

NMRA



MIAMI VALLEY DIVISION

MID CENTRAL REGION

Board of Governors	Next Crew Call	
Superintendent Eric Zimmerman ezrails@att.net	When:	15 March 2026, 2PM
Assistant Superintendent Gordon Carlson gorhenca@gmail.com	Where:	Greene County Historical Society 70 W Church St Xenia, OH
Chief Clerk Gail Yarnall grich4440@yahoo.com	Program:	Operations on a Bedroom-sized Layout By Hans Schmellenkamp
Past Superintendent Mark Stiver mstiver@woh.rr.com	Contest:	Freight Cars
Membership Chairman Wil Davis wdavis5069@gmail.com	Visitors and Guests Always Welcome	
<i>Call Board</i> Editor J. Hedge hedgejn@hotmail.com	Official Division Contact	
Member at Large Ed Durkin eedurkin@ameritech.net	Division 3, MCR, NMRA Inc PO Box 341233 Dayton, OH 45434-1233	

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

Division Cell Phone:
937-424-6413
Leave a message

Email:
NMRA.DIV.3@gmail.com
NMRA.MCR.Div3@gmail.com

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.



Call Board

Volume 66 Issue 7

March 2026

Superintendent Report for March
2026

Ric Zimmerman

I hope everyone is enjoying the spring holidays so far. The big snow storm had everyone snow-bound for several days so I hope you all got some needed work done on you layout. I managed to complete a couple of structures on the Colorado Central in hopes of getting it presentable for the convention. I am looking forward to visiting all of your layouts that will be opened during the Sunday after the convention. Before we get to the convention issues let's take a look at what is coming up.

First, Model Railroad Training Day at Carillon Park is on track for April 18. Gail Yarnall is working on organizing the presentations and the assets needed to ensure the success of this event. Those of you that participated last year in this event and are prepared to do so again, please make sure Gail is aware of your requirements, such as tables, electric power and other supplies. Be sure your exhibit is checked out and ready. Also, Gail Yarnall and her crew need volunteers to help set up and tear down the exhibition the day before and at the completion of the event. If you haven't signed-up yet to help, please do so ASAP or at the next meeting.

Time is running out for preparations for the 2026 MCR

Convention As of our next meeting, we will have less than eleven weeks remaining until the convention begins. We are the hosts for the 2026 MCR Convention and it is imperative that we put on great show, as it is our opportunity to highlight both the division and the Dayton area. Registration for this event is picking up, but still behind where we want to be. Please get yourself registered as soon as possible.

Rick Lach presented our presentation at Division 1 in Akron on February 15, and I have presented our "pitch" to Divisions 6, 7, 10, 12 and will miss the March meeting as I will be in West Virginia making our presentation to Divisions 2 and 9 on 14 & 15 March. If anyone will be in the Cleveland area during March and is willing to make our presentation to divisions 4 and/or 5, please let me know ASAP. It takes about 20 minutes to present out pitch: and attending the division's meeting is excellent way to see more of the region.

Now the part you have all been waiting for, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS, both before, during, and after the convention. Some of the specifics of where volunteers are needed are:

- Short-term tasks (usually a couple of hours.) We will need help assembling the registration materials before the convention. (Discover Dayton will help during

Thursday morning. Chris Stilson is OPR)

- Repair of the Argyle Switching District layout at the storage area, 2-3 hours, once a week (track work, wiring, scenery), needs to be done before MR Training Day. (Peter Guise is the OPR)

- Set-up of the Argyle on Wednesday evening, 3 June (2-3 hours) (Peter Guise is OPR)

- T-TRAK set-up Thursday AM, 4 June (MCR is in charge and will provide members from other divisions to help; (Ed is OPR)

- The Company Store/ Consignment and T-Trak/ Dalmatian demonstration area in the Tradewinds pavilion will need to be monitored when opened. This area will be locked during the lunch and dinner. (2-4 hour sessions)

- Contest/Celebration Room set-up/tear-down (2-3 hours) on Thursday morning and either Saturday evening or Sunday morning. (1-2 hours) Ray Persing is OPR

- Contest/Celebration Room will need qualified judges and monitors when judging is not taking place (2-3) hours, Ray Persing is OPR

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- Display-tear-down Saturday Evening and/or Sunday morning 2-3 Hour (Ric Zimmerman is OPR)

I encourage everyone that can produce a contest model from their efforts to enter their model(s) in the Celebration/Contest room for judging. We need to provide as many contest entries as possible for judging. We don't want to be embarrassed by a lack of models. Models don't have to be MRR-level entries. Remember Jim Foster's admonition, "if you don't enter, you can't win."

As a reminder, the division has the bi-annual election in April. Once again, if you would like to be considered for a position (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent or Chief Clerk) please let Wil Davis know of your interest ASAP. All positions are open, but nominations must be done in March, so that the ballots can be drafted and mailed to all division members. The ballots must be returned to the teller (Wil Davis), either before or at the April meeting, you must deliver your ballot either in-person or via USPS mail by the April meeting. The votes

received will be counted and the winners announced. The new Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Chief Clerk will take charge in May.

Hans Schmellenkamp will provide a clinic on "Operations on a Bedroom-sized Layout" at our March meeting. As I will be in West Virginia, Gordon Carlson will run the meeting Our next meeting is March 15 at GCHS. Contest is "Rolling Stock (all-types)"

Calendar Update Rick Lach	April 18: Model Railroad Training Day, Carillon Park	June 4-7: Host Mid Central Region Convention, The University of Dayton Marriott Hotel
Our busy schedule through the end of June.	April 19: Division General Meeting, at Carillon Park	June 27-28: Carillon Park Railfest,

Contests

We have a category with three classes each month. They are: Scratch Built, Kit Bashed or just plain Kit Built. You may enter anything you are proud of and at any skill level. Judging is by popular vote. If you want to have your model judged to NMRA standards for the Achievement Program please contact Rick Lach.

