

# **Division 2 Newsletter**

## **Traverse City Yard Event**

**September 17, 2016 – 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

Hope Everyone has enjoyed their summer as it's winding down, and getting your fill of sun, sand and water, but it's time to begin to "think trains".

We are planning for our first Division 2 event in September a TC Yard Event at Doug Carver's "Otsego and Mackinaw Railroad". We have two activities planned, Scott Pandorf will present a clinic on "What the heck is a microprocessor and why would I want one on my railroad!?" (see page 3 this newsletter). We will also have an opportunity to operate on Doug's O&M RR and try out a new operating position!

Show and Tell – "Bring Something – Say Something!"

Your opportunity to showcase and share your latest modeling project. Remember! If you don't bring something you have to contribute 2 quarters to the Division 2 kitty (and continue to swell our coffers!)

Doug's house is in Traverse City so hopefully we will see some of you from the Petoskey Yard as well.

See you in a couple of weeks.

Ernie Barry

### **Directions to Doug Carvers House**

1300 Eikey Road  
Traverse City, MI 49696  
231-645-5399

### **From downtown Traverse City**

Take US-31 North to 3 mile road, turn right (south) on 3 mile road to Eikey Road (approx. 5-6 miles), turn left (east) to 1300 Eikey, go past the house to the second driveway and go down the (small) hill and park on the grass.

### **From the east**

Take Garfield Road to 3 mile road turn left (south), then the same as above.



### **Crew Call:**

- 9/17 - Traverse City Yard Meeting
- 10/3 - All Division Meeting Charlevoix
- 10/7 - 10/9 NCR Regional Convention Livonia
- 11/12 - Petoskey Yard Meeting
- No Meeting in December

### **On the switch list:**

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**NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESS 2016**  
**OCTOBER 7-8-9, 2016**  
**LIVONIA, MICHIGAN**



### **North Central Express**

**Dates:** Thursday 10/6/2016  
to Sunday 10/9/2016 (Full  
Days)

**Location:** Livonia Michigan

**Admission:** \$55 for NMRA  
members before 9/26/2016

**Website:** <http://div6-ncr->

## **NCR Regional Convention North Central Express 2016**

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!

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! OR 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!

### **EVENT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE**

- Operation sessions available Thursday, Friday, Saturday
- FREE bag of model railroad "stuff" to first 200 registered
- NO model contest – MODEL SHOWCASE – show off your work!!
- Get a discount for participating in the Model Showcase!!
- All-you-can-eat Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday evening 5pm-7pm
- Dinner Keynote speaker, Art Single, Board President Blissfield Railroad
- 20+ Workshops on Friday and Saturday
- 30+ model layouts to visit
- Prototype tours available on Friday
- Door Prizes awarded Friday and Saturday
- NMRA Photo contests and Awards
- Silent Auction Fund-Raiser for Charity!
- Event shirts available pre-order only

### **Division 2 Leadership**

Superintendent	Dave Capron	dcglnrr@gmail.com
Assistant Superintendent	John Cole	modelman53@charter.net
Chief Clerk	Bob Crocker	rc6sb@charter.net
Paymaster	Jim Kurbel	jbkurbel@gmail.com
Yardmaster—Petoskey	Dave Comer	beechcomer@aol.com
Yardmaster—Traverse City	Ernie Barry	ernienorthport@aol.com
Trainmaster	Scott Pandorf	spandorf55@gmail.com



## *Super Sez...*

It has been a fabulous summer but as usual for the 'Tip of the Mitt' way too short. As we make plans for our Yard and Division meetings we hope you can get the dates on your calendar and attend as many as possible.

There were four of us that made it to Indy and what a great convention. Speaking of conventions our NCR Regional Convention is October 7 - 9th in Livonia (separate article). The NCR has done an excellent job of organizing conventions and I highly recommend them. Everything from the clinics to layout tours and operating sessions are well planned. Meeting new model railroaders and just enjoying being with so many others that love our hobby is an opportunity that these conventions present.

For now, find some time to start or continue that project on your layout. If you are in between layouts, then it is the perfect time to work on a structure or piece of rolling stock. Plan on bringing it to the first Yard meeting and share what you are doing. If we all bring something, then besides a clinic and layout tour we all get ideas from each other. Again sharing what you are working on with other members is one of the main reasons we started this division and is what will keep it going.

