

Call Board

Volume 50 Issue 6

March 2011

This Month's Program ...

Join us as Jim Shell author of "Next Stop" Xenia and Tom Pulsifer GCHS member and local railroad historian open a photo album full of resources to Xenia's past railroad history. Jim will show photos of railroad structures, narrow and standard gauge trains, traction cars, a steam rail car, the "doodlebug" and maps. Tom will briefly link prototype operation resources with modeling possibilities using a few examples from maps, railroad publications and documents. So come and see what Xenia has to offer the model rail-roader.

Next Stop!



Highlights of "The Railroad Era" in Xenia, Ohio.

by James H. Shell

Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

2013 MCR Convention Committee

Ray Baldwin has volunteered to be the Chair for the 2013 Mid Central Region Convention. He needs help. A bid package must be presented at the MCR Convention in May 2011. If you are interested in helping Ray in any way please let him know. There is a lot of work to be completed before May.

Contact:

Ray L. Baldwin

© 607-727-9694

raybaldwin@aol.com

Super's Notes for March 2011

Auction

If you missed the February auction you missed an opportunity to pick up some real bargains. There were some items where bidding was competitive, but there were many that sold for the minimum bid or not at all. A lot of bargains went unsold. If you haven't attended an auction or haven't been in a while you may be missing out. In spite of moderate attendance there was a lot of money that changed hands. I took about 8 items and all of them sold. I almost made enough to cover my purchases (sigh!).

Contests

Our monthly contest resumes in March with the freight cars category. Last year's results were announced in the February Call Board and you might have noticed that the Photo Category ran away with all of the points. The BOG discussed this at the February meeting and we decided to split the modeling and photos into separate award categories. As shown in the tally Dave Decker won the Photo Category. The BOG tasked me to come up with some criteria other than straight points for the modeling category. I have come up with a system that awards points for entering and winning first, second or third place in a category with more credit for entries in the kit bashed and scratch built categories. Bob Fink has asked for his name to be removed from consideration for this award. Come to the March meeting where the winner of the modeling award for 2010 will be announced and bring your models so you can be in the running for next year's award. Everyone should be able to bring at least one kit built or kit bashed car to enter in the contest.

2013 Convention

Ray Baldwin is busy working on locating a venue for our 2013 convention bid. He is looking for help in putting together the bid and (assuming we are successful) planning for the convention. We need volunteers for all areas, both before and during the convention, so give Ray a call and get your name on the list. In addition to the satisfaction of helping put together a great convention you will be accumulating points for your Volunteer AP certificate.

AP Program

As mentioned above, working on the convention committee is one way to earn points for the Volunteer AP certificate. It's one that anyone, regardless of your modeling skill level or layout construction progress, can earn with relative ease. Many of you have probably already earned a considerable credit towards the Volunteer Certificate and just need to document it. I know that when I started putting mine together last year I found I had accumulated points over the last 20 years that were more than enough. At the February meeting Bob handed out three Golden Spike Awards and one Volunteer AP Certificate. A few months ago I asked how many people had built a layout and over half raised their hands. I handed out over 10 applications at that meeting for the Golden Spike award, but only two were completed. (I have more if you didn't get one or lost yours.) Let's get those applications in to Bob so you can get some recognition for your accomplishments.

Dave Decker

Most of you may already know that Dave Decker suffered a subdural hematoma on February 2nd and has been in the hospital in a coma since then. As of March 1st he is in room 3123 of the LifeCare Hospitals at the Sycamore Medical Center in Miamisburg. He is not on a respirator and his vital signs are stable. The last tests showed that the majority of the brain damage is to the area that allows consciousness. The doctors say that he has a chance to regain consciousness but that he could suffer some loss of capabilities.

