chairman

A get-well card with a gift card was sent to John Czerwinski's wife Regina after her recent hospitalization. She is recovering at home now. As always, if you know of any member or spouse ill or a family member passing, please let the Member Welfare committee or a Board member know.

## MEMBER WELFARE FUND REPORT

(See page 6)

## CONTEST TIMELINE (Continued from column 1)

To enter the April 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](mailto: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](mailto:division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com). We will publish the Contest timeline dates each month in **The Pie Card**.

**MARCH CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST**

*Photos by the Modelers*

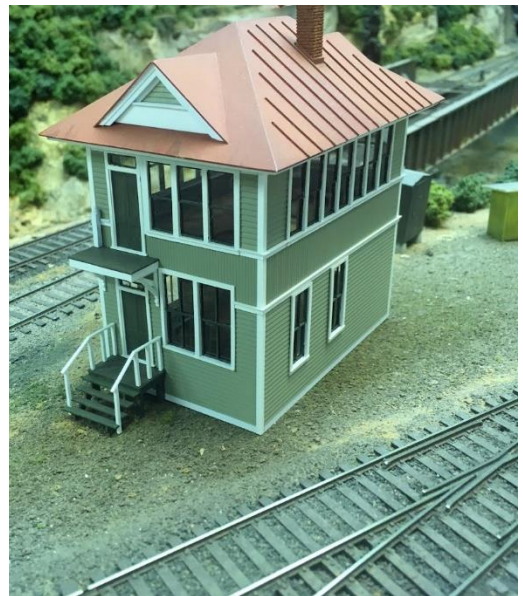


Right:

**SECOND PLACE**

Charlie Buccola's HO L&N HK tower.

Charlie's model is constructed using Evergreen plastic siding materials, standing seam roofing, strips and shapes. Modified Grant Line windows were used to get the appropriate casing combinations, etc. Grant Line doors were used. Charlie built his model from plans he developed by scaling from photos and used references to L&N standard structure designs. He custom mixed paint to obtain the grayed green used by L&N on their structures.



Left:

**THIRD PLACE**

Ed Brennan's S. MacDonald and Son Clock Works.

Ed began with an HO Northeastern basswood model of a mill that he bought several years ago. He liked the model, but he didn't need a mill, so it sat on his workbench for years. Recently he decided to move it to the front of the workbench. He changed it from a mill to a clock works, adding new details, glazed the windows, and created new roofing for the overhangs. He added additional details, figures, and signs. He then weathered it and added weeds and underbrush around the foundation.



**FEBRUARY CONTEST** (continued from page 3)



**HONORABLE MENTION (4)**

Left: Bob Frankrone's L & N Car Repair Shop

Below right:

Stan White's Yard Security Building.



Above:

Rick Geerts' Downtown Merchant's Row.

Right:

Steve Lasher's Clinton Street Tower.



Left:

Al Goodman with his first-place certificate for the April Charlie Keeling Model Contest.

Standing (right) is Mark Norman MMR®, Substituting for Contest Chairman Barry Christensen.

*Barbara Soward photo.*



**FROM THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT**

*By Fred Soward MMR®, Division 8 Assistant Superintendent*

Another month passes by and as I look back, I see a whole lot of work on the basement model railroad empire completed. I see a few layout visits and a few completed operating sessions as well.

For our basement layout, we hosted two small operating sessions in the past month. We are now at the point that I feel comfortable hosting full operating sessions of up to three hours. There are four local switching jobs (two include some small industrial yard switching) and a three-train mainline meet. I could fill it out to five locals, but that would be pushing it a bit. All the concepts I wanted to implement for operating sessions and for the trackwork have been successfully tested. We need to tweak a couple things, but with the Touch Toggles now in place to move the mainline turnouts, we're pretty much complete with that stage of construction in the first two phases. Only 10 more phases to go!

Layout visits? Three in West Virginia, including a full-blown three-day op-til-you-drop operating session on Bob Weinheimer's Pennsylvania Southern. Bob Dawson and Darcy Elliott joined me on that trip. I'm not entirely sure Darcy knew exactly what he was getting into, but he did say he's up for a return trip.

So, what did YOU do this past month on your model railroading journey? Anything exciting? Be sure to share your model railroading experiences with us in groups.io or on Facebook. And, if you'd like to come along on one of my model railroading operating session adventures, be sure to reach out to me directly. There's almost always room for one more and there's almost always another trip being scheduled

**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**

*By Mark Norman MMR®, AP Chairman*

An email arrived from Capt. David Marquet, USN, Ret. just as I was wrapping up my February column. The title was *Get That Paperwork Done*. It struck home. What if your doctor didn't write notes? What if the framers of the Constitution never wrote it down? What if you never documented your efforts? Documentation provides for consistency as well as improvement. Knowing what you did that works is certainly helpful to improving. Knowing what doesn't work is equally important. This also serves as the source for Achievement Program submissions. What is the right way to do this? That's an individual choice of course. Personally, my model railroading record keeping falls into two broad categories. First are the modeling skills. These I maintain using the AP categories for convenience along with a few others such as best methods for weathering rolling stock versus structures. The other category pertains to individual cars, locomotives, structures, etc. Knowing what materials were used certainly helps when going back to perform maintenance. Paperwork, even if electronic, is part of the process.

