



# THE *HotBox*

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

VOL. 63 NO. 3

AUTUMN 2022

## *RAILFANNING LAYOUTS OF DIVISION 9 – NCR One Day RAILFANNING GREG STONEROCK'S DM&IR LAYOUT*



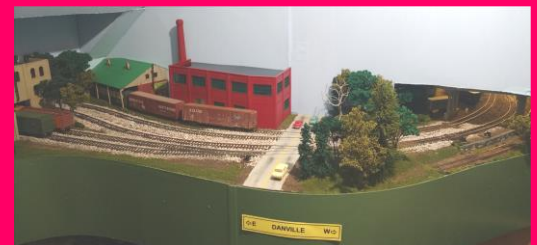
### *INDY JUNCTION RECAP*



### *59<sup>th</sup> STREET SPUR*



### *HEINZ CARS*



### *THE CLOSET EXPANSION Part 2 NCR ONE DAY CONVENTION 2022 NEWS!*

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

## The HotBox

AUTUMN 2022  
Vol. 63, 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](mailto:mstull@marshallstull.com)

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

HELLO!! Autumn is near and believe it or not, Winter is not that far off either. This is OUR time to shine, as model railroading is primarily an "indoor" activity. With the weather getting cooler/colder, we turn to our layouts and projects to stay busy. It's also time for train shows/sales and another NCR event. That event is the One Day (really two) Convention hosted by Division 9! All the latest information is in this issue of the *HotBox*, so check it out, get registered and we'll see you there!

Also up-coming is the Division 6 annual **MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & WORKSHOP**. This will be our 44<sup>th</sup> annual event! What makes this event "unusual" is that it is all a demonstration event. We're there to inform and answer questions on how to do model railroading. We also get some friends with portable layouts to attend. It's always fun to see trains running! See page 21 for all the details.

Speaking of train shows/sales events, it looks like we ARE back to normal with these events! YEAH!! I have not heard of any cancellations or event requirements of masks or other restrictions. YEAH!! I hope you will be able to take part in these events, either as a seller or buyer. Lots of people out there with lots of items for sale at some very fair prices. And, we have several NEW events on the calendar! It seems SE Michigan and the NCR area is blessed with so many of these events! YEAH!! I hope to see you out and about.

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! In the June issue, we had no corrections reported.

**FRONT COVER PICTURES-** NMRA logo, Closet Expansion looking complete, Heinz railroad cars, Indy Junction logo, A DM&IR engine

removes empty taconite cars on the Duluth, MN taconite/ore dock after loading a "Great Lakes" freighter on Greg Stonerock's DM&IR layout; Division 9 logo

**REAR COVER PICTURES-** Division 9 logo; Division 3 logo; The Dalles switcher starting its day on the Burlington Southern Railroad of John Hanske.



# 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  
wcmcmillan7456@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

We all love our coffee (or tea) but what does your mug say about you?? Here's a few to consider.....



# **PRESIDENT'S OBSERVATION**

**Dave Capron**

The NMRA is divided into Regions which is further divided into Divisions. The majority of the weekly and monthly activities are organized and lead by the Division officers and members. One of the main functions of the Regional officers is the Annual Regional Convention. While the Divisions rotate the hosting of this convention it is the responsibility of the Regional Board to oversee it each year.

Because the membership deserves to attend a convention with some expectations the NCR board created a "Convention Standard Practices" to help with those expectations. When we first started the planning of the Tri-Regional Convention at the Kansas City National in 2018 we looked at National vs Regional Conventions to see what could be reasonably be improved upon. Some of the ideas were tied at the Toledo Convention of 2021 with great reviews. In September there will be an NCR BOD Zoom meeting to review the following Convention standard to see which ones that need to be implemented into our "Standard Practices" for the membership to expect and look forward to each year at our annual convention. Please review these and let your Division Superintendent know which ones you would like to see regularly at our annual Regional Conventions. Feel free to contact me with any thoughts and ideas you want to express.

**1.** Schedule the clinics in the morning and evening with the layout tours, op sessions and prototype tours in the afternoon. The main reason for this is so you are not traveling back to your hotel late at night in the dark in unfamiliar areas. As not everyone goes on tours, clinics that can be scheduled for a repeat will be done in the afternoons.

**2.** Schedule clinics with 30 min between them. This permits time to meet the presenters, other attendees, stop by the rest room and just not be rushed

**3.** Schedule a Railroad Yard Sale. A silent auction is a logistical hassle even with a computer. The

yard sale has you set your price, anyone wanting the item just pays the price and takes it with them. A percentage goes to the convention and it is done. This was a great success at both Toledo and Indy.

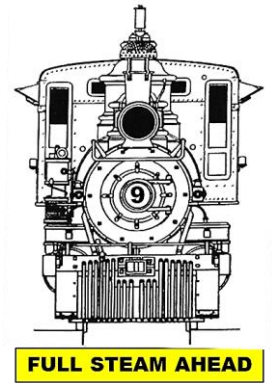
**4.** While not everyone wants to work on AP Certificates there are multiple opportunities at a convention for members to earn points. These should be recorded and awarded at the convention with the appropriate documentation presented to these volunteers.

**5.** It was decided awhile back to switch from a 'contest' to a show presentation at the convention. Based on the number of dwindling entries at our conventions since and the number of contest entries from NCR members at Indy Jnc, I believe it is time to go back to Model Contests at our conventions.

**6.** Indy Jnc had three Regions and the RPM. The RPM has a policy of awarding their clinic presenters with NO registration fee. So we followed suit for the NMRA clinic presenters. Considering that without clinics there would be no convention this is something to consider. Maybe pay 50% or all for those that agree to give their clinic as a repeat in the afternoon.

The NMRA is a volunteer organization and needs you to volunteer your time and energies. Some of the above will need additional help for your conventions. Remember that one of the AP Certificates is "Volunteer" so get ready and contact your Division officers. Our next convention will be in Ft Wayne in the fall of 2023. See you there...!

**Dave Capron, President, NCR**



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

I like to take pictures at OP sessions. Sometimes I add captions to them and share them with those in the picture and others. It first started with an OP session at Bill & Steve Rigg's Montana Rail Link model railroad when one operator was having trouble with a derailed car. Another guy knelt down to help him. Looking at the photo it appeared to me that they were kneeling in prayer, so I added what I thought would be an appropriate caption.



We then got invited to an OP session at the Montpelier club. Again, I took some pictures and using my computer, cropped and added captions to several photos. At the time the club was in a building without air conditioning and it was getting warm. I had not noticed it when I took the picture, but one of the members was caught in the photo with his eyes closed and wiping his forehead. So, noting that he had been helping us visitors to navigate the layout, I thought we might have caused this caption to be going through his head.



We were not familiar with the computer-generated switch list that they gave us. But that never stopped us. Bill had brought his two F Units to try out and was using them on his train. He wanted to see how they would pull. Well, Bill saw the pick-up section of the switch list, but missed the set-out section entirely. His train just kept getting longer and longer. When his long train got over to switch another industry, it was already the longest train on the layout! That was when they pointed out to him that he was missing the set outs. Bill got to see that his F Units would indeed pull a long train! So, I added this caption.



I take photos at my OP sessions too, where everything does not always go perfectly. Van Doren is one of the busiest towns on the layout and we have a yard master and an assistant working there. They are in charge of getting the Mountain Branch trains across the main line without stopping the main line trains, because the control panel for the electric switches is there. It doesn't always go smoothly and sometimes the switches don't get thrown back for the main line trains until the last minute, or second. So these captions seemed appropriate.





# CAPTIONS ADDED

by Bob Hanna, Division 3

NCR FUN

I like to have my operators try their hand at different jobs on the layout. Blaine usually handled Grafton Yard, but he could not make it to the OP session this time. Gary said that he would try working Grafton, for the first time, he did a good job too. But looking at the photos later, I wondered what he was doing and thought this caption might be in order.



