

SUPER'S SIGNAL

A publication of Division 6, Mid-Central Region of The National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

March 2011



Sunday, 27 March 2011

**Zanesville Club
Zanesville, Ohio**



Schedule

1:00: Division 6 Business Meeting

2:00: Zanesville Club open

Contest

Model: none.

Photograph: none.



Superintendent's Report

At last, we can see the light at the end of the tunnel, kinda-sorta. Winter is about over, thanking the heavens. So now we can dig ourselves out and get busy model railroading again. There are some shows and events coming that will peak your interest in the latest and greatest stuff in the hobby. You can get the old camera dusted off and plan a few road trips to your favorite places. How does that sound?

Continuing on the subject about the face of the NMRA changing, and so, we have to change also; communication is the next step. How we communicate will be altered, somewhat, in that the internet becomes the new vehicle for conveying information. Word of mouth, magazines, newsletters, and books do not appeal to the next generation of members; but "facebook," "YouTube" and "twitter" do.

Of course there are some who are still traditionalist; but the rest want the information now and in their hands.

It may be, in the future, that model railroading becomes a virtual reality or hologram that is shared among enthusiasts.

Just a few reminders: the Mid-Central Regional Convention is April 28 through May 1, 2011; road trip to Parkersburg, WV. is May 14, and the June Division Meeting in Marion, OH, is an all day event.

Hear ye, hear ye! The division needs a volunteer for the post of "Membership Chairman" ASAP. If you are interested and able, please contact me.

We welcome three new members to our Division. They are Paul Farley, family member Michelle Farley, and Matt Goodman. Our membership is 194 as of March 2011, including 15 renewals and the three new members.

The March 27th Division meeting is at The Zanesville Model Railroad Club, in Zanesville, Ohio. There will be no contest due to space limitations. Hey, it is a road trip and you get to see the "Y" Bridge to boot!

Thanks,

The Super - **Bob Lee**



**31 March 2011 –
Division 6
Election Ballot Deadline
Vote Now
Or bring your ballot
to the meeting**

**Next Division 6 Steering
Committee Meeting
18 May 2011
at John Retterer's**

DIVISION 6 OFFICERS

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Paymaster@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

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Paul E. Smith,

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Contest: John Retterer

Members Aid: Howard Smith, MMR

Membership: Dave Schein

Program: Craig Sonnen

Web Master: Don Wilke

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Dick Briggs, MMR:

president@midcentral-region-nmra.org

NMRA Central District Director

Robert Beaty, MMR

Clerk's Report

Division 6, Mid Central Region, NMRA Inc. Business Meeting February 27, 2011

Hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church,
Grove City.

Officers in Attendance:

Superintendent Robert E. Lee

Clerk Bob Bowditch

Pay Master John Gafney

Director Howard E. Smith, MMR

Director Paul Smith

Director Don Wilke

Chairpersons Present:

Super's Signal Publisher Don Wilke

Membership Chairman Dave Schein

Web Master Don Wilke

Contest Chairman John Retterer

Achievement Program Howard Smith, MMR

Members Aid Howard Smith, MMR

MCR Representatives:

Mid-Central Region President Dick Briggs, MMR

Business Meeting:

Bob Lee called the meeting to order at 1 pm.

Last meetings minutes were approved. Motion by Craig Sonnen, 2nd by John Retterer.

The financial report was presented by John Gafney. Details are on the website. Approval moved by John Retterer, 2nd by Paul Smith.

Program Chairman Craig Sonnen reported the upcoming Zanesville Club will be held March 27. The Marion Meeting will be on June 11.

Contest Chairman John Retterer announced the following results of February contest:

Photos

- 1st Peggy Doerflein
- 2nd Don Wilke
- 3rd Paul Smith

The March Division 6 Meeting in Zanesville will have no contests due to space restrictions at the Zanesville Club.

Achievement Program Report was presented by Howard Smith. Howard is putting A.P. Program requirements in the upcoming *Super's Signal*. First to be the Golden Spike.

Website Report was presented by Don Wilke. He reports no major changes.

Members Report was presented by Dave Schein. Current membership is at 192 with two new members. Joseph Re and Robert Hillburn.

