



THE *HotBox*

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL REGION, NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

VOL. 64 NO. 3 **AUTUMN 2023**

RAILFANNING Fred Paepke's Michigan Northern Railroad

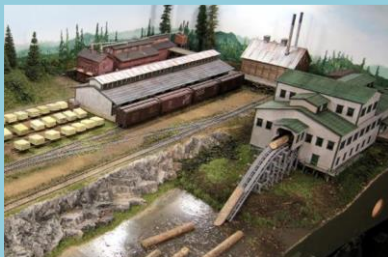


**GRASS MAT
& DETAILS part 2**

**INTRODUCING
STATION No. VI**



HERITAGE!



**SAW MILL
UPDATES**



NCR FORT WAYNE RAILS 2023 CONVENTION NEWS
PLUS- RR History, Timetable, NMRA-NCR-Division News & more!

The HotBox

AUTUMN 2023
Vol. 64, No. 3



EDITOR

Barry Hensel
43642 Lotus Dr
Canton, MI 48188
734-649-3056
barry76Lt@wowway.com

Editorial Advisers
the NCR Board

Proof Readers
John Beres

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Business ads-

1/2 page \$20 per issue or \$65 per year
full page \$30 per issue or \$100 per year
business card \$10 per issue or \$35 per year -or- free business card for exchange of websites and/or sales of HotBox

Pike ads- \$15 small, \$30 double and \$60 quad for a 3 year period!

NCR Division Event ads- FREE

To pay for any ad space... send your payment to the Editor. All checks/money orders need to be made out to "The North Central Region, NMRA"

Send address corrections to the Registrar- Marshall Stull
248-817-9328

mstull@marshallstull.com

Feel free to contact the Editor via email, with any comments, questions or corrections.

Hello Fall!!! Indeed... it's September and summer is over (for the most part) as kids go back to school, temps decrease with crisp mornings and soon the colors of trees will start to change. As outdoor activities start to also wind-down, indoor activities (like model railroading!!) should be increasing. Train shows and sales also ramp-up and the HotBox events page(s) are full of events for you to consider attending.

Speaking of attending, the **Fort Wayne Rails 2023 Convention** is **HERE!!** The last, new event information in this HotBox... just a few pages away! I will be there on a day-pass, as I'll be partaking in the train sale right across the street on Saturday. I hope to see YOU there!

This month/issue we are starting reports on the 2025 NMRA National convention – STATION No. VI hosted by us, the NCR and all of our Divisions. Mark your calendars now for July 14-19, 2025. See this new report in this **HotBox**. We'll need lots of help to make sure our National convention is the best possible!

In the meantime, I hope this issue of the HotBox meets your expectations. Remember!!... We are always looking for article submissions. We'll take them all!

Well, time to do some MORE model railroading... and that's always a good thing!! Thanks for reading... Barry

MODEL RAILROADING IS FUN!



NCR ON FACEBOOK

NCR NEWS

In case you didn't know, the NCR does have a Facebook page! Check us out at <https://www.facebook.com/NCRNMRA> Please LIKE us and feel free to post your current projects, modeling and model railroad events! We'll also post announcements of interest too!

HOTBOX CORRECTIONS

NCR "OOPS"....

Always striving to be correct is something we will do with the **HotBox**. But, we are human and mistakes can/will happen. Please forgive us, these are NOT intentional! For the June issue, we have a correction – We stated in the NMRA Conv report that the National Train show would be held at the Suburban Showplace. The correct name is actually - at the "Suburban Collection Showplace".

FRONT COVER PICTURES- NMRA logo, Fort Wayne Rails 2023 logo; How to make Grass Tufts part 2; Saw mill updates on the Arcadia & Betsey River Ry; Fred Paepke's Michigan Northern Railroad - Engine Service Tracks at Cadillac, MI., where the HQ for the Michigan Northern RR and dispatcher is located; model RR heritage!; Station No.VI logo

REAR COVER PICTURES- NCX 2024 logo; part 2 of Great Lakes Ferries; BP Pacific 655 pulling into the West Liberty passenger station on Mike Tranquilla's Burlington Pacific Railroad

NCR - NORTH CENTRAL REGION, NMRA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS



President

Rich Mahaney 269-214-4221
hazmatrichm@aol.com

Resident Agent

Jonathan Pulling 517-755-7599
jdpulling@comcast.net

Vice-President

Phil Doolittle 248-375-2513
doolittle@comcast.net

NMRA Central Director

Fred Soward, MMR 502-509-2799
centdir@nmra.org

Secretary

John Young 517-449-9063
cdjhyoung@yahoo.com

Model & Photo Contests

Volunteer Needed

Treasurer

Steve Harsh
harsh@msu.edu

Achievement Program

Skip Luyk, MMR 616-363-3453
ArcadiaLogger@gmail.com

Registrar

Marshall Stull 248-817-9328
mstull@marshallstull.com

Division One- Black Swamp Div

Marshall Stull 248-817-9328
mstull@marshallstull.com

Directors

Dave McMullian 419-508-2206
train.man4756@gmail.com

Division Two- Tip of the Mitt Div

Mike Cipko 231-929-8345
mcipko@charter.net

Scott Kremer, MMR 734-420-2314
skremer@wideopenwest.com

Division Three- 3 Rivers Div

Bob Jones 260-459-6339
broadwaylimited15@yahoo.com

Dave Capron, MMR 231-944-8576
capron33@gmail.com

Division Four – Grand Rails Div

Mark Baldwin 616-258-0110
grandrailsdiv4@gmail.com

Division Five – Capital Div

Andy Keeney 517-316-5660
hunter48820@yahoo.com

Division Six – Motor City Div

Paul Lichau 734-878-5390
plichau@yahoo.com

Division Eight- Clinton River Div

Mark Mincek – 586-404-0509
themotive@att.net

Division Nine – SW Michigan Div

Garry Johnson 269-365-6777
elecsprk@gmail.com

Division Ten – Ten Wheelers Div

Wayne Wilder 989-823-3409
bvpsrr@gmail.com

RAILROADING "WHAT THE ???"

NCR HUMOR

"THUMBS" an original cartoon of a somewhat bumbling model railroader was the creation of the late Milt Moore, a member of the Redford Model RR Club and Division 6. See the tribute to Milt on page 12 of this HotBox. Here are a few THUMBS from 1973 that appeared in the NMRA Bulletin. We'll print more of these in the coming years.... rest well Thumbs!



PRESIDENT'S OBSERVATION

Rich Mahaney

Hello North Central Region (NCR) Model Railroaders! In this Hot Box edition, I wanted to share a couple of thoughts with you and help on the "retention" message from the NMRA.

For many years now I have been attending model railroad events and conventions, I have also been attending train shows. My question to all of you is why are there more people at train shows than at model railroad conventions? They both deal with the same thing – model railroads and trains?

We have an interesting thing that I call "closet modelers". There are a lot more model railroaders or layout owners/builders than we think in our communities. In my own Division, we get people that we don't know showing up at our Division meetings (which is great), but they may not come back or only show up once in a while. Why? Did we do or say something that offended them, did we not treat them nicely, did they feel left out by the people at the meeting, did they not feel welcomed or was it something else? I have thought about this situation at different times, what could we do for new people to help them enjoy the meeting and want them to come back and hopefully join the NMRA!

Each of our NCR Divisions needs to look at this because it is common in all organizations and groups, not just in model railroaders. When somebody that we don't know joins one of our meetings, do people make an introduction of this new person (their name, what they model, introduces them to others, makes them feel welcomed, introduces them to other people with similar interests, sits them down with others to be included in conversations that are occurring and certainly extends wishes to them to come back to the next meeting). We need to find out about their model railroad interests, are they building a layout and other similar questions? We should ask them about their knowledge of the NMRA and if they are a member? There are lots of people that are model railroaders and are NMRA members that do not participate in the model railroad community, they may have operating sessions with a group of people that are also unknown to us and are also not members of the NMRA. Again, I call these people "closet model railroaders", you seen them at train shows but not at NMRA events and activities. I always wonder how can they be in the hobby and not be members of the NMRA? There really are lots of benefits in being part of the NMRA and hanging around with other NMRA members and attending

NMRA events and activities! How many "closet model railroaders are there in your community and area (division)?

One of the things the NMRA is currently promoting is "retention" of NMRA members. Once people attend, once they join the NMRA, what role do the rest of us have "retaining" them in the NMRA and our Divisions? The NMRA leadership is encouraging Regions/Divisions to create and fill a "retention person" to help get people into NMRA memberships and to help them stay NMRA members. All of our Region and Division activities, meetings, conventions should encourage NMRA membership and the benefits of being an NMRA member. Membership creates opportunities to make new friends, learn more about the model railroad hobby, can improve modeling skills, provides education, make new friends and many more things. Just think if we could get all of the model railroaders that attend the annual Lansing Train Show each fall to join the NMRA! But many of these "closet model railroaders" are happy in the hobby with what they are building and sharing with their friends and don't see a value in joining the NMRA. What the heck! This is our fault for missing out on the opportunity to show them the benefits, the fun and comradery of being in the NMRA, the value of paying the NMRA dues and what you get, the help the NMRA can be to being a member and the paying of dues each year (which are not much). We need to change the attitude of "I get (or I got) nothing out of being a NMRA member". Of course, I always ask the question of "what did you put into your membership time with the NMRA"? Did you get active with a Division, did meet and hang out with other model railroaders, did you visit and maybe "operate" on new layouts with the owners that you met, did you buy stuff with the discounts offered through your NMRA membership, did you offer to present a clinic at aa Division or Region meeting or convention, did you help other model railroaders sole a modeling problem or question"?



Continued next page → →

So, the NMRA is asking each Region and/or Division to create a "retention person" to help with and encourage NMRA membership and continuing membership! This person and their Region and Division to create enough meetings, activities, opportunities to want to stay a member of the NMRA for many years. I know from being in the North Central Region for many years, our Divisions work to accomplish this with a full slate of yearly activities, meetings, conventions, and other activities. We need to always be working on this, plus working to make new people that attend our meetings and activities **WANT TO COME BACK** and feel welcomed, and hopefully join the NMRA.

We (the NCR) have a new tri-fold color flyer coming that can be given to new people at our meetings about joining up, it can be set out at Division meetings, in hobby shops, at conventions and train shows to encourage people to join us! We can always do better in these efforts! I look forward to hearing about what each NCR Division is doing to support this effort AND to share with other Divisions what they are doing with their successful ideas and solutions!

Remember to sign up to attend the upcoming NCR Annual Convention in Fort Wayne, IN over Oct 19-22, 2023. See you there!

Rich Mahaney, NCR President

How about writing an article on your latest modeling project! Earn AP points! At the HotBox, WE NEED and WANT your articles!!

NMRA-NCR ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

NCR AWARDS

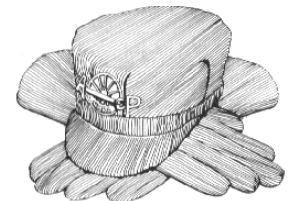
Thanks go to Ken Chick, Jim Macino, Dorman Wilson, Ron Gilbert and Pete Magoun as they continue doing a great job keeping the level of AP activity in our NCR Divisions at a high pitch. The activity in the Achievement Program has picked up a bit so I am pleased to report that one of our members have achieved the following certificates (see below). Congratulations!

