

THE CAR HOUSE

December 16, 1999
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF DIVISION 8
NORTH CENTRAL REGION - NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
Division 8 Online: www.tir.com/~syracuse/
December 1999 MEETING MINUTES

The December 16, 1999 meeting of Division 8 of the North Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association was called to order at 7:05 PM by Superintendent John Ainslie. The meeting was held at Troy Christian Chapel. Twenty-seven people were in attendance.

VISITORS

We had one visitor, Craig Hanes, who models in On3.

SHOW AND TELL

As is traditional for December, the theme for this month's Show and Tell was "Favorite Slides". We had a wide variety of slides, featuring both model and prototype photographs.

PAYMASTER'S REPORT

Gene Kome, Paymaster, reported the following balances:
Checking: \$374.57.
Savings and C.D.: \$3394.57.

Also, Gene reminded us that dues for the year 2000 are now due.

MINUTES APPROVED

The November minutes were approved as written.

CLINIC

This month's clinic was "NMRA Achievement Program", by Dan Lewis. Dan Lewis is NCR Achievement Program Chair, and Division 8 Achievement Program Chairman. (The NMRA Achievement Program Chair is Pete Moffett.) Here is some information on the NMRA Achievement Program:

- There are eleven different **A.P. Awards**. These are divided into four categories. Becoming a **Master Model Railroader** requires receiving at least seven of these awards, with at least one in each of the four categories.

- Becoming a **MMR** is like earning a Master's Degree in Model Railroading.
- Having a "game plan" will help you achieve this.
- You're probably part way there already!
- Currently, there are almost 300 **MMR**'s. Three people have earned all eleven **A.P. Awards**.
- There are six **MMR**'s in Division 8: #28 Ed Black, #142 Irv Schulz, #231 Larry Lauer, #239 Mal Harvey, #268 Dan Lewis, and #279 Barry Snyder.
- Four Division 8 members are working toward **MMR** status: Terry Bossick, Jim Clements, Rad Jones, and Gene Kome.
- **GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD:** Less demanding than the A.P. Awards, this award is a great way to get started. Most people with a layout are at or near the qualifications for the **Golden Spike Award**.
- Four Division 8 members have received the **Golden Spike Award**: Jim Clements, Rad Jones, Gene Kome, and Dan Lewis.
- Judging your models for A.P. consideration can be done at convention contests or anytime convenient for you and an A.P. judge. (Contact Dan Lewis to make arrangements for this.)
- Models are judged on Craftsmanship, Prototype Fidelity, Finish, Added Detail, and How Much Scratchbuilding went into the model.
- **Volunteer** to be a judge: you will learn what judges look for in a model, and you will earn points toward your **Volunteer A.P. Award**.

GIVE KIDS THE WORLD

Rick Ware showed us a video of "Give Kids The World" 's Amberville G scale layout. Each NMRA region supplied a structure for the layout. Rick built a structure representing the NCR.

HINTS, TIPS, AND NEWS

- Irv Schulz says "Hello!" He is in good spirits and will soon be trying a new treatment.
- Gerry DeBoever and Audie Mansfield did a model railroading presentation at an elementary school recently. Their presentation featured a G scale railroad and was a big hit.
- John Ainslie and Uwe Thormaehlen set up a display case at the Chesterfield Library for National Model Railroad Month in November. They were invited back for next year and will have more space available.

UPCOMING CLINICS AND SUBJECTS FOR SHOW & TELL

- January Clinic: "Easy Easements," by Dave Thornton.
 - Show-and-Tell: "What I Got For Christmas."

SCHEDULE

- The next Division 8 meeting will be held at 7 PM on Thursday, January 20, 1999 at Troy Christian Chapel. Troy Christian Chapel is located at 400 East Long Lake Road (south side) between Livernois Road and Rochester Road.
- Gratiot Valley Train Show: March 5, 10am – 3pm, Macomb Community College Sports and Expo Center, N.W. corner Hayes and Martin Rd.

WEBSITES

- NMRA:
www.nmra.org
- North Central Region: The *HOTBOX*:
www.detnews.com/metro/hobbies/hotbox/
- Division 8 Online:
www.tir.com/~syracuse/
- Gratiot Valley Railroad Club:
www.michvhf.com/~gvrr/
- Society of N Scalers:
members.xoom.com/sonsrom
- Stoney Creek Model R.R. Club:
www.metronet.lib.mi.us/ROCH/scmrrc
- Curt Danielewicz, Division 8 Scribe:
www.ameritech.net/users/cd/trains1.html

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Russ Syracuse, Secretary