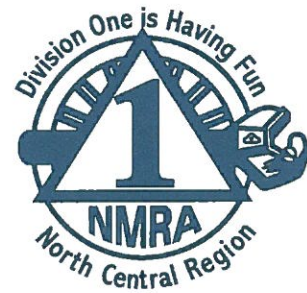


# Train Order

Division One NCR

Volume 38, Issue 2    October 2012



## Message from Fred Lux, Superintendant

We had 25 people at the September meeting, which is pretty good for the annual business meeting. I think people were happy to be back and see other members they had not seen since last spring.

As you will note in the minutes, Bill Jacob was elected to the vacant director's seat on the board, and both the budget and the revised by-laws were adopted.

Dave McMullian gave a report on upcoming programs, and in a phone conversation with me over the weekend, indicated that he had lined up another program at the meeting for January. Speaking of programs, it is not too early to be thinking about special activities for the May meeting.

Dave has a great program lined up for October. And look for Steve's article for information about the show and tell for October.

Finally, Dave McMullian will be acting Superintendant for the next month or so as I am recovering from surgery, and Chuck Williams will be publishing this issue of the Train Order.

## Cab Signals

You may have noticed right away that this month's Cab Signals are not originating from Supt. Fred Lux. Fred is recuperating from recent surgery and will need a few more weeks before he can rejoin us, so Chuck Williams will serve as Train Order editor and I'll put on my Assistant Supt. hat and get busy filling in for Fred. In his absence, I am certain he will be cheered and encouraged by your emails, so please drop him a good word at [Fred@fredlux.com](mailto:Fred@fredlux.com).

I've got a couple of new things to run by you in preparation for the October 19 meeting, which will feature a clinic by Doug Tagsold on the Toledo Terminal Railroad. When you arrive, you will notice a new room set-up. First, we want to make it easier to hear one another, so we will sit in a closer arrangement. Second, we are going to work on "sight-lines" and set-up for activities like Show-n-Tell, 2 Minute Clinics, the feature program clinic, and of course the business meeting. The third objective is where you can help. Please find a seat at a different table than usual and sit with different folks. Find someone you don't know or could know better, introduce yourself, and sit together through the meeting. The purpose is to make new folks and visitors feel more welcome, but the by-product is that you will extend your friendship and awareness circles through the club. I encourage you to set a goal to connect with one member each meeting this year and

get to know him/her better. Having said all this, I will be sure to place this subject on the October meeting agenda to discuss your thoughts, ideas, and feedback.

A new meeting activity you will discover October 19 is called Tricks and Tools of the Trade ("TTT"). This will be a monthly time to share a tool, modeling technique, or innovative product that has helped your modeling efforts. If you have found something that is really effective for you, chances are there are others in the group with the same needs who could use the same solution. If we all take just a few moments during the month to note our discoveries or new "gadgets", this could be a gold mine of modeling ideas. Please think about it and please participate!

I'm looking forward to seeing each of you on October 19. Bring something for Show-n-Tell, for the new Tricks/Tools time, and prepare to enjoy Doug's outstanding clinic. I'll see ya down the line.

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#### MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 28, 2012

Collingwood Presbyterian Church

Attendance: 25

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by Superintendent Fred Lux.

May 2012 minutes were approved as distributed in the Train Order.

The 2012-13 Division One budget was presented by Phil Kaufman, Treasurer. After discussion, it was approved as updated

Dave McMullian, Assistant Superintendent, discussed upcoming programs. Doug Tagsold

will do a program on his new layout in October. In November Jeff Schumaker will do a program on trees. December will be the annual Christmas party. Spring programs are still up in the air.

Dave McMullian, as the new NCR president, gave a report on the state of the NVCR and changes that are in the air. Dave wants to eliminate the Head Tax from convention expenses.

Fred Lux reported that the 2014 NCR Convention-Contract was signed for April 24-26, 2014 dates at the Ramada Inn. Shirts and mugs approved for the convention were approved by the Division..