Skip Luyk, MMR, NCR AP Coordinator

NMRA ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER - Michael Finkler, Div. 1



Michael Finkler (right) receiving his award from Ron Gilbert



ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM QUESTIONS: If you have questions about the AP or requirements, start with your Regional AP manager, Skip Luyk, MMR. Also – Ron Gilbert covers Div 1 rarjgilbert@yahoo.com; Jim Macino, MMR covers Div 3 - 260-693-6102 jim@icmgt.com or Ken Chick, MMR covers Div 6, 8 and 10 – 734-420-0276 kdchick@wowway.com or Pete Magoun, MMR covers Div 2 – 231-941-1669 orion@chartermi.net and Dorman Wilson for Div 9 - N8YNW@charter.net If you still have questions, contact NMRA AP Chairman Frank Koch at fjkoch@hotmail.com or at 4769 Silverwood Drive, Batavia, OH 45103

RAILFANNING Fred Paepke's MI Northern RR **NCR TRACKSIDE**

You can tour the Michigan Northern at the Fort Wayne Rails in October!
Left – down, then right: The station at Mackinaw City, the north end of the Michigan Northern; The car float at Mackinaw City is loaded and ready to ferry the railroad cars a cross the Straits of Mackinac; A materials transfer company is located at Walton Junction where a branch line goes to Traverse City; A tow truck is passing the Hillside Lumber Company at Summit; You are now looking at the Northern Light & Power Co. at Big Rapids.



Herman's Sauerkraut and William Wemhoff's Meat Market in the foreground; The north end of Cadillac Yard with Burp Botting at Antrim in the back ground.



RAILFANNING Fred Paepke's MI Northern RR NCR TRACKSIDE

Left – down, then right: A mobile home located below Maggie's Bridge with a trout stream behind the home; Open helix at Maggie's Bridge with the Heritage Furniture and Redwing Milling Company on the hill above; Howard City Yard looking East. The Evans Electric Motor Co. in back ground; The Michigan Northern Engine House at Cadillac; The apron for the car float at Mackinaw City; The freight house at Howard City with the Paper Company in the back ground; Swan Creek Coal Mine at St. Charles. Mi. and yes Michigan had active coal mines until 1952.



NCR HOSTING 2025 NMRA CONVENTION!

NCR NEWS

All of the Divisions in the NCR will be contributing to this effort. Scott Kremer, MMR from Div 6 is heading up the efforts. Here's an update....

Just a quick word about Station No. VI, the NMRA National Convention for 2025. At this point we are at the beginning. There are about 20 functional responsibilities that we will have to manage. Such things as registration, clinics, etc. The good news is that we have leaders in place for nearly all these positions. The only ones remaining are those that do not have a working requirement until we are much nearer to the convention. I am absolutely thrilled with the energy and commitment that is being shown by these individuals. Many are off to a great start building their teams, putting a budget together and figuring out exactly what they must do. Here is the TEAM so far.....



Chairman	Scott Kremer, MMR	skremer@wideopenwest.com	734-420-2314
Vice Chair	Bill Neale, MMR	wneale@twmi.rr.com	248-697-7797
Non Rail	Kitty Kremer	kitty.kremer46@gmail	734-420-2314
Registration	Byrne Blumenstein	1947sandy@gmail .com	248-553-3838
Webmaster	Marshall Stull	mstull@marshallstull.com	248-817-9328
Treasurer	Steve Harsh	harsh@msu.edu	517-316-6764
LDSIG	Ron Burkhardt	rjb893@gmail.com	765-427-4667
Layout Tours	Jay Qualmann	jayqualmann@yahoo.com	248-676-0234
	Brook Qualmann, MMR	bqualmann@yahoo.com	248-676-0234
Op Sessions	Ken Chick, MMR	kdchick@wowway.com	734-417-6005
PR and Marketing	Barry Hensel	barry76lt@wowway.com	734-649-3056
Yard Sale	Greg Rich	gregrich2014@gmail.com	586-716-5373
Clinics	Andy Keeney	hunter48820@yahoo.com	517-316-5660
	Dave Capron, MMR	capron33@gmail.com	231-944-8576
	Rich Mahaney	hazmatrichm@aol.com	269-214-4221
Prototype Tours	Bruce Wolff	brucewolff@yahoo.com	947-216-9250
Road Show	John Young	cdjhyoung@yahoo.com	517-449-9063
Div 6 Volunteers	Bill McMillan	wmcmillan7456@gmail.com	248-349-7456
Div 8 Volunteers	Mark Mincek	themotive@att.net	586-404-0509
RPM Conference	Mike Skibbe	mskibbe@gmail.com	847-736-7868
Tech Coordinator	Jeff Higgins	chessietgc2@aol.com	734-424-9549
Advisor	Dave McMullian	train.man4756@gmail.com	419-508-2206
Merchandise	Dan Shilt	ddshilt@aol.com	248-608-4063
Contests	Rick Neibert	neibertrichard@att.net	734-716-6121
Timetable/Publications – Bus Coordinantor – Banquet –	<i>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</i>		

You will notice that many, but not all, of those working on the convention are from Division 6. I guess that is to be expected as the convention will be in our back yard. Don't be misled. As we continue to work on the convention preparation, we will identify the need for many additional volunteers. Some will be heavily involved, and some will help for just a few hours. We will make every effort to offer those opportunities to all the Divisions in the Region.

So, stay tuned. We have a sound agreement with the National on the convention. Our convention will have numerous differences from the traditional National Convention. Every decision we make will be made with two thoughts in mind. Are we offering opportunities of value. First, our attendees will learn and have fun with everything we offer. Second, are we doing everything we can to keep costs as low as possible. While we have not completed a preliminary budget, I continue to believe that attending our convention will cost the average attendee a small fraction of the cost of previous conventions.

That's it for now. If you have questions, you know where to find me.

When I was a little boy, I got an American Flyer train set for Christmas. I can remember seeing it under the Christmas tree. Of course I wanted to run it. But with all the Grandparents, Uncles, Aunts, Great Uncles and Great Aunts coming over for Christmas dinner, Mom did not want train tracks all over the living room floor. The dining room table was empty for the moment, so Dad and Uncle Vaughn set it up on the table. I was just old enough that it was at eye level for me, and I was excited to see it run.



Of course it was cleared away for Christmas dinner to be served to all the family. Later it was set up in a loop a board in the toy room, (old attic), around the loop of my first American Flyer set that I got when I was only two years old. (Dad got a lot of kidding from the folks about "his train set", but he let me run it.) But time moves on, and as a teenager I wanted HO trains. Sold off the American Flier for a song, and now I wish I hadn't.

But things come around eventually. Got a call from a friend I used to work with saying he was cleaning out the basement and had a box full of his old Lionel train set and he wanted to get rid of it. "Well", I said, "If your giving it away, I'll take it. If you want to sell it there's a train show at the end of the month where you could take it and sell it". He thought for a while and said I could have it! He even delivered it. A box containing track, transformer, two electric switches with control buttons, and a Lionel Scout train set consisting of an Engine, Tender, Gondola, Box Car, Tank Car, and Caboose! So I cleared off the ping pong table and started unpacking it all. The Gondola was cracked badly, but Gorilla glue

got it back into working order quickly. Cleaned up the first two pieces of track and connected the transformer to them. Set the engine on it and turned the lever to give it power. It struggled, but it moved! So I get to cleaning the wheels and contacts, oiling up gears and bearings, and slowly it comes back to life. Then tried the switches, which buzzed and only moved a little, but some WD40 did wonders to get them snapping! Set up a test track on the ping pong table and had fun running it around.

But my Grandson's 7th Birthday was coming up and the party was going to be held at my house. I had no idea on what to get him until I remembered how much I liked my train set. So I set it up on my dining room table and had it ready to go when he arrived. Showed him how it worked and that was all he did for the rest of day, run the train. He would put cards or small toys in the gondola and delivered them to people around the table. Another model railroader is born!



At the end of the party, it was carefully packed up and sent home with him. Hope he enjoys it as much as I did.

Perhaps when I am gone, he will set it up, or another train set, for his son or grandson. In any event, I have done my part and prepared the future for more fun memories, whether they are mine or his. I even emailed the friend who gave it to me, a picture, to which he replied that he was glad to see it "risen from the ashes".

Division One - Black Swamp Division (Northwest Ohio with Michigan Lenawee and Monroe Counties)

Our 2023-24 season starts with an in-person meeting on September 29th. Our first meeting back will include our traditional "What I did over the summer" show and tell. Our meetings are open to guests so please feel free to stop in and say "hello". To stay informed of the latest news and information at the Black Swamp by visiting our website and subscribing to our newsletter at <http://div1.ncrnmra.org>. Our Facebook group is located at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ncrdiv1>. (submitted by- Marshall Stull, Superintendent)

Division Two - Tip Of The Mitt (Manistee to Iosco counties, north to the Mackinac Bridge)

During our May meeting, Skip Luyk shared his insights on submissions for the achievement program. John Campbell and Pete Magoun each brought in items to be evaluated by Skip and members of the Division. Outstanding work and highly graded. "Show and Tell" is always popular and gives us a chance to see what progress members have been making. Planning is now continuing for the Fall. Our October meeting, however, will be an "Intro to Operations" held in person on the 14th. More info on page 23. Send an email to jens.hensel50@gmail.com and we will include you in our next invite. (Submitted by Mike Cipko, Division 2 Superintendent)

Division Three - 3 Rivers Division (Fort Wayne, Indiana and western Ohio area)

The 3 Rivers Division has put the final touches on the Ft. Wayne Rails 2023 Convention here in Ft. Wayne with a lot of planning now behind us and are hoping for a large attendance (see Convention pages in HotBox & website for additional information). Remember early registration ends soon so get your registrations in before the price increase. We are trying something new at this Convention by having a 1 day Train Show & Swap on Saturday during the Convention. We are in the height of our busy season of county fairs getting kids involved with model trains and are giving away model train sets to some lucky kids who participate in our booth. We are hoping that in the next few weeks we will have interacted with 2500 to 3000 kids as we have done in years past. Hope to see you at Ft. Wayne Rails 2023. We are continuously looking for opportunities to reach the younger demographic to help grow our hobby and the NMRA. (Submitted by- Bob Jones, Superintendent)

Division Four – Grand Rails Division (Grand Rapids and west Michigan area)

We continue to meet monthly in Grand Rapids & Holland. Attendance has been low and please if you are reading this let us know what you want to see! We are here for the members and we need to hear from you. Please check out our website or Facebook page for the latest schedule and updates. What can the division do to make you a better Model Railroader? Let's share our ideas. Please see our website for our meeting schedule. All meetings start at 10am and details to be determined. For more information contact Mark Baldwin at grandrailsdiv@outlook.com or Tim Scott at tjscott46@hotmail.com or visit the NEW division website <http://grandrailsdiv4.org> (submitted by Mark Baldwin, Div 4 Superintendent)

Division Eight - Clinton River Division (Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair Counties)

It seems like with nearly everybody that I talk too, the consensus is that the summer is flying by. I hope that means we're all having fun! In sticking with the theme of time flying and having fun, the planning for the 2025 National Convention in Novi is underway. It will be here before we know it. It takes a lot of people to make a convention happen, so with that in mind, I encourage people to volunteer to help in our planning efforts. It can be a great way for newer people to network and meet other people both inside and outside your division. For the convention veterans, we need your knowledge of how to get things done to get us to the finish line. So, when the convention planners ask for help, just say YES! As always, you're invited to join us at 7PM on the third Thursday of the month, please drop into the Troy Christian Chapel at 400 East Long Lake Road in Troy Michigan. Our NEW web site is, <http://div8.ncrnmra.org/> Our Facebook group is at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/288929175921717/> (Submitted by Mark Mincek, Superintendent)

YOU should join and attend your local NMRA/NCR/Division meetings and activities! Get the most out of your hobby – participate often!!

