



The Main Line

The monthly publication of the
Western Kansas Division

August 2026



On The Cover:

We continued repairs on the track that buckled. The two outer lines are restored to operational status while work remains on the inner line. Plus, a new scenery project has started, More details inside...

In This Issue:

Real Deal	Page 8
WKR Update	Page 22
Date Book	Page 36



Rail Pass

Sign up for our 9-month US Rail Pass trial membership for only \$19.95! This Includes 9 months of the Digital NMRA Magazine. The Rail Pass offer is good in the U.S. only and is for new and long expired members.

Individuals can join at the Rail Pass rate only ONCE in their lifetime.

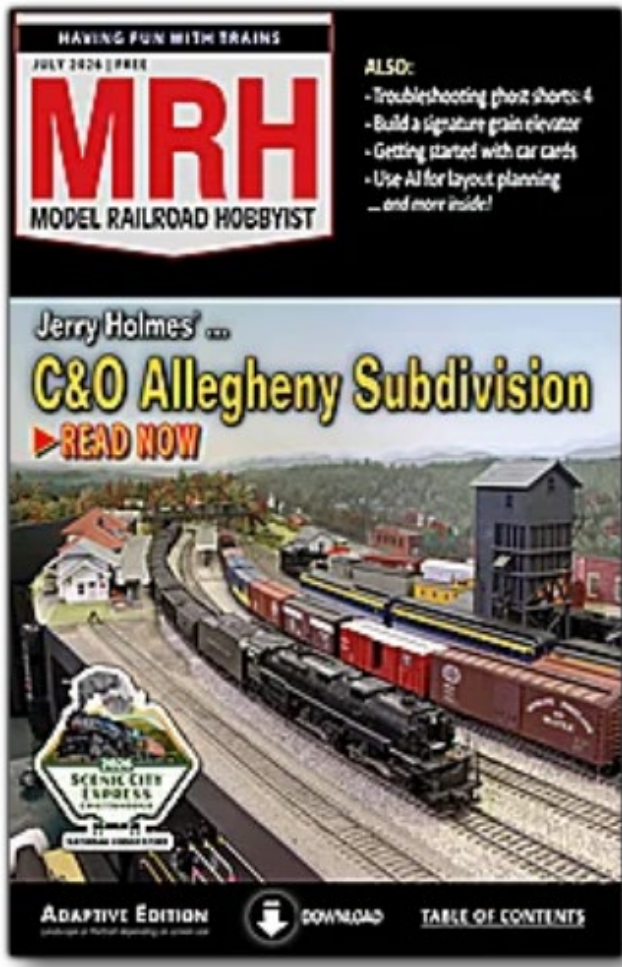
Rail Pass members can attend conventions and participate in contests but cannot hold office or vote in NMRA events. Rail Pass Membership cannot be renewed but can be upgraded to a Basic or Premium Membership on expiration.

Duration: 9-months Price: \$19.95

For more info check out the NMRA website:

<https://www.nmraportal.org/portal/membership/new-membership-purchase/rp>

July 2026 MRH



ALSO:

- Troubleshooting ghost shorts: 4
- Build a signature grain elevator
- Getting started with car cards
- Use AI for layout planning ... and more inside!

Want still more expert-savvy articles?



Buy full downloadable eBook (6 articles, 117 pgs, all meat: no ads) for just \$3.99

Make it run like a

Dream ROLLING STOCK

102 pages *By Joe Fugate*

SUMMER SPECIAL

Get eBook NOW ►

Was \$19.99, now just 14.99

Click here to start reading today:
<https://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/>



The Katy Railroad Historical Society

was formed in Parsons, Kansas, on October 1, 1977 The purpose of the society is to bring together in close association those people 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.

Texas Special Membership

\$47 /One Year

- ✓ 4 Issues of the *Katy Flyer* Magazine
- ✓ Annual Member Directory
- ✓ One KRHS Katy Lines Calendar (sent w/ September *Katy Flyer*)



Click here for the KRHS website:

<https://katyrailroad.org/>



Hours

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Spring Creek Model Trains 25th Anniversary Kadee HO Scale PS-2 2 Bay Covered Hopper

Spring Creek Model Trains offers exclusive Kadee 2 Bay covered hopper celebrating our 25th year. This model comes in one road number. For more information and to order the exclusive car follow this link.

<https://www.springcreekmodeltrains.com/product/spring-creek-exclusive-ho-kadee-ps-2-2-bay-covered-hopper-car-spring-creek-model-trains-25th-anniversary-2000/>



Hello, we're David & Debby

I am David Zucker who, along with my wife Debby, started our hobby store business in 2000. It has been a lifelong dream to own my own model railroad hobby store. We have grown from a 5' x 10' x 6' trailer to a store and a website. We still love doing the weekend “train shows” and we travel throughout the Midwest.

Click here to explore the world of **Spring Creek Model Trains**:

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



NRail is *the* organization promoting N-Scale model railroading *including* NTrak, T-TRAK, FreeMoN, Club Layouts, Home Layouts, or No Layouts! Whatever your pleasure, **if it's N-Scale, you're in the right place!**

BECOME A MEMBER!

Membership in NRail includes:

- One year (6 issues) of the [Newsletter](#)
- First access to the monthly [ZoomTRAK](#) live broadcasts.
- Access to the [Members Only](#) section of NRail.org (including over 270 past issues of the Newsletter)
- Discounts on merchandise in the [NRail Store](#)
- and you are supporting N-Scale railroading in all forms!

**Click here for the N-Rail
website:**

<https://nrail.org/>



Realistic **roads** and **paved areas** can bring an entire model railroad scene together. Concrete and Asphalt Paving Powders make it easy to create roads, sidewalks, parking lots, loading areas, and industrial surfaces with natural texture and color. Add stains, cracks, weeds, and weathering to make every paved area feel like it belongs in the real world.



Build Better Roads, Lots, and Concrete Surfaces

Concrete and asphalt areas are important parts of any realistic model railroad scene. Roads, parking lots, sidewalks, loading areas, and industrial yards help connect buildings and scenery while making the layout feel active and complete.

Our Concrete and Asphalt Paving Powders make it easy to create realistic paved surfaces without the perfectly smooth, plastic appearance of premade sheets. Spread the powder over your prepared surface, shape the edges, and secure it with your preferred scenery adhesive.

Use concrete-colored powder for sidewalks, warehouse loading areas, station platforms, and newer parking lots. Asphalt powder works well for roads, older parking areas, industrial yards, and surfaces that need a darker, weathered appearance.

For added realism, vary the color slightly across the surface. Add darker areas where vehicles travel, lighter patches along the edges and small cracks, weeds, dirt, or repair patches. These imperfections help turn a simple paved area into a believable part of the scene.

Create realistic roads and paved areas with Arizona Rock & Mineral Concrete and Asphalt Paving Powders.

Click here for ARM website:

<https://www.armballast.com/concrete-and-asphalt-paving-powders/>

**MAN SURVIVES GRIZZLY ATTACK
WITH JUST A .22 PISTOL**



**HIS FRIEND WHO WAS SHOT
IN THE KNEE WASN'T AS LUCKY**

Real Deal



On July 9th I stopped by the BNSF yard as a westbound train was parked near a good picture taking spot, little did I know it was preparing to pull out, but I managed to get a few pics and some video.

