

THE

Oil Can

October, 2011



Volume V Issue 10



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The Editors Corner:

Don Phillips

Be sure to read and understand the proposed Amendment to the Division 7's Constitution and By-Laws on page 5 of this issue. It will be discussed at the October meeting and will appear on the official ballot in the December issue of the Oil Can.

The fall show is just weeks away. If you haven't signed up on one of the volunteer sheets yet, please do so at the October meeting at the West Chester library.

Work is continuing on the John Allen tribute layout which is scheduled to make it's appearance at the Cincinnati Model Train Show October 29 & 30. The layout will be a close replica of Allen's original Gorre & Daphetid Railroad as seen in the book "Model Railroading with John Allen" by Lynn Westcott. Everyone is invited to participate in the build.

(Incidentally, if your interested, the John Allen book originally published in 1981 is available once again as a hard copy re-print from Benchmark Publications.)

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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: Dusk is falling and the lights are already coming on in the eerie mansion on the hill while a passenger train rounds the cliff below. Passengers have always reported feeling a cold chill as their train passed thru this valley. The locals here-about take great pains to avoid the area for that very same reason. The scene is from Tim Cook's HO empire which has numerous detailed dioramas of everything from the Civil War to a busy modern rail yard.



HEADLIGHTS

Randy Kirka
Superintendent

For many years, Cincinnati Division 7 had a fiscal year that began on March 1st and ended on February 28th or 29th. Recently, at the “suggestion” of the IRS and others, the Division Directors made the change of the Division’s fiscal year to match the calendar year. Although that change has been accomplished, it has introduced a new issue: 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 a full three months after the end of the new fiscal year.

The feeling among the officers and the members of the Board of Directors is that it would be a proper if the officers responsible for developing a yearly budget serve concurrent with that budget. The Board also feels it is necessary for the wording of our Constitution and By-laws to 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. To get a full understanding of the proposed changes, please carefully read the “*Notice for Proposal of Amendment*” published elsewhere in this issue of the Oil Can. Each of you has the right and responsibility to be involved in these matters and I urge you to support the changes.

A meeting of Firsts...

September saw a number of “firsts” for Division 7:

1. September 2011, to my recollection, was the first Division 7 meeting in a bar.
2. September 2011 was the first meeting this year without a microphone prompting many shouts of “we can’t hear you”!
3. September 2011 saw the first BOD meeting to ever last under five minutes!
4. September 2011 was the first meeting ever with a business meeting AND 7 great layouts open!

Gratuitous comments about my Staff...

I want to recognize Bob Shreve, Asst. Superintendent and John Shields, Secretary for their excellent performance over their first terms in office. Both have done all that has been asked of them and done it well. Thanks, boys!

Congratulations to all Committee Chairs. You folks make it all happen for the rest of us.

I’d also like to recognize the stellar job of Treasurer done by Jim Stewart as he soon “terms out” of office in December. I am sure that Jim will continue to be an important part of Division 7 into the future (although I’d wager he’s probably had a gut-full of me by now. ☺ Thanks, Jim.

See you on October 8th!

Randy

SECOND SECTION

Bob Shreve
Asst. Super

The hills of Northern Kentucky beckoned to us for a day of layout visits in September. Our starting point was a side room of the Legends Bar and Grill in Latonia. Superintendent Kerka kept a tight reign on any discussions during the business meeting to keep that part of our day as brief as possible. After the meeting, we took our maps and ventured out onto roads big and small to see the various layouts. My thanks to Bill Brown, Ed Kuhr, Ray Schmidt, Tom Vogt, Tim Cook, Jim Gaines, and Perry Simpson for opening their layouts for the tour. A special thanks to Tim Cook for helping organize the layout tour and arranging with the Legends Bar and Grill for the use of their side room for the meeting.

On October 9th, the meeting will be at the West Chester library across the street from Lakota West High School. We will have 2 mini-clinic presentations coupled with a bring-and-brag contest, plus the combination September and October monthly contests. Be sure to look for the sign-up sheets (and put your name on them) for the various activities you can do to help make our annual Model Railroad Show on October 29th and 30th a success. After the meeting, Don Leedy and Bill Horstmann will host layout tours at their homes. Bill tells me he actually has several layouts at his house, including an N scale layout his grandson is building in addition to Bill's HO scale layout.

