



The Yardmaster

Southwestern Michigan Division



May 2025

Website: <https://div9.ncnmra.org>



This photo is the Pere Marquette Steam Engine # 1225, from the Steam Railroading Institute.

Featured Articles this Month:

Pages

Dave Vinci	2-7
Editor's Comments	8
Board Member Contact Info.	8
April Membership Meeting Recap	9
Upcoming Event Schedule	10-12
NMRA Convention Information	13
April Board Meeting Minutes	14-15
Modeling Challenge	16
Proposed Bylaw Changes	17-19
Board Elections	20
We Need Your Help	21
Rich's Travels	23-28
For Sale Items	29-30
NMRA Partnership Program	31
Wrap-up	32

Non-Train Related Holidays & Special Events – May 2025

May 1 – May Day

May 11th – Mother's Day

May 26th – Memorial Day



Dave Vinci

We are sad to report that Dave Vinci passed away in mid-April.

Dave was a true inspiration to all of us. He was a true friend and was always willing to answer questions and do what he could to help other modelers.

Did you know that he also made and played the banjo?



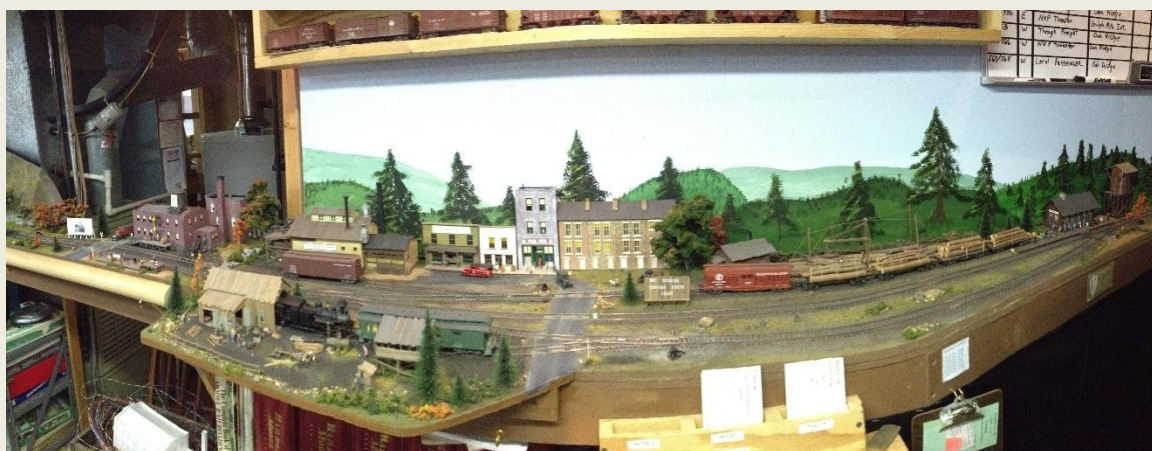
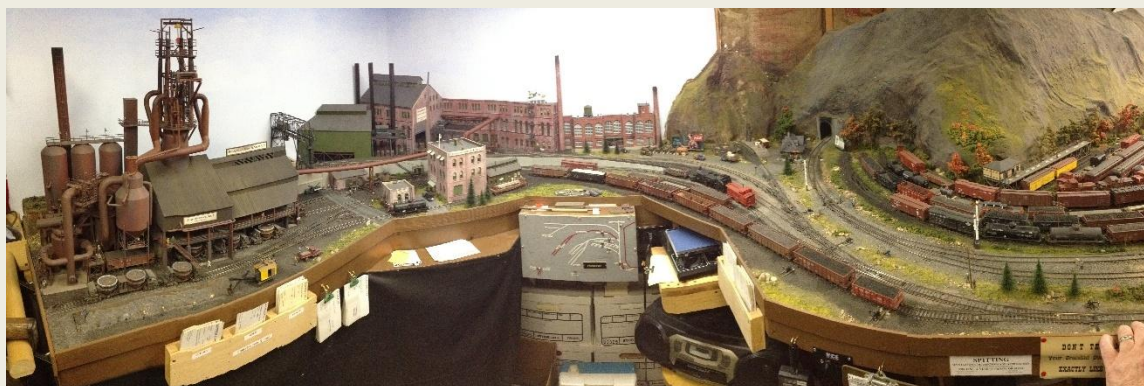
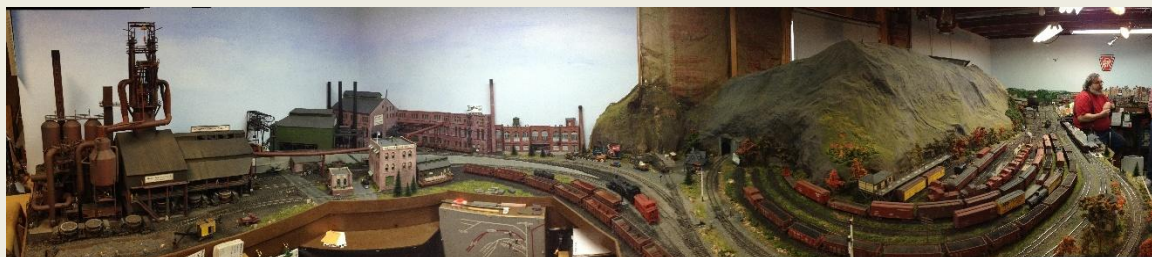
Dave was one of the founding members of Division 9 and served on the board for many years. He was editor of the Yardmaster until 2024.

