



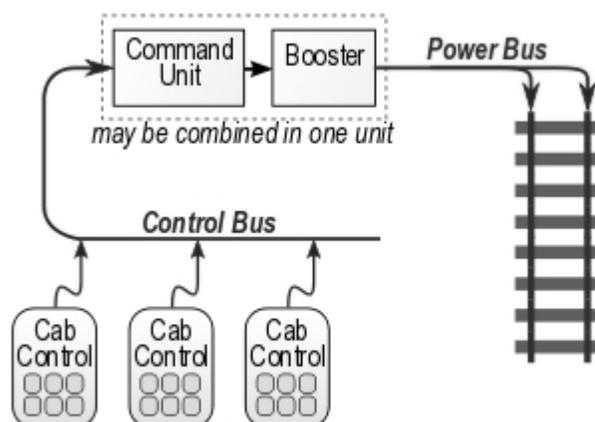
# Call Board

Volume 52 Issue 3

November 2012

## This Month's Program ...

The November and December programs will be a pair of seminars on **DCC for Model Railroads**. This month the focus will be on the theory behind DCC operation. If you are considering switching to DCC, or building a new layout using it, here's your chance to see what all the fuss is about. The December program will be about the different systems available, their features, compatibilities and incompatibilities.



### Why Join the NMRA?

- **Fellowship**
  - Members at all levels of the NMRA are eager to share their knowledge and friendship in local divisions, regions and on the national level.
- **Member Services**
  - Being a member of the NMRA entitles you to a multitude of services, all geared toward expanding your enjoyment of the hobby.
- **Standards**
  - The NMRA was the organization that set those Standards and Recommended Practices which still guide manufacturers and consumers alike.
- **Achievement Program**
  - The NMRA's Achievement Program, or "AP", is designed to help modelers improve their skills and get more out of their hobby. The "AP" gives recognition to members who

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

**2013 MCR Convention Website: [www.mcr2013convention.com](http://www.mcr2013convention.com)**

## **Super's Notes for November 2012**

### **Meeting Notes**

The October meeting was another great meeting. Phil presented a very informative and entertaining program on "Kitbashing MDC-Roundhouse Overton Passenger Cars." Phil based his work on an October 1980 Model Railroader article. In addition to making longer cars from two MDC cars, he used the left over pieces to make some unique rolling stock. We also welcomed a couple of new members and at least one old member who had not been active for a few years. We are always pleased to see new faces. If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, or have been a member for a while and have not attended a meeting, come join us and see what you have been missing. The contest had four cabooses entered, including one from a craftsman kit that Ken Rackliff won in a raffle a while back. Way to go Ken!

### **Train Show**

The train show will be history when you read this, but if past trends are any indication, it should be another great show. Nick and his team have continued to improve on the show every year. Nick is looking to "retire" after next year and is willing to train his replacement next year. If you would like to step in and replace Nick this is a good time. Please let Nick know you are willing to help out.

### **2013 MCR Convention**

Convention planning is well under way and you can look for the full registration package in the Winter King Pin. If you don't want to wait you can go on the web site <http://www.mcr2013convention.com/> and take advantage of the early registration. The convention committee is also looking for people who can help out for a couple of hours with the activities during the convention. If you haven't attended a regional convention this is a good time to get involved.

