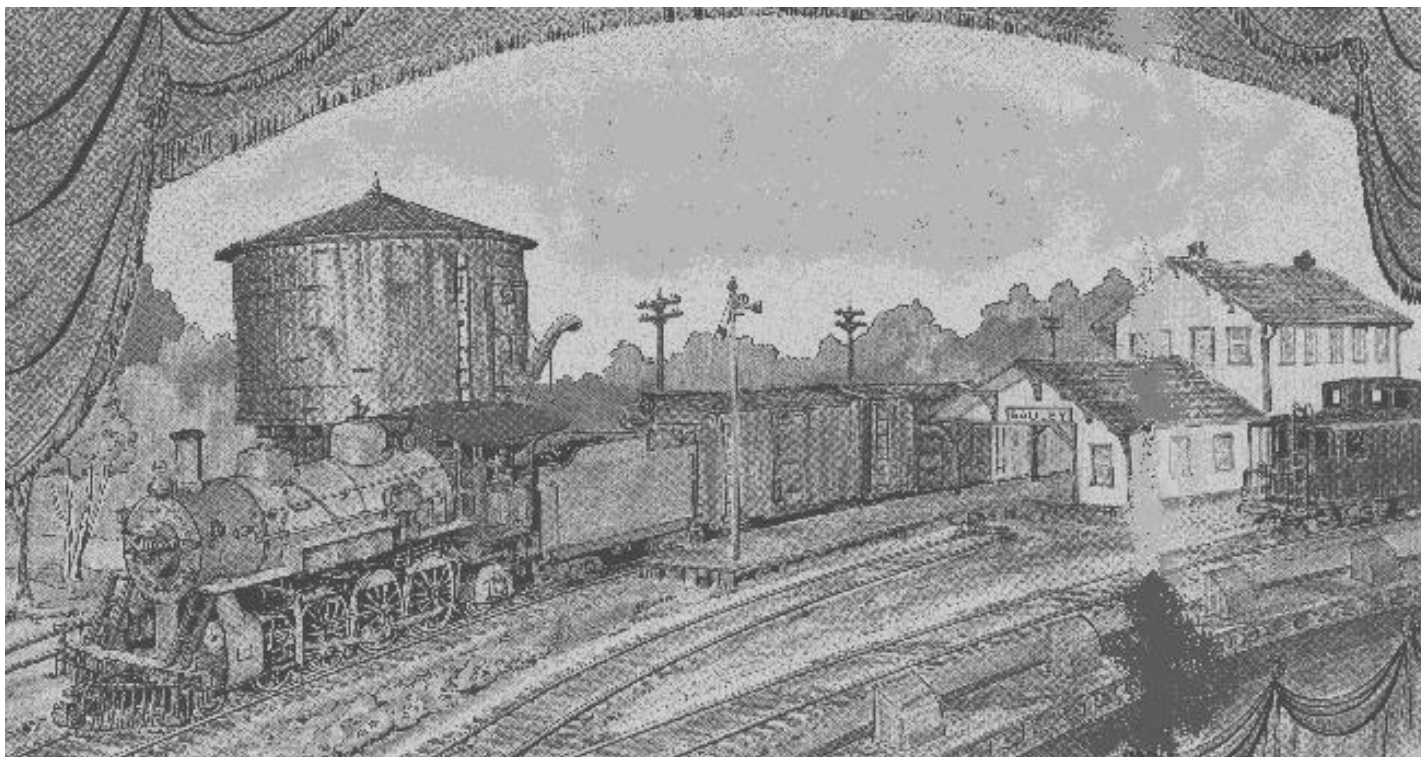


Call Board

Volume 47 Issue 4

December 2007

This Month's Program ...



We'll lift the curtain on our annual "Bring and Brag" Slide show. It's your chance to show any slides or digital photos (on CD's) that you're proud of.

We will start off with a mystery guest as we did last year and then you can jump in as we take turns showing and explaining private or commercial railroad pictures of any era.

Sunday 2PM December 16th

Chapel 3 (maps inside)

Don't forget the Christmas Party the night before! See Details inside.

