

Super's Signal

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

November 2020

Superintendent's Report

Matt Goodman, Division 6 Super

Happy almost-Winter Buckeye Divisioners. Days are getting shorter, and it is almost dark by the time Christy and I get done walking the dog in the evening. Usually, short days would be a bit depressing. I keep my head up by reminding myself that we are only a bit over two months from the days getting longer again. And on an even more optimistic note, only six months away from the longest day of 2021! Yes, we all have unique wiring.

Directors on the Ballot

November's division meeting is the cut-off for putting your name in as a potential candidate for the three Division 6 Director positions that are up for election. If you are interested, see Butch Sage's article elsewhere in this month's *Signal* to get details on how to get your name on the ballot!

Groups.io

Those of you who attend our membership meetings have heard us talk about the Groups.io group. Both Jim Ruisinger, Rick Brown, and I have also written about it in more or less detail in the past two years. I bring this topic up because of the excellent discussions (and sharing) in the past month or two. Some examples are:

- An update from Dick Briggs on his project to rebuild the O-Scale model of Marion Union Depot
- Dave Richter shared the backstory of his photo of GTW 0-8-0, taken in 1957 (this photo won the September virtual contest)
- Powering layout lighting and other accessories using PC (ATX) power supplies and wall warts
- Announcements about contests and meetings

Super' Signal Deadline
12 November

8 November Division Meeting by Zoom Video Call

1:00: Zoom Room opens or social half-hour

1:30: Business Meeting starts

2:15: (estimate) Clinic: DCC++, Richard Matejovic

Virtual Photo Contest #7: Closed Freight Car

Watch your email, or the Web Site for details, or contact Matt at Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

- Various workbench updates covering how I make ties, a city block refurbishment at the Delaware club, and photos from weathering Guru Steve Hurt

Beyond sharing your work and asking questions, it's also a decent way to socialize virtually. It's much easier to connect with people you may only know in passing if you have a sense of what they model.

If you aren't a member of this email group, join (see Jim Ruisinger's article elsewhere in this month's *Signal*)! If you are a member, let us hear your voice every now and then. Don't like getting too many emails? We can help you manage that, while still keeping you in the loop.

Program Improvements

Several days ago, as part of our October meeting, we had a multi-part, interactive clinic Extravaganza. Clinic Coordinator Mike Wolf put the clinics together. This format was a lot of fun and differed from what we've done in the past. We had four speakers on the topic of model finishing techniques, with sections varying from

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DIVISION 6 OFFICERS**Division 6 Superintendent**

Matt Goodman: 30 S. Algonquin Ave
Columbus, Ohio 43204

Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Division 6 Assistant Superintendent

Dexter Hill:

AssistSuper@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Division 6 Clerk

Carter Jastram:

DepClerk@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Division 6 Pay Master

Jim Borcz:

Paymaster@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Directors

Dick Briggs, MMR

Donald Wilke,

Mike Wolf, MMR:

Director@div6-mcr-nmra.org

Appointed Division 6 Chairs

A list of Division 6 Chairs can be found at:

<https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/>

[Officers Page.html](#)

Web Master: Don Wilke

Web_Master@div6-mcr-nmra.org

Super's Signal Pub.: Don 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

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Clerk's Report
Buckeye Division 6,
Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.
Virtual Division Meeting
11 October 2020

Carter Jastram, Clerk

Call to order

The Division 6 Meeting was called to order by Matt Goodman, Division 6 Superintendent, at 1:33 p.m.

Division 6 Officers Present:

Superintendent

Matt Goodman

Assistant Superintendent

Dexter Hill

Clerk

Carter Jastram

Director

Dick Briggs, MMR

Director

Don Wilke

Director

Mike Wolf, MMR

Division 6 Chairpersons Present:

Achievement Program

Dick Briggs, MMR

Contest

Jim Ruisinger

Groups.io

Jim Ruisinger

Inspector of Elections

Harry "Butch" Sage

Media

Matt Goodman

Membership

Rick Brown

Programs

Dexter Hill / Mike Wolf, MMR

Raffle

Harry "Butch" Sage

Super's Signal Publisher

Don Wilke

Web Master

Don Wilke

Absent:

Company Store, Train Show

Greg Short

Paymaster

Jim Borcz

Membership Retention

Bruce McDonald

Announcements – Matt:

Matt briefly reviewed the Zoom meeting etiquette. For anyone interested in reviewing the photos entered in the contest, Matt referred us to our website online and also to the link posted in the Agenda for today. .

Reports:

Clerk's Report: Carter Jastram. The membership approved the Clerk's Report, as published in the October 2020 *Super's Signal*, pp. 2-4.

