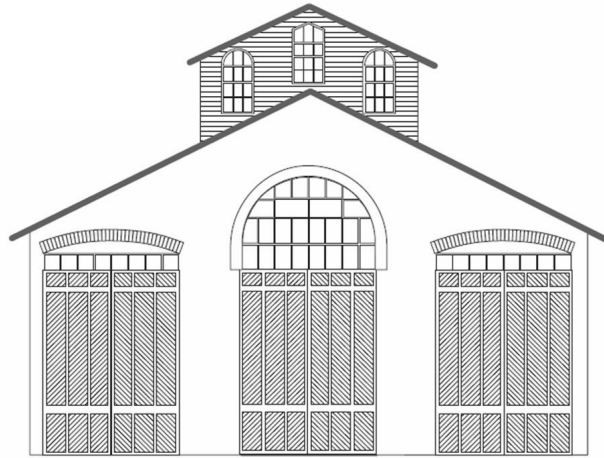


CAR



HOUSE

Dec 18, 2025

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



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



Call to Order: 7:02

Recognition of visitors and MMRs in attendance: Bruce DeYoung, Larry Wolohan, Greg Rich, and Ron King, Dan Lewis, and Jim Zinser.

President's Page

First, I hope everybody had a wonderful Holiday and you had some time to enjoy the festivities, along with getting that model railroad item that you wanted from Santa.

My December clinic on Creating an Era Prototypical Freight Car Fleet ended with a big focus on how to best research freight cars that you might want to include in your fleet. One thing that I've found in researching my own fleet is that research often ends up requiring more research. In keeping with that thought, my holiday model railroading discovery that I wanted to pass on was a source of information on tank cars, which tend to be very difficult to research. In addition to the ORER, a similar type of publication was used for tracking the North American tank car fleet. It's called the "Tank Car Capacities Tariff" book. This book lists all the tank cars in North America, along with who is leasing them. This can help determine if that oil company tank car that you're considering for your 1950's layout (or whatever year you model) was still around at that time or found another use for another customer.

While ORER's are pretty easy to come by, the Tank Car Capacities Tariff does not seem to be readily available. Fortunately, somebody has made copies of three of these available for purchase online. My 1955 version is already on order!

Attached is the link to these.

[https://www.lulu.com/search?](https://www.lulu.com/search?contributor=Ian+Cranstone&adult_audience_rating=00&sortBy=PRODUCT_SALES_90_DAYS)

[contributor=Ian+Cranstone&adult_audience_rating=00&sortBy=PRODUCT_SALES_90_DAYS](https://www.lulu.com/search?contributor=Ian+Cranstone&adult_audience_rating=00&sortBy=PRODUCT_SALES_90_DAYS)

Hope to see you at our next meeting,

Mark

Note: See an additional source in Hints and Tips.

Clinic
Putting together an Era Prototypical Freight Car Fleet
By
Mark Mincek

Mark developed a collection of historical information that he used to make his freight car fleet more prototypical. This was not a breakdown of car types by railroad, nor was it a rivet-counter approach to how individual cars were built. Mark's railroad is set in October 1955, so he used this information to establish a prototypical mix of cars that would realistically have been operating at that time. He eliminated cars that would have been retired by that date, as well as cars that would not yet have entered service.

Mark emphasized that choosing not to follow this process is not "wrong." If you are having fun, then you are doing it right. He also provided an overview of how freight cars changed over time, including developments in braking systems, the gradual replacement of wood with steel in car construction, and the use and eventual elimination of roof walks. In addition, Mark reviewed the various freight car markings and stencils that appeared during different eras.

A copy of the full presentation is posted on our Division web site.

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.

November Treasurer's report Dan Shilt: \$3,061.83 approved \$60 in user fees collected.

