

The Oil Can is a publication of Division 7, MCR, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Cincinnati Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, its officers, or its 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.



## HEADLIGHTS

Randy Kerka, Superintendent

Electronic  
Edition

### Seems that I am always the last to know!

So Sam Swanson and Nancy Windes got married. Now there is a “modeling” gene pool if ever there was one! Seriously, belated congratulations to both.

### Marathon BOD meeting.

By the time you read this, the December Board of Directors meeting will be history. I will fill you all in on the highlights next month. Some of the topics of discussion are/were scheduled to be 1. the 2011 budget and 2. What can be done to build traffic for the Flea Market and the Fall Show? As you should know, all members of Division 7 in good standing are always welcome to attend BOD meetings and air their views. BOD meetings are generally held the first Friday of the last month of each quarter. (i.e. March, June, September, December.)

### Start planning for the Annual Division 7 Bus Trip...

Keep May 14<sup>th</sup> or maybe May 21<sup>st</sup> open! The Special Projects Team of John Burchnall and Merlyn Jarman are once again hard at work fleshing out the logistics for the next “Spectacular”. We have been promised the newest bus in the fleet and an experienced driver. At this time the itinerary is a closely guarded secret... but if the preliminary scuttlebutt is true it promises to be the best trip EVER! Once the sign-up process begins, be quick or be shut out. There has even been some talk about a second bus.

### Have you been to a “Lebanon Sub” meeting yet?

Did you know that on the third Thursday of each month there is more model railroading to be had? For the last three months there has been a 7:00 PM meeting of Division 7 modelers in Lebanon, Ohio. It is purely a “fun” meeting with a Bring ‘n’ Brag competition with prizes and good fun. I have asked Bob Chapman to Chair the new “Lebanon Sub Committee” and he has agreed. Why is Division 7 supporting this group? Well, 1. Attendees are, for the most part, Division 7 members; 2. It promotes the hobby of model railroading; 3. There is no cost to Division 7; and 4. It is free to attendees (voluntary donation for refreshments). Stop by on December 16<sup>th</sup> and check it out! More information is available elsewhere in this issue of the Oil Can.

### The latest Division 7 Car Project is going gangbusters!

The new V&O 3-Bay Hopper car project is rolling at “Stop 8”. In a “down” economy, Car Projects Chairman Jim MacKnight has hit a home run with this one. At the current selling rate this project should be sold out soon! If you have not yet purchased this car... please do not wait too long. Special “Thank you” is due Allen McClelland for his support of this and other V&O projects.

### Call for “Ambassadors”.

If you agree with me that it is vital we encourage new members to get involved with Division 7 activities, then you are certainly a candidate to be a “Division Ambassador”. The pay is lousy but the rewards are great. We need to have several members designated to provide new member meeting attendees with the sincere feeling that we are glad they have chosen to attend and to answer all their questions. Ambassadors should be of a mind to go up to these new and unfamiliar faces, introduce oneself; chat a bit; and offer to answer any questions. Please contact me if you think you are Ambassador material.

See you in December,

*Randy*



## SECOND SECTION

Bob Shreve, Asst. Superintendent

In November, about 80 people made the annual trek to the old Ross High School to hear Allen McClelland's clinic on making the right of ways on your model railroad look more realistic. Thanks to Greg Young, Superintendent of the Ross school district for making the meeting room available to us. Before and after the meeting, we had the opportunity to see the various layouts in residence there at the high school. Our thanks to the Ross Rails, Cincinnati Northern, Queen City Hi-Railers, and Black Diamond Lines groups for opening their layouts to us. After the meeting, Bill Doll and John Miller opened their home layouts for our viewing pleasure. Thanks to Bill and John for their hospitality.

December will be our annual potluck picture show and snack fest at the Westwood United Methodist Church. Show us the places you've been and the things you've seen. We will support both 35mm slides and electronic format (.jpg, Powerpoint, etc.). Bundle your pictures or slides together in groups of 20. If time allows, we will cycle through for "seconds". After the meeting, we will visit the home layouts of Anton Zillich and (fresh from his feature article in Model Railroader) Jerry Strangarity.

