



The

Main Line

October 2021



National Model Railroad Association

Mid-Continent Region

The Monthly publication of the



Western Kansas Division



On The Cover:

In last month's issue, I challenged you to get started on a new project on your or club's layout. On the WKR N-scale layout, there is one scene that is not complete with the basic structures, the concrete plant. I needed to create three aggregate holding bins. The local plant used precast concrete blocks for theirs, so I measured them, and made N-scale versions. More details inside...

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Editor's Musings

It's just days away, the Tulsa Union Convention 2021. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend this event, and the reason is pictured to the right. Each week during the growing season I need to mow 4-acres and the lawn tractor I purchased in late 2019 just wasn't up to the task. So, the solution was the purchase of a Cub Cadet ZT2 that cost more than my first car in 1973.



But having visited the Tulsa area several time in the past decade, I can assure you that you will find amazing layouts, and a great group of people, and since it's a joint convention with the Lone Star Region, you will have the opportunity to meet another group of amazing people. It will be an experience you will remember for the rest of your life.

In last month's issue we published the results of the Region election. I want to thank everyone in the Mid-Continent Region for allowing me to continue to serve as your Vice-President. If you have any questions, problems, or issues, please feel free to contact me.



The Friends of the **Burlington Northern** also include **BNSF**, and **Montana Rail Link**. You can view their web site here:



Click on the link: <https://fobnr.org/>



“You remember all of the train show dates and hours within a 200 mile radius but you have to look up when our anniversary is?”



Be sure to check out the **MeWe** page of the Western Kansas Division:

<https://mewe.com/p/westernkansasddivisionnmra>



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 web-site. We still love doing the weekend "train shows" and we travel throughout the Midwest.

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



Layout Tour

A couple of weeks ago, Todd Skaggs sent me an e-mail featuring pictures of a fantastic layout in Colorado Springs, CO. Todd wrote, "I had the opportunity to visit an incredible mountain layout in Colorado Springs last week. It is known as the **Grand Pacific Northwestern "The Bridge Route"**". Todd



Layout Tour

the Grand Pacific Northwestern *"The Bridge Route"*



Layout Tour

the Grand Pacific Northwestern *"The Bridge Route"*



Layout Tour

the Grand Pacific Northwestern *"The Bridge Route"*



Layout Tour

the Grand Pacific Northwestern *"The Bridge Route"*



Layout Tour

the Grand Pacific Northwestern *"The Bridge Route"*



Layout Tour

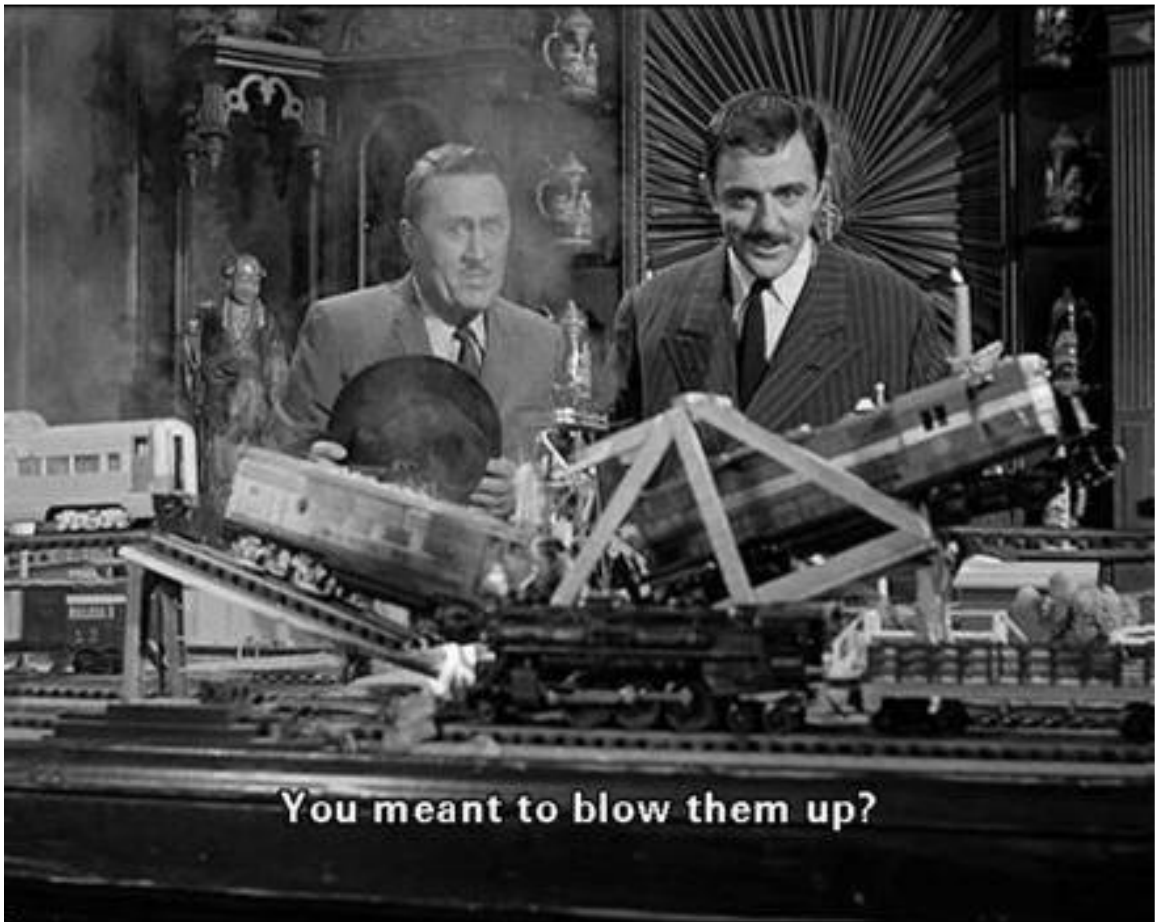
the Grand Pacific Northwestern "*The Bridge Route*"



