



The

Main Line

June 2023



National Model Railroad Association

Mid-Continent Region

The Monthly publication of the



Western Kansas Division



On The Cover: The WKR Purchasing Department acquired some new, Scale Trains, coil steel cars. Details inside...

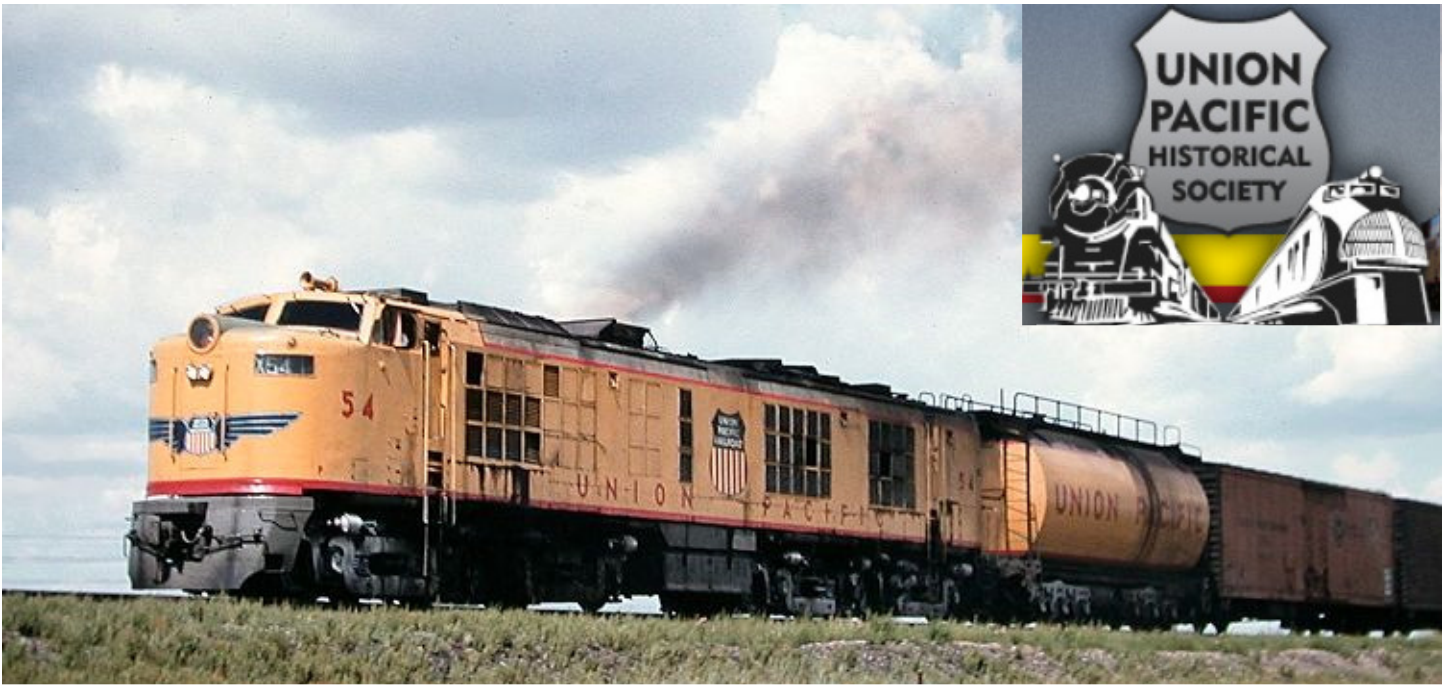
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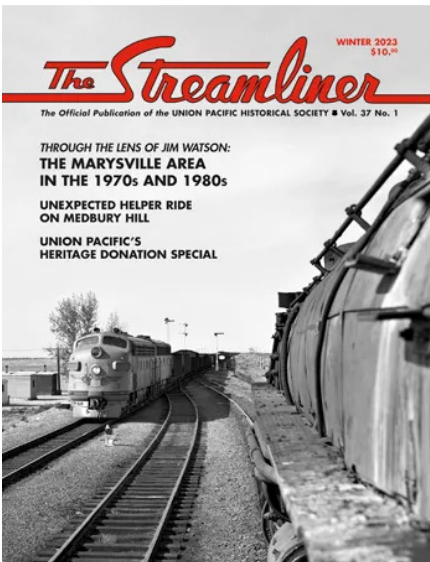
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Welcome to the Union Pacific Historical Society!

Founded in 1984, UPHS is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of the Union Pacific Railroad. As of the beginning of 2016, the Society has about 1,900 members. Historians, railfans, employees, and modelers have found the UPHS to be a matchless source of accurate and in-depth material concerning historical operations, traffic, motive power, rolling stock and facilities of the Union Pacific and predecessor companies. Railroad employees, managers, and retirees are welcome.



Publications:

The UPHS publishes *The Streamliner*, a professionally produced and beautifully illustrated quarterly journal featuring the finest work of historians and other experts on all aspects of Union Pacific Railroad operations, traffic, management, equipment, and facilities.

In addition to our journal, the UPHS publishes books relating Union Pacific's rich history of traffic, operations, motive power, and rolling stock. Our most recent book is Jeff Asay's *Union Pacific Northwest*, tracing the history of UP in Oregon, Washington, and Northern Idaho. We also have published a history of the early streamliner era 1934-1941 as well as a comprehensive series of prototype photo books of UP steam power.

We invite you to join the Union Pacific Historical Society!

Join with Union Pacific enthusiasts from all over the world by submitting your one-year membership application.