Of course this is all done in fun, with a little tongue-in-cheek. These and more captioned photos have been shared and viewed with no objections so far. It is just when we take a look at a photo, it is not surprising to have second thoughts as to what is going on. Like this one when we stopped in to see the progress on a friend's layout, I was told by one of the gentlemen in this photo that my caption caught his thoughts exactly.



## RAILFANNING Layouts of Div 9 – NCR One Day NCR TRACKSIDE

Here are some of the layouts you can see at the NCR ONE DAY convention – *left, down then right* – Maynard Mitchell CNW/SOO/NP/DSS&A HO; Kalamazoo Model Railroad Historical Society Cooper Park and Eastern RR HO; Jim Fankhauser Tri County Railroad HO; Jim Glenn Belt and Terminal Railroad HO





# **RAILFANNING Layouts of Div 9 – NCR One Day** **NCR TRACKSIDE**

MORE layouts to see at the NCR ONE DAY convention - *left, down then right* - Dave Vinci HO PRR; Bill Nicholes/Kevin Kizer B&M HO; Dale and Deb Killarney HO; Frank Zajac Cotton Belt HO; Dick DeVisser Pavilion Railroad HO; Andy McConachie O/O27; Rick Garthe CNW HO; Steve Wood GN HO





# **RAILFANNING GREG STONEROCK'S DM&IR**

**NCR TRACKSIDE**

Greg Stonerock's HO scale DM&IR Railroad layout focuses on the 1970's in the northern MN area and cities. Primary operations are moving iron ore to a plant to make taconite, then moving taconite from ore processing to the Duluth, MN docks to load ships and to a Duluth area steel mill. Other industries relate to the lumber and paper industries. Pictures, left, down then right - USS Duluth Works rolling mill Duluth MN; Fairlane Taconite Plant Forbes MN; Bridge going into downtown Duluth MN; Soo switching in Virginia MN; Paper mill Grand Rapids MN; Como lube and oil. Duluth MN.





# **RAILFANNING GREG STONEROCK'S DM&IR** **NCR TRACKSIDE**

*Left, down, then right* – 2 views of the Engine house DMIR yard Proctor MN; Lumber mill Grand Rapids MN; Highway overpass going into Proctor MN; Hull Rust open pit mine Hibbing MN; Ore dock being switched Duluth MN; Scrap yard USS Duluth MN; Taconite Plant yard.



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

Our 2022-2023 season will begin with our meeting on September 16, 2022 and will include a "What I did over the summer" Show and Tell session. The new season is looking to be a very good one with some new clinics including modeling a Limestone Plant, using Servos and 3D printing clinics planned. We are even working on some modeling challenges that our members can participate in and have fun with. All our meetings include snacks, door prizes and enjoying the hobby with friends! More information will be posted in the Division newsletter, The Train Order and on our website as plans progress. Our website address is <http://div1.ncrmra.org>. Our Facebook group is located at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ncrdiv1>.  
(Submitted by- Marshall Stull, Superintendent)

***Division Two - Tip Of The Mitten*** (Manistee to Iosco counties, north to the Mackinac Bridge and across to 3 eastern UP counties). Plans are currently underway to schedule clinics and speakers for our Fall meetings. Our Show and Tell segments also give us an opportunity to see what our members have been working on as they make progress, or not, on their own Layouts. Our meetings are held on the third Saturday of the month unless there are conflicts with other activities. When we gather, we hold hybrid meetings at 12:30 pm, simultaneously by Zoom and in person at Grace Episcopal Church in Traverse City. The next scheduled meeting will be held on September 17th. Send an email to [jens.hensel50@gmail.com](mailto: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)***

On July 23 & 24 the 3 Rivers Division just finished having over 500 kids of various ages operating several timesavers in the start of our summer season of getting kids interested in model railroading. This will be our 2nd year of doing this program and if things go as well as they did last year, we will reach over 3000 kids allowing them an opportunity to run a model train along with giving away over 30 train sets in the next few months to various kids and their families. We have finally secured a Convention site for Ft Wayne Rails Convention in 2023 and are working to make this a memorable and exciting event for all.  
(Submitted by- Bob Jones, Superintendent)

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

We meet monthly with the following fall schedule –

\*\* Saturday, October 8, 2022 and Saturday, December 10, 2022 at the Herrick Public Library North Branch  
155 Riley St, Holland, MI 49424

\*\* Saturday, September 10, 2022 and Saturday, November 12, 2022 at the Community of Christ Church  
6001 West River Dr NE, Belmont, MI 49306

All meetings start at 10am and details to be determined. More details to be announced. For more information contact Mark Baldwin at [grandrailsdiv4@gmail.com](mailto:grandrailsdiv4@gmail.com) or Tim Scott at [tjscott46@hotmail.com](mailto:tjscott46@hotmail.com) or visit the division website <https://div4ncr.wordpress.com> (submitted by Mark Baldwin, Div 4 Superintendent)

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

The Clinton River Division is moving on to its second round of layout tours post-Covid and unfortunately, we're still trying to line up our first quarterly operating session more so with scheduling at this point as well as obtaining a sufficient number of participants surprisingly. 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 Five – Capital Division (Lansing and mid-lower Michigan area)***

It has been a quiet month in the Capital Division as we take the summer off. Having finally had an in-person meeting in May, we are looking forward to getting together again on the second Saturday in Sept. While the Division has been quiet, many of the members have been busy. Superintendent Andy Keeney, Treasurer Ron St. Laurent and John Young did a set of three clinics at the Indy 22 Convention regarding the development and use of car cards in the operation of Andy's large HO scale Nashville Lines layout. Clerk Mark Cowles was also at Indianapolis with a set of 3 T-Trak N scale modules as part of the huge T-Trak modular layout that was one of numerous layouts operating during the convention. Mark, who is also Superintendent of the Lansing N-Trak club, LaNtrak, attended the N Scale Enthusiasts Convention in Nashville. The Capital Division usually puts together a summer layout tour, but between getting ready for conventions, summer vacations and the like, it hasn't happened. Wait until next year. Meanwhile, a number of Capital Division members will be participating with layouts or modules at the 40th annual Railfan Days at Crossroads Village/Huckleberry Railroad on Aug. 6 & 7. See you there. Contact [tdavis@msu.edu](mailto: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. You can subscribe to the 15-25 page monthly Division 5 Newsletter. Send a request, Mark Cowles, at [nkpcowles@yahoo.com](mailto:nkpcowles@yahoo.com). For more information, see the Division 5 website: [div5.ncr-nmra.org](http://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)***

In Division 6 - The Motor City Division, we continue to meet in-person and on zoom every month. We've had some great meetings with clinics, also set-up our HO MI-Track layout and a swap meet night! We've also announced our next Model Railroad Sale event – Sunday, January 22, 2023. We're at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills, which is the same building that the Redford RR Club used to hold their shows. A flyer will be in the December *HotBox*, but is also available now on our Div 6 website. Speaking of our MI-Track layout, we recently attended the Southern Michigan RR Days event in August. While we didn't have all of our members with modules attend, we had a nice size display at about 16" long. We had a great time showing model railroading to all that attended! And that, was one of the motivators of building this layout. Div 6 is also gearing up for our 44<sup>th</sup> annual MODEL RR SHOW & WORKSHOP. At this event, we're answering model railroad questions and displaying many layouts. It's been a great time doing this event and promoting our hobby! See our flyer page 21 of this *HotBox*! Our newsletter "On The Rails" and other information can be found on our website - [www.div6-ncr-nmra.com](http://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 has quite a Fall 2022 planned. In September, Division 9 and the Michiana Division of the MWR Region will meet together in Hartford, MI at the West Michigan Railroad facilities for a tour of three locations and to hear about the activities, growth and what they are going to do with the Federal money they just received in a big grant. October brings our "one day (really two days) convention". Plan on joining us! November brings another zoom presentation on "poultry cars" by Doug Harding to our meeting. December has a presentation by our own Joel Pryor on the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad.  
(Submitted by: Rich Mahaney, NCR Director)

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

The 10 Wheelers of NCR Division 10 continue to meet on the fourth Thursday of the month. In June, we visited Bill Hays' outdoor Michigan Central Railroad and had an enjoyable evening ride through the woods. Our July meeting was used to help set up layouts and displays for Railfans Weekend at Huckleberry Railroad. We will not have an August meeting, since many of our members will be involved with Day Out With Thomas activities at Crossroads Village. Our September meeting will get us back on track as we meet at the EAA Chapter 77 meeting room at Dalton Airport in Flushing. For more information contact [ncrdiv10@gmail.com](mailto:ncrdiv10@gmail.com), or Superintendent Wayne Wilder at 989-823-3409. (Submitted by Wayne Wilder, Superintendent)

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,  
November 19, 2022  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 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  
November 19, 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](mailto: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**

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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....

