



THE *HotBox*

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

VOL. 63 NO. 1

SPRING 2022

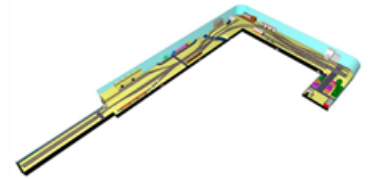
RAILFANNING INDY JUNCTION LAYOUTS



THE LAYOUT JOURNEY



MI-TRAK HO MODULAR LAYOUT



RAIL CAR TRIP

May 18-22, 2022

↓

Indy Junction

2022

MWR NCR MCR
RPM Conference

facebook.com/IndyJunction2022

www.IndyJunction2022.org

FINAL INDY JUNCTION 2022 NEWS!

PLUS- RR History, Timetable, NMRA-NCR-Division News & more!

The HotBox

SPRING 2022
Vol. 63, No. 1



EDITOR

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

Editorial Advisers
the NCR Board

Proof Readers
John Beres

The HotBox is published quarterly by the North Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association. Publication dates are-

SPRING, March 1 SUMMER, June 1
AUTUMN, Sept 1 WINTER, Dec 1

The HotBox is available online at-

<http://ncrnmra.org>

All material, articles and advertising must be submitted to the Editor. All material should be electronic, preferably MicroSoft Word or Powerpoint. Pictures should be in Jpeg format and color. Material can be emailed or sent via US Mail on cd-rom. Materials will not be returned, unless return postage and envelope are included. Material submission deadline is FIVE weeks before publication date.

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! We're off and running in a new year, 2022! What will it bring to all of us? Hopefully some normalcy. It started out good enough, but as I was working on this issue, the sad news of the passing of Scott Pandorf, Division 2 Superintendent, hit my email inbox. It's sad for us to lose any member and friend, but this one hit a bit harder, as Scott was so full of life and model railroading! Then to find out he is only a year younger than me, didn't help my feelings. Prayers and deepest sympathies to Scott's wife and family and all of his friends.

We have the final updates on the **INDY JUNCTION 2022** convention in this issue of the HotBox! This is a tri-regional event and the NCR is one of the players! It's reported that over 250 have registered so far. That's about half of the turnout we are hoping for, so that is a very good sign this will be a great event, one not to be missed!

This year will be extra busy for me too! A new Div 6 Train Sale event is happening in April, lots of other train shows to attend as a vendor, summer car club activities and shows, then in the Fall my 50th high school reunion and the 10th Reading RR Modelers Meet. Whew! And still more of the year to go.... nice to be busy.

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

MODEL RAILROADING IS FUN!



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! We had no corrections reported for the December issue. Nice!

FRONT COVER PICTURES-

NMRA logo, INDY Junction 2022 logo; JAM3.0 Layout Design; MI-TRAK modular specs; Warner Clark's HO scale Maumee Basin Lines selectively compresses Nickel Plate Road, Detroit Toledo & Ironton and The Ohio & Morenci Railroad

REAR COVER PICTURES- 2022 Indy Junction logo; quick-easy weathering!; Ride along as we tour the Pere Marquette Ry. at the Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society

NCR - NORTH CENTRAL REGION, NMRA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS



President

Dave Capron, MMR 231-944-8576
caprond33@gmail.com

Vice-President

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

Secretary

Norm Logan 248-348-2473
nlogan114@wowway.com

Treasurer

Steve Harsh
harsh@msu.edu

Registrar

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

Directors

Dave McMullian 419-878-4888
train.man4756@gmail.com

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

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

Resident Agent

Jonathan Pulling
517-755-7599
jpulling@lcc.edu

NMRA Central Director

Bill Neale, MMR 248-477-7875
centdir@nmra.org
wneale@mi.rr.com

Photo Contests

Volunteer Needed

Achievement Program

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

Division One- Black Swamp Div

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

Division Two- Tip of the Mitt Div

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

Division Three- 3 Rivers Div

Bob Jones 260-459-6339
broadwaylimited15@yahoo.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

Bill McMillan 248-349-7456
wcmillan7456@gmail.com

Division Eight- Clinton River Div

Curt Danielewicz 586-286-4394
Curt48044@gmail.com

Division Nine - SW Michigan Div

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

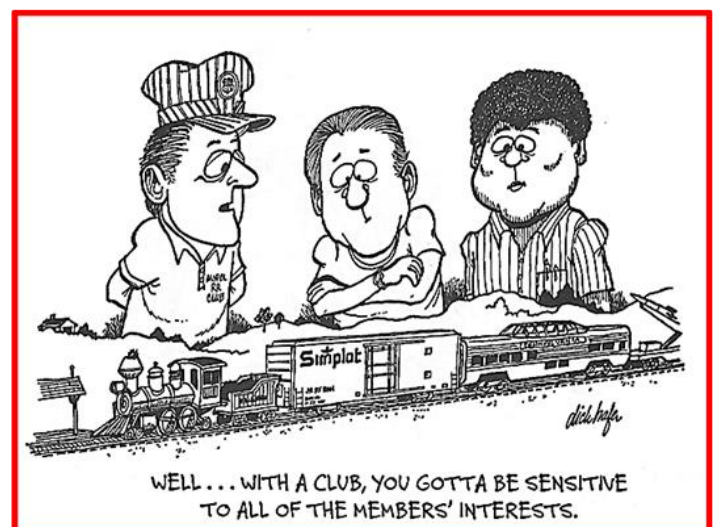
Division Ten - Ten Wheelers Div

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

RAILROADING "WHAT THE ???"

NCR HUMOR

From the book of cartoons – **“SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO COMPROMISE – A light-hearted look at model railroading... and model railroaders”** by Dick Hafer. “Copyright Model Railroader magazine, used by permission of Kalmbach Media.”



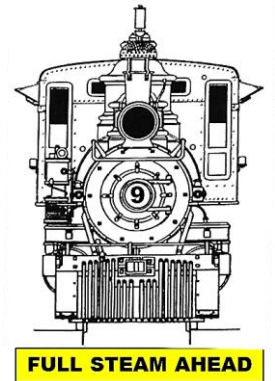
PRESIDENT'S OBSERVATION

Dave Capron

As we settle into a new year of modeling, I hope you are looking forward to the upcoming INDY JUNCTION CONVENTION in Indy. This convention of three Regions plus the RPM is an opportunity that should not be missed. With the addition of the RPM it will offer so much more than a Regional and be less expensive than other large annual conventions. Some of you have been wondering about Model and Photo Contests. This INDY JUNCTION CONVENTION will have a full complement of contests for you to enter. I mention this now so you have time to get your models ready and take your photos. The NCR has a plethora of exceptional modelers and this convention is the opportunity for you all to demonstrate to the other Regions the quantity and quality of the craftsmanship in the NCR. Remember there are three levels of craftsmanship. The first is for you to do whatever you want. After all it is your layout. The second is for a merit award as you strive for an AP Certificate. There are some requirements that will get you to step out of your comfort zone. You will learn some new techniques and improve on some old ones. The third level is for a contest model. This level is to be evaluated and judged with other Merit Award Models. The craftsmanship and details will require your attention to the total aspect of constructing the model. From the basics to the finishing and details. The satisfaction of building and displaying a contest model on your layout can only be gained from doing it. I encourage you to build a structure, a car, a bridge or an engine. And remember you will have them for your layout for years to come.

There is one very important subject that we all need to concentrate on for our hobby and the NCR organization. It has been a discussion topic before but each passing year gets more important.

Our membership numbers each year both Regionally and Nationally are annually reducing. Our senior members are well, getting older and the younger potential new members have their cell phones and computer games. Unlike a few decades ago not many Christmas trees had either train sets under them for presents or even a train running around under them. We have all heard this story before. So where are our potential new members? How about looking at those in between the seniors and the juniors. The new empty nesters that have some time, and empty room and some funds to try our hobby. You know who they are. You work with them, worship with them, go to other meetings and groups with them. Invite them to tour your layout, an op session, swap meet, Division meeting or local convention. You say you talked to one a few years ago, well maybe times have changed, try again with a new invite. If we all made a commitment this year to find one new member then your Division and our Region would double in size. Give some thought to some potential friends, coworkers etc. that you would enjoy having in your hobby with you. You know what the hobby has to offer, the list is long, you know it can be a year around hobby. Let us all make an effort to recruit one new modeler to the NCR this year. Start this week with an invite to a layout or meeting. Now, go run some trains with your new member.



Dave Capron, President, NCR

Indy Junction
2022
MWR NCR MCR
RPM Conference

Marriott East, 7202 E 21st St
Indianapolis, IN 46219

www.IndyJunction2022.org

Four Full Days - Three Regions - Three Day Train Show
Clinics - Layout Tours - Ops Sessions - Prototype Tours

One Convention

May 18-22, 2022

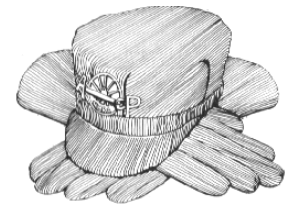
NMRA-NCR ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

NCR AWARDS

Thanks go to Ken Chick, Jim Macino and Pete Magoun as they continue doing a great job keeping the level of AP activity in divisions 2,3, 6, 8 and 10 at a high pitch. We only have one to report for this quarter, though we have many SOQ's in the works. There should be many certificate awards to report in the next edition of the Hot Box. Skip Luyk, MMR, NCR AP Coordinator

Congratulations go to the following:

NMRA ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER – George Van Duyne, Div. 8



Mark Ellis, James Hockenberger and Bill McMillan (Dec issue)

George Van Duyne

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM QUESTIONS: If you have questions about the AP or requirements, start with your Regional AP manager, Skip Luyk, MMR. Also – 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 If you still have questions, contact NMRA AP Chairman Frank Koch at fjkoch@hotmail.com or at 4769 Silverwood Drive, Batavia, OH 45103

NCR DIRECTOR REPORT

NCR NEWS

Clinics - The Source For Sharing Information, Education And Training.

I've been teaching training classes and clinics in various aspects of my jobs and hobbies since 1972. I've loved every minute of getting up in front of people to present information and training, plus showing my photography skills. Nothing nicer than being invited to present in front of people. All of the jobs I have had in my career had opportunities to teach, so the fear of talking in front of people left me very early. It was not something I did in junior high or high school classes, but I really think it was something that grew out of the fun I had working in a grocery store and selling in their meat department. Everyday talking to people trying to make sales deals and marketing sales ideas. In 1972, I moved into the world of loss prevention, fire protection, firefighting, emergency preparedness, hazardous materials and safety. Again, lots of opportunities to teach, train and develop training presentations for people I did not know, as I worked to protect people, property and the environment from harm and hazards. Then around 2007, people that were model railroaders started asking me questions about my interests in railroads, model railroading and other topics. Once again, a chance to use my knowledge, education, training skills and photography to talk to people I did not know. I even acquired Bachelor and Master's Degrees in Education and teaching. What's the odds that this could happen?

