

SUPER'S SIGNAL

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

January 2012



29 January 2012 Columbus HO Model Railroad Club Columbus, Ohio



Schedule

12:00: Columbus HO Model Railroad Club open

12:30: Division 6 Business Meeting

4:00: Layout Open



Contest

Model: Snow Plow.

Photograph: Snow Plow or RR Snow Scene.

Central Ohio Model Railroad Club has lost their Columbus Zoo meeting place and are looking for a new place to meet.

Paul Smith

Superintendent's Report

Happy New Year to all members of Division 6; I do hope it will be a prosperous one. The holidays are over; you got what you hope for; now it is time to get back in stride. Model Railroading is what we are all about. We have another year of Division meetings, Conventions and road trips to keep us focused on our hobby.

It is that time again for elections. This time it's for the offices of Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent; Clerk and Pay Master. Back in November of 2011 we asked the membership for nominations for candidates. In this issue of the *Super's Signal* you will receive the ballot to vote for your candidate. Please make sure that you vote.

Last year we took a survey of all our members to verify their addresses; phone number's; email ad-

resses; and to find out how we are doing as a Division also to find ways we can improve on the things you feel are important to the success of the Division going forward. We will report our findings at a later date.

Make sure you read the articles in the *Signal* for information on this year events so that you can plan to attend. Our annual meeting in Marion, Ohio this year will be a great one. We will co-host the Division meeting with Division 9 from West Virginia.

The Columbus Model Railroad Club will host our first Division Meeting of 2012 on January 29. We hope to see everyone there.

Thanks, The Super - **Bob Lee**



**Next Division 6 Steering
Committee Meeting
23 January 2012
at Bob Lee's
BEFORE the January
Division Meeting**

Division 6 is sponsoring an all day bus (motor coach) trip for its meeting Saturday, **August 18, 2012 Division 6 Meeting** from Columbus, Ohio to the Cincinnati, Ohio area. Several model railroads and prototype locations are on the schedule. We will be visiting "Enter Trainment Junction" (extra cost) the large G-scale model railroad and then the Cincinnati Union Terminal. At the Cincinnati Union Ter-

"BUS TRIP"

By Howard Smith, MMR

minal you can inspect, for free, the Cincinnati Model Railroad Club's "Tower A" overlooking the Norfolk Southern Gest Street Yard. There will be opportunities to visit, at cost, the Cincinnati History Museum, the Museum of Natural History, and the Science Museum. Exact details of the bus trip will be available shortly. Reservations will be accepted when details are completed.



DIVISION 6 OFFICERS

Division 6 Superintendent

Robert E. Lee:

Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Assistant Superintendent

Craig Sonnen:

AssistSuper@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Clerk

Bob Bowditch:

Clerk@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Pay Master

John Gafney:

Paymaster@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Directors

Howard Smith, MMR,

Paul E. Smith,

Donald Wilke:

Director@div6-mcr-nmra.org

APPOINTED CHAIRS

Achieve. Program: Howard Smith, MMR

Contest: John Retterer

Members Aid: Howard Smith, MMR

Membership: Dave Mathney

Program: Craig Sonnen

Web Master: Don Wilke

Super's Signal Publisher

Donald Wilke:

SuperSignalPub@div6-mcr-nmra.org

DIVISION 6 WEB SITE:

www.div6-mcr-nmra.org

Mid-Central Region President

Dick Briggs, MMR:

president@midcentral-region-nmra.org

NMRA Central District Director

Robert Beaty, MMR

Clerk's Report

Craig Sonnen reporting for Bob Bowditch

Minutes for the Business Meeting

Division 6, Mid Central Region,

NMRA Inc.

November 20, 2011

The Division 6 Meeting was called to order by Craig Sonnen, MMR, Assistant Superintendent. Craig stated that Bob Lee, Superintendent, was progressing well and was looking forward to returning to the meetings.

Clerk's Report: not present.

Paymaster's Report: John Gafney; Financial Report approved, subject to audit.

Next Meeting: January 29, 2012 at The Columbus Model Railroad Club, located at Columbus Steel Castings

- **Model Contest:** snow plow
- **Photo Contest:** snow plow or railroad snow scene

Contest Report: John Ritterer; contests for 2012 are on the Division 6 WEB Site Contest Page. Thanks to all who entered the contest today.

Achievement Program Report: Howard Smith, MMR; two merit awards have been returned.

