Cincinnati Division
7
Mid Central Region
NMRA

THE OIL CAN

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The Oil Can is a publication of Division 7, MCR, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Cincinnati Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, its officers, or its members. Space permitting, **The Oil Can** welcomes news items, articles and letters on Model Railroading and related topics. Deadline for submissions is generally the fifteenth of the month preceding the next meeting.

HEADLIGHTS

Merlyn Jarman, Superintendent

Electronic Edition

Another Annual Fall Show in the history books

As noted in my column last month Division 7 once again provided another successful Annual Fall Train Show for vendors and attendees at Lakota West High School. A minimum of problems this time and ultra fast set up due to using labor from Academy Rentals for our table set-up. An informal canvassing of Vendors on Sunday confirmed that most had a very profitable day on Saturday. There was a lot of interest and entries in the "give-away" layout built by Charlie Atkinson and Bob Chapman and we learned that a very ecstatic 8 year-old was the recipient of this prize-good job guys.

So, once again, congratulations to all involved and we'll crank it up next year for the Spring Flea Market to be held Mar. 14, 2009.

Your clinics and layouts needed for 2009

As our erstwhile Asst. Super announced, now is the time to volunteer to present a clinic in 2009 on your favorite model or prototype railroad topic. If you have been working on your model pike for a while or have a new model railroad yet unseen by your fellow Division 7 Members, make 2009 your "coming out" party to show off your handiwork. Contact Randy Kerka to sign up now!

Get on down the road towards your MMR

The "Year of the MMR" series running in this year's NMRA "Scale Rails" monthly publication provides very useful information to take the mystery out of what's required to get your certificates in the various disciplines of model railroading to get your Master Model Railroad certification. Heck, after starting to read this series, even I have started to work on the paperwork for certificates in scenery and structures. It's not that hard, you just have to do the work to meet the requirements and by doing so, improve your model railroading skills. Wouldn't a MMR plaque look fantastic hanging on your wall? We are very fortunate to have a local resource in Div. 7's very own Frank Koch who is the Regional Chairman for the Achievement Program-get more info from Frank at the next Div. 7 meeting.

A recent ride on the old NYC

On Nov. 1st, I rode the Cincinnati Railways excursion from the old B & O freight house "Longworth Hall" past the old Amtrak station on River Rd. and onto the old NYC main that parallels U.S. 50 through Cleves, Oh. and then takes off upgrade to Sunman, Batesville, and Greensburg, In. I've always wanted to ride this line where NYC 4-8-2 Mohawks once pulled passenger and freight trains double heading over W.P.A-era constructed viaducts and bridges. Now run by Rail America's Central of Indiana R.R., the line is in the best shape in the past 25 years due to a recent program of tie replacement and roadbed resurfacing. We were easily able to do 40-50 m.p.h. This is the line that will service the new Honda plant in Greensburg and will see 1-2 auto carrier trains per day. Finally, trains running through my backyard (well sort of-only 2 miles away)!

See you in December,

Merlyn

SECOND SECTION

Randy Kerka, Asst. Superintendent

The date was November 9th, 2008.

The place was The Hamilton Senior Center [AKA: Partners In Prime].

About the time you think you have seen just about every single cool railroad photo ever taken… someone comes along with a series of pictures that blow your mind! That was exactly the case when John White, Retired Curator of Transportation at the Smithsonian Institute, shared his collection of early Cincinnati railroad activity photos with the members of Division 7. And… he says he has MORE!!!

After the business meeting high-lighting another phenomenal Treasurer's report, honest raffle, modeling contest and Jack White's great clinic, we adjourned for the "Layout Tour" portion of the program. We visited the Senior Center's own Whistlestop layouts and then headed over to the old Ross School to pay our first ever visit to the Cincinnati Northern Model Railroad Club, Ross Rails and Queen City Hi-Railers layouts housed therein. A hearty "thank you" is in order to all the folks from those clubs that proudly shared their fine modeling work with us. We will certainly be back again!