The following is a list of organizations that the family has identified if you want to make a donation in lieu of flowers.

- National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- The National Model Railroad Association
- Disability Association of Southwest Michigan
- WGVU Public Broadcasting

Pictures from Dave Vinci's layout from Joel Pyard Photos which were taken by Bob Bender

My modeler friend, Bob Bender, attended an ops session at Dave Vinci's a few years ago. Bob is also an avid photographer, and he took the attached panoramic views of the railroad. Bob is part of the Michiana Division.



Hot Box Article

This article appeared in the Spring 2017 Hot Box. Thanks to Joel Pyard for bringing it to our attention and to Barry Hensel for giving us permission to reprint it in the Yardmaster.



\$3

THE *HotBox*

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

VOL. 58, NO. 1

SPRING 2017



RAILFANNING Dave Vinci's PRR Oak Ridge Branch



RAILFANNING the PRR OAK RIDGE BRANCH NCR TRACKSIDE



The **HotBox** crew made its way west, (Div 9 area) to visit the PRR Oak Ridge Branch of Dave Vinci's. We had quite the time! **Left-** PRR I1sa # 4638 Eastbound with an Ore Train at Allegheny; PRR 2-10-0 I1sa #4638 Eastbound at Trooper; PRR I1sa #4786 coming out of the engine house onto the turntable at Oak Ridge; FI&S Hot metal Car #36 at Blast Furnace No. 1



Right- PRR I1sa #4638 passing Eastbound through Elverson; Gulph Mills Station; The Frankfort Iron & Steel Blast Furnace No. 1 "Jenny Sarah"



6 the HotBox SPRING 2017

RAILFANNING the PRR OAK RIDGE BRANCH NCR TRACKSIDE

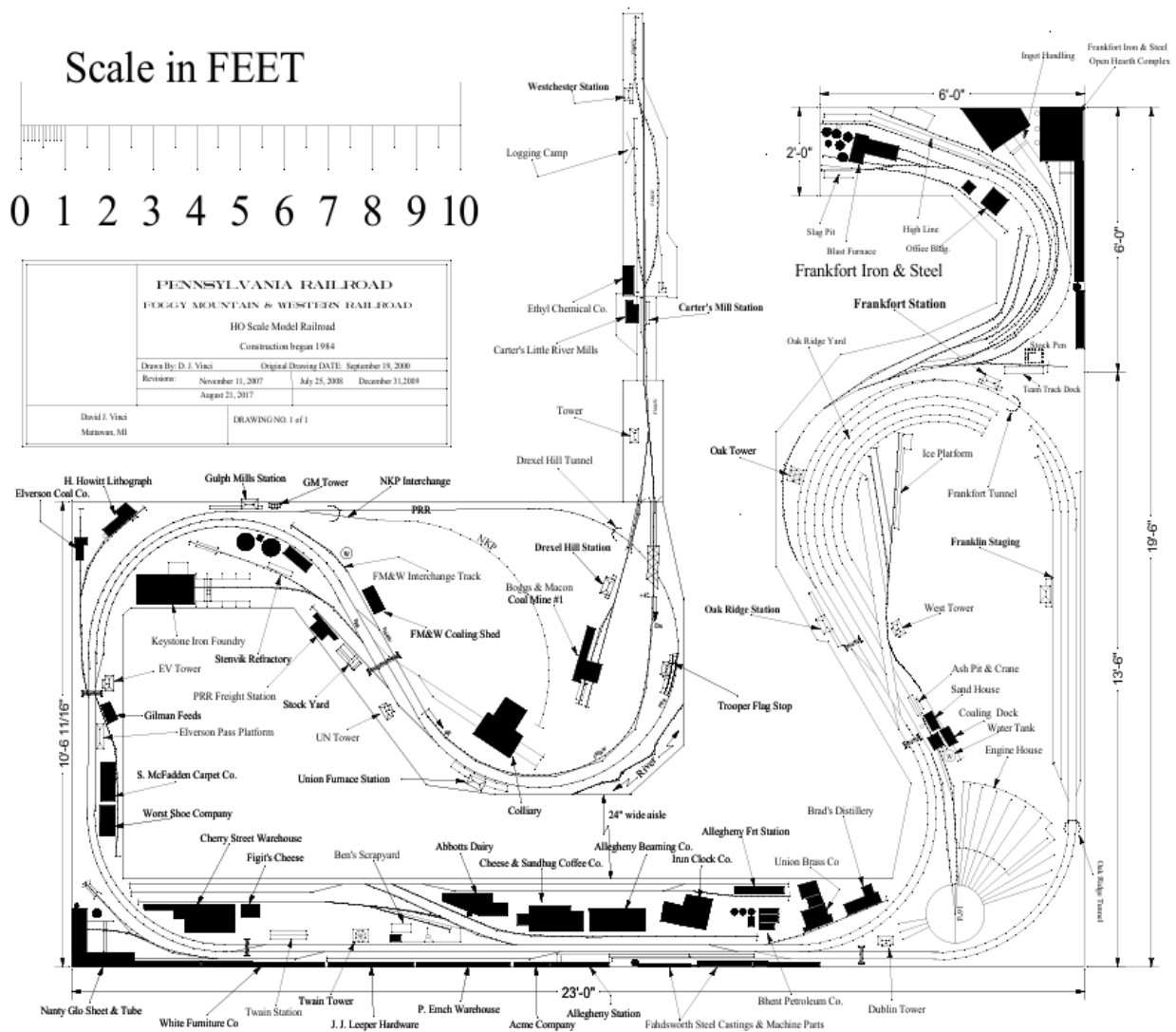
Left- Boggs & Macon Coal Mine at Drexel Hill on the Foggy Mountain & Western; A group of engines on the tracks leading to the turntable at Oak Ridge; PRR 2-8-2 L1s #4152 arriving westbound at Oak Ridge Yard.



