

SUPER'S SIGNAL

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

June 2018



Superintendent's Report

Greg Short, Division 6 Super

April Super's Report

Well guess what, it is time for me to come up with another installment of the Division 6 chronicles. So here I set twisting my brain. Yea that's the strange sound you all heard so don't laugh, trying to remember what I need to tell everyone.

Looks like we had our two days of spring, so it is now summer. Now it's time to get outside and build that garden railroad you always say you're going to do. Or at least plan it and cut the grass and get the flowers in the ground. In all seriousness it is good to have warm weather as the cold, crappy days were really getting to most of us.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the last meeting. In speaking with Don, the owner of the SmokeStack he seemed very happy with our being there. A big thanks also goes to the Hocking Valley Club for being there, giving us a update on their progress and operating the layout for us. It is very possible that we will do this again next year. Our contest at the meeting once again had several entries.

Thanks to all who entered and congrats to the winners. It is good to have Jimmy back working with Butch taking care of the contest.

Some important things to remember. The Marion meeting will be a week later than we normally have it. It will be June 16 We did this to accommodate the presenters of the clinics. We will have three really

16 June (Saturday)

(Date change because of presenter conflict)

Marion Union Station

Marion

9:00: Clinic: History of the CA&C in Westerville, Dennis Fravel

10:00: Clinic: Structures for Your Layout, Frank Bongiovanni

11:30: Lunch – Hot lunch will be available:

Sloppy Joes or Hot Dog, sides, and one soda for \$5.00

12:30: Contest entries closes – Contest voting begins

1:00: Contest voting ends

1:30: Division 6 Business Meeting, Contest results, Raffle

After Division Meeting:

Clinic: Continuation of His Signaling Clinic, Bill Connell

All Day: Train Watching

All Day: Sale Items (Bring your own table)

Model Contest: Favorite Train

Photography Contest: Favorite Train

great clinics this year, so plan to attend. Next is our road trip and meeting at the Mad River and NKP

Museum on August 4th. I will need to know how many are going to attend so that I can decide on getting a bus or renting vans. There is quite a cost difference in this and it will also have a big effect on how much we will charge the members. If you are planning on attending I need to know no later than June 30. I

Super's Signal Deadline

13 June

The Super's Report
Continued on page 3.

Clerk's Report

Patrick Hreachmack, Clerk

Minutes for the Division 6, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Meeting for April 8, 2018 Smoke Stack Hobbies

The Division 6 Meeting was called to order by Division 6 Superintendent, Greg Short.

Division 6 Officers in Attendance:

Superintendent	Greg Short
Assistant Superintendent	Judy Logan
Clerk	Patrick Hreachmack
Paymaster	Dexter Hill
Director	Dick Briggs
Director	Don Wilke

Division 6 Chairpersons Present:

Achievement Program	Dick Briggs
Contest	Jim Ruisinger
Media	Matt Goodman
Membership	Matt Goodman
Program	Greg Short
Raffle	Greg Short
<i>Super's Signal</i> Publisher	Don Wilke
Web Master	Don Wilke
Yahoo Group	Jim Ruisinger

Clerk's Report: Pat Hreachmack. The Clerk's Report, no minutes were available as Clerk Pat was absent at the last meeting and no one filled in.

Paymaster's Report: Dexter Hill. The Financial Report was approved pending audit.

Program Report: Greg Short. Programs are now set thru the end of the year. Please reference the Signal for updates. Clinics are still needed for October, November, and December:

May 17-20	MCR Convention, West Chester, Ohio
June 16	All day event including lunch at Marion. Darrell and Judy will cater for \$5. per person
July	Summer Break
Aug 4	Bus trip to Mad River and NKP Museum, Bellevue. Note: extra fare TBD
Sept 8	Mark Maynard's in Portsmouth
Oct 14	Chillicothe
Nov 4	Swap Meet and Meeting, Location TBD
Dec 9	Upper Arlington: Annual media presentation

Achievement Report: Dick Briggs. Howdy Lambrecht received five NMRA Merit Awards.