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". After the meeting, Ric Case and Jim Bonnett will have their layouts open.

December will be our annual potluck slide show and snack fest at the Westwood United Methodist Church.

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

NMRA News

The Howell Day Museum is issuing a new release of its highly successful Gorre and Daphetid bobber cabooses. Two new bobbers, numbered 3 and 5 are available from headquarters immediately. A single car is US \$19.95 + \$4 shipping and handling, and a set of two is \$34.95 + \$4 shipping and handling. The new cars are available in HO only, and are ready to run. Look for the ad in *NMRA Magazine*.

Registration for Grand Rails 2012, next years national convention in Grand Rapids, Mich. are taking off. Almost 90 clinic slots have been filled, with topics ranging from geared locomotives to timetable/train order operation. Anyone interested in presenting a clinic can get an application form from the NMRA website.

Monthly Competition

September's competition was postponed because of the additional layouts on the meeting schedule. Therefore, both the September and the October competitions will be held at the October meeting.

September's competition was - **Models:** "Vehicles" **Photos:** "B&W shots of Locos"

October's competition is - **Models:** "Bring-n-Brag - Freight Cars" **Photos:** "Trains on trestles or bridges."

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

Scenes from some of the layouts on the Northern Kentucky tour after the September meeting.



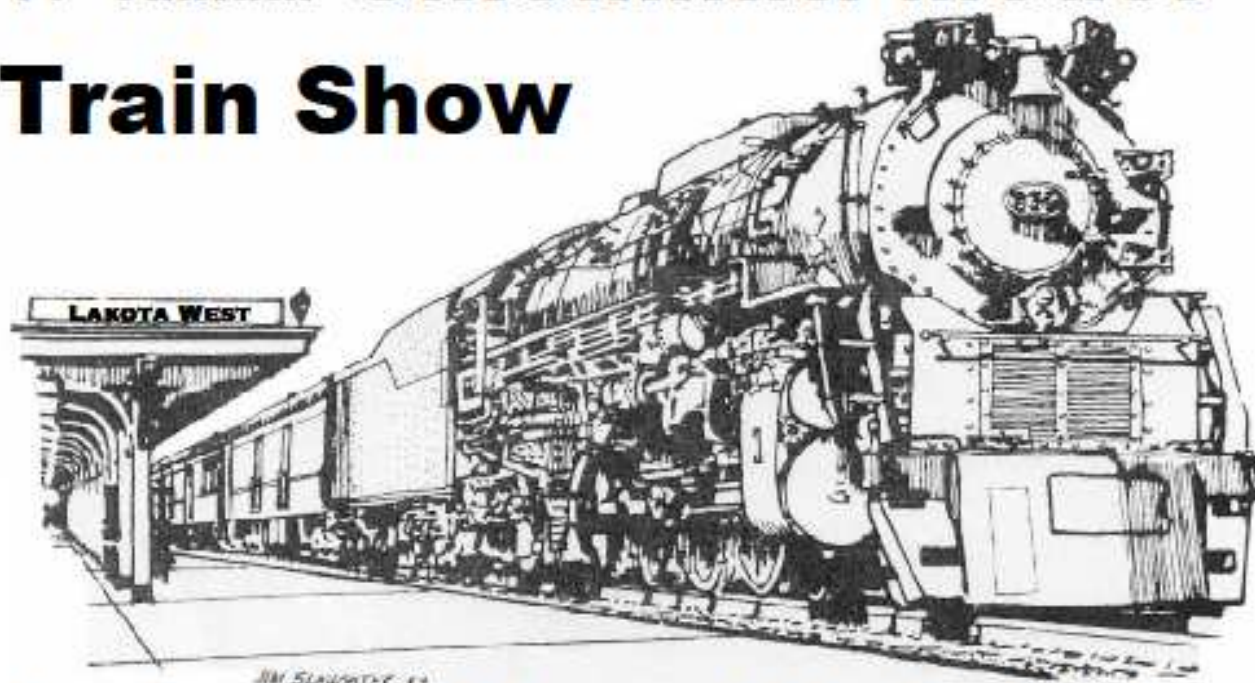
More from the Northern Kentucky tour.



Not “Dapheted” yet but it is starting to look a little “Gorre”

SPONSORED BY CINCINNATI DIV. 7 OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASOC.

