

CABOOSE

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The Caboose Kibitzer

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Content Deadline

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Second Quarter	March 1
Third Quarter	June 1
Fourth Quarter	September 1

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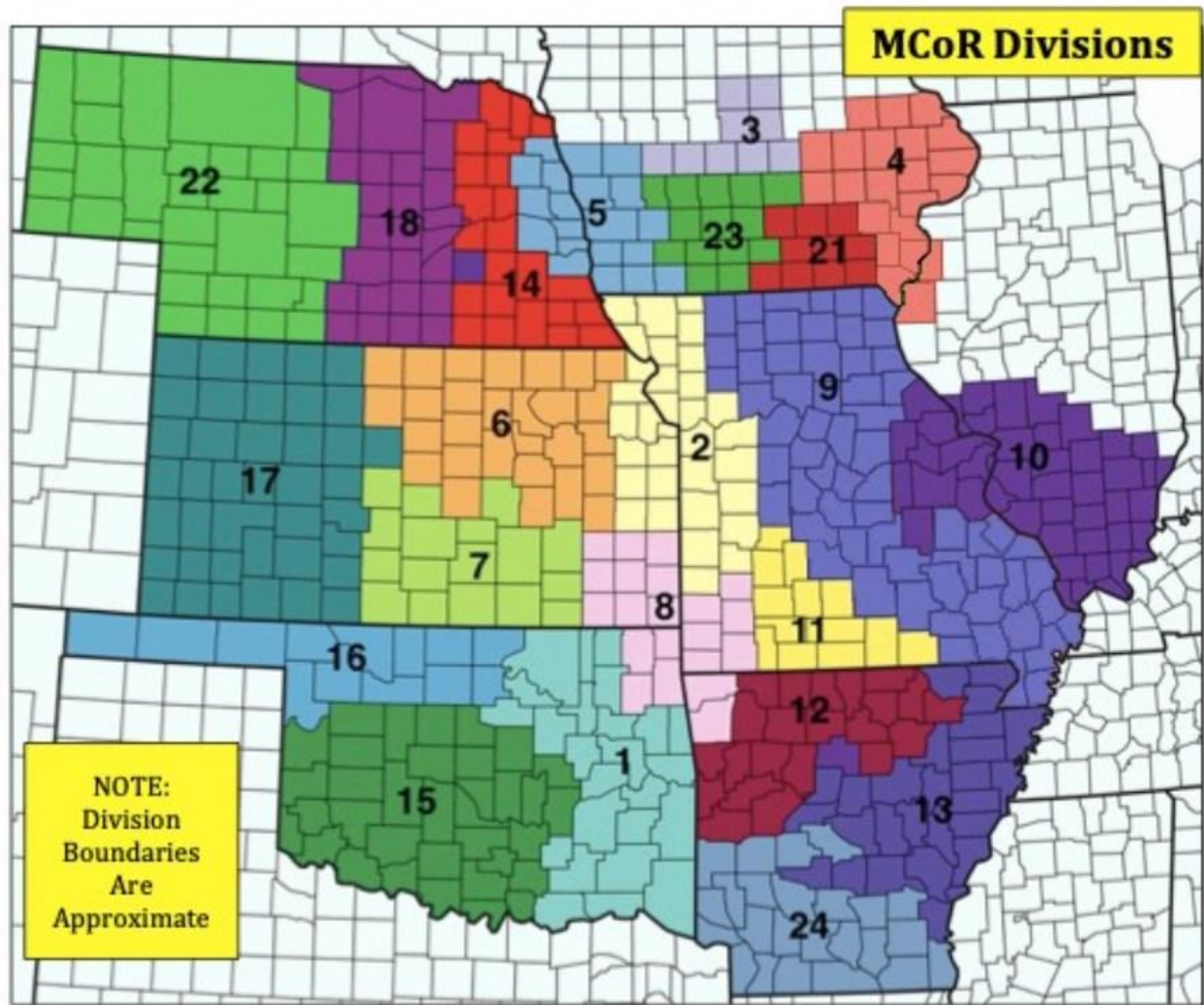
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nmrahq@nmra.org

Application (either online, or printed and mailed in) for NMRA membership may be obtained here:

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MCoR NMRA Division Meetings

Note: COVID-19 cancelled many in-person meetings in leu of ZOOM meetings. And now, some Divisions are resuming in-person meetings.

Division 1: INDIAN NATIONS DIVISION (Tulsa, OK): Meet 4 times a year. Unless otherwise specified, all Indian Nations NMRA meets are held at the new Hardesty Library, 8316 E. 93rd. St. just east of Memorial Rd. in Tulsa, OK. Library opens at 9:00AM and the meetings start at 9:30AM-12:30. Superintendent - Allan Roecker 918-866-5732 or allanroecker@yahoo.com. Web page: www.tulsanmra.org for meeting dates and additional info.

Division 2: TURKEY CREEK DIVISION (Kansas City Area): 4th Tuesday every month at 7:00PM except Dec Holiday Party (Dec 17, 2019), at Lakeview Village, 9000 Park Pl., Eastside Terrace Bldg., Lenexa, KS. For current information: Martin Wade, TurkeyCreekNMRA@gmail.com or the Division Timetable <http://www.tc-nmra.org/TC-Calendar.html>

Division 4: EASTERN IOWA DIVISION: Division meetings vary in dates and locations. Contact Bob Perkins, Superintendent, for more information. rperkins5010@yahoo.com

Division 5: WESTERN HERITAGE DIVISION (Omaha, NE/Council Bluffs, IA): 1st Saturday (except January) at 9:00AM in the Sump Memorial Library, 222 N Jefferson St. (2nd & Washington Streets) Papillion, NE (across from Runza). For the latest, up-to-date information visit the WHD web site at: <http://www.whd.mcor-nmra.org> or the WHD Facebook page, Western Heritage Division, NMRA.

Division 6: KANSAS CENTRAL DIVISION: 1st Saturday even-numbered months. Meetings start at 1PM. For the next meeting's location and program please email dir-2906@mcor-nmra.org or rkboelling@gmail.com.

