



August, 2014

THE Oil Can



Volume VIII Issue 8



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The Editors Corner:

Dave Puthoff

The Cleveland Convention is now behind us. I was favorably impressed with the organization and content, although the Train Show seemed to have more layouts and fewer exhibitors than past conventions that I have attended. The Cleveland Convention Center is brand new and large, and is mostly underground! On top is a sloped grassy knoll and bandstand and a large park extending to the RTA tracks below. Located underground are 3 large convention halls and meeting rooms.

My wife and I stayed at the convention's Renaissance Hotel located a few short blocks away. Our only complaint was the unscheduled wake-up at 2:02 AM Sunday morning from the building's fire alarm system! Fortunately, the alarm was false and corrected by the time we had journeyed down the hallway.

Several Division 7 members presented clinics. There were about 30 who attended my Clinic on making signals on Friday evening, and everyone seemed to be awake at the end!

The Megabus ride to Cleveland was no train, but was an acceptable 5-hour ride both ways, and on-time. The seating was tighter than Delta coach class, but at \$6.00 round-trip I can't complain!

Dave

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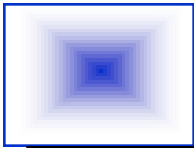
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The Oil Can is a publication of Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, it's officers, or it's members.

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:

Just one of the scenes on MCR Div 4 Art Bumpus's B & O Spruce Creek Division, that was featured on one of the Layout Tours at the 2014 NMRA National Convention in Cleveland.



Well, I just returned from four days of model railroading and trainwatching in Cleveland. From what I saw, the convention committee did a good job planning and executing the convention. I spent my time attending clinics, so I had no first-hand experience with any layout or prototype tours. I saw lots of Division 7 people at the convention, and attended several of the clinics they presented.

One of the clinics I attended was an introduction to the NMRA's EduTRAIN program presented by Bob Blake. Bob is the national leader of this program. Since this is one of the NMRA's newest programs, I expected there would be a lot of people there to hear about it. Apparently, it was only interesting to our division, since 4 of the 6 people in attendance were from Division 7. The goal of this program is to develop a curriculum of presentations ranging from basic beginners information to topics for advanced modelers. The presentations will be available in Powerpoint format. The primary intent is for these programs to be presented in a group setting. However, when they are available on the NMRA web site, it will be possible for any member to download a presentation and view it.

I enjoyed checking out the layouts at the train show. The Cincinnati and Dayton areas were well represented by several of the modular layouts. I especially liked the large Free-Mo layout near the back of the exhibit hall. There was the usual collection of manufacturers showing off their newest offerings. There were also lots of dealers willing to help you dispose of your hard earned cash.

On the way home on Saturday, I stopped in Berea to check out the 1:1 scale action. I had not been there before, but based on what I saw that day, I'll try to get back up there again. 15 – 20 trains went past on the CSX and NS lines in the 2 ½ hours I was there, including 3 trains in one 10 minute period. There were 10 to 15 other people there watching the trains. One guy from Canada said there had been about 50 people there Friday evening.

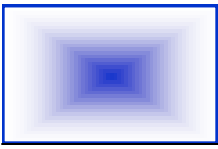
Each year, the Mid Central region presents 2 awards to recognize contributions to the hobby. The Director's award recognizes contributions at the regional level. The Russ Wenderfer Award is sponsored by Division 7 and is given for promotion of the NMRA and the hobby of model railroading at the division level. Each MCR division superintendent is invited to nominate people for these 2 awards. The Directors award is voted on by the region BOD members. The Russ Wenderfer Award winner is selected from the nominees by the MCR President. If you were at the July meeting, you saw MCR president Merlyn Jarman present the Russ Wenderfer Award to Division 7 member John Burchnell.

John definitely fits the qualifications for the Wenderfer Award. John has served Division 7 as Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent, and served as trustee on the division BOD for many years. He has maintained a database of layouts in the Cincinnati area, and through his association with Lou Sassi has been directly involved in getting many of them photographed for publication in the national press. During the 2005 national convention, he was co-chair for the layout tours. More recently, John has been co-chair with Merlyn Jarman for the annual spring bus trip. The execution of these trips is another example of John's meticulous planning and attention to detail. These are just some of the reasons John was nominated for, and selected to receive, this award. Congratulations John, you earned it.