I have been presenting model railroad related clinics since, they are easy to do, anybody can present them. Just take a thought or idea and develop some material and photos around the topic and offer to present them to others. You will get feedback and more ideas, and your presentations will get better and better. There are many opportunities to present clinics in your own Division meetings, at the Region level and then on to the National and International levels. No big deal, I know you can do it! I even developed a clinic on how to design, prepare and present model railroad clinics, which I would be happy to present at meetings to help people. Understanding how people/adults learn and remember information also important. I am presenting clinics in both the United States and Canada in 2022 at various model railroad events and you could be doing it also! Nothing to it, you are able to do it just like me, AND other model railroaders could also learn from your knowledge, ideas, experiences and photography. Take a thought or an interest you have and put together a short presentation on it and present it to friends and you are on your way. No big deal, fun stuff and your friends will learn. Let me know if I can help? Rich Mahaney, NMRA NCR Director at Large, Division 9 Member

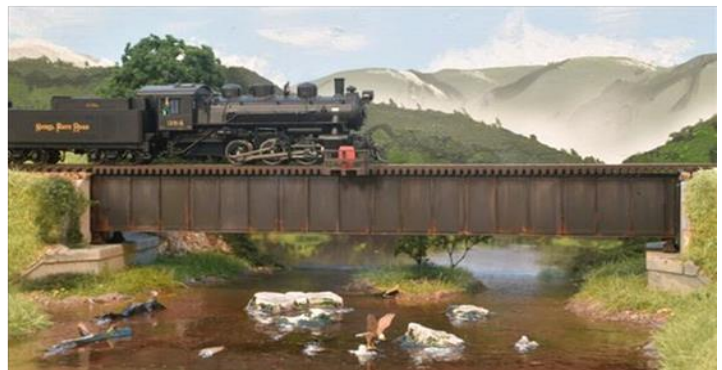
RAILFANNING INDY JUNCTION RAILROADS **NCR TRACKSIDE**

Left-down, then right - Tom Cain's HO scale fully signaled "Eastern Illinois Santa Fe" layout represents the pre-merger Santa Fe Railroad; Walt Aldoriso's HO scale Boston & Maine layout represents the BET/New Hampshire mainline in the 1950's thru 1964. Bob Babcock's HO scale layout depicts the Seaboard Air Line in the 1960's; The Naptown and White River Model Railroad Club HO scale 20x40 layout follows a freelance theme in Central Indiana during the transition era; Bob Case's HO scale layout represents the Baltimore & Ohio's "West End" in the spring of 1948; John and Connie Coy's O scale layout is set in Marias Pass/Glacier National Park, MT; Justin Grayson's layout models the Norfolk Southern/Frankfort Division Lafayette/Altamont District between NS' Lafayette South Yard to the Conrail-era alignment of the interchange siding at Altamont.



RAILFANNING INDY JUNCTION RAILROADS **NCR TRACKSIDE**

Left-down, then right - Matt Hewitt's Shadowton Ridge Northern is running heavy steam and first generations diesels in September 1956; Jim Munn's CNW Christie Division layout is based on the Chicago Northwestern; The Indiana Live Steamers run a 1/8 scale, 7 ½ inch gauge model railroad with over 13,000 feet of track; Pete Pedigo's 1/8 scale 7 ½ gauge "live steam" model railroad sits on 49 acres near New Unionville and Bloomington, IN; John Poray's HO scale New York Central layout is set in Upstate New York in 1955; Jack Simpons' HO scale Monon Line layout represents 1950's -1960's; Dave Masino's Wildcat Valley Railway is a freelanced layout set in the 1920's to 1930's in the Eastern US.



I have been a model railroader for as long as I can remember. First with the good old Lionel set. Not around the Christmas Tree. My dad built a sturdy 20' x 15' table out of 2x4's and sent it up in our living room at the old farmhouse. We had 2 living rooms so filling one with trains worked out. From Lionel 0-27, I was given a Tyco train set with the venerable Santa Fe F-9A and a few cars. Military service, marriage, apartment living and working as a journalist meant model railroading took a back seat.

I discovered N scale sometime in the mid 80's and had a decent size layout at the time. Kept that going for several years until another move put the N scale in boxes, never to be seen again. Following a divorce and the purchase of my own house, I finally had a chance to build the layout I wanted. As it turned out. That house saw at least 4 different versions. First was an around the walls layout in a back bedroom. Then a hole in the wall through a closet allowed that railroad to expand to two bedrooms. But running back and forth between rooms got to be a pain, so down it came and time for something new. How about a double decker? Just in one room though. I discovered that it wasn't as hard to build a 4 loop helix as I thought. But it became just a display layout as there was not a lot of room for industry and operations, which I liked better. So, you guessed it, the double decker was gone. Now what? Well, I found an article in a Model Railroader magazine that looked interesting. It was a folded dog-bone that would be perfect in a bedroom. Spent a year building and operating that until the newness wore off. Sensing a pattern here? I like to design and build them. But once it's built I kind of lose interest. Needed a new challenge. How about hand-laying track. Actually, enjoyed that and eventually completed a 2' by 10' switching layout. Although I didn't hand-lay the turnouts, everything else was hand-laid. Eventually I added on to that layout and it went around the walls with a bridge at the entrance door.

This was the Dames Point Industrial Railroad, serviced by CSX. It is in no way based on anything prototype. I built it in a spare bedroom in my house so it was about 11' by 11'. This is also the location of most of the other layouts I built while living in

Jacksonville, FL. I don't remember what I named the town. Might not have had a name.

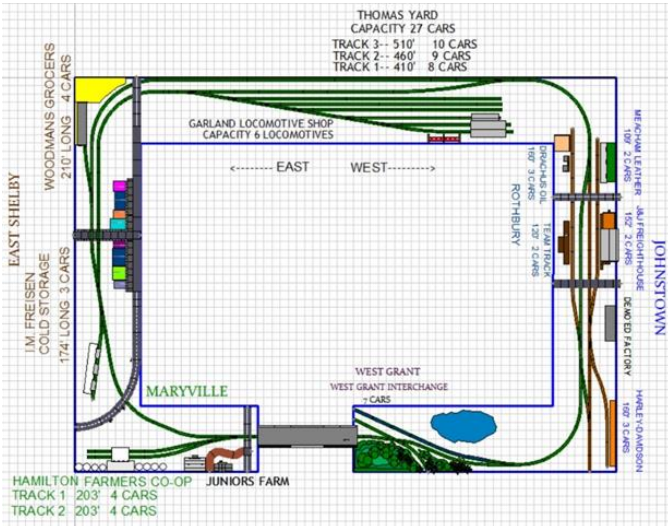


But all good things, as they say, must come to an end. A second marriage and retirement, led to a move to another state and part of the country. From Florida to Western Michigan. Time to rebuild again.

The first Johnstown and Maryville came to life in the spare bedroom of our mobile home. I had the benchwork custom built to fit the exact dimensions of the room so putting it together was quick and easy. JAM 1.0 was again, around the walls and included a removable bridge, the Notta River Bridge, and a two track ferry, the S.S. Mindheim. Really enjoyed building it and operating it, until... yep, we moved again. My wife found an actual brick and mortar home some miles north of where we were but closer to her family.

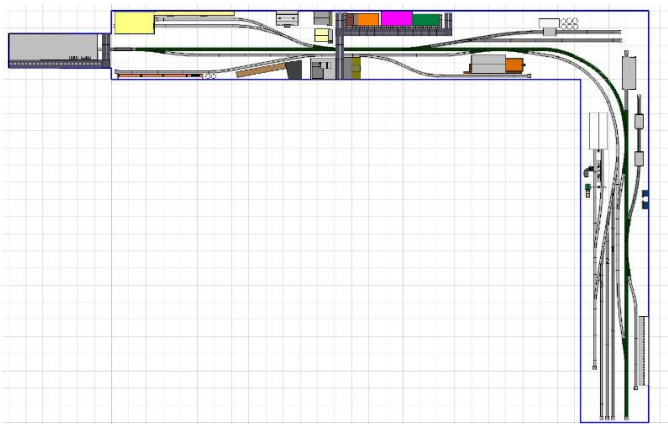


I wasn't sure about moving, yet again until I got a look at it. A huge basement!! A haven for a man cave and a layout that would allow my locomotives to finally stretch their legs. I'm in. Got to work designing JAM 2.0.



JAM 3.0 is 16 feet on one leg, not counting the 6 foot yard extension, by 12 feet. Overall just 2 feet wide. There are 8 industries in total with 24 car spots. Many of the industries are spot specific type locations. Which means cars have to be placed in the correct spot depending on their type. Woodmans Grocers, for example, has 3 loading doors. 2 are for reefers only while the third is boxcars only. Plus a spot for tank cars and a 5th spot for covered hoppers. Switching sometimes requires moving cars to get to a specific spot. Digitrax is my method of control. I use a DCS 51 as my command station with a UT6 throttle for up close work. Speaking of up close, the layout sits at 37" high, perfect for working in my roll around chair as it pretty much puts everything at eye level. As of this writing, I have just finished laying down the track and making sure my industries fit where they are supposed to. I expect JAM 3.0 to finally be it. (famous last words)

Not too bad. Measured 12' x 18'. But as I was soon to learn, bigger is not always better. After a year and a half I came to the realization that I was spending so much time building, adding scenery, wiring, cleaning that I didn't have any time to just run a train or do some operating. So, despite my wife's concerns, JAM 2.0 was dismantled. And now that brings us to the present. Say hello to JAM 3.0.