Click this link for the UPHS website: <https://uphs.org/>

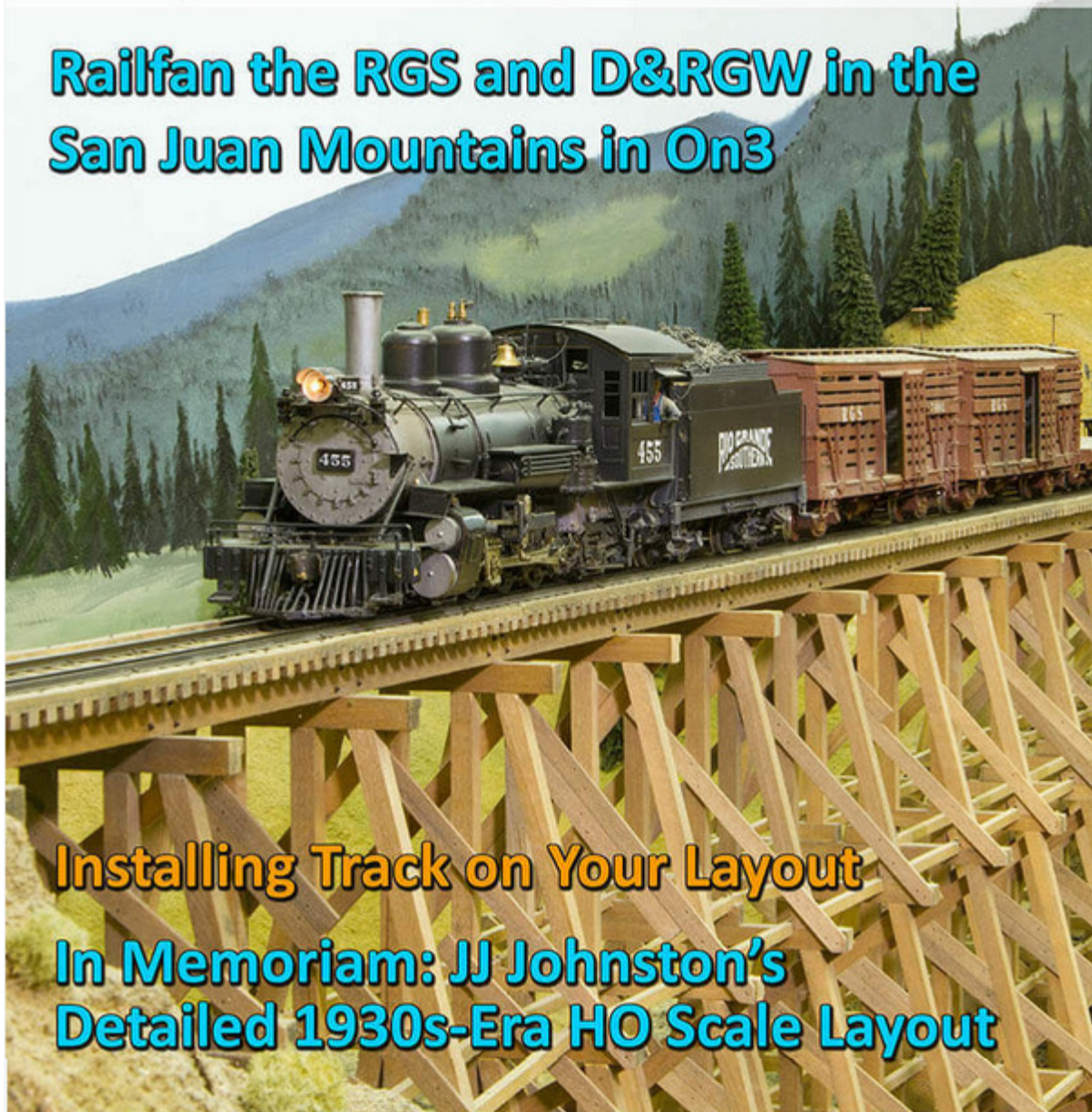
Or click here for the Facebook page of the UPHS: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069786331658>

Trackside Model Railroading™

June 2023
Premium Edition

Volume 11, Number 6

**Railfan the RGS and D&RGW in the
San Juan Mountains in On3**

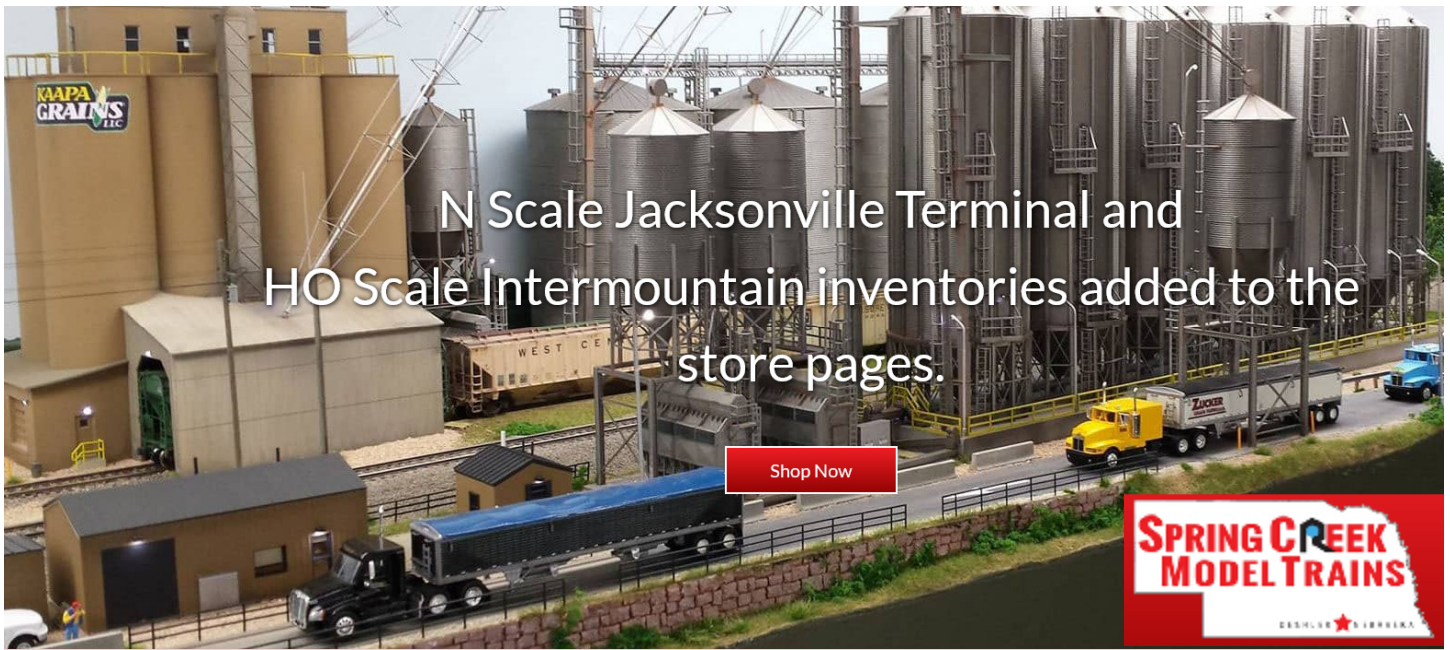


Installing Track on Your Layout
**In Memoriam: JJ Johnston's
Detailed 1930s-Era HO Scale Layout**

The June 2023 digital magazine is now out!

