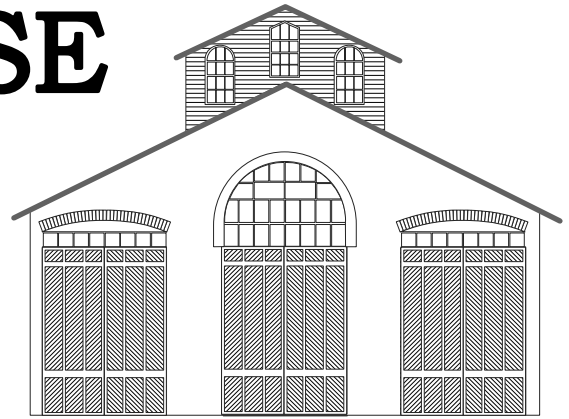
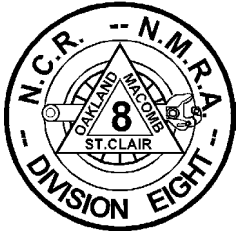


# THE CAR HOUSE

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Division 8 North Central  
Region  
National Model Railroad  
Association  
March 20, 2008  
Website - <http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>



## Call to Order

The March, 2008 meeting of Division 8 was called to order at 7:03 PM. All officers were present. 28 regular members were present. I did not count the irregular members. I read in the Free Press this past weekend that the Detroit Michigan Central depot appears to be doomed. This is a sad development for those of us who passed through the majestic waiting room and over the expanse of platforms. Again this month, thanks to **President Jerry Shanek** for the several digital photos in this issue.

## Show and Tell

This month's topic was resin freight cars. **Larry Wolohon** brought in a Westerfield B&O hopper that he built about 20 years ago. He commented that it has been built with GOO cement. One challenge of construction is making sure the ends and sides are squared. Larry also offered some comments on the Henry Flagler mansion in Florida that he has toured. The house is an expansive structure of 68,000 square feet. Flagler built the Florida East Coast Railroad from Jacksonville to Key West. The line was abandoned south of Miami after the disastrous 1935 hurricane. **Jim Zinser** also showed off a Westerfield model, his being a Houston and Texas Central stock car. **Rick Ware's** current project seen below is a series of coaches for his model of the Cass Scenic Railway.



**Peter Jacobson** offered several items this month. He showed off a Right Track Southern caboos, also a new Westerfield N&W hopper kit, and finally, a farm silo based on a recent RMC article. Peter also commented that he scrapped a layout over the weekend. Most of us who have been in the hobby for a while can relate. He said it didn't take long. There's pain in the process, but also hope that perhaps something better will emerge. **Bill Moore** showed a F&C high side gondola kit, a Rutland drop bottom car. He installed Reboxx semi-scale wheels in place of RP-25 wheels. He commented that the parts didn't quite fit. Also, Bill said that while weathering the model he found that Rustall will not work over Tester's dullcote. A brief discussion followed with **Stu Sonta** offering the suggestion that Rustall be applied first, followed by Dullcote. Someone commented a similar look can be achieved using alcohol that has been shaded with india ink. Also, Floquil flat finish does not react with these weathering techniques. **Dave Thornton** is working on a stainless steel control panel. The panel has been drilled for the toggle switches and striped for the routes.

Show and Tell car from  
the February meeting

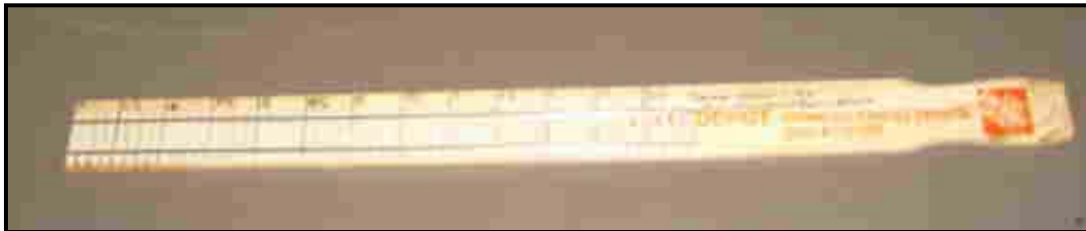


## Show and Tell continued

**Tim Fisher**, ATSF fan showed off a group of ice reefers. He gave a brief outline of his weathering techniques to get coated with dirt but not streaked look. Sounds a little like Bond's martini--shaken, not stirred. The formula he mentioned is Alcohol--50%, Roof Brown--25%, Black--25%. Making a number of washes, lighter and darker, will produce cars that all look different.



**Jim Dennis** showed a nice NYC rider coach, originally a standard 22 window car, that has the 12 center windows blanked. These cars were commonly tacked on the ends of mail trains and provided accommodation for crew riders. They provided heat, a toilet and bunks. I remember these well from my days growing up near the Mohawk Valley. **Stu Sonta**, our resident Z Scaler showed a barn framework that is under construction. **Bill Gawthrop** brought in another F&C kit, a coal hopper. Sorry, no further details are available. Yet another Westerfield model from **Ed Black**, this one a 1903 era wood box car. Ed pointed out that the hump in the roof was not intended, but rather, a result in the imperfections resin casting. Given the age and era of the model, it is not entirely out of place. **John Jackson** brought in a car weighing device made from a paint stirrer. Any brand will work--HD, Lowe's, Ace, just not warped. Impressive how it works, but I forgot the details. Sorry, ask John for the secret of how it works. **Doug Kass**, a member of the GV club, showed an SP caboose with automatic uncouplers on both ends. Impressive. Solenoids drive the coupler opening and closing action. Also, Doug is a new member of Division 8. He models in HO scale and has the Donner Pass area of the SP as his area of interest. Thanks to all who participated in this month's Show and Tell.



## Division 8 Business and Finances

Chief bean counter **John Jackson** reports that the Division has \$1888.45 in the checking account in addition to the two thousand dollar CD's. We did not win the last lottery mega-drawing. We have five members on the cusp who have not renewed their annual user fee. So, in summary we currently have 77 active members in the group.

The minutes of the February meeting, in the form of that month's CH were approved and seconded after a correction from Dave Thornton regarding the amount of money the NCR received from GLE2007, which was about \$3000.00 instead of \$300.00.

## Old Business

Free-MO update: **Bill Gawthrop** reports that a speaker has been booked for the event that will probably be on a Wednesday or Thursday evening near the end of April or beginning of May. 36 people have signed up for a presentation to be at the Livonia Civic Center. The basic principles of the modules include standard end (base) plates, DCC power and control cables, and broad curves. In HO scale, code 83 track is standard.

## New Business

**Bill Gawthrop** is one of several members interested in photographing GTW equipment still in the GT "noodle" paint scheme. This garb is quickly giving way to CN red.





**SHOW AND TELL ITEMS  
FROM THE FEBRUARY  
MEETING**

**Announcements**

There is still time to vote for **Dave Thornton** for NMRA director on the mail in ballot included with the February Scale Rails. Dave also expressed an interest in having an all B&O theme night. Also he corrected the amount of money the NCR gleaned from GLE2007. I believe he said the amount is \$3000.00, not \$300.00.

**Thanks to Marv Linke for his excellent presentation on making molds and castings at the March Meeting.**

**Upcoming Schedule**

The next meeting of Division 8 of the NCR of the NMRA will be held at 7:00 PM on April 17, 2008 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 Show and Tell for the meeting will be anything relating to steam power, or a current project.**

The March meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM followed by the second part of the meeting at the Troy Big Boy Restaurant.



**Remember these two  
conventions coming up this  
summer.**