I'm looking forward to the August meeting and the clinic by Mike Finkler. I saw Mike's presentation several years ago and think you will find it very informative. If you have ever looked at an oil refinery and wondered what's going on in all of those tall stacks, this clinic will provide the answers.

Well, I see by the clock I'm quickly approaching my article submission deadline, so I better close. See you at the meeting on August 10th.

Bob



SECOND SECTION

John Shields
Asst. Super

Our July meeting was on Sunday July 6th at the St. Matthias Catholic Church in Forest Park. The clinic was presented by Phil Gliebe, talking about kit-bashing HOn30 motive power. These are HO engines that use N Scale mechanisms and run on N Scale track. Phil showed quite a selection of both steam and diesel engines, and included insights about which mechanisms have proven to work well and some that are less reliable. After the meeting, we visited the layouts of Bill Doll and John Miller in Colerain Township; and Jim Bonnett up in Liberty Township.

The July meeting was a week earlier than usual because the NMRA National Convention in Cleveland started on our normal second Sunday. I did not get to the convention itself, but did go for the National Train Show that wraps it up. There was a large collection of operating layouts along with the manufacturers and dealers. I ran into more folks from Cincinnati than I expected to, and know that I did not see everyone that was there. I had several of the clinics presented at the National Convention by folks from our area recommended to me; so I will be trying to line some of these up for us here in Division 7. I also heard that Phil Gliebe had a winning entry in the model contest for motive power at the Convention (I forgot to ask if it was one of the one's he showed us in our meeting!).

In August, we will be meeting on the regular second Sunday, August 10th, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kenwood. Our clinician for August is Mike Finkler. He will be presenting a clinic on Oil Refineries, giving us the insider's perspective. The monthly model contest will be for passenger cars, and the photo contest will be for railroad people. After the meeting, we will be visiting Gerry Alber's Virginian layout and Kevin Barrett's modern [CSX/NS/Amtrak/CN] HO layout in Loveland.

In September, we will be in Northern Kentucky at the Erlanger Library. Chuck Bogart from Lexington will be giving a presentation (appropriately) on Street Cars and Interurbans of Kentucky. The contest subjects are models of MOW equipment and photos of MCR members' layouts. The layout tours will include Bob Adams' N scale N&W layout and Perry Simpson's HO L&N.

In October, we will meet on October 5th (one week early again, because the Cincinnati Model Train Show will be on the following weekend.) at the West Chester Library. At this meeting we will be doing another round of the "Bring and Brag" and we will have a mini-clinic on Roadbeds from John Burchnall, Brad Jonas and Mike Tener.

As mentioned, the Annual Cincinnati Model Train Show is on the weekend of October 11th and 12th at Lakota West High School. Save the dates, and be ready to help us with the yard signs again, especially if you live in the West Chester area; because we want to do more this year to attract the families in the area. This is our strategy for getting our attendance growing again. And of course, if we can attract more non-modelers, we may be able to convince more people to BECOME model railroaders – which is, after all, our mission.

In November, we will make our normal visit to Hamilton, on November 9th. Dick Briggs will be down from Columbus to give a clinic on the paperwork and the ins and outs of entering model contests. And we will end the year as we usually do in Westwood, on December 14th. If you don't have all of these dates already reserved in your calendar, NOW would be a good time to do so. You really don't want to miss any of these. And a final point, if you know of a home layout (maybe it's yours!) that we have never seen, but we should see; send me an email or give me a call. I'll add it to our database and work on getting it into our schedule.

John



**NMRA MCR DIV. 7
JULY 2014 CONTEST RESULTS**



MODELS: SERVICING FACILITIES (REPAIR SHOPS, ROUNDHOUSES, SANDING FACILITIES COALING/WATER TOWERS, ETC.)

