



# Sunrise Herald

## August 2012

Volume 5, Number 8



## July Picnic Spots Trains

In place of the July meeting, Sunrise Division took a trip to Palmer Lake, located right on the Joint Line, for a chance to photograph trains and talk trains. There may have been a bit of eating going on as well.

Dave Cochrun caught a nice shot of BNSF 6065 heading south (*above*), but he wasn't the only photographer taking photographs (*below*). The park at Palmer Lake was a great spot to shoot: you are right beside the main line.

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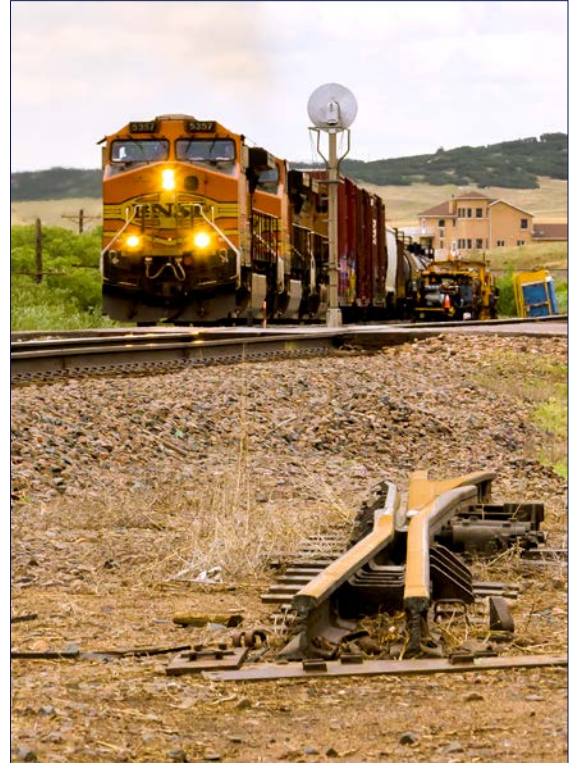


## July Picnic — continued from page 1

Of course, in addition to the cameras of dedicated photographers there was plenty of food about the place, especially cookies provided by David Bol. Even the weather cooperated, although there were plenty of clouds in the sky.

Your editor managed to grab a couple of shots, too. Engine 5600 leads a north-bound BNSF freight followed by a UP locomotive (*above*). Since your editor's brother is a retired BNSF bridge inspector, it was perfectly natural that the BNSF led the UP, at least as long as your editor wants to keep friendly relations with his brother.

The pre-made frog (*right*) was also interesting. I'm sure that soon we'll have a clinic by Gary Myers on how to create frogs like this using Fast Tracks 1:1 templates. It will take a rather large file to get the rail shaped, though. —SH



## Division Data



## NMRA Notes

The Board of Directors will meet in Grand Rapids on Friday, July 27, Saturday, July 28, and Sunday, July 29. While the Friday meeting is a closed caucus, most of the Saturday and Sunday meetings are open to all members. At this time the meeting room hasn't been determined, so check with the convention hotel after you arrive if you're interested in attending.

Very soon we hope to be announcing the name of the new Director of Marketing and his team. Those folks will be meeting with members of the NMRA leadership team in Grand Rapids to formalize the process of developing a program to recruit and retain members.

The Standards & Conformance Department has an urgent need for an ATA Certified Translator to convert German documents into English. The work includes translating the Lenz document describing Railcom into an English version. If one of your members has the qualifications and is interested, contact Didrik Voss, S&C Department Manager, at [davoss@pvmtengr.com](mailto:davoss@pvmtengr.com).

Atlantic District Director Nobby Clarke and his team have been invited to bring the NMRA Publicity Booth to the last-ever U.S. Railroad convention in Switzerland this October. This is a huge event, with attendance numbering in the thousands. More information at <http://www.trainmaster.ch/XCV-15-e.htm>.

Sunrise Division promotes and encourages model railroading from I-25 east to the Kansas border. We welcome all model railroaders, regardless of skill or experience, because our goal is to have fun.

The *Sunrise Herald* is a publication of the Sunrise Division of the Rocky Mountain Region, National Model Railroad Association.

## Division Officers

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## From The Chief

BY GARY MYERS, DIVISION  
SUPERINTENDENT

### Recall: The Big Horn Mixed

Sunrise Division can be proud of accomplishing another fine, successful convention. Although we made a very modest profit, the objective was to keep the cost low as possible to members and put on this convention with a limited amount of planning and preparation. We succeeded by registering 112 attendees, a significant number, especially when compared with recent conventions.