The new BY-Laws changes created the position of Director at Large for the Board of Directors. Bill Jacob was nominated and elected to fill that position.

There were some minor errors that had been included in the By-Laws changes. The motion to adopt the corrected by-laws was approved.

Adjourn business meeting at 8:20The program for the evening was "what you had done this summer." Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

## A NEET LITTLE TRICK

Just sitting around the coffee pot the other night with a bunch of friends talking about the "world's greatest hobby", I announced that I was in the middle of demolishing my railroad.

Of course, this precipitated a storm of questions to which I answered; it's just plain too big! Still discussing my reasoning, I thought of a problem that I have tried to solve before, but to no avail. That is, how do you get old ballast, secured with Wood Land Scenic's Matt Media, from the tie strips of switches and track?

Without a moments hesitation, TMRE (Toledo Model Railroad Engineers) club member **Phil Kauffman** said, soak it in alcohol!

You've got to be kidding I said! No he said and you only need to soak it for less than a minute or two before the material starts to dissolve and then you can clean up the rest with a stiff brush.

Needless to say, the next evening I carefully removed a #6 turnout full of ballast and placed it in a container of 70% Isopropyl Alcohol I purchased at the corner Drug Store. Boy was I surprised! The old ballast literally fell off the tie strip and like he said, the rest was easily removed with a brush.

Now the sprit had me and I started moving forward with enthusiasm not only to get rid of the old layout, but to start fresh as if this were my very first layout. What a joy this hobby is!

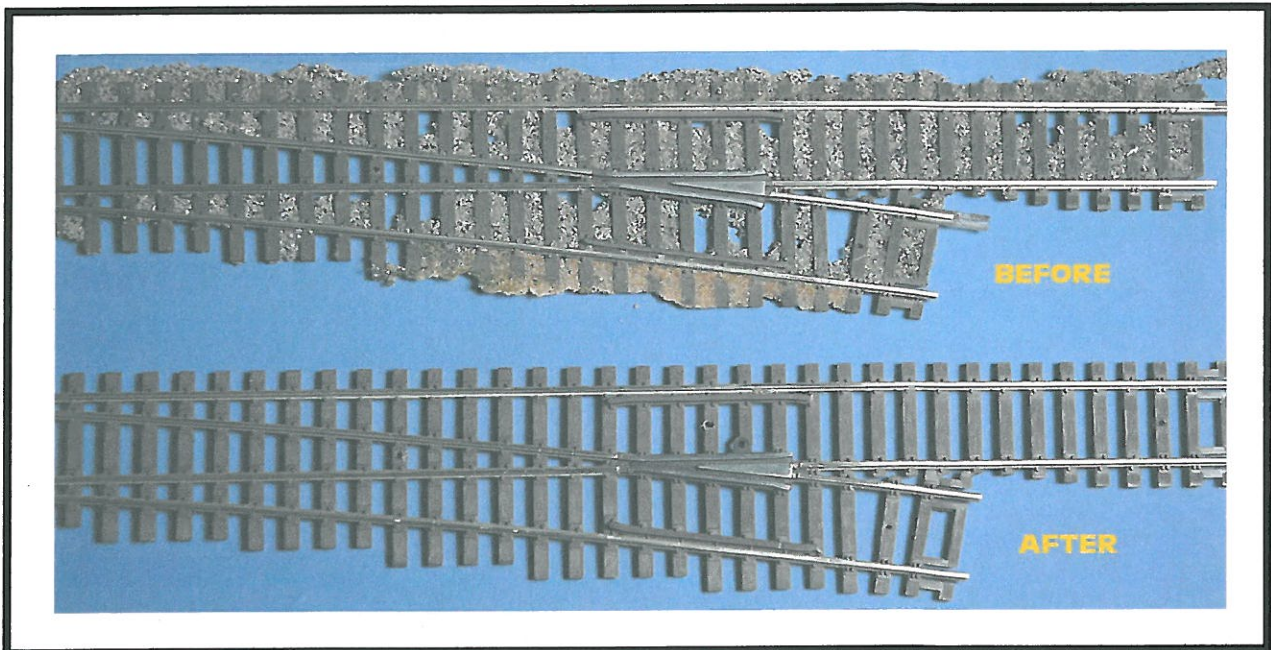
To that end, I've been working on a new track plan that is smaller, one level, switching only and it will be full of switches and track that have been salvaged from the old railroad. Not only that, I've estimated that I will save close to \$800.00 (or more) worth of switch's and track given today's prices. Not bad for a \$2.00 bottle of "rubbing alcohol" you can get at any drug store.

