

Super's Signal

A publication of Division 6, Mid Central Region of The National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

January 2022

Superintendent's Report

Matt Goodman, Division 6 Super

Last November, I wrote that we were a month and a half from the shortest day of the year. As I write this on December 23rd, it is two days after that day. Today will be a whopping six seconds longer than the winter solstice on the 21st. I can smell the spring flowers already.

Here's a bit of related trivia. In our division, the hours of daylight difference between the least and most sunlight is 5 hours, 40 minutes. The NMRA's president, Gordy Robinson, lives in the Orkney Islands, UK. At that latitude, the daylight difference is 14 hours and 20 minutes! How does sunrise at 9:03 am and sunset at 3:16 pm strike you?

Upper Arlington Meeting

Assistant Super Dexter Hill scheduled the Friends Theatre at the Upper Arlington Tremont Road Library for our December meeting. This is a really nice facility and room, with a small amphitheater arrangement and an excellent tech setup.

We had a better turnout than is typical for this location. There were two significant changes from previous meetings at this location that may have had an impact. One was scheduling it on Saturday instead of Sunday (due to Library closures on Sundays). The other change was the fact that we featured clinics instead of the traditional slide shows.

On the clinic front, Program Chair Mike Wolf organized another nice event, with four mini-clinics. See his report elsewhere in this issue. The theatre arrangement is perfectly set up for speaking. Even my voice carried well.

Volunteers Needed

Mike Wolf has received confirmation that the *Great American Train Show* has allocated a spot for our recruitment table. Several volunteers signed up at the December meeting. We need a couple more volunteers to ensure we have good coverage. Please contact Mike or

Super's Signal Deadline
26 January

Saturday, 22 January In-Person Meeting Northern Lights Library Room 1 4093 Cleveland Ave Columbus

12:30: Northern Lights Library opens

12:45: Contest entries opens

1:15: Contest entries closes; Voting begins

1:25: Contest voting closes

1:30: Division 6 Meeting

2:15: Contest results announced

2:30: Clinic: *Shrinking Circleville: Designing a Small City Layout Plan*, Matt Goodman

5:00: Northern Lights Library building closes

Model Contest: Open Freight Car WITH Load

Virtual Photography Contest: Open Freight Car WITH Load

me. You can find our contact information on the website here: https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/Officers_Page.html

Several members asked whether we would continue Zoom "hybrid" meetings in the future. My goal is to continue "hybrid" meetings. But we need a good wifi connection at the meeting site, not always possible. And we need help setting up monitoring the calls to ensure things run smoothly. If you want to get more involved, this is a simple way to do it and help other members. Contact me or Rick Brown for more information.

My Hobby Goals

Recently I told some friends that I wanted to get a batch of turnouts completed before Christmas. That's not going to happen, so I've adjusted the goal to finish before the New Year. There are

The Super's Report
Continued on page 4.

DIVISION 6 OFFICERS**Division 6 Superintendent**

Matt Goodman: 30 S. Algonquin Ave
Columbus, Ohio 43204

Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Division 6 Assistant Superintendent

Dexter Hill:

AssistSuper@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Division 6 Clerk

Carter Jastram:

DepClerk@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Division 6 Pay Master

Jim Borcz:

Paymaster@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Directors

Dick Briggs, MMR®

Donald Wilke,

Mike Wolf, MMR®:

Director@div6-mcr-nmra.org

Appointed Division 6 Chairs

A list of Division 6 Chairs can be found at:

[https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/](https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/Officers_Page.html)

[Officers_Page.html](#)

Web Master: Don Wilke

Web_Master@div6-mcr-nmra.org

Super's Signal Pub.: Don Wilke

SuperSignalPub@div6-mcr-nmra.org

Division 6 Web Site:

www.div6-mcr-nmra.org

Mid Central Region President:

Bob Weinheimer

president@midcentral-region-nmra.org

NMRA Central District Director:

Robert Beaty, MMR®

Non-Credited Photos by Donald Wilke
All Photographs and Articles are copyrighted by the submitters and may not be used without their permission.