SUPER'S NOTES

Let's get rolling...

Retracing the history of Division 3 Railroads

I know we are not a historical society as such, but someone said, a long time ago, that to be a good model railroader you have to be an active railfan. Whether you favor modern railfanning or draw the research for your modeling from the past, we all look to railroad history to complete the picture. I continue to run into questions about the railroads that operated in Division 3 and especially "where they were located in a neighborhood or connected with another road". Rick Tipton, a former Division 3 member and Pennsy fan, sent me an email with questions about the old plate girder bridge across old route 35 (now at Rte 675). I thought I remembered the area well enough to give him an answer but then sent his question on to Bruce Albright who has lived around there for a long time and is also a PRR fan. Then it happened again when John Smith said he and his wife were walking through Oregon District and saw some triangular shaped buildings that led him to believe they might have been along a RR right away. That one stumped me but it set off another one of those whacky ideas I come up with. We need to be able to interchange information on specific areas and make the resource available quickly. The Internet and email have made the tools available but we still need a "catalog" of people who specialize in certain areas of railroad information. You don't have to be an expert but if we could generate a simple listing of division members and their areas of interest we could make it available as a forum for questions and answers. Norm Courtney was way ahead of me when he tried his User's Forum on our division 3 webpage but it stalled out, maybe because people would have felt more comfortable addressing their questions to a specific group of people. Anyone want to help put together a list of members who would like to fill in their modeling preferences and resource areas? We could pass it around and continue to expand it over time. Let me know if it sounds of interest to you.

Train show breaks the record!

The headcount figures show this was the largest crowd (total number through the door) we have had for the November show. Preliminary figures show it shapes up as one of the best

financially too. Special thanks to the people who worked all year on it and to all of you who spread the word. We will be starting a transition of leadership as Rich Lach and Nick Folger have agreed to move into train show positions. If you are interested in learning how these folks make this thing happen they could use your help so let them know.

Coming up

The holidays are upon us and the big news is our Christmas Party!

If you haven't purchased your tickets for the December 15th (Saturday night) Party, don't miss out. Mike Mereness and Dick Strous have lined up the Greene County H.S facilities and an interesting speaker. There will be door prizes and the same great food as last year. What a deal for a \$12 ticket. Call Bob Fink at (513) 897-0970 to purchase your tickets. We need to know the total number for the caterer by December 7th.

A "Pot Luck" Slide Show is next

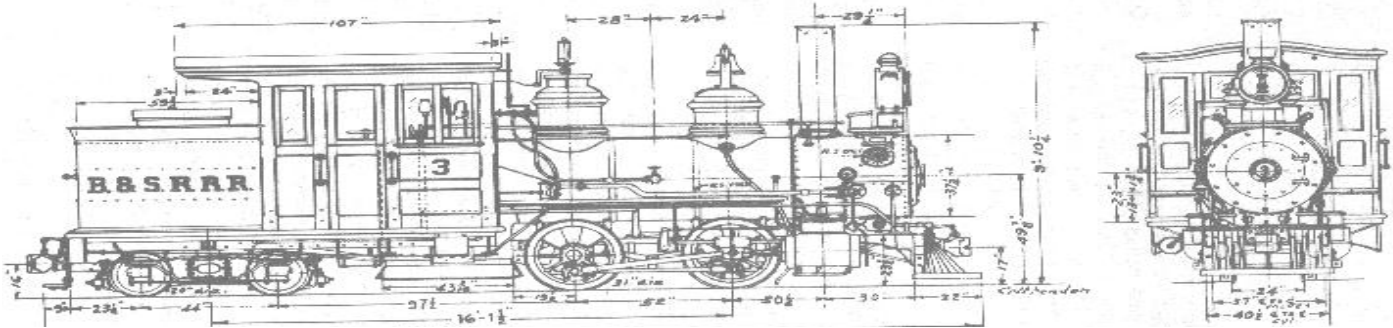
Bring any slides or digital files you want to show for the December 16th regular meeting. Let's see how diverse our railroad interests are! If you use digital stuff have it on a CD or USB Ram drive. Phil has some great raffle prizes and this month he draws the Special Prize (The HO Metal Highrailer). You don't want to miss this. Contest is MINES so bring along your pride and joy and let the rest of us take a look..

