

CABOOSE KIBITZER

1ST QUARTER 2008

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 1

ALL-MEMBER ISSUE!
2008 REGIONAL CONVENTION PREVIEW AND
SCHEDULE
THE HAND CAR
HELJAN SYNAGOGUE KIT REVIEW

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CABOOSE KBITZER

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WAYBILL

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VOLUME 58, NUMBER 1

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Photo by Louis Seibel

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THE HEAD END

BY LARRY ALFRED, MMR

MCOR PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! I trust that you all had a wonderful holiday season and survived all of the festivities. Maybe you even found some great goodies in your stocking on Christmas morning. Betsy and I traveled east to spend the holidays in Massachusetts with our daughter and her family. I will only say.....be careful with those Wii sports games. Playing a game of tennis with my granddaughter, I tried a wicked backhand and hit my finger on a very large and heavy coffee mug. Instant pain, swelling, and bruising, but no broken bones (thank goodness)! It's finally getting back to normal and I have resumed some serious modeling.

In this issue's column, I want to focus on our participation in NMRA/MCoR activities and events, as well as participation with the organization itself. First, I want to recognize and thank all of those that volunteer to serve in a wide variety of ways at the Region and Division/Area levels. In addition, it is clear that all members that attend the various conventions, meets,

and meetings around the Region are the life's blood of the NMRA. The organization would not be possible without all of these efforts. However, here I want to address those that seldom or never attend events or get involved with the NMRA, beyond your membership dues.

The showcase of the MCoR calendar is the Annual Convention, typically held in late May or early June at locations all around the Region. The 2008 convention will be held from May 15-18 in Branson, Missouri. What a great place to combine a convention experience with a family vacation!

Now, the concern. Attendance at the Regional Conventions has fallen off somewhat over the last few years. I know there has been increasing competition for our time and finances; however, these conventions offer so much that I feel you would be getting a significant "bang for your buck." If you have not attended a Regional Convention in some time, I would like to encourage you to consider attending the 2008 convention in Branson. I know that Jim Dimatteo (Ozark Mountain Area Director) and his convention committee have been working hard to bring you a great event. Look for additional information elsewhere in this issue and on the MCoR website. Try it.....you'll like it!

The above comments also apply to the various Division and Area Meets and Train Shows held each year around the MCoR.

These are all very enjoyable, with a chance to enter your work in the contests, look for goodies in the vendor shows, pick up new ideas in the clinics, view railroad layouts, and socialize with both old and new friends. What a deal! Information on these events is provided in Gary Hemmingway's Switching List, included in most *Caboose Kibitzer* issues and on the MCoR website. Look for upcoming events and consider attending. I don't think you will be sorry.

Finally, the last area of involvement that I want to touch on is that of serving as a Director on the MCoR Board of Directors. This is unique opportunity to serve your organization and earn your "Association Official" certificate within the NMRA's Achievement Program. These positions, although very important, do not require a significant amount of time to fulfill the assigned responsibilities. There are several Areas within the Region that currently do not have an assigned Director. So, if you have an interest in serving the MCoR in this capacity, please contact me to discuss what is involved.

The message that I want to send to you all is - seriously consider getting more involved in Region service and activities!

Until next time, Happy Railroading!



CONDUCTOR'S CALL

BY WENDY HARLOW

EDITOR

No real column this time, just my heartfelt thanks to my staff and to the Regional leadership for their help and massive support over the last six months. I wouldn't have been able to get this done without them.

This year's All Member Kibitzer comes a bit

early, since the Convention is in May and we wanted to get info into members' hands in a timely manner.

As always, I'm looking for articles - history, how-tos, personal experiences, what have you. Even short blurbs - modeling tips, jokes, etc. Remember that each article counts towards the AP Author certificate!

THE SWITCHING LIST

FIRST QUARTER 2008

BY GARY HEMMINGWAY

The Switching List contains all known Mid-Continent Region, NMRA, train shows and Division meetings. It also lists all known club shows and swap meets in the Mid-Continent Region (IA, IL, MO, AR, NE, KS, OK). Sign up for the email List for the most up-to-date and complete listings.

DIVISION MEETINGS

KANSAS CENTRAL DIVISION meets the first Saturday of even-numbered months at various locations around the div. area. BOD meetings are usually at noon and general meetings are at 1 p.m. For the full schedule, check the MCoR website or email Gary Hemmingway (garyonho@cox.net).

GATEWAY DIVISION (ST. LOUIS, MO)

meets third Monday each month, 7:00 P.M. Odd numbered months: Trinity Lutheran Church, 14088 Clayton Road at Woods Mill Rd (Hwy 141), Ballwin, MO; Even numbered months: VFW Hall, O'Fallon, IL <http://www.gatewaynmra.org/division.htm>

TURKEY CREEK DIVISION (KANSAS CITY, MO & KS)

holds monthly meetings every fourth Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. Johnson County Courthouse, NE Branch, 6000 Lamar, Shawnee Mission, KS (DMV Building on SW corner of Lamar and Mastin)

WESTERN HERITAGE DIVISION (OMAHA, NE / COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA)

meets second Saturday (except June and December) at noon. Sump Memorial Library, corner of Washington and Second Streets in Papillion (across from Runza). Visit www.whdnmra.org for more info and a map.

EASTERN IOWA DIVISION (DAVENPORT, IA)

- Info: Rich Mahaney, Superintendent, (505) 640-5909 or hazmatrichm@aol.com, or visit our website at www.TheWigWag.org.

KATE SHELLEY DIVISION (AMES/DES MOINES, IA)

meets monthly on the fourth Thursday of each month 7:00 p.m. Meeting location varies, call (515) 232-8689 or email rfoelmann@mchsi.com.

INDIAN NATIONS DIVISION (OKLAHOMA)

meets at the New Hardesty Library at 8316 E 93rd St (just east of Memorial) in Tulsa, OK. The time is from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Each meeting, we have various presentations from clinics to slide shows. After the meetings we have a layout tour at one of the members' layouts. Meeting dates are: March 29, May 31 Sept 20 and Nov 19. Contact Dave Salamon at drs_rr@yahoo.com for further information.

PLATTE VALLEY DIV. (HASTINGS, GRAND ISLAND, KEARNEY, NE)

meets second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in members' homes on a rotating basis. Info: John O'Neill, Div. Dir., 308-384-5011 or jponeill@computerconcepts.com.

