



The Yardmaster

Southwestern Michigan Division



June 2022

Website: www.ncr-div9.com

Division 9 Officers

Superintendent	- Garry Johnson	elecsprk@gmail.com
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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.

From the Desk of the Superintendent

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. As we will not have any activities in July and August, the next issue of **The Yardmaster**, after this one will be the July-August Issue and should be published in early August.

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

June Membership Meeting

The June 2022 membership meeting will be **Saturday, June 18th** at **The Colonial Kitchen Pancake House**, 330 N. Drake Rd., Kalamazoo. The back room is

reserved beginning at **nine o'clock** 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 with an informal breakfast (on your own) with business meeting to follow at **9:30 o'clock**. Rich Mahaney will present a program via Zoom from David Gunn's layout.

See you there!

Zoom Connection Information:

Subject: Invitation

Topic: NMRA NCR Div 9 Meeting

Time: Jun 18, 2022 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85927369484?pwd=R0JKZ2tzR2tTbVIIZ2F1Vk5KbXlWUT09>

Meeting ID: 859 2736 9484

Passcode: 565694

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 859 2736 9484

Passcode: 565694

Membership Meeting Minutes

NMRA NCR Division 9 Membership Meeting Minutes - May 28, 2022

In-Person Attendees

Garry Johnson	Rich Mahaney	Rick Garthe
Joel Pyard	Bob Lawrence	
Greg Stonerock	Bob Provost	
Chuck Peterson	Merrick Wilson	

Location: Breakfast at the Colonial Kitchen, followed by a tour of Rich Garthe's layout in Texas Township.

Meeting was called to order by Gary Johnson at 10:00AM

Officer Reports

Superintendent's Report

Paymaster's Report –Bob Lawrence reported that the balance in checking account remains at \$940.16. We still waiting for new checks.

All other officers had nothing new to report.

Old Business:

October Convention – Rich Mahaney updated everyone on the status of the 2-day convention. All clinic presenter slots have been filled. Rich is now working on photos of the layouts that will be on the tour.

New Business:

Future Meetings:

June 18th meeting - Rich Mahaney has airline tickets and a rental car for the visit to David Gunn's layout. We are set up to do a Zoom meeting back to Division 9 from David's basement layout. Joel will need to set up a zoom address/link. Rich will provide Joel with his AV equipment and the Division 9 projector.

July & August – remember there are no meetings scheduled in July and August

September Annual Meeting – there was discussion on the September annual meeting. The group in attendance voted to go visit the West Michigan Railroad facilities in Hartford Mi. We will have a presentation and tour on Sept. 17th by Mike Hnatiuk of the West Michigan Railroad.

September Meeting Continued - Since this is our annual meeting we will be voting for the Assistant Superintendent, Paymaster and one Trustee position. Anyone wanting to be nominated for any of these positions should contact the nominating committee of Garry Johnson or Alan Bau.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30AM

Next meeting is scheduled for Saturday June 18th at the Colonial Kitchen

Respectfully Submitted
Alan Bau in absentia

Hamilton, Michigan Wooden Trestle

By Rich Mahaney



Railroad Trestle in Hamilton, MI Built 1868-9 first used in 1870. In service as of May 2022 under CSX. Photo by Rich Mahaney



Railroad Trestle in Hamilton, MI Built 1868-9 first used in 1870. In service as of May 2022 under CSX. Photo by Rich Mahaney

This wooden trestle railroad bridge in Hamilton, MI that spans the Rabbit River has some history, but it still sees trains crossing it today. Most cars are loaded hopper cars these days, been delivered from Holland.

It is estimated the built in 1868 or 1869 that connected the cities of Muskegon, Grand Haven, Holland and Allegan with early railroad service.

The bridge construction was started by the Allegan and Holland Railroad Company but was later sold to the Michigan Lakeshore Railroad Company before it was finished. The first railroad traffic across the bridge was in June of 1870. The railroad tracks are now owned and operated by CSX.



Railroad Trestle in Hamilton, MI Built 1868-9 first used in 1870. In service as of May 2022 under CSX. Photo by Rich Mahaney

At one time, 4 passenger trains a day traveled over the bridge, 2 each way between Holland and Allegan, along with freight trains. Today, the tracks and trains only get to the Endeavor Ag and Energy Company (formerly a CHS facility, and before that the Hamilton Farm Bureau) in Hamilton. You can still see the railroad roadbed along M-40 highway, on the east side of the highway, going part of the way to Allegan, south of Hamilton.