Click this link to start reading today:

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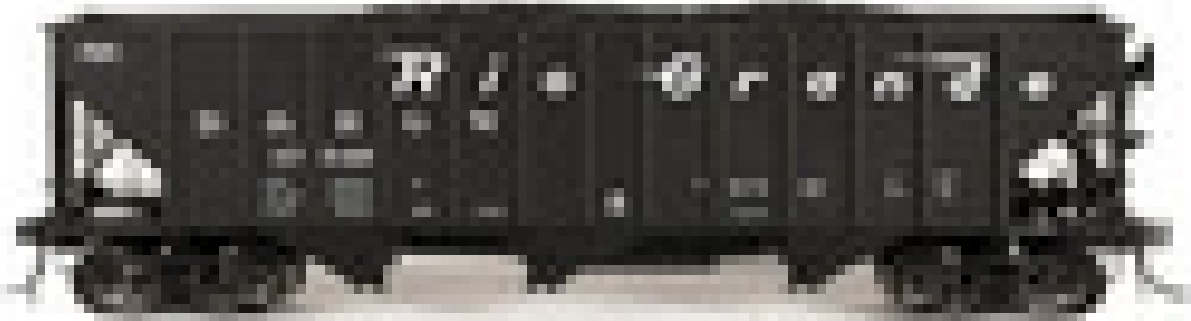


Welcome to Spring Creek Model Trains

Whether you are one of our “show” regulars or a first-time visitor, we gladly invite you to come on in and browse around. You can follow us on Facebook by joining our page. We use Facebook and our newsletter to let you know when we have new announcements on the web site and any changes in our show schedule. Our newsletter is also used to send new product announcements and arrivals.

New Exclusive Product...

Arrowhead Models HO Scale Committee Design Hopper Denver & Rio Grande



We partnered with [Arrowhead Models](https://www.arrowheadmodels.com/) on a HO scale Committee Design Hopper in a 10-1960 Denver & Rio Grande paint scheme. We added six road numbers to the twelve Arrowhead Models are doing.

Get more details on this car and their entire inventory on their website:

<https://www.springcreekmodeltrains.com/>

Or check out SCMT Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/springcreekmodeltrains>



The principal purpose of the **Operations Special Interest Group (OPSIG)** is to discuss, develop and disseminate ways of operating model railroads to realistically emulate practices of the prototype. This includes sharing information on various methods of generating and controlling traffic to heighten the feeling that our models are an active and integral part of the national rail transportation network, serving shippers and consignees throughout the nation. We also discuss and communicate information about the methods and procedures used by the real railroads and ways of most practically and realistically adapting them to the model world. So, if you like to operate the railroad you've created, this is a place to learn more and find others with similar interests.

Click here for the OpSig Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/OperationsSIG>

We publish a quarterly magazine, *The Dispatcher's Office*, which in addition to containing articles and information on railroad operations (both prototype and model), contains listings of operating layouts, sessions, and events that members are invited to attend. Back issues are available.

In addition, the **OPSIG** web site serves as a clearinghouse for publicizing regional operating events and meetings, where layouts are open for guest operations.

Click this link to the OPSIG website:

<https://www.opsig.org/>



[Activities](#) ▾[Location](#) ▾[Timetable](#)[Reservations](#)[Registration](#)

SUPERCHARGED - HIGH SPEED TEXAS EXPRESS

The 2023 NMRA
National Convention



August 20-26

DALLAS/FORT WORTH, TEXAS
GAYLORD TEXAN RESORT GRAPEVINE

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Convention attendees get free early access to the **2023 National Train Show** August 25-27!



Amazing Location

An amazing convention needs an amazing location, and the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Grapevine delivers! Located a short six miles from the DFW airport, it includes huge indoor gardens, a waterpark, golf course and ten restaurants with food for every taste.



National Train Show

Convention attendees receive a free pass - and exclusive early access - to the National Train Show, which will be held Friday August 25 through Sunday August 27 at the Gaylord. The event combines an industry trade show with a public train show with vendors and model railroads of all scales. Don't miss it!

Make your plans and register today!

Click this link for more details:

<https://2023texasexpress.com/>

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Frisco Historical and Modeling Society

The **Frisco Historical and Modeling Society** is an informal group maintaining a non-commercial forum website dedicated to memory of the St Louis - San Francisco Railway commonly known as the Frisco, its people, operations, and equipment as well as to preserve the history of the railroad. The forum allows users to share information and includes many individuals who keep the Frisco alive through model railroading. The passion of our historical and modeling group is reflected in the forum, a very large collection of historical information, photographs, scanned documents, and modeling information. There are no dues, however, donations to maintain the forum are encouraged.

Click here for the FH&MS website:
<http://www.frisco.org/shipit/index.php>

Real Deal



(Above) An eastbound pair rests in the yard.



(Below) BNSF 1648 began life in October 1979 as ATSF 5108, a EMD SD40-2.



Real Deal



(Above) The local remote controlled switching pair at rest, which includes an EMD GP-30.



(Center) Three cars occupy the RIP track.



(Right) A trio of westbound motive power waits for the new crew.



Robert Simmons

@robertsimmons6464 929 subscribers 346 videos

This channel is about Model Railroading in general, and specifically the ant...

Subscribe to the **Western Kansas Division**
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Current subscribers

929

+14 in last 28 days

Check out our most recent hot video: Over 1,200 views in one month!



**WKR Operations Session 2 -
Train 2 - Move 2**

1.2K views • 1 month ago

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_LRhZr1IYA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YoQi6PZXqEo>



New Scale Trains GE Turbine ⋮
5-9-23

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KANSAS CITY FLYER 2023 MID-CONTINENT REGION ANNUAL CONVENTION

JULY 27-29, 2023



The **Turkey Creek Division** and the **Mid-Continent Region**, NMRA, cordially invite you to join us at the “Kansas City Flyer 2023”, MCoR Annual Convention in Overland Park, Kansas from July 27-29, 2023.



The event will take place at the Holiday Inn & Suites, 8787 Reeder St., Overland Park, KS 66214, which is easily accessible from I-35 at 87th St. in Overland Park.

