

# NMRA



## MIAMI VALLEY DIVISION

### MID CENTRAL REGION

<b>Board of Governors</b>	<b>Next Crew Call</b>	
Superintendent Eric Zimmerman ezrails@att.net	When:	<b>17 May 2026, 2PM</b>
Assistant Superintendent Gordon Carlson gorhenca@gmail.com	Where:	Green County Historical Society 70 W. Church St. Xenia, Ohio
Chief Clerk Gail Yarnall grich4440@yahoo.com	Program:	<b>General Discussion</b>
Past Superintendent Mark Stiver mstiver@woh.rr.com	Contest:	Passenger Equipment
Membership Chairman Wil Davis wdavis5069@gmail.com	<b>Visitors and Guests Always Welcome</b>	
<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	Email: NMRA.DIV.3@gmail.com NMRA.MCR.Div3.gmail.com

**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.

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

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 9

May 2026

## Superintendent Report for May 2026

As this is my final report as Division 3 Superintendent, I will try to make this short. First, I want to say thanks to my Board of Governors for their leadership and help in making our division a great one. I would like to also thank the members that have volunteered to support our various activities. I ask everyone to give their support to Chris Stilson, our newly elected superintendent and his BOG.

At this year's Model Railroad Training Day, we a great day, despite the poor weather, which probably caused the families at usually come to Carillon Park to stay home. We met some new friends and maybe some new members. Gail and her team did their usual terrific job. The "Kid's Build" was excellently well done by a number of members (Peter Guise, Rick Lach, Dale & Dalson Cull and John Gray) and was awarded to a proud young eight-year-old, that won it.

Our next effort is the 2026 Convention, 4-7 June. Time is running out to complete our preparations. As of this writing, we will have less than 3 weeks remaining to complete registration which is still lagging. If you have not done so yet, please register as soon as possible. The division's honor and reputation are at stake. We are the hosts for the 2026 MCR Convention and it is imperative that we put on great show

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS**, both before, during, and after the convention. Some of the specifics of where volunteers are needed are:

- Short-term tasks (usually a couple of hours.). We will need help assembling the registration materials before the convention. (Destination Dayton will help during Thursday morning. Chris Stilson is OPR)
- Set-up of the Argyle on Wednesday evening, 3 June (3-hours) (Peter

Guise is OPR)

- T-TRAK set-up Thursday AM, 4 June (Ed Durkin is OPR)
- The Company Store/ Consignment and T-Trak/ Dalmatian demonstration area in the Tradewinds pavillion will need to be monitored when opened. (2-hr sessions)
- Contest/Celebration Room set-up/tear-down. Ray Persing/Ed Lamprecht is OPR
- Contest/Celebration Room will need qualified judges and monitors, Ray Persing is OPR
- Convention teardown Saturday evening/Sunday morning 2-3 Hour (RicZ is OPR)

I encourage everyone that can produce a contest model from their efforts to enter their model(s) in the Celebration/Contest room for judging. Models don't have to be MMR-level entries.

*(Continued on page 4)*

After 2026 TRAINing Day  
Gail Yarnall

The 2026 TRAINing Day is over. This year was a major challenge, but the event went off well. I want to thank everyone who participated and helped. Without you, TD would not have been nearly as good. We had very challenging setup times, the challenge of the movement and set-up of the Argyle, and many other challenges.

We also had great help. The Carillon staff were flexible about times and helpful beyond all belief. Without their help this would not have

worked. They made sure the tables were all there and in the correct placement. They made sure that the electric connections worked and if there was a problem, they jumped to sort it out (one of the problems being that a couple of exhibitors forgot to tell us they were using electric—we all make mistakes). And despite all the challengers, the Carillon staff was right there, encouraging us, supporting us and often laughing with us.

The attendance was low; lower than it has ever been: 263. Our last low attendance was 500 due to snow on a date in March several years ago. Our high attendance

ran to about 5000 on a perfect day in April some time ago. Low attendance is common in rain or snow. Since we have no way of telling the weather ahead of time, we take our chances. However, something excellent happened. Presumably, due to the small numbers and low crowd, people talked to us more. No one had to wait to ask questions, or to talk to the exhibitors, so they did.

We gained 3 new members: one of them maintains an O gauge layout at the Carillon, and the other two were visitors. Please be sure to reach out and welcome our new members.

THANKS FOR A GREAT  
MODEL RAILROAD TRAINING  
DAY AT CARILLON PARK

Rick Lach

April 18 saw our first public event for 2026 with a very successful Model Railroad Training Day. Many thanks to all our volunteers who demonstrated their various model railroading skills and to those division members who were involved in the event's planning. We were able to demonstrate our model railroading skills to 283 attendees at Carillon Park that day. And at our April General Meeting the next day, we transferred the Kid Build Layout to 8-year-old Nolan Waggoner of Springfield, who helped build



the layout and won the layout in a drawing at the end of Model Railroad Training Day activities. Nolan was all smiles as he was presented with his new layout. After the layout was loaded into his car, Nolan, his

father, and his sister remained for the rest of our meeting. Congratulations to Nolan and again thanks to all our members who were involved in our Model Railroad TRAINing Day.

