

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
DIVISION SIX OF THE  
NORTH CENTRAL REGION  
OF THE NATIONAL MODEL  
RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

## ON THE RAILS...

### NOVEMBER 2020

HELLO!! Welcome to another issue of your Division 6 newsletter - **ON THE RAILS**. We hope this issue finds you well and doing good!

It's here! November! That means its National Model RR Month! This is usually when we try to really promote our hobby to others. That is going to be tough this year, as gatherings are still not allowed or recommended. Well, try posting on Facebook or other medium, join in some online activities and keep being active in our hobby!!

Being November, it's also time to VOTE!! I hope you have or will do that! It's also time to get that hour back as we turn the clock BACK one hour on Nov 1st.

Please keep in contact with your family and your model railroading friends! It does help!! Here's the rest of your Division 6 news-

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had 29/29 members at the last zoom Div 6 meetings! We also had no new members. MMR's present were Ken Chick, Larry Wolohon, Ron King and Jim Zinser. We hope more will join us this month! To all Div 6 members, **WELCOME ABOARD!**

### PRODUCT REVIEW

If you have an item to review, see Bill before the meeting.

### DIV 6 MEETINGS

Our Division 6 meetings are now ONLINE only using ZOOM. Download ZOOM on your computer, tablet or phone to join in.

We are doing TWO meetings! This is so that we can have the FULL meeting content - show & tell, event discussions, history, tool tips and a full clinic! The online process is a bit slower and longer, so we're breaking it up into TWO meetings. Thus, we are now on the **FIRST and THIRD** Friday of each month. Our next Division 6 meetings will be on **FRIDAY, NOV 6 and FRIDAY, NOV 20, 2020**. Meetings start at 7:30pm The meeting content will be as follows....

**Friday, NOV 6** - show & tell, events, history, tool tips, misc business

**Friday, NOV 20** - old/new business, model RR 101, clinic(s) WATCH your email... the meeting link and info will be emailed 3 days before the meeting! We hope to see YOU there!

**MEETING RULES!!!** Using ZOOM has a few drawbacks and we're trying to mitigate those. Please go to the Div 6 website to view these rules! Thanks!!

### 2020 DIV 6 FALL SHOW

The **2020 FALL MODEL RR SHOW & WORKSHOP** will be moved to Saturday, December 5. With all that has been going on, planning for this event got "side-tracked" a bit. But, your Team is on it now!! Our event will be **VIRTUAL**, not an in-person event like in the past. We are using Zoom for the event format. We're planning on having 5 clinics, 4 layout tours and raffle prizes! THANKS Nankin Hobby for helping with the prizes! The event is planned on running from 9am to 8pm with a lunch break during which we'll show a video or two. IT'S FREE!! To register, email your name, city, state and email address to chairman Mark Ellis at [emark@sbcglobal.net](mailto:emark@sbcglobal.net) We promise a full report during the November meetings.

## SHOW AND TELL

Our subject was **something you have soldered** Here's what was shared- Electronic light; N scale #10 turnout; wires to track; decoder install in F3; curved turnout in HO; wires to rail jointers; chain link fence; wire harness; boxcab decoder install; track & turnouts; SD18 decoder install; battery pack for buildings; Heathkit radio; 44ton loco decoder install; bumper posts; brass tender rework; brass loco build; Arduino kit; DCC test station and several more decoder installs.

Current Projects shared were... Flat car builds; scratch built GN hoppers; SD9 rework; laser etched brick wall. Everyone had something to share! NICE!!

**NEXT MEETING** - your first train model!

## LAYOUT TOURS

Contact Hocky if you are available for a Layout Tour! How about you?? **It's up to YOU guys...** if you want tours, you need to volunteer and get your friends to volunteer! We **NEED NEW** people & layouts please!

**NEXT TOURS-** There will be three VIRTUAL tours in December! Phyllis LaForte, Tom Kosta and Barry Hensel will host layout tours on a zoom meeting. The tours will take place on Saturday, December 5th as part of the Fall Show & Workshop!

## DIV 6 T-TRACK LAYOUT

The ordered kits were cut and delivered to those that ordered. Happy building!! The module standards are posted on our Div 6 website. Plus, we found a used EasyDCC system online for a real bargain! It's been bought and should be here soon. While there are no shows for now, maybe we can get together somewhere and test our new layout!

