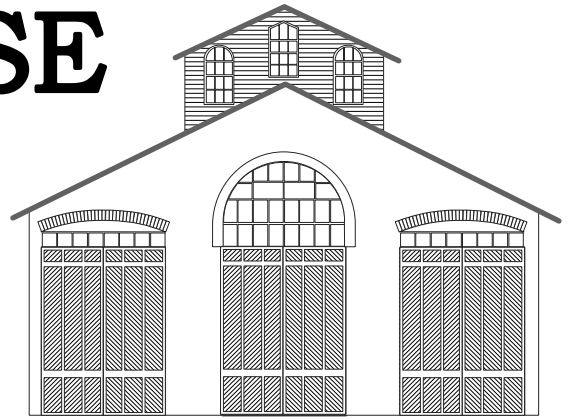
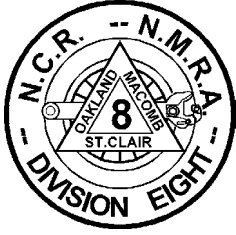


# THE CAR HOUSE

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Division 8 North Central  
Region  
National Model Railroad  
Association  
December 18, 2008  
Website - <http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>



## Call to Order

The Regular meeting of Division 8 was called to order at 7:05 PM. Approximately 40 members and visitors were present. This month's meeting featured members favorite photos, slides and videos that covered a wide range of subjects. We thank all who participated in this annual version of **Show and Tell**.

## Division 8 Business and Finances

Treasurer **John Jackson** reports our regular checking account balance is \$1421.77. This is in addition to our two CD's which have a total value of \$3100. Had we invested this amount with **Bernie Madoff**, the current balance would be \$.03.

## Announcements

Beginning with this issue of the Car House we are adding more members to the e-mail distribution list. All who have indicated an e-mail address on their annual membership form will receive an e-mailed CH. Those who have no e-mail address will continue to receive a mailed copy. This move will reduce the overhead of printing and stamps.

Circle January 25th on your NMRA calendar for the Division 8 Winter Layout tour. **Kirk Bucher** and **Gil LaLond** will both have their outstanding layouts open. Flyers will be available at the January Division 8 meeting.

Also coming up on January 18 is the Troy Train show. This has been a very popular event in past years. Go to [www.troytrainshow.com](http://www.troytrainshow.com) for details.

## Inspiration for 2009

You might remember last year I suggested a plan for the year would be to get organized and have a definite plan for progressing on your layout. In the past months I've visited many layouts, including those open for the Fast Freight 08 convention in Toledo. If a layout seems overwhelming and your own efforts seem lacking by comparison, here's a couple of questions to ask the host, politely, or course. First, how long has the layout been under construction, and second, has the owner had help in construction. If a layout has been a group effort, and you are working alone that is an unfair comparison. Visiting layouts, I've found myself saying to myself, wow, listen to those sound equipped engines, I don't know anything about sound, or look at those signals, I don't know how signals work on a model railroad, or I'm really foggy on the fine points of DCC. So my point is, in 2009, pick a subject you know nothing or very little about, and learn about it. Ask your pals, read a book, bug your hobby dealer, and later share your new found knowledge with others.

## Upcoming Schedule

The next meeting of Division 8 of the NCR of the NMRA will be held at 7:00 PM on January 15, 2009 at the Troy Christian Chapel located at 400 E. Long Long Lake Road in Troy on the south side of the street between Livernois Road and Rochester Road.

**The clinic for the meeting will be on DPM kits, how to enhance and kit-bash the basic kits presented by Dan Lewis. The Show and Tell subject will be holiday gifts-- an engine, structure kit, or anything else received, or, a current project.**

The December meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM (EST), with a small group heading over to the Troy Big Boy restaurant for a late dinner.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Saul Kalbfeld, Division 8, NCR-NMRA Secretary**