2011 includes clinics by Bob Lawson showing how he does that fantastic detailing on his layout, Dan Hadley offering pointers on making your own model railroad video, and Dave Keith introducing us to the world of "Free-Mo" modular railroading.

So, do you need to make room on your layout, or in my case a shelf, for the things you acquired at the Fall show? Well, it's not too early to start getting stuff together to sell at the Spring Flea Market in March.

Those of you who were at the November meeting heard John Burchnell's announcement of the next Division 7 bus trip in May. More information on the destination will be forthcoming. If it's anything like the past bus trips, it's sure to be great.

The schedule for the rest of 2011 is in the formative stages. There are many slots open for clinicians and layout visits. Anyone wishing to try their hand at presenting a clinic (either full or mini) or hosting a layout visit should contact me to discuss the details. I have it on good authority that hosting a layout visit is a great way to force completion of projects that have been dragging on for a while. We are always on the lookout for new, undiscovered layouts, evolving layouts, and home - grown clinicians. If you have a suggestion for a meeting location, I would like to hear about that, too.

*Bob*

### John's Honest Raffle

At the November meeting, we began the special engine raffle, in addition to the regular fare. Actually I should say "raffles" as we have both an HO engine and an N scale engine to raffle. The HO engine being raffled is a Bachmann Spectrum DCC equipped Southern light USRA 2-10-2 [#5212]. The N scale engine is a Life Like Santa Fe GP38-2 [#3500] in the freight warbonnet scheme (blue and yellow).

Tickets will be sold again at the December meeting and the winner will be drawn at the meeting. You do not need to be present to win, if you bought a ticket in November. Since you need to put your name on the back of the ticket, you might want to bring some return address labels to make that easy (especially if you are buying LOTS of tickets!) Remember to bring lots of money to buy these special tickets. You don't want the same old folks to win, do you?

We will still be having our regular raffle at the December meeting. At the January meeting we will have our next "theme" raffle. This time, in honor of the location, we will have an **O Gauge theme**. This will replace the N Scale items, and the HO will be slightly reduced. Please get the word out to all the O scalers, so they know to come to this meeting, and to buy lots of tickets.

*John*



## *Fiction and Fact from Don's Almanac*

### Holiday Train Display

**Judy Ramsey**

It's Holiday time again! Time for the wonderful Train Display in Oxford, Ohio that raises money to change people's lives. Over the past 3 years, we have raised \$30,000. We have purchased Walk Aides, Scooters, helped save a home from foreclosure, provided emergency food and purchased Christmas gifts for children. These wonderful blessings would not have been possible without everyone helping to spread the word about this display.

Located at 3088 Oxford Millville Road (Rt 27) in Oxford, it is for one weekend only, Saturday Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 5pm. There is free parking and shuttle service next door at Marshall Elementary School. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

This display is over 4,000 square feet with 1 ½ miles of track, 43 trains, 200 motorized interactive displays, 1500 stationary cars and trucks, 1100 illuminated houses and took over 3 ½ 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! There will also be a bake sale and a 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. Hope to see you there.

### Last White Elephant Extra Sale in 2010

**Frank Koch**

**Too Much Stuff, Not Enough Room!** The Fall Show was a huge success, but I still have a lot of great stuff from two large estates. I want to create some space at home so I can continue to expand my railroad this winter. I've decided to have one last sale this year. There are assembled and weathered cars, car kits from the past 40 years, structure kits, and parts and pieces. I'll run a special on all the projects that were "in Process". There will be bags and boxes of freight cars, locomotives, and vehicles that offer source material for your projects. I've got several boxes of HO decals that will be offered at attractive prices. There are a large number of brass and plastic locomotives, mostly diesels that will be offered at very friendly prices. I will have the material at the O Scale Club at Harmony Lodge (646 E. Epworth, Spring Grove Village/Winton Place) on Thursday, December 16 (3-6pm) for those interested. I'll have several hundred pieces at very attractive prices.



