



August, 2016

THE Oil Can



Volume X Issue 8



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The Editors Corner:

Dave Puthoff

Having gone to the National Convention in Indianapolis, I have now attended six national conventions. I took in 6 or 8 clinics, one layout tour, and the Train Show, and presented a clinic on Overhead LED Lighting. My clinics went well, despite having minor computer problems in both sessions.

With an inclination to appreciate things electronic, I expected to see some Layout Command Control (LCC) items at the Train Show, but I could only find a few in development from RR-CirKits.

After only a few minutes, I began to feel technically overwhelmed in two LCC related clinics! But I believe I heard that that the LCC is based on a "robust" automotive computer system (CAN-bus) which is 10 times as fast as the DCC, and that the LCC system itself will identify the connected components (eliminating the need to designate addresses or CV's).

But I expect we'll hear more about LCC, as it gets developed.

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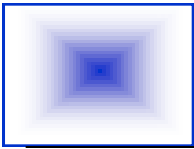
The Oil Can is a publication of Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, it's officers, or it's members.

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

Cover:

Scene from Bob Chapman's HO layout.

Photo by John Burchnall



Like many other Division 7 members, I spent a week in Indianapolis recently for the 2016 NMRA convention. The convention hotel was very nice. The clinic rooms were roomy, although a little chilly at times. I spent the week attending clinics. My favorite clinics were a couple presented by Jim Sacco, founder of City Classics. One gave a history of the gas station and how their design has changed over the years. The pictures of gas stations from the early 60's brought back lots of memories from my youth. Another of his clinics I attended described how older buildings in many American cities were "modernized" during the 1930's. Updating the first floor entryways and outside walls gave the building a new look. Jim showed some examples of companies that would sell you a complete update package including entryway display cases, flooring, and colored panels that would be attached to the walls. Having seen this clinic, I'm going to pay more attention to the appearance of buildings as I drive around older areas of town.

Congratulations to Sam Swanson for winning the GOLD Award for the highest pointing model in the contest with his "Reed Bros. Boatworks", and to Mike Brestel, who was presented a President's Award at the National Convention.

It seemed like I had just gotten home from the convention when it was time for our monthly meeting at St. Susanna church in Mason. After listening to Frank's presentation, it's obvious I need to start documenting all of the model railroad stuff I have squirreled away in various boxes. I'll probably pull a lot of things out of boxes and think "Gee, I didn't remember I had one of those. Oh I see I actually have two".

The latest Division 7 car project is in full swing. Jim MacKnight has done his usual outstanding job organizing this project. The cars are decorated for W. Allen McClelland's V&O Railroad. The cars are lettered for 2 different types of lading, with 2 numbers available for each. Division 7 is fortunate to have Jim heading up our car projects. For each project he:

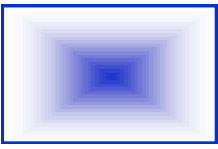
- Does the research of the prototype car
- Works with the kit manufacturer on the car colors and data to be printed on the car
- Orders the kits from the manufacturer and stores them at his house
- Places notices in the hobby press to advertise the availability of the kits.

Handles the order taking and shipping.

These car projects are one of the big income generators for the division. We would like to see if we can increase the participation rate by Division 7 members on this car project. Who couldn't use a couple (or four) more boxcars on their layout?

Bob Lawson announced at the July meeting he is interested in hosting small group meetings at his house to discuss and work on various model railroading subjects. Possible topics include building kit structures, scratch building structures, weathering structures, and scenery methods. Bob is thinking it would be limited to 5 or 6 people per meeting since much of the activity would be "hands-on" learning. If you are interested in this possibility, you can contact Bob at 513-807-8989. This would be an excellent opportunity to learn from a real master of scenery and structure building.

I'll close for now. I'm looking forward to our August meeting in Kenwood where we will hear from another one of Division 7's excellent modelers, Sam Swanson.



