

# Call Board

Volume 51 Issue 3

November 2011

## This Month's Program ...

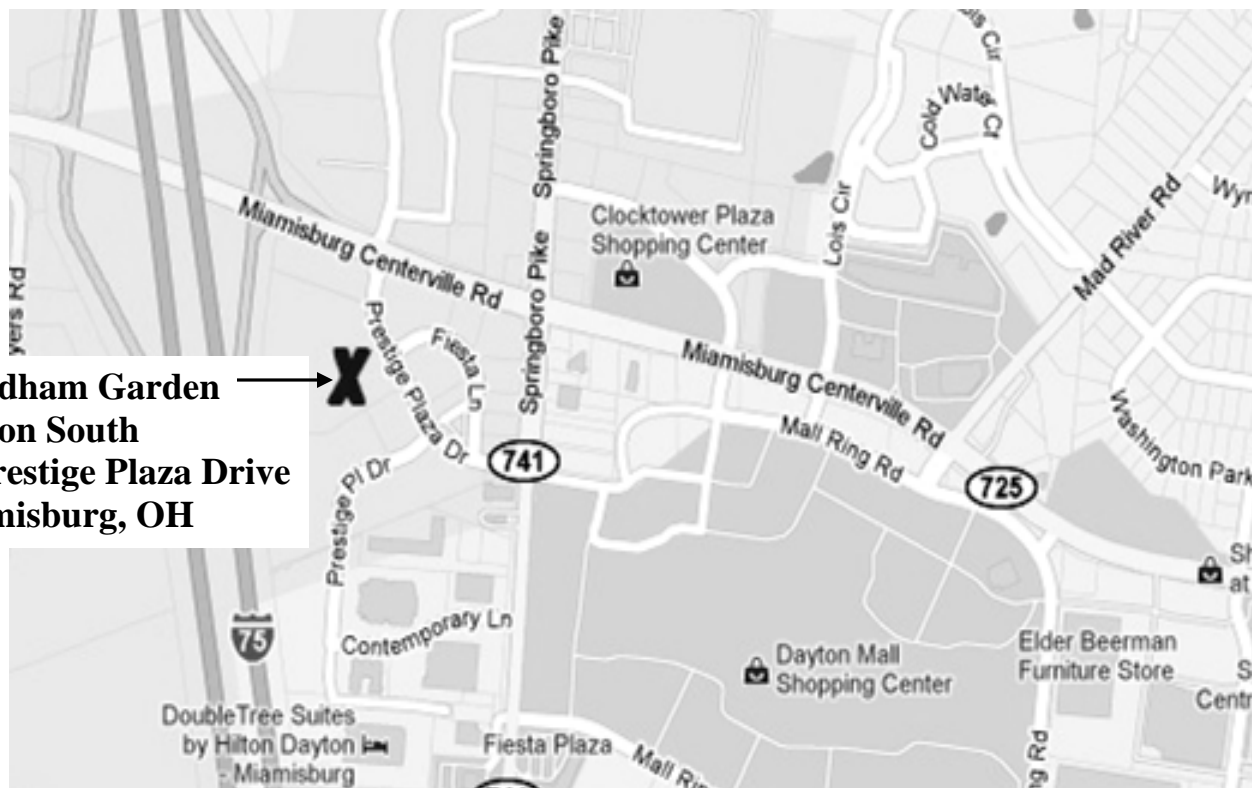


### "The V&O Today"

The program will be by Allen McClelland. He will discuss current versions of the V&O and V&O connections. After the meeting Mike has lined up two layouts to be open for your viewing pleasure. One is Bob Lawson and the other is Wes Reese. Bob's was supposed to be on this summer's bus tour, but Bob had to cancel so Mike found a substitute, so this will make up for missing it then. Those of us who have visited Wes's layout rate it "not to be missed"

Note that there will be a change of meeting place for November. The meeting will be held at the Wyndham Garden Dayton South, 31 Prestige Plaza on the southwest corner of Routes 725/741 in Miamisburg. This is site of the 2013 MCR convention. Meeting will be on Sunday, November 20, 2011 at 2 PM. Contest will be Weathering.