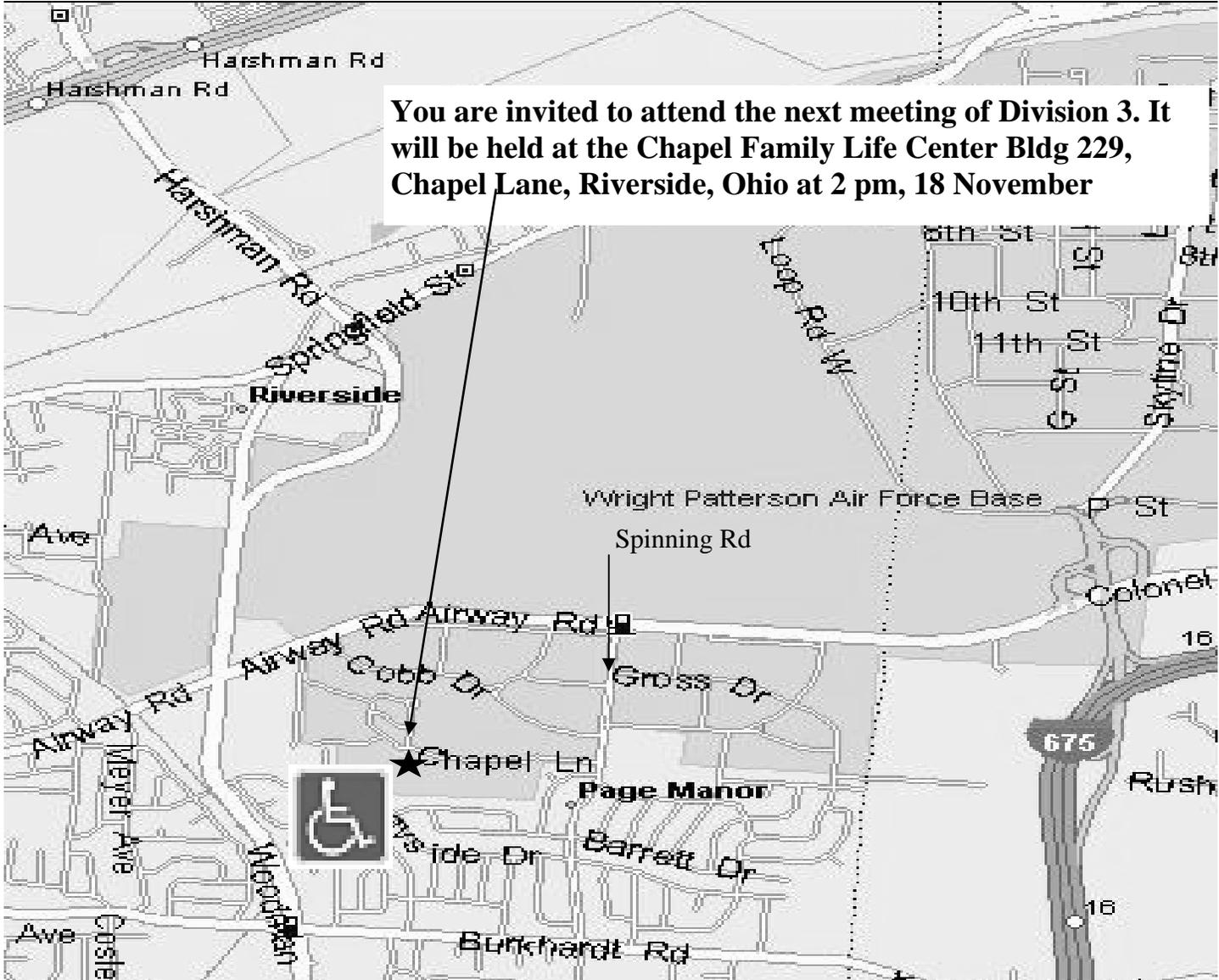
### **Model Railroad TRAINing Day**

Plans are well underway for our second Model Railroad TRAINing Day. We have moved it up to January 2013 and will promote it at our Train Show. I was really pleased with the response at the meeting as a number of people signed up to help out. We are still in need of people to do presentations on subjects of interest to beginning model railroaders and maybe those who have been struggling to get things running right. If you would like to help out let me know. I promise I will bring the sign up sheet to November's meeting so if you weren't at last month's meeting it's not too late.

Speaking of training, National has formed a committee to establish an Education and Training program to provide prepared training material, including lesson plan, and the course PowerPoint, handouts, and other material where applicable. These are to be developed by The Education and Training committee consisting of representatives from each division in each region. If you are interested in participating in the program let me know. I am by default our division's representative, but I am willing to appoint someone to take my place if someone has a desire to work on this committee. Noted modeler, Jim Six, has been tasked to lead the group and is off and running. Stay tuned for more details as things develop.

