

The Pie Card

Volume 57, February 2023, Number 2



Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

By Ron Ellison

I often wait until the last minute to write the Superintendent's column. I almost began the February column right after I finished the January column. I was just a couple of keystrokes away. I had an idea. I was in the groove. But then something came at me, and it got put aside. I used to work with a guy who had a theory that the important stuff you pile on your desk has a way of surfacing toward the top of your piles. I'm afraid I've lived by that method for too many years.

Anyway, I've often found that there's always some magic in procrastinating. Like right now. I'd planned to work on the column after doing just a few other things today. But here I am at 10:30 PM on the 19th and my column better be to The Pie Card Editor by the 20th, the cutoff date. But low and behold, some of that magic happened earlier this evening and if I started the column earlier, I would have missed the opportunity to share this information with you in the column.

Did you see the *NMRA Turntable* that arrived in your inbox just after 7:00 PM today, January 19, 2023? The *Turntable* is a great publication put out monthly by some NMRA volunteers. It arrives in your inbox automatically sometime during each month. If you missed it and can't find it in your inbox, you can always go to the NMRA website and read it. You'll have to login and then go to the Members section and hover over *Publications*. You might even find some other publications there that might be of interest to you.

So, find the January 2023 *NMRA Turntable*, and see the second item, ***MCR Division 8 Online Clinic***. You click and you'll end up on the Division 8 YouTube channel. There you'll see one of our most popular videos to date. If you haven't watched it, it's well worth some of your time. Stephen Priest, MMR[®], tells the story of how he came to start his own model railroad manufacturing company, Class One Model Works. It's a very interesting story. See their ads now appearing in the *NMRA Magazine*, which by the way, you can also access from the same *Publications* area on the NMRA website. And while you're on our YouTube channel, hit the "thumbs up" icon to like the video and subscribe to the channel and hit the bell icon to be notified of new content – these things really help the channel grow.

How did our video end up in the *NMRA Turntable*? Some of our Division 8 volunteers did quite a bit of work to make that happen. First, Russ Weis was able to cajole Stephen Priest into giving the presentation. Russ is a pretty good cajoler. He also cajoled Kathy Millatt, MMR[®], and YouTube personality to present at our January meeting, "Modeling Water" which you'll also find on our YouTube channel by the time you read this. Second, the YouTube channel itself is entirely the efforts of Fred Soward. He puts those videos up there and he makes it look easy and they get up there quickly.

I mention all this because neither of these guys would ever mention it themselves. They, like many other volunteers who produce the content we all enjoy, do it because they love the model railroading hobby, they want to make the hobby better, and want to share it with others. They are volunteers. You too can volunteer to make our hobby better for others.

JANUARY MEETING REPORT

(See page 4)

TIME TABLE

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.

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 13, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Virtual Gathering.

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 Gathering.

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

JANUARY 2023 CHARLIE KEELING HYBRID MODEL CONTEST REPORT

By Barry Christensen, Contest Chairman

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)
December	Highway vehicles
January	Freight cars

For January, Division 8 had its first Charlie Keeling Hybrid Model Contest event at our new meeting room at the Jeffersontown Public Library. The topic was freight cars and there were five entries. Thank you to each modeler for including excellent information on their weathering techniques, worthy of a weathering seminar at a national NMRA convention!

Honorable mention goes to Jacob Butler for his CSX Airslide hopper. Third place was a tie: Bob Frankrone for his weathered gondola with graffiti and Rick Geerts for his SP boxcar. Second place goes to Steve Lasher for his C&EI boxcar. First place goes to Ed Brennan for his Southern double deck stock car 45671. Congratulations to our freight car modelers! Additional thanks to Bob Frankrone for displaying four gondolas with his handiwork at the meeting and to Cecil Smith for giving members a chance to view his structures being judged for the achievement program.

The revised point totals are now: Rick Geerts with 17, Ed Brennan with 15, Bob Frankrone with 13, Jacob Butler with 10, Steve Lasher with 9, Stan White with 6, Russ Weis with 4, Kevin Jones with 3, Eric Waggoner with 2, and Joe Martin with 1.

