



THE

Oil Can



September, 2013

Volume VII Issue 9



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The Editor's Corner

Don Phillips

Well, summer's over, the kids are back in school, the days are getting shorter and in no time at all our 46th annual train show will be coming up. Now's the time to start gathering up those odd pieces of rolling stock and other items you want to put on Frank's White Elephant table. That way you'll have the room and money for all those "I have to have one of those" items you'll find at the fall show.

Speaking of the fall train show, how about signing up for one of the volunteer spots that are open either during set-up, tear-down or during the show itself? Really, this is what belonging to Division 7 is all about, participating and becoming a part of the whole. It's how you get to know your fellow modelers and how they get to know you. It's how you form friendships with other modelers and how you get tips on the easiest or cheapest way of doing something. After all, you paid your dues, and while just the privilege of getting to read the *Oil Can* is more than worth it, why not take advantage of all membership has to offer? Try it, I think you'll be glad you did.

Jim MacKnight advises sales of the new MDT reefer cars has been slow. Maybe if instead of the initials we called it Merchant Despatch Transportation it would be more familiar. See page 6 for an interesting article on the history of the car and the company.

Speaking of sales, the company store will be getting in its fall line-up. It will be interesting to see what Paul comes up with this time. If he keeps adding on new items, we'll soon have to publish a catalog.

See you in Erlanger the 8th.

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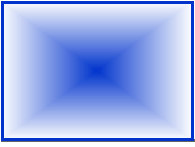
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The Oil Can is a publication of Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, it's officers, or it's members.

Space permitting, The Oil Can welcomes news items, articles and letters on Model Railroad and related topics. Deadline for submissions is generally the fifteenth of the month preceding the next meeting.

Cover:

A local freight emerges from the big curve tunnel and heads down the mountain thru the ever increasing scenery on Jim Stewart's layout.



HEADLIGHTS

Randy Kerka
Superintendent

That insanely bright orange post card you all received (I hope) seems to be working as the attendance at the August meeting was fantastic! Granted, the fact that Sam Swanson and Gerry Albers were our clinicians for the day certainly did not hurt. I would be surprised to hear that anyone who attended their "Making Water" clinic was not inspired to survey their own layouts upon returning home to plan more water features! The visits to the layouts of Jim Stewart and Paul Miklos were first rate. It is big comfort to me that there is at least one N-Scaler out there who is even crazier than me!

Start saving your money because very soon Paul Musselman will be bringing brand new inventory in for the Company Store. Shirts and hats mostly and please relax since we'll even stock some 2XX and 3XXX sizes.

Congratulations again to Frank Koch. Merlyn Jarman, MCR President presented Frank with the MCR Director's Award. Frank's contributions to the NMRA nationally, regionally and divisionally are mind boggling! I can think of no man more deserving of this prestigious award.

I would be remiss if I didn't share a few thoughts about our recently departed Division 7 member, John Altshool. John was a special kind of friend to many folks in our Division as well as to modelers and Santa Fe enthusiasts all over the country. His knowledge of all things Santa Fe was legendary! John was one of the very first Division 7 members to extend the hand of friendship to me way back in the dark ages. I will never forget that. Rest in peace, John.

Bob Adams has served Division 7 as Membership Chairman for ten years and is ready to move on to other things. I hate to lose Bob since his close attention to his duties has made my job easier and our division strong. While other divisions are complaining of declining membership numbers, Division 7 membership has remained constant and in recent years even increased! But now we need someone to replace Bob. He has promised to tutor that person in his "best practices". He says it requires about two hours a month and claims that there is no better way to get to know the folks in the division. If you believe that you are the person to step up and take over this very important position, please contact either Bob or myself and we'll talk about it!

As long as I am saying nice things about folks... let me recognize a few more folks with whom you may not be familiar. Most know that Rick Crumrine is the Cincinnati Model Train Show Chairman. I believe Rick can run that show in his sleep! (At least he makes it look that way.) Likewise, Roy Hord handles the show layout groups and vendors each year and "sells out" all available space. (Those folks don't just "show up" by magic!)

But do you know how we get John Q. Public in the door? They do not just show up! In tough economic times we have, over the last few years, been forced to reduce our publicity budget. Ed Wagner is our Division 7 Publicity Chairman and has done a great job spending the money we give him to promote the fall show. Dealing with newspapers, hobby magazines, on-line calendars and bulletin boards, etc. is a rare skill set and Ed handles it masterfully! Thanks, Ed.

