

PROMONTORY POST



Northern Utah Division

February 2026 - Volume 14 - Issue 2

In This Issue

Clinic Schedule	2	Rocky Mountain Region Convention	12
Event Highlights.....	4	Division Rolling Stock.....	13
Thoughts from the Superintendent.....	6	NMRA Membership Renewal.....	14
The SP&O: A Pizza Box Layout.....	7	The Club Car	14
Achievement Program.....	8	Division Officers and Volunteers.....	16
Special Announcement.....	10	Meeting Information.....	17
Division News	11		

**ALL ABOARD FOR
OUR NEXT EVENT!**



**Our next meeting will be
Saturday
February 21st, 2026
10:00 AM - Noon**



Clinic Schedule

You can always find links to our previous recorded live video clinics on our website.

Click the link below to go directly to the website.

<https://www.northernutahnmra.org/monthly-events/past-clinics/>



As your Division Clinic Coordinator, I'm looking for people to give clinics on a variety of topics for the modeling community. You don't have to be an expert, just knowledgeable enough to teach others what you've learned. Giving a clinic is a great way to serve the community, and you can earn points for the AP program in the Author or Volunteer categories. If you're interested in signing up, please contact me. Thanks and happy modeling!

Kevin Anderson MMR #752

Northern Utah Division Clinic Coordinator

801-842-7471

February
21st

10:00 AM - NOON

Hands On Presentation

Wet Palettes For Model Railroad Painters

Presented by Mike Dean

This is a hands on session in which everyone will make a DIY wet palette and do a little painting. We will be doing some relatively "fine" painting. **If people have their favorite brushes for fine work, or if they have a specific set of (acrylic!) paints that they are interested in using, they should bring. I will bring the objects that are going to be painted (N scale tunnel portals).**

March
21st

10:00 AM - NOON

Presentation

Railfanning the West

Presented by Aaron Pederson

April
18th

10:00 AM - NOON

Presentation

The do's and don'ts of modern installation on brass with DCC

Presented by Jeremy Johnson



Clinic Schedule

May
16th

CANCELED

There will be no meeting this month since it conflicts with the Rocky Mountain Region Convention in Rapid City, South Dakota. Please attend the convention!

June
20th

10:00 AM - NOON

Special Event

TBA - Every year during the warm weather we like to hold a monthly event at another location. This is kind of like the field trips you took in school!

July
21st

10:00 AM - NOON

Presentation

So you want to do Operations?

Presented by Kevin Anderson MMR

Come learn about operations, then participate in a simulated operating session.

August
15th

10:00 AM - NOON

Presentation

TBD

Presented by Someone Like You!

Looking for people to give clinics on a variety of topics for the modeling community.

September
19th

10:00 AM - NOON

Presentation

TBD

Presented by Someone Like You!

Looking for people to give clinics on a variety of topics for the modeling community.