WEB Site Report: Don Wilke; 2012 Division 6 Meeting Schedule is up with meetings and contests.

Membership Report: Dave Mathney; as of November 1, 2011 the division is down to 177 members.

Editor of Super's Signal Report: Editor(s) are needed, please contact Bob Lee if interested. From all those running for office, a short bio is needed for the *Signal* no later than January 4, 2012.

Company Store Report: not present.

New Business

A flyer for Bob Gallagher Layout Sale on December 12, 2011 was given to all present.

August 18, 2012 Bus Trip to Cincinnati, Howard Smith, MMR, reported that the bus will cost approximately \$25.00 per person, first come basis for the 57 seats. Visits to Entertainment Junction, CUT, Tower A and 3 museums at CUT are on the agenda. More information later.

Nomination Committee Report: Richard Briggs, MMR;

- **Superintendent candidates:** Bob Lee and Jim Ruisinger
- **Assistant Superintendent candidates:** Craig Sonnen, MMR, and Bill Connell
- **Chief Clerk candidate:** Bob Bowditch
- **Paymaster candidate:** John Gafney

Club Reports: Mini Bunch Fall Meeting was well attended with a great time by all.



Bill Edwards preparing a waterfall.

Other Divisions: Lin Young, Division 9 passed on recently.

Meeting Adjournment.

In the absence of the Clerk, Bob Bowditch, Craig Sonnen recorded these minutes.

Clerk's Report

Continued on page 4.



Result of modeling water.



*Bill Edwards & Paul Godwin discuss
Foliage Tips & Techniques as
Craig Sonnen looks on.*



Division 6 members listen to John Gafney present his Paymaster's Report.

Columbus Model Railroad Club, Inc.

By Howard Smith, MMR

Established in 1934, The Columbus Model Railroad Club is one of the oldest model railroad clubs in the United States. The present layout, started in 1968, is housed in one of the Columbus Steel Castings buildings. This is the Club's third home. The Club's membership is about 45 persons from various backgrounds. Many are retired. The layout is forty feet square and the main line is 650 feet in length. We have six yard operating positions and one train Dis-

patcher during operating sessions. The number of trains successfully run on the main line depends on the Dispatcher's experience. The layout has a complete solid state track detection and signal system. The Club uses a Digitrax DCC control system.

Come join us as we host the NMRA MCR Division 6 meeting January 29, 2011. Please dress warmly; it might be a bit cool.

Division 6 Paymaster Report

Income Statement *

**To see the Division 6 Paymaster's Report,
contact the Division 6 Superintendent at:**

Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Prepared by John Gafney
Paymaster12/31/11



Division 6 Derailed Members

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

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.



AP Report January 2012

Howard R. Smith, MMR

This report continues our look at the requirements for the Achievement Program “Master Builder – Scenery”. The requirements are taken from the NMRA web site and can be reviewed at the NMRA web site www.nmra.org under the Achievement Program.

“To quality for Master Builder – Scenery certificate:

- A) Construct a complete section of a model railroad of at least sixty square feet in O scale, or forty-five square feet in S scale, or thirty-two square feet in HO scale, or eighteen square feet in N scale or other scales in proportional relationship to HO scale. This completed section must contain the necessary scenic elements of terrain, Structures, Background, Lighting, and Realism/Conformity as combined to achieve a realistic effect using applicable NMRA standards, in the prototypical rendering of the scenic elements from the ground up.

The definitions of the various elements (which may be combined to comprise the setting for the model railroad) shall be:

A. Terrain (35 points).

The ground and all natural features such as rocks, water, trees, hills and depressions as well as man made features such as railroad roadbed cuts, drainage ditches, embankments, streets and roads, etc.

B. Structures (20 points).

Structures are considered from the standpoint of prototypical suitability, placement and appearance as scenic effects, track and right-of-way features such as turnout controls, signaling structures, crossing gates and shanties, turntables and other service structures, etc.

C. Background (25 points).

Treatment of the wall, backdrop, and /or ceiling to realistically depict depth, distance, horizon, and sky.

D. Lighting (20 points).

Illumination effects from three aspects:

- 1) Railroad cars, signals, etc,
- 2) Buildings, streets, and roads, etc.
- 3) Overall lighting effects – day and/or night.