CLAREMORE & SOUTHERN RR OPERATING SESSION

Second Friday each month starting at 7:00PM and finishing by 10:00PM. 9372 E. Clover Creek Drive, Claremore, OK 74017-1487. Please send a confirming RSVP a week in advance if you are planning to join us. Info and RSVP: George F Maulsby, 918-341-9446 or www.csrailroad.com.

TRAIN SHOWS & MEETS

MARCH 15, 2008 - Boeing Employees Railroad Club-st. Louis Railroad Swap Meet, Greensfelder Recreation Complex at Queeny Park, 550 Wiedman Rd., St. Louis, MO, 10a.m. - 3 p.m., Adm: \$3.00 children under 12 free with paid adult, Tables (30" x 96") \$15.00 each, payment must accompany registration, seller setup 8 a.m., Info: call Wayne Schimmel after 6 p.m. Central Time, 636-668-6313 or 733 Hwy Y, Winfield, MO 63389-2206, [wwhtehrse@aol.com](http://www.whtehrse@aol.com). Make checks payable to Boeing Employees' Railroad Club-St. Louis.

MARCH 15-16, 2008 - World's Greatest Hobby Train Show & Meet. Bartle Hall Convention Center (downtown), Kansas City, MO. Sat: 10-6, Sun: 10-5. Adults \$10, kids 16 and under free.



APRIL 19-20, 2008 - Nebraska West-Central Div 14th Annual Train Show. D&N Event Center, 501 East Walker Road. Saturday April 19th 9am-5pm & Sunday April 20th 10am-4pm. Admission \$3.00, children under 12 \$1.00 under 5 free with paid adult. Union Pacific tours Saturday only (extra fare item). Sponsored by the Nebraska West-Central Division, NMRA. Contact: Gene Tacey, P.O. Box 485, Sutherland, NE 69165 308-386-2489 taceys@gpcom.net.

MAY 15-18, 2008 - Mid-Continent Region Convention, Settle Inn & Resort, Branson, MO, After 9-30-07: registration \$40, banquet \$25; Hotel rate \$69.98 per night, Ph 1-800-677-6906 and refer to Group Number NMRA-5158; Info: Jim Dimatteo, Convention Chair, 190 Western Ave., Branson, MO 65616.

JULY 23 - 26, 2008 - Union Pacific Historical Society Convention, Capital Plaza Hotel & Maner Conference Center, Topeka, KS, Info: Larry Tiffany ltiffany@cox.net, 2140 NW 53rd Terr., Topeka, KS 66618

AUGUST 2, 2008 - Turkey Creek Div Train Show, Lenexa Community Center, 13420 Oak, Lenexa (Pflumm & Santa Fe Dr), KS, 8:30 - 2:30, Clinics, Model & Photo Contests, Door Prizes, Display Layouts & Layout Tours, Swap Tables & Layout groups, Food & Refreshment, Info: Robert Hollowell, 2013 SE Stratford, Blue Springs, MO 64014-4047.

SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2008—north Platte Rail Fest, Info: Dave Harold 308-534-3648, railfest@nque.com, www.nprailfest.com

JULY 23 – 26, 2008 – Union Pacific Historical Society Convention,
Capital Plaza Hotel & Maner Conference Center, Topeka, KS, Info:
Larry Tiffany Itiffany@cox.net, 2140 NW 53rd Terr., Topeka, KS
66618

SUBMISSIONS

To list your event send it to: Gary Hemmingway, 3201 SW Stone Ave., Topeka, KS 66614, email garyonho@cox.net, Fax: 785-273-3350. To subscribe or unsubscribe to the electronic Switching List, send an email to the above link.

Division Directors, Train Show Chairs, or Club Show Chairs: ANY MORE EVENTS IN 2008? Get your information to Gary at any of the above addresses. Let's get the word out about your next event! This is a service of Mid-Continent Region, NMRA. Information provided is accurate at time of printing; contact sponsor to confirm.

WEB NEWS AND REVIEWS

BY WENDY HARLOW
EDITOR

As I was gathering information for this Kibitzer, I visited National's website to make sure I had the latest registration form. What I saw made my jaw drop: the site has received a total makeover, with a spiffy, sleek new design. It looks professional, as one would expect of an influential organization like the NMRA. It's well-organized into clearly-defined sections with the "Join" link right at the top. The first page defines what the NMRA is about and the benefits of joining.

<http://www.nmra.org>

John and Larry are in the process of creating an email list where members can "Ask an Expert". There's a link on the MCoR website to join this email list. It will be a great way to build community within the Region and allow members to expand their modeling skills.

<http://mcor-nmra.org>

I love technical drawings, and found a treasure trove of them for Pennsy fans. The site owner has scanned several books' worth of blueprints of PRR cars and equipment, and made them available for free on his website, along with LOADS of other PRR information and images. Well worth the look, in my opinion. The quality varies, depending on the age and condition of the documents he had to work with.

<http://pr.railfan.net/>



TRAINS ON THE PLAINS

Come and join us at the Sunflower Building on the Kansas State Fairgrounds as the Mid America Society for Railroad Preservation and Education presents Trains on the Plains. This expo will include modl train layouts in several scales along vendors of model railroad equipment and supplies.

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for more cities and dates.



ROOKIE RAMBLINGS: WORKIN' ON THE RAILROAD

BY JAMES VAN DELDEN

NEBRASKA WEST-CENTRAL DIVISION, MCOR

Every time I wander down that male bastion also know as my basement, it reminds me of that well-known tune: "I've been workin' on the railroad, all the live-long day...", NOT!

There it awaits. Row upon row of rolling stock and engines. Boxes of rails, half a dozen transformers, a variety of train sets (cheap), a mish-mash of HO or perhaps N-scale buildings, and rolls of plaster are yearning for busy hands. Pliers and tiny screwdrivers and stuff I have yet to unpack are patiently waiting for that metamorphosis into a working layout. Most of it is piled onto an M-shaped, home-made tabletop barely passing for benchwork. Two walls border this e-Bay derived, eclectic mess and about three years' worth of model railroad magazines, many in pristine condition (hint) and a handful of Kalmbach's HOW TO issues line the third bulkhead. The whole she-bang has survived two cross-country moves and surely there will not be a third.