December 14th:
With only 11 days until Christmas, it is once again time for our Annual Pot Luck Slide Show at Westwood United Methodist Church. This meeting will mark the end of another great year of Division 7 activity (assuming that our esteemed Super remembers the Peanut M&Ms.) The Company Store will be stocked with "countless" items for all good little model railroaders to put under the Christmas tree for the entire family (OK, for yourselves!) This is your turn to participate so please bring your 35mm slides or JPEG files in groups of 20 for our "Round Robin" Railroad Picture Program. Anyone needing help preparing their digital pictures can give me a call anytime.

After the meeting we will be visiting Dennis Malloy's HO Cincinnati & Lake Erie and one other. The program schedule for 2009 is just about ready for publication and will begin to be promoted very soon

January 11th:
We start 2009, as usual, at Harmony Lodge in Winton Place. The "program" for January is an exciting new concept… let's call it the "Division 7 Layout Design Workshop". This workshop will offer interesting information, insight and fun for modelers of all levels. We will also be kicking off another thrilling year of Honest Raffles, Modeling Contests and Treasurer Reports.

Calling All Clinicians:
We still have a few "slots" available in 2009 for anyone who thinks they have a clinic they would like to share with the membership. As you might have guessed, the pay is lousy… but who can put a price on fame and glory?

See you on December 14th.

Randy

Fiction and Fact from Don's Almanac

Scott Firth

We're sorry to report that Scott has suffered some medical set backs. He evidently is back home after two trips to the hospital during Thanksgiving week but Mary Ann reports he is currently too weak for visitors, phone calls and emails but says it would cheer him up to receive cards from his train buddies. If you would like to send a card, the address is:

Scott Firth
2475 Walnutview Ct.
Cincinnati, OH 45230-2456

Get well Scott, we're pulling for you.

While in Kansas City over the Thanksgiving holiday, I found time to visit a local model railroad shop and visit with Charles Post, owner of the **SHOW ME MODEL RAILROAD COMPANY** in the suburb of Grandview, MO. Even for a full line model railroad store, I was still impressed with his extensive inventory especially in HO with the other scales represented to a smaller degree.

Mr. Post advised that as of the first of the year, the KC area will be down to two model railroad shops. With a metropolitan population roughly the size of Cincinnati, it would appear the Greater Kansas City area is suffering even more from the same inability to draw new converts into the hobby as we are. During our conversation he ventured the theory that while the Thomas the Tank Engine fad was supposed to create future model railroaders, if anything it's doing the opposite. It's his opinion that by starting youngsters on the Thomas sets, when they outgrow them, they look back on them as toys bought at a toy store. Not as model railroads as we seemed to do with Lionel when we were young.

Incidentally, he also mentioned he had attended the NMRA convention in Cincinnati and while he was hard put remembering how many conventions he had been to, he thought ours was certainly one of the best.

Train Show Door Prize Layout a Success

Division 7 member Robert Chapman reports that the 2008 Train Show door prize layout project was a complete success. The 4' X 6' N scale pike went vertical this year and used MRC's Prod Express DCC Command 7 control system for the first time. The decoder equipped Atlas Diesel and assorted freight cars ran beautifully on the code 55 flex track, although the switches were a challenge.

The winner of the door prize was a woman from Kettering, who's ten year old step son spent considerable time studying the layout at the show. The layout was delivered and set up the Tuesday after the show and the winner said she was going to keep it as a surprise for her step son who would turn 11 in 2 weeks.

Bob says that the project could not have been built without considerable help from others. Charlie Atkinson, MRR, was co-chair of the project and lent considerable N scale expertise in many ways. Stephanie Pendergrass helped build the layout framework, Michael Havson, Chuck Hammer, Ron Gribbler and Bob Bartizek made dozen of trees, plastic castings and installed the hardboard fascia. Jim Carson detailed and weathered several structures.