The convention will include a full slate of clinics, home layout, and prototype tours, a non-rail program, and a full model and photo contest. The Trade Show will include 7,000 square feet of vendor tables and operating layouts.



Update:

Joe D. Fugate, Sr. is coming to the 2023 MCoR NMRA Convention. Joe will be the featured speaker at the Saturday night banquet. He will be presenting his views about the future of the hobby. The great news is the banquet is included as part of your registration. So, come, listen to Joe, enjoy the meal, and spend the evening with all your fellow model railroaders.

A bit about Joe...in July 2008, Joe, as the Editor and Publisher, started the digital Model Railroad Hobbyist (MRH) magazine. MRH Issue 01 was published in January 2009. It began as a quarterly digital publication, expanded to bimonthly in 2010, and then to monthly in 2011. It includes over 100 pages per issue and boasts about 30,000 subscribers.

Click here for the convention website:

<https://2023mcorconvention.com/>



Stock Update Kato N Scale 4-8-8-4 "Big Boy"



We only received about half of our **Big Boys** on Friday, and they flew off the shelves, but have additional units still in transit that are scheduled to arrive Wednesday. If you click the "Notify Me When Available" on the product page, an email will go out to you as soon as we scan them into the system.



Atlas HO Scale MP15DC

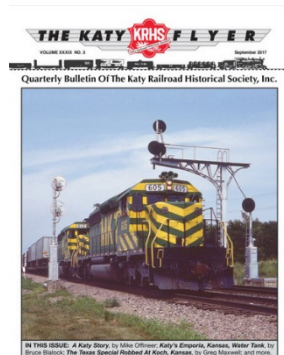
Atlas' model includes the three different styles of long hood that were common to the MP15DC throughout production: standard hood, hood with square air filter box and hood with angled air filter box (the air filter box is located in the area immediately ahead of the cab). In addition, various styles of hood and cab-end sand boxes are being offered. The model will also include a see-through cab with various interior details and crew figures included.

Click here for Midwest Model Railroad: <https://midwestmodelrr.com/>

Katy Railroad Historical Society



The **Katy Railroad Historical Society's** purpose is to bring together in close association those persons who have a common interest in the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad, known to many as the Katy. To increase the enjoyment of their interest through appropriate activities. These include group trips to points on the railroad, photographic excursions, photo, slide, and video shows, meetings, discussions, and other undertakings of a fundamentally social nature. The encouragement of members to contribute to the collection, compilation, and publication of interesting data pertaining to the Katy, including preservation of such information for future reference. The increase of knowledge of and fostering of goodwill towards the M-K-T Railroad among members and the public. The promotion of good fellowship among the members and to those interested in the Katy Railroad.



Katy Flyer Membership

\$27 /One Year

- ✓ 4 Issues of the *Katy Flyer* Magazine
- ✓ Annual Member Directory

Click here for the KRHS website: <https://katyrailroad.org/>

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mean to offend you.**



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The purpose of **NRail** is to promote N Scale model railroading in all forms, all standards wherever N Scale is present. NRail has been the voice of N Scale model railroading for over 45 years. Starting as NTRAK, it created the first national modular standard, provided the vehicle for N Scale to grow to the second most popular scale in North America, was the birthplace of T-TRAK and today is the home of N Scale model railroading. We welcome all N scalers!

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Membership in NRail includes:

- One year of the Newsletter (6 issues).
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- Support of the National N Scale layouts at major shows.
- Access to the Members Only section of NRail.org (including over 270 issues of the Newsletter).
- Discount on merchandise in the [NRail store](#).

Click here for the N-Rail website: <https://nrail.org/>

For the N-Rail Facebook page, click this link: <https://www.facebook.com/NRail.org>

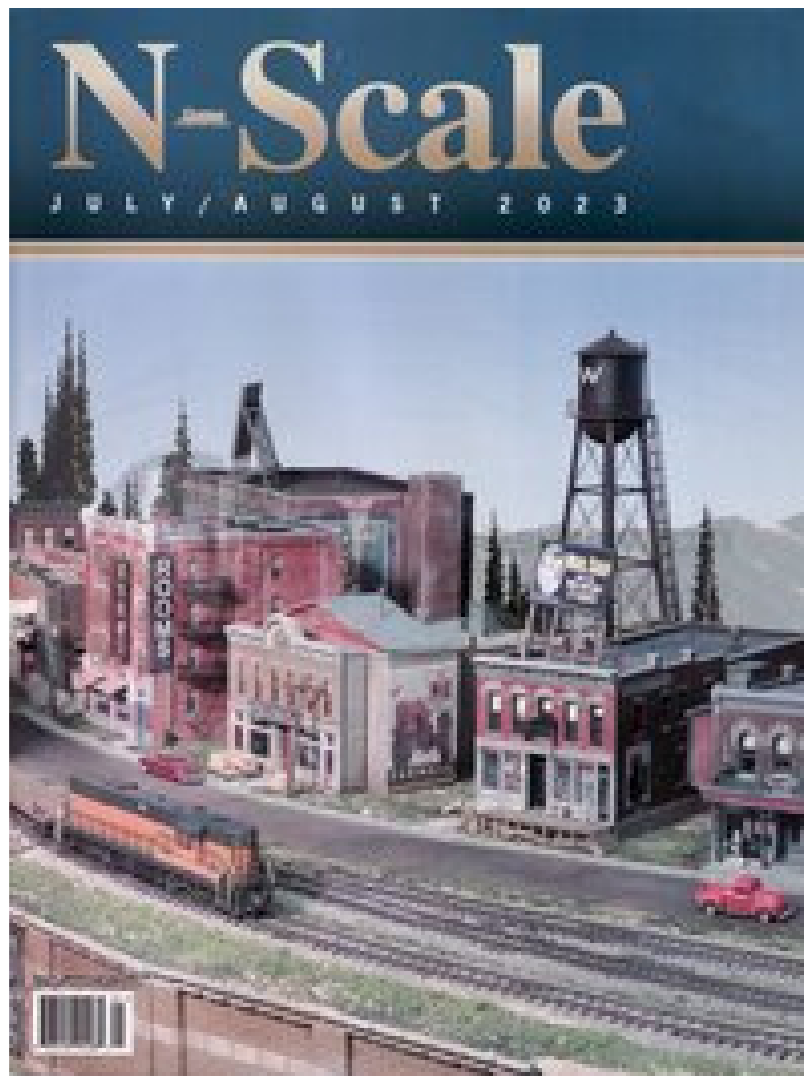


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Oddballs

Every so often an idea or product just doesn't catch on and is not mass produced.