We make it even more fun.

### Improve your modeling with a few sheets of paper.

That's exactly what happens when you participate in NMRA's Achievement Program.

The Achievement Program is modelers helping modelers become better modelers and get the most out of their hobby.

It's just another benefit of NMRA membership.

Visit [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) and get started on your way to becoming a Master Model Railroader.

**Competition Results for the November Meeting**

**Models:**

**Boxcars with Graffiti**

**Box Stock:**

*1st Pl. Georgia Dahlberg: Mobile & Ohio #23545  
No other entries*

**Kit Bashed:**

*1st Pl. Don Phillips: Deep Water and Pineville boxcar #34  
No other entries*

**Scratch Built:**

*No entries*

**Photos:**

**Trains at Service Facilities**

**Proto Slides:**

*No entries*

**Model Slides:**

*No entries*

**Prototype Prints:**

*1st Pl.*

*2nd Pl.*

*3rd Pl.*

**Model Prints:**

*1st Pl.*

*No other entries.*

**PHOTO  
RESULTS  
NOT  
AVAILABLE  
AT  
PRESS TIME**

**2010 Point Standings for the year 2010 (as of December. 1st)**

**Models**

Georgia Dahlberg	-22	Barry Martz	-03
Don Phillips	-15	Jim Rollwage	-03
Perry Simpson	-15	Michael York	-03
Jon Barker	-08	Charlie Atkinson	-02
Frank Hermanek	-08	Randy Kerka	-02
Bob Chapman	-06	Warren Ossman	-02
Tom Brueggeman	-03	George Roos	-02
Ron Gribler	-03	John Listerman	-01
Bruce Knapp	-03	Tom Overton	-01
Bob Lawson	-03	Tim Schrek	-01
Jim MacKnight	-03		

**Photos**

(As of November 1)

Bob Adams	-35
Jim MacKnight	-20
Jane Hancock	-13
Jim Rollage	-09
Jerry Baston	-06
Bob Chapman	-06
Bob Lawson	-04
Pam Moleski	-03
Don Phillips	-01
Dave Reed	-01
Bob Shreve	-01

**Competition Categories for December**

**Models: Tank Cars**

**Photos: Trains coming out of Tunnels**

*Jack Laubisch:* Competition Chairman

P.S. Each month I have been posting a laminated copy of the rules for our competition, as outlined by the BOD of Division 7 on the contest tables. Hopefully this posting will help you should you have any questions.

**From the caboose....**

**Merlyn Jarman-MCR-V.P.**

**Mid central Region BOD Meeting**

The Mid-Central Region Board of Directors met on Sunday-Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> for their Fall B.O.D. meeting. As has become custom, the meeting place was Schmidt's German Restaurant in Columbus, Oh.

**There are eleven Divisions now in the Mid Central Region** with all Superintendents or their representatives in attendance. President Dick Briggs called the meeting to order with reports given by various Region officers including the Secretary's Report, Membership, Webmaster, V.P., Division reports, and reports on upcoming annual Region Conventions. Some highlights of the reports and discussion included learning that the MCR website is now getting over 2,100 hits per week and Members in the MCR Divisions have earned approximately 21 Merit awards and 12 certificates in the Achievement program. The MCR "Clinician Database" now has over 100 clinic listings that Region Superintendents can access for planning monthly programs.

**The 2011 MCR Annual Spring convention** will be hosted by Division 5 who will be celebrating 50 years as a Division and will present their "**Rails of the Ages Convention**" to be held **April 28<sup>th</sup>-May 1, 2011** at the Lodge and Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake in the Ashtabula, Oh. area.

Informative clinics, prototype and layout tours, auction, as well as contests will all be part of the convention activities. This convention will also feature "Shortline Clinics" which will be brief presentations of 10-15 minutes duration featuring "how-to" or "bring and brag" type themes for various model rr subjects.

