



May, 2017

# THE Oil Can



Volume XI Issue 5



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## The Editors Corner:

**Dave Puthoff**

The 2017 MCR convention is this month May 18-21, in Louisville. It should be worth the drive! Registration and details of the convention are available at: [www.2017panamerican.org](http://www.2017panamerican.org)

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](mailto:editor@cincy-div7.org).

*Dave*

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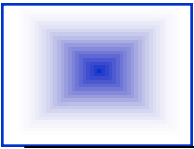
*The Oil Can is a publication of Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, it's officers, or it's members.*

*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.*

**Cover:**

**Scene from Cincinnati Model Railway Club's O-Scale layout**

Photo by John Burchnall



As I sit quietly in my house, I think I can hear the grass growing outside. Or at least it seems that way based on how often I have to mow it. Lots of green leaves are also appearing on all the trees, so spring is definitely here. Hopefully you got a lot of those model railroad projects done over the winter. As usual, I did practically nothing, although I did get sound decoders installed in some locomotives and continued working on my layout design.

As I discussed in my column last month, the division BOD approved a revised set of regulations for the division and is going through the process of getting the approval of the general membership. Mike Brestel presented a brief overview of the changes at the April meeting. Each member of Division 7 is receiving a copy of the new regulations along with a postcard ballot via US mail. Please take the time to read over the revised regulations and return your completed ballot. Remember to put your NMRA membership number on the ballot as a validation of your ballot. You can send the postcard through the US mail, or bring it to the meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Your ballot must be received by division Secretary Bruce Knapp by May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

As in years past, May will be a busy month for us. Instead of a bus trip this year, we are having a division meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>. With a contest category of "Anything Goes", there should be lots of entries to vote on. It will be interesting to see what people bring. It was good to see Russ Poynter back at the raffle table at the April meeting. He has missed several meetings due to health and other issues. The engine raffle that was started back in the October or November meeting will be concluded at the May meeting. Two engines will be raffled off. One HO scale and one N scale. Tickets are only \$1 each.

The 2017 MCR convention will be in Louisville from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. There is still time to register for the convention, but I see from their web site the original reserved block of rooms at the Galt House convention hotel has been sold out. Additional rooms are available at the hotel, but at a \$10 higher rate. The hotel registration deadline is May 12<sup>th</sup>. If you are going to be entering the contest, be sure to use the "official" Mid Central Region contest entry form. The contest form and all the other information about the convention is available on the convention web site: [www.2017panamerican.org](http://www.2017panamerican.org) I think we will have quite a few folks from our division in attendance.

The planning for the 2018 MCR convention here in Cincinnati is really heating up. The committee has met several times since the beginning of the year to discuss intended convention activities. We needed to have a general idea of the tours, clinics, banquet, and other activities we are planning so we can market our convention during the Louisville convention. Peter Weiglin will be giving our preview pitch during the banquet Saturday evening. John Burchnall has been putting the finishing touches on the visual part of the presentation, and also the various posters and flyers we will have available for this year's convention attendees.

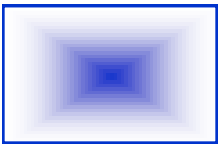
Remember the June Division 7 event will be a visit to the Cinder Sniffers layout in Indiana. The date is Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. This will be one of their scheduled run dates when they are open to the general public. Bring your spouse, children, or grandchildren and enjoy riding and watching the trains running through the woods. Hopefully, the weather will be more cooperative than it was when we visited there back in May, 2011.

Remember to keep your Email address up to date (or supply one if you haven't done so previously) so you can receive all the latest information from both the national office and the local division.

That's all for this month. See you at the May meeting.

