



The

Main Line

December 2022



National Model Railroad Association

Mid-Continent Region

The Monthly publication of the



Western Kansas Division



On The Cover:

The Western Kansas Rails (WKR) N-scale layout acquired six, new, Intermountain grain hopper cars. The Car Department made modifications to get them ready for WKR service...details inside.

In This Issue:

The real Deal.....Page 10

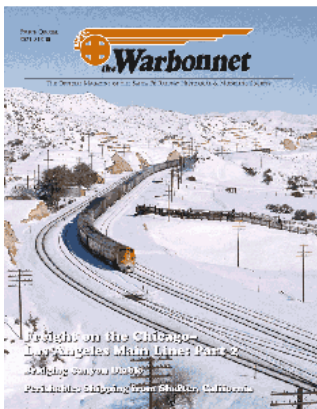
WKR Layout Update.....Page 23

Date Book.....Page 35



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, its rich history, fascinating operations, and 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.

Click here for the Society website: sfrhms.org/

For the Society Facebook page, click this link: facebook.com/groups/SFRHMS

Membership Benefits

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.

WHITERIVER PRODUCTIONS



In this issue...

Buffalo Creek & Gauley: Summer of '64

BROOKS STOVER, MMR - We head trackside to an iconic Appalachian short line modeled in S scale.

ACF Hitch Hiker Flatcar: Part 2

JIM PANZA - Looking at later owners and retirement of the pioneering ACF Hitch Hiker intermodal flatcars.

Build a Crude Oil Loading Platform

JERRY LAUCHLE, MMR - This compact HO scale model makes for a great trackside industry.

Rapido SW1200 "Keep Alive" Install

RICHARD T. DEUSO - Installing a capacitor circuit into the tight confines of an SW1200, step by step.

Four Urban Structures from One Kit

KEN HAMILTON - The classic DPM M.T. Arms Hotel kit is transformed into a detailed urban block scene.

Building Signals for the Lackawanna

WILLIAM E. BOTKIN - Scratchbuilding wayside signals found along the Lackawanna main line in HO.

Click this link to start reading today: whiteriverproductions.com/pages/magazines



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, moving, 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 have 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. 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.

As part of your yearly membership, you will 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 will 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 if they remain members of the OPSIG.



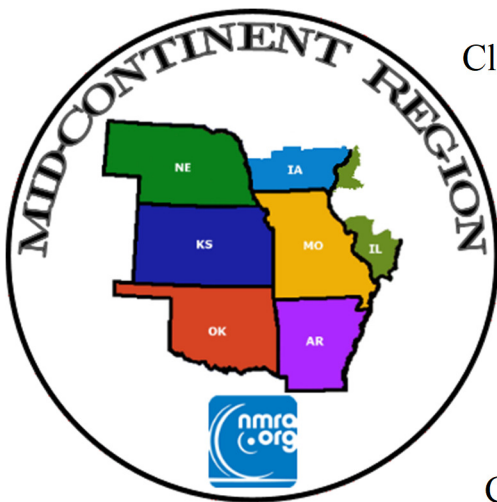
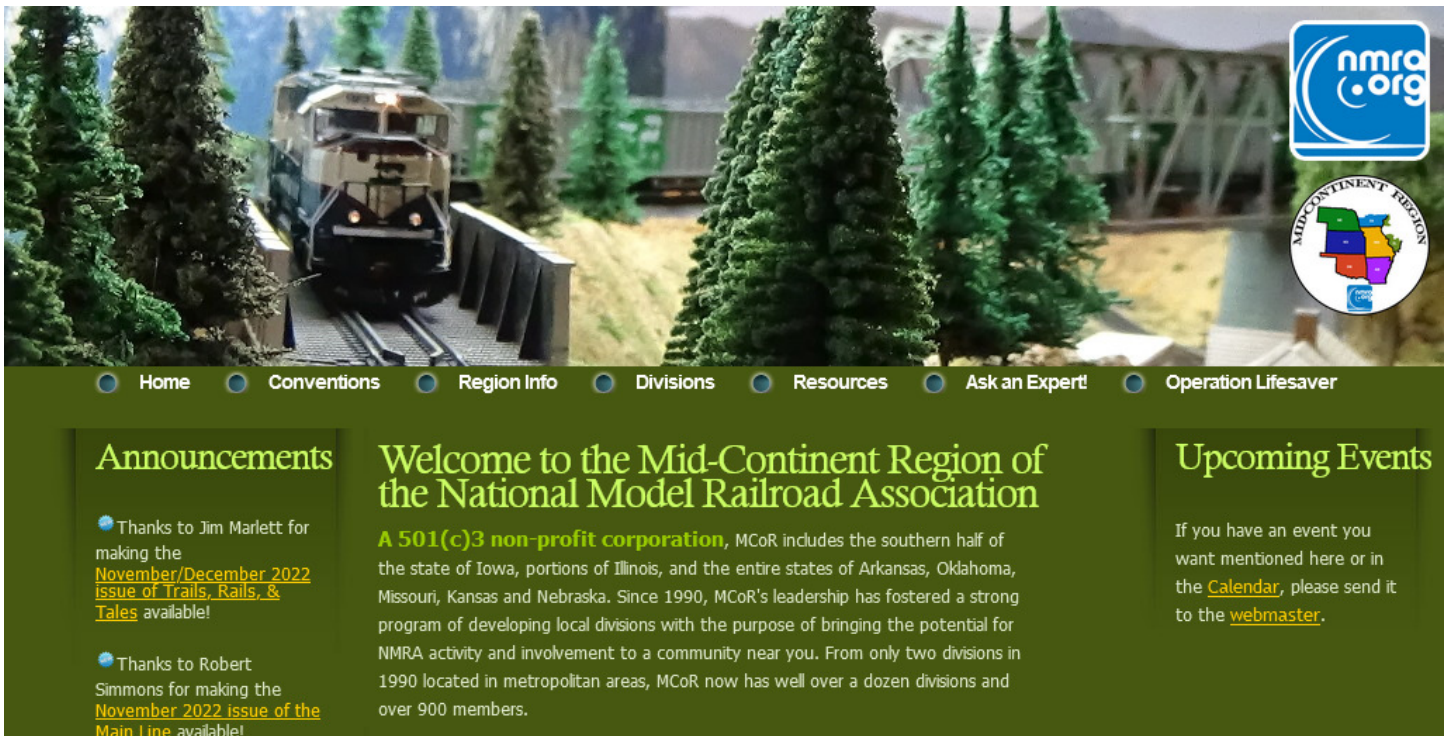
Other member services available through the OpSIG.org members-only section of the website include a membership directory, event calendar, and a railroad directory to help promote your railroad and your operating sessions.

