

Call Board

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September 2010

This Month's Program ...

Repowering and Upgrading Brass Engines

With the advent of excellent running, highly detailed plastic steam engines in the last 10 years or so, many brass items are lounging in display cases or in boxes in a dusty corner of the basement. If this sounds familiar come to the September meeting and learn what Bruce Knapp does to upgrade these old pieces for reliable performance. Bruce will show us how to upgrade these engines using modern can motors to replace the old open frame motors. Even if you don't have a brass steam engine lying around you will learn something new.



32 people and a bus make for a great day of layout visits. This group went to the Columbus area on 21 August.

Super's Notes for September 2010

Give and Take

I have been thinking a lot lately about what goals I would like to have for the division over the remainder of my term as superintendent. I am blessed to be surrounded by a team of elected and appointed folks who are doing a terrific job. At the last BOG meeting we touched on how the attendance at division meetings has slowly increased over the last three or four years and I would like to maintain that increase and continue our growth in attendance.

One way I believe we can do that is to continue to offer high quality programs that offer something for a variety of interests. We also have an excellent meeting place that is reasonable centrally located and offers the amenities that we need, with an excellent alternate in the Greene Co Historical Society. Granted, the recent construction at the Chapel has caused a bit of an interruption, but Rick assures me the facility will be bigger and better when it reopens in October. (He said that we will still be in the small room for September.) I am truly grateful for Rick's efforts to secure this as a meeting place at no cost to the division.

You may be wondering how all of this ties into the title. I believe that the elected and appointed officers/committee chairs have the responsibility to **give** the members a great program to provide a return on their membership. It has often been said that the local division is the most relevant part of the NMRA for the individual member, as only a small number of members make it to regional events and even fewer make it to national events. As for the other part, I believe it is the member's responsibility to **take** what is offered and use it to advance their modeling skills and overall enjoyment of the hobby. After all "Model railroading is fun!"

In addition to what the officers give to the division, the members can also give by fully participating in the activities such as the contests, raffle, shows and special activities. Nick and his committee are doing a great job on the November train show, however, it requires the effort of a lot of other folks to make it a success. All it takes is an offer to help out with some activity. I know Rick was pleased with the turnout he had with the show publicity table at the recent Carillon Historical Rail and Steam Festival. So don't be reticent. I have found out over the years the more you get involved in an organization the more you get out of it. (More of that **give and take!**)

You might think this is leading up to something. Well, that is partly correct. It has been about 8 years since the Division last sponsored a regional convention. The 2011 and 2012 conventions are already spoken for, but the 2013 date is available. The question the board of governors kicked around at the last meeting is "do we have the interest and resources to put on a regional convention?" We have had a lot of experience in putting on conventions, but we shouldn't expect the old timers to continue doing it all. What we need is some fresh input. Are you ready to give something back? Would you be willing to chair a regional convention, serve on a committee, or just plain help out during the planning, and when convention time rolls around? This year's convention was put on by a smaller division that was recently resurrected from a dormant status. If they can do it, so can we! What is your response? I will be talking to you about this in the coming months, so if you have any thoughts please let me know.

Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

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 ...

- **September - Make IT Cheap (1-3-5 Dollar)**
- October - Caboose
- November - Weathering
- December - Structure

July 2010 - Non-Revenue				
	Kit	Kit Bashed	Scratch Built	PHOTO
First	Mike Desch	Bob Fink		Dave Decker
Second	Mike Desch Gordon Carlson			Dave Decker
Third				

Year to Date	Points
Dave Decker	19
Bob Fink	16
Brian Petroziello	11
Mike Desch	7
Brent Johnson	6
Norm Courtney	6
Nate Adams	5
Wil Davis	4
Gordon Carlson	3



"BN Ballast Cars" Mike Desch - Modeler

Dave Decker Photo

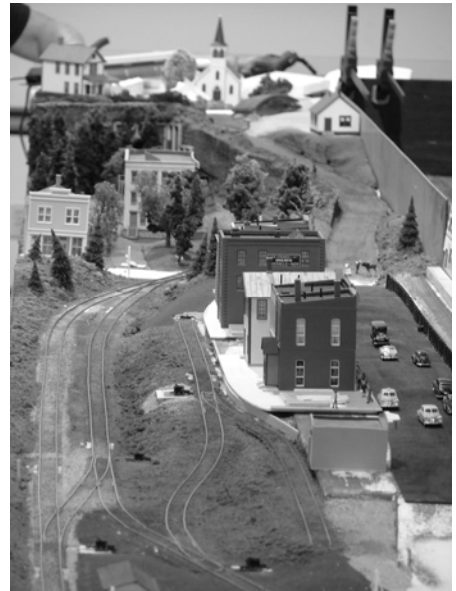


"Rail Mounted Steam Shovel and Tender" Bob Fink - Modeler

Dave Decker Photo

Dalmatian Switching District

The Dalmatian Switching District has been spending the summer at EnterTrainment Junction in Mason, Ohio. The city of Argyle and the Calico Junction yard are set up and undergoing reconstruction. The Needless yard modules and the city of Dalmatian have been decommissioned and are in the process of redesign. Argyle was in operation at the 2nd Annual Mini Model Engineering Show the weekend of August 28 and 29. Attendees were invited to try their hand at switching the Argyle Mills. The Dog crew will continue working on the layout and hope to have Argyle presentable by the Division 3 show in November. We are inviting anyone who would like to work on scenery or who would be interested in operating to contact Dave Decker (937-271-6210) or J. Hedge (937-878-2391) to set up a time.



