

Super's Signal



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



Superintendent's Report

Dick Briggs, MMR®, Division 6 Superintendent

From the Super's desk.....

Well, this is it, another year coming to an end, and a new administration ready and willing to lead the Buckeye Division to greater things. I want to thank the division officers, chairs, and especially the great division members who have participated with us this past year as we have brought the Buckeye Division into a new look and a focus on sharing our collective skills with each other. Best of luck to Ken as he leads the Buckeye Division for the future.

Dick Briggs, MMR®



11 June (*Thursday*) Business Meeting on Zoom

13 June (*Saturday*) Marion Union Station 532 West Center Street Marion

- 9:30: Marion Union Station opens
Today's Main Topic: Weathering
- 10:00: Mike Confalone video on *Weathering a Car Without the Use of an Airbrush* showing many of the techniques we will use at our *Hands-on-Clinic*
Bring-N-Brag: Weathered Car or Locomotive
Free Lunch—pick up Lunch Ticket at Sign-in
Annual Buckeye Division Meeting
Buckeye Division Program Meeting
Welcome
Hands-on-Clinic: *Weathering* (\$5 Fee) Bring two or three pre-Dullcoated cars. **Limit: 24 members**
All Day: Train watching
Marion Model Railroad Club

Super's Signal Deadline
18 June

DIVISION 6 OFFICERS

Superintendent

Dick Briggs, MMR®

Assistant Superintendent

Michael Wolf®

Clerk

Matt Goodman

Pay Master

Carter Jastram:

Directors

Mark Krueger, Ken McDonough,
Donald Wilke:

Web Master:

Mike Wolf®

Super's Signal Pub. & Edit

Donald Wilke

Email Officers and Chairs at

NMRABuckeyeDivision@gmail.com

Include their title in the subject line of the email.

Appointed Chairs

A full list of Division 6 Chairs can be found at:

<https://www.nmrabuckeyedivision.org/about-us>

Division 6 Web Site:

www.nmrabuckeyedivision.org

Mid Central Region President:

Jerry Doyle

president@midcentral-region-nmra.org

NMRA Central District

Director:

Robert Beaty, MMR®

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Clerk's Report
Buckeye Division,
Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.
Business Meeting (Zoom)
19 March 2026
Matt Goodman, Clerk

Note:

The *Buckeye Division Business Meetings* are held on the Thursday before our *Program Meeting*, at 7:00 p.m. via *Zoom*. See the *Timetable Page* on the website for the exact date. Any division member may attend the *Business Meetings*. If you want to attend, contact Clerk **Matt Goodman** at NmraBuckeyeDivision@gmail.com to get the Zoom information.

Call to Order:

The *Buckeye Division Business Meeting* was called to order by **Dick Briggs, Buckeye Division Superintendent**, at 7:00 p.m.

Buckeye Division Officers Present:

Superintendent	Dick Briggs, MMR®
Paymaster	Carter Jastram
Clerk, Media Chair	Matt Goodman
Director	Mark Krueger
Director, <i>Super's Signal</i> Publisher	Donald Wilke

Buckeye Division Chairs Present:

Company Store Chair	Scott Brown
Elections Chair	Butch Sage
T-Trak Chair	Scott Moline

Absent:

Asst. Superintendent, Webmaster	Michael Wolf, MMR®
Director, Membership Chair	Ken McDonough
Achievement Program Chair	Howdy Lamprecht, MMR®
Train Show Chair, Car Projects Chair	Greg Short

Announcements:

There were no announcements.

Reports:

Clerk's Report: Matt Goodman

The *April Clerk's Report* was approved as published in the *April Signal*.



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Paymaster's Report: Carter Jastram

There was light activity in the checking and savings accounts, with one deposit. Our 8-month CD matures on May 19, and Carter will look into options. Our 12-month CD comes due in September. Mike Wolf suggested (prior to the meeting) that we should consider moving some money from our checking account to a CD to earn a better return. Carter will explore that since there are no large purchases planned.

Don Wilke moved to accept the report, subject to audit. Matt Goodman seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously

Committee Reports

Achievement Program: Dick Briggs for Howdy Lamprecht

No report was given.

Membership Report: Ken McDonough via email

The Buckeye Division currently has 140 members. There were no new members in April. We currently have two members who are thirty days past their membership expiration; no members are sixty days past. We had five members renew. Ken will connect with members who are past due or have recently renewed to remind them about our local meetings and the resources available to them.

If members have questions about their membership status, contact Ken. See the website contact page for details.

