

THE
NMRA
July 2026

Oil Can

Cincinnati Division 7
Volume XX Issue 7



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The Editors Corner:

Dave Puthoff

Looking for some railroad activity?
Here's some railroad information from the Cincinnati Museum Center, www.CincinnatiMuseum.org:

1. Rotunda Tours (no cost) continue to be given several times a day on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
2. Tower A Tours are scheduled on July 18, and August 22. (Also check with the Cincinnati Railroad Club for their dates).
3. A Virtual Tour (via computer) of the former Concourse may be available during the "1940's Day" on August 22.
4. A High Steel Tour (Clock and space above Rotunda ceiling) is scheduled on November 7. This tour is always a quick sellout, and tickets will be available at a later date!
5. Volunteers are needed in the year-round model railroad "Cincinnati in Motion" exhibit.

Dave

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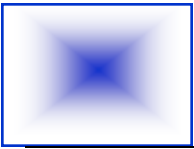
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The Oil Can is a publication of Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, it's officers, or it's members.

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: Division 7 Annual Family Picnic

Photo by Sam Parfitt



Last month, I started my article talking about the Dayton MCR Regional Convention that I was about to attend. As expected, we had a large showing by members of our division both as attendees and participants. While this convention was different from some I have attended in the past, I can honestly say that I enjoyed being there. I talked with many members of other divisions both new and old acquaintances. Some of our members gave clinics that were well received by the attendees. I attended some nice clinics and missed some that I wished I had gotten to hear. I assisted the convention with judging the contest entries along with Chuck Endreola and Roy Allan of our division. It is always an educational experience to be a part of assessing how other modelers created their modeling projects.

The convention ended for me with the banquet on Saturday night. The Keynote Speaker at the banquet was Otto Vondrak, Editor of Railroad Model Craftsman Magazine. He shared the history of the magazine with its various editors and name changes. Awards were presented for the various categories of entries in the model and photo contests. Winners from our division included Sam Swanson, MMR® and Don Hoffmann. The banquet always sums up one convention and previews the next, which in this case is our 2027 Convention next June. John Burchnall delivered an excellent presentation generating many positive comments and some advanced registrations by people in attendance. Our convention will be a full featured event that I hope everyone will participate in by assisting us in making it a success for all.

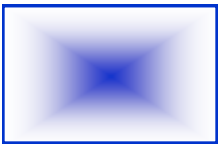
The biggest news I want to share, however, was something that I announced at the convention. Every year a few Mid-Central Region awards are handed out at the banquet. Each division Superintendent nominates members of their division or our region. The leaders of the divisions and the region then vote on those nominations. As Superintendent of Division 7, I had the honor of announcing the winner of the Wenderfer Award which we sponsor. This year's winner is our own Rick Crumrine. Since Rick was not at the banquet, I will be presenting him with the award at our July 12th meeting at the Kenton County Library in Erlanger, Kentucky. I hope you will be there to share in recognizing Rick at that time.

Our 5th Annual Division Picnic is in the books and it was again, a rousing success. The weather cooperated with the only rain hitting while we were all inside the Fernbank Lodge. As usual, the catered food was wonderful and the time shared by everyone there was memorable. The Team Trivia contest was tightly contested to the final round with a one-point victory by Chuck Endreola, Anne Barrie, Keith Corman and Martha Corman otherwise known as Mack the Knife. There were other winners as well. Twenty-eight door prizes were awarded to those attending. (See list posted elsewhere in this Oil Can). Unfortunately, a few members missed the fun due to illness or other reasons. I hope to see all who attended and more at the event next year. I want to thank all who donated door prizes, secured donations from others, and who assisted with the setup and tear down at the picnic – Ed Swain, Gary Ossenschmidt, John Shields, Chuck Endreola, Paul Miklos, Bob Shreve, John Burchnall, Tim Stout, Russ Poynter, Chris Shackleton, Roy Hord, Russ Poynter, my wife Sheila & me, Joe Wendeln, and Don Hoffmann. Thanks also to Chuck's granddaughter, Evelyn, for helping with the Check-in and Trivia Contest, my wife Sheila with Check-in, and Russ's granddaughters Ellie and Allie for helping with drawing the door prize tickets.

Next month, I will preview what I expect to experience at the NMRA National Convention and Train Show in Chattanooga, Tennessee at the end of July. This will be my first national convention, and I am happy to know that there are many Division 7 members who will also be attending.

Happy Modeling!

Tony



SECOND SECTION

Chris Shackleton
Asst. Super

I hope everyone had a wonderful time at our annual picnic! Turnout was excellent, the food was delicious, and the weather was (mostly) cooperative. It was great to see so many members and family members gathered together to enjoy the fun.

To echo Tony's sentiment in his article, a huge thank you to all who helped organize, set up, tear down, and donated prizes for the raffle. We could not have such great activities and events without the help, generosity, and cooperation of so many of our members and family members. Whether you assisted with planning, helped on the day of the event, or contributed raffle prizes, your efforts were greatly appreciated. We are looking forward to next year's picnic already!

Speaking of great events, look below at our clinician schedule for the next few months. Three Master Model Railroaders® in a row, plus visits to some exceptional home layouts! I hope to see everyone at next month's meeting at the Kenton County Library!

Coming Up:

Sunday, July 12th: Our July meeting will be held at the Kenton County Library in Erlanger, Kentucky. The model and photo contest will be "Non-Steam Locomotive." Sam Swanson, MMR® will share a clinic on "Module and Layout Construction with Foam." After the meeting, we will visit the layouts of Larry Goodridge and Bob Adams.

