



# PEDDLER FREIGHT

Divison 1 - MCR - NMRA

**Akron - Canton - Youngstown Division**

Serving Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Mahoning, Portage, Stark,  
Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas and Wayne Counties

[www.div1-mcr-nmra.org](http://www.div1-mcr-nmra.org)

**Volume 28 - Issue 5**

**January 2021**

## Superintendent's Bulletin



Well, here we are at the end of the Holiday Seasons. I hope everybody had a chance to enjoy time with family and friends. Twyla and I had our daughter, son-in-law and the two grandsons along with their two dogs. Rob came up with his three dogs. So with ours, we had seven dogs running around here for ten days. My dog Lucy looked like she was smiling when everyone left

to go home.

Now it's time to sit back and relax and prepare for reality, most of us won't get another holiday until Good Friday. And time to get back to the projects we took a break from for the holidays. I have a bathroom that needs to be finished, a dune buggy I'm building and in my spare time I'll work on my refinery and some other 3D printed models I've been working on for several months.

Let's all hope 2021 shakes out to be better than 2020, not just a year that's now old enough to drink.

Bob Ashley, Jr., Superintendent  
NMRA, MCR, Division 1  
[bashley.trains@gmail.com](mailto:bashley.trains@gmail.com)  
[Rinkerman250@gmail.com](mailto:Rinkerman250@gmail.com)  
(216) 905-8860

## Help Wanted

Does anyone have experience with Micro Engineering ladder track? I am using ME ladder track turnouts to create my yard area. As I read the instructions for the turnouts, it seems to indicate that they should act as insulfrog turnouts; but I find them acting more like electrofrog turnouts. The power to the locomotive seems to vary depending on how the turnouts are thrown. The whole yard is wired into a reversing section if that makes any difference. Any advice would be greatly appreciated.

Jerry Kruse  
(330) 219-3456  
[jerrykruse2020@gmail.com](mailto:jerrykruse2020@gmail.com)

## Membership Report

With train shows canceled, and no place to set up the membership table to talk with people about joining the NMRA, things have been slow. However, hopefully things will get back to normal soon and we can bring our membership numbers up. Right now our membership stands at 87.

Kurt Sanders  
Membership Chair

## Zoom Invite

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86899968456?pwd=WUJ-SaThoYzFVUUucmdvbWtmbnFOUT09>

A Zoom invite will be emailed to all Division 1 members before the January meeting.

### 2020 - 2021 Division 1 Events

January 17 - Zoom meeting online  
All remaining Events to be determined.

Interested in hosting a meeting?  
Contact any Division 1 officer.

# Achievement Program

Do you know the requirements for the different Certificates? The Golden Spike? If you have been in the hobby for a while you may already have some of the items needed for a certificate: Cars? Structures? Scenery? If you were on the committee planning the Regional Convention, you may have enough points for Association Volunteer.

The NMRA website has all the information you need to help you earn a Certificate. Check it out. If you have any questions contact me and we will figure it out.

Lloyd Horst  
AP Chair  
(330) 465-7402

The Peddler Freight will be highlighting the requirements for the AP awards needed to obtain Master Model Railroader status. This month we will look at the Golden Spike Award. The following is from the NMRA website.

## Golden Spike Award

The Golden Spike is the easiest, and for many people, the first AP award that they earn. It is designed to demonstrate familiarity with different areas of the hobby, rather than expertise in a particular area. So take a look at the requirements - you may find that you have met most, or all of them already.

Here's the Golden Spike Award Application Form. Use it as a checklist, you may surprise yourself. *Click image for Golden Spike Application Form.*



The image shows a form titled "ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM May 2006". It includes a small graphic of a Golden Spike. The form contains fields for Member's Name, NMR# (with EXP. date), Address, City, State/Prov., Country, Postal Code, and Region. Below these fields is a "QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST" with three main categories: 1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars), 2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery), and 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical). Each category has several checkboxes with detailed requirements. At the bottom, there are fields for Name, NMR#, Region, and a line for the Regional AP Chair's signature.

### 1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars)

Display six (6) units of rolling stock (Scratchbuilt, craftsman, or detailed commercial kits).

