ODOT Requests Proposals
by J. Howard Harding, OARP President

On December 21, 1993 the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) issued requests for proposals for Rail Transportation Analyses for Phase II of ACCESS OHIO. The seven elements to be studied include:

**Freight**
1. Branchline assessment to determine the level of deferred maintenance.
2. Mainline assessment to determine the location and correction of major traffic flow impediments.
3. Rail-truck intermodal facilities analysis.

**Passenger**
1. Final costs and preliminary engineering for the initiation of conventional-speed passenger rail service in the Cleveland-Dayton-Cincinnati Corridor (3-C&D).
2. Final costs and preliminary engineering for the initiation of conventional-speed passenger rail service in the Cleveland-Ravenna-Youngstown-Pittsburgh corridor.
3. A plan to increase train speeds on the 3-C&D Corridor from 79mph to speeds similar to current European rail passenger services.
4. Preliminary cost estimates and feasibility analyses to establish or improve passenger rail service on selected corridors, including:
   - Toledo-Findlay-Dayton-Cincinnati
   - Toledo-Fostoria-Marion-Delaware-Columbus
   - Youngstown-Akron-(Mansfield)-Columbus
   - Portsmouth-Chillicothe-Columbus
   - Columbus-Newark-Wheeling-Pittsburgh
   - Cleveland-Akron-Canton-New Philadelphia
   - Cincinnati-Indianapolis
   - Toledo-Elyria-Cleveland

(Continued on Page 2)

Member Survey Results
by Mark Carlson, OARP Board Member

Four out of five members support the opening of an office and the hiring of a staffperson. Two-thirds would like to see the 6:53 sold through retail outlets while more than half wish it were published monthly. These are some of the results from a survey mailed to members of OARP.

The survey stemmed from the Board of Directors interest in obtaining a current profile of membership wishes and concerns. Ken Wilt, Editor of the 6:53, volunteered to compose, conduct, tabulate and report to the Board of Directors the surveys results.

OARP members responded in numbers -- more than three times what is considered typical -- when they returned their survey. The Board is pleased because the robust response is viewed as a sign of the strong interest and concern for the cause and purpose of OARP. It also gives it a broader base upon which to build the future.

Analyzing the results was rather easy as the responses were generally overwhelmingly towards one direction or an other. Some examples:

- 97.3% favor an OARP Speakers Bureau
- 90.5% feel our dues are "reasonable"
- 91.0% support a dues increase to expand efforts
- 85.0% feel that our name should remain OARP
- 94.2% rate the 6:53 as "good" or "very good"
- 86.4% oppose publishing the 6:53 in color

The direction in which OARP moves is a concern of the Board. Should there be an office located at Columbus, with a paid staffperson? Would members view this as an important direction for OARP's future? What should be OARP's main focus? Is the membership willing to pay for an office and a staff?

(Continued on Page 2)

ATTENTION OARP MEMBERS...
Please see Page 3 for Information & Registration for the NARP Region 6/OARP Meeting to be held on March 19th, 1994 in Toledo!
New York Maglev---Will It Take Us For A Ride?
by Bill Hutchison, OARP Vice-President

On Nov. 9, 1993, New York Governor Mario Cuomo proposed a $6.7 billion plan to link New York City with Albany (at a cost of $45 million per mile) with a new Maglev line, running at an average speed of 180 mph. The plan assumes the federal government would pay for 75% of construction costs, while the state and private industry would cover the rest. For the project’s startup costs, the state is looking at the funding contained in the ISTEA act of 1991, which authorized $725 million for maglev research and development.

According to Stephen Salatti, President of the Empire State Passenger Association, the proposal is supported by Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and also the Grumman Corporation of Long Island, now facing an uncertain future due to defense cutbacks. This proposal is their solution—a starving defense contractor’s full employment program being pushed by New York politicians. Additional support comes from Massachusetts Gov. William Weld, who proposes a Boston-Albany link, resulting in a New York-Boston trip time of two hours.

