



# The Yardmaster

## Southwestern Michigan Division



April 2022

Website: [www.ncr-div9.com](http://www.ncr-div9.com)

### **Division 9 Officers**

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Assistant Superintendent	- Joel Pyard	<a href="mailto:pyardj@comcast.net">pyardj@comcast.net</a>
Paymaster	- Bob Lawrence	<a href="mailto:robertlawrence44@msn.com">robertlawrence44@msn.com</a>
Scribe	- Alan Bau	<a href="mailto:alanwbau@gmail.com">alanwbau@gmail.com</a>
Trustee	- Doug Van Meter	<a href="mailto:vanmeterda@gmail.com">vanmeterda@gmail.com</a>
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**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](mailto: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](mailto:N8YNW@charter.net)

## **April Membership Meeting**

The April 2022 membership meeting will be **Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**. Division 9 members and other invited people will meet at **9:00am** at the **Club Car Grill restaurant** for breakfast before the Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club tour. The Club Car Grill is located west of 131 (Exit 44)



on D Ave north of Kalamazoo. The address is **6225 D Ave West, near Alamo, MI**. We will be ordering individually off of their menu. The Club Car Grill has an old passenger car built into their restaurant building.



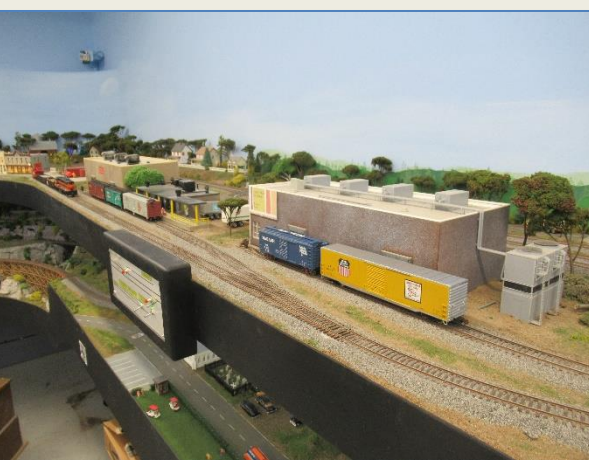
Between **10** and **10:30am**, we will begin the pack up and travel to the **Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club**. The Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club is formally known as the **Kalamazoo Model Railroad Historical Society (KMRHS)**. The club building and property are located at 6336 N Riverview Dr, Kalamazoo, MI.



D Ave is exit 44, on US 131. If you travel from the Club Car Grill or 131 east on D Ave to the intersection of D Ave and Riverview Drive, you turn left on Riverview Drive like you are traveling to Plainwell. The club driveway is on the east side of the road as you are traveling through a small curve in the road. There is a sign (see photo) with the address on it. The club buildings are on a small two-lane dirt road that goes back to their parking lot. The new club building is where we will meet the club members to begin their