### **November Meeting**

A lot of people have expressed an interest in learning more about Digital Command Control and Mike has put together several presentations on the subject, starting with an over view of DCC and a top level overview of some of the popular systems and some insight to choosing a system that meets your needs. I became a convert to DCC about four years ago and have not regretted it at all. As they say "DCC allows you to run your train" and not have to worry about toggle switches to control the power and avoid the "who's got me train" cry. DCC opens up possibilities for realistic helpers and switching cars at an intermediate stop. We should have three of four systems available for "hands on" comparison.



**Note of Passing**

On Saturday, October 20, Dorothy Niebes passed away. Many of you may remember her as she is the mother of Division member William Niebes. Mrs. Niebes was an active supporter of the NMRA and some years ago worked diligently to promote our November Train Show, by working on show publicity. She was active in many other things in the community and had been a weather watcher for Channel 2 for many years

**SMITH, Donald Eugene**, age 82, of Dayton, Ohio passed away October 25, 2012. Don and his brother ran Smitty's Hobby Shop for over 56 years. He enjoyed the company of many friends he met during his years at Smitty's Hobby Shop, years of coaching boys and girls soccer in Centerville, and years of serving as an usher at St. George's Episcopal Church.

**National News**

- About half of the money needed to meet the “matching gift” to the “The Magic of Scale Model Rail-roading” exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum has been raised. An anonymous donor has offered to put \$250,000 of his own money into the Exhibit if we can raise a matching amount. In addition to NMRA member donations, substantial donations have been made to the exhibit by various manufacturers. No NMRA dues money is being used to fund this project. Watch for an informative article in the No-

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## 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

August - No Contest

September - Make it cheap (1-3-5 Dollar)

October - Caboose

October- Results

Caboose

Level One (Kit)

First - Ken Rackliff, Bob Knapp

Level Two (Kit Bash)

First - Jim Ruisinger

Second - Wil Davis

*(Continued from page 3)*

vember issue of *NMRA Magazine* for more details on the Exhibit and fund raising efforts.

- The newly formed **NMRA Marketing Department is working with Amtrak stations** in major cities to get modular layouts placed there in an effort to raise awareness of our hobby.
- The **NMRA website** is undergoing a facelift and update under the direction of our new IT Director, Ben Sevier, and his web team. Members should see the changes sometime within the coming year.
- As part of an effort to improve communications with members, and specifically those who don't receive *NMRA Magazine*, the **NMRA leadership team is discussing adding an “eBulletin”** – a short, concise emailed newsletter which will list NMRA news, announcements, and other important information. It won't replace *NMRA Magazine*, but instead will be an adjunct to it and will be available free to those members with email. A proposal will be made to the Board of Directors in February.
- The Executive Handbook and By-Laws Committee is currently working diligently to **simplify and shorten both of those documents**, making it easier to understand the organization and how it's run.
- The **Winter Board of Directors Meeting** will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, on February 8-10. All NMRA members are welcome to attend. Times and location will be announced later.

*If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer. You'll find those addresses at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) or in *NMRA Magazine*.*

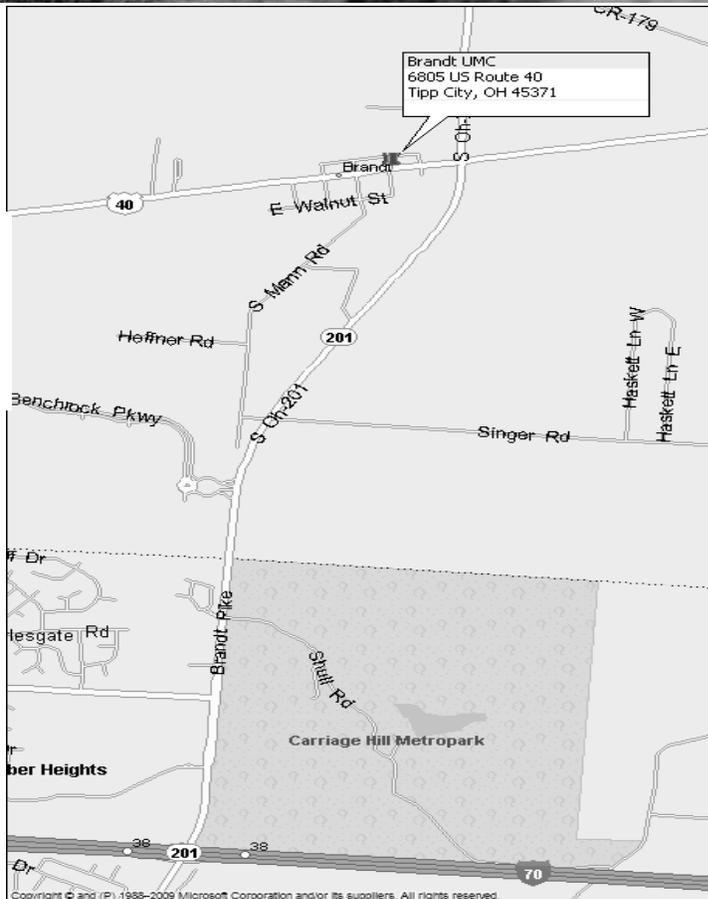
*-Gerry Leone, MMR  
NMRA Communications Director*