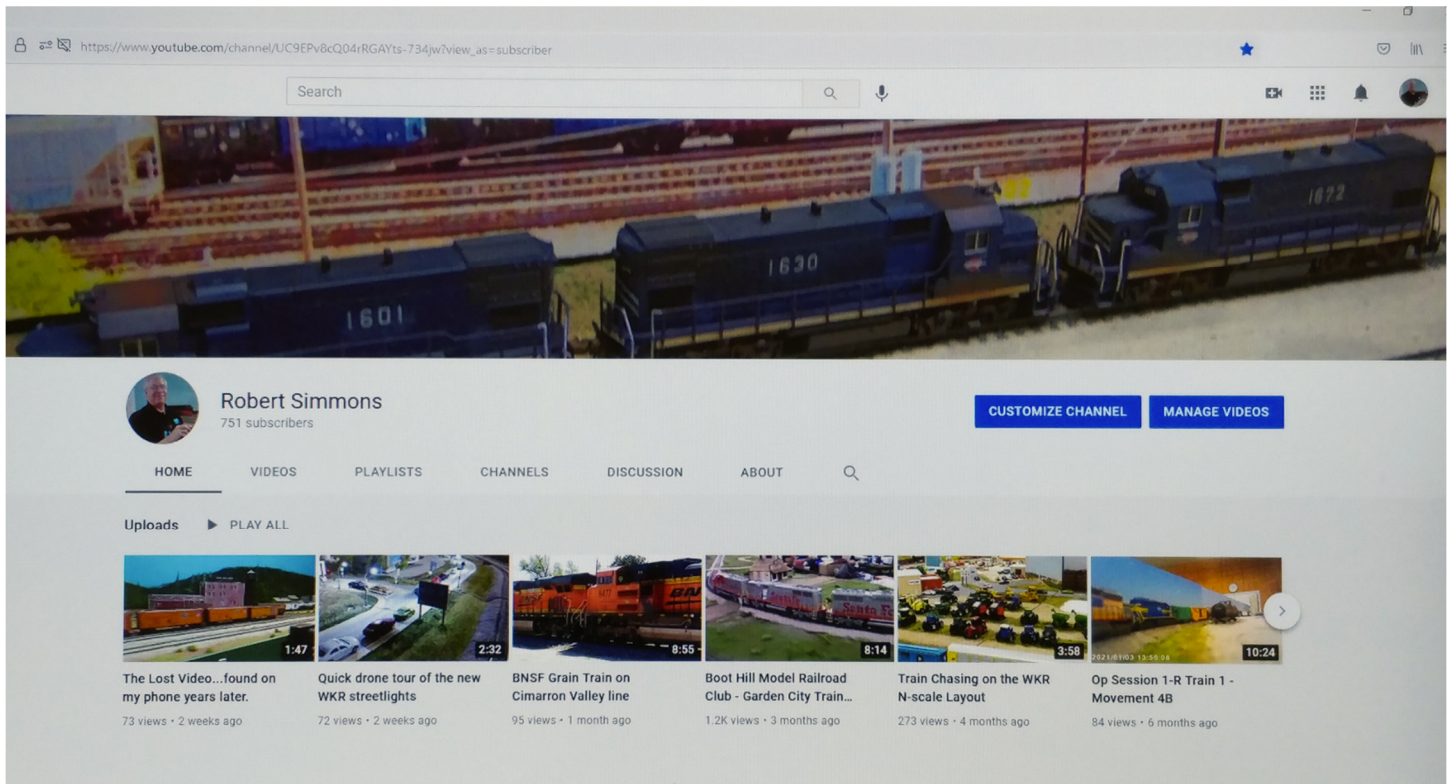
A fine example of a truly magnificent layout.

Thank You to the group who created the **Grand Pacific Northwestern**.

Thank You to Todd Skaggs for taking the time to visit the layout and sharing these photos.



Visit the Western Kansas Division **YouTube** page....



Click on the link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9EPv8cQ04rRGAYts-734jw?view_as=subscriber

In the month of September, the Division **YouTube** page had:

11 New Subscribers

1,867 Total Views

5,212 Total Minutes Watched

Here are some of the most recent videos:



Operations On The WKR N-scale Layout 01:

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

Operations On The WKR N-scale Layout 02: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ToSyzm_Txco

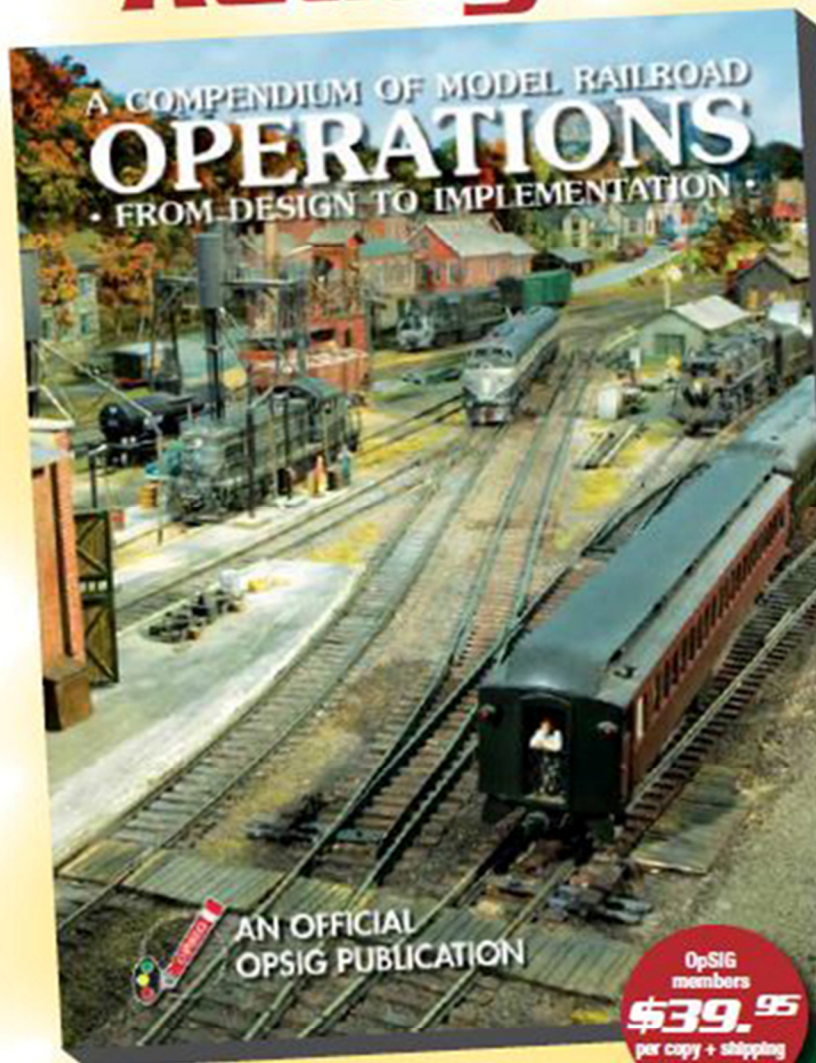
Operations On The WKR N-scale Layout 03:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3vgyLvVFOo>



Operations On The WKR N-scale Layout 04: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pFqA6oWnsdl>

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



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

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 Canada/Mexico (\$21)
 Overseas (\$28)

For shipping rates on multiple books, as well as better international shipping, please contact Steve Benezra.

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The OpSIG is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. For information on how to join the OpSIG, please visit www.opsig.org.




Still Time To Register...

2021 TULSA UNION CONVENTION



[Home](#)
[Clinics](#)
[Layouts](#)
[Contests](#)
[Non-rail](#)
[Timetable](#)
[Register](#)
[Hotel](#)
[Contact](#)
[Updates](#)

October 6th to 10th, 2021 in Tulsa, Oklahoma

Division 1 - MCOR

Welcome to the 2021 Tulsa Union Convention website

The place to find details, news and updates about this year's joint regional convention

Come to Tulsa and pick from over 20 clinics and 16 model railroad layouts to see during the event. Enjoy featured Clinicians from two Regions and tour a variety of quality layouts, in the model railroading City of Tulsa.

