



Sunrise Herald

February 2015 Volume 8, Number 2

Sunrise Division Officers

Superintendent.....Steve Schweighofer
Asst. Superintendent.....Frank Germo
Secretary.....Stewart Jones
Treasurer.....Bill Johnson
Program Chair.....Gary Myers
Division AP Chair.....David Bol
Youth Coordinator.....Ernee Edwards
Education Chair.....Stewart Jones

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Notes from the Secretary

We are now well into 2015 and I hope all of us are energized for modeling. Note that there are still many open topics for Tool Time and Clinics. If you have some ideas or techniques that would be of interest to your fellow modelers, here is your opportunity to present your ideas. Send your suggestions to Gary Myers, Program Chair at:

garymyers06@comcast.net

He would love to hear from you.

February Division Meeting

Steve Schweighofer opened the meeting at 7:25 with introductions. The meeting started with an announcement about a poll concerning the new NMRA logo. The old logo was a steam locomotive wheel with a coupler imposed on it. The new logo is a stylized wheel on a blue background. Gary Myers placed ballots on each table so each member could register an opinion, then collect the ballots at the end of the meeting. Gary then announced an effort to coordinate the efforts of the Achievement Program chairs and to clarify their duties. He then led a discussion of the convention contest regulations. Apparently there is an attempt clarify the definition of on-line verses off-line structures.

Finally Gary presented an initiative for changing the Gold Award for contest models. The old (current) wording is:

Gold Award- The judges shall be a panel selected by the Contest General Chair. The judges shall make their selection from the first place winners of the individual categories. The Gold Award shall be considered the Best of Show in the Model Contest. After selection, that model will be removed from the individual category in which it was entered and the first, second and third places shall be awarded to the reminding models in that category.

The new proposed wording is:

Gold Award - The judges shall be a panel selected by the Contest General Chair. The judges shall make their selection from the first place winners of the individual categories. The Gold Award shall be considered the Best of Show in the Model Contest. After selection, that model shall also be awarded first place from the individual category in which it was entered.

This month's meeting also had a greatly expanded swap table that many members apparently took advantage of. We did not have a Tool Time presentation, partly because there were no volunteers and also to provide more time for Frank Germon's clinic.

Dick Hunter gave a short module report, primarily focusing on the upcoming show in March.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 5th at Holy Love Church, South Chambers Road, 7:15 pm.

Upcoming Clinics for 2015

March – Servicing Steam Locomotives
April – Structure Lighting
May - TBA
June - TBA
July - TBA
August - TBA
September - TBA
October - TBA
November - TBA
February - TBA

Upcoming Tool Times for 2015

March – Trestle Jigs
April - TBA
May - TBA
June - TBA
July - TBA
August - TBA

September - TBA
October - TBA
November - TBA
December - TBA

Upcoming Show 'n' Tell Themes for 2015

March – Ore
April – Freight Docks and Cranes
May – Yard Offices
June – Fruit and Vegetables
July – Water / Fuel Tanks
August – Conveyors
September – Logging
October – Warehouses
November – Pork

February Show and Tell

The February theme was railroad vehicles for which there were five submissions:



Ernee Edwards presented this display of commercially-available vehicles lettered for various railroads. These do not appear to have adapter wheels to allow them to be operated on rails but can be staged at appropriate locations on a layout.



John Griffith displayed these three vehicles which appear to be lettered for Missouri Pacific and Rock Island. These also do not seem to have adapter wheels.



Gary Myers showed these vehicles. The first is an out-of-the-box truck. The second is a similar truck that has been disassembled into individual parts for painting and detailing. The driver, who doesn't seem to have come with the truck, has been modified and painted to fit inside (involving a foot amputation). We hope he doesn't have to leave the truck often. The third truck has been reassembled after painting.



Stu Jones brought in this Fairmont Speeder. These vehicles only ran on tracks but were motorized and enclosed for crew comfort. These were used for track inspection and in cases where steam locomotives are now used, to precede or follow a train to scout for possible fires.

Dick Hunter brought in two trucks that were modified to run on tracks. The Rio Grande Southern was perennially strapped for cash and therefore modified automobiles to operate in place of steam-powered trains. The Galloping Geese are primary examples. Unfortunately the photo was not suitable for inclusion.

