

BUILDER'S PLATE

February 2022

Volume 5, Issue 2

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

Superintendent's Letter

I would like to thank Dick Bradley, Larry Dodge and Tim Clint for stepping up and volunteering to be the nominating committee for our upcoming elections. If you would like to be our next Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent or Clerk please reach out to one of the committee members. You should have received the instructions in an email from Mike Hauk, our current Clerk. Not knowing how to do the job should not hold you back from helping your division move forward. Just over 4 years ago, your current officers took on their tasks without knowing what the jobs entailed. Our future officers will have the advantage of our experience and guidance.

Doug Sandmeyer has made arrangements to have NMRA President Gordy Robinson join our March Division Zoom meeting. I'd also like to thank Doug for setting up some great clinics for our monthly Zoom meetings. My hope is, once we can meet in person on a regular basis, we can still have clinicians Zoom in.

The Erie Train show will be here before you know it. Lee Farnsworth will be signing up volunteers for the kitchen. This is one of our fundraiser events so please consider helping your division. We will also need members to staff the Division tables. This especially important for this show as 2 of your officers will not be able to attend.

Happy Model Railroading
Bradley White
Division 12 MCR Superintendent



Division 12, MCR, NMRA, Inc.
The Alleghany Western Division:
Expanding your model railroading horizons

Please visit our website: www.div12mcr.org

Or  [NMRAAlleghanyWesternDivision](https://www.facebook.com/NMRAAlleghanyWesternDivision)

Meetings

As face-to-face membership meetings return, they typically include announcements and limited business; “Modeling Question” and “What’s On Your Workbench” during which members share what they have been working on; and educational model railroad related programs, presentations, or clinics.

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

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

Division 12 Superintendent: Superintendent@div12mcr.org

Officers and BOD

Superintendent: Brad White — superintendent@div12mcr.org

Assistant Superintendent/ Clerk: Mike Hauk — ap@div12mcr.org

Treasurer: Dale Desser — treasurer@div12mcr.org

Board of Directors: Rob Bennett, Doug Sandmeyer, Chris Mincemoyer

Committee Chairs

Social: Lee Farnsworth – social@div12mcr.org

T-Trak & Clinic: Doug Sandmeyer – ttrak@div12mcr.org

Web Editor: Chris Mincemoyer – webeditor@div12mcr.org

Operations Coordinator: Dale Desser – operations@div12mcr.org

Achievement Program: Mike Hauk – ap@div12mcr.org

Next Membership Event:

Our February meeting event will be a virtual Zoom meeting, which will include the second of a three-part hands-on clinic building the “First Timer Bar” from Downtown Deco presented by Clark Kooning, MMR, on Saturday, February 12th. Link will be provided in a future email. There will also be a second clinic presented by Chuck Diljak from the Garden State Division, on Getting Started with JMRI Operations Pro.

Division 12 Upcoming Events

March 12th 2022: **Zoom hands-on clinics with Clark Kooning, MMR©.** Final part of a three-part clinic on building the “First-Timer Bar” kit from Downtown Deco. Gary Reynolds from the WNY Division will present a clinic on Circus train Modeling. There is also the possibility of a third presentation by a very special guest speaker you won't want to miss! Details will be forthcoming. Also note this meeting will begin at **1:00 PM EST.**

Upcoming Meeting Programs

To ensure that the membership meetings are of value, please let the leadership know what you would like to see in upcoming meetings by communicating directly with officers or board members.

Upcoming Model Railroad Events

February 2022: **WNYRHS Fall Train Show:** Hamburg, NY Fairgrounds Saturday February 26th (10am-5pm) and Sunday February 27th (10am-4pm), 2022.
<http://www.trainweb.org/wnyrhs/trainshow.htm>

March 2022: **Erie Train Show:** Rainbow Gardens at Waldameer Park, Erie. Sunday March 6th 2022. Division 12 will staff the concessions as before. Volunteers will be needed; watch for a future email.

