

THE

Oil Can

November, 2011



Volume V Issue 11



Division 7 Officers

Superintendent: **Randy Kerka**
8217 Fox Knoll Dr.
513 378-8108
W. Chester, OH 45069
rkerka001@gmail.com

Asst. Super: **Bob Shreve**
827 Quailwood Ct.
513 398-1355
Mason, OH 45040
bshreve@fuse.net

Secretary: **John Shields**
8520 Indian Hill Rd.
513 561-8691
Cincinnati, OH 45243
qcengineers@aol.com

Treasurer: **Jim Stewart**
5510 Windridge Vw.
513 271-0738
Cincinnati, OH 45243
jebstewart@fuse.net

Oil Can Editor: **Don Phillips**
513 226-2233
editor@cincy-div7.org

Trustees

Bob Adams (South) 859 384-0369
Charlie Atkinson 513 856-7881
Mike Brestel 513 661-2141
John Burchnell (North) 513 860-3852
Rick Crumrine 513 231-5328
Roy Hord 513 777-5337
Merlyn Jarman 812 539-3232
Bruce Knapp (West) 513 941-2713
Jim MacKnight (East) 513 733-1246
Dave Read 513 398-7323

Committee Chairs

Achieve. Prog. **Frank Koch** 513 732-6208
Car Projects **Jim MacKnight** 513 733-1246
Comm. Serv. **Jim MacKnight** 513 733-1246
Co. Store **Paul Musselman** 859 384-2472
Contests **Jack Laubisch** 513 752-3988
Div. Booth **Brad Bove** 513 227-7527
Fall Show **Rick Crumrine** 513 385-4898
Flea Market **Dianne Rowland** 513 755-7381
Layout Ops. **Rick Stern** 513 729-1051
Lebanon Ops **Bob Chapman** 513 228-0551
Membership **Bob Adams** 859 384-0369
Modelers Aid **Pat Homan** 513 861-2057
Monthly Raffle **John Shields** 513 561-8691
Publicity **Ed Wagner** 513 563-8409
Spcl. Projects **Dick White** 513 829-8510
Web Master **Ivan Baugh**

Mid Central Region Officers

Pres. **Dick Briggs**
president@midcentral-region-nmra.org

V.Pres. **Merlyn Jarman**
vp@midcentral-region-nmra.org

Secr. **Bob Winheimer**
secretary@midcentral-region-nmra.org

Treas. **Paul Smith**
treasurer@midcentral-region-nmra.org

The Editors Corner:

Don Phillips

If you have not already done so, please read the proposed amendment to Division 7's constitution that appears on page 5 of this edition. At the "suggestion" of the IRS, the board has agreed to change the division's fiscal year to match the calendar year. Doing so meant the officer's terms would not begin until three months after the fiscal year had started. To get everything back in synch requires an amendment to the constitution changing the officers terms to begin at the start of the fiscal year. Amendments to the constitution take a favorable vote of a two-thirds majority of mail ballots received from the members. Rather than make and pay for two separate mailings, the amendment will be included on the official election ballot in the December postal edition of the Oil Can. A copy of the Postal December Oil Can will be sent to all members in good standing as listed on the official NMRA November roster.

Please take the time next month to mark and return you ballot.

Contents

Headlights	3	CG&E Train Display	7
2nd Section	4	Div. 7 Election Notice	7
Div. 7's Library	4	Oct. Meeting Pictures	8
Amendment	5	Train Show Pictures	9, 10
Car Project Report	6	Knapp's Notes	11
Competition Results	6	Meeting Notice	12

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

If you visited the Division Train Show last month you probably noticed a small 3 rail layout as you came in surrounded by a bunch of kids in green T-shirts. Those kids were from the East Ridge Model Club in Lebanon, Ohio and that layout was built entirely by them. Bob Chapman reports they did everything from carrying in the lumber, laying the track, painting the scenery and finally putting the train on the track. How's that for starting them on the way to be future modelers?



HEADLIGHTS

Randy Kerka
Superintendent

Last Meeting:

I hope you all agree that the October meeting was one for the books! The Bring 'N' Brag continues to evolve into a major Division 7 Event. Thanks to Bob Shreve, Jack Laubisch, Dan Hadley and Michael York. And, of course, special thanks to all the Bring 'N' Brag modelers. It looks like this will become a regularly scheduled twice-yearly event.

