

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

## ON THE RAILS...

AUGUST 2011

HELLO! Welcome to HOT!! If the recent weather does not get you into your basement to do some model railroading, it's still a great place to cool off! WOW, what a heat wave! Hope you are coping!

We have ONLY 3 months until the NCR convention - LANSING LEGACIES. It's time to support our fellow NCR Division, as they supported us last year. All the sign-up info is in the next HotBox!

We have ONLY 4 months until our annual FALL SHOW & WORKSHOP! Will you be signing on to help out? We need help with the raffle and the kitchen. Of course, we also NEED DISPLAYS!! The show is not a SHOW without the displays! WE NEED YOU!

Speaking of the HotBox, see the article on some latest news. Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had no new members at the last meeting. We had a good turnout at the meeting, despite summer and vacations. Good to see some of our old members back again - Dewey, Larry, Ken and Lynn! Hope you guys can make Div 6 a monthly activity! 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, AUGUST 19, 2011**. 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.

### BILL'S TOOL TIME

Div 6 member Bill Deeter presents different tools and ideas. This month Bill mentioned- extra long high speed drills for hard to reach places and LED flashlights, small and hi-power! Harbor Freight has LED flashlights on sale and free w/purchase! ACO and Production Tools has the drill sets. Looking forward to another tool tip next month. THANKS Bill!

### DIV 6 FALL SHOW & WKSHP

The 2011 Div 6 FALL SHOW & WORKSHOP is Sunday, Nov 27<sup>th</sup>. **Need someone to handle the auction!**

Mark Ellis is show chairman, contact him to help! There was also some discussion on if we will have the Bot Scouts return for this year. Mark will check into this and try to gauge the interest of local troops. Walt needs help with Kitchen (looking for someone to take over the following year). Sign-up sheets next month.

### NMRA AWARD PRESENTED

One of our past members of Div 6, who helped with the convention by hosting tours and is still an NMRA/NCR member - Ken Chick, received FOUR NMRA Certificates at the last meeting. Larry Wolohon, NCR Achievement Program Director, awarded Ken these certificates- Master builder scenery, Model RR engineer - civil, Model RR engineer - electrical and Chief Dispatcher. CONGRATULATIONS Ken!

### PRODUCT REVIEW

If you have a review item, see Howard before the meeting.

## DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Superintendent-** Howard Andrews  
734-728-4697 hwandrews@wowway.com  
**Asst. Superintendent-** Mark Ellis  
734-421-2673 emark@sbcglobal.net  
**Secretary-** Ed Beamish  
734-266-2301 nedbeam@provide.net  
**Treasurer-** Larry Wolohon  
734-454-4816  
larrywolohon@comcast.net

### OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF

Newsletter- Barry Hensel  
734-397-5182 Barry76Lt@wowway.com  
Clinics- **VOLUNTEER NEEDED!! AGAIN!**  
Layout Tours- JC Paschal  
248-624-0488  
charliecatsrr@yahoo.com  
History- Norm Logan  
248-348-2473 nlogan114@wowway.com  
Webmaster- Ed Beamish  
734-266-2301 nedbeam@provide.net  
Div 6 Fall Show- Mark Ellis  
734-421-2673 emark@sbcglobal.net  
Meeting Coffee- Walt Plentis  
248-535-8063 wwp4343@comcast.net

## RAILROAD HISTORY

Norm was at the last meeting, but his history lesson was also his clinic! Looking forward to another lesson soon.

## MODELING INFO W/LARRY

**LARRY'S TIPS** for this month were-  
\*\* Calcium carbide RR car is empty - used container from vet insulin for pet dog as containers, painted silver! Looks good!!  
\*\* Telephone poles are NOT brown - over a year old they turn white/gray - weathered with white paint, put straight pin in bottom for mounting and glass heads are painted white and then green metallic to look like glass.  
\*\* Dick Harden had a tip for Brick mortar on our structures- from Lowe's or other home stores, **Fast N Final** light weight spackling, a DAP product. Wipe on with fingers, wipe off excess if needed, dries solid! VERY cost effective!  
We look forward to more questions and/or tips next month!

## SHOW AND TELL

The subject for the last meeting was something dull and weathered! Items shown were- 40' boxcar Accurail; engineer's hat on old/weathered person; NYC truck; Erie boxcar; N scale stock car; N&W boxcar Bowser; O scale hopper car; "dirty money"; P2K RG loco; Tichy outside braced boxcar; flatcar with load; Sn3 boxcar; model T; brass loco; beer refer; covered hopper; FSM engine house (\$9 in 70's); RDG loco & flatcar; C&O hopper; BevBel boxcar (eye shadow & caulk); derrick car; O scale NYC boxcars; DPM store; PRR Red Caboose express boxcar; Roundhouse combine; Monon dbl door boxcar; hopper "naturally weathered"; Monon Loco; Tyco combine caboose; hopper; PRR L1 steam; covered hopper C&NW; covered hopper; LaBelle tank car; flatcar w/load; boxcar.

