



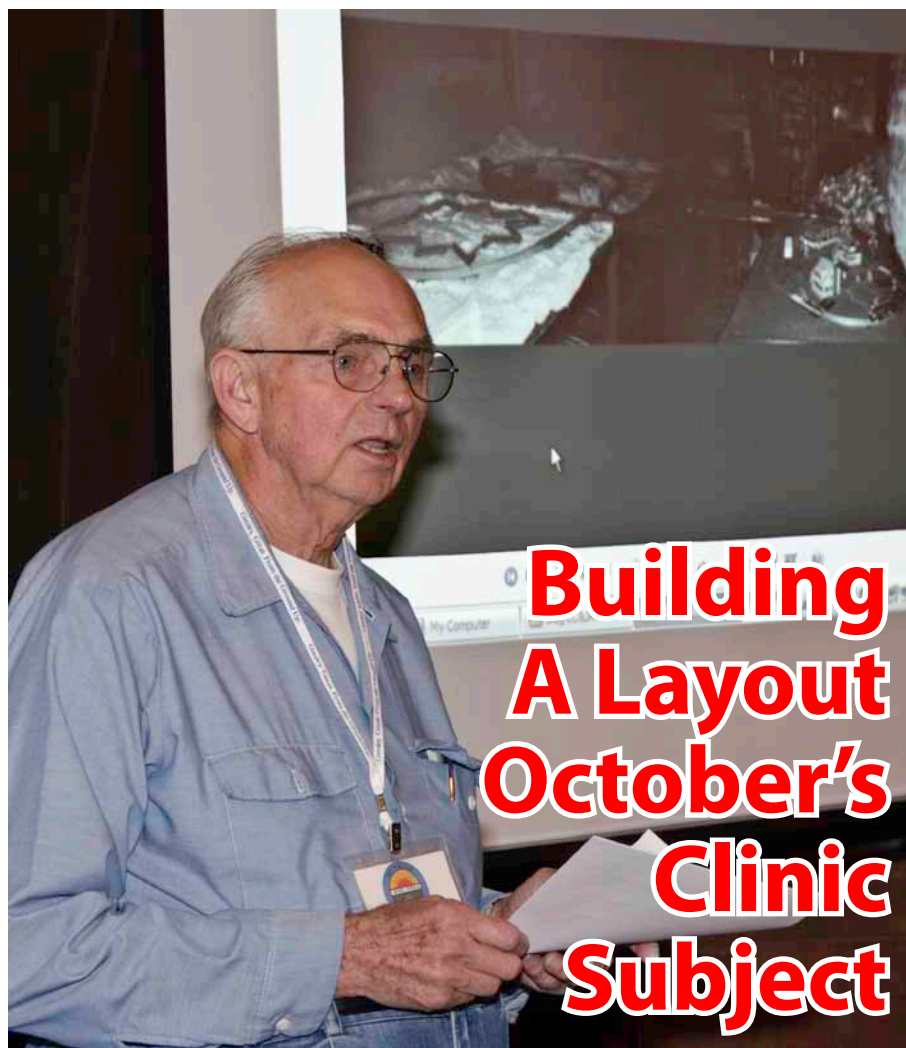
# Sunrise Herald

## November 2011

Volume 4, Number 11

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*Dick Hunter used PowerPoint to illustrate his clinic. On the screen is his first layout, made many years ago using a train set given to him by his father.* (Photo by Tom Frerichs)

**B**uilding your first layout? If you have never done it before it can appear to be a daunting task, but Dick Hunter's October clinic gave good advice on how to approach the job. He used a real example: his layout that he built in a room above his garage. He started with the partially finished room, not even fully dry-walled, and using a PowerPoint presentation showed the steps he went through until he was able to run a train.

Dick was, among other things, a contractor, and he offered many useful tips

in building the layout. For example, he found that it was not necessary to have all of the L-girders exactly level. He said that he used clamps many times as he adjusted his risers and roadbed. A Dremel tool with a grinder works well to knock off any screw points that happen to extend too far, and painting the roadbed and cork grey before laying the track makes ballasting much easier.

If you weren't there, you missed a good grounding on the steps to build a working layout.

