Little Red Caboose Makes Sunrise Appearance

The February Show & Tell theme honored St. Valentine's Day with a red rolling stock requirement. Fortunately, red is a hue open to interpretation as there were samples of boxcar red, mineral red, and even grayed red. And, as you might expect, there were a few cabooses on display.



Linda Sponholtz brought a fine S-scale Rock Island caboose painted in a bright red livery. Linda also won the drawing, although the ten dollar gift certificate from Caboose Hobbies was handed to her with the strict injunction not to allow her modelling husband, Glenn, to get his hands on it.

Moving down in scale. Brian Starr, a new member, offered this HO-scale combine-caboose. Brian said he purchased

his caboose used and "in pretty

bad shape." He has started to work on it. For example, the roof used to be white.

Tom Frerichs brought in an N-scale Centralia Car Shops Santa Fe caboose. Several members commented that N-scale mod-



els have much better de-

tail work these days compared to offerings from previous years.

The smallest caboose displayed was this scratch-built D&RG Nn₃ model from Stephen Schweighofer. The picture is larger than the

model, yet look at the meticulous attention to detail. It is hard to see in the pic-

ture, but the chimney has guide wires to hold it in place.

There was more to see than just the tail end of a train; there were freight cars and locomotives as well. The display space was more than eight feet long, and the models were lined up three deep. Stewart Jones brought the longest "car" which were articulated well cars



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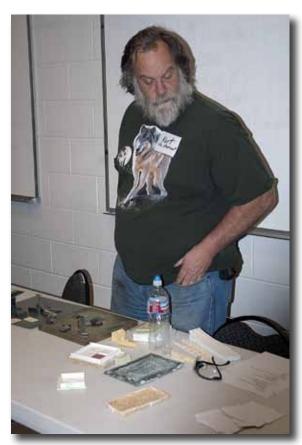
Little Red Ca Show & Tell Themes ... February Meeting Has Cast(ing) of Thousands .. Other February Business.... March Meeting Not To Be Missed... It's Official-We Have a Place to Meet ... Upcoming Events Just 4 Months To Make Tracks.....

in HO scale. They seemed to go on forever. There were box

cars, gondolas, bulkhead flats...everything except a passenger car.

Continued Show & Tell - page 3

n a recent episode of *The Big Bang Theory*, Sheldon, after being robbed, was looking for a better town to live in. Enid, Oklahoma was on his initial list, but didn't make the cut. It didn't have a model train store. We need to sign him up for the NMRA.



Kurt Nielsen looks over his props as he explains resin casting during his clinic.

Show & Tell Themes

March 4Plows
April 1Reefers
May 6"Tanks" for the Memories
July 1 Independence Day Special: Depots
August 5 Favorite Train
September 2 Labor Day Special: Shop
Buildings
October 7 Oktoberfest: Beer Cars
November 4 A Piece of Railroadiana
December 2 Christmas Past: Your oldest
locomotive or rolling stock or the one
you've owned longest

Officers

Division Superintendent
Gary Meyers
Assistant Superintendent
Don Francis
Treasurer
William Johnson
Secretary
Tom Frerichs

February Meeting Has Cast(ing) of Thousands

Maybe not thousands, but twenty-seven were in attendance to watch Kurt Nielsen's clinic on resin casting.

Kurt, who has a business selling resin cast kits and tools for model railroaders, described the resin casting process in detail. He had example molds and described the advantages and pitfalls that await the modeler thinking about casting. Members asked questions about health concerns, recommended materials and suppliers, and specific techniques.

The clinic wasn't just on casting. Kurt demonstrated the best ways to put together resin kits. His presentation included a number great tips. Submerging a warped piece in water and then using a microwave to heat the water is the easiest way make a piece flexible enough to flatten it out. Sanding the back of a wall with a fairly course grit sandpaper mounted on a hard surface will make it much easier to remove flash from window openings. Purchasing inexpensive "super glue" in small tubes can save you money not only in the purchase price but also because you will always have fresh glue. Always wash your resin kits in water with a little dish detergent to get rid of the mold release, making it easier to glue. You should also wash it after assembly to get rid of any skin oils so that painting is easier.

Kurt even offered a little personnel hygiene advice. A toothbrush is a great tool for cleaning kits, and you "should replace your toothbrush every three months...right?"

Other February Business...

The meeting began with a DVD from Model Railroader with short segments on layouts, weathering, prototype railroads, and other topics of interest to model railroaders.

Rich Flammini talked about upcoming shows and RMR promotions. He passed out several "Rail Pass" flyers to some of our visitors, and explained the advantages of belonging to the NMRA. Rich is doing a great job promoting our organization.

