

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

## **ON THE RAILS...**

### **JULY 2023**

Well, now it IS summer! Use that sunscreen when you're out rail-fanning! And get great pictures!

We hope you are continuing to do model railroading during these summer months. We are a year-round hobby, so take advantage of OPS session or work sessions on yours or friends layouts. It's fun being in a group and sharing the hobby!

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 34 attending, plus 1 on zoom! We had no new guests. MMR's present were Jim Zinser and Scott Kremer. To all Div 6 members and guests, **WELCOME ABOARD!**

### **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](http://www.div6-ncr-nmra.com)

### **DIV 6 MEETINGS**

Our Division 6 meetings are on the THIRD Friday of each month. Our next Division 6 meeting will be on **FRIDAY, JULY 21, 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 complete! Set your calendars - **SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024**  
**COSTICK CENTER, FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**10AM-3PM**

We'll start promoting the Sale the first week in July. Emails and flyers will go out asap!

### **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.

### **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!

## SHOW AND TELL

Our subject was **caboose(s)**! Here's what was shared - Reading NE style caboose detailed with a etched brass window kit!; Lionel woodside 1987; Marx tinplate; NYC searchlight caboose Lionel; caboose into office for intermodal yard; Silver Streak kit caboose; Rio Grande caboose; brass PRR 4 wheel; GN bay window; work train caboose; PRR NYC brass/wood scratch-built; wagon top caboose O scale; Lake Superior & Ishpeming caboose; Atlas DRG wide vision; built 75 yrs ago scratch built by Dad from brass; Western Pennsy RR caboose; BN caboose; SF transfer caboose; work train crew caboose All Points RR (private road); G scale caboose into scrap yard office; L&N caboose kit unbuilt; Sand Hill & Western (Redford club) caboose

*Current projects* - Package of LED lights for layout based on clinic at Div 8; FSM building kit with extra details station; RDG boxcar kit donated

We did have some members that contributed to the caboose! The winner of the Nankin Hobby gift card was - Byrne Blumenstein!

Sincerest apologies to Div 6 member Mike Sutton! I did not have his last name in the June newsletter as the gift card winner.

**NEXT MEETING** - Critters! Aka-small industrial locos

## DIV 6 TREASURY REPORT

Tonight's TREASURY REPORT  
Beginning balance was \$3355.11  
A check was written for Saturn Printing Newsletter was \$19.30 and a check to Mark Ellis \$139.00.  
Plus transfer of \$300 from Paypal.  
Current Balance is \$3496.81  
Thanks, Terry

## AP CERTIFICATES

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

## RAILROAD HISTORY

John Bopp was at the June meeting and had this lesson for us -

### ***Pullman Detroit Car Works!***

George Pullman took over his family's carpentry business at the age of 22 and got into the RR car business in 1857. He had 365 cars by 1872! He bought the Detroit Car and Manufacturing Company, located east of downtown Detroit, in roughly 1871, improved the shop facilities and had 300-600 workers. John used Sanborn Insurance maps to find its location and descriptions of some of the buildings on the site. Cars were built there until 1893 though most were built in Chicago after 1883. When car orders dropped, the Detroit plant was finally closed, with 1100 workers at that time. John showed some of the car plans - interesting!! Also... the site of the plant is now being used for a condo development!! The name.... Pullman Parc!! Neat!  
Thanks John, we're looking forward to another lesson soon!

## 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.

## 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 August!!

**NEXT TOURS-** Div 6 = ????

## PRODUCT REVIEW

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

## SUPERINDEPENDENT CORNER

As I write this July column, we are in the midst of the Fourth of July holiday. Naturally, the festivities include fireworks displays. These range from the back yard family gatherings with simple sparklers and maybe a few bottle rockets to the huge three barge gala display on the Detroit River.

In my much earlier years, I shot displays for Nationwide Fireworks out of Saginaw. One of their contracts was to provide short displays for several of the drive-in theatres in Detroit throughout the summer. Two of us would travel to the theatre in the afternoon and construct the show. Everything was hand built, wired and individually torch-fired. Favorites were the tank battles and the American Flag. A great deal of work for our 15-minute show between the two feature movies.

