

# Super's Signal

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

August 2019

## Superintendent's Report

Greg Short, Division 6 Super

He gang, welcome back. Time for another report from the Super. It has been a couple of months since the last Signal and quite a lot went on in that time, so let's get to it.

First, some you and I attended the 2019 MCR Convention in Boardman. Congratulations to the folks at Division 1 for a very nice program. There were lots of very informative clinics and some good field trips. I took one on Saturday that highlighted the steel industry in the Youngstown area. It was a very informative outing that allowed us to see the history of steel in the area even if the weather didn't cooperate. One thing that I will defiantly take from the tour is I got to see the prototype for the Walthers bottle and slag cars. I did spend some time doing industrial cleaning in the mill of the area some time ago. It had been several years since I had been in the area. I was amazed how much had changed and how much was gone. I was sad to see the torn down steel mills. Although the area as a whole seems to have rebounded with new industry and jobs.

I also sat thru several clinics at the hotel and learned some new ideas and tricks there. I learned how to build a oven for firing bricks like we see at the brick plants in Sugarcreek. Then using a shortcut by using the new Walther's kits of the brick ovens. I sat in a very good clinic on flat car loads. Don and I sat in on a couple of clinics on decaling and weathering with decals. This refreshed my decaling skills and showed how easy it is to do weathering using decals, lots of fun.

Several division members joined with other region members to assemble a quite impressive T-TRAK layout. It is great to see how fast this is coming along and very well could be a big factor in the future of our hobby.

I must congratulate Mike Wolfe on winning several

## 17 August (Saturday) Age of Steam Roundhouse Bus Trip Sugarcreek

**8:00:** Bus leaves Great Southern Shopping Center

**About 8:40:** Bus leaves Beach Road Park-N-Ride, New Albany

Arrive at *Age of Steam Roundhouse*

Lunch – (NOT included in the ticket price)

Arrive at *Dennison Station Museum*

**About 7:30:** Return to Columbus

**Model Contest:** None

**Photography Contest:** None

awards in the contest including Best of Show. Great work Mike. Also not trying to get ahead of myself, Mike had some more items judged recently. As soon as Mike completes the paperwork he will be our newest MMR®. Super Job Mike.

Well since I am thinking about it, we had our Annual Membership Meeting in Marion last weekend. Once again it was a very good program excepting the weather – but it is Ohio. We had three great clinics for the program. Ted Goodman gave his clinic on the Age of Steam Roundhouse. We planned this as a setup for our upcoming trip to AOS. Our good friend Frank Bongiovanni gave his clinic on Estate Planning. Frank will tell you he really does not like doing this clinic. But he realizes that most of us are not ready if the worst were to happen so it is a message that we need to hear. Thanks to Frank for

**The Super's Report**  
Continued on page 3.

## **DIVISION 6 OFFICERS**

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Donald Wilke,

Mike Wolf:

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## **APPOINTED CHAIRS**

**Achieve. Program:** Dick Briggs, MMR

**Contest:** Jim Ruisinger

**Media:** Matt Goodman

**Members Aid:** Available

**Membership:** Matt Goodman

**Program:** Darrell Logan

**Raffle:** Harry "Butch" Sage

T-TRAK:

**Web Master:** Don Wilke

### **Super's Signal Publisher**

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[SuperSignalPub@div6-mcr-nmra.org](mailto:SuperSignalPub@div6-mcr-nmra.org)

## **DIVISION 6 WEB SITE:**

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### **Mid-Central Region President**

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[president@midcentral-region-nmra.org](mailto:president@midcentral-region-nmra.org)

### **NMRA Central District Director**

Robert Beaty, MMR

Non-Credited Photos by Donald Wilke

## **Clerk's Report**

*Patrick Hreachmack, Clerk*

### **Minutes for the Division 6, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Business Meeting of 6/15/19**

**Location: Marion, Ohio**

#### **Division 6 Officers in Attendance:**

Superintendent

Clerk

Paymaster

Director

Greg Short

Pat Hreachmack

Dexter Hill

Don Wilke

#### **Division 6 Chairpersons Present:**

Company Store

Contest

Media

Membership

Program

Raffle

Super's Signal Publisher

Web Master

Yahoo Group

Greg Short

Jim Ruisinger

Matt Goodman

Matt Goodman

Greg Short

Harry "Butch" Sage

Don Wilke

Don Wilke

Jim Ruisinger

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

## **Reports:**

**Clerk's Report:** Pat Hreachmack. The Clerk's Report, as it appeared in the current Super's Signal, was approved.

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

**Superintendent's Comment:** Greg Short. Greg postponed all other reports due to the nature of this special day at Marion, train watching, clinics presented, and lunch.