Division Five – Capital Division (Lansing and mid-lower Michigan area)

The Capital Division, Div. 5, has issued an embargo for regular summer get togethers except for our annual summer tour of distant layouts. This summer on Sat. Aug. 19, we will be visiting 4 great layouts in the Grand Rapids, MI area. The layouts include Jim Shirreff's Southern Belt (MoPac) and Ralph Moxley's Ann Arbor RR. Ralf will be providing lunch for the group. Following lunch, we'll go to Skip Luyk's Arcadia & Betsy River Rwy then the Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society. Plans for the Fall get-together's have been made with the Sept. meeting at the Meridian Twnshp. Fire Hall featuring Michael Frezell with a history of railroads in the Lansing Area followed by visit to Bob Truax's HO Great Northern layout. Oct. and Dec. we will be having hands on clinics held at a church in Charlotte. Nov. will be at Andy Keeney's HO Nashville Lines HO layout with multiple clinics given on the layout. You can subscribe to the 15-25 page monthly Division 5 Newsletter. Send a request, Mark Cowles, at nkpcowles@yahoo.com. For more information, see the Division 5 website: <https://nmranrcdiv5.com/> (Submitted by- Mark Cowles, Div. 5 Clerk)

Division Six – Motor City Division (Wayne & Washtenaw Counties)

The Motor City Division is gearing up for an exciting 2 years! YES, TWO years! We started with a visit to the Southern Michigan RR and their RR Day event with our MiTrak modular layout in August. Then we're gearing up for our 45th annual FALL TRAIN SHOW & WORKSHOP where we demonstrate nearly all aspects of model railroading to the public. In January 2024, we're onto our 3rd annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE event at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. We're the ONLY model RR event in January!! In the Fall of 2024 (only one year away!) we're hosting the NCR Convention – The North Central Express 2024! We're looking forward to sharing layouts, OPS sessions, Yard sale, model displays and great clinics! Full information will be in the December HotBox and at the Fort Wayne convention next month. Looking just a bit further out... we'll be part of the NMRA National convention – STATION No.VI that the NCR is hosting. WHEW!! Plus our monthly meetings continue, local layout tours when possible and lots of fun and education. Everyone is welcome to attend! Our newsletter "On The Rails" and other information can be found on our website - www.div6-ncr-nmra.com (submitted by Barry Hensel, Newsletter Editor)

Division Nine – Southwest Michigan Division (Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and VanBuren Counties)

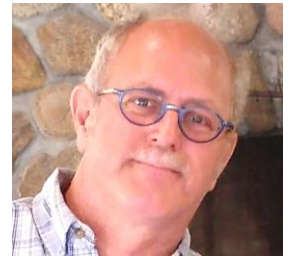
Division 9 starts off the fall season on Saturday September 23rd with our Annual Membership Meeting at the Kalamazoo Bridge Club located at 648 Maple Hill Drive. To encourage membership involvement, we have quite a number of activities on the schedule. The meeting starts at 9:30AM with an election of board members, followed by a Show & Tell Program. We plan to have a For Sale table where members can bring in items they wish to sell. A History on the formation of Division 9 will be presented by Jim Glenn, one of our founding members. To help our members better understand the NMRA Achievement Program, Dorman Wilson (Division Nine AP Coordinator) will demonstrate what is involved in judging a sample diorama. Rich Mahaney will provide a look into what is being considered for layout tours and clinics for October through the end of next year. Rich will also be presenting one of his newer clinics. We'll wrap up the morning with a 50/50 Raffle & door prizes. Our meeting schedule for the rest of 2023 is October 28th, November 18th and December 16th. Our website is www.ncr-div.com. If you would like to receive a copy of our monthly newsletter, please send your email address to alanwbau@gmail.com (Submitted by Alan Bau, Division 9 Scribe & Newsletter Editor)

Division Ten – Ten Wheeler Division (Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer Tuscola, Sanilac and Huron Counties)

Division 10 tried to have its July meeting at Bill Hays' outdoor Michigan Central railroad, but the weather did not cooperate and it was rained out. Many of our members were involved at Railfans Weekend at Crossroads Village with several model train layouts on display, railroad shop tours, photo run bys, and a whistle blow with several steam whistles on display and operating. It was a successful weekend, and Division 10 promoted the NMRA and the NCR. We did not have an August meeting, since many of us are involved with Thomas the Train at Crossroads Village. Our regular fourth Thursday of the month meetings will start in September. If you would like to join one of our meetings or for more information contact ncrdiv10@gmail.com, or Superintendent Wayne Wilder at 989-823-3409. (Submitted by Wayne Wilder, Superintendent)

We are sad to report that members in the NCR have been lost. Our deepest sympathies go to the family and friends of our fallen members.....

DAVID A MILLER - age 68 of Swanton, Ohio passed away on July 11, 2023. He was born in Syracuse, New York. After graduating from high school in Baldswinville, New York, Dave joined the U.S. Navy and served for 25 years. He was deployed to the Francis Scott Key nuclear-powered strategic missile submarine, docking at various bases around the world. He retired as Lieutenant Commander and was very proud to have served his country. Dave had a keen interest in Z scale model railroad. He created an extensive layout which was featured in Z Scale magazine. Dave was a thoughtful, kind and generous man who blessed the lives of many. Dave was a member of Division One.



David Miller

MILT MOORE, Jr - passed on Monday, May 29, 2023, at the age of 88. He was a wonderful husband, brother, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Born in Wyandotte MI on July 25, 1934 to parents Milton and Ester Moore. Milton Attended Purdue University, and met Roselynn James at age 18 - while she was 15. They married in 1958. He was a Rotarian and a very avid fan of boating - especially "woodies." He was also a 50 year long member of the Redford Model Railroad Club. Milton loved hosting parties, especially when all the babies could be with him. He was an excellent artist and cartoonist including MANY appearances in National Railroad Magazines.



Milt Moore

About four decades ago, I met Milt Moore and was amazed to learn he was "Thumbs" from the NMRA Bulletin. Way back when he had a Div. 6 open house I, my wife and Larry Wright attended. At closing time the few of us still there were invited to stay and have a drink and desert. About the same time, Rich Murphy met Milt while joining the Redford Model railroad Club. Unfortunately, Milt drifted away from active modeling as his health declined. About two years ago, he called me and asked if I would help him earn some AP certificates. He wasn't interested in becoming an MMR but felt working toward some of the certificates would help him become active again. I spent several enjoyable afternoons with him. We did the AP applications (he earned the Golden Spike, Author, and Cars and we were doing a couple more) and talked about boats, and listened to many stories of life and friends. My health took a short vacation so I didn't get to see him for about a year. I was going to call him again to set up a visit, unfortunately, a couple of days later I learned of his passing. Milt was a remarkable man who contributed so much to the hobby and the NMRA. He published hundreds of *Thumbs* cartoons and wrote many articles for the Bulletin. He served in a number of official positions and even produced one of the very early clinics in the NMRA Library - it was on 16mm film and he still had the original in his file cabinet. Milt loved the hobby and encouraged many modelers along the way. He also loved sharing his experience and life with others. Our hobby has lost a great patron. *Ken Chick, MMR, Div 6*

My friendship with Milt really began in my younger years while coming across the 'Thumbs' cartoons while living in Kentucky and Georgia. Moved my family to Canton, MI in 1986. When getting close to my retirement years, was looking at my retirement bucket list of to dos, so remembered when I was a kid loved trains and said why not, and 'told my lovely going to play with toy trains' and she said that is something she can deal with. Did not have any idea of where to start but remember Thumbs lived in Dearborn, MI and that was the start of the beginnings in the hobby. For couple years went to as many train shows and flea markets I could find looking for any one that knew Milt and Thumbs. Then in 2004 there was a train show at the Livonia Center. There for the first time when walking around the tables asking the question about Milt and Thumbs a guy said he did know of him. In talking to a Redford RR Club member, (Choo Choo Johnny who became a very good train hobby friend), said mister you're in good luck. The SOB you have been wanting to find and meet is sitting right there in that chair. Had a short meeting with Milt that day and shared my story. That began a friendship that developed between not only he and I but our wives Roselyn and Mil. My wife and I will greatly miss Milt. *Rich Murphy, former Redford RR Club and Div 6 member*

Here is where your news items, rumors, and gossip of just about anything in the Model Railroading hobby can be reported. Whatever it is, send it to us and we'll let everyone else know!

BTR #1- We did get a few links to share, so we're passing these along....

Ken Borg from Div 6 sends this long... Remember the 200 ft long RR in Canada to get around a shipping law, well, the courts have weighed in.... RIP Bayside Canadian Railway. Well, there goes the shortest railway ever built! www.thedrive.com/news/absurd-200-foot-railway-demolished-after-court-closeshipping-loophole

Perry Bilotta, a member of the Stoney Creek Model RR Club, is working on a clinic about railroad fire-fighting trains. Here's a link to a story on the BNSF trains! <https://www.bnsf.com/newsmedia/railtalk/safety/fire-train.html>

The NMRA TurnTable email news included these 2 interesting links – 10 unusual freight cars in 10 minutes - www.youtube.com/watch?v=D14ls_gcvfA Also, Roads and their lane markings! Includes info on Edward Hines in Wayne County... yes, THAT Hines as in Hines parkway!
www.youtube.com/watch?v=9KYBaoNPNgA

BTR #2- In this issue of the HotBox, we say GOOD-BYE to Bill Neale, MMR as the NMRA Central Director. Bill's been great in this position for the past 6 years (since 2017)! Thanks for your service to our hobby! Then, we say HELLO to his replacement, Fred Soward, MMR. He started in this new position during the NMRA convention in Dallas last month. Fred hails from Louisville, KY and is a member of Division 8 (Central Kentucky & Southern Indiana), Mid Central Region. Welcome Fred!

BTR #3- SCALETRAINS acquires ExactRail – June 2023 - We're excited to announce we've acquired ExactRail. As you know, ExactRail is a top manufacturer of HO and N Scale freight cars and bridges. This addition nearly doubles our freight car offerings. John Pestana, Co-Founder of ExactRail said, "It's hard to believe that it's been 15 years since I entered the model railroading community with ExactRail. Over the years we brought new products, new online resources, and had a great time doing it with amazing friends. Now, the time has come to pass the baton to our friends at ScaleTrains who share the same passion for the hobby that I do." Shane Wilson, ScaleTrains President added, "We're thankful for the opportunity to continue the legacy John and the team at ExactRail have created by continuing to offer their outstanding line of models." "We're excited about the future of our favorite hobby" Shane said. He continued, "Our growing product line coupled with the addition of MTH HO & S products, Fox Valley Models, and now ExactRail continues our mission to provide high-quality models trains for every skill level and budget."

BTR #4- MICHIGAN RAILROAD CLUB PROGRAM The Michigan Railroad Club will be meeting at the NEW location - The Radcliff Center, 1751 Radcliff St. in Garden City, Mich. This is south of Ford Road and along Wildwood St. (east side of Wildwood). We will be meeting in Room 275. Enter from the parking lot on the West side of the building. ALL are welcome! Meetings will start at 7pm and end at 8:50pm. Here is the schedule –

September 06, 2023: Marck Cowles with another fine program.

October 04, 2023: Brad Noyes with material from his steam collection.

November 01, 2023: Open projector night. Bring 8 minutes of YOUR material to show.

Please let program director know what you will be bringing so we can have the proper equipment present.

December 06, 2023: Program by Gary Sample.

For any other questions please contact: Kenneth Borg 3512 Merrick, Dearborn, MI 48124

BTR #5- Normally happening in September, the Michigan Railroad History Conference is held in the mid-Michigan area. However, after checking with the organizers we've found out that there will not be a 2023 event. They have decided to go back to their original schedule of hosting the Conference every other year. Thus, the next one will be in 2024. Location/dates are being worked on. www.michiganrailroads.com/mrhc-home

DISCLAIMER!!- While we will try to verify most stories, the HotBox, HotBox Editor, NCR Board of Directors, its agents and representatives will not/cannot be held responsible for mis-information presented in this column.

**Early Registration &
Shirt Order DEADLINE
is 15 September**



NCR 2023 Convention Oct. 19 – 22, 2023

Make plans to attend the 2023 NMRA North Central Region Convention that will be held in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The convention, hosted by the Three Rivers Division will include events for the whole family as well as access to the **2023 Fort Wayne Model Railroad Show and Swap** which will be held on Saturday 21 October at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum (conveniently located across the street from the convention hotel). Hope you can join us for this fun filled weekend!

