



The Yardmaster

Southwestern Michigan Division



March 2022

Website: www.ncr-div9.com

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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, **by the 1st of the month** for inclusion in the current month's edition.

From the Desk of the Superintendent

Greetings to fellow Division 9 members

GOOD NEWS- We have secured the use of the River Church facility in Kalamazoo to host the Division Nine 2022 fall conference. More information forthcoming.

Recently in conversation with several older modelers I was reminded that time marches on and I can ill afford to over think my next layout. I have less time ahead, more time behind me, which means I need to maximize the use of my time. This means better use of hours spent with modeling, layout design and installation. I can no longer create that huge sprawling layout of yesteryear. I have learned that sometimes less is better than more. I've figured out just what I can afford and hopefully install later this year. What has to be done first is to finish my house to gain full occupancy, have my knee replacement surgery and hopefully by fall swing into action and get a layout built. Time will tell. Mean time I'm doing lots of research and enjoying the sights and sound of my neighbor the Canadian National Railroad.

PS: the other day I spotted on a CN train, car loads with large CAT track hoes and a flat car with RR axles/wheels which reminded me of times past when these were common seen loads. -Garry Johnson

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

March Membership Meeting

The March 2022 membership meeting will be **Saturday, March 19th** 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**.

Beginning at **10:30am** our presenter will be **Barry Hensel**, who will discuss the process of Making Water for Your Layout.



There are a variety of materials for making water on model railroad



photos provided by Rich Mahaney

layouts. Barry will offer insight and his experience on using these products and ideas on how to get the look you desire. Model railroad layouts have water in puddles, ponds, creeks, industrial drainage ditches, canals, rivers, lakes, oceans and other places.

Barry Hensel has been a model railroader for many years. Barry models the Reading Railroad on his basement layout in Canton, MI. Barry is also very involved with the Reading Company Technical & Historical Society and the Reading Railroad annual convention in PA. In Michigan, Barry is involved in the NCR Division 6 leadership and meetings. Barry is the Editor of the NCR "Hot Box, which he does an incredible job with every quarter of each year.

Yes, Barry has water scenes on his layout and has been evaluating products to create water scenes. Barry will share with us from his knowledge and experience, along with some recommendations involving products on the market.

See you there!

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Zoom invitation:

Topic: NMRA NCR Div 9 meeting

Time: Mar 19, 2022 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83932135768?pwd=M1A2ZGtVallXRDN4aTFIYVNkeINpUT09>

Meeting ID: 839 3213 5768

Passcode: 207186
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FEBRUARY 2022 CLINIC

Thanks to Doug Harding for his February presentation on stock yards and stock cars! Doug provided some great information on stock yards that show so many details for modeling ideas to improve the appearance and the realism if you are

modeling them. Little things like water and feed troughs, lots of walking platforms along the fence lines, the chutes to get the animals into and out of the cars, the brick floors, plus the sizes and shapes of the of the yards. Doug showed us what I will call three types of stock yards: the initial loading yards where animals were gathered for shipping; the yards along the tracks where animals were unloaded for water, food and rest; and the final stock yards at the destination of their trip near the meat packing plants. Doug also shared photos of different types, sizes and kinds of stock cars. Typically, stock cars were placed at the front of a train for ease in handling them, but they could be at the back of a train also, again for ease of handling them in switching operations and delivery. – Rich Mahaney

April 2022 Layout Field Trip

Final details of a tour of the Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club new layout on April 16th are being worked out. There is discussion about a breakfast before the tour or a lunch after the tour of this new layout. – Rich Mahaney

Membership Meeting Minutes

NMRA NCR Division 9

Membership Meeting Minutes - February 19, 2022

Location: Colonial Kitchen – Kalamazoo, Mi.

In Person Attendees:

Rich Mahaney
Garry Johnson
Joel Pyard (Cindy Pyard – Guest)
Alan Bau
Bob Provost
Bob Lawrence
Casey Bartman

Virtual Attendees:

Dave Vinci
Doug Harvey – Guest Speaker
Dave Gunn - Visitor

Garry Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:48 AM

Old Business:

Division 9 Conference

Most of the discussion centered around the upcoming Division 9 Conference which is scheduled for Friday & Saturday October 29th.

Garry Johnson & Rich Mahaney will be meeting with Church Representatives soon to finalize details.

The schedule of events:

Friday Afternoon –Registration & Layout Tours
Friday Evening – Dinner at Clara’s Restaurant in Battle Creek
Saturday Morning – Registration & Clinic Presentations

Saturday Afternoon – Layout Tours
Saturday Evening – Possible Operating Sessions

Other Conference Activities:

- Rich Mahaney is lining up speakers for clinic presentations
- Jim Glenn is organizing layout tours
- Casey Bartman is organizing the Friday Evening Dinner at Clara's
- Rich Mahaney is trying to find a youth group that would be willing to sell coffee & donuts during the Saturday morning session.

Watch for more details as they become available.

Paymaster Replacement: After a brief discussion, Bob Lawrence volunteered to be our new Paymaster. Thanks to Bob for stepping up. Alan Bau informed the board that the existing treasury records have been picked up and will be turned over to Bob soon. Our treasury balance is \$940.16.

Schedule of Upcoming Events:

- March 19th Meeting will be held at the Colonial Kitchen in Kalamazoo. The presenter will be Barry Hensel, who will discuss the process of Making Water for Your Layout.
- April 16th will be a tour of the Kalamazoo Club Train layout.
- May 21st will be a tour of Rick Garthe's layout in Texas Township.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 AM.

Doug Harding then presented his clinic on Stock Cars & Yards. This was part three of his overall clinic on the Meat Packing Industry as it related to the railroads. For the first time we were able to record Doug's Presentation. Look for more details on how to access this information when it becomes available.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Bau, Division 9 Scribe



Chicago & West Michigan Inspector's Engine #130. Engineer is William Filkins with Art Roost as Fireman George A. Luscher Collection

Bruce Nichols:

As you know Bruce Nichols passed away last November.

I met Bruce's daughter Randi when I picked up the Paymaster records at Bruce's home. She invited me to see his layout and asked if I had any ideas how they could best dispose of the layout and related items.

There are many magazines and reference materials, which Bruce indicated that Randi should make available to Division 9 members at no cost. Randi also said that she was thinking of an open house to sell the train layout and all related items sometime in early spring. This will allow some time to get a better understanding of what all is involved and get things organized. Randi indicated her expectations are not to get rich from the sale of train layout, but that she expects buyers to offer a reasonable fair price.

In our first meeting we discussed her expectations, what items are for sale, timeline and other options. Recently we had a follow-up meeting including Garry Johnson & Rich Mahaney as they have a lot more experience with these kinds of things that I have.

Our plan is the following:

The reference materials and memorabilia items will be on display at the March 19th Membership meeting at the Colonial Kitchen. Remember these will be given away at no cost – first come first served

April 16th – open house sale at Bruce's House from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM. Buyers are expected to offer a fair price for any items that you wish to purchase. All sales are "As Is" condition, for cash or check.

Items that will be up for sale:

- Several locomotives, mostly steam
- Rolling stock
- Structures, scenery items, related tools, and supplies

Watch for more details as we get closer to the open house date.

Thanks in advance for supporting this effort.

