

Trails, Rails, & Tales



September-October, 2019
Volume 5 • Number 4

The Official Newsletter of the *Chisholm Trail Division* of the **NMRA**

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK BY PHIL AYLWARD

I hope every one had a good summer so far. If you did not make it up to Halstead on the 10th you missed a fun day. We ran trains and had a cook out. O.L.S. had the wrecked car there.

For November we will have a set up in the Liberty in Halstead. We will have one layout running, an N.M.R.A table, and we might have the switching layout there too. We're looking for any help with that. We will have the wooden train there too. You can come up and run your train and greet people.

Be safe in your travels.

Thank You

–Phil

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK BY ROB NEISES

Summer is almost over, and I hope everyone had fun! With school restarting, I'd like to tell you what's coming up. In September we are gonna have another ice cream social, and late in the month is the Wichita Toy Train Show. In November will be the Benton show. Also looming large is the 2020 Officers Election. All five offices are up for grabs this year. I want to thank all of you for your help and support these past three years!

Have a safe Labor Day Holiday, and I hope to see you next all the on 3rd at the monthly business meeting.

–Rob

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NMRA

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

BY JIM MARLETT

Every time I start working on a new edition of Trails, Rails, & Tales, one of the first things I do is go through as many regional publications as I can to find events for the calendar. This month, I became conscious of the number of high quality newsletters there are in this region. You can find many of them through the NMRA web site. In the banner across the top of the page, click "Regions" and in the drop down menu, click "Regions and Divisions." From there, scroll down until you find Mid-continent Region (MCoR 2900). Along the right hand side are links to the divisions in our region. Clicking any of those links will take you to the NMRA listing for that division. These will include the officers, the meeting times, and many times a link to their archived publications if they have been submitted to NMRA. In case you don't have it already bookmarked, the NMRA page is <https://www.nmra.org/> and the Regions and Divisions page is <https://www.nmra.org/regions>.

Some of the divisions have newsletters, but apparently don't submit them for inclusion in the NMRA web page. Indian Nations Division comes to mind. If you want to see what they offer, do a web search for Indian Nations Division NMRA, or any other division for that matter, and you can find their newsletters and other interesting stuff. Of course, not all divisions are active nor do all have an archive of newsletters, but it's worth a try.

One particularly good neighboring division newsletter is Kansas Central Division's "The Brass Pounder." Ray Brady is the editor and should be congratulated on a job well done.



Gorden MacPhail listening to me drone on about something while Pam snaps a picture.

On the home front, Pam and Gorden MacPhail dropped by to see what I had done on my model railroad since they are in the design phase of their new pike in their new home. It's always a little surprising to me that people so knowledgeable could learn something by the stuff I am doing, but it happens. Maybe you feel the same way, but learning from each other is the whole point of sharing. I would encourage each of you to consider sharing something with your fellow modelers. And submitting an article or pictures to the newsletter is one way to do it (hint-hint).

—Jim

TURKEY CREEK TRAIN SHOW

WITH PHOTOS BY LARRY GULICK & JIM MARLETT

In September several Chisholm Trail members visited the Turkey Creek Division's Train Show in Kansas City. The morning was filled with vendors and clinics at the show and the afternoon we took in layout tours. Between the show and the tours, some

of us visited Show Me Model Railroad Company, which was featured in the last edition of Trails, Rails, & Tales. We had a good time spending our money, learning new things, and stealing ideas being inspired by other people's model railroads.



These are some of the contest models available for viewing while awaiting judging.



The detail on the contest dioramas and displays was really good.



Larry Gulick, Pam MacPhail, and Gordon MacPhail seem to be enjoying spending money on cool things.



The engine terminal on a modular layout set up at the show.

TURKEY CREEK LAYOUT TOUR

BOB McBEAN — GASTOWN & CASCADES RAILROAD — HO

Gastown was an early settlers' name for Vancouver, BC. This railroad represents travel through the Cascade Mountains in the 1950s. It was built in four foot modules. Bob McBean did all the work himself,

including painting the backdrop. Adjacent to the layout room is a fascinating museum-like “man cave” with all kinds of artifacts and memorabilia.