As well, there will be general activities and tours for spouses and families. A good time for sure and worth a look at: [www.railsofages.org](http://www.railsofages.org)

**Upcoming conventions in the following years are:** Div 2-Pittsburgh in 2012 No venue for 2013 yet, but the 2014 N.M.R.A. National Convention will be held in Cleveland, Oh sponsored by Div.4.

See you soon...*Merlyn*

**Lebanon Sub Meeting**

**Robert Chapman**

Sixteen modelers, two of who were new to the group, attended the November Lebanon Sub meeting. Bob Setun from the Hobby Shop at Entertainment Junction presented "What's New at the Hobby Shop"; talking about products the shop now carries or plans for the future. He donated two combination tickets to Entertainment Junction as the prize for best model. Five model projects were presented including an N scale sanding facility built by a middle school student, loose car loads for Hon3 gondolas, flat car loading using modified thread spools, a NYC 20<sup>th</sup> Century Ltd. consist with associated memorabilia, a collection of early 50's HO rolling stock, and an O scale British goods car built from a kit. Bill Keiser's rolling stock display won Best Model and the gift certificates after winning a three-way coin toss. Coffee, apple juice, and cookies were enjoyed by all.

The December meeting will be on the third Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7:15 pm. This meeting will feature model Bring and Share. We will also play "Dirty Santa" gift exchange. Everyone is asked to bring a new wrapped model railroad gift costing less than \$20. Please indicate if the gift is a specific scale or if it is useful in all scales. Refreshment will feature Ms. Sharlain's famous hot Wassail Bowl and assorted goodies to snack on.

Lebanon Sub meetings are designed for fellowship. Come early and stay after. Bring a kid. Bring a model to share. See you there!