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 – Merit Awards was presented to:

John Martin – Master Builder Scenery



AP Corner

2025 AP Roundup

Bruce De Young, MMR

Division A.P. Coordinator

This month's AP Corner will serve as a summary of the Division's AP activities over the past year. Well actually, the summary goes back to November 2024 when I assumed the role of A.P. Coordinator for Division 8. George Van Duyne got my term off to a quick start when I presented him with his Golden Spike Certificate in December 2024. I have included that certificate in the list below. Including George's Golden Spike, 22 certificates have been presented in the following categories: Golden Spike (4); A.P. Certificates (5); and Merit Awards (13). The list follows.

Golden Spike

George Van Duyne

Steve Weber

John Martin

Dave Katona

A.P. Awards

Steve Weber – Scenery

John Martin – Scenery

Phil Doolittle – Chief Dispatcher

Dan Shilt – Volunteer

Irv Chmielewski – Volunteer

Merit Awards

Gail Braman – 6 for Structures

George Van Duyne – Motive Power

Bruce De Young – 6 for Cars (National Convention Contest Room)

I want to thank the members who participated in the A.P Program since I have assumed the role of A.P. Coordinator. I invite all members to consider participating as we move into 2026!

Layout Tours: There will be tours of two layouts on February 22nd. The layout tours are hosted by John DePauw and Bob Stelmach. Flier is attached.

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

Door monitor at the church: January - John Jackson; February - Chris Dobies

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 –

- Mark is putting together a group to go to the Veteran's hospital to perform maintenance of a layout. The final date will be set after the first of the year.

New Business

- April 18th will be the spring model meeting in Toledo. This is the third year for this event. Board voted to provide \$500 funding safety net if event loses money.

Hints and Tips

- The Mentor/Mentee file (give help/receive help) is at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1hj4moARyx4iKjpShtSzk8mVanFln9vq0/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=116662642115004050447&rtpof=true&sd=true
- The private Clinton River Division Facebook group is at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/288929175921717/>
- An additional source of information to help with setting a timeline, check out the presentation “Modelers Guide Using Timelines to select eras and Focus your modeling BY John Burchnall. It is posted at <https://cincy-div7.org/how-to-articles>
- It was reported that Woodland Scenic’s’ Track cleaning product is not good.

Announcements

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

- See fliers at end of Car House for future events including Detroit Model Railroad Club and a number of upcoming train show/sales.
- A list of train shows is also available on the website <https://www.trainshowlist.com>

Show and Tell

Ron King MMR
HO PRR Reefer

PRR scratch built reefer.
Paint, decals and weathering from
a 1958 M.R.

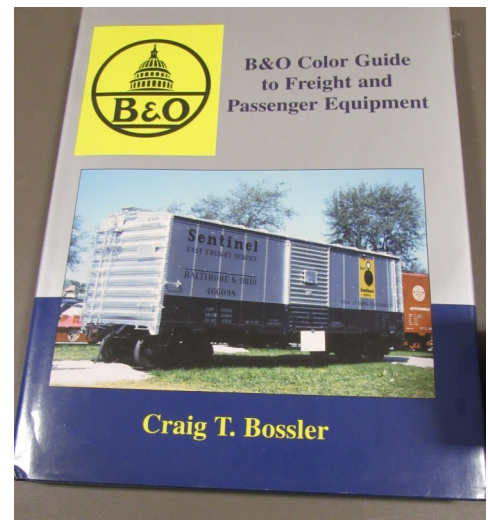


Tim Fisher
Santa FE Freight Cars

S.F. Reefer "Ship Santa Fe All the Way" Map and Grand
Canyon Slogan.
S.F. Box "Ship Santa Fe All the Way" Map and Chief Slogan.
Tidewater Tank

