

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

ON THE RAILS...

SEPTEMBER 2009

HEY... looks like summer is coming to a close fairly fast. That's not too bad, as it means that model railroading begins to take-off in activity! Cool!!

Hot Topics around Div 6 - we have a convention in 13 months!! We also have a annual Fall Show & Workshop in 3 months!! Both of these are addressed later in the newsletter - please read!

Train shows are also fast approaching, so I hope you can attend a few and pick-up some bargains. Then, let's make sure those bargains get on our layouts and we're ready for that convention in October 2010!

Thanks again, for the comments on the recent HotBox issue. I am sorry it was late and will do better!

Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

DIV 6 WEBSITE

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

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, SEPTEMBER 18, 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 OCT MEETING CHG

We totally forgot to mention and discuss the October Div 6 meeting and it's date. The reason for talking about it, is that the 3rd Friday of October, is also the Friday of the NCR convention in Fort Wayne. Many Div 6 members and near the whole Board, will be in Fort Wayne for the convention. So while we forgot to discuss this, it's kinda a "no-brainer" that this meeting date needs to change! So after some quick email discussion, the Div 6 Board has decided that the October meeting will be moved to the **FOURTH** Friday of October - making the date Friday, October 23, 2009. Please make a note of this!!!

NCR 2009 CONVENTION

The "Fort Wayne Shops" hosted by Div 3, is the official NCR Regional convention for 2009. The dates are October 15-18, 2009. The location is the Fort Wayne Marriott. Rooms are \$85 per night, call 260-484-0411 to book your reservation. For official convention registration, see a August 2009 HotBox issue, or go to the convention website at-

www.hoosierdiv3nmra.org

Lots of additional information is also available on the website.

Contact info is email-

railcarman@verizon.net

Convention mailing address:
Northeast Hoosier Division 3, NCR
c/o Dick Moessner 13820 Messenger
Bay Ft. Wayne, IN 46845
Are you going? You SHOULD!

MODELING INFORMATION

We had no tips at the last meeting. We look forward to more questions, tips next month!

SHOW AND TELL

The subject for the August meeting was the kit you had brought in, way back in March! Only about 10 members actually built their intended project-

Redo drive in 7.5 gauge loco; switch tower; oil storage unit; building kit; Bar Mills kits; log unloader facility; Alto tower kit; coal/ore unloader shed; Walthers furniture backdrop building, kit bashed; O scale "shot-gun" house- (can shoot a shot gun in the front door and not hit anything as it exits the back door); S scale kit-house; 2 out houses; scratch built bridge kit; Bar Mills kit; traction crane car; Divco dump cars.

CURRENT PROJECTS shown were- 3 story building kit-bash with interior; caboose models.

We had quite a few donations - either because models did not get completed, or were forgotten!

NEXT MEETING- Div 6 swap meet night

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

FREE Stuff again at the Div 6 meeting! Ya just gotta be there! Bill Deeter came through again, this time with some sheets of very thin wood laminate. Barry Hensel also had some aluminum plates that were from some car show awards that were printed wrong. Would be interesting to hear/see what these materials will be used for.

We mentioned last month about Don Watson's layout being sold. We have also acquired a cd-rom of all of Don's history lessons! These will be printed in future editions of the HotBox and the originals may be donated to the NMRA Library.

An idea from Div 6 member John Wissinger- send Div 6 newsletter to any NMRA member in our Div boundaries. This should get more people to the meetings, and more members to join and thus more info, friends and fun! The Div 6 Board will look into this idea!

FALL SHOW & WORKSHOP

..... IS only 3 months away!!! We have several issues to solve as quickly as possible!! YOU can help!

First, we need MORE people to volunteer to help with set-up and tear-down. Last year we were very short of people for these functions. We really need 8-10 people for both times.

Second, we need someone to step-up and take on the raffle. This person needs to go to the local hobby shops and solicit donations and get the Div 6 members to donate unused stuff. Then this person needs to run the raffle on the day of the show.

Third, as usual, we need people to display stuff. While we did very well last year, close to half of the displays were not committed to until the week before the show!! That causes problems in finding space for them and a good table layout. We need your displays, but please, we need you to commit well ahead of time. PLEASE!!!

Fourth, 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.

Fifth, we need someone for loco repair!! This has been one of the "staples" of our event - free loco repair!! It would be a shame to see this not continue!

