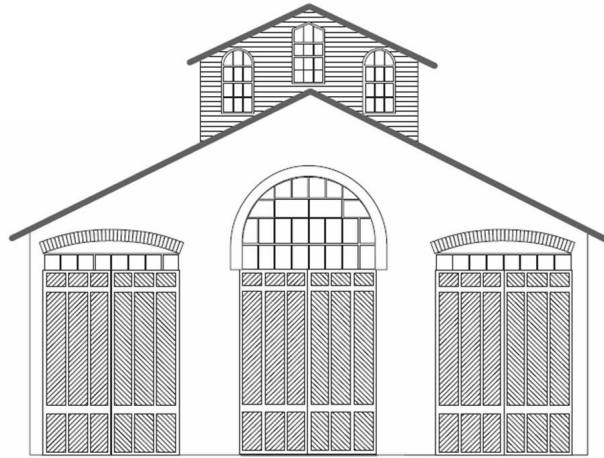


CAR



HOUSE

March 20, 2025

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



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



Call to Order

Call to Order: 7:01

Recognition of visitors and MMRs in attendance: Dan Lewis, Bruce DeYoung, Larry Wolohan, Scott Kremer, and Jim Zinser

Presidents Page

In keeping with March's clinic topic of building old kits, I'm passing along a link to a blog of a modeler who does some really nice kit building. It's always interesting to see how different modelers detail, weather, and put their own "spin" on things when they build a kit. While he hasn't posted in a while, there's a lot of great content here, complete with many photos of his work. Hope you enjoy this link and I'm looking forward to seeing you in April.

<http://viliusm.blogspot.com>

Enjoy!

Mark

Mark

Clinic

By Bruce De Young

Modeling the Old Ones

In Bruce's clinic, he identified why he liked to buy and build the old kits:

- Conducts searches on eBay
- Likes stepping back in time
- Preserving a piece of history
- To get a specific kit
- To learn new modeling techniques
- To boost scratch building skills

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Bruce has kits from the late 30's. Since many of these kit are paper based, often the materials can not be used, but they are useful for the drawings of the finished model. From these he can scratch build a model for his layout.

Kits can be old or odd and from long lived or obscure kit makers. Kits can also be a restoration project from a kit that has been started. Often the kits may have pieces missing or unusable, so parts may need to be substituted. Other times, he will change the kit to fit with what was left in the box. Bruce showed pictures of many of the kits he has or has worked with.

It's a bit like “model kit archaeology”



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: \$2,998.08. A check for \$350 was donated to the Troy Christian Chapel for there providing our monthly meeting facility.. 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. He reported that a number of A.P. certificates applications are in process. Bruce has a plea for volunteers. If you are an MMR, or a Certificate holder in one of the six A.P. 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.

AP Corner

“Recent Changes to Structures Certificate Requirements”

Bruce De Young, MMR
Division A.P. Coordinator

This month I want to alert you to a recent change to the Structures Certificate requirements. Just as a quick background, to earn this certificate, you have to build twelve (12) structures. Those twelve must include six (6) different kinds of structures. One type of structure must be a bridge or trestle. Also, at least six (6) must be scratch built. The rest must be “super detailed” with either scratch built or commercial details. Finally, at least six (6) of the structures need to earn a Merit Award. At some future time, I will devote a few columns to discuss the Structures Certificate in more detail. We also should talk more about the meaning of “super detailed” – either in a future column or via a clinic. With that background, we can now move on to the changes to the requirements that occurred last summer.

New: Up to three (3) of the twelve (12) total models may be “low-relief” structures, defined as structures without one modeled wall (against the backdrop or open on the aisle) with at least ten (10) scale feet depth (front to back) of side walls and roof that are super-detailed. Flats with no appreciable roofs or side walls are not considered “low-relief” structures and are not eligible.

Note1: Background building ‘flats’ are still not eligible to be used. Neither are background structures

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with a depth of less than ten (10) feet.

