

Train Order

Division One NCR

Volume 35, Issue 2

Sept. 2009



Cab Signals

Fred Lux, Superintendent

Welcome back to the 2009-2010 year for Division One. As noted in the special edition published a couple of weeks ago, the board has put together what we think will be an exciting line-up of programs and clinics. You will find the complete list of programs, along with show and tell topics, on the Division One web site.

This month is the month we adopt our operating budget for the year and make other important decisions, like how we are going to finance the Division operation. I know that there are several schools of thought concerning this subject and all will be considered at the meeting. The board has put together a budget that pinches pennies and is prepared to present a funding recommendation. I know that it is tempting to look at the cash reserve we have in the bank, but we must remember that we are up for another convention in about 6 years, and we need seed money for any fund raising activities we decide to undertake.

The show and tell and the program will be combined this one time. Each member is going to be asked to show and or tell about some of the railroad related things they did this summer. With everyone being expected to speak, it will take a good portion of the evening. I am sure that everyone will have something interesting to share with the group.

As I mentioned in the special issue, there will not be a month set aside for formal layout tours this year. Rather, we would like to feature a different layout each month. We will be looking for a brave soul at the meeting who will be willing to open his layout for a couple of hours either Saturday, 9/26, or Sunday, 9/27. If you aren't willing to volunteer this month, please think seriously about signing up for one of the upcoming months. A sign-up sheet will be at the meeting.

Even though National no longer allows us to charge Division dues, we still have to be able to prove that we are a 100 percent NMRA member club. The sign-in sheet this month will either include spaces for your member number

and expiration date, or will be a check-off list from NMRA that lists their information for you. Someone will be at the sign-in table to help if needed.

Over the years, Steve and Tina have done a super job supplying the refreshments. Gradually over the years we have seen the refreshments evolve from simple snacks and beverages to almost full-blown meals. In order to save money, we are going back to the simple snacks and beverage for most of the meetings. The Christmas party will still be a potluck, and the May meeting at Jim White's will be a cook-out.

See you all at the meeting!

Minutes for the May 29, 2009 Division meeting.

John Roth, Acting Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Superintendant Chuck Williams. The minutes for the April 2009 division meeting were approved without comment or amendment as they appeared in the May Train Order.

Ray Huber informed the members that the correct Division 1 e-mail address is as follows: divisiononencr.com. It had been previously published incorrectly as divisiononencr.org. Members please make a note of this and correct your computer address files.

Fred Lux passed out index cards and asked for suggestions for clinic topics for the upcoming year starting with Sept. 2009. Fred requested that members of the division make notes and suggestions on the following 3 points: 1) What would members like to see at future clinics, 2) Is there a particular topic that an individual member would like to present, 3) Do you know of someone, not a division member, who you would like to see present a clinic. Cards were handed in at the end of the meeting. Division members can also e-mail any ideas they might have over the summer to Fred Lux.

Fred Lux also asked members of the division to consider doing an article with photos for the Hot Box, our NCR

regional magazine. Fred stated he would be willing to help edit articles and photos. Photos need to be in a digital format, saved in either .jpg or .psd file formats.

Treasurer John Strunc reported that in lieu of dues, the division had collected \$465.00 this year. We had to pay Collingwood Presbyterian Church \$530.00 for hiring the security guard to cover our meetings. Our total income as a division this year was \$1,076.61 and our expenses were \$1,641.51. These numbers do not reflect the profit the division made by hosting the NCR regional convention last October.

Chuck Williams asked for a motion to continue to collect donations in lieu of fixed dues. Steve Glass made the motion, 2nded by Jim Lang, and passed by voice vote.

Steve Kellogg reported that we still have approximately 130 club cars remaining. He is currently exploring the possibility of placing ads in several Model Railroad magazines and will report on the cost when he has more information.

OLD BUSINESS:

Steve Glass informed the membership that his insurance would cover the cost of our stolen video equipment. Jerry Sahagian entered a motion that Steve Glass and Mike Anteau be authorized to purchase replacement equipment over the summer up to the amount that had been previously approved. Motion was 2nded by Jim Lang and approved by voice vote. It was also agreed upon that if speakers and an integrated remote controller could be purchased within the previously authorized dollar amount, that such items would be purchased.

Lou Glatzer requested an update on the status of the Division One library. John Roth and Chuck Williams reviewed what had been done so far on establishing a division library. An article by John Roth on the subject will be prepared and submitted for the September 2009 Train Order.

The business meeting ended at 8:00 pm. 29 members were present.

2-minute clinics:

\Don Bigney presented a clinic on how to make a track power testing device using a Bic pen, red and green l.e.d. lights and a 9 volt battery.

Mike Anteau presented a clinic on how to use l.e.d. lights and styrene strips to scratch build a switch indicator direction signal.

Our clinic for the May 2009 meeting was Paul Scoles new video on how to organize and run an operating session. A comment was made at the end of the video presentation that while the video was very informative it lacked a certain degree of authenticity because no one was heard to be screaming or yelling during the operating session.

The meeting was adjourned by Superintendent Williams at 9:45 pm.

Hartford National

July 5-11, 2009

So after visiting my new grandson and of course his parents in Cleveland on the 4th of July, Rose and I headed over to Hartford for a week of trains, seeing old friends and of course trains. After checking into the hotel and getting our registration packages, I called our friend Gerry Albers to see what he was doing for dinner. Pulled out my trusted cell phone, pulled up Gerry in the contacts, pushed his number and was greeted by a lovely ladies voice- Jenny his wife. (Old Age I guess) So after some pleasantries, I called Gerry and we met him for dinner. Following dinner I decided to see if Kevin Endriss had arrived yet. Again, pulled out the trusty cell phone, pulled Kevin up in the contacts, pushed the send button and again was greeted by a lovely ladies voice- Jane his wife. Seems like lightening does strike twice in the same place or is it old age. Anyways, after contacting Kevin it was off to Sunday night clinics.

Monday I met up with Kevin for an LDSIG tour to Albany NY. We started with Dick Elwell's magnificent Hoosac Valley Railroad and then went off to see Bill McChesney, Andy Clermont, Vic Roman, Ken Nelson, Tony & Diane Steele and Mike Ledley before ending up at Henry Propst's, NYC Mohawk Division for an operating session. And yes, for you that know Kevin, we did take time out to eat.

Tuesday morning it was off to clinics after a short nap Monday night, and to see what else was going on in the convention hall. Those that have attended a National convention know that there is just about everything you ever wanted to learn about presented in the clinics. The only problem is that there never seems to be enough time to fit them in between the operating sessions and the tours. Tuesday night Kevin and I were off to our second operating session at Frank Czubryt's Denver Union Terminal O scale. O scale is so much fun to operate on with all the weight, clank and click of the wheels.

Wednesday was another LDSIG all day tour of the area surrounding Hartford. There were 14 layouts, including

Earl Smallshaw's Middletown & Mystic Mines RR. Kevin, Rose and I along with our GPS were off to see how many we could get in. The day ended with a dinner cruise down the Connecticut River.

Thursday finally allowed time for viewing the contest room, browsing in the silent auction room, and attending clinics. The LDSIG had a full day of moderated forums discussing staging, passenger operations, marine, signaling, electrified operations, turnouts, New England and track alignment. Just about everything you wanted to know about building a layout. The day ended with another great operating session at Bill Duffe's, Boston & Maine. Should have been there Dave!

Friday broke forth with anticipation of a kid in a candy shop. Oh, yeah the National Train Show. My wallet certainly said that I had a good time. After speaking with the manufacturers viewing the modular layouts and yes all the vendors the day closed with the LDSIG Banquet.

If you have never been to a National NMRA Convention you are really missing a great time of fellowship, learning, Operations, National Train Show and just a lot of fun. Next years NMRA Convention (75 Years) is right up the road in Milwaukee Wisconsin, July 11-17, 2010. Try it you just might like it.

Division One Library Update

By John Roth

At the May, 2009 meeting of the division, a request was made by a member on the status of the Division One Library.

I have purchased several large card board storage boxes, a file box, file cards, a note book for record keeping purposes, and adhesive labels to mark donated items. As of this writing, no items have been submitted to the division for use in our library.

