

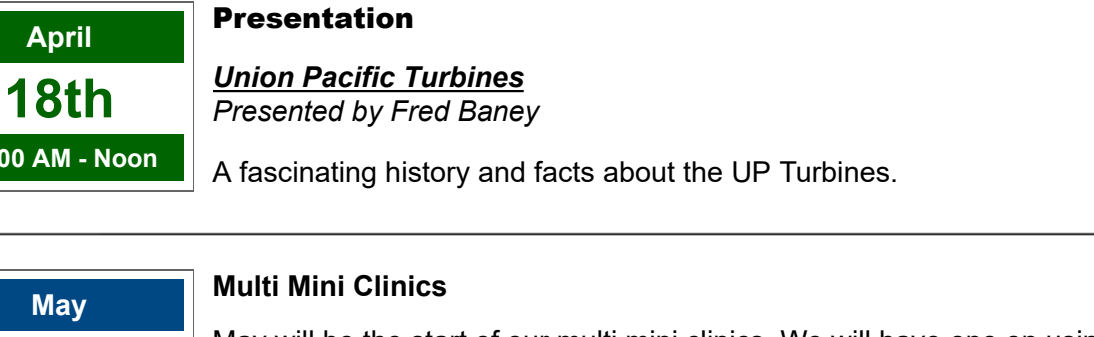


February - Volume 8 - Issue 2

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### Learn Something New



**February**  
**15th**  
10:00 AM - Noon

**Two Presentations**  
**3D Printing**  
Presented by Vince Toscan  
Learn about the art of 3D printing.

**Model Railroad Basics 101**  
Presented by Lowell Didas and Geoff Carter  
Learn how to do easy layout wiring on the Model Railroad Basics layout.

**March**  
**21st**  
10:00 AM - Noon

**Two Presentations**  
**Making Scenery with Uplastyer Foam and Plaster**  
Presented by Jim Wanlass  
A different technique for building layout scenery.

**Model Railroad Basics 101**  
Presented by Lowell Didas and Geoff Carter  
We will be starting scenery on the Model Railroad Basics layout.

**April**  
**18th**  
10:00 AM - Noon

**Presentation**  
**Union Pacific Turbines**  
Presented by Fred Baney  
A fascinating history and facts about the UP Turbines.

**May**  
**16th**  
10:00 AM - Noon

**Multi Mini Clinics**  
May will be the start of our multi mini clinics. We will have one on using an air brush with Blaine Holbrook and two others going on simultaneously. Rotating every thirty minutes or so. Stay tuned for more information.

I am asking all in the division what they might like to see in the way of clinics. Hands on, video presentations, scenery ideas, DCC, weathering, trestle construction, tunnel portal and snowshed construction, just to name a few ideas. In our division we have a lot of beginners, advanced, and a lot of great modelers, we can all become better by sharing our ideas and talents. Join in with a each month for some fun and adventures in modeling.

**Lowell Didas**  
Clinics Coordinator  
[lowellusmc@hotmail.com](mailto:lowellusmc@hotmail.com)  
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### Thoughts from the Superintendent



The Internet can be a cool place to meet people and get advice for help with model railroading. Several months back I mentioned how it was awesome to meet in person several people that I've only met online before when I attended National Conventions. Well, a few weeks back I met someone online who needed some help and I found out that they actually live close to me! A locomotive of theirs fell to the floor and as one would expect, it stopped working correctly! I wasn't sure if I could get it running but after some time we had success! The son was excited and ran it on my little layout for quite awhile afterwards. It was about 3 hours of fun with my new friends. I encourage you to take the time when someone else shows interest in your hobby. So what if you don't finish that project you've been working on forever. It will be there for you after taking the time to share your experience and knowledge with them. That little bit of time you share will make a world of difference to those who shared with. Invite people to our clinics and events. Hopefully you are having fun at our activities so they should be and that way we can enjoy the journey together!