Click this link for the Op Sig website: www.opsig.org/

We also have a [Facebook page](#) and send out the *Second Section* email newsletter on a regular basis.



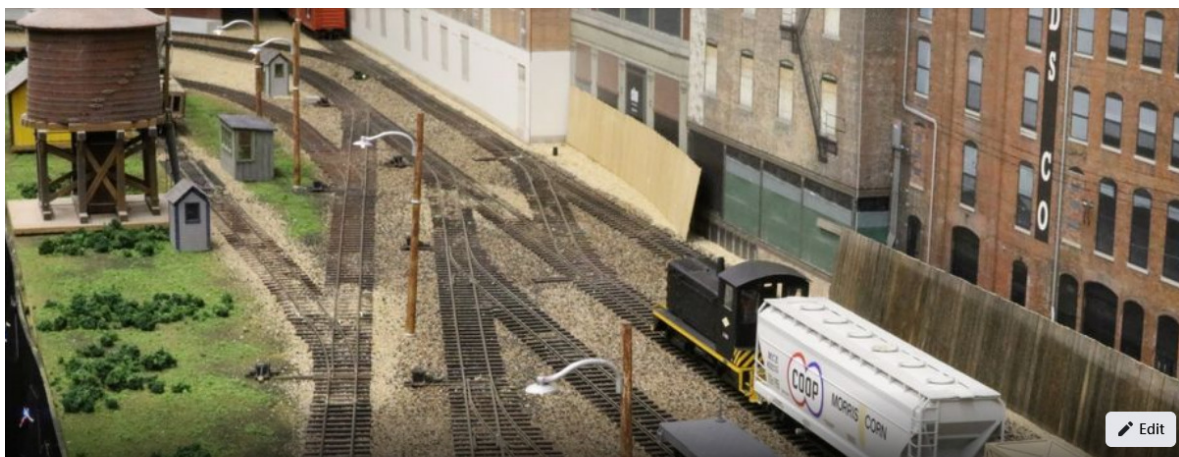
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Click this link for the MCoR website: <http://mcor-nmra.org/>

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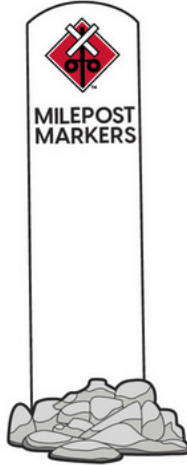


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Midwest Model Railroad



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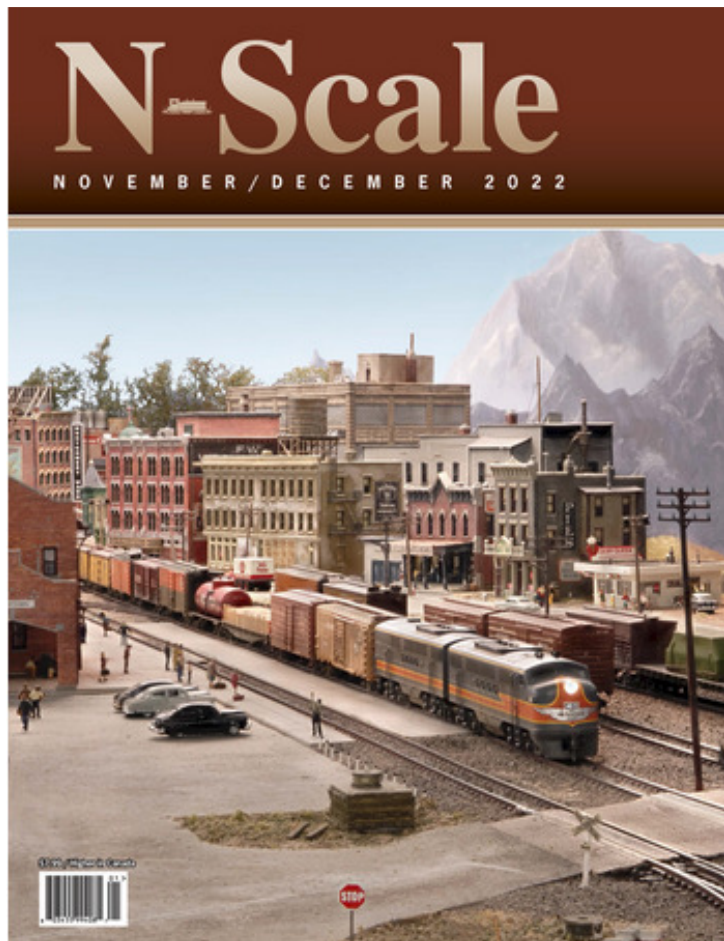
As of 2022 we are succeeding in offering some of the best prices anywhere in the hobby. Some great side effects of this goal have been the creation of real-time inventory on our website and a turnaround time of just one day between purchase and shipping.

In fall 2020 we moved to a new 9,000sqft location in Independence Missouri that serves as both our retail location and our shipping facility. Then in summer 2021 we expanded even more acquiring an additional 6,000sqft, bringing our total to 15,000sqft of model railroad product, slot cars, board games, and more.

Our central location near Kansas City, MO means orders can get to any corner of the United States, usually arriving within just a few days.

Click here for the Midwest Model Railroad website: midwestmodelrr.com/

For the MMR Facebook page, click this link: www.facebook.com/MidwestmodelRailroad



On the cover: Time Freight 163 eases into Lewistown Yard, observing the eight mph speed restriction. The FTs with their lightning stripe paint scheme are still functioning, but they are gradually being replaced by F7s. You can find this and more in Dan Lewis' Lewistown Series, starting on page 16.

