



September, 2014

THE Oil Can



Volume VIII Issue 9



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The Editors Corner:

Dave Puthoff

Do you remember when there was no Internet? Or when model railroaders received the majority of modeling ideas through printed magazine and newsletters? Within the past year we've eliminated the printed version of the Oilcan to save costs. But by using the only Internet for distribution, we've also been able to easily expand the amount of information we can distribute, at no additional cost.

While model railroaders have seen a proliferation of free useful information via the Internet, those in the printed-word business have seen significant challenges. Sadly, as Dave Kullman reported, Railroad Model Craftsman and two other Carstens publications have ceased publication as of August 22. Ironically, Dave discovered this information from a notice published on the Carstens website! Time will tell if a buyer will be found to resume publishing Railroad Model Craftsman.

Speaking of printed-word --- pick up a few copies of the flyer for our upcoming Cincinnati Model Train Show, or **download the pdf found on Page 9 and print!** We know that these printed flyers work --- and encourage attendance, which not only helps Division 7 finances, but also attract new Division 7 members. It's easy to post a few on employee or community bulletin boards, or give one to a friendly business or merchant.

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

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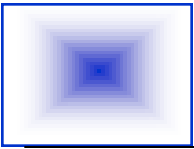
The Oil Can is a publication of Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, it's officers, or it's members.

Space permitting, The Oil Can welcomes news items, articles and letters on Model Railroad and related topics. Deadline for submissions is generally the fifteenth of the month preceding the next meeting.

Cover:

Coal Tipple scene on Gerry Albers' Virginian layout.

(Photo by Bob Shreve)



I'll start off this month's article with a bit of housekeeping business: The next Division 7 BOD meeting will be on Friday, September 5th at Harmony Lodge in Spring Grove Village. The evening's activities will commence at 7:00 pm. Light refreshments and snacks will be served.

I really enjoyed Mike Finkler's clinic at the August meeting. I met Mike back in 2008 via an operating session on Gerry Albers' layout. Later, Mike gave Gerry and me a guided tour of the BP refinery in Toledo. I think Mike did not need to use the microphone during his clinic because he was so used to talking loud enough to be heard over the machinery in the refinery. The sounds and smells of the refinery (remember the sulfur tank cars?) really make an impression on you. This is one of those examples of what you get for your NMRA membership: the chance to meet people from other parts of the country. Certainly here in Cincinnati, the opportunity to see excellent clinics like this, and getting to visit layouts like Gerry's are more benefits of your NMRA membership.

I was impressed with how much Kevin Barrett has accomplished on his new layout. I suppose it does help to start in a new house with an empty basement that can be filled with trains before the space is taken over by other unimportant stuff. I especially liked how the train room was Kevin's version of the Sistine Chapel with the sky and clouds on the ceiling.

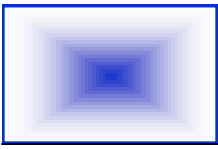
The challenge we (and the NMRA as a whole) face is how do we get the word out to other people about the great benefits of an NMRA membership? For Division 7, our biggest interaction with the general public is our annual Cincinnati Model Train Show in October. It's important we get as much visibility as we can for this show. Randy Kerka (and Ed Wagner before him) is ensuring we get lots of publicity and advertisements in the local newspapers and national magazines. We need you, the members, to get the word out via the fliers and yard signs. Put fliers up at work and anyplace else they can be noticed by the general public.

The yard signs we will have this year will be different from what we used a couple of years ago. These signs will simply say "Train Show This Weekend" and give the location and hours. By leaving off the date, we can reuse the signs in future years. The intent is that the signs will be put out during the week just before the train show, and picked up right after the weekend. Our primary area to put the signs will be Butler, Warren, and northern Hamilton counties. Randy is planning to purchase 100 signs. We would like to get more of our members to participate in the "sign placement" activity than we had 2 years ago. Obviously, you will need to remember where you placed the sign(s) so you can collect them for re-use next year (and to ensure people don't try to attend a train show the following weekend.)

We also need lots of help with setup / takedown, and working the admissions table and membership booth during the show. Look for sign-up sheets at the September and October meetings.

I will be attending a wedding in Maryland on September 13th, so will not be at the next meeting. I'm leaving the meeting leadership in the hands of Assistant Superintendent John Shields. I'm sure he will do an excellent job.