October
17th

10:00 AM - NOON

Presentation

Photography for Backdrops

Presented by Mark Rindflesh

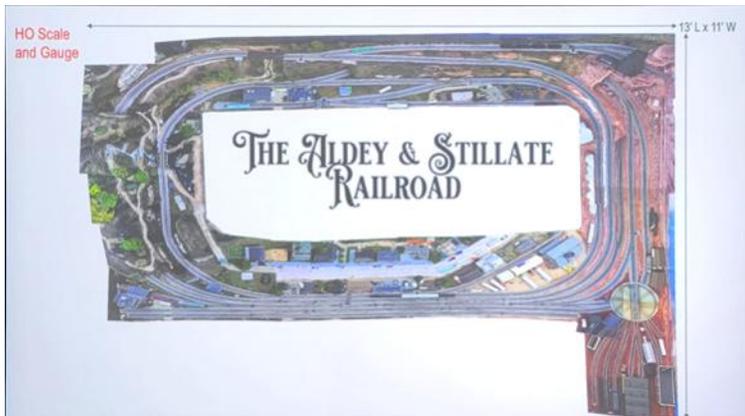
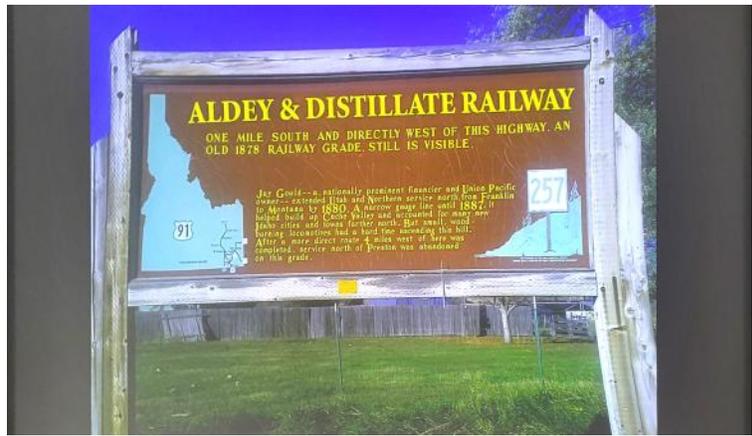
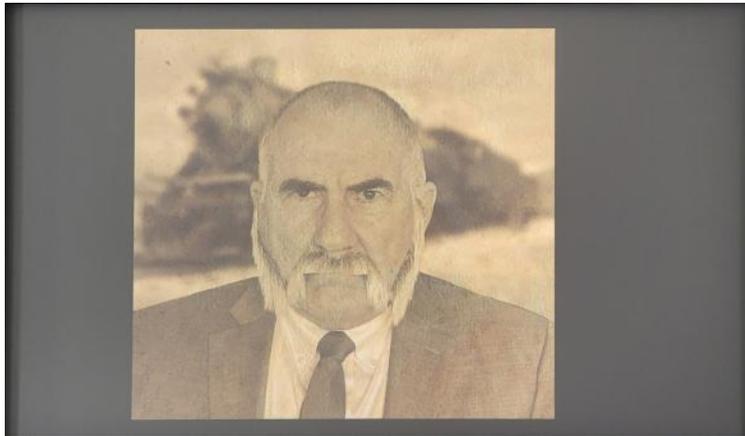
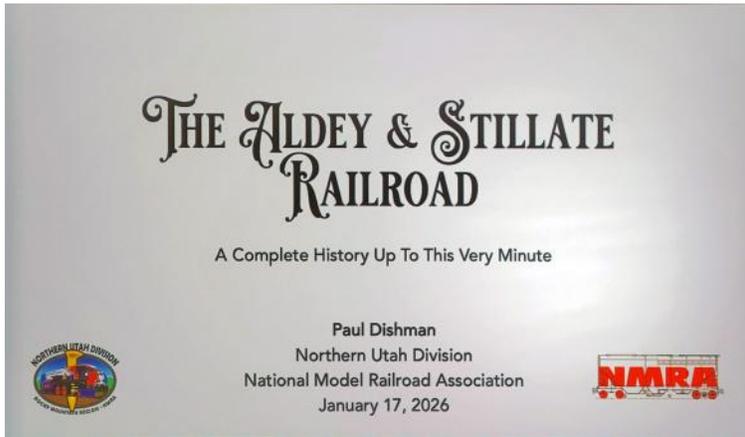
Event Highlights

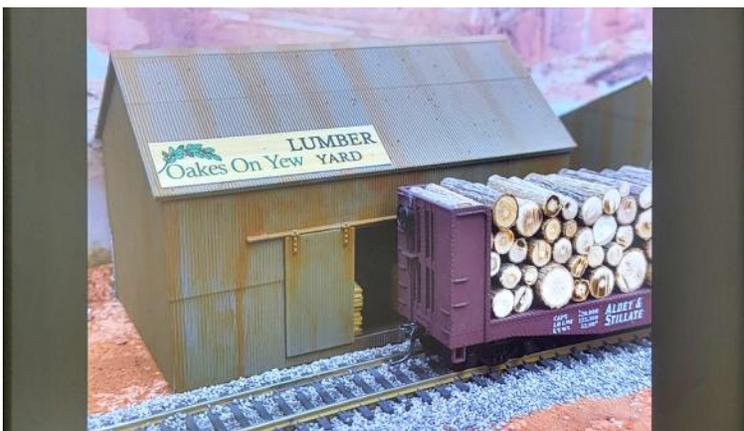
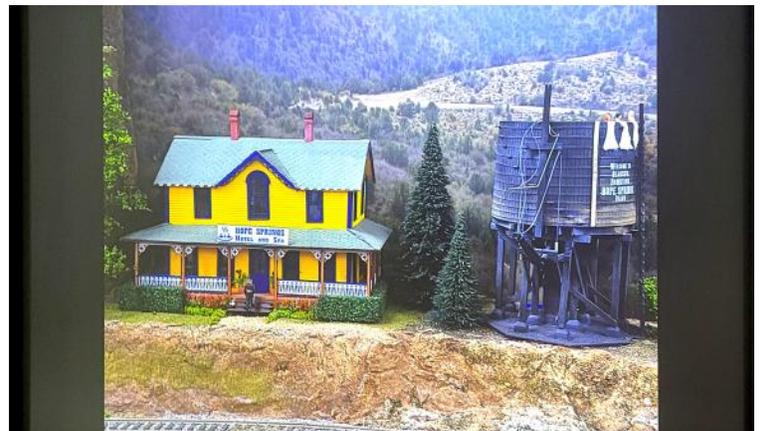
Presentation