Other methods we use to publicize the CMTS are truly of a direct nature. Jack Laubisch and his distribution team places thousands of flyers in hobby shops, train shows and several other venues all over the Tri-State. The postcard database team of me, Jim Stewart, John Shields and Don Phillips are responsible for maintaining our list of over 6,000 previous show attendees. Last year, we experimented with inexpensive yard signs that actually appeared to push the attendance numbers up a bit. Dave Read handled that and we are game to try it again this year. We will need all Division 7 members help in that effort!

The Fall CMTS is our major fund raiser of the year. If you are interested in getting involved in any of these activities... we can always use more help!

That's it for now. See you all on September 8th.

Randy

SECOND SECTION

Bob Shreve
Asst. Super

My wife and I had an enjoyable stay in Atlanta for the NMRA National Convention. Although she didn't go to any of the clinics, she did accompany me on one of the layout tours. I did hear the phrase "You owe me" several times during the week. I saw lots of Division 7 members who also made the trip south. It was actually cooler in Atlanta than Cincinnati the week of the convention.

The August meeting at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kenwood was well attended. I noticed lots of people feverishly taking notes during the "Modeling Water" clinic by Gerry Albers and Sam Swanson. The live demonstration of the mixing and pouring process was a great addition to the presentation. Paul Miklos and Jim Stewart had their layouts open for visitors after the meeting. Thanks to Sam, Gerry, Paul, and Jim for their contributions to the day's activities. And I will fix that map to show the proper location of Jim's home before I use it again.

On September 8th, we will make our annual trek to Northern Kentucky. The meeting location will once again be the Kenton County Library branch in Erlanger. Dan Stenger will present a clinic titled "Introduction to Garden Railroading" Included will be a history of garden railroading and comparisons to other types of model railroading. The layout visits will be several garden railroads in the Northern Kentucky area.

The October meeting will be on October 13th at the West Chester library. The primary entertainment will be the Bring & Brag contest. John Burchnall and some of his Eastern Logger brethren are also going to present a couple of short mini clinics.

The week after the meeting will be the annual Fall Train Show at Lakota West High School. Watch for sign-up sheets at the next couple of meetings with opportunities to help at the show.

November will find us in Hamilton at Partners In Prime (formerly known as the Hamilton Senior Center). John Burchnall has arranged for Lou Sassi to make a return trip to Cincinnati to give a presentation based on the information in his latest book.

It's time to start putting together the meeting schedule for 2014. Contact me if you have an idea for a clinic or if you have a layout you'd be willing to show off to 40 or 50 of your closest friends.

Where has the summer gone? See you down south in September.

Bob

In Memoriam

John Altshool

Division 7 membership now stands at 302

NMRA, MCR, DIV. 7
AUGUST, 2013 CONTEST RESULTS

MODELS: VEHICLES (NON-RAIL). ANY wheeled vehicle found on a railroad that does not run on rails.

NOTE: Your vehicle can or cannot show railroad signage. Examples: Schneider Tractor/Trailer Truck; "Joe's

Wrecker Service"; B & O Panel Truck---but NOT a Highrailer (because those can ride on rails.)

Box Stock:

1 st Place	Bob Lawson	Rancid Acid Tank Truck
2 nd Place	Frank Hermanek, MMR	Brown Pickup Truck with Vegetables
3 rd Place	Ron Gribler, MMR	Luggage/Baggage Cart

Kitbashed:

1 st Place (Tie)	Bob Lawson	Pulpwood Loading Crane
1 st Place (Tie)	Bob Lawson	Stake Truck with Gears and a Truck Cab
2 nd Place	Ron Gribler, MMR	Railway Express Agency Panel Truck

Scratch built: *No entries submitted.*

JUNIOR DIVISION:

1 st Place	Anthony Zillich	Southern Railway Crane Truck
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PHOTOGRAPHY: RAILROAD SIGNALS and/or SIGNAGE.

Examples: Order Boards; Semaphores; Signs on a Passenger Station; etc.---but not on rolling stock.

Print Model:

1 st Place	Randy Seiler	Chattanooga Terminal on Bob Lawson's Layout
2 nd Place	Jim Hodde	Signal Bridge at Montgomery, W. VA. On Jim Hodde's Layout
3 rd Place (Tie)	Jim Hodde	Signal Bridge at Big Bend Tunnel, W. VA. On Jim Hodde' Layout
3 rd Place (Tie)	Randy Siler	Yellow Station at Flagler on Curt LaRue's Layout

Print Prototype:

1 st Place	Jerry Baston	Signal Bridge (The Old and the New) on the Chesapeake and Ohio
2 nd Place	Tom Bredestegge	CPO at Signal Towers at Winton Place, OH.
3 rd Place	Jim Hodde	C&O Signal Bridge on the C & O at White Sulphur Springs, VA.

