



The Yardmaster

Southwestern Michigan Division



December 2021

Website: www.ncr-div9.com

Division 9 Officers

Superintendent	- Garry Johnson	elecsprk@gmail.com
Assistant Superintendent	- Joel Pyard	pyardj@comcast.net
Paymaster	- (open position)	
Scribe	- Alan Bau	alanwbau@gmail.com
Trustee	- Doug Van Meter	vanmeterda@gmail.com
Trustee	- Casey Bartman	Casey@GR-MI.com

The Yardmaster is the newsletter published monthly by Division 9, North Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association.

Submissions: Please send articles, news items, inquiries, photos and comments to the Editor of **The Yardmaster**, **Dave Vinci** dj.vinci@frontier.com, **by the 1st of the month** for inclusion in the current month's edition.

Editor's Comments

Greetings from your newsletter editor. If any of you would like to try your hand at creating an article for the newsletter, please try and write one. It can be of any size or maybe just a photo of your latest project. How about a tip that you think other modelers could benefit from? This newsletter will only be as informative and entertaining as you, the membership, make it.

Achievement Program

To see the requirements for AP awards see the NMRA website, or talk about the program, contact our Division AP coordinator, Dorman Wilson at N8YNW@charter.net

December Membership Meeting

The December 2021 membership meeting will be **Saturday, December 18th** at **The Colonial Kitchen Pancake House**, 330 N. Drake Rd., Kalamazoo. The back room is reserved beginning at **8:30am** for informal breakfast. The Colonial Kitchen is in the same building as AT&T and Art Van's Pure Sleep on the east side of Drake Road in the block south of Main Street. The restaurant faces south in that building.

We will begin at 8:30am with an informal breakfast (on your own) with business meeting to follow at **9:30 o'clock**.

Doug Harding will present a program about Meat Packing. Hopefully most of the Division 9 group learned lots last month from Doug Harding's presentation on the meat packing industry. It was a very enjoyable presentation which provided lots of modeling information and ideas. Doug has a huge collection of photographs and information on this industry that he shares with everybody.

The Division 9 program for Dec 18th. is part two of Doug's presentations on the meat packing industry, meat transporting railroad cars and all of the support operations and business. Doug's layout focuses on the Decker Meat Packing Company in Mason City, IA. Join us at **10:30am**, Eastern Time Zone for Doug's presentation by joining us at the Colonial Kitchen Pancake House at 330 N Drake Road in Kalamazoo or via Zoom. - Rich Mahaney

Topic: NMRA NCR Division 9 meeting

Time: Dec 18, 2021 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81634710672?pwd=NHMrJFEckNpdnU3bm5Zd1R6VXlvQT09>

Meeting ID: 816 3471 0672

Passcode: 939014

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 816 3471 0672

Passcode: 939014

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81634710672?pwd=NHMrJFEckNpdnU3bm5Zd1R6VXlvQT09>

Rev. Douglas Harding, Iowa native, wife Linda. We have no children, but three cats live with us. We enjoy traveling, having been to all 50 states and several countries.



A published author and photographer, primarily in "Railroad Model Craftsmen" plus other hobby publications. Requested speaker at model train conventions around the country, known best for my clinics on Meat Packing, Livestock and other food industries. A past officer in the National Model Railroad Association. I received my MMR #676, earlier this year. Certificates Earned: Author, Volunteer, Officer, Electrical, Structures, Civil, Scenery, and Cars. Dispatcher is in the works. I am currently serving on the LDSIG Board.

This second part of his clinic will be a look at meat trains and meat traffic, "What happened to that reefer after it left?" This will include samples of meat train Train Orders, comments from dispatchers, etc. We will study the railroad operations of the Decker & Son's Meat Plant using car cards with a special insert. Handouts will be provided.

December: Meat Trains Handout 2012.pdf





Early meat packing company's with large refrigerator car fleets:

- Armour
- Schwartzchild
- Morris
- Swift
- Cudahy
- Wilson



Meat Refrigerator Cars



Future Meeting Plans – Rich Mahaney

Jan 15, 2022 meeting at the restaurant - Barry Hensel in person or by zoom. presenting/discussing "Making Great Water On Your Model Railroad Layout

Feb 19, 2022 meeting at the restaurant - Rich Mahaney in person, but presenting over zoom, presenting a model railroad operations clinic presentation involving "Making Stuff, Placement Of Railroad Cars, Just in Time Shipping and Railroad Car Operations".