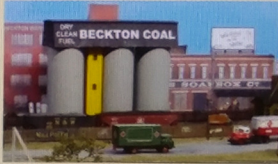
Check out the list of Clinics planned. Look thru pictures of Layouts on tour. Sign-up for an Operating Session. Bring a model to the Contest Room.

Visit the Registration page today to sign up and pay, all online. The Hotel page has location details and a link to book your room, online. Plus review other event details and updates on the pages of this website.

This Convention is a collaboration of the Indian Nations Division, Mid-Continent and Lone Star Regions, of the National Model Railroad Association. A first-time venture by both regions, coming together in Tulsa this October.

Come to Tulsa in October for the 2021 Convention !

Ken Ehlers, Co-Chairman, Indian Nations Division & Mid-Continent Region
Marc LaChey, Co-Chairman, Lone Star Region



Weather Tulsa

94°
76°

theweather.com **METEORED**

Tulsa
39:22:44
Days Hrs Mins

Visitors **1999**

Click on the link to go to the website: <http://www.2021tulsaunion.com/>

	Dale Baker	Tulsa Port of Catoosa RR	HO
	Steve Campbell	Cherokee Sub Frisco	HO
	Sammy Carlile	Santa Fe Hereford Subdivision	HO
	Steve Davis	KCS 3rd Subdivision	HO
	Kenneth Ehlers	Pandora & San Miguel Rwy	Sn3
	Tom Fausser	South Brooklyn Terminal	HO
	Steve Gillett	Spaendahl Yamanee & Densum	N
	GCMRC	Green County Model RR Club	HO
	Lane Littlefield	Tennessee Central Railway	N
	Jon Pansius	Tulsa Junction Railway	HO
	Dave Salamon	Deep River Southern	N
	Jim Sinclair	Southern Pacific	HO
	Randy Smith	Rio Grande Southern	Sn3
	David Steensland	Silverton & Lake City	HO n3

(Left) This is the list of some of the best model railroad layouts in the Country, and you can arrange visits, tours, and operating sessions, but you first have to register....

2021 TULSA UNION CONVENTION

October 6-10, 2021

Notice-Cancellation Policy Announcement

As we approach the 2021 Tulsa Union Convention, expenses will be incurred for registration materials and food/beverage for the Awards/Desert event. Since these expenses will be nonrefundable once incurred, we must similarly establish the following policy regarding the cancellation of registration fees.

You may cancel your registration on or before September 7th and receive a full refund. Starting September 8th, those cancelling their registration will receive a refund of 50% of their registration fees. There will be **no refund** of registration fees for those cancelling their registration on or after September 22nd.

We regret the establishment of this cancellation policy but believe it necessary to protect the sponsoring regions. Thank you for your understanding.

The Convention runs from Wednesday to Sunday, October 6th-10th, 2021

...originally scheduled in June 2021, it was rescheduled to October due to Covid.

The 'Standard Registration' fee is only \$75.00 for Attendees

Non-Rail Attendee fee is only \$30.00 a person

Note: convention Polo Shirts were available to order until 8/15/2021

If you have questions about Registration, options or mailing it, email us...



If you have general questions about the convention activities, email us...



If you have trouble registering online or using these pages, email us...



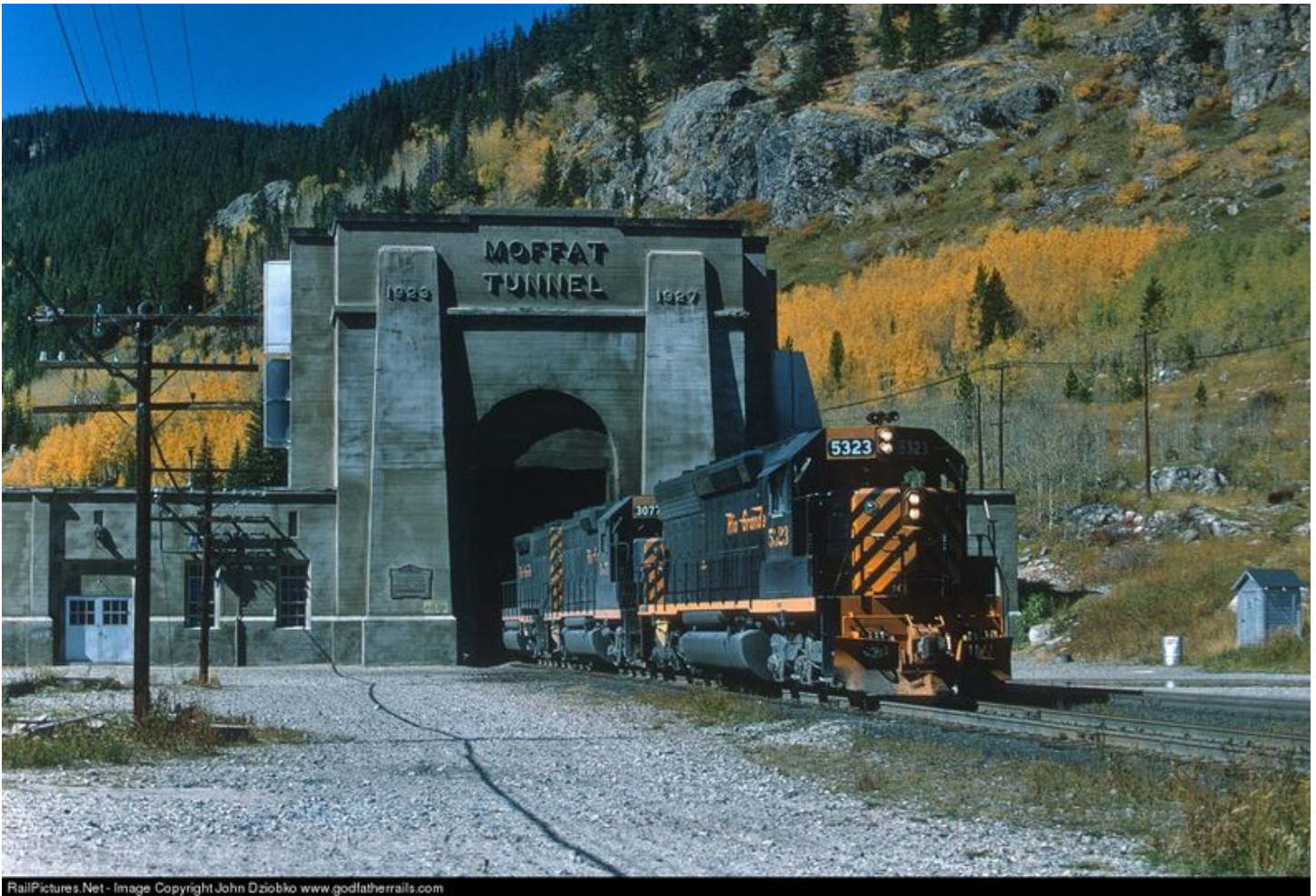
You can register and pay online, via PayPal or Credit Card, using this link.

To help register, there is a check list on the next page.

