

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, JUNE 4 and FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 2021. Meetings start at 7:30pm** The meeting content will be

**Friday, June 4** - show & tell, events, tool tips, misc business

**Friday, June 18** - old/new business, history, 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!

## NEW ZOOM RULES!

Here's one last reminder on the new rules in place to protect our meetings....

A) The Waiting Room will be active for all meetings. We will have 1-2 people keeping an eye on the room and allowing you into the meeting.

B) Your screen name MUST be your real name so we know who you are and to compare it with the Div 6 member and/or NCR rosters.

C) The share screen option will only be activated when we know who is to share the screen, once that share is done, it will be immediately turned off.

## 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) **NEW** - we're recording many of the clinics that are presented on our zoom meetings and posting them on the website. If you missed a meeting or need to go over clinic information again... it's there!

# ON THE RAILS...

## JUNE 2021

YEAH!!! With enough getting vaccines, things have finally opened up considerably! We are very hopeful that this will mean our in-person meetings can resume soon. Maybe even next month! We're in contact with Livonia and the Senior Center to find out.

There is a possibility that there could be a new local model railroad sale/show in Livonia, happening in early August. A few Div 6 members are working on a proposal to hold this in the Laurel Park mall. If this happens, it could be the first set-up and display of our MI-Track layout!!

It's time to start making your plans to attend some conventions! First is the NCR Black Swamp Junction in Toledo and then next year, the Indy Junction.

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 32/27 members and guests 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 Scott Kremer. We had several guests from other divisions. To all Div 6 members and guests,

**WELCOME ABOARD!**

## 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've started! We'll do one clinic and one layout tour on the 2nd meetings of the month. We did not have a tour in May, but are looking forward to one this month and more in the future!

**NEXT TOURS-** Virtual Tour in June by Norm Logan on his Michigan Southern Railroad.

## SHOW AND TELL

Our subject was *your smallest locomotive!* Here's what was shared- Matchbox 0-2-0 ; GE 45ton; Plymouth ML8 switcher; 4-4-0 Loco; Bachmann Little Giant switcher; Varney 0-4-0T; steam loco bracelet charm 1" long; Lionel 2-4-2; Atlas rubber-band drive switcher; 2-2-2 steam loco clock; GN 0-6-0; GE 44ton N scale; P2K SW1200; Ma&Pa 4-6-0; RDG boxcab; 0-6-0 SP in O scale; PRR SW9 N scale; 0-4-0 Dockside O scale; Soo NW2; 0-6-0 road loco from Larry Wright; 0-6-0 N scale switcher; HO Gandy Dancer; 0-4-0 Mini-Tonka; HO track-mobile; GE 25t in G scale and (winner?) a 4"x3" sardine can working layout with a loco about 1/4" long!!

Current Projects shared were... GE 70t loco mechanism placed in a tender to drive a steam loco - then used the GE shell to create a one truck switcher.

Everyone had something to share!

**NEXT MEETING** - your largest locomotive

## DIV 6 MI-TRACK LAYOUT

Please keep working on your modules! There could/might be an event that we could display at, in Livonia in early August! While we could display unfinished modules, some scenery is better for public viewing. Perhaps you could do a demonstration of scenery on your module while it is displayed! We'll keep you informed ASAP...

## 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 member Norm Logan and Div 8 member Rad Jones. Norm gave another great backdrop clinic, doing a video as he redid and improved on his own layout. Using photos of buildings, painting trees over them to hide unwanted parts, painting small details are some of the things Norm showed how to do. What great work and tips that anyone can do! Great stuff Norm!! The second clinic last month was by Rad Jones on **When the President Travels by Train**. This is a subject that Rad knows personally, as he was an agent of the Secret Service! This clinic told no secrets, but did show how things must be done to keep someone safe. Checking track, structures for possible dangers, checking routes and schedules for possible conflicts were just some of the things that needed to be done. Very interesting information - Thanks Rad!! Great information!

**NEXT MEETING-** June 18 - Scott Kremer, MMR on how to build catenary. For July - Rick Neibert on JRMI Decoder Pro

## DIV 6 - RR HUMOR

here is some railroad humor.....



## DIV 6 MISC NEWS

**BEST WISHES** to Irwin Knox, who was in the hospital recently with a minor stroke. He was on the zoom meeting and is home and doing well! GREAT to hear!!

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!!

## 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!

## BILL'S TOOL TIME

Div 6 member Bill Deeter was present, but did not have a tool tip to share. However, Bill McMillan showed a video on the Ferrule Crimping Tool Kit, by Preciva used with stranded wire to clean up the ends for use. Can buy on Amazon. Check it out here -

<https://www.amazon.com/Preciva-Self-adjustable-Terminals-Connectors-Uninsulated/dp/B073TZ5BBG>

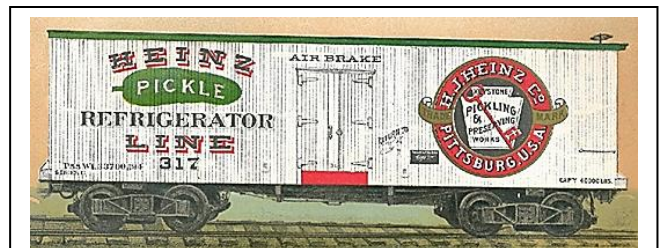
We're looking forward to more tips soon.