The Mid-Central Regions Report was presented by Dick Briggs, MCR President. Dick announced the address sent out for the Regional Ballots have the wrong or missing Suite number. Please send your ballots to Suite 102. Please check that your contact information is current with the NMRA. We are getting too many *Kingpins* back due to incorrect info.

Election Chairman Jim Ruisinger reports the ballots are still coming in for the Division elections. He will have the 'Official' ballot box available at the Zanesville meeting, or to please mail yours in by March 31.

Old Business

A reminder to get your Division Election ballots in by March 31.

The deadline for Mid-Central Regional ballots is also March 31. Send to Suite 102!

We lost another member, Charlie Elkins on January

Clerk's Report
Continued on page 4.



Division 6 members at St. John's Lutheran Church, 27 February.

Continued: **Clerk's Report**

25th, 2011.

Superintendent Bob Lee reported on the Memorial Walk in Ashland for Dean Freytag. It was very moving and well attended.

The Division 6 Steering Committee dates have been changed due to not having enough lead time for the Supers Signal. They were published in the February *Super's Signal* and are on the WEB Site.

New Business

NMRA has given all Regions/Divisions two new 'homework' assignments. The new assignments are to report anything that is being done to promote November as *Model Railroad* month. The second assignment has to do with promoting Adult/Family Meetings with programs. More details later.

The *X2011 West NMRA National Convention* website went live in January.

The Division is looking for a Chairperson for a Facebook account. See Bob Lee.

A reminder for the upcoming *Rail of Ages* Regional Convention April 28 - May 1 in Geneva-on-the-Lake. Get your registrations and room reserva-

tions in now.

It was announced there will be a road trip to the Division 9 meeting in Parkersburg WV on May 14.

The June 11th meeting in Marion will be a great opportunity to get your models judged. Qualified judges will be available.

The next Steering Committee Meeting will be at John Retterer's on March 2.

The *Super's Signal* deadline is March 4.

The next Division 6 Meeting will be held on March 27th at the Zanesville RR Club. Remember.

This club is on the third floor.

Club Reports

S Scale Club will have a show April 29-30 at the Franklin County fairgrounds. See John Gafney for details. There will be six or seven S-scale layouts and over 130 tables of dealers.

Jim Ruisinger announced COOSE has moved to a temporary location so they can continue to work and store their modular layout. See Jim Ruisinger for details. The Mini Bunch will have a convention in Canfield OH in March.

Clerk's Report

Continued on page 5.

**Correct Zip Code for
the MCR Election Teller:**

43103

Due: 31 March



**Dick Briggs: Painting Back-
grounds.**



**Howard Smith: Mounting
Tortoise Switch Machines.**



**John Ritterer: Research Re-
sources for Scratch Building
Structures.**

Continued: Clerk's Report

There will be a meeting November 12-13 in Gahanna at the New Life Church.

Paul Smith announced that they are looking for a permanent location and will not be at the zoo.

Howard Smith reports the Columbus Model Rail Road Club will have an Open House November 13th.

Dave Lindsay announced the N-Trak Club will have their annual N Scale Weekend on May 13-14 at the Franklin County Fairgrounds.

Members from the Coshocton club announced they have Club meetings on Friday nights from 8pm until they go home! The PRR cabin car has been repainted! All should visit!

Meeting was adjourned at 1:47 pm.

Clinics

Howard Smith conducted a clinic on how to simplify the installation of Tortoise Switch machines. See Howard for details. Very good tips and techniques were shown.

John Retterer did a great clinic on how to research information when scratch building structures. Great hints and tips on how gather information you will need to build better structures.

Bob Bowditch, Division 6 Clerk



Coshocton Club members: Rick Moore, Rich Jones, and Phill Porter (l to r).

Contest Report

John Retterer

The following is my input for *The Super's Signal* for March.

The outcome of the contest in Grove City is:

Model - No Entries

Photo -

- 1st Place Peggy Doerflein
- 2nd Place Don Wilke
- 3rd Place Paul Smith

I think a change in direction of the contest program might be in order. I propose the membership prepare a model of their choice and bring it to the Marion meeting.

This change is the result of membership feedback. If you wish your models judged for an AP Merit award, make those arrangements ahead of time by contacting Howard Smith, A.P. Chairman.

Non-AP judged models are judged by popular vote.