**Thanks:** Greg Short. Special thanks to all our clinic providers and to Judy & Darrel Logan for presenting our lunch!

## **Old Business:**

**Bus Trip:** Greg Short. The Age of Steam and Dennison Station Bus Trip is set for August 17th. Cost will be \$50 per person with entry to the Age of Stream Roundhouse and also the Dennison Station Museum. Lunch is extra. The trip will be open to Division 7 & 9 also. There will be no meeting and no contest during the bus trip. Whether you take the bus or drive yourself, the price of \$50 is constant for all attendees.

**Swap Meet:** Greg Short. The Division 6 swap meet is set for October 20 with a cost of \$10 per table for vendors.

## **New Business:**

Superintendent Greg did not have any new business at this time.

## **Club Reports:**

No clubs had reports to provide.

## **The Howard Smith Award:**

Congratulations to Bruce McDonald for making a difference to our division over the last twelve months. Bruce really stepped up to the plate to drive the Membership Retention program!

**The Clerk's Report**  
Continued on page 3.

## Continued: **The Clerk's Report**

### **Raffle:**

Bruce McDonald and Carter Jastram won the HO Scale raffle. Jim Bortz won both items in the N Scale raffle, probably as he was the only purchaser of N scale raffle tickets. The large History of Steam book was won by Matt Goodman.

### **Contests:**

Winners of the contests are reported elsewhere in the *Signal*.

Due to our meeting schedules, the contests for the next several meetings have been changed.

The September meeting will combine the September and October subject matters. This contest will be "Steam Locomotive – Caboose combos" for models and "Steam

Locomotives" only for photos.

The November meeting will remain "Closed Freight Cars".

The December meeting will be "Passenger Cars"

The previous announced contest subjects of "Thumbz" and "Derelicts" will be rescheduled for some time in 2020.

### **Good of the Order:**

The next Division 6 function will be the Age of Steam & Dennison Station Museum Bus Tour in August. There will be two back-to-back meeting in September. The first meeting will be 14 September with Division 9 at Mark Maynard's in Portsmouth. The next meeting will be the next day, 15 September, at the Southeast Library in Groveport.



## Continued: **The Super's Report**

doing it, especially given the fact we have lost some good friends in the last year. The final clinic of the day was also the most costly, at least for me, but it was also a very good clinic. This was one on sound equipped locos from JT Burke from Scale Sound Systems. JT showed a fresh look at sound systems by changing the speaker in the loco to ones that he manufactures. Most of us have never given much thought in to the speaker end of sound, other than will it fit. JT is a sound engineer by trade so he is able to look at that end of the system and improve on it. If you have not looked into or heard of him look them up on the web. He is also a dealer for various decoder manufactures. Give them a look and try his products, you will be impressed.

Good to see Darrell and Judy at the meeting and having our lunch ready, a thank you to them for that.

Another item that happened at the meeting was the presentation of the Howard Smith Award. This award goes to a Division 6 member of the Super's choosing. I, as the Super, choose a member who has provided outstanding service to the division in the last year. This year I presented the award to Bruce McDonald. Bruce has been instrumental in working with the Membership Retention Committee. He has worked at many events and stepped up to the plate to see our message from the NMRA gets passed on to the public. He helped to bring in new members as well as bring some members back. Bruce is a newer member to the NMRA and has brought with him some great energy and fresh ideas to Division 6. Great Job Bruce.