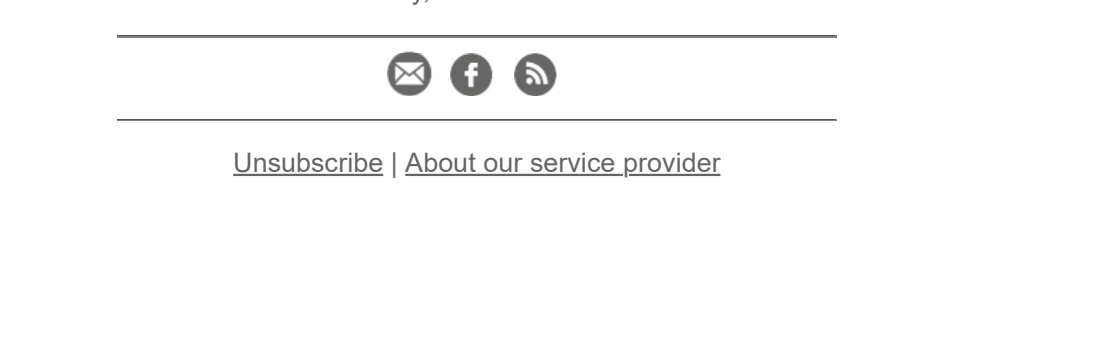
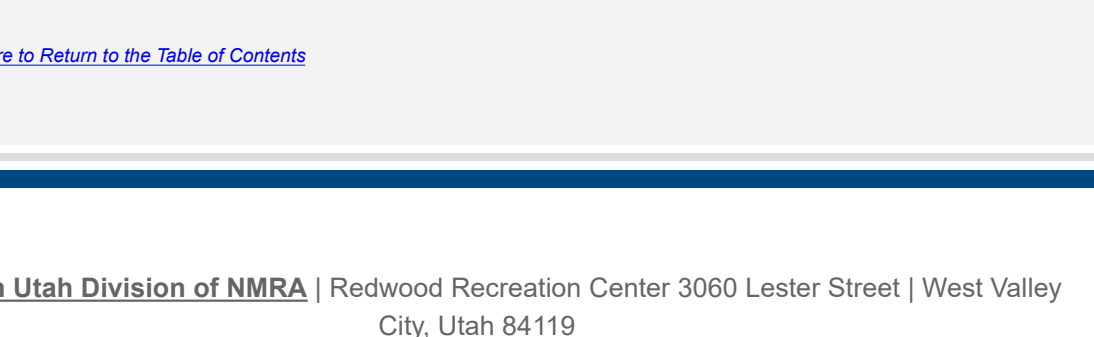
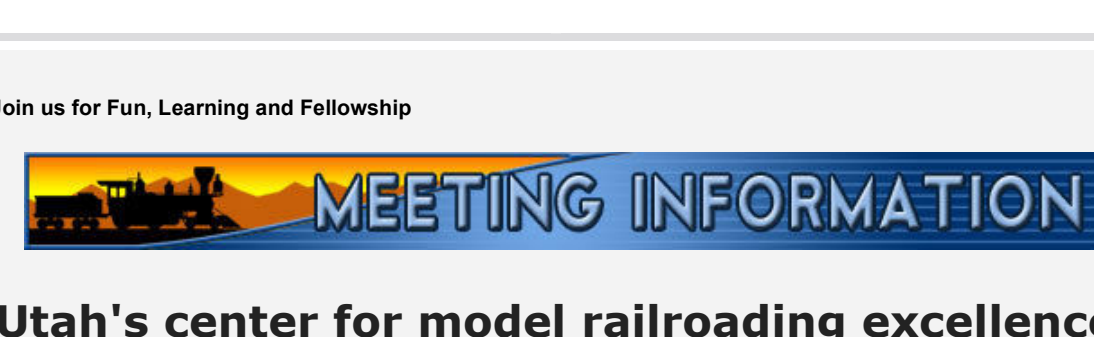
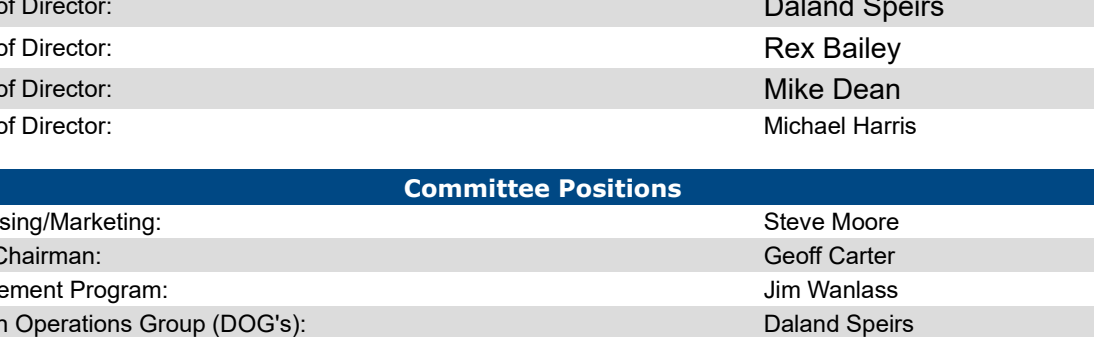
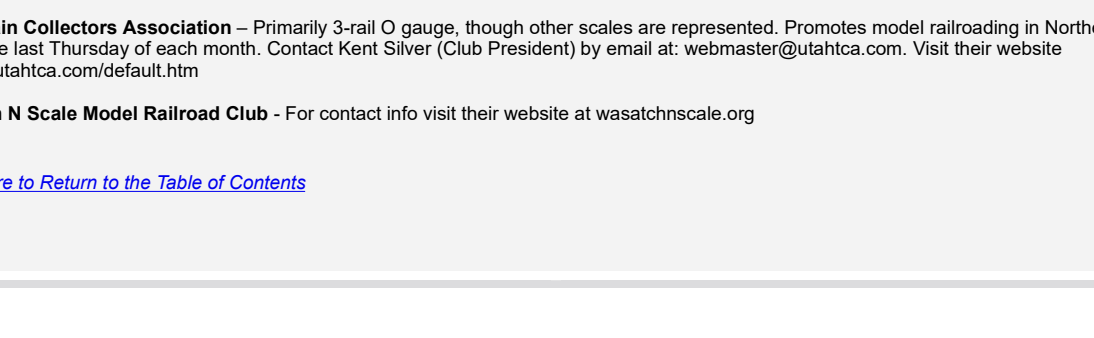
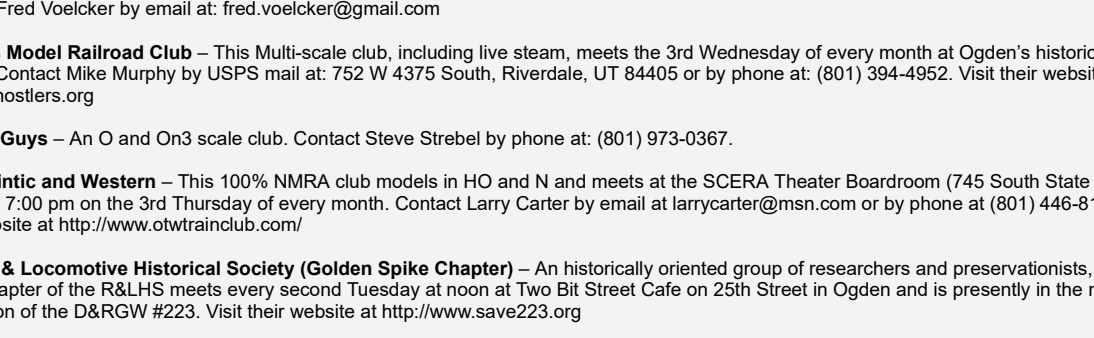
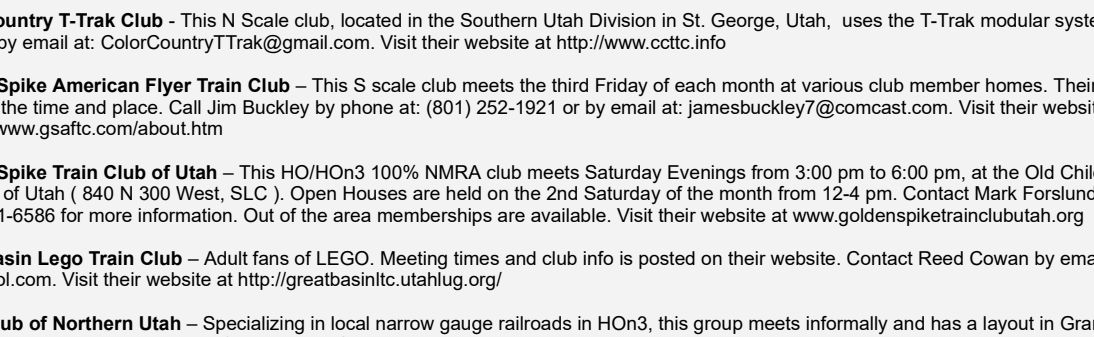
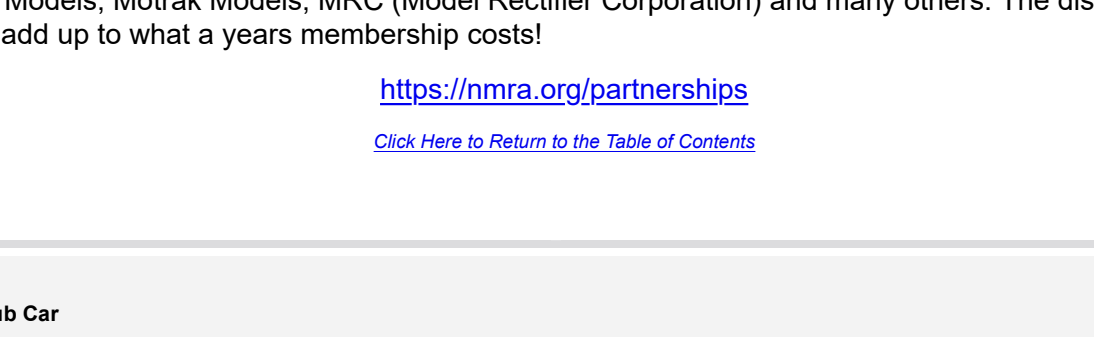
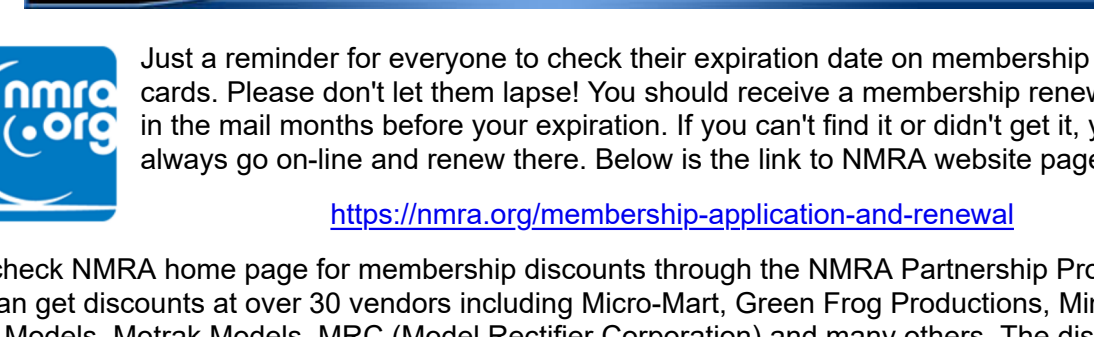
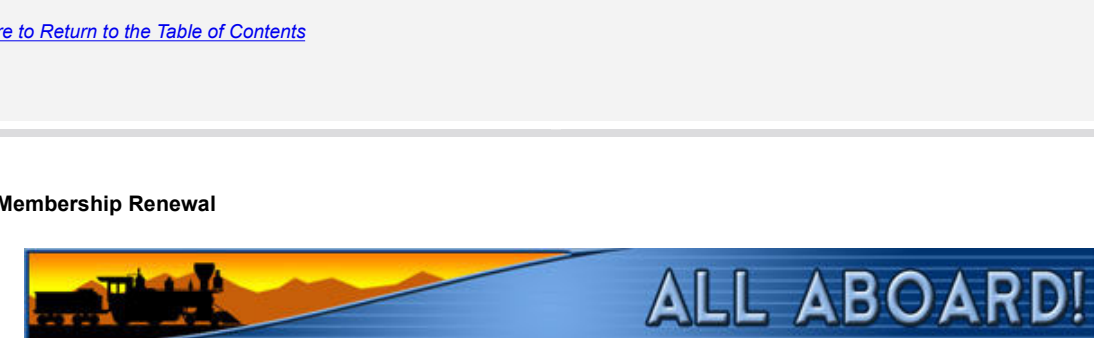
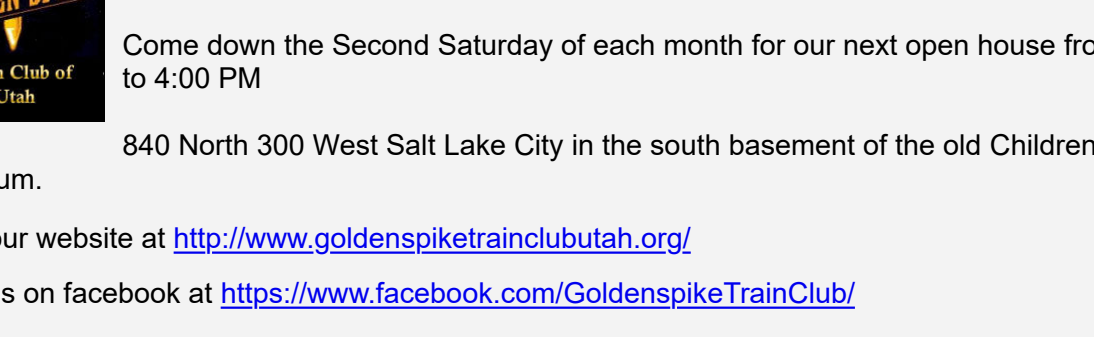
