

Super's Signal

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

June 2023

Superintendent's Report

Matt Goodman, Division 6 Super

I have much to report on and not much space, so I'll jump in.

MCR 2023 Rails to Pittsburgh Regional Convention

Often people write about Conventions being a good time/place to renew or make new acquaintances. Both were true in 2023. Among new acquaintances were Jasmine and Frank Trocchia from Division 1. Both are semi-professional YouTubers who listened to my many questions about social media. They helped give me a slightly clearer vision of manageable Social Media strategies. If anyone has an interest in this topic, please get in touch with me.

Another new acquaintance is John Doehring, the Eastern District Director, who I met at the Region BOD meeting. John is energetic and optimistic about the NMRA and its growth (specifically, a ten-fold growth). I later attended his clinic, *The Future of the NMRA*, where he listed tasks in progress or starting at National.

Most members are aware of completed tasks via reports in the magazine. On the in-progress front, the website upgrade is most intriguing to me. The IT team's goal is to get a modern framework that will support website features and functions that many consider "normal" in today's on-line world. This rollout will be significant, continuing the administration's goal of having one big rollout per year. They premiered the digital magazine and the Interchange forum/chat/video platform in the previous two years.

He closed his talk with a manifesto containing many thought-provoking points that had me nodding.

I attended the Mid Central Region Membership and BOD Meeting on Friday evening. Due to COVID and a canceled meeting at last year's *Indy Junction*, this was the first in-person BOD meeting I've attended as Superintendent. Topics at the meeting ran the gamut, with Division 8's *Three Points of Contact* with new members, described by Superintendent Ron Ellison and

Super's Signal Deadline
22 June

17 June Division 6 Meeting Marion Union Station Marion

- 9:00: Doors Open and Social Gathering
- 10:00: Contest submissions open
- 10:00: Mini Clinics: *East Broad Top Update*, Butch Sage; *Look-back on the Hobby Thought the Pages of MR*, Howdy Lamprecht; *Protecting Your Decoders From losing Their Mind*, Mike Wolf, MMR[®]; *Car Cards for Opposing Industries*, Carter Jastram
- 11:30: Lunch Break (The Logans will provide food at a low cost)
- 12:30: Contest submissions closes; Voting begins
- 13:00: Contest voting ends
- 13:00: Division 6 Annual Membership Meeting
- 13:05: Division 6 Meeting
- 13:30: Contest Results Announced
- 13:45: Additional Mini Clinics: *Painting Clouds*, Darrell Logan; *Operation Lifesaver*, Connie Logan
- All Day: Train Watching
- Model Contest: Favorite Train

Region Secretary Fred Soward, piquing my interest as a former membership chair. I will share those details with the new Membership Chair, Ken McDonough.

However, the topic that caught my ear was comments from the Pittsburgh and Cleveland Convention Committees about having difficulty in getting presenters (with fresh content) for regional conventions!

I'd like everyone reading this to start thinking about what they would like to discuss at our *2025 Convention*, then contact Mike Wolf wvunion@gmail.com to

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DIVISION 6 OFFICERS

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Directors

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Donald Wilke,
Mike Wolf, MMR®: (all Directors)
Director@div6-mcr-nmra.org

Appointed Chairs

A full list of Division 6 Chairs can
be found at:
[https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/
Officers_Page.html](https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/Officers_Page.html)

Web Master: Don Wilke

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NMRA Central District

Director:
Robert Beaty, MMR®

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Wilke

*Clerk's Report
Buckeye Division,
Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.
Membership Meeting
Hilltop Library
15 April 2023*

Carter Jastram, Clerk

Division 6 Meeting:

The Division 6 Meeting was called to order by Matt Goodman, Division 6 Superin-
tendent, at 2:00 p.m.

