

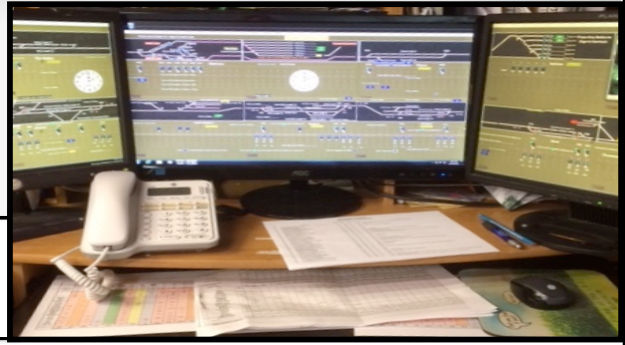
# Michiana Division



National Model Railroad Association  
Midwest Region

## FORM - 19

### Model Railroading in the Digital Age



## A publication of the NMRA, Midwest Region, Michiana Division

A word about the FORM-19 Masthead. Model Railroading in the Digital Age is the slogan of the Newsletter. In keeping with this line we will feature images depicting aspects of digital modeling. Currently we are showcasing an image from John Hanske of his JMRI dispatcher station on his Burlington Southern Railroad. You can send your images for possible use in the masthead to [chart7968@yahoo.com](mailto:chart7968@yahoo.com).

### DIVISION EVENT SCHEDULE

**Saturday, NOVEMBER  
21, 2020**

Michiana Division  
Meeting

11:00am to 12:00pm

EASTERN TIME

ATTEND USING THE  
ZOOM APP

LINK WILL BE PROVIDED

Clinic:

Evolution of Duck Lake

By: Chuck Hart

**PLEASE,  
STAY SAFE  
AND HEALTHY**

### Welcome to the FORM-19 for November 2020

**Invitation:** Please join us in our meetings for fellowship and learning with other model railroad enthusiasts. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 **November 21**, 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 **10:00am CT/11:00am ET**. If you want to participate vocally, you will need a microphone for your connected device. More info/instructions will be part of the message 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 November 21 will be posted in an email to you from the groups list.

**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 may 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**. Meeting locations and other attractions are mapped at the [Division web site](#) and click on "Michiana Division Interactive Map".



**Ron Christensen was our host for the October Scenery AP discussion.**

### **What you missed at the October Division ZOOM Meeting.**

Our Michiana Division Superintendent, Ron Christensen, lead us about how Scenery is judged using AP Program guidelines. This turned out to be a lively interactive discussion. Multiple photos of two scenes were provided to 3 people for judging. The judges worked individually and brought their remarks and points to the on-line discussion. Each area of the Scenery AP was covered and they included:

**Terrain (35 points)**  
**Structures (20 points)**  
**Background (25 points)**  
**Lighting (20 points)**  
**Realism / Conformity (25 points)**

Interestingly, the judges were all within 4-5 total points of each for their final scores of each of the two scenes!

Thanks to all those who attended the October online AP discussion and we look forward to seeing you next time.



**Chuck Hart is our November presenter**

### **The Inspiration and Evolution of Duck Lake**

Where do you get the ideas for your layout and the scenes you create? Chuck will discuss the background, history, inspiration and evolution of Duck Lake on the Short Line; Duck Lake and Bear Canyon Railroad being modeled on his layout. We'll cover many aspects of Duck Lake including the inspiration, design, build, scenery and water pour.

### **NMRA Members Model Railroad Directory**

The purpose of the Directory is to enable members to locate and contact others with similar interests such as era, prototype, industries modeled, scale, etc. The Directory is also a tool for arranging visitation locally or when planning travel. All members are encouraged to list their personal and/or club layouts in the directory. You can search the Directory by any combination of city, state, key word, or scale. I took a quick look at the directory within the Division area and only see 7 layouts listed! I know there are many more so why not take a look and add your layout to the directory.

**NOTE: The Members Directory is only accessible to NMRA members who are logged into the NMRA website.**

**Candidate for 2021/2022  
Michiana Division  
Superintendent**



**Greg Bueltmann**

Greg began model railroading in the late 1960s after receiving a Tyco HO train set as a Christmas gift. He currently models the CNW and MILW joint ore operations on a mid-sized layout located in his basement in Gary, Indiana. Greg has been a member of the NMRA off and on since 2002 and has served on the Michiana Division Board of Director as a Director-at-large for the past year. He has given clinics for the division on benchwork construction and JMRI physical panel design, integration, and construction. During the Covid-19 pandemic he has helped to continue the work of the Michiana Division by hosting and organizing Zoom meetings along with other members of the division.

Nominations for the 2021/2022 Superintendent position are still open. If you are an interested candidate, please get in touch with Jim Temple, Elections Conductor, at [jngtemple@yahoo.com](mailto:jngtemple@yahoo.com) or call him at 269-471-5164 (H) or 269-240-4643 (M).