To propose such a project, while other areas of the country have little or no service and at a time of huge budget deficits ignores the reality of the times we live in. This is exactly the sort of technoproject that government has become infamous for - delivering minumum value for maximum cost, while basic needs go unmet. In too many instances, there is little or no public transportation available, with present service either woefully underfunded or nonexistent.

ODOT’s Request For Proposals
(Continued From Page 1)

Responses from consultants were to be submitted by January 18th, 1994. ODOT expects to select contractors by February 4th, award contracts by April 4th, and to have the analyses completed by October 1st, 1994.

Detailed instructions for the freight work elements indicate that ODOT is seeking comprehensive information on the physical and financial status of Ohio’s existing rail infrastructure, to be used as the basis for determining the need for and benefits of selective public rail investment. The importance of high quality infrastructure to passenger service is acknowledged.

The passenger studies emphasize the relative cost effectiveness of conventional-speed service, as compared to freeway or high-speed-rail construction costs, while acknowledging the need for detailed costs, revenues, and quantified project benefits. For the 3-C&D Corridor, a summary of findings from previous studies is provided, including a sample five hour schedule for four daily round trips.

The incremental speed increase element explicitly identifies OARP as one of the “key players” with whom the consultants are to discuss the proposals with during the study. It is also noted that the first phase of the speed increase program may be required to achieve 79mph top speed on all segments of the 3-C&D route.

Yet there has been no shortage of proposals for projects such as this, all utilizing experimental or very expensive technology. To quote Richard R. Kunz: “Our slavish worship of technology has opened the door to any half-baked exotica as a panacea for all of transit’s problems. Monorail and Maglev are pushed for Peoria and Pittsburgh alike, while the most efficient method of moving people and goods ever to come from the mind of man, steel-wheel-on-steel-rail, must fight a never ending battle for legitimacy.”

I agree with Mr. Kunz, and believe that this project should be relegated to the same fate as the late Supercollider, with the $725 Million in ISTEA funds transferred to the Clinton Administration’s High Speed Rail bill. This would almost double its size, making it feasible to extend high speed rail service to many areas not otherwise possible. In short, government must focus on those projects which will maximize scarce dollars and meet the practical needs of most of its citizens. We need practical solutions, not glitz.

On the positive side, Gov. Cuomo also announced a $992 million program to upgrade existing Empire Corridor service with a New York-Buffalo running time of less than six hours. Plans call for tilt body turboliners operating at 125 mph and rebuilding segments of the corridor west of Albany to the 125 mph standard by the end of the decade. New York has already received a grant from the FRA to test a rebuilt turboliner trainset at 125 mph between Albany and New York.

OARP Member Survey Results
(continued from Page 1)

More survey highlights:
82.8% members feel that an office is important
81.7% favor a mix of paid staff & volunteers
82.3% say we should work beyond intercity rail
81.6% say we should educate public officials
80.0% support a dues increase for an office

Most members are pleased with the newsletter, and over half (56.7%) are willing to pay more in dues to make improvements to the 6:53. Many (85.1%) feel the newsletter does best by reporting mostly Ohio rail news with some added regional and national stories. It is felt by three out of four respondents that the 6:53 should be offered through subscription to non-members.

What about the name the 6:53, should it be retained?
71.1% say keep the name, while others suggested replacements such as Ohio Rail News, On Track: Ohio, Ohio Rail Passenger Journal, Buckeye Passenger News, OARP Rail News, and Ohio Rail Passenger News.

Many of the surveys were returned with individual comments. Those remarks are being reviewed as well. The Board of Directors appreciates those who shared their opinions through this survey. Your input is encouraged — whether it is through a survey, a letter or a phone call. OARP is your organization—so speak up!
You are invited to attend the
NARP Region 6 (OH, IN, MI) &
OARP Membership Meeting
Saturday, March 19th 1994
10am to 4pm
Toledo, Ohio

To be held at the Radisson Hotel in Downtown Toledo
(corner of Summit & Monroe Streets)

Tentative Speaker is Don Pease of the Amtrak Board of Directors

The Radisson is offering
OARP Members single and
double rooms at $65 per
night (up to 4 people) for this
meeting. For reservations call
1-800-333-3333 or write the
Radisson Hotel Toledo
101 N. Summit Street
Toledo, OH 43604

Please see the following
page of this edition of
the 6:53 for important
info. regarding a vote
on by-law changes to
occur at this meeting!

