Super's Signal

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

September 2019

15 September
South High Street Library
Columbus

1:00: South High Street Library Opens

1:15: Contest entries open

1:30: Clinic: *Swap Meet*, Judy Logan

2:00: Contest entries closes, voting begins & Volunteer sign up

2:15: Clinic: *Decoder Instalation*, Mike Wolf

3:15: Contest results

Model Contest: Steam Locomotive with Caboose

Photography Contest: Steam Locomotive

21 September (Saturday)
Mark Maynard's
Brouses Run Road
Portsmouth

Layout: Crusty Mountain & Windy Springs Railroad

11:00: Mark's layout opens

12:00: Barbecue lunch, Flea Market

2:00: Joint Division 6–Division 9 Meetings

Model Contest: None

Photography Contest: None

DIVISION 6 OFFICERS

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Members Aid: Available

Membership: Matt Goodman

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NMRA Central District Director

Robert Beaty, MMR

Non-Credited Photos by Donald Wilke

Clerk's Report

Patrick Hreachmack, Clerk

No Meeting at the Age of Steam Roundhouse And Dennison Station

Division 6 – 2019 Time Table

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

2019 Central Ohio RPM
Marion Ohio

Matt Goodman

This past April, I attended an RPM (Railroad Prototype Modelers) meet at the Marion Union Station in Marion, Ohio. This particular RPM, called the Central Ohio RPM, was started by Denis Blake, his wife and a couple of friends, ten years ago - all of those years at the same location.

Before describing this event, a quick background of RPM Meets is in order for those of you who may not be familiar with them. The first event in the RPM vein occurred in the early eighties, though the Railroad Prototype Modeler (RPM) name wasn't adopted until 1990. Early on, the yearly events were often held in conjunction with the NMRA National convention, but in more recent years, meets have become established regionally. The longest running of these, for example, is the RPM Conference, which has been held in the western suburbs of Chicago for twenty-five years. Well established meets can be found in just about every region of the country.

Modelers who attend RPM meets are focused on building models to a very high level of fidelity, using photos and historical research to ensure accuracy. This means the modeler is attempting to reproduce a specific car, building or locomotive as it appeared at a particular moment in time – including correct numbering, hardware details (for example, the right door and roof combinations on a box car, horns and grills on a diesel), weathering and even chalk marks and (for more modern cars), graffiti. I like to think of RPM modelers as being similar to the military modelers we hear and read a lot about in today's model railroading press. RPM participants also put a premium on sharing what they've learned with others in this particular niche – and one of those sharing methods are the annual meets, such as the one in Marion.

A rusty, but running, patched diesel.

As noted above, the Central Ohio RPM has been hosted in Marion for ten years. This year, there were over 400 models on display(!); mostly in HO scale, but with larger scales also present. This particular meet attracts more modern-era modelers, with the majority of locomotives and rolling stock being from the sixties or later. While I am a steam guy, I really admire the guy who do a good job of grunging up a diesel. Some of those locomotives looked very much like they had been pulled directly off the dilapidated mainline of the 1960's Erie Lackawanna or off the front of a heavy 1970's N&W coal drag.

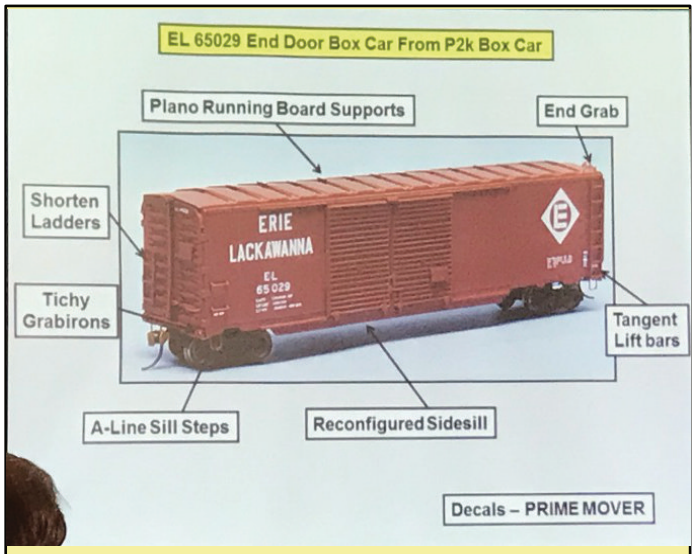
A wreck-recovery and scrapping-in-progress diesel. Great use of color.

