

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

ON THE RAILS...

JUNE 2012

Well I hope your last Div 6 meeting was a good time. Yes, I missed another one, had a family gathering to attend. Yikes! THANKS to Ed again, for taking notes for me for this newsletter. If it helps, I had my Div 6 shirt on at work all day? No? Oh well. The NMRA National Convention is only 2 months away. Are you goin'? Your next HotBox will be out soon and may be by the time you read this. Lots of good info in the new issue. Hope you enjoy it. OOPS... looking into June, I may miss that meeting too - Camaro show in Canada that I usually attend. Hmm... 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!

PRODUCT REVIEW

There was a Product Review by Div 6 Member Norm Logan on using model airplane push rods to help with manual throw turnouts in hard to reach places. The 0.047" dia rods work great and are \$7.50 for two rods. If you have a review item, see Howard before the meeting.

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, JUNE 15, 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.

NMRA NATIONAL CONV '12

The NMRA National Convention - Grand Rails '12, will be held on Sunday, July 29- Saturday, August 4, 2012. The convention and National Train Show will be held at Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and the Convention Center in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The sponsoring club - Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society. THEY are looking for HELP!! They have been told that they need to provide for some jobs/people that they had not anticipated. If you can volunteer, please contact Mark Baldwin, Volunteer Coordinator at 248-362-1067. Jobs needing help are Contest Room Security, Silent Auction set-up and distribution and registration table on Sunday and Monday. There is the possibility of free or low cost rooms available to the volunteers. There is also the chance that some convention profits will be directed to the NCR if volunteers help. Please call soon!! The Grand Rails 2012 website- www.gr2012.org

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

Get Well and Best Wishes to Div 6 member Bob McKibben, who is in the hospital with cancer difficulties.

GLLS - Great Lakes Live Steamers reports their first outing for 2012 was a success with near or over 700 riders on each day!

There is another Bluewater RHS River Trip planned with your host being Div 6 member Ken Borg. \$47 per ticket and a pizza lunch is included. The trip is on Saturday, July 21st. More info on the website www.bluewaternrhs.com

BILL'S TOOL TIME

Div 6 member Bill Deeter presents different tools and ideas. This month Bill showed another pliers holder he made from wood and a bent rod - neat! Looking forward to another tool tip next month. THANKS Bill!

MODELING INFO W/LARRY

LARRY'S TIPS for this month were- flat car loads held on with magnets, thus interchangeable and the car can also be empty; Touch & Flow for applying glue evenly and without over gluing; a wood stop for the end of track sections made with the help of a jig for use on a drill press. Good stuff!

In other modeling tips - Div 6 member Hockey showed palm trees he made from silk flower materials bought at Michaels. Also, someone mentioned that kids tv dinner trays make great part bins. AND, "Flexible Part Repair Material" is a flexible material like epoxy and can have many uses in our hobby. We look forward to more questions and/or tips next month!

RAILROAD HISTORY

Norm was at the last meeting and gave us a history lesson from the April OPS Sig newsletter. Norm and the newsletter mentioned some of the paperwork that makes running trains more fun and prototypical. Switch Lists were the main way that crews knew where cars were headed. These were carried by crews as they walked the train, checking each form. Many times, the switch lists were in the caboose, the "train office". These forms also included all of the cars information - weight, time arrived, time left, delayed, etc. And to think, all of this was done by hand! Thanks Norm! Looking forward to another lesson soon.

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.

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DIV 6 REWARDS

REMEMBER- When you shop at either Nankin Store and tell them you're a "Division 6" member, or customer #1066 and they will apply your purchase to the Div 6 Bonus Plan.

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DIV 6 WEBSITE

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

CLINIC

This months' clinic was on making signals by Div 6 member and clinic chairman Joe Bliss. In his presentation, Joe showed how he takes the ever-popular Bachman signal bridge and turns it into a C&O-Pere Marquette prototype! Joe showed many other type of signals and talked about the many manufacturers that have parts available to make your own prototype signals for your layout. These include- Tomar Ind (from Michigan!); Oregon Rail Supply; Bachman and Walthers. For the electronics part of signals, check with Radio Shack, Mouser Electronics, Digi-Key, Jameco and a web-based www.LED-switch.com Good info and a great clinic!

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

SHOW AND TELL

The subject for the last meeting was signals! Surprisingly, many people had signals to show, including- many books on signals; cantilever; dwarf; American Flyer; semaphore; Model Power; Oregon Rail Supply; Bachman bridge; 3 light style; O scale; several toy signals- Marx, MTH, Lionel; caboose signal light; live steam FRED signal; crossing type and grade crossing signals.

Current Projects shown included- Walthers modular building and a PCC #107 trolley replica (as used in Detroit). Of special note, Rich Borsis had brought a signal lantern and demonstrated several hand signals used during train operations! We had a few members that donated to the caboose - THANKS!!
NEXT MEETING-- a photo that YOU took of current or past, model or prototype railroading

LAYOUT TOURS

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday-Saturday, July 29 - August 4, 2012 - GRAND RAILS 2012 77th NMRA National Convention

Friday-Sunday, August 3-5, 2012 GRAND RAILS 2012 National Train Show All the details are available on the website- www.gr2012.org

Thursday, August 30, 2012
All Aboard For Model Trains!!!
Detroit Model Railroad Club
President Dave Thorton talks about model railroading and enjoying operating model trains! only \$5 7:30pm at Troy Historic Village 60 West Wattles Rd Troy, MI
For more info call 248-524-3570



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