

Super's Signal

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

May 2022

Superintendent's Report

Matt Goodman, Division 6 Super

See the June *Signal* for an updated Super's Report.

Super's Signal Deadline
26 May

18–22 May
Indy Junction 2022
Indianapolis, IN

(www.IndyJunction2022.Org)

(See website for activities and times)

Model Contest: Modeler's Choice

Photography Contest: Modeler's Choice



Clinic Updates

During the April meeting, three members presented mini-clinics. Matt Goodman discussed track soldering and some of the tools and techniques he's been using to wire his layout. Howdy Lamprecht showed us how he added a couple of turnouts to his existing (scenic-ed) layout to improve operations. And I discussed using various 3D printed parts to kitbash the interior of Walther's tower kit. If you missed the meeting or would like to view them again, they are available here.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/u0jr19yw3wy91ip/20220409-MiniClinics-Goodman-Lamprecht-Wolf.mp4?dl=0>

Additionally, Matt provided a handout on the soldering and wire connection tools he discussed. You can find it here:

[2020-04_Mini-Clinic-Wiring.docx \(dropbox.com\)](#)

In May, hopefully many of you will be able to attend some of the many clinics featured during the Regional Convention at *Indy Junction 2022*. Howdy Lamprecht, Patrick Hreachmack, and yours truly are a few of the clinicians scheduled to present at the convention. They are presenting many of the clinics twice so you don't have to choose between one or the other.

June 25th and our full-day event at Marion is rapidly approaching. I'm in search of a full-length clinic and four or five mini-clinics to fill out the day's schedule. Of course, there are plenty of opportunities throughout the fall schedule. Sounds like a broken record, but drop me a line at wvunion@gmail.com if you have an idea you'd like to present. And clinics can count toward the Author or Volunteer AP. Check out the requirements for each to see which certificate your presentation qualifies for.

Share the Knowledge!!

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/](https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/Officers_Page.html)

[Officers_Page.html](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®

Non-Credited Photos by Donald Wilke
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Clerk's Report Buckeye Division 6, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Division 6 Meeting South East Library, Groveport 9 April 2022

Patrick Hreachmack, Past Clerk

Call to order

The Division 6 Meeting called to order by Matt Goodman, Division 6 Superintendent.

Division 6 Officers Present:

Superintendent	Matt Goodman
Assistant Superintendent	Dexter Hill
Paymaster	Jim Borcz
Director	Don Wilke
Director	Mike Wolf, MMR®

Division 6 Chairs Present:

Company Store	Greg Short
Contest	Jim Ruisinger
Groups.io	Jim Ruisinger
Programs	Dexter Hill
Raffle	Harry "Butch" Sage
<i>Super's Signal</i> Publisher	Don Wilke
Train Show	Greg Short
Webmaster	Don Wilke

Absent:

Clerk	Carter Jastram
Director, Achievement Program	Dick Briggs, MMR®
Media, Membership	Rick Brown
Membership Retention	Bruce McDonald

Announcements:

Welcome Guests and New Members: Matt Goodman. Matt welcomed Robert Smith, who resides in Columbus, near Westerville, was our "guest" today. He has been a member of the NMRA since 1975 but has been a bit inactive for several years. He models MN railroads.

Attendance: A total of twenty-two division members signed in today.

Indy Junction 2022: Matt Goodman. Matt reminded the gathering about the *Indy Junction 2022 Convention* on May 18–22.

Reports:

Clerk's Report: Matt Goodman. The membership approved the Clerk's Report, as published in the current *Super's Signal*. Jim Borcz made a motion to approve the motion and Don Wilke seconded it..

Paymaster's Report: Jim Borcz. The membership approved the Paymaster's Report, pending audit. Don Wilke made a motion to approve the motion and Mike Wolf seconded it.

Program Locations Report: Greg Short. Greg reported:

The Clerk's Report
Continued on [page 3](#).

Continued: **Clerk's Report**

- The August division meeting will be at Smoke Stack Hobbies in Lancaster, date TBD. The meeting will feature a clinic provided by Bob Lee and his development of a stockyard.
- Greg reminded us about the *Division 6 Train Show* in Cambridge.
- The November meeting will be on a Sunday at the Zanesville Club.
- The second half of the division 2022 schedule is devoted to meetings outside of the Columbus area.

Marion Meeting: Mike Wolf. After a brief discussion about bringing tables to the Marion meeting, we determined division members may bring tables. The tables are for selling model railroad-related items and other division activities.