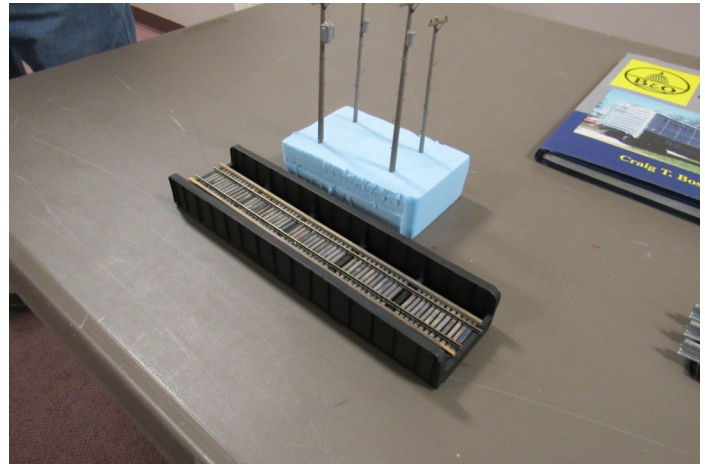


Dave Thornton
Freight Cars
-O scale B&O Wagon-top Boxcar and Covered Hopper
B&O Freight car book.



Steve Weber
Current Project

Campbell Though Plate Bridge
Telephone poles with climbing spikes



Phil Doolittle
Freight Cars

CN Refrigerator Car
lightly weathered



David Katona
Penn Central Gondolas

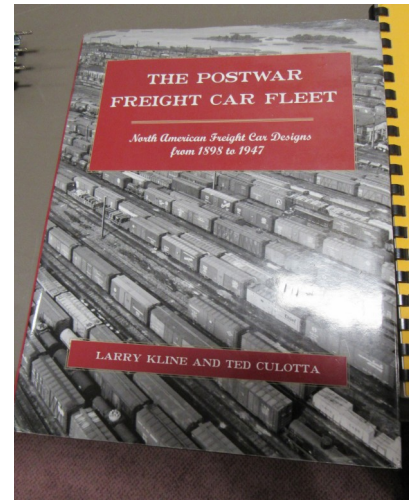
Kits bought around 1979 Never built
Finally built them during the pandemic.
They were flat kits, sides only. Had to build floor and frames.



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

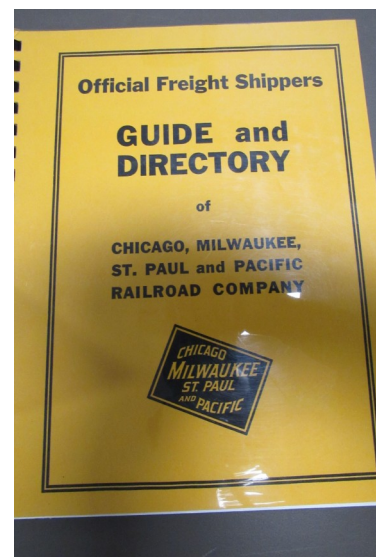
Larry Wolohon
Freight Cars

NMRA Book "The Postwar Freight car Fleet"
GN 2 Bay Covered Hopper - O Scale
Matheson Dry Ice Car – O Scale



Dan Lewis
Milwaukee Road Shippers Guide

Shippers guide covering every industry on the entire system.



Irv Chmielewski
Explosives Car

"Misery Bay Copper" Explosives Box Car with accurately markings
Sent to Irv by a National Convention attendee who had a railroad similar to Irv's Iron River Valley Railroad.



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

Gary Figi
Freight Cars

Piggy back flatcar Inter-
model with
Ford Genuine Parts trailers

Long Island Rail Road with
White Castle Trailer



The following did not have a Show and Tell Slips submitted.



SCHEDULES

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

January 15th. Division Meeting Troy Christian Chapel
Sunday, Feb. 22, 2026 1-4 p.m. Division Layout Tours Open Houses
See Attached Fliers for more details.
A long list of train show and other event fliers are attached

Division Meeting

Live at Troy Christian Chapel
Thursday January 15, 7:00 pm

Clinic
By Ron King
Detailing a Locomotive
Show and Tell
Locomotives, Christmas Presents, or Current Project.

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

Clinton River Division Layout Open House

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026
1:00-4:00 PM**

John DePauw, 1303 Ridgewood Circle, Lake Orion, MI



John models the EJ&E main line in the Chicago area from South Chicago to Waukegan in HO Scale. The railroad is multi-level in a 60' x 38' space. It has five yards, four on the EJ&R and one on the BN, and it interchanges with all the various railroads serving the Chicago area. There are approximately 100 staging tracks. In an Op Session, the railroad can handle seven Yard Operators and 10 or more Mainline Engineers, plus two Dispatchers and a Trainmaster. Scenery is 90% complete.

