

# **Michiana Division**



National Model Railroad Association  
Midwest Region

## **FORM - 19**

**Model Railroading in the Digital Age**



## A publication of the NMRA, Midwest Region, Michiana Division

Model Railroading in the Digital Age is the slogan of the Newsletter.

We will feature electronic information depicting aspects of analog and digital modeling when possible.

Inside this issue	
<b>PG 1</b>	<b>Super's Message</b>
<b>PG 2</b>	<b>General Information</b>
<b>PG 3</b>	<b>December Division Meet Show and Tell Pictures</b>
<b>PG 6</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Schedule</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>January: Division Meet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Zoom presentation</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>February: Division Meet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Zoom presentation</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>March: Division Meets</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>ZOOM Presentation</b></li> <li>○ <b>EMRRC Train Show</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>PG 7</b>	<b>Midwest Region Convention Announcement</b>
<b>PG 8</b>	<b>NMRA And You</b>
<b>PG 11</b>	<b>NMRA APPLICATION</b>
<b>PG 12</b>	<b>Division Information</b>

**PLEASE,  
STAY SAFE AND  
HEALTHY**



### January 2024 Form-19 Superintendent's Message By Greg Bueltmann

Greetings Model Railroaders.

The Michiana Division with the Midwest Region is hosting the 2024 Midwest Region Convention. The Convention will be held at the Century Center located in downtown South Bend, IN. May 2-4, 2024. The Central Indiana Division (CID) has also committed to providing volunteers to help with the event alongside volunteers from the Michiana Division.

The Convention will be a three day event consisting of Clinics, Layout Tours, Operating Sessions, AP Judging, Tours, AND MORE!

We are seeking volunteers to chair committees for, registration, clinics, AP model evaluation and coaching, budget and accounting, layout tours, operating sessions, promotions and advertising, website and social media, and non-railroad activities for spouses and guests. Hosting the 2024 MWR Convention is a serious undertaking. Expanding the pool and working with CID and MWR volunteers to conduct an enjoyable event in our region will provide many benefits including convenience, greater involvement from our membership, and unique learning opportunities based on our location.

If you are interested in volunteering during the convention and/or to serve as a committee chairman, please contact me. Include the capacity that you would like to serve in and any questions you may have.

Thank you for your consideration,

Greg Bueltmann, Email: [greg@uncleheavy.com](mailto:greg@uncleheavy.com)  
 Superintendent, Michiana Division  
 2024 Convention Chairman

## Welcome to the 1ST Quarter of the FORM-19 for 2024

***REMINDER: The Michiana Division has moved our regular Saturday meetings back to the third Saturday of the month.***

**Invitation:** Please join us in our meetings for fellowship and learning with other model railroad enthusiasts. We meet on the 3rd Saturday, almost every month. See the location, time, and topic at <http://michiana-nmra.org/meetings.html> as well as topics from previous meetings. The **next regular meeting** is **January 20, 2024**.

**Future meetings & ideas for topics:** Future meetings for the Division would like to alternate locations between eastern and western areas of the Division, attracting more members from west of La Porte. Also, we may be able to “Zoom” some meetings in the future for those who cannot attend in person. We invite you to suggest topics interesting to you. You can do this by posting your ideas on the Division’s **groups.io**. Meeting locations and other attractions are mapped at <http://www.michiana-nmra.org> just click on “Resources” “Michiana Division Interactive Map”.

## ROAD TRIPS?

Train shows are back and so are in-person conventions. So, let’s look at the possibilities of hitting the road this year. We’ll look at both model and prototype getaways available and the opportunities to get together with old friends we may not have seen for a while and meet some new friends. Don’t forget to take your models and photos to display and/or enter the contest rooms when attending a Region and National Convention.

## MICHIANA DIVISION ROAD TRIP IDEAS

### SWAP MEETS AND TRAIN SHOWS

Here is a source for train shows and swap meets that may be in the primary area of the Michiana Division and the five state areas of Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

<https://www.trainshowlist.com>

### MICHICANA DIVISION AREA TRAIN MEETS

Duneland Model Railroad Club

La Porte County Swap Meet

February 25, 2024

Elkhart Model Railroad Club

19<sup>th</sup> Annual TRAIN SHOW

March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

[www.emrrc.com](http://www.emrrc.com) for more information

Kalamazoo Model Railroad Historical Society

Kalamazoo Spring Train Show

April 6, 2024

[www.kmrhs.com](http://www.kmrhs.com) for more information

**MICHIANA DIVISION 9 DECEMBER 2023 MEET  
SHOW AND TELL By Chuck Hart**

Michiana Division members gathered on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> to show and discuss their project's currently in progress.

