

# Caboose

# Kibitzer



VOLUME 67, ISSUE 1

1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2017

JANUARY • FEBRUARY • MARCH

**The Official Newsletter of the Mid-Continent Region of the NMRA**

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**Submissions**

The Caboose Kibitzer welcomes articles, photographs, and other model railroad or railroad-related contributions. Contact the editor for more information.

**Advertising**

All advertising inquiries should be directed to the Advertising Manager.

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**Membership**

Any NMRA Member that resides within the Mid-Continent Region is a member.  
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VOLUME 67, ISSUE 1  
1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2017

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### Front Cover

Taken in Wichita, KS on a ("dark and stormy") lunchtime at the "North Yard" approximately 26<sup>th</sup> & Broadway on April 13, 2016, by Dr. Alan A. Aagaard. Please refer to the story on page 16. (BN 12404)



### Back Cover

Taken in Wichita, KS farther north approximately 45<sup>th</sup> and Hydraulic on November 15, 2017.

# HEAD END

## NOTES FROM PRESIDENT HANK KRAICHELY

Well, we are in the middle of prime Model Railroading season. What are you doing on your layout or kits you have been planning to complete? I have finally gotten back in the basement to work on completing scenery in an aisle which means that Union Electric will have a finished wall to conceal a large sewer pipe.

I have several operating sessions planned for January which will be enhanced by the addition of the new scenery. I now have moved my old PC to the basement and purchased the interface required to communicate with my DCC system. The first application I plan to use is Decoder Pro™ to program my many locomotives. Then I will begin using the program to speed match locomotives that are MUed to eliminate fighting when each unit responds to a speed command differently. Finally, an additional benefit, will be a permanent record of the programmed features for a specific loco and the ability to copy this programming to another unit. If you have ever used a throttle to do this programming, you can appreciate the features of this program.

Now I would like to discuss a topic on the mindset of many model railroaders today, the future of model railroading. The President of the NMRA has addressed this concern many times during this past year. What is the problem? How can we address the problem when it seems everyone is living on the internet and texting on their smart phones? We are hearing that parents are placing limitations on their children usage they are starting to see the isolation resulting from this addiction. What began as a simple form of entertainment and learning becomes an addiction consuming all the child's study and free time. This is an opening that we should use to begin the process of rebuilding

interest in model railroading for these parents and their kids.

First, parents will respond to the message that model railroading is a hobby that can be shared with children. Have you ever met a parent with adult children who didn't say they wished they had spent more time with their children? Not just hours watching TV or sitting in the stands at their game, but real quality time doing something together!

Have we forgotten all the skills needed to build a small model railroad? There is planning and design of the layout. Then, building the railroad using carpentry, electrical wiring, and track laying knowledge. What about scenery? Everyone likes mountains. How do we build them? We might use screen wire fastened to wood uprights, newspaper, or cardboard strips. Now how do we cover the piles of newspaper, the screen wire and cardboard? Well we can dip some of the newspaper, paper towels or pieces of cloth in very thin plaster (What a mess). Then we need to paint the white plaster, but with what? We could use leftover latex wall paint, maybe cans of spray paint or some dry paint powders mixed with water.

Now we have bare mountains painted gray or maybe light tan. What our mountain needs are some trees, rocks, and a stream. There is gravel by the road, some limbs off bushes and after we spray the water proofing we saw on TV, we can use water from the tap to fill the stream. (All these old methods have long since been replaced with better methods and products.)



Hank Kraichely  
President  
Mid-Continent Region  
of NMRA

Can you remember when you were the child and you, and maybe your Dad, may have used some of these approaches but the result was not the scene you had dreamed about. What would happen next? That little boy and Dad were disappointed, and Dad very frustrated takes the unfinished layout and puts it against the wall to gather dust and is forgotten. Another barrier thrown up by a parent was cost. Has model railroading gotten more expensive? Yes, we now have freight cars for over \$50.00, \$100.00 for a passenger car and locomotives ranging from \$140.00 to \$300 and up. Again, we are talking with a parent/grandparent with no experience who's only exposure is to retail pricing (I certainly am not saying to avoid Hobby Shops) but if the person has a financial concern alternatives might be the only hope to get him or her started.

What is missing is experience/knowledge which would have helped avoid the frustration and disappointment. Is this the answer to the problem that few new people are entering the hobby? Yes, one of the reasons, give the parents some hands-on training using materials that will yield a layout that works. We can also address their concerns about the cost of getting started in this hobby. Our Divisions all have skilled people with the knowledge to train parents on the basics. They are also well versed in swap meets and shows.

Another potential saving is buying materials in bulk. In the St. Louis area, there are several small independent dealers selling lumber, brick, stone, drywall and supplies. If a father is starting out he might go to a hobby shop or

a big craft store and buy a 1/2 gallon of a specialty plaster product for about \$10.00 to \$12.00. In his mind, he now has enough for several mountains with plaster left over. We all know he will make several more runs to that store purchasing additional cartons. He now begins to think this is a very expensive hobby maybe he should have purchased a role of grass paper and just covered the plywood or the old door.

If he only knew about the building supply, he could have purchased a 50 pound bag for the price of two of those cartons!



How can we make this work? We can't build a layout while parents are standing around watching us perform all the tasks. What about time, an event requiring men or women to spend more than 3-4 hours will reduce the number of parents attending. Easy, just use an approach that used by Whit Johnson and other Boy Scout Leaders to train 800-1,000 boys on the elements of railroading so that they can qualify for the railroad merit badge.

Your Division can obtain a room large enough to accommodate the parents, the model railroaders/trainers, tables, and the materials required to demonstrate an approach to making an element of the layout. The parents simple go from one table to the next see how the trainer performs the task and walk away with an instruction sheet.

How about the cost of the materials used in the



demonstrations? Is possible to find hobby dealers, distributors and manufactures who might provide some product or allow you to purchase products at a discount? Yes, there are and being a NMRA Division will help open doors. Remember, they are also concerned about the future, a Division planning to demonstrate their products opens the door to potential new buyers for their products.

What about the impact of this effort on the Division budget? We have discussed several possibilities for discounted purchase, but you can also ask your members and their friends if they have surplus or supplies no longer needed? They can donate to the Division? Ask the members attending swap meets to look for deals on supplies, tools, and track (used track is offered at bargain prices). If you are a 501-c3 organization, then donations to the Division can qualify as Federal tax deductions.

Where do you find parents with children interested in trains who might build something with their son or daughter? I am a volunteer at the Museum of Transportation in St. Louis. During the prime train time, November through December, there are three large layouts for the families to see. There is a O-gauge 3-rail layout, an S-gauge layout used for many years in a department store's corner window in downtown St. Louis. The largest layout is one with G-scale trains on the lowest and second level, and the top has both 3-rail O-scale and additional G-scale trains.

I wish you could see the happy faces on the kids, their parents, and grandparents. The trains are a magnet drawing kids to the layouts. The adults with them have some interest in the train but mostly in a child whose imagination is working overtime putting trains in their bedroom or under the tree.

I talked with many of the kids and parents about building a small layout and the response was, who me? Then the idea hit me. Why let these future model railroaders walk away disappointed?

Why not have the Division make up fliers offering training on a Saturday morning. The flier can have a few color photos showing some of the training stations with completed samples. Include the date, time, and location with an eMail address for them to send a note with their name and the number of adults they are bringing. Take them to swap meets, train shows, and open houses, these are good hunting grounds for members and potential parent child looking for a activity they can share.

Why not make some of the stations make and take. Making trees is an excellent choice for a make-n-take. Not only has this person learned how to make a tree but he is now taking that creation home. In addition to commercial products demonstrate using outdoor plants like sedum, no investment required.

Your Division may have a member whose church may have a room that can support the training effort, possibility a school or maybe a library. The only equipment required are some 30" X 72" or 96" tables. Also, plastic drop cloths to cover the tables and floor plus the construction materials required. (Explain your plans to protect their property and clean up prior to leaving.)

Your Division has two chances to change the course of history: **first** recruit a child and parent and help them to get a small layout going, also keep the parent there. Why, there is a possibility of a Father or Grandfather becoming a Division member and possibility a model railroader.

Do you have suggestions to enhance this concept, what but a completely different approach? Guys, we are all after the same thing, there isn't one idea or approach, ask your Division members to offer some new approach to grown our great hobby!

