

PEDDLER FREIGHT

Division 1 - MCR - NMRA

Akron - Canton - Youngstown Division

Serving Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Mahoning, Portage,
Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas and Wayne (Except
Wooster) Counties

Volume 17 - Issue 4 January 2010

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY NEW YEAR ! It is New Year's Day as I write this. The holidays are past and I am getting my layout ready for an operating session on Monday. I am pleased with the past year in our Division. We have had no trouble finding places to meet, our meeting attendance has improved, our flea market was successful and our Holiday Dinner was well attended.

The new year brings two large business items for us. The first is the 2010 Model Railroad Flea Market which should work out well. The second one, the May election of officers, should be interesting. This year we may really have an election. One thing is sure, my name won't be on the ballot.

Division 3 had a short statement in its "Call Board" newsletter for December that really says it all.

"It's time for the biannual arm twisting and nagging to start again. Division 3 will hold the election of officers in April 2010."

Get your arms in shape! I will appoint an elections committee next month to start twisting. Be sure to read Bill Smith's article on the elections in this issue.

Hope to see you on the 17th,

David

John Pretorius name has been dropped from the November NMRA Membership listing.

Thoughts for 2010

Much progress has been made over the past year for our division.

Let me be brief in saying that solicitation of new members such as The Portage Model Railroad, The Bates and others who have agreed to renew their membership as well as some teenagers who have expressed a recent interest in the TAMR, as well as the Editor of the Aurora Gazette and subsequent meeting with David at his layout to demonstrate DCC are but only a few of the efforts you can expect to continue in 2010.

It is my belief that in our present economy with the need ever-present to be as cost conscious as possible that this, "The Worlds Greatest Hobby" will not suffer when you consider all the costs involved in making your purchases. Your dealer will assist you whenever possible. There have been recent advertisements offering some awesome "Never Before Offered" deals on certain purchases.

Kevin & John Hess caution such selection citing that in some cases as they have experienced, you make a purchase only to discover that the items have been back ordered. Being diligent in your purchase is a key element to a successful purchase. Remember price isn't the only thing to be considered in making your selection.

Dealing with people you know and have established a working relationship with can make a big difference. A wise and well informed buyer is a happy buyer.

We are looking forward to seeing you at The Sebring Model Railroad club this month, January 17th, 2009 at 2:00 PM. Guests are always welcome as well as any snacks you may wish to share.

MY WISH FOR YOU IN 2010

May peace break into your house and may thieves come to steal your debts. May the pockets of your jeans become a magnet of \$100 dollar bills. May love stick to your face like Elmer's and may laughter assault your lips! May your clothes smell of success

like a smoking decoder and may happiness slap you across the face and may your tears be that of joy. May the problems you had forget your home address! In simple words.....May 2010 be the best year of your life !!!!

Ron Wigal
Meeting Chair. – Membership Chair.

2009-2010 Meeting Dates

Jan 17- Sebring Model RR Club
Feb 21- Larry Brown - Ravenna
Mar 14- Jim Williams - North Canton
Apr 18- Don Bonk - Louisville
May 23 Jim Dipaolo - Ravenna
Jun 13- Chuck Boyer - Clinton

Meeting dates subject to change due to Holidays or hosts schedules. Contact Ron Wigal at rwigal@neo.rr.com



OPERATING SESSIONS FIRST & THIRD MONDAYS

***YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE EXPERIENCED TO HAVE FUN.
NO YOUNG CHILDREN PLEASE***

CONTACT: DAVID H. HAZLETT
dhazlett1@neo.rr.com 330-434-4565

Election Year Process

2010 is an election year for Division 1. While May is a long way off, each month beginning with February, something needs to take place in order for our Division to hold elections in May according to our Bylaws. The Bylaws read in part -

“5.2 In February, the Superintendent shall appoint an Election Committee of three (3) paid up NMRA members.

5.3 In March, the Election Committee shall receive nominations for office from the membership.

5.4 In April, a short biography of each candidate shall be published in the “Peddler Freight”. Additionally, nominations from the floor will be accepted at the April general meeting.

5.5 In the May “ Peddler Freight” authorized ballots will be inserted. These ballots may be sent to the designated member to hold for the May meeting or may also be brought by the voting member to the meeting. No proxy ballots will be accepted”.

So, there you have it, right from the Bylaws.

Just for your information, our Superintendent must vacate the office as he has served for two 2 year terms.

The current offices of Assistant Superintendent and Treasurer are not mandated by the Bylaws to vacate their respective offices because they have served one (1) two year term. However, they both need to be reelected.

Other NMRA members are permitted and encouraged to offer their services to the Division by informing the appointed Elections Committee of the individuals desire to seek office.

Any election that offers more than one choice per office is a good election.

Bill Smith, Editor.

Eli writes . . . I grew up in Warwick, Ohio, a town served by the Baltimore and Ohio and the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Tower served both railroads, but was owned and operated by the P.R.R. It did not have a train order semaphore, but had colored flags. The “flags” were not made of cloth, but were made of sheet metal about 12' by 18" and mounted on a 2x2 piece of wood that fit in a socket on the side of the tower.

The red flag indicated “stop for orders”, the yellow, “get orders on the fly” by means of a hoop held by the operator/ A green flag indicated “no orders”. At night the flags were replaced by a red, yellow or green lanterns. When using the hoop, one was for the engineer and one for the conductor.

Warwick had a facility for hosing hogs intransit. It was located about ten (10) feet west of the coal tipple on the east bound main. It was a simple device.

A three (3) inch pipe coming out of the ground, a valve and after the valve two pipes aimed at the upper and lower decks of the hog cars.

While the train was getting under way, after the coal and water stop, the hogs got a good wetting. There was no facility on the west bound line because no one shipped hogs west.

Thanks Eli !!!!

THE 2009-2010 CONTEST

CONTEST WINNERS FOR November 2009:

Scratch-Built Kit-Built

Kit-Bashed

Bill Bigler - 2 pts
Chuck Boyer - 3 pts
Larry Brown - 1 pt

CURRENT STANDINGS:

Scratch-Built

Kit-Built

Kit-Bashed

Chuck Boyer - 4 pts
Bob Ashley, Jr. - 2pts
Bill Bigler - 2 pts
Larry Brown 1 pt

Division 1 Officers

Super. - David Hazlett 330-434-4565
Asst. Super - Bob Ashley Sr. 330-644-4778
Treasurer - Bob Ashley Jr. 330-645-6175

Division 1 Appointees

Clerk - Jim Williams 330-996-5477
Editor - Bill Smith 330-644-1434

Division 1 Volunteer Positions

Comm. Chest - Jack Miller 330-882-4872
Web Page - Alex Fleet & Ivan Baugh
Meetings - Ron Wigal 330-592-1800
Membership - Ron Wigal 330-592-1800
Apparel - Bob Ashley Sr. 330-644-4778
Achievement Program - David Hazlett
Modules - Bob Ashley Sr. 330-644-4778

Mid-Central Region

President - Dick Briggs
e-mail MCRPREZ@HQ.NMRA.ORG

National Model Railroad Association

President - Michael Brestel
email PRES@HQ.NMRA.ORG
Vice President - Allen Pollock
email VP@HQ.NMRA.ORG

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Contest Models Jan. - May 2010

Jan. - Servicing Facilities

Feb. - Depressed center flat cars

Mar.- Excessively weathered and/or Damaged Freight cars

Apr.- Diesel Locomotives

May - Cabooses

Third Annual Holiday Dinner

The Holiday Dinner held December 19, 2009, at the Erie Station Grill in Tallmadge Ohio, was well attended. Twenty-eight members and guest were treated to a menu of generous proportions. The dinning car is magnificent, well heated, with a large restroom and all handicap accessible. The weather this year was much better, although, we still had five members and guest cancel. The food was terrific.

Everyone had a ringside seat to the videos furnished by Asst. Superintendent Bob Ashley, Sr. on the three TV's. The tables were arranged lengthwise and this seemed to allow much more socializing. This is really a great way to meet each other and everyone seemed to take advantage with lots of conversation.

Treasure Bob Ashley, Jr. conducted the door prize raffle and each winner could select their choice of the prizes. There were six door prizes including two Poinsettia plants furnished by the division, one HO freight car from Nick's Railway Supply, one HO freight car donated by Treasure Bob Ashley, Jr. and a gift certificate from The Whistle Stop. A 50-50 raffle was held and the winner, Bob Ashley, Jr., received \$30.50. He also kept the other \$30.50 for the division, I hope.

We have reserved the dinning car for the Saturday before Christmas, December 18, 2010, at 1:00 PM. This is a great event, so, mark your calendar and be sure to come. There is seating for at least 44 people. More information will be provided, later.



Bob Ashley, Sr., Assistant Superintendent

Solder - Make it Stick

How to make good solder joints with basic tools and helpful tips.

Most people solder wire, brass copper and nickle silver. What you need is simple. First, a good soldering iron (dual heat with stand 20/40 watt, a fine pointed tip and a flat broad tip). This will cover most applications. Second, good solder (silver bearing, lead free, rosin core solder). This has good strength and flows free. Third, rosin paste soldering flux. Fourth, very important, a variety of cleaning supplies. A brass or strinless steel toothbrush style scratch brush, scotch-brite pad, emery paper, a solvent

degreaser (electrical contact cleaner) and tooth picks.

Now, something to solder. We will start with wire. Use the fine tip and low heat. This is true for decoder installations, LED's and attaching wires. Strip the ends, twist together, apply flux paste (with toothpick), apply heat. When flux paste melts, touch solder to joint. As it melts it will flow through joint.

Now we will try a track joint. Make sure your joint is clean (very important). That's where the scratch brush, scotch-brite and degreaser solvent are used. When all clean and shiny, apply flux to outside of rail joint. Apply the flat broad tip with high heat to the inside of the rail joint. When the flux melts, apply

solder to outside of rail joint only. When solder flows, remove heat. Repeat with other rail. Clean joint with brush or solvent and you are done. If you tend to melt plastic ties, remove several before heating and replace after cleaning joint.

The most important thing to remember about good solder joints is to make sure your surfaces are clean. Brush, scrub and degrease before application of flux and solder.

Work safely and have fun.

John Hess, The Whistle Stop

Assistant Superintendent's Report

There will be a clinic on Track Inspection Vehicles presented by Dennis Sautters at the meeting in Sebring, this month. No one signed up for the meeting in May, yet. Please call me if you will help. I have three clinics planned for the February, April and June meetings, so far.

I will have (2) XL Polo Shirts, Truckers and Mesh Hats and Patches at the next meeting. Please go to the "div1-mcr-nmra.org" website to see the clothing available and the order form for other items. Call or e-mail me to place an order. Now is the time to order Sweatshirts. I'm sure it is cold enough.

If you want your name in the roster, you must contact me by e-mail, regular mail or sign the roster register at the meeting. If your name does not appear on the membership list issued by the MCR-NMRA, your name will be removed. Please pay your dues before they are due to avoid being dropped from the list. *Please save me from some extra work.*

The module group has not done very much since last September, although, I have purchased a DCC system from NCE to be used with the modules and my own "N" and "Z" gauge layouts. Our next project will be making the end modules and starting the wiring for both Digitrax and NCE DCC systems as well as 12 volt DC.

I am also in the middle of revising my HO layout and doubling its size. I hope to spend more time with the module group and finish the modules since they are going to be integrated into my layout. Bob Ashley, Jr. and Rob Ashley have already integrated their modules into their layout. They really

look great. Anyone wanting more information about joining the module group, please e-mail, call or see me at the meeting.

Bob Ashley, Sr., Asst, Super.

January Destinations

January 17, 2010

Sebring Model RR Club

We will begin the meeting at 2 PM in the lobby of the Sebring Club. Arrive early and view the great club layout which always has improvements being made by the members. Former Division 1 Super. Dennis Sautters is President of the club. See map below -

Bring snacks and beverages to share with our hosts and for ourselves.

Division 1 Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2009

Host: Kevin Hess, The Whistle Stop Hobby Shop,



Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Superintendent David Hazlett. Forty-two people were in attendance. David Hazlett started the meeting by thanking Kevin, his wife and his father for hosting the meeting.

Initial Business:

- A motion was made to accept the minutes of the October meeting as published in the Peddler Freight. The motion was seconded and passed.
- The treasurer's report was give by Bob Ashley, Jr. A motion was made to accept the report pending audit. The motion was seconded and passed.
- We are now accepting subscriptions to the Peddler Freight. The cost is \$15. Receiving it via e-mail is at no cost. Currently, 30 people have subscribed for the hard-copy and 13 have signed up to receive it via e-mail.
- Jim and Diane Bates have joined the NMRA and were present at the meeting.

The Meeting Schedule and Membership Report was given by Ron Wigal:

- There is no meeting in December. The holiday dinner will be at the Erie Station Grille at 1 PM on Saturday, 12/19/2009.
- The January meeting is at the Sebring model railroad club
- The February meeting is at Larry Brown's Portage Model Railroad in Ravenna

The Assistant Superintendent's report was given by Bob Ashley, Sr.:

- Hats are \$16, patches are \$3, polo shirts are \$23 and port authority shirts are \$33. Names can be embroidered on the shirts for no charge.
- Modules are in the process of being painted.
- The 3rd annual holiday dinner will be on 12/19 at the Erie Station in Tallmadge at 1:00 PM. 33 people have made

reservations.

The Superintendent's report was presented by David Hazlett:

- The March meeting was changed from the 21st to the 14th to eliminate a conflict with Division 5's Kirtland train show.
- The regional Kingpin was e-mailed last week. You can request to have it sent to you via e-mail like the Peddler Freight.

Other business:

- Flea Market

Bob Ashley, Jr has put together a folder on this year's effort for reference next year

31 tables were rented at \$10 each

64 people paid \$2 each donation at the door

The concession stand made \$16

The division realized a net of \$354.54 for the effort

- Next year's flea market

We need (1) more advertising and (2) a larger area

Modules

- Need a space to allow us to setup modules
- The division needs to consider paying for the construction of end modules

Bob Ashley, Sr. made a motion that a committee be formed to start planning next year's effort now with said committee reporting to the group at the January meeting. The motion was seconded and passed. David Hazlett asked for volunteers for the committee.

- Bill Bigler suggested that we have shot glasses made up to give out at meets to advertise the division. He did this for his own use and the cost was about \$1 each with him printing his own decals. Discussion followed and most thought it was an idea worth considering. Chuck Boyer made a motion to table the discussion and the motion was seconded and passed.
- There was a discussion about the division's connection to the McKinley Museum and whether we should try to rekindle this. The division built their model railroad.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 PM.

Respectfully,

Jim Williams, Clerk

REVIEW OF THE PARAGON 2 SW-7

by David Hazlett

I just read the review of this locomotive in the February 2010 Model Railroader. I have seldom seen a poorer excuse for a review. I have had two of these SW-7's for over a month and the guys who know me have had an earful of my opinion of these units.

These units are produced by Broadway Limited. BLI's Quantum equipped sound units are very good. BLI's Blue Line sound units run well, but I hate the sound due to its limitations on diesel notches (3 instead of 8). The short version of what I am going to say is: "GO GET THE PARAGON 2 SW-7!"

Now as to why. The number of controlled functions is 28. That doesn't matter to me, because I only use six at most. But if you are a function addict, you can get the sounds to do (almost) anything you want, except to get the engineer to say hello. And you might be able to do that, as there is a possibility to record your own sound.

The model has Back EMF, which can be turned off. Don't. The amazing sound quality of this model is enhanced by the Back EMF. The MR review didn't mention this, but did say it took 8 volts to start the unit. I can't tell you anything like the technical information. But you might like to know that you must push 6 on the throttle to start up the sound. What I can say is that after setting the speed control to 128 steps, I pushed the control

button on my NCE Pro-Cab to a speed setting of 10 and the unit started to run. This was just out of the box, without setting anything else.

I programmed the horn to the one I liked, and there are three possible. I set the bell to a ring rate and sound that pleased my ear. I even reprogrammed the CV's controlling the transition of the locomotive throttle notches. I added some slight momentum.

I was amazed by the sounds coming from the diesel switcher when it was just idling. I have never heard such sounds from a model. The only thing that comes close is the Soundtraxx Tsunami I run in a set of Alcos. Having been a railfan for more than 35 years, I do know what a switcher sounds like and I believe the Paragon 2 SW-7 is the best I have ever heard.

Earlier I mentioned Back EMF. With my unit coupled to six cars, I set the throttle speed to 10 (as stated above). The unit began to pull the cars at a steady rate, so I increased the speed to 20. The unit speeded up as expected, but did I get a surprise! As the unit needs more power to keep the train moving (which is the purpose of Back EMF) the sound system notched up the sound of the prime mover without increasing the speed. The effect of that is amazing and very natural (I have heard it many times while trackside).

I am impressed with this sound system. I think the Paragon 2 sound units are a great addition to HO model railroading. If you want a list of the CV's I have used, just email me. Before you start changing these CV's, I suggest you download the Technical Manual from the BLI website. I find that it is very handy.

"parking in the rear" open 7 days

The Whistle Stop Hobby Shop
Trains Plastic Models Remote Control

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