

Call Board

Volume 48 Issue 3

November 2008

This Month's Program ...

Improving your layout with ...

“Vehicles and JUNK”. Jim Foster will continue our “you can do it” series by showing us how he develops those great small scenes you've seen in the model magazines and at the shows. Don't miss this presentation by a TOP modeler from Div 3.



Sunday, November 16th 2 PM Chapel 3

You can grab one of the East Penn Commemorative box cars now at \$13. We'll present a “hands on” clinic where you can weather it in December. After that the cars (if any are left) will be \$14.95

SUPER'S NOTES

Let's get rolling...

A “You can do it” attitude

Many years ago I got started in scale model railroading by joining a club. It was the way you got involved then since you could buy very little “Ready to Run” stuff at the hobby shops and even with a moderate skill level and plenty of enthusiasm there was an awful lot to catch on to. The tricks of the trade could be daunting but I'll always remember that I ran into an attitude toward new comers that said, “you can do it”. I've been thinking about that philosophy over the past few years and it seems to me that that's what really makes our Division stand out. We have tried to present material that was appropriate for a beginner but advanced enough so that he or she had to try a little to accomplish the goal. Presentations that guide and inspire more than they “spoon feed”.

In expanding the idea further I see that over the past couple years we have had some presentations at the meetings that have started to achieve this. The topics have been varied but always come down to something YOU can duplicate at any skill level you possess. We hope to continue with a series that emphasizes the “you can do it” idea while hitting the middle and saves the beginner stuff for the work groups (there are still some out there if you haven't heard) and save the real far out clinic stuff for the conventions.

Bruce Albright came up with an idea that fits right into my plan when he proposed the weathering clinic for December. Anyone can assemble a kit box car, that's not the goal, but going on to try your hand at weathering or to learn a new weathering technique is what we'll be shooting for. Since we'll have more than one presenter you can see techniques you probably haven't run into even if you're an old timer.

So here's the deal! You buy a collector's car kit for the L.E.Payne East Penn box car the National sold. We bought the remainder of their stock so the car will be available at the next two meetings for \$13 in HO or N. Spray painting and weathering are above beginner skills but not above what can be done with some “hand's on” help from the skilled presenters we will have there to help. So you get a neat commemorative car for a good price and go home with your skill level moved up. Neat program, thanks again for the idea Bruce.

OK, The name of the Game is TRAINSHOW!!

Ray Persing, Nick Folger and the gang have made this one even better. A lot of folks put many hours into making this the fun event it is and also provide a source of revenue so that we don't have to charge dues. They especially need help in setup and take down so contact us if you can help.

Are you an NMRA Life Member?

The national headquarters has developed a funny plan to drop life members if they haven't heard from them for a while??? If you don't receive the Scale Rails national magazine they have probably done it to you! I'm trying to get it changed since there are over 20 life members in our division and it is downright wrong. If it happened to you let me know and we'll get it corrected.

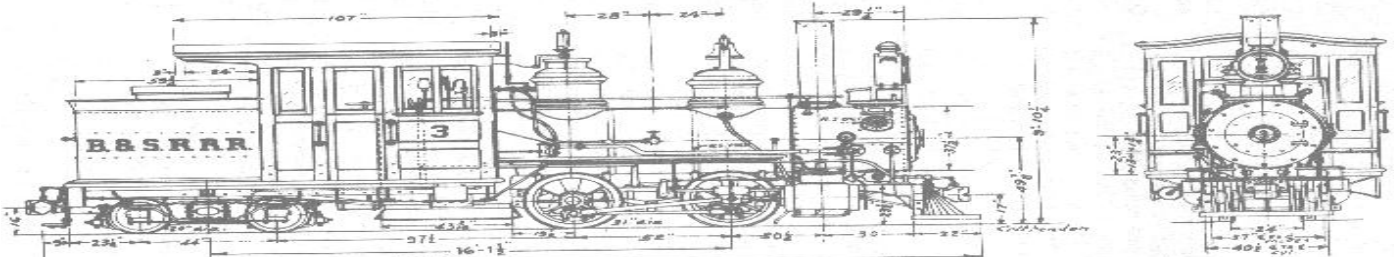
Have you seen the Special Raffle prize?