JUNIOR DIVISION: *No Entries Submitted in Any Category.*

2013 OVERALL STANDINGS (as of August, 2013):

MODELS

Frank Hermanek, MMR	13	Ron Pearson	03	Michael York	02
Bob Lawson	15	"Butch" Sage	03	Rick Stern	02
Georgia Dahlberg, MMR	09	Bob Adams	02	Anton Zillich	02
Chuck Endreola	08	Bob Chapman	02	Jim Rollwage	01
Ron Gribler, MMR	07				

JUNIOR DIVISION

Anthony Zillich	06
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PHOTOGRAPHY

Georgia Dahlberg, MMR	13	Jim Hodde	04	Anton Zillich	03
Randy Seiler	14	Chuck Endreola	03	Tom Bredestegge	02
Jerry Baston	10	Jim Kreissinger	03	John Listermann	02
Jim Rollwage	06	"Butch" Sage	03	Bob Adams	01
				Frank Hermanek, MMR	01

JUNIOR DIVISION

Anthony Zillich	09
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September: MODELS: Steam and/or diesel locomotives (trolleys are also in this category).
PHOTOGRAPHY: Steam locomotive/s.

John's Honest Raffle

At the September meeting we will have another non- scale raffle. As I mentioned in a previous Oil Can, we received some donated items that are Christmas themed. I will have these in the September raffle, so plan on starting your Christmas shopping early! You just have to buy raffle tickets at the September meeting. There will also be some tools, and I may still have a calendar to offer.

Looking ahead, at the October meeting we will not only have our regular HO and N scale items, but we will begin our now traditional fall engine raffle. As in previous years, we will sell tickets at the October and November meetings, and then have final ticket sales and the big drawing at the December meeting. Even if you don't need another engine (is that possible?), you could always give it to someone as a holiday present. [I take a small (ie, N scale) if that idea appeals to you.]

John

What are these MCT reefers and who owned them?

Some people have said that they have not heard of MDT reefers, our 2013 Division 7 car project. The Merchants Despatch Transportation Co., originated in 1855 with a connection to the American Express Company, guaranteeing delivery of perishable freight shipments within stated times. Initially the company's rolling stock was boxcars, but in 1878, many wooden ice bunker refrigerator cars were included. Within a few years, the MDTC fleet was almost entirely refrigerator cars, maintained, and many first built, at the company's sprawling Despatch Shops in East Rochester, New York.

Through much of its history, MDTC leased cars to railroads other than New York Central, and to a variety of private shippers, as well as managing its own fleet of thousands of cars. In the 1920's, reefers were built for the CCC&St.L, Rutland, and Nickel Plate Road. In the 1930's, ice bunker reefers were leased to the Reading, Lehigh Valley, CCC&St.L Michigan Central, and New York Central, as well as to more than 60 private companies, including Procter & Gamble. Between 1946 and 1953, reefers were leased to the NYCS, Bangor & Aroostook, and the DL&W.

MDTC operated 11,284 reefers in service in 1945, decreasing to 8,956 by 1953, and then increasing to 10,112 by 1965, reflecting the larger numbers of RBX cars. By the 1950's, the MDTC fleet also included insulated boxcars, auto-racks and other specialty cars, enabling the company to survive both Penn Central and Conrail mergers. However, MDTC reached the end of the line following the Conrail split between CSX and NS, going out of business in 2000.

The above information was taken from "Merchants Dispatch – Its history and Equipment" by Roger C. Hinman, 2011.

Wooden reefers of lot 673, nos. 22000-22499, were built in 1927, and repainted by the East Rochester Shops in 1936. The 1943 ORER shows 2702 cars of 2,750 in series 20000-22749 in operation, and by 1953, 50 cars were still in service. Steel reefers of lot 242, nos. 6000-6499, were built in 1937 by MDT's East Rochester Shops. The 1943 ORER shows 1,117 steel cars of 2000 in series 6,000-7999 operating. By 1953, 883 cars remained in service.

