

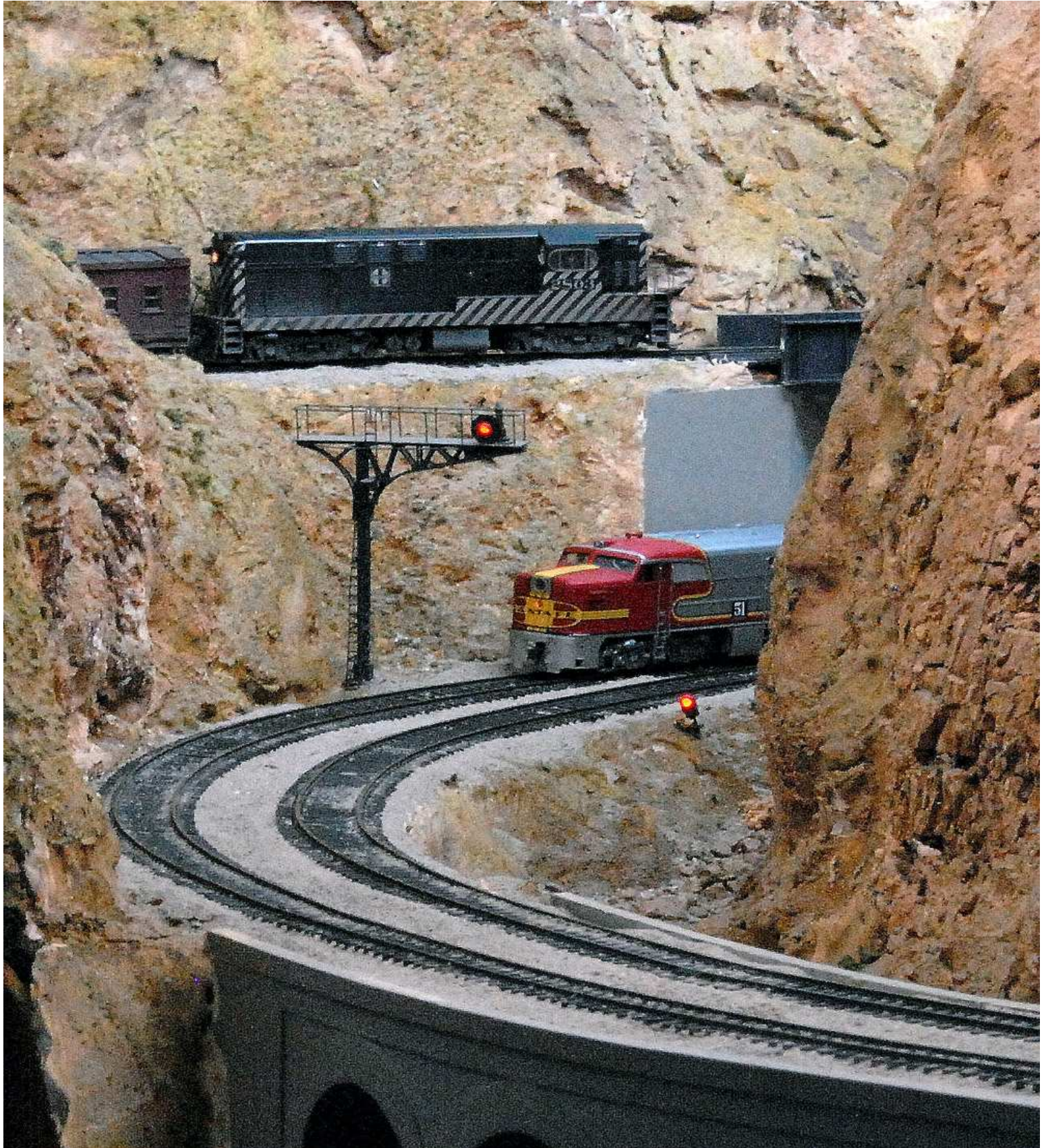
THE

February, 2011

# Oil Can



Volume V Issue 2



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## The Editor's Corner

Don Phillips

Welcome to issue 2 of the new Oil Can. Since I didn't get fired for changing the format last month, I guess it's OK to keep going. As predicted last month we made a few minor changes this month and there will probably be more as we go along.