**DARYL AREND'S LAYOUT OPEN HOUSE**

Daryl's layout will be open to members following the April Meeting from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM. Daryl's address will be emailed to Division 8 members.

*Left: A scene from Daryl's layout.  
Photo by Bob Dawson*

*(The Superintendent's Desk continued from page 1)*

invitation, added his name to the meeting slide deck, agenda and made a name badge; Stan White Membership Chairman reported the new member after reviewing the membership list as received from the NMRA and sent his own welcome email as part of our process; and Bob Dawson, Pie Card Editor recognized the new member in our newsletter. Thanks everyone. We all did our best. But it was for naught this time.

So, now you know a little a little more about what your leadership team is sometimes doing besides building and running their model railroads. It's not always fun, but it's always in support of our membership and the model railroading hobby.

### **MARCH MEETING REPORT**

*By Bob Dawson Division 8 Clerk*

The March 2023 Division 8 Membership Meeting was held at the Jeffersontown Branch of the Louisville Free Public Library at 10605 Watterson Trail in Jeffersontown, KY at 2:00 PM on Saturday March 11, 2023. It was a Hybrid meeting with members attending in person at the Jeffersontown Branch of the Louisville Free Public Library, and remotely using the Zoom conference platform. Superintendent Ron Ellison reported that the proposed changes to the Division 8 Bylaws have been communicated to the members, and asked if there were any questions. There were none. Ron said the vote will be held at the April Meeting. The program followed the business portion of the meeting. Doug Sandmeyer, Division 12, MCR, NMRA presented "Structural Lighting with *NCE Light-its*" on Zoom. The minutes for the March meeting are posted on the Division website. Go to the members pages. You can also view the meeting and Doug Sandmeyer's clinic on the Division 8 YouTube Channel.

### **RESERVATIONS FOR SUMMER PICNIC 2023 ARE OPEN**

How to reserve your place at the 2023 Picnic

You save your place at the Picnic table by clicking on the **Click to Buy** button or QR code on the accompanying **flyer in this issue**. There are 3 kinds of tickets to purchase: Member, Spouse, and Guest. Please place your order accordingly. A separate name is required for each ticket.

There are only 50 places at the table. The easiest and quickest way to reserve is to pay online. However, if you wish to send a check, your place at the table is not reserved until we receive your check and create your reservation for you. For that reason, we urge you to call us at (502) 653-5371 and leave a message to tell us how many in your party. We will send you a confirmation email as soon as we receive your message and create a reservation for you pending receipt of your check. Make your check payable and mail to:

Division 8 MCR NMRA  
PO Box 189  
Eastwood, KY 40018-0189

### **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; John Czerwinski-\$20; K&I Model Railroad Club-\$25; Rob Cooper-\$200; Stan White-\$50; Stephen Taylor-\$30.

If you wish to donate, email the amount to [division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com](mailto: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 time. We are a volunteer staff. Please help us save some of our time which is an increasingly scarce commodity. We need to spend it wisely.

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.