Until then make the most of this great summer and I look forward to seeing you all later this month.

*Dave*

## **What's a microprocessor and why would I want one on my railroad?!!**

Microprocessors are useful little critters and in recent years they have become both more affordable and easier to connect things to and program. During this clinic I will demonstrate some options and different ways of using microprocessors on various projects including a demonstration of a railroad crossing complete with lights, bells, and gates with motion. See you at Doug's on the 17th.

*“The Golden Spike is the easiest, and for many people, the first AP award that they earn. It is designed to demonstrate familiarity with different areas of the hobby, rather than expertise in a particular area. So take a look at the requirements - you may find that you have met most, or all of them already.” NMRA web site.*

## AP Corner

### Pete Magoun, MMR

The Good News is that Division Two has been busy with AP activities over the last several months!

Late last Spring, I presented Traverse City Yardmaster Ernie Barry with his Golden Spike Award certificate. While not a formal part of the AP, the Golden Spike recognizes a major start down the AP Track, as it requires demonstrated competence in several areas. Odds are that if you have a layout, you're well on your way to a Golden Spike Award. Have a look here and see! <http://www.nmra.org/golden-spike-award>

At the other end of the spectrum we find the Master Model Railroader award, which is earned by completing seven certificates in four required areas of competence. As there are eleven certificates available, you have choices, as long as you meet the four required areas (Equipment, Settings, Operations & Engineering, and Service to the Hobby). It's a long journey that is pretty much guaranteed to move you out of your comfort zone and force you to learn to do new things, which, on reflection, are a lot of fun to learn. <http://www.nmra.org/master-model-railroader>

Dave Capron completed that journey late last Spring, and I had the pleasure of helping present MMR certificate #576 to him at the National Convention in Indianapolis in July. Dave and Scott Pandorf served as contest judges at the convention, and hopefully came away from the experience with a better idea of what's required to be a contest judge and an AP Evaluator. Congratulations, Dave, and Thanks, Guys!

Today's festivities included hitting the post office with David Zolnierrek's paperwork for the Structures certificate, which is now on the way downstate to NCR AP Chair Larry Wolohon, MMR. David has done some first class work, and won the "Fun and Games" award at the National Contest Showcase for the best use of figures—his "Christmas at Red Mountain" diorama, which he has displayed at Division Events, is spectacular.

I'm out of space, the grill is hot, dinner is awaiting its time on the grill, and it's time for me to move on with the Day. Keep the activity going, folks— the days are getting shorter, and Train Time is here!

High Green!





*Dave Zolnierrek with his Christmas at Red Mountain display and the award he received.*



*Dave Capron receiving MMR - NMRA National Indianapolis Indiana*



# NCR Elections

## It is time for semi-annual NCR elections!

**PRESIDENT - Scott Kremer** Model railroading is fun and that's what is most important. Part of that is meeting new people, learning new things and when you have the opportunity giving back. I have had the pleasure and the satisfaction of serving as the NCR Vice President for the last two terms. Working under the leadership of Dave McMullian I am proud of the two new Divisions and Division of Choice, which are just two of the things that we have accomplished. For those that know me you are aware of my passion about the NMRA and my concern for its future. The opportunity to serve as the President of the NCR will give me a better chance to talk and work with others from around the country to try to insure that the NMRA will continue to be there for you in a way that meets your needs. I believe that a bottom up approach is important and I will try my best to represent your interests and concerns and to communicate those issues to those that will determine the future of the organization. As for background I have been involved with the NMRA long enough that I don't remember exactly how long but over 40 years. I enjoy working on my layout based on the Great Northern in the Cascades. I am a big fan of Time Table and Train Order operation but love any kind of op session. I have completed five of my Achievement Certificates and hope to complete my MMR soon. In addition to being a life member of the NMRA I am also a member of the Midnight Pocatello Yardmasters and belong to the Great Northern Railway Historical Society.