Box Stock:

1st Place: Georgia Dahlberg: Water Tower
No Other Entries Submitted In This Category

Kitbashed:

No Entries Submitted in This Category

Scratch Built:

1st Place: Ron Gribler: Sand House
No Other Entries Submitted In This Category

PHOTOGRAPHY: RAILROAD STRUCTURES (ANY STRUCTURES FOUND ON A RAILROAD OR OWNED BY A RAILROAD)

Print Prototype:

1st Place: Georgia Dahlberg: Turntable
2nd Place: Jerry Baston: Yard Tower, Danville, Ky.
3rd Place (Tie): Jerry Baston: CSX Station, Huntington, W. Va.
3rd Place (Tie): Georgia Dahlberg: Yard Office

Print Model:

1st. Place: Randy Seiler: N&W Box Car at Loading Dock (Bill Doll's Layout)
2nd Place: John Listermann: QN Tower (Gerry Alber's Layout)
3rd Place: Randy Seiler: Coaling Tower (Jim Bonnett's Layout)

Junior Division – No Entries Submitted in Any Category

2014 OVERALL STANDINGS (through July 2014)

MODELS

Bob Lawson	12	Warren Ossman	02
Frank Hermanek, MMR	09	John Listermann	02
Ron Gribler, MMR	08	Bob Chapman	01
Frank Fieler	06	Tom Brueggeman, MMR	01
Don Phillips	03	Jim Ruisinger	01
Georgia Dahlberg, MMR	03		

PHOTOGRAPHY

Jerry Baston	21
Randy Seiler	17
Georgia Dahlberg, MMR	10
John Listermann	08
Anton Zillich	02

JUNIOR DIVISION - PHOTOGRAPHY

Anthony Zillich	06
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AUGUST CONTEST:

MODELS: PASSENGER CARS (any car found on a passenger train)
PHOTOGRAPHY: PERSONNEL WORKIN' ON THE RAILROAD

Brad Jonas
NMRA, MCR, Div. 7 Contest Chair

Division 7 Awards



MCR President Merlyn Jarman presents the “Russ Wenderfer Award” to Division 7’s John Burchnall at the Division 7 July Meeting.

Russ Wenderfer Award

This Division 7 annual award is given to a candidate who by their actions, involvement with Division 7 activities, and overall extraordinary volunteer service has promoted the hobby of model railroading and promotion of the National Model Railroad Association.

John has been active with Division 7 for many years. His accomplishments include: co-chair of the Tours for the 2005 National Convention, co-founder of the Eastern Loggers Model Group and modular layout, Co-chair of the Division 7 annual bus trips, Division 7 BOD member, and sponsor of photo shoots and stories of Greater Cincinnati model railroads in *Model Railroader* and *Great Model Railroads* magazines.



Achievement Program Chair Frank Koch presents Division 7’s Tom Brueggeman MMR, **NMRA Motive Power Certificate** at the Division 7 July Meeting.

July 2014 Car Projects Report

Jim MacKnight
Division 7 Car Projects

Our 2014 car project, Virginian & Ohio USRA 2-bay hoppers, by Accurail, in four numbers, are priced at \$18 for singles, and \$70 for a four-car set, plus Ohio sales tax. They will be offered for sale at our August meeting, through our Company Store. We have sold 244 cars during the first 4 months, mostly via mail order sales. Division 7 members have purchased only 50 cars so far. So, please take out your wallet, or write a check, and support your Division's car projects. We need to sell 13 cars to break even.

Our 2013 car project, Merchants Despatch Transportation's 40' ice reefers, by Accurail, in wood or all-steel versions, are offered in two numbers for each type of reefer, and are priced at \$18 for singles, and \$70 for a four-car set, plus Ohio sales tax. We have sold 335 cars during the first 13 months, and have 167 car kits available.

Our 2012 car project, Allegheny Midland 41'-6" steel gondolas, by Accurail, are offered in three numbers, priced at \$18 for singles, and \$51 for a three-car set, plus Ohio sales tax. We have sold 253 cars during the first 25 months. We have 133 car kits available.