*Hank Kraichely  
President  
Mid-Continent Region of NMRA*

# NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This issue brings a very subtle change..that of the “Table of Contents” now being “Hyper-Linked” throughout this document - but it’s “invisible” (trust me, it works). PLUS, the added bonus of the active box at the bottom of most pages which will return you to the “Table Of Contents” with a mere click of your mouse. (...see, “this old dog is still able to learn new tricks”...LOL)

Yes, that was a reminder and won't be repeated again. But, speaking of teaching an “old dog new tricks” Well, this issue I learned how to create “QR codes” like this one:



...and speaking of “old dogs” I'm hoping you will enjoy learning about “Owney, Mascot of the Railway Mail Service” beginning on page 7.

So, what will you submit for future inclusions into the Caboose Kibitzer?

Please submit your article in electronic form and place a statement in parentheses like this:

*(place photo #xx here)*

and be sure to submit your photos in a resolution of 600dpi or as high as you possibly can as separate attachments.

Deadlines are stated on page 2 in the tinted box on the left.

So keep your eyes focused as “we” continue to alter the “Look and Feel” of our “Caboose Kibitzer” each and every issue change is occurring (in a quest to bring you the best publication possible.



ALAN A. AAGAARD  
*Editor*  
of both the  
“Caboose Kibitzer”  
and  
“Trails, Rails, & Tails”  
of the  
Chisholm Trail Division  
of NMRA

Humor: I have made a couple of attempts at bringing some levity to an actual Learning Experiences. Let me know your opinion?

This month I'm attempting to start a “new feature/column”, that of Reviewing Products within our hobby.

## PRODUCT REVIEW

Any company wishing to submit products for review may do so by providing samples to be discussed to the address below. Submitted products will not be returned.

Please send products to:

**Dr. Alan A. Aagaard**  
Post Office Box #8339  
Munger Station  
Wichita, KS. 67208-8339



# Owney, Mascot of the Railway Mail Service



(ed: While driving home I was listening to the evening news on my Local “NPR” station when this short story was broadcast. I was intrigued and went to “Google” only to discover photos and more. So, in my best efforts to avoid copyright issues I am providing you with just a small (hopefully, enticing) portion of what I discovered...plus the URL (hyperLinked, of course) at the end of this brief beginning.)

photo (left) of Owney and an unidentified Albany, New York, letter carrier. Owney and an unidentified Albany, New York, letter carrier.

[All About Owney »](#)

[Video: The Story of Owney »](#)

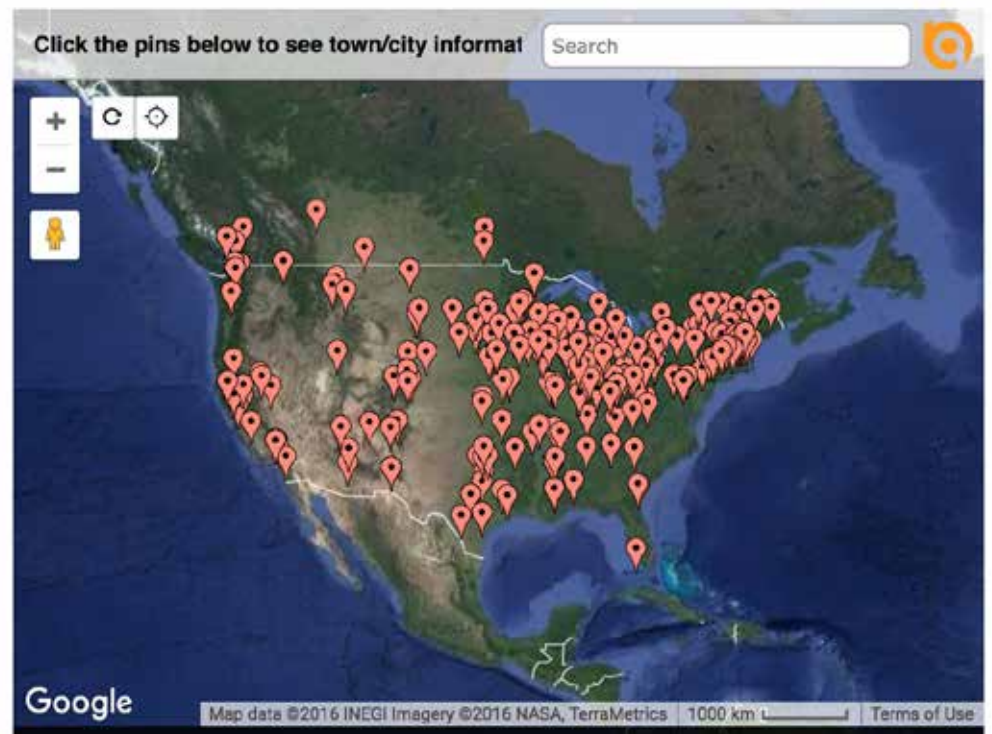
Owney, posed here with a letter carrier, was a scruffy mutt who became a regular fixture at the Albany, New York, post office in 1888. His owner was likely a postal clerk who let the dog walk him to work. Owney was attracted to the texture or scent of the mailbags and when his master moved away, Owney stayed with his new mail clerk friends. He soon began to follow mailbags. At first,

he followed them onto mail wagons and then onto mail trains. Owney began to ride with the bags on Railway Post Office (RPO) train cars across the state . . . and then the country! In 1895 Owney made an around-the-world trip, traveling with mailbags on trains and steamships to Asia and across Europe, before returning to Albany.

<https://postalmuseum.si.edu/exhibits/current/moving-the-mail/mail-by-rail/owney-mascot-of-the-railway-mail-service/index.html>

So, please, click on the link above to continue with the rest of this most fascinating story of “Owney” and his world-wide, YES, WORLD-wide journeys.

## Owney's Travels in the USA and Canada



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**Caboose Kibitzer**  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017

# Becoming a Master Model Railroader (MMR)

David Heinsohn (not an MMR)

...part 1 in a series...

The last couple of months at our Lunch Bunch meetings, and at the Division meeting there have been questions about what's involved in becoming an MMR. My intention is to review the requirements and process.

First, a bit about me. As the byline says I'm not an MMR. I've managed to earn two of the Achievement Program Certificates and the Golden Spike. I'm currently



working on three more certificates.



I'm also new to model railroading. In fact, many of you have been involved in the hobby for more decades than the years I've been involved.

As a new modeler, I found the NMRA as a result of searching for information on standards. That led me to learn there was something called "Master Model Railroader". That sounded really impressive! But, as I looked at the requirements and the steps to meet those requirements I realized, first, that the steps were not that huge, and, second, that the requirements for MMR provided a pretty good list of skills I'd need to learn to build a reasonable pike of my own.

All that said, let's get to the meat of this process. Speaking of meat, like eating an elephant, or a cow for that matter,

MMR is earned one bite at a time. Further, it's offered in four courses with several menu items available for each course of your model railroading meal. You get to choose the order in which you "eat" the courses and which

menu items you want within each course.

Each serving is then eaten one bite at a time.

And, for those of you who've been enjoying the hobby for decades, you've already eaten many of the bites needed

in the various courses. You don't have to go back and do it all over again! Let's take

a look at this banquet to see what's actually

on the menu. The NMRA doesn't

call things courses nor menu items, they refer to

the courses as "Categories"

and the menu items as "Achievement Program (AP) Certificates".

As I've said, there are four courses or categories. You must sample at least one

item from each category. The four categories are:

1. Model Railroad Equipment,
2. Settings,
3. Engineering and Operation, and
4. Service to the Hobby. If all you've ever

built is a small shelf layout, you've still probably done some of the steps within "Settings" and "Engineering" Categories.

There are a total of eleven menu items, APs, to choose from. You must complete only seven of them to complete the MMR, one from each category plus three more of your choosing. Each AP is bro-



ken down into bites, steps. In many cases you don't need to complete each step, only several items from a list of items for that step. You get to pick which of the ones you complete as long as you complete enough of them. Kind of like when Mom said you had to eat at least three bites of your veggies before you could leave the table. If you'd like to take a look at the menu, list of categories and certificates, here's a link:

<http://www.nmra.org/categories>.