Right- FM&W Shay No. 8 at the repair shed in Westchester; The class N5 Cabin Car of the ore train passing UF Tower at Union Furnace; PRR 2-8-0 H9 3417 Exits the tunnel at Frankfort headed West to Oak Ridge; PRR 2-8-0 H8 #1945 with the wreck train at Oak Ridge yard



SPRING 2017 the HotBox 7



Editor's Comments

Remember there are no membership meetings in July and August, things will start again in September at our annual meeting. One of the key parts of the annual meeting is board elections. Terms expire for three board positions, Superintendent, Scribe, and the Trustee Position currently held by Doug VanMeter. For all of you out there that really want to join in on the fun and become a member of the Division 9 board, now is the time to get your name on the ballot. All you need to do is contact any of the current board members and express your desire to become a member and which position you would like to hold. The list of current board members and their contact information is displayed below:



Division 9 Board Members

Position	Board Member	Email address
Superintendent	Garry Johnson	elecsprk@gmail.com
Assistant Superintendent	Joel Pyard	pyardj@comcast.net
Paymaster	Bob Lawrence	robertlawrence44@msn.com
Scribe & Newsletter Editor	Alan Bau	alanwbau@gmail.com
Trustee	Doug Van Meter	vanmeterda@gmail.com
Trustee	Greg Marvin	sr@earthworkslawnandlandscape.com
Website Manager	Tony Vacha	CKRHandler@aol.com

Recap of April Membership Meeting

Doug Harding made his usual terrific presentation **titled “Fun with Pickles” a look at the pickle industry.**



Doug Harding presented a great clinic, that was also very interesting. Doug shared with Division 9 a history of the pickle industry. From harvesting cucumbers, transporting cucumbers to the facilities with the salting tanks, the grading by size, onto the making of pickles to the putting into jars and can.

The pickle industry is and was a large industry in Michigan. West Michigan had a number of locations with pickle operations. Doug showed photos of pickle facilities in Holland, Bangor and Lacota. There are still pickle facilities (Freestone) across from the Amtrak passenger station in Bangor. The Holland Heinze plant was once known as the world's largest pickle factory. The factory now mostly produces relishes. There is some interesting historical information on the internet about how the area farmers came up with a plan to build the plant, the need for land on Lake Macatawa, and the need for rail service. You can see the railroad tracks winding through Holland to the Heinz plant on the old Sanborn insurance maps that can be found online.

Doug illustrated through his photos how the industries looked over the years, in case you wanted build a pickle industry on your layout. Also, the types of railroad cars that would be found at a pickle industry, box cars, vinegar tank cars, cucumber caring cars (cars with two kinds of tanks (coffin cars and cars with wooden casks or tanks), maybe coal cars for coal for boiler operations. You could even have a flat car delivering new processing equipment from time to time and box cars with other supplies (bags of salt, bags of spices, boxes of jars and lids, shipping materials, etc.).

Rich Mahaney



Upcoming Division Nine Membership Meetings & Events:

Meetings & Events	Date	Location	Presenter & Topic
Membership Meeting	May 17 th	Mid-Michigan Railroad Facilities in Turkeyville, Mi.	
Membership Meeting	June 21 st	Kalamazoo Bridge Club	Dave Capron "Operations for small layouts"
Board Meeting	July 20th	Greg Marvin's	
No Membership Meetings in July & August	Have a Great Summer		
Annual Meeting	September 20 th	Kalamazoo Bridge Club	TBD
Board Meeting	October 5 th	Bob Lawrence's (Tentative)	
Membership Meeting	October 18 th	TBD	TBD
Membership Meeting	November 15 TH	TBD	TBD
Membership Meeting	December 20 th	TBD	TBD

Note: The July Board Meeting date was changed from July 6th to Sunday July 20th.