A nice article on how steam needed a "push" and many railroads turned to electrification. Thanks Div 6 member Terry Kosmas for sharing this link..... [https://steamgiants.com/wiki/railway-electrification/?fbclid=IwAR1hoRohQsIcXM-9N4qvSb32inmi4h1IXC7m0km\\_HcS186j5GqJwUaRkg0U](https://steamgiants.com/wiki/railway-electrification/?fbclid=IwAR1hoRohQsIcXM-9N4qvSb32inmi4h1IXC7m0km_HcS186j5GqJwUaRkg0U)

Of course everyone knows your *HotBox* Editor models the Reading Railroad. Do you know that the RCT&HS (Reading Company Technical & Historical Society) has quite the museum in PA? Here's a new video of our Reading Railroad Heritage Museum – nice!! [www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXbg8mEIV90](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXbg8mEIV90)

Interesting! Here's another sent in by Terry Kosmas - Check this interactive map, click on any train number.... <https://asm.transitdocs.com/?fbclid=IwAR1YQT7V9Ka6pniz4XXBBXEwWeZD4IXWG6AbJfUbvAior7Co3Rx147Wyc0>

**BTR #2- FOX VALLEY MODELS** sold! In a letter to customers and the public, it is noted that Fox Valley Models has been sold to Scale Trains. FVM made N and HO scale detail parts, rolling stock and locos. The brand name will continue under the Scale Trains company. For more details, see <https://shopfvm.com/>

**BTR #3- MICHIGAN RAILROAD CLUB PROGRAM** The Michigan Railroad Club has changed meeting places again, not due to any fault of theirs! They 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. Once inside turn right and go South down the hallway to Room 275 which is on the West side of the hallway. ALL are most welcome! So why not come out and check out the new place. Meetings will start at 7pm and end at 8:50pm. Here is the schedule –

**September 07, 2022** - Program by Mark Cowles.

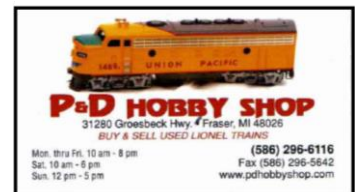
**October 05, 2022** - "New England Holiday, Pt 2" by Brad Noyes.

**November 02, 2022** - Open projector nite. Bring 8 minutes of your material to show to the group. Slides, digital, video. Let program chairman know what you are bringing so we can have a projector available.

**December 07, 2022** - Program by Gary Sample

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

**BTR #4-** Just after the June *HotBox* was published, we learned of another Hobby Shop closing. And this one was a biggie! Sad to say that by time you are reading this, P&D Hoppy Shop in Frasier has closed. P&D had been operating for 50 years. Owner Pat passed away last year and his family kept it going as long as they could. There is some good news despite the store closing and that is that they will still have an on-line store! Check them out at [www.pdhobbyshop.com](http://www.pdhobbyshop.com)



**BTR #5-** In the model press (MR magazine) we see Grand Rapids street railways mentioned in Tony Koester's June editorial; Photo by Craig Wilson of Mike Burgett's C&O layout in August; Jay & Brook Qualman with John Bussard photo of the Michigan Lines layout in July. Congratulations to all!

**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!!**

# NCR ONE DAY *(really two!)* MODEL RAILROAD CONVENTION - KALAMAZOO/BATTLE CREEK, MI

The NMRA NCR Division 9 is hosting an **NCR ONE DAY Model Railroad Convention** over two days **OCT 28-29, 2022** which will include layout tours, clinics, a special dinner and hopefully some operating session, all of this is over a Friday afternoon through Saturday time frame. The location is in the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek area of Michigan. The Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club will be hosting their annual fall train show and sale on the Sunday (Oct 30) of that weekend if you would like to attend that also. A weekend of railroading activities. Hotel selection in the area is on your own.

The Registration location on Friday will be at the first layout at 3:30pm in Galesburg. You can view the layout and pick up registration related materials. Registration and clinics on Saturday will be at **The River Church**, located at 517 Walbridge, in downtown Kalamazoo. The building is northeast of the Kalamazoo Amtrak Station, and their parking lot backs up to the train tracks.

**Oct 28, Friday afternoon**, there will be layout open houses from 3:30pm to 6:00pm. You must have a paid registration and convention badge to see the layouts. Registration for the convention will occur at the first layout on the tour.

**Oct 28, Friday evening**, there will be a gathering of model railroaders for dinner at Clara's Restaurant in downtown Battle Creek starting at 6:30pm. You need to reserve a spot for this event and dinner will be ordered off the menu with individual bills. Who knows what might be scheduled for education, entertainment, and fun!

**Oct 29, Saturday**, at the River Church, registration from 7:30am to 8:30am and time to visit with other model railroaders. Free refreshments and some breakfast foods during registration and the clinics! Clinic times are- 8:30am, 9:45am and 11am. 12 clinics will be presented between four different rooms. Lunch on your own. Then more model railroad layout viewing 1:00pm to 5:00pm, operating sessions on Saturday evening. 11 layouts will be open for viewing on Saturday afternoon.

More information will all be posted on The NMRA NCR Division 9 website, including information about paying with credit cards for registration and the Friday registration site. The Division 9 website address is - <http://ncr-div9.com/conventionForm.php> Registrations at this time can be check or money order made out to NMRA, NCR, Division 9. Cut off the registration form below and mail it to Division 9 Superintendent and Convention Registrar **Garry Johnson, 371 32<sup>nd</sup> Street N, Springfield, MI 49037**. Registration fees are to be paid in US Dollars only: Pre-registration is \$25, the late registration fee is \$30 on or after August 31, 2022. Yup, send your money and registration in now and save some money!  
For more information or question contact Rich Mahaney at 269-214-4221 or [rcmahaney@gmail.com](mailto:rcmahaney@gmail.com)

----- **REGISTRATION FORM** **Garry Johnson, 371 32<sup>nd</sup> Street N, Springfield, MI 49037** -----

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ NMRA Number \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested or planning to attend the Friday, Oct 28, 2022 dinner at Clara's in Battle Creek, the cost of dinner will be on your own. **YES** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO** \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in attending operation sessions on Friday or Saturday evening? **YES** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO** \_\_\_\_\_  
More information will follow in the future as these get set up.



# NCR ONE DAY *(really two!)* MODEL RAILROAD CONVENTION - KALAMAZOO/BATTLE CREEK, MI



Michigan Central Depot, Battle Creek, Mich.



Welcome to Clara's!

Serving Mid Michigan since 1992 We celebrate the spirit of the past here at Clara's. Good friends, great food in beautiful surroundings reminiscent of a simpler time.

The Michigan Central Railroad Depot was built in 1888 to support the growing transportation needs of Battle Creek and the U.S. Army training center at Fort Custer. It was heavily used by soldiers departing for overseas duty in World War I and World War II.

Although the Michigan Central Railroad Depot stopped serving passengers in the early 1980's, today the Depot continues to serve customers making stops from all over the country as Clara's on the River.

