



THE CAR HOUSE

January 17, 2002

**THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF DIVISION 8
NORTH CENTRAL REGION - NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD
ASSOCIATION**

January 2002 Meeting Minutes

Superintendent, **Fred Cosgrove**, called the meeting of Division 8 to order at 7:07 PM. The meeting was held at the Troy Christian Chapel with 41 people in attendance.

Visitors

We hosted 4 visitors this month: **Ron Philips** (HO scale), who's been in the hobby ~ 2 years; **Curt Bouchard** (member of South Oakland County RR and the Roundhouse Clubs) also an HO scaler with 4 years experience; **Warren Yohe** (another member of the SOC club) who's into HO and N scale with 10 years in the hobby; and finally, **Mark Wolman**, who was in HO scale and has G scale in his future plans.

Show and tell

This month's show and tell theme was holiday presents or kit-bashed items. In the holiday present category, we had books on the life of a Pennsylvania RR engineer, a centennial history of the American Car and Foundry company, the transcontinental railroad, the 9th volume of the Rio Grande Southern set and a Hartford Insurance company book on boiler accidents from the late 1800's. Some members also received rolling stock like the Athearn Genesis F units and Pacific type steam locomotives, the Bachman Spectrum Consolidation type steamer, the Kato SD40 diesel locomotive and a G scale commemorative St Clair tunnel reefer. One member received an Atlas signal tower kit from his grandson and of course, there were the usual 'knick-knack' type gifts that were represented by a set of chocolate trains and a steam engine clock. The ultimate holiday present was probably **Terry Bossick's** present of a CERA railfanning trip to Cuba. Kit-bashed items presented for show and tell included: GN plywood sheathed boxcar, a diesel conversion of a 0-4-0 steam locomotive, a 2 story building lowered to 1 story, a RGS bridge, an O scale F7b unit, a K-line 4-bay hopper and Jordan spreader converted from hi-rail to scale use, a German guitar factory converted to an American factory and a kitbash of DPM kits.



Photos courtesy of Phil Kenyon

Clinic

George Anderson presented this month's clinic on converting the Walther's Columbia Feed mill into the Rochester elevator. George explained the methodology that he follows in building a replica of an actual structure that maintains the character of the structure while compromising on items that are of lesser importance. In summary, George researches the prototype by visiting the site, taking photos and determining the "character" of the structure. He then looks for kit in catalogs or hobby shops that would make a good starting point for the structure. George then studies the available space on the layout to determine how the kit-bashed structure will best fit. This step leads into the next step of planning the revisions that need to be made to the kit to replicate the prototype structure while fitting into the area available on the layout. Finally comes the steps of gathering the kit and items needed to convert it into the model version of the subject structure, modifying and building the components and detailing the scene.



Minutes Approval

Terry Bossick made a motion to accept the December meeting minutes as written after **Fred Cosgrove** asked if anyone had corrections to note. The motion passed unanimously.

Paymaster's Report

Don Varney, Paymaster, reported the following balances:

Checking: \$ 1,164.04

Certificate: \$ 3,661.81

NCR Trustee's Report

Dave Thornton informed the division of the following changes at the regional level:

- **Dan Lewis** is stepping down as the **Achievement Program** manager. Dan will maintain his position as the photo contest chairman with the region.
- **Larry Wolohan** has volunteered to take on the AP manager's position, but is stepping down from his position as the model contest chairman. Any volunteers who would like to take over as the NCR model contest chairman should contact Dave ASAP.

Dave also gave the division a status report on the 2007 National NMRA convention bid:

- **Henry Jordan**, the national convention chairman, was in Detroit the week between Christmas and New Years. He scouted the metro area's hotels and restaurants to begin determining which candidates would be able offer the best package to the NMRA to ensure low costs while giving the greatest benefits.
- The Detroit Convention Bureau will send a representative, free of charge, to the NMRA board of trustee's meeting to "sell" the metro area as an ideal site for the convention. The DCB will also work with the planning committee on choosing a date, during the normal convention window, that will have as few conflicts as possible with other area events.
- If the convention is downtown, there is a good possibility that the convention HQ would be at the hotel in the RenCen and the National Trainshow would be at Cobo.
- The turnout of people from divisions 1, 3, 5 and 10 willing to work on the convention has been very good. There was even an offer to print the registration materials free of charge from a printer in Lansing!
- Dave would like to have the initial meeting of the convention committee on the last weekend of February. There is a scheduling conflict that would prevent the use of the Troy Christian Chapel as the site for the meeting, so stay tuned.

Announcements

- The operations special interest group (OPSIG) is having their operating weekend in the Detroit area the weekend of April 15th.
- The site for this fall's NCR convention has been chosen. Division 6 will be hosting the convention in Plymouth, MI at the Saint John's facility. The site is a former seminary that has been converted to a banquet facility. The convention will be held the weekend of October 11-13, 2002, with an award's brunch to be held the morning of the 13th.

Hints and Tips

Using the wet sponge technique to finish drywall joints is much faster and cleaner than sanding.

New Business

Gene Kome made a motion to donate \$100.00 to the Troy Christian Chapel for use of the facility for our division meetings. The motion was seconded by **Jim Clemens** and passed unanimously.

January Layout Tour

Dan Lewis has flyers available for the layout tour scheduled for Sunday, January 27th 2002. The flyers have a map and the participant's addresses and phone numbers, in case you get lost, as well as descriptions of their layouts.

Upcoming Clinic and Show & tell

February's clinic will be a videotape, due to a clinician shortage. If you are interested in putting on a clinic, contact **Larry Wolohan**. The show and tell for February will be your favorite modeling tool.

Schedule

The next Division 8 meeting will be held at 7 PM on Thursday, February 21st, 2002 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

Division 8 Online - http://members.tripod.com/ncr_division8

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Curt Danielewicz
Curt Danielewicz, Secretary