See YOU at the next Meeting.

Bob Fink MMR



Sharpening Your SKILLS



AP Program News...

Contests are back and the AP program has come back to life. The whole concept of the Achievement Program is based on improving your skills and getting recognition for it. To make the program work we have to offer you a chance to show your work and you have to come forward and participate. We'll start our part this month by offering the contests again.

If you have a model that you want judged for AP awards after the popular vote contests we can do it "on the spot". What are you waiting for? It's more fun when you participate.

The contest setup ...

We have three categories each month. You can enter Scratchbuilt, KitBashed, or just plain 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 year's end the total point winner will receive a 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:

December Mines January Open Loads (February No Contest; Auction)

This month we would like to see what you have done in the way of Mine Buildings. Big, small, old, new, anything that resembles a mine building will do. Back last September we attached a page of some mine building ideas, so adapt them to suit or dig up your own photo. In January we'll do "open loads" in freight cars. Again, anything that fits in or on an open car will be fair game.

It's easy, fun and worth your effort to share your skills so why not show off a little?

| | | | |
|-------------|----------|--------------------------|------------|
| 15 December | GCHS | Christmas Dinner | |
| 16 December | Chapel 3 | Bring and Brag Slideshow | Mines |
| 20 January | Chapel 3 | Benchwork Mini-clinics | Open-Loads |
| 17 February | Chapel 3 | Auction | |
| 16 March | | Dean Freytag | |

42 Boy Scouts Complete Railroading Merit Badge and Do a Good Turn at November 3rd & 4th, 2007 Division Train Show!

Twenty Scouts on Saturday and another twenty-two Scouts on Sunday completed the six-hour class, to bring the total number of Scouts earning the Railroading Merit Badge sponsored by Division 3 of the National Model Railroad Association to 731! These Scouts were from eighteen Troops from northern Cincinnati to Greenville, Ohio. Congratulations to Ben Borton of Troop 307 who on Sunday had the highest grade in the class for the two days and was given an Athearn Boxcar and Roundhouse N scale Kit. Congratulations to Andrew Behringer of Troop 13 who was awarded an Athearn boxcar kit for his outstanding test score on Saturday.

The requirements for Railroading Merit Badge emphasize Railroad safety and prototype operation. Model railroading is still part of the class and I had collected many different types of rolling stock and motive power in G, O, O27, HO, N, and Z scales to assist in the teaching this aspect of the program. The Scouts were shown the video used at the 2001 National Jamboree to introduce the Railroading Merit Badge. This is an excellent video produced through the cooperation of Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad, Operation Lifesaver, and the Boy Scouts of America. Through the course of the day, the Scouts worked through eight requirements to complete the merit badge. A few of the Scouts had interest in trains, model railroading or had ridden on a train but the majority of the Scouts had little experience with railroading. The prototype portion of class dealt with the signals and communications used today, whistle or horn signals, car types, unit trains, how the diesel engine works, departmental organization, scale vs. gauge, reading a timetable, and railroad safety. The highlight of the class was the construction of an HO scale boxcar. During lunch and after the class the Scouts could tour many of the model railroad layouts in the Ballarena or visit the vendors at show. I appreciate the cooperation of the layout owners with these newcomers to the hobby who don't fully understand the hobby and it's etiquette.



Probably the single greatest highlight of this class for me was the number of food items the Boy Scouts collected for the Northwest Fish Food Bank in Concord UMC. The summary of items we collected are as follows:

| | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| Canned Goods | 66 | 89 |
| Boxed Goods | 24 | 11 |
| Miscellaneous food items | 30 | 2 |
| Daily Total | 120 | 102 |
| | Grand total = 222 food items | |

Many thanks to the Scouts for doing this Good Turn for those less fortunate.

