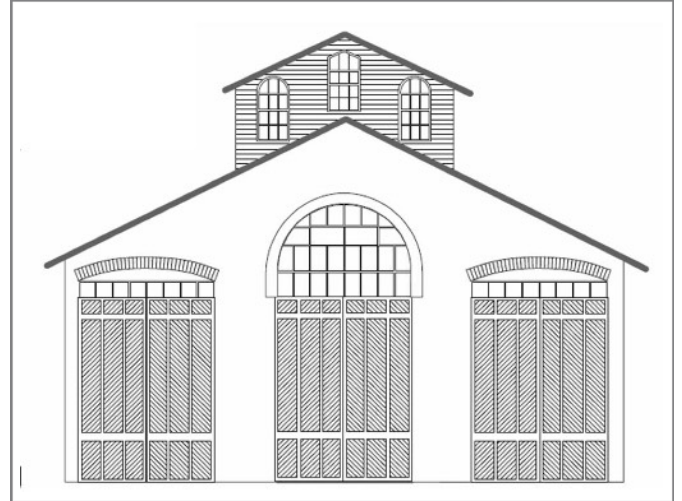


# CAR HOUSE

## JANUARY, 2023



Website:  
<http://div8.ncr-nmra.org>  
or  
[clintonriverdivision.ncr-nmra.org](http://clintonriverdivision.ncr-nmra.org)



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

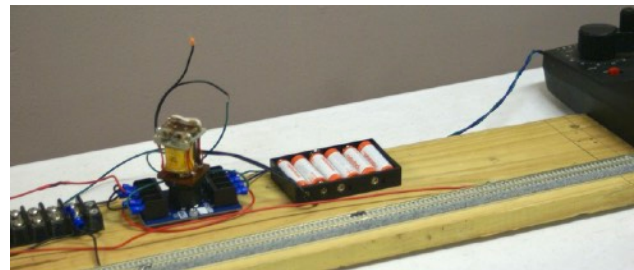
### SHOW & TELL - January 2023 - Electrical or Electronic Items or Gadgets

(Photos by the editor, unless otherwise noted)

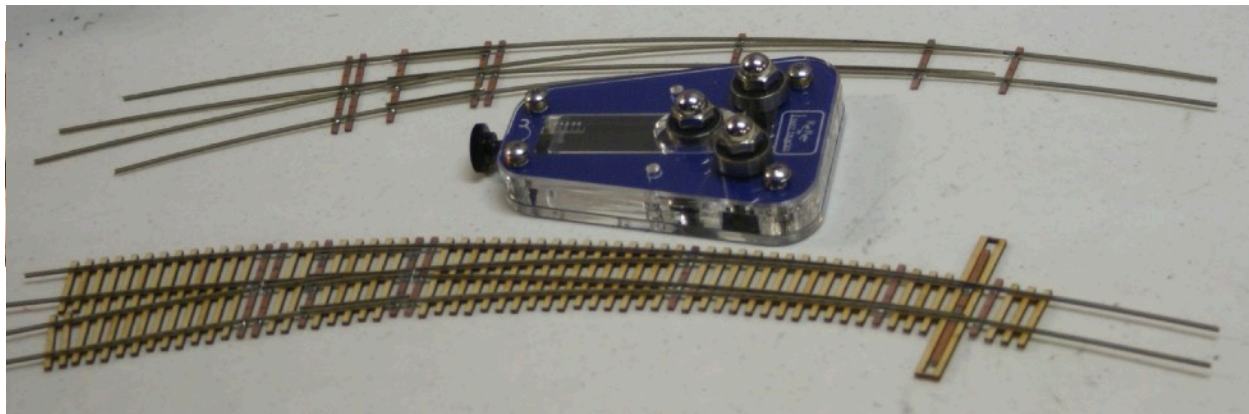


**Irv Chmielewski** - is using fiber optics filaments (from Dwarvin for lighting interiors. He currently has illuminated 6 buildings and is installing exterior lights and lamp posts. (Irv's photo)

**Terry Cummins** - built a trolley test track - currently three zones - left slow, center rapid, right slow with auto reverser. Will eventually be controlled by an Arduino and incorporated into his layout