On May 28th we visited Rick Garthe's layout(s)

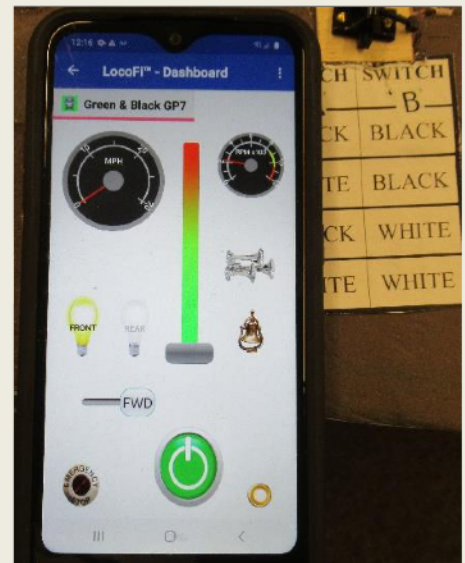
This is Rick Garthe's layout in the pole barn behind his house southwest of Kalamazoo, MI. Rick operates trains in multiple scales.

Rick operates his HO train by battery power, which is carried in an ore car behind the engine and then uses cell phones to control/operate the trains. Rick is using lots of creativity to build multiple layouts and have fun!

Rick is a CN&W fan, so he even has a side of a passenger train car painted on the wall and door with an actual passenger car window in the wall from a CN&W car.

We thank Rick for the opportunity to see his layouts.

Rich Mahaney

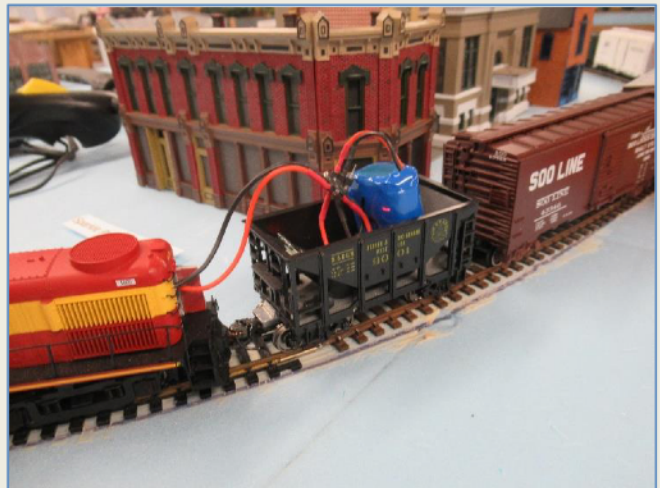


Photos by Rich Mahaney



This is a photo of his "moveable" carry ferry and an operating "hump yard".





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.

On Sunday, May 22, I had to run to the Glenn, MI fire department to pick up stuff. Coming back at the CSX train track south of Fennville, MI to encounter a stopped coal train heading for the Campbell Generating Complex between Holland and Grand Haven and a set of "CSX helper engines".

Helper engines are needed to help pull or push heavy trains up the "Saugatuck Hill" to Holland. There is interesting information on the CSX "helper service" on the west side and the Saugatuck Hill on the internet. This is a regular thing for coal trains and there is an occasional need for freight trains. The helper engines are stored a siding at Grand Junction, MI.

The BNSF engine had to be moved from the coal train to pick up the CSX engines that had just come up from Grand Junction and hook them on to the train to pull (or push) the coal train up to Holland and the Campbell Generating Complex. Enjoy! -- Rich Mahaney



On Tuesday, Jill and I had to go to South Haven and back to home through Grand Junction, MI. Grand Junction, MI is where CSX stores their helper service engines to help coal and freight trains get up the Saugatuck Hill.

Yesterday, the CSX helper engines were sitting there, another WY BNSF coal train was sitting there, and a CSX freight train came up to sit there. Busy place! -- Rich Mahaney



Kokomo, IN, Sat May 21, 2022

photo by R. Mahaney



Kokomo, IN, Sat May 21, 2022 photo by R. Mahaney



Old watch tower in downtown Kokomo, IN May 2022; photo by R. Mahaney



May 2022 Watchtower photo by R. Mahaney
Kokomo, IN



Westbound train that passed an east bound train on a siding this afternoon just before the rain started. Lots of LPG (UN 1075) tank cars in this train. EB CN on siding at Marcellus, MI 6-8-2022 photo by Rich Mahaney