Send Registration and check or money order payable to
"OARP/NARP Region 6 Meeting" to
Larry George, 3020 Lantern Drive, Oregon, OH 43616
Questions? Call Larry at 419/698-2167

Registration Form For The
NARP Region 6/OARP Membership Meeting
in Toledo, Ohio on March 19th 1994

Name: ___________________________ Phone #: __________
Address: ____________________________________________
Number in Party: _______

Check one Entree: __London Broil  __Monterey Chicken

I will need transportation to/from:
___Amtrak Station  ___Greyhound Station  ___Toledo Airport

Registration fee is $20 per person. Amount Enclosed: _______
NOTICE OF VOTE ON BY-LAW CHANGES

The Membership will take notice that the following amendments to the By-laws of OARP will be voted upon at the Membership Meeting on March 19th, 1994. The Board of Directors approved them at the August 28th, 1993 Board Meeting, and recommends their adoption.

Present Provision: SECTION 1 - GENERAL POWERS.
The affairs of the association shall be managed by its Board of Directors consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and seven additional elected members, one from each telephone area quadrant of the State, plus three members-at-large.

Proposed Change: SECTION 1 - GENERAL POWERS.
The affairs of the association shall be managed by its Board of Directors consisting of the officers as provided in ARTICLE VI, and seven additional elected members, one from each telephone area code quadrant of the State, plus three members-at-large.

Purpose: Primarily a stylistic change. The officers and their duties are not defined until Article VI. My preference is not to name them until they are defined.

Present Provision: SECTION 3 - REGULAR MEETINGS.
Regular meetings will be held immediately following the annual meeting of members.

Proposed Change: SECTION 3 - REGULAR MEETINGS.
Regular meetings will be held at least once each calendar quarter, at such location, date, and time as shall be determined by the President.

Purpose: To conform the by-laws to our current practice.

Present Provision: SECTION 7 - RESIDENCY.
Members of the Board of Directors of the Association shall maintain primary place of residence in the State of Ohio.

Proposed Change: SECTION 7 - QUALIFICATIONS.
Members of the Board of Directors of the Association shall maintain primary place of residence in the State of Ohio. Each member shall attend at least 50% of the regular board meetings called each year during the term of his or her office.

Purpose: Primarily a stylistic change. The officers and their duties are not defined until Article VI. My preference is not to name them until they are defined.

Present Provision: NONE

Proposed New Section: SECTION 8 - REMOVAL. A member of the Board of Directors of the Association shall be removed from the board upon his or her moving his or her primary residence out of the State of Ohio. Unless good cause is shown to the satisfaction of the remaining directors at the first regular meeting of the board held each calendar year at which a quorum is present, a director who has failed to meet the attendance requirements contained in Section 7 of this Article V shall automatically be removed. In addition, the entire Board of Directors or any individual director may be removed from office, without any cause assigned, at a meeting called expressly for that purpose, by a vote of a majority of the members entitled to vote at an election of directors or such other meetings at which Directors are elected.

Purpose: To add some teeth to Section 7. While the removal for failure to attend is automatic, the board has the discretion not to remove a director if good cause is shown-- e.g. valuable contributions at other than regular meetings, regular attendance at special meetings and membership meetings, etc.

Officers and Board Members NOT Present:
Bill Hutchison, William O'Brien, and Duane Roller.