Note 2: A structure "... open to the isle" refers to a structure with a wall left off (and facing the isle) so that a visitor can see the interior of the structure and its detailing.

I had a number of background buildings on my layout in New Jersey, several were scratch built, some kit built, and one kit-bashed. Since I earned my Structures Certificate in 2008, none of those were eligible to be in the mix for the twelve (12) structures needed.

Let's finish up with some pictures of a couple of my background buildings.

This commercial kit has the 10' depth, but is not "super detailed".



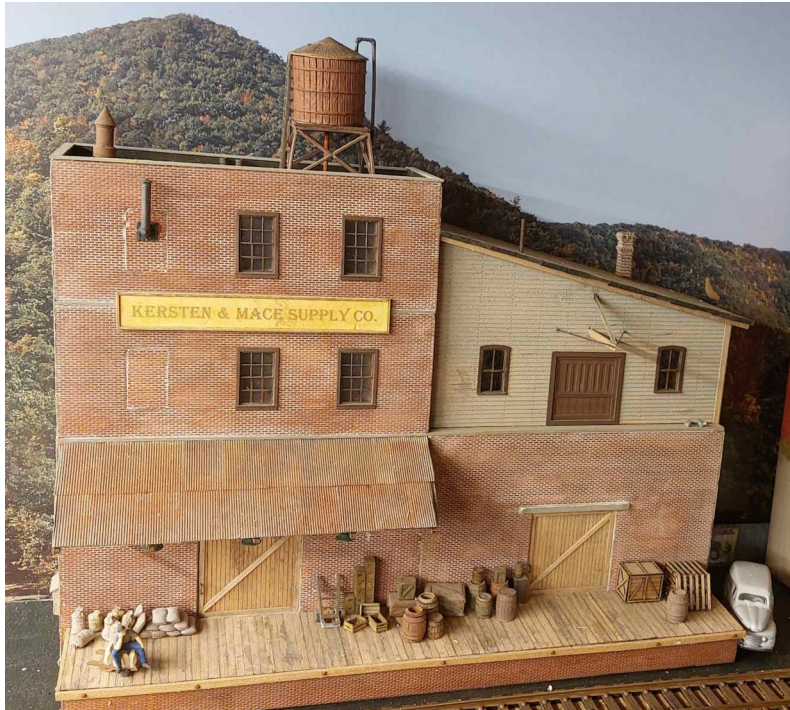
This nice structure is made from commercial plaster casting and is nicely detailed. However, it lacks the required ten (10) scale feet in depth to count.



This scratch build Company Store is 13' in depth and would now qualify.



Finally, here is another of my scratch builds that would now qualify for the Structures Certificate.



So, there's a look at the latest change to the Structures Certificate options. One that I think makes a lot of sense.

In conclusion, many of us check out the requirements for a particular certificate (and even print out the necessary forms), but then take several years to complete the work. I encourage you to check back on the NMRA website from time to time to make sure that the requirements and forms for the certificates that you are working on have not changed in the interim. Until next month ...

Layout Tours: Layout Tours are now scheduled for May 17th at Steve Weber's and Dave Katona's. See the attached flier for details.

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 26th. at his home in Livonia. Contact Mike at Michael_Tranquilla@hotmail.com if you wish to participate.

Door monitor at the church: April - Kent Augie; May-Bruce DeYoung

Thanks for volunteering. Please consider volunteering for future months. It only requires a half hour of your time just before the meeting.. 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.**

New Business

- Scott Kremer presented a short update on the progress towards the July National Convention. Currently, over 500 people have registered. The clinic schedule is being finalized and will be available on the conference web site shortly. All convention preparations are on schedule or completed. Scott did pass around a sign up sheet asking for convention volunteers. He got a good response from the members present.
- A discussion about the continued requirement for an on-line meeting attendance process. Comments about the amount of disruption and delay to our meeting were brought forward. Consensus was that reached and members voted to drop on-line meetings unless special circumstances come up.