Someone, please - light a fire underneath me or direct a well-placed size-nine boot to my gluteus maximus. I am retired and have this wonderful hobby to soak up some slack time, keep me off the streets, my mug off of police blotters, and to allow the creative juices to flow. Alas, it ain't working out. Sounds like the usual excuses: part-time gigs, garden and home projects, six four-legged kids and my dear spouse vying for my attention during waking hours. Model railroading should be a work in perpetual progress according to the experts, but this is utterly ridiculous.

Paraphrasing a famous naval commander: "I have not yet begun to fight...eh, model!"

Something or someone is to blame and I guess the old man claims first prize. Check the MMR list and articles. Most of these accomplished folks received their Lionel or American Flyer sets from Santa or Dad. So, if I'd received a similar present years ago, would things be different than my current method of acquisition and just talking about that model railroad empire? Having a mentor during the earlier years would have been a definite plus. An affiliation with a club or a division where teaching takes place would have been most welcome to jump-start this hobby. However, railroad history and model railroading was fairly low on this immigrant kid's priority list. Learning a new language, education, sports interests plus eventual life's responsibilities impacted on free time. The military, playing and coaching soccer, night and weekend ER call plus an unscheduled Middle East trip seriously short-circuited available hobby time. Buy hey - many of these excuses are not issues right now, except the daily marches with the canines. It is a must for their well-being AND my coronaries.

I just need to take that plunge...deep breath and jump. Luckily, I can dog-paddle. I cannot sing worth beans, but I can sure whistle that tune - you know, "I've been workin' on the...."



Raising the Rail in Olathe, KS: Pictures of the new railroad bridge that goes over Ridge View on the north end of the flyover in Olathe. There are four bridges that have been built to get a better flow of trains and traffic. Before, an approaching train would close down two major streets: Santa Fe east and west and Ridge View north and south. On Santa Fe, the traffic could sometimes be backed up for over a half-mile. This project should be complete in late February or the first of March. More pictures can be found on Webshots.com under the name of Mokbanrail. Photos by Louis Seibel.

REGIONAL WEB DIRECTORY

The Web is probably one of the easiest and least expensive ways to keep in contact with your membership. The Region offers space on their webserver for Divisions to use - contact Webmaster John A. Shaw for more details.

I'm only including websites that are active and updated since the last issue of the CK.

MID-CONTINENT REGION

www.mcor-nmra.org

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www.tulsanmra.org

TURKEY CREEK DIVISION

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KATE SHELLEY DIVISION

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www.thewigwag.org

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www.whdnmra.org

KANSAS CENTRAL DIVISION

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KansasCentral

GATEWAY DIVISION

www.gatewaynmra.org

OKLAHOMA SOUTHWESTERN AREA

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LOCATION: D&N EVENT CENTER

501 East Walker Road

North Platte, Nebraska

APRIL 19th AND 20th, 2008

HOURS: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. SATURDAY THE 19th

AND 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. SUNDAY THE 20th

ADMISSION: \$3.00 CHILDREN UNDER 12 \$1.00

(under 5 with paid adult free)

TRAIN LAYOUTS AND DISPLAYS,

VENDOR TABLES SELLING RAILROAD ITEMS

NOTE TO VENDORS: TABLES ARE \$10 EACH TILL APRIL 1ST, AFTER APRIL 1ST THEY ARE \$15

**UNION PACIFIC TOURS WILL BE AVAILABLE AS AN EXTRA FARE
ITEM (Saturday only)**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

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308-386-2489

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Ozark Model Railroad Association Presents

30th Annual Train Show & Swap Meet

Saturday, April 19th, 2008

9 am – 3 pm

King's Way United Methodist Church

2401 S. Lone Pine

Springfield, Mo.

Railroad Memorabilia

N, HO, O, Lionel & G Scale

Lots of model trains for sale!

And other activities to be announced

Free parking with easy access to show

Admission: Adults \$5.00

Children 7-12 \$3.00

6 & Under FREE

(When accompanied by an adult)

For more information on show contact:

Al Freeman 417-443-1014 Cell: 417-527-5353

E-mail: dragon51@yahoo.com

Dale Irvine

E-mail: bowlanmrr@mchsi.com

For vendor information contact:

Gary Mills: 417-725-1433

BRANSON EXPRESS 2008: MCOR REGIONAL CONVENTION

PREVIEW

The Branson Express 2008 pulls into beautiful Branson, Missouri on Thursday night, May 15th for four days of great model railroading experiences.

VENUE

Branson is located in the Tri-Lakes area of the Ozark Mountains, on the banks of Lake Taneycomo, 40 miles south of Springfield, Missouri. Lake Taneycomo is the premier trout fishing lake in the Midwest. Table Rock Lake is west of town. It has 850 miles of shore line and is the premier bass fishing lake in the Midwest. It is also a great lake for skiing, tubing or pleasure boating. Bull Shoals is the third of the Tri-Lakes, located east of Branson. Its claim to fame is crappie fishing and pleasure boating.

Branson is also known as the live entertainment capitol of the United States. It has over 52,000 theater seats (more than Broadway) and approximately 52 shows are performed every night.

In addition to the lakes and shows, Branson is the home of the Branson Landing, Silver Dollar City, Show Boat Branson Belle, Bass Pro Shops and many other family-oriented recreational activities.

HOTEL

Stonecastle Hotel & Convention Center (formerly Settle Inn)
3050 Green Mountain Dr., Branson, MO 65616
800-677-6906

Website: <http://www.bransonsettleinn.com>

E-Mail: bsettleinn@aol.com

Group #NMRA-5158; Room rate is \$69.98 + tax.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Full Registration allows you complete access to all convention activities. The Fare is \$45.00 per person. Extra-fare items are not included.

Non-NMRA Member Registration allows you full access without joining the NMRA. The fare is \$50.00 per person. Extra-fare items are not included.

SCHEDULE

CHECK-IN

Thursday, May 15 from 4 - 8pm; Friday, May 16 from 8am - 8pm
Registration/check-in will be in Building #3, adjacent to the hotel check-in desk. At check-in you will receive a convention bag filled with local information from the Branson visitors' bureaus, maps to extra-fare items and convention ID tags. You will have the opportunity to purchase patches/pins and alter your itinerary at this time.

