



PEDDLER FREIGHT



Division 1 - MCR - NMRA

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The Akron - Canton - Youngstown Division

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

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

NOTES FROM THE SUPER

THE COST OF MODEL RAILROADING?

In the last few issues of Model Railroading News, there have been a number of letters on both sides of the issue of the escalating cost of model railroading. While all costs are increasing, the quality of the newest motive power, cars, buildings, etc. is also increasing. I can remember saving for five (yes, five!) **months** for my first non-train set locomotive (my only loco after the train set loco died for the third time).

I purchased an EMD SW-1 diesel locomotive, manufactured by Lindberg, in Chicago & North Western paint for \$8.00, plus tax. I had an income of 50 cents a week at that time (my allowance). That was over 45 years ago. By the way, I still have that diesel.

I have no idea what teenagers are getting as allowances these days, but, if my experience as a middle-school teacher is any guide, they are getting somewhat more than 50 cents a week! So, what is the point? What does all of this drivel have to do with the cost of model railroading? Even though I am retired, I do give myself an allowance - somewhat more than 50 cents. Actually, \$40 dollars per week. I can buy a Broadway Limited NW-2, with sound, in under five **weeks!** In under five months I can buy almost any locomotive, except brass and maybe some of those. Okay, Okay! I'll get to the point!

While I am fortunate to have this amount of allowance and I do know that others do not have these kinds of funds, I also think that there are a few things that need to be considered in the cost of model railroading. You need to plan. You need to research. You need to start small and build. You need to make do with analog instead of DCC. You need to search the internet and local train shows for good deals. Am I making my point? Oh, yes, I forgot the most important thing. You need to have **patience**.

Sure, money doesn't grow on trees. Sure, model railroad items cost more than they used to cost. But with planning and patience, you can made your available money work for you. If you do not absolutely have to have the newest, greatest and most expensive locomotive out there, your budget can provide you with an enjoyable model railroad.

Remember, this hobby is supposed to be calming and relaxing. (Someday I may get to that part of the hobby.)

David

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 20, 2005 MEETING

The meeting at the McKinley Museum started at 2:10 PM with nine people in attendance. Minutes of the October meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Frank Williamson, who was in attendance, yielded his April meeting date to the Youngstown Railroad Club. We will have the April 23rd meeting at the YMRRC. Note: this is the 4th Sunday, due to Easter.

We need to be finding candidates for the spring elections. Positions needed are Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Treasurer. Appointed positions are Clerk and Peddler Freight Editor.

Several more posters were taken to be placed in local hobby shops. A Clerk is still needed to take minutes.

The Regional Convention is April 27-30, 2006 in Morgantown, WV. David Hazlett has reservation sheets if you need them. Early-bird registration ends in February.

The National Convention is July 2-9, 2006 in Philadelphia, PA. David also has pictures of some of the activities. These were displayed at today's meeting.

The business meeting ended at 2:20 pm.

Chuck Boyer explained how easy it is to make molds for large rock walls and small wooden walls. He had several molds he made with him. It was very informative.

David Hazlett showed slides from the mid 1970's of Erie, EL, PC, gondola loads, flat car loads and trackage.

The museum's layout was in operation for our viewing.

Several of the attending members freely donated at total of \$9 to help off-set the cost of today's meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

David H. Hazlett, Superintendent

The following is a tentative meeting list:

January 15 - Sebring MRRC

February 19 - David Hazlett - Akron

March 19 - Rick Muir - Richfield

April 23 - (Date Change) Youngstown MRRC

May 21 - Donald Bonk - Louisville

Visit our web site at:

www.trainweb.org/division-1-mcr-nmra/index.html .

Dear Fellow Division One Members,

Have you ever entered a NMRA modeling contest? If not, have you ever thought about it? Either way, there is an online petition that may interest you. Jim Packer, MMR, from the Lonestar Region has started a petition to try to change the scoring system used when judging entries in an NMRA modeling contest. The scoring system was changed back in 1995. Mr. Packer believes that the present contest form hinders the scratchbuilder and favors the RTR crowd. If you would like to take a closer look at this petition, please log onto:

www.petitiononline.com/NMRA2005/petition.html

Once there you can not only sign the petition, but you can see who else has signed it. For further information, please read "Blowing Off Steam", page 18, of the September 2005 issue of 'Scale Rails'.

Thank You

Robert Keller

COME TO AN OPERATING SESSION

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME

OPERATING SESSIONS EVERY THIRD
MONDAY AT 7:30 PM

CONTACT: DAVID H HAZLETT

dhazlett1@neo.rr.com 330-434-4565

January Destinations

Sunday, January 15, 2:00 PM

On Sunday, January 15, 2006 at 2 PM we will meet at the Sebring Model Railroad Club at the Sebring Station, 216 Pennsylvania Avenue, Sebring OH.

This is always a good trip to see what may be new there and what ideas may be borrowed for a layout of your own. The group is congenial and very helpful. You are also likely to see some trains go roaring by as we are at the Sebring Station.

Please bring extra snacks to share with our Hosts.



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So much bang. So few bucks.

The Need to Advertise

In order to meet the requirements of the NMRA and MCR related to the distribution of the Peddler Freight to all NMRA members in Division 1 and to assist in defraying the cost of that distribution, the Ad Hoc Committee has developed the following advertising rates.

Pike Ads - Business card size - \$5.00 for 8 issues.

Subscribers to the Peddler Freight may place one non-commercial ad per month at no cost. Additional ads will cost \$2.00 per issue. Ads are limited to 1/8 page.

Commercial advertising is \$5.00 per issue, or \$40.00 per year. Standard size is 1/8 page. Ad copy must be in final form. Payment must accompany ad copy. Checks are payable to Division 1 - MCR - NMRA.

Payment and ad copy to be sent to Bill Smith, Treasurer, 2786 Mansard Lane, Akron OH 44312-5393.

Stephen Leslie
Wooster, Ohio