—SH



### Dues Increase Slated for Upcoming Year

In order to ensure the financial wellbeing of the NMRA into the future, there will be a dues increase on January 1, 2012, for U.S. members and overseas members served by the Chattanooga office. Regular memberships will increase by \$5 to \$44, and subscriptions to *NMRA Magazine* will increase by \$3 to \$22. Sustaining memberships (including the magazine) will increase by \$13 to \$110, and student memberships (including the magazine) will increase by \$4 to \$32. In addition, our highly successful RailPass trial membership program will continue at \$9.95. The current RailPass conversion rate to regular memberships is around 65%. Memberships administered by the A, B, and C offices are not affected.

### Other NMRA News Of Note

◇ Di Voss, who's heading up the Cruise Convention committee, continues to receive results from the survey published in the October issue of *NMRA Magazine*. To date he's received around 200 responses, and estimates those "in favor" to be about 75%. In addition, Di would like to remind those who think there won't be enough time on a Cruise Convention for layout tours, OPSIG meets or other activities, that the ship will be in port from about 8:00 a.m. until about 10:00 p.m.

◇ For some reason, the story that the NMRA membership has been declining over the past few years continues to persist. *It ain't true*. NMRA membership is holding steady at around 19,500. According to the latest "Membership Thermometer" figures compiled by Marketing, Advertising and Promotions manager Tom Draper, the NMRA lost 104 members between August 2009 and August 2011, but gained 91 members between August 2006 and August 2011.

◇ Convention news: Even though Grand Rails 2012 will have dozens of top notch model railroads open for self-guided tours, the convention committee wanted to make sure everyone has a chance to see some of their great layouts. So there will also be several bus tours to some of the area's best layouts. Layouts include every scale from Z to G, and every level of completion. They're also offering a very special, exclusive seven-hour limo layout tour for groups of 6 to any of the six layouts on the self-guided list. The price for the limo is only \$120 per person. Get all the details and registration info at [www.gr2012.org](http://www.gr2012.org).

◇ Repeat announcement: The Howell Day Museum is issuing a new release of its highly successful Gorre and Daphetid bobber cabooses. Two new bobbies, numbered 3 and 5, are available from Headquarters immediately. A single car is US\$19.95 + \$4 shipping and handling, and the set of two is US\$34.95 + \$4 shipping and handling. The new cars are available in HO scale only, and are ready to run. They feature operating magnetic knuckle couplers and free-rolling metal wheels. Watch for the ad running in *NMRA Magazine*. To order, call HQ at 423-892-2846.

## Giving Back Makes Thanksgiving Better

Holy Love Lutheran Church, who hosts our monthly meeting gratis, is having a food drive this month for those in need. Speaking from experience at my own church, there is a lot of folks that need help, and the local food banks are stretched to limit trying to help.

Starting this month, Sunrise Division members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to the each meeting for the church's food bank.

Gary Myers, Division Superintendent, also announced that Sunrise Swap donations in November and December will be given to the church. -SH



## Division Data

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

Division Superintendent . . . . . Gary Myers  
 Asst. Division Superintendent . . . . Donald Francis  
 Treasurer . . . . . William Johnson  
 Secretary/Editor . . . . . Tom Frerichs  
 Program Chair . . . . . Jim Laird  
 Modular Committee Chair . . . . . Donald Francis  
 Boy Scout Liaison . . . . . Louis Surles  
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 Editor e-mail . . TOMFRERICHS@TOMFRERICHS.COM  
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Model  
railroaders  
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## Tool Time Tips



**M**odel railroaders are known for finding a use for just about anything, and Nick Tomlinson's Tool Time Tip in October was a perfect example. Nick is a farrier, at least for his own horses, and one of his tools of trade is a rasp used to shape the horse's hoof.

After a time, these rasps wear too much to be used for its initial purpose, but they are still plenty sharp enough for modeling uses. Nick said he goes through one about every three months, and he brought in a box of rasps to share with Sunrise members. I certainly know that your editor grabbed one for use in shaping foam.

Thanks, Nick, for sharing your tip and your tools at our October meeting.

-SH

## Membership Report



BY GARY MYERS — ACTING MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

It was great  
to see some  
new faces  
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not that  
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faces are all  
that bad.

