



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

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! Thus, we are now on the **FIRST and THIRD** Friday of each month. Our next Division 6 meetings will be on **FRIDAY, MARCH 5 and FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2021. Meetings start at 7:30pm** The meeting content will be **Friday, MARCH 5** - show & tell, events, history, tool tips, misc business

Friday, MARCH 19 - old/new business, clinic(s), layout tours WATCH your email... the meeting link and info will be emailed 3 days before the meeting! We hope to see YOU there!

DIV 6 MI-TRACK LAYOUT

Please keep working on your modules! At the February meeting we discussed trying to get the old C&O freight station in Plymouth for a few hours, so we can gather and do some quick testing. Barry will look into this and report back on a day, hopefully in March. We'll try to do a Saturday. We also want those building modules to show them off at the #1 meeting in April. Keep building!!

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!

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.

ON THE RAILS...

MARCH 2021

Hello again and Welcome to your Div 6 - Motor City Division newsletter - "**ON THE RAILS**" !! We hope your 2021 has been good so far. Certainly the weather has been typical Michigan type - cold and snow! That means it's a great time for model railroading! Let's keep working on those projects and running trains on your layout. While not as much fun doing it alone, it is still fun!

Events are still not being scheduled, at least in our area. Some events are being held in other areas or states. Please travel safely if you are attending any of those!

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 35/35 members at the last Div 6 zoom meetings! We also had no new members. MMR's present were Ken Chick, Larry Wolohon, Ron King, Jim Zinser and Brook Qualman. We had a few guests as our meeting info is being sent to all other NCR Divisions. We hope more will join us this month! Division 6 has 93 members on our roster! To all Div 6 members, **WELCOME ABOARD!**

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
NOW - all MODEL RR 101 sessions have been posted!!

LAYOUT TOURS

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!

We did talk about doing virtual layout tours and we'll start these in March! Instead of clinics on the meeting #2 night, we'll have virtual layout tours. We'll try to do these every other or every 2 months. Depends on who volunteers!

NEXT TOURS- Virtual Tours on March 19 7:30pm Bill McMillan or Ron King

SHOW AND TELL

Our subject was **flat cars with or without loads** Here's what was shared- Varney C&O w/wood crates; scratch built w/trailer; N scale w/crate; 85' TOFC; Mantua w/alum billet; NYC HD 4 truck w/crate; Mantua w/dozers; 1940 Lionel log car; 1970's plastic version Lionel log car; MTH TOFC car; RDG 4 truck HD w/transformer; ATSF w/military dozers; S scale w/prime mover; GN w/pipe load; Tichy flat converted to bulkhead flat for pulp loads; Wabash w/pipes; Varney w/road grader; Central Valley kit in progress; NW TOFC; N scale w/trailer; scratch built log car; G scale w/log load (from AZ!); P2K w/dozers; flat with copper mass load; PRR w/outhouses!; scratch built 4 truck PRR; private name RR flat w/crate; depressed center w/generator; depressed center w/transformer (AHM model rebuilt like scratch); O scale w/military dozers; G scale NYC w/Patton tank

Current Projects shared were... detailing some SP steam locos. Everyone had something to share!

NEXT MEETING - Caboose's (cabeese?)

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!

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 clinics this past month were by Div 6 members Rick Neibert, Pierre Willermet and Barry Hensel.

Rick started the night with a presentation on how power districts work for a layout with DCC. Rick uses Digitrax and their many components, but these tips can be used with any system. Some of these components can even be used with other systems! The big take-away... power districts aid in short detection and solving, help balance power through your layout and help with signal detection! Neat!

Pierre did a clinic on modeling utility power poles. Scratch building these he showed how to do this and how they work. He also went over what the wires are for and how he designed his power system to avoid sidings, so that when operating his layout, they are not in the way. Cool!

