



# 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 27 - Issue 6**

**March 2020**

## Superintendent's Bulletin



At our February 2020 Event at the Kent Free Library a Division 1 member brought in an Atlas HO Articulated Auto Carrier he was having an issue with. (see page 3) The plastic brake line under the car was deformed and the member wanted suggestions on how to straighten the thin plastic line. A good discussion ensued with suggestions offered and techniques discussed on what to do with

the uncooperative part. It will be interesting to see what our member decided to do. This discussion also touched on the difficulty in gluing different materials to each other.

In my quest for the optimum glues I came across Deluxe Materials who makes many different types of glues for different applications. The owner is a chemical engineer who just happens to be a model railroader. I watched a video available on YouTube titled "New Products for North American Modelers" of an interview conducted by Model Railroad Hobbyist Magazine with the owner of Deluxe Materials. It's a super informative video about all the fantastic products

Deluxe Materials makes for the model railroader. They have published an excellent chart for matching types of glues to materials to be glued. It's a free download from their website (click chart at left) and is on the Division 1 website. Please check it out as

it's a great reference. Deluxe Materials are sold by Walthers and can be ordered from your hobby shop or online.

The discussion at our February Event was very interesting so again I challenge members who come to the March Event to bring a question, model or prototype railroad related, that they would like answered.

Our March Event will be hosted by the Sebring Model Railroad Club, Sebring, Ohio, March 15, 2020 at 2 PM. Please bring your own non-alcoholic drink and snacks to share. Paper plates and napkins will be provided.

Don't forget to register for the 2020 MCR Convention, Steel City Express, hosted by Division 2, May 28 - 31, 2020, Pittsburgh, PA.

All Aboard!!

Jim DiPaola, Superintendent  
NMRA, MCR, Division 1

## Module Group

Our next setup will be at the Salem show on Sunday, April 19, 2020. Set up will be at 2 PM on Saturday, April 18. We will need as many helpers at Salem as we can get. We only have a four to five hour window to get things set up before we have to leave the building for the night.

Our last show at Mt. Hope went very well. I had a chance to talk with Taylor Little from the Round House and we are looking very good for future events with them. I also spoke with a group holding a fund raising raffle in June to support a rail bed to bike trail group. They would like to hire the module group to set up and run during the all-day raffle. More details at the meeting.

Bob Ashley, Jr., Module Chair  
(216) 905-8860  
[Rinkerman250@gmail.com](mailto:Rinkerman250@gmail.com)

## Membership Report

If you are interested in volunteering to work at the membership table at any of the upcoming train shows held within Division 1, please contact me. The dates and times of all upcoming shows can be found on page 9 in this issue of the Peddler Freight. This is a great way to meet prospective new members, to talk about the hobby and Division 1, and to get into a train show for free.

Membership stands at 96.

Kurt Sanders  
Membership Chair

### 2019 - 20 Division 1 Events

March 15 - Sebring Model Railroad Club  
April 26 - Jim Peters, Sagamore Hills  
May 17 - Kurt & Karen Sanders  
June 28 - Bob Ashley, Jr., Green

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

**Division 1, MCR, NMRA Minutes  
February 16, 2020  
Kent Free Library, Kent, Ohio**

**1) Welcome**

- a) Guests: none
- b) Display: Caboose
- c) Program by Chip Syme

**2) Business Meeting.** The business meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Superintendent Jim DiPaola.

**3) Minutes**

- a) A motion was made to approve the January 19, 2020 minutes as published in the Peddler Freight. The motion was seconded and passed.

**4) Treasurers Report**

- a) Treasurer Mike Bradley reported that the division's finances are healthy. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report subject to audit. The motion passed.

**5) Committee Reports**

- a) Peddler Freight – Editor Bruce Hukill reported that the Peddler Freight is doing well.
- b) Achievement – See Lloyd Horst for any Achievement Programs questions.
- c) Modules – Module Group Chairman Bob Ashley Jr. reported on upcoming shows the Module Group would be at.
- d) Membership – Membership Chairman Kurt Sanders reported on his efforts to attract new members at various train shows. We currently have 96 members.

