

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

ON THE RAILS...

JUNE 2023

With Memorial Day past us, it's the unofficial/official start of summer! That usually means, less model railroading, as we're outdoors more than indoors.

Hmmm... one could take-up garden railroading!! Some also take-up rail-fanning. Watching the prototype can be exciting and worth the knowledge needed for modeling projects! Just... BE CAREFUL!! The railroads do not tolerate trespassing on their property. Take lots of pictures!

Of course, there are those rainy days where being indoors could be a good day for model railroading!

We'd really like to see more members return to our monthly meetings! What, if anything, can we do to help you attend? Please let a Board member know your suggestions.

REMEMBER! - We're updating our membership list! If you think you are not being included and should be, please contact Membership Chairman Mark Ellis!

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 nice meeting turn-out with 31 attending, plus 4 on zoom! We had 1 new guest, please welcome John & Emily Crater. MMR's present were Larry Wolohon, Ron King, Jim Zinser, Ken Chick 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, JUNE 16, 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 almost complete. We finally got the increased prices from Farmington Hills. It's a bit more than we hoped for, but will still give us an event with a good surplus! We are still waiting on one final agreement between us and Farmington Hills. After that, we'll start promotion and table reservations/sales! 2024 will be a repeat of 2023 at Costick Center.

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!

PRODUCT REVIEW

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

SHOW AND TELL

Our subject was **your favorite switching locomotive!** Here's what was shared - RDG Sw1500 dcc/sound; Gem 0-4-0 brass switcher; On30 0-4-0T; 2-6-2T; SP steam; O scale B&O NW3 Lionel shell custom drive; Lionel Erie switcher; ex-Long Island Alco S1 photo; BWL Plymouth 6 wheel; Nw3 C&O switcher; N scale NP sw9 and SW2; Erie 0-8-0 highly detailed; Athearn GP35; L&N S1; Lionel DT&I yard sale find; GN Sw9-1200; G scale S4 alco CN; SP 0-6-0 ; boxcab Erie switcher on a switcher chassis; CF7 SF; Baldwin H8 PRR-RDG; Via F40-2; SW7 D&T; BWL NW2 SF

Current projects - workshop building fully detailed

We did have some members contribute to the caboose! The winner of the Nankin Hobby gift card was - Mike xxxxx!

NEXT MEETING - Caboose(s)

DIV 6 TREASURY REPORT

Tonight's TREASURY REPORT will seem a bit different. From now on the treasures report will be based on the last month. The reason for this is because bank statements are from the beginning of the month to the end, our meetings are on the 3rd Friday. I have tried to adjust the dates and it just doesn't work for the account we have. I plan to go to the bank and ask if this can be changed so we will know on the night of our meeting. Again, this is for the month of April.

Beginning balance was \$4917.31
Current Balance is \$3355.11
1-check was written for 1536.98 for the laptop and Projector.
1-Saturn Printing Newsletter statement was paid \$25.22
Thanks, Terry

RAILROAD HISTORY

John Bopp was not at the May meeting. Sorry! He'll give another lesson in June. 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

wcmillan7456@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

DIV 6 - RR HUMOR

Here's some model railroad humor-

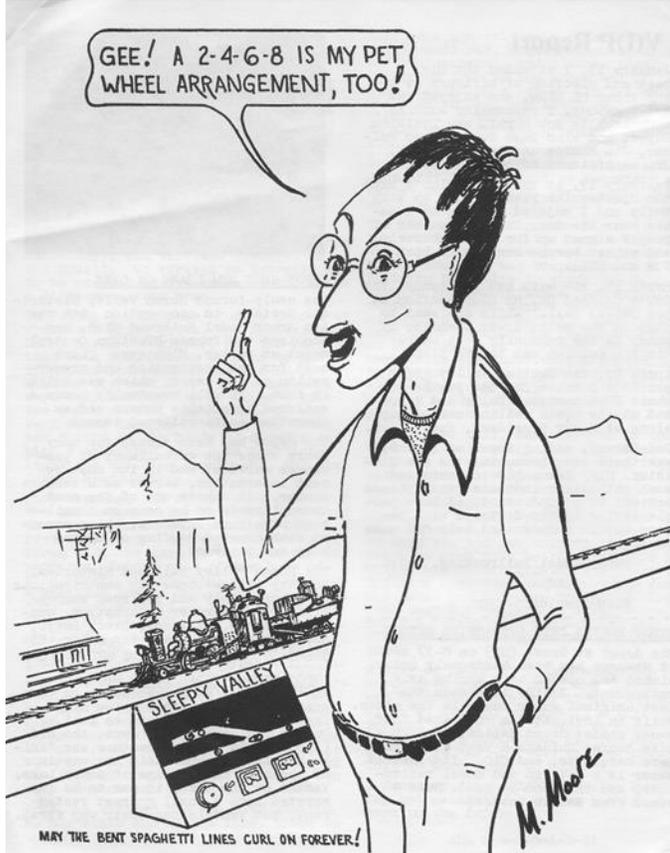


DIV 6 SYMPATHIES

We are very sorry to report that Div 6, the NMRA and the model railroad hobby has lost another longtime member and all around great guy!!



MILT MOORE aka "Thumbs" passed away on Monday, May 29th. Milt was 88 years old and had been a Div 6 member and a 50 year member of the Redford Model RR Club member. He was best known for his THUMBS cartoon, poking fun at model railroaders and some of the interesting predicaments we get ourselves into. Found this THUMBS cartoon from the Summer 1980 HotBox....



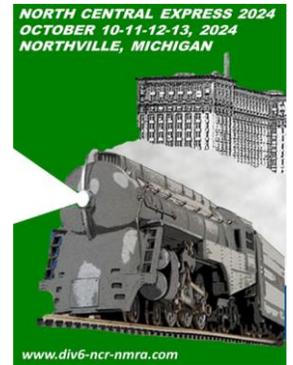
DIV 6 WEBSITE

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 - 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.



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 Here's a close-out special....



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.

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 to be a video of VistaDome 90 layouts. This was a Div 6 hosted regional convention in 1990! But.. the video would NOT work! Instead, Barry Hensel gave two mini clinics on Hershey updates on his layout. The first was about the Hershey Park monorail, which Barry got a 3D printed version of and installed on his layout. The other was on the construction of the conveyor housing between the cocoa-cocoa bean elevator and the factory. This completed all of the structures for Barry's version of Hershey, PA. Bill McMillan also showed a video of Pere Marquette loco 1225 from when it toured the Plymouth area. This was from his youtube channel -

www.youtube.com/@drbillsproduction

Thanks Barry and Bill for a couple of interesting presentations!

NEXT MEETING- shaker style static grass update!

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!!

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

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. This convention is viewed as the NEW way to do the NMRA National in the future!

If you are thinking of having an Open House or Operating Session for the convention, now is the time to start thinking about preparation. Jay and Brook Qualman are the Open House Chairmen, and Ken Chick is the Operating Session Chairman. They will have basic standards or requirements developed down the road. If it is something you are considering, you might give them a call or, preferably, an email so as to get your name and contact information on the potentials list; that would give them the ability to keep you informed as things develop.

Jan & Brook Qualman -

jayqualman@yahoo.com 248-676-0234

Ken Chick - kdchick@wowway.com
734-417-6055 (Cell), 734-420-0276

THE OBSERVATION CAR

Have you thought about being a "Helper"! This week I had the opportunity to be assigned to operate the Helper engines on Bill Neale's layout, and boy was that an eye opener! It was really a fresh kind of fun. Nearly every op session I have been to recently has assignment with only three operational role variations, freight, passenger, or yard master. You rarely see a layout assignment to operate the helper engines, that is a TOTALLY different experience from the conventional engine work. The skill set is very different.

1. You have to manage your throttle to get moving but avoid wheel spin.

2. You must watch the couplers to see if there is slack being created.

3. You must learn to be in constant coordination with the lead engineer. Plus, you spend a bunch of time managing a return trip with no consist. You really must try one next time you have that available at your next op session. It gets to be even more interesting when you need to have a second helper to avoid a stall.

So, if you want to create a new and more unique assignment, (even if there actually isn't any significant hill,) try assigning at least one of your engines to the helper role and see how that expands your horizons. I've decided that I'll certainly be adding a helper assignment to my layout, and volunteer for that role on other layout op sessions.

Let me hear your thoughts.

Byrne

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 = ????

FORT WAYNE RAILS 2023

WOW... it's time to get registered for this years NCR convention - FORT WAYNE RAILS 2023!

Convention Highlights - Clinics; Op Sessions; Model Displays; Prototype Tours; Special Events; 2023 Fort Wayne Model RR Show/Swap Enter **div3.ncrnmra.org** in your browser to take you to Div 3 website, then click on Fort Wayne Rails 2023 at the top of the page for convention details!



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!

AP CERTIFICATES

Ken Chick, our AP coordinator, was present at the last meeting but did not have any presentations to make. Please keep working on your Certificates!

DIV 6 MI-TRACK LAYOUT

We'll be returning 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! 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.

LOCAL RR EVENTS

Wednesday, June 7, 2023 -
MICHIGAN RAILROAD CLUB PROGRAM
The Radcliff Center, 1751 Radcliff St. in Garden City, Mich. We will be meeting in Room 275. Meetings will start at 7pm and end at 8:50pm. June 07, 2023 - Mr. Mark Cedeck from Muskegon, Michigan with St. Louis Holiday

Saturday-Sunday, June 24-25, 2023 - 2023 Rail Festival at Carillon Park Dayton, Ohio
Check out www.railfestival.com
or call 937-293-2841

Saturday-Sunday, July 29-30, 2023 - 20th annual Van Wert Railroad Heritage Weekend Show & Swap. Van Wert County Fairgrounds, 1055 S Washington St., Van Wert, OH.
Four buildings, with about 40,000 sq. ft., at least a dozen model railroad layouts & displays, including several Time Savers and "Locomotive Races." Info: Chuck White - railcarman@frontier.com
260-760-1666. Web Site:
<https://www.vwrrhw.com>

Saturday, August 26, 2023 -
Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society Open House 4040 Leland Ave NW, Comstock Park, MI 49321 www.grmrhs.org



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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

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