Bob Shreve  
Div 7 Superintendent

**Bob**



# SECOND SECTION

John Shields  
Asst. Super

Our April meeting featured guest author Michael Abraham talking about, and selling and signing copies of, his latest book “Chasing the Powhatan Arrow; A Travelogue in Economic Geography.” This was a change of pace from many of our clinics. Not a single powerpoint slide was used. As with any great story teller, Michael painted pictures with his words and it was left to the audience to imagine their own images. For example, I did not know that the famous N&W “J” #611 was saved because it had been in a wreck. Michael told that story, which was interesting to hear. And because of the wreck, it was rebuilt, and therefore was in the best condition when steam ended and only one of the J’s was to be preserved.

Looking ahead:

Our next regular meeting will be on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup>, at the West Chester Library. Please note this is a week earlier than usual. Our clinician will be our own Peter Weiglin, who will be talking about railroad mail service. Our layout visits will be to John Burchnall’s, to view the Eastern Loggers HO layout, and to Dave Puthoff’s HO C&O.

Later in May is the Mid-Central Regional Convention, “The Pan American”, which runs May 18-21 in Louisville. The Galt House downtown is the convention hotel. There is a link to the information about the convention on the MCR website (which you can get to from our Division 7 website). Hopefully many of you will make the short drive down to Louisville.

In June (6/10) we will be visiting with the Cinder Sniffers as they host our members at their June run on their large scale/live steam layout in Southeast Indiana. That will be on **Saturday** June the 10<sup>th</sup>. This will be in place of our regular monthly meeting. The Cinder Sniffers are on Indiana Route 1, just a few miles south of I-74.

In July (7/9), we will head northeast to St Susanna Catholic Church in Mason. Terry Luginbuhl will return as clinician with a second clinic on DCC. His topic will be “Consisting”. Once one makes the leap into DCC and has figured out how to hook up the power and how to get any given engine running (assuming it has some kind of decoder in it), it seems like the next step for most of us is to want to run multiple engines. After all, that is the main reason to want DCC. It is just about as easy to run two engines as to run one if they are to be operated independently (and assuming they have separate addresses programmed). The *challenge*, is to try to run multiple engines together; you know – like the real railroads do! This is another of the promises of DCC. But how do you do it? The answer, as Terry will discuss, is called consisting. Layout visits will include a return to Bob Bartizek’s O scale Pennsylvania layout and hopefully one more.

After our July meeting, and before our August meeting, will be the NMRA National Convention in Orlando. The dates for this year are July 30<sup>th</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup>. Orlando is not as convenient as Indianapolis was last year, although I know of plenty of people that have made the drive to Orlando in other years. There is, after all, that big amusement park with the mouse. It does make this National Convention a possible destination for some of you that might want to combine a family vacation with a hobby activity. There are a number of activities on the Convention schedule that the whole family can do. Having lived in central Florida years ago, I would personally recommend going to the Space Center if you ever get to central Florida. Disney and Universal Studios are great, but Cape Canaveral is history.

In August, our meeting is on the 13<sup>th</sup>. We will be at Good Shepherd in Kenwood, with Ed Swain giving a clinic on building with styrene. Layout visits will be to Gerry Albers’ HO Virginian and one more. In September, we will be on the east side at the Anderson Senior Center and in October, we will be at the Erlanger Library. We are in discussion to have a joint meeting with Dayton Division 3 in November.

I hope to see you in West Chester on May the 7<sup>th</sup>.

*John*



## **Division 7 Car Project Sales Report – April 23rd, 2017**

Our 2015 car project, Chesapeake & Ohio 40' USRA single-sheathed boxcars, in four numbers, have sold 314 cars (72%) in 17 months. **We need more exposure to sell our remaining 117 cars.** The car data and photos were included in a recent electronic edition of the C&O Historical Society's on line magazine. So far, we have received four orders for a total of 5 cars.

Our 2012 car project, Allegheny Midland 41'6" steel gondolas, in three numbers, finally sold out in February. We sold 391 cars, and made a decent profit in the four years and eight months needed to sell out this project. Gondolas are not a viable selling project for several reasons that I will not specify here. Never again on my watch!