**6) Old Business**

- a) We need a Clinic chairman.

**7) New Business**

- a) We need to appoint an Election Committee. Bob Ashley Jr. and Sam Eisele volunteered.

**8) Good of the Order.** A member brought a HO scale Atlas Articulated Auto Carrier car he was having a problem with. The car had a deformed plastic brake line and he wanted suggestions on how to repair it. Various members offered suggestions and the issues with various plastics were discussed.

26 people attended.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The business meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectively submitted,  
Jim DiPaola, Acting Clerk

## Modelers Helping Modelers

At the January Event Sam Eisele floated the idea of starting a database of Division 1 members who are knowledgeable in certain areas of the hobby and are willing to share their experiences with other members. It was agreed that the word “expert” be avoided, as that word might scare off some members. Jim Peters suggested one have “some solid experience and confidence that you can help a fellow model railroader and the willingness to answer questions

and help.” Division 1 members do this informally all the time, but Sam suggested that perhaps a formal database of skill areas could be established. Jim Peters has volunteered to serve as a point of contact for such a database. Now is the time to see this idea brought to reality.

If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please bring them to the March Event at the Sebring Model Railroad Club. And thank you Sam Eisele and Jim Peters.



Demonstrating what Sam Eisele and Jim Peters plan to formalize, Division 1 members offer their ideas on how to fix an errant brakline on an HO Atlas articulated auto carrier. Jim Peters (clockwise from left); Chip Syme; Kurt Sanders.



# N-SCALE REPORT

**All Scales Show March 27-28 in Salem.** The Division 1 NTRAK modules layout will be on display and we hope some of our Division One members will be available to assist with set up, operation, and teardown.

**T-TRAK Clinic at 2020 Regional in Pittsburgh** will be all day Friday, May 29, starting at 10:30 AM. Clinic will be *"Build Your Own T-TRAK Module, Build and Take Clinic."* The Clinicians will be Gary Kohler (PLW), Bryan Hartle (CMR), Richie and Laura Jodon. Proposed Schedule is 10:30 AM to 1 PM background and module assembly, lunch 1PM to 2:30 PM. After 2:30 there will be 2 sessions on landscaping. You will build 1x single module (12"x12") from a CMR TabTec kit. You will then add track and scenery. On Saturday modules will be added to Conventions T-TRAK layout to be displayed. Cost of the clinic is \$40 and there is space for a maximum of 10 - 20 participants. Contact Dennis Vaccro at [vaccaro\\_dennis@yahoo.com](mailto:vaccaro_dennis@yahoo.com). He is on the 2020 convention committee.

**NTRAK special on Jacksonville Terminal Company** special limited-edition commemorative Gateway 2020 set of containers. The MSRP will be \$49.95, but NTRAK members price is \$39.95 and non-members price is \$44.95 (includes 1 year of NTRAK membership). See artwork at [www.ntrak.org](http://www.ntrak.org). Purchase containers at [www.ntrak.org/ntrak\\_store/default.html](http://www.ntrak.org/ntrak_store/default.html).

**Republic Locomotive Works** on February 19 announced that it now has Nn3 and N scale Power Trucks are available for its locomotive kits and scratch builders.

**Creative Laser Design** is this month's highlighted vendor of both N and HO kits. N-Scale kits shown below are (clockwise from top left) The Log Cabin #2, Farm House, Laydon Freight House, and a Small Hotel.

Don Bonk  
NTRAK/T-TRAK Chair





The coaling tower on Jim Pope's Union Pacific RR.

**Layout Tours**  
**Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana Counties**  
**Saturday, April 4, 2020**  
**Time: Noon – 3 PM**

Of the five layouts in the three counties, two will be open for our Spring Layout Tour. Please wear Division 1 apparel to help identify yourself! Thank you!

**Jim Pope's Union Pacific RR in Mahoning County**  
**13975 Berlin Station Rd.**  
**Berlin Center, OH 44401**

**Chuck Rheutan's Blackstone Garden & HO RR in Columbiana County**  
**33871 Hoopes Rd.**  
**Salem, OH 44460**

As these two gentlemen have graciously opened their doors to host the Spring Layout Tour, please c'mon out and visit. Be courteous, pay them some compliments and most importantly, enjoy the tour!

