

## ***Cincinnati Express*** Newsletter Report

Wow, the ***Cincinnati Express*** has left the station. We had fun hosting this convention and from the feedback we've received our guests loved it as well. We're very proud of Cincinnati Division 7, our city and our area's layouts. We could not wait to share them with everyone.

When we started planning this convention three years ago we were hoping for 220 registrants, maybe 250, and had a wild idea of 300. We ended up with an incredible 365 registrants from 19 states, including 90 spouses (the MCR average is about 50) and 13 children. We're planning to survey attendees to try to determine why we had such great attendance. We expect there will be many reasons, including great planning/design, great layouts/attractions, great team, great hotel, relatively low registration fee, great publicity/transparency and great execution.

Our guests were treated to 67 amazing layouts, 10 bus tours, 52 clinics, 150 guest operator positions (across 19 layouts), layout open houses and op sessions all 4 days, and a wonderful hotel. 117 attended the special EnterTRAINment Junction event and 167 came to our Saturday night reception and banquet. It was wonderful to see all the hard work pay off for our leaders and volunteers.

Charlie Getz (President), Pete Magoun (Incoming President), Gerry Leone (Vice President), Frank Koch (Chief Financial Officer), Mike Brestel (At Large World-Wide Director), Bill Neale (Central District Director), Don Phillips (Publication Manager), and Christina Ganzer-Zambri (Marketing Consultant) all participated from the NMRA Headquarters Team.

Hal Miller, Editor of Model Railroader Magazine, Lou Sassi, Contributing Editor of Model Railroader Magazine and Gerry Leone made wonderful presentations as our featured clinicians. Gerry also kept us all in stitches as our banquet speaker. That talk can be viewed on MCR's Facebook page.

There were an incredible number of planning and execution activities done to make this convention a success. While we still have a few wrap-up activities to do, we are all taking a deep breath now. Thanks to all of you that came, and all of you that welcomed our many out-of-region friends. Please enjoy the following photos from the event. We hope to see all of you next year as we renew old friendships and make new ones in Boardman, Ohio when Division 1 hosts our next convention.

*Rick Crumrine*  
Chair

*John Burchnall*  
Vice Chair



NMRA President Charlie Getz fields a question



Others in the Leadership Team participate



Charlie Atkinson, Chair of the 2005 Cincinnati Limited National Convention



Attendees plot their strategy while studying the convention program and layouts packet



Relaxing in the Atrium



Vice Chair John Burchnall relaxes



Lots of White Elephants to buy



Paul Musselman and the Company Store



Attentive attendees at Asst. Super. Chuck Endreola's Clinic



Bus tour group staging in the Atrium



Boarding one of 10 comfortable buses



Two of our 13 young modelers having fun



Enjoying the Wine Tasting at the Meet and Greet



Zumba demo at the Meet and Greet



Happy customers at the greeting card making clinic



Charlie Getz brown bagging it into the Wine Tasting?



Larry and Hildy Bonhaus treating us to great music



Neil Young's layout at EnterTRAINment Junction



Tri-State N-Trak guest layout at EnterTRAINment Junction



Water Fitness Aerobics in the hotel pool



Ohio Valley Sipping & Switching Society guest layout at EnterTRAINment Junction



EnterTRAINment Junction's "Train Journey" model railroad



Behind the scenes at EnterTRAINment Junction



Matandy Steel on the "Steel Tour"



The American Sign Museum tour



Tropicana plant and "Juice Train" tour

