



Volume 21, Issue 2

September 2018

### **Superintendent's Column**

First off, I would like to thank Jim for another excellent newsletter. As we move into our busiest time of the year, I would like to encourage those of you that haven't been able to participate recently to consider coming to some of these events found in the schedule. This year we have three positions up for elections and I'd like to encourage some of you to seek a position on our Board of Directors. The positions we have up for election are Dispatcher (Vice-President), Scribe (Secretary), and Ohio Director.

At our October meeting we will be having a Caboose Challenge Contest, in which we will be trying to find the most creative use of a caboose in a model railroad setting. Our Regional Convention this year is at the Ramada Lansing Hotel and Conference Center in Lansing, MI, which is only a couple of hours from Fort Wayne. Please consider attending this convention, as I have been to national as well as regional conventions and have found that the regional conventions are more fun and cost a lot less to attend. If you need more information go to the website at [www.nmranrcrdiv5.com](http://www.nmranrcrdiv5.com). Speaking of conventions, we are in the planning stages of the 2021 Convention here in Fort Wayne and are looking for any assistance with planning. If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer for a committee please send me an email.

We have three public relations events coming up. The Maumee Valley Train Show is in November and the Great Train Show is in December. We also need help with the Train Town Train Show and Swap meet (in Lima) in December, so see the schedule for more information and email Chuck White if you can assist with any of these events.

Lastly, I would like to invite everyone to the Annual Meeting, Roundtable Discussion, 2019 Planning, and Elections on November 12 at the Baker Street Station starting at 7pm. Snacks and beverages will be provided. If you are unable to attend and would like to make suggestions about what you would like to see us do in 2019, please email me.

Bob Jones  
Superintendent

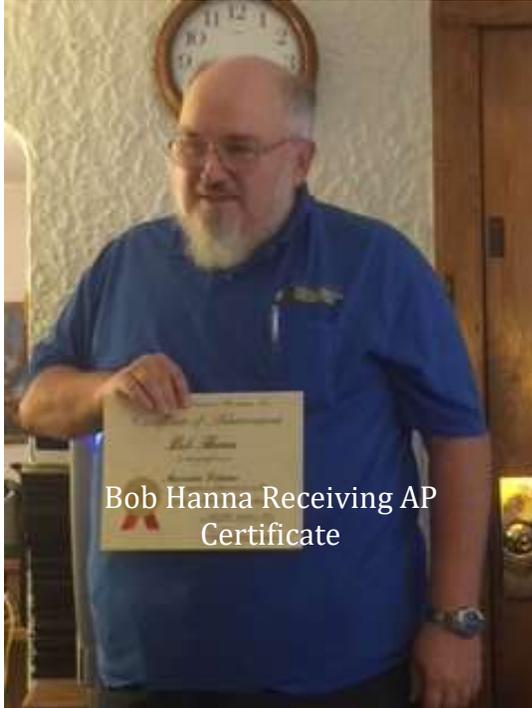
### **Achievement Program Update**

Updates from Jim Macino, AP Coordinator

- Bob Hanna and I submitted our paperwork for the Volunteer AP Certificate. Bob's paperwork was delayed due to not having the "correct form" filled out. Long story short, we finally got Bob's paperwork accepted and I took the issue up with the NMRA AP Coordinator and got the process streamlined for future submissions. In the future, you only need to submit the SOQ form for this award. Anyone interested in this AP is encouraged to start an SOQ and use it to record volunteer hours. Also be

sure to see Charlie Wolf and get info on previous hours so that they can also be recorded on the SOQ.

- Editor's Note: Both Jim and Bob received their Volunteer AP award. Jim presented Bob his award at the September operating session.



Bob Hanna Receiving AP Certificate

- Bob Jones went through the "judging clinic" at the NMRA National convention in Kansas City. He was on the same team as our new NMRA President, Pete Magoun who is a real modeler. Pete told me afterwards that Bob was an excellent evaluator. Congrats to Bob on that!
- Editor's Note: I would also like to offer congratulations to Jim Macino, who received several first place awards at the National NMRA Convention in Kansas City. One award was for scratch built rolling stock and another for his scratch built double deck commuter car. He also received a first place prize in the "Black and

White Photo" category and a second place prize for the "Working on the Railroad" category. Great job, Jim!

### **New Members**

There were no new members for this past quarter. If you know of someone that shares an interest in trains or model railroading, encourage them to join the NMRA and participate in local division meetings. Our division currently has 57 members with a broad range of interests and expertise to share with all.

### **Division 3 Member Spotlight**

When you join Division 3, you very quickly learn the names of two modelers who have been members of NMRA for some time. These two individuals have a wealth of knowledge to share and are eager to help whenever and wherever they can.

**Gary Evans** – Gary, currently VP of Div 3, joined the NMRA in 2003. Since joining, he has served in a variety of capacities including Vice President and has been a driving force behind the annual 3Rivers Operations Weekend (3ROPS). He also assisted with the 2015 convention planning and support.

Gary's interest in trains emerged at a very early age. The story is that he sat on his mother's lap at a very early age and watched his father run an American Flyer train on the floor. After watching his father run the train and watching the coal trains on the NYC, Gary learned to run the train by himself at the age of 6.

His interest grew and he now has a large HO scale free-lanced layout based on the Norfolk Southern. Gary's "NoWhere Line" evolved from his main interest in operations.

His layout has two levels that wrap around a basement room. Three yards and a staging loop ensure a steady flow of traffic to keep all operators engaged throughout an operating session.



In addition to running scheduled trains and locals, his operating sessions include running a Hungry HOB0 Dinner and Excursion train mostly to add challenges to scheduled operations.



Gary hosts operating sessions on his "NoWhere Line" on a monthly basis.

**Bill Wemhoff** – Bill has been a member of NMRA since 1998, but his interest in trains started long before then. Like many

members, he started out with a Lionel set at the young age of six. At the age of eight, his uncle introduced him to HO gauge and a rubber band powered F-7 which Bill still has. During his grade school and high school years, Bill built several small and bedroom-sized HO layouts before he got sidetracked with college and girls.

After starting a family, Bill got back into HO scale modeling and developed a layout of the NKP 2<sup>nd</sup> Sub with the Indiana Northern RR. His layout models the NKP trackage from Toledo, Ohio to Frankfort, Indiana. Operating sessions are held on the odd months of the year on Sunday afternoons.



Bill enjoys modeling, especially scratch building models with paper and wood but his favorite part of the hobby is operations. In his words "if it were not for operations I would have gotten out of the hobby years ago".

### Operating Sessions

One of the goals of our Superintendent is to have at least one operating session per quarter in lieu of a monthly meeting.

Bob Hanna hosted the Div 3 quarterly operating session at his home in Defiance, Ohio. His free-lanced layout, the B&O Lost Division's Mountain Branch focuses on the movement of coal and timber products through West Virginia in the transition era (1950's - 1963).

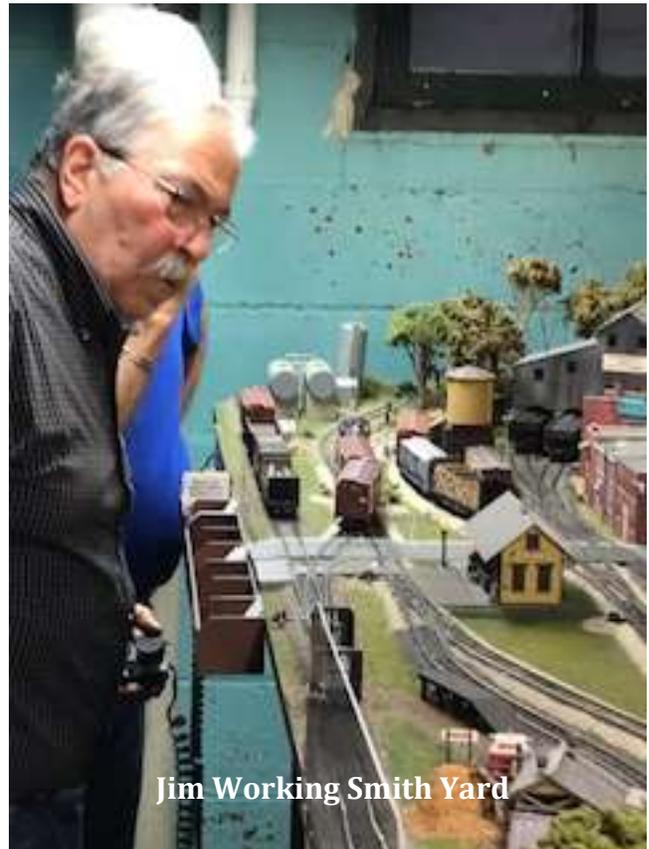


Gary and Steve working Van Dohrn Yard

A double track main crosses over several rivers before making their way up the mountain to Megantown. This layout features several unique river scenes. All attendees had a very enjoyable evening operating Bob's B&O Lost Division. Great job, Bob!

In addition to special operating sessions set up for NMRA meetings, several members host

operating sessions on a monthly basis (see



Jim Working Smith Yard

listing below). Information about these layouts can be found on the 3ROPS web page.

- B&O Lost Div - operates monthly every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday @ 7:00 pm. Contact Bob Hanna for details.
- NoWhere Line - operates monthly (except Nov & Dec) every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday @ 6:30 pm. Contact Gary Evans for details.
- NKP 2<sup>nd</sup> Sub - operates the third Sunday of odd months January - November @ 1:30 pm. Contact Bill Wemhoff for details.

### Mark Your Calendar.....

- **September 10** Div 3 Ops Session at Bob Hanna's B&O Railroad

- **October 8** Div 3 meeting at Baker Street Station. Caboose Challenge Model Contest, Clinic – Selecting Industries for Your Railroad by Rich Mahaney
- **October 11-14** Lansing Lashup (NCR Convention in Lansing, MI)
- **November 12** Div 3 meeting at Baker Street Station. Annual Meeting and Elections
- **November 17** Maumee Valley Train Show and Swap Meet (Coliseum Bingo Hall, 9 am – 2 pm)
- **December 1&2** Great Train Show (Memorial Coliseum Ft. Wayne, 10 am – 4 pm)
- **December 10** Div 3 Ops Session (location TBD)
- **December 15** Three Rivers Division Train Town Swap Meet (Allen County Fairgrounds, Lima, OH, 9 am – 3 pm)
- **Fall 2021 North Central Region Convention hosted by Division 3**

#### Quarterly Highlights (Div 3)

- July (No Meeting)
- The August monthly meeting was held at Baker Street Station in Fort Wayne, IN. After the business meeting, Bob Jones conducted a clinic on weathering rolling stock and scenery.
- The September monthly meeting was an operating session hosted by Bob Hanna on his B&O Lost Division Railroad.

#### Inputs Requested

- **Nominees Needed** – nominees are needed for the following Division 3 Board of Director positions:
  - Dispatcher (Vice President)
  - Scribe (Secretary)

- Ohio Director

If you would like to serve or have a recommendation, please contact Bob Jones (Div 3 Superintendent).

- **NCR Regional Convention 2021 hosted by Div 3** – Initial discussions are under way and the planning will start soon, as everything has to be finalized by October 2019. Bob Jones would like your ideas as to where to have it, what events to include, layouts to visit, suggested tours, etc. Please send your thoughts, suggestions and any jobs you would like to take on directly to Bob Jones (Div 3 Superintendent).

#### Railroad Trivia

A good friend of mine recently retired from the Norfolk Southern Railroad. He started on the Pennsylvania RR, and then worked through both the Penn Central and Conrail mergers, mostly in the Ft. Wayne, Van Wert and Lima area as an agent. Needless to say, he has many stories and historical facts that he likes to share and provided me with a couple of pictures for this month's trivia.

This item was found in the cinders when they replaced the diamond in Lima, Ohio around 1970.

It must have gotten buried when they originally installed the diamond many years before. The item was cleaned up and the handle was replaced with a replica. Do you know what it was used for?



This item was very popular during the era when section gangs maintained tracks. Some may still be in use on some scenic and short line railroads today. Do you know what it was used for and how it was used?



An easier way is to score the outline of the hole and then use a heavy utility knife to cut through the styrene from corner to corner. Once these cuts are made, fold each of the resulting triangles back to snap the styrene at the scored line. The result is a much cleaner hole with less effort.

- **Quick Glue Applicator** – the key to quality models is the art of applying enough glue to fabricate the model but not applying too much which will squeeze out of the joint and make a mess. A small diameter brass wire inserted into a ¼ inch square piece of balsa wood for a handle makes an effective glue applicator for all types of glue. Just dip the wire into the glue and apply just the right amount to the material you are joining.

