

Super's Signal

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

August 2024



Superintendent's Report

Bob Baker, Division 6 Superintendent

The countdown has begun! We are now less than 10 months away from the *Buckeye Express* scheduled for May 15–18, 2025, at the Embassy Suites in Dublin. Although a lot of work has been completed, much remains to be done. The Convention Planning Committee, chaired by Greg Short, deserves our kudos for their work. I'd like to recognize and thank the other committee members: Matt Goodman, Carter Jastram, Don Wilke, George Stringer, Mike Wolf, Ken McDonough, Michael Percy, Scott Brown, and Terry Bacus. Mike Wolf is arranging layout tours and Ops Sessions. Ken is putting together an impressive array of clinics. Scott is managing the company stores and Don has put together the convention website. Michael Percy oversees the registration process, and Carter takes care of the finances. George oversees the contest room, Terry is T-TRAK chair, and Matt is mainly AV and Tech but also backs Greg up and assists him along the way.

What else needs to be done? The committee is working on filling out the rest of the agenda and finding off-site tours and activities. They are planning events for family members who have not (yet) been bitten by the model railroad bug. They are finalizing many details, from AV needs to the banquet menu to convention merchandise.

What can the rest of us do? First, register. Next, consider how you can help as a volunteer during the conference. Contact Ken if you have clinic ideas or Mike if you are interested in opening up your layout for a tour or Op Session. Many other opportunities exist to help—just ask a committee member. In addition, please talk to others about the convention and invite them to register. Publicizing the convention and getting others to register is crucial to making this convention a success.

This is a great opportunity to put a spotlight on Division 6—an opportunity that does not come along very frequently. We know that there are many outstanding layouts in the area, as well as very skillful modelers. Central Ohio has a very rich railroad history. In addition, the Columbus

17 August (*Saturday*) Division 6 Family Picnic Ariel-Foundation Park, Kiwanis Pavilion, Mt. Vernon

10:00: *Ariel-Foundation Park* opens

11:15: Social gathering

12:00: Division 6 Family Picnic

2:00: Division 6 Meeting

2:30: 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*

5:00: *Ariel-Foundation Park* closes

Model Contest: None

Virtual Photography Contest: *Railroad Signal*

Local Activities

What: Penn Central Railroad Historical Society

When: September 19–21, 2024

Where: MARION UNION STATION

What: 2024 Central OHIO RPM

When: October 10–12, 2024

Where: MARION UNION STATION



Super's Signal Deadline 22 August

area has many non-railroad-oriented highlights: one of the best zoos in the country, COSI (voted #1 science museum in the country for 4 years running), the third-best beer city in the U.S., multiple world-class shopping venues, and professional sporting events. Perhaps surprisingly, Columbus has been voted one of the top ten culinary destinations in the world.

The Super's Report
Continued on Page 4

DIVISION 6 OFFICERS

Superintendent
Bob Baker

Super@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Assistant Superintendent
Michael Percy:
AssistSuper@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Clerk
Matt Goodman:
DepClerk@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Pay Master
Carter Jastram:
Paymaster@Div6-MCR-NMRA.org

Directors
Ken McDonough,
Donald Wilke,
Mike Wolf, MMR®:
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

Division 6, Mid Central Region,
NMRA, Inc., known as the Buckeye
Division, is an Ohio non-profit
corporation recognized by the IRS as a
501(c)(3) organization. Donations to
Division 6 are tax-deductible to the full
extent of the law consult your tax
advisor for details.

*Clerk's Report
Buckeye Division,
Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.
Membership Meeting
Mill Creel Central Railroad
20 July 2024
Matt Goodman,, Clerk*

Call to Order

Michael Percy, Division 6 Assistant Superintendent, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m

Division 6 Officers Present:

Assistant Superintendent	Michael Percy
Clerk	Matt Goodman
Paymaster	Carter Jastram
Director	Ken McDonough
Director	Don Wilke
Director	Mike Wolf, MMR®

Division 6 Chairs Present:

Achievement Program	Dick Briggs, MMR®
Contest	Don Wilke
Membership	Ken McDonough
Membership Retention/Recruitment	Mike Wolf, MMR®
Super's Signal Publisher	Don Wilke
Webmaster	Don Wilke

Absent:

Superintendent	Bob Baker
Buckeye Express Convention	Greg Short
Company Store	Greg Short
Membership	Ken McDonough
Raffle	Scott Brown
Train Show	Greg Short

Announcements

Assistant Superintendent Michael Percy welcomed the members to *Mill Creek Central Railroad* and introduced Mill Creek Central owner Dick McCloy and Jim Henry (title unknown).