IN THE CURRENT ISSUE

Detailing Continues

On the AT&SF Railroad, Part 1

by Walt Huston, Editor Emeritus

The Lewistown Series

Part 6: Pulling It All Together

by Dan Lewis, MMR

Paul's Depot Train Station Kit

Kit by Osborne Model Kits

by Dennis Murphy

Indian Valley

by Ken Kilby

In Pursuit of WOW!

Part 18 – Creating Hydrocal Walls with Windows & Doors

by Dennis Machlica

The Short & Nn3arrow

"Gilding the Lily" Valve Gear, DCC & Sound for a Lok-14 K-27

by Thomas Knapp, MMR #101

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Robert Simmons

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New Athearn N-scale Reefer w/Sound Demo 5

Click this link for the latest operations video on the WKR:

[youtube.com/watch](https://www.youtube.com/watch)



Click this link to the **Robert Simmons / Western Kansas Division**
YouTube page: www.youtube.com/channel/



On November 10th, in the BNSF Dodge City yard, I found five cars on the RIP track.

(Below) Looking South, the RIP track has five units in need of immediate repairs. Just peeking out behind the car on the far left, the work truck with lift crane is picking up a new wheel set while the right side of the car is on jacks.



(Below) Having motored around the yard and now looking North, you get a better view of the activity. The GATX tank car is on jack stands on one end for wheel set replacement.



Real Deal



(This page) two more shots of the RIP track.





On Thursday November 10th a pair of BNSF locos were sunbathing in the Dodge City yard. (Above) The view looking towards the Southeast and (Below) the view looking towards the North.



The BNSF 8032 and 7155 are GE ES44C4's.

Trains & Locos Wiki

From Trains & Locos Wiki: The **GE** (General Electric) **ES44C4** is a type of six-axle, A1A-trucked, AC-traction, 4,400hp type of diesel locomotive built from 2010-present.

The model was the very first A1A-trucked (meaning that the center axles are unpowered) diesel locomotive built in North America since the late-1950's and is also the very first ever domestic AC-traction diesel locomotive built with such feature.

A total of 1200+ have been built thus far for **BNSF Railway**, as of 2015, the ES44C4 is now classified as an "ET44C4" ("T" for "Tier" or "ET" for "Evolution Technology") and is built to follow US EPA Tier 4 regulations. BNSF #3916 was the first ever Tier 4 production GEVO unit built, and more are expected to be delivered by mid-2016.

It is essentially a four-motor version of the C-C ES44AC.

Real Deal





2023 International Convention



Howdy! As everyone knows, everything is bigger in Texas, and the 2023 Texas Express is going to prove it! There is so much planned for this convention that takes full advantage of all the great railroading and attractions of the

Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. The convention is super conveniently located smack-dab in the middle of DFW in historic Grapevine directly adjacent to DFW Airport, so getting to and from the convention is the easiest it could be. Once you arrive at the fine Gaylord Texas Resort and Convention Center, the convention and train show are right there, and the many tours, trips, and activities will keep you as busy as you please with convenient scheduling and great transportation services.

All your favorite events will be there including SIG activities, layout tours, operating sessions, contest and layout displays, tons of clinics, a banquet, and lots of general interest tours and activities. Special to this convention are keynote speaker Spencer Christian from Tracks Ahead, BNSF HQ and Intermodal Yard tours, a UP Dallas International Terminal

tour, a trip to the Texas State Railroad, the Grapevine Vintage Railroad, the Museum of the American Railroad, the multi-day National Train Show, a Fort Worth & Western Railroad back shop tour, local historic stations, private railcars, and so much more!



So, get all of the info and register early to reserve your spot at the biggest NMRA celebration of model and prototype railroading of the year at 2023TexasExpress.com.

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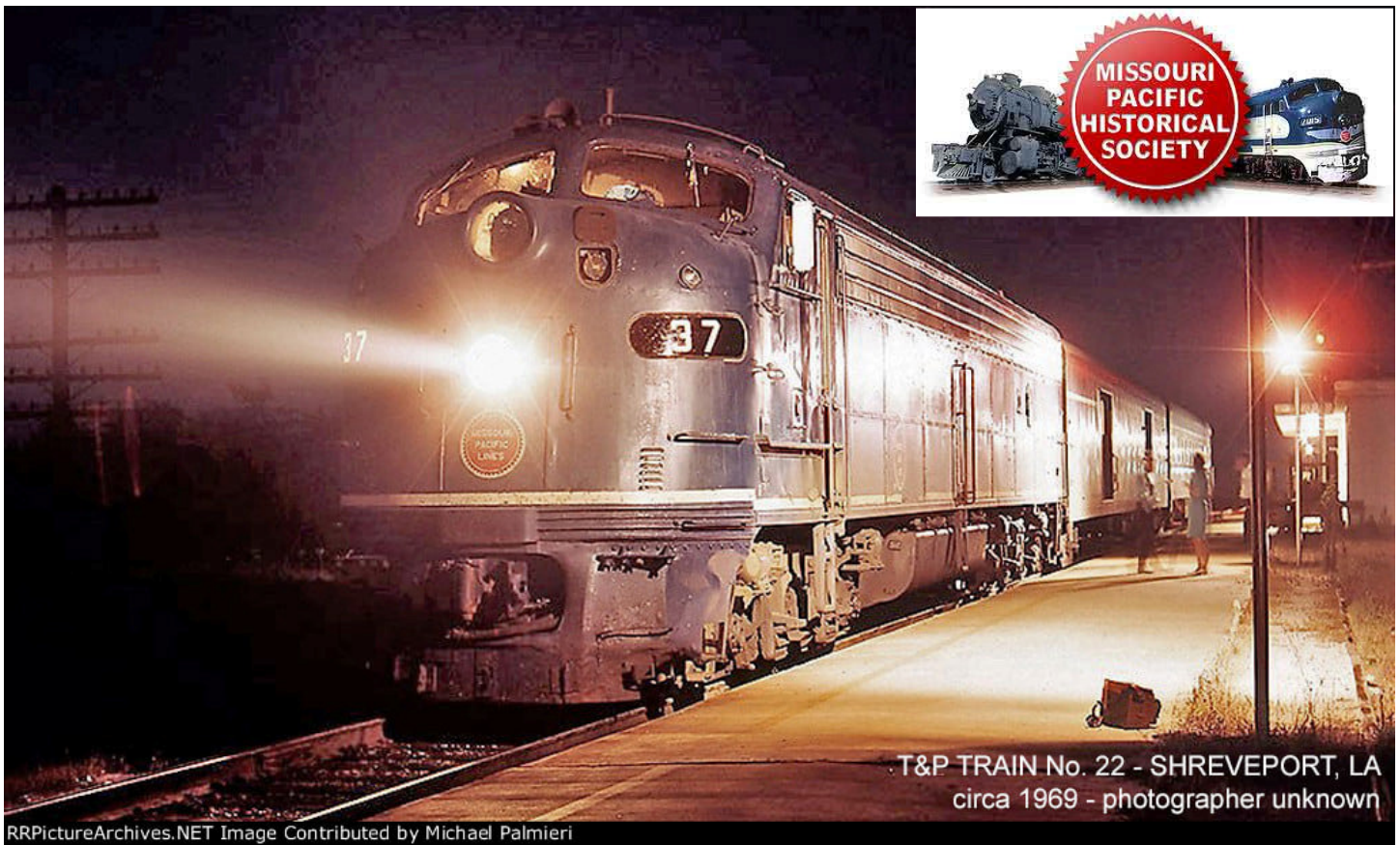
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Missouri Pacific Historical Society