March 2022: **Railfest 2022**, sponsored by Division 5 MCR NMRA: Saturday and Sunday March 19th and 20th, 2022 (10am-4pm) Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH

April 2022: **Iron and Steel Spring Rail Fest:** Saturday, April 2nd 2022. St. Mary's Assumption Social Center, 356 S. Belle Vista Ave. Youngstown, OH 44509

April 2022: **Great Batavia Train Show and RPM Meet:** Sunday, April 3rd, 2022.9:30AM-3:30PM. Genesee Community College, 1 College Road, Batavia, NY 14020. See attached flyer.

April 2022: Saturday, April 23rd. **Division 2 Jamboree** at Robert Morris University near Pittsburgh. Mike H. from Division 12 will present a clinic on static grass. See attached flyer.

May 2022: **Indy Junction 2022**: May 18-22, 2022. Tri-Regional Convention sponsored by the Midwest, North Central, and Mid Central Regions of the NMRA and includes a joint conference with the Railroad Prototype Modelers (RPM). 4 days of clinics, model displays and contests, operating sessions, prototype tours, trains show, and more! Early registration ends December 31st, 2021. Save up to \$25 by registering early! More details including online registration and hotel reservations at: <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/>.



Knisely Canning, Part 4

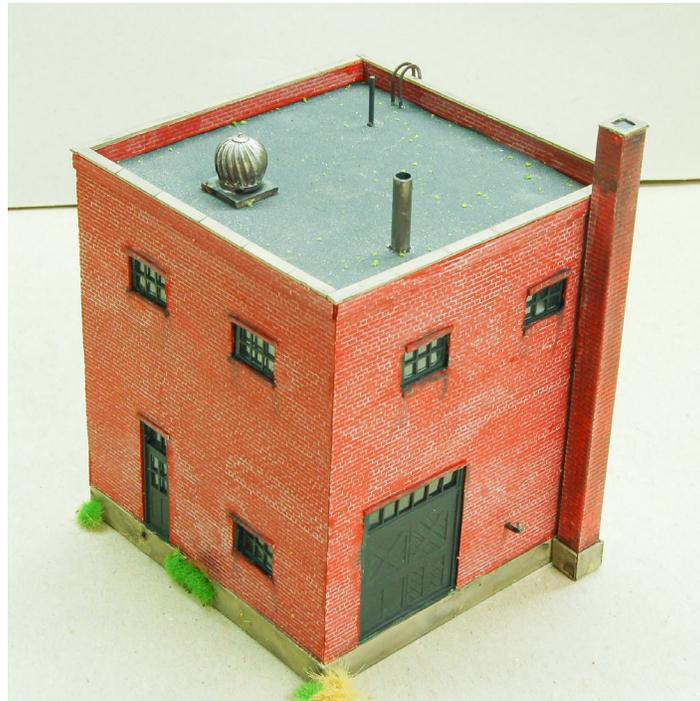
Text, Models and Photos by Dick Bradley, MMR

Continuing on with the 4th and final part of the Knisely Canning saga, we finish with weathering, details, and placement of the structure on the railroad.

Looking at the space for the structure on the railroad, I placed a city delivery fuel truck next to the boiler house and found there is too little space to turn the truck around. The tail end of the canning house siding must be shortened to make truck turning space. Whoa! Yes, removing track for imaginary scenic purposes; almost unheard of! Yet, the few lost inches of track have no effect on switching the canning house, but go a long way to enhance scenic plausibility. The track is laid with white glue; it is an easy but messy job to soak it with water and scrape it off. Some black top color paint extends the driveway. Old black top is not black – go look at a real street.



Both the boiler house and canning house need weathering. Black craft acrylic paint is thinned with water and a drop of Liquitex Flow-Aid added. This black wash works well on the brick and concrete of the boiler house. Dirt trapping corners are further darkened with black paint. A few runs are added at sills and lintels. The top of the chimney gets more black for a sooty look. I'm satisfied with this minimum black weathering of the boiler house.