**Phil Doolittle** - latest project is curved turnouts built with Fast Tracks jig and rail bender.

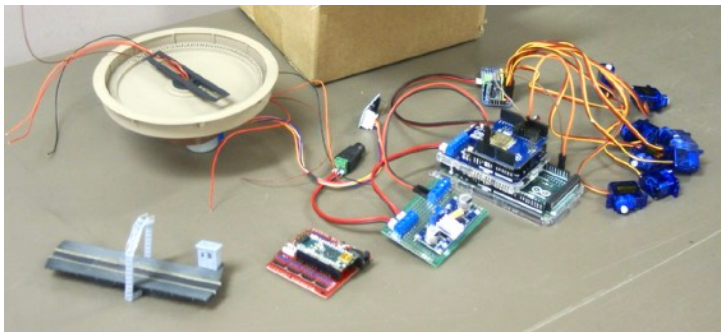


**John Jackson** - displayed his RR-CirKits Loco Buffer with a Windows CD, Manual and hardware



**Greg Rich, MMR**, scratch built this store from an internet photo of a store in Battle Creek. He used basswood and graphics he downloaded.

**Ken Scherer** - displayed a frog juicer, 1 of 6 he is installing on his new layout.



**Kestutis Sonta** - displayed the DCC++EX wireless DCC setup that uses Arduino micros to control the functions of his layout.

**Bob Taffs** - brought a DCC tester



**Steve Weber** acquired “Just Plug” traffic lights in HO.

**Dave Thornton** - brought a “blast from the past!” He says it’s been sitting in his basement for 40+ years. Throttles and control panel from 1950s?

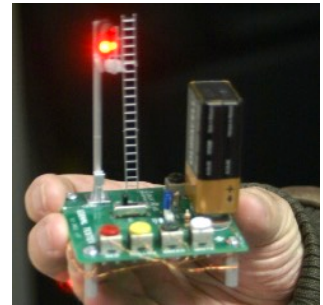


**Larry Wolohon, MMR** - displayed his current project - An O Scale Target three dome tank car, decaled for Petroleum Products.



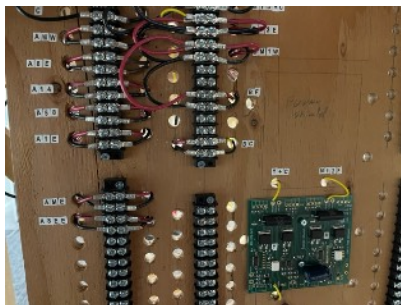
**Jim Zinser, MMR**, brought a saw mill sound board to be installed in a yet-to-be-built saw mill on his layout.

**Dan Mitzel** uses a RailLogicTechnologies signal tester to build his signaling system



**Curt Danielewicz** controls functions of his layout, using a Raspberry PI connected to JMRI

**Tim Fisher** - showed photos of his layout - barrier blocks under the layout with circuit breakers installed and one of three engine "pockets" in staging. (Tim's photos)



**George Anderson** - (via Zoom) - showed an LGB switch controller and a Christmas gift, an On30 Annual book. (Photo not available).

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**Rad Jones** - brought a "snake Probe" with an LED light in it to look into tunnels and under the layout wiring, circuit boards. A small screen displays the view. He got the idea from a recent colonoscopy! *Relax everyone*, this probe was not used in Rad's "procedure." He purchased it at Harbor Freight for under \$30. (Photo not available).

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## ***BUSINESS***

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**ALL MEMBERS** - please check your NMRA membership cards and renew timely. Insurance regulations require meeting participants be NMRA members (after 3 meetings). Please stay current. You can renew at **NMRA.org**. There are so many benefits of membership, including discounts at major online retailers, information available at the website. Membership is \$68 with digital delivery of the NMRA Magazine, \$92 with US mail delivery of the magazine.

- **MMRs in attendance** at the January meeting: **Ron King, Greg Rich, Larry Wolohon, and Jim Zinser.**
- **December 2022 Car House** approved.
- **Dan Shilt, Treasurer**, reported \$4,278.15 on hand as of 12/31/2022. Income for the year of 2022 was \$898.81, with expenses of \$1,045.43. Report approved.
- **USER FEES:** *If you have not paid your user fees, please bring yours up-to-date. See the website to submit the \$10 fee (on a calendar year basis) via PayPal. User fees support Division operating expenses such as equipment, Zoom and Constant Contact fees, stipend to the church for room use. We receive no funds from the National Model Railroad Association or the North Central Region.*
- **CLINTON RIVER DIVISION LAYOUT TOUR** - **Dan Lewis, MMR**, has scheduled a tour of two layouts for Sunday, February 19, 1-4 pm. See flyer in this issue for details.
- **Door monitor** at the church for the February will be **Steve Weber**, and for March **Terry Cummins**. Thanks for volunteering. Please consider volunteering for future months. For security reasons, the church door must remain locked at all times. Thanks for helping out the Division and keeping everyone safe.
- **The 2025 NMRA National Convention will be held in Novi, second week in July!** More information is coming, but get your layouts in shape for open houses, prepare possible clinics and be ready to volunteer! The next Clinton River Division-hosted regional convention will be in 2028.

- **Operating Sessions - John DePauw, Lake Orion**, will hold a session the first Saturday of February. **Andy Keeney**, Lansing Area, will host an operating session last Saturday of April & May. **Operation Road Show**, Saline, will host a future session TBD. If you are interested, please contact **Curt Danielewicz** ([curt48044@gmail.com](mailto:curt48044@gmail.com))
- **Donation**: The membership voted to donate \$300 to Troy Christian Chapel for the use of the meeting room each month in 2022. Thank you Troy Christian Chapel.
- **The Mentor/Mentee file (give help/receive help)** is at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/195MkOSzCII04pfcGtM4Lcni-slExBw2\\_/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/195MkOSzCII04pfcGtM4Lcni-slExBw2_/view?usp=sharing)
- The private **Clinton River Division Facebook group** at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/288929175921717/>

### **Nomination of Officers for two year terms beginning March 2023**

#### **Nomination by the Board of Directors**

For Superintendent: **Mark Mincek**

For Secretary: **Irv Chmielewski**

For Treasurer: **Dan Shilt**

For Director: **John Jackson**

Director (Position as Past President): **Curt Danielewicz**

There were no nominations from the floor. If anyone is interested in any of the positions, please contact a current officer prior to the February 16, 2023 meeting. Election of officers will be held at the February 16, 2023 meeting.

## **SCHEDULES**

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

**January 28, 29 - Detroit Model Railroad Club Open House, noon to 5 pm each day,**

104 N. Saginaw, Holly, MI

**February 16 - Clinton River Division Monthly Meeting, 7:00 pm**

at Troy Christian Chapel

**February 18, 19 - Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club Annual Show - Saline Middle**

School, 7190 N. Maple Road, Saline, MI 48176

**February 19 - Clinton River Division Layout Tour, 1-4 pm. See flyer on page 8**

**Fridays, Saturday, Sundays, through March 26 - Chi-Town Union Station,**

**“World’s Largest O Scale Model Railroad”**,

8275 Cooley Lake Road, Commerce, MI 48382 248-613-9471

**Art Williams & Don James** of the Detroit Model Railroad Club presented a clinic about Java Model Railroad Interface (*JMRI*) & Layout Command control (*LCC*). *JMRI* comes with Decoder Pro for programming, Panel Pro for designing and operating dispatch panels; *LCC* can control all layout components not on the track. Both systems are open source (free!). Many resources are available online. Thank you, Art & Don.

**FEBRUARY 2023 MEETING**  
**Live at Troy Christian Chapel and on ZOOM**  
**Thursday, February 16, 2023, 7:00 pm**

**CLINIC:**  
**BUILDING CROSSING GATES**  
**George Van Duyne**

**SHOW & TELL:**  
**Crossing Gates, Signals or Current Projects**

**Join us after the meeting for snacks and conversation at  
Leo's Coney Island, Walton & Livernois**

*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

***NEXT MEETING - Live and ZOOM***  
**February 16, 2023 - 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.**

# Clinton River Division Layout Open House

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023  
1-4 PM

**Ed Biegas 39914 Wilmette, Sterling Heights, MI 48313**



The Grandson Railroad is a freelance layout featuring short line operations. It fills a 16' x 20' room with a collection of small businesses and towns. Most businesses are named for my children or grandchildren. Andy's Welding Shop can fix anything but a broken heart, and of course the Chestnut Packing Co. is thriving.

**Jim Dennis 1143 Bembridge Dr.,  
Rochester Hills, MI 48307**



The Streeter Division was named for Streator, IL, where the NYC and the CB&Q cross. The layout, began in 2013, is 50' x 30' and is set in the steam to diesel transition era. It consists of cityscapes, industry, parks, a car float, a small farm, and five stations. Control is Digitrax DCC.