

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

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

### **JUNE 2025**

Hello and welcome to Division 6, the Motor City Division!!

Our Division 6 meetings continue to be fun and informative! If you are not attending in-person, you are missing out on a lot! We hope that YOU will attend a meeting soon. As you see below, we get about 35-45 attending each month. BUT... we have over 120 NMRA members listed in Division 6. Can you imagine having even 50% of them attending a meeting... or more!! WOW, would that be a great night. To those receiving our newsletter that have never been to a Division 6 meeting, we hope to see you soon!! Join in the FUN!!

While we keep planning on local Division events, that BIG one is almost here - STATION No. VI, the 2025 NMRA National Convention. It's been 18 years since we last hosted in SE Michigan... could be another 15-20 years for the next one, so don't miss THIS one! Attend, volunteer or both! Don't be left out of a great event!

Please keep in contact with your model railroading family and friends! Here's the rest of your Division 6 news-

### **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

We had good meeting turn-out with 29 attending in person and 3 on zoom! We had one new guest, please welcome Chuck Hughes. MMR's present were Ken Chick, Larry Wolohon, Scott Kremer and Brook Qualman (online). 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 20, 2025**. 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 TREASURY REPORT**

The Treasure Report for MAY is-

Previous Balance	\$8,247.60
Checks/debits	\$4,157.70
Deposits/credits	\$ 0
End of May Bal	\$ 4,089.90

### **DIV 6 MI-TRACK LAYOUT**

THANKS Tom Kosta, who gave his corners to Scott Swinger! Welcome to MI-Trak Scott! Please keep working on your modules! The Division 6 Mi-Track modular layout's next event is the Trains, Trucks, & More! event at the Southern Michigan Railroad on Saturday, August 9th, 2025! I think we should donate a few bucks, get more tables and try to get as many modules there as possible. We've been a great hit at their event, let's do better for them.

### **BILL'S TOOL TIME**

If you have a tool tip to give, please contact Terry Kosmas and he'll get you scheduled. We're looking for 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!

## 5th DIV 6 MODEL RR SALE

The Div 6 annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE is now a GO! Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 24, 2026 at 2142 Community Center in Brighton! We have all the same arrangements with a slight increase to 200 tables. Past vendors have been contacted and we sold near 25% of the tables. We did a facebook post and went public on June 1st. The official flyer is in this newsletter and we'll have some at the next Div 6 meeting.

## DIV 6 - RR HUMOR

Here's some model railroad humor-

### SPOUSE: WHY ARE WE AT A DELIVERY WAREHOUSE



ME: THEY COULDN'T FIT EVERYTHING AT THE FRONT DOOR SO THEY STORED MY MODEL TRAIN DELIVERIES AT THE WAREHOUSE...

## DIV 6 SYMPATHIES

We are sad to report that Bill McMillan's wife Linda, passed away on Friday, May 30 after a long battle with cancer. Div 6 extends our deepest sympathies to Bill and his entire family.

<https://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com/obituaries/>

## SHOW AND TELL

Our subject none! We did not do a show & tell due to the static grass make & take. There was no winner of the Nankin Hobby gift card.

**NEXT MEETING** - bring the model you will be displaying at the convention RPM style model display

## DIV 6 GET WELL

MEMBERS, your best wishes, good thoughts and prayers are needed for these Div 6 members... nothing new to report on this month. Please let us know if a Div 6 member needs to be mentioned.

## NEW ITEMS IN THE HOBBY

NEED something? Contact Russ Hjelmberg at Nankin Hobby! He can order just about anything!!

Russ sent us a note - talking about tariff's and how it affects orders, what can be ordered and how soon it could arrive. Also pricing. If you have Questions - contact Russ via email. The best way to contact Russ is by email:

[Russatnankin@yahoo.com](mailto:Russatnankin@yahoo.com)

## LAYOUT TOURS

Larry Wolohon is our layout tour chairman! If you want to schedule a tour of your layout, give Larry a call or email! We NEED layouts please!! Due to the convention being only 1.3 months away, we'll look at restarting Div 6 layout tours in August or September.

**NEXT TOURS-** no tours planned for due to the convention. Want to see LOTS of layouts.... register for the convention!! Remember, layouts in the convention cover division 5, 8, 1 and 6!!

## DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Superintendent-**  
Bill McMillan 248-349-7456  
[wmcmillan7456@gmail.com](mailto:wmcmillan7456@gmail.com)

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

**Secretary-**  
Matt Letts 248-347-2971  
[mletts@mi.rr.com](mailto:mletts@mi.rr.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 -**  
Paul Lichau 734-878-5390  
[plichau@yahoo.com](mailto:plichau@yahoo.com)

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

### OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF

Recording Secretary- Bruce Wolff  
947-216-9250 [brucewolff@yahoo.com](mailto:brucewolff@yahoo.com)  
Jeanine Chmielewski  
[Jeanine.Chmielewski@gmail.com](mailto:Jeanine.Chmielewski@gmail.com)

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

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

Clinics- **VOLUNTEER NEEDED!!**  
Layout Tours- Larry Wolohon, MMR  
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)

## 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!

## 2025 NMRA NATIONAL

STATION No.VI  
90th NMRA National Convention  
July 14-19, 2025  
Novi, Michigan, USA

All Divisions in the NCR will be contributing to this effort. The website is - [www.nmra2025.com](http://www.nmra2025.com)  
Check it out!  
Registration continues well, we're now past **800!**



Here's some more updates - One big task yet to do is the **VOLUNTEERS!** Whether you are registered or not, if you can volunteer for a few hours on even one day, that would help the convention greatly! The Yard Sale room, model display room, registration and A/V help are where the most help is needed. We had a sign-up sheet at the last Div 6 meeting, or contact Scott to get on a list. **WE NEED YOU!!**  
Got questions? Please contact Scott - [skremer@wideopenwest.com](mailto:skremer@wideopenwest.com)

## CLINIC

WE ALWAYS NEED CLINICS for our meetings! To all Div 6 members, PLEASE share your talents and knowledge! **We also need a NEW Clinic Chairperson!!**

Our clinic this past month was by Div 6 Superintendent Bill McMillan on static grass. He showed his clinic again and then WE got to try it all ourselves! Several other Div 6 members brought static grass applicators to allow as many as possible to try them and see how they work. Static grass is "cool".... almost makes you want to redo your entire layout! This was a great idea, to make it a "make & take" night. Thanks Bill for the great information! **WE NEED CLINICS!**

**NEXT MEETING-** Div 6 member Mark Ellis presenting info on the Washington Cog Railway!

## FROM THE CAB....

Yes, it is with a very heart I write this column. As many of you may know I have lost my best friend and soul mate of 56 years married and 68 years of friendship. Friendship is definitely the best benefit of life. Being in the model railroad hobby for many years has generated so many wonderful friends in my life. Some I have been with and enjoyed so many good times working and operating on the railroad, others are club members and we catch up at the meetings. I also have a couple of very good friends that I have never met face to face, we only communicate using email or messenger sharing our passion for model railroading. All of these friends have enriched my life to its fullest. If you feel you don't count every member of Division 6 as a friend, I want you to reach out and become good friends. I will assist you in accomplishing this. I will try to make sure we will have enough "friendship time" at all of our meetings. Model railroading is the common bond and knowing each other by first name will allow a friendship to grow. I hope to see you all at the next meeting my friends.

*Bill*

## THE OBSERVATION CAR

I've always found interesting the way model railroaders decide exactly what railroad or railroads they want to copy. Some reasons are obvious, and some are not, but they all probably have a pretty interesting story behind that decision.

I'm sure the most common reason is that they lived near a particular road, saw those trains every day, and eventually decided to model what they saw.

Another reason would likely be that they had a family member who worked for the railroad they decided to model as a result.

Still another would be that their first train set they got as

a kid had that line, and that first impression instilled a certain amount of "loyalty" to that line. So, if you got a Lionel Santa Fe F3, you probably would start your "real model railroad layout" with that line. An extension of those feelings could simply come from how "cool" that warbonnet paint scheme was, and if one looked great, 20 would look even better!

I'm sure some folks model a line, simply because they rode that line when they were younger, so they want to model that personal travel experience to some extent.

There's probably a pretty large group of model railroaders who model a line, not just for the railroad itself, but for the beautiful terrain that line ran through. You might be really inspired by modeling the cliffs, rivers or farmlands that you are sure would make your layout look like a work of art.

You might even model a line that is gone, just because it is gone, and you miss seeing it!

