

NMRA



MIAMI VALLEY DIVISION

MID CENTRAL REGION

Board of Governors	Next Crew Call	
Superintendent Eric Zimmerman ezrails@att.net	When:	19 APRIL 2026, 2PM
Assistant Superintendent Gordon Carlson gorhenca@gmail.com	Where:	Carillon Historical Park 1000 Carillon Blvd Dayton, OH (Iams Rom)
Chief Clerk Gail Yarnall grich4440@yahoo.com	Program:	Bring and Brag
Past Superintendent Mark Stiver mstiver@woh.rr.com	Contest:	Motive Power (Diesel, Steam, Electric)
Membership Chairman Wil Davis wdavis5069@gmail.com	Visitors and Guests Always Welcome	
<i>Call Board</i> Editor J. Hedge hedgejn@hotmail.com	Official Division Contact	
Member at Large Ed Durkin eedurkin@ameritech.net	Division 3, MCR, NMRA Inc PO Box 341233 Dayton, OH 45434-1233	

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

Division Cell Phone:
937-424-6413
Leave a message

Email:
NMRA.DIV.3@gmail.com
NMRA.MCR.Div3@gmail.com

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 8

April 2026

Superintendent Report for April 2026

Since I was not at the March meeting, I want to thank Gordon Carlson for stepping up as the Assistant Superintendent to host the meeting. From the reports I've received maybe we should have encouraged him more to run for the superintendent position. I was out of town presenting the convention briefing to division 9, the Coal Division, in St Albans, WV on Saturday and then proceeded to Morgantown to brief Division 2. Both presentations went very well and I hope we see many of their members at the 2026 Convention. Now let's get to work.

First we have Model Railroad Training Day at Carillon Park on April 18. As usual there is plenty of work left to get ready, so if you have not signed up to either present a

topic or provide some of the general labor, please let Gail Yarnall know you're interested. Gail and her crew need volunteers to help set up and tear down the exhibition the day before and at the completion of the event. If you haven't signed-up yet to help, please do so ASAP.

Time is running out for preparations for the 2026 MCR Convention. As of this writing, we will have less than eleven weeks remaining until the convention begins. We are the hosts for the 2026 MCR Convention and it is imperative that we put on great show, as it is our opportunity to highlight both the division and the Dayton area. Registration for this event is picking up, but still behind where we want to be. Please get yourself registered as soon as possible. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS both before,

during, and after the convention. Most tasks are short term and the team leaders are organized and will minimize any issues.

The Division 3 bi-annual election will be during or next meeting. Your ballot will come in the mail and you must complete the ballot and either mail it to the teller, or deliver it in-person to the teller (Wil Davis) before the meeting begins. The votes received will be counted and the winners announced. The new Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Chief Clerk will take charge in May.

Our next meeting is April 19, following Training Day at Carillon Park. Rather than having a contest we will have a "Bring & Brag." Bring your pride and joy and tell us about it. See all of you at Model Railroad Training Day

Nominees for Division Officers

held at the March meeting. The nominees are:

Assistant Superintendent - Jim Foster, Ed Lamprecht and Eric Buck

Nominations for the 2026 to 2028 Division Officers were

Superintendent - Chris Stilson

Chief Clerk - Gail Yarnall

Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

THE IMPORTANCE OF RAILROADS TODAY

Gail Yarnall

Another year gone by, a new opportunity to help the public understand the continuing importance of the Railroads in our country. What importance? Here are some figures.

>Travel:

By car, approximately 71% of Americans travel this way. By air, approximately 68% if Americans travel this way. This number increases for travel of more than 2000 miles.

By Railroad, approximately 1% of Americans travel this way, although in the upper corridor the percentage is higher.

By Bus, 11%

>Shipping:

By car, less than 1%, although it has recently increased above this, with the advent of home delivery of groceries, meals and other consumer items.

By air, less than 1%.

By trucks, 72%

By Railroad, 28%

Why each of the forms of transport has its own place: Most people, especially those who are younger, do may not understand the need for multiple ways to transport

people and cargo. If you think of the size, shape, weight and needs of that being transported, you can see why most of the modes are used for that item. For example:

>Cancelled checks-small, lightweight and easy to store. A quick return of those checks has become an asset to the institutions that sell the option to those who want the cancelled check in their hands and/or for those who want an extra service.

>New autos-an obvious truck cargo, heavy, large and not a huge rush. Plus, many people like to see autos run down the road on a car carrier. Also transportable by Railroads.

>Oil and other large quantities of fluids-naturally tanker Railroad cars. There are many chemicals and other liquids that routinely travel by rail. It is a safe way to transport large amounts and a very common way to transport such items.

>Safety Statistics on liquid transport:

While catastrophic derailments capture headlines, the overall hazardous material accident rate by rail has dropped by 80% since 2005. On average, there is roughly one chemical

accident every day and a half involving trains.

Frequency: Data indicates that at least 54, and up to 188 -337, incidents involving hazardous material spills from trains have occurred annually in recent years, including derailments.

- **Safety Record:** Despite these incidents, rail is considered the safest land-based method for moving large quantities of chemicals, with a declining accident rate.