The modeler should be prepared to talk about their model. Except for AP judging, no paperwork is necessary. Awards for first, second, and third place will be awarded at the next Division 6 meeting.

Photographers should not feel left out. You should bring your favorite photos for viewing and be prepared to talk about the photo, subject, location, etc. First, second, and third place awards for photos will be awarded at the next Division 6 meeting.

I'll announce in the *Signal* when the new program takes effect.

We have two major events coming up that should fire-up your competitive juices. April 28th through May 1st, 2011 is the MCR Convention at Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio. If you have not registered please do so very soon. This convention will be a lot of fun for the whole family. Necessary forms are available on the NMRA web site. Yes, paper work is required for each entry in this contest. The popular vote contest requires at this time only the entry form, and this is more for identifying the owner. We don't want to lose someone's model or photo.

The other event is the Marion, Ohio, Division 6 Meeting on June 11th, 2011.

The theme for both models and photographs at Marion is My Favorite Train. We will try to have tables available for your setup. The Certificate spread is as usual. Howard Smith will be available for A.P. judging.

Division 6 Derailed Members

Tom Fox remains at the
Franklin Woods Rehab-Care Center
2770 Clime Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43223

Ted Wetterstroem
Heartland of Ohio Nursing
P.O. Box 720
Centerburg, Ohio 43011
Room 156

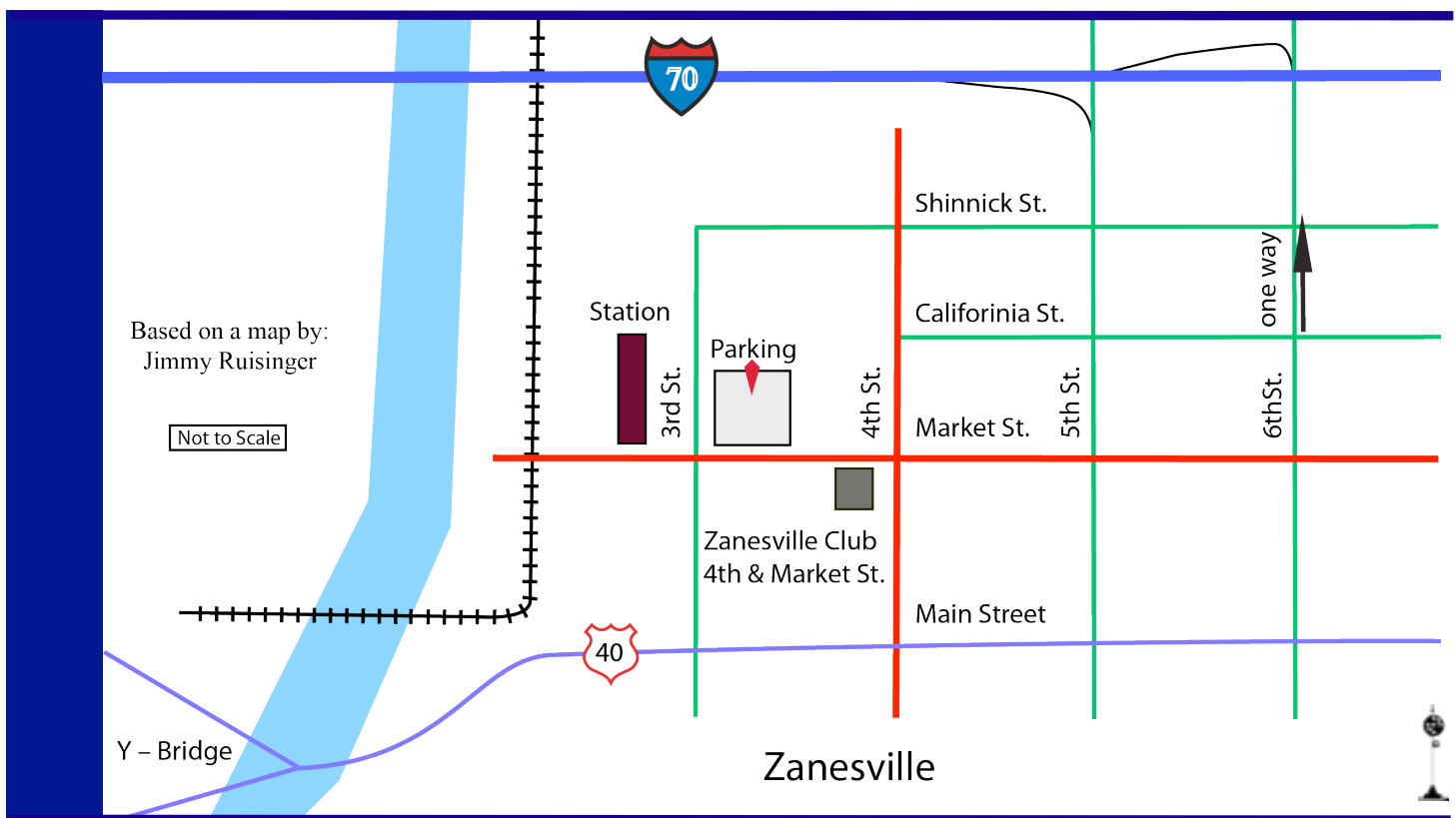
9 March: David Brobst, the new owner of the Chama Subdivision Railroad, suffered a fall at home recently. He is currently in the surgical ICU at Mt Carmel West Hospital, and has been stabilized.