We don't have to stumble around this MMR banquet on our own either. There are folks out there to help us. Let's consider our region, Mid-Cor to be one dining room in the larger national banquet hall. We have a dining room steward who keeps track of all the MMR activity going on in this one dining room. This person is our Region AP Coordinator. Currently our MMR dining room steward is Bradley Morneau, MMR. Brad can be reached via eMail at: [apchair@mcornmra.org](mailto:apchair@mcornmra.org). This is a permanent address for the regional coordinator. So it does not change when the coordinator changes. For most of us Brad should not be our first stop though. Our dining table, Division, probably has it's own server whose only job is to take care of AP questions at our table. This server is usually an MMR from within our Division. Check your Division newsletter or website to find out who your AP Coordinator is. If your Division doesn't have an MMR or AP Coordinator assigned, Brad will take care of your questions. *[Remember all of our Region and Division staff are volunteers with other things going on in their lives. Be patient with turnaround times.]*

An additional resource for questions is available. If you use Facebook™, there is a group, NMRA Achievement Program available. Knowledgeable folks, right up to the National AP Coordinator, are available to answer questions. And, when you earn that certificate, whether your first or eleventh, there's lots of folks to congratulate you on your success. It's not a super active group and stays on topic, so, consider adding it to your Facebook™ groups.

On the NMRA page linked via categories above, each certificate is listed with a link to its requirements. I encourage you to take a look at those that interest you. As you look them over, always remember that you only have to do the things listed and not one bit more. Don't think things are harder than they really are.

If you'd like to read more about any particular certificate, the following is a list of articles about each one:

<http://www.nmra.org/masters-articles-updated-2009>.

Each of these articles was written by one or more MMRs about one certificate.

One frequent comment and question is about paperwork, frequently something like, "I hate paperwork!" Hot tip, your AP staff doesn't much like it either. The paperwork required is only that needed to document that you've completed the requirements. Much of it can be completed and submitted electronically if you prefer that method. Again, don't make it harder than it needs to be. If you have a question about paperwork, ask your Division AP Coordinator, or Brad about what's needed.

Another question is about getting things judged, "I can't bring my layout to the train show to be judged!" Your Division AP Coordinator can come to your layout to check on those things that need to be checked on. No Division AP Coordinator? I know Brad has come to Wichita for a train show, then looked over several layouts while there or on the way home. It might not be Brad, but he can coordinate someone qualified to look over your layout when you're ready.

Speaking of judging, you don't have to have anything judged. Several of the APs require that your work be evaluated and achieve a minimum score. But, nothing has to be judged at a contest. You don't have to take best of show. You never even have to enter a

contest. But, you can enter an NMRA sanctioned contest, if you'd like; and your score will count as an evaluation toward the AP. Or, you can take your work to a contest and have it evaluated only, not actually entered into the contest. Your work does not need to be perfect! The qualifying score is 87.5 points. This is 87.5 points out of 125 points, not percent. It turns out that's only a 70%, a grade of a C. Unlike what you may have thought about your English teacher's grading, in this case you even get

to know the grading criteria before you submit your work.

Next issue I'll take a look at the requirements for the Certificates within a category. In the meantime, happy modeling! Now where did I put my fork? I need to take another bite of this Electrical Engineer AP.



DAVID HEINSOHN  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
Kansas Central Division  
of the  
NMRA



*In future installments of this series from David, there will be an attempt by the four of us (David plus our three "editors") to draw a parallel to the written article with "actual" examples from those striving to achieve the various awards referred to throughout this first installment. So be sure to follow along (and also I am encouraging you to submit your articles on your road toward further*

# **"ACHIEVEMENT"**

# A SCRATCH-BUILT FLAT CAR

by Craig Drenkow

**A**s part of the AP Program, you need to build Cars. The NMRA web site defines cars as “A “Car” is just about anything that runs on rails and is **NOT** self-propelled (if it’s self-propelled, it’s Motive Power). This includes freight cars, passenger cars, maintenance of way (MOW) cars (including equipment such as cranes), cabooses, cable cars, unpowered (dummy) locomotives, etc.” My first attempt at a scratch built car was a Thrall Gondola. It works, but it probably would not score enough points for a merit award.

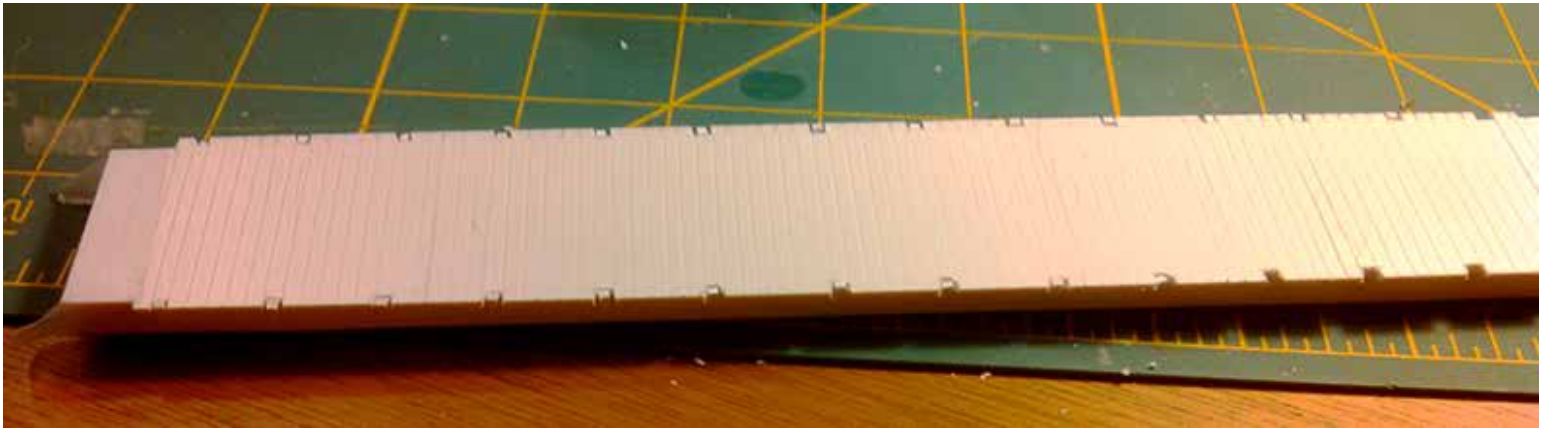


CRAIG DRENKOW  
Director,  
Cowboy Line  
Division  
Norfolk, NE

I looked to my “fleet” for an idea of what to build. I decided on a Flat Car.

My next step was to pick a design, prototype to build. I looked through pictures on the interNet and found one that I liked. It is a fifty foot flat car used in the picture to haul heavy equipment. Other variations had stack pockets on the side while the picture I was looking at had a toothed rail that attachment points could slide on. I opted for the plain stack pockets.

I took a combination of prototype measurements from an article on the interNet, and drawings from another model flat car (hint: copy the article to include in your submission). I began by building the framework of the flat car. The prototype cars have wood planked decks that are attached to the steel frame. I was going to replicate this by gluing strip wood to the frame. This didn’t look right. I removed it added a plastic subdeck for strength and tried again with plastic strips.



(Picture 1)

At this same time I was working with the center-beam under the car. Again, I was not happy with the outcome and was also wondering how I was going to get enough weight to bring the car up to standard weight. I was visiting the home improvement (“big-box”) store for one of those projects that cut into your modeling time (home repair). As I was walking through the store I went by a rack of metal shapes. I decided to see if I could find a solution to my flat car problem of adding weight. I did find a square stock that looked like it might be the right size to solve my problem. I measured and cut it off to length. I then milled the ends down to fit the contour of the prototype. This also gave me a solid place to mount trucks and couplers. I was able to order stack pockets for the sides. I then cut a piece of sheet styrene to fit as the deck and used a hobby knife to score it giving it the appearance of the plank deck.

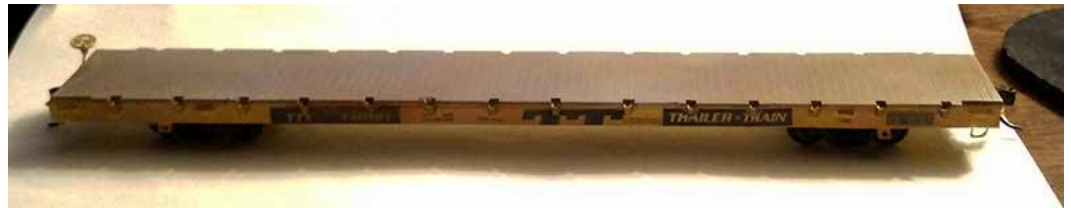


(picture 2)

Before I attached the top deck, I painted it and weathered it to look like old wood deck. I then painted the frame sides and under side. After the paint was dried, I attached the deck to the car frame.