The selection of models remained on display for the entirety of the three-day event. The owners would cycle between socializing in the model room and attending clinics. To a person, if the builders were at their table, they were always willing to answer questions about the models, their techniques, their research, etc. RPM events are somewhat unique in that many models are displayed in an in-progress state – in fact, this is encouraged. This semi-complete state accomplishes two things, from my perspective; dissimilar materials used in construction stand out, making it easier to determine how the model was assembled, or which details were added. Secondly, this "naked" state also makes it easy for the modeler's peers to provide input on things that could be changed, corrected or lauded. This makes sense, given the goal is absolute fidelity to the prototype.

RPM meets are also known for hosting a lot of clinics,

In-process scratch-built combine car. The modeler was attempting to model an entire eighteen-car NYC passenger train exactly. Problem - his Hudson can't pull an eighteen car train. Solution - install a drive train in the combine. Even RPMers sometimes make concessions!

and the clinics generally have a very narrow focus. Some focus on a prototype subject, others focus on techniques and some mix the two. This RPM was no different - I only attended one day, but Denis told me there were twelve clinics over the three "official" days of the meet, in addition to a slide show on the set-up day. The clinics I attended covered the C*onstruction of Erie-Lackawanna Boxcars* (who knew there were so many varieties of roofs on a boxcar – before that clinic, I thought all seventies boxcars looked the same…),



Erie Lackawanna Box Car Clinic

a discussion of the *ALCo diesel fleet of the N&W*, the various models that had been produced of them, and which ones needed which changes to best represent the N&W's locomotives

Andy Harmon talking through N&W ALCos

and (lastly) our own Butch Sage's clinic on the *Maine Two-Foot Railroads*.

Butch presenting his Maine Two-Foot clinic.

I've attended this RPM three or four times, and I always learn something. At this year's event, I learned about Tamiya's panel line washes – used to highlight (low light?) those details and met a fellow modeler that has a collection of slides from an area I model. Leading up to and during this meeting, Butch and I also had several discussions with Denis on ways our two organizations could benefit or support one another – networking is never a bad thing. Along those lines, expect to see more information about the 2020 Central Ohio RPM in the *Super's Signal* and (perhaps) a visit from Denis to one of our meetings to better explain the sub-culture of RPMs.

For more information on when and where other regional RPMs are held, Eric Hansmann maintains a schedule of events on his website here:

http://designbuildop.hansmanns.org/rpm-event-calendar/

From there, do some searches to find out more details about each event. I've been to two different venues, and each had its own flavor. If time and your travel budget allow, check one out!

Membership End of the Month Report
August 2019

Matt Goodman, Membership Chair

Summary/Comments

Happy September, members! I didn't publish a membership report for July/August, so this will serve as a two month update.

We had a ten member decline at the end of July with most of that being recovered with a wave of renewals and two new members at the end of August. Welcome to the new RailPass member from Galloway and Family Member from Millersburg!

Our membership is now 171 strong, which represents a slow downward trend compared to our 2019 peak of 180 in February (see the chart for more detail).

This past year has been an active one from a events perspective, with a solid slate of clinics and a bus trip to the Age of Steam Roundhouse and Dennison Museum in August. These are features that we can point to when talking to prospective members. We all know someone that has an interest in model railroading who are not NMRA members. Mention that clinic you enjoyed, the people you've met and the bus trip you've taken. Find out what they know that could be beneficial to the rest of our membership and let them know you'd like them to share it with your organization – most people like to teach and will be flattered to learn that their knowledge may benefit others.

Along those lines, I want to thank Darrel Logan for his recruiting efforts. He is responsible for at least three of the new members we gained this year (that I know of)!

I also want to call out the Kokosing Model Railroad Club – it was one year ago (August, 2018) that the club became a 100% NMRA member club. Happy Anniversary!

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

August	171	August '18	175
July	165	July '18	158
June	175	June '18	161
May	176	May '18	161

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 **eleven** memberships expiring in the next two months.

New Members, Renewals and Re-Rails
(returning lapsed members)

We had **twenty-seven** renewals the last membership report at June month-end; **seven** in July and **twenty** in August.