All of this would not have been possible without the help of the following individuals and businesses:
Don Kriegbaum, and Bruce Bryan, for instructing the Scouts on the cleaning and lubrication of a model locomotive and track cleaning. You ought to see the Scouts eyes when they learned how to pop the top off of locomotive!

John Edminson for donning his Amtrak uniform in his retirement and taught the Scouts how to read a timetable, which he and Amtrak provided.

J. Hedge for publishing this article in the Callboard.

Ron Dietrich for donating his back issues of railroading magazines so each Scout could take a couple home.

Jim Higgins and **Bill Riechner** from Operation Lifesaver who shared information on railroad safety and provided a safety video and lapel pins and flyers for the class.

Bill Ford who supported the sound system VCR, and videotapes that really enhanced the video presentation for the class and for providing RR cars so the Scouts could learn 10 different car types.

Bill Garlow and United Christian Church for providing me a sound system and wireless microphone.

John Reck a *great* friend and fellow Scouter from Covington, Ohio, who helped with paper work, kit construction, set up and tear down, and all the little odd jobs. John actually volunteered for each class the division has conducted knowing what he was getting into from previous experience! Quite frankly, I would not have been able to run the class so smoothly without his help and previous experience and I always know with him on board the class will succeed.

Mark and Laurie Combs for making arrangements for a video projector to be used each day to show videotape furnished by Operation Lifesaver and the BSA.

Division 3 Members who helped the boys with the reading of the timetable and kit construction.

Several of the Scout Leaders Steve Behringer, Chris Kelly, Ken Livingston, Chris Stover and Ed Lamprect who help in the administration of the class, construction of the kits or reading of timetables.

Dave Hickenbotham of DLH Locomotive for rustling up HO kits and selling them to us at discount so we do not have to charge the Scouts for the class.

Mary, my wife, for allowing me the time to prepare for and teach the class as well as act as my personal secretary and taking all those messages from Scouts and trying to answer their questions. She also helped me teach the class on Sunday, gather, load and unload the materials needed for the class as well as transport the food donation to the Northwest Fish Food bank.

If you have any Model railroad or railroading items you would like to donate to the next class to be used as gifts for the Scouts that excel please contact me at Jeepfunatic@yahoo.com. With support like this the class can only get better. In trying to thank everyone, I'm sure I missed someone, but that is the chance you take when you try to acknowledge a bunch of great people in our hobby. As you can see we had a good crew and a good time, but the best thing was to over sixty young men learning about railroading and seeing the pride in their faces as they completed their kits and earned the Railroading Merit Badge. Thanks to all of you for your help as well as the Scout leaders and parents that supported this event as it would not have come off without you.

In Service to Scouting and our hobby.....

Kirk Perkins Railroading Merit Badge Counselor

Have a great Holiday!

2007 Show Wrap-up

Total attendance: 5130

The Raffle layout was a success again. The winner was Aiden Hewitt 3 1/2 yrs old from Centerville, Ohio. His parents were totally surprised since his grandmother had brought him to the show and bought the ticket. Seeing Aiden dance around his new layout really made it worth while. He already is an avid train fan with several HO cars. His parents were planning on a train layout in their basement once they get it

remodeled and were thrilled to have the layout as a starting point. Well done to Jim Foster, Richard Davoust and their crew.

Advance table sales for next year were very good. Thanks to Peter Guise for all his hard work as publicity person and to Ray Persing for doing all the hard work. The Division owes a big thanks to everyone who volunteered in any capacity. If you did not make it out you missed the best railroad hobby show in Ohio.

You are invited to attend the next meeting of Division 3. It will be held at the Chapel 3 Family Life Center, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio at 2 pm, 16 December 2007. Visitors and guests are always welcome.



Board of Governors

The Board of Governors usually meet the first Monday of the month to conduct the business of the Division. Any member may attend and participate in the meeting. Please contact a board member to verify place and time.

| Date | Host |
|-------|------------|
| 7 Jan | John Smith |
| 4 Feb | Rick Lach |