A neat off line mobile crane in HO is the special 3 month prize. A dandy piece of equipment for any modern pike. You could build a whole scene around it. Many other neat regular prizes are coming along. Prizes are getting better as Steve Trout just donated his collection of kits. Wait till you see some of these in the coming months!

Don't miss any of the upcoming programs!

See YOU at the next Meeting.
Bob Fink MMR

Sharpening Your SKILLS



AP Program News...

The whole concept of the Achievement Program is based on improving your skills and getting recognition for it. To make the program work we have to offer you a chance to show your work and you have to come forward and participate. We'll do our part each month by offering a popularity contest and even a "show and tell" table to get you started. As your skills advance you can join us in the Achievement Program (AP).

Here's another AP certificate you could pick up by sharing your ideas with us...

Model Railroad Author

If you have some information or ideas you've developed it's simple to get them published in the Callboard or the Regional King-Pin. Your text and photos add up and when you have 42 points you have the certificate! I'm sure J. Hedge can work in your material. And that's just the start. The Regional Kingpin can pick up your article as they scan our publication. Who knows even the National's Scale Rails could use it. It doesn't have to be fancy just well presented material.

You get points per page or photo with 1 point for Division publications, 2 for a regional and 3 for nationals. Scale drawings earn even more! While you're at it why not turn it into a clinic for presentation at a local meeting or regional convention. That gets you big points too. You can coordinate your work with other folks and split the credit. Your work can even go onto the Internet on our Webpage or the MCR page. There are so many ways to build up enough score for this award that you can't miss. It takes some interest and participation but that's the name of the game with the Achievement Program.

The monthly contest setup ...

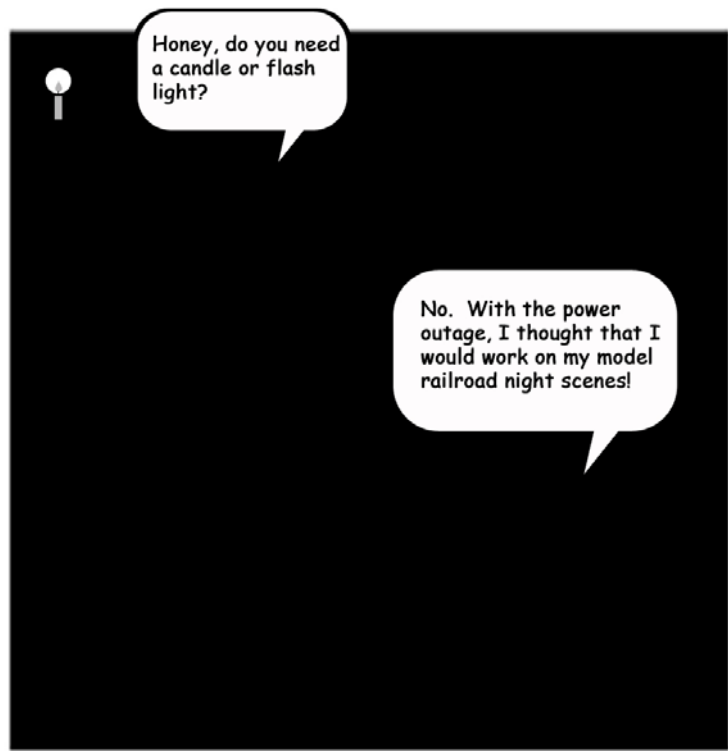
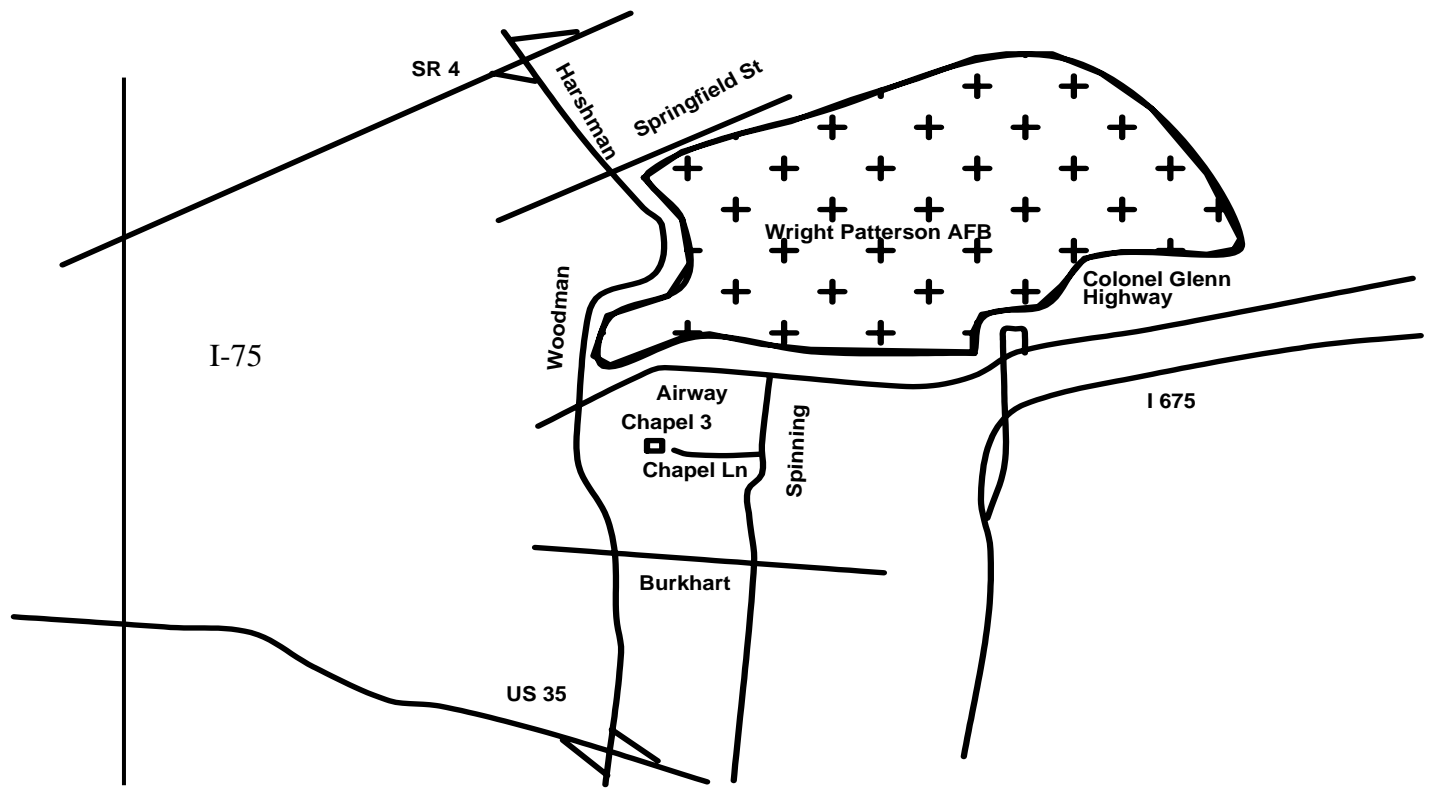
We have three categories each month. You can enter Scratchbuilt, KitBashed, or just plain Kit built. This allows anyone to enter anything they are proud of and at any skill level. Judging is by popular vote but if you wish to have your model judged by NMRA rules for the Achievement Program, we will make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

Contest Schedule...

November Weathering **December** Structures **January** Open Loads **February** No Contest

Overall Standings					
	KIT	KIT BASHED	SCRATCH BUILT	PHOTO	OVERALL
First	Jim Foster (11)	Phil Gliebe (18)	Terry McTaggart (4)	J Hedge (26)	Phil Gliebe (26)
Second	Phil Gliebe (4) George Ardwin	Jim Foster (9)		George Ardwin (6)	Jim Foster (20)
Third	Dick Kehl (2)	George Ardwin (4)		Phil Gliebe (4)	J Hedge (26)

You are invited to attend the next meeting of Division 3. It will be held at the Family Life Center, Chapel 3 Chapel Lane, Riverside Ohio at 2 pm, 16 November 2008. Visitors and guests are always welcome.



This looks like a simple structure to scratchbuild for the December contest.



CFC 12286

Federal Employees! For the first time, the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) will be included in your annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) to be conducted at your workplace. To offer the NMRA your support please designate #12286 on your CFC contribution form.

THE WORLD IN MINIATURE

By Brain Petroziello

The one phrase that is seen most often in the model press is: "the layout is never finished". There always seems to be another layer of texture to be added or some new details to be placed in our miniature worlds. There are now so many highly detailed and realistic scenic and detail items on the market; it is easy for even the newest modeler to create a highly detailed layout with a minimum of effort. However there is still a great deal of satisfaction in creating our own scenic details. The *Call Board* would be a great place to share your techniques with the rest of the members. Now that the Division is on line, a worldwide audience can see your work.

I have a couple of lumberyards on the Wyoming Division of the Lehigh Valley, and wanted to have some distinctive detail items. One of the easiest was rolls of fiberglass insulation. These were simple to make. I started with an ordinary drinking straw that I got free with my diet soft drink from my favorite fast food restaurant. After rinsing it thoroughly, I cut a wrapper to size from a brown paper bag. A lunch bag or penny candy bag works best. I used white glue to glue it around the straw. After the glue had dried, I used a pair of scissors to cut the wrapped straw into scale size "rolls". I then took cotton and stuffed the rolls, again gluing the cotton in place with white glue. The final step is to take a pink marking pen and color the ends of the cotton that sticks out of the rolls. I then glued several to a pallet and tossed it onto the forks of a forklift.

I also wanted to simulate some lights for several of the buildings on the layout. I went to a fabric store and bought some straight pins that have a tiny ball on the end. These come in many colors, and occasionally silver if you can find them. The ones I bought were size 17 and 1 1/16 inches in length. I also purchased a pack of small, white sequins. I held the sequins up to the pins to gauge the match. I did not want either piece to appear oversized. I used the white pins in the pack first. I used CA to glue one of the pins to one of the sequins. After the glue dried I painted the top of the sequin a grass green to simulate the lamp housing. I left the pinhead and bottom of the sequin white. The pins can be cut to length and bent to simulate duck necks, angled necks or left to hang straight down. On the next batch, I want to glue some small wire insulation to the pin where it sticks out of the sequin to see if it will represent the neck of the lamp housing. They make great looking background lights for buildings.

While doing the Sunday crossword, I noticed that the pen I was using was one of the clear, faceted Bic pens. The tip of the plastic barrel has facets similar to those used on the drains for flat roofed buildings. Usually there is an opening in the side of the building that drains into a larger square or faceted drain that is connected to the downspout. While I have not tried this one yet, it appears that the tip of the barrel should make two of these funnels. Use a razor saw to cut the tip in half, and then to cut the appropriate size from the barrel. Evergreen styrene rod could be used to represent the downspout. White or other appropriate paint will finish the job. I am doodling quite a bit to see if this will work.

I'm sure that if you look around the house you will probably find a lot of other household items that can be used to make miniature objects for your layout. If you do, why not share them in the *Call Board*.

This article appeared in a previous issue of the *Call Board*. Let us hear from you if you know which issue.

