

Call Board

Volume 62 Issue 7

March 2022

Superintendent's Report for March, 2022

The attendees at our February general meeting came to the consensus to hold the March meeting on Zoom again. As we are still working to find a site that would allow a hybrid meeting, and having a presenter doing the clinic from Scotland, it seemed simplest to continue on Zoom. As the number of Covid cases continues to go down, and two possible locations to meet becoming available soon, I hope we can meet in person and via Zoom in the near future.

Elections for the Board of Governors are coming up in a April, but there is still time to volunteer to run. Contact Rick Lach or Will Davis if you are interested.

Also coming up is the Tri-Region convention this May in Indianapolis. The Kingpin contained all the necessary information, or you can go online to learn more.

Hopefully the next two Div. 3 contests will generate more entries than we've had so far this year. March will be freight cars and April is for passenger equipment. I'm already working on something for both.

Finally, don't forget the the general meeting for April has been pushed back a week to the 24th to avoid a conflict with Easter.

Submitted by Mark Stiver, Supt., Div. 3

March Meeting

The 20 March meeting will again be by ZOOM. The program will be a presentation on Computer Aided Layout Design. It will be presented by NMRA President Gordy Robinson MMR.

The March meeting will also feature the nomination of candidates for the April 2022 election. The nominating committee has a candidate for each position but would really like to have more.

The April meeting has been moved from 17 April to 24 April in order to not conflict with the celebration of Easter. It is planned to be a live meeting at the Greene County Historical Society with a ZOOM connection for those who do not desire to travel to Xenia. The programs is tentatively scheduled to be on Painting and detailing models.

The format for the contest will either be live or virtual depending on the decision of the Board of Governors. Watch the website and Call Board for final information.

The election will be conducted at the April Meeting. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voting members with instructions for their return.

Division 3 Website: www.modelraildayton.com

DIV 3 CLINICS—Have you shared your skills?

Mike is looking for good clinics for our group. Do you have a special modeling skill you could share? A different way of approaching something? A new idea? Do you have a favorite list of places to chase trains? Some railroading history? Do you know someone who has something that would interest Div 3 members? Volunteer to do a clinic or share ideas for clinics with Mike Mereness by emailing them to NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com.

RAILROADING NITTY GRITTY (emphasis on the gritty)

One of the funniest, most entertaining books I have ever read, on any topic, is “A Treasury of Railroad Folklore” edited by B. A. Botkin and Alvin F Harlow. This contains railroad stories, folklore, songs, and things you will not believe (which in some cases is probably a good idea). It covers well known names (Lincoln, Carnegie, Vanderbilt), notorious characters such as Jesse James, and the Reno Gang, hoboes, engineers, maintenance folk and legendary names like Casey Jones. There is something for everyone in this book.

I purchased the book out of curiosity one time. It is very thick and takes awhile to read, but it is constructed in such a way that you can read a story and stop, then pick it up later at the next story. The reading is easy: the stories are written with wit and charisma. I just began reading it again, and it never grows old. I recommend this book to anyone who has an interest in railroad or model railroad. You can purchase it online. The cost runs from \$7.00 to about \$60.00 (oh, the optimism of ebay sellers!). Just search the title to find it. I have included some short excerpts for your entertainment and as a preview.

Excerpts of Railroad Lore found in A Treasury of Railroad Folklore:

Economy

James J. Hill, empire builder and founder of the Great Northern was an extremely thrifty man. Making one of his periodic rounds of inspection one day, he discovered a new track spike on the roadbed. With fire in his eye and the spike in his hand, he sought the section foreman. The foreman, who must have been one of the quickest thinkers ever born, saw Mr. Hill approaching, saw the spike, guessed what was coming and hurried to meet him.

“Thank goodness you found that spike, Mr. Hill!” He exclaimed. “I’ve had three men looking for it for nearly a week.”