Bob Jones, Div. 3 Superintendent

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

CLINICS

OP SESSIONS

MODEL DISPLAYS

PROTOTYPE TOURS

SPECIAL EVENTS

2023 Fort Wayne Model Railroad Show & Swap

Enter div3.ncrnmra.org in your browser to take you to Div 3 website, then click on Fort Wayne Rails 2023 at the top of the page for convention details

**Corrected
Web Address**



**Fort Wayne
TRAIN SHOW & SWAP
MEET**

**SATURDAY
October 21, 2023
10:00 am – 4:00 pm**

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
4000 Parnell Ave * Fort Wayne, IN * 46805

*Admission: Adults \$8.00
Children 12 & under Free
NMRA members w/ card \$5.00
\$4 parking rebate with \$25 qualifying purchase at show*

FEATURING:

- ❖ Hourly Door Prizes
- ❖ All Gauges
- ❖ Railfan Items
- ❖ Over 170 Tables
- ❖ Children's Activities
- ❖ Two HO Train Set Drawings
- ❖ Handicap Accessible
- ❖ Food Service

Contact: Jim Marquardt for Table Reservations / Show Information
Phone: 260-437-3844 Email: jmmarq4@hotmail.com



ACCOMMODATIONS

Holiday INN Purdue Fort Wayne

4111 Paul Shaffer Dr.

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Phone: 260-579-9135 for reservations



This hotel/convention facility is conveniently located on the northeast side of Fort Wayne which provides for easy access to many attractions as well as many food venues and the Glenbrook Mall. It provides ample space for hosting the convention activities as well as an on-site restaurant and large lounge area for “simply hanging out”. Discounted room rates (\$134 per night plus applicable taxes) are available for convention attendees registering before 19 September, 2023. Direct web link to hotel reservations located on convention website.

CLINICS

A wide variety of clinics are being planned for the convention. New topics and presenters are being sought who can demonstrate new skills and techniques that can be used by model railroaders of all skill levels. The schedule has times allocated for 24 clinics. Clinicians looking to gain Regional points towards their AUTHOR Certificate are welcome to present their material here. We'll have the space and times to offer you a chance to 'show your stuff'. Clinician signup forms and additional details can be found on the convention website.

PROTOTYPE TOURS

A wide variety of tours are being planned. Those listed below have been confirmed, additional tours are being coordinated. (registration required, participation subject to availability, transportation provided unless otherwise noted)

- **Bungee Rail Operations** – a guided tour of rail operations used at one of the world's leading soybean processing plants in Decatur, Indiana. Their extensive rail operations move both incoming soybeans as well as outgoing processed soybean oil and soybean meal throughout their storage and manufacturing complex.

- **765 Shop Tour** – a guided tour of the shop and yard facilities where the FWRHS stores and maintains the 765 Berkshire as well as other locomotives and rolling stock. Participants will be able to “climb aboard”, get questions answered and take as many pictures as they like.

- **Indiana Northeastern Railroad Shop and Yard Tour**– a guided tour of the shops, adjacent yard facilities and local switching operations located in Ashley, IN. This 100 mile long short line railroad serves customers in Northeastern Indiana, Southeastern Michigan and Northwest Ohio. It is also the summer home of the 765 for the running of excursions.



- **Maker Lab Tour** – a guided tour of the Maker Space located in the Allen County Public Library and an overview of the 3D printing process that is available to library patrons.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Throttle Time** – Arrangements have been made with the Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society to once again offer “Throttle Time” using their Davenport Engine. Participants will be given a short tour of the restored Davenport engine and then be provided the opportunity to run the engine (under supervision) over FWRHS trackage. This event proved to be very popular in 2015. *(All participants must pre-register prior to 15 October; Friday and Saturday times will be assigned; participants must provide their own transportation to/from FWRHS Shops in New Haven, IN. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the FWRHS)*

• **Measure A Prototype Clinic** –scratch builders of all skill levels will be provided the opportunity to inspect and to measure an early turn of the century Wabash wood caboose. This caboose was recently restored to its original configuration by the Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society. This clinic will include a short discussion on “What measurements are required to scratch build a model” and then provide participants 1-1/2 hrs to inspect the car and take measurements and pictures. *(participants must provide their own transportation to/from FHRHS Shops in New Haven, IN.)*



• **Sweetwater Sound/DeBrand Chocolate Tour** – participants will tour the Sweetwater Sound facility (U.S. leader in the sale and distribution of musical instruments) and the DeBrand Chocolate kitchens (Premier Artisan Chocolate Maker). After touring the Sweetwater Sound facilities, participants will be provided ample time to eat lunch in their cafeteria (frequented by many locals) and then tour the DeBrand Chocolate kitchens. Upon completion of the DeBrand kitchen tour, participants will be given a discount coupon which they can redeem for fine chocolates of their choice or a delicious chocolate dessert before returning to the convention hotel.

• **Country Heritage Wine, Cheese and Chocolate Tasting** – participants in this event will be transported to the Country Heritage Winery facility where they will be given a tour and then partake in the tasting of wines, cheeses and DeBrand chocolates. Fun for the whole family! (participants must be 21 or older).

OPERATING SESSIONS & LAYOUT TOURS

Multiple operating sessions are being planned on a variety of layouts ranging from medium to large, multi-level layouts. Most of these layouts have been designed to host operating sessions and some of these layouts are being updated to accommodate facility changes. Operating sessions will be held Thursday evening, Friday and Saturday (morning / afternoon) to allow participants to also partake of other convention activities. If you are interested in participating, mark YES on the registration form. *(Scheduling will be handled using operatingsessions.com, instructions will be provided to all registrants by 15 September.)*

MODEL DISPLAY AND JUDGING

A separate room has been arranged for the display of models. Modelers can arrange for AP judging and participants can vote on “Best of Show” during the convention. If you are submitting a model for judging, please bring a completed Statement of Qualification form and required documentation. Modelers may submit multiple models. *(Additional details on judging and opportunities to judge can be found on the convention website.)*

LAYOUT TOURS

Tours of over fifteen (15) model railroads have been arranged throughout Northwestern Ohio and Northeastern Indiana for your viewing pleasure. Layout viewing times are shown on the Convention Schedule, be sure to indicate on your registration form if you plan to attend a Layout Open House event. *(A listing of layouts will be provided to registered participants along with scheduling information by 15 September.)*



GUIDED LAYOUT TOUR

We are pleased to announce that we have added a special guided layout tour to our list. Mr. Tom Zurek is putting the finishing touches on his new layout that is approximately 30 ft. x 120 ft. and features automated signaling using Azatrax electronics. Tom has graciously agreed to host a guided tour of his layout. Due to the distance from the convention hotel, tour participants will be bused to and from Tom’s layout for a \$20 fee. *(Tour participation is limited, those wishing to participate must register using the convention registration form.)*



Fort Wayne Rails 2023

National Model Railroad Association
 North Central Region 2023 Convention
October 19 – 22, 2023
 Hosted by Three Rivers Division (Div. 3)
 Website: div3.ncnmra.org

Holiday Inn Purdue Fort Wayne
 Hotel [Tel:260-579-9135](tel:260-579-9135)

Registrants must call hotel directly to make reservations, mention NMRA convention to get room discount

Registration Form

(additional details regarding registration items and lodging can be found on the [convention website](#))

Registrant Name: _____ MMR No. _____
 Name on Badge: _____ Email: _____ Phone No.: _____
 Names of family Members Attending: _____
 Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 NMRA Region: _____ Division: _____ NMRA ID No: _____

Non-paid family members are eligible to sign up for prototype tours and extras. Proto tours have limited space, early registrations will be first served.

Convention shirts must be ordered by 15 September and must be picked up at convention --no shirts will be sold on-site.

* Boxcars will be delivered at convention check in. For those not attending, boxcars can be shipped for an additional \$10.00 shipping and handling fee (include shipping instructions when ordering.)

**Scheduling instructions for operating sessions and layout tours will be emailed to registered participants 15 September.

Registration	Price ea	Total
Early Bird NMRA Member (by Sep 15, 2023)	\$60	_____
Early Bird Non-NMRA Member (by Sep 15, 2023)	\$75	_____
NMRA Member (after Sep 15, 2023)	\$75	_____
Non-NMRA Member (after Sep 15, 2023)	\$85	_____
Convention Day Pass (<u>circle</u> Friday or Saturday)	\$20	_____
<u>Registration Subtotal</u>		_____

Merchandise and Extras	Qty	Price ea	Total
Award Breakfast (Sunday 9:00 am)	_____	\$25	_____
Throttle Time (Fri & Sat times will be assigned)	_____	\$75	_____
Bungee Prototype Tour (Sat 7:00 am)	_____	\$20	_____
765 Shop Tour (Fri 8:00 am)	_____	\$20	_____
Indiana Northeastern Shop Tour (Fri 1:00pm)	_____	\$20	_____
Allen County Library Maker Space Tour(Fri 9:00am)	_____	\$20	_____
Measure A Caboose Clinic (Fri 1:00pm)	_____	n/c	_____
Sweetwater & DeBrand Chocolate Tour (Fri 9:30am)	_____	\$25	_____
Guided Layout Tour (Tom Zurek) (Sat. 1:00pm).	_____	\$20	_____
Country Heritage Wine & Cheeses Tasting (Sat. 5:00 pm)	_____	\$20	_____
<u>Convention Boxcar *</u>			
(specify qty of ea. number) #2022 _____ #2023 _____ @ \$32.00 ea			_____
(if applicable) Boxcar Shipping & Handling		\$10	_____
<u>Convention Polo Shirts (red short sleeve w/ pocket)</u>			
Indicate qty: _____S _____M _____L _____XL @ \$40.00 ea			_____
_____XXL @ \$42.00 each _____XXXL @ \$44.00 ea			_____
<u>Merchandise and Extras Subtotal</u>			_____

Operating Session Participation** (circle YES or No)
 Layout Tour Participation** (circle Yes or No)

Total Amount Due

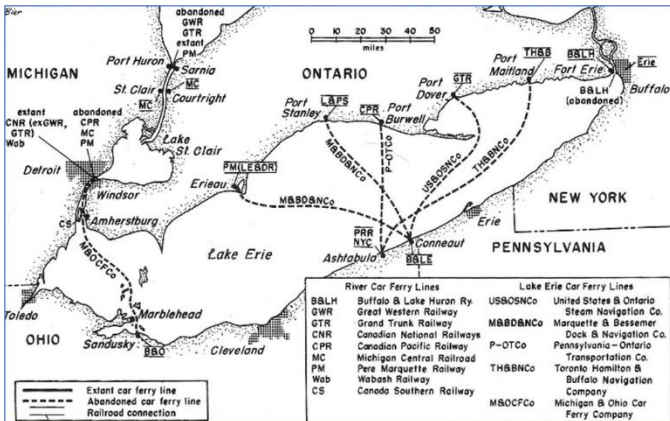
Send completed registration form and payment by 10 October, 2023 to:
Make Check Payable to: Div. 3 NMRA

Fort Wayne Rails 2023
 Attn: Roger Moses
 6207 Buckners Pass
 Fort Wayne, IN 46818-8663

Received: _____ Seq. No: _____

RAILROAD CAR FERRIES OF THE LOWER GREAT LAKES

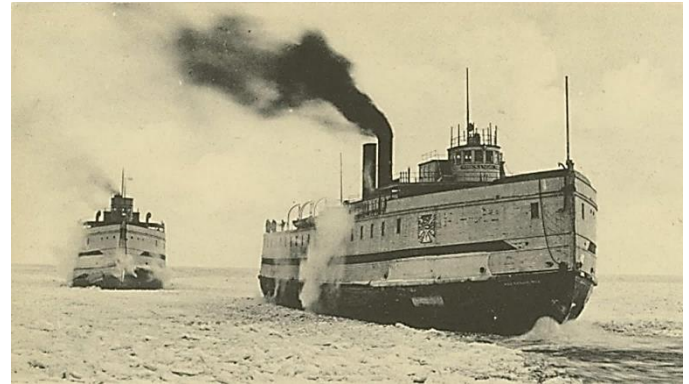
The railroad car ferries operating on Lake Michigan are well known to rail fans and modelers. Less well known but equally fascinating are the car ferries that operated on Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Railroad car ferry operation began on Lake Erie in 1895 and came to an end in 1958. Lake Ontario operations began later and ended sooner. The three Lake Erie and one Lake Ontario ferry companies were similar in certain respects. All were joint operations of an American and a Canadian railroad and all were set up primarily to carry American coal to customers in southern Ontario. When the coal business boomed the ferry lines prospered. But when the coal business declined, the ferries all suffered and eventually failed.