I try the black wash on the canning house siding and but am very disappointed with the appearance. The wash appears too light with too much pooling the grooves of the siding. With the wash fully dry, I then try Bragdon weathering powders. Unfortunately, this result is too dark and spotty, and I washed the powders off. Next, I try making the black wash denser and lighter with the addition of dark gray. Finally, this works acceptably for the siding.

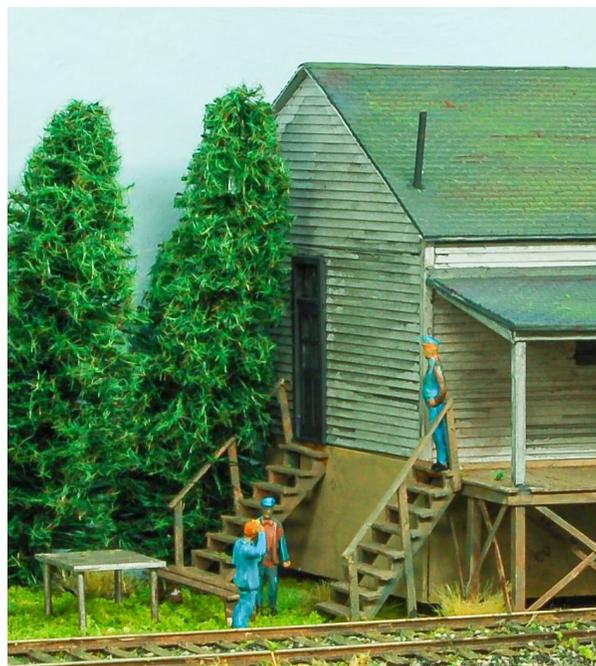
For the canning house roof I want a mixture of red, green and blue over the base dark gray to look like the variations in the base gray of old asphalt shingles. My procedure is to wet an area, apply dabs of the colors and blend them in. It takes several tries but eventually I obtained a result with which I am satisfied.

The canning house needs a sign large enough and clear enough to read from three feet away. So many type styles to choose from in Word Perfect®! I select a font called "Roboto Slab" and try several sizes and letter spacings before settling on 16 point at 120% space in dark green. Lines around the words are made with Word Perfect. Bracketing the words with a tomato and an ear of corn is a good visual clue to the function of the building. A Google clip art search quickly finds an appropriate tomato. It needs a bit of cropping in Paint® to fit the sign. The ear of corn begins as a thin, vertical ear with a couple of lines nearby. I use Photoshop® to erase the lines, rotate the ear 45° and distort it to a fat cob. Sizing of the tomato and corn to fit the sign was done in Word Perfect. The sign was then printed with an ink jet printer.



The paper sign was mounted on 0.020 styrene with Testors canopy cement. The canopy cement results in an instant grab, so it must be right the first try. Polly Scale Vermont Green on the edges and back is a good match for the print color. Testors Gloss Coat seals the paper and paint. A very light wash of dark gray tamed the bright white of the paper. Walthers Goo was used to affix the bottom in place on the roof. The top braces are 0.015 x 0.030 styrene strip painted black. More Goo holds them in place.

Finally, it's time for the scenery details for the Knisely Canning Co. From the parts box comes barrels and boxes for the dock. Three figures are selected, painted and their pedestals removed. (Thanks Bill!) A table and bench are made from styrene scrap. The big pine trees began as Heki bottle brushes which are trimmed and flocked. They help hide the cut off back of the canning house.



The fuel delivery truck gets some white paint and ATLANTIC decals. Parked vehicles help hide the street to backdrop joint. Ground cover is a mix of Silflor tufts, scrap Super Tree parts and burs. For the backdrop I use a piece leftover from Lark Products Railroad Graphics volume 5. I attempted to use acrylic paints to change the tone from summer to spring. The backdrop panel was wrapped around the corner and new trees added to integrate it with the existing scene. It took careful selection of scenic details to achieve the look I wanted. There is almost as much time spent in the details and scenery as in making the structures. Making scenery really is a form of scratch building. At last the scene is complete, and I like it!