News from NMRA National:

In order to ensure the financial well being of the NMRA into the future, there will be a dues increase on January 1, 2012 for U.S. members. Regular memberships will increase by \$5 to \$44, and subscriptions to NMRA Magazine will increase by \$3 to \$22. Sustaining memberships (including the magazine) will increase by \$13 to \$110. Our highly successful RailPass trial membership program will continue at \$9.95. The current RailPass conversion rate to regular memberships is around 65%.

In case you haven't heard, National is entertaining the idea of an NMRA Cruise Convention in 2016 in lieu of the "conventional" land-based convention! The Cruise Convention Committee continues to receive results from the survey published in the October issue of NMRA Magazine. To date National has received around 200 responses, and estimates those "in favor" to be about 75%. National would like to remind those who think there won't be enough time on a Cruise Convention for layout tours, OPSIG meets or other activities that the ship will be in each port from about 8:00 a.m. until about 10:00 p.m. You see and do a lot of stuff in 16 hours!!!

For some reason, the story that the NMRA membership has been declining over the past few years continues to persist. IT AIN'T TRUE. NMRA membership is holding steady at around 19,500. According to the latest "Membership Thermometer", the NMRA lost 104 members between August 2009 and August 2011, but gained 91 members in the same period.

Upcoming December Elections:

The December "paper" Oil Can will come to each of you in the US Mail whether you get the E-Can or not. In it you will receive a ballot for the election of officers and, of equal importance, your vote for or against the proposed changes to the Division 7 Constitution. Your Board of Directors urges you to pass this measure.

And lastly, the 44th Annual Cincinnati Model Train Show is now in the books:

Most of you are now aware that we have taken a new "direct advertising" approach to marketing the Cincinnati Model Train Show. Actually, this approach is not new... just one that for some reason was suspended in 2007 but has now been reinstated. Most of you received an example of that change in the form of a bright yellow post card. In fact, 4,300 of them went to a targeted database.

At the show you may have noticed several Division 7 wives and lovers that graciously volunteered to assist in the effort to grow that database for coming shows, approaching attendees to sign them up to receive post cards for future events. We can't thank these intrepid ladies enough!

See you at Hamilton Senior Center on November 13th!

Randy



SECOND SECTION

Bob Shreve
Asst. Super

Well, it was a pretty full afternoon for our October meeting at the West Chester library. Besides the relatively quick business meeting, there were 2 monthly contests (October topics plus the postponed September topics); a Bring-N-Brag contest; the monthly raffle, and a medium length clinic presentation. Incredibly, all that was accomplished in 2 hours. And it didn't end there! After the meeting, there were 5 layouts available for viewing Don Leedy has an HO scale southwestern themed layout plus a Lionel diorama. At Bill Horstmann's house you could see Bill's V & O inspired HO layout in the basement, plus another HO layout and N scale layout operated by his grandson, Quinn and his friend Brad in an upstairs bedroom. Thanks to Dan Hadley for providing the lighting and video during the Bring-N-Brag contest, Michael York for his clinic on materials and colors, and to Don Leedy and Bill Horstmann for hosting the layout tours.

On November 13th, we will return to the Hamilton Senior Center (Partners in Prime). The clinician will be Mike Mereness. His presentation is titled "Coal: A Source of Revenue For Your Railroad". The Whistle Stop Train Club will be open before the meeting. After the meeting, Ric Case and Jim Bonnett will have their layouts open.

December will be our annual potluck picture show and snack fest at the Westwood United Methodist Church. Layout visits to Jerry Strangarity and Dennis Malloy are planned. Note that we are now calling it a picture show instead of a slide show, since most of the material is in electronic format. Since it takes time to set up a slide projector, we would like to know in advance if there will be a need for it. Please let me know by December 1st if you plan to bring slides to show at the December picture festival. My Email address is bshreve@fuse.net.

I'm working on the schedule for 2012. Several people have already approached me with clinic topics. Contact me if you would like to join the ranks of Division 7 Clinicians. I'm also looking for members willing to open layouts for visit after the meetings.

Bob

Did You Know ?

The Division 7 Library currently has approximately 113 DVD or VCR titles available for loan to members. Included are more than thirty "How To" model railroad tapes including such subjects as building the framework for your layout, making realistic scenery or even designing a garden railroad.

For rail history buffs, there are over twenty titles on railroad history and for arm chair rail fanning, there are thirty some on various roads or special trains around North America.

We even have a copy of the 1939 black & white film "Union Pacific."

These tapes are available to all members for loan at our monthly meetings. Check it out, there should be something that would be of interest to you.