February Clinic

Frank Germon presented a clinic on the Moffat Modelers. This group was founded about 1974 and built its original layout in the basement of the old Forney Museum. His first slide was a picture of some of the original members. The only person who could be identified positively was Steve Schweighofer, our current Superintendent, who was obviously much younger in the photo.



Frank Germa

A few years ago the original Forney building was sold to REI, who occupies it today. The museum then acquired a new location very close to the Denver Coliseum where it is now located. Jack Forney, the museum's director, had elaborate plans for both the old and new museums, but shortage of cash stymied both plans, particularly after the bill for moving the Union Pacific Big Boy to the new location eventually amounted to \$2.2 million.

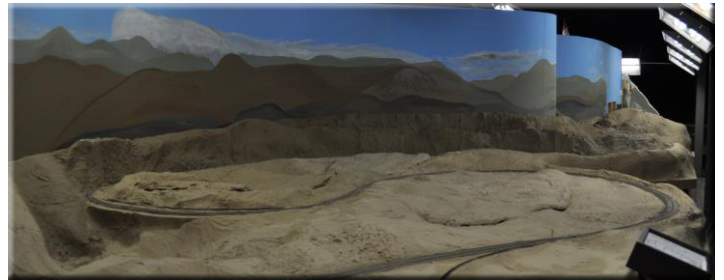
At one point in 2009, Frank became the only member, but plans to build a new N scale layout based on the Moffat Road on the Front Range gradually became reality. The group now has 35 members. Frank explained that the club regularly works on Tuesday evenings 4 – 8 pm., with an open house the first Saturday of the month. Their youngest member now is eight years old.



Union Station on the Layout

The remainder of his presentation showed a track plan of the layout, which measures 19 x 120 feet followed by a number of photos

showing construction stages and current appearance. Below is a selection of photos from their web site.

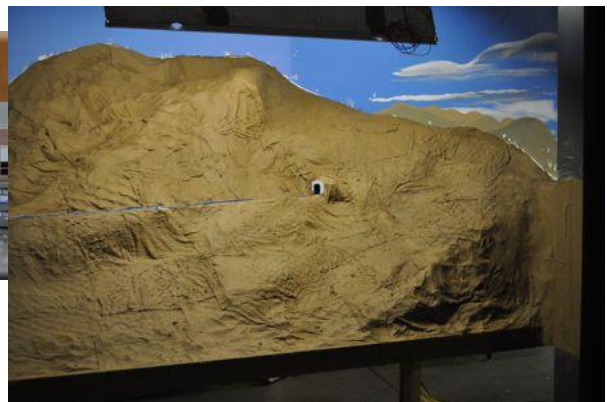


Here is their model of the Big 10 curves as it appeared in 2011

Pinecliff, originally called El Gato, is an unincorporated community which lies along State Route 72 in the South Boulder Creek Valley west of tunnel 29. The club's representation will cover an area from roughly tunnel 27, through tunnels 28, and 29, to just west of the village, dating to around 1953.



This is the reconstruction of Pinecliff as it appeared in April 2011



And Pinecliff as it appeared in August 2011



And Pinecliff as it appeared on October 28, 2014. The original chicken wire and plaster scenery has been removed and replaced with foam

He concluded his clinic with a short video of a freight passing through a front range Tunnel. However that modeler ran a Western Maryland freight train (his preference) rather than a Rio Grande model.

Modular Layout Report

On Saturday, the modular layout group added some additional finishing touches to our modular layout, in spite of the weather. The air was cold, but the sun was acceptably warm,



We have added new scenery and structures since the last show in November. Please stop by at the March show to see our progress. If you want to run a train during your visit, Don Francis has a

sign-up sheet to spread out our operating times and to enable more people to participate.

Marketplace

Dick Hunter gave a brief presentation about an O scale layout for sale by Greg Reindl.

Rocky Mountain Train Show

The Rocky Mountain Train Show will take place on March 7th and 8th at the Denver Merchandise Mart on 58th Ave. See the flyer below. It looks like there will be a number of commercial vendors presenting products at that show.