Mar 19, 2022 A tour of the new Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club layout project, at 10am, maybe breakfast/lunch meeting after tour at the Club Car Grille at 6225 D Ave, west of US 131.

Apr 16, 2022 thinking about a field trip to tour two layouts in the greater Grand Rapids area.

Membership Meeting Minutes **November 20, 2021**

Location: Colonial Kitchen – Kalamazoo, Mi.

In Person Attendees:

Dormand Wilson	Rich Mahaney
Rick Garthe	Jim Fankhausen
Randy Yeoman	Greg Stonerock
Bob Provost	Alan Bau
Bob & Mary Lawrence	Joel Pyard

Virtual Attendees:

Dave Vinci
Casey Bartman
Doug Harding – Clinic Presenter
Dave Gunn - visitor

Joel Pyard -substituting for Garry Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM

Bruce Nichols - Joel Updated everyone on the passing of Bruce Nichols. Joel then asked if anyone wished to volunteer for Bruce's position of Paymaster.

Bylaws Changes – Rick Garthe motioned that the bylaw changes as presented in Sturgis and included in the last two newsletters, be approved. Jim Fankhausen seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

One Day Conference – Rich Mahaney presentation.

- Rich Mahaney reviewed the latest thinking on a format and possible agenda.
 - Looking to start the conference with layout tours on Friday Evening and possibly on Saturday afternoon.
 - Clinics will be scheduled for Saturday morning. 3 1-hour sessions in 3 rooms for a totally of 9 clinics.

- Our first objective is to firm up a meeting place and date. Garry Johnson has been in contact with the church, but no indication if we will be able to use the church facilities on the dates in question.
- Date being considered are the 3rd or 4th or 5th Saturday in October 2022. The 3rd Saturday (October 15th) was initially selected as that is the normal Saturday for our regular meetings, the 4th Saturday (October 22nd) as a backup date, and the 5th Saturday (October 29th) to match up with the Kalamazoo Historical Society Train Show date.
- Casey Bartman suggested that we consider having a dinner @ Clara's in Battle Creek on Friday or Saturday evening, along with a speaker. Casey volunteered to investigate the details. It was mentioned that if we were to commit to such a dinner, that it would have to be self-funding.
- After a brief discussion on insurance coverage for layout tours, Rich volunteered to get more information on the subject for the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:03 AM.

Doug Harding then presented part one of his informative clinic on the Meat Packing Industry.

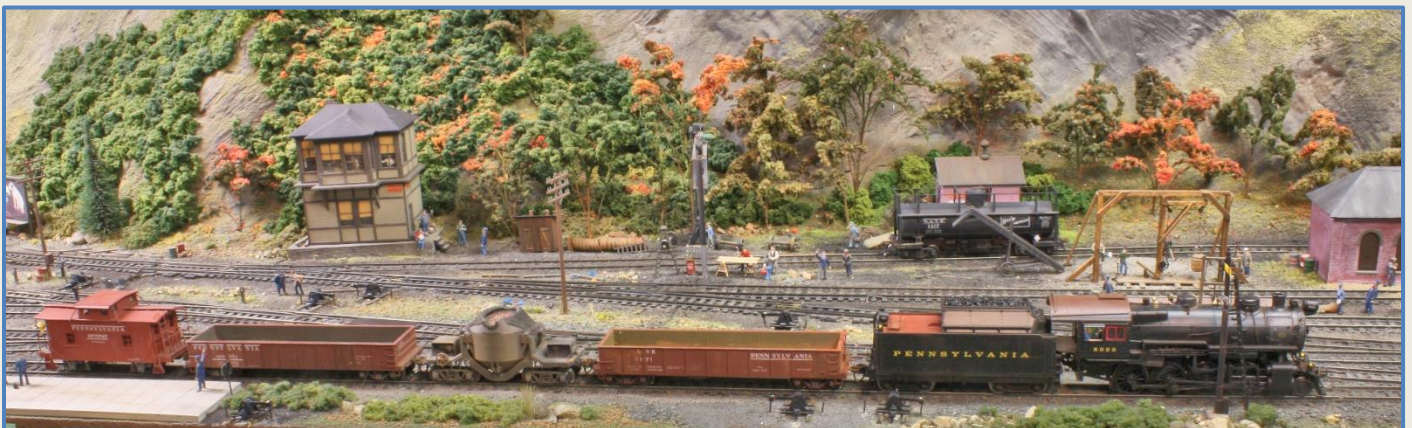
Part 2 will be presented as part of the December 2021 General Membership Meeting scheduled on Saturday December 18th at the Colonial Kitchen.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Bau
Division 9 Scribe