Paymaster's Report: Jim Borcz. Dexter Hill delivered the Paymaster's Report. The membership approved the report, pending audit.

Program Report Locations: Dexter Hill. Dexter reported that the Upper Arlington Library is not booking its rooms for meetings at present. He is still waiting on guidelines from the State of Ohio for reopening. For now, all our meetings should continue to be virtual. Matt commented that some Columbus Public Library branches are opening for browsing.

Program Report Clinics: Mike Wolf. Rick Brown shared

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the schedule with our screens. Also, see current issues of the *Super's Signal*. Clinics are already planned for our meetings on November 8 and December 6. We will assign four more clinics for meeting dates in 2021.

Achievement Report: Dick Briggs. Dick made a virtual certificate presentation of A.P. Electrical Engineer to Bob Lee. Congratulations, Bob! Dick assumes that next month Dexter Hill will receive his certificates in Electrical Engineer and Scenery. Dick reminded all Division officers to keep track of their own hours. He reminded officers to complete the proper paperwork for their Association Volunteer Certificates.

Super's Signal Report: Don Wilke. The deadline for articles is this Thursday, October 15. One article from Matt will receive preference due to a lack of space for it in the previous issue.

Webmaster's Report: Don Wilke. Don will post today's contest winners tomorrow afternoon on our website and also in the next *Super's Signal*.

Groups.io: Jim Ruisinger. As reported last month, one member dropped off of groups.io but keeps track of the division on other websites. ;-) Jim sent an invitation to another member to join our group. Matt reminded us that groups.io is a great way to be in touch and to get questions answered.

Social Media/MailChimp: Rick Brown. Rick is cleaning up email addresses of typos or other mistakes. Twelve members have no email addresses on file with either Region or National. Rick will send invitations to them by snail mail. Jim Ruisinger volunteered to write an invitation to our groups.io, and Rick will send it out.

Membership Report: Rick Brown. Two memberships expired, so we stand at 167; Sixteen renewals are due by December 31. Our membership number has been stable for a year now, varying by only eight up or down.

Train Show: Greg Short. No current news to report.

New Business:

Website Survey: Matt. In an effort to modernize our website appropriately, Matt will compose and issue a survey on how our membership uses our website via SurveyMonkey (no bananas required). We need your input, so please respond when you receive the survey. He will ask a smaller group of people to assist with the design and testing of the survey.

Zoom Account Sharing for Membership: Rick or Matt. We will share our Zoom account for a railroad-related meeting. Rick Brown or Matt Goodman will share the credentials with a responsible division member. Contact Matt or Rick for instructions and credentials. Don expressed a concern that we do not share our Zoom account's availability on groups.io, but more privately

during meetings or through MailChimp. Rick or Matt will raise this issue at the next the Steering Committee meeting.

Other Business: There was no other business to discuss.

Club Reports:

Coshocton Club. Butch Sage reports that Coshocton is currently closed to visitors and will not hold its usual next two events.

Janis Center Model Railroad Club. Carter Jastram reports that the Janis Center Club, although removing its layout, signed a new member last month.

COSI. David Richter tells us that COSI is still closed. They have canceled its Model Railroad Week for November but definitely want it to return in 2021.

Contest:

Virtual Photo Contest: Caboose. Jim Ruisinger. Jim reports we had photograph entries of a diverse group of Caboosees. This resulted in a four-way tie for Third Place (Photos # 1, 4, 6, 13), one Second Place (# 16), and one First Place (# 14). The last was Butch's photo taken from atop a coal dock of an East Broad Top caboose. As noted earlier, photos are available for viewing on our website.

The November contest, still virtual, will be photos of **Closed Freight Cars**. You may post entries from October 25 through 10 p.m. on November 5. Voting will be open from November 6 through 6 p.m. on November 7, and the winners announced during our meeting on November 8.

The December contest topic is **Passenger Cars**.

Jim also emphasized that we are on our honor to enter only those photos which we ourselves have taken. A member entered a copyrighted photo in the contest after being lifted from the internet. It was disqualified.

Good of the Order:

The next Steering Committee Meeting will be this Thursday, October 15 at 8:00 p.m. Any member may attend any Steering Committee meeting. Contact Superintendent Matt Goodman for the Zoom meeting link, if interested.

Next Division 6 Membership Meeting will be Zoom Meeting on Sunday, November 8, at 1:30 p.m. The Zoom meeting will open at 1 p.m.

Adjournment:

Matt adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m., after a motion to adjourn by Butch Sage, seconded by Doug Kullman.