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to text (or call).

Jim Peters  
Layout Tour Chair  
(216) 402-8507

## DIVISION 1 Exhibition Topic - March Topic - Locomotives

For March, feel free to bring in any steam or diesel locomotives. They can be Docksiders, 70 tonners, Big Boys, just about any motive power you want to share.

February's Exhibition Topic was the caboose. Jim DiPaola brought in a nicely weathered patched out Pittsburgh and Lake Erie bay window caboose. Jim Peters displayed another nicely weathered caboose lettered for his home road, the Little Scioto & Mingo Jct. RR. Bob Ashley, Jr. displayed "Peanut One," a caboose based on the presidency of Jimmy Carter.

Matt Woods  
Lloyd Horst  
Exhibition Chairs



Bob Ashley, Jr. (clockwise from above) explained that his HO peanut caboose was acquired in the last century when a peanut farmer could become president; Jim Peters' HO LS & MJ caboose; Jim DiPaola's HO P&LE caboose; Jim DiPaola explains his caboose. Note the weathering on the roof.

# My first T-TRAK Module

Being an N scale modeler it seems appropriate that I build at least one T-TRAK module. I have seen the layouts displayed at the NMRA National Train Shows, Trainfest in Wisconsin and the Ohio N-Scale Weekend. When a large T-TRAK layout was on display and running trains at The Bullet MCR Regional Convention sponsored by Div. 1 last May, I knew it was time to commit.



Figure 1: The label from the Tab Tec T-TRAK double straight module manufactured by CMR Products.

Model Railroaders (JAM) held in August of 2000. Monaco-Fitzgerald attended the convention with Jim and observed modules from the Hino N Club. They were about 4" high and displayed on banquet tables. In September of 2001 the NTRAK Newsletter introduced the concept of T-TRAK to its readers.

Division 1 plans to roll out its first layout of T-TRAK modules at the May 17 event hosted by Kurt and Karen



Figure 2: The T-TRAK double straight as packaged. The entire module consists of nine laser cut pieces and a package containing hardware for leveling.

Already having a travelling 3' x 6' n scale layout and a 2' x 4' NTRAK module, why not one more? With CMR Products selling their laser cut module kits at the convention, I decided to buy my first T-TRAK module kit.

According to the website [www.t-trak.org](http://www.t-trak.org), the history of T-TRAK can be traced to Japan and Lee Monaco-Fitzgerald, wife of Jim Fitzgerald of NTRAK fame. Jim was invited to speak at the convention of the Japan Association of



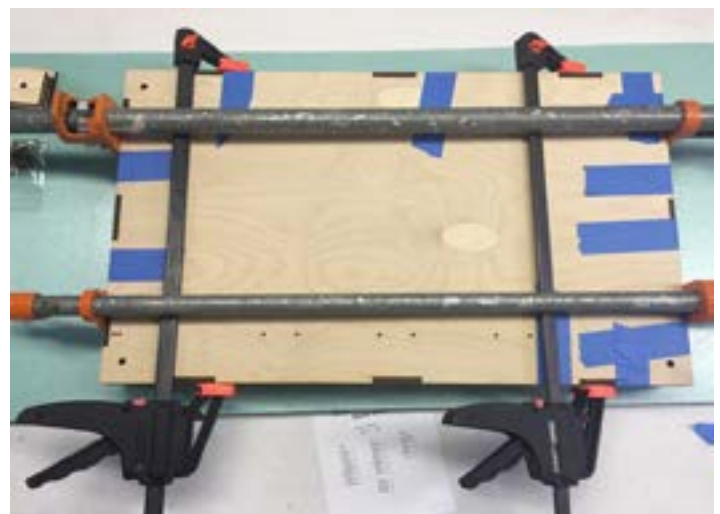
Figure 3: After applying wood glue to the tabs, each piece easily slid into place.

Sanders. Having committed to bringing a module to the May Event, it was past time to get started.

I purchased a Tab Tec module manufactured by CMR Products. (see figure 1) Their straight modules come in singles, doubles, triples and quads. The single is the basic unit of T-TRAK, measuring 308mm or 12 1/8" wide. The depth can vary from 125 – 365 mm (5" – 14 3/8"). I decided on a double straight module, (see figure 2) figuring it would allow for more scenery while still having the advantage of compactness. My double is 618 mm (24 5/16") by 14" deep.

CMR has a nice YouTube video explaining module assembly in detail. The module itself contains the top and four sides that are glued (see figure 3) together and taped until dry. All the parts easily came together with the tabs making errors next to impossible. After taping all the corners and edges I decided to use some clamps to really snug it all the together. (see figure 4) Next month's installment will cover the leveling hardware, track installation and wiring, and hopefully the beginning of scenery.

Bruce Hukill  
Editor, Peddler Freight



(above) The top and sides of the Tab Tec double straight module are glued, taped and clamped. The small holes at the bottom of the module are where one of the two tracks will be placed.

**THIS MONTH'S MEETING**  
**Sunday, March 15, 2020**  
**Sebring Model Railroad Club**  
**216 Pennsylvania Avenue**  
**Sebring, OH 44672**  
**2 PM**

Please bring a snack to share and a beverage for yourself. Paper plates and napkins will be provided.

**8th Year**

**8th Year**



**MICHAEL L. BRADLEY**  
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Western Oregon Circa 1900 to 1950 — HO and HOc



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**Jim Peters**  
Interested in operation send email:  
[jpeters711@yahoo.com](mailto: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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## 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

## Train Shows and Open Houses

### Independence Train & Toy Show – March 7, 2020

Independence High School Field House  
6001 Archwood, Independence, OH 44131  
Admission: \$6.00, under 12, Free 10 AM - 3 PM

### Division 1 Layout Tours – April 4, 2020

see article on page 5  
Admission: Free Noon - 3:00 PM

### Toy Train & Model RR Flea Mkt. – April 19, 2020

Salem Center Plex  
1098 N. Ellworth Ave., Salem, OH 44460  
Admission: \$5.00, 10 AM - 3:30 PM

### 2020 Steel City Express – May 28 - 31, 2020

Mid-Central Region Convention, Pittsburgh, PA  
[www.keystonedivision.org/convention/index.html](http://www.keystonedivision.org/convention/index.html)

### 12th Ohio N-Scale Weekend – May 15 - 17, 2020

Franklin County Fairgrounds  
4100 Columbia St., Hillard, OH  
[www.centralohiontrak.org](http://www.centralohiontrak.org)

### **28th Midwest Scale Train Show – March 27 - 28, 2020**

Greenford Space Center  
7600 W. South Range Road, Canfield, OH 44460  
Admission: \$15.00 per day or \$25.00 for both days  
Fri. Noon - 7 PM Sat. 8 AM - 2 PM

**NTRAK Modules will be running!**

**NOTE CHANGE IN LOCATION**

### Iron & Steel, Spring Rail Fest – March 29, 2020

St. Lucy Palermo Banquet Center  
394 Tenney Ave., Campbell, OH 44405  
Admission: \$5.00, under 12 Free 10 AM - 3 PM  
Handicapped Accessible

### NMRA National Convention – July 12 - 18, 2020

Saint Louis, Missouri  
[www.gateway2020.org](http://www.gateway2020.org)

PEDDLER FREIGHT  
 223 Pierce Avenue  
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Publication of Division 1 - MCR - NMRA  
 The Akron, Canton, Youngstown Division

First Class

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 Treasurer - Mike Bradley 330-325-7622

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

Division 1 Volunteer Positions

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 Apparel - OPEN  
 Christmas Dinner - Randy Dettmer 330-653-3537  
 Clinics - OPEN  
 Exhibitions - Matt Woods 330-465-8724  
                   - Lloyd Horst 330-465-7402  
 Membership - Kurt Sanders 330-518-4245  
 Modules:  
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 NTRAK/T-TRAK - Don Bonk 330-418-6860  
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