Pictured below are some of the projects on display during the Meet.



PHOTO: DAN BREWER

Chuck Hart's N Scale projects included a Freight House, Resistors being applied to metal wheel sets, a modified laser cut structure and a scratch built loading dock in progress.



PHOTO: JOHN BANICKI

The Freight House has been narrowed length wise. A freight dock and over hangs are being added to the build.



PHOTO: JOHN BANICKI

SMD 1206 resistors are attached to the axle with AC then Wire Glue is added to each end of the resistor for contact to the metal wheel and axle.



PHOTO: JOHN BANICKI

Chuck's laser cut building is in process of replacing oversize shingles and will be using paper shingles from Rusty Stumps. The back roof is made from scribed and painted aluminum foil.



Chuck's inspiration for the loading dock comes from Google images (Rocky Mount Telegraph photo)



PHOTO: JOHN BANICKI



PHOTO: DAN BREWER

Jerry Peterson's N Scale DPM 3 story building in progress. These kits are fun to build and lend themselves to great kit-bashing opportunities.

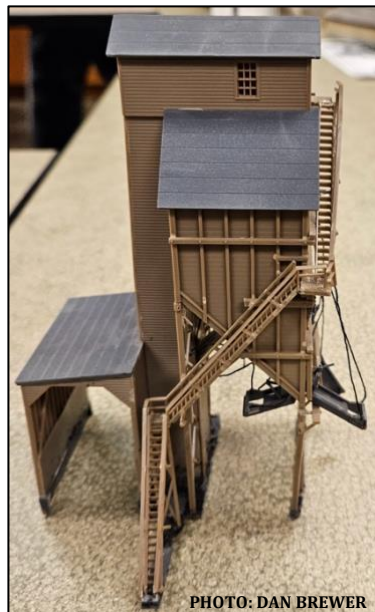


PHOTO: DAN BREWER



PHOTO: JOHN BANICKI

Here is a side and back view of Jerry's excellent N Scale model of a Walthers wood coaling tower kit.



How about those tractors. Ron Christensen MMR has a lot of them. Upper left, is an Oliver 70 that hit the floor and broke off some parts, so Ron decided to put out to pasture. Soo Parts (Northwoods Models LLC) supplied the 3D printed wheel stops that Ron uses for his flatcar loads. As seen they work very well for the John Deere and Caterpillar Road Grader loads. Ron recently acquired six Farmall tractors and they are in the process of being loaded for another flatcar shipment.

**PHOTOS: DAN BREWER**



Ron is also working on a couple of new 4 x 4 foot layouts for his grandkids. Pictured here is one of them in process, obviously too big to bring to the meet. Ron says the idea is to teach safety and introduce model railroading to his grandkids. The layouts will feature roads and markings such crosswalks and stop signs. Ron is also including pictures of their relative's homes to add interest to the layouts. The layouts are designed to be simple and fun to play with. **PHOTO: RON CHRISTENSEN MMR**



Dan Brewer showed us two structures. Dan repurposed a Walthers depot to 'Hall's Apple Farm Store'. The doors are open to show inside details and has interior and exterior lighting. Dan also showed his scratch build of Alpha Baking Co. Dan's Alpha Baking Co. also includes lighting and interior details. **PHOTOS: DAN BREWER unless otherwise noted.**



**PHOTO: JOHN BANICKI**





Dan's Alpha Baking Co. is as based on Alpha Baking located in La Porte, Indiana.

Rod Thomson bought (brought) the farm. Rod is a retired architect, so he builds his beautiful structures board by board! Rod's paper shingles are also a highlight of his modeling by first dry brushing Campbell Scale Models paper shingles from L&S Crossing with Craft Smart flat gray paint. Next the shingles receive an application of Ash Gray Weathering powder from Monroe Models. **PHOTOS: JOHN BANICKI**



**NOTICE: CHANGE OF DIVISION MEETING DATES FOR 2024**

The Division Board of Directors have decided to return to the third Saturday of the month for the majority of Michiana Division Meetings. Here is the Schedule for January, February, and March 2024.

