

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

ON THE RAILS...

MAY 2024

Hello and welcome to Division 6! Let's keep model railroading!! As mentioned before, with nicer weather, many members take a break from our hobby. But you don't have to! Here's hoping you can stay active all year round!

Both of the up-coming conventions are progressing very well, which speaks well of the Chairmen and the Teams that are heading up the various areas of each event. Layout tours, clinics, registration, etc... all are coming together well. Thanks!!

As usual, we also need YOUR help in two important other areas. Clinics for the meetings and layout tours are badly needed each month to help keep our interest and to learn things we don't know! Everyone does something well... so please share that knowledge with everyone else. Clinics are not hard to do and many will help you to get them done. Hosting a layout tour is a great way to get your layout "in-shape" and it's fun to have visitors to see your layout!

Please keep in contact with your family and your model railroading friends! Here's the rest of your Division 6 news-

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had good meeting turn-out with 39 attending, plus 2 on zoom! We had two new guests, please welcome Roy Meadows and Keith Bolde. MMR's present were Larry Wolohon, Ken Chick and Ron King. To all Div 6 members and guests, **WELCOME ABOARD!**

DIV 6 MEETINGS

Our Division 6 meetings are on the THIRD Friday of each month. Our next Division 6 meeting will be on **FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024**. The meeting will be held at the Civic Center Senior Center in Livonia, at 5 Mile and Farmington Roads. **The meeting is from 7pm-10pm**. We will broadcast the meeting LIVE on zoom! The link will be emailed a few days before the meeting.

DIV 6 TREASURY REPORT

The Treasure Report for April is-

Beginning balance \$5348.08

Debits for April = -\$TBD

April ending balance \$TBD

A full report of Checks/Debits and deposits/Credit will be at the next Div 6 meeting.

Thanks, Terry

AP CERTIFICATES

Ken Chick, our AP coordinator, was present at the last meeting but had no updates on any certificates to be awarded. Please keep working on your Certificates!

DIVISION OF CHOICE

Do you live in Oakland County, but attend Div 6 meetings? Then you can become an official Div 6 member!! All you need to do is fill out the DIVISION OF CHOICE form. See a Div 6 Board member for a form. Once filed, you can now vote and hold office in Div 6!

DIV 6 MI-TRACK LAYOUT

The Division 6 Mi-Track modular layout is likely to return to the Southern Michigan RR Days, which has been changed to September! The new date is Saturday, Sept 7th. Plus, we may display at the NCX Convention at Ward Church. NEW... we may have the opportunity to display at the National Train Show during the 2025 National Convention. Please let Barry know if you think this would be a good idea and if you would be willing to help with these events.

LAYOUT TOURS

Larry Wolohon is our layout tour chairman! If you want to schedule a tour of your layout, give Larry a call or email! We NEED layouts please!! We need volunteers for all of 2024 so please consider hosting a layout tour! It's also a good trial for being on the NCX convention tour list!

NEXT TOURS- Our next tours are TBD

SHOW AND TELL

Our subject was **ALCO locomotives, steam or diesel!** Here's what was shared - RDG second gen C630/C424 & first gen RS3/FA; Lionel UP challenger; PA 0 scale 2 rail; book on Alco; 4-4-2 streamlined Milwaukee Rd Hiawatha; RS2 GN; RS3 NKP (same rd number as real one seen 50 years ago); 4-6-0 Virginian; UP 4-8-4; GT 2-6-2 brass; Hiawatha #2; NYC Hudson 2-6-4; Alco-GE-IR boxcab; Southern RS2; C630-628 PRR; RS1 PRR; N scale heavy mik scratch built; S2 switcher NYC; RS3 undec; B&O PAa & PAb; Weaver 0 scale RS3 NYC; FA2 Amtrak Lionel; RS4 CNW; RS1 repainted IMC Agrico (mining co); Alco Story book;

Current projects - stone break-water & lighthouse in S scale

The winner of the Nankin Hobby gift card was - John Grundstrom

NEXT MEETING - Boxcars!

