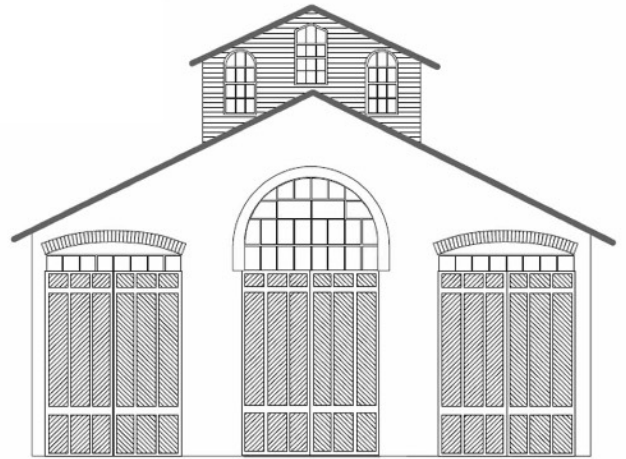


CAR HOUSE

SEPTEMBER, 2021



Website:
<http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>
or
clintonriverdivision.ncr-nmra.org



Website:
<http://www.nmra.org/>

BLACK SWAMP JUNCTION CONVENTION

The 2021 North Central Region Convention is October 21-24, in Toledo. The Convention site is the Radisson Hotel at the University of Toledo. Clinics will be offered in the mornings at the hotel, layout tours, op sessions, prototype and non-rail tours in the afternoon, and evening clinics and social times at the hotel to conclude the day. Modular layouts at the hotel and at Union Terminal downtown, including Freemo layout. The banquet will at noon on Saturday and a “Yard Sale” type flea market to sell your excess rail-oriented items. The Model Showcase features a raffle for refund of registration fees. For more information and to register, visit www.divisiononencr.com/2021

FROM THE SUPER – SEPTEMBER, 2021

Greetings to all the Clinton River Division members from the superintendent. I hope this newsletter and September meeting minutes finds you well, especially if you could not attend the meeting either in-person or via Zoom.

Our second in-person meeting at the Troy Christian Chapel along with broadcasting the meeting via Zoom had a few more technical challenges, but they were overcome and it was another success. We continued with our normal in-person format of show and tell first, followed by the business meeting. With our borrowed computer and corded webcam, *thanks John Jackson*, we were able to have everyone at Troy Christian Chapel present their Show and Tell items to the in-person participants as well as to our

Zoom participants via the corded webcam. Our BOD had approved multiple proposals at the 3rd quarter BOD meeting that were brought forth to the general membership at this evenings meeting and I appreciate the unanimous decisions to purchase division-owned computer and A/V equipment to support the continuation and improvement to the Zoom portion of our meetings as well as giving us authorization to pursue a Constant Contact account to make it easier to share information such as the Carhouse without them getting rejected by Kent's server or your provider's server as SPAM. We also will be setting up a CRD PayPal account to allow members to make their user fee payments or donations electronically, avoiding the need to make change for cash payments or for you to write checks. These are still welcome if you want to use that form of payment, but you will have the ease of an electronic payment sent from your computer or phone app as well now. Unfortunately, I was very under the weather and participated via Zoom. At the time I did not know if it was my usual bad sinus infection at this time of the year or Covid. Since I was awaiting the test result to come back Friday, luckily negative for Covid, I chose to stay home to play it safe. Remember that we need to watch out for each others' health during this uptick, vaxed or not, play it safe.

Reminding everyone again, we are implementing a mentoring program within the division that will give members the opportunity to share areas of personal knowledge as well as request help from those members with knowledge in areas where they need help.

The file is located at

https://drive.google.com/file/d/195MkOSzCII04pfcGtM4LcnI-sIExBw2_/view?usp=sharing

When you follow the link, you will be asked if you wish to request access to the file. Please request access and this request will be sent to me for approval. This limits access to the file to only those people within our Division and this information will not be accessible by the general public. Please populate a new line item for your information once you are granted access to the file. Members will be able to query the file in time to determine if anyone can help them in an area of need or conversely members may query the file to determine if anyone needs help in an area that they are knowledgeable as well. In either scenario the members themselves can use the file as a resource to gain or share knowledge. Over time this may lead to some additional AP awards for people, although that will be an additional benefit to the mentorship program and Achievement Program participation is not a requirement.