Remember all board meetings start at 7:00 PM. Location varies between board member houses in April, July & October and the Kalamazoo Bridge Club in January.

All Membership meetings held at the Kalamazoo Bridge Club start at 9:30AM, but coffee & donuts are available at 9:00AM.



Upcoming Membership Meeting Information

May 17th Membership Meeting – Mid-Michigan Railroad Facilities in Turkeyville, Mi

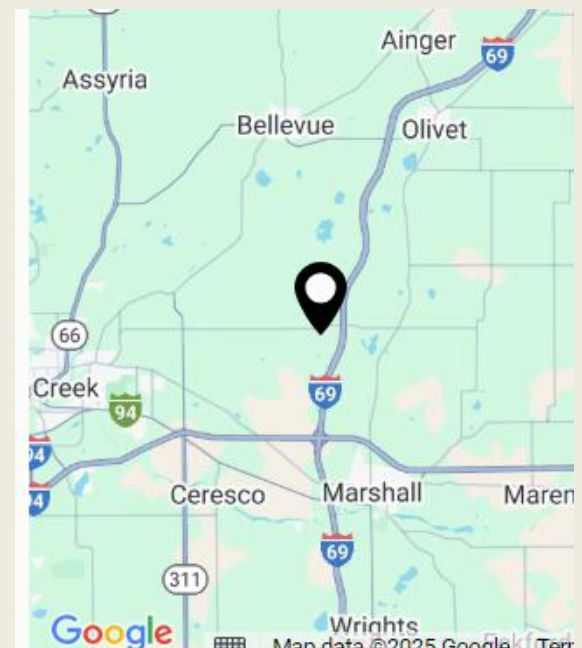


The agenda for the day is described below-.

The Mid-Michigan Railroad is a club like many other except their models are considerably larger than a typical O, HO or N scale.

We will actually be able to ride the trains, tour their facilities and train layout. Most likely some of their members will bring their own locomotives and cars. From what we know they have lots of stories that they are more than willing to share with visitors willing to listen. They have a Grand Elk RR caboose which was donated to the club. We expect to learn about the club operations, their size and their future plans. **Members should plan to arrive at 10:00AM** For more information click on the link below:

[MID MICHIGAN RAILROAD CLUB - Home](#)



June 21st – Kalamazoo Bridge Club – Dave Capron

(Former NCR President)
will be joining us at the
Kalamazoo Bridge Club
and presenting a clinic on
“Operations for a Small
Layout”.

Dave is a Master Model
Railroader and a frequent
clinic presenter at local
and national conventions.



The link to the Train Show List is displayed below:

[The Train Show List - Hobby and Train Event Clearinghouse](#)

2025 NMRA National Convention

2025 NMRA National Convention, Novi, MI | National Model Railroad Association

If you plan to attend or would like information about the 2025 NMRA National Convention in Novi, Mi. to be held from July 14th through the 19th, click on the link above or any of the links below if you are interested in anything more specific.



Layout Tours – 2025 NMRA National Convention

Operating Sessions – 2025 NMRA National Convention

Model Contests and Display Areas – 2025 NMRA National Convention

Modeling With The Masters® – 2025 NMRA National Convention

Clinics – 2025 NMRA National Convention

Prototype Tours – 2025 NMRA National Convention

RailYard Sale – 2025 NMRA National Convention

To make the NMRA National Convention in Novi a success, we need lots of volunteers. To volunteer click on the contact information link displayed here displayed below page and let us know that you'd like to be a volunteer.

[Contact Information](#)

April Board Meeting - Minutes

NMRA – NCR – Division 9

Board Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2025

Location: Garry Johnson's

Attendees: Garry Johnson, Joel Pyard, Bob Lawrence, Alan Bau, Greg Marvin, Tony Vacha, Rich Mahaney

The Meeting was called to order by Garry Johnson at 7:06 PM

June Membership Meeting: Rich Mahaney presented three options for the June 21st meeting. After some discussion the board ranked these options in order for Rich to pursue. Once a final decision is reached it will be announced.

Proposed Bylaw Changes: Alan Bau presented several changes to our bylaws, which were discussed and approved by the board. These changes will appear in the next few issues of the Yardmaster Newsletter and then presented to the general membership at our annual meeting in September. A copy of the proposed Bylaw Revisions is attached to these minutes.

Website Update: Alan Bau presented a general list of topics to be included in our new website. As each section is created it will be provided to the board members for review prior to being added to the website. These include the Home Page, Member Meeting Information, Overview of upcoming Events, Yardmaster Newsletter, Links to other websites, Membership Meeting Minutes, Board Meeting Minutes, and a Contact Us Page. A comment was made that it is the Board's responsibility to create the information for the website and pass this on to Tony for posting.