Model RR Photos

Here are a few photos from my model railroad, send me some of yours to put in the newsletter! – Dave Vinci



Hot Metal train - Scratchbuilt class ND .Cabin Car, a class GS Bowser Gondola on either side of the State Tool & Die hot metal car and being pulled by a PRR Class H10 2-8-0 by Broadway Limited photo & Models by D. Vinci



Kling Hot Metal car - State Tool & Die kit

Photo & Model by D. Vinci



Watchbox at Trooper

Photo & Model
by D. Vinci



Some of the off-duty folks hanging around
the tower in Oak Ridge Yard.

Photo by D. Vinci



Scratchbuilt PRR tower using drawings of
prototype

Photo & Model by D. Vinci

Prototype Photos

If you have some photos you've taken or have permission to submit for publication, please send scans of them to your editor for inclusion in our Prototype photo section. If you need help with this, contact Your editor.



Depressed center Flat Car South of Traverse City, MI - Dec 2, 2021

Photo by Rich Mahaney

Saw this flat car just south of Traverse City as I came into town about 5pm Dec 2nd. On Friday, Dec 3 they will off load it and move it into the ITC substation as a transformer replacement, I was told by a substation worker. The flat car with the transformer was delivered by rail to this area, there were two other flat cars on the spur for each end of this flat car.

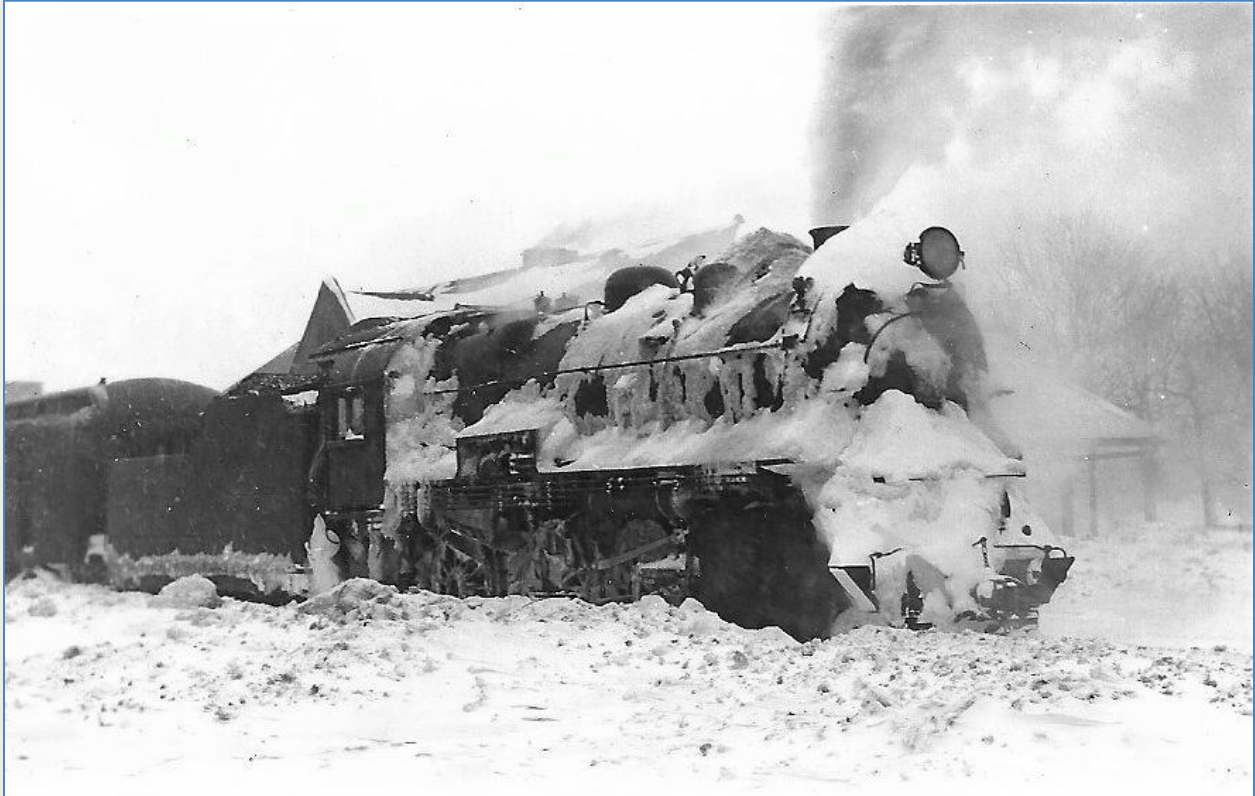
-Rich Mahaney



Depressed center Flat with load south of Traverse City, Mi - Dec 2, 2021

Photo by Rich Mahaney

As Winter approaches, here are a few historical photos along the Grand Rapids & Indiana railroad from the GR&I Chapter of the PRRT&HS.



GR&I - It took 2 days to reach Cadillac from Grand Rapids.

Wexford County Historical Society Collection



GR&I Snowplow #T2408

D. Hoffmann Collection



GR&I Snowplow work near Mancelona, Michigan - 03-21-1917

Brian Bluekamp Collection



PRR Snowplow #994523 - Wood construction

D. Vinci Collection (digital)

We are ready to set up our holiday train display in the basement of the South Haven City Hall (6600 sqft).

We (Harbor Light Brewery, First Congregational Church, and WeCare) have collaborated together to host this display and raise funds for those in need this holiday season. If you would like to assist us in any way, please let me know. I can best be reached at 616-291-7732.

In addition to the holiday display, we have secured a space for a model rr group in the basement of the Hotel Nichols with meetings beginning mid Jan 2022. It is our goal to create a model railroad for public display.

Thanks
Tom Feeney
616-291-7732

Holiday Train Display



December 2, 2021 - January 2, 2022

Thursdays and Fridays, 4-7:30 pm

Saturdays 12 pm-7:30 pm | Sundays 2pm-6 pm

Lower Level of City Hall in South Haven

FREE ADMISSION!

Toy donations accepted for Project Christmas Hope!

How You Can Be Involved:

DAY SPONSOR

Your business, family, friends, social group or organization can sponsor a day at the train display! As a sponsor, you will have signage at the venue, your logo will be in our marketing, on our website and social media. Simply make a donation of any amount to We Care and provide 2-5 volunteers to staff the event that day.

Lego Building Fun!

Bring your Lego build to show (free) or to compete (\$10)! Registration form required to participate (forms at www.wecare-inc.org or in our office) Bring to City Hall on December 1st between 4 - 6 p.m.

VOLUNTEER

Hosts and helpers needed to welcome visitors, answers questions, and help with silent auctions. Sign up today: www.volunteersignup.org/MA748



Decorate a Tree!

Register for FREE to decorate a 1' or 3' tree. Then bring to City Hall on December 1, 4-6p.m. where it will be part of a silent auction to raise funds for We Care's programs and ministries (registration forms are on our website at wecare-inc.org or in our offices).

**Visit www.wecare-inc.org
or call 269-637-4342**



Division 9 Calendar for December 2021

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 GR&I Chapter of PRRT&HS Meeting
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Div 9 Meeting w/Zoom
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Division 9 Calendar for January 2022

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Saturday
						1 Happy New Year
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Div 9 Meeting w/Zoom
16	17 Martin Luther King Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					