The Pie Card



Volume 58, May 2024, Number 5

Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

By Ron Ellison

After the Mid Central Region Convention, your officers will begin their next term of office. It will be the same faces you're accustomed to seeing with one GIANT exception. Bob Dawson is stepping down as Clerk after 12 years. Rick

Maloney has stepped up as our next Clerk. Thank you, Rick.

And thank you Bob Dawson! Never one to self-proclaim, he has a long and storied history with Division 8. So, let's go over some of Bob Dawson's 49-year history with the division.

The early years are sketchy. But we know that Bob served as the Train Show & Sale Chairman from Spring 2000 to Spring 2017. Awarded the Silver Spike in 2000. He was a Trustee from 2006 to 2012. He was General Chairman of the 2007 Mid Central Region Convention hosted by Division 8. Meeting and Program Chairman from 2007 to 2010. In May 2012, he was elected Clerk for the first time and has served continuously until this May. In June of 2012, he took over as *The Pie Card* editor. Bob will continue as editor, and he writes and edits two other newsletter for organizations he's active with. He served on the 2017 Mid Central Region Convention Committee hosted by Division 8. He was co-chairman of Division 8 Train Day 2018. In 2020, Bob was awarded the NMRA President's Award for Division Service. That award is presented by the NMRA President to one individual in a Division in each Region once per year who has done outstanding "beyondthe-call-of-duty" work to make his or her local Division effective, engaging, and welcoming to members.

TIME TABLE

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

May 16-19, Thu-Sun, North Coast Limited MCR Convention, Cleveland, OH.

Jun 8, Sat 2 PM, Virtual Bull Session.

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

Jul 20, Sat, Div 8 Picnic, Kentucky Railway Museum.

Aug 4-11, NMRA National Convention, Long Beach, CA.

Aug 17, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

Sep 14, Sat 2PM Div 8 Bull Session on Zoom.

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

Oct 12-13, Sat & Sun, Div 7 Cincinnati Train & Trade Show.

Oct 19, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

Nov 9, Sat 2PM, Div 8 Hybrid meeting, Jeffersontown Library and Zoom.

Nov 16, Sat. Div 8 Train Show & Sale, Saffin Center, Holy Family Parish, Louisville, KY.

Dec 7, Sat, 4:30PM, Div 8 Christmas Party.

Dec 14, Sat, 2:00 PM, Div 8, Virtual Bull Session.

Dec 21, Virtual Model Contest.

Bob models in HO and has earned the Association Volunteer and Chief Dispatcher certificates in the Achievement Program. And of course, 2025 will be his 50th year with the NMRA and Division 8.

Bob is also Secretary, Programs and Meetings Chairman, and editor of the newsletter for the local Louisville chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society. He is considered a local knowledgeable authority of prototype railroads and is often called upon to make presentations at local libraries and clubs.

It's a pleasure and an honor to be associated with Bob Dawson. I know he'll continue to do whatever he can for Division 8. We thank him even though those words are not enough for all he's done. The next time you see Bob, you might take a moment to say your own thanks. He'll mostly just pretend like it's no big thing. But it kind of is.

Just a reminder that Division 8 is a non-profit corporation and as such, Article 3, Section 5 of our bylaws call for an annual meeting during the month of May. That's this month and our membership meeting on May 11th will also be our Annual Meeting. If you have never been to a Division 8 meeting, this would be a great opportunity to attend one and see what we're all about. We're a pretty friendly bunch. And you could pick up your name badge which we bring each month in hopes you'll attend sometime. (*Continued on page 2, column 2*)

MAY 2024 CHARLIE KEELING HYBRID MODEL CONTEST

By Barry Christensen, Contest Chairman

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
April Passenger cars

For April, Division 8's Charlie Keeling Hybrid Model Contest category was passenger cars. There were seven entries, covering a variety of rail conveyances for humans.

Honorable mention goes to Bob Frankrone for his Catskill Mountain passenger car, to Rick Geerts for his President Bush Funeral Car, to Randall Griggs for his B&O Royal Blue Passenger Cars from S Scale American Flyer Parts, and to Eric Waggoner for his L&N Green Pine sleeper.