On a recent email discussion the topic of backgrounds came up and the blending of a road into them. Ron Christensen provided a few pictures of roads that may be helpful to those looking for inspiration on your layout. Here are a few of those pictures.





# NMRA NEWS

## The NMRA @ home

Every other month in the NMRA magazine Jim Zinser, MMR, hosts articles from various Region and Division Newsletters. You can do your own investigating by going to [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org), click on Regions, then Regions and Divisions. From the list click on any Region and you will be taken to their website. From there you will usually see their Region Newsletter and a list of their Divisions. You will find there is probably enough reading material to keep you busy for many hours of learning more about modeling and the NMRA.

## NMRA Video Library

Have you checked out the Video Library lately? The library is located in the Members Only area on the NMRA.org website. The library is continually updated with videos from clinics presented during conventions, and other member meets. Additionally, videos are being added often from Model Railroader Video Plus and from Model Railroader Hobbyist TrainMasters TV presentations. Just sign in to the Members Only area of the NMRA online website, then click on the big blue box 'VIDEO LIBRARY'. Happy viewing.

With the advent of the COVID-19, in-person operating sessions have decreased to almost non-existent and the increase in remote get-togethers has increased to almost weekly (sometimes daily). The desire to operate a layout from a remote location is increasing in interest and methods. The idea is not new using a remote Dispatcher, however technology is making the process more accessible. Login to the Member area on the NMRA website. Under the 'Education' tab find the 'Members @ home' choice. Click on the 'Members @ home' page. Here you will find a two-part article from Bob Rodríguez.

### Remote Operating Sessions, by Bob Rodriguez

Have you attended virtual meetings during the pandemic? How about operating a layout remotely? Bob Rodriguez explains how operators can run trains on your layout with today's technology, without being in the layout room.



## MIDWEST REGION ELECTIONS

In 2021 the MWR will elect a President, Vice President and three (3) Directors-at-Large. The Region Election Committee will submit its recommendations and the names of all resident members nominated by petition to the Board of Directors for review and approval during its next meeting. Each candidate's biography/statement & photo and a ballot will be included in the 2020 Winter issue of the Waybill. The results of the election will be announced during the next MWR Annual Meeting of Members. MWR Link: <http://www.mwr-nmra.org>

## MICHIANA DIVISION ELECTIONS

In December 2020, the Michiana Division will elect a Division Superintendent for the 2-year 2021-22 term. Ron Christensen now holds the Superintendent position. The Board is very interested in members of the Division who would like to serve in the Superintendent position and head the Division Board of Directors for the next 2 years, planning and executing programs and other activities. The Division will use a member ballot system to fill the Superintendent position.

Looking ahead the Division will be looking for nominations to fill the upcoming vacancy of two Division Director at Large positions. The Directors at Large positions are filled by a vote of attending members during the Annual Spring Meeting.

If you are an interested candidate, please get in touch with Jim Temple, Elections Conductor, at [jngtemple@yahoo.com](mailto:jngtemple@yahoo.com) or call him at 269-471-5164 (H) or 269-240-4643 (M).

### **COMING SOON**

We have been holding back the latest videos from our Division ZOOM meetings and other event videos. We hope to have our own Michiana Division YouTube Channel soon. We will be transferring previous videos and others into that channel. We'll let you know as soon as it is available.

## 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.

Includes the following counties in Michigan: Berrien and Cass.

SUPERINTENDENT	RON CHRISTENSEN	<a href="mailto:rxensen@yahoo.com">rxensen@yahoo.com</a>
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT	RICHARD SMURAWSKI	<a href="mailto:rsmurawski@msn.com">rsmurawski@msn.com</a>
CHIEF CLERK	NEAL THOMAS	<a href="mailto:nfthomas@prodigy.net">nfthomas@prodigy.net</a>
PAYMASTER	JIM TEMPLE	<a href="mailto:jngtemple@yahoo.com">jngtemple@yahoo.com</a>
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	JOHN BANICKI	<a href="mailto:jjbmish@gmail.com">jjbmish@gmail.com</a>
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	GREG BUELTMANN	<a href="mailto:greg@uncleheavy.com">greg@uncleheavy.com</a>
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	CHUCK HART	<a href="mailto:chart7968@yahoo.com">chart7968@yahoo.com</a>
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	RICH TROWBRIDGE	<a href="mailto:richtrow@frontier.com">richtrow@frontier.com</a>
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	NEAL THOMAS	<a href="mailto:nfthomas@prodigy.net">nfthomas@prodigy.net</a>
MWR DIRECTOR	GERALD PETERSON	<a href="mailto:babbette4@comcast.net">babbette4@comcast.net</a>