

Trails, Rails, & Tales



January - February, 2016

Volume 3 • Number 1

The Official Newsletter of the *Chisholm Trail Division* of the **NMRA**

A NEW YEAR - A NEW LOOK

contributors

JOHN KRAFT ("Models in the Durango and Silverton Museum" - pages 18 - 21) The Durango and Silverton Museum is the location of some very nicely done models: railroads, military figures, and aircraft.



PHIL AYLWARD ("Automated Trackside Sensors" - pages 34 - 35)



RANDY STUCKY
("Trackside Tales" - page 31)



DAN HAGENBUCK ("Election of Officers" - page 4) -- ("Tools and Materials" - page 22 - 23), and ("Estate Sale" - pages 26 - 31)



ALAN A. AAGAARD ("OKC Train Show - 2015" - pages 15 - 17) -- ("Tools and Materials" - pages 22 - 23) -- ("Estate Sale" - pages 26 - 31), and ("Rock Island presence in El Reno, OK - Part 2" - pages 36 - 37)



Schedule of Events

Be sure to mark your calendar

January, 2016

- Jan 1 "Happy New Year"
- Jan 5 **Evening** Meeting at the Olivet Baptist Church
3440 West 13th St N, Wichita, KS 67203-4560
(13th Street North & High Street)
Begin gathering ----- 6:45pm
NMRA • meeting ----- 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Discussion of the Election Process
Program by Rick Seyb
- Jan 19 WAMRR • **Luncheon** Meeting ----- 11:30am
Our Hostess is "Jessica" at Golden Coral
11006 East Kellogg Drive
Wichita, KS 67207-1922

February, 2016

- Feb 2 "Ground Hog Day"
- Feb 2 **Evening** Meeting at the Olivet Baptist Church
3440 West 13th St N, Wichita, KS 67203-4560
(13th Street North & High Street)
Begin gathering ----- 6:45pm
NMRA • meeting ----- 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Discussion of the Election Process
Program by Rich Seyb
- Feb "Wichita Train Show & Swap Meet"
6 & 7 Cessna Activity Center • Wichita, KS

Vs. Super Bowl 50
NFL Super Bowl round
Sunday, February 7, 5:30 PM on CBS
Levi's Stadium



Super Bowl 50 will be hosted on February 7, 2016 in the City of Santa Clara, CA at the state-of-the-art Levi's® Stadium, which is the greenest and most technologically advanced professional football stadium in the United States.

- Feb 16 WAMRR • **Luncheon** Meeting ----- 11:30am
Our Hostess is "Jessica" at Golden Coral
11006 East Kellogg Drive
Wichita, KS 67207-1922



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and continue to have a very happy 2016. Let's not forget the train show coming in February 6 & 7, 2016. We will be looking for help at the NMRA table. So come and help out for one or two hours. Don't forget your wallet.

Phil Aylward
Director
Chisholm Trail Division



Phil Aylward
Director
Chisholm Trail Division
of NMRA

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Since I returned to the Wichita area three years ago, every year has seen more and more fun, fellowship, and skill sharing among the Wichita area model railroaders.

Our division will have new and/or returning leadership directing the Chisholm Trail Division in 2016. May the 2016 leadership team guide us to continued growth, increased fellowship, the willingness to share skills, and a dedicated effort to maintain inclusiveness for all who express interest in the model railroading hobby.

The joy of seeing so many Wichita area model railroaders at the Oklahoma City Model Railroad Train Show in December, showed me the vibrancy of our model railroader community. Chisholm Trail Division will continue to grow by introducing the benefits of NMRA to those in our community who have yet to join our organization.

The great efforts of 2015, by several of the division members sharing their skills in structure modeling and program presentations will not be forgotten by me for ages.

This past year's level of activity truly is my vision of what a fully functional NMRA division can accomplish. Serving as your Superintendent for 2105 has been my privilege, and I want to thank you all for your help and participation.



Lionel M. Smith, Jr.
Superintendent
Chisholm Trail Division
of NMRA

Lionel M. Smith, Jr.
Superintendent
Chisholm Trail Division

FROM THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Happy New Year's 2016. I appreciate everyone's support while I was the Assistant Superintendent, this past year. It has been an eventful year, and this year promised to be even more exciting. The Annual Election process is in progress at the time of this writing and we will all learn of the outcomes in the months to come. I have a couple of clinics planned for 2016 - so be on the look-out in future issues of this newsletter. Speaking of this newsletter, I want to congratulate Alan on the fantastic newsletter that it has evolved into. Alan has been complimented by several "regional NMRA" folks/editors, and has received requests to include items in both regional and national publications.

It is going to be busy this year of 2016, there are at least 4 train shows coming to our neighborhood. There will be contests in the future and I'm encouraging all to enter/be involved. Should you request assistance with the paperwork - please contact me (the sooner the better). My "cudo's" to all recipients of "The Golden Spike" award (see article on page 14).

Happy "Rail Fanning" to everyone.

Pamela Todd
Assistant Superintendent
Chisholm Trail Division



Pamela Todd
Assistant-Superintendent
Chisholm Trail Division
of NMRA

Volume/Year 3 • Number 1
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To change your mailing address;
report a missing issue;
or make other membership inquiries,
either eMail or call.

COLOPHON
Designed and composed using
Adobe InDesign CS6™ on a
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The main font families used were
COPPERPLATE GOTHIC,
Goudy Old Style,
Stone Sans Semi, & Symbol

Happy New Year's 2016. Several of our readers have made comments to me that I should include such a column in each issue of our newsletter. Sharing my perspectives and thoughts (NOT as an individual, but) as "Editor". For example:



Alan A. Aagaard
Newsletter Editor
Chisholm Trail Division
of NMRA

Safety Note: *Safety is your responsibility.* Manufacturers place safety devices on their equipment for a reason. In many photos you see in **TRAINS, RAILS, & TALES**, these have been removed to provide clarity. In some cases we'll use an awkward body position so you can better see what's being demonstrated. *Don't copy us.* Think about each procedure you are going to perform beforehand. You know: "measure twice; cut once"

Another item from the "Editor's Point of View" was it was time to alter the "Look" of the newsletter - hence the changes in this issue. Please share YOUR personal opinions.

Tool Talk from the trek to the OKC Train Show not only brought about uproarious laughter about "the shrinking of the aisles" (not that he might be adding some girth) Lots and Lots of "brainstorming" and much education was shared amongst us all.

I really want to hear from you - **TRAINS, RAILS, & TALES** welcomes comments from readers. Published correspondence may be edited for length or style. All published letters become the property of this Newsletter. Send your questions, thoughts, comments via eMail to: alan.a.aagaard@gmail.com

or by "snailMail" to
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Post Office Box #8339
Monger Station
Wichita, KS 67208-8339

Alan A. Aagaard
Newsletter Editor
Chisholm Trail Division

JANUARY

1st • Jim M.
13th • Ron C.
14th • Fred D.
19th • Alan G.
27th • Bob H.

FEBRUARY

7th • Randy S.
17th • Rob N.
21st • Steen M.
21st • Rick S.

Birthdays
January and February





Election of Officers for 2016



The following positions are up for election:

- **Division Superintendent** (*President*)
- **Division Assistant Superintendent** (*Vice President*)
- **Division Clerk** (*Secretary*)
- **Division Paymaster** (*Treasurer*)

...as of today, only 16 of 41 eligible have voted...

All "full members" of the Chisholm Trail Division are eligible to vote.

The "Ballot Committee" will eMail or mail your ballot on or about December 1, 2015.

The completed ballots must be returned by December 31, 2015.

The results of the election will be announced at the January 5, 2016 NMRA meeting.

eMail from Lionel Smith sent on Dec 16th

eMail your ballot to:
dhagenbuch@att.net
or

Mail your ballot to:
Chisholm Trail 2016 Election
c/o Dan Hagenbuch
8802 W 18th Street North
Wichita, KS 67212-5384

That's TODAY

That's TODAY

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

Ballot must be received/Postmarked by December 31, 2015.

That's TODAY

Wichita NMRA Train Show Clinics

February 6, 2016

will offer valuable training for the modeler!

One of the great features of the annual Wichita NMRA Train Show is the clinics offered by skilled modelers. The clinics are free and open to any of the attendees coming to the show (space permitting) on Saturday February 6th.

There are four clinics planned for the morning and afternoon! Here is the schedule:

10:30 am – “ ??? ” presented by ???

•
•

Clinic length: ? hour ? minutes

12:30 pm – “ ??? ” presented by ???

•
•

Clinic length: ? hour

1:45 pm – “ ??? ” presented by ???

•
•

Clinic length: ? hour

3:00 pm – “ ??? ” presented by ???

•
•

Clinic length: ? hour

Sorry folks, but for some reason, none of the committee members would respond/provide any information to my several eMail requests...

looking back at our past events...

NMRA

meeting
November 3, 2015



David Heinshon receiving his "Golden Spike" certificate from Assistant Director Pamela Todd



Also, that evening we shared our efforts from the Wooden Structures Clinics presented by Pamela Todd



...and the audience was filled with:
oooh's and aaaaah's

Photography by Gene Bowers

"NMRA"
Continued on page 7

Trails, Rails, & Tales
January/ February 2016



Structure by Gene Bowers



Structure by Larry E. Gulick



Photography by Gene Bowers



Structure by Randy Stucky



Place this Num.
By you...
Structure by Dan Hagenbuck



Structure by Rob Neises



Structure by Dean Lippencott
Selected as Favorite entry of the evening



WAMRR meeting

November 17, 2015

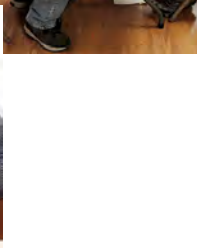
Bill Butts receiving his "Golden Spike" certificate from Assistant Director Pamela Todd

The Chisholm Trail's Second Annual Family Holiday Party

on

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Oh, yes, we also had an official "Business Meeting, too



Photography by Gene Bowers & Pam Todd



After working on the wooden-structure clinic for weeks-upon-weeks, Dean is awarded a: "QUICK" plastic model kit as his reward



...ya' gotta' love it!

"NMRA - family holiday party"
Continued on page 10



Railroad Dining Car Place Setting
 Tablecloth - Frisco
 FRED HARVEY Place setting
 Napkin - FRED HARVEY
 China - Gold Lion - used Chicago Union Station
 Also called Dove Grey by Harvey Family
 Flatware - Sawy Pattern - Fred Harvey

 SANTA FE Place Setting
 Napkin - Santa Fe
 China - California Poppy - 1st known use 1908
 and continued use up to Amtrak.
 Cup is ~~with~~ Bauschler Back stamp
 Highly desirable piece from collecting
 standpoint
 Flatware - Albany ~~with~~ Pattern w/ Ball also comes
 without Ball Both are usually stamped.

 Menu's - FRED HARVEY - Newton
 Santa Fe / FRED HARVEY China -
 This Menu was probably not used
 due to the angle of the print.



Photography by Gene Bowers





...how cool
is this, and
handmade
too...



...and the
mischief
and
mayhem
begins...



Photography by Gene Bowers, Larry Gulick, & Pam Todd



"NMRA - family holiday party"
continued from page 11



...laughter
filled
the
room...



Photography by Pamela Todd &
Larry Gulick

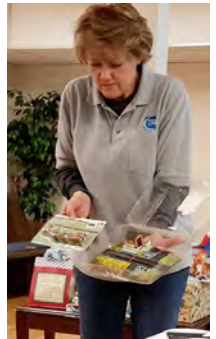
"NMRA - family holiday party"
Continued on page 13



mmmmm, was this a "Big Fish Story" or was he saying "Grace" (afterall, we are meeting in a church...



