



# Call Board

Volume 66 Issue 1

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## Superintendent Report for September 2025

Welcome back. I hope everyone had a great summer. Schools are back in session (or will be very soon. Labor day is over along with all the BBQs and vacations to family and friends. We had the annual auction in July and things sold out, Plus everyone had some fun.

Now it is time to start getting ready for the coming season starting with the Annual Dayton Train Show in November. There will be plenty of work necessitating everyone's support. Remember, this is the only money-making event we have each year where we can obtain the funds necessary to operate the division for the coming year. Please mark your calendars for 1-2 November and plan to help out. Be ready to offer your support when "Captain Caius" calls.

As usual, we are seeking both ideas and people to present clinics for our meetings. Rick Lach is the Program Chairman. Rick needs ideas for presentations or demonstrations for the monthly meetings, so please provide Rick or any member of the BOG with your desires. If you don't let us know what your idea and/or desires are he cannot fulfill your desires.

The 2026 MCR Convention, "Whistle-Stop, Dayton," 4-7 June 2026. The team leaders met on

August 11 to discuss our progress for the convention. We are moving along very well and will open early registration on or about September 7. This leaves us with nine months to work out any area that we may have, but the early planning activities by the team leaders should give us sufficient time to resolve any problem areas. Mark your calendars and plan to assist us team leaders when asked.

I will be presenting a "how-goes-it" briefing to the MCR Directors next month. In addition, we will begin to offer convention briefings to the other MCR divisions as soon as the registration page is up and active. These briefings will be either in-person or via Zoom. Our emphasis for the convention is to make the 2026 Convention a family affair. As I stated in the last Call Board, Dayton has a lot to offer in addition to our great history of model railroading. We want to take advantage of all this. We will be offering reduced prices for both Carillon Park and Hawthorn Hill.

We will offer layout tours during the convention and on the Sunday after the convention. Gordon Carlson and Bill Ford are seeking members willing to display their layouts and/or a small number of operating sessions. Jim Foster, our clinic team leader, has already gotten ahead of things and has already committed a number of clinicians. The clinics will feature not only people from our division,

but also clinicians from other divisions. Of course we will have a Company Store/Consignment area and the Dalmatian and T-Trak displays. We will need support in the various areas, usually to monitor activities for a short period of time.

This will be a successful event, but we all need to participate so that it becomes a great success. That will be required is everyone's participation for a relatively small amount of time to ensure that it goes over as planned. In most cases it will require that people provide an hour or two during the convention to help monitor and support specific activities, such as helping in the Company Store/Consignment area for a short period so that the team members can get a break for lunch or monitoring the Exhibit area during periods when the area is opened. Prior to the convention start we will need folks to help getting the registration packages ready to the conventions. The majority of this activity will be done prior in the final two or three months before the convention. Most tasks take a little time to complete.

However, we need to also focus on the Dayton Train Show. Gail Yarnall is the DTS manager and she will be soliciting your help in the coming months to make sure that the show is a great success. When she asks for volunteers, sign up early so you can work where you think

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# RAILFEST, AP, CHRISTMAS ON CAMPUS, AND DAYTON TRAIN SHOW UPDATES:

By Rick Lach

**RAILFEST:** It has taken me a while to recover from information overload for the last 2 months, and I apologize for not mentioning a highly successful Carillon Park Railfest for the division at the end of June. Despite the fact that we had 105 degree heat index for several days, including the actual Railfest, I was extremely pleased with our division's support for the Railfest planning and set-up, the actual Railfest itself, and the tear down and load-out. We had 25 volunteers to cover the set-up and Railfest, which is the most volunteers that we have had for this event in recent history. So my personal thanks to all of you who gave up a couple hours, a half day, a full day, and

multiple days to make our part of the Railfest a success. The extreme weather played a significant role in the public's attendance, which was



down to about 3000 attending for the 2-day event. We were actually hoping for double that. We started off on Saturday like gang busters, but as the weather got hotter, the crowd dwindled, and it wasn't much better on Sunday. For the division, we distributed a ton of train show flyers, had fantastic outreach to the public, and passed out several membership application forms. Eight of our volunteers attended the picnic for which we received significant notice. So, despite the hot weather, I thought we had one of our better Railfests in recent years, and again THANKS to all our volunteers who made this event a success for us.

