



The Dispatcher



Meeting Notes

North East Hoosier Division 3 - October 2005

North
Central
Region
NMRA

Northeast
Hoosier
Division 3

Superintendent:
John Reitz

Treasurer:
Gene Cowan

AP Chairman:
Daniel Metzger

Board of
Directors:
Glenn Roon

Division Scribe:
Chuck White

Dispatcher
Editor:
Rich Mohr

Meetings:
2nd Monday of
each month
7:00 pm

Attending: Ted Hanson, Daniel Metzger, Dan Brown, Alan Bell, Alleyene Metzger, Max Metzger, Gary Evans, John Reitz MMR, Chuck White, Don Rhodenbaugh, Rich Swab, Gene Cowan, Rich Swihart, Fergus Moore, Craig Beaverson, Olivia Miller, David Miller, and guests, Sharon Moore, Anita Hall, Scott King, Chris Piano, & E.J. Caylor

BRING & BRAG

Everyone was invited to bring the latest project they've been working on.

Dave Miller brought one of the carnival rides he's building for the Maumee Valley club's layout. The ride is operational. Dave is debating whether to leave the roof on or off.

Chuck White brought resin coal loads he cast himself, after learning how from a clinic given at a previous meeting.

John Reitz brought a Z Scale layout that he's building for friends of his. He also brought a module from the Woodland Scenics kit. It was complete except for track. John plans on building another one at the upcoming Maumee Valley swap.

Alan Bell passed around a book on NYS signals that he has found very helpful for future signals on his layout.

Ted Hanson brought a building with gravel on the roof that he painted with the "Flex Stone" product he found at Michaels. Ted also showed us a couple of coal hoppers where he is detailing with air hoses and cut levers. Ted said: "Once you've done a few cars, you'll want to do all of them, if you have nothing else to do."

Craig Beaverson has been researching Fort Wayne breweries and had a car from the Falstaff Brewery, with NKP reporting marks, from

Greenway models. This led to a brief discussion with Gene Cowan, who is also researching these cars, and Chuck White who reported on discovering them in Milwaukee at their annual Train Fest. Chuck said Train Fest is an event everyone must try to attend at least once. It's held the second weekend in November. Chuck wasn't sure he was going this year due to a conflicting motor car trip.

Fergus Moore had a book and pictures of the famous hanging bridge in the Royal Gorge on the D&RGW, which he hopes to build on his proposed layout. Fergus also had information about the upcoming steaming up of the NKP 765 the weekend of 10/29 & 10/30 at the Fort Wayne Historical Society's shop in New Haven. Fergus said the ultimate cost was over \$600,000 from the original estimate of \$320,000 and that it took over 20,000 man hours of donated/volunteer labor.

MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT - Gene Cowan said we continue to be solvent. Chuck White was reimbursed his recent postage expense for mailing The Dispatcher.

GATS - Will be on 10/29 & 10/30. John advised we have 3 tables. Gary Evans will attend Saturday with his timesaver modules. John plans to bring the Woodland Scenics module. The T Trak modules may also be on display.

ELECTIONS - John announced we will have them in December with nominations in November. He encouraged anyone working on the achievement program to seek election so they could fulfill one of the criteria for certification. John also advised he will not be running for reelection as Superintendent.

NMRA CONVENTIONS – Chuck White announced that he, Bill Wemhoff, and Alan Bell were going to the North Central Region's in Pontiac the weekend of 10/21 – 10-23. Chuck also said he plans on attending the national convention in Philadelphia next July. Anyone interested in going to these conventions was invited to go along splitting the expenses to make it more feasible to attend. Gene Cowan said he too was planning to go to Philadelphia.

ANNUAL PICNIC – Dave & Olivia Miller won the prize for finding the hidden items on Alan Toy's layout. They were the only ones who found the soldiers. Despite the wet weather, everyone who attended said they had a great time.

T TRAK MODULES – Dan Metzger brought a number of these, which he loaned out to various members for them to scenic. Dan's keeping a record of who has these modules and is expecting them to be returned/displayed at upcoming future shows/swaps/events

SPRING MEET – Fergus passed out a diagram of the church's new facilities. He led a discussion as to changes to the hall. The configuration has changed with different entrances, meeting rooms, etc. He's reserved new basement rooms should we need to use them. Dan Metzger discussed some of his plans, including a new flyer, and popular vote contest. NMRA merit judging will be by prior reservation, so we know what to expect for the judging.

ROADSIDE SIGNS – Ted Hansen had several made for his Round Robin/Open House last month. They were obtained from Classic City Signs in Auburn. There was a picture in last month's Dispatcher.

DIVISION SHIRTS – John said he is looking into having our logo screen printed.

LETTER TO MEMBERS – Chuck White reported he had snail mailed a letter and copies of back issues of the Dispatcher to 17 NMRA members who either do not receive our newsletter, because they're in our new counties in Ohio, or because they do not have email. The letter requested a response to continue to receive future issues.

