

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

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 20, 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.

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RAILROAD HISTORY

Norm was at the last meeting and gave us a history lesson. It was part of the story titled- "Mistakes of a young RR telegraph operator" and was the story of a young man just out of high school and he went to the train station and began learning telegraphy. He gained a station assignment quickly and learned to fear a certain dispatcher. His skills did not really improve with time. He got very lucky copying orders not quite fully correct and caused no accidents. The story is from American Magazine in 1909! Looking forward to another lesson soon.

ON THE RAILS...

JANUARY 2012

OK, 2012 is here! A new year that hopes to be better than the last and a good year for us all. Here's hoping that comes true for all of you! Health and prosperity to you! The Fall Show & Workshop went very well. THANKS to all who had a hand in the show - great job! More show details in a minute....

Thanks to those that stopped by on the Div 6 Layout Tours last month. It was our pleasure to host you. I hope your Holidays were good, you enjoyed time with family and friends and you received some model railroading items for presents. Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had two new members at the last meeting. Please welcome Matt Letts who models in HO, Neil Harbott, who is from Britain and models British railways in OO scale and Michael Sutinen. We had a good turnout at the meeting, approx. 50 attended. 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

DIV 6 FALL SHOW & WKSHP

The 2011 Div 6 FALL SHOW & WORKSHOP is history!! Here are the facts of the 2011 event- we had 130 paid at the door and 42 scouts. The Raffle and kitchen both made money and with the admissions, we netted about \$1025. Not sure what expenses we have, but they will be about half or so of the net. While we hope for a bigger attendance, we did do good! Everything went smoothly - good work by all!! MANY Thanks to all that helped! Many THANKS to Mark for being show Chairman!! We did take a few minutes and discussed good and bad aspects of the show. The GOOD- was that parents must pay with scouts. Scouts are free, but parents should pay, which was the policy we had set forth. While the bad aspects seem to out-number the good, these are good constructive suggestions, not really what was "bad" with the show. Not so Good and suggestions are- Train set on floor not present and was missed (we did have a Thomas layout to play with); Not enough turnout? (yes attendance was "normal" for our event, and we are always hoping for better, however we did everything we could do publicity wise) Warn parents with kids about models- this is easy enough to do with signs. Each display should have a sign/handout of what you are doing- again a good suggestion and easy to do. Non-scouts to do some scout activities and award a certificate- this will take some time to work out and see if this is possible. SO, all in all another great Div 6 Fall Show! We'll start it all again in about 8 months. OOPS, so very sorry in the last newsletter that we missed the great donation by Merri-7 Hobbies! They donated all the model/photo contest prizes! BIG Thanks!! And BIG thanks to all of our local hobby shops for supporting us! See their ads later in this newsletter. LASTLY, another bright spot for the Fall Show is that we have a

request from Scouts to do a second event - aimed at the merit badge program only. If we did this, it would not open to public. We'll discuss this at a future meeting.

MODELING INFO W/LARRY

LARRY'S TIPS for this month were- He was building auto frames for a load, hard to glue together, made assembly jig from light scrap wood that holds in place for gluing. Used tweezers with angled head to lever out the frames. Another tip was about paint- add 3 BB's to every paint jar to keep paint fluid and as a check - shake can, hear BB's? paint still good! Breaking in an engine - check directions from manufacturer. We look forward to more questions and/or tips next month!

PRODUCT REVIEW

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

DIV 6 SYMPATHIES

We received notice that long time Div 6 member Tom Harris had passed away on Nov 28th at the age of 90. Tom has been living at the Henry Ford retirement community, where he started a model railroad group there. They even hosted several layout tours at the community. While Tom had not attended the Div 6 meetings for awhile, he did attend the Fall Show to visit with us. He will be missed.

LAYOUT TOURS

THANKS to Marty, Dave and Barry for hosting the December Layout Tours! We hope you took advantage of seeing these great layouts! Unfortunately, we did not get any layouts for January, so there will be no tours this coming month. If you are interested in hosting a tour, please contact JC. **NEXT TOURS-** should have some in February - volunteers needed!

BILL'S TOOL TIME

Div 6 member Bill Deeter presents different tools and ideas. This month Bill showed how to use butter lids on tape rolls to keep edges safe and clean. They also good paint pallets. Bill found a good wire stripper made in USA - looks like pliers. Next was a small wood roller to help tape adhere to surfaces. Bill also showed a paint kit from Harbor freight, good deal and had many pieces including a plastic roller like the wood one just mentioned. Plastic scrapers for fiberglass work or plaster - can make into any shape for many uses. Last item shown was a heat gun - helps to bend styrene and shrink tubing items. Run on cool setting to cool down after use.

A modeling TIP by Barry was that Flags for denoting where sewer and electrical lines are buried in ground - most/many are made of styrene rod - take flags when work is DONE, cut flag off and you have free styrene rod!!

There was a question from Marty on how to unglue parts? One suggestion was to apply more glue, that will then soften the old glue and you could then pull parts apart. There is also a UNbonding agent made mostly for ACC. Looking forward to another tool tip next month. THANKS Bill!

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.

CLINIC

This months' clinic was part of the show & tell on how you got involved in the hobby of model railroading.

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

NEXT MEETING- ???

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

Christmas run for GLLS - 2000 riders! It was a good season for them! Check them out next year!

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

Div 6 member Steve Mack, passed away about a year ago. His family still has some left over N scale items and will be at next Div 6 meeting.

Dave J reported that Model RR News magazine is now out of production. General production costs and down subscriptions led to the publication stop.