Sunday, August 9th: Our August meeting will be held at the Norwood Community Center in Norwood, Ohio. The model and photo contest will be "Box, Stock, or Refrigerator Car." Ray Persing, MMR® will share a presentation on "Modeling on a Budget: Turning Trash into Treasures." We'll also start handing out street signs for our Fall Show. After the meeting, we will visit the layouts of Roy Allan and Tom Brueggeman, MMR®.

Sunday, September 13th: Our September meeting will be held at the Cincinnati Marriott North Hotel in West Chester, Ohio. The model contest topic will be "Open Load Freight Car" and the photo contest topic will be "Self-Propelled Vehicle". Special visiting guest modeler and author Mike Tylick, MMR® will share a new clinic on "Scratch Building Scituate Marine Supply." This will also be the last chance to get some Fall Show street signs to post. After the meeting, we will visit the layouts of Paul Maciulewicz and Curt LaRue.

Chris

B.O.D. Meeting Summary

On-line Zoom Meeting

June 10th, 2026, 7pm

Roll Call: BOD Members-Bob Adams, John Burchnall, Rick Crumrine, Will Gregory, Roy Hord, Merlyn Jarman, Dave Puthoff, Chris Shackleton, John Shields, Bob Shreve, Tony Valerius

Roll Call: Chairs - Roy Allan, David Lamb, Paul Maciulewicz, Paul Musselman, Sam Parfitt, Russ Poynter, David Wynne, Chuck Endreola, Joe Stuber

Sick Call: No update on Georgia Dahlberg, Bruce Knapp is improving and Larry Bonhaus' surgery went well. Don Rigling moved to memory care facility. Joe Ross remains in an assisted living facility. Don Leedy passed away on May 21st (see notices on our website).

Officer Reports:

Superintendent [Valerius]: MCR BOD Report, Dayton Convention comments - Sam Swanson and Don Hoffman won contest awards. Rick Crumrine won the Wenderfer Award for promotion of the hobby.

Asst Superintendent [Shackleton]: June picnic was discussed. 2026 meeting/programs schedule

Treasurer [Koch]: Financials in good shape.

Secretary [Gregory]: check Oil Can for notes

Committee Reports:

Membership [Shields]: 224 (including Don Leedy), with 2 new members.

Flea Market [Ossenschmidt]: Contract for next year approved by the school. Firm date is 3/6/2027.

Model RR Roundtable [Swanson]: No report.

Car Project [Maciulewicz]: Approved artwork being sent to Accurail. Anticipated first run by end of June.

Old Business:

Convention [Burchnall]: Lots of interest and 5 more registrations from our booth at Dayton convention.

New Business:

Promotional Calling Cards [Stuber/Shields]: Motion passed to make business type info cards and artwork to use in membership activities in time for the Fall Show.

Division 7 promotional flyer [Jarman/Valerius]: Discussion to create a general flyer to put in hobby stores. All positive comments. No vote required.

Next BOD Meeting: Thursday, September 10, 2026 @ 7pm

LEADERSHIP CONTINUITY PLAN STATUS

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>Present Holder</u>	<u>Back Up(s)</u>
Treasurer	Frank Koch	John Shields
Bank Access	Frank Koch	Roy Hord
Achievement Program	Frank Koch	Roy Allan
Secretary	Will Gregory	Chris Shackleton
Membership	John Shields	Mike Tener
Oil Can Editor	Dave Puthoff	David Wynne
Webmaster	John Burchnall	David Lamb
Regulations Editor	Frank Koch	John Burchnall
Raffle	Russ Poynter	Chuck Endreola
Publicity	Merlyn Jarman	Randy Kerka
Email Notices	Bob Shreve	open
Social Media Chair	Pam Moleski	Nancy Windes
Registrar	Roy Hord	Steve Brown
Fall Show Chair	Rick Crumrine	Gary Ossenschmidt
Spring Flea Market	Gary Ossenschmidt	Rick Crumrine
Table Sales/Floor Plan	Roy Hord	Steve Brown
Street Signs Distributor	John Burchnall	open
Contest Chair	Roy Allan	John Listermann
Car Projects	Paul Maciulewicz	open
Community Service	Larry Bonhaus	open
Company Store	Paul Musselman	open
Video Library	David Wynne	open
Modelers Aid	Chuck Endreola/Sam Parfitt	open
A/V Meeting Operators	- several -	open

If you are interested in volunteering to back-up any of these open positions, please contact Tony Valerius, or the "Present Holder" for a description of duties.

Both New, and Veteran members are encouraged to become active in Division operations. Participation is rewarding!

NMRA Membership Renewal Service

Division 7 offers a convenient way to renew your NMRA membership. As your renewal time approaches, you will receive multiple reminders that the time is approaching. You will first receive an electronic notice about 60 days before your expiration date, then a paper mailed copy about 30 days before, another electronic notice when your expiration date comes, and then a mailed reminder about 30 days after your expiration date if you have not taken action by that date. Be sure to check your spam folder for notices from NMRA and/or check your membership card to know when your membership expires.

If you want Division 7 to submit your renewal, simply bring the renewal form and payment (cash, check, or credit card) to Frank Koch at any meeting. He will then submit it on the following day directly to HQ and renew your membership for you.

This also works if you have a Rail Pass membership that is about to expire and you want to renew. Just follow the same process as described above. The added bonus is that if you convert your Rail Pass to a full membership, Division 7 will rebate your Rail Pass fee directly to you.

Frank Koch

Division 7 Video Library

No new DVDs were added to the video library this month. I did, however, have time to review a video from Stoney Creek Designs entitled *An Introduction to PanPastels*.