The New York Central Railroad's Xplorer Trainset



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The *Xplorer*, or *Ohio Xplorer*, was a named train of the New York Central Railroad (NYC) that traveled between Cleveland and Cincinnati, Ohio

The Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing Company constructed the train's streamlined coaches to its lightweight **Train-X** design. A **Baldwin RP-210 diesel-hydraulic locomotive** pulled the train's consist.

The train contained the locomotive and nine short all-aluminum coaches that were articulated together. The center car had two axles (one at each end), with the remaining cars having a single axle each, being supported.



Oddballs

Every so often an idea or product just doesn't catch on and is not mass produced.

by adjacent cars at the end opposite the axle. The ride was rough, as with most of the other lightweight trains of the period, and the train was not a success.

The NYC's July 15, 1956, timetable was the first to contain the train's schedule. The train, numbered **421** southwest-bound and **422** northeast-bound on the timetable, was an attempt by the New York Central to modernize intrastate rail travel in Ohio and lure people out of their cars.

The train made its last run on August 17, 1957, after less than 15 months of operations. As a result, the train's name *Ohio-Xplorer* or *Xplorer* did not appear on the railroad's October 27, 1957, timetable.

The equipment was retired in 1960 and was sold to Jones Tours for excursion service. After a long period of storage in South Carolina, the train and locomotive were scrapped around 1970.



RRPictureArchives.NET Image Copyright Wendy Crim



Friends of the Burlington Northern Railroad (FOBNR)

The historical society was chartered to gather, preserve, and share information about the history and the current operations of the Burlington Northern Railroad. The group began with about 140 members absorbed from the Burlington Northern Historical Society an un-incorporated interim organization interested in studying the history of the Burlington Northern Railroad. In 1996, following the merger between Burlington Northern and Santa Fe, the group voted to follow the Burlington Northern from 1970 to 1995 and the BNSF from 1995 to the present. Then in 2018 we added coverage of the Montana Rail Link.

The Group's quarterly publication, *The BN Expediter*, is the voice of the organization that shares news about the group's activities, BN historical data, and current operations of the railroad. It is currently a 30+ page all-color publication and will grow even larger as the society grows and more members contribute more information.

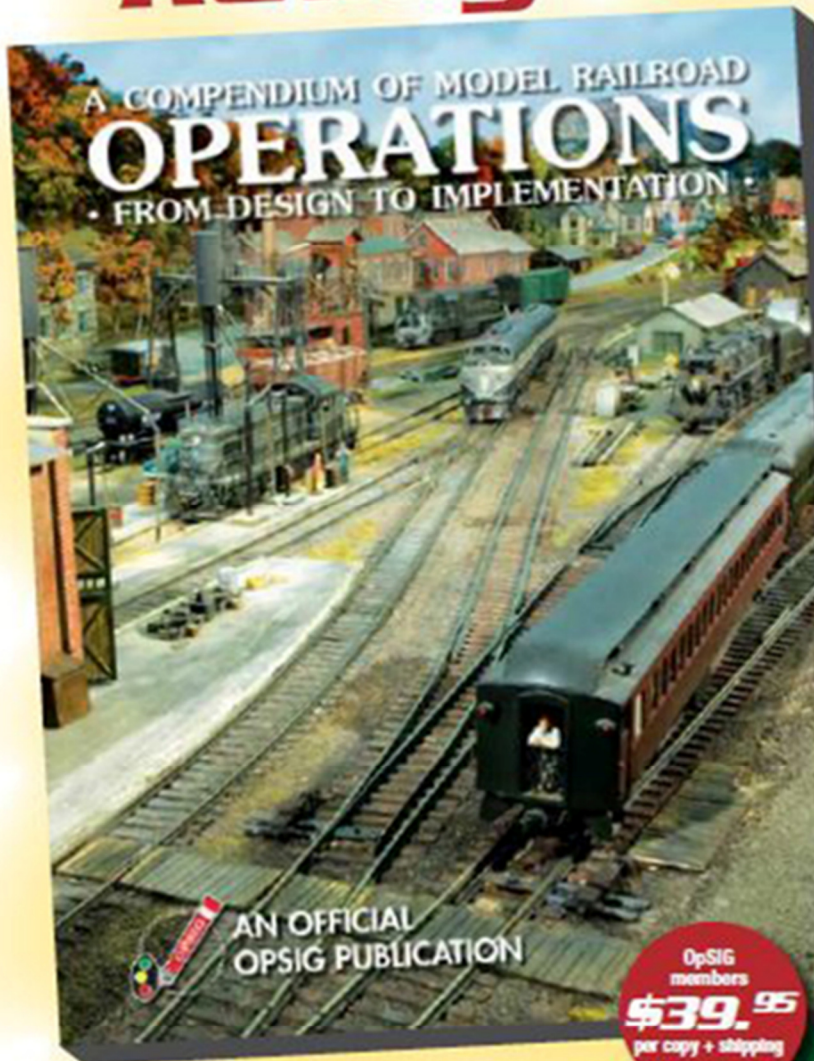


Membership in the Friends of the Burlington Northern Railroad

- Membership is for one full year.
- Multiple year memberships are permitted and even encouraged!
- All members get 4 issues of *The BN Expediter*, our quarterly magazine.
- **Regular** and **youth** members can buy our annual BN calendar for \$2 off the regular price.
- **Sustaining** members get our annual BN calendar free and are acknowledged by name in every issue of *The BN Expediter*.

Click here for the FOBNR website: <https://fobnr.org/>

Dispatcher to OpSIG Publication No. 2, you're ...
Ready to Roll!



All model railroaders, whether expert or beginner, will find a wealth of useful information in the OpSIG's second publication, **A Compendium of Model Railroad Operations - From Design to Implementation**. A complete guide to all things operations, our latest offering covers every aspect of prototype operations and how to apply them to your model railroad—from design and staffing to yards and paperwork, from communications and signals to dispatching and car forwarding—in 310 full-color pages. Written by ten of your fellow modelers and professionals, **The Compendium** contains more than 350 photos, 120 illustrations, and countless tips, pointers, suggestions, and prototype information to help guide you on your journey. A must for any modeler interested in prototype operations, add it to your library today!

