



Call Board

Volume 62 Issue 12

July 2022

Superintendent's Report for July 2022

The division held its June meeting as a hybrid. We are still working out some of the bugs. But again my thanks to Gail, Dana, Peter, J and the rest of her team for continuing to work on improvements which will ultimately lead to a top-notch capability. Thanks to Mike Mereness for coming up with a great presentation on "Railroad Stations in Ohio."

The July meeting will be our annual auction. Please come prepared to buy as much as you sell. That is what it is all about. Remember to follow the instructions and fill out the Auction Sheet that is included in this month's Call Board. If you cannot be here in person, ask a member to act in your behalf, if you wish.

Rail Fest was held, 25-26 June, at Carillon Park. As usual there was a good turnout and a great chance to let the public know what we are doing, as well as, providing us with a great recruiting opportunity. Thanks to Rick Lach for orchestrating this event. Training Day will be in August 13, and Gail still needs volunteers to support this effort.

The Indy Junction 22 convention last month was a success. Over 450 People attended the convention. Gordy Robinson, NMRA president, participated in several clinics and provided his vision of where the NMRA is trying to go. I have been very impressed with his passion for improving the long-term population of the NMRA. Gordy has made very clear that increasing membership is his top goal. I believe it should be ours, as well. I also recommend that everyone in the division read the "President's Car" column in the NMRA Magazine.

To better understand your interests, we are running an "interest survey" over the next two months, asking your interests and abilities. Please complete the survey sheet included in this month's Call Board and return it to me or one of the BOG members as soon as possible, but not later than the September meeting. I hope to see all of you on July 17, at our next meeting.

Submitted by Ric Zimmerman, Superintendent, Division 3, MCR, NMRA

Hello Members of Miami Valley Division#3

We are looking for volunteers to help out with our booth at the Montgomery County Fair Exhibit booth for restocking and making sure everything is intact, All you have to do is look things over and enjoy the fair or you can leave. We need someone in th morning early afternoon and evening. If you can we would appreciate it. You can let me know by email and I can coordinate were you can pick up your badges for entry to the grounds. The fair will take place on July10 -16 2022, we would like to have 4 to 6 people for set up and tear down. Tear down will be the same day as our meeting if we have the personal it won't take long at all. Your assistance would be deeply appreciated. My contract email csj195810@yahoo.com

Thank you for your time Paul Jenkins

DIVISION 3 MEMBERSHIP:

First of all, I wish to thank the Board of Governors for approving me as the new division Membership Chairman and the vote of confidence of the overall Division 3 membership. It is a privilege to serve again.

We are at a critical time in Division 3 in terms of our membership. Not too many years ago, when I was superintendent, we had over 160 registered members. We now have approximately 112 on our registration list. For the last 2 and a half years, we have experienced COVID and the deaths of many of our active, longtime members. And during that time, even though we were able to stay remotely active on Zoom, we are all almost 3 years older, and we had to cancel an entire year of activity (including our in-person monthly meetings, a train show, Railfest, Christmas on Campus, and Training Day. Many of our more senior members prefer not to involve themselves with computers and electronics. And with the prices of everything rising (gas, supplies, and the price of membership renewals), several of our members have decided not to renew. Declining membership is an issue across the board in the NMRA. We have become painfully aware of this issue even more with the difficulty we had in getting volunteers to run for our elected positions in our recent elections. Beginning very soon, it will be the goal and primary focus of our membership function to address our membership issues.

We all love this hobby, and we stay Division 3 members because it supports our interests: modelling, shared working, railfanning, information transfer, operating, meeting with the public, and just down right great socializing. But we need to keep the division alive through new registered members. We wholeheartedly encourage all our current members to renew their memberships at the appropriate time.