Division 7: CHISHOLM TRAIL DIVISION (Wichita, KS): 1st Tuesday each month at the Olivet Baptist Church, 3440 West 13th St, Wichita, KS 67203 (13th Street North & High Street). Gathering-6:45PM; NMRA meeting 7:00 - 9:00PM. Info: Dean Lippincott, email dlipp5a@gmail.com

Division 10: GATEWAY DIVISION (ST. LOUIS, MO) Meetings 3rd Monday of the 1st and 3rd month of each quarter at 7:30 pm at Oakville Elks Club, 2726 Oakville Elks Ln Saint Louis, MO 63129-3239. Workshops (in-person, hands-on) 3rd Saturday of the 2nd month of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarter at 9:30 am at West Alton City Hall, 111 Richard Dr, West Alton, MO 63386. Annual Fall Meet 1st Saturday of November at Collinsville VFW, 1234 Vandalia St, Collinsville, IL 62234 Info: <http://www.gatewaynmra.org/division.htm>

Division 14: COWBOY LINE DIVISION: Info: Craig Drenkow, MMR, nascartrainman@gmail.com

Division 15: OKLAHOMA HEARTLAND DIVISION (Oklahoma City, OK): meets in the even months in the Oklahoma City area. Contact OHD Director at dir-2915@mcor-nmra.org. All who are interested in Model railroading are welcome.

Division 17: WESTERN KANSAS DIVISION (Dodge City, KS): Meetings pending a new location. Info: Robert Simmons, Division Director, 620-521-3591. Facebook page "Western Kansas Division"; e-mail: trainman55@hotmail.com

Division 18: PLATTE VALLEY DIVISION (Hastings, Grand Island, and Kearney, NE): Meet quarterly in members homes on a rotating basis or at sites of interest. New members are always welcome. Info: Jim Wells, Division Director, 402-705-1048 or dir-2918@mcor-nmra.org

The Head End

By Marty Vaughn, MMR, President MCoR

It's been a pretty busy time since my last column. The Region convention was in Collinsville, IL, in a joint convention with the Railroad Prototype Modelers group. I left directly from there to the NMRA National in Chattanooga, TN, with a stop on the way back to operate on the outstanding O scale Memphis and Charleston Civil War layout of Charlie Taylor.

Last weekend I was in Conway, AR, with some of the members of the newly created Central Arkansas Division promoting the NMRA and signing up some new members from around Arkansas.

As I write this, tomorrow I'm heading for Minnesota for the National Narrow Gauge Convention and I have three more trips scheduled for September, October and November where I'll be promoting the organization, helping to train members in evaluating models for the AP program and scouting out the potential location for the 2028 Region convention.

The feedback I've received on this year's MCoR convention has mostly been positive. I believe the co-convention with the RPM was a good idea, thanks to the efforts of Jim Ables and the Gateway Division members, many of whom worked both parts of the convention and RPM meet. I think the White Elephant was successful, but we need more feedback from those of you who attended to determine if we should continue that on a regular basis.

The only real downside to the convention was that we lost about \$1700. Our treasurer will have a full report in either this or the next issue (as I write this there are still a few outstanding postage costs and I'm not sure if we can have the final report before this issue goes to press). Part of the "loss" was the cost of contest plaques, but those not awarded this year are recycled to the

next year they are used, reducing the cost of plaques in later years.

The other major deficit was the room costs and that's on me. We still don't have a convention chairman, and I had not contracted with a hotel before. I based the room nights we guaranteed on past conventions, and we were well under our guarantee. Hotel meeting rooms are provided at a cost, but that cost is reduced, significantly in most cases, if the convention meets the room block guarantee. I'm also responsible for the hotel contract for our joint convention next year and the hotel contract room block is 23% lower. We are also working on a convention SOP for the next convention chairman. Any volunteers?

I enjoyed the National Convention in Chattanooga. The American Civil War Rail Roads Historical Society, which is an NMRA SIG and of which I'm a charter member held their annual meet in conjunction with the NMRA convention. The SIG members who attended have all been turned into figures for each other's layouts thanks to the 3D printing of member Bernie Kempenski of ALKEM Models.

Meeting with those friends and many of my friends from the MCR at the convention and attending some clinics is fun for me. Of course, one of my old friends, Sam Swanson, is now the NMRA Contest Chairman was short on judges and I ended up getting my arm twisted to help out as one of the floating judges. Old friends can do that to you sometimes!

It was great to finally meet many of the members in the new Central Arkansas Division and to get to know better some of the others I've met before. This Division is a consolidation of the previous Little Rock and South Arkansas Areas. We signed up several new members at the train show and I suspect a number of those folks who

were invited to attend the next Division meeting will also be signing up. The NMRA dropping annual dues to \$50 I think is a good idea.

I also had the pleasure of presenting Bill Hobbs with his Official AP certificate. Bill has been the Area Director of the old Little Rock Area for a number of years, one of the people that represented the area members until the establishment of the Division. Bill is also an active part of the Division. Thank you for all your effort. Bill.



Photo by Jason Wilson

While answering questions about The American Civil War Rail Roads Historical Society in the SIG room in Chattanooga, I ran into a lot of old friends from the MCoR, MCR and from being the NMRA Contest Chairman for seven years. One of the SIG members asked me how I knew all of these people. I answered him truthfully that partly because I've been around for a long time, but also because I've been an active member of the NMRA since 1980 and all those people were friends I've made through the NMRA over the years.



The American Civil War Rail Roads Historical Society is an NMRA SIG

The Mixed Train: Editor's Musings

By Pat Hiatte

Even though the feels-like temperature is in triple digits as this is being written, this issue of the Kibitzer will take us into the holiday season. One of our traditions is viewing classic Christmas movies, and a personal favorite is *White Christmas*.

Early in the film the protagonists leave Florida for Vermont - by train, of course - but what makes that scene a favorite is that it shows the group leaving Florida on the Santa Fe and arriving in Vermont on the Southern Pacific.

Many movies and TV shows contain similar gaffes based on misunderstanding of the railroad industry. They can be unintentionally hilarious; I was laughing so hard at the Steven Seagal vehicle *Under Siege 2: Dark Territory* (read the last two words of that title in the most dramatic voice you can) that my wife couldn't get to sleep.

Inaccuracy may also be due to the production's budget: Santa Fe and Southern Pacific were a lot closer to Hollywood than Florida East Coast and Boston & Maine. Convenience also ensured the frequent appearance of Sierra Railroad 4-6-0 No. 3 in so many TV shows, including assorted Westerns and its starring role as the *Hooterville Cannonball* in *Petticoat Junction*.

Speaking of Westerns, if there were an Emmy for most appropriate use of a locomotive, it would go to *Death Valley Days* for its "Death Valley Scotty" episode, which dramatized Walter Scott's record-setting run on the Santa

Fe from Los Angeles to Chicago. The locomotive that appears in the episode, Santa Fe 2-6-2 No. 1010, was one of those that had actually pulled the Coyote Special 50 years earlier. The same locomotive also had a bit part in an episode of *Sky King*.