Electronic Communications: Tony Vacha presented an overview of our direction in replacing Zoom. There will be a test of the new system on Saturday April 12th at 7:00PM.

Audio/Visual Equipment: Joel Pyard made a proposal that we investigate purchasing certain pieces of audio/visual equipment. Tony Vacha agreed to look into this and bring a proposal back to the Board.

Legal Status: Bob Lawrence reviewed his extensive research project to verify that Division 9 is a non-for-profit business having a 501C3 status.

Working Groups: Alan Bau informed the group that he and Bob Lawrence had a meeting to work on modifying our bylaws to accommodate a few changes taking place in Division 9. We met for over an hour and made the necessary changes to present to the board for approval. Working in a small group can be very effective as there are fewer distractions and people involved are more likely to participate. We concluded that setting up a few small working groups in division 9 could be a worthwhile program. The board approved setting up three small working groups, with all board members expressing an interest in participating in one or more of these groups. A more detailed program will be developed, distributed to the board members for their review and hopefully included in the next newsletter. The initial Groups are 1 - Recruiting new members, 2- Member Retention & Participation and 3- Fund Raising

Newsletter Advertising: During our discussions, a question was raised concerning the possibility of local area hobby shops advertising in the Yardmaster Newsletter. Bob Lawrence and Greg Marvin agreed to investigate.

Treasury Report: Bob Lawrence reported that our treasury balance is \$1,138.72.

Annual Meeting: The details of the upcoming annual meeting were discussed.

- Date: Saturday September 20, 2025
- Location: Kalamazoo Bridge Club
- Coffee & donuts available at 9:00AM
- Meeting will start at 9:30AM
- Review and voting on the proposed bylaw changes
- Board Elections
- Review of upcoming events
- Website Update
- Show & Tell
- Working Group update
- Clinic

Other Meeting Activities

- Member For Sale Table
- 50/50 Raffle
- Door Prizes
- Modeling challenge – Rich will supply more details as they become available

Vicksburg Train Station: The plan is to provide help with running trains at their annual Christmas time open house. This could include up to 4 Saturdays in December 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM

Respectfully submitted

Alan Bau

Division 9 Scribe

Modeling Challenge

You may have noticed on the agenda for the annual meeting in September that there is a modeling challenge listed. There will be more information available in the June Yardmaster, but the following from Rich Mahaney may pique your interest.

Here are some photos of two cabooses in "second life uses" and a photo of a box car that is part of a store in Dekalb, IL.

The cabooses are part of two businesses. You need to look closely to see the box car in the business.

Rich Mahaney



Proposed Bylaw Changes

There were a few changes to the Division 9 bylaws presented to and approved by the Board during the April Board Meeting held on April 6th. The changes are displayed below for other members to review and comment. Additions or changes are displayed in red, and any items being deleted are also displayed in red but are crossed out. The numbering sequence will be updated in the next issue. The plan is to display the entire bylaws in the June Yardmaster Newsletter. We will be posting the entire set of bylaws on our website in the near future. The link to our website is <https://div9.ncnmra.org>.

The most significant changes affect the Paymaster and the newly created Webmaster position.

These changes will be voted upon at the September Annual Membership Meeting, which will be held at the Kalamazoo Bridge Club on Saturday September 20, 2025.

ARTICLE IV – DIVISION BUSINESS

4.3.1.2.1 One Nominee for one or more positions.

- In the event there is only one nominee for one or more positions, a motion can be made from the floor to unanimously elect the member(s) to the position for which they are nominated.

Article V – Officers

5.1 All officers and directors shall be elected from the Division Nine general membership in good standing.

5.2 Election of the Officers and Board of Directors shall be at the annual meeting held each September except for the initial election to be held at the organization meeting.

5.3 The term of office or officers and directors shall be two years, with the exception of the Paymaster and Website Manager, which shall be ongoing as long as these members remain in good standing in Division Nine as long as they wish to serve.

5.4 The Paymaster and the Website Manager will be appointed by the other members of the Board.

5.3.1 To provide for continuity of leadership the Board shall serve on a rotating term.

~~5.3.1.1 Upon adoption of these by laws a special election shall be held for all officers.~~

The ~~inaugural~~ Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Scribe, and ~~one~~ the two Trustees shall hold office for two years. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent will be elected on alternate years, the same applies to the Two Trustees. Starting in 2025 the Superintendent, the Scribe and one of Trustee will be elected, then in 2026 the Assistant Superintendent and the other Trustee will be elected. This rotation will then apply to subsequent years.