You can download & fill out a paper form, and mail it in with a check, via this link.

If you want to mail this form with a check, send us an email to request the mailing address.

Register today: <http://www.2021tulsaunion.com/>



RailPictures.Net - Image Copyright John Dziobko www.godfathertrains.com



The Rio Grande Modeling & Historical Society

The mission of the **Rio Grande Modeling & Historical Society** is to preserve and disseminate historical information about the collective Rio Grande railroads for the benefit of our members and to others by creating and promoting fellowship and education among persons interested in the D&RGW. Locating, gathering, preserving, interpreting and distributing information, documents, publications and other tangible items relating to the D&RGW.

The RGM&HS publishes ***The Prospector***, is our professionally produced and beautifully illustrated quarterly magazine featuring the finest work of historians and other experts on all aspects of Rio Grande Railroad. Dealer inquiries on carrying our magazine are welcome. The ***Green Light*** is the society's electronic newsletter delivered 8 times a year via e-mail is intended to provide society information not included in the four regular issues of ***The Prospector*** magazine.

Members will find news about the Rio Grande, general interest, products of interest like books, videos, calendars featuring the railroad. The ***Green Light*** also highlights Society initiatives to provide individuals interested in learning about the D&RGW with historical information like the Rio Grande Source Data project which contains original Rio Grande publications, timetables, equipment information and other materials sold by the society in our Company Store.

Click the link: <https://www.rgmhs.org/>

BIG CHANGES ARE COMING TO N SCALE SUPPLY



**WE ARE MOVING (100ft)
WE ARE EXPANDING
Z-N-HO-S-O-G**

N Scale Supply is Growing and Expanding. Very soon we will be moving into a 5,200 square foot space which is twice the size of our current location. The new location is 2 doors north in the same building. Since we are one of the few remaining all Model Train Store in Colorado we have begun expanding into other scales - Z, HO, S, O and G. Locally we are going by the name ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRAIN SUPPLY. Online we will continue to be N SCALE SUPPLY. Tuesday September 28 we will re-open in our new home. Please stop by and see us. October 1 will be our 24th Anniversary selling Model Trains in Colorado.



***** Upgrade failed*****

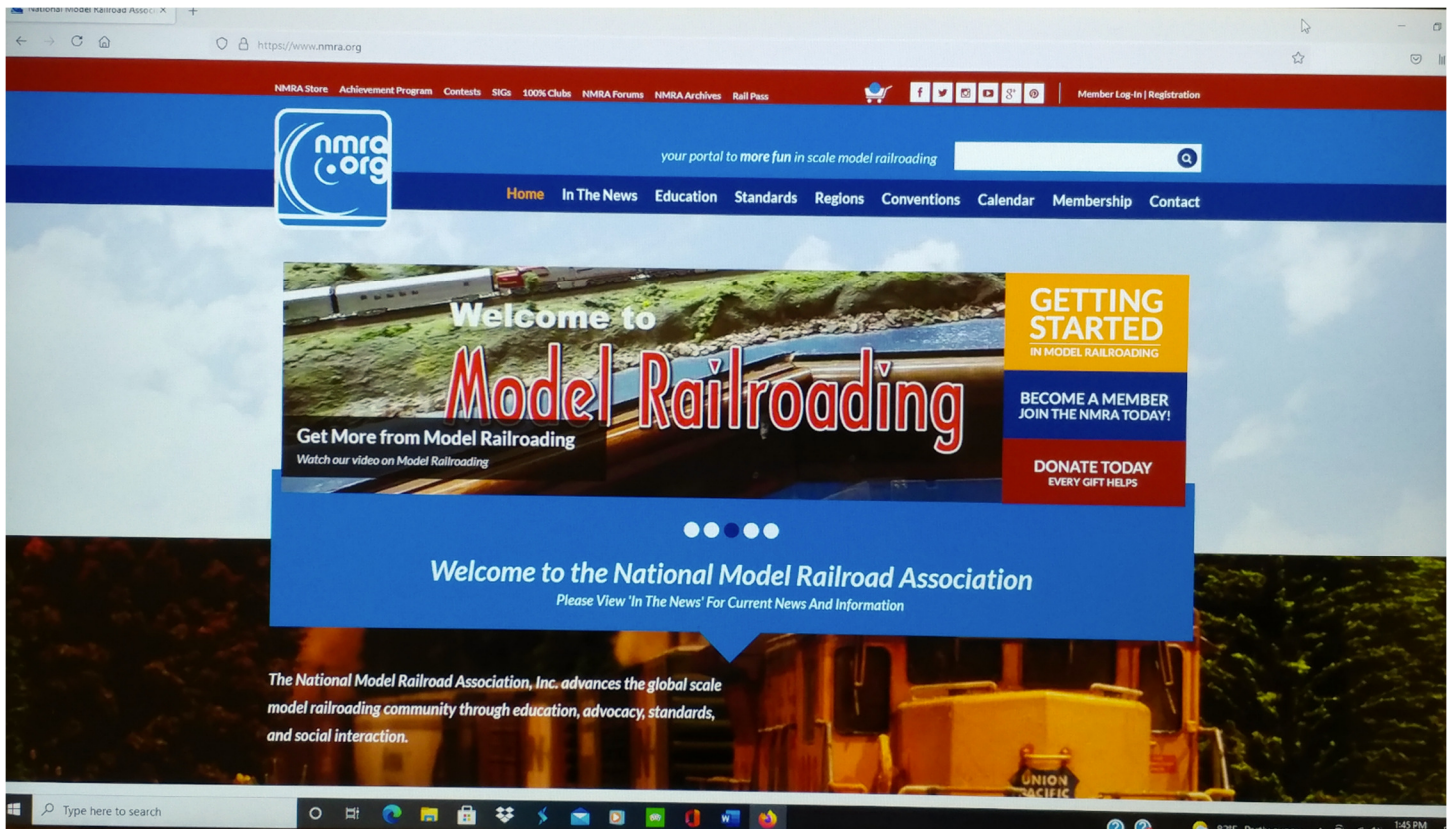
Back to the old forum.

(It has been unlocked and is open for posting again.)

We encountered a show-stopper issue during this upgrade, so we have to go back to the old forum.

We will research and resolve the issue, then reschedule the upgrade again in a few weeks.

P.S. We did two test conversions and things were looking good, but then we encountered a new showstopper this time.



Check out the NMRA Website: <https://www.nmra.org/>

Trial Membership

Would you like to test drive the NMRA? Try **Railpass...**

Now's your chance! With a Rail Pass membership, you'll have access to one of the world's largest railroad libraries, get reduced rates on special layout or collection insurance, receive 9 issues of NMRA Magazine, and much more.

Click on the link above, select Railpass, print out and fill in the form, then MAIL it to:

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National Model Railroad Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy TN 37384-1328

* Rail Pass offer is good in the U.S. only and is for new members and those who have not been NMRA members for two years or more. Individuals can join at Rail Pass rates only once. Rail Pass members can attend conventions and participate in contests but cannot hold office or vote in NMRA events. Membership will renew at the regular membership rate..