Lastly, we need to think of next year just a bit, as we WILL need a new chairman for this event and it's been suggested that we consider changing the dates again. This really didn't work last time, but the suggestion has been made.

We will also do the normal model contest for this year, but will NOT do the square foot models. 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 Doug!!

PRODUCT REVIEW

Div 6 member Bill Neale had a review of- Rubber rocks! Cripplebush Valley Models make heavy duty rubber rocks that are ideal for longer cuts and cliff sides. Some of the rocks are a continuous 30" long and 12" high. Making a plaster casting that large is very labor intensive and difficult. These rubber rock castings save time and are very well detailed. Attached with hot glue to any surface, they can be painted and blended into existing scenery. They won't chip, and can be bend around curves to make curved cuts. They also provide excellent sound control capabilities, which is important if you run sound equipped engines. The web site: www.cripplebush.net Price ranges from 20-30+ and these come in several different rock styles and types. If you have an item to review, see Glenn before the meeting starts.

DIV 6 POLO SHIRTS

We have a 10 shirt minimum on orders! If you would like a shirt, here's what we have- no pocket shirt small-XL= \$15, XXL/XXXL= \$18 For Pocket shirts- add \$1.50. For your name put on- add \$4. All shirts are dark gray color with our black-yellow logo. All shirts must be pre-paid at the time of the order! Turn-around time should be one month, or the next meeting. See GLENN to place your order!

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.

RAILROAD HISTORY

History "Prof" Norm was at the meeting, but deferred to Barry for the lesson. See the CLINIC section. Looking forward to another lesson next month.

CLINIC

This months clinic was a combo history lesson and was presented by Barry Hensel. What Barry had was pictures of a recent trip to the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, located in Strasburg, PA. Just across the street, literally, is the Strasburg Railroad, running real steam trains 4 times a day! The reason for the trip was to deliver a HO railroad shop building that Barry built and donated to the Reading RR Historical Society for their modular layout. Instead of shipping the building and hoping it made it there OK, Barry and 3 of the Rail Gang (Marty, Glenn & Walt) all made a quick 3 day trip to PA. The building was needed on Tuesday morning, as the RDG Society was setting up their modular layout for a weekend event at the museum. The pictures showed the building, many pictures of the displays and equipment at the museum, pictures of the steam train at Strasburg and some of their grounds and lastly, pictures of the building being installed on the modular layout and of the layout itself. Everyone at the meeting seemed to like the photos - thanks! 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-** Howard or Marc will have something!!

LAYOUT TOURS

We have two layouts planned for this month - September!! THANKS to Roy Jones and Paul Omilian!! These layouts will be open on Sunday, September 20, 2009 from 1pm-5pm. These are two great layouts - don't miss them, as they are doing these tours for YOU!! Thinking of hosting a layout tour? Give Dick a call or email to have your layout on tour! **NEXT TOURS-** Roy Jones and Paul Omilian, Sunday, September 20, 2009 from 1pm-5pm See the map.

NCX - NCR-DIV 6 '10 CONV

The **North Central Express** has changed dates!! Our NEW dates are **October 21-24, 2010!!** Since the last Div 6 meeting, we had two more Planning Team meetings and a very intense budget review via email. It is regret that the Planning Team had decided that the convention price needed to be raised. This was brought before the Div membership at the meeting. It was explained that to do a proper convention, this price increase was needed to insure that the convention would not lose money, or at least the risk would be greatly diminished. The alternative, was what was dubbed a "bare-bones" convention without the activities that are what make a convention memorable and worth attending. The membership also elected to back the Planning Team and approved the price increase. While we are saddened this is taking place during bad economic times, we simply could not risk the Div treasury on questionable business practices. Thanks for the vote of confidence! Please also keep in mind, the convention price has not changed in close to 10+ years! Yet, expenses and services have increased over that same time period.

Our convention highlights are-

- * Operation sessions available Thursday, Friday, Saturday
- * FREE bag of model railroad "stuff" first 200 registered
- * Extra Participants Choice and Best in Show Contest Awards
- * All-you-can-eat Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning
- * Keynote speaker, Art Fahie of Bar Mills Products on Sunday
- * Special event HO & N scale billboards on sale
- * 15+ Workshops on Friday and Saturday
- * 20+ model layouts to visit
- * Prototype tours available on Friday
- * Door Prizes awarded Friday and Saturday
- * NMRA Model and Photo contests
- * Online Registration available, see website!