### Some New Old Faces

It was great to see some new faces last month, not that the old faces are all that bad. Nick Tomlinson joined us, who I've known for years, but I didn't know Nick's last name even though he was on our mailing list for quite awhile. I've run into Nick at operating sessions, particularly as the Castle Rock yardmaster at Dave Cochrun's Castle Rock & Pacific (CRAP) layout. New member Philip Abaray, a bona-fide Union Pacific retiree from Omaha, joined us as well. Philip apparently qualifies as an HO and 1:1 scale expert. In between, large scaler Bill Siedeler made an appearance, who also astounded us with an N-scale announcement. Besides these newbies, John Gardberg from Rocky Mountain TCA stopped in to check with Rich and me on our commitment to the TCA show at the Denver Merchandise Mart on November 26-27. John Grigg introduced to the group his wife Sharilyn, who had to endure our meeting before the coffee and pie served later at Village Inn. Counting all the regulars and those who may have missed a few meets, we had twenty-five attendees.

### Inside the Numbers

Our membership stands at 86 this month with two renewals and two re-rails. Some of you may have seen Scott Perry's membership report on the Yahoo group. Yes, our membership total was up to 93 last year. Personally, I am not concerned. Also, some of Scott's numbers aren't quite right since I know my son isn't 21 yet, although that was listed as our youngest member. Unfortunately, three members passed away just in the last few months, and times are tough. I don't think Sunrise Division is in danger of evaporating. Some of our former members have continued to support the Division (with clinics & layout tours) which I greatly appreciate.

### Be On the Look Out

One way we can keep our numbers up in our Division is to encourage our friends and fellow modelers to participate in our activities. So starting this month, I am listing some people who are AWOL from our Division. If you're buddies with some of these guys, talk 'em into joining you for one or more of our activities.

-SH

## Do You Know These Folks?

David Anderson  
Mike Ballew  
Steve Campbell  
Richard Easted  
Robert Hagen

Paul L'herault  
David Olson  
Jarrod Shaver  
Philip Tromberg  
Joseph Walsh



# Show & Tell



October's Show & Tell was devoted to stock cars, a once profitable business for the railroads. On the right from top: Dick Hunter brought this G-stock car that featured sound effects: lowering cattle. As the night wore on, though, it became apparent that Dick's description, the "sick cow car," was apt. After awhile, Dick put the cow out of its misery and turned off the switch. Rich Flammini brought an HO-scale Brighton Convention car, which celebrated their 30th Anniversary. The HO-scale STLIM&S car was built from an Ambroid kit by Don Deuell. He also scratch built the HO-scale D&RGW car based on an Ambroid plan. At the bottom is Gary Myer's Chicago & Northwestern stock car, which Gary explained "wasn't up to his normal weathering standards." However, from the close up below you can see the "hay" that Gary added, even though that hay is a lot cleaner than any hay I have seen where animals have been standing.





## October Show & Tell Continued

As early as the 1830s in England, railroads were transporting animals to market, and this traffic was very lucrative, even with the expense of the 28-hour rule and having to transport animal attendants with the stock. However, beginning after World War II and accelerating in the 1960s, trucks began to take away this traffic from the railroads. A number of factors contributed to the decline. The great stockyards, including the huge ones in Denver, Omaha, and Chicago, became less important as ranchers began to ship animals to local packing plants. Road improvements made it easier to truck stock, and since much of the car's carrying capacity was unused the cost of transport was high.

However, the railroads did not give up without a fight. The Union Pacific converted auto parts boxcars to pig carriers in the late 1960s and hauled strings of 10 or twelve of them at the end of TOFC trains. Even in the 1980s the Pennsy still had an Oscar Meyer special running.

Times change, and there is practically no stock traffic on the railroads now. The huge stockyards are weed-grown, empty pens; and the associated packing plants abandoned hulks. But if you are modeling any time before the 1970s or 1980s, then stock car shipments will add a lot of interest to your operations.

-SH

**From the top:** Bill Johnson brought two Trix Union Pacific HO-scale stock cars. These were nicely painted models. The ATSF HO-scale car was brought by John Kerbaugh. It shows some nice weathering, though fortunately it is not so realistic as to have the odor of the prototype. The two HO-scale models on the bottom are from Stewart Jones. The D&RGW car was scratch built about 1954 using Northeastern wood parts. It was based upon drawings of a Reading car in the 1954 Model Railroader and was originally painted for the Pennsylvania. When Stu moved, the car got a new paint job. The Union Pacific car was a 1953 Model Die Casting kit. The original kit was all metal, but over the years the roof and floor/under frame broke, so Stewart replaced them with Northeastern wood parts.