Division 6 Officers Present:

Superintendent	Matt Goodman
Assistant Superintendent	Dexter Hill
Clerk	Carter Jastram
Paymaster	Jim Borcz
Director	Dick Briggs, MMR®
Director	Don Wilke

Division 6 Chairs Present:

Achievement Program	Dick Briggs, MMR®
Company Store	Greg Short
Contest	Jim Ruisinger
Groups.io	Jim Ruisinger
Membership	Ken McDonough
Membership Retention	Bruce McDonald
Programs	Dexter Hill
Super's Signal Publisher	Don Wilke
Train Show	Greg Short
Webmaster	Don Wilke

Absent:

Director	Mike Wolf, MMR®
Inspector of Elections	Harry "Butch" Sage
Raffle	Harry "Butch" Sage

Announcements:

Matt Goodman. The 2024 Convention updated its website *Rails to Pittsburgh*. It has some clinics and some details. Check it frequently for the latest information.

Reports:

Clerk's Report: Pat Hreachmack for Carter Jastram. Carter extends to Patrick his appreciation for filling in for him in his absence. The membership approved the Clerk's Report of our March meeting, as published in the April 2022 *Super's Signal*, pp. 2-3.

Paymaster's Report: Jim Borcz. The membership approved the Paymaster's Report, pending audit.

Meeting Schedule and Program Locations Report: Dexter Hill. Dexter plans to set the dates for our Division 6 Meetings for the rest of the year at the Steering Committee Meeting on April 20.

Program Clinics Report: Mike Wolf. Mike is looking for clinics and mini-clinics. Please put something together and contact Mike with your ideas. And watch the *Super's Signal*

The Clerk's Report
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for details.

Achievement Program Report: Dick Briggs. There are some people making progress on some AP Certificates. He acknowledged that filling in the paperwork is the most challenging part of the Achievement Program.

Communications Report: Don Wilke. Don reported the *Super's Signal* did not come out until last due to several priorities.

Due to the *MCR Pittsburgh Convention*, Don will not publish the May *Super's Signal*. The May Contest will be a virtual photo contest only. June's contest is, as usual, **favorite trains**. There are short bios in the *Super's Signal* for the four candidates running for election to the three Director (of Division 6) positions. Voting is open until April 27.

Don desires to improve the photographs of the model contest winners. He will update the winners on a regular schedule after the contest.

The deadline for the next issue of the *Signal* is Thursday after the June meeting in Marion.

AAO: Don Wilke. Don also announced that he attended the All Aboard Ohio, AAO, meeting this morning. The Ohio Governor, Legislature, and municipalities are on board to reestablish passenger rail service. They are exploring three possibilities:

- 1) The 3Cs + D (Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Dayton),
- 2) Cleveland-Toledo-Detroit, and
- 3) reasons why the National Limited should return—email Don for more information.

Groups.io/Facebook Report: Jim Ruisinger. Every MailChimp email contains directions for joining the groups.io mail list if you have not already done so. If the list has an old or former email address, contact Jim, and he can fix that.

Membership Report: Ken McDonough. As of March 31, the division had 146 members, including four renewals and one new. Seven are past due, but they have renewed their membership in the past. On February 28, we had 155 members, including one new and two to contact.

Ken reports an excellent turnout to our NMRA/Division 6 table during the Lancaster Train Show. Darrell Logan suggests we have ways to sign people up electronically to the NMRA at the various train shows.

Ken sends a big Thank You to Rick Brown for guiding him into the position of Membership Chair.

Elections Inspector Report: Butch Sage. Four people, two newcomers and two veterans, are running for the three Director positions this year. They and their

bios are in the *Super's Signal*. Ballots should have reached everyone. Contact Butch with any questions.

Car Project Report: Greg Short. Greg contacted Accurail and Bowser. Accurail would charge us about \$22 per car for a single-color car with single-color lettering. After some discussion, the membership moved and seconded to ask Accurail to make us a set of cars. It would be a run of 72 cars painted in oxide red and lettered for Buckeye Steel Castings (because they have the artwork). A member made an amendment to raise the number to 100 cars—the membership seconded and passed, after which the amended motion passed. Our *Cambridge Train Show* is in about six months, and it will take about five months to receive the Accurail cars.

Bowser's chief problem is that it does not currently have a car paint manufacturer. Bowser could do a wood chip car for us for about \$15 per car. See Bowser catalog #42615.

