



# UP THE HOLLER

## Newsletter of Division 9 THE COAL DIVISION

Mid Central Region NMRA

July, 2011



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### HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Bob Weinheimer MMR

While we have, from time to time, out of town visitors to our meetings, few can top the visitor to our June meeting. Paul Heaney from Perth in western Australia has been on a temporary job assignment in the Cleveland area. Those of us who attended the MCR contention in Geneva on the Lake had the chance to make his acquaintance. I invited Paul to visit the Coal Division if his time permitted. In preparation for Paul's visit, I investigated just how far away Perth is. From Charleston it is 11,342 miles, almost half a world away. The farthest point on Earth from the Coal Division is in the Indian Ocean off the west coast of Australia making Perth about the most distant piece of dry land from us on this entire planet. Paul and I want to thank Woody Mitchell, Lin Young, Dave Stout, and Paul Lapointe for opening their homes and layouts on very short notice. I think we gave him a weekend to remember as he heads back home in July.

In this day and age we see and hear lots about privacy. Web sites often have links to privacy policies telling us what they do or do not do with our personal contact information. So, now, does the NMRA. Elsewhere in this issue is a letter from NMRA President Mike Brestel addressing this issue. As you can see, this policy weighs heavily on the Coal Division officers and other officials. For example, we already use the practice of distributing this newsletter putting all addressees in the blind copy area. While I had been pondering assembling a division membership list for distribution to the membership, that is now not going to happen as easily as it might have in the past. I will attempt to determine if it can be done via an opt in route. Our bylaws require some sort of periodic newsletter to the members, if you do not wish to receive this newsletter please let me know. Also, this newsletter goes to many friends of the Division, past members, and others. If you are among that group and no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please advise me. As I learn more of the details of how this policy will affect us I will let you know.

As you receive this newsletter the NMRA National Convention will be starting. Your Up The Holler editor, Dan Mulhearn, plans to head to Sacramento on Amtrak although he just heard of a last minute change to his itinerary. I think there is another member going but I am not certain so I'll say no more here. I trust Dan will give us a complete report for the August issue of Up The Holler.

## THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Gary J. Burdette MMR

From time to time we have seen references to modeling what procedures the prototype would use to solve a problem in the real world, or what type of equipment would be chosen to ship the goods in a timely fashion. This is prototype modeling, though not Prototype Modeler (part of the AP certification). While it may be fun to run anything at anytime on our layouts, it is usually desirable to stick to a time and a theme for our regular operations. Remember the highly weathered Railbox cars our Superintendent passed up because they would have been brand new on his road which is set in 1980 and just didn't fit the era as closely as they should. While the Turbo Train has made an appearance on the Pennsylvania Southern, prototype practices are the norm. Both approaches provide for fun and entertaining sessions.

It can be fun to sort out the methods of operations, industries, or equipment and other details that were common in the period we are modeling as an aside to our studies. Who knows what interesting tidbits of information we may uncover. Many of you know Chris Wiley who operates on Clint Foster's C&O Lines in Ronceverte, WV. A longtime member of the Chesapeake and Ohio Historical Society, Chris has explored a number of loose ends he noticed on the C&O. Why were there stock cars pictured running the Greenbrier Branch after the push to get livestock to market? The answer: the cars were seeing double duty in hauling pulp wood. Similarly, refrigerator cars would haul meat products from Chicago on "The Expeditor" to the east coast returning to the Midwest with furniture (especially during the days of heavy manufacturing in the South). Here are just a couple of items we could add to our operations to make them more diversified providing a little spice to the mix.

A while back Chris contacted me about my favorite prototype town of Thurmond, West Virginia. He was curious about the stores and businesses in this city with no "Main Street." The double track C&O mainline runs

along the sidewalk past the storefronts in this historic, remote village deep in the New River Gorge. There are three structures extant (National Bank of Thurmond, Goodwin-Kincaid, and Mankin Cox) with the Thurmond Hotel and Armour meat packing plant just west of these having burned or been demolished in the 1970s, we think. There were a couple of others around the hillside and across the river over the years, but these big three always were the heart of Thurmond. The New River Banking and Trust, Co., Grubb's Jewelry, and McClure's Restaurant are most notable, along with the enduring Collins Cash Mercantile Company. The latter was one business which had several homes around town, ending up in one of the three stores: but which store?