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

The Black Swamp Division has been having in person meetings in Holland OH. Our next three meetings will be on Feb 25, March 25 and April 22. In January, we launched our new website! For more information on the Black Swamp Division and the full meeting schedule, please visit our website at <http://div1.ncrnmra.org>. Our Facebook group is located at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ncrdiv1>. (submitted by- Marshall Stull, Superintendent)

Division Two (Manistee to Iosco counties, to the Tip Of The Mitten at the Mackinac Bridge)

During our January Zoom meeting Scott Pandorf presented his clinic, "Why Your Model Railroad Needs Signaling." Zooming again in February we saw a great video of Ernie Barry's East Raton & Santa Fe Railroad. Ernie is a real artist, and it shows in everything that he does. Scheduled for March 19th is a Michigan Rail History presentation. This program will be by Kris Foondle from MDOT. Yet to be determined if it will be by Zoom or in person. Plans for April and May are still in the planning stages. Interested in attending one of our sessions? To request meeting info and a copy of our quarterly newsletter please email 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 just got our final report on the Lima Train Show and it was a great success after having no show in 2020. We are continuing to move forward with the planning of the Fort Wayne Rails 2023 Convention. We are excited to be a part of the 3 Rivers Ops weekend and have some very nice layouts with some great scenery hosting these Ops Sessions. We are in the process of organizing the schedule of events, meetings and clinics for the upcoming year. Our members are participating in more Ops sessions as we begin what's going to be the new norm since Covid 19. We are looking forward to the Indy Junction where we can make some new friendships and rekindle the old ones. (Submitted by- Bob Jones, Superintendent)

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

Division 5, the Capital Division had hoped to start meeting in person back in September. Unfortunately, due to circumstances, our host, Meridian Township, had to close down the meeting room that we were using until at least June 2022, so we're back to Zoom. We did move our meetings back to 1 pm on the second Saturday of the month, which had been our regular meeting date for years. Contact tdavis@msu.edu or subscribe to our newsletter to get the link for the Zoom meeting. We have been posting our clinics on YouTube at "Capital Division NCR NMRA" and currently have about 20 presentations on a wide variety of subjects available to view. The last presentation recorded on 2/12/2022 is a tour of Andy Keeney's Nashville Road. 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: div5.ncr-nmra.org (Submitted by- Mark Cowles, Div. 5 Clerk & Terry Davis, Div 5 Asst Superintendent)

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

Division 6 - The Motor City Division is embarking on a new adventure! We are hosting a **MODEL RAILROAD SALE** event! This first one will be a bit on the smaller side so we can hone our skills. This first event will be on Sunday, April 24. See the event ad on page 22 of this HotBox. To date (as of this HotBox issue) we are just over half sold on tables to vendors! The annual event will be moved to the 3rd weekend in January in 2023 and beyond. We will also be looking for a larger facility. This is designed to fill the "hole" in the local train show/sale schedule, when the Avondale HS show was cancelled. The reason for the SALE? To boost our bank account, so we can remain dues free and support our NCR Convention hosting efforts in 2024. Division 6 also hopes to showcase our MI-Track layout at the up-coming train show in Novi in late March. We also continue to hold our in-person meetings and also zoom them at the same time for those that choose not to yet attend in-person. We are now starting our meetings at 7pm starting in February. 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 Four – Grand Rails Division (Grand Rapids and west Michigan area)

I'm writing this thinking back to all the years that I have been a NMRA member, I'm reminded by all of the really good people that I have met, and the one's that we have lost. What legacy have our departed friends left for us? What legacy will you leave? Division 4 has struggled over the years, trying to find what our members are looking for. So I ask WHAT are you looking for? What can the division do to make you a better Model Railroader? We now have a meeting place in Grand Rapids! Community of Christ Church at 6001 West River Rd Belmont MI. Our next meeting will be March 19th at 10am. WE continue to look for a meeting place in the Holland/Zeeland area. If you know of one let me know please. *(submitted by Mark Baldwin, Superintendent)*

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

The Clinton River Division is continuing to bring more members back to in-person meetings while also supporting the Zoom option for those not comfortable with in-person. Hopefully as the Omicron cases diminish we can up the in-person attendance while growing the Zoom attendance with those CRD members that are challenged by distance or time commitments. The division will be starting a monthly layout tour program as well as a quarterly operating session program in the first quarter of 2022. We continue to grow our mentor/mentee database and will be investigating a tool loan program as well to benefit our members, all in the interest of providing extra value for their NMRA and division memberships. 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 web site is, <http://div8.ncr-nmra.org/> and our Facebook group is at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/288929175921717/> *(Submitted by Curt Danielewicz, Superintendent)*

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

Division 9 continues with its regularly scheduled monthly meetings and clinics. Division 9 meets on the 3rd Saturday at the Colonial Kitchen Pancake House on Drake Rd in Kalamazoo in the morning for breakfast, a short business meeting and a clinic. The meetings are an in person and are broadcast over Zoom. We have enjoyed a series of clinics by Doug Harding from Iowa on the meat packing industry and their work, products that came from other meat packing related companies for industries to model, meat refrigerator cars, stock cars, stock yards, railroad operations related to movement of livestock and meat products, and other related topics. There is lots to know and lots to model if you are going to have a meat packing plant on your layout! We do have one layout tour scheduled for our April meeting to see the Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club layout. Division 9 once again has a facility for its "one day" model railroad convention in October of 2022. The date will be on Oct 28 and 29. We have decided to have some activities on Fri, Oct 28 (layout tours and dinner) and then the regular activities on Sat, Oct 29 (clinics, layout tours and maybe some operating sessions in the evening. Oct 30 (Sunday) is also the scheduled "Train Show and Sale" for the Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club. So come and make it a weekend of model railroading fun! Yup, the "one-day convention" actually brings model railroading activities on three days. Lots of hotels/motels to choose from on Fri and Sat nights in the Kalamazoo area. Pretty cool! *(Submitted by: Rich Mahaney, NCR Director)*

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

Division 10 meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 77 meeting room at Dalton Airport on Pierson Road west of I-75 in Flushing. Our meetings are informal with a short business meeting followed by show and tell with a lot of discussion. In February we will be having a book exchange, and April will be our spring cleaning sale. We are looking for layouts to visit, if you would like to show us your train layout let us know at ncrdiv10@gmail.com. Visit our Facebook page or contact us at ncrdiv10@gmail.com for meeting information. Let us know if you would like us to visit. Contact Superintendent Wayne Wilder at ncrdiv10@gmail.com or 989-823-3409 for more information on attending our meetings. *(Submitted by Wayne Wilder, Superintendent)*

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

CHUCK WILLIAMS passed away on Oct 14 at the age of 88. Chuck was a Division 1 member and past President. Mr. Williams was on the faculty of the University of Toledo theatre and film department for 18 years, retiring in 2002 as an associate professor emeritus. "He really enjoyed teaching," his daughter said. "He really liked the academic environment." A Navy veteran, he closed his service by teaching naval history at the U.S. Naval Academy. As a model railroad enthusiast, he became adept at small-scale design. His own layout featured a landscape to evoke the Lehigh Valley in the 1930s. He made friends among local model railroaders and met with them regularly. "That was a big thing for him and gave him a sense of community, particularly after my Mom died," daughter Sloan said.



Chuck Williams

GENE KOME, Eugene "Gene" Kome, of Warren, Michigan, passed away on January 15, 2022, at the age of 89. Devoted husband of Marjorie of 67 years; Gene graduated from Michigan State College, where he met his bride. Travels took Gene and Marj to every state, and nearly every National Park, chasing trains along the way. Gene's model railroading hobby filled his retirement years, and his basement. He constructed an elaborate train layout, with stops named for his grandchildren, which was part of several NMRA club tours. Gene was a long time Division 8 member, served as our treasurer for many years and an all-around great fellow. He will be greatly missed.



Gene Kome

SCOTT PANDORF passed away on Saturday, January 22, 2022. He was one month shy of his 67th birthday. Scott was born in Cincinnati, OH, where he grew up, before moving with his family to Europe. Scott and his wife Susan met at DePauw University, where he graduated in 1977. Scott always put his family first. He passed on the true meaning of commitment and family to everyone he met. After many years in the greater Indianapolis area, he and Susan moved to the Leelanau peninsula to pursue their dream, their afterglow. They built the Frank Lloyd Wright inspired "prairie style" home of their dreams, up on a ridge overlooking the lake. Scott's career was in Information Technology. He took a lot of pride in his work, helping pretty much anyone who needed it. Scott was a lifelong Episcopalian, faithfully attending and serving both St. Christopher's in Carmel and Nativity in Indianapolis. He sang in the choir, taught Sunday school, served on the Vestry, and took charge of the acolyte program. But his proudest achievement was when he completed the Education for Ministry program and became a deacon.



Scott Pandorf

NCR President Dave Capron adds - Scott Pandorf passed away unexpectedly of a heart attack while working on his layout. Scott was currently serving as Superintendent of Division 2, Tip of the Mitt. In addition to hosting monthly Division Zoom meetings Scott also hosted weekly 'Little Finger Train Group' Zoom sessions. The LFTG is a 30 year old round robin operating group that that was kept functioning during Covid thanks to Scott's efforts. Scott's IT career helped us all with our hobby. He would happily assist us with any and all IT work weather it was programming engines, installing chips, getting operating systems up and debugged and assisting the techs at Regional and National conventions. His clinics at conventions made the electronics subject understandable and inviting. Scott loved working on and sharing his dream layout. The O & M (Ohio and Mississippi) is a 30' X 40' double deck layout with several third deck staging yards. It has electronic features you could only expect from an IT guy like Scott. He was working on several certificates for his MMR as he constructed his massive layout. Scott made full use of Regional and National Conventions presenting and attending clinics, going to as many layout and prototype tours and op sessions as he could schedule and doing any railfanning he could work in. Scott is survived by his wife of 42 years Susan, two sons, four grandsons, and two siblings. Scott's sudden and untimely passing has left us all with a void.

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....

From the HotBox Editors' friend in Australia - Previously only a helicopter could capture a scene like this, now Drones with can be used, Picnic Train 5917 Hawkesbury River Shuttles, NSW

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ljs-0Txqrs>

Passed on from Ken Borg, Div 6 - new attraction in Toronto called Little Canada. It's HO, and will be, when completed, a trip across Canada. Something like \$24 million has gone into creating this attraction. Very interesting water effect in the beginning! <https://youtu.be/8Or6ENNSA-c>

BTR #2- Dear NMRA NCR Division Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, News-Letter Editors, Directors, Web Masters and members in-general.... The INDY JUNCTION Convention Team is looking for volunteers for the Judging Contests. If you are interested in being a judge, please contact Contest Chairman Steve Zapytowski at szapytowski@neo.rr.com . No experience needed, you will be "trained"!! Judging also counts towards the requirements for the Association Volunteer AP certificate.

BTR #3- MICHIGAN RAILROAD CLUB PROGRAM The Michigan Railroad Club will be meeting at the Maplewood Community Center located at 31735 Maplewood in Garden City, Mich. We will meet in the Maple Room which is in East wing of Building. Meetings will start at 7pm and end at 8:55pm. Here is the schedule –

March 02, 2022 - Gary Sample with slides of a trip out West by Bill Wagner in the 1950's.

