

April - Volume 8 - Issue 4

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Coronavirus Update

PLEASE READ: IMPORTANT MESSAGE

The April Monthly Event at the
Redwood Recreation Center has been cancelled!

Current restrictions due to the Coronavirus pandemic have obviously disrupted our club activities, including our regular meeting and clinics, as well as the Pizza Box program. We are setting up a Webex solution that will allow us to maintain meetings and clinics while we weather the current crisis. We anticipate that even after the crisis is past and we resume regular physical meetings, we may decide to maintain the Webex infrastructure because that will allow us to record our meetings. Members who cannot attend would then have the opportunity to view the recordings at a later date. This clinic will be broadcast on our private Webex channel. Please click the blue button below on Saturday to view the clinic.

**CLICK HERE
TO JOIN & VIEW THE CLINIC**

Meeting number (access code): 629 107 593

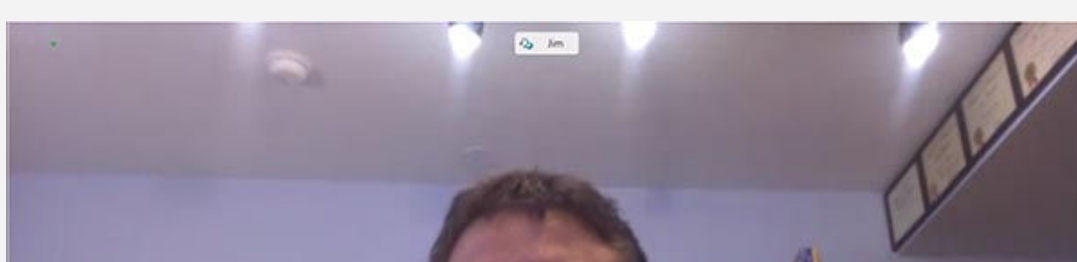
Meeting password: 7SDYU336GVC
(77388336 from phones and video systems)

Saturday, April 18, 2020 at 10:00 am - 2 hours

Jim Wanlass, MMR
Superintendent, Northern Utah Division, NMRA

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Learn Something New



With the delays caused by the COVID-19 Outbreak all group clinics have been pushed back at least one month as of March. We will keep you informed as to the clinic schedule when we have more information. Stay safe everyone!

Lowell Didas
Clinics Coordinator
lowellusmc@hotmail.com

May
16th
10:00 AM - Noon

Presentation

Union Pacific Turbines
Presented by Fred Baney

A fascinating history and facts about the UP Turbines.

