

# **HOUSE**

February 20, 2025

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

Website:
<a href="http://www.nmra.org/">http://www.nmra.org/</a>





#### **Call to Order**

Call to Order: 7:01

Recognition of visitors and MMRs in attendance: Dan Lewis, Bruce DeYoung, Larry

Wolohan, and Ron King,

#### **Presidents Page**

Before today's modern methods of running a railroad from one central location, the railroads utilized a network of interlocking towers scattered across their entire rail network to keep trains moving and running safely. From simple single story towers that controlled a key spot on a railroad to multistory brick monoliths with hundreds of levers controlling highly complex railyards, there is nearly endless variety. Interlocking towers can be exceptionally fun to model and can add a lot to both the visual and operations side of your layout. With that in mind, I'm passing along a link to a website that lists hundreds of interlocking towers, complete with lots of photos for both your viewing pleasure and to help in your modeling.

http://	northamericaninter	lockings.com/	<u>states a-z</u>	z and	canada	8.html

Enjoy

Mark

#### Clinic

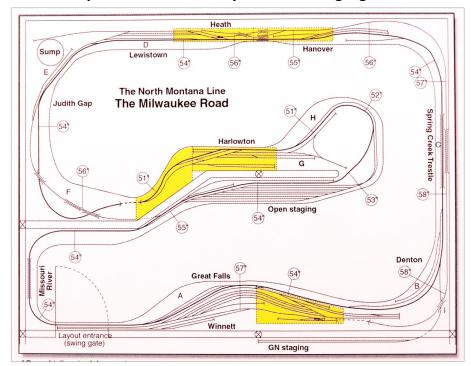
#### By Dan Lewis

Dan's clinic took us through his history in model railroading. He began in 1970 with a small HO-scale layout while a professor at a college in Oregon. However, that layout was short-lived. Later, he traded a set of golf clubs for a box of HO-scale equipment. Facing constraints on time, space, and budget, he eventually transitioned to an N-scale shelf layout.

When Dan moved to Michigan, his layout moved with him. To expand opportunities for scenery and structures, he added an additional section. Wanting to support operating sessions, he incorporated a removable section accessed through a hole in the wall. Over time, more sections were added. He also discovered that parts of the layout could be moved outdoors for photography, an aspect of the hobby he particularly enjoyed.

After purchasing a house, Dan fulfilled his dream of building a larger layout, integrating the original shelf sections into the design. His dedication and craftsmanship ultimately led to him earning the title of Master Model Railroader (MMR) #268.

Dan Lewis's Current Layout with Past shelf layout sections highlighted.



#### **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.

**Car House** approved.

**February Treasurer's report Dan Shilt**: \$3,,378.97 No Expenditures. Increase in funds due to members paying annual meeting fee. Approved.

With the start of the new year, the membership meeting fee is due. The fee is \$10 per year payable in January. Check with Dan Shilt, he will be happy to assist.

**Regional AP update** – Bruce DeYoung is Division 8 AP Chairman. Contact him if you are interested in getting an AP certificate. Bruce would be happy to assist you.

Division 8 members Steve Weber and John Martin were presented their Golden Spike Awards





AP Corner "It Doesn't Take A Village, But It Does Take A Team"

**Bruce De Young, MMR Division A.P. Coordinator** 

Since my February Column, I had the pleasure of re-visiting Steve Weber's layout again. This time I was joined by George Van Duyne and the two of us evaluated Steve's layout for the AP Scenery Certificate. George and I determined that Steve's scenery earned a Merit Award, and I

have passed the paperwork up the line to the Region. (Left to right in the photo is Steve, George, and Me.)



Now back to that concept of an AP 'Team'. Just a "heads-up", I will be looking for some volunteers here.

I can evaluate the work towards earning a number certificates by myself because it often comes down to a simple review of paperwork created by the NMRA member seeking the award. Those include the Golden Spike and these five AP Awards: Association Official, Association Volunteer, Author, Chief Dispatcher, and Electrical Engineer.

However, the remaining six certificates require evaluation of modeling work performed by the NMRA member applying for that certificate. That evaluation must be performed by two or more other NMRA members qualified to serve as those evaluators. Let's list those other certificates and then I will address what it means to be 'qualified to evaluate'.

Monthly Newsletter of the **Clinton River Division of** the North Central Region of th NM The AP Certificates needing an evaluation team are:

- · Cars
- · Civil Engineering
- · Motive Power
- · Prototype Models
- · Scenery
- · Structures

So, who is qualified to serve on an evaluation team for these six certificates? Any MMR or any NMRA member who has earned one of those certificates can serve on the team evaluating an applicant's work in that area. That is, if you have earned the Structures Certificate, you can serve on a team evaluating structures. You get the idea.