Our mission is to preserve and promote the heritage of the Missouri Pacific Railroad and its affiliates. This includes the Texas & Pacific, Chicago & Eastern Illinois, Kansas Oklahoma & Gulf, Alton & Southern and many other roads that were part of the MP family.

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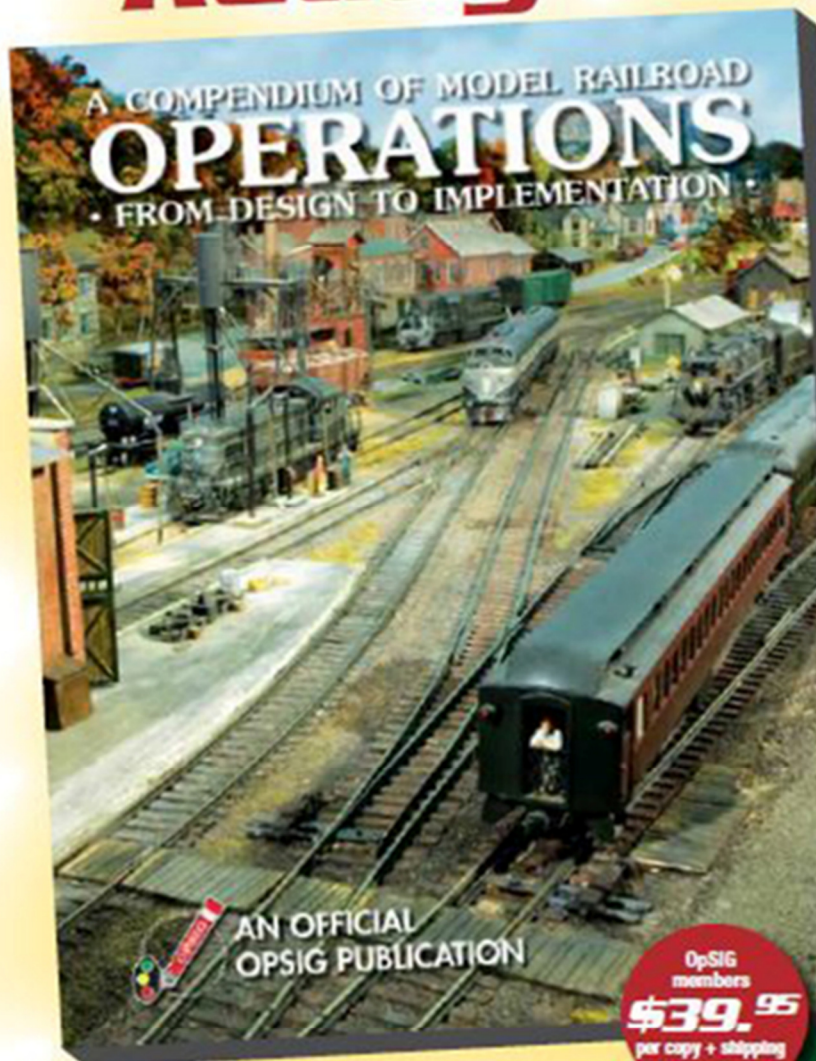
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In addition to four issues of "The Eagle" magazine, a yearly calendar (delivered in the fall for following year), discounts at the Company Store, and full access to Archives Image Gallery on our website; new members will also receive a welcome packet that includes 12 assorted (our choice) back issues of "The Eagle" magazine.

For the MPHS website, click here: www.mopac.org/

The Facebook page of the MPHS is here: www.facebook.com/groups/

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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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Trainfest 2022 - N Scale Sneak Peek!
We don't normally show the very first molding samples, however, these are too neat. Tooling is nearly complete on some revisions. There are many parts to assemble into different versions and details.

Much more later with an official announcement. - JTC-Steve





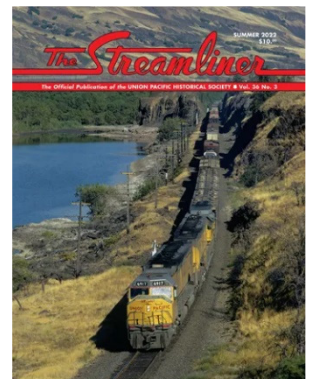
The Union Pacific Historical Society

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.

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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.