Train Show Report: Greg Short. Vendors are lining up, and we paid for the building. We need volunteers, especially for the setup that morning. An N-Scale layout is coming, and someone wants to bring an HO-Scale layout. Get the word out about the Train Show, and pray for "indoor-activity" weather.

Membership Retention/Recruitment Committee: They have not scheduled a meeting yet.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business to take up.

New Business:

2025 MCR Convention: The Mid Central Region has accepted our bid for hosting the 2025 Convention on May 15-17. Greg Short is the Convention Chair, and Dick Briggs is the guiding Chair Emeritus. Greg will sign the facilities contract this week. Two years in advance is short notice for the hotel, but they had the dates and the block of rooms available.

We have a little breathing space to line up other things, but it will take many of us to accomplish this. There are many things to volunteer for, many of which could lead to a *Volunteer Achievement Certificate*. We need a "name" for the Convention. Send your ideas to Greg or Matt before the Pittsburgh Convention next month.

To all members: How can you help us out? Some ideas are: Scout out possible clinicians, drive vans for tours, send in ideas for tours (such as *Hocking Valley Scenic Railway*), and help with registration. Encourage people to come in on Thursday and stop by places such as the Age of Steam Roundhouse, Mad River Museum, etc.

Club Reports:

No club member presented a club report.

Continued: **Clerk's Report**

Contest Results:

Contest Certificates: Jim Ruisinger. Jim handed out certificates to winners of the September 2022 and January, February, and March 2023 meetings.

April Contest Topic: Railroad-Served Structure, not Owned by Railroad.

Virtual Photo Contest. The April photo contest winners are:

Third Place: Jim Obertz, (#4), *Jamestown Lumber Supply*

Second Place: Rick Brown, (#6), *United States Tires*, next to Mobil gas station.

First Place: Darrell Logan, (#9), *Lilly Chapel Grain Elevator*, served by Camp Chase Railroad.

Model Contest: Today's winner is:

First Place: Greg Short, *Grain Elevator*

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to all who entered. Please keep those entries coming!

The May contest topic is **Railroad Signals**. It will be virtual photos only, no models, since we are not holding a meeting in May.

The June contest topic for photos and models is **Favorite Train**.

The contest chair will be sending out a MailChimp email to the members with the dates and times of submission to the contest and for voting on the entrants. Please remember a member may only enter photos taken by oneself.

Raffle:

The Division needs someone to take over running the Raffle. Please get in touch with Butch Sage to volunteer

or with any questions.

Today's raffle winners were Bob Lee (twice) and Matt Goodman.

Members bought all the tickets for the Special Raffle in the box. Butch may have some additional tickets. We did not draw a Special Raffle ticket today. We need to check with Butch Sage on that question.

We recognize and thank Darrell Logan for donating three tote bags full of books for the division to sell.

We appreciate the members' support of the division by buying raffle tickets and donating raffle prizes. If you wish to donate a possible raffle prize, please get in touch with Butch Sage.

Good of the Order:

Next Steering Committee Meeting: The Steering Committee meetings take place every third Thursday evening of each month at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The next meetings are May 18 and April 20. Any member may attend any Steering Committee meeting. Contact Superintendent Matt Goodman for the Zoom meeting link if interested.

Next Division 6 Membership Meeting: The next Division 6 meeting will be our Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, June 17, at Marion Union Station. The Station will open for us around 9 a.m.

Adjournment:

Matt adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m. after a motion and seconded to adjourn.

Clinic:

Ken McDonough talked with us about the resources available through the Members Only portion of the NMRA website. If you haven't yet done so, remember to check that out.

DIRECTOR ELECTION

Reported by Harry "Butch" Sage

Buckeye Division Elections Teller

The 2023 Buckeye Division Directors Election had 35 ballots returned electronically and one ballot by mail. The results of the election are as follows:

Mark Krueger -- 17

Ken McDonough -- 25

Don Wilke -- 25

Mike Wolf, MMR® -- 30

The voting members reelected Don and Mike to the position of Director. They also elected Ken to the position previously held by Dick Briggs, MMR®, who chose not

to run for reelection. Ken's term of office will begin May 31, 2023.