Clinic:

Beginning at 2:15 p.m., our *Model Finishing Techniques Extravaganza* of four clinics started with *Painting* by Dick Briggs, MMR, then *Decals* by Mike Wolf, MMR, after which *Fading Paint* by Steve Hurt, and *Plain Bearing Wheelset Weathering Updates* by Matt Goodman were presented in

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turn.

Each clinic included times of discussion and Q&A, and at the end. The overall format was met with approval. Some members expressed a preference that such an "extravaganza" was better served when tied together by a

single topic, as this one was. Almost all members stayed online for the clinics and we wrapped up at 4:12 p.m.

We express our appreciation to the clinicians. We encourage anyone with an idea or an experience to talk with Mike Wolf about sharing a clinic at a future date.

Continued: **The Super's Report**

about an hour to fifteen minutes. Look for the link to the recording in Mike Wolf's report.

This clinic, and those presented in the past year and more, are the results of your division's efforts to increase your membership value. One of the keys to growing our membership base is first not losing existing members! If you like what you are seeing, let us know and tell or invite a non-member.

One of the huge advantages of virtual meetings is that guests don't have to commit to traveling, and shy people can "lurk" comfortably. Send them the Zoom link and the time. Then send them a text to remind them!

Wrap Up

Groups.io was a beneficial way to communicate back when we were meeting in person. But it – and video meetings are critical to keeping the division cohesive and functioning during this period. Both keep us in touch and connected.

I know some members who regularly attend virtual meetings look forward to socializing in person again. So do I! However, we hope to use video meetings in different ways – both before and after in-person meetings are the norm again. Stay tuned!

Time to drop the fire!

**Some Train Show Updates**

Various Division 6 Members

Division 6 Train Show: The Division 6 Board Of Directors **canceled** our Cambridge Train Show for 2020. Greg has already reserved the space for October 17, 2021.

Cleveland O Scale Show: Seeing blurbs from our friends at COOSE that the big Parma Ohio Train show scheduled for November 7th has been **canceled**. Resurgence of COVID cases have pushed that county into a higher danger level making the cancellation necessary.

AMREC: The Coshocton Model Railroad Club (AMREC) remains **closed** to visitors. They have **canceled** two of their popular events, those being the Black Friday and New Years Eve operating sessions.

COSI: COSI has **canceled** model railroad week for this year. The annual model railroad display was scheduled for the week of November 16.

As most of you know, COSI has not re-opened since the pandemic closed it back in March. Alan Goss said no re-opening date has been set.

In a slight bit of good news, he did confirm that COSI wants to hold it again in 2021. We'll have to see how many of us at COOSE are around and feeling up to it then, but since that's more than a year away, let's not worry about it now.

I encourage all of you to keep working on your layout and equipment. My Ponaganset Northern Railroad has seen numerous improvements and additions since the pandemic began. I hope your time at home is equally productive.

Dayton Show: The Dayton was also recently **canceled**.

Springfield Show: The Springfield, Ohio, show has been recently **canceled**.

Other Shows: Of the 20 or so shows scheduled in Ohio in the fall, all but two or three have been **canceled**.



Division 6 on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/user/nmrabuckeyedivision

Division 6 in Facebook:

NMRA Buckeye Division [in search field]

Division 6 – 2020 Time Table

Date	Event	Meeting	City
12 Jan	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Hilltop Library</i> Clinic: <i>Static Grass Applicator</i> , Darrell Logan & Rich M9 Contest: Open Freight Car WITH Load	Columbus
9 Feb	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>South-East Library</i> Clinic: <i>Weathering Cars</i> , Matt Goodman & Mike Wolf Contest: Non-Revenue Car	Groveport
14 Feb	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
8 March	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Smoke Stack Hobbies</i> Clinic: <i>Wiring & Automation</i> , William Morgan Contest: Non-Steam Locomotive	Lancaster
12 Mar	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
19 Apr	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Zanesville Club</i> Clinic: <i>Developing Operating Sessions</i> , Mike Wolf, MMR Virtual Contest #1: Line-Side Railroad Structure	Zanesville
23 Apr	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
17 May	Virtual Photo Voting	Virtual Contest #2: Signals	.io-group
23 May	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
28–31 May	MMR Convention	<i>The Steel City Express</i>	Pittsburgh, Pa
20 Jun (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Zoom</i> Clinic: <i>Getting Started (or Improving) Operations on Your Layout</i> , Mike Wolf, MMR Virtual Photo Contest #3: Favorite Train	.io-group
25 Jun	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
8 Aug (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Marion Union Station</i> Clinic: <i>East Broad Top Railroad</i> , Butch Sage; <i>DCC++</i> , Richard Matejovic; <i>Weathering Techniques</i> , Steve Hurt Virtual Contest: Railroad Derelicts / Wrecks	Marion
9 Aug	Zoom Virtual Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Zoom</i> Clinic: <i>East Broad Top Railroad</i> , Butch Sage Virtual Photo Contest #4: Railroad Derelicts / Wrecks	Zoom
13 Sep	Zoom Virtual Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Zoom</i> Clinic: <i>Introduction to 3D Printers</i> , William Morgan Virtual Photo Contest: Steam Locomotive	Zoom
17 Sep	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
11 Oct	Zoom Virtual Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Zoom</i> Clinic: <i>Model Finishing Techniques Extravaganza</i> Virtual Photo Contest: cabooses (cabeese, cabin cars)	Zoom
18 Oct	Division 6 Train Show	Business Meeting: NONE Clinic: NONE Contest: NONE	Cambridge
15 Oct	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
8 Nov	Zoom Virtual Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Zoom</i> Clinic: <i>DCC++</i> , Richard Matejovic Contest: Closed Freight Car	Zoom
12 Nov	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
6 Dec	Zoom Virtual Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Zoom</i> Clinic: <i>Earning the Scenery AP</i> , Dick Briggs, MRR Contest: Passenger Car	Zoom
10 Dec	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>	<i>Election Issue</i>	



Contest Report

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

“Virtual” Contest – #6 Re-Cap October 2020 via the Internet

Yet another great turnout of photos for our Virtual Photo Contest #6 “Caboose(s)”. I announced the winners at our October 11th “Zoom” Division meeting. The webmaster posted the winners on the Division 6 Facebook Page. The webmaster placed the photos on a special page of the Division’s website for everyone to vote on them. I would love to see more people vote in these contests. The top vote-getters are listed to the right.

Congratulations to our winners. We will have certificates for you at our next opportunity to hold a division meeting where we can gather, in person.

Since it appears that we will continue with the “Virtual” Division meetings via Zoom, for the remainder of the year, the November contest will be **Closed Freight Cars**. And remember our usual guidelines apply that the photo can be of either a model or the prototype and must have been originally taken by the member submitting.

It seems giving everyone two days to vote worked out pretty well so we are continuing with that timing. Photo submissions will open on October 25th and close at 10 pm, THURSDAY, November 5th. Members will have two days, November 6th and 7th, and the voting will close at 6 pm on the 7th. The winners will be announced at our Zoom meeting on Sunday, the 8th. Email reminders will be sent out on the Division’s email groups and it will be posted on the Division’s Facebook page.

Cumulative point totals for Modeler and Photographer of the Year appears Below.

Direct any questions to:

Contest Chairman, Jim Ruisinger. (614) 440-8962

Model: None

Photo: Caboose(s) whether its model or prototype

1st Place: Harry Sage, *EBT wood sided caboose at the Rockhill Furnace coal dock* (prototype)

2nd Place: Jerry Hurt, *Wood sided caboose at the Graha County RR in N.C.* (prototype)

3rd Place (Tie): Richard Matejovic, *C&O center cupola caboose* (model)

3rd Place (Tie): Jim Ruisinger, *Weyerhaeuser Timber wood sided caboose #719* (model)

3rd Place (Tie): Bill Alaire, *Aberdeen Drover Caboose* (prototype)

3rd Place (Tie): Jim Borcz, *C&O Caboose # 90740* (model)



1st Place Photo

Contest Point Summary August 2020

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

Modeler

Steve Hurt	9	Dan Dennis	1
Pat Hreachmack	5	Bob Doerflein	1
Jerry Hurt	4	Alan Evens	1
Howdy Lamprecht	4	Connie Frazze	1
Richard Matejovic	4	Matt Goodman	1
Peggy Doerflein	3	Bill Hanna	1
Darrell Logan	3	Bob Lee	1
Greg Short	3	Judy Logan	1
Jim Borcz	2	Harry Sage	1
Jim Ruisinger	2		

Photographer

Don Wilke	17	David Evers	2
Harry Sage	16	Bruce McDonald	2
Matt Goodman	15	John Baker	1
Richard Matejovic	12	(By way of Jack Brown)	
Jim Borcz	11	Dick Briggs, MMR	1
Howdy Lamprecht, MMR	10	Peggy Doerflein	1
Dave Richter	10	Carter Jastram	1
Jim Ruisinger	9	Doug Kullman	1
Rick Brown	8	Andrea McIntosh	1
Jerry Hurt	8	William Morgan	1
Steve Hurt	6	Jim Oberst	1
Mike Wolf, MMR	6	Jerry Severson	1
Bill Alarie	4	Greg Short	1

