Monthly Newsletter of the Clinton River Division of the North Central Region of the NMRA



November, 2023

Div. 8 Website: https://www.div8.NcrNMRA.org

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





Call to Order

Meeting called to Order at 7:02

Recognition of visitors and MMRs

MMRs present Jim Zinser, Ron King, Greg Rich and Larry Wolohon.

Visitors: David Rever

Presidents Page

After the exceptional clinic that Dean Pyers and George Van Duyne gave on how they keep the Pere Marquette 1225 running at the Steam Railroad Institute in Owosso, it made me even more excited to wet my steam appetite for a ride behind a steam locomotive sometime this coming summer. Although the snow is just starting to fly, it's a great time to plan that next vacation, which will of course, need to include some type of railroad adventure. For those looking to plan something for the upcoming year that involves a ride behind live steam, below is a link that will take you to all of the live steam engines that are running in the United States.

https://www.trainchasers.com/steamdirectory.html

Happy planning! Mark

Clinic

Under Pressure: Operating Pere Marquette 1225 on the Road"

by

George Van Duyne



Dean Pyers
Director Steam Railroading Institute



The Pierre Marquette 1225 Steam Engine is kept in operation through the efforts of a small team from the Steam Railroading Institute supported by dedicated volunteers. It takes about \$50k to keep the engine running in a typical year. There is also a required inspection and boiler flue replacement every 15 years which can run in excess of one million dollars. At times other larger repair projects are taken on.

The first half of the presentation showed pictures from a major project that took place this year. This past summer, a major project was accomplished to rebuild the driver wheels and associated parts. Imagine the large steam engine hanging from a couple of cranes so that the drive mechanism could be disassembled and repaired.

The second half of the presentation went through the steps necessary to be done before an operating session; from greasing and oiling everything to getting the fire started in the firebox, to bringing the boiler up to pressure.

The entire presentation is posted at

https://div8.ncrnmra.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/1225-Operating-Clinic-Deck-V2-1.pdf

BUSINESS MEETING ITEMS

All Members – Please check your NMRA membership cards and renew today. Insurance regulations require meeting participants be NMRA members {after three 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 on the website. Membership with digital delivery of the NMRA magazine is \$68 per year, \$92 with US mail delivery of the NMRA magazine.

Also, please check if your Division 8 Meeting user fee has been paid. The fee is \$10 per year payable in January for 2024..

August Car House approved.

August Treasurer's report Dan Shilt: \$3,775.32 on hand. Approved.

Operating Session Plans – Curt Danielewicz can be contacted if you would like to be included in future Operating Session plans.

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Door monitor at the church; George VanDuyne has volunteered for December. For January, Chris Dobies has volunteered.

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.

Old Business

- Revised plan to visit Bill Hayes 7 ½" guage display in Metamora
 - Intended to be a retention event. (picnic lunch)
 - Would like to do a joint Division 6/8 outing
 - Will pic a day in the late spring far in advance so everyone can attend.

New Business

- Byrne Blumenstein presented information given out during the Dallas NMRA National Convention. The presentation outlined what are the plans for clinics, hotels, and efforts to reduce the cost to members to attend.
- After Action Report Will put together a simple user manual for the A/V equipment
- Need some help setting up/taking down tables for the next couple of months, please assist.

Announcements

- Please notify Irv Chmielewski (<u>NCRDIV8SECRETARY@gmail.com</u>) if you would like to have an announcement posted in Car House. Provide written details
- The <u>2025</u> NMRA National Convention will be held in Novi, second week in August! More information is coming, but get your layouts in shape for open houses, prepare possible clinics and be ready to volunteer! Clinics for the 2025 Convention are being coordinated by Andy Keeney.
- The planning committee is committed to focus the convention on giving value to attendees and the NMRA as a whole.
- Clinics will focus on new content. There is enough time for all of us to develop a new clinic on a topic that will be of interest. Any clinic presentation could be first presented at our meeting so that it can be revised and polished for the National convention
- Clinic/Layout and other Coordinators are included in Carhouse so please reach out if interested.
- Division 8 Volunteer Coordinator is Mark Mincek.
- The Detroit Model Railroad Club has scheduled open house events through the holidays and into the winter. Go to <a href="https://www.bmr.com/www.bmr.c
- The Stony Creek Model Railroad Club will have a session open to the public Farm Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen on December 10th From 12-3:00.

From Ken Chick

Beverlee Ann Chick passed away on November 3, 2023, at the age of 86, after a several years long battle with COPD. She was a resident of CCV I for 30 years at 16657 Country Knoll Drive. She is survived by her husband, her sister, three sons, four grandsons and two granddaughters.

Visitation will be at Griffin Funeral Home in Northville on Friday, January 12, 2024 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, January 13 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. There will be a short service at Noon followed by a luncheon at Rocky's of Northville at 1:30 p.m..