(Right) Tail end Charlie was BNSF 5764 a GE ES44AC "Evolution Series" diesel engine built in July 2005 with builder number 56012. It boasts 4400 horsepower.



(Left) The middleman was BNSF 6958 a GE ES44C4



Real Deal

(Right) The train was already moving when I got this last shot of the lead unit, but I did not catch the road number.

The train pulled out part way, but paused which allowed me time to drive around the yard to catch most of it actually departing Dodge in the video below.



YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RaxqaIZA7IU>

BNSF Westbound ...
Departure from Dodge ...



Back on July 19th, Roy Hardwick texted me some photos of Kyle Railroad locos he discovered including the “Honoring Veterans and Service Members” unit (Above).

Real Deal

(Right) Roy also caught this ex-BNSF unit
Hiding in a yard.



(Below) Roy also caught the Kyle 4460, a
GE C44-9W diesel locomotive operated by
the Kyle Railroad that features a special
"America 250 Years" commemorative paint scheme.



Real Deal



Jerry Bruce has followed the careers of the Utah Railway MK50-3 locomotives (5003 pictured above). Just as a reminder, the Utah Railway No. 5003 is a rare **MK50-3 diesel-electric locomotive** originally built as an MK5000C, later rebuilt due to mechanical failures, and transferred to the Kyle Railroad in Colorado and Kansas.

History and Rebuild

- **Original Build:** Built in August 1995 as an MK5000C demonstrator unit by Morrison-Knudsen in Boise, Idaho, featuring a 5,000-horsepower Caterpillar 3612 engine.
- **The Rebuild (2003):** After severe drivetrain and main bearing failures on the Caterpillar engine, the unit was sent to **MotivePower Industries (MPI)** in Boise. It was downgraded and rebuilt with a 3,500-horsepower **EMD 16-645F3B** prime mover and an EMD AR11 main alternator sourced from retired Union Pacific SD50 locomotives.
- **Service Life:** Designated as an MK50-3, No. 5003 spent over a decade hauling heavy coal and freight over Soldier Summit for the Utah Railway.

Real Deal

Waybill			
Waybill Number		Waybill Date	
341610		15 / 07 / 2026	
		Car Type	
		D126	
Bill of Lading		Commodity	
5003 5005 5006		LOCOS ELEC	
Care of Party		Gross Weight	
-		460000	
Origin Station		Destination Station	
LIMON	CO	SOUTH MORRILL	NE
Shipper Code		Consignee Code	
Shipper Name		Consignee Name	
KYLE RAILROAD		AGENT UP	

Jerry came across this waybill showing the last Kyle units (5003, 5005, and 5006) are headed to the collection of Noah McCann.

Railfan & Railroad Magazine

Noah McCann (born 1995) also known on-line as Noah Espee, is a prominent railfan and private equipment owner, with a Mechanical Engineering background. He has been associated with several entities like the Blackwell Northern, Gateway Railroad, NSM Transportation Co. and Dieselmotive Company (BUGX). He is active in private locomotive preservation, historical paint schemes, and short-line railroading discussions.

Real Deal

KANSAS REFLECTOR



VS



Lawsuit accuses Union Pacific, Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad of anticompetition violations

TOPEKA — Attorneys accusing Union Pacific and Kansas and Oklahoma railroads of anticompetitive business tactics say their case has far-reaching consequences for farmers who are being forced to pay higher prices to transport their products.



Tom Ajamie and Courtney Scobie, attorneys for Ajamie LLP, filed a case in January saying the two railroads are attempting to “stifle competition.” Court filings accuse the railroads of charging high fees for farmers that switched to using a shorter rail transportation route from western Kansas and eastern Colorado to the western United States.

Their clients are Weskan Grain and its dedicated rail line, Colorado Pacific Railroad, as well as Kansas and Colorado farmers affected by higher costs Union Pacific and Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad have caused for moving grain to the western United States, Ajamie said.

At issue is 122 miles of railroad track called the Towner Line that shortens the number of miles agricultural products must travel to go west from western Kansas and eastern Colorado, the lawsuit said.

The Towner Line was in bad condition and unusable for years, so Weskan and its farmer customers paid to transport grain miles out of the way to the east before connecting with a Union Pacific line where the grain would then be transported back to the west, the lawsuit said. The added miles and convoluted route increased transportation costs, Ajamie told Kansas Reflector.

Real Deal

The Towner Line

In 2018, Colorado Pacific Railroad acquired the Towner Line, invested a large amount of money and renovated it, he said. In Surface Transportation Board filings, Colorado Pacific said it bought the line for \$10 million and spent \$3.5 million on renovations. The STB is a federal agency that regulates surface transportation nationwide, primarily railroads.

Once open, Weskan Grain and other customers in Kansas had a straight-through option to transport its products to the west, Ajamie said.

“But we’ve been held up by Union Pacific for quite a few years now, and the Kansas Oklahoma Railroad, and they’ve been doing everything they can to block it because they want (Weskan) to keep running on their lines,” Ajamie said.

In an email, Union Pacific spokeswoman Jill Micek said the lawsuit’s accusations were untrue.

“Union Pacific denies the allegations of the lawsuit and will present the facts to the court and Surface Transportation Board who handles these issues,” she said.

Ajamie said Union Pacific set up what the industry refers to as “paper barriers,” meaning they placed charges on the junction where the Towner Line connects to the next rail line to move the grain west that make it financially unfeasible to use the route.

“This is a case about a multibillion-dollar behemoth in the railroad industry (UP) secretly agreeing and conspiring with a short-line railroad owner-operator (K&O) to stifle competition from a newly rehabilitated rail line and preserve control over westward shipments of grain from Lane, Scott, Wichita, and Greeley Counties in Kansas and in Kiowa County, Colorado,” the lawsuit said.

When Weskan was forced to transport grain to the east to connect with a railroad that headed west, there was no competition, Ajamie said. The railroad was owned by Union Pacific and leased to the Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad.

But when the Towner Line reopened, the grain could move west to a junction where both BNSF Railway Co. and Union Pacific have rights, “meaning BNSF and UP must compete for rail traffic continuing west,” the lawsuit said.

“Therefore, by rehabilitating the Towner Line, CXR (Colorado Pacific Railroad) transformed the westbound shipment of grain from a market completely controlled by Defendants to one in which Defendants and others had to compete at multiple stages,” it said. “But for Defendants’ misconduct, this increase in competition for rail traffic would have benefitted Plaintiffs and other market participants.”

Real Deal

Ajamie's clients allege that Union Pacific and Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad began charging interchange fees in excess of \$500 per car to connect from the Towner Line to the Union Pacific-Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad line.

"Rather than accept this new reality and compete for rail traffic on the merits, Defendants agreed and conspired to eliminate the Towner Line as an option for westbound shipments of commodities altogether," the lawsuit said.

Scobie, a plaintiff attorney, said that as far she can tell most farmers are continuing to use the route that goes east before going west because the interchange fees are too high to use the Towner Line.

Federal authorities

Weskan and other lawsuit parties contend that Union Pacific and Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad amended the lease agreement to include the higher interchange fee without getting approval from the Surface Transportation Board, as required by federal law.