April 06, 2022 - A look at the Detroit, Caro & Sandusky RR by William Rauli.

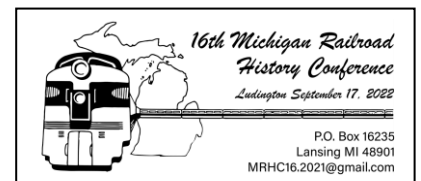
May 04, 2022 - Detroit Street Ry. by Kenneth Schramm.

June 01, 2022 - R.R. Bridges over the Saginaw River by Nathan Holth (*Program was originally scheduled for 2020 but held due to COVID. Will appeal to model railroaders too.*)

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

BTR #4- Congratulations to Dan Lewis, MMR from Division 8, as he has a photo published in the 2022 NMRA calendar! John A Campbell, Brook Qualman, MMR and Jay Qualman from the NCR also had submitted photos, but were not chosen. Speaking of calendars, the Reading Co Technical & Historical Society did their 2022 calendar of model railroads modeling the Reading RR. Your HotBox editor, Barry Hensel was fortunate to have 3 pictures printed in that calendar.

BTR #5- The 16th Michigan Railroad History Conference will be held at the United Methodist Church of Ludington in Ludington, MI on Saturday, September 17, 2022. **CALL FOR PAPERS** There are opportunities to make presentations on various aspects of Michigan's railroad history at this conference. To be considered, presentation proposals must be received by March 1, 2022. If interested, please send a suggested title, a brief description of the topic to be covered, and brief background information on yourself to MRHC16.2021@gmail.com or by mail to MRHC, PO Box 16325, Lansing MI 48901. The selection committee will review all submissions and select presentations to provide a well-rounded quality program.



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.

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

INDY JUNCTION 2022 – A NEW CONVENTION MODEL FOR A NEW ERA IN CONVENTIONS

If you've already registered for Indy Junction 2022, you've made an excellent decision. Indy Junction 2022 starts in just 101 days! If you haven't registered yet, we urge you to do so. A few convention activities have already filled up. And above all, make a room reservation at the Indy Junction 2022 special rate. We were getting close to running out of some rooms on some nights but we've just added more rooms to all nights during the convention to the reserved block of rooms. But the hotel only has so many rooms. We encourage you to reserve right away. And remember, this is a Marriott. If your plans change, you can cancel your reservation with no penalty as long as you abide by their cancelation policy. Reserve on the Indy Junction 2022 main web page - <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/Hotel>



If your schedule is still up in the air, not to worry. We'll have plenty for you even if you wait to register until the next Indy Junction 2022 Convention rate increase on April 28, 2022. And to answer that question? You can check-in to Indy Junction 2022 beginning Tuesday afternoon May 17, 2022. The exact time hasn't been called out yet - But assume mid afternoon. Hotel check-in is 4:00 PM we can tell you. (Check out isn't until 12:00.)

Do you listen to Podcasts? Ever hear of the A Modeler's Life Podcast? It's available wherever you get your Podcasts from. And if you don't know where to get a Podcast from, well just ask your smart speaker. We mention it because the Indy Junction 2022 Convention Chairman, Scott Kremer, took a couple of hours last week to record an episode of the Modeler's Life with host Lionel Strang. It's supposed to be available the 1st Monday in March. They discuss all aspects of Indy Junction 2022 and how it came to be. It's an interesting story and one worth listening to. More information on the A Modeler's Life Podcast here's a link - <https://www.amodelerslife.com/>

Both convention and hotel registration are open now. While these are the basic convention fees, there are additional fare charges for the Friends of the Freight Car Dinner, tours, and the MWTM event:

- \$85.00 Early Registration - Opening Registration to December 31, 2021
- \$95.00 Registration - January 1, 2022, to April 27, 2022
- \$110.00 Late Registration - April 28, 2022, to May 21, 2022
- \$25.00 additional Family Member(s) Registration - any date

Did you order an Indy Junction 2022 Convention Shirt when you registered? Maybe you were waiting to see what it looked like? The wait is over. You can now see a rendition here - <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/Pages/Registration> It's heather gray, which goes with everything, if that's a concern of yours, and it has a pocket to put your stuff in so you can sit in comfort. If you didn't order a shirt and changed your mind after reading all about it, just log back in with your username and password and add it on. If you run into any problems, use the contact link on the Registration Page and our Registration Team will help you out! Pre-purchased shirts will be available when you check-in on arrival at Indy Junction 2022. Shirts will not be for sale at the convention. The only way to get a shirt is to order online.

A tentative schedule has been added to the website for Layout Tours. Layout Tours at Indy Junction 2022 are ALL SELF-GUIDED. And unlike some other conventions, ALL Layout Tours are FREE. There is no additional charge for any registered Indy Junction 2022 attendee to attend any Layout Tour or Operating Session. With this NEW schedule information, you can start planning your time. Go HERE- <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/LayoutTours>



Marriott East, 7202 E 21st St
Indianapolis, IN 46219



Four Full Days
Three NMRA Regions
And the RPM Conference
Three Day Train Show
One Convention
May 18-22, 2022

Clinics
Layout Tours
Ops Sessions
Prototype Tours



www.IndyJunction2022.org



RPM
CONFERENCE



INDY JUNCTION 2022 – A NEW CONVENTION MODEL FOR A NEW ERA IN CONVENTIONS

Here's a question that may come up from your travel partner - WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WHILE YOU'RE DOING MODEL RAILROAD STUFF ALL DAY AND NIGHT?

Well, we want to let you know, and assure your travel partners, that there will be plenty of non-rail activities at Indy Junction 2022. We should note that the Non-Rail Activities Committee was last to get started but they are coming on strong. Look for more information on the Indy Junction 2022 website soon! To start off, there will be a dedicated room for non-rail meet & greet, visiting, and clinics. Nothing else is happening in that room so if some activity runs long, it won't matter because the room is dedicated. Then there will be other activities available in the room as well, including cards, puzzles, and some very basic craft supplies.

Here's 3 quick non-rail clinics that will be available (and there will be more):

Side-Tracked Wife - A very funny observation on what it's like to live with a Modeler by Marge Clark who is married to a model railroader

Ways to Journal - Having journaled for many years, Marge Clark will be discussing benefits and methods of journal-keeping.

Aging Eyes - The ability to do prolonged fine detail work close up changes with age. This presentation explains the difficulties these age-related changes present. Presenting is Dr. Richard Meetz, Emeritus Clinical Professor, School of Optometry at Indiana University.

And then there's a multitude of Self-Guided Tours around Indianapolis. Several are featured on the Indy Junction 2022 website here - Visit Indy In addition, here is a quick list compiled by the Indy Junction 2022 Non-rail Activities Committee

- Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum - 12 miles from the Marriott
- Children's Museum of Indianapolis - 10 miles from the Marriott
- Eiteljorg Museum - 9 miles from the Marriott
- Indianapolis Zoo - 10 miles from the Marriott
- Indianapolis Museum of Art - 11 miles from the Marriott
- Mass Ave - 8 miles from the Marriott
- Columbus, Indiana - 50 miles from the Marriott
- Conner Prairie Museum - 17 miles from the Marriott

More information on these self-guided destinations will be provided on the Indy Junction 2022 website soon. Note that some destinations have entry fees. As you see, if you want to experience Indy while you're in Indianapolis, there's plenty to do!

If you have questions or comments, DM (direct mail) us here info.indyjunction2022@gmail.com We'll acknowledge your email and forward your message along to the Indy Junction 2022 committee who can best answer your question or address your comment.

Visit the Indy Junction 2022 YouTube Channel for more information. Our videos are a simple and easy way to share Indy Junction 2022 with your Region, Division or Club - <https://youtube.com/channel/UChA7QKIUwSd1JVCcDpZwjA> We'll see you at Indy Junction 2022 in just 101 days

Four Full Days, Three Regions plus the RPM Conference, Three-Day Train Show, One Convention. What a deal! If you're going to go to just one model railroad convention in 2022 - THIS is the one!

As always, stay tuned for more info. There are still many things in the planning stage so be sure to visit the convention website <http://www.indyjunction2022.com> and to sign up for regular updates. And also visit the Indy Junction 2022 Facebook page for more information <https://www.facebook.com/indyjunction2022>

We have some bad news and some good news for you! The bad news is that the First Section of **Modeling With the Masters®** was sold out. The good news is that Master Model Railroader® Sam Swanson and his crew have agreed to add a Second Section that will take place Saturday morning from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. If you're unable to attend the entire convention because of work, don't forget there is a Special Saturday only rate that includes access to all Saturday Indy Junction 2022 activities, including Modeling With the Masters® AND the Train Show. (You can also attend the Train Show on Sunday with this Saturday rate). Visit the website for more information about rates- <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/> What's **Modeling With the Masters®**? Complete information is here - <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/ExtraFare> But wait! I've already completed my registration. What should I do? Well model railroaders, not to worry. Here's some information on how to register or add items to your registration, like the **Modeling With the Masters®** Extra Fare clinic: To register for Indy Junction 2022 or this Extra Fare Clinic, simply go to the website- <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/Pages/Registration>

On the convention registration page, click on the box "Start Individual/Family/Saturday Only Registration", or if you already registered touch "Already have an account, LOGIN."

On the dashboard, select the "View Schedule" button. Add this Extra Fare Clinic or click the "Modify Schedule" button if you want to change your schedule.

Click the checkbox for "Modeling With The Masters." Click the "Next" button. Verify your information is correct and click the "Next" button. Click the "Checkout" button and follow the prompts to pay for your attendance in the clinic. Detailed information about this process is available on the Indy Junction 2022 website.

BTW - The **Modeling With the Masters®** clinic is being offered to those that already registered for Indy Junction 2022 OR signed up for marketing updates FIRST - So don't delay. We expect the Second Section to sell out quickly. Sam Swanson is a truly gifted modeler and this is a great opportunity for you to learn some new techniques.



 <p>Indy Junction 2022 MWR NCR MCR RPM Conference</p> <p>Marriott East, 7202 E 21st St Indianapolis, IN 46219</p>	
	<p>Four Full Days Three NMRA Regions And the RPM Conference Three Day Train Show One Convention May 18-22, 2022</p>
<p>Clinics Layout Tours Ops Sessions Prototype Tours</p>	
<p>www.IndyJunction2022.org</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">       </div>	

THE STILWELL OYSTER CAR

These days, foodies consider oysters to be a great delicacy. You could have said the same thing in the 19th century except, of course, no one would have known what a foodie was. Back then, Americans on the east coast, in New York City in particular, ate prodigious numbers of oysters. According to one source, as early as 1877 the Fulton Fish market was selling 50,000 oysters a day. And by 1900 when New York City had a population of about 4.6 million, New Yorkers consumed over a million oysters a day. From about 1900 until World War I, the Long Island Express Co. ran four express oyster trains a day to Brooklyn.