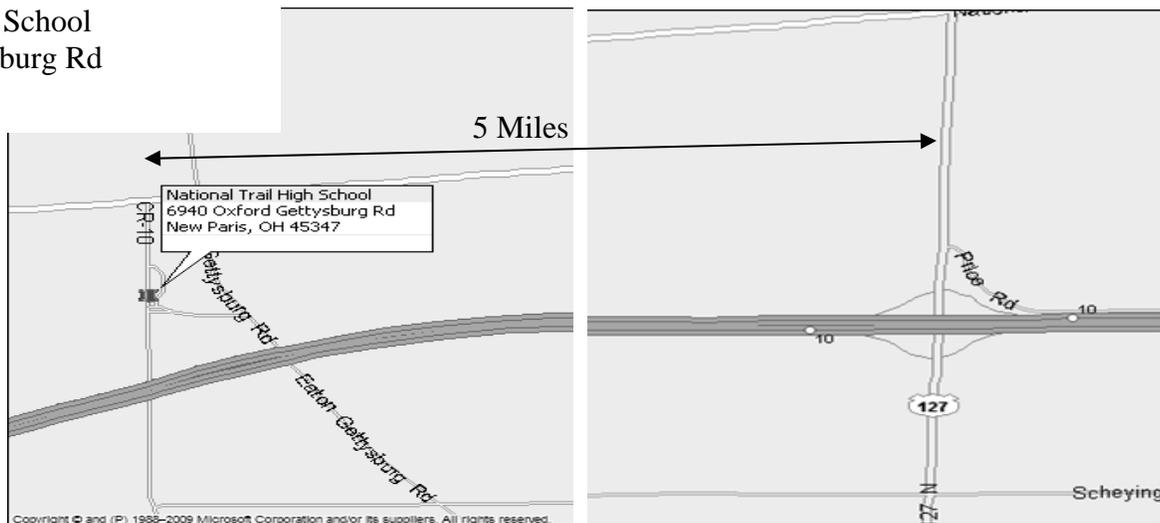
The Dalmatian Switching District will be operating several times in November.

3-4 November  
2012 Dayton Train Show  
Hara Arena

7-8 November 6:30 to 9:00 PM  
FREE Display and operating sessions.  
Brandt UMC  
6805 US Route 40  
Tipp City, Ohio



17-18 November 11:00AM to 4:00PM  
National Trail High School  
6940 Oxford Gettysburg Rd  
New Paris, OH



## Second Annual Model Railroad TRAINing Day January 26, 2013

(What to do with the trains once the Christmas tree comes down)

Division 3, Mid Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association has set a date for the popular **Model Railroad TRAINing Day**. This year's event will be held January 26, 2013 at the same location as last year, Sulphur Grove UMC, 7505 Taylorsville Road, Huber Heights, OH.

There will be sessions covering the fundamentals of getting started in model railroading as well as more in-depth coverage on selected topics. Learn how to turn that train set into a model empire where you are the master. Learn how to operate model trains in a realistic setting simulating "moving the freight" for fun and profit. We will have a large operating model railroad layout where you can try your hand at being a model railroad engineer.



Kids of all ages are welcome. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. There is no admission charge for this event since it is presented as a public service by Division 3, Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association. There will even be a FREE lunch. Location is handicap accessible.

