Call Board

Volume 61 Issue 9 May 2021

Superintendent's Report for May 2021

First of all I would like to congratulate both Jon Stillman and Chris Stilson on earning the Golden Spike Award for their layouts. And thanks to Rick Lash for checking the requirements for these layouts via the internet. Lots of things are still possible to achieve despite the pandemic. The Zoom meetings are a good example. We can still get together and share information and keep in contact in spite of things. We haven't discussed it yet, but I think our BOG meetings could continue online indefinitely.

Speaking of meetings, we still plan on meeting in person in July and having our annual auction. Of course this could change depending on a number of things.

Mike announced a number of exciting clinics in the near future at the April meeting. Watch the Call Board for upcoming presentations. Thanks to John Smith for his presentation at the April meeting. Work continues on the 2021 Dayton Train Show as more and more public events are being announced. Things continue to return to normal, whatever that is, but there will be permanent changes in the future.

Paul Jenkins would like to turn the company store over to a new manager, so that he can pursue new challenges in the division. I want to thank Paul on behalf of the division for the work he has done for the past several years.

Don't forget the contest in May.
Submitted by Mark Stiver, Supt., Div. 3

Virtual Contest

The virtual contest for May is Steam Locomotives.
Deadline for entries is 12 noon, Sunday, May 9, 2021.
Deadline for voting is 12 midnight, Friday, May 14, 2021.

All entries will be emailed to the Webmaster. (Webmaster@modelraildayton.com) The date/time stamp of the webmaster's email will determine if the entry was received in time. The deadline for voting will be 12 midnight (EDT) the Friday before the general meeting.
All votes will be emailed to the **Div3virtualcontest@gmail.com or webmaster@modelraildayton.com** The date/time stamp of the email will determine if the vote was received in time.

Entries will be displayed on the Division 3 website.

Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

Never been to a Zoom Meeting?

Have you been to a Div 3 Zoom meeting yet? Our meetings have grown and evolved. Now we have the meeting, a clinic and an "after-meeting" Zoom layout tour. In addition, there is time before the meeting and after the tour to visit with other Div 3 members. If you have not received an invitation to our Zoom meeting, email me at NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com. Including your email address and name. I send out links on the Wednesday before the meeting, often in an email with other Division business. You will know it is the right email when the word "Meeting" appears as part of the subject.

Never been on Zoom? I'd be happy to set up a dry run for you. I set up a generic Zoom meeting, send you the link and directions and you sign on. If you have trouble, you can call me and I will walk you through it. We can work together to problem solve and not have the meeting hanging over our heads as a deadline.
Don't have a computer (or your computer is not recent enough)? Did you know you can Zoom on smart phones and tablets as well? And if none of that works, do you have a fellow model railroader who would be willing to have some company at his computer during the meeting time.

We love seeing all of our members at the meetings and hope you will take a chance and give it a try.

Gail Yarnall

Dayton Train Show progress

The DTS Committee is busy planning for 2021. Please note that Rick Lach will have a survey for you to fill out, which will give us input in our decision-making progress. Please watch for the survey and fill it in. It takes many hands to make a train show and yours are very much needed.

Gail Yarnall

Division 3 History

If you have not heard, Rick Lach is doing a Division 3 history. We are blessed to have Lone Eagle's NMRA paperwork and others have come forward with information and documents pertaining to Division 3. If you have historical information or paperwork, please contact Rick Lach or send it to NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com.

Spam button misuse

It has come to the attention of the NMRA IT department that many NMRA members do not receive NMRA email publications (*Turntable*, *eBulletin*, *Dispatch*) because ***other*** members use the Spam button.

If the publication is not of interest, simply delete it. If you no longer want to receive ***any*** NMRA email publication, please use the Unsubscribe link (below), which is safe and secure. Never use the Spam or Junk button. If too many people do this, service providers such as Yahoo will block all people from ever seeing the emails. Most NMRA members want to keep in touch. Don't ruin it for them.

Please note that Unsubscribe will apply to all NMRA email publications, including the Turntable, eBulletin, special eBulletins, and Dispatch.

Contests

We have three categories each month. You can enter Scratch Built, Kit Bashed, or just plain Kit built. This allows anyone to enter anything they are proud of and at any skill level. Judging is by popular vote but if you wish to have your model judged by NMRA rules for the Achievement Program, we will make arrangements for you "on the spot"

The coming contest schedule …

May - Steam Locomotives

January - Open Loads
February - Non-Revenue Cars
March - Freight Cars
April - Passenger Cars
May - Steam Locomotives
June - Diesel Locomotives
July - No Contest
August - No Contest
September - Make it cheap (1-3-5 Dollar)
October - Caboose
November - Weathering
December - Structures.

April - Passenger Cars

MODEL

Kit

First Place	John Santel
Second Place	Gail Yarnall
Third Place	Rick Lach
	John Santel

KitBashed

First Place	Ric Zimmerman
	Wil Davis

ScratchBuilt

No Entries

PHOTO

First Place	Gail Yarnall
Second Place	Dana Yarnall
	Rick Lach
	Dana Yarnall
	Rick Lach

Kit-First Place John Santel

Kit-Second Place Gail Yarnall

The Value of Membership

As we wearily made our way through the event called 2020, the annual clamor over the cost of membership in our organization has reached new heights, along with dissatisfaction of how the NMRA is being conducted. This article is not going to deal with the dissatisfaction. If you are in this group, you have two choices, get involved and make the changes you desire or quit.