See you there...*Bob*



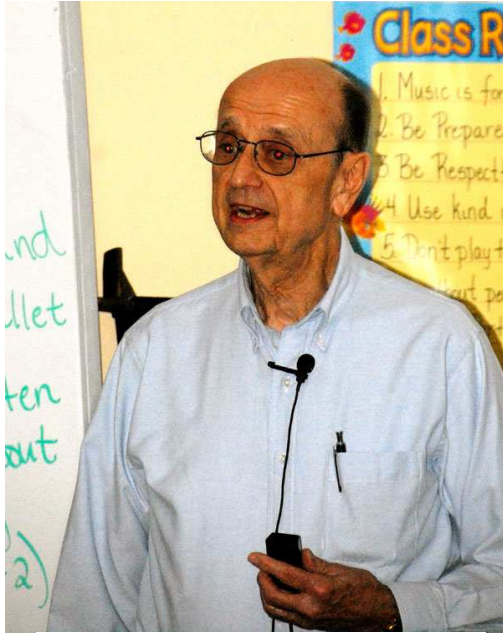
## November Meeting



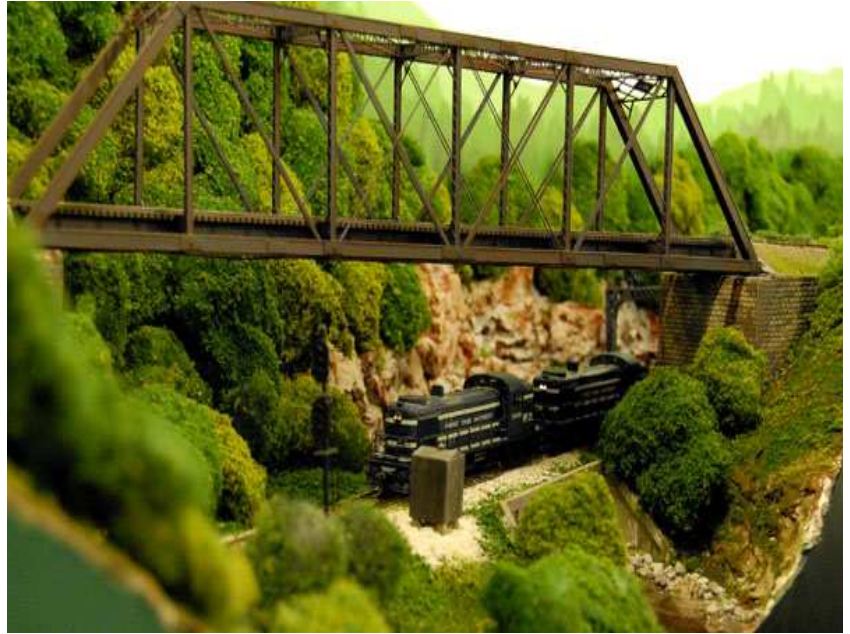
1st Pl. Box Stock Georgia Dahlberg



1st Pl. Kit Bashed Don Phillips



Allen McClelland



Bill Doll's Layout



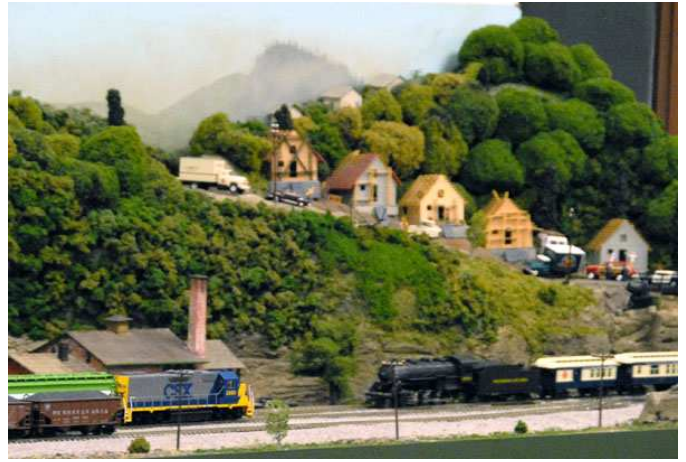
Bill Miller's Layout



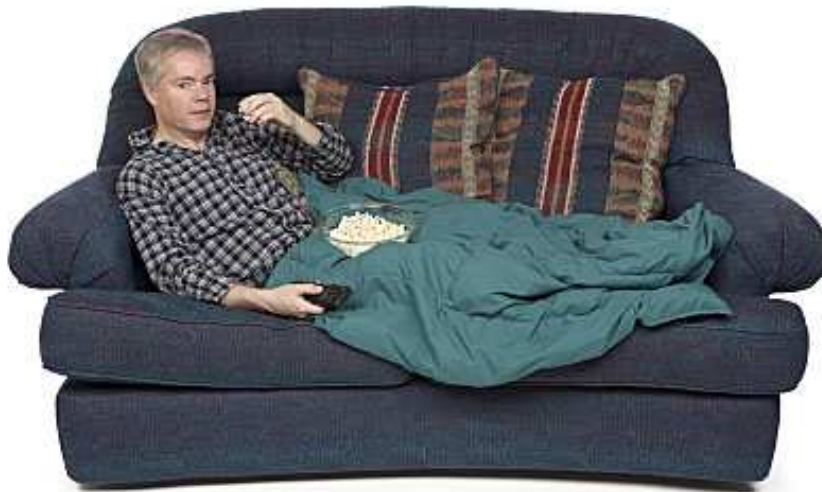
## November Meeting



John Miller's other Layout



The Four Layouts at Old Ross School



## **HAVE 50 MODEL RAILROADING CLINICS RIGHT IN YOUR LIVING ROOM.**

Just because you can't make it to a national convention doesn't mean you have to miss out. Right now the NMRA's Kalmbach Memorial Library has over 50 DVDs of clinics presented at national conventions from 2002 to 2010. All available to NMRA members for the cost of postage.

So you can see clinics on everything from decoders to design, tools to techniques, helixes to highways, and research to resin casting.

All from the comfort of your very own couch.

Visit [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) and go to the Kalmbach Memorial Library page for a complete listing.