Company Store, Raffle: Scott Brown

The division has eight *Tichy Tank Car Kits* left, six with two decals, one with the *Davies Steel* decal only, and one with the BFO decal only. Scott will send the remaining kits to the *Dayton Convention* with Dick Briggs to place in their *Yard Sale*.

New Car Project: Dick Briggs for Greg Short

Our order is in *Accurail's* production queue and will be fulfilled the next time *Accurail* runs that particular car. Matt Goodman moved that we authorize the *Paymaster* to issue a check to *Accurail* when payment is due. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Clerk's Note: A motion authorizing funds to purchase 48 kits was approved last month, rendering this month's motion redundant.

Super's Signal: Don Wilke

The *Super's Signal* deadline is Thursday, May 21st. Don said he won't be at the May Meeting Layouts and asked others to take photos of the Layouts.

Buckeye Division Website: Mike Wolf - Absent

It was reported that Mike updated the website to remove *Howdy Lamprecht* from the layout tour details because *Howdy* would not be available due to a family health condition.

Media Report: Matt Goodman

MailChimp and *Wix* mailing lists required no changes due to no changes in the *Buckeye Division's* roster.

Program: Group for Mike Wolf

For the *June Marion Meeting*, Mark Krueger moved to authorize Mike Wolf to spend up to \$150 for supplies for the *Hands-On Weathering* event in June. Carter Jastram seconded the motion, and all approved.

Dick Briggs said that Darrell and Connie Logan volunteered to supply lunch and that the division will reimburse them. Dick proposed that food be provided free of charge to division members via meal tickets distributed at sign-in. The tickets will be good for one meal. Members will pay for additional food out of their pocket. Non-members (local rail fans) pay the standard rate, probably \$5 to \$6. Carter moved that we reimburse the Logans at the rate of \$5 per attendee. Mark seconded the motion, and all approved.

Group confirmed we would donate \$150 to the *Marion Union Station Association*, compared with \$125 last year.

Old Business

May Hilltop Meeting:

Don Wilke will create paper maps of the layout tour locations for those who do not use GPS. Matt Goodman will update the May slide presentation to remove *Howdy Lamprecht's* name because of a family illness. Matt is also adding additional content to the presentation that Mike Wolf created before leaving for travel. Matt said he will not be able to attend the meeting, but will get an HDMI cable and possibly a laptop for Dick Briggs. Mark will contact Dick Argo to see if he will provide his own laptop.

New Business

Condolences, Get-Well Cards:

Dick Briggs proposed that we seek a volunteer to obtain and send condolences to division members or their spouses who are ill or have passed away. Bob Baker volunteered to do this and will turn in receipts as he incurs expenses. Others discussed purchasing flowers or, in some cases, sending donations.

Good of the Order

Past Superintendent Bob Baker still has possession of a *Christmas-Themed LGB Set* that was donated to the *Buckeye Division*. Bob suggested the division consider raffling it. It includes track, several structures, one locomotive and three passenger cars.

Bob also noted that a church friend has some *Lionel* he would like to dispose of it. Some group discussion followed regarding local shops. Scott

Moline offered to share the information with the *COMRC Club*.

Scott Moline, the *Buckeye Division's* new *T-Trak Chair*, is looking for ideas on how to reinvigorate the division's *T-Trak*. He will connect modelers at the *N-Scale Meeting* in *Marion* in May. Dick Briggs suggested he also connect with *Bruce DeMaeyer* at the *Dayton Convention* in June, and also suggested an article for the *Super's Signal* and the mailing list. Matt Goodman will make an email introduction between Scott and Bruce before June. Mark Krueger suggested bringing modules to a division meeting and our recruiting table. Scott is an active *T-Trak-er* and has about twelve personal modules, which he swaps in and out of the *T-Trak* layout at *COMRC*.

Adjournment

The *Business Meeting* was adjourned at 7:58 pm.



Clerk's Report
Buckeye Division,
Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.
Program Meeting
Hilltop Library
16 May 2026
Matt Goodman, Clerk

Thanks to Don Wilke for collecting meeting notes in the Clerk's absence.

Announcements

Superintendent Dick Briggs presented John Gaffney with his *Association Volunteer AP Certificate*. (Clerk: Thanks for your efforts, John!)

Dick also announced that if any member present wanted a *Tichy Tank Car*, they should get one soon, as any remaining cars will be taken to the *Dayton Convention* for sale. He also announced a new *Car Project* for a *Davies Steel Covered Hopper* from *Accurail*, and that the division is waiting for them to make the next run of *Covered Hoppers*.

The *Super's Signal* deadline is the Thursday after the meeting, May 21.



