

# Call Board

Volume 65 Issue 1

September 2024

## Superintendent Report

Goodbye summer and welcome fall (at least according to the month). Vacations are over and the kids are back in school. Now it is back to work, and this is our busiest season, but the BOG and I have been busy while you were off.

While Rail Fest was actually in June, it was after my deadline for the Call Board, so I want to cover it briefly. Rick Lach and his 20 volunteers, managed to have a successful event, although the 90-degree temperatures did tend to drive some of the usual spectators away. They still managed to see at least 3000 attendees. Thanks to all the volunteers for supporting this event.

At our July meeting we held the annual division auction. Those who attended offered a lot of “reusable” items from their collections, and almost everything that was offered was sold. Everyone had a pretty good time. Wil Davis was the auctioneer and he did a great job keeping the bidding moving. Many, many items were sold and everyone who entered items was able to make a little “side money.” For those who were unable to come; better luck next year.

On August 18, we had a sale of the Ralph George Collection to members of Division 3 and the Miami Valley Modular Railroad team. More than 750 high quality items

were offered and more than 250 were sold. All of the money received from this event and the follow-on events will help support our educational goals in the future. Gail Yarnall, and her team, did a herculean effort to inventory, category, price estimating and selling this enormous collection of high quality model railroad equipment. If you were not able to attend, you missed out on some great values. Thanks, Gail and all of your volunteers for a tremendous effort.

Again this year the National Museum of the United States Air Force (just the Air Force Museum to most of us) held what is becoming an annual event, the “Wings - Rails - Wheels Expo.” Four of us attended the event and offered some different aspect of our hobby. While the division was represented, there were several other model railroad organizations with larger representation at the event. It is a one-day event, and a lot of interesting things to see. I would like to see more of our people supporting this event in the future.

This is the time of the year when we have to start to plan and support the annual Dayton Train Show, our premier event. The Train Show committee has already started the planning process, but this is the time where we need everyone’s support. All the tasks that are necessary to bring off a great show require volunteers from the division.

Gail Yarnall is the Chairperson again this year and she will soon be asking for volunteers. Please don’t hesitate to volunteer some of your time. Keep in mind that this is the only event were we charge people to attend, and this is event provides us with the funds that are required to meet the activities in the coming year. Please volunteer!

Our next meeting is on September 15, at GCHS in Xenia. The contest will be freight cars and Jim Foster will be presenting a clinic on detailing your railroad. Jim always gives good presentations and I am sure you will enjoy this one. I hope to see a large crowd at our next meeting.

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## Editors Comments

For many years in September I wrote a column on what I did on my summer vacation. I focused on the railfanning I had done in the previous year. I have lost all my railfanning buddies and find myself unwilling and/or unable to drive as much as I used to.

I now do most of my railfanning on my computer. I have found webcams all over the world that are aimed at trains. Some of my favorites are found on YouTube and Virtual Railfan.

One advantage of these webcams is that you can scan through them and not have to wait for the trains to show up.

Air Force Museum Expo  
Wings, Rails and Wheels  
August 24, 2024

Submitted by Gordon Carlson  
On August 24 the Air Force Museum held it's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Expo titled 'Wings, Rails & Wheels'. All indications are that it was well received by the public and will continue as an annual event as long as the foundation budget will allow. Division 3 was well represented with 5 members exhibiting;

According to event coordinators there were more exhibitors present this year than last . All exhibitors

were in the hanger 2 event area, which worked out very nicely. All our displays were well received and there were many conversations with attendees and even some who were interested in more information on the NMRA. Hopefully at least one will show up for our September meeting.

It is a good show and was interesting to see other hobbyists. We encourage you to attend next year as a participant or visitor.

Photos:

1. Ric Zimmerman manning the time-saver
2. Wil Davis exhibiting DCC with 3 forms of control, including special Wi-Fi with remote and phone controls
3. Gordon Carlson showing the use of an Arduino to detect block occupancy and set signals accordingly
4. Ed Durkin provided Division 3 T-Trak modules to assist the Central Ohio N-Trak (CONTRAK) T-Trak Layout
5. John Santel exhibiting 3 N-scale drawer modules
6. Examples of other exhibitors

**Help Wanted**

The Division needs volunteers to help with member recruitment and publicity. In the past the Division would have a table at almost every rail related event within the Division, manned by members to talk to

the public about the NMRA.

