

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

ON THE RAILS...

NOVEMBER 2009

It's November - OUR month! National Model Railroad month! What are YOU doing to promote our hobby! How about "Take a train to work day"!?! This is on Friday, Nov. 20th. While not "in" November - how about taking part in our own Fall Show & Workshop!?! Or we may even grant you enough slack, if you have a Div 6 layout tour in the near future! However you do it, please promote our hobby to others. For me... I'll be doing the Fall Show and a Layout Tour, where I do invite some families from church and people from work. Speaking of the Fall Show - remember - this is our way of paying for most of the Div 6 expenses through-out the year. Please support the show by participating or attending!! Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

DIV 6 POLO SHIRTS

We have filled all orders to and will not be placing another order for 2-4 months.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had no new members at the last meeting. 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, NOVEMBER 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.

NCR 2009 CONVENTION

The "Fort Wayne Shops" hosted by Div 3, is completed. It was a well attended convention - 148 were registered. There were LOTS of clinics, many were "hands-on" type. There were also about 20 layouts available for tours at various times. Several proto-type tours were available on Friday during the day, including the local NS Dispatch Center. NMRA model, photo and slide contests and a very good Awards Breakfast on Sunday were also part of the event. Sorry to say, but if you missed this event - YOU missed a good one!

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SHOW AND TELL

The subject for the last meeting was flat cars with or without loads. Examples shown included a DT&I flat with truck and cover load; flat car with boat, 85' flat car with double trailer load that was from Tom Lenzion's HO layout, depressed center flat with a 0-4-0 on it, Monon flat with TOFC, S gauge Chessie flat with coil wire load, Blackstone HOn3 flat cars, flat car with coffee stirrers for decking- stained, O scale 1955 depressed flat with jail house on it- "con-rail", Walthers flat, Rock Island flat with lumber, RDG flat weathered, Revell flat with tractors, C&O flat car, flat with detailed tractors, flat car with trolley car, bulkhead flat with lumber load, 85' flat with 2 trailers, flat with trailer, flat with 25' trailers, 81' depressed flat- 8 axle, N scale bulkhead flat with lumber, flat with pipe load, flat with army satellite load, American models S gauge TOFC flat minus trailer- real wood deck, flat with concrete pipe load, Lionel flat car, flat car with tractors, depressed center flat with transformer, Athearn flat with bulldozer, and a flat car with tarped loads. Current projects shown were- Lighting circuit for buildings using doll house connectors, diesel prime mover kit, collecting prizes for the fall show raffle, picture of car to be modeled- boiler car which is a depressed flat with 3 sets of trucks/wheels for 3 different gauges! We did not have too many that contributed to the "caboose" - but Thanks to those that did. We did also have a Sunshine box car kit shown, that Larry Wolohon was supposed to build and show a few months ago. Larry took the car to the Hartford NMRA Nationals and won 2nd place! Congratulations!

NEXT MEETING- slides/pictures show. Bring actual slides OR email digital pics to Barry or bring on a memory stick or disc.

CLINIC

This months clinic was flat car detailing and loads and was done by Mark. Using a great powerpoint presentation, Mark showed pictures of flats through history and with different loads, shapes and sizes. He also showed some models he created of some of the prototype flats from the pictures. There was also a model display of several types of flats. One cool point Mark made was that flat cars are never empty! There are chains, cribbing, etc on deck the unloaded deck. Good info and nice presentation. 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- will be a combo with the show & tell slide/photos

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

Thanks again Wally, for leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance before every meeting!

Bill Deeter returns!!! Yes, this was the first meeting after his by-pass operation, that Bill was at. So good to see you again!!

NRHS Bluewater Chapter, Dec 5th - Christmas light trip, 10:30am leave to Frankenmuth for lunch, then to crossroads village includes train ride - leave there about 9pm \$85 ticket 810-220-2275 for ticket info

Jim Fox sent an email, stating he still has quite a few of those 24x24 foam pads available. These are FREE and Jim will be at the next Div 6 meeting.

MODELING INFORMATION

We had one tip at the last meeting.
** Athearn to discontinue blue box kits!!
** Tenex glue is out of business?
Others say they are still in business. Ask your hobby shop!
We look forward to more questions, tips next month!

RAILROAD HISTORY

This month's history lesson was based on our show & tell subject - flat cars. Flat cars are one of the oldest pieces of rolling stock (a guess) but based on the fact that they were used to transport rail and ties to build the railroad. Norm had a trip to the east coast, near the Norfolk Naval/RR yards, which had 15-20 tracks of flat cars in storage! There are several different types of flat cars - regular, depressed center, multiple trucks, long, short. TOFC and auto racks are flats. Back to the Navy, a data survey in 1999 shows that 27000 chain down operations are needed for Navy movements. In the post 9-11 world, the current data shows not enough capacity (flat cars) to make a major move. Railroad data shows \$40 million in possible revenue for over-size equipment movement in the coming years. And that the first new flat cars will be ordered/built to accommodate these needs! A new factory was built down south to manufacture these new cars! Norm also gave us a railroad Halloween story! Looking forward to another lesson next month.