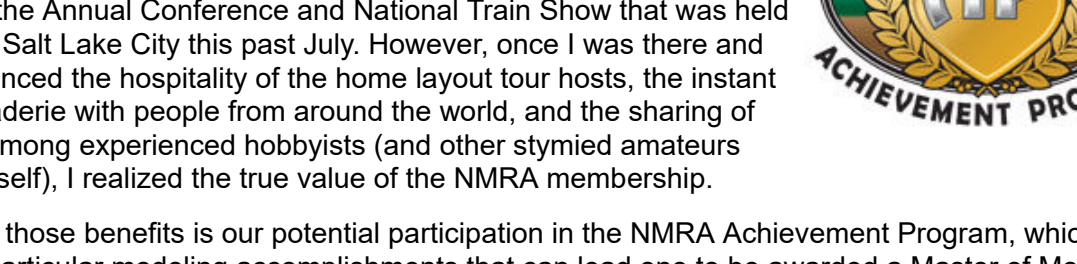
June
20th
10:30 AM - Noon

Multi Mini Clinics

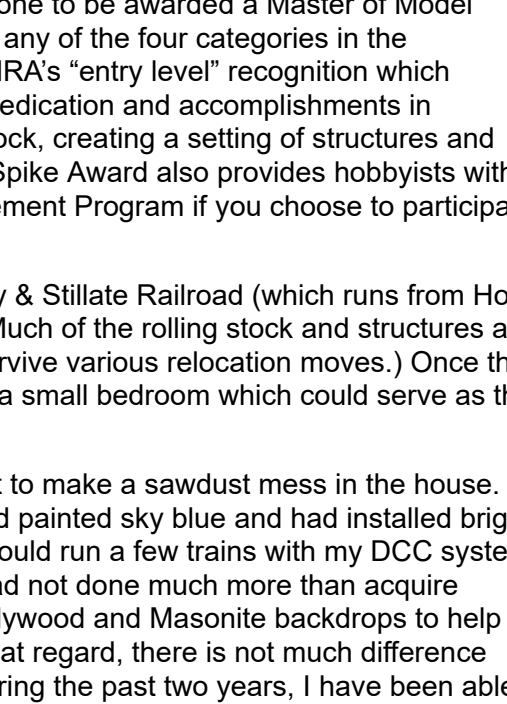
May will be the start of our multi mini clinics. We will have one on using an air brush with Blaine Holbrook and two others going on simultaneously. Rotating every thirty minutes or so. Stay tuned for more information.

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Thoughts from the Superintendent



Last month the Board Meeting went well using Webex. We are doing it again this month and just like when we do it in person, the general membership is invited to join in. I was scheduled to do the clinic but thought I wasn't going to do it until the last minute and so didn't run through or practice it at all. I know it was pretty rough but all things considered, I think it went well.



This month we are doing the same. Having the Board Meeting at 9 am and the "Clinic" from 10-noon. I will be doing an informal clinic showing how I build turnouts. As I build one of several items on my plate I hope you interact and ask questions so I can share some of my knowledge with you. As someone pointed out, and as I have often done with other clinics I've attended, you may not be ready to build a turnout yourself but you can hopefully learn something and see that it might not be as hard as you think so in the future you can try your own hand at that skill, whatever it is.

I have been fortunate to still be going to work during these strange times and not get as much done on my layout like some others I've seen on social media, but I still try to get some things done. This month's selfie shows that I've finally permanently laid the track on the other half of my N scale layout. Now my goal is to be at least 1/2 a few of you have shared on our Facebook group what you've been doing. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/nutahnmra/>. Let's have more share and that way we can enjoy the journey together!