Word has it that Bob Lawson has volunteered for next years project, what ever it may be.

Continued on Page 7

Competition Results for November

Models: Tank Cars (old or new age)

Box Stock:
1st Pl. **Rick Stern** SBIX Vinegar Car #1617
2nd Pl. **Jim Rollage** Sinclair #9131
3rd Pl. **Jim MacKnight** ADM Corn Sweetner

Kit Bashed:
1st Pl. **Don Phillips** Flatulene *The Other Natural Gas*
2nd Pl. **Don Phillips** DW&P Water Car #2
3rd Pl. **Jim MacKnight** Anglo-Amer. Clay Car

Scratch Built:
No Entries

Photos: Trains at Service Facilities

Proto Slides: Due to lack of Slide Viewer, November Slides will be Judged at the December Meeting. Only those slides entered at the November meeting are elgibile.
Model Slides:

Prototype Prints:
1st Pl. **Don Phillips** WM #6 at Water Tank, Cass,W.VA
2nd Pl. **Dale Brown** QJ loco in shop at Delan, China
3rd Pl. **Dale Brown** NSF loco at fuel Dock in Cuba

Model Prints:
1st Pl. **Jim Rollage** UP #812 on Turntable, his own layout
2nd Pl. **Bob Shreve** FGE at icing pltfrm, J.Sahagian's layout
3rd Pl. **Jim MacKnight** V&O oil Term. on Allen McClelland's

2008 Point Standings (thru November)

Models

Frank Hermanek	15
Jim MacKnight	14
Don Phillips	10
Bob Lawson	09
Jim Rollage	06
Tom Brueggeman	04
John Listerman	04
Charlie Atkinson	03
Rick Stern	03
Ron Pearson	02
Ron Gribler	01

Photography

Jim MacKnight	30
Tom Brueggeman	12
Jim Rollage	09
Georgia Dahlberg	08
Sam Parfit	06
Don Phillips	06
Dale Brown	03
Jim Hodde	03
Dave Reed	03
Jane Hancock	02
Clayton Hillard	02
Bob Shreve	02
Rick Stern	02
Perry Simpson	01

Competition for December

Models

Vehicles
"Must be railroad related"

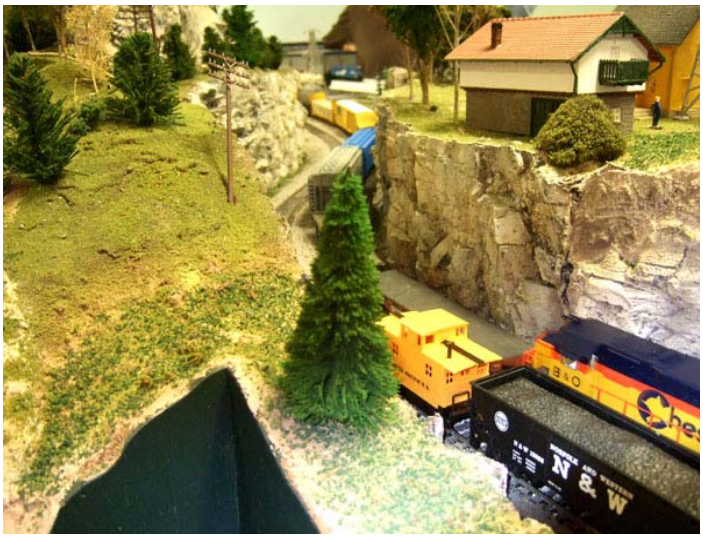
(Have the name of the RR on their sides)
(Speeders, Hand Cars, MOW Trucks, etc)

Photos

Diesel Locomotives

Also those slides carried over from November meeting (see above)

Pictures from our November visit to the layouts at the old school building in Ross, Ohio



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513 271-0738	jebstewart@fuse.net

