

Call Board

Volume 46 Issue 2

October 2006



This Month's Program ...

Let's Take A Train Ride

OK, so it won't be behind a steam engine! But you can have a family, fun filled day riding on the Whitewater RR with Division 3.

Connersville is on Indiana Rte 1 south of IR 70 or for a ride in the country take Ohio Rte 725 west to the Indiana border and after a jog left then right in the cornfield you're on Indiana Rte 44. Take it west through Liberty and on into Connersville. Go North in the center of town to the RR station. Ticket prices are \$18 roundtrip.

We ride for an hour and a half to Metamora. You'll have 2 hours in the shops and to eat, then a restful ride back. Bring the family for an autumn treat as we take an old fashioned train ride.

See you Sunday, October 15th...

Train leaves at 12:01 PM (Ohio time)

SUPER'S NOTES

Let's get rolling...

Does moving train cars with your fingers qualify as Digital Control?

Designing that First Layout

After seeing the magnificent layouts on the August Bus Tour I'm convinced that anyone can build a great layout if they set their sights right. With all the new scenery materials and techniques along with the track components and controls available it's well within your grasp. As Dean Freytag says "the average layout now days seems to have scenery made by God". A far cry from the old days when everything had to be built from scratch and information was scarce.

The starting step is to get into LAYOUT DESIGN and not confuse it with track planning. Sometimes people get them confused and start off wrong. The result is frustration. Here's the difference. Layout planning is where you should assess your desires. Are you interested in running through trains, making up and switching trains. Short line or Class one railroad. Seeing and operating on other pikes is a good way to find out what pleases YOU. Most folks then pick a real road to model while the rest just develop a "freelance" pike that "could have been". That choice will set your design in motion. The real planning is getting the elements of a railroad that you want to incorporate firmed up. TRACK PLANNING only starts after the general outline of your design has been formed.. In the old days we tried to fit as much track as we could into the room. There were even contests in the model press to see who could fit the most track in a given space. But that's not what it's all about. My objective here is to get you to think about building a realistic model railroad like the ones you see around us. It's not that difficult.

I'll leave you with a couple of model railroad myths exploded:

1. The "great" layouts you see in the magazines and around here came out that way right from the start. Nope! They evolved so don't be afraid to get started for fear your design won't be perfect.
2. . You have to analyze and research a prototype for years so that your layout will be perfect before you start building.



Sometimes the short lines had the most unusual engines. No it's not a B&O Dockside switcher. This was Illinois Midland No. 2. If you are looking for a prototype road to model check out the many short lines that were all over America.

Bunk. Lot's of folks are still researching when they could be having the fun of layout building and they could be getting into the real fun of realistic operation.

Most of us in Division 3 started by joining a work group with other builders and it became an operating layout and crew. It's still works.. We'll publicize work groups to join and operating groups if you let us know. Why not place a "Want Ad" in the Callboard for folks to start a "work group". We can still do that if you let us know . If you need to get your operating group enlarged we can do that too. We're here to help you get started. You take it from there.

The AP Program and Contests

More changes are in the wind for the Achievement Program here in the Division. We want to make it more proactive and spell out what it does. It will start with an education program on what the program can offer us all. Then we'll try to regear our contests to help with skill building and be more than just a display. Competition with feedback can be a real help.

TRAINSHOW is coming up.

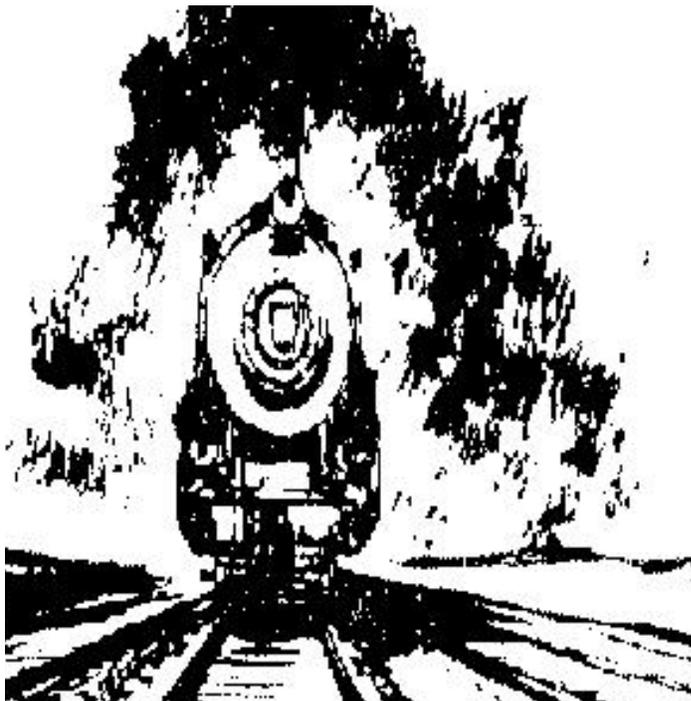
We'll need plenty of help for the big (really BIG) November show so watch for the guys with the clipboards!