Currently, a lot of people are having income problems. Be it either a fixed income that is losing buying power or a reduction, maybe a total loss, of income because of career field decline (unemployment). Let's be clear, if you are having to decide between membership or maintaining your household and standard of living, you have only one choice. Life trumps hobby.

So, let's get to the heart of the subject. Is NMRA worth $50 or $82 a year? The $32 is for the magazine, which is a full color, monthly periodical called "NMRA Magazine". Of the three names our magazine has had, this is the least imaginative, but we have come a long way from issue after issue of articles on outhouses.
A recent mailing from "Model Railroader" offer a one-year subscription for approximately $30. If you were to go to the newsstand it would be $98. A subscription on their website is $45. The value of a magazine or just about anything, is related to your interest in what it contains. The value of a book on yachts for sale has more value, to you, if you are interested in buying a yacht.

Since both magazines can be had for almost the same amount. The value is in the articles of interest to you. Only you can determine that. Both magazines accept articles from anyone. If they do not publish what interest you, consider writing an article and submitting it to the publishers.

The $50 membership fee is a little harder to quantify. It can be argued that part of the value is a legacy fee. That is, we are paying for the work done 75+ years ago to make our hobby what it is today. In the 1930's-40's a group of hobbyists got together and convinced the manufactures that it was in their best interest to follow a set of standards and recommended practices when producing their products.
That is why , you can go to a hobby location either brick and mortar or online, get a piece of track, select a power pack, choose an engine and grab some rolling stock, get it home, put it together and it will run. No need to buy only one company's product. Before you wave that off as nothing, go buy Ford or Toyota parts and try putting them on a Chevy. But how much is this worth, to you?

The real value of a NMRA membership is totally intangible. How much value do you put on the friendships you have made, the knowledge you have gained and the fun/entertainment you have had by being a member? Membership entitles you to attend meetings during the year, and an opportunity to attend conventions, both regional and national.

Have you given any thought to how many of the region's train shows are sponsored by local NMRA groups and how many of those shows would not be presented without that local group? How many clinics have you attended to pick up new skills and get new ideas? How many discussions have you been part of for planning, building, operating, and maintaining the layout, maybe even yours? Have you entered a contest that displayed your talent and interest? Would that contest have been held without the local NMRA?
In my opinion, the local part of the organization is where the value is. Most of my dealings with the Regional

(Continued on page 5)

Please go online, enter and vote for the monthly Contest

(Continued from page 4)

and the National entities have been confusing, to say the least. But this division is what keeps me writing that check each year. To do what I can to make model railroading a hobby I want to be in.

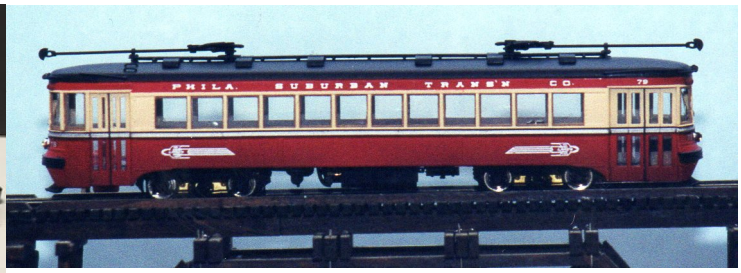
But, if you are one of the "I need to see how much being a member gives me" types, we need go no farther than the NMRA Partnership Program. NMRA has approached model railroad vendors to provide a discount to its members. Currently, there are 47 companies offering up to 45% discounts on orders. Go to NMRA.org for details. These companies cover a wide area of the hobby. Paint, scenery, decals, electronics, tools, videos and more. Depending on how much you purchased, these discounts could pay for your membership.

These are not just Mom and Pop shops. Among them is Micro-Mark, Trainmasters TV, Badger Airbrush, Tichy Train Group, Scalecoat Paint, MCR, and Train Show, Inc. The last is the presenter of the national traveling train shows. Greenberg's, The Great Train Show, Worlds Greatest Hobby on Tour, and the Great Midwest Train Show. 20% discount on ticket. Check the website for details.

Is the NMRA worth whatever amount of money you invest in it? Only you can answer that but consider there is a value that you will not find in your pocket.

Many times, the amount of your return is related to the amount of your input.

Kit-Third Place Rick Lach



Kit-Third Place John Santel

Kitbash-First Place Ric Zimmerman

Kitbash-First Place Wil Davis

Photo-First Place Gail Yarnall

Photo-Second Place Dana Yarnall

Photo-Second Place Rich Lach

Photo-Second Place Rick Lach

Photo-Second Place Dana Yarnall

Board of Governors

The Board of Governors usually meets the first Monday of the month to conduct the business of the Division. Meetings will be conducted online until further notice. Any member may attend and participate in the meeting. Please contact a board member to verify date and time.

Board of Governors
Superintendent Mark Stiver mstiver@woh.rr.com
Assistant Superintendent Gail Yarnall NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com
Chief Clerk Dana Yarnall dyarnall462@gmail.com
Past Superintendent Rick Lach caboose46@sbcglobal.net
Membership Chairman Gordon Carlson gorhenca@gmail.com
Call Board Editor J. Hedge hedgejn@hotmail.com
Ric Zimmerman ezrails@att.net

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The *Call Board* is the official publication of Division 3, Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association. It is published monthly except in August. All comments and opinions are welcome. Those views expressed in the *Call Board* do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of the NMRA, the Mid Central Region or Division 3.

May 2021

Next Crew Call	
When:	**May 16, 2pm**
Where:	**Zoom**
Program:	Designing Switching Operations by Bob Bartizek
Contest:	Steam Locomotives
Visitors and Guests Always Welcome	