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Scalecoat Paint
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But you must be registered on the nmra.org website




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P. 65 Calcium Carbide Flatcar Drawings

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**RAILROAD
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CRAFTSMAN

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Rock Island

MID-CONTINENT ROUTE

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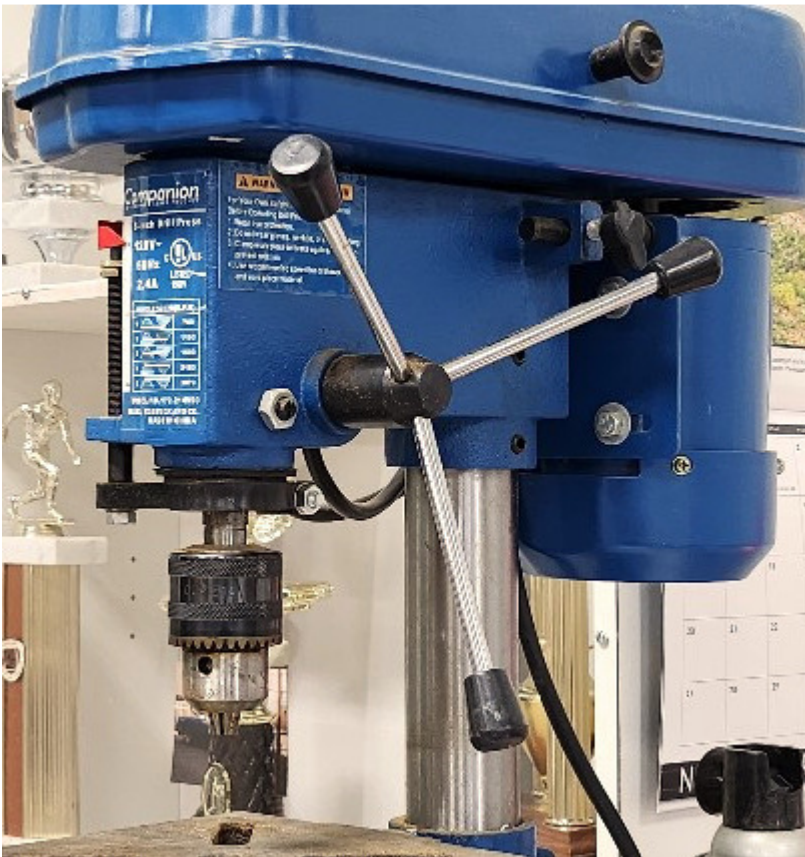
Click here to start reading today: <https://rrmodelcraftsman.com/>

WKR Update

The continuing adventures of the *Western Kansas Rails* N-scale layout



(Above) Recently the Car Department was making some detail upgrades on this gondola and while attempting to remove the trucks, both truck pins broke off flush with the bolster.



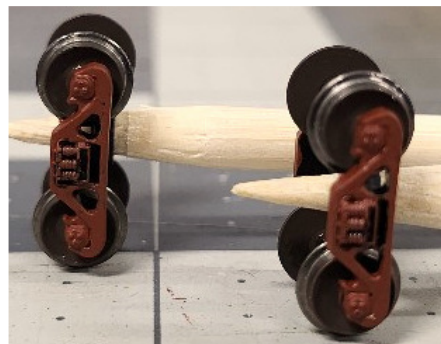
(Left) The Repair Crew swung into action by finding the correct diameter drill bit, inserting it into the workshop drill press, then carefully drilling out the remainders of the former truck pins.



(Both) The bolsters are cleanly drilled out.



(Right) The truck detailing proceeded with the truck side frames being painted "rust" color and the wheels painted Micro-Mark "Railroad Tie Brown"



WKR Update



(Above) During a recent operating session, the Track Department was called out to repair a broken switch point. The crew grabbed their tools and determined that the last time this point was repaired, the point rail was positioned too inboard on the throw bar causing an excess throw. The point rail was properly positioned and re-soldered.

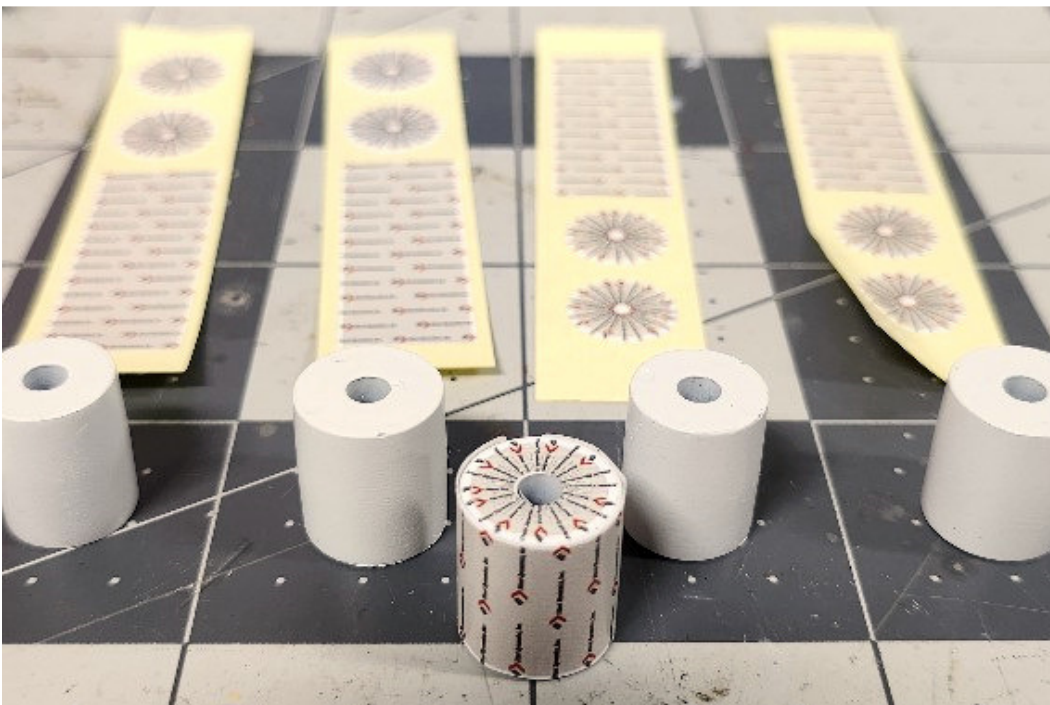
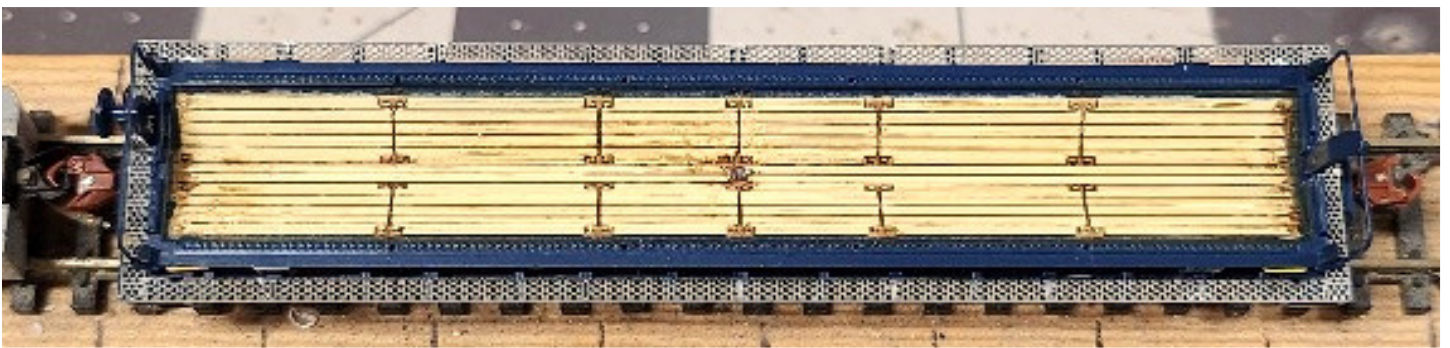
(Below) The completed repair.