Or, if you can't wait, enroll online at the NMRA Store.





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.

Please consider becoming a member and help us keep this history alive.



MPHS Website: <http://www.mopac.org/>

MPHS Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/MoPacHistorical>



Missouri Pacific Historical Society

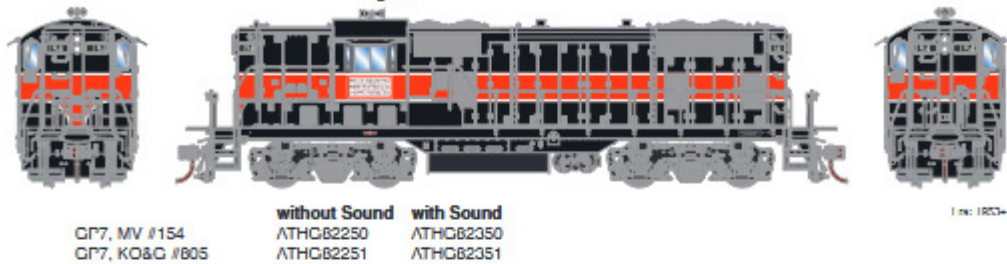
The new Athearn KO&G and Midland Valley GP7 units will be available through the Company Store. Email store@mopac.org to reserve your units.



GENESIS HO GP7 Diesel Locomotive

Announced 09.24.21
Orders Due: 10.29.21
ETA: November 2022

Midland Valley/ Kansas Oklahoma & Gulf



In 1923 the Midland Valley, the Kansas Oklahoma & Gulf, and the Oklahoma City Ada & Atoka were bought by the company called the Muskogee Roads of Philadelphia and the headquarters and shops were moved to Muskogee, OK.

The first diesel locomotives on the MV were GP7s 151-154, delivered in 1953. Similar GP7s were also restored by the KO&G. The units were all painted in a standard EMD styling department scheme.

The Muskogee Roads was sold to the Missouri Pacific in 1964.

Source information: Condren, Mike. "The Arkansas Scrambler" "Excelsior's Railroad". Vol 31, No. 3, November 2017. pp 15-18



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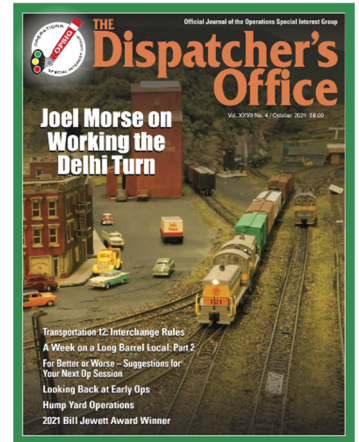




The principal purpose of the Operations Special Interest Group (OPSIG) is to discuss, develop and disseminate ways of operating model railroads to realistically emulate practices of the prototype. This includes sharing information on various methods of generating, moving and controlling traffic to heighten 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'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. Back issues are available.



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

Click on the link: <https://www.opsig.org/>



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

Click the link:
<https://www.facebook.com/OperationsSIG>



About N Scale Modular Railroading

The building of a module is not difficult. Building a module has the distinct advantage of "forcing" the builder to do all the phases of layout building, without having to do so much of one phase that they get "fed up" with it, as can happen when building a large home layout. So often the scenery doesn't get built or the track work is never made to work right, or some other building phase is neglected.

Getting a module ready for a scheduled meet will do wonders for a builder's speed and concentration! Another advantage is that the module can be turned on its side or upside down, making working on it much easier, providing better lighting, and making it possible to avoid hot solder drips. The module can be brought to another part of the house where the rest of the family is or taken outside when a smelly job needs doing. The small footprint also allows for experimentation with scenery techniques.

Detailed information about NTRAK and T-TRAK modules as well as publications of interest to N scaler is available throughout this website and for download and at the Store.

Click the link: <https://nrail.org/>

Join

At \$10 per year, you get:

- 6 copies of the Newsletter
- access to the Members Only section of the website
- access to Tips-N-Techniques
- member discount in the NRail Store
- and you support N scale railroading.

Sign up now, online, or print out our membership brochure and send in your application.

WKR Update

Last month, I challenged our readers to begin a new project on their or their Club's layout. On the WKR N-scale layout, there was one area that has not received its permanent structures yet, the concrete plant. I had planned to model the plant in Dodge city on Wyatt Earp Boulevard. I visited the plant last year, met the Manager, and took a lot of photos for reference.

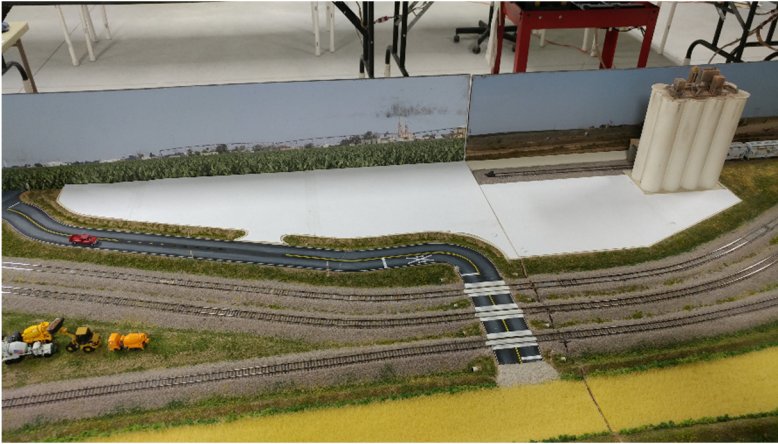
(Below) A mosaic of several photos overlaid together to get a good view of the East side of the plant.



(Below) The original scene featuring a scale reduced Walthers HO-scale Cement plant. The silos on the right side are scratch-built and will remain to accept the cement powder arriving by rail. The rest of the structures will go.



