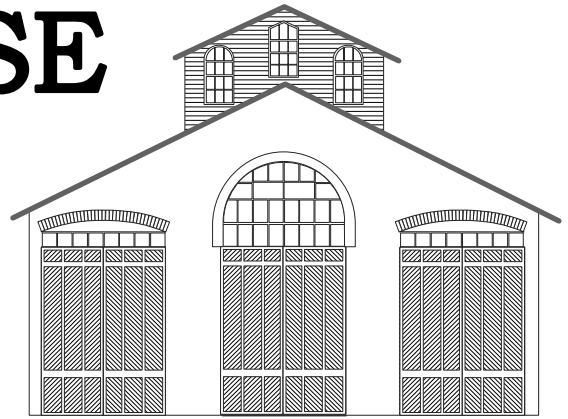
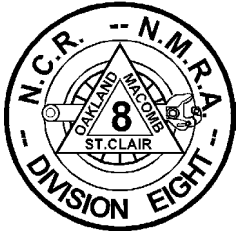


THE CAR HOUSE

The Monthly Newsletter of
Division 8 North Central
Region
National Model Railroad
Association
April 20, 2006
Website - <http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>

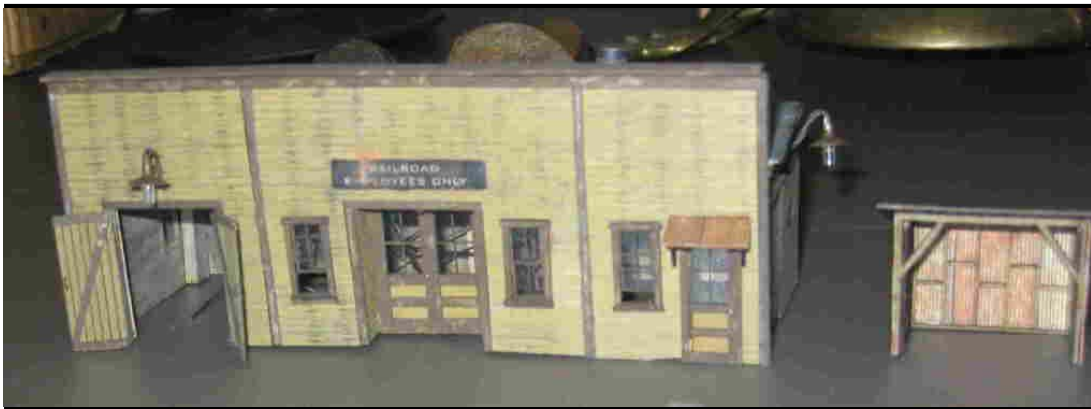


Call to Order

The meeting of Division 8 was called to order at 7:05 PM by my watch set to the standard clock in the main waiting room of the historic Michigan Central Depot in Detroit. We had one notable visitor this month. **Don Mustunis**, formerly of Division 6, has relocated to our turf, in his new home in Macomb. Don is known to many as a DCC products dealer and consultant. No count of members is available since I forgot to take a nose count. The number present was either more or less than last month. **Fred Cosgrove**, Division 8 snowbird is back, having avoided another Michigan winter season. He's returned in time for another Michigan orange barrel season.

Show and Tell

Jim Zinser brought in a completed Bar Mills 2 in 1 kit seen below. This structure is Phineas Clutter's Sign Shop or alternatively, The Backshop. For those who want to try their hand at this kit, it is listed as **171-842** in the current Walthers HO Scale catalog and is actually available at a sale price.



PHINEAS CLUTTER'S SIGN SHOP/THE BACKSHOP

Dan Lewis brought in a framed set of date nails. These allow track crews to determine the age of a tie. Some railroads have a set program of replacing ties on a periodic basis, especially on main lines. Some of these older but still serviceable ties can then be set on sidings, spurs and branches. Of course this plan is all for naught if the date spike has been removed.

**DAN LEWIS' DATE NAIL
COLLECTION
(on loan from the DIA)**



JOEL GOLDBERG'S SAW CAR

Show and Tell (Continued)

Marv Linke brought in a very nice conductor's hat, seen below, always in fashion in a model railroad room and also an eye-catcher when worn at the mall as in. "Cool, is that something new at Aeropostale?"