Clerk's Report
Buckeye Division 6,
Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.
Division 6 Meeting, UA Library
18 December 2021

Carter Jastram, Clerk

Call to order

The Division 6 Meeting called to order by Matt Goodman, Division 6 Superintendent, at 1:26 p.m.

Division 6 Officers Present:

Superintendent

Matt Goodman

Clerk

Carter Jastram

Paymaster

Jim Borcz

Director

Mike Wolf, MMR®

Division 6 Chairs Present:

Contest

Jim Ruisinger

Groups.io

Jim Ruisinger

Inspector of Elections

Harry "Butch" Sage

Programs

Mike Wolf, MMR®

Raffle

Harry "Butch" Sage

Absent:

Assistant Superintendent

Dexter Hill

Director, Achievement Program

Dick Briggs, MMR®

Director, *Super's Signal*, Webmaster

Don Wilke

Company Store, Train Show

Greg Short

Media, Membership

Rick Brown

Membership Retention

Bruce McDonald

Programs

Dexter Hill

Announcements:

Matt Goodman. Plans for *Indy Junction 2022 Convention* continue to develop. The Early Bird rates end at the end of this month (December). Covid protocols are currently unknown.

Reports:

Clerk's Report: Carter Jastram. The membership approved the Clerk's Report, as published in the December 2021 (Issue 21L) *Super's Signal*, pp. 2-4. Carter asked people to be sure to sign in. Also, he has some name tags available, and Dave Richter said he would bring in some extra plastic tag holders.

Paymaster's Report: Jim Borcz. The membership approved the Paymaster's Report, pending audit. Jim also announced he had changed our accounts from a Premier account to a Standard Account to avoid high limits for charges and fees. He has some raffle cash to deposit.

Program Locations Report: Dexter Hill. Matt reported the coming Steering Committee Zoom meeting on December 23rd at 7:00 p.m. The membership chose to meet again on **Saturday, January 22, 2022**. Jim Ruisinger said the Grandview Library is open on Sundays. We might continue to meet on Saturdays through March or April. Watch your email and the *Super's Signal* for confirmed meeting dates, times, and locations.

Program Clinics Report: Mike Wolf. Mike is always look-

The Clerk's Report
Continued on [page 3](#).

Continued: **Clerk's Report**

ing for clinicians. He has a *Modeling Brake Systems* clinic in reserve. Watch the *Super's Signal* for details.

Achievement Report: Dick Briggs. Nothing new to report.

Webmaster's Report: Don Wilke. Nothing new to report.

Super's Signal Report: Don Wilke. The deadline for articles is this Thursday, December 23

Groups.io Report: Jim Ruisinger. The groups.io count remains stable. Jim wishes people would use the Facebook page more often.

Membership Report: Rick Brown. Matt reports steady membership numbers at about 160. In 2021, we had six new members and three more moved into our division. There are three "fallen flags."

Member Recruitment/Retention: Mike Wolf. This committee's members are Mike Wolf, Bruce McDonald, and Howdy Lamprecht, with a nod to Darrell Logan from Grove City. The Recruiting and Retention Committee plans to meet to familiarize new members with the efforts of the past and determine focus areas for next year.

Train Show Report: Greg Short. Mike Wolf reports *The Great American Train Show* is coming to the Ohio State Fairgrounds on January 15 & 16. We will again have a booth for promoting the NMRA and Division 6. Sign up with Mike to volunteer for Friday setup and/or Saturday or Sunday from 10-1 or from 1-4 p.m. with teardown Sunday at 4. Volunteers have free entry (but not free parking). Bring your name badge. Howdy has the tubs of booth materials. Thanks to Butch for the new Buckeye Division 6 sign. We need more and heavier PVC pipes to make a stand for the sign.

Old Business:

Flyers: Darrell Logan. Darrell is printing flyers for the division's *October 2022 Train Show* in Cambridge. Any train shows within Division 6 will likely make our flyers available.