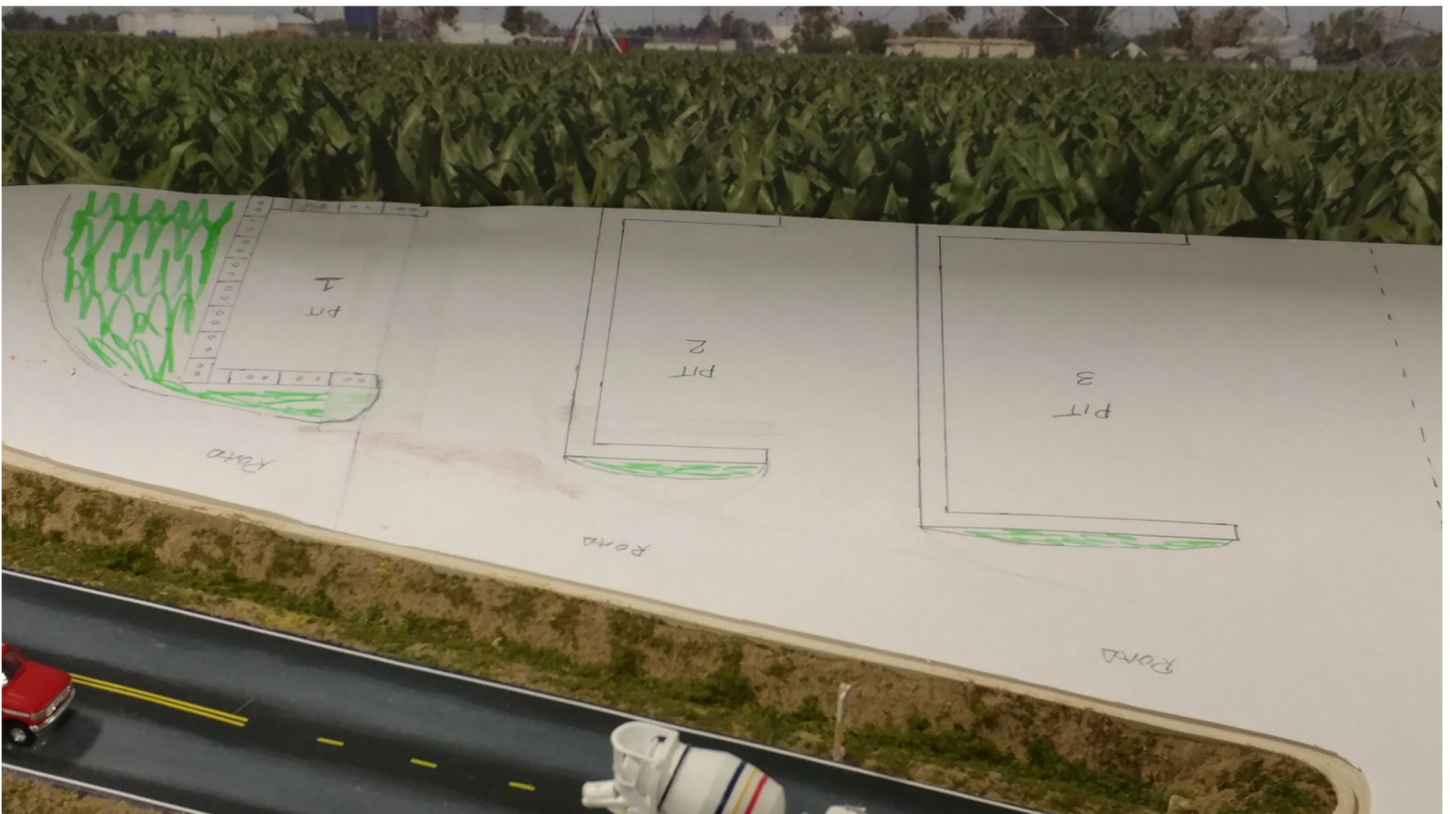
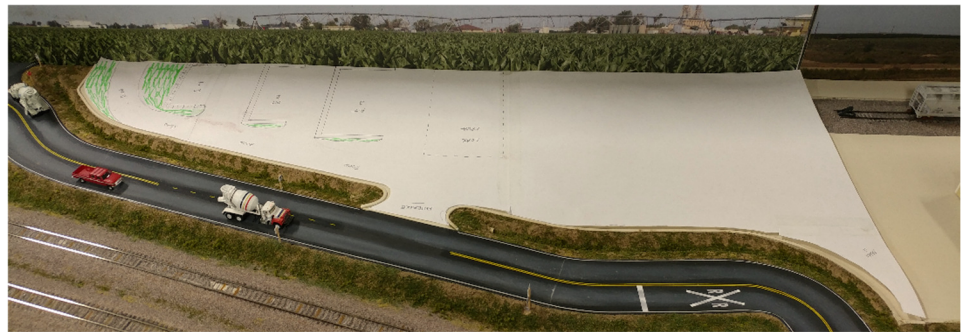
WKR Update



(Left) The first step is to use copy paper to make a template of the area in question. The outlines are traced, cut out, and overlapping sheets are secured with clear tape.

(Below) Part of the template with scale drawings showing the locations for the three aggregate pits and the main loading area.

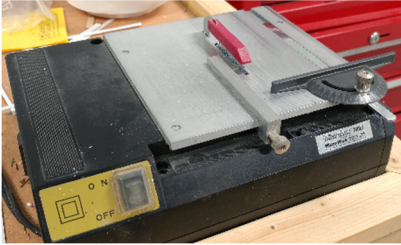
(Below) A close-up view showing the three aggregate pits in full scale size in relation to the area, the access road, and grassy areas.



WKR Update

While I am waiting on styrene supplies for the main structure, the tan building, I decided to construct the three aggregate bins. This plant uses precast concrete blocks for the containment walls, so I measured the blocks, and they are 2.5' x 2.5' x 5'.

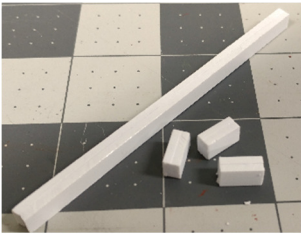
Looking through the stock of sheet styrene, it appeared that my last piece of 0.80" would do well, cut into scale 2.5' strips and then gluing two together, they became the 2.5' x 2.5' dimension, so I only needed to cut to the 5' length.



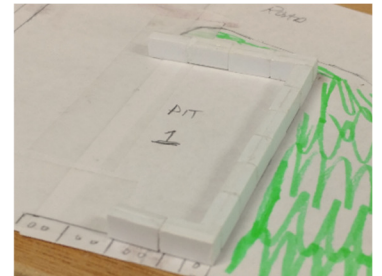
(Left) One of the better tool purchases I have made for the hobby was this mini table saw from Micro-Mark. It makes cutting straight lines very easy, and in this case, once the fence is set for the 5' scale length, I can make as many cuts as necessary.



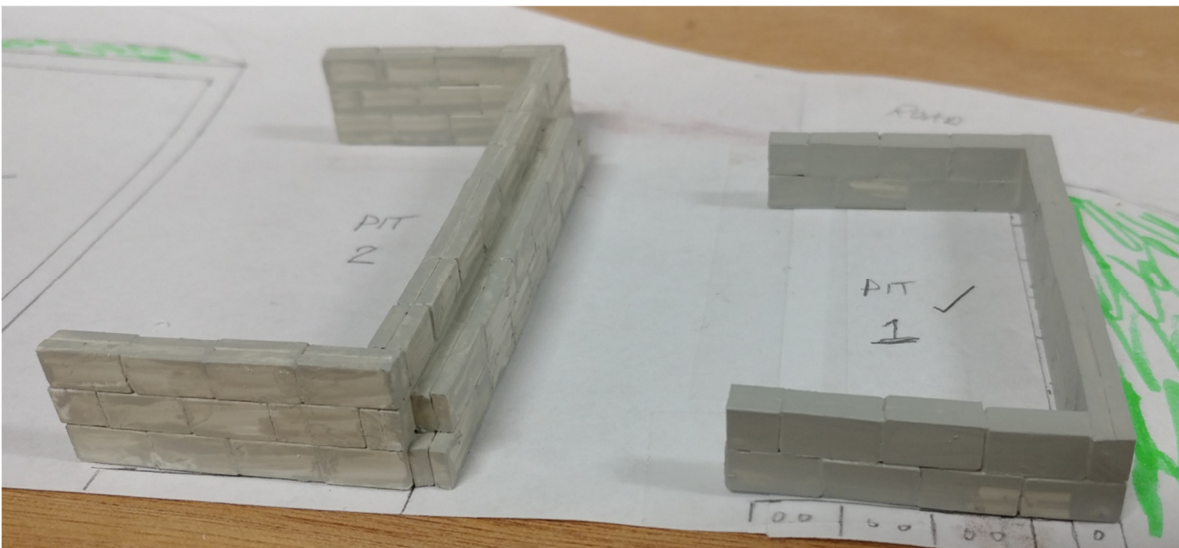
(Right) Using the table saw we were able to cut multiple strips of 0.80" into the 2.5' scale width from the original sheet



(left) Once two strips were cleaned up and glued together they formed the 2.5' x 2.5' scale dimension, then it was simple to cut them to the 5' scale length.



