



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

## ON THE RAILS...

### JANUARY 2008

Happy New Year! I sincerely hope that your New Year celebration was grand... and safe! With the new year, we look forward to what lies ahead for us. Here at Div 6, I would predict many months of great model railroading, a great Regional convention in September, another great Div 6 Workshop, more great Layout Tours and lots of great clinics! I hope you can share in this new years wish for us. And speaking of wishes, here's hoping that all of your model railroading projects work out well for you and may you and your family also have a great 2008! Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had a new member at the last meeting! Yippee! Welcome to Dan Dobrzelewski, who is modeling in HO and had attended our workshop! To all Div 6 members, WELCOME ABOARD!

### NEW DIV 6 WEBSITE

The new Div 6 website is up and running, but is very much under construction so keep checking back. Pictures from the Div 6 Show & Workshop are now posted. The web address is- [www.div6-ncr-nmra.com](http://www.div6-ncr-nmra.com)

### 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, JANUARY 18, 2007**. 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.

### SHOW AND TELL

Our subject for December was quite appropriate, snow removal equipment, as we had 8-10" of snow the week before the meeting! Most of our meeting attendee's brought in something. We had many plows, some Jordon spreaders and many rotary plows. We also had engines with plows, video's of plows, a truck with a plow (to get the train crews to the railroad plows) and we even had 2 HO men with shovels! Several others brought in current projects including DPM building kit, Lionel gon converted to O scale, pictures of drop door for layout, On30 Climax loco, switch tower kit, Bar Mills signs, Sperry Rail Car, turnout made with jig, layout in dining room update and building being made based on Detroit structures. Thanks to everyone for the items they brought and showed off! We also thank those who donated to the caboose!  
**NEXT MEETING-** your railroad related Christmas present

### DIV 6 FALL WORKSHOP

We had a final report on the show-workshop at the meeting. Chairman Doug reported that we had a few cancellations of presenters, but then had a few extra members step-up at the last minute, so it all worked out OK. But, participation was still down in both members and public. We had some people show-up at the meeting to pick-up raffle prizes and we raffled off some of the left over prizes at the meeting. Again, the show was profitable and everyone had a great time, so that equals a huge success! Thanks Doug and everyone that made the workshop possible!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sunday, Jan 20-** Troy Train Show  
Troy Athens HS 10am-3pm

**Saturday-Sunday, Feb 16-17-** Ann Arbor Train Show, Saline HS

**Sunday, March 2-** Gratiot Valley Train Show, Macomb Comm College

**Sunday, March 16-** Trainorama Extra Redford club, Costick Comm Center

## SPECIAL CLINIC IN JAN!

Dick Harden has arranged for John Bussard to give us an all day scenery clinic. The official date is Saturday, January 26 from 9am-5pm and it will be here at the Livonia Senior Center (where we hold our Div meetings!) There is a \$10 charge per person. You MUST sign-up and pay for the clinic in advance. You can sign-up at the next meeting or call/email Dick to make special arrangements for paying. There will be NO at-the-door entries! We have about 30 signed on so far! Room for more!! The clinic will include - HOW TO - on Rocks, Improved Roads and TREES. The supplies and/or materials needed for hands on are as follows-

- (1) Woodland Scenics- Course Turf "Light Green" in the shaker bottle
  - (1) Small bag A.M.S.I. #471 "Grey Green" for pine trees **-OR- a fine Woodland Scenics green grass** (Both are available from Joe's Hobby but will have to be ordered soon especially the A.M.S.I product as he doesn't stock it)
  - (1) Spool of .032 Dia. Wire (available at ACE Hardware) for Pine Trees
  - (1) Small hobby vise that will clamp on a table
  - (1) Cordless drill with a small hook to twist wire
  - (1) Can 3M #77 spray adhesive or
  - (1) can of Duro Spray Adhesive (both at Wal-Mart)
  - (3) Small plastic containers for rope samples such as "Cool Whip" or something similar
  - (1) Pair of good strong scissors OR Handi-Cut Shears from Sears
- A pair of latex gloves**  
(Updates to list in **BOLD** type)

## 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 we have our "Surplus Table" at every meeting where you can bring in 1-3 items for sale.

## DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Superintendent-** Glenn Joppich  
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**Secretary-** Dick Harden  
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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  
History- Don Watson 248-349-3347  
Layouts- Fred Rockwell 313-535-0309  
Webmaster- Ed Beamish  
734-266-2301 neabeam@provide.net

## 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.

## CLINIC

At the last meeting, Norm brought in the painted backdrop section he had done the month before. He wanted to show us that after the paint had dried, how it all blended together better. NICE! Then, to add to Norms clinic, John Wissinger gave us more tips on keeping our painting supplies clean and long lasting. His main tips were to wash your brushes with hand soap 3 times to get all the paint out; use a pallet knife to mix paint- not your brush and while more expensive, the more costly paint usually lasts a lot longer than the cheaper ones. John had a tube of paint that was close to 20 years old and was still very pliable! Thanks Guys for the updates to a great clinic.

For our actual clinic for the last meeting, Howard got a video of the Bar Mills clinic given at the 2006 National convention in Philly. It showed how the Bar Mills guys made a diorama for the sales booth, using very easy methods/materials. Thanks Larry Wolohon for bringing the laptop and projector. 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 is working on clinics for several months - had one cancel for Jan - ????????

## RAILROAD HISTORY

History master Don Watson was at the meeting, but we didn't have time for a lesson. We look forward to another lesson very soon!

## NCR REGIONAL CONV '08

Div 1 from Toledo is hosting the 2008 NCR Convention, FAST FREIGHT '08. The dates are September 19-21, 2008. For more information, go to [www.divisiononencr.org/covn2008.htm](http://www.divisiononencr.org/covn2008.htm) or call Fred Lux 734-856-6489 or email Fred at [fred@fredlux.com](mailto:fred@fredlux.com)

## PRODUCT REVIEW

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

## DIV 6 BY-LAWS

At the last two Div 6 meetings, there have been discussions on our membership being part of the NMRA. Yes, this is a requirement and we do want everyone to be a members of the NMRA. All of our current and past officers have been or are NMRA members and by a show of hands, about 98.3651% of the people at the recent meeting are NMRA members. So it looks like we're complying with the requirements. Glenn will be getting the Board together to go over our current by-laws to make sure they are what we need. These will then be presented to the membership for approval and everyone will get a copy.

Now, why is this important? Dave Thornton, NMRA Director and Div 8 member, was at the meeting and explained that because the NMRA insurance covers it's members and Divisions when having events, those participating in tours must be members and those making arrangements or contract must be members for the insurance to be legal. While it is VERY rare, there have been a few concerns and problems in other Regions. Thanks Dave for the advice and info.

## DIV 6 MISC NEWS

Marty LaForte is still the guy to see if you want/need a Div 6 name tag. These are \$5 each, payable in advance and take about one month to get. See Marty at the meetings!

Barry Hensel has discount Auto Show tickets that can be used any day of the show. Regular price is \$12, discount price is \$9 and \$1 goes to charity. Barry will have some available at the next meeting.

## DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

A very special, deepest sympathies to long time Div 6 member Wally Serylo, on the loss of his wife, just before the holidays. From all Div 6 members, our prayers and thoughts are with you, Wally and the entire Serylo family.

## MODELING INFORMATION

We had a new tip this month...

It was reported at the Div 6 meeting that BAR MILLS will be discontinuing their popular sign/billboard kits. It is suggested that if you want some of these, buy them now!

Replace your car's wiper blades recently? Save the package! These long clear packages are great for storing your strip styrene in, plus they have a handy hook/loop so you can hang it on a peg board to save space. Thanks Norm for bringing this tip to us from Bill Deeter!

Jim Zinser reported on a neat website! It is from the Illinois Preservation Society and from it you can print HO scale buildings, in color! These are very nice and detailed and would be great for background or mock-up buildings. You can print them off in different scales for different railroad scales too! The FREE website is-

[www.buildyourownmainstreet.com](http://www.buildyourownmainstreet.com)

We look forward to more questions and tips next month!

## NMRA NEWS

With Dave Thornton at the meeting, he also offered up some recent NMRA news. One company is trying to claim they invented DCC with sound, but records show it was available close to 2 years before their patent application. The NMRA has filed a patent inquiry, which would void the patent application of this company. In other news, the building needed for the NMRA model railroad museum has been acquired after some problems from a recent owner. This building was part of a major SP facility in Calif.

## LAYOUT TOURS

We had two more great layout tours! Marty LaForte and Barry Hensel had layout tours last month. Each had about 30-40 people attend. Thanks to all for being open! Fred's working on more for February and beyond! To schedule a tour of your layout, call Fred Rockwell.

**NEXT TOUR-** Doug-Hank Meyer on January 27 from 1pm-4pm, see map It's a bit of a trip, but worth it! Find another Div 6 member(s) and car pool!

### DIV 6 LAYOUT TOUR

SUNDAY, JAN 27 1pm-4pm

Doug-Hank Meyer

22592 Lazy K

South Lyon

