
❖ Call Board ❖

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Super Saying

We will hold our annual auction at this month's meeting, at the Trotwood Church of the Brethren. It will be February 23rd – the fourth Sunday instead of the usual third Sunday. Bring that locomotive or your other items that don't fit in with your current theme, and take away some cash. If you have nothing to sell, you might find a real gem at a great price. We had some good ones last year.

Good news: Hara Arena recently returned to us a check for a little over a thousand dollars. It seems we had paid part of their bill twice; once as part of their overall bill, and once as a separate item. So the train show financial result was even better than we previously reported. We already knew that we had made more than enough to pay for our philanthropy projects for the year, and our normal operating expenses.

Larry Zeller called me January 18th to report that he is in frequent contact with the office staff at Hara Arena. Although they have not sent him the final train show contract papers to review and sign, they have reserved the first weekend in November for us. They have also promised

him that our vendors and layout display people will be able to set up Friday evening, at no additional cost to us. Last year we had many complaints about the lack of setup time Friday evening. Good work, Larry!

We held a raffle at the 2001 train show, and gave away raffle prizes that were donated by hobby manufacturers and retailers. We plan to continue that. At the January meeting the membership approved a plan to build and raffle off the N-scale layout sold by Woodland Scenics. Layouts seem to attract many raffle ticket buyers at train shows. It will be easy to build it if many of us shared the work. Ray Persing has suggested that to construct the layout we hold a series of work sessions that are also clinics. If we did that, we could probably easily complete it in time for the next train show. Dick Strous, of the Greene County Historical Society, offered the society's facilities for working on it.

I've been working on the design of the yard for my layout, recently named the Olentangy Sub. While operating on a few layouts during the past fifteen years, I've noticed that on some model railroads, the yard work

must stop while a train enters or leaves the yard. It's not uncommon to hear a dispatcher call a yardmaster, and ask something like "Train 506 has completed its work at Belleville, may I send it to Metropolis?" only to have the yardmaster reply, "The yard here is all bolixed up right now, he'll have to hold there for a while." There are two yard features, often missing, that can minimize the frequency of that situation. One is a separate drill track for yard switching, one that trains don't need to use to enter or leave the yard. The other is an arrival/departure track (or two), directly accessible from the main line without crossing or using any track that the yard crew needs to do its work.

On single-operator layouts these issues aren't very important. A lone operator isn't going to be doing yard work while bringing in a main line train, anyway. But I hope someday to have people helping me operate the Olentangy Sub, and I want the yard to be easy to use and very fluid. The NMRA's Layout Design Special Interest Group (LDSIG) publishes the Layout Design Journal, Issue 7 of which

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is a special freight yards issue. It's filled with examples and ideas for yard design, and has been a big help to me. I recommend it highly. Back issues of LDJ-7 and many other LDSIG publications are still available. Check out the LDSIG web site at www.ldsigs.org.

See you Sunday, February 23rd. Don't forget to bring your auction items.

Model Railroad For Sale

HO Scale model railroad layout that started as the 4' x 8' "HO Railroad That Grows" using snap track. It has grown to an 8' x 14' railroad empire using handlaid track for the expansion. Layout is wired for two power packs. All turnouts are remotely operated with twin coil switch machines. Price is negotiable. For more information, contact Dale Waddell at (937) 426-3526.

Contests

February No Contest

You are allowed up to 3 entries per contest. You do not have to be a member of the NMRA to participate in the popular vote contest.

March Non-Revenue June No Contest
 April Off-Line Structures July Scene
 May Cabooses

January Results Favorite Train			
Models		Photos	
1	Bill Spinks Brian Petroziello Richard Davoust	1	Ray Persing
2	LeRoy Clouser	2	Bill Benysh
3	Jim Foster	3	Bill Benysh Richard Davoust

There was an error in the address for the Freight Manager program in the January *Call Board*. The correct address is:
www.ida.net/users/tetonsl/railroad/frtmgr.htm

Date	Location	Contest	Program
23 February Date Change!	Trotwood Church of the Brethren	No Contest	Members Auction
16 March		Non Revenue	Grain Elevators and Feed Mills by Larry Zeller
12 April Saturday Date Change!		Off-Line Structures	Kit Bashing Structures by Ron Dietrich
18 May		Cabooses	
15 June		No Contest	Tour of the Dupps Railroad in Germantown (Tentative)
20 July		Scene	