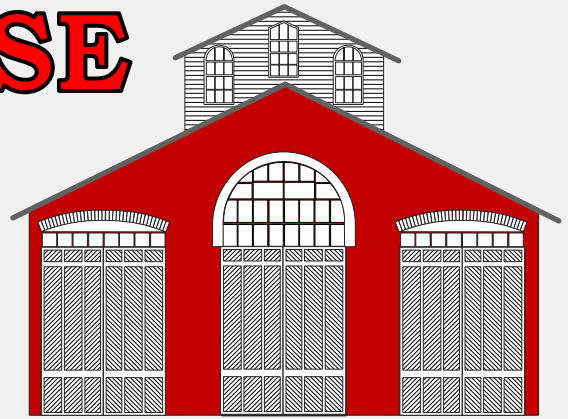


THE CAR HOUSE

The Monthly Newsletter of
Division 8 North Central
Region
National Model Railroad
Association
January 18, 2007
Website - <http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>



Call to Order

The January meeting of Division 8, NCR-NMRA was called to order at 7:07 PM according to the master clock in the main waiting room of the grand and historic Pontiac TranspoCenter. I counted about 21 members present, including a couple of stragglers lurking in the rear of the room. We welcome **Steve Brazel** as a new member. He models the DM&IR in HO scale. We also welcome **Jan Burdzinski** as a new member. Jan has been a modeler for 30 years, originally in HO scale and now in S scale. He is working on upgrading his layout to DCC with sound capability. We did not have any visitors.

Announcements

Time is running out if you have not paid your Division 8 User Fee (Dues) for 2007. See lame duck treasurer **Marv Linke** at the next meeting to avoid being dropped from the organization. The fee is \$7.00 for the year.

For members who receive the CH by snail mail, I'll be sending your newsletter in an envelope this year. I have a box of envelopes in the basement needing to be used. This will free up a page for additional content since we are trying to keep the issues to 2 pages (4 sides). Also this will save money on those sticky sealing dots. Anyone now receiving a mailed issue would like to get on the e-mail list, please see **Marv Linke**.

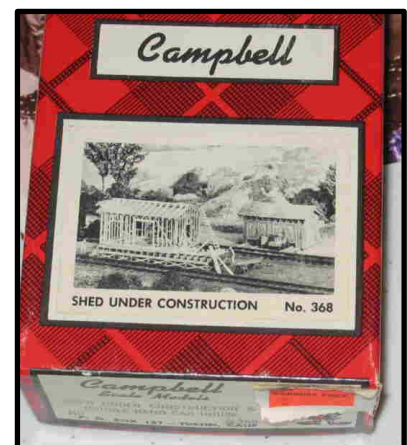
Show and Tell

January means bring out your old and moldy kits. You can tell they're old if the return address on the instructions has a postal zone instead of zip code, if the kit has Baker couplers, if you mix the glue from a little envelope of powder, if the rubber band holding the strip wood together is petrified, if the staple on the parts envelope is entirely rusted...you get the idea.



Larry Wolohon unearthed an Ambroid 1 of 5000 Western Union tool car kit and also a GN NW3 switcher. This design predates the more common RS-3. **Jim Zinser** brought in a Campbell Shed Under Construction kit. I guess the Campbell folks were a little short of ideas, or they had a bunch of boxes to just use up. I'm just kidding...