Notice for Proposal of Amendment:

For many years, Cincinnati Division 7 had a fiscal year that began on March 1 and ended on February 28 (or 29). Recently, at the suggestion of the IRS and others, the Division decided to change its fiscal year to match the calendar year.

That change has been accomplished, but has introduced a new problem: Our Constitution and By-Laws were written so that the terms of our officers would begin in synch with the old fiscal year. That means that the new officers' terms would begin three months after the end of the fiscal year.

This may or may not be a problem, but the feeling among the officers and the members of the Board of Directors was that it would be a really good idea if the officers responsible for developing a yearly budget would serve concurrent with that. And the Board also felt that it would be a good idea if the wording of our Constitution and By-laws would be flexible enough to accommodate any future changes in our fiscal year without a hassle.

Amendments to the By-laws are fairly simple to accomplish, so the Board decided at its September meeting to amend the By-laws to key our election procedures and deadlines to the beginning of the fiscal year, rather than to hard-and-fast dates.

But we also need to amend our Constitution to allow the change in the dates our officers serve, and the procedure for amending our Constitution is more complicated.

Here's what the Constitution says we have to do to pass an amendment:

***Article VIII – Procedures – Sec 2** A proposal to amend the Constitution may be initiated by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors, or by petition to the Secretary not less than sixty (60) days before a regular meeting signed by twenty (20) members. After publication of the proposal in the Oil-Can, a membership meeting motion requiring a two-thirds majority vote for approval may be made instructing the Secretary to prepare a mail ballot for resolution of the issue. A two-thirds majority of the mail ballots received is required for approval.*

So at its September meeting, the Board of Directors voted without opposition to initiate the following amendment to our Constitution:

Article III – Management – CURRENT VERSION with changes

Sec 1 The elected officers of the Division shall be the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary, and Treasurer. Their term of office shall start at the end of the ~~regular March meeting~~ *first regular meeting of an even-numbered fiscal year* ~~in every even-year~~ and shall continue until the end of the ~~second following March meeting~~ *first regular meeting of the next even-numbered fiscal year*, or until a successor is duly elected.

Here is how it looks with the old wording taken out:

Article III – Management – PROPOSED NEW VERSION

Sec 1 The elected officers of the Division shall be the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary, and Treasurer. Their term of office shall start at the end of the first regular meeting of an even-numbered fiscal year and shall continue until the end of the first regular meeting of the next even-numbered fiscal year, or until a successor is duly elected.

This is the required notice to the membership of a proposed amendment to the Constitution that the rules require must be published in the Oil Can.

At the October general membership meeting, someone will move that the Secretary be instructed to prepare a mail ballot asking for a member decision on this change. That motion must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the members in good standing who vote.

The entire Cincinnati Division 7 membership will then have a chance to decide whether this change should be made. The mail ballot will appear on the same ballot, as do the names for officers for the next term. If the members say yes to the amendment, then our newly elected team of officers will take office at the end of the January Division meeting, rather than at the end of the March meeting as happened in the past.

You may think that all this is a lot of work for such a small change and you'd be right it's supposed to be difficult. The system is designed to make it impossible for anyone to make changes in the way the Division does business without the membership knowing about it and having a chance to approve or disapprove. Fortunately, by combining this ballot with the officer ballot we can make this change with a minimum of expense.

So be sure to look for your ballot in the November issue of the Oil Can, and be sure to exercise your right as a member to have a say in how your Division is run.

Respectfully, The officers and Board of Directors, Cincinnati Division 7, Central Region, National Model Railroad Assoc. Inc.

October 2011 Car Projects Report

Jim MacKnight

Our new Division 7 car project, Virginian & Ohio 50' plug-door box cars, in V&O blue, with "The Ridge Runner" slogan in white lettering, are now available. The cars are offered in four numbers, priced at \$17 for singles, and \$64 for a four-car set, plus Ohio sales tax. Cars will be offered for sale at our annual Cincinnati Train Show on October 29th-30th, as well as the Dayton Train Show on November 5th, and at our Division 7 meeting on November 13th. I will be with Allen McClelland at the Dayton Train Show on Saturday only. We have sold 119 V&O boxcars during the first two months, mostly through mail order sales. Announcements will appear in the NMRA Magazine, Model Railroad News, RMC and Model Railroader over the next several months.

We also have sold 16 Allegheny Midland triple hopper car kits since mid-September, including 5 at the Nickel Plate HTS convention, and have 14 car kits remaining in inventory. Total AM car sales are now 529.