So, yes there are lots of really good reasons, and more importantly, lots of great memories triggered by the decision you make to model a particular line or place. All of them have one thing in common - you get a really warm and cozy feeling because of that particular decision.

Let me know what you think, and if you have another reason, you made the decision for the line or lines you decided to model. I'll bet there are some other really interesting stories behind your decision I haven't thought of.

***Thanks, Byrne***

## RAILROAD HISTORY

We did not have a history lesson, due to the make & take clinic. We're looking forward to another lesson soon!



## DIV 6 STANDARD NEWS

WE HAVE CARDS! Bill 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!!

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 Bill!

## DIVISION 6 FALL SHOW

We have a GO for the FALL SHOW & WORKSHOP with the Rails On Wheels group and their annual swap meet show. The new location will be the Wayne County Community College campus in Romulus (Haggerty/I-94) and on Sunday, Nov 23. Picture our regular event - display/demo tables showing how to do model railroading, plus our Mi-Track layout.... all right in the middle of a model railroad swap meet!! We'll need YOU to make this happen and be a success! And BTW - we still get to do our raffle and keep the proceeds. We do have to help pay for the tables we'll use, but that's a good investment.

## AP CERTIFICATES

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

## PRODUCT REVIEW

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

## DIV 6 MISC NEW NEWS

We have several stories to share-

If you go to the Operation Lifesaver website, your kids and grandkids can take a survey/questionnaire. When completed, they get a certificate mailed to them! <https://oli.org/>

**MTP - MODEL TRAIN PRODUCTS** is now open by appointment. Call or email if you wish to stop by. MTP is located at Barry's house - 43642 Lotus Dr Canton, MI 48188 ALL HO items for sale, rolling stock, locos, structures, detail parts, track, and electronics

## DIV 6 WEBSITE

The Div 6 website is **UP-TO-DATE!** 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)

## LOCAL RR EVENTS

**Saturday - Sunday, June 21 - 22, 2025** - 18th Carillon Park Rail and Steam Festival Carillon Historical Park 1000 Carillon Blvd Dayton, OH Saturday 9:30am-5pm Sunday 11am-4pm \$14 adults, \$12 seniors \$10 children model train displays, historical displays, live steam engines, food & merchandise vendors, flea market, and miniature train rides through-out the weekend. Website, [www.railfestival.com](http://www.railfestival.com)

Contact Information- David Oroszi [David.oroszi@usa.net](mailto:David.oroszi@usa.net) 937-238-5655

**Sunday, July 6, 2025** - Model Train Day Moore Museum 94 Moore Line Mooretown, ONT, Canada 1pm to 4pm Adults \$6, Child \$3 We will be running our 6 permanent indoor layouts. We also have a full size Canadian National caboose (built 1914), plus the original (1893) Mooretown Pere Marquette train station. There are no sales at this show. Contact Information- Fiona Doherty [mooremuseum@stclairtownship.ca](mailto:mooremuseum@stclairtownship.ca) 519-867-2020 Website: <https://mooremuseum.ca/>

**Monday - Saturday, July 14 - 19, 2025 - Station No. VI - 2025 NMRA National Convention** Sheraton Novi  
21111 Haggerty Road Novi, MI  
2025 NMRA National convention - layout tours, OP sessions, Clinics, national train show, modeling displays and contests, banquet with guest speaker hosted by the North Central Region

Website: <https://nmra2025.com/>

**Saturday-Sunday, July 19-20, 2025**  
- NMRA National Train Show  
Suburban Collection Showplace  
46100 Grand River Ave. Novi, MI  
10am-4pm both days

<https://nationaltrainshow.org/2025/ntsnovi.html> nationally sponsored combined industry trade show and public train show to

promote the hobby of model railroading. The 2025 National Train Show is held in conjunction with the National Convention of the NMRA in Novi

Advanced Online tickets: Online Ticket Sales will begin June 2025

Adult Tickets - 2 Day Pass \$20  
Saturday \$18.95 Sunday \$13.95  
Under 16 with Adult purchase- Free  
Onsite Ticket Pricing at the Door  
- Only cash is accepted at the door, no credit cards or checks.