Membership End of the Month Report

Rick Brown, Membership Chair

Summary/Comments

As I pen this note to my fellow members, I am still amazed at the skill, talent, and willingness to share knowledge and experience from our clinicians and the entire membership of Division 6 during the October Extravaganza. They shared their skill, talent, knowledge, and experience in our Zoom meeting (yesterday). Congratulations to Mike Wolf for not only being a great clinician but for the vision and organization of this event. If you are one of our members who were not able to attend this Zoom event, I would encourage you to find the recorded version. Even if you are basically skilled in Weathering techniques, the reminders and reinforcement are such a great learning tool.

I want to direct you to your own NMRA membership card. I have two things I would like for you to consider. First, consider your expiration date. Keep your membership up to date. We value your membership, and as the above paragraph attests, we are valuable to each other. We hope your membership is valuable to you.

Second, I want to direct you to the statement just below the title on the card. This line states that you are “an ambassador of the NMRA and are entitled to all due privileges of NMRA membership”. There is a long list of benefits, but let’s consider what it means to be an “ambassador.” We certainly saw many ambassadors of model railroading in the Zoom meeting. Members sharing their skills and knowledge with other members; elevating the world of model railroading.

Members also share their professional skills. Members share their organizational skills. These are examples of the communal

betterment of our beloved hobby, both personally, and in our community. So my ask is: how can you be an ambassador? Every member has something to offer. I invite everyone to take on an activity that will benefit you personally and benefit our community of Model Railroaders.

Membership Report for the period through September 30, 2020

Division 6 currently has 167 members. This is a reduction of two members, basically through membership expiration. We hope that these members would be paying their dues and “re-railing”. As an aside, there are 16 current members whose expiration dates occur before the end of 2020. There are no new members to report.

Through the efforts of several members, our number of Division 6 members who are not receiving official emails from both the National office as well as our division is going down. Several members have no email address on record, for any number of reasons; some do not wish to communicate by email, some are family members where another is also registered, so there is no duplicity (we do have Family Membership in NMRA), and some decline email for commercial reasons. However, we know that there are some Division 6 members who are not necessarily getting emails because of an old email address that is no longer used on file, or because the email address has a keystroke error in it. I have spent time comparing the Mailchimp files with NMRA records and attempting to repair the errors that may occur. If you as a member, or if you are aware of a member, who is not getting emails from National nor Division 6, please let me know. We would like to rectify anything that might be amiss.



Active Members (end of the month):

September	167	September '19	170
August	169	August '19	171
July	166	July '19	165
June	163	June '19	175

Upcoming Expirations – Check your dates! Note: If you have questions about when your membership expires, check your magazine address label or contact Membership Chair Rick Brown.

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

September saw **sixteen** members renew their NMRA membership. There additionally were **two** members who fell into the inactive category.

Other Stuff

If you have changes to your address or membership information, please share it. Are you getting emails from the division? If not, we probably don't have an active email address for you.

Unsure when your membership expires? You can notify the National Headquarters, or inquire with Rick Brown.

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 6 Membership Chair

Email: MembershipChair@div6-mcr-nmra.org

Phone: 614-581-6552 (please leave a message)

Mail: Rick Brown
7274 Nightshade Drive
Westerville OH 43082



A Tool with Utility

Glue Looper Micro Glue Applicator

Matt Goodman (Photos by Author)

Several years ago I was working on a fiddly Tichy model. I struggled to find the right tool to apply thin solvent cement in limited amounts to very targeted areas. I ended up using a sewing needle with the end of the eye filed off and a fine, non-synthetic paintbrush for that particular project.

Both worked well at dispensing small amounts of thin glues, but they also had drawbacks. The sewing needle was inconsistent – sometimes the glue would flow immediately when touched to the joint, and sometimes it wouldn't. Very frustrating when working with delicate parts! The brush worked really well with solvent glues but wasn't practical for CA glues (too hard to clean).

I don't remember where I learned about the Glue Looper, but its description seemed to address these shortcomings. Creative Dynamic makes them specifically for model building. I decided to take a chance and picked up a set of their V2 model. I've now used them for two-plus years and find them pretty slick!

Like a brush and a sewing needle, the Glue Looper V2 dispenses really small amounts of very thin glues. They're made from etched metal sized are roughly the shape of a #11 X-Acto blade. They feature a loop at the “pointy” end and have a small channel etched into the body of the blade that acts as a reservoir to replenish the loop. You mount the loopers in a normal hobby knife handle for use.

