

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

ON THE RAILS...

FEBRUARY 2009

One down... 11 more to go! 2009 is fully underway! This past month has been a doozy... lots of weather to battle and deal with! Just makes it all the easier to simply retreat to the basement and work on the railroad. Just wish I could do that too! For me it's been a busy month with 3 big projects- getting our 2010 NCR-Div 6 convention process started, getting the annual Camaro event started and finishing the next HotBox. To those projects, all is doing well! Now, maybe I'll find some time to work on my own layout! There are still train shows/swaps to attend so go and stock-up on those model supplies and projects. Besides, the economy needs the boost! And before you know it, spring will be here! Let's hope THAT happens quicker, than later! Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We did have several new members appear at our last meeting! Please welcome Rich Mahaney (NMRA member and former regional director Iowa area!); Kevin Mann; Bob Pawling; Matt Geyman & son who were picking up some prizes from 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, FEB 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.

LAYOUT TOURS

Layout tours for this month are Div 6 members Norm Logan and Mike Tranquilla. Norm models the Michigan Southern on many different levels as trains ply north-south from Detroit to Louisville. Mike models the BN with some UP/SP mixed in. Both layouts are in HO scale. See the map for directions. In March, Div 6 members Ed Beamish and Larry Wolohon will be open. Ed models in N scale and Larry has the GN in HO. 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- SUNDAY, February 8
1-4pm Norm Logan & Mike Tranquilla

FALL WORKSHOP & SHOW

Doug gave just a very brief mention of the Fall Show & Workshop and restated that Jack and himself are probably looking to not be chairmen next year! Thus we need someone to step-up and take over the raffle (which makes us some decent money) and be the event Chairman. A Div 6 member was over at Jack Paul's house and Jack's wife had a good suggestion- get show flyers to elementary schools and scout troops for some great publicity! And, according to some timetables, it's only a month away (or two) from starting promotion letters for our 2009 event! And Jack did finish the meeting break with a raffle of all the left over prizes.

PRODUCT REVIEW

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

RAILROAD HISTORY

History "Prof" Norm had another great lesson for the evening- Norm read some more pages from the book "Playing with Trains" by Sam Posey, famed race driver and commentator. Last month we heard about Sam's own Christmas story. This month we hear about one of the first Christmas's with his son, John and their hobby holiday experiences. The story starts with a trip to New York and Sam leaving his wife to visit the Red Caboose Hobby store. At first, Sam passed the store and was on a time limit, which was now reduced. Looking over some Lionel engines, he picked up a huge engine for his son. Was not in the best of shape, but was huge and impressive! While waiting in line to check-out, Same also found a \$200 book on the Colorado RR. This is what he envisioned his railroad to be! But when he found out the price - back on the shelf it went. Later at home, he mentioned the book find to his wife. Then at Christmas, Same opened up the book as a present from his wife. His son got the engine, that turned out to be a dud, so Sam had some of his own old Lionel fixed up for John. The engine was placed on a shelf, never to run again! More good stuff Norm! Looking forward to another lesson next month.

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. The hotel contract is signed and completed! The NCX staff is missing just a few more people- Prototype tours; Modular layouts; Door prizes and goodie bags; Hobby shops; 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!

DIV 6 WEBSITE

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

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.

SHOW AND TELL

What you got for Christmas, either given or bought for yourself, was the subject for this month. Items presented included- software for waybills; CD w/advertisements; RR bank & book RR atlas-carstens pub; wood kit coal tippel; chopper II; Stroh Brewery reffer 0 gauge; 0 scale transit car MTH; structure kit; rolling stock; Hallmark F3 ornaments; Western Union utility truck; magazine with gift cert inside; book on steam locomotive workings; Atlas 0 scale car; DT&I snow fighting brochure; welcome mat to train room; school kit; Lionel F unit bank makes sound/sings; tanker loading lit; Blueline AC6000 loco; 40' boxcar G scale DT&I; DRGW freight car book; 5 dvd set of different RRs; Ero-rail luggage tag & dvds of Buster Keaton the General; set of BN hoppers (minus the coal so he WAS a good boy!); Atheran wrecker; DVD; 6" pot topper from Michaels craft store for use as ground cover (used for silk flower pots); gift certificate; Barr Mills kit; multi-deck layout building book and another set of Hallmark F unit ornaments. Current projects presented include- pictures from Halloween run of live steamers; box car with EOT; Lionel reffers converted to 2-rail. We also thank those few, who donated to the caboose!