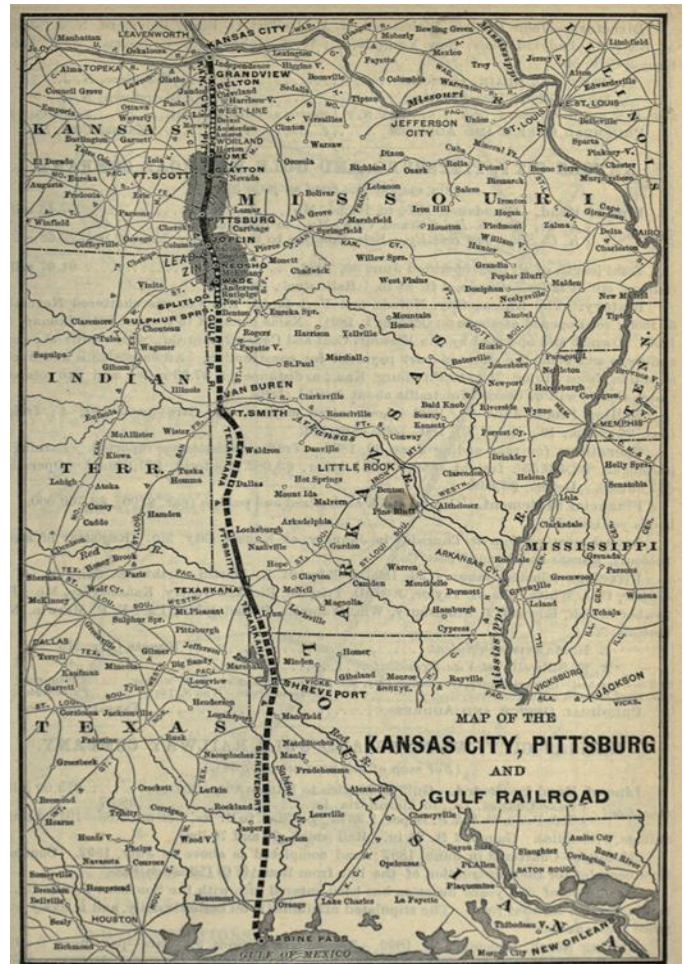
But, back then, oyster lovers who didn't live close to the ocean were pretty much out of luck. There just wasn't a reliable way of getting them from the coasts in good enough condition to eat. Railroads would seem to have been the logical choice for fast transport of live oysters inland. And oysters were shipped on ice by rail from a very early date, possibly in cars such as this.



But early railroads were mostly short haul operations and trains ran very slowly, often with long delays in yards. Interchange of cars didn't really take off until after the Civil War and then, even with the advent of so-called fast freight lines, long distance shipments were hardly quick. In 1866 the B&O built some special express cars to speed oysters to destinations as far away as Chicago. But their fastest train took fifty hours to get from Chesapeake Bay to Chicago. Those shipments could hardly be called fresh, much less alive. There had to be a better way, and the man who came up with it was Arthur E. Stillwell.

Stillwell was born in Rochester, New York in 1859. He sold insurance and must have done well at it, because, after moving to Kansas City, he began building a railroad. He must have done well at that, too, because, ultimately, he built six railroads and founded forty towns. Unfortunately, he never did well financially and at the time of his death in 1928 he was worth only \$1000. One reason for this may have been that he tended to make decisions based on what he was told by voices that he heard in his head. Stillwell began hearing these voices at age fifteen and as they got louder and more persistent, he paid more and more attention to them.

Stillwell's first big railroad dream was to connect Kansas City with the Gulf of Mexico. This he accomplished with the Kansas City, Pittsburg, and Gulf Railroad, later reorganized as the Kansas City Southern. The KCP&G terminated on the Gulf at Port Arthur TX, a town Stillwell named after himself.



Please check our website for future Model Train Show & Swap Events

Model Railroad Show & Swap

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

Website:
<http://maumeevalleyrailroad.com>

**Saturday,
March 5, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Coliseum Bingo**

**911 W. Washington Center Rd., Fort Wayne, IN
46825
(260)490-9999**

ONE COUPON PER PERSON OR FAMILY

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



THIS COUPON GOOD FOR:
\$1.00 OFF ADMISSION
March 5, 2022



From I-69, Exit at Lima Road, #311 B northbound. About one block from the interstate, turn right/east onto Washington Center Rd. Proceed about 1/2 mile. Coliseum Bingo is on the south side of the street, across from Texas Roadhouse restaurant.

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

Richard Insley
260-482-2203
mvrrc.ri@gmail.com

**Adults \$5.00, Families \$7.00, 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**
- ◆ **Historical and other organizations represented**

MVRRC reserves all rights.

This is a Pullman builders photo of the Stilwell Oyster car. It is lettered Car A. There may have been a car B but if there was, it didn't last long. Car A does show up in ORERs for the Kansas City Southern until 1903 but is gone by 1905.



from Pullman Company negative 3936 Smithsonian Institution collection

The unusual trucks used under car A were the invention of John W. Cloud, a mechanical engineer for the Pennsylvania Railroad.

<p>The only pedestal truck permitting of the use of four coiled springs or two full elliptic springs over each journal box. This permits of correct spring proportions, and proper distribution of load on boxes and journals.</p>	
<p>Cloud Trucks Manufactured by The KINDL CAR TRUCK CO.,</p>	
	<p>135 Adams St., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.</p> <p>The users of about ten thousand of these trucks say that eight years' service has proven them to be the most economical trucks on their lines.</p>

They had heavy sideframes rigidly attached to the bolster. The wheels were sprung individually. This type of truck, called a pedestal truck, enjoyed a brief popularity in the early twentieth century. Said to be an improvement over the then nearly universal archbar truck, they actually were too rigid and therefore rough riding. The best known pedestal truck was the Fox. The Cloud design, with its full elliptic leaf springs was claimed to be better riding than the Fox. Perhaps that was what led to its use under the Stilwell Oyster car. Or maybe it was just Stillwell's voices speaking to him again.

References:

The Lowly Oyster, The Pullman History Site : The Pullman Company : Arthur E. Stilwell (pullman-museum.org)

White, John H., Jr. The American Railroad Freight Car, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press; 1993, ISBN 0-8018-4404-5

Wikipedia, "Arthur Stilwell"

Wohleking, Walter, From Research to Model, The Stilwell Oyster Car, in The Cannonball, Sunrise Trail Division, Northeastern Region, NMRA, Volume 44, No. 3, Fall 2014, Volume 44, No. 4, Winter 2014

NOTE- John Bopp is a Division 6 member and has been our "historian" for several years, giving our members interesting railroad related history lessons nearly every meeting. He's really honed his skills during our Zoom meetings by enhancing his lessons with pictures and charts/maps. The HotBox will be featuring many of his lessons in the future. Thanks John!

	<p>Four Full Days - Three Regions - Three Day Train Show Clinics - Layout Tours - Ops Sessions - Prototype Tours One Convention</p>
<p>Marriott East, 7202 E 21st St Indianapolis, IN 46219</p>	<h1>May 18-22, 2022</h1>
<p>www.IndyJunction2022.org</p>	

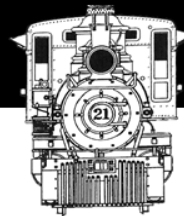
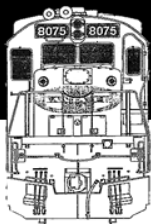
1st Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE!

Hosted by Division 6

North Central Region - National Model Railroad Association

SUNDAY – APRIL 24, 2022

10am - 3pm



George F. Monaghan Council #2690

Monaghan Banquet Center

19801 Farmington Rd, Livonia, MI 48152

Between 7 Mile and 8 Mile Rds.

72 Tables of model railroad items - ALL scales!

Door Prizes Awarded every 45 minutes!

(must be present to win)

Food Service by the Knights of Columbus!



Admission –

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

Information –

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

VENDORS! Tables are **\$25 each** Please fill out this form and mail it with payment. Must be received by Friday, April 15. Refunds given if Covid restrictions cancel show.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY/STATE _____

ZIP _____ EMAIL _____ Number of tables _____

Make check/money order to **DIVISION 6 – NCR – NMRA**

Send to- DIV 6 TRAIN SALE 43642 Lotus Dr Canton, MI 48188

SPECIAL REQUESTS – write on back of this form. Confirmation will be sent via email/mail. Set-up is 7am day of the sale only.

PROTOTYPE PAGE

NCR PROTOTYPE

In this issue of the HotBox, we highlight the **DETROIT & TOLEDO SHORELINE RAILROAD**. The images below are from the HotBox archives and we're sorry to not know who the photographers are, where the photos were taken and when. Still... enjoyable to view! Enjoy!



MI-TRAK HO MODULAR LAYOUT

NCR PROJECT

Most of us are familiar with the N scale T-Trak modular layout system. It's a neat way to build a layout without the huge modules and problems transporting those can create. Well, why not do the same in HO? Designed by Barry Hensel of Division 6, the MI-TRAK (for Michigan) system has been built and proven to be a good alternative! The idea is that this is small enough that any member can build one and transport it to our annual Fall Model RR Show & Workshop and/or display it at other events, to promote Division 6 and model railroading! HO was chosen, as most of us model in that scale!

There are no good current HO standards (that could be found) other than a group in Australia that has some standards, all in metric and using Kato track. This standard is in inches and using more accessible/affordable Bachman EZ track sections.

This is a simple design and costs about \$20-30 for the basic module, minus scenery. The nice part is, all that is needed is a bunch of tables to set this up! This is just a bit more difficult than a 12x12 square model, that we have all built in the past. The big difference... these will RUN TRAINS!!

This is designed to be DC powered, but a DCC system can easily be hooked up and many trains could be run at the same time. For DC operation, two power packs will be needed.

We hope this will inspire you to build a module or start your own group layout. These are plans for a MI-TRAK modular layout!