44th Annual Cincinnati Model Train Show



Lakota West High School

**FREE
PARKING!**

Saturday October 29, 2011 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Sunday October 30, 2011 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

8940 Union Centre Blvd. - West Chester, Ohio 45069

- Model Trains in All Scales
- Operating Layouts and Displays
- Retail Sales - Over 250 Dealer Tables
- Hourly Door Prizes!
- FREE Engine Check-Up & "How To" Classes

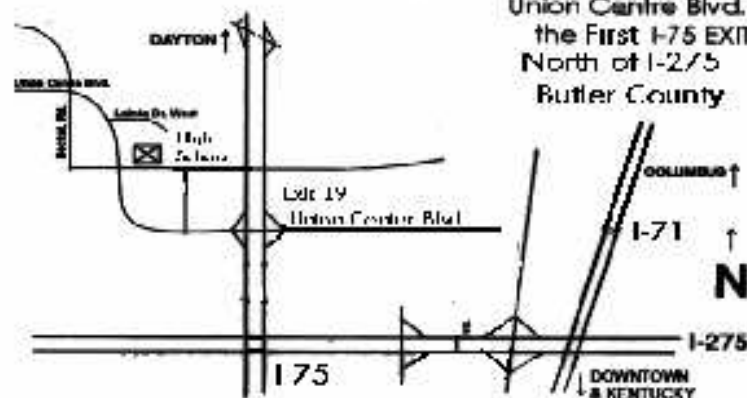
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Admission

Adults - \$ 7.00

Children under 12 FREE

Scouts in Uniform FREE



Union Centre Blvd. is
the First I-75 EXIT
North of I-275
Butler County

For more information, call **562-RAIL**, or visit us at: www.dincy-div7.org

**Win a G Scale
Train Set**



Sponsored in part by:



White Elephants at the 2011 Fall Show (Frank Koch) – I’m back again for any individual Division 7 members with items they wish to sell, but not enough to justify the cost of a table. Prepare an inventory showing your name, address, and telephone number and listing each individual item with a description and code so I can match it back to you, and your **firm** asking price (I won’t negotiate to a lower price.). **Each individual item must be clearly marked and priced as shown below.** If there is more than one of an item, list them separately. Put all your items in a bag or box and bring them to the flea market before the show starts. I’ll log them in, sell them, calculate how much you get back (The Division will keep 10% of actual sales.), and you can, preferably, pick up your unsold material and money on Sunday right after the show closes or after the show at a later meeting. Use the inventory form below or send me an e-mail at fjkoch@hotmail.com with “elephant inventory” in the subject.

<p>FJK – 12 \$10.00</p>

Items are placed in the White Elephant Sale at your own risk. Neither Division 7 nor Frank Koch assumes any liability for any items damaged or stolen during the flea market, though we will provide due diligence for their safety. We will not accept items that are not prepared as indicated here. If you want to help out at some time during the flea market, let Frank know. We reserve the right to refuse any material that we deem unsuitable.

2009 Division 7 Spring Flea Market White Elephant Sale
(10% of actual Sales retained by Division 7)

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____

Initials	Last 4 digits of phone number	Item #	Description	Price \$
		1		
		2		
		3		
		4		
		5		
		6		
		7		
		8		
		9		
		10		

KNAPP'S NOTES

Bruce Knapp

Sacramento

All in all, the Sacramento NMRA National Convention was an excellent experience, super clinics, great prototype tours, a very rewarding "silent auction", an exciting National Train Show; the convention committee should receive "FIVE-STARS". Our prototype tours included the Western Pacific Museum in Portola, the Nevada County Narrow Gauge, the former Southern Pacific Sacramento Shops, and the California Railroad Museum. The clinic program covered every aspect of our hobby, and the National Train Show was an opportunity to interface with many of the major model railroad manufacturers and dealers. There were a lot of exciting new products on display. I still maintain one of the major benefits of any convention is contact with other model railroaders, like my new friends the Mulhearns. The NMRA National will be in Grand Rapids, Michigan and will feature Bruce Chubb's outstanding SP layout. It will be close to home and you can even get there by Amtrak.