### Answer to Trivia in last Dispatcher Edition

The item shown is a Boxcar Heater. According to what I could find out, it burned alcohol and several of these were then suspended in the “Ice Wells” of wooden reefer cars to keep fruit from freezing when shipped through the Midwest in winter. They were also used in the Northeast when shipping potatoes from Maine. The alcohol model was short lived as they caused fires in many wooden boxcars



Note: If you have a favorite tip or resource, please send info to Jim Marquardt ([jimmarq4@hotmail.com](mailto:jimmarq4@hotmail.com)) for inclusion in next edition of this newsletter.

### Rail Fan Ideas

Whether you are looking for the next modeling idea or simply just looking at trains, these places just might be of interest.

**Conway Scenic Railroad** -- My wife and I recently drove to Maine for vacation and decided to take time to ride the Notch Train on the Conway Scenic Railroad in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Although it is probably outside the range of a “local” rail fan location, it is well worth the drive if you have the opportunity.

### Modeling Tips and Resources

- **Cutting Square Holes in Styrene** – many modelers try to cut all the way through styrene to make a square hole.



**Triangle Park (Fostoria, Ohio)** – There is a pavilion, restrooms and a scanner located next to the old NKP-B&O-C&O line.

Note: If you have favorite sites to share, please send info to J. Marquardt ([jmmarq4@hotmail.com](mailto:jmmarq4@hotmail.com)) for inclusion in next edition of the Dispatcher.

The railroad operates out of an old Maine Central depot built in the late 1800's that has been restored to original condition and operates a daily schedule of multiple trains. Their inventory includes many engines (steam and early diesel), passenger cars and various forms of rolling stock as well as a working Russel Snowplow.

One of their most prized possessions is the oldest running Pullman car in the world (built in 1898 for the *Pennsylvania Limited*). They also have an operating turntable and a small roundhouse. There is also a freight house that is home to a large HO model railroad. The best part is that the whole operation is as it was many years ago and welcomes visitors to roam around the grounds and get close to the equipment. Employees were very eager to answer questions and show you their historical artifacts.

**State Line Road** – Gary Evans suggests that a good place to watch trains and to see a unique crossing in action is the State Line Road on the Indiana-Ohio border, just west of Hicksville, Ohio. The crossing is strange, as it has both an overpass and a crossing gate. Confused as to why there is a crossing gate for an overpass? Go check it out, or if you would like to know more before you go, check out Gary's article *State Line Road*, archived on our Division 3 NMRA website.

**TRAIN TOWN**

**TRAIN SHOW  
AND  
SWAP MEET**



**SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 15, 2018**

**ALLEN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

2750 HARDING HIGHWAY    LIMA, OHIO

From I-75, take Exit 125 - Go East on St. Rt. 309



**10:00 am - 3:00 pm**



*Admission: Adults \$5.00  
Children 12 & under - FREE*

**FEATURING:**

- |                   |                 |                        |                                      |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ◆ All Gauges      | ◆ Railfan Items | ◆ Toy Trains           | ◆ Operating Layouts                  |
| ◆ Over 170 Tables | ◆ FREE Parking  | ◆ Food Service         | ◆ Handicap Accessible                |
| ◆ Santa Claus     | ◆ Door Prizes   | ◆ Children's Play Area | ◆ Like us on Facebook<br>@3Riversdiv |

**Location:** The show will be held in the Merchants Building located at the Fairgrounds—1 mile east of Lima. Building will be heated with easy access.

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**LANSING**

**LASHUP**



**NCR-NMRA CONVENTION  
OCTOBER 11 - 14, 2018  
LANSING RAMADA HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER  
Hosted by Capital Division (Division 5)**

**CONVENTION THEME: "Bringing Your Layout to Life"**

## **CONVENTION FEATURES**

- Excellent Convention Facilities
- Modeling with the Masters Special Event
- Over 30 Clinics with Many Featuring Scenery
- Several Operating Sessions
- Reduced Rate for Lodging (see website or call 517-627-3211)
- Saturday Evening Dinner with Speaker, Chuck Geletzke, Jr
- Over 20 Layouts to Visit
- Modular Railroads on Site
- Room for Family Members to Relax or Work on Crafts
- Prototype Tours
- Model Showcase Display Room
- Evaluation of Models Available Upon Request
- And Much More

**For More Information: [nmranncrdiv5.com](http://nmranncrdiv5.com)**