

# Call Board

Volume 57 Issue 11

July 2018

**The next Crew Call is 2pm on Sunday, July 15, 2018  
Greene County Historical Society  
Church St  
Xenia, Ohio**

Superintendent's Remarks for June, 2018

Before we take a break in August from division activities, we have several rail related activities in July. By the time you are reading this, Rail Fest will have taken place, as well as the Montgomery County Fair. Hopefully, many of you had a chance to attend and participate at these events. Maker's Faire will be at Carillon Park on August 4 and 5. And don't forget our regular meeting in July, featuring 3 mini clinics. I'm especially looking toward the clinic about re-powering locomotives. In August, there will be no BOG, no Callboard, and no general meeting.

Also, the bus trip for this year has been cancelled due to a lack of interest. Maybe next year. We do appreciate all the efforts Mike puts into arranging past trips and our regular programs.

If you feel like there is a lull in our activities, remember that the train show will take place in 4 short months. This is our biggest activity of the year, so we need as many of you as possible to get involved. We have another new venue this year, so the show will be an exciting adventure again.

Several thanks are in order. Thanks to Dana for filling in on the raffle in June. Thanks to Ed Swain for a great clinic on a beautiful model of a lift bridge. Thanks to Gail for managing the MCR banners from Lone Eagle, but I'm still not wearing the hat. And thanks to Stan Sartell for taking over the Division library.

Paul says the V&O covered hopper project is proceeding, so hopefully they will be available by the Train Show.

MCR elections are coming up in the Spring and all four offices are up for election, with the Vice-President position being term limited.

Finally, the Sept BOG meeting will be at Ric Zimmerman's home on Sept. 10. If you have anything for the BOG's consideration, please let one of us know.

Have a safe and fun Summer!

Mark Stiver

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

## Contests

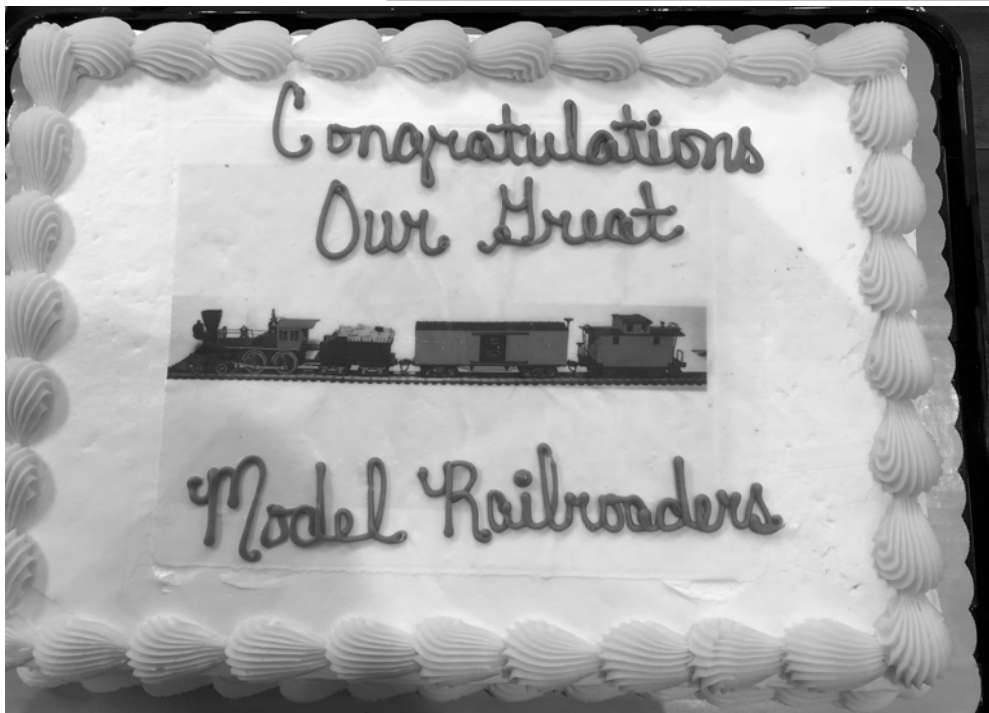
We have three categories each month. You can enter Scratch Built, Kit Bashed, or just plain Kit built. This allows anyone to enter anything they are proud of and at any skill level. Judging is by popular vote but if you wish to have your model judged by NMRA rules for the Achievement Program, we will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

