



The Yardmaster

Southwestern Michigan Division



May 2024

Website: www.ncr-div9.com



This photo is the Pere Marquette Steam Engine # 1225, from the Steam Railroading Institute.

Featured Articles this Month:

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Non-Train Related Holidays & Special Events – May 2024

May Day – 1st

Mother's Day – 14th

Memorial Day – 29th



Editor's Comments

There is a lot happening in Division 9. We have four out-of-town events scheduled in May, June & September. Our annual meeting is coming up in September.

The NMRA issued a Code of Conduct for all members to abide by. The entire 3-page document is displayed in its entirety at the end of this edition of The Yardmaster. All members are encouraged to read and understand what is expected of us as members of the NMRA.

Board Election News

The Board of Directors met on Sunday April 7th. One of the main topics was the upcoming elections which include the three positions of Assistant Superintendent, Paymaster and one of the two Trustee positions. As of now, Joel Pyard and Casey Bartman have chosen not to run again. We are in the process of looking for candidates for both of these positions and encourage all members to consider running for any of these offices. This is an opportunity for you to get more involved in Division 9 activities and be part of the decision-making process. Besides, that we have a lot of fun. The Division 9 Board approved the adding of a new position of Website Manager to the Board of Directors. This will be a board appointed position and carry with it the general responsibilities of maintaining the Division 9 website and investigating other sources of communication, such as Facebook, Instagram, and the new NMRA Interchange program. If you have the necessary qualifications to handle this position, we encourage you to contact either Garry Johnson or Alan Bau.

For a list of responsibilities for the three positions that are up for election, see the April Yardmaster. If you don't have a copy you can find one on the Division 9 website. www.ncr-div.com



Division 9 Officers

Superintendent	- Garry Johnson	elecsprk@gmail.com
Assistant Superintendent	- Joel Pyard	pyardj@comcast.net
Paymaster	- Bob Lawrence	robertlawrence44@msn.com
Scribe & Newsletter Editor	- Alan Bau	alanwbau@gmail.com
Trustee	- Doug Van Meter	vanmeterda@gmail.com
Trustee	- Casey Bartman	Casey@GR-MI.com



Upcoming Division Nine Membership Meetings & Events:

Meetings & Events	Date	Location	Presenter & Topic
Membership Meeting	Saturday May 18th	Sturgis Model Railroad Club	TBD
"Take a Ride on the Little River Railroad"	Sunday June 16 th	Coldwater, Mi.	Train Ride & Tour of the Little River Railroad shops.
Summer Vacation	July & August		
Board Meeting	July 7 th	Kalamazoo Bridge Club	
Annual Meeting	September	Vicksburg Train Station	Mark Tomlonson & TBD
Division 9 Board Meeting	October 6th	Kalamazoo Bridge Club	
Membership Meeting	Saturday October 19th	Bruce Chubb's Layout	Layout Tour & Op Session
Membership Meeting	November 16 th	TBD	TBD
Membership Meeting	December 21st	TBD	TBD

May 18th – We will be visiting the Sturgis Model Railroad Club located at 101 Jefferson St. in Sturgis, Mi. It has been a while since we visited the Sturgis club, and it will be interesting to see the progress they have made with their layout. For those that have never been to the club, they have a very nice facility and layout which is located in the Freight House behind the Sturgis Historical Museum.

June 16th (Sunday) –Let's Take a Ride on the Little River Railroad. The Board changed the date of our June Meeting from June 15th to June 16th to allow us to take a ride on the Little River Railroad. This is the only operating date in June. After the ride we can tour their train shops and for those that want to have lunch there is a Mexican restaurant is across the tracks from the Coldwater Train Station where we board. Ticket information is displayed below along with a link to their website. Members are responsible for purchasing their own tickets.

Ticket information & Website Link displayed below:

June 16 FATHER'S DAY, 11 AM and 2 PM, STEAM POWERED ROUND TRIP TRAIN RIDE TO QUINCY **(We are planning to take the 11:00 AM train)**
FATHERS RIDE FREE WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY PAYING PASSENGER
 TICKETS FOR ALL TRAIN RIDES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE!
 TICKETS CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED VIA PHONE AT: 517-227-5488

- Adults (ages 12 & up).....\$22.00
- Children (ages 3-11).....\$15.00
- Children (ages 2 & under).....FREE
- PRICES INCLUDE ALL SERVICE FEES

Website Link [Schedule and Fares - Little River Railroad](#)

July & August – Enjoy the summer. See you in September.