Now for my plea for volunteers. If you are an MMR, or a Certificate holder in one of the above six categories, and are willing to serve on an evaluation team, please send me an e-mail indicating that willingness. Just a simple e-mail with your name, NMRA Number and expiration date, and the certificates you hold (and would like to help evaluate) sent to bbdeyoung@comcast.net will suffice. I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Layout Tours: Successful tour were help on Feb. 22. Stay tuned for future tours.

Operating Session Plans – Curt Danielewicz can be contacted if you would like to be included in future Operating Session plans. Curt48044@Gmail.com

Mike Tranquilla will be hosting an operating session on April 26<sup>th</sup>. at his home in Livonia.
 Contact Mike at Michael Tranquilla@hotmail.com if you wish to participate.

**Door monitor** at the church: March - Scott Swinger April - Kent Augie

Thanks for volunteering. Please consider volunteering for future months. It only requires a half hour of your time. For security reasons the church door must remain locked at all times. Thanks for helping out the Division and keeping everyone safe.

#### Old Business -

Reminder that \$10 User fees for 2025 is due.

Monthly Newsletter of the Clinton River Division of the North Central Region of th NM

• Election – Elections were held. Current officers were reelected to their offices. If you think that you might want to get more involved as a division officer, at some time in the future, you can contact the current officers and they would be happy to let you assist in the current positions as well as joining in quarterly division Board meetings.

#### **New Business**

• A donation to the Troy Christian Chapel was for \$350 was approved by the members. We do not pay a monthly fee for the use of the meeting room.

#### **Hints and Tips**

- The Mentor/Mentee file (give help/receive help) is at <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/195MkOSzCIIO4pfcGtM4LcnI-sIExBw2">https://drive.google.com/file/d/195MkOSzCIIO4pfcGtM4LcnI-sIExBw2</a> /view? usp=sharing
- The private Clinton River Division Facebook group is at https://www.facebook.com/groups/288929175921717/
- For those on Medicare Part D (Medicare Advantage) ask your insurer if they can give you a "Grouper" discount. This can pay you for your NMRA dues.
- A presentation on the steps necessary to complete the onboarding process for NMRA Discord is on our website.
  - https://div8.ncrnmra.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Discord-Instructions.pdf
- Other Discord instructions are available on the NMRA website under presentations.
- If you plan on joining the meeting using Discord, Sign in around 6:30-6:45. Mark will be available during that time to make sure stuff works.

#### **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, the 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! 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 Car House. If you are interested in give a presentation or showing your layout please contact the coordinator.
  - Division 8 Volunteer Coordinator is Mark Mincek.
- Also see fliers at end of Car House for some future events.

#### **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 – to be filled

Treasurer - Steve Harsh	Webmaster - Marshall Stull		
Non-Rail - Kitty Kremer	LDSIG - Ron Burkhardt cdjhyoung@yahoo.com		
OPSIG - Eric Smith	RPM Conference - Mike Skibbe		
PR/Marketing - Jim Zinser, jimzinser44@outlook.com Barry Hensel barry76lt@wowway.com	Layout Visit - Brook and Jay Qualmann jayqualman@yahoo.com bqualman@yahoo.com		
Op Sessions - Ken Chick kdchick@wowway.com	Prototype Tours - Bruce Wolfe		
Clinics - Andy Keeney hunter48820@yahoo.com	Volunteers - Div 6 - Bill McMillan Div 8 - Mark Mencek themotive@att.net		
Yard Sale - Greg Rich	IT coordinator - Jeff Higgins		
Registration Desk - Doug Tagsold dtagsoldyahoo.com	Contest Coordinator - Rick Neibert neibertrichard@att.net		

#### Positions still needing to be filled.

Bus Coordinator	Merchandise - basically shirts

#### Monthly Newsletter of the Clinton River Division of the North Central Region of th NM

#### **Show and Tell**

Tim Fisher Pennsylvania R.R. Kerosene Lamp

Lantern was Jack Fisher's working as a switch engineer for PRR in Mansfield, Ohio. Jack was my Grandfather.



Dave Thornton Current Project

O scale B&O N-35 Hopper Car Book on B&O 2 bay offset side hopper cars.