The Surface Transportation Board agreed in a decision on March 20, saying it "came to the Board's attention" that the lease agreement between Union Pacific and Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad was renewed and amended in 2018 and 2019, the years when Colorado Pacific Railroad bought Towner and began renovations.

The federal regulator is requiring the Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad to submit the lease for approval.

Agricultural challenges

The case is important for Weskan's business and for the excess fees Kansas and Colorado farmers have been charged, Ajamie said.

"Farmers have been under serious economic pressure for the past few years," he said in an email.

He listed challenges facing farmers: Drought, tariffs that affect international trade and have caused trading partners to buy elsewhere, spiking operating costs to include high fuel and fertilizer costs, among others.

Allowing Union Pacific and Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad to force farmers to ship grain in "convoluted" ways doesn't make sense, Ajamie said.

"None of this makes sense except that it enriches Union Pacific to the economic detriment of farmers, further burdening them with economic costs that are unnecessary," he said.

Read the original article here:

<https://kansasreflector.com/2026/07/21/lawsuit-accuses-union-pacific-kansas-and-oklahoma-railroad-of-anticompetition-violations/>



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.



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

We have a **Facebook** page: <https://www.facebook.com/OperationsSIG>

and send out the *Second Section* email newsletter on a regular basis.

Membership: As part of your yearly membership, you'll receive four quarterly issues of *The Dispatcher's Office*, our operations-focused publication. *The Dispatcher's Office* is available as either a digital download or a mailed printed copy. As a print subscriber, you'll also get access to the digital copy. In addition, all members have complete access to 30+ years of our digital back catalog at no additional charge as long as they remain members of the OpSIG.

To find out more, click here: <https://www.opsig.org/>



RMC RECEIVING YARD

HO Scale Rapido CF7s Arriving Now

Now available from Rapido Trains are highly detailed replicas of Santa Fe's unique CF7 locomotives.



RMC EXTRA BOARD

Waites River Railway: North Arlington

Building a cameo-style HO scale layout to pack big scenes and switching action reminiscent of New England short lines in an apartment.



RMC EXTRA BOARD

Simple Styrene Barns

Easy techniques using styrene sheet and strip to scratchbuild weathered wooden barns for rural scenes of any era.



RMC PRODUCT REVIEWS

Bowser's Alco/M-K RS-3m in HO

Now available from Bowser Trains are highly detailed replicas of Alco/Morrison-Knudsen RS-3ms for HO scale.



RMC PRODUCT REVIEWS

Rapido Rio Grande Steel Riveted Cabooses in HO

Now available from Rapido Trains are highly detailed lighted replicas of Denver & Rio Grande Western's steel riveted cabooses with end cupolas.

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



The **Friends of the Burlington Northern Railroad (FOBNR)** historical society was incorporated in the state of Idaho in 1993. It 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. 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.

FOBNR 2027 Convention: Springfield, Missouri

Check out the FOBNR website: <https://fobnr.org/>



NMRA members get discounts of up to 45% from over 40 companies. Isn't it time you joined?

[Click here for details](#)

Bear Creek Model RR
CatzPaw Innovations
Clever Models
CMR Products
Deepwoods Software

Gatorfoam
Great Decals
Gren Frog Productions
HotWire Foam Factory
Jason's Brass Poles

Logic Rail Tech.
Micro-Mark
Mine Mount Models
MinuteMan Models
Modelers Decals
Model RR Benchwrk
Train Catal.

Motrack Models
MRC
NScale Works
OK Engines
Old West Scenery
Ram Track
RR-CirKits

Rusty Stumps
Scale Model Plans
Scalecoat Paint
Scenery Solutions
Showcase Miniatures
Stepcraft
Team Track

N-Scale Archite
Train Show
Tichy Train Grp
Train Installatic
TrainMaster TV
UGears
Unreal Details
USA Airbrush
WiFi Model RR

Partnership Program

Discounts for NMRA Members

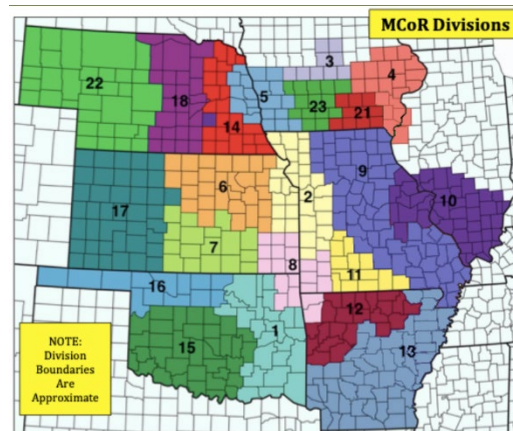
Get more details from the NMRA website: <https://www.nmra.org/>

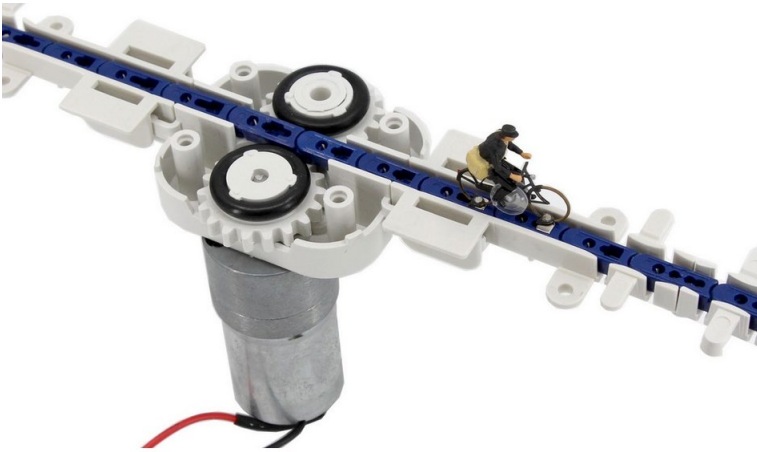


Welcome to the Mid-Continent Region of the National Model Railroad Association

There are currently 21 Divisions in the Mid-Continent Region. To find which one you live in and more information, check out the Mid-Continent Region website, an interesting place to visit thanks to Webmaster Ryan Moats.

<https://www.mcor-nmra.org/>





New Magnorail Roads and Extension Sets

Instore Shopping Hours
Monday - Saturday 10am -5pm
17331 E US Highway 40 Suite 107
Independence, MO 64055
Call us at (816) 399-5226



**HO Scale - Athearn Genesis UTC 33K
LPG Tank Car**

Capital Finance (CBTX)
Rocky Mountain Transportation (ROCX)
North American Tank Car (NATX)
PLMX
Transportation Equipment Inc (TEIX)
Exxon Mobil (MBLX)