Thus ends the saga of building the Knisely Canning house.

Why I chose prototype modeling instead of freelancing

Text and Photos by Ed Cronin

When I went off to college in 1966, I packed up all of my all of my trains and didn't look at them for about 12 years. In 1978 we built a new house. I had a large basement to work with so I built a very basic layout (two loops connected with a 5% grade). It was not very satisfactory. In 1984 my wife and I went to the NMRA Annual Convention in Kansas City. It was an awakening.

In Kansas City we must have gone on layout tours every day of the week we were there. I saw some incredible modeling and amazing layouts. When I got home I tracked down several modelers where we lived. I wanted to get ideas from these new friends.

I visited Roger Robinson who lived in Cambridge Springs. One of the books Roger gave me was *Railroads You Can Model* edited by Mike Shafer. I studied every track plan in the book but became really excited over the track plan for the New York, Ontario, & Western. At that time I

decided to build the track plan for a freelanced railroad. At that time I had no idea where it would operate.

My research continued and several weeks later I found *The Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad 1869-1969* by Roy Beaver, in the local library. It seemed to be a perfect fit. The Bessemer was close to where we lived (Meadville, PA) but not so close that my visitors would point out discrepancies with my track and scenery. The prototype provided me with a connection to my home town (Pittsburgh) and provided focus to my railroad building project. I liked long trains from the transition era...check. I liked heavy steam...check. A Union Switch and Signal panel was still in use when I got a chance to photograph it and, using the photos, built a replica that has been operational for the last 20 years.

My wife became involved with the project when we went to train shows where she was able to find books, track diagrams, timetables, and artifacts from the B&LE. Over time I was able to meet men who worked on the B&LE Railroad, including Larry Johnson who operated the CTC panel, and John Reed, past president of the B&LE. These men and others have helped me understand what was done in the real world and why. Having this resource certainly enabled me to create operating sessions which were more authentic than I could have ever come up with on my own.



I believe I made the right decision when I selected a prototype to model. A huge amount of decisions were already made for me and made my railroad much easier to build. The prototype provided direction.



Division 12 Marketplace

For Sale: Dayton Speedaire 110 VAC 1/2 HP 3 Gallon compressor with filter/regulator and gage. Suitable for airbrush supply and powerful enough to use for air nailers. \$150.00
If interested, contact Doug at doug.sandmeyer@gmail.com



“Until next time, keep `em polished!”

The *Builder's Plate* © 2021 is a publication of Division 12, Mid Central Region, NMRA. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Division 12, the MCR, or the NMRA.

Current editors: Mike Hauk and Bill Schopf.

Direct all comments, suggestions and corrections to: buildersplate@div12mcr.org

2022 PITTSBURGH MODEL RAILROAD JAMBOREE

Saturday April 23, 2022
Robert Morris University
Yorktown Hall

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS!
See website for details

ENJOY A FULL DAY OF MODEL RAILROAD ACTIVITIES!

Modeling Clinics
Model Contests
Door Prizes & Raffles
Displays
White Elephant Tables
Sunday Layout Tours

Clinics run all day on a variety of topics - model railroading, scenery building, detailing rolling stock, prototype railroading and local history!

General information and questions: 412-496-1575 or e-mail: gekuehn@comcast.net. Registration questions should be directed to registrar shown below.

Register early to guarantee meal availability. Very limited space is available at the door. NO banquet reservations will be taken after April 13, 2022

Registration information will be distributed upon arrival April 23rd. **No confirmations will be mailed.**

Payment by mail **MUST** be by check. Please check our website for other payment options. **NOW YOU CAN REGISTER ONLINE!** See our website.

Program subject to change without notice.

Full refunds given two weeks prior to event. No refunds for no-shows.

Registration includes buffet lunch & continental breakfast!

OPEN TO EVERYONE!
Registration opens at 8:00 a.m.
Activities run all day!

Check our website for list of clinics, program schedule, contest rules and latest information!
www.keystonedivision.org

Please note: This is not a model train sale or show. More details can be found on the back of this flyer.