MARQUETTE AND BESSEMER DOCK AND NAVIGATION COMPANY

The first railroad to operate a ferry across Lake Erie was the Pittsburgh Shenango and Lake Erie Railroad, predecessor of the Bessemer & Lake Erie Railroad. In 1895 the Shenango line set up the United States and Ontario Steam Navigation Company to operate out of Conneaut, Ohio, its principal port. The United States and Ontario Steam Navigation Company began operations in 1895 with one ferry, the Shenango No.1, joined shortly by a near sister, the Shenango No.2. These vessels were of what became the usual lake ferry design, but of wood construction as was typical of the time. They had a capacity of about 26 cars and could make the trip to Port Dover in about 5½ hours. Traffic on the new line never lived up to expectations, however, and in 1898 the Shenango

No.2 was sold, eventually becoming the Pere Marquette 16 and operating on Lake Michigan. The photo below shows the two vessels in the ice off Conneaut harbor in 1899.



In an attempt to increase revenue, additional routes were added. But the Shenango No.1 was still able to handle all the freight and what few passengers there were with just one round trip each day, alternating among the three Ontario ports. Eventually, in 1901, the route to Port Dover was abandoned. In service the Shenango No.1 proved to be unsatisfactory. Her wooden hull wasn't very rugged and she lacked the power to operate reliably through winter ice. In one instance, in January 1899, she found herself stuck fast in the ice off Port Burwell, Ontario for over a month. The Library of Congress photo below shows the ferry slip and yards in Conneaut ca. 1900.



In 1903 the Marquette and Bessemer Dock and Navigation Company took over operations of the line, including the Shenango No.1, and immediately ordered a new vessel for the Erieau route. Since the cargo for Erieau was mostly locomotive coal for the Pere Marquette, the new ship was to be a collier.

Named the Marquette and Bessemer No.1, shown below, she was of a most unusual design—like nothing else on the lakes. She had two tracks on her deck to take on coal hoppers. But those hoppers weren't transported anywhere. They were unloaded through hatches on the deck into the ship's hold then returned to shore. The deck hatches were made fast, the vessel sailed, she docked at Erieau, the hatches—and the deck tracks—were removed, and the coal was unloaded with clamshell buckets.



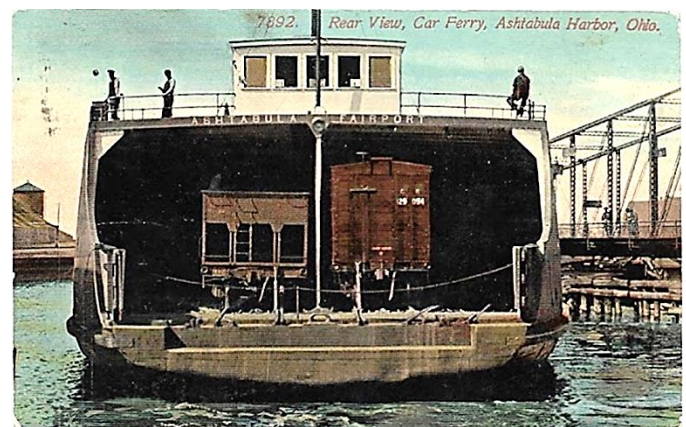
The Shenango No.1 remained in service until January 1, 1904 when she was caught in ice while leaving Conneaut harbor. She remained stuck there until March 11 when a fire broke out and burned out of control. The Shenango No.1 was declared a total loss. The company immediately ordered a new boat which entered service at the end of the 1905 navigation season. This vessel, the Marquette and Bessemer No.2, was of conventional design and steel construction. But she had the shortest life of any Great Lakes car ferry. She was lost with all hands in a terrible storm on December 7, 1909 after departing Conneaut. Her wreck has never been discovered.



A replacement was ordered and also named Marquette and Bessemer No.2. This vessel is now known to historians as the Marquette and Bessemer No.2 (II). She had a long career free of major accidents but with a great many minor bumps and scrapes. By the 1920s traffic to Erieau was in decline and service ended in 1927. But losses kept piling up and the remaining route, to Port Stanley, was abandoned February 13, 1932. The Marquette and Bessemer No.2 (II) served briefly as a showboat in Cleveland and her hull was eventually cut down to a barge. She was finally scrapped in 1997. The Marquette and Bessemer No.1 was sold and was modified to a more conventional appearance, and scrapped in 1961.

PENNSYLVANIA-ONTARIO TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

The history of the next railroad ferry line to operate on Lake Erie could not be more different from that of the Marquette and Bessemer. It had one route, one ferry boat, and one corporate owner for the entire 52 years of its existence. The Pennsylvania Railroad and the Canadian Pacific Railway jointly formed the Pennsylvania-Ontario Transportation Company in 1906 to sail from Ashtabula, Ohio due north to Port Burwell, Ontario. Like the other Lake Erie lines, the principal cargo was coal northbound. What little southbound cargo there was, was mainly dolomite, wood pulp, and newsprint.



The Pennsylvania-Ontario fleet consisted of the ferry Ashtabula, above. She was similar in general appearance to the two Marquette and Bessemer No.2s but with several improvements. She was faster, being able to make 15 knots in an emergency.

PART 2 in the next HotBox

A SAWMILL COMPLEX UPDATE FOR THE ARCADIA & BETSEY RIVER RY.



Over the last few years, I have seen many photos on Pinterest of prototype and model sawmill complexes that have caused me to wonder if my mill and lumber handling was a reasonable depiction of what might have been. The question nagged at me enough that I finally decided to get some expert help and opinions from one of the logging discussion groups, The Loyal Legion of Logged on Loggers on Group.io. This group is loaded with very knowledgeable people that responded to my question with a great deal of information. I was not surprised to find that my complex needed some serious tweaking.

One of the facilities most mill operations had that mine lacked was a suitably sized storage building for kiln dried lumber that is accessed by rail. Many operations also had fairly large dry kilns within easy reach of the mill and the dry storage building. My kiln building was much too small and I lacked a dried lumber storage facility. Another thing I noticed in so many photos of old mills was that many had very large boiler houses, sometimes with as many as four boilers with huge stacks protruding skyward, mine was very small.

Since most of the operations produced so much lumber that even their large kilns couldn't handle, they had a large area that was dedicated to open air storage of green lumber. My area is quite small and needed to be expanded to be a fair representation.

With this new information I began planning the revisions I would need to make to bring my sawmill complex up to snuff. Jeff Johnston and Jeff Moore, both members of the 4L Group.io supplied beautiful photos of lumber storage facilities use by the Sugar Pine Lumber Co. and McCloud River Lumber Co., both in California that supplied the inspiration for the dry lumber storage structure I built.



A&BR SAW MILL UPDATE

By: Skip Luyk, MMR Div 4

NCR MODELING

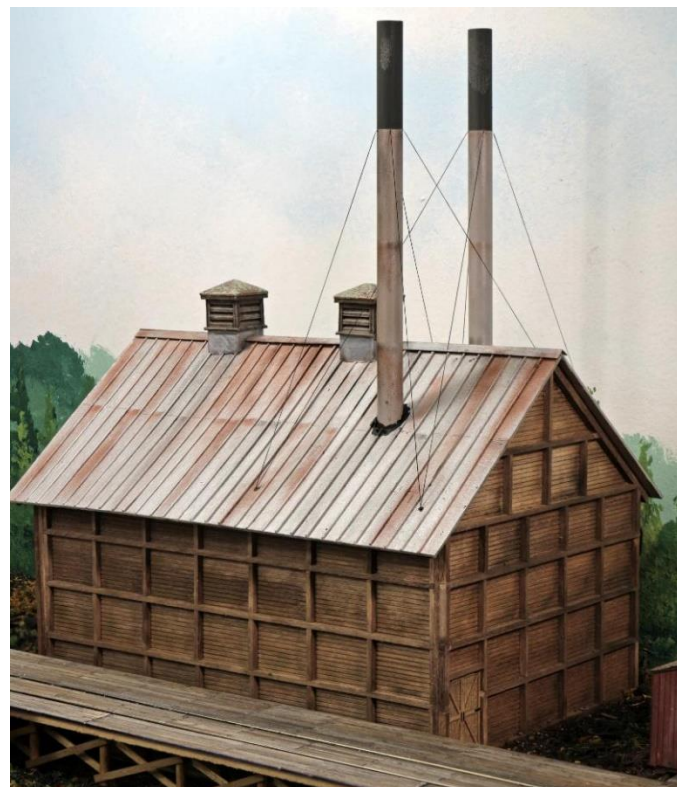
I was inspired by a photo of an 8 bay dry kiln and designed the 5 bay structure seen here for my complex.



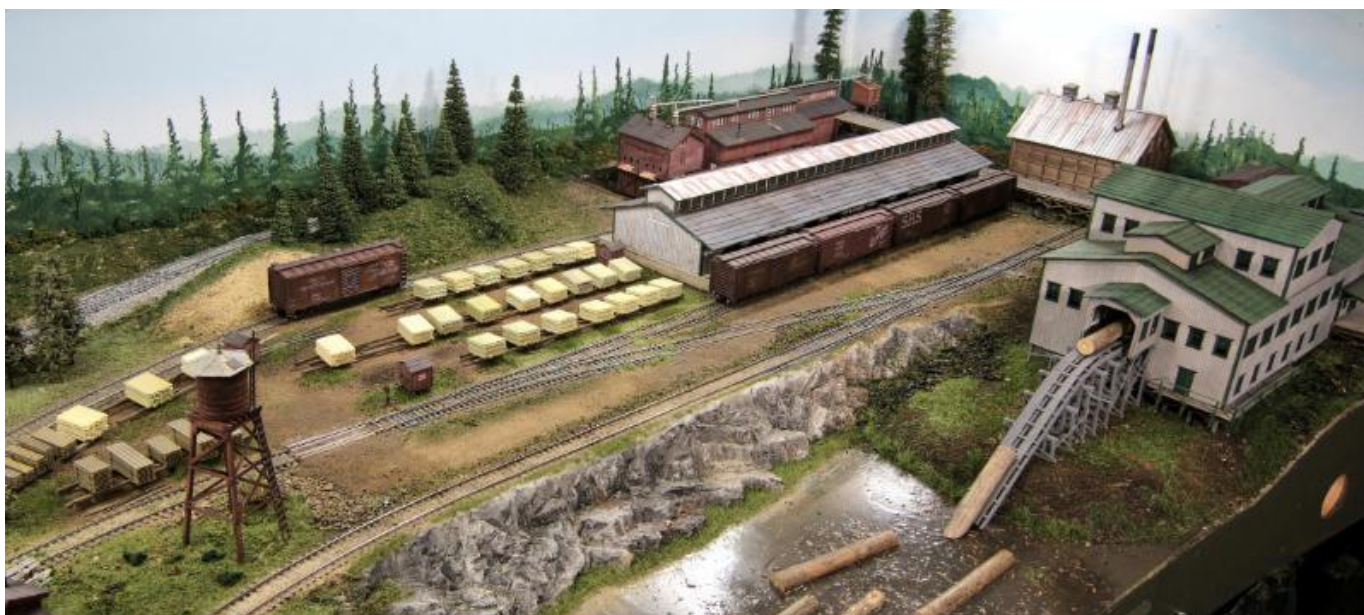
I am also using the 2 bay structure that I already had as part of my complex.