NEXT MEETING- something with interior detailing- structure, loco, rolling stock

DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Superintendent- Glenn Joppich
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Secretary- Howard Andrews
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Treasurer- Larry Wolohon
734-454-4816
larrywolohon@comcast.net

OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF

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Clinics- Howard Andrews
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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

CLINIC

With Howard on vacation, he left us a NMRA video clinic on detailing structure interiors. This was written/presented by Mike Tylick, from a recent NMRA convention. Unfortunately, Larry's computer (the video was a dvd/cd) has sound problems and even with a mic and amp, the sound was not very good. But I happened to hear these few tips- Easy windows- shades made of paper/tape, shade pulls made from wire with a very small drop of glue then painted white. Easy interiors are pictures of interiors mounted on back wall of building, showing through windows. Wall details can be drawn on with colored markers! Furniture made from scrap stuff - people from modeling clay or use cheapest people as details don't matter most of the time, unless you are in a larger scale. You just need to put stuff inside, to make it look lived in or occupied! 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- ???

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday & Sunday, Feb 7-8- Open House/Layout Tour, Detroit Model Railroad Club Holly, MI
12noon-5PM Admission Fees- \$4, seniors \$3, kids 5-12 \$2, under 5 free
Club website- www.dmrrc.org

Saturday, Feb 7- Open House/Layout Tour, Redford Model Railroad Club
27316 Michigan Ave Inkster, MI 48141
12noon-4PM free Club website-
www.redfordmodelrailroadclub.com
For info- 734-765-6781 or 313-565-1027 Thursday evenings only

Sunday, Feb 8- Open House/Layout Tour, Lansing Model Railroad Club
5309 Old Lansing Rd Lansing, MI 48917
1PM-5PM Admission Fees- Donation
<http://www.lmrc.org>

call Michael Frezell at 517-321-6776

Sunday- Feb 15- Ann Arbor Model RR Club Train Show/Sale Saline Middle School 7190 N Maple Rd Saline, MI 48176 10am-4pm \$6.00
Contact Info- Call/Fax 734-426-0829
www.a2trainshow.com

Saturday-Sunday, Feb 21-22- Train Show and Sale, Workshops and Clinics The Rock Financial Showplace 46100 Grand River Avenue Novi, MI 48374 10am-4pm, both days Admission Fees- \$7.00 adults, under 12 are FREE
Great Train Expo P.O. Box 725 Oswego, IL 60543-0725 630-608-4988
www.GreatTrainExpo.com

Sunday, Feb 22- Model Railroad Swap Meet, Show and Sale American Legion post #16 1701 W. Genesee St. Lapeer, MI 48446 10am-3pm
Admission Fees- \$3.00, under 4 FREE
Vern Sollman VP lmrrc 810-441-0091

Sunday, Mar 1- Gratiot Valley RR Club Train Show and Sale Macomb Community College Sports & Expo Ctr 14500 E 12 Mile Rd Warren, MI 48088 10AM-4PM Adults \$5.50, under 12 free
www.gvrr.org or call 586-468-4877

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

2010 NYC Historical convention will be in our area!

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

Our deepest Sympathies to the family and friends of Div 6 member Roy Jones, whose son passed away on Sunday, Jan 12. Our thoughts and prayer are with you always!

Barnes & Noble Book Store had the IRON HORSE book on sale for \$15 and B&N plastic bag an olive green color, will make nice tarps!!

There is an Email going around about a Yahoo program to NOT allow website tracking, DO NOT click on this link!! One member did and it screwed up his computer. Please remember, it's not the email that gives you the virus... it is the LINK you click on to go to another website that gets you!

PLEASE... we know everyone is happy to see each other every month, BUT, side conversations need to be kept to a MINIMUM and/or VERY quiet! Many members are hard of hearing and others talk softly, so that's a combination for disappointment when the person that has the floor cannot be heard due to other conversations! Shhhhh!

MODELING INFORMATION

Thanks for your questions, tips and answers! We look forward to more questions, tips next month!
TIP- etable arrangements - looks like flowers but are fruit, use skewers to hold everything together - possible uncoupler tools! Are long, 4-6 and cross-shaped to fit into couplers and twist open.

DON WATSON PASSES

Former Div 6 member Ken Chick wrote an email on Sunday, Jan 25: Don Watson passed away peacefully in his sleep this morning about 2am He would have been 87 this April. He was a resident in the Medilodge of Sterling Heights for the last year. When I last visited him there, he was in good spirits, was mobile and his memory was in respectable condition, considering what he had suffered thru the last

year. He enjoyed playing cards with the other residents, talking about railroading and visiting with his friends. He is survived by his wife Ilene, who is living with his daughter Debbie Watson in Sterling Heights, and his son Robert living in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Don was a dedicated model railroader. When I first met him, he was working on his N Scale Clinchfield from the plans in Model Railroader. Some years later he sold that and built his N Scale BNSF, again from plans in MR. It was never quite finished but he worked on it until his stroke forced him into a nursing home. As you know, Don was also the Div 6 Historian. He researched and wrote interesting stories from the past of many railroads. His "lessons" were always filled with interesting facts and colorful tidbits of rail history. All of those lessons are still intact and Ilene told me that when they clean up all of his material, she would get them passed on to the Region. Many of you will also remember Don's great dry humor. He frequently had something to say that started out with such a serious note, then ended with a chuckle. And, the notes he sent out to invite his club members to his meetings were always laced with a good jab at one of the group. Don had, some time back, written up his last request for this time. In accordance with his wishes, there will be no funeral or service of any kind. Those wishing to honor his memory may do so with a donation to the American Diabetes Association. If you would like to call or send a card to Ilene,