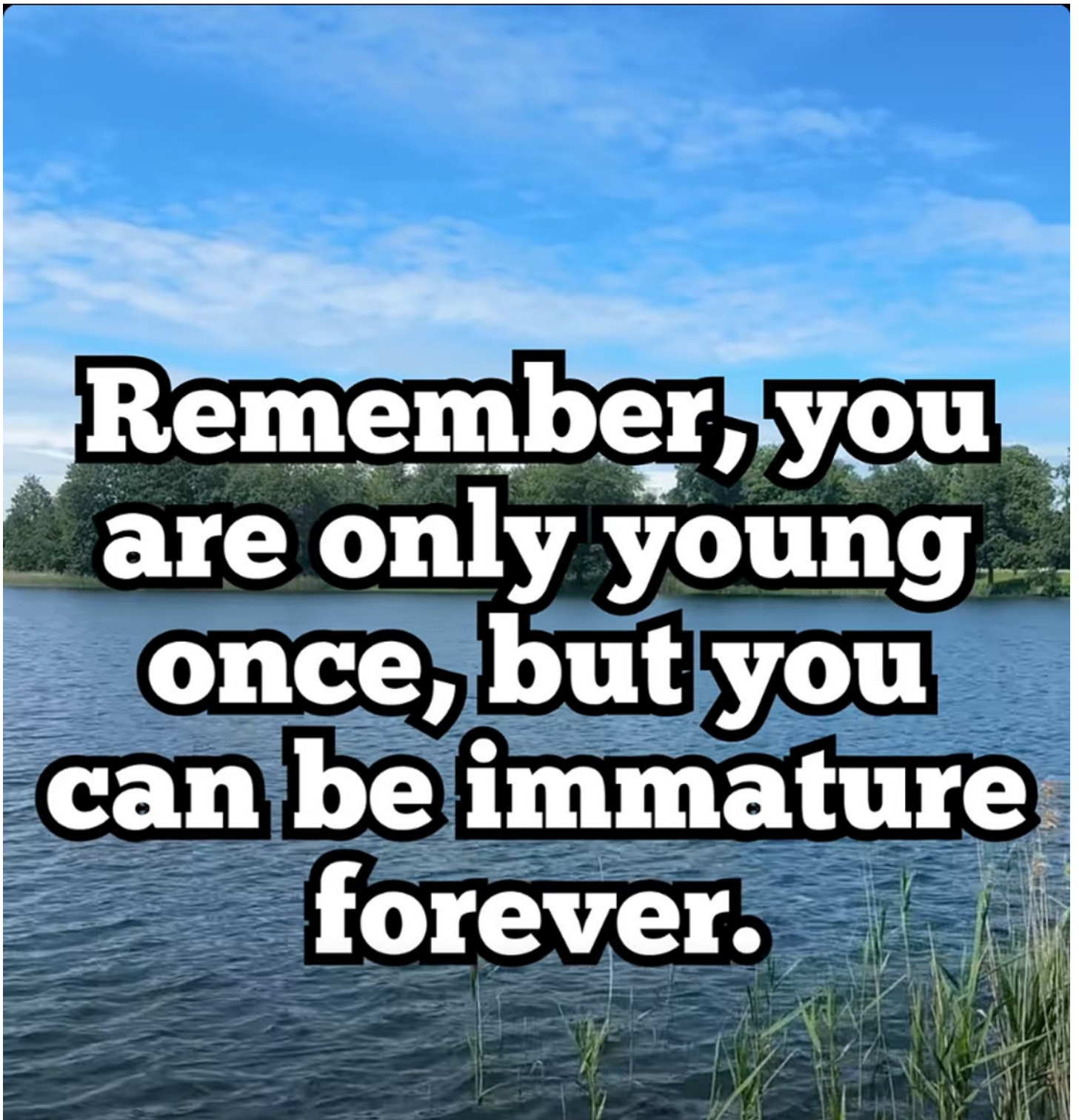
N Scale - Atlas Master ALCo C424

Canadian Pacific (CP)
Conrail (CR)
Delaware & Hudson (D&H)
Erie Lackawanna (EL)
Green Bay & Western (GBW)
Reading (RDG)

Midwest Model Railroad began in 2011 with a simple goal: make the hobby more accessible, affordable, and enjoyable for everyone. Our store and distribution center near Kansas City, MO provides the home for our vast inventory of N and HO scale model trains and supplies as well as games, puzzles, RC cars, and more.

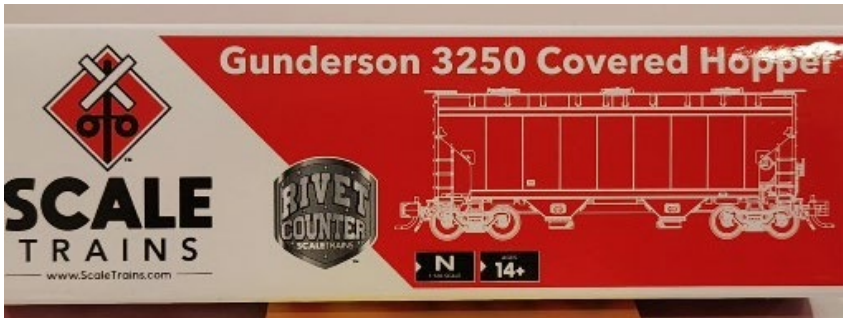
We maintain a real-time inventory that updates by the second to our website. The options of in-store shopping, local pickup, or online ordering that ship within one business day, designed to provide you with fast and easy service. A modern store for modern hobbyists.

Click here to start shopping: <https://midwestmodelrr.com/>



**Remember, you
are only young
once, but you
can be immature
forever.**

WKR Update - Part 1



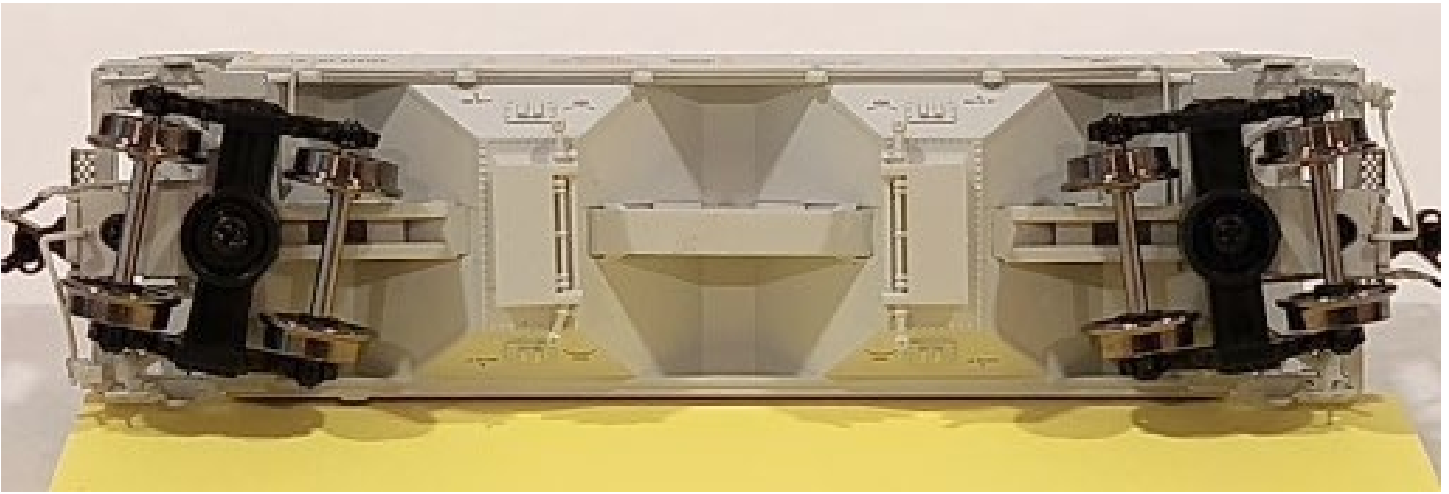
In late June, while cruising the internet, we came across the latest release from Scale Trains in N-sale, the Gunderson 3250 covered 2-bay hopper. Even though the WKR was flush with 2-bay hoppers already, the Purchasing Department went bananas and ordered two more.



