



January, 2020

THE
Oil Can



Volume XIV Issue 1



Division 7 Officers

Superintendent: **John Shields**
8520 Indian Hill Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45043
513 561-8691 qengineers@aol.com

Asst. Super: **Chuck Endreola**
440 823-7374
Cincinnati, OH
chuckendreola@yahoo.com

Secretary: **Bruce Knapp**
118 Cliff Rd. N. Bend, OH 45052
513 941-2713 bruce_knapp@roadrunner.com

Treasurer: **Frank Koch**
4769 Silverwood Dr. Batavia, Oh 45103
513 732-6208 fjkoch@hotmail.com

Trustees

Bob Adams	(South)	859 384-0369
Mike Brestel	(West)	513 661-2141
John Burchnall	(North)	513 860-3852
Rick Crumrine		513 231-5328
Roy Hord		513 777-5337
Merlyn Jarman		812 539-3232
Randy Kerka		513 378-8108
Jim MacKnight	(East)	513 733-1246
Dave Read		513 398-7323
Peter Weiglin		513 947-1422
Dave Puthoff		513 742-3227

Committee Chairs

Achieve. Prog.	Frank Koch	513 732-6208
Car Projects	Frank Koch	513 732-6208
Comm. Service	John Luecke	513 379-8022
Company Store	Paul Musselman	859 384-2472
Contests	Jim Rollwage	937-382-6573
Division 7 Booth	Brad Bove	513 227-7527
Excursions	John Burchnall	513 860-3852
	Merlyn Jarman	812 539-3232
Fall Show	Rick Crumrine	513 231-5328
Flea Market	Peter Weiglin	513 947-1422
Layout Ops.	Rick Stern	513 729-1054
Membership	Peter Weiglin	513 947-1422
Modelers Aid	Pat Homan	513 861-2057
Monthly Raffle	Russ Poynter	513 563-9370
Oil Can Editor	Dave Puthoff	513 742-3227
Publicity	Randy Kerka	513 378-8108
Spcl. Projects	Dick White	513 829-8510
Video Library	Kevin Orcutt	513 934-4096
Web Master	John Burchnall	513 860-3852

Mid Central Region Officers

Pres. **Bob Weinheimer MMR**
president@midcentral-region-nmra.org

V.Pres. **Michael Hohn MMR**
vp@midcentral-region-nmra.org

Secr. **Jerry Doyle**
secretary@midcentral-region-nmra.org

Treas. **Bob McKay**
treasurer@midcentral-region-nmra.org

The Editors Corner:

Dave Puthoff

Are you “soldering-challenged”? For years I have preferred to use a soldering gun, rather a soldering pencil. One reason is that the shape tends to alleviate the possibility of picking up the “wrong end” (You know what I mean!).

I found Weller makes a light-weight electronic gun that uses either of 2 tips, a small round one, or a larger flat chisel tip. But it has another advantage in that the tip is heated only when the trigger switch is pulled, and thus saves the tip from wearing out due to erosion, and also eliminates resting the tool in a protective holder. Heatup takes only 6 seconds. Ebay seems to be a good source for this gun, Weller Model GT. Mine has lasted over 8 years.

If you have a photo, or a useful tip, or maybe just a useful website that you would like to share, the Oilcan is an opportunity to share it with your fellow model railroaders.

Email it to editor@cincy-div7.org.

Dave

Contents:

3 - Headlights	10 - <i>Shirley's Joshua Trees</i>
4- 2nd Section	11 - Division 7 Announcements
5- Div. 7 Elections	11 - Division 7 Classified Ads
7 - Div. 7 December & Final 2019 Contest Results	13 - Div. 7 - 2020 Calendar of Events
9 - Layout Visit — Randy Seiler	14 - Knapp's Notes
	15 - Down the Line

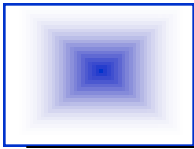
The Oil Can is a publication of Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, it's officers, or it's members.

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.

Cover:

Scene from Randy Seiler's HO-Scale Layout

Photo by John Shields



HEADLIGHTS

John Shields
Superintendent

Our December meeting was held at the Westwood United Methodist Church and featured our traditional December fare of snacks and a pot luck slide show. Mike Brestel had a vintage video of a cab ride down Cheviot Hill and across to Covington. John Burchnall showed photos of his trip across Canada on VIA Rail's Canadian. A number of snacks and desserts were appreciated by those attending. Thank you to Randy Seiler for opening his multi-deck (and multi-helix) HO layout of Western Cincinnati for our visit after the meeting. Bruce Knapp had to cancel as our second layout due to a water heater issue (minor flood!).

