

THE

Oil Can

November. 2012



Volume VI Issue 11



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The Editor's Corner

Don Phillips

Remember, next Sunday's meeting starts at either 2 PM or 1 PM depending on whether or not you remembered to turn your clock back.

Forty-five fall shows and counting. I wonder if there's any way of determining how many people came through those forty-five shows?

Even more interesting is: Of all the kids who visited our show this year, how many do you suppose will be volunteering to put on the train show forty-five years from now?

**HOC MODO FERROVIA
OPERARE INFERNO EST**

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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:

Great Northern's 2044 leads a mixed freight on to the big trestle of Sam Parfitt's basement filling layout.

My wife and I managed to sneak away to “burn” some precious vacation days a few weeks ago. We spent two nights at the Delta Queen Hotel. Yes, the venerable old Delta Queen is now permanently docked in Chattanooga on the Tennessee River, repurposed as a hotel! Our 10’ X 10’ “Deluxe” stateroom was very tiny and the 5’ 10” ceilings in the phone booth sized bathroom convinced both of us that we should probably start skipping a few meals! Chattanooga has a very dynamic waterfront with something going on almost every night of the week. The Wine Festival was a hoot (at least what I can remember of it)!

We then moved on to spend two nights at The Chattanooga Choo Choo Hotel. Very cool. Our hotel room was actually half of an 80’ 1940’s passenger car. I can’t remember ever staying in a hotel room that was 40’ long! The Chattanooga Model Railroad Club maintains a HUGE permanent layout on the hotel property that is very much worth the time. The hotel lobby, restaurants and gift shops are what was once the Chattanooga Terminal Station. It is a beautiful place, very “railroady” and I highly recommend it.

We boarded the Tennessee Valley Railroad for an all day ride to Summerville, Georgia. It was a great ride behind their Southern 2-8-0 steam loco. You meet the most memorable people on a train. One guy claimed to be the next-door neighbor of TV’s Honey Boo-Boo. ‘Nuff said about that. I got a new appreciation for how hard the not-so-average “rail fan” works when we saw the same film crew on the roadside at least 30 times! Turns out they were filming a commercial video featuring the Summerville Steam Special.

At the front of the Tennessee Valley Railroad property sits the NMRA Headquarters building. I must say, I was very pleased and impressed with the reception that Linda and I received when we barged in there unannounced. Jenny Hendricks, NMRA Chief Administrative Officer, graciously took the time to give us the grand tour. Mainly, it’s an office... an office with a basement that defies description. There are many, many layouts or partial layouts stored there awaiting the funds necessary to ship these terrific examples of superior model railroading to their future exhibit home at the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento. When completed, over 250,000 folks per year will visit that venue which will no doubt make the exhibit an incredible promotion for model railroading and the NMRA! Add to that the phenomenal literature, map and drawing archives (the very same ones being digitized and put on the NMRA Web Site) and we had one truly amazing experience. Thanks, Jenny. But now I am home and back to reality.

The 45th Annual Cincinnati Model Train Show is now history! Another fine show it was, even with the unexpected evacuation when the fire alarm went off. Total attendance was somewhere north of 3,000 and virtually all the visitors and vendors I spoke with (and there was a lot of them) were happy with their weekend experience. And yes, that was my ugly mug on WXIX Fox19 on Saturday morning promoting the event! (I have never been so terrified in all my life!) Our sincere thanks go out to Dan Wells of Fox19. Polling the Door Prize entry slips show that at least 40 folks came to the Show because they saw that that 3-minute spot. Total cost to the Division... \$0.00!

This year’s effort put forth by our Division 7 Volunteers was again exceptional. These intrepid folks worked to near exhaustion again this year. Without that degree of dedication our biggest fundraiser of the year would no doubt be a disaster. Please consider getting involved next year if you can... we can always use more help!

On the National front: About half of the money needed to meet the “matching gift” to the “Magic of Scale Model Railroading” exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum has been raised. An anonymous donor has offered to put \$250,000 of his own money into the Exhibit if we can raise a matching amount. In addition to NMRA member donations, various manufacturers have made substantial donations to the exhibit. No NMRA dues money is being used to fund this project. Look for an informative article in the November issue of *NMRA Magazine* for more details on the Exhibit and fund raising efforts.

The newly formed NMRA Marketing Department is working with Amtrak stations in major cities to get modular layouts placed there in an effort to raise awareness of our hobby.

That’s it for now. See you all on November 4th in Hamilton.

