



The

Main Line

September 2022



National Model Railroad Association

Mid-Continent Region

The Monthly publication of the



Western Kansas Division



On the cover: The National Train Show in St. Louis, MO. is in the record books, more coverage inside.



Aug. 1, 2022- Press Release

Ron Rands and Jack, Reece, Caleb & Jon Dwiggins are pleased to announce the purchase of the assets, intellectual property, and inventory of Micro Engineering Inc. by Warbonnet Enterprises L.L.C. of Macon Mo.

The company will operate under the name of **Micro Engineering Company** and will continue to offer the complete line of Micro Engineering products. New products will be added to the company catalogue in the near future.

Jack Dwiggins, Operations Manager, said “We look forward to continuing to offer high quality, American Made, track and turnout products as well as bridge and building kits to our model railroad clients and business partners.”



Ron Rands said, “My Daughter Donna and myself could not be more pleased with the purchase by the Dwiggins family. In our dealings with Jon and his family over the last several months, it has become obvious they possess the energy and ability to continue Micro’s success. I know Micro Engineering customers will find them very friendly and easy to work with. My father, Bob Rands, would be delighted that the Dwiggins family is purchasing the company he started in 1964 and Donna and I are thrilled to see my father’s legacy continue. We would like to thank all of our customers and friends over the last 58 years for your business and friendship.” The company address, phone numbers and website will remain unchanged.

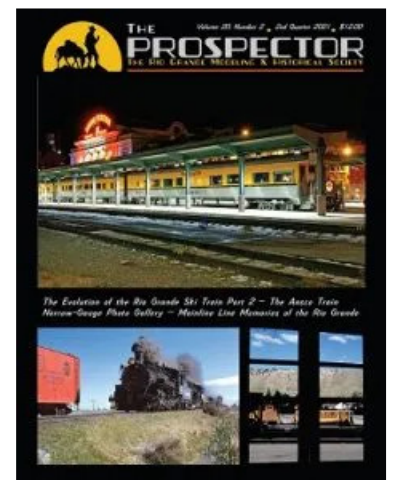
Micro Engineering Company - 1120 Eagle Road, Fenton, MO 63026 - Voice: 636-349-1112
Fax: 636-349-1180



The **Rio Grande Modeling & Historical Society** (RGM&HS) founded in 2001 is a Colorado non-profit corporation whose membership consists of diverse group of historians, collectors, railfans, photographers, modelers and railroad employees who have banded together to share one common interest, the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad and its predecessors. The fellowship created by this common interest and the opportunity for networking with members and others are the society's greatest assets. Activities to promote this fellowship are geared to serve the wide variety of interests of its members on almost every facet of the D&RGW as it served as the "Action Road"

All Members receive:

- One year (4 issue) subscription to *The Prospector*, the official magazine of the Society
- A subscription to the Society's e-mail newsletter, the Green Light.
- Members-only emails with advance notice of events, programs, and offers
- Special benefits and features in the Members-only section of the Society's website



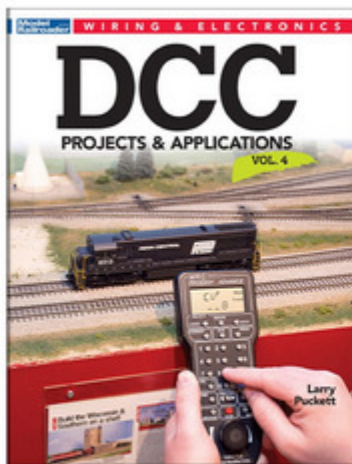
Click here to visit the website: rgmhs.org

For the Facebook page, click here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rgmhs.org>

Get Trains Rolling with DCC



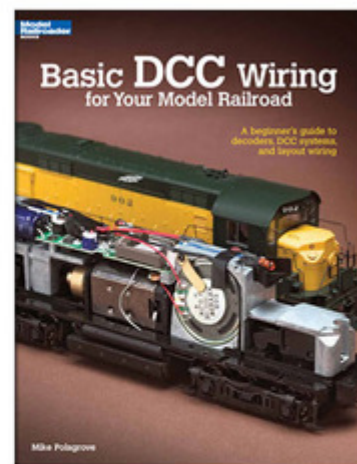
Get the most from your Digital Command Control system with the most up-to-date information and how-to projects on this popular subject.



**DCC Projects &
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**The DCC Guide
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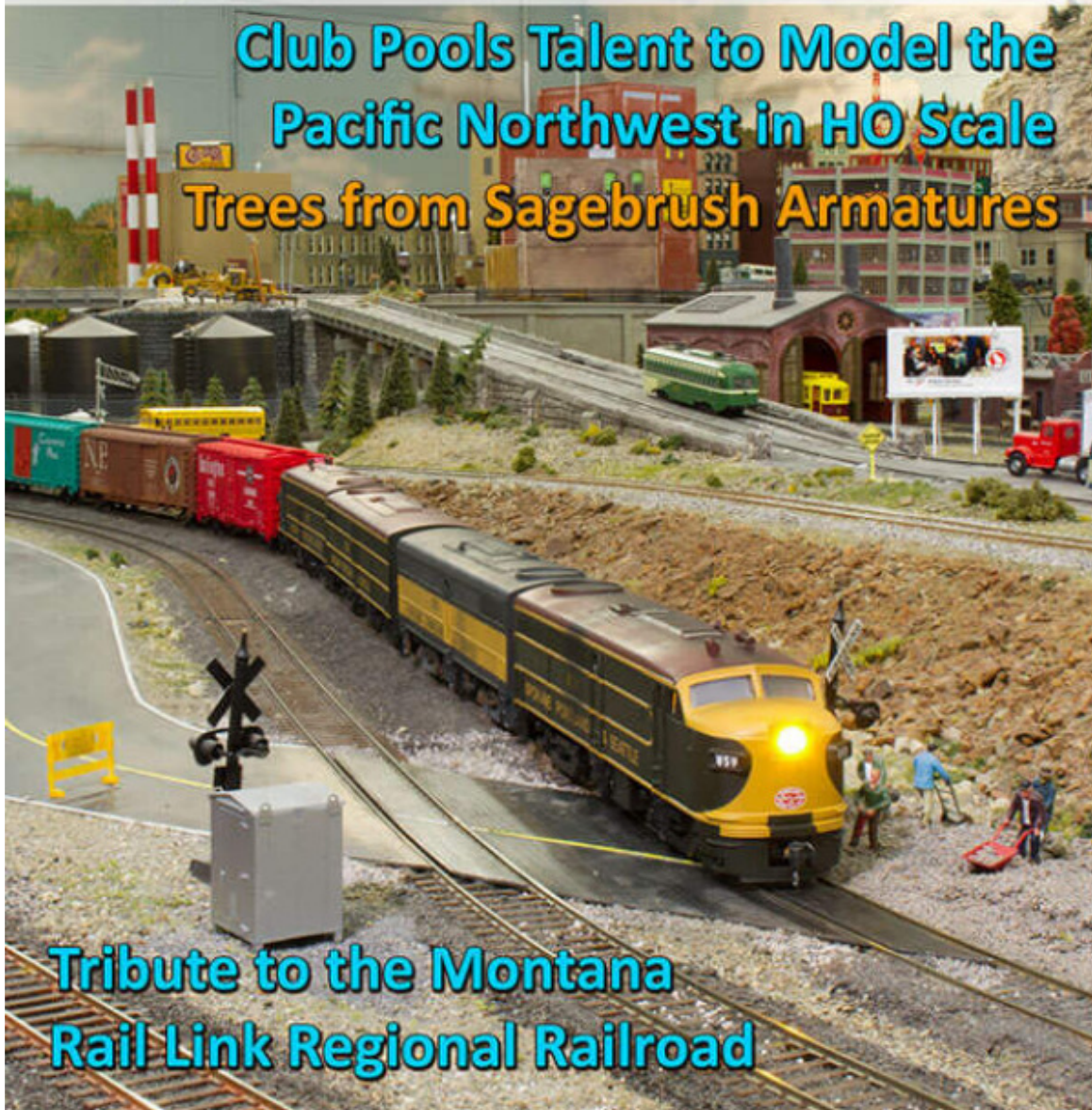