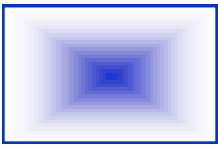
And so we closed out another enjoyable year here in Division 7. Now it is January and a new year AND a new decade. I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Chuck has a number of interesting monthly meetings lined up for the new year. Peter has another Flea Market nearly ready to go in March. The Mid-Central Region will be hosting its convention in Pittsburgh in May. The NMRA will have its convention in St. Louis in July. And come October, Rick will lead our 53rd annual Cincinnati Model Train and Trade Show at Lakota West High School. I hope you all find this calendar of events meets your needs and makes you appreciate being a member of the NMRA and especially of Cincinnati Division 7. If we are failing to meet your needs, speak up. This year we are working on having a family picnic instead of a conventional meeting in June. But we are always looking for other things we might do to improve your enjoyment of our hobby.

I've been satisfying some of my model train needs for the last two months as a volunteer at the Holiday Junction display at the Cincinnati Museum Center, including working as a host in Tower A (which has been open to visitors for the first time in three years). I can report that lots of kids are *still* fascinated by trains, both model and prototype. So are lots of adults! What is hard to tell is whether this still leads to requests for train sets for Christmas or other means of connecting this interest into actually being a modeler. If you are a grandparent, have you given a train set as a gift; or even a book about trains? Have you taken them to EnterTrainment Junction, or ridden the train when you take them to the Zoo or Kings Island?

When I talk to parents at Holiday Junction, I try to make a point that I grew up doing model trains with my Dad; and that my son did the same with me; and how great a *family* activity this can be. It seems like a lot of parents feel they are not connecting with their kids as much due to video games and smart phones. Simply providing transport to sports teams is not really connecting. It's not the same as doing something together, actually sharing the doing of something. As we start a new year and decade, perhaps the resolution we should be making is to encourage more parents (and grandparents) to share time with kids through railroad and model railroad activities.

I hope to see you in Kenwood on January 12th.

John



SECOND SECTION

Chuck Endreola
Asst. Super

Happy New Year! Have you made your New Year's Resolution? No? Well here are a few ideas. "I WILL finish that layout project." "I WILL build that new kit." "I WILL spend at least 4 hours per week on my train hobby." And my favorite suggestion, "I WILL attend more Division 7 meetings this year." Division meetings offer comradery, informative clinics, and inspiration while touring fellow modelers' layouts.

Last month we had our annual "Snack Fest/Slide Show". My New Year's resolution was not to lose weight, so I made several visits to the snack table. The video presentations were well received and I thank all the contributors. And thank you Mike Brestel for ably running the show. Paul Musselman's videos reaffirmed his "special" sense of humor. Being a member of the Western Modelers Preservation Association, I particularly enjoyed Roy Hord's photos of all those unique and beautiful locos and rolling stock from way out west.

I would also like to thank Randy Seiler for opening his home layout to us. We were afforded a first-hand look at the most unusual and skillfully assembled bench work. The three level layout was supported entirely on welded square steel channels. It also contained two, large radius, nine level helixes. Very unique and well "imagineered".

The Division's B.O.D. is seeking a volunteer to chair the Community Service Committee. Duties include running the Scouting merit badge program and donating model railroading books to local libraries. It is a great opportunity to serve Division 7 and promote model railroading and the NMRA to youngsters. So, get on board!

Looking Ahead for Div. 7

Jan. 12th, we will meet at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 7701 Kenwood Rd, Kenwood OH 45236. Peter Weiglin will deliver a presentation on the "Pennsylvania RR Diesel Hodgepodge". Contest subject will be "Caboose or Passenger Car" for both models and photos. Layout tours to the homes of Matt Snell and Dr. Bill Bramlage.

Feb. 9th, we will meet at a **NEW VENUE**, the Four Points Hotel by Sheraton, 7500 Tylers Place Blvd., West Chester, OH 45069 (We met there many years ago when it was the Wyndham Hotel, there will be a detailed map in next month's Oil Can). Clinician will be Sam Swanson, MMR®, presenting "Delving into Details". Contest subject for both models and photos will be "Hopper or Gondola Car". Sam Parfitt and Ric Case will open their layouts to us.

