

Super's Signal

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



There is no May Division Meeting because of the MCR Convention in Cleveland. This issue of the *Signal* is a combined May–June issue.

Superintendent's Report

Matt Goodman, Division 6 Superintendent

Flashbacks

After four years as Superintendent, I'm writing my final Superintendent's Report. To bookend things, I glanced through fifty-some previous reports (Division and Region) to remind myself what happened in our division in the past four years. There was more than I expected! Here's a partial list of high (and low) lights.

- COVID-19 started, and we subsequently weathered 15 months without in-person meetings between March 2020 (Smokestack Hobby) and June 2021 (Marion). I began to miss some of you. We also canceled our 2020 Cambridge Show.
- We invested in a Zoom license so we could do virtual meetings. This license continues to be useful post-Covid by allowing multi-view recordings and reducing travel needs for board meetings.
- Some division members who were "tech-phobic" learned to use Zoom. This tech-learning was a silver lining of the Covid period.
- We started virtual photo contests, which continue to this day. These contests increased photo participation and decreased participants' ink and paper costs.
- Members earned at least six AP certificates.
- Started mini-clinics and (later) Bring-N-Brags, allowing more people to present
- Designed and produced a brand-new banner for our recruiting table.
- Set up and manned our recruiting table at least eight times.

Super's Signal Deadline
25 April

Paul Smith passed on the 22nd of April, and Michael C. Brestel passed on the 22nd of May. See of division's website for his obituary and other information.

15 June (*Saturday*) Division 6 Meeting Marion Union Station 632 West Center Street Marion

- 9:00:** Marion Union Station opens
- 9:30:** Social gathering and train watching
- 10:00:** Bring-N-Brag submission open – *Favorite Train*
- 1030:** Clinic: *Estate Planning for the Model Railroader*, Butch Sage
- 11:30:** Lunch break
- 12:30:** **Buckeye Division Annual Meeting**
- 12:45:** **Buckeye Division Membership Meeting**
- 1:00:** Bring-N-Brag descriptions
- 1:45:** Mini-Clinics: *Couple Conversions using Heat Shrink Tubing*, George Stringer; *Making Turnouts and Crossovers*, Matt Goodman; *Making Custom Decals*, Mike Wolf
- 5:00:** Marion Union Station closes
- All Day:** Train Watching
- Bring-N-Brag:** *Favorite Train*
- Virtual Photography Contest:** *Favorite Train*

- Revamped our Regulations to accommodate electronic voting.
- At the National level, we welcomed our first non-North American President (Gordy Robinson), the magazine got an online sibling, and The Interchange online forum was launched.
- Discontinued meeting reminder postcards in March 2022. This reduced cost and complexity.
- Gave back to the hobby community by helping Don and Patty Riordan with the *Smokestack*

The Super's Report
Continued on **Page 5**

DIVISION 6 OFFICERS

Superintendent

Matt Goodman:
30 S. Algonquin Ave., Columbus,
Ohio 43204
Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Assistant Superintendent

Dexter Hill:
AssistSuper@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Clerk

Carter Jastram:
DepClerk@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Pay Master

Jim Borcz:
Paymaster@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Directors

Ken McDonough
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
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:
Dave Neff
president@midcentral-region-nmra.org

**NMRA Central District
Director:**

Robert Beaty, MMR[®]

All Photographs and Articles are copy-
righted by the submitters and may not
used without their permission.
Non-Credited Photos by Donald
Wilke

*Clerk's Report
Buckeye Division,
Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.
Membership Meeting
Gahanna Library
Gahanna
21 April 2024
Carter Jastram, Clerk*

This is my final Membership Meeting Report as Clerk. I thank the Board of Direc-
tors, the Chairs, and the membership for their support over the past four years.

Call to Order

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

Division 6 Officers Present:

Superintendent	Matt Goodman
Clerk	Carter Jastram
Paymaster	Jim Borcz
Director	Don Wilke
Director	Mike Wolf, MMR [®]

Division 6 Chairs Present:

Company Store	Greg Short
Contest	Don Wilke
Inspector of Elections	Harry "Butch" Sage
Programs	Mike Wolf, MMR [®]
Raffle	Scott Brown
<i>Super's Signal</i> Publisher	Don Wilke
Train Show	Greg Short
Webmaster	Don Wilke
501 Committee	Ken McDonough, Mike Wolf, MMR [®]

Absent:

Assistant Superintendent	Dexter Hill
Director	Ken McDonough
Achievement Program	Dick Briggs, MMR [®]
Membership	Ken McDonough
Membership Retention	Bruce McDonald

Announcements

Matt Goodman. Matt expressed thanks to all who volunteered to help at the *Lan-
caster Hobby Extravaganza* last weekend.