**VICE PRESIDENT - Dave Capron** My model railroading started in the 1950s when my dad and I built a 4 x 8 "railroad that grows". Things got packed up while I went to college but in the early 70s I observed a Kadee Coupler demo in the Frandor Hobby Shop in Lansing. My thoughts were immediate - we can really operate now. A new layout was started the next week. My current layout is a double deck 850 foot mainline that keeps 15 operators very busy for three hour operating sessions using those Kadee Couplers. We started a round robin of three layouts, The Little Finger Group, about 25 years ago, but something was missing, the NMRA was a long ways away. Yes, we could journey to division meetings and regional conventions, but the driving distance of 3-5 hours was a deterrent. With the help of our NCR President, Dave McMullian, and Central District Director, Pete Magoun, MMR, we created our own division. With the Tip of the Mitt, we brought the NMRA up north. Being elected Div 2 Superintendent gave me the opportunity to serve on the NCR BOD. This has given me a great insight into the workings of the NCR and its leadership goals. This position of vice president could be compared to my experience as Pres-Protem of the village council of Suttons Bay, MI. One of the expectations of being an MMR is service to the NMRA. Continuation on the NCR BOD will permit me to be an ambassador for this great hobby in a leadership role. I look forward to serving as an officer and meeting as many of you as possible at the NCX Convention. So stop me in the hall or come and say hello at a clinic. There are many great aspects of this hobby, but the NMRA members are the best. Thank you for your vote of confidence.

**SECRETARY - Bill Neale** The NMRA has been a part of my life ever since I joined, many years ago. The NMRA has provided fellowship, fun, and structure to my model railroad hobby. Lately, I have the privilege of "giving back" to the NMRA by serving as a regional officer. I served two terms as a director at large, and one term as secretary. I am running again for the office of Secretary, with the thought that I can provide support and assistance to those who are going to lead the region for the next couple years. The primary task of the secretary is to take accurate and complete minutes during the board meetings. Many of you have been able to visit my railroad at various open houses and such over the years. I am building an operating layout in HO scale, representative of the PRR Panhandle in 1939. I find the research and artifact hunting almost as much fun as the model building. I enjoy all aspects of the hobby, (except wiring), and find great pleasure in layout planning and writing articles for various publications. I am also a member of the Midnight Pocatello Yardmasters and belong to the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical and Historical Society.

**TREASURER – Bob Baird** I am originally from Ohio. After World War II, my family moved to Downey, California. In 1953, we moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to be near my grandparents. I call Ann Arbor my home. After high school, I served three years in the US Navy, and was stationed 2½ years in Japan as a Communications Technician. Returning to Ann Arbor, I attended Eastern Michigan University for 14 years of night school to earn a degree in Accounting. Then I added on three more years to receive an MBA in Finance. Mary, my wife, and I have two daughters, Julie and Kathy. They live out of state, they are married, and they each have two of our four grandsons. My working career was primarily with Detroit Edison. While attending night school, I was in customer service, answering phone calls and working on the customer counter. After graduating from EMU, I commuted to Detroit, working primarily in accounting related functions. After 32 years with DTE, I took an "early retirement" in 1996 . . . for 2 days . . . Saturday and Sunday. On Monday, I went back to work for 9 more years, as a contractor to DTE (that adds up to 41 years). Baird is Scottish and I am a member of the Clan Baird Society. For many years, every time I would hear the bag pipes, there was a calling to go to Scotland. In 1990, Mary and I took our first trip abroad and it was to Scotland. Scottish people are thrifty (not cheap) and this serves to further qualify me for Treasurer. Also, I am a candidate for District 55 (Ann Arbor Township) of the Michigan State House of Representatives. I have been a fan of model railroading for many years. Problem was that there are three criteria for model railroading: (1) Time, (2) Money and (3) Space. As a kid growing up in California, I had all kinds of Time, but homes in California do not have basements and do not lend themselves to Model Railroading. And being quite poor, I had no money. Now, my basement looks like a hobby shop with all the shelving of Model Railroad Kits. I have the space. But there is no layout. All is in reverse order and I never seem to find the time.

**DIRECTOR - Jay Qualman** It has been my pleasure to serve a two-year term as a Director for the North Central Region (NCR) and to work with the other talented and dedicated board members. In this role, I have also benefited from meeting and interacting with a cross section of NCR members. These interactions have provided first-hand insight into the important issues and challenges that lie ahead for the region. Action on such issues is well under way and, with your support, I look forward to continuing to address them and serve the NCR for the next two years. As personal background, my involvement continues with several railroad and community historical societies, most directly the Milford Historical Society in our hometown. I am a member of the NMRA (20 years), the Motor City Division (Div. 6), and the Midnight Pocatello Yardmasters weekly operating group. In addition, my wife, Brook, and I continue to work on our Michigan Lines HO layout, which is featured in the 2016 NMRA Calendar. We are also preparing for our layout tour and the clinics we will give at the North Central Express 2016 Convention in October, hosted by our Motor City Division.

**DIRECTOR - Rich Mahaney** I have been involved with model railroads and trains since about 5 years old when that first "Christmas train set" arrived. The railroad and trains interest was further instilled and reinforced in me by my grandfather that would take me down to the train tracks in the Grand Rapids area to watch trains with him, and it has never left. I have been interested in modeling the Great Northern in an HO layout and the railroads that interchange with it, between the state Washington and the Midwest as the GN moves perishables in the late 1950's. I have been a member of the NMRA for a number of years and served as the superintendent of the Eastern Iowa Division (Cedar Rapids, IA area) during 2007 and 2008. I am probably most known for my model railroad and railroad related clinics and photography that I have presented in a number of states. I have taught for all of the NCR Divisions and enjoy all aspects of model railroading and touring other model railroader's layouts of this great hobby. I am interested in working with all NCR Divisions on projects, conventions and regular meetings to increase the membership and participation by people of all ages that have an interest in railroads and model railroads. I live on the west side of MI in Gobles, near Kalamazoo and South Haven.

# OFFICAL BALLOT for NCR ELECTIONS 2016

<input type="checkbox"/>	PRESIDENT - Scott Kremer	write-in _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	VICE PRESIDENT - Dave Capron	write-in _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	SECRETARY – Bill Neale	write-in _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	TREASURER – Bob Baird	write-in _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	DIRECTOR - Jay Qualman	write-in _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	DIRECTOR - Rich Mahaney	write-in _____

Per our NCR operating rules, ballots MUST be postmarked by OCTOBER 15. Print this page or make a copy of this ballot and mail that in.

Send all ballots to:

**NCR Registrar - David Simmons    630 Louise Dr.    Ann Arbor, MI 48103**

**VOTE NOW!!!!**



**Content! Content! Content!**

Your editor would like to edit not write the newsletter! Help your progress towards your AP Author certificate and write an article (short or long) add some pictures and you are on your way!

Let me know if you have any subjects you would like to see in the newsletter.

Send your submissions to: [spandorf55@gmail.com](mailto:spandorf55@gmail.com)




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Superintendent  
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Transportation System  
Passenger and Freight



**OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI**

2305 OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI

***"LINKING EAST AND WEST THROUGH CINCINNATI"***

**Scott Pandorf - Lake Leelanau, MI**  
**spandorf55@gmail.com**

## Additional NCR Division 2 Dates

January 2017	Traverse City Yard Meeting
February 4, 2017	Petoskey Yard Meeting (perhaps in Gaylord?)
March 2017	Traverse City Yard Meeting
April 1, 2017	Petoskey Yard Meeting
May 21, 2017	All Division Meeting Charlevoix

### Other Selected Events:

9/18/2016	Fall Train Show Muskegon, MI
9/24/2016	St. Louis Mens Club Train Show—Mt. Clemens, MI
<b>10/6/2016</b>	<b>North Central Express Livonia, MI</b>
10/9/2016	Wolverine RR Club Train Show Madison Heights, MI
10/15/2016	Grand River Valley RR Club Wyoming, MI
10/30/2016	Fall Trainorama Farmington Hills, MI
11/12/2016	Trainfest 2016 West Allis, WI
11/13/2016	Train Show & Sale East Lansing, MI
3/19/2017	Mid-Michigan Train Show Mt. Clemens, MI
<b>7/30/2017</b>	<b>NMRA 2017 National Convention Orlando, FL</b>