

Call Board

Volume 48 Issue 9

May 2009

This Month's Program ...

Modeling and Operating the Pennsylvania Railroad



Last month we looked at how a “freelanced” layout is run. This month we'll look at how to model a former REAL railroad. We'll have the Division 7 PRR group show us The “Standard RR of the World” as the Pennsy called itself.

Sunday MAY 17th, 2PM Chapel 3

Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

SUPER'S NOTES

Let's get rolling...

How much trouble can a \$2 freight car start?

I'm convinced you could spend all your time getting lead off the track of any project by curiosity and the Internet! The more you learn about a railroad or a car the deeper you're drawn. I picked up a garden variety, \$2 plastic refrigerator at a trainshow because it caught my eye and the lettering made me curious. It was for "Doggie Dinner" and I thought I remembered that line of dog food back when I was a pup and had a pup. I cleaned it up then weathered it down, added good trucks and couplers since it will fit fine on my 1939 era railroad. Then the fine print bit me.

Doggie Dinner was made by the Loudon Packing Co. of Terre Haute it says in the reporting marks. So are they still around and do they still use the railroad? Not likely but here we go to Google. It reveals they make a bunch of stuff including ketchup and V-8. That leads me to some neat maps of their facility and the old maps show the railroad sidings. An hour later I'm engrossed in the track plans of Terre Haute and wondering what I'm doing here. The upshot of all this is that there are some great sources of information for fun or serious use and every time you use them you find another bit that you can use in your hobby.

Next time you come to operate on my layout and say, "Gosh, a Doggie Dinner reefer, I didn't know they had those". Look out for my 10 minute expert's speech on dog food and the railroads.



An old \$2 Doggie Dinner car can clean up pretty good. Add good trucks and couplers and some weathering and it isn't bad. I know what you're going to say, "Why is it spotted at a brewery"? Use your imagination.

A new collection to disperse

Ed Meyer was a member of Division 3 for many years. He has not been active for some time and passed away last month. Division 3 received a donation of his book collection from his estate. There are many out of print railroad, narrow gauge and modeling volumes. We hope to have some of the book gurus put updated prices on them and then we will offer them at half price to the members. This will be a way to get the collection to people who would appreciate them and help the Division finance new projects.

When we have our final list it will be in the Call Board and at the meetings.

The Special Raffle

The Walther's turntable kit has found a new home and Phil Gliebe will be starting a new special prize this month. They just get better and better.

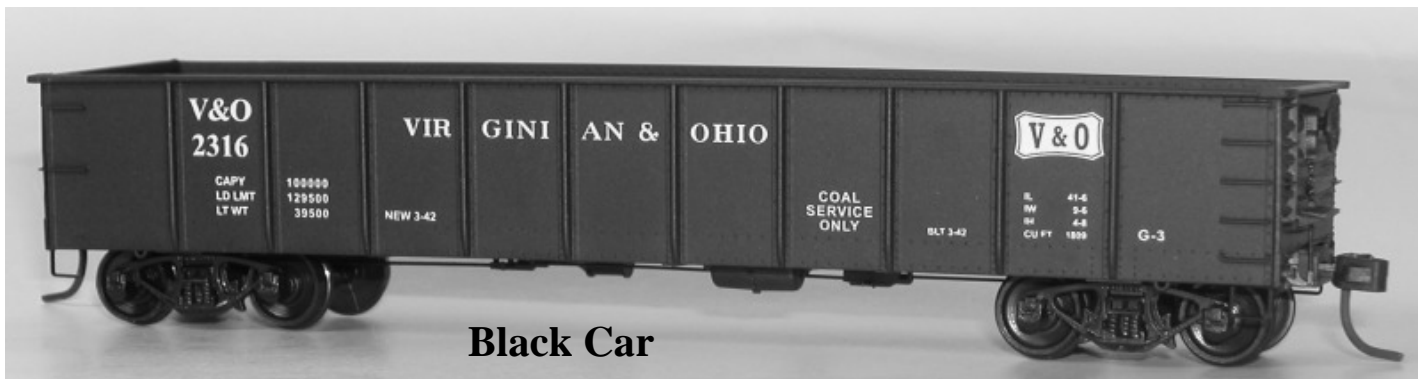
The Work Group Idea

Some members were interested in my old work group idea so I asked Merv Hardman to follow up on it and he vanished to Florida for 2 months! He'll be back this month so if you're ready to start or join one, in either DCC or what ever let us know and he will get it going like we used to.