Ilene Watson
14432 Coulee Drive
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
586-566-2518

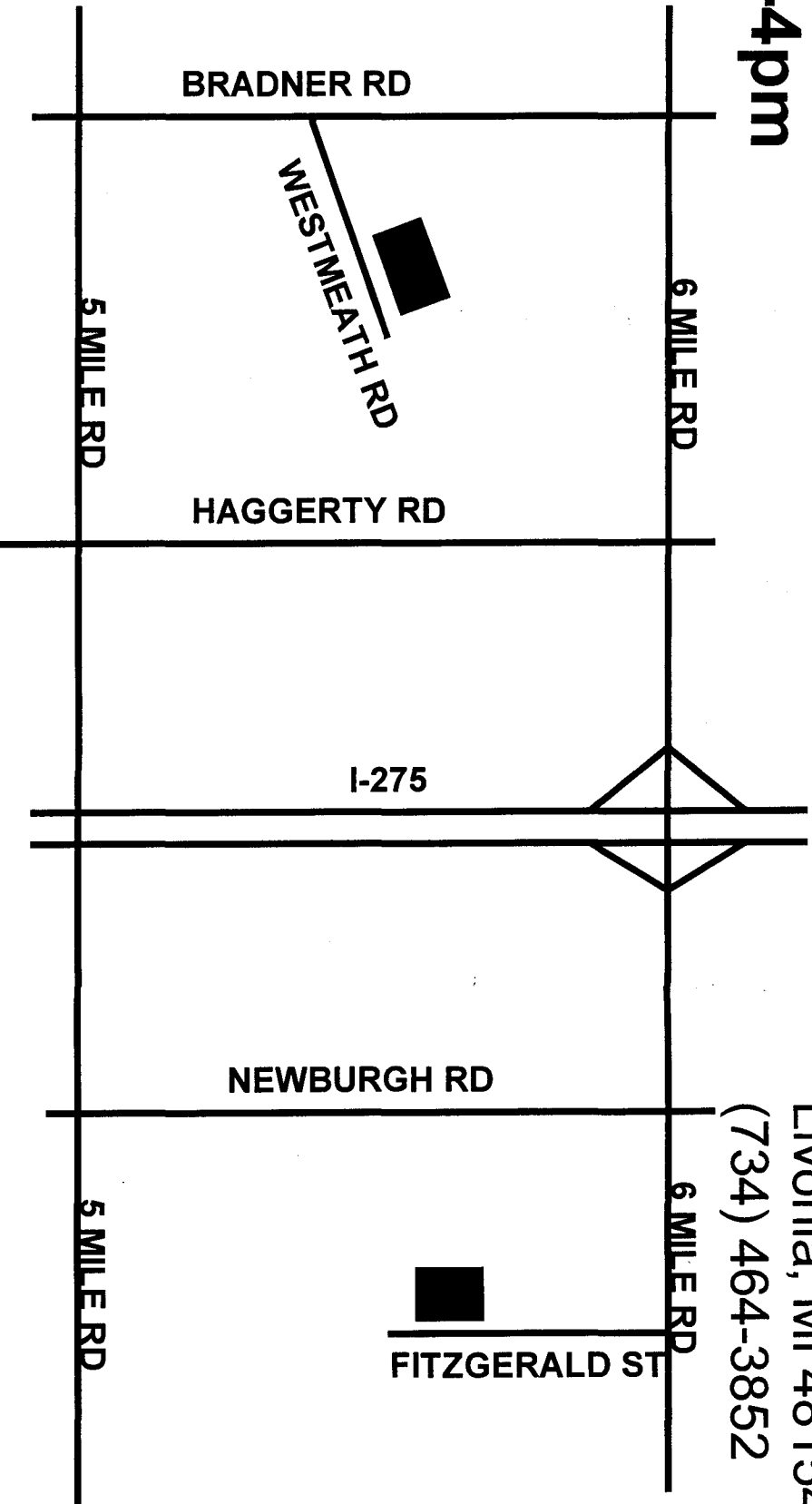
Ilene asked me to contact his railroad friends on her behalf. I'm sure there are others who knew Don whose email address is not on this list. If you would be so kind as to pass that information on to them, I would be most appreciative. Don's contributions and friendship to our hobby will be missed.

Division 6 Layout Tours

Sunday February 8, 2009

1pm-4pm

Mike Tranquilla
16823 Fitzgerald
Livonia, MI 48154
(734) 464-3852



Norm Logan
42306 Westmeath
Northville, MI 48168
(248) 348-2473