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WKR Layout Update

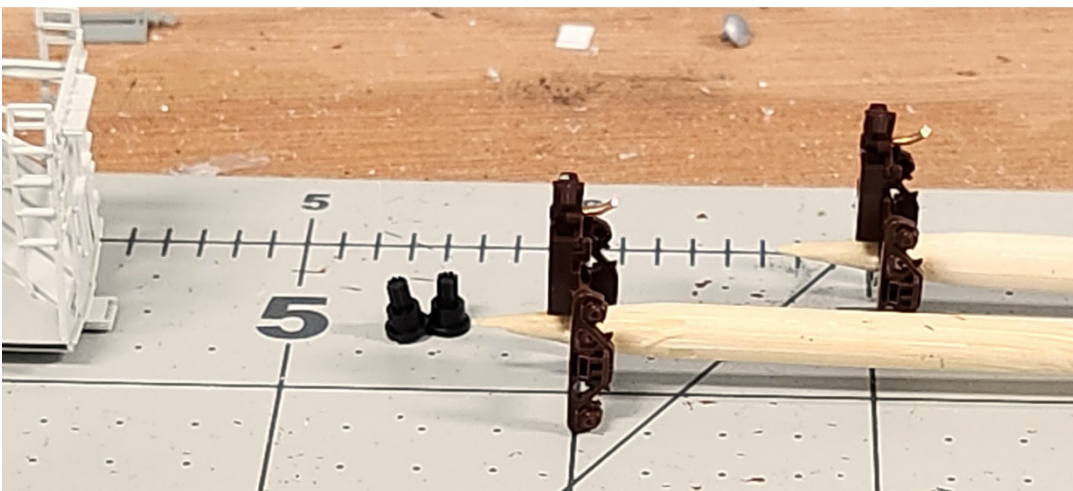
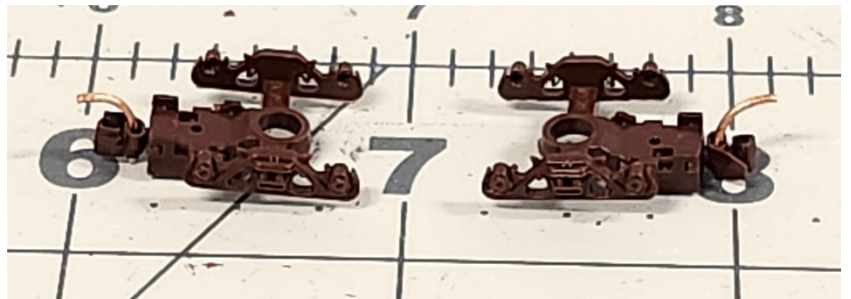


In early November, the Purchasing Department of the WKR took delivery of six, new, MoPac grain hoppers from Intermountain. They are very nice cars in all respects, so the Car Department was able to get them ready for revenue service on the WKR with truck upgrades.



(Left) The first step was to remove all the Intermountain trucks.

(Below) Next, Micro-Trains replacement trucks were located, and the plastic wheel sets also removed.



(left) The staff of the Car Department use wood skewers inserted into the bolster holes to hold the trucks firmly while painting

WKR Layout Update

(Right) The WKR Car Department has standardized on the use of Micro-Trains trucks loaded with ESM (Eastern Seaboard Models) metal wheels.

We use a mix of 33-inch and 36-inch diameter wheels depending on the car type.

The combination of the ESM wheels and Micro-Trains trucks result in cars that rarely derail and are much more free rolling, less rolling resistance means longer trains. The Micro-Trains coupler standard means far less uncoupling making operating sessions far more enjoyable.



(Left) The Car Department staff use an assembly line type of procedure to perform the modifications. The first step is to trim the coupler pins to eliminate the curve, this means easier uncoupling by hand since the WKR does not use magnets for uncoupling.

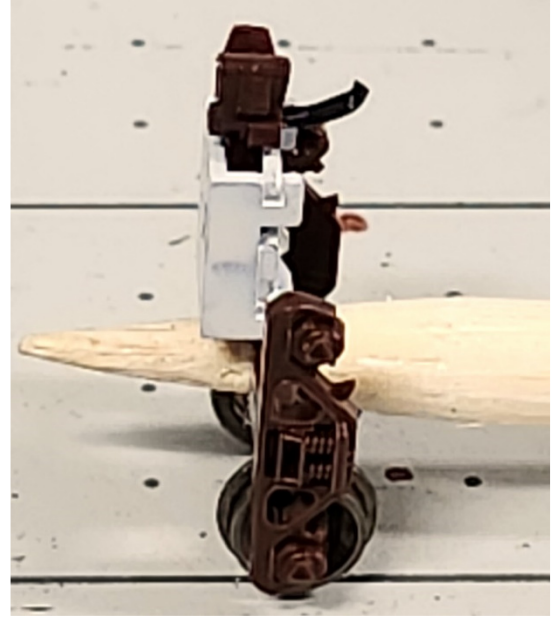
The second step is to add the "rear" wheel set so when the side frames are painted the truck can sit on the wheels not the wet paint.

The third step on the line is to mount all the trucks on the skewers with the coupler box outward for painting.