The Superintendent will announce the results at the Annual Business Meeting at Marion, Ohio, in June.

My thanks go to those members who agreed to run. I believe we justified our decision to begin using Election Buddy.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry "Butch" Sage

Elections Chair



Continued: **The Super's Report**

get your Clinic on his radar. Your local, friendly audience is excellent for honing your 2025 presentation!

Jerry Krueger briefly overviews the 2024 Convention *The North Coast Limited* hosted by Division 4 in Cleveland (registrations are now open <https://northcoastlimited2024.org>). I formally put forward Division 6's 2025 *Buckeye Express Convention* bid. After some discussion about the date, the BOD unanimously accepted.

Full MCR BoD meeting minutes are here: https://archive.midcentral-region-nmra.org/NewsLetterFold/MCRNLFold/23B_Kingpin_2023_May.pdf

Mid-Central Region Technology Committee

The technology committee met again at the beginning of June (see the March *Signal* for my comments on the last meeting). The theme of this one was *What Should be on a Division Website?*. This discussion covered several general topics:

- Consistency of basic website content across the Region, geared to our Division members
- Administration and maintenance/support
- The necessity of NMRA branding and an aspiration for a more consistent look

The takeaway is to get feedback on the details of the above topics from our Divisions for further discussion at the next meeting. These meetings are open to any interested member, with the next scheduled for August 7th. If you would like to attend, contact me for more information.

Closing

Two months ago, a former Division 6 member John Hoffman, now living in Oregon, contacted me about getting copies of the 2016 Division 6 Car Project. The car was a gondola, lettered for Buckeye Steel Castings. Thanks to Joe, Butch, and Dick for digging up four copies – Mr. Hoffman is very happy former member.

While on the topic of car projects, and in closing, thanks to everyone for the feedback and discussion at the April Meeting about Greg's car project. I received additional feedback and ideas from Jim Ruisinger, Butch Sage, and Mark Krueger in the days after the meeting. I was pleased to see it wasn't just me who was excited about the project. As a very brief update, the initial payment has been sent to Accurail to get started!

Good of the Order

The next Steering Committee meeting is Thursday, June 15th. If you would like to listen in, contact me.

Time to drop the fire!





Clinic Corner

Mike Wolf, MMR
Clinic Coordinator

Our annual meeting at Marion on Saturday, June 17th, is rapidly approaching. We have a great lineup of clinics for you. In the morning, Butch Sage will provide us with an update on the East Broad Top Railroad. Then Howdy Lamprecht will offer an entertaining look at the past of our great hobby through the pages of Model Railroader Magazine. Mike Wolf, MMR[®] tell us how to protect your decoders from losing their mind. On the operational side of the hobby, Carter Jastram will tell us about the Car Card System he has come up with for opposing industries on his layout (i.e., coal mine/power-plant).

It gets even better after lunch and our business meeting with Darrell Logan providing a hands-on demo of his rattle-can

cloud painting technique. Then Connie Logan will update us on the critical safety education *Project Lifesaver* provides.

As always, drop me a line at wvunion@gmail.com if you have an idea you'd like to present or a layout you'd like to share with others. We'll have both full-length and mini-clinics.

Clinics can count toward the *Author or Volunteer AP*. Check out the requirements for each to see which certificate your presentation qualifies.