SECOND SECTION

John Shields
Asst. Super

Our July meeting was held at the St. Susanna Catholic Church in Mason. Frank Koch presented his clinic entitled “R.I.P. – What about the trains?”. Frank discussed issues like what value to assign to our collection and the plusses and minuses of a number of the ways our collection might be handled after we are gone. The key message is to talk about it with whoever we want handling it and being realistic about how to get some of value out of it – because the reality is that it is going to be worth less than we probably think, and it can take a lot of time and energy to try to recover the value. What we can do is to make it easier and less stressful for whoever we want trying to do it. Following the meeting, we visited Bob Chapman’s layout in Lebanon for the first time, and paid a return visit to Bob Bartizek’s layout.

Looking ahead:

Our August meeting will be on Sunday August 14th. We will be meeting centrally at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kenwood. Sam Swanson will give a clinic he also presented at the National Convention in Indianapolis entitled “Vehicle Variations”. Vehicles, cars/trucks/etc., are important details on our layouts. Many train buffs are also car buffs of one kind or another. Vehicles help set the time period. And the quality and detail of the vehicles can either enhance, or detract, from the rest of the modeling. The subject of the model and the photo contests at the August meeting is Off-Line Structures (ie., structures that are neither owned by nor served by the railroad). Paul Miklos’ N Scale B&O layout will be open afterwards; along with Donald Doctor’s HO Pennsylvania and B&O themed layout.

In September, our meeting will be up north at the West Chester Library. We will have a clinic by Ed Swain about engine facilities. If you have been to Ed’s home layout, you have seen his fine engine facility. A lot of research and work went into creating this fine section, and Ed will pass along his learnings to the rest of us. One of the layout visits in September will be a return to Bob Lawson’s layout. For October, when we make our annual visit down south in Northern Kentucky at the Erlanger library, I have tentatively booked Mike Brestel as our clinician – for a topic still to be determined. We will be returning to Bob Adams’ N scale N&W layout after the October meeting. This meeting is on the first Sunday to clear the annual Cincinnati Train Show, which is scheduled for October 8th and 9th.

In November, when we will be to the far northwest at Partners in Prime in Hamilton, Charles Bogart from Lexington will return with a clinic on the dairy industry, following a can of milk as it travels by rail to a dairy in downtown Cincinnati. As always, we will end our year out west in Westwood in December with the snackfest and digital slides event at Westwood United Methodist Church. One of the layout visits will be to Terry Judd’s N scale New Haven.

Last month I wrote about my plans for the National Convention and Train Show. I pretty much followed the script I had planned. I spent a little more time at the Train Show than I thought I would, but still took in about 22 clinics along with the layout tours I had been able to get on. A couple of key take aways: 1) We REALLY know how to do layout tours well here in Division 7. The tours in Indy were good, but just a little chaotic at times. The best part was getting to talk to people you’ve never met before on the bus and finding out lots of interesting things. I spent much of Thursday morning finding out about how the new streetcar system in Kansas City is working. 2) There is a bunch of new stuff coming out in the near future, but for some reason Bachmann has decided to just about double their prices. I hope that is not a trend that other manufacturers decide to match. 3) The National Train Show is the best opportunity to see, in person, the wares of a lot of the smaller manufacturers. Things you may not even have seen advertised in the magazines. It is not the place to find great bargains. (Our local train show is better for that! And of course our Flea Market!)

The most interesting clinic for me was one about the architecture of small town Main streets. Now I know why so many store fronts were remodeled in the 1930’s and why the same style shows up in small towns (and big cities) all across the country. It was promoted by one of FDR’s New Deal federal agencies! So as much as the DPM and Cornerstone building kits may look great, we are actually missing a key detail if our 1950’s era layouts have too many of these buildings and not some of the metal/marble/and porcelain fronted designs. There are a few, but not enough, of these style buildings represented in the standard kits in most scales. Since the style is fairly plain and clean, this seems like an opportunity to try some kit bashing. I also learned how to spot pressurized tank cars from regular ones – LPG versus ethanol, and about the requirement to have buffer cars between loaded (but not clean and empty) tank cars and the engines. I got some good tips on building a multi-deck layout in N scale, and I loved the back scenes tour of Minatur Wonderland – now the second most visited tourist attraction in Germany and still several years away from “completion” (Italy opens this Fall with a working volcano!).