Randy

SECOND SECTION

Bob Shreve
Asst. Super

It's Sunday night of Train Show Weekend. The last vendor's van has been packed full and sent on its way. The last layout is gone. And the last table has been put back on the truck (thankfully a job now done by people much younger than me). It was an interesting weekend. (Note to self: always keep your jacket with you cause you don't know when you might be sent outside for a while.) Thanks to all of the Division 7 members who help make this one of the best shows around.

A week before the Train Show, our October meeting was at the West Chester library next to Lakota West High School. Randy kept the business meeting going at a brisk pace, which gave time to do the bragging part of the Bring-n-Brag contest before the break. Unfortunately, the video coverage could have been better. (Another note: Remember to bring some lights.) John Altshool and Ron Gribler gave mini clinics on wheelset painting and foam roadbed carving, respectively. After the meeting, Curt LaRue and Sam Parfitt opened their terrific layouts for visitors. Thanks to John, Ron Curt, Sam, and those who bragged for an entertaining afternoon.

The November meeting will be at Partners in Prime (formerly known as the Hamilton Senior Center) on November 4th. The meeting is one week earlier than the normal second Sunday meeting date. Our clinician will be well-known photographer and modeler Lou Sassi. In addition to his own modeling work, Lou has also photographed many Division 7 layouts for the pages of various Kalmbach publications. Lou will explain how he researched and constructed a module featuring a tannery located near the town where he grew up. There will be layouts galore to visit in November. The Whistle Stop Train Club at the center will be open before and after the meeting. After the meeting, Charlie Atkinson will host a visit to see his N-scale layout. Down at the old Ross High School, you will be able to see the Cincinnati Northern, Ross Rails, Black Diamond Lines, and Queen City Engineers layouts.

The Dayton Division 3 Train Show will also be the weekend of November 3rd and 4th at Hara Arena. Let's see, that's 2 Division 7 meetings and 2 train shows in the space of 4 weeks. Whew!

The last meeting of the year will be on December 9th at Westwood United Methodist Church. Randy and I will bring the food. You folks bring the pictures. As we did last year, we will plan on electronic format, only.

The schedule is shaping up for 2013. The year will start off with Brad Jonas presenting his clinic on photo backdrops in January and Ed Swain showing another round of background building kit bashing. Other clinicians include Frank Koch, Matt Snell, Sam Swanson, and a clinic on Garden Railroads. There are still some openings, so contact me if you have an idea for a clinic, or if you would be willing to have some visitors over to see your handiwork.

See you at the meeting.

Bob

Did you know? Division 7 membership stands at 321

October Competition

Models

Bring-n-Brag (Structures)

Box Stk: 1st. **Paul Musselman-** Depot & Platform

Kitbash: 1st. **Bob Chapman-** General Store

Scratch: 1st. **Georgia Dahlberg-** Sherman Tavern
 2nd (tie) **Chuck Endreola-** Triple Bridge
 2nd (tie) **Ron Gribler-** Small Engine House

Photos

Trains on Trestles or Bridges

Model: 1st. **Randy Seiler-** C&O #5711 w/Fruit Expr.
 2nd **Jerry Baston-** PRR Diesel w/Passenger Cars
 3rd (tie) **Randy Seiler-** C&O #5711 w/freight
 3rd (tie) **Randy Seiler-** C&O #5711 on Bridge

Proto: 1st. **Jerry Baston-** NS Diesel w/freight Train
 2nd. **Jerry Baston-** CRR Diesel w/Passenger Cars

Point Standings thru October

Model

G. Dahlberg - - - 10
 R. Gribler - - - - 10
 F. Hermanek - - - 09
 J. Bonnett - - - - 08
 P. Simpson - - - - 08
 S. Parfitt - - - - 07
 R. Stern - - - - 07
 R. Chapman - - - 04
 J. Corbett - - - - 03
 C. Endreola - - - 03
 R. Kerka - - - - 03
 J. MacKnight - - 03
 P. Musselman - - 03
 J. Ossmann - - - 03
 J. Rollwage - - - 03
 J. Listermann - - 02
 T. Brueggemann- 01
 R. Taylor - - - - 01

Photos

J. Baston - - - - 38
 R. Seiler - - - - 14
 R. Adams - - - 09
 J. Listermann - 07
 G. Dahlberg - - 05
 R. Hord - - - - 05
 J. MacKnight - 04
 J. Corbett - - - 03
 P. Simpson - - - 01

Junior Division

Models

A. Zillich - - - -08

Photos

A. Zillich - - - -05

November Categories

Models: Tank Cars

Photos: Cabooses

John's Honest Raffle

By **John Shields**

Thank you, to all of those who attended the October meeting, and especially to those who won something in the raffle [which I note did not include either Randy or me (but did include Bob and Laddie)]. For those who insist on seeing some patterns in the winners, I can only point out that it might be associated with actually buying tickets! Any skeptics are encouraged to buy twice as many tickets and determine for themselves if this increases their chance of winning.