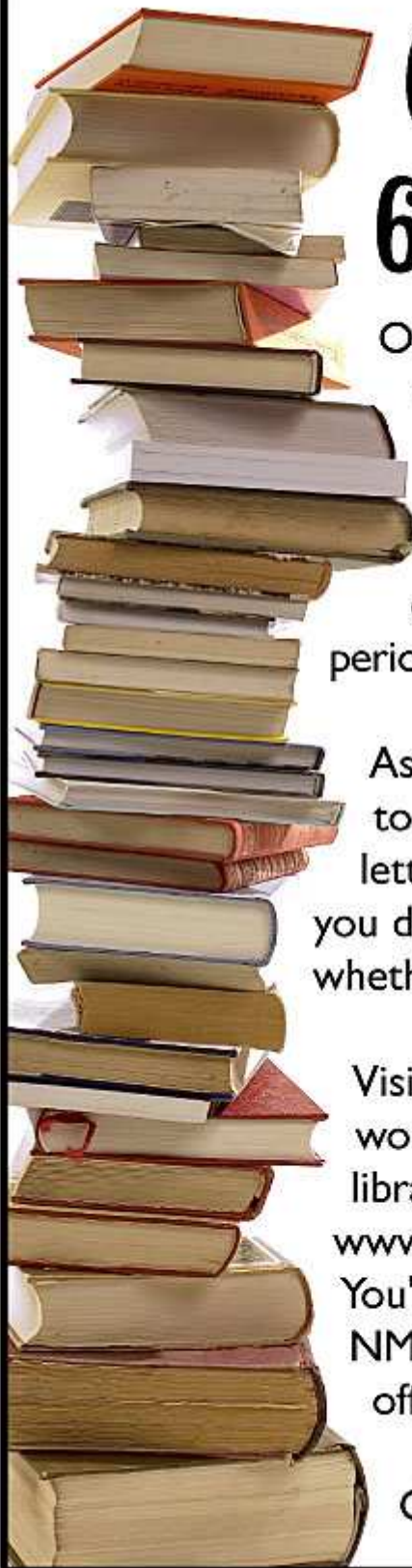
Then, get that popcorn ready.



**We make it even more fun.**

[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)  
4 2 3 - 8 9 2 - 2 8 4 6





# Check out 6,000 train books.

Or 100,000 train photos. Or 50,000 train magazines. In fact, there are a lot of things you should be checking out at the National Model Railroad Association's Kalmbach Memorial Library. You'll find everything from prototype railroad periodicals to vintage model kit instructions.

As an NMRA member, you have easy access to everything – it's all just a phone call, letter, or email away. Our staff will even help you do research about virtually any train topic, whether it's model or prototype.

Visit one of the world's largest train libraries at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org).

You'll find that the NMRA has a lot to offer modelers.

Check it all out!