### The coming contest schedule ...

#### July - Non-Revenue Cars

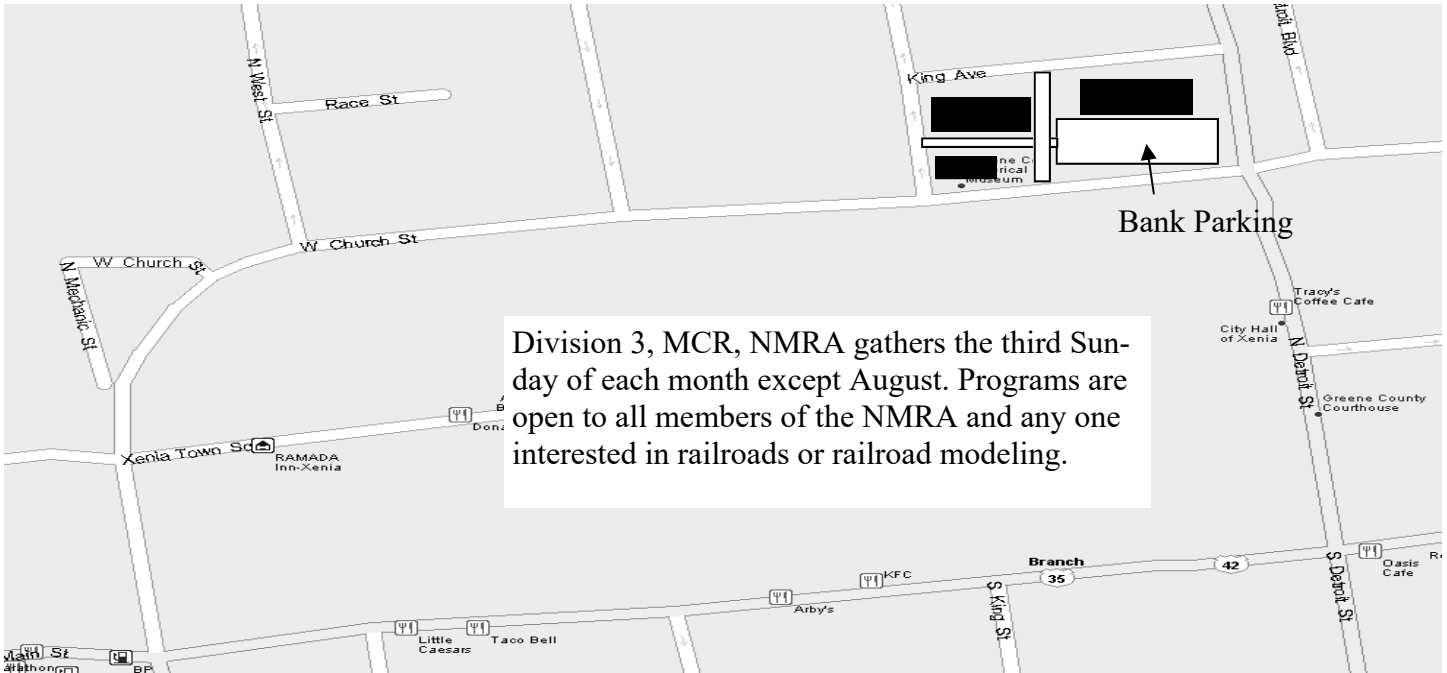
- January - Open Loads
- February - No Contest
- March - Freight Cars
- April - Passenger Cars
- May - Diesel Locomotives
- June - Steam Locomotives
- July - Non-Revenue Cars
- August - No Contest
- September - Make it cheap (1-3-5 Dollar)
- October - Caboose
- November - Weathering
- December - Structures