Jim Wanlass, MMR #585
Superintendent

Northern Utah Division of the NMRA
jamestowntrains@gmail.com

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What Happened Last Month

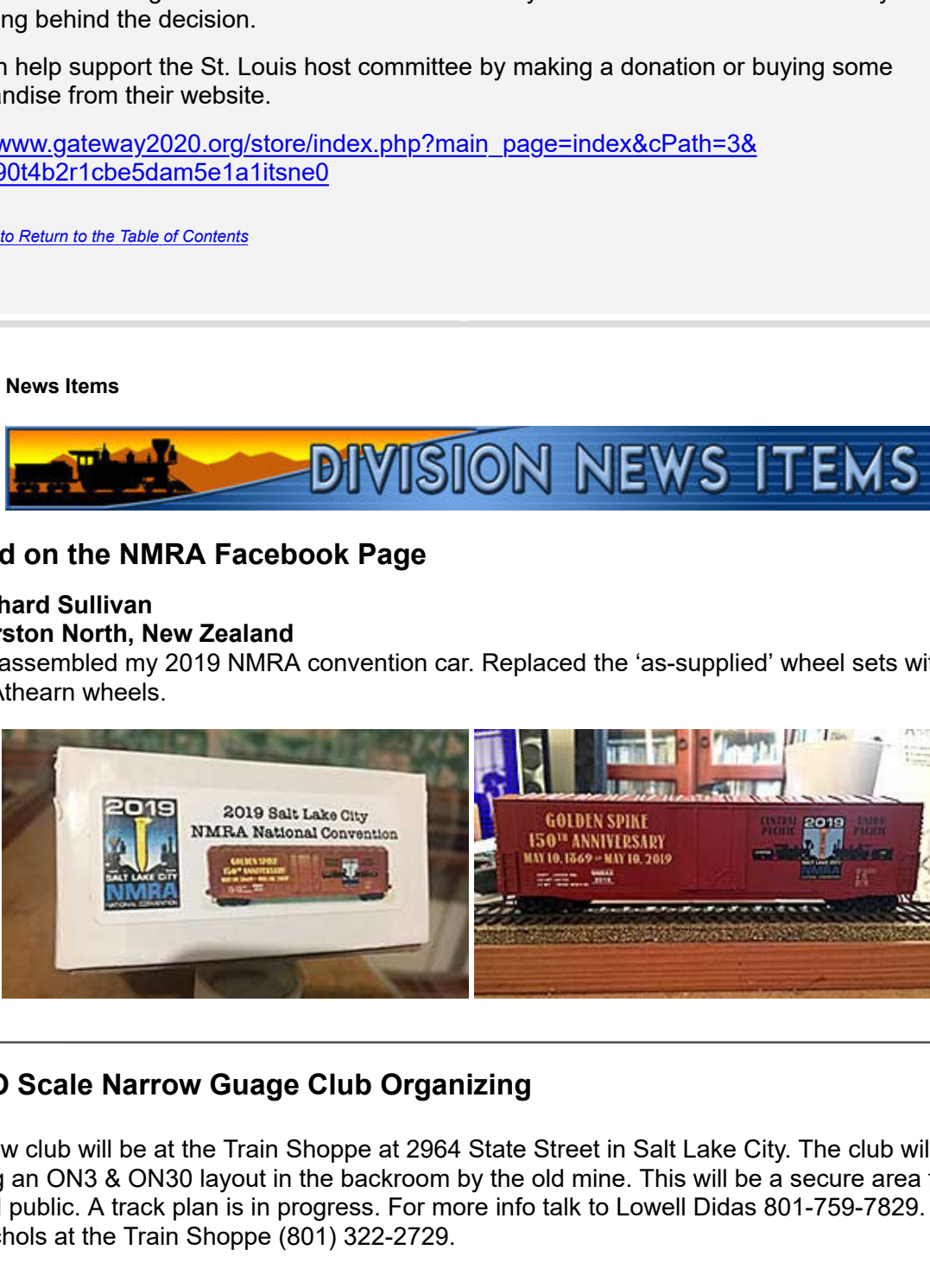


Making Scenery with Upholstery Foam and Plaster
Presented by Jim Wanlass

A different technique for building layout scenery.

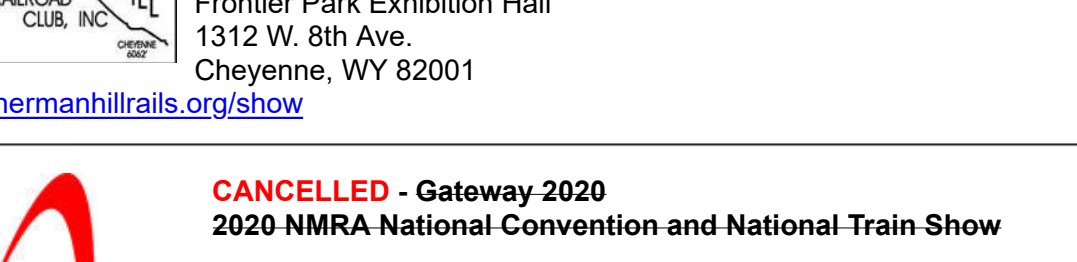
It was fun and nerve-racking to be the guinea pig for doing an online-live clinic! Here is the replay. I know it wasn't overly polished because I had not planned on giving it until the last minute when we decided to do it online instead of at the meeting place because it's closed right now. You can click the link below and view the recorded video on YouTube.