See you in Kenwood on August the 14th.

John



**NMRA MCR DIV. 7
JULY 2016 CONTEST RESULTS**

MODELS: PASSENGER TRAIN CARS

Box Stock:

- 1st Place: Rick Stern: Pennsylvania Horse Coach #831
- 2nd Place: Jim MacKnight: Borden's Milk Car #221
- 3rd Place: Tom Brueggeman, MMR: Milwaukee Rd. Observation Car

Kitbashed:

- 1st Place: Jim MacKnight: Canadian National Refrigerator Car #10000
- 2nd Place: Peter Weiglin: Pennsylvania Coach #831
- 3rd Place: Peter Weiglin: Pennsylvania Coach #868

Scratch Built:

No Entries in this Category

PHOTOGRAPHY: PASSENGER TRAIN CARS

Print Prototype:

- 1st Place: Jim MacKnight: Heber Valley Coach #324
- 2nd Place: Rick Stern: Speedsters High Speed Train Venice, Italy (June 2016)
- 3rd Place: Jim MacKnight: Strasburg Railroad Coach "Mill Creek" #68

Print Model:

- 1st Place: Jim MacKnight: Colorado Southern Coach/REA Combine
- 2nd Place: David Wynne: Passenger Train Cars & Caboose
- No Other Entries in this Category

Junior Division – No Entries Submitted in any Category

2016 OVERALL STANDINGS (through JULY 2016)

MODELS

Jim MacKnight	16	Jim Rollwage	03
Chuck Endreola	11	Rick Stern	03
Bruce Knapp	09	Peter Weiglin	03
Tom Brueggeman, MMR	04	Bob Chapman	02

PHOTOGRAPHY

Jim MacKnight	29	Georgia Dahlberg, MMR	02
Jim Rollwage	03	Rick Stern	02
Tom Brueggeman, MMR	03	David Wynne	02

JUNIOR DIVISION – MODELS – No 2016 Entries to Date

JUNIOR DIVISION – PHOTOGRAPHY – No 2016 Entries to Date

AUGUST CONTEST CATEGORIES SHOWN BELOW -

MODELS: OFF-LINE STRUCTURES – not R.R. served – (homes, city buildings, rural, industry, etc.)

PHOTOGRAPHY: OFF-LINE STRUCTURES – not R.R. served – (homes, city buildings, rural, industry, etc.)

Brad Jonas

NMRA, MCR, Div. 7 Contest Chair

Division 7 Car Project Sales Report – July 21, 2016

Our 2015 car project, Chesapeake & Ohio 40' USRA single-sheathed boxcars, in four numbers, have sold 270 cars (63%) in nine months. This is a 430-car project. They are listed on E-bay. We must sell 1 more car to break even. We need more exposure to sell more cars!

Our 2012 car project, Allegheny Midland 41'6" steel gondolas, in three numbers, has been available for 49 months, with 94% of 391 cars sold. We have 23 cars remaining.

Our 2016 car project is Virginian & Ohio 40' steel, plug-door boxcars, in the traditional V&O blue, with damage-free loading symbols (DF-2). Four car numbers are available. Two cars are marked for paper lading only, and were built in 1951. Two other cars are marked for processed food loading only. These cars, built in 1948, were rebuilt in the V&O's shops in 1952 by adding plug doors and insulation. Allen McClelland believes these cars will be very popular. The cars were manufactured by Accurail in the USA, and are available for shipping now. We have sold 51 cars in 10 days (10%).