Bob



SECOND SECTION

John Shields
Asst. Super

The August meeting was on Sunday August 10th at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kenwood. Our clinician was Mike Finkler from Toledo, who led us through the workings of an oil refinery; and especially focused on understanding how the various steps and products are reflected in the railroad shipments in and out. Who knew that those sulfur containing tank cars (with the yellow “weathering” on them) may originate at an oil refinery? Even better, who knew that this has only been true since the early ‘70’s? (Can you spell EPA?) For that matter, who knew that refineries produce coke? Empty hoppers in, loads out – of a refinery! Mike is particularly knowledgeable on this subject after working for forty years at British Petroleum (BP, formerly Sohio and Amoco). After the meeting, we visited the HO layouts of Gerry Albers in Amberly Village (Virginian and V&O) and Kevin Barrett in Loveland (modern CSX, NS and CN, plus Amtrak).

Our September meeting will be on Sunday September 14th, in Northern Kentucky at the Erlanger Library. Our clinician will be Chuck Bogart from Lexington. He will give a presentation on Street Cars and Interurbans of Kentucky. The contest subjects are models of MOW equipment and photos of MCR members’ layouts. The layout tours will include Bob Adams’ N scale N&W layout and Perry Simpson’s HO L&N.

In October, we will be meeting a week earlier than normal on October 5th at the West Chester Library (because the Cincinnati Model Train Show will be on the following weekend) . At this meeting we will be doing another round of the “Bring and Brag” and we will have a mini-clinic on Roadbeds from John Burchnall, Brad Jonas and Mike Tener. The layout visits afterwards will also be Brad Jonas, and Randy Kerka. At least that has been the plan. Randy has warned me that it might be a “static display” if he does not get the time to resolve some electrical problems; so I’ll see if we might have a backup plan for October and give Randy a little more time. After all, we did talk him into jumping right back in to help with publicity for the Train Show and beyond. Randy, if you want to actually run a train, you can always come down to the Queen City N-Gineers layout at the Train Show. That’s the only time I get to run either.

The Annual Cincinnati Model Train Show is on the weekend of October 11th and 12th at Lakota West High School. Expect to be asked to sign up for any of the normal volunteer roles at the September meeting. Besides set-up, tear down, NMRA booth, admissions, and distribution of flyers; we really need the help of members to place yard signs this year. Every member’s yard is a “good” place for a sign; but we really want to get a lot of signs around West Chester. The assumption we are making is that the most likely first time attendees, especially families, will be people who live in the area who might make a last minute decision to stop in because they see a sign and are already nearby. We will still be on the various media bulletin boards and in the paper, for people all around the region who plan ahead and look for events on these listings. And, of course, we will be sending postcards to our ever growing data base of previous attendees.

In November, we will make our normal visit to Hamilton, on November 9th. The meeting venue is the Partners in Prime (formerly known as the Hamilton Senior Center). Dick Briggs will be down from Columbus to give a clinic on the paperwork and the ins and outs of entering model contests. The contests will be models of railroad vehicles and photos of bridges. We will end the year as we usually do, in Westwood, on December 14th. This will be the annual pot luck digital photo and food fest.

Looking ahead to next year, we will continue to bring in a range of clinicians that I really think makes Division 7 meetings the “place to be” the (generally) second Sunday of every month. Already on the list for 2015 are Lou Sassi, a second clinic from Chuck Bogart, and a new clinic from Allen McClelland. I’d say these are all more than worth the price of admission (or membership) in the Division, but as we all know, local membership is free –thanks to the efforts of so many of you. Between the Fall Show, the Flea Market, the Company Store and White Elephants, and the various car projects, we can put on these monthly meetings and find and attract great clinics FOR your benefit. And behind this yearly balance that a whole series of local officers have developed and made sustainable, is the safety net of profits from the wonderful national convention that Division 7 put on in 2005. Even without the national caliber clinicians, we have many local Master Model Railroaders that we can have share their skills and knowledge. And then there is the LONG list of outstanding home layouts that we can visit month after month. Dozens of them that have been published in the national magazines (and more are still to come).

I know there is often a discussion about why a modeler should join the NMRA. What does one get for that membership? Maybe that question is relevant in other regions, but here in Division 7 it just has always seemed to me that it’s a “no brainer”. No matter what scale you model in, no matter what railroad, no matter what era. You can find something of interest through Division 7. Additional ideas/requests are always welcome.

See you in Erlanger on September 14th.