Wyndham Garden  
Dayton South  
31 Prestige Plaza Drive  
Miamisburg, OH



Division 3 Website: [www.modelraildayton.com](http://www.modelraildayton.com)

# Super's Notes for November 2011

## Meeting Notes

We had another great program. There was a minor hiccup when the original presenter (who was to do a program on soldering) backed out a couple of weeks before the meeting. Mike was undaunted and talked Bob Bartizek into giving his presentation on "Designing for Interesting Switching Operations." Bob's presentation was illustrated with numerous pictures from his and other's layouts illustrating those things which help make for a successful layout that is challenging and fun to operate without being frustrating. He gave several examples of how you can pack a lot of activity into a small area by having it worked by several different trains during an operating session.

We had a great response to the Caboose contest. I believe there were 13 entries and about six photos. This is one of the best responses we have had in quite a while. November's contest category is weathering so bring those weathered items to the meeting. We have had several weathering clinics over the last three or four years and I expect another good turnout.

Show and Tell has dwindled in the last couple of months so don't forget to bring those unique items you have found or made, no limits so long as they are related to model railroading, to the next meeting. Olen Judd brought some free items he has access to and will provide to anyone who can use them. One was large sheets of corrugated PVC that has many uses and the other was plastic caps about four inches in diameter and a couple inches high that could be used for tanks or other creative projects.

## November Program

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## 2011 Train Show

The train show will be history by the time you read this and undoubtedly it will be another successful show.

## Help Wanted

Norm Courtney has expressed an interest in having some help with maintaining Division 3's web site. Norm has single handedly developed and managed the site for a number of years, but has had some health issues in recent years and could use an able assistant. If you are able to give Norm a hand let him or me know.

## 2012 Elections

Before we can have an election we need candidates. The 3 positions to be filled are: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Chief Clerk. The incumbents are all eligible for reelection but we would like to have more candidates. David Holl is chairman of the Nominating Committee and can be contacted at leaning-trees@hotmail.com.

## Facebook Page Report

The Division 3 Facebook Page continues to grow in friends and popularity. The weekly summary report for October 3-10, showed our Facebook page with 48 friends (up 6 from the previous week). We had 332 visits during that week (up 180 from the previous week—no indication if unduplicated visits or not). However, we do have 61 active monthly users. Our goal is 75 friends by the end of 2011.

We still need people to like us and like what we are doing. The Division 3 Facebook page is a source of information but also a marketing tool to reach out to others. If you have photos of your layout, please send them to the Division 3 webmaster (Norm Courtney) and he can upload them on the website and we can post their availability on Facebook. Likewise, videos are a very popular means to get attention and show off your railroad. We can create a page for video for people to view.

Finally, Craig This has been invited by Joe Russ, Superintendent, (Wisconsin Southeastern Division, NMRA) to participate in a Facebook Group to promote and document the best practices of using Facebook for NMRA, its regions, and divisions. The goal of this group is to help regions and divisions use Facebook effectively to disseminate information and market themselves to a larger audience.

So, log onto Facebook, like Division 3 and like those groups that we like and like us, so we can spread the word about Division 3, its activities, and model railroading!

### December Program

Dig through your slides and bring your favorites to the December Division 3 meeting. We will be having a bring and brag slide show. We will have a slide projector and a computer with a video projector available. You might also want to bring your pictures of structures to enter in the contest.

### National News

In order to ensure the financial well being of the NMRA into the future, there will be a dues increase on January 1, 2012. Regular memberships will increase by \$5 to \$44, and subscriptions to NMRA Magazine will increase by \$3 to \$22. Sustaining memberships (including the magazine) will increase by \$13 to \$110, and student memberships (including the magazine) will increase by \$4 to \$32. In addition, our highly successful RailPass trial membership program will continue at \$9.95. The current RailPass conversion rate to regular memberships is around 65%.