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PERSON REGISTERING. PAY ONLINE OR BY MAIL!

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____ Cell _____
E-mail _____
NMRA Member # _____

Jamboree Registration Fee Per Person - Includes lunch & continental breakfast.

NMRA Members	\$45.00 = _____
Non-NMRA Member (\$10 fee applicable to a trial membership. See below)	\$55.00 = _____
Children under 18 with parent or guardian (members or non-members)	\$20.00 = _____
Banquet (not included with registration) Dinner is Crusted Chicken Parmesan	\$35.00 = _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here for vegetarian option.	TOTAL _____

Make checks payable to: **Division Two, MCR, NMRA**

Yes! Please sign me up for a trial membership. I have read and agreed to the conditions on the back of this form.

Mail to:
NMRA Jamboree, c/o Tom Gaus
3357 New Texas Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15239
Email: webmaster@keystonedivision.org
Ph (412) 731-8846

Sponsored by the Keystone Division of the NMRA's Mid-Central Region



THE BEST DEAL IN MODEL RAILROADING JUST GOT EVEN BETTER!

ATTEND THE PITTSBURGH MODEL RAILROAD JAMBOREE AND GET A TRIAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE NMRA!

The best deal in model railroading!

If eligible. See conditions below.

-  **GET THE NMRA MAGAZINE!** Enjoy product reviews, modeling articles and more!
-  **TAKE PART IN LOCAL ACTIVITIES!** Make new friends and learn at the same time!
-  **GAIN ACCESS TO THE A. C. KALMBACH LIBRARY!** Possibly the largest RR collection on Earth!
-  **AND MANY MORE BENEFITS!** See www.nmra.org for a complete list of benefits

NMRA Rail Pass offer is good in the U.S. only and is for new members and those who have not been NMRA members for two years or more. Individuals can only join ONE TIME at Rail Pass rates. Rail Pass members can attend conventions and participate in contests, but cannot hold office or vote in NMRA events, and will not receive a New Member Pak. Membership will renew at the regular membership rate.

What is the Pittsburgh Model Railroad Jamboree?

It's a one day gathering of model railroaders where modelers can share their hobby with others, learn more about the hobby and have fun in the process! It is not, however, a train sale or show. Our event is different and features the activities listed below.

What goes on at one of these events?

There are a variety of activities. Some of the most popular are instructional seminars or clinics presented on a variety of topics. There are also model contests, space to display models you've built, a large raffle of high quality railroad items, the opportunity to meet other modelers, a buffet dinner and after-dinner program. It's a way to learn more about railroading and meet others who have the same interests.

Do you have to be an NMRA member to attend?

No! But with the special offer above, everyone who qualifies can enjoy a trial membership and enjoy all of the local activities that NMRA members enjoy year 'round! You'll get our local newsletter informing you of who we are and what is taking place locally.

What are the "clinics" that you mentioned?

Each one runs an hour and there are about 12 different topics to choose from. They may include slide presentations, actual demonstrations and open discussion on a variety of model and prototype railroad subjects. The clinics are informal and open to everyone who attends. We will try to have a timetable available ahead of time so that attendees may plan out their day.

What model contests do you have?

We have three separate categories for models - Motive Power, Rolling Stock and Structure/Displays. Anyone may bring models to enter and judging is by popular vote of those in attendance. Plaques will be given to the winners in each category. Bring your models to share with others! Special contests may be added. See our website for details.

What other activities do you have?

A white elephant table will be available where everyone can bring items to sell. Bring any train related items you can find in your closet and we'll sell it for you for a small commission! There may also be small switching layouts in operation throughout the day. There will be space where attendees can gather, relax, and meet. Our local division will also have it's "Company Store" open for modelers to purchase a variety of items. There's a little of something for everyone.