HOSPITALITY ROOM

Thursday May 15th, "Avalon" room, Building #1

Duration of Convention, "Excalibur" room, Building #1

CLINICS

Friday, May 16th and Saturday, May 17th

All clinics are open to convention registrants at no-charge except the "Make and Take" clinic conducted by Miles and Fran Hale. That

clinic will be limited to 26 people and the fare will be \$5.00. Sign up for this clinic when you register.

MODEL AND PHOTO CONTESTS

Entries accepted starting Friday, May 16th, 9am

NMRA Judging Saturday, May 17th, 2pm

Have all documents filled out in advance. Forms are available from your local AP chairman or on the NMRA website.

HOME LAYOUT TOUR

Saturday, May 17th

The tour is self-guided. Maps will be provided in your convention bag.

DOOR PRIZES

Two special prizes will be raffled off to convention registrants Saturday night at the awards banquet. Regular door prizes will be raffled off during the train show on Saturday and Sunday.

PUBLIC TRAIN SHOW

Saturday, May 17th, 9am - 5pm and Sunday, May 18th, 9am - 2pm

"Stonehenge" and "Knights of the Round Table" rooms

Admission is \$5.00 per person per day. Children 12 and under are free with a paid adult.

Each vendor is required to pay a \$15.00 Branson City Vendor License fee in addition to the table fee of \$15.00 each.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Sunday, May 18th, 8am

EXTRA-FARE ITEMS

Available to all registrants - full, non-members, spouses and guests - at special convention rates. Convention attendees will be provided maps in their convention bag and are responsible for their own transportation to the sites.

TOUR OF A MISSOURI PACIFIC CABOOSE

Friday, May 16th, 2 - 5pm and free to all persons wearing a convention ID tag.

EXCURSION TRAIN TRIP ON THE BRANSON SCENIC RAILWAY

Friday, May 16th, 2pm

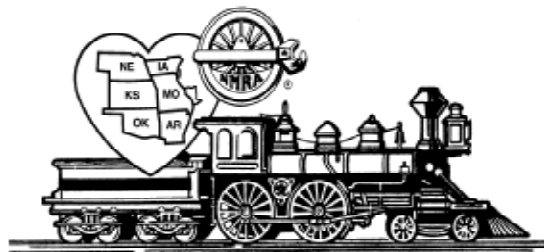
Trip is approximately two hours. Cost is \$22.25 per person with convention ID tag. Sign up when you register and pay when you board the train.

AWARDS BANQUET

Saturday, May 17th, 6 - 10pm

Cost is \$25.00 per person for NMRA members, their spouses or guests. \$30.00 per person for non-NMRA members, their spouses or guests.

For more information on Branson, MO, log onto:
<http://explorebranson.com> or call 800-214-3661.



Mid-Continent Regional Convention/BRANSON EXPRESS 2008

Hosted by the Ozark Mountain Area

MAY 15-18, 2008 IN BRANSON, MO

STONECASTLE HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER (formerly Settle Inn)

3050 Green Mountain Dr. 800-677-6906

Group # NMRA-5158, rate \$69.98 +tax

Activities planned for this year's meet include:

Door Prizes - special raffle for registrants only. Door prize raffle at train show.

Model & Photo Contests – by NMRA judges.

Clinics – a full slate of clinics covering many aspects of the hobby. For Clinic registration contact Tom McMorran at k_t_mack@yahoo.com or 417-239-2776.

Display Layout and Layout Tours – In addition to the display layout at the meet, several local modelers will be opening their homes to layout tours Saturday afternoon. Layout tour maps will be available at registration.

Excursion train trip – Friday afternoon at 2pm on the Branson Scenic Railway.

Tour a MOPAC Caboose - Friday afternoon. Information available at registration.

Swap Tables and Railroad Groups – Approximately 60 tables for area dealers, local hobbyists and other railroad groups. For information on tables contact Tom McMorran at k_t_mack@yahoo.com or 417-239-2776.

BRANSON, MO – Live entertainment capitol of the U.S.A., with over 52 show venues, plus Silver Dollar City, Celebration City, Branson Belle and three lakes for boating and fishing. There is something for every member of the family to do in Branson, so make the trip to the convention be a family vacation. For information, log onto explorebranson.com or call 800-214-3661.

Mid Continent Regional Convention / Branson Express 2008 Registration Form

Full Registration (after October 31, 2007) is \$45.00 for the convention and/or \$25.00 for the banquet

Swap tables @ \$20.00, plus \$15.00 Branson City Vendor License fee (March 31,2008)

	Number of attendees / tables	Cost each	Total
Convention Registration		\$45.00	
Banquet		\$25.00	
Swap Tables (maximum of five)		\$20.00	
Branson Vendors License	1	\$15.00	
Total Enclosed:			

Name _____ E-mail _____

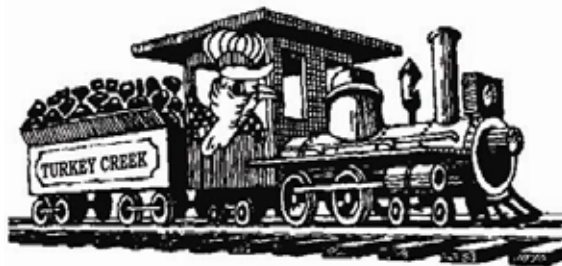
Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Additional attendees _____

BRANSON EXPRESS 2008: MCOR REGIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE

	Location (Room Name)	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM
THURSDAY, MAY 15TH															
Registration	Lobby, Main Bldg #3									X	X	X	X	X	
Hospitality Room	Avalon									X	X	X	X	X	
FRIDAY, MAY 16TH															
Registration	Lobby, Main Bldg #3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Clinics	King's Court		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X				
	Lancelot		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X				
	Avalon		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X				
Contests	Excalibur		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Hospitality Room	Excalibur		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Train Show Setup	Stonehenge										X	X	X	X	
	Knights of the Round Table										X	X	X	X	
Branson Scenic Railway	Off site*							X	X	X	X				
MOPAC Caboose Tour	Off site*							X	X	X	X				
SATURDAY, MAY 17TH															
Clinics	King's Court		X	X	X		X	X	X	X					
	Lancelot		X	X	X		X	X	X	X					
	Avalon		X	X	X		X	X	X	X					
Contests	Excalibur		X	X	X	X	X	X							
Hospitality Room	Excalibur		X	X	X	X	X	X							
Public Train Show	Stonehenge		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
	Knights of the Round Table		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Lunch	Stonehenge					X	X	X							
Awards Banquet	Draw Bridge											X	X	X	X
Layout Tours	Off site*						X	X	X	X					
SUNDAY, MAY 18TH															
Public Train Show	Stonehenge		X	X	X	X	X	X							
	Knights of the Round Table		X	X	X	X	X	X							
BOD Meeting		X	X	X	X	X									
* Attendees are responsible for their own transportation to off site events. Maps will be provided upon check-in.															