Another historic engine, *The General*, was to have had the title role in the movie of the same name, but when the engine's owners, the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad, learned that Buster Keaton was planning to tell the story of the great locomotive chase as a comedy, they withdrew their permission.

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad not only gave its permission for use of its *Pioneer Zephyr*, credited as the Burlington Zephyr, in the film *The Silver Streak*, but also provided RKO Radio Pictures with special trains and access to the railroad's facilities in Chicago and Galesburg, IL. The movie is chock-full of railroad atmosphere.

Other atmospheric movies of that 1930s era include *Danger Lights*, filmed on the Milwaukee Road in Montana, and the screwball comedy *Twentieth Century*. The *20th Century Limited* returned to the big screen in Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest* of 1959, with scenic views along the Hudson River and an expansive Pullman room.

If you'd like to see for yourself, most of those old TV episodes are available on YouTube or via streaming services. If you have a favorite, I'd like to hear about it. Drop me an email to ckeditors@mcpr-nmra.org

Last Run

Joe Kouba passed away Aug. 28, age 60. A resident of Columbia, MO, in the Region's Central Missouri Area, Joe was a member of the Columbia Area Model Railroad Club and the Tuesday Gandy Dancers. A participant in numerous operating weekends and individual sessions, Joe was working on a free-lanced modern-era N-scale Union Pacific layout,

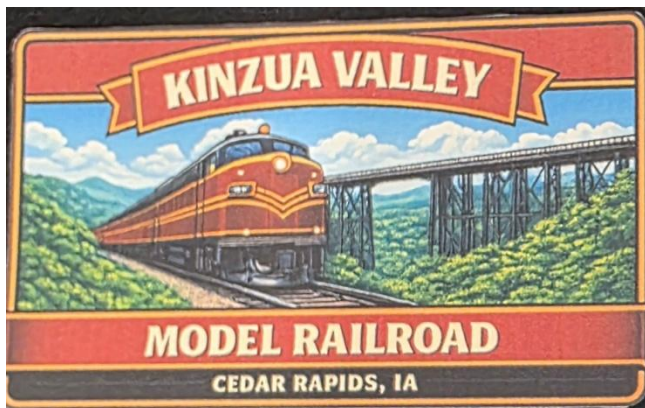


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MCoR 2026 Convention

Contest Winners

Pass



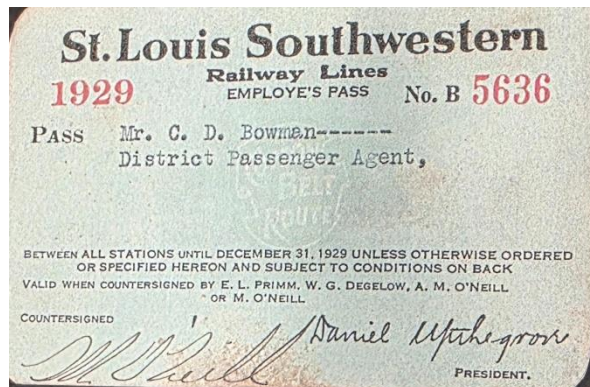
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1	3	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19	21	23	25	27	29	31
2026	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2027		

Union Station	Town of Kinzua	One Way
Rogertown	to	
Warren	Station Indicated by Punch	Round Trip
Briar Creek	Good For Kinzua Valley Model RR only.	Annual
Erie		
Sheffield		
No: 26089		Station Master:

First Place

Todd Summers

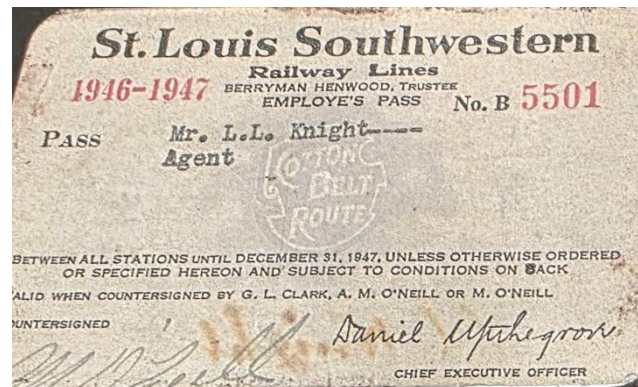
Kinzua Valley



Second Place

Greg Gramlich

St. Louis Southwestern
1929



Third Place

Greg Gramlich

St. Louis Southwestern
1946-1947



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MCoR 2026 Convention

Contest Winners

Photo - Prototype - B&W



First Place
Todd Summers
Thurmond



Second Place
Greg Gramlich
Last Run of Cotton Belt 7641

MCoR 2026 Convention
Contest Winners

Photo – Prototype - Color



First Place

Michelle Kempema

Sunset in Conway Yard



Second Place

Michelle Kempema

**Fireman View
on the Cumbres & Toltec**



Third Place

Greg Gramlich

Rusting Away

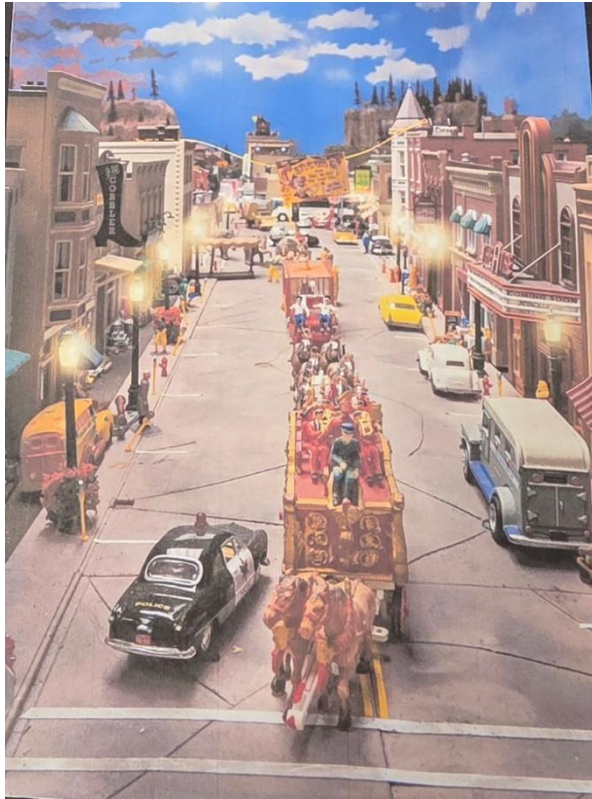


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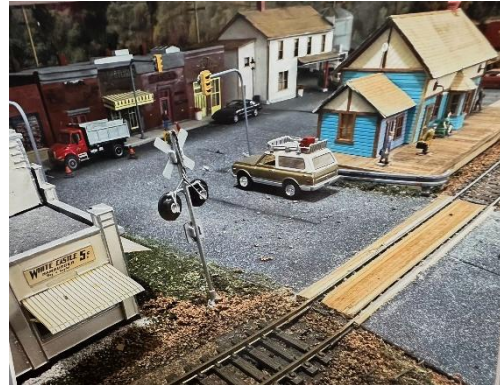
MCoR 2026 Convention