Reports:

Clerk's Report: Carter Jastram. Carter expressed his appreciation to Ken Mc-
Donough for filling in for him again while he was on the road. The membership ap-
proved the Clerk's Report of our March 16 meeting, as published in the April 2024
Super's Signal, pp. 2-5.

Paymaster's Report: Jim Borcz. The membership approved the Paymaster's Re-
port, pending audit. Jim brought some of the latest 3-D printed samples, which the
members can order. Contact Jim for the website and the code
to receive a discount when ordering any of the products.

The Clerk's Report
Continued on **Page 3.**

Continued: **Clerk's Report**

Program Report: Mike Wolf. No member meeting due to the *MCR 2024 Convention* in Cleveland.

June 15 is our annual day-long gathering at the Marion Union Station, including our Annual and Membership Meetings. Butch Sage will present a clinic from his personal experience and knowledge of *Estate Planning for the Model Railroader*. We invite division members to submit **Bring-N-Brag** items or offer a **mini-clinic** during the day. Please contact Mike Wolf ahead of time to make arrangements. Darrell postponed a planned clinic due to a schedule conflict.

Incoming Assistant Superintendent Michael Percy will take over scheduling clinics for the second half of 2024.

Watch the division website for details, since a May–June issue of the *Super's Signal* will be published in May.

Communications Report: Don Wilke. Don will post today's contest winners on the division website by Tuesday, April 29. Links are on the Division 6 Welcome Page.

Don will open a second website page for our *2025 Buckeye Express Convention* in about one month and before the *2024 Convention* in Cleveland.

We discussed the problem when the Division 6 website first opened up using some search engines. The Welcome Page sometimes is the one from last Fall, 2023. Click on our division icon to bring up the current Welcome Page. Don will look into that.

Facebook: Dave Wetterstroem. Dave will help with the Division 6 Facebook page after the Cleveland Convention.

Super's Signal Report: Don Wilke. Don will publish one issue of the *Super's Signal* before the June meeting.

Membership Report: Matt Goodman for Ken McDonough. We are at 138 division members, including two renewals. Four members have expired within 30 days, and two more are 60 days past due. Ken sent emails to those members asking for their concerns and notifying them of today's meeting.

Possible NMRA Plan: Jim Kehn. Jim referred to a new company that is partnering with the NMRA and attempting to establish a means of reimbursing membership dues based on Medicare Supplement or Medicaid. [See the article with ad in the May 2024 issue of the *NMRA Magazine*, pp. 10-11, titled *Can Grouper Help Cover Your NMRA Dues?*—Clerk.]

Achievement Program Report: Dick Briggs. There was no Achievement Program report.

Buckeye Express 2025 Convention: Greg Short. The Convention Committee has established registration costs as \$70 Early Bird before Feb. 1, 2025, and \$80 thereafter. With Matt's help, Greg will prepare an approximately 6-minute-long PowerPoint presentation for the

Cleveland Convention.

Jim Kehn and his wife have come up with a *Buckeye Express* hat. We ordered eight of them for our Convention presenters to wear to Cleveland.

Greg is working on tours utilizing 15-passenger vans, three of which are noticeably less expensive than one bus per day. On Friday, Greg is lining up a *Hocking Valley Scenic Railway* tour. He hopes to include a shop tour and train ride. On Saturday, he plans a tour of *Mill Creek Central* in Coshocton that may include the *Zanesville Club* or be used as a rainy-day option. The tour needs to be back by 4 p.m. in time for the Banquet.

We will need many more volunteers for day-of staffing of things like Registration, Company Store, Contest Room, etc. Greg agreed to prepare a list of needs and contact information for the Super's Signal so potential volunteers can contact the appropriate persons.