DIV 6 - RR HUMOR

Here's some model railroad humor-



DIV 6 - NCR CONV 2024 !!!

The NCX24 Regional Convention is Thursday night to Sunday afternoon, Oct 10-13, 2024. **We are OPEN for registrations!** You can fill out a form and mail it in, or go to the website and do it all ONLINE! Here's the website -

www.ncx24.ncrnmra.org

Go to the website to see our plans and lots of great information!

NEW NEWS - The clinic and layout tour schedules are about 90% complete and some of that info will be in the June HotBox. The convention book is about 95% complete. OPS sessions are being finalized for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Saturday dinner plans are well along. Final plans for the model display room, Yard Sale and layouts on display at Ward Church are being worked on. The next big item to schedule is all of you as volunteers! We'll need as many Div 6 members as possible to cover registration and other duties. Watch for sign-up sheets to show-up at Div 6 meetings and by email. **WE NEED YOU!** Let's GET ON BOARD for NCX-2024! **We are 5.5 months away from NCX - 2024!!**

Norm Logan - Event Chairman

nlogan114@wowway.com.



DIVISION 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Superintendent- Paul Lichau
734-878-5390 plichau@yahoo.com

Asst. Superintendent-
Byrne Blumenstein 248-885-0874
1947sandy@gmail.com

Recording Secretary-
VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Treasurer- Terry Kosmas
586-441-9365 samsok99@hotmail.com

Membership Director - Mark Ellis
734-536-5470 emark@sbcglobal.net

Member at Large - Bill McMillan
248-349-7456
wmcmillan7456@gmail.com

Webmaster- Ed Beamish 734-266-2301
phoenixblade70@gmail.com

Communications Director -
Barry Hensel 734-649-3056
barry76Lt@wowway.com

OTHER PEOPLE WHO DO STUFF

Achievement Program- Ken Chick, MMR
734-420-0276 kdchick@wowway.com

Clinics- Bill McMillan 248-349-
7456 wmcmillan7456@gmail.com

Layout Tours- Larry Wolohon, MMR
734-454-4816
larrywolohon@comcast.net

History- John Bopp
248-477-6193 jbopp007@gmail.com

Div 6 Fall Show- Mark Ellis
734-421-2673 emark@sbcglobal.net

Meeting Coffee- Matt Letts
248-371-2971 mletts@mi.rr.com

2024 CONV Chairman - Norm Logan
248-348-2473 nlogan114@wowway.com

BILL'S TOOL TIME

Terry Kosmas will coordinate tips from the membership. If you have a tool tip to give, please contact Terry and he'll get you scheduled. We're looking for more tips soon.

DIV 6 WEBSITE

The Div 6 website is now UPDATED!! If you want your layout featured, email ED your pictures and a small write-up!! Also, some clinics are posted on the website! Check it out at- www.div6-ncr-nmra.com

PRODUCT REVIEW

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

CLINIC

WE ALWAYS NEED CLINICS for our meetings! Bill McMillan is our Clinic Chairman! To all Div 6 members, PLEASE share your talents and knowledge!

The clinic this past month was a great clinic on weathering freight cars, by Norm Logan. Norm brought many cars showing how this technic will look when completed - wow!! Norm had a handout too, giving details on materials needed and separated by type of car, as different cars require different looks/methods/materials. A powerpoint presentation showed many examples of cars that Norm weathered, as he explained how and what he did. Amazing results and very realistic looking. Many of these methods could be used on buildings too. Great clinic and information - THANKS Norm!!