There will be more about the convention in the *Callboard*, but let me share some of my personal experiences to give you another perspective on why you can get a lot out of a regional convention.

Charlie Getz, NMRA President-Elect, was our featured speaker, and he is always very entertaining. I will paraphrase from his speech, "I came out here for a convention. They have no clinics, no train show, no layout tours, no industrial tours, and no banquet

(yaaaaay!); but they have a train ride and a model contest. Perfect!" It was funny to hear and was nicely said—not insult-

ing, but more as a commendation. I wasn't offended—nor anyone else I suspect, but I have to disagree with Charlie a little on this one.

My son Alex is away interning in Detroit this summer and so was unable to join me for yet another regional convention. Thus, I treated my older brother from Connecticut, Carl, an HO<sub>N3</sub> modeler, to his first NMRA experience. Carl has visited the Cumbres & Toltec before, but not like this trip.

We hit our first layout tour along the Joint Line, from Denver to Walsenburg, where we occasionally stopped for photos at

interesting sites along the way. As we traveled I gave a narrative and history of the line.

Our first industrial tour was a stop at the Bessemer Historical Museum, just off I-25 opposite the Minnequa Steel Works in south Pueblo. I even found a rare photo of a very early D&RGW standard gauge ore car and bought a book on the Colorado, Fuel & Iron Company's early mining history. We also viewed the interior of the spectacularly restored CF&I Mine Rescue Car #1.

The second layout tour was following the La Veta pass line into Alamosa, where



*This Rio Grande Scenic Railroad passenger train was featured on the second layout tour.* (Photo by Gary Myers)



*The CF&I Mine Rescue car was a highlight of the first industrial tour.* (Photo by Gary Myers)

we stopped, toured the Rio Grande Scenic Railroad yard, and took a lot of up close photos of equipment. We followed the tracks to Antonito, finding many more interesting buildings along sidings along the highway.

In Antonito, we enjoyed our third layout tour at the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad by taking photos of K-36 #487 switching the passenger train in the yard.

On Friday morning we spent time in the Chama yard, photographing switching moves, engine servicing, and yard equipment. I got my first clinic taking photos of brake line equipment details, and the second clinic focused on photographing the interior of a reefer.

We went on our second industrial tour later by spending time making a lengthy examination of the restoration project of the Chama stock pens. The afternoon was spent chasing the train from Los Pinos back

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## From The Chief — continued from page 3



*Remains of a sign painted on the store in Salida was captured on the third industrial tour. (Photo by Gary Myers)*

to Chama. We barely had time to clean up for dinner at Foster's and the Friday night program, and we were already beat.

Saturday was an oh-so early breakfast and the very chilly boarding of our photo special before seven o'clock. The Myers joined the Johnsons, Bill and Chris, for the train ride, which is becoming a convention tradition. Except for my ride in the caboose from the Big Horn wye to Osier, we spent the next eleven hours aboard the open rider gondola. After awhile we didn't see Bill anymore, who was looking mighty red from all the sun. After returning we had another fine dinner at Foster's and then it was time to head to the model contest and Board of Directors meeting. Okay, not everything was fun.

Sunday, after the model contest presentation—I didn't get my entries done in time for this one, we left Chama behind and revisited Antonito. There, I got my next clinics on the scale 1:1 Accurail D&RGW 66000 series standard gauge boxcar, of which I took many photos, and the scale 1:1 Rio Grande Models xo6008 Pile Driv-

er OB idler flat, which I had just recently purchased from the Company Store at the convention.

We also supported the local economy by purchasing our own convention hats, pins,

and tee-shirts. No train show? I ended up spending enough, and I wasn't even done yet.

We did our third industrial tour of Salida, taking photos of old buildings and wall art, including the scale 1:1 Cibolo Creek hydrocal casting of the Salida Coal Company, which my brother recently received from me for his sixtieth birthday.

After a great riverfront lunch in Salida, we made our way along the old Rio Grande mainline Second Division through Canon City, where we toured our fourth layout: the Royal Gorge Route Railroad. Besides taking more photos of the shay and display equipment, we walked down the right of way to photograph the F units sitting idly, waiting for another run. Before we left the Royal Gorge Layout, I purchased a couple more railroad books for my library.