I was hoping to take this to the regional contest in Council Bluffs, IA and spent the night before I left adding decals and weathering the car. I placed the car in a box to dry and gathered the trucks and couplers and my documentation for the contest. My plan was to add the couplers and trucks after we got to our friends house, where we were staying for the convention. When we got to Omaha, plans to enter the car in the contest at the regional convention came to an end when I realized that I had not weathered the underside of the car. I had also left the supplies to add grab rails and ladders to the car at home. I decided there would be another contest and that I would take this opportunity to look at other entries and just enjoy the convention activities.

I volunteered to work the contest room and was added as a judge in training. I worked with another experienced judge and had a great time. I learned a lot about judging that will help my modeling in the future. There is more to conventions than displays, workshops, presentations, and contests. There is a lot of modeling experience which you can draw on to improve your skills. After the judging was done and we were adding up the scores, I mentioned that I had attempted to finish my flat car and enter it in the contest. I was told that even in the condition it was in it would have been a good idea to enter



(Picture 3)

the contest. It would have given me comments and suggestions for my model. I was encouraged to bring it in when we were done and they told me how it would have been judged.

While I had the parts of the brake system on the car, I didn't have any piping or brake hoses on the car. I learned so much from that unofficial judging that I was able to go home and add these things to my flatcar. After I got back home, I made the changes we discussed at the convention, I still have two things to add to the car before it is finished. This has been a great





(Picture 4)

learning experience and I look forward to attending the next convention. Here is the finished product being pulled by my newest locomotive. It's already in revenue service delivering new equipment to the mine.



# “STOP, LOOK, AND

...continued on the next page...

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**Caboose Kibitzer**  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017

13

# “SCREAM”

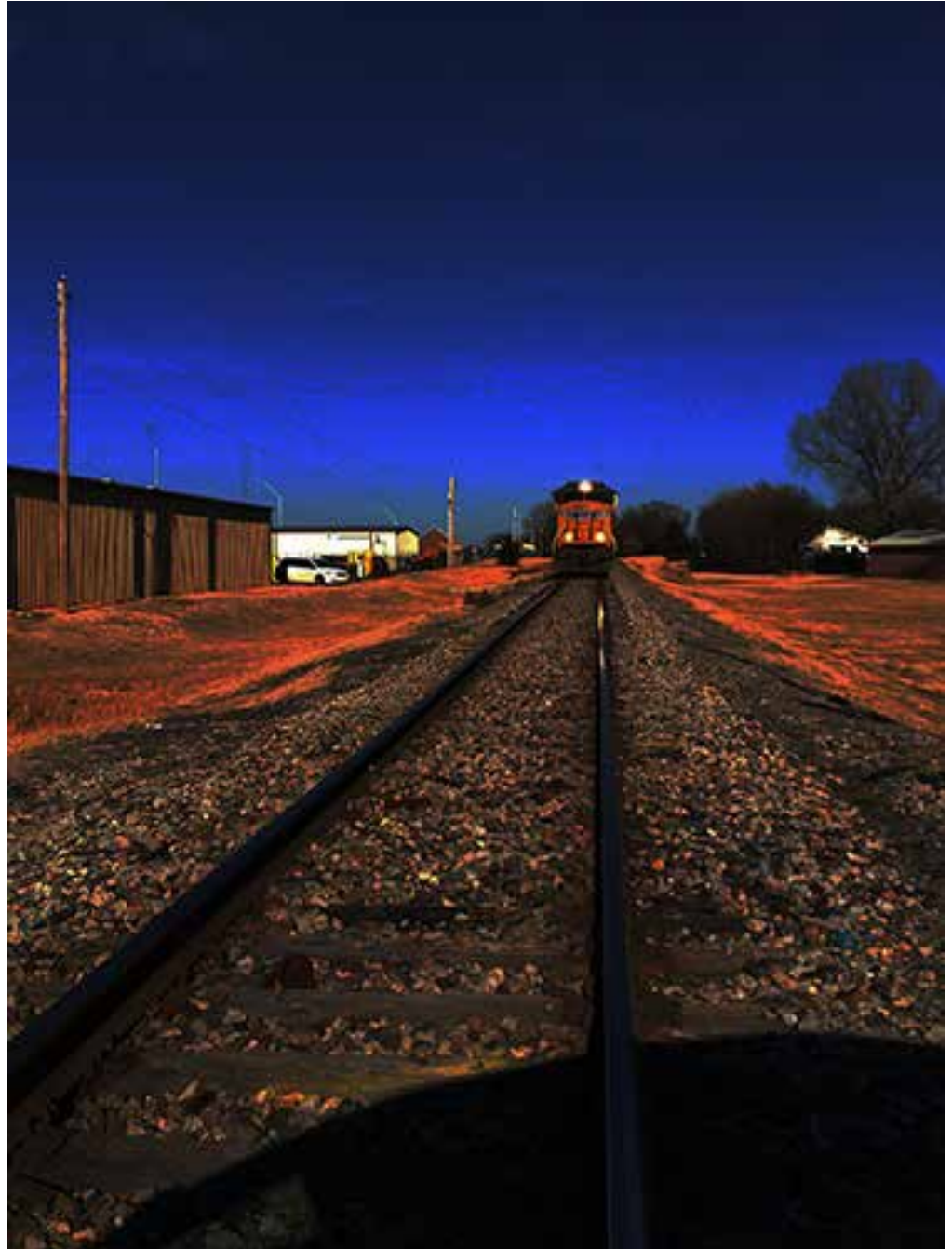
(AND POSSIBLY SOIL YOURSELF)

Honestly and truly, this actually happened to me while traveling the city streets in my hometown of Bel Aire, KS approximately one to two hours before sunrise.

I was on high alert so not to hit “Bambi” while driving. Approaching the “grade crossing” near 45<sup>th</sup> Street North and Hillside, I was a well taught driver and “looked left, looked right, and was looking left for a second glance when to my disbelief there was a locomotive in close proximity to my right (even with the headlights reflecting off the rails)

The photos on the next page (again using my zoom lens) were taken some days later when experiencing the same scenario right about sunrise.

(continued on next page)



*Yes, this photo has been overly enhanced using PhotoShop™ in order to give you the reader an idea of what I experienced in the darkness of “dawn’s early morn”.*





...well, lo and behold, I eventually realized that this was/is the location where they (the “crew”) has their “Shift Change” (notice the white SUV)



Yes, just like in “old-fashioned” driver’s education, I still “Stop, Look, and Listen”, but it’s still very unNerving every time i experience this...



Written and photographed by  
Alan A. Aagaard



# MORE ABOUT OUR COVERS

by  
Alan A. Aagaard

Pictures of Burlington Northern (BN) 12404  
Owner: Burlington Northern  
Type: Caboose  
AAR Class: NE: Caboose  
AAR Type: M930  
Detail Info: Misc Cars

The FRONT cover photo was taken very near to 26th Street North and Broadway with a 300mm telephoto lens very close to the direction of the magenta arrow.

Next, the cyan arrow is pointing in the direction of the crew headquarters once "switching tower" (seen in background of additional photos in this article).

Final bit of trivia for you to gain your direction, this lower magenta arrow is pointing out I-135



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Caught in action a different day, here is caboose (BN 12404) being switched into a salvage/recycling facility near 45<sup>th</sup> and Hydraulic - hence our "Back Cover"



Backing in a North-ward direction

...farther and Farther, and FARTHER.

Then, finally, after switching “empties” and “fulls” the crew heads back into the “North Wichita Yards” along Broadway.

It’s very obvious that this is a very low-key, slow-speed operation as they disappear you’ll observe that there isn’t a “FRED” nor a “red flag” but

Yet another use for those pesky “orange cones”



During my third visit to the switching area shown on the previous page (this time the sun was out and the skies were clear (and the wind was blowing right through all the layers of clothing I was wearing...ah, Kansas...)). The top photo was taken at 50mm (our normal vision) and the last photo on this page was taken while zoomed out to 300mm. (No, I didn’t violate the track No Trespassing signage).

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# ...AH, GOOGLEMAPS!



YES, this is the same photo (seen 3 pages previously)

but, for a very different reason/story.

Once again, the magenta arrow is locating where the cover photo was taken, but this time the cyan arrow is pointing to the “ground-Scar” of the long-ago removed “Roundhouse and Turntable”

So, I could maintain “clarity”, I’m devoting the entire next page to this image.

Why?, you say...well, what might you discover from satellite imagery of your area???

I’m sensing articles coming from you.