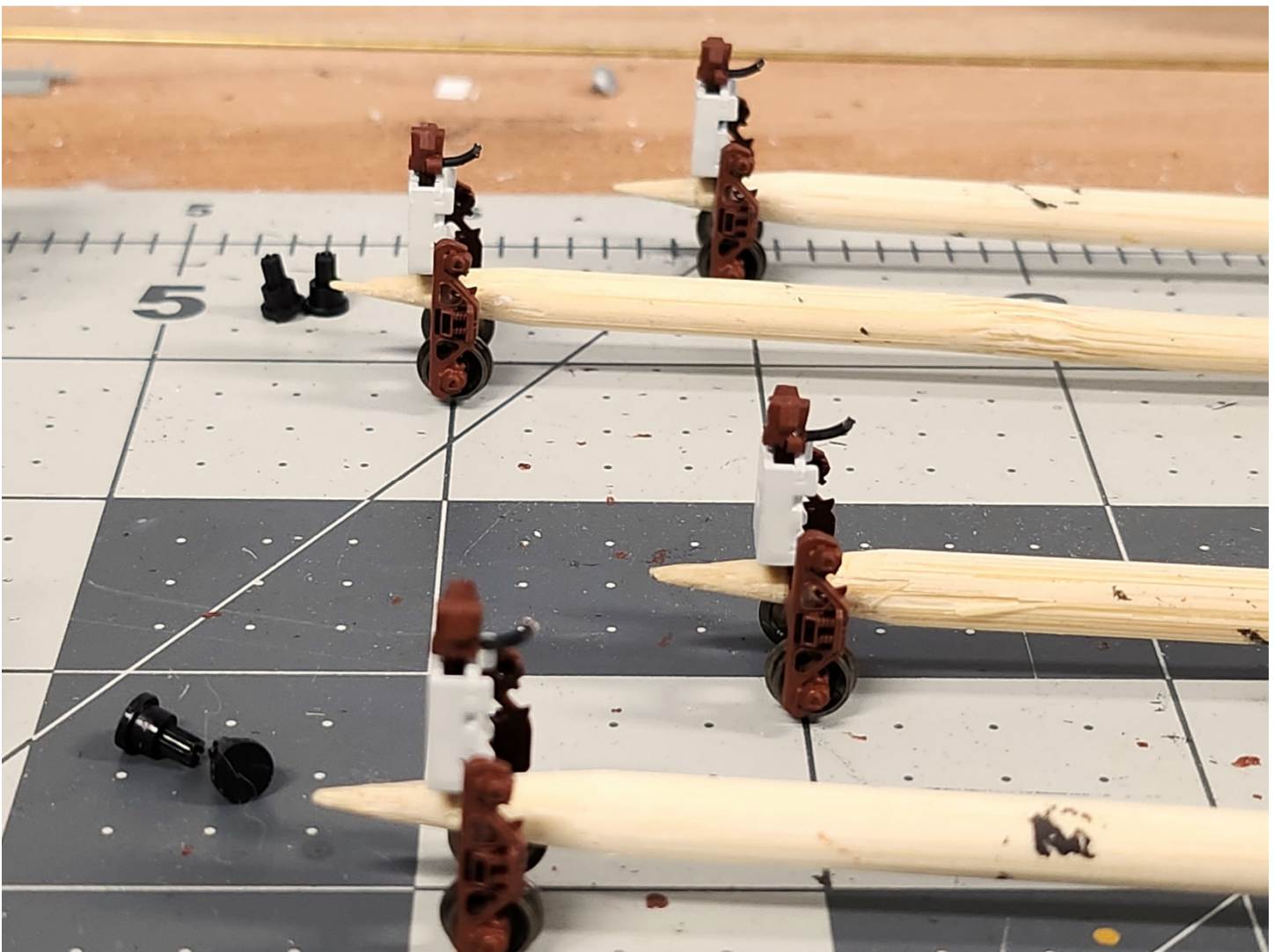
The next stop on the line is painting the coupler box with the appropriate body color. In this photo, the coupler box has received its first coat of light grey. With light colors it requires two or more coats to cover the black or brown plastic color.

WKR Layout Update

(Right) This truck has received the second coat of body color and has also moved down the line to the next step, painting all the coupler trip pins black to simulate air hoses.



(Below) To keep all parts together with the car, the car body is placed on the far left of the cutting mat, next come the bolster pins, followed by both trucks. These trucks have also completed the next step of having the truck side frames and couplers painted with Model Masters “Rust” color and are now ready for the final steps.



WKR Layout Update



(Left) This truck has completed all steps on the line; the coupler box is now body color, the truck side frames and coupler are rust color, the air hose is painted black, and finally, the metal wheel sets have been painted on the outside, the inside, and the axles.

(Below) A close view of the completed truck assembly installed on the car.





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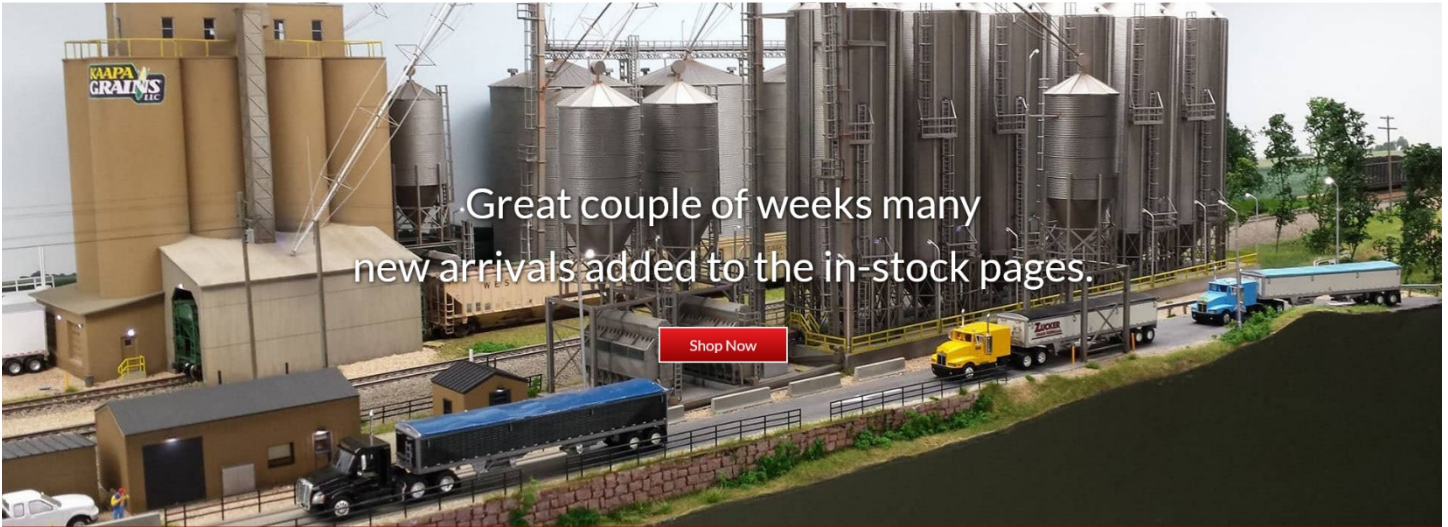
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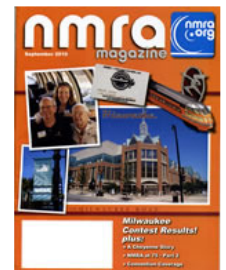
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Member Services... Being a member of the **NMRA** entitles you to a multitude of services, all geared toward expanding your enjoyment of the hobby. Every month our large, four-color magazine, **NMRA Magazine**, in either print (optional) or digital (included in membership) format, will update you on **NMRA** activities on a Divisional, Regional, and National level. It also includes informative modeling or prototype articles.



Standards... When the **NMRA** was founded in 1935, model railroading was in its infancy, without standards that ensured interchangeability. The **NMRA** was the organization that set those [Standards and Recommended Practices](#) which still guide manufacturers and consumers alike. In fact, the **NMRA** recently set the manufacturing standards that continue to guarantee the compatibility of different brands of DCC equipment.

