



THE CAR HOUSE

April 15th, 2004

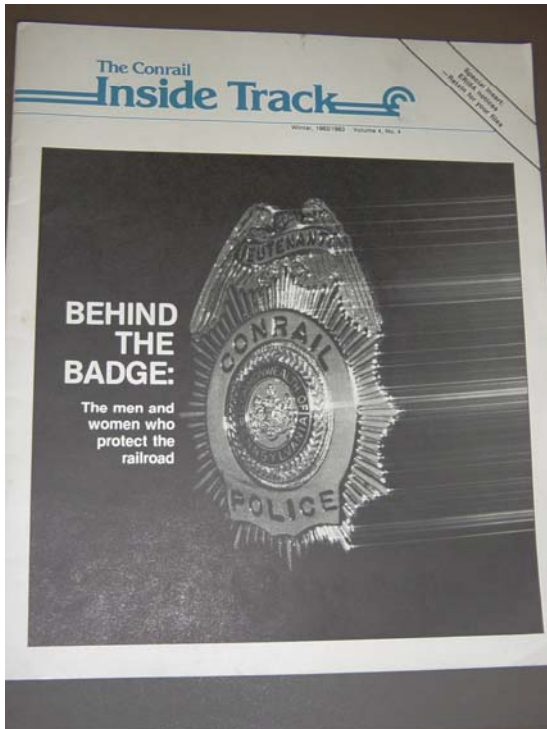
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF DIVISION 8
NORTH CENTRAL REGION - NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
<http://www.division8-ncr-nmra.org>

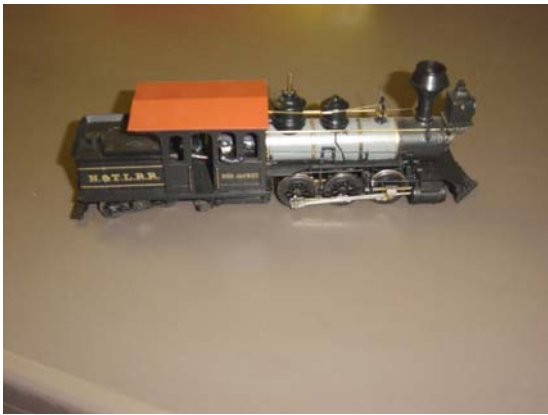
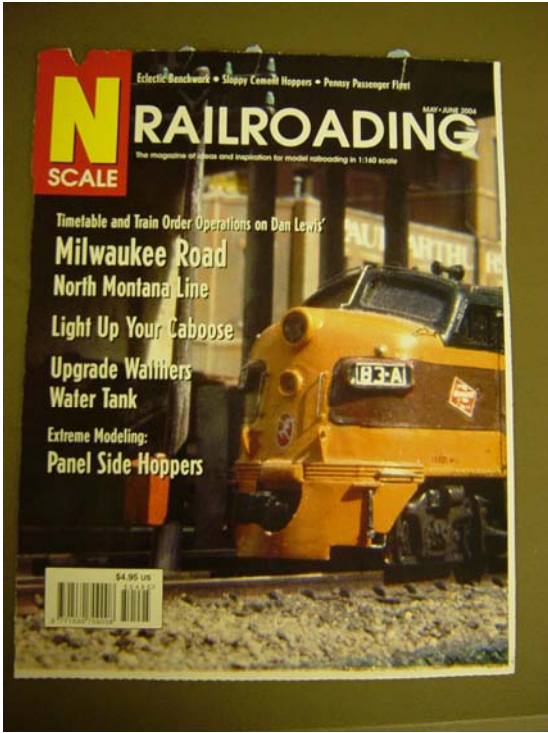
Superintendent, **Fred Cosgrove**, called the meeting of Division 8 to order at 7:05 PM. The meeting was held at the Troy Christian Chapel with 32 people in attendance.

Visitors

Carol Knapp (1st VP of the Michigan RR Club), **Anthony Rzucidlo** (President of the Michigan RR Club) and **Kim Rzucidlo** were visiting the division this month. Anthony was our clinician this month.

Show and Tell / Clinic Photos





Show and tell

We had a number of items relating to railroad police and railroad safety this month, they consisted of: a Conrail employee magazine from 1982 with an article on the Conrail police unit, a photo of a female RR police officer on bicycle patrol, three enamel pins representing the BC Rail, CN and CP police, PRR western region and E-L employee timetables, control panels from a home layout, a magazine with an article on timetable and train order operation, a boxcab diesel with DCC decoder, a GN sheriff's badge, straight and curved sections of Homabed, wire armature deciduous and white pine trees, an MC station agent rule book, an Operation Lifesaver handout and a miniature lantern.

Minutes Approval

The March meeting minutes were approved after a motion by **Gene Kome** to accept as written. John "the steam bigot" cast the lone nay vote.

Paymaster's Report

Marv Linke reported that the division had total assets, including the loan to the 2007 National convention committee, of \$ 5,331.56

Marv reported that the division had 47 paid members and 3 life members, up 5 paid members from last month.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

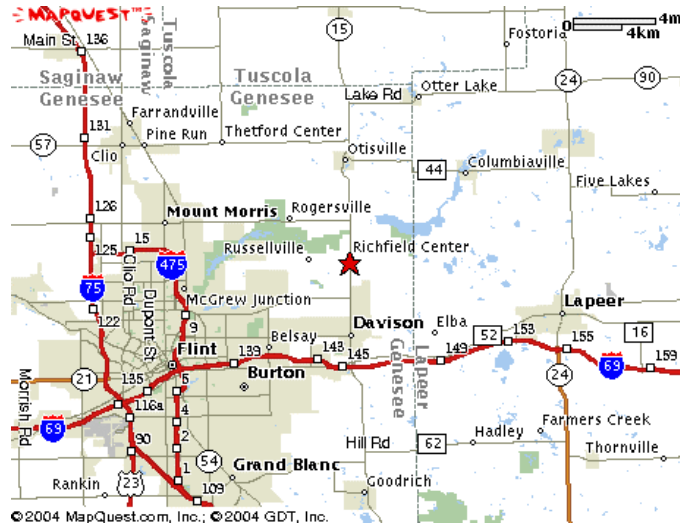
Announcements

- The election results from the Durand Union Station group indicate that the incumbents did not retain their positions and a new slate of officers will be heading up the depot group.
- The North American Model Engineering Expo will be held on 4/24 and 4/25 at the Southgate Civic Center located at 14700 Reaume Parkway.
- The Mid-Central Region will be holding its convention over May 13th thru the 16th in Pittsburgh, PA.
- The Flying Scotsman steam locomotive was purchased by the British National Railway Museum with a large contribution from Sir Richard Branson and funds raised by the museum's public appeal to keep the locomotive in Britain.
- The SS Columbia group has raised \$300,000 to stabilize the boat. It may cost \$10,000,000 to restore the boat to operating condition.
- The Saint Clare is located in Lorain Ohio and it may be brought to Wyandotte for the Wyandotte Heritage Days festival in September.

Convention Updates

- Division 8 members are needed for the 2005 NCR convention committee. The committee is in need of a co-chairman, a prototype tour coordinator, a non-rail event coordinator, a convention guide coordinator and a convention products coordinator. Contact 2005 Regional convention chairman **Curt Danielewicz** for more information.

- 2007 National convention chairman **Dave Thornton** reported that the next meeting of the committee would be held at Richfield Township Hall 5381 N State Rd Davison, MI (http://members.tripod.com/ncr_division10/) on Saturday May 8th.



- Division 5 will host the 2007 National convention committee on June 24th at the Lansing Public Library. After the meeting, division 5 will be having a layout tour of some of the layouts that will be open at this fall's regional convention.
- Dave reports that we still need layouts for the tours, modular layouts for the National Trainshow and a prototype tours captain.
- The next meeting after the June meeting will be on September 18th at a location to be determined.
- The October meeting will be held at the Steam Institute (1225 group).

Trustee's Report

- The publisher of *Mainline Modeler* made some very inaccurate statements about the NMRA in a recent editorial. He typically prints only letters that back up his opinions of the NMRA and does not print rebuttals from NMRA volunteers.
- The NMRA budget committee will be holding a meeting soon, Dave is on the committee.
- NMRA membership grew by 600 members in March 2004.
- The NMRA has established a "Life after the LRP" committee to determine how to implement the long-range plan if it is approved by the membership or how to manage the NMRA if the plan was rejected.
- Votes on the LRP are being counted, a 2/3 majority of the votes cast (not 2/3 of the membership) are needed for approval of the LRP.
- Some standards are being reviewed and revised; some of those revisions were on the ballot with the LRP. More standards revisions are being reviewed.
- The NMRA will be getting back into issuing conformance warrants, especially in the area of DCC to insure that systems are compatible and manufacturers are adhering to the NMRA standards.

Hints and Tips

None

Clinic

The railroads were granted police authority in the 1850's mainly due to inefficient or non-existent police protection. Another reason for the railroads to have their own police forces is that crimes committed on trains, such as theft from freight trains, may not be discovered until the train reaches it's destination. It is then impossible to determine what police jurisdiction the crime was committed in and which police agency would be responsible to investigate.

- Railroad police were given full police authority after 1994, prior to that they were deputized for the area that they worked in. For example a RR special agent that had police authority in Michigan would not have had authority if he/she went across the state line into Ohio.
- RR police departments have a rank structure that is similar to municipal police departments: special agent (patrolman), sergeant, lieutenant, captain, inspector and superintendent (chief).
- Conrail had a police caboos numbered 24512, a coach for training classes and a former diner, 47004, that was also a classroom.
- The GTW used cabooses and a helicopter for observing trains.
- Canadian National is the only RR in Michigan with a K9 unit.
- The GTW police force was formed in 1885 and had two divisions, one located in Chicago and one located in Detroit.
- There are fewer than 2300 special agents for all of the United States.

Upcoming Clinic and Show & tell

The May clinic will be a presentation on advanced DCC decoders by Stu Sonta. The show and tell subject will be any control systems or accessories for model trains.

Schedule

The next Division 8 meeting will be held at 7 PM on Thursday, May 20th, 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 9:14 PM

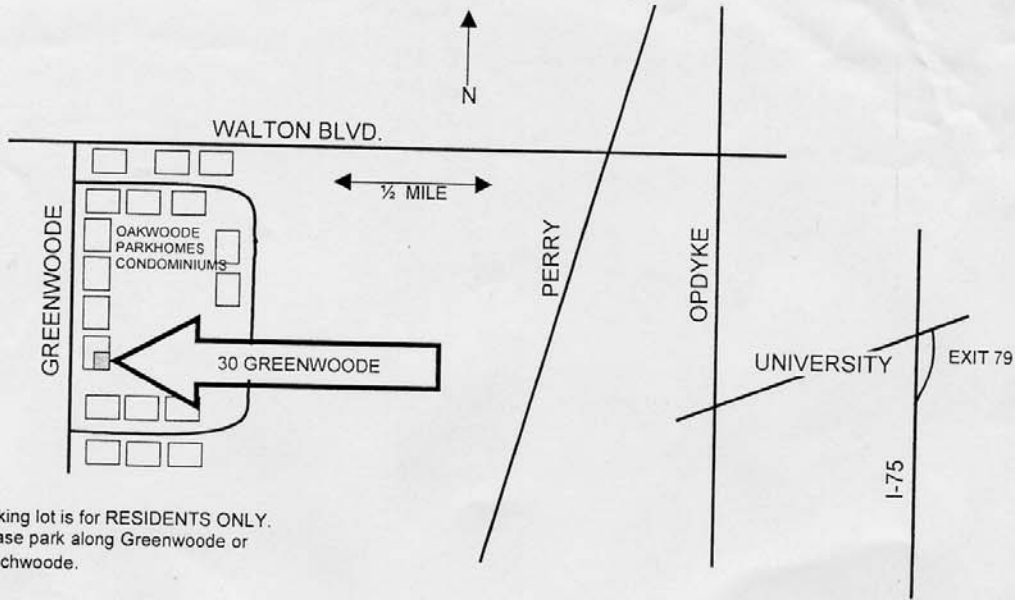
Respectfully submitted,

Curt Danielewicz, Secretary

Larry Lauer
37021 Sandalwood
Farmington, MI 48331

First Class Mail





Parking lot is for RESIDENTS ONLY.
Please park along Greenwood or
Beechwoode.

David Katona
30 Greenwood
Pontiac, MI 48340
248-373-4008
LAKE HURON SHORE LINE

DIVISION 8/DIVISION 6 LAYOUT TOUR
Sunday, May 23, 2004
1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Dick Harden
5744 Hidden Lane Ct.
White Lake, MI 48383

C&NW Layout, Transition Era
HO Scale
Large Basement

VISITORS PARK ON THE STREET