**We make it even more fun.**

[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)  
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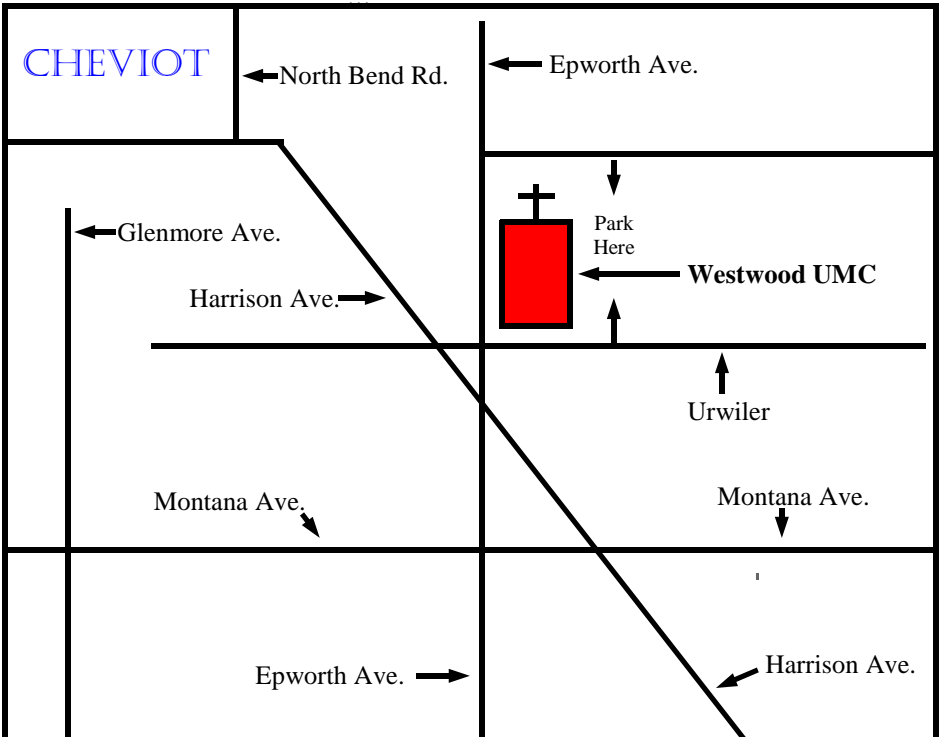
Next Meeting: 2 PM Sunday, December 12

@

Westwood United Methodist Church  
3460 Epworth Ave.

**Directions**

Epworth crosses Harrison Ave. just North of Montana Ave.  
**From I-74:** Take Montana West to Harrison Ave. Turn right to Epworth  
**From Cincinnati's west side:** Take Harrison to Westwood and right on Epworth.  
**From the North:** Take North Bend to Harrison Ave. Turn left on Harrison Ave. to Urwiler. Turn left on Urwiler to Epworth. Parking lot is on the side of the church.



**Around the Region**

**2010**

12/5 — Springfield Train Show-Fairgrounds, Springfield, OH

**2011**

1/8-9 World's Greatest Hobby Show Conv. Cntr. Columbus, OH  
 3/12 Div 7 Spring Flea Market - West Chester, OH  
 3/19-20 Div 5 Rail fest - Kirtland, OH  
 4/28-5/01 MCR Regional Convention - Geneva-on-the-Lake, OH

**National**

**2011**

Feb 17-19 Sn3 Symposium - Monrovia, CA  
 July 3-9 NMRA National Convention - Sacramento, CA  
 Sept 7-10 National Narrow Gauge Convention - Hickory, NC

If you know of any dates not listed here please email the editor.

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<b>Jim MacKnight</b>	(East)	513 733-1246
<b>Dave Read</b>		513 398-7323
<b>Ed Swain</b>		513 779-8211

**Committee Chairs**

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<b>Car Projects</b>	<b>Jim MacKnight</b>	513 733-1246
<b>Comm. Srvc:</b>	<b>Jim MacKnight</b>	513 733-1246
<b>Co. Store:</b>	<b>Neil Rothe</b>	513 232-7959
<b>Contests:</b>	<b>Jack Laubisch</b>	513 752-3988
<b>Div. Booth:</b>	<b>Brad Bove</b>	513 227-7527
<b>Fall Show:</b>	<b>Rick Crumrine</b>	513 385-4898
<b>Flea Market:</b>	<b>Dianne Rowland</b>	513 755-7381
<b>Layout Ops.</b>	<b>Rick Stern</b>	513 729-1051
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# Knapp's Notes

## The "Awe and Wonder" Season

Last month I finished my column with the comment about our show being very strong, when it came to its awe and wonder content. We are now into a season that is filled with awe and wonder. We are into to the awe and wonder represented by our annual observance of the miracles of Chanukah and Christmas and, of course, the promise of the fast approaching New Year. The sights and sounds of the season, the bright lights, the festive music, parties, and the crowds of holiday shoppers constantly surround us. This season wouldn't be the same without the many train displays; the CSX display at Duke Energy, the Museum Center displays, the Beringer-Crawford Museum display, and the myriad of private displays that abound in our area. The holiday season is a magic time for train lovers of all ages.