**SPRING 2023 DIVISION 8 TRAIN SHOW & SALE PHOTO GALLERY**

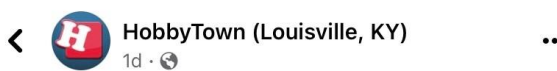
*Photos by Fred Soward and Bob Dawson*



**SPRING 2023 DIVISION 8 TRAIN SHOW & SALE PHOTO GALLERY (continued)**



**LOCAL HOBBY SHOP HAS NEW OWNERS**



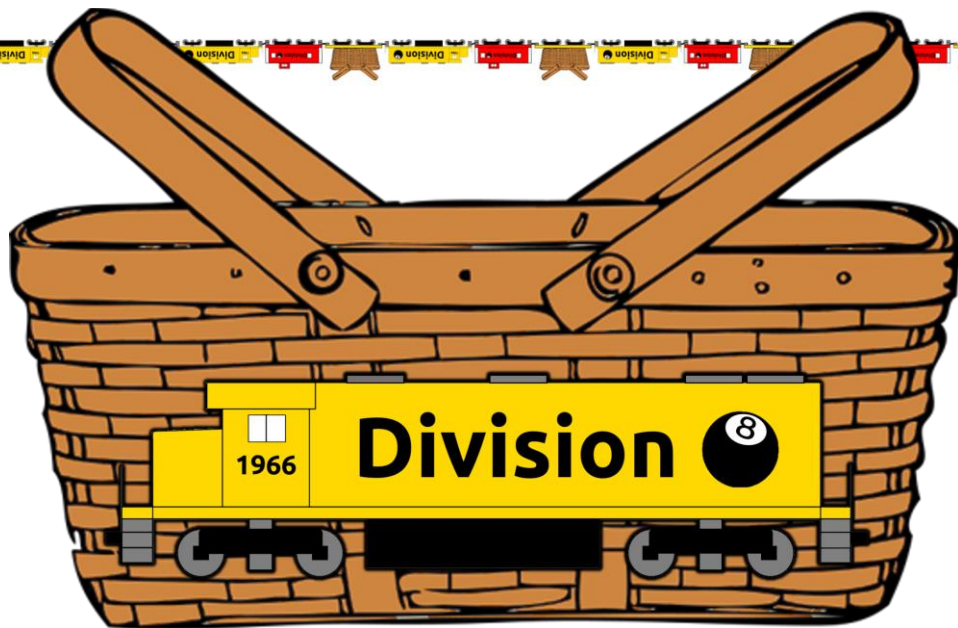
We have had a great 30 years helping you with your hobbies. We appreciate each and every one of you for your continued support We have sold the business. Come by and meet the new owners Bryce and Sara

**(Right) RUSS WEIS' OPEN HOUSE FOLLOWING THE MARCH MEETING**

From left to right: Don Fowler, Al Goodman, and Karen Fowler. In the distance, Steve Lasher<sup>2</sup>

*Photo by Bob Dawson*





# DIVISION 8 PICNIC

## SATURDAY JULY 15, 2023

**ENTERTRAINMENT JUNCTION**  
**West Chester Township, OH 45069**

**COME JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL DIVISION 8 PICNIC**

Our charter bus will depart promptly at 9:00 AM  
and return between 6:00 and 7:00 PM

[From the St Matthew's Episcopal Church](#)

Lunch and a behind-the Scenes Tour will be provided  
You'll have free time to wander and shop the venue  
**ANNUAL AWARDS FOR THE MODEL CONTEST WILL BE PRESENTED**

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For more information, check our website frequently for updates: [www.keystonedivision.org](http://www.keystonedivision.org)

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**NOTICE OF VOTE ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO DIVISION 8 BYLAWS**

The Board of Directors has proposed some minor changes to the bylaws.

We will vote to change the bylaws at the Division 8 Membership Meeting April 15, 2023. Here is a short summary of the changes.

**Article 7, Section 6**

A change to audit of the Treasurer's records on even numbered years in July rather than every year in July. Or within 60 days of a new Treasurer taking office if the change occurs out of the regular election cycle. The board recommends the change because an annual audit is excessive based on the volume of transactions that occur.

**Article 7, Section 7**

The current bylaws state that the Contest Committee conducts a contest at each general meeting. Since the contest is now conducted virtually, the wording is changed to reflect that.

Syntax changes to the entire bylaws to change "general meeting" to "membership meeting" in all instances. Other minor editorial and typographical corrections that are being made to make our bylaws grammatically correct.

- You can read our existing bylaws on our website here - [Current Division 8 Bylaws](#)
- You can read the revised bylaws in their entirety here - [Revised Division 8 Bylaws](#)

## Division 8, MCR, NMRA

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

Superintendent:	Ron Ellison	502-807-7683
Asst. Supt:	Fred Soward	502-499-0770
Clerk:	Bob Dawson	502-368-2607
Treasurer:	Mike Berry	502-245-1337

**TRUSTEES**

Stan White	502-558-2466
Tom Guenther	502-363-3113
Russ Weis	502-245-7991

**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	Mike Berry	502-245-1337
Media	Ron Ellison	502-807-7683
Meetings & Programs	Russ Weis	502-245-7991
Pie Card	Bob Dawson	502-368-2607
Train Show and Sale	Ron Ellison	502-807-7683
T-Trak	Bruce DeMaeyer	847-302-6145
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](mailto:division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com)

**THE PIE CARD**

Division 8-MCR-NMRA  
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Eastwood, KY 40018-0189  
502-653-5371

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Asst. Editor: Rick Tipton  
Publisher: Ron Ellison

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

Deadline for submission of articles is the 20<sup>th</sup> 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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Our NEW Division 8 sweatshirt is available. Maybe you've seen other members wearing one and wondered how you'd look in Maynard G. Krebs favorite garment. This one is black heavy blend 50/50, cotton poly, crewneck with Division 8 logo. She's a beauty. At just \$30.00, it's priced right and perfect for these days as we transition from winter into spring. Order TODAY.

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