



THE CAR HOUSE

November 17th, 2004

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF DIVISION 8
NORTH CENTRAL REGION - NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
<http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>

Superintendent, **Fred Cosgrove**, called the meeting of Division 8 to order at 7:10 PM. The meeting was held at the Troy Christian Chapel with thirty people in attendance.

Visitors

No visitors this month.

Show and Tell / Clinic Photos



Show and tell

The theme of this month was anything from West Virginia or something related to the Norfolk & Western. We had a number of items relating to West Virginia including a New York, Philadelphia & Western boxcar, a C&O hopper and a book on West Virginia railroads. Items related to the N&W included numerous class Y6b 2-8-8-2 steam locomotives, a couple of class A 2-6-6-4 steam locomotives, one Y3 class 2-8-8-2 steam locomotive, a class J 4-8-4 steam locomotive, a few N&W boxcars, an N&W caboose, an N&W hopper, a Hallmark ornament, a couple of books about the N&W, and finally a letter to an N&W agent from a C&O agent from the early 20th century.

Minutes Approval

The October meeting minutes were approved as written after a motion to approve by **Terry Bossick**, which was seconded by **Gene Kome**. The lone dissenting vote cast by John of course.

Paymaster's Report

\$4,498.90 in total assets. **Marv Linke** reported that the division assets were down from the previous month due to expenses incurred for the new division recruitment display and the purchase of 48 convention cars for the 2005 NCR convention. The recruitment display was shown by the show and tell items.

Old Business

Nominating committee update

- **Joel Goldberg** volunteered for the committee
- The committee's duties are to find volunteers to run for the division officer/board positions. Committee members accrue ½ credit per month served on the committee toward their AP NMRA volunteer certificate.

BOD Election Notice

- Election will be held at the January 2005 Division 8 meeting.
- You must be present to vote.
- Only the treasurer is not term-limited, all of the other positions (president, secretary and director) must have new volunteer.

Current candidates

President – **Curt Danielewicz**

Treasurer – **Marv Linke**

Secretary – None

Director – None

The following is the section from the division constitution that covers officers:

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

SECTION 1. A Board of Directors whose membership shall consist of the current officers together with two directors, one of whom shall be the most recently retiring Division Superintendent, shall manage the operation of the Division. The term of office for officers and directors shall be two years.

SECTION 2. Officers of the Division shall consist of a Superintendent (Chief Executive Officer), A Dispatcher (Secretary), and a Paymaster (Treasurer) elected from the regular membership. The duties of the officers shall be that as commonly accepted for officers of those positions.

SECTION 3. No person shall serve in the same elected office for more than two consecutive terms. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to remove any officer for reasons of malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonefficiency and to hold an election at the next meeting for replacement of same.

New Business

None

Announcements

- Division 6 will be holding their annual Trainshow this coming Sunday.
- There will be a Model Trainshow and sale at Troy Athens High School on February 27th, 2005.
- The March 2005 GATS show (a 2 day show) will be in conflict with the Gratiot Valley Swap and Shop (1 day show).
- SONS (Society of N Scalpers) is seeking a new home for their layout. If you are aware of any facilities please let them know about them.
- A very good reason to belong to the NMRA is access to the insurance rates and coverages offered to NMRA members. The SONS joined the NMRA as a club and were able to substantially lower the insurance premium with the NMRA insurance coverage while receiving much higher liability coverage.

Convention Updates

2005 NCR Convention

The next meeting for the NCR 2005 convention will be held on Thursday January 13th 2005, location to be determined. The last meeting was held at the convention hotel, where 7 members of the convention committee, **Curt Danielewicz, Joel Goldberg, Douglas Liefeld, Gene Kome, Jim Sieradzinski** and **Rick and Marie Ware**, along with NCR model contest chair, **Roger Austin**, discussed plans for the convention and toured the hotel. Everyone was impressed by the facility and planning is progressing well. A convention budget should be established by January along with the pricing structure for the convention. Additional division 8 volunteers are needed to completely staff the planning committee and more division 8 volunteers will be needed as the convention draws nearer. The 2004 NCR convention turned out to be a great success based on the hard work and careful planning put in by the division 5 members from Lansing. Please remember a few items:

- The profit from the convention will go to the division treasury and benefit all of the division members.
- This is the first convention planning experience for most, if not all, of the current committee members. Don't be afraid to volunteer because you don't have experience.
- The success (or failure) of the convention will be a reflection on the entire division. Let's put on a good show for the entire NCR and throw an even better convention than Lansing had this year!
- More hands will make for less work individually! Please help your fellow division members throw a memorable convention.

2007 National Convention

Dave Thornton announced that the 2007 committee would be holding their next meeting at the Steam Railroading Institute (Project 1225) in Owosso on Saturday November 20th, 2004.

Trustee's Report

The NMRA BOD nominated **Dave Thornton** for the central district director's opening. The NCR, as well as the MCR and MWR will be incorporated into the central district per the new NMRA bylaws that were approved this past spring, the election will take place in the spring of 2005. The last meeting of the current BOD will take place in January 2005. The NMRA will operate under the new bylaws beginning in July 2005 and the regions, as well as the divisions are reviewing and revising their bylaws as appropriate to be compliant with the new national bylaws.

Highlights of the national bylaw changes:

- Uber-membership – a person pays a single membership fee and belongs to all levels (national, regional, divisional) of the NMRA.
- Regions and divisions will most likely need to charge for subscriptions to newsletters and magazines. This is due to the national not reimbursing the regions and divisions at the level of funding the regions and divisions previously received with separate memberships at each level of the organization. Divisions will also need to resolve funding issues in regard to meeting space rental since this is a large expense with some divisions.
- **Tim Fisher** is seeking volunteers to organize the NCR membership list by zip code, rather than by county, for assignment to specific divisions. This will help the national organization assign people to the correct division since they only have access to city, state and zip code for members.

Hints and Tips

Marv Linke mentioned that by e-mailing model railroad suppliers, you may be able to purchase items that may not be typically offered for sale. Marv related how he contacted Railway Express Miniatures and was able to purchase an entire sprue of die cast N Scale switch motors that are typically provided with kits and not offered for separate sale.

Clinic

Curt Danielewicz gave an introduction to his video program on the Norfolk and Western Pocahontas division in West Virginia and on some of the coalmines and processing plants in the area. Curt shot some of the video during a trip over the 1988 Memorial Day weekend and the remainder of the footage over the 1997 Labor Day weekend. Obviously coal trains ruled the presentation!

Upcoming Clinic and Show & tell

Our annual photograph and slide presentation will be the clinic and show & tell for the December meeting. Members are invited to bring their favorite photograph(s) or slide(s), please limit to not more than 6 per member, that they have not shown at a division meeting previously.

Schedule

The next Division 8 meeting will be held at 7 PM on Thursday, December 16th, 2004 at the Troy Christian Chapel. The Troy Christian Chapel is located at 400 East Long Lake Road (south side) between Livernois Road and Rochester Road.

Website

Please note that the division URL is changing to the one below and update your browser bookmarks/favorites as the old URL will not be functional after mid-December.

Division 8 Online – <http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>

2005 NCR Convention – <http://ncr2005.ncr-nmra.org>

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Curt Danielewicz, Secretary

Larry Lauer
37021 Sandalwood
Farmington, MI 48331

First Class Mail