Di Voss, who's heading up the Cruise Convention committee, continues to receive results from the survey published in the October issue of NMRA Magazine. To date he's received around 200 responses, and estimates those "in favor" to be about 75%. In addition, Di would like to remind those who think there won't be enough time on a Cruise Convention for layout tours, OPSIG meets or other activities, that the ship will be in port from about 8:00 a.m. until about 10:00 p.m.

For some reason, the story that the NMRA membership has been declining over the past few years continues to persist. IT AIN'T TRUE. NMRA membership is holding steady at around 19,500. According to the latest "Membership Thermometer" figures compiled by Marketing, Advertising and Promotions manager Tom Draper, the NMRA lost 104 members between August 2009 and August 2011, but gained 91 members between August 2006 and August 2011. Please help us set the record straight by mentioning this to your membership!

## 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 ...

#### November - Weathering

December - Structure

January - Open Loads

February - No Contest

March - Freight Cars

April - Passenger Cars

May - Diesel Locomotives

June - Steam Locomotives

July - Non-Revenue Cars

October—Caboose				
	Kit	Kit Bashed	Scratchbuilt	Photo
First	Gordon Carlson	Ric Zimmerman	Bob Fink	Ric Zimmerman
Second	Larry Miller	Larry Johnson	Jim Foster	J. Hedge Ric Zimmerman
Third	Bob Fink	Wil Davis		Ric Zimmerman

2011 - 2012 Standings					
	KIT	KIT BASHED	SCRATCH BUILT	PHOTO	OVERALL
First	Gordon Carlson	Ric Zimmerman	Bob Fink	John Nowicki	Bob Fink
Second	Jim Foster Bob Fink Larry Miller Ron Schmidt Ric Zimmerman Rick Lach Tom Mroczka John Santel	Wil Davis	Ric Zimmerman	Ric Zimmerman	Ric Zimmerman
Third		Terry McTaggart Bob Fink Brent Johnson	Jim Foster	J. Hedge Nate Adams	Wil Davis

## Dalmatian Switching District

The Dalmatian Switching District Participated in the Boy Scout Railaree at Carillon Park. The city of Argyle was set up in the building housing the Rubicon locomotive.

Approximately 100 Scouts were instructed in railroad operations and model railroading by the Dalmatian crew.

The Dalmatian Committee is looking for a location to hold construction and operating sessions. 2' by 8' modules are available for detailing and construction



Dalmatian Set up Crew: Nick Folger, Tom Mroczka, Jack Honeycutt



*(Continued from page 3)*

Convention news: Even though Grand Rails 2012 will have dozens of top notch model railroads open for self-guided tours, the convention committee wanted to make sure everyone has a chance to see some of their great layouts. So there will also be several bus tours to some of the area's best layouts. Layouts include every scale from Z to G, and every level of completion. They're also offering a very special, exclusive seven-hour limo layout tour for groups of 6 to any of the six layouts on the self-guided list. The price for the limo is only \$120 per person. Get all the details and registration info at [www.gr2012.org](http://www.gr2012.org) .

Repeat announcement: The Howell Day Museum is issuing a new release of its highly successful Gorre and Daphetid bobber cabooses. Two new bobbers, numbered 3 and 5, are available from Headquarters immediately. A single car is US\$19.95 + \$4 shipping and handling, and the set of two is US\$34.95 + \$4 shipping and handling. The new cars are available in HO scale only, and are ready to run. They feature operating magnetic knuckle couplers and free-rolling metal wheels. Watch for the ad running in NMRA Magazine. To order, call HQ at 423-892-2846.



Union Pacific Challenger and DD-40 at North Platte, Nebraska

### **2013 Convention Layout Tours**

David Holl is chair of open layouts for the convention. He is looking for folks to open their layouts for the convention. He is looking for layouts in all stages of completion as convention participants are eager to learn new construction methods which are not obvious after the layout is completed. David can be contacted by e-mail at [leaningtrees@hotmail.com](mailto:leaningtrees@hotmail.com).