The excuse that I hear most often from Division 7 members for not supporting our Division's car projects is "It's not from the era that I model." Come on now! This is a car from Allen McClelland's V&O Railroad – you don't have to run it on your layout to support our fund-raising efforts – just purchase one and put it on your bookshelf or mantel. If only one third of our 270-some members would buy one car, that would be 90 cars sold. Instead, sales to Division members number from 47 AM gondolas (13%), to 57 V&O USRA hoppers (11%), to 92 MDT reefers (20%). Sixty-seven C&O USRA boxcars have been sold to Division members (25%), but that percentage will decrease to about 15% as most remaining cars will be purchased by mail order customers.

My heartfelt thanks go to those members who purchase our cars on a regular basis, some of whom do not even model in HO scale. However, most are officers, directors, committee heads or new members. I'm not sure what it takes to convince the majority of the membership to purchase our cars. They are competitively priced if you look at other custom-painted cars offered in MR. The days of the \$3.99 "blue box" car are long gone.

Now I'll get off my soap box and get back to labeling boxes, packing orders and collecting funds to support our Division's efforts to recruit more model railroaders, while providing a quality product to those who do appreciate our Accurail custom-painted cars.

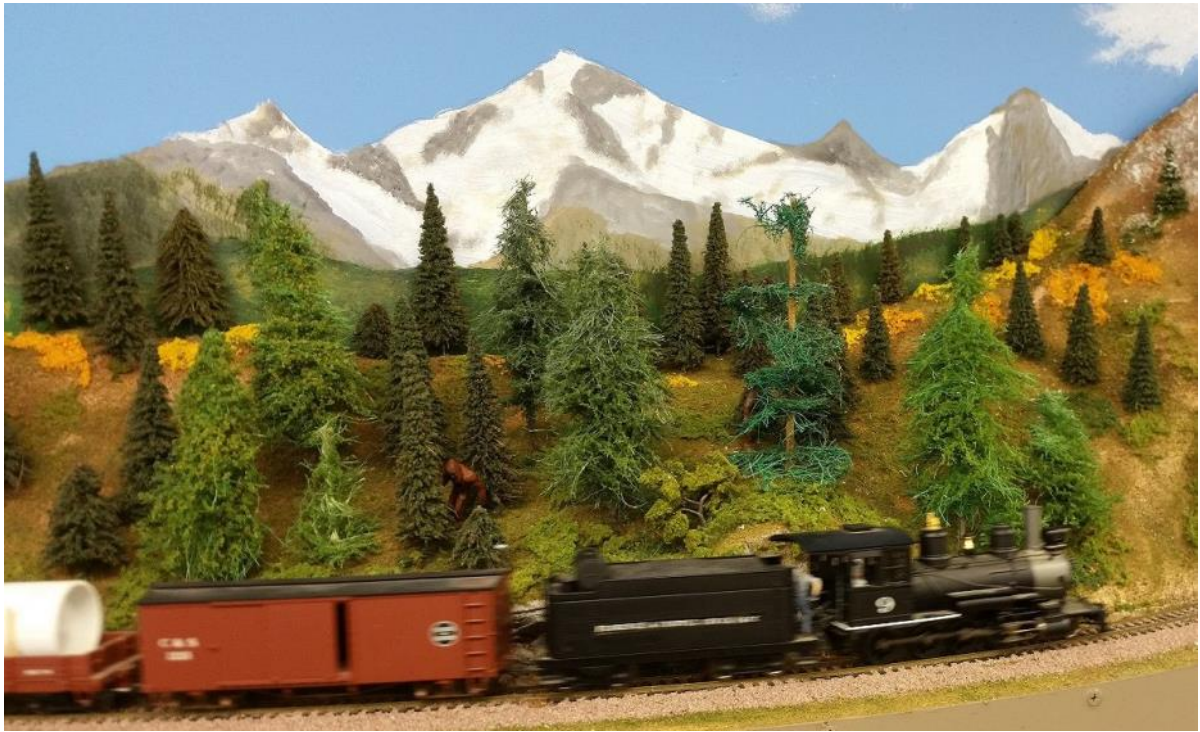
Jim MacKnight
Car Projects Chairman



LAYOUT VISIT to Bob Chapman's HO Layout



LAYOUT VISIT to Bob Chapman's HO Layout



Advance Orders for "Cincinnati Express" Short Sleeve Shirts



Both in Royal Blue with pocket and new "Cincinnati Express" embroidered logo



- Indicate **Logo Side**:
- above pocket (default)
 - opposite pocket



Regular Shirt (Jerzees)

