



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

Volume 28 - Issue 7

March 2021

Division 1 Bulletin

Things are looking up! As I write this bulletin the sun is breaking through the clouds and the thermometer is rising. Only the largest piles of snow remain, full of whatever trash the plow brought along.

Further brightening the picture is vaccine availability. With the average model railroader sporting gray hair, or no hair, the front of the line is a lot closer. We know masks, six feet and hand washing will be with us for awhile, but otherwise things are slowly returning to "normal." Kurt Sanders just sent me a show announcement for the Iron and Steel Spring Rail Fest to be held in Youngstown on March 20. And **CANCELED** only appears twice in the train show announcements section of this Peddler Freight. Superintendent Bob Ashley, Jr. is working on a nice airy outdoor venue with plenty of social distancing space for a Division cookout. With Sam and Trish at the grill, this is an event not to be missed. So keep up the hope for brighter days.

A few months ago on one of our Zoom meetings, the subject of putting a classified section in the Peddler Freight was mentioned. After some research, many divisions are doing this in their monthly newsletter. It is usually limited to three items for sale per month. If you have any thoughts on the subject, bring your ideas to the March 21 Zoom meeting.

In last month's Peddler Freight Sam Eisele started a column called "Tips and Hacks." With model railroaders being resourceful, frugal and inventive, there are plenty of you that have ideas that could benefit your fellow Division 1 members. So drop me an email or phone call with your ideas and perhaps a snapshot or two.

Our next Zoom meeting will be one day into spring, by then many of us will have rolled up our sleeves for a shot or two, and the end of this COVID mess will hopefully be on its way out. Until then - play with some trains.

Editor's note: *With Bob and Twyla in Virginia, and Sam and Trish enjoying a much earned vacation in a warmer climate, your PF editor decided to write a guest Bulletin. Bob or Sam will be back next month.*

Bruce Hukill, Peddler Freight Editor
NMRA, MCR, Division 1
hukillbruce@gmail.com (330) 571-4037

Zoom Invite

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86899968456?pwd=WUJ-SaThoYzFVUUtucmdybwWtmbnFOU09>

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

Membership Report

We are always looking for new members, and I would like to welcome Ronald Higginboth to Division 1. When we can have in person meetings again, I look forward to meeting you, or you could join us in our next Zoom Meeting. Membership at this time stands at 83.

Kurt Sanders
Membership Chair

2020 - 2021 Division 1 Events

March 21 - Zoom meeting online
All remaining Events to be determined.

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

**Division 1, MCR, NMRA
Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2021**

1. Welcome:

- ~ Call to order: 2:05 PM
- ~ By: Superintendent Bob Ashley Jr.
- ~ Participants: 13
- ~ Location: Online Zoom meeting

2. Clerk: Jeff Stone

- ~ Previous meeting minutes published in the Peddler Freight.
- ~ Motion to approve submitted by Steve Zapytowski, seconded by the body.

3. Treasurer: Michael Bradley

- ~ Checking account balance \$7,036.55.
- ~ Module Fund balance \$1,913.37.
- ~ CD balance \$3,165.82.
- ~ Money Market balance \$10,013.71.
- ~ Total assets \$20,216.08.
- ~ Reimbursements: none.
- ~ Expenses: Insurance renewal, \$610.00.
- ~ Motion to approve submitted by Steve Zapytowski, seconded by the body.

4. Superintendent: Bob Ashley, Jr.: No comments.

5. Peddler Freight: Bruce Hukill: No report.

6. Membership: Kurt Sanders

- ~ Division 1 membership at 83
- ~ Gain/Loss +1 Ronald Higginbooth from North Canton.

7. Clinics: Jim DiPaola: No report.

8. Achievement Committee: Lloyd Horst: No report.

9. Module Committee: Bob Ashley, Jr.: No report.

10. Old Business:

- ~ Sympathy card.
- ~ Outdoor pavilion cost.

11. New Business:

- ~ Mary Toth from Chagrin Falls possible donation of Tyco trains discussion.

12. Bring and Brag:

- ~ Steve Zapytowski progress report on the rope factory project.

13. Good of the Order/Announcements

- ~ Sam Eisele announced a friend is making laser engraved walkways, contact Sam to order.
- ~ John Spinks attended the Canfield show and reported it was not crowded and afforded some good deals.
- ~ Bob Ashley Jr. announced Mt. Hope Show scheduled for November 6, 2021.

14. Adjournment:

- ~ Motion to adjourn submitted by John Spinks, seconded by the body
- ~ Time: 2:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Stone,
Clerk, Division 1.

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 Master Builder - Structures. Steve Zapytowski, MMR has written a short article about his experience working toward the AP for Master Builder Structures. Following Steve's article are the requirements from the NMRA website.