New Business:

Division 6 Shirts: Pat Hreachmack. Pat presented the idea of having a new set of Division 6 shirts made. He suggests short sleeves, a pocket, collar, patch, and personal name. Pat will look into a possible provider. Matt appointed him as a committee of one to proceed.

Club Reports:

No club members made a report.

Contest:

After a roughly 10-minute break for voting on model entries, buying raffle tickets, and counting the votes, Jim Ruisinger presented Dave Richter with a rather thick packet of certificates for his awards in 2020.

In-Person Model Contest—Passenger Cars: Second Place went to Howdy Lamprecht for his *B&O Vista Dome Car*. First Place went to Mike Wolf for *Senator Blowhard's Campaign Car*. Thank you both for your entries, and congratulations.

Virtual Photo Contest—Passenger Cars: There were nine very nice entries in this category. Third Place went to Howdy Lamprecht for the photograph of his *B&O Vista Dome Car*. Second Place went to Jim Ruisinger for his photo of the *Platform End of a Restored Circus Business Car* (currently at The Depot Conference Center). First Place went to Mike Wolf for his photo of *Senator Blowhard Delivering His Speech From His Campaign Car*. There were smoke effects under the train shed.

Thanks to all the entrants for their participation, and congratulations to the winners!

January Contest: The January 22 contest is **Open Car with Load**. For example, a coil car would qualify without its covers. Members may enter photographs of models or prototypes from now through Wednesday, January 19, 2022. Members may vote on Thursday and Friday following. The Contest Chair will announce the winners at the January 22 division meeting. As always, watch your email and the *Super's Signal* for details. There is currently no limit to the number of photos a person may enter. Remember, a member may only enter photos taken by oneself.

Raffle:

Our winners today were Jim Kehn, Matt Goodman, Jim Borcz, and Carter Jastram. Thanks to you all for supporting the division by buying raffle tickets. And thanks for contributing items for the raffle. See Butch Sage for details.

Good of the Order:

Tom Veigel: Jim Ruisinger announced the passing of long-term Life Member Tom Veigel. See the article on our Face Book page, "NMRA Buckeye Division," posted on December 3 at 11:52 p.m. Also on the division's website Home Page.

Steering Committee Meeting: The next Steering Committee will be a Zoom meeting on Thursday, December 23 at 7:00 p.m. Any member may attend any Steering Committee meeting, typically held the third Thursday of each month. Contact Superintendent Matt Goodman for the Zoom meeting link, if interested.

Next Division 6 Membership Meeting: The next Division 6 meeting will be in person on **Saturday, January 22**. See your email inbox and the next *Super's Signal* for details.

Adjournment:

Matt adjourned the meeting at 2:09 p.m., after a motion and a second to adjourn.

Clinics:

After watching a well-done promotional video for *Indy Junction*

The Clerk's Report
Continued on [page 4](#).

Continued: Clerk's Report

2022, we enjoyed four short clinics. They were by Mike Wolf, *Quick 3D Interior and Windows*; Howdy Lamprecht, *Door Track Conversion*; Jim Kehn, *Hauling Grain*; and Matt Goodman, *Track Building Tools*.

Continued: The Super's Report

five turnouts in the current complex and one, in particular, has given me some headaches – I kept cutting one closure rail too short. The funny thing is that I measured twice and cut, and it turned out an eighth-inch too short. I scratched my head, I measured a third and

We express our appreciation to the clinicians and encourage anyone with an idea or an experience to talk with Mike Wolf about sharing a clinic at a future date.

fourth time, cut another and it turned out exactly the same amount too short as the first! I shook my head at that!

Here's to your New Year's goals, and have a great Holiday Season!

Time to drop the fire!

Matt

Modeling Tip of the Month

Mike Wolf, MRR®

This month's modeling tip is courtesy of friend and fellow modeler Scott Williamson. He recently completed an airplane model requiring numerous different colors. He used FrogTape – Delicate Surface tape to complete the job. I had heard about FrogTape before and its "Paint Block Technology" but had not thought of using it in modeling. Try as I might, vigorous burnishing of other tapes and masking materials resulted in some bleed under for me in the past. Scott swears by this product for producing sharp lines. So give it a try and let everyone know how it works. I picked up a roll this week and have several paint jobs standing by to try it out on.

