

Super's Signal

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

October 2019

Superintendent's Report

Greg Short, Division 6 Super

Hey gang, been a while since I gave you a Super's Report. With all the things that summer bring I missed the last deadline, my fault. I guess vacation, a anniversary, and a couple of birthdays got me a little busy. Speaking of birthdays, if you didn't hear that was why I had to miss our last meeting. My mom and aunt planned a birthday for my Grandfather the same day. Since it was his 100th I figured that I better not miss it, few people get to see one let alone be cognizant to remember it. I am truly blessed to have him.

I want to back step a bit and say that we had a great time on the bus trip in August. However, we will have to look hard at doing another bus trip due to the lack of attendance. We are putting a lot of division funds to these excursions for the members. Many members are not taking advantage. There is another way to look at it though. The division is offering member benefits that some chose to use, and for those is their loss. More on this at a later

Super' Signal Dealine
24 October

Moving forward I have now focused all my time toward the Swap Meet, and it looks like it is going to be good. As of my writing this we have over 50 tables sold and others pending. If you want a table let me know as soon as possible. It looks now we may only have a few, if any, for walk in sale. I am still trying to keep a few tables for this purpose as that was the original intent. It seems like it has exploded with vendors. That is a good thing for us. I want to thank those who have helped with getting the word out. Most of the calls that I have gotten have come from folks that have seen the flyer. We have been able to get the flyers in several hobby shops thru out the state and West Virginia. With great feedback from the shop owners that I have spoken with. Now we just need to keep it up. Word of mouth is very powerful so let all your modeling buddies know.

20 October Swap Meet

Pritchard Laughlin Center
7033 Glenn Highway
Cambridge Ohio

11:15: Volunteers Arrive

11:00: Swap Meet Opens

4:00: Swap Meet Closes

Model Contest: None

Photography Contest: None

We will need several folks to help at the meet, we have a small group now but we will need more. If you wish to help let me know and I will find something for you to do. Also remember that if you volunteer to can get in early (wink wink). Even if on getting a table you can still help. Just share a table with another member and while one watches the table the other can do something for the division.

One other thing that I need to bring up is that November is nominations month. So be thinking if you want to take one of the positions that are up. These are Super, Asst. Super, Clerk and Paymaster. Some current officers are termed out so we will need to replace them including me (thank heavens). I will set the date and place asap, once again the swap meet has me busy so I forgot to do it earlier. So we will get a post card out and keep the website updated.

Till then, Happy Modeling

Greg



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

Matt Goodman,

Donald Wilke,

Mike Wolf, MMR:

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: Darrell Logan

Raffle: Harry "Butch" Sage

T-TRAK:

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

Clerk's Report

Patrick Hreachmack, Clerk

**Minutes for the Division 6,
Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.
Meeting for September 15, 2019
South High Street Library, Columbus**

Division 6 Officers in Attendance:

Assistant Superintendent

Clerk

Paymaster

Director

Director

Director

Judy Logan

Pat Hreachmack

Dexter Hill

Dick Briggs, MMR

Don Wilke

Mike Wolf, MMR

Division 6 Chairpersons Present:

Achievement Program

Contest

Raffle

Super's Signal Publisher

Web Master

Yahoo Group

Dick Briggs, MMR

Jim Ruisinger

Harry "Butch" Sage

Don Wilke

Don Wilke

Jim Ruisinger

The Division 6 Business Meeting was called to order by Judy Logan, Division 6 Assistant Superintendent and turned over to Pat Hreachmack.

Jim Kean was present after recent hospitalization and given a very warm round of applause and cheers by the membership when recognized by Clerk Patrick.

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. Absent.

Achievement Report: Dick Briggs. Dick called Mike Wolf to the front where a team of MMRs awarded Mike with several achievement awards, and his Master Model Railroader #640 certification and plaque.

Web Master Report: Don Wilke. Don provided a brief report on the status of the Web.

Super's Signal Report: Don Wilke. Don provided a brief report and stated that details of the membership report are in the current signal since Matt could not be present.

Media Report: Matt Goodman. Absent, no report available.

Membership Report: Matt Goodman. Don Wilke stated that membership info is in the current *Signal*.

Company Store: No report was asked for nor provided.