I think of a comparison to model railroading. There are some very small and simple layouts at various stages of development and some very large and sophisticated displays. All levels of "electronics" from DC to DCC, hand thrown turnouts to electronically operated switches can be observed in these layouts.

Where does that fit with Division 6?

Well, I would like to see a reviving of the regular tours of our member layouts. I urge each of you to consider hosting a session. I would like to visit some small layouts, some in-process layouts and some larger established layouts.

If weekends do not work for you, how about a weekday session (most of us are retired!)?

Think about it. Talk to Larry Wolohon, our chairperson for Layout Tours. Let's get this tradition up and running again. I am sure that I would not be the only one that would be inspired by what you have done.

Thanks, Paul

## DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Superintendent- Paul Lichau  
734-878-5390 [plichau@yahoo.com](mailto:plichau@yahoo.com)

Asst. Superintendent-  
Byrne Blumenstein 248-885-0874  
[1947sandy@gmail.com](mailto:1947sandy@gmail.com)

Recording Secretary- Bruce Wolff  
248-478-4104 [brucewolff@yahoo.com](mailto:brucewolff@yahoo.com)

Treasurer- Terry Kosmas  
586-441-9365 [samsok99@hotmail.com](mailto:samsok99@hotmail.com)

Membership Director - Mark Ellis  
734-536-5470 [emark@sbcglobal.net](mailto:emark@sbcglobal.net)

Member at Large - Bill McMillan  
248-349-7456  
[wcmillan7456@gmail.com](mailto:wcmillan7456@gmail.com)

Webmaster- Ed Beamish 734-266-2301  
[phoenixblade70@gmail.com](mailto:phoenixblade70@gmail.com)

Communications Director -  
Barry Hensel 734-649-3056  
[barry76Lt@wowway.com](mailto:barry76Lt@wowway.com)

### OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF

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

Clinics- **VOLUNTEER NEEDED!!**

Layout Tours- Larry Wolohon  
734-454-4816

[larrywolohon@comcast.net](mailto:larrywolohon@comcast.net)

History- John Bopp  
248-477-6193 [jbopp007@gmail.com](mailto:jbopp007@gmail.com)

Div 6 Fall Show- Mark Ellis  
734-421-2673 [emark@sbcglobal.net](mailto:emark@sbcglobal.net)

Meeting Coffee- Matt Letts  
248-371-2971 [mletts@mi.rr.com](mailto:mletts@mi.rr.com)

2024 CONV Chairman - Norm Logan  
248-348-2473 [nlogan114@wowway.com](mailto:nlogan114@wowway.com)

## DIV 6 - RR HUMOR

Here's some model railroad humor-



## DIV 6 - NCR CONV 2024 !!!

The convention is  
**Oct 10-13, 2024.**

Our site is Ward Church in Northville. Our next meeting is planned for July and we should be finalizing plans much more. NEED layouts for tours, clinicians, layouts for OPS, will need YOUR help with various positions... security on display models, yard sale coordinators, clinician intro people, display layouts in gym... lots to do!! 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](mailto:Russatnankin@yahoo.com)

## FORT WAYNE RAILS 2023

WOW... it's time to get registered for this year's 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](http://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!



## 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 a static grass update by Bill McMillan. Bill showed a video he has on youtube, showing the regular static grass "shaker" style of applicator. Great demo!! Bill's youtube channel is -

[www.youtube.com/@drbillsproduction](http://www.youtube.com/@drbillsproduction)  
s Thanks Bill for the updated and continued presentation!

**NEXT MEETING-** ????????

## 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!! Mark your calendars!

**Sunday, November 19, 2023**

**Livonia Senior Center Gym**

**11am-4pm**

We'll need LOTS of help and displays to make this event great! We'll need YOU, the members, to promote this everywhere, as a family event and one that everyone can attend! The Planning Team is still work on more details! A full report will be presented at the next Div 6 meeting.

## 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](mailto:jayqualman@yahoo.com) 248-676-0234  
Ken Chick - [kdchick@wowway.com](mailto:kdchick@wowway.com)  
734-417-6055 (Cell), 734-420-0276  
Here is a look at another possible convention logo.....