- ❖ Merit Award for Structure: Olive Grove Lumber Company Mill #1
- ❖ Merit Award for Structure: Olive Grove Lumber Company Log Unloader
- ❖ Merit Award for Civil Engineer: Turnouts, Cross Overs, & Crossing

The Clerk's Report
Continued on page 3.

DIVISION 6 OFFICERS

Division 6 Superintendent

Greg Short:

10515 Brownsville Rd

Brownsville, Ohio 43721

Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Div. 6 Assistant Superintendent

Judy Logan:

AssistSuper@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Division 6 Clerk

Patrick Hreachmack:

DepClerk@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Division 6 Pay Master

Dexter Hill:

Paymaster@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Directors

Dick Briggs, MMR,

Donald Wilke,

Mike Wolf:

Director@div6-mcr-nmra.org

APPOINTED CHAIRS

Achieve. Program: Dick Briggs, MMR

Contest: Jim Ruisinger

Media: Matt Goodman

Members Aid: Available

Membership: Matt Goodman

Program: Available

Raffle: Available

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

Bob Weinheimer

president@midcentral-region-nmra.org

NMRA Central District Director

Robert Beaty, MMR

Non-Credited Photos by Donald Wilke

- ❖ Merit Award for Structures: Sun Rise Wood Trestle
- ❖ Merit Award for Structures: Hotel Beverly

Howdy Lambrecht also received four NMRA Certificates of Achievements

- ◆ Model Railroad Engineer-Civil
- ◆ Master Builder Structures
- ◆ Master Builder Cars
- ◆ Master Railroad Engineer Electrical

Howdy is now officially NMRA Master Modeler #610

Web Master Report: Don Wilke. New information will be posted on the web within the week and include a list of contest winners.

Super's Signal Report: Don Wilke. Anyone wanting to include anything in the next Signal must have your input to Don by the 2nd of May.

Media Report: Matt Goodman. No update was available.

Membership Report: Matt Goodman. To date we now have 164 members.

Company Store: John Retterer. John has more buildings and cars available.

Yahoo Group: Jim Ruisinger.

OLD BUSINESS:

Marion Meeting: Greg Short. The meeting on June 16 will be held at Marion Union Station and [lunch] will cost attendees \$5.00. Darrell and Judy are providing the food service. Arrival time will be at 9:30 with lunch and meeting to follow.

NEW BUSINESS:

Joe Slancer: Greg Short. Joe Slancer is not doing very well, had eye surgery and his house is being remodeled for near future sale.

Rob Gibbons will stage an auction for Joe's model railroad rolling stock and buildings at Rob's barn location just off Route 23. Date is not yet determined but may be in May or June. This is the same location that staged Howard Smith's auction.

Bus Trip: Greg Short. A bus trip is being developed to visit Mad River and Bellevue, on August 4th. Details to follow.

should have the departure plans by the June meeting.

The third thing is I am planning on doing a swap meet in November. I have a place to hold it for a great price. I will release the details at the June meeting. I am not sure how this will be received or

CLUB REPORTS:

The Columbus Model Railroad Club has now closed, pending a new location to be found. Much of CMRC's railroad assets were auctioned to CMRC members in a private members only auction. CMRC's leadership has stated that when a new location is opened, CMRC will purchase new electronics, buildings, and rolling stock. Meanwhile, remaining CMRC rolling stock and buildings, plus some other equipment will be auctioned at Rob Gibbons' barn location at the same day and time as Joe Slancer's items are auctioned.

Due to time, no other club reports were solicited..

CONTEST:

Subject for today's models and photos was Line Side Structures.

Models: Line Side Structures

1st Place: Howdy Lambrecht – Keyport Creek Water Tower

2nd Place: Jim Russinger – Sage Flats Depot

3rd Place: Peggy Doerflein – Two-story Station

Photos: Line Side Structures

1st Place: Rich Hartley – Buckeye Yard Camera Shed

2nd Place: Bruce McDonald – Coaling Tower

3rd Place: Peggy Doerflein – Olive Grove Lumber Co., Sawmill

Raffle:

1st place drawing: went to Rick Brown

2nd place drawing: went to Jerry Hurt

3rd place drawing: went to Bruce McDonald

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Next Division Meeting: Mid Central Regional Convention, in West Chester, OH will be held on May 17 thru May 20. This will take the place of our regular May meeting. Our next actual meeting will be June 16 at Marion Union Station.