The River Church 517 Walbridge Kalamazoo, MI



Above - Mid-Michigan Railroad Club

Left - Battle Creek Model RR Club

## Friday - Saturday OCT 28-29, 2022

**INDY JUNCTION**, a tri-Regional convention is history! The Mid-East, North Central and Mid-West Regions were joined by the Chicago RPM group to host this event. It was a national caliber event, all in a weekend (4 days). Registrations were over 500 people! With 90 clinics, 51 layout tours, a yard sale room, model display and contest room and a 3 day show/vendor area, it was a complete event. To add to the general success, Indy Junction was also profitable! All Regions and the RPM group benefitted from this event. But, one of the greatest accomplishments from Indy Junction, was NMRA President Gordy Robinson (who attended from the Orkney Islands off the coast of Scotland!) has recommended to the NMRA Board of Directors, that future NMRA National conventions, starting in 2025, be of this format! With that recommendation (the Board has yet to debate and vote on this), Scott Kremer, MMR from the NCR has suggested that the NCR and Detroit area be that first 2025 National convention in this new format!!

In that contest room, the NCR had several members that took home several awards! There were 105 models, 9 displays, 36 photos, and 8 arts and crafts entries. This totals out to 158 entries. 45 Merit Awards were earned. Congratulations to all the winners, especially these from the NCR -

- People's Choice Favorite Locomotive and  
1st Place Scratch Diesel & Other Locomotives –  
*Brook Qualman, DRT Electric Engine*
- 1st Place Kit Steam Locomotive and Shorty Parker Award –  
*Dave McMullian, Boston & Maine P-4a Pacific #3713*
- 1st Place Scratch Passenger Car –  
*David Zolnierok, Silvertom RR Yankee Girl Coach*
- 2nd Place Scratch Passenger Car –  
*David Zolnierok, Silverton Railway Mail Car #11*
- 3rd Place Scratch Passenger Car –  
*David Zolnierok, Silverton Gladstone & Northerly Combine 1*
- 1st Place Model B&W Photo –  
*Rick Ware, Cooper & Sawyer Rwy, Moduler Layout*
- 3rd Place Color Prototype Photo –  
*Rick Ware, 2 Men Working on Steam Locomotive*
- 1st Place Prototype B&W Photo –  
*Rick Ware, 6 Locomotives Around Turntable*
- 2nd Place Prototype B&W Photo –  
*Rick Ware, Huckleberry RR #152 on Trestle*
- 1st Place Arts & Crafts Needlework –  
*Marie Ware, Blu Day Lily Art Quilt*
- 2nd Place Arts & Crafts Needlework –  
*Marie Ware, Modern Sampler Art Quilt*
- 3rd Place Arts & Crafts Needlework –  
*Marie Ware, Wow-ow-lin' Art Quilt*
- 1st Place Arts & Crafts Railroadiana –  
*E. Phillip Doolittle, Handcar Shed on the Hillsdale Wye*
- 2nd Place Arts & Crafts Railroadiana -  
*Rick Ware, Huckleberry RR No. 152*
- 3rd Place Arts & Crafts Railroadiana –  
*Rick Ware, Santa Train Art Quilt*



We would certainly be remiss if we did not say **THANK-YOU!!!** to all of the volunteers and staff members who made this event possible. Some were "pressed" into service at near the last minute and ALL shined brightly in doing their tasks! This was a great effort by three NMRA Regions and the RPM group. We hope our example and success resonates and inspires other Regions all across the NMRA! THANKS again!! Congratulations!!



# INDY JUNCTION WRAP-UP

NCR EVENT

Here are some pictures from INDY JUNCTION.....





## H J Heinz Co. House Car Fleet, 1890s – 1910s

The H J Heinz Company has a long history of shipping its products by rail. In 1888 Henry John Heinz bought out the partners in his small food packing company and reorganized it as the H. J. Heinz Company. It proved to be a very successful venture and soon Heinz offered over 60 products. Heinz served as company president until his death, May 14, 1919.

The company quickly grew to national status. This required long distance transport of Heinz' products as well as goods in process. In the late nineteenth century this could only have been done by rail. At that time farmers would deliver their crops to salting stations located in small towns or rural areas. The brined pickles were then shipped in pickle tank cars to urban plants for further processing. These were the low rectangular cars sometimes referred to as 'coffin' cars. The finished product would be shipped out in house cars. The term 'house car' refers to either refrigerator cars with ice bunkers, or insulated boxcars. Let's take a look at the Heinz house car fleet and some typical Heinz cars.

The Heinz entry from the July 1908 Official Register shows 174 cars of all types. The total number of house cars, listed as refrigerator cars, isn't given. But by subtracting out all of the other cars we get 132 of them.

G. G. Johnson, Traffic Manager, Pittsburgh, Pa. GENERAL OFFICES, PITTSBURGH, PA.			
EQUIPMENT			
This Company operates the cars marked "H. J. H. Co." for "Heinz Pickle Refrigerator Line" as follows:			
Kind of Car	Initials	Numbers	Capacity, No.
Refrigerator, even Nos.	H. J. H. CO.	400 to 402	
Vinegar Tank	"	80	984 gals.
"	"	81	988 "
"	"	82	988 "
"	"	83	988 "
Pickle Tank	"	18 to 80	
"	"	33 to 35	
"	"	37 to 40	
"	"	43 to 45	
"	"	47 to 49	
"	"	51 to 60	
"	"	64 to 67	5500 gals.
"	"	68	
Refrigerator	H. J. H. CO.	800 to 300	
"	"	311 to 323	
"	"	325 to 358	
"	"	370	
"	"	373	
"	"	387 to 388	
"	"	390 to 394	
Total			174

Report movements and mileage of all "H. J. H. Co." equipment to, and make settlements with H. J. Heinz Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Report movements and mileage of "H. J. H. Co." equipment to and make settlements with THE AMERICAN REFRIGERATOR CAR CO., Chicago, Ill.  
July 1908.

This number varied slightly over the years but could be considered typical. Some of the cars, lettered HPRL for Heinz Pickle Refrigerator Line, were leased from Armour, one of the largest operators of refrigerator cars at the time.

The Heinz house cars were typical of the time. They were small cars, of all wood construction, 34' in length. All were similar in appearance but varied in details such as style of door sheathing, number of hinges, location of grabirons and corner braces,

and style of fascia. But the biggest difference in Heinz cars was between the true refrigerator cars with ice bunkers and roof hatches and the otherwise similar insulated boxcars which lacked these features. The earliest Heinz cars had 5' wheelbase, 20 ton capacity swing motion trucks, a type that gave a smoother ride. Later cars had 25 ton capacity archbar trucks. In 1908 Heinz began using more modern 5'6" wheelbase archbar trucks.

While many photos of Heinz cars survive, one of the biggest unknowns about them is how they were painted. Photos show four different color schemes but the question remains, "What color were they?"



Fortunately one color illustration survives. With its white sides, green roof, and keystone logo on the right, HPRL 317 represents the earliest known Heinz paint scheme. It can be dated by its 1894 Pennsylvania Railroad reweigh date. (The Pennsy served the Heinz main plant in Pittsburgh).

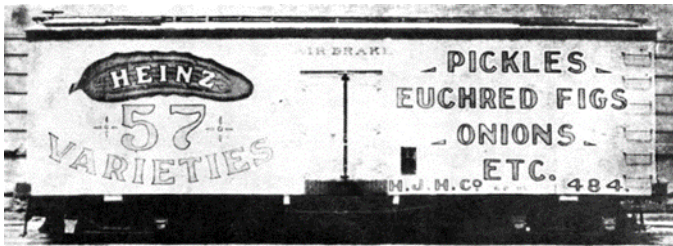


The next Heinz color scheme is a bit more problematic. The car body is dark, but what color is it? At one time this question caused a minor controversy among Heinz railfans and modelers. From 1984 to 1991 there was a very active NMRA Special Interest Group called the Heinz 57 SIG.