**Basic DCC Wiring for Your
Model Railroad**

Trackside Model Railroading™

Volume 10, Number 8

August 2022
Premium Edition



The August 2022 issue is now out!

What's inside this month:

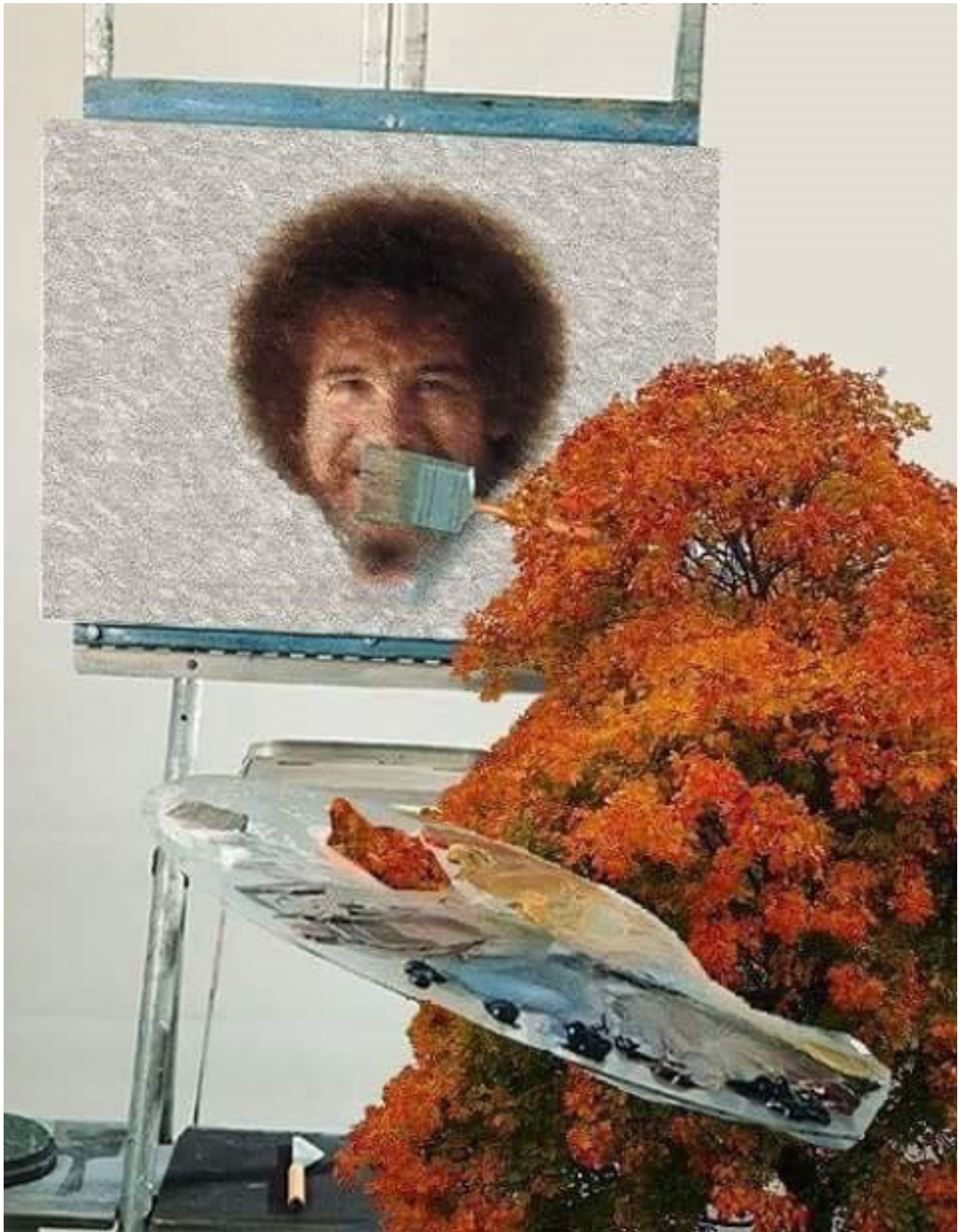
Evergreen Railroad Modelers' HO Scale Club Layout

Tribute to the Montana Rail Line

Trees from Sagebrush Armatures

Click here to log in and start reading: <https://www.tracksidemodelrailroading.com/>