[March Northern Utah Division Clinic](#)

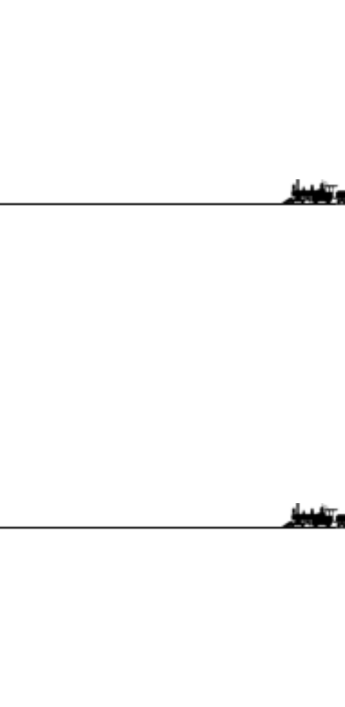


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Achievement Program



Get "Spiked!" I Did!
Guest article by Paul Dishman



To be completely honest, I only joined the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) in order to conveniently (and discountedly) attend the Annual Conference and National Train Show that was held here in Salt Lake City this past July. However, once I was there and experienced the hospitality of the home layout tour hosts, the instant camaraderie with people from around the world, and the sharing of ideas among experienced hobbyists (and other strident amateurs like myself), I realized the true value of the NMRA membership.

Among those benefits is our potential participation in the NMRA Achievement Program, which is a set of particular modeling accomplishments that can lead one to be awarded a Master of Model Railroad certificate. Although it is not directly related to any of the categories in the Achievement Program, the Golden Spike Award is the NMRA's "entry level" recognition which serves two purposes. One, it acknowledges a modeler's dedication and accomplishments in important aspects of the hobby, such as building rolling stock, creating a setting of structures and scenery, and elementary "engineering." Two, the Golden Spike Award also provides hobbyists with a "soft" but leveraged entry into the more advanced Achievement Program if you choose to participate further.

As background, I have been building my free-lanced Aldey & Stillate Railroad (which runs from Hope Springs, Idaho to Pratt Falls, Utah) for almost 18 years. (Much of the rolling stock and structures are remnants of previous 4' x 8' manifestations that did not survive various relocation moves.) Once the A&SRR was launched and on my own payroll, I negotiated a small bedroom which could serve as the A&SRR World Headquarters.

I had built the modular benchmark in my garage, so as not to make a sawdust mess in the house. It was dismantled and reinstalled in the bedroom which I had painted sky blue and had installed bright fluorescent lighting. The track was laid about 2004 and I could run a few trains with my DCC system. However, up until 2018 (due to life getting in the way), I had not done much more than acquire additional rolling stock and buildings, and use the rough plywood and Masonite backdrops to help me pretend what it was eventually going to look like. (In that regard, there is not much difference between a six-year-old and a sixty-year-old.) However, during the past two years, I have been able to dedicate more time to the layout and now have the scenery 91.32% completed. I still have lots of turnouts, buildings, and lights to power as well as some special projects that will get started in the next few weeks.