20 January Zoom presentation, George Toman, Working with Thin Brass and Photo Etched Parts for Modelers.

17 February Zoom presentation, Chuck Hart, How to find documents on the NMRA website.

9 March Special Zoom presentation, Madison Plumer, Grain Elevator Operations.

16 March, Elkhart Model Railroad Club, stop by the NMRA table and meet fellow members.

See the detailed meetings information below.

**Michiana Division Meet  
January 20, 2024**

Division ZOOM Presentation: Working with Thin Brass and Photo Etched Parts for Modelers

Date and Time: January 20, 2024, 11:00am ET (10:00am CT)

Location: Zoom meeting (link to be provided)

Presenter: George Toman

Topics include:

1.0 Why I Do This

3.0 Tools For Working With Brass

5.0 Making Parts

7.0 Lateral Running Boards

9.0 Improving Photo Etch Parts Strength

2.0 Sources for Brass

4.0 Cutting Thin Brass

6.0 Making Photo Etch Ladders

7.0 Attaching Brass Parts

**Michiana Division Meet  
February 17, 2024**

Division ZOOM Presentation: How to find documents on the NMRA website

Date and Time: February 17, 2024, 11:00am ET (10:00am CT)

Location: Zoom meeting (link to be provided)

Presenter: Chuck Hart

This presentation is a continuation from the article by Chuck Hart in the January FORM-19 Newsletter. The presentation will demonstrate the use of NMRA website during the ZOOM presentation.

**Special Michiana Division Meet  
March 9, 2024**

Division ZOOM Presentation: Grain Elevator Operations

Date and Time: March 9, 2024, 11:00am ET (10:00am CT)

Location: ZOOM meeting (link to be provided)

Madison Plumer, Location Manager at the Gavilon Grain Elevator (VITERRA NETWORK).

This location is rail served and the presentation will explain how the facility operations work and how it relates for you to model a grain elevator operation.

**Michiana Division Meet  
March 16, 2024**

19<sup>th</sup> Annual Elkhart Model Railroad Train Show

Date and Time: March 16, 2024, 10:00am-3:00pm ET (9:00am-2:00pm CT)

Location: Claywood Event Center  
13924 N 1100 W (County Line Rd)

Nappanee, Indiana 46550

The Division will have a table at the Train Show.

Please stop by and introduce yourself and meet other Division members

**COMING IN MAY 2024  
MIDWEST REGION CONVENTION  
START PLANNING NOW**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**AROUND THE BEND**  
MIDWEST REGIONAL CONVENTION  
**MAY 2TH-4TH, 2024**  
The Century Center, South Bend, Indiana

Regional Train Show • Clinics • SIG Activities • Layout Tours  
Operating Sessions • Display Room • NMRA AP Program Judging  
Railroad and General Interest Tours • *And much more!*

**2024AROUNDTHEBEND.COM**

Besides convention attendees, volunteers are needed to make any event like this a success.

Committee chairmen are needed for, registration, clinics, AP model evaluation and coaching, budget and accounting, layout tours, operating sessions, promotions and advertising, website and social media, and non-railroad activities for spouses and guests.

Also, needed are clinic presenters, layouts for viewing and possible operating sessions.

If you are interested in volunteering during the convention and/or to serve as a committee chairman, please contact me. Include the capacity that you would like to serve and any questions you may have.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Greg Bueltmann, Email: [greg@uncleheavy.com](mailto:greg@uncleheavy.com)  
Superintendent, Michiana Division  
2024 Convention Chairman



# NMRA AND YOU KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS

Article By Chuck Hart

**Are you missing out of the latest NMRA news?  
How do you keep up or look back to find that old bit of information?  
Are you receiving the NMRA Magazine?  
Or are you using the reduced membership without receiving the magazine?  
Are you taking advantage of logging into the Members area of the NMRA website?**

### First a little history.

Long ago we received our information in the mail. The first newsletter was a one page type written letter sent in November 1935 called Bulletin #1. Dues were 50 cents/year. By 1938 the newsletter was 3 pages. In 1940 the Bulletin was four pages and various standards were beginning to be developed. By 1942 a Standards Committee was in full force and the Wheel and Coupler LOGO appeared on the newsletters. By 1947 Regions were beginning to be developed. BTW, the Midwest Region held its Spring convention in St Paul, Minnesota April 26 and 27 in 1947. Anyway, time has gone on so where are we today?

