



Twin Cities Division
News Update
Fall Layout Tours October 22
1:00 to 4:00 PM

This Sunday afternoon, October 22nd, The Twin Cities Division is inviting you to travel to the bold Northwest of the Metro area to see two great Twin Cities Division Railroads. The timing is perfect, the Randolph Train Show is Saturday and the Vikings are not playing on Sunday so get out of the house and take a pleasant drive to enjoy the greatest hobby in the world!

First on the tour is Bill Sampson Sr's Great Northern in 1970. The railroad features great "scenes" that reflect life and locations on the Great Northern in 1970. The Railroads Operations plan reflect the yard, interchange and on line traffic accurate for Bill's era. Operations feature a Dispatcher and signaling to control train movement.

Bill's railroad is featured in the YouTube video "GN in 1970" series, if you want a preview take a look at the video Season 3 Episode 5, GN in 1970 on YouTube. While that video is wonderful, seeing Bill's layout running in person is a real treat.

The GN is at 406 Walnut Ave SW, St. Michael, 55376.

The second model railroad tour will be Ken Zieska's S Scale Railroad in Plymouth. Ken has been doing some serious scenery rework since the railroad was last open for viewing. Check out the Oak Savanna scene and the Rumansota River Valley. The railroad reflects Urban and Grainger railroading in the late 60's but Ken sneaks in a consist from the 80's just so he can have colorful hoppers. Ken's layout is just beginning operations using an active staging yard to stage branch line and urban switching jobs. Plymouth is on the way to and from St. Michael

S Scale is at 11810 52nd Ave. N. Plymouth 55442.

wait...wait, there is still more!

As October wraps up and you enjoy some final Pumpkin Lattes, the action in the Twin Cities Division is just heating up.

CROSSING GATE LIVE

Begin November 3rd and running Friday evenings through February, the Crossing Gate Live returns for your Friday entertainment. Each week will feature an assortment of layout tours, special guests and lively discussion. Consider this a potpourri for your eyes and ears. We are videoing local layouts, lining up special guests and still open to hearing your ideas for topics. Fill your Friday with news and entertainment from your Twin Cities Division. TCDNMRAMEDIA on youtube.

GET YOUR "HANDS ON" MODEL RAILROADING FUN!

Saturday November 11th from 1:00 until 4:00, the Twin Cities Division is hosting an afternoon of model railroading skills demonstrations except you will be part of the demonstration. Ken Borowski and Paul Butkowski will be sharing weathering techniques and you may bring your model to practice on. Joe Binish will demonstrate his tricks and techniques for applying water slide decals and your invited to bring along a model you want to decal and learn at the side of one of our local masters. Finally, Ken Zieska has secured a big supply of scenic supplies from Scenic Express so he can demonstrate "Static Grass Techniques" and making shrubs and trees. You can go home with some examples you have made yourself and begin your journey to create your great woods. A 10.00 fee will be collected at the door to help cover material costs. All of this excitement will happen at 155 Hardman Ave. S. in S. St. Paul! Bring a chair and watch for details. RSVP info@tcdnmra.org.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14 TCD MONTHLY MEETING

This month, the Twin Cities Division meeting will be held at the Union 32 Craft House, 2864 Hwy 55, Eagan, MN 55121. The Division has been moving our monthly meetings to make it more convenient for members to gather near their homes. November will see us in Eagan where we will gather about 6:00 for social, dinner and if you like, to sample one of the 155 craft brews on tap. After a short meeting, we will look at prototype and modeling scenes to discuss small details that make a scene, discuss how to recreate them and plan future clinic demonstrations we would like to see techniques to create unique scenes.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9TH TCD HOLIDAY SOCIAL

This is another of the new and exciting ideas we have for TCD members. We will meet at the Model Railway Institute & Museum 1515 South 5th Street in Hopkins. This building is right across from the second Hopkins Station on the infamous light rail. If you want to ride the light rail to the meeting, you will be late. This will be a fun social event, suitable for your spouse or friends to attend with you. Special activities will be planned and we will announce them later.

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY ZOOM MEETINGS

We found that many of our members did not like traveling about on cold winter nights to attend meetings. For January and February, we will conduct our meetings via zoom. However, if you are hardy and like to get out and brave the elements, we are looking for a hospitable space with strong internet.

FEBRUARY 24TH TWIN CITIES DIVISION OPERATIONS RETREAT

This will be our third TCD Operations event. The Division has helped over 35 TCD members get into the operations scene. Not only have all the participants expressed their enjoyment with the event but additional layout owners have requested to be hosts for this year. This is a great opportunity to try your hands at operations, meet other TCD members who share that interest and experience great operations on local railroads. Greg Dahl is heading up this event and registration will open up January 1, 2024.

MARCH 16TH ANNUAL TCD MODELERS MEET

Joe Binish has taken over organizing the Annual Modelers Meet. This is a great event where area modelers show off their models and share their modeling techniques. Last year, we had 25 tables of model displays, 6 great clinics and a FreeMo layout to fill the day. More information will follow in our next update.

APRIL TCD SPRING LAYOUT TOUR NE AND SW METRO AREA

The Twin Cities Division will visit more great model railroad over two weekends in April. Rich Remariz is organizing the NE railroads and we are looking for an organizer for the SW. This tour will be south of Crosstown and west of 35W. Interested in helping out?

info@tcdnmra.org

MAY 16-20 THOUSAND LAKES REGION CONVENTION

MARCH 16-20

The Thousand Lakes Region stretches from the North Pole to Northern Iowa and from the Montana boarder to Eau Claire Wisconsin! Next Spring, we are all invited to experience the hospitality and model railroading of Eau Claire. Convention Chair Dave Menard and his crew are planning a great convention full of activities and fellowship. Set the dates aside now and watch for registration in TCD and TLR updates.

AUGUST 4-11 SURFLINER CONVENTION NMRA NATIONAL

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

There is nothing quite like an NMRA National to connect with model railroading friends across the world. Check out the convention webpage link on the NMRA.ORG website.

Connect with us on Facebook, on the NMRA Discord site the NMRA Interchange and TCDNMRA MEDIA YouTube.

Check with your friends,. If they didn't receive the update, w need to update their email. Help us and them. Contact with us at info@tcdnmra.org.