As you can see, there was an awful lot to do during this convention, and my brother and I got to share some great, memorable times together and with others. But our experiences couldn't compare with those of a couple from Alabama, who, after leaving our group Sunday, included in their trip on the way back home a stay in Durango and a ride on the D&SRR, a drive up through Ridgway to Grand Junction and Glenwood Springs, a run to Georgetown and a ride on the Loop, and another stay in Denver and visit to the Colorado RR Museum. Now that is a trip to remember! The best part was when they told us how much they enjoyed their portion of the time with us in Chama. —SH



*An F7 was idling, waiting for the next passenger run on the Royal Gorge Route Railroad. (Photo by Gary Myers)*



# Module News



## Don's e-mails detail module progress —

From 6/24: Yesterday Dick, Stu and I met at my shop to work on the modules. We spent the time installing hinges and discussing the wiring. Finished about 1:00 PM. We decided to meet again next Saturday to continue the hinge work and start installing wiring clips. We also determined that cutting the legs at 42" + would work. Right now the aluminum for legs are cut to 7' lengths. Since these days are hot Dick thought that getting an earlier start would be a good idea.

—Donald B. Francis

All, next work secession will be held this Saturday morning. We will doing the fabulously entertaining task of sanding the prime coat and, hopefully, applying the first and, hopefully, only coat of Pullman Green paint.

Stewart after the painting is done, I think the wiring harnesses would be attached next. After that, the fun can begin starting with gluing in place the 2" foam followed by track layout. Remember, we are shooting for a showing in November 2012.

—Donald B. Francis

**Date Line Denver: Hot in!** All 14 modules are painted in a marvelous Pullman Green color and are now ready for electrical harnesses and hinging together. Next work secession will be Saturday July 21 at 8:30 AM. If all goes well, the 2" foam installation may start.

Looks like the track layout and installation of sub-roadbed, roadbed and track is drawing near. Get ready.

—Don Francis



Dick Hunter (left), Steve Schweighofer, and Don Francis work on assembling the modules for Sunrise Division's HO-scale modular layout. (Photo by Stewart Jones)

# Rail Fanning Outside the US

BY TIM HARKEY

The photos? Well, they are certainly *not* from this weekend. To prepare for the trip to the Lake, I dumped the memory in the Nikon. No, it is not that I forgot about the photos; I just have not used the camera since the trip to Odessa, Ukraine.

The first (*below*) is an armored steam locomotive from, if I read the plate correctly, 1908 and armored for World War I. The locomotive was displayed in a military history park just outside and south of Odessa.



The second photo (*bottom*) is at the train station in Odessa and is out on one of the platforms next to a commuter train. There was no freight service near, only different levels of passenger service. All under wire, with only one diesel locomotive to be found. It was a interesting surprise to hear, then watch, the pantograph of one of the electric locomotives release and slowly fold up as it descended from the over head wire. The sound was something of a "pop-hiss" as the high voltage connection was broken.



Don't ignore that renewal mail from the NMRA. Your investment in the NMRA benefits not only you, but also the future of model railroading. Help make sure our hobby is strong.



# From The Editor



BY TOM FRERICHS, EDITOR

It has been quite some time since I wrote a column, but the reason is simple: I have been occupied with work and home tasks. I have not even had time to do much of anything on my model railroad. On the other hand, it is summer, and we all know that modeling tends to get neglected until winter rolls around again.

However, I have a few bit of news to share and a whole lot of pictures from the Big Horn Mixed convention.

has an active Internet sales web site—but there is nothing like holding that locomotive in your hand before you buy it. I might also add that the personal service you get from a bricks-and-mortar store is so much better than you'll find using e-mail to communicate.

Thank you, Caboose Hobbies for supporting our hobby. And thank you for those gift certificates.

It is not easy to stay afloat in the hobby shop business. A tremendous amount of capital is tied up in inventory so that you can go in and purchase that one-of-a-kind detail part. Sadly, the current economy has hurt many business, hobby shops included.

After thirty-five years in the business, Mizell Trains & Hobbies is going out of business. Their web site is still active, and

but they do stock some model railroading goodies.

Dick Hunter reports that their new location "is in the southwest corner of Havana and Jewell. Arby's is on the corner and the hobby shop is behind Arby's, in the northwest corner of the shopping center, next to the bingo parlor."

Of course, if you blink, things change. Dick later wrote, "As of today, Arby's is now Deelish. Last week it was Arby's. This week it is Deelish."

Hopefully, the bingo parlor will stay put.

## Model Railroader Back Issues For Free

I got an e-mail from Stewart Jones saying, "I don't know whether this is possible, but I would like to include a notice in the newsletter to the effect that I have over 70 years of back issues of *Model Railroader* magazines I would like to give away. I have had only limited success at the swap table, but perhaps some of our older members might know some younger modelers who might appreciate having them and perhaps give them a boost in the hobby. I hate to throw them away." Talk to Stu for more information.