The coming contest schedule ...

March - Freight Cars

- January - Open Loads
- February - Non-Revenue Cars
- March - Freight Cars
- April - Motive Power (Diesel, Steam, Electric)
- May - Passenger Equipment
- June - Railroad Owned Structures
- July - No Contest
- August - No Contest
- September - Freight Cars
- October - Caboose
- November - Weathering
- December - Non Railroad Structures

<p>Results</p> <p>February - Non-Revenue Cars</p> <p>Kit built</p> <p>1st - Jim Foster 101</p> <p>2nd - Jim Foster 102</p> <p>Kit bashed</p> <p>1st - Wil Davis 201</p>



Kit Built 1st Place Jim Foster



Kit Built 2nd Place Jim Foster



Kit Bashed 1st Place Wil Davis

TRAINing Day is back!!

Gail Yarnall

It's TRAINing Day time again! We are so excited about this year. This is the year of the 50th Dayton Train Show and TRAINing Day's 14th year. I am so excited to see people signing up for this event.

TRAINing Day is a very important event for us. Our non-profit status is based on education and our largest event dedicated solely to edu-

cation is TRAINing Day. The schedule is: April 17 is table set up and some moving into Carillon Park. (Note that times/dates of Transport of items from Storage will be announced.) We begin actual table set-up at about 3pm with a huge support from the Carillon staff. Then we can move in and begin some set-up. On April 18 we will be there for final set-up at 7:30am (staff only will be there at 7am-no set-up until 7:30am). The event opens at 9:30am and ends at

4pm. Clean -up will begin at 4pm and load-into storage will be announced.

We still need some mini clinics, some help with the Argyle, as well as some set-up, tear down and general help. Our members are who make this event so great. If you cannot help, maybe you know someone who can. If you are volunteering, please contact me by email NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com or by phone at (937) 424-6413.

The Miami Valley Division 3, Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association invites you to our 13th

FREE

Admission to this event is free, admission to the rest of the park is the normal admission price.

2026 Model Railroad TRAINing Day

Carillon Historical Park* 1000 Carillon Blvd, Dayton, OH on

April 18, 2026 from 9:30am to 4pm.

(*Also home of the annual June Railfest and the CPR&SS train ride in Dayton as well as the new mile long 3' narrow gauge train ride.)

Everyone Invited. Events for adults and for the kids.

New modelers and Experienced modelers; we have something for everyone. Our friendly, experienced model railroaders will be on hand to answer questions and demonstrate techniques.

Children 12 and under can help construct a small HO layout. Those who participate are entered to win the layout.

Try your hand at operating a train.

What is T-TRAK??? Learn about the latest trend in modeling railroads: T-TRAK! This involves compact modules that join to make incredibly complex layouts which can be stored in a storage tub, under the bed, in some dresser drawers, . . . Examples of modules, as well as a running layout will be available.

Building with the Experts! Bring your car (no Engines, please) to build/assemble, taking advantage of our experience and ideas. Get help with problem areas. Learn new ideas, tips and techniques. Some cars available at cost.

Demonstrations include:

- Talking Track
- Building Structures and Scenery
- Digital Command Control (DCC) basics
- What's in your toolkit?

Maintaining locomotives and cars

- Layout Design and Drawing
- Building train cars
- Scouts can earn Railroad Merit Badge
- And much more . . .

Sponsored by "Miami Valley" Division 3, MCR, National Model Railroad Association. Contact us at: NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com or call 937-424-6413. For more info, www.modelraildayton.com/div3trainineday.html

Division 3, Mid-Central Region, National Model Railroad Association is a 501c3 non-profit organization.



2026 Spring Railroad Modelers Meet
 Hosted by the Black Swamp Division (Div 1) of the North Central Region (NCR), NMRA

April 18, 2026 - Sylvania OH
 with additional evening activities on Friday April 17th!

Doors Open 8:00AM with activities into the evening. See website for details!
 Sylvania Senior Center, 7140 W Sylvania Ave, Sylvania, OH 43560

LUNCH AVAILABLE ON SITE!

Share Models, Techniques, and Ideas. Learn from Experts and Fellow Modelers
 Attend Clinics and Layout Open Houses. Meet with Manufacturers and Historical Societies.

This event is open to ALL MODELERS - NMRA Membership is not required



SCHEDULED FEATURES AND ACTIVITIES

Model Showroom - Bring models (finished or in-progress) of locomotives, rolling stock, structures, dioramas, or scenery. All are Welcome! The showroom is about sharing the hobby in all its many forms. Freeance or prototypes are welcome.

Modeling Clinics - 6 clinics on 3 tracks to choose from on a mixture of subjects presented by modelers, historians, and industry experts.

Layouts and Displays - Small and modular displays will be available within the main venue.

Layout Tours - Tours of local layouts will be available during the afternoon and evening on Friday and Saturday.

Operating Sessions - Ops will be available on Friday or Saturday evening, advance registration is required!

All event activities (minus lunch) are included in one low priced \$7 and under fee, all individuals 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Visit our website for more information and event schedules smm.ncmrra.org




DISPOSING OF ESTATE BENCHWORK

Benchwork approx. 52" high, some includes track mounted on Homasote.

One 100 ft straight run of mostly 4-track mainline.

Two 12ft radius curved sections that are doubled decked (lower for staging).

Two approx. 70 ft runs of generally straight with Homasote and double deck (lower level staging).

Portions have control panels.

Available in part or whole for reasonable contribution to estate.

Purchaser is responsible for dismantling, removal, and transporting.

Located Oxford, Ohio. Contact Ralph Gutowski 513-255-2603