# THE BOOMER, A STORY OF THE RAILS

By Harry Bedwell

University of Minnesota Press

ISBN-13: 978-0-8166-4906-8

Submitted by Christine Heinsohn

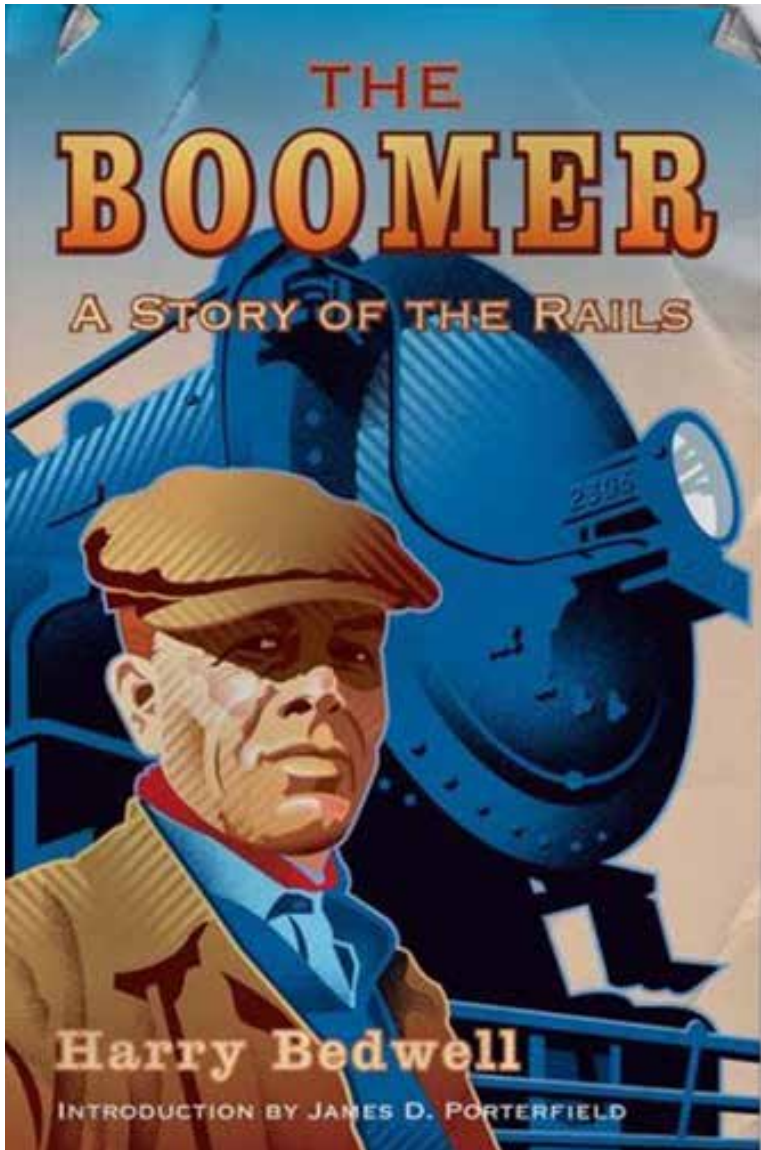


CHRISTINE HEINSOHN  
Associate Editor  
of the  
"Caboose Kibitzer"  
of NMRA

From the Introduction written by James D. Porterfield, I quote:

"Harry Bedwell was ... a life long railroad man. His sixty short stories and one novel made him the most prolific of the members of the Railroad School. The "Boomer" Eddie Sand, his most frequent central character, was drawn from Bedwell's own experiences. Experts and laymen alike regard Bedwell's novel, The Boomer: A Story of the Rails, as the Best American railroad novel ever published."

As a skeptic, I don't often believe such hype, nor do I usually pass it on. In this case, however, I will pass such praise along. Boomer was an enjoyable, fast read.



I am a relatively new railfan and model railroader. I have participated in a total of two operating sessions, so my knowledge of timetable and train orders is limited. During my read of Boomer I found the application of that knowledge to the stories a lot of fun. The book would be an enjoyable read for someone without much railroad knowledge and might actually hook an nascent railfan even deeper. Each chapter is a separate read that leads to a well fleshed out whole. It chronicles Eddie's travels as a skilled, intelligent bloomer who did not appreciate incompetence. He found himself in situations where he had to save the day with his wisdom and initiative. Most of the stories are believable; the last one, however, is just a bit fanciful. Eddie's travels intertwine with those of other railroaders. Those brief glimpses through his eyes, let the reader see those other characters take on more color and shape. Eddie lets you in on the inside jokes and the workings of the mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century corporate railroad machine. Eddie has great respect for good railroaders and finds ways to put less than good railroaders in their place without compromising his own mission or hurting innocents.

I am glad we have this book in our collection. I am thinking it might make a pretty good gift for our grandson when he gets a bit older. I had the pleasure of reading much of The Boomer, while riding Amtrak through the Northwest. What a fine way to read the book!

# Modeling Spectacular Vintage Advertising

## Vess Neon Soda Bottle Sign

Article & Photos by Richard Schumacher  
May 08, 2016



*RICHARD SCHUMACHER*  
*reprinted with permission*  
*from RPO*  
*Volume 24, Number 2,*  
*Page 11*  
*Summer 2016*  
[www.GatewayNMRA.org](http://www.GatewayNMRA.org)

In 1953, the Vess Bottling Company of St. Louis commissioned a giant revolving neon-lit soda bottle which was erected at the corner of Hampton and Gravois in South St. Louis. The steel bottle was fabricated by the W. E. Caldwell Tank Company (who also made the 70 foot tall Brooks Catsup bottle water tower in Collinsville and the giant 120 foot Louisville Baseball bat) and lit with 600 feet of neon tubing created by the Treesh Neon Sign Company of East St. Louis. The 2,000 pound, 12 foot tall replica of a Lemon-Lime Vess soda bottle sat atop a 13 foot pole and revolved at three revolutions per minute. As an (old) south county boy, I remember seeing the sign many times as a child.

The sign was placed in storage and then relocated in 1989, to its new location in north downtown at 520 O'Fallon Street



where it has been designated city landmark #120. The neon is now broken, and it doesn't rotate on the new pole, but it is still an impressive advertising statement.

There are two approaches you can take if you want to model a giant soda bottle sign on your layout. One would be to download my photo of the Vess bottle (the photo is provided here for your personal use

only, print it in the size appropriate to your scale, cut out the bottle, and glue it to your backdrop on top of a painted pole.

An actual three-dimensional model bottle may also be mounted on a pole (a small



low-rpm motor could even be used to make it a revolving model). Appropriate size bottles are available as dollhouse miniatures and holiday ornaments. Do an Amazon search for "miniature coke bottle" to find a bottle that will work for you. One of the 1:12 dollhouse bottles would look correct for HO. The 12 foot tall Vess bottle would be 1.65 inches in HO scale.



# SLRX Press Release

The Mid-Continent Region (of NMRA) is offering as its current car project a set of six 40' wood refrigerator car kits lettered for the St. Louis Refrigerator Car Company. The cars are produced by Accurail and include trucks and Accumate couplers. Car numbers in this set are 4265, 4317, 4280, 4302, 4894, and 4836 and



unique to this project. St. Louis Refrigerator Car Company was established in 1878 by Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company to transport its products across the U. S. At its peak about 1920 the reefer fleet was made



up of over 5000 cars. The build date on these cars is 10-42. The cars are priced at \$25.00 for one car, \$24.50 each for two cars, \$24.00 each for four cars and \$23.00 each for all six cars. Shipping is USPS flt rate based on the number of cars ordered. To order contact: <http://www.mcor-nmra.org/Regional-Car-Kit.php>

# 844 Calls at St. Louis

by  
Bill Linson

Union Pacific's 844 "Northern" class steam engine came to St. Louis, MO, Tuesday, October 18. It drew huge crowds all along the way...500 or more at Pacific, MO, four or five times that at Kirkwood, and bystanders/photographers all along the right-of-way. Here are two shots I got on a very dark day at the "silica plant" just east of Pacific.



