



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

ON THE RAILS...

MARCH 2009

Will winter ever stop? I certainly hope so, but at the same time, it does give us more model railroading time, as there is not as much to do outdoors just yet. At least that I want to do, I prefer being warm!

We had another good meeting in February and have more new members! That's two months in a row for new people. We certainly hope they will become involved and thus stick around to become long-time Div 6 members! Welcome to you all!

As you will read, convention plans are progressing slowly, but we have lots of time yet. I also have the annual Camaro show plans going, so if I start rambling on about arrangements that might not make any sense, I've probably gotten my events mixed up in the brain!

Our meetings have been pretty good lately! I'd say Div 6 is on a roll-tours, clinics, etc. Good stuff! Thanks to those that help! Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We did have several MORE new members at our last meeting! Please welcome Roy Lindhardt, John Cole, Dennis Jameyfield, Jim Kardlyi and Larry Ziminsky. A couple of these guys had attended our Fall Show! To all Div 6 members, WELCOME ABOARD!

DIV 6 MEETINGS

Our Division 6 meetings are on the **THIRD** Friday of each month and our next Division 6 meeting will be on **FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009**. The meeting will be held at the Civic Center Senior Center in Livonia, at 5 Mile and Farmington Roads. The meeting is from 7:30pm until 10pm.

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

Ballot in NMRA Scale Rails is NO GOOD... DO NOT USE. A new ballot will be mailed out to you! Printer error, no cost to NMRA.

Congratulations goes out to Roy Jones, who received his 25 year NMRA membership certificate!! Roy also has pictures from Div 6 show to give out - THANKS!

GL Live Steamers are adding 1500 feet of track to Southgate this year. Looking for help! Their next meeting is the last Saturday in March - Southgate civic center ice arena at 7pm.

Remember the scenery clinic John Bussard put on for us last year? Dick will be making DVD copies. It will be a 3 disc set at a cost of \$5 per set. Dick will take prepaid orders at the March Div 6 meeting and bring them to April's meeting.

Interested in a Div 6 polo shirt? We have to check on types, sources and prices. Send any suggestions to a Board member.

LAYOUT TOURS

Thanks to Mike Tranquilla and Norm Logan for their layout tours last month. Hope you got out to see a couple of great layouts! In March, we were unable to get anyone, so we're on a month break. Div 6 members Ed Beamish & Larry Wolohon will be open in April. Ed models N scale, Larry HO scale. Thinking of hosting a layout tour? Give Dick a call or email if you would like to have your layout on a tour!

NEXT TOURS- March, sorry no tours

PRODUCT REVIEW

Bruce gave us a review on GE ES44ac loco's - do not buy - they have been seen with the reversing headlight function NOT working correctly! Actually, these were REAL loco's and yes, the headlights were NOT in their proper working configuration!

Next- Charlie gave us a review on some dvd's. In the late 90's Trains magazine did some videos. They have been brought back out as dvd's with extra footage. You can only buy these online or through the subscription plan. Charlie says these are very nice stuff and good quality! If you have an item to review, please see Glenn before the meeting starts.

RAILROAD HISTORY

History "Prof" Norm gave the floor to Bruce Wolfe for our history lesson this month. "I feel the need for speed" as in hi-speed rail! Japan started with "bullet train", France has the TGV and even US has Acela-Amtrak in northeast corridor, which regularly runs at 150 mph! In 1970 Montreal Loco works (Canada Alco division) built the LRC- Light Rapid Comfortable loco and train system. It has an active tilting system on curves and loco has lower center of gravity. (Via rail bought loco's in 1980's) The LCR train set a Canada rail speed record at 129 MPH. That stood for 1.5 months when it was shattered by the Turbo Train. In 1976 a 9 car Turbo train hit 140 mph in Canada! In US, same Turbo train with a 3 car set hit 170.8 mph, setting a record that still stands! It was the fastest production train. But, what was the fastest train on rail ever in the US? How about a Budd build RDC with jet engines on top! Built by the NYC, in July 1966 it topped out at 183.8 mph! It was mentioned that at the NMRA National convention for this summer, one of the trips is on the Acela at 150+ mph! THANKS Bruce for the fast information! Looking forward to another lesson next month.

SHOW AND TELL

A subject we had not done before - something with interior detailing- structure, loco, rolling stock. Items shown were a FSM-freight house; passenger car Pullman std coach; DPM bldg; Walther pass car; pass cars from Fred Deylger; O scale Brakeman shanty; laser kit B&O tower; DPM bldg; lumber office bldg; Magnason Models structure; scratch built gas station; box car with LCL freight; observation car; gas-electric engine & coach; store building; diner; and yard office shack. Current projects presented include- Hustler diesel engines; brake rigging on box car; PRR gon; picture of through truss bridge- 3 O scale bridges- 8' long; layout diagram to make dispatch board; photo wood wall for retaining wall; working on 7.5" gauge engine- possible new body! We also thank those MANY, who donated to the caboose! We hope you can bring in something next month.

NEXT MEETING- a future project you are planning. We'll revisit these in August, to see your progress!

DIV 6 WEBSITE

The new Div 6 website is up. Check it out at- www.div6-ncr-nmra.com We are adding a download page. This page will have a collection of images you can copy and print, for use on your layout. We have steel siding, wood wall, traffic signs, a few beer billboards and more. We hope this will be posted soon. If you have an image you are willing to share, please email ED.

CLASSIFIED ADS

We are happy to place classified ads for Div 6 members. Donations to the Div of \$2 per ad is requested!