The Achievement Program: Master Builder of Structures

by Steve Zapytowski, MMR # 612

To start with, there are a series of twenty-six articles on the ten categories of the Achievement Program on the NMRA website. These are excellent explanations for each segment or each category of the AP. These articles are at <https://www.nmra.org/masters-articles-updated-2009>.

To start with you need a total of twelve structures, representing six different types of structures. Of these twelve, six must be scratch built and those not scratch built must be super detailed. Scratch building means that 90% of the parts in the structure are not commercially available parts, meaning they are hand made from basic shapes such as metal and scale lumber. In recent years shingles have also become listed as a basic shape. Exempted materials that don't count against scratch building scores include light bulbs (LEDs), electronic items, paint and decals (etc.), and figures. Six of the twelve structures must have earned at least 87 ½ points in an NMRA sponsored contest or an AP Merit Award evaluation. The remaining six structures need not be evaluated. Then, of course, you

must complete the paperwork. This includes photo copies of the original signed judging sheets with scores or your merit award certificate. The complete list of documentation can be found here www.nmra.org/structures. The required minimum of 87 ½ points is accumulated from five areas as

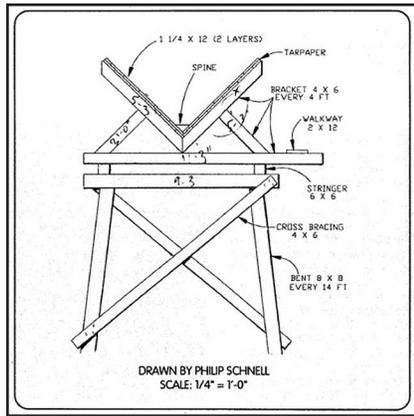


Climax #1, a loco as old as my marriage, pushes a short string of cars out of Farrow's Bend and past the Big Elsie Flume. The completed flume model scored 123 out of 125 points from its AP Merit Award evaluation. This evaluation was the last item I needed before submitting my materials for the Master Builder – Structures certificate.

described on Form 902, the Judges' Score Sheet. There is a total of 125 possible points for any judged model. We'll take a look at my Big Elsie Flume and specific things about that model with respect to judging. Up to 40 points are available from Construction. Judges look at the quality and complexity of construction as well as the methods used. In my case I built the flume on a slope. The model was built with a compound curve and was constructed to match existing terrain contours on my layout.

Detail, for up to 20 points, is judged upon amount, difficulty, complexity, and refinement of added detail parts. These added parts should be listed on Form 902. I added a two-part resin water and logs in the flume. At the end of the flume water cascades into a mill pond. As a bit of

frivolity, I added the Flume Tender's Penthouse to the flume structure. Another detail added was a water leak that spills a steady stream to the ground below. Purchased details included a bell from an old locomotive, a human figure, Tichy doors and windows, a barrel and crate, and a ladder from Central Valley.

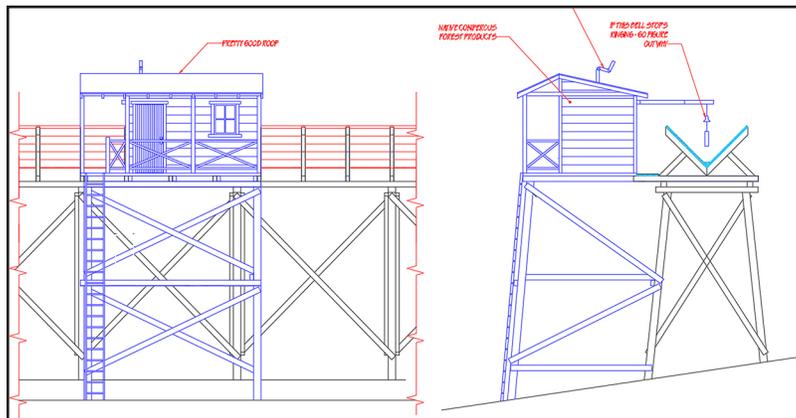


(left) The Whatshan Flume was an article appearing in the Fall 1993 issue of The Timber Times. It was written using information and photographs provided by my Philip Schell. I used the article that included this drawing as evidence of conformity for my flume.

supplement Form 902. (left)

Finish and Lettering can net an entry up to 25 points. The scale lumber used in the flume was stained before assembly and was by itself not very spectacular. The unusual thing about the finish was that I made my own stain using 91% denatured alcohol and brown leather dye.

Scratch building nets a maximum of 15 points, the least number of points among all five judging categories. Drawings are considered as evidence of scratch building and these can be original prototype drawings, published drawings, or drawings created by the modeler. I included my own drawing for the Flume Tenders Penthouse as part of my documentation, a portion of which is seen below.



(left) This is part of the drawing I used for the scratch building portion of my AP Merit Award evaluation which was done by Joe Kurelic, MMR from Division 4. Joe was assisted by Division 1's Jim Peters.