Yahoo Group: Jim Ruisinger: No report was asked for nor provided.

Old Business:

Swap Meet Volunteers: Assistant Superintendent Judy gave

The Clerk's Report
Continued on page 3.

Continued: **The Clerk's Report**

details of the upcoming Swap Meet on October 20. She also asked for volunteers to serve as Swap Meet Paymaster, and Dexter Hill said he would do that function. Judy also called for volunteers to serve as door security. Some members were asked to send an email to Superintendent Greg to volunteer.

Swap Meet Volunteers: Bruce McDonald asked for several volunteers to help run the NMRA table at the Swap Meet.

PayPal: Darrell Logan put forth a recommendation that for the next Swap Meet, we utilize PayPal for people to register for tables, so as to obtain a more solid commitment. While Darrell put this into a motion, he was told that this meeting was not the place for said motion but that it should be brought up to the executive board for discussion and vote.

Bus Trip: It was reported that the field trip to *Age of Steam Roundhouse* did not meet the quota of NMRA members to break even.

New Business:

No new business was discussed.

Club Reports:

Central Ohio "O" Scale Model Railroad Club: It was reported that they will be at COSI from November 20 thru the 24th.

Central Ohio Model Railroad Club: Bill Alarie said that COMRC welcomes all NMRA members to come over on Tuesday evenings and run on their layout.

Delaware Cty Model Railroad Club: The club has a large number of books on the Santa Fe Railroad for sale. Darrell asked that Division 6 consider purchasing those books for Butch to use as raffle items.

Janis Model Railroad Club: Carter Jastram reported that the Janis club is actively working to plan and begin to stage operations days. Most

likely this would be on Fridays as the Janis is only open on weekdays and Thursday evenings are utilized for club members to run their trains.

Live Steam Club: Jim Bortz reported that the action at Mill Creek will be closing down for winter, in the later part of October.

Raffle:

HO: Winners were Carter Jastnam and Darrell Logan

N: Winners were Jim Bortz and Judy Logan.

Contests:

Contest results appear in the current issue of *Signal*. Jim said it was wonderful to see all the entries and to keep up the excellent work.

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

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 Membership was reminded of the annual BBQ bash and Swap Meet at Mark's place in Portsmouth this coming Saturday the 21st.

The Membership was again reminded of the upcoming Swap Meet.

The 68th Buckeye Railroad Artifacts and Model Train Show will be at the Lausche Building on Saturday, Nov. 7th from 9 to 4.

In January 2020, *The Great Train Show* will again be in Columbus.

Clinic:

Mike Wolf, new MMR, provided an excellent clinic on the installation of DCC boards and sound into locomotives.



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 & 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: NONE	Sugarcreek Dennison
11 Aug	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
15 Sep	Division 6 Meeting Important Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>South East Library</i> Clinic: <i>Swap Meet</i> , Greg Short Model Contest: Steam Locomotive with Caboose Photo Contest: Steam Locomotive	Columbus
21 Sep (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Mark Maynard's</i> Clinic: <i>Maine Two-Footers</i> , Harry "Butch" Sage Contest: NONE	Portsmouth
19 Sep	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
20 Oct	Division 6 Swap Meet	Business Meeting: NONE Clinic: NONE Contest: NONE	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>	

Contest Report

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

Contest Re-Cap –
September 2019: South Hight Street Library, Columbus, OH.

Folks, we're in a rut... and it's a great rut to be in. The turnout of models and photos for our September Division 6 meeting contests was exceptional! We had eleven great models (including some unusual items) and eight very nice photos. And yet again, voting was tight and a tie breaker was needed.

Congratulations to our winners. I will have certificates for you at our November meeting on the 10th (date is tentative). The location is pending so stay tuned. Our subject matter for the model category will be "closed" freight cars. Examples would be box cars, covered hoppers, stock cars, tank cars, enclosed autoracks, etc. Please remember to bring along a piece of track to place your models on. It makes 'em display better! 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 it's a dogfight between a couple of members for the top spot in both model and photo categories.... No runaways this year! In the first nine months of 2019, there have been 31 different members enter our contests.

Direct any questions to Contest Chairman, Jim Ruisinger.