...and in the center we start with a happy little artist





Robert Simmons
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ABOUT



The Western Kansas Division, NMRA has a **You**Tube page: www.youtube.com/

Your channel got 1,137 views in the last 28 days

Current subscribers

865

+5 in last 28 days



WKR Ops - Session 1 - Train 2
- Move 2 - July 31 2022

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQfyvZjlZ9A>



WKR Ops - Session 1 - Train 1
- Move 3 - August 4 2022

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1zHIE3Nj-GM>



WKR Ops - Session 1 - Train 2
- Move 3 - 8 21 22

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FCRCdSGKp4>



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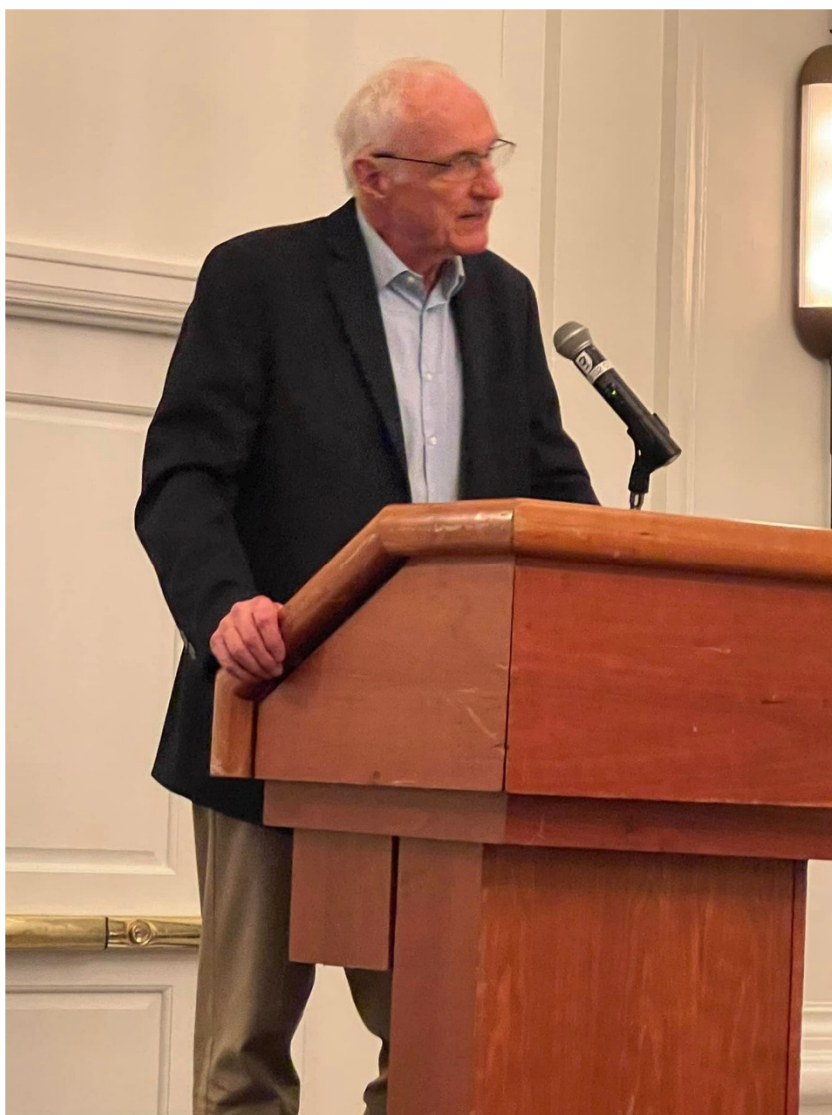
**Pre-Owned
Equipment**

Click the link to start shopping: www.nscalesupply.com



The Gateway Division hosted the 2022 NMRA National Convention in conjunction with the Mid-Continent Region Convention in St. Louis, Missouri

Due to circumstances, I was not able to attend, but here are some photos of the events...







August 2022 MRH!

The August MRH came out three weeks ago.



Click the link to start reading today: [Model Railroad Hobbyist - August 2022](#)

Want still more expert savvy articles?



Buy full downloadable eBook (7 articles, 94 pgs, all meat: no ads) for just \$2.99

WELCOME TO **NRail**TM

The purpose of NRail is to promote N Scale model railroading in all forms, all standards wherever N Scale is present. NRail has been the voice of N Scale model railroading for over 45 years. Starting as NTRAK, it created the first national modular standard, provided the vehicle for N Scale to grow to the second most popular scale in North America, was the birthplace of T-TRAK and today is the home of N Scale model railroading. We welcome all N scalers

**Support N Scale Model Railroading -
become a member today!**

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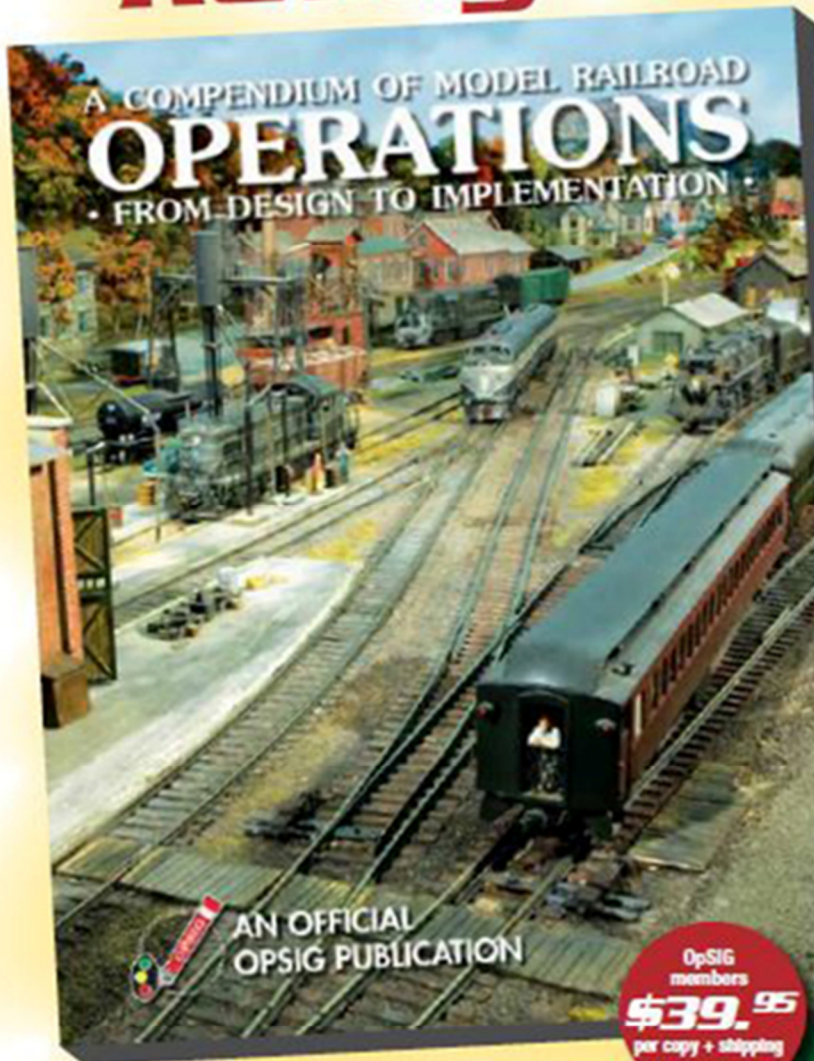
Membership in NRail includes:

- One year of the Newsletter (6 issues).
- Monthly ZoomTRAK live broadcasts.
- Support of the National N Scale layouts at major shows.
- Access to the Members Only section of NRail.org (including over 270 issues of the Newsletter).
- Discount on merchandise in the [NRail store](#).



Click here for the NRail website: <https://nrail.org/>

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



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. 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.