Now onto some upcoming items. We are now accepting reservations for the Age of Steam Bus Trip. The cost will be \$50 per member. Wives and other family members are welcome to attend but

they must buy a RailPass membership. This is so the NMRA event insurance will cover us. The trip is Saturday August 17. We will be going to the Roundhouse then to lunch, which is extra fare, then to Dennison for a visit to the Station there. Pick up places will be Great Southern Shopping Center on

Summary Comments	
The headline news for this report is this: We have had three successful months with new members being added to the club. The last time that occurred was the end of 2017.	
We equalled history by gaining two new members in March, one is a Raffle member from Columbus, the second a regular member from Canal Winchester, Williams, Ohio.	
Overall, we are down one member compared to February see the chart for our one year trend.	
On the left side, two members passed away in March one is reflected in this report, the other will show on next report (due to report timing)	
Active Members (end of the month)	
March 18	414
February 17	414
January 16	415
Upcoming Expirations - Check your dates!	
Note: If you have questions about when your membership expires, check your magazine address label for contact information: Chair Mark Goodson.	
We have fourteen memberships expiring in the next two months.	
Reservations and Re-Rolls (renewing lapsed members)	
We had sixteen renewals in March.	
Other Staff	
• Have you changed your address or other membership information?	
• Are you not getting results from the database?	
• Not sure when your membership expires (or if it already has)?	
• Simply headquarter to email: membership@nmra.org	
You can contact either the Business Division membership chair, or the National Headquarters to get updates or get your questions answered.	
National	
Email: membership@nmra.org	
Phone: 410-341-1400 - x 3000	
Mail: NMRA, Inc.	
PO Box 104	
Baltimore, MD 21203-0104	
Business Division Membership Chair	
Email: membership@nmra.org	
Phone: 410-341-1400 (please leave a message)	
Mail: Mark Goodson	
100 N. Shiloh Road, Ave.	
Columbus, OH 43219	

South High Street the Beech Road Park on Ride (off SR161 in New Albany). Times are leave Great Southern at 8am, and leave New Albany around 9am. I would expect to be back around 9pm in Columbus. If you want to go contact me by email or Phone 740-607-3223. It may be best to text me as I am not always able to answer my phone or even have service if I am at either of the Fire Stations. Payment can be made the day of the trip. Also I will be opening spots for the trip to Divisions 7 and 9 to help fill the bus if needed so sign up quick. First come first serve

The next item is the Swap Meet. Almost everything is set for this. All we have to do is advertising it. There have been flyers made and coupons we need to pass out to numerous hobby shops in the area. We need our membership to pass the word also. I am also going to need several volunteers to work that day. It will include anything from taking cash at the door to keeping track of who gets tables. Set up and tear down is being done by the facility. This will be a good day but it can be great if we make it. I also have a list for tables so if you want one let me

**The Super's Report**  
Continued on page 4.

know.

Please check the timetable in the *Signal* as I needed to make a couple of changes to the schedule for the rest of the year. Two of the big ones are we will have the September meeting in Columbus. This is right before the swap meet and we need to have everything ready. Now I have spoken with the guys from Division 9 and if anyone wishes to go to the September meet in Portsmouth we are more than welcome. It means that we are not having a business meeting there. The other major change is

that we will not have a business meeting on the bus trip or at the swap meet. This also includes the contests for those events. Jimmy has revamped the contests for the remainder of the year to reflect this.

Well that about does it for now so I hope to see a bunch of you on the bus trip. So till then

## Membership End of the Month Report June 2019

Matt Goodman, Membership Chair

### Summary/Comments

In my last report from the March end of month data, I stated we have had three successive months with new members. Well, April broke that streak. Curses! However, we've started a new streak with at least one new member in the last two months – new members five out of the last six months isn't bad!

The new members in May and June are both from Howard Ohio, in Knox County. I'm guessing our all-NMRA club in Mt. Vernon is responsible.

Our superintendent and membership committee are continuing to line up some great clinics. Most recently we had a triple header in Marion on June 15th, with Ted Goodman's talk on the design and construction of the Age of Steam Roundhouse, Frank Bongiovanni's discussion estate planning and JT Burke talked about Big Sound in HO scale models. Talks like these are great recruitment opportunities – bring visitors and get them hooked!

### Active Members (end of the month):

June	175	June '18	161
May	176	May '18	161
April	175	April '18	160
March	180	March '18	164

**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.

We have **twenty** memberships expiring in the next two months.

### New Members, Renewals and Re-Rails

(returning lapsed members)

We had **twenty-four** renewals since the last membership report in April; **eleven** in April, **eleven** in May and **two** in June.

