



PEDDLER FREIGHT

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Akron - Canton - Youngstown Division

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Volume 20 - Issue 4

January 2013

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! Did you make a New Year's resolution? Spending more time on the layout? Attending more NMRA meetings? Work on getting a Golden Spike? Work toward finishing or starting a MMR certificate? Learning more about operation? Starting a module?



Well if you are interested in starting a module, you are in luck. This month we will be at the Akron Yacht Club and you can see the division's modules up close. They will not be a static display but set up and running! Bring your Digitrax throttle to run a train or two.

We will also have some flea market items for sale. The proceeds will go towards the modular group.

Our annual holiday dinner at The Erie Station Grill was a great success. We had 26 attendees. Sorry if you couldn't make it. We had several door prizes. One of our door prizes was a B & O lantern, donated by Dave Riggie. It now resides in at Jim DiPaola's home. Congratulations Jim! This is two years in a row for lanterns going to him.

See you this month at the Akron Yacht Club in Akron, OH.

Randy Dettmer
Superintendent
NMRA MCR Div 1

THIS MONTH'S MEETING is on Sunday, January 20 at THE AKRON YACHT CLUB

Bob Ashley, Jr. and his wife, Twyla, are our hosts for the meeting.

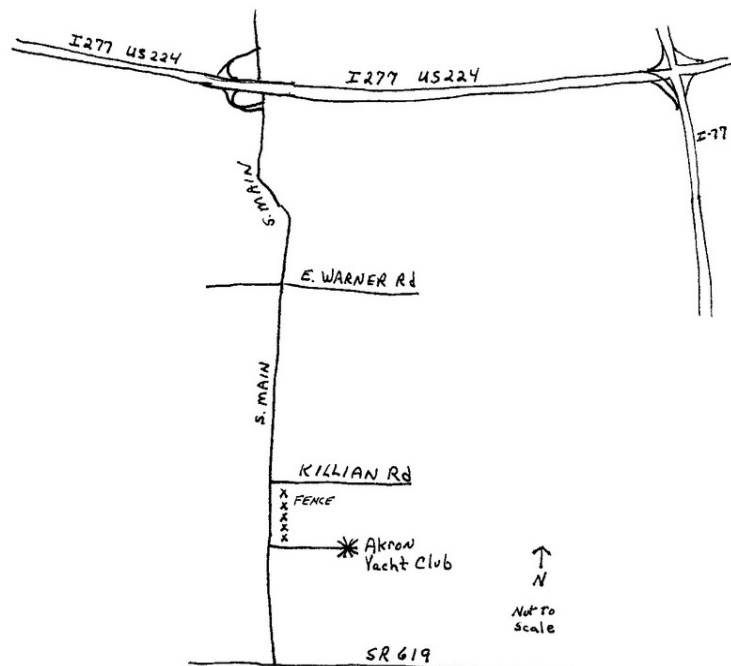
They are providing chili, brownies and drinks.

Please bring snack items and desserts to share.

The Division 1 Module Group will have the modules operating.

The contest will be Coil Cars.

The meeting starts at 2 pm.





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JULY 13-20



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Jim Peters
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Division 1, MCR, NMRA Minutes
November 18, 2012
Host: Whistle Stop Hobby Shop, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio



1. The meeting was called to order at 2:08 pm. Superintendent Randy Dettmer thanked Kevin Hess and his wife Alva for hosting the meeting. Twenty-four people were in attendance.
2. A motion to accept the October Minutes as printed in the Peddler Freight was made and seconded. The motion passed.
3. Chuck Boyer gave the Treasurer's report for October. A motion to accept the report, subject to audit, was made and seconded. The motion passed.
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Membership – Larry Brown reported that our membership stands at 102. He passed around a roster for edit and additions.
 - b. Clinics - Jim Peters was not in attendance and no clinic had been scheduled for this meeting.
 - c. Flea Market – Bob Ashley, Jr. reported that 22 tables were sold. He stated that the flea market grossed \$775.33 which gave us a profit of \$308.33 after \$267 of expenses and the repayment of the \$200 advance. Bob said that he and his wife Twilla donated the snack bar food since they were not able to be there to manage it.
 - d. AP Chair – David Hazlett reported that there was nothing new.
 - e. Peddler Freight – David Hazlett reported that we had income for the year of \$545 and expenses of \$239.36 and he had been able to use \$65.61 of Staples coupons. However, any excess will be used for the newsletters in the first two quarters of 2013.
 - f. Updates on different scales – Larry Brown said that he has installed an MRC reversing module and that it makes no noise when activated. He recommends it. He also said that he has been working with the DS-64 unit laying out switching routes and would help anyone interested in installing one.
 - g. Module Group – Bob Ashley, Sr. gave the report and raised the point that the division needs to invest in DCC command stations and boosters to be used with the modules. We are currently using his. The Digitrax command stations and boosters that are needed would run about \$734. An NCE command station would be another \$545 if we wished to duplicate the equipment that he has been using.
 - h. Apparel – Jim Williams had nothing to report.
5. Meetings:
 - a. The Christmas lunch is scheduled for 1:00 PM, December 15th at the Erie Station Grill in Tallmadge. So far 29 have signed up to attend.
 - b. Meetings for next year: The March meeting is tentatively scheduled at the Sebring Railroad Club.
6. Old Business:
 - a. No word yet from the region on the transfer of the 8 members from Wooster in Division 6.
 - b. AP Chair – David Hazlett will keep this position tentatively.
 - c. Contest Chair – David Hazlett will also keep this position for the time being.

