# Amazing Arduino Animations NMRA-X July 11, 2020 David Ackmann, Gateway Division, NMRA

### What is an Arduino?

Inexpensive (~\$7 to \$15), programmable, credit card sized microprocessor

Has electronic pins to accept inputs and control devices (LEDs, sound, motors)

Easily integrated into model railroad layouts

Programmed using free Interactive Development Environment (IDE)

(http://arduino.cc/en/main/software)

Find sample programs (aka: "Sketches) at <a href="http://daackm.github.io">http://daackm.github.io</a>

# Where can we find Arduinos and components?

AMAZON.COM

Components the author uses (<a href="http://daackm.github.io">http://daackm.github.io</a>)

#### How is a sketch created?

Use IDE like word processor

Program in a "C-like" language

Lines are case-sensitive and end in semi-colons;

Debug using "Serial.print" statements

Braces { } needed in conditional and other functions

Two major components: setup and loop functions

**Useful functions:** 

setMode(pinNumber,INPUT\_PULLUP or INPUTor OUTPUT)

digitalWrite(pinNumber,HIGH or LOW)

if

do..while

# External Power Supplies useful

Author likes the Arduino "Nano" model

# **Projects Covered**

Blinking one or more LEDs

Pulse Width Modulation for software dimming of LEDs

Using a Light Dependent Resistor and Display for a Speedometer

Randomly blinking LEDs through software timers in a building or waterfall

MP3 Audio, amplifier and speaker in Waterfall, Lumberjack, Carousel

Lumberjack felling tree using servo motors, push button switch

Carousel using 12V motor, relay, multiple songs on SD card

#### Where can one find more technical information?

The "Amazing Arduino Animations" web site at <a href="http://daackm.github.io">http://daackm.github.io</a>

YouTube.com