Sorry, John, your face is half the way in the projector's beam

Marion Meeting

Dick reminded everybody that our next division meeting will be our all-day meeting at *Marion*.

Lunch will be provided in a slightly different way. When a **Buckeye Division** member signs the membership list, they will receive a **Lunch Ticket** to receive **Darrell and Connie's fabulous lunch** for Free. Refills may have a minor cost. In the past, some rail fans have also enjoyed our lunch and, as before, will pay out of pocket.

After lunch, we will have a short **Annual Meeting**, followed by a **Hands-On Clinic on Weathering**.

Weathering Hands-On Clinic

The division will have 24 stations set up to learn how to use Pan Pastels to weather a car. If you wish to participate in the Hands-On Clinic, you are required to do two things:

- ◆ Bring two or three cars that you have already Dullcoted.
- ◆ Provide a \$5 "lab" fee for supplies. There will be a raffle drawing after the clinic for four lucky attendees to receive the lightly-used Pan Pastels and Brushes.

Bring-N-Brag

There were two physical and two photo entries for the **Bring-N-Brag Contest**.

- ◆ **George Stringer** soldered together 4 metal condenser tubes that automotive condensers came in and added several details to create a totally scratch-built tank car.



- ◆ **Dick Briggs** brought a weathered high-top gondola.



- ◆ **Jim Kehn** had photos of two of his O-Scale scratch-built models
 - A Civil War-era USMRR boxcar. It was built from plans in **E.P. Alexander's** book **Civil War Railroads and Models**.



- An IC&E boxcar trailer scratch-built from several photos. The prototype was made using an old interurban passenger car, cutting off the rounded ends, and sheathing everything over.



Program

Many thanks to **Dick Argo** for his clinic titled **Building an Era-Specific Freight Car Fleet**.

Also, many thanks to those (**Dave Wetterstroem**, **Darrell Logan**, and others) who helped troubleshoot problems with **Dick's** presentation and kept the conversation rolling while the technical issues were resolved! The staff has re-learned some process lessons to avoid similar issues in the future.

Thanks also to those who provided photos and ideas for the Program Topic **Building Cars**, and for participating in the discussion so that we all learn from one another.

Editor's Note: For almost the past two years, the Program Presentation was available on either **Matt Goodman's** or **Mike Wolf's** computer. Since neither was present at the **Hilltop Program Meeting**, we used the division's computer. **Bob Lee** said that he bought that computer when he was Superintendent about 15 years ago. The computer was running its most up-to-date OS, Windows 7 and it running very slow.

DIVISION 6 OFFICIAL TIMETABLE

(Valid 1 January 2026 - 31 December 2026)

Date	Meeting	Discussion Topic	Bring 'n Brag	Layout Open House(s)	Location
2026					
Jun 4-7	Convention	MCR - Dayton		Whistle Stop Dayton 2026	Dayton
Jun 11 (Thu)	Business				Zoom
Jun 13 (Sat)	Program	Weathering-Clinics & HandsOn / Annual Meeting	Weathered Car or Loco	Marion Club	Marion
Jun 25 (Thu)		Super's Signal Cutoff			
Jul 16 (Thu)	Business				Zoom
Jul 19 (Sun)	Program	Tools	Passenger car	Yoakum / Morgan	Canal Winchester
Jul 23 (Thu)		Super's Signal Cutoff			
Jul 27 Aug 2	Convention	NMRA National		Scenic City Express	Chattanooga TN
Aug 13 (Thu)	Business				Zoom
Aug 15 (Sat)	Program	Decoders and Lighting	Favorite Train	Kokosing (T) / Percy (T)	Mt Vernon (T)
Aug 20 (Thu)		Super's Signal Cutoff			
Sep 17 (Thu)	Business				Zoom
Sep 20 (Sun)	Program	Building Structures	Structure	CORMAC (T) / Richter (T) / Kruger	Upper Arlington (T)
Sep 24 (Thu)		Super's Signal Cutoff			
Oct 15 (Thu)	Business				Zoom
Oct 22 (Thu)		Super's Signal Cutoff			
Oct 25 (Sun)	Show	Division 6 Train Show			Cambridge
Nov 19 (Thu)	Business				Zoom
Nov 21 (Sat)	Program	Laying Track	Non-steam Loco	McDonough (T)/Stringer (T)	Westerville Library (T)
Nov 25 (Wed)		Super's Signal Cutoff			
Dec 10 (Thu)	Business				Zoom
Dec TBD	Social	Holiday Party	Open Car w/Load		TBD
Dec 17 (Thu)		Super's Signal Cutoff			