The NMRA Bulletin has changed name a couple times, i.e. Scale Rails and today the NMRA Magazine. The Logo on the publication changed to the current stylized 'Wheel on Rail'.



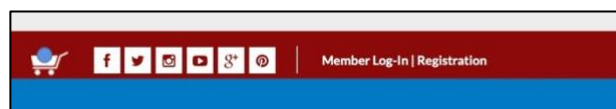
Today we live in the age of on-line technology and archival storage. Back to the questions. Are you receiving the monthly magazine or using the reduced dues without the magazine? Regardless, there are many ways to keep up with the latest news and look up those back stories, tips, tricks, videos and so much more.

First things first.... Make sure the NMRA Headquarters has your current and correct email address on file. They will need your email to send you updates to the NMRA and you will need it to log into the Members Only Area. Look for the 'Member Log-in/Registration' upper right on the NMRA website. To update your email, you can call the HQ at: 423-892-2846

Or send a service request form to:

<https://www.nmra.org/customer-service-request>

The official NMRA website is: <https://www.nmra.org/>



The Member Log-In located in the upper right on the NMRA Home page.



So, what is this content available to you and where is it located?

The public portion of the NMRA webpage is full of information and is available to all who open it. Such as, In The News, Membership information, Regions and Divisions (more about that later) to Standards (even DCC) and more. But it is the Members Area that will really get you into the NMRA.

If this is your first time, Log-In with your email address and look for the confirmation email to verify your membership, create a password, and you're in. Save the password in your password file or file it for future log-ins.

You should now see the following at the top of the webpage.



Located under the Publications tab are the current and archived copies of the NMRA Magazine, NMRA Turntable, NMRA Dispatch, NMRA eBulletins, NMRA Bulletin, President's Car and old Bulletins and Scale Rails magazines.



New NMRA Turntable, NMRA Dispatch and NMRA eBulletins are delivered directly to your email on record.

The NMRA Magazine is delivered by USPS mail to members that pay full annual dues and to Life Members.

The NMRA Digital Magazine is available online to all members.

The NMRA Bulletin and the President's Car are included in the NMRA Magazine and separately archived online under the publications tab.

Old Bulletins and previously published Scale Rails magazine are also available online to all members.

The NMRA Digital Magazine is hosted by ZINIO. ZINIO is a digital newsstand that host many online magazines and the NMRA Magazine is one of them. To reach the NMRA Digital Magazine will require a separate Log-in to the ZINIO website or an App download from your mobile device App store.


## NMRA Digital Magazine


As mentioned, the NMRA Digital Magazine is provided by the ZINIO website. Under the Publications tab click on the NMRA Digital Magazine selection and a page will open that will guide you to create a Log-in and password for access to the NMRA Digital Magazines. An advantage of having the NMRA Digital Magazine account is receiving an email to access a new issue two weeks before the paper issue is mailed.

On mobile devices, laptops, and desktops, the magazines are available as full pages as if reading the print version, as well as a special flowable text version. The flowable text makes it easier to read individual articles by enlarging the text and placing it into one continuous column for easy scrolling. It is simple to go back and forth between the versions.

### Digital Magazine Access

Web Application (Any browser on any device): <https://nmra.zinioapps.com>

App Store (iPhone and iPad): 

Google Play Store (Android devices): 

The Log-in page also displays a series of FAQ and a couple of informational videos to help you get into accessing the NMRA Digital Magazine.

Make sure you tune into the 17 February Zoom meet when I'll do a live presentation of Logging In and navigating the NMRA website and explore the Publications area and more content that is available to you to enhance your NMRA experience. Hint... have you ever checked out what is happening in other NMRA Regions and Divisions?

Rich Mahaney, NCR President, travels all over the country and always spends some time track side. Here is photo of an excellent model railroad size local from a recent trip Rich made in the Jackson, MI area.