7. New Business:

a. Module Group

- i. David Hazlett made a motion that the money received from the Module Group for participating at the Dalton show be earmarked for the Module Group's use. The motion was seconded by Joe Urbanski and passed.
- ii. David Hazlett made a motion that the proceeds realized from the 50/50 raffle also be earmarked for the Module Group's use. The motion was seconded by Joe Urbanski and passed.
- iii. Jim Williams started a discussion about the need to determine where the Division modules and their scenery were going to be stored and how these would be transported to shows. A truck or van is now needed for the modules and the scenery will also need a fairly large vehicle for transport. The Module Group will need to address these issues in due time.

b. Flea Market Discussion

- i. Should we still have it?
- ii. Should it be on Saturday instead of Sunday?
- iii. Should we look for a larger or different venue?
- iv. We need to push the fact that it is a flea market where people can sell their own surplus stock.
- v. We might consider limiting the number of tables one person can rent if the interest is great enough – therefore, allowing more vendors.
- vi. We might poll past vendors and see if they have a preference for Sunday or Saturday.
- vii. We might also poll the past vendors to see what scale they would be selling – there are some customers who are just interested in O-scale and will not come unless this is offered.
- viii. We will have further discussion on this topic in January.

8. The meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Williams

TRAIN SHOWS & OPEN HOUSES

Medina Model Railroad & Toy Show – February 3
10 AM – 4 PM

Medina County Community Center, Medina Fairgrounds,
Medina, OH
\$6 admission, children under 12 free

Model Train Show – February 9 & 10 – 10 AM – 4 PM
Lodi Station Outlet Mall, 9911 Avon Lake Rd, Burbank OH
\$3 admission, under 11 free with adult

Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club Show - February 16 & 17
10 AM – 4 PM
Saline Middle School, 7190 N Maple Rd, Saline, OH
\$6 admission, children 10 and under are free with adult

Toy Train & Model Railroad Flea Market – January 13
10 AM – 3:30 PM

McMenamy's Banquet Hall, 325 Youngstown-Warren Rd,
Niles, OH \$5 admission

All Trains Swap Meet – January 20 – 10 AM – 3 PM
Montgomery Co Fairgrounds, 1043 S Main (St Rt 48),
Dayton, OH \$5 admission, under 12 free with adult

Model Train Show & Swap Meet – January 20
10 AM – 3 PM
German's Villa, 3330 Liberty Ave, Vermilion, OH
\$4 admission, under 9 free with adult

DIVISION 1 CONTEST

NOVEMBER WINNERS
M of W TRUCKS
STANDARD - 1ST - Jim Williams - 2 pts
 2ND - Jim Williams - 1 pt
KIT-BASHED - 1ST - Mike Bradley - 2 pts
 2ND - Mike Bradley - 1 pt

MODEL CONTEST TOPICS
FOR 2012-2013
September - Gondola w/scrap load
October - - - - - Flat car w/load
November - - - - - M of W Trucks
January - - - - - Coil cars
February - - - - - Camp Cars
March - - - - - Hand cars, Speeders
April - - - - - Slag cars, Hot metal cars
May - - - - - Re-purposed cars

CURRENT STANDINGS

STANDARD KIT

Jim Williams - 7.5 pts
Jim DiPaola - 5 pts
Don Deakins - 1.5 pts
Glenn Yoder - 1 pt

KIT-BASHED

Jim Peters - 4 pts
Mike Bradley - 3 pts
Bill Hewitt - 2 pts
Glenn Yoder - 2 pts
Don Deakins - 1 pt

CRAFTSMAN

Don Deakins - 1 pt

STANDARD KIT

1st Place
Jim Williams



2nd Place
Jim Williams



KIT-BASHED

1st Place
Mike Bradley



2nd Place
Mike Bradley



COMPLETE RULES
AND EXAMPLES
ARE POSTED ON
THE WEBSITE

NCE CABS

FROM OUTSIDE ANTENNA TO INSIDE ANTENNA

I loaned several NCE Cab04R's to the guys in my operating group. As luck would have it, one of the units was dropped and the antenna was broken off. Not really a big deal as I have repaired the cabs by replacing antenna mounts and pots several times.