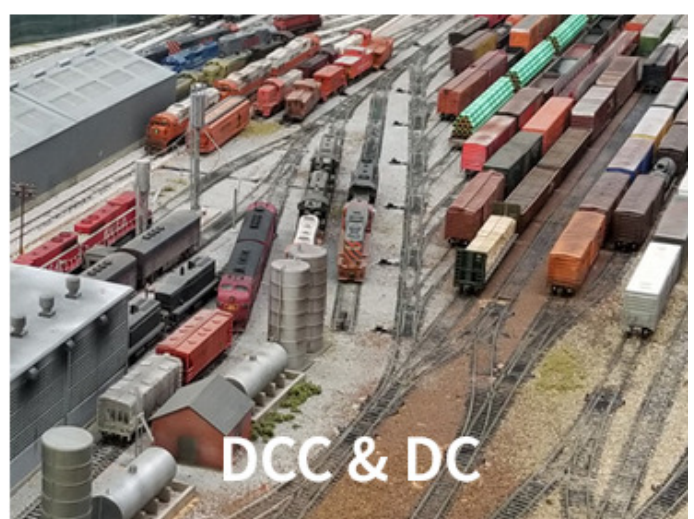
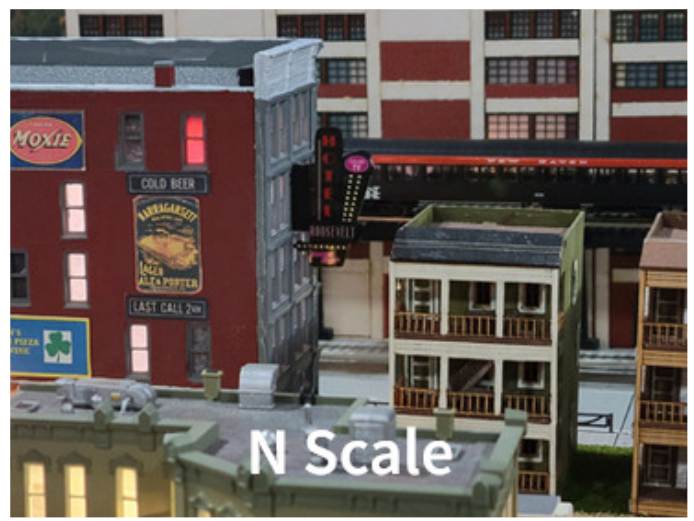
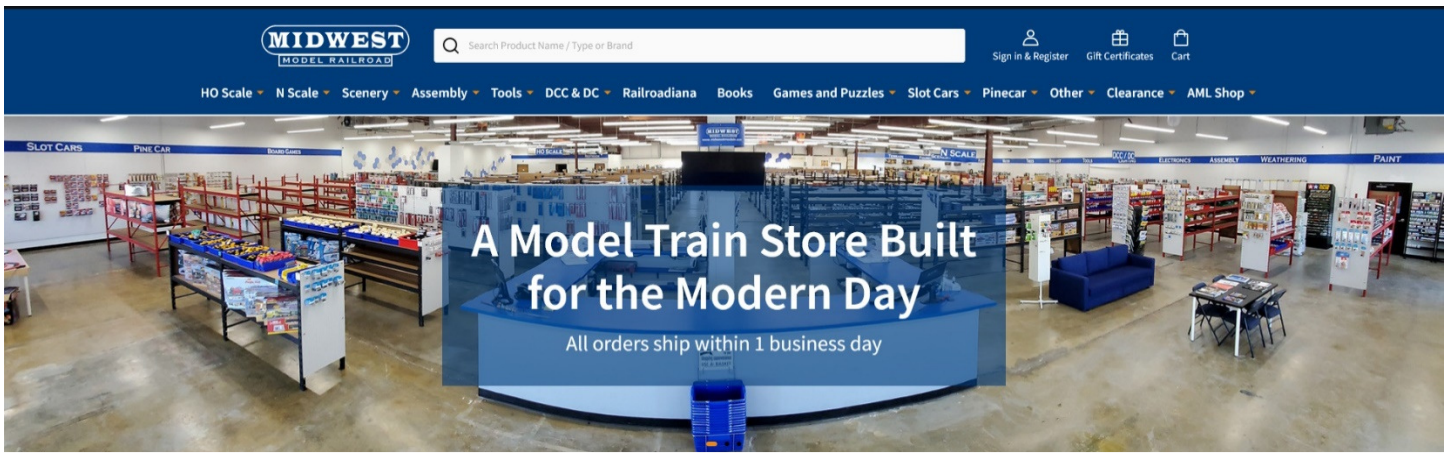
We are over 200 members, from all over the United States and several foreign countries. As with any organization, its true success is measured by its continued, sustained membership. And, to continue its endeavors, the Friends of the Burlington Northern Railroad need member participation and support. Membership dues run per calendar year (January through December). Please consider joining or renewing your [membership](#) in the Friends of the Burlington Northern Railroad.



Don't forget to order your 2023 FOBNR calendar

Click this link for the FOBNR website: fobnr.org/

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



Click this link for the Midwest website: <https://midwestmodelrr.com>

For the Midwest Facebook page, click this link: <https://www.facebook.com/MidwestmodelRailroad>

A Brief Stop In Adamsville



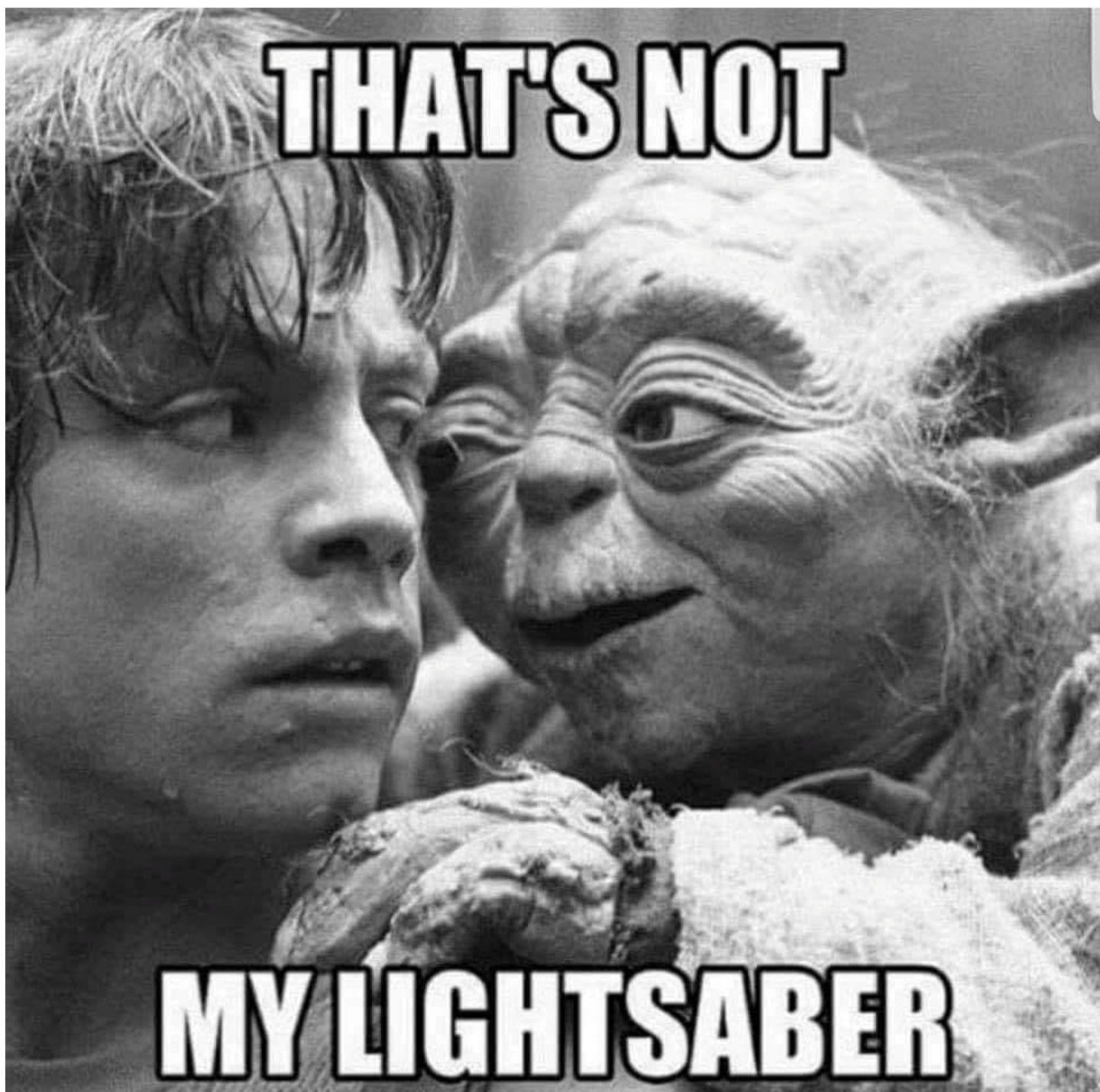
Jim Adams of Lakin, Kansas, a member of the Boot hill Model Railroad Club, is continuing the expansion of his HO-scale layout, “Adamsville”. Jim said that section 3 is pretty much complete and ready to connect to section 2 of the layout.