This video demonstrates the different uses for PanPastels as both coloring agents and weathering agents in place of paint, stains and dry brushing. Having only a vague familiarity with PanPastels I was amazed at the ease with which this material can be used and the results that were achieved.

I also noticed that while our current library has an extensive collection of Eastern and Western Railroads as well as most modeling topics, we are under represented in both DCC hardware selection, installation and programming as well as local Midwestern/Granger Railroading. If anyone has any DVDs on these subjects that they would like to donate, just bring them to a meeting and I will take them off your hands and make them available for the rest of the division.

David Wynne

Another good reason you should join Division 7's On-Line Discussion Group — Ed.

**What are you missing out on?
What are you waiting for?**

Join the Cincinnati Division 7 Groups.io discussion group/forum!

Here's some of the recent discussion topics that have been posted there:

- Public Safety Announcement: Fire Safety and our Layouts!
- Christmas Modular Train Display at Liberty Center (Mall)!
- Sanded Grout - has anyone used it?
- Layout benchwork (This one was an ad for FREE L-Girders)

For you to join, simply search on "groups io cincinnati nmra" and you will be taken to the front door. From there simply request membership and I will get notified. I will approve any Cincinnati Division 7 NMRA Member in good standing.

NOTE: All posts must be free of disrespectful, derogatory, and/or inflammatory language and/or false statements. Behavior here will be civil with constructive criticism being the standard.

Cincinnati Division 7 NMRA Groups.io Moderator
Paul Maciulewicz

Cincinnati Division 7's Model Railroading Roundtable Program Announcements



Chris Shackleton hosted the first Model Railroading Roundtable of the year. Seven folks learned practical hands-on techniques in airbrush painting and weathering.

Upcoming Roundtables

We have three more roundtables scheduled for this year, starting in August and concluding in October. Below are most of the details for the upcoming roundtables; full details on Ray's September MRR will be announced soon.

Model Railroading Roundtable Invitation - August

Host – Sam Swanson

Topic – Making Details from Expanded Poly Styrene (XPS) Foam

Date and Time – Saturday, August 15, 2026, from 2-4pm

Location – 960 Lenox Place

Maximum Number of Attendees – 6

Response – nwindes1980@gmail.com

Stone and concrete retaining walls, tunnel portals, bridge abutments and building foundations are some of the structures that can be replicated from XPS insulation foam (pink, blue, or green sheets). We can work on those items, or other structures attendees are interested in (and are encouraged to bring reference photos). A variety of foam panels will be supplied, and some tools will be available (but bring a pencil and hobby knife that you're comfortable using). Please respond directly to me if you are interested in attending. I'll confirm the program details via email several days before our Saturday get-together.

Model Railroading Roundtable Invitation - September

Host – Ray Persing

Topic – Simple Structure Kit Construction and Finishing

Date and Time – Saturday, September TBD, 2026, from 2-4pm

Location – 5770 Chapel Heights Lane, Cincinnati OH 45247

Maximum Number of Attendees – 6

Response – trpersing@gmail.com

This roundtable will focus on basic construction and finishing techniques, continuing topics from my August Division 7 clinic of the same name. Various painting topics will be covered, including how to make inexpensive plastic kits appear more realistic. Please bring a model or two to discuss or to practice upon. I'll have several kits and components available to demonstrate and practice techniques. Some paints and brushes will be available, and participants are welcome and encouraged to bring their own as well.

Model Railroading Roundtable Invitation - October

Host – Rick Kramer and Bob Lawson

Topic – Exploring Options for motive power on your layout

Date and Time – Saturday, Oct 17, 2026, from 1-4pm

Location – 7532 Wetherington Drive, Westchester OH 45069

Maximum Number of Attendees – 8

Response – boblawsonmra@gmail.com

Today you have multiple options for powering your railroad. In this round table we will review the 3 most common ways ... DC, DCC and "Dead Rail". For many of us, we started into this hobby with the old analog system. A massive transformer took 110 AC from our home and converted it to a 0-15V DC signal which we ran to our tracks. This variable voltage was picked up by the locomotives and powered the motor directly. More voltage, more speed. To change directions, you had to change the polarity of the wires feeding the tracks.

Enter DCC...which stands for Digital Command Control. A newer way to control your motive power. Instead of a variable voltage on the tracks, DCC sends a full AC voltage to the racks and adds a bipolar square waveform signal, which contains digital information. This digital information is what controls the locomotive. A special device called a decoder is installed in the locomotive to receive this information and ultimately control it.

Another form of power, popular amongst larger Scale modelers (O,G), is what is called dead rail or battery powered. Here the tracks carry no power at all. All the power needed comes from a battery (or series of them) that is onboard the locomotive or in a trailing "battery car". Control signals are sent from special hand-held throttle controllers to onboard receivers via radio (or blue tooth) waves. The receiver combines the battery power and the control signals and passes it to the decoder.

In this round table, we will explore these options more fully. We will provide detailed explanations of the components necessary, approximate costs and pros and cons of each. We will demonstrate each option on Bob's layout which utilizes all three.

Future Roundtables

We're now looking to assemble the 2027 schedule, so if you'd like to host a Model Railroading Roundtable (MRR), please email (nwindes1980@gmail.com) with your topic and preferred timeframe, and we'll schedule you accordingly.