March, no regular meeting.

SATURDAY, March 14th, is our Annual Spring Flea Market at Lakota West Freshman School, 5050 Tylersville Rd., West Chester, OH 45069.

For a one page landscape table of all 2020 events, please see the link at the bottom of the Next Meetings page on our website, cincy-div7.org.

If you have adopted my "suggested" New Year's resolution, I will see you at Good Shepherd Church.

Chuck

DIVISION 7 ELECTION NEWS

As previously announced, the Division 7 officer election for the term commencing in January, 2020 was conducted during the December 8th, 2019 membership meeting. Ballots cast were tallied giving these results:

For Superintendent: John Shields – 32 votes

For Assistant Superintendent: Chuck Endreola – 32 votes

Respectfully submitted;

2019 Election Committee

Bob Shreve

Mike Brestel

Randy Kerka



**CINCINNATI DIVISION 7, MCR, NMRA
DECEMBER 2019 CONTEST RESULTS**



MODELS: Anything goes

Box Stock:

- 1st Place: Bruce Knapp: PRR 0-6-0
- 2nd Place: Georgia Dahlberg, MMR®: Walking robot

Kitbashed:

- 1st Place: Bruce Knapp: CNRR 2-6-0
- 2nd Place: Bruce Knapp: ATSF SD-28

Scratch Built:

- 1st Place: Georgia Dahlberg, MMR®: Indian Springs buildings

PHOTOGRAPHY: Anything goes

Print Prototype:

- 1st Place: Georgia Dahlberg, MMR®: Pumping station

Print Model:

- 1st Place: Georgia Dahlberg, MMR®: Devou Park
- 2nd Place: Georgia Dahlberg, MMR®: Refrigerator cars

JUNIOR DIVISION:

Models, Box Stock:

- 1st Place: Seth Massmann: DL&W 2-6-0

2019 FINAL STANDINGS – Through December

MODELS

Bruce Knapp	53	1 st	John Listermann	4	Frank Fieler	3
Georgia Dahlberg, MMR®	39	2 nd	Joe Suttman	4	Bob Chapman	2
Roy Allan	22	3 rd	Rick Stern	3		
Tom Brueggeman, MMR®	14		Don Docter	3		

PHOTOGRAPHY

Georgia Dahlberg, MMR®	42	1 st	David Wynne	6
John Listermann	21	2 nd	Tom Brueggeman, MMR®	3
Joe Stuber	9	3 rd	Scott Klein	2

JUNIOR DIVISION MODELS

Seth Massmann	3	1 st
---------------	---	-----------------

JUNIOR DIVISION PHOTOGRAPHY

Seth Massmann	6	1 st
---------------	---	-----------------

2019 Overall Combined Points Champion: Georgia Dahlberg, MMR®

JANUARY 2020 CONTEST CATEGORIES:

MODELS and PHOTOGRAPHY: Caboose or passenger car

Jim Rollwage

NMRA, MCR, Div. 7 Contest Chair



**CINCINNATI DIVISION 7
MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA
MODEL AND PHOTOGRAPHY
CONTEST THEMES FOR 2020**



MONTH	MODELS	PHOTOGRAPHY
January	Caboose or Passenger Car	Caboose or Passenger Car
February	Hopper or Gondola Car	Hopper or Gondola Car
March	- No Contest -	- No Contest -
April	Maintenance-of-Way (MOW) Equipment	Maintenance-of-Way (MOW) Equipment
May	Flat Car(s) with Load	Train on Bridge or Trestle
June	- TBD or No Contest -	- TBD or No Contest -
July	Steam Locomotive	Steam Locomotive
August	Tank Car	Tank Car
September	Non-Steam Locomotive - any type of non-steam motive power on rails (internal combustion, electric, turbine ...)	Non-Steam Locomotive - any type of non-steam motive power on rails (internal combustion, electric, turbine ...)
October	Structure or Diorama	Non-Bridge Structure
November	Freight Car - any revenue producing cars not intended to carry passengers	Freight Car - any revenue producing cars not intended to carry passengers
December	Box or Refrigerator Car	Box or Refrigerator Car