2026 Dayton Train Show—  
Oh My!  
Gail Yarnall

May begins the push for the Dayton Train Show. Please consider what you would like to do to help with the show. This is our 50<sup>th</sup> Dayton Train Show and we are working on some surprises and some history. If you have ideas, please send them to me. If you would like to help, you are always welcome. If you have questions, feel free to contact me. Note that a text or email is best. I am still working on closing out TRAINing Day and beginning DTS, so if you need to talk, let's set up a time.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
OUTGOING BOARD OF  
GOVERNORS AND  
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS  
SELECTED IN THE APRIL  
ELECTIONS  
Rick Lach

In fact, many many thanks to our outgoing BOG consisting of Eric Zimmerman, Gordon Carlson, Gail Yarnall, J Hedge, Ed Durkin, Wil Davis, and Mark Stiver. You have made sure that we have had a viable program and an organization that we all can be proud of. As of May 1, the new BOG will take over consisting of Chris Stilson, Ed Lamprecht, and Gail Yarnall. Eric Zimmerman will remain on the BOG as Past Superintendent. The

remainder of the BOG will be approved at their first BOG meeting in May. Let's give our new leadership our full support as they take Division 3 into the years ahead. Congratulations to all the members of our new Board of Governors.

*(Continued from page 2)*

Get your good models judged and learn some new approaches to modeling.

There will be a contest at May's meeting, but no clinic due to the convention. There will be a clinic and a contest in June. July's meeting is our annual auction and there will be no meeting in August, as usual. See you all at GCHS on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

### 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 ...

#### May - Passenger Equipment

- 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

#### April Motive Power

Model	
1st	Chris Stilson
2nd	Gordon CarlsoOn
Photo	
1st	Paul Jenkins
2nd	Paul Jenkins
3rd	Paul Jenkins

**HAPPY 67<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY,  
DIVISION 3 Rick Lach**

On May 17, 2026 Division 3 will experience its 67<sup>th</sup> birthday. On that date in 1959, Mid-Central Region President Lone Eagle Payne oversaw the initial meeting of Division 3, which was formed from an HO gauge group that met and ran trains at the Dayton Art Institute, an O gauge group that met at the Dayton Union Station, and an O gauge group that ran trains in Lebanon. Lone Eagle documented the event in a small notebook in which he had division members sign-in and in which he took notes and elaborated on the agenda of each monthly meeting. There were not many attendees at that first meeting (although some attendees may not have signed the notebook);

however, attendance became more robust the next month at the June 21 meeting at John Bryan State Park. Meetings were held at the backyards of various members and were highlighted by potluck food which Lone Eagle described as "mighty fine fixings." Subsequently, the division elected officers for one-year periods; established the agenda for monthly modeling contests; passed a hat at monthly meetings for funds to print and mail post cards announcing meetings; and established a monthly newsletter that eventually became the Call Board. Charles Gustin became our first Superintendent, and Don Santel became our first Assistant Superintendent. Division 3 has enjoyed 29 different Superintendents

over the years. From these humble beginnings, Division 3 grew in stature and exhibited enough confidence that it hosted the 1975 NMRA National Convention in Dayton (Rails Alive in 75). That convention put Dayton on the model railroading map. Over the years, Division 3 has enjoyed a magnificent heritage with outstanding events, train shows, and great model railroads. But paramount in all these accolades, Division 3 has had a cadre of dynamic, talented, and passionate leaders who have taken the division to unprecedented levels. Now, 67 years later, we are the beneficiaries of the insight, dedication, and hard work of all our leaders. We should all be thankful for our leadership and celebrate all of them this month.

**CITY OF ARGYLE SWITCHING  
LAYOUT MAKES ITS FIRST  
APPEARANCE IN SEVERAL YEARS  
Rick Lach**

Thanks to the hard work of Peter Guise, Gordon Carlson, Hans Schmellankamp, Eric Zimmerman, Dale Cull, Dalsen Cull, and Rick

Lach, the remaining 3 modules of the old Dalmatian Switching District, now known as the City of Argyle, ran for the first time in at least 3 years. With a new command and control system, several repairs to wiring, switches, track, engines, and cosmetics, the City of Argyle operated

successfully at the recent Model Railroad Training Day as a practice for its involvement in the regional convention in June. More repairs and cosmetics will take place in May before that event. We continue to ask for volunteers to help with this remaining work. Contact Peter Guise or Gordon Carlson to volunteer.



**MONTHLY PROGRAMS**

Thanks to our division members who brought in their items to support our Bring and Brag Program at the April General Meeting. Please note that there will be no official presentation program for May as final details for the Regional Convention in June will be reviewed. July will be our annual division auction, and the entire division will take the month of August off.