## BILL'S TOOL TIME

Div 6 member Bill Deeter was present, but did not have a tool tip to share. We're looking forward to more tips soon.

## NEW ITEMS IN THE HOBBY

Russ Hjelmberg, from Nankin Hobby, was not at the meeting. We look forward to another report on new hobby items soon! But in the meantime, Russ sends this message along to everyone....

This COVID epidemic has really slowed down the whole operation of the stores, as you can well imagine. They close up early to clean, watch the door to make sure everyone has a mask (which can be a hassle when someone objects) and try to get all of their other work done, while trying to maintain social distancing and keeping a full work force. Of course, I am trying to do all I can to keep the train side of the store shelves full and with the newest items. We DO appreciate all those who are supporting Nankin and keeping it going and all of your patience and understanding during these most unusual times! Thanks!!

## CLINIC

**WE ALWAYS NEED CLINICS for our meetings!** Please contact Clinic Chairman Byrne Blumenstein to get your clinic scheduled! PLEASE share your talents and knowledge! Our clinic this past month was by member Norm Logan! This is a switch from what was reported in the last newsletter. Norm showed some of his latest backdrop work and how you can do this too. One of Norm's signature traits is to use building pictures cut from magazines and catalogs. He pastes these on the backdrop and then blends in the edges with trees and other foliage making a great backdrop scene with lots of detail. WOW!! Great examples and information - Thanks Norm!

**NEXT MEETING-** Greg Rich from Div 8 on foam scenery sculpting.

## FOR SALE

2 pieces of sheet aluminum - 24"x24.5 feet \$40 and 24"x11 feet \$20 or both for \$50! Barry - 734-649-3056 [Barry76Lt@wowway.com](mailto:Barry76Lt@wowway.com)

## RAILROAD HISTORY

John Bopp was at the meeting and gave a lesson on the inspection of a railroad. In this story, the inspector rode in a special seat on the front of the locomotive! Sorry to say, but John had technical problems and we didn't get to hear the ending. Looking forward to another history lesson soon!! Thanks John!!

## DIVISION OF CHOICE

Do you live in Oakland County, but attend Div 6 meetings? Then you can become an official Div 6 member!! All you need to do is fill out the DIVISION OF CHOICE form. See a Div 6 Board member for a form. Once filed, you can now vote and hold office in Div 6!

## MODEL RR BASICS 101

We are continuing these presentations so that any beginners can be helped in getting their layouts started! Here is the NEW schedule of the presentations-

**November 20 - operations!**

**December 18 - weathering**

This past month, Bill McMillan gave us a great lesson on structures! Bill talked about type of structures that your railroad will need for industries it serves. Bill also talked about structure construction and types - plastic, wood, etc. A great overview of structures for all! The next session on Operations will be done by Norm Logan.

## DIV 6 WEBSITE

The website is improved! If you want your layout featured on the website, email ED your pictures and a small write-up!! Check it out at- [www.div6-ncr-nmra.com](http://www.div6-ncr-nmra.com)

## DIV 6 MODEL PROJECT

The Modeling Project is on hold until we can meet again in person - OR - a new subject will be selected and we can try to do this online in the near future. Bragging rights are on the line!

## DIV 6 - RR HUMOR

here is some railroad humor.....



## DIVISION 6 SHIRTS

Our shirt color will remain GRAY. The shirts are a Port Authority brand polo shirt. Prices are- small-XL w/logo \$19  
logo/pocket \$22 logo/name \$25  
logo/pocket/name \$25  
XXL +\$5, XXXL +\$7 XXXXL +\$9  
Mark is taking orders... either see him, email or phone. ALSO - If you want a name badge... see Mark!

## NMRA VIRTUAL EVENTS

Check the NMRA website, Facebook page and YouTube channel.... there have been many NMRA-X events. These are all day clinic sessions that are happening almost every other week on Saturdays. Up to 12 hours of information!!

## LOCAL RR EVENTS

Most events have been cancelled, pending current restrictions and guidelines.