LAYOUT VISIT to Randy Seiler's HO Scale Layout



LAYOUT VISIT to Randy Seiler's HO Scale Layout



Photo by Sam Parfitt



Photo by John Shields



Photo by John Shields



Photo by Sam Parfitt

Shirley's Joshua Trees

By Georgia W. Dahlberg, P.E., MMR 472

My friend Shirley Gregory recently decided to join the NMRA and has been helping me clean and finish my layout for a Division visit. Some time ago she mentioned that the stems from some seedless grapes we had been sharing might be appropriate for scenery on my layout. Being a MMR, I sort of pooh-poohed her ideas. Not good! Shirley persisted time after time and finally I paid attention.

“What kind of things could these stems be used for?” she asked me. When I finally got to look closely at these dried stems I realized that they bore a close resemblance to the Joshua trees I had observed when working in Las Vegas. Las Vegas was not awash in Joshua trees but there were a few and once out in the high desert there were small forests of them. Their branches were convoluted with a bunch of green spiky balls at each end. My thought turned to how can we make a Joshua tree out of these?

A week or two of drying turned the stems close to hard and brittle. I decided to try breaking them apart into manageable trees and wrapping them with small florist wire... bad results. I tried some grey sewing thread and that seemed to work better. I added a dab of super glue at the base and another at the top. When dry, I coated each tree with super glue and let them dry. The super glue and thread seemed to give the trees added strength. I experimented with dipping the flared branch ends with carpenter's glue and dipping into a small tray of scenic grass. Now we were looking at a miniature Joshua tree!

I borrowed a small paper bag from Shirley and mixed up a concoction of western grey soil and appropriate grey coloring. We then thoroughly sprayed the trees with hair spray and all into the bag for a shaking up. Dumped the trees onto some newspaper and left them alone to dry. A few days later I dipped each branch end in carpenter's glue and then in a dish of scenic grass...let dry. I later sanded the end of each tree flat and drilled a .025 inch hole to accept a small piece of music wire for planting. After putting 100 or so Joshua trees on my desert layout, they seemed to disappear into the scenery like they had always belonged there. As they should have!

Moral to this story: Listen to people new to the hobby. They see things differently than those of us old hands and can point out obvious things our old jaded eyes have long ceased to see.

DIVISION 7 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Great Northern Railway operating session on January 18 at 7 PM (Saturday).

This will be another all passenger train session, with a few freight drags.

NEW PROJECTS:

More decoders installed in the several steam engines.

New passenger yard and passenger trains still tested over the mainline.

New passenger yard completed.

The signaling system using LCC is complete along with monitor showing train positions on the layout.

The GNRW has been updated to handle DCC operations.

As I used to do in the 80's and 90's, should you have a DCC engine, you may bring it to operate on the GNRW.

Please email me which you would like to do.

Mainline operator(4)

Local mainline operator

Seattle freight yard: 14 tracks, 550 car capacity.

Seattle roundhouse: 24 stalls

St. Paul freight yard: 12 tracks, 420 car capacity

St. Paul roundhouse: 24 stalls

Cascade tunnel electrics: operator (2)

Ore dock: 120 car capacity.

Main panel dispatcher.

Swan river logging railroad: operator (2)

USUAL STATS:

Time: 1938. All steam and electrics. The GN railway is a point to point railroad, 400' mainline with two 400-500 car yards at Seattle, Wash and St Paul, Minn, each having 20+ track turntables and one staging yard holding 300 cars. Minimum radius, 48" with #10 turnouts. Track all hand laid on individual wooden ties. 100% scenery.

Four track 12' ore dock. Interface railroads: NP, SP&S, Milwaukee, DM&IR, UP, SP, D&RGW, SF and CN.

Swan Lake logging railroad. Has interface with GNRW, yard, John Allen's 'time saver' and double switchback into the valley.

<http://ogrforum.ogaugerr.com/topic/great-northern-railway?page=1>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOb7SgZTLWA>

Junk food and beverage will be available

Sam Parfitt

samparfitt@fuse.net

8795 Goldcrest dr

West Chester OH 45069

cell: 513-378-9133

DIVISION 7 - CLASSIFIED ADS

As a benefit to Division 7 members, the Oil Can will offer to list free Classified Ads to allow members to sell railroad-related items. A few other Divisions offer such a program. The Board has approved a trial of 6 months; after which the program will be re-evaluated. If you have items to sell, please review the Rules, and send an email to editor@cincy-div7.org

CLASSIFIED AD RULES:

Item(s) must be railroad related.