Bob Ashley, Sr. had gotten information several months ago about changing the Pro-Cab to an internal antenna, which I did. He called NCE and was told that the same thing could be done to the Cab04's. The only problem was finding enough room to put 9 1/4 inches of wire inside the unit to act as the antenna. I found an easy way.

Open up the unit, take off the antenna and take out the radio module. The antenna base (the big silver thing), Figure 1, needs to be removed. There are three sections soldered to the board. The two outside ones are merely there to hold the base on the board. The middle lead is the antenna lead. I unsolder all three sections.

It is easier to cut off the two outside ones and then unsolder the middle lead. Take great care when doing this as you can take up the metal lead that is imbedded in the board. If this starts to happen, cut the lead with a knife, scrape off the green insulating material, CAREFULLY, and then you can solder again to the lead. Figure 2, shows what happens if you are not careful.

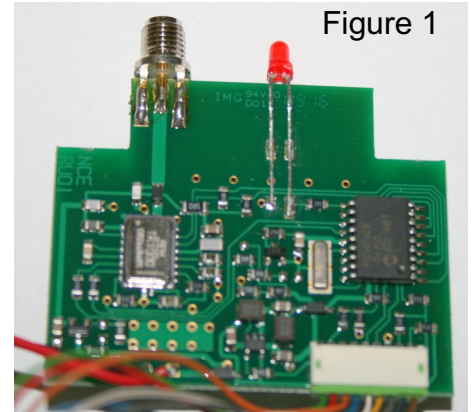
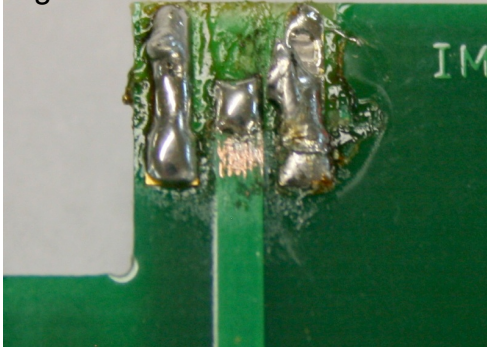


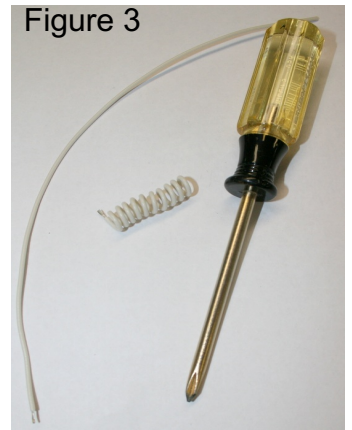
Figure 1

Figure 2



Take an insulated wire (20 to 18 gauge) 9 1/4 inches long and remove 1/4 inch of insulation. I used 22 gauge stranded wire for my units. Coil the wire around a phillips screwdriver, as shown in Figure 3. You now have a coil of wire. Solder the wire to the middle lead, Figure 4.

Figure 3



The coil of wire is your antenna and fits very nicely in the space.

Before putting the cab back together, test it. After the cab is put back together, cover the old antenna hole with electrical tape, Figure 5.

You now have an internal antenna.

David Hazlett



Figure 5

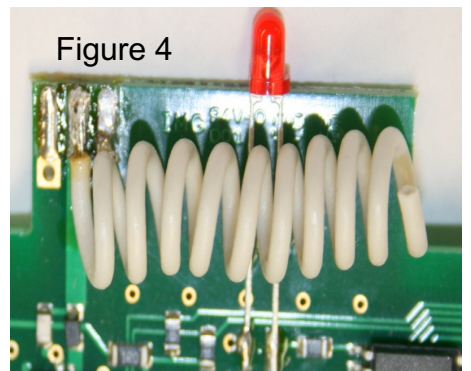


Figure 4

N-SCALE NEWS

By Don Bonk

November 7, 2012 I again had the opportunity to visit the Orlando N-Trak Club. This was my 4th visit over the past 14 years. The first visit was shortly after the club had purchased a former Assemble of God Church and converted it to house a permanent layout on one side of the building while connecting to the club's modules on the other side of the building. Note that the permanent layout covers Pittsburgh area since most members were or are Pennsylvania transplants. Over the years I watched the permanent layout and modules grow and change. The latest changes were the most dynamic. All the tracks have been converted to code 55 and the permanent layout now fills almost all of the main room with a small upper level on the former module side that has HO trackage, for those not yet converted to N-Scale. See recent scenery progress at

www.trainweb.org/orlandontrak .