~~The Inaugural Assistant Superintendent, Paymaster, and one Trustee shall hold office for one year.~~

5.5.4 Paymaster

- a. shall oversee financial business of the Division, to include, but not limited to, collection of monies, distribution of monies as approved by the Board.
- b. shall maintain the financial records of the Division, which include but not limited to the following:
 - i. reimburse members for their out-of-pocket expenses that have been pre-approved by the Board of Directors and make payments to outside concerns for items that have been pre-approved by the Board of Directors. In the event an expense has been submitted for reimbursement that exceeds the amount approved by the Board of Directors by \$25 or more, the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent must approve the item for payment in writing.
 - ii. maintain the Division Nine books of account and provide a financial statement to the Board of Directors at each Board Meeting.
 - iii. submit a financial report for the monthly Division Nine Newsletter.
 - iv. The Paymaster is authorized to sign checks for approved expenditures. In the event the Paymaster is absent or unable to sign a check, the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent is authorized to sign checks.
 - v. The Paymaster is the primary contact between Division Nine and any approved Financial Institution that is or may be doing business with Division Nine.

c. shall ensure all financial reporting paperwork is filed with State, Municipal, and Federal agencies as required by law.

~~d. in the event that the Division needs a checking account, the treasurer shall establish such account, and each check must be signed by the Paymaster and the Superintendent to be valid. One additional Director shall be on the account to sign checks in the event that either the Superintendent or Paymaster is unable to sign a required check.~~

5.5.6 Website Manager

- a. shall be responsible for creating and maintaining the Division Nine website.
- b. shall be responsible for maintaining communication links for all Division Nine meetings when appropriate.

5.5.7 Newsletter Editor

- a. shall be responsible for creating, editing and publishing the Yardmaster Newsletter.

Board Member Elections:

There are three board positions where their current term will expire in September 2025. These positions, along with the incumbent's name and their current list of responsibilities, are listed below: If anyone would like to join our board, please advise any of the current board members that you would like to run for a specific position at the upcoming annual meeting in September 2025.

Superintendent – Garry Johnson

5.5 The Board of Directors shall consist of

5.5.1 Superintendent

- a. shall be responsible for the administrative and business functions of the Division.
- b. shall serve as liaison to the NCR, the NMRA, and other NCR divisions, modeling clubs, museums, and the non-modeling members of the community. As said liaison, shall work with the Scribe in publishing information about the Division.
- c. the Superintendent shall be the only one authorized to make public statements without the approval of the Board.
- d. shall serve as legal compliance officer, ensuring Division compliance with all Federal, State, Municipal, NMRA and NCR laws, rules and regulations.
- e. shall serve as chair of Division functions, conducting all meetings in adherence with The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, Fourth Edition.

Scribe – Alan Bau

5.5.3 Scribe

- a. shall take and distribute meeting minutes.
- b. shall maintain an archive of all official records for the Division.
- c. shall work with the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent in preparing and distributing information to the general membership, other Divisions, NCR **North Central Region**, the general public, and others as needed.
- d. shall provide information on candidates for the available Directorships to the general membership no less than thirty days prior to the election.
- e. shall notify members of meetings and activities
- f. shall maintain the membership list for the Division

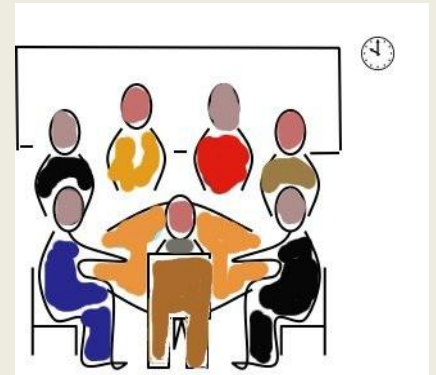
Trustee – Doug VanMeter

5.5.5 Trustees – Two Trustees will serve on the Board of Directors

- a. shall serve as representative at large on behalf of the membership
- b. shall assist any other Director as needed

Division 9 Needs Your Help!

Hey everybody, we can use your help. We are trying to reverse a recent trend of declining membership in Division 9. Our membership has dropped from 43 down to 31 over the last few months. Some of this may be due to long-time members not paying NMRA dues on a timely basis. Division 9 has been slowly growing each year since its inception. Even if the members that are late paying their dues bring them up-to-date, we are still losing members.



Most likely each of us can come up with reasons why this is taking place. The most important thing we need to do is determine if there are things we can do to reverse this trend.

Our plan is to establish a series of small working groups, each focusing on a specific area of concern. Each group would consist of between 2 to 5 members and would meet at a time and place of their choosing. Each of these sessions would focus on a specific area of concern and develop some ideas that they would then present to the board.

The areas to focus on at the start are identified below:

1. Develop programs to recruit new members.
2. Develop programs to improve our retention and participation rates.
3. Develop programs to raise funds.

Why small groups as opposed to a membership meeting. Some members are more willing to express their opinions and ideas working in a small group rather than a larger meeting. Working in small groups can be very effective and a lot of fun. For some of our newer members this could be an opportunity to get to know other members better.

We would like to recruit a minimum of 8 to 10 members, including board members, to help us in this effort.

If you would like to volunteer, please send an email to Alan Bau, expressing which of the three groups you are volunteering for.

We hope to get something started by the end of May.

Some of my Favorite Websites – submitted by Alan Bau

Ron's Trains N' Things

(1) Ron's Trains N Things - YouTube



I have been following Ron's Trains N Things for a few years now and have found his website to be very helpful with the tips and techniques contained in his many videos covering a wide-range of topics related to model railroading.