Unlike the postal version which is limited to 8 pages, the electronic version is unrestricted as to pages or content (within reason). After looking over last month's issue, it's obvious we have room for a lot more pictures and articles and that's where you come in. Have a favorite picture of your layout or maybe a model you built and are proud of or even a favorite picture of a prototype railroad subject? Send it to us and we'll share it with the rest of the division. Just download it and send it to [dwp66@cinci.rr.com](mailto:dwp66@cinci.rr.com) as a JPEG file. As long as it's sharp and has reasonably good color we can run it thru Photoshop and make you look like Ansel Adams. Add a sentence or two explaining it and how and where you took it.

Or how about an article? Come across an easier way of doing something? Or maybe you have a suggestion or two on how to improve the Oil Can or bring in new members into the division. Send us anything from a paragraph to a page as a word file and we'll find a place for it in the next edition. As with most publications, we reserve the right to edit it for size and or content.

Just don't send anything as a PDF file. If we have to change the shape or size to fit a particular space a PDF file wont let us make any changes. JPEG or WORD is the best.

## Note

January competition results were not available at press time.

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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 Railroading and related topics. Deadline for submissions is generally the fifteenth of the month preceding the next meeting.*

## The Cover:

A Santa Fe Alcoa PA at the head of the daily Golden Gate Streamliner, drifts out of the Serpe Creek Canyon on its way to LA. At the same time a local freight heads into the canyon on the upper line of Rick Stern's beautifully detailed Southern Santa Fe HO layout.

## The many faces of Division 7:

*New faces:* How about that new face at the Company Store? Paul Mussleman began his tenure as Company Store Proprietor with a ‘bang’ selling several jackets and other Division 7 branded items.

*Old faces:* I could have sworn I saw Dick White at the meeting Sunday. I am not sure that the rumors are true... but someone told me that Daniel Carter "Uncle Dan" Beard (1850 –1941), an American illustrator, author, youth leader, and social reformer who founded the Sons of Daniel Boone in 1905, (which Beard later merged with the Boy Scouts of America) was inspired to start his great organization after meeting... you guessed it... Dick White!

*Baby faces:* Congratulations to Division 7 member Michael York and his wife, Lisa on the birth of his daughter Madeline!

## 2011 Programs:

How about that “Kick-Off” clinic for 2011? Bob Lawson (one of my modeling heroes) certainly put together a fantastic clinic to share with us. Bob let it slip that he has a veritable plethora of yet undisclosed secrets that he is willing to share. There may well be some workshops hosted by Bob in the future so stay tuned for that! (I have already begun the arm twisting.) ☺

Once you have reviewed the balance of the 2011 Program I am sure you will agree that Bob Shreve is doing a fine job of keeping us off the street and entertained. Thanks Bob!

## More details on the May 14<sup>th</sup> Beech Grove Express Bus Trip:

I am delighted that Mssrs. Burchnall and Jarman have asked me to communicate herein more of the heretofore secret details of the trip!

- ∇ The Beech Grove Shops are Amtrak’s largest and busiest, where all non-electric locos and nearly all cars are overhauled and repaired. Visits are rare, and cameras are permitted
- ∇ Safety Glasses with side shields are required for the shops tour, and there is a place on the form to have us buy them for you if you don’t bring your own
- ∇ All 3 layouts we’ll visit are nice and have never been seen before on our tours – see the flyer for the owners and interesting features on each
- ∇ The Columbus, IN Historic Structures Tour features a rare tour of an incredible mansion and a visit inside a restored soda bar shop.

This event will sell out quick!