The club is still committed to traveling modules, but what happen to the old modules? Well after 13 year of hard use via many off-site show setups, the club decided to sell the old wooden modules to interested parties or return them to their owners if possible. New modules have been designed and constructed with ~ 5/16th inch thick aluminum 2 inch framing. Each frame is precision drill to match a 3/4 inch pin on the adjoining module. A complete layout covering the Jacksonville, Fl area is comprised of 15 N-Scale modules outfitted with code 55 tracks and complete with sky boards plus scenery. When connect and "C" clamped together the alignment of modules is so good that transition track sections are not required. Transport of modules is done on special aluminum storage carts in the club's trailer. Based upon the new module construction and the storage carts, setup at a show, from trailer to operation is under a half hour.

While at the Orlando Club I was invited to an operation session at Dr. Andy Michaud's home on Sunday November 11. I was assigned the Grain Train to Denver and did pretty good meeting the fast clock schedule for the 2 hour session. Using the radio communication with the dispatcher was a little disconcerting since he watched operation via TV cameras and did provide additional caustic instructions when needed. Layout is in a 3 car detached garage and dispatcher was in an upstairs bedroom of the home. See www.trainweb.org/orlandontrak/upns.html for layout pictures.

I had a great time and if you are in the Orlando area on a Wednesday evening at 7:30, the club has always been glad to greet interested model rail visitors. I suggested that Orlando N-Trak consider a trip to Cleveland in 2014.

NEWS FROM NMRA

From Vice President of Special Projects, Bill Kaufman: "Sometime in February, the NMRA national is going to try to start sending out an **electronic Bulletin**. It will be filled calendars, Divisional success stories and the like. Sent out every two months, it is not intended to replace *NMRA Magazine*, but to be a collection of teasers with links to info. We hope people will like it. One key to its success is email addresses. We currently have emails for about 75% of our members but more is better and some of what we have are not right. Please remind your Region and Division members for their correct email addresses and forward them to HQ."

The **Standards and Conformance Committee** has been working with Bachmann and Soundtraxx to be sure both companies are in conformance to NMRA standards for DCC decoders. In the past there have been some concerns about each company's wiring harnesses not meeting proper specs.

Clinic Report

Our last official clinician was Chuck Klein from Division 4 back in October, 2013. Thanks again Chuck for presenting your clinic ***From the World's Fair to Public Square***.

In January, we will be out at the Akron Yacht Club (AYC), viewing the modules. We can expect an update on the modules and a few words from Bob Ashley, Sr. I know he is always looking for more members to join in on the fun.

Attention Glenn Yoder, Larry Brown and Chuck Boyer. I have you slated to present a clinic on making water at Larry Browns' in February. The club showed a strong interest in this clinic. Let's chat a few minutes at the next meeting at the AYC.

Till then, enjoy all the time you can on our great hobby.

Clinic Chair, Jim Peters

Convention 2014

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year! Back in 2012 on Monday, Dec. 3, about 10 NMRA members met to discuss layout tours. We are looking for a PR person.

If interested, contact Jerry Kruger.

Jerry: jkrueger@parkcorp.com.



Thanks!

Jim Peters, Co-Chair Layout Committee

Members Report January 2013

New Members

Gavin Esposito
Randy Geis
Lloyd Shankland

Welcome to all the new members!

Our membership now stands at 100

Special Thanks to all those for renewing.

Renewals/ Re-Rails

George Sankey
Robert Gurdak
Randy Dettmer
Robert Hixenbaugh
John Lane
James Pope
Frank Smith
Karen & David Mc Million
Sally & Jim Mima
John & Caleb Palagyi
Edwin & Cheryl Welch

Get to know the other members. We all have some good rail stories and helpful ideas to share. The variety of scale and railroad type among members is amazing!

If you would like a copy of the Voluntary Roster you can send me a request via e-mail: gemstonemine@yahoo.com (Larry Brown) or call 330-221-6067 and I can mail you a hard copy.