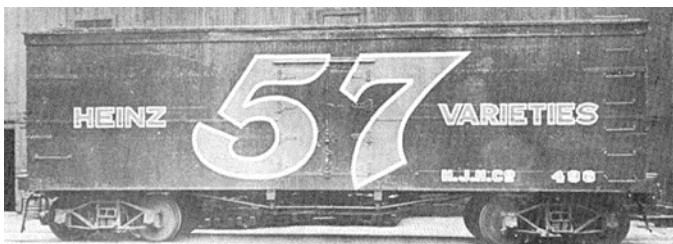


The group published a newsletter called Pickles In Miniature (PIM). Members were called Pickles. Pickle Number 1 was Al Westerfield. Al developed his Heinz car kits during this time period and the SIG served as an exchange place for relevant Heinz car information.

The color of the dark cars was a topic of much discussion. There were two schools of thought on this. One school thought they were green. The other believed they were a dark mineral red (aka boxcar red). No definitive Heinz records survive, but each side presented arguments and evidence supporting their position. Al Westerfield was in the group favoring red so that's what he called for in the painting instructions in his kits.



The last Heinz paint scheme from this period is a lighter color, most likely yellow. HJH 484 is a well known example of this paint scheme. Note that this car has ice hatches. It is a true refrigerator car.



The final paint and lettering scheme used by Heinz during this time had a large 57 but was otherwise rather plain. These cars are obviously repaints of earlier cars. On this photo of HJH 496 the outline of the pickle is visible as is lettering on the right side. Note that the doors have been widened and long corner braces as well as straps running the whole length of the side have been added. Maybe these were last gasp band-aids to keep these old cars together for a few more years! While many photos of Heinz cars survive, there are still many unanswered questions about them. Here are a couple of them.



During the time in question large banners were sometimes hung on freight cars carrying noteworthy cargoes. Here is HJH 414. What does it say behind the banner? No one knows for sure but one guess might be, Pure Olive Oil.

Another mystery is, Did Heinz ever advertise different products on opposite sides of the same car? HPFL 3015 advertises Baked Beans. Here is a prototype photo.

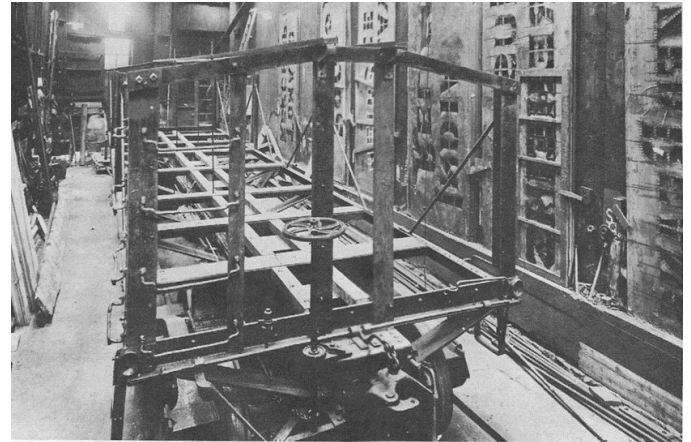


But here is another photo of HPFL 3015 advertising Heinz Spaghetti.



Did HPFL 3015 have different lettering on each side? Or did it have different lettering at different times? Nobody knows for sure. Note that this is a later car than the others we have seen. It is one of a group of Mather cars briefly on the Heinz roster in the late teens.

This look at the early Heinz house car fleet will conclude with two views of the Heinz railcar repair facilities located at the main plant in Pittsburgh.



This view shows the inside of a shop with a pickle tank car stripped down to its frame. The stencils leaning against the wall would have been used to letter house cars.

There is no evidence that Heinz built any of its rail cars. However, Heinz did keep them in good repair. House cars were frequently repainted, as we have seen, and their billboards updated. This view shows pickle tank cars and tanks from vinegar cars in a repair yard near the river. These cars were likely high maintenance due to the corrosive nature of their loadings.

## REFERENCES

- Leider, David J., Pickle and Vinegar Makers of the Midwest
- Westerfield, Al, Heinz Variations Data sheet included with series 3900 kits
- Various authors, Pickles in Miniature, Newsletter of the Heinz 57 NMRA SIG, 1984-1991
- Wikipedia, H. J. Heinz.

*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. Thanks John!*

## INTERESTING LOCO JUDGING

Here is something worthy of the Hotbox – Brook Qualman brought her scratch-built model of the Detroit Tunnel Motor engine, which earned her points toward her Master Builder Motive Power, to the Tri-Regional simply to enter as a display model. I, and other people there, told her to enter it in the model contest. She did. Brook's model earned both the Favorite Model, People's Choice award and First Place for Scratch Diesel & Other locomotive. Congratulations! Ken Chick, Div 6/8/10 AP Director







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



**44th ANNUAL!**

# **MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & WORKSHOP**

**11am- 4pm Saturday  
November 12, 2022**

**NEW DAY!!  
NEW LOCATION!!**

**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



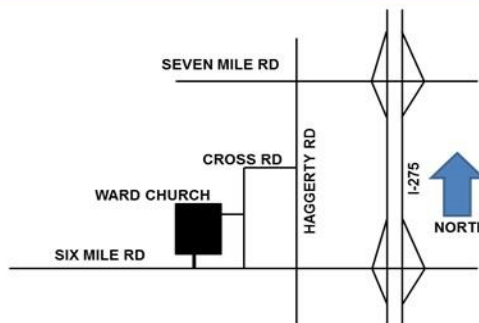
**GREAT FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!**

**Stop by for a visit, ask questions, get answers!**

**MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & WORKSHOP**

is located at **WARD CHURCH**  
40000 Six Mile Rd Northville, MI. 48168

**ENTRY FARE: \$3 per person  
\$5 per family  
under 16 is FREE!**

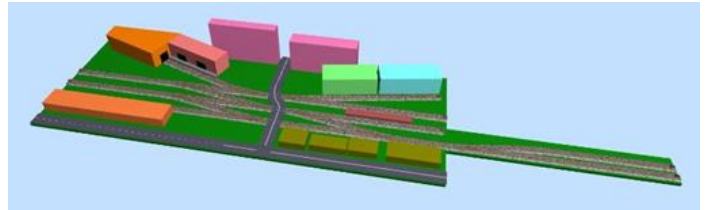
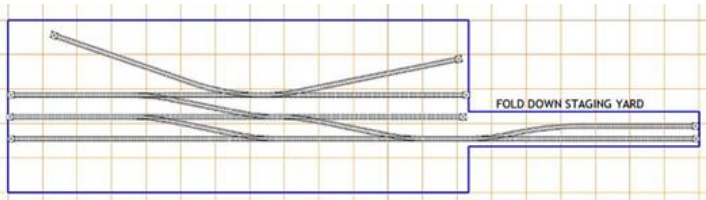


# 59th STREET SPUR PROJECT

John Buckley, Div 4

NCR PROJECT

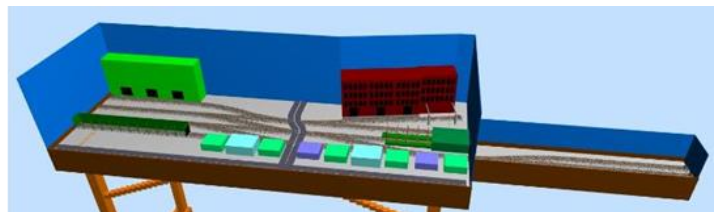
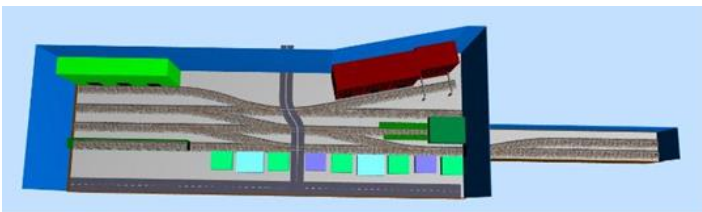
I have started on a new model railroad project I am calling "7th Street". It's an HO small switching layout built on a 30" by 80" hollow core door that I started planning in early 2022. Since the Johnstown and Maryville is about 90% done (my main layout), I felt like I wanted to create something new. My brother-in-law has a lot of N scale stuff in boxes and I tried to have him part with some of it so I could build an N scale layout on a door. I even looked at several small N scale layouts to get ideas. But he didn't want to give up any of his stuff, and I didn't want to spend a lot of money on N scale track and trains. Thus, I decided to keep it HO, a switching layout on a door, with no curves, just straight track and switches, with 4 to 5 industries and a dozen or so car spots. One 4 axle GP9 and 40' cars would be the perfect size. Here's a couple of screen shots of my plan.