Adult Tickets - 2 Day Pass \$25  
Saturday \$20 Sunday \$15 Under 16 with Adult purchase- Free

**NEW!!**

## **TWO events in one!!**

*Rails on Wheels*

### **SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & SALES MARKET**



### **and 46th MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & WORKSHOP**



**10am - 3pm Sunday  
November 23, 2025**

**New Date!  
New Location!**

**RR Show & Sales** - see 130 tables of vendors selling all scales of new & used model train items - see several model RR layouts

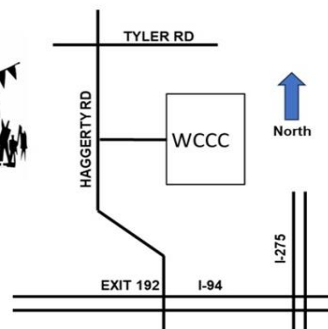
**RR Show & Workshop** - see tables of demonstrations of "HOW TO DO" model railroading - basic kit building, historical displays, painting, weathering, track laying, Div 6 HO model RR layout

**GREAT FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY! STOP BY TO SEE OR BUY! ASK QUESTIONS - GET ANSWERS!**

Wayne County Community College  
Ted Scott Campus  
555 Haggerty Road  
Belleville, Michigan 48111



Admission - \$5 per person  
under 12 is FREE  
Early Bird entry 9am - \$10 per person  
Vendor info - [cdjhyoung@yahoo.com](mailto:cdjhyoung@yahoo.com)



# 5th Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE!

Hosted by Division 6  
North Central Region - National Model Railroad Association



**SATURDAY – JANUARY 24, 2026**  
**10am - 3pm**

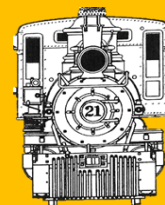


## 2142 Community Center

7526 Grand River Ave, Brighton, MI 48114

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

Food available – FREE parking



Admission –

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

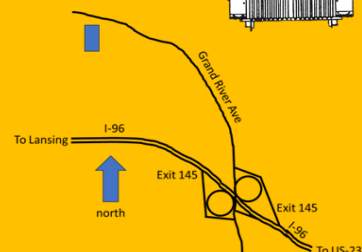
**\$10 per person Early Bird entry at 9am**

**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 – vendor tables are \$26 each – see back of flyer**



# 5th Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE!

Hosted by Division 6  
North Central Region - National Model Railroad Association



**SATURDAY – JANUARY 24, 2026**  
**10am - 3pm**

**2142 Community Center**

7526 Grand River Ave, Brighton, MI 48114

**VENDOR INFORMATION.....** HELLO!! Welcome to the 5th Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE, hosted by Division 6 of the NCR/NMRA. Here is the info you need to be a vendor at our event....

\* Vendor tables are **\$26 each**. Table size is 30" x 8' long. There is no limit to how many tables you can buy. **We have 200 tables!**

\* Please note any table special requests below and we will do our best to accommodate you.

\* TWO Set-up times are available – Friday, Jan 23 from 5pm-8pm and Saturday, Jan 24 from 7am-9:45am

\* All vendors will sell from behind your table.

\* There will be one chair per table. Extra chairs may be available

\* We have Early-Bird sales at 9am-10am. You are free to sell at that time, or not. General public hours are 10am-3pm.

\* Vendors are **NOT** allowed to have **ANY food** at their tables!! Food must be consumed at picnic tables just off to the side of the sales area. Water is OK. This new policy will be **STRICTLY** enforced. Violation will result in not being allowed to return to this event!! You are still allowed to bring your own food, but you **CANNOT** eat at your table!!!

\* There is a café/deli on the upper floor of the building for food purchases.

\* Cancellation notice for table fee refunds must be given by Wednesday, January 14, 2026. No refunds if notified after that date, unless we can resell your tables.

\* Please PRINT your info on this form and send this form with your payment, check or US Postal money order.

\* Make out to – **DIV 6 NCR NMRA** Send to – **Div 6 Model Railroad Sale 43642 Lotus Dr Canton, MI 48188**

**EXHIBITOR AGREEMENT** – Vendors will be responsible for any injuries or loss to themselves or their property. They expressly release DIVISION 6 and its members from any liability and agree to indemnify and hold DIVISION 6 and its members harmless. Signing this agreements means you have read all of the

facts above and agree to them. If for any reason the

SALE is cancelled, refunds will be issued asap. **SIGNED-** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Company \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ No of tables \_\_\_\_\_ No of helpers \_\_\_\_\_

Special requests - \_\_\_\_\_





35101 Ford Rd  
Westland, MI 48185  
734-722-5700

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