June and July Program Meetings

Mike Wolf, Program Chair

Annual Marion Gathering

June 13th is our annual pilgrimage to *Marion Union Station*, and we are planning a great day of train watching, model railroading, and fellowship. *Weathering* will be the main topic of the day. We'll spend the morning watching a video by Mike Con-falone on *Weathering a Car Without an Airbrush*. Mike is a phenomenal modeler, and if you've sub-scribed to *TrainMasters TV*, you may have seen this video series or videos of his *Allagash Railways*. He'll cover many of the materials and techniques we'll be using in the afternoon. Following that, we have a *Hands-On Weathering Mini-Clinic* lined up. If you have any other mini-clinics, let me know, and we'll add them to the lineup.

Annual Membership Meeting

After the Weathering Video, some train watching, and a FREE lunch (pick up your lunch ticket when you sign in), we will have our *Annual Membership Meeting* where Ken McDonough will take the office of the *Buckeye Division's Superintendent*.

Program Meeting

As you know, we've changed our monthly meeting format, and the *Program Meeting* will be your chance to get quick updates from the various officers and committee chairs on what has hap-pened over the past year and a vision for the year ahead.

In addition, the *Bring-N-Brag* will focus on a *Weathered Car* or *Locomotive*. Tell us how you made it look slightly used, ready for the scrapheap, or somewhere in between. *The Marion Model Rail-*

road Club and the 1:1 scale trains should also be running.

After the *Program Meeting*, our *Hands-On Model-ing Clinic* will be an opportunity to practice some of the techniques you heard about in the morning video. There will be a \$5 Clinic Fee, and 3-4 par-tially used *Pan Pastel* sets will be raffled off at the end to all who participate. The division will acquire most of the materials needed, but each participant will need to bring 2 to 4 cars (pre-Dullcoated) to practice on. If you'd like to practice creating rust spots on a galvanized metal roof, bring along one silver/gray roof model (or paint a roof ahead of time). We'll demonstrate/experiment with a num-ber of different techniques, including oils, oil washes, and *Pan Pastels*. If you have any ques-tions, contact me at wvunion@gmail.com.

Trains, free lunch, Hands-On modeling, train watching, and fellowship. What more could you ask for? See you on Saturday, June 13th, starting at 10 am! More details can be found on the *Buckeye Divi-sion's Website*.

July

July takes us to *Canal Winchester*, and the discus-sion topic will be *Tools*. Hopefully, we'll also have two layouts open for viewing.

Survey

If you haven't taken the very short survey (2 ques-tions) I sent out in late May on participating in the *Hands-On Clinic* at *Marion* or discussion topics for 2027, send me an email today at wvunion@gmail.com.

Check out the *Buckeye Division Website* for more details on these and future activities.

<https://www.nmrabuckeyedivision.org/upcoming>

Membership Report

Ken McDonough, Membership Chair

The *Buckeye Division* currently has 140 members listed as active.

We had five renewals in April: David Evers, Matthew Fisher, Ryan and Collin Williams, and Marla Wright. I sent them all letter thanking them for renewing their membership in the NMRA, reminding them about our meeting on May 17 at the *Hilltop Library* in Columbus, and highlighting the many resources available to NMRA members.

We have two members who are 30 days past due. I sent them an email reminding them that their NMRA membership has expired.

We have no members who are 60 days past due at this time.

Please let me know if you have any comments or questions.



T-Trak

Scott Moline, Chair

Do you have an N-Gauge train gathering dust, or have you wondered about all the talk about *T-Trak*? The first time I heard it, I was confused. Is a *T-Gauge* train?. The trains look like *N-Gauge*; what gives?

Simply put, *T-Trak* is a modular tabletop train system that is standard for nearly any scale, though it is predominantly used with *N-Scale*. The well-established modular standards for *T-Trak* allow fast and easy interchangeability of modules between clubs.

Attached are a few photographs of completed *T-Trak* modules ready for use.

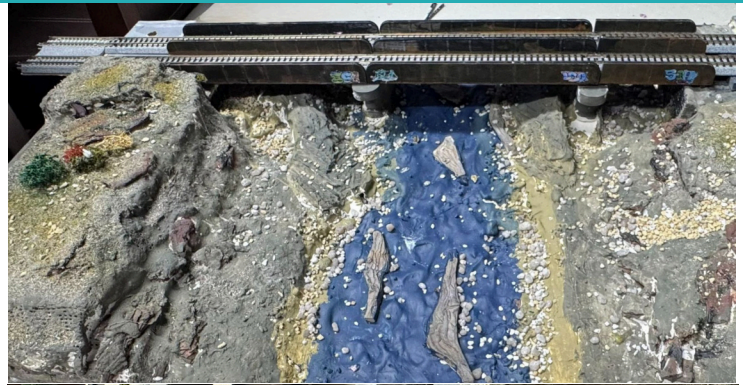
There's a very informative article about *T-Trak* in the recent June 2026 *NMRA Magazine*.