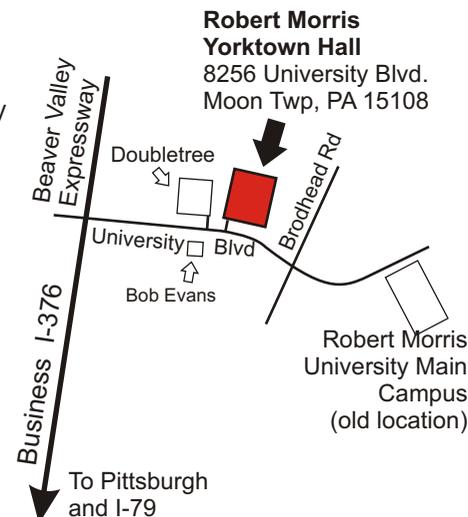
What about meals?

A lunch buffet is included with your registration along with coffee and doughnuts in the morning.

How formal is the banquet?

It's not formal at all. It's a plated dinner that concludes the day's activities. Dinner is followed by a brief awards presentation and after-dinner speaker. A great way to end a day of fun and friendship!

www.keystonedivision.org for latest information and contact info.



Batavia Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet

In conjunction with
The G.S.M.E. Great Batavia Train Show

Sunday, April 3, 2022 9:30AM to 3:30PM; Registration and Setup 8:00AM to 9:00AM
(RPM Participants may browse the Train Show before the General Public is admitted.)
Richard C. Call Arena at Genesee County Community College
1 College Road (off of Assemblyman R. Stephen Hawley Drive)
Batavia, NY 14020

Admission: \$7 (includes admission to the Train Show)

The BataviaRPM is a modeler's event! Bring your models of all scales, gauges, sizes, and eras. The goals of this meet are to display models, get helpful tips and techniques, enjoy the company of other modelers, and most of all, HAVE FUN! There are no contests or judging. Please join us and become a part of what we hope will be an annual event.

If you think you may want to participate in the April 2022 BataviaRPM, please leave your name, address, and contact information with the RPM Ambassadors at today's train show, or alternatively email the same information to:

Mike Pyszczyk--mpyszczyk@gmail.com or
Dave Durr--RRDavey49@gmail.com

Registration information can also be sent via USPS to:

Mike Pyszczyk--RPM
% Genesee Society of Model Engineers
P.O. Box 75
Oakfield, NY 14125

Need more information? Contact Mike or Dave at the addresses listed above.

Hope to see you at the BataviaRPM!



RAILFEST 2022



Saturday and Sunday

March 19 & 20, 2022

10 am to 4 pm

Buy – Sell – Trade

Located at:

Lakeland Community College

7700 Clocktower Dr.

Kirtland, Ohio 44094

State Rt. 306 at Interstate 90 – exit 193



Operating Layouts

N Scale Layouts
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**S Scale & American
Flyer**
(Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge
Association)

Lionel O Gauge
LGB G Gauge

Live Steam Display
(Lake Shore Live Steam)

For Information Write:

NMRA MCR Division 5
PO Box 5081
Mentor, Ohio 44060

Phone: (440) 357- 8890
Phone: (216) 470- 5780

Email: railfest@mcr5.org

Admission \$8.00

Two Day Pass \$13.00

Family (couples) \$13.00

Family (max) \$15.00

(2 Adults with Children under 16)

Food Service Available at reasonable prices

Features

Dealers

RR Flea market

Exhibitors

Operating Layouts

Test Track

Video Tapes
Historical Displays
Train Ride Info

Test Track
Available

ATM



Free Parking

Free Shuttle Bus
9:30am – 4:30pm

Presented by

THE NEWS-HERALD
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National Model Railroad Association

MCR – Division 5 Event

Since 1987 at Lakeland

Visit us at www.railfest.org

Facebook at www.facebook.com/RailfestTrainshow



Largest continuous running two day train show in OHIO!

NOTICE:

Due to ongoing COVID, Lakeland will mandate all the vendors, volunteers & attendees to wear masks or face coverings during all aspects of the show, everyone must adhere to Lakeland's COVID-19 policy. This mandate could possibility be lifted by the time of the show, only time will tell.