

Train Order

Division One NCR

Volume 37, Issue 6

Feb. 2012



Cab Signals

Fred Lux, Superintendent

I am sitting at Star Diner waiting on my wife as I write this month's Cab Signals. Since it is a snowy day, I should be home contemplating working in my layout room. Going to breakfast seemed to be a reasonable excuse to put off tackling the seemingly insurmountable task of demolishing the old layout.

Those of you who were at last month's meeting saw an excellent clinic on scratch building put on by Jim Treadaway. He made things look so simple and easy. That is one of the attributes of a really good modeler. Perhaps we need to build on that clinic and devote a show and tell to things that we have tried that Jim inspired. We could even have a total clutz's category for those who tried and tried and tried. (Yes, that blob of material and glue, covered with blotchy paint, really is a highly detailed structure, at least in my mind.)

This month, member Jeff Schumaker returns showing us how to build a home-made static grass applicator. This should be an interesting clinic. I can't promise that there will be an extra door prize like there was for the tree foliator.

Speaking of programs, Dave McMullian informs me that the clinic schedule is pretty much complete for this year. Next month, Ray Huber will be presenting a clinic on signaling, and he is working on a series of mini-clinics for April. The board has a question about May, however. Two years ago we had a layout visit and cookout at Jim White's house. Everyone who came

seemed to enjoy it. The board wonders if the membership would like to do some sort of outing this May. Come prepared to discuss your ideas for May at the meeting.

In last month's newsletter, and at the last meeting, I broached the subject of some sort of round robin of operating sessions for Division. After the meeting, one layout owner and one member interested in operating have contacted me. If you would like to be involved in Division Ops, either as a layout owner, operator, or both, let someone on the board know.

The NCR Hotbox is due out the first part of March. It is being mailed to all region members and contains the ballot for region officers and directors. The electronic version should be online March 1. I will send out an email when the link is active.

The Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club's winter show is this weekend, Feb 18 & 19 at Saline High School. The show web site is <http://a2trainshow.com>

I hope to see you all at the February meeting.

Division One minutes of January 27, 2012

By Chuck Williams, Chief Clerk

Collingwood Presbyterian Church, Toledo, OH

Attendance: 20

Meeting opened at 7:30pm.

Minutes of December 2011 approved.

There was no old or new business.

Superintendent Fred Lux spoke about the forming of a Convention Pre-Planning Committee to take care of issues like convention format, date, and location of the 2014 NCR convention. Dave McMullian and Chuck Williams agreed to serve on the committee.

Fred spoke about the idea presented in the Train Order of an operating group from within the division

After the Door Prize drawing, the business meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

After a 15 minute break, Jim Treadaway presented a clinic on scratchbuilding.

The Division meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Kellogg's Korner

By Steve Kellogg

I want to start off by apologizing to everyone for missing the last meeting. That day, I had an accident at work, which resulted in a couple stitches on the back of my head, and, at the insistence of the doctor, an overnight stay for "observation". Because I was tired and drowsy, he suspected a slight concussion. Told him I was that way due to being up since 3 am for work, but he "didn't want to take any chances", so I spent a l-o-n-g, boring night being checked on, (meaning being woken up) every hour or so. I thought rest and sleep were supposed to be good for you.

I had some feedback about the Christmas dinner. If we decide to do it that way again, I've decided, in order to save a little and not have so much leftover, to do it differently this time, At the September meeting, I'm going to give everyone a copy of the menu items available. I'll ask that you take it home and mark what you'd like. Give the marked copies back to me at the

October meeting. At the November meeting, I'll present the results, and we can then decide on a final selection. I can then place the order after that.

Now on to this months meeting. Show-and- tell this month is any "open load" car. That includes open hoppers, gondolas, log cars, or flat cars, any car where the load can be, or is in the open.

See all of you at the meeting.

NMRA News

Quite a bit of news came out of the Winter NMRA Board of Directors meeting last week.

I'm going to split it between this edition of the InfoNet News and next month's, to make sure you get a chance to see everything.