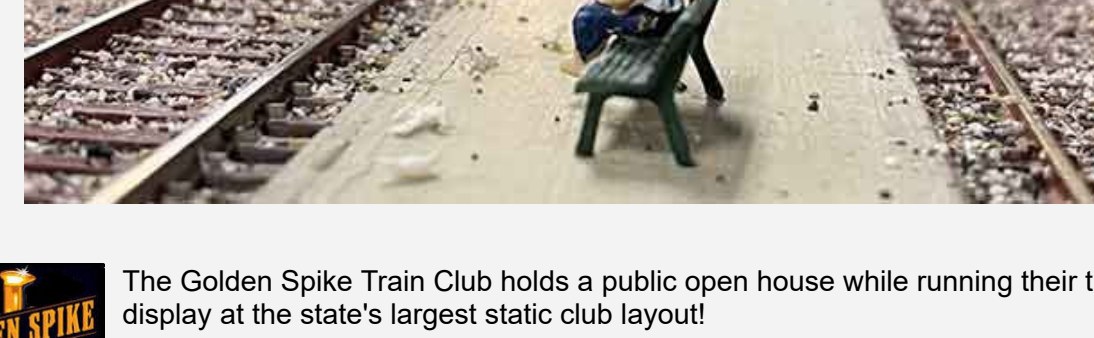
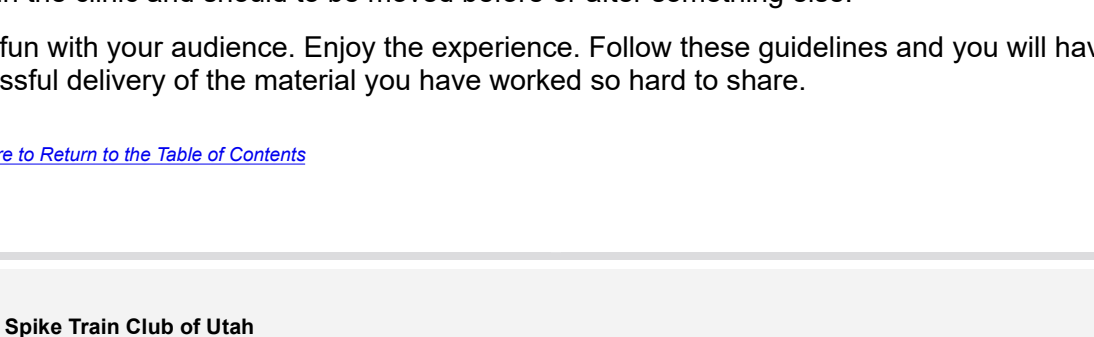
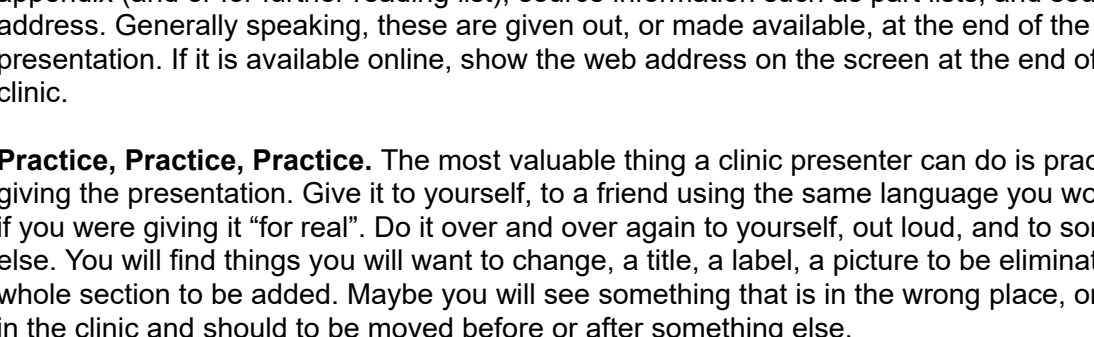
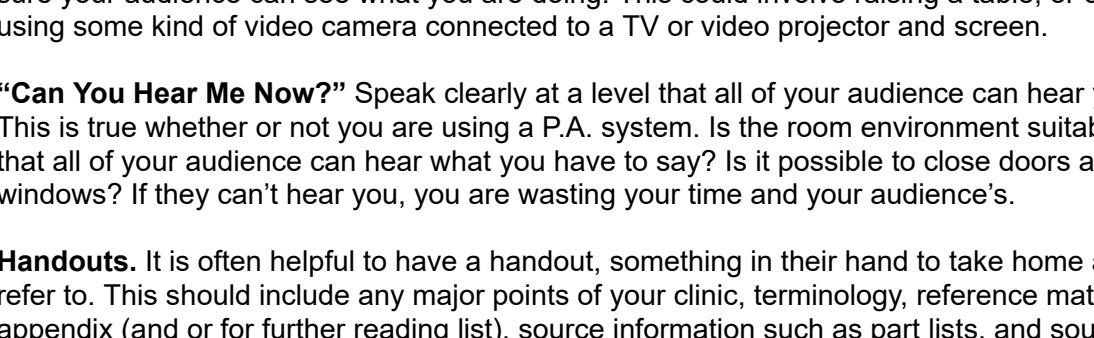
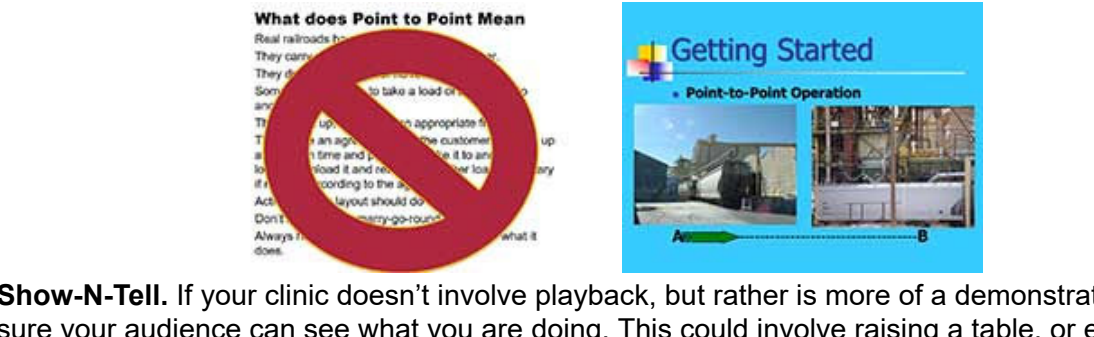
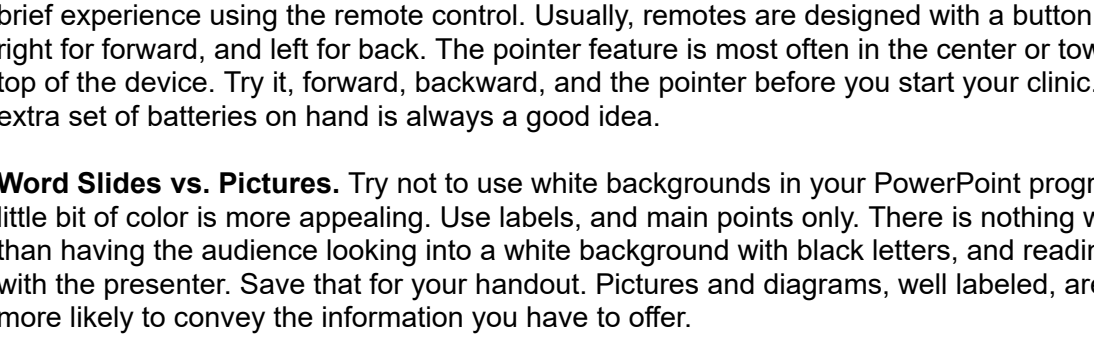
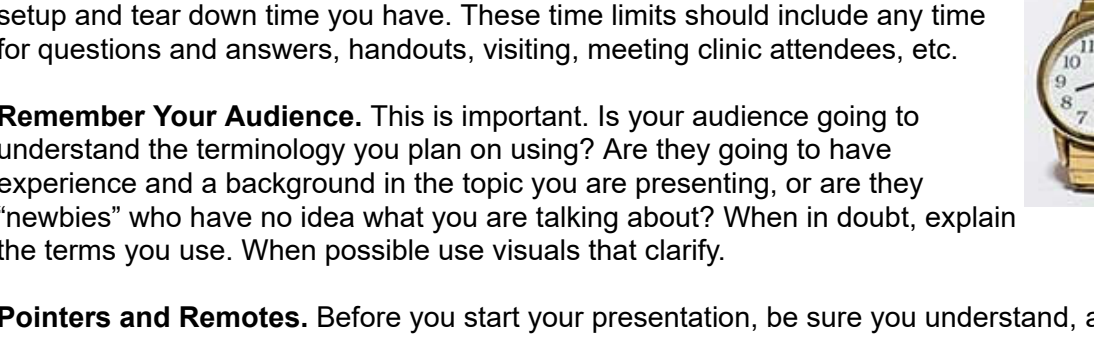
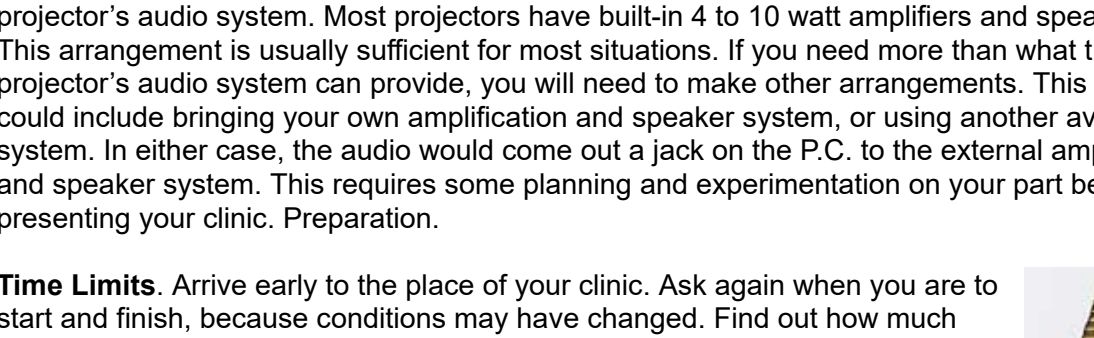
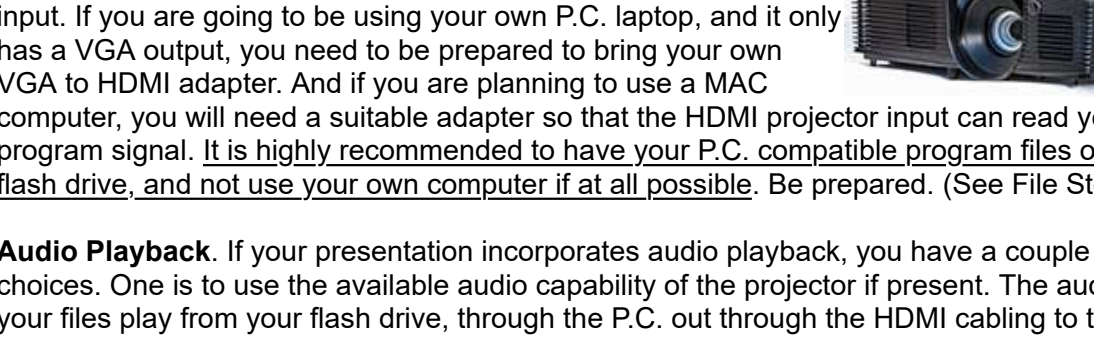
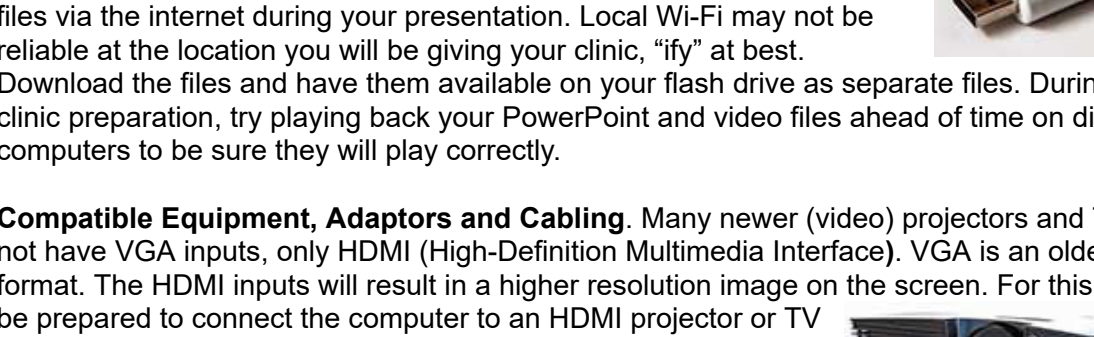
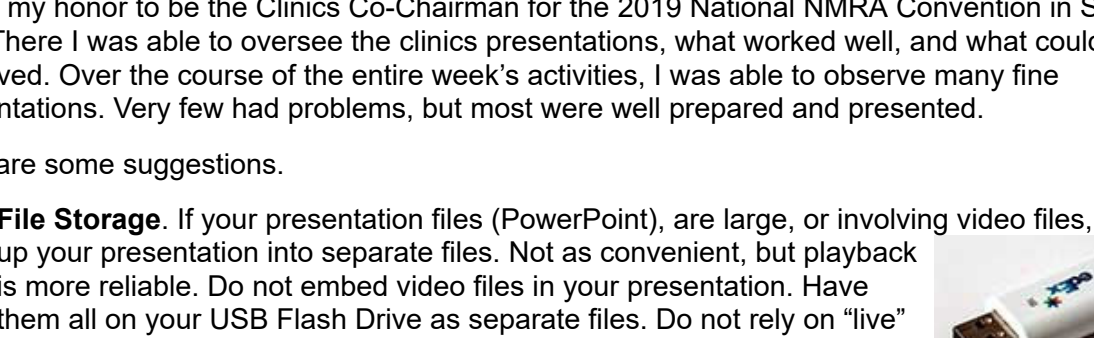