With about 300 members in our Division, it is a shame that only about 25 to 30 members will purchase our car project kits to support the division. Yet, over the past 8 years, car project sales have averaged \$3,000 per year in income for our division. Mail order sales comprise about 87% of total sales. I appreciate the support of the same group of Division 7 members who buy our car project kits every year, and ask the rest of you to consider purchasing a single car kit to support our division.

September Competition

Models:	Railroad Vehicles			Photos:	Locos in Black & White		
Box Stock	1 st Pl.	Michael York		Proto Print	1 st Pl.	Jerry Baston	
	2 nd Pl.	Michael York			2 nd Pl.	Georgia Dahlberg	
				Model Print	1 st Pl.	Jerry Baston	

October Competition

Models:	Bring n Brag - Freight Cars			Photos:	Trains on Trestles or Bridges		
Box Stock	1 st Pl	John Miller		Proto Print	1 st Pl	Georgia Dahlberg	
Kit ashed	1 st Pl	Tom Overton			2 nd Pl	Jerry Baston	
Scratch	1 st Pl	Georgia Dahlberg			3 rd Pl	Georgia Dahlberg	
	2 nd Pl	Michael York					
	3 rd Pl	Charlie Atkinson					

Overall Standings for 2011

Models				Photos			
Georgia Dahlberg	15	John Miller	03	Jerry Baston	22	John Miller	03
Jim MacKnight	11	Tom Overton	03	Georgia Dahlberg	16	Jim Rollwage	03
Michael York	07	Jim Ossman	02	Bob Adams	07	Bob Chapman	01
Ron Gribbler	06	Charlie Atkinson	01	John Listermann	06		
Frank Hermanek	05	Randy Kerka	01	Jim MacKnight	05		

Coming Election

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for the December election:

For Superintendent	Randy Kerka
For Assistant Superintendent	Bob Shreve
For Secretary	John Shields
For Treasurer	Laddie Henninger

The names of these nominees will be read at the November stated meeting. In addition, pursuant to the rules as stated in the Division 7 Constitution, the nominating committee will also accept nominations from the floor at the November meeting. Remember, petitions for nominations must be signed by two members. Also, no member shall be nominated to an elective office without his prior approval.

Bios for all the nominees will appear in the postal version of the December Oil Can along with the official ballot and the address of the teller.

Please vote!

The End of Tradition

The B&O train display that occupied the lobby of the old CG&E building on 4th street every Christmas season since 1946 has been moved to a permanent home at Cincinnati Union Terminal.

The mobile layout was created in 1937 as a touring promotion for the B&O railroad. In 1946, after the war, it found a permanent home in Cincinnati where it appeared every Christmas for the next 65 years. During that time, it is estimated to have been viewed by more than 9 million visitors.

The layout will open officially at it's new home November 5th and as in the past run through Jan 1st. During that time, it will be part of an impressive line-up of rail related events this season at the CUT museum center. In addition to the B&O Christmas display, there's also the permanent "Cincinnati in Motion" display, The "Holiday Junction" display, tours of the old terminal and the control tower and finally screening of the film "Rocky Mountain Express" at the Omni.

Sounds like it's worth a visit.

October Model Competition Winners

1st Pl—Box Stock	1st Pl—Kit Bashed	1st Pl—Scratch Built
		
Ron Gribbler	Tom Overton	Georgia Dahlberg

Our Newest Master Model Railroader



Tom Brueggeman
Master Model Railroader # 460



Clinician - Michael York



Busy mine scene on Don Leedy's HO layout



Dock Scene on Bill Horstmann's HO layout

Division 7's 2011 Fall Show



Division 7's 2011 Fall Train Show



KNAPP'S NOTES

Bruce Knapp

Modeler's Aide

I was absolutely amazed by the entries in our October "BRING & BRAG" competition. I have always wondered about Charlie Atkinson's sanity [he was a high school band director, after all] now I am sure, you have to be a bit daft to "scratch build" in N Scale. I continue to be convinced that some of the NMRA's best modelers are in Division 7. Our Cincinnati Division 7 Train Show is the perfect venue to share your talents AND expertise. Many of the things we do routinely as hobbyists are totally foreign to the novice model railroader. Simple things like wheel cleaning, coupler heights, car weights, are very new concepts to new modelers. The test track is a great place to interface with entry-level hobbyists and share your skills. The greatest majority of our membership has the knowledge, skills, and experience to guide novice hobbyists, and at the same time, recruit new members. While you are at the show stop by the test track and play "meet and greet". Just remember, if you don't then these poor folks are going to be led astray by Pat Homan and me; or worse yet, Bill Edwards.