News from the Board meeting:

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- Tom Draper, manager of the National Train Show, reported that the [number of booth sales](#) for the show at Grand Rails 2012 is currently at the same level it was at this time last year for the show in Sacramento.
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- After a necessarily short search by the NMRA Canada Nominating Committee, Clark Kooning volunteered for an appointment as [NMRA Canada Director](#) when Don Hillman stepped down from the job for health reasons. We wish Don all the best, and thank Clark for his willingness to serve at the last minute.
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- Financially, [the NMRA ended 2011 in very good standing](#) and is currently rebuilding some of its funds from which

it had borrowed in the past. In addition there is currently enough money in the budget to hire an IT professional to repair, maintain, and update the NMRA website.

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- The [NMRA has announced an agreement of cooperation](#) between itself and the Hasea.com Model Railroad Association (HRMA) of China, a community of over 100,000 railfans and model railroaders. The HRMA, a relatively young organization, is interested in learning how the NMRA is organized, and will promote NMRA standards in China. Members of both organizations will be able to enjoy the many benefits of each. A press release and story will appear shortly in *NMRA Magazine*.
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- The Board is in the initial stages of studying [electronic balloting](#) as a way of both saving on postage and encouraging additional member participation.

More Board meeting news next month!

And some other news:

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- The Grand Rails 2012 website at [www.gr2012.org now has these new features:](#)
- - A page for the Layout Design Special Interest Group
 - The Operations Special Interest Group Sign-up sheet
 - PDF copies of all of the traditional Registration forms
 - A complete list of all of the extra fare events and tours
 - A schedule of days and times for most scheduled events

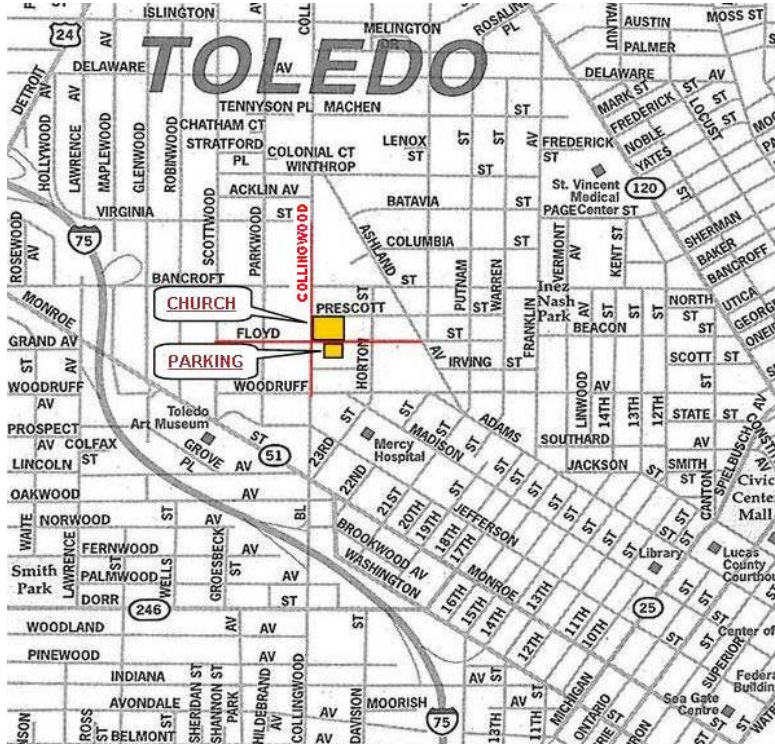
- More Sidetracks events for the non-rails
- The Silent Auction schedule
- The contest room schedule
- Have members who are interested in the Achievement Program? Yours truly was interviewed on [The Model Railway Show](#) about it. Trevor Marshall talked to me about my road to MMR, and the hurdles and joys of taking it. Episode 32 is available for listening or downloading now at www.themodelrailwayshow.com [<http://www.themodelrailwayshow.com/>](http://www.themodelrailwayshow.com) or through iTunes, and will be available through The Model Railway Show's online archives after March 1.



Next Meeting – Friday, February 24, 2012

Collingwood Presbyterian Church

7:30 PM



CURRENT OFFICERS (2009 - 2011)

Superintendent -Fred Lux fred@fredlux.com

Assistant Superintendent -Dave McMullian ... davemcmullian@earthlink.net

Chief Clerk -Chuck Williams..... cwillia4@frontier.com

Agent -Phil Kauffman..... pennsy6401@bex.net

News Editor -Fred Lux –

Program & Service Chair -Steve Kellogg atsfmktrock@yahoo.com

Librarian -Lou Glatzer..... louglatzer@bex.net