The final structure is a new much larger boiler house.



I think my new additions and revisions have improved my mill complex a lot so far and will be even better when I get the detailing done. A large sawdust collector with the appropriate duct work, steam lines from the boiler house to the mill and kilns and many more lumber stacks up and down the transfer dock will bring the whole scene to life.





Train Town

TRAIN SHOW & SWAP MEET

SATURDAY

December 9, 2023

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Allen County Fairgrounds

2750 Harding Highway * Lima, OH * 45804

From I-75, take exit 125 – go east on St. Rt. 309

Admission: Adults \$7.00

Children 12 & under Free

NMRA members w/ card \$5.00

FEATURING:

- ❖ Hourly Door Prizes
- ❖ All Gauges
- ❖ Railfan Items
- ❖ Over 170 Tables
- ❖ Children's Activities
- ❖ HO Train Set Drawing
- ❖ Handicap Accessible
- ❖ Food Service

Contact: Jim Marquardt for Table Reservations / Show Information

Phone: 260-437-3844 Email: jmmarq4@hotmail.com



Model Railroad Show & Swap

ONE COUPON PER PERSON OR FAMILY

Maumee Valley Railroad Club, Inc.
Model Railroad Show & Swap



THIS COUPON GOOD FOR:
\$1.00 OFF ADMISSION

sponsored by:
the *Maumee Valley Railroad Club, Inc.*
A not for profit organization

Website:
<http://maumeevalleyrailroad.com>

Saturday, November 18, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Classic Café Catering and Event Center

4832 Hillegas Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46818

Classic Café Catering and Event Center is about 10 minutes away from the Coliseum Bingo going West on W. Washington Center Rd. and then South on Huguenard Rd. which becomes Hillegas Rd.

From I-69, Exit at U.S. 30W/33N, #309 B westbound. Then 1/4th mile exit U.S. 30 onto U.S. 33 North, at stoplight turn right/east onto Washington Center Rd., go one block at stoplight turn right / south onto Huguenard Rd. which becomes Hillegas Rd. Proceed about 1 mile, Classic Café Catering & Event Center is on the east side of the road, across from Coyote Creek Golf Course.

From I-69, Exit at IN 930E, #309 A eastbound. Then 1/4th mile at stoplight turn right/west onto California Rd., go 1/4th mile at stoplight turn right/north onto Hillegas Rd. Proceed about 1/2 mile, Classic Café Catering & Event Center is on the east side of the road, across from Coyote Creek Golf Course.

Information / contact:
Maumee Valley Railroad Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 314
Hartian, IN 46743-0314

<https://maumeevalleyrailroad.com/index.php/contact-us>



Adults \$6.00, Families \$8.00, age 12 and under free
GET \$1.00 OFF THIS ADMISSION FEE WITH COUPON ABOVE

- ❖ > Free Parking <
- ❖ Many large tables of model railroad and railroadiana bargains!
- ❖ Operating train layout
- ❖ Good food with eating area / starting at 11 am.
- ❖ Historical and other organizations represented

NMRA reserves all rights.



NCR DIVISION 2 INTRODUCTION TO OPERATIONS October 14, 2023



Have you ever wanted to run a train on someone else's layout? We've found that not everyone has had the opportunity to "operate" trains like the real thing. Interested? Passenger trains, local and through freights, pick-ups, and setouts, just like the prototype. Engineers, conductors,

yardmasters, and dispatchers making everything work. First Time? Now is your chance! Join with us in Traverse City on Saturday, October 14th for an "INTRODUCTION TO OPERATIONS." Layout tours start at nine in the morning, followed by afternoon and evening hands-on operating sessions.

Layout Tours 9:00 am – 11:00 am

BNSF - Mike Burgess (Greilickville) Otsego & Mackinaw - Doug Carver (TC S. East)
 Anthracite Lines - Mike Cipko (Old Mission) BN/UP - Michael Coonrod (Interlochen)
 LNA & C - Jens Hensel (Suttons Bay) SLW & NMRR - Dave Landis (TC Southwest)

Operating Sessions

12:30 pm – 4:00 pm (Choose 1)

Ann Arbor RR - John Campbell (Old Mission)
 New York Central - Al Johnson (Interlochen)
 East Raton & Santa Fe – Ernie Barry (Northport)

5:30 pm – 9:00 pm (Choose 1)

Rio Grande Midland - Bill Horning (Suttons Bay)
 Saybrook Northern - Pete Magoun (Old Mission)

Make plans to be in the Traverse City area on the 14th. Interested? Contact Mike Cipko, Division 2 Superintendent at mcipko@charter.net for an invitation and sign up by September 15th. No Charge! More info will be included with the Registration Form.



DIVISION 6 and invited guests of the
 NORTH CENTRAL REGION of the
 NATIONAL MODEL RR ASSOCIATION
 PRESENT

45th ANNUAL

MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & WORKSHOP

NEW DAY!!
NEW LOCATION!!
12pm - 4pm Sunday
November 19, 2023

LEARN HOW TO DO & ENJOY MODEL RAILROADING!

This is NOT a sale or swap meet!

SEE DEMONSTRATIONS on power systems, scenery, kit building, structure building, backdrops, wiring, track laying tips, & basic building techniques.

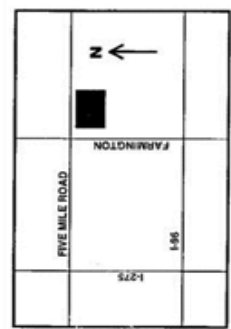
ALSO SEE video presentations, historical displays and operating model railroad layouts! Refreshments available.

ASK QUESTIONS of our talented members and NMRA Master Model Railroaders – we have 7!! Get answers to your modeling questions!

PARTICIPATE IN a raffle for many prizes of model railroad items and an open model railroad model contest



GREAT FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY! STOP BY FOR A VISIT, ASK QUESTIONS, GET ANSWERS!



MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & WORKSHOP
 is located at **LIVONIA SENIOR CENTER**
 15218 Farmington Rd, Livonia, MI 48154

ENTRY FARE:
FREE! (donations accepted)

GRASS TUFTS & DETAILS

By Bill McMillan, Div 6

NCR PROJECT

Making Static Grass Tufts and Grass Mats Using the Flat Bed – Grass Box Pro Machine

PART 2- With all the supplies at hand you are now ready to create some grass tufts in 5 easy steps.

Step 1. Gloves on! (If you do forget, the machine will remind you!!).

Step 2. Make your base to receive the static grass. Take a piece of foam core, optionally cover it with a piece of aluminum foil, (this is optional, but the foil seems to supercharge the static charge). Secure the foil with masking tape. Next cover that with a piece of parchment paper, securing that with masking tape. Place small globs of your chosen glue onto the surface of the parchment paper. They should look like small bubbles. Round glue globs will produce tufts. I like to experiment with these glue globs making some irregular in shape and some long and straight. When you are done filling up your area on the base hold the base piece vertically on its side and look for any of the glue globs to run, if any do just set the base down and let the glue begin to set. You do not want wet glue dripping onto the surface of the grass box.



Step 3. Put your chosen Static Grass material onto the bed of the Grass Box. Sprinkle the material liberally onto the surface sifting it with your fingers to remove any clumps. If you plan on using more than one colour for your grass, like straw and green, use the straw first. I heartily recommend you do use multiple colours, the finished product looks so much better mimicking mother nature.

Step 4. Attach the alligator clip ground wire to your base, clip it on the end where you are holding the base and make sure the parchment paper has been gripped. Turn on the Grass Box machine. Hold your pre-glued base material horizontally over the Grass Box's top with a gap of $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch. Watching the charged static grass material jump

from the machine to the base material, move the base in an up and down motion picking up the grass. Try to only use up and down motion, not swiping side to side. Continue to do this until your grass tufts are thick and bushy as you may like.



Step 5. When you are happy with what you have just created, turn off the machine and hang your new grass tufts upside down off the edge of a table or counter to dry.

Now wasn't that easy? Experiment with different combinations of colours, lengths of grass material and sizes of tufts. Here are some examples of grass tufts with an HO scale figure to give you a better idea of proportion.

Once the glue has dried, you can very easily just pick the grass tuft off the parchment paper and glue it to your layout scenery. The longer tufts can be used as weeds at the base of a building foundation or the bottom of a fence.



GRASS TUFTS & DETAILS

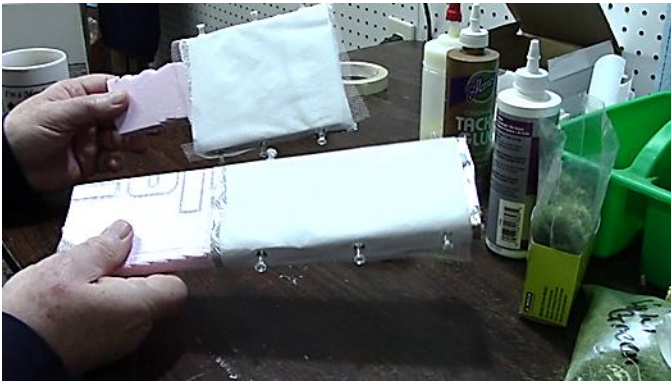
By Bill McMillan, Div 6

NCR PROJECT

Using the Flat Bed Grass Box Pro to make Grass Matsts.

Making static grass matts instead of the grass tufts is very much the same. The main difference is the base you use to hold the finished grass. You will use the Pink or Blue Insulation Foam Board, Tin Foil, Parchment Paper or Wax Paper, and the Wedding Veil Tulle material.

Cut yourself a manageable piece of the foam. I use pieces about 4 by 10 inches or so. Cover area that will receive the grass first with the aluminum foil. Next cover the foil area with the parchment paper. Finally, cover those two with a piece of the Tulle material. You will not use masking tape to secure the covering materials, instead us push pins pressed into the sides of the foam securing the materials. This is the reason why you use the ticker foam base material so you can use the pins to secure the multiple layers.



Apply glue to the surface of the Tulle material using a small 3/4 to 1 inch paint or chip brush. Now, because you will be spreading the glue over a large area, I recommend you use the Elmer's Glue All white glue. Liberally coat the area you will want to have the static grass cling to. At this time many of you will not feel comfortable with the pure white background for the grass matt. If you will be mounting the matt directly onto a freshly laid coating of ground goop that has been tinted brown you will be fine. But if you will be gluing the finished matt onto the layout that has dried coloring, tint your glue now. This is easily done by adding your choice of color of acrylic craft paint by brushing right over the wet glue on the Tulle material. I have

had success using an off green or medium brown color.



Your base material is now ready to accept the static grass. I definitely recommend you use the multiple color approach when choosing your static grass material. Start with the straw followed by one or two colors of green. You could also vary the lengths of the green static grasses. Once the grass matt has dried, usually overnight, you can easily trim what you want to use with scissors or an xacto knife.



This article was gleaned from a clinic I recently gave at one of the Division 6 meetings. I have put the full clinic on my YouTube Channel so you can view the process on video. Access my channel at: www.youtube.com/@drbillsproductions Please subscribe and view my other clinics and railroad videos. Thanks for reading this and I hope you give it try!

Chi-Town Union Station

Welcome to Chi-Town Union Station, the World's largest O-Scale model railroad and home of the World's Longest Model Train. Chi-Town Union Station is a 80 x 122 ft. 2 Rail 'O' Scale Model Railroad with over 12,000 feet of track. We have a 12 track passenger station with 32 different passenger trains arriving and departing through the 23 double-slip switches in a complex approach as can be seen in one of the photos. The railroad is run with NCE digital command control. We also have a complete detection system which allows us to run 20 trains at a time with a computerized dispatch system. Trains can also be run manually with NCE Throttles. Additional features are an operating coal flood loader and rotary car dumper. We welcome volunteers who are interested in running trains, maintaining equipment, programming decoders, meeting and discussing/chatting with our visitors regarding railroad operations. Off season maintenance and scenery continues.