I also made the decision to totally hand lay the entire layout, track and switches, a FIRST for me. I am using Micro Engineering Code 83 rail and wood ties from Fast Tracks. But I am not using the turnout jigs from Fast Tracks. All by hand. I have watched a dozen videos and downloaded articles about how to do it. I feel pretty confident that I can make it happen. But this is going to be a long project. I figure 3 to 4 months to get all the track in place and tested. The industries will all be scratch built by me. Now with summer here in Michigan and my bicycle demanding my attention, I won't be devoting full time to this. However...

Like many model railroads, plans have changed, slightly. In researching the Belt Railway of Chicago, I found an area near BRC's Clearing Yard called 59th Street. While there are technically no industries along that stretch, I liked the sound of the name and used some modelers license. Thus, the name has changed, it's now the **59th Street Spur**. I had purchased a BRC GP9 to go on the J&M since BRC interchanged with Milwaukee Road in Chicago. The J&M is all Milwaukee Road so I figured I could use that locomotive on the new layout.

The plan has changed a little. After struggling with hand laying the first turnout without benefit of any type of jig, I went ahead and bit the bullet and bought one. Makes life much easier. But still hand laying everything. When it's completed, 59th Street will "connect" with the J&M via the 0-5-0 switcher. I'll pull cars off 59th and set them on the incoming track on J&M. Then a J&M switcher will pull them to the yard to be sorted. Process will reverse when cars come from the J&M to 59th Street. Here's the new plan and some pictures of the progress so far.....

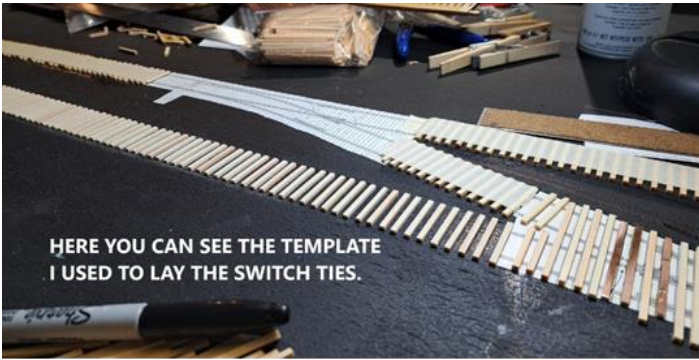


FIRST BATCH OF TIES LAID DOWN. USING THE TIE JIG MAKES QUICK WORK.  
MAY 25, 2022



ALTHOUGH THIS LOOKS GOOD, THIS WAS THE FIRST MISTAKE OF MANY. SHOULD HAVE WAITED TO LAY SWITCH TIES.

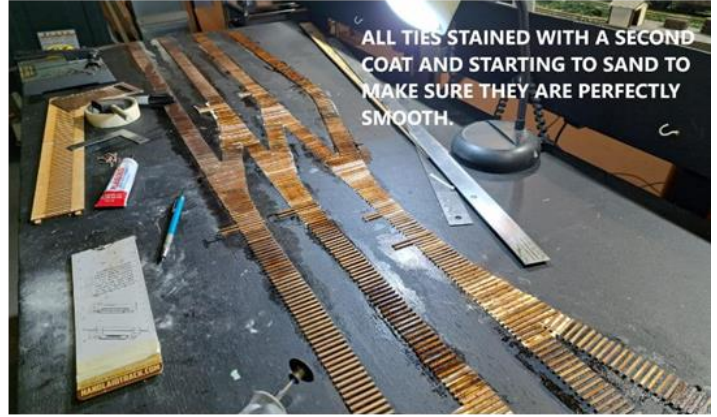




HERE YOU CAN SEE THE TEMPLATE I USED TO LAY THE SWITCH TIES.



I DECIDED TO STAIN THE TIES. THIS WAS THE FIRST COAT. YET TO BE SANDED SMOOTH.



ALL TIES STAINED WITH A SECOND COAT AND STARTING TO SAND TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE PERFECTLY SMOOTH.



BALLASTING BEFORE TRACK LAYING? YES. MUCH EASIER TO WORK THE BALLAST.



SMOOTHING WITH A LARGE BRUSH WITHOUT RAILS IN THE WAY.



BALLASTED AND TIES SANDED AND SMOOTH. READY FOR RAIL.

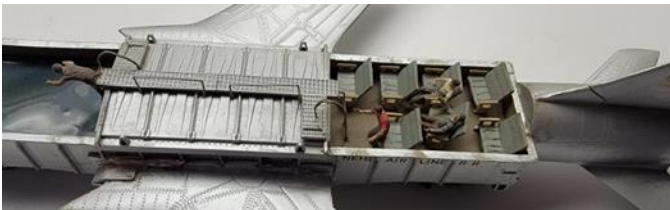
See a few more pictures on page 33!



Every once in a while, in my duties as an NMRA Achievement Program Assistant, I run across a very special model - something not seen on most model railroads. Recently while visiting with Milt Moore to judge his Master Model Railroader - Cars submission I came across a truly unique model. It is uncommonly referred to as the Flying Gon. We suspect that this unusual piece of equipment may have been created in some strange accident.



Close examination of the Flying Gon reveals that this NEHI Air Line RR vehicle is a combination of a Republic F105 Thunderchief and a railroad gondola. This combination was officially designated the Plane Train Service vehicle. My suspicion is that the Thunderchief pilot came in for a landing on dark and rainy evening and mistook some train tracks for his runway, attempted to land and crashed into a gondola that had been left there by itself. Some young engineer decided that his posed a unique transportation device and decided that if further enhanced, it might become a special service revenue generator; a prime example of not thinking things thru.



Further examination of the Flying Gon reveals the gondola portion of the vehicle has passenger seating, a luggage or freight storage compartment and a swimming pool. You can see that there are a few passengers in the rear seating section and that the seats are equipped with seatbelts. In standard railroad fashion there is a ladder from the passenger section and a walkway over the storage-freight compartment to the forward swimming pool area. You can further see one of the passengers is about to dive into the pool for a refreshing dip.



The Thunderchief's retractable landing gear has obviously been replaced in favor of a set of standard railroad trucks. There are also couplers at both the front and rear of the vehicle; although, I would hate to be coupled onto the rear when the engine is fired up.



Flying the Flying Gon is most likely now out of the question and the gondola section's weight certainly exceeds the lifting capacity of the Thunderchief. Furthermore, the passengers may not like the drafty rear section once airborne. Milt tells us that due to its wide wingspan the Flying Gon has difficulty negotiating tunnels and bridges. It also poses problems with rail traffic in double tracked territory and in yards. Consequently, it has now been regulated to a remote section of the yard. Our only real concern is that anyone in the pool could be slobbered out and onto the storage section under heavy acceleration.