Please note that the March meeting will be on the second Saturday due to the Train Show. Check the schedule below for the earlier than usual beginning for March contest entries.

The February Contest is ***Non-Steam Motive Power***

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

- February 4th - First day to submit entries
- February 11th - Last day to submit entries
- February 16th - Members will receive the Contest Ballot

(Timeline continued on column 2 of this page.)



FEBRUARY MEETING INFORMATION

The February meeting is 2 PM **Saturday February 18 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 Perry Lamb, "Weathering With PanPastels."

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Stan White Membership Chairman

As of January 4th, the Division had 127 members with six renewals: Barry Christensen, Rick Maloney, Herman Weir, Alexander Weir, and Robin White.

MEMBER WELFARE REPORT

Mike Berry Member Welfare Chairman

A get-well card with a gift card was sent to Bob Johnson after his most recent hospital stay. As always, if you know of any member hospitalized or a death in their family, please let the Member Welfare committee or an officer know.

MEMBER WELFARE FUND REPORT

(See page 6)

CONTEST TIMELINE (continued from column 1)

- February 16th & 17th - Voting in the Contest Ballot ends @ 10:00 PM on the 17th
- February 18th - Winners announced at the meeting - 1st, 2nd and 3rd
- February 25th - First day to submit March entries, Structures

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

To enter the February 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***.

DECEMBER CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST

Photos by the Modelers



FIRST PLACE

Left: Ed Brennan's Southern Stock Car

Ed's rescued this Ambroid wood stock car kit from a yard sale. He repaired or replaced many missing and broken parts. He weathered the car with a thinned Floquil grimy black/brown mix and added mud and muck to the lower portions. He installed sprung trucks with Intermountain wheels and Kadee Whisker Couplers. He finished it by loading hogs to be transported.

SECOND PLACE

Right: Steve Lasher's C&E 40ft. Box Car

Steve began with a 40' Intermountain Railways boxcar which he repainted with Scalecoat boxcar red, and decaled with Protocraft decals, and Microscale chalk scribbings. He then weathered it using powders and marking pencils.



THIRD PLACE Bob Frankrone and Rick Geerts tied for third place.

Above: Bob's Weathered Gondola with Graffiti. Bob used multiple washes of acrylic antique white paint to fade the paint. He weathered it with burnt sienna oil based paint and dark rust colored powder. He used Blair Line deals to give the car a "well tagged" appearance.



Above right: Rick Geerts's Southern Pacific box car.

Rick modified an Athearn Blue Box kit by adding Kadee metal wheels and couplers. He weathered it with a wash, airbrushed dust paint, and then dusted with AK light dust applied with a makeup brush. He then sealed it with Krylon flat clear. *(continued on page 4)*

DECEMBER CONTEST *(continued from page 3)*



HONORABLE MENTION

Left:

Title: Jacob Butler's CSX Airslide Hopper

Jacob weathered his model and added AEI tags and FRA 224 reflective tape.

JANUARY MEETING REPORT

The January Division 8 meeting was held at 2 PM on Saturday January 21. This was the first meeting held at our new meeting location, the Jeffersontown Branch of the Louisville Free Public Library. It was a Hybrid meeting with members attending in person at the Library, and remotely using the Zoom conference platform.

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

Right:

Following the business portion of the meeting, break, Kathy Millatt MMR® presented "Modeling Water." Presenting on Zoom from the United Kingdom, Kathy described the various materials and techniques she uses to make water features for model train layouts.

Photo: Screen Shot from the Division 8 YouTube Channel.



Above:

Attendees at our first meeting in the Jeffersontown Branch of the Louisville Free Public Library.

Photo: Screen Shot from the Division 8 YouTube Channel.