One of these events was the Bradford Railroad Heritage Day. This event will occur on Sep 14, 2024, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
200 N Miami Ave, Bradford, OH 45308, USA

It is probably too late to sign up for this event but keep your eyes open for other events and talk to our membership chairman if you want to help

**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 ...**

**September - 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

**Results**

**July - No Contest**

Kit Built

Kit Bashed

Scratch Built

Photo



1. Ric Zimmerman showing timesaver



2. Wil Davis with DCC demonstration



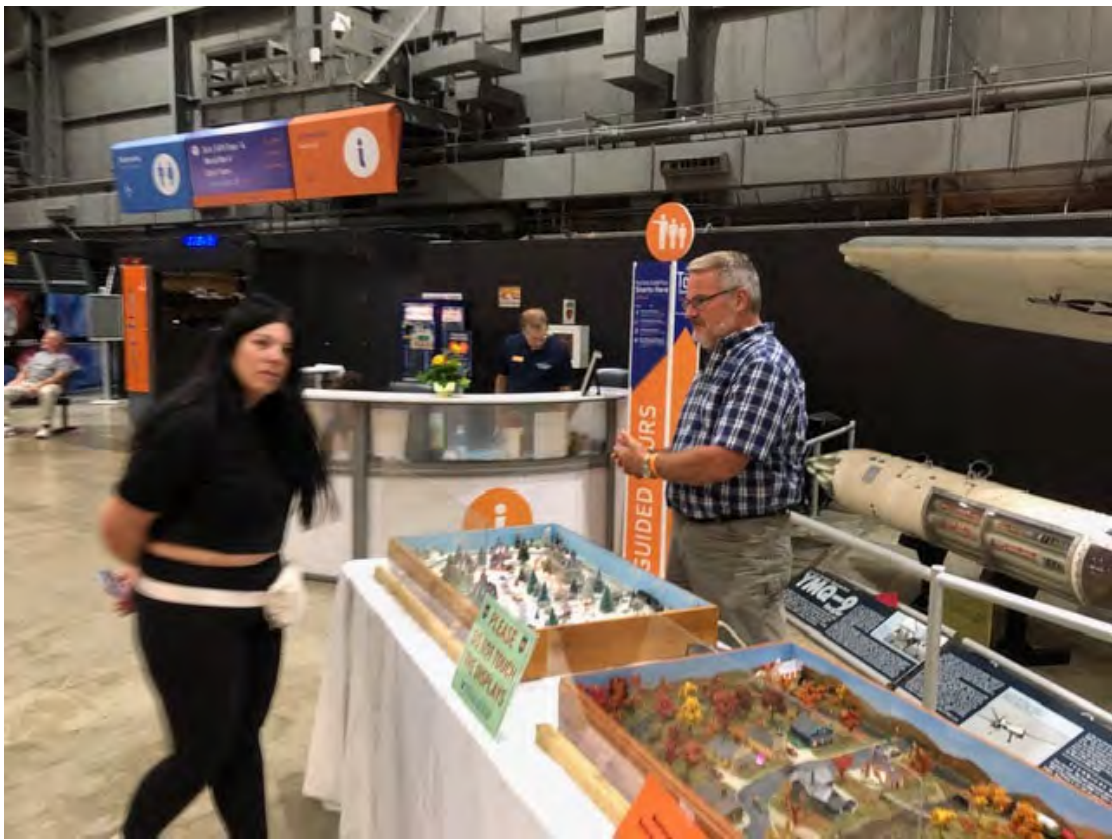


3. Gordon Carlson and Signals



4. Central Ohio N-Trak T-Trak Layout





5. John Santel showing his drawers



6. Lots of Winged Things

## 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.

<b>Board of Governors</b>
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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.



# September 2024

<b>Next Crew Call</b>	
<b>When:</b>	<b>September 15, 2PM</b>
<b>Where:</b>	<b>Greene County Historical Society 74 Church St Xenia, Ohio</b>
<b>Program:</b>	Detailing Your Layout By Jim Foster
<b>Contest:</b>	September - Freight Cars
<b>Visitors and Guests Always Welcome</b>	