Third place goes to Ed Brennan for his N&W Heavyweight Business Car. Second place goes to Rick Maloney for his Passengers Passing Time with a Card Game. First place goes to Steve Lasher for his Work Train Bunk Car. Congratulations to our modelers for presenting some wonderful passenger rolling stock.

The revised point totals are now: Rick Maloney with 28, Bob Frankrone with 19, Rick Geerts and Steve Lasher with 15 each, Mark Norman, and Russ Weis with 5 each, Cecil Stewart, and Eric Waggoner with 4 each, Ed Brennan, and Bob Kuchler with 3 each, Kevin Jones, and Fred Soward with 2 each, and Bruce DeMaeyer, Darcy Elliott, Ron Ellison, Al Goodman, and Randall Griggs with 1 each.

The May Contest is *CABOOSES*

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

- April 27th First day to submit entries
- May 4th Last day to submit entries
- May 9th Members will receive the Contest Ballot
- May 9th & 10th Voting in the Contest Ballot ends @ 10:00 PM on the 10th
- May 11th Winners announced at the meeting -1st, 2nd and 3rd
- June 1st First day to submit June contest entries *OPEN LOADS* (Continued to column 2)



MAY MEETING INFORMATION

The May Division 8 meeting is 2 PM **Saturday May** 11 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. Barry Christensen is presenting "Nearly 50 years ago."

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

(continued from page 1)

Later in *The Pie Card*, you will find the 2024 Division 8 2024 Picnic flyer. You can buy a place at the picnic table by clicking the *Click to Buy* button or scanning the QR code. You can also find out more about the day with that same click. We're offering a special price for children and grandchildren of Division 8 members!

The Mid Central Region Convention takes place May 16th - 19th in Cleveland. There's a flyer later in *The Pie Card* or go here to find out more or register to attend - https://northcoastlimited2024.org/

CONTEST (Continued from column 1)

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

To enter the May Contest, use the **NEW Contest Entry** Form on the Division 8 website

here \rightarrow <u>Contest</u> and just follow the simple instructions included in the form. Entering the Contest has never been easier.

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*.

MEMBER WELFARE REPORT

By Mike Berry, Member Welfare Chairman
This has turned out to be a good month in the Member
Welfare department. No get-well cards or sympathy cards
went out this month. If only we could keep that up long
term. But, as usual, if you hear of a member in the hospital
or with a death in the family, please let the Member
Welfare Committee or someone on the Board know about
it.

APRIL CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST (photos by the modelers)



FIRST PLACE

Above: Steve Lasher's HO "Work Train Bunk Car."

Steve started with a MDC "1890's" coach kit. Selected windows were blanked off with styrene. Detailing on the roof is a combination of kit and scratch-built parts. The underbody detail was also a combination of scratch-built (water tanks) and Cal-Scale air brake parts. The trucks are modified Rivarossi heavyweight trucks with Intermountain 36" wheel sets. The body was painted with Scalecoat II "Boxcar Red" and the roof was Scalecoat "Graphite and Oil" with overall weathering. The decals are from Microscale.



SECOND PLACE

Left: Rick Maloney's G-Scale "Passengers Passing the Time with a Card Game." Starting with a Bachman flat car, Rick scratch-built the roof, benches, and canvas sides. He painted and weathered everything and lettered it for the Lynn Hauler & Stephanie Run Railroad. He painted the figures and modified them so they could be seated. The cards are made out of paper and placed in their hands to complete the scene.

THIRD PLACE

Right: Ed Brennan's "N&W Heavyweight Business Car.

Ed began with an older HO Walthers' metal side, wood floor, plastic roof business car kit. The kit was assembled per instructions. He added interior details including chairs, figures, and window treatments. The blinds in the widows were made by drawing parallel lines on paper. He completed the model by replacing the provided dummy couplers with Kadee couplers, Central Valley trucks, and other details, and painted the model.



APRIL CHARLIE KEELING MODEL CONTEST-HONORABLE MENTION



Right: Rick Geerts' HO "President Bush's Funeral Car."

Left: Randall Griggs' "B&O Royal Blue Passenger Cars from S-Scale American Flyer Parts."