National Convention 2025 Regional Contacts

A lot of work needs to be completed before the Nation Convention. The region has established a number of work groups that can use additional volunteers.

The following are the persons that you can contact to assist with the convention.

Chairman-Scott Kremer

Co-Chair and Hotel Coordinator - Bill Neale (Note the primary hotel responsibility is through the NMRA Meeting and Trade Show personnel)

Treasurer - Steve Harsh	Webmaster - Marshall Stull
Non-Rail - Kitty Kremer	LDSIG - Ron Burkhardt
OPSIG - Eric Smith	RPM Conference - Mike Skibbe
PR/Marketing - Jim Zinser, Barry Hensel	Layout Visit - Brook and Jay Qualmann
Op Sessions - Ken Chick	Prototype Tours - Bruce Wolfe
Clinics - Andy Keeney	Volunteers - Div 6 - Bill McMillan
Yard Sale - Greg Rich	IT coordinator - Jeff Higgins

Positions still neededing to be filled.

Bus Coordinator	Contest Coordinator
Volunteers - Div 8	Merchandise - basically shirts

Hints and Tips

none presented this meeting

Show and Tell

Rad Jones Witcomb 64 ton Army Switcher

About 160 made, most sent to Europe, South Africa, and Britain for WWII. After the war, most stayed in Europe.



Mark Mincek B&O T-4 Mountain Engine

The B&O acquired the T-4 from the Boston and Main during a power shortage. The majority of the mountain class engines were home built.



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Ron King MMR Steam Locomotives

W.M. R.R. Baldwin 2-8-0 by Bachmann. Super detailing and weathered, added DCC and sound.



John Gavasso Steam Locomotives

2 AHM 2-8-4 Berkshires #765 Nickelplate painted and weathered #1225 Pere Marquette, stock AHM



Saul Kalbfeld Salvaged tie strips and turnouts

Tie strips from Central Valley. Hand laid turnouts can be salvaged and reused by placing them back on original Fast Track Fixture and replacing damaged parts.



Dave Thornton Steam Locomotive

O scale USRA 2-8-2 – NYC Class H-6



Curt Danielewicz Steam Locomotive

Athearn "Golden Spike edition" Big Boy 4-8-8-4



Pierre Willermet Steam Locomotive

CP 825 Mothert Hubbard CP CP really did run Mother Hubbard engines, I think in the east. Could not fid a picture of 825, model buy IHC.



Ken Scherer Steam Locomotive

Pere Marquette 1225, HO scale.



Bob Stelmach Steam Locomotive

1225 Brass Locomotive, built by Bornm and imported by River Raisin Models. S scale.



Mike Tranquilla Steam Locomotive

CNW 4-4-2 used for passenger service at the turn of the century. Unusual color scheme which is apparently prototypical.



Kent Augie Ridgeway Feed s & Fresh Eggs

- Purposed finished from Rad Jones
- Changed signage to prototype in my home town.
- Finished roof with tar & gravel
- Will reside in Kokomo area of my blayout



Greg Rich Mantua Brass Combine

Basket case rebuild of an old 50's brass version of a combine



Larry Wolohon Steam Locomotive

O scale – UP 2-8-0 by US Hobbies



Dan Shilt Steam Locomotive

H&L of B RR. Locomotive, Bachmann 0-4-0 saddle tank locomotives in On30 scale.



Irv Chmielewski Steam Locomotive

A 4-6-2 Pacific Camel Back locomotive. A current project is to convert the engine to DCC.



Tim Fisher Steam Engine

Santa Fe 4-8-4 2900 series were a World War II emergency order for 30 engines. Built during 1943 and 44, the engines weighed 510,000 pounds and tenders weighed 465,00 lb with 7,000 gal oil and 24,500 gal water. They were immediately assigned to the Plains division to pull wartime freight. Santa Fe had 61 Northern engines with 80" drivers, so the 2900s doubled the fleet. 2900s were tested at 4590 horsepower at 40 mph. The model is a Westside HO, part of a three



engine set. Tim painted the model and installed a sound decoder.

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The Mentor/Mentee file (give help/receive help) is at

https://drive.google.com/file/d/195MkOSzClIO4pfcGtM4LcnI-sIExBw2_/view?usp=sharing

The private Clinton River Division Facebook group is at

https://www.facebook.com/groups/288929175921717/

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.

December 20th - Clinton River Division Monthly Meeting Troy Christian Chapel

January 28, 2024 10am-3pm. Model Railroad Sale Hosted by Division 6 See flier below.

December 20, 2023 Meeting Live at Troy Christian Chapel and on Zoom Thursday, November 116, 2023, 7:00 pm

Clinic and Show and Tell will be Member Photos of Railroad Interest.

Send your photos to Irv Chmielewski at ncrdiv8secretary@gmail.com
If you have already sent your Pictures to Curt, there is no need to resend them.

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 do not receive it timely. Don't ask,

I have no idea why some providers think we are spam.