A Brief Stop In Adamsville

Jim sent two photos of his recent work, opposite views of the end of section 3. The additions to this section include: the High School, bus barn, grandstands viewing the football field/track, houses plus an equipment shed and fueling station.



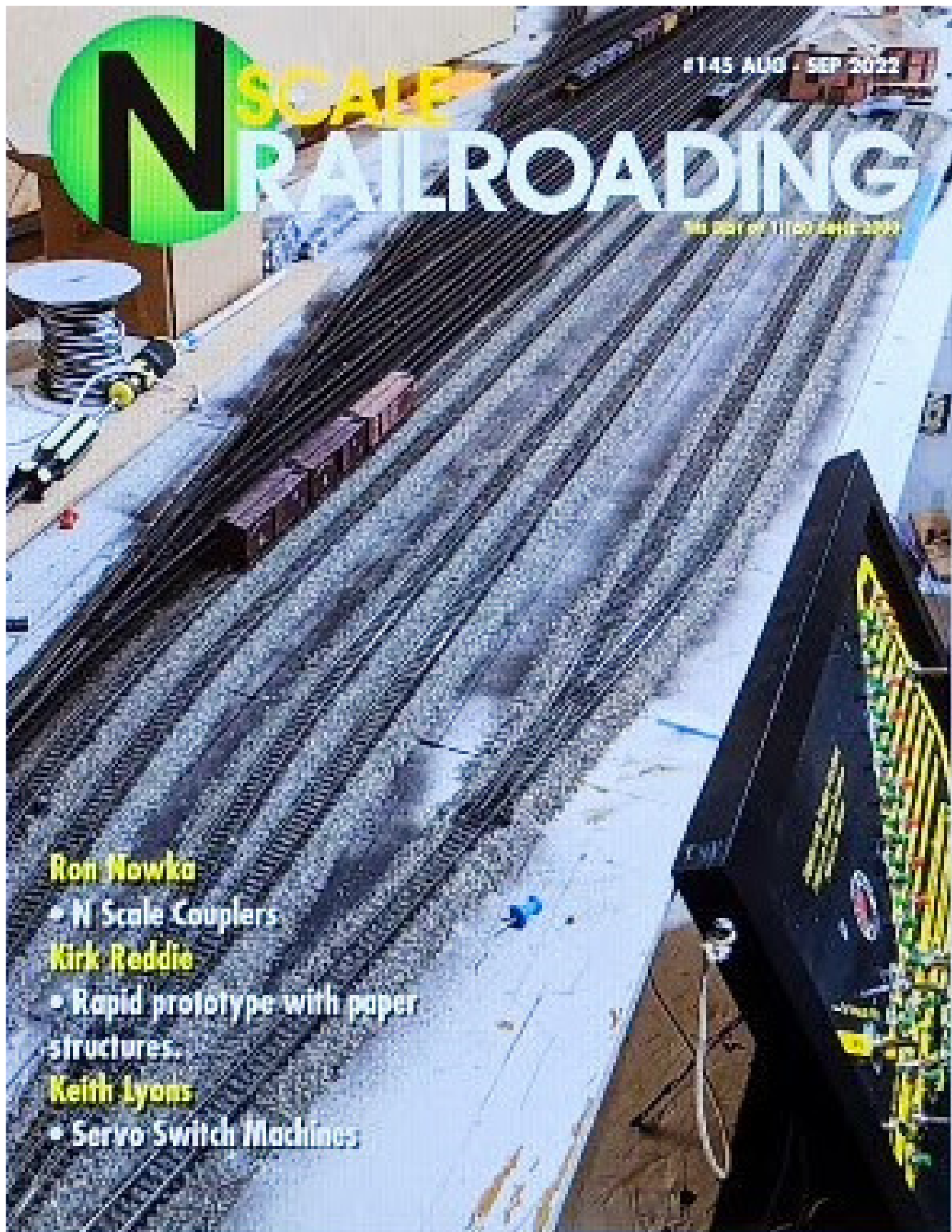
Jim's layout is always a favorite attraction at train shows, in fact, "Adamsville" was presented an award at the North Platte, Nebraska train show earlier this year. We look forward to further updates from Jim.



The Western Kansas
Division, NMRA also has a
MeWe page...

Click the link to check it out:
<https://mewe.com/>





Ron Nowka

- N Scale Couplers

Kirk Reddie

- Rapid prototype with paper structures.

Keith Lyons

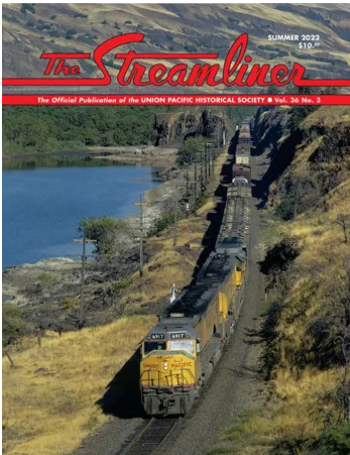
- Servo Switch Machines

Click here to start reading: nscalerrailroadingmagazine.com/



Welcome to 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.



Publications: 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.

We invite you to join the Union Pacific Historical Society! Join with Union Pacific enthusiasts from all over the world by submitting your one-year membership application.

- *Regular membership* (for those in the USA over 25 as well as all those abroad) entitles one to receive four issues of our highly acclaimed quarterly magazine, *The Streamliner*, as well as discounts on selected products in the Company Store.