* Event site- Livonia Marriott, Laurel Park Mall
* EVERYONE welcome to attend!
Some extra things we are working on is to have some modular layouts in the shopping mall for the public to see. And we're having a "model railroading 101" series of clinics on Saturday morning, geared to get the novice model railroader involved in the convention. We may also have a silent auction for charity and award special door prizes only at the Sunday morning breakfast, making it a must attend event! And speaking of breakfast - how about an ALL you can eat pancake-bacon-fruit-coffee/tea/milk/juice breakfast for only \$12 per person! As mentioned before, we start full time promotion at the 2009 NCR convention in Fort Wayne!! We should have more progress reports from now on - we're only 13 months away!

DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Superintendent- Glenn Joppich
734-464-6004 steambigot@yahoo.com
Asst. Superintendent- Bill Rubarth
734-522-5876 wrubarth@twmi.rr.com
Secretary- Howard Andrews
734-728-4697 hwandrews@wowway.com
Treasurer- Larry Wolohon
734-454-4816
larrywolohon@comcast.net

OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF

Newsletter- Barry Hensel
734-397-5182 Barry76Lt@wowway.com
Clinics- Howard Andrews
734-728-4697 hwandrews@wowway.com
Layout Tours- Dick Harden
248-889-2228 Richhard01@comcast.net
History- Norm Logan
248-348-2473 nlogan114@wowway.com
Webmaster- Ed Beamish
734-266-2301 nedbeam@provide.net
Div 6 Fall Show- Doug Mayer 248-486-0608 Div6workshop@hotmail.com
Meeting Coffee- Walt Plentis
248-535-8063 wwp4343@sbcglobal.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, September 12- "Hamburg Festival & Railroad Days" One hour rides between Hamburg-Osmer behind PM 1225, Tickets begin at \$25

www.michigansteamtrain.com

Sunday, September 27- Toledo Train Show Lucas County Rec. Ctr 2901 Key Street Maumee, OH 43537 11am-4pm \$5 12 and under free when accompanied by an adult

Saturday, October 3- "Cadillac Fall Color Limited" Enjoy double-headed steam with both PM 1225 and NKP 765 hauling an all-day excursion train between Alma and Cadillac. Tickets from \$125 \$200.

www.michigansteamtrain.com

Sunday, Oct 4 Train-orama 09 Train show/sale - Redford Model RR Club Costick Center, Farmington Hills 10am-4pm \$5 per person

