

Call Board

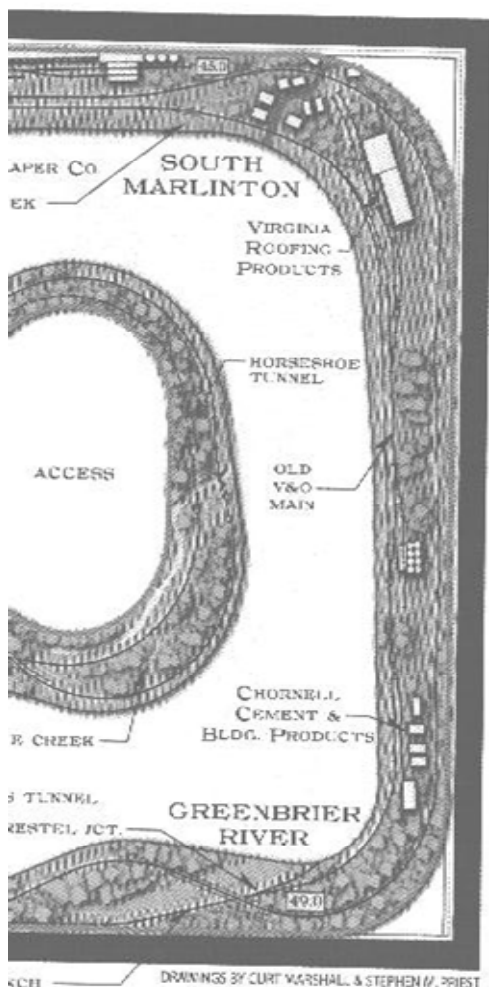
Volume 46 Issue 5

January 2007

This Month's Program ...

Realistic Layout Design for the V&O

How planning and the computer helped make a great layout even better.



We're privileged this month to have a pioneer in realistic layout design from right here in our Division. Everyone knows about the Virginian & Ohio and now we will have a chance to see and hear how Al McClelland has made it all happen.

Al will take us through the planning methods he has used and show the tricks he has learned to make a design turn into a realistic layout. If you need some inspiration to get started on your dream pike here's a presentation that will get you going.

Afterward we'll visit probably the oldest still operating layout in the Division. Stan Pamas is a master craftsman and seeing his work will top off the day.

Don't miss this one!

2 PM Sunday, January 21st at Chapel 3

SUPER'S NOTES

Let's get rolling...

... Why are some flat cars depressed? Is it because they have a low opinion of themselves???

Welcome New Members

Winter used to be THE model railroading "season" since outdoor activities took up most of our time in the summer and it was too hot to work in the average un-air-conditioned shop. Now all that has changed and we enjoy this great hobby year round. Also January used to be the "starting" month for new model railroaders. A toy train or train set received for Christmas turned into a life long hobby for many of us. Though receiving trains for Christmas may have gone by the boards, it's still "starting time" for the new members who signed up at the annual Train Show. Welcome to you. As usual, Bruce Albright has taken the lead in welcoming these folks into the group. If we can be of any special help please ask. We conduct a membership survey in the Callboard to find out how effective we have been and see where you think we need to go. When you receive one please fill it out and send it in as it really helps our planners provide what our members want to see.

Where do we go from here?

And speaking of plans, we sprung into the winter season last month with a round robin clinic on getting started in realistic operations. The idea of going to local layouts to try out their operations afterward made it especially useful to many members. This month we continue with the scheme of designing and building a model railroad. We'll keep it going in the months ahead by moving into as many phases of layout building as we can cover. If there's a topic that has you stumped let us know and we'll work it into the program schedule or point you to a quicker answer.

Research and information, that's the name of the game.

In the past few years there has come on the scene an endless source of information on just about anything. I'm referring to computers and especially the information services or "search engines" (not to be confused with switch engines). If you have felt that computers were an intrusion in the hobby you should look around a little. Even if you don't own one it's easy enough to go to a local library and have them show you how to quickly find the information you need. I'm continually amazed by the depth of knowledge that you find on Google or some of the other services. I guess what really stuns me is how many people must be involved in getting all the material into the databases or banks where it is stored. I have been able to instantly find and print out information on many topics for model railroading that were never available just a few years ago.