Click this link for the UPHS website for more information: uphs.org/

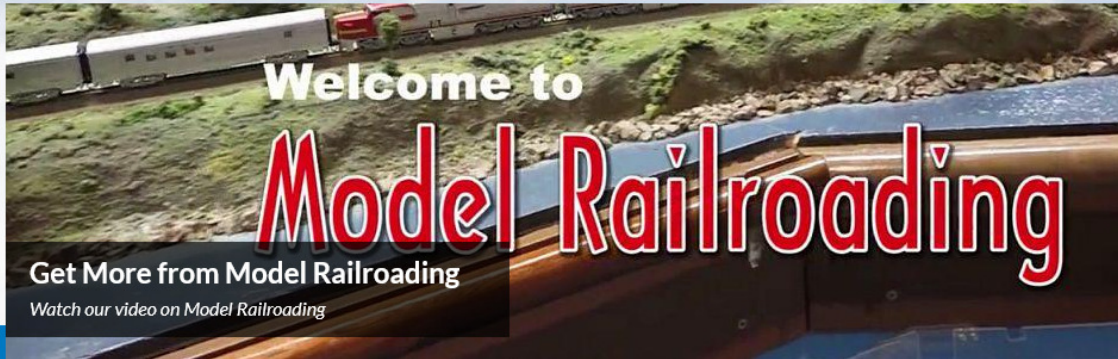
For the UPHS Facebook page, click this link: www.facebook.com/Union-Pacific-Historical-Society



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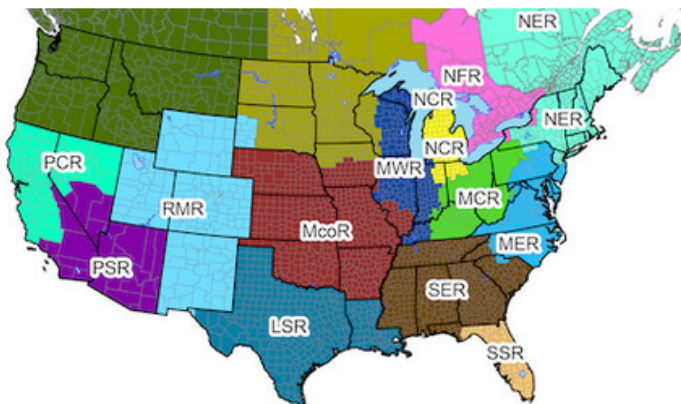
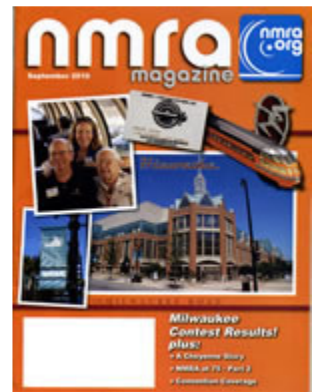
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Now's your chance! With a Rail Pass membership, you'll have access to one of the world's largest railroad libraries, get reduced rates on special layout or collection insurance, receive 9 issues of NMRA Magazine, and much more.



There are 18 NMRA Regions across the globe...

We are in the **MCoR** (Mid-Continent Region)

There are over 150 NMRA Divisions...

We are in the **Western Kansas Division** of MCoR

Click this link for the NMRA website: <https://www.nmra.org/member-services>

For the NMRA Facebook page, click this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/nmragroup>

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.

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

Click the link:
www.facebook.com/OperationsSIG



Operations SIG
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Send message



SEPTEMBER 2022: It's 1949 on James EuDaly's O scale Chesapeake & Ohio, with a full schedule of freight and passenger trains to move through busy Hinton, West Virginia. James explains his methods for moving so many trains over the road in a simulated overnight period on his detailed model railroad. Alan Mende kitbashes a Bachmann 2-8-0 into a Jersey Central "Camelback" switcher, while Will Lawrence converts a junk box freight car into a model of a rebuilt Canadian National boxcar. Lance Mindheim shares his thoughts on capturing the trackside perspective on your model railroad. Enjoy modeling tips and techniques, product news and reviews, and more in the September issue of Railroad Model Craftsman!

Click here to start reading today: rrmodelcraftsman.com/

Real Deal



Recently there has been a significant amount of new construction going on the East end of the BNSF Dodge City yard. (left) Next to the yard entrance is a large pile of new railroad ties.

(Below) A crane was spotted in the same area that day.



(Left) The same day there were a couple of flatbed trucks delivering panel track sections and switches.

I asked some MOW workers what was happening, and there are two new switches being installed on the East end. From my observations, it seems that BNSF has picked up two new industries to serve or are expanding operations to existing customers. One switch goes to the ADM milling plant on the North side, and the other is going to a tank farm on the South side. I will keep you updated...

(Right) On August 2nd I spotted a rare visitor working with the local switcher, BNSF 2101, still in BN colors



Real Deal



BNSF 2101 is a EMD GP38-2 and was constructed in November of 1974 as Burlington Northern 2101.

Since I had to get a picture of the left side, I chased it around the yard as they were actively switching. I finally got a picture by bottoming out my car and nearly getting stuck off road, but I kept a cool head and found another way out of the field, no damage done, but I got the shot...



An even better catch was made on September 5th (Labor Day) by Jim McKeel of a pair of Colorado Pacific locomotives in the Dodge City yard.



Jim McKeel Photo

Real Deal



Back on July 26th, I happened to catch some action in the BNSF Dodge City yard. Two crawler cranes were deployed to repair a grain hopper. From the distance (full zoom), I could not see what was being done, but I suspect they were changing out wheel sets or complete trucks on the RIP track.



Real Deal



Todd Skaggs Photo

On July 28th, Todd Skaggs wrote, “This week on Tuesday I drove up to the Moffat Tunnel northwest of Denver and was lucky enough to catch an eastbound BNSF freight on the way up. You'll notice the train has a UP leader. I attached pictures of the train descending from Tunnel One, then approaching Blue Mountain Crossing, and finally rounding Big Ten Curve.” Thank You Todd for the photos.



Todd Skaggs Photo



Todd Skaggs Photo



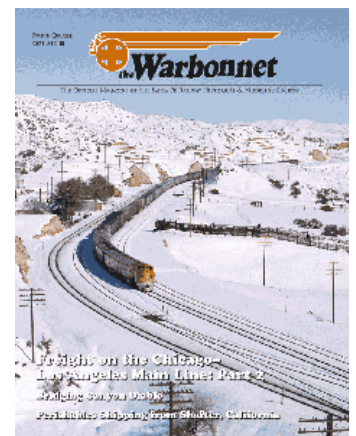
The **Santa Fe Railway Historical & Modeling Society** is an independent non-profit corporation devoted to preserving, studying, and sharing information about the former Santa Fe Railway, from its rich history and fascinating operations, to its distinctive equipment and facilities.

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.

Modeler's Resources

Modeler's resources available from the Society include model and product reviews, modeling articles, a series of painting and lettering guides for modelers, and a wide range of reference series books (freight, passenger) and photographs from archival collections.



Click this link for the Society website: <https://sfrhms.org/>

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



Announcements

- Thanks to Jim Marlett for making the [July/August 2022 issue of Trails, Rails, & Tales](#) available!
- Thanks to Robert Simmons for making the [July 2022 issue of the Main Line](#) available!

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

A 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, MCoR includes the southern half of the state of Iowa, portions of Illinois, and the entire states of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska. Since 1990, MCoR's leadership has fostered a strong program of developing local divisions with the purpose of bringing the potential for NMRA activity and involvement to a community near you. From only two divisions in 1990 located in metropolitan areas, MCoR now has well over a dozen divisions and over 900 members.

Upcoming Events

The 2022 General Membership Meeting will be held in Kirkwood, MO during the week of the national convention. Time and date will be updated here as more information becomes available.

Click here for the Mid-Continent Region website: <http://mcor-nmra.org/>



Added HO Intermountain Coal Hoppers and many HO Walther's Mainline cars to in stock pages.

Shop Now



Pelle is in the house...



Pelle Keld Sjøborg

3h · 🌐

I spent most of monday in the car. Drove from the outskirts of Chicago to Fairbury, Nebraska where I spent the night. This morning I met with Deb and Dave in Deshler. Now that I had driven such a long way I did a little shopping now I was there - but just a little. Dave wanted to hire me now Sharon had left but I had to turn him down. I pick up the grandkids from school and kindergarten mondays and tuesdays and it would involve a little too much driving and flying as they live in Copenhagen, Denmark. I have just checked in at the Super8 in Columbus, Nebraska. I spotted a steakhouse down the road. A steak would not be bad and maybe I can even get a glass of wine 🍷

Welcome to Spring Creek Model Trains

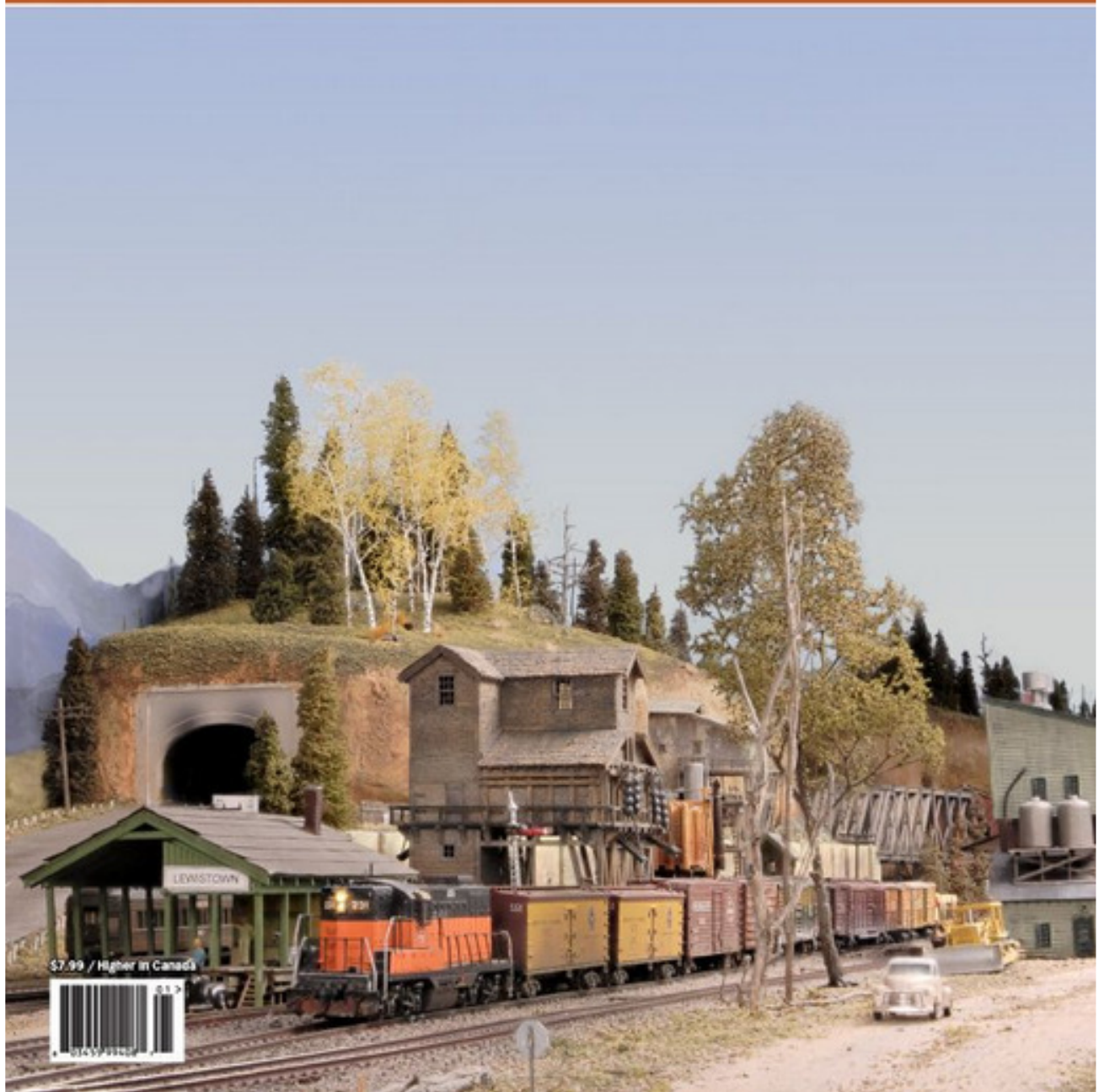
Whether you are one of our “show” regulars or a first-time visitor, we gladly invite you to come on in and browse around. You can follow us on Facebook by joining our page. We use Facebook and our newsletter to let you know when we have new announcements on the web site and any changes in our show schedule.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

Click here for the Spring Creek website: <https://www.springcreekmodeltrains.com/>

The Spring Creek Facebook page can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/springcreekmodeltrains>

N-Scale

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2022



Click the link to start reading: <http://www.nscalemagazine.com/>

WKR Update



The scenery crew of the WKR turned their attention to section 7, the Pride Ag Co-Op elevator. (Above) This is a photo of the prototype located in Dodge City, Kansas, notice the logo and placement.

(Right) The crew was able to download the Pride Ag logo and size it, then place it on the model.