**OPEN - Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays
- 11am to 5pm -**

November 3, 2023 to March 25, 2024

Admission fees:

Adults (18 and over) - \$6.00

Ages 5-17 - \$3.00

Kids under 5 years – FREE

NMRA Members get a 50% discount.



CHI-TOWN UNION STATION

8275 Cooley Lake Rd

Commerce Charter Twp,

MI 48382 248-613-9471

<http://www.chi-townunionstation.com/>

3rd Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE!

Hosted by Division 6
North Central Region - National Model Railroad Association

SUNDAY – JANUARY 28, 2024
10am - 3pm

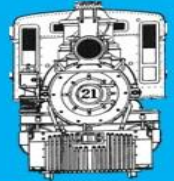


Costick Community Center

28600 W Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

145 Tables of model railroad items - ALL scales!

Door Prizes Awarded every 45 minutes! (must be present to win)



Admission –

\$5 per person over 18 years old (spouses/children under 18 = FREE!)

\$10 per person Early Bird entry at 9am

VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS FREE (WITH ID)

Information –

Barry or Terry 734-649-3056 (6pm-9pm) div6trainshow@gmail.com

VENDOR INFO on back side of this flyer!

Snacks and refreshments available



3rd Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE!

Hosted by Division 6
North Central Region - National Model Railroad Association

SUNDAY – JANUARY 28, 2024
10am - 3pm

Costick Community Center

28600 W Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

VENDOR INFORMATION..... HELLO!! Welcome to the **3rd Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE**, hosted by Division 6 of the NCR/NMRA. Here is the info you need to be a vendor at our event.....

- * Vendor tables are \$25 each. Tables size is 30" x 8' long. There is no limit to how many tables you can buy.
- * Tables will be assigned their location on a first registered-first get system. Please note any special requests below and we will do our best to accommodate you. * Set-up starts at 7am on Sunday, January 28. * There will be one chair per table.
- * All vendors will sell from behind your table. * All vendors must be onsite and unloaded by 9:30am
- * We are doing an Early-Bird sale at 9am-10am for the public. You are free to sell at that time, or not. Doors open to the rest of the public at 10am-3pm. * There will be FREE donuts and coffee for vendors only, from 7:30am-9:30am
- * Vendors are encouraged to bring their own lunch/food/snacks. Division 6 will be selling snacks and refreshments.
- * Cancellations for table fee refunds must be given to us by **Tuesday, January 23, 2024**. No refunds if notified after that date, unless we can resell your tables. * Table assignments will be sent via email/US mail by January 5, 2024.
- * Sorry that registration is not available online – please send this form with your payment, check or US Postal money order.
- * Make out to – **DIV 6 NCR NMRA** Send to – **Div 6 Model Railroad Sale 43642 Lotus Dr Canton, MI 48188**

EXHIBITOR AGREEMENT – Vendors will be responsible for any injuries or loss to themselves or their property. They expressly release DIVISION 6 and it's members from any liability and agree to indemnify and hold DIVISION 6 and it's members harmless. Signing this agreements means you have read all of the facts above and agree to them. If for any reason the SALE is cancelled, refunds will be issued asap. **SIGNED**- _____ **Date** _____

Name/Company _____ Phone _____

Address _____

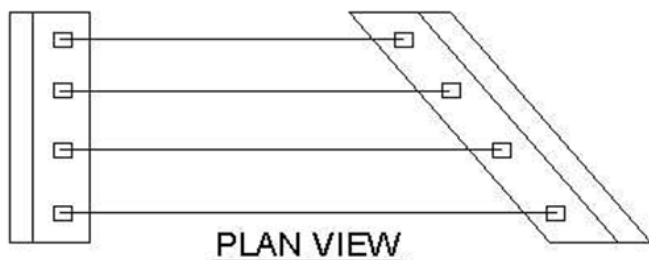
Email _____ No of tables _____ No of helpers _____

Special requests - _____

What are you selling? - _____

We're doing something a bit different for the next few PROTOTYPE PAGE features. A very interesting article has been submitted to the HotBox and it involves an NCR member and his civil engineering job with a local railroad! Here is part two of - **GRASSY CREEK BRIDGE** By: Ray Huber, Div 1 **Part 2 of 3**

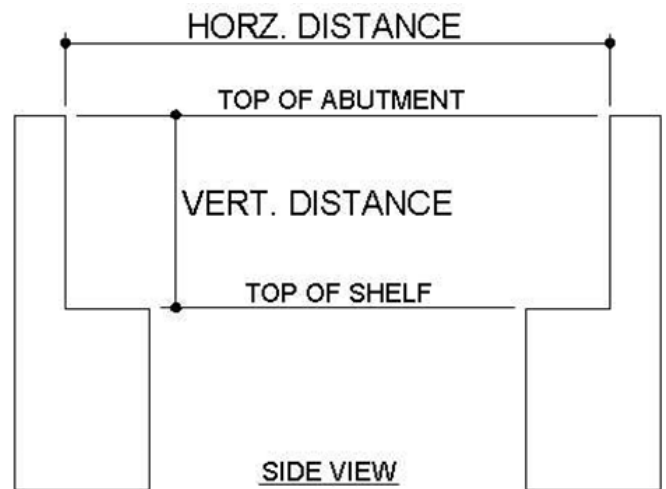
What was interesting as I looked over the girders was the fact that none of them were the same length. I learned later that the girders in their original setting were set in such away that one end was perpendicular to the abutment back wall and the other abutment was skewed, hence the different lengths. Now the project got interesting! The existing abutments I had to work with were parallel to each other, which meant I needed all of my girders to be the same length. Looks like some careful cutting is in order! In this case, a hobby saw won't cut it – no pun intended!



At this point, the first order of business was a topographical survey to establish the physical conditions and dimensions of the work area. Of critical importance was the horizontal distance between the abutment back walls and the vertical distance from the bridge-bearing shelf to the top of the abutment back wall. Having said this, it was time to get the surveying equipment out and get to work. As it turned out, the horizontal distance was just wide enough for one of the girders to fit with a couple of inches to spare. As for the vertical distance, it was greater than the girder depth by 3" +/- . This was fine, since pouring new concrete bridge bearing pads on the bearing shelf could make up this difference. With one beam to act as a template, it was now a simple matter of taking some careful measurements and as they say, "back to the drawing board."

There they were, four big steel girders each weighing in at approximately 4.5 tons. All I had to do now was to turn them into a bridge.

As it turned out, the job got easier the longer I looked at it. Remember that Gon full of bridge parts I told you about in Part One of this article?



As it turned out, it was full of all the parts and pieces needed to put the whole thing together. Once all the pieces were laid out, it became very clear to me that the designers/fabricators of the original structure were using their heads. Simply stated and except for the welded on web stiffeners (see diagram – Part two), all the extra parts were bolted together. These consisted of spacer diaphragms and diagonal bracing. Even better, the Contractor that disassembled the bridge was good enough to put all the bolts, nuts, and washers in a big sack and placed it in the Gon as part of the shipment.

There in one Gon was everything I needed to put the bridge back together. Everything except one thing and that was the extra length of the other three girders. As I said in Part Two, one beam was already the correct length and ready to be placed in position. This was a big help as it served as a template for the rest.

However, before any work was started, it was decided to investigate the possibility of using just two girders rather than all four. Using AREA Bridge Design Procedures and applying Copper E-70 load rating criteria, It didn't take long for me to determine that two girders would do the job. As a matter of fact, each new girder was stronger than one of the existing girders both in geometry and grade of steel used. Now I had two valid reasons to say two girders will do the job.

Only problem was all the parts were fabricated for four girders. In other words, all the parts would go together only if the four girders were used as a unit. Anything else would have caused additional work.

Time for a judgment call! After thinking this problem through (2 girders vs. 4 girders), both Phil and I decided it would be easier, quicker and cheaper to assemble the bridge with four modified girders (cut to length) rather than fabricate all new spacer diaphragms and diagonal bracing. This would have been necessary due to the different center to center spacing of two girders vs. four girders and as you might guess, would have cost us more engineering time and considerably more money in new steel.

After making a few drawings for the B&B department (Bridges & Buildings), they were advised and shown what we needed and given the "go ahead" to start work. The first thing they did was cut all the girders to the same length. Needless to say, all the dimensions that were taken at the bridge site were double checked before the first cut was made along with a little prayer said by me. After the cutting and drilling was done, we had four matching girders and a few pieces of scrap steel.

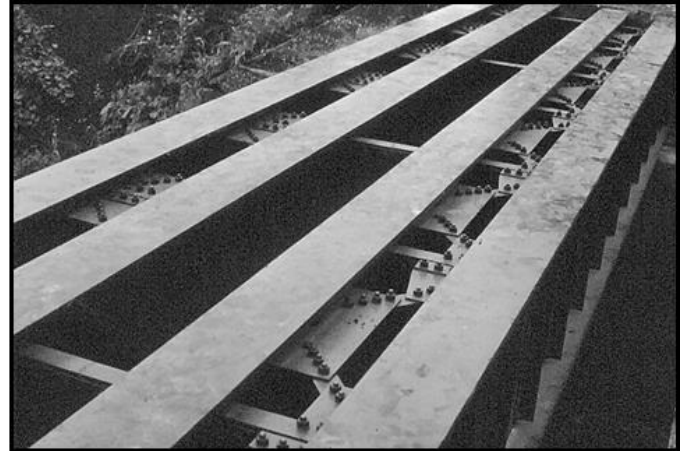
However, we did buy some new web stiffeners (angles) to replace the ones we lost at the bearing points that were cut off to adjust the beam lengths.. It was cheaper to buy and cut new ones rather than salvage the old stiffeners. Once welded in place, a few new holes were drilled and the process of putting the bridge together was begun.



It should be noted here that the bridge was not being assembled on the bridge abutments, but at a point some 100 yards away. Again, it was decided to do this so the B&B gang had a level area to work on and did not have to worry about falling some 30

to 40 feet into Grassy Creek. Part of that decision was based on the fact that we could hire a mobile crane that could lift the 22-23 ton structure, move it into position, and simply lower the whole thing into place.

What you see here, are all four girders bolted together and ready to be lifted into place. In Part four, I'll continue this story and show you the few remaining details about the bridge that almost ended up IN Grassy Creek.



Now that the main support girders were assembled, it was time to start thinking about getting them in position over Dry Creek. Sound's easy doesn't it? All you have to do is pick up some 22-23 tons of assembled steel, place it on a flat bed trailer, move it 100 yards or so, pick it up again and swing it 90 degrees out over the creek and then, very carefully lower it into place on the bearing plates located on the abutments. At the same time this activity is going on, I will be watching the centering pins in the bearing plates on each abutment and the elongated holes in the bottom of the bearing blocks on both ends of the girders to see if they were going to line up. Needless to say, many measurements from abutment to abutment and end to end of the girders were made to insure the dimensions matched before the first lift.

As I stated, we are talking about a mobile crane to get the job done. We simply called Jeffers Crane Co., the same people we called when there was a derailment, oh yes; the Terminal had their share of those, and out they came. Anyway, we were ready to move forward with our plan when we suddenly got a jolt of Railroad reality.

PART 3 in the December HotBox!



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OTHER HOBBY SHOPS in the NCR
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Phil's Hobby Shop, Fort Wayne, IN
The Gladioux Train Depot, Oregon, OH
Please visit your local hobby shop!

If you have a story about a local hobby shop giving you over the top service, let us know!!
THANK-YOU to our hobby shops for your support by selling the HotBox in your stores!

