



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

ON THE RAILS...

MAY 2009

WOW, from winter to a quick summer! With better weather, our beloved hobby takes a back seat to many other activities. But, maybe you can do both? Say you're on a trip, maybe a small tool box with a structure kit and you have hobby time. A weekend at the cabin and that small tool box comes along again for a little hobby time. Of course, you have to be careful and not spend all of that time with the hobby, but even if you only spend an hour or two over a whole weekend, at least you got some hobby time in. Here's hoping your coming summer has some of that hobby time included in it!

Believe it or not, our Div 6 Fall Show & Workshop is only 6 months away. And our hosting of the NCR convention is 1.5 years away! Good times are a coming! Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

DIV 6 ELECTIONS

We're due for a Div 6 election for our leadership positions. Official nominations will be held at the next meeting. As far as I remember, all current officers are willing to serve another term. However, if you are interested in being a Div 6 officer, feel free to have yourself nominated!

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, MAY 15, 2009**. 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.

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 a 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. Oakland and Macomb Counties are Division 8, the Ann Arbor area is Division 9. All total, there are 8 Divisions in our Region.

LAYOUT TOURS

Div 6 members Doug & Hank Meyer will be open for Layout Tour on Sunday, May 17, from 1pm-4pm. They are working on a very large layout and their progress has been good! It will be very interesting to see that progress and future plans! One small mention, they live off of dirt roads, approx. 1-2 miles from the closest paved road - but it's worth the trip!!

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

NEXT TOURS- Doug & Hank Meyer on Sunday, May 17, 1pm-4pm

DIV 6 WEBSITE

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

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

We need a Div 6 member to research movie screens, so we can move forward with getting one for our meeting room. It will be donated to the City as our donation for the use for the room and building during the Fall Show. Doug M volunteered to take this on - THANKS!

Dennis Jameyfield created a few suggestions for a new Div 6 logo. The membership looked at these, but decided on not changing at this time. Thanks for your efforts Dennis!! We'll keep these on file. Roy Jones has reported that our Div 6 logo first appeared on the January 1985 newsletter! Thanks for the information/history!

Since we're not changing our logo, Glenn has located a source for DIV 6 polo shirts. The prices will be small-XL = \$15, XXL/XXXL = \$18. These are for shirts with no pocket. Pocket shirts could be a few dollars more. There will also be a onetime \$90 fee for digitizing the logo. We will get prices for pocket shirts and for having your name put on the shirts too. Everyone agreed that a dark gray color for the shirts would make the black-yellow logo stand out nicely.

Bill Deeter brought in some neat styrene sheets for FREE. THANKS!

There is a NEW Online magazine called the Model Railroad Hobbyist. There are 2 versions available, download size being the difference and both are FREE!! Go to-

www.model-railroad-hobbyist.com

NEW NCR WEBSITE

The NEW NCR website is up... this is where the HotBox will be posted! You must have Adobe9 to view the HotBox. Check out- **www.ncr-nmra.org** The new MAY 2009 issue of the HotBox should now be posted!

SHOW AND TELL

The subject for the last meeting was associated with last month's clinic - uses for older railroad rolling stock. Items presented were- Tank car fueling facility; box car storage; caboose hobo shack; maintenance of way baggage car into a model RR club house; N scale tank for water tank for HO bldg; box car for yard office; box car office; hopper car retaining wall; PRR X23 box car to caboose; passenger car diner; box car to crew quarters; caboose to yard office; caboose as yard office (also fits over Atlas switch machine); steam engine changed wheels from 2-8-2 to 2-10-2; box car for RR crews. Current projects shown at the meeting were- built drawer for DCC stuff; track plan on cad; trees; PRR storage shed kit; steam engine rebuild; switch list from computers; DPM kit; freight house; redo of electric engine for 7.5" gauge live steam; NYC passenger car kit. We also thank those, who donated to the caboose! We hope you can bring in something next month.

NEXT MEETING- maintenance of way equipment

RAILROAD HISTORY

History "Prof" Norm was absent but sent a lesson to be read... VP Bill did the honors. Victoria Secret... oops Station! Story of restaurant that was in several cities. The building was made up of 3 box cars, caboose and regular building in between the cars! Story was from the musing of a bartender that worked at one location. Opened Dec 1969 by 3 partners, known as the "big 3", the chain started in San Francisco. There was one in our area - on Northwestern Hwy near Inkster. It closed about 15 years ago as the chain went bankrupt. Looking forward to another lesson next month.

PRODUCT REVIEW

If you have an item to review, see Glenn before the meeting starts.