Photography by Alan A. Aagaard



This was, truly a "white elephant" gift...LOL



NMRA Golden Spike Awardees for 2015

Bob Neill – May

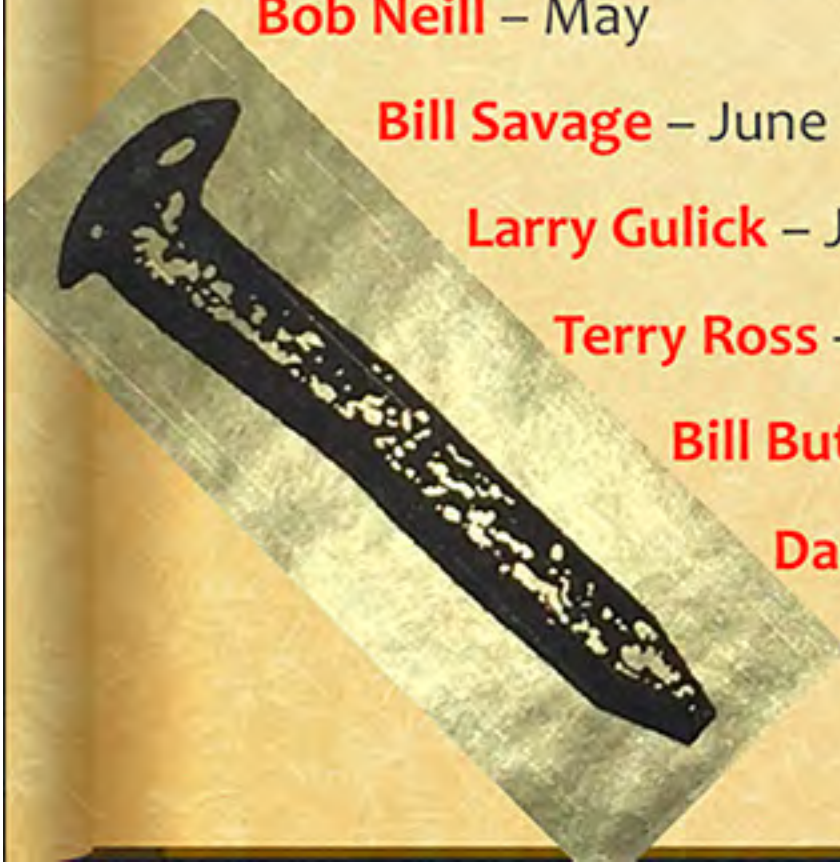
Bill Savage – June

Larry Gulick – July

Terry Ross – July

Bill Butts – November

David Heinsohn - November



tales from the road

Those believed to be in attendance include:

Annual Oklahoma City Train Show

Oklahoma State Fair Grounds
3001 General Pershing Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Those believed to have been seen at OKC Train Show 2015

9 - 5 on Saturday

- Aagaard, Alan A.
- Buth, Dr. Dennis & Brady
- Butts, Bill
- Coppock, Ron C.
- Gulick, Larry E.
- Hagenbuch, Dan
- McKeel, Jim
- Neises, Rob
- Ross, Terry
- Ryglinski, Lee
- Smith, Lionel
- Todd, Pamela
- Veik, Justin
- Vogt, Matt
- Werak, Ron (Vendor)
- Yeager, Sam

- Coursen, Lance (with the Augusta Train Club)
- Courson, Bill (with the Augusta Train Club)
- Dallas, Jim (with the Augusta Train Club)
- Davis, Jim (with the Augusta Train Club)
- Hoover, Glen (with FreMo & the Augusta Train Club)
- Martin, Matt (with Santa Fe Modelers, FreMo, & the Augusta Train Club)
- MacPhail, Gordon (with the Augusta Train Club)
- Ottman, Keith (with the Augusta Train Club)
- Yarnell, Richard - EHH employee

Those seen at OKC Train Show 2015

11 - 5 on Sunday

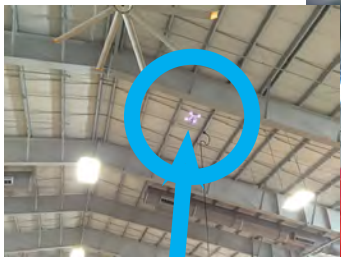
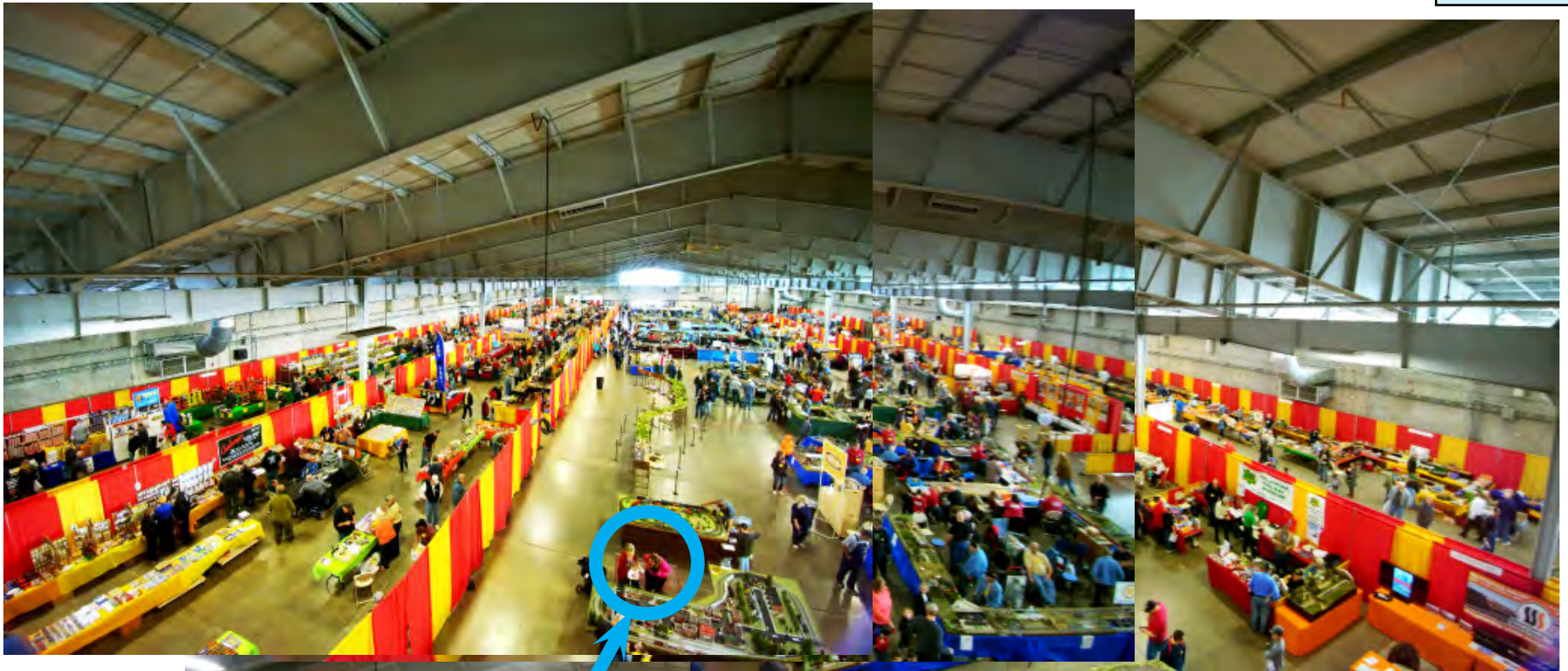
- Hoover, Glen (with FreMo & the Augusta Train Club)
- McKeel, Jim
- Werak, Ron (Vendor)