As per normal, Scale Trains outdid themselves with extremely fine details.

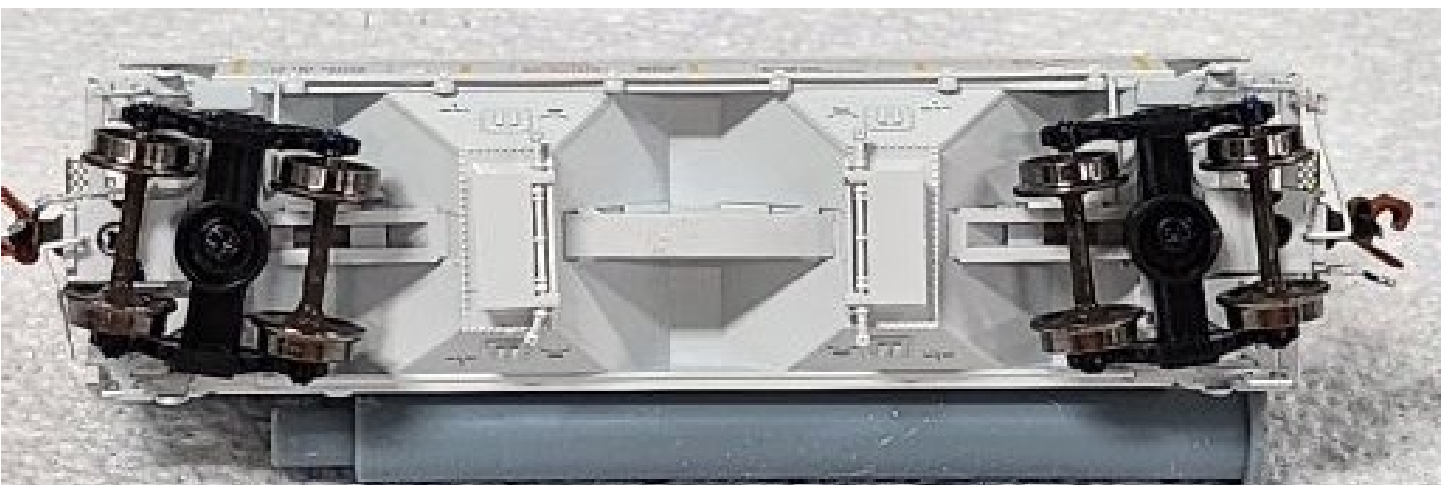


WKR Update - Part 1



(Above / Left) The underside details match the top, and each car featured metal wheel sets and Micro Trains type couplers. Everything performed well, just a bit too shiny.

(Below) The WKR Car Department took the opportunity to de-shiny the underside by painting the metal wheel sets with Railroad Tie Brown both on the outer face and axles, then the couplers were painted Rust color, and the magnetic pins were trimmed.



WKR Update - Part 1



(Above) The new look of the wheels and coupler.

(Below) The two additions positioned on the layout.



WKR Update - Part 2



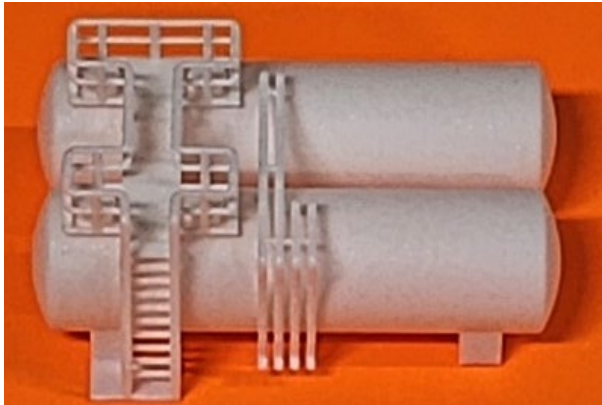
(Above / Right) The beginning of a new scenery upgrade project on the WKR is focused on corner 13, the Fantastic Plastics plant. Years ago, the focus was primarily on the buildings and parking lot, while left-overs were used for the storage tanks with no off-loading facilities.

In operating sessions, we did not specify where the tank car was to be placed. To add operating interest, it was decided to place the tank car at the end of track, outside the building as this was next to the storage tanks. This may require more than one runaround movement in future sessions.



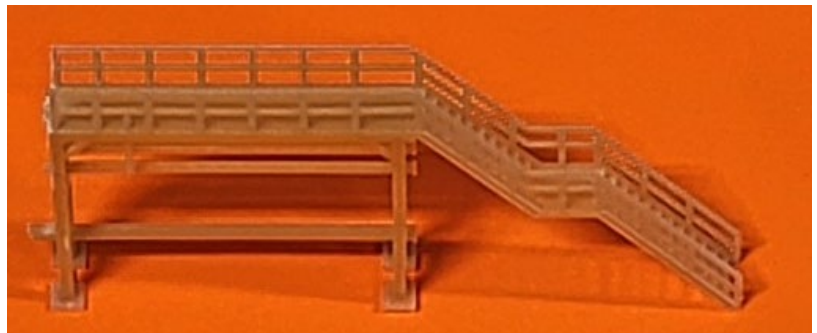
WKR Update - Part 2

(Right) During other recent projects, we either saved parts we did not need then, or ordered extra parts for this project, all of which were placed in a box for today.



(Left) An example of extra parts ordered were these 3-D printed horizontal storage tanks with access ladders and piping. Since height is critical when boxing the two corner sections together for transport, these might fit better than the old vertical ones.

(Right) This is an example of leftovers, this 3-D printed access ladder was left over from another project but was just too nice to throw away (waste not, want not).



(Left) The tank car access safety rails are also from the same project as the access ladder and a bit beat up but can be salvaged.

(Right) The scene with the tank car in place.

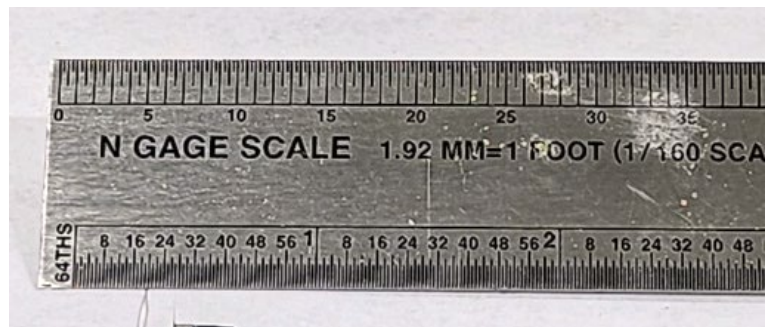


WKR Update - Part 2



(Left) The Construction Department of the WKR layout always believes in the saying, “Plan your work and work your plan”. A sheet of copy paper was carefully cut out around obstacles such as the building and sign, so it lays flat, then the side of a pencil was used to mark the position of the track.

(Right) A reach into the tool chest came back with the trusty N-scale ruler.