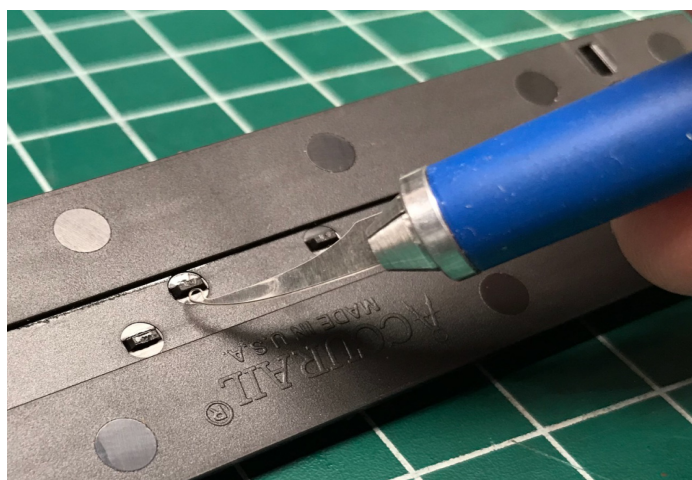
The V2 set that I purchased comes with a total of twelve applicators – four each of three different loop sizes. The loop sizes are Large, Medium, and Small, but they're really small, very small, and teenie-tiny!

The reason I now use these so often is that they solve both of the problems I noted above. Unlike the brush, CA is easy to clean – just strike a match to burn off the material. Unlike the sewing needle eye, they dispense what I want where I want it every time. As a bonus, hold enough cement in the reservoir to make several applications.

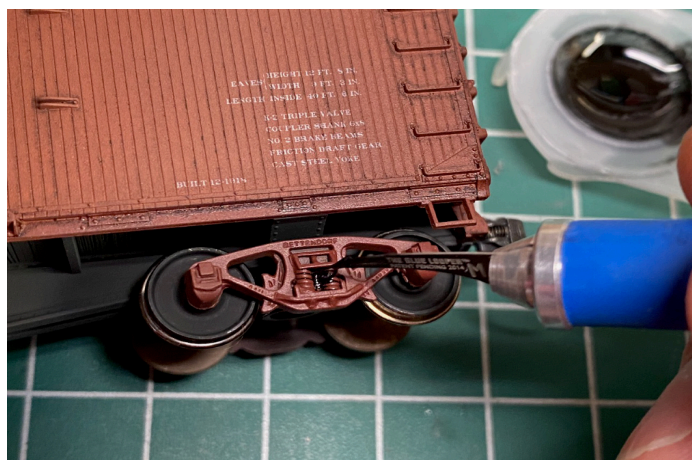
I still use the brush on occasion, along with a Touch-N-Flow, but I've retired the needle eyes. I've also begun using the Loopers for some targeted weathering work – especially when I don't want to break out solvents to clean a brush. Another bonus.

Glue Looper V2 is about \$14 (plus shipping) from Creative Dynamic's website. Certainly more expensive than a needle, but I've been using the same ones for two years and have yet to touch the spares. Money well spent, in my opinion. Creative Dynamics also does a great job showing how to use its products via videos on its website and YouTube. Great customer service, in my opinion.

I'm happy enough that I bought a set for my dad and recently picked up a set of their thick glue dispensers (V3), but have yet to use those.



Applying thin solvent cement to a model with the Large Looper



Using a Medium Looper for a targeted weathering wash



Glue Looper V3 and V2 for thick and thin glues, respectively

Tips and Techniques **October EXTRAVAGANZA Wrap-up**

Mike Wolf, MMR, and Others

Thanks to Dick Briggs, MMR, Steve Hurt, and Matt Goodman for hosting our first-ever October Extravaganza on Model Finishing Techniques. And thanks to all of YOU for offering your own materials, tips, and techniques during these interactive clinics. For those who missed it, check out the recording at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/UQGZk4KJFyZZczLD0013mHySVe2hyXkH25Vnhez7tL5SPHOik5dC53YOilMYaHQQ.ZAaCw8DOaEHIOthu>

As a follow-up, the modelers offered the following tips and techniques during the clinics (in no particular order).

PAINT

Rattle Can

Different brands of spray paint have different sizes and shapes of nozzles/spray patterns. Save rattle can nozzles that performed well. They make good replacements.

Warm rattle cans in a warm water bath before use to get a more consistent spray.

Avoid spraying sensitive models with the first part of a rattle can. The extra pressure of a full can will change how well they spray. You may spray too much paint initially.

If you need to do a small touch up when using spray cans, spray into a small plastic tub or cap to capture the paint and then use a brush to perform the touchup.