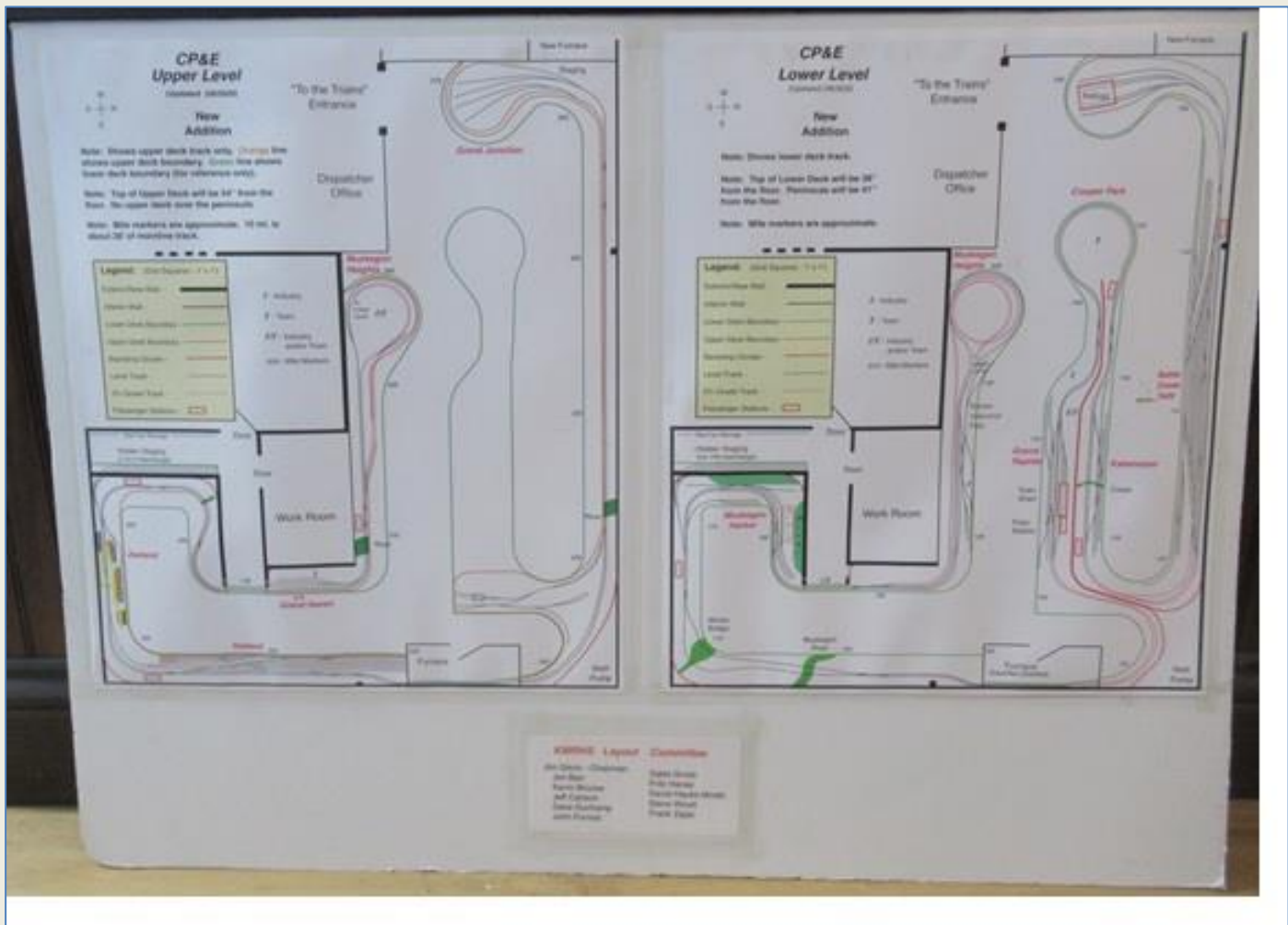


presentation on transitioning from their old layout that was around for years, designing their new layout project and the construction progress on their new layout.



This club has been in existence for more than 50 years and has been located on their Riverview Dr property since the 1970's. The name of their layout railroad is the Cooper Park and Eastern. This is the 2nd layout built in this space, the first layout served the club and its members for many years for building projects and operating sessions.

In 1999, a former Boyne City, Gaylord and Alpena 1912 caboose was donated to the club and historical property to be restored and be on the property for display.



Photos provided by Rich Mahaney.  
Steve Wood is the current KNRHS President.

## **Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Division 9 Convention -- October 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**River Church**  
**517 Walbridge St.**  
**Kalamazoo, Mi. 49009**

We had a board meeting on Sunday, April 3rd to discuss the upcoming 2-day Division 9 Train Convention.

The plan at the moment is to start the convention on Friday afternoon with layout tours and dinner at Clara's Depot on Friday evening. Dinner is not included in the registration fee and you will get to choose off the menu.

On Saturday morning we open with Get Acquainted time along with free coffee & donuts, clinics will start at 8:30AM. The plan is to have three one-hour clinic sessions, in four separate rooms. Currently the schedule of presenters includes some of the modelers in the state of Michigan and surrounding areas to share their knowledge and experiences in model railroading. Saturday afternoon there will be more layout tours, then on Saturday evening there will be an opportunity to participate in multiple, possibly four Op Sessions starting at 6:00 PM.