### Current Projects shown included-

PM dbl door boxcar O scale; kitbash factory using Walthers modular brick sections but scratch built pilasters; kitbash Denver station from N scale and HO scale kits; certificate for running a real GP9! We did have some members donate to the caboose, Thanks!

**NEXT MEETING--** passenger cars

## NCR HotBox NEWS

To accommodate NCR convention news this year and in the future, we will be shifting the publication dates of the HotBox by one month, starting with the 2011 Winter issue. Your NEW HotBox publication schedule is-

Spring- March 1

Summer - June 1

Autumn- September 1

Winter - December 1

We are also delaying the next issue, Autumn 2011 (due August 1) by 2 weeks at the most. This will help "bridge the gap" until the winter issue. We hope you will like this new schedule. Thanks for your support!

## DIV 6 MISC NEWS

Great Lakes Live Steamers running the first weekend of the month in Royal Oak, third weekend and special events at the Southgate site. Rides are free, donations requested/welcomed.

A review of recent boat trip on the Detroit River, narrated by Div 6 Ken Borq - EXCELLENT!! Next trip is on Aug 6<sup>th</sup> - [www.boatnerd.com](http://www.boatnerd.com) Go to the website and click on "2011 gathering schedule" scroll down to find Aug 6<sup>th</sup> date. Only \$30 per person.

Riders Hobby in Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor closing July 30<sup>th</sup>! This is the last Riders store from the original company. Riders in Flint and Grand Rapids are still open and under a different company.

Aug 13<sup>th</sup> \$55 bus trip to Clinton, MI and ride on the Southern Michigan RR. Bluewater NRHS.

## NMRA REPORT

NMRA VP Dave Thornton was at our meeting and gave us this report- The recent NMRA Convention had 2044 attendees! Canada has been removed from Central District; start of fund-raising for NMRA National museum - \$75K already raised; Diamond Club up to 100K with 9000 images; voted on standard for NMRA loco-net mostly for accessories control; dues increase and magazine subscription increase coming. Upcoming elections next year - Dave will be running for re-election, will need new President, other offices will also be up, 3 directors positions open; future NMRA national convention locations are- 2012 Grand Rapids 2013 Atlanta 2014 Cleveland 2015 Portland Possible future convention in England and possible convention on cruise ship down the west coast.

## DIV 6 WEBSITE

The new Div 6 website is up. Check it out at- [www.div6-ncr-nmra.com](http://www.div6-ncr-nmra.com)

## LANSING LEGACIES 2011

Will be held on Thursday-Sunday, Nov 3-6, 2011. Clinics, layout tours, ops sessions, proto-type tours, Saturday night dinner are the plans for the convention. See the application/registration form later in this newsletter. MORE information in the next HotBox!

## CLINIC

This months' clinic was by Div 6 member Norm Logan on the history of couplers on US railroads! Some of the facts that Norm covered are- Eli Janney "father" of modern coupler in 1868. Called the "strongest handshake in the world". Couplers look like two hands shaking. Master Car Builders Assoc. formed in 1867 to deal with car interchange. Assoc. adopted Janney coupler style. Lorenzo Coffin - succeeded in getting RR safety Bill passed to get safety equipt. on all cars. Norm talked about cut levers used to work couplers. He also went over the different types- Type E coupler - most common, final design in 1932. Lower Shelf type E couplers had extra material to prevent couplers from sliding up or down and apart. Double shelf couplers required on all tank cars! Type H coupler "tightlock" to eliminate slack. Used primarily in passenger operations, since 1937. 1943 F coupler made to mimic the H type for freight cars. WOW great info and great presentation! THANKS Norm!

**WE ALWAYS NEED CLINICS for our meetings!** If you are willing to do a clinic, please, e-mail or call or see Howard or Mark at the meetings and share your thoughts. We DO need a new Clinic Chairman, since Howard is our new Superintendent and Mark is busy with the Fall Show and Vice-Super! Please consider volunteering!!!

**NEXT MEETING-** John Bopp pictures from the National Convention

## LAYOUT TOURS

We have 2 tours for August - Mike Tranquilla and Paul Omilian, both in Livonia and very close to each other. Tours are SUNDAY, Aug 21 from 1pm-5pm.

If you are interested in hosting a tour, please contact JC.

**NEXT TOURS-** August 21 - see map

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Saturday-Sunday- Aug 6&7 -**  
Huckleberry RR Railfan days. shop tours and more!!