Jim MacKnight

August Meeting



MCR President Merlyn Jarman presents the MCR Director's Award to Division 7's Frank Koch



Frank Koch presents Pete Weiglin with his author achievement award.



Sam and Gerry explain how they make water that really looks like water.

August Winners



1st Place Box Stock
Bob Lawson



1st Place (tie) Kit Bashed
Bob Lawson



1st Place (tie) Kit Bashed
Bob Lawson



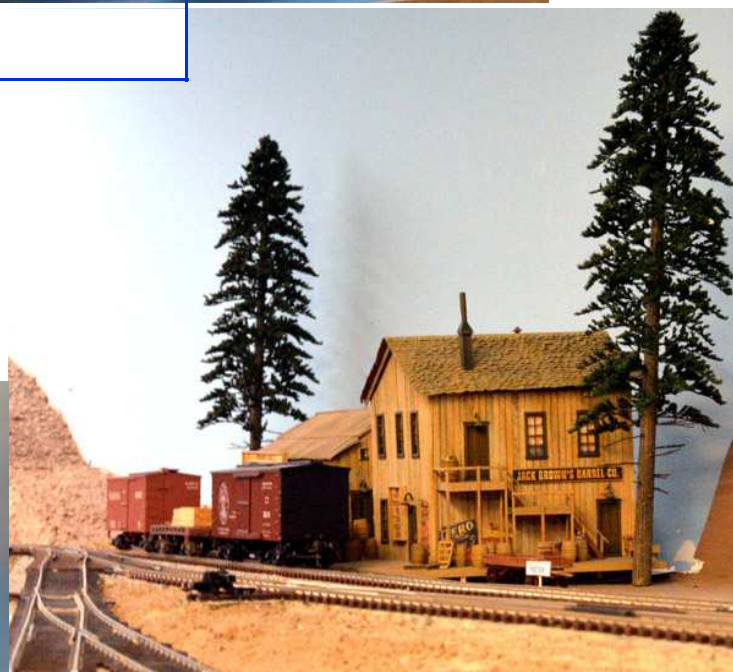
1st Place Junior Division
Anthony Zillich

August Layout Visit

Jim Stewart



Down by the seashore



For being out in the boondocks
it looks pretty busy.



Must be a private joke.

August Layout Visit

Paul Miklos



Now that's a yard and a half.



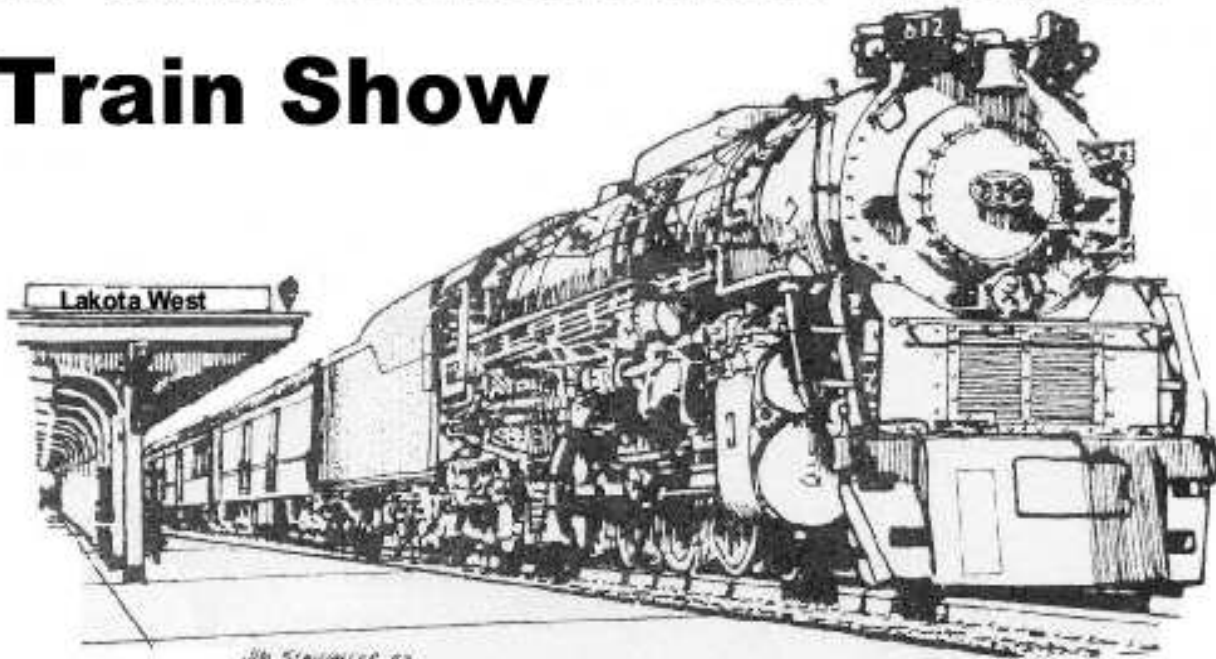
Towns are springing up on all the levels.