We plan to offer an early registration fee of \$25 if you register by August 31<sup>st</sup>, the fee goes to \$30 starting on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

We plan to allow attendees to register on-line, through the mail and in-person. Watch for more information on this process in the near future.

On Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup> the Kalamazoo Historical Model Railroad Society will have their annual train show and sale at the Kalamazoo Fair Grounds. For more information their website is [www.kmrhs.org](http://www.kmrhs.org). The train show is a separate fee.

To make certain that everything stays on track, the board will be meeting monthly to review status, make decisions, etc. to make this long-awaited convention a real success.

There will be lots of opportunities for all our members to get involved as we cannot do this by ourselves.

Watch for future updates in the newsletter, our new website and email. Website address is: [www.ncr-div9.com](http://www.ncr-div9.com)

Alan Bau -Division 9 Scribe

## **Model RR Photos**



Here is a PRR Class L1s 2-8-2 #603 pulling a cut of coke hoppers. The loco is a PFM from the mid-1970s upgraded with can motor and NCE decoder. – Photo & models by Dave Vinci.

## Prototype Photos

Battle Creek, MI - 4/8/22, Friday afternoon – photos by R. Mahaney



EB CN freight on heading into Battle Creek as Jill and I had just finished our pizza lunch at the Fire Hub Restaurant. The Fire Hub is an old Battle Creek Fire Station which sits next to the CN tracks and a little south of the NS tracks, west of downtown Battle Creek. Great homemade pizza! In fact, we had pizza there the night before my open-heart surgery last Aug 18th. Easy place to watch trains from their deck, once the weather gets warm. -- Rich Mahaney



Train number 4 for the Friday afternoon was an EB Amtrak heading for Pontiac, MI. It was less than a half hour late coming in from Chicago on the NS tracks, with the stop before this being in Kalamazoo. 04/08/2022 Battle Creek, MI



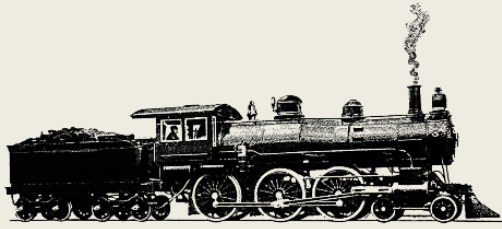
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Train number 2 was an EB CN auto rack train, that we watched roll by near the Amtrak station. 04/08/2022



## **Bruce Nichols Train Sale**

**Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
56343 Buckhorn Rd.**

As you know our friend Bruce Nichols passed away late last year. To honor Bruce's wishes, his family is selling his ho model train layout to Division 9 Members on Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. The address is:  
**56343 Buckhorn Rd. in Three Rivers.**

Items included in the sale are rolling stock, freight car kits, steam era Locomotives, building structures, building kits still in boxes, scenery items, Prodigy Control System, turnouts, small tools, supplies, electrical components, DVDs, benchwork, manually operated turntable, small train parts, a real (cast iron?) boiler plate number 2157 emblem, and lots of other stuff.

Most items are not marked with prices, but all reasonable offers will be accepted. Pay by check or cash. All items are sold as is.

Don't miss this opportunity and a chance to pay our respects to Bruce Nichols who was a respected member of our organization and who we all miss a lot.

Driving Directions from Kalamazoo. Take 131 South to Heimbach Road on the north side of Three Rivers, turn east (left) to Buckhorn Rd. (approximately one mile) then turn south (right) for approximately 1.4 miles till you reach Bruce's house which will be on your left.

If you have any questions, please contact Alan Bau (269-501-8999).

## 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 32<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 April 2021

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

## Division 9 Calendar for May 2021

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Saturday
1 BOD zoom meeting for Oct 2- day conv. 2:00 pm	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Div 9 Zoom Meeting
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				