Our 2016 car project is Virginian & Ohio 40' steel, plug-door boxcars, in the traditional V&O blue, with damage-free loading symbols (DF-2). Four car numbers are available. Two cars are marked for paper lading only, and were built in 1951. Two other cars are marked for processed food loading only. These cars, built in 1948, were rebuilt in the V&O's shops in 1952 by adding plug doors and insulation.

These kits were manufactured in the USA by Accurail. We have sold 406 cars in 10 months (80%). Announcements have appeared in the NMRA Magazine's and Model Railroad News' October issues, and in Model Railroader's and Railroad Model Craftsman's November issues. We have 99 cars remaining in car projects' inventory, plus the Company Store's inventory. **We need more exposure to sell our remaining cars.**

Our BOD has approved the 2017 car project that will also be our 2018 MCR convention car. It will be an Accurail 36' DS boxcar, lettered for a V&O predecessor road. Production should occur this Fall, once the correct model becomes available.

**Jim MacKnight**  
Car Projects Chairman

# LAYOUT VISIT to O-Scale Cincinnati Model Railway Club



Photo by John Shields



Photo by John Burchnell



Photo by John Burchnell

# LAYOUT VISIT to O-Scale Cincinnati Model Railway Club





# LAYOUT VISIT to Dan Hadley's HO Scale Layout



# LAYOUT VISIT to Dan Hadley's HO Scale Layout



Photo by Dave Puthoff



Photo by Dave Puthoff



Photo by John Shields

# Advance Orders for "Cincinnati Express" Short Sleeve Shirts



Both in Royal Blue with pocket and new "Cincinnati Express" embroidered logo



- Indicate **Logo Side**:
- above pocket (default)
  - opposite pocket



## Regular Shirt (Jerzees)

2 button, 50/50 cotton/poly, 5.6 oz. Jersey Knit Polo

S, M, L, XL = **\$22 + tax**  
 2XL, 3XL, 4XL = **\$24 + tax**

Ladies version available w/o pocket for \$2 less

## Premium Shirt (Cornerstone)

3 button, polyester, 6.8 oz Industrial Pique Polo

S, M, L, XL = **\$30 + tax**, 2XL = **\$32 + tax**, 3XL = **\$34 + tax**,  
 4XL = **\$36 + tax**, 5XL = **\$38 + tax**, 6XL = **\$40 + tax**

Name:		Phone:	
Street Address:			
City, State, Zip:		Email:	

Mail with check or money order to:  
**Cincinnati Division 7 Company Store**  
**P.O. Box 76010**  
**Highland Heights, KY 41076**

Circle/check above the **Shirt Type**, **Size**, **Price** and **Logo Side**  
 Email Paul at [company-store1@cincy-div7.org](mailto:company-store1@cincy-div7.org) for shipping costs  
**All** must add **7% sales tax** to total (after shipping if needed)  
 Make check payable to: **Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA**

# "Cincinnati Express" Long Sleeve Shirts



Teflon Coated Blue Generation Shirts, all in brilliant Royal Blue with "Cincinnati Express" embroidered logo

adjustable cuffs, 6.5 oz., 65/35 poly/cotton, stain and wrinkle resistant, fully buttoned front, soft touch finish



## Men's Shirt

Pocket w/pencil area, button down collar, logo on side opposite pocket, double back yoke, side back pleats  
 Men's S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL

## Ladies Shirt

No pocket, logo on left side, spread collar w/o buttons, curved bottom to wear in or out, ladies fitted style  
 Ladies S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL

## Men's Shirt

## Ladies Shirt

All shirts the same price  
**\$32 + shipping** (if needed) + **7% tax**  
 (7% tax on total with shipping)

Name:		Phone:	
Street Address:			
City, State, Zip:		Email:	

Mail with check or money order to:  
**Cincinnati Division 7 Company Store**  
**P.O. Box 76010**  
**Highland Heights, KY 41076**


Please circle above the **Shirt Type** (Men's or Ladies) and **Size**  
 Email Paul at [company-store1@cincy-div7.org](mailto:company-store1@cincy-div7.org) for shipping costs  
**All** must add **7% sales tax** to total (after shipping if needed)  
 Make check payable to: **Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA**