### 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 – 2019 Time Table

Date	Event	Meeting	City
13 Jan	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Hilltop Library</i> Clinic: <i>Painting Backdrops</i> , Rich Hartly Contest: Open Freight Car WITH Load	Columbus
17 Jan	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
10 Feb	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>South High Library</i> Clinic: <i>Maine Two-Footers</i> , Harry "Butch" Sage Contest: Non-Revenue Car	Columbus
14 Feb	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
10 March	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>South East Library</i> Clinic: <i>Spline Roadbed</i> , Matt Goodman Contest: Non-Steam Locomotive	Groveport
14 Mar	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
14 Apr	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Mount Vernon Station</i> Clinic: <i>Decoder Intallatiopnss</i> , Mike Wolf Contest: Lineside Railroad Structure	Mt. Vernon
1 May	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
2–5 May	MCR Convention	<i>The Bullet 2019</i> Contest: Modeler's Choice	Boardman, Ohio
15 Jun (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Marion Union Station</i> Clinic: <i>Curved Backdrops</i> , Darrell Logan, <i>Estate Planning</i> , Frank Bongiovanni, <i>Scale Sound Systems</i> , <i>Their Products &amp; Services</i> Contest: Modeler's Choice	Marion
20 Jun	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
17 Aug (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Division 6 Bus Trip (Extra Fare) <i>Age of Steam Roundhouse</i> Contest: <b>NONE</b>	Sugarcreek Dennison
11 Aug	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
14 Sep (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Mark Maynard's</i> Clinic: Maine Two-Footers, Harry "Butch" Sage Contest: <b>NONE</b>	Portsmouth
15 Sep	Division 6 Meeting <b>Important Meeting</b>	Business Meeting: <i>South East Library</i> Clinic: <i>Swap Meet</i> , Greg Short Model Contest: Steam Locomotive with Caboose Photo Contest: Steam Locomotive	Groveport
19 Sep	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
20 Oct	<b>Division 6 Swap Meet</b>	Business Meeting: <b>NONE</b> Clinic: <b>NONE</b> Contest: <b>NONE</b>	Cambridge
24 Oct	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
Nov	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: TBA Clinic: TBA Contest: Closed Freight Car	
Nov	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
8 Dec	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Upper Arlington Library</i> <i>Slide/Movie Show</i> Contest: Passenger Car	Upper Arlington
12 Dec	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline	<i>Election Issue</i>	
August 2019			<b>5</b>

# Contest Report

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

Contest Re-Cap – June 2019 at Marion, Ohio.

Once again and for five straight meeting, we had another nice turnout of models and photos for our June Division 6 meeting contests. We had Seven very nice model entries and four fine photos. And yet again, voting was tight and we had to make a couple of tie breaker decisions.

Congratulations to our winners. I will have certificates for you at our September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. The location is pending so stay tuned. Our subject matter for the model category will be Steam Locomotive with Caboose combos. For example, a locomotive with a caboose coupled to it. Remember to bring a few sections of track to set your models on. It makes 'em display better! The Photo contest will be of Steam Locomotives only. Remember, photos should be your own work and printed on good quality photo paper.

The cumulative point totals so far, appear elsewhere in the Signal. As you will see, in the first six months of 2019, we've had 27 different members enter our contests.

## SPECIAL CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT.....

As announced at the Marion meeting, there will be no contest for our outing at the Age of Steam Roundhouse in August or at the Train Show/swap meet in October, as there really is no place to set it up

Since we're not having a meeting for our outing at the Age of Steam Roundhouse in August, or at the swap meet/train show in October, we've decided to combine the September subject of steam locomotives and October subject of cabooses. Then pick back up with "closed freight cars" in November. We will try and reschedule the Thumbz and railroad derelicts subjects for next year.

Direct any questions to Contest Chairman,  
Jim Ruisinger.



Don Wilke – Georgetown Loop

Our contest subject was **Favorite Train**

### In Models:

- 1st Place – Mike Wolf – PRR double-header pulling a string of coal hoppers.
- 2nd Place – Patrick Hreachmack – PRR MOW Work train.
- 3rd Place – Jim Borcz – NYC Pacemaker train

### In Photos:

- 1st Place – Don Wilke – Georgetown Loop
- 2nd Place – Matt Goodman – U.P. Big Boy east bound through Echo Canyon
- 3rd Place – Don Wilke - D&RGW on Doc Sage's layout