September Annual Meeting – This is our annual meeting which will be at the Vicksburg Train Depot.

We will start off the day with a normal business meeting, including Election of Officers, 50/50 raffle, donuts and door prizes, followed by Mark Tomlonson making a presentation on the railroads of Kalamazoo County. Additionally, we are trying to find a speaker for a presentation specific to Vicksburg rail traffic.

Watch your email for additional information as it becomes available.

October – Hold on to your hats, “we are on Bruce Chubb's Sunset Valley Railroad operating session schedule for October 19, 2024. The session runs from 9am to 4pm, with a one-hour lunch break. That is the date of our regular 3rd Saturday of the month meeting.” It is my understanding that you do not have to attend for the entire day. See the Yardmaster March edition for a few pictures of Bruce’s incredible layout.

November - TBD

December - TBD



Achievement Program

It has been a few months since we included information on the Achievement Program. The following is a brief description of what the Achievement Program is all about. If you have any questions, contact Dorman Wilson, who is our AP Coordination for Division 9. Dorman can be reached at Dewils_2@yahoo.com.

Achievement Program | National Model Railroad Association (nmra.org) “The AP requirements are a set of standards, but they can also serve as a set of guideposts for those who are new, near-new, and not-so new to the hobby. Not because they lead to some sort of official pat on-the-back, but because they are a source of ideas for projects that can help us learn to become better modelers.” “Briefly, the AP is a system of requirements for demonstrating a superior level of skill in various aspects of our hobby. It covers not only building various types of models, but also building other things which are important to the hobby, such as scenery, structures, track work, and wiring. It also recognizes service to the hobby and the NMRA, which are important as well. The Achievement Program is also a personal commitment to share one's knowledge with others and to encourage them as they also make the AP journey.”

Rolling Stock for Sale

The Kalamazoo Model Railroad Historical Society is offering two cars for sale. If you want to make a purchase or want further information, please contact the club. Their phone # is 269-343-8269.

The prices are as follows.

1. Cooper Grains: \$32 each or 4 for \$120.
2. Bell's Brewery: \$20 each, while they last - not many left.

I do not have any prices for shipping. If they contact us, we can find out.

David Hayes-Moats
Kalamazoo Model Railroad Historical Society



Upcoming Train Shows

Train Show List

The full list of shows is available here on the website, which allows you to subscribe and submit your events directly. More features will be coming soon!

<https://www.trainshowlist.com>

Given that we are reaching almost 1000 subscribers every other week, please consider making a donation as part of your event's marketing budget. Please visit the Train Show List site and donate via PayPal. Thank you for your support!

(Local area Train Show Listing Continued)

Grand Rapids Spring Train Show

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Home School Building

5625 Burlingame Ave SW

Wyoming, MI

Directions: [Use Google Maps](#)

Event Details

OVER 200 VENDOR TABLES * 70+ VENDORS? THOMAS THE TRAIN PLAY AREA? HUGE LEGO DISPLAY & PLAY AREA
Drawing for Lionel "Thomas – The - Train" Set Free Parking
Door Prizes Food Concessions Vendors with Model Trains in all Scales Books * RR Photos * RR Collectibles Family Fun for "Children" of All Ages

Contact Information

Thomas Klonowski
trainshow@grvrrc.org
8476911163

Website: <https://grvrrc.org/>



Did you know that the 2025 NMRA National Convention will be held in Novi, Mi. next year? Click on the link below:

[2025 NMRA National Convention – Station No.VI – hosted by the North Central Region of the NMRA \(nmra2025.com\)](https://www.nmra2025.com)

Battle Creek Model Railroad Club Train Show & Swap Meet

Saturday, September 14, 2024

Calhoun County Fairgrounds

720 Fair St.

Marshall, MI

Directions: [Use Google Maps](#)

Event Details

Several operating layouts, "hands-on" displays, door prizes. Children 12 & under free admission.