This was the crux of Chris's inquiry. We knew the Thurmond bank closed in the mid- 1930s. However, it was thought the building went through a series of various small businesses. We felt that the mercantile was probably in the Mankin-Cox building that displayed the huge billboard over the years. Chris studied files at the C&OHS and even went to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. in his quest. He found a photo from the 1950s with a large sign with black background and white letters attached across the carved stone etching of The National Bank of Thurmond. A smaller, similar sign projected perpendicular to the building out over the sidewalk. Was the mercantile business in the bank all those years since its closing? Maybe. Probably.

I know one thing for sure, of the nine examples of models of Thurmond of which I am aware, none sports the Collins sign on the old bank. For those who have visited the site and seen the original stone carving, the wooden sign would look out of place on a model and appear to be incorrectly placed. Fascinating history here, but do we model it or use modeler's license? In short: To add the sign or omit the sign, that is the question!

## JULY 9 MEETING

Our July meeting will be hosted by Clint Foster. Things get started at Noon with informal operations on his Chesapeake and Ohio layout. We will pause around 2 or 2:30 for our business meeting then resume running trains

until Clint throws us out or we wear out, whichever comes first. Note that lunch will NOT be served so please plan to arrive fed. There are places to eat in Lewisburg and

Fairlea.

Clint offers the following directions: I-64 to Exit

169, then south on 219 thru Lewisburg. Just beyond the 6th traffic light 219 becomes one-

way/two-lane. At the fairgrounds get in the right lane & stay right, exiting 219 (219 wyes left) in front of the hospital onto Davis Stuart Rd. In about 600 yards, at a stop

**DUE TO A SUDDEN SCHEDULE CONFLICT, THE JULY MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELED. WE HOPE TO RESCHEDULE A VISIT TO CLINT'S LAYOUT IN A FEW MONTHS. PLEASE ACCEPT OUR APOLOGIES FOR THIS SUDDEN CHANGE IN PLANS.**

## NMRA DIVISION 9, MCR Meeting minutes, June 11, 2011

Meeting called to order at 2:00 at WV Hobbies & Crafts in Winfield, WV by Supt Bob Weinheimer..

### Welcome and Introductions

Bob introduced Paul Heaney from Perth, Australia. Paul models US prototype steel and timber operations. Other members introduced themselves.

### Division Clerk Report

Minutes from April meeting were approved.  
Treasury – balance is approx \$8326.

### Superintendent's Report

Bob commented that last month's meeting sounded very good. Division 3 will be having their meeting on June 19, the clinician will be Allen McClelland.

### Assistant Superintendent Report

Gary talked about the educational display and showed an mock up of a web page that explains "flimsies" as an example of a potential educational topic for our website. He also showed an article from the Huntington Herald Dispatch about riding C&O passenger trains in their heyday. He mentioned that the COHS needs advanced orders for a book on the subject. He also mentioned that he shouldn't have been attending today's meeting because of Midwest flooding and weather his Empire Builder trip to the west coast was canceled.

### Webmaster

The webmaster was without internet access for much of the week so no report was given.

### Achievement Program

Bob handed out merit award certificates to several members from the past year. Bob has met the qualifications for Association Official.

### Nominations Chair

No report

### Membership Chair

No report.

### Raffle

Several "piles" of raffle tickets were tried to allow

members to try for specific raffle prizes.

### "Up The Holler" Editor Report

Dan is still looking for material for future newsletters. The idea of more pictures and publishing pictures from the previous meeting was discussed. The idea of a designated photographer was discussed.

### Old Business

None

### New Business

None

### Announcements

Dave Stout thanked everyone for coming to his place last month.

Bob mentioned that one member responded to the offer of a CD of Model Railroad Hobbyist electronic magazine.

Dennis McGeeney mentioned the idea of future trips and putting them in the newsletter

### Next Meetings

July 9 Clint Foster's place in Ronceverte, WV. Operating session will follow meeting.

August 13 WV Hobbies and Crafts Winfield, WV.

September 10 Joint meeting with Division 6 at Mark Maynard's place in Portsmouth, OH.

### Contest – Online Structures

**Clinic** – Railfanning Colorado and Utah in 2001 by Jerry Doyle.

### Respectfully Submitted,

**Jerry Doyle**  
Division 9 Clerk

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

The August 13 meeting will be at West Virginia Hobbies and Crafts in Teays Valley. While the clinic has not been firmly determined, Bob Weinheimer is threatening to do the Achievement Program clinic again. If that does not sound appealing, you better come up with something else! If you have a clinic to offer, please see Dan Mulhearn. The contest will be Traction.

September 10 will find us back to Mark Maynard's in Portsmouth, Ohio for what has really become our annual picnic. This year the meeting will be a joint meeting with Division 6. Of course we will have the usual good food, swap meet, photo contest, and general good time.

## NMRA PRIVACY POLICY

### NMRA PRESIDENT MIKE BRESTEL

To all Region Presidents, Division Superintendents, and NMRA officials and membership personnel:

I'm sure you're all aware of the increasing problems we all are having in trying to protect our personal information these days. Not a week goes by without one large company or another reporting that their security has been breached and an undetermined amount of customers' personal information has been stolen.

In the old days, most members were pleased that the National printed a membership roster for the entire NMRA, and many regions and divisions printed rosters that they then handed out to their members. Some are still doing it, and others are sending out the information electronically. But because of the growing problems we are all facing in protecting our personal information, the U.S. Congress and most state legislatures have become increasingly strict about how much of our members' personal information we can share and with whom we can share it.

Because we share the growing international concern that member information must be protected to the best of our ability from theft and unauthorized use, the BOD has adopted a new policy concerning the use of NMRA members' personal information. That policy is attached to this email. **Please be sure that everyone in your region and your region's divisions who handles membership information receives, reads, understands, and follows this policy.**

Briefly, what the policy says is that the National, the Regions, and the Divisions cannot share members' personal information with anyone who is not an NMRA official or volunteer authorized to have access to the information for official NMRA use. Some of the persons who can have access to the information are elected officials, membership volunteers, Achievement Program volunteers, and

the like. Some of the persons who are not authorized to have access to the information are private members, 100% clubs, hobby dealers or manufacturers, and the like.

The law in this whole area is moving rather quickly, and things that were legal a few months ago may not be legal now. If you're not sure whether a particular use of your members' information would be considered legitimate in today's climate, please ask. There is also concern that members' email information not be shared in mass emails or other non-secure electronic distribution.

We have an understanding of what U.S. law requires right now for the protection of member information, but I have already been asked what the privacy laws might be for our non-U.S. members. The answer is simple: we don't know. If you are in a Region or Division that includes Canadian members, we think that you will be protected if you follow the strictest interpretation of the new policy. If you are an official of an all-non-U.S. Region or Division, we urge you to seek legal advice in your area.

One last point: there may be personal liability consequences for Region and Division officers and personnel who ignore the new laws concerning member privacy. I know that one region officer has already been threatened with a lawsuit for sharing a member's personal information without asking first. Fortunately, it was a mistake and the member in question relented after some changes were made and he received an apology, but the next person may not be so understanding.

Again, this is new to all of us, so if you have questions about implementing this policy, please let us know.

Thanks for your attention,

Mike



#### **SHAMOKIN DIVISION**

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**CRUSTY  
MOUNTAIN  
AND  
WILOBY  
SPRINGS R.R.**

Mark Maynard, President  
Portsmouth, OH



*Midland Atlantic*

**Anthony Parrish, CEO**  
tony765@aol.com



## National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

### **Confidentiality Policy**

In order to protect the privacy rights and concerns of our members, the National Model Railroad Association, Inc. is forwarding this statement to all Region and Division personnel. All such personnel are expected to understand and abide by this policy.

Due to changes in the law as well as increased concern over privacy issues and identity theft, it is now NMRA policy that anyone with access to membership information obtained from the national NMRA must agree not to disclose any such information to anyone who is not authorized to have access to the information for official use.

The NMRA is in the process of obtaining permission from each member to disclose his or her personal information to other members, as we have in the past for those wishing to visit or contact other members. Due to changes in the law and increased privacy concerns, we can no longer disclose such information without the consent of the members concerned. Moreover, no information should be disclosed by any NMRA official, elected or appointed, at any level of the NMRA, that would allow those without authorization to obtain personnel information of other members. This would include mass electronic mail distribution with private email addresses in the "to" or "cc" address lines where the information can be read by any recipient.

Currently member information such as name, address, phone number, and email address is made available to each Region membership officer, and is also available to each Region president. Those persons are expected to pass this information along to their Region's Division superintendents and membership officers so that they can use the information for official business. Welcome letters, re-rail letters, newsletters, meeting notifications and the like would be considered official business. Other official mailings to all Region or Division members are also permitted. This policy strictly prohibits dissemination of member information to 100% NMRA clubs. Such clubs are not part of the NMRA corporate structure, and the NMRA has no way to control how such information would be used. 100% NMRA clubs are clubs whose members are all members of the NMRA, however, they have no other responsibilities to the NMRA. The NMRA HQ will continue to identify if a person is a member of the NMRA to an NMRA club for purposes of confirmation of the person's eligibility for membership in the 100% NMRA club. However, we would request the club to first request a copy of the membership card from the prospective member in order to confirm eligibility.

Any NMRA official who passes personal membership information along to non-authorized individuals runs the risk of being held personally legally liable for this action. Moreover, the NMRA insurance does not apply to such disclosures by region or division officers or personnel.

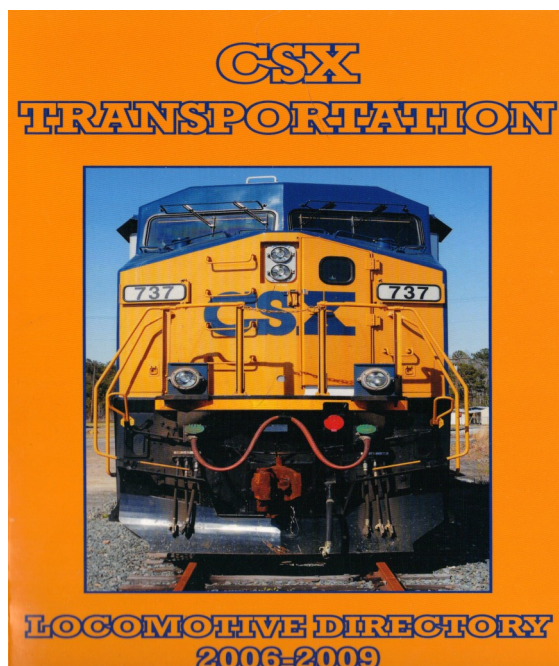
Further updates of this policy will be issued as they are formulated and adopted by the Board of Directors. We appreciate that these changes may cause changes in the way that your NMRA organization conducts business and serves its members, but these changes are necessary as the law evolves regarding privacy issues. If you have questions about this policy and how it should be applied, please direct them to me at [nmrapres@zoomtown.com](mailto:nmrapres@zoomtown.com) or to NMRA General Counsel, Robert J. Amsler, Jr., at [legal@hq.nmra.org](mailto:legal@hq.nmra.org).

Mike Brestel, NMRA President  
June 12, 2011



## LOCOMOTIVE DIRECTORY REVIEW

### DAN MULHEARN



## NORFOLK SOUTHERN LOCOMOTIVE DIRECTORY



**2010-2011**

PAUL K. WITHERS

Sometimes we get to thinking that there is nothing out there on the rails anymore but the ubiquitous General Electric wide cab "C something or other" with an occasional high tech Electro Motive product thrown in for variety. I recently purchased the latest copy of two locomotive directories for our "home" roads and would like to pass on some of what I have learned. These directories are published by Withers Publishing; publisher of *Diesel Era* magazine. The CSX directory follows the same format which was developed for the annual NS directory. Thorough information on each locomotive in the fleet is presented; including such items as horsepower, type horn, build date, rebuild date, former owner or heritage and, in short, most everything you would want to know about each company's locomotive fleet. The CSX book is current to July 1, 2009 while the NS book is current to January 1, 2011. The books are in a table format for each locomotive type with specific and general information as well as good clear representative roster shots. All photographs within the book are black and white. The 9X6 size of the books and good glossy paper make these books handy to haul along in your camera bag while you are out "railfanning".