Sam Swanson

Division 7 MRR Program Coordinator



**CINCINNATI DIVISION 7
MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA
2026 CONTEST THEMES**



MONTH	MODELS	PHOTOGRAPHY
January	12/25: Box, Reefer, Stock Car 1/26: Passenger Train Car	12/25: Box, Reefer, Stock Car 1/26: Passenger Train Car
February	Caboose (any EOT device freight train car)	Caboose (any EOT device freight train car)
March	- No contest (Flea Market) -	- No contest (Flea Market) -
April	Hopper or Gondola Car (open or closed)	Hopper or Gondola Car (open or closed)
May	Steam Locomotive	Steam Locomotive
June	- No contest (Picnic) -	- No contest (Picnic) -
July	Non-Steam Locomotive	Non-Steam Locomotive
August	Box, Refrigerator or Stock Car	Box, Refrigerator or Stock Car
September	Open Load Freight Car	Dirt or Road Motor Propelled Vehicle
October	Tank or Flat Car (with or without load)	Tank or Flat Car (with or without load)
November	Maintenance-of-Way (MOW) Equipment	Maintenance-of-Way (MOW) Equipment
December	Building, Bridge, Diorama or Scene	Building, Bridge, Scene, Diorama, or RR'ers at Work

Contest Sub-Classes

MODEL (up to 3 total entries permitted): Kit-Built, Kit-Bashed or Scratch-Built

PHOTO (up to 3 total entries permitted): Model or Prototype

April 15, 2026



DIVISION 7 - COMMITTEE REPORTS

June 2026



Superintendent (Tony Valerius): As a member in good standing of Division 7, you have the opportunity to attend BOD (Board of Directors) meetings. You may voice your opinion and/or introduce new ideas and suggestions. At this time, the BOD meets via Zoom. Contact Chris Shackleton, John Burchnall or me, and we'll gladly email you the link. Hope to see you there.

Recruitment and Retention (John Shields): The "latest" information from National (as of June 1) shows our current count is 224.

We have two new members to welcome from May.

Bruce Downs from Anderson Township

Fred Lutt from Finneytown

Thank you to the eight members who renewed in the last month.

This month's eight renewals included one Railpass member. Thank you Sam Scoggins.

It was good to see a number of our members at the Mid Central Region Convention in Dayton at the beginning of June. It reminds me that our committee members are frequently called on to justify NMRA membership by explaining what one gets for joining (or renewing). The answer is probably different for each of us, but it usually involves things that the local division does. Here was an exception to my "rule"; something available to members from our Region. Did you go, or did you miss out on this "benefit" of membership? For that matter, are you taking advantage of all the things that Cincinnati Division 7 offers? If you are unsure, send me an email. The key to the "Retention" part of our committee's work is making sure members agree that we provide value.

John Shields

Qcengineers@aol.com

513-561-8691

MCR Report (John Shields), **National Report** (Frank Koch / Pam Moleski),

Achievement Program (Frank Koch), **Monthly Raffle** (Russ Poynter),

Community Service (Larry Bonhaus),

Modelers Aid (Bruce Knapp / Sam Parfitt), **Fall Train Show** (Rick Crumrine),

Operations Activities (Rick Stern), **Facebook Page** (Pam Moleski),

Spring Flea Market (Gary Ossenschmidt / Roy Hord), and

YouTube (David Lamb): No report this month

Car Projects (Paul Maciulewicz): See the Car Project Announcement elsewhere in this Oil Can

Oil Can (Dave Puthoff): Submissions for the August Oil Can are due by July 17.

Web Site (John Burchnall): Updated meetings, events, convention, newsletter, memoriams and home page.

Video Library (David Wynne): See the Video Library Announcement elsewhere in this Oil Can

DIVISION 7 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division 7 Car Project (Limited Availability!)

Virginian & Ohio 36' Wooden Boxcar

In 1923, the Miami Valley Railroad, a subsidiary of the Virginian & Ohio, ordered 50 boxcars from American Car and Foundry. These cars had an inside length of 36' 5", an inside height of 8' 4", an inside width of 8' 6", and a capacity of 2580 cubic feet. They featured Hutchinson steel roofs, 7/7 inverted rib steel ends, seven-foot wooden doors, Andrews trucks, and K-style air brakes. The cars were delivered with MVR reporting marks.

The V&O also ordered 34 of these cars, which were delivered in V&O livery and carried V&O reporting marks. Some of these cars were rebuilt at the West Carrollton shops in July 1940 in the buildup to World War II. The last of these cars continued in service until late 1952. V&O Tool Car No. 435 was rebuilt at West Carrollton in December 1946. It continued in service on the V&O into the late 1960s.

Manufactured in the USA by Accurail, these Limited-Edition HO Scale Car Kits were designed by W. Allen McClelland and produced with his permission by Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.

Of the four different cars and road numbers originally made - only 1 version is still available but in very limited quantity!

Gray V&O MOW #435



Pricing is \$21.00 per car. Shipping (USPS) & handling is \$10.40 for one car, and \$18.40 for two or more cars via USPS. **Ohio residents, please add 7.8% sales tax on the total price of the kits and the shipping/handling fee.**

Prior to ordering, please email our Car Projects Chairperson first to confirm availability and postage amount. Then, when ordering, please send your email and phone information along with a check or money order in US dollars, payable to Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA, to:

**Cincinnati Division 7 Car Projects
c/o Paul Maciulewicz
9151 Congress Court
West Chester, Ohio 45069**

DIVISION 7 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Great Northern Railway Operating Session on July 18 at 7 PM (Saturday)

NOTE: Contact Sam Parfitt prior to attending, in order to confirm the Operating Session. --- Ed.

GNRW ops is on the 3rd W/E Saturday.

Pizza at 6:30-7:00.
Please email if attending.

NEW POLICY:

Since there's not a lot to do outside our homes related to railroading, those who wish to have a 'one-on-one' or with own friends to operate the layout during the month, please email or call.
Being retired, I spend the bulk of my time in the basement so visitors are always welcomed. Thanks.