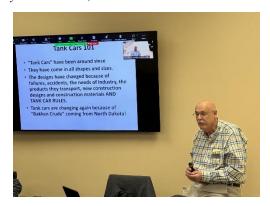
Left; Eric Waggoner's HO "L&N Green Pine Sleeper."

Right: Bob Frankrone's "Catskill Mt. Passenger Car."



APRIL MEETING REPORT

By Bob Dawson, Division 8 Clerk



Above: Rich Mahaney *Photo by Barbara Soward*

The April 2024 Division 8 membership meeting was held on Saturday April 13. It was a hybrid meeting with participants attending in person at the library, and remotely using the Zoom conference platform.

The featured event for the day was "Division 8 Train Day 2024", a series of model railroading subjects presented in person throughout the day by Rich Mahaney, NMRA North Central Region President. The day began at 10:00 AM, with a break for lunch, and the last presentation ending at approximately 4:15 PM. The membership meeting was called to order at 2 PM and the meeting presentation was the second to last of the day.

Achievement Program Chairman Mark Norman presented Stan White with a merit award for "Civil Engineer-Scratch Built Trackwork," and a Certificate of Achievement for "Model Railroad Engineer-Civil" at the meeting. Member Welfare Chairman Mike Berry said he was glad to

report that there were no hospitalizations or deaths to report. He reported that Rick Tipton continues to recover from his most recent medical incident.

Attendance was 35, with 25 attending in person and 10 attending virtually on Zoom. There were 2 visitors in person, 2 on Zoom plus members of the Southern Indiana Railroad Club who had a "viewing party" for the Train Day presentations with 14 individuals hosted by Division 8 member Darcy Elliott. Including all individuals at the SIR viewing party, attendance was 23 virtual and 48 total. Among those attending on Zoom was Gordy Robinson MMR®, NMRA President.

FROM THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

By Fred Soward MMR®, Division 8 Assistant Superintendent

In the two years I've been writing this monthly column, it's mostly been about Division 8 members working on model railroad projects. I'd like to be able to share more, but I need to know what y'all are doing out there.

Sometimes, buried in the clutter of my daily deluge of email, amongst the clutter of spam, there's a gem. One of those "gems" took me back more than 20 years ago when I first read the book, "Art & Fear," by David Bayles & Ted Orland. The book reminds me of model railroaders we all know who never get around to building anything for their model railroad. They read, they collect, and they talk about it, but they don't actually do it.

You've probably heard the phrase, "analysis paralysis" or "paralysis by analysis," where someone spends so much time analyzing what they're going to do, they never do anything. That's a familiar model railroading story. The "Art & Fear" book has a very relatable parable about a photography class. The book tells the story as a pottery class, but it was actually a photography class that inspired the parable.

In short, a college photography instructor separated his class into two groups. Group one would be graded on how many photographs they submitted for the semester, no matter the quality. Group two would be graded on just one photograph, but it had to be perfect in every aspect (subject, focus, setting, depth of field, lighting). Y'know what? NO ONE submitted a perfect photo from group two, but there were several perfect and near-perfect photos submitted from group one. How did THAT happen? Because group one got out there and practiced the art of photography and perfected what they learned from their mistakes while group two merely thought about it.

The moral of the story is obvious - If you don't do it, you're not doing it and if you're not doing it, you're not getting good at it. So, go do some model railroading. Stop worrying about getting it right the first or second or third time. Knock out something and learn from that effort. And then share that effort with all of us – either here in this column or with a Pie Card article or with a meeting presentation.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

By Mark Norman MMR®, AP Chairman

This column is being written two days after the absolutely wonderful Train Day featuring Rich Mahaney, PEM. Utilizing four decades of field experience, he provided insights into tank cars, how to identify them, how they are loaded and unloaded, etc. This continuing education session was well attended in person and online. Thank you Rich! Continuing education took place before, during, and after our meeting in other areas. Owen Miller and I discussed the AP program for some time. Several others had questions and accomplishments to share. Stan White earned Model Railroad Engineer – Civil. Fred Soward, MMR® 698 scored 112 points for Terry's Cycle Shop. What? An MMR is still being evaluated? You bet – continuing education and having fun!