Turkey Creek Show
August 2, 2008
Lenexa Community Center
13420 Oak, Lenexa, KS (Pflumm & Santa Fe Drive)

Activities planned for this year's meet include:

- **Clinics** – a full slate of clinics covering many aspects of the hobby.
- **Model & Photo Contests** -By Popular vote with NMRA Achievement Program judging available. **Each model (up to a maximum of 5 models) you enter in the model contest will automatically qualify you to be entered in to a special drawing to receive a \$50.00 gift voucher.**
Special Youth Award for the best overall youth model entry.
- **Door Prizes** – Additional door prizes will be set aside for advance registrants.
- **Display Layout and Layout Tours** – In addition to the display layout at the meet, several local modelers will be opening their homes to layout tours in the afternoon and evening. Layout tour maps will be available for collection with your registration.
- **Swap Tables and Railroad Groups** – Expect to find more than 70 tables from area dealers, local hobbyists and other railroad groups. For information on tables contact Robert Jefferis at jeffbobj@everestkc.net.
- **Food and Refreshments** – Scout Troop 92 will have food and refreshments available during the show.

Turkey Creek 2008 Division Meet Registration Form

Advance Registration: \$4.00 ♦♦♦♦ Full Registration: \$6.00 (\$5.00 NMRA member) at door
Children under 12 free with paid registration

		Advance Registration (\$4.00)	No. Registration	Total Cost
Name				
Address				
City				
State Zip				
Telephone #		Total Enclosed		
E-Mail Address		Scale Modeled		

More Registrant Names

Make Checks Payable to: "Turkey Creek Division"
Mail to: Turkey Creek Show, C/o Robert Hollowell, 2013 SE Stratford, Blue Springs, Mo 64014 4047

THE HAND CAR

BI-ANNUAL REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE REGION

This publication, The Hand Car, is prepared by the MCoR President twice each year. It contains information of potential interest to all members, including the minutes from the MCoR Board of Directors meetings, held twice each year. The mid-year MCoR Board of Directors meeting was held on January 5, 2008.

In this Hand Car, I want to stress the value of member service to the Mid-Continent Region.....that is, value to you and to the Region. Without the volunteer help of many individual members, this organization could not function! It's as simple as that. Volunteers contribute their time and energy in many different ways, from elected positions at the region or division levels, to membership in the MCoR Board of Directors, to a wide variety of appointed positions at both levels. All are tremendously important! These various positions are filled by individuals with a variety of experience with the NMRA, from long-time members, who have contributed many years of service to relatively new members, who are just getting involved.

Most of these positions, while not really requiring that much time, can result in a great deal of satisfaction from being involved and supporting your Region and/or Division/Area. There is an immediate need for volunteers for MCoR BOD representatives from several of the MCoR Areas. These include the South Central Missouri Area, Northern Arkansas Area, Little Rock Area, Western Kansas Area, and Fallen Flags Area (generally Southeast Iowa). Those of you that reside in these areas are eligible to filled positions, and, if interested, please contact me. In addition, there may be opportunities to assist at your division level. Again, if you are interested, please contact your Division Superintendent (listed on the MCoR website) to see how you can help. Nearly all of the volunteers that I know have the same opinion on this; the more you contribute.....the more you get back from the organization. Get involved.....it's fun!

In closing, I want to encourage everyone to seriously consider attending the MCoR Annual Convention in Branson, MO from May 15-18, 2008. Information on the convention is given elsewhere in this CK issue. In addition, check out the latest Switching List to see the other Division and Area Train Meets that are available around the Region. These are a lot of fun.....give them a try, if you haven't done so lately.

Until next time.....Happy Railroading!

Larry Alfred, MMR

MCoR President

MCoR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Johnson County Library, Overland Park, KS
January 5, 2008

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of MCoR was called to order at 10:03 A.M., January 5, 2008, at the Johnson County Library in Overland Park, KS. The presiding officer was President Larry Alfred. A quorum was present, including the following officers and members:

Larry Alfred MMR, MCoR President

Richard Napper MMR, MCoR Vice President and Kansas Central Div. Director

John A. Shaw, MCoR Treasurer and MCoR Webmaster

Whit Johnson, MCoR Secretary and MCoR Contest Chairman

Brad Morneau, Turkey Creek Div. Director

John O'Neill, Platte Valley Division Director

Edward Bommer, Indian Nations Division Superintendent

Kerry Lindenbaum, Turkey Creek Division Superintendent

Louis Siebel, MCoR Advertising Chairman

Marty Vaughn MMR, MCoR AP Chairman

Clark Cooper, Eastern Iowa Div. Director

John Averill, Great Midwestern Division Superintendent

Robert Folkmann, Kate Shelley Division Superintendent

Phil Aylward, Chisholm Trail Div. Director

Jim Anderson, Gateway Division Director

Robert Amsler, MCoR Attorney

There were four proxies presented:

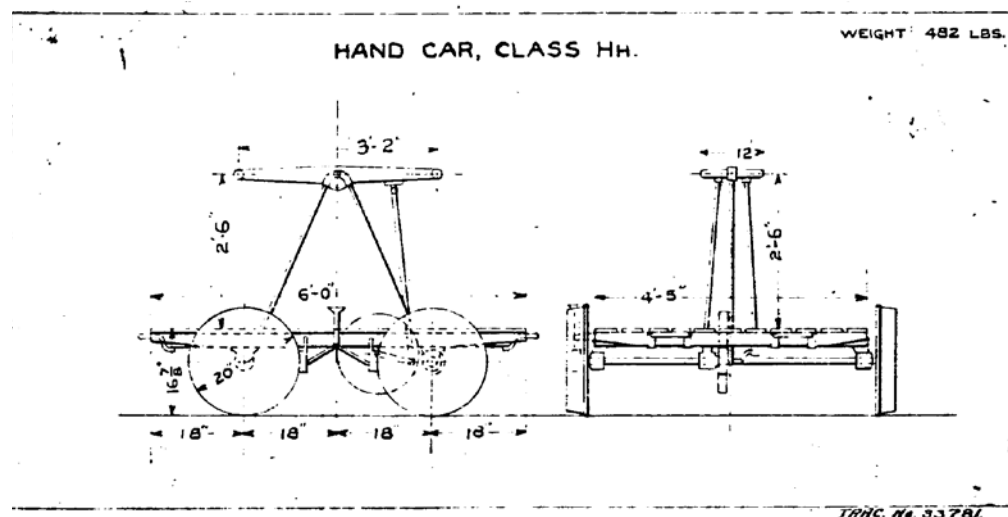
Whit Johnson for Barry Quensel, Oklahoma Southwestern Area Director

Whit Johnson for Gene Tacey, Nebraska West Central Division Director

Whit Johnson for Jim Dimatteo, Ozark Mountain Area Director

Larry Alfred for Doug Good, Western Heritage Division Director

Last Train Ride was announced for John Brooke, Craig Brown, Bob Adams, and Arthur Fridblom.



Handcar diagram from <http://pr.railfan.net/diagrams/PRRdiagrams.html>

The minutes of the August 2007 BOD meeting were published by Whit Johnson, MCoR Secretary. A motion to accept the minutes of the August 2007 BOD Meeting as published was made by John Shaw, seconded by John Averill.

PASSED

Treasurer John Shaw gave a report on MCoR Finances. A motion was made to accept the report by John Averill, seconded by Louis Siebel.

PASSED

Sales Manager Report was presented as published.

Directors Reports: Reports were presented as published.

Convention Committee: Larry Alfred, MCoR Convention Committee Chairman addressed the BOD to report that the 2008 convention to be in May. Jim Dimatteo, the local chairman reports that planning is well under way. Registrations are coming in and negotiations for a private car on the Branson Scenic Railway are also being worked on at this time.

At this time there is still no host committee for the 2009 convention. Several locations were discussed and will be followed up by the committee.

The AP report was published in the hand-out.

A break was called by President Alfred at 11:33 A.M.

Meeting was called to order by President Alfred at 11:44 A.M.

OLD BUSINESS

The committee to review MCoR organization and operation was reorganized to include Robert Amsler, Larry Alfred, Richard Napper, and Rick Liebich. Others are encouraged to volunteer for this important review into the future direction and goals for MCoR.

The special projects committee for the Rock Island Car project has ended. Volunteers for a new committee to review and propose the next special project are being solicited. John Averill, John Shaw, and Clark Cooper are going to recruit some committee members and plan to work up a car project in conjunction with the MCoR 60th anniversary and the 2010 convention.

A motion was made to distribute 25% of dues refunds received from National to the Divisions. This money is provided for the sole purpose of supporting NMRA National Mandated Programs. These funds are to be distributed on an annual basis based on Active Members. Motion made by Whit

Johnson, Secretary, seconded by Ed Bommer.

PASSED

NEW BUSINESS

A discussion was held about requirements associated with organization officials and NMRA provided event insurance. It goes without saying that all elected Region and Division Officers/Directors and appointed Area Directors must be NMRA members. Our insurance coverage could be jeopardized if any elected or appointed Official making decisions for the organization is not a member in good standing. NMRA provides liability insurance for Region and Division/Area events at no cost. This insurance coverage can be extended to event facilities, if required by those facilities, at a small additional cost. NMRA insurance also covers entries in the model contests in the event of damage or theft. The NMRA home office can address individual questions.

A motion was made to publish portions of the MCoR Executive Handbook to the MCoR web site. The first portion would be published with just the MCoR Regulations and the Convention Guidelines. The

remainder of the Executive Handbook will follow at a later time after a BOD update and approval. Motion made by John Shaw, seconded by Ed Bommer.

PASSED

A motion was made to include all minutes and handouts of the meeting excluding the financial and legal documentation on the MCoR website. Motion made by John Shaw, seconded by Louis Siebel.

PASSED

There was a short discussion on the IRS filing requirement. This is to be followed up by John Shaw and Bob Amsler.

A motion was made to adjourn by Richard Napper, Seconded by John Averill.

PASSED

Meeting adjourned 13:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Whitney D. Johnson
MCoR Secretary

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM REPORT

Since the last report published in the Hand Car, the following certificates have been earned.

GOLD SPIKES

George Malcolm Eastern Iowa

AP CERTIFICATES

Howard Junker	Scenery	Platte Valley
Tony Bowen	Volunteer	Eastern Iowa
Robert Wintle	Volunteer	Maple Leaf
Donald Taschner	Civil Engineering	Gateway
Donald Taschner	Electrical	Gateway
Sherman Luhn	Dispatcher	Platte Valley
Paul Myers	Official	Turkey Creek
Mark Malmkar	Dispatcher	Platte Valley
Gary Hankins	Structures	Turkey Creek
Gary Hankins	Electrical	Turkey Creek

I am also pleased to report to you that since the last Hand Car we now have a new Master Model Railroader in the MCoR.

MASTER MODEL RAILROADERS

Donald Taschner	MMR 403	Gateway
-----------------	---------	---------

Please congratulate all these members next time you see them, they have worked hard to earn these certificates. As you can see it has been slow for the AP since the last report in September. If you live in Area as opposed to a Division and are interested in participating in the AP program contact me and we'll find ways to help you get started..

Marty Vaughn MMR
MCoR AP Chairman

HELJAN SYNAGOGUE KIT REVIEW

BY WENDY HARLOW

CABOOSE KBITZER EDITOR

I like buildings with character that I can build a story into as I put the kit together. It seemed to me that so many HO kits were so similar in design that they could be easily substituted one for another and no one would notice. Then I saw a preview of this kit in the Walther's catalog. I knew immediately this building WOULD be mine.

It's a recreation of the historic synagogue at 770 Eastern Parkway in New York City: "770 Eastern Parkway, commonly abbreviated to 770 or Seven-seventy is the street address of the (worldwide) central headquarters of the Chabad-Lubavitch Hasidic movement, located on Eastern Parkway in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, New York...The building originally served as a medical clinic..." (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/770_Eastern_Parkway). Several replicas of the building have been erected in other cities worldwide.