*844 comes into view, having just left its 30-minute stop in Pacific, MO, 35 miles west of St. Louis and the Mississippi River.*





*At speed and east bound at the silica plant. Next stop: Kirkwood, MO.  
(...super-elevated curve...)*



Bill Linson  
Gateway Division

# Calendar of Events

## January, 2017

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> • **Train Expo Colorado (TECO)** (Colorado Springs, CO)  
Sat - Sun • Mortgage Solutions Financial Expo Center

21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> • **Dallas Area Train Show** (see ad to right for details)

28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> • **Great Train Show (GTS)** (Wichita, KS)  
Sat & Sun (10am - 4pm each day) • Century II Convention Center  
225 West Douglas Avenue  
Adults - \$10 on Saturday; \$9 on Sunday (Cash ONLY) • Good for both days  
Children under 12 are free



**Dallas Area Train Show**  
**Jan. 21-22, 2017**  
Clinics, home layout tours, dealer tables, railroadians, door prizes plus over 10 modular layouts on display.  
Piano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy., Plano, TX 75074  
Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Admission \$9 per person (12 & under free with paid adult) Scouts in uniform FREE  
**FREE PARKING!**

## February, 2017

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> • **Wichita Train Show & Swap Meet (NMRA)** (Wichita, KS)  
Sat ~ 9am - 5pm &  
Sun - 11am - 4pm  
Cessna Activity Center • 2744 George Washington Blvd. ("GeoWashBlvd")

11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> • **Great Train Show (GTS)** "Expo Square" (Tulsa, OK)  
Sat & Sun

11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> • **Rails In The Rockies** (Estes Park, CO)  
Sat & Sun • Rocky Mountain Park Inn

18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> • **Lawrence Model Railroad Club Show & Swap Meet** (Lawrence, KS)  
Sat & Sun • Building 21 - Douglas County Fairgrounds



## March, 2017

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> • **Rocky Mountain Toy Train Show (TCA)** (Denver, CO)  
Sat & Sun • Denver Merchandise Mart

18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> • **Boot Hill Model RR Club Show** (Garden City, KS)  
Sat & Sun • Exhibition Building - Finney Co. Fairgrounds

## April, 2017

6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> • **32<sup>nd</sup> Sn3 Symposium** (St. Louis, MO)  
St. Louis Airport Marriott Hotel  
Learn more at:  
<http://www.2017sn3symposium.com/>

12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> • **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Train Show** (Nebraska West-Central Division, NMRA) (North Platte, NE)  
Sat & Sun • D & N Event Center • 501 East Walker Road

## May, 2017

18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> • **Mid-Continent (MCoR) / Thousand Lakes Regions Convention (NMRA)** (Ames, IA)  
Thursday - Sunday • Quality Inn

## June, 2017

## July, 2017

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> • **Train Show & Open House (Spring Creek Model Trains)** •  
Sat & Sun • 304 East Bryson Avenue (Drescher, NE)

10<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> • **National Garden Railway Convention (Tulsa, OK)**  
<http://www.thinktulsa17.com/>

July 30<sup>th</sup> - August 6<sup>th</sup> • **National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)**  
The Rosen Plaza Hotel (Orlando, FL)



## August, 2017

30<sup>th</sup> - September 2<sup>nd</sup> • **37<sup>th</sup> National Narrow Gauge Convention (Denver, CO)**  
Wednesday - Saturday • Marriott Denver Tech Center Hotel  
Learn more at:  
<http://37nngc.com/index.html>



## September, 2017

## October, 2017

## November, 2017

## December, 2017





Plan to visit these upcoming:

### National Narrow Gauge Conventions:

2018 - 38<sup>th</sup> • Twin Cities • Minneapolis, MN  
<http://nngc-2018.com/>

2019 - 39<sup>th</sup> • Sacramento, CA

2020 - 40<sup>th</sup> • St. Louis/St. Charles, MO

2021 - 40<sup>st</sup> • Hickory, NC

Plan to visit these upcoming:

### National Garden Railway Conventions:

2018 National Garden Railway Convention (Atlanta, GA)

[http://www.ggrs.info/Georgia\\_Garden\\_Railway\\_Society/NGRC\\_2018.html](http://www.ggrs.info/Georgia_Garden_Railway_Society/NGRC_2018.html)

# MID-CONTINENT REGION OF THE NMRA

## REGION OFFICERS CALLBOARD

### **PRESIDENT**

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(C) (573) 619-8532

Clerk@MCoR-NMRA.org

# MID-CONTINENT REGION OF THE NMRA

## REGION APPOINTED STAFF

### **ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM CHAIR**

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membership@MCoR-NMRA.org

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Henry Nipper

(H)  
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conventionStaff@MCoR-NMRA.org

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**Caboose Kibitzer**  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017

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# MID-CONTINENT REGION OF THE NMRA

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS CALLBOARD (LISTED BY DIVISION NUMBER)

### INDIAN NATIONS DIVISION

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### OZARK MOUNTAIN AREA

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### NORTHERN ARKANSAS AREA

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### NORTHERN OKLAHOMA AREA

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# SWITCH LIST

## FIRST QUARTER - 2017

SWITCH LIST - First Quarter 2017

The Switch List contains all known Mid-Continent Region, NMRA, train shows and Division meetings. It also lists all known club shows and swap meets in the Mid-Continent Region (IA, IL, MO, AR, NE, KS, and OK). To list your event information please

eMail: [alan.a.aagaard@gmail.com](mailto:alan.a.aagaard@gmail.com)

or

“Snail-Mail” your Information:

Alan A. Aagaard, Editor

Post Office Box #8339

Munger Station

Wichita, KS 67208-8339

To subscribe, or unSubscribe, to The Switch List please send an eMail to the above link. Look for us on the MCoR web site:

 [www.MCoR-NMRA.org](http://www.MCoR-NMRA.org)

Please put me in your newsletter



### DIVISION MEETINGS *(alphabetically)*

#### **Chisholm Trail Division** ----- (Wichita, KS)

Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at

*Olivet Baptist Church*

3440 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street North • Wichita, KS 67203-4560  
(13<sup>th</sup> Street North & High Street)

- Begin gathering ----- 6:45pm
- NMRA meeting & program(s) ----- 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Information: Alan A. Aagaard, Division Editor

eMail: [alan.a.aagaard@gmail.com](mailto:alan.a.aagaard@gmail.com)

#### **Cowboy Line Division** ----- (Norfolk, NE)

Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at

HyVee East, upstairs meeting room.

Corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Norfolk Avenue

Information: Dennis M. Brandt

Telephone (402) 992-2415

eMail: [dennisbrandt44@gmail.com](mailto:dennisbrandt44@gmail.com)

#### **Eastern Iowa Division** ----- (Iowa City, IA)

For other division activities check out our website monthly at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/easterniowadivision/>

or the division's Facebook™ page at: Eastern Iowa Division

Information: Tom Persoon, Superintendent

eMail: [PersoonT06@msn.com](mailto:PersoonT06@msn.com)

#### **Gateway Division** ----- (St. Louis, MO)

Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month at 7:00pm.

Odd numbered months at:

*Trinity Lutheran Church*

14088 Clayton Road at Woods Mill Road  
(Hwy 141), Ballwin, MO

Even numbered months:

VFW Hall ----- O'Fallon, IL

Information:

<http://www.gatewaynmra.org/division.htm>

#### **Indian Nations Division** ----- (Tulsa, OK)

Meets at the new *Hardesty Library*

8316 East 93<sup>rd</sup> Street

(just east of Memorial Road in Tulsa, OK.)

The library opens at 9:00am and the meetings start at 9:30am

Information found on our web page:

[www.tulsanmra.org](http://www.tulsanmra.org)

Contact: Dave Salamon, Superintendent

Telephone: (918) 272-5512

eMail: [drs\\_rr@yahoo.com](mailto:drs_rr@yahoo.com)

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**Caboose Kibitzer**  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017

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**Kansas Central Division**----- (Elmdale, KS)

Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of even numbered months  
meeting starts at 1pm

For the full schedule check the MCoR website or

Contact: David Heinsohn

eMail: kd0r@fhrd.net.

**Kate Shelley Division**----- (Ames, IA)

Meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month

(*except November which we meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> week and*

~~no Decembers~~ we have

at the Ames Public Library

515 Douglas Avenue • Ames, Iowa

- Business meeting starts at 6:00pm and
- Social gathering at 7:00pm (anything railroad goes)

Contact Kate Shelley Division through the NMRA web site

**Oklahoma Heartland Division**----- (OKC, OK)

Meets in the even numbered months in the Oklahoma City area. All who are interested in Model Railroading are welcome.

Information:

[www.okcnmra.org](http://www.okcnmra.org)

**Platte Valley Division**----(Hastings, Grand Island, & Kearney, NE)

Meets quarterly in members' homes on a rotating basis or at sites of interest.

New members are always welcome.