The Aldey & Stillate

Presented by Paul Dishman

Paul Dishman's HO layout, the Aldey and Stillate, is based on the very short line railroad that runs between Pratt Falls, Utah and Hope Springs, Idaho. Paul provided an insight into the questionable history of the railroad as well as a visual tour of the layout. The presentation will utilize Artificial Intelligence as that is the only kind the presenter has. A very enjoyable tour from a very humorous guy. It really goes to show that Model Railroading can be fun. **Thanks Paul!**







Train of Thoughts

There's so much more to this hobby than just "building trains in your basement!" I was able to run my model trains at Trolley Square where real trains used to run. Did you know that the first street cars on tracks in Salt Lake City were pulled by mules in 1872? Luxurious new electric street cars began in 1889. They became so popular that in the early 1900s there were seven different street car companies. By 1930 buses began to take over and that was the beginning of the end of the need for trolley barns. In 1972 the buildings at Trolley Square were saved from demolition and converted to a shopping center. Trolley Square is now on the National Register of Historic Places. When the Golden Spike Club of Utah was looking for a new home they were able to connect with the current owner who happens to love model railroading. The club's layout was built to be able to be moved and with a lot of work from its members it is now operational in a larger space and has a viewing ramp for the public. Plans to finish the layout, along with expanding it, are in the works. Club members also help drive the kiddie train around the mall. For more information about the club see the info at the end of the newsletter about all the clubs in the area.



Kevin has a lot of great clinics lined up this year. This weekend don't forget to bring a small paint brush - other supplies will be provided. We are going to learn more about wet pallets. I have not seen much about them in model railroading articles but they are used a lot in other miniature hobbies. I have some figures, vehicles and other details that I plan to use the wet pallet technique to paint those items. We look forward to seeing you for some fellowship this weekend so we can enjoy the journey together!

Jim Wanlass, MMR #585

Superintendent

Northern Utah Division of the NMRA

jamestowntrains@gmail.com



Trolley Square Carbarns as they appeared in the days of the electric trollies.

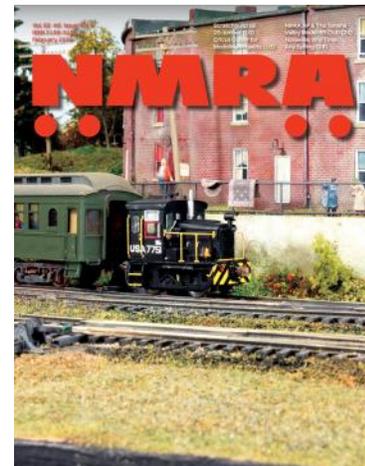
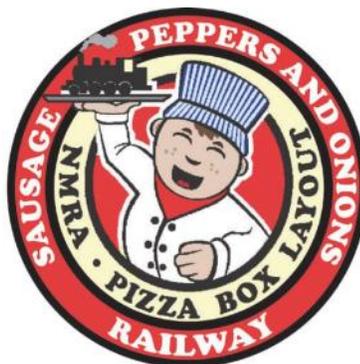
Dedicated to the memory of Emerson H. Carter, November 29, 1986.

NMRA Pizza Box Layout

The SP&O: A Pizza Box Layout

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY MICHAEL TYLICK

Excerpts from the February 2026 NMRA Magazine



PART 1: CONSTRUCTION, TRACK AND ELECTRICITY

I recently had the good fortune to work with Blaine Holbrook, the originator of the “Pizza Box Layout” — a model railroad effort involving children and their parents in a fun family project to build a 24-inch square N-scale layout over six weekend gatherings. The idea started in Utah but is spreading to other parts of the country. Pizza Box is a wonderful way to involve both children and their parents in what could become a lifelong hobby. I believe many youngsters introduced to model railroading will return to the hobby when their adult lives are more settled. More than a few grandparents have started a model railroad, using the excuse of “building it for the grandchildren.” Projects like Pizza Box may not show immediate results in NMRA membership, but they most certainly plant seeds for the future.