It took some doing to obtain the model, and I ended up ordering it from Doc's Caboose in Kansas City, Missouri. When the box arrived, I excitedly opened it up and starting poking around in the pieces. As a veteran of many DPM building kits, I wasn't concerned about the amount of painting I saw I'd need to do. While the dimensions of the building are printed on the box, I was surprised at the sheer size of the thing

when I actually started putting it together. This is a very large structure comparatively speaking.

The walls were moulded in flat red plastic, so for more realism, I painted on a layer of undiluted cream-colored acrylic paint. I let it dry, then scrubbed of the excess paint with a toothbrush under running water. This left a nearly undisturbed layer of paint in the crevices in the brick texture. Trying to wipe off excess paint while it was still wet (which is the more usual procedure) led to blotchy results since the wall sections were so large; the paint would dry faster than I could get it wiped off. Interestingly, Heljan moulded some projecting bricks, making the texture more interesting. However, there were some places where there was no texture at all – just slick plastic. While I understand why it was so – for easier removal from the mould – it detracts from the otherwise excellent detail of the structure.

The trim was slick white. Since these pieces were considerably smaller, I painted



them with diluted gray acrylic paint and wiped off the excess. Since I planned to light the structure, I painted any bits of trim that was the only layer between the outside and a light source (so the light wouldn't show through it). Care was needed in handling some of the detail pieces – especially the long downspouts for the front of the building. They're extremely easy to break, as I found out first hand. The white color isn't strictly accurate – the original building's trim is a creamy tan color.

Here's the gabled front roof with weathering done with brown acrylic paint. I like Apple Barrel brand paint because it dries to a matte finish, rather than a slightly glossy one.



This is the back side of the front wall. Black paint covers areas where light would show through the white plastic (under the larger windows and the small square tiles under the gables). The window frames are black and you can see where the heavy plastic of the window "glass" fits onto posts protruding from the outer red brick layer.

The “odd” thing about this model is that the trim for the front wall is moulded as a single piece, which is layered with the outer brick shell. It made sense, since the company was trying to make it as simple as possible while preserving the historic detail of the building.

The roof pieces were slick gray and presented some problems. The front, gabled roofline was easy to deal with – I just painted on some brown acrylic and wiped off the excess, leaving streaks running down the shingles. The flat sections were very slick and wouldn’t accept any paint. I ended up roughing them up with sandpaper and gluing another piece of sandpaper to it, which I then dry-brushed with a bit of my acrylic paint. The result is a nicely-aged “gravel” roof.

The windows are moulded in thick, translucent plastic with the leading detail as raised relief. It didn’t look right; the lead-

ing didn’t stand out enough, especially at a distance. I used a fine-tipped Sharpie marker to trace the raised bits, resulting in sharp, black leading in the windows. Any mistakes were carefully scraped off with an X-Acto knife.

One of the claims made by Heljan is that this kit needs “minimal gluing” and they’re right – if you don’t intend to move the model once it’s placed on your layout. Most of the pieces simply snapped together. Some tabs needed a bit of trimming to fit properly, but for the most part, it went together easily. As I knew I’d be using my building on a modular layout and it would need to withstand frequent transport and rough handling, I decided early on that I’d glue everything I could. The result was an extremely sturdy, solid model.

On my layout, this serves as a public library/city hall in the midst of an urban renewal project.



Left: The window detail. The lower right window has NOT had the raised leading traced with a Sharpie marker.

Right: 360 view of the finished structure.



ADVERTISING RATES

MCoR invites you to consider the Caboose Kibitzer for your advertising needs. This magazine serves over 900 National Model Railroad Association members within a seven-state area - Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Arkansas, and Oklahoma.

Single issue Commercial ad rate is 35% of the yearly rate. Want ads are free to current MCoR members. They are subject to available space and acceptance at the discretion of the Editor, and are limited to 25 words or less.

Ads need not be identical throughout the year. Prices listed above are for camera ready copy. Design and typesetting services are available on request, at extra cost.

All inquiries and payments should be sent to the Advertising Manager: Louis Seibel, 1069 N Logan, Olathe, KS 66061. Make checks payable to the Mid-Continent Region.

Ad description	Approx. size	Cost per year
COMMERCIAL ADS:		
Full page	9.5" x 7.25"	\$120.00
Half page	4.75" x 7.25"	70.00
Quarter page	4.75" x 3.5"	38.00
Eighth page	2.5" x 3.5"	22.00
Business card	2" x 3.5"	15.00
DEALER DIRECTORY:		
Business card	1.375" x 2.375"	10.00
PIKE REGISTRY:		
Business card	1.375" x 2.375"	5.00

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President **Randolph P. Meyer**
156 Ladue Oaks Dr.
Creve Coeur, MO 63141


Barry M. Quensel
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Lawton, OK 73501 e-mail: QuBert1@aol.com

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MoPac55@hotmail.com

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General Superintendent
Kansas Division

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Kansas City, KS 66112 913-299-2923


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Peter B. Smith
Receiver

4317 Mahogany Lane, Belleville, IL 62226
Tel. 618 277 5518 E-Mail: psmith@apci.net

PHONE: 913-649-3530 Division of C.R.H. Equipment Co.


CHARLES R. HEYING
PRESIDENT


10209 BROADMOOR
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66212

Delaware & Hudson Model Railroad
Susquehanna Division



John A. Shaw
Superintendent
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John Hardy

Division CEO *The Big River Line*
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REGION CLUB ROSTER

This roster was created for the benefit of members of the Mid-Continent Region. It identifies those clubs that are presently active in MCoR. Any group that wishes to be included in the listing should send the club's name, contact address and scale interest to Louis Seibel (his info is inside the front cover). Listings in this section are free of charge.

