

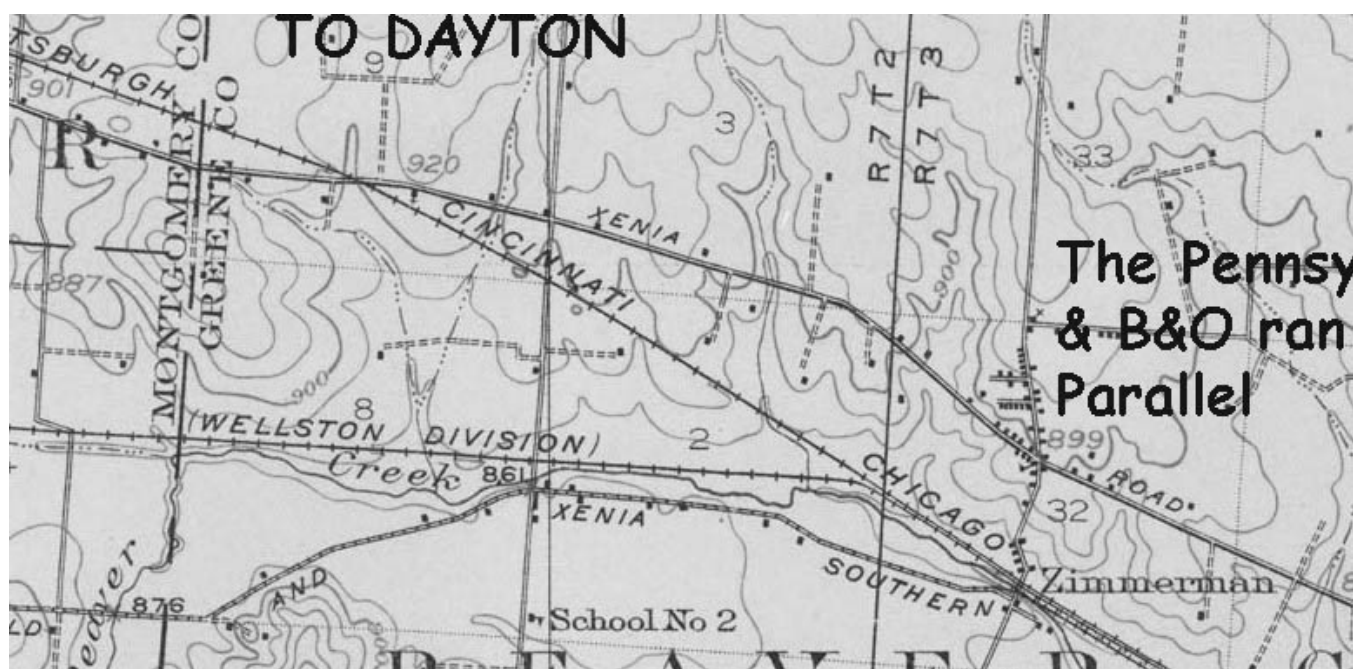
# Call Board

Volume 49 Issue 4

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This Month's Program ...

## Designing a Realistic model railroad with the aid of Topographic maps



There's a scads of great layout design information on the internet. Dave Decker will take us there and show some of the tools such as topo maps and how they can benefit your design efforts. If you need data on a particular railroad from the past or want to freelance a design these tools get you closer to a realistic design quickly.

Sunday, December 20th 2PM Chapel 3

Division 3 Website: [www.modelraildayton.com](http://www.modelraildayton.com)

# SUPER'S NOTES

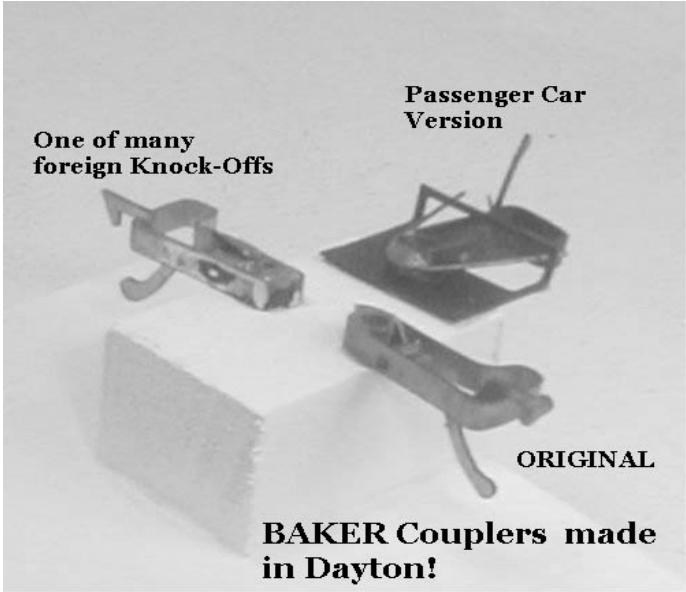
## Let's get rolling...