I would like to explore the following ideas in a major effort to increase our membership, to groom veteran and potential new members for division elected leadership, and encourage everyone to help. We now have the beginning of a dedicated board of leaders who recognize that in order for us to continue we need continued fresh blood in the division. The following initiatives are being explored to meet this goal:

- We have 112 members on our list. Of those, approx. 15 are life members and half of those are inactive. Over a given time period, we have approx. 50 members participate in our programs, and of those, about 25 are regular active participants. I would like to increase the interest of our members who have preferred not to participate. To accomplish this, I would like to devise a simple participation survey and contact all members to find out what they want.
- I would like to set a goal of having at least one new registered member per month. We can do this by having our current members bring someone as a guest to our monthly meetings and events. We need to greet them, cultivate interest, and encourage joining. This is everyone's responsibility.
- We need to visit the engineering, architectural, and science departments of our local colleges to determine if any students are "wired" for this hobby.
- We need to publish articles in local papers, on-line agencies, social media, and hobby shops.

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- Perhaps we could set up a periodic (monthly) hobby seminar for recruiting to address all aspects of our hobby.
- I would like to set up a work day at our local hobby shops and have one or more of our members set up a table and work on a model and engage the public as they come in. Chris Schultz of Shultz's Hobby Shop, has agreed to do this and has offered space for us to do this on a regular basis. I have talked to John Nagle at RC Hobby Center and he also supports us having an event at his shop. This could attract adults as well as teenagers and younger kids, spark great conversation, and answer questions.
- We will sponsor a train show membership booth at the following events: Carillon Park Railfest, Model Railroad Training Day, and the Dayton Train Show. The booth would include story board information, information from the NMRA, give away issues of train magazines, and registration paperwork. Our members would engage the public, promote the hobby, and answer questions as well as invite folks to our monthly meetings.
- Finally, we will look to our members in recompleting the Interest Cards that were done a couple years ago highlighting your talents, specific interests, and willingness to get involved.

Some of the above need to be fleshed out and are there for idea starters. If you have any suggestions on how we can recruit and retain new members I am open to suggestions. I know we can do this. We have done it before when the division began. We grew through the 1975 national convention in Dayton, and outstanding programs through the beginning of the millennium to the present. The division is now over 60 years old and most of our early leadership has gotten older, suffers from health concerns, or have passed. Now is the time to reload the division with new, younger members, and as a result we will get the leadership we need to continue. Be expecting to hear a lot about membership in the coming months. Do not be bashful about presenting your ideas and certainly we hope that each member will do their part in conducting this vital membership campaign. Thanks to Rick Lach for discussions on this matter and for continued input into our efforts to increase membership involvement. And thanks in advance for the involvement of each and every member of Division 3 in continuing the quality of the programs we have enjoyed over the years.

Wil Davis,

Div 3 Membership Chair

Division 3 thanks the family of Dick Strous for the donation of model railroading books to Division 3 in his name. Stan has placed those books in the library and they are ready to borrow. The titles are (Apologies about some of the spelling.):

America's Colorful Railroad, The Lincoln Funeral Train, Portrait of the Rock from Steam to Diesel
Classic Days of Steam, Encyclopedia of North American Railroads, Meadow River Lumber Co.

The Northern Pacific Main Street of the Northwest, The Great Book of Trains, High Iron: A Book of Trains
The Pictorial History of Railroads, The World Roadways Passenger Trains

The Last Spikes: The Great Railway 1881-95, The Last Spikes: The Great Railway 1871-81

Narrow Gauge Locomotives, The Hidden Treasure, Ed Carr,

America's Last Steam Railroad: Steam, Steel & Stars, The Louisville & Nashville in the Appalachians

The Night Train at Wiscasset Station

To borrow any of these books, email Stan Sartell or NMRA.Div.3@gmail.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 - No Contest

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

June - Diesel or Electric Locomotives

MODEL

KIT

First Eric Zimmerman

KITBASH

First Chris Stilson

Second Jim Foster

Third Jim Foster

SCRATCH-BUILT

First

PHOTO

First Ed Durkin

Second Ed Durkin

Third Ed Durkin

Live Contest

Deadline for entries is 2 pm Sunday, September 18, 2022 at the Greene County Historical Society, 74 Church St, Xenia, OH



Photos by Ed Durkin



THANKS TO CARILLON PARK RAILFEST VOLUNTEERS:

I am currently writing this paragraph on the Railfest before the actual Railfest takes place due to our publishing lead times. I would like to thank our 15 volunteers who signed up to work the Railfest from June 25-26, 2022. This is a veteran Railfest team, and I am confident that the Carillon Park Railfest will be a complete success. Our goal and focus is to promote the Dayton Train Show, promote the hobby of model railroading, inform the public about Division 3, and try to recruit new division members. We will conduct a drawing for complimentary tickets to our Dayton Train Show in November, distribute train show flyers, run trains on 3 loops of track in O gauge, HO gauge, and N gauge, and emphasize the benefits of being a Division 3 member. I am confident that in next month's Call Board I will be able to report on a very successful Carillon Park Railfest. And again, many thanks to our volunteers who made this possible. Rick Lach

NEWS ON THE HYBRID MEETINGS

We are still in development for the hybrid meeting. Note that this is still a project under construction. There will be glitches and things will not always go well, but we will continue to do our best to provide you with a good experience. Although we have had glitches, we are making great progress and I am happy to say that we have started to receive ideas on how we can further include members who are unable to attend the meetings in person. Ideas are always welcome but remember that we cannot necessarily do anything last minute.

We have some members who are a far distance from Xenia, some who work weekends, some who travel, some who are unable to make the trip to us. Others who become ill and cannot attend a specific meeting, who have family commitments on that weekend and more. The Zoom part of the Hybrid meeting is very important to offer the opportunity for everyone who has a computer to attend. But what about those who do not have a computer? It is a difficult situation, but perhaps you could consider buddying up at times. If you know someone who does not have a computer, or is unable to operate one, could you take your laptop over to them and enjoy the meeting together? Or could they come to you and join the meeting at your house? Could you get together on a porch outside? Is it possible to help someone who would like to attend but cannot? In these times, this is a very personal decision. It would be a great way to serve your fellow members and the Division. You can always offer and if the other person declines, that's OK.

One of our new assets is a computer dedicated to the Zoom members who are attending. It will be available at the meeting for you to chat with the Zoom members during the break and after the meeting. It will not be available before the meeting at this time, however if you need to get in touch with someone before the meeting, you can text or email me. (NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com or 937-424-6413) You can also send a message through Zoom chat. If you have ideas for our Hybrid meeting, please email them to me. See you at the meeting!

Gail Yarnall

DAYTON TRAIN SHOW

The Dayton Train Show is chugging along. We are looking forward to our show on November 5 & 6 at the usual times. We have a new food truck vendor: Fent's Dairy Corner in Springfield. They will be bringing their truck with hamburgers, chips, frozen delights and will augment the fairgrounds food service group. They have a restaurant, so if you want a short trip, go to Springfield and try their dishes 6301 Troy Rd., Springfield. Our next planning meeting will be scheduled for July. Our registrations are growing and we have our general table plan set up (with changes as time goes on).

As always, we will need your help to put this train show on. Please pick up flyers and leave them where it is appropriate: shows, hobby shops, operations session, etc. Please think about how you could help and when. Even if you are with a layout, there are plenty of things you can do ahead of time to help.

TRAINING DAY—THE MOST FUN YOU WILL EVER HAVE

Training Day is coming back this year. We will be at Carillon Park on Aug 13 at 9:30am-4pm with our event. The CRP&SS will be running, we will have a nice area at the entrance as usual and will have our clinic tables out. You can bring your lunch or we will arrange a pre-order system with the brewery. At this point we have no word as to when Culp's will be back open. The new train is not scheduled to be running at that time.

We are looking for people who are willing to do a mini-clinic. Everyone in the Division has talents. What can you bring to the event? Some past examples are tools, track maintenance, track planning, circus trains, historical railroad, making trees, and many more. There are many more topics. The tables are set out for people to wander by, stop and see your presentation, then move on.

We will include a class on T-Track and the kid's build/raffle as well as a raffle of train car kits for kids. We will also offer "Building with the Experts" for people to bring their cars (no powered cars please) in for help building/repairing them. If you can help by offering a clinic or help in any other way, please contact us at NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com. It's exciting to have our special event back.