Enjoyment of our hobby seems to revolve around finding out about things, past and present, and then building the models to represent them. The first step in any building project is getting a drawing, photos or a general idea and that's just what this new facet of the hobby has to offer. Instant and comprehensive information is what we were promised from computers and the Internet seems to finally be the key to make it all possible. It's all there at your finger tips. When you get up to speed you'll find some of the best railroad related "links" right here at home on the Division 3 Homepage at www.modelraildayton.com Norm Courtney, our Webmaster, has completely re-invented our site, making it one of the most useful ones around. I wish I had the space to list all the great links Norm has put up and all the "pages" it will take you to but, what the heck, it only takes you a few minutes to join us in this "information age" so let your fingers do the walking and you won't be disappointed..

What ever happened to ...

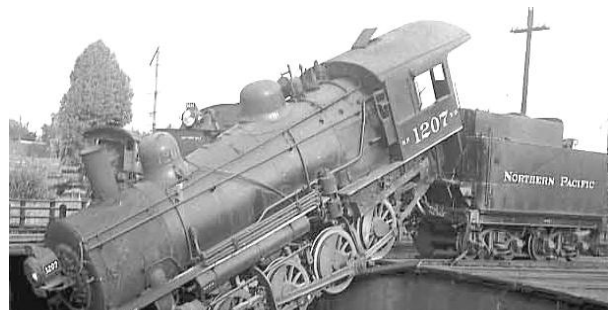
For many years in this Division we had a special freight car. It was a scratchbuilt and donated auto loader from the days when they were "new". We would auction it off once a year to help pay our expenses. The member winning the bid got to keep the car on his layout for the year then he would bring it back in February and it would start over again, Anyone know what happened to it? Let me know if you have any clues. It was a neat tradition and maybe we should start it again.

See YOU at the next Meeting.

Bob Fink MMR

Ever have one of those days?

This sight wasn't unusual when steam ruled the rails. If a loco was left standing without opening the cylinder cocks, a little throttle leakage would cause a "creeper". Sometimes when placed in the roundhouse they would "sleepwalk" right out through the back wall of the roundhouse! And you think you have troubles on your layout.



For January 2007 Call Board:

Aid To Our Members

Clifford Brown

Division 3 lost a 20 year member when Clifford Brown passed away on Nov 16th at age 85. I only recently met Clifford when he attended one of our meetings at Chapel 3 in 2006. He had been a member of the famed Tuskegee Airmen. Division 3 offers its condolences to Clifford's wife, Carolyn, and family.

Sign up a new member...win a locomotive for each of you.

The NMRA is holding drawings from the names of November thru January's new member signups. The winner and the NMRA member who recruited him each get a new locomotive. Bring that prospective member to the January meeting and we'll sign him up! (or use the application in the December Call Board). You both can be winners. The application must be in to the NMRA by 1/31/07! A drawings has been held for November and the winner, 11yr old Harley Thomas, had signed up at our Show! One of the locos awarded in November was a Proto 2000 Limited Edition SD-50. The NMRA intends this to be an annual promotion. Anyone care to work at the membership table at our Nov 2007 Train Show?

New NMRA members

Division 3 welcomes 10 new members who joined the NMRA during Div 3's 2006 Train Show at Hara Arena:

Gerald Erickson HO gauge
Dayton, Ohio

Craig Stutzman HO, G gauge
Trotwood, Ohio

Joe Colvin N gauge
Dayton, Ohio

Thomas Farrell N, On30
Bloomington, Indiana

Richard Hartley HO
Grove City, Ohio

*Harley Thomas(student) HO
Pickerington, Ohio

Ronald Spiga HO
Lakewood, OH

Mark Demaline HO
Westlake, OH

Charlie Martin HO, O, G
Eaton, Ohio

Stephen Berry HO
Eaton, Ohio

*Winner of a new locomotive in the November NMRA Membership Promotion contest

When you meet these folks at Division 3 meetings and events introduce yourself and welcome them into the fold. Note that some of them are not Div 3 residents. Remember that we were selling memberships in the national NMRA, not just Div 3. The distance some of these people traveled to attend our show indicates both our show's reputation and the level of the new members' interest in the hobby! We hope they will be able to attend our meetings and events.

(Continued from page 3)

Division 3 Auction--February 18th

Div 3's annual auction is rapidly approaching. Give yourself an edge on selling your items by giving me a preview of some of the items you will have up for sale. Be sure to include any unique or high end items and I'll list them in the February Call Board giving prospective buyers an idea of what goodies will be for sale and how much cash to bring. I need the info no later than our Jan 21 meeting.