WB CN train at Marcellus, MI 6-8-2022 photo by Rich Mahaney



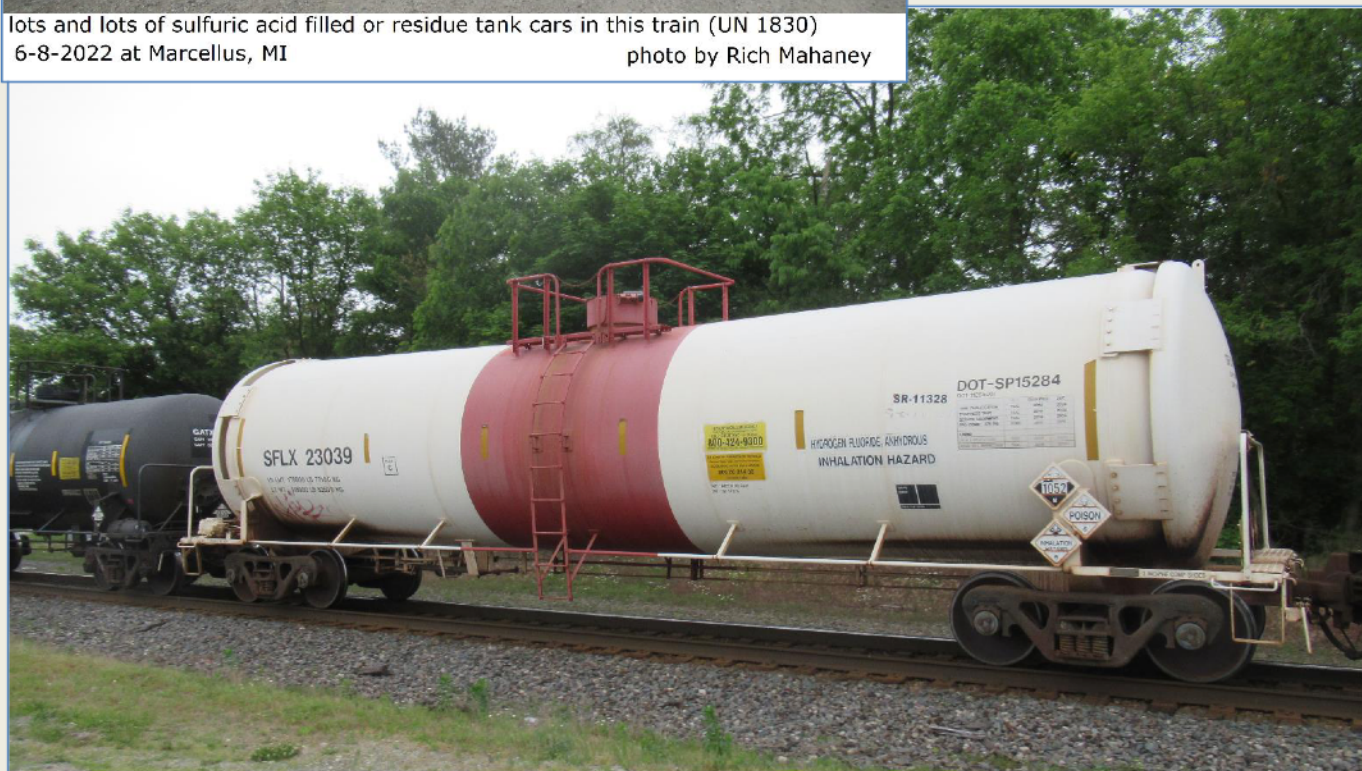
EB CN train in Marcellus 6-8-2022 photo by Rich Mahaney



WB DOT 112 tank cars with UN 1975 at Marcellus, MI
6-8-2022 photo by Rich Mahaney



lots and lots of sulfuric acid filled or residue tank cars in this train (UN 1830)
6-8-2022 at Marcellus, MI photo by Rich Mahaney



tank car requiring 3 placards (UN 1052) (anhydrous hydrogen fluoride)
6-8-2022 at Marcellus, MI photo by Rich Mahaney

OCTOBER 2022 MODEL RAILROADING CONVENTION – KALAMAZOO/BATTLE CREEK, MI AREA

The NMRA NCR Division 9 is hosting a 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.

Registration location(s) on Friday will be announced after you register, registration on Saturday will be at the location where the clinics are being held from 7:30am to 12:30pm. **The Saturday registration location and the clinics will be at a facility called The River Church, which located at 517 Walbridge, in downtown Kalamazoo. The building is northeast of the Kalamazoo Amtrak Station and backs up to the train tracks.**

Oct 28, Friday afternoon, there will be layout open houses from 4pm to 6:30pm. 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 donuts, coffee, and soft drinks!**

Oct 29, Saturday, 8:30am, 9:45am and 11am. 12 clinics will be presented between four different rooms.

Oct 29, Saturday, Lunch on your own. Then more model railroad layout viewing 1:00pm to 4:30pm, maybe operating sessions on Saturday evening.

More information will all be posted on The NMRA NCR Division 9 website, including information about paying with credit cards for registration and Friday registration sites. 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 32nd Street N, Springfield, MI 49037.

Registration fees in US Dollars only: Pre-registration of \$25, late registration fee is \$30 on or after September 1, 2022. Yup, send them in now and save some money!

For more information or question contact Rich Mahaney at 269-214-4221 or rcmahaney@gmail.com.

-----REGISTRATION FORM/Cut off and send to Garry, at the address above-----

NAME _____ NMRA Number _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

Are you interested or planning to attend the Friday, Oct 29, 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 Saturday evening? YES _____ NO _____ More information will follow in the future as these get set up.

Division 9 Calendar for June 2022

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 GR&I Chapter of PRRT&HS meeting
5 BOD zoom meeting for Oct 2- day conv. 2:00 pm	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Div 9 Meeting
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Division 9 Calendar for July 2022

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 BOD zoom meeting for Oct 2- day conv. 2:00 pm	11	12	13	14	15	16 No Division 9 Meeting
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