Robert Stelmach, 1551 Hosner Rd., Oxford, MI



Bob's S Scale proto-freelanced layout, the Red Pine & Oxville RR, is a shortline that serves mid-Michigan in the 1930s. It has a NYC interchange, and it features a coal mine, gravel industry, logging operations, farming, and small-town businesses in an 18' x 24' space. Scenery is 85% complete, and the mainline is 110'. It has been published in several of the magazines (MR, NMRA Mag, S-Gauge).

Train Shoes and Other Events

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.

This Victorian
Style Railroad
Depot was
designed and
built by
Dave Kunz.

This Depot has
won numerous
awards and has
returned to our
layout after
Dave's passing.



Dave Kunz

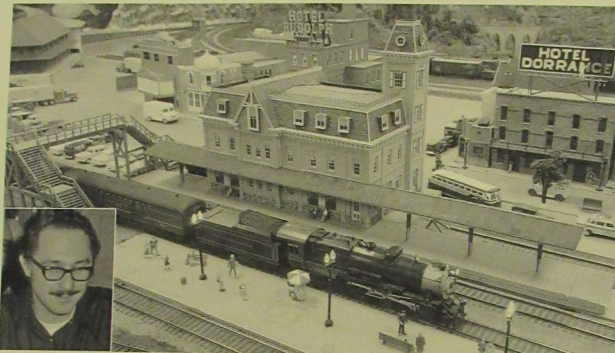


Photo courtesy of Weldon Greiger

Like us on
Facebook

@DetroitMRRC

Visit our
website

dmrrc.org

Look for
us on
YouTube

DMRRC

Open House Info:

2025

Nov. 28, 29 & 30

Dec. 6 & 7

Dec. 13 & 14



2026

Jan. 10 & 11

Jan. 24 & 25

Mar. 7 & 8

2025

NEW HOURS

11 AM to 5 PM

ADMISSION

Adults (18-64): \$5.00

Seniors (65+): \$4.00

Kids (5-17): \$2.00

Kids under 5: Free

2026

NEW HOURS

Noon to 4 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

5th Annual MODEL RAILROAD SALE!

Hosted by Division 6
North Central Region - National Model Railroad Association

SATURDAY – JANUARY 24, 2026
10am - 3pm



2|42 Community Center

7526 Grand River Ave, Brighton, MI 48114

200 Tables of model railroad items - ALL scales!

Food available – FREE parking



Admission –

\$5 per person over 18 years old (spouses/children under 18 = FREE!)

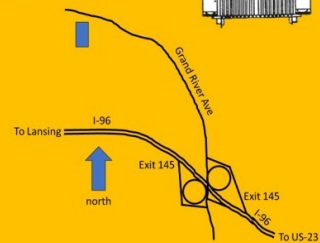
\$10 per person Early Bird entry at 9am

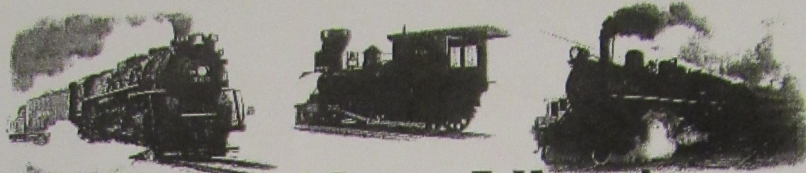
VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS FREE (WITH ID)

Information –

Barry or Terry 734-649-3056 (6pm-9pm) div6trainshow@gmail.com

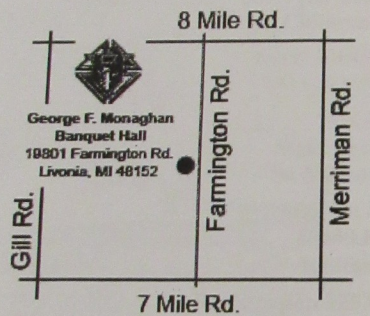
VENDOR INFO – vendor tables are \$26 each – see back of flyer





7th Annual George F. Monaghan
Ole Toy Train Show
 Saturday, January 31, 2026

Monaghan Banquet Hall, 19801 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI 48152
 (between 7 and 8 Mile Rds.)