Don't miss any of the upcoming programs!

See YOU at the next Meeting.
Bob Fink MMR

If you haven't seen them yet the new V&O Gondolas are great. In 3 numbers for both oxide red and black. One of the nicest of the V&O cars offered. Pick some up now. Save on the "Pack" price for 2 or more.



Black Car



Oxide Red Car

PRICES

\$12 KIT price

\$17 KIT Postpaid

\$18 Ready to Run price

\$23 RTR Postpaid

PACKS:

One Red One Black \$23

\$28 Postpaid

Six Kits \$68
(one of each number)

\$80 Postpaid ((3 Lbs Shipping Priority))

Six Ready to Run \$96
(one of each number)

\$108 Postpaid “

Checks or money orders only to:

Division 3 MCR
6493 Anvil Drive
Waynesville, OH 45068

Sharpening Your SKILLS

AP Program News...

The whole concept of the Achievement Program is based on improving your skills and getting recognition for it. To make the program work we have to offer you a chance to show your work and you have to come forward and participate. We'll do our part each month by offering a popularity contest and even a "show and tell" table to get you started. As your skills advance you can join us in the Achievement Program (AP).

The NMRA Contest Judging Methods

Let's look at the scoring method used in NMRA contests since folks keep asking what goes on in the closed door contest rooms at the conventions! Since 7 of the 11 AP certificates require Merit Awards for completion it's also important to understand the rules. A Merit Award is simply a judged contest entry with at least 87 1/2 points out of the 125 maximum.

The contest categories and their total points look like this:

CONSTRUCTION (Max. of 40 points) A description of the methods and complexity in building.

DETAIL (Max. of 20 points) A description of the difficulty of the details that went into the model.

CONFORMITY (Max. of 25 points) Examines the research and duplication of the prototype.

FINISH & LETTERING (Max. of 25 points) Method and details of the finish.

SCRATCHBUILDING (Max. of 15 points) Looks at the parts made & how they were constructed.

The methods used to compile points by judges has been refined over the years so that there is uniformity between Division, Region and National contests. A Merit Award may be awarded at any level for the 87 1/2 point score or better. If you are interested in pursuing an AP certificate or learning more about contest judging, contact us and we will supply you with sources of information.

The monthly contest setup ...

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 ...

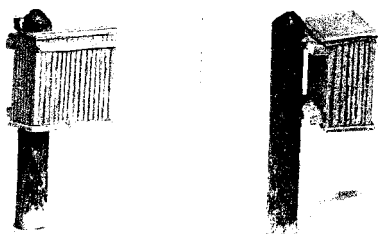
May Diesel Locomotives **June \$1 Phone Box** **July** Steam locos & **\$1 Flat Car**

April 2009 - Passenger Cars				
	Kit	Kit Bashed	Scratch Built	PHOTO
First	No Entries	Jim Foster	No entries	Nate Adams (3)
Second		Bob Fink		Dave Decker (2)
Third				Nate Adams (2) J. Hedge (2) Dave Decker

2009-2010 Standings					
	KIT	KIT BASHED	SCRATCH BUILT	PHOTO	OVERALL
First	Jim Foster (4)	Jim Foster (8)	No Entries	Dave Decker (21)	Dave Decker (21)
Second	Bob Knapp (3)	Richard Davoust Wil Davis (3)		J. Hedge (17)	J. Hedge (17)
Third				Nate Adams (12)	Jim Foster (12) Nate Adams (12)

More legible copies of this article are available from Bruce Albright.