Information supplied by Harry Sage.

See The Division 6 WEB Site - News and Notes for updated information.

Please do take some time to visit with these members if you are able.

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Info-Net

Bill Connell

X2011West, the NMRA National Convention went live this past January, allowing registration, hotel reservation, selection of tours, events, meals, and convention merchandise

online.

This is the first time ever a convention committee has provided complete online registration and tour

signup. Even the OPS and LDSIG signups are handled online. The process is easy, fast, and you know right then if a particular tour is already sold out.

The convention web site is: www.x2011west.org.

Even if you are not going to attend the national convention, take a look at the web site, it is impressive, easy to use. This folks, is the way of the future, not just for the NMRA and its members, but for the society we see evolving.



First Place Contest Winners

*First Place Model
(Back Woods Engine
House): No Entries*

*First Place
Photograph (Old Engine
House or Roundhouse):
Peggy Doerflein*



Additional winners at:

<http://div6-mcr-nmra.org/ContestFold/Contest101017Fold/101017Contest.html>

Division 6 Financial Statement

Income Statement *

To see the Division 6 Financial Report,
contact the Division 6 Superintendent at:
Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

AP Report

The Golden Spike Award

Howard R. Smith, MMR

This report begins a series of Achievement Program requirement descriptions leading to Master Model Railroader (MMR). MMR's are made, not born. Each of us has within ourselves the talent to achieve this honor. All it takes is the desire to construct models, serve in a leadership post, and build a model railroad. Something most of us are going to do any way.

We start with the most basic award: **The Golden Spike Award.**

Listed below, is what is required to earn this award:

1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars):

Display six units of rolling stock either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or superdetailed commercial kits.

2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery):

- a) Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.
- b) Construct five structures either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits, or superdetailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.

3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical):

- a) Three types of trackage required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.
- b) All installed trackage must be properly wired so two trains can operate simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command control).
- c) Provide one additional electronic feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.

To complete qualification for the award, the member must complete the above requirements and obtain the signature of the divisional AP Chairman or another NMRA member designated by the divisional Chair on the Golden Spike Award Application Form. The form may be found on the NMRA web site (www.nmra.org). Click on AP Forms section, then on the Golden Spike Form. The divisional AP Chair, Howard Smith, submits the signed form to the regional AP Chair, who issues the Golden Spike Award certificate.

The above requirements are taken from the NMRA web site.

Info-Net

Bill Connell

(Continued from February *Super's Signal*)



Some of the NMRA's Standards have not changed since they were first developed, but the equipment we use today and yes, in to the future has and will change.

This has resulted in some of the Standards being updated and some new Standards developed. Some of the Standards that have changed are:

S-3.2 Trackwork Standard Scales

S-3.3 Trackwork Hi-Rail Scales

S-4.2 Wheels Standard Scales

S -4.3 Wheels Hi-Rail Scales

S-7 Clearances – This is in DRAFT Form meaning the changes have not been adopted.

When a Standard (S) or Recommended Practice (RP) is in Draft form, you may submit your views and make your recommendations for the given RP or SP in question.