Clinic: Clinic was presented by Phil Breechwood and was an update on the Hocking Hills model layout now being constructed inside the Smoke Stack Hobbies location.



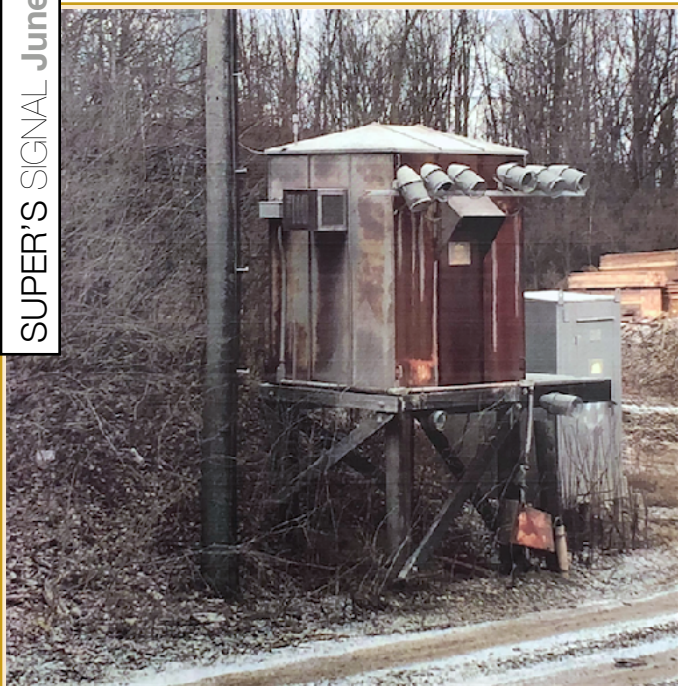
attended but if we don't give it a shot it will never happen. So as you see we have quite a bit coming up later this year.

Well that's about all from me for now so I hope to see everyone soon.

HAPPY MODELING - GREG

Contest Report

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair



Line Camera at Buckeye Yard
Rich Hartley



Ice Fork Creek Wooden Water Tank
Howdy Lamprecht

From the Contest Department: Lancaster Meeting Contest Recap

We had a nice turnout of models and photos for our April 8th Division 6 Meeting contest. Our subject matter was Line Side Structures.

Winners in the Model Contest were:

1st Place: Howdy Lamprecht – Ice Fork Creek Wooden Water tank

2nd Place: Jim Ruisinger – Sage Flats Depot

3rd Place: Peggy Doerflein – 2-Story Station

Winners in the Photo Contest were:

1st Place: Rich Hartley – Line Camera at Buckeye Yard

2nd Place: Bruce McDonald – Concrete Coaling Tower near Marion

3rd Place: Peggy Doerflein – Olive Grove Lumber Co., Sawmill

Congratulations to all the winners. We will have Certificates for you at the next meeting, which will be the June meeting in Marion Union Station on Saturday the 16th. Model and Photo subjects will be... Favorite Train.

Contest Point Summary February 2018

Modeler

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

Photographer

Howdy Lamprecht	9	Jim Ruisinger	3
Lon Wilson	5	Jim Borcz	1
Peggy Doerflein	4	Jim Kehn	1
Greg Short	4	Judy Logan	1
Pat Hreachmack	3	Rich Hartley	1
Darrell Logan	3		

Don Wilke	7	Lon Wilson	3
Matt Goodman	7	Bill Alarie	2
Peggy Doerflein	6	Howdy Lamprecht	2
Rich Hartley	4	Greg Short	1
Bruce McDonald	3		

Special Note: Please relay our desire that photos be on good quality photo paper stock and not just any old paper. Photo paper can be glossy or matte finish.