Company Store: Greg Short. Greg still has *Buckeye Steel Castings* gondolas for sale. An ad for them appeared last week in the May issue of *Model Railroad Hobbyist Magazine*. The ad will also be published in the June issue of *NMRA Magazine*.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business to take up.

New Business:

Surety Bond: This fidelity bond will cover the Paymaster and an appointed Assistant Paymaster. After work done by Scott Brown and Michael Percy, the Board of Directors voted to move forward on acquiring this bond. The Board will receive a quotation of premium costs from a second insurer and then make a decision.

Videos for YouTube: Matt Goodman. Matt will ask recorded clinic hosts for permission to "publish" these on YouTube. Bob Baker's clinic video on *Spiral Tunnels* has already received 500 views!

Club Reports:

Janis Center Railroad Club (Columbus): Connie Logan. The new building, the Fran Ryan Center, is under roof and receiving interior work. There are no windows yet. Connie will write a short article for the *Super's Signal*.

Northeastern Ohio Live Steamers Club (Medina, neols.net): Jim Borcz. The NEOLS club has been in its current location for more than 30 years and will be spending this year on heavy maintenance. Volunteers are more than welcome to come up and help out on work days. Matt will email a notice of this to our members in the Medina area.

Zane Trace & National Trail Model Railroad Club (Zanesville): The Zanesville Club will host an open house next Saturday and Sunday, April 27 and 28, from 11 am to 4 pm

The Clerk's Report
Continued on **Page 4**.

on both days.

Friends of the East Broad Top (FEBT): Butch Sage. Butch reports that for the second year in a row (October-September), the FEBT has exceeded its annual restoration fund goal of \$220,000. This year, operations will be all diesel since steam engine #16 has a cracked driving wheel. See an update in *Trains Magazine*. Locomotive #15 is the next one scheduled to be rebuilt.

Contest Results:

Contest Certificates: Greg Short. Greg handed out certificates to previous contest winners Doug Kullman, Scott Brown, Bob Baker (absent), Darrell Logan, Matt Goodman, Greg Short, and George Stringer. Congratulations to you all!

Virtual Photo Contest (Railroad Served Industries):

Third Place: Darrell Logan, *We Have No Grain Today*

Second Place: Matt Goodman, *Elevator flat on Bill Darnaby's layout*

First Place: Matt Goodman, *Loading Grain, October 2017*

Model Contest:

Second Place: Matt Goodman, *Mockup of Corncob Plant*

First Place: Greg Short, *Feed Mill with Light Weathering* (the model is for sale)

Thank you for entering the contest, and congratulations to the winners!

The **June Virtual Photo Contest** is **Favorite Train**.

The contest at Marion will be **Bring-N-Brag** your **Favorite Train**.

The train may be as short as motive power plus caboose. Or motive power plus one car with End of Train Device (EOTD, aka FRED) or a drumhead if it is a passenger car. Please note: We will ask entrants to share why it is their favorite train.

The Contest Chair will announce the winners at the Division 6 meeting in Marion on June 15. Please remember that members may only enter photos taken by themselves.

Raffle:

Scott Brown.

Today's raffle winners were Howdy Lamprecht, undecorated 55-ton hopper; Connie Logan, 1999 NMRA Convention box car; and Jim Borcz, N-scale Cadiz Railroad (Kentucky) 50' rib side box car. Scott shared with us some interesting details about the Cadiz Railroad (1901-1988).

The special raffle for an undecorated Ahearn GP40-2 diesel with dynamic brakes and DC power is ongoing.

Scott will raffle it after he sells 40 tickets.

Scott also shared some information on a few DVDs about Lionel that he will soon include in the raffles.

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 contact Scott Brown.

Announcements:

Bill Hanna: Bill is moving, and his *Union Northern Railroad* is no longer. Watch for Union Northern v. 3.0.

Train Station Video: A recent email from the *Train Station* contains a wobbly video. Viewing is not recommended unless you are immune to motion sickness.

Operation Life Saver: Connie Logan. She and Darrell have been busy traveling and promoting safety around railroads. She reports speaking to 96 people in Lancaster and 87 in Springfield, where a new rail safety cartoon drew a lot of attention. Yesterday (April 20), they attended a Scout Jamboree at *Mill Creek Central*, where they spoke with 87 adults and 180 Scouts! They go next to the *Galion Railfest* and present *Safe Rail-fan* (a new presentation last year to our Division in Marion) at the *Cleveland Convention*. Darrell will also present his clinic on clouds.