Results for May 2018	
Steam Locomotives	
Level 1	Kit
First Place	
Level 2	Kit Bashed
First Place	Wil Davis
Second Place	Steve Allen
Level 3	Scratchbuilt
First Place	
PHOTO	
First Place	Paul Jenins
Second Place	Paul Jenkins



Treat From Our Hospitality Table

July Crew Call  
 2pm 15 July 2018  
 Green County Historical Society  
 74 W. Church St, Xenia, Ohio  
 Program: 3 Mini-Clinics  
 Contest: Non-Revenue Cars



The following MCR Board of Directors positions are open for election in 2019:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

The current Vice President is term limited and is ineligible to be a candidate for that position in the 2019 election. The current President, Secretary, and Treasurer are eligible to be candidates for their current positions in the 2019 election. Any MCR member in good standing who wishes to be considered for candidacy for one of these positions should send a notice of their interest to [nominations@midcentral-region-nmra.org](mailto:nominations@midcentral-region-nmra.org)

Thank You.

MCR 2019 election Nominating Committee  
 Bob Shreve  
 Bob Belt  
 Jim DiPaola”

## How can Facebook Help Me?

You know we have two Facebook pages:

NMRA Miami Valley Division page concerns items of interest to the club. It is open to visitors but is about club postings.

NMRA Annual Dayton Train Show is about our train show but also much more. We list other train shows, articles of interest and things that will attract the attention of non-members as well.

But you may not know that there are quite a few other Facebook pages of interest.

NMRA Mid-Central Region—Our region now has a Facebook page. It includes posts of meeting info, train shows, awards, clinics and all kinds of information. Only members may post on this page. If you have something you would like posted on the region website, send it to [NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com](mailto:NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com). In the meantime, join the Facebook page and get the all the great info available. Our Facebook manager can post for you on this page ([NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com](mailto:NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com)).

NMRA—([NMRAhq@aol.com](mailto:NMRAhq@aol.com)) This is the official NMRA HQ Facebook page. Items included are train shows, videos, events, layouts, awards, partnership program and much more. Lots to learn.

National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)—This group is for NMRA topics but is not an NMRA page. It is, however, up with the permission of the NMRA. As stated on the page: “This group is not owned by the NMRA but is run for their benefit and with their knowledge.” This page includes pictures of layouts and parts of layouts, questions, information, shows & conventions, new products, partnership info, videos, podcasts and more. Once you join the page, you can post as well. Read the “About” section for more information.

NMRA Achievement Program—“This group has been created for NMRA members that are working on their APs towards their MMR. It is open to anyone that is interested in learning more about the NMRA Achievement Program. Please feel free to post anything related to the AP, whether it be questions, answers, or thoughts about the Achievement Program that may help others. The more that we can help each other, the easier it will be for us to reach our final goal of Master Model Railroader.” -- From the About Section of the page.

NMRA Railroading with Younger Youth—“This group is designed for the younger generation of model railroad enthusiasts to learn more about model railroading and the National Model Railroad Association. We would like to foster the enjoyment of the hobby in younger people.”

Also Look for other great Facebook Pages:

Train Shows and Swaps—Join this page and you will see all posted train show and swap shows that are posted to the page.

Using the Facebook search bar, also search Railroading, Model Railroading, Trains, Model Trains, Toy Trains, Railroader, Modeling, Models, and anything else you can think of. If you model HO, search HO Railroad. Be sure to look for the Facebook pages of our train show Vendors, Exhibitors and NMRA partners. Check out the pages for the manufacturers as well. There are so many Facebook pages about Railroading topics. Don't miss this valuable information.

To access most pages, you must Follow or become a member. However, you can set it up so that you will not have all the posts coming to your page. That way you can access the information through their page and keep your own pages clean. Then if you want an item on your page, if allowed, you can share it to your page. If you have any questions, contact us at [NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com](mailto:NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com).

## AP Certificate and Merit Awards

At the June Division 3 meeting Bob Fink Presented the Volunteer AP Certificate to Peter Guise. Peter has been involved in many Division activities and has worked many more hours than required for this award. Bob also presented 2 Merit Award certificates to John Santel. John Participated in the Spring MCR Convention Contest. Congratulations to these outstanding members of Division 3.

