

# THE CAR HOUSE

March 18th, 2004

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF DIVISION 8  
NORTH CENTRAL REGION - NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION  
<http://www.division8-ncr-nmra.org>

Superintendent, **Fred Cosgrove**, called the meeting of Division 8 to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting was held at the Troy Christian Chapel with 31 people in attendance.

## Visitors

**Lynn Trent** was visiting again this month along with **Larry and Alex Bogert**. **Larry and Alex** both belong to the Gratiot Valley Model RR club and Michigan Transit Museum, welcome to the division!

## Show and Tell Photos





### **Show and tell**

We had a number of items relating to "the" golden spike at Promontory Point Utah, as well as a few items relating to other golden spike events. There were two displays of the Central Pacific engine "Jupiter" and Union Pacific #119, the displays were imported by PFM in early 1970's, the second spike (gold-plated steel) driven at the golden spike centennial, a photo of the 1883 Northern Pacific golden spike ceremony, photos of the replica "Jupiter" and UP#119 engines constructed for the National Park Service, photos of the Promontory Point National Historic Site, a model Union Pacific DD40A, two candy dishes featuring the Jupiter and #119, RR photos from the old Hazel Park high school library including the golden spike ceremony photo and a laser-cut wooden display of the Promontory Point ceremony. Also presented were a kit-bashed fur and hide plant (thankfully without odor detailing), a book on the NKP, photos of a home layout that is nearing a golden spike ceremony, a trackplan for a home layout. One member also presented a thesis on actual golden spike ceremonies and reported that the only "documented" gold spike ceremony occurred on the White Pass and Yukon RR.

### **Minutes Approval**

The February meeting minutes were unanimously approved as written.

### **Paymaster's Report**

**Fred Cosgrove** read Marv's report filed by e-mail reporting the following balances:

Checking: \$ 5,073.41

Total assets including the loan to the 2007 National convention committee are \$ 5,323.41

Marv reported that the division had 42 paid members and 3 life members.

***THIS WILL BE THE LAST CARHOUSE ISSUE MAILED TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT RENEWED FOR 2004.***

## Old Business

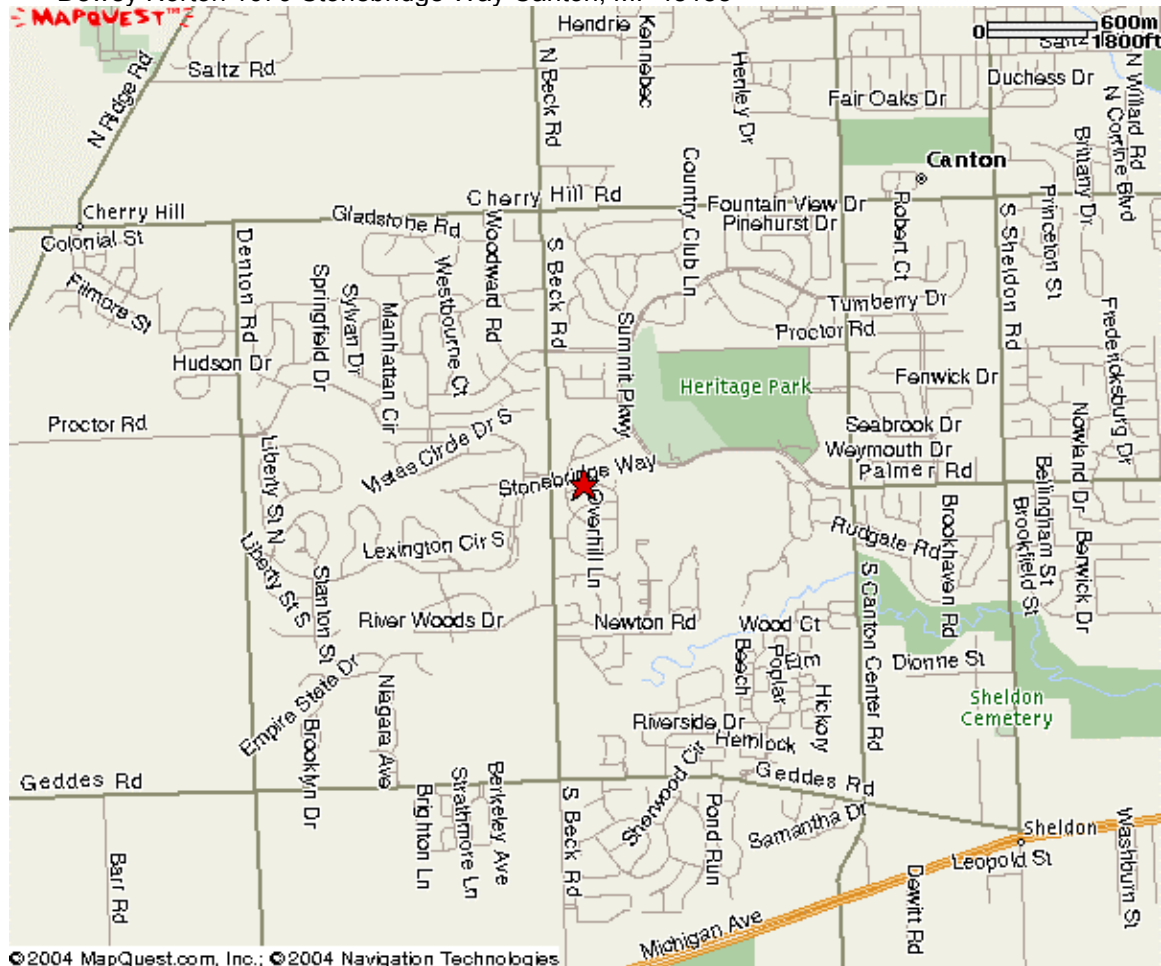
None

## New Business

- **Gene Kome** presented a motion to donate \$100 to the Troy Christian Chapel. This is our annual donation to the church for them allowing the division to meet on their premises. The motion passed unanimously.

## Announcements

- Division 6 will be holding a layout tour on April 4<sup>th</sup> featuring the home layouts of Dewey Norton and Larry Wright from 1 to 4 PM. Both layouts are in the Ford Road / I-275 area.
- Dewey Norton 1679 Stonebridge Way Canton, MI 48188



- **Dan Lewis** has layout tour applications for those members who wish to display their home layouts on the 2005 regional convention and/or the 2007 national convention.
- The Redford Model RR club flea market will be held on March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Livonia Recreation Center.
- **Tim Fisher** reported that The Durand Union Station group needs railroad-interested people to join their group to block an effort by Durand residents to take over the station. The residents want to turn the station into a community center and discontinue the Michigan RR museum archive, the gift shop and remove the Durand model RR club and the Ann Arbor and

Grand Trunk Western RR historical societies from the premises of the Durand depot. The DUSI group was given government grants to maintain the building and establish the RR museum of Michigan so the legality of the resident's plan is questionable, but the easiest route is to fill the member roster with people to vote in the current slate of officials. The residents have organized and recently filled the roster with people to vote in their slate of candidates who have no interest in the railroad history of the depot, let alone the government monies given to the depot to rehabilitate it and establish the RR museum.

- Jan Gromada, the division 10 (Flint) superintendent is hospitalized in the ICU from injuries incurred from an automobile accident in mid-March.
- **Jim Clements** is a source for Hydrocal and Structolite for scenery construction.
- The St Albert RR collectables show will be held on March 21.
- The Ohio Central RR will be holding an event called "2004 Trainfest" featuring steam locomotives Pere Marquette 1225 and Grand Trunk Western 6325. Visit the Grand Trunk Western Historical Society's website at <http://www.gtwhs.org> for more information on discounted advance tickets.
- The Ft Wayne 44-tonner locomotive engineer for an hour program will be back again this year according to **Terry Bossick**.

### **Convention Updates**

2005 NCR convention chairman **Curt Danielewicz** reported that the NCR board approved the proposal for the NCR to assume primary financial responsibility for the regional conventions and that the board gave **Tim Fisher** the authority to sign the contract with the Marriott Centerpointe for the Division 8-sponsored 2005 regional convention in particular. Monthly convention committee meetings will be scheduled soon to begin detailing the convention and assemble the presentation to be given at this year's NCR convention in Lansing. More volunteers are needed for the convention committee, please inquire with Curt or check the division 8 website for additional information.

2007 National convention chairman **Dave Thornton** reported that the last meeting of the national convention committee was held at the Detroit Marriott in the Renaissance Center. Dave reported that everyone on the committee was very impressed with the facility and that it is one of the best convention centers that the NMRA will have used for a national convention. The committee has chosen a logo for the convention and they are having shirts produced featuring the logo to promote the convention. Dave was sporting a maroon knit polo shirt that sells for \$24.50 and there is also a white polo shirt for \$16.50. The next committee meeting will be in Toledo on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, check the website for a map to the meeting site.

### **Trustee's Report**

- **Dave Thornton** reminded everyone to vote on the proposed changes to the NMRA bylaws, ballots need to be returned by the end of April.
- The NMRA board of trustees met in Cincinnati last month and they were treated to a preview of the upcoming national convention that will be there in 2005. Among the items discussed at the meeting were the patent filings covering sound systems, smoke generators, and DCC among other areas made by MTH. The NMRA is looking into different ways to dispute the patent filings and they may team up with manufacturers from the MRIA to fight MTH.
- The NMRA finished \$19,000.00 in the black for the 2003 fiscal year.
- The NMRA is running a \$1,700.00 deficit for the 2004 fiscal year, but the NMRA is still settling the claims due to the cancellation of the 2003 National Trainshow.
- Dave reminded everyone that this year's national convention will be held in Seattle Washington.
- The 2007 national convention received some free publicity in the Detroit Free Press recently when a reported covering the Gratiot Valley show and sale stated at the end of the story that

Detroit will be hosting the All-star game in 2005, the Super Bowl in 2006 and the National model railroad convention in 2007.

- The NCR convention will be held in Lansing over October 22<sup>nd</sup> thru the 24<sup>th</sup> this fall.

### **Hints and Tips**

- Michigan Plywood, located near 7 mile road and I-75, is a source for many thicknesses of specialty plywood used in cabinet making.
- The Tool bin, located in Gibraltar Trade Center North, is a good source for inexpensive tools.
- The Whistle stop hobby shop is running specials until the end of March.

### **Upcoming Clinic and Show & tell**

The April clinic will be a presentation of railroad police by Anthony Rzucidlo, the president of the Michigan RR club. The show and tell subject will be anything related to railroad police.

### **Schedule**

The next Division 8 meeting will be held at 7 PM on Thursday, April 15th, 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**

Division 8 Online – <http://www.division8-ncr-nmra.org>

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Curt Danielewicz, Secretary

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***First Class Mail***