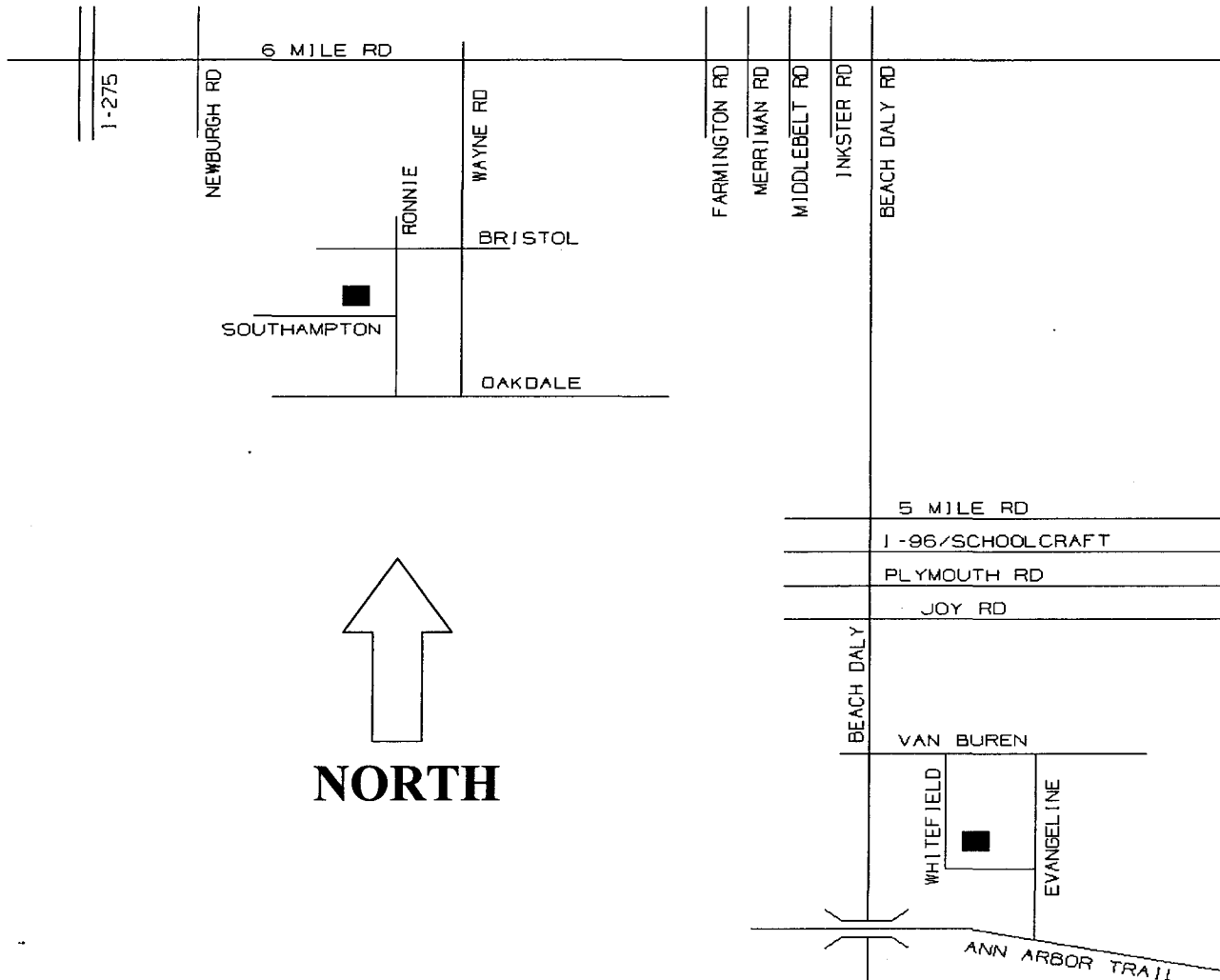
Friday-Sunday, Oct 15-18- NCR Convention- THE SHOPS sponsored by Div 3 Fort Wayne, Indiana Direct inquiries: Northeast Hoosier website: www.hoosierdiv3nmra.org

DIVISION 6 LAYOUT TOURS

**SUNDAY,
September 20, 2009 1pm-4pm**

Paul Omilian
35490 Southampton
Livonia, MI 48154
(734) 464-6252

Roy Jones
8364 Whitefield
Dearborn Hts., MI 48127
(313) 278-2468



Div 6 Annual Fall Show & Workshop Volunteer form

Please fill in the following and return to Doug Meyer at the next meeting or mail it to-

Doug Meyer 22592 Lazy K South Lyon, Mi 48178

You can also contact Doug at 248-486-0608 or email to- Div6workshop@hotmail.com

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

EMAIL: _____

Volunteering to.... (circle as many as apply)

Set-up Take-down Food Admissions Raffle Display

Display: _____

Demonstrate: _____

Take Flyers to: _____

Other: _____

Number of tables needed (Based on a 6 foot table size) _____

Need Electric Yes No

Display working layout

Description: _____ Scale: _____

Minimum Size: ____ft X ____ft Prefer Size: ____ft X ____ft

Help with Scouts program- I will do - (circle one!)

- * types of freight cars
- * design a model railroad
- * diesel loco types and operation
- * railroad signals
- * what/how/why of grade crossings
- * name the different scales
- * different railroads and where they are/were
- * railroad departments and support industries
- * Amtrak history and transit lines
- * Operation Lifesaver
- * all aspects of railroad safety
- * building a model RR kit
- * do switching on a layout

SUGGESTIONS FOR DISPLAYS.....

- *structure building
- *railroad history
- *track laying basics
- *rolling stock building
- *type of rolling stock
- *kit-bashing
- *people painting
- *benchwork basics
- *layout planning
- *types of locomotives
- *detailing
- *tree making
- *DCC systems
- *photography
- *different scales
- *decaling/dry transfer
- *scenery basics
- *wiring basics
- *computers in model rr'ing
- *classic toy trains

..... and YES, we can have more than one person doing the same demo!!!