## From The Chief

BY GARY MYERS, DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT

### Great West Rails 2011 Annual Rocky Mountain Region

**L**arge in premise but underachieving overly optimistic goals, this local convention still managed to accomplish a lot. The attendance was a little smaller than at previous conventions, but the ambience for the smaller groups was very congenial.

After doing clinics at two conventions last year and a Mini-Meet this year (not counting Division meetings), it was nice to take a break from all that and just enjoy the convention. Getting to spend a little relaxed time with some of you and other friends actually made this a very enjoyable experience. First thing in the morning I set up the 2012 RMR Convention Big Horn Mixed promotion in the convention train room, registered, met up with friends, and headed out.

Friday, we sought out a layout that was inexplicably not open, which we abandoned for the tour at Intermountain. The layout we missed was able to open a little late. Oh, well. We toured the old and new Intermountain facilities, which I had been unable to do at previously. That turned out to be interesting and fun, and the tour was followed up with a great BBQ lunch. That afternoon, I spent some time socializing and attending clinics. Friday night, I

got together with Jim Laird and Bill Tuley to help judge the models, even though I did not have any entries this time. I was disappointed that I did not have an entry ready for the contest this year as I had done for several previous years in a row. The judging was very successful, and I continued learning as well. My teammate judge was Don Bailey, who I had become friends with before, so getting to judge with him was very pleasurable. The judging teams were able to award fifteen merit awards out of twenty-two very good models. I got to learn about construction from Don, who by the way, won his third Caboose Hobbies Award for Best of Show (most points). At the conclusion of the judging, we all adjourned for a late night brew in the lounge.

Saturday, I trekked to three terrific layouts in the morning and attended more clinics in the afternoon. Snacks were provided during the clinics on both days, and on Saturday we enjoyed snacks during the pre-dinner cash bar. We enjoyed a great dinner with an excellent speaker on the Union Pacific's steam program.

Overall, it was a neat, quaint convention with lots of time to hang out with each other, relax, see and talk model railroading for a weekend. My only regret was I missed the operating sessions at the Greeley Freight Station Museum this time out. For me though, Great West Rails was a great success.

-SH



### Prototype Photo From Jim Laird

This photo was taken in May 2011 in the former C&NW Appleton yard (I think it is now Wisconsin Central). Behind the RDC

is the former SOO LINE's interchange track with the C&NW which is now CN. It appeared that the crew had tied up for the night. The RDC's were introduced in the 1950's so this one has had a long life.

(Photo by Jim Laird)

# Sunrise Web Projects

BY GARY MYERS — WEBSLINGER

For those of you surfers on the Sunrise webpage, you may note I have fallen behind in a few areas. Finally the Events Calendar has been upgraded and includes several of the Colorado Tourist Railroads' special events. If you have checked the Recycled News button, you know you can link to every single past issue of the Sunrise Herald, including my original primitive issues. It is amazing the vast improvements Mr. Frerichs has implemented.

## Asking for Help

I am sorry to say the Conventions Past link has not linked to anything new for quite some time.

Compiling photos for the past Rocky Mountain Regional Conventions—2009 through 2011—is my current endeavor. I guess I've been pretty lazy or just too busy with other things. Although I have a lot of photos, if you have some photos you would like to share I would be happy to include them.

I also could use help on the format. I think Javascript code that would provide alternating photos would be great, but I am Javascript knowledge deficient. Examples of code examples would be helpful. If you are somewhat Javascript proficient, I really need your help.

## Requests for Material

If members have attended other conventions, such as National, and would like to share them, please feel free to provide copies

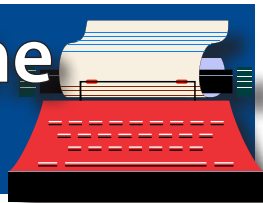


to me. Probably a CD would be the easiest way to get them to me. Also, if you have thought of other things you would like to see on our home page, please do not hesitate to speak up and let me know. I would like the web site to be a useful source of information for our members.