National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

New Member Application

<b>Name:</b>		
<b>Address:</b>		
<b>City:</b>	<b>State/Country</b>	<b>Zip:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Birth Date:</b>	<b>Scale:</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<b>Occupation:</b>	

Membership	1 Year	2 Year	Total
Member - All rights & benefits as well as the digital NMRA magazine access.	\$68.00	\$136.00	
Member with Printed Magazine Subscription – All rights & benefits, digital NMRA Magazine access and the Printed Magazine.	\$92.00	\$184.00	
Family – Spouse or minor child of above member. No magazine, no voting rights, not allowed to hold office.	\$10.00	\$20.00	
Sustaining – Mandatory for group memberships (Clubs, Business, Associations). All rights & benefits, digital NMRA Magazine access and the Printed NMRA magazine.	\$120.00	\$240.00	
Student – Between the ages of 19-25 years of age. All rights & benefits, digital NMRA magazine access.	\$40.00	\$80.00	
<b>Membership</b>			\$
<b>General Donation</b>			\$
<b>Merchandise</b>			\$
<b>Region Subscription</b>			\$
<b>Total</b>			\$

Thank you for being a member of the NMRA! It is extremely important to have your current email address on file. This is used for access to the member only section, turntable, ballots, voting, annual donation statements, online renewals and communication. Please be sure to note your email address below.

Email:

Region Subscriptions				
If you do not see your region listed, there is no charge for region subscription! Most regions offer the subscription online on the website.				
21 Northeastern Region	\$12.00	28 Midwest Region	\$6.00	
23 North Central Region	\$10.00	33 Southeastern Region	\$10.00	
26 Pacific Coast Region	\$8.00	36 Sunshine Region	\$12.00	

Make Checks Payable to NMRA. We accept MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express.

Credit Card Number:

Expire Date:     CVV Code:    Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To: NMRA, P. O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328  
 Email: [HQ@NMRA.ORG](mailto:HQ@NMRA.ORG)  
 423-892-2846

**Thursday Evening Zoom Meets**

These meetings are open to all modelers and attract visitors from all over the country. Following the call, a video recording of the event is posted on our YouTube channel. A directory of available videos is provided on our division website at [www.nmra-michiana.org](http://www.nmra-michiana.org). If you would like to receive the weekly invite that is sent out for these sessions, please contact me at [greg@uncleheavy.com](mailto:greg@uncleheavy.com).

**Michiana Division YouTube Channel is now live!**

You can now view videos from our Division ZOOM meetings and other event videos. Check out our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbvaWZMhVoRweILW3aiXZlQ>

**YOUR Michiana Division needs a Membership Chairman.**

Neal Thomas has left the MWR Michiana Division and has moved to the NCR. Neal contributed to the Division as the Membership Chairman. If you have experience with Microsoft products including MS Word and MS Excel please consider filling the position for the Division Membership Chairman. Only a few hours a month are required for this important member position.  
Please contact Superintendent Greg Bueltmann.

**Michiana Division - 2815**

The Michiana Division was activated effective September 13, 2009.

Includes the following Counties in Indiana: Elkhart, Fulton, Jasper, Lake, La Porte, Marshall, Newton, Porter, Pulaski, Saint Joseph, and Starke and the following Counties in Michigan: Berrien and Cass.

**Michiana Division Committees**

AUDIT COMMITTEE	JIM TEMPLE
NOMINATING COMMITTEE	JIM TEMPLE
ELECTION COMMITTEE	JIM TEMPLE
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	VACANT
CLINIC COMMITTEE	VACANT
INTERNET COMMITTEE	GREG BUELTMANN
PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE	CHUCK HART
CONVENTION COMMITTEE	GREG BUELTMANN
MEET LOCATION COMMITTEE	JOHN BANICKI
AP CHAIRMAN	RON CHRISTENSEN, MMR

We are always looking for help with organizing and making the division stronger from within the membership. Please consider taking the load off by volunteering a small amount of your time.

DIV. SUPERINTENDENT	GREG BUELTMANN	<a href="mailto:greg@uncleheavy.com">greg@uncleheavy.com</a>
CHIEF CLERK	JOHN BANICKI	<a href="mailto:jjbmish@gmail.com">jjbmish@gmail.com</a>
PAYMASTER	JIM TEMPLE	<a href="mailto:jngtemple@yahoo.com">jngtemple@yahoo.com</a>
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	DAN BREWER	<a href="mailto:drbrewer@comcast.net">drbrewer@comcast.net</a>
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	RON CHRISTENSEN, MMR	<a href="mailto:rxensen@yahoo.com">rxensen@yahoo.com</a>
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	CHUCK HART	<a href="mailto:chart7968@yahoo.com">chart7968@yahoo.com</a>
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	VACANT	
DIVISION DIRECTOR	ROD THOMSON	<a href="mailto:rthomson3003@gmail.com">rthomson3003@gmail.com</a>