Models Subject: Steam Locomotive and Caboose (Combo)

1st Place: Howdy Lamprecht – Olive Grove Lumber Co., Shay and Bobber

2nd Place: Mike Wolf – PRR I-1 and Cabin

3rd Place: Patrick Hreachmack – 0-4-0 Fireless Cooker and Drover Caboose

Photos Subject: Steam Locomotives

1st Place: Matt Goodman – Locomotive with young inspector

2nd Place: Eric Porch – N&W Class A #1218

3rd Place: Mike Wolf – PRR L-1



*1st Place – Matt Goodman
Inspecting the Machinery of UP #4014*



1st Place – Howdy Lamprecht: Olive Grove Lumber Co., Shay and Bobber

Contest Point Summary September 2019

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

Modeler

Pat Hreachmack	20	Al Doddroe	1
Mike Wolf	18	Bob Doerflein	1
Howdy Lamprecht	11	Jerry Hurt	1
Jim Borcz	6	Jim Kehn	1
Jim Ruisinger	5	Bob Lee	1
Greg Short	5	Russ Light	1
Peggy Doerflein	2	Bruce McDonald	1
Connie Frazze	2	Scott O'Connor	1
Matt Goodman	2	Eric Porch	1
Dexter Hill	2	Harry Sage	1
Judy Logan	2	Bob Weston	1
Bill Alarie	1	Don Wilke	1
Ken Beamer	1	Keith Yantes	1
Dick Briggs	1		

Photographer

Matt Goodman	14	Nancy Hartley	3
Don Wilke	12	Bill Alarie	1
Mike Wolf	11	Ken Beamer	1
Peggy Doerflein	8	Darrell Logan	1
Eric Porch	7	Keith Yantes	1
Scott Brown	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.

New Product Review

Decoder Buddy

Mike Wolf, MMR

During my decoder install clinic last month, I briefly touched on decoders with 21-pin connectors. They have become popular with many of the OEMs and therefore ESU, SoundTraxx, TCS, and Digitrax are offering them to the marketplace. The 21 pins offer connections for track power, motor output, speaker connection, stay alives, and numerous light effect outputs. However, unless you have a locomotive with 21-pin plug, how do you make all those connections? One easy solution is Decoder Buddy by Nix Trains— a simple motherboard designed by a fellow modeler for modelers (see photo below). The 21-pin decoder plugs into the connector on the left and the small circuit board on the right can be unplugged to allow the shell (and lights) to be quickly separated from the chassis when working on the model.

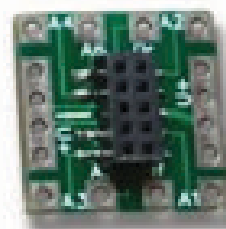
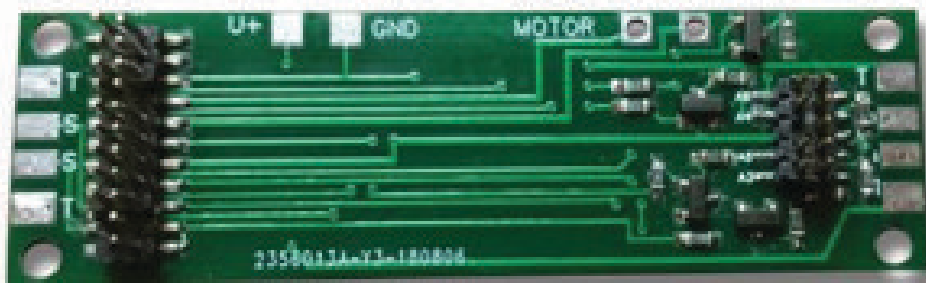
The Decoder Buddy comes in two formats – one that supports 8 light outputs (shown below) and the V5 with 12 outputs. The circuit board also comes with current limiting resistors for LED outputs. The board's creator

will also make custom versions of the board with no resistors or different resistance values. The board is also sized so the screw holes on each end match the chassis of many common diesel frames.

The Decoder Buddy has a MSRP of \$16 (plus shipping) from his website (<https://nixtrainz.com>) but I've seen it listed for \$12.95 on Yankee Dabblers website. Also, Scale Sound Systems carries Decoder Buddy and you can save shipping by including it with speaker order (and support two hobbyists with small companies in one transaction).