Notes of Benjamin Farah, OARP Secretary & General Counsel:
There was a full agenda. George Bayless, OARP Treasurer, had chaired a committee to recommend a set of goals for OARP. He presented the report of the committee at the meeting. The report was well received, and it was agreed that the Board would hold a leadership retreat in the Spring to consider the goals and the means to achieve them. The Board agreed to hold the Annual Membership Meeting in Akron, in honor of our out-going President, J. Howard Harding, and adopted a tentative meeting calendar (see Page 7). The Nominating Committee was re-constituted; any member who has an interest in running for an office should contact J. Howard Harding. Director Larry George reported on the up-coming combined OARP/NARP meeting to be held in Toledo on March 13th. The Board recommended certain changes to OARP's bylaws drafted by your Secretary. The Board adopted a resolution condemning the de-staffing of the station at Youngstown, and reviewed results of the Membership Survey. Finally, the Board reviewed and approved the plans of Columbus Area Coordinator Bob Boyce, to hold a conference regarding the restoration of historic train stations and the use of ISTEA money.
### Amtrak News Briefs

**Claytor Retires, Downs New Amtrak Chief**

W. Graham Claytor, Jr. became Chairman and President of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) in July, 1982. On December 6th, 1993, Mr. Claytor retired. Claytor’s successor, Thomas M. Downs, took over the following day. Downs left positions as Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation and Chairman of the New Jersey Transit Corporation to take the Amtrak job.

### Ohioan Confirmed as Member of Amtrak Board of Directors

Daniel W. Collins, an Ohioan and member of OARP, is now serving as a member of the Amtrak Board of Directors. Mr. Collins, who lives in North Olmsted, is a veteran railroader with more than fifty years in the industry. He has played a key role in railroad labor and is an expert in the field of industrial and labor relations. Mr. Collins also has served on numerous rail-related task forces and committees. We’re fortunate to have such a dedicated and competent representative serving in this important position.

### Las Vegas Train Tour

Following a successful rail tour to Las Vegas in October, OARP member Hayes Travel Agency is planning a second trip to "Glitter Gulch" and "The Strip". This group tour will run from April 9-16, departing and returning to Toledo via Amtrak. The tour will follow the CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR/DESERT WIND route to the station at the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas. The cost is $449 per person, which includes a coach seat, 3 nights at the Plaza (double occupancy), plus six meals and special bonus coupons at the hotel. A limited number of sleeper/economy bedrooms are also available.

This tour is not sponsored nor organized by OARP, but is an attempt by one travel agency to promote more travel by train in their area. For additional information please call 800-234-8877 or 419/874-2271.

### OARPNET Going Strong

The number of OARPers joining the CompuServe Information Service continues to increase. Rail advocates from across the state are now able to communicate with one another quickly and inexpensively via computer modems. We've dubbed our little group OARPNET. "Netters" are also able to communicate with other rail advocates from across the globe by accessing TrainNet, one of the many CompuServe interest forums.

On page 6 of this edition of the 6:53 is a partial listing of OARPers who are online. If you are already on CompuServe and want to be included in future directories, please contact Ken Wilt. If you requested information on CompuServe during the membership survey, it should be arriving shortly.

### Columbus Area Update

**by Robert Boyce, Columbus Area Coordinator**

Discussion of a proposed “Festival of Stations” led off the January 8th Red Door meeting. The “festival” would be held at the Ohio Historical Center in conjunction with the Ohio Historical Society and the Ohio Department of Transportation. The purpose of the event would be to educate officials and citizens of cities with historic station sites of the availability of federal funds for renovations of those facilities. The event would also serve to celebrate the colorful past of Ohio’s historic railroad stations, and to anticipate their contribution to the future of passenger rail transportation. The “festival” would consist of two parts: the first would be a lunch meeting for mayors of cities with historic station sites, and the second would be a public meeting, which would include talks and videos. The “festival” idea has been presented to and approved by the OARP Board, and preliminary work is already underway. It is hoped that the event will occur this spring.

Larry and Meg Grey have been working hard to collect signatures for our passenger rail petition. Between a trip to the Nelsonville tourist rail depot and a table at a model train show in Columbus more than 800 new signatures have been collected! Thanks to the Greys, Harold Zweifel, and Ken Wilt for their efforts...

More signature gathering opportunities are coming up - if you can help, please call Meg Grey at 614/837-7463.

At the December Red Door meeting Tony Flores reported on the letter writing campaign among his coalition groups. Over 100 letters supporting rail passenger service were written to government officials. Good work, Tony! Thanks also to Tom Allen for his letter to Amtrak’s president, thanking him for an Amtrak source book to be used in a letter writing campaign.

