

Click Here to Return to the Table of Contents **Achievement Program** <mark>ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM</mark> While at the National Narrow Gauge Convention I was able to be ERN UTAH DIVISION inspired by over 20 layouts and modules! Many of them home layouts and several clubs. One of the layouts that was really inspiring was just 7x11 feet in a garage. It was designed with a pulley system that could raise it to the ceiling but the owner admitted that he hadn't done that since CHIEVEMENT PROCE installing the track! It was still cool to see that he had the option. There are several reasons I liked it. One is that it is small enough that he, with help from his friends could get it to look done pretty easily. It wasn't a massive empire like several others that we saw that might never get done. He has plans to update several of the scenes still so it's never really "done." Another reason is that there were many, many vignettes, or mini scenes that made the layout come to life - made it look like people lived there – life was happening – a purpose for the railroad. I also liked the variation in trees. I could go on. 1 I didn't ask if he was an NMRA member, we just had a good time talking about trains! My point in

Thoughts About Clinic Presentations FROM THE BENCH **Thoughts About Clinic Presentations** By Steve Moore It was my honor to be the Clinics Co-Chairman for the 2019 National NMRA Convention in Salt Lake City. There I was able to oversee the clinics presentations, what worked well, and what could be improved. Over the course of the entire week's activities, I was able to observe many fine presentations. Very few had problems, but most were well prepared and presented. Here are some suggestions. • File Storage. If your presentation files (PowerPoint), are large, or involving video files, break up your presentation into separate files. Not as convenient, but playback is more reliable. Do not embed video files in your presentation. Have them all on your USB Flash Drive as separate files. Do not rely on "live" files via the internet during your presentation. Local Wi-Fi may not be reliable at the location you will be giving your clinic, "ify" at best. Download the files and have them available on your flash drive as separate files. During your clinic preparation, try playing back your PowerPoint and video files ahead of time on different computers to be sure they will play correctly. Compatible Equipment, Adaptors and Cabling. Many newer (video) projectors and TVs do not have VGA inputs, only HDMI (High-Definition Multimedia Interface). VGA is an older format. The HDMI inputs will result in a higher resolution image on the screen. For this reason, be prepared to connect the computer to an HDMI projector or TV input. If you are going to be using your own P.C. laptop, and it only has a VGA output, you need to be prepared to bring your own VGA to HDMI adapter. And if you are planning to use a MAC computer, you will need a suitable adapter so that the HDMI projector input can read your program signal. It is highly recommended to have your P.C. compatible program files on a flash drive, and not use your own computer if at all possible. Be prepared. (See File Storage). Audio Playback. If your presentation incorporates audio playback, you have a couple of choices. One is to use the available audio capability of the projector if present. The audio on your files play from your flash drive, through the P.C. out through the HDMI cabling to the projector's audio system. Most projectors have built-in 4 to 10 watt amplifiers and speakers. This arrangement is usually sufficient for most situations. If you need more than what the projector's audio system can provide, you will need to make other arrangements. This option could include bringing your own amplification and speaker system, or using another available system. In either case, the audio would come out a jack on the P.C. to the external amplifier and speaker system. This requires some planning and experimentation on your part before presenting your clinic. Preparation. • Time Limits. Arrive early to the place of your clinic. Ask again when you are to start and finish, because conditions may have changed. Find out how much setup and tear down time you have. These time limits should include any time for questions and answers, handouts, visiting, meeting clinic attendees, • Remember Your Audience. This is important. Is your audience going to understand the terminology you plan on using? Are they going to have experience and a background in the topic you are presenting, or are they "newbies" who have no idea what you are talking about? When in doubt, explain the terms you use. When possible use visuals that clarify. • Pointers and Remotes. Before you start your presentation, be sure you understand, and have brief experience using the remote control. Usually,

remotes are designed with a button to the right for forward, and left for back. The pointer feature is most often in the center or toward the top of the device. Try it, forward, backward, and the pointer before you start your clinic. An extra set of batteries on hand is always a good idea.

• Word Slides vs. Pictures. Try not to use white backgrounds in your

Getting Started

PowerPoint programs. A little bit of color is more appealing. Use labels, and main points only. There is nothing worse than having the audience looking into a white background with black letters, and reading along with the presenter. Save that for your handout. Pictures and diagrams, well labeled, are much more likely to convey the information you have to offer.

• Show-N-Tell. If your clinic doesn't involve playback, but rather is more of a demonstration, be

sharing this here is that you don't need a massive amount of work for the AP Program. There is some level of proficiency but it's more about diversity and being a well rounded modeler. I know I am still learning but willing to share what I know and that way we can enjoy the journey together!

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AP Chairman

sure your audience can see what you are doing. This could involve raising a table, or even using some kind of video camera connected to a TV or video projector and screen. • "Can You Hear Me Now?" Speak clearly at a level that all of your audience can hear you. This is true whether or not you are using a P.A. system. Is the room environment suitable so that all of your audience can hear what you have to say? Is it possible to close doors and windows? If they can't hear you, you are wasting your time and your audience's. • Handouts. It is often helpful to have a handout, something in their hand to take home and to refer to. This should include any major points of your clinic, terminology, reference material appendix (and or for further reading list), source information such as part lists, and source web address. Generally speaking, these are given out, or made available, at the end of the presentation. If it is available online, show the web address on the screen at the end of the · Practice, Practice, Practice. The most valuable thing a clinic presenter can do is practice giving the presentation. Give it to yourself, to a friend using the same language you would use if you were giving it "for real". Do it over and over again to yourself, out loud, and to someone else. You will find things you will want to change, a title, a label, a picture to be eliminated, or a whole section to be added. Maybe you will see something that is in the wrong place, or order in the clinic and should to be moved before or after something else. Have fun with your audience. Enjoy the experience. Follow these guidelines and you will have a successful delivery of the material you have worked so hard to share. Click Here to Return to the Table of Contents Photo Run By THE PHOTO RUN BY What is happening with modelers from around the area. From Lee Wohlgemuth: Sitting on top of a current (2019) new tie, is a "Tie Plate" from 1869. This tie plate was found by my friend who farms the former railroad land around the Golden Spike Monument in northern Utah. He tells me that he has found numerous similar tie plates as he prepares the ground for farming. The size of the "tie plate" is 5 x 9 inches. - in Uintah, Utah. From Jim Wanlass: My sawmill took 2nd Place in Structures at the National Narrow Gauge Convention this year!



Like us on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/GoldenspikeTrainClub/

for September 21 Train Rides!

SOUTH WEBER MODEL RR CLUB

DES ARE COMING!!!

Sept 21st

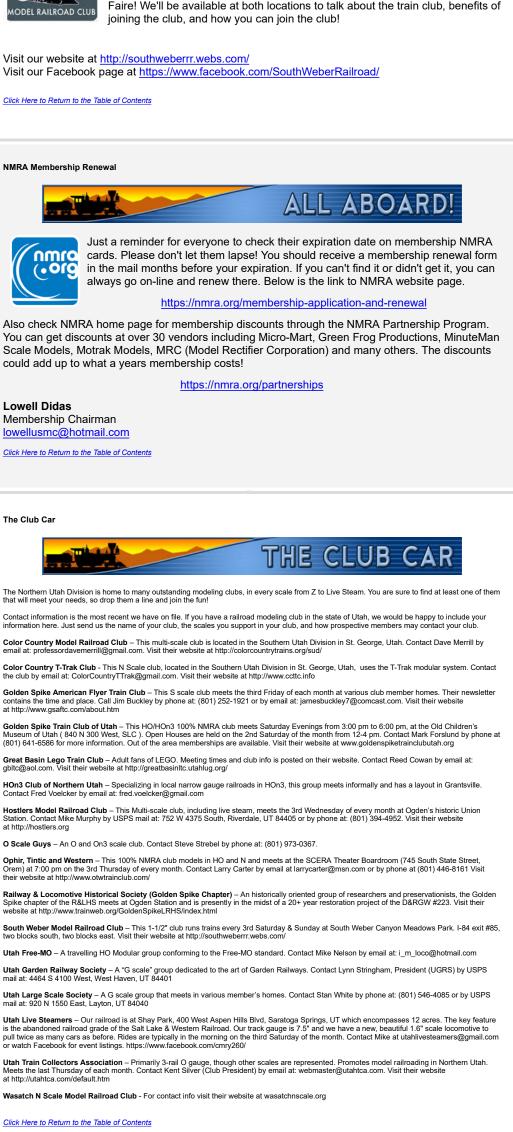
The last regular run day of the year! Come join us at Canyon Meadows Park

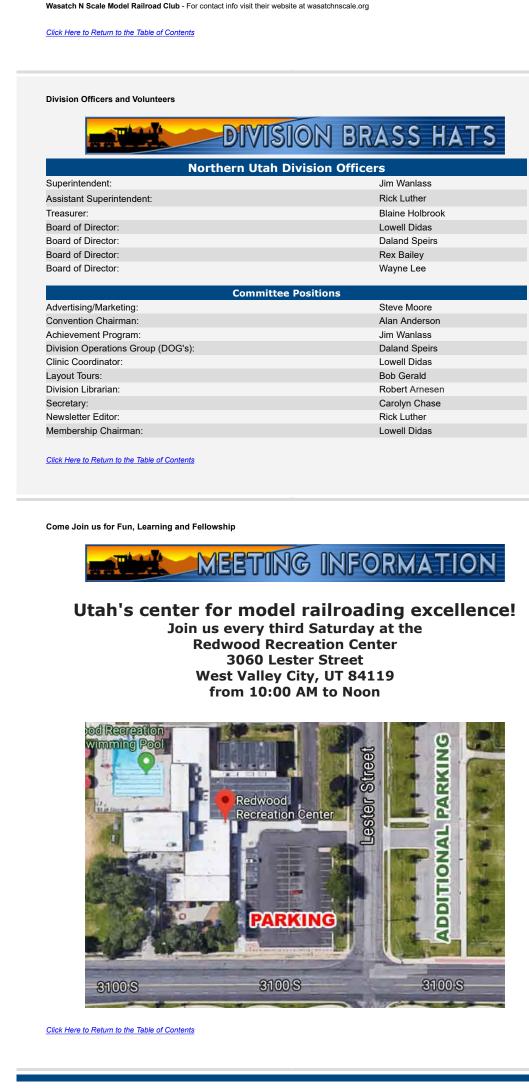
If you're from the south end of the Salt Lake Valley, you can also see a couple of our locomotives and club members at the Thanksgiving Point Mini Maker

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South Weber Model Railroad Club

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