Right: Terry's Cycle Shop. This was Fred Soward's MMR® model that was evaluated before the April meeting

Photo by Fred Soward

began.

Left:

AP Chairman Mark Norman MMR®, presented Stan White with a merit award for "Civil Engineer-Scratch Built Trackwork," and a Certificate of Achievement for "Model Railroad Engineer-Civil" at the April meeting. *Photo by Barbara Soward*



MAY 2024 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. And, when you are sick or recovering from a hospital stay, it's nice to hear from friends.

Donations fiscal YTD: Anonymous-\$120; Bob Johnson-\$10; Darcy Elliott-\$25; Eric Waggoner-\$25; Greg Gephart-\$50; John Czerwinski-\$20; Keeling Family-\$200; Kent Westphal-\$50. Thank you!

If you wish to donate, email the amount to <u>division8.mcr.nmra@gmail.com</u> 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 a trip to the post office and the bank. We are an all volunteer staff. So please help us save some of our time which is an increasingly scarce commodity which we need to spend wisely.

We are a 501(c)(3) Non-profit. Your donation may be tax deductible depending on your own tax situation.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Stan White Membership Chairman

As of the last report received from the Mid Central Region, we have 124 active members. There were seven new members: Ed Cowan, Cowan Family, Randall Griggs, Gerald Hensel, Daniel Huneke, Lee Osborne, and Lauren Theobald. There were 8 renewals: Charles Buccola, Rich Esarey, Carl Krull, Rebecca Krull, Ron Steilberg, Jackson Thomas, Cathy Kuchler, and Robert Kuchler). There were two memberships that have expired: Kenneth Pettit, and Scott Gray.

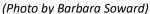
SHOW AND TELL TABLE

Did you know that there is a "Show and Tell" table at every meeting? You can bring your contest entry, or a model that you want to share with your fellow members. One of the "perks" of attending a monthly meeting at the library is that you can enjoy these models in person.



Above:

Randall Griggs brought these models to the "Show and Tell" at our April Meeting. Randall models in S-Scale. He made the intermodal containers by cutting foam blocks to the required sizes, and then wrapped them with printed commercial paper fitting the blocks.





CABOOSES

The subject of the May Charlie Keeling Hybrid Model Contest is Cabooses.

Left:

Charlie Keeling took this photo of an L&N South Louisville Shops built caboose at Bardstown, KY in 1971

T-TRAK OPERATIONS CONCEPT

By Joe Martin, Photos by the author

The most frequent complaint I hear about T-Trak, besides the small radius curves, is that you cannot do operating sessions on it, especially at shows. The Central Indiana N Trak (CINTrak) T-Trak Division has come up with an operations concept that has proven successful. I was able to participate in an operating session on their layout during the recent World's Greatest Hobby (WGH) Show in Indianapolis. Hats off to Brendan Mayhugh and the rest of the T-Trak people who worked on this concept.

Operating sessions were announced to the members at the show the first thing Sunday morning of the WGH show. For this show, operations were run on the inside main (they call it the yellow main) to allow unobstructed runs for others who wanted to run on the outside main.

Signs were made for locations on sidings and names of the modules as locations. Some modules, like Dave Sefcik's modules, already had names on the buildings. Others were in the process of being built and just had locations on the flats of the modules.

Destination cards were also made with the names of the modules, the names of the industries, and boxes to indicate what type of freight cars would be at each siding. The covers for the cards were plain clear card covers that could be written with a dry erase marker and removed at the end of the session.

A staging yard was used as the source and destination of the operating session. The staging yard is simply titled CINTrak yard. As an operator, you are allowed to create your own train in the yard and choose one or more locations to switch. The yardmaster would mark on the destination card what to drop off and pick up. Directions are also predetermined when the session starts since there are modules that only can be switched in one direction.

As a sample run, I took a switch job to South Longs Landing, which belongs to Brendan Mayhugh. The cool thing about Brendan's module is the runaround track that's available so the operators can keep the yellow main clear. Brendan's two modules also act as his self-contained switching layout at home.