On December 13th, six local OARP members attended a Capital City Transit Coalition meeting in Columbus City Council Chambers. 200 officials and transit advocates heard Rod Diridon, Chairman of the American Public Transit Association warn of a “mobility crisis” in Columbus unless the city expands public transit to include passenger rail services. Featured at the meeting was a new video which highlights the need for passenger service were written to government officials. Good work, Tony! Thanks also to Tom Allen for his letter to Amtrak’s president, thanking him for an Amtrak source book to be used in a letter writing campaign.

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Our sympathy goes out to John Lightfoot in the recent passing of his wife, Mary Jane.

**Columbus Local OARP Meetings will now be held on the SECOND Saturday of each month at the Red Door Tavern, 1736 West 5th Avenue, at 10am.**

Future programs include the Capital City Transit Coalition’s new video and a talk with Columbus’ new Bicycle Coordinator, Dale Hooper.
Dayton Dinner Meeting Addresses Coalition Building
by Thomas Pulsifer, OARP President Emeritus

Twelve OARP members from Springfield, Fairborn, Piqua, and Xenia, as well as from greater Dayton learned new ideas and shared thoughts on “Coalition Building” with guest Marian Simmons of the League of Women Voters of Dayton. This regional OARP dinner meeting was held on November 22nd, 1993 at the Denny’s in Centerville.

Using the recent and successful “Save Dayton’s Electric Trolleys” campaign as an example, Marian Simmons explained how and why a significant number of area organizations came together to cooperatively work, first to save the MVRTA’s trolley bus infrastructure, then, with facts and figures in hand, to promote the electric trolleys as a “good thing” for future MVRTA service expansions.

The group learned how to consider strengths and weaknesses when working on a cause, and how working within a coalition can actually help strengthen member organizations and help them better address local/regional issues.

The proposed Aviation Trail National Park anticipates a light-rail transit line connecting downtown Dayton and the US Air Force Museum (the area’s top tourist attraction), with possible extensions to serve Wright State University, Wright-Patterson AFB, and the Fairfield Commons Mall. Dayton area OARP members, feeling that a potentially popular rail transit link would also benefit intercity rail passenger service through Dayton, want to investigate the possibilities further.

For more info. contact Manfred Orlow at 513/294-0718.

6:53 Deadlines for 1994

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OARPNET ONLINE DIRECTORY

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<td>George H. Bayless</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark D. Carlson</td>
<td>73311,1327</td>
<td>(Bay Village)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin F. Farah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill H. Hutchison</td>
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<td>Tom Maher</td>
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<td>Dr. Daniel Innis</td>
<td>76517,33</td>
<td>(Athens)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manfred O. Orlow</td>
<td>71530,2377</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ken Prendergast</td>
<td>72764,2020</td>
<td>(Berea)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth L. Witt</td>
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Please contact Ken Witt if you’d like your E-Mail address included in our directory. The numbers listed above are all on CompuServe, but if you belong to another service, or have an InterNet account, we could run that as well.

Tentative OARP/NARP Meeting Schedule For 1994

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PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE AUTHORIZED TRAVEL AGENCIES WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS:

**A**krnon Parkside Travel U S A  (216) 724-1800 Joel Brown
**A**lliance Alliance AAA Travel  (216) 921-2323 (216) 456-6315
**C**anal Fulton Massillon AAA Travel  (216) 856-6616
**C**leveland Ohio Motorists Assoc/AAA Travel  (216) 361-6080
**C**leveland Randall Park Mall Travel Agency  (800) 999-2434 (216) 475-8747 Robert Beck
**C**olumbus Accessible Travel Agency  (800) 837-2822 (614) 792-3555 Jude Cuddy
**C**olumbus Ohio Automobile Club/AAA Travel  (614) 431-7823
**E**lyria Tours & Travel Service, Inc.  (800) 443-7789 (216) 323-5423 Mike McCluster
**M**ansfield Mansfield Travel Center  (419) 756-8747 Jay Gilbert
**M**assillon Massillon AAA Travel  (216) 830-1034 Cheryl Anderson
**P**erryburg Hayes Travel Agency  (800) 234-8877 (419) 874-2271