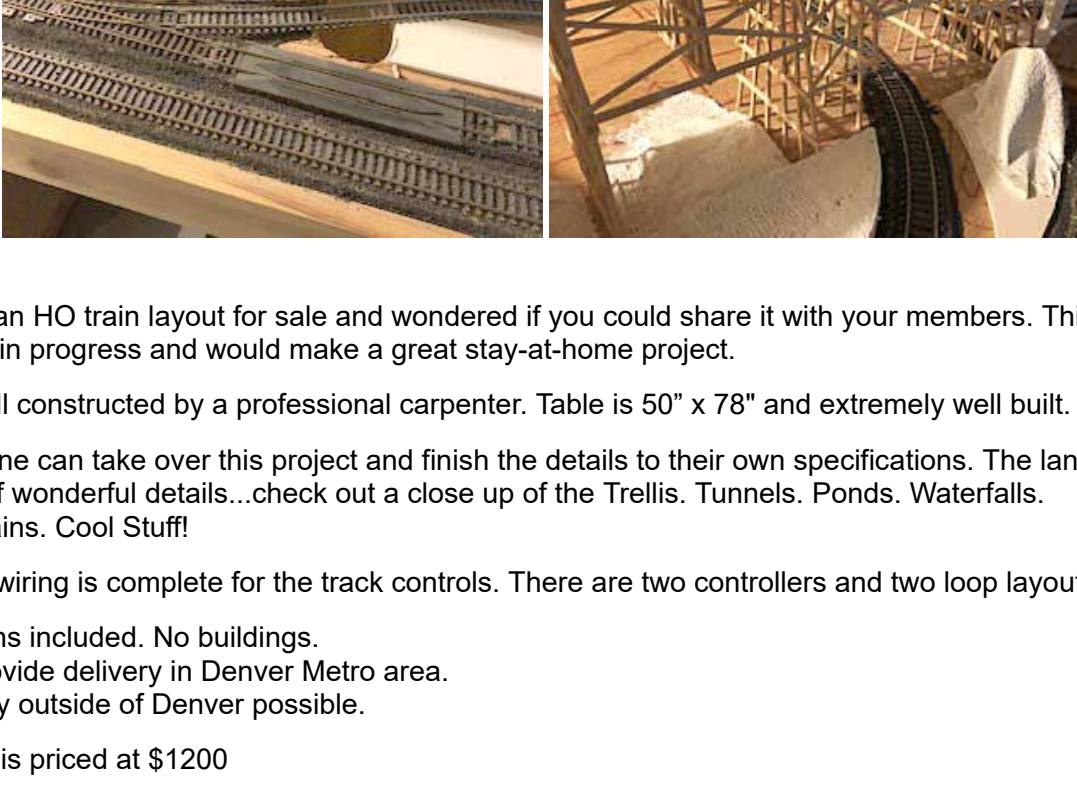
The Golden Spike Award requirements are fairly simple, and I'll wager that most hobbyists have already completed most of the criteria as I had. These requirements include displaying six units of rolling stock (scratch built, craftsman, or detailed commercial kits). (I had built, hand painted, and custom decaled many pieces of A&SRR rolling stock.) You need to construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout. (Thus, a 2' x 4' module can qualify. My own layout is a two level 11' x 13' donut shaped pike.) You also need to construct three types of trackage (such as turnouts, crossings, or grade changes) and ballast the track. (Done.) Your layout needs to be wired so that two trains can run simultaneously (all DCC layouts and modules would qualify), and then provide one additional electrical feature such as a powered turnout, building, or signal. (Mine was a turntable.)

I had created a table document that listed the specific Golden Spike Award requirements. (They are more fully described on the NMRA website.) This helped me keep track of what I had done to accomplish each criterion. After reviewing the Golden Spike Award (and completing a few necessary projects that were still on my workbench), I invited Jim Wanlass, NMRA Northern Utah Division Superintendent, to come over and inspect my layout and its various accomplishments. I had set out the rolling stock that I had built. The completed structures, track, and wiring were already in place.

From the first glance, Jim was genuinely enthusiastic about the layout which saved my ego to me off. (When I asked him if he wanted to run some trains, he lit up appropriately.) As he checked me off on the Golden Spike criteria, he pointed out that I had already accomplished several of the requirements for the AP areas of Master Builder - Cars, Master Builder - Scenery, and the Model Railroad Engineer - Civil award. Needless to say, these are all things I would have modeled or built anyway. Jim encouraged me to continue along those lines (pardon the pun). (And, with this article, I have serendipitously started on the Model Railroad Author award.) Now, I will push myself to complete at least few of the AP programs, if not attempt the Master of Model Railroad designation.

From this process, I gained a little more confidence in my modeling abilities. I received recognition for some of my work. I also launched myself into the NMRA Achievement Program. And, more importantly I made a talented new friend.

I encourage everyone to review the criteria, see what you have already accomplished, and apply for the Golden Spike Award. What could be better than displaying an award named for our own state's railroad heritage?

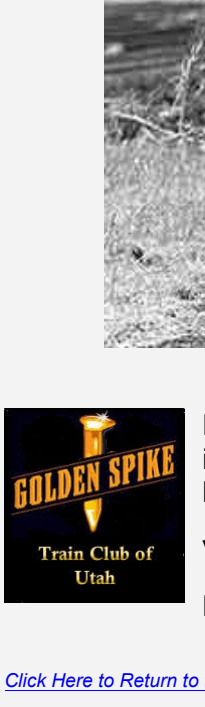


Jim Wanlass, MMR #585
AP Chairman

Northern Utah Division of the NMRA
jamestowntrains@gmail.com

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2020 NMRA National Convention



As everyone is aware, the coronavirus has had a devastating impact around the world. It has caused the death of tens of thousands of people and that is not something to be trivialized.