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The Boggs River and Northern Railroad was putting into effect almost rigid practice of economy. Locomotives were patched and repaired with old parts and pieces until O’Leary, the shop foreman, threatened to break down under the strain.

To cap the climax, one day a worn-out-looking locomotive was placed in the shops. O’Leary was asked to give it a thorough examination with a view to ascertaining just what would be required to put it in first-class running shape. The same afternoon, O’Leary, having completed his review of the locomotive, dispatched the following laconic note to headquarters:

“No 36—in to-day. To put in complete repair: Jack up her whistle and build a new engine underneath.”

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Enough was Enough

Cyrus H. Jenks was a division superintendent for the Great Northern Railroad at Crookston, Minnesota, in the early days.

En route to St. Cloud one day he received a message to the effect that a locomotive tender had fallen into the turntable pit at the Crookston roundhouse, and that a hand derrick was being used to extricate it.

A few miles down the line, he received another message: “Hand derrick now in pit. Shall we send for steam derrick from Melrose?”

At that, the pressure in Jenks’ boiler rose to the danger point. He wired his roundhouse, “Leave steam derrick where it is. No more room in pit.”

Gail Yarnall

SNOWPLOW FUN

Many of you have seen one or more of the movie series Crocodile Dundee. At one point a punk draws a knife on the lead character, who responded by saying, “That’s not a knife, THIS is a knife” and pulled out a Bowie knife (which is credited as being 8-10” long and 2” wide and which resides in a vault in Australia, in case you wanted to know). That scene always comes to mind when I see one of my favorite MOW vehicles:

That’s not a snow plow:



THIS IS A SNOW PLOW!



Snow plows are an ingenious way to deal with snowy conditions and some areas (such as Alaska, northern Canada, and many northern US states in the winter) rely on Snow plows to keep the trains moving. There are different designs, but the above is truly my favorite. It is a rotary snow plow and it resides at the National Museum of Transportation in Missouri. Snow plows seem to be a favorite car.

Some are independent, self-powered vehicles:



Others must be powered by an engine:



Watch out for this one. It seems to be very serious about getting rid of the snow.



So, if you don't want your winter layout engine to look like this:



You need one of these:



And PLEASE don't stand by the tracks when the snow plow is running. None of us want to dig you out, no matter how much we like you!

(For more Snowplow pictures, just search the internet. The first and 3rd through 6th photos were listed as public domain. The second photo from the NTM was mine. Give credit where credit is due.)

Gail Yarnall

Please go online, enter and vote for the monthly Contest

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 ...

March - Freight Cars

- 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

February - Non-Revenue Cars

MODEL

KIT

First

Second

KITBASH

First

Wil Davis

Second

Third

SCRATCH-BUILT

First

Second

Third

PHOTO

First

Gail Yarnall

Second

Gail Yarnall

Rick Lach

Third

Rick Lach

Rick Lach

Jim Montgomery

Virtual Contest

The virtual contest for March is Freight Cars

Deadline for entries is 12 noon, Sunday, March 13, 2022.

Deadline for voting is 12 midnight, Friday, March 18, 2022

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.