Now what would a “quad bladed drone” and a Train Show have in common, you might ask???



...hint - hint - hint...
technology AND cameras



Credits and Special Thanks to:

- Show Director ----- Ed Birch, Jr.
 - Door Prize Coordinator ----- Kevin Huffman & Matt Hudson
 - Vendor ----- Whistle Stop Trains
 - Drone Pilot ----- Michael Burns
 - Drone ----- Quad Blade Chroma
- Street Price ----- \$1,500 approx. (up to \$18,000)
Price was correct at time of publication





Cox Pavilion 231
70,000 Sq Ft
231 Actual Booths
33 on MFG Row
15,620 Sq Ft Layout Area
11/2/2015



Models in the Durango and Silverton Museum

Since retiring we've been traveling a LOT, Julie and I celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary, and keeping the blog up to date on interesting things. The Durango and Silverton Museum is the location of some very nicely done models. Railroads, military figures, and aircraft are all found there.



This was an O scale railroad that had a whimsical flair to it





This diorama is scratch built using few commercial parts







tools & materials

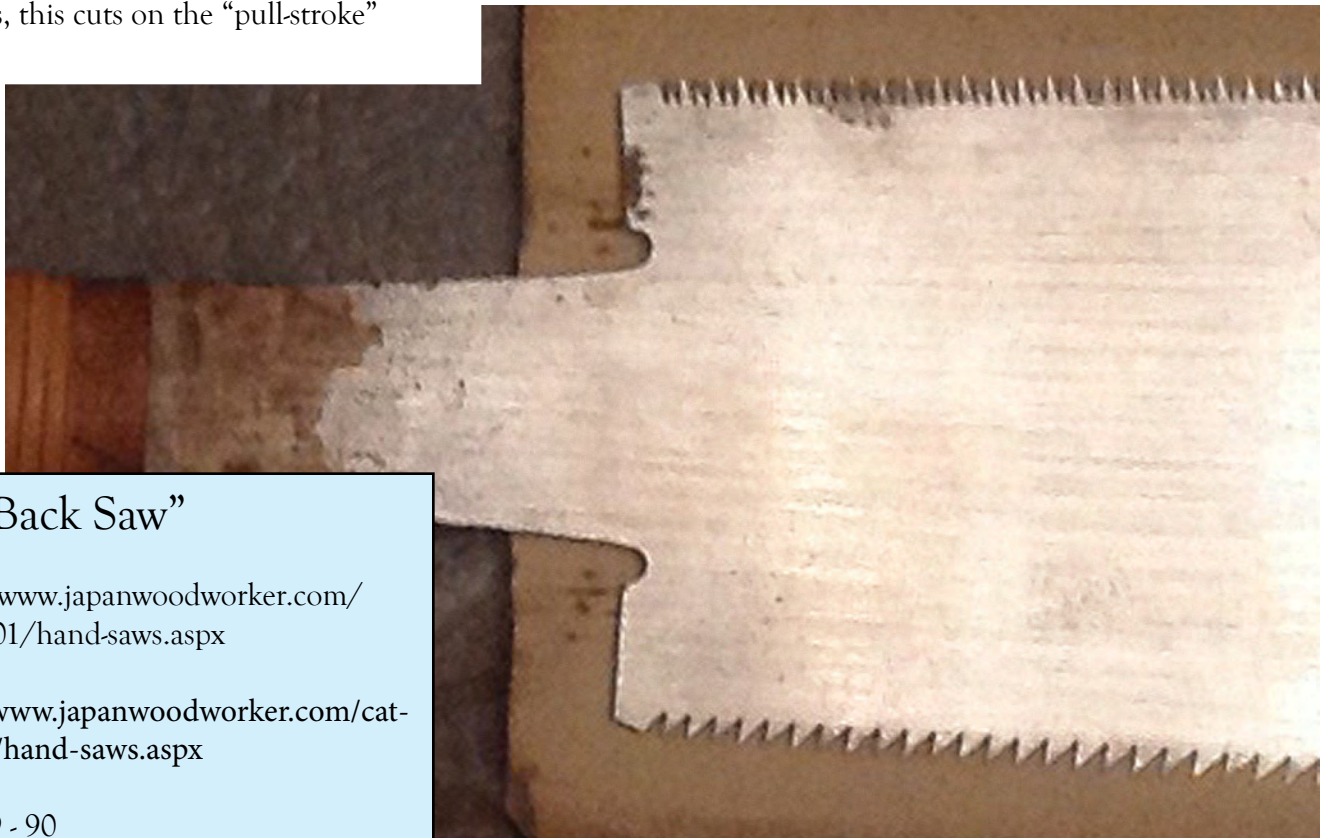
Imagine, if you will... five “mature males” in an SUV traveling at Turnpike speeds for hours (to and from the Oklahoma Train Show)...and the varied topics of conversation. Well, at one point, one of us was explaining the progress of their model railroad “pike”. “A most unusual thing has been occurring...My aisles keep shrinking...” And after the laughter subsided a very informative discussion took place on the topic of ways to foreshorten structures without destroying them. To further add to this story, two of the five were retired “shop-teacher-types”. (hopefully, you are chuckling by this point of the story)

Two options came out: 1) using a band saw with a VERY fine toothed blade and running at a slow speed & 2) was the use of a “Japanese Backsaw” Interestingly enough, both retired teachers concurred on both options, but both agreed using the backsaw was probably the best option.