WKR Update



In May, the WKR Car Department received the new, Scale Trains 42-foot single hood coil steel cars acquired by the Purchasing Department some time ago. (Above) Side view. (Below) Interior view.

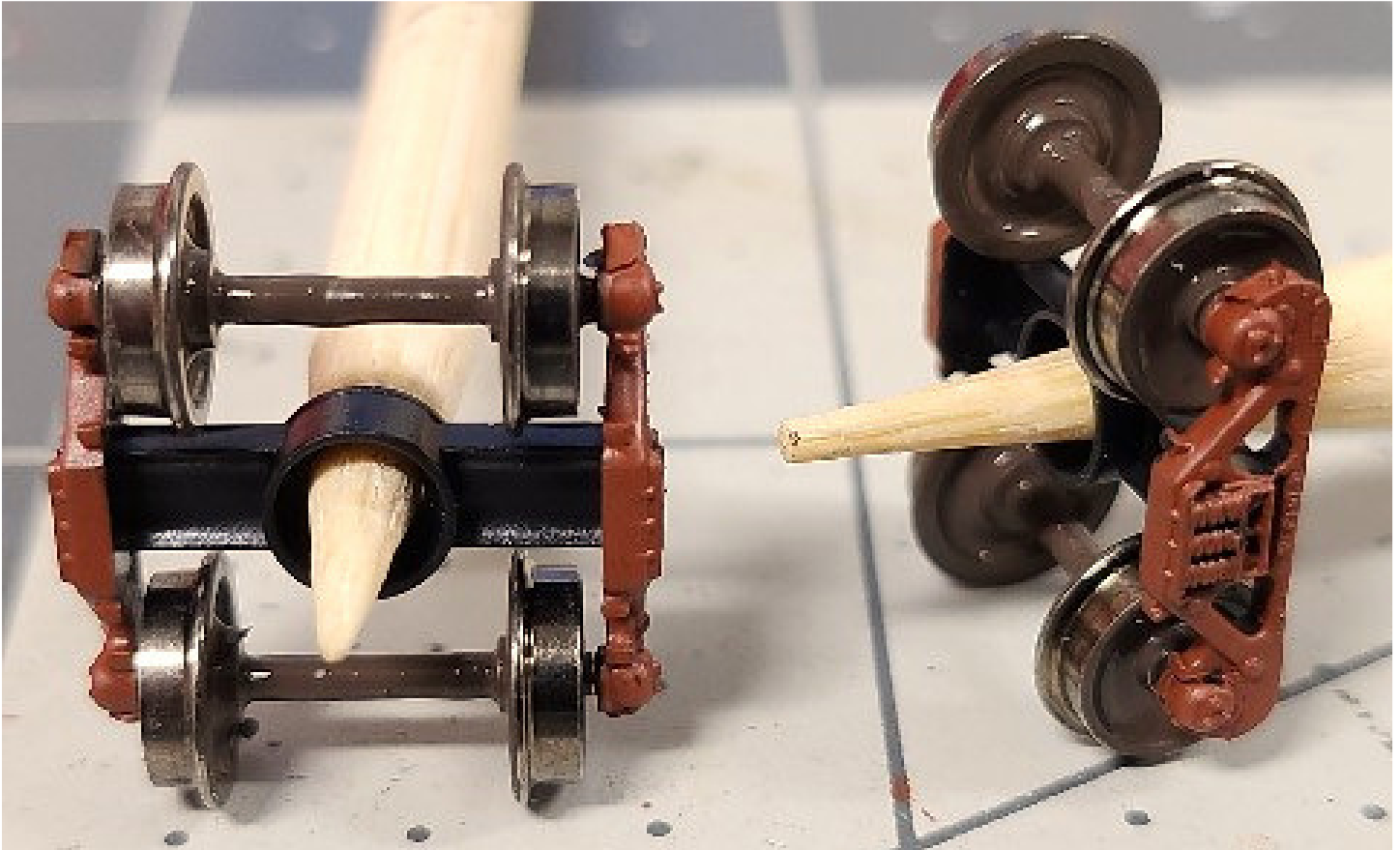


(Left) The car comes with a coil steel load. They are almost required as the cars themselves are way too light to run reliably without them.

The “loads” are some type of ceramic and come with stickers to make them look like wrapped loads.

On the first car, I did not notice that two loads are slightly smaller than the other three. I corrected this on the rest of the fleet.

WKR Update



(Above) On all the new arrivals, the trucks were removed, the truck side frames were painted “rust” while the wheels were painted on the front, back, and axles.

(Right) One of the cars with the loads installed. Since the cars will not run with the covers off, we decided to glue the loads in place along with the separator bars so there will not be any load shifting. This displays the proper load placement with the three larger loads on the ends and middle.



