



The

# *Main Line*

March, 2019



National Model Railroad Association

Mid-Continent Region

The Monthly publication of the **Western Kansas Division**



On the cover:

On Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 the doors opened right at 10:00AM for the **2019 Rocky Mountain Train Show** inside the Denver Mart in Denver, Colorado. They bill this show as “the largest west of the Mississippi river”, and it was certainly the largest I have ever attended. This picture was taken just one minute after the doors opened, and we were near the north entrance, while the main entrance was on the south side. More pics are inside....





## Western Kansas Division You Tube Page

The activities of the Division have been moved to my original YouTube page, located here:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9EPv8cQ04rRGAYts-734jw?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9EPv8cQ04rRGAYts-734jw?view_as=subscriber)

**Great Northern Butte Division** HO-scale layout by John Breau in Peculiar, MO.



## *The Mid-Continent Region Facebook Page*

Created in August of 2017, the Mid-Continent Region now has its own Facebook page. It's open to all members to post everything model train related. You are encouraged to post any activities such as train shows, clinics, and upgrades to your home or club layouts. This is your page, so feel free to use it, just take this link to your page:

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/1851848998468077/?ref=group\\_header](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1851848998468077/?ref=group_header)



# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019

“Visit the largest model train show west of the Mississippi River at the Denver Mart” and “Make it a day or a weekend of Family Fun with 3 acres of model and toy trains of all scales, with 25 operating train layouts.” These are the statements from their website, and having been there, I can say they are true, as this was by far the largest show I have ever attended, and the Western Kansas Division is proud to have been a part of it. They told us this is the largest show they have ever done, as they opened-up another whole section of the building, the Plaza (which is why we were able to participate).



On Sunday morning before the show was open, I had about an hour to walk around and take pictures, but I really needed a whole day.



# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019

One of the highlights for me was being able to watch the filming of the *"What's Neat This Week In Model Railroading"* with Ken Patterson which was done on a stage not far from our layout. These photos are all long-range zoom shots from inside our layout.

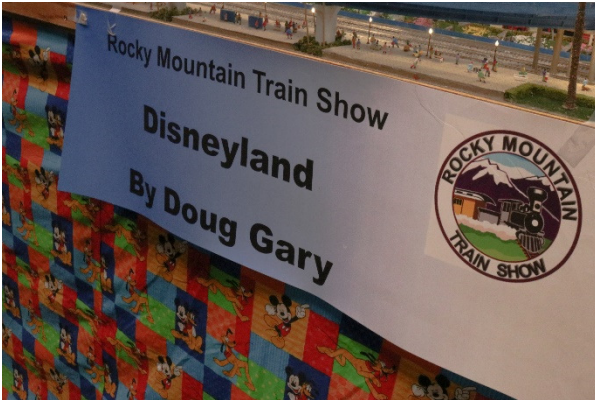
Ken Patterson (center) resides in St. Louis, Missouri and is a nationally known model railroader and master photographer of layouts and products, on top of producing popular YouTube pod casts.



You can watch show #67 from the Rocky Mountain Train Show here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ye9tE8ZPJl>



# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019



I first met Doug Gary and saw this layout some 20-years ago at the RMTS when it was in a smaller building. I have many fond memories of that weekend as Doug' N-Trak modules were just a pair and he had just been featured in a national magazine for his roller coaster which is made of wood, completely self-designed, scratch-built, and is fully functional even after 20-years. His layout has since expanded by multiple modules and is all highly detailed. Besides the coaster, the layout is chocked full of animation features and is a joy to behold.





# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019





# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019





# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019





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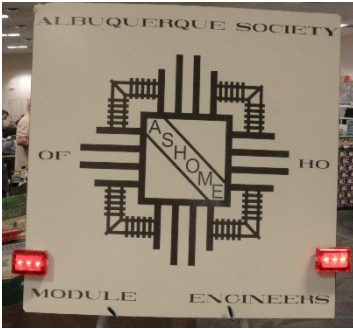
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# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019



Another layout in the “Plaza” area was the HO-scale modular layout from the Albuquerque Society Of Module Engineers.





# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019



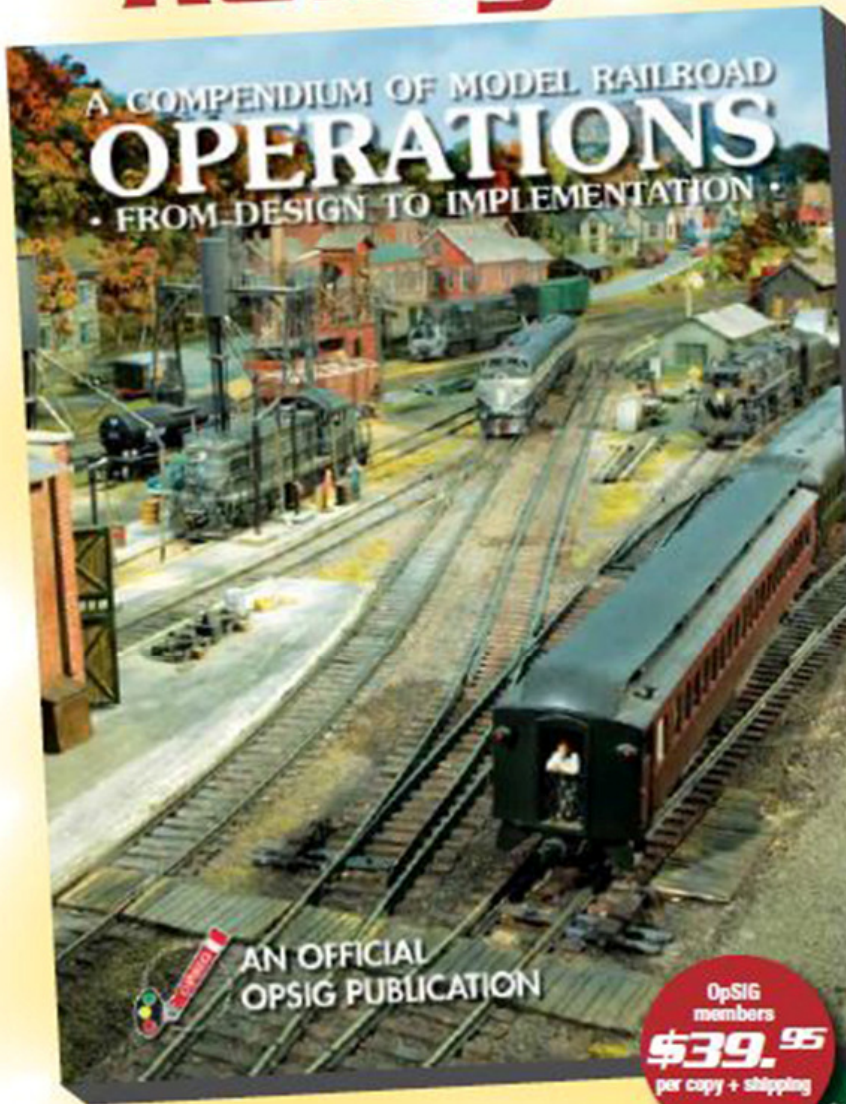


# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019





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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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# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019



Easily the largest layout in the Show was also located in the "Plaza" area, the G-scale display from the Denver Garden Railway Society.

The "Plaza" area was divided into three levels. Our layout was located on the highest level near the entrance, the Disneyland and Albuquerque layouts and vendors were on the middle level, while this layout and others were on the lowest level in front of the stage area.







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4 2 3 - 8 9 2 - 2 8 4 6



# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019



The “Plaza” was also the showplace for the On30 layouts of Mark Fisher and Steve Weidner, members of the Boot Hill Model Railroad Club based in Dodge City, Kansas. Always a crowd favorite, these layouts are highly detailed and feature several animation scenes.





# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019



Also on the lower level of the Plaza was a big attraction for the youngsters, a train ride where the riders pushed and pulled the yokes to provide the propulsion.

A lot of fun for the kids, and a chance for the parents to sit for a while.



# Rocky Mountain Train Show, 2019



Late in the afternoon on Saturday when it had quieted down a bit, I was able to get some shots of the layouts on the Plaza. The north entry doors are on the upper right, so we had good traffic all day. This is the N-scale Western Kansas Rails layout as displayed by the Western Kansas Division, NMRA.

