



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

ON THE RAILS...

FEBRUARY 2012

WOW, one month of 2012 already gone?! As they say, time flies when you're having fun and I hope you are having fun at model railroading! If not, why?? It's winter, time for "OUR" hobby to shine so get your model railroading ON! And while you are doing that, how about showing and telling the rest of us about it by giving a clinic at a Div 6 meeting? YES, WE NEED YOU! Our Div 6 monthly meetings are great and we do "squeak by" on clinics. How about Div 6 becoming a clinic leader in the NCR? We need you! Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had no new members at the last meeting. To all Div 6 members, **WELCOME ABOARD!**

DIV 6 WEBSITE

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

RAILROAD HISTORY

Norm was not at the last meeting and thus we had no history lesson. Looking forward to another lesson soon.

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, FEBRUARY 17, 2012**. 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 - 10pm.

PRODUCT REVIEW

Member John Bopp had a review of the Model Railroader 75 years DVD collection. This is 75 years (1934-2009) of MR magazine all on computer disks in pdf format for easy viewing and access. John says the set is very nice and is easy to use with TONS of information. It can be installed 2 ways- basic where you will need to use the disks to access issues (3GB) or full install where everything is stored on your hard drive for faster access (24 GB). Price for the set is \$200. If you have a review item, see Howard before the meeting.

DIV 9 DISBANDED

Unfortunately, with a low roster of members and very low meeting attendance, it was decided at the December Div 9 (Ann Arbor Area) meeting to disband. Their recommendation is for interested model railroaders to join Div 6 and attend our meetings. WELCOME Div 9 members!

MODELING INFO W/LARRY

LARRY'S TIPS for this month were- Larry showed how he uses old plastic downspout and foam to hold locomotives to work on them. He also showed a model of a car on cinder blocks - nice!! We look forward to more questions and/or tips next month!

DIV 6 REWARDS

REMEMBER- When you shop at either Nankin Store and tell them you're a Division 6 member, they will apply your purchase to the Division 6 Bonus Plan.

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- Joe Bliss
734-453-1913 jwbliss50@hotmail.com
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

LAYOUT TOURS

Unfortunately, we did not get any layouts for January. But we're set for February with Glenn Joppich and Norm Logan on Sunday, Feb 12th. If you are interested in hosting a tour, please contact JC.

NEXT TOURS- Glenn Joppich and Norm Logan on Sunday, Feb 12th and working on some for March - volunteers needed! See map!

BILL'S TOOL TIME

Div 6 member Bill Deeter presents different tools and ideas. This month Bill showed us a nifty steel step stool available at Target for only \$10. Bill also showed us his plan of action for tools - a separate tool bag/box for tools to do specific jobs. That way when he has a certain job to do, he simply grabs the right tool box! Looking forward to another tool tip next month. THANKS Bill!

CLINIC

Joe Bliss, our clinic chairman, gave an impassioned plea to the Div 6 membership to volunteer to do a clinic for an up-coming Div 6 meeting. WE NEED YOU! Div 6 is squeaking by on our monthly clinics. May I even suggest that you CAN give a short clinic, maybe a 30 minute clinic and we could do two of these at a meeting. I suggest a short clinic on a subject that does not need too much explaining. This will "get your feet wet" and then maybe you can tackle a longer clinic next time. Please.....

This months' clinic was presented by Rich Mahaney, who was in for the weekend and is back in Saudi for work. Rich's clinic was titled "OMG" or "Did you see that?!!" What it covered was some of the unusual items that we can incorporate into our model railroads. Things like- animals. No, not just in a barn yard, but as signs or advertisements for businesses. Different odd shaped buildings and others brightly colored. Another interesting item was items like water tanks painted to look like cans of soup, silos painted to look like beer bottles, etc. Like animals, vehicles can also be used for advertising instead of placed on your roads - junk car on top of an auto repair shop building, or a boat used for advertising fishing items. These ideas relate to railroad equipment as well, box car for a storage shed, caboose for an ice cream shop or on display in a park and passenger cars as restaurants. Rich showed all of these and more in his slide show, both proto-type items and those he has seen on layouts. SO... when we look, do we really "see"? Nice clinic as always from Rich - THANKS!!!

WE ALWAYS NEED CLINICS for our meetings! If you are willing to do a clinic, please, e-mail or call Joe Bliss.

NEXT MEETING- DVD on how to build & detail a ref car.