**Saturday-Sunday, August 20-21-**  
Diesel powered excursions during the Howell Melon Festival

**Saturday-Sunday, Sept 10-11-**  
"Hobo Days" at Steam Railroading Institute, 405 S Washington St Owosso, MI 989-725-9464  
[www.michigansteamtrain.com](http://www.michigansteamtrain.com)

**Sunday, Oct 30 -** Trainorama  
2011 Redford Model Railroad Club  
Costick Community Center 28600 11 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills, MI  
10am-4pm \$5 per person, children under 12 free with paid adult  
Contact Info- Pierre Willermet c/o Redford Model RR Club PO Box 40225 Redford, MI 48240 734-953-2546  
email- Pierre@hbc-benefitsandeducation.com

**Thursday-Sunday, November 3-6-**  
Lansing Legacies 2011 NCR Convention Ramada Lansing Hotel and Conference Center 7501 West Saginaw Highway Lansing, MI 48917  
Phone: 517-627-3211  
hosted by NCR Division 5 Website-  
[www.lansinglegacies2011.org](http://www.lansinglegacies2011.org)

**Sunday, November 27, 2011-**  
NMRA-NCR-Div 6 Fall Model Railroad Show & Workshop

Livonia Senior Center Five Mile and Farmington Rds Livonia, MI  
11am-4pm \$4 under 16 free! NOT a sale or swap meet!! Come and get your model railroading questions answered. See demonstrations on all facets of model railroading. Hourly raffles for prizes and model contests. Snacks- refreshments available. Barrier Free building!

Website- [www.div6-ncr-nmra.com](http://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! And don't forget our "Surplus Table" at every meeting where you can bring in items for sale.



**Daves Hobby & TV**  
Stop here for all your hobby needs



29026 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185  
734-422-4464

**MERRI-SEVEN**  
Trains • Hobbies • Collectibles  
19155 Merriman Rd.  
Livonia, Michigan  
48152


248-477-0550  
Fax: 248-477-0770



Phone: (734) 722-5700  
Fax: (734) 722-3620

**Nankin Hardware & Hobby**

35101 Ford Road  
Westland, MI 48185



Phone: (248) 919-0040

**Nankin Hobby**

33350 W 9 Mile Rd  
Farmington, MI 48336

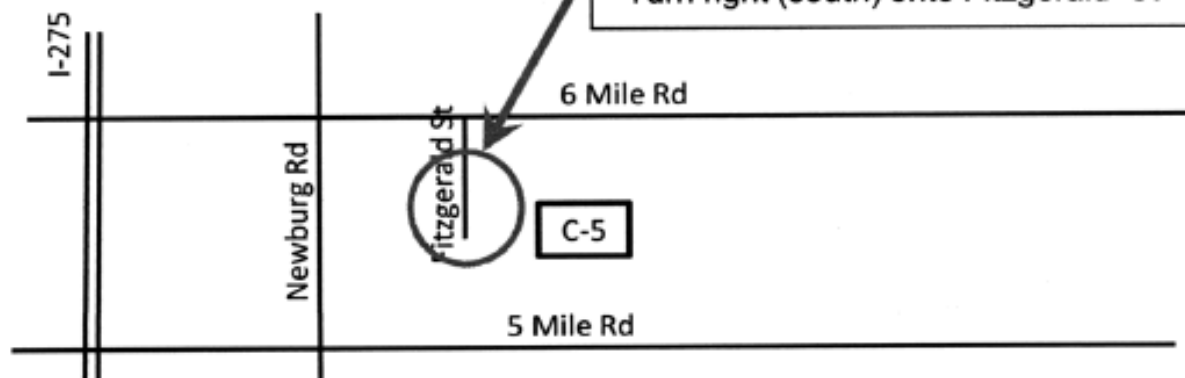
## Division 6 NMRA Layout tours for August 21, 2011

1pm – 5pm

C-5  
Michael Tranquilla  
16823 Fitzgerald St  
Livonia, Mich. 48154-1617

HO Standard Gauge - Burlington Pacific  
The Burlington Pacific is a steam and diesel era layout with continuous operation, with 1 branch line. Modeled from the 1950's to the 1980's with scratch-built structures in all five towns

- Follow east bound 6 Mile Rd to Fitzgerald St.
- Turn right (south) onto Fitzgerald St



C-7  
Paul Omilian  
35490 Southhampton St  
Livonia, Mich. 48154-2216

HO Standard Gauge  
A 20' x 10' two level walk-in layout, scenery is 95% completed. A small-town Bridge Railroad servicing a large industrial district and a coal mine. It has 3 staging yards and interchanges with 2 class A railroads.

- Follow 6 Mile Rd. east to Country Club and turn right (south)
- Follow Country Club to Southhampton St