See YOU at the next meeting.

Bob Fink MMR

Aid To Our Members

A-T-O-M is intended to be a regular feature in the Call Board. It is a place for the members to ask or answer questions about Div 3, the NMRA, or the hobby in general. You are welcome to express your needs and ideas and to help keep all of us up to date on the hobby. Interested in joining a work or operating group? Drop me a note and I'll print it here. Have a work or operating group that's seeking members? Let me know. Have a request for a clinic you'd like to see held at one of our meetings? We'll try to get it done. This is your column so let me hear from you at the meetings.



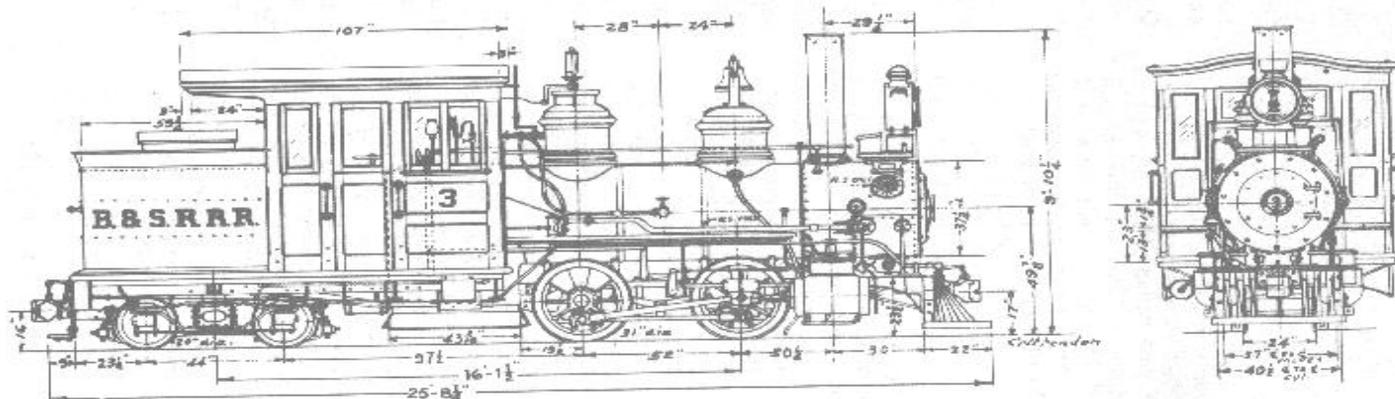
 Fall is new member time Summer is over in Division 3 and the outdoors is being traded for the train room. Christmas, with its tradition of trains, is just around the corner. For many years Div 3 has offered new memberships at a discounted price during the November Train Show. Fourteen new members joined during the 2005 show. This year our BOG voted to offer our **largest discount** ever! The regular membership, normally \$48/yr including Scale Rails, will be offered for \$25, and the student membership, normally \$24, will be offered for \$10 during the show. Alternatively, the NMRA is offering the 6 month Rail Pass membership for \$9.95 to new members. Bring that friend, neighbor, or person in your operating/work group who is not an NMRA member to the show or a meetings so he can see what we're all about (visitors are always welcome). Membership applications will be available at all meetings and the show. Visitors may also sign up for a complimentary 3 month subscription to the Call Board.

Of size and scale
 Lacking questions or comments to address at this time I'm throwing this idea out for your comments. Over the years about a jillion and 6 track plans have been published. Most of these were designed with a particular scale railroad in mind. It has been common to include factors to adjust overall dimensions and curve radii for different scales. A 5 by 9 layout with 24" curves in HO would translate into 10 by 18 with 48" curves in O as an example. A couple of serious problems come with scaling up or down. If you scale up on an island type pike the reaching distances can become impossible. On a walk around pike with aisles the aisles may be come impassable when you scale down. Given that a track plan will provide good operation in a given area and scale I suggest that the builder might keep the overall size and curve radii but build it in a smaller scale. Wouldn't an HO Y6B look great on 56" min curves originally intended for O scale? The main line run would be twice as many scale miles! More tracks could be put in yards. More space for scenery and industries! Shortened passing sidings could be used (if car counts were the same) further increasing the apparent main line run... Comments anyone?