You know you're a model railroader and railfan when you shop for a house by the tracks instead of away from them!

### Dayton had it's railroad inventions too!

Dave Decker brought an old coupler to the last meeting and asked if anyone remembered them. He's put a photo of it up on the webpage as a quiz. It jogged my memory and I won't tell you the answer but there's an even more interesting story of early HO couplers and Dayton. I'm getting to the age where I tell stories over and over so maybe I told you this one but here goes.

In the late 40's an HO club and layout was started in the Dayton Art Institute. They operated for the public on Sundays and at the time it was "the only HO game in town". Realistic operation was a thing folks only dreamed of. Operations then meant running trains around and around since automatic couplers were around but were fairly unreliable. Two of the club members decided to invent an HO coupler that would work. Their design was a loop with a sprung latch that could be uncoupled by raising a ramp between the rails. It worked far better than most of the commercial ones and a local model manufacturer named Doug Baker (he owned a hobby shop on Patterson Road) asked if he could produce and sell them. The deal was for the rights to the design if he would provide free couplers to all members of the club. They caught on regionally and then the famous John Allen of Gorre & Daphetid fame began to use them and when his photos in Model Railroader magazine and his Varney ads showed them they gained national market status. They were one of the predominant couplers in HO until a little known company produced the coupler Dave displayed. With some design changes along the way it became the true standard of the hobby. I've shown a mock up of the Baker couplers below. Pretty crude looking but in their day they got realistic operations one step closer to reality.



Passenger version is shown upside down. It overcame one of the problems of sharper radius curves and long cars by using wire springs to allow pivoting.

## WOW! That Train Show.

I said last month before the show our folks would do a great job and I was right. It was another great year for our show at Hara. Thanks to Nick Folger, Rick Lach and everyone who helped and came out .

**Special Raffle is ready** The special raffle has a beautiful, framed railroad picture that we will offer for this month only. Phil will also start a 3 month special raffle with an item we received in the last donated collection. For a buck what can you lose???

**Make and Take was great** If you missed the last meeting 24 folks saw regional president, Dick Briggs take them through building a laser structure. Everyone had fun and got a neat addition to their layout. Some kits still left.

See YOU at the next meeting



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Bob Fink MMR

# Sharpening Your SKILLS

## AP Program News...

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 do our part each month by offering a popularity contest and even a "show and tell" table to get you started. As your skills advance you can join us in the Achievement Program (AP).

Congratulations to Wil Davis for having his caboose judged by NMRA rules last month, scoring 103 for a Merit Award and being one more step on his way to the "Master Builder – Cars" AP certificate.

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## Our REGULAR monthly contest setup ...

We have three categories each month. You can enter Scratchbuilt, KitBashed, 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 ...