## 2011 MCR Regional Convention is fast approaching:

It is right around the corner. Join with a significant number of your Division 7 brethren in making the 3 ½ hour trip to Geneva-On-The Lake (Southeast of Cleveland) for the April 28<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup> Mid Central Region Convention hosted by Division 5, “The Western Reserve Division”. You can get more information at [www.railsofages.org](http://www.railsofages.org). There is also a link from our Web Site.

See you in February,

*Randy*

# SECOND SECTION

Bob Shreve  
Asst. Super

In January, we spent an enjoyable afternoon with the folks from the Cincinnati Model Railway Club at Harmony Lodge in Winton Place. The business meeting moved along at a brisk pace. John Burchnall spilled the details about the upcoming bus trip on May 14<sup>th</sup>. See the flyer elsewhere in this month's Oil Can for more details. In honor of the meeting location, John's honest raffle featured O scale items instead of the usual N scale fare. Bob Lawson presented a potpourri of tips and techniques he uses on his layout. I especially liked his method of duplicating structure kits. Thanks to the CMRC for sponsoring the meeting and providing snacks, and to Rick Stern for opening his Southern California Santa Fe layout after the meeting.

In February, we will be up at St. Susanna church in Mason. Dan Hadley will give a clinic describing how to make your own model railroad videos. Bob Bartizek will have his layout open after the meeting.

In March, I get a break while the Rowlands handle the activity organization duties. The Spring Flea Market will be Saturday, Mar 12<sup>th</sup> at the Lakota West Freshman Campus.

In April, We'll meet out in Anderson Township where Dave Keith will tell us about Free-Mo Modules. At the end of April, the Regional Convention will be in Northeast Ohio.

Clinicians for the remainder of 2011 include Bob Bartizek in June, Bill Edwards in July, Ed Swain in August, and Mike Mareness in November. A "Local Layout Tour" is planned for September, and Mini Clinics will be held in October.

See you in February.

*Bob*

## 2011 MCR Convention

### "RAILS OF AGES"

April 28 - May 1

Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio

**Division 5 reports that plans are well on the way for this year's Mid-Central Region Convention. Their latest report shows that so far they have lined up 26 one-hour clinics plus 4 fifteen minute clinics, 7 prototype tours, 6 non-railroad events, and 21 layouts open for tours covering all scales from Z to G. Several of those layouts will be open Thursday evening for operations. The speaker at the banquet will be Rick Rowland, President of Youngstown Steel Heritage Foundation. Also included are the usual: Contest Room, Silent Auction, Model Display Room and Company Store. The convention Hotel is:**

**The Lodge & Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake**

**488 North Broadway (state route 534 north)**

**Geneva-on-the-Lake, OH 44041**

**866 806-8066**

[www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com](http://www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com)

**For convention registration go to: [www.railsOfAges.com](http://www.railsOfAges.com)**

**The early registration fee is \$45 until January 31, after that it goes to \$60**

## January Meeting at Harmony Lodge



Another Certificate for Georgia Dahlberg



Another Great Clinic from Bob Lawson



Another Trip Up the Hill for Shay # 3 to bring down a string of log cars on the On30 branch line of CMRC's O gauge layout



Another pause in the action on Rick Stern's HO Southern Santa Fe layout

**PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!**

## **A CLINIC ON SCENERY**

(WHICH EVERYONE KNOWS HOW TO DO)

by John W. Wissenger, MMR

**Sunday, March 13 at 2 p.m.**

Many of you know and remember John. In addition to being Division Superintendent in the early 1970s, the period of our most dramatic growth, John has a national reputation as a superb model builder and scenery specialist. Since leaving the Division John has lived in California, Pennsylvania and northern Ohio, and he recently retired to Michigan, where he is well along on building a museum-quality HO railroad.

John will be returning to our area to attend our Spring Flea Market on Saturday, March 12, and he has offered to spend his Sunday with us.