D. Realism / Conformity (25 points).

In the other four areas, the judges evaluate what you were trying to include in your scene. In this requirement, they evaluate how well you did what you were trying to do.

- B) Prepare a set of photographs (video tape presentation is acceptable) and a written description clearly describing the intended setting of the model railroad and scenic details including towns or cities in the area being judged.
- C) Prepare a description of the methods of construction used in creating various features of Terrain, Background, and Lighting.
- D) Attach one copy of materials in Sections 2 and 3 to the Statement of Qualification (SOQ) for use by the judges in determining the effectiveness of the craftsmanship displayed by the member requesting certification.
- E) Earn a Merit Award of at least 87.5 points on the section of layout being judged.
- F) Submit a completed Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) including the attachments for Sections 2 and 3 and the signed merit judging forms and copies of the Merit Award certificates from section 5.”



Division 6 Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Contest
4 Jan	Steering Comm Meeting	Bill Connell's	
4 Jan	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
25 Jan	Steering Comm Meeting	Bob Lee's	
25 Jan	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
29 Jan	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Columbus HO Model RR Club, Columbus Ohio Layout: Columbus HO Model RR Club	Model: Snow Plow Photo: Snow Plow or Railroad snow scene
19 Feb	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: St. Johns Lutheran Church, Grove City Clinics: tba, Weathering, Basic Bridges	Model: Favorite Locomotive Photo: Favorite Locomotive
22 Feb	Steering Comm Meeting	Bob Bowditch's	
22 Feb	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
18 Mar	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: C.A.N.S., Canal Winchester, Ohio Layout: East Columbus Tour	Model: Basic Bridge Photo: Basic Bridge
26-29 Apr	<i>MCR Convention</i>	<i>HIGH-LINE to Pittsburgh</i>	Modeler's Choice
23 May	Steering Comm Meeting	John Gafney's	
23 May	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
16 Jun (Sat)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Marion Union Station, Marion, Ohio Clinics: tba	Model: Weathered rail car Photo: Weathered or Graffitied rolling stock
25 Jul	Steering Comm Meeting	Howard Smith's	
25 Jul	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
18 Aug (Sat)	Division 6 Meeting	Bus Trip: Cincinnati Union Terminal	None
29 Aug	Steering Comm Meeting	Bob Bowditch's	
29 Aug	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
23 Sep	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: tba, Chillicothe Layout: tba	Model: Detailed Pass Car Photo: Passenger Car
26 Sep	Steering Comm Meeting	John Retterer's	
26 Sep	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
21 Oct	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Hocking Valley, Nelsonville, Ohio Road Trip: Hocking Valley Railroad	Model: Your rolling stock Photo: Your rolling stock
24 Oct	Steering Comm Meeting	Bill Connell's	
24 Oct	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
18 Nov	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: St. Johns Lutheran Church, Grove City Layouts: MMR Tour	Model: promote NMRA Month Photo: promote NMRA Month

Division 6 Officer Candidates Biographies

SUPER'S SIGNAL January 2012

Superintendent



Robert E. Lee: "I am requesting the membership of Division 6 to re-elect me for another term of (2) two years for the office of Superintendent.

"In my first term we have restructured the operating principals of Division 6 organization. By developing Officers and Appointed Chairpersons responsibilities and holding persons accountable to their duties. We have developed a new and improve format for the Division news letter (*Super's Signal*) by enhanced content and visual aid. We have changed our Division Meeting format to include a variety of contests and road trips. We encouraged a joint Division meeting with our sister Division 9. We have looked at ways to improve attendance at Division meeting through contact with the membership in the form of a survey to determine their needs. We have been successful in many areas, but there is always room for improvement.

"In my second term, I will continue to further the accomplishments of the first term and strive for new and innovated ways to enhance the enthusiasm and support of Division 6 and the hobby of model railroading. The complexion of the NMRA has changed and will continue to evolve into a different face of what was in the past. Our challenge for the future is to look at the new face, understand the wants and adjust to the needs through understanding; cooperation and leadership."