The Division 7 Show

October features the Cincinnati Model Railroad Show, which provides a showcase for both our hobby and the great work being done in Cincinnati Division 7. We will feature the usual great mix of layouts, dealers, and "how-to" clinics. There are many ways to help make this event the best yet: 1. Plan to attend, 2. Volunteer to work at the show, and 3. Talk it up among your friends and neighbors. There are going to be some exciting new things for the younger children [and families] and some new dealers. [Bring plenty of \$\$\$\$] This is not only a wonderful way to promote our great hobby, but is a major fundraiser for the Division. See you at the show!

Keep 'em rolling!

Bruce A. Knapp

John's Honest Raffle

John Shields

Thank you to all of those who attended the September meeting and helped us quickly and efficiently get through the raffle and on to the layout tours. Some noted that winners seemed to be the same ones as in the standard raffles, to which I can only point out that it might be associated with actually buying tickets! In any case, in October, we will return to the standard N scale (and HO) raffle. Anyone who has questions about any perceived "patterns" in the winners is encouraged to buy twice any many tickets and determine for themselves if this increases their chance of winning.

As previously announced, starting in October this year, we will run our fall engine raffle. Remember to bring some return address labels to the Oct/Nov/Dec meetings to save yourself from having to write your name and phone number on all of tickets that you will want to buy. We will have the drawing during the December meeting. You do not have to be present to win.

In the last Oil Can, I identified this year's HO engine is a Bachmann Spectrum 2-8-0 decorated for Southern. Our other option, for the more "N"-lightened members of Division 7 (or small-minded, depending on your perspective) is a Bachmann N Scale H16-44 FM Trainmaster diesel decorated in the black and white zebra stripe Santa Fe scheme.

Next Meeting

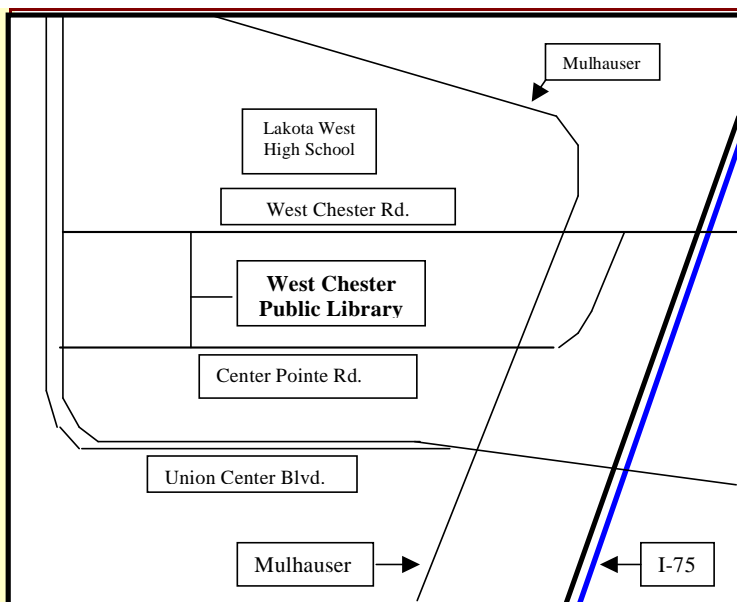
**2 PM Sunday
October 9, 2011**

@

West Chester Library

Directions

The Library is located directly across the street from Lakota West High School where we hold the fall show



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>
Oct 9	North West Chester Library	2 Mini-Clinics & Bring-n-Brag	Don Leedy Bill Horstmann	<u>Models:</u> Sept: Vehicles Oct: Bring-n-brag Freight Cars <u>Photos:</u> Sept: B&W Locos Oct: Trains on Trestles
Oct 20	Lebanon Lebanon Div 7 Sub Resurrection Church 1270 N. Broadway	Ron Gribler Resistance Soldering	None	Show and Tell
Oct 29 Oct 30	Cincinnati Model Train Show Lakota West High School	How-to Classes	Numerous Modules	None

<u>Around the Region</u>			<u>National</u>		
<u>2011</u>			<u>2012</u>		
10/29-30	Cincinnati Train Show	Lakota High School	7/28-8/4	NMRA National Convention	Grand Rapids, MI
11/5-6	Dayton Train Show	Hara Arena	9/12-15	National Narrow Gauge Conv.	Seattle, WA
11/19	Div 8 Train Show	Louisville, KY			

Modeling Programs ? 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
MCR Web Site www.midcentral-region-nmra.org