The next day, Norm traveled to Kalamazoo and gave the clinic again to Div 9 and expanded it to 2 hours and a hands-on clinic. COOL!! **WE NEED CLINICS!**

NEXT MEETING- Boxcar history by Larry Wolohon, MMR

2025 NMRA NATIONAL

STATION No.VI
90th NMRA National Convention
July 14-19, 2025
Novi, Michigan, USA

All of the Divisions in the NCR will be contributing to this effort. The website for the convention is active - www.nmra2025.com
Check it out!

UPDATE - We are now about 14 months from the start of Station No. VI, 2025. A day-long meeting was held in April and the status of many plans is very good! Each Team member is working on their aspect of the convention. Watch the HotBox for many more details. Got questions? Please contact Scott - skremer@wideopenwest.com



SUPERINDEPENDENT CORNER

For this month's Superintendent's Corner, I would like to urge you to help your Division 6 by offering to present a clinic at one of our meetings. We are fortunate to have a couple of members that have a "library" of things that they can pull out and give a clinic for our meetings. I can tell that they are getting to the point of not wanting to always do clinics so often.

I would like to see some more members step up and offer a short clinic for our future meetings. Maybe 2 or 3 members could get together and do a panel type of clinic. You do not need a fancy PowerPoint presentation with photos etc. Just get up and discuss something that you like to do with model railroading. Here are some possible topics:

- Things I like to do with trains
- A new tool to make things easier
- Soldering made easy
- How to change couplers
- Painting/weathering buildings
- "everyday things" on my railroad
- How to "operate" a model RR
- How to add lighting to a layout
- How to build a mountain
- How to build a water setting

I am sure you can think of more to add to this list.

MMR's - how about doing a clinic on one of your certificate area's?

Please offer to do something with a clinic in the near future. Contact me or Bill McMillan if you can help. See you at the next meeting. You can also email me at Plichau@yahoo.com with any thoughts. Paul

THE OBSERVATION CAR

This month is an unpleasant, but necessary topic involving your family. Maybe it's me, but there seems to be a rapidly increasing amount of material that modelers or their families are trying to dispose of when people pass away. Obviously with a hobby that is heavily seniors that is no

surprise, but it makes me wonder if there is at least a need for our fellow hobbyists to think through and plan for what is the best way to dispose of their layouts and equipment when they either can't continue in the hobby or when their family has to figure out what to do with your prized possessions when you're gone. Like that next project you've been putting off, at some point, while unpleasant, it still needs some thoughtful planning.

That being the case, I'll bet most of us have not had that conversation or have not given our families or friends any guidance to make it easier to cope with what eventually will have to happen with our stuff.

While unpleasant, it would probably be a wise idea to have that conversation with whoever will be responsible for clearing out your layout and workshop. It probably would be best to at least have a card they can refer to with the names of friends that should be brought in assist them, or to at least make it a little easier to get that ultimate concern off their shoulders, in the unfortunate event of your passing away, or just being disabled. You should consider the family or friends that will have to step in at some point, should you not dispose of your layout and workshop well before your passing.

Likely your family will have no idea as to what to do, but at least you can leave a card that they are made aware of, with "in case of emergency or my passing, instructions for disposing of my layout and workshop." The card could be placed over the workshop or layout they are made aware of, with the names of friends they should ask for assistance, AND that YOU have discussed with in advance.

So, part of your buying and building a layout ultimately must include plans for your teardown and your family considerations. Give it a thought - for their sake, if not yours.
Byrne

DIV 6 MISC NEWS

WE HAVE CARDS! Paul has a supply of Div 6 business cards so that all members can have some of these to pass them out at shows, while at hobby shops or where-ever! COOL! Let's promote Division 6!

REMEMBER!!... when shopping at Nankin Hobby, tell them before your purchase is rung-up, that you are a Div 6 member! We get a share of your purchase price that we can spend for great raffle items for the Fall Show! Help Div 6 when shopping!! THANKS Nankin Hobby!! We're told this will work for ANY purchase at any Nankin store!!

We have LABELS!! If you are going to donate RR magazines, we have some Div 6 stickers that you can place on them to help people find us and our meetings! Please get some of these from Paul!