¿What is a ‘Japanese Backsaw’ you ask? (pictured below)



One side is “coarse” and the other is “fine” toothed. Unlike most saws, this cuts on the “pull-stroke”



“Japanese Back Saw”

Vendor: <http://www.japanwoodworker.com/category/ht117-01/hand-saws.aspx>

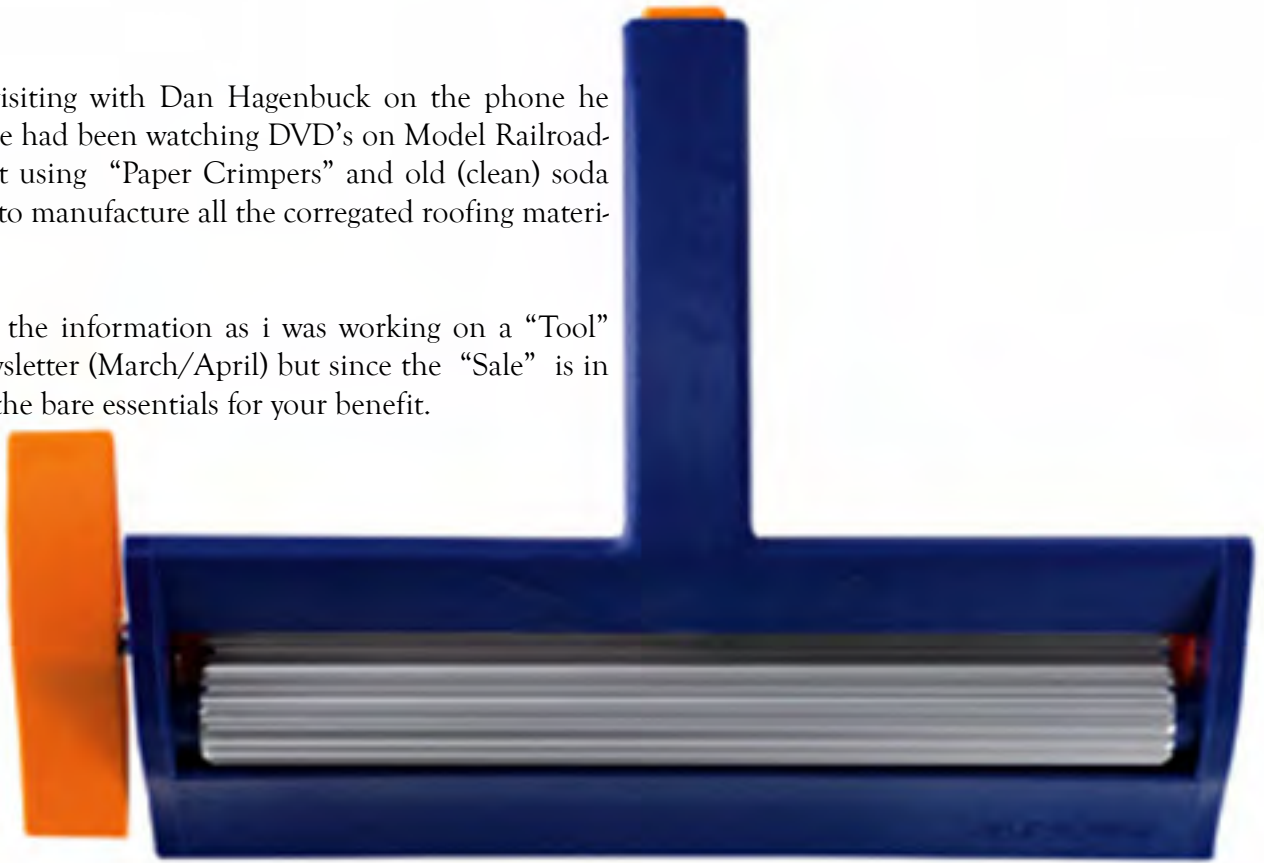
Vendor: <http://www.japanwoodworker.com/category/ht117-01/hand-saws.aspx>

Street Price: \$39 - 90

Price was correct at time of publication

Just yesterday while visiting with Dan Hagenbuck on the phone he shared with me that he had been watching DVD's on Model Railroad-ing and learned about using "Paper Crimpers" and old (clean) soda pop cans you are able to manufacture all the corrugated roofing material you will ever need.

Fortunately, i had all the information as i was working on a "Tool" piece for the next newsletter (March/April) but since the "Sale" is in effect NOW...Here's the bare essentials for your benefit.



"Fiskars Paper Crimper" #4121422

Vendor: <http://stores.joann.com/ks/wichita/2193/>

Product: <http://www.joann.com/fiskars-paper-crimper/4121422.html>

Street Price: \$19.99 MSRP

Sale Price: \$11.99

Price was correct at time of publication

memories...

SHORT STORY #1 ~ In 1992, I made a fast trip to the Los Angeles, CA area, for two train shows being held during the same weekend. After the second show, I left Los Angeles for Newton, Kansas. We departed “on-time” heading for Pasadena, CA. About 10-15 minutes out of Los Angeles, we came to a stop. We sat there for a while. Finally, an ambulance comes with red light flashing. The ambulance crew came with a backboard. As they carried the pedestrian that the locomotive had hit, I realized what had happened. If I had opened the window, (a definite NO-NO on Amtrak) I could have looked out and down and seen the entire scene. The victim was carried back to the ambulance stretcher and placed into the ambulance. 20 - 30 people were standing there watching the show. Once the stretcher was placed into the ambulance, the crowd kept looking through their windows. The ambulance left, red lights flashing. After all the reports were filled out, we left for Pasadena. As we pulled into Pasadena, an announcement was made that we would be delayed 45 minutes to an hour until the locomotive crew could be changed. We eventually left and wound up arriving in Newton, about two hours late.