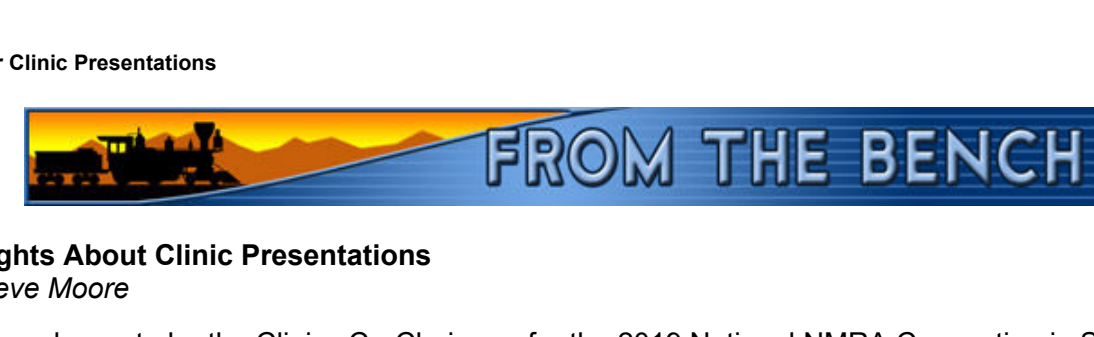
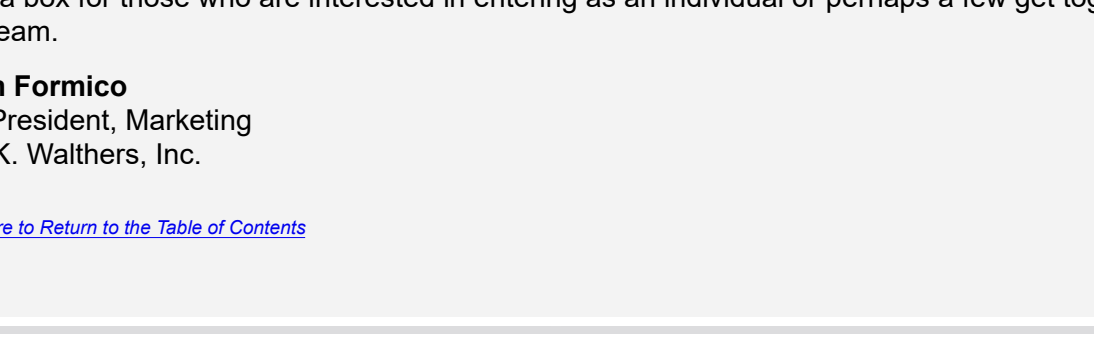
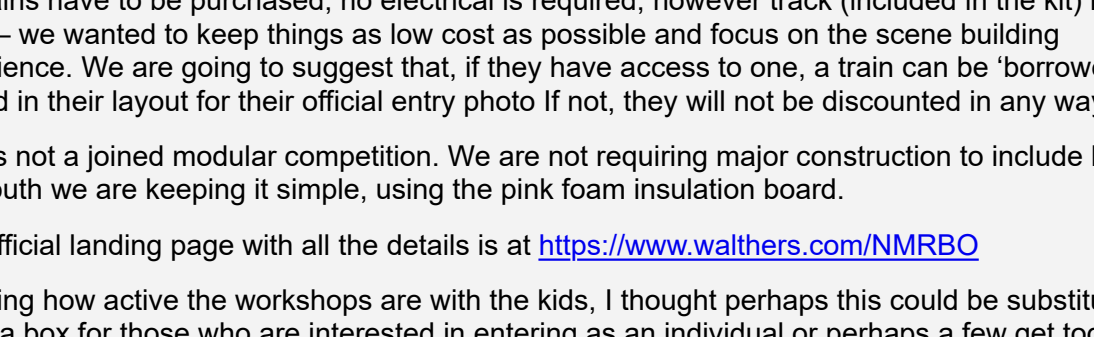
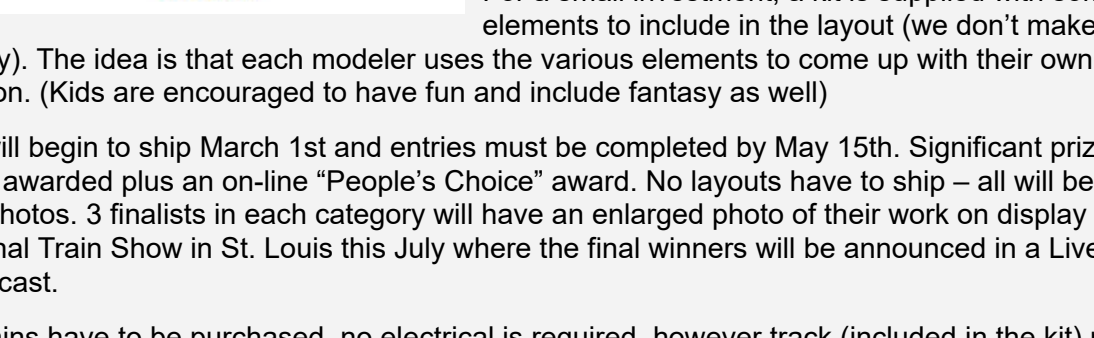
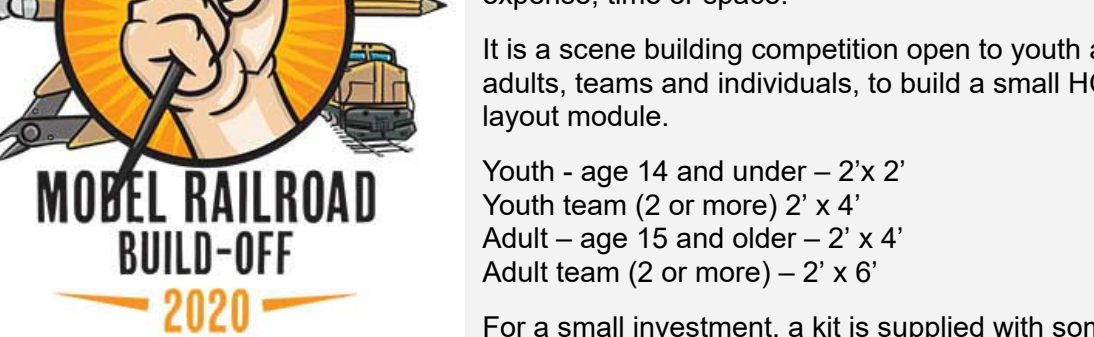
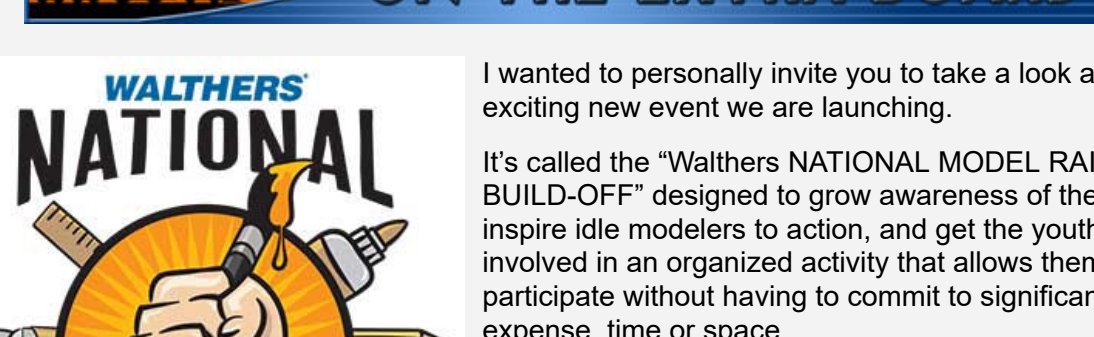
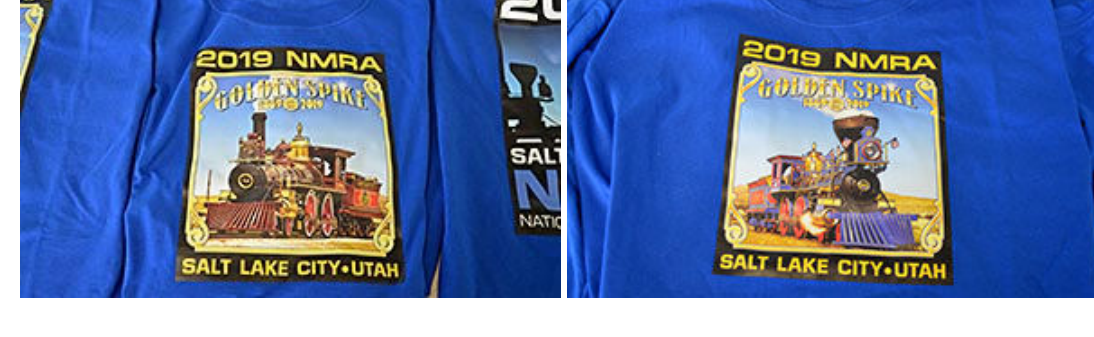
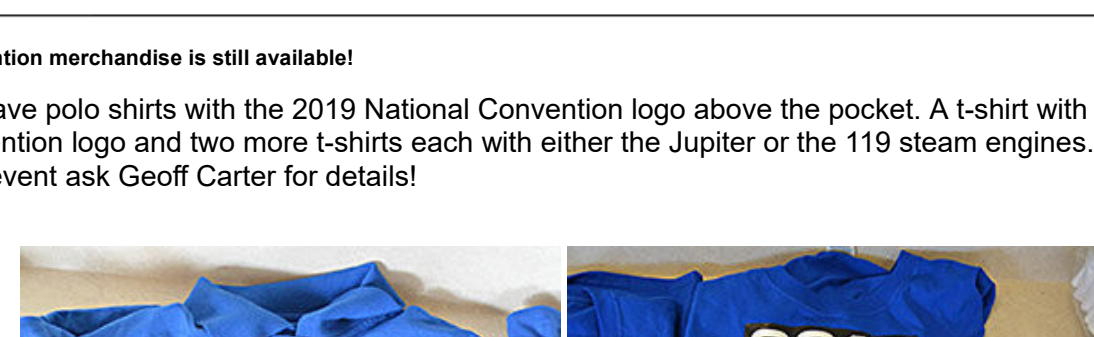
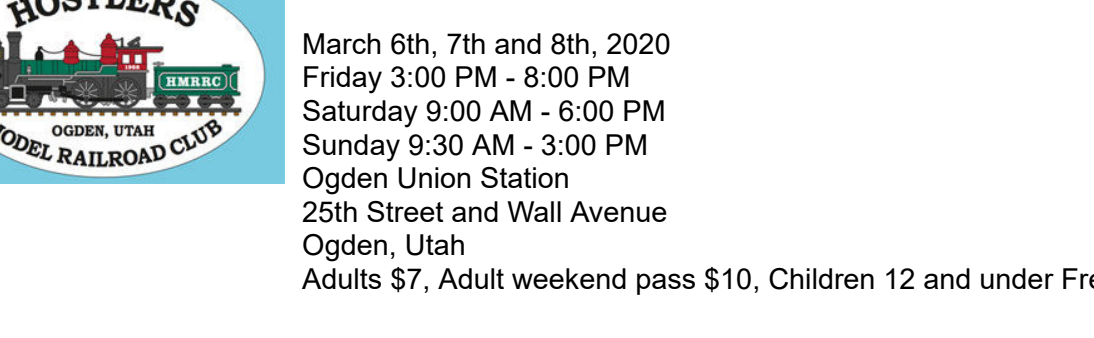
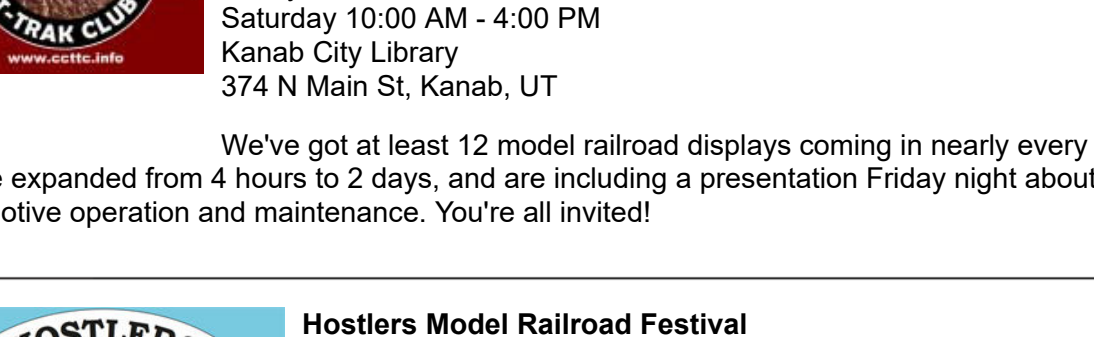
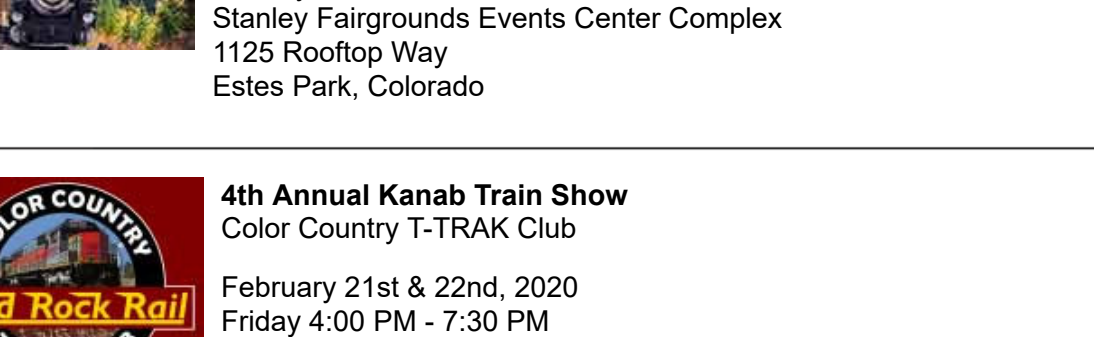