Achievement Program... The **NMRA's** [Achievement Program](#), or "AP," is designed to help modelers improve their skills and get more enjoyment out of their hobby. In addition, it gives recognition to those members who have displayed a high degree of skill or service to the hobby.

Would you like to test drive the **NMRA**?

Now's your chance! With a **Rail Pass** membership, you will have access to one of the world's largest railroad libraries, get reduced rates on special layout or collection insurance, receive nine digital issues of the NMRA Magazine, and much more.

Click here for the NMRA website: www.nmra.org/

For the NMRA Facebook page, click here: www.facebook.com/groups



The Friends of the Burlington Northern Railroad (FOBNR) historical society was incorporated in the state of Idaho on January 3, 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 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 a 24-page all-color publication and will grow even larger as the society grows and more members contribute more information.



Join the Friends of the Burlington Northern Railroad

New Membership

- Membership in the Friends of the Burlington Northern Railroad is for one full year.
- Multiple year memberships are permitted and even encouraged!
- Regular members get four copies of *The BN Expediter* and can buy our annual BN calendar for \$2 off the regular price.
- Sustaining members get four copies of *The BN Expediter*, are acknowledged by name in every issue of *The BN Expediter* and get our annual BN calendar free (if joined by December 31st – after the 31st we will send one as long as our supply lasts).
- Youth members (16 years old and under) get four copies of *The BN Expediter* and can buy our annual BN calendar for \$2 off the regular price.

Click here for the FOBNR website: fobnr.org/

For the FOBNR Facebook page, click here: www.facebook.com/fobnr

MODEL TRAIN CONVENTION & EXPO

— FUNDRAISER —

JANUARY 14-15

SATURDAY 9-6 | SUNDAY 10-3

McPherson Community Building | 122 E Marlin St



VENDOR SETUP:

FRIDAY, JAN 13 | 11:30 AM - 8 PM

6-foot tables provided;
\$25 for the first table, \$20 for each table thereafter

1 Door prize (any value) required for every 5 tables,
minimum 1 Door prize

DOOR PRIZES ARE GIVEN AWAY EVERY HOUR

Questions? Contact us at (620) 245-7650 or staff@mcphersoncountymakerspace.org

In McPherson, Kansas

The Best Train Show in Wichita, KS



Who: The **Chisholm Trail Division, NMRA**

What: **Model Train Show**

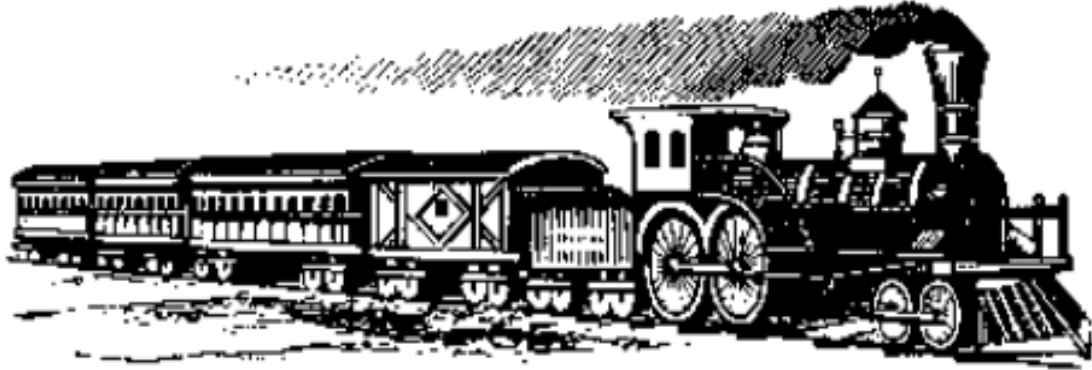
When: Saturday **February 4th** 9:00AM to 5:00PM
Sunday **February 5th** 11:00AM to 4:00PM

Where: **Cessna Activity Center**
2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita, KS.

Why: **Fun!**

2023 GARDEN CITY MODEL TRAIN SHOW

Boot Hill Model Railroad Club



**Garden City, Kansas
Finney County Fairgrounds
Exhibition Building**

409 Lake Ave Garden City

March 11th & 12th 2023

Saturday 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday 11 am to 4 pm

BIGGEST LITTLE TRAIN SHOW AROUND

**Operating Layouts
Train Vendors
Lunch Counter**

**Admission: \$6 for Adults
Children 10 and under free with adult admission**

For more information contact:

Jim Adams
620-335-6964
adamsarabians@hotmail.com

Steve Weidner
620-290-1862
sweidner@ucom.net

Mark Fisher
620-260-5560
markfish@ucom.net

Robert Hahn
620-271-8365
robertlh@wbsnet.org

We ask that all Covid-19 precautions be taken when visiting the show

Check us out at: <https://www.facebook.com/BootHillModelRailroadClub>

Benefitting Mosaic of Garden City

Date Book

December 2022

3rd & 4th
Sat & Sun

Great Train Show
Overland Park Convention Center [trainshow.com](https://www.trainshow.com)

Overland Park, MO.

January 2023

14th & 15th
Sat & Sun

Model Train Convention & Train Show
McPherson Community Building

McPherson, KS.

14th
Saturday

Mid-Continent Region Board of Directors Meeting

Kansas City, MO.

February 2023

4th & 5th
Sat & Sun

Wichita Train Show & Swap Meet
<https://www.nmra.org/events/>

Wichita, KS.

4th & 5th
Sat & Sun

Train Expo Colorado (TECO) Train Show
[tecoshow.org/](https://www.tecoshow.org/)

Colorado Springs, CO.

March 2023

11th & 12th
Sat & Sun

Boot Hill Model Railroad Club Train Show
Finney Co. Exhibition Building

Garden City, KS.

April 2023

1st & 2nd
Sat & Sun

Rocky Mountain Train Show
[rockymountaintrainshow.com/](https://www.rockymountaintrainshow.com/)

Denver, CO.

15th & 16th
Sat & Sun

29th Annual Train Show
D & N Event Center

North Platte, NE.