Personally, this is how I see the way a division library would operate. Items would be donated or loaned to the division for use by the members. Unless an item is specifically marked as a donation, I intend to operate on the assumption that it is on temporary loan to the division. I would label all items and mark them with the name of the donor, and whether it was a donated item or only on loan. I would also make an entry in the note book, which would operate as our inventory, or catalog.

In the event that a member would request that an item be returned, it would be crossed out of the book and note

would be made next to the entry on the disposal of that particular item.

One thing we need to consider is how to deal with items that are lost or accidentally damaged. In the event that a library item is lost or accidentally damaged, who will be responsible for the cost of replacement?

What I would like to see for donations are books and videos. We could accept magazines, though I personally don't want to do that. I think storage would quickly become an issue.

If there is some kind of consensus on the issue, we might even devote some funds to the purchase of items for the library. Again, that is a topic for further discussion.

Finally, as to the lending process, for every item donated to the library I would make up an index card with the name of the book, video, etc. On the back of the card, I would write down the name of the person taking out the item and the date it was taken out. When it was returned, I would write in that date.

If anyone has any suggestions on what they want in the library or how I might do things differently, please contact me after a meeting or by e-mail at: jroth@bex.net.

Notes & Reminders

Train Show, Maumee Rec center, 9/27/09

NCR Convention, Fort Wayne, 10/15 – 10/18

Volunteer to host layout spotlight open house

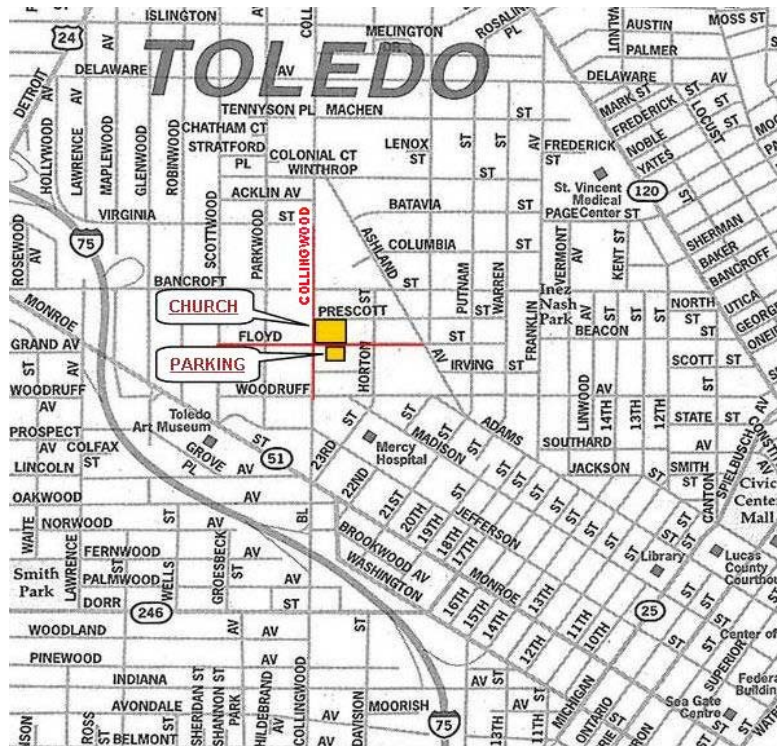
Starting next month, the Ops Box will return. If you host ops sessions on a regular, or irregular basis and would like them listed here along with your contact information, either email me or call me.

Bring your show and tell items, or stories of your summer adventures to share with the club at the meeting.

If you were one of the few people that has not yet received a personalized name tag, please contact me before the meeting either via email or phone and I will try to have one ready for you.

Next Meeting – Friday, Sept. 25

Collingwood Presbyterian Church



CURRENT OFFICERS (2009 - 2011)

Superintendent -Fred Lux. fred@fredlux.com

Assistant Superintendent -Dave McMullian ... davemcmullian@earthlink.net

Chief Clerk -Chuck Williams..... cwillia4@verizon.net

Agent -Phil Kauffman..... pennsy6401@bex.net

News Editor -Fred Lux –

Program Chair -Steve Kellogg atsfmktrock@yahoo.com

Service Chair -Steve Kellogg