FROM THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

By Fred Soward MMR®, Division 8 Assistant Superintendent

After a week in Florida, you'd think I would've come back with a suntan. But, no, that didn't happen. Probably because I spent a lot of time indoors at Prototype Rails 2023, the Cocoa Beach, Florida, Railroad Prototype Modeler's (RPM) Meet. You may remember that I attended the event last year and even broadcasted "live" back to the Division 8 Gathering that was meeting the Saturday of the event. You can watch that "show" on the Division 8 YouTube channel:

<https://youtu.be/rXvXkrG4hM4>

It was a great event with many national model railroad companies represented. I did not make any purchases, but I did spend a lot of time talking with manufacturers, dealers, and other attendees.

The display tables are always impressive, and I've already shared several "open load" photos with Bob Frankrone, with more to come soon. Interestingly, an HOn3 model of the one-off General Electric White Pass & Yukon locomotive #81 (aka US Army #3000) was on display and I'd just the day before read an article about the construction of that model in the November/December 2022 edition of the Narrow Gauge and Short Line Gazette.

The clinics were excellent, of course, with a heavy focus on the steam era. There were also a few clinics about very modern railroading. It's always a good time listening to Mont Switzer, who most of us know. Stephen Priest presented a detailed clinic about the successful restoration of the bicentennial paint scheme to ATSF SD40-2 5704. I also attended a clinic by Chuck Davis, titled "Modifying Plastic Steam Locomotives." Eventually, I'd like to create four McCloud River Railroad steam locomotives for excursions on the northern end of the layout. Although Chuck's focus was on the Erie Lackawana, he had some great ideas about how I could make that happen.

All in all, a good time, with lots of learning and great conversation about model railroading. Exactly what a convention should be! And just so y'know, I also didn't get a suntan becuz it was in the 40's and 50's and I'm not about to be wearing shorts & t-shirts outside in that weather.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

By Mark Norman MMR®, AP Chairman

This month's column is being written the day after the January 'Gathering'. If you haven't participated in one of these you are missing out. The 'production', i.e. the audio, video, coordination, practice, and uploading to YouTube is first rate. The format is informal with one or two presentations and plenty of time for questions and answers. I had the pleasure of doing the first clinic followed by Fred Soward. Questions, comments, and suggestions were freely offered for the benefit of all. What does this have to do with achievement? Nothing and everything. Nothing - The Gatherings do not fall under the Achievement Program. Everything - In order to achieve we all continually learn, practice and get better. The clinic was sub-titled '2.0'. Since first giving it answers to questions previously asked have been added. A viable commercial option is now on the market. Your questions encouraged me to become better. In turn you are encouraged to become better. That is an achievement!



Achievement Program Chairman Mark Norman presented Certificates of Achievement to Rick Wehr (above left) for Chief Dispatcher, and Stan White (above right) for Master Builder Scenery at the January meeting. Stan was also presented with a merit award for scenery.

Photos by Barbara Soward

SUMMER PICNIC 2023

We announced the Summer Picnic 2023 destination at the January meeting. If you attended, you already know all about it. But for those unable to attend, watch the meeting on ZOOM or YouTube, we have these details.

- Saturday July 15, 2023
- Travel by Charter Bus to EnterTRAINment Junction
- Lunch, Behind-the Scenes Tour, free time to tour the venue
- Annual Charlie Keeling Contest Awards
- \$15.00/person
- Tickets on sale online March 1st - DETAILS will be in *The Pie Card* in March



Above: A scene from the "modern era" section of EnterTRAINment Jct. This is G-Scale. Photo by Bob Dawson (more photos on page7)

RUSS WEIS WILL PRESENT "INTRODUCTION TO MODEL RAILROADING" AT THE SPENCER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023, 6:30 TO 7:30 PM

We'd like to see some Division 8 members in attendance to support Russ and help share the Model Railroading Hobby with attendees at this event. The library asked for the presentation because of interest from their patrons. If you know of someone new to the hobby, it's a great opportunity to help get them started on the right track with guidance from a wily old veteran of the model railroading hobby.

The Spencer County Public Library is located at 168 Taylorsville Rd., Taylorsville, KY 40071

JOE FIELDS' LAYOUT WILL BE OPEN FOR THE LAST TIME IN FEBRUARY

Division 8 member Joe Fields MMR® passed away unexpectedly in February 2021. Joe's wife, Sue, has invited Division members to visit his layout one last time before it is taken down. Joe's layout will be open on Saturday February 18 from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM following the February Division meeting. Directions to Joe's house will be sent on Groups.io, and by other means to members not on Groups.io.