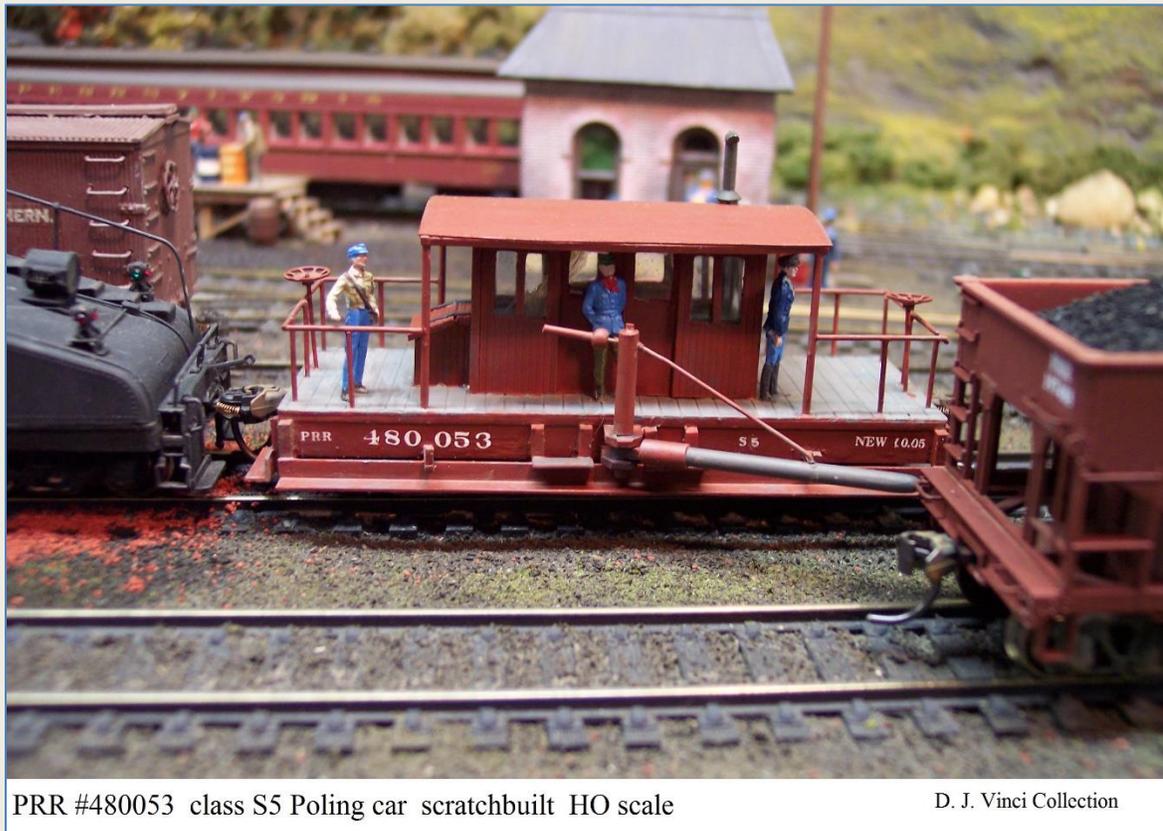
Alan Bau
Division 9 Scribe



Model RR Photos

Here are a few of the more unusual cars wandering about on my 1920s PRR layout. Some you may have seen before, some maybe not.- Dave Vinci

This is a resin kit of a common Pennsy 40ft flat car with WWI tanks.



This car was built using a photograph of an original and original PRR drawings. This is a 1913 design and as the photo shows, it does really work.



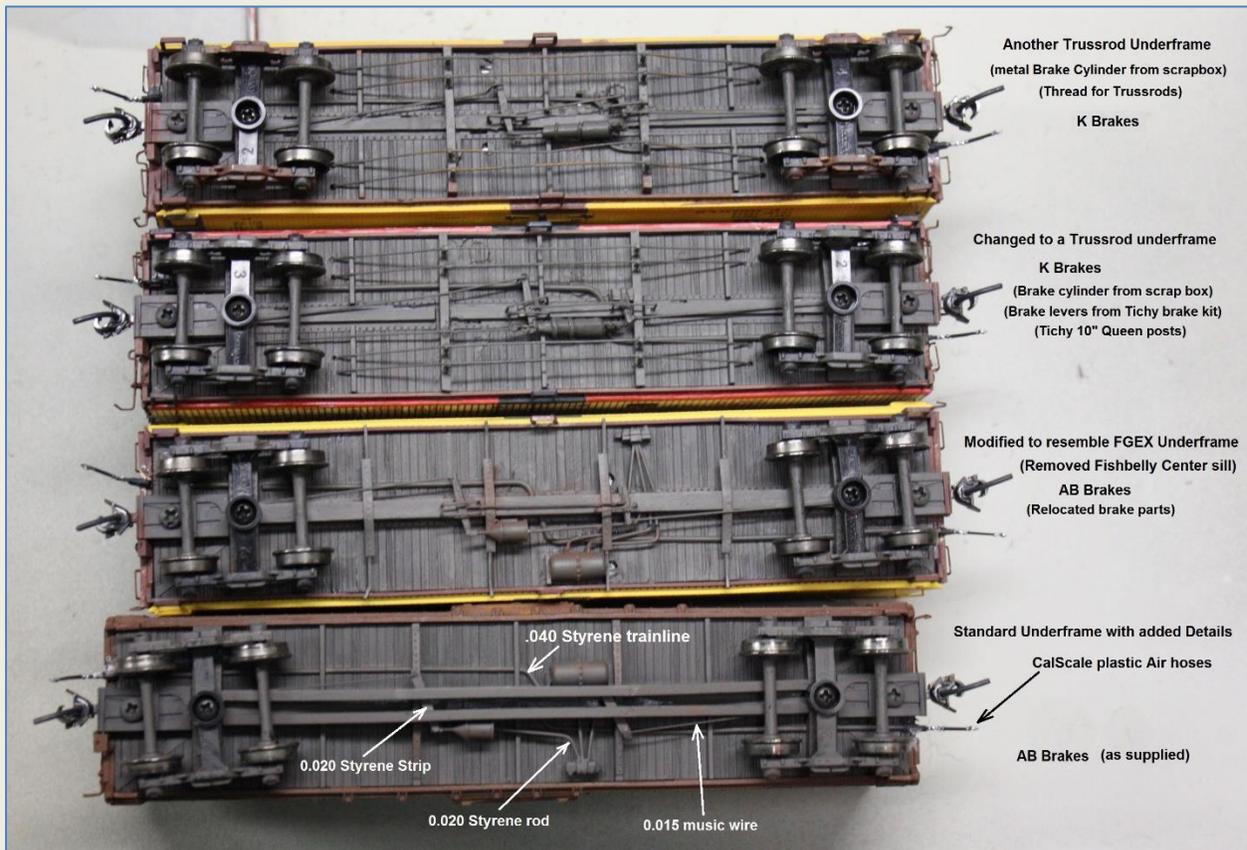
This is a scratchbuilt Gun and Cable Flatcar PRR Class F1 circa 1897. This car was an early high capacity (100,000 Lbs) when most cars were 30 or 40 tons. The load is a steam shovel bucket which is also scratchbuilt of plastic.

Photo and Model by D. Vinci



This tank car started as a Tichy tank car kit but was modified to have elevated walkways and handrails. Not all those 8,000 gallon tank cars were the same.

Photo and Model by D. Vinci



One of the great line of HO kits out there are the Accurail line of kits. These are nicely detailed kits that can be easily kitbashed to your hearths content. The photo above shows the underframe variation that can be achieved with the wood reefer kit. Once the deep center sill is removed you can really see the hanging under the car. The car below has wire grab irons, coupler cut levers, Air hoses, Andrews trucks, K brake details and truss rods. Base kit price is \$19.98.



FGEX #79412 Accurail kitbash HO scale

D.J. Vinci Collection

Here's the website: <http://www.accurail.com/accurail/> And no, I'm not affiliated with the company, I just like the kits, I think you will too.



Division 9 Calendar for March 2022

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Div 9 Zoom Meeting
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Division 9 Calendar for April 2022

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					1	2
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30