Mike Wolf – PRR double-header pulling a string of coal hoppers

## Contest Point Summary June 2019

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

Modeler				Photographer			
Pat Hreachmack	18	Bob Doerflein	1	Don Wilke	11	Scott Brown	3
Mike Wolf	15	Jerry Hurt	1	Matt Goodman	10	Nancy Hartley	3
Howdy Lamprecht	7	Jim Kehn	1	Mike Wolf	9	Ken Beamer	1
Jim Borcz	5	Russ Light	1	Peggy Doerflein	8	Darrell Logan	1
Greg Short	5	Bruce McDonald	1	Eric Porch	4	Keith Yantes	1
Jim Ruisinger	4	Scott O'Connor	1	<b>Special Note:</b> 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.			
Connie Frazze	2	Eric Porch	1				
Matt Goodman	2	Harry Sage	1				
Dexter Hill	2	Bob Weston	1				
Judy Logan	2	Don Wilke	1				
Ken Beamer	1	Keith Yantes	1				
Al Doddroe	1						

## Book Review

Harry "Butch" Sage

Hidden Treasures, The Story of the Ohio River & Western Railway, by Edward H. Cass, 1997.  
Timber Times, PO Box 219, Hillsboro, OR 97123. Hardcover, 248 pages.

This is the history of the Ohio River & Western Railway and its predecessor, the Bellaire, Zanesville and Cincinnati Railway. Construction of the B, Z & C commenced in August, 1876 at Bellaire on the Ohio River, but was stopped several times due to the lack of funds, something that plagued the company throughout its entire life. By October, 1877 the rails reached Bethel, 11 miles from Bellaire and limited operation was begun. It was October of 1879 before the line reached "The Dark Hills" of Monroe county and the village of Woodsfield. In August, 1883 the rails reached Summerfield, which ultimately was the midpoint of the line. It was May of 1884 when the line finally made it to Zanesville. Throughout the early years there were a number of plans floated for extensions, cutoffs, connections and branches but nothing ever came from these grandiose plans.

The B, Z & C took 110 miles to go from Bellaire to Zanesville, utilizing over 300 bridges and trestles, including a "S" curved one, hefty grades and several tunnels. By comparison, the standard gauge B&O covered that stretch with just 78 miles of track and much easier grades and curves. Because of these conditions, the line would never be anything more than a local service provider.

In July, 1902 the line was re-organized as the Ohio River & Western after the B, Z & C went through bankruptcy. For a few years in the early 1900's it was owned by Arthur Appleyard who planned to turn it into a standard gauge electric railroad as part of his midwestern interurban group, but those plans never materialized. It then reverted to the local Ohio owners and ultimately was purchased by the Pennsylvania Railroad, who operated it until 1931.

This is a well-researched and well written book telling the story of the "Bent, Zigzag & Crooked" Railway and its efforts to serve the residents of the Dark Hills in Monroe and Noble counties. It has been out of print for sometime but is available from used book dealers.

SIDE NOTE: There is a small but active historical group dedicated to the OR&W and they can be found on Facebook.



# Hobby Tip of the Month

## Cleaning Track and Wheels

Mike Wolf

Other than soldering connections under the layout, cleaning track is one of those necessary tasks on a model railroad I try to avoid. Unfortunately, “bullet proof” track laying and wiring techniques are always limited by that tiny electrical connection between the top of the rail and the small part of the wheel touching it. While many of us have likely tried numerous techniques to clean and keep clean the rail and wheel surfaces, a recent article by Joe Fugate in the May 2019 *Model Railroad Hobbyist Magazine* (free at [www.mrhmag.com](http://www.mrhmag.com)) approaches the topic from a scientific angle. The following is a summary of the article (for the non-scientists out there) on what causes that black gunk on the track and wheels and how to inhibit its formation.

So what is the black gunk? One hobbyist had it analyzed and found the black gunk is mostly metal oxides formed by micro-arcing between the rail and wheel. Essentially, the electricity flowing at the tiny contact point between the wheel and rail is “exploding off” metal alloy molecules causing them to oxidize and form a fine dark gray powder. So the key to slowing down the buildup of metal oxide is to **inhibit the micro-arcing**.