John



**NMRA MCR DIV. 7
AUGUST 2014 CONTEST RESULTS**



MODELS: PASSENGER CARS (ANY CAR FOUND IN PASSENGER TRAIN)

Box Stock:

- 1st Place: Rick Stern: HO Santa Fe Heavy Weight 60 Foot Baggage Car
- 2nd Place: Bob Lawson: HO Southern Railway Brass Coach
- 3rd Place: Ron Gribler, MMR: HO PFE Express Reefer

Kitbashed:

- 1st Place: Georgia Dahlberg, MMR: HO T&T Gas Electric Doodlebug
- 2nd Place: Frank Hermanek, MMR: HO Wood Sided 50 Foot REA Express Car (Ambroid Kit)
- 3rd Place: Rick Stern: HO Santa Fe 60 Foot Streamlined Lightweight Aluminum Passenger Car

Scratch Built:

- 1st Place: Frank Hermanek, MMR: Wood Side Milk Car
- No Other Entries Submitted In This Category

PHOTOGRAPHY: PERSONNEL WORKING ON THE RAILROAD

Print Prototype:

- 1st Place: Jerry Baston: Sperry Rail Inspection Truck (color print)
- 2nd Place: Georgia Dahlberg, MMR: Durango & Silverton RR Steam Loco Being Worked On (color print)
- 3rd Place: Jerry Baston: Men Working on CSX Track at Hartwell, OH (color print)

Print Model:

- 1st. Place: Randy Seiler: Color Photo of Personnel at Dispatchers Office (Jerry Albers' Virginian Ry Layout)
- 2nd Place: Randy Seiler: Color Photo of Figures Working on RR (Chick Hydes' Cincinnati Northern RR layout)
- 3rd Place: Randy Seiler: B&W Photo of Steam Loco at Cooling Tower

Junior Division – No Entries Submitted in Any Category

2014 OVERALL STANDINGS (through August 2014)

MODELS

Bob Lawson	14	Don Phillips	03
Frank Hermanek, MMR	14	Warren Ossman	02
Ron Gribler, MMR	09	John Listermann	02
Georgia Dahlberg, MMR	06	Bob Chapman	01
Frank Fieler	06	Tom Brueggeman, MMR	01
Rick Stern	04	Jim Ruisinger	01

PHOTOGRAPHY

Jerry Baston	25
Randy Seiler	23
Georgia Dahlberg, MMR	12
John Listermann	08
Anton Zillich	02

JUNIOR DIVISION - PHOTOGRAPHY

Anthony Zillich	06
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SEPTEMBER CONTEST:

MODELS: MAINTENANCE OF WAY EQUIPMENT

PHOTOGRAPHY: MID-CENTRAL REGION MODEL RAILROAD LAYOUTS (submit with layout owner name credit)

Brad Jonas
NMRA, MCR, Div. 7 Contest Chair

Special thanks to Mike Mereness for conducting this August contest while Brad was out of town, and to John Burchnall for composing and posting this report

Division 7 Awards



Photo by Dave Puthoff

Achievement Program Chair Frank Koch presents
Division 7's Sam Swanson, his latest **NMRA Certificate** at the
August Meeting.