Notice that the requirement is to "display" them. Nowhere does it say that they must earn a minimum number of points in judging - just that they must be displayed. (In the monthly contests at your division meetings, for example. Even having them set out on your layout, or a table in your basement counts as "display").

These models need to show a little more effort than a "shake the box" kit. For example, by itself a freight car kit straight out of the box, is not enough to qualify. However, by painting and decaling it, adding a little detailing, perhaps some weathering, etc., you'll have a qualifying model in no time!

### 2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)

Construct a minimum of eight (8) square feet of layout.

Again, there is no requirement about how good or how elaborate your layout must be - just that you must "construct" it. On the other hand, you may have trouble convincing someone that a loop of track nailed to a piece of green painted wood constitutes a "layout" . . . How much is 8 square feet of layout? Well, a typical module is 4 feet by 2 feet, and would easily satisfy this requirement.

Construct five (5) structures (scratchbuilt, craftsman, or detailed and commercial kits). These structures may be separate, or one or more of them may be part of a single scene.

The same comments apply here about the type of kits. The idea is to show that you can do more than glue a simple plastic kit together. Painting or weathering are good things to consider. Remember that "structures" aren't just buildings. Things like bridges and trestles also fall into this category.

### 3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)

Three (3) types of trackage are required (turnout, crossing, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.

This requirement sounds a lot harder than it is. First, notice that last sentence about commercial trackage; you don't have to hand-lay anything - you can just install a store bought turnout. "Types of trackage" can be just about

anything: turnouts, crossings, and grade elevation (a change in elevation of the track) are all examples of "types of trackage". Also, note that the three types DO NOT have to be different. For example, just having three simple turnouts will qualify. The "proper roadbed" requirement can be met by laying the track on a raised roadbed, ( such as cork ) and ballasting it. The purpose of this requirement is to show that you understand roadbed profile, drainage, etc.

All installed trackage must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (Double-track main, single-track main with sidings, block or command control, etc.).

This requirement can also be easier than it sounds. Notice the option for a single track main with sidings. This means that as long as you can cut power to the sidings individually, you can run one train, park it on a siding while you run another, then park it and run the first again. This meets the requirement.

Provide one additional electrical feature such as powered turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.

Don't read more into this than is there. A powered turnout can be something as simple as an Atlas turnout with a switch machine. Think in terms of anything that runs off the 'Accessories' terminals of a power pack and you 're half way there.

One other thing to remember: Not all of these requirements need to be met on the same layout (or piece of layout). They don't even need to be met in the same scale! If you want to build G scale rolling stock, an N scale Model Railroad setting, and an HO scale layout for trackage and wiring, go ahead.

Also, the Golden Spike, as well as the other parts of the AP have a certain amount of flexibility. For example, suppose you and your (friend / spouse / child) work together on all your projects, but do twice the required amount (12+ units of rolling stock, 16+ square feet of layout, 10+ structures, etc.). You can both be considered, as long as you can show that you have each demonstrated the required skills.

#### Further Information

Contact National Achievement Program General Manager, Frank Koch [achiev@nmra.org](mailto:achiev@nmra.org), or your Region or Division Achievement Program Manager for more information.

## N-Scale Report

***Last month covered the branches of the Nimishllen Creek.*** Note one of the more interesting items which towers above the West Branch and the W&LE is President William McKinley's Monument. While you may not want to model the monument a similar sky board pho-



to could be use on your module or layout.

***The author's Sleeping Lady module has had "BigFoot Crossing" signs.*** He's alive and has been sighted this year. N and HO models are available from [www.modeltechstudios.com](http://www.modeltechstudios.com). The only reason this BigFoot was sighted is it's missing left leg.



***Bachmann announces N 4-6-4 NYC Locos in 6 road numbers.***

Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!