As announced at the October meeting, we are running our Fall engine raffle now through December. Remember to bring some return address labels to the Nov/Dec meetings to save yourself from having to write your name and phone number on all of those 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.

I had this year's HO engine at the meeting. It is a Bachmann Spectrum USRA 2-10-2 undecorated steam engine WITH DCC. Our other option, for the more "N"-lightened members of Division 7 (or small-minded, depending on your perspective) is an N scale Kato U30C diesel engine decorated in the Union Pacific "We Can Handle It" scheme.

Both of these great engines were donated to the Division, and I would once again like to thank the hobby shops, dealers, and individuals who support us throughout the year through these donations to make the raffle, and the hourly door prizes at the just completed Fall Show, possible.

October 2012 Car Projects Report

By **Jim MacKnight**

Our 2012 Division 7 car project, Allegheny Midland 41'-6" steel gondolas by Accurail, are selling slowly, with 122 cars sold from a 400-car project. We must sell 228 cars to break even. Only 7 cars were purchased at our Fall Train Show. Our announcement, submitted in July, did not make the November issue of the NMRA Magazine. Hopefully it will be in the December issue. Without exposure to all those customers who do not use the internet, we lose about half our sales.

Our 2011 Division 7 car project, Virginian & Ohio 50' plug-door box cars, in V&O blue, with "The Ridge Runner" slogan in white lettering, are still available. We currently have 84 cars remaining from a 500-car project. Cars will be offered for sale on November 3rd, at the Dayton Train Show. I will be with Allen McClelland on Saturday only.

We shipped the last 10 Allegheny Midland triple hopper car kits to fill two mail orders on October 22nd. The final quantity of AM hopper cars sold was 587, from a 600-car project. This was our 2008 car project. High fives all around!!

Over the past 9 years, Division 7's car project sales have averaged just under \$3,000 per year in income. Mail order sales comprise about 87% of total sales. Our objective is to sell out a car project within 18 months, and utilize the proceeds to fund our next car project. If we can sell out the V&O boxcars, we will have a 2013 car project. Please support your division's fund-raising activities.

Time for Changing of the Guard

In five months I will be winding up my eighth year as editor of the Oil Can. It really doesn't seem that long but the date on that first issue proves it. Back then, Roy Hord was the Division 7 Super and a whole page of my first issue was devoted to asking for volunteers for the upcoming National NMRA Convention to be held the next summer in Cincinnati.

It's been an interesting seven plus years and a lot of fun. First in maintaining the traditions set by those that preceded me as editor but also in having the opportunity of putting in my two cents worth. I think the biggest kick by far was introducing the electronic version in full color and then switching to the magazine format. (There's still a lot of room for improvement). Also, during that time I learned quite a lot, not only about Model Railroading and the NMRA organization but also a lot of the things my computer could do that I didn't even know about. Even more important, I got to meet and make friends with a terrific group of people, all of who have model railroading in common.

Now, on top of every thing else, pressures at work seem to be mounting up and I have less and less free time. (The fact that I'm getting older and it takes me longer to do things has nothing to do with it). And, while as I mentioned before, it's been a lot of fun, it's time to move on and let someone new with some fresh ideas take over.

I won't lie to you, it takes a little time each month but with today's computers it's as simple as you can make it. Not like the old days when you would spend hours typing. All you need is a computer with spell checker and an Internet connection. Most of what's involved in putting out today's Oil Can is to cut and paste and if you don't know how to do that, I can teach it to you in about 90 seconds.

If you're interested in taking over as editor, email me at dwp66@cinci.rr.com and we can talk about it.

Don

Train Display to Benefit Families Living with Multiple Sclerosis

By **Judy Ramsey**

It's Holiday time again! Time for that wonderful Train Display in Oxford, Ohio to raise money to change people's lives. Over the past 5 years, we have raised \$40,000. We have purchased Walk Aides, Scooters, helped save a home from foreclosure, provided emergency food and purchased gifts for children at Christmas. These wonderful blessings would not be possible without everyone helping to spread the word about this display.

It's for one weekend only, Saturday Dec. 1st and Sunday Dec. 2nd from 10am to 5pm. Located at 3088 Oxford-Millville Road (RT 27) in Oxford. Free parking and shuttle next door at Marshall Elementary School. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

This display is over 4,000 square feet, with 1½ miles of track, 43 trains, 200 motorized interactive displays, 1500 stationary cars and trucks, 1100 illuminated houses and took over 3½ years to complete! In addition, we will have home tours showing an extensive modern art collection and 5 rooms of sports memorabilia. A free game room for kids to challenge their parents! We will also have a bake sale and raffle for donated prizes.