The whole basement looks like this.

SPONSORED BY CINCINNATI DIV. 7 OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASOC.

46th Annual Cincinnati Model Train Show



Lakota West High School

**FREE
PARKING!**

Saturday October 19, 2013. 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Sunday October 20, 2013 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

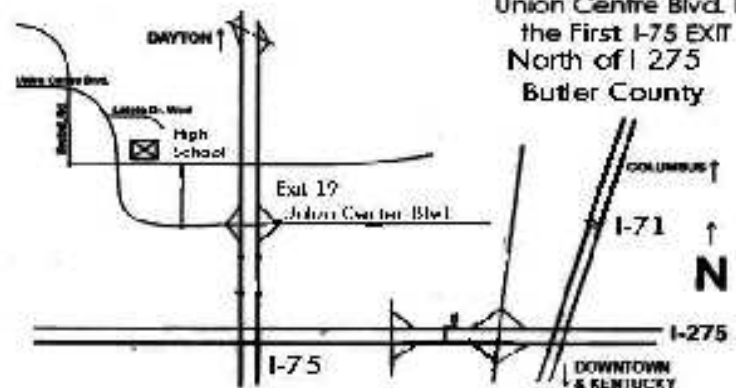
8940 Union Centre Blvd. - West Chester, Ohio 45069

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FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

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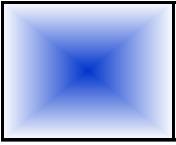
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Flagstaff

I attended the Santa Fe Railway Historical and Modeling Society National Convention held in Flagstaff, Arizona, July 30 to August 4, this year, instead of attending the NMRA National in Atlanta. It was a very well planned, executed, and attended event. There were three of us from Division 7, Ray and Ruth Linesh, and myself; in fact, I think we were the only attendees from Ohio. The high point of the convention was a trip on the Grand Canyon Railway from Williams to the Grand Canyon. The Society chartered a special train just for society members and spouses. The train was headed up by G.C.Rwy's #4960, an ex-CB&Q 2-8-2, the railways largest steam locomotive. The special mixed train included 3 ex-SP Harriman commuter coaches, 5 freight cars (3 were loaded hoppers) and a Santa Fe way-car (a caboose to you Appalachian modelers). The trip included some photo run-bys, plenty of desert scenery, and even us stalling on a 3 percent grade. We got experience "*doubling the hill*" first hand. I'm not sure why our trip overloaded the locomotive; it could have been the 3 hopper loads of ballast, or the fact that many of us are at the fight "the battle of the bulge" age, or possibly a combination of both. Any way, it was an exciting trip back to the early days of railroading. When we arrived at the canyon, nothing could have prepared me for the awe and grandeur I experienced, I don't care how many photos, television programs, or movies you have seen of the canyon, the sight is overwhelming. Several of us took our lunches, sat on a wall, and just spent the time taking in the sights and sounds of nature. Our time at the canyon was way too brief and we had to re-board the train back to Williams, but the experience is forever etched in my memory. By the way, #4960 is an oil-burning locomotive, as nature intended, none of this pelletized crud you call fuel in the east. The hotel we used was the Little America resort in Flagstaff, which turned out to be an outstanding venue for the event. The balance of the convention was filled with clinics, three delightful meals, and an awards ceremony. I entered one of John Altshool's models in the contest. John had done two models of a Santa Fe, Fred Harvey provision-supply car, which he had presented to Ray and I. The scratch built model ended up taking a third place ribbon in its category. John would have been proud. I plan to display the model and the ribbon at our next meeting. I managed to include a trip on Amtrak to the convention: the Cardinal to Chicago and the Southwest Chief to Flagstaff. All four trains were great, in fact, the Cardinal ran on time. Many of you also attend conventions of other prototype societies, so you know the fun of sharing with other modelers of like interests. Next year's SFRH&MS convention is in Fresno, which is also serviced by Amtrak. I can enjoy four different trains, attend the convention, spend time with my brother and still attend the NMRA National in Cleveland.