For Table Reservations
 Call or email Brian Klotzer at:
 313.255.0466
 k432098@aol.com

Other Contacts:
 Greg: club2690@gmail.com
 Cliff: lip7@sbcglobal.net

Public Admission:
 \$4.00 / Person, \$7.00 / Family
 Early Birds / \$10.00 (10:00 am)
Show Opens to the Public:
 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
 Vendor Tables Set-up: 7:00 am

Table Donations:
 Make checks payable to:
Monaghan Banquet Hall
 19801 Farmington Rd
 Livonia, MI 48152
 (All Tables are 8 Feet Long)

Registration: \$25.00
Day of Show: \$30.00

Operating Train Layout
Food and Refreshments
Trains Tested
\$1.00 Raffle New Train Set

Come Join Us and Get a Table!

**** Note: No refunds for cancellations the week of the show****

Sponsored by: Monaghan Council # 2690

Central Region.

Take care: Gary A Figi • a.k.a. Train Room Gary • trainroom@gamil.com 248-563-2436



Master Schedule • NMRA 40 Home Layout Tours On My YouTube Channel Train Room Gary

<https://www.youtube.com/user/trainroomgary>

Episode #1 of 8 • January 8, 2026 @ 4PM EST



Bill McMillan - G • 1/29th
Irvin Chmielewski - HO
Mike Tranquilly - HO
Norm Logan - HO
Bill Neale - HO
Byrne Blumenstein • HO Scale

Episode #2 of 8 • January 22, 2026 @ 4:00 PM EST



Dan Lewis - N
Jim & Louis Dennis - HO
Norm Charbonneau - 3 Rail Scale
Gregory Rich - HO
John DePaw - HO

Episode #3 of 8 • February 12, 2026 @ 4:00 PM EST



Rad Jones - N
Robert Stelmach - S
Ron Gate - HO
Steve Smith - HO
Dick Tomlinson - O 2-Rail Scale

Episode #4 of 8 • February 26, 2026 @ 4:00 PM EST



Bill Bartlam - S
Gaylord Gill - S
Richard Harden - HO
Michael Burgett - HO
Saul Kalbfeld - HO

Episode #5 of 8 • March 12, 2026 @ 4:00 PM EST



Rick Ware - N HO O & G
Barry Hensel - HO
Doug Tagsold - 1/72 Scale
Jeff Fryman - HO
Jerry Sahagian - HO

Episode #6 of 8 • March 26, 2026 @ 4:00 PM EST



Jim Talbott - HO
Jim Tilly - HO
John Emley - HO
Michael Finkler - HO
Rick Lecki - HO

Episode #7 of 8 • April 9, 2026 @ 4:00 PM EST




Rick Norbert - HO
Ken Chick - N
Andy Keeney - HO
Robert Truax - HO
Chuck Hughes - HO
Ken Johnson - HO
Mark Cowles - N

Episode #8 of 8 • April 23, 2026 @ 4:00 PM EST



Dawn Autio & Tom Weaver - HO
Kevin Guthrie N
Howard Ziegel - O • City Street Cars
Ron King - HO
Michael Kissler - HO



**Taylor Town Train Show
and Sale**

Weathering class 1pm
\$10 (with purchase of
train from a vendor)

Early Bird 10am-11am \$10
Over 150 vendors tables

All scales

Free Parking

22525 Ecorse Rd

Taylor Michigan 48180

11am-4pm \$5 entry

**Taylor Town Train
Show and Sale**

February 15th 2026

March 15th 2026

April 12th 2026

October 11th 2026

22525 Ecorse Rd Taylor

Michigan 48180

11am-4pm \$5

KIDS FREE

Vendor tables \$25 each

call Mike 3139555523