## ACHIEVEMENT (AP)

**PROGRAM:** Congratulations to Ray Persing for being awarded his Master Model Railroader (MMR) Certificate and Plaque at the NMRA National Convention Banquet in July. We will celebrate and honor Ray at either the September or October Division 3 General Meeting in which we will present him with his final 2 AP Certificates and a Merit Award and display his MMR Certificate and Plaque. Ray has worked hard on this award, and we are all very proud of his accomplishments. Way to go Ray!



**DAYTON TRAIN SHOW:** We continue to make plans for this year's Dayton Train Show on November 1-2, 2025. A large part of our planning is coming up with our volunteer list for conducting our train show. Beginning with the September General Meeting, I will be asking for volunteers by name. The logical place to begin is to check with last year's volunteers for the same positions you worked then for this year's show. Last year we had close to 45 volunteers and we hope to increase that number for this year. So, I will start to contact each of you for your volunteer status beginning at the September general meeting. Please do not be bashful!

**CHRISTMAS ON CAMPUS 2025:** Christmas on Campus for 2025 has recently been announced to be conducted on Monday, December 8, 2025. We will participate in this event at the University of Dayton by running Christmas Trains in at least 5 scales as well as possibly running

our T-Trak modules again for the children of the university faculty, underprivileged children in Dayton, and the greater Dayton area general public. We will be asking for your volunteer support soon and anticipate having fun at this great event.

**DIVISION 3 MONTHLY MEETING CLINIC PROGRAM:**

Many thanks to John Larsen for stepping forward and volunteering to present our featured presentation at the September General Meeting on September 21, 2025. John's presentation is entitled **INTERMODALS: HOW WE GOT HERE**. John is very qualified to make this presentation as he has been a career truck driver, has a

tremendous knowledge of semi-tractor and trailer equipment, and has a good sense of piggy-backs leading up to the modern intermodals. To the best of my knowledge, we have not had a clinic on this topic before. So if you are interested in truck, trailers, piggy-backs or if you model these, be sure to attend the September meeting!



Future Modelers at Railfest?



Judging Ray Persing's work

*(Continued from page 1)*

you can be of the greatest help.

Lastly, I'll see you at this month's meeting at GCHS in Xenia. Contest is freight cars, any kind. Get your modeling genes working and submit a model for the contest.

Eric Zimmerman

## Contests

We have a category with three classes each month. They are: Scratch Built, Kit Bashed or just plain Kit Built. You may enter anything you are proud of and at any skill level. Judging is by popular vote. If you want to have your model judged to NMRA standards for the Achievement Program please contact Rick Lach.

### The coming contest schedule ...

## September - Freight Cars

- January - Open Loads
- February - Non-Revenue Cars
- March - Freight Cars
- April - Motive Power (Diesel, Steam, Electric)
- May - Passenger Equipment
- June - Railroad Owned Structures
- July - No Contest
- August - No Contest
- September - Freight Cars
- October - Caboose
- November - Weathering
- December - Non Railroad Structures

## Results

No Contests in July and August

<b>Board of Governors</b>
Superintendent Eric Zimmerman ezrails@att.net
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Chief Clerk Gail Yarnall grich4440@yahoo.com
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<i>Call Board</i> Editor J. Hedge hedgejn@hotmail.com
Member at Large Ed Durkin eedurkin@ameritech.net

## 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.

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The *Call Board* is the official publication of Division 3, Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association. It is published monthly except in August. All comments and opinions are welcome. Those views expressed in the *Call Board* do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of the NMRA, the Mid Central Region or Division 3.



# September 2025

<b>Next Crew Call</b>	
<b>When:</b>	<b>Septemebr 21, 2PM</b>
<b>Where:</b>	<b>Greene County Historical Society 70 W Church St Xenia, OH</b>
<b>Program:</b>	<b>INTERMODALS: HOW WE GOT HERE By John Larsen</b>
<b>Contest:</b>	<b>September - Freight Cars</b>
<b>Visitors and Guests Always Welcome</b>	