Contest Winners

Photo - Model - Color



First Place
Greg Gramlich
Circus Parade



Second Place
Todd Summers
Kinzua



Third Place
Todd Summers
Cow Pasture

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MCoR 2026 Convention

Model Contest Winners

Locomotive – Steam



First Place Todd Summers On30 Donkey Engine

Locomotive – Diesel/Other



First Place Greg Gramlich Pennsy GG1 Electric



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REGION

MCoR 2026 Convention

Model Contest Winners

Freight Cars



First Place

Larry Alfred

F&CC Box Car



Second Place

Doug Harding

Flat Car with Load



Third Place

Allen Merta

Northern Pacific Tank Car

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MCoR 2026 Convention

Model Contest Winners

Caboose



First Place Todd Summers Caboose #33

Non-Revenue



First Place Allen Merta HP Pneumatic Ramp Car



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MCoR 2026 Convention

Model Contest Winners

Passenger



First Place Fred Wilke GM&O Heavyweight Diner

Photo Match



Greg Gramlich Blue Bird Tourist Camp



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MCoR 2026 Convention

Model Contest Winners

Structures



First Place
Todd Summers
Oil Derrick No. 1



Second Place
Martin Wade
Coors Beer Depot



Third Place
Todd Summers
K Kringle Coal Company

MCoR 2026 Convention Model Contest Winners

Displays/Dioramas



First Place Ron Maxfield Commercial Block Corsicana TX



Second Place Todd Summers Soo Line Stockyard

MCoR 2026 Convention Model Contest Winners

Square Footer



First Place

Ray Brown

Ghost Building



Second Place
Greg Gramlich
Hotel Mark Twain



Third Place
Doug Harding
Stuff We Used from the Donated Box

MCoR 2026 Convention
Popular Vote

Photo



Michelle Kempema

Sunset in Conway Yard

Model



Ray Brown

Ghost Building

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MCoR 2026 Convention

Model Contest Winners

Best in Show



Ron Maxfield Commercial Block Corsicana TX

Light Iron Award



Todd Summers On30 Donkey Engine

MCoR 2026 Convention Contest Winners



Larry Alfred

Model Contest Freight Cars - 1st place



Ray Brown

Square Footer - 1st place
Popular Vote - Model



Greg Gramlich

Pass Contest – 2nd and 3rd place
Photo Contest Prototype B&W – 2nd place
Photo Contest Prototype Color – 3rd place
Photo Contest Model Color - 1st place
Model Contest Diesel - 1st place
Photo Match
Square Footer - 2nd place



Doug Harding

Model Contest Freight Cars – 2nd place
Square Footer – 3rd place



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MCoR 2026 Convention Contest Winners



Michelle Kempema

Photo Contest Prototype Color – 1st and 2nd place
Popular Vote – Photo



Ron Maxfield

Displays/Dioramas - 1st place
Best in Show



Allen Merta

Model Contest Freight Cars – 3rd place
Model Contest Non-Revenue - 1st place



Todd Summers

Pass Contest – 1st place
Photo Contest Prototype B&W – 1st place
Photo Model Color – 2nd and 3rd place
Model Contest Steam - 1st place
Model Contest Caboose - 1st place
Model Structures - 1st and 3rd place
Displays/Dioramas - 2nd place
Light Iron Award



MID – CONTINENT
REGION

MCoR 2026 Convention Contest Winners



Martin Wade

Model Contest Structures - 2nd place



Fred Wilke

Model Contest Passenger Cars - 1st place



This Could Be You!

It's not too soon to start work
on next year's contest winner!



Region Vice President Jim Ables
presents the Best in Show Award
To Ron Maxfield

MCoR 2026 Convention Service Awards



Kenny Cline Award presented to Jeff Cooper (left) by Ray Brown



Larry Long Award presented to Doug Harding by Ray Brown



Kenny Johns Award presented to Martin Wade (left) by Marty Vaughn

Rollin' the Coal

Scratch Building Rotary Couplers

By Greg Johnson

Back in 1989 I attended the NMRA Convention in Houston, TX. During the convention I saw a person with a rotary coal dumper in operation. The dumper was made of plywood and the cars didn't need to be uncoupled. I bought a few of his rotary couplers with the intent to make my own rotary dumper.

Well time and other unforeseen things kept me from doing so until now. I built my rotary dumper but still needed the rotary couplers. All but one of the couplers I bought remained, with the others lost during many moves around the country.

Disassembling the coupler I purchased revealed that it was machined and had a pin, fit into a groove, that kept the inner piece in place allowing it to rotate. Since I am not a machinist, I needed a different and simpler way of producing a rotary coupler. Based on the original, I came up with the following design.

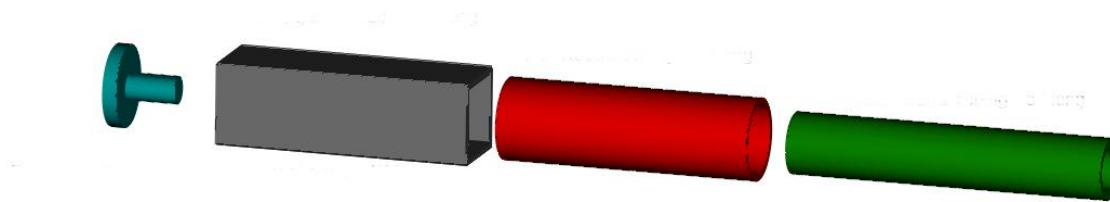


Figure 1 - Rotary Coupler design

The coupler consists of the following parts:

1. 1/8" K&S Square brass tube (gray)
2. 1/8" K&S Round brass tube (Red)
3. 3/32" K&S Round brass tube (Green)
4. 2mm x 25mm Brass Mini Nails (M Meterxity, available through Amazon)
5. A modified Kaydee #5 coupler

Essentially the nail is cemented to the end of the green tube. The red tube is cemented to the inside of the gray tube. The green tube is inserted into the red tube then the modified coupler is cemented to the green tube. The nail keeps the green tube from falling out and allows it to rotate inside the red tube.