Division 6 – 2018 Time Table

Date	Event	Location	Contest
14 Jan	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Columbus Library–South East, Groveport Clinic: <i>TBD</i>	Model: Open Freight Car WITH Load Photo: Open Freight Car WITH Load
18 Jan	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
11 Feb	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Hill Top, Columbus Library, Columbus Clinic: <i>TBD</i> , Bill Connell	Model: Non-Revenue Car Photo: Non-Revenue Car
15 Feb	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
18 Feb Sunday	Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic	Boy Scout Headquarters, Columbus	
11 Mar	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Columbus Library–South East, Groveport Clinic: <i>San Diego Model Railroad Museum</i>	Model: Non-Steam Locs Photo: Diesel & Electric Locs
15 Mar	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
8 Apr	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Smoke Stack Hobby Shop, Lancaster Clinic: <i>TBD</i>	Model: Lineside RR structure Photo: Lineside RR structure
2 May	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
17–20 May	MCR Convention	West Chester, Ohio	Model: Modeler's Choice Photo: Modeler's Choice
9 June Saturday	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Marion Union Station, Marion	Model: Favorite Train Photo: Favorite Train
13 June	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
4 Aug Saturday	Division 6 Trip	Mad River and NKP Museum, Bellevue (Extra Fare)	Model: Division sponsored structure Photo: Railroad derelict
9 Aug	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
8 Sept	Division 6 Meeting	Joint Business Meeting 6 & 9: Mark Maynard, Portsmouth	Model: Steam Locomotive Photo: Steam Locomotive
13 Sept	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
14 Oct	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Chillicothe Clinic: <i>TBD</i>	Model: Cabooses (Cabin Car) Photo: Cabooses (Cabin Car)
18 Oct	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
4 Nov	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>TBD</i> Clinic: <i>TBD</i>	Model: Closed Freight Car Photo: Closed Freight Car
15 Nov	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
9 Dec	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Upper Arlington Library, Upper Arlington Annual media presentation	Model: Passenger Car Photo: Passenger Car
13 Dec	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		

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Buckeye Division Achievement Program Update

Dick Briggs, MMR

Division AP Chair

Since my last report the members of Division 6 have kept me and the AP judges busy with a lot of activity.

Merit Awards presented to Howdy Lamprecht at the April Division 6 meeting:

- ❖ Merit Award for Structure: Olive Grove Lumber Company Mill #1
- ❖ Merit Award for Structure: Olive Grove Lumber Company Log Unloader
- ❖ Merit Award for Civil Engineer: Turnouts, Cross Overs, & Crossing

- ❖ Merit Award for Structures: Sun Rise Wood Trestle
- ❖ Merit Award for Structures: Hotel Beverly

Certificates of Achievements presented to Howdy Lamprecht at the April Division 6 meeting:

- ◆ Model Railroad Engineer-Civil
- ◆ Master Builder Structures
- ◆ Master Builder Cars
- ◆ Master Railroad Engineer Electrical



AP Chair, Dick Briggs presents Howdy Lamprecht with a Five Merit Awards and Four Certificates.

Newest NMRA Master Modeler #610

With the completion of his paperwork and the awarding of five Merit Award and four Certificates of Achievements Howdy Lamprecht became the Newest NMRA Master Modeler. He is MMR #610. Congratulations to Howdy for his hard work and participation in the AP program.

Remember, it's never to late to turn in your paperwork – or to early.

Membership Report April 2018

Matt Goodman, Membership Chair
Summary/Comments

SUPER'S SIGNAL June 2018

Last month I commented on changes to the membership file that I receive from National that broke my spreadsheet. I've since been assured that these changes are permanent – this is perfect, because I can now update my sheet to depend on the data being where it's supposed to be. That dependency is critical to getting this work done quickly! I don't know how membership chairs in the days of pencil and typewriters (and old-fashioned mail!) ever got anything accomplished!

See all the details below for the end of April. By the time you see this information, it'll likely be two months old given delays around convention time. So enjoy your look at what will be historical information!

And as always, check your dates!

Active Members (end of the month):

April	160	April '17	163
March	164	March '17	169
February	164	February '17	172

Upcoming Expirations – **Check your dates!**

Note: If you have questions about when your membership expires, check your magazine address label or contact Membership Chair Matt Goodman.

