

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

DIV 6 MEETINGS

Our Division 6 meetings are on the THIRD Friday of each month. Our next Division 6 meeting will be on **FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2023**. The meeting will be held at the Civic Center Senior Center in Livonia, at 5 Mile and Farmington Roads. **The meeting is from 7pm-10pm**. We will also broadcast the meeting LIVE on zoom! The link will be emailed a few days before the meeting.

DIV 6 MODEL RR SALE

THIS EVENT IS NOW!!! JANUARY 22!!
Terry & Barry gave an update at the December meeting. Our next event is -

When - Sunday, Jan 22, 2023

Where - Costick Comm Center

We ARE SOLD OUT of tables!! We have about 7 people on a waiting list in case tables become available. THANKS to the Division 6 membership has come through again and we have all volunteer work positions filled plus 3 extras! Volunteers will receive an email with instructions very soon. We're still posting on social media as often as we can! YOU as a Div 6 member can also "spread the word" on our event to any fellow modelers you may know. Remember... we are a RAILROAD SALE, not a "show". We do not have room for layouts and displays. See the flyer in this newsletter! **THANKS** for your support on our new event! **We are TWO weeks away!!**

DIV 6 ELECTIONS!

Congratulations to the new Division 6 Board of Directors -
Superintendent - Paul Lichau
Asst Super. - Byrne Blumenstein
Secretary - Ed Beamish
Treasurer - Terry Kosmas
Member at Large - Bill McMillan
Membership Director - Mark Ellis
Communications - Barry Hensel
They will be active, starting at the January 2023 meeting.

ON THE RAILS...

JANUARY 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! Yes, it's the start of another new year and Division 6 has a lot to do already! Please read this entire newsletter for all of the updates and information YOU need to become involved with some great events!

Of course the BIG event is our 2nd Train Sale on Sunday, Jan 22!! See the report to the right....

The new Div 6 Board of Directors will be starting at the January meeting. Good things will be happening as they look to the bright future of Division 6!

And the 2024 NCR Convention is also on our radar! More planning meetings will take place this summer as our plans must be in place by December! Stay tuned...!

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

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had good meeting turn-out with 40 attending, plus 7 on zoom! We had two new members, Welcome Neal Thomas and John Hossle! Our guest clinician from Div 9 was Rich Mahaney. MMR's present were Larry Wolohon, Ken Chick, Bill Neale, Scott Kremer and Jim Zinser. To all Div 6 members and guests,

WELCOME ABOARD!

SHOW AND TELL

Our subject was **something marine and RR related**. Here's what was shared - kitbashed coal barge; book on car ferries; model of real ship; Walthers tug boat kit; Gundy Harbor kit; Athearn flat car w/boat; AuSable river boat; N scale cranes with shovels; tug boat and barge; Picture of member on Long Island Dock; dockside crane; RR "lighter" barge/crane; Ann Arbor boxcar that was on ferries?; Lake MI car ferries book; tug boat kit unfinished; Canadian ocean liners book; great lakes ore boat kitbash; Z scale rubber raft!; German WW2 RC boat; photo of scratch dock on layout

Current projects - HO scale band shell! w/band!; test scale car; rock mold castings; steam kitbash to streamlined engine

We did have MANY members contribute to the caboose!

Unfortunately we did not have a gift card to give away.

NEXT MEETING - Your Christmas or Chanukah Present, model RR related

DIV 6 MI-TRACK LAYOUT

We're still working on an idea to create a staging yard. We don't have another event to attend, but please keep working on your module!

LAYOUT TOURS

CHAIRMAN NEEDED!! WE'RE BACK!!!

Layout tours have returned! YEAH!! Thanks to those that volunteered. We're looking for volunteers for February! **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! PLUS... we are looking for a new Layout Tour Coordinator! If you would like to do this important position, please see Paul soon!! THANKS to Rick, Tom and Barry for hosting tours in December!! They were well attended and enjoyed!

NEXT TOURS- Feb ????

DIV 6 THANK-YOU!!!!

Here is a BIG shout-out and a THANK-YOU to the Board members that are leaving their positions this month. **BILL MCMILLAN** has been a great Superintendent for the past 4+ years!! He's a great leader and we've improved Division 6 under his leadership. Lots of great ideas and members under Bill's leadership! THANKS!!! **BRUCE WOLFF** has been a great back-up as Assistant Superintendent for Bill as he filled in when needed, helped with the Fall Show and helped Bill and Div 6 stay "on track" THANKS!! **LARRY WOLOHON** has been the Division 6 Treasurer for 30 years!! WOW!! He's keep the books straight, always been there when we needed information and cash for events and is the longest serving Board member in Div 6 history. THANKS!! **GLENN JOPPICH** for being a past Superintendent and the Member-at-Large for many years! Your insight and advice has helped the Board and Division 6 become the great group we are! THANKS!! To these four great guys... we look forward to your continued membership in Division 6 as you now have more time for modeling and enjoying your membership. Once again...

A HUGE THANK-YOU to all 4 of you!

DIV 6 MEETING & PIZZA

THANKS to the Div 6 Board for approving what is becoming a tradition for our members... at the December Div 6 meeting we had some pizza and refreshments. Everyone had their fill and enjoyed the extra fun! THANKS to Mark, Bruce and Barry for making it happen!

RAILROAD HISTORY

John Bopp was present at the meeting, but we did not have enough time for a lesson. We're looking forward to another lesson soon!

DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Superintendent- Paul Lichau
734-878-5390 plichau@yahoo.com

Asst. Superintendent-
Byrne Blumenstein 248-885-0874
1947sandy@gmail.com

Secretary-
Ed Beamish 734-266-2301
phoenixblade70@gmail.com

Treasurer- Terry Kosmas
586-441-9365 samsok99@hotmail.com

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

Member at Large - Bill McMillan
248-349-7456
wcmillan7456@gmail.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- **VOLUNTEER NEEDED!!**
Layout Tours- **VOLUNTEER NEEDED!!**

History- John Bopp
248-477-6193 jbopp007@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
billydeeter50@gmail.com

2024 CONV Chairman - Norm Logan
248-348-2473 nlogan114@wowway.com

DIVISION 6 SHIRTS

Our shirt color is light GRAY. The shirts are a Port Authority brand polo shirt. Prices have increased and are now- small-XL w/logo \$34 logo/pocket \$37 logo/name \$40 logo/pocket/name \$45

XXL +\$8, XXXL +\$10 XXXXL +\$12
Shipping will be divided among those ordering. Mark is taking orders... either see him at a meeting, email or phone. ALSO - If you want a name badge... see Mark!

AP CERTIFICATES

Ken Chick, our AP coordinator, had no awards to give out at the December meeting. Keep working on your Certificates!

CLINIC

WE ALWAYS NEED CLINICS for our meetings! **We also need a new Clinic Coordinator!!** PLEASE share your talents and knowledge!

The clinic was by Div 9 member Rich Mahaney on railroad car ferries. Rich talked about Car Ferry Operations around Michigan and the great lakes w/modeling ideas in mind. He also showed pictures of the Badger and dock facilities in Ludington, MI. and pictures of the Ann Arbor ferry in Manistee, where tours are available. There were also pictures of ferry docks in Alberta and Vancouver, Canada - all gone now. Rich's clinic then turned to pictures of ferry models, many on Michigan layouts! Good stuff!! Thanks Rich!

NEXT MEETING- something a bit different, group participation in sharing your model RR nightmares!

DIV 6 - NCR CONV 2024 !!!

Our Chairman, Norm Logan says the planning team is shaping-up nicely! We'll need volunteers to help run the registration desk, display room, RR Yard Sale room, etc!! The convention is **Oct 10-13, 2024.**

Our site is Ward Church in Northville and we have been approved by the church Board. We're planning on OPS sessions, clinics, layout tours and a lunch or dinner with a guest speaker.



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!

THE OBSERVATION CAR

As I'm now the Assistant Superintendent for Division 6, I've taken up an offer to create a new column for our readers. I've picked the title of Observation Car, since I wanted to share my observations on things I'm seeing OUTSIDE our train rooms, crew lounges, and club locations. Nothing about weathering, benchwork, or other topics well covered in our reading, clinics, and meeting discussions.

This began with "observing" some very surprising situations and comments while serving as a docent at the Ann Arbor Children's Hands On Museum. Div 6 was asked to be the docents so that we could help answer the many questions that the children AND parents had while viewing the Lionel trains on display.

I was absolutely amazed most at the unexpected questions and comments about the layout, from those who, for the most part, had absolutely zero previous exposure to what they were seeing. Those comments went way beyond the realm of the Art Linkletter show, Kids Say the Darndest Things. For example, over and over I was asked exactly how we got the trains to actually move! Parents asked if they were moving by batteries, were we just winding them up, or was it something else. It never occurred to many that there were wires to the tracks, and they were surprised when I explained the track wire clips and the transformers.

We, of course, think everyone knows how toy or model trains work. That's not what I observed, over and over. We always focus on our fellow train enthusiasts, but rarely on what those OUTSIDE our world knows or thinks, and that was a real wake up call for me! As the expression goes, we don't know what we don't know. That will NOT help bringing new enthusiasts into our hobby. That was a big eye opener!

Another observation was that kids below the age of 5 had a

really distorted image of what a train even is, or even sounds like. Several asked why we had so many cars behind the engine. Two asked where the steam comes out of the engine (which was a diesel). Many didn't even know something as basic as what a caboose is, which we presume every kid would know. They don't!

I had both parents and kids asking about hearing the engines "toot toot" or "choo choo". They were quite surprised to hear no train ever actually made those sounds, but those words actually come from when Walt Disney was trying to create a noise reference subtitle that would work with silent movies he was creating. However, they all smiled when they learned that diesel horns sound like loud truck horns, and when steam engines were used, they whistled. I also noted that, to modelers, those sound so lame. I had to remind myself that no kid alive today, nor any parent with kids, has EVER seen or heard a steam engine on any freight railroad, other than at a museum.

So, the main observation for me was that we probably need to better understand the people who will be the "future" of our hobby, because they don't even know what we think they know! Just my view from the Observation Car!

Byrne

BILL'S TOOL TIME

Div 6 member Bill Deeter was at the last meeting and did not have a tool report. Terry Kosmas has volunteered to coordinate tips from the membership, allowing 2 or 3 to be presented per meeting. If you have a tool tip to give, please contact Terry and he'll schedule you for some meeting time! Samsok99@hotmail.com

While not a tool tip, Bill Deeter showed some "flickering" light bulbs that many use in their home fixtures for a nice effect. These could be used to simulate a campfire on your layout! We're looking forward to more tips soon.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

As I step "on board" I would like to express my thanks to those that have gone before. You will see them mentioned in other locations as well, however, they can not be thanked for all that they have done in the past years. Bill, Bruce, Larry and Glenn you have my utmost respect for serving in your posts. I'm sure I will be calling on your experience in my term as Superintendent.

A little bit about me: I was a band director in Michigan schools for 29 years before becoming the Assistant Director of the MSBOA (the state organization for school bands and orchestras) and then Executive Director. I am a real novice at the craft and art of model railroading. I was introduced to Division 6 at the Novi show held in February of the year before Covid hit the world! Those working at the Div 6 booth talked with me and noted that Norm Logan (also a retired band and orchestra educator) was an active member of Div 6. The fact that I knew Norm and nothing about model railroads encouraged me to sign up! I attended most of the Zoom meetings for 2 years and have been attending as many in person meetings as possible.

I am planning my HO layout, purchased way too many things, read many books & magazines, watched You-Tube and hope to run trains very soon!

Thanks again to all that have worked to make Div 6 successful and I hope to meet many of you in person soon. *PAUL*

DIV 6 TREASURY REPORT

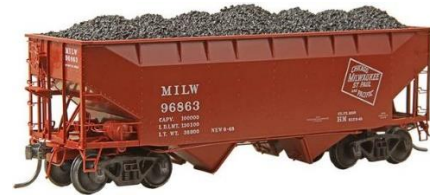
Hello... Here is your Treasurer's Report for the start of 2023... The beginning balance for December 1, 2022, was \$2093.84 The ending balance on December 31, 2022, (includes deposits and credits) is \$4890.08 Beginning the 2023 New Year our starting balance is \$4890.08 *Terry*

NEW ITEMS IN THE HOBBY

Russ Hjelmberg had a few new items to share via email. The best way to contact Russ is by email:

Russatnankin@yahoo.com

Kadee announces - Milwaukee #7526 MILW Rd No. #96863 Series: 96000-96999, BLT. 1948, Factory New \$45.99



A few Classic Metal vehicles just came in to Southgate, YPSI and Farmington. We are restocked on a bunch of Tichy items at the Farmington store. A wide range of the new Walthers Ortner 100 ton Hoppers have just arrived as well.



Backorders are slowly coming in now. Just checked our in transit items and found several more Classic Metals items in transit... most are HO scale



DIV 6 - RR HUMOR

Here's some model railroad humor-



AA HANDS-ON MUSEUM

Several Div 6 members and some members of the Ann Arbor Model RR Club volunteered to run the trains at the Ann Arbor Hands-on Museum over the holidays. Here's a THANK-YOU to Byrne, Bruce, Steve, Barry, Norm, Rick, Nick, Brian and Ken!! It was great to see the daily emails informing everyone of how the trains ran, problems to be solved and concerns as the loco's kept going down and not running. As the last few days came, we were down to 2 locos and one train running. We're going to try to get some of these locos fixed so that next year everything will run better. And some of our volunteers want to help set-up the display, so the wiring is done better and wire up some of the accessories that work too. We even passed out some of our flyers for our TRAIN SALE event! THANKS again to those that helped!!