The Decoder Buddy can significantly ease the installation of the newer 21-pin decoders and reduce the wiring necessary under the hood when adding all the lighting effects these decoders allow. Give one a try.

If you subscribe to *TrainMaster's TV*, they recently added a video by Nick (the creator of Decoder Buddy) doing an install.



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
130 S. Algonquin Ave.
Columbus, OH 43204



Division 6 on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/user/nmrabuckeyedivision

Division 6 in Facebook:

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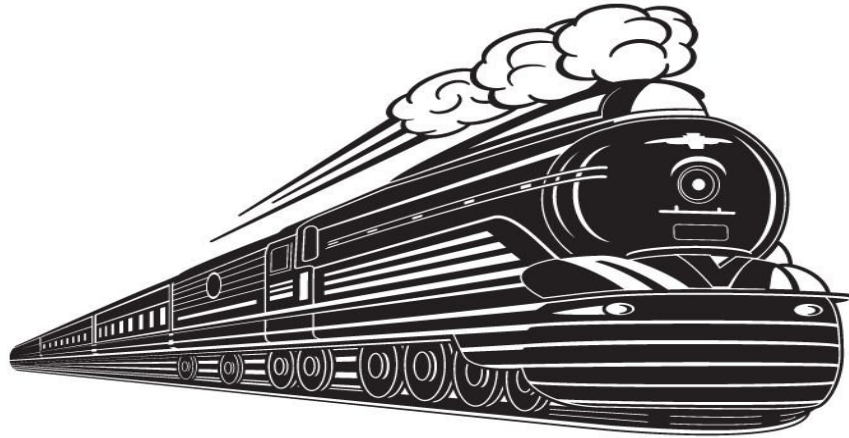
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Facebook: @Division8.MCR.NMRA

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Model Railroad Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Night Banquet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Company Store and White Elephant Sale | |



Division 6 Members Visit The Crusty Mountain and Wiloby Springs Railroad

Matt Goodman

This September, our Division had two meetings. Our official meeting was September 13th in the Columbus area to discuss the upcoming train show, with the second, unofficial, meeting in the West Portsmouth area at Mark Maynard's home. The latter has been our traditional September meeting point and is a joint meeting with Division 9. Seven Division 6 members made the trip south (including two of our Chillicothe) and were treated to the traditional beautiful drive, weather (there was not a drop of rain south of Chillicothe) and cookout lunch.

For those unfamiliar with Mark's home and layout, he lives on large (for a city guy like me) plot of land along the Ohio River at the mouth of Bradford Hollow along Brouses Run. Now if you can picture that without looking at a map, you are a true Ohio traveller and geography/watershed expert! Suffice to say, it's a beautiful site.

Mark is a former N&W engineer and his layout - the Crusty Mountain and Wiloby Springs Railroad - is in the second floor of his property's barn. The railroad is loosely based on the N&W and DT&I. He runs his railroad like a real railroader, with many complex (to me) jobs - he has a lot of operations packed into the space. The railroad is run on NCE, with all switches operated remotely via fascia toggles/buttons or direct DCC addressing.

The big news this year is his completion of a remote dispatching center set in a separate two-story tower about thirty yards from the barn - a Herculean effort in a years time. The tower is called SG Tower (for Sugar Grove), and contains an interlocking panel (rescued from somewhere a long time ago), operator's desk and various "railroad" (Mark's description) decorations. All of the physical switches on the panel are tied into the DCC system so that



*SG Tower with Power Pole to Left
Photo by: Matt Goodman*



*SG Tower interior, with Mark on the right. The tower is a former tree house (without the tree) for his grand kids. It is heated and air-conditioned.
Photo by: Matt Goodman*

a switch thrown on the panel operate the appropriate turnout on the layout in the barn. Tying the tower to the barn is an honest-to-goodness pole-line that brings power to, and DCC commands from, the tower back to the barn. Communication from the barn to the tower is via FRS radios. Mark also built in the ability to disconnect the railroad from the interlocking panel so that he can operate everything from within the barn.