## 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!!

## RAILROAD HISTORY

John Bopp gave us another interesting lesson this past month. John gave us the story of the Heinz Company House Cars, their origins and use. These were used from the late 1890's to 1915's. They were mostly insulated boxcars, refrig cars and special tank cars. They would certainly come under the "Banner" type of cars as they were colorful and basically a rolling ad for the company and products. The box and refrig cars carried mostly finished products, plus some raw materials. The infamous pickle tank cars carried those in a brine solution and also plain vinegar. Records show there were about 174 cars of different types in 1908, but by 1929 all were gone and the company was using regular cars from the local railroads.



Nice and interesting information on cars we all know of, but not about their history! Looking forward to another history lesson soon!! Thanks John!!

## NMRA AP NEWS

Ken Chick, MMR, our Div 6 AP rep, reported that 2 AP certificates were earned by Rick Neibert - Master Builder Scenery and Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical. Congratulations Rick!! Norm Logan has also filed the forms for several certificates as well.



## NEW ITEMS IN THE HOBBY

Russ Hjelmberg, from Nankin Hobby, was not at the meeting but Bill showed some new stuff from Russ at Nankin. Russ also wanted to let Div 6 members know that he is now going back into the Nankin store in Farmington once a week on Thursdays. He also wants to remind all our members that he can order anything we may want and to remind everyone that they are trying to price everything to match internet prices. The best way to contact Russ is by email using:  
[Russatnankin@yahoo.com](mailto:Russatnankin@yahoo.com)

## NMRA TRI-REGIONAL CONV

The **INDY JUNCTION** - a tri-regional model railroad convention! It is hoped that this is what future NMRA National conventions may look like. INDY



JUNCTION will take place on **May 18-21, 2022**. The North Central Region (ours), the Mid-West and the Mid-Central Regions are the three regions that are sponsoring this event. Clinics, layout tours and train show are all planned.  
<http://www.indyjunction2022.org>  
<https://www.facebook.com/indyjunction2022>

## BLACK SWAMP JUNCTION

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. Registration is mail-in only! This event IS planning on being held as an in-person event!! We hope to see you there!!

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



## DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Superintendent-** Bill McMillan  
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**Communications Director - Barry Hensel**  
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### OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF

**Achievement Program-** Ken Chick, MMR  
734-420-0276 [kdchick@wowway.com](mailto:kdchick@wowway.com)

**Clinics-** Byrne Blumenstein  
248-553-3838 [1947sandy@gmail.com](mailto:1947sandy@gmail.com)

**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](mailto:emark@sbcglobal.net)

**Meeting Coffee-** Bill Deeter  
734-425-3377 [billydeeter@att.net](mailto:billydeeter@att.net)

## LOCAL RR EVENTS

**Saturday-Sunday - July 24-25, 2021** - Van Wert Railroad Heritage Weekend - Van Wert County Fairgrounds, 1055 South Washington St. (US 127), Van Wert, OH 45891  
Saturday 10am-4pm Sunday 10am-3pm.  
Admission is \$6/day; Two day Admission is \$8. Scouts in Uniform and Children under 12 = FREE  
Over 200 tables, Free Door Prize for each Child, Handicap Accessible, Good Food Available, FOUR Buildings with over a dozen operating Model Railroads and Time Savers. If vaccinated, Children's Play Area will be available with Thomas & other wooden toy trains  
Chuck White 260-760-1666

[railcarman@frontier.com](mailto:railcarman@frontier.com)

**Saturday-Sunday - August 7-8, 2021** - Crossroads Village & Huckleberry RR Railfan Weekend  
10am-6pm Flint, MI  
sponsored by Mid-Michigan Railway Historical Society & Genesee County Parks

**Wednesday-Sunday, August 18-22, 2021** - Steel Mill Modelers Special Interest Group 2021 Convention  
Planned boat trip on the Detroit River to see the riverside of steel mills; clinics at the conference hotel all day and vendor displays; layout tours (many from Div 6 members!); Tour Greenfield Village, Henry Ford Museum, Great Lakes freighter tour in Toledo, OH. Registration and hotel info on the NMRA Steel Mill Modelers SIG website at  
<https://smmsig.org/2021-annual-meet/>

## 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!

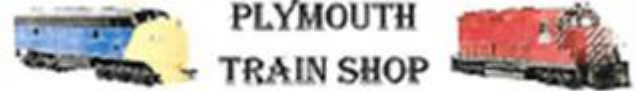


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734-961-7575

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



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

## PRODUCT REVIEW

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

**Division 6 -NCR-NMRA  
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