I wanted to join the fun and build my own layout, but I was bothered that it wasn't actually built inside a real pizza box, which is smaller. I toyed with the idea of even presenting the layout to participants with the necessary supplies contained in a large pizza box. Still, I was intrigued by the idea of building a layout within the confines of a pizza box. A trip to my local pizza parlor resulted in a new, large 18-inch square box. N-scale curves proved a bit too tight to fit comfortably, so Z-scale seemed a logical choice. N-scale curves proved a bit too tight to fit comfortably, so Z-scale seemed a logical choice. The small size is still rather unusual and might draw more attention than another N-scale portable layout. Other than working on some scenery for a German

To read more about Michael's layout click the link below:

<https://nmra.zinioapps.com/article/nmra-magazine/february-2026-i687016/the-spo-a-pizza-box-layout-a14>

For more information on how to read the NMRA Digital magazine click the link below:

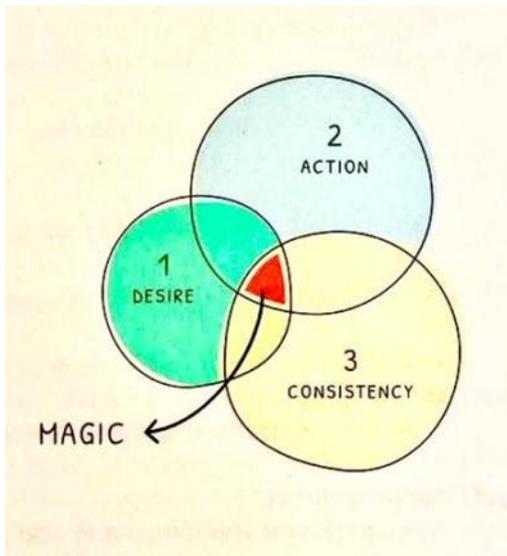
<https://www.nmra.org/members/nmra-digital-magazine>

Achievement Program

In a Facebook post, Ray Persing, MMR, National Achievement Program Manager, listed a few tweaks to the Volunteer, Official and Prototype models certificates that were approved at the January NMRA BOD meeting. "These changes help to make the level of effort for the points earned for volunteer more equitable, fixes an administrative issue with official, and eliminated the requirement for a passenger car or caboose for the Prototype Models certificate. The new language will be posted on the website soon. The actual SOQ forms will take a little longer."



He also said they are in the early stages of adding the first new certificate since 1987 – Modular Model Railroading. He hopes to have something for the board to vote on at the summer meeting. It is a growing area especially with T-TRAK, NTRAK, Free-mo, Free-MoN and the many variations of the Pizza Box Layout becoming more popular. Ray explains, "The new certificate combines existing elements of scenery, electrical, civil, and volunteer certificates in much the same way Prototype Models combines elements of scenery, structures, cars, and motive power." I am excited about it. I see many in our Division who should be able to qualify for it with work they are already doing.



I recently saw the above diagram online. I had the desire for more than 20 years to build my own version of the Bronx Terminal. About two years ago things fell into place for me to finally take action. Over those two years I have been pretty consistent on working on it. I have had other projects and things that take away my time and focus but with smaller goals along the way I am able to keep working at it. I need to continue to have the desire, continue to take action and continue to be consistent. What I did not expect was the MAGIC. I was excited to get all the track installed and working so that I, and others, can run trains in the whole yard – MAGIC. I was excited to see progress on the freight building. I am still working on it but seeing it start to come

alive as I get certain aspects complete is really cool – MAGIC. Currently I have started ballasting and weathering the cobblestones. I started testing how I would do that but didn't love how some of it turned out. I found another video and love how that technique works so I am doing the rest of the yard that way – MAGIC.



I have known for a long time but putting it into practice is another thing.... Layering and working from prototype photos. It started (on this project) with the car float. It continues with every other phase. I also don't just buy one color anymore – I buy 3. The color I think I want, one a little lighter and one a little darker. On the cobblestones I painted the three different colors in several passes, and even a wash of a fourth color before applying the grout. The picture above shows laying in the sand (grout) like the prototype. Previously, I was trying to force the randomness. This time, the randomness just seemed to happen. Don't quite like it, add a little more paint here and there. The cobblestones in the center of the freight house were actually lasered deeper so I did the grout twice. The results? To me it's MAGIC!