Barry did a quick look at a recent project build of a Walthers roundhouse (9 stalls!) and modifications to a Walthers turntable so it looks like the Santa Fe girder bridge type. Good information by all! Thanks Rick, Pierre & Barry!

NEXT MEETING- Lester Breuer from a neighboring region will be doing a clinic on adhesives, followed by one of our layout tours. Then for April, there will be another layout tour, and the next clinic, topic will be 3D printing basics.

DIV 6 - RR HUMOR

here is some railroad humor.....



DIV 6 MISC NEWS

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!!

RAILROAD HISTORY

John Bopp gave us another interesting lesson this past month. John gave us the story of Ann Arbor ferry #4. The information was from the book "Great Lakes Ferries" by George Hilton. The Ann Arbor RR had several ferries that carried railcars from Michigan to Wisconsin and the upper peninsula. Ferry #4 had quite a history, almost a jinxed ship. It was built in 1906 and had its first incident in 1909 when it was loaded wrong and tipped on its side! The big incident happened a few years later when #4 left Wisconsin and was caught in a huge gale. The Capt turned her around and barely made it into port. Some rail cars were lost in the lake and many other derailed. Ferry #4 sank in place once it had reached the port. There was a huge hole in the bow and the stern was also damaged. Ferry #4 lasted until the 1930's with the AARR. Later, the State of Michigan bought #4 and after a rebuild, used it for ferrying auto from Mackinaw City. It's last reported use was for storing potatoes. Finally in 1970, she was towed to Italy and scrapped. Neat stuff!! Looking forward to another history lesson soon!! Thanks John!!

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.

Sunday, MARCH 7 - Train Show
New Baltimore MI Trade Ctr 10-4
Steve Gawracz 586-273-7900

CANCELLED - March 14 - Toledo
toy & train show

NEW ITEMS IN THE HOBBY

Russ Hjelmberg, from Nankin Hobby, was not at the meeting but did send us a new report. Lionel HO introduced some lighted billboards. However... the Lionel HO brand and products are now also on hold and in question if they will continue. Walthers also introduced some HO food trucks and trailers with some interesting names! We look forward to another report on new hobby items soon!

DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Superintendent- Bill McMillan
248-349-7456

wmcmillan7456@gmail.com

Asst. Superintendent- Bruce Wolff
248-478-4104 brucewolff@yahoo.com

Secretary- Ed Beamish
734-266-2301

phoenixblade70@gmail.com

Treasurer- Larry Wolohon
734-454-4816

larrywolohon@comcast.net

Membership Director - Mark Ellis
734-421-2673 emark@sbcglobal.net

Member at Large - Glenn Joppich
734-464-6004 steambigot@yahoo.com

Communications Director - Barry Hensel
734-649-3056

barry76Lt@wowway.com

OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF

Achievement Program- Ken Chick, MMR
734-420-0276 kdchick@wowway.com

Clinics- Byrne Blumenstein
248-553-3838 1947sandy@gmail.com

Layout Tours- Jim Hockenberger
734-455-1536 jmbhockey@aol.com

History- John Bopp
248-477-6193 jrbopp007@gmail.com

Webmaster- Ed Beamish
734-266-2301

phoenixblade70@gmail.com

Div 6 Fall Show- Mark Ellis
734-421-2673 emark@sbcglobal.net

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

PRODUCT REVIEW

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

NCR NEWS

The next NCR convention is the 2021 NCR convention in Toledo - The Black Swamp Junction! See the HotBox or the Div 1 website for all of the convention information and registration form. This event IS planning on being held as an in-person event!! We hope to see you there!!

<http://www.divisiononencr.com/2021>



35101 Ford Rd
Westland, MI 48185
734-722-5700

33350 W Nine Mile Rd
Farmington, MI 48336
248-919-0040

1480 Washtenaw Ave
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734-961-7575

12020 Fort St
Southgate, MI 48195
734-250-7382



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 -NCR-NMRA
42167 Ridge Road West
Novi, MI 48375**