P.S. - private Clinton River Division Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/288929175921717/>

Best regards, **Curt Danielewicz**

Announcements:

- **MASTER MODEL RAILROADERS** in attendance at the September meeting: **Ken Chick, Ron King, Greg Rich** (via Zoom), **Larry Wolohon** and **Jim Zinser**.
- **EVERYONE:** if you displayed a model or prototype item or otherwise participated in our ZOOM meeting, please send your editor photos at chappie81@wowway.com to include your contribution in the monthly issue of the Car House. Thanks.
- **CALL FOR ARTICLES:** Do you have a tip to share, photos of constructing a model, a neat electronics project, an interesting model or prototype story? Sure you do! Write it up and share it in the Car House - your fellow modelers will appreciate it and you get points toward Model Railroad Author AP certificate. Just send your editor your material and it will find its way into print! chappie81@wowway.com
- **Indy Junction 2022, May 18-22, 2022** at the Indianapolis Marriott East Hotel and Convention Center is sponsored by the Midwest, North Central, Mid Central Regions of the NMRA, and the Railroad Prototype Modelers Conference. The combined convention will be four days of clinics, layout tours, operating sessions, and more! If you are interested in presenting a clinic, contact Andy Keeney (Division 5) at hunter48820@yahoo.com. Clinicians receive free registration, contact Andy for details. Registration is \$85, includes a large Train Show, with lots of new items for sale. For more information, www.indyjunction2022.org

BUSINESS

- **August Car House** approved with two corrections: 1. For **Jerry Shanek's** Show & Tell, it was his father-in-law who was a WWII friend with President George HW Bush; and 2. AP awards were left out of August Car House. See later in this edition for updates.
- **"Door Monitors" volunteers:** *Volunteers for November and December needed!* It is an easy job: time requirement is 6:30 pm to 7:05 pm to admit members and guests as church doors are to remain locked at all times. Contact Kent or Curt.
- **Dan Shilt**, Paymaster (Treasurer), was not available but reported \$5,736 on hand, no transactions since last report.
- There will be **no Division meeting in October** - Plan to attend the Black Swamp Junction Convention in Toledo, October 21-24.
- **Division Approved the** purchase of computer, A/V equipment and Constant Contact communication program. For details please see **Curt Danielewicz' column**.

AND MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Openings for Assistants** - The Board asks members who may be interested in committees, offices, or other volunteer positions to speak with officers. You can assist in the work of the Division and “try out” a position you may wish to assume at a later date. Remember the Division is strong only if ALL its members participate.
- **Train Shows** are resuming throughout the Midwest. We will list some of the shows we hear about in the Schedules section of the Car House and on the website. As always, verify with the promoters/sponsors before traveling. We do know the TrainFest in Milwaukee (November) has been cancelled. The Lansing Model Railroad Club Show at the MSU Pavilion returns November 14. Info at <http://www.lmrc.org>
- **Jim Baker** presented a very interesting clinic “INSIDE DCC.” Jim’s talk was so well-explained that even your editor (who is electronically illiterate) understood some of it! Thank you Jim!
- **Rich Mahaney**, NCR Director-at-Large and occasional photo contributor to the Car House, underwent quadruple bypass surgery on August 18 and is recovering well - already out rail fanning! Continued healing, Rich!
- Your editor read a sad news item - Clinton River Division member **Stuart Packard** passed away on September 15. Sympathies to his family and friends.

The NMRA Turntable is a monthly online magazine that contains interesting videos, links to NMRAx YouTube clinics, and highlights of NMRA@HOME, featuring articles from Division Business Car by our own **Jim Zinser, MMR**. If you don not receive the Turntable, register at NMRA.org. It is only one of your benefits of NMRA membership.

SCHEDULES

For more information, contact the organization listed. We do not have further details.
Obviously, schedules are subject to change.

October 9 - Greater Grand Rapids Fall Train Show, Wyoming, MI, Ken Skopp
616-667-9680, kwskopp@gmail.com

October 16 - Elkhart Model Railroad Club Train Show, Nappanee, IN, Nathan Overmyer
574-850-8485

October 31 - Kalamazoo Fall Train Show, Kalamazoo Expo Car, David Haye-Moat,
269-344-0906

November 14 - Lansing Model Railroad Club Show, MSU Pavilion, <http://www.lmrc.org>

SEPTEMBER 2021 SHOW & TELL

Theme: "Anything DCC" Or Current Project

Jerry Shanek - brought his MTH 1/32 scale DS70ACE, the UP 4141 "George Bush" funeral train locomotive with ProtoSound 3.0, for the passenger cars he displayed last month. The loco runs on MTH DCS and on DCC. With DCS, it can run on AC with "an old Lionel transformer.



Larry Wolohon, MMR - acquired an NCE throttle, NCE Switch-it MK-2, and a NEBO High Bright 6000 lumen utility light.



Phil Doolittle - uses a Digitrax DS64 stationary decoders to control Tortoise turnout motors for 8 tracks into his yard. His current project is to figure out how to mount the Tortoise machines above the roadbed.



Irv Chmielewski - uses MRC Prodigy 2 with linked to his wifi. He programmed WiThrottle on iPhone, iPad and an old deactivated iPhone to run his layout. The low range MRC Wifi is a local area network, good for 20-30 feet.



Ron King, MMR - super detailed a Bachmann three truck Shay, Allegheny & Eastern #60, including DCC with sound. He also displayed S scale NYC passenger cars by American Models, carsides by Laserhriz@aol.com



Phil Kenyon - displayed his ESU DCC controller test module and programming booster.



Jim Zinser, MMR - displayed a Copper range diesel switcher, a DCC ESU decoder equipped Bowser model of a Baldwin DS4-4-1000; and the May 2016 Model Railroader article he wrote, "Build a DCC Testing and Programming Station."