There are many moments with this project that turn into a bit of MAGIC. There are also times that it feels like a bit of a chore but I keep at it and suddenly I can see the MAGIC again. Whatever project you are working on, let someone know if you need a little bit of help. Most of us have that desire but sometimes need a little push in the action and consistency part. If you do, we can help. We want you to have the MAGIC in your model railroading experience too. When we help each other we can enjoy the journey together!

Jim Wanlass, MMR #585

AP Chairman

Northern Utah Division of the NMRA

jamestowntrains@gmail.com

ALL ABOARD!
OT&W TRAIN SHOW



**SPRING
TRAIN
SHOW**

In the HUGE Indoor Tennis Building

**475 South Main
The Spanish Fork
Fairgrounds**

Over 24,000 square feet of model
trains, layouts and exhibits!

April 3rd and 4th, 2026
Friday, 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Saturday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

UPCOMING TRAIN SHOWS



2026 Hostlers Model Railroad Festival

March 6th, 7th & 8th

Fri, 3 pm - 8 pm : Sat, 9 am - 6 pm : Sun, 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Ogden Union Station

2501 Wall Avenue, Ogden, UT.

<https://www.hostlers.info/>



OT&W Spring Train Show

April, 3rd & 4th

Fri, 3 pm - 9 pm : Sat, 9 am - 5 pm

The Spanish Fork Fairgrounds - Indoor Tennis Building

475 South Main, Spanish Fork, UT.

otwtrainclub.org



Model Train Show

April, 9th, 10th & 11th

Thurs, 1 pm - 5 pm : Fri, 9 am - 5 pm : Sat, 9 am - 5 pm

Brinkman Service Club Building

352 Airport Way, Wendover, UT.

<https://wendoverairfield.org/>



2026 Rocky Mountain Region Convention

May 13th & 16th

Best Western Ramkota

2111 N LaCross St, Rapid City, SD, 57701

<https://www.rmr-nmra.org/2026%20Convention/Home2026.html>

STADLER

Open House and Train Show

May 29th & 30th

Stadler Rail US

5880 West 150 South, Salt Lake City, UT



2026 NMRA National Convention & National Train Show

July 27th - August 2nd

Chattanooga Convention Center

1 Carter St, Chattanooga, TN 37402

<https://www.nmra2026.org/>

2026 RMR CONVENTION

May 13-16 • Rapid City, SD.



**Win a chance
to ride in the cab
of a 2-6-6-2 Mallet!**



For more information and to register use the QR Code or go to:
<https://www.rmr-nmra.org/2026%20Convention/Home2026.html>

Wednesday, May 13

Visit local attractions. (Not included in convention registration.)

Thursday, May 14

South Dakota State Railroad Museum

1880 Train to Keystone and back

Museum Tour, Yard Tour, Evening Social

Friday, May 15

Homestake Mine

Mine Tour, Clinic, Northern Hills Railway Society Layout Tour

Saturday, May 16

Black Hills Railway Layout Tour/Ops Session

Convention Location

Best Western Ramkota Hotel

2111 N LaCrosse Street,

Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

Clinics are included in your registration.



Modified from Drew Jacksich from San Jose, CA, California Republic CC 2.0

FOR SALE!



Add this superb, one of a kind, historical box car to your collection. The Northern Utah Division of the NMRA is selling an HO scale Bamberger Rail Road box cars kits, manufactured by Accurail. The cars feature a build date of 8/48.

You can get your very own historical box car before this limited edition is sold out.



DECEMBER NEWS column

Model Railroad Hobbyist | December 2024

RICHARD BALE AND JEFF SHULTZ
REPORT THE LATEST HOBBY
INDUSTRY NEWS ...

CLUB NEWS

The Northern Utah Division of the NMRA is selling a series of HO scale Utah Oil Company (UTOCO) tank cars manufactured by InterMountain Railway. Featuring a build date of 8/45 and a test date of 9/28/51, the cars are offered in six road numbers and are equipped with metal wheelsets and Kadee couplers.
Info: www.northernutahnmra.org/club-car

Originally intended to be the convention cars for the 2019 NMRA convention in Salt Lake City, supply chain issues prevented the cars from arriving on time. Offered in six road numbers, the cars have metal wheelsets and Kadee couplers. You can get your very own historical tank car before this limited edition is sold out.

