



SUPER'S REPORT

by: Dick Moessner

May 30, 2011

July Meeting

The July visit to Dan Metzger's backyard garden layout was quite a success. We had a nice turnout. Those who came got to see an interesting display of trains in a rather different setting than most of us are used to. Dan's layout is indeed in a garden. And that means a lot of different chores than the average basement modeler. Dan really has to have a track gang to do maintenance. He faces the same problems as the real thing. He has to check rails and ties; he has to reshape ballast to prevent erosion. He has to deal with vegetation. He has to repair damage caused by snow, or rain, or winds, or falling branches. He's got all that and more. But he also has a layout that really fits into the world. There are no phoney hills or tunnels. Big trains also means serious construction. Dan has a girder bridge really made of steel. It is strong enough, and high enough, to sit on.

We – or I, anyway – also learned a bit about large scale trains. For instance, when a newbie comes into regular modeling railroading, they may occasionally describe their layout as "HO gauge, 1/87th of full size." Old hands will point out they really mean to say "HO scale". But garden

railroaders do talk about "G gauge." It seems there are models made to quite a range of proportions, but still running on the same track gauge. And when you add in narrow gauge options, the proportions of a "G gauge" line may be from 1/32 of full size, up to 1/14th. That can mean some pretty big locomotives.

We also talked some about the options for powering a layout. Dan uses a radio control link to a throttle feeding DC through the track. But some modelers have gone to radio control receivers in the loco, with a battery to supply the operating juice. The rails are "dead." So no power packs, dc or dcc. You'd just have a battery charging station.

Hmm. I wonder how long before someone puts into a loco, a radio throttle, a generator and a small diesel engine from the model car or airplane guys? I don't know if they do V-12 diesels yet. Just fuel her up and go!

On behalf of Div3, I'd like to extend our thanks to Dan, for hosting the group. It was a fun time.

Looking Ahead to August

Our August meeting will be a 3-in-1 layout tour program. It will be a regular 3rd Monday evening meeting. But it will not be at the church. Instead, we will begin at Eddie Allen's home, with a tour of his layout. We'll then move on to Mark Wilson's, and finish up at my place.

We will be meeting at Eddie's at 7 PM. He lives on the west side of Fort Wayne. Plan accordingly. We'll probably be there for a half hour or so, then head north to Mark's. We should be at Mark's by 8 PM. Again, we'll be there for a half-hour, then head east to my place. It's only a five minute

drive if you know the way and get the traffic light.

Due to the new NMRA privacy policy, and concerns about personal and Internet security, we won't be posting or doing a mass mailing of Eddie's address or the directions to his house. If you need that information, email me or put a request on our Yahoo group. I will send you a personal reply.

I'll have printed directions to Mark's, and to my home, available that night for those who come to Eddie's.

Annual Picnic Date September 18

Our annual picnic has usually been the Sunday after Labor Day. This year we will move it back a week. The picnic will be September 18th. Alan Toy will once again be our host. Alan has a neat layout and is a great hand with the grill. So save the date and plan to be there!

"The Hotbox" North Central Region Quarterly News Magazine

I've been asked by our region publication people to pass this on. The schedule for putting out "The Hotbox" is being revised to better fit with the annual NCR convention timing. This year the convention is the first weekend in November. The winter Hotbox will now be put out December 1, so it can contain convention news. Future the publication dates will be: March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1.

And The Winner Is...

2011 is an election year for Div3. We will need to come up with candidates for the Division officer positions at the October meeting. The actual election will be at the regular November meeting. If you've



Superintendent: Dick Moessner
 Dispatcher: Brad Kinsey
 Treasurer: Mark Wilson
 AP Chairman:

Board of Directors: Rick Van Laar
 Division Scribe: Daniel Metzger
 Newsletter Editor: Rich Mohr



enjoyed taking part in Div3 activities, consider becoming an officer. The term is for two years, and the new officers take over Jan 1, 2012.

Reminder: If you are interested in going for a Master Model Railroader award, becoming a Division officer will help meet the qualifications.

WC Update

Wisconsin Central carloadings are up of late, resulting in a strain on the locomotive fleet. To meet immediate needs, the WC motive power superintendent has ordered the rehab'ing of several older engines that had been stored out of service. Wood burners are being converted to new-fangled "dcc" fuel. The first of these, #56, a 4-4-0, was recently rolled out. Expect to see more older engines heading up trains.