Happy Modeling!



FrogTape

Clinic Updates

We tried something new for December and I think it worked well – four mini (5-10 minute) clinics. Howdy discussed modifying an old car he had purchased to improve the door track. Matt discussed his favorite track-laying tools. I discussed adding a quick interior and doors and windows to a kit using 3D printed parts. Jim educated us on grain doors and hauling grain in boxcars as well as several stories from his engineering days. As Jerry Severson summed it up, "there was something for everyone. While you might not be interested in one topic, one of the others probably does interest you." Additionally, the mini clinics are easy to put together for the clinicians.

So take a couple of pictures along the way of a project you are working on or topic you are researching and we'll do it again in 2022 (probably in April or May). If you need help putting some PowerPoint slides together, I can help.

Kick-off 2022 by joining us on **SATURDAY, January 22nd** when Matt Goodman will discuss modeling a prototypical scene. In particular, his research, deciding what to model, and what to selectively compress in Circleville, Ohio circa 1938. As a side note, the Prototypical Model is an AP category that is not often completed. But you could accomplish it on a portion of your railroad (vs being a stand-alone module).

I'm still working on the 2022 clinic line up and there are numerous open dates on the calendar for you to participate. Drop me a line at wvunion@gmail.com if you have an idea you'd like to present. And clinics can count toward the Author or Volunteer AP. Check out the requirements for each to see which certificate your presentation qualifies.



Division 6 – 2021 Time Table

Date	Event	Meeting	City
22 Jan Saturday	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Clinic: Model & Photo Contest: Open Freight Car WITH Load	
26 Jan	Super's Signal Deadline		

Clinic Updates – Prairie Sentinels

Rick Brown

Hi all, sorry to have been so transparent. From the Marion meeting to now, I have been overwhelmed. The demand of the build of our new house, moving, and the day-to-day drudgery of the company that sends me a paycheck. I plan to be more visible going forward.

Last spring, in my virtual clinic *Prairie Sentinels*, I talked quite a bit about the development and progress of American agriculture. Specifically, the small seed grain agronomy and how it affected grain elevators and the railroads that served them. I talked about how the agri-mechanical industry was developing, and how those changes affected both the quality and quantity of grain harvests.

One of my current coffee-table-read books right now is the history and development of the Farmall line of letter tractors. The ubiquitous H, M, C tractors and all. These are the tractors I grew up on. The back story of their development and how they affected both the farm and IH corporation have been fascinating. But today, in a couple of news feeds from the several email newsletters I get (as a farmer) were two stories about the changes in our machines:

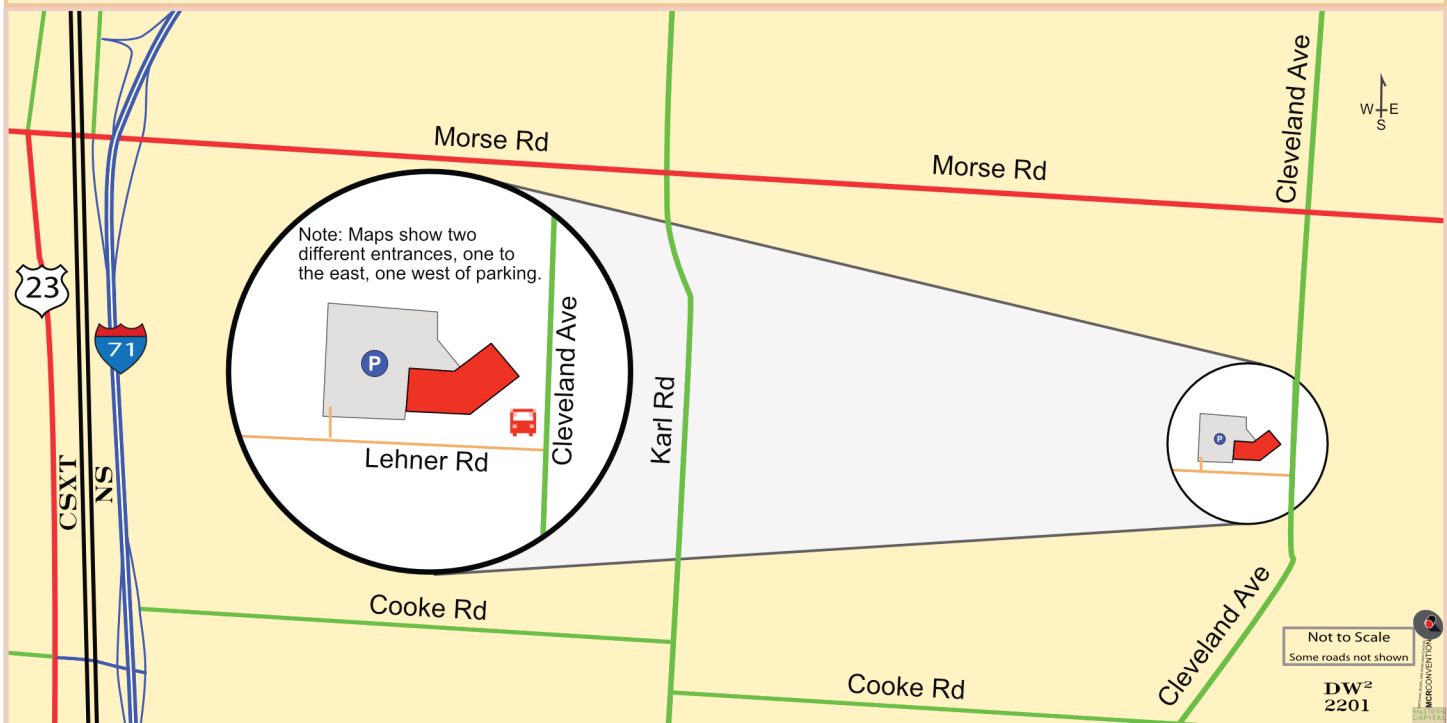
Bobcat has released an all-electric front-end loader. No diesel, no propane, just a big fat battery. Runs for about four hours currently.

Why do I think this is important? As one who ran a front-end loader and cleaned out ammonia putrid barns in all kinds of weather, this is going to be a big change. Anyplace where you didn't want to run a diesel or propane machine (indoors, toxic environment), here is a solution. And quiet. It won't scare the animals. Trust me - this is pretty big.

The other was a couple of articles based on John Deere releasing its newest offering at (of all places) the Consumer Electronics Show. It's a new tractor. Not only is it GPS driven (you don't have to drive it in the field, and you don't go to sleep while cultivating and destroying your crop, always a danger), but it's fully autonomous. You don't even have to be on the tractor. It works completely alone and does the job while you do something else (like driving another tractor or haul grain). A phone app manages the tractor. It has a ton of computers and cameras, it thinks in an artificial intelligence setting, sends alerts to the phone, and will farm 360 acres a day. Currently, it is only a diesel, but after that news of the Bobcat - well, more changes are coming.

I offer this only to put some context in things you might catch in the newsfeeds, and how it affects our agri-world, and our model train world.

Northern Lights Library



Contest Report

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

December Contest in Review

We wrapped up 2021 with our December meeting and contest. Turnout was somewhat sparse but the quality was there. Since the meeting was on **Saturday** the 18th, we had to adjust the timing a little for our Photo Contest. Oddly the top winners in the model contest were also the winners in the photo contest.

Congratulations to our winners. We will have certificates for you at our next in-person meeting which will be **January 22**. Our contest subject will be **Open Freight Cars with a Load**.

Contests for 2022

The Contest Subject matter for January, February, and March are set. The Contest Committee is still working to finish the rest of the schedule for 2022. We will finish once the officers select the meeting dates.

Going forward into 2022, we decided that the photo contests will continue to be virtual while the model contests will be in person, at our meetings. We will continue to announce the winners for both model and photo contests at our regular division meetings.