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Rick Crumrine	513 231-5328
Roy Hord	513 777-5337
Paul Maciulewicz	513 779-1686
Jim MacKnight	513 733-1246
Don Phillips	513 226-2233
Dave Read	513 398-7323
Ed Swain	513 779-8211

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	John Altshool	513 851-0559
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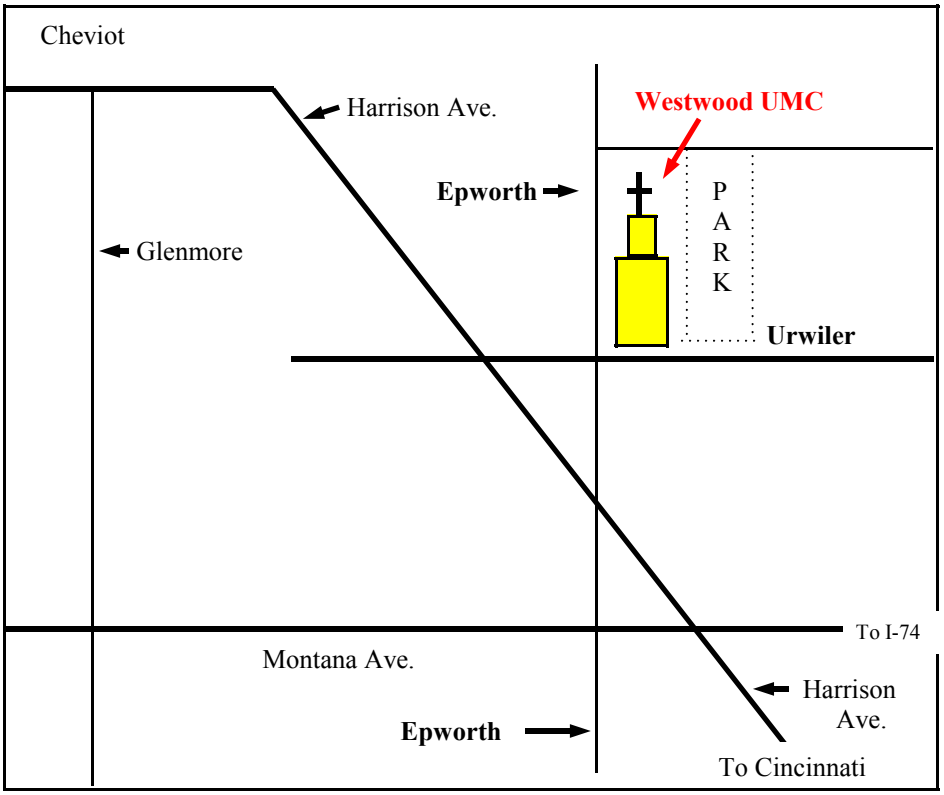
Next Meeting
2 PM Sunday December 14
@
Westwood United Methodist Church

DIRECTIONS:
From I-74 Take Montana Ave. Exit to Harrison Ave. & turn Right
From Cincinnati take Harrison Ave. to Epworth & keep Right
From Cheviot take Harrison Ave. to Urwiler & turn Left



Around the Region

MCR

12/06/08 Div.6 Buckeye Model Train & RR Show Columbus, OH

04/30 to 05/03/09 MCR "21st Century Lmtd" MCR Conv. Columbus, OH

National

July 7 to 11 2009 NMRA National Convention—Hartford, CT

Knapp's Notes

December "Honest" Raffle Prizes

A reminder: If you receive this copy of the Oil Can before December 14, 2008; it's not too late to buy tickets for our always [or at least sometime] Honest Raffle. This month is the special drawing for two locomotives. The first is a Bachmann Spectrum N scale C&O consolidation; the second is a Bachmann Spectrum W&LE USRA 2-6-6-2. The winner of the W&LE will be allowed to purchase the remaining W&LE hoppers. Tickets are still only a $1.00 each [plus the gratuity to the raffle staff].