*This Article is from the Editor's Archives. Original publication date and author have been lost.*

### Prototype for "Car Cards"?

I am sure many of you are familiar with the popular car card operating system. There are a number of articles in the model press describing several variations of the system. As a matter of fact, our division's company store has a version designed by Allen McClelland which we will be glad to sell you along with the instructions on how to set them up. What is interesting is that we were discussing the stock of car cards and how we can promote them at the January BOG meeting. The next morning someone asked the following question on the Great Northern (gngoat) Yahoo group. "Looking for any veteran's anecdotes about how well COMPASS did or did not work for attribution or anonymous quotation." Now, I had no idea what COMPASS was when I saw the request. A while later John, who made the request, received the following from Mac Culloch, a former Great Northern employee.

*"John,*

*"Are you talking GN or NP? I worked summers of 1967, 68, 69, and 70 as a clerk in Wenatchee. In 1967 switch lists were created by a mud hop (me)(officially a car checker) walking up and down the tracks writing car numbers down, marked up by the yardmaster, used by the switch crew, and thrown away. When it was time to run the train I walked it. My list went to the manifest clerk who "pulled the bills" from his box, lined them up in train order, rear to front, and gave the conductor my list and the waybills. The conductor, while in route, hand wrote his consist on multiple copy paper using a pencil. Consist showed car initial and number, load/empty status, contents, destination, station from and time, station to and time. One copy went to St Paul from the destination station.*

***"The next year the mud hop job had been replaced by "PICL clerk" who had a big box with lots of little boxes, one for each track in the terminal. Each car was represented by an 80 column IBM card showing car initial and number, load/empty status, contents, and destination. For inbound trains we got the consist info, which got converted into a deck of cards representing the train. The PICL clerk ran the train deck through a multi copy printer to make a list for the yardmaster. He marked it up for the switch crew and gave a copy to the PICL clerk. The PICL clerk moved the cards in the same way and sequence that the crew moved the cars. This resulted in each track having the cards in the same order as the cars. When time came to run the train we put the tracks together, if necessary, ran the list through the printer with the consist form of paper. Manifest clerk pulled the bills as before, but much of the conductor's writing was now done by the printer. After we had verified the consist out, we sent the deck by wire to Spokane or to Everett and Seattle so they knew what was coming well ahead of the train's arrival.***

*"I have a vague recollection that for the first year we got a paper tape that had to be converted to cards inbound, and cards to tape outbound.*

*"In my experience it worked very well and provided advance information. Saved the conductor's hours of writing each trip. Was the basis for close to real time car location information on an inquiry basis. We verified trains both in and out to make sure the consist we got and sent was correct. Every terminal did this.*

*"There was certainly effort required to convert a terminal to the system, most important an accurate check of the entire yard as of conversion time and loading that data. I missed that process, so have no tales to tell about it. I know there were teams of people who did nothing but these conversions for the period it took to do it."*

Once I read Mac's reply I was struck by the similarity to the car card systems used on most of the model railroads I operate on. As they say "there is a prototype for everything." The biggest problem I have when operating a model railroad yard is getting the paperwork transmitted in advance of the incoming train's arrival. I will have to speak to the layout owners to see if I can convince them to upgrade their systems to the full COMPASS prototype, complete with electronic transmission prior to the train's arrival.



Steam on the docks. Mozambique, 1972



Panama Canal Mule and Crane, 1973

### Open Operating Sessions

The Darke County Model Railroad Club is inviting anyone who is interested in operating their layout to join them. They meet on the second Sunday of the month, starting at 1:00 pm. There is plenty of parking and lots of fun. They are located at:

405 1/2 S. Broadway  
Greenville, Ohio  
(Second Floor)

Bill Reese's N scale Pine Creek Railway is recruiting operators for its' monthly operating sessions. They are held the 3rd Monday of the month from 7 pm to 9:30 pm. The Pine Creek Railway (PCRY) is a free-lance model railroad set in Ohio in the mid 1970's. It is a single-track point-to-point style railroad with five offline staging locations. For more information contact Bill Reese at (937) 454-2281

<http://home.earthlink.net/~w.reese/index.html>