Dayton Gospel Mission Layout

By Wi Davis

Many of you may not realize that the Division built, maintains and sets up a 4 x 8 layout every November/December in the Dayton Gospel Mission on Burns Ave, in Downtown Dayton. Rick asked me to enlighten everyone since this helps fulfill the requirements of our nonprofit status as it's been some years since I originally mentioned it at a division meeting



Entire article available at

Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

NMRA Member Interests/Abilities Survey

Name _____ Scale Modeled _____

Favorite Prototype RRs _____

Do you have a Layout-Yes No

If Yes, Your RRs Name _____

What are your best modeling skills?

Benchwork Wiring DC DCC Scenery Scratch-building

Model Building (Plastic) Model Building (Wood) Operations

Other (Explain) _____

What type of presentations/clinics would you like to see at the division meetings?

What presentations /clinics would you be willing to share with the division?

New membership is our top priority. Do you have a friend or acquaintance that is interested in railroading, modeling or general? If so would you bring them to a meeting and introduce them to the group?

Would you be willing to act as a mentor, offering guidance and support to a new member?

Other comments/recommendations

Complete and Return to a member of the BOG As Soon As Possible

Annual Auction Rules

Only Division 3 Members may participate.

1. To be eligible, seller must have auction items and completed forms on the designated tables by 2 PM.
2. Each item entered in the auction must be tagged with a code number formed by the owner's initials and the item number from this sheet.
3. Items will be sold in the order that they are listed.
4. Each item that is to be sold as a separate item will be listed on a separate line and be assigned its own item number.
5. A brief but accurate description must be given. This description must include the operating condition if the item is powered or has moving parts. If any modifications have been done they should be noted if they are not readily apparent.
6. If there is a minimum acceptable selling price, it must be entered in the Reserve column.
7. The "Chief Runner" will manage the rotation cycles to ensure that each seller is included in each cycle.
8. At the conclusion of the auction, the sellers will collect their proceeds from the auction clerk.
9. Any items not sold at auction may be sold by the owner after the conclusion of the auction.
10. All items will be paid for by cash at the time of sale. If the buyer wishes to pay by check this must be accepted by the seller before the conclusion of bidding. Checks will be made payable to the seller.

Dayton Gospel Mission Layout

By Wil Davis

Many of you may not realize that the Division built, maintains and sets up a 4 x 8 layout every November/December in the Dayton Gospel Mission on Burns Ave, in Downtown Dayton. Rick asked me to enlighten everyone since this helps fulfil the requirements of our nonprofit status as it's been some years since I originally mentioned it at a division meeting

In 2012, when I was superintendent, I received a call from a lady whose name I do not recall. I never met her nor do I know her relationship to the mission. The mission is managed by a director whose name is Ken Clarkston. His goal was for the kids of families that the mission serves, have an opportunity to enjoy a model train layout. The lady asked if I knew of anyone who would build one for the mission, I think they had a small budget, but do not remember that part of the conversation. I asked at a BOG meeting if the division would sponsor the layout and the reaction was affirmative. I think I asked at a Division meeting, or maybe I asked a couple of members if they were interested in building the layout, but I don't think I received any offers. I then remembered that the pastor of my church had talked to Jay Hedge and me about helping him organize a model railroad club. He even secured a space in an affiliated church for the group to use. I asked him if this was something that the club was interested in taking on, with support from Jay and myself. There were 4 or 5 men who had expressed an interest in the club but nothing had been decided yet. While we were mulling this over I received another call from a gentleman in Beavercreek who was moving and wanted to sell his layout, which consisted of four 4x8 tables with four different layouts on them. He was asking \$500.00 apiece for them. I asked our pastor to go with me to take a look at them. We selected one as having potential and when the gentleman found out what we wanted it for he reduced his asking price to \$100.00. We left to discuss it. I told the pastor it would need some work to serve as a continuously running layout, but we could use it as a teaching tool for the members of the club. I asked J if he would help and he was willing.

I planned to go to the BOG to get approval for the \$100.00, but before I could do that our pastor said he had the money, he never told me if he paid for it or someone else did! He and I went back, picked it up and hauled it up to the room that was available to the model railroad club. The layout included the buildings, two trains and figures. It turns out that the buildings and figures were a Victorian Village Winter themed set complete with figures. It was more "O" scale and the trains were Bachmann HO sets. I think there were a couple of small transformers, but I am not sure.

If I remember, there were three loops of track on the board circling the five buildings. One track was Bachmann's Easy Track and I felt that would be serviceable. The flex and snap track on the other loops was not conducive to smooth running so we pulled it up. We decided that we only needed two tracks as we only had two trains. J and I showed the guys how to lay cork roadbed and flex track properly for smooth operation. We added a mountain in one corner which served to hide the transformer. With a lot of donated supplies and a few purchased items we completed the layout as a winter scene. We painted the board white and sprinkled some Woodland Scenics "Snow" on the paint. We also used the original "cotton" snow. The buildings were placed in their original locations as there were holes under each to run the wires for the lights. The pastor's wife sewed a black skirt for the front and ends as it would be against the wall. Mr. Clarkston was very pleased and I don't think that any of the adults and children who enjoy it, mind the scale differences. The model railroad club fizzled out, but the layout is going strong.

I became the maintainer by default and have kept the engines and cars in operating condition.

There is more to the story. I go down every November and set up the trains and buildings that came with the

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original layout. Mr. Clarkston has a crew who puts the layout on the tables that support it. Over the years I have recruited my wife to give me a hand. She is not able to do that anymore so I recruited Gordon Carlson to help, with the thinking he could replace me when I can no longer support it. It might be good to have a younger volunteer learn as Gordon is not much younger than I. A few years after the layout was delivered I received a request from the director asking if we could add a trolley, I said I would try. I did a little research and found out that Bachmann made an On30 trolley with an automatic reversing. I asked the BOG for the funds and Gene Smith of Smitty's Hobby Shop let us have it at his cost. I did some measuring and decided I could work it in between the inside loop and the town scene. It came with a trolley barn than housed the electrical components and was one end of the route. I couldn't use the barn so removed the controls and installed them on the layout, in the compartment where the MRC transformer for the trains was located. I went down there and installed it before we set it up for that year. The On30 Trolley fit well with the buildings and figures better than the HO scale would have. It's still running back and forth serving the imaginary people in the village!

So far the cost of the divisions support has been minimal. I had to replace a motor in one of the engines and I had to replace the trolley a couple of years ago. I replaced the motor in the original trolley, but it would never run as reliably as before, but the replacement has held up so far. I provided a couple of spare engines and about half the time I get a call there is a problem with one of the engines and one or both of the spares is in use, so I go down and pick up the malfunctioning engine(s). Usually it's a simple fix, but last year one of the engines runs, but won't pull anything, I figure as long as it's been in operation which is around 10 years that's pretty good for a couple of Bachmann train set engines. I provided an older Athearn NS engine I had on hand and donated it to the cause. This year I acquired an Athearn blue box GP-38, as I have parts to keep it running, and it should last at least as long as the originals. I would like to acquire another one so I can retire the other Bachmann engine and keep it and the NS engine as spares. So if anyone would like to support the project I would be happy to take a decent Athearn engine off your hands. The original engines are what came with it, one is a Hershey Fantasy paint scheme with "Candy" cars, and the other was a Missouri Pacific engine. I currently have a Conrail GP 40 and a Private road name Baldwin as spares as spares. The new engine is a BN GP that I had on hand, but I would like NS, Conrail, or CSX as they are local and even if the Kids don't remember them the adults might. Whatever I use needs to be four axle units as the clearances are tight for modern high horsepower.



This photo was after the initial completion, before the trolley was added.

Below are more recent photos, the first one is my attempt at a panoramic photo, but I must have jiggle it as the

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track is not bent like it is in the photo. There is an obstruction behind me so I can't get a full picture in one shot, so I took two. If someone is adept at Photo Shop they can probably merge them.



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The buildings in the back, on the far side of the track, are set up by the mission director, and were donated. They are on a shelf outside the sliding glass window in the office.



Board of Governors

The Board of Governors usually meets the first Monday of the month to conduct the business of the Division. Meetings will be conducted online until further notice. Any member may attend and participate in the meeting. Please contact a board member to verify date and time.

Board of Governors
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July 2022

Next Crew Call	
When:	July 17, 2pm
Where:	Greene County Historical Society 74 Church St Xenia, OH
Program:	Member Auction
Contest:	NO Contest
Visitors and Guests Always Welcome	