NEW PROJECTS:

Installed decoders in several more engines. A selection of 100 engines can now be done.

Mission Statement: Main theme of my railroad (besides modeling the Great Northern Railway): when building the railroad, I wanted to model mainline running with big time steam and 'scale like' trains of 25-45 cars on single track mainline with passing sidings.

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.

For pictures see:

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

Video:

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

The Operating session is also listed in the NMRA MCR div 7 web site:

<https://cincy-div7.org/events.html>

Junk food and beverage will be available

Thanks

Sam Parfitt

samparfitt@fuse.net

8795 Goldcrest Dr

West Chester OH, 45069

cell: 513-378-9133

DIVISION 7 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Larry Bonhaus

Larry has been a member of Division 7 for the past 24 years and has served this Division in multiple ways over the years. Larry has been dealing with a health issue for some time and now needs a new kidney. Please read the scanned postcard entry on this page. If you or someone you know might be willing to be a Living Kidney Donor, please use the contact information on the card to investigate further. Also, please share this information with others to help get the word out and improve the chances that he finds a donor.



My Story:

I am a loving husband, father and grandfather who needs a living kidney donor to save my life so I can see my grandchildren grow up. I have served as Music Director of the all-volunteer Cincinnati Civic Orchestra for more than 40 years and need a kidney to lead the orchestra through its 100th anniversary season in 2028-2029. As creator of one of America's largest N-scale model railroads, a donor kidney would allow me to open my home layout for attendees of the Cincinnati 2027 national model railroad convention.

 [Larry's Kidney Quest](#)



[Learn more](#) 

Become a Living Kidney Donor...

Larry's Kidney Quest

Become a Living Kidney Donor

4832 Cooper Road., #190
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242

Place Stamp Here

 **NO COST**
No cost to you. All testing and surgery are covered by recipient's insurance.

 **ANY BLOOD TYPE**
Any blood type can be considered.

CALL TODAY
Larry's Kidney Quest

The Christ Hospital
Jackie Haney, 513.585.1440

You don't need to live near the transplant center to go through the testing process or donation surgery. Please call the transplant center and they will guide you through the next steps.

 **OFF THE LIST®**
on to living
getoffthelist.org

DIVISION 7 - ANNOUNCEMENTS



Gary Held

1948 – 2026

It is with great sadness we report Cincinnati Div. 7 member Gary Edward Held of Florence, KY passed away on June 11, 2026 at the age of 78. Gary formerly lived in Jacksonville, FL, and had a 40-year career with CSX Railroad. He was a member of Cincinnati Div. 7 of the National Model Railroad Association since October of 2023. Gary is survived by his wife, Roxie and several other close relatives. Our condolences go to all Gary's friends and family. Visitation was held on June 18, in Fort Thomas, KY, with burial in Alexandria Cemetery on June 19. See the [Memoriams](#) page on our website for Gary's official obituary with service details and expanded information.

Compiled by John Burchnall

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 will periodically re-evaluate the program. 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.

Picture	Description	Price	Name	Phone, or Email	Listing No.
	Walthers 933-3070, Operating bascule bridge.	\$75	Sam Parfitt	samparfitt@fuse.net	357-Apr 26
	Walthers 933-3088/1050, Double track swing bridge	\$60	Sam Parfitt	samparfitt@fuse.net	358-Apr 26
	Stewart EMD F-7 Phase I late, A/B Set , Clinchfield, gray w/yellow trim, no numbers Retail: \$150.00	\$110	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	359-Jun 26
	Stewart GE U25B Phase IV, PRR, Brunswick green, no. 2651 Retail: \$69.95	\$50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	360-Jun 26
	Proto 2000 EMD GP18 diesel, dynamic, olive drab/yellow trim, Seaboard #400. Retail: \$70.00	\$40	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	361-Jun 26
	Proto 2000 EMD FA2 diesel, Brunswick Green, PRR #9620. Retail: \$75.00	\$50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	362-Jun 26
	Atlas ALCo S-2 diesel, PRR, non-dynamic, Brunswick green, #5927. Retail: \$62.95	\$50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	363-Jun 26
	Atlas EMD S-4 diesel, PRR, non-dynamic, Brunswick green, #8434. Retail: \$98.95	\$50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	364-Jun 26
	Atlas EMD FP-7 diesel, PRR, dynamic, Brunswick green, #9837. Retail: \$99.95	\$50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	369-Jul 26
	Atlas ALCo RS-3 diesel, WM, dynamic, black w/fireball, no number. Retail: \$109.95.	\$60	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	370-Jul 26
	Stewart EMD F7A, phase I late diesel, WM speed lettering, black, no number. Retail: \$89.00	\$60	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	367-Jun 26
	Stewart Baldwin AS-16 diesel, PRSL (Seashore Lines), black, #6013. Retail: \$99.98	\$60	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com	371-Jul 26