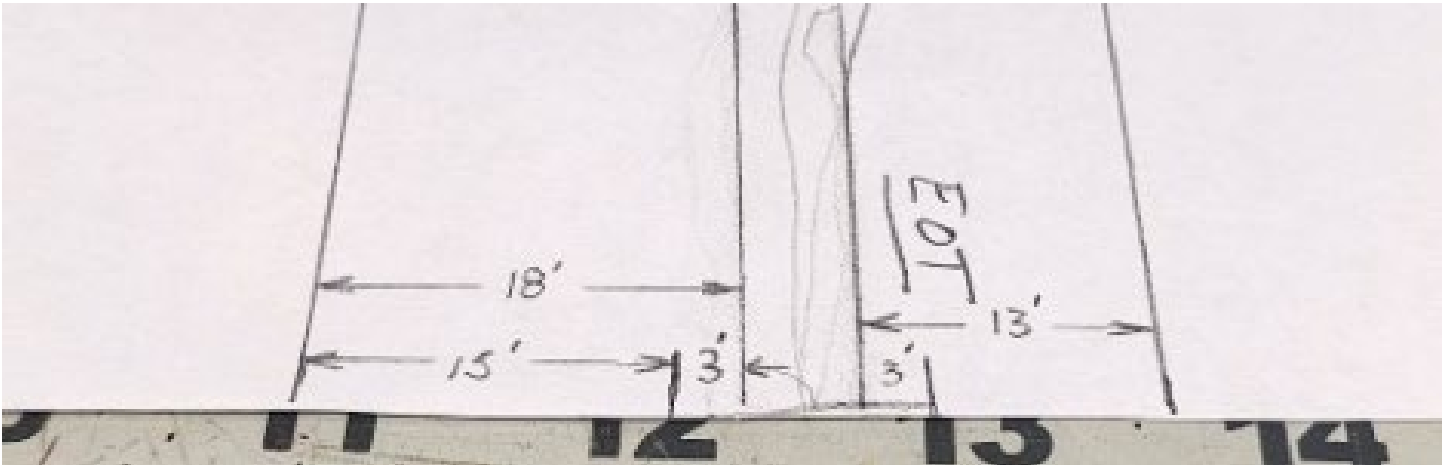


(Left) Placing the tank car on the paper template, we had to determine the side clearance of the car with the two marks outside the track rails.

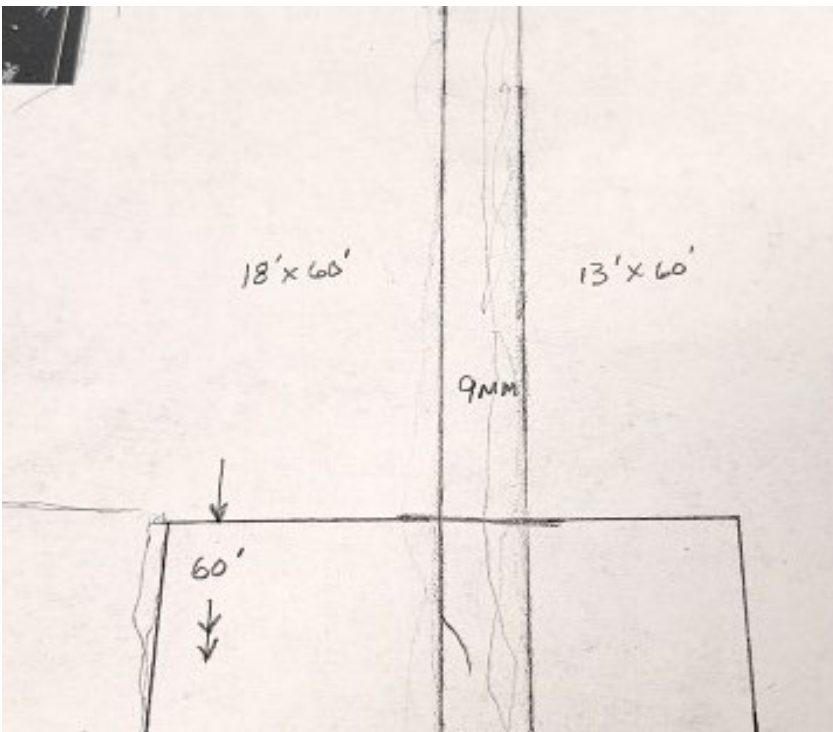
(Right) Turning the template sideways, we then made a clearance mark for the length of the car.



WKR Update - Part 2



(Above) Looking at the template from the track end. We are taking measurements for the concrete pads on the track for unloading. (EOT) stands for end of track. Measuring from the track rails, the car overhang is 3-scale feet on either side. We decided the far side of the siding only required 13-scale feet in width, making ten feet clear of the car. On the near side where most of the work will take place, we chose 15-scale feet for workspace for a total of 18-scale feet in width.



(Left) Looking at the building side of the template, we now have the dimensions of the three concrete pads. The workspace to the left (closest to the tanks) will be a scale 18-by-60 feet.

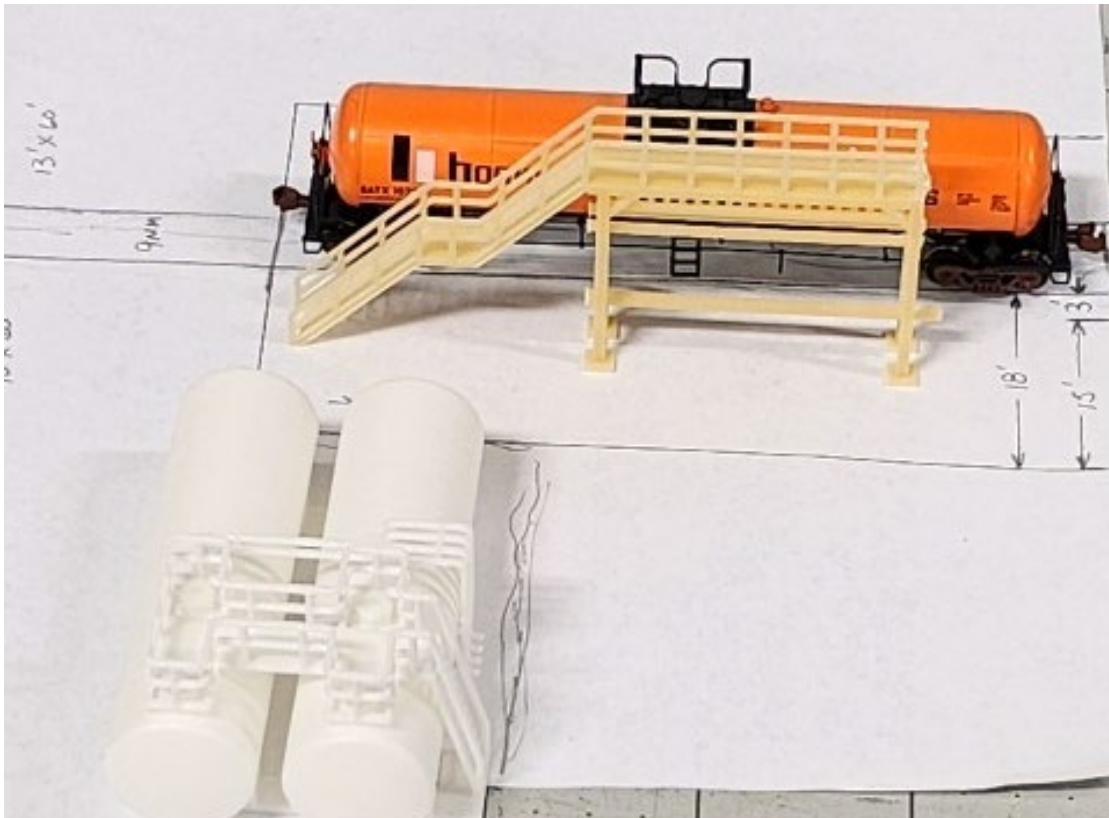
The second piece will be a scale 60-feet in length and width to fit between the rails.