DIV 6 WEBSITE

If you want your layout featured, email ED your pictures and a small write-up!! Also, some clinics are posted on the website! Check it out at- www.div6-ncr-nmra.com

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 Paul!

WE HAVE CARDS!! Paul 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 any Nankin store!!

ANOTHER THANK-YOU!!

At the December meeting, Bill Rubarth gave us some sad news... The Solano Ferry, Bill's great model and dock scene, will no longer be shown at shows or events. The last showing of that model at our Div 6 Fall Show!! THANKS Bill for sharing your great model and history, for so long!!

DIV 6 - NOVI SHOW

We have a display table at the Novi train show that is the same weekend as our Div 6 Train Sale! The idea is to have Div 6 volunteers work the table on Saturday and have Div 8 work the table on Sunday. We plan on passing out flyers on our sale, plus some discount coupons! If you would like to volunteer to work this event, please contact PAUL asap!!

2025 NMRA NATIONAL

We've been approved!! The 2025 NMRA National Convention will be hosted by us, the North Central Region! All of the Divisions in the NCR will be contributing to this effort. Scott Kremer, MMR from Div 6 will be heading up the efforts and forming a Planning Team soon. The Sheraton in Novi has been selected as the HQ of the convention for clinics, displays rooms, yard sale, etc. The National Train Show will be held at the Suburban Showplace. The proposed dates are mid-July 2025.

LOCAL RR EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023 - 2ND ANNUAL DIV 6 MODEL RAILROAD SALE
Costick Comm Ctr 28600 West Eleven Mile Rd. Farmington Hills, MI 10am-3pm \$5 admission/wives and kids under 18 free \$10 early-bird 9am Barry 734-649-3056 10am-8pm email-Div6trainsale@gmail.com

Saturday-Sunday, Jan 14-15, 28-29 - Detroit Model Railroad Club Open House 104 North Saginaw St. Holly, MI 48442 Noon-5PM Adults \$5, Seniors (65+) \$4, Children (5-18) \$2, Children under 5 Free 248-634-5811 webmaster@dmrrc.org

Saturday-Sunday, Jan 21-22
Blissfield Model Railroad Club Open House 109 E. Adrian St. (US 223) Blissfield, MI 49228 11am-3pm FREE! (donations accepted) Wheelchair Accessible Website: <http://www.bmrr.org>

Saturday's - Jan 7, 21 - Redford Model RR Club Open House 27316 Michigan Ave Inkster, MI 11am - 5pm FREE - donations accepted Accepting new members! HO scale 56'x26' layout, DCC, single and double track mainlines info: www.redfordmrrc.org

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays - every weekend starting November 4 to March 26, 2023 - Chi-Town Union Station 8275 Cooley Lake Rd, Commerce Charter Twp, MI 48382 11am to 5pm Admission: Adults (18 and over) - \$6 Ages 5-17 - \$3 Kids under 5 years - FREE **NMRA members 50% off** 248-613-9471 www.chi-townunionstation.com/

Saturday, Feb 4 - Ole Toy & Train Show Monaghan KofC 19801 Farmington Rd, Livonia, MI 11am-3pm. Admission is \$3/person \$6/family \$10/early birds 10:30am Free Parking, Food available. Handicap accessible.

Contact Info: Brian Klotzer 313-255-0466 7pm-9pm only please or Greg - club2690@gmail.com

Sunday, Feb 5 - SS Simon & Jude Railroadiana Show Westland, MI - SS Simon & Jude Parish Hall Bob Patterson 734-728-1247

Saturday, Feb 11 - New Baltimore Model Railroad Show VFW Lempke-Blackwell Post 7573 35011 23 Mile Road New Baltimore, MI 48047 10AM-3PM \$5, children under 11 free food available Info - Mike Neuendorf 860-836-0809 mikel.j@comcast.net

PRODUCT REVIEW

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



Nankin
Hobby

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

Division 6 - NCR - NMRA
42167 Ridge Road West
Novi, MI 48375

2nd Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE!

Hosted by Division 6
North Central Region - National Model Railroad Association

SUNDAY - JANUARY 22, 2023
10am - 3pm

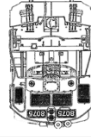
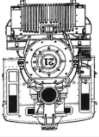


Costick Community Center

28600 W Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

135 Tables of model railroad items - ALL scales!

Door Prizes Awarded every 45 minutes! (must be present to win)



Admission - Snacks and refreshments available

\$5 per person over 18 years old (spouses/children under 18 = FREE!)

\$10 per person Early Bird entry at 9am

Information -

Barry or Terry 734-649-3056 (6pm-9pm) div6trainshow@gmail.com

VENDOR INFO on back side of this flyer!