Several people mentioned the textured spray paint. Rust-oleum makes them. Good for textured roads and roadbeds. Lowes used to have it in their Valspar paint line but it isn't currently listed on their website.

Solvent Paint

New old-stock Floquil paints are available from Narrow Gauge Modeling Co. —

<http://www.narrowgaugemodeling.com/floquil-paint/>

Tamiya Panel Line Accent materials have a slight sheen that simulates oily conditions well.

Model Railroad Hobbyist Magazine has put out a mixing chart for acrylic paint matching for creating many of the old railroad colors no longer available from Floquil, etc.

TruColor has been adding a lot of railroad colors. It is a solvent-based paint but with an acetone base. Their plastic bottle allows evaporation too easily. Can clean up with inexpensive acetone.

Acrylic Paint

Golden Wetting Agent (or Vallejo Extender) is a good additive for acrylic paints. Keeps paint from drying too quickly. Also, keep your airbrush closer to the model than with solvent-based. And increase your air pressure (25-30 psi) when dealing with acrylics.

Craft paint has many colors. Note, it is water-based.

When painting a wooden model, prime them first to keep them from warping.

The Vallejo Air Line is designed for airbrushes.

Modeler's Decals and Paint (www.modelersdp.com) has a good line of airbrush paint.

General

It is important to check the plastic compatibility of paints. Also, priming wood structures is essential to avoid warping when painting.

Modelers recommended Krylon Matt Finish #1311 instead of Dulcoat spray cans. Less splotchy. Rust-oleum also makes a Clear Dead Flat. Some like it, some don't (not as flat as the name would imply). Both are a lot cheaper and easier to find than DulCoat. DulCoat from an airbrush doesn't seem to be blotchy.

Brushes

When possible, use one brand of brush for a given size/type. Different brands may have different physical dimensions and otherwise, behave differently.

Don't use natural material brushes with water-based paints.

Use soap and water to clean your brush AFTER cleaning with solvents. To remove the solvents!

When a brush is too worn out for painting, use it weathering.

Micro brushes are on Amazon.

DECALS

Jim Ruisinger has successfully used Micro Scale's decal sheets on his ink-jet printer. He recommends letting them sit for at least a day after they come out of the printer. Follow that with a very light dusting coat of clear gloss to seal the ink on the paper. Use "standard" print quality setting as best or photo mode may lay down too much ink and there could be problems. VitaClear Clear Transfer Coating was a brand of topcoat he has used.

Steve Hurt reported success with MicroMark's decal sheets for making your own. They recommend Krylon's Crystal Clear as the top-coat after they dry.

Use warm water with a drop or two of vinegar to help break the surface tension of the water when soaking decals. You can also swab some of that "wet" water on the model where the decal is to go. It makes it easier to work into position before dabbing up with excess with a cotton swab and applying your decal set.

If silvering (mini-bubbles under your decal) try a quick swipe of liquid plastic model cement (Testors, Plastruct, or Tenax). And just apply a whiff of it. You don't want to really have much of a visible coating of it as it just might destroy the decal. Most of the time, it has worked for him to get the decal to snuggle down over rivets, seams, etc. when other ways of getting rid of silvering aren't working.

Dullcote sprays really well through an airbrush. I thin mine 50/50 - first because I was being cheap, but I honestly think it works just as well (and is more controllable)

Use Microscale "Liquid Decal Film" to salvage old decals. Brush paint on.

Store your decals in a plastic bag to keep them from drying out (remain pliable).

The acrylic floor finish product recommended is the old Future Floor Wax. It is NOT the more common floor CLEANING product available. The current name is Pledge Floor Care Finish.

Some people apply the Pledge Floor Finish via an airbrush as their gloss coat.

Slide decals directly onto the model from the paper backing to limit trapped air and curling.

OR

Allow the decals to float off in the water. If the curl up, toss them back in the water to straighten up. Use a paint brush to pick the decal up and move it.

A granite tile (available from the big box stores) makes a good flat surface for cutting and gluing up things (a little harder than tempered glass). Also has nice square corners.

WEATHERING

For a faded paint look, use a wide flat brush to apply thinned white paint. Dip the tip of the brush on the paint (not too high on the brush), dap on a paper towel, and drag on the side of the car.

Use rubber-black paint for tires.

IN CLOSING

Never waste a good mistake in product use or application. The mistake may be a new method for something else!



Don't Just Belong, Participate!!