Seller must be a Member of Division 7 MCR NMRA.

Listing description shall be 30 words or less.

Item(s) can be displayed for a maximum of three (3) months. Oil Can Editor will assign a Listing Number that will include the last month of listing. (E.g., "xx-July 2015" would indicate Listing xx will be listed through the July 2015 Oil Can).

Seller must list name, and either Phone Number and/or Email, so the interested Buyer can contact Seller. It will not be listed without them. **(NOTE: Seller agrees to allow contact information to be published in the Oilcan, which is published on the Internet).**

A single photo may be submitted for each listing.


Limit of three (3) listings from same Seller at any one time.

Seller shall email Oil Can Editor if item is sold so it can be removed from page.

All transactions are between the Buyer and the Seller.

Oilcan Editor reserves the right to edit listing if needed, and will notify Seller of edit prior to publication.

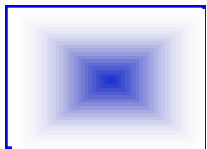
DIVISION 7 - CLASSIFIED ADS

Picture	Description	Price	Name	Phone, or Email	Listing No.
	Official Pullman-Standard Library (passenger cars), by David Randall and William Rose, Hardcover - Perfect Bound, mint condition, 12 volumes (less 1, 3, 5 and 6) of 16 volume set. Retail: \$30.95 each.	Best offer for 12 volumes, or \$25.00 per individual volume.	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	104-Dec 19
	Proto 1000 B&O EMD Budd RDC-3 diesel, no. 1951, coach/baggage/RPO, silver New. Retail: \$60	\$30	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	105-Dec 19
	Proto 1000 C&O EMD Budd RDC-1 diesel, no. 9061, coach, silver New. Retail: \$70	\$35	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	106-Dec 19
	Atlas (N-Scale) Southern EMD GP-7, diesel locomotive, no. 2190, black/gold/white paint. New. Retail: \$82.95	\$50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	107-Dec 19
	Bachman (N-Scale) B&O USRA 2-8-0 Consolidation, steam locomotive, no. 2784, New. Retail: \$135	\$75	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	108-Dec 19
	American Model Builders Interlocking Tower kit no. 702, laser-cut basswood Retail: \$26.95	\$20	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	109-Dec 19
	American Model Builders Two Story Farm House kit no. 140, laser-cut basswood Retail: \$42.95	\$32	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	110-Dec 19
	Blair Line Company House kit no. 176, laser-cut basswood, (several kits available) Retail: \$26.95 each	\$20	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	111-Dec 19
	Magnuson Models VFWD Pumping Station kit no. 439-527, polyester castings, wood, metal details Retail: \$34	\$17	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	112-Dec 19
	Magnuson Models Burndout's Fireproof Warehouse kit no. 439-511, polyester castings, wood, metal details Retail: \$40	\$20	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	113-Dec 19
	California Model Co. Grain Elevator kit no. 12, corrugated metal Retail: \$17	\$8.50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	114-Dec 19
	Crossing Signal & IR Detectors for multiple tracks with electronic Crossing Bell Sound. Any room lighting. Alternately flashes LED's or lamp Signals. Signals NOT included. LEDs must be wired Common-Positive. 12 vdc. operation.	\$49 each	Dave Puthoff	deputhoff@yahoo.com	103-Oct 19

Cincinnati Division 7 N.M.R.A. - 2020 Program Schedule

See website for most recent [printable landscape PDF](#). Dates, times and events can change. Most meetings begin at 2:00 PM