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

Contest Report

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

Contest Re-Cap – August 2019 at Age of Steam Roundhouse & Dennison Museum.

There was no contest at this meeting.

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.

Contest Point Summary June 2019

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

Modeler

Pat Hreachmack	18	Bob Doerflein	1
Mike Wolf	15	Jerry Hurt	1
Howdy Lamprecht	7	Jim Kehn	1
Jim Borcz	5	Russ Light	1
Greg Short	5	Bruce McDonald	1
Jim Ruisinger	4	Scott O'Connor	1
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		

Photographer

Don Wilke	11	Scott Brown	3
Matt Goodman	10	Nancy Hartley	3
Mike Wolf	9	Ken Beamer	1
Peggy Doerflein	8	Darrell Logan	1
Eric Porch	4	Keith Yantes	1

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.

Steam Locomotive with Two Cabins (to aviod the pural of caboose)
Photo Credit: FortWayneRails

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/

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/, 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 or superintendent@div12mcr.org
- Program subject to change without notice, no refunds for no-shows

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PERSON

Name: _____

Address:_____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

NMRA Member # _____

Non-NMRA, please sign me up for the Rail Pass ____

Interested in Ops-Sessions _____

(Check above to receive authorization code for online sign up)

Interested in displaying models _____

Interested in having model(s) judged for merit awards _____

Registration Fee

NMRA members $28.00=_____

Non NMRA* $42.00=_____

Youth under 16 $10.00=_____

Add $5.00 after 8/24 = _____

Total Amount: _____

Make checks payable to: Division 12, MCR, NMRA

Mail to: Division 12, MCR, NMRA
PO Box 1062
Meadville, PA 16335

*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.

