



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

ON THE RAILS...

MARCH 2010

OK... March already! 2010 is just rolling along and that means that the NCX convention will be here very fast!! I hope you will be signing up for helping at the convention, having your layout open or both! This also means that many of us should be doing some heavy model railroading, as we get our layouts ready. Deadlines are always great motivators!! The Div 6 BoD had a meeting recently and a report is later on with some good news and ideas! Check out the calendar of events - a few more good local train shows and many other interesting event coming up. Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

PRODUCT REVIEW

We had a few product reviews this month-

Marty LaForte- moss at JoAnn's for ground cover - working well!

Graham Brown- sound cards from Micro Mart- birds/babbling brook are good. Many other scenery sounds \$40 each Good buy

Jim Hockenburger- IMEX buildings, mobile homes, decent detail \$15 Are solid cast models - no building to it, can detail and weathering. If you have an item to review, see Glenn before the meeting starts.

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, MARCH 19, 2010**. 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.

MODELING INFORMATION

We ran right to the end of our meeting time, so there were no tips, suggestions and questions. We look forward to more questions, tips next month!

SHOW AND TELL

The subject for the last meeting was your favorite caboose(s). Items shown were NYC, Ohio Southern; Milwaukee Rd; Ann Arbor; caboose with side marker lights; SP&S; PRR; UP 36' wide vision; Alaska Lionel; UP; GTW real caboose (picture); N scale- undec; RDG bobber; Lionel HO; PRR N5c; NH; C&O; Keystone Valley (home road) painted & weathered; UP; brass undec; GT; Marklin; O scale GN; S scale SF; Allegany Midland (private) N6b; Rio Grande narrow ga; Lionel '49; Maine Central; B&M; Erie; NKP; N&W; C&O; NP; kitbash & SP; NYC Latest projects shown included buildings for Redford club layout, changing car numbers; diecast flat car; G scale PS1 boxcar weathered; turnouts building; background bldg with computer sign; North Shore steeple cab traction.

Plus our 8-19-95 donation caboose, a Lionel caboose found by Bob and painted by Frank! We did have some members donate to the caboose. Thanks to those that did.

NEXT MEETING- operational RR structures - interlocking, signal towers, crossing sheds etc....

DIV 6 WEBSITE

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

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

We had SOUND! Yup, we got a hold of the microphones from the Senior Center and had it turned on in our room only, even though no one else was in the building. It worked great as everyone could really be heard! Our only problem was that the clip-on mic and the large hand-held mic cannot be ON at the same time. Once we got that figured out, we were good!

Nankin Hobby has had coupons in mailers! Check those junk mail envelopes and you could be saving on your next hobby shop purchase!

Great Lakes Live Steamers will stay on their past monthly schedule for 2010 - 1st weekend at Royal Oak, 3rd weekend at Southgate, starting in May

On Saturday March 6th - Norm will give another IN-HOUSE clinic on operations for newbie's!! We're sorry the date could not get in the last newsletter - which shows why you should attend Div 6 meetings!!

DIV 6 BOARD MEETING

There was a Div 6 BoD meeting a few weeks ago. Items discussed were- Show & tell- too much time? Usual 45 minutes - bring in as many as you wish, BUT talk about ONE only. If you have a "story" we'll try to work that in later. New features will be- Tool Time Review by Bill Deeter and Larry Williams Tips at each meeting. Both guys have great experience and ideas.

Budget - we are all set money wise. Get microphones from Senior Center! Projector - we have several options, need GOOD one with good resolution would be approx 1200; More research - presentation next month. Do we need a Laptop? Some projectors can run jump drives & powerpoint files!

And the BIG news- FALL show date is set for next 5 years! The Sunday after Thanksgiving!!

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Meeting Coffee- Walt Plentis
248-535-8063 wwp4343@comcast.net

TOOL TIME

This is the first of a monthly article on interesting tools that can help your modeling. Div 6 member Bill Deeter will be our "toolman"! In Bill's first report he told us about a tool used to cut cast's off of people- the multi-tool! It acts like a jig saw where blade moves very little but very fast to cut all kinds of materials. The Multi-tool has attachments for different materials- also has sanding head for sanding. Many different brands and price ranges. Suggested Harbor Freight - not best quality, but for modeling we don't put much stress on tools, so they should last well!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had one new member at the last meeting. Welcome to Pat Tarwacki, who models in N scale. To all Div 6 members, WELCOME ABOARD!