## THE OBSERVATION CAR

I noticed at the last Division 6 meeting that most of you really have not given any serious consideration to going to the Texas Express NMRA national convention in Dallas in August. Let me give you a few good reasons why you might want to really give it some thought.

The national is really a whole different experience than our local or regional conventions. First and foremost, you get to see a huge number of layouts to learn from and to get some great ideas - and many are truly world class layouts. Seeing the same layouts in your own area really limits what you can learn to try on your own layout. I typically tour about 12 layouts and come away with at least a dozen ideas for my layout, and about 50 camera shots!

The clinics at a national are extremely diverse, and you are getting 5 days' worth of available clinics. Virtually topic I picked in the past proved to be a real eye opener. My greatest regret is that I couldn't schedule all that I wanted to see, there were so many. Some were things NOT to do!

The National Train Show always has surprises that I really could use on my layout or in my shop.

Lastly, the social interaction with people from all over the country also turns out to be really rewarding.

When you think about how much time and money we already spend on our hobby, I think going to the National in Dallas is really a good investment on what you've already spent. If you have any doubts, spend a few minutes on the show website. It will certainly be worth the time, even if you can't go. Here's the link:

<https://2023texasexpress.com/>

Let me hear your thoughts.

Byrne

## LOCAL RR EVENTS

**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](mailto:railcarman@frontier.com) 260-760-1666. Web Site: <https://www.vwrrhw.com>

**Saturday-Sunday, August 5-6** - Annual Railfans Weekend at the Huckleberry Railroad 10am-5pm Railfans from around the country will revel in the history through the train shop tours and historical rail interpretations throughout the weekend. Model Train displays from groups throughout Michigan and Ohio; Visit the Hobo Camp; Railroad shop tours; Sing along to authentic

railroad songs; Receive a piece of coal from our treasured steam locomotive 464; Photo opportunities on our caboose; Special Photo Run on Saturday; Learn about our historical railroad equipment

<https://geneseecountyparks.org/railfans-weekend/>

**Saturday, August 26, 2023** - Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society Open House 4040 Leland Ave NW, Comstock Park, MI 49321 [www.grmrhs.org](http://www.grmrhs.org)

## 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!



**SUPERCHARGED - HIGH SPEED**

**TEXAS EXPRESS** 

**AUGUST 20-26**  
**Dallas/Fort Worth**  
**Gaylord Resort**



**CLICK TO REGISTER today!!**

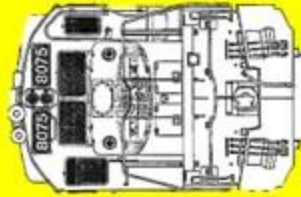
 **NMRA National Convention 2023** [TEXASEXPRESS.COM](http://TEXASEXPRESS.COM)

# 3rd Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE!

Hosted by Division 6

North Central Region - National Model Railroad Association

**SUNDAY - JANUARY 28, 2024**  
**10am - 3pm**



## Costick Community Center

28600 W Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336

**145 Tables of model railroad items - ALL scales!**

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

Snacks and refreshments available

Admission -

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

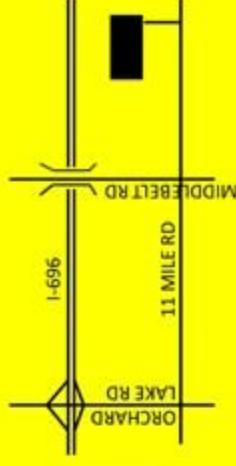
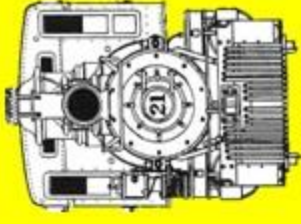
**\$10 per person Early Bird entry at 9am**

**Veterans and Active duty service members FREE (with ID)**

Information -

**Barry or Terry 734-649-3056 (6pm-9pm) [div6trainshow@gmail.com](mailto:div6trainshow@gmail.com)**

**VENDOR INFO on back side of this flyer!**





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

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