Contact Information

Andy Buck

andrew.buck@comcast.net

(269) 268-0910

Website: <http://bcmrrc.net/>



Remember these from the March Newsletter?



The question was if anybody knew where they are located?

The answer is they are located on the east side of Marshall on Michigan Ave.



- Regional Train Event
- Clinics
- SIG Activities
- Layout Tours
- Operating Sessions
- Display Room
- NMRA AP Program Evaluation
- Railroad & General Interest Tours

The Midwest Region of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)

AROUND THE BEND

MIDWEST REGIONAL CONVENTION

• MAY 2ND-4TH, 2024 •

The Century Center

120 Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. South Bend, IN

The National Model Railroad Association (NMRA), Midwest Region (MWR) 2024 Convention hosted by the Michiana Division. We sincerely welcome you to the convention. We have a great event planned for both veterans and beginners in the hobby of model railroading.

Additionally, the Steel Mill Special Interest Group will participate in this event with featured Steel Mill (SIG) clinics and vendors.



Admission Prices

This event is open to NMRA members and the general public

Early Bird Registration (ends April 1, 2024)

Full Convention Registration **\$70** Public **\$60** NMRA **\$48** Volunteers

One-day Registration **\$40** Public **\$30** NMRA **\$24** Volunteers

Gate Registration (on or after April 2, 2024)

Full Convention Registration **\$75** Public **\$65** NMRA **\$52** Volunteers

One-day Registration **\$45** Public **\$35** NMRA **\$28** Volunteers

Members of the public may pay for a Rail Pass Membership and receive NMRA admission prices. Children 12 and under accompanied by an adult (paid) are admitted free.



VISIT
SOUTH BEND
MISHAWAKA

For more info visit
2024AROUNDTHEBEND.COM

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

To access the conventions website, click on the above link.

Division Six of the
NCR- North Central Region of the
NMRA- National Model Railroad Association presents-



NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESS 2024



A MODEL RAILROAD WEEKEND CONVENTION!

**THURSDAY - FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY
OCTOBER 10-11-12-13, 2024
NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN, USA**

WELCOME to the NCR Model Railroad Convention, **NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESS 2024!** The convention is being hosted by DIVISION SIX, located in Wayne and Washtenaw counties. We are planning a great weekend of model and prototype railroading, just for YOU! Please access our website for all of the important information you need to help you to decide to attend this event. As you'll soon read, we're concentrating on having fun and learning all about model railroading! All you need to do is fill out the registration page, send it in with your registration fees and you'll be part of one of the greatest model railroad events in Michigan! Visit us online and register there using your credit card and PayPal security services! Come and join us for the **MAXIMUM** model railroad **FUN**, all in one weekend!

Open to ALL model railroaders! You DO NOT have to be an NMRA member to attend!

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE-

- * Event site – Ward Church, Northville, MI
- * Event shirts available pre-order only
- * Special DAY PASS entry available!
- * Online Registration available on website!
- * Banquet Dinner on Saturday evening
- * Clinics on Friday and Saturday
- * Operation sessions available Thursday, Friday, Saturday
- * NO model contest – MODEL SHOWCASE – show off your work!!
- * Get a discount for participating in the Model Showcase!!
- * Model layouts to visit on Friday and Saturday
- * Prototype tours on Friday (if available)
- * Yard Sale of new/used model railroad equipment
- * Ask the Experts (MMR's) table
- * EVERYONE welcome to attend!



For more information or questions answered, contact -
Norm Logan, Chairman –
248-444-3491 nlogan114@wowway.com
Paul Lichau, Div 6 Superintendent -
734-878-5390 plichau@yahoo.com
Mark Ellis, Asst. Chairman -
734-536-5470 emark@sbcglobal.net
visit our web pages at- ncx24.ncrnmra.org



NCX - NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESS 2024 REGISTRATION FORM & INFORMATION

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Name		Spouse	
Address			
City		State	
Phone		Zip	
email			
NMRA No.	Region	Div	MMR

REGISTRATION FEES

on or before September 25, 2024 - NMRA member	\$65	how many
on or before September 25, 2024 - NON NMRA member	\$75	
after September 25, 2024 - NMRA member	\$75	
after September 25, 2024 - NON NMRA member	\$85	
on or before October 13, 2024	One Day Pass = \$40	

REGISTRATION - is per person for anyone over 18 years old that will be participating in the convention activities. Spouse is free if ONLY attending layout tours and/or dinner. Children under 18 years old are free for the weekend and welcome to attend convention activities with a paid adult.

Dinner - SPAGHETTI DINNER!! Everyone (including children under 18) must pay for dinner if you are attending. This also includes our Keynote Speaker and Awards presentation. **NOTE- cut-off date for dinner is October 1, 2024.**

Event Sweat shirts are cotton/poly blend, green in color with the NCX logo embroidered in color on the left side

Event polo shirts are 35-65% cotton-poly no pocket shirts, green in color with the NCX logo embroidered in color on the left side **NOTE- cut-off date for ordering shirts is September 10, 2024. There will be NO shirts available at the convention!**

Model Showcase Discount!!

If you bring a model to display in the Showcase room, we will give you a \$5 discount on your entry to NCX-24! NOTE - you do NOT get \$5 per model!! Only ONE discount per person no matter how many models you bring. Discount to be given at Registration!

ONE DAY PASS - is for Saturday only and includes all the clinics that day and 5 layout tours.

EXTRA BOARD

			how many
Dinner per person	\$25		
sweat shirt	small	\$34	
	medium	\$34	
	large	\$34	
	X-large	\$34	
	2X-large	\$34	
	3X-large	\$34	
	4X-large	\$34	
polo shirt	small	\$32	
	medium	\$32	
	large	\$32	
	X-large	\$32	
	2X-large	\$32	
	3X-large	\$32	
	4X-large	\$32	

TOTAL

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Payment to be check or money order made out to- **NMRA DIVISION 6**

Send registration form with payment by October 1, 2024 to-
NCX Registrar 35684 Camden Ct Farmington Hills, MI 48335
 ON-LINE registration available until October 7, 2024 at ncx24.ncrnmra.org



Registration is Now Open. Click on the link below:

[NMRA- National Model Railroad Association and the \(ncrnmra.org\)](http://ncrnmra.org)

For Sale Items

Do you have an excess inventory of cars, supplies, etc. which are just taking up space and most likely will never be used? You can list these items here and try to sell them, so you can buy more train stuff.



To list your for-sale items here, send your list of items along with a picture if one is available, a description of your item(s) along with your asking price and contact information. If you wish your item(s) to be listed in the upcoming newsletter, you need to submit them along with needed information no later than the 25th of the month.

Send your information to alanwbau@gmail.com.



Interesting Videos - Click on the links below:

Nebraska Tornado.

Here is the video the train crew shot of the Nebraska tornado. in case you haven't seen this, tornado vs locomotive it's fascinating.

Lester Breuer
Plymouth, MN

https://twitter.com/ChadBlue83/status/1784048754527453533?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Etweet

[Inside Strange Restaurant Delivering Burgers by Trains - YouTube](#)



Inside Strange Restaurant Delivering Burgers
by Trains

Click on the link below for more information.

[Inside Strange Restaurant Delivering Burgers by Trains \(youtube.com\)](#)

Division 9 Posters

The following photos were taken by Rich Mahaney at the April 6th Kalamazoo Model Railroad Club Train Show.



Weathering Clinic Follow up:

On Saturday April 20th, members from Division 9 met at the Kalamazoo Bridge Club to attend a hands-on weathering clinic run by Norm Logan.

Norm Logan Teaches Weathering



Norm Logan taught a hands-on weathering clinic at our April 20th membership meeting.

Standing – Norm Logan
Pictures top to bottom – Alan Bau, Garry Johnson, Rick Garthe, Jim Fankhauser & Merrick Wilson. Missing was Jim Glenn.

Pictured right is Rich Mahaney at the top and Joel Pyard on the bottom.





Pictured above is a bunch of guys listening and learning from Norm Logan on how to weather rolling stock. Great day.

Top left Rich Mahaney, Joel Pyard, Merrick Wilson, Jim Fankhauser, Jim Glenn, Rich Garthe, Garry Johnson & Norm Logan. Alan Bau was taking the picture.



Two of these pictures are of Rolling Stock weathered by Norm Logan. Two of these pictures were done by our members during the clinic. Can you guess which were done by Norm?



Tour of Rich Garthe's layout after the Weathering Clinic. Pictured below are (Left) Norm Logan (Center) Rick Garthe & (Right) Jim Fankhauser.

FYI - Rick's layout is battery operated.



Alan's Adventures in Model Railroading – Volume 2

Last month was more of an introduction covering how I got back into Model Railroading and covering the last four years of activities. This month will be more of what has been accomplished on my new layout over the last two years.

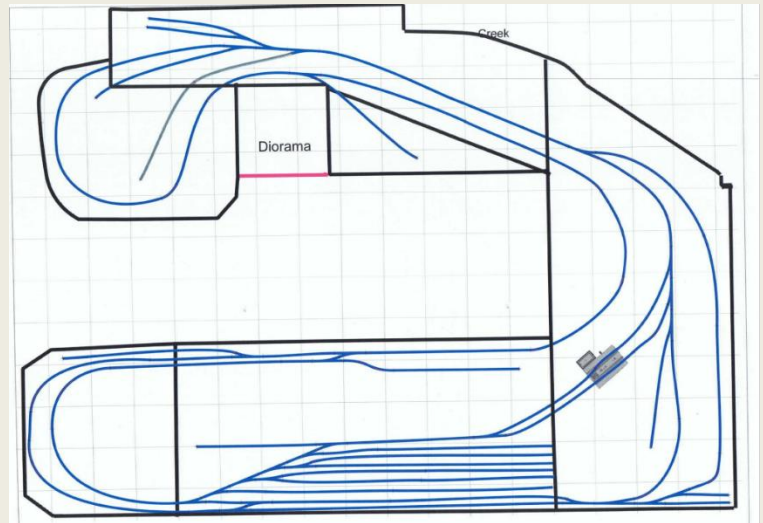


The above locomotive is an Atlas HO GP 38-2 Chicago South Shore # 2001, which I acquired from Rider's Hobby Shop in Grand Rapids.

After a couple of months of unpacking and getting things organized, I was able to return to working on my new layout. As the train boxes were unpacked, I discovered that several models were damaged in the move. This was disappointing as I thought I did a good job getting them packed for the move. However, there were higher priority tasks to accomplish, and these models were set aside for a later time.

The layout is located in a room that is 15' x 30' on the lower level. This is about 40% larger than the space I had available for my previous layout. This doesn't include my workshop, a storeroom and closet space that I use for modeling and storage of railroad equipment & supplies.

Using "AnyRail", a model railroading software program, I created my current track layout, version # 14 is displayed at the right. After making significant progress on the overall plan, it was time to start on the benchwork. I was able to use most of the benchwork from the original layout, but also had to add a fair amount. The new layout is about 40% bigger.



Accomplishments over the last year include finishing most of the benchwork, installing cork roadbed, laying track, installing a power bus line, soldering feeder wires and rail joiners, adding three power districts, including circuit breakers for each district, upgrading the power by adding an NCE Power Booster and adding a wireless NCE controller. In addition, 100% of all rolling stock have been tested, repairs identified and documented in a software program titled "Yard Office". Short-term plans are to fine tune the track, paint and ballast the rails, adding turnout controls and starting scenery. As time permits I hope to finish repairing the damaged structures and work on fixing any problems with some of the rolling stock that didn't pass testing.

Hope to see you at our next Division Nine Meeting.

Rich's Travels

Rich has been a busy guy, evidenced by the number of photos he has submitted and not all are included in this edition.



Saw this train out on a switching and delivery trip on April 4th near Waverley Road and East 40th St by Sherman Williams before 3pm in Holland, MI.



Photos of Amtrak work train in Jackson, MI, doing work west bound from Jackson, taken by Rich Mahaney.





Top photo was taken at the ADM Corn Syrup facility, Battle Creek, MI.



Left photo is of a west bound Amtrak on Sunday April 10th, going through Three Oaks, MI, probably at 100 mph or more.

Photo at right is of an engine that is being delivered to a Kalamazoo gravel operation for their use. It is coming from Lansing Water and Light to the Aggregate Resources Rail Yard for their use. Thanks to Garry Johnson for tipping me off to this find and the caboose, pictured top left, that they are turning into an office at their front gate.





This train seemed longer (extra cars), but look at the end with the last car. I have not seen that kind of car and view except on a "business car/train". Rich Mahaney



Amtrak Inspection Train Car: American View
youtu.be



The last car is Amtrak's American View "theatre" inspection car.

Note from Tom Persoon in response to Rich's question.

National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

Member Code of Conduct

Introduction

This Code of Conduct (“Code”) has been developed to set expectations for the behaviors, conduct, communication, and interactions between you and other members, officers and directors of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc. (“NMRA”). This Code applies to all such persons when engaging with other NMRA members, participating in any event, social media platform or other sponsored extension of the NMRA (for example, the NMRA Interchange or an NMRA-sponsored online meeting) and attending NMRA meetings, events, or activities (whether National, Regional, Division or other subset). This Code also includes general guidelines on the appropriate use of social media for NMRA matters at any level.

Why do we need a code of conduct?

We join the NMRA and participate in its activities for one common reason – we enjoy the model railroading hobby and the fun, challenges, personal growth and camaraderie that it provides. It is imperative that we keep our common bond of model railroading “front and center” and rise above the inevitable differences that exist among us in personalities, opinions, experience, gender, age, race, nationality, or any of the other factors that make each of us unique individuals. Our collective goal is to enjoy and promote the hobby of model railroading, so we must strive to avoid “distractions” that interfere with or obstruct our common purpose. Collaboration and co-operation are vital for the success of our hobby and our enjoyment of model railroading and everything it has to offer.

What does the NMRA expect of members?

The NMRA expects all members to conduct themselves in a respectful, responsible, and mature manner, and demonstrate courtesy and kindness toward other individuals. Constructive and healthy discussions and interactions are encouraged and in fact are vital to the success of our hobby. However, certain other verbal and nonverbal behaviors and actions are not consistent with the NMRA’s values and hurt our hobby and relationships, such as the use of disparaging language, shouting, profanity, confrontational, intimidating or threatening behavior or language, and immature and disrespectful behavior or language. It is imperative that we interact in a polite and professional manner.

The NMRA does not condone abusive, threatening, or aggressive behavior toward anyone at an NMRA event or in an NMRA forum (such as social media and other forms of electronic and digital interaction). This includes other participants, event organizers or sponsors, judges, or other officials.

You should be welcoming to newcomers and remember they may not have the benefit of experience and information that you have enjoyed. Be constructive in helping to make their entry into the hobby an enjoyable one.

Harassment

NMRA events and functions are meant to be fun, educational, and inclusive. No one should be subject to intimidation, made to feel unwelcome, or put in fear of reprisal. Harassment may include behavior or language that causes alarm, distress, anxiety, fear of physical violence, offensive statements, verbal abuse, and threats. Members should be sensitive to others.

Non-Retaliation

The NMRA relies on you to identify potential issues and raise concerns that the NMRA may need to address. The NMRA prohibits acts of retaliation against any person who reports an issue honestly and in good faith, and retaliation can constitute misconduct that could subject a member to discipline. This commitment to non-retaliation assures you that raising concerns, reporting misconduct, or cooperating in any investigation will not result in adverse consequences. The NMRA prohibits retaliation in any form, at any level of the organization, recognizing that retaliatory behavior contributes to an environment of mistrust and diminishes the willingness of individuals to be collaborative and transparent. During the investigation of any matter, the NMRA makes every reasonable effort to maintain the confidentiality of those involved.

Use of social media

The rapid growth of social media combined with ease of use and pervasiveness make it an attractive channel for communication. Use of social media for communication also creates the possibility of a host of unintended consequences. To help you identify and avoid potential issues, we are providing some examples of best practices that are meant to help you understand, from a wide range of perspectives, the implications of participation in social media. Any postings that you make as a representative of or participant in NMRA sanctioned activities will reflect on you and the NMRA.

Understand Your Personal Responsibility: You are personally responsible for the content you publish on user-generated content forums, such as blogs or social media sites. Remember that what you publish will be public for a long time. Protect your privacy.

Be Accurate: Be sure that you have all the facts before you post. It's better to verify your sources first than to have to post a correction or retraction later. If you do make a mistake, admit it and correct it. Post a retraction, edit your post, make any necessary apologies. If you are editing an earlier post, make it clear that you have made a correction.

Respect Others: You can catch a whole lot more flies with honey than vinegar. If you are constructive and respectful while seeking advice, asking for help, or discussing a disagreement or bad experience, you are far more likely to reach an understanding. In some instances, you may not be able to reach an understanding or agreement, but it is your responsibility to be constructive and address the problem rather than attacking the person.

Respect Your Audience: Don't use personal insults or disparaging conduct or language toward others. Show proper consideration for others' privacy and for sensitive topics. Users are free to discuss topics and disagree with one another but be respectful of others' opinions. You are more likely to achieve your goals if you are constructive and respectful while discussing a bad experience or disagreeing with an idea or a person. Harassment is not acceptable.

Think Before You Post: There's no such thing as a "private" social media site. Search engines can turn up posts and pictures years after publication. Comments can be forwarded or copied, and screenshots are easily available. Archival systems save information even if you delete a post. If you feel angry or passionate about a subject, it's prudent to wait until you are calm and clear-headed before posting.

Does it Pass the Publicity Test? If the content of your message would not be acceptable for face-to-face conversation, over the telephone, or in another medium, it is not acceptable for a social networking site. Do not use the anonymity afforded by a social media screen name or handle to post something that you wouldn't say if you could be identified.

Take the High Ground: You are more likely to build a high quality following if you discuss ideas and situations civilly. Don't pick fights online. Remember that as a participant in NMRA programming, you are representing the NMRA, and the organization supports the principles of fun, respect, and inclusion.

Do not post information that you know (or reasonably should know) is private, confidential, or proprietary. Some information that becomes available to you may be considered private, confidential or proprietary by the owner or source of such information – think before you post and if you are unsure, check with the owner or source before posting. Do not post anything in a private forum that you would not present in any public forum because there is no true privacy on the Internet. Ask yourself if you would want to see this published in the newspaper or posted on a billboard tomorrow or ten years from now? Additionally, ask yourself if you would want to see screenshots posted to the person or persons about whom you are speaking or writing.

Be Aware of Liability: You are responsible for what you post on your own site and on the sites of others. Be sure that what you post today is not something that you will regret in the future and that you are not violating any legal guidelines. Postings on social media sites can be, and have been, the subject of lawsuits alleging defamation, slander, or libel. In such a lawsuit, a court can compel the social media platform to disclose your account information; you won't be anonymous.

How does the NMRA enforce this code?

The NMRA can enforce this code of conduct independently, or in response to a complaint, after notice to affected members and due process including an opportunity to be heard. Proceedings include gathering facts, interviewing witnesses, conducting a hearing, and imposing discipline or dismissing the matter. The NMRA is a private membership organization; membership, member benefits, and the use of NMRA trademarks and intellectual property are not free or public. Therefore, the NMRA's leadership can determine that a violation of this code of conduct justifies a disciplinary action. Examples of actions include censure (a warning the similar conduct could cause termination), removal from an elected office, disqualification from elected offices or leadership, and termination of membership. The NMRA's Corporate Policies & Procedures Manual (CPPM), and Ohio state law applicable to nonprofit membership corporations such as the NMRA, governs the enforcement of this code and member discipline.

Wrap-up



Thanks to Norm Logan for the clinic on weathering your rolling stock. It was fun and educational, especially for those of us that haven't tried weathering yet, and we didn't make a mess.

Thanks to Rich Mahaney for providing us with all the photos.

Remember we are always looking for ideas for new clinics, road trips, layout tours, and information for future membership meetings and Yardmaster Newsletters.

If you have any model railroad questions, we have a great resource in Dave Vinci who will do his best to answer them. You can send them directly to Dave banjodave.prr@gmail.com or to me alanwbau@gmail.com.

Until next time, hope to see you all soon.

Alan Bau

Divisions 9 Scribe & Newsletter Editor
alanwbau@gmail.com