Some of the best experience with keeping track and wheels clean comes from the La Mesa club in San Diego. They run trains nearly 12 hours a day and used to clean their track with isopropyl alcohol (commonly called rubbing alcohol). They found the more they cleaned, the quicker the black gunk would build up. After some experimentation, they found that cleaning the track and wheels with mineral spirits resulted in things staying clean longer. So what is it about these two different solvents that makes a difference?

When electric motors were first built, they used copper brushes but found that they arced badly and burnt out quickly. The solution was to use graphite for the brushes as it inhibited arcing at the contact point. This is where the chemistry comes in (stay with me, I’ll make this short and to the point). **Non-polar solvents** work best to both clean electrical contacts and protect them by **inhibiting micro-arcing** and actually **“protecting” the metal surfaces from forming new oxides**.

Conversely, **polar solvent** molecules get trapped in the micropits of the metal surface and leave an “electron charged” microscopic residue that **encourages micro-arcing**. Guess what isopropyl alcohol is? That’s right – a polar solvent. Ever use Wahl’s clipper oil on your track? Why does it work? Yeap – non-polar solvent!

The adjacent is a condensed table from the article listing common solvents by their dielectric constant (you can Google that if you want to know more but basically, smaller numbers are better for cleaning track and wheels). Use the cleaners in the green portion of the table and avoid the items in orange.

Solvent	Dielectric Constant
WD-40 Contact Cleaner	1.9
CRC contact cleaner & protectant	2.0
Neverstall	2.0
Mineral Spirits	2.1
Wahl Clipper Oil	2.1
Turpentine	2.2
WD-40 (regular)	2.4
Graphite (microscopic thin layer)	1.8-3.0
Automatic transmission fluid	4.8
Rail Zip	4.8
Butyl Acetate	5.1
Ethyl Acetate	6.0
Graphite (thick layer)	10-15
Isopropyl Alcohol	18.0
MEK	18.9
CRC QD Contact Cleaner	20
Acetone	20.7
Ammonia solution	31.6
Lacquer thinner	33.6
Hydrogen Peroxide	60.0
Water	80.4

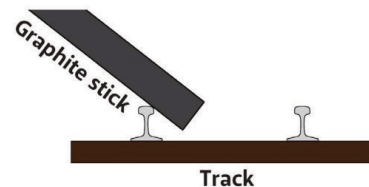
Non-polar	
Semi-polar	
Polar	

### What about GRAPHITE?

Several forums and articles in the past have professed the wonders of graphite. As the chart shows however, it needs to be applied sparingly. Microscopic thin layers of graphite are non-polar and greatly inhibit micro-arcing but thicker layers of graphite get increasingly polar. When applying graphite to your track, **more graphite is NOT better**.

The experience of other modelers who use graphite report a quick swipe with moderate pressure is all you need (and not on every inch of rail either – just a quick swipe every couple feet and let the wheels spread it around). If you can see it, you’ve applied too much! A quick search on Amazon for “2b graphite stick” produced lots of options. One stick will last you a lifetime. You can also likely find them in local art supply stores.

Chemistry class complete. For better performance, clean your track and wheels with a non-polar solvent and then treat the inside railhead with graphite to further reduce the frequency of cleanings – leaving you more time for tasks you enjoy doing on the layout!





## **How are we doing?**

*Darrell Logan*

Before beginning this article, I feel that it is necessary to say “thank you” to all of the presenters for their outstanding effort over the past year. The effort you put forth on behalf of our members is greatly appreciated. In addition, I would like to thank the members that took the time to attend the various clinics.

Now for the meat of this article. Several months ago, we submitted a survey to the membership asking what type of clinic they would like to see. Based on the surveys received, we formulated a clinic schedule that we felt would that you, the Division 6 Member, wanted.

Clinics presented over the last several months have been based on the survey results received from you and your fellow members. The following is a list of clinics that we presented over the past year:

*Age of Steam Roundhouse*

*Estate Planning*

*Scale Sound Systems*

*Backdrops to Finished Scenery*

*Prototype Signal Class & Rules*

*San Diego Model RR Museum*

*History of CA&C Westerville*

*Structures for Your Layout*

*Maine Narrow Gauge Railroads*

*Spline Roadbed*

*Decoder Installation*

We know that all the clinics presented did not appeal to each and every member. Let's face it as someone once said “You can't please everyone all the time”. With that in mind, we are starting to build our schedule for the next year. Hopefully, we will have a clinic that appeals to you in the near future. If you have a clinic that you would like to see, or a clinic that you can present let us know.

