



MIAMI VALLEY DIVISION

MID CENTRAL REGION

Board of Governors	
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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.

Next Crew Call	
When:	15 February 2026, 2PM
Where:	Greene County Historical Society 70 W Church St Xenia, OH
Program:	Upgrading your rolling stock with metal wheels and Kadee couplers By Wil Davis
Contest:	Non-Revenue Cars
Visitors and Guests Always Welcome	

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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.



Call Board

Volume 66 Issue 6

February 2026

Superintendent Report for February 2026

Eric Zimmerman

Next up are Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day. In some cases, such as banks, businesses may be closed, but we will carry on. Enjoy your spring holidays while you can, but also help out on division needs whenever asked. This is truly going to be an action-packed spring and early summer for all of us.

First, Railroad Training Day at Carillon Park is right around the corner. If you participated last year in this event, please gather your exhibit and be ready to participate. Gail Yarnall is the lead for this activity and will need to know where and how you can participate. Please sign-up at the next meeting.

We are the hosts for the 2026 MCR Convention. There will only be approximately 6 weeks between Training Day and the start of the convention, and we need everyone's support for this event. I can't emphasize the importance of the convention as it is our opportunity to highlight both the division and the Dayton area. Registration for this event is still

lagging behind.. If you have tried to register and have trouble getting to the registration page simple "click" on the convention logo or the convention briefing on the division's website, "modelraildayton.com". Download the registration package when the offered and a new set of charts will emerge. Please get yourself registered as soon as possible.

The convention will provide over 30 different clinics covering a variety of topics on model railroading and the history or railroading. You will also be able to get reduced prices for entrance to the Wright home, Hawthorne Hill, and Carillon. Tours to visit various members' layouts, many of which most out members have not seen before will be available, including a few operating sessions. There will be a company store and a consignment area where you can buy or sell members' surplus items, as well as a raffle. The T-Trak exhibit will also be available for operating sessions, a new capability, in the convention area. There will also be the usual contest/celebrations area for members to show-off their models. Judging is available, but not required. I encourage every member who

attends, to submit there favorite model(s). The banquet, held on Saturday evening will feature the editor of Railroad Model Craftsman, Otto Vondrak. As you can see, there is a lot going on that requires your support. Please volunteer a few hours to help make our show great.

As a reminder, the division has the bi-annual election in April. All positions are open. If you would like to be considered for a position (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent or Chief Clerk) please let Wil Davis know of your interest. Nominations are at the March meeting. Once the nominations have been received, ballots will be provided for you to cast your vote. It is important that you cast your vote and return your ballot as soon as possible. You can deliver your ballot in-person or via USPS mail before the April meeting.

Erik Buck provided a clinic on "Making a Website for a Model Railroad" at our January meeting. Wil Davis will give us a clinic in February on "Upgrading your rolling stock with metal wheels and Kadee couplers." See you on February 15 at GCHS. Contest is "non-revenue cars (MOW)."

Bylaws Update

Rick Lach

Our every intention was to have the by-laws reviewed and perhaps brought up to date, especially with

regard to our election's procedures. However, when we met, we discovered other questions that we felt had to be answered before we tackled the issues of the elections. We therefore decided to table

discussions on the by-laws revisions until we got answers to those certain questions that we thought of. More later...

Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

Calendar Update Rick Lach

Our busy schedule through the end of June. It will take a lot of volunteers to accomplish this. Hope we are all up to it:

April 18: Model Railroad Training Day, Carillon Park

April 19: Division General Meeting, at Carillon Park

June 4-7: Host Mid Central Region Convention, The University of Dayton Marriott Hotel

June 27-28: Carillon Park Railfest, Carillon Park

Photos of January Contest Entries by Paul Jenkins



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 ...

February - Non-Revenue 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

January - Open Loads

Kit-built; 1st - Jack Honeycutt - 103
2nd - Jack Honeycutt - 101
3rd - Mark Stiver - 104

Kit-bashed; 1st - Wil Davis - 202
2nd - Jack Honeycutt - 201
3rd - Jim Foster - 206

Scratch built; 1st - Gordon Carlson - 302
2nd - Jack Honeycutt - 301

Photo; Paul Jenkins - 1st, 2nd, 3rd.

Program Updates Rick Lach

We have made significant progress in getting volunteers to present clinics at our monthly meetings. We thank Erik Buck for his informative presentation on Making a Website for Your Model Railroad at our January meeting. It was well received based on the questions asked after his presentation. It will be interesting to see how many members will create their own

website. Wil Davis will speak at the February meeting on Improving Your Rolling Stock with Metal Wheels and Knuckle Couplers. In March Hans Schmellenkamp will deliver a presentation on Operations on a Bedroom Sized Layout. In April we will be meeting at Carillon Park on the Sunday after Model Railroad Training Day and our feature will be a Bring and Brag. In May Chris Stilson will speak about JMRI. June is still open, but we may move Peter Guise

up to June. July will be the division auction, and we will take the month of August off. In September Peter Guise will speak on Modeling Techniques, Then and Now. In October, Rick Lach will tentatively speak on the Railroads of Dayton in Dayton's Glory Years of Railroading. I am still looking for volunteers for the rest of the year after that. Please consider speaking on a modeling topic that you are familiar with.

2026 Div 3 TRAINing Day The 14th Year!

Gail Yarnall

Here we are, one month into what promises to be a very busy and amazing year. In addition to our regular meetings, we have many events coming up, both our regular events and new ones. These events all need volunteers, i.e., our members' & friends' support.

TRAINing Day: April 18, 2026, is our 14th TRAINing Day. Our TRAINing Day is a very special event. Every year we reach people, many of whom did not know that we exist or that trains are a viable recreational option for adults to do-on purpose! Model Railroading is an ageless hobby--people of all

kinds and ages participate. For TRAINing Day, we need help: people to do displays, to help with set-up & move-in, to help with the Kids' Build, to help with the Build a Paper House activity, to help with refurbishing and working with the Argyle, etc.. This is a very important event for our group. Also, I would like to have some additional participation for TRAINing Day. If you know of someone outside the group who has a display appropriate for TRAINing Day, please let us know soon. If you can help, please let Peter or Gail know. Note that this year we **do not** have Scout badge training. This year the Scouts have been gifted with an amazing once-in-a-lifetime badge training class elsewhere on that same weekend.

Gail and Peter
(email NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com or call 937-424-6413).

PS: Watch for info on our 2026 Regional Convention, Railfest, our 50th Dayton Train Show, Christmas on Campus.

HELP WANTED!

We have a few areas where we need some help. If you can help, contact us. When we have a few people, we will work to set up times and dates. Email to: NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com. or call 937-424-6413.

1. Organizing and setting up our new storage room.
2. Refurbishing the Argyle layout.

Gail and Peter



**For More Information and to Register go to
Division 3 Website: www.modelrailldayton.com**

The Miami Valley Division 3, Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association invites you to our 13th

FREE

Admission to this event is free, admission to the rest of the park is the normal admission price.

2026 Model Railroad TRAINing Day

Carillon Historical Park* 1000 Carillon Blvd, Dayton, OH on

April 18, 2026 from 9:30am to 4pm.

(*Also home of the annual June Railfest and the CPR&SS train ride in Dayton as well as the new mile long 3' narrow gauge train ride.)

Everyone Invited. Events for adults and for the kids.

New modelers and Experienced modelers; we have something for everyone. Our friendly, experienced model railroaders will be on hand to answer questions and demonstrate techniques.

Children 12 and under can help construct a small HO layout.

Those who participate are entered to win the layout.

Try your hand at operating a train.

What is T-TRAK??? Learn about the latest trend in modeling railroads: T-TRAK! This involves compact modules that join to make incredibly complex layouts which can be stored in a storage tub, under the bed, in some dresser drawers, . . . Examples of modules, as well as a running layout will be available.

Building with the Experts! Bring your car (no Engines, please) to build/assemble, taking advantage of our experience and ideas. Get help with problem areas. Learn new ideas, tips and techniques. Some cars available at cost.

Demonstrations include:

Talking Track

Building Structures and Scenery

Digital Command Control (DCC) basics

What's in your toolkit?

Maintaining locomotives and cars

Layout Design and Drawing

Building train cars

Scouts can earn Railroad Merit Badge

And much more . . .

Sponsored by "Miami Valley" Division 3, MCR, National Model Railroad Association. Contact us at:

NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com or call 937-424-6413. For more info; www.modelraildayton.com/div3trainingday.html

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Harry Noble, former Division 3 member, enthusiastic participant in local Dayton Model Railroading events, and good friend, on December 22, at age 88. In addition to his family and his church, Harry loved trains. As an author, under the pen name of Cinder Sam, he wrote train stories for children. In addition,

Harry wrote articles for the various train magazines and eventually earned the Achievement Program Certificate for Author. He was active in the Live Steam Society at Carillon Park, and his photo appeared on their publicity pamphlet operating a steam locomotive. He also participated in our Model Railroad Training Day on at least 2 occasions discussing and setting up some of his vintage

O gauge model trains. And finally, Harry designed and built a log car in both HO and O gauge and was on the schedule to present a clinic on his model at one of our meetings this spring. Harry was always a gentleman, and I treasure the last time I spoke with him at the Springfield Train Show on December 7, just 3 weeks prior to his death. Harry will be missed. May he rest in peace.

In Memoriam

We would also like to announce the passing of Dick Santel, son of former Division 3 Member and Superintendent Don Santel, and brother of Division 3 member John Santel. Dick passed away suddenly on January 14. The following lines

are quoted from his obituary: "Another passion of Dick's was model railroading. Together with his father (Don) and brother (John) they built an HO scale layout that would encompass the entire basement of their Kettering home. People from all across the country

would visit the house and admire their work known as the Ohio, Michigan, and South Shore Railroad." Our deepest sympathies to John and his extended family at this difficult time. May he rest in peace.