Upcoming Election Information

Reported by Harry "Butch" Sage
Buckeye Division 6 Nominations Chair

In January 2021, division members will elect three people to serve a two-year term as Director. With nominations finalized at the November meeting. If any member would like to be on the ballot for one of these positions they must do either of the following:

- During the part of the November Buckeye Division 6 meeting dealing with nominations any person who would like to run for office must present themselves as a potential candidate. (If the potential candidate can't be at the November meeting, their representative may nominate them. This requires a letter or email from the

potential candidate to the Nominations Chair.) At that point, we will poll the members present to see if there are 10 who support that person.

OR

- Present a nomination petition to the Nominations Chair prior to or at the November 2020 Buckeye Division meeting. Contact the Nominations Chair for instructions.

Direct questions to the Nominations Chair.



Division 12 would like to invite everyone to the 2021 MCR Regional convention in Erie, PA. The dates are May 20th through the 23rd. We hope everyone will enjoy their ride on the Northern Express. The convention name comes from the PRR overnight train between Harrisburg, PA and Erie, PA. Its counterpart was the Southern Express which had connections to New York City, Baltimore, and Washington DC.



The Ambassador Banquet and Conference Center, conveniently located at I-90 and Route 19 in Erie, will be our host for the Northern Express. The Conference center has two hotels attached, a Hilton and a Marriott. There will be blocks of rooms in both hotels. We have a convention rate of \$129.00/night. The hotels are now taking reservations.

Both hotels include several amenities such as a 10% discount to numerous nearby restaurants and a discount to the Splash Lagoon Indoor Waterpark Resort across the street (kids will love this place!). There is Free parking, which the Division 12 convention committee understood to be a rather important consideration. The hotels also provide a free airport/train station/casino (yes we have one) shuttle.

Scheduled tours as of 10/10/2020:

A two hour tour of historic Union Station including lunch at the BrewErie at Union Station.

Wabtec (former GE Locomotive Works).

Northeast wine country tour.

Northern Express Registration and Extra Fare

Per budget August 2020

1. Early Registration: \$85.00, Late Registration: \$90.00, Family Registration: \$30.00
2. Banquet: \$40.00
3. Bus Tours: Wabtec Tour: \$60.00, Union Station Tour: \$45.00, Winery Tour: \$45.00
4. Build a T-TRAK all day clinic: \$40.00
5. Convention shirts: \$30.00-35.00
6. Convention Car: \$22.00

Self-guided non-Railroad tours:

National Comedy Center in Jamestown, NY Home to Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum (45 minute drive).

Erie Art Museum

Erie Maritime Museum

Tom Ridge Environmental Center

Additional Information

Bruce DeMaeyer will be coordinating the N-Scale T-trak layout for the convention.

We have received the information from Steve Zapytowski for the model contest.

Division 12 has commissioned on original water color painting to be raffled off the night of the banquet. Tickets for the raffle are 1 for \$5.00, 3 for \$10.00 and 10 for \$25.00. We had hoped to start selling tickets at the Steel City Express; we are still working on an alternative.

We are also still in need of clinicians for The Northern Express.

At this time Layout tours and Op-session are TBD.

Thank You

Bradley White,

Allegheny Western Div. 12, Superintendent





MCR ALLEGHANY WESTERN DIVISION CLINIC SUBMISSION

The Allegany Western Division invites you to submit your clinic for consideration. We welcome the opportunity to work with you to provide a rewarding experience for attendees and clinicians both. Please fill out the following form completely.

Note that clinics will be selected based on needs and suitability and this submission does not guarantee your clinic will be selected.

Return Forms to:

Doug at: ttarak@div12mcr.org or mail to: [Doug Sandmeyer 240 Locust St. Lakewood NY 14750](#)

Last Name	First Name

Email	Phone Number

Phone Number Home	Phone Number Mobile (Convention)

Address 1	Address 2

City	State	Postal Code	Country

Please Provide a short Bio we may use for the program notes

MCR Division 12 Clinic Submission Form

Page 2

Clinic Title

Description of Clinic 1

Equipment Required: Projector ☐ Screen ☐ Laptop ☐ White Board ☐ Work Table ☐

Other Equipment:

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If Co-presenting Name of Co-Presenter:

--

Alternate ☐ or Second ☐ Clinic (Not Required)

Clinic Title 2:

--

Description of Second Clinic, Title 2

Equipment Required: Projector ☐ Screen ☐ Laptop ☐ White Board ☐ Work Table ☐

Other Equipment:

--

If Co-presenting Name of Co-Presenter:

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Please return to : Doug Sandmeyer Div 12 MCR Clinic Chair

Email: ttrak@div12mcr.org Mailing: 240 Locust St. Lakewood, NY 14750

Div 12 MCR CSF 5-2020