

THE CAR HOUSE

**September 21, 2000
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF DIVISION 8
NORTH CENTRAL REGION – NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
September 2000 MEETING MINUTES**

Substitute superintendent **Curt Danielewicz** called to order the September 21, 2000 meeting of Division 8, North Central Region of the National Model Railroad Association at 7:02 PM. The meeting was held at the Troy Christian Chapel. Forty-eight people were in attendance.

Visitors

We had 6 visitors, **Matt and Sarah Huber, Gordon Michael, John Herrington, Saul Kalbfeld** and **Bob Chapman**, our clinician.

Show and Tell

The show and tell featured passenger cars, and most of the major scales were represented, including LGB, O, HO, HOn3 and N. Cars included head end cars, passenger locomotives, turn of the (20th) century varnish, a trolley car and a doodlebug.

Summer Operations Trip

Dave Thornton reported on the operations trip for October 28-29 to operate on two Chicago layouts: an HO scale N&W and an O scale MILW. Those wanting to attend *must arrange for their own room reservations* at the Red Roof Inn at 22 West Algonquin Road in Arlington Hts., ILL (847) 228-6650. A handout describing the details of the event is available from Dave Thornton if you did not pick one up at the meeting.

Minutes Approval

Dan Mitzel pointed out that the web address in the August minutes was printed incorrectly. With this correction, Jerry **Anderson** moved approval of the August minutes, seconded by **Bob Schmenk**, and the motion passed.

Paymaster's Report

Gene Kome reported the following balances:
Checking: \$640.97
Savings and CD: \$3804.84

Dues

The Division Officers propose that the dues be reduced from \$8.00 to \$7.00 per year inasmuch as our printing costs are less than expected due

to the generosity of one of our members. This rate reduction would be effective as of the year 2001. Also, the Officers propose that a Division membership should cover a family (i.e., spouse and/or children), providing the family members are also NMRA members and reside with the primary member. The Division 8 By-Laws give authority to the officers for setting the rate of dues, but if any member has input on these two suggestions, they should call one of the officers before the next meeting.

NMRA Report

Jim Zinser reported that the family of the late Irv Schulz' has given consent for part of his layout to be donated for display at the NMRA headquarters in Chattanooga, TN. Division 8 members are needed to go to Irv's home to assess what part of the layout is suitable for cutting apart and shipping to Chattanooga.

Diorama Challenge

Richard Hait offered a fascinating challenge to the members of the Division which was accepted by a show of hands. All interested members will build a Railroad America diorama to be completed by March 2001. The size requirements are as follows:

- N Scale (1 square foot) with 1 linear foot of track
- HO Scale (2 square feet) with 2 linear feet of track
- S Scale (3 square feet) with 3 linear feet of track
- O Scale (4 square feet) with 4 linear feet of track
- G Scale (8 square feet) with 8 linear feet of track

While there is a square footage requirement, any shape is acceptable. There is no other requirement. Dioramas will be displayed at the March 2001 meeting.

Clinic

Guest **Bob Chapman** presented a clinic on modeling passenger cars. He began with a prototype slide show of the Cincinnati Union Station, which featured seven railroads (L&N, NYC, PRR, Southern, B&O, C& O and N&W). He pointed out that modeling passenger cars can involve as many as ten distinct approaches: off the shelf models, "stand-ins" (i.e., similar to a prototype though not exact), off the shelf modified cars, kits, adapted kits, sides and core body, kitbashes, scratchbashes and scratchbuilt. He offered examples of all the various types, showing slides of both prototype and model.

Bob also pointed out that in general there are five systems for passenger car undercarriages: the brake system, the electrical system (generator and battery box), the air conditioning system, the water system and the steam heat system. Not all cars have all components, depending on their era.

Hints and Tips

Tom Tapert brought a dozen or so catalogs from a small parts company for interested members. While this distributor does not cater strictly to model railroaders, its parts supplies are very appropriate for modeling purposes. (If anyone wanted a catalog but was not able, call Tom at 248-585-1979)

Club News

The SONS (Society of N-Scalers) announced that they are now 100% Digitrax in the club layout, though it is possible to run analog as well with a simple flip of a switch).

Upcoming Clinic and Show & Tell

Dan Lewis will present the October clinic on scratch-building a stock car. The Show & Tell will feature stock cars. (No original cow material, please.)

Schedule

The next Division 8 meeting will be held at 7:00 PM, Thursday, October 19, 2000 at the Troy Christian Chapel, 400 E. Long Lake Road, Troy, MI (south side of street between Livernois and Rochester Roads).

Website

Division 8 Online: http://members.tripod.com/ncr_division8/

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Lewis, secretary pro tem