Scratch Build Contest—June 21, 2009



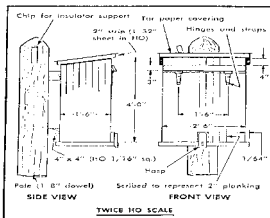
Telephone Box

By Boyce Martin

LOCATED along the right of way of most railroads are telephone call stations that can be utilized by train crews to call dispatchers along the line. These call stations may appear as simple boxes housing the telephone equipment and mounted on poles. They may be in the form of small, one-man shelters, sometimes containing a stove for the comfort of the trainman that uses the station in cold weather.

While sheds and structures vary in appearance, the box-type shelter mounted on a pole appears generally the same on most railroads. The photos of the prototype telephone box shown here were taken on the Western division of the Pennsylvania RR, but other roads use similar equipment. These boxes are usually located at each end of a long siding, near an industry, at the end of double track near a small station, and particularly at sidings used regularly for passing. My telephone box, made in HO scale, was cut to the proper length from a solid piece of basswood 3/8" x 7/8". Note that the front is a scale 4" higher than the rear. The prototype measurements are shown in the drawing. Scribe on all sides to represent 2" planking. I did the scribing with a sharpened jewelers' screwdriver which makes a clean cut with-

out too much rounding of the sides. Remember always to scribe with the grain, or at least cut the wood so that the longest scribing is with the grain. After scribing the block of wood, cut two pieces from 1/2" basswood or balsa sheet to make the top and bottom of the box. The two sheets should be larger (1/4" in HO) on all sides to simulate the base and top of the original box. Make the roofing paper top from stationery or tablet paper and cement to the sloping top of the box. The same type of paper is used for the flap above the hinges; this prevents water from entering the box and grounding out the telephone. The



flap is 3" wide in the prototype and is cemented to the box 4" below the top of the box itself. Hinges and the base on the bottom of the box are cut from file card or postcard stock.

The telephone box can be mounted on a telephone pole or on a separate pole. If the pole is separate it should extend about 6"-8" above grade level, and be about the diameter of a telephone pole. Be sure to cut it longer if you want to insert it through a hole or support. It is best to paint or stain the pole before installing the box. To paint a telephone pole, paint it with black model railroad paint and wipe it off immediately with a cloth which has been dipped in paint thinner. A little practice on a scrap piece of wood will make you proficient in a short time at getting the streaked and weathered color of the prototype.

The box is mounted on the pole with so 4 x 4's across the back of the box. After mounting, the box can be painted. Most of them are painted gray or box car red.

Take a tiny chip of wood for an insulator support and touch a bit of model cement on the end of a toothpick to this chip for your glass insulator. Connect a telephone wire using very light thread or whatever you use for your regular telephone lines to the regular telephone poles long your right of way, connect another wire from the box to the ground and you will be able to keep in touch with your crews all the way around the layout. Of course, you will have to make several of these telephone boxes to establish connections at all times.



For Sale by Owner:

Cleaning out the basement and need to move the following.