## 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](mailto: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.

Picture	Description	Price	Name	Phone, or Email	Listing No.
	Pacific Fast Mail (PFM) brass, New York Central Niagara 4-8-4 steam engine, with sound system installed. Painted and lettered for NYC.	\$250	Rex Settlemoir	<a href="mailto:rsettlemoir@cinci.rr.com">rsettlemoir@cinci.rr.com</a>	25-Jul-17

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DIV. 7 DONATIONS OF RR BOOKS TO AREA LIBRARIES

I completed delivery of the last group of books today - to Clermont County Public Library's Owensville Branch. Last Saturday I delivered books to the Mason and Lebanon Public Libraries. A total of 33 books were donated to the three libraries. We should be receiving letters of appreciation during the next several weeks.

This completes the effort begun last December. Thanks to Mike Brestel for ordering the books and giving Division 7 a nice discount on the cost of the books. These books were in the 2016 budget.

**Jim MacKnight**

## SPEEDY PHOTO SLIDE SCANNER

Have you a collection of old photo slides that you would like to convert to an electronic format?

After pondering the task of converting about 5,000 slides for many years, I found a source that rents a modified Kodak Carousel Slide Projector, together with a Digital Camera, and a Timing Device that made this task into a single weekend project.

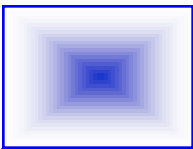
It was especially easy since many of my slides are already stored in Kodak Carousels. The camera comes already adjusted for the correct White Balance. The Timing Device automatically advances the slides as well as the snaps the picture of each slide in .jpg format. Scanned pictures average about 5 meg (a good resolution). It was easy to scan 500 images in an hour. A set of dry-erase slides are provided so that batches of scanned pictures can be later identified.

The only downside is that after the scanning process is completed, pictures have to be rotated and/or mirrored, and probably renamed to describe the date and subject. I also found that Windows 10 offers a "Photo" program that easily performs the edits, and also has some really good enhancement and filters to improve the scanned pictures.

The system is available from [ezphotoscan.com](http://ezphotoscan.com) (in Florida). Cost is \$295 for 3 days, including FedEx shipping both ways.

And it works for both railroad and non-railroad slides!

**Dave Puthoff**



# KNAPP'S NOTES

by Bruce Knapp

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## BLI ATSF 2-8-2's

Santa Fe's first 2-8-2's were Baldwin products, as were most of the road's steam power. Fifteen 2-8-2's were delivered in 1903, were numbered 900 to 914, and later renumbered 885 to 899. The 885 class were originally Vaulclain compound and later converted to standard. The Santa Fe was one of the early roads to adopt the "Mikado" (MacArthur) wheel type. The 885 class was followed by the 3100 class and the 3129 class. The final 2-8-2's were the 4000 class, which were the road's workhorse power during the 1920's and '30's, until the arrival of the 3800 class 2-10-2's and the even larger 2-10-4's.

Broadway Limited Imports will be importing a series of Santa Fe 2-8-2's in the 3160 and 4000 class later this summer. The models promise to copy all the features of the prototype, including both road and switching pilots. Most of the illustrations in BLI's advertising show prototype locomotives. If they are like BLI's latest Santa Fe 3800 class 2-10-2's, they should be spectacular.

The 3800's were the primary "helper" power on the Raton Pass, so I have three of them, and I am very pleased with operational abilities and level of detail of the models. I suspect the new 2-8-2 will not disappoint either. I did enjoy BLI's enhanced sound at Tim's, but I suspect I won't invest in the system. The other feature I am not using is the live smoke. Smoke is an interesting addition, but I find the constant rail cleaning is not worth the aggravation, plus I don't think it really captures the full effect of an oil-fired steamer "sanding its flues". I am looking forward to the arrival of these new locomotives, along with the promised shipment of BLI's iconic "War Bonnet" E-1's. Now if BLI will just issue a Santa Fe 3400 class pacific.