DIVISION 6 SHIRTS

The shirts are a Port Authority brand polo shirt. Prices have increased and are now- small-XL w/logo \$34 logo/pocket \$37 logo/name \$40 logo/pocket/name \$45 XXL +\$8, XXXL +\$10 XXXXL +\$12 Shipping will be divided among those ordering. Mark is taking orders... either see him at a meeting, email or phone. ALSO - If you want a name badge... see Mark!

NEW ITEMS IN THE HOBBY

Russ Hjelmberg sends info on new items to share. The best way to contact Russ is by email:

Russatnankin@yahoo.com

RAILROAD HISTORY

John Bopp was at the March meeting but did not have time for a lesson. THANKS John, we're looking forward to another lesson soon!

LOCAL RR EVENTS

Saturday's - May 11 and 25, 2024
Redford Model RR Club Open House
27316 Michigan Ave Inkster, MI
11am-5pm FREE- donations accepted
Accepting new members! HO scale
56'x26' layout www.redfordmrrc.org

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 - Scale
Trains visits the Blissfield Model
Railroad Club 109 E Adrian St
Blissfield, MI 49228 FREE to
attend! Meet & Greet starts at 7pm
unless noted and doors open 20
minutes beforehand. Shane,
Michelle, and Bear look forward to
meeting everyone and hope you can
join the fun.

Sunday, May 19 - Durand Union
Station Inc. Model Train Show
Durand Middle School 9550 E
Lansing Rd Durand, MI 11am-3pm
\$5 admission, 10 and under free
operating layouts, food available,
130 vendor tables

Saturday, June 1, 2024 -
Lansing Model RR Club Open House
5309 Old Lansing Rd Lansing, MI
See trains running on the Lansing
Model Railroad Club's beautiful HO
scale layout that is housed in the
1890's vintage Grand Trunk Western
Railroad Millet Depot and tour the
restored former Michigan Central
Michigan Avenue (MA) tower.
Open 11 AM to 4 PM
Contact Info - lmrc1953@lmrc.org
517-281-2544 www.lmrc.org/

Division Six of the
NCR- North Central Region of the
NMRA- National Model Railroad Association presents-



NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESS 2024



A MODEL RAILROAD WEEKEND CONVENTION!

**THURSDAY - FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY
OCTOBER 10-11-12-13, 2024
NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN, USA**

WELCOME to the NCR Model Railroad Convention, ***NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESS 2024!*** The convention is being hosted by DIVISION SIX, located in Wayne and Washtenaw counties. We are planning a great weekend of model and prototype railroading, just for YOU! Please access our website for all of the important information you need to help you to decide to attend this event. As you'll soon read, we're concentrating on having fun and learning all about model railroading! All you need to do is fill out the registration page, send it in with your registration fees and you'll be part of one of the greatest model railroad events in Michigan! Visit us online and register there using your credit card and PayPal security services! Come and join us for the **MAXIMUM** model railroad **FUN**, all in one weekend!

Open to ALL model railroaders! You DO NOT have to be an NMRA member to attend!

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE-

- * Event site – Ward Church, Northville, MI
- * Event shirts available pre-order only
- * Special DAY PASS entry available!
- * Online Registration available on website!
- * Banquet Dinner on Saturday evening
- * Clinics on Friday and Saturday
- * Operation sessions available Thursday, Friday, Saturday
- * NO model contest – MODEL SHOWCASE – show off your work!!
- * Get a discount for participating in the Model Showcase!!
- * Model layouts to visit on Friday and Saturday
- * Prototype tours on Friday (if available)
- * Yard Sale of new/used model railroad equipment
- * Ask the Experts (MMR's) table
- * EVERYONE welcome to attend!