Jim Ruisinger: "Many of you already know me and some of the many roles I have fulfilled for Division 6 over the years. For those of you who don't know me.... I'm a life member of the NMRA having joined in 1981. Over the

past 30 years, I have served the Division as Assistant Superintendent, Trustee (now Director), Contest Chair, AP Chair, *Signal* Editor, Election Teller, Membership Chair, and was even acting Superintendent for about 8 months during the late 1980's. I have served on every regional convention committee that Division 6 has organized and served as the Administrative General Chairman for the very successful 1992 NMRA National Convention, Discov-

erail '92, that was hosted by Division 6. I have been active in the NMRA Achievement Program and currently hold several Certificates of Achievement. As my railroad progresses, I hope to earn additional certificates as I work towards my MMR. I continue to be a regular participant in Division model and photo contests. I am modeling a Pacific Northwest logging railroad in HO scale.

"I believe that the Division has become rather stagnant and there is, in my opinion, a need for improvement in communications, especially as we plunge ourselves farther and farther into the abyss of the digital age. In our rush digitize everything we must be very careful that we don't leave some of our members sitting alongside abandoned tracks waiting for a train to come by that has long since passed. We have done little the last 15 or so years about member recruitment. We all need to climb aboard to get new members. Face it, none of us are getting any younger and if this organization is to survive, it's going to take all of us to recruit some newbies. I believe that we must evolve and grow in this digital age, but not forget about those who have dedicated themselves and worked so hard over the years to make Division 6 and the NMRA such wonderful organizations. With your vote AND your help, I believe we can accomplish this."

Assistant Superintendent



Bill Connell: "I am a Life Member of NMRA and first joined the organization in 1948 as part of the Pacific Coast Region.

I model in HO and HO_n3 scales and have done so for many years. I lean towards industrial and Main line switching and logging operations. I prefer to scratch build my rolling stock, although I am not against building kits or purchasing "Ready To Roll" models.

"Currently, I am one of the two interim editors for the Division 6 *Super's Signal*.

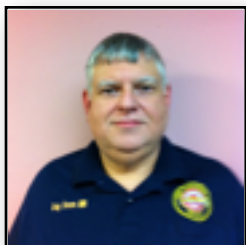
"I am a member of the Columbus Model Railroad Club, where I take care of the operational maintenance of the Club layout. I am a member of the Operations Committee and am putting together a plan that allows multiple local freight operations to

take place while the normal flow of through trains operate over the single-track layout.

"I retired from Lucent Technologies several years ago. My assignments with Lucent Technologies – Bell Labs/AT&T/Western Electric, included Hardware Maintenance, development and delivery of technical instructional documents, customer instruction in "store forward" database administration, management, and "recent change – verify" operations. I produced some 40 technical documents on various telephony subjects during my career.

I reside on the west side of Columbus, and have a small farm operation in Logan County that keeps me a bit busy during the good weather periods of the year.

"No layout at present, but am in the design phase of a rather large, multi scale layout."



Craig Sonnen, MMR: "I have

All: I am having some highly personal problems that will probably continue for the foreseeable future. Therefore, I will not be able to serve if elected as Assistant Super. Please remove my name from the ballot. Thanks, Craig Sonnen

ating scenery and so
MMR #323 and loo

again as its Assistant Superintendent."

Clerk

Bob Bowditch:

Bob Bowditch Photo



Paymaster

John Gafney: "A member of NMRA Division 6, my name is John Gafney and I am running for the position of Paymaster for the Division. I have been your Chief Clerk for 4 years and the Paymaster for the past 2 years and have been active in

all facets of running your Division. If elected I would provide you, the members, and the board financial data to help the board provide you the members future events and projects.

"My background for being the paymaster is 4 years as paymaster for the Central Ohio "S" Gaugers, 4 years as Chief Clerk, and 2 years of Paymaster of Division 6. I am currently building as S-gage layout and hope to have it up and running by mid 2012. Thank You"



Membership Report

Dave Mathenv

The following memberships expire January 31, 2012:

Daniel Bloch	John Gafney	R. L. Retallack	Howard Smith
Richard Boggs	Peter Kitchen	Greg Short	Wesley Wolf
Greg Clark	Joseph Mayer		

The following memberships expire February 29, 2012:

Robert Albert	Carl Crowe	Robert Hilburn	Robert Smith
John Armstrong	Burgess Decker	Robert Horner	Christopher Walsh
Kenneth Beamer	Karl Emler	Michael Ippoliti	Thomas Wester
James Caldwell	John Frazier	Richard Nairn	James White

Active Members:

171 - December 1, 2011
177 - November 1, 2011
185 - October 1, 2011

Questions about when your membership expires can be handled by your Division 6 Membership Chair, Dave Matheny, by email: mgsrailway@gmail.com

Phone: 614-851-9117
700 Windy Hill Lane
Galloway, OH 43119



**To see the Division 6 Layout Tour Addresses,
contact the Division 6 Superintendent at:**

Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org



Division 6 Member Aid Program

By Howard Smith, MMR

The Division 6 Board of Directors has established a "Member Aid Program" to assisted division members in all areas of model railroading. A committee of "Experts" with knowledge of specific subjects will answer questions individually.