Rocky Mountain Train Show

March 7th & 8th, 2015
 Saturday & Sunday 10 am - 5 pm
at the Denver Mart

451 East 58th Ave Denver, CO 80216 1-25 at 58th Ave Exit

See new products & visit with reps from

2 1/2 Acres of Toy Trains - All Scales - Over 600 Tables of Trains
25 Operating Layouts - Free Workshops and Clinics - Hourly Door Prizes
Kids Play Layouts - Train Rides
Admission - \$9 Good for Both Days, Kids under 12 FREE!

Parking Notice - We have been informed that, beginning with our March, 2015 show, the Denver Mart will be imposing a \$5 per vehicle parking charge. The Rocky Mountain Train Show has nothing to do with this charge and will receive absolutely no revenue from it. We have tried to keep the show cost reasonable by offering discount coupons to our loyal visitors and free children's admission. We believe the show is still a great family entertainment value and hope that you will continue to patronize the show.

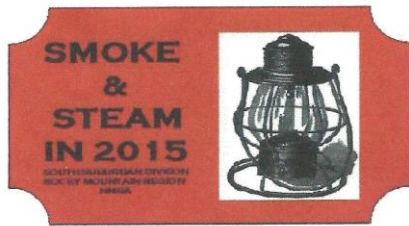
Sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Division of the Train Collectors Association™

Get a Discount Coupon at
www.RockyMountainTrainShow.com
 Seller Information Call (303) 364-0274

Join us on Facebook!

We will be displaying our modular layout at this show for the fourth time. We have not had any opportunity to work on it since the last show, but we hope to retrieve it from winter storage in time to do a little more work. Dick Hunter will have a sale table again with more offerings from estates that he has received.

Regional Convention



2015 CONVENTION and TRAIN SHOW

June 4-7, 2015

**SHERATON HOTEL – Denver Tech Center
7007 So. Clinton, Greenwood Village
80112**

**OPS SESSIONS - LAYOUTS – CLINICS
SPEAKER – TOURS – MODEL CONTESTS**

The South Suburban Division will host the Regional Convention, *Smoke and Steam in 2015*, June 4-7. Our Regional Convention has not been staged in Denver for a few years. This is your opportunity to attend without incurring travel expenses and we hope most of you will. A clinic schedule has not been announced, but every convention (where we are not riding a train) always has a number of fantastic clinics that are well worth attending and might inspire some clinics of your own.

National NMRA News

Here are some excerpts from Charlie Getz' NMRA newsletter

- The Board of Directors has agreed to adopt **standards for Layout Command Control (LCC)**, formerly known as NMRANet. LCC is an operating system protocol which will work hand-in-hand with DCC, handling all "non-motive power"-related functions on a model railroad layout, such as signaling. In essence, LCC is DCC for the rest of your layout. LCC was developed over the past several years by the OpenLCB Group, a large group of volunteers with expertise in electronics, networking, programming and model railroading, similar to the group that

developed the Java Model Railroad Interface (JMRI). The final draft of the LCC protocols and specification documents have been published for comment on www.nmra.org. Look for an article describing all the benefits of LCC in an upcoming issue of *NMRA Magazine*.

- While plans for the NMRA **Member Discount Program** have moved more slowly than anticipated, the Board discussed new ways of speeding up the concept.
- NMRA General Counsel Bob Amsler reported that NMRA **vertical integration** is continuing to be tested in one NMRA Region. He hopes to add a Division to the test in the near future. Amsler once again stressed that under this plan Regions and Divisions will remain in full control of all their assets and programs, contrary to rumors which continue to proliferate on the internet.
- The Board approved a motion creating a **policy that limits guest visits** to Division or Region events to three times. This policy will help Divisions and Regions remain in compliance with NMRA insurance regulations which mandate that all regular attendees be NMRA members.
- The Board discussed the future of the NMRA **Pike Registry**, which has, in recent years, been relatively inactive. The idea of a "Layout Registry," in which members voluntarily agree to allow visitors to contact them for layout visits, is being investigated and a report will be made at the Portland convention in August. This directory would help members find layouts and other NMRA members in their own area, or in areas which they're visiting.