NCR SCHEDULE NCR DIVISION meetings

NCR INFORMATION

Division One Black Swamp Division (Northwest Ohio and Michigan Lenawee and Monroe Counties)

We meet at the Proclaim FM radio station community center at 7112 Angola Rd., Holland, OH 43528. Meetings are held on Friday evenings once a month from September - May. During the summer (June - August) we will have a field trip to a rail museum, prototype site, layout tour, etc. The exact schedule, information about our activities and our monthly publication, the Train Order, are posted on our website at <http://div1.ncrnmra.org>

Division Two - Tip of the Mitt (Northern Lower Peninsula) Heading south from the Mackinac Bridge, our Division includes 21 contiguous northern Michigan counties. Meetings are typically held on the third Saturday of each month. When we gather, we usually go hybrid, meeting both by Zoom and in person in Traverse City, or other locations. To request meeting invites and our quarterly newsletter, email our Assistant Superintendent, jens.hensel50@gmail.com

Division Three 3 Rivers Division (Fort Wayne, Indiana and western Ohio)

Our monthly meetings are at the Baker Street Station, the iconic/historic restored Pennsy Passenger Depot in downtown Fort Wayne. The meetings are held on the Second Monday, from 7 PM to 9PM, in one of the board rooms. Exceptions to this schedule will be March, June, July- no meeting, September, December. Any updates/changes can be found on our website: <http://div3.ncr-nmra.org>

Division Four Grand Rails Division (Grand Rapids and western Michigan)

We meet monthly using locations in Holland and Grand Rapids. All meetings start at 10am and details to be determined. For additional information contact Superintendent Mark Baldwin grandrailsdiv@outlook.com or 616-258-0110 or visit the NEW division website at - <http://grandrailsdiv4.org>

Division Five Capital Division (Lansing and mid-lower Michigan)

Meets at 1pm, on the SECOND Saturday of each month at the Meridian Township Fire Department event room in Okemos. We meet September to May with additional activities added through the year. Please check our website or contact the Supervisor for meeting location. <https://nmranrdiv5.com/>

Division Six Motor City Division (Wayne & Washtenaw Counties)

Meets at 7pm, on the THIRD Friday of each month at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, one mile north of the I-96 Jefferies Freeway, Livonia. Division 6 meets year-round. www.div6-ncr-nmra.com

Division Eight Clinton River Division (Oakland, Macomb and St. Clair Counties)

Meets at 7:00pm, on the THIRD Thursday of each month at Troy Christian Chapel, 400 East Long Lake Road, between Rochester and Livernois Roads, Troy. Division 8 meets year-round. <http://div8.ncrnmra.org/>

Division Nine SW Michigan Division (Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren Counties) Meets monthly except in July and August. Monthly meeting at 10AM at the Colonial Kitchen 330 N Drake Rd, Kalamazoo MI, followed by either a clinic or a planned layout tour usually on the third Saturday of the month. An optional breakfast at 9 AM is also a part of our routine. Visitors are always welcome. For additional and up to date information contact Garry Johnson 269-365-6777 <http://ncr-div9.com/>

Division Ten Ten Wheelers Division (Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer Tuscola, Sanilac and Huron Counties) Meets the FOURTH Thursday of each month at 7 PM at Dalton Airport on Pierson Road in Flushing. We meet in the meeting room of Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 77. Contact Superintendent, Wayne Wilder 989-823-3409 or ncrdiv10@gmail.com for directions to the meeting location.

OTHER GROUPS meeting in the NCR AREA There are MANY rail organizations in the NCR area. They can be found at www.michiganrailroads.com www.ohiorailtourism.org www.irtg.org

YOU should join and attend your local NMRA/NCR/Division meetings and activities! Get the most out of your hobby – participate often!!

NCR TIMETABLE EVENTS!

NCR AREA EVENTS

NOTE- Events listed have been compiled from listings on www.trainshowlist.com/ and www.trains.com, website for Model Railroader magazine. If you have an event you want listed, it's FREE, but information must be submitted to the Editor at least 45 days in advance of our publication dates!

Sunday, September 10, 2023 - Flag City Train Show Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation, Inc. 12505 Cty Rd 99, Findlay, OH 10AM - 3PM \$5.00 per Adults, Children 12+under accompanied by an adult will be free. 419 423-2995 nworrp@nwrrp.org

Friday-Sunday, September 15-16-17, 2023 - Anthracite Railroads Modelers Meet XI Reading Railroad Heritage Museum, Hamburg, PA Clinics, model displays, vendors, layout tours! www.readingrrmm.com

Saturday, September 16, 2023 - Battle Creek Train Show - Sponsored by Battle Creek & Grand River Calhoun County Frgrds, 720 Fair St., Marshall, MI Andy Buck 269-268-0910 andrew.buck@comcast.net

Saturday, September 23, 2023 - 20th Annual Fostoria Rail Festival Fostoria, OH – Fostoria High School/Elementary Buildings 1001 Park Ave Fostoria, OH Ellen Gatrell 419-435-1781 ellengatrell@gmail.com Website: <http://www.fostoriairontriangle.com/>

Saturday, September 23, 2023 - Mt Clemens Train Show St. Louis Social Hall 39140 Ormsby St. Mt. Clemens, MI 48036 10am to 3pm \$3 per person, \$5 per family, children under 12 free Food & Refreshments on site, Barrier Free Access, Free Parking, Hourly Door Prizes, Operating Layouts Contact Information - Carl Hikade 586-463-5184 cdhikade@juno.com

Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 16-17, Oct. 21-22, Nov. 11-12 & 18-19, Dec. 9-10 & 16-17, 2023
Blissfield Model Railroad Club Open House 109 E. Adrian St. (US 223) Blissfield, MI 49228
11 am to 4 pm FREE!. Wheelchair Accessible Website: <http://www.bmrr.org>

Sunday, September 24, 2023 - Lansing Model Railroad Club Open House 5309 Old Lansing Road Lansing, MI Tim D. Childs tim.d.childs@gmail.com Website: <https://www.lmrc.org/openhouse/>

Saturday, September 30, 2023 – MINI-BUNCH FALL MEET meeting at the Glaize, Defiance, Ohio All scale Narrow Gauge and Short Line model railroad meet includes clinic presentations, displays, sales, business meeting, raffle and more. Free Parking, Wheel chair accessible. Registraion - \$15 Richard Witteborg 419-784-1907 rswitteborg@hotmail.com

Saturday, Sunday, October 7-8, 2023 - The Great Berea Train Show Cuyahoga Co. Fairgrounds 19201 East Bagley Rd Middleburg Heights, OH 440-785-9907 <https://thegreatbereatrainshow.org/>

Saturday, October 14, 2023 - Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society Open House 4040 Leland Ave NW Comstock Park, MI Website: <https://www.qrmrhs.org/>

Saturday, October 21, 2023 - Fort Wayne Model Railroad Show and Swap Allen County War Memorial Coliseum 4000 Parnell Ave Fort Wayne, IN Jim Marquardt jimmarq4@hotmail.com 260-437-3844

Sunday, October 22, 2023 - Taylor Town Train Show Taylor Town Trade Center 22525 Ecorse Rd Taylor, MI Mike Leland 313-955-5523

Sunday, October 29, 2023 – 43rd Annual Gigantic Train Show and Sale Kalamazoo Model RR Hist Society Expo Center Building on the Kalamazoo County Fair Grounds 10AM to 3PM cost - \$6 adults Kids under 10 Free with paid adult admission. We have Operating layouts, A Hands-On Children's Layout, RR hobby clinics, over 175 Vendor tables and tons of train and RR memorabilia in every scale. There will be Door Prizes, Free parking, and MORE! Contact Information- David Hayes-Moats 269-344-0906 kaltrainshow@kalnet.net

NCR TIMETABLE EVENTS!

NCR AREA EVENTS

Sunday, November 5, 2023 - Lansing Model Train Show and Sale Hosted by Lansing Model RR Club Michigan State University Pavilion 4301 Farm Lane East Lansing, MI 48824 www.lmrc.org
10 am to 4 pm \$6 adults, free under 12 yrs and scouts in uniform. Wheelchair Accessible Free parking over 500 tables of model trains, railroad collectibles, toys, operating layouts, how-to demonstrations, and more!
Contact Info- Flyer, table forms and map www.lmrc.org or call Ron St.Laurent 517-256-3588 or Dennis Morley 989-723-2870 DJMorley0604@hotmail.com

Saturday, November 18, 2023 - Maumee Valley Railroad Club Model Railroad Show & Swap Coliseum Bingo 911 W. Washington Center Road Fort Wayne, IN 46825 (see ad on page 22)
9am to 1pm \$5 Adults, \$7 Families, ages 12 and under free <http://maumeevalleyrailroad.com>
Vendors, layout, on site concession stand, free parking, historical and other organizations represented
Contact Info - Maumee Valley RR Club, Inc. P.O. Box 314 Harlan, IN 46743 Richard Insley 260-482-2203

Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 11-12, Thanksgiving weekend Nov. 24-26, Dec. 2-3, Dec. 9-10, 2023
Detroit Model Railroad Club Open House 104 North Saginaw St. Holly, MI 48442 Noon - 5PM Adults - \$5, Seniors (65+) - \$4, Children (5-18) - \$2, Children under 5 – Free See several O scale trains in operation, over a 350 foot double track mainline and several branch lines. Info: 248-634-5811 webmaster@dmrrc.org


Sunday, November 19, 2023 - 45th annual Division 6 Fall Model Railroad Show & Workshop Livonia Senior Center 5218 Farmington Rd, Livonia, MI Website- www.div6-ncr-nmra.com
11am – 4pm Admission is FREE! wheelchair accessible (see ad on page 23)
THIS IS NOT A SWAP MEET – SEE demonstrations on all aspects of model railroading!! Power systems, scenery, kit building, railroad history, operating layouts, refreshments available; raffles every 45 minutes, model contest! Come and get your model railroading questions answered!

Saturday, November 25, 2023 - Train Show Packard Proving Grounds 49965 Van Dyke Ave. Shelby Township, MI 48317 Mike Neuendorf 586-271-6024



Sunday, November 26, 2023 - Rails on Wheels' Annual Southeast Michigan Model Train Show and Sale. Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road Ann Arbor, MI
10 AM to 3 PM \$4, children under age 12 free with an adult. Early Bird - \$10/person (8–10 AM)
A family-friendly event featuring operating train layouts, a Lego layout display, plus a train kids can run. Over 100 tables of scale and tinsplate model trains, railroading and train-related books, videos and photo for sale, too. Food available and free parking. Contact Info: Walt Trancygier trancywj@gmail.com 734-552-4581

Sunday, November 26, 2023 - Railrodiana Toys & Trains SS. Simon & Jude Church Hall 32500 Palmer Road Westland, MI 48186 Noon-4pm \$2 per person, \$4 family, Early Bird \$15 per person after 11am Food & Drink available Contact Information – Bob Patterson 734-728-1247

Saturday, December 9, 2023 - Train Town Train Show & Swap Meet (see ad on page 22)
Allen County Fairgrounds, 2750 Harding Highway, Lima, OH 10am-3pm \$7 adults, under 12 free NMRA members \$5 170 tables, door prizes, handicap accessible, food service, free parking
Jim Marquardt 260-437-3844 jimmarg4@hotmail.com



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NCR DIVISION OF CHOICE

NCR PROCEDURE

Do you live in one division, but attend meetings and participate in another? With the "DIVISION OF CHOICE" program you can become an official member and even hold office in the division of your liking! All you need to do is fill out the **DIVISION OF CHOICE** form and submit it to the NCR Registrar. Once filed, you can vote and hold office in the division of your choice. Please be aware, the North Central Region (NCR) will notify both divisions of your choice and records will be maintained within the NCR. The NMRA national office WILL NOT change your default division (which is part of your NMRA number). The NCR and your division of choice will honor your selection and provide all the rights of a standard member of that division.

<https://www.ncrnmra.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/NCRDivisionOfChoice.pdf>

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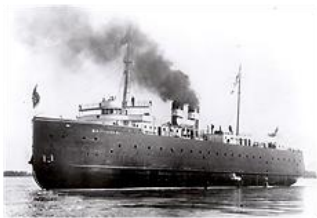
*in the next issue of THE **HotBox** –*

MORE LAYOUT PHOTOS

MORE HOW-TO-DO ARTICLES

MORE INFORMATION

.... stay tuned!



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