ROUND ROBIN – Will be at Gary Sturm's this month.

DETROIT 2007 – Chuck White is coordinating layout tours to the Fort Wayne area for the Great Lakes Express NMRA National Convention. At least four local layouts are planned for this event.

TONY ROMERO – Fergus Moore proposed obtaining a print by Robert West for our recovering member. Chuck White motioned and Dean Metzger passed for Fergus to

proceed with the purchase. Motion passed.

DRAWINGS

Anita Hale and Olivia Miller were the winners of \$10 gift certificates from "Hobbyland" and now "Cowan's Creations. Please support these retailers who are very generous sponsors of our division. Please also support A Plus Hobbies in Bluffton who is providing free space on their server for our division's web site.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPERATING SESSIONS - North East Hoosier Division sponsored sessions are scheduled as follows:

- First Saturday at the Rigg's Montana Rail Link layout in Continental, OH. The sessions usually start at 9 am (EST). Contact Bill Wemhoff to receive email notification.

- Second Saturdays at Drake Omstead's New York Ontario & Western layout in Warsaw. Drake's usually begin at 1 pm. Contact Drake to get on his "crew call" list.

- Fourth Saturdays at Bruce Carpenter's layout in Wapakoneta, Ohio. These are usually in the evening. Space for these is very limited and usually by invitation only..

- Fourth Sunday's at Glenn Zoller's Manistique & Lake Superior layout in Goshen. This session is also by invitation. They begin around 6 pm

NEXT MEETING

will be on 11/14/05 at 7 pm at our usual venue, Sirva/NAVL, on US 30 west of I-69. Enter on the south side of the building, through the eastern most pedestrian entrance, where the sidewalk angles up to the building. Check in/Sign in at the security desk.

ADJOURN

The meeting ended at approximately 8:33 pm.

NOVEMBER MEETING**REMEMBER****VOLUNTEER YOURSELF OR NOMINATE
ANOTHER PERSON FOR CONSIDERATION OF
AN OFFICER POSITION**

At the November meeting we will be accepting nominations for officer positions for the 2006-2007 year term. The final nominations and elections will be at the December meeting. Please be ready to do this Monday night at the meeting.

I have found a copy of the Division Three Constitution that needs to be revised. This will be done by the officers, and then presented to the membership for approval at a later date.

I will be going to the printers to see about having a T-Shirt with our Division Logo printed on it. The estimate for the printing and the shirt is about \$20.00 each. I hope to have one to show at the next meeting.

The following is the thoughts and opinions of the acting superintendent.

I have requested with the GWATS people to have a display table only for the October 2006 event. This will be for just the Division banner and to set out brochures on. No request for clinics will be made. And no running modules displayed on the table. The GWATS people seem to have a cash flow problem. And for me to ask for clinics and module set-ups for our members to do and not be compensated for is not fair for their time and effort.

I hope the future GWATS will be better than this year. I have my thoughts about it. With the increasing ticket prices each year, poor advertising, and high cost of dealer tables I see this show as being nothing but a train flea market. There will be only one GWATS here in Indiana next year, and it is at Fort Wayne. A two day event, but, with the show ending at 4:00 P.M. on Sunday unlike 5:00 P.M. this year. This may not be a bad thing. It would give dealers and the display railroads a chance to get home earlier.



October Round Robin

Gary and Kathy Sturm was the host for this month. Even though this was their first time as host for a round robin host, they did a bang up job with making us feel at home. Eleven visitors had a chance to run trains and view Gary's layout. The visitors were Rich Mohr and his son Brogan, Tammy Dawkins and her son Brian, Bill Kidd, John Reitz, Rich Schwab, Ron Highland, Carl Dirig, Gary Evans, Bob Birkholz, Bob Savage, and Ted Hansen. Ron Highland had to take control of one of Gary's sound equipped locomotive and made noises until he had our attention. The hill behind the coalmine should be completed by next month then we can start working on other parts of the layout. Gary will be relocating some track for better operation on the west wall area. Maybe by next summer he can have his first operation session.



This is Gary's hill taking shape behind the coalmine building. I hope Sparky gets it finished next weekend.

And Gary wasn't kidding. There was a small container to put your nickel in.



The sign reads "Please Do Not Flush While Train Is In Station" really it does.



Here Rich and his son are looking over Gary's railroad.



Not sure what Ron Highland is up to. He may have been running a train.

November Round Robin

This November Round Robin was canceled by Bill Wemhoff due to major reconstruction on the railroad not being ready in time for him to host a meeting this month.

December Round Robin

Is still planned at Art Solomon's home. I talked to Art this afternoon and he said he should be back home in a couple more weeks. I will be checking on him to see if he will be up to hosting the meeting. If he cannot, Gary Evans has volunteered to be the host for December.