The clinic will show how to:

- **Make a realistic river (a little different then most methods)**
- **Make basic land forms from extruded insulation board**
- **How to use paper mache molding compound (like Celluclay) to form scenery**
- **Model rock outcroppings using paper mache**
- **Paint the basic land forms into realistic scenery**
- **Build a realistic forest**

John's work on his Allegheny Midland Class 1 railroad, his Monitor Lines traction layout, and the Cincinnati & Great Western RR Club portable layout is legendary. Come see how he accomplishes these results, and how you can learn from his experience. This is a Power Point clinic, and as a supplement John will be bringing along the 2' x 2' module he used for the photography.

Since this is a Running Extra event, there will be no business meeting or contest. The Cincinnati Model Railway Club's large O scale layout will be open before and after the meeting for those who want to visit.

**See you on March 13!**

## SOME EXAMPLES OF JOHN'S SCENERY



# "The Beech Grove Express"

Saturday, May 14, 2011

## Deluxe Motor Coach Tour to Amtrak's Beech Grove Shops, Special Tour of Columbus, Indiana Historic Structures and 3 Premier Model Railroads

Departing 7:00 AM and Returning by 7:00 PM, from and to Harrison, Ohio  
Venue Restrictions Limit this Trip to the First 47 Registrants that Fully Sign Up  
Registration Deadline Sunday, May 1, 2011 – No Refunds After Then

### Exclusive and Rare Tour Package

#### Guided Tours of Amtrak Shops and Columbus

Selection of Loco, Car, Trim, Wheel, Paint, Brake Shops  
Bus and walking short tour of historic Columbus structures

#### Single Departing Location: Harrison, Ohio

Exact location disclosed later only to registrants  
Park at own risk - Provide car and license info below

#### View Three Premier Model Railroad Layouts!

Featuring 2 scales (HO, O) and 2 gauges (36", 56.5")  
within the Central Indiana Division, Mid West Region, NMRA

#### Fantastic Inspirational Day for a Great Price!

Deluxe motor coach transport, scenic roads, bottled waters  
Experienced guides, McAlister's Deli deluxe box lunch

**Jack Simpson** – nice newly rebuilt and enlarged fully scenicked Hoosierline HO layout set in the 1950s, featuring Monon, C&O, B&O, a PRR, 1000 sq. ft, 100% signaled, first generation diesels, prior version featured in Dec99 NMRA Bulletin

**Jim Canter** – huge mostly scenicked 44 ft x 70 ft fine scale Proto-48 Nickel Plate Road "O" scale pike, featuring precision handlaid track and diverse freight cars, steam and diesel locos, C&O and PRR, built in cabinets, wife's scrap booking business

**Ron Lane, MMR** – exquisite HO and HOn3 authentic representation of New River, W.Va. coal operations of C&O and Mann's Creek Railway, featuring scratch structures, and all named figures, bonus G scale structures and 1:1 telegraph tower

### Fares and Registration

#### Basic Fare of \$59 per person includes:

- **Deluxe Motor Coach** round trip transportation from Harrison, Ohio to all included Indiana area attractions
- **Transport and admission to shop complex, city tour, 3 premier model railroads, deluxe box lunch, waters**
- **Rare guided visit to Amtrak Beech Grove Maintenance Facility Shops**, with cameras and photography permitted
- **Bus and walking tour of historic Columbus buildings**, including rare Irwin mansion and restored 1900 soda shop
- **Visits to 3 nearly complete high quality model railroads** - all never seen before on Division 7 tours

#### Other Terms and Conditions:

- Long pants and fully closed shoes required - umbrellas not permitted (bring caps, hooded jackets or ponchos instead)
- Safety glasses with side shields required - indicate below if you'll bring your own or purchase here for us to provide
- Registration exclusively limited to Cincinnati Division 7 members, spouses and children (at least 12 years of age)
- Do not delay in registering - due to venue restrictions this trip is limited to the first 47 registrants that sign up!
- Cincinnati Division 7 reserves the right to modify or cancel this event due to matters beyond our control