2 button, 50/50 cotton/poly, 5.6 oz. Jersey Knit Polo

S, M, L, XL = **\$22 + tax**
 2XL, 3XL, 4XL = **\$24 + tax**

Ladies version available w/o pocket for \$2 less

Premium Shirt (Cornerstone)

3 button, polyester, 6.8 oz Industrial Pique Polo

S, M, L, XL = **\$30 + tax**, 2XL = **\$32 + tax**, 3XL = **\$34 + tax**,
 4XL = **\$36 + tax**, 5XL = **\$38 + tax**, 6XL = **\$40 + tax**

Name:		Phone:	
Street Address:			
City, State, Zip:		Email:	

Mail with check or money order to:
Cincinnati Division 7 Company Store
P.O. Box 76010
Highland Heights, KY 41076

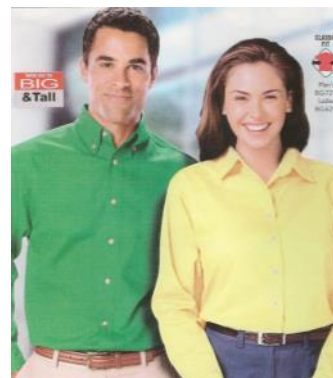
Circle/check above the **Shirt Type**, **Size**, **Price** and **Logo Side**
 Email Paul at company-store1@cincy-div7.org for shipping costs
All must add **7% sales tax** to total (after shipping if needed)
 Make check payable to: **Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA**

"Cincinnati Express" Long Sleeve Shirts



Teflon Coated Blue Generation Shirts, all in brilliant Royal Blue with "Cincinnati Express" embroidered logo

adjustable cuffs, 6.5 oz., 65/35 poly/cotton, stain and wrinkle resistant, fully buttoned front, soft touch finish



Men's Shirt

Pocket w/pencil area, button down collar, logo on side opposite pocket, double back yoke, side back pleats
 Men's S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL

Ladies Shirt

No pocket, logo on left side, spread collar w/o buttons, curved bottom to wear in or out, ladies fitted style
 Ladies S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL

Men's Shirt

Ladies Shirt

All shirts the same price
\$32 + shipping (if needed) + **7% tax**
 (7% tax on total with shipping)

Name:		Phone:	
Street Address:			
City, State, Zip:		Email:	

Mail with check or money order to:
Cincinnati Division 7 Company Store
P.O. Box 76010
Highland Heights, KY 41076

Please circle above the **Shirt Type** (Men's or Ladies) and **Size**
 Email Paul at company-store1@cincy-div7.org for shipping costs
All must add **7% sales tax** to total (after shipping if needed)
 Make check payable to: **Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA**

WEST VIRGINIA TRAINS & FALL FOLIAGE TOUR - Oct. 17-19


Otterbein University Alumni is sponsoring a 2-night, 2-Train tour, staying at the Jackson Hotel in Elkins, West Virginia October 17 and 18, with rail trips on the Cheat Mountain Salamander and the Cass Scenic Railroad. Most meals, and other entertainment are included, \$455 to \$595. Phone 330-340-0122 or email mark@travelwarther.com

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 has approved a trial of 6 months; after which the program will be re-evaluated. 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.
	Binders, Model Railroader & Trains used, but good condition	\$5 each	Dave Puthoff	depuhoff@yahoo.com	19-Aug-16
	DCC Block Occupancy Detectors Built-in Adjustable Time-Delay-Off, Adjustable Sensitivity. 200 ma DC Open Collector & BiPolar Outputs with LED Indicator, 12 vdc. For DCC only.	\$12 each	Dave Puthoff	depuhoff@yahoo.com	20-Aug-16

2016 END OF SUMMER WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

I want to reduce the quantity of estate and white elephant material prior to the October show. It is getting to be more than I can fit into my van to bring to the show.