David Cook Combine

Pullman Green Athearn Blue Box combine



#### Monthly Newsletter of the $Clinton\ River\ Division\ of$ the North Central Region of th NM

Greg Rich Scratch Built Buildings

Two Circa 1890 Buildings made from Card Stock And Basswood shapes. Modeled after old photos of actual buildings

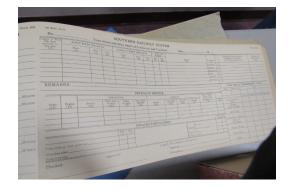




John Jackson Railroad Memorabilia

Birthday card w/folding steam loco. Southern Railway System Conductor and Trainmen Book circa 12/42





Jerry Shanek Memorabilia

UP Restoration and crew signed Big Boy Case and T-shirt Ticket stubs found in the wall during the restoration of the Detroit Michigan Central Station.





John Gavasso Railroad Memorabilia

Adlake R.R. Lantern, His first railroad lantern (painted gold)



Kent Aughe Railroad Memorabilia

Telegraph Register of Trains - Central Indiana Railway from 6/17/1911 and White Water Valley RR Heisler drawing



Mark Mincek Telephone Pole Advertising B&O

The B&O used these types of "hang type" ads back in the 1930's



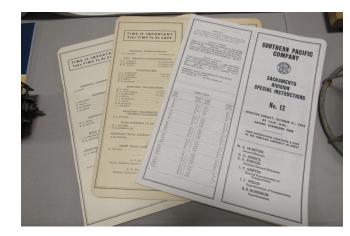
#### Dan Shilt Railroad Memorabilia

Huntsville & Lake of Bays RR 1. Spike from RR- c.1900 RR abandoned 1960



Larry Wolohon Railroad Memorabilia

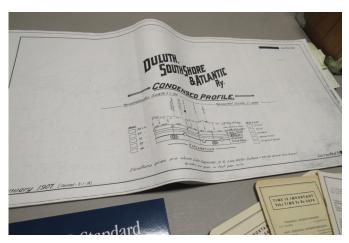
Three SP Timetables



2. Whistle from Steamer 1897-1932

Warren Yohe Railroad Memorabilia

DSS&A Profiles Railway Maps show track elevations and grades by mile along the right of way. It also shows statio9ns, water Tanks, bridges, and curve measurements.



Irv Chmielewski Railroad Memorabilia

Three railroad souvenir hats; The Ghan (central Australia), White Pass and Yukon (Canada), and Engine 1225 (Railroad Steam Institute – Michigan)



Book Ends No Show and Tell Slip submitted



New York Central

- Books detailing agreements with Firemen,
- Schedule of Wages

Similar book from Southern Pacific

No Show and Tell Slip submitted



#### **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.

March 20<sup>th</sup> - Clinton River Division Monthly Meeting Troy Christian Chapel March multiple days – Detroit Model Railroad Club See flier

Numerous train shows and train sale events. See fliers below.

#### **Division Meeting**

Live at Troy Christian Chapel and on Discord Thursday March 20, 7:00 pm

Clinic
Love Affair With Old Kits
BY Bruce De Young

Show and Tell
Old Kits, Either Built Or Still In Box
or Current Project

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 Discord connection 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

#### **Events, Train Shows and Sales**

## Celebrating our 90th year (and 51 years in Holly)!!! THE DETROIT MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

Presents

#### MICHIGAN'S LARGEST "O" SCALE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

104 N. Saginaw, Holly, Michigan 48442 • 248-634-5811

See multiple sound-equipped radio-controlled trains operating on 6500 feet of track.

Visit our website dmrrc.org



Like us on
Facebook

@DetroitMRRC

Look for us on You Tube DMRRC

#### **Open House Info:**

2024

Nov. 29 - Dec. 1 Dec. 7 & 8

Dec. 14 & 15

**ADMISSION** 

Adults(18-64): \$5.00 Seniors (65+): \$4.00 Kids (5-17): \$2.00 Kids under 5: Free