These volunteers were selected for their skills in the following subjects.

- A) Motive Power – Provide construction and/or repair advice as requested.
- B) Cars – Provide construction and /or repair advice as requested
- C) Structures – Provide construction and placement advice as requested.
- D) Bench work – Provide guidance as to methods of bench work construction.
- E) Track work – Provide guidance as to methods of construction and placement if requested.

F) Electrical – Provide guidance as to wiring methods including power supplies, track work, control panels etc.

G) Scenery – Provide guidance as to methods of construction, placement and selection of materials.

Other subjects will be added as needed to meet member requirements.

Committee Members provide advice and suggestions only. Committee Members are not required to provide a personal service in the construction or implementation of the advice given.

Howard Smith MMR is Chairman of the Member Aid Committee. Please contact Howard at:

614-871-0500.

Howard will contact a committee member to answer your inquiries.



2012 Division 6 Election Ballot

Division 6 Officer Candidates

Superintendent

☐

Robert E. Lee

☐

Jim Ruisinger

Assistant Superintendent

☒~~Craig Sonnen~~☐

Bill Connell

Clerk

☐

Bob Bowditch

Paymaster

☐

John Gafney

The only Official Division 6 Ballot is printed in the MAILED copy of *The Super's Signal* and MUST have your address on the reverse side.

Please vote for no more than one of the listed candidates for each office. All Division 6 Officers will serve for a two year term start at the MCR Convention.

Every voting member of Division 6 should receive this copy of *The Super's Signal*. Some households will receive more than one copy of *The Super's Signal*, one for each voting member.

The Officer Election Ballots must be handed to Dick Biggs by the 31st of March or postmarked by the 31st of March and mail to:

Division 6 Inspector of Elections
c/o Dick Briggs
4397 Hidden Street
Grove City, Ohio 43123

Super's Signal Request Form

☐

Check the box to the left if you wish to receive a paper copy of future Division 6 *Super's Signal*. Cut out this form and send to:

Super's Signal Editor
Robert E. Lee
1130 Swanson CT
Reynoldsburg Ohio 43068

Please print clearly.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

☐

Check the box to the left if you wish to receive an E-Mail notice that Division 6 *Super's Signal* is available on-line.

EITHER send an E-Mail to Don Wilke at:

WEB_Master@div6-mcr-nmra.org

Subject: Super's Signal

OR mail this form to:

Super's Signal Editor
Robert E. Lee
1130 Swanson CT
Reynoldsburg Ohio 43068

Your E-Mail address:

(Please print clearly)

Please reply by 15 February to receive the March *Super's Signal*.



SUPER'S SIGNAL

Robert E. Lee
1130 Swanson CT
Reynoldsburg Ohio 43068

SUPER'S SIGNAL January 2012

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

RFP Model Railroading
Gahanna, OH 43230
(614) 313-0751
{Kadee, NCE DCC, Homabed}

The Train Station
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Columbus, Oh 43214
614.262.9056

Robbies Hobbies
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Columbus, OH 43214
614.265.7288

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

Hobbyland
Graceland: 206 Graceland Blvd
Columbus, Oh 43214
614.888.7500

Division 6 Timetable

4 January

Division 6 Steering Committee Meeting, 7:30 Bill Connell's

4 January

Super's Signal Deadline

25 January

Division 6 Steering Committee Meeting, 7:30 Bob Lee's

25 January

Super's Signal Deadline

29 January

Division 6 Meeting: Columbus Club, Columbus

Model: Snow Plow; **Photo:** Snow Plow or RR Snow Scene

19 February

Division 6 Meeting: St. John's Lutheran Church, Grove City

Model: Favorite Locomotive; **Photo:** Favorite Locomotive

22 February

Division 6 Steering Committee Meeting, 7:30 Bob Bowditch's

22 February

Super's Signal Deadline

18 March

Division 6 Meeting: C.A.N.S., Canal Winchester