I am having a sale on SATURDAY, September 3, 2016 from 10am-2pm at my house. The sale will be inside and/or outside depending on the weather. There will be G-scale, HO, HOn3, N, and O-scale. Everything will be available for a price. There will be lots of "junk" including at least two tables of loose parts and pieces to pick over. Naturally, some of the O-scale might be priced at the "make me an offer I can't refuse" level.

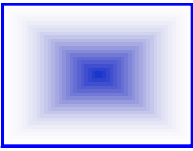
It's always fun, so stop by. 4769 Silverwood Drive, Batavia, OH 45103. Take the Olive Branch-Stonelick exit off Rte. 32, turn left for about 1 mile, turn right on Silverwood. (PS - We will still have the White Elephant sale at the Fall Show.)

Frank Koch

CUSTOM-BUILT OAK TRAIN DISPLAY CASE - For sale

Custom-built oak train display case by Al Piltz of Greenway Products. This case is for HO scale, with grooves for the wheel sets, and has five shelves, plus the bottom, providing display for six rows of locomotives or cars. The case is 86 inches in length (7'-2"), and 23 inches high, and was built to display passenger trains with motive power, having space for a steam locomotive and tender plus five 87' cars, or more with shorter cars. The finish is a medium brown (not light oak). The case has jointed corners and features 3 sliding glass doors. It was never used, and is in the original box in which it was delivered by Al Piltz. Current price for Greenway's 48" long oak cases is \$250. This case was purchased for \$500. I will consider \$375, or best offer. I would prefer to sell to a local layout owner who can pick up the case, as shipping with the glass doors would be risky.

Jim MacKnight
513 733-1246 home (preferred)



KNAPP'S NOTES

by Bruce Knapp

The Missing Division Clerk

I apologize for my absence from this month's meeting, as I really wanted to hear Frank's presentation on disposing of model railroad collections. I have, over many years, acquired a large amount of collectable tinsplate and vintage brass, in addition to tools and equipment for my layout. Originally, I was going to work with my friend John Altshool, but John's passing in 2014 has forced me to make other plans. Frank's presentation would be invaluable, at this point. Margaret is in the final stages of pulmonary fibrosis, so I really don't like to leave her alone for extended periods of time, plus she was having a very bad day on July 17th. I really appreciate both Bob Shreve and John Shields stepping in and doing the minutes.

Up and Down the Monon

Last month I was in the heart of Monon country, attending the NMRA National Convention in Indianapolis. I had a great time, thanks to outstanding work by the convention committee. I spent four years in Indianapolis and all my mom's family was from there, so in many ways, it was a homecoming. I grew up in Broadripple within a mile of the Monon depot, and made frequent trips during the summer to watch The Hoosier come through from Chicago, or watch the Westfield Turn, with its EMD BL2 switch the lumber yard.

One of our layout tours took us to Monte Switzer's Monon inspired layout, (talk about bringing back memories). I also went on the Amtrak Beechgrove Tour --- I know I had been there with Division 7, but it was still a very informative trip. There was a large and varied set of clinics, which included some of our best known modelers. The topics covered a wide range of interests. I especially enjoyed the Soundtraxx clinic, where they showed off their new Tsunami 2 series of sound decoders; all I can say is, "WOW!, I am impressed!" I left Friday afternoon, as I had to perform that weekend for Sharon Woods Civil War Weekend.