For more information or questions answered, contact -
Norm Logan, Chairman –

248-444-3491 nlogan114@wowway.com

Paul Lichau, Div 6 Superintendent -

734-878-5390 plichau@yahoo.com

Mark Ellis, Asst. Chairman -

734-536-5470 emark@sbcglobal.net

visit our web pages at- ncx24.ncmmra.org



NCX - NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESS 2024 REGISTRATION FORM & INFORMATION

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Name		Spouse	
Address			
City		State	
Phone		Zip	
email			
NMRA No.		Region	
		Div	
		MMR	

REGISTRATION FEES

on or before September 25, 2024 - NMRA member	\$65	how many	
on or before September 25, 2024 - NON NMRA member	\$75		
after September 25, 2024 - NMRA member	\$75		
after September 25, 2024 - NON NMRA member	\$85		
on or before October 13, 2024	One Day Pass = \$40		

REGISTRATION - is per person for anyone over 18 years old that will be participating in the convention activities. Spouse is free if ONLY attending layout tours and/or dinner. Children under 18 years old are free for the weekend and welcome to attend convention activities with a paid adult.

Dinner - SPAGHETTI DINNER!! Everyone (including children under 18) must pay for dinner if you are attending. This also includes our Keynote Speaker and Awards presentation. **NOTE- cut-off date for dinner is October 1, 2024.**

Event Sweat shirts are cotton/poly blend, green in color with the NCX logo embroidered in color on the left side

Event polo shirts are 35-65% cotton-poly no pocket shirts, green in color with the NCX logo embroidered in color on the left side **NOTE- cut-off date for ordering shirts is September 10, 2024. There will be NO shirts available at the convention!**

Model Showcase Discount!

If you bring a model to display in the Showcase room, we will give you a \$5 discount on your entry to NCX-24! NOTE - you do NOT get \$5 per model!! Only ONE discount per person no matter how many models you bring. Discount to be given at Registration!

ONE DAY PASS - is for Saturday only and includes all the clinics that day and 5 layout tours.

EXTRA BOARD

			how many	
Dinner per person		\$25		
sweat shirt	small	\$34		
	medium	\$34		
	large	\$34		
	X-large	\$34		
	2X-large	\$34		
	3X-large	\$34		
4X-large	4X-large	\$34		
	polo shirt	small	\$32	
		medium	\$32	
		large	\$32	
		X-large	\$32	
		2X-large	\$32	
3X-large		\$32		
4X-large	\$32			

TOTAL

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Payment to be check or money order made out to- **NMRA DIVISION 6**

Send registration form with payment by October 1, 2024 to-
NCX Registrar 35684 Camden Ct Farmington Hills, MI 48335
 ON-LINE registration available until October 7, 2024 at ncx24.ncmmra.org





35101 Ford Rd
Westland, MI 48185
734-722-5700

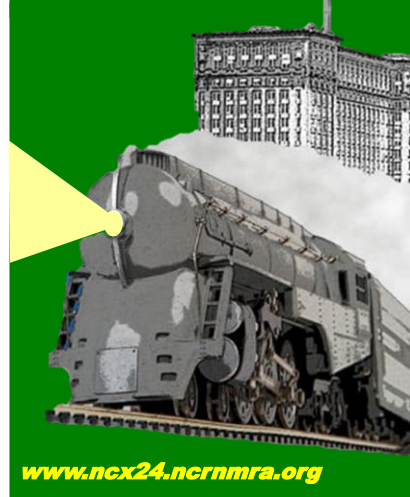
33350 W Nine Mile Rd
Farmington, MI 48336
248-919-0040

1480 Washtenaw Ave
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734-961-7575

12020 Fort St
Southgate, MI 48195
734-250-7382

Division 6 and it's membership wishes to extend a big THANK-YOU to Nankin Hobby for their continued support!

**NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESS 2024
OCTOBER 10-11-12-13, 2024
NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN**



**Division 6 - NCR - NMRA
42167 Ridge Road West
Novi, MI 48375**