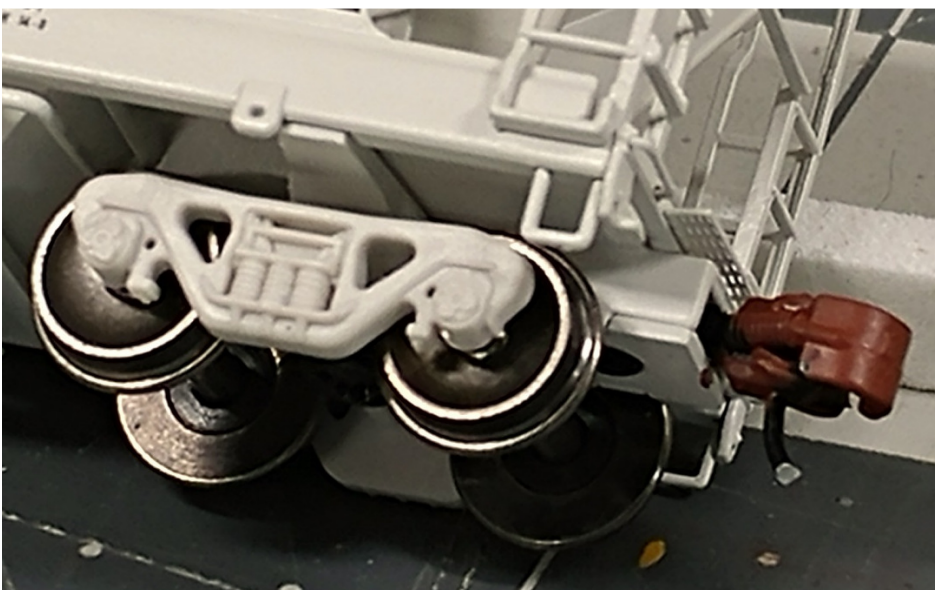
(Left) One of the attempts at properly sizing the logo came out just a bit small, but instead of wasting it, it was decided to apply it to the other side (which isn't correct) since the model can be viewed from either side.

WKR Update

The purchasing office of the WKR acquired five of the new Athearn 2-bay hopper cars to supplement the cement car fleet. (Right) The new cars have arrived on the property.

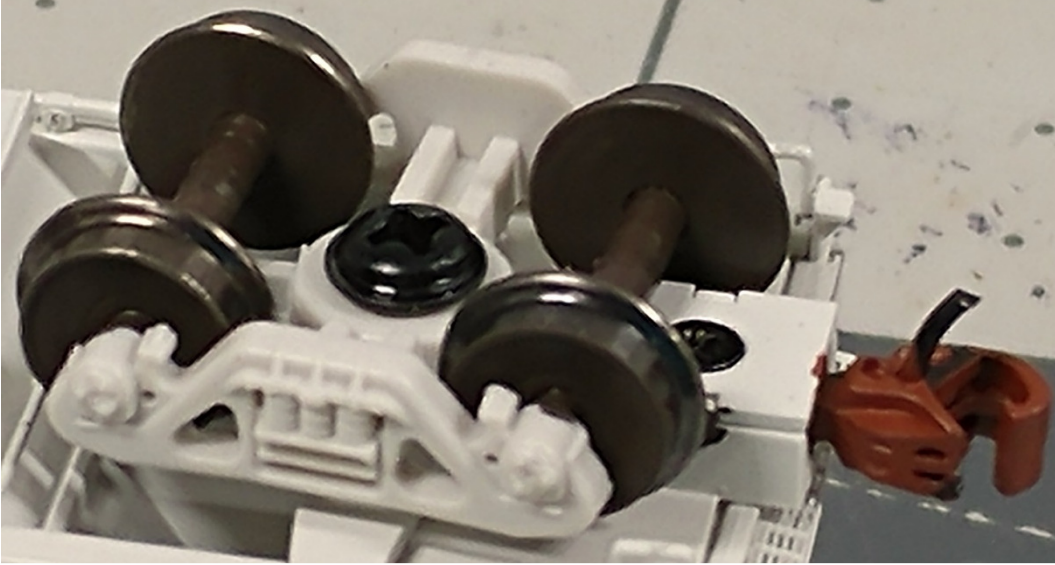


(Below) The as delivered appearance on the car shop work bench except the coupler trip pins have already been trimmed.



(Left) The first modification by the car shop was to paint the coupler “rust” color and trim the trip pins.

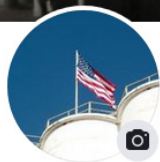
WKR Update



(Left) All the wheel sets had the wheel faces, backs, and axles painted a “Dark Rust” color.

(Both Below) The finished cars on the concrete plant siding, ready for revenue service.





Western Kansas Division

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Click the link to check out the Western Kansas Division Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/Western-Kansas-Division>



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.

Annual Convention

(Information updated 8-30-2022)

The 2022 convention will be held in Palestine, TX on October 6-9.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Planning has begun for the 2023 convention. It will be held in Wichita, KS.

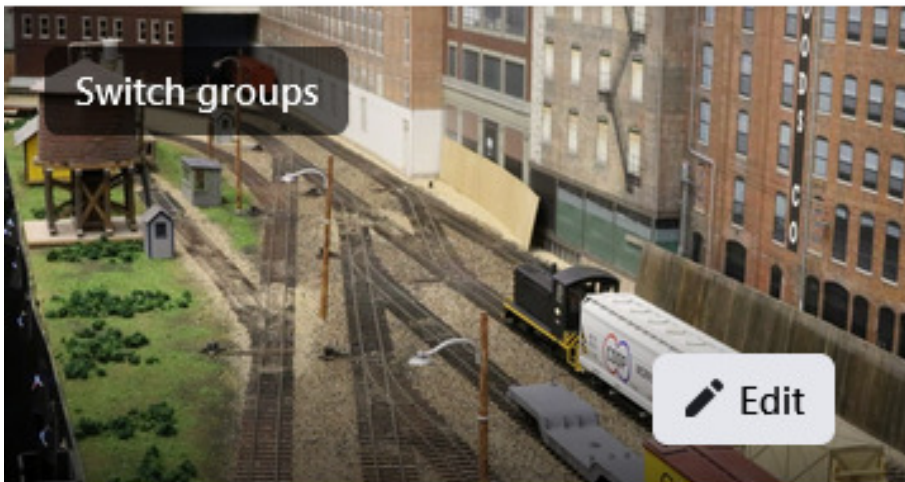
The 2024 convention is tentatively scheduled to be held in Pueblo, CO with the RGHS.

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

To check out the MPHS Facebook page, click this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups>



Search Facebook



Mid-Continent Region, NMRA

Public group · 435 members



About

Covering all the activities of the Members and Divisions within the Mid-Continent Region specifically and the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) in general

The Mid-Continent Region of the NMRA has a Facebook page which covers Region and Division activities, certificate awards in the Achievement Program, photos and videos of member layouts, videos of operating sessions, and any Train Shows in the Region.

Click this link to check it out: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>

Date Book

September 2022

17th & 18th
Sat & Sun

TECO (Train Expo Colorado) Train Show
<https://tecoshow.org/>

Colorado Springs, CO.

October 2022

1st & 2nd
Sat & Sun

Wichita Toy train Club Train Show
<http://www.wichitatomytrainmuseum.org/club-shows-1.html>

Wichita, KS.

November 2022

5th & 6th
Sat & Sun

New Dates

Oklahoma City Train Show
Oklahoma State Fairgrounds www.oklahomarailwaymuseum.org

Oklahoma City, OK

NO Dodge City Show

December 2022

3rd & 4th
Sat & Sun

Great Train Show
Overland Park Convention Center trainshow.com

Overland Park, MO.



(Left) The original Driveway



(Right) I installed 10 railroad ties to give a border to the front lawn.



This is the new look and the reason why the Main Line is late this month. It took a week to get them all in and next week, I start on the other side...

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

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