There are several *Buckeye Division* members who are building or have built *T-Trak* modules. NMRA offers discounts from many *T-Trak* module kit manufacturers, such as *Klawndyke* (Klawndyke.com).

Make sure to check out the *T-Trak* display at the *Mid Central Regional Convention* in Dayton in early June.

If you are attending the *NMRA National Convention* in *Chattanooga, TN*, *The National T-Trak Association* is planning to set a new *T-Trak* world record. The current record is 340 modules covering 28.4 *N-Scale* miles. The new *T-Trak* record attempt involves 11,205 square feet of space with approximately 842 modules covering 99.5 *N-Scale* miles.

We are excited to get fellow *N-Gaugers* and *T-Trak* enthusiasts in touch with each other. Please reach out to **Scott Moline** at 614-940-7930 or quiet.gear1377@fastmail.com.



Tichy HO Scale Tank Car kits

Scott Brown, Store Chair

The Buckeye Division's Tichy HO Scale Tank Car kits have been a good and steady seller at the division's Company Store. As a result, we have seen repeat customers purchase these kits.

One regular customer and familiar face at the Company Store is **Darrell Logan**. **Darrell** is a long-time NMRA *Buckeye Division* member and models HO scale. His model railroad, the *Cheyenne Denver & Laramie Railroad*, is a delight to visit and experience.

Due to brisk sales, only seven *Tank Car Kits* remain. If you have been pondering purchasing one of these nice kits or considering purchasing a second kit to build, reach out to us soon. In June, these kits will be available for sale at the *2026 Dayton Convention*.

Thank you for purchasing these kits. Proceeds from sales support the *Buckeye Division*.

Whistle Stop Dayton MID-CENTRAL REGION CONVENTION



June 4 - 7, 2026
DAYTON, OHIO



**Layout Tours and Op Sessions
Model Contest,/Celebration, Displays,
Clinics, Self-Guided Tours, Consignment Sales & Banquet**



**Clinics
Held in
Three
Rooms**

Clinics Morning, Afternoon and Evening

Topics include: Prototype and Models that Followed,
Growing Up with the V & O plus Dayton & Troy Electric Railroad

**Model Contests/Celebration:
Models Judged by AP**

Company Store: Will be offering Convention Cars

Self-Guided Local Attractions:

Rail Tours, Non-rail Activities, including area Museums and Historical sites

Layout Tours & OP Sessions: Self Guided Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Evening Displays: T-Trak

Consignment Sales: Sell your excess items

Banquet Speake: Otto M. Vondrak

Clinic Topic

The Impact of Allen McClelland's
Virginia & Ohio

Banquet Topic:

90 Years of the RMC History



For More Information and Reservations

Scan
QR
Code



Host Hotel - Marriott University of Dayton

Eighth Annual NMRA Division 6

Train Show

Cambridge Ohio

Sunday

October 25, 2026

10 am to 3 pm

Pritchard Laughlin Center
7033 Glenn Hwy
Cambridge OH 43725

Easy Access from I-70 and I-77



**OPERATING
MODEL TRAINS**

HANDICAP ACCESS

ALL SCALES

ACCESSORIES

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HOBBY TOOLS & SUPPLIES

NMRA
● ● ● ●
BUCKEYE DIVISION

Check out our website for a listing for more information:

<https://www.nmrabuckeyedivision.org/train-show>

Vendors Contact Greg - (740) 607-3223 - nmrabuckeyedivision@gmail.com



Three Rivers Division of the **NMRA**

Train Show and Swap Meet

Saturday Nov 21, 2026

10:00am - 4:00pm

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

4000 Parnell Avenue Fort Wayne IN 46805

Admission: Adults \$8.00

Children: 12 and Under Free

NMRA Members: w/card \$5.00

Hourly Door Prizes

Children's Activities

All Gauges

Two Train Set Drawings

Rail Fan Items

Handicap Accessible

Over 170 Tables

Food Service

Contact

Don Hanley c/o NMRA Div 3 Show Superintendent for Table Reservations

19123 Maples Rd Monroeville, IN 46773

(775) 636-5725 or 3Riverstrainshow@gmail.com