WKR Update



This page) Covers off, covers on, all detailed and ready to join the fleet.



LEARN MORE NOW

SCALETRAINS ACQUIRES ExactRail®



We're excited to announce we've acquired **ExactRail**. As you know, ExactRail is a top manufacturer of HO and N Scale freight cars and bridges. This addition nearly doubles our freight car offerings.

The first N Scale freight car will be announced at the National N Scale Convention next weekend in Reno, Nevada. This will be followed by the first HO announcement at the end of the month. Both models are in production now and will be available later this summer. In addition, several more ExactRail models are in production with additional deliveries arriving in early 2024.

[ExactRail.com](https://www.ExactRail.com) has become an archive site for past releases. In stock models are now available now on our website (see links below) and are shipping from our Tennessee warehouse. Future announcements will be available for preorder prior to delivery too. For the first time in several years, ExactRail models will also be available at brick & mortar dealers through the ScaleTrains Select Retailer network.



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The new standard of
"Put Down" in 2023:



**"Oh yea? Well your dad
buys Bud Light at Target!"**



The Santa Fe Railway Historical and Modeling Society

The Santa Fe Railway Historical & Modeling Society is an independent non-profit corporation devoted to preserving, studying, and sharing information about the former Santa Fe Railway; from its rich history and fascinating operations, to its distinctive equipment and facilities.



The Society and its predecessors have been publishing information about the **Santa Fe** since 1969. The Society offers exceptional publications on the history and modeling of the Santa Fe. From its flagship quarterly magazine, *The Warbonnet*, to its comprehensive books on history, motive power, rolling stock and modeling, the Society is the definitive and authoritative source on all things Santa Fe.

Join Us Today!

Regular members receive the Society's quarterly magazine, *The Warbonnet*, the quarterly newsletter, *Running Extra*, and receive a 20% discount on most Society publications and offerings. They also receive access to the Members' Only area of the website, which contains hundreds of documents about the Santa Fe.

Click here for the **SFRHMS** website: <https://sfrhms.org/>

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Welcome to the Mid-Continent Region of the National Model Railroad Association

A 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, MCoR includes the southern half of the state of Iowa, portions of Illinois, and the entire states of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska. Since 1990, MCoR's leadership has fostered a strong program of developing local divisions with the purpose of bringing the potential for NMRA activity and involvement to a community near you. From only two divisions in 1990 located in metropolitan areas, MCoR now has well over a dozen divisions and over 900 members.

Click here for the Mid-Continent Region website: <http://mcor-nmra.org/>



Mid-Continent Region, NMRA

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KANSAS CITY FLYER 2023 MID-CONTINENT REGION ANNUAL CONVENTION

JULY 27-29, 2023



The event will take place at the Holiday Inn & Suites, 8787 Reeder St., Overland Park, KS 66214, which is easily accessible from I-35 at 87th St. in Overland Park. Registration forms for the convention and the Holiday Inn are coming soon.

43rd National Narrow Gauge Convention



Tim Bain photo

A Mile High & Three-Foot Wide

From August 30, 2023, until September 2, 2023, Denver Colorado will be the epicenter of Narrow-Gauge Activities. From the full roster of informative clinics presented by well known model railroaders and railroad specialists, to the largest dedicated narrow gauge retail space anywhere, the convention hotel will be the hub of the week's activities. Both on-site model railroad displays as well as home layouts will be on the schedule for those wishing to experience state of the art narrow gauge model railroading. Prototype venues at nearly every point on the compass are there for those venturing out. Most are less than a half day's drive, many only an hour's travel. Visit them as part of the convention or add them to your before or after convention travel plans.

Remember, Denver is easily accessible by air, rail, and road. So, planning travel could not be simpler. The Hotel's Special Convention rates won't break the bank either! The area hosts food options for every taste and budget.

Date Book

July 2023

27th – 29th **Kansas City Flyer – Mid-Continent Region Convention** Kansas City, MO.
Thu – Sat <https://2023mcorconvention.com/>

August 2023

30th – Sept 2nd **43rd Annual National Narrow Gauge Convention** Denver, CO.
Wed – Sat <https://www.43nngcdenver.com/>

MeWe



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**GOOD JUDGEMENT COMES
FROM EXPERIENCE.**



**AND EXPERIENCE? WELL THAT COMES
FROM POOR JUDGEMENT.**



2023 RGM&HS CONVENTION

Our 2023 convention which will be in **Denver, Colorado** on **August 27-30, 2023**, and will run sequentially with the 2023 **National Narrow-Gauge convention** which will run August 30th – September 02, 2023. Our 2023 RGM&HS Convention will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Denver – Aurora, which is a short distance from the hotel hosting the National Narrow-Gauge convention (NNGC). So, it's the perfect opportunity to take in both events while in Denver.

Our convention has a great line-up of 10 programs that will include color photography and explanations of Rio Grande Standard and Narrow-gauge operations. The programs will cover both freight and passenger operations on the D&RGW system. Click on the **Learn More** button below for the full list of programs and other convention events being planned. Please check back here on for more updates as we get closer to the event. Our convention fee is **\$95**. We also have a special convention rate for rooms (standard king or two queen bedrooms) at the DoubleTree for just **\$119** a night.

Click here for the RGM&HS website: <https://rgmhs.org/>



Western Kansas Division

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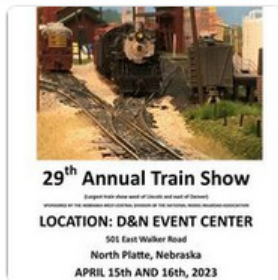
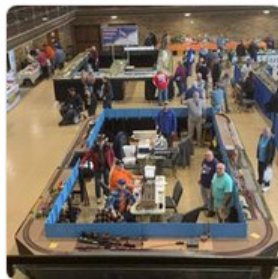
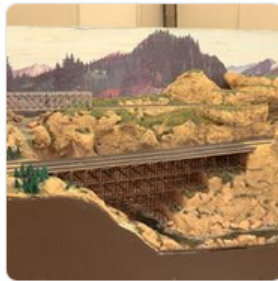


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INAUGURAL RUN!....CPKC train #180 (Bensenville, Illinois-Kansas City-Mexico train) has a banner cutting ceremony for its first trip out of Bensenville Yard...5/8/23.



The *Main Line*

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