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parked Car Make & Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Lic. Plate: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons \_\_\_\_\_ x \$59 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of safety glasses\* \_\_\_\_\_ x \$4 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* must bring own or purchase here      **Total** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Pay by check or money order to: Cincinnati Division 7, NMRA**

#### Mail to:

Beech Grove Express Registrar  
17765 Horizon Way  
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

Further info: Jean Jarman [jjarman1@comcast.net](mailto:jjarman1@comcast.net) Tel: (812) 539-3232





# **MODEL RAILROAD SPRING FLEA MARKET & SWAP MEET**

Sponsored by Cincinnati Division 7 NMRA  
[www:cincy-div7.org](http://www:cincy-div7.org)

**Saturday, MARCH 12, 2011  
10 AM to 4 PM**

**LAKOTA WEST FRESHMAN CAMPUS**

**5050 TYLERSVILLE ROAD  
WEST CHESTER, OH. 45069**

**FEATURING LOCAL MEMBERS & HOBBY  
DEALERS**

**\$4.00 ADMISSION**

**\$3.00 YOUTH (11-15 years of age)**

**Under 10 years of age FREE**

**TABLES \$17 (each 30 inches x 8 ft)**

**Table Reservations: [rhord@fuse.net](mailto:rhord@fuse.net)**

**All SCALES of Model Railroad Equipment  
plus Videos, Memorabilia and More**

## Bachmann DCC Equipped Locomotives

I noticed that Bachmann has been releasing some of their models with DCC already installed. Most of the locomotives are from their Spectrum line and include FT's, F7's, GP30's, GP40's, and steam. [Santa Fe 4-8-4, a Santa Fe 2-10-4, and an N&W 4-8-4, for example.] In fact, Bachmann is releasing most of its locomotives with DCC installed. Bachmann also includes some of these locomotives in complete sets with cars, track, and an inexpensive DCC control. Now even a beginner can start with DCC.

I have Bachmann's Santa Fe 4-9-4 and 2-10-4, plus a 45-ton "side-rod switcher", so I became interested in the FT's, as they were very inexpensive [around \$30.00 on the web]. I ordered a Santa Fe FTA and FTB for testing. [Bachmann 60139 and 60239]. Both units sport a very nicely applied paint job and came decorated in the Santa Fe freight scheme circa 1950. The most notable inaccuracies with both the A and B units were the unique truck spacing of the original FT. Other noticeable problems on both units were the dynamic brake castings, which lacked the "end" boxes that were very prominent on the Santa Fe units. The A unit also lacked the side number boards, which were a spotting feature on both Santa Fe and Rio Grande units. You can recreate the number boards with decals, but I was disappointed with their omission. I unpacked both units and ran them on their default [#3] setting just to make sure they were functioning. I then programmed both units to their road number 139, which I did easily on the mainline. I also programmed CV 3 and CV 4 to 5, so I had some basic momentum. I ran each unit separately to check for tractive effort before running the units as a pair. The locomotives each ran very well and should handle about 30 average freight cars; so both units should be able to pull 50 cars. I did notice that the B unit was a bit noisier than the A, but the locomotives are not broken in yet, so operation, especially the noise, should improve with time. I will have to speed match the units to each other as I continue programming the DCC decoders. The FT's come with eight wheel drive and pick-up, a heavy die-cast frame, a can motor, and "EZ Mate" Mark II couplers. Despite the shortcoming I mentioned, I am impressed with the locomotives, for the money they operate well and, with some work will make a nice addition to my roster. I applaud Bachmann for making DCC an affordable option to beginning model railroaders.

## The Raton Pass

I noticed that in my haste to lay track and get something running, I made some fundamental errors in track planning/laying. I put a curved turnout on the westbound mainline to service a yard lead. I know better and am in the process of replacing it with a #8 LH turnout. John Altshool paid a visit and noticed some other problem areas. Oh well, it is far better to correct the problems now and not later.