Jim and Dick gave an overview of the railroad. Some high points mentioned are:

- The railroad covers 24 acres, with five miles of track with a maximum elevation change of 70 feet. Within the hobby, it is considered a challenging layout to operate on, especially with steam locomotives.
- They have operating sessions that are either car-card or dispatcher-based.
- The 25th anniversary of the track's founding will be celebrated on August 1st—4th during the *Large Engine Meet*. At the last *Large Engine Meet*, 110 locomotives were on site, 60 of which were electric.
- One challenge they currently face is getting more electricity on-site to accommodate charging battery-electric locomotives.

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

Continued: **Clerk's Report**

tives, which are becoming more popular.

- The *Mill Creek Central* is one of the bigger tracks that accommodates and welcomes steam locomotives.
- The *Mill Creek Central* has nine meets per year and is actively seeking new members so that it will continue to be supported in perpetuity.

Reports:

Note: The division business meeting was abbreviated due to planned train rides.

Clerk's Report: Matt Goodman. No report was given.

Paymaster's Report: Carter Jastram. No report was given.

Program Report: Michael Percy. Michael reminded the assembled membership of the dates for the next three division meetings.

The August Division 6 Meeting in Mount Vernon will include a picnic lunch, and significant others are welcome.

The September Division 6 Meeting is at the A.M.R.E.C. (Coshocton) Club in Coshocton and will feature a *What's on your workbench?* themed **Bring-N-Brag** in lieu of a clinic.

November's Division 6 Meeting will be at the Dublin Library. Watch the *Super's Signal* or check the website for the details.

Communications Report:

Webmaster: Don Wilke. No report was given. Don will make updates to the website to address a correction brought up.

Super's Signal Report: Don Wilke. The deadline for the August issue of the *Signal* is generally the Thursday following the meeting, 25 September, in this case. If an article is not quite ready, please inform Don of how much space it will need.

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.

Media– Groups.io, Facebook: No report was given.

Membership Report: No report was given.

Retention and Recruitment Report: No report was given.

Achievement Program Report: Dick Briggs. Dick re-

minds the division members to keep records of information and time spent toward Achievement Program Certificates.

Dick presented Matt Goodman with the *A.P. Association Official Certificate*.

Buckeye Express 2025 Convention: Greg Short. No report was given.

Company Store: Greg Short. No report was given.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business to take up.

New Business:

There was no New Business to take up.

Club Reports:

There was no Club Reports to take up.

Contest Results:

Contest Certificates: Don Wilke. After a brief discussion, the July contest awards will be combined with the winners of a future meeting.

The August 17th contest is virtual photo only. The topic is **Railroad Signals**.

Remember, a member may only enter photos taken by oneself.

Adjournment:

After a motion and a second to adjourn, Michael adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:15 p.m.

Division members were encouraged to take train rides, about an hour long, and covering all three railroad divisions.



Continued: **The Super's Report**

So, fellow members, let's get on board and make our convention one of the best ever!

On another note, on July 20, the division met at the *Mill Creek Central Railroad* near Coshocton. I was unable to attend, so Michael Percy provided this summary. After a brief business meeting, we discussed the need for a Photo Contest Chair to assist Don. Don will do most of the hard work, but we need someone to send reminder emails. The Photo Contest may go away if we can't get someone to help.

Jim Henry and Dick McCloy provided a history of the *Mill Creek Central*. The 7 1/2" gauge railroad is approximately 5 miles long with three tunnels and a 60-foot minimum radius. The railroad is signaled, and they also do operating

sessions using car cards and dispatch operations in which they disable the signals. Locomotive power is a variety of steam, gas-powered, or electric battery-powered. Electric power appears to be the emerging trend in the hobby. Annually, they host a large live steam event (September 21 & 22). Every three years, they host a large convention, and last year, they had over 110 locomotives.

After learning about the railroad, we got to the best part! We rode most of it, with trips to the Valley and Mountain Divisions.

That is all for this month. Happy modeling!

Bob

Bob Baker



Save The Date



The Buckeye Express Convention
15-18 May, 2025
Embassy Suites, Dublin



Interested in Narrow Gauge - So Are We



**44th National
Narrow Gauge Convention**

**September 11-14th, 2024
Pittsburgh, PA**

<https://www.44nngc.com/>



**30th Annual Midwest
Midwest Narrow Gauge Show
& Mini Bunch 2024 Spring Meet**

March 22-23, 2024 Greenford, Ohio

**Vendors * Displays * Clinics
Modular Layouts * Model Contest**

**All Scales & Gauges Welcome
Hon30, Hon3, Sn2, Sn3, On2, On30, On3**



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 Deadline</i>		
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 Deadline</i>		
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 Deadline</i>		
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 Deadline</i>		
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 Deadline</i>		
20 July (Saturday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Mill Creek Railroad Model Contest: None Virtual Photo Contest: Caboose (Change)	Coshocton
25 July	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
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 Deadline</i>		
22 September (Sunday)	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Coshocton Club Open House: Coshocton Club What's on Your Workbench? Virtual Photo Contest: Steam Locomotive	Coshocton
26 October	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>	No October <i>Signal</i>	
27 October (Saturday)	Division 6 Train Show	Train Show Model Contest: None Virtual Photo Contest: Railroad Signs	Laughlin Center, Cambridge
26 October	<i>Super's Signal Deadline</i>		
17 November (Sunday) Tentative	Division 6 Meeting	Business Meeting: Dublin Library Contests: Closed Freight Car	Dublin

**Don't Just Belong,
Participate!!
Like Matt.**

Long-Distance Corridors and Central Ohio Update from OSU Public Media



The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, MORPC, created an Ad Hoc Passenger Rail Committee that may help decide where and how future Amtrak lines will run through the central Ohio region. The new committee comprises mayors, city managers, city policy wonks, and other stakeholders in Franklin County and its immediate neighbors.

MORPC Executive Director William Murdock said the committee aims to prepare for passenger rail and ensure that central Ohio is competitive for the available grants.

MORPC is interested in the two routes that run through Columbus, Ohio. The state's major metropolitan areas would be connected through the *3C+D corridor*, which would run from Cincinnati to Cleveland, stopping at Dayton and Columbus. The other route, *Midwest Connect*, would run from Pittsburgh to Chicago, with stops in Columbus and Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Marysville City Manager Terry Emery is the chair of the Ad Hoc Passenger Rail Committee. The committee's first meeting was primarily organizational. The committee members also received a history lesson and an update on the Federal Rail Commission's process.

The federal dollars at stake would flow in from the Federal Railroad Administration's Corridor Identification program, which picked the options running through Ohio for further study.

Each line is getting \$500,000 to iron out a high-level view of construction and service feasibility. That's step one, and Murdock said the committee's role is to create a service development plan.

The two proposed passenger rail lines running through Columbus are not a done deal in any sense, but the communities are preparing as if the federal dollars will flow their way.

Dublin Mayor and committee member Chris Amorose Groomes said the idea of passenger rail has moved from "a pipe dream to a day dream," acknowledging any potential start date for passenger rail is closer to reality but still very far off.

Communities in and around Franklin County want a foot in the door—and a possible stop along the train tracks—should passenger rail come to central Ohio.

MORPC Executive Director said, "We're looking at those important questions people have. Where should the stations be? What type of service? How does this interact with our communities? So this committee is great because it's going to advise us on the things that are important to central Ohio."

With MORPC input, federal planning will take until the second or third quarter of 2025.

Step two will follow and take one to three years to complete. That's when the committee and other entities, like All Aboard Ohio and Amtrak, will start making major decisions about the exact route, stops, service specifics, and what capital improvements may be needed.

That includes a 10% local match on federal funds for studies, designs, and other costs.

Step three is much further down the road and would take another one to three years. That's when the development of the line, engineering, environmental impact designs, and looking into construction services would happen. This step would require a 20% local match on federal dollars.

After that, construction would begin if the state and communities choose to move forward.

The Ad Hoc Passenger Rail Committee estimates trains could move up to 79 miles per hour in Ohio but up over 100 miles per hour in other states like Indiana. How quickly a train makes it to a destination depends on the number of stations where it stops and its speed.

Some of the communities came prepared with updates on

Continued: **Amtrak Expansion**

plans to acquire land for a train stop. Dublin, Hilliard, and others are identifying and making plans for land the city already owns or could acquire along the tracks.

“Tying in communities throughout the Columbus region that have rail access is probably one of the most important things we can accomplish,” committee chair Emery said. “And I think you saw today the excitement that the Hilliards and the Dublins and the Worthingtons and the city of Columbus have with what passenger rail can bring.”

Chair Emery mentioned that Marysville residents might benefit from a stop if they wish to go to Columbus or Pitts-

burgh on the *Midwest Connect* line for sports games. Newark Mayor Jeff Hall specifically mentioned that residents would be interested in Pittsburgh Steelers games.

“The most attractive thing for people in Marysville is the simplicity of going from Marysville to Columbus for a dinner for, a sporting event or even for work,” Emery said.

The committee also tried to decide what other stakeholders should be invited to the table. Representatives from private freight lines or Ohio Chamber of Commerce CEO Steve Stivers were suggested to be invited to future meetings.

The committee decided it would meet quarterly, and its next meeting was set for October 22.

Local Activities

What: Penn Central Railroad Historical Society

When: September 19–21, 2024

Where: MARION UNION STATION

The *Penn Central Railroad Historical Society* will hold its annual convention and business meeting on September 19-21, 2024, in Marion, Ohio. This year, the society is celebrating its 25th anniversary. The convention is open to members only; however, one can buy a membership and register for the convention at the same time. Visit

<https://www.pcrrhs.org/convention-registration/full-registration> for more information.

The tour of industrial facilities is always a highlight for members at a PCRRHS convention. This year's tour locations include Union Tank Car's Marion repair facility, the restored Bucyrus T&OC depot, and the Marion Industrial Center, which uses a former PC SW1500 for switching. See the society's website for the list of all convention activities.

FULL registration for the 2024 Convention in Marion, OH, on September 19-21 includes a registration fee, one ticket for the Friday bus tour, and one Saturday evening banquet meal.

What: 2024 Central OHIO RPM

When: October 10–12, 2024

Where: MARION UNION STATION

Cost - \$20 Entry, \$10 for Saturday night cookout (extra fare).

This year's RMP meet is October 10-12 at Marion Union Station, 532 West Center Street, Marion, Ohio. Expected RPM fare, model displays, clinics, door prizes, fellowship, and more will be featured. While RPMs are typically prototype-focused, proto-freelanced models are welcome!

Setup starts Thursday, October 10th, at noon. Around 5 p.m., a Thursday evening dinner will be held to renew acquaintances and meet new friends.

Friday, the doors open at 8 a.m., and the clinics run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a slide show at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, doors open at 8 a.m. Coffee and donuts will be available. The first clinic starts at 9 a.m., with a lunch break at 12 noon. After lunch, there will be the door prize drawing—YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!

Cleanup will begin around 4 p.m. After cleanup, there will be the meet-closing cookout. This is an extra-fare event, and the cost is \$10.00.

If you want to present a clinic, contact Denis Blake via Facebook Messenger or at seaboard_1966@yahoo.com.

Clinicians get free meet entrance. Proceeds benefit The Marion Union Station Association.

Division 6 Family Picnic and Meeting

Assistant Superintendent Michael Percy

In an effort to mix up our meetings this year, we are going to have a “family picnic” at our August meeting. If you haven’t been to a meeting this year, make this one your first. Bring your spouse or significant other and come enjoy Ariel-Foundation Park. The park was built on a repurposed glass factory and gravel quarry. We will have presentations on the railroad heritage of Knox County

and the PPG site that should be enjoyable for all.

Burgers and brats will be provided, and we ask that you bring a covered dish to share. Please email me at michael@mtv.insure to let me know how many will be attending as well as what your side will be so we don’t wind up with 20 potato salads. See you there!



August Map



Ariel-Foundation Park
Kiwanis Pavilion
Mount Vernon, Ohio

Use Pittsburgh - Neil Ave.
or Madison Ave.
to S. Norton St.

Not to Scale
Some roads not shown

DW²
2408

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

Contest Report

Contest Chair

July Contest: Caboose

Virtual Photo Contest

First Place: Michael Percy, **The caboose is a shoving platform from Fostoria.**

Model Contest: None

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

August Model Contest: None

August Photo Contest:
Railroad Signal



1st Place Virtual Photo by
Michael Percy
Copyright by the entrant

Contest Point Summary July 2024

Modeler 2024

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

Photographer 2024

Matt Goodman	11	Michael Percy	4
Darrel Logan	8	Scott Brown	2
Bob Baker	7		

July Contest Winners:

https://archive2.div6-mcr-nmra.org/ContestFold/contest240720-F/Contest_240720.html

Kalmbach Media Update

Don Wilke, Editor



Trains.com Webcam | MR&T Monitor (née Workshop Webcam)

*The MR&T as it was in mid-June.
Note the missing section (arrow) that will be sent to the NMRA.*



The MR&T as it appears on July 26.

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