Make sure you bookmark <http://www.trainweb.org/SunriseDivision/> and visit often.

—SH

## From The Editor



BY TOM FRERICHS

You may have noticed that this issue of the Herald is rather late, and for that I apologize. It has been a particularly busy time at work, and the time to edit has been very limited.

However, I can promise you that we have some great articles coming up. Dillon Allison has a good story on the layout he and his farther are planning to build. Gary Myers has a story with pictures, and I even made him retake the photographs. That, of course, is the editor's prerogative.

What is missing from this issue is the dedicated proofreading from Dick Hunter, Gary Myers, and others. Without their help the quality of the newsletter, as you will probably discover, wouldn't be nearly as good. Thanks, guys.

—SH

## Division Elections Scheduled

It's that time again when you, the members of Sunrise Division get to elect your officers for the coming year. We will be voting at our November meeting.

Currently nominated are:

Superintendent	Gary Myers
Asst. Superintendent	Don Francis
Treasurer	William Johnson
Secretary	Tom Frerichs

Nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the vote. If you have ever wanted to stage a palace coup, now is your chance. Or if you like what the Division has been doing, this is your opportunity to express your approval by your vote.

—SH



Your investment in the NMRA benefits not only you, but also the future of model railroading. Help make sure our hobby is strong.

## Focus on the Future



## Want Track Looking Like This?

If the answer is no, and it should be, then you need to come to the November Sunrise Division meeting. Don Francis will be presenting his clinic on how to scenic track so that it looks realistic. There is lot of detail that can be added to your track work to make it fit into the scene, and Don's got some great tips.

You can expect a great presentation along with the Tool Time Tip segment and Show & Tell., which will be mine-related equipment and buildings.

Also on the agenda is the election of officers. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

And remember to join us at the meeting after the meeting at the Village Inn at Iliff & Chambers. Pie, coffee, and conversation make a nice end to the evening.

-SH

## Division Meeting Place

Sunrise Division meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:15 PM. The meeting is held at Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado, which is located one block north of Quincy Avenue on Chambers Road. Check <http://www.trainweb.org/SunriseDivision> for the latest information.

-SH

## 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.

November 3 ..... Mine Related  
December 1 ..... Favorite Holiday Train  
January 5 ..... Snow Fighters  
February 2 ..... Engine Servicing Facilities  
March 1 ..... Turntables  
April 5 ..... Waterfront Structures  
May 3 ..... Logging Equipment

## Upcoming Events

- ◇ *October 6, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting*, Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ *November 3, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting*, Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ *November 11-13, Wasatch Rails*, Wasatch Division, NMRA, Grand and Promontory Buildings, Utah State Fair Park, 155 North 1000 West, Salt Lake City, Utah
- ◇ *November 12, SCFD Free Days—Galloping Goose Ride*, Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden, Colorado. Free admission. Rides available for purchase only.
- ◇ *November 12-13, Georgetown Bighorn Sheep Festival*, Georgetown Loop Railroad, Georgetown, Colorado
- ◇ *November 12-13, Great Train Expo*, National Western Complex, Denver, Colorado. Admission: \$7, under 12 free
- ◇ *November 18—December 28, 2011 Polar Express*, Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad Train, Durango, Colorado
- ◇ *November 19, Model Railroad & Toy Train Swap Meet*, The Foothills Society of Model Railroaders, Green Mountain Presbyterian Church, Lakewood, Colorado. 9—11:30 AM
- ◇ *November 19-20, SANTA ARRIVES IN GEORGETOWN*, GEORGETOWN LOOP RAILROAD, GEORGETOWN, COLORADO
- ◇ *November 26-27, Rocky Mountain Toy Train Show*, Denver Merchandise Mart, 451 East 58th Avenue, Denver, Colorado. Admission: \$8, under 12 free. Bring a new toy for \$1 off admission. More information at [www.RockyMountainToyTrainShow.com](http://www.RockyMountainToyTrainShow.com)
- ◇ *November 26-27 and December 2-4, Santa's North Pole Adventure*, Georgetown Loop Railroad, Georgetown, Colorado
- ◇ *December 3, Santa Claus Special—Steam-Up Event*, Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden, Colorado
- ◇ *December 6, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting*, Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM