

NMRA Lone Star Region Division 8 Meeting

July 25, 2009

Meeting called to order by President Ray Byer at 10:38 at Houston Railroad Museum.

First order of business was to thank Tom Marsh for allowing TGD to meet at the museum.

Introductions Because of so many new faces in the crowd, Ray asked each of us to give an introduction.

Plaques handed out Chili cook off plaques were handed out to the winners.

09 Div 8 youth award winner, Blake Bogs, was also given a plaque, MDC Shay kit, and the how to assemble book, to commemorate him being our youth winner.

How to construct a model clinic - Next business was to question those attending on having a series of clinics on how to construct models. The floor was open to numerous suggestions including to show how to construct these models for a merit award in the AP program, where the clinics are to be held, when do the clinics start, what type of models are to be built, scale of models, Who is going to teach the sessions, and if they are going to be monthly or weekly. The RR museum, Libraries, churches, and Hobby Lobbys are possible locations. It was even suggested that a clinic on bridge building could be done at Zube park for HALS.

After much discussion it was determined that the clinic will start on Sept 12 and run for four consecutive Saturdays at the RR museum.... Providing that the museum has those dates clear. Model and tools will be provided by the members. The model to be built will be a simple DPM, Walthers kit; Laser cut kit, or scratchbuilt... all pertinent information TBD at a later date and posted in the next issue of the Waybill and/or mass emailing..

If this first session goes well then future sessions will follow. It was stressed that we need participation for this to work. The "Modeling with the MMR" series that was tried a few years ago started out great, but the longer they went on, the fewer participated, until the fourth session had only one individual wanting to attend.

Waybill - Tom Marsh the Waybill editor reported ... August 15 is the Waybill Deadline. Waybill will be out around the end of August. It was stressed to please update your contact information with the NMRA National or Div 8. Div 8 contact information can be sent to Div 8. Look at the Div 8 web site for where to send the information too. <http://www.kingswayrc.com/division8/index.html>. The current roster has about 1/3 of the Waybill emails bouncing back as undeliverable, or worse, no email contact.

It was decided that we will send a first class snail mail to all current members. In it will be an info sheet asking for contact details (email address) as well as a self-addressed envelope to be mailed back to the Div with all the correct information. All the members need to do is fill out the information sheet, stick it in the envelope, add a stamp, and drop it in a post office box.

The final details on the clinic seminars will appear in this issue as well

LSR Board meeting report Great time was in Irving at the convention. Train ride to the stockyards was fun. 234 attendees.

Future Conventions 2010 in San Antonio, 2011 in Lubbock, 2012 in Houston. The big news is that Lubbock stepped up to the plate as the wild card. That made Houston in 12 instead of 11.

New LSR officers – Bill McPherson - President; Loren Neufeld - Vice President; Rocky Jackson - Sect Treas

Treasurer Report - Peter Bryan reported that in our account we have \$5602.66 with an additional amount of \$40 in petty cash. Peter recommended that the Division does not need that much of a surplus. At some point down the road, the div needs to liquidate some of those assets. One Possible suggestion was donations to clubs. Nothing was set in stone only that somewhere down the road it will be looked into.

Future National Conventions – It was pointed out that Houston will host two National Conventions in 2010. One being the N Scale collectors meet o be held in Sugar Land in July. The other is the Sn3 Symposium in Feb. Both conventions will need manpower and the Div 8 will be called upon to supply some of the manpower.

TGD Annual picnic – Annual picnic date is Saturday Oct 12 at Zube park. Fried Turkeys will be the feature unless another hurricane pays Houston a visit, and we will have to settle on hamburgers and hotdogs like we did with Ike. The turkeys that were to be cooked last year were lost in the power outage.

Youth member – It was brought up that Div 8 needs to sponsor a youth for 2010 again. Clubs are to locate a possible youth for the div 8 nominee. Ages are 6-16???

NEW Business - To increase participation it was suggested that posters be put up in hobby stores promoting Div 8 basically to let the population know that we have a local chapter of the NMRA alive and well in Houston. It was also brought up to go back to your respective clubs and get the word out about the goings on in Div 8 including the upcoming construction seminars.

The RR museum was thanked again for allowing us the space.

Meeting was adjourned at approx 11:45 so as members attending can look at the equipment as well as the archived paperwork.

Respectfully submitted by

Tracy Mitchell MMR
Secretary
Div 8