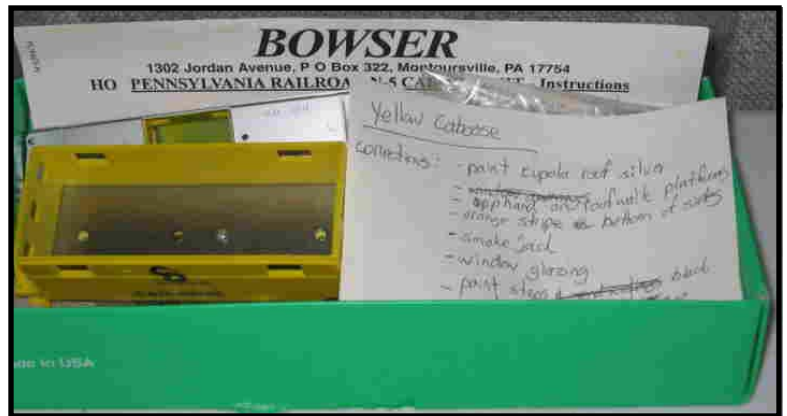
Gene Kome brought in a City Classics Diner kit, where the waitress calls everyone honey and so does the cook behind the counter, and the mashed potatoes look like Sculptamold. **Tim Fisher** came up with an Ulrich composite gondola and an FSM Ice Station kit. Both very nice kits. **Bill Moore** brought in laser cut White River structure, also a sandhouse on the B&M at Lebanon NH. **Rick Ware** dug out a Bowser C&O caboose. He is seeking additional information to accurately finish the model. **Doug Liefeld** has a Sears catalog house kit that is similar to the actual manager's office at Roselawn cemetery. He wonders if the basement would be suitable for a model railroad. Maybe a ghost line. **Phil Runyon** brought in a Bowser USRA Light Mikado kit still waiting for a pair of skilled hands to give it a life out of the box. **Charles Woodbury** has an Ambroid Pickle Car, almost 50 years old, one of many he has collected or built. Moving to current projects, **Tony Britsky** is converting his layout to DCC operations and is installing a number of devices to automate operations.



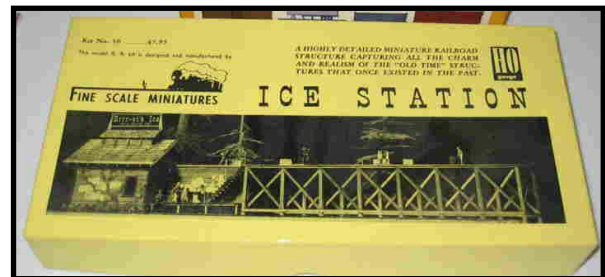
More Show and Tell

Ed Black who claims he could not afford Ambroid kits still showed he knows how to save a buck by making his own molds and castings for retaining walls by maybe using the designs marketed by Chooch. Back to oldies, **Jim Clements** brought in a neglected Woodland Scenics Sawmill and tie mill.

Dick Dittus found another box of sticks: an O scale reefer about 50 years old. **Vince Robinson**, may have won the age contest with an O scale Scalecraft auto boxcar from 1937. **Dan Lewis** went back 30 years, to the stone age of N scale to find a Ford Model T kit made from flat etched brass. **Phil Kenyon** offered 2 Matchbox N scale cars.



Terry Bossick dug up a Paul Moore street car kit that he acquired in 1972. It is a card and wood kit and he needs a Pittman drive to complete the model. **Joel Goldberg** brought in a pair of Bar Mills basic kits, a chair company and also a freighthouse. He also found a classic Red Ball Swift refrigerator kit and a Silver Streak tank car kit with dowel and paper wrap materials. Finally, **Saul Kalbfeld**, a Lightning Hobbies TV (or radio) station kit, another box of sticks and a block of wood.



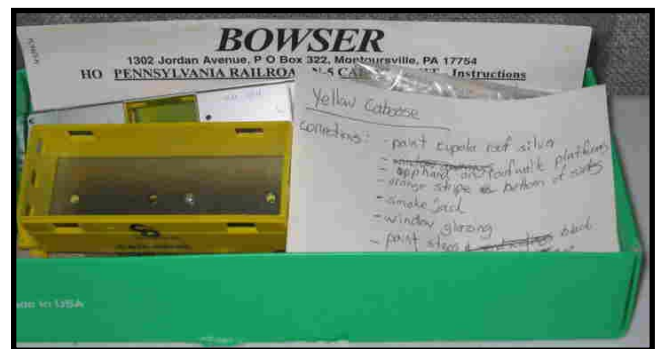
Division 8 Winter Layout Tour February 11, 2007 1:00 to 5:00 PM

Rad Jones

2644 Longwinter
Oakland, MI 48363
248 693-2251 for directions
MIO System (Move It On Railroad System)
N Scale
Prototype freelanced based on the NYC in 1960's
Around the wall and peninsula design
Continuous operation with Cab control
Freight and passenger operations
90 % track, 30% scenery completed.

Brooks Stover

2870 Plum Creek Drive
Oakland Hills, MI
248 814-8699 for directions
S Scale
Based on an 18 mile WV shortline BC&G operated until the mid 1960's and connected with the B&O Era is the summer of 1957.
Around the wall and peninsula design 44 x 20 feet
100% benchwork, 90% trackwork, 50% scenery
DCC control with car card operations
Structures are 100% scratchbuilt



Division 8 Treasurer's Report

Lame duck treasurer **Marv Linke** reports we have \$2567.33 in the checking account and the two 1000 dollar CD's. The division made \$100.00 in interest in 2006. The Nigerian investments didn't pan out but the loss was made up at one of the new automated poker tables at the Greentown Casino. The division had \$553 in expenses and \$646 in income. Our paidup membership is 67 including 2 life members.



UPCOMING TRAIN SHOWS

February 25, 2007

Eagle Creek Academy Train Show
 3739 Kern Road
 Oakland, MI 48363
 Located 1 mile east of M24 on Silver Bell and Kern
 Roads in Oakland Township
 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
 Adm. \$5.00
 150 Tables

March 4, 2007

Gratiot Valley Train Show
 MCC Sports and Expo Center
 SW corner of 12 Mile and Hayes Rd.
 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
 Download flyer at <http://www.gvrr.org/3-07f.pdf> for
 additional details.

NCR Report

Tim Fisher reports that NCR members in and around Ann Arbor are close to establishing a new Division 9 in our region. Ann Arbor has always had many modelers and in the past operated a well known club in several locations in the area. There will be no NCR convention this year due to GLE2007 taking precedence but two other regions in driving distance will have conventions, namely the Mid-Central Region on April 12-15 2007 in Louisville and the Midwest Region on April 22-27 2007 in Muncie, IN. See **NMRA.ORG** for further details. Tim says no Hotbox yet, for the next issue, but that the website has a new volunteer webmaster, **Jeremy Jordan**, a member of Div. 4 in Grand Rapids.



Announcements

There is no GLE2007 report this month as **Dave Thornton** was at the NMRA board meeting in California. Please note that on the date of the next Division 8 meeting, February 15, the Troy Christian Chapel will be having the annual meeting of the membership, so there will be a lot of activity in the building. Finally, there is some interest being expressed to schedule a train ride using ex PM #1225 in Owosso. This for future discussion.



VIRTUAL MODEL RAILROADING PRESENTATION BY BILL GAWTHROP



A virtual Model Railroad is a phase of our hobby that allows individuals to develop and operate a model railroad in the digital world. Bill led the members through a demonstration of a railroad that he developed for this presentation that has all the aspects of an actual layout. People who cannot develop an actual layout due to the limitations of space, money, or time can enjoy many of the same benefits of an actual wood, plaster, and track layout. Bill uses the TRAINZ software and developed the Ontario Central pictured above in about 40 hours.



SLATE OF CANDIDATES-DIVISION 8 ELECTION

President	Treasurer	Secretary
Jerry Shanek	Phil Doolittle John Jackson	Saul Kalbfeld

Upcoming Schedule

The next meeting of Division 8 of the NCR of the NMRA will be held at 7:00 PM on February 15, 2007 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 unusual freight cars or a current project. Larry Wolohon is scheduled to speak about why you should operate some rolling stock that is not actually of your favorite type.

The January, 2007 meeting was adjourned at about 9:30 PM with some members repairing to the Big Boy **Down the Old Plank Road**. (You Blue Grass fans will know what I am talking about.) Thanks again to Joel Goldberg for this month's digital photography.

Respectfully Submitted,
Saul Kalbfeld, Division 8, NCR-NMRA Secretary