To assist in creating the next round of clinics, watch your inbox for a survey on clinics - what you liked, what you didn't, and what you'd like to see. We welcome your input and look forward to hearing what you have to say. As always, feel free to reach out to me if you're not able to participate in the survey.

## **Clinicians**

*Division 12*

Hopefully you will consider attending the Alleghany Western Mini Meet September, 14th, in Erie, PA. I would like to extend an invitation to you to present a clinic at this event. We are looking for a variety of topics from prototype modeling, modeling methods and well, you name it. Submitted clinics will be selected based on needs, timeliness, and skill level filling twelve clinic positions. The mini-meet is being held in the Ambassador Center in Erie, PA. The Ambassador will be the site for the 2021 MCR

Convention giving participants a chance to get a peak at our future convention center. The meet is an all day Saturday event that will also offer some off-site opportunities Friday and Saturday nights.

Please contact me If you are interested and I will email you with a submission form. More information regarding the Alleghany Western Mini-Meet is being updated on our website. <http://www.div12mcr.org>



# Alleghany Western Mini-Meet 2019

**September 14, 2019**

**Model Railroad Event**

## Saturday's events at the Ambassador Center\*

I-90 Exit 24 – 7794 Peach Street

Erie, Pennsylvania

(\*Home of the *Northern Express*, 2021 MCR Regional Convention)

- Registration and Continental Breakfast 8-9 AM
- Clinics throughout the day
- T-TRAK layout on display
- Door prize and *awesome* raffle prizes
- White elephant tables
- *Your* models on display
- Judging offered for merit awards
- Raffle drawings and hors d'oeuvres 4-5 PM



Friday evening before the meet and Saturday evening afterwards, participate in off-site activities!

- Tour local model railroads and meet with the modelers
- Operate on local model railroads

Watch for program schedules, clinic lists, white elephant forms, display and judging information, railroad tours and ops-sessions, vendors and donors, raffle prizes, and other information on our website:

[www.div12mcr.org/mini-meet/](http://www.div12mcr.org/mini-meet/)

Registration information on the back of this flyer

# Alleghany Western 2019 Mini-Meet

## Additional Details and Registration

The Mini-Meet is not a train sale or swap meet; it is a chance to experience a model railroad convention atmosphere in one day.

- If you are coming from a distance away, a reasonable room rate at the convention site is available (please see our website, [www.div12mcr.org/mini-meet/](http://www.div12mcr.org/mini-meet/), for details).
- Register early and **save!**
- Registration includes continental breakfast and afternoon hors d'oeuvres
- Confirmation will be emailed
- Payment by mail must be by check
- Questions, contact [clerk@div12mcr.org](mailto:clerk@div12mcr.org) or [superintendent@div12mcr.org](mailto:superintendent@div12mcr.org)
- Program subject to change without notice, no refunds for no-shows

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PERSON

Name: _____	Registration Fee
Address: _____	NMRA members \$28.00= _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	Non NMRA* \$42.00= _____
Phone: _____ Cell: _____	Youth under 16 \$10.00= _____
Email: _____	Add \$5.00 after 8/24 = _____
NMRA Member # _____	
Non-NMRA, please sign me up for the Rail Pass _____	Total Amount: _____
Make checks payable to: Division 12, MCR, NMRA	
Interested in Ops-Sessions _____	Mail to: Division 12, MCR, NMRA
(Check above to receive authorization code	PO Box 1062
for online sign up)	Meadville, PA 16335
Interested in displaying models _____	
Interested in having model(s) judged for	
merit awards _____	



\*The Alleghany Western Mini-Meet is an NMRA event. Non-members, if eligible and by paying the non-NMRA fee and checking the sign up above, will receive an NMRA Rail Pass (trial membership) with registration to the event.