While I am on the topic of clinicians, I gave a clinic on basic maintenance at Tim's; Tim is having an ongoing series of model railroad clinics. There have been quite a few on scenery, [with Mr. Edwards], and DCC, what a great way to promote the hobby. I understand Bill Edwards is working on a couple using C-4 and an M-16.

Of course Mr. Edwards attacked another clinician with guided missiles at Johnny's Toys.

Model Railroad Characters

Bill Edwards is not the only unique person in Division 7. We have a real collection. Our fall show is a chance to see some of them in action. I have always been a bit worried about Jack Laubisch, after all Jack is another one of those musician types, plus we also have John Burchnell. I could go on listing a few others, but you understand where I am going with this. Then there is our secretary/raffle chair; what can I say? I thought October's raffle was at least semi-honest. [Randy Kerka didn't win] The nice thing about writing this column is I can identify all the characters and leave my self out.

Keep 'em rolling!

Bruce

Open House

Jim Rollwage advises he will once again host an open house after the Springfield Train Show. The date is Sunday December 4th from 3 – 6 PM. His address is 3020 US Rt. 68 N, Wilmington, OH. That's just south of I-71 on the way back from Springfield. If you get lost his phone # is 937 382-6573.

November is National Model Railroad Month

Give your locomotives a day off.

Next Meeting

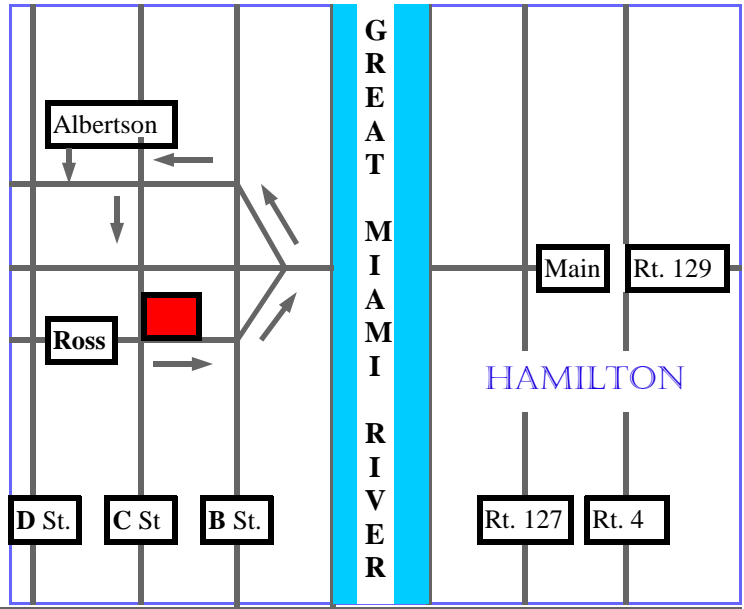
2 PM Sunday
Nov. 13, 2011

@

Hamilton Senior Center
149 Ross Ave. Hamilton, OH

Directions

If you come from the East you can't turn left from Main onto C street. After crossing the river, bare right and take Albertson to C st. Turn left and go south two blocks to the center on your left. The parking lot is on the east side of the building.



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>
Nov 13	Hamilton Senior Center 149 Ross Ave. Hamilton, OH	Mike Mereness Coal Revenue for your railroad	Ric Case Jim Bonnett	<u>Models:</u> Service facilities <u>Photos:</u> Cabooses
Nov 17	Lebanon Sub Resurrection Church 1270 N. Broadway Lebanon, OH	Bring n Brag	NA	NA
Dec 11	Westwood United Methodist Church 3460 Epworth Ave.	Annual Pot Luck Slide Show	Jerry Strangarity Dennis Malloy	<u>Models:</u>

<u>Around the Region</u>			<u>National</u>		
<u>2011</u>			<u>2012</u>		
11/5-6	Dayton Train Show	Hara Arena	5/4-5	National Z Scale Convention	Denver, CO
11/19	Div 8 Train Show	Louisville, KY	6/26-7/1	National N Scale Convention	Medford, OR
12/4	Springfield Train Show	Springfield, OH	7/28-8/4	NMRA National Convention	Grand Rapids, MI
			9/12-15	National Narrow Gauge Conv.	Seattle, WA

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.cincv-div7.org
MCR Web Site www.midcentral-region-nmra.org