Bruce Albright Membership Chairman Albright42@peoplepc.com

Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

Sharpening Your SKILLS



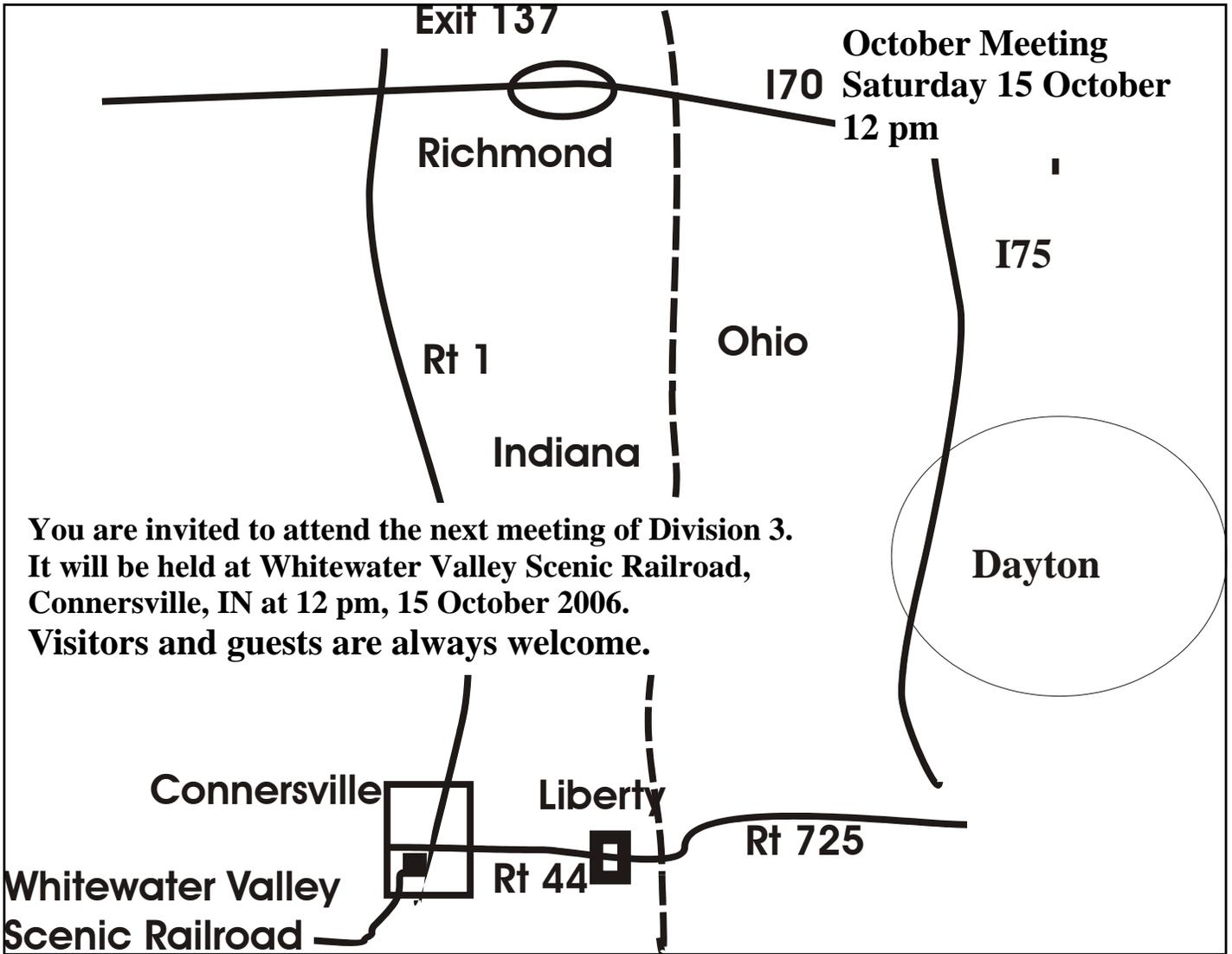
AP Program News...

There's a very useful program in the NMRA that can help you develop your skills and get some recognition for your efforts. It's the Achievement Program. Over the years many of us in the Division have worked toward the various awards. For everyone involved it has been fun and rewarding.