September 2010

Division 3 is known nationally as the home of some of the great layouts. A quick visit to the layout photo section of the website will prove this. But, while we're well known for big, we're equally adept at small. There are several modelers in the area who have packed an amazing amount of railroad and scenery into some very small packages. The artistry of layout design and decoration is not diminished by size. In most cases it is actually enhanced. Fine detail tends to get lost in a basement full of trains, but not so in a suitcase full!



Found on the Web

Want a real challenge? Fit an operational HO layout into the space of an Ntrak module. It has been done. For a broad look at small layouts around the world, visit Carl Arendt's site at <http://carendt.us/> Carl offers over 1500 design suggestions from around the world, plus articles on construction techniques and scenery.

While a lot of these micro layouts use a loop as the core design, not unlike a Christmas tree train, many are more closely related to shelf-type switching puzzles, reminiscent of John Allen's "Timesaver". The challenge is to see how much action you can get into a small area. Examples of the most famous of the puzzles are to be found at <http://www.largescalecentral.com/fun/shunting/riverside.php> for the Timesaver and at <http://www.largescalecentral.com/fun/shunting/inglenook.php> for the Inglenook version. These are fully playable on line and may be addictive.

If you want some advice on small layouts, you might check with Jim Foster, Peter Guise, or Don Kriegbaum at a meeting.

See you on the Web!

Norm Courtney
Division 3 Webmaster



THE TIMESAVER
BY JOHN ALLEN, 1966
HO, 10"X56", SWITCHING PUZZLE

News From National

- **Paid registrations to the Milwaukee convention topped the 1,600 mark**, and all 345 booths at the National Train Show were sold. However public attendance at the Train Show was down from past years.
 - Dave Thornton, 75th Anniversary Year Committee chair and current VP-Administration, announced that **Diamond Club donations were approaching the \$70,000 mark** -- only \$5,000 short of the initial funding requirement of \$75,000.
 - Scanning of photos for **the Diamond Club project has already begun**. The project is spearheaded by Paired Rail Railroad Publications and Historical Archive Solutions (a division of PRRP). Members can see how the NMRA's photo archives will look by visiting another PRRP/HAS website for the Santa Fe at www.atsfry.com. The NMRA's system is expected to go into beta testing in November, and initial posting of images will occur in early 2011.
 - **An anonymous benefactor has promised to donate \$250,000** toward the creation of a tribute to scale model railroading at the California State Railroad Museum. This donation represents approximately one third of the funding needed, providing that the amount is matched by other fundraising efforts. None of the National Model Railroad Museum's exhibit costs will be funded by NMRA member dues or non-dues income. A mockup of the proposed exhibit is expected to be available for viewing at the 2011 convention in Sacramento.
 - The Board approved a motion to create **sub-districts within the British and Australasian Regions**, to serve emerging pockets of interest in NMRA membership.
 - **A change was made to candidate nominating procedures**. The Nominating Committee must publish its report and recommendations no later than the annual summer Board meeting. Nominations by petition will be accepted no later than 30 days after the publication of the Nominating Committee report, and election timelines will be adjusted accordingly. Allowable length for official statements of candidate qualifications will be 500 words when published in *NMRA Magazine*, and 1,200 words when published by electronic means.
- Awards** given at the Milwaukee Convention banquet included:
- Honorary Life Member:** Rutger Friberg and Robert "Bob" Brown (*Narrow Gauge and Short Line Gazette*)
- Distinguished Service Award:** Aubrey Olson (Caboose Industries) and Stan Ames
- NMRA Fellow:** Len Firth (British Region)
- Pioneer Award:** Leo and Ruth Campbell (Campbell Scale Models), Bernd Lenz (Lenz Gmbh), and W. Allen McClelland, DSA, MMR
- President Awards:** Bob Amsler; Chuck Diljak; Gerry Leone, MMR; Eric Lundberg, HLM, MMR; Allen Pollock, HLM, DSA; Jim Sacco; Miles Hale, MMR; and James "Lumpy" Lupfer
- Meritorious Service Award:** Ed McCaney and Ken West (Standards & Conformance Dept.)

Lebanon Sub-division Meetings

The National Model Railroad Association (NMRA), Mid-Central Region (MCR), Division 7 (Cincinnati area), Lebanon Sub will hold monthly meetings the third Thursday of each month at 7:15 PM, starting Thursday September 16. The meeting will be at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1270 N. Broadway, Lebanon, just south of Lebanon Junior High School. The focus of each meeting will be an open category model Show and Tell. Modelers are invited to bring any models they have been working on, and to share with others techniques and materials used. A gift certificate from a local hobby shop will be awarded for Model of the Month, as selected by attendees. A "What's New in the Hobby Shop" presentation will also be made by an area model shop representative. The September talk will be by Rocky Lane from Dixie Union Station in Mason. A short presentation on some topic of interest may also be part of the evening.

Refreshments will be ready at the start of the meeting, funded on a donation basis. All folks interested in model railroading are invited, NMRA members or not. Parents are invited to bring interested children, too, with meetings wrapping up in time to get them to bed for school in the morning. Contact Jerry Michael at 513-933-9049 for further details.