Left: Joe was famous for saying you can always find a space to build a layout. He proved it by finishing a crawl space under part of his home for his model railroad. Joe's son and grandson in the layout room.

Photo by Mark Norman

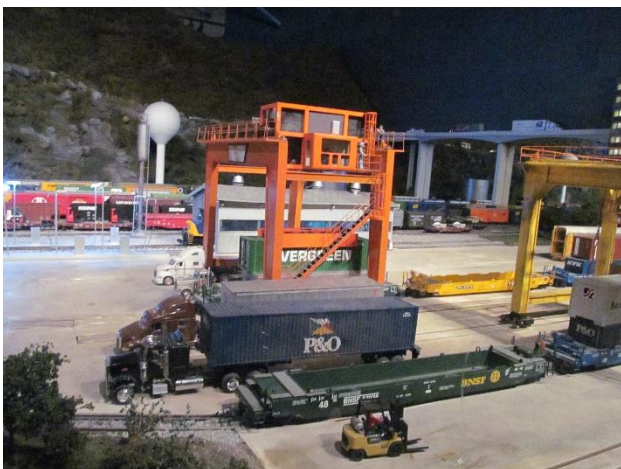
MEMBER WELFARE FUND REPORT

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; Stephen Taylor-\$30.

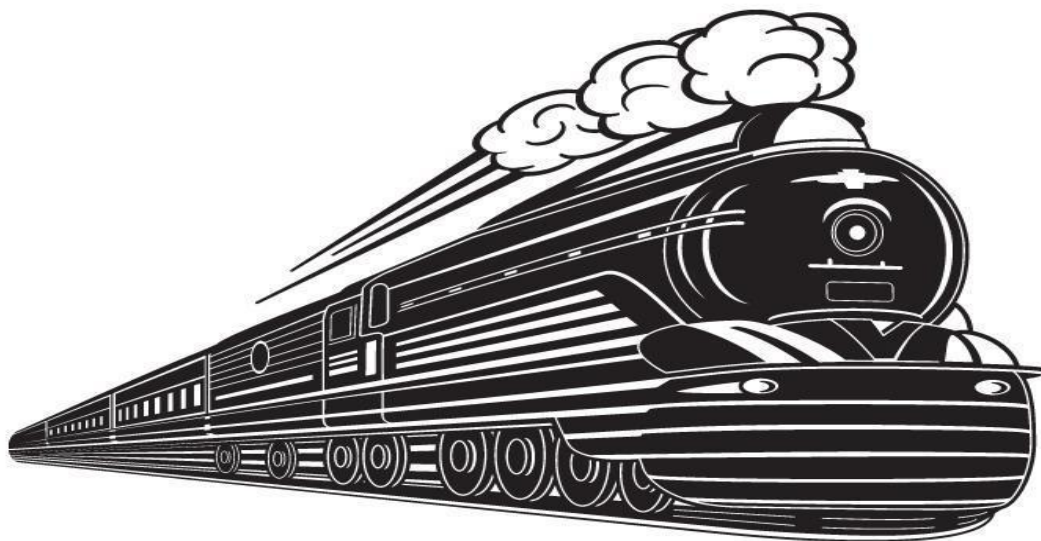
If you wish to donate, email the amount to division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com and we'll email you an invoice to pay online. When you pay online, you'll get an immediate receipt of your donation. Or call us at (502) 653-5371 with your donation amount and we'll email you the invoice to pay online. Or use the invoice to send a check. While a check may seem convenient, online payment saves 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.

These photos are from the 2015 Division 8 Picnic at EnterTRAINment Junction. For a feel of those size of this attraction, note the visitors in some of the photos. *Photos by Bob Dawson*



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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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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

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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 8-MCR-NMRA
Box 189
Eastwood, KY 40018-0189
502-653-5371

Editor: Bob Dawson
Asst. Editor: Rick Tipton
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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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