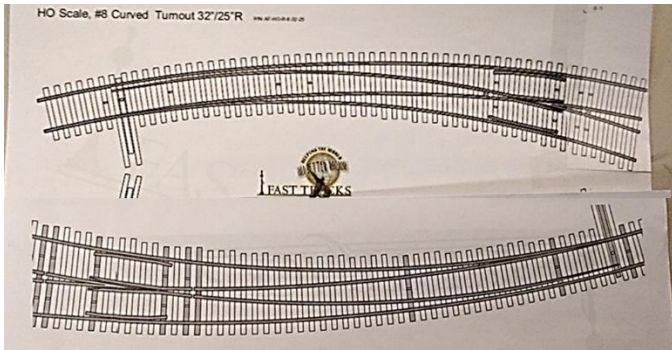


The Flying Gon was built by Doc Fleming many years ago and presented to Milt in recognition of his "Thumbs" cartoon character's modeling talents (or lack thereof) all in good humor. Many of us older guys remember Thumbs cartoons that appeared every month in the *Bulletin*, as the NMRA magazine was then named. Milt's modeling skills are a whole lot better than Thumbs' skills. Ron King, Joe Kocsis and I decided to judge the Flying Gon along with the eight cars we judged for Milt's AP submission. Out of a possible 125 points, it achieved a score of 134 points! I wonder what Skip Luyk and Frank Koch will think when they see this submission.

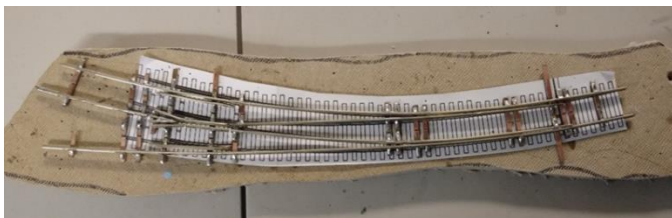


## PART 2 –

When we left off last issue, I had completed the benchwork and had a plan for 2 sidings for several industries. Now I need curved turnouts for the sidings, so I thought I might try to make them myself (possible AP points!). I went to the Fast Tracks website and you can download/copy turnout templates for free! I found curved turnouts for the radius's I needed, or as close as I could get to it. Just be careful that you print them out IN SCALE!



Here is my attempt to scratch build the needed turnouts! I didn't do too bad, but having problems with the frog area. I have a MMR friend who will help me with the next attempt.



Almost a year later, I never did get with my friend and instead found some used Shinohara turnouts that match my mainline curves pretty close. Buying those, I preceded with their installation.



First was to install the turnout and slightly realign the mainline track. There was quite a height difference between the mainline and where the sidings would be. Too much! Filled that in with some homasote. With the homasote in and some gaps taped shut, I still had the height difference of the cork roadbed. I decided that instead of ramping down the track, I'd simply put the sidings on cork to maintain the track level. First siding is done!



Someone could wonder, why two sidings? Well, it was really needed for the 4 cars that I want to be spotted at this industry. Plus, the plan for the building is that it will be on both sides of the sidings so that all cars can be unloaded/loaded at the same time. The building will go over the tracks and also help hide the mainline coming through the stairs. Now to do the other siding on mainline #2. A month later and we installed the turnout on mainline #2. The tracks aligned well. Then added the turnout control on the other side of mainline #1 where it is more easily accessible. Added in loose ties and we're complete with siding 2.



# THE CLOSET EXPANSION

by Barry Hensel, Div 6

NCR PROJECT

Here we are, April 2022 now.... Covid has somewhat subsided and some OPS sessions have resumed. And work on the buildings for Danville have started, first with the purchase of 3 DPM bulk modular kits. I started working on the grocery warehouse for Danville, starting with cutting the backdrop and extending the tracks into the stair so more of the cars would be "inside" the building, then on to building walls using DPM wall sections!



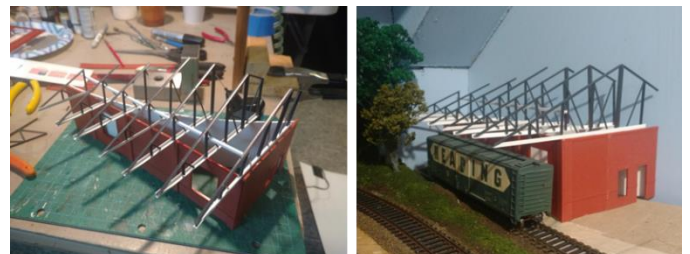
Added in some sheet cardboard for the road to the warehouse and small parking lot and sidewalk. A few weeks later, I repainted the parking lot and road approach to a darker gray, looks better.... did some work on the interior, gray wash to weather and make grout lines, roof install/paint and a pipe to help hide a seam. Progress is good! And fun! Also adding pipe details, signs, HVAC and repainted the roof a darker color. Have to get a run of 3D printed roof vents to add too. A week later, started working on some of the scenery around this industry and now it's complete!



Basic structure complete! Thinking of painting it a tan color for something a bit different. OOPS! Mixed dark brown into some fleshtone paint to try to make a more tan color for the warehouse. Well, with the red plastic it came out kinda PINK! Yikes! Stopped by Hobby Lobby and found paint called "SandBox"... Looks like it will be much better!!



The next building is the Hardware Company warehouse. This was going back into the corner and again started with DPM wall sections. However, I decided to make it more old-school, country style with a gable roof! I had some left over roof trusses that were pressed into service.



With the building on an angle to the wall, it took some interesting ways to figure out how the roof would go! Cardboard templates helped greatly!



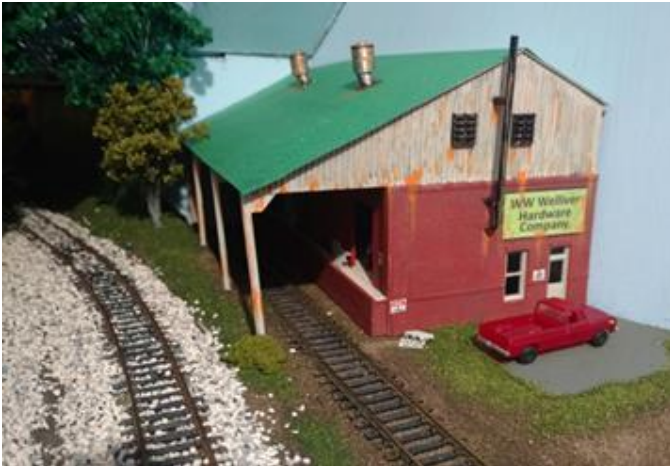


# THE CLOSET EXPANSION

by Barry Hensel, Div 6

NCR PROJECT

This building came together fairly well and quickly. After having it in place for a few days, I decided that the overhang was a bit too much to not be supported by columns, so I added those in. As you can also see, scenery in the corner was also completed. Those trees help hide the hole through the stairs for the mainlines.



The last building is Thompson Products Co, which is actually a TRW parts plant. Once again, turning to the DPM bulk pack I created a design that filled in the space and will have a curved dock for car loading/unloading. I had an extra Walthers chimney and friends said it looked better with it, so it stays!



Seems one of my new “trademarks” on buildings is to have one door open, so I can detail some inside of the building and so it is with this TRW building. Here’s the detailing of the dock.



While the TRW building still needs more details, I did the rest of the scenery including a road with crossing, small hills, mainline ballast and foliage. Danville is pretty complete. As always, it’s the details that need to be added – road signs, crossing gates, etc.... all in all, a very fun project, very happy with the results and it adds more operations to my railroad! Time for you to expand? Try a closet!



# 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 hope there will be many certificate awards to report in the next edition of the Hot Box. *Skip Luyk, MMR, NCR AP Coordinator*

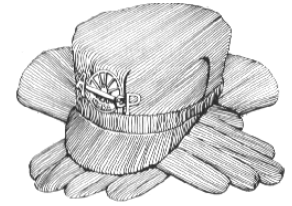
I am pleased to report that the following NCR members have achieved the following certificates, Congratulations! –

**GOLDEN SPIKE** – Irvin Chmielewski, Div. 8

**MASTER BUILDER CARS** - Milt Moore, Div. 6



Milt Moore



**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

All things seem to be moving along fine in the NCR and the Division 9 “One Day Convention” planning, so I would like to continue my discussions on designing and presenting clinics and educational programs. In this *HotBox*, I would like to educate you about how adult learners “learn” and how you can incorporate this knowledge into the design and implementation of your presentations and clinics. In the last *HotBox*, I talked about instructors, presentation styles and teaching. We will consider all model railroaders of all ages “adult learners”. When “Adult Learners” attend training presentations, they: Want to know information they can put to use right away!; Want to know information that will help move them ahead in their jobs and make more money!; Need information that will help their family!; Need real information, that will help them be a better person!; Don’t have time to waste, they have busy lives and schedules!; Want to “participate” in the training program!; Don’t want to be treated like kids!