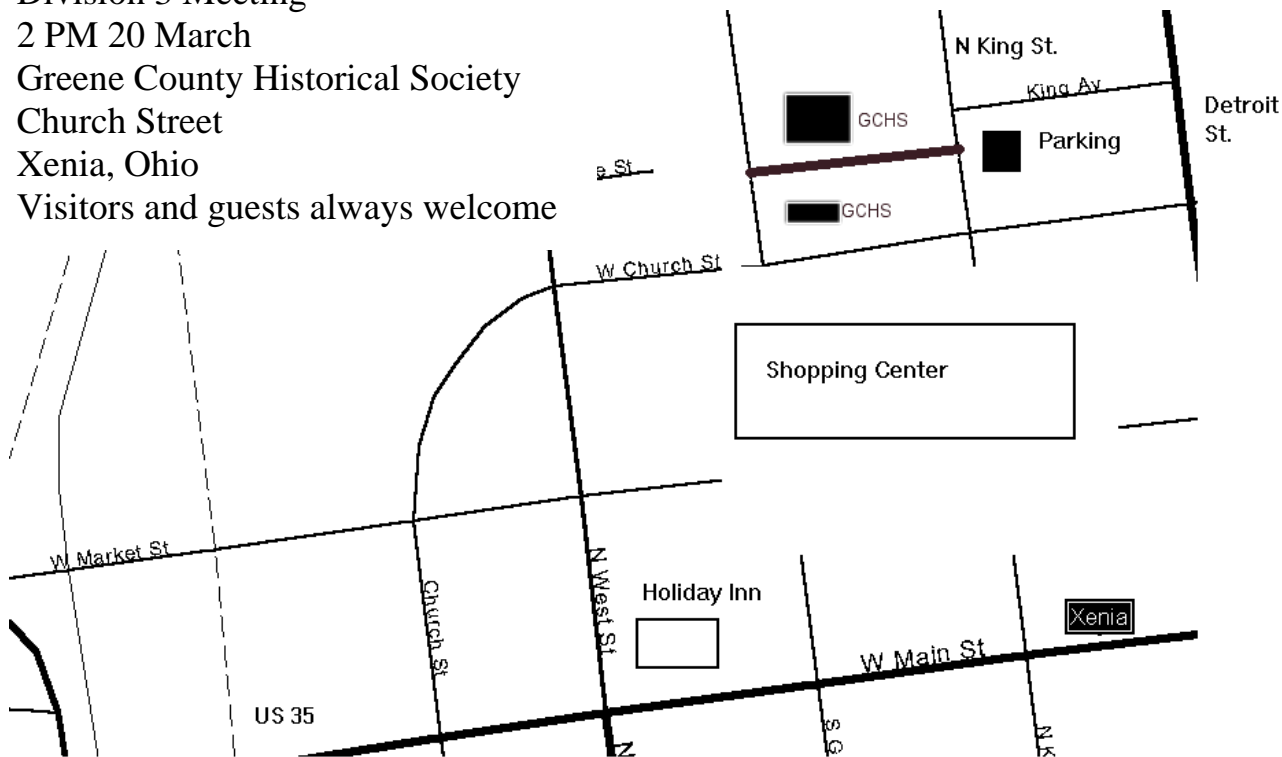
Contests

We have three categories each month. You can enter Scratchbuilt, KitBashed, or just plain Kit built. This allows anyone to enter anything they are proud of and at any skill level. Judging is by popular vote but if you wish to have your model judged by NMRA rules for the Achievement Program, we will make arrangements for you "on the spot".

The coming contest schedule ...

- **March - Freight Cars**
- April - Passenger Cars
- May - Diesel Locomotives
- June - Steam Locomotives
- July - Non-Revenue Cars
- August - No Contest
- September - Make it cheap (1-3-5 Dollar)
- October - Caboose
- November - Weathering
- December - Structure
- January - Open Loads
- February - No Contest

Division 3 Meeting
 2 PM 20 March
 Greene County Historical Society
 Church Street
 Xenia, Ohio
 Visitors and guests always welcome



National News Updates

The **winter Board Meeting** is being held concurrently with the Budget and Operations meetings this year in Las Vegas at the Palace Station Hotel (about 5 miles from the airport). The Budget and Operations meetings, which are by invitation only, begin on Tuesday, February 22 at 9 a.m. The Board Meeting runs from 9 to 5 (or later) on Wednesday, February 23, and 9 to 5 (or later) on Thursday, February 24. All NMRA members are welcome to attend.

The **X2011 West NMRA National Convention site** went "live" in January, allowing online registration and online selection and payment for tours, events, meals, and even Convention merchandise! This is the *first time ever* that a Convention committee has provided complete online registration and tour signup. Even OpSIG and LDSIG signups are being handled online. Easy, fast, and you immediately know if a tour or event is sold out. Hotel reservations are also being done online through the Convention website. The Convention website is www.x2011west.org

The "**Members Only**" **section of our website** is getting very close to opening to the public. In addition to some content we're preparing right now, we're also looking for some ideas from NMRA members of things we can add to that section. If you or your members have some ideas, please forward them to Bob Robbins at marrob17@optonline.com.

Just a reminder that there are still several prints of our **75th Anniversary Painting** available for sale. The prints measure 30"x20" and are signed and numbered. The price is \$150 plus shipping and handling, and can be ordered by calling Headquarters.

Two "new" **model railroad podcasts** have popped up within the past several months. One is "Model Rail Radio," and features the NMRA's own Board Member Clark Kooning as a regular guest. Shows run from 20 minutes to three hours and cover a wide range of topics. You can find out more about that podcast at www.modelrailradio.com. Another podcast, hosted by Trevor Marshall and Jim Martin, features two in-depth interviews in a concise, 20-minute period. Find out more at www.themodelrailwayshow.com. Both podcasts can be downloaded via iTunes.

Just a reminder that we continue to run a "**Help Wanted**" ad in *NMRA Magazine*. We've already filled several positions, thanks to generous volunteers. But we still need help. Here are the spots we're hoping to have volunteers fill:

IT staff volunteer with experience in Content Management Systems. Able to program in PHP and Post-GreSQL/MySQL, and good experience in HTML and CSS. IIS and VB experience a plus. Time commitment: ~3 hours per week.

Travel specialist, preferably a professional travel agent, with experience setting up and organizing group tours. Time commitment: several hours per month.



NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC.

February 21, 2011

Mid-Central Region
Division 3
C/O Thomas I. Mroczka
2900 Stone Mill Ct
Beavercreek, OH 45434

Dear Mr. Mroczka,

Thank you very much for your division's continued support of our organization. It is with much gratitude that we recognize your donation of \$1,000.00 to the National Model Railroad Association. The National Model Railroad is qualified under 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. You may be able to deduct the value of your donation from your federal income tax.

Please let us know if we can be of further assistance. Thank you for supporting the National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

Sincerely,

Lou Ann Suits
Administrative Associate
National Model Railroad Association

nmra.org

MEMBER SUPPORT SERVICES: (423) 892-2846 • (423) 892-2846 • (423) 892-2846



HAVE 50 MODEL RAILROADING CLINICS RIGHT IN YOUR LIVING ROOM.

Just because you can't make it to a national convention doesn't mean you have to miss out. Right now the NMRA's Kalmbach Memorial Library has over 50 DVDs of clinics presented at national conventions from 2002 to 2010. All available to NMRA members for the cost of postage.

So you can see clinics on everything from decoders to design, tools to techniques, helixes to highways, and research to resin casting.

All from the comfort of your very own couch.

Visit www.nmra.org and go to the Kalmbach Memorial Library page for a complete listing.

Then, get that popcorn ready.



We make it even more fun.

www.nmra.org
423-892-2846