I spent time at the Silent Auction, there were 12+ Santa Fe locomotives there; I won several items, but lost out on a really neat Santa Fe 2-8-2. I did attend the National Train Show, but managed to not spend too much money. The show was a chance to see all the manufacturers' newest offerings. I was especially impressed with the many display layouts from Z to G, including Mark Albert's HO trolley display.

Speaking of the Civil War Weekend, the bad guys won this year, OH DRAT! I enjoyed spending time with Dan and Nina Mulhearn, which is always one of my convention highlights.

Next Meeting

I hope to see everyone at our August meeting at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, for Sam Swanson's clinic on building and modifying vehicles for your layout. I find Sam and Nancy two of my favorite modelers. Pat Homan and I will be there to assist with all your modeling problems, no matter how silly.

Another all-new, honest, improved, no-wwait, WMPA approved raffle will be up to its normal high (?) standard. (I am not sure how you can improve on perfection, plus would I lie?). Plus the layout visits look great.

Keep 'em rolling

Bruce

Next Meeting

2 PM Sunday August 14

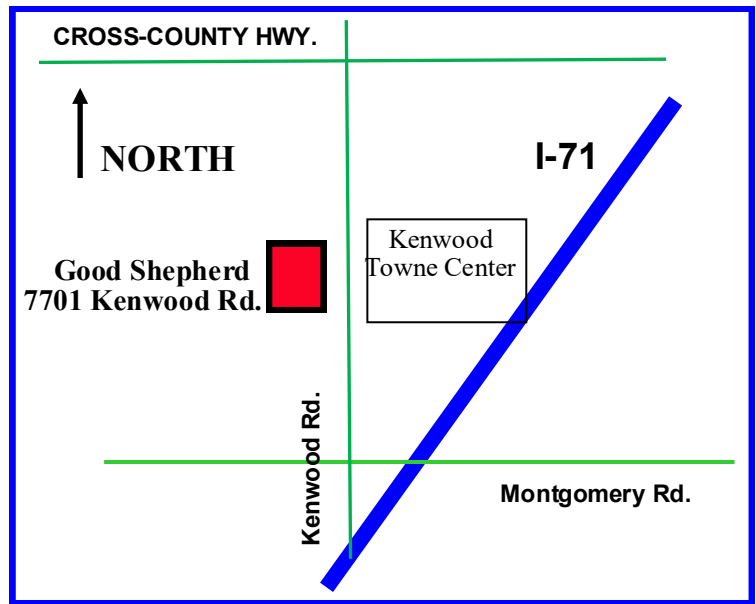
Good Shepherd Church
7701 Kenwood Road
45236

Directions:

From North: I-71 Montgomery Rd. Exit Right on Montgomery Rd. Right on Kenwood Rd. Church is on your left.

From South: I-71 Kenwood Rd Exit Left onto Kenwood Rd. Church is on your left, past Montgomery Rd.

From East/West: Cross-County Hwy. Exit Kenwood Rd. Go South on Kenwood Rd. (past Galbraith Rd.) Church is on your right.



Coming Down the Line

Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA
2016 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>
8/14	Good Shepherd Church 7701 Kenwood Rd. 45236	Sam Swanson <i>Vehicle Variations</i>	Paul Miklos Donald Docter	<u>Models & Photos: Off-Line Structures</u>
9/11	West Chester Library West Chester	Ed Swain <i>Engine Facilities</i>	Bob Lawson	<u>Models & Photos: Locomotives</u>
10/2	Erlanger Library Erlanger KY	Mike Brestel <i>TBD</i>	Bob Adams	<u>Models & Photos: On-Line Structures</u>

<u>Around the Division</u> 2016	
8/18	Lebanon Modelers - Lebanon OH
9/15	Lebanon Modelers - Lebanon OH

<u>Region / National</u> 2016	
8/13	Summerrail 2016 Marion OH

<u>Modeling Problems? - Ask the Member Aid Committee</u>	
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
PO Box 43401 Cincinnati, OH 45243