Jim MacKnight
Division 7 Car Projects

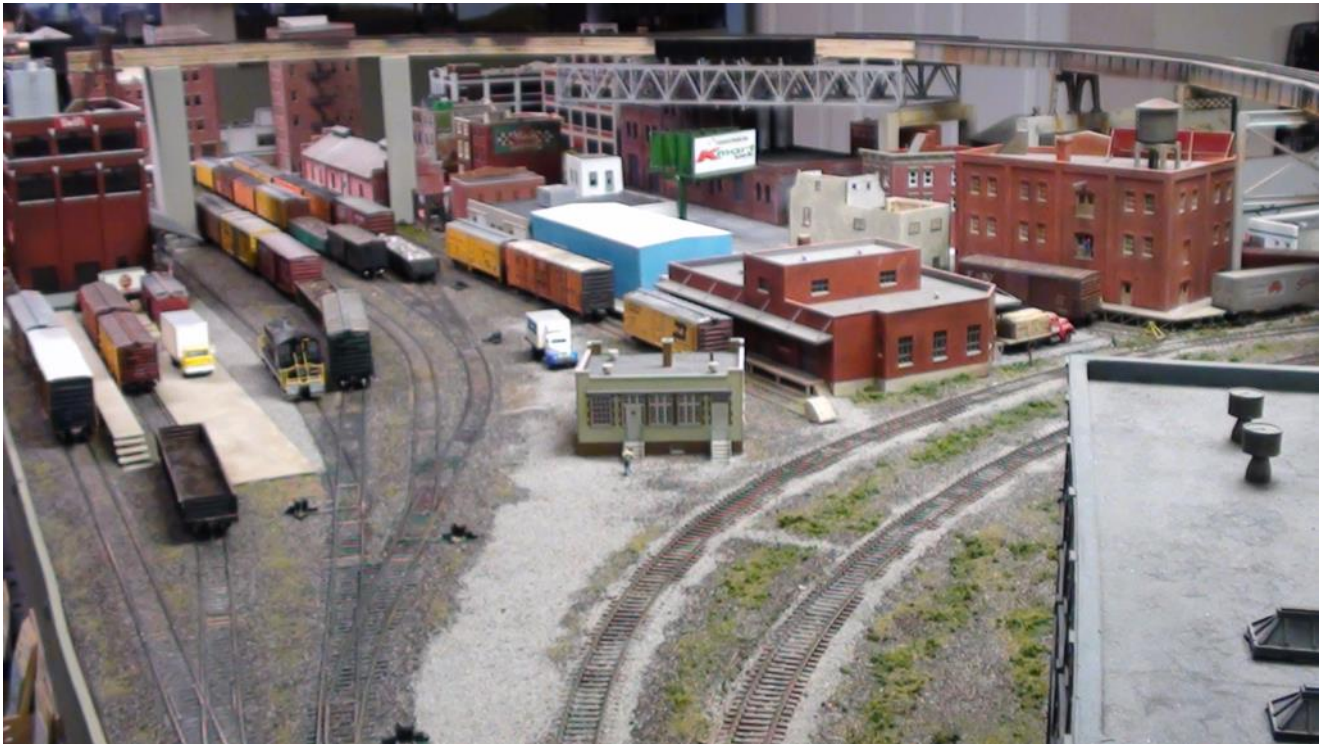
Jim



“Honest Raffle. Really!”

Photo by Mike Brestel

[John Miller's Layout Visit - July 2014](#)