The grain elevator in the foreground as well as many of the other buildings on the layout are scratch-built. The layout also participated in the very popular "Junior Engineer" program, where after signing-up, youth could seek-out the test stations and do various things from answering questions to running trains to mild operations on various layouts.

This is it for Part 1 of the coverage of the 2019 Rocky Mountain Train Show...Part 2 will be in the April issue of the Main Line (that's called a tease).



# *The Real Deal*

**Todd Skaggs** – Dodge City, KS. – HO and N scales

Todd traveled to Colorado Springs prior to the Train Show, and always gets some great shots. Todd writes, "I caught the northbound Pikes Peak Local at Palmer Lake on Friday (3/1). The building with the red roof in the background is one of my favorite places to eat - it has railroad memorabilia inside, along with a train that runs around just below the ceiling. It recently changed ownership and is now called Dex's Depot. Finally, I included the DPUs of a southbound coal train just after they passed the old Rio Grande Depot in Colorado Springs. This was my first chance to use my new camera."





# *The Real Deal*

Todd Skaggs – Dodge City, KS. – HO and N scales





# *Great Train Videos*



Todd Skaggs also sent me a link to a fascinating video from the Colorado Model Railroad Museum

You can view the video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0WDENOBmA-o&t=215s>



# Date Book

## March, 2019

|  |   |                    |
|--|---|--------------------|
| 16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup><br>Sat & Sun | <b>Model Train Show</b> (Boot Hill Model RR Club)<br>Gray County Rec Center – 801 West Avenue A   | Cimarron, KS.      |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>th</sup><br>Fri - Sun | <b>OKC Railroad Expo</b> (Toy Train Operating Society)<br><a href="http://www.ttos-sooner.org/next-show/">http://www.ttos-sooner.org/next-show/</a> | Oklahoma City, OK. |

## April, 2019

|  |   |                    |
|--|---|--------------------|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup><br>Sat & Sun | <b>Arkansas City Train Show</b> (Wichita Toy Train Club)<br><a href="http://www.wichitatoytrainmuseum.org/">http://www.wichitatoytrainmuseum.org/</a> | Arkansas City, KS. |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup><br>Sat & Sun | <b>Herington Railroad Days</b><br>Herington Community Building – 800 S. Broadway  | Herington, KS.     |

## June, 2019

|  |  |              |
|--|--|--------------|
| 20 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>Thu – Sun | <b>2019 Mid-Continent Region Convention</b> NMRA   | Wichita, KS  |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup><br>Sat & Sun | <b>Spring Creek Model Trains Train Show</b><br>Thayer County Event Center<br><a href="http://www.springcreekmodeltrains.com/">http://www.springcreekmodeltrains.com/</a> | Deshler, NE. |

## July, 2019

|  |   |                    |
|--|---|--------------------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup><br>UT.<br>Sun – Sat | <b>2019 NMRA National Convention</b><br>Little America Hotel<br><a href="http://www.nmra2019slc.org/">http://www.nmra2019slc.org/</a> | Salt Lake City,    |
| 27 <sup>th</sup><br>Saturday                           | <b>Turkey Creek Division Annual Train Show</b> (+ Layout Tours)<br>Shawnee Mission North High School                                  | Overland Park, KS. |

\*\*\* Click on the blue links to go to the Club's show page \*\*\*



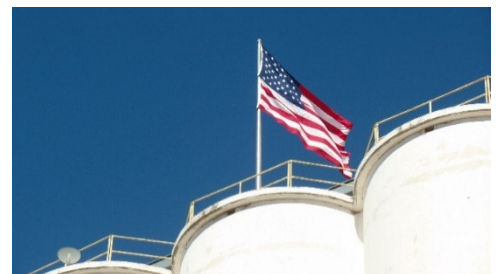


From the Rocky Mountain Train Show...one of our favorite manufacturers, Scale Trains



If you wish to follow the activities of the Western Kansas Division,  
You can tune into the WKD Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Western-Kansas-Division-592835177514577/>







On the back cover:

One last look at the 2019 Rocky Mountain Train Show with a different view of the Western Kansas Rails N-scale layout presented by the Western Kansas Division of the NMRA.

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

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Please send all inquiries, ideas, or submissions to: [trainman55@hotmail.com](mailto:trainman55@hotmail.com)