You will find that even among the "look alike" wide cab GEs and EMDs there is a lot of variety, some visible, some such as AC versus DC traction motors less obvious. CSX does help us out by painting a single lightning stripe

on it's AC motored locos; or a double lightning stripe on it's 6000 hp AC units. What amazed me is the variety of units these two companies still roster. CSX, for instance, still rosters 20 GE Dash8-40B units which they financed for New York, Susquehanna & Western when "Susie Q" was the designated operator of the D&H. There are an additional 30 of the same type of unit which came from ConRail. The interesting thing about this is CSX acquired 12 of these units in the initial CR breakup and the remaining 18 were acquired in 2006 when NS did not renew their leases. There are almost 400 GP40-2 units still on the CSX roster which have B&O, C&O, L&N, WM, RDG, CR, SBD and other heritages. These directories are wonderful and easy to use in researching the rosters of our favorite roads and a quick handy was to identify what we are seeing when we are train watching. I know, in my case, I can quickly identify any of the automobiles of my youth, those models from the 50s and 60s, but anymore they are all just cars to me. It is the same with locomotives. I can tell you all about those "first generation" and early "second generation" diesels. But the newer ones; well I need to look at something like these guides. I highly recommend these guides for those with an interest in current diesel locomotive rosters and information.

Withers Publishing, 528 Dunkle School Rd, Halifax  
PA 17032 or [www.witherspublishing.com](http://www.witherspublishing.com).

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Jerry Doyle, President  
Barboursville, WV

**CRESCENT VALLEY**

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL NMRA INFONET

Remind your members that the NMRA has a Facebook page and is on Twitter. For up-to-the-minute news members should follow us at either (or both) of those two social media sites!

The National Train Show also has a Facebook page. When they follow us, your members can get all kinds of information about which vendors will be at the show, show specials, and other good-to-know pre-views about the NTS!

As has been the case for several years, NMRA Membership numbers are remaining stable. The membership count, as of May 31, was 19,495. This represents an increase of 0.34% (that's 1/3 of 1%) over May of 2010, and a decrease of 0.32% (1/3 of 1%) over May of 2006. When you hear rumors of the "constant decrease in NMRA membership," please quote these figures -- it's STABLE and has been for at least five years!

Repeating last month's news, the 2011 NMRA election results are in!

The new NMRA Canada Director will be Don Hillman, replacing Clark Kooning, MMR.

The new Central District Director will be Peter Magoun, MMR, replacing Bob Beatty, MMR.

The new Regional Advisory Council Director will be Stephen Priest, MMR, replacing Bob Ferguson.

All new Directors will take office at the Sacramento Board Meeting.

The Summer Board meeting will be held prior to the Sacramento x2011 Convention and will begin on Friday, July 1, 2011. Current plans put the meeting in the Beavis Room in the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel. Tentative starting time is 9 am. All locations and times are subject to change -- be sure to keep an eye out for updates to this information. Remember, it's the responsibility of Region and Division officials to pass along this information to members.

### Alleghany & New River Road

An Appalachian Coal Hauling Railroad set in the 50's



Bringing a little bit of West Virginia to the rest of America  
a few tons at a time



**John Harris, Chief Engineer**  
AandNRR@aol.com



### HINTON DIVISION

**Gary Burdette - Superintendent**  
Point Pleasant WV

### NORFOLK AND WESTERN



**PIPESTEM BASEMENT  
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**WESTERN MARYLAND RAILWAY  
THOMAS SUBDIVISION**

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## THREE ARROWS RAILROAD

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## Upcoming Coal Division Meetings

August 13, 2011

West Virginia Hobbies and Crafts  
Teays Valley, WV

September 10, 2011

Joint Meeting with MCR Division 6  
Mark Maynard's Home  
Portsmouth, OH