SHORT STORY #2 ~ My wife and I were going to Charlotte, NC to take care of 3-5 year olds at a church conference. We were late leaving Newton, KS but arrived in Kansas City early. We left Kansas City on time. We got out into open country and stopped. After sitting there awhile, we were told that the locomotive crew was out of hours and needed to be replaced. They told us we'd be on our way just as soon as a new crew arrived. Finally, about an hour or so we started rolling. We got to Chicago, thinking we had missed our connection to Washington D.C. I was looking for the place to change our tickets, when my wife said the train to Washington hadn't left yet. So we headed into the waiting area. Shortly after we sat down, here comes a large gentleman who just found out he missed the train to California. At that point he was not the happiest of campers. As time went on, he became more upset. Station personnel tried to calm him down. They told him to calm down or they would have to call Security. He continued to be upset. I saw a station attendant on a phone. I told my wife: “Watch them send someone smaller than him to handle this.” Sure enough, here comes a lady about 50 or so. She was about half his size. When she said “Can I do something to help?” My wife and I were biting the skin of our lips to keep from busting out laughing. But then came three Security officers and took things over, even threatening to take him to lock-up facilities. They all went outside, and we never heard any more. We continued our trip to Washington D.C. to visit our niece and her family. I had taken a Lionel train set along that I had rescued from a trash pile for her 2 boys. It was a hit. They still have the set.

*written and submitted by
Randy Stucky*

weathering...



Weathering My Locos
by Matthew Albert

Weathering and detailing for my two Athearn Genesis units BNSF 8276 (SD75I) and UP 2427 (SD60M). Along with a lightly weathered Athearn rtr unit, FURX 3004 (SD40-2).



GARAGE/ESTATE SALES - now there's something I normally just drive right on past, but a friend of mine is a fanatic about them, and devotes every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday scouring them... Well, when Bernd (from the German-American Club here in Wichita) called me and indicated I needed to go immediately and check this one out. So, I "twisted" Larry Gulick's arm



Layout room with the room-lights "ON" (note doorway to the right of this photo)

to postpone lunch and go past and give it a quick once over. Not realizing that Larry recognized the layout to be that of: Richard (Dick) Hayden.



This is a photo of the wall to the right of the two peninsulas

The following pages are my attempt to capture this



Layout room with the room-lights "Off (and structures are illuminated)"

(note doorway to the right of this photo, as Larry Gulick has walked in in time to observe the Layout in "night mode")

"Estate Sale"

Continued from page 26

most wonderful, highly detailed and masterful exhibit of model railroading I have ever experienced.

This being an "Estate Sale" and not a "Layout Tour" there were no trains "running"

Plus there was all that "Blue Painter's Tape" sectioning off various scenes which were for sale (if you didn't want to buy the entire layout (asking price the first day was \$15,000)



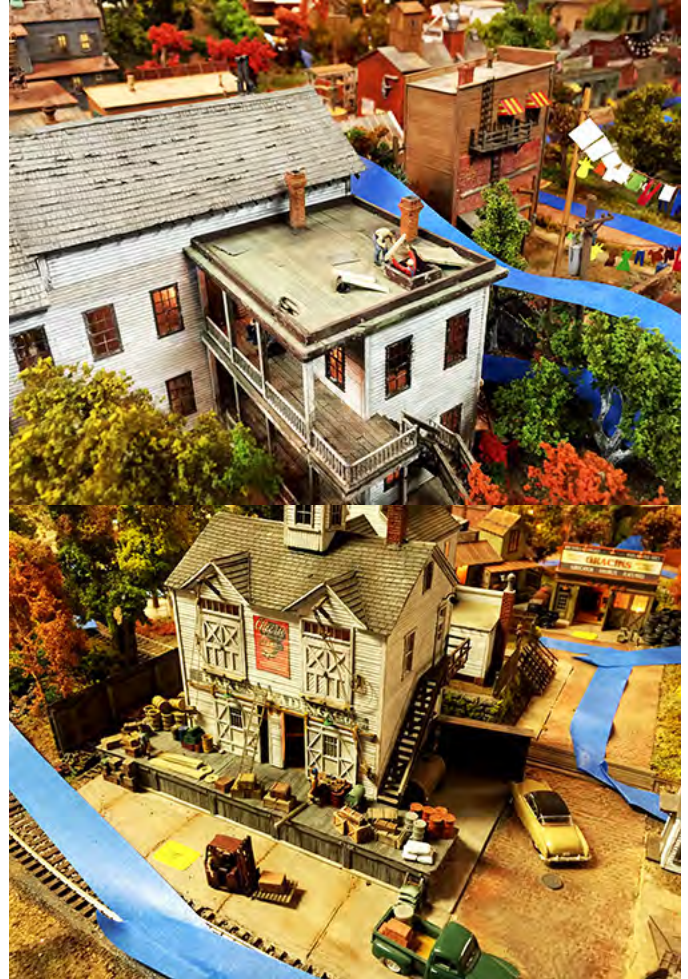
...and talk about a (lavour) room with a "view" - WOW. (This was exposed so you could appreciate it) plus as we stood there absorbing it all, it began to snow.