This is the standard module. Materials needed-

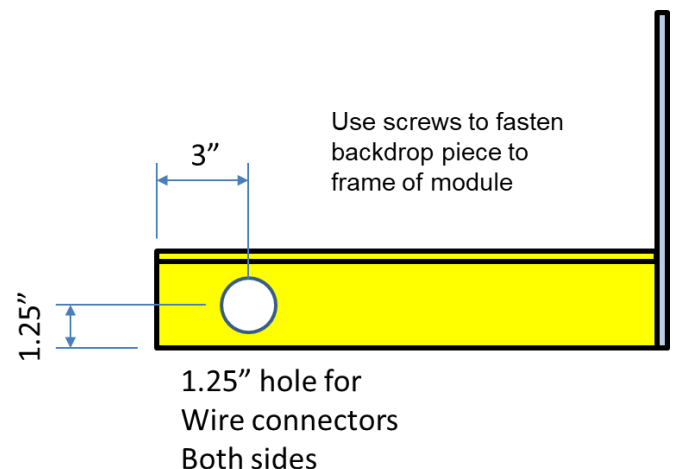
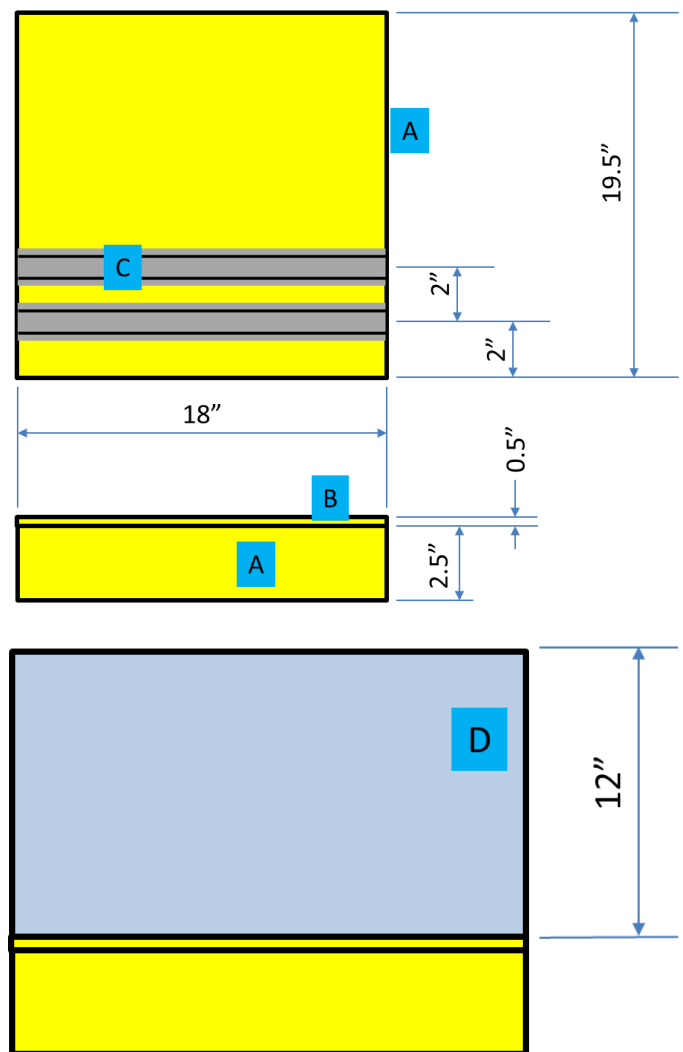
A – 1x3x18 4 needed

B – 1/2 thk plywood/OSB 18x8 (min)

C – Bachman EZ track 9" straight 4 needed

D – 1/8x15x18 masonite backdrop

NOTE – remove rail jointers from the module ends only! Modules can be wider, but **must** be in increments of 18" – 18, 36, 54, 72



**HOW ABOUT WRITING AN ARTICLE ON YOUR LATEST MODELING PROJECT!
AT THE HOTBOX, WE NEED AND WANT YOUR ARTICLES!!**

MI-TRAK HO MODULAR LAYOUT

Electrical connections between modules are with connectors from Home Depot. There are 5 in the package, so you can share with a friend, as you only need two. Use the connectors as shown below. This will ensure that you cannot connect track one to track two by mistake! Wires simply press into the connectors, after you strip some insulation off. Black wire (-) always goes into the connector port with the black outline! Track wires are on each end! Black on the outside rails, red on the inside. Use 16 ga stranded wires – 8” long and soldered to track within 2” of the track ends. Connect wires from each track to a terminal block, mounted on the back of the module. This is for hook-up to a power pack.

- Images of a completed (minus scenery) basic module and IMPORTANT NOTES:
- a) The module **MUST** be exactly 18” wide (or in increments of 18”)
 - b) Removing the rail jointers on the ends allows modules to fit together much easier. This is why wiring must be on both ends.
 - c) Center brace is optional and could go from side to side too
 - d) Not every module really needs the terminal block on the back, but several should have them to be sure power packs can be connected!



Back of module showing terminal block for hooking up power packs



MI-TRAK HO MODULAR LAYOUT

Corner module design - end dimensions are the same for both ends. Other end features are the same for standard modules, see sheet 2. Track sections are standard Bachman EZ track 9" straights. Track in-between end tracks to be Atlas code 100 flex track on cork. Dashed lines are optional configurations. All electrical connections follow the standard module plans, see sheet 4. Frame board sizes to be same as standard module - 1x3 and 1/2" plywood.

Corner module materials -

A = 18" with hole

B = 18" no hole

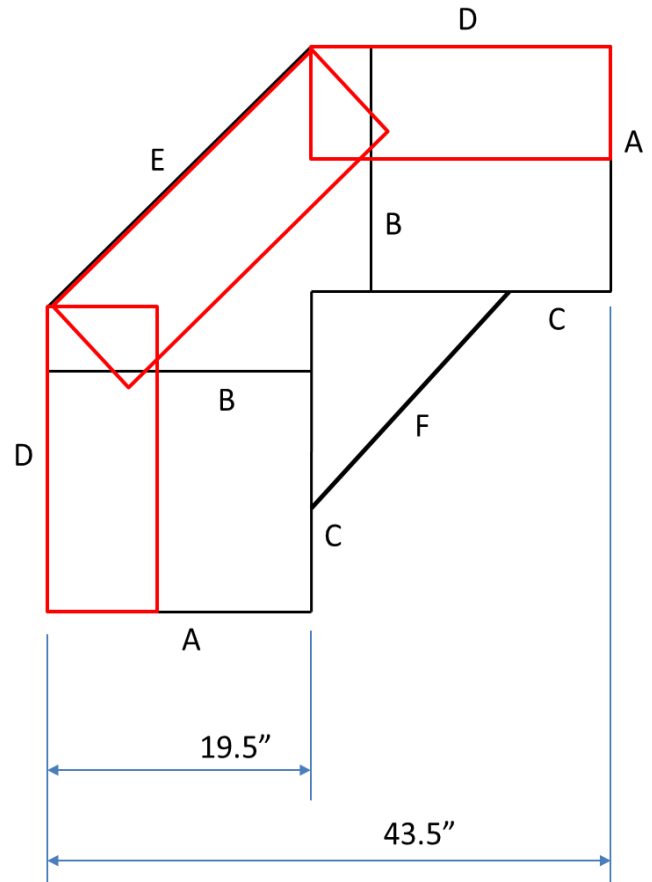
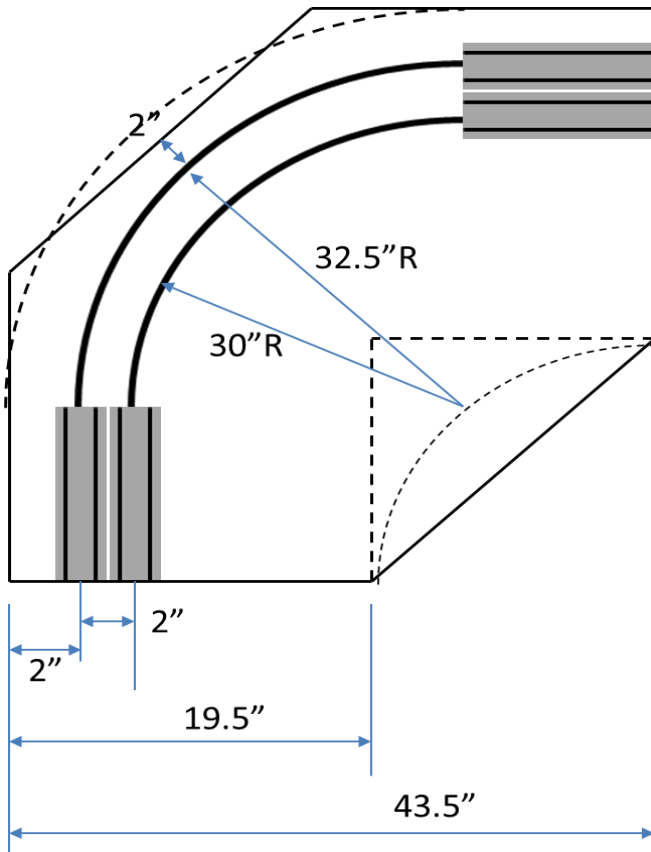
C = 24"

D = 23.5"

E = 28"

F = optional

Red outline is Plywood supplied for track, or cover the entire module.



Here are some pictures of our Division 6 layout during our first test session



MI-TRAK HO MODULAR LAYOUT

NCR PROJECT

More pictures from a second test session and from the Division 6 Fall Show & Workshop, our public debut! We also bought a used EasyDCC system and mounted it in a tool box for safety and portability.



Had an invitation to go along with Chuck White and ride in his railcar, along with 49 other railcars, for a NARCOA sponsored event on the Reading, Blue Mountain and Northern, (Google them both for more information),. And as it was quite a ways away, we looked for things to do along the way. Decided to go to Steamtown the day before and then to stop at Horseshoe Curve on the way back. So packing warm clothes for the early April weather, away we went!



Arriving Friday at Steamtown, we took in all the locomotives preserved there. Admission is free! I finally got to see a Union Pacific "Big Boy"! A huge engine, the biggest ever on the rails, and it was parked outside the museum right by the parking lot. Once in the museum, we took the guided tour through the locomotive shop, which I highly recommend. Our guide was great, with a passion for the engines in the museum. He explained things very well and also encouraged questions and comments. Saw the 0-6-0 steam engine that they are getting ready to run a steam train with, later this year. It had just passed its boiler inspection and testing the week before, but one axle and drive wheels were missing. We saw them being worked on in the shops and they should have it all back together soon. They are also working on a GP7 in NKP paint too. We wandered around the museum and after completing a walk around the roundhouse, left for lunch and our next destination, Pottsville, PA, where the railcar trip would start on Saturday. But while eating lunch, we decided to go back to Steamtown to see a few more things, just one more time.