Division 7 Annual Family Picnic



Photos by Sam Parfitt

Division 7 Annual Family Picnic



Photos by Dave Puthoff

2026 Picnic Door Prize List/Winners

Prize	Donor	Winner
Skyline Gift Basket	Skyline Chili	Barb Poynter
(3) – Car kits (Funaro, Accurail, Proto 2000)	Ed Swain	Connie Brueggeman
(3) – Car kits (2 Accurail, one unknown)	Gary Ossenschmidt	John Burchnall
Walthers “Furniture Factory” kit	Hamilton Hobbies	Joe Wendeln
Works Wash Book	Mike’s Car Wash	Sheila Valerius
Allied Rail Gift Certificate	Allied Rail	Will Gregory
Allied Rail Gift Certificate	Allied Rail	Don Hoffmann
ATSY Catering certificate	At Your Service Now	Liz Hoffmann
Esther Price Gift Basket	Esther Price	Donald Docter
Ace Hardware Gift Certificate	Ace Hardware	Bill Ferris
Hobby Town Gift Certificate	HobbyTown	
Montgomery Inn Sauce/Gift Cards	Tony Valerius	Mary Duke
T.Yorke Warehouse diorama	Russ Poynter (Lawson)	Sam Parfitt
Book set	Cincinnati Rail Club	Peter Tyjeweski
Book set	Cincinnati Rail Club	Larry Bonhaus
Book set	Cincinnati Rail Club	Russ Poynter
Massage Gift Certificate	Via Massage	Judy Haggard
Massage Gift Certificate	Via Massage	Keith Corman
2 C.U.T. images	Bob’s Photos	Chris Glynn
Set of Paints, etc.	Chris Shackleton	David Wynne
Framed Convention Poster & T-shirt, Discount Coupons	Bob Shreve Mike’s Car Wash	Paul Musselman
Lionel HO Train Set	Tony Valerius	Pam Moleski
Westboro Sandhouse Hobby Town Gift Certificate	Tim Stout HobbyTown	Sam Swanson, MMR®
Tower City book & O-gauge DVD	Tony Valerius	Bruce Knapp
Mr. Redleg 150 bobblehead Hobby Town Gift Certificate	Tony Valerius HobbyTown (Paul Miklos)	Ellie Kemplin
Walthers Merchant’s Row V	Tony Valerius	Leo Honebrink
Charcuterie board & Utensils	Sheila Valerius	Barb Puthoff
Steam Locomotive sculpture	John Burchnall	Gary Ossenschmidt
Contigo Water Bottle	Sheila Valerius	Hildy Bonhaus
2 Gift Certificates (Trivia Contest) 4 Gift Certificates (Trivia Contest)	Hamilton Hobbies Division 7	Team: Mack the Knife Chuck Endreola, Anne Barrie, Keith & Martha Corman



2027 Convention News

Current Efforts
Early Bird Registrations
Webpage & Publicity
Convention Shirts



Current Focus Areas – This will be a full featured convention, including the full traditional triad of main attractions – Excursions (both prototype and general interest), Clinics (and Workshops), and Layout Ops and Tours (all self-guided). Our leaders and their teams are currently working to secure these exciting main events. Planning for all our other attractions (Raffle, White Elephant Sale, In-Hotel Layouts, Contest, Banquet) is also progressing. All these areas need to be firmed up by mid-Oct to be represented in our full registration package to be issued this Dec/Jan. Volunteers recruitment for our many activities and shifts will begin after then.

Early Bird Registrations – As previously announced, early bird registrations are available now. Simply copy the form in this Oil Can, or download the same from our convention webpage, then fill it out and mail it in. Registering now, rather than waiting for the electronic version, or the full package to be issued in Dec/Jan, gives you priority for upcoming sign-ups for op sessions and extra-fare events (banquet, excursions, workshops). Just as in our prior conventions, everyone participating or working in any convention event held at the hotel must register for the convention.

Convention Webpage and Publicity Materials – Please visit our convention page on our website for extensive info on our convention plans, attractions, contacts and publicity materials, including our slide show and 2-page flyer. Hotel and convention registration info is also shared, including how to easily submit your early bird registrations. Webpage Link: <https://cincy-div7.org/2027-convention>

Convention Shirts – As previously announced, our convention shirts are available now for everyone to order, enjoy and wear to help promote our convention. They are only available directly from our local shirt vendor, and are sold at cost via a user-friendly self-serve on-line ordering system. See the attached shirt flyer. Here's the ordering link. Its also on the shirt flyer and convention page on our website. Shirt ordering: <https://cincinnati2027.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

John Burchnall
2027 MCR Convention Chair

2027 MCR Convention Shirts

*Reg. sizes add

\$2 for 2XL
 \$6 for 3XL
 \$8 for 4XL
 \$12 for 5XL
 \$14 for 6XL



*Tall sizes add

\$2 for XLT
 \$4 for 2XLT
 \$6 for 3XLT
 \$8 for 4XLT

All Shirts Royal Blue color. Pocketed shirts have pocket on left and embroidery on right. Otherwise, embroidery on left.

*add local & state tax + delivery cost if UPS selected

Delivery Options: 1) UPS shipping to you, 2) pickup at a Cinti Div 7 meeting, 3) pickup at Cincinnati convention

Place your order(s) directly at:

<https://cincinnati2027.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

Cornerstone Industrial Snag Proof Pique Polo (short sleeve)

6.5 oz, 100% Poly

Men's w/ Pocket CS4020P \$37*

Men's w/o Pocket CS4020 \$35*



Port Authority Long Sleeve Easy Care Shirt

4.5 oz, 45/55 cotton/poly
 Navy Lining

Men's w/ Pocket S608 \$42*

Women's w/o Pocket L608 \$42*

Tall Men's w/ Pocket TLS608 \$44*



Port Authority Silk Touch Polo (short sleeve)

5.0 oz, 35/65 cotton/poly

Men's w/ Pocket K500P \$36*

Men's w/o Pocket K500 \$33*

Women's w/o Pocket L500 \$33*

Tall Men's w/ Pocket TLK500P \$38*

Tall Men's w/o Pocket TLK500 \$35*





THE CINCINNATIAN

Mid Central Region Convention

West Chester, Ohio, June 3-6, 2027

Hosted by Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA

Mail to: Cincinnati Registrar

Email questions to:

reg@cincy-div7.org

6526 Hollowview Ct.

Liberty Twp, OH 45011

EARLY REGISTRATION FORM (sets priority for Tours, Banquet, Workshops, Ops)