www.thegreatbereatrainshow.org • info@thegreatbereatrainshow.org

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2 Day Pass $10.00

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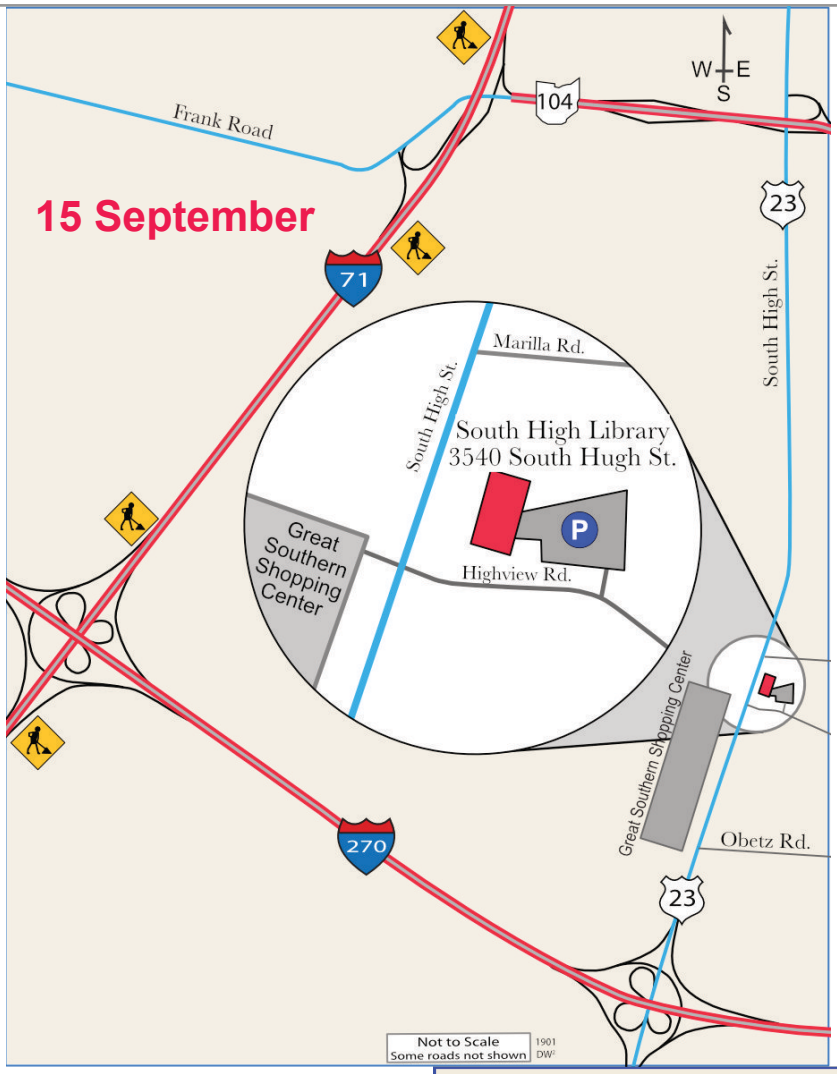
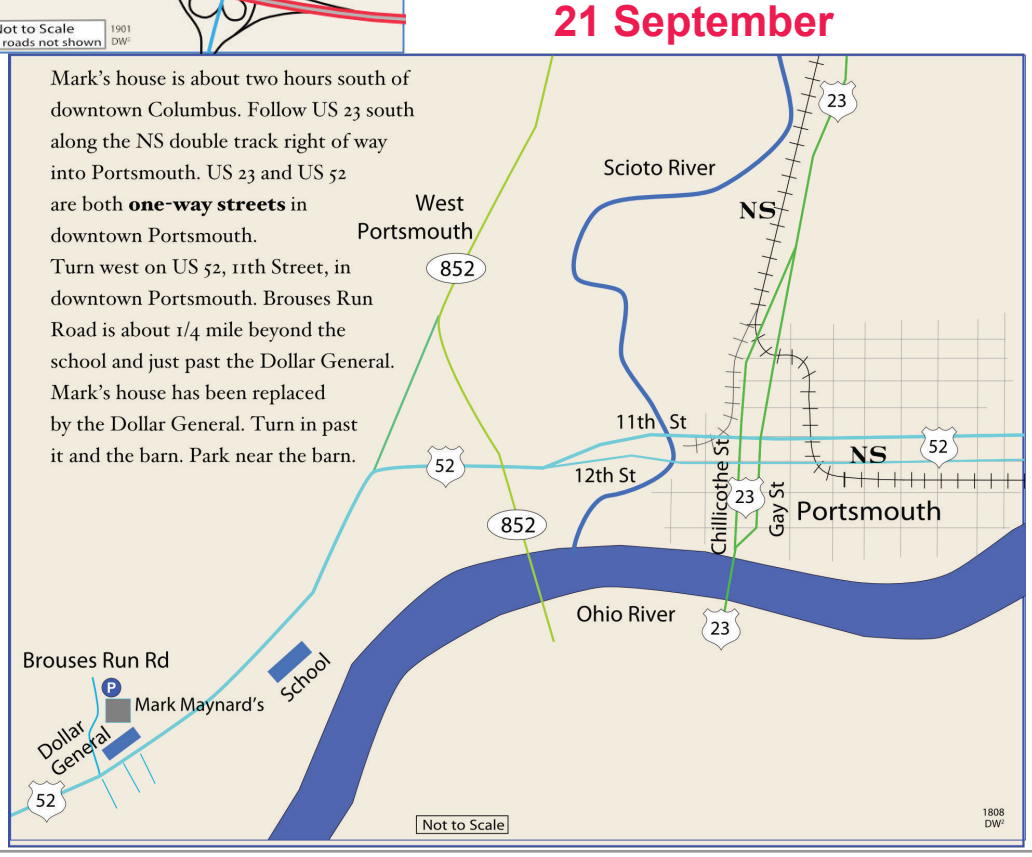

15 September
Frank Road
104
W
E
S
23
South High St.
71
Marilla Rd.
South High St.
South High Library
3540 South Hugh St.
P
Highview Rd.
Great Southern Shopping Center
Great Southern Shopping Center
Obetz Rd.
270
23
Not to Scale
Some roads not shown
1901
DW²


21 September
Mark's house is about two hours south of downtown Columbus. Follow US 23 south along the NS double track right of way into Portsmouth. US 23 and US 52 are both **one-way streets** in downtown Portsmouth.
Turn west on US 52, 11th Street, in downtown Portsmouth. Brouses Run Road is about 1/4 mile beyond the school and just past the Dollar General. Mark's house has been replaced by the Dollar General. Turn in past it and the barn. Park near the barn.
23
Scioto River
West Portsmouth
NS
852
11th St
52
NS
52
12th St
Chillicothe St
23
Gay St
Portsmouth
852
Ohio River
23
Brouses Run Rd
P
Mark Maynard's
School
Dollar General
52
Not to Scale
1808
DW²