Terry Bossick - displayed an Ann Arbor GP 38, an Atlas Gold Model with DCC and sound. He acquired it from the Estate of Alex Azary, a friend from the DUR traction Club.



Dave Thornton -brought a Tsunami II Decoder



Bob Scherer - brought his Walthers model reworked into D & M troop sleeper



Gary Williams displayed his Grammes standard gauge toy train. The trains were made in 1919 as the company considered entering the electric toy train market. Two units were fully assembled by Grammes. One was a three-piece painted tin unit and other one was unpainted copper engine/power unit. In 1973 a large box of Grammes train parts and dies were purchased by TCA member Cantey Johnson at a York train show. Over the next few years Mr. Johnson assembled approximately fifteen copper units and sold them to fellow collectors. **Gary** plans to donate his three car model to the TCA Museum in Pennsylvania.

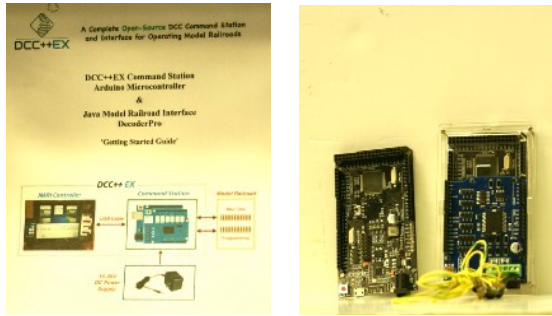


Fred Cosgrove brought Bachmann Spectrum On30 Whitcomb 50-ton center cab diesel with DCC

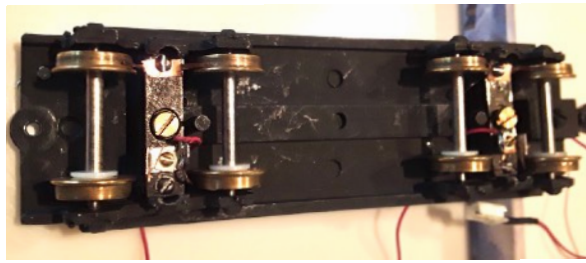


Ken Scherer has dismantled his layout, salvaging the roundhouse and car float for the new layout under construction.

Kevin C. Smith discussed DCC++EX Decoder Programming Station to operate a complete DDC layout. It uses an Arduino Microcontroller and works with Java Model Railroad Interface DecoderPro. He is also prototyping a Command Station that will run Legacy DC engines that will run two engines simultaneously in two separate blocks or districts.



George VanDuyne (via Zoom) updated a Bowser USRA Pacific with a decoder in the tender and wipers on the tender axles for better electrical pick-up.



George Anderson (via Zoom) displayed a Broadway Limited Consolidation.

Greg Rich, MMR (via Zoom) - he is converting his car cards to Micro-Mark's card system.

Steve Weber (via Zoom) continues to work on scenery.

Curt Danielewicz uses Raspberry Pi - a "credit card" size computer with JMRI to control his layout.

Tim Fisher (via Zoom) updated a 4-6-2 Santa Fe w/ decoder (thanks Marv Linke) and is using DDC frog juicers to improve turnouts (six per juicer)

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM AWARDS

Ken Chick, MMR, AP representative, presented Achievement Certificates to **Ken Scherer** and **George VanDuyne**.



Ken Scherer, Achievement Program Certificates: Master Builder: Electrical, Master Builder: Scenery, & Association Volunteer



George VanDuyne, Achievement Program Certificate: Master Builder: Scenery

REMEMBER: No Meeting in October; see you in Toledo!

NOVEMBER 2021 MEETING

**Live at Troy Christian Chapel and on ZOOM
Thursday, November 18, 2021, 7:00 pm**

Show and Tell Topic:

Anything from a Convention or Current Projects

**Clinic:DVD - Layout Tours from Vista Dome 90,
the 1990 Livonia Convention**

We will send you notice of the meeting and the ZOOM code a few days before the meeting. Please look in your SPAM folder if you don't receive it timely. Don't ask, I have no idea why some providers think I am SPAM!

CLINTON RIVER DIVISION 8 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Superintendent: Curt Danielewicz - curt48044@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dan Shilt - ddshilt@aol.com

Secretary: Kent Aughe - chappie81@wowway.com

Directors: Mark Mincek - themotive@att.net

Phil Doolittle - doolittlep@comcast.net

Car House Editor: Kent Aughe

Car House Proof-reader: Barbara Aughe

REMEMBER: NO MEETING IN OCTOBER:

SEE YOU AT THE TOLEDO CONVENTION

NOVEMBER 18, 2021 Meeting - Thursday at 7:00 pm

TROY CHRISTIAN CHAPEL

Second Floor Meeting Room (use parking lot door and stairway just inside the door. There is also an elevator in the lobby if you prefer)

400 E. LONG LAKE ROAD, TROY, MI

See you there! Same Time, Same Place, Third Thursday, .Every Month

**Thanks for your membership, support and participation in person
at Troy Christian Chapel or in the Zoom meetings.**