Master Builder - Structures

To qualify for the Master Builder - Structures certificate:

1. You must construct twelve scale structures:

a. At least six different types of structures must be represented in the total.

The intent of this requirement is show that you can model a variety of types of structures, not just several variations of the same type. For example: a wood frame station and a brick station would be different types, but a wood frame station from Kansas and wood frame station from California would probably not, unless you could show that there was a substantial difference in the construction. When in doubt, why try and split hairs? Instead, try your hand at building something completely different. You might learn some new modeling skills in the process, and who knows ? You could even have fun doing it!

b. One of the six types must be a bridge or trestle.

Before you panic with visions of elaborate wooden trestles dancing in your head, stop for a moment and consider just how many different types of bridges and trestles there are on or around a railroad. Remember, your bridge doesn't have to span the Grand Canyon; a short span over a creek or dirt road may be enough. The point is to demonstrate that you know how to build a bridge that is appropriate and will support the load that it has to carry. If there is no place on your layout for the tracks to cross a bridge, how about a bridge that carries something else? You could replace a grade crossing with a bridge that carries the road up and over the tracks (as many prototype railroads have been doing in recent years), or build a foot bridge like the ones over many rail yards. Finally, remember that you can even build the bridge as a separate model - it doesn't have to go on your layout.

c. At least six of the models must be scratch built.

The following parts are specifically excluded from the scratch built requirement:

- Light bulbs & electronics
- Paint, decals, etc.
- Figures
- Basic shapes of wood, plastic, metal, etc.

d. The remaining six, if not scratch built, must be super detailed with scratch built or commercial parts.

There are all sorts of ways to super detail structures. Look closely at what you are trying to model, and see the little details: signs, ladders, electrical fixtures, window details, roof details, etc. For buildings, including an interior (and a way to see it) is definitely recommended, with as much of it as possible scratch built for extra points. Including some sort of "scene within a scene" is a good way to catch the judges' eye. Adding detail to your structures will not only meet this part of the requirements, but will also add to your score, and to the overall appeal of your model.

One way to save money and increase your scratch building score is to buy only one of a particular detail part, and use it as a model to make the rest yourself. This means build the others yourself from scratch, NOT to use the commercial part as a master to make a mold to cast copies of it.

2. You must earn a score of at least 87-1/2 points on six of the twelve models in either an NMRA sponsored contest or in AP Merit Award evaluation. Note that only six of the twelve must earn 87-1/2 points. The others don't even have to be evaluated! They do all have to be described on the Statement of Qualification (SOQ).

3. You must submit a Statement of Qualification (SOQ, see below) which includes the following:

- a. An attachment giving a detailed description of each of the twelve models, including:
 - Identification of all scratch built features
 - All commercial components used
 - Materials used in building the model
 - A notation that the model is operational, if it is intended to be
 - If the model is a kit, whose kit is it?
- b. Verification of the Merit Awards (photocopies of the certificates or signed Judging Forms, see below)
- c. Photos of the model are helpful, though not required.
- d. Your twelve structures do not all have to be of the same scale or era, or on the same layout. In fact, in most cases, it's better to build the structure separately, have it judged (either in a contest or in separate Merit Judging), and then install it in its final location. In this way, the judges can get a better look at it.

Note: Many contests require that structures NOT be mounted on any kind of scened base, or they will be considered "Displays." However, for separate Merit Judging, they can be part of your layout.

Further Information

Contact National Achievement Program General Manager, Frank Koch achiev@nmra.org, or your Region or Division Achievement Program Manager for more information.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING
Sunday, March 21, 2021
Online via the Zoom App
2 PM

Feel free to snack during the meeting.

9th Year

9th Year



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Northwestern Oregon Circa 1912 — HO and HO_n3





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Akron, OH 44307

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Train Shows and Open Houses

Div. 5 Railfest - Model Railroad Show - March 13 - 14

Lakeland Community College
7700 Clocktower Blvd., Lakeland, Ohio 44094
Admission - \$9.00 10 AM - 4 PM

Medina Train and Toy Show - April 11

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

Iron and Steel Spring Rail Fest - March 20

All Gauge Model Train Show and Expo
St. Mary's Assumption Social Center
356 S. Belle Vista Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio 44509
Admission - \$6, under 12 free 10 AM - 3 PM

Model Train Flea Market - May 8

Painesville RR Museum (aka NYC Painesville Depot)
475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077
Admission - Free (Donations Accepted) 10 AM - 3 PM

Train Coll. Assoc. - Spring Train Show - March 27

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

NYCSHS Train Show - May 16

Holiday Inn Cleveland South
6001 Rockside Rd., Independence, OH 44131
Admission - FREE 10 AM - 3 PM

2 Rail O-Scale Train Meet - April 10

UAW Hall, 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, OH 44130
Admission - \$6.00 9 AM - 2 PM

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