Thanks for your time and to Phil for this great tip,

Ray Huber

Division One/NCR

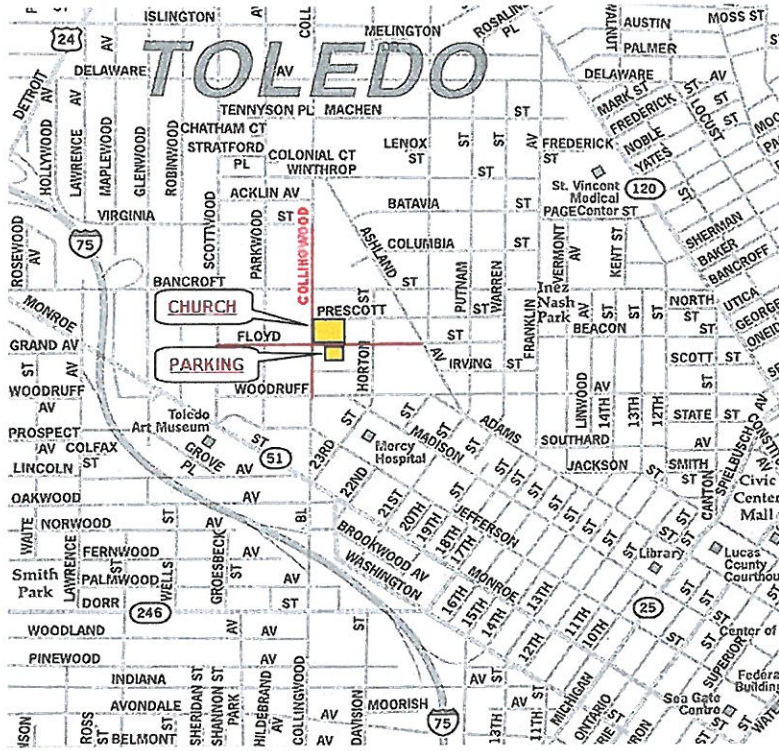
NMRA# 112141



Next Meeting – Friday, October 19, 2012

Collingwood Presbyterian Church

7:30 PM



**CURRENT OFFICERS (2011 - 2013)**

- Superintendent - .....Fred Lux..... [fred@fredlux.com](mailto:fred@fredlux.com)
- Assistant Superintendent - .....Dave McMullian ... [davemcmullian@earthlink.net](mailto:davemcmullian@earthlink.net)
- Chief Clerk - .....Chuck Williams..... [cwillia4@frontier.com](mailto:cwillia4@frontier.com)
- Agent - .....Phil Kauffman..... [pennsy6401@bex.net](mailto:pennsy6401@bex.net)
- Trainmaster for Services - .....Steve Kellogg..... [atsfmktrock@yahoo.com](mailto:atsfmktrock@yahoo.com)
- Director at large - .....William Jacob ..... [wkjacob@bex.net](mailto:wkjacob@bex.net)
- News Editor - .....Fred Lux –
- Librarian - .....Lou Glatzer..... [louglatzer@bex.net](mailto:louglatzer@bex.net)