



The Dispatcher

Northeast Hoosier
Division 3 NCR

National Model Railroad Association



Meeting Location & Day change notice:

Now every month on the second Tuesday instead of Monday

Tuesday June 12, 2007

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Church of the Covenant

10010 N Coldwater Rd - Just south of Dupont

*Please use the
South-East
Drive &
Entrance*

SUPER'S REPORT

by: Chuck White



Supers Report for June 2007

Hi Everyone: Here's another update on things happening with our division

NEW PERMANENT LOCATION, DAY & TIME

We're done with "floating around." We tried meeting at the ACPL's downtown location and also at various branches. However, it became obvious that we need a permanent location. Thanks to the efforts of Fergus Moore, we'll be utilizing the facilities of The Church of The Covenant as our monthly "base of operations." This is the same place where we have our Annual Meet. We'll be meeting the **SECOND TUESDAY** of each month. The meetings will start at 7:00 PM. We're to enter via the rear door - the

one the northwest side adjacent to the kid's playground. Our room will be the "library," the room where Dan Moody usually is sets up his "Hands on Trains" exhibit for the annual meet. Our next meeting date is June 12. That's next Tuesday!

TONY ROMERO'S INVENTORY

Please help us out!!! Contrary to Fergus' email, the end is not in sight. We still probably have over 1000 items to go - we've also completed about that many. Our next date is Saturday, June 19 at 9 AM. BRING boxes in which to pack kits, cars, engines & models. I've asked Fergus to manage/coordinate this effort. Contact him if you have any questions. We're going to start listing cars & engines on eBay soon. We considered having a local sale or auction. However, not everyone's schedule allows them to get to either of these venues. We also have issues with manning the event, and pricing items for these types of sales. (e.g.: "How much do I price this item at...???) On the other hand, with eBay, Tony (and his wife Ann), can probably realize a much greater return. The

whole purpose of this process is to help out Tony. So that there are no claims of self enrichment or conflict of interest, I personally will not be purchasing any of Tony's items, even though he has more BN stuff than I do...

CLINICS FOR OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS

For 2009, we'd like to showcase our local talent. We also plan to invite some noteworthy modelers, like we did in 2001. However, most of the clinics can probably be handled very competently by some of the gifted people we have in our division. The theme for the 2009 convention will be for everything to be a "hands on" experience. Thus, I will be asking key persons to be presenters - watch for an email from me. Then I would also ask that you give your clinic at one of our monthly meetings. This will help you prepare for the Regional. We're not going to make it a criterion that you present beforehand. We'd like to give you the chance to practice and hopefully get some constructive criticism.

Supers Report Cont.

NEW NORTHEAST HOOSIER DIVISION 3 BROCHURE

Thanks to Dick Moessner and Rich Mohr, we have an updated brochure to distribute to local hobby shops, at various train shows, and other venues. It is Canary Yellow in color, and includes our new meeting venue. If you find any of the old blue or gray ones, please pitch them as they are very out of date.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM CHAIR

Craig Beaverson's work schedule precludes him from attending our meetings, and he often has weekend conflicts too. He has asked to resign his position. I've regretfully accepted it as he was very enthusiastic about handling this task. Please let me know if you are interested in taking on this role. I'm looking for someone who will literally take me by the hand and help me fill out the forms I need complete.

OHIO COUNTIES ADDED to DIVISION 3

The new brochure will need to be updated soon as it does not mention that our division now includes 6 counties from the Buckeye state. These were part of Division 2, an inactive division out of Lima. I'm asking our current/active Ohio members, Gale Jordan, Tony Williamson and Michael Hoersten to handle any NMRA related functions for this area. This will be a standing

committee within our division. The Ohio counties include: Paulding, Van Wert, Mercer, Putnam, Allen & Auglaize

INDIANA COUNTIES TO BE ADDED TO DIVISION 3

Another project we've been looking at is to petition our leaders at national (and the adjacent regions) to have several adjacent counties added to our division's. These counties have NMRA members who are also active in our division. They include Bill Wemhoff in Adams (county), Alan Toy in Wells, The Metzger's in Huntington, and Drake Omstead & Joe Berger in Kosciusko. Each of these NMRA members has advised me it is closer & easier for them to come to participate in our functions than those for the division/region they're currently in. I'll be asking a resident of each of these counties to handle the petition for their county. To facilitate this, I've received a membership listing from national for all the NMRA members in our area. If you think any other counties should be added to our division's (Goshen?), please let me know, and whether you'll handle the petition. This change will also require an update to our brochure, although probably not for awhile.

STANDING COMMITTEES/ SPECIAL INTEREST GOUPS

We're in the process of establishing several committees to support NMRA members in each of these areas. Again, these are up & running in other divisions, most notably in Division

One in Toledo. What they do, how they work, etc., can readily be found, understood, and determined from the NMRA's website. One thought is that if a member is having a problem, or needs information regarding one of these topics, someone with knowledge in this area would be available to assist, or would know where the answers can be found. The Operations committee is up & running. If you would be interested in joining or chairing one of the other committees, please let me know. Here are the committees I envision, or that have been established thus far.

*DCC
OPERATIONS
LAYOUT DESIGN
INDUSTRIAL
OHIO MEMBERS*

2007 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN DETROIT

I have finalized my volunteer status. However, Barry Hensel is still in need of additional volunteers. Even if you can only help out for one day, I would encourage you to contact him. Again, this extravaganza is being held the last week of July. The free hotel rooms will be released within the next week or so.

ANNUAL DIVISION PICNIC

Don Rhodenbaugh is coordinating this. He's contacted Alan Toy and they have a couple of tentative dates. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Don. Don will have more info at our next meeting.