Cumulative point standings for 'Photographer of the Year' and 'Modeler of the Year' are elsewhere in the *Signal*.

As always, if you have any questions about our Division 6 Contests, feel free to direct any questions to:

Contest Chair, Jim Ruisinger.
(614) 440-8962 Jimbo2490@yahoo.com

December Contest

Virtual Photo: Passenger Car

1st Place: Mike Wolf, *Senator Blowhard's 'Whistle Stop' Campaign Car*

2nd Place: Jim Ruisinger, *Platform end of a Ringling Brother's Circus Business Car*

3rd Place: Howdy Lamprecht, *B&O Streamline Vista Dome Car at the Grove City Station*

Model: Passenger Car

1st Place: Mike Wolf, *Senator Blowhard's 'Whistle Stop' Campaign Car*

2nd Place: Howdy Lamprecht, *B&O Streamline Vista Dome Car*



1st Place Virtual Photo
by Mike Wolf

Division 6 on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/user/nmrabuckeyedivision

Division 6 in Facebook:

NMRA Buckeye Division [in search field]

Division 6 Email Group:

NMRABuckeyeDivision@groups.io

Clinic Updates – Track Building Tools

Matt Goodman

Photographs copyright by author

I talked about some new-to-me track-building tools at the December 18 division meeting. Here are some details on the items I passed around.

Jewelers Saw

Purpose: Cutting very narrow isolation gaps (~.014”) on either end of turnout or crossing frogs without risk of melting solder joints from heat build-up from traditional Dremel cutoff discs

Pros: Very accurate, no concern about nicking adjacent rails, generates no heat, removing/reinstalling and tensioning blade is quick.

Cons: Trackwork must be at the workbench

Available from: Fast Tracks and other sources. About \$85 plus shipping.

Fast Track: <https://www.handlaidtrack.com/tl-0043>

YouTube demo: <https://youtu.be/hKC2fb8xPoc>

Ultra-thin cut-off discs

Purpose: I sought these out for the same purpose as the Jewelers saw (cutting gaps with less heat), for trackwork built in place on the layout

Pros: The .009” discs are a third of the thickness of Dremel “Thin” discs. Generate less heat and cut faster. Surprisingly rugged.

Cons: To be determined

Available: directly from the manufacturer (Dedeco):

Product numbers for .009”:

- 5183 (100 pieces). \$46 plus shipping
- 5173 ((25 pieces). \$14 plus shipping

<https://www.dedeco.com/browse/113/AO-Thin-Discs-Dura-009s/>

Also available in .015” thickness:

- 5189 (100 pieces, \$28)
- 5188 (50 pieces, \$16)

<https://www.dedeco.com/browse/114/Dura-015s/>

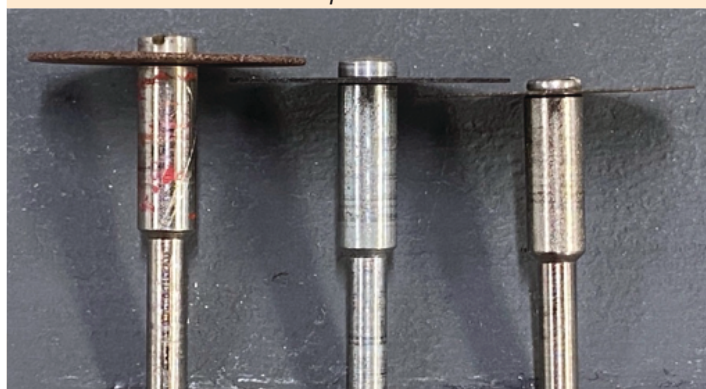
Dental Tools

I’ve been using a dental tool called a “Hatchet” for cleaning flux and excess solder from trackwork. These are also useful for other scraping tasks.

The confusing thing about dental tools is their naming conventions. This product manual helps de-mystify some of the naming.



Knew Concepts Jewelers Saw



Dremel “thin” on the left, then Dedeco .015” and .009”



Dental Tool: 12 – 6 – 12 on top, 10 – 7 – 14 bottom

<https://www.premierdentalco.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Instrument-Catalog.pdf>

The dental tools I use most often for track work are Hatchets in the following sizes, with a link to a source. Hatchets have sharp tips and edges that easily remove soft materials like resin, solder, and even brass (if you’re not careful).