John Madden: John shared that *Factory Direct Hobbies* (fka *Factory Direct Trains*) has purchased the website *Model Train Stuff*.

Don Wilke: On May 1st *Kalmbach Media* was purchased by *Firecrown Media*. *Firecrown Media* owns a wide range of transportation brands, including *Flying, Plane & Pilot, Boating, Yachting*, and the supply chain site *FreightWaves*.

Good of the Order

Steering Committee Meetings: The Steering Committee Meetings take place every third Thursday evening of each month at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, except during the *MCR Convention* in May. The next one is TBD as Matt hands off the Superintendent-ship to Bob Baker. Watch your MailChimp email for any updates. Any member may attend any Steering Committee Meeting. If interested, contact Superintendent Matt Goodman or incoming Superintendent Bob Baker for the Zoom meeting link.

Next Division 6 Membership Meeting: The next Division 6 meeting will be on **Saturday, June 15**, at **Marion Union Station, Marion, Ohio**. This is an all-day event that includes our **Annual Meeting, Membership Meeting**, and clinics. The station is usually open by 8:30 am.

Adjournment:

Matt adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Continued: **Clerk's Report**

Clinic: *SwitchList* Program for the Macintosh
Michael Percy presented a clinic on using the Mac program *SwitchList* for generating switch lists to control model railroad operations. He discussed the types of data to enter and some of the choices to accomplish this.

The division recorded the clinic, which is available to the membership for viewing. We express our appreciation to Michael and encourage anyone with an idea or an experience to talk with Mike Wolf before the Marion meeting or Michael Percy after that about sharing a clinic at a future date.

Continued: **The Super's Report****Hobby Shop's Lancaster Hobby Expo Show.**

- Produced the first new batch of division shirts since 2016.
- Produced our first car project since 2016 – the **Buckeye Steel Gondola** (both times).
- Created a **Policy and Procedure Manual**.
- We began publishing recorded clinics on our YouTube channel.
- Did the work to become an IRS recognized non-profit entity.
- Established a state tax collection process.
- We made a bid (later accepted) for the **2025 Mid Central Region Convention**. Planning for **The Buckeye Express** is well underway.

Implementing these items and smoothing out the rough edges required the efforts of many members. Thanks to everyone who helped make it all happen. I've enjoyed my time at the helm, but I can't wait to see what fresh ideas the new Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent positions bring to the division.

Convention News

This year's **North Coast Limited Convention** starts in a few weeks. Division 6 members have six clinics lined up for this event and two alternates. If you go, consider attending the annual **MCR Board of Directors Meeting**; there's typically some sausage-making going on that is interesting. Greg and I will also make a short pitch for the **Buckeye Express**.

On the **Buckeye Express** topic, the Convention Committee is working full speed on gathering materials to use for the banquet presentation and our table display. We also have a new hat for convention committee members to wear to the **North Coast Limited**. Jim Kehn brought the prototype (produced by Susie) to the April meeting, and Greg immediately ordered seven more. As a request to our membership, memorize the details for our convention and start pitching it to potential attendees. Awareness is key!

Partnership Program (from the archives)

Last month I placed several orders for a number of detail parts. Windows, doors, and chimneys from **Tichy**, more chimneys, fire hydrants, and other stuff from **Rusty Stumps**, and brick sheet from **The N Scale Architect**.

Once that task was complete, I checked my inbox and found two NMRA emails. One was a survey that included a question about whether I had used the **Partnership Program**. After thinking for a moment, I answered, "Nope." The second email listed all the companies that participate in the program. Guess what was on there? **Tichy**, **Rusty Stumps**, and **The N Scale Architect**.

So, before you hit the "submit" button when placing an online order, check to see if that company is a participant. It's one of your membership benefits! For a list, check elsewhere in this issue of the **Signal** OR click here: <https://www.nmra.org/partnerships>.

Time to drop the fire!