**DECEMBER** Structures & "Fruit Stand"

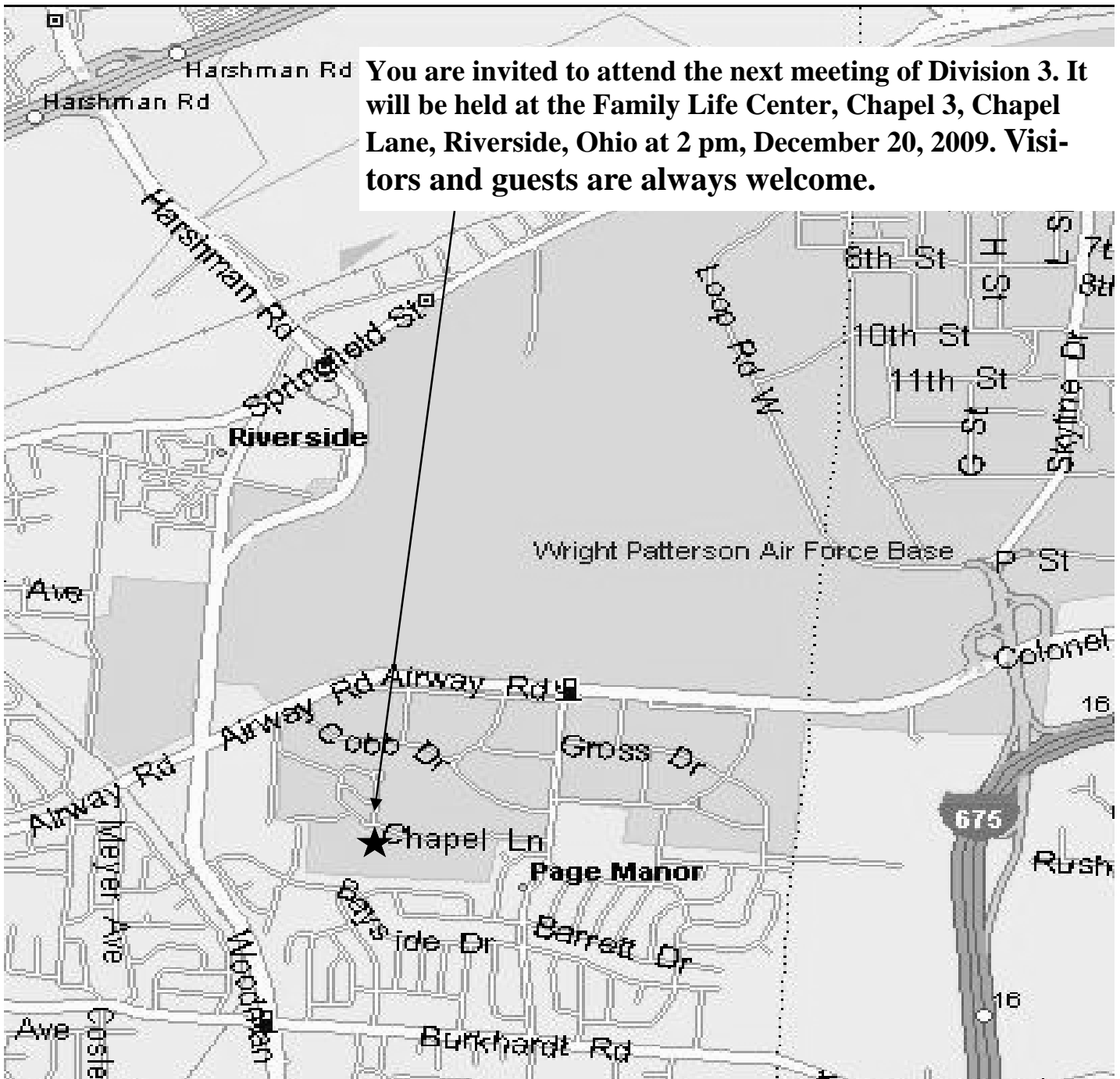
**JANUARY** Open Loads & PRR Passenger Shelter from November Clinic

November 2009 - Caboose				
	Kit	Kit Bashed	Scratch Built	PHOTO
First	Wil Davis	Bob Fink	Wil Davis	Dave Decker
Second		Dave Decker		Dave Decker
Third				Dave Decker

2009 Standings						
	KIT	KIT BASHED	SCRATCH BUILT	SPECIAL	PHOTO	OVERALL
First	Jim Foster	Jim Foster	Wil Davis	Bob Fink	Dave Decker	Dave Decker
Second	Bob Knapp	Dave Decker		Dave Decker	J. Hedge	J. Hedge
Third	Wil Davis Dave Decker	Bob Fink		Wil Davis	Jim Foster	Bob Fink

## Division Elections

It's time for the biannual arm twisting and nagging to start again. Division 3 will hold the election of officers in April 2010. The positions are Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Chief Clerk. The incumbent Superintendent and Chief Clerk are ineligible to run for the same positions. We need at least 2 candidates for each position. Please consider running for office. The positions do not require any experience or special background. The only requirement is the desire to keep the Division running. Contact Brian Petroziello on the nominating committee for more information.



## 2009 Train Show Wrap-up

Nick Folger

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Dayton Train Show is nearly in the books. From what I have heard from everyone I talked to, it was well accepted. For this year I cannot take all of the credit. As I have said to a number of people, Ray Persing sowed the seeds and I harvested the crop for 2009. Ray provided me with nearly all of the information needed to put on this year's show allowing for my own touches. Together I believe it worked well.

For the numbers people ask me about, they are not completed. Rick Lach is on a vacation and has worked hard and we just got the final bills from Hara so I will give you what I have at this time.

The gate was down for the second straight year with a final head count of 3,925 for the two days. I must say that the first 3 hours of Saturday was up over last year and it showed. With a line from the East Hall to the Ballarena until about noon, we were up on the head count over 2008 by about 200 attendees. The vendors saw the crowd and were very pleased. In fact, after the 2 days none of the vendors I spoke with were dissatisfied with the crowd we provided through all of the promotion the committee provided over the last year.