April	5 memberships is expiring
May	4 memberships are expiring
June	6 memberships are expiring

New Members

No new members joined in April

Renewals and Re-Rails (returning lapsed members)

We had nine renewals in April

Other Stuff

- Have you changed your address or other membership information?
- Are you not getting emails from the division?
- Not sure when your membership expires (or if it already has)?
Notify headquarters by email: nmrahq@aol.com

You can contact either the Buckeye Division membership chair, or the National Headquarters to give updates or get your questions answered:

National

Email: nmrahq@aol.com

Phone: 423-892-2846 (9am – 4:30pm)

Mail: NMRA, Inc.
P.O. Box 1328
Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328

Buckeye Division Membership Chair

Email: MembershipChair@div6-mcr-nmra.org

Phone: 614-313-3681 (please leave a message)

Mail: Matt Goodman
130 S. Algonquin Ave.
Columbus, OH 43204

Division 6 on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/user/nmrabuckeyedivision

Division 6 in Facebook:

NMRA Buckeye Division [in search field]

Member Recruitment and Retention Committee Update

By Matt Goodman

We have two topics this month - the first one regards the committee name. In the April edition of the *Super's Signal* (https://archive.div6-mcr-nmra.org/SuperSigFold/r8D_Signal.pdf), Mike Wolf introduced our new committee - but noted that it had not been named yet. Well, now it has - we are the **Member Recruitment and Retention Committee**. Conveniently, it abbreviates to "MRR Committee" - just in case we get tired of typing the whole name.

The second topic is longer - an overview of the guiding ideas behind the committee. At our first official meeting, we tossed around some ideas to help define what our purpose was, so that we could stay focused on relevant items. That led to the development of the committee's scope of work and its supporting goals. Following are those items, with some contextual details.

Scope

We decided on the following two points for the committee's scope of work. If an idea does not naturally fit under one of these two headings, it's not a good fit for the committee (even if it's a good idea).

- 1. New member acquisition** - Includes any idea that seeks out new members, through any channel.

The "channel" could mean one-on-one recruitment, having a presence at a public show, a social media campaign or similar.

- 2. Member retention** - Includes any member-related efforts that take place *after* someone has signed up.

Any idea that gives a member a good reason to *remain* a member would fit in this category. As it turned out, this is a VERY broad category.

Once we decided the scope of our committee, we laid down some ground rules - goals - to further help keep us on track.

- Goal 1** - Identify outreach opportunities and program changes/additions that attract and retain new members.

This one seems pretty obvious - many of the ideas that come out of the MRR Committee will fall under this goal.

This goal covers the more visible ideas (more clinics, train shows presence, etc.)

- Goal 2** - Institutionalize new member development. This is a permanent effort that should become part of the culture that every member understands and actively practices.

The idea behind this goal is that members will be more engaged in the division if they are actively involved in some form. Involvement runs the gamut from being welcoming to new members to giving a clinic to supporting someone who is nervously presenting their first clinic! The "institutionalize" part of this goal means that being involved and supportive becomes the norm - part of our culture. If it becomes part of our culture it will, in turn, rub off on new members - a virtuous cycle.

- Goal 3** - All efforts should be sustainable by a volunteer organization, without relying on blitzes or putting all the effort on individual members.

This goal is about making sure that the ideas that come out of this committee can be implemented - and more importantly - continued without burning anyone out. If it takes more than an hour or two per week, it increases the chances that the effort won't be successful over time. From a more practical standpoint, less effort will hopefully encourage more people to volunteer. After all, no one wants to volunteer for a full-time job!

If you have any questions about this, contact MRR Committee members: Bruce McDonald, Darrell Logan, Mike Wolf, or Matt Goodman.

On a final note, we have a good mix of experience in the committee - ranging from a couple of years to a lifetime. When our Superintendent announced the committee formation in the March *Super's Signal*, he stated "Attracting new members to model railroading is and has been an issue for a number of years. So I am asking the newer members to come forward and give a hand. You are the people we are looking for." If you meet that criteria, give us a holler!