The NMRA national convention, Gateway 2020, is scheduled to start on July 12, 2020, in St. Louis, Missouri. That being said, the local host group has determined that they can no longer continue with the preparations and operation of the convention. The reasons for this decision is the fact that one key member is ill with COVID-19. The host group requests that you pray for him.

Additionally, some members of the local model railroad community have withdrawn their model railroads from the tours based on their understandable and valid concerns about allowing persons in their homes who may have the COVID-19 virus. Even if the virus is well under control, that does not mean that everyone who attends the convention would be virus free.

Robert Amsler, Manager of the Meetings and Trade Show Department has advised the officers and the board of directors of this decision and the officers and directors fully support canceling the convention. Neither the Gateway 2020 crew nor the NMRA made this decision in haste or without careful consideration of all involved. The cancellation is in the best interest of the NMRA members, their family members, and the NMRA. It is noteworthy that the NMRA has never cancelled a convention before Gateway 2020 and that includes during World War II.

For those who have registered for the convention, the refund policy will be published as soon as possible at Gateway2020.org. We, the Gateway 2020 Committee, will need some time to make the necessary changes to the website to process the refunds.

Again, all involved regret this decision but we trust that you will understand the necessity and reasoning behind the decision.

You can help support the St. Louis host committee by making a donation or buying some merchandise from their website.

https://www.gateway2020.org/store/index.php?main_page=index&CPath=3&zencid=904b271cbe5dam5e1a1tsne0

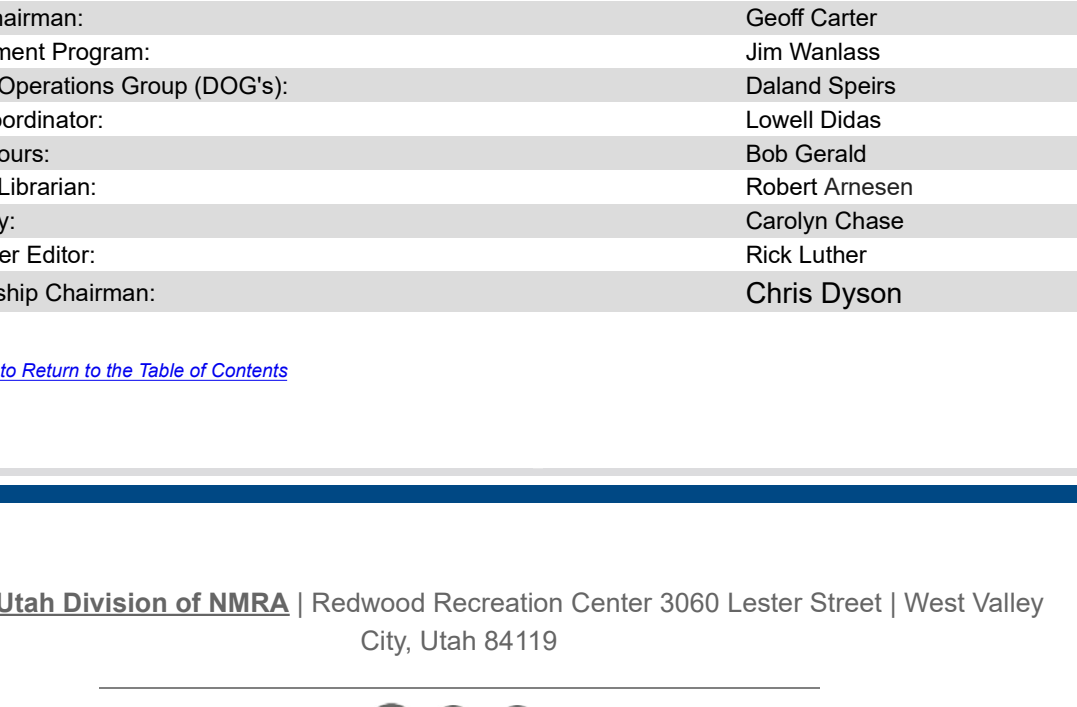
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Division News Items



Posted on the NMRA Facebook Page
By Richard Sullivan

Palmerston North, New Zealand
Finally assembled my 2019 NMRA convention car. Replaced the 'as-supplied' wheel sets with some spare Alstom wheels.