"Estate Sale"

Continued on page 28







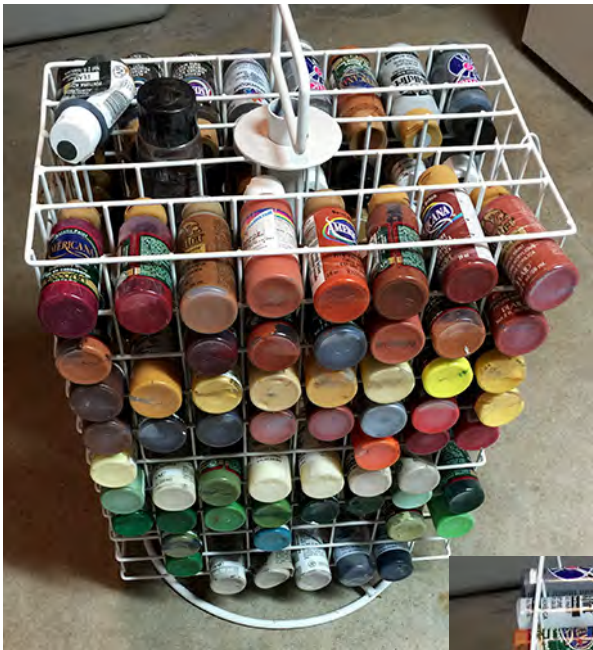
Photography by Alan A. Aagaard





Dan was informed that this scene was totally "scratch-built" by Richard (Dick) Hayden.

Photography by Dan Hagenbuch



Lionel is always asking us to share our best discovery/deal which we've located at a "garage/estate sale" --well, here's mine.

The rack (144 slots); the craft paints (131 bottles) some still sealed and some partially used; and a high quality tri-square (a gift for Larry for putting up with me and our postponed lunch.

...ask me what I paid for it sometime...alan



The next day I was at Menard's and saw the following set of Acrylic Paints on sale for \$5.00

The photos below shows both sides of the kit - twas a nice selection of colors -- and afterall, you never have enough paint.



looking back...



to our last issue: I realized that Bob Neill was not given his due credit for submission entitled:

Who In Their Right Mind Would Build A Model Out Of Paper?

A couple of day's after I had eMailed you that issue Bob shared the web site that he has used:

Zippy's Card Models site was once found at:

www.zippys3dModels.co.uk

Bob shared a photo of a structure he built for a friend, so here is Zippy SHPADDLESTORE HO

Sadly, the web site is no longer valid, but attached to your eMail with this newsletter you will also have the HO scaled .pdf files to build this structure.



TECHNOLOGY ON THE RAILS (SHARED BY PHIL AYLWARD)

Railroads finding hidden freight car trackers

By Justin Franz | September 24, 2015 | TRAINS

AEIMain

What's in a picture? In this one a brown-painted automatic equipment identification, or AEI, reader barely pokes out of a slope along a Conrail right-of-way in New Jersey. Railroads are alarmed that the AEI readers might be spread throughout the country, gathering and sharing information on freight moves without their knowledge.

Two images: An Association of American Railroads Railway Alert Network bulletin

AEIInset

A close-up photo of an automatic equipment identification reader found in New Jersey.

METUCHEN, N.J. – Railroads are uncovering hidden freight car tracking devices near rights-of-way around the country.

The discoveries began earlier this month when a Metuchen, N.J., resident found two people installing boxes near a Conrail Shared Assets Operation right-of-way. Unsatisfied with those persons' answers and the local police response, the person called Norfolk Southern railroad police who investigated and found an automatic equipment identification or AEI reader, used to track freight cars by monitoring their built-in radio beacons.

On Sept. 15, the Association of American Railroads' Railway Alert Network issued a security warning to members to keep an eye out for the unauthorized devices. Trains NewsWire obtained a copy of the security alert earlier this week.

According to the eight-page report, railroad police investigated further and found that a company called ClipperData had installed the reader. ClipperData was formed about two years ago and sells comprehensive data regarding the energy industry, including the movement of crude oil and other commodities. According to the report, Norfolk Southern police say they have a copy of a "lease agreement" between a homeowner near the right-of-way and ClipperData which gave the homeowner \$500 to use a nearby electrical outlet to power the equipment reader.

In an interview with Trains News Wire on Wednesday, ClipperData CEO Sterling Lapinski confirmed that his company installed the first AEI

reader discovered in New Jersey. He says his company's work is legal and that ClipperData is currently looking at trying to sell data to



and about the railroad industry, which is why it installed the AEI reader. Lapinski says his company sells data and information to government agencies, trading groups, and energy companies.

“We do have devices installed but the network isn’t operational yet,” Lapinski tells Trains News Wire. “We’re not currently selling data, we’re just trying to see if it’s feasible.”

Railroads around the world use similar equipment reader technology that uses radio waves to automatically identify freight cars at speed. Railroads typically gather the information to update their own records before sharing it with other shippers, such as trucking companies, railroads, or steamship lines, and customers.

Sources close to Class I railroad corporate offices say executives are upset and are ready to take a “scorched earth” approach to dealing with ClipperData and other companies that may have installed readers throughout the country. A second security alert dated Sept. 22, says railroaders have uncovered at least one other equipment reader in New Jersey and one in Sheridan, Wyo. The one in Wyoming reportedly interfered with BNSF Railway track equipment.

The Railway Alert Network report raised concerns that the people who installed the equipment readers trespassed on railroad property to do so. It also raises concerns about selling data on the movement of specific types of rail cars, arguing that the information could be used to “disrupt rail operations through intentional, and potentially destructive, acts.” The security alert asks railroads that find similar AEI readers to inform the alert network immediately so that it can consolidate all of the reports.

In a statement to Trains NewsWire, AAR spokesperson Ed Greenberg says the organization is keeping a close eye on the developing situation. “The AAR was aware of this situation and pleased that local law enforcement and railroad police took steps to address the situation as quickly as possible,” Greenberg says.

Norfolk Southern declined to comment on this topic. Trains is waiting for a response from BNSF.

From Trains Magazine



looking back...

EL RENO, OKLAHOMA MANY VARIED SIGHTS...PART 2



El Reno Depot - circa 1890 Vs. 2015



...slow moving freight leaving the downtown yards...



The historic photo in the upper left was a Christmas gift from my sister-in-law.

The Rock Island stopped rolling in March 1980, and started a scattering of the workers employed at the railroad's expansive El Reno yard. About 750 of the company's 970 Oklahoma employees worked in El Reno. Some found railroad work with lines in Texas and Kansas. Others got similar jobs in Oklahoma City with the Santa Fe or in Enid with the Oklahoma-Kansas-Texas (OKT), the successor operator of the Rock Island's north-south mainline in Oklahoma and Christmas.

Those unwilling to move and unable to get local rail jobs left the railroad business.