MODELING INFORMATION

We had a few questions at the last meeting-

** Someone was asking about wallpaper for backdrop scenery. The answer is to check Sherwin-Williams paint stores and Merri-7 Hobby Store is reported to have some.

** Another question was about the Fast Track turnout jigs for hand making turnouts. Reports are they make good quality, reliable and good looking turnouts. Decent price and actually cheaper as you make more and more...! Central Valley makes turnout kits too. We look forward to more questions, tips next month!

NCX - NCR-DIV 6 '10 CONV

The **North Central Express** is October 16-18, 2010. Our hotel is the Marriott Detroit-Livonia, located at Laurel Park Place. AT the last Div 6 meeting our convention update included this information-

- We're working on our official logo, a NYC Hudson with the Detroit Depot in the background
- instead of a convention car, we'll have BILLBOARDS! Athearn made billboards with the convention logo on it in HO and N scale. We hope to sell these for \$7-8 each.
- Mr. Art Fahie, owner of Bar Mills Models has agreed to be our keynote speaker! He may do a clinic too.
- we REALLY need someone well versed in audio-visual equipment
- layout owners will start to be solicited during this coming summer for the tour schedule.
- most everything will be in place by this years NCR convention in Fort Wayne, so we can start accepting registrations at that convention!

The NCX staff is missing a few more people- Door prizes and goodie bags; Hobby shops; Audio Visual. We REALLY need a person or two, that is skilled at audio-visual!! If you would like to be part of the Planning Team and fill one of these spots, just give BARRY a call or email!

DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Div 6 Fall Show- Doug Mayer 248-486-0608 Div6workshop@hotmail.com
Meeting Coffee- Walt Plentis
248-535-8063 wwp4343@sbcglobal.net

CLINIC

We borrowed a dvd of a clinic by local MMR Dan Lewis on detailing and kitbashing DPM building kits. **www.desperate.com** - is a great source for building signage! The DVD showed several structures and how Dan modified them into very individual buildings, by doing simple modifications - window treatments, foundations, porches, additions, roof detailing and "gizmotology". Jack Watson did the honors of reading through the clinic. Good info, great pictures and lots of information. 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- not sure at this time, but we hope to have something by time the meeting comes along.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We did have one new members at the last meeting. Please welcome Chuck Tyler. To all Div 6 members, WELCOME ABOARD!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday-Sunday, starting May 2-3 and first weekend each month thru October-

Open House/Layout Tour/train rides;
Great Lakes Live Steamers - Northern
Div Starr-Jaycee Park, Royal Oak, MI
13 Mile, east of Woodward Ave

Saturday-Sunday, starting May 16-17 and third weekend each month thru

October- Open House/Layout Tour/train rides; Great Lakes Live Steamers - Southern Div Kiwanis Park, Southgate, MI Trenton Rd, south of Eureka Rd.

12noon-4PM Admission Fees- donation

Sunday, May 17- Durand Railroad Days Train Show and Flea Market

Durand Middle School E. Lansing Highway Durand, MI 48429 11am to 4pm Admission Fees- \$3, children under 12 free Annual Model Train Show and Flea Market held during Durand Railroad Days

Saturday, May 30- Lansing Model RR Club-Be A Tourist In Your Own Town Open House Model Railroad, Museum Event, Open House, Operating Exhibit, Tours Lansing Model Railroad Club 5309 Old Lansing Road Lansing, MI 48917 10am to 5pm Donation suggested for model railroad club.

Sunday-Saturday, July 5-11
NMRA National Conv. Hartford, CT

Friday-Sunday, July 24-26-

TrainFestival 2009-
Steam RRing Institute, Owosso
model train layout display & operate; miniature RR will be running for crowd control; several major steam engines will be there- #1225 PM, #4449 SP, #765 NKP, #75 FC, #110 LR, #1 LR, #6 Viscose and #6133 Sou FP7

Friday-Sunday, Oct 15-18- NCR

Convention- THE SHOPS sponsored by Div 3 Fort Wayne, Indiana

Direct inquiries: email-
railcarman@verizon.net Convention mailing address: Northeast Hoosier Division 3, NCR c/o Dick Moessner 13820 Messenger Bay Ft. Wayne, IN 46845 Northeast Hoosier website: www.hoosierdiv3nmra.org

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.

ATTENTION- MTP- Model Train Products has updated it's website with new products and now accepts credit cards! Check us out at - www.mtp-modeltrainproducts.com

DIV 6 LAYOUT TOUR Sunday, May 17 1pm-4pm

Doug & Hank Meyer
22592 Lazy K
South Lyon, MI