A more complete list can be found at http://mcor-nmra.org/MCoR_Clubs.html

Big Bend Railroad Club
8833 Big Bend Blvd
Webster Groves, MO 63119
(O)

Capital City Model Railroaders
PO Box 243
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(HO)

Claremore & Southern
3049 Clover Creek Dr
Claremore, OK 74017
(HO)

Columbia Model Railroaders
410 Camelot Dr
Collinsville, IL 62234
(HO)

Crooked Rails Modular HO Club
PO Box 7612
Little Rock, AR 72217
David Ware, Corr. Secretary
W: 501-683-3187
H: 501-664-1923

East Jackson City Mainliners
807 W Main St Ste A
Blue Springs, MO 64015-3757

Greater Kansas City Model
Railroad Club
60th & NW Waukomis Dr
Kansas City, MO
816-746-5663

Greater Omaha Society of Model
Engineers
Post Office Box 67
Council Bluffs, IA 51502
402-895-0296 or 402-491-3692
GOSOME@TheHistoricalSociety.org

Green Valley Baptist Model RR
11993 County Rd 162
Savannah, MO 64485
Contact: Nancy Adams
nadaams@bi-vetmedica.com
816-262-0304

Kansas Area N-Trak
2046 S Elizabeth #1306
Wichita, KS 67213
(N)

Kansas Central Model
Railroad Club
530 E Third St
Hutchinson, KS 67501
(HO)

Kansas City Garden RR Society
David Roberts
24595 Hedge
Paola, KS 66071
GScaleisfun@hotmail.com
913-406-3400

Kansas City O-Scale Modulars
10334 Ash
Overland Park, KS 66207
(O)

Kansas City Soc. of Model Engineers
Doug Wood, President 2007
13817 Bradshaw
Overland Park, KS
913-402-7210
dougwood@kc.rr.com

The Kansas City T-Nuts
c/o Marc Jacobs
PO Box 2334
Olathe, KS 66061
913-787-3413
n_gineer@sbcglobal.net

Lincoln Area Model Railroad Club
PO Box 811440
Lincoln, NE 68501
<http://www.lamrcandm.org/>

Manhattan Area Rail Joiners
1223 Pierre St
Manhattan, KS 66502-4331
Contact: Don Clagett
dclagett@ksu.edu
785-587-9075

Mississippi Valley N Scalers
20 Apostle Ct
Fenton, MO 63026
<http://mvns.railfan.net>
mvns@railfan.net
(N)

Missouri Northern Railroad Society
Inc.
PO Box 12591
North Kansas City, MO 64116
(HO)

Modular HO Narrow Gauge Society
914 Summer Leaf Ct
Saint Peters, MO 63376
(HO)

Mo-Kan Raijoiners Inc. (all)
1069 N Logan
Olathe, KS 66061-6321
Louis Seibel
913-393-3495
L-seibel@comcast.net

Nebraska-Iowa Railroaders
Dave Hector
402-933-7334
dbask1@cox.net
<http://www.ne-ia-railroaders.com>
(Lionel)

Nishna Valley Railroad Society
1303 Eighth St
Harlan, IA 51537
(HO)

Northeast Kansas Garden Railway
Society (NEKAN-GRS)
1308 SW Caldon
Topeka, KS 66611-2412

North East Kansas Railroaders, Inc.
1440 North 6th
Atchison, KS 66002
Steve Sschaefter
NEKR@yahoo.com
(HO)

Northwest Kansas Model Railroad
Club
603 S Smokyhill
Oakley, KS 67748-2321

Omaha N-Trak
omahantrak@cox.net
<http://www.omahantrak.org/>
(N)

Ozark Model Railroad
Association
424 W Commercial
Springfield, MO 65803
(all)

Parsons Model Railroad Engineers
Cherryvale Depot
Cherryvale, KS 68335
(HO)

Southern Illinois Train Club
PO Box 1633
Mriion, IL 62959-7833
(HO, N, G)

Southwest Independent
Modular Railroaders
3107 W Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72209
(HO)

The Sugar Creek Model Railroad &
Historical Society Inc. (all)
PO Box 5452
Bella Vista, AR 72714
Maida & John Bennett
479-855-1113, sloopjb@cox.net

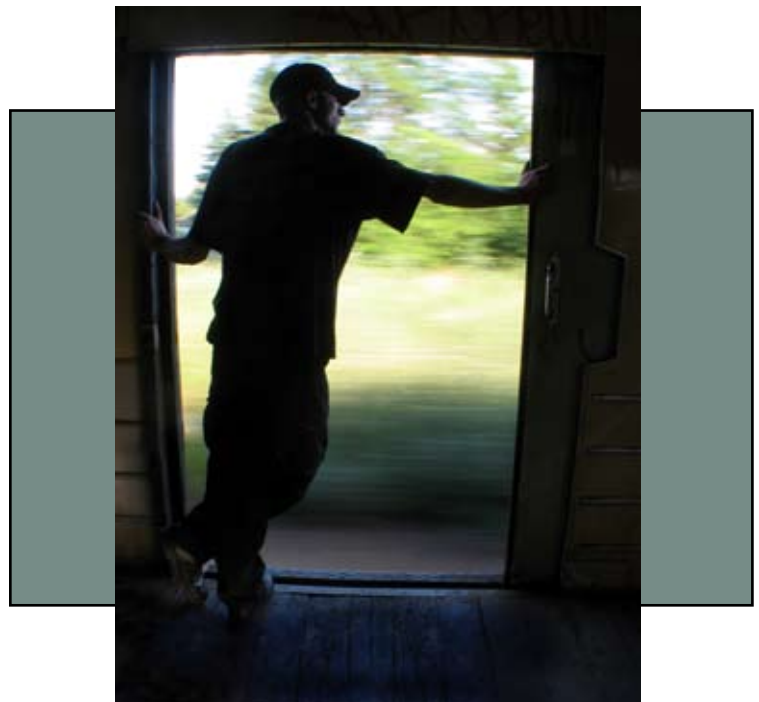
Tri-City Model Railroad
Association
607 S Shore Dr
Hastings, NE 68901
(HO, N)

Tri-State Model Railroaders
Ned Mayes
1217 E Sunset Dr
Oronogo, MO 64855
417-673-1491
slimned@msn.com

Union Station Kansas City Model
Railroad Society
Ted Tschirhart, President
816-861-3449
tedtschi@kc.rr.com

The Weekend 'N Gineers
PO Box 414209
Kansas City, MO 64141-0209

Wichita Model Railroad Club
PO Box 48082
Wichita, KS 67201



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23-North Central Subscription	\$6.00			31-Lone Star Subscription	0	
24-Thousand Lakes Subscription	\$6.00			32-Mid Central Subscription	0	
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Larry Alfred