Kevin Barrett's Layout Visit - August 2014

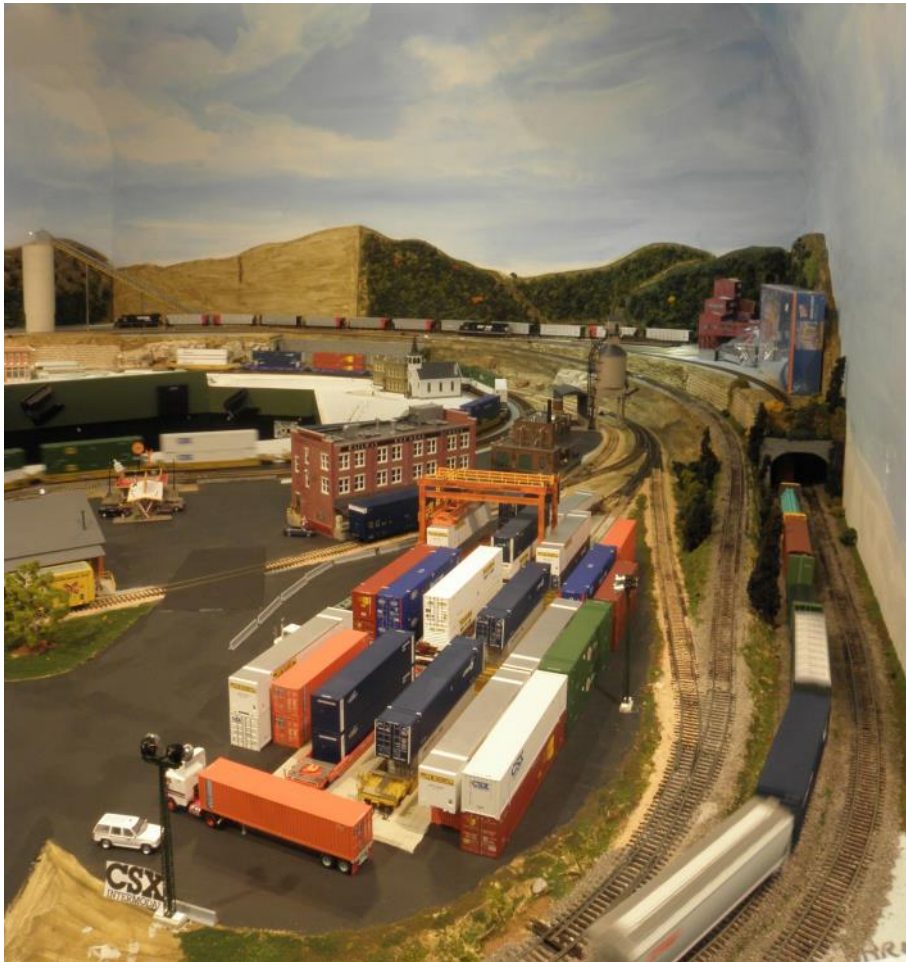


Photo by Bob Shreve

Gerry Albers' Layout Visit - August 2014



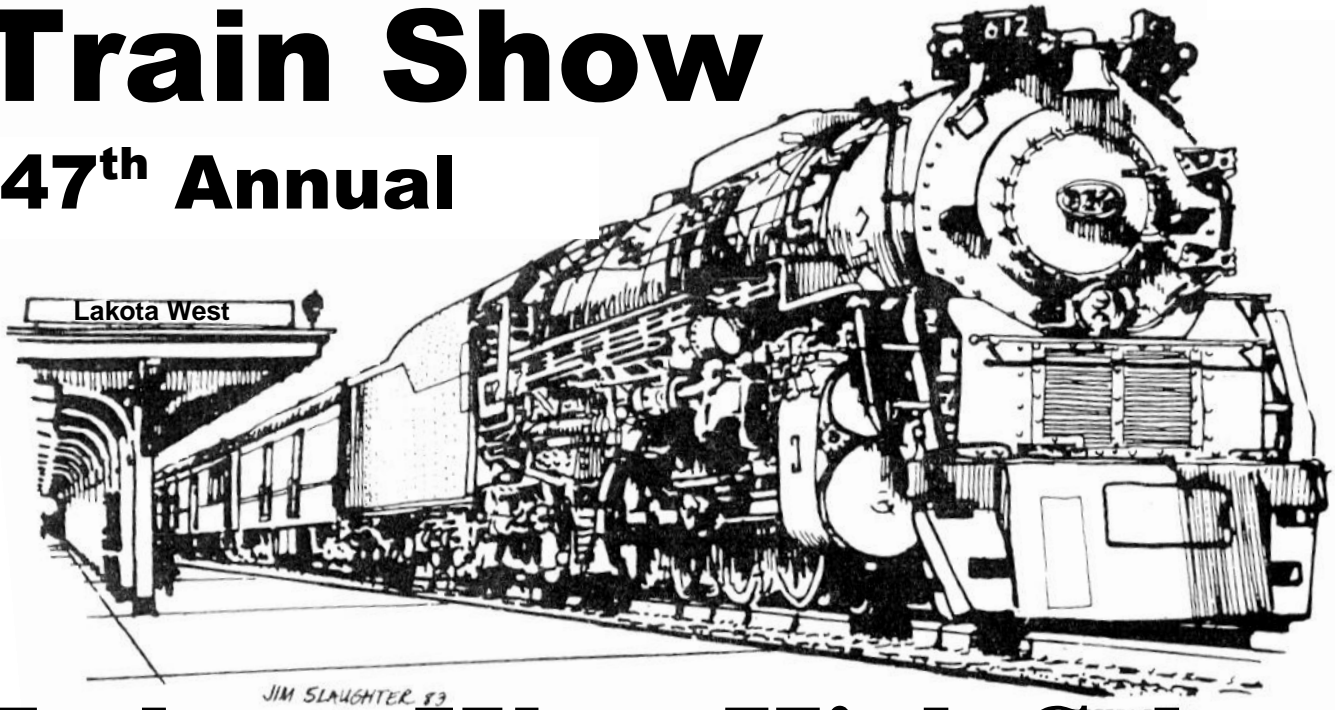
[NS #3215 “NMRA Cleveland 2014” visits Gest St. yard on August 17](#)