Early Saturday morning we were at Union Station in Pottsville, PA, where 50 railcars were being set on the track. The tracks went right into a parking lot, so it was easy to get the railcars off the trailers and on the tracks. It took about 2 hours, and after a safety meeting, and signing two consent forms, we were on our way down the tracks to Good Spring, PA.



Actually, backing down the tracks to the junction that goes up to Good Spring. But before you start thinking that you can just sit on you railcar and start running, this event is sponsored by the North American Rail Car Operators Association, NARCOA, and the Reading, Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad. I have gone on several of these events and found the members to be great people who are very friendly and they pull together to help each other. Which was good as we had a few cars breakdown on our climb up the mountain. When a car unexpectedly stops, there were 3 or 4 people there right away to help. "Need a part? I've got one." If it cannot be fixed quickly, the car in front will pull it or the car behind will push it. All work together, like family or friends. We may run late, but we run together.

Perhaps you saw a picture like this in Train's magazine. They had an article on the railroad at Good Springs. I took a picture at about the same spot as we motored through the town.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILCAR TRIP

By Bob Hanna

NCR TRIP



We did not stop, as 50 rail cars would pretty much plug up the towns 3 grade crossings, so we went on to a less busy spot to stop to turn the railcars around for the return trip. The second day we were to run to Haucks, PA., via the main line from Port Clinton, where the main engine facilities are, and a neat station. But problems struck! Chucks railcar would not start up. Tried jumping the battery, and several other things, but it still would not start. Oh well, looked like we were heading home early. But like I mentioned earlier, these are good people. They helped set Chuck's car off the rails and before you knew it, there were offers to ride in other cars that had empty seats. I rode with Tracy from Maryland, Chuck rode with Jamie, one of the excursion coordinators, but we got to Haucks with the group.



When we got to Port Clinton, we saw their main engine facilities. I did not get to see the restored steam engine. Only saw the blue tender, as the steam engine itself was inside the shop with the doors all closed up. Did see three RDC cars, which will be for passenger excursions too, and saw much of the diesel power that they use on the road. They still run 3 to 4 coal trains of anthracite out of the area a week. Not so much is mined, but they reprocess tailings from the old mines and get 90% pure anthracite coal out of the tailings. And they have mountains of tailings! So off we go towards Haucks.



On the way back we stopped at Tamaqua for lunch. Our choice was a deli with very good subs. Soon though, it

was back on the rails toward Port Clinton and Reading. We did not get into Reading though. The NS was switching out the interchange so we stopped about a mile before there to keep out of their way. Turned the railcars around and headed back to Pottsville to end our two day railcar trip. Riding in a railcar, you see scenery you just wouldn't see any other way. Over bridges and through a tunnel, and when we would have to get out of the way of a scheduled freight train, they usually would send us up a branch line until the train passed. Then back on our way we all would go. If you are wondering just how popular these trips are, this trip had a cutoff limit of 50 railcars, which was quickly met, and there were 25 more railcars on the standby list in case someone canceled. Getting back in Pottsville we loaded the railcar onto the trailer and headed towards Altoona where we had a motel reservation.




We drug ourselves into Altoona late that night and

went out to visit Horseshoe Curve on our way home the next day. We wanted to visit the Railroaders Memorial Museum in downtown Altoona, but being early in the year, it was only open on weekends and this was Monday. So we drove past it and then headed out to the curve. Were there less than one hour but saw three trains. One high/wide train had ten locomotives on flatcars for India Railways headed east for export. The other trains were Amtrak's Pennsylvanian and the last one was an intermodal headed west. And on top of all that, the center track was busy with equipment changing out the rails. But as snow began to fall we left the curve and headed home, ready to rest up for another one.



HobbyTown
Play Smart

21770 W 11 Mile Rd • Harvard Row Mall • Southfield, MI 48076-3718
 248.864.5277 @hobbytown.southfield mtHobbyTown@Ameritech.net



P&D HOBBY SHOP
 31280 Groesbeck Hwy. # Fraser, MI 48026
 BUY & SELL USED LIONEL TRAINS

Mon. thru Fri. 10 am - 8 pm
 Sat. 10 am - 6 pm
 Sun. 12 pm - 5 pm

(586) 296-6116
 Fax (586) 296-5642
 www.pdhobbyshop.com



GREAT LAKES HOBBY & TOY

43055 Van Dyke Ave
 Sterling Heights, MI 48314
 586-254-1600



PLYMOUTH TRAIN SHOP



Lionel, O-Scale – MTH, HO, Williams
 Dave, manager

37980 Ann Arbor Rd
 Livonia, MI 48150
 734-454-7337

Mon-Fri 11-6
 Sat 11-4



Nankin Hobby

35101 Ford Rd
 Westland, MI 48185
 734-722-5700

33350 W Nine Mile Rd
 Farmington, MI 48336
 248-919-0040

1480 Washtenaw Ave
 Ypsilanti, MI 48197
 734-961-7575

12020 Fort St
 Southgate, MI 48195
 734-250-7382

Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy, Inc.

Over 40,000 fun items for the ENTIRE family!!

21714 Harper Ave.
 St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

p: 586.771.6770
 f: 586.771.3207



www.whistle-stop.com

Carlton Hobbies
 "We make hobbies affordable"

7172 Highland Rd.
 Waterford, MI 48327
 Phone: 248-599-7775
 www.carltonhobbiesshop.com
 Email: carltonhobbies@att.net

Hours:
 Closed Monday
 Tu-Th 10am-7pm
 Fri 10am-6pm
 Sat 10am-5pm
 Sun 11am-3pm

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



RIDER'S HOBBY SHOPS

Mon-Fri 10am-8pm
 Sat 10am-6pm (Flt)
 Sat 10am-7pm (GR)
 Sun 12pm-5pm

2061 S. Linden Rd Flint, MI 48532
 810-720-2500
 2055 28th Street SE Grand Rapids, MI
 49508 616-247-9933

WELCOME!! We have a new hobby shop on our page. Let's Welcome **HOBBYTOWN** in Southfield, MI. While they do not have much model railroad items per se, they have lots of other hobby supplies you may need for that project. Stop by and check them out and say HI and Thanks for supporting the NCR.

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!

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

We meet at Proclaim FM radio station community center at 7112 Angola Rd., Holland, OH 43528, near the Airport Highway exit from I-475/SR23 in west Toledo. Meetings are held on a Friday evening each month from September - May. During the summer (June - August) we will have field trip to a rail museum, prototype site, layout tour, etc. The exact schedule, information about our activities, member layouts, other interesting links and our monthly publication, the Train Order is posted on our website at <http://div1.ncrnmra.org>.

Division Two Tip of the Mitt (Manistee to Iosco counties, to the tip of the mitten at the Mackinac Bridge)

Due to winter driving conditions, travel distances and Covid 19, we are currently meeting online. Meets are held on the third Saturday of the month at 10 am by Zoom. In person meetings are typically held from September to May and we look forward to again meeting in person. To request meeting info and a copy of our quarterly newsletter please email 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)

Meets quarterly with other special events thrown in. For additional information contact Superintendent Mark Baldwin 616-258-0110 grandrailsdiv4@gmail.com

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. www.div5.ncr-nmra.org

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. www.div8.ncr-nmra.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)

NEW- 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 bvpsrr@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.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! **NOTE – it appears most shows are back to normal!! BUT, Please contact event organizers before you attend as “things” can change after publication.**

Saturday, March 5 - Maumee Valley Railroad Club Model Train Show & Swap **see flyer page 20**
Coliseum Bingo 911 W. Washington Center Road Fort Wayne, IN 46825 9am-2pm \$5 Adults,
\$7 Families, age 12 and under free Vendors, layout, on site concessions, free parking, historical and other
organizations represented Info: Richard Insley 260-482-2203 Website- <http://maumeevalleyrailroad.com>

Sunday, March 13 - Greater Toledo Toy & Train Show
Owens Community College 30335 Oregon Road Perrysburg, OH 43551 Randy Ramsey 419-215-4181
10AM – 3PM \$6 per person KIDS 12 and under are free! Early birds \$10 at 9am

Saturday, March 26 - Great Train Show Novi, MI - Suburban Collection Showplace 224-500-4159

Saturday-Sunday, March 5-6 and 19-20 Detroit Model RR Club Open House
104 N Saginaw Holly, MI - 248-634-5811 See what model railroading is all about. One of the largest O scale
railroads in the country. 12 noon–5pm Adults - \$5 Seniors (65 and up) -\$4 Children (5- 8) - \$2 under 5- Free

Saturday-Sunday, March 26-27, April 23-24 - Blissfield Model RR Club Open House
109 E Adrian St (US 223) Blissfield, MI Walter Trancygier 734-552-4581
10am to 3pm Admission is FREE, donations for maintenance and operation are always welcome

Saturday, April 2 - 2020 Spring Swap Meet Kalamazoo, MI
Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds Expo South 2900 Lake St Kalamazoo, MI
10am – 3pm \$3 admission, children 10 and under free David Hayes-Moats 269-344-0906

Saturday, April 2 – Model Railroad & Hobby Expo
Cardinal Elementary School 2310 Marquette Ave Muskegon, MI Info - Mike Wood 231-670-0751

Saturday, April 9 - The Greater Grand Rapids Spring Train Show
HSB (Home School Bldg.) 5625 Burlingame Ave SW Wyoming, MI
10am – 3pm \$5 admission, children 12 and under free Bill Abraham 734-347-5887 wabraham@gmail.com

Saturday, April 16 - New Baltimore Model Railroad Show
VFW Lempke-Blackwell Post 7573 35011 23 Mile Road New Baltimore, MI 48047 10AM–3PM
\$5, children under 11 free food available Info - Mike Neuendorf 860-836-0809 mikel.j@comcast.net

Sunday, April 24 - Model Railroad Sale! Hosted by Division 6 – NCR – NMRA **see flyer page 22**
Monaghan Council #2690 Monaghan Banquet Center 19801 Farmington Rd, Livonia, MI 48152 (between 7
and 8 Mile Rds) 10am-3pm \$5 per person over 18 years old (spouses/children under 18 = FREE!) 72
Tables of model railroad items - ALL scales! Door Prizes Awarded every 45 minutes! Food Service by the
Knights of Columbus! Info – Barry or Terry 734-649-3056 (6pm-9pm) div6trainshow@gmail.com

Sunday, April 26 - Montpelier Modelers RR Club Show
Quality Inn Convention Ctr 13508 State Rt 15 Exit 13 Holiday City, OH - Chuck White - 260-760-1666
10am – 3pm \$5 admission, children 12 and under free railcarman@frontier.com

Saturday - Sunday, April 30 - May 2 - Blue Water Train & Swap Meet
Birchwood Mall 4350 24th Ave Port Huron, MI (old Sears Store) 10am-4pm both days
Info – Bob 810-404-0584 Geoff 810-531-4975

NCR TIMETABLE EVENTS!

