

# *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.

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**PLEASE,  
STAY SAFE AND  
HEALTHY**

### Editor Comments:

Over the past few years, the attendance at Division Meets have consistently decreased to Division Board Members and 1 or 2 Division members regardless of ZOOM meetings or in-person meetings.

Has the Michiana Division Membership given up or is just not interested? There has been an invitation in every Michiana Division FORM-19 Newsletter (including this issue) for ideas for meet subjects over the last 5 years. No Division Members have responded with their ideas to date; however, the Board members have continued to strive and create interesting meet subjects.

As noted in the last couple of member correspondence Greg Buelmann, serving the Michiana Division in the Superintendent position has termed out. The Michiana Division is now without leadership in the Superintendent position. A call for candidates has proven fruitless. The BOD thanks Greg for his leadership during his time as Division Superintendent.

The Michiana Division Membership has continued to decline during the last 3 Years without a Membership Chairman to help members.

Here are the issues that exist today for the Michiana Division. The Michiana Division Superintendent has termed out three (3) times with no volunteer to run for the position.

The following positions are vacant with some for 2 years or more, and no volunteers have come forward to fill these important positions.

- Division Superintendent
- Membership Chairman
- Clinic Chairman
- Meet Location Chairman
- Chief Clerk

The current Division Board members have served for many years and have also served in various other positions for Michiana Division and are tired.

### What can you do to change this trend?

Regards, Chuck Hart  
Editor

## Welcome to the 1ST Quarter of the FORM-19 for 2026

***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 meet is tentatively scheduled for April 18, 2026.**

**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”.

## 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>

### **KALAMAZOO TRAIN SHOW**

**Info Coming Soon**

### **LA PORTE COUNTY SWAP MEET**

**Info Coming Soon**

### **ELKHART MODEL TRAIN SHOW**

Elkhart Model RR Club 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Train Show, Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>

Claywood Event Center, 13924 N 1100W (County Line Road)

150 Vendor Tables. Operating layouts

Admission \$5/12 and under free with paid adult

More info at [www.emrrc.com](http://www.emrrc.com)

Contact Ken 574-300-5151, email: [trainshow@emrrc.com](mailto:trainshow@emrrc.com)

## NEAR FUTURE MICHIANA DIVISION EVENTS

During the last meeting of the Michiana Division Board of Directors, it was decided that there will be no regular 3<sup>RD</sup> Saturday Division meets for January, February and March 2026.

**However, an effort to bring members together is being established by BOD member Ron Christensen, MMR. Ron is calling this gathering a Subdivision meet.**

Here is Ron's Subdivision message:

*"Although I call it the Berrien County Subdivision NMRA modeling get together, it is not meant to be only modelers from Berrien county. It is an experiment with an evening meeting with anyone that wants to come. I feel traveling a long distance has caused members not to come to an in person meeting, so this is aimed at local modelers.*

*Let's get together 7 PM, January 13th for an NMRA modeling get together. I have secured a room at the Lincoln Township Public Library in Stevensville, 2209 W John Beers RD.*

*One of the best advantages of the NMRA is increasing your network of Modelers. I have found that to be very valuable not only for modeling, but ordinary daily activity. At the get together we need to find out what you are interested in and how the NMRA can help with your ideas and projects.*

*Although this is an NMRA member meeting, please bring your modeling friends.*

*Non-members can attend three times before they are asked to join the NMRA.*

*Ron Christensen, MMR"*

## The NMRA and Subdivision's

The idea of Subdivisions is not a new idea as such. Here is an excerpt from the of the 2015 Spring Issue of the MWR Waybill Newsletter

### MWR Waybill, Spring 2015, Editor Column, Subdivisions

*"There has been discussion back and forth about how to provide for members in our Divisions that cover a large geographic area. It may not be practical for many members to regularly participate in Division activities because of the distances involved. Subdivisions may provide an alternative for regular delivery of NMRA activities to more members in these Divisions. Subdivisions, called "clinics" in the Pacific Northwest Region has been very effective to serve local areas within the division. Each Clinic has a Clinic leader who volunteers to run the clinic. They are not elected but serve at their own pleasure and that of the attendees. He feeds-back to the Division superintendent and Board of Directors informally at Board Meetings.*

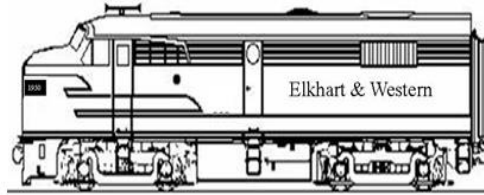
*A Subdivision will not be a separate geo-graphic entity within a Division. Its sole purpose will be to facilitate NMRA activities like clinics, layout tours and operating sessions for the NMRA members who decide to participate. The Subdivision will be a very informal group not unlike the many groups that get together periodically for a meal and operation on someone's layout."*

**The Michiana Division is composed of many counties and spread over a large area of NW Indiana and two counties in Michigan. Maybe a get together in smaller groups closer to where you live is a way to meet. If you would like to create a Subdivision in your area, just put out a call by using the Michiana groups.io list.**

# 21st Annual TRAIN SHOW

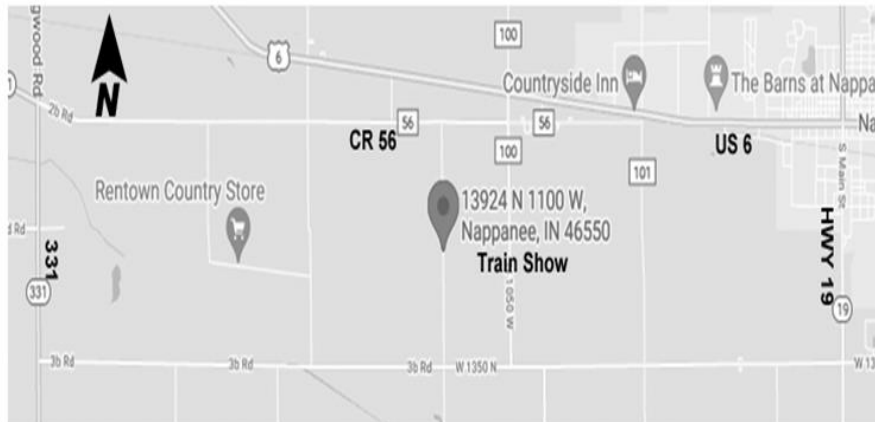
Presented by  
The Elkhart Model Railroad Club

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**SATURDAY**  
**MARCH 21st, 2026**  
10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. (E.D.T.)  
**Claywood Event Center**  
13924 N 1100 W ( County Line Rd. )  
Nappanee, Indiana 46550



**Operating layouts**  
**150 vendor tables, all scales**  
**Admission \$5.00**  
**Ages 12 & under free with paid adult**



For show & club information visit  
[www.emrrc.com](http://www.emrrc.com)  
Or see us on Facebook  
For vendor information contact  
Ken Prager 574-300-5151/call or text  
Email: [trainshow@emrrc.com](mailto:trainshow@emrrc.com)





I need your assistance. I am compiling a history of the Midwest Region, and I am looking for a few older editions of the Waybill. Specifically, any issues published during 1966 through 1971.

Please contact me by replying to this email or directly at:

[indycop999@hotmail.com](mailto:indycop999@hotmail.com)

if you have any Waybill issues within this timeframe in your collection.

BTW, you can take a historical look back at the Midwest Region from 1945 to 1964 at:

<https://www.mwr-nmra.org/mwr2016/mwr.about.html#history>

Past issues of the Waybill currently back through 1998 are also available to electronically search or download at:

<https://www.mwr-nmra.org/mwr2016/mwr.waybill.html>

I appreciate your help in completing this story for all to enjoy.

Regards,

John Coy, MMR and MWR President



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
<b>Member</b> - All rights & benefits as well as the digital NMRA magazine access.	\$68.00	\$136.00	
<b>Member with Printed Magazine Subscription</b> – All rights & benefits, digital NMRA Magazine access and the Printed Magazine.	\$92.00	\$184.00	
<b>Family</b> – Spouse or minor child of above member. No magazine, no voting rights, not allowed to hold office.	\$10.00	\$20.00	
<b>Sustaining</b> – Mandatory for group memberships (Clubs, Business, Associations). All rights & benefits, digital NMRA Magazine access and the Printed NMRA magazine.	\$120.00	\$240.00	
<b>Student</b> – 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				
<b>If you do not see your region listed, there is no charge for region subscription! Most regions offer the subscription online on the website.</b>				
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>

**Please send articles, news items, photos and comments to the Editor of the Michiana Division FORM-19 Newsletter to Chuck Hart, email: [chart7968@yahoo.com](mailto:chart7968@yahoo.com) by March 21st to be included in the April 2026 Spring issue of the FORM-19 Newsletter.**

**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	VACANT
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	VACANT	
CHIEF CLERK	VACANT	
PAYMASTER	JIM TEMPLE	<a href="mailto:jngtemple@yahoo.com">jngtemple@yahoo.com</a>
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	DAN BREWER	<a href="mailto:dbrewer@nd.edu">dbrewer@nd.edu</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	ROBERT PETIT	<a href="mailto:bobpetit422@yahoo.com">bobpetit422@yahoo.com</a>
DIVISION DIRECTOR	VACANT	