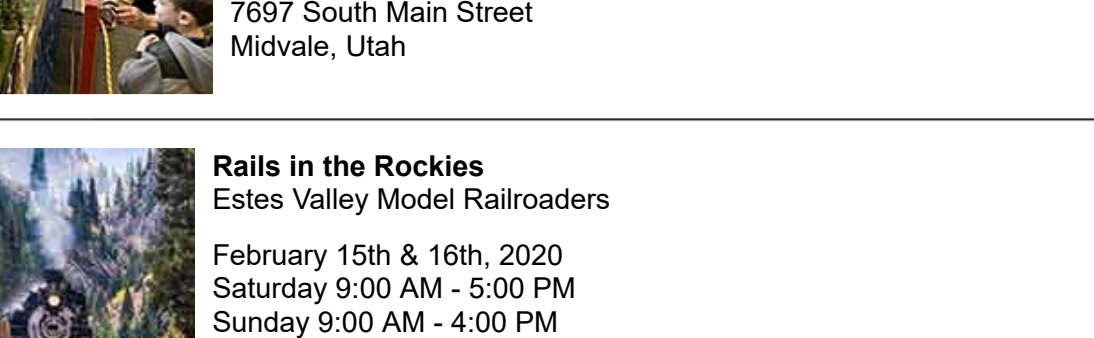
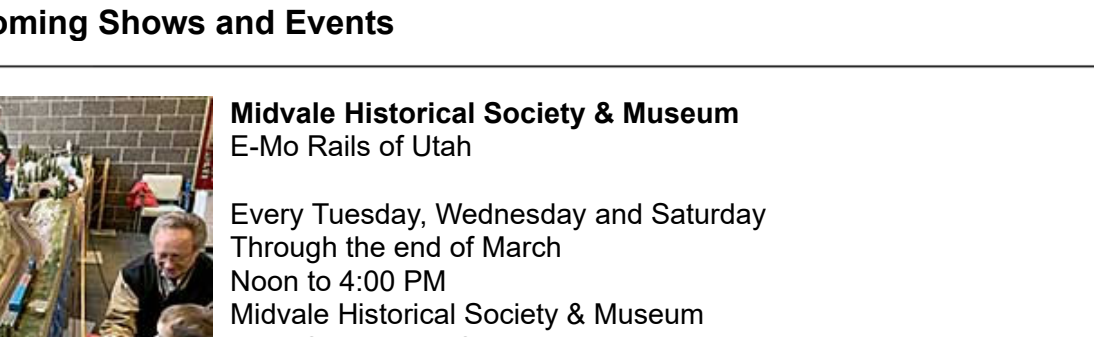
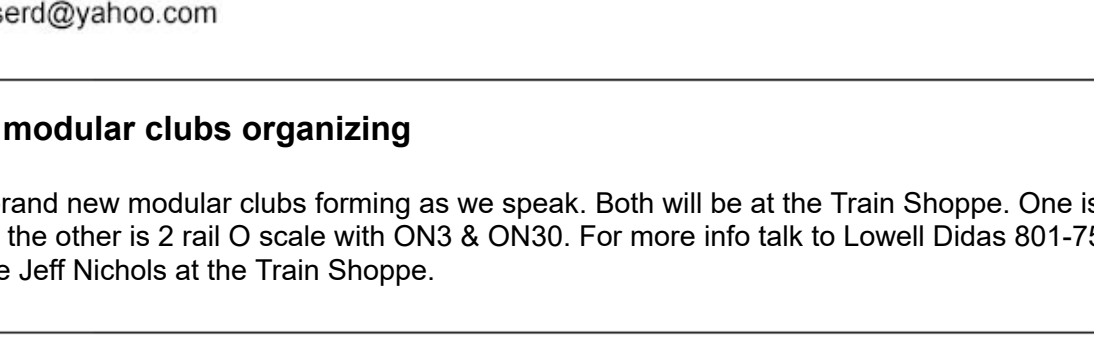
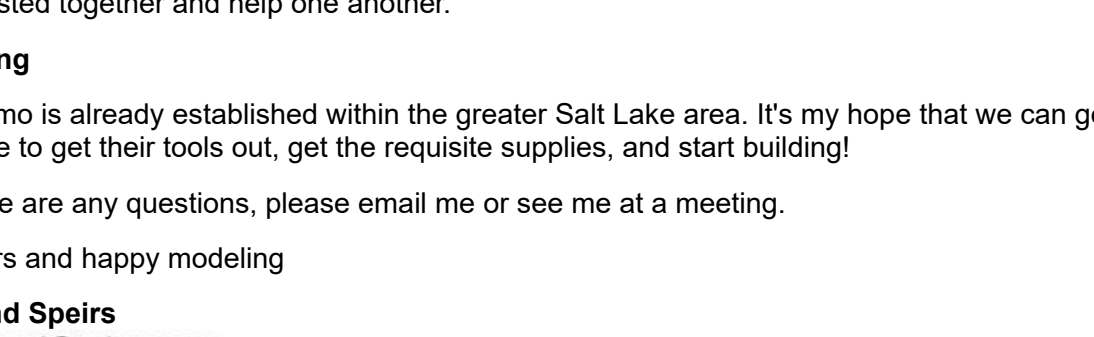
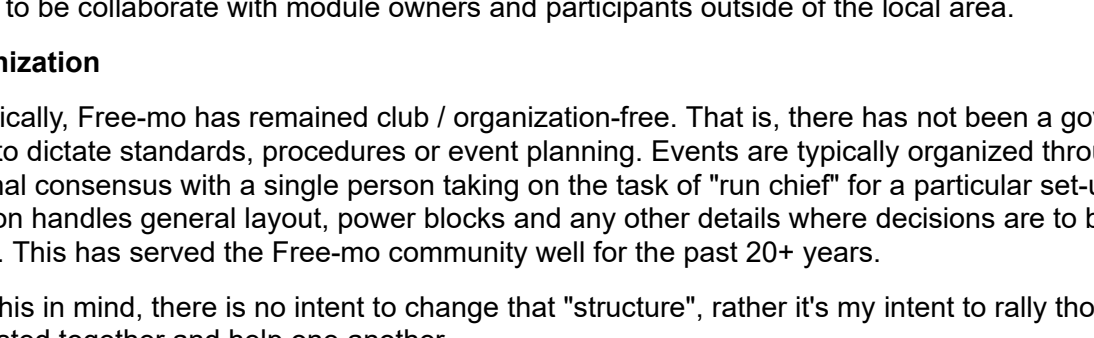
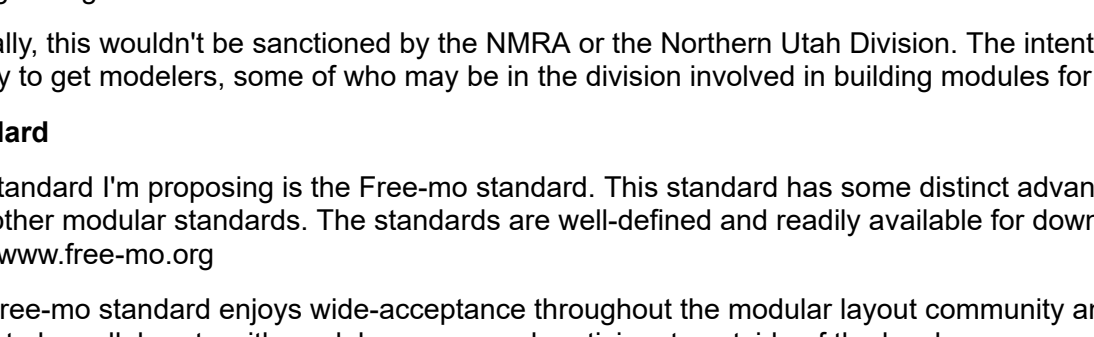
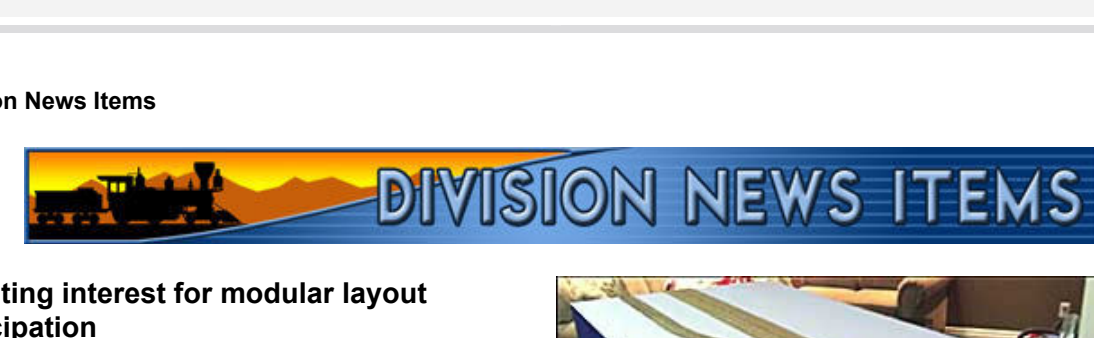
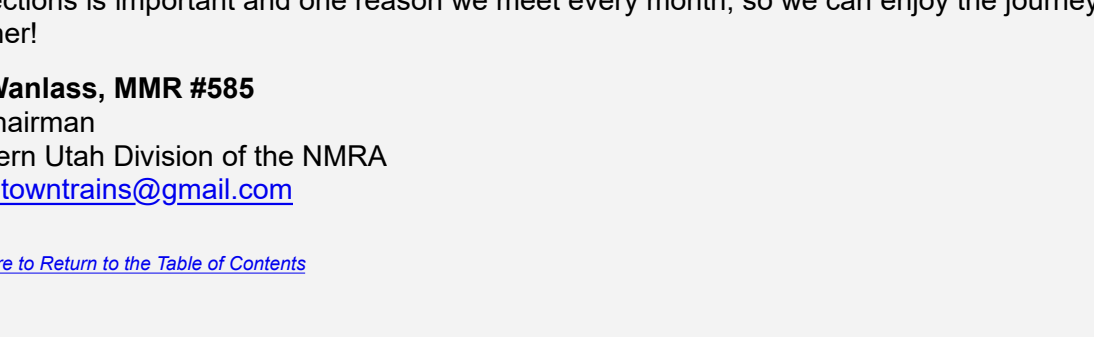
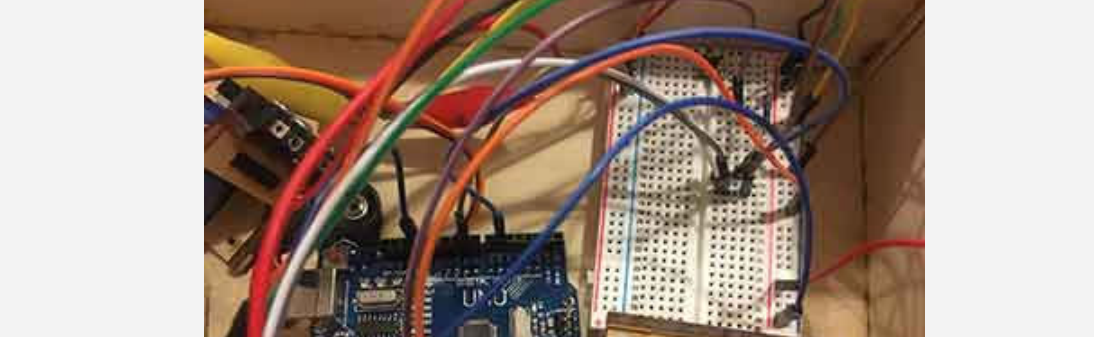
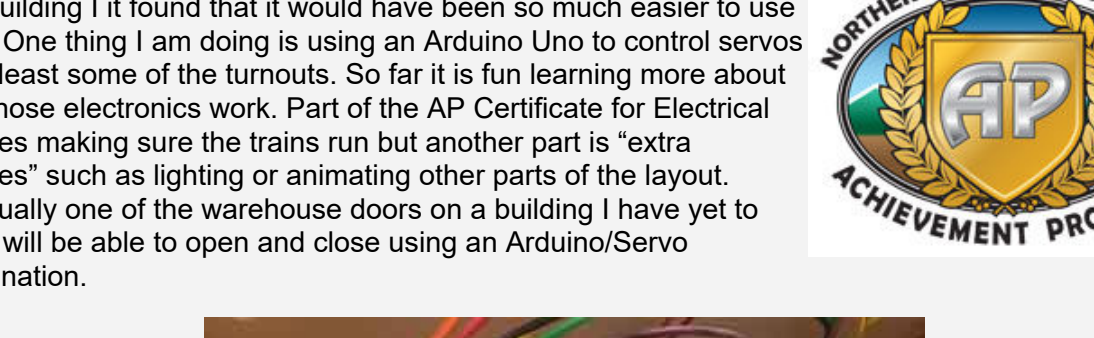
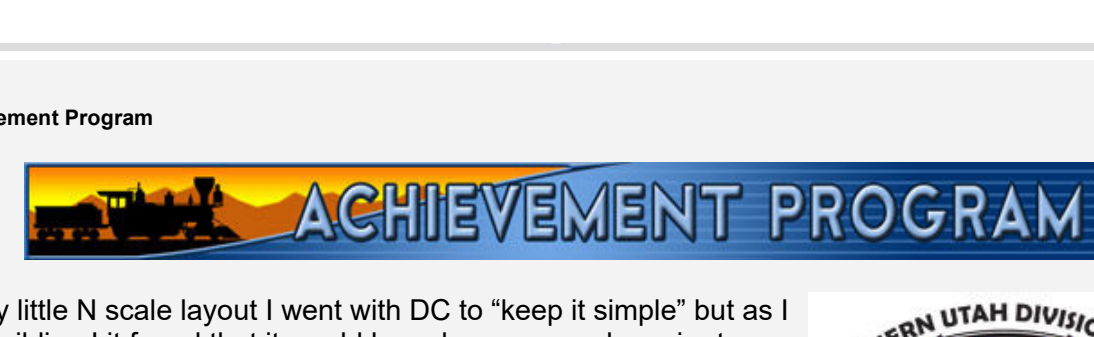


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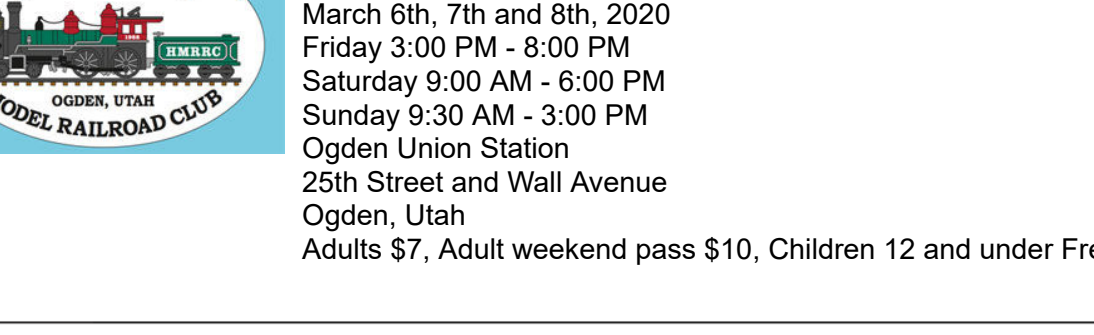
### What Happened Last Month



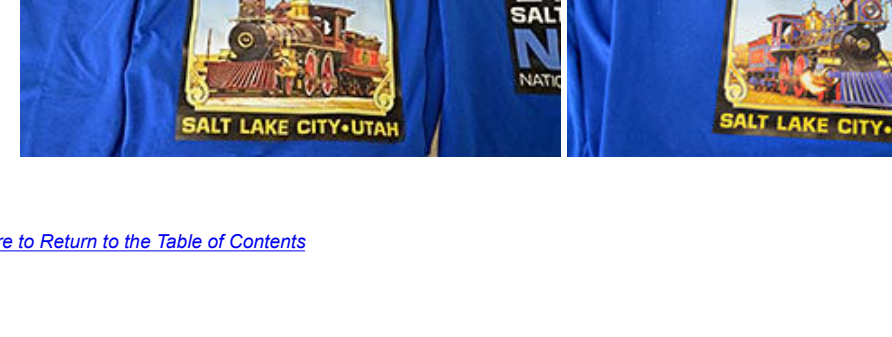
**The 30th Anniversary of the OT&W Model Train Club Show** was the same day as our regularly scheduled monthly meeting for January. The Northern Utah Division had activities during both days of the show. Unfortunately, there were no facilities for us to have our regular monthly meeting at the Thanksgiving Point Show Barn. The regularly scheduled meetings/clinics were canceled and will resume the normal schedule this month.



### Achievement Program



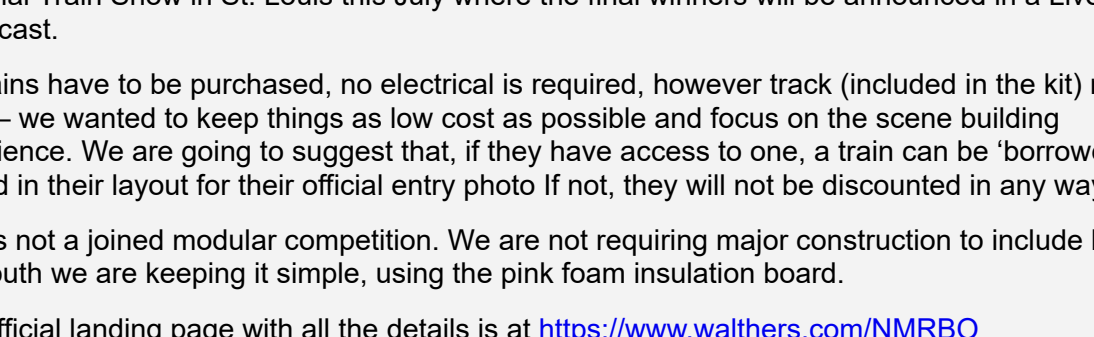
On my little N scale layout I went with DC to "keep it simple" but as I was building I felt that it would have been so much easier to use DCC. One thing I am doing is using an Arduino Uno to control servos for at least some of the turnouts. So far it is fun learning more about those electronics work. Part of the AP Certificate for Electrical involves making sure the trains run but another part is "extra features" such as lights or animating other parts of the layout. Eventually one of the warehouse doors on a building I have yet to make will be able to open and close using an Arduino/Servo combination.



I'm not an electronics wizard by any means but I do find it fun to try to figure it out. Often it's taking what someone else has done and tweaking it a little to suit my needs. Finding items that know more about it and willing to be beneficial to getting some projects done. Having those connections is important and one reason we meet every month, so we can enjoy the journey together!

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### Division News Items



#### Soliciting interest for modular layout participation

A couple of months ago, I mentioned in my clinic about getting a modular group going with members of the division.

This has been on my mind for about a year now and I know I've mentioned it in the past.

What I'm proposing is a group of like-minded modelers would want to participate in a modular setting during shows and other events.

Officially, this wouldn't be sanctioned by the NMRA or the Northern Utah Division. The intent is merely to get modelers, some of who may be in the division involved in building modules for display.

#### Standard

The standard I'm proposing is the Free-mo standard. This standard has some distinct advantages over other modular standards. The standards are well-defined and readily available for download at: <http://www.free-mo.org>

The Free-mo standard enjoys wide-acceptance throughout the modular layout community and the ability to be collaborative with module owners and participants outside of the local area.

#### Organization

Historically, Free-mo has remained club / organization-free. That is, there has not been a governing body to dictate standards, procedures or event planning. Events are typically organized through an informal consensus with a single person taking on the task of "run chief" for a particular set-up. This position handles general layout, power blocks and any other details where decisions are to be made. This has served the Free-mo community well for the past 20+ years.

With this in mind, there is no intent to change that "structure", rather it's my intent to rally those interested together and help one another.

#### Closing

Free-mo is already established within the greater Salt Lake area. It's my hope that we can get more people to get their tools out, get the requisite supplies, and start building!

If there are any questions, please email me or see me at a meeting.

**Daland Speirs**  
[ecspierd@yahoo.com](mailto:ecspierd@yahoo.com)

### New modular clubs organizing

Two brand new modular clubs forming as we speak. Both will be at the Train Shoppe. One is a N scale, the other is O scale with ON3 & ON30. For more info talk to Lowell Didas 801-759-7829. Or see Jeff Nichols at the Train Shoppe.

### Upcoming Shows and Events

**Midvale Historical Society & Museum**  
E-Mo Rails of Utah  
Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday  
Through the end of March  
Noon to 4:00 PM  
Midvale Historical Society & Museum  
7697 South Main Street  
Midvale, Utah

**Rails in the Rockies**  
Estes Valley Model Railroaders  
February 15th & 16th, 2020  
Saturday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Sunday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Stanley Fairgrounds Events Center Complex  
1125 Rooftop Way  
Estes Park, Colorado

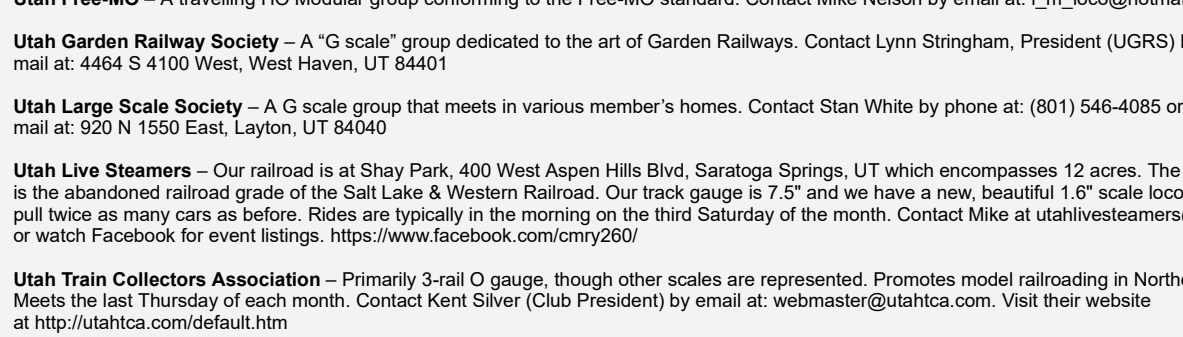
**4th Annual Kanab Train Show**  
Color Country 1-TRAK Club  
February 21st & 22nd, 2020  
Friday 4:00 PM - 7:30 PM  
Saturday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Kanab City Library  
374 N Main St, Kanab, UT

We've got at least 12 model railroad displays coming in nearly every week. We've expanded from 4 hours to 2 days, and are including a presentation Friday night about locomotive operation and maintenance. You're all invited!

**Hostlers Model Railroad Festival**  
March 6th, 7th and 8th, 2020  
Friday 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Saturday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Sunday 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM  
Ogden Union Station  
25th Street and Wall Avenue  
Ogden, Utah  
Adults \$7, Adult weekend pass \$10, Children 12 and under Free!

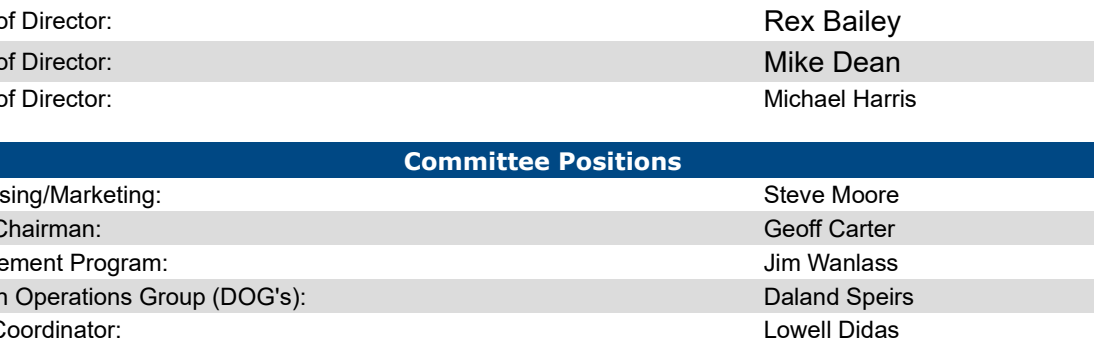
Convention merchandise is still available!

We have polo shirts with the 2019 National Convention logo above the pocket. A t-shirt with a large convention logo and two more t-shirts each with either the Jupiter or the 119 steam engines. At the next event ask Geoff Carter for details!



**Karen Formico**  
President, Marketing  
Wm. K. Walters, Inc.  
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### Tips for Clinic Presentations



#### 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 was a lot 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 "live" files via the internet during your presentation. Local Wi-Fi may not be reliable at the location you will be giving your clinic, "wifi" 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 cable is used to connect the projector to the screen. For this reason, be prepared to connect the computer to an HDMI projector or TV. 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 adaptor. And if you are planning to use a MAC computer, you will need a suitable adaptor 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 built-in of the HDMI cabling to the projector's audio system. Most projectors have built-out 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, this requires would come out a jack on the P.C. to the external amplifier and speaker system. The audio some planning and experimentation on your part before presenting your clinic. Preparation is key.

- **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, etc.

- **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 Bites vs. Pictures.** Try not to use white backgrounds in your 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 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 you are using a P.A. system or not. 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 you 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 clinic presentation. If it is available online, show the web address on the screen at the end of the clinic.

- **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 without hours off to sleep, 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 be to 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.

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### Golden Spike Train Club of Utah



The Golden Spike Train Club holds a public open house while running their trains for display at the state's largest club layout!

Come down the Second Saturday of each month for our next open house from Noon to 4:00 PM

840 North 300 West Salt Lake City in the south basement of the old Children's Museum.

Visit our website at <http://www.goldenspikeclubclubbah.org/>

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

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### NMRA Membership Renewal



Just a reminder for everyone to check their expiration date on membership NMRA cards. Please don't let them lapse! You should receive a membership renewal form in the mail Thursday of each month. Contact Larry Carter by email at [lwncarter@qwest.com](mailto:lwncarter@qwest.com) or by phone at (801) 446-8190. You can always go on-line and renew there. Below is the link to NMRA website page.

<https://nmra.org/membership-application-and-renewal>

Also check NMRA home page for membership discounts through the NMRA Partnership Program. You can get discounts 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.

<https://nmra.org/partnerships>

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### The Club Car



The Northern Utah Division is home to many outstanding modeling clubs, in every scale from Z to Live Steam. You are sure to find at least one of them that will meet your needs, so drop them a line and join the fun!

Contact information is the most recent we have on file. If you have a railroad modeling club in the state of Utah, we would be happy to include your information there. Just send us the name of your club, the scales you support in your club, and how prospective members may contact your club.

**Color Country Model Railroad Club** - This multi-scale club is located in the Southern Utah Division in St. George, Utah. Contact Dave Merrill by email at [professorstamerrill@gmail.com](mailto:professorstamerrill@gmail.com). Visit their website at <http://colorcountrymodelrailroad.org/>

**Color Country T-Trak Club** - This N Scale club, located in the Southern Utah Division in St. George, Utah, uses the T-Trak modular system. Contact the club by email at: [ColorCountryTTrak@gmail.com](mailto:ColorCountryTTrak@gmail.com). Visit their website at <http://www.cctc.info>

**Golden Spike American Flyer Train Club** - This S scale club meets the third Friday of each month at various club member homes. Their newsletter contains the time and place. Call Jim Buskey by phone at: (801) 252-7021 or by email at [jimbushkey@comcast.com](mailto:jimbushkey@comcast.com). Visit their website at <http://www.gstcclubbah.org>

**Golden Spike Train Club of Utah** - This HO scale club meets the third Friday of each month at various club member homes. Their newsletter contains the time and place. Call Jim Buskey by phone at: (801) 252-7021 or by email at [jimbushkey@comcast.com](mailto:jimbushkey@comcast.com) or by phone at (801) 446-8190. Visit their website at <http://www.goldenspikeclubclubbah.org>

**Great Basin Lego Train Club** - Adult fans of LEGO. Meeting times and available. Visit their website at [www.gbstcclubbah.org](http://www.gbstcclubbah.org)

**Hood City Club of Northern Utah** - Specializing in local narrow gauge railroads in HO3, this group meets informally and has a layout in Granvilleville. Contact Fred Voeckler by email at: [fred.voeckler@gmail.com](mailto:fred.voeckler@gmail.com)

**Hostlers Model Railroad Club** - This multi-scale club, including live steam, meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at Ogden's historic Union Station. Contact Mike Murphy by USPS mail at 752 W 4375 South, Riverdale, UT 84405 or by phone at: (801) 384-4052. Visit their website at <http://hostlers.org>

**Ogden, Utah** - An HO and O30 scale club. Contact Steve Stebbel by phone at: (801) 973-0367

**Railway & Locomotive Historical Society (Golden Spike Chapter)** - An historically oriented group of researchers and preservationists, the Golden Spike chapter of the RLHS meets every second Tuesday afternoon at Two 18 Street Cafe on 25th Street in Ogden and is presently in the midst of the restoration of the D&RGV #223. Visit their website at <http://www.savo223.org>

**Ugah Free-MO** - A traveling HO Modular group conforming to the Free-MO standard. Contact Mike Nelson by email at: [lm\\_jcoo@ntrs.org](mailto:lm_jcoo@ntrs.org)

**Utah Division Railway Society** - A "G scale" group dedicated to the art of Garden Railways. Contact Lynn Stringham, President (UGRS) by USPS mail at 4464 S 1500 West, West Haven, UT 84401

**Utah Large Scale Society** - A G scale group that meets in various member's homes. Contact Stan White by phone at: (801) 846-4085 or by USPS mail at 520 N 1500 East, Layton, UT 84040

**Utah Live Steamers** - Our railroad is at Sky Park, 400 West Aspen Hills Blvd, Saratoga Springs, UT which encompasses 12 acres. The key feature is the standard railroad gauge of the Salt Lake & Western Railroad. Our track gauge is 7 7/8" and we have a new, beautiful 1 1/8" scale locomotive to pull two or more cars as well as a 300' long trestle. Open houses are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Contact Mike at [dahliwaner@gmail.com](mailto:dahliwaner@gmail.com) or visit Facebook for event listings. <https://www.facebook.com/nrm200/>

**Utah Train Collectors Association** - Primarily 3-rail O gauge, though other scales are represented. Promotes model railroading in Northern Utah. Meets the last Thursday of each month. Contact Steve Silver (Club President) by email at [slvnsilver@qwest.com](mailto:slvnsilver@qwest.com) or by phone at (801) 446-8190. Visit their website at <http://utahtrainclub.com/default.htm>

**Wasatch N Scale Model Railroad Club** - For contact info visit their website at [wasatchnscale.org/](http://wasatchnscale.org/)

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### Division Officers and Volunteers



Northern Utah Division Officers		
Superintendent:	Jim Wanlass	
Assistant Superintendent:	Lowell Didas	
Treasurer:	Blaine Holbrook	
Board of Director:	Daland Speirs	
Board of Director:	Rex Bailey	
Board of Director:	Mike Dean	
Board of Director:	Michael Harris	
Committee Positions		
Advertising/Marketing:	Steve Moore	
Show		