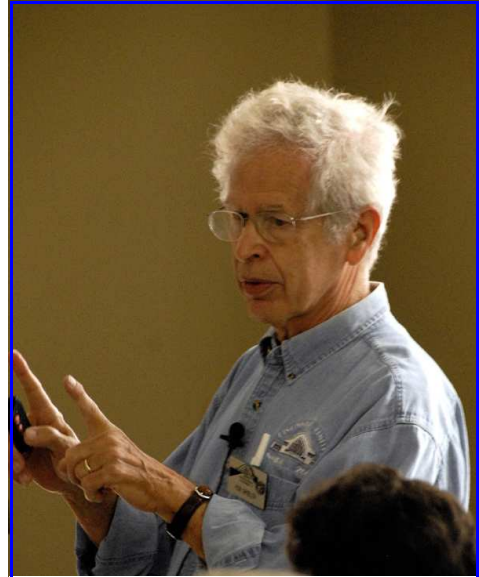
All proceeds benefit Multiple Sclerosis families and the Christian Cooperative Nursery School. This display is up one flight of stairs and is not handicap accessible. Please help us get the information out to everyone. Hope to see you there!

October Meeting

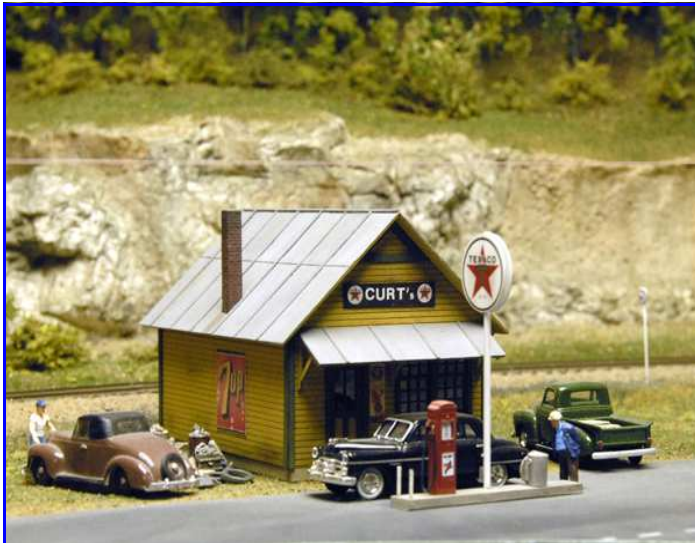


John Altshool

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Ron Gribler



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Curt LaRue



Sam Parfitt

2012 DIVISION 7 FALL SHOW



The morning line



Here they come!



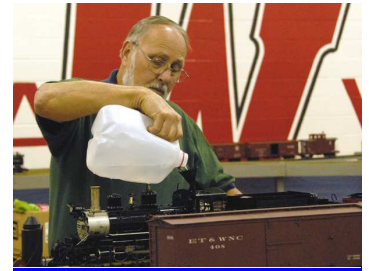
"Aw that's just the same train again and again"



Do I have that one?



"Then this piece gets glued to..."



Gettin' her ready to go



Coffee break



"Let's see, minus 10% is ..."



Sam's "Little People"



"I want one of those"



"May we help you?"



"See, there it comes"

2012 DIVISION 7 FALL SHOW



The Popcorns Ready!

photo by Jim Simpson



Some even dressed for the occasion



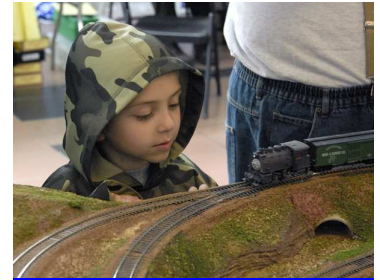
"Next time build it in On30"



"Now they'll each want one for Christmas"



My kind of display



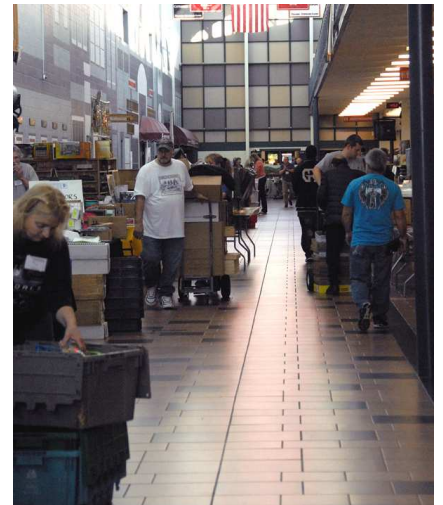
"How come there's no smoke?"



