

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

ON THE RAILS...

MAY 2011

OK, we've got lots of great model railroading news for this month. Please read through (as I'm sure you usually do) this edition of "On the Rails" to get all of the great information. Has spring finally sprung? Maybe, we are in Michigan after all. While model railroading is winding down a bit, with nicer weather, the real train scene is starting to increase. Rail-fanning and excursions are the summer part of our hobby. Plan a trip with friends and take pictures of real railroading, then use those to aid in your modeling! Now, here's the rest of your Div 6 news-

TOOL TIME

Div 6 member Bill Deeter presents different tools and ideas- This month he had no new tool items. Looking forward to another tool tip next month. THANKS Bill!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had no new members at the last meeting. However we did have several past members make a return visit! Scott Kremer, Larry Wright and Ken Chick were present and had also participated in our convention. Nice to see you guys again! 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, MAY 20, 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.

DIV 6 ELECTIONS!

It's THAT time again!! ELECTIONS!! The nominations remained the same from the March meeting, and they are-

Super- Howard Andrews
Asst Super- Mark Ellis
Secretary- Ed Beamish
Treasurer - Larry Wolohon

After no one else was nominated, the nominations were closed. The elections were scheduled to be at the May (next) meeting. However, a proposal to do the elections right then and now was not opposed by anyone at the meeting. Thus, the Elections were held and all were elected by proclamation! Congratulations to the new Div 6 Board! The new officers will take effect in June.

LAYOUT TOURS

WE HAVE A NEW LAYOUT TOUR CHAIRMAN!

Please welcome- JC Paschel!! JC will be calling those who had their layouts open during our recent NCR convention, in order to get you to host a layout tour for Div 6 members. We hope you will be able to agree on a date with other layout owners in your area, so we can resume layout tours soon!
NEXT TOURS- rumor is that some tours will happen in June...

DIV 6 WEBSITE

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

DIV 6 FALL SHOW & WKSHP

The 2011 Div 6 FALL SHOW & WORKSHOP is Sunday, Nov 27th

DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Superintendent- Glenn Joppich
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Asst. Superintendent- Bill Rubarth
734-522-5876 wrubarth@twmi.rr.com
Secretary- Howard Andrews
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Treasurer- Larry Wolohon
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OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF

Newsletter- Barry Hensel
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Clinics- Howard Andrews
734-728-4697 hwandrews@wowway.com
Layout Tours- **VOLUNTEER needed!!**
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

SHOW AND TELL

The subject for the last meeting was structures. Items shown were- Factory; gas station - scratch built; lumber mill; warehouse - scratch N scale; box car to storage shed; downtown bldg; house S scale; WdldS station; sm town store; Grantline house-out house; O scale company store - detailed/scratch; drug store dental plaster; gas station; scratch intermodal terminal bldg; farm house; G scale engine house office; fire observation tower; post office; S scale White Tower kit; Walthers City station; company house; operator shed; DPM small factory; AM freight house; WdldS store; interlocking tower; crossing shanty; out house; diner; NYC freight station (3x5 index cards); SS Ltd store; Heljen freight house.

Current Projects shown included-
Layout Phone system mock-up; grass applicator.

We did have some members donate to the caboose, Thanks!

NEXT MEETING-- something from NYC

PRODUCT REVIEW

We had a couple of interesting product reviews this month. First up was Bill Detter talking about Jiffy re-railers. These are simple items that can be set on any straight track. Bill was looking for them in code 83. Only code 100 is available and Bill is trying to convert it for 83. These are simple in design and seem to work well, might be also used for bridge guard rails starts. The product is on page 86 MR May issue. \$7.95 pkg of 3, plus shipping.

Next up was Jon Bopp talking about HO trucks by Tahoe. These have fine detail, a bit delicate; one piece plastic, available with 2 different wheels - std or code 80 near-scale, 11 different types, \$7.25/pair.

Frank Spadafore also spoke on Krylon matt finish spray- also make gloss finish. This is available in a large spray can for about \$7, which is 3-4 times the material than the Floquil brand.

If you have a review item, see Glenn before the meeting. Thanks guys for the great information!

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.