Kit Bashed

Wil Davis

First Place



First Place Gail Yarnall

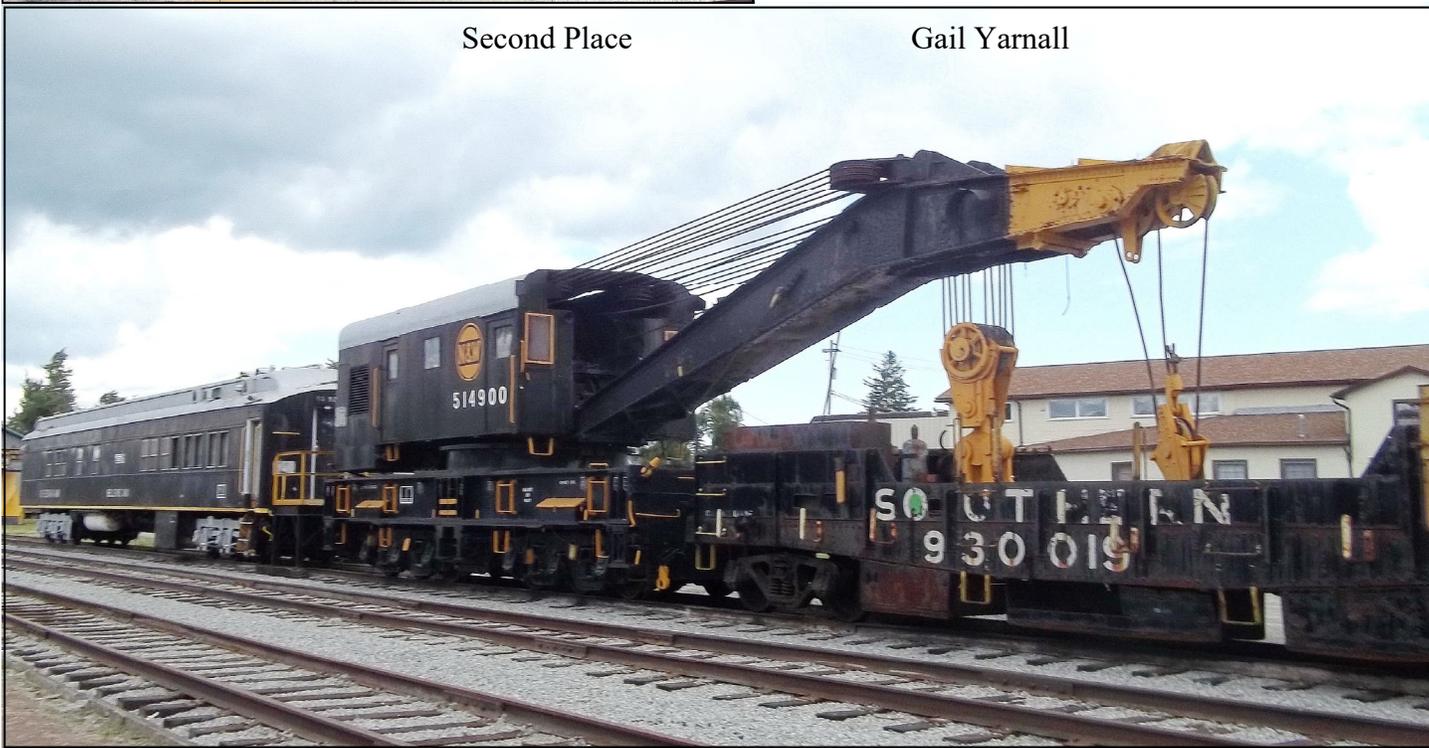
Second Place

Rick Lach



Second Place

Gail Yarnall





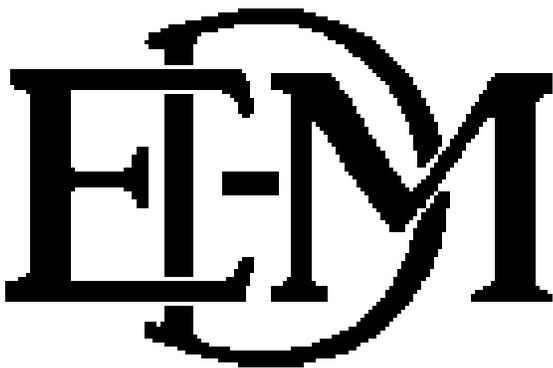
Third Place Rick Lach



Third Place Rick Lach



Third Place Jim Montgomery



IN MEMORIAM:

Again, it is with tremendous sadness that we announce the passing of 4 additional persons who were associated with Division 3 and the local area model railroading community: Jon Skillman, Ron Sturgis, Marcie Fink, and Sue Dietrich.

