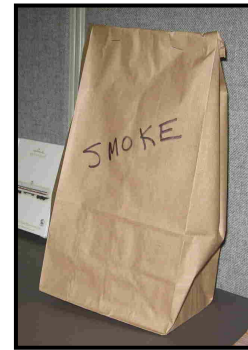
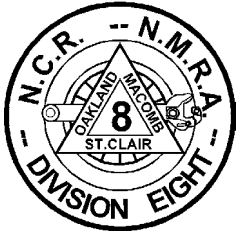


# THE CAR HOUSE

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Division 8 North Central  
Region  
National Model Railroad  
Association  
January 17, 2008  
Website - <http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>



## Call to Order

The monthly meeting of Division Eight was called to order at 7:10 PM. Present were approximately 24 members and 3 visitors. Brothers **Ken and Bob Scherer** model our favorite, the GT in HO scale. **Walt Connell** models the Virginia Northern in HO scale in the 1950 to 1970 era. Thanks to **Marv Linke** for his efforts to provide permanent name badges to the membership. This is a real boon to us who are name challenged, especially when speaking to members who do not regularly attend meetings.

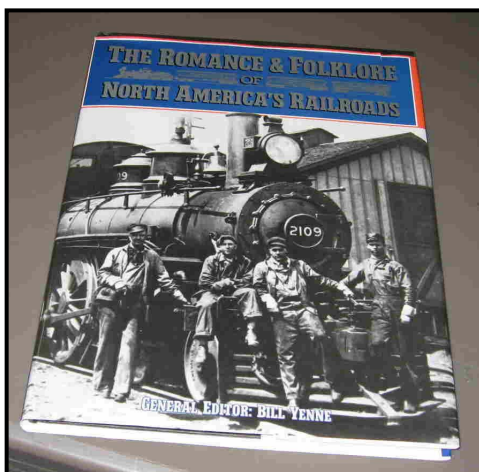
## Show and Tell

The subject of holiday gifts brought out a wide range of railroad related offerings. No one brought in a fruitcake shaped like a cement hopper or a wide tie with Thomas characters. I'm disappointed. **Paul Runyon** brought in a nicely detailed PRR F unit #9789. He added grabs and lifts, also a radio antenna and windshield wipers. **Gene Kome** showed the book, "Romance and folklore of America's Railroads". **Rick Ware** showed off a digital photo frame that displayed a group of his favorite picture. **Peter Jacobson** offered his model of a dreamhouse, a log home that he built from actual home plans. Under recent changes it would qualify for an FHA insured mortgage. Peter also commented on converting a Kato Southern NW2 to DCC. This unit has little room for a decoder but he was able a stamp size

NCE decoder. He said that the project had a few headaches, with the first decoder being defective. He finally installed a Digitrax unit. **Jim Zinser** received a Joe's gift certificate from Santa. **Larry Wolohon** showed a GN 4 wheel bobber caboose. **John Cline** is planning on starting a new layout. He showed plans for the room sized pike. He has supplies for a "green build" project. Sorry but I did not note what that means. **Bill Moore**, Boston and Maine enthusiast, somehow lost in the Midwest brought in a B&M RPO car, a Bethlehem Car Works product. The prototype is 1922 Osgood Bradley design, one of five cars that the line owned. Bill commented that the kit's instructions were sparse and misleading. He also added brake rigging, Kadee #58 couplers and Central Valley trucks. From the group, **Dick Dittus** pointed out the mail slot on the side of the car. Others asked what glue Bill had used on the kit.



**LARRY WOLOHON AT RIGHT PRESENTS  
THE CIVIL ENGINEERING AWARD TO  
MARV LINKE**



## Show and Tell continued

**Bill Gawthrop** received a photographic "skin" for the outside of his laptop, a peel and stick accessory. **Dick Dittus**, commenting on the Bethlehem car shown by **Bill Moore**, noted that the kit resembled earlier JC Silversides kits. Dick mentioned a DVD collection that he received, depicting mostly steam power. **Ed Black** is working on a 1918 Tichy tank car. with K style brake rigging. The model is not quite ready for painting. He also received a Walthers gift certificate. Those are never on back order. **Jerry Shanek** showed off a group of Freedom Train ornaments. That's it for Show and Tell. Thanks to all who participated. This was a quarter amnesty month for those who received a lump of coal in their stocking.