Proto 2K FA2 & FB2 Great Northern Brown Box, like new \$60 for the pair

Proto 2K E7 Wabash, test run only, blue box \$50

Proto 1K PRR C-Liner, new \$35

AHM GG1, Silver, has been run some \$35

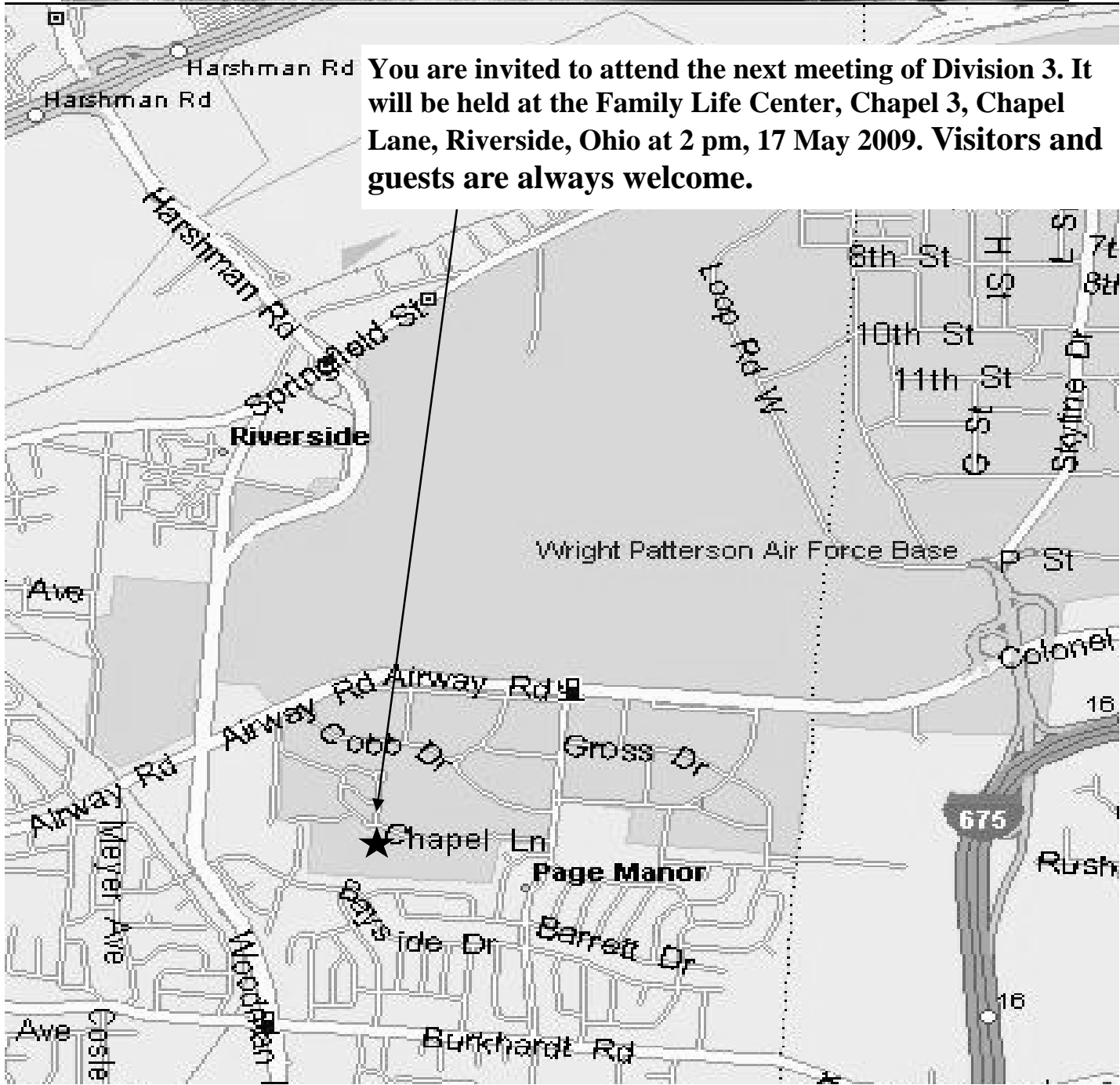
Bachmann Spectrum F40 PH II new \$22

Brass Alco Products RS1, Unpainted, slight tarnish. Trucks and fuel tank appear to be painted black.

Original box and packing \$90

Brass Hallmark Models FM H-10-44 Bard Brass, had been painted, but very clean. Has KD couplers, foam is not original. \$70

Wil Davis, (wdavis5069@earthlink.com) (937) 237-7919



You are invited to attend the next meeting of Division 3. It will be held at the Family Life Center, Chapel 3, Chapel Lane, Riverside, Ohio at 2 pm, 17 May 2009. Visitors and guests are always welcome.