All learners have “attention spans”. This means they can only stay focused on the material you are presenting for so long. Adult learners have busy lives and lots of things going on in their lives, so your information, presentation style, slides must be more important and interesting to keep them focused on what you are talking about then what is going on at home, at work, with their children, financial concerns, etc. Adults learn through the use of their “Five Senses” and what percentage of the information: Seeing – 83%, Hearing – 11%, Smelling – 3.5%, Touching – 1.5%, Tasting – 1%



So what does this tell you about your teaching, presentation and training plans? Adults learn and remember information best, if the instructor uses these teaching techniques: 10% of what they read, 20% of what they hear, 30% of what they see, 50% of what they see and hear together, 70% of what they say or repeat, 90% of what they say while doing what they are talking about.

So again, what does this tell you about your teaching, presentation and training plans? Our presentations must incorporate this information and learning concepts to help adult learners learn and retain information. Other factors that can impact learning are the temperature of the room, the comfort of the chairs, are there tables being used, the lighting in the room, how many people are “squeezed” into the training room, how often are there breaks and times to stand up and walk and use the bathroom and other things. Think about the times you have sat in presentations at work and for fun and what did you like and what did you not like. Things that you did not like impacted your ability to learn and retain information. In the next issue, we look at presentation methods of instruction and power point slide shows. *Rich Mahaney, NCR Director*



# PROTOTYPE PAGE

NCR PROTOTYPE

For this HotBox, we're again using photos by George Emmitt, Motor City Trains! This time we're focused on items that still show their original railroad names. Lots out there on the rails.... *left-down, then right* – 86' auto parts boxcar in ICG; Boston & Maine 2 bay covered hopper; Western Pacific out-sided braced boxcar; Soo Line bulkhead flatcar; UP patched Southern Pacific "bloody nose" GE-C44AC; Frisco 3 bay grain covered hopper; Rock Island AFC covered hopper; Soo Line 3 bay grain covered hopper; Southern Pacific gondola







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 The Gladioux Train Depot, Oregon, OH  
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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 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** (Manistee to Iosco counties north to the Mackinac Bridge plus the eastern UP)  
That's right, 24 counties! Our meetings are held on the third Saturday of the month unless there are conflicts with other activities. When we gather, we hold hybrid meetings at 12:30 pm, simultaneously by Zoom and in person at Grace Episcopal Church in Traverse City. The next scheduled meeting will be held on September 17th. To request meeting info and a copy of our quarterly newsletter please email [jens.hensel50@gmail.com](mailto: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 [grandrailsdiv4@gmail.com](mailto:grandrailsdiv4@gmail.com) or 616-258-0110 or visit the division website at - <https://div4ncr.wordpress.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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.michiganrailroads.com) [www.ohiorailtourism.org](http://www.ohiorailtourism.org) [www.irtg.org](http://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](http://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.**

**Sunday, September 11, 2022** - Flag City Train Show Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation, Inc. 12505 Cty Rd 99, Findlay, OH 419 423-2995 [nworrp@nwrrp.org](mailto:nworrp@nwrrp.org)

**Saturday, September 17, 2022** - 16th Michigan Railroad History Conference - United Methodist Church of Ludington in Ludington, MI Michigan Railroad History Conference P.O.Box 16235 Lansing, Michigan 48901  
<http://www.michiganrailroads.com/mrhc-home> [chair.mrhc16.2022@gmail.com](mailto:chair.mrhc16.2022@gmail.com)

**Saturday-Sunday, Sept 24-25, Oct 22-23, Nov 12-13, Nov 19-20, Dec 10-13, Dec 17-18, 2022**  
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>

**Saturday, September 24, 2022** - 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](mailto:cdhikade@juno.com) or Joe Hiestand 586-924-0499

**Saturday, September 24, 2022** - 20th Annual Fostoria Rail Festival Fostoria, OH - Fostoria Jr/Sr High School  
10am-4pm \$5 adult, under 10 free Ellen Gatrell 419-435-1781 [ellengatrell@gmail.com](mailto:ellengatrell@gmail.com)

**Saturday, October 1, 2022** - Gratiot Valley Railroad Club Train Show Elite Sports Center, 49771 Oakland Dr., Shelby Township, MI Mike R at [gratiotvalley@gmail.com](mailto:gratiotvalley@gmail.com)

**Saturday-Sunday, October 1-2, 2022** - The Great Berea Train Show Middleburg Hts., OH - Cuyahoga Co. Fairgrounds Event Center 440-785-9907

**Saturday, October 8, 2022** – The Greater Grand Rapids Fall Train Show Grand River Valley RR Club Home School Bldg Wyoming, MI INFO: Jim Cunningham (616) 540-0421

**Friday-Saturday, October 28-29, 2022** - NMRA NCR Div 9 Fall Convention (2 Days) The River Church 417 Wallbridge Kalamazoo, MI Rich Mahaney 269-214-4221 **(see pages 14-15)**

**Sunday, October 30, 2022** – 42nd 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](mailto:kaltrainshow@kalnet.net)

**Saturday-Sunday, November 12, Thanksgiving weekend Nov 25-26-27; December 3-4 and 10-11, 2022**  
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](mailto:webmaster@dmrrc.org)

**Saturday, November 12, 2022** - 44th annual Division 6 Fall Model Railroad Show & Workshop Ward Church 40000 Six Mile Rd, Northville, MI (west of I-275) Website- [www.div6-ncr-nmra.com](http://www.div6-ncr-nmra.com)  
11am – 4pm \$3 per person/\$5 per family/under 16 is FREE! wheelchair accessible **(see ad on page 21)**  
**THIS IS NOT A SWAP MEET** – SEE demonstrations on all aspects of model railroading!! Power systems, scenery, kit building, railroad history, operating layouts, food-refreshments available; raffles every 45 minutes, model contest! Come and get your model railroading questions answered!



# **NCR TIMETABLE EVENTS!**

**NCR AREA EVENTS**

**Sunday, November 13, 2022** - 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](http://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](http://www.lmrc.org) or call Ron St.Laurent 517-256-3588 or Dennis Morley 989-723-2870 [DJMorley0604@hotmail.com](mailto:DJMorley0604@hotmail.com)

**Saturday, November 19, 2022** - Maumee Valley Railroad Club Model Railroad Show & Swap Coliseum Bingo 911 W. Washington Center Road Fort Wayne, IN 46825 **(see ad on page 12)**  
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, November 26, 2022** - Train Show Packard Proving Grounds 49965 Van Dyke Ave. Shelby Township, MI 48317 Mike Neuendorf 586-271-6024

**Sunday, November 27, 2022** - 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](mailto:trancywj@gmail.com) 734-552-4581

## **59th STREET SPUR PROJECT**

**John Buckley, Div 4**

**NCR PROJECT**

Here are a few more pictures of the track progress. We'll see more progress in our next article, hopefully in the next HotBox!



# NCR TIMETABLE EVENTS!

NCR AREA EVENTS

**Sunday, November 27, 2022** - Railroadiana 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 10, 2022** - Train Town Train Show & Swap Meet 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 [jmmarq4@hotmail.com](mailto:jmmarq4@hotmail.com)

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

**MORE LAYOUT PHOTOS**

**MORE HOW-TO-DO ARTICLES**

**MORE INFORMATION**

*.... stay tuned!*

**ONE DAY EVENT  
RECAP**



***RailFanning John Hanske's  
Burlington Southern Railroad***



**FORT WAYNE RAILS 2023  
CONVENTION NEWS**