My initial design just used a cut down wire brad instead of the brass nail. I made a few of these and put them on some Walthers Coal Gondolas to try them out. As long as the centerline of the

coupler was aligned with the center of rotation of the dumper, they worked just fine. With the Walthers car having a metal frame I needed to file the one coupler box and truck bolster from the frame to mount the coupler and it was difficult to make the coupler mounts uniform. I'll show you how I got around that at the end of the article.

Figure 2 shows the Walthers installation. The bolster in the rotary end was replaced by a plastic bolster. The coupler shown has too much lateral slop in it as the pin should rest against the bolster

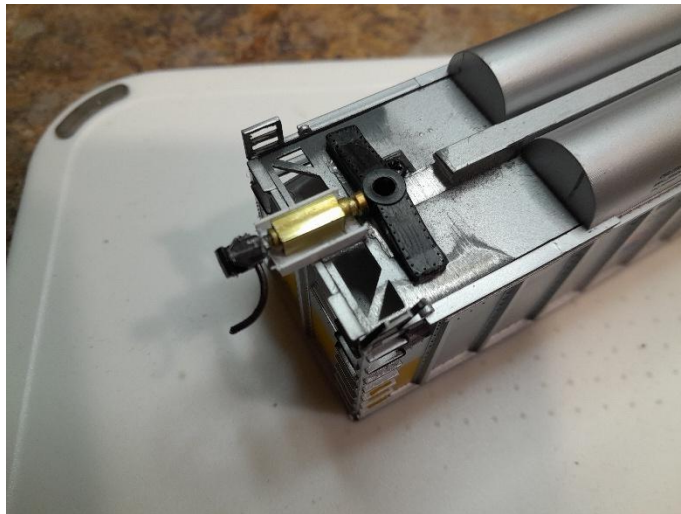


Figure 2 - Walthers Coal Gondola Installation

so that the coupler does not move laterally.

So, let's make a coupler

1. Cut a piece of 1/8" square and round tubing 7/16" (11mm) long. This should cover the area from the edge of the bolster to the end of the car. Depending on the car you are using, these may need to be longer or shorter. I typically cut mine a bit long and then file them to size. File the insides of the tubing to remove any burs.
2. were invited Cut a piece of 3/32" tubing so that 1/16" (1.5mm) extends beyond the edge of the 1/18" tubing when flush with the out end.
3. Place a brass nail in a drill press or Dremel tool. Using a file turn down the shank of the nail so it fits into the 3/32" tubing. Approximately a diameter of .048" (1.2mm)
4. Cut the nail so that the shank is approximately 1/4" long as measured from the underside of the head.
5. File the shank of a Kaydee coupler until it is approximately 3/16" (4.5mm) long and the shank fits into the 3/32" tubing.



Figure 3 - Turning diameter



Figure 4 - Coupler Parts

6. Figure 4 shows the completed coupler parts. Make sure all burs have been removed. Slide the 1.8" round tubing into the 1.8" square tubing to check the fit. The ends of both pieces of tubing should be flush.

7. If satisfied with the fit, remove the round tubing and brush ACC on its surface. Place the round tubing back into the square tubing and check the end alignment.

8. Coat the shank of the nail with ACC and place into one end of the 3/32" tubing.

NOTE: At this point I let the ACC cure overnight

9. Slide the 3/32" tubing into the 1/8" tubing and make sure it rotates freely. Remove the 3/32" tubing brush on a light coat of oil, then place the tubing back into the 1/8"

tubing. The nail head will keep it from going all the way through.

10. Coat the shank of the Kaydee coupler with ACC. Place a finger on the nail end of the 3/32" tubing and press the Kaydee coupler into the opposite end.

11. Remove the coupler pocket from the rotary end of your coal gondola.

12. The centerline of the rotary coupler must align with the center of rotation of the coal dumper. Use plastic shims as necessary to ensure this alignment, then use ACC to attach the rotary coupler to the car. Make sure you don't get ACC in the ends of the coupler.

How did I get around the alignment issue?

While these couplers are functional, they aren't necessarily esthetically pleasing and take some work to get the alignment right. Since I have my own 3D printing business, I designed an Aeroflo hopper with a rotary coupler box that places the coupler in the correct position for the dumper. All I have to do is put a bit of ACC in the square tube and slide the coupler into the square slot on the car. A picture of this car appears on the next page.



Figure 5 - Custom 3D printed AeroFlo Gondola with Rotary Coupler

NMRA

MID – CONTINENT
REGION

MCoR 2026 Convention Editor's Choice

Modeling that caught the editor's eye



Greg Gramlich's Blue Bird Tourist Camp was worth a closer look



Fred Wilke's GM&O diner was detailed right down to food on the table



Ron Maxfield displayed another vintage scene at the RPM meet

Take Me to the River

Modeling Mountain Streams, Rivers and Waterfalls

By Dean Snuth, MMR

Based on a clinic presented at the 2026 MCoR convention

Fast-flowing, clear streams, rivers, and waterfalls are part and parcel of the mountainous terrain shared by many of our favorite narrow-gauge railroads. With their visible river beds, white water areas, and “see-thru” waterfalls, these cascading waterways can prove a challenge to effectively model. By utilizing a series of easy-to-follow techniques using natural materials and commonly available craft and hobby supplies, this clinic should give even the novice modeler the confidence to dive right in and create effective rivers and waterfalls.