His videos are quite detailed and easy to understand. Ron models in "N" scale.



National Model Railroad Association

The NMRA is looking for a few good layouts for the annual calendar. If you want to consider submitting photos of your layout for consideration, click on this link for further information. www.nmra.org/printed-calendar. There is more information on page 51 of the May edition of the NMRA Magazine.



NMRA Michiana Division Main Page

This link is from our friends from the Michiana Division. There are close to 200 videos covering a wide array of topics by many different model railroaders. Some of the presenter names that you may be familiar with include our own Joel Pyard, Maynard Mitchell, Clark Propst, Ron Christensen, Doug Harding & Greg Bueltmann along with many others.

Rich's Travels

CSX Pere Marquette RR heritage unit



Century-old coaling tower in Michigan City to be demolished

Story by Cicily Porter, WSBT 22 Reporter

Click on this link for some photos and an article concerning the history of this coaling tower and its upcoming demolition.

[Century-old coaling tower in Michigan City to be demolished](#)

A building to model for a layout #1

I have looked at this building in Potterville, MI on the CN main line several times. Last Tuesday evening I got some photos before I had to go teach a tank car class for the Benton Twps. Fire Department. It just needs some covered hoppers to load!



A building to model #2, plus one photo

This building is just west of the CN yard on the southwest side of Lansing on the CN mainline. I have looked a number of times and have sat by the tracks in this area to photograph passing CN trains.

I thought it was interesting last week when I was by it to see the "bricked in" doorways where box cars would have been loaded and/or unloaded. Something or an idea to be modeled on a layout.

Also, I don't know how many of you have ever looked at the brick on the old generating plant in downtown Lansing by the convention center on the Grand River, but when the plant was built, they changed the brick color to reflect the colors of the boiler fires to heat water to make steam. Now that is a "scratch building" challenge.

The Accident Fund said the redevelopment would be "the largest adaptive reuse of a historic power plant in the state." Christman Co.'s information on the project pointed out that the exterior of the building has a number of distinctive features incorporated by Bowd-Munson, who were renowned architects of the period. These features include a stepped roofline, building and windows shaped to represent a stylized plume of fire, and exterior building colors symbolizing the combustion of coal, starting with black granite at the base, giving way to purple grey in the lower masonry, and continuing to red and yellow bricks that lighten in hue as the "flame" rises.

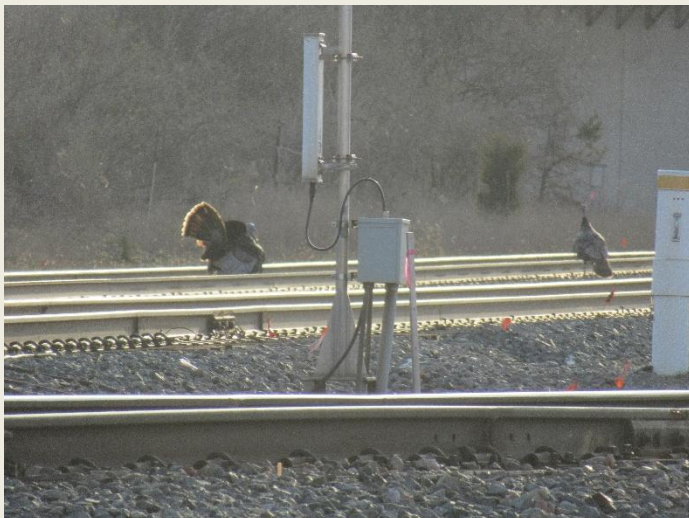
Rich Mahaney



Droppings from covered hoppers feed the turkeys in the tracks, details for your layout!



One more turkey photo and the remodeled Lansing train station. The replacement restaurant is called Bobcat Bonnie's, it will always be Clara's to me.



Trains in East Lansing this evening during a two-hour plus sit. Part 1

Came to the East Lansing "CN/CSX diamond" area today (Mon) towards dinner time, caught two trains, both west bound, CN first.



Train #2 today CSX at the diamond

Open load car for Tom Persoon in IA. He will be talking about this topic at the Novi NMRA Convention this coming July!



For Sale Items

Do you have an excess inventory of cars, supplies, etc. which are just taking up space and most likely will never be used? You can list these items here and try to sell them, so you can buy more train stuff.

To list your for-sale items here, send your list of items along with a picture if one is available, a description of your item(s) along with your asking price and contact information. Send your information to alanwbau@gmail.com.

Bill Lauritzen has the following items for sale:

Hello 🖐️ railroad enthusiasts,

The following books are new and unused duplicates that I have.
They make great reference resources.

- The Rusty Dusty Great Northern Wenatchee Oroville branch value \$35 only \$10.00
- The American Streamliners post war years value \$30 only \$10.00

Both are full color and well-illustrated.