Division 6 – 2023 Time Table

Date	Event	Meeting	City
21 January (Change)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Hilltop Library</i> Clinic: Map Maker: Using Google Maps to Build Maps of Non-existent , Matt Goodman; Using Maps to Research and Document Railroads - Two Case Studies , Butch Sage Contest: Open Car with Load	Columbus
25 January	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
18 February	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Hilltop Library</i> Layout Tours: Matt Goodman, Darrell Logan Contest: Non-Revenue / MOW	Columbus
23 February	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
18 March	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Hilliard Library</i> Clinic: How The Big Show Moved in The 1920's, The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus , Jerry Severson Contest: Self Propelled & Non-Steam Locomotive	Hilliard
24 March	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
15 April	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Hilltop Library</i> Clinic: Contest: RR Served Structure, Not RR Owned	Columbus
29 April	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
4–7 May	MCR Convention	Virtual Photo Contest: Railroad Signals [No Model Contest]	Pittsburgh, PA
17 June Saturday	Division 6 Meeting	Annual Business Meeting: <i>Marion Union Station</i> Clinic: Mini Clinics: East Broad Top Update , Butch Sage; Look-back on the Hobby Through the Page of MR, Howdy Lamprecht; Protecting your Decoders From Losing Their Mind , Mike Wolf, MMR®; Car Cards for Opposing Industries , Carter Jastram; Painting Clouds , Darrell Logan; Operation Lifesaver , Connie Logan Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Favorite Train	Marion
22 June	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
15 July	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Johnstown Library</i> (11 to 3) Clinic: Virtual Photo Contest: Railroad Bridges & Trestles	Johnstown
27 July	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
19 August	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Coshocton Club Clinic: Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Caboose(s)	Coshocton
24 August	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
16 September	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Zanesville Club (Possibly) Clinic: Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Steam Locomotive	Zanesville
26 October	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>	No October <i>Signal</i>	
23 October	Division 6 Train Show	Train Show	Laughlin Center, Cambridge
26 October	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
18 November	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Mt. Vernon Library Clinic: None Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Closed Freight Car	Mt. Vernon
23 November	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
16 Dec (Tentative)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: <i>Upper Arlington Library</i> Clinic: Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Passenger Car	Upper Arlington
21 Dec	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		

Share the Knowledge!!

Contest Report

Jim Ruisinger, Contest Chair

March Contest: Rail Road Served Structures

Virtual Photo Contest:

1st Place: Darrell Logan, *Lilly Chapel Grain Elevator*

2nd Place: Rick Brown, *AAA Auto Service*

3rd Place: Jim Oberst, *Jamestown Lumber Co.*

Model Contest:

1st Place: Greg Short, *Grain Elevator*



1st Place Model
by Greg Short
Copyright by entrant



1st Place Virtual Photo
by Darrell Logan
Copyright by the entrant

April Contest: Signal

Virtual Photo Contest:

1st Place: Don Wilke, *On the CSX Northbound out of Fostoria*

2nd Place: Matt Goodman, *Dwarf Signal protecting a siding at Sand Patch*

3rd Place: Mike Wolf, *Grade Crossing on the Tacoma Belt Line*



1st Place Virtual Photo
by Don Wilke
Copyright by the entrant

March Winners: https://archive2.div6-mcr-nmra.org/ContestFold/contest230415/Contest_230218.html

April Winners: https://archive2.div6-mcr-nmra.org/ContestFold/contest230513/Contest_230218.html