The author’s techniques for making water are illustrated with scenes from his layout



Materials with Sources:

- Rocks, gravel, sand, and dirt (various sizes): Mother Nature, Scenic Express
- Twigs and small sticks: Mother Nature
- Ground foam, scenic texture: Scenic Express, Woodland Scenics
- Dilute white glue (4 to 1): Hardware store
- Clear silicone glue: Hardware store
- Scenic Cement: Woodland Scenics
- Scenic Glue: Woodland Scenics
- Foam Glue: Woodland Scenics
- Clear dish detergent
- Acrylic paints: Art supply store
 - Payne's Gray
 - Titanium White
 - Raw Sienna
 - Raw Umber
 - Cerulean Blue
 - Black/Green
 - Other colors if applicable.
- Water materials from Woodland Scenics
 - Deep Pour Water Resin-Clear
 - Water Ripples
 - Water Waves
 - Water Effects
 - Water Tints (Navy Blue and Turquoise) For Deep Pour Water Resin



Tools:

- Small level
- Short wooden boards
- Loose change (I use dimes)
- Various paint brushes, soft and stiff bristles
- Scrap cardboard
- Medicine dropper
- Small cups
- Stirring sticks (plastic utensils, popsicle sticks with squared-off ends, toothpicks)
- Zip-lock bags (for making waterfalls)

Technique:

1. Prepare riverbed area using hardshell, foam, or other method. Form basic area with Sculptamold and paint with basic earth color. Make sure there is a slight downhill slope in the river or stream. I paint the river bottom gray and add loose talus to represent the river until scenery construction is complete. Check for leaks!
2. Determine the length of the river until the next rock break. This can vary from a few inches to around eighteen inches. Measure the slope of the area using a small level, a board, and your loose change. Determine the height of the rock break to allow around $\frac{1}{8}$ inch thick water to "pour" over the break.
3. Construct the rock break using actual rocks and/or plaster rocks. Glue to the river floor with clear silicone. Re-check the height with the level.
4. Make a dam across the rock break using clear silicone. Dam the river at the fascia edge with masking tape, cardboard, and stiffening boards.
5. Place larger stones along riverbed, estimating the height of rocks you want protruding above the water line.
6. Fill the area with clear water to the desired height above the rock break. Check for leaks.
7. Adjust the height of the rocks above the water line and add new ones, if desired. Mark water height on the edges of rocks with a pencil. Remove water with the medicine dropper and allow the area to dry. Note: The amount of water used helps determine how much resin will be required later.
8. Secure large rocks in place with clear silicone.
9. Add smaller rocks, gravel, and sand to establish a realistic looking river bed and blend the river into the existing scenery.
10. Secure with dilute white glue. This may require numerous applications of glue. Allow each application to dry before adding the next.
11. When the river bed is secure, dry brush river bed with acrylic paints mixed on a piece of cardboard. I use payne's gray, titanium white, raw sienna, and raw umber. I aim for a realistic, mottled grayish brown that matches the existing rockwork.*
12. When dry, flow a thinned wash of cerulean blue and black/green acrylic paint along the bottom of the riverbed. The further the distance from the aisle, the darker you will want to make this. When dry, dry brush the tops of the rocks with the paints from step 11.*
13. Add small twigs and sticks along the edge of the river. These can also extend into the river itself. Glue these in place with Scenic Glue or white glue.
14. Mix the Deep Pour Water Resin. Follow the instructions closely. You can tint the resin with tiny amounts of Water Tints. The further the distance from the aisle, the darker you will want to tint the Water Resin (I use Navy Blue and Turquoise). Use the tints sparingly! Better to err on the side of not enough. The resin can be poured to a depth of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.



15. Gently pour the Water Resin into the riverbed. It is self-leveling, but I also dab with a soft brush or toothpick to encourage the material to fill all the nooks and crannies along the riverbed. Allow to set thoroughly (which may take a few days).
16. After the first pour is completely set, add additional layers until the desired height is achieved, usually about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch above the top of the rock break. Allow each pour to set.
17. Remove the silicone dam and trim the Water Resin, if there is a lip.



18. Add final scenic detail around the river using small gravel, talus, dirt, and scenic textures. Carefully wet these areas with “wet” water (water with clear dish soap added) and apply Scenic Cement using the dropper. Wipe off any Scenic Cement that gets on the water surface. This step also removes any creeping of the Water Resin up the side of the bank.

19. Dab Water Ripples onto the river surface using a soft brush. I find the best way to get a realistic appearance is to take photos until I am happy with the look. Allow to dry.

20. Repeat the above step using Water Waves, a thicker product. This time “pile” the water up behind the protruding rocks and form water flow and wavelets around the sides of these rocks. A stiffer brush is used to form current ripples running parallel to the river bank. More turbulent water can be formed in the same way with Water Effects.

21. Mix a small amount of Titanium White paint to a dab of Water Waves. Dab this mixture into turbulent areas to form white water. Lightly dry brushing this onto the surface of the river highlights the currents and gives a further impression of movement.
22. Complete the next step of the river to this point and form the waterfall/rapids over the rock break using one of two methods. Smaller drop-offs are sculpted with Water Effects.
23. For larger drop-offs, and to model see-through waterfalls, apply Water Effects onto a zip-lock bag, streaking it with a small stick or toothpick. When dry, peel it off, and cut to size. Position the waterfall sections in place, gluing them with Water Effects. When dry, streak vertically with Water Waves. Create white water with Water Waves mixed with Titanium White paint. When this is dry, brush lightly with Titanium White paint to highlight the turbulence. Waterfalls of any height can be constructed in this manner.
24. Continue constructing sections in the above manner until the entire river is complete.

*From the DVD: *Building Waterways on your Model Railroad with Dave Frary and Bob Hayden*

Trails, Rails, & Tales



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

NMRA

September-October 2026
Volume 12 • Number 5

From the Director's Desk by Rick Coble

This time of the year is sure a busy one. With the temperatures outside this year constantly in the range of the surface of the sun, it's been really hard to get much of my modeling projects done out in the garage. Thank goodness for AC and basements. That really has allowed me to do the time consuming task of weathering and detailing rolling stock. As usual, this season will soon pass. Hopefully all of you are finding ways to be active in the hobby during the seasons and continue to get the most enjoyment out of this summer.

-Rick

From the Superintendent's Desk by Charlie Monckton

The only good thing I can think of to say about the recent 100 degree weather is it is a great excuse to stay inside and work on your train layout. Although I do not need an excuse to work on my layout, any day is a good day to work on it. On a recent August day I received a call asking me if I wanted to join in on a ride to the Spring Creek Model Train store in Deshler, Nebraska. Although it was going to be 105 degrees that day, I quickly said yes. I went planning not to spend one penny on anything railroad and just look. That plan worked well until I stepped into the door of the shop. On our way back we took a side trip a few miles Northeast to the train viewing stand at Belvidere, Nebraska. It is on the Union Pacific Marysville Subdivision between Gibbon, Nebraska and Marysville, Kansas. We only stayed about an hour and were treated to three trains passing by on the Double Main. We also were able to watch three grain cars being spotted by a John Deere tractor on the siding at the grain elevator. It was a great way to spend a 105 degree August day. For some reason I did not even notice the temperature. As always I hope you have had lots of great train experiences this summer.