Jon Skillman was a long time Division 3 member. Jon passed away on February 13, 2022, after a long bout with cancer. He was an inspiration to us all as he was extremely proud of recently earning the Golden Spike Award for his layout, models, and structures. He was so proud of that honor that he had the certificate framed and hung it on his wall. Although he made the move to be with his family in New York, he made every effort to attend our monthly general meetings on Zoom for the last several months. Good friend, Chuck Clevenger, posted the following: "Our dear friend and fellow NMRA Div 3 member, Jon Skillman, passed away last night after a long battle with abdominal cancer. He is beyond pain and limitation now, and I wouldn't bring him back for the world, but I am grieving the loss of a great friend and mentor. Jon recently received the NMRA's Golden Spike award for completing his pike, the HO scale "Kinnikinnick & Trickle Creek" (Crick, of course). Jon was many things in this world: a great husband to Katy and father to his kids, a pilot, missionary in Alaska, radio personality with a sonorous voice, Sunday school teacher to children, a knowledgeable historian on our area of Ohio, black powder enthusiast, and Superintendent of a colorful HO pike. High Green, my dear friend!" May Jon rest in peace.

Ron Sturgis was a member of Division 7, but very actively participated in Division 3 activities because he lived closer to our division. Ron had many friends in both divisions and operated and belonged to work groups within both divisions. Ron died on February 5, 2022 after a long battle with cancer, but he still remained both active and extremely positive. Ron volunteered and actively worked on the Annual Dayton Train Show, the Carillon Park Railfest, the University of Dayton Christmas on Campus program, and the Division 3 Model Railroad Training Day. Ron will be remembered for his passion regarding his involvement in our model railroading activities. We will always remember his enthusiasm when he passed out candy canes to the children at Christmas time at the University of Dayton. We will honor Ron's memory as we continue with our programs and acknowledge his involvement in them contributing to their success. May Ron rest in peace.

Marcie Fink, Bob Fink's wife of over 50 years, passed away on January 24, 2022. We received the following message from Cindy Fink, their daughter, announcing Marcie's death. "I am so sad to share that my wonderful Mom passed away yesterday afternoon. It's been a crazy 1 year and exactly 2 weeks since Bob and Marcie rushed up here to Cleveland to get a cancer treatment recommendation for my Dad. However, I'm glad they are back together and only had about 8 months apart. I hope that you all are doing well! Cindy Fink" Many of us knew Marcie over the years and appreciated the support she gave Bob, the division, and to our local model railroading activities. We pass along our deepest sympathy to Cindy and her family as we recollect both Marcie and Bob with tremendous fondness. May they rest in peace.

Sue Dietrich, wife of Division 3 member and former Division 3 Superintendent, Ron Dietrich, passed away on December 29, 2021 after a lengthy illness. She and Ron were married over 50 years and were involved in all kinds of farming activities in and around Greenville, Ohio. We will remember and thank Sue for her support of Ron's model railroading activities over the years. We also send our sincerest condolences to Ron and the extended Dietrich family during this tough time. May Sue rest in peace.

We give thanks for Jon, Ron, Marcie, and Sue and for their being part of our lives and Division 3. (Rick Lach)

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
<p>Superintendent Mark Stiver mstiver@woh.rr.com</p>
<p>Assistant Superintendent Gail Yarnall NMRA.Div.3@gmail.com</p>
<p>Chief Clerk Dana Yarnall dyarnall462@gmail.com</p>
<p>Past Superintendent Rick Lach caboose46@sbcglobal.net</p>
<p>Membership Chairman Gordon Carlson gorhenca@gmail.com</p>
<p>Call Board Editor J. Hedge hedgejn@hotmail.com</p>
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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.



March 2022

Next Crew Call	
When:	March 20, 2pm
Where:	ZOOM
Program:	Computer Aided Layout Design by Gordy Robinson MMR
Contest:	Freight Cars
Visitors and Guests Always Welcome	