Nate Bryant gave a short report on the RMR Regional Convention, Tracks to Alamosa. Sunrise Division and South Suburban Division are sponsoring the 2010 convention, and Nate pointed out that there was a new option for the train ride on Saturday. Recognizing that not every member's family was interested in the convention topics, those members may still take the La Veta Pass trip at a reduced rate without a convention registration.

It was decided to move the Unofficial Meeting After the Meeting back to Village Inn at I-225 and Mississippi. The vote, instigated by the Pie Special Interest Group (PSIG), was unanimous on this important issue.

Show & Tell - continued from page 1



Jim Laird brought in a couple of flatcars that he had used to practice his weathering technique. If tired, old, and beatup is good, then he has a couple of winners with these flatcars.

There really isn't a Belmont Candy Company, but you couldn't tell from this HO boxcar lettered for the fictitious Provo,

Utah, company. Dave Spritke explained that this box car was done as

a special project for a friend of his, Jim Belmont, who worked for a candy company. Mr. Belmont made a practice, as he was driving for his employer, of stopping along the rails and taking pictures of trains.

Larry Buyck brought in a couple of HO models including this Great Northern boxcar. Larry models a modern operation, and





he feels that the boxcar is an anachronism, but it was a gift. "Besides," he said, "it is red, isn't it?"

How about a new locomotive that is twenty years old? When Bill Skinner first got out of the military back in the 90s, he was do-

ing custom paint jobs for a local hobby shop in Mo-

line. Bill said that back then it was hard to get locomotives for certain railroads—there was not the great variety available today—so when the shop owner was going to a show in a town once served by a railway for which no models

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were available, he would commission a special paint job. This HO Soo Line locomotive was the last job Bill did before moving. The locomotive did not sell after a few months, so

Bill bought it, but he's never run it.

Dick Hunter brought in this 2-4-0 locomotive which qualified under two criteria: not only is it red but it could also be considered a Valentine of sorts. He'd purchased it for his late wife for to run in a loop around their Christmas tree.

There were many more models on display–Dillon Allison brought in a bright red N-scale gondola, for example–but I didn't get

a chance to write down the details and take pictures of everything that people brought in. I am sorry if missed your contribution. Our Divsion Superintend will be back next month, and I'll have a little more time.



Sunrise members watch a video before the business meeting at the Sunrise's February gathering.

March Program About Programming

Having trouble figuring out what CVs are about? Want to know the difference between a long address and a short address in a DCC decoder? Want to know why you would care?

Chuck Shell's clinic at our March meeting, entitled "Programming Decoders," will have answers to your questions. Be sure to join us for this chance to learn about getting the most out of your DCC decoders.

It's Official— We Have a Place to Meet

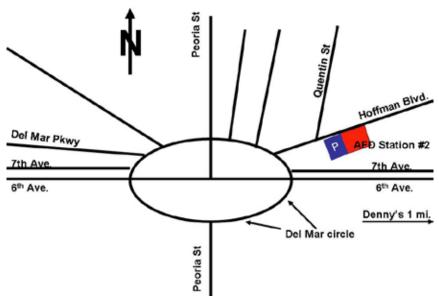
The question of where Sunrise Division will be meeting this year has been settled. We will continue to meet at Aurora Firestation #2 at 12600 Hoffman Boulevard in Aurora.

This is a good facility, with tables, chairs, and a large-sized television for videos. It also has close-in parking and no stairs. Now that we have located the switch to turn off the firestation public address system, it is even quiet.

The map can help get you to the location. Public parking is on the west side of the building. If, when you arrive, the door located in the middle of the west wall is locked, just knock. It has coded entry lock—no keys necessary—but that means we cannot leave it unlocked. We are trying to keep it propped open a bit, but that is not the easiest thing to do.

Many thanks to Dick Hunter for working on getting this nailed down.

Editor's note: An apology is due Dick. Last month there was a disconnect between my brain and my fingers. The caption crediting Dick was misspelled; his last name is not really "Hunger."



Starting at Sixth Avenue and Peoria Street, travel east to the first traffic light. Turn left on Del Mar Circle, then travel two streets, turning right onto Hoffman Boulevard. The firestation is on the right hand side. Parking is on the west side of the building. (Map drawn by Richard Hunter.)

Just 4 Months To Make Tracks



June 3 will be here before you know it, and if you do not have your reservations for the RMR convention you will miss your chance to enjoy great comaraderie, interesting clinics, and a fun train ride over La Veta Pass. Check your Callboard for a registration form. For more information go to the web site http://www.trainweb.org/SunriseDivision/RMRConvention2010/trackstoalamosa.html.

Upcoming Events

February 13-14, 2010	
March 5-7, 2010	
3 /	Tracks To Alamosa - Rocky Mountain Region Convention, Alamosa, CO
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Next Meeting for Sunrise Division, RMR, NMRA Clinic "Programming Decoders"

March 4, 2010 - 7:15 PM — 12600 Hoffman Boulevard, Aurora, CO 80010