Larry Wolohon brought in a GN switchlock similar to the one he wears as a belt buckle. Also a picture of a GN Q1 2-10-2 parked on a deadline. **Gene Kome** recently traveled to an IC Historical Society gathering in Streeter, IL. While at the proceedings, he met a lady who had worked at the glass bottle plant that he is modeling. She had been employed at the plant for thirty years and shared some of her remembrances with Gene. Your Secretary read through some the engineer's manual, either for a GP9, or some other road switcher that **Vince Robinson** brought in. I thought it was easier to understand than my **Digitrax** manual. Vince also showed some old calendars and a display of O scale boxcars as part of this month's clinic. **Tim Fisher** brought in a piece of Mimbreno china dinnerware from the Santa Fe Super Chief. Mimbreno was a well known manufacturer of dining car china during the pre-Amtrak era. I found a number of websites offering this china for sale. One in particular is <http://www.sonic.net/~jayreed/RRCommchina.html>.



AN EXAMPLE OF MIMBRENO CHINA FOUND AT THE ABOVE WEB ADDRESS. SHOWN ARE B&O CUP AND SAUCER SETS.

Jerry Shanek brought in the lantern pictured at the right. A comment was made that this is probably a brakeman's lantern because of the elongated handle that made it possible to sling the light over his shoulder. This was a C&O property. he also showed off a PRR lantern. Such lanterns are easy to identify since they either have the company name pressed into the metal body or scratched into the glass. Returning snowbird **Fred Cosgrove** brought in a conductor's bell seen below and a pair of rusty spikes. Only the gold ones don't rust. Thanks to all the other Show and Tell participants, and again, thanks to **Joel Goldberg** for this month's digital photography.



Division 8 Business and Finances

Treasurer **Marv Linke** reports that we have \$3390.02 in our checking account. Also, we have purchased a 1 year CD at the Flagstar Bank. As of this month we have 72 mostly paid up members. Three years ago the division had 63 members, so we are growing by several members each year.

2007 NMRA Convention Update

Dave Thornton reminds us that we have 15 months to go to our National Convention. Committee members are busy and your help is needed if you are already not involved with the planning.



2007 National Model Railroad Convention

Sunday July 22nd through Saturday July 28th 2007

Announcements

While **Dan Lewis** is out of town for personal or church affairs, he requests that you contact John, his assistant in the church office. **Tim Fisher** says that the NCR is working to straighten out our status with the USPS regarding our bulk mailing privileges for the Hot Box. Apparently the bulk mailing permit expired some time ago, but no one noticed this until recently. The cost of mailing the publication by first class is prohibitive. **Marv Linke** says that we are still missing about 10 lawn signs from last October. **Larry Wolohon** mentioned that **Richard Hait** has been recognized for a contest entry at last year's Pontiac Junction convention.

Old and New Business

None discussed this month.

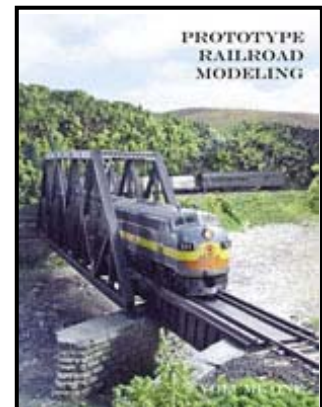
Live Presentation for April

Vince Robinson discussed the development of standard boxcar designs in the first half of the Twentieth Century. From the beginning, there were few standards for design and construction of boxcars that were interchanged on American and Canadian railroads. A lack of standards contributed to on going safety and durability issues. The first notable change in this situation was with the establishment of the USRA following the United States entry into World War One, when the federal government imposed a set of standards on American railroads. This set the stage for further standardizations in the following decades.



**Vince Robinson's
Boxcar Exhibit**

**Larry Wolohon's Book
from
Speedwitch Media**



Upcoming Schedule

The next meeting of Division 8 of the NCR of the NMRA will be held at 7:00 PM on May 18, 2006 at the Troy Christian Chapel located at 400 E. 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 Chinese steam or a current project. This will be in conjunction with the scheduled presentation topic of a video of Chinese steam locomotives.

The April meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Saul Kalbfeld, Division 8, NCR-NMRA Secretary