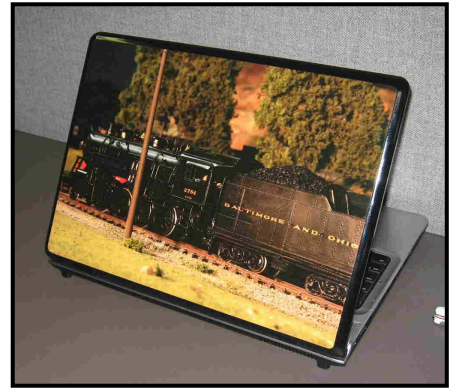


## Division 8 Business and Finances

Treasurer **John Jackson** was not in attendance this month so there was no financial report. As mentioned before, January was an amnesty month for S&T non-participation.

## NCR Report from Prez. Tim Fisher

Tim reports reports that NCR has about 1000 members across 8 divisions. The organization is a non profit corporation whose mission is education and promotion of the NMRA and model railroading in general. The NCR annual convention will be held in Toledo, Ohio in September. For details go to [NMRA.ORG](http://NMRA.ORG) and follow the links to the NCR convention information. The **Hot Box** is the official quarterly of the NCR, although it's publication has been erratic in recent months. I believe Tim said that each issue of the magazine costs a thousand dollars in printing and distribution. Please correct if this is incorrect. Finally, NCR elections are coming up soon.

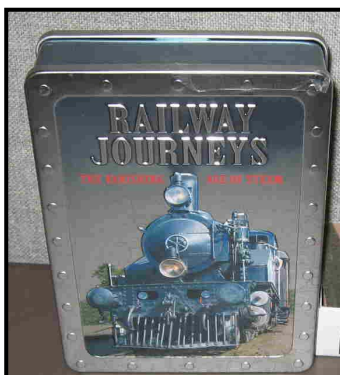


## Old Business

**Phil Doolittle** is working on a Free-Mo clinic presentation and seeking interest in establishing a local group.

Secretary's Note: There is an abundance of material on the web including an active discussion group on Yahoo Groups. There are links to shows where Free-Mo groups have set up large highly detailed modular layouts.

President **Jerry Shanek** reported that he believes a show and event spreadsheet would help our members plan their model railroad activities.

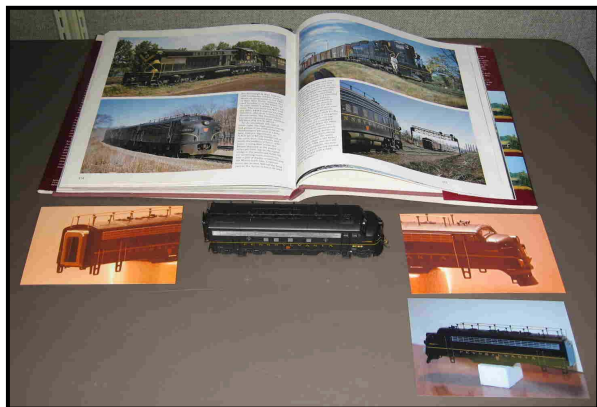


### Mini-Clinic

**Jim Zinser** offered a brief presentation on an on-line presentation of the Illinois Historical Society, specifically on a website, **Buildyourownmainstreet.com** (All one word, no spaces.) A visit to this site reveals a wealth on information for modelers. Jim also demonstrated how an aerosol spraycan lid can be used as a felt tip pen organizer.

### More Old Business

**Marv Linke**, intrepid crusader to increase division participation by NCR-NMRA members, said more letters would be sent to these folks, pointing out the benefits of division membership.



### Winter Layout Open Houses

The division thanks **Bill Moore** and **Tim Fisher** for opening their homes and layouts on January 27. Bill models the Boston and Maine in the steam to diesel transition era and features the rugged mountainous region of the White Mountains. In contrast, Tim's layout features the Santa Fe on the flat expanses of the American prairie in the glory years of heavy steam power. Thanks again for their hospitality and refreshments.



### Upcoming Schedule

The next meeting of Division 8 of the NCR of the NMRA will be held at 7:00 PM on February 21, 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 passenger cars or a current project. Vince Robinson is scheduled to give a talk on his experience riding in passenger cars.**

The January meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM. Part 2 of the meeting took place at the Troy Big Boy.

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