Primary Registrant Name _____

NMRA # _____ Region _____ Division _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Id _____ Phone _____

REGISTRATIONS

Item	Quantity	Price	Amount
Full Regular Registration (at least one required) ***		\$90	\$
Family Registration (Companion or Teenager)		\$30	\$
Family Registration (Child 12 or Under)		Free	\$ - 0 -
NMRA RailPass 9 Mo. Trial Membership w/digital mag.**		\$20	\$
NMRA 1 Yr Membership with digital NMRA magazine *		\$68	\$
NMRA 1 Yr Membership w/print & digital NMRA mag.*		\$92	\$
Total Amount Enclosed (extra fare sign-ups later)			\$

* See NMRA.org website for all membership classes ** 2+ yr. non-members eligible for RailPass

*** Primary Registrant must be an NMRA member at the time of the convention

Names for Badges: _____

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PAYMENT INFORMATION

Make Checks Payable to "Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA." Check # _____

Credit Card # _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Expiration Date: (MM/YY) _____ / _____ CVV 1 _____ CVV 2 (AMEX) _____

Starting Sep 1, 2026 make **hotel** reservations directly w/ **Holiday Inn Cinti N - W. Chester**, 5800

Mulhauser Rd, W. Chester, OH 45069, via "**future weblink TBD**" or (513) 874-2744, using Code

"**MCR 2027**". Special pre-tax room pricing is \$159 for a King Bed or Two Queen Beds.

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Processed: _____ Reg. Number(s) _____ v5 12Feb2026



Welcome Back!
June 3-6, 2027

*Our first NMRA
convention since 2018*



We've prepared tons of fun for everyone!



Abundant Premier Layouts!

Tours most Morns, Afts and Eves! Op Sessions all 4 days! All layouts self-guided (no buses) Special Thurs Afternoon Early-Bird Openings: *Bob Lawson* (HO, new) and *Larry Bonhaus* (N)



Awesome Commercial Bus Tours!

Fantastic Rail Industry Prototype Tours
Fabulous General Interest Excursions
Special Tour of Cincinnati Union Terminal



Numerous Clinics & Workshops

Special Guests *Stephen & Cinthia Priest*,
Lou & Cheryl Sassi, Firecrown CEO *Craig Fuller*
3 Huge Clinic Rooms + Hands-on Workshops



Many Other In-Hotel Attractions

Extra Large White Elephant (Yard) Sale!
Model, Photo and Crafts Contests
Raffle, Company Store, T-Trak Layout
Hotel Layouts, Saturday Night Banquet



Register Now for Priority on Extra Fares & Ops

See <https://cincy-div7.org/2027-convention>





Abundant Layout Events

From 100 layouts, 47 published, 10 in GMR
Bob Lawson and Larry Bonhaus on Thurs Aft
Layout Open Houses most Morns, Afts, Eves
Daily Operating Sessions, Hotel Layouts
All layout transports self-guided (no buses)



Fantastic Industry Tours

Tentative

Precision Strip Steel Slitting
Cohen Scrap Processing
Distillery & Flour Milling
Brighton Vessels, Tropicana
Anchor Glass, Cinti Barge/Grain



Fabulous Excursions

Tentative

Cincinnati Union Terminal Special Tour
American Sign Museum (2X size now)
Findlay Market & Cinti Conservatory
Behringer-Crawford Museum
Jungle Jims International Market
Fire Museum, Aquarium, Cinti Zoo



Wonderful Modern Hotel

Holiday Inn Cincinnati North (513) 874-2744
I-75 & Union Center Blvd, West Chester, OH
\$159/nite King or Two Queen Beds, Pre-Tax
Hotel reservations open Sept 1, 2026, made
via on-line hotel link on convention website
listed below, and via code "MCR 2027"

Great Guest Speakers

Craig Fuller, Lou & Cheryl Sassi,
Cinthia & Stephen Priest, ...



Register Now!

\$90 Primary, \$30 Family (Spouse/Teen), Kids under 13 Free w/ Reg. Adult
Early Bird manual reg. form available (sets priority for Extra Fares & Ops) on
<https://cincy-div7.org/2027-convention> – Full on-line reg. available Dec/Jan