North Central Region NMRA Northeast Hoosier Division 3

Superintendent: Chuck White
Dispatcher: Dan Metzger
Treasurer: Gene Cowan
AP Chairman: John Rietz

Board of Directors:
Gary Evans
Division Scribe: Dan Brown
Newsletter Editor: Rich Mohr



Supers Report Cont.

YAHOO GROUP

Once again, I would ask those of you haven't, to join this group. Our main purpose here is to facilitate the emailing of this newsletter. We may develop it for other uses, but only with your input & approval. One function we'll be using with it is the calendar is to help remind you of upcoming meetings. The calendar function can be used in other ways – we'll discuss next Tuesday.

SHOW & TELL/BRING & BRAG FOR OUR NEXT MEETING

The collection of railroad oriented documents/papers that were brought to last month's meeting was extraordinary. Several attendees brought some really fascinating stuff, none of which included any Timetables from the prototypes. That's what we'll bring this month.

We'll look at the model ones at a later date. Actually, you're welcome to bring any documents related to the prototype's rules, schedules, equipment, etc.

CLINIC FOR OUR JUNE MEETING - NEXT TUESDAY

I don't have one planned at present. If any of you have something you'd like to present, please give me a shout.

OP SESSIONS

Drake Omstead's NYO&W is shut down for the summer. In his place, Alan Bell is hosting a monthly session on his NYC layout. Due to limited space and popular demand, attendance is by invitation only. If you would like to be invited, please let Alan or myself know.

The monthly sessions at the Montana Rail Link at Steve & Bill Rigg's in Continental, OH continue to be held

on the first Saturdays at 9 AM. If you would like to be sent an email reminder, please send a note to Bill Wemhoff, or to me (to forward to Bill).

MOTORCAR TRIPS

I've suspended going on these until after the NMRA's national convention in Detroit is over. I have one or two planned, with request/commitments already received from several of you. I'm also working on upgrading my trailer & tow vehicle. I hope to have more of these available for 2008.

**2009 NCR CONVENTION**

Below is a list of proposed committees. Several of these have obvious candidates for the chair person. Still, there might be interest by someone we've overlooked. If you feel you could handle chairing one of these, please let me know ASAP. We still have yet to hold our first meeting. Getting together with our contact at the Marriott has been a bit challenging. If you want to defend yourself from getting drafted (to be a chair person), you should attend this first meeting. We'll advise a date, place & time. Here's the list:

1 Home Layout Tours	11 Door Prizes	21 Local Railfan Guide
2 Prototype Tours	12 Publicity	22 Hobby Shop Liaison
3 Clinics	13 Program	23 PERT Schedule
4 Hotel	14 Graphic Design	24 Post Convention F/U
5 Convention Store	15 Advertising/Media	25 Audio/Visual
6 Convention Car	16 Silent Auction	26 Contest Room
7 Registrar	17 Non Rail	27 765
8 Op Sessions	18 Slide Night	28 Supplier Liaison
9 Banquet	19 Budget/Finances	29 Historian
10 Modular Layouts	20 Shirt/Patch/Mug	30 Awards

A description of the responsibilities for each of the committees is available upon request. They will be distributed at our initial organizational meeting.

Model Signs & Sources

by Dick Moessner

Small details can turn your model railroad into a interesting pike with a specific time and place. One easily added detail is signs. Signs, if carefully chosen, say a lot about when and where the scene is set. The signs don't have to be too big. Even small signs, if legible, can subtly make a difference.

Advertising can quickly set an era. Ads for farm wagons say one time; ads for SUVs say another. Political signs also can be effective. An "I Like Ike" poster for Eisenhower says "1950s." One for Kennedy or Johnson says "1960s." Carter posters say "1970s" and Regan ones say "1980s."

Commercial signs of high quality are available from vendors like Blair Line, JL Innovative Design, and Woodland Scenics. But you can find many real sign source materials available at our local public library. Suitable images can be found in library books about collectibles and advertising. Here are a few of many such books available from the Allen County Public Library. All were available at the Main Library when I was making the list. For other titles, look at the shelves where these call numbers are found.

"America For Sale," Douglas Congden-Master, library call number 741.67C758a;

"Huxford's Collectible Advertising," 741.67H98h;

"Posters of World War Two," Denis Judd, 741.67 J88p;

"Foremost Guide to Uncle Sam Collectibles," Gerald Czulewicz, 745.1075 C99F;

"Billboards of the Past," Randy & Sharon Littlefield, 659.1342 L73B;

"Encyclopedia of Porcelain Enamel Advertising," Michael Bruner, 659.1342 B83a

"Great American Billboards," Fred E Basten, 659.1342 B29G

"Those Were The Good Old Days," Edgar R Jones, 659.1 J714th, (B&W only);

"100 Years of Political Campaign Collectibles," Mark Warden, 324.973 W210, (B&W only);

"Hail to the Candidate," Keith Melder, 324.973 M48H

With a PC, a scanner and a printer, you can turn out signs for your pike's time and place. Take a suitable image, scan it into your PC, crop it to the part you want with a "paint" program and save it. Then paste that image into a word processor or vector drawing program

(like Adobe Illustrator or Corel Draw). Adjust the image size to suit and print it off. If you have a laser printer you are done. If you have an ink-jet printer, you have one more step. Take the ink-jet printed copy to a copy shop and have them make a color copy of it. Lasers and color copiers make waterproof copies; ink-jet prints run if wet.

I've used manila folders as sign backing. Spray the folder stock with adhesive, then press the paper copy in place. Cut out the sign with a sharp knife. Use a black Sharpie pen to blacken the edges of the sign. For temporary mounting, use tiny beads of "poster stick-em" to attach the sign to a structure. You may prefer to fasten signs permanently to buildings or billboards. Others have written up methods for this.

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