We believe there will be some FREE mirrors at next meeting!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 8, 2012;

T.T.O.S. Wolverine Division Toy Train Show
United Food & Commercial Workers Hall 876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071
10am to 2pm \$3.00 per person
Food & Refreshments available
Contact Information- Bob Burgee
586-662-0225

Saturday, Jananuary 7, 2012-

20th Riverbend Model Railroad Club Train Show
The Home School Building 5625
Burlingame Ave. Wyoming, MI 49509
10 am - 3:30 pm Adults -
\$5.00, Children 10 and under- Free
Website- <http://rmrrc.org>

Sunday, January 15, 2012-

A TRAIN SHOW
Avondale High School 2800
Waukegan Auburn Hills, MI 48326
10am - 3pm Adults \$3,
Children 12 & Under FREE
Website-
<http://www.troytrainshow.org>

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.

SHOW AND TELL

The subject for the last meeting was your story on how you got involved in our hobby and why you model what you do' We almost got through the whole room and we're sorry we didn't quite get everyone. However, we will finish at the next meeting, if you didn't get the chance to tell your story. Surprisingly, everyone was willing to tell their story, so we had NO quarters collected this past month! I'm sorry that I could not type in your whole story, but I hope I hit the highlights of your story. The stories are-

Jim Z- Copper Valley RR HO - 3rd version, what if- copper country in Michigan that continued to operate instead of being abandoned. Name came about due to wife's police duties and where police lived in Detroit. "COP-per country"

Dick H- C&NW, liked color scheme and northern Michigan - proto-freelanced.

Marty- BN-SD , named for MI State, liked green diesels with white face; wife from Nebraska so it all fits, running modern era - did not merge with SF

Tom K- 1970's Burlington - just starting layout CBQ- liked black scheme

Dave J- photographer first, modeler second- has models of all favorite MI railroads

Russ - history buff; modeling Northern Pacific; liked paint scheme

Eric - fictitious RR; Harbor & Grosse Point RR named after dad's home towns

Jim F- modeling the New York Central very early 60's, Greenfield road east.

Bob McK- Monon RR, saw as kid; lost river RR named after land owned in town

Jim G- American flyer, some HO and O; modeling 1946-67.

Joe K- HO and N PRR items, no layout at present;

Roy J- models C&O/pere Marquette, started in 1976, John Armstrong layout from book;

Joe Bliss- started 1976, Allegany Central- based on C&O; freelanced in steam era, layout still going strong

Doug M - no layout at present, plans to be fictional layout in Michigan east to west pt-to-pt,

Bill McM- CN early scheme in green, Father electrical contractor that did work for CN and Bill went with dad to yard/shop areas, modeling in G

Dave K- models PRR in O scale, started in hobby in '49; was based in Lionel, but migrated to scale Built present layout in 1.5 years!

Connie- ho scale based in northern Maine, will be a military based layout and B&M,

Walt- PRR in HO scale, based on layout in MR that is heavy on industry, went to NC to see actual layout, adjusted plan to fit room. Started in 2005 and with RG help, up and running.

Bill D- working with son-in-law and grandson, layout at their house, 4R Robert Reading Rail Road; mostly based for coal hauling and includes big coal dock & freighter + regular switching

Barry- started with Lionel and Christmas trains, got own HO about 10 years old, brother gave me GP20's in Reading - liked paint scheme, green favorite color - got back into hobby and friend enticed me to do research and model the Reading - the rest is history....

Jim T- PRR in HO scale, mid 50's plus B&O - 2 layouts in one that interchange; Proto-freelanced, in 1998 got back into hobby started layout in 2001;

Norm- models Michigan Southern, 3rd layout, met Bruce Caddy in school where both taught, and went to OPS session. Designed layout to be from Michigan south to Louisville - thus "MI Southern"

Don B- fell in love with the Southern Pacific, colors and all types of steam, HO scale layout in progress as part of the RG,

Doug M- Lionel to HO as child; found book in Joe's Hobby store- all about C&O steam, that set what to model, modeling New River Gorge in HO

Hank M- likes gear driven loco's, so has branched off of Doug's C&O with logging line

Mike S- free lanced copper country layout, parents raised in mine areas,

Dan K- narrow gauge in S scale, interested from grand-fathers Lionel set. Working on layout for past 15 years

John W- born/raised in Pittsburgh, near interurban lines, but interested in steam-coal, book on trolley modeling formed basis of interest and now modeling, but did keep some steam too. RR named shared with famous editor, but was had at same time.

Irwin- never had Lionel, but got HO train as 10 yr old - Fleishman brand. Lived in Pittsburgh area and grew up with PRR, but found N&W! found Keystone WV, real place the N&W went through, became RR name, Keystone Valley. Modeling HO

Matt L- (new guy) no layout at present, planned, lived in Kansas, was/is SF fan, and others in area

John B- started with Am Flyer! Interested in 1900 time period, collected much equipment - Oakridge & Western - short line freelanced HO scale to be built based on DL&W

Neil H- new guy, grandfather from S Wales; coal in that area, grandfather started in hobby and I followed. models Great Western RR

MaryAnn- 1972 train set present for mother's day! Has lots of Lionel, had family working for RR's; no layout at present


Wally S- 3 layouts in HO, O and G scales. Lots of personal history with model railroading.

Current Projects shown included- current project of stock car weighed, detailed, etc...

NEXT MEETING-- what you got for Christmas - self-given or not

And we'll finish the member stories too.

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Fri 1:30 - 7:00
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HOLIDAY HOURS MAY VARY

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