Nonetheless, John Henson, a third-generation Rock Island employee who has stayed in El Reno, said some Rock workers remained incredulous for several months. Some townspeople remain so today. Hen-

"El Reno, OK"
Continued on page 37

"El Reno, OK"
Continued from page 36

son, 54, a 33-year Rock Island employee, has begun a business in the El Reno yard repairing rail cars. He said the funereal daily trip to the little-used yard is sobering. "To come here the first thing in the morning it was very depressing," he said.



"The shop is just completely empty. All the employees are gone, except for a few railroad detectives."

El Reno was/is still
very much a
"Rock Island" town
at heart.



This photo hangs in the local McDonald's

	<p>CLAUDIA ROLLSTIN Owner</p> <p>316 262-4300</p> <p>claudia@gardenrailwaygizmos.com</p> <p>1425 N. BROADWAY WICHITA, KS 67214</p>	
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TRAINS 'N TOYS AT GARDEN RAILWAY GIZMOS

Welcome to Trains 'N Toys at Garden Railway Gizmos

Will be sales, listed & surprise, for those of you who drop in
All Christmas items are 25% off

OPEN

-Monday-Wednesday, Dec 21-23 - 10 am to 7 pm

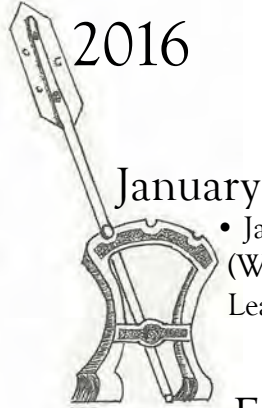
-Thursday, Dec 24 - 10 am to 3 pm

CLOSED Friday, Dec 25 until Thursday, Jan 7, 10 am

...calendar/coming attractions...



2016



January

- January 23 & 24, 2016 (Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday 10am-4pm) The Great Train Show, Century II (Wichita KS)

Learn more at: <http://www.greattrainexpo.com/>

February

- Saturday, February 6, 2016 (9am - 6pm) & Sunday, February 7, 2016 (11am - 4pm), The Wichita Train Show & Swap Meet, Cessna Activity Center 2744 George Washington Blvd. (Wichita, KS) Admission \$8.00 includes both days. Scouts in uniform get in FREE; \$1.00 off with non-perishable food item. For more information contact Phil Aylward at: aylward1@cox.net

- February 13 & 14, 2016 (Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday 10am-4pm), The Great Train Show, Expo Square (Tulsa, OK)
- Learn more at: <http://www.greattrainexpo.com/>

- February 25 - 27, 2016 (Thursday- Saturday) 31st Sn3 Symposium (Tampa, FL)
- Learn more at: <http://www.sn3-2016.com/>

March

- March 5 & 6, 2016 World's Greatest Hobby Train Show Kansas City, MO American Royal Complex, 1701 American Royal Ct., Kansas City, Mo 64102. The World's Greatest Hobby on Tour showcases the hobby of model railroading. Sponsored by the Hobby Manufacturer's Association - Model Railroad Division and by the World's Greatest Hobby Program, the show is intended to introduce the general public to model railroading in an entertaining, lively and family-friendly atmosphere. The hobby of model railroading has a unique ability to bring the family together in activities that teach many skills. Model railroad skills span from carpentry to artistry, from electrical engineering to historical research. Model railroading is truly the World's Greatest Hobby Train Show Inc. World's Greatest Hobby on Tour 280 Carlton Drive Carol Stream IL 60188 Phone: 630.279.5094 Fax: 240.597.4482 E-mail: info@wghshow.com

- June 21-26, 2016 the Santa Fe Railway Historical & Modeling Society (SFRH&MS) is hosting the national convention right here in Wichita. The convention attracts Santa Fe fans from all over the globe and is the premier event for education and modeling of the Santa Fe Railway. The main draw are the exquisite clinics and extra fare trips, likewise there will be model railroads on display, a vendor room full of great items (mostly, but not all Santa Fe), and a contest room. Also, on the Sunday afternoon, after the convention breaks up, there are usually layout tours. I have been put in charge to find local model railroads that would be willing to open their homes for just a few short hours on that Sunday afternoon. At the moment we have one model railroad open house. Please reach out to myself (Matt Martin) at MMartin104@gmail.com if you would be willing to share your layout to members and modelers from around the world. Your layout does NOT have to be Santa Fe either.

The convention hotel address:
9100 E Corporate Hills Dr Wichita, KS 67207

More details as they become available
<http://atsfrr.com/convention/2016%20Wichita/Index.htm>

"Events"
Continued on page 39

Trails, Rails, & Tales
January/ February 2016

April

May

June

- June 2-5, 2016 Road to Omaha, 2016 Mid-Continent Regional Convention. Headquarters hotel will be Hilton Garden Inn. Train show will be at Ralston, Nebraska Arena, The Nebraska-Iowa Railroaders annual train show and swap meet details to follow soon and will be available on the Western Heritage Division website: <http://whd.mcor-nmra.org>

Henry Nipper Convention Chairman

July

- July 4-10 2016 - National Garden Railway Convention (San Francisco, CA,USA)

August

September

- September 7 - 10, 2016 (Wednesday - Saturday) 36th National Narrow Gauge Convention (Augusta, Maine) Learn more at: <http://nngc2016.org/wp/>

October

November

December

2017

January

February

March

April

- April 6 - 8, 2017 (Thursday- Saturday) 31st Sn3 Symposium (St. Louis, MO)
Learn more at: <http://www.sn3-2017.com/>

May

June

in future issues...

In our next issue we will feature articles from our Chisholm Trail Division which will include:

- Progress Update of those working toward/achieving the NMRA “Golden Spike”
- “Tips and Techniques” from many of us
- additional tools with “*double entendre*”
- *and please, Please, PLEASE send some photos and your story to be included in:*

“ONCE UPON A TIME” GUESS WHO...???

- and much, MUCH more...

We will hear from:

- Tom Smith
- Larry Gulick
- Charles Dugnolle
- John Kraft
- ...further adventures of the “Narrow Gaugers”
- and others