PRODUCT REVIEW

Walthers new passenger equipment - C&O shown; Review done by Charlie; he went over car descriptions and markings - very nicely done, in both N and HO scale, Pullman standard, several types and roads available!

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

LAYOUT TOURS

No one volunteered for November, but we have tours for December. Marty LaForte and Barry Hensel will have tours on Sunday, December 13th from 12 noon to 4pm.

Thinking of hosting a layout tour? Give Dick a call or email to have your layout on tour!

NEXT TOURS- December 13 - Division 6 tours of Marty LaForte BN-SD and Barry Hensel RDG Lines

FALL SHOW & WORKSHOP

..... IS only ONE month away!!!

Our NEW date is-

Sunday, December 6, 2009

We are on the same time - 11am-4pm and we're back to charging at the door, \$4 per person over 17 years old, under 17 free and Boy Scouts in uniform free with paid adult. Volunteers are coming in well, 27 people to have display tables! Can always use more! Bring extension cords!! We will have NMRA handouts and other stuff for customers! We could use a donation of Athearn blue box or Roundhouse kits for scouts to build.

Next- everyone pays! Whether you are working, or doing a display, everyone pays the \$4 entrance fee. This is how we stay dues free, so everyone needs to contribute.

There was some conversation at the meeting concerning this payment, but the policy stands for this year.

We are doing the annual model contest, so bring in your rolling stock, structures, diesel and steam locomotives and traction. Awards based on spectators popular vote.

We'll be helping the Boy Scouts again this year. This is great!! Those doing displays will need to volunteer to help the scouts, if you have a subject that fits some of the requirements. A list of these is on the application page, later in the newsletter. Please see the application sheet in this newsletter. Copy it or tear it out and fill it out and bring it to the next Div 6 meeting or mail it directly to Dick!!

CLASSIFIED ADS

We are happy to place classified ads for Div 6 members. Donations to the Div of \$2 per ad is requested! And don't forget our "Surplus Table" at every meeting where you can bring in items for sale.

DIV 6 WEBSITE

The new Div 6 website is up. Check it out at- www.div6-ncr-nmra.com

NCX - NCR-DIV 6 '10 CONV

The North Central Express dates are **October 21-24, 2010!!**

Our convention website is UP and running and that means YOU can register on-line using your credit card! We already have 3-5 registrations from the on-line service! We, Div 6 are the first in the NCR to offer this feature. WE NEED HELP right away - we need volunteers to attend some local train shows! Lansing this month, Troy in January, Ann Arbor in February, Gratiot Valley and Trainorama Extra in March. You get in for free and sit at a table answering questions about the convention! Call or email Barry to get in on this important job! We had a meeting in late October to discuss the Fort Wayne convention and any lessons we learned from attending. It was a good meeting with lots of discussion and plans. We are also firming up our clinic schedule and times and are probably adding an extra room for Saturday clinics. Plans are for a total of 25 clinics. Art Fahie, Jim Six and John Bussard are signed on to give clinics! Good Job by Howard! Speaking of the NCX website - you should visit there. We already have a few layouts posted, sample clinic schedule and other information, including registration. Great job by Ed on the website!! Stay tuned- NCX is only 1 year away!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS -

Saturday, November 7- 10th Michigan RR History Conference
Cascade Manor House 1970 Kibby Rd.
Jackson, MI 49203 (sw of downtown)
8am-5:30pm then tour and afterglow
\$50.00 per person. For more
www.michiganrailroadhistory.org

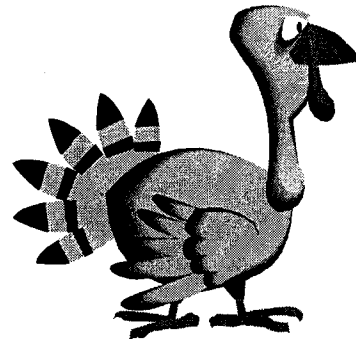
Sunday, November 22- Model Train Show and Sale at Michigan State University 4301 Farm Lane Road East Lansing, MI 48825
10am-4pm Adults \$6 under 12 years
www.msu.edu/~tdc2/lmrc/NovemberTrainShow2009.html

Sunday, November 29- Model Railroad, Operating Exhibit, Swap Meet, Train Show and Sale
Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds
5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd Ann Arbor, MI 48103
10am - 4pm \$3.00 per person, children under 12 admitted free
website- www.railsonwheels.com

Sunday, December 6- Div 6 Fall Model Railroad Show & Workshop
Livonia Senior Center Five Mile and Farmington Rds Livonia, MI
11am-4pm \$4 each under 12 free!
For more information see
www.div6-ncr-nmra.com

NOT a sale or swap meet!! Come and get your model railroading questions answered. See demonstrations on all facets of model railroading. Hourly raffles for prizes and model contests. Snacks-refreshments available.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING !!



To all Division 6 members and their families!