Hints and Tips

- When using newly purchased electronics, use a meter to check that everything is compatible. A power supply like a "wall wart" can put out a different voltage than the rated amount depending on the current draw, sso use a meter to check what the output is.
- The Mentor/Mentee file (give help/receive help) is at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1hj4moARyx4iKjpShtSzk8mVanFlN9vq0/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=116662642115004050447&rtpof=true&sd=true
- The private Clinton River Division Facebook group is at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/288929175921717/>

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- 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.
- For information on how to connect to the NMRA Discord portal: <https://div8.ncnmra.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Discord-Instructions.pdf>
- Other Discord instructions are available on the NMRA website under presentations.

Announcements

Please notify Irv Chmielewski (NCRDIV8SECRETARY@gmail.com) if you would like to have an announcement posted in Car House. Provide written details

- **The 2025 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 dtagsold@yahoo.com	Contest Coordinator - Rick Neibert neibertrichard@att.net

Positions still needing to be filled.

Bus Coordinator	Merchandise - basically shirts
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Show and Tell

Subject of the March meeting was Old Kits, either still in the box, or under construction. With the large number of submissions, I will not try to connect descriptions with individual pictures for this months Car house.

<p>Michael Kandolf Two Walters shorty passenger car kits Oscar and Piker. One Hobbytown "Geep" drive</p>	<p>David Revel McCarville Studios Kits . Bunch of kits-Colorado prototypes, especially around Placerville .In Process-Placerville Residence #1</p>
<p>Warren Yohe Unbuilt kit of a Slaughter house by Dyna Model Products dated 1966 copyright.</p>	<p>Larry Wolohon 1) Ambroid HO Scale NYC center flow hopper 2)"O" scale D&RGW box car 3) Two Box Cars, built & still in kit form unbuilt.</p>
<p>Rad Jones Boat kit by Model Tech – been in inventory for 10 years. Very detailed N scale fishing boat.</p>	<p>Mike Tranquilla Old wood craftsman kit of three house with wood sides, metal windows and Plastic roof.</p>
<p>Bob Scherer A LaBelle Car kit, had it forever. Price tag \$5.95</p>	<p>George VanDuyne 1. REA Express Reefer, circa 1970, Ambroid kit? 2. Walters Passenger car coach-to be assembled some day.</p>
<p>John Martin Fordson Kerosene locomotive, used in Logging railroads. Could pull a couple of cars.</p>	<p>Gail Braman In "N" scale: Corner of Liberty, 3rd and Kaighn in Camden N.J. Working on detailed brick work.</p>
<p>Phil Doulittle La Belle Colorado Midland Refer- built in 1971 La Belle 1886 Business Car Kit Ambroid Caboose kit HSM House</p>	<p>Jim Zinser Sand Hill & Western Box Car. Old kit from Redford Model Railroad Club, named for the club's railroad.</p>
<p>Ken Scherer Old B&O Passenger Car</p>	<p>Steve Weber Central Valley Norfolk & Western ventilated Box Car Suydan Old time station</p>
<p>Dave Thornton Williams (Former Kusan) tank car kit.</p>	<p>Bruce De Young Vintage Kits from FSM, K&L House of Wood, McFadden Scale Models, and Summit Engineering.</p>
<p>Dan Lewis Milwaukee Coaling Tower, wood kit with enhancements.</p>	<p>John Gavasso 1950's Varney "Docksider" steam locomotive kit.</p>

<p>John Jackson Current Project: Creating Power system for Accessories using Walmart’s terminal strips/drops Old Kit: 1978 Woodland Scenics – Smiley’s Towing service.</p>	<p>Kent Aughe Purchase at Parlane Hobbies in Chicago <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keljan “Machine Works” – 1973 • Railhead “Superior Transfer” -1973 Northeast Scale Models “Watch Tower”</p>
<p>Tim Fisher (NOTE: Tim’s first Div 8 meeting was in 1985) Built Plymouth Freight House for this meeting</p>	<p>Gary Williams HO Caboose kit by Quality Craft Models Northumberland, PA. Interesting combination of wood, brass sheet, and cast metal.</p>
<p>Bill Moore “Carstens Flop House” a Classic kit by Campbell Models</p>	<p>Irvin Chmielewski “Bret’s Brewery” a Classic kit by Campbell Models</p>

OK, Now for something different. It is the Division 8’s version of “Where’s Waldo”. Following are the Pictures of the Show and Tell Tables. How many of the member described items can you find?