June Contests: Favorite Train

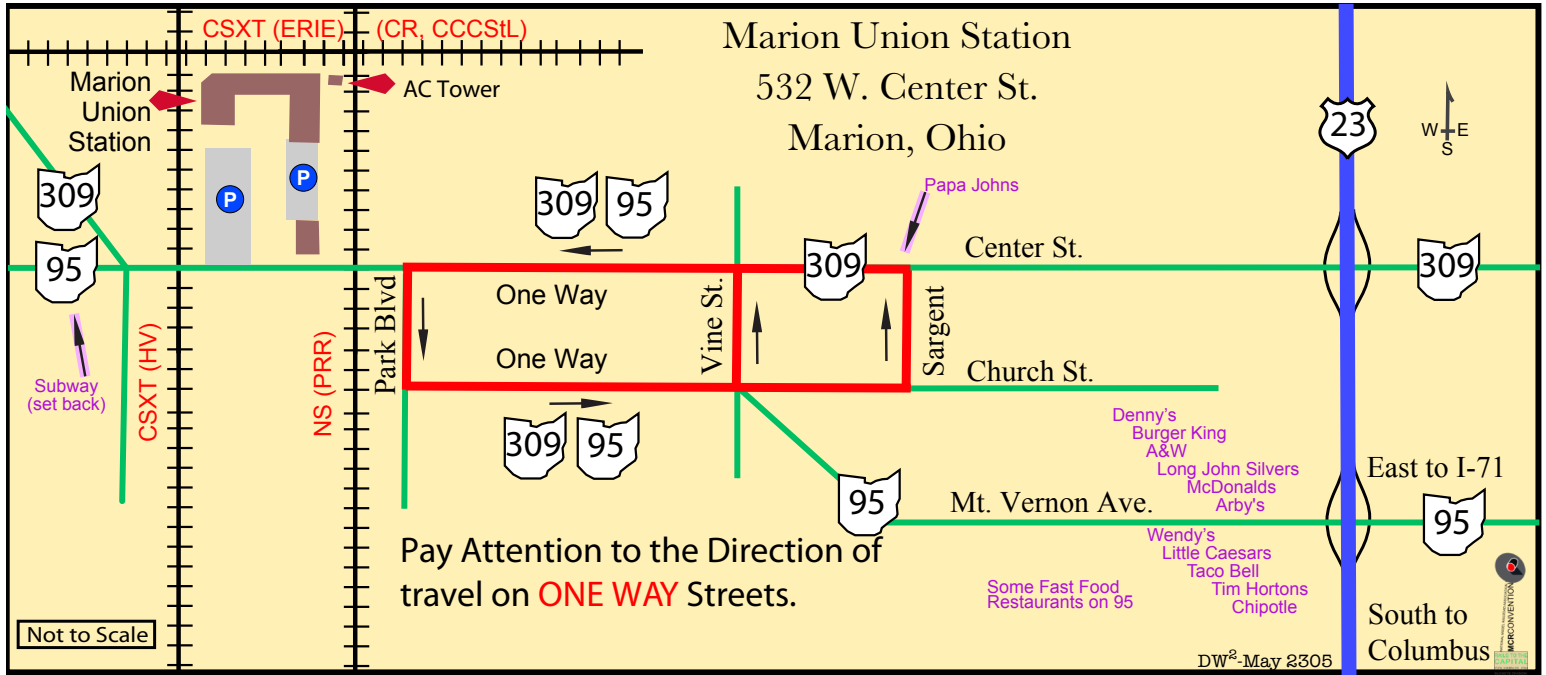
The Mini Bunch Fall Meet The Meeting At The Glaize

Harry "Butch" Sage

The Mini Bunch Fall Meet will be in Defiance Sept. 29 - Oct. 1. Activities will include: clinics, swap tables, model contest, "Odd and Unusual" display, raffle, operating displays and more. While the Mini Bunch is primarily a narrow gauge group, all model railroaders are invited.

For more information please contact host Richard Witteborg at rswitteborg@hotmail.com.





NMRA Division 6 Shirts

Patrick Hreachmack

Attention all Division 6 members: Division members may now order Division 6 shirts thru our division.

You will recall that the red shirts are Jerzees oxford with a collar and short sleeves. There is a pocket on the left chest. The Oxford shirts are a 47/53% cotton/polyester blend. The Division 6 logo will be on one side, and your name will be on the other side. Please write your name as you want it to appear on your shirt.

Prices have increased slightly and now are small, medium, and large for \$30 each. X-large is \$32. XX-large through 5X large are \$35.

Please get your payment and reservation to Patrick Hreachmack or Carter Jastram at one of our regular meetings. Remember to bring checks or cash to place their shirt orders. When we have enough orders, Patrick will send the payment and order information to Brenda Kehn for processing.





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Presented by the James F. Dicke Family

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SUNDAY | 11:00am - 4:00pm

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\$12 / Senior (60+) \$10 / Child (3-17)

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Fifth Annual NMRA Division 6

Train Show

Cambridge Ohio

Sunday

October 22, 2023

10 am to 3 pm



Easy Access from I-70 and I-77

Pritchard Laughlin Center

7033 Glenn Hwy

Cambridge OH 43725



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HOBBY TOOLS & SUPPLIES

Checkout our website for a listing for more information:

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

Vendors Contact Greg - (740) 607-3223 - trainshow@div6-mcr-nmra.org