I left the yard with locomotive ATSF 2964, four cars, and a caboose. The objective was to spot these four cars by replacing the ones at the sidings and to bring back an additional car. My friend Nick Coates assisted me as my Conductor. Unfortunately, we forgot to pick up one of the cars on our return. Once the job was completed, we could have turned around and headed back into the yard. Most people just continued around the layout to return to the yard.

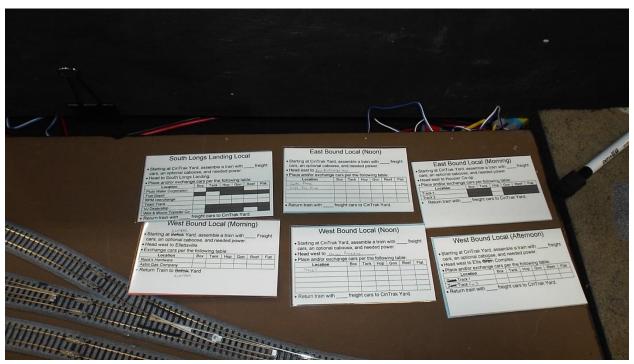
Once in the yard, the Yardmaster took control of the train and moved the cars into another staging track for future locals. Other members did operations at the same time. The goal of the operating session time was to do your work within one

hour using a fast clock, but with some flexibility, especially when answering questions from spectators about operations specifically or the layout in general. Most importantly, it was fun. Some members had visiting children assist them with their trains, which was also fun.

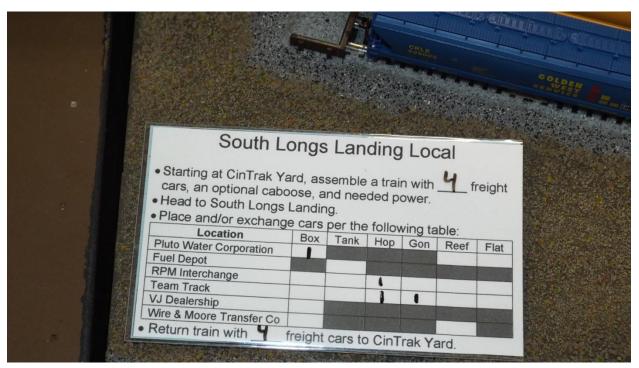
Hopefully, this article will inspire modular groups at train shows to try operating sessions, especially if there is low public attendance. If not, maybe get a small group together to do something at someone's home or at a clubhouse.



Brendan's module with signs for locations for switching.



Switch list cards for each module in show that has locations for switching.



Switch list for Brendan's modules.



ATSF 2964 and consist heading to South Longs Landing.



Cars spotted at locations.

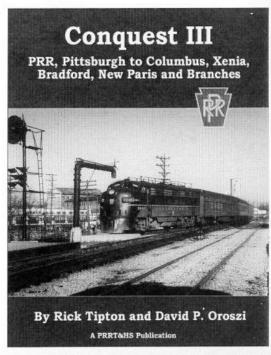
BOOK BY DIVISION 8 MEMBER RICK TIPTON

New PRR Book Now Shipping

Conquest III by Rick Tipton and David Oroszi

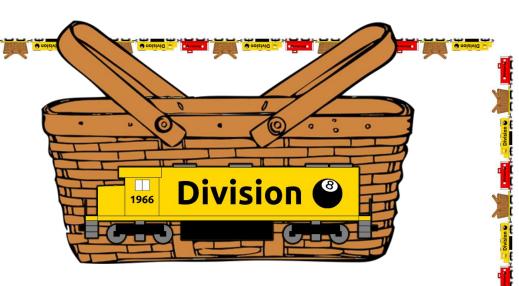
Continuing David Messer's Conquest series, authors Tipton and Oroszi chronicle PRR's Ohio Panhandle Lines, Pittsburgh-Dennison and Branches, Uhrichsville to E. Columbus, the Zanesville Branch, Columbus & Xenia Bradford Line, and Bradford to New Paris.

This 515-page hardbound book, Smyth sewn, contains 980 illustrations, some in color. A mating CD offers 42 large scale maps in pdf format. Order now. This book will not be reprinted.