Month	Date	Location	Program / Speaker	Contests *	Layout Visits
Jan	Sun, Jan 12	Central – Kenwood – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	Peter Weiglin – “Pennsylvania Railroad Diesel Hodgepodge”	Model & Photo: Caboose or Passenger Car	Bill Bramlage + Matt Snell
Feb	Sun, Feb 9	North - Four Points by Sheraton Cinti North – W. Chester, OH	Sam Swanson, MMR “Delving into Details”	Model & Photo: Hopper or Gondola Car	Ric Case + Sam Parfitt
Mar	Sat, Mar 14 10 am – 3 pm	Annual Spring Flea Market Lakota West Freshman School	Dealer, Sales, Membership and Modeler Aid Booths	None	None
Apr	Sun, Apr 19 (note date)	East – Anderson Township Center	Special Guests Lou & Cheryl Sassi “Scenery Along the Right of Way”	Model & Photo: Maintenance of Way Equipment	Peter Weiglin + another tbd
May	Sun, May 17 (note date)	Central – Spring Grove Village Harmony Lodge (or tbd)	tbd	Model: Flat Car(s) with Load Photo: Train on Bridge/Trestle	tbd
May	Thu, May 28 to Sun, May 31	Mid Central Region Convention Pittsburgh (Greentree), PA	Convention Clinics, Tours and Banquet Speaker	Convention Contests	Convention Tours and Layouts
Jun	Sun, Jun 14	tbd	Catered Fellowship/Social Event (stay tuned for more info)	None (or tbd)	None (or tbd)
Jul	Sun, Jul 12 to Sun, Jul 19	NMRA National Convention St. Louis, Missouri	National Convention Clinics, Tours, Programs, Show and Banquets	Convention Contests	Convention Tours & Train Show Layouts
Jul	Sun, Jul 19 (note date)	Central – Kenwood – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	Special Guest Mike Tylick, MMR (topic tbd)	Model & Photo: Steam Locomotive	tbd
Aug	Sun, Aug 9 (times tbd)	North – Cincinnati Marriott North Hotel (Union Ctr Blvd)	Special Triple Clinic Event (stay tuned for more info)	Model & Photo: Tank Car	tbd
Sep	Sun, Sep 13	South – Erlanger, Kentucky Kenton County Library	Bob Weinheimer, MMR (topic tbd)	Model & Photo: Non-Steam Locomotive	Bob Adams + another tbd
Oct	Sun, Oct 4 (note date)	North – West Chester Midpoint Library	Steve Zapytowski, MMR (topic tbd)	Model: Structure or Diorama Photo: Non-Bridge Structure	Gary Ossenschmidt + another tbd
Oct	Sat 10 – Sun 11 11 am - 5 pm	53rd Annual Fall Train Show Lakota West HS – West Chester	Cincinnati Model Train & Trade Show Booths, Layouts and Slide Show	None	Train Show Portable Layouts
Nov	Sun, Nov 8	Central – Spring Grove Village Harmony Lodge (or tbd)	tbd	Model & Photo: Freight Car	tbd
Dec	Sun, Dec 13	West – Westwood United Methodist Church	Annual Celebration/Snackfest and Potluck Computer Slide Show	Model & Photo: Box or Refrigerator Car	Dennis Malloy + Jerry Strangarity



KNAPP'S NOTES

by Bruce Knapp

Farewell Ranger

My Holiday *Knapp's Notes* is always one of my favorites because it combines all the wonderful events of the past year and looks forward to exciting events, yet to come. Today is not quite as joyous for me, as I have just returned from the vet, where I had to put Ranger to sleep. Ranger has been battling feline cancer and wasn't showing any signs of recovery. Ranger kept Margaret company during her last days, and continued to be a wonderful companion for me. Animal companions are one of God's gifts to mankind, they accept us for who are and love us unconditionally. The house seems very empty without Ranger. I'll do some more trackwork today, but I will truly miss my beloved assistant. God bless you Ranger; I suspect he and Margaret are together today.

Hey Santa! (Redux from 2019)

I am writing this on December 21st so I haven't seen Santa yet. My thinking was that the article being on time (for a change) will help on Santa's infamous list. I questioned Santa's nice and naughty list last year, and decided it was too late to worry about it. I felt that Russ and I set new standards for the monthly raffle. As far as Modeler's Aid goes, Pat and I were far more helpful this past year, at least we didn't injure anyone at the show. In other words, I have been a very good boy (at least in comparison). If you are thinking of giving me a present, I could use one of BLI's Santa Fe 4000 class 2-8-2 (now that they are re-advertised).