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

Cincinnati Model Train Show

47th Annual



Lakota West High School

Saturday October 11, 2014 11 AM – 5 PM

Sunday October 12, 2014 11 AM – 5 PM

8940 Union Centre Blvd. - West Chester, Ohio 45069

**FREE
PARKING!**

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

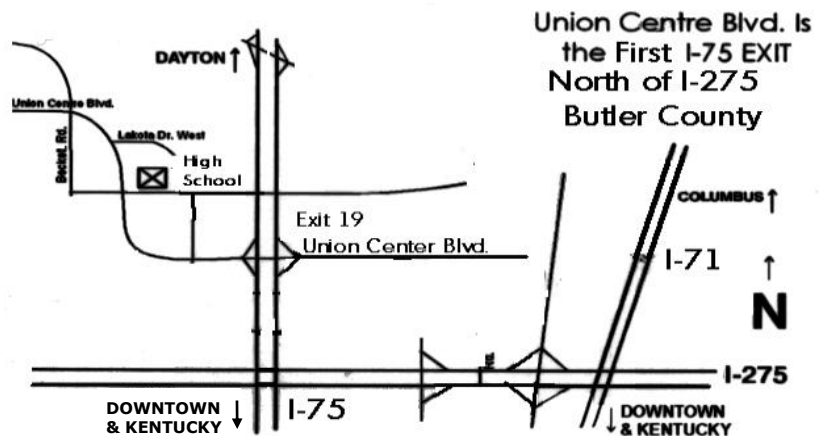
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Admission

Adults \$ 7.00

Children under 12 FREE

Scouts in Uniform FREE



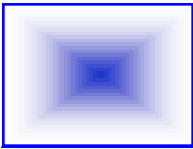
For more information call 513-662-RAIL or visit www.cincy-div7.org

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Win a G Scale
Train Set**



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KNAPP'S NOTES

by Bruce Knapp

It's Modeling Time Again

Summer is almost over, so it's back to work on the layout. I had the pleasure of helping Pat Homan on the new extension of his layout. Pat is a super modeler and a lot of fun to work with. Some of the reconstruction will include a larger turntable, a longer branch, and some additional industries. I am honored that one of the new industries will be Knapp building supply, which will be located adjacent to Firth Oil Distributing. Scott was a good friend so I am pleased that the two industries are located close to each other. Interestingly, Firth Oil also has a facility in Trinidad, CO., another chance to honor a great guy. I was pleased to see that WMPA has an office on Pat's layout. In addition to adding bench work and placing some buildings, Pat and I got a chance to practice a little character assassination. (If your ears were burning, that's why). I really like Pat's C. B. & Q. pike, as it displays a lot of Pat's skill as a designed and model builder; PLUS it's a western road. Somebody questioned why Dan Mulhearn is a member of both the Sunday Outing Boys, AND WMPA. Simple Dan is a great guy, good modeler, AND models a western road; the Norfolk and Western.

New Products

You can tell the modeling season is upon us, as many of our manufacturers are introducing new equipment. Atlas is releasing the HH660 in several new paint schemes including my favorite, the Santa Fe. I got a chance to see the HH660, DCC and sound in action at the National Train Show, they are super! Bachmann is issuing their Van Sweringen 2-8-4 with Soundtraxx sound in both HO and N. I normally don't report on Exactrail models, as they are generally too new for my early '50's railway, but I purchased one of their new two dome, 8,000 gallon tank cars. The model is "pricey" but it is a nice addition to my rolling stock. I am sure many of our local "SPF's" are eagerly awaiting BLI's new H-10, which along with the Santa Fe 3800 2-10-2 will arrive in October. The announced locomotives and rolling stock, along with the new DCC sound decoders, mean this winter will be outstanding for us.