The choppy water must have made for interesting times getting those logs up to the sawmill. There was plenty of activity on the pier as well.



Bob claims that his railroad emphasizes scenery rather than operations, but there sure looked like there were plenty of operating opportunities.



This is the only staging yard your editor has seen with a tunnel portal and mountain scene for trains run through on their way to the layout.



Dean Lippincott saw something that piqued his interest enough for a picture and there were sure plenty of structures to do so.

TURKEY CREEK LAYOUT TOUR

JACK ROSENFELD — NEW YORK, NEW HAVEN & HARTFORD RR — HO

The layout is based on Jack's memories of the New Haven of his youth in New York, though free-lanced in its HO execution. The transition from the big city

to outlying communities is obvious. The time period is from the mid-'40s to the mid-'50s allowing both steam and diesel power.



The engine terminal greets visitors as they enter the layout room.



Fall foliage adorns the suburban depot as the big city looms in the background.



The power plant is separated from the engine terminal by this double-track truss bridge, a useful technique for expanding space.



The "cityscape" is a combination of 3-D models, flats, and photos. The yard and elevated track convey the notion of the city quite well.

TURKEY CREEK LAYOUT TOUR

LARRY ALFRED — RIO GRANDE SOUTHERN/SPSF — O & ON3

Most of us had seen Larry Alfred's layout before, but he had made considerable progress since the last tour we had seen. This is really two layouts in one. The narrow gauge Rio Grande Southern modeled in the mid-'40s and the merged Southern Pacific Santa

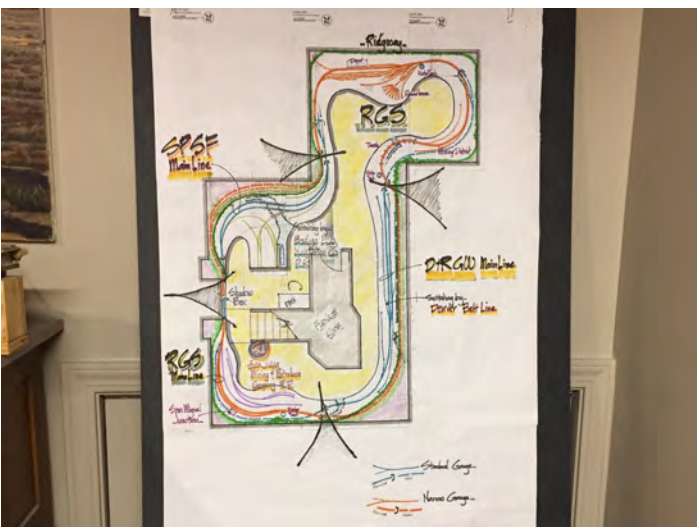
Fe modeled in the mid-'80s. The two are presented in alternating settings with the narrow gauge being hidden where there is standard gauge trackage and visa versa. The narrow gauge is also higher than the standard gauge.



A standard gauge scene with a bay scene. The only place on the railroad where standard gauge and narrow gauge are seen together is in the two shadow boxes seen on the left of the picture.



This narrow gauge scene shows a trestle similar to the RGS's famous bridge 45a at Ophir. Mines and mountains are an obvious theme. Just past the water tank on the right, the line ducks into a tunnel.



The track plan was posted and reveals the way the narrow gauge and standard gauge share the room, but not any scene.



Many of Larry's fine contest models were scattered around. I'm sure these will eventually find their proper place on the railroad.

TURKEY CREEK LAYOUT TOUR

GARY DAVIDSON — THE CEDAR GULCH & SOUTHERN RR — ON3

This is a large layout with about 400' of mainline in 2,500 sq. ft. of space. It represents Colorado narrow gauge railroading in the early 1940s. Parts of it are double decked. Some areas have scenery, but much

of it is obviously still under construction. This gave us a nice look at the techniques being used, which your editor always appreciates. When completed, this will be a spectacular model railroad.