Membership Survey Results

By Mike Wolf and Matt Goodman

When the members of the MRR (Membership Recruitment and Retention) Committee initially kicked around the idea of a survey, it was proposed as a paper-only affair. At the last minute, we decided to run a parallel survey online. There were different opinions on how successful the latter would be – and bets were made! The results indicated that our division is significantly digital-literate. Well done.

In the end, we received a combined fifty-one responses – about 30% of our total membership and a terrific sample. About three quarters of those came from the online survey - successful enough that you will see further surveys in the future.

Note: If you didn't get the online survey, contact Media Chair Matt Goodman so he can figure out the problem.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the survey – here is a summary of the results, by question. Look for retention initiatives based on these results in the near future!

The Survey Results

How did you initially learn or hear about the NMRA?

Advertisement (in a magazine, internet, etc.)	39%
Another modeler	20%
Friend or family	18%
Other (please specify)	14%
Flier at a hobby shop, show or other	10%

When did you join the NMRA?

< 5 yrs	22%
5-10 yrs	10%
10-20 yrs	14%
> 20 yrs	55%

Did you originally join the NMRA via a Railpass?

Yes	12%
No	88%

Why did you first join the NMRA? (List 3 reasons)

Friends with or wanted to meet other modelers	27
Learn from others/expand modeling skills/clinics	12
Access to/support of NMRA standards	11
Participate in NMRA layout/shows	6
See other layouts in area	6
Promote the hobby	3
Magazine	3
Club encouraged or required	3
Parent was a member	2

Have you had a lapse in membership?

No	78%
Yes	22%

If so, why?

Too busy/work	3
Quarreling with/in organization	2
Lost interest	1
Cost/save money	1

Why did you rejoin?

Interest in hobby returned	3
Club member encouraged me to rejoin	2

From the list below, please rank the Top 10 reasons you have remained a member of the NMRA

(*The scores for this question are a weighted based on where each respondent ranked the reason – 15 points for top reason, less for second, third, etc. These aren't a percentage.)

Friends/social events	12.13
Local Clinics, Layout Tours/Ops	11.68
Access to local area experts/experience	11.57
NMRA Magazine	11.00
Teaching/sharing	10.94
Conventions	10.57
Support of NMRA standards	10.03
Research via NMRA website/resources	9.94
Special cross-divisional meetings or Group Tours	9.33
Achievement Program	9.24
Discount program	8.44
Contests	8.41
OPSIG, LDSIG or other NMRA-affiliated Special Interest Groups	7.67
Serve in a leadership position to improve the division	7.37
Layout Insurance	6.00

Are there any other reasons that you have stayed with the NMRA?

Supporting the hobby (x2)	
Purchase clothing and other items	
National layout directory	

May 17-20 Cincinnati Express Convention

Rick Crumrine, Cincinnati Express Chair

NMRA Mid Central Region Members -

This updates and shares important new information about the May 17-20 **Cincinnati Express** Convention –

- We're pleased to report we've recently morphed the Matandy Steel & Hamilton Railfanning Tour into our renamed "**Steel Tour**". We've done this by adding a guided tour of **Precision Strip**, a fascinating steel rolls processing plant. This large operation features 3 custom slitting lines, 4 huge bays of lights-out picking/placing cranes, with inside truck and rail unloading/loading, including their own vintage GE diesel switcher, plus NS and CSX service. In addition, we're including an incredible photo stop location overlooking a **modern coke plant**. This is all in addition to the **Matandy Steel** plant tour. See the updated tour description in our Registration Booklet at <http://www.cincy-div7.org/convention.html>.
- There are still lodging rooms available at the beautiful **Cincinnati Marriott North Hotel**, but you need to hurry as our room block and discounted prices are only guaranteed for reservations made **before Thursday, May 3rd**. Recall, you should make reservations using the convenient [special link](#) or by calling **(877) 739-9460**. Also recall these discounted room prices are good for 3 days before and after the May 17-20 convention dates, should you wish to extend your stay.
- The first version of the **Rail Clinics Abstracts** and the second version of the **Rail Clinics Schedule** are now posted on our website.