FOR SALE: DELTA 10" CONTRACTORS SAW WITH ROLLER BASE, DELTA UNIRIP SAW GUIDE FENCE, 2-TABLE EXTENSIONS 1.5 HP MOTOR, 2 YEARS OLD EXCELLENT CONDITION \$400.00. see- DICK HARDEN And don't forget our "Surplus Table" at every meeting where you can bring in items for sale.

NCX - NCR-DIV 6 '10 CONV

The **North Central Express** is October 16-18, 2010. Our hotel is the Marriott Detroit-Livonia, located at Laurel Park Place. At the meeting, Howard had a questionnaire for clinic subjects for our convention. If you took a survey, please fill out and return as soon as possible. A copy of the questionnaire is also in this newsletter. We've contacted a few people about being headline speakers and continue with that process. We have a meeting with the Mall people, to see if portable layouts can be placed in the mall and perhaps some sales tables for a mini-train show/sale. The NCX staff is missing a few more people- Prototype tours; Modular layouts; Door prizes and goodie bags; Hobby shops; Audio Visual. We REALLY need a person or two, that is skilled at audio-visual!! If you would like to be part of the Planning Team and fill one of these spots, just give BARRY a call or email!

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CLINIC

Howard has returned and had Norm lined-up for a interesting clinic. How to build an OPS CASE! This is a case for all your operating session supplies! Items like radio, locos, batteries, etc... Make out of old brief case or small suitcase. You fill it with foam from craft stores, and cut holes for stuff with an electric knife! Mark "top" of case with your RR logo, so you know how to open it. Source for cases - yard sales, Kmart (\$19). Get 3" green foam from craft stores. Works well and keeps your stuff straight and neat! Tip from another Div 6 member- can also use hacksaw blade for foam cutting - father was upholsterer! Great idea and presentation - THANKS Norm! If you are willing to do a clinic, please, e-mail or call or see Howard at the meetings and share your thoughts.

NEXT MEETING- newer Div 6 member Rich Mahaney with "What to do with old era equipment"

MODELING INFORMATION

We have some good stuff to share-

** like our son to be download page, there are signs for model railroads, by Mike Tylick - see

www.trainweb.org/tylick

** A source for bright white LED's are in flashlights at the dollar store! I believe there are 3 per light, so that's about 33 cents ea.

** Ed Joppich was looking for some working crossing gates - who makes something less expensive... flasher unit... ?? Bush makes dual units approx \$25-30 always on... block detector can be used to control. It was also mentioned that there are electronic circuit diagrams on web... Thanks for your questions, tips and answers! We look forward to more questions, tips next month!

NEW NCR WEBSITE

The NEW NCR website is up... this is where the HotBox will be posted! You must have Adope9 to view the HotBox. Check out- www.ncr-nmra.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, Mar 1- Gratiot Valley RR Club Train Show and Sale Macomb Community College Sports & Expo Ctr 14500 E 12 Mile Rd Warren, MI 10AM-4PM \$5.50, under 12 free www.gvrr.org or call 586-468-4877

Sunday, Mar 8- Train Show & Sale Gladieux Meadows 4480 Heatherdowns Blvd. Toledo, OH 43614 11AM-4PM; Early Birds 9AM-4PM Adults \$6 Early Birds \$8, under 12 Free trainmasters@bex.net

Saturday & Sunday, Mar 14-15- Open House/Layout Tour Detroit Model Railroad Club 104 N Saginaw Holly 12noon-5PM \$4, seniors \$3, 5-12 \$2, under 5 free www.dmrcc.org

Saturday, Mar 21- Layout Tour Redford Model Railroad Club 27316 Michigan Ave Inkster, MI 12noon-4PM Admission Fees- free www.redfordmodelrailroadclub.com For info- 734-765-6781 or 313-565-1027 Thursday evenings only

Saturday, March 21- One day convention in Pittsburgh MCR-Div 2 <http://www.keystonedivision.org/>

Sunday, Mar 22- Trainorama EXTRA Costick Comm Center 11 Mile Rd Farmington Hills, MI 10am-4pm \$4 per person, under 12 free Redford Model Railroad Club. For more information Email Pierre@hbc-benefitsandeducation.com or call 313-565-1027 or 734-953-2546

Sunday, Mar 29- Train Show & Sale CMU-Finch Field house Central Mi University Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859 11am-4pm \$4; under 10 free Sponsored by Dog Tales Therapy Dog, Children READ Program & Clare Depot Preservation Larry 989-386-6987

Saturday, April 4 & 18- Open House/Layout Tour, Redford Model Railroad Club 27316 Michigan Ave Inkster, MI 12noon-4PM free! www.redfordmodelrailroadclub.com For info- 734-765-6781 or 313-565-1027 Thursday evenings only

Saturday, April 11- Model Railroad, Train Show and Sale Crawford County Fairgrounds Whetstone St. Bucyrus, OH 44820 10AM-4PM Adults \$4 12-Under Free David E. Moore, Pres 419-462-5035

WHO WE ARE

We are Division 6 of the North Central Region (NCR) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). What that means is, the NMRA is the model railroad association for the country (and even world). The country is divided into REGIONS, which are one or more states. Our Region, the North Central Region (NCR), is all of Michigan and the northern part of Ohio and Indiana. Each Region is then divided into DIVISIONS, which are one or more counties. Division 6 is primarily Wayne County, but we have many members from western Oakland County and we aren't strict on membership and boundaries. Oakland and Macomb Counties are Division 8, the Ann Arbor area is Division 9 and a new Division has been formed in the Flint-Saginaw area. All total, there are about 8 Divisions in our Region.