The third piece for the far side will be a scale 13-by-60 feet

WKR Update - Part 2

(Right) Hardly anything works correctly on the first try, so we do “test fits”. Here the tank car and access ladder are placed on the template to check the fit.

One concern was the bottom of the stairs are close to the edge of the concrete, so we may need to lengthen the concrete pad to 64-feet.



(left) Now we added the new storage tanks in the same place as the old tanks. Because of height concerns during transport, both the access ladder and tanks will have to be removable. Both the tanks and unloading pad will require retaining walls to modern EPA requirements for spillage control.

More to come next month....

(At the dinner table)

Boss: "So how long have you two been married?"

Husband: "Ten years."

Boss: "Wow! What's the key to lasting love?"

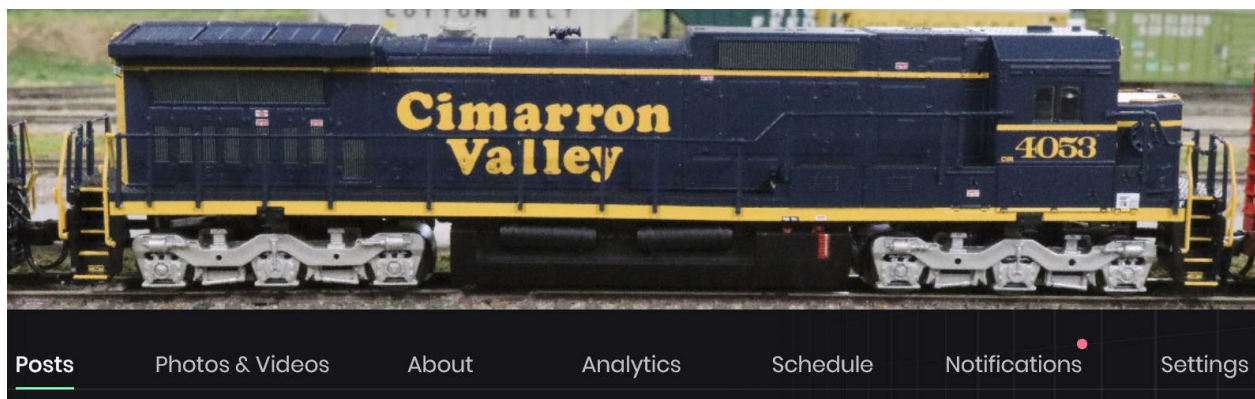
Husband: "Selective hearing."

Wife: "Don't."

Husband: "Every morning my wife says things like 'take out the trash,' 'fix the sink,' 'stop buying useless gadgets'..."

Boss laughing: "And?"

Husband: "I hear: 'You're handsome, enjoy your day king.'"



Check out the MeWe page of the Western Kansas Division, NMRA:

<https://mewe.com/westernkansasdiv/feed>



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; including its rich history and fascinating operations, to its distinctive equipment and facilities.

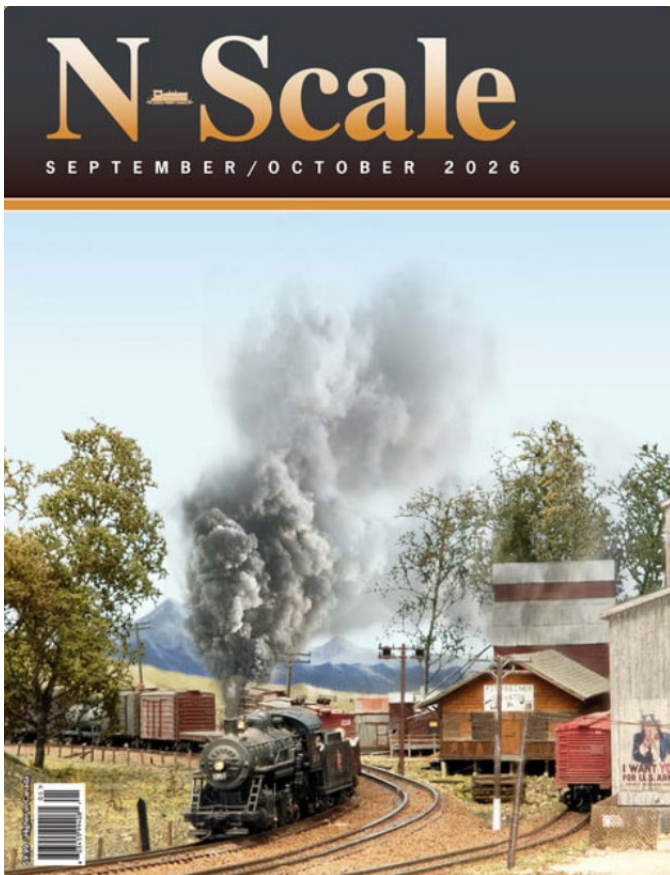
The Society and its predecessors have been publishing information about the Santa Fe since 1969. The Society offers exceptional publications on the history and modeling of the Santa Fe. From its flagship quarterly magazine, *The Warbonnet*, to its comprehensive books on history, motive power, rolling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

Regular Membership: \$50 in the US. Multiple year memberships are \$2 less for subsequent years up to 3 total. The Society also offers an International Digital Membership for \$55 which provides *The Warbonnet* and *Running Extra* in digital format in lieu of the paper copy.



Modeling: The name says it all, Santa Fe Railway Historical and **Modeling** Society. Born from the merger of the Santa Fe Modelers Organization and the Santa Fe Railway Historical Society, the Society maintains a strong focus on modeling. Each Convention features a Santa Fe modeling contest that rates participants' skills based on prototype accuracy, modeling skill and effort, and finish. Successful modelers can vie for the coveted **Master Santa Fe Modeler** recognition awarded by the Society. A similar contest and recognition is held for BNSF modelers and the **Master BNSF Modeler** recognition.

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



N-Scale is a bi-monthly magazine devoted exclusively to N scale modeling, detailing, electronics, N'Spiration photos, layouts, scenery, photography, scratchbuilding, painting and weathering, operating dioramas and more.

In this issue:



Locomotive Noise

A Troubleshooter

BY RON BEARDEN



Quick Notes

Making Easy Power Poles

BY DENNIS MURPHY



The Sutter Creek Division

Phase Two, Part 2: Carbon Lake and The Estates at Carbon Lake

BY WARD THORNE



The Short & Nn3arrow

The OmniRGS in Nn3, Part 1

BY GREGG CUDWORTH

35 Years of N-Scale Magazine

Now Available on CD.