I have so many people to thank that helped make this a great show that I am sure I will forget someone as I set here writing this article, but I will try anyhow. First, thanks goes to Rick Lach who did an outstanding job as my Promotions department. Coming along about 2 months before the show, my wife, Shirley, started helping Rick with internet hook-ups to promote the show locally and regionally. Always in the background with his past experience was Peter Guise advising me on things I might do or look out for.

Thursday morning came very early, 4:30, as Rick, Shirley, and I headed to the 'Crossroads Club' for an early morning TV2 News show and "Bucher's Beat" with Jim Bucher. Rick arranged to work with "A Kid Again" and Deborah Samic and one the "Kids" to get them into the basement for "Bucher's" live feed from Crossroads. So, many thanks go to Paula Jewett, our account rep. from TV2 for lining us up with Jim Bucher again this year.

Friday, setup day, in following Ray's lead, I planned to mark all tables in the East Hall with the vendor's registration numbers. That went well, but took longer than I had mentally planned. At 11:00 am I was to leave for TV2, thanks to Paula again, with Don Kriegbaum and Bill Carey to display their "Suit Case" layouts for the 'TV2 News At Noon' with Marsha Barnhart. When we were finished, I received a phone call from Shirley saying she had lost her car keys and I should go home and get her extras, so I could not get back to Hara before registration opened at 2:00 pm.

This is where Ray's and his predecessors, including Dave Decker's previous work came into play. Rick, Phyllis Smith, and Shirley had had no previous experience at the Registration desk, but, as if they had been doing this forever, the show came to life and everything moved along smoothly. That is until 'CANS', Columbus Area N Scalpers, arrived and found out they had been cancelled, by yours truly, because of an email I received earlier in the week. As it turns out, I should have cancelled 'Columbus N-Trax' instead. And because Ray and Dave were there and had had to rearrange things in the past at the last minute, the "life" that the show has, took over and everything came together like "a well made plan." Many thanks to Ray and Dave for their last minute work around. Then I arrived with Shirley's other set of keys!

At Hara, their employees, Rip, Robert, and Bobby were tops in getting and keeping the show running smoothly. And Brooke Folkerth, my direct contact at Hara, helped me every step of the way. I had never worked with any large complex such as Hara before and Brooke made it painless, almost as if I had done this many times in the past.

I know I may be getting wordy, but J. gave no word limit, so I will continue to thank folks.

“Your workers are everywhere. I have never seen so many people trying to help us load in,” said Mark Admanski to me during the show as I was checking with vendors and how things were going. Yes, this is where I think Division 3 shines.

We had workers everywhere covering everything possible to make this show a success. Too many to name, about 30 in all. But I will name a few, including Ron Sturgis, who along with John Smith, rebuilt the newly donated circular test/demo track with scales G to Z scales included. Ron was not a member of the NMRA when I enlisted him. As members of a work group, we have become fast friends and he wanted to help. In fact he was there each of the 3 days before me and I am supposed to be the first one there! And he made sure that he was the last out. Many thanks to Ron. He is now a NMRA member, Division 7 because of his home address, but still a valuable member to Division 3 at the same time.

And then there was J. Hedge helping at the front desk, offering advice where needed. Brian Petroziello was at the mic calling the door prize winners and making announcements of clinics and selling the vendors. I gave him several pages of script of announcements so that we mentioned everyone, I think. Kathy & Jeffery Lehman worked with the head count and hand stamping duties. Kathleen Lach worked with Rick early on before the show getting post cards mailing list ready for mailing and cashier for the show. She also took a little guff from someone that wanted in for ½ price in the last hour of the show. Don & Karen Grey took the lead compiling the mailing list used for the over 6,500 post cards we mailed out for this years show. Dave Decker was very helpful in the Ballarena area helping get the displays set up. And Bruce Albright and his crew signed up about 12 new or renewed members for NMRA.

Kirk Perkins and his crew continued their great work with the Boy Scout Merit Badge program. Kirk and I discussed some other ideas that might bring the Boy Scouts into a more active part of future shows. Look for more as time nears 2010 show date.

Then there were the “yellow vest” workers keeping a presence on the floor the whole weekend. The only “five finger shoppers” that I heard of were in the Ballarena where several cars were missing from Dayton N Tracks display. We had about 12 of these workers on the floor at most times.

I know that I missed someone that was helpful before, during, and after the show but it is not on purpose, there were a lot of you giving your time to make this show a success. So to the rest of my workers, THANK YOU VERRRRRY MUCH. It would not have been a success without YOU!

The 2010 show is just 11 months and 3weeks away and we have sold 201 tables to 36 vendors already. I think we have a good start for our 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Dayton Train Show! So set aside the dates of November 5, 6, and 7, 2010.