(Right) During the construction of the Pit 1 retaining wall, it was placed on the template to make sure it is following the plan.



(Left) Doing a test fit of the completed retaining walls for Pits 1 and 2.

WKR Update



(Above) All three retaining walls are complete. On Pit 3, the aggregate overflows the pit, so only the outer portion of the retaining wall will be seen and so modeled. To model the aggregate itself, I plan on using extruded foam board cut and shaped according to the prototype photo and then covered with the proper size and color of sand.

I have ordered one sheet of all the available sizes of sheet styrene to match the metal siding of the main structure, and once the proper size is determined, I will order more to get started on the main structure. More to come...



(Left) Just arrived on the WKR property are some back-ordered construction equipment, three New Holland front end loaders and four Komatsu excavators from 3000 Toys.

Perhaps not exact, but close enough for N-scale, you can go to www.3000toys.com and do a search for “keyrings”. They have several pages of farm and construction equipment that can be further detailed.



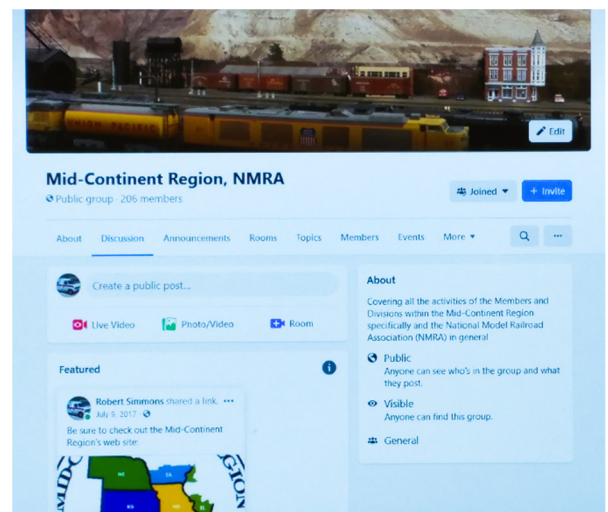
GOOD MEN DO EXIST

WE'RE JUST...
BUILDING TRAINS,
BUYING TRAINS,
THINKING ABOUT BUYING TRAINS,
BUYING PARTS TO FIX TRAINS,
TALKING ABOUT TRAINS
& RUNNING TRAINS

Keep up to date on the activities of the members in the Mid-Continent Region, trains shows, modeling tip, videos, and more...

Just click on the link and bookmark...

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





Interested in the **Union Pacific** check out the **Union Pacific Historical Society**:

Founded in 1984, the Union Pacific Historical Society (UPHS) is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the history of the Union Pacific Railroad from its beginning in 1862 to the operation as it is today. The society is not supported by or affiliated with the railroad other than the preservation of its rich and colorful history.



Summer issue of *The Streamliner* available now! – In the summer issue Mark Amfahr provides an analysis of caboose operations. Long a fixture at the end of trains, Mark discusses how cabooses impacted operations at terminals, how they were supplied, and why some cabooses were more common on certain subdivisions than others, and much more. Today most rural depots are gone, but for decades they were a fixture in small towns throughout the Union Pacific system. In his article, Rob Leachman relates his adventures as a station agent on Oregon Division branch lines in the early 1970s. This issue is available now in the company store.

Click the link:

<http://uphs.org/>

Trackside Model Railroading™

September 2021
Premium Edition
Volume 9, Number 9

**Mountain Railroading on Gil Freitag's
Stony Creek & Western Railroad in HO
Three Methods to Weather Rust**

**Hoosier Heritage: Nickel Plate
& Pennsy Railroads in the 1950s in HO**

Trackside Model Railroading is a publisher for model train enthusiasts who want to enjoy layout tours in depth. The digital magazine is advertisement-free and covers two layouts each month. We feature layouts of all the fine scales with lots of full-page photos, articles about the railroads, and short videos.

Our DVD and Blu-ray movies feature much more video of the layouts and often include interviews, operations, and creative backstories and railroad history.

Sign-up and get your issues today:

<https://www.tracksidemodelrailroading.com/magazine/signup/>



In 2011 Midwest Model Railroad started with the idea of making this hobby more accessible to everyone. Since day one we have striven to keep our operating costs to a bare minimum and pass on those savings to you, the hobby's best customers. As of 2021 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 2021 we have moved to a new 9,000sqft location in Independence Missouri that serves as both our retail location and our shipping facility. 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.