OVGS&SS and the WMPA

Keith Corman will retire on Labor Day this year, so at least two of our intrepid group will get to spend time on each other's layouts. Additionally, Merlyn Jarman will be installing DCC system on his layout, so things are happening here in the west. We may actually have operating sessions on at least two of our layouts. Another plus from my trip to Flagstaff was meeting other potential WMPA members, I was among fellow western modelers, people who appreciate War Bonnet paint schemes, Oil burning locomotives, and way-cars. It's not too late to become a member of WMPA. Remember, there are no dues, no initiation, and no secret handshake, just enjoyment of the hobby. (Plus a chance to be part of the "In-Crowd").

The Monthly Raffle

I didn't win at last week's meeting; now I understand that John has instituted a new rule; "*YOU MUST ATTEND AND BUY A TICKET*". That doesn't even guarantee your chances of winning. Boy, what a "rip-off". I wish I had thought of that. Keep up the good work John! I hope to see everyone at the meeting in September. (John, a suggestion for the raffle: September is my birth month)

Keep 'em Rolling

Bruce

Next Meeting

2 PM Sunday September 8th

Kenton County Library

401 Kenton Lands Rd.

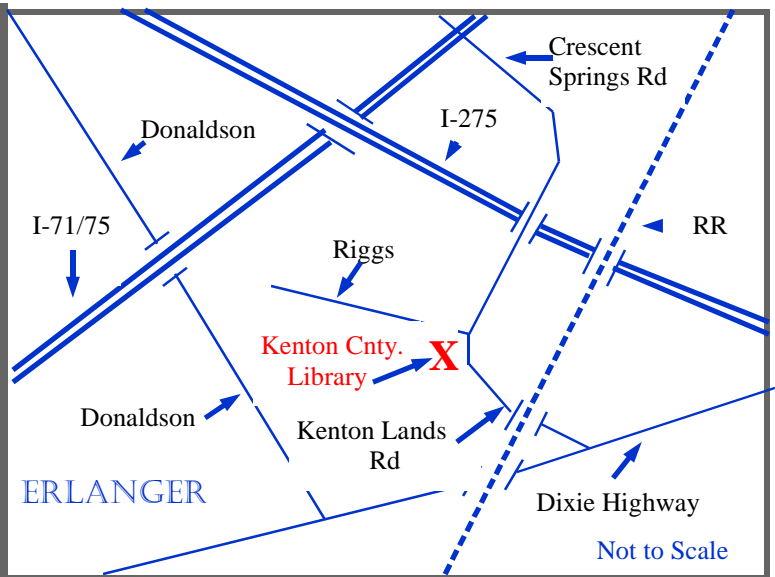
Erlanger, KY

(Intersection of Kenton Lands Rd. and Riggs Rd.)

Directions:

From Dixie Hghwy, Turn West on Kenton Lands Rd. After the Railroad look for the Library on your left.

From I-71/75, Turn West on Buttermilk Pike. (exit 186) Go west to Anderson Rd. , turn left. (Anderson becomes Crescent Springs Rd.) Continue under I-71/75 and across I-275 to Riggs Rd on your right.



Coming Down the Line

Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA
2013 Schedule

NOTE: ALL REGULAR MEETINGS START AT 2PM

(Unless otherwise notified)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Program/Speaker</u>	<u>Layout Visits</u>	<u>Contest Topic</u>
9/08	Kenton County Library Erlanger, KY	Dan Stenger "Garden Railroading Basics"	Several Garden Railroads	<u>Models:</u> Steam and/or Diesels Locos (includes traction) <u>Photos:</u> Steam Locomotives
9/19	Resurrection Lutheran Church	Lebanon Sub Meeting Lebanon, OH	NA	Show & Tell
10/13	West Chester Library W. Chester, OH	Bring-n-Brag (Rolling Stock Models) Eastern Loggers Mini-Clinics	?	<u>Models:</u> Rolling Stock <u>Photos:</u> Personnel Workin' on the Railroad
10/19-20	Lakota West High School W. Chester, OH	46th Annual Cincinnati Model Train Show	NA	NA

Around the Region

2013

10/19-20 Cincinnati Model Train Show W.Chester, OH
11/2-3 Dayton Train Show Hara Arena Dayton, OH

National

2013

Modeling Problems? - Ask the Member Aid Committee

Pat Homan (513) 861-2057
Bruce Knapp (513) 941-2713

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