My Resolutions for 2020 (pretty much like 2019)

Today is December 21 (the day before my column due date), so I pulled out my crystal ball to look ahead into 2020. This is the year there will be some real progress on the Raton Pass (ignore I said the same in last December's column). We are going to extend the main line to the coal mine at Morley, the yard at Trinidad will be finished (one can always hope), and we will start running trains. (Usually this story starts with, "Once upon a time"). I have the track work ready to go, the plans laid out, and I have the time. I can see the first section of #17, The Super Chief, pulling into Trinidad depot now. I have finished the diesel house for Trinidad, and am rebuilding John Altshool's roundhouse. I am also upgrading several locomotives with Soundtraxx Economi decoders, plus upgrading the freight rolling stock, and, thanks to the outstanding assistance of Chuck Endreola and Pat Homan, it's actually getting done. There are still openings in our crew, volunteer now, and avoid a visit from WMPA's cousin Vinnie. (so how are your kneecaps?).

Some Ideas for the (Old) & New Year

As we look ahead to 2020, there are a few things to try. Attend our spring Flea Market (plus bring plenty of money). Another wonderful idea, (I am really full of it today, ideas, that is) --- If you didn't participate this year, plan to support the model and photo contest by entering something this year. There are a large number of really excellent modelers and photographers in this Division, so share your talents with the rest of us. AND BUY PLENTY of raffle tickets. I don't want to question John Burchnell's veracity, but would my trusty cohort, Russ Poynter lie, (or cheat)? And lastly, have fun and enjoy the hobby!

May the joy of the Holiday Season be with each and every one of you and with your families also. See you in January!

Keep 'em Rolling

Bruce

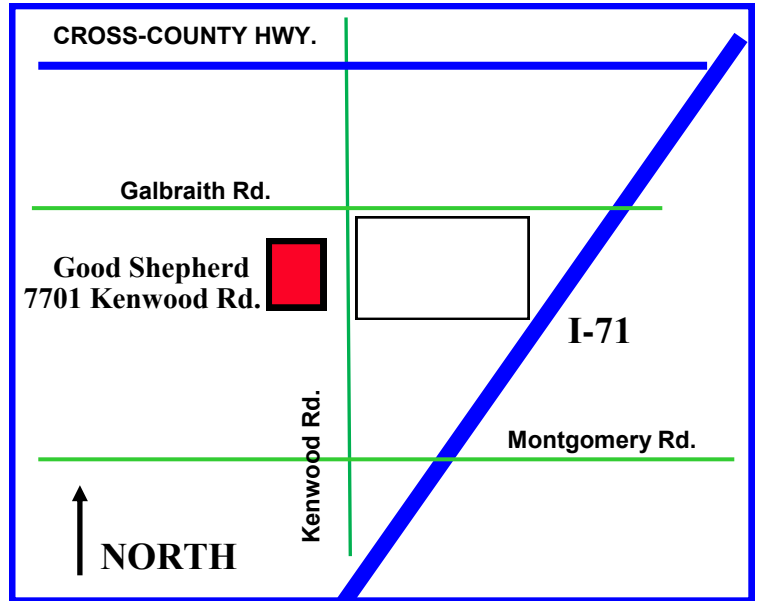
Next Meeting

2 PM Sunday January 12

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
7701 Kenwood Road 45236

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
2020 Schedule

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Program/Speaker</u>	<u>Layout Visits</u>	<u>Contest Topic</u>
1/12	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Kenwood	Peter Weiglin <i>Penn. RR Diesel Hodgepodge</i>	Bill Bramlage Matt Snell	<u>Models:</u> Caboose or Pass. Car <u>Photos:</u> Caboose or Pass. Car
2/9	Four Points by Sheraton West Chester	Sam Swanson <i>Delving into Details</i>	Ric Case Sam Parfitt	<u>Models:</u> Hopper or Gondola <u>Photos:</u> Hopper or Gondola
3/14	NO March Meeting	<i>Annual Division 7 Flea Market at Lakota West Freshman School on Saturday March 14</i>		

<u>Around the Division</u> 2020	
1/16	Lebanon Modelers - Lebanon OH
2/13	Lebanon Modelers - Lebanon OH

<u>Region / National</u> 2020	
May 28-31 MCR Convention—Pittsburgh PA	
July 12-18 Gateway 2020 National NMRA Convention St. Louis MO	

<u>Modeling Problems? - Ask the Member Aid Committee</u>	
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
MCR Web Site	www.midcentral-region-nmra.org
Mail Address	Cincinnati Division 7, MCR P.O. Box 62501 Cincinnati OH 45262-0501