Division 3 Library

In a stack of old Model Railroader magazines I discovered an article of interest about trolleys in the Nov 1988 issue. Problem: it was part 1 of 6 and the subsequent issues were neither in the stack nor my collection. John Smith to the rescue! Division 3 has a library of Model Railroader from 1956 thru 2001 and John, our past Superintendent, is its keeper. I now have parts 2 thru 6! The website, <http://index.mrmag.com/>, will help you find articles in MR that are of interest to you. Check it out, then call or email John to get the magazine you need (see points of contact). John also maintains our collection of Mainline Modeler.

Bruce Albright Membership Chairman 937-426-3091 Albright42@peoplepc.com

Date	Location	Program
2007		
21 January	Chapel 3, Family Life Center	Theory of Layout Design
18 February	Chapel 3, Family Life Center	Auction
18 March	Chapel 3, Family Life Center	Show and Tell (Slides, Models and Photos)
15 April		Tentative: Tony Koester
20 May		Joint Meeting with Division 7
17 June		



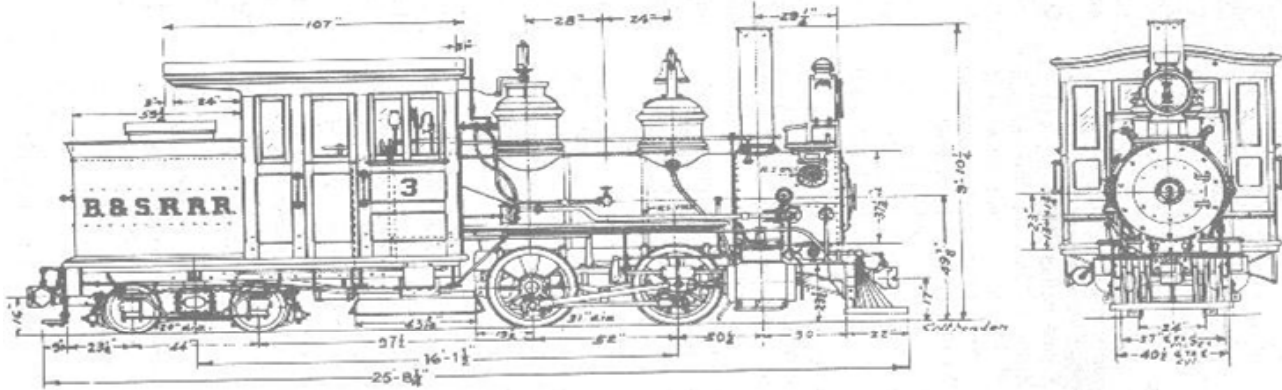
Help Wanted

The Dalmatian Switching District (DSD) will be operating at the Great Train Show in Columbus, Ohio on 20 and 21 January. We are in need of operators. If you contact us ahead of time we may be able to provide you with free entry to the show and transportation. The DSD is a large point to point portable layout that has been involved in 2 NMRA National and 3 Mid Central Region Conventions. Operations are fairly simple and slow paced. If you are interested in being able to run trains for an entire day or two, please contact J. Hedge (937) 878-2391



Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

Sharpening Your S K I L L S



AP Program News...

There's a very useful program in the NMRA that can help you develop your skills and get some recognition for your efforts. It's the Achievement Program. Over the years many of us in the Division have worked toward the various awards. For everyone involved it has been fun and rewarding.

The news this month is the **new contest setup** for the coming year...

We're going to have three categories each month. You can enter Scratchbuilt, KitBashed, or Kit built. This should allow anyone to enter anything they are proud of and at any skill level.

We will keep track of points scored as the months go by and at years end the total point winner will receive a luxurious (ok, I'm kidding) contest plaque . 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.

Here's our schedule:

- March Freight Cars
- April Passenger Cars
- May Diesel Locomotives

OK... This should give you time to PARTICIPATE so let's get building....

Division Committees

The Division is looking for people interested in helping in several areas. We need people to help in the following areas:

- Train Show - Publicity, Layout Room Management Contact Ray Persing
- Finances - Investment Planning Contact Rich Lach
- Achievement Program - Contact Bob Fink