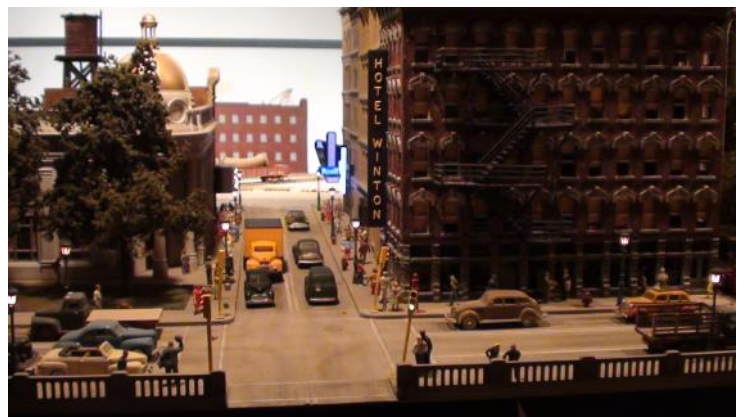
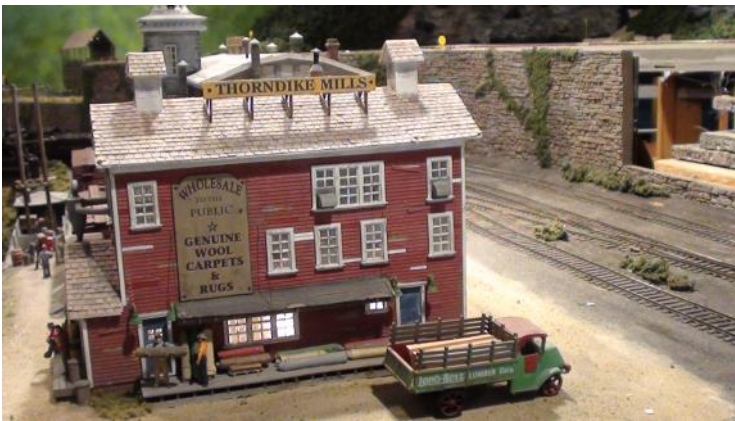
[Bill Doll's Layout Visit - July 2014](#)

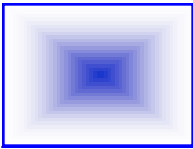


[National Train Show - NMRA Cleveland 2014 National Convention](#)



Layout Visits - NMRA Cleveland 2014 National Convention





I'M Home, Folks

My trip to Cleveland for the 2014 NMRA National Convention was in many ways, a trip back in time. On Tuesday, we took a walking tour of Tower City, the former Terminal Tower Union Station, which I hadn't been in for 64 years. On June 6, 1950, my mother and I left on the New York Central's Southwest Limited to our new home in Indianapolis, Indiana. We had returned to Cleveland, my father's hometown, at the end of WWII. I lived at 152nd and Lake Shore Blvd. (7 blocks from the NYC's Collinwood Yard) from 1945 to 1950, and attended Collinwood Memorial School.

I have certainly visited Cleveland many times over the years, but this trip was especially meaningful. The tour of Tower City was only one special event, as we also took a day-long tour of the entire RTA rail system. One leg of the trip took us to Shaker Square, where my grandparents often took us to lunch (the restaurant is still there), I indulged in a short walking tour of downtown Cleveland, again bringing back some very fond memories. The high point of the week was driving out to my old neighborhood and visiting my house, church, and school. Cleveland has certainly changed over the past 64 years, but the memories of a seven-year old are still very vivid.

I enjoyed the NMRA National Convention and National Train Show very much, from the many and varied clinics, prototype tours, the silent auction, and, of course, the train show. I was pleased to see many friends, including Dan and Nina Mulhearn, from Division 9; my special buddies from the 2011 Sacramento convention. I got a chance to have supper with Dan and Nina twice. I attended quite a few clinics and shared one with Frank and Bram. All the clinics, I attended, were all very informative, even Bill Edwards and Paul Godwin's clinic on "Correctly Modeling the '50's" managed to keep me awake (after the unfortunate incident with rockets a few years ago, I never fall asleep in one Bill's presentations). I also attended Bill and Paul's scenery clinics on Friday and remembered to ask Bill about southwest scenery.

I especially enjoyed spending two days at the train show, as there were many new and updated products. Bachmann, Athearn, BLI, and many others have some very impressive products coming. I got a chance to see a pilot model of BLI's new Santa Fe 3800 2-10-2, which along with their new PRR H10 2-8-0 were the stars of the show (for me, at least). The people involved with the planning and execution of the 2014 National Convention produced a real winner and a most enjoyable week.

One thing I forgot to mention, I stayed at the Renaissance Hotel, and was extremely pleased with it. I stayed there in 1978 for the OMEA State Conference when it was still the Cleveland Sheraton; the new, upgraded facility is wonderful. The Sunday Outing Boys (including the Mulhearns) registered for the 2015 convention in Portland and are planning the trip out via Amtrak (we won't drive because of buffalo and the natives, and won't fly as we don't enjoy being groped), so it's two days on the train; OH DARN! I also registered for the 2016 convention in Indianapolis (talk about a trip down memory lane) Let me put a plug in for conventions, especially the 2016 convention; if you have never been, this will be the one to attend. I look forward to seeing everyone at the August meeting, and as the Canadian owner of Sylvan Models says, "Keep your stick on the ice".