# TRAIN SHOW & SWAP MEET

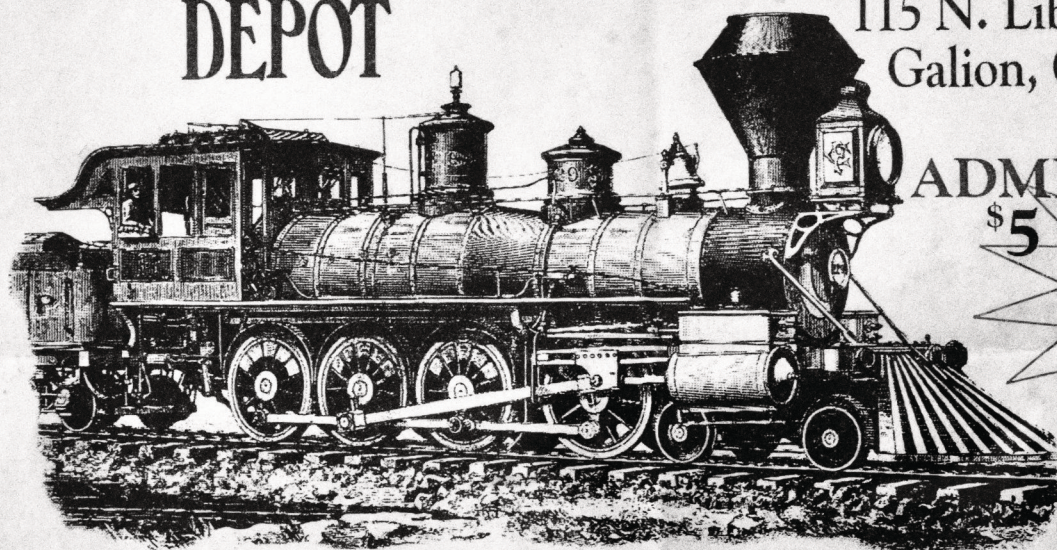


Saturday,

**AUGUST 24, 2019**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

St. Joseph Activity Center  
115 N. Liberty Street  
Galion, OH 44833



**ADMISSION:**

**\$5 Adults**

**12 and under,**

**FREE**

• Videos • Memorabilia • Model Train Parts • Swap Meet & Flea Market for all Gauges • Depot Open •

*Food Service by Katering Kountry Style*

**HOTELS:** Galion—Sleep Inn 419-777-7515

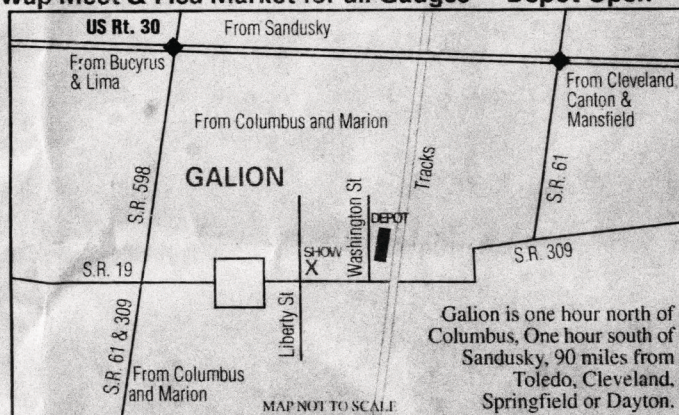
Bucyrus—Holiday Inn: 419-562-5664,

Knights Inn: 419-562-3737

**Rules:** Dealers accept all responsibility for any injury or loss to them or their property while attending this show. They expressly release the St. Joseph Activity Center and show promoters from any liability. If you are not able to attend the show, let us know one week prior to receive a refund of your paid reservation.

Dealer set-up time is 8 a.m.

Sale of food by dealers is prohibited.



## PARTICIPANT FORM

TABLES: \$18 prior to August 1, 2019. Thereafter or day of the show: \$20.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Display: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please  
provide  
receipt

Mail to: Friends of the Big Four Depot, P.O. Box 43, Galion, OH 44833 • Dave Moore: 419-462-5035



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MODEL RAILROAD HOBBY

Keep up to date on all Division 4 events TEXT Div4 to 22828

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**SATURDAY OCTOBER 5, 2019**

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 6, 2019**

**10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

**Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds**

19201 E. Bagley Road, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130

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ALL SCALES • ACCESSORIES

SCENERY • HOBBY TOOLS & SUPPLIES

CHECK SHOW WEBSITE FOR DETAILS & UPDATES

www.thegreatbereatrainshow.org



**FREE PARKING**

**ADMISSION \$8.00**

Under 16 Free with Adult

2 Day Pass \$10.00

PRESENTED BY:

THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

MID-CENTRAL REGION DIVISION 4

www.div4.org

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