Other **Cincinnati Express** updates –

- While both convention and hotel registrations are brisk, with people attending from 15 states, there's still room for more of you to join us. See our **Expanded Registration Form** at <http://www.cincy-div7.org/convention.html>.
- We're having a huge **White Elephant Sale** at this convention. Please see our webpage, and bring items you wish to have our team sell to other attendees. This is a great way to pay for part or all of your trip!

We're looking forward to seeing you soon at this action packed fun convention,

Rick Crumrine
Cincinnati Express Chair

John Burchnall
Cincinnati Express Vice Chair

Roy Hord
Cincinnati Express Registrar



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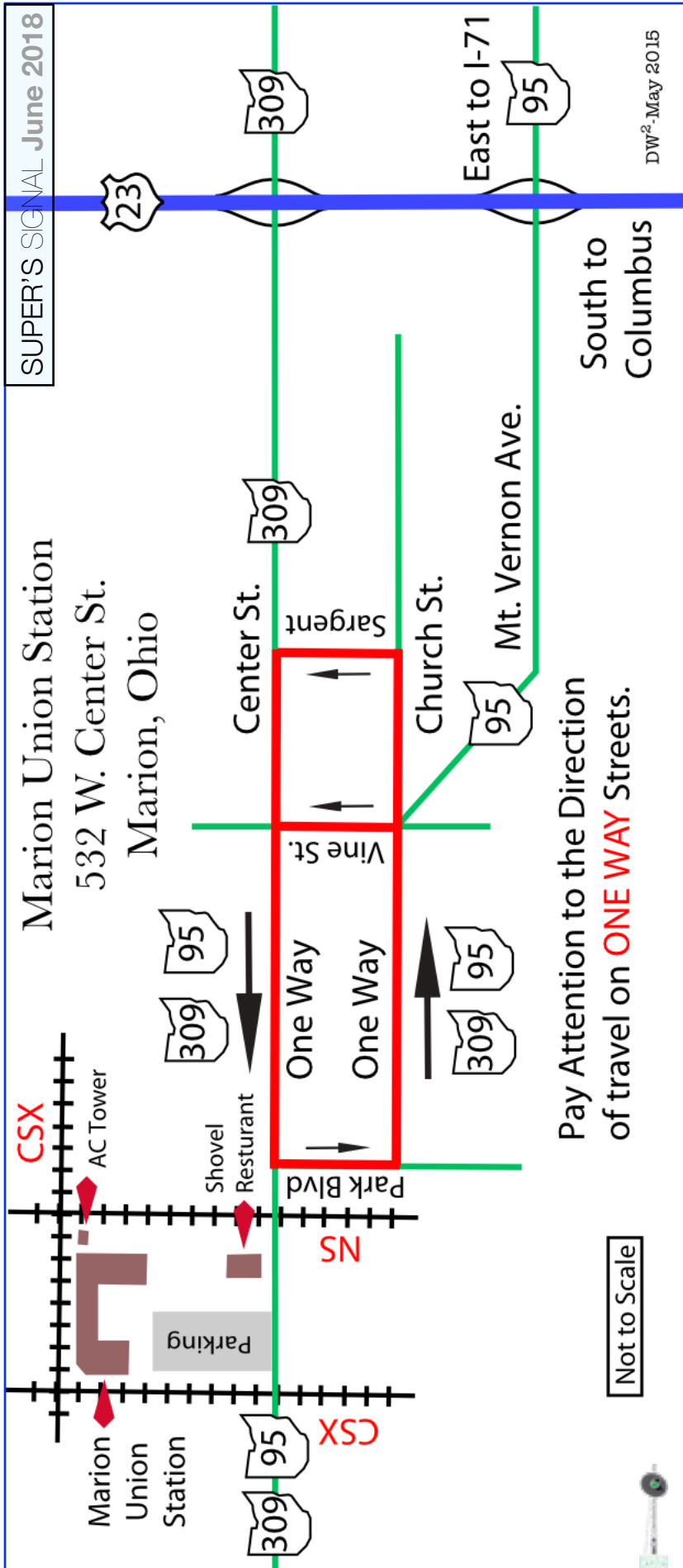
Contact Dave James • showmanager@thegreatbereatrainshow.org • 440-785-9907



EXPRESS

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