Nap Time



"Now next year..."



The party's over !

Awe and Wonder [Again]

Well another Division Model Train Show is history and we are already starting to plan for next year. I am reminded of my comments after last year's show about the awe and wonder that children experience at our show. On Sunday morning I tried to look down main Street at Lakota West and see our show as a young child would see it. I also realized at some point the magic of model railroading tends to escape us. What do we lose as we grow older; model trains are, or should be fun. [and magical]. Maybe we get so wrapped up in prototype that we forget what brought us into the hobby in the first place. I remember the magic of my first marx clock-work train, or my most treasured Christmas gift, my 1949 American Flyer set. I wonder, was it the ringing bell and sparks from the Marx locomotive or the smoke and choo-choo of the American Flyer 290; what was the magic? How do I recapture it? I began to recapture it as I looked over the layouts in both gyms. I haven't totally outgrown toy trains [I hope I never do] I'm going to bring the magic to my new Raton Pass, as I strive to combine my skills as an adult[?] modeler and a young boy who loved [and still does] trains. I enjoyed the show, renewing old friendships, meeting new friends, AND PLAYING WITH TRAINS! May the magic always be there for all of us, and may the joy of our youth be renewed. As Kalmbach publishing always stated "Model Railroading is Fun!" See you in November!

Keep 'Em Rolling,

Bruce

Thank You

to all the volunteers

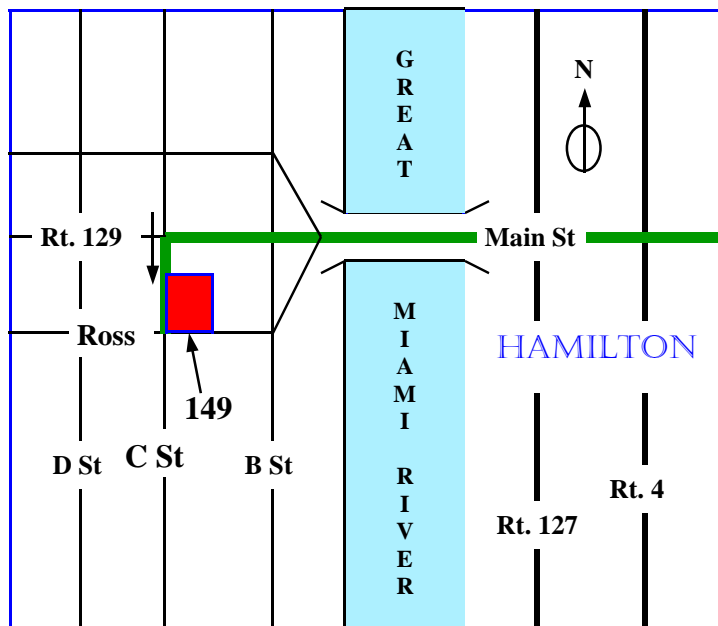
for making it another successful show!

Next Meeting

2 PM Sunday

@

Partners in Prime
(Formerly Hamilton Senior Center)
149 Ross Ave. Hamilton, Ohio



Directions:

Partners in Prime is on the corner of Ross Ave. and C St. From downtown Hamilton, take Main St. (Rt. 129) west across the Great Miami River. Turn left (south) on 2nd St.. Partners in Prime is on your left at the next corner. Parking on the North and East sides.

Coming Down the Line

Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA
2012 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 Topics</u>
Nov. 4	Partners in Prime Hamilton Senior Center	Lou Sassi	Whistle Stop Train Club Charlie Atkinson 4 Ross School Layouts	<u>Models:</u> Tank Cars <u>Photos:</u> Caboose
Nov. 15	Resurrection Lutheran Church	Lebanon Sub Meeting	None	Show & Tell
Dec. 9	Westwood United Methodist Church	Annual Pot Luck Slide Show		<u>Models:</u> Caboose <u>Photos:</u> "Fallen Flag" Rolling Stock
Dec. 20	Resurrection Lutheran Church	Lebanon Sub Meeting	None	Show & Tell

Around the Region

2012

11/3-4 Dayton Train Show Hara Arena Dayton, OH
2013
5/15-18 Mid-Central Region Conv. Miamisburg, OH

National

2012

2013

7/14-20 NMRA National Conv. Atlanta, GA
8/28-31 National Narrow Gauge Conv. Pasadena, CA

Modeling Problems ? Member Aid Committee

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Bruce Knapp (513) 941-2713

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