The price is \$45 each with free shipping, or \$40.00 if you pick them up either at the event or at Geoff Carter's home. Contact Geoff at

gkc450219@gmail.com



All Aboard!



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 didn't get it, 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 Corporation) and many others.

The discounts could add up to what a years membership costs!

<https://nmra.org/partnerships>



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 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: professordavemerrill@gmail.com. Visit their website at <http://colorcountrytrains.org/sud/>

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. Visit their website at <http://www.ccttc.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 Buckley by phone at: (801) 252-1921 or by email at: jamesbuckley7@comcast.com. Visit their website at <http://www.gsafrc.com/about.htm>

Golden Spike Train Club of Utah - (HO scale) now at the Trolley Square History Museum. We are NE of the Old Spaghetti Factory, next to the Desert Edge Pub. The children's play area is in front of the museum. In addition to the layout, rides are given on a kiddie train. Contact Jon Thomas, Treasurer at Thomas.JT@Yahoo.com for more information. Out of the area memberships are available. Visit their website at <http://www.goldenspiketrainclubutah.org/home.html>

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

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) 394-4952. Visit their website at <http://hostlers.org>

O Scale Guys - An O and On3 scale club. Contact Steve Strebel by phone at: (801) 973-0367.

Ophir, Tintic and Western - This club models in HO and N and meets at the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7pm at the Hobby Stop in Orem (537 N 1200 W, Orem). For more information contact HO-VP Mike Lambert, mlambert54@comcast.net 303-919-4703 - N-VP Chris Cox, coxcl1@gmail.com 801-897-2269. Visit their website at <http://www.otwtrainclub.com/>

Railway & Locomotive Historical Society (Golden Spike Chapter) - An historically oriented group of researchers and preservationists, the Golden Spike chapter of the R&LHS meets every second Tuesday at noon at Two Bit Street Cafe on 25th Street in Ogden and is presently in the midst of the restoration of the D&RGW #223. Visit their website at <http://www.save223.org>

South Weber Model Railroad Club - This 1-1/2" club runs trains every 3rd Saturday & Sunday at South Weber Canyon Meadows Park. I-84 exit #85, two blocks south, two blocks east. Visit their website at <http://southweberrr.webs.com/>

Utah Free-MO - A travelling HO Modular group conforming to the Free-MO standard. Contact Mike Nelson by email at: i_m_loco@hotmail.com

Utah Free-moN - We subscribe to the N scale Free Mo standards. You can find us on Facebook at Utah Free-moN.

Utah Garden Railway Society - A "G scale" group dedicated to the art of Garden Railways. Contact Lynn Stringham, President (UGRS) by USPS mail at: 4464 S 4100 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) 546-4085 or by USPS mail at: 920 N 1550 East, Layton, UT 84040

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 7.5" and we have a new, beautiful 1.6" scale locomotive to pull twice as many cars as before. Rides are 1st and 3rd Saturday of the Summer months. Contact Mike at utahlivesteamers@gmail.com or watch Facebook for event listings. <https://www.facebook.com/cmry260/>

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

Wasatch N Scale Model Railroad Club - For contact info visit their website at wasatchnscale.org



Division Brass Hats

Northern Utah Division Officers

Superintendent.....Jim Wanlass
Assistant Superintendent..... Mike Dean
Treasurer Gerald Bregg
Director-at-Large..... Doug Jolley
Director-at-Large..... Geoff Carter
Director-at-Large.....Cameron Lafluer
Director-at-Large.....Bob Connolly

Committee Positions

Social Media Chairman..... Cameron Lafluer
Convention ChairmanMike Dean/Geoff Carter
Achievement Program..... Jim Wanlass
Clinic CoordinatorKevin Anderson
Layout Tours Bob Connolly
Division Librarian:Robert Arnesen
Secretary:.....Carolyn Chase
Newsletter Editor:.....Rick Luther
Membership Chair Person Lowell Didas
Pizza Box Chairman Blaine Holbrook



Website:

www.northernutahnmra.org/

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/groups/nutahnmra/



Website:

www.nmra.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/NMRA.org

NMRA Online sites



<https://nmra.zinioapps.com/shop>



<https://x.com/nmraonline>



https://www.instagram.com/nmra_online/



<https://www.youtube.com/c/NMRAORGMModelRailroading>



<https://www.pinterest.com/nationalnmra/>

Meeting Information

Utah's center for model railroading excellence!

Join us every third Saturday at the

Stadler US Inc.

5880 W 150 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84104

from 10:00 AM to Noon