- 10 – 7 – 14 (blade 1mm wide, 7mm long, 14-degree angle). About \$17 (Amazon): <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0863D8ZDG>
- 12 – 6 – 12 (blade 1.2mm wide, 6mm long, 12- degree angle). About \$17 (Amazon): <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0863D28PC>



Indy Junction 2022

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The RPM Conference has joined with the NCR, MWR, and MCR to bring to model railroaders INDY JUNCTION 2022 from May 18 to 22, 2022.

Some details of what that means for Indy Junction 2022 attendees

- The RPM Conference has a 27 year history in the Chicagoland area, and will be bringing the best features of those events to Indy. The group is looking forward to being back in person and celebrating the camaraderie of model railroading by sharing information and modeling techniques.
- The heart of RPM Conferences is presentations and there will be a full slate of 30+ presenters planned to run three to four at a time. This will be in addition to all the NMRA clinics. Attendees can attend all clinics on the same ticket.
- All convention participants will have access to all convention activities, with the single exception of the NMRA judged contests, which are open to NMRA members only.
- The RPM Conference will have an open model display room; a feature of all RPM events. In addition, the Modutrak display layout and other RPM Conference displays from RPM Chicagoland events will be present.
- The NMRA clinics will be primarily in the morning and most evenings with the afternoon available for layout visits and operating sessions.
- The RPM clinics will be morning, afternoon, and some evenings. Those attendees who do not wish to travel or operate can attend the afternoon RPM clinics.

- A Friends of the Freight Car dinner is planned as part of the RPM style activities. Dinner, with a feature presentation, is planned for this event.

That's some great news for all Indy Junction 2022 attendees. We've also revised the event logo to show the inclusion of the RPM Conference.

We'll contact you next by mid June. But don't forget to put Indy Junction 2022 on your calendar !

If you would like to receive the MailChimp email updates which are intended for Indy Junction attendees, you can sign up here - <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/>

One question that has started to come up, "When and where can I sign up for the INDY JUNCTION 2022 Convention". The answer is soon and on the website. The Registration Committee is hard at work getting registration ready for prime time. We promise as soon as it's available, we'll get that word out.

Meanwhile, encourage members of your region, division or group to sign up on the website to receive the latest INDY JUNCTION 2022 information. We bring the information to you !

Marketing Committee

INDY JUNCTION 2022 Convention

NCR MWR MCR NMRA and RPM Conference

Indianapolis Marriott East, May 18-22, 2022

<https://www.indyjunction2022.org/>

info.indyjunction2022@gmail.com



Share the Knowledge!!



Marriott East, 7202 E 21st St
Indianapolis, IN 46219



Clinics
Layout Tours
Ops Sessions
Prototype Tours



Four Full Days
Three Regions
Two Day Train Show
One Convention
May 18-22, 2022



www.IndyJunction2022.org



RPM
CHICAGOLAND



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 11, 2021



Dates:	Wednesday May 18 to Sunday May 22, 2022
Sponsors:	Midwest, North Central and Mid Central Regions National Model Railroad Association
Event:	Indy Junction 2022 Convention
Location:	Indianapolis Marriott East 7202 East 21st St Indianapolis, IN 46219
Convention Fee:	\$ (not yet available)
Information:	Four Full Days, Three Regions, One Convention The Midwest, North Central, and Mid Central Regions of the NMRA will host this Tri-Regional convention in May 2022 Clinics, Layout Tours, Ops Sessions, Prototype Tours, Non-Rail Clinics and Activities and a Train Show Mark your calendar NOW FREE Parking and Much More !

For more information visit:

Website:	https://www.indyjunction2022.org/
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/indyjunction2022
Contact	info@indyjunction2022.org

Submitted by: Ron Ellison
Indy Junction 2022 Media Committee
PO Box 192
Buckner, KY 40010-0192