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DIVISION 8 PICNIC SATURDAY JULY 20, 2024

A DAY AT THE KENTUCKY RAILWAY MUSEUM New Haven, KY 40051

MAP LINK to Kentucky Railway Museum

ANNUAL AWARDS FOR THE MODEL CONTEST WILL BE PRESENTED

Lunch and a Shop Tour will be provided

PLUS roundtrip train ride to Boston

You'll have free time to wander and see the museum

Tickets are \$10.00 and must be purchased in Advance COME JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL DIVISION 8 PICNIC



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Roundhouse Electric Trains

The Mid-Central Regional Convention May 16-19 2024 Cleveland, Ohio



Early Registration is \$90.00 through 12/31/2023



www.north coast limited 2024.org

Convention Merchandise

The North Coast Limited 2024 Convention offers two Convention Cars and a Large selection of Men & Women's apparel

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

Layout Tours, Operating Sessions, 4 Clinic Rooms (including make & take clinicsfor a small fee) Celebration of Modeling, Yard Sale, Prototype Tours, General interest Tours, Non-Rail Tours

More events are being added as the NCL moves closer to the convention dat Look for updates on the NCL site!

Many Restaurants are located within walking distance of the Crown Plaza Hotel.



EARLY REGISTRATION
and MERCHANDISE PRESALE
IS NOW OPEN!
Register or print out
a registration form

Crowne Plaza Hotel

7230 Engle Rd, Middleburg Heights, OH, 44130 (855)797-6733



www.north coast limited 2024.org

See the lineup of layouts that will be open for the convention on the next page.



UPSCALE HOBBIES

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TUESDAY THRU FRIDAY 10 to 6
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Scale Reproductions

R & J DETAILS HO Scale Model Railroad Detail Parts

Rick Geerts - Owner

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THE DEPOT RAILROAD MUSEUM

Part of the John Hay Center 206 S College Ave

Salem, IN 47167

(812) 883-1884

CLICK FOR HOURS & MORE INFORMATION

The Depot Railroad Museum

LOOK AT THE LINEUP OF LAYOUTS TO VISIT!

The Mid-Central Regional Convention May 16-19 2024 Cleveland, Ohio





Bram Bailey's Ontario Central Railway. Look for his layout in a future isses of RMC!

RIGHT, Mark Pekelnicky's Conrail Toledo Sub Railroad

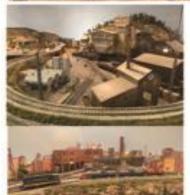








LEFT, John Witt's Copper Peninsula Railroad.





Layout on the web site!

Bram Bailey John Witt John Puch Joe Filipiak Dave Lawier Ron Morgan Ben Lanza Terry Kolenc Mark Pekelnicky
Steve Riddlebaugh
Joe Kurilec, MMR ®
Paul Novak & Sons
Jim Peters
Jerry Jordak
Cuyahoga Valley &
West Shore Model
Railroad Club.

Check the website, more layouts will be added

www.northcoastlimited2024.org

ABOVE TOP & BOTTOM, John Puch's Union Valley Central









Division 8, MCR, NMRA

http://div8-mcr-nmra.org/

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Asst. Supt: Fred Soward
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To contact a Division 8 board member or committee director call or text (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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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.

DIVISION 8 COMPANY STORE IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS





Available:

Division 8 Polo Shirts, T-Shirts, Sweat Shirts, Long Sleeve Denim Shirts, Fleece Jackets, and Baseball Caps For selections, prices, and order form, go to: div8-mcr-nmra.org and click on "Company Store."



New T-Shirt

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Shop anytime here - <u>Division 8 Company Store</u> **CLICK** <u>Division 8 Mid Central Region NMRA</u> or **CALL** (502)

653-5371 **TO ORDER**.

And if you have any questions, also click or call. We'll get back to you right away.

The Division 8 Annual Picnic is just around the corner. Look your best with a Division 8 short sleeve polo or t-shirt. And be comfortable in one of our lighter weight outfits. There's never a good reason to not look your best. Don't wait. Order TODAY!