Bruce

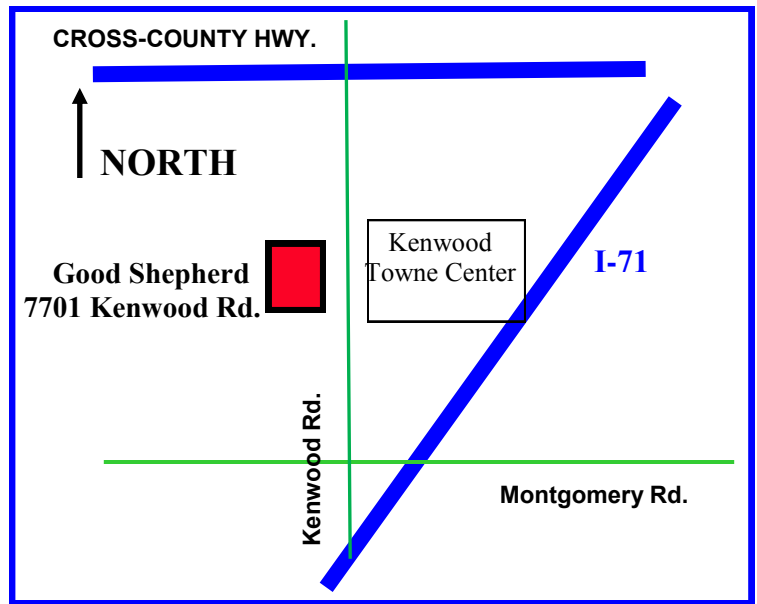
Next Meeting

2 PM Sunday August 10

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
7701 Kenwood Road

Directions:

- From North:** I-71 Montgomery Rd. Exit
Right on Montgomery Rd.
Right on Kenwood Rd.
Church is on your left.
- From South:** I-71 Kenwood Rd Exit
Left onto Kenwood Rd.
Church is on your left, past
Montgomery Rd.
- From East/West:** Cross-County Hwy.
Exit Kenwood Rd.
Go South on Kenwood Rd.
(past Galbraith Rd.)
Church is on your right.



Coming Down the Line

Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA
2014 Schedule

NOTE: ALL REGULAR MEETINGS START AT 2 PM

(Unless otherwise notified)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Program/Speaker</u>	<u>Lavout Visits</u>	<u>Contest Topic</u>
8/10	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Kenwood	Mike Finkler Oil Refineries	Gerry Albers Kevin Barrett	<u>Models:</u> Models pf Pass. Cars <u>Photos:</u> Railroad People
8/21	Resurrection Church Lebanon OH	Lebanon Sub Meeting	N/A	Show & Tell
9/14	Erlanger Library Northern KY	Chuck Bogart Streetcars & Interurbans of KY	Bob Adams Perry Simpson	<u>Models:</u> MOW Equipment <u>Photos:</u> MCR Members' Layouts
9/18	Resurrection Church Lebanon OH	Lebanon Sub Meeting	N/A	Show & Tell
10/5	West Chester Library West Chester	"Bring & Brag", plus Roadbeds John Burchnall Brad Jonas, Mike Tener	Brad Jonas Randy Kerka	<u>Models:</u> Off-Line Structures <u>Photos:</u> Weather/Damaged Freight Cars
10/11, 10/12	Annual Fall Train Show Lakota West High School	Cincinnati Train Show Booths & Slide Show	None	Train Show Portable Layouts

Around the Region

2014

- | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 8/9 | Summerrail at CUT | Cincinnati OH |
| 10/11-12 | Div. 7 CMTS | W. Chester, OH |
| 11/1-2 | Div. 3 MVD Train Show | Dayton, OH |

National

2014

9/03-06 National Narrow Gauge Conv. Kansas City, KS

Modeling Problems? - Ask the Member Aid Committee

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
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| Bruce Knapp | (513) 941-2713 |

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