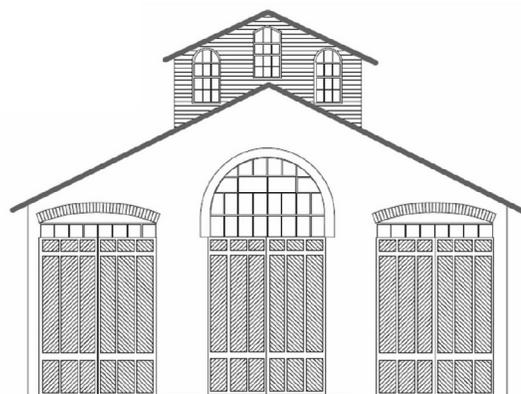


THE CAR HOUSE

Monthly Newsletter of
Division 8 North Central Region
National Model Railroad
Association



Website: <http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>



December 17, 2009

The News

Member Overflow Meeting Room

Troy, MI: The “good seats” were already taken as members arrive for December’s meeting as this photo attests.



In a standing-room-only setting, members were treated to a great clinic, a mini-clinic, and a Show-and-Tell array of railroadana and current projects.

Free-Mo Layout at NTS 2010

Troy, MI: Bill Gawthrop reports that the planning is well underway for the Free-Mo layout at the National Train Show 2010 (held in conjunction with the NMRA Convention.) Currently there are a dozen participants bringing 42 modules. The layout is planned to occupy approximately 4,500 ft² at this time.

Election Planned for January Meeting

Troy, MI: At the January meeting nominations will be taken and an election will be held to fill the remaining term of Board of Director, Allen Crowley. Al recently moved to Florida.

Model of the Quarter Contest

Troy, MI: Don’t forget that the judging for the Model-of-the-Quarter contest (St. Paul Flag Stop) will be at the January meeting.

News from National

Troy, MI: Dave Thorton reports that the NMRA announced in a press release (via Model Railroader and on the NMRA.org website) that the NMRA and the California State Railroad Museum (CSRM) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) paving the way for development of a model railroading exhibit at CSRM. The MOU anticipates a model railroading exhibit of 3,500 ft².

Dave also reports that the NMRA is kicking off a fund raiser known as the “Diamond Club” whose revenue would be used to improve the library, especially focusing on digitizing the archives.

NMRA Convention

Troy, MI: Mike McCreight reported that the VIP packs have been mailed to NMRA 75th Convention registrants.

Larry Lauer Hospitalized

Farmington Hills, MI: Larry Lauer is now back at home after being hospitalized for congestive heart failure. Please say a hello to Larry in person or via mail. He lives at 37021 Sandalwood, Farmington, Hills, MI 48331.

December 17, 2009

SHOW & TELL

Meeting participants presented a wide array of items during show and tell. The topic was railroadana. Of course, current projects were also fair game.



Jim Zinser offered a stock certificate issued by Lionel

Larry Wolohon brought in 4 switch locks from:

- Great Northern
- Pennsylvania
- Michigan Central
- Rock Island



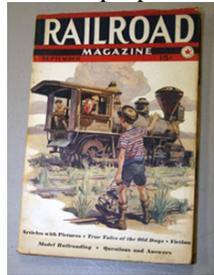
Saul Kalbfeld brought an animated Mobilgas sign atop a warehouse building flat.



He also brought in a photo of an NYC switcher servicing an industrial site.



Bill Moore offered a copy of the September 1938 issue of *Railroad* magazine. Per Bill this magazine is chock full of “pulp fiction.”



Dan Lewis brought in his date nail display. These nails span the timeframe of 1912 to 1958.



Rick Ware brought in a telephone book from the Chessee System. This directory is in loose-leaf format, tabbed by location.

Gene Kome showed off his Erie Railroad lantern. This one had a red lens.



Bill Gawthrop brought in a display case with promotional materials, passes, rules & regulations book, and belt buckle from the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.



Paul Runyan offered a belt buckle with “Safety First” slogan from the Duluth Missabe & Iron Range Railroad. The buckle was given to Paul by a friend whose father worked for the DM&IR in



Proctor, MN.

Phil Doolittle brought a book of paintings edited by Robert Goldsborough. Phil purchased this book at the train show at Rock Financial Center last weekend.