This weekend was the first time that Mark had a chance to

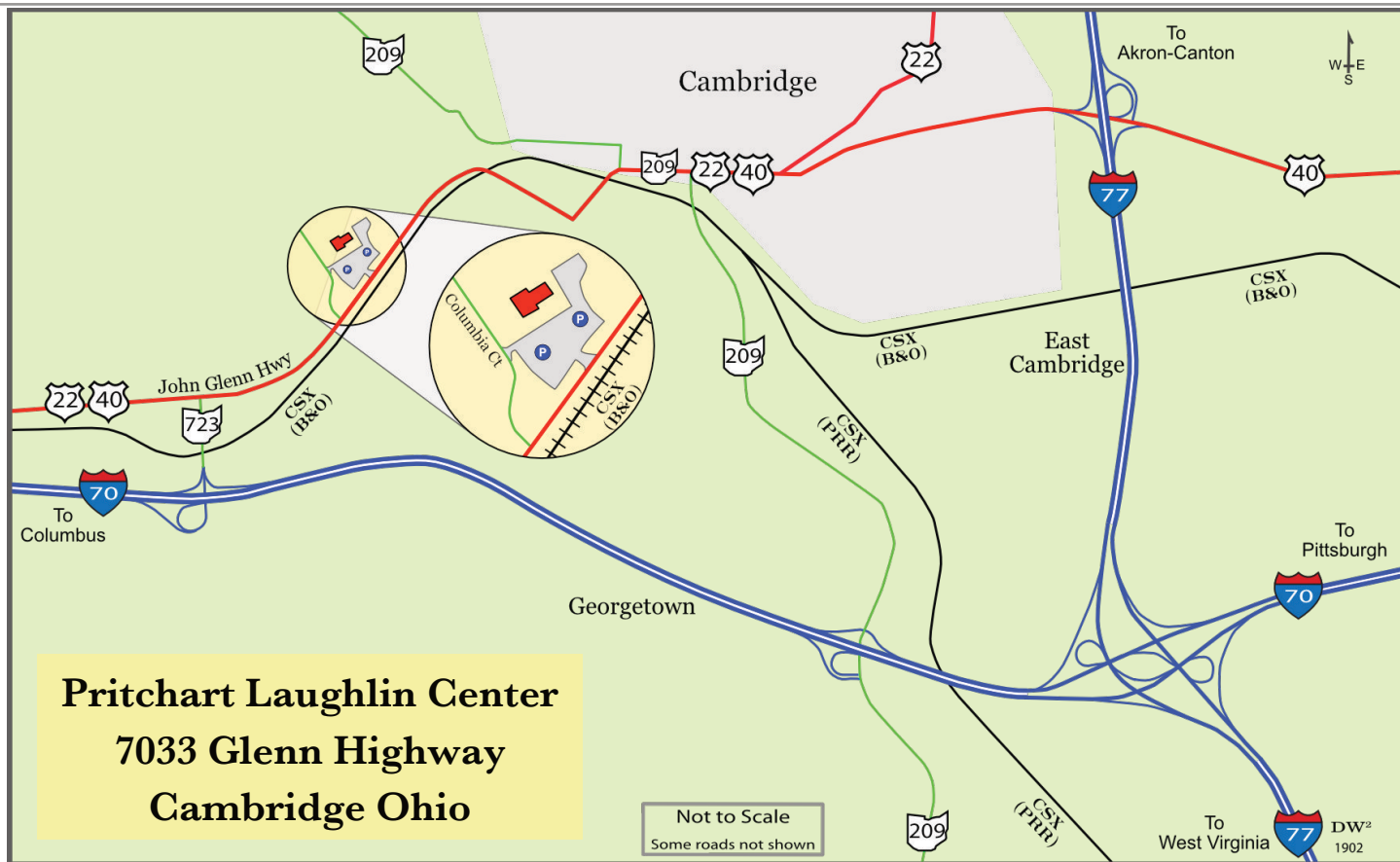


*Railroad room with Division 6 members Bruce McDonald, John Madden and Pat Hreachmack (far right). MCR President Bob Weinheimer.
Photo by: Matt Goodman*

operate the new system with guest operators, and it went relatively well for a trial run. Thanks for the hospitality, Mark!



*The Cookout
Photo by: Matt Goodman*



Additional Photos of Crusty Mountain and Wiloby Springs Railroad

Matt Goodman



Operations!
Photo by: Matt Goodman



Business meeting
Photo by: Matt Goodman