## What's New

My good friend, Keith Corman, keeps me updated on what's happening in the "prototype world", by sending me the latest news. I hear that CSX will be purchased by a Canadian railroad, so train watching here in North Bend should be very interesting, Eh? Central of Indiana is running trains from the Honda plant in Greensburg at least three times a week, plus I am seeing a lot of auto rack-traffic on CSX. CSX seems to have settled on traffic heading south, using the short line to Louisville, while north bound service is using the old B&O through North Bend. I am looking for my first Canadian power.

Well that's all for now, I have to get this to John Burchnell for proofreading. See everyone at the May meeting. Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets --- Russ and I need the money (oops). I mean the Division needs the money.

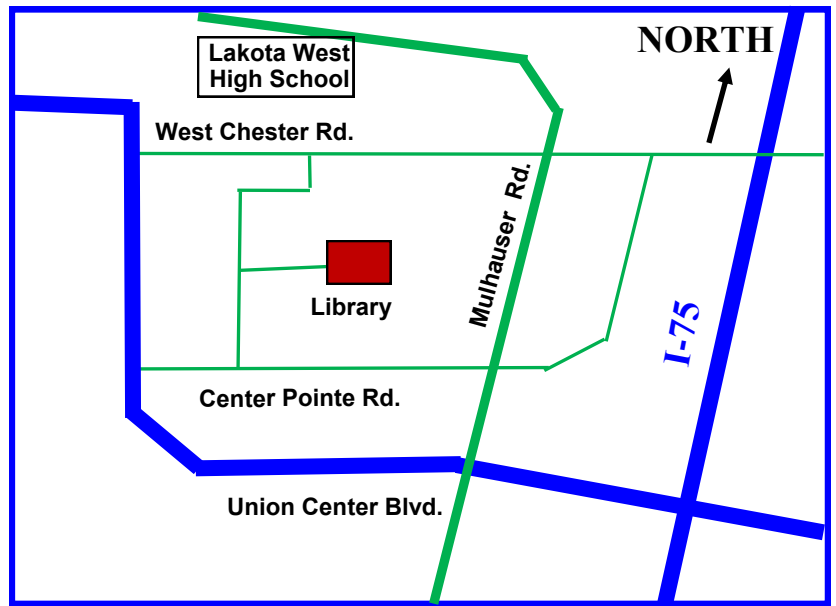
**Keep 'em rolling**

*Bruce*

Next Meeting  
**2 PM Sunday May 7**  
**West Chester Library**  
 9363 Center Pointe Drive  
 West Chester OH 45069

Directions:

**From I-75:** Exit Union Center Blvd.  
 Right to Mulhauser Rd.  
 Left to Center Pointe Road  
 Library is on your right.



Coming Down the Line

Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA  
**2017 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>
5/7	West Chester Library West Chester	Peter Weiglin <i>Railroad Mail Service</i>	Eastern Loggers Dave Puthoff	<u>Models:</u> <i>Anything Goes</i> <u>Photos:</u> <i>Anything Goes</i>
<b>SAT</b> <b>6/10</b>	Cinder Sniffers Guilford, Indiana	<i>None</i>	Cinder Sniffers (Live Steam Club)	<u>Models:</u> <i>None</i> <u>Photos:</u> <i>None</i>
7/9	St. Susanna Church Mason, OH	Terry Luginbuhl <i>DCC Consisting</i>	Bob Bartizek	<u>Models:</u> <i>Flat Car(s) with Load(s)</i> <u>Photos:</u> <i>RR Bridges/Trestles</i>

Around the Division  
2017

5/19 **Lebanon Modelers - Lebanon OH**  
 6/16 **Lebanon Modelers - Lebanon OH**

Region / National  
2017

5/18 - 5/21 **Mid-Central Convention - Louisville KY**  
 7/30 - 8/6 **NMRA National Convention - Orlando FL**

Modeling Problems? - Ask the 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)  
 PO Box 43401 ..... Cincinnati, OH 45243