**P**iqua Miami County Auto Club/AAA Travel  (513) 773-3753
**S**andusky Sandusky Travel Service, Inc.  (419) 826-4633 Roberta Styer
**S**olon Searees Travel Service  (900) 759-7404 (216) 246-7740 Al Mladine
**T**roy Miami County Auto Club/AAA Travel  (513) 339-0112

Authorized Amtrak travel agents who wish to join OARP, maintain current membership status, and be listed in the DIRECTORY, should send a $10 check, made payable to OARP, to George Bayless, Treasurer, 422 S Patterson Blvd, Dayton, OH 45409. The TRAM annual listing fee of $40 entitles agents who wish to join OARP, maintain current membership status, and be listed in the DIRECTORY, the name of one CORRIDOR PROJECT DIR., and the name of one direct phone number listed in this DIRECTORY. RENEWALS will be billed by the Treasurer.

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

Become a dues paying member of OARP and help us sustain our voice for rail passenger concerns! The first year costs only $15, and includes a subscription to the 6:53. Membership dues are $20/year thereafter. All contributions to OARP are tax-deductible. To join, simply fill out and mail this coupon, along with a check or money order payable to OARP: George Bayless, Treasurer, 422 S. Patterson Blvd, Dayton, OH 45409.

**NAME ______________________________**
**ADDRESS ______________________________**
**PHONE # ______________________________**
**Where did you pick up this 6:53? ______________________________**

**DIRECTORY OF THE OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS, INC. (OARP)**

**PRESIDENT**
J. HOWARD HARDING, 489 Overwood Rd, Akron 44313-5327 (216) 857-5507
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GEORGE BAYLESS, 2422 S Patterson Blvd, Dayton 45408 (513) 293-8794
THOMAS PULISFER, P. O. Box 653, Xenia 45393 (513) 372-9866

**TREASURER**
GEORGE BAYLESS, 2422 S Patterson Blvd, Dayton 45408 (513) 293-8794

**BOARDS OF DIRECTORS:**
Area 216
Area 419
Area 513
Area 614
At-Large
At-Large
At-Large

**THE 6:53? EDITOR**
3-C CORRIDOR PROJECT DIR.
CLE-PITT CORR. PROJ. DIR.
**CO-ORDINATOR OF REGIONAL CO-ORDINATORS:**

**Area 216: CLEVELAND**
J. HOWARD HARDING, 489 Overwood Rd, Akron 44313-5327 (216) 857-5507
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**Area 419: TOLEDO**
LARRY GEORGE, 3020 Lantern Dr, Oregon 43616 (419) 698-2167
ALBERT E. WOLF, 1497 Melrose Ave, Dayton 45409-1627 (513) 234-7110
WILLIAM SCHULER, 3785 Headleys Mill Rd, Pataskala 43062 (614) 927-8808
WILLIAM O. ROLLER, P. O. Box 20189, Columbus 43220 (614) 451-7226
JIM EDWARDS, 6345 Hibiscus Ct, Westerville 43081 (614) 891-5179
DUANE W. ROLLER, 1318 Lakewood, Lima 45805 (419) 228-5903
KEN W. MARTIN, 3315 Stoneramadow Ave, Apt E, Columbus 43220 (614) 451-5704
MANNFRED O. ORLOW, 2801 Far Hills Ave, #205-E, Dayton 45419 (513) 234-0718
MANNFRED O. ORLOW, 2801 Far Hills Ave, #205-E, Dayton 45419 (513) 234-0718

**Area 513: CINCINNATI**
JAMES STEVENSON, 192 Franklin Dr, Berea 44017 (216) 234-5985
JOHN D. CICARELLI, 105 Morris Ave, Girard 44420 (216) 545-2973
DOUGLAS HODGSON, 3981 Greenmont Dr, S.E. Warren 44484 ... (216) 856-2557
PHIL COPeland, 110 Indiana Ave, Elyria 44035 (216) 365-7970
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