- **Fatalities:** Incidents involving rail hazardous material transportation have caused zero fatalities in many recent years, compared to far higher rates for truck transportation.

- **Semi-Recent Trends:** The first 10 months of 2023 saw a 13.5% increase in the rate of derailments.

- What can we do to educate the public on Railroad transportation?

- **TRAINing Day!!!!!!**

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM (CLINIC PRESENTATIONS)

Rick Lach

I am happy to announce that the monthly meeting featured clinic programs for the remainder of 2026 have been scheduled. Here is the monthly featured clinic program for the rest of the year by month:

April at Carillon Park Bring and Brag

May no program Review assignments for convention

June Chris Stilson JMRI (Digital Command and

Control)

July no program Annual Division 3 Auction

August no program Div 3 takes the entire month of Aug off

September Ron Goble Building Structures

October Phil Gliebe Building a Caboose

November Peter Guise Modeling Techniques Then and Now

December Rick Lach Trains Running Thru Dayton in their Glory Years and Now

Many thanks to those Division members who have volunteered to present a clinic according to the above schedule. And a tremendous THANK YOU to Hans Schmellenkamp for his excellent clinic on Operations on a Small Layout in a Bedroom. His layout and operations show tremendous innovation, imagination, and potential. (He may also have the nucleus for a couple AP certificates – hint, hint) Thanks again, Hans.

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 ...

March - 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

March - Freight Cars	
Kit Built	
1st	Mark Stiver
2nd	Chris Stilson
3rd	Gordon Carlson
	Ed Durkin
	Jim Foster
Kit Bashed	
1st	Wil Davis

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Rick Lach

There is no report for the Achievement Program because we have been concentrating all our energy on Model Railroad Training Day and the 2026 Regional Convention. We continue to work on paperwork for Wil Davis, Gordon Carlson, and Jack Honeycutt for the

Electrical and Civil Engineering certificates, and scenery for Gordon Carlson and Jack Honeycutt. If anyone else has any models or structures that need to be judged, please contact Rick Lach. We can judge either at one of our monthly meetings or at the regional convention.

By the time you receive this edition of the Call Board, all

the planning for Model Railroad Training Day (April 18, at Carillon Park) will have been accomplished. All we have to do now is set up and carry out the event. If you would still like to volunteer to help (but not present a booth demonstration), please contact either Gail or Rick, and we can put you in the volunteer work plan.



1st Place Kit-built Mark Stiver



1st Place Kit-Bashed Wil Davis



2nd Place Kit-built Chris Stilson



3rd Place Kit-built Ed Durkin



3rd Place Kit-built Jim Foster



3rd Place Kit-built Gordon Carlson

Clear the tracks for TRAINING Day!

Gail Yarnall

The 2026 TRAINING Day is coming. On April 18, at 9:30am to 4pm, TRAINING Day arrives AT Carillon Park in Dayton (see our flyer). We have some wonderful mini-clinics this year. As always, we have educational displays, hands-on Kids Build and visiting displays. We still need floaters and load-in/load-out help.

Our exciting new display is a return of 'The City of Argyle' layout. Peter Guise, with other members' support, has been working hard to rehab Argyle. For those of you who may not know, the City of Argyle was once a part of our traveling layout: The Dalmatian, AKA 'The

Dog.' Argyle is planned to appear at the Convention, but its re-introduction to the model railroading world will start with TRAINING Day.

In addition to the City of Argyle's 'coming out,' we have the kid's build. It is a small layout, designed to fit beneath a single bed. Tall items such as houses, large trees, etc., are removable and come with cases for storage, a train set is included as well as some accessories for additional scenic-ing and for repairs. Children 12 and under work on scenic-ing, placement of people, trees and animals, etc., at the event. Each child who works on the layout can enter his/her name for a chance to win the whole kid's build. We limit entries to those approved by

parents (for obvious reasons).

There is so much more to TRAINING Day,. We have the Timesavers for hands on at any age, portable layouts, HO-scale, T-TRAK, G-scale, suitcase layouts, Build a Paper House (and take it home), a raffle, demonstrations, guests to bring us information on railroads, and much more. Food is available at the Carillon's restaurants.

Note that **all of our TRAINING Day area** is free of charge. Our area is in the entrance building just before the park entrance. Entry into the park itself is the usual fee which includes, weather permitting, the train rides. So,

WHAT IS TRAINING DAY? IT'S A DAY FULL OF FUN AND LEARNING!

City of Argyle

Shortly after the War Between the States, The Big Boy Conglomerate Railroad (BBC) applied for a charter to build a branch line north from their east/west line in the state of Confusion. The line was planned to follow the Calico valley north to the believium mines near the towns of Infinity and Beyond. The best route started at Calico Junction and passed through the textile producing town of Argyle.

Argyle already had a mule operated rail system to move materiel through the Argyle Mill complex. The BBC negotiated with the owner of the Argyle Mill, David Decker, to build on his right of way and to keep the operations in the town of Argyle under his control. Several other industries then located in Argyle to take advantage of the new railroad connection.



City of Argyle being restored



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

Division 3, Mid-Central Region, National Model Railroad Association is a 501c3 non-profit organization.



City of Argyle at 2023 TRAINING Day (with Master Dog Walker)



Argyle Switcher