Cincinnati Division 7 N.M.R.A. - 2026 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 11	West – Dunham Recreation Center (near Queen City Ave)	Annual Snackfest Celebration + Potluck Electronic Slide Show Part 2	Dec: Box, Stock, Reefer Car January: Any Pass. Train Car	Keith Corman
Feb	Sun, Feb 1 (note date)	North – Cincinnati North Holiday Inn (West Chester)	Bob Frankrone “Creating Operations on the Louisville Southern Lines”	Model & Photo: Caboose or any EOT device freight car	Sam Parfitt + Chris Shackleton
Mar	Sat, Mar 7 10 am – 3 pm	Annual Spring Flea Market Lakota West Freshman School	Dealer, Sales, Membership and Modeler Aid Booths	None	None
Apr	Sun, Apr 12	East – Mt. Carmel American Legion Hall	Chris Shackleton “Taking the Pain Out of Painting”	Model & Photo: Hopper or Gondola Car	Mike Strasinger + Chuck Behymer
May	Sun, May 3 (note date)	Northeast – American Legion Hall Post 194, Mason, Ohio	Lou and Cheryl Sassi “Using Scenic Features to Focus Viewpoints”	Model & Photo: Steam Locomotive	Bob Bartizek + Mike Rottenberger
Jun	Thu, June 4 to Sun, June 7	MCR Convention – “Whistle-Stop – Dayton” – Dayton, OH	Clinics, Banquet, Yard Sale, Tours	Convention Contests	Convention Tours and Layouts
Jun	Sun, Jun 14 1 – 5 pm	Family Picnic/Social at Fernbank Park in Cinti, Ohio	Catered Social Event (Food, Games, Door Prizes) - must register by June 7	Team Trivia & Door Prizes	None
Jul	Sun, Jul 12	? South – Erlanger, Kentucky Kenton County Library	Sam Swanson MMR® “Module and Layout Construction with Foam”	Model & Photo: Non-Steam Locomotive	Larry Goodridge + Bob Adams
Jul	Mon, Jul 27 to Sun, Aug 2	NMRA Natl Convention - Scenic City Express – Chattanooga, TN	Clinics, Tours, Programs, Layouts, Banquet, National Train Show	Convention Contests	Convention Tours & Train Show Layouts
Aug	Sun, Aug 9	Central – Norwood Community Center in Norwood, Ohio	Ray Persing MMR® “Modeling on a Budget: Turning Trash into Treasures”	Model & Photo: Box, Stock or Refrigerator Car	Tom Brueggeman, MMR® + Roy Allan
Sep	Sun, Sep 13	North – Cincinnati Marriott North Hotel (Union Ctr Blvd)	Mike Tylick MMR® “Scratch Building Scituate Marine Supply”	Model: Open Load Freight Car Photo: Self Propelled Vehicle	Paul Maciulewicz + Curt LaRue
Oct	Sun, Oct 4 (note date)	North – Cincinnati North Holiday Inn (West Chester)	Rick Kramer “Animations with Arduinos”	Model & Photo: Tank or Flat Car	Gary Ossenschmidt + Steve Montgomery
Oct	Sat 10 & Sun 11 10 am to 4 pm	57th Annual Fall Train Show Lakota West High School	Cincinnati Model Train & Trade Show Sales, Layouts, Booths and Displays	None	Train Show Portable Layouts
Nov	Sun, Nov 8	Northeast – American Legion Hall Post 194, Mason, Ohio	Chuck Endreola “Dioramas – Why and How”	Model & Photo: Maintenance-of-Way (MOW) Equipment	Ed Swain + another tbd
Dec	Sun, Dec 13	East – Mt. Carmel American Legion Hall	Potluck Electronic Slides and Annual Snackfest Celebration	Model: Structure or Diorama Photo: Structure or Men at Work	Rick Crumrine + John Listermann

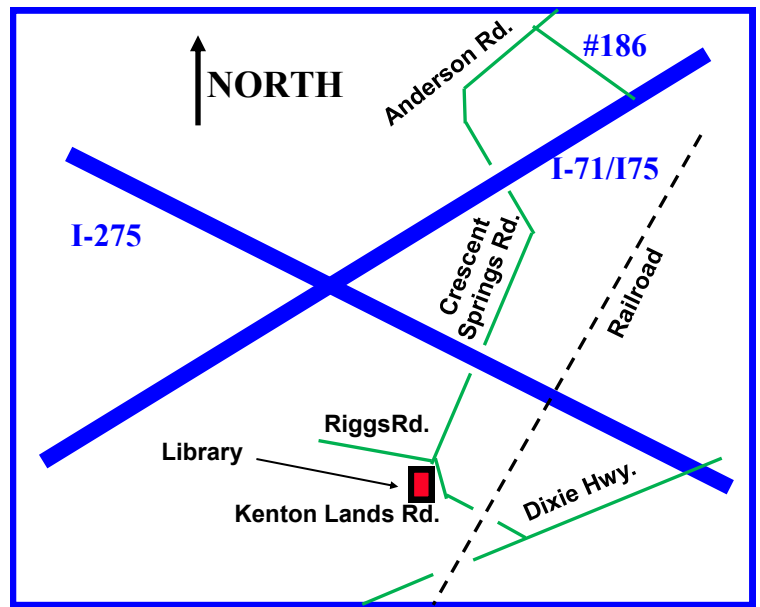
Next Meeting

2 PM Sunday July 12

Erlanger Library
401 Kenton Lands Rd.
Erlanger KY 41018

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

2026 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>
7/12	Kenton County Library Erlanger KY	Sam Swanson MMR® <i>Module & Layout Construction With Foam</i>	Larry Goodridge Bob Adams	<u>Models:</u> Non-Steam Locomotive <u>Photos:</u> Non-Steam Locomotive
8/9	Norwood Community Ctr. Norwood OH	Ray Persing MMR® <i>Modeling on a Budget: Turning Trash into Treasures</i>	Tom Brueggeman MMR® Roy Allan	<u>Models:</u> Box, Stock, Refrig. Car <u>Photos:</u> Box, Stock, Refrig. Car
9/13	Cinti. Mariott North Hotel West Chester OH	Mike Tylick MMR® <i>Scratch Building Scituate Marine Supply</i>	Paul Maciulewicz Curt LaRue	<u>Models:</u> Open Load Freight Car <u>Photos:</u> Self-propelled Vehicle

Around the Division
2026

7/16, 7:15 pm Lebanon Modelers - Lebanon OH

Region / National
2026

**7/27-8/2, 2026, NMRA National Convention,
Scenic City Express, - Chattanooga, TN**

Modeling Problems? - Ask the Modelers Aid Committee

Bruce Knapp (513) 941-2713
Sam Parfitt (513) 378-9133

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