Voluntary Roster Sign-Up

Just fill out the Roster form that will be passed around at the next meeting. See you at the next meeting

Larry Brown

DIVISION 1 2012-2013 MEETINGS

January 20, 2013 - Bob Ashley, Jr. Akron Yacht Club

February 17, 2013 - Larry Brown - Ravenna

March 10, 2013 - Sebring Club - Sebring (tentative)

April 21, 2013 - Rob's Trains - Alliance

May 19, 2013 - Jim DiPola - Ravenna

June 16, 2013 - Rich Ramskugler - Columbiana

MODULE GROUP

Welcome back after a long holiday. If you are like me, you were too busy to work on your railroad. So, let us try to get back in the groove.

It was decided, at the November meeting, to purchase a power and command system for the Module Group. The funding is not in place at this time. We will be replacing the system that we have using, which is my own property, as funds become available. The existing system includes the following: (4) 15VAC power supplies, (1) Digitrax DCS 200 DCC command station, (2) Digitrax DB150 Boosters and (1) UR91 antenna. We will make a box similar to the one I have to house the equipment.

It was also decided to take the Division portion of the 50-50 raffle and place that in the module fund. So, let's try to be generous and spend \$5.00 for six tickets instead of \$1.00 for one ticket. Your help in funding the Module Group is appreciated.

We will have the modules on display at the following locations.

1. Sunday, January 20, 2013, Division 1 meeting held at the Akron Yacht Club. Setup will be Saturday, January 19, 2013, from 6:00 PM to whenever. I will have three to four modules, John Palagy will have one module, Kurt Sanders will have two modules and Bob Ashley, Jr. will have two modules. Please call or send an e-mail to me to let me know if there are any changes. We will try to hold a mini Op Session.
2. Sunday, March 24, 2013, Dalton Train Show. Setup will be Saturday, March 23, 2013, from 6:00 PM until 9:00PM. This may be a joint Division 1 and 4 meet.

Divisions 1, 2, 4 and 5 are going to have a joint meeting to discuss making commitments to be able to join all our modules together and be able to run trains over the entire layout. We hope hold this meeting soon.

The first "Ron Shoemaker" module is available for use. Roadbed, track and wiring are in place and ready for scenery. If you are interested in doing this, please contact me. This module was used at the Dalton and the "Thomas" events, last spring. Lloyd Horst has the second module and is mounting roadbed, track and electrics. He will also be adding scenery.

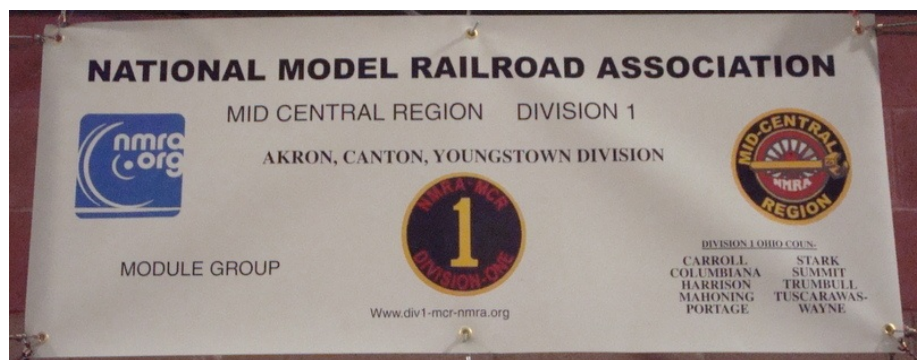
We still need more volunteers to start the scenery on the passenger and intermodal/coal yard left end modules and build kits for buildings. We will have a little time to work on the details before the Dalton show. This is a large job and should have a team effort. Contact me if you are willing to help. Jim Williams and Bob Ashley, Jr. are still adding scenery to the right end modules. Larry Brown and Ed Tringhese are fine tuning the scenery on the corner modules. Both of these jobs look great.

We also realize we need more UTP's on the front of the modules. This will be done before the next Dalton Show since we must use tethered throttles. We will be using Digitrax and don't forget to use your batteries to power your throttle. We can not rely on the power from the UTP.

The "Module Group" logo is available through Jim Williams for \$6.00 and can be added to your shirts. Please have this done before the upcoming displays. Thanks to all who have already done this.

I am still looking for anyone interested in making an N gauge module to go with Kurt Sanders, Don Bonk and mine, per NTRAK standards or Z gauge module to go with mine, per Z Bend Track standards. Our module kits are suitable for this. Only the wiring is slightly different. We are hoping to have them ready for the Dalton train show along with the HO modules. I will have my NTRAK module on display at the coming meeting.

Bob Ashley, Sr., Module Chairman
330-644-4778 or rashleysr@msn.com



PEDDLER FREIGHT

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

First Class Mail

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Randy Dettmer 330-653-3537

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Randy Dettmer 330-653-3537

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