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

Free-mo was developed with the idea that a set of standards focusing mainly on module endplates would enable faithful modeling of prototype trackplans and operations in a modular environment. The length and track configuration of a Free-mo module or module set is up to the modeler. Free-mo takes the boredom out of running trains monotonously around a double or even a triple track mainline. With Free-mo, less is more.

Welcome to Southern Kansas Free-mo!



Southern Kansas Free-mo

Private group · 190 members



Click here for the SKFM Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/275439299189284/>



Mid-Continent Region, NMRA Group

Public

Train Shows, discussions and activities of the Mid-Continent Region, part of the National Model Railroad Association

Look At What's New!

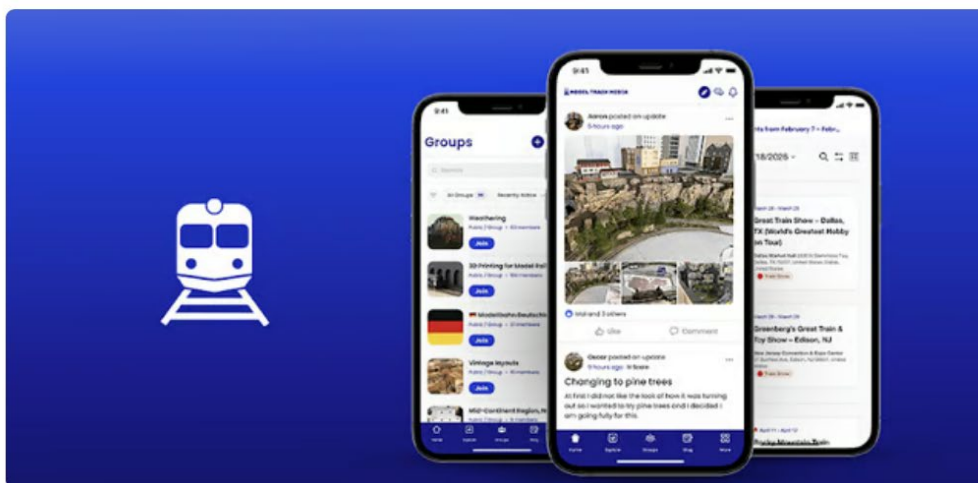
 Welcome to the official Model Train Media app!

After months of hard work, the app is finally here and I'm incredibly excited to have you all here from the beginning 🙌

I'd love to encourage everyone to start posting photos/videos, interacting with other members and exploring the different groups and features inside the app.

If you find bugs, have ideas or feedback, please let us know! Your...

[Read more](#)



Click here for the Mid-Continent Region MTM page:

<https://modeltrainmedia.com/groups/mid-continent-region-nmra/>



A Complete Source
for your 1:160th
Scale Model
Railroading
Products



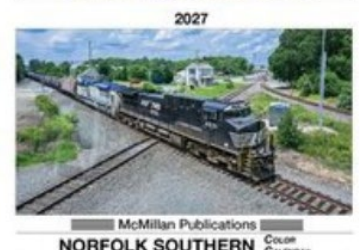
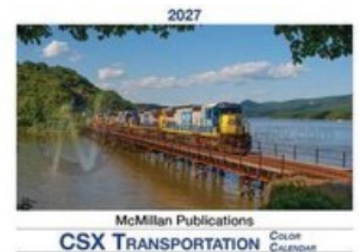
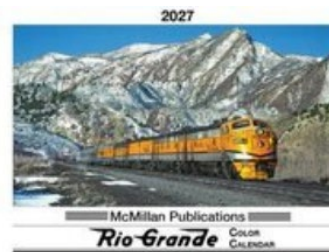
FREEMO MODULES

Click [here](#) for all modules and components!

PRODUCT ARRIVAL

■ [McMillan 2027 Calendars](#)

- 2027 Rio Grande
- 2027 Union Pacific
- 2027 CSX
- 2027 Norfolk Southern



We want to buy your stuff!

N Scale Supply is looking to buy collections,
large and small, or just extra stuff you may have

Click this link for N Scale Supply:

<https://nscalesupply.com/>

Date Book

August

7th – 9th
Fri – Sun

North Platte Model Train Show

North Platte, NE.

<https://dakotasoutheastern.org/event/north-platte-rail-days/>

September

11th & 12th
Sat & Sun

Ozarks Model Railroad Association Train Show

Springfield, MO.

<https://trainshows.net/event/1426/ozarks-model-railroad-association-train-show>

November

14th & 15th
Sat & Sun

49th Annual OKC Train Show

Oklahoma City, OK.

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

December

12th & 13th
Sat & Sun

Festival of Trains

Wichita, KS.

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



Follow the action of the **Mid-Continent Region**, NMRA on their Facebook page:

Mid-Continent Region, NMRA

Public group · 915 members

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1851848998468077>



North Platte, NE **MODEL TRAIN SHOW**

August 7-9, 2026

ADMISSION:
ADULTS \$5.00
CHILDREN UNDER 14 \$2.00
UNDER 5 FREE W/ADULT

Friday-Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

D&N Event Center

501 E Walker Road, North Platte, NE

308-532-9920
northplatteraildays@goldenspiketower.com



GOLDEN SPIKE TOWER



OMRA Train Show 2026



SEPTEMBER 11th-12th, 2026 – SAVE THE DATE

The Ozarks Model Railroad Association is pleased to announce that we will be holding our 2026 Train Show in the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds – E-Plex West Hall, at 3001 North Grant Ave in Springfield, MO. The E-Plex comes equipped with Air Conditioning, Bathrooms and Food service!

Friday September 11th – 4pm-8pm

Saturday September 12th – 9am-3pm

Click here for more details:

<https://omraspringfield.org/train-show/>



OKC Train Show 2026 Bigger, Better, and Back at the Bennett Event Center!

November 14th-15th 2026

The 2026 OKC Train Show will be at the Bennett Event Center, Oklahoma State Fairgrounds.

3101 Gordon Cooper Blvd,
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Click here for the details:

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

FESTIVAL OF TRAINS



WICHITA, KS

NOVEMBER 8TH - 9TH, 2025

SAT. 9AM - 5PM / SUN. 10AM - 4PM

CENTURY II - EXHIBITION HALL

225 W DOUGLAS AVE, WICHITA, KS67202

A TRAIN SHOW LIKE NO OTHER

All Aboard for Wonder! The **Festival of Trains** rolls into Wichita with a spectacular showcase of miniature marvels, hands-on fun, and locomotive magic for all ages. From intricate model railroads to kid-friendly activities and local exhibitors, this immersive event celebrates the joy of trains, craftsmanship, and community. Whether you're a lifelong railfan or just curious to see what makes these tiny worlds tick, there's something unforgettable around every bend.

Click here for details:

<https://www.kmuw.org/community-calendar/event/festival-of-trains-14-10-2025-12-55-14>



The *Main Line*

Publisher & Editor: Robert A. Simmons

The newsletter of the **Western Kansas Division** is published monthly for no charge by

Robert A. Simmons, Division Superintendent / Director

Copyright 2026, by Robert A. Simmons, all rights reserved.

If you have a change of e-mail address, or no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please contact Robert Simmons

Trainman55@hotmail.com or 10594 Briarwood Dr.— Dodge City, KS. 67801 or call (620) 521-3591

Please send all inquiries, ideas, or submissions to: trainman55@hotmail.com