- It is possible the old restaurant near the Marion Union Station, may have reopen under a new name and management by the date of the meeting.
- The Marion meeting location will open at 9 am. One clinic will be in the morning. Several mini-clinics will be in the afternoon.
- If you have a mini-clinic to provide, please contact either Dexter Hill or Mike Wolf.

Achievement Report: Dick Briggs: Dick Briggs was absent, there was no Achievement Report.

Webmaster's Report: Don Wilke. Don reported that the division website has a series of new buttons. They allow direct access to train show information and current contest winners from the Welcome Page.

Super's Signal Report: Don Wilke. Don reported that the next *Signal* will be in two issues. The first issue will be on the *Indy Junction Convention* and the current contest winners. The second issue will follow with a report on our clinics and updates. Please let Don or Matt know immediately if you notice any errors in the *Signal* or on our web page.

Membership Report: Matt Goodman. Matt reporting on behalf of Rick, said there are approximately 165 members currently in Division 6.

Groups.io Report: Jim Ruisinger. Jim reports few people are using or accessing Groups IO. Currently, there are updates by Matt on his workbench activities

Old Business:

Division Shirts: Pat Hreachmack. Pat provided a discussion of his research on new Division 6 shirts. Three local organizations including Roach Products, Powell Printing, and Susie Kehn have submitted bids. One out-of-state entity stated they would set up a Division 6 Shop within their website for us to use. They are the only bidders who require a minimum amount of business from us. Three other

bidders have either failed to submit bids or have not replied in any way to Pat.

New Business:

Signal Articles: There was a request for more articles for the *Signal* and our other publication venues.

Club Reports:

The Sunbury Club will have an open house on April 10 from noon to 4 pm.

Raffle:

Darrell Logan won the marked cars from previous conventions.

Bill Frost won the N-Scale TV boxcar.

Patrick Hreachmack won the C&O hopper car kit.

Darrell Logan won the special run car.

Butch Sage will hold a drawing after all the tickets for the Special Raffle have been sold. The offering is an SP-40-2 in Union Pacific markings. It is DC only.

Contest Results:

The May *Super's Signal* will list the winners of the model contest in more detail.

The May Virtual Photo Contest is **Railroad Signals**. Members may enter photographs of models or prototypes.

There is NO May Model Contest because of the convention.

Clinics:

After the division meeting, the members saw three mini-clinics today.

- Matt began with a short clinic on *Wiring and Soldering*. Featured in his clinic were several tools including a Soldering paste with a pinpoint applicator, a briefing on soldering wire under rails, and several tools available on Amazon. He also discussed an easy method to connect electrical busses under the table with a new style of connector and wire strippers. See Page 7.
- Howdy provided a mini-clinic demonstrating how to install a curved turnout between two existing curved tracks to create a passing track. He also mentioned that when using hand throws, set a railroad track spike beneath the throw bar head so the throw bar does not go all the way to the ground. Howdy reminded us that using high-quality Shinohara turnouts are great but that these turnouts must have an electrical gap cut in the rails after the frog position.
- Mike Wolf discussed adding interiors into building kits as he assembled the kits. He demonstrated trimming windows before he attached them. Another way he installs windows is to create a second frame using his 3D printer. The original frame and the second inside window frame can sandwich the "glass" between them.

Division 6 – 2022 Time Table

Date	Event	Meeting	City
22 Jan Saturday	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Northern Lights Library</i> Clinic: <i>Shrinking Circleville</i> , Matt Goodman Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Open Freight Car WITH Load	Columbus
26 Jan	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
19 Feb Saturday	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Hilltop Library</i> Clinic: <i>Demystifying Large Scale</i> , David Evers Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Non-Revenue–MOW Car	Columbus
19 Mar Saturday	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Dublin Library</i> Clinic: <i>The Lincoln Funeral Train</i> , Jim Kehn and Bill Brubach Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Non-Steam Locomotive	Dublin
9 Apr Saturday	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>South East Library</i> Clinic: <i>Mini Clinics</i> Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Rail Road Served Structure	Groveport
15 Apr	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
18-22 May	MCR Convention	<i>Indy Junction2022</i>	Indianapolis, IN
26 May	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
25 Jun Saturday	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Marion Union Station Clinic: Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Favorite Train	Marion
23 Jun	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
23 Oct	Division 6 Train Show		Laughlin Center Cambridge

Tool Tip of the Month

Mike Wolf, MRR®

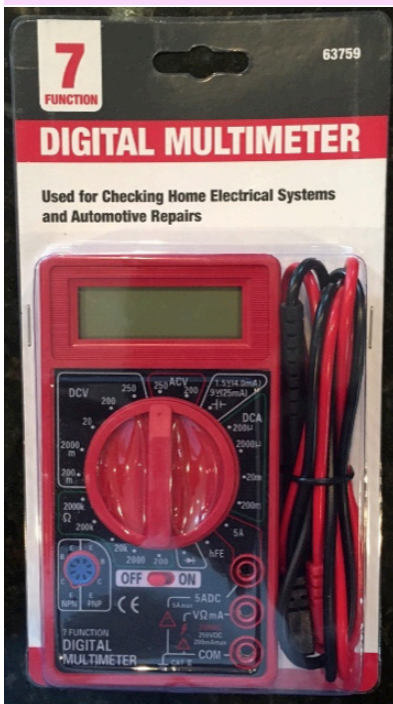


Figure 1

This month's tooltip comes from the pages of the March 2022 *Model Railroader Magazine*. For those who didn't read Allan Gartner's *DCC Currents* column to the end, you might have missed it. The inexpensive 7-function digital meter (item no. 63759) is available from Harbor Freight for \$6.99 (Figure 1). It can accurately read DCC track voltage. He claims to get the same readings as on his much more expensive RRAmmeter. While I don't have an RRAmmeter, I can confirm that the meter works as promised (Figure 2). My other meters give various readings when using the VAC meter. I'll spare you the technical gibberish about DCC waveforms, frequency, RMS, etc. I'll just say that the AC voltage function of the meter works with DCC signals. While not something you need often, it would be very handy if you are having speed issues. Or you're using more than one booster to power your layout. (The boosters need to be voltage matched to avoid excessive current flows if a locomotive or lighted car sets for an amount of time over a gap between the two booster zones). There were many in stock at the Reynoldsburg location when I got mine. They also had plenty of Darrell's electric fly swatter if you haven't made your static grass applicator.

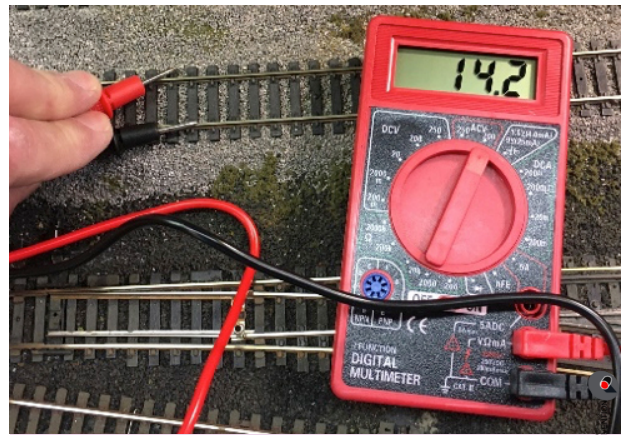


Figure 2

Contest Report

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

April Contest in Review

This was a new category for our April contest and we had a respectable turnout for our Model Contest and as usual, the entries were all top notch. Our Virtual Photo Contest, once again had a number of really nice entries, making it tough for many members to choose....

Congratulations to our winners. We will have certificates for you at our the June meeting in Marion.

May Virtual Photo Contest

There will not be a meeting due to the *Regional Convention* but we are still conducting hold a Virtual Photo Contest!! The subject will be **Railroad Signals**. Examples would include Grade Crossings, Semaphores, Block Signals, Dwarf Signals, Overhead and Cantilever Signals, etc. You can start entering photos now with the deadline being Wednesday, May 11th at 9 pm. Voting will take place on Thursday the 12th and Friday the 13th..... Uh oh.....

Contests for 2022

The Contest Subject matter for our contests is pretty well set thru the June meeting. We will continue to conduct our photo contests virtually via the web. Our model contests will be 'in the flesh' at our meetings.

Standings for 'Modeler of the Year' and 'Photographer of the Year' appear on Page 6 in the *Signal*.

As always, if you have any questions about our Division 6 Contests, feel free to direct any questions to:

Contest Chair, Jim Ruisinger.

(614) 440-8962 Jimbo2490@yahoo.com

Photos of all the winner are at:

https://archive2.div6-mcr-nmra.org/ContestFold/contest220409/Contest_2204099.html

April Contest: Railroad Served Businesses

Model Contest:

1st Place: Howdy Lamprecht, *Crescent Paper Tube Co.*

2nd Place: Greg Short, *Shorty's Coal Mine*

3rd Place: Mike Wolf, *Milk Unloading Platform*

Virtual Photo Contest:

1st Place: Jim Oberst, *Oberst Imported Coffee Merchants*

2nd Place: Mike Wolf, *Coal Dump*

3rd Place: Jim Oberst, *Backwoods Sawmill*



1st Place Virtual Photo
by Jim Oberst
Copyright by Photographer



1st Place Model
by Howdy Lamprecht


Don't Just
Belong,
Participate!!

Contest Point Summary April 2022

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

Modeler 2022

Photographer 2022

Howdy Lamprecht,MMR13	Jim Ruisinger	3	Howdy Lamprecht,MMR	9	Harry Sage	2	
Mike Wolf, MMR	6	George Stinner	2	Mike Wolf, MMR	9	Matt Fisher	1
Eric Porch	5	Jim Kehn	1	Jim Oberst	7	John Gafney	1
Greg Short	5	Mark Krueger	1	Jim Ruisinger	6	Matt Goodman	1
John Gafney	4	Butch Sage	1	Mark Krueger	4	Carter Jastram	1
			Don Wilke	4	Jim Kehn	1	
			Bob Baker	3	Darrell Logan	1	
			Scott Brown	3	Ken Miesse	1	
			Ken McDonough	2	Bruce Steinfurth	1	
			Dave Richter	2	George Stringer	1	



On August Cincinnati Division 7 NMRA

Triple Clinic Event Invitation

MINI MEET CLINICS

Sunday, August 21 from Noon to 4:30 pm

Horsepower Farm 2227 Trinity Dr., Middletown OH 45044



All three clinics presented by *special guest Rich Mahaney*
With a *popular contest** open to all NMRA members

12:30 – Welcome and Announcements

1 pm - “Quick Industries” For Your Model Railroad - Industry ideas for model railroads that can be assembled in several evenings. These industries can quickly increase railroad traffic and new customers. Includes examples of both real facilities and model railroads, and associated details such as track work, loading docks, industry placement and building concepts.

2 pm - 2:10 pm Break and Contest Voting

2:10 pm - Follow the tracks of the Great Northern Railway from Skykomish, WA to Shelby, MT - Take a “ride” through Rich’s camera lens and images as he follows the Great Northern Railway tracks from Skykomish, WA through WA, ID and MT to Shelby, MT in July of 2011. See sights, views, cities and areas that are often modeled on many GN model railroad layouts.

3:10 pm - 3:20 pm Break and Pick-up Contest Entries

3:20 pm - 1950’s Refrigerator Car Layout Operations on Model Railroad Layouts – Enjoy insightful photos of refrigerator cars, icing platforms, cold storage and related buildings and operations, then see some of the best ideas and modeling that capture the feel and operations involved with refrigerator car operations in the 1950’s.

4:30 pm - Adjourn, Pick-up contest entries

Rich Mahaney’s career spans over 40-years in the loss prevention field. He’s a Michigan certified Professional Emergency Manager and instructor, specializing in fire, hazmat, floods, and medical emergencies. Rich is a professional educator, with a bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Technical Education. He’s authored numerous training manuals and articles, and conducted college courses and educational presentations around the world. Rich models the Great Northern in the 1950’s. He has created over 25 model clinics and presents them around the country at Regional and National NMRA conventions.



Clinic Updates: New-To-Me-Wiring Tools and Tips

Matt Goodman

Photographs copyright by author

The items listed below were part of my April Mini-Clinic. If you weren't at the South East Library, you can find a link to the Mini-Clinic recording in Mike's Clinic Corner article.

Chipquik Solder Paste (SMD291AX).

Advertised as "no-clean", this is a 63/37 Tin/Lead, flux bearing paste in a 5cc (15g) syringe. Super handy for soldering feeder wires to rail. Quick and it only requires two hands instead of three.

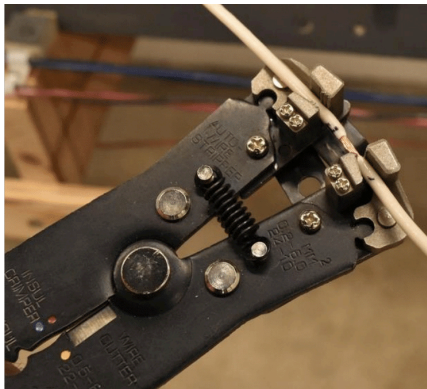


Chipquik Solder Paste

Available from the manufacturer (chipquik.com) or Amazon for \$14.99. The syringe includes a blunt-tip Luer Lock needle to allow more accurate dispensing.