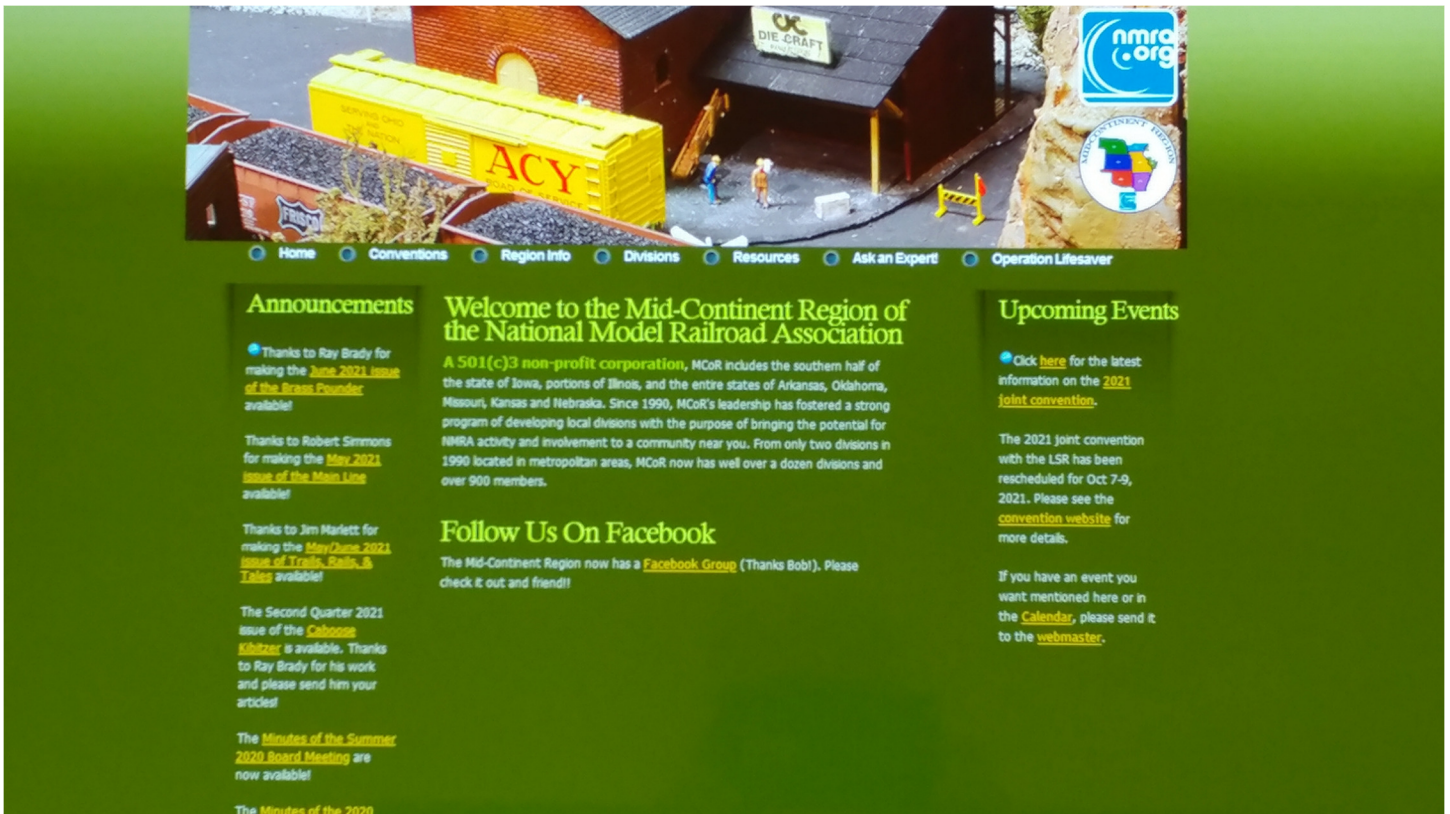
Alice, Braden, Brandyn, Darius, Don, Gary, Jon, Richard, Steve(1), and Steve(2)



Voting for the People's Choice Award now open

To vote, Go to: <https://midwestmodelrr.com/downndirty/>





Need to find out about something in the Mid-Continent Region... Go to the website for announcements, Region information, Division information, future events and more: <http://mcor-nmra.org/>



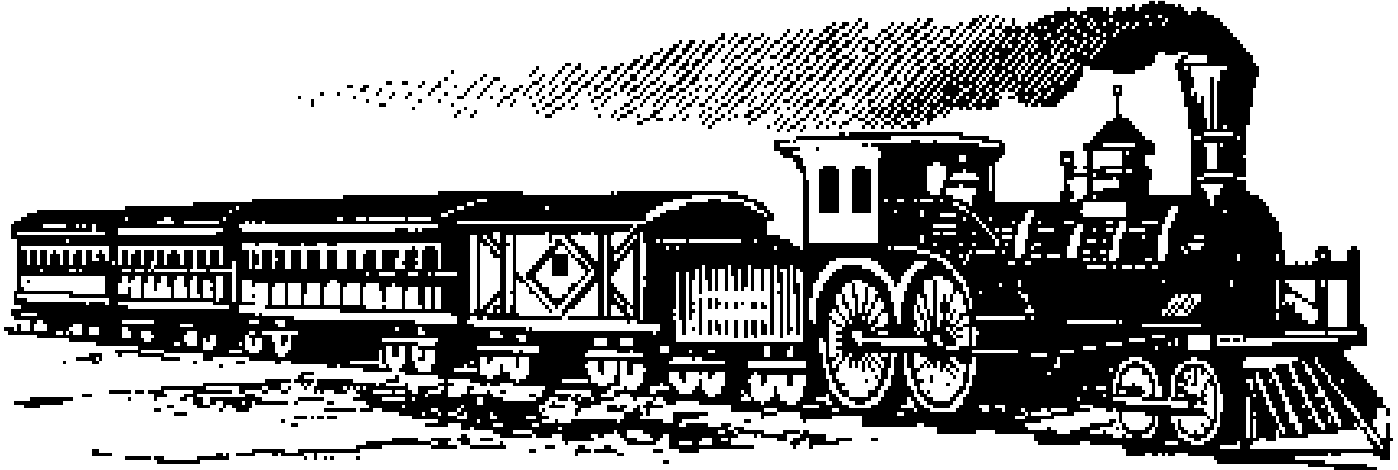
[The Santa Fe Railway Historical and Modeling Society](https://sfrhms.org/)

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

Visit their web page here: <https://sfrhms.org/>

DODGE CITY TRAIN SHOW 2021

BOOT HILL MODEL RAILROAD CLUB



Saturday, November 20th 10 am to 6 pm

Sunday, November 21st 11 am to 4 pm

WESTERN STATE BANK EXPO CENTER

11333 U.S. Highway 283

Dodge City, KS

Operating Layouts, Train Vendors

Admission: Adults \$6

Children 10 and under free with paid adult

MODEL TRAIN CONVENTION & EXPO

— FUNDRAISER —

JANUARY 8-9

SATURDAY 9-6 | SUN 10-3

McPherson Community Building | 122 E Marlin St

\$7 TICKETS / PERSON

\$5 STUDENT / SENIOR / FIRST RESPONDER

DOOR PRIZES EVERY HOUR

PRIZE FOR
BEST IN SHOW
FOR EXHIBIT AND VENDOR



PROCEEDS BENEFIT:

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and McPherson Area Boy Scouts

Date Book

October 2021

6 th – 10 th	Tulsa Union Convention (NMRA) Embassy Suites Hotel http://www.2021tulsaunion.com/	Tulsa, OK.
9 th Sat	Greater Tulsa Area Train Show http://www.ttos-soonerdiv.org/division-events.html	Bixby, OK.

November 2021

13 th & 14 th Sat & Sun	Train Expo Colorado (TECO) Train Show http://tecoshow.org/	Colorado Springs, CO.
20 th & 21 st Sat & Sun	Boot Hill Model Railroad Club Annual Train Show Western State Bank Expo Center	Dodge City, KS.

December 2021

4 th & 5 th Sat & Sun	OKC Train Show https://www.oklahomarailwaymuseum.org/events/okc-train-show/	Oklahoma City, OK.
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January 2022

8 th & 9 th Sat & Sun	McPherson Train Show McPherson Community Building https://www.mcphersoncountymakerspace.org/trains	McPherson, KS.
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On The Back Cover:

On September 13th, 1986, my love became my Wife and Life Partner. This year marks our 35th Wedding Anniversary.

The *Main Line*

Publisher & Editor: Robert A. Simmons

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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

Trainman55@hotmail.com or P.O. Box 157 – Dodge City, KS. 67801 or call (620) 521-3591

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