Division 6 on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/user/nmrabuckeyedivision

Division 6 in Facebook:

NMRA Buckeye Division [in search field]

Division 6 Email Group:

NMRABuckeyeDivision@groups.io

Division 6 – 2024 Time Table

Date	Event	Meeting	City
21 January (Sunday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Hilltop Library Clinic: Quick Rollin Stock Weathering Techniques , Mark Krueger Contests: Open Car with Load	Columbus
26 January	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
18 February (Sunday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Barnett Library (Livingston Library) Clinic: Steam Locomotive Water Cycle , Matt Goodman Contests: Non-Revenue / MOW	Columbus
23 February	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
16 March (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Northside Library (Meeting Room 1) Clinic: Canadian Pacific Railway: The Big Hill and Spiral Tunnels , Bob Baker Contests: Non-Steam Locomotive	Columbus
21 March	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
21 April (Sunday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Gahanna Library (Meeting Rooms 2 & 3) Clinics: Creating Switchlists , Michael Percy Contests: Railroad Served Structure, Not RR Owned	Gahanna
29 April	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
16-19 May	MCR Convention	The North Coast Limited	Cleveland, OH
15 June (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Annual Meeting & Business Meeting: Marion Union Station Mini Clinics: Estate Planning for Model Railroaders , Butch Sage Contest: Photo: Favorite Train ; Bring-N-Brag: Favorite Train	Marion
22 June	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
20 July (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Mill Creek Railroad Model Contest: None Virtual Photo Contest: Shanties, Shacks, Shelters, & Sheds	Coshocton
25 July	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
17 August (Saturday)	Division 6 Picnic	Location: Ariel-Foundation Park, Kiwanis Pavilion Clinic: The History of the Cleveland, Akron and Columbus Railway , Gloria Parsisson; The History of the Former PPG Glass Manufacturing Site , Michael Percy, Possible Tour of the Site Model Contest: None ; Virtual Photo Contest: RR Signals	Mt. Vernon
22 August	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline		
22 September (Sunday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Coshocton Club Open House: Zanesville Club Model & Virtual Photo Contest: Steam Locomotive	Coshocton
26 October	<i>Super's Signal</i> Deadline	No October <i>Signal</i>	
27 October	Division 6 Train Show	Train Show Model Contest: None Virtual Photo Contest: Railroad Bridges & Trestles	Laughlin Center Cambridge

Don't Just Belong,
Participate!!



Thanks to Michael Percy for his clinic on *Creating Switchlists* for his layout using the Mac application SwitchLists. Looks like a great tool for anyone (with a Mac) to create switchlists and stage their layouts for operations. For those who missed it (or would like to see it again), check out the video of the clinic here:

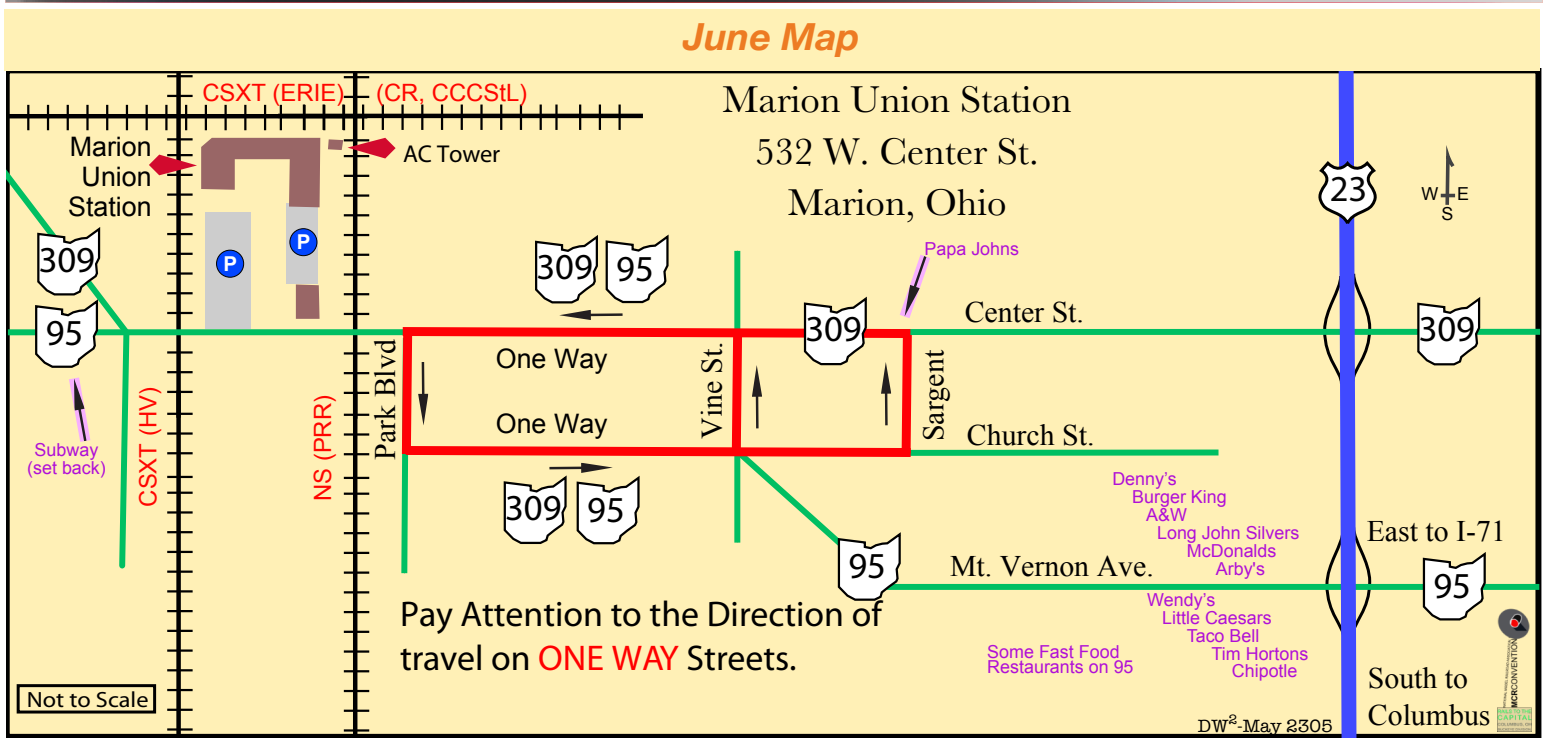
https://youtu.be/_hFUxZTv-mw

There is no division meeting in May due to the Regional Convention in Cleveland but save up examples of your recent modeling (or blow the dust off older ones) to share in at a **Bring-N-Brag** session at Marion in June. In addition, Butch Sage will be discussing *Estate Planning for the Model Railroader*.

roader.

There are plenty of openings for clinics throughout 2024. As Matt mentioned at the meeting, it's a good time to practice your clinic, as we'll need numerous volunteers to present at our Regional Convention in 2025. 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.



Contest Report

Contest Chair

April Contest: Railroad Served Structure, Not RR Owned Model Contest

Third Place: Darrell Logan, *We Have No Grain Today*

Second Place: Matt Goodman, *Elevator flat on Bill Darnaby's layout*

First Place: Matt Goodman, *Loading Grain, October 2017*

Model Contest:

Second Place: Matt Goodman, *Mockup of Corncob Plant*

First Place: Greg Short, *Feed Mill with Light Weathering (the model is for sale)*

Thanks for entering the contests, and congratulations to the winners.

July Model Contest: None

**July Photo Contest Topic:
Shanties, Shacks, Shelters, &
Sheds**



*1st Place Model by Greg Short
Copyright by Don Wilke*



*1st Place Virtual Photo by
Matt Goodman,
Copyright by the entrant*

Contest Point Summary April 2024

Modeler 2024

Greg Short	13	George Stringer	8
Bob Lee	8	Matt Goodman	6

Photographer 2024

Matt Goodman	12	Bob Baker	3
Darrel Logan	9	Scott Brown	2

March Contest Winners:

https://archive2.div6-mcr-nmra.org/ContestFold/contest240421-D/Contest_240421.html

Sixth Annual NMRA Division 6

Train Show

Cambridge Ohio

Sunday

October 27, 2024

10 am to 3 pm



Easy Access from I-70 and I-77

Pritchard Laughlin Center

7033 Glenn Hwy

Cambridge OH 43725



**OPERATING
MODEL TRAINS**

HANDICAP ACCESS

ALL SCALES

ACCESSORIES

SCENERY

HOBBY TOOLS & SUPPLIES

Check out 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

