

# BUILDER'S PLATE

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April 2018

Volume 1, Issue 2

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## Newsletter of Division 12, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc

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### Superintendent's Report

On Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> we held our first division membership meeting. While we accomplished a lot, we still have more work to do, and that will require more members stepping up into various roles. For instance, after the meeting was over we realized we didn't take any photos of the meeting in progress. Are any members willing to act as Division 12 photographer? Your equipment doesn't need to be fancy; a smart phone will do.

I would like to thank the members from Division 5 that attend our meeting: Wayne & Bonnie Lett and Dan Chuppa. We would again like to thank Dave Neff and Division 5 for the generous gift of \$2,500.00 to the new Division 12.

We did have a quorum at the first meeting, so the division was able to take care of the biggest matter in front of us--approving the Division 12

Regulations.

We are incorporated with the state of Pennsylvania, but we are still working with the IRS to achieve our status as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization.

We had a good turnout at the Erie Train Show at Rainbow Gardens the first Sunday in March. A number of people picked up NMRA applications or took photos of our signs for reference.

We also had a table at the Division 5 show in Kirtland, Ohio the weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of March. While there were fewer opportunities to recruit new members, it was good to get our "flag" out there. A number of NMRA members from other Mid Central Division regions did stop by to welcome us to the MCR.

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### Next Membership Meeting:

Our next membership meeting will be held on **Saturday, April 14 at 1:00 PM at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station** located at the intersection of Venango Avenue and Railroad Street in Cambridge Springs, PA. The program, by Blaine Hays, author of several books on urban transit, will be on the city of Erie's Interurban and city cars. The April 14 membership meeting will continue to have a Bring and Brag segment where members can share something they have been working on related to model railroading.

Our board of Directors has been busy, and we have set an agenda for the balance of the year. The meeting topics came from the exercise we did at the first membership meeting.

I am also glad to announce that the division has a home base for meetings at the Trolley Station in Cambridge Springs, PA. We do still want to investigate having Division meetings at other locations occasionally.

I'm looking forward to our next Division meeting. Blaine Hayes will be doing a presentation for our division covering the city of Erie's City cars and surrounding Interurban lines. I have been friends with Blaine for more than 25 years. He has published a number of books on trolley and transit systems. His most recent was "*Transit in the Triangle*" which is about the Pittsburgh, PA transit system.

Happy Model Railroading  
Brad White  
Div. 12 Superintendent



## Division 12, MCR, NMRA, Inc.

*The Alleghany Western Division:*

Expanding your model railroading horizons

Please visit our website: [www.div12mcr.org](http://www.div12mcr.org)

Or  **NMRAAlleghanyWesternDivision**

### Meetings

Membership meetings include announcements and limited business, Bring and Brag where members share what they have been working on, and a model railroad related program, presentation, or clinic.

### Activities

Forming with a commitment to growth and our members' input, our new division is exploring different approaches to developing skills as well as educating our members and the public about model railroading. Participation with T-Trak modules, the NMRA Achievement Program, and round-robin operating sessions or layout visits are all possibilities.

**NMRA:** <https://www.nmra.org/>

**Mid Central Region:**

<http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org/>

**Division 12 Superintendent:**

Superintendent@div12mcr.org



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## Division 12 Upcoming Events

April: **Membership meeting:** Saturday, April 14th at 1:00 PM at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station. Presentation: Blain Hays on Erie Interurban transit.

May: **Membership meeting:** Saturday, May 12th at 1:00 PM at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station. Presentation: Dick Bradley on short lines from the 1960s.

June: **Event:** Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. Picnic and train watching at Gale Street in Westfield NY. Time and details to be determined.

July: **Membership meeting:** Saturday, July 14th at 1:00 PM at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station. Presentation: Dave Ellis on model railroad backdrops.

August: **Membership meeting:** Saturday, August 11th at 1:00 PM at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station. Presentation: Brad White on model railroad operations on the Chautauqua Branch.

September: **Membership meeting:** Date to be determined.

September: **Board of Directors** meeting: Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station. Planning for November Division 12 events: Erie Train Show, T-Trak Displays, NMRA Layout tours.

October: **Membership meeting:** Erie area meeting with presentation on operations on a model railroad and then operating on the railroad after the meeting. Date to be determined.

November: **Public Event(s):** Erie Train Show and possible other public demonstrations of Division 12 T-Trak layout. **NMRA only event:** Layout tours. (Also open to other Divisions 2, 5, and 11?)

December: Break and holidays.

## Officers and Board of Directors

**Superintendent:** Brad White—  
superintendent@div12mcr.org

**Assistant Superintendent:** Mike Hauk

**Clerk/Treasurer:** Dave Ellis

**Board of Directors:** Dick Bradley, Doug Sandmeyer, Chris Mincemoyer

## BOD Biography:

### Dick Bradley

At eleven years old my first train was an American Flyer HO freight set purchased at a household sale in 1944. In college I joined the Tech Model Railroad Club and, as required for membership, joined the NMRA. After graduation, work at the Burroughs Research Laboratory put me in the Philadelphia area where I was involved in local model railroad clubs and the Mid Eastern Region of the NMRA. I was one of the founders of the MER Philadelphia Division. During this time J. H. Geissel introduced me to the Maryland & Pennsylvania RR, which has remained my

favorite prototype. I earned my Master Model Railroader certificate (No. 37) in 1972. I established the Yocolu Hobby Shop in 1972 and served model railroaders from behind the counter for 23 years, retiring in 1995. In the early seventies I was a founding member of the Alleghany Highlands Division of the NFR.

I am still active in local and NMRA activities. Participation in NMRA national, regional and division activities has brought me good friends and much pleasure. Over the years I have published over 40 articles in national model railroading magazines. At age 84 I am modeling the Ma & Pa in HO.

## Upcoming Model Railroad Events

### **2018 Pittsburgh Model Railroad Jamboree**

Division 2 is holding its annual Jamboree on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at Yorktown Hall, Robert Morris University.

### **Cincinnati Express 2018 MCR Convention: West Chester OH, May 17-20, 2018**

The Cincinnati Express is our region's convention. It will include over sixty layouts open for the convention, guest operating sessions, industry tours, rail clinics, contests, and more.

### **Greenberg's Great Train and Toy Show: Monroeville, PA, July 21-22, 2018**

The Greenberg Great Train Show is a large train-show geared towards both the public and modelers. It is located in the Monroeville Convention Center, 209 Mall Blvd. Monroeville, PA 15416.

### **NMRA Kansas City National Convention: August 5-12, 2018**

The NMRA National Convention has clinics, tours, contests, the largest train show in the country, and more. This is one of the years that the Operations Road Show will be part of the convention.

Links to all of these upcoming model railroad events can be found on the Division 12 Website:

<http://www.div12mcr.org>

Use the search button on the "Welcome" page or use the "News/Events" page, either by scrolling or clicking on the "Train Shows and Conventions" category link.