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

With the passing of Tom Harris, there is a L shape N scale layout for sale, was Tom's for his apt - contact Glenn Joppich at 734-464-6004 or steambigot@yahoo.com

The family of passed Div 6 member Steve Mack was at the last Div 6 meeting, selling the last of Steve's models. Thanks for your support!

John Wissinger talked about the up-coming regional convention in the Pittsburgh, PA area. The dates are April 26-29. Of special interest are steel mill tours, tours of RR bridges. For more info go to www.highlinepittsburgh.org

Woodland Scenics had a fire in one of their buildings a few weeks ago. Thankfully, no one was injured and the loss of the building will not hold up orders or production too much.

A factory in China that produces model RR items for several manufacturers was closed. This could mean higher prices for some items in the future.

NMRA RECRUITING TABLE

There will be a table at the Ann Arbor Train Show to recruit new members for the NMRA. **Volunteers are needed to staff the table!** John Wissinger is coordinating and has items describing the benefits of NMRA membership, NMRA magazines and application forms. If you are willing to sit at the table for 1-2 hours on either Saturday Feb. 18 and/or Sunday Feb 19 please email or contact John at 734-433-1658 or jww99nmra@hotmail.com

West Point Hobby, Inc.

313-538-2189

www.westpointhobby.com

Mon - Thr 1:30 - 6:00

Fri 1:30 - 7:00

Sat 10:30 - 7:00

Sun 12:00 - 5:00

HOLIDAY HOURS MAY VARY

25531 W Seven Mile Rd
Redford Twp, MI 48240

CLASSIFIED ADS

We are happy to place classified ads for Div 6 members. The cost is \$2 per ad! And don't forget our "Surplus Table" at every meeting where you can bring in items for sale.

FOR SALE- complete Rail Command power system- main power station, 2 aux boosters, 10 plug-in ports, coax cable, 8 throttles **ALL = \$300** Call/see Barry Hensel 734-397-5182

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 5

St. Simon & Jude Toy Train Show
Westland, MI Noon to 4pm
Info- Norm Swope 734-595-8723
Noon till 10pm

Saturday-Sunday, February 18-19

Ann Arbor Model RR Club 42nd
Annual Train Show and Sale
Saline Middle School Saline, MI
Sat- 10am-4pm Sun- 10am-3pm
Website- www.a2trainshow.com

Sunday, February 26

Lapeer Model RR Club 27th Swapmeet
American Legion Post #16
Lapeer, MI 10am to 3pm
Info: Vern Sollman VP 810-441-0091

Sunday, March 4

Gratiot Valley Train Show & Sale
Macomb Comm Coll Sports/Expo Ctr
Warren, MI 48088 10am - 4pm
Website: <http://www.gvrr.org>

SHOW AND TELL

The subject for the last meeting was what you got for Christmas - self-given or not. I'm not sure if we finished the member stories, we had a few we didn't get to. On those Christmas gifts, we had a train watch, several book and DVD's, quits a few locomotives in both steam and diesel, many structure kits, some rolling stock, a few tools and Christmas decorations. Looks like most of us were pretty good last year!

Current Projects shown included- Building of a switcher and building signal bridges that work! Guessing we had a few members that were not so good and had to donate to the caboose - THANKS!!

NEXT MEETING-- refrigerator cars

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

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



Do it Best Phone: (734) 722-5700
 Fax: (734) 722-3620

Nankin Hardware & Hobby

35101 Ford Road
 Westland, MI 48185

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

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

Do it Best Phone: (248) 919-0040

Nankin Hobby

33350 W 9 Mile Rd
 Farmington, MI 48336

DIVISION 6 LAYOUT TOURS – SUNDAY, FEB 12, 2012

Glenn Joppich
 16353 Fairway St.
 Livonia, Mich. 48154
 Sunday 1pm-4pm

HO Standard Gauge

The Manistee & North Eastern is located in the rural area of Michigan's northern Lower Peninsula during the 1920's. It serves the northern hardwood forests at the end of the logging era with small towns and businesses associated with the logging industry. The layout is a point to point, all steam operation and features a variety of scratch built and kit bashed and kit built buildings. Motive power is from the NYC, MC, PM, C&O and GTW. 75% of the track and 25% of the scenery is complete.



Norm Logan
 42306 Westmeath Rd
 Northville, Mich. 48168-2058
 Sunday 12noon-4pm

HO Standard Gauge

The Michigan Southern is a 3 deck free lance layout set in the 1970's. It is a bridge line between Detroit and Louisville with the auto industry as its main customer. DCC, working signals, CTC board with lots of operation, with 26 railroads interchanging with the MS