Ohio Valley Sipping and Switching Society

Many of you have asked if the new modular group is ours; the answer is NO! This new group is affiliated with DCC Trains on Beechmont. The group's display is an exciting addition to our local layout scene, as there is some great modeling going on. I welcome the young men of the group to Division 7 and wish them many years of fun and excitement. Again, just remember we are the one and only, original *Ohio Valley Gentlemen's Sipping and Switching Society*; the other group didn't qualify calling their group a Gentlemen's society Division 7 has only one, truly Gentlemen's layout group.

Accurail USRA Steel Gondola Kits

I found a kit from Accurail that is really outstanding. Accurail's new 3700 series USRA 41 foot steel gondola is a very nice addition to their easy-to-build plastic kits. The kit is well designed and goes together in about 30 minutes. Accurail includes their Kadee compatible couplers. I built two of the black, data-only cars and am very pleased with the results. I used Model Master styrene cement. A miniature cross head screw driver, a sprue cutter, and a small file. The car is weighted correctly and the weight slips into a cavity under the floor casting. The only changes I made were the substitution of McHenry couplers and metal wheel sets. I selected the data-only, as I plan to letter the cars for the Cimarron Northern Rwy; the good old CNRR will still have a presence on my new layout. I am being a bit more careful in rolling stock selection with the new layout. Just because a car is lettered for the Santa Fe doesn't mean they ran them.

Peace on Earth

This is a season for everyone to reflect on the concept of peace and justice. It is a time to reflect on our blessings and strive to share with those less fortunate. When we sit down with family it is time to remember friends and family who are unable to be with us. I know that I will be thinking of Jack and Mary Fischer, Peter Oakes, and many other friends and family who have gone to their well-deserved rest. As I sit down to write this column, I think of all of you and wish you the happiest of holiday seasons.

Happy Modeling

Bruce

Fiction & Fact continued from page 3

Division 7 member **Dave Kullman** sent us a clipping from Miami University's News Letter. The engineering students who created the top rated Santa Fe and the Pacific Holiday Express layouts as part of last year's EAS 101 model railroad project, that Division 7 judged, have donated their layouts to a silent Auction . All proceeds from the auction, to be held from Nov. 19 to Dec. 2, will be donated to a Holiday Project to purchase holiday gifts for children who are under court protection due to abuse, neglect or abandonment

Division 7 member **George Bryans** sent us the following in response to last month's article on area Hobby Shops. Please add the following to your list:

Hamilton Hobbies 1518 Plaza Dr. (on the West side of Hamilton) **Phone 513 892-1456**

Originally they only carried radio control airplanes but George reports they have been gradually increasing their **HO** & **N** supplies with the goal of becoming a full line hobby shop.

The Oil Can

Coming Down The Line

Cincinnati Division 7, Mid-Central Region, NMRA
2008 Schedule

NOTE: ALL REGULAR MEETINGS START AT 2 PM
(Unless otherwise notified)

Month	Date	Location	Program/Speaker	Layout Visit	Contest Topic
Dec.	14	West Westwood United Methodist Church	Annual Pot Luck Slide Show	Dennis Malloy's Cincinnati & Lake Erie	Models: Vehicles (must be railroad related) Photos: Diesel Locomotives
		MERRY		CHRISTMAS	
2009		HAPPY	NEW	YEAR	
Jan.	11	Harmony Lodge Winton Place	Division 7 Layout Design Workshop	TBA	TBA
Feb To Dec		TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA

Modeling Problems? Member aid Committee Pat Homan (513 861-2057) Bruce Knapp (513 941-2713)	Cincinnati Div. 7 Hotline (513) 662-RAIL

Div 7 Web Site - www.cincy-div7.org
MCR Web Site - www.midcentral-region-nmra.org

As of November, 2008 Division 7's membership stands at **308**