Self (or Auto)-Adjusting Wire Stripper

Sold under many brands, these pliers can strip the middle of a buss wire to allow you to solder a feeder. They will also strip wire ends, so are more than a one-trick pony. They work over a wide range of wire sizes, automatically adjusting from 12 to 22 gauge.



Wire Stripper

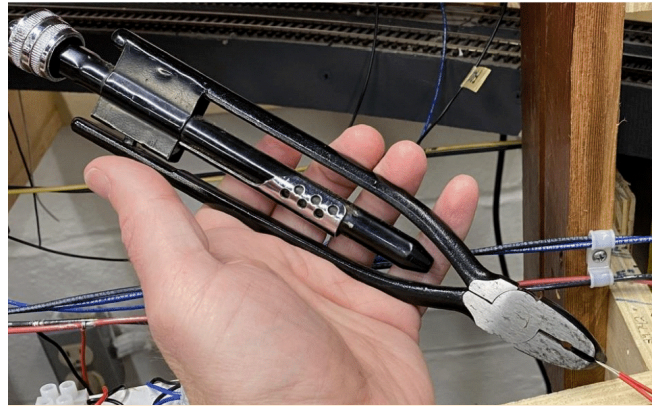
Available from Big-Box stores, Amazon, etc. for around \$20. The new ones are much fancier than my 25-year-old versions.

Safety-Wire Pliers

Used in aviation, racing, and other situations where loose fasteners aren't tolerated. They also happen to make solid twist-splices of feeder wire for those times when you cut them a bit too short. I bought these for my very short-lived

racing career and re-discovered them for this purpose recently.

Available via Amazon, Harbor Freight, and many other places from \$10-\$200. I have 8" pliers, but 6" will work fine in this usage.



Safety-Wire Pliers



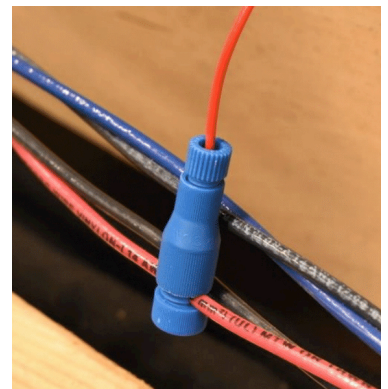
Folded Over Wire with Heat Shrink

Posit-Tap nBlue (PT-1618)

Taps a 14-18 gauge stranded buss, and accommodates stranded feeders between 18-24 gauge. I have used 20 gauge solid feeder wire successfully. Larger and smaller buss/feeder sizes are available.

These are used in automotive environments, so they should be rugged enough for model railroad purposes. Note, that I have limited experience with them so far.

Available from Amazon for \$20 for 20 pieces. Also available directly from posi-products.com.



Posit-Tap

Division 6 on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/user/nmrabuckeyedivision

Division 6 in Facebook:

NMRA Buckeye Division [in search field]



Marriott East, 7202 E 21st St
Indianapolis, IN 46219



Clinics
Layout Tours
Ops Sessions
Prototype Tours



Four Full Days
Three Regions
Two Day Train Show
One Convention
May 18-22, 2022



www.IndyJunction2022.org



RPM
CHICAGOLAND



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 11, 2021



Dates:	Wednesday May 18 to Sunday May 22, 2022
Sponsors:	Midwest, North Central and Mid Central Regions National Model Railroad Association
Event:	Indy Junction 2022 Convention
Location:	Indianapolis Marriott East 7202 East 21st St Indianapolis, IN 46219
Convention Fee:	\$ (not yet available)
Information:	Four Full Days, Three Regions, One Convention The Midwest, North Central, and Mid Central Regions of the NMRA will host this Tri-Regional convention in May 2022 Clinics, Layout Tours, Ops Sessions, Prototype Tours, Non-Rail Clinics and Activities and a Train Show Mark your calendar NOW FREE Parking and Much More !

For more information visit:

Website:	https://www.indyjunction2022.org/
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/indyjunction2022
Contact	info@indyjunction2022.org

Submitted by: Ron Ellison
Indy Junction 2022 Media Committee
PO Box 192
Buckner, KY 40010-0192