The program has gone a little dormant in the past months at our level and I think it's mainly because many of the newer folks don't know what it is really about. Over the next few month's I'll take you through the fundamentals of participating. We'll start with an overall view then we will outline each of the eleven awards and their requirements.

You may be ready for one or more of the awards or would be interested in starting when you understand the basics. Stay tuned and you'll see another fun aspect of this great hobby.

Date	Location	Program
15 October	Connersville, IN	Whitewater Valley Railroad Excursion
4-5 November	Hara Arena	Division 3 Show and Sale
19 November	Greene County Historic Society, Xenia, OH	Layout Operations
16 December	Christmas Party	Carillon Park
17 December	Chapel 3 Dayton, OH	Modular/Portable Layouts
2007		
21 January		
18 February		Auction

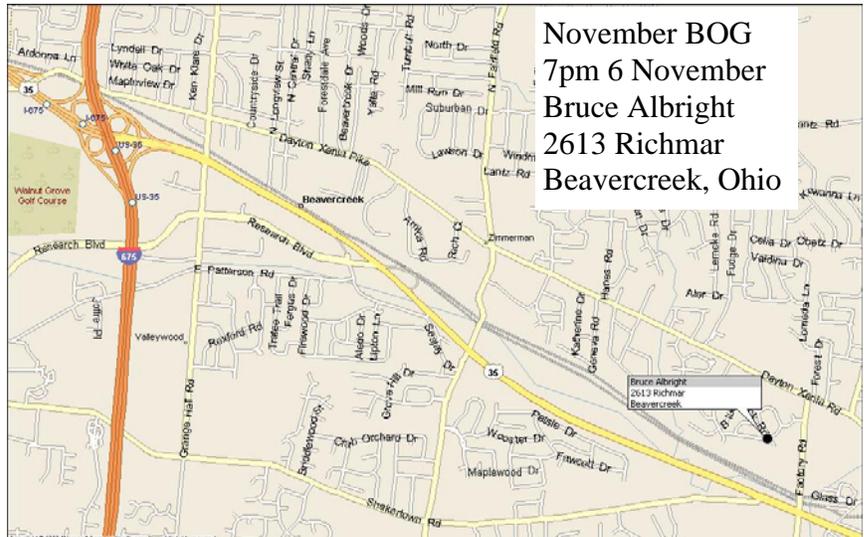


You are invited to attend the next meeting of Division 3. It will be held at Whitewater Valley Scenic Railroad, Connersville, IN at 12 pm, 15 October 2006. Visitors and guests are always welcome.

Board of Governors

The Board of Governors usually meet the first Monday of the month to conduct the business of the Division. Any member may attend and participate in the meeting. Please contact a board member to verify place and time.

Date	Host
2 October	Bob Fink
6 November	Bruce Albright
4 December	Rick Lach



THE "NINTH" ANNUAL DIVISION THREE
"VINTAGE MODEL RAILROADERS"
 REUNION DINNER

Sunday, October 29, 2006 @ 1:00 p.m.

It is time for our Ninth Annual Vintage Model RR Dinner and we invite you to join us. Anyone who has been a past or present member of Division Three for at least 15 yrs. is considered "a Vintage Model Railroader". (These members and former members have only grown better with age like "Fine Vintage Wine!") We know you will enjoy seeing your old friends. Of course, spouse/partners are also invited.

WHERE? *The Chop House Restaurant, 727 Washington Village Dr. (from I-675 go 2 blocks East on Rt. 725. Turn left on Washington Village Drive; the Chop House is about 2 blocks on the left behind Washington Park Plaza Shopping Center.) Order individually from a limited menu. Prices vary from approx. \$14.00-18.00 including beverage, tax and tip.*

ENTERTAINMENT: *Bill and Hazel Reece have graciously volunteered to host the After-Dinner Dessert and Model Railroading Party at their home in Clayton. The trackwork on Bill's extensive N Scale Layout is basically complete and operating and he is currently working on the scenery.*

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL or E-MAIL: *Bill Marshall (937)439-1121 or wmarsh7@yahoo.com. If you have any corrections or email changes or know of anyone who has not been receiving invitations by either email or snail mail, have them contact Bob Fink who handles the address list. You can reach Bob at (513)897-0970 or bfink@go-concepts.com.*

NOTE: *CHOP HOUSE SEATING IS LIMITED SO CALL BILL MARSHALL ASAP. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS OCT. 22, 2006.*

PLEASE NOTE: *We will no longer mail invitations to those who have not responded to previous years invitations so if you want to stay on the list let Bob Fink know.*

Scenes on the Durango and Silverton