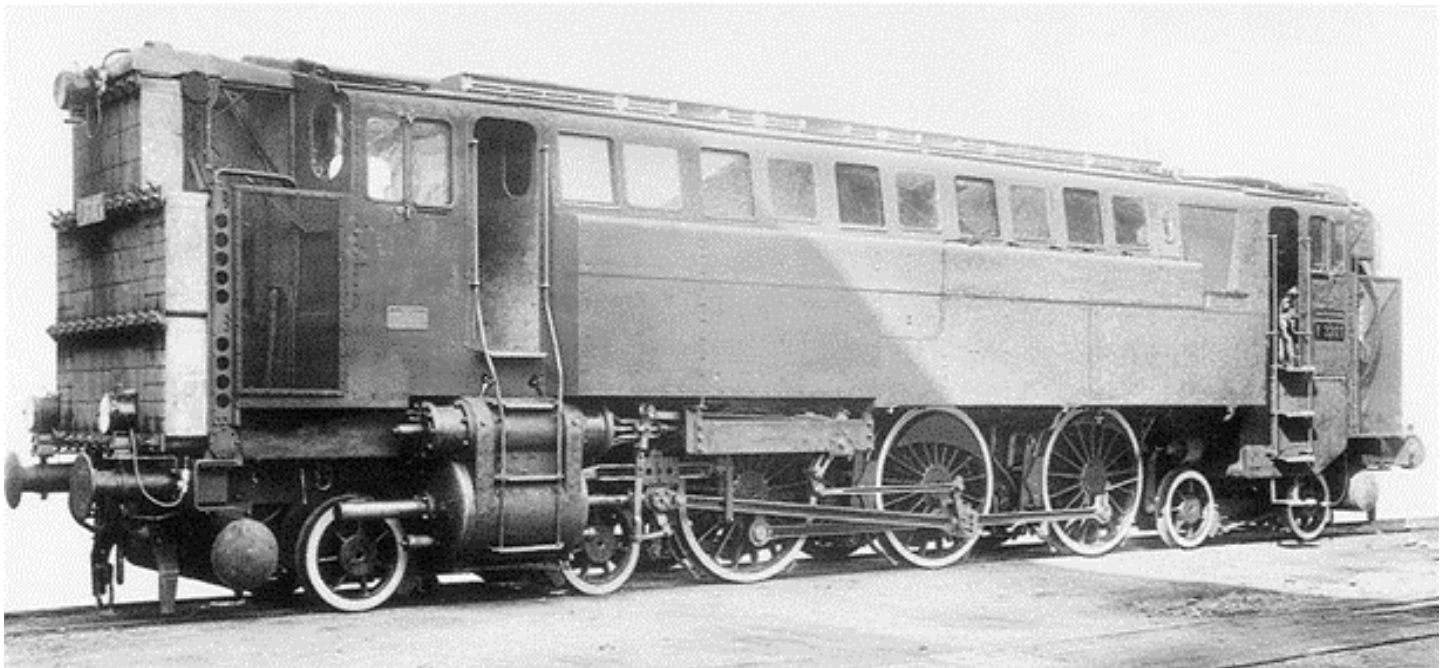
NCR AREA EVENTS

Saturday, May 7 – Train Show/Sale - Macomb Gratiot Valley Model Engineers, Inc
Elite Indoor Sports 49771 Oakland Dr, Shelby Township, MI 10am-3pm \$6 admission, under 12 free
Info - Len Schwartz gratiotvalley@gmail.com 586-468-4877

Sunday, May 15 – Durand Model Train Show Durand Middle School 9550 E Lansing Rd, Durand, MI 48429
11am-3pm \$5 admission, 10 yr old and under free Info- DUSI Office 989-288-3561

RAILROADING "WHAT THE ???" by: *Bruce Wolff, Div 6* **NCR ODDITY**

STEAM? DIESEL? BOTH??? As you know, many locomotives had Walschaerts valve gear. But how many of those were diesel locomotives? Like this one:



It turns out that in the 1920s the DRG (Germany's national railway at the time) felt that diesel engines were mature enough to try out a 1200 PS (metric horsepower) engine in a locomotive. But the question was, how to transmit the power from the engine to the wheels?

Today the answer is obvious: Have the engine drive a great big generator, with the resulting electricity powering a big electric "traction" motor on each axle. For many years in Germany another widely adopted method was the diesel-hydraulic locomotive, with the engine driving a big torque converter whose output is geared to cardan shafts that drive the wheels (like on the still-common Class 218,

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DB_Class_218#/media/File:218_813-4_K%C3%B6ln_Hbf,_2013.jpg).

But neither of those solutions was obvious in the 1920s.

So the DRG's engineers put the diesel engine on the frame of a 4-6-4 steam tank engine, and had the engine drive a huge air compressor! The compressed air then went through heat exchangers where it extracted more energy from the engine's exhaust, before going to the locomotive's cylinders the same way steam from a boiler would! Needless to say it was a failure, and was soon withdrawn from service. More info, and the source of the above photo, is at <http://www.douglas-self.com/MUSEUM/LOCOLOCO/diesair/diesair.htm>

NCR HotBox PIKE ADS



"Follow the Flag"

...to a great operating experience. Join us for a fun operating session on a large HO scale model railroad where you will learn to operate trains under timetable and train order dispatching (TT&TO).

Operations Road Show
Offering instruction in realistic Railway Operations

<http://operationsroadshow.com>
email: wab2ndops@yahoo.com



Greater Washtenaw County's HO Modular Model Railroad Club

See our web site for meeting times and locations

<http://www.railsonwheels.com>

Visitors and new members welcome!



DETROIT, MACKINAC AND MARQUETTE RAILROAD COMPANY

Saginaw Division

D.M. Mitzel, General Manager
Oxford, Michigan

As you can see below.... we have several Pike Ads that have not yet been renewed. The HotBox Staff has reached out via phone and email to these individuals and groups and we are awaiting your reply. If you did not receive those messages, we apologize!! PLEASE reach out to us ASAP so we can get your ad renewed for the next issue and beyond. **THANKS!!** (Please... also check your email spam folder for those emails)

Quality model railroading in S Scale 1:64



Memberships open!
Visitors welcome!
For more information we're on the web @ www.smsgtrains.org - or contact earl.carlsen@att.net

Lake Shore Garden Railway Club



G Track: Standard and Narrow Gauge Scales - Garden Layouts & Modular Show Layout

New Members Welcome
www.lakeshoregrc.org



GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY
KALISPELL DIVISION

GERALD G SHAWHAN
SUPERINTENDENT
ggs2990@frontier.com

YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD

Michigan to Montana

Joel Goldberg,
Superintendent

MEMBERSHIPS OPEN
MEETS EVERY MONDAY AT 7:30PM



Gratiot Valley Railroad Club

381 NORTH AVE.
N. CLEMENS, MI 48043
FOR INFORMATION CALL- 586-468-4877
www.gvrr.org



Society Of N-Scalers (SONS)
Model Railroad Club
Detroit, Michigan
Hours: Mon, Wed 5:30pm - 9pm
Saturday 10am - 1pm

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!
For information contact:
Shawn Barrios (President)
shawnb426@yahoo.com
Facebook page: Society Of N-Scalers Detroit

NCR HotBox PIKE ADS

DETROIT AND
PORT HURON RR



Service on the dot

TERRY & DONNA BOSSICK
Roseville, MI



Calumet & Miscowaubik
Railroad

Michigan's Copper Country
1913 in HO scale

Mike Sutinen Ann Arbor, MI

Michigan
Southern


Serving
Southeast
Michigan

Norm Logan
Northville, MI



Larry Wolohon
President & Chief
Bottle Washer

2 Rail O scale
Late 1940's
Branchline TBD
Plymouth, MI



LOST DIVISION
Mountain Branch


Operates 3rd Tues at 7:30pm
BOB HANNA Defiance, OH



MICHIGAN
LINES

Jay and Brook Qualman | Milford, Michigan

THE ROAD WEST



A Division of
NP RAILWAY

KEN CHICK
NORTHVILLE, MI

Barry Hensel Canton, MI Era- 1970
HO Scale




CENTRAL DIVISION





Detroit Division
Curt Danielewicz
Macomb, Michigan

COPPER VALLEY
RAILWAY



JIM ZINSER
Dearborn Heights, Mich.



GTWHS
PO BOX 183682
SHELBY TWP, MI 48317

Come visit us on the 2nd floor of the historic
Durand Union Station on Saturdays
between 1 and 4 PM

BLISSFIELD
MODEL RAILROAD CLUB



GIANT HO SCALE MODEL RAILROAD
Frequent FREE Open House Events

109 E. Adrain Blissfield, MI 49228 www.bmrr.org
m.facebook.com/BlissfieldMRC/



COLORADO & SOUTHERN
RAILROAD

CLEAR CREEK BRANCH
Dan Kempf
Ann Arbor, Michigan



Chessie System
Huntington Division
Richard Neibert
Superintendent



Southeast Michigan Free-mo
Modular Group

- International modular standard
- Free-form module designs
- Point-to-point prototypical operation
- Participate at events across the country
- Every setup is unique

Join the conversation at semichiganfreemo.groups.io
or search "SE Michigan Free-mo" on Facebook.

South Oakland County
Model Railroad Club

Hazel Park, MI
Meets Tues. & Fri. at 7:30 PM
New Members Welcome

For information Contact
info@socmrrc.org
www.socmrrc.org



YOU too, can have a Pike
Ad for your railroad or
club! Just email the
HotBox Staff for all the
details. We'll even help
you design your Pike Ad.
**And best of all... It's
cool!!**



LaRoutesdesVinRR
Reflections on a Classic Europe

Tony Britsky, Troy, MI www.LaRoutesdesVinRR.com

Permit Holder:
National Model Railroad Association
The North Central Region,
c/o Jonathan Pulling, Resident Agent
1826 Linden Street
East Lansing, MI 48823

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LIVONIA, MI
Permit No. 1230**



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

MORE LAYOUT PHOTOS

MORE HOW-TO-DO ARTICLES

MORE INFORMATION

.... stay tuned!

**INDY JUNCTION
RECAP**

***RailFanning the Grand Rapids
Model Railroad Historical Society***



QUICK – EASY WEATHERING