- Charlie

Trails, Rails, & Tales

is published bi-monthly.

It is sent to members of the
Chisholm Trail Division of
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are strongly encouraged.

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NMRA

Gateway Division

RPO

NEWSLETTER OF THE
GATEWAY DIVISION
OF THE NATIONAL
MODEL RAILROAD
ASSOCIATION



Volume 34, Issue 1

Spring 2026

From the Superintendent's Desk

By Bob Miller, Superintendent, Gateway Division

Wow how Springtime has flown past us. I'm determined to make progress on several personal NMRA projects to complete several more NMRA Achievement Certifications by this year's end.

I would like to see our Division members become more active in our Clinics. Clinics help to enhance your skills on different aspects of Modeling Railroadng or provide techniques to other members. If you feel you have something you'd like to share with our group, talk with Dan Knipp or drop him an e-mail at: dgknipp@att.net.

We need more people to enter the Fall Meet Contests and next year's Spring Meet contest in Marion, IL. If you participate in a

Continued on Page 2

Union Pacific's SD70ACe #1982 wearing it's Missouri Pacific heritage scheme crosses Greene River on Steven Hamilton's UP St. Marshall Sub. Check out his layout in this issue of the RPO.

Photo by Steven Hamilton.

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NMRA



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REGION

Division Points

Indian Nations Division of the National Model Railroad Association

Division 1—Midcontinent Region

www.tulsanmra.org

Issue No. 81

May 2026



Operating Session on Dave Salamon's Deep River Southern: Dave Salamon Photo

In This Issue:

**Dave Salamon's
Frisco Howard Street
Layout Build Part 5**

Layout and Design Weekend 2026 Wrap-Up

January Meeting Notes

Next Meeting on May 30th

**In Memoriam:
Tom Fausser**

LIGHTNING SLINGER

Aug 2026



TC-NMRA 2026

Aug 25th **NO MEETING**

Aug 29th Annual Train Show

Friday Setup 5-9pm

Saturday Show 8:30am-3pm

Sept 22nd

Best of Show Winners

Building a Model Railroad

Stephen Priest

Division Mtg Info:

TIME: 7:00 to 8:45pm

Location:

Conference Room

Eastside Terrace Bldg.

Lakeview Village Campus

Division & Region

Aug 29th : TC Train Show

Shawnee Civic Center

RR Community

Sep 17-19th : Brass Convention

Midwest Model RR Museum

WHAT'S INSIDE

Meeting info/highlights, Layouts Projects,
Events, Calendar, Want Ads, Resources

Turkey Creek Division

*"For all gauges and
all ages"*

NMRA



TC Division Show & Swap PREVIEW

2026 Train Show and Swap Meet

SHAWNEE CIVIC CENTER

13817 Johnson Dr #3802, Shawnee, KS 66216

August 29th 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Home Layout Tours: See the personal
layouts of local area Modelers in a
variety of scales and completions.

Clinics: Get tips and tricks from some of
the best modelers in the area.

Vendor Tables: See how easy it is to get
started on your own layout or dreams.

\$\$\$ DOOR PRIZES

OVER 75 VENDOR TABLES

MODULAR LAYOUTS

MODEL CONTEST SHOWROOM

MODEL TRAIN CLINICS

LAYOUT TOURS THROUGHOUT KC

"ASK A MODELER" HELP DESK



AMAZING VENDORS

Get your hands on these
special trains and tools to get
started on your home layout.



SEE MODELERS' PERSONAL LAYOUTS

**DON'T MISS THIS
AMAZING EVENT!!**



Sponsored by Turkey Creek Division of
the National Model Railroad Association

Contact:
Show Chairman Vendor Chairman

Website:
<https://www.tc-nmra.org>

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/NMRATurkeyCreek



The Main Line

The monthly publication of the
Western Kansas Division
September 2026



On The Cover:

We are nearing completion of the scenery upgrade on corner section 13, the Fantastic Plastics tank car unloading facility. Part II is inside...



MID - CONTINENT
REGION

MCoR Member's Pike Registry

The Pike Registry is a free MCoR member benefit for layout owners that would welcome other NMRA member's visits. For more information, contact

Indian Nations Division

Central Missouri Area



done.

Dogwood & Redbud Shortline

The Dogwood and Redbud Shortline is my 7.5"-gauge backyard railroad that is a 550' loop with numerous bridges—two cross a creek and others are for drainage. A Super Mack, Critter, and Speeder provide the motive power and are all battery operated.

Come by, take look, go for a ride, let's operate.

Dave Salamon (918)607-2793 E-mail: drs_rr@yahoo.com



Purdue District

The HO-scale Norfolk Southern Purdue District runs from Abbot, MO, to Purdue, KS, by mere coincidence being located about where the Katy line between Boonville, MO, and Parsons, KS ean. The modern-era double-deck layout features a main-line run of more than 500 feet, plus a branch line and a large Ford auto plant complex.

Pat Hiatte Chief Dispatcher
E-mail: patrickhiatte@gmail.com

Chisholm Trail Division

Central Missouri Area



Union Pacific Through the Rockies



My HO layout is a "freelanced/fictional" version of the Union Pacific in the 60's/70's on the Rio Grande's Route thru the Rockies. In a 13'x20' room, the layout is two levels connected by a 5 loop helix. The double track mainline is approximately 300 running feet with two small switching yards. NCE DCC supplies the power for the layout. The equipment roster shows UP F-Units, GP 38's and 40's, and UP/RGSD 40-2T's. Freight cars of all types supply the revenue for the line. You will see an occasional passenger train as well. 60% of the layout is landscaped and on the rest has industries/buildings in place—just not completed scenes. Industries served include coal, grain, fuel, and misc. LTL freight loads.

Terry Ross, Sup. E-mail: terryross16@hotmail.com



Clear Creek and Quicksilver RR

The layout is a 1:20.3 indoor/outdoor layout. Outdoors has landscaping that depicts the Georgetown Loop Devil's Gate high bridge. Indoors is a logging theme railroad with basic benchwork and 250 feet of roadbed and still growing. Three locomotives have been converted to battery power with more planned.