December 17, 2009

Tim Fisher brought a “flare kit.” This unique container has room for flares, fuzee’s, flags, and torpedoes.



John Jackson brought in four conductor's books from the Southern Railway including train manifests, crews, dates, times, and engine.

He also brought in a rule book that covers five major roads serving the Washington, DC area including Southern B&O, RF&P, C&O, and Pennsy.

Phil Maaske brought in HO scale Santa Fe, New Mexico Santa Fe station and small adobe hut both of which he scratchbuilt. The station, by the way, was still in use when Phil visited the area last September.



Dave Katona brought a Pullman blanket and pillow case. The “9” on the blanket indicates that it was produced in the 9th year of the contract with the blanket vendor. In this case the year was 1944.



Jim Dennis brought in a New York Central stock certificates. One certificate is for the Michigan Central the other is for the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad.



Ken Scherer brought a railroad spike from the GTW found in the 1960's in Royal Oak.



Dean Pyers brought in an HO scale Conrail covered hopper which he weathered using techniques learned from a clinic at the NCR Convention in Fort Wayne. Dean used Windex, cosmetics sponges, Q-tips and paint to achieve the effective appearance.



Walt Connell showed a AT&SF marker caboose lamp. He also brought in a Port Huron & Detroit Historical Society calendar and modeler's notebook.



December 17, 2009

Roger Austin showed an HO scale Ann Arbor 70 ton covered hopper. This is a Bowser kit weathered with grimy black overspray and rust simulated using thinned artist oil.



Bob Scherer brought in a spike found in the Hancock / Calumet, Michigan area. The spike is engraved "Soo Line."



Ed Black presented a mini-seminar on **scratch-building** the HO scale Sullivan-Gawthrop Collieries. Ed discussed his method of building hard-to-reach areas on his layout.

Before beginning, Ed researches the subject. He then begins to conceptualize the structures / module, culminating in a set of plan to build the module and its content.



In this case the subject is a drift type coal mine set in 1918 in southern Indiana.



He begins by sculpting a "module" base from foam on his work bench. The base is contoured in such a way to fit into the layout while minimizing exposed (to the viewer) seams. Ed then builds his structures onto the base. He then details the scene with flora, animals and people.

In this and most cases, Ed likes to scratch-build most everything for his



layout. His materials for this project included: Northeastern wood, paper, sheet styrene, brass tubing, floral wire, picture-hanging wire, Woodland Scenics foliage and ground foam, plaster cloth, drywall joint cement, hydrocal, Campbell corrugated roofing, Paper Creek tar paper roofing, and various paints, adhesives, and weathering compounds.

The mine, by the way gets its name from Sullivan County (Indiana) and [Bill] Gawthrop who provided some of the research materials and some [real] coal.

Thanks to all who participated in Show and Tell w.e.g

Please forward any and all errata to Bill Gawthrop, Car House editor at wegawthrop@aol.com. Virtual tomatoes are also welcome..... it's part of our quality improvement.....

December 17, 2009

This Month's Clinic

Ask the Railroader was the topic for this month's clinic. Vince Robinson and Bill McKnight chaired the session which opened the floor to meeting participants to ask any question about railroading.

Some of the topics included:

- MARS lights
- Anticlimbers on interurbans and EMD E & F units
- Electric power on heavy-weight passenger cars
- Discipline in railroad operations
 - Rules
 - Procedures
 - Timetables (employee and public)
 - Train orders



From left to right, Larry Wolohon introduces Bill McKnight and Vince Robinson.

Upcoming Events

1. **Now through January 2, 2010: South Oakland Model Railroad Club** layout at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm, Rochester, MI
2. **January 9-10, 23-24: Detroit Model Railroad Club:** Open House, Holly MI, <http://www.dmrcc.org>
3. **January 17, 2010: Troy Train Show.** Troy-Athens High School, Troy, MI
4. **January 17, 2010: Paris Junction Model Train Show,** sponsored by WOD /NFR / NMRA, <http://www.londongrs.com>
5. **February 21, 2010: Ann Arbor Train Show,** Saline Middle School, Saline, MI

January's Clinic

Weathering by Dan Lewis.

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Next Meeting's Show and Tell

The topic for next (January) meeting's Show and Tell is:

1. Present from the holidays
- or -
2. Result from your latest weathering project

Of course, you may bring in your prized current project as well.