Now that we can get *Model Railroader* on DVD, although it isn't cheap, we can free up some storage space. On the other hand, getting those magazines for free can be a great way to pique a budding modeler's interest. I know it worked that way for me... back in 1970.

## I got long winded

I guess I didn't have as much space to fill as I thought I did. Oh well, expect to find a few more C&TSR pictures later. —SH



*Digital photography can be a fun way to preserve those memories of rail fanning trips. And if you have the right software, you can make a new picture look old again.* (Photo by Tom Frerichs)

## Hobby Shop News

Every person who brings something to share in our Show & Tell segment is automatically entered into a random drawing for a ten dollar gift certificate. Generally, it is my hat that to ensure a randomness.

But did you ever stop to think where that gift certificate comes from? It is due to the generosity of one of the finest model train stores in the world, Caboose Hobbies.

We are lucky to have such a fine hobby store in our city. Sure, you can purchase through the Internet—Caboose Hobbies

the store is opened from 10 AM to 6 PM, Monday through Saturday. There are heavy discounts on their remaining stock, including spare parts.

Finally, Colpar Hobbies has joined with Hobbytown USA and has moved from north Havana to 1915 South Havana Street. Colpar is a general hobby shop, with airplanes, military-related models, and other merchandise,

*Exiting the west portal of Rock Tunnel, Engine 487 rounds a curve. I took a lot of pictures at the convention.* (Photo by Tom Frerichs)



## Focus on the Future

### Regular Schedule Resumes in August

On August 2 Sunrise Division will have a regular meeting with a video segment, Show & Tell, Tool Tips, and clinic.

The Show & Tell segment is entitled "Turn of the Century," either the current one or the last one. I guess my 1950s diesels are not going to show up this time.

Tool Tips will be a quick demo of the Model Railroader DVD that has all the issues from 1934 to 2009. This will give you a chance to see the product in action before you spend the money. —SH

#### WANTED: LAYOUT TOUR CO-ORDINATOR

**\$Job Description:** Put together exciting layout venues for Sunrise Division layout tours.

**\$Benefits:** Get to know the great layouts and projects of our Division members, keeping tabs on members' progress. You may get some first hand great tips and ideas!

**\$Hours:** Awe inspiring to say the least!

**\$Pay:** Your efforts directly reduce the wear and tear of your poor Superintendent and Division officers.

 **APPLY TO YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD  
SUNRISE DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT.**

### Show & Tell Themes

When you submit a model for the show and tell, you automatically are entered into a drawing for a gift certificate from Caboose Hobbies in Denver.

August 2..... Turn of the Century (20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup>)  
September 6 ..... Timber Trestles  
October 4..... Coal Mining  
November 1..... Steam Locomotives  
December 6 ..... Rail Cars

## Upcoming Events

- ◇ *August 1-4, Union Pacific Historical Society 28th Annual Convention, Quality Inn and Suites, North Platte, Nebraska*
- ◇ *August 2, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting, Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM*
- ◇ *August 3-5, Denver, South Park & Pacific Historical Society 2012 Annual Convention, Bailey, Colorado*
- ◇ *August 4, Galloping Goose Rides (for purchase only), Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden, Colorado 9 AM—5 PM daily*
- ◇ *August 4, Steel'erbration—140 Years Steelworks Museum, Bessemer Historical Society, Pueblo, Colorado. 10 AM—8 PM*
- ◇ *August 9, Cinder Bear Express, Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, Chama, New Mexico.*
- ◇ *August 11, Galloping Goose Rides (for purchase only), Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden, Colorado 9 AM—5 PM daily*
- ◇ *August 16-19, 2012 Annual Railfest, Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, Durango, Colorado*
- ◇ *August 18, Ride the Rails Saturday, Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden, Colorado 9 AM—5 PM daily*
- ◇ *August 18, Cumbres Fiesta Train, Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, Chama, New Mexico.*
- ◇ *August 25, Galloping Goose Rides (for purchase only), Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden, Colorado 9 AM—5 PM daily*
- ◇ *August 25-26, CTTG and LCCA Public Toy Train Auction, The Ranch Country Club, West 120th Ave (west of Pecos Street), Westminster, Colorado. Standard and Wide Gauge, American Flyer, Lionel.*
- ◇ *August 26, Cinder Bear Express, Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, Chama, New Mexico.*
- ◇ *August 31, Moonlight Wine Tasting Train, Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, Chama, New Mexico.*
- ◇ *September 1, Galloping Goose Rides (for purchase only), Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden, Colorado 9 AM—5 PM daily*
- ◇ *September 2, Labor Day Special, Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, Chama, New Mexico*
- ◇ *September 6, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting, Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM*