

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

ON THE RAILS...

MAY 2023

Well.... we're a 1/3 into 2023 and Division 6 is just getting busier and busier! Cool!! It's good to be busy! Here's a reminder of YOU'RE upcoming schedule -

- ** Nov 2023 - annual Fall Show & Workshop
- ** Jan 2024 - 3rd annual Trains Sale Event
- ** Oct 2024 - NCX-2024 NCR Convention
- ** Nov 2024 - annual Fall Show & Workshop
- ** July 2025 - 90th NMRA National Convention

Is that enough to keep you busy for a while? We hope so! These events are spaced out a bit, so you'll have time to rest... then gear-up again to help out! And we hope that you will help. We'll need all of you!

NEXT - We're sorry about the April Div 6 ON THE RAILS not getting out properly. We're on it! It will be fixed ASAP. Thanks!

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 37 attending, plus 5 on zoom! We had 1 new guests, please welcome Bill Hartman. MMR's present were Larry Wolohon, Scott Kremer, Ron King and Brook Qualman. To all Div 6 members and guests, **WELCOME ABOARD!**

DIV 6 MEETINGS

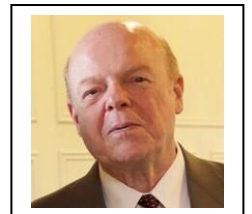
Our Division 6 meetings are on the THIRD Friday of each month. Our next Division 6 meeting will be on **FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023**. The meeting will be held at the Civic Center Senior Center in Livonia, at 5 Mile and Farmington Roads. **The meeting is from 7pm-10pm**. We will broadcast the meeting LIVE on zoom! The link will be emailed a few days before the meeting.

DIV 6 MODEL RR SALE

Plans for the 2024 event are still in the works, but will be completed by the May Div 6 meeting. Terry and Barry will present the plans for approval, so that advertising can start ASAP. At this time, 2024 will be a repeat of 2023 at Costick Center.

DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

We are sorry to report that long-time Div 6 member Lynn Wells passed away on April 18th. Lynn has been battling many health issues. While Lynn had not been to a Div 6 meeting for many years, he was a regular at meetings and events many years ago. He modeled in O scale and was a very happy and helpful guy! Lynn was also a member of the Midnight Pocatello Yardmasters and Gandy Dancers groups.



www.casterlinefuneralhome.com/obituary/charles-wells

SHOW AND TELL

Our subject was **frozen food cars or refrigerator cars!** Here's what was shared - Atlas O scale; Amour packing Co; 57' sound equip reefer Athearn; Peter Fox Packing reefer; Santa Fe 57' reefer; ART reefer; Accurail CNW reefer; 40' SF reefer; St L Ref Car Co reefer, Eagle Beer billboard reefer; G scale W India Fruit & Steamship Co reefer; MRBX-RDG 40' reefer - painted/decaded; Tropicana mech reefer; O scale brass PFE SP/UP 8 hatch reefer; 36' wood AGAR reefer; O scale 50' SF wood reefer; 40' PFE SP/UP; train miniature reefer; dining car with frig??

Current projects - Alexander little hook w/platform on small diorama; 32 ford camper built from photo; MP5 & MP1 switch machine from Czech Republic - very small!
<https://www.modelrailroadcontrolsystems.com/mp1-version-2-switch-motor/>

We did have some members contribute to the caboose! The winner of the Nankin Hobby gift card was - Dan Slaugenhaupt!
NEXT MEETING - your favorite switching locomotive

DIV 6 TREASURY REPORT

Sorry... I do not have an updated report for this past month, but will have all the figures at the May meeting.
Thanks, Terry

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! **WE NEED A NEW CLINIC COORDINATOR!!** PLEASE share your talents and knowledge!

The clinic this past month was by member Bill McMillan - static grass tufts handmade! Bill used a new device, a static grass deck machine by "Grass Box". War World Scenics brand. About \$70 on Amazon. Here's a link-

<https://www.wwsценics.com/product/pro-grass-box-applicator-wws/>

This is a different type of machine to make static grass. Most of us use the shaker style which is good for open areas, but not good for small detailed areas. Grass Box makes tufts, grass rows or even flexible grass mats very easily! Bill went through all the supplies needed and showed how to do the tufts. Very interesting! NOTE - Don't forget the gloves!! Bill had a PPT presentation plus video's showing methods. These are available on his YouTube channel - www.youtube.com/@drbillsproduction

S
Thanks Bill for another very interesting clinic!

NEXT MEETING- Re-Live Vista-Dome '90 layout tours! Vista-Dome '90 was the NCR convention that year, hosted by Div 6. A video by Ron King of all of the layouts on tour was made and we'll take a look back!

LAYOUT TOURS

WE'RE BACK!!! Larry Wolohon has volunteered to be our new layout tour chairman! If you want to schedule a tour of your layout, give Larry a call or email! NEED tours for June!!

NEXT TOURS- Div 6 = ????
Div 8 is having layout tours on Sunday, May 21 from 1-4pm
Irv Chimielewski 31143 Sudbury Rd Farmington Hills
George VanDuyne 5071 Dianna Dr Bloomfield Hills

SUPERINDEPENDENT CORNER

INVOLVE and **RETAIN**. Those are two words that are coming from our NMRA office quite a bit lately. **RETAINMENT** is critical to the life of OUR association. The NMRA says that only about 20% of the folks that join through "Rail Pass" (a 9-month trial membership for \$19.95) continue their regular membership. One reason is obviously the cost of a regular membership fee. I wonder if the person that tried it got **INVOLVED** with their Division. Did they see any value for their membership, or did the Division try to get the new folks **INVOLVED**? If we step back and look at our membership, do we go up and talk to the new person or do we stay in our small groups. Was that member "Welcomed" by the others, or did the members ignore the "newbie?" Do we offer to help the new member by going to their homes and help them with their layouts? That shows value to a membership.

If we have new members at our meetings, will you take the time to go up to them and welcome them to our club? Will you ask them if you could visit their layout or help them in any way?

Division 6 has many things coming up in the next two years. Will you become **INVOLVED** or will you simply let a few do all the work at all of the events? There will be the Fall Event, 2 Train Shows, The North Central Region Convention and the National NMRA Convention. Five events that need a significant number of volunteers. I would love to have every member of Division 6 volunteer to help at least **ONE TIME**.

If we have new members at our meetings, will you take the time to go up to them and welcome them to our club? Will you ask them if you could visit their layout or help them in any way? I'd like to see that happening.

Can we count on you to be **INVOLVED** and help **RETAIN** members?
Thanks, Paul

RAILROAD HISTORY

John Bopp was at the meeting, but we ran out of time for his lesson. Sorry! He'll give another lesson in May. Thanks John, 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

Recording Secretary- Bruce Wolff
248-478-4104 brucewolff@yahoo.com

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

Membership Director - Mark Ellis
734-536-5470 emark@sbcglobal.net

Member at Large - Bill McMillan
248-349-7456

wmcmillan7456@gmail.com

Webmaster- Ed Beamish 734-266-2301
phoenixblade70@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- Larry Wolohon
734-454-4816

larrywolohon@comcast.net

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

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

Meeting Coffee- Matt Letts
248-371-2971 mletts@mi.rr.com

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

BILL'S TOOL TIME

Terry Kosmas will coordinate tips from the membership. If you have a tool tip to give, please contact Terry and he'll get you scheduled. We're looking forward to more tips soon.

PRODUCT REVIEW

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

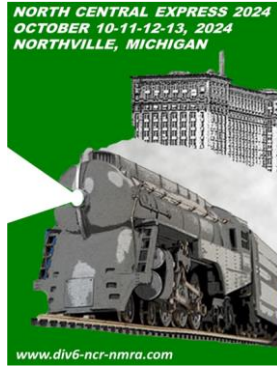
DIV 6 - NCR CONV 2024 !!!

The convention is
Oct 10-13, 2024.

Our site is Ward
Church in
Northville.

Another meeting
was held with the
planning Team and
we're working on
the event outline
and other
details. Our next
meeting is

planned for July and we should be
finalizing plans much more.
Everything needs to be in place by
the Fort Wayne Convention in
October. We're planning on OPS
sessions, clinics, layout tours
and dinner with a guest speaker.



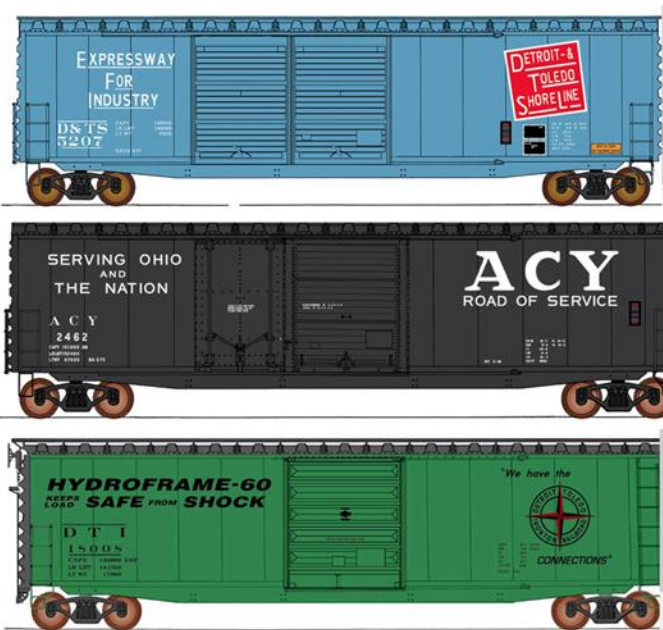
DIV 6 - RR HUMOR

Here's some model railroad humor-
**I TOLD HIM I WANTED TO WALK DOWN THE AISLE
WITH HIM, AND HE TOOK ME DOWN THE
MODEL TRAIN AISLE AT NANKIN HOBBY**



NEW ITEMS IN THE HOBBY

Russ Hjelmberg sent info on these
new items to share this month. The
best way to contact Russ is by
email: Russatnankin@yahoo.com
Coming Soon in HO Scale - 50'
boxcars by Intermountain. Cars
include Kadee couplers and wheels!



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!!

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

AP CERTIFICATES

Ken Chick, our AP coordinator, was not present at the last meeting and our recipient was also not present.

His Certificate was given to him a bit ago and (very sorry) we forgot to post it here too.



Congratulations to Norm Logan on receiving his **MASTER BUILDER - SCENERY** AP Certificate! Please keep working on your Certificates!

DIV 6 MI-TRACK LAYOUT

We just got the invitation to return to the Southern Michigan RR **TRAINS, TRUCKS & MORE** event on Saturday, August 12, 2023. We had a great time last year and it was good promotion for Div 6 and the NCR/NMRA! We've already responded that we'll be there and asked for 2 more tables, so our layout can be bigger this year, to which they agreed! We'll have 8 tables - 3 per side and one on each end, making us about 28' long! So please keep working on your module(s)! How many module owners would be available for a daytime session? Let BARRY know if you would be available.

FALL SHOW & WORKSHOP

We are ON!! Target date is Sunday, Nov 12 or 19, 2023. The Team is looking at the KofC in Livonia as a new site. We want to show all levels of modeling, possible mini-clinics plus layouts. We'll need LOTS of help and displays to make this event worth hosting! We'll need YOU, the members, to promote this everywhere, as a family event and one that everyone can attend! Team members are Mark Ellis, Paul Lichau, Byrne Blumenstein, Matt Letts, Mike Sutinen, Bill McMillan and Scott Swinger.

2025 NMRA NATIONAL

We are now REALLY officially approved! All of the contracts have been signed, so we're ON for 2025! When we say "WE" it's all of the North Central Region, even though the convention will be located in our backyard in Novi. In fact, that prompted the name of the convention -

STATION No. VI
90th NMRA National Convention
July 14-19, 2025
Novi, Michigan, USA

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. 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. Plans are for no extra charges for layout tours/clinics! A banquet at Michigan Central Depot is planned for Saturday night (Henry Ford Museum as back-up). Layout Tours will be self-driving. This convention is viewed as the NEW way to do the NMRA National in the future!

DIVISION 6 SHIRTS

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!

THE OBSERVATION CAR

Thinking about some of the "nasty habits" we tend to pick up in our hobby, I thought it might be fun to share my own list, but have others see what they come up with. The sheer amount of these is part of what makes Model Railroading a unique hobby. I'll bet the "drone pilots" haven't run into much of this. See how many you "suffer" from and let me know what others should be on the list.

1. Buying stuff, you "want" but somehow still have not gotten to ever install or use.

2. Buying stuff that you have completely forgotten why you even bought. ("What the heck was I thinking?")

3. Not yet buying something you want before it goes out of production.

4. Starting something, like wiring that turnout, and a year later still have not finished.

5. Starting to build a model of a structure or rolling stock, and a year later are still sitting there half done.

6. Planning new trackage or benchwork, diagraming it, and still not a single tie has been laid.

7. Deciding you absolutely must move something on the layout, that somehow never happens.

8. Buying rolling stock, you want to weather, but that still looks like it came from the car wash.

9. Cleaning up and organizing the train wreck you call your work bench.

10. Deciding which brand of tool, you really want to research, i.e., DeWalt or Harbor Freight.

Let me know your top ten, if you ever get around to it. Maybe have our lists as a "Show & Tell" one month. But I can't decide if this should be fun!

Let me hear your thoughts.

Byrne

Division 6 and it's membership wishes to extend a big THANK-YOU to Nankin Hobby for their continued support!



**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**

LOCAL RR EVENTS

Saturday's - May 20 Redford Model RR Club Open House 27316 Michigan Ave Inkster, MI 11am - 5pm FREE - donations accepted HO scale 56'x26' layout, DCC, single and double track mainlines info: www.redfordmrrc.org

Saturday-Sunday, 13-14, 20-21 Day out with Thomas Greenfield Village, Dearborn

Sunday, May 21 - Durand Union Station's 41st Annual Model Train Show Durand Middle School, 9550 East Lansing Rd, Durand, MI 48429 988-288-3561

dusi@durandunionstation.org

Private Owner MODEL RAILROAD SALE!!

ALL HO scale items!!

** 2000+ rolling stock – Athearn, MDC, Walthers, more....

** 150+ locomotives – all DC powered

** Layout for sale – buildings, vehicles, details, trees

Saturday – Sunday
May 20-21, 2023
10am-4pm each day

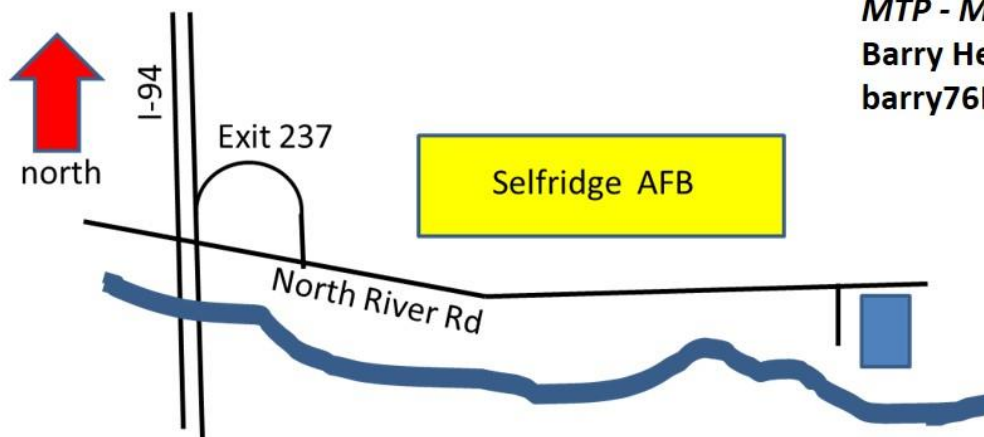
**GOOD
STUFF at
GREAT
PRICES!**

Sale location –
31630 N River Rd
Harrison Twnshp, MI

Sale presented by-



MTP - Model Train Products
Barry Hensel 734-649-3056
barry76Lt@wowway.com



DO NOT park on
N River Rd!!!
Parking on grass
on west side of
house/road

Cash and credit cards accepted – please bring your own boxes! All sales final. 10 people allowed in the sale at a time. Sorry, no public bathrooms.

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