Many people don't realize that electric trains and Christmas started as a marketing tool by Joshua Lionel Cohen, the founder of the Lionel Corporation. Ives, Marx, and American Flyer soon saw the impact of this advertising program on train sales and joined the fun. I wonder how many of us continue the practice of having a train under our tree? I wonder how many of us found our first train under our family Christmas tree? I remember the excitement of finding my American Flyer 290 freight set on Christmas morning in 1949. Like many of you, this was the beginning of a life-long hobby [or is that addiction?], which has given many hours of pleasure, plus many friends and acquaintances in this hobby. I still enjoy going to the Duke Energy CSX train display; but now the real thrill is to see the awe and wonder on the faces of young children. I do miss the wonderful train displays at stores like Sears, Shillitos, and many others, but I have enjoyable memories of them, and of my first American Flyer.

As we finish out the holiday season, my wish for everyone is peace, joy, and the happy memories of holidays past. See you at our December meeting.

**Keep 'em rolling!  
Bruce A. Knapp**

### **Cincinnati Division 7**

### **2011 Program Schedule**

**Note: All dates, times and events subject to change. Check back often for updates.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Program/Speaker</b>	<b>Layout Visits</b>
<b>Jan. 09</b>	<b>Harmony Lodge</b>	<b>Scenery Techniques Bob Lawson</b>	<b>Cinn. Model RR Club TBD</b>
<b>Feb. 13</b>	<b>West Chester Library</b>	<b>Layout Video Production Dan Hadley</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Mar 17</b>	<b>Annual Spring Flea Market</b>	<b>None Scheduled</b>	<b>None Scheduled</b>
<b>Apr 10</b>	<b>Anderson Senior Center</b>	<b>Free-Mo-Modules Dave Keith</b>	<b>Dave Keith John Listermann</b>
<b>May 14 <u>or</u> 21</b>	<b>Div. 7 Bus Trip</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>TBA</b>



# THE OIL CAN

## Coming Down The Line

Cincinnati Division 7, Mid-Central Region, NMRA  
2010 Schedule

**NOTE: ALL REGULAR MEETINGS START AT 2 PM**

(Unless otherwise notified)

Month	Date	Location	Program/Speaker	Layout Visit	Contest Topic
<b>DEC</b>	<b>12</b>	West Westwood United Methodist Church	<b>Annual Pot Luck Slide Show</b>	Anton Zillach Jerry Strangarity	<u>Models:</u> Tank Cars <u>Photos:</u> Trains coming out of tunnels
<b>DEC</b>	<b>16</b>	North East (sub-meeting) Resurrection Lutheran Church Lebanon, Ohio <b>7:15 PM</b>	None	None	“Show and Tell”
<b>2011</b>		<b>HAPPY</b>	<b>NEW</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>JAN</b>	<b>9</b>	Central Harmony Lodge Winton Place	“Scenery Techniques” Bob Lawson	Cincinnati. Model Rwy Club TBD	To be Announced
<b>JAN</b>	<b>20</b>	North East (sub-meeting) Resurrection Lutheran Church Lebanon, Ohio <b>7:15 PM</b>	None	None	“Show and Tell”
<b>FEB</b>	<b>13</b>	North West Chester Library	“Layout Video Productions” Dan Hadley	TBD	To be Announced
<b>FEB</b>	<b>17</b>	North East (sub-meeting) Resurrection Lutheran Church Lebanon, Ohio <b>7:15 PM</b>	None	None	“Show and Tell”

**Modeling Problems? Member aid Committee**  
Pat Homan (513 861-2057)  
Bruce Knapp (513 941-2713)

**Cincinnati Div. 7 Hotline**  
(513) 662-RAIL

**Div 7 Web Site - [www.cincy-div7.org](http://www.cincy-div7.org)**  
**MCR Web Site - [www.midcentral-region-nmra.org](http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org)**

**As of December 1st, Division 7's membership stands at 286**