22nd & 23rd
Sat & Sun

Spring Creek Model Trains FreeMo Event Center
Thayer County Event Center - [springcreekmodeltrains.com/show-schedule/](https://www.springcreekmodeltrains.com/show-schedule/)

Deshler, NE.



Western Kansas Division

1.5K likes • 1.6K followers



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MON-FRI 10AM to 6PM
SAT 10AM to 4PM

THUR NOV 24	CLOSED THANKSGIVING
SAT DEC 24	OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE
SAT DEC 31	OPEN NEW YEARS EVE



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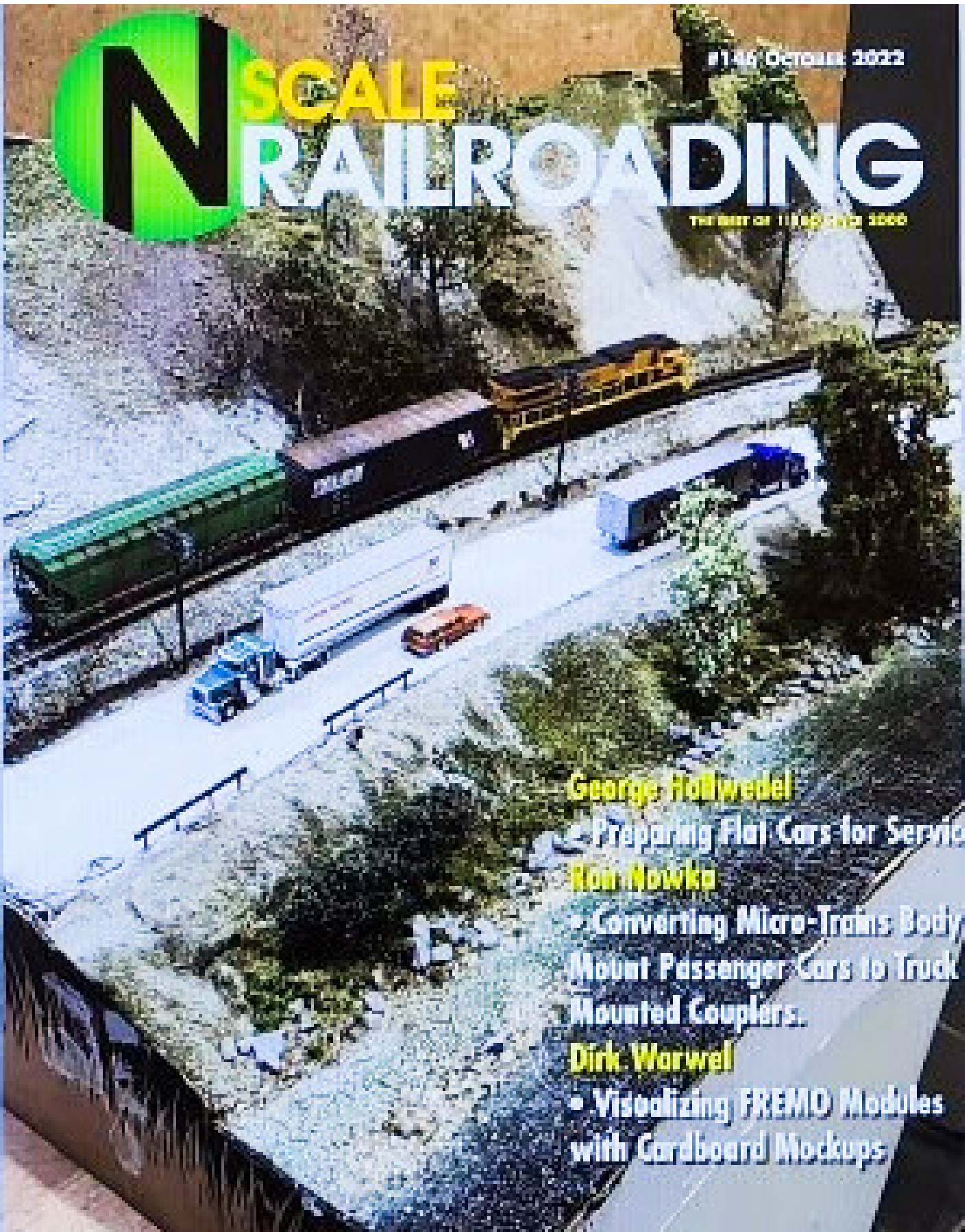
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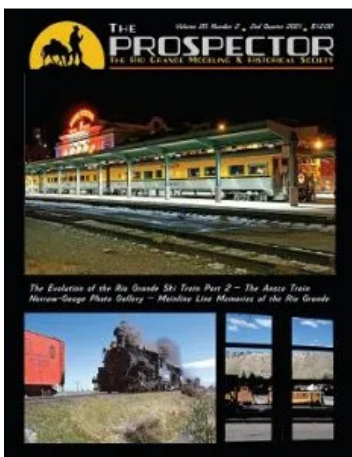
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with Cardboard Mockups

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The RGM&HS publishes **The Prospector**, our professionally produced and beautifully illustrated quarterly magazine featuring the finest work of historians and other experts on all aspects of Rio Grande Railroad. We make available individual issues and volume sets of the magazine for purchase from our website—from the current issue to back issues of **The Prospector** over the past 20 years back to Volume 1 which was first published in 2002.

The **Green Light** is the society's electronic newsletter named after the D&RGW employee newsletter is delivered eight times a year via e-mail and is intended to provide information not included in the regular issues of **The Prospector** magazine. In each issue of the **Green Light**, we

cover Society news, highlighting current operations over former Rio Grande territory, and preservation initiatives geared to educate interested Individuals in the rich history of the railroad. We promote our society functions, social gatherings, annual convention, and photo and data archiving. We also promote Rio Grande related products like books, calendars, and model railroad announcements.

Join us today!

Click here for the RGMHS website: rgmhs.org/

For the RGMHS Facebook page, click this link: www.facebook.com/groups/rgmhs



WHEN I SAY

"THE OTHER DAY"

**I COULD BE REFERRING
TO ANYTIME BETWEEN YESTERDAY
AND 15 YEARS AGO**



On the Back Cover: Jerry Bruce of McPherson, KS and Hector Coss of Lewis, KS. Are relaxing a bit after a train show...

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

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