The track gang is working overtime these days to eliminate areas subject to slow orders. Special work items such as turnouts are being gone over. Operations, as planned for the new timetable mentioned last month, will need reliable track. Stalls and hesitations must go. Your reporter has learned that some sort of improvement is coming, apparently from a French(?) company. WC engineering staff has been heard to be discussing the addition of "frog-juicers."

The Hidden River Free Press newspaper reports several new building permits issued for the county. A new manufacturing firm is going in at Hidden River Falls, just west of the WC depot. It will be served by an extension of the depot spur. Details about the kind of business planned are not yet known. There's a rumor that one of the owners is "he who must not be named" (?). The contractor is DPM.

The other permits issued indicate that the town of Liberty will be getting a new store and a commercial building. Contractor for both projects will be Suydam.

Until next time,
Dick

NMRA Notes 16-May-11

Introductions / Attendance

Dan Metzger, Dan Brown, Dick Moessner, Gary Evans, Rick Van Laar, Eddie Allen, Al Rupp, Chuck White, Fred Boucher, Mark Wilson, Chris Howe, Mark Cowles

Clinic – Mark Cowles – Regional Convention Lansing Nov 3-8
www.lansinglegacies2011.org

Bring and Brag

Dick Moessner – Shadow Building, silhouette of a building on plexiglass, attached to the front of the layout; sliding uncoupling magnet.

Fred Boucher – New Roundhouse equipment reviewed at Railroadmodeling.net

Eddie Allen – Article on sawmill that he is modeling.

Chuck White – Truscale crossover

Dan Brown – NYC caboose

Al Rupp – NYC locomotive that needs repair; layout drawing.

Dan Metzger – Scratch built n scale Queen Mary depressed flat

car

Meeting

Old Business

-Op Sig was successful

New Business

Calendar for the rest of the year:

June 20 Gary Evans Timetables

July 24 Garden Railroading at Dan Metzger's

August 15 Layout tours? TBA

Sept 11 Picnic, more info later

October 17 Nominations for officers, planning for outreach at MVRRC swap, balance of time open.

November 21 Election, Balance of time open

December 19 Social Event?

Announcements

July 9 Rail-B-Q Elkhart Museum

Live web cam for Fostoria www.Greatlakeslive.com

Chuck White has a list of motorcar runs this year, contact him for more info.

Next Meeting: June 20, 2011. At the Community Christian Reformed Church at 3434 Lahmeyer Road

Show & Tell/ Bring & Brag: Bring employee timetables, if you have any.

Clinic: Gary Evans – Do it yourself timetables, bring the handout from the newsletter.

Adjourn

NMRA Notes 20-June-11

Introductions / Attendance

Dan Metzger, Dan Brown, Dick Moessner, Gary Evans, Rick Van Laar, Eddie Allen, Al Rupp, Chuck White, Chris Howe

Clinic – Gary Evans - Timetables

Bring and Brag

Dick Moessner – Soo Line form 419, many different timetables.

Rick Van Laar – CSX timetable

Eddie Allen – OER 1957, N&W timetable

Chris Howe – Various forms and timetables

Dan Metzger – Employee Timetables – N&W, Pennsy, TP&W

Chuck White – NARCOA rule book

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Next Meeting: July 24, 2011. At Dan Metzger's garden railroad.

Call 494-6416 for info and directions.


Show & Tell/ Bring & Brag:

Clinic:

Adjourn



We thank these companies for their supporting the hobby.



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NOVEMBER 5 & 6, 2011

Saturday, Nov 5 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

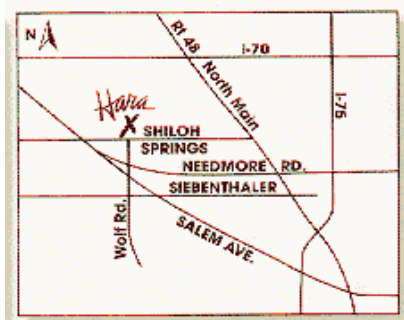
Sunday, Nov 6 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

ADMISSION \$6.00 • CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE • FREE PARKING

HARA ARENA

EAST HALL & BALLARENA

1001 SHILOH SPRINGS RD,
DAYTON, OH



SHOW INFO: Nick Folger

POB 341233

Beavercreek, OH 45434

Email: chair@daytontrainshow.com

937-429-5353

VENDOR INQUIRES ARE WELCOME FOR 2011



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: <http://www.daytontrainshow.com/>

Division 3, Mid-Central Region, NMRA is a 501c (3) non-profit organization

Kids!!!

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"Thomas the Tank Engine" Display!
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train set!
2 given away free each day!!!