Information: Todd L. Petersen, Division Director

Telephone: (308) 832-2200 or

eMail: todd@gtmc.net

**Turkey Creek Division**----- (Shawnee, KS)

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month at 7:00pm at

Hocker Grove Middle School

10400 Johnson Drive, Shawnee, KS 66203-2895

Information check the Division Timetable:

<http://www.tc-nmra.org/TC-Calendar.html>

Contact: Louis Seibel

Telephone: (913) 393-3495

or (913) 927-6850

eMail: L-seibel@comcast.net

**Western Heritage Division**----(Omaha, NE/Council Bluffs, IA)

Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday (*except June and December*)

at 9:00am at the Sump Library

2<sup>nd</sup> & Washington Streets in Papillion (across from Runza).

Information visit the division web page:

<http://www.whd.mcor-nmra.org>

for more information and a map

**Western Kansas Division**----- (Garden City, KS)

Meets every Tuesday evening -----6:30pm to 9:00pm

4091/2 North Main Street

(second floor above "Stage" department store, rear

6 layouts on display (1-O27, 2-HO, 3-N)

Operating sessions available

Contact: Robert Simmons, Division Director

Telephone: (620) 521-3591 (C) or

(620) 272-0444 (H)

eMail: trainman55@hotmail.com

Facebook™ page "Western Kansas Division"

Information: Western Kansas Division website:

<http://www.wkd-nmra.org>

**MONTHLY NEWS AT A GLANCE:**

Saturday, April 30, 2016

Quad Chapter Meeting----- (Wichita hosting)

More information at a later date

**DIVISIONS:**

**Kate Shelley** ----- (Ames, IA)

Meets Every Tuesday @ 6:00pm

515 Douglas Avenue

Contact Kate Shelley Division through the NMRA web site

**Western Kansas**

Meets 6:30pm - 9:00pm

409½ North Main Street

Information: Robert Simmons,

eMail: train-man55@hotmail.com

## MODEL RAILROAD CLUBS:

**Wichita Toy Train Club** (Wichita, KS)  
 130 South Laura Street  
 Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm  
 Sunday 1:00pm - 5:00pm  
 \$5.00 adult, children up to 12 free

**Weekend N'gineers** (Olathe, KS)  
 16624 West 126<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Every Sunday 1:00pm  
 Information: Ken Clark  
 eMail: hap-heart@swbell.net

**Mid Kansas Model Railroaders** (McPherson, KS)  
 1130 West Kansas Avenue  
 Every Sunday 2:00pm - 5:00pm  
 Information: John Snell  
 eMail: jSnell@cox.net

**Garden City Model Train** (Garden City, KS)  
 408 North Main Street (back entrance)  
 Every Tuesday 6:30pm  
 Information: Robert Simmons  
 eMail: trainman55@hotmail.com

**Ozarks Model Railroad Association** (Springfield, MO)  
 424 West Commercial Street  
 Every Tuesday 7:00pm  
 Information: Ron Williams  
 eMail: rwilliams3129@gmail.com

**Tulsa Garden Railroad Club** (Tulsa, OK)  
 Freewill Baptist Church  
 1190 North Mingo Road  
 Information:  
 info@TulsaRailroadClub.org

**Mexico Train Works Model RR Club** (Mexico MO)  
 8 West Jackson Street  
 Meets every Wednesday (except at major holidays)  
 at 7:00pm

Information:  
 www.mexicotrains.com  
 Contact: John Johnson, President  
 eMail: info@mexicotrains.com  
 Telephone: (573) 581-8013

**Greater Kansas City Model Railroad Club** (Kansas City, MO)  
 6060 NW Waukomis Drive  
 Meets every other Wednesday at 7:00pm  
 Information: J. D. Spicher  
 eMail: jdspicher@aol.com  
 or  
 W. L. Ohrnell  
 eMail: wohnell@sbcglobal.net

**Kansas City Society of Model Engineers** (Kansas City, )  
 Meets every Wednesday 7:00pm - 9:00pm  
 Information: Steven Boeck,  
 eMail: sjboeck@att.net

**North East Kansas Model Railroaders** ( , )  
*HO gauge*  
 Meets every Saturday at 7:00pm  
 Information: Otto Wick  
 Telephone: (913) 367-7536  
 or  
 Steve Schaefer  
 Telephone: (913) 367-6202

**Boothill Model Railroad** ( , KS)  
 Meets every Saturday 1:00pm  
 Information: Robert Simmons  
 eMail: trainman55@hotmail.com

**Heartland N-Trak of Greater Kansas City** (Liberty, MO)  
 131 South Water Street  
 Meets every Saturday 11:00am - 3:00pm  
 Information: Dick Cooper  
 eMail: nscale05@gmail.com

**North East Kansas Model Railroaders** (Atchafalaya, MO)  
 12" scale  
 1440 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday 10:00am - 4:00pm  
 Sunday 12:00pm - 4:00pm  
 Information: Otto Wick  
 Telephone: (913) 367-7536  
 or  
 Steve Schaefer  
 Telephone: (913) 367-6202

**Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club** (Cherryvale, KS)  
 Leatherock Hotel Center  
 420 North Depot Street  
 Meets at 1:00pm  
 Information: John Dhooghe  
 eMail: john@cvmrc.com  
 and visit our website  
 www.cvmrc.com  
 Dates of our Sunday meetings on our main page

## GARDEN RAILROAD CLUBS

**Northeast Kansas** (at member's layout)  
 Contact: Tedy Bellos  
 petedy@everestkc.net



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**16" Gauge Park Train**-----(Kansas City, MO)  
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Kansas City, MO

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday  
each month at 7:00pm

Contact: W. Ohrnell  
Telephone: (816) 746-5663  
Information: [www.KCNRR.com](http://www.KCNRR.com)

**F/G scale**----- (Topeka, KS)  
Northeast Kansas Garden Railway Society  
(NEKAN-GRS)  
1308 SW Caldon Street  
Topeka, KS 66611-2412

**G scale**----- (Olathe, KS)  
Kansas City Garden Railroad Society  
"Mall of the Great Plain"  
Olathe, KS 66061  
Open Thursday & Friday ----- 7-9 pm  
Saturday & Sunday ----- Mall Hours  
Contact: David Roberts  
24595 Hedge Lane  
Paola, KS 66071-5444  
Information:  
[gScaleFun@hotmail.com](mailto:gScaleFun@hotmail.com)  
and  
<http://www.kcgrs.com>  
or  
Telephone: (913) 406-3400

**2-Rail O Scale (1/4" to the foot)**-(Webster Groves, MO)  
Big Bend Railroad Club, Inc.  
8833 Big Bend Blvd.  
Webster Groves, MO 63119-3731  
Information:  
[www.bigbendrclub.org](http://www.bigbendrclub.org)  
Facebook™  
[secretary@BigBendRRclub.org](mailto:secretary@BigBendRRclub.org)

**O Scale**----- (Jefferson City, MO)  
Capital City Model Railroaders  
PO Box #3243  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-3243

**O Scale**----- (Overland Park, KS)  
Kansas City Module "O"  
Contact: Jack Ferris, Secretary/Treasurer  
10334 Ash Street  
Overland Park, KS 66207-3910  
[fhs1955@gmail.com](mailto:fhs1955@gmail.com)

**HO Scale**----- (Des Moines, IA)  
Central Iowa Railroad Club  
Iowa State Fair Grounds  
Contact: David Briely  
PO Box #118  
Des Moines, IA 50301-0118  
Telephone: (515) 266-8899  
Meets: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month  
Open House: 4<sup>th</sup>-Friday each month  
Information:  
<http://www.facebook.com/centraliowarailroadclub>

**HO Scale**----- (Conway, AR)  
Central AR Model RR Club  
PO Box #1825  
Conway, AR 72033-1825  
Contact: Daniel Gladstone  
Telephone: (501) 269-3030  
Information:  
<http://www.ARtrains.org>

**HO Scale**----- (Collinsville, IL)  
Columbia Model Railroaders  
410 Camelot Drive  
Collinsville, IL 62234-4715

**HO Scale**----- (Odessa, MO)  
Eastern Jackson County Mainliners  
Model Railroad Club  
"Outlet Mall"  
Odessa, MO 64076-  
Information:  
[www.EasternJacksonCountyMainlines.com](http://www.EasternJacksonCountyMainlines.com)

**HO Scale**----- (Kansas City, MO)  
Greater Kansas City Model Railroad Club  
Contact: Walter L. Ohrnell, President  
6060 NW Waukomis Drive  
Kansas City, MO 64153-  
eMail: [wOhrnell@kc.rr.com](mailto:wOhrnell@kc.rr.com)