Dick DeVisser has several trains for sale:

If you are interested in any of these items, you can contact Dick at 269-808-6304

The first item is an Athearn NYC stainless passenger train. 7 cars plus two Alco PA's.
All cars are kits except RPO.
Complete \$100

Note: there are more of Dick's trains listed on the next page.



More Trains for Sale from Dick DeVisser

The next item is Western coal cars with individualized loads, weights, dummy and KD couplers, fine scale wheels, custom rust paint on couplers and wheels, 21 BN steel, 9 BNSF aluminum, 1 UP bad-order aluminum.

Complete \$450.

Suitable engines also available



The third item "train" has 12 cars, all Rapido North Coast Limited, Magic Wand light & door control, Kadee couplers. There are 4-baggage, 2-coach, 1-Dome coach, 1-diner, 3-Pullman, 1-ducktail observation. Complete \$500, Also available Athearn Genesis F7 A-B-A NP NCL, All 3 DCC traction, manual headlight control, no sound \$450. Also available, Kato custom painted NP open platform business car \$40.

There are no pictures available of the above items, but Dick does have a short video.

NMRA Partnership Program

FYI – The following is an updated list of the NMRA Partnership Program. Note: there are 11 new companies included in the list that are offering discounts to NMRA members. Take a look. **NMRA**



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in and click on the **Benefits** tab to view the **NMRA Partnership Program**. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

18Ten Designs Bespoke Rail CatzPaw Innovations CB Train Junction Clever Models, LLC CMR Products, LLC Coastmans Scenic Products Composite Designs, Inc. Conowingo Models Cowcatcher Magazine *Dark Sky Modules, LLC* Daylight Sales (Merchandise) Deepwoods Software Deluxe Materials Diorama Hobbies Dwarvin Enterprises, Ltd East Coast Circuits Enterprise and National Car Rental Services Evan Designs *EZTronic* Feight Studios Fusion Scale Graphics Gatorfoam *Golden Spike Hobbies* Great Decals! Green Frog Productions Highways and Byways Model Railroad Graphics	Hot Wire Foam Factory Ipswich Hobbies ITLA Scale Models K.I.S.S Method, Inc. *Klawndyke* LaBelle Woodworking Co. LARC Products *Leavin' A Mark Engraving* *Lineside Details* Logic Rail Technologies MAC Rail *Marker Tree Creations* Micro-Mark *Mid-South Hobbies* Mine Mount Models, LLC Miniprints *Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum* Model Train Catalogue Modelers Decals & Paint Motrak Models Model Rectifier Corp (MRC) MrTrain.com Mudd Creek Models New Creations Victorian Railroad Buildings Nick and Nora Designs [New Partners in RED]	Northlandz NScale Works by Mike Holly Old Depot Gallery Old West Scenery R & J Details R. Duck Woodkits, LLC and R. Duck Locomotive Works RAM Track RR-CirKits Scale Model Plans Scale Railroad Models Scenery Solutions Showcase Miniatures T-Trak by Denniston Team Track Models The Model Railroad Benchwork Store The N Scale Architech The Old Depot Gallery *Third & Townsend Models* Tichy Train Group Touch of the Brush Model Weathering Train Installations, LLC Train Show, Inc. Trainmasters TV/Model Railroad Hobbyist Store TRAINZ.com TSG Multimedia UGEARS USA Airbrush Supply/ Badger Airbrush *Wallace Locomotive Works* White Rose Hobbies, LLC WiFi Model Railroad, LLC Yelton Models
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Apr 2025

Partnership Program Member List



Achievement Program

Do you have any interest in the NMRA-NCR Achievement Program. If you want more information or have any specific questions, contact our Division 9 Achievement Program Coordinator - Dorman Wilson N8YNW@Charter.net.

Alan's Adventures in Model Railroading

Since my last update I have found some time to work on my layout. Ballasting has taken quite a bit of my available time, but 2/3 of the track is painted and ballasted, including the yard. Two roads (one asphalt and one gravel), Champion Packing Company along with a stockyard filled with cattle and Valley Printing Company have been added to the layout, along with ground cover and a small parking lot. Valley Printing was supposed to be Roberts Printing, however, there was a major problem with the Roberts decal, so now its called Valley Printing. Finally I have planted several trees and built a 6' long retaining wall in one section of the layout. Plan going forward is to add details surrounding the Packing & Printing structures and to start constructing the moutain area of the layout. Time permitting, this could be lots of fun!



Wrap-up

As always, we welcome your comments, suggestions, criticisms, photos, articles related to model railroading, maybe even some funny stories.

How about that Western Michigan Bronco Hockey Team winning the NCAA Men's National Hockey Tournament!



The Link to our new website is <https://div9.ncrnmra.org>.

Consideration is being given to discontinuing sending the Yardmaster via email. However, a notice will be sent out informing everyone that the newsletter is now available on the website. Your comments on this proposed change are appreciated. This will not affect your ability to view the newsletter, just that you will need to go to the website to view it.

Finally, Goodbye Old Friend, we miss you.

Alan Bau
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