SCHEDULES

For more information, contact the organization listed. Event Fliers are attached when available. Check with the venue before the event.

April 17th - Clinton River Division Monthly Meeting Troy Christian Chapel

March multiple days – Detroit Model Railroad Club See flier

April 26th Op session at Mike Tranquilla Contact Mike at if you wish to participate .

[Michael Tranquilla@hotmail.com](mailto:Michael.Tranquilla@hotmail.com)

April 5th- Spring Modelers Meet-presented by Division 1. More information below.

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

Division Meeting

**Live at Troy Christian Chapel and on Discord
Thursday April 17, 7:00 pm**

Clinic

Small Scenery Details

By Rad Jones

Show and tell

Scenery 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 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

Train Shows and Other Events





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

GRVRRRC & 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>



33rd ANNUAL

SPONSORED BY
The Flying Aces R/C
Club
Swartz Creek, MI

**DEALERS
WELCOME**

PLANES, TRAINS & AUTOMOBILES FLINT'S R/C & TRAIN SWAP MEET



**"PLEASE NOTE"
"TIME CHANGES"**

ALSO DON'T FORGET OUR TRAIN SECTION

<p>SUNDAY April 13, 2025 Public Admitted At 10 AM until 4:00 PM</p>	<p>LAKE FENTON HIGH SCHOOL 4070 Lahring Rd, Linden , MI 48451 42° 51' 32"N 83° 45' 5" W SEE MAP BELOW AND CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE WWW.RCFLYINGACES.COM FOR DETAILED DIRECTIONS</p>
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CONCESSION AND COFFEE WILL BE AVAILABLE

TABLE REGISTRATION \$20.00, IF RECEIVED BEFORE APRIL 7, 2025, AFTER APRIL 7, 2025 AND AT THE DOOR WILL BE \$25.00. DOES NOT INCLUDE AN ADMISSION.
ADMISSION FOR EACH ADULT \$5.00.
KID'S 17 AND UNDER, ACTIVE MILITARY ID and LADIES ADMITTED FREE.



<p>Advanced Table Registration Make Checks Payable To: The Flying Aces R/C Club Inc. Mail to: Flying Aces R/C Club Inc. 6184 King Arthur Dr. Swartz Creek, MI 48473 For Info. & Table reservations: Call Bill Gerald Cell 810-845-3007 Set-up 9:00 AM Reserved tables will be held until 10:00 AM. Then released to be issued as unreserved General Information <u>ONLY</u>: Steve Polen 810-730-3533</p>	
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SYMC Thanksgiving Train Show

**ST VALENTINES HALL
25875 Hope St. Redford Mi 48239**

Sunday November 30, 2025

**Early Bird Door BUSTING DEALS
10 AM -11:00 Early Entry \$10.00**

Show 11:00 to 3:30 PM

Kids Under 14 Free

Over 14 \$5.00

Family Special \$8.00

Proceeds Sponsoring Mission Choo Choo

**Getting Model Railroading Back On Track Connecting Generations
Building Futures**

**LIONEL K-LINE MTH MARX O GAGE SCALE O 3 RAIL HO SCALE N SCALE STANDARD
PREWAR POST WAR MPC & MODERN TRAINS ACCESORIES HOTWHEELS SLOTCARS AND
MORE**

SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY

**FEATUREING HOTWHEEL BIGFOOT JUMPPING O GAGE LOCOMOTIVE!!!
CATCH THE SCOUT ELVES DOING SILLY THINGS ON THE GUM DROP MODEL RAILROAD**

**For More INFO CALL Joe 248-875-9970
Email: NJJOLINES@gmail.com**