See you in February.

**Keep 'em rolling!**

*Bruce A. Knapp*

## Next Meeting

**2 PM Sunday February 13**

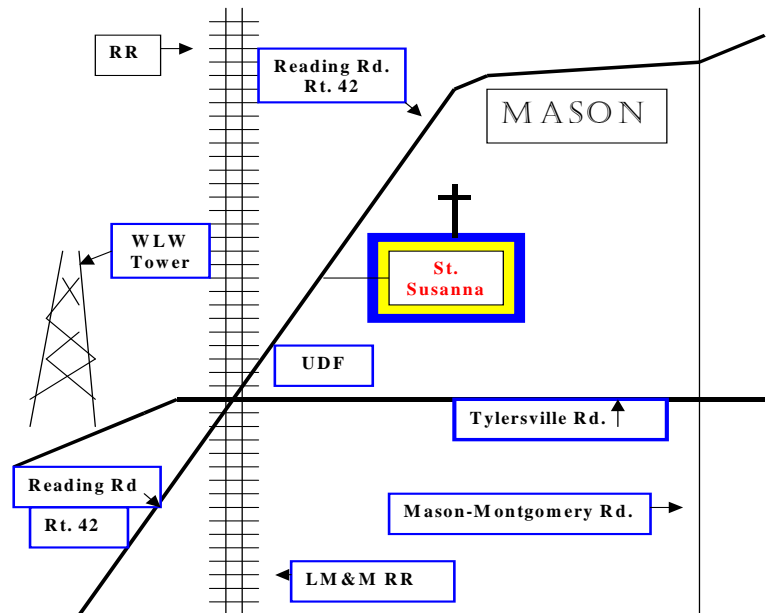
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**St. Susanna Catholic Church**  
Reading Rd. Mason, OH

## Directions

**From I-75:** Take the Tylersville exit. Go East on Tylersville to Reading Rd. Turn left to St Susanna on your right.

**From I-71:** Take the Mason-Montgomery exit. Turn left on Mason-Montgomery and go North to Tylersville. Turn left to Reading Rd. Turn right to St. Susanna on your right



## Coming Down the Line

Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA

2011 Schedule

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Program/Speaker</u>	<u>Layout Visit</u>	<u>Contest Topic</u>
Feb 13	St. Susanna Church Mason, OH	Dan Hadley "Make your own RR Videos"	Bob Bartizek	<u>Models</u> Weathered/Damaged Passenger Cars <u>Photos</u> Trains in Inclement Weather
Feb 17	Resurrection Church Lebanon, OH	Div. 7 Lebanon Sub	None	Show and Tell
Mar 12	Lakota West Freshman Campus West Chester, OH	Spring Flea Market & Swap Meet	None	None
Mar 13	Harmony Lodge Winton Place	John Wissinger Scenery Clinic	None	None

### Around the Region

3/12 Div 7 Spring Flea Mrkt, Lakota W. Freshman School  
3/19-20 Div 5 Railfest Kirtland, OH  
4/28-29 MCR Regional Conv. Geneva-on-the-Lake, OH  
5/20-22 Cass Rail Fan Weekend Cass, W.VA

### National

2/17-19 Sn3 Symposium - Monrovia, CA  
6/22-24 National N Gauge Conv. Hershey, P  
6/21-25 National Garden RR Conv. Overland Park, KS  
7/3-9 NMRA National Conv. - Sacramento, CA  
7/3-9 National S Gauge Conv. Sacramento, CA  
9/7-10 National Narrow Gauge Conv. - Hickory, NC

### Modeling Problems ? Member Aid Committee

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

Div. 7 Hot Line (513) 662-RAIL  
Div. 7 Web Site [www.cincy-div7.org](http://www.cincy-div7.org)  
MCR Web Site [www.midcentral-region-nmra.org](http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org)