**HO Scale**----- (Council Bluffs, IA)  
Greater Omaha Society of Model Engineers  
Contact: Brian Wiaters  
Post Office Box 67  
Council Bluffs, IA 51502-0067  
Telephone: (402) 895-0296  
or (402) 491-3692  
Information:  
[SOME@TheHistoricalSociety.org](mailto:SOME@TheHistoricalSociety.org)

**HO Scale**----- (Overland Park, KS)  
Kansas City Society of Model Engineers  
Contact: John Teeple, President  
9539 Perry Lane  
Overland Park, KS 66212-5153  
Telephone: (913) 492-4142  
eMail: [jsteep@aol.com](mailto:jsteep@aol.com)

**HO Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Kirkwood, MO)  
*Kirkwood Railroad Association*  
Meets every Thursday 7:00 - 9:00pm  
Contact: Rich Velten, Treasurer  
100 North Sappington Road  
Kirkwood, MO 63122-4845  
rmVelten@swbell.net  
Information:  
<http://www.krta-stl.org>

**HO Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Manhattan, KS)  
*Manhattan Area Rail Joiners*  
Contact: Don Clagett  
1223 Pierre Street  
Manhattan, KS 66502-4331  
eMail: dclagett@ksu.edu  
Telephone: (785) 537-7624

**HO<sub>3</sub> Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Saint Peters, MO)  
*Modular HO Narrow Gauge Society*  
914 Summer Leaf Drive  
Saint Peters, MO 63376-7065

**HO Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Olathe, KS)  
*MO-KAN Rail Joiners*  
Contact: Louis Seibel  
1069 North Logan Street  
Olathe, KS 66061-6321  
Telephone: (913) 393-3495  
or (913) 927-6850  
eMail: L-seibel@comcast.net

**N Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Wichita, KS)  
*Kansas Area N-Trak*  
2046 South Elizabeth Street  
Apartment #1306  
Wichita, KS 67213-3427

**N Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Harlan, IA)  
*Nishna Valley Railroad Society*  
1303 Eighth Street  
Harlan, IA 51537-1640

**HO Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Marion, IL)  
*Southern Illinois Train Club*  
PO Box 1633  
Marion, IL 62959-7833

**HO Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Kansas City, MO)  
*Southern Kansas City Model  
Railroad Historical Society*  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month 7pm  
Open house Sat. & Sun. 12 to 5pm  
8600 Ward Parkway • Suite 2030  
Kansas City, MO 64114-2643  
Contact: Richard Boone  
Telephone: (816) 996-1534  
eMail: rBoone@traintown-kc.com  
Information:  
<http://www.traintown-KC.com>

**HO Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Bella Vista, AR)  
*Sugar Creek Model Railroad &  
Historical Society, Inc.*  
PO Box #5452  
Bella Vista, AR 72714-5452

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Telephone: (515) 961-3018  
14910 92<sup>nd</sup> Lane  
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*Wichita Model Railroad Club*  
PO Box #48082  
Wichita, KS 67201-8082  
eMail: WCMR1@cs.com

**HO Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Glen Carbon, IL)  
*Metro East Model Railroad Club*  
Work/run meetings \_\_\_\_\_ 6:30pm  
every Thursday at Club House -  
180 Summit Avenue  
Glen Carbon, IL  
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each month.  
Visitors always welcome!  
Contact: Bill Davis or Bob Gibson  
eMail: memrrc@gmail.com  
Information:  
[www.trainweb.org/memrc](http://www.trainweb.org/memrc)

**N Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Hutchinson, KS)  
*Kansas Central Model Railroad Club*  
Contact: Charles Moll  
3106 Tulane Place  
Hutchinson KS 67502-2481  
eMail: c.moll@sbcglobal.net  
Telephone: (620) 663-8167

**N Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Fenton, MO)  
*Mississippi Valley N Scalers*  
20 Apostle Court  
Fenton, MO 63026  
eMail: mvns@railfan.net  
Information:  
<http://mvns.railfan.net>

**N Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (North Kansas City, MO)  
*Missouri Northern Railroad Society, Inc.*  
PO Box #12591  
North Kansas City, MO 64116-2591

**N Scale** \_\_\_\_\_ (Oklahoma City, OK)  
*Oklahoma N-Rail*  
Contact: Bruce Alcock, President  
PO Box #96131  
Oklahoma City, OK 73143-6131  
eMail: info@oknrail.org  
Information:  
<http://www.oknrail.org>

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Weekend Engineers  
8600 Ward Parkway  
Kansas City, MO 6814  
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Contact: Richard Boone  
Telephone: (816) 966-1534  
eMail: rBoone@traintown-kc.com  
Information:  
www.traintown-kc.com

N Scale \_\_\_\_\_ (Hastings, NE)  
Tri-City Model Railroad Association  
607 South Shore Drive  
Hastings, NE 68901-2609

N Scale \_\_\_\_\_ (Springfield, MO)  
Ozark Model Railroad Association  
424 West Commercial Street  
Springfield, MO 65803-2650

N Scale \_\_\_\_\_ (Springfield, MO)  
Northwest Kansas Model Railroad Club  
603 South Smokyhill Avenue  
Oakley, KS 67748-2321

G, HO, N Scales \_\_\_\_\_ (Little Rock, AR)  
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3107 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72205-5832

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and Wooden Trains \_\_\_\_\_ (Kansas City, MO)  
Union Station Kansas City Model Railroad Society  
30 West Pershing Road  
Kansas City, MO 64101-1701  
9:00am - 5:00pm  
Contact: Ted Tschirhart  
Telephone: (816) 816-3449  
eMail: tedtschi@kc.rr.com

G, O, HO Scales \_\_\_\_\_ (Savannah, MO)  
Green Valley Baptist Model Railroad Club  
11993 County Road 162  
Savannah, MO 64485-8155  
Contact: Nancy Adams  
Telephone: (816) 262-0304  
eMail: GreenPetticoat@yahoo.com

All Scales \_\_\_\_\_ (Claremore, OK)  
Claremore & Southern  
3049 Clover Creek Drive  
Claremore, OK 74017-

All Scales \_\_\_\_\_ (Cherryvale, KS)  
Parsons Model Railroad Engineers  
Cherryvale Depot  
Cherryvale, KS 68335-

All Scales \_\_\_\_\_ (Fremont, NE)  
Nebraska Railroad Museum  
1835 North Somers Avenue  
Fremont, NE 68025-2958  
Contact: Dave Fachman  
Telephone: (402) 727-0615  
eMail: fevr@fremontrailroad.com  
Information:  
http://www.FremontRailroad.com



You will locate the invoice for the Caboose Kibitzer on the very next page.

I have changed some prices on the cost of ads to give a better price for vendors to advertise for a year and half. For the last 2 issues of 2016, and all of 2017. They will be getting a half a year free.

That also applies to the pike ads and NMRA Dealer ads.

Louis O. Seibel  
Advertising Manager  
Caboose Kibitzer  
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(C) (913) 927-6850





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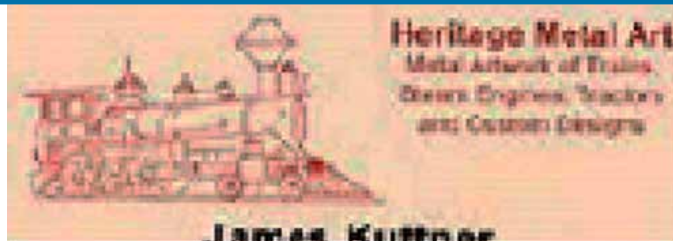
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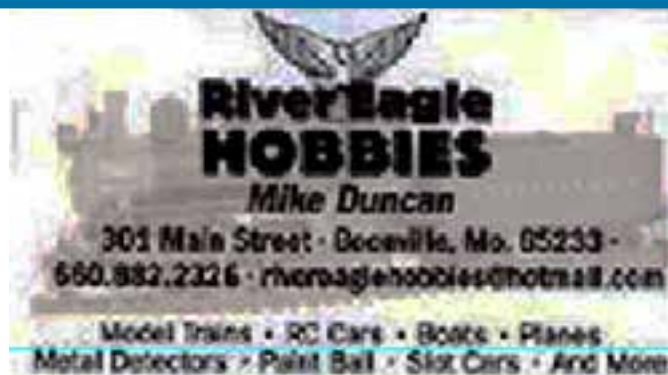
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1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017

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# ROCK ISLAND REPORTER

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Please pass the above link to anyone who may be interested in the Rock Island. Back issues available. E-mail updates appreciated. Stories and smaller articles welcome. Send to Editor Tom Brugman, [tbrug@aol.com](mailto:tbrug@aol.com).

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