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New O Scale Narrow Gauge Club Organizing

This new club will be at the Train Shoppe at 2964 State Street in Salt Lake City. The club will be building an ON3 & ON30 layout in the backroom by the old mine. This will be a secure area from the general public. A track plan is in progress. For more info talk to Lowell Didas 801-759-7829. Or see Jeff Nichols at the Train Shoppe (801) 322-2729.

Upcoming Shows and Events

Please note that as of this writing some of the following shows and conventions are scheduled but maybe postponed or canceled depending on the current status of the Coronavirus pandemic. Check the show websites for confirmation.

2020 Sherman Hill Train Show
Saturday May 16, 9am - 5pm
Sunday, May 17, 10am - 4pm
Frontier Park Exhibition Hall
1312 W. 8th Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001
<http://shermanhilltrains.org/show>

CANCELLED - Gateway 2020
2020 NMRA National Convention and National Train Show
July 12-18 in St. Louis, Missouri
<https://www.gateway2020.org/>

Rocky Mountain Region
Joint Lines to Pueblo
July 31 - August 2, 2020
Pueblo Union Station - 132 West B Street
Rawlins Public Library - 100 E Abriendo Ave
Pueblo, Colorado

23rd Annual Roundhouse Festival
August 7, 8 & 9, Evanston show
1440 Main St, Evanston, Wyoming

40th National Narrow Gauge Convention
St. Louis, Missouri
September 2-5, 2020
Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Louis - St. Charles
240 Convention Center Plaza, Saint Charles, Missouri, 63303
<https://40nngc.com/>

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO
Idaho Falls Recreation Center, 520 Memorial Drive
Mid-October (TBA)

Intermountain Train Expo
Northern Utah Division
November 13 & 14th
Redwood Recreation Center
3060 Lester Street West Valley City

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RIP - Terry Faber

It's always hard saying goodbye, but sadly that's what we must do now. We lost a business partner, a friend, and most importantly, a man that can never be replaced this week.

For our customers who knew Terry Faber, you probably remember the friendly old guy with the big smile and overalls that helped you and your kids out on our layout. What you might not know is that he was smiling through pain that most will never endure, and yet he always put everyone else's needs and happiness before his own.

He was truly one in a million, and words will never be able to describe his value to his friends and family, or to The Train Shoppe, and the lives of the people he touched there.

Goodbye old friend.

The Train Shoppe

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Layout for Sale

A notice from the Denver Model Railroad club - Layout for Sale

I have an HO train layout for sale and wondered if you could share it with your members. This one is a work in progress and would make a great stay-at-home project.

It is well constructed by a professional carpenter. Table is 50" x 78" and extremely well built.

Someone can take over this project and finish the details to their own specifications. The landscape is full of wonderful details...check out a close up of the Trellis, Tunnels, Ponds, Waterfalls. Mountains. Cool Stuff!

All the wiring is complete for the track controls. There are two controllers and two loop layouts.

No trains included. No buildings.

Will provide delivery in Denver Metro area.

Delivery outside of Denver possible.

Layout is priced at \$1200

Reach out to me if you or someone you know may be interested.

Thanks...And Stay Healthy!

Vicki Wegman
vickiwegman@gmail.com

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Golden Spike Train Club of Utah

Due to some earthquake damage as well as the Coronavirus, we are closed indefinitely. No more open houses for the time being. Stay tuned. Thanks to all who have come to visit. Feel free to message us.