Don Bonk  
NTRAK/T-TRAK Chair

**THIS MONTH'S MEETING**  
**Sunday, January 17, 2021**  
**Online via the Zoom App**  
**2 PM**

**Feel free to snack during the meeting.**

**9th Year**

**9th Year**



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851 W. Main St.  
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Email: michael@mbradley.com Fax: (330) 296-7672

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Steve Zapytowski, MMR 612  
Division 1, MCR, NMRA  
330-678-4583  
szapytowski@neo.rr.com  
www.div1-mcr-nmra.org/steve-zapytowski

Northwestern Oregon Circa 1912 — HO and HO<sub>n</sub>3





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**Pittsburgh, Youngstown & Ashtabula Railroad**  
[www.pyamodelrailroad.com](http://www.pyamodelrailroad.com)

Jim DiPaola  
3201 Summit Road, Ravenna, OH 44266-9018  
330-577-6052  
Chief1RTFD@aol.com



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**Jim Peters**  
Interested in operation send email:  
jpeters711@yahoo.com

## PEDDLER FREIGHT SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Division 1 has moved to email publishing of the Peddler Freight. There is no cost for the email Peddler Freight. However, if you want to receive the Peddler Freight by regular mail, Division 1 requests that you subscribe in order to support the cost of printing and mailing. Under current rules, you will NOT be denied a copy of the Peddler Freight if you do not subscribe, but your support for Division 1 would be appreciated.

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Mail to: Bruce Hukill, editor  
223 Pierce Ave.  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

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## Train Shows and Open Houses

### Mansfield Train Show - January 3, 2021

Fairhaven Hall, Richland County Fairgrounds  
750 N. Home Rd., Mansfield, Ohio 44906  
Admission - \$7.00 10 AM - 3 PM

### Medina Train and Toy Show - February 7

Medina County Community Center  
Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, OH 44256  
Admission - \$6.00, Under 12 - Free 9 AM - 3 PM

### Collectible Toy Show - January 9, 2021

Lakeland Community College A/C  
7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, Ohio 44094  
Admission \$5.00 9 AM - 2 PM

### Mansfield Train Show - February 14

Fairhaven Hall, Richland County Fairgrounds  
750 N. Home Rd., Mansfield, Ohio 44906  
Admission \$7.00 10 AM - 3 PM

### Snow Dogs Train Show - January 9, 2021

Cuyahoga Valley Model Gauge Association  
UAW Hall 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, Ohio 44130  
Admission - \$6.00 10 AM - 3 PM

### Canfield Train and Toy Show - February 20

Canfield Fairgrounds, 7265 Columbiana, Canfield 44406  
Admission \$6.00 10 AM - 3 PM

### Train Collectors Assoc. White Train Meet - Jan. 30

UAW Hall 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, Ohio 44130  
Admission \$6.00 10 AM - 3 PM

*Editor note: As of January 1, 2021, per cleveshows.com, the above events are scheduled to be open unless noted.*

**PEDDLER FREIGHT**  
 223 Pierce Avenue  
 Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Publication of Division 1 - MCR - NMRA  
 The Akron, Canton, Youngstown Division

First Class

**Division 1 Officers**

Superintendent - Bob Ashley, Jr.	216-905-8860
Asst. Supt. - Sam Eisele	330-322-3487
Treasurer - Mike Bradley	330-325-7622

**Division 1 Appointees**

Clerk - Jeff Stone	330-356-0486
PF Editor - Bruce Hukill	330-571-4037

**Division 1 Volunteer Positions**

Achievement Program - Lloyd Horst	330-465-7402
Apparel - OPEN	
Christmas Dinner - Randy Dettmer	330-653-3537
Clinics - OPEN	
Exhibitions - Matt Woods	330-465-8724
- Lloyd Horst	330-465-7402
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Modules:	
HO/Chair - Bob Ashley Jr.	216-905-8860
NTRAK/T-TRAK - Don Bonk	330-418-6860
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Webmaster - Steve Zapytowski	330-715-3444

**WHO TO CONTACT IN  
 DIVISION 1  
 AND THE NMRA**

**Mid-Central Region**

President - Bob Weinheimer MMR  
 email: mcrprez@nmra.org

**National Model Railroad Association**

President - Pete Magoun  
 email: president@nmra.org

The **Peddler Freight** is published each month September through November and January through June. Opinions expressed in this issue may not represent the opinions of the Editor, Division 1, MCR or NMRA.