The Monthly Raffle

After a lot of prodding by our O Scale members, O scale will return for September's raffle. We have some O scale car kits, plus Athearn trucks and Kadee couplers. Our new O and expanded N scale offerings have been made possible by the great support we get from ticket sales and the support of dealer/members like Western Hills Photo and Hobby and Tim's Trains and Hobby. We also had a very generous donation of several items at the last meeting. December will be our annual locomotive raffle in both HO and N (sorry we can't afford O scale, at this point). There will be some exciting prizes over the next few meetings, so bring \$\$\$ for raffle tickets. Russ and I promise to keep the raffle at the same high (?) standard you have grown accustomed to.

See you in September (makes a nice song title)

Bruce

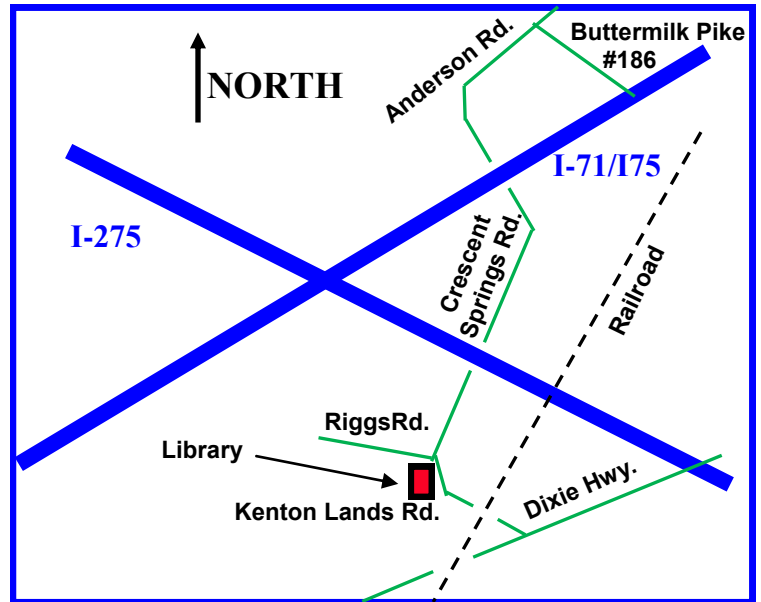
Next Meeting

2 PM Sunday September 14

Erlanger Library
401 Kenton Lands Rd.
Erlanger KY

Directions:

- From Dixie Hwy:** Left on Kenton Lands Rd.
After Railroad track, look for Library on Left.
- From I-71 / I-75:** Exit Buttermilk Pike (Exit 186)
West on Buttermilk Pike
Left onto Anderson Rd.
Anderson Rd. becomes Crescent Springs Rd.
Cross under I-75/I-75
Cross under I-275
Bear Left at Riggs Rd
Library is on your Right



Coming Down the Line

Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA
2014 Schedule

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Program/Speaker</u>	<u>Lavout Visits</u>	<u>Contest Topic</u>
9/14	Erlanger Library Northern KY	Chuck Bogart Streetcars & Interurbans of KY	Bob Adams Perry Simpson	<u>Models:</u> MOW Equipment <u>Photos:</u> MCR Members' Layouts
9/18	Resurrection Church Lebanon OH	Lebanon Sub Meeting	N/A	Show & Tell
10/5	West Chester Library West Chester	"Bring & Brag", plus Roadbeds John Burchnall Brad Jonas, Mike Tener	Brad Jonas Randy Kerka	<u>Models:</u> Off-Line Structures <u>Photos:</u> Weather/Damaged Freight Cars
10/11, 10/12	Annual Fall Train Show Lakota West High School	Cincinnati Train Show Booths & Slide Show	None	Train Show Portable Layouts
10/16	Resurrection Church Lebanon OH	Lebanon Sub Meeting	N/A	Show & Tell
11/9	Partners in Prime Hamilton OH	Dick Briggs Contest Paperwork	TBD	<u>Models:</u> Railroad vehicles <u>Photos:</u> Bridges

Around the Region
2014

10/11-12 Div. 7 CMTS W. Chester, OH
11/1-2 Div. 3 MVD Train Show Dayton, OH

National
2015

8/23-29 Portland Daylight Express Portland Oregon

Modeling Problems? - Ask the Member Aid Committee

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

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