**Saturday, DEC 5 - DIV 6 FALL SHOW & WORKSHOP - VIRTUAL!!**

**Sunday, Dec 6 - Train Show**  
New Baltimore MI Trade Center  
Steve Gawracz 586-273-7900

## DIV 6 MISC NEWS

During the Show & Tell, it was mentioned that there is a shop in the Ann Arbor area, where you can design and laser cut/3D print items for your model railroad, or any other hobby/need! There is a price for using the equipment, but it seemed reasonable. Look up <https://www.maker-works.com/>

During discussions after Bill's Model RR 101 on structures, Byrne mentioned a local guy putting structures together. He does building, kit-bashing and weathering. PJ Train Shack - <https://pjstrainshack.com/>

Sorry we are not remembering who offered this tidbit on paints... Website called Mr.Hobby has quite a paint selection. See this site for a full catalog and color charts - <http://www.mr-hobby.com/en/Mr.Hobbyleaflet.pdf>

It was also mentioned that Rustoleum Paint, which owns Testors hobby paints, sells large spray cans under their ZX brand that are plastic compatible and come very close to some railroad colors they used to make. ALSO - that Testors brand Flat Dark Aircraft Grey is a very close match for the old aged concrete.

We have LABELS!! If you are going to donate RR magazines, we have some Div 6 stickers that you can place on them to help people find us and our meetings! Please get some of these from Bill!

WE HAVE CARDS!! Bill has a supply of Div 6 business cards so that all members can have some of these to pass them out at shows, while at hobby shops or where-ever! COOL! Let's promote Division 6!

REMEMBER!!... when shopping at Nankin Hobby, tell them before your purchase is rung-up, that you are a Div 6 member! We get a share of your purchase price that we can spend for great raffle items for

the Fall Show! Help Div 6 when shopping!! THANKS Nankin Hobby!! We're told this will work for ANY purchase at a Nankin store!!

## NMRA AP AWARDS

Our AP coordinator Ken Chick reports that Div 6 member Brook Qualman has received her Motive Power Certificate! This now completes her 7 required certificates for the MMR - Master Model Railroader status! CONGRATULATIONS!! Brook will become our 6th MMR in Division 6!

## DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Superintendent-** Bill McMillan  
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wcmillan7456@gmail.com

**Asst. Superintendent-** Bruce Wolff  
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**Secretary-** Ed Beamish  
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**Treasurer-** Larry Wolohon  
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**Glenn Joppich** 734-464-6004  
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**Barry Hensel** 734-649-3056  
barry76Lt@wowway.com

### **OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF**

Achievement Program- Ken Chick, MMR  
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Newsletter- Barry Hensel  
734-649-3056 barry76Lt@wowway.com

Clinics- Byrne Blumenstein  
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Layout Tours- Jim Hockenberger  
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History- John Bopp  
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Webmaster- Ed Beamish  
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Div 6 Fall Show- Mark Ellis  
734-421-2673 emark@sbcglobal.net

Meeting Coffee- Bill Deeter  
734-425-3377 billydeeter@att.net



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12020 Fort St  
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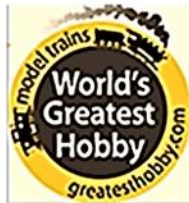
PLYMOUTH  
TRAIN SHOP



Lionel, O-Scale – MTH, HO, Williams  
Dave, manager

37980 Ann Arbor Rd  
Livonia, MI 48150  
734-454-7337

Mon-Fri 11-6  
Sat 11-4



DIVISION 6 and invited guests of the  
NORTH CENTRAL REGION of the  
NATIONAL MODEL RR ASSOCIATION



PRESENTS-

42nd ANNUAL!

# MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & WORKSHOP

**9am- 8pm Saturday  
December 5, 2020**

**NEW DAY!!  
VIRTUAL!!**

**LEARN HOW TO DO & ENJOY MODEL RAILROADING!**

YES... we are doing a VIRTUAL event for 2020! Using ZOOM conferencing software, we'll be presenting 5 clinics and 4 layout tours! We'll also have a video to share during a small lunch break! We have Raffle prizes!! We'll give away a prize after each presentation – 9 in total! You will redeem at Nankin Hobby in Farmington!! To register for this **FREE** event... please email Chairman MARK ELLIS at [emark@sbcglobal.net](mailto:emark@sbcglobal.net) All we need to get you registered is your name, city, state and email address. The meeting link and other information will be emailed to you 2-3 days before the event.

**Division 6 -NCR-NMRA  
42167 Ridge Road West  
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