Layout owner Gary Davidson (right) explains some things to guests.



This mine and mill scene is quite eye-catching as is the painted backdrop.



This photo shows some of the double decked area of the layout. Terry Ross and Larry Gulick are in the background checking things out.

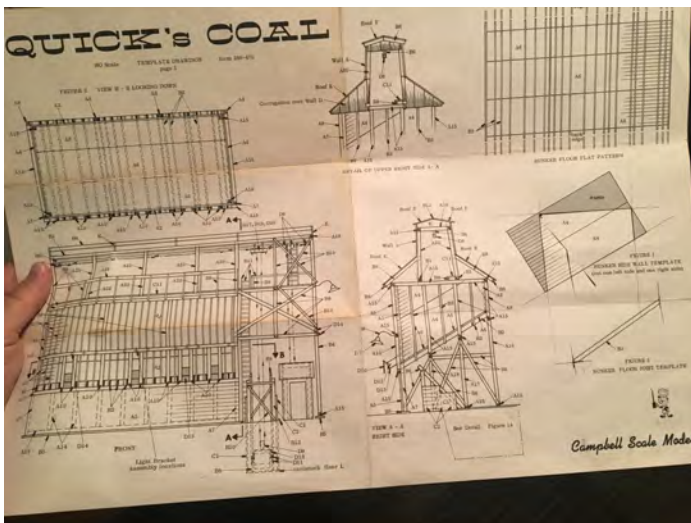


It will be interesting to see what the final scenery will look like in this area. The sky backdrop curves around on both sides with an opening in the middle.

WHAT'S ON THE WORKBENCH?

BY DEAN LIPPINCOTT

Here's what I am Working on. It is a Campbell's kit number 386 named Quick's coal. I purchased the kit several years ago at the Dixie Flyer model train store located in Wartrace, Tennessee. The store had a lot of consignment items including this model which I purchased for \$30. I'm not sure what year the kit was released by Campbell, but I did find it in a 1978 Walthers catalog priced at \$24.95. The kit is currently available from Campbell's as a laser cut kit for \$115. The kit that I purchased has approximately 460 pieces, mostly sticks. I have completed the kit through step 13 of 29 steps.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

INCLUDES NON-NMRA EVENTS

RECURRING EVENTS

Chisholm Trail Division of NMRA Monthly

Meeting Every first Tuesday of the month.
Gather at 6:45PM. Meeting from 7:00-9:00.
Olivet Baptist Church, 3440 W. 13th St.,
Wichita, KS (13th & High) <http://ctd-mcor-nmra.tripod.com/ctd-mcor-nmra.html>

Kansas Central Division of NMRA Every second Saturday of even numbered months at 1:00PM. Locations vary. Contact information is here: http://www.mcor-nmra.org/Divisions/Kansas_Central_Division/

Kansas Central Model Railroaders Business Meeting. Every second Saturday from 11:00AM-Noon. 16 East 3rd Ave, Hutchinson, KS <http://www.kansascentralmodelrailroaders.org>

Wichita Area Model Railroaders Luncheon. Every second Thursday at 11:30AM. Spears Restaurant and Pie Shop, 4323W. Maple, Wichita, KS

SEPTEMBER 2019

September 4-7 – National Narrow Gauge Convention. Sacramento, CA <https://www.nngc2019.org/>

September 28&29 – 25th Annual Wichita Model Train Show. Presented by the Wichita Toy Train Museum at the Cessna Activity Center, Wichita, KS <http://www.wichitatoytrainmuseum.org/>

OCTOBER 2019

October 5 – Trainfest 2019 Train and Toy Show. Oakwood Mall, 4125 West Owen K. Garriot (Hwy 412) Enid, OK. 9:00-3:00.

October 12 – Greater Tulsa Area Train Show. Bixby Community Center, Bixby, OK <https://www.ttos-sooner.org/next-show/>

NOVEMBER 2019

November 1-30 – National Model Railroad Month. Phil Aylward will have a display in the Halstead Library.

Please send me any events or meetings that you think should be included on this calendar.

Jim Marlett
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