2025

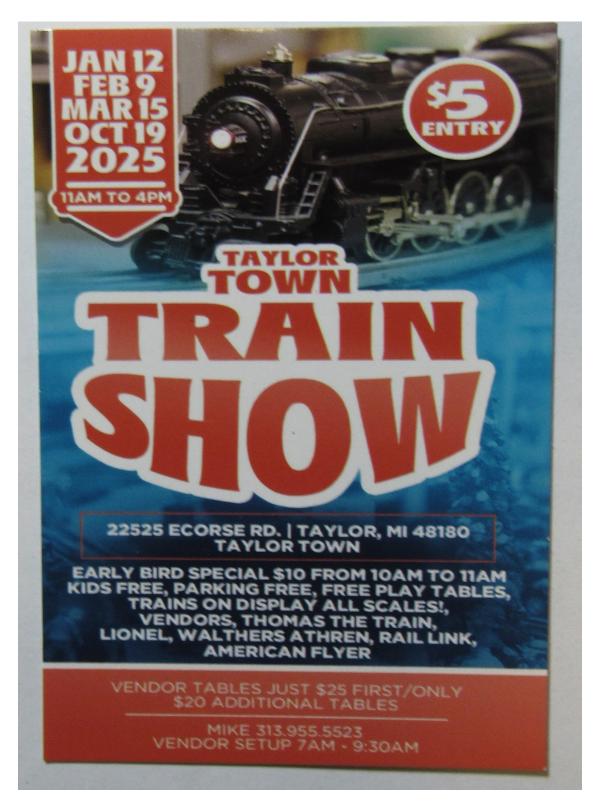
Jan. 11 & 12 Jan. 25 & 26 Mar. 1 & 2 Mar. 15 & 16

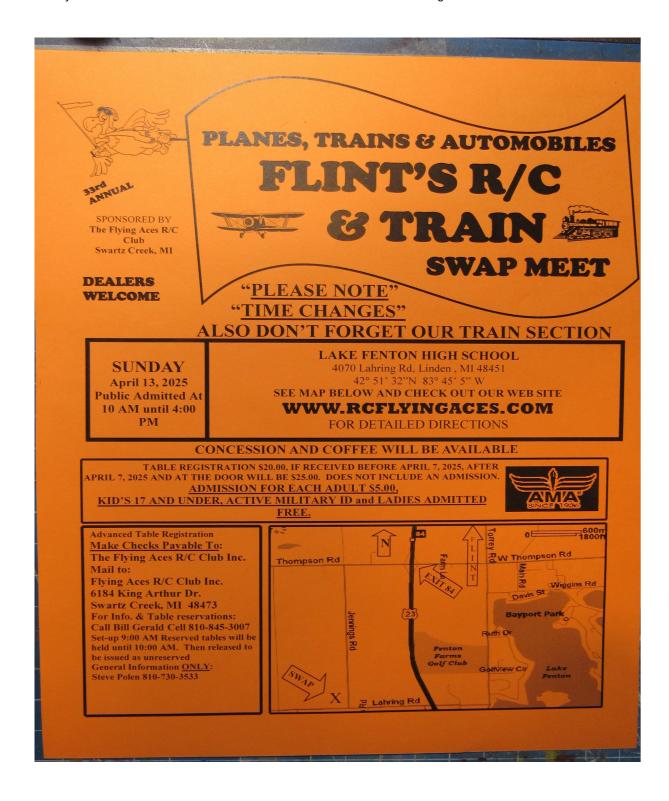
HOURS

Noon to 5 PM

**Memberships Available.** Join now for as little as \$30/year. The DMRRC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization - Donations gladly accepted. ADA Access Compliant







GRAND RIVER VALLEY RAILROAD CLUB

# THE GREATER GRAND RAPIDS SPRING 2025 TRAIN SHOW

SATURDAY APRIL 12, 2025

LOCATION: HSB, Inc. (Home School Building)

5625 Burlingame Ave SW

Wyoming, MI (NW corner Gezon

Pkwy & Burlingame Ave)

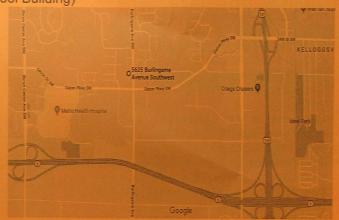
TIME: 10am to 3pm

COST: Adults - \$5, 12 and under

free

#### **OPERATING LAYOUTS:**

LEGO Display & Play Area Modular Club Layouts Lionel / O Scale \* On30 Scale; American Flyer / S Scale HO Scale \* N Scale



- OVER 200 VENDOR TABLES \* 70+VENDORS
  - THOMAS THE TRAIN PLAY AREA
  - HUGE LEGO DISPLAY & PLAY AREA

Drawing for Lionel "Thomas - The - Train" Set
Free Parking \*Door Prizes\* Food Concessions
Vendors with Model Trains in all Scales
Books \* RR Photos \* RR Collectibles
Family Fun for "Children" of All Ages
GRVRRC & WEST MICHIGAN S-GAUGERS
OPEN HOUSES ON 4/26/2025 10AM - 4PM

#### For Additional Information:

Call the club at (847) 691-1163

Or Email us at: trainshow@grvrrc.org https://grvrrc.org https://www.facebook.com/grandrivervalleytrainclub