Visit our website at <http://www.goldenspikeclubinutah.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 months before your expiration. If you can't find it or 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 at over 30 vendors including Micro-Mart, Green Frog Productions, MinuteMan Scale Models, Motrak Models, MRC (Model Rectifier Company) and many others. The discounts could add up to what a years membership costs!

<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. 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 here. 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: prissersdennervill@gmail.com. Visit their website at <http://colorcountryyears.org/>

Golden Country T-Trak Club - This S 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. Visit their website at <http://www.ccc-trak.com/>

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 Dan Buckley by phone at: (801) 252-1821 or by email at: jamesbuckley7@gmail.com. Visit their website at <http://www.gsa-flyer.com/about.htm>

Golden Spike Train Club of Utah - This HO/HO3 100% NMRA club meets Saturday Evenings from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, at the Old Children's Museum of Utah (540 N 300 South, S.C.U.) Open Houses are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 12-4 pm. Contact Mark Forslund by phone at (801) 641-6586 for more information. Out of the area memberships are available. Visit their website at <http://southwestnmra.com/>

Great Basin Lego Train Club - Adult fans of LEGO. Meeting times and club info is posted on their website. Contact Reed Cowley by email at: ghc@aol.com. Visit their website at <http://greatbasinlego.org/>

Golden Spike Railroad Club - Specializing in local narrow gauge railway railroads in HO3, this group meets informally and has a layout in Grantsville. Contact Fred Vestler by email at: fvestler@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, Riverton, UT 84405 or by phone at: (801) 394-4952. Visit their website at <http://www.hostlers.org>

O Scale Spots and Western - An O and HO scale club. Contact Steve Stibel by phone at: (801) 973-0267.

Ogden, Trains and Western - This 100% NMRA club meets in HO and N and meets at the SCERRA Theater Boardroom (745 South State Street, Ogden) at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Contact Larry Carter by email at larrycarter@msn.com or by phone at (801) 448-6161 Visit their website at <http://www.ogdentrains.com/>

Palmerston North, New Zealand - The Golden Spike Chapter is a non-profit group of researchers and preservationists. The Golden Spike chapter of the D&RGV #223 meets every second Tuesday at noon at Two Bt Street Cafe on 25th Street in Palmerston North and is presently in the midst of the restoration of the D&RGV #223. Visit their website at <http://www.drgv.co.nz/>

South Weber Model Railroad Club - This 1 1/2" club runs trains every 3rd Saturday & Sunday at South Weber Canyon Meadows Park, 1-84 exit #65, two blocks south, two blocks east. Visit their website at <http://southwebernmra.com/>

Utah Large Scale Society - A "G" scale group that meets in various member's homes. Contact Stan Swan by email at: (801) 546-4085 or by USPS mail at: 4444 S 4100 West, West Haven, UT 84401

Utah Live Steamers - Our railroad is at Shay Park, 400 West Aspen Hills Blvd, Saratoga Springs, UT which encompasses 12 acres. The key feature is the abandoned railroad grade of the Salt Lake & Western Railroad. Our track gauge is 7' 6" and we have a new, beautiful 1 1/2" scale locomotive to pull trains as many cars as before. Notes are typically in the morning on the third Saturday of the month. Contact Mike at utahlivesteamers@gmail.com or watch Facebook for event listings. <https://www.facebook.com/utahlivesteamers/>

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 Keri Silver (Club President) by email at: webmaster@utahnmra.com. Visit their website at <http://utahnmra.com/default.htm>

Wasatch N Scale Model Railroad Club - For contact info visit their website at 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 Dalley
Board of Director:	Mike Dean
Board of Director:	Michael Harris
Committee Positions	
Advertising/Marketing:	Steve Moore
Board of Director:	Geoff Carter
Achievement Program:	Jim Wanlass
Division Operations Group (DOG's):	Daland Speirs
Clinic Coordinator:	Lowell Didas
Layout Tours:	Bob Gerald
Division Librarian:	Robert Arnesen
Secretary:	Carolyn Chase
Newsletter Editor:	Rick Luther
Membership Chairman:	Chris Dyson

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