Michiana Division

National Model Railroad Association
Midwest Region

Model Railroading in the Digital Age

FORM - 19

A publication of the NMRA, Midwest Region, Michiana Division

Dear Division Member,

Welcome: Because you are an NMRA Michiana Division Member and reside within the boundaries of the Division, we welcome you to the Michiana Division subgroup on "**groups.io**". You should have received an email with information about the group. If you already have a "**groups.io**" password, great! If you have not logged in yet, please take a few minutes to complete that process and create your password. By doing this you will be able to use all of the capabilities of this group list, including messaging your fellow division members, asking questions, seeing and posting photos, files and documents, reviewing the division calendar for events, and much more. If you require another invitation to login to create a password just send an email request to chart7968@yahoo.com.

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 meeting** is **April 18,** using "Zoom," so you can view it via the Internet. We will not meet in person because of COVID-19. You will receive an email via "**groups.io**" with the link to join the meeting scheduled for **10 A.M. (Central time).** If you want to participate vocally, you will need a microphone for your computer or iPad. If you need one, you can mail order a wired or wireless computer mic. More info/instructions will be part of the message that sends you the notice of the meeting with the link to join the meeting. You will be able to test your speakers' volume before the meeting starts. Once the meeting starts, if you don't hear anything, check that your speakers are not muted. To learn more about using Zoom, see https://support.zoom.us The link for the meeting on April 18 is https://us04web.zoom.us/j/352626520

Future meetings & ideas for topics: When we resume physical meetings, we would like to alternate locations between eastern and western areas of the Division, attracting more members from west of La Porte. Also, we should be able to "Zoom" the meetings 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** (see **Welcome** above). Meeting locations and other attractions are mapped at the Division web site and click on "Michiana Division Interactive Map".

Organization: Our new constitution and amended Bylaws align with NMRA formats, and they are located on the Division web site and on the Division's group list in the FILES section. Under the revised documents the Superintendent is elected in odd years and the Assistant Superintendent in even years, each for two years, instead of the previous 1-year terms. In late 2020, we will hold elections for Superintendent for one year and Assistant Superintendent for 2 years to conform to the new schedule.

SCHEDULE of DIVISION EVENTS

Saturday, April 18, 2020
Michiana Division Meeting
10:00am to 12:30pm
Attend with ZOOM
See ZOOM info in
the article on Page 1
Clinic: JMRI Train Control
By Greg Bueltmann

May 2020
TBD

PLEASE, STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY

What you missed at the February Division Meeting JMRI OPERATIONS PRO

Jim Glenn of Division 9 of the North Central Region presented JMRI Operations Pro. Jim covered the various parts of Operation Pro including: Settings; Locations; Cars; Engines; Routes and Trains. Jim discussed some of the decisions you will need to make when using Operations Pro, such as, naming your railroad, direction of train travel (e.g., North & south or East & West), what scale you are using, and number of engines, the maximum length of your trains, car types (AAR or car description), year you model (optional), and if you want to add Operations to the main menu of the program. The next step is building your database, which includes cars, locations, locomotives, routes, trains and schedule (optional). Jim then discussed each of these items in detail, The advantages of using JMRI Operations Pro is 1) it is free, 2) the developers and users are always willing to help, 3) there is no limit to the operations on your layout and 4) you can write your own code to meet your specific needs.

Division Officers:
- Ron Christensen, Superintendent, Stevensville, MI
- Richard Smurawski, Assistant Superintendent, Winamac, IN
- Neal Thomas, Chief Clerk, Elkhart, IN
- Jim Temple, Paymaster, Berrien Springs, MI

Directors-at-Large:
- John Banicki, Mishawaka, IN
- Chuck Hart, Edwardsburg, MI
- Greg Bueltmann, Gary, IN
- Rich Trowbridge, Bristol, IN

NMRA Midwest Region Director:
- Gerald Peterson, Stevensville, MI