By NMRA definition;

A Standard (S) is a figure, relationship or dimension that is mandatory, it is “cut in stone” so to speak and must be followed to facilitate interchange or interface, whichever the case may be. Standards can be changed from time to time but ONLY by the vote of the NMRA membership after proper policy procedures have been followed and the membership has been fully informed.

A Recommended Practice (RP) are those figures, relationships or dimensions that the Engineering Committee has established through actual tests and feel are beneficial to operation.

The above Standards have changed in the last year, so if you have not reviewed the changes, perhaps this just might be a good time to do so.



Rails Of Ages

Bill Connell & Dennis Llyod

Just a reminder: If you have not registered for the *Rails Of Ages* NMRA MCR convention, you really need to move it up on your list of things to do before the snow melts and the grass starts growing.

The convention, April 28th through May 1st will soon be here. Remember, it is being held this year at: The Lodge & Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake, a real nice place. Lodging reservations are limited.

You would do well to check the convention web site: <http://www.railsofages.org/Convention/index.html> for more information.

Update on the Winery Tour.

According to Dennis Lloyd, *Rails of Ages* convention official, the Winery Tour departure time for tour NR-1, will depart the convention hotel about 5 o'clock pm. An exact time will be posted on the Convention web site soon. Check the convention web site for more information.

Beyond the Rail

Marla Wright

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California Zephyr on Donner Pass heading into yet another tunnel.



UP Snowplow Loco at Truckee - There were 4 of them with 1 caboose stuck in the middle.

I always wanted to take a train through snow. Maybe I shouldn't wish it again. We've taken numerous trips on the California Zephyr from Chicago to Sacramento, California, and never really experienced snow. We may have thought we experienced snow; but, now I know we had not.

This trip we were delayed, significantly, due to snow in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. If I ever become a true master model builder of scenery, I want to model what we came through on this trip. Snow looked like marsh mellow cream sprayed and spread everywhere. Snow outside the window on the Zephyr towered above the Superliner windows in spots. We thought, at the time, the plows must have had a hard time clearing the track. They did indeed.

When we got through the worst of it, and to Truckee, we saw just how hard the snow had fallen. We were able to get pictures of the Union Pacific engines, which had struggled their way through the storm with the snowplows. We took pictures of tunnels showing how deep the snow and how cautiously we had to proceed even though the plows had completed their work.

On the return trip we saw the plows poised and ready for round two. The Sierra Nevada Mountains were to get even more snow the day after we cleared the mountain range on our return trip!

Beyond the Rail

Continued on page 11.

Continued:
Beyond the Rail



East and West Bound tracks with tunnels on Donner Pass.



Just one of the very snow filled tunnels on Donner Pass.



Jordon Spreaders at Truckee ready for another round of snow fighting. There were two sets of spreaders with two spreaders, one on each end with 4 locos and a caboose in the middle.

Photographs:
*Marla Wright &
Bill Connell*





SUPER'S SIGNAL
William B. Connell
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Paint Creek, OH 43228-9715

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SUPER'S SIGNAL March 2011

Thanks for supporting Division 6

The Smoke Stack Hobby Shop
368 Lincoln Ave.
Lancaster, OH 43130-3716
740.653.0404

Bob the Train Guy
www.bobthetrainguy.com
740.972.0171

Hobbyland
East: 6919 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Oh 43213
614.866.5011

Hobbyland
Graceland: 206 Graceland Blvd
Columbus, Oh 43214
614.888.7500

Robbies Hobbies
4578 N. High St.
Columbus, OH 43214
614.265.7288

The Train Station
4430 Indianola Ave.
Columbus, Oh 43214
614.262.9056

Division 6 Timetable

24-26 March

2011 Midwest All-Scales Narrow Gauge Meeting and Mini-Bunch Spring Meet: Greenford, Ohio

27 March

Division 6 Meeting: Zanesville Club

Contest: None

31 March

Division 6 Election Ballots due

28 April- 1 May

MCR Convention *Rails Of Ages*; Gevena-on-the-Lake, OH

29-30 April

Spring S-Spre

7 May

Amtrak's National Train Day

13-14 May

N-Scale Weekend, Franklin County Fairgrounds

14 May

Road trip to Division 9, Parkersburg, West Virginia

18 May

Division 6 Steering Committee Meeting, 7:30 John Retterer

20 May