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.

NMRA REPORT

NMRA voting results have been published and emails received - CONGRATULATIONS to Pete Magoun, MMR from Traverse City and a NCR member on becoming our new District Rep! Thanks to all who voted for him!

SPECIAL PROJECT CLINIC

We will use Nankin Hobby Farmington hobby room at the store. DATES- Sunday, May 1st and 22nd - 10AM-3pm You MUST contact Jim Hockenberger at 734-455-1536 or by email at- jmbhocky@aol.com

THANKS Nankin Hobby for the use of your hobby room for this project! We did have a demo of a grass applicator- "Hockey" demo-ed what a grass static applicator does... it makes static ground cover/grass stand UP!! Looks very real and layers can be made to get taller grass.

MODELING INFO W/LARRY

Here are **LARRY's TIPS** for this month- Sorry, Larry was not present to give any new tips. We did have a general question-

*** Riverrossi steam engines with traction tires - tires bad - no replacements??* Answer- Bullfrog Snot - a green rubbery material that will dry on your wheels. Fill groove for traction tire then apply "snot". Works well! AND- Roco makes traction tires that may fit. Roco tires are made from tubular material so they last longer and better. Others made from flat stamping so they stretch and thus come off.

We look forward to more questions, tips next month!

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

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

Trains magazines were available at the meeting for FREE and were from Joe Bliss. Thanks Joe!

RAILROAD HISTORY

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

DIV 6 PROJECT LAYOUT

We have had no new information on this project.

CLINIC

This months' clinic was by Div 6 Superintendent Glenn Joppich on painting and finishing plastic structures. His side emphasis was on making the plastic wood look real and weathered. Using standard low cost kits, easy to build, it just takes a few extra hours of work to make look very good! Glenn talked about technics, colors, and methods. Tip 1- prime everything! Glenn uses Aco brand gray, buys it on sale and it's a large can so it lasts awhile. Let the primer dry for 24 hours. Paints used on the models are acrylic craft type paints. These are available in many colors and cheaply! Dry brush the walls with paint, making them look like streaked worn wood! Colors for wood are dark brown, burnt & raw sienna and ochre. Paint with each one creating layers, working in the direction of the wood grain. Use alcohol-india ink wash to detail over the paint. This also blends the colors together, making it look even better. Then put the kit together! Glenn also showed many different structures that he has painted and built - all excellent looking models, once detailed and painted! For a brick building, Glenn used a red primer and then dry brushed over that! Glenn had a great computer presentation and a hand-out. Excellent clinic and great information!

WE ALWAYS NEED CLINICS for our meetings! If you are willing to do a clinic, please, e-mail or call or see Howard at the meetings and share your thoughts. We may need a new Clinic Chairman, since Howard is to be our new Superintendent! Please consider volunteering!!!

NEXT MEETING- we're hoping to have Div 6 member Rich Borsos give us a talk on his engineer experiences. Rich

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 7 - National Train Day in Jackson, MI sponsored by Amtrak

Sunday, May 15 - Durand Railroad Days Model Train Show & Flea Mkt. Durand Middle School 9550 E. Lansing Rd (M-71) Durand, MI 48429 11 AM - 4 PM \$3.50 under 10 free Annual Model Train Show held during Durand Union Station Railroad Days held in Durand, MI

Contact Information- Joe Rathbun 989-723-1398; red.oak@charter.net
Website- <http://durandstation.org>

Sunday-Saturday, July 3-9- NMRA National Convention Sacramento, CA "The Unconventional Convention"
Website- <http://www.x2011west.org/>

Starting April 2 - November 5, 2011- Saginaw Railway Museum - Saginaw Valley Railroad Historical Society 900 Maple St. PO Box 20454 Saginaw, MI 48602 989-790-7994 Open the First and Third Saturday of each month from 1pm-4pm. Closed holidays. Website- www.saginawrailwaymuseum.org

Saturday, May 28- Diesel excursion, Owosso to Alma for the "Highland Festival" and hourly trips in Alma during the Festival.

Saturday-Sunday, June 4-5- Tours and miniature train rides at SRI during Owosso Curwood Festival

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



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