CLINIC

This months clinic was by John Wissenger, MMR on some scenery basics. John used a computer powerpoint presentation that looked great! Scenery makes the railroad! John's main ingredient is Taxidermists paper mache'. His first point was to look at REAL scenery first, for a "plan" for your scenery. Use photos or visit the area you are modeling. John used the plan to carve styrofoam, then the usual cover it with the paper mache', ground foams, etc. Water was next and John used an interesting approach- plastic sheet- 1/16" clear and paint on back side. Install over shore line and bring the scenery to it. For rocks - more TPM- found at craft stores- can be 1/16" to 1/2" thick- no cracking. Uses acrylic paints for painting ground and rocks. Ground cover for forest- grind-up real fall leaves - use blender or flour sifter, matte medium on ground, sprinkle on leaves, spray with wet water and more diluted mat med with eye dropper. Centra plastic sheet used by sign companies was the material used for making roads. Foam with plastic surface. It's NOT gator foam or foam core! VERY good clinic and interesting scenery methods - good food for thought! Thanks John! 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- Norm Logan on Operations for Newbie's!

LAYOUT TOURS

A big THANKS to Tom Harris and the Henry Ford Village Model RR club and to Jim Zinser for their tours last month! Nice stuff!! Sorry, there are no tours scheduled for March.

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

NEXT TOURS- ??? maybe the NCX!

NCX - NCR-DIV 6 2010 CONV

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

We're rolling along! Registrations are coming in, slowly, but we know many people wait until the last minute, so we're still confident we'll get 200+ participants. Why? Because we have a "killer" convention planned! Hi-lights for this month are that more door prize items have arrived, everyone in the NCR (near 1000) will be getting a flyer mailed to them soon, potential layouts to be open is near 40+ and we have a great clinic schedule with some good names like John Bussard, Jim Six and our own Howard Andrews and Rich Mahaney! Heavy duty promotion to the public will also start in a few months and I will be visiting almost all other NCR Division meetings to promote the NCX. PLUS- we're going to make a DVD to send to other Divisions and Regions that are well within traveling distance to us. We'll have a full report at the next Div 6 meeting! NCX is ONLY 8 months away!

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. All total, there are about 8 Divisions in our Region.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat & Sunday, March 6-7 & 20-21 -
Detroit Model RR Club Open House
Holly, MI Times- Noon-5pm
adults \$4, kids-teens 5-18 \$2,
under 5 FREE, seniors 65 & older \$3
Info- 248-634-5811 www.dmrrc.org

Sunday, March 7 - Gratiot
Valley Train Show & Sale,
Macomb Community College Sports &
Expo Center 10am-4pm Adults
\$5.50, Children 12 & Under Free
Info- 586-468-4877 www.gvrr.org

Sunday, March 14 - T T O S -
Wolverine Div Toy Train Show & Sale
United Food & Comm Workers Hall
876 Horace Brown Dr Madison Hgts
10am-2pm everyone \$3
Info- Bob Burgee 586-752-1839

Sunday, March 14 - Greater Toledo
Train/Toy Show/Sale Gladieux
Meadows 4480 Heatherdowns Blvd
Toledo, OH 11am-4pm Adults \$6,
Children 12 and under free, early-
birds \$8 Info- 419-389-0753

trainmasters@bex.net

Saturday, March 20 - "Ray
Nikolai's" Railroadians & Model
Train Show & Sale - Bluewater NRHS
Taylor Trade Center 22525 Ecorse Rd
Taylor, MI 10:30am-3:30pm
Adults \$4, Children 12 and under
free, family \$6, early-birds \$10
Info- John Moore 248-541-1000

Sunday, March 21 - TRAIN-O-RAMA
EXTRA 2010 Costick Community Center
28600 11 Mile Rd Farmington Hills
10am-4pm \$5, kids under 12 free
with adult

Info- Pierre Willermet 313-565-1027
pierre@hbc-benefitsandeducation.com

Sunday, March 21 - Mid-Michigan
Model Train Show & Flea Market
(formerly Clare Train Show)
Finch Fieldhouse CMU campus, Mt.
Pleasant, MI

11am-4pm \$4, kids under 10 free
Info- Larry Lewis 989-386-6987

Saturday, April 3- Train
Show/Sale Kalamazoo County
Fairgrounds Lake St Kalamazoo, MI
10am-3pm \$5
Info- Lorraine 269-372-6407

<http://KMRHS.org>

Sat/Sunday, April 17-18-
Pittsburgh Model RR Jamboree
Sewall Center, Robert Morris
University 6001 University Blvd
Pittsburgh, PA 15108
8am-8pm \$22 Non-members- \$32
Add \$5 after April 1st. Banquet \$28
Info- 412-276-6006
<http://keystonedivision.org>

Fri-Saturday, April 16-17- 2010
Great Lakes Model RR Symposium
South Bend Firefighters Association
4025 Lincoln Way West South Bend,
IN 574-220-4817

RAILROAD HISTORY

Norm did not have a chance for a
History lesson this past month.
Looking forward to another lesson
next month.

BEST WISHES

We are wishing Div 6 member Bill
McMillan PHD, a great and speedy
recovery from back surgery that
took place in February. Good Luck
and we'll see you soon!

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.

LARRY'S TROPHIES-ENGRAVING-SIGNS

awards-labels-nametags-plaques-decals

buttons-mouse pads-coffee mugs

key chains-luggage tags-tshirts

734-634-1226

larrystrophy@sbcglobal.net