Allen Pollock E-mail: pollocka@mchsi.com

Western Kansas Division

Little Rock Area



Western Kansas Rails

The WKR is an N-scale, sectional layout housed in its own building (but also transportable) depicting Western Kansas. The layout measures 18x24 feet and was designed for simple operations to introduce train show spectators to the idea of operations. The third main features two staging yards, three passing sidings, and nine industries to be served powered by Digitrax DCC with radio throttles. The scenery is based on life in Western Kansas with real business names and mostly scratch-built structures, including the signature structure of the Dodge City Pride Ag Co-Op grain elevator that measures nearly 6-feet in length and dominates the skyline. Operating sessions are available.

Robert Simmons - Div. Sup.

E-mail: trainman55@hotmail.com Phone: (620) 521-3591



Missouri Pacific RR - McRae Subdivision

The fictional subdivision of the MoPac is a shelf type HO model railroad occupying a 14X20 foot room and operating with CVP EasyDCC. The railroad consists of the town of McRae, Arkansas, and the now abandoned station and the active interchange track (known as Hog Thief Crossing) with the fictional Argenta, St Joe and Northern Railroad. McRae and Hog Thief Crossing account for extensive traffic, especially during strawberry season when huge quantities of strawberries are shipped to all parts of the country. There are 5 lengthy staging tracks to supply 2 daily passenger trains, 4 freights, and 3 locals to keep operators busy running on a fast clock.

David Bogard - Div. Sup. E-mail: mopac55@hotmail.com



MID - CONTINENT
REGION

or

MCoR Regional Club Rosters

This roster is created for the benefit of members of the MCoR Region. Clubs (NMRA Non-NMRA) wanting to be listed contact ckeditors@mcpr-nmra.org

AR, Bella Vista All Scales

Sugar Creek Model Railroad & Historical Society, Inc.

PO Box #5452, Bella Vista, AR, 72714

Information: <http://sugarcreekrailroadclub.com>

AR, Conway HO Scale

Central AR Model RR Club

PO Box #1825, Conway, AR, 72033

Contact: Daniel Gladstone (501) 269-3030

AR, Little Rock G, HO, N Scales

Southwest Independent Modular Railroaders

3107 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, AR, 72205

AR, Shannon Hills HO, N, O

Crooked Rails Modular Club

10701 Shannon Hills Dr, Mabelvale AR 72103. Meetings

10AM Saturday. 40' x 18' traveling layout plus HO, N,

and O scale at club. Visitors welcome. Contact David

Ware (501-664-1923) or Charles Dempsey (510-917-5790)

IA, Council Bluffs HO Scale

Greater Omaha Society of Model Engineers

Contact: Brian Waters, Post Office Box 67, Council

Bluffs, IA, 51502; (402) 895-0296 or (402) 491-3692

Information: SOME@TheHistoricalSociety.org

IA, Des Moines HO Scale

Central Iowa Railroad Club

Iowa State Fair Grounds

Contact: David Briely, PO Box #118, Des Moines, IA,

50301 Phone:(515) 266-8899

Information: [http://www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/centraliowarailroadclub)

[centraliowarailroadclub](http://www.facebook.com/centraliowarailroadclub)

Meets: 1st Tuesday each month; Open House: 4th Friday each month.

IA, Harlan N Scale

Nishna Valley Railroad Society

1303 Eighth Street, Harlan, IA, 51537

IA, Indianola HO Scale

Warren County Modular Railroaders

Transition era. RI and CB&Q

Contact: John Averill, 14910 92nd Lane, Indianola, IA, 50125; (515) 961-3018

Iowa's only 100% NMRA club

IA, Iowa City HO Scale

Hawkeye Model Railroad Club

4261 Oak Crest Hill Rd SE, Iowa City, Iowa (Johnson

County Fairgrounds). Meetings Wednesdays 7:00 -

9:00 PM. Visitors welcome. HO and N scale layouts, G, Lionel, and American Flyer display layouts.

Webpage: Hawkeyemodellrrclub.com Contact us using

the link on the webpage. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HawkeyeModelRailroadClub>

IA, Johnston O, HO, On3, On30, HOn3

Raccoon Valley Model Railroad Club

5460 Merle Hay Rd Suite G Johnston, IA 50131. We are located in the Crown Point strip mall, behind the mall is a door that has a model railroad sign. We are there most Mondays and have operations a few times a month.

Contact Jeremy Harris (765)894-2770 or email sajeharris@sbcglobal.net

IA, Pacific Junction HO Scale

The Junction Model Railroad Club

500 Lincoln Ave, Pacific Junction, IA 51561

Contact: SecretaryTJMRRRC@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook

"The Junction Model Railroad Club"

IL, Collinsville HO Scale

Columbia Model Railroaders

410 Camelot Drive, Collinsville, IL, 62234

IL, Glen Carbon HO Scale

Metro East Model Railroad Club

180 Summit Avenue, Glen Carbon, IL

Contact: Bill Davis or Bob Gibson

email: memrrc@gmail.com

Information: www.trainweb.org/memrc

Work/run meetings 6:30PM every Thursday at Club House; Business Meetings first Thursday each month. Visitors always welcome!

IL, Marion HO Scale

Southern Illinois Train Club

PO Box 1633, Marion, IL, 62959

KS, Atchison

North East Kansas Model Railroaders

12" scale, 1440 N. 6th St., Atchison, Sat. 10:00-4:00PM, Sun. 12:00-4:00PM. Information: Otto Wick 913-367-7536

KS, Augusta HO Scale

Augusta Model Railroad Club, 6th & School St.,

7:30. Information: info@augustahorrclub.org

KS, Cherryvale All Scales

Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club

The Cheerryyvale Bed & Breakfast, 420 N. Depot St., Cherryvale, KS, 68335

Information: John R. Dhooghe, john@cvmrc.com

Website www.cvmrv.com

KS, Ellis HO Scale

Kansas Pacific Model Railroad

Ellis Museum, 911 Washington, 10:00AM. Lunch at a restaurant afterward. Information: Tom Robinson,

rrrailway@gbta.net

KS, Dodge City*Western Kansas Rails N-Scale Layout*

10594 W. Briarwood Dr., Information: Robert Simmons, 620-521-3591

KS, Frankfort*Frankfort Subdivision*416 W. 1st St., 10:00-3:00PM. Information: Joe McAtee, joem@bluevalley.net**KS, Great Bend****N Scale***Golden Belt Model Railroad Association.* Meet first Tuesday of Each Month @ 7:30PM at the First United Methodist Church, Great Bend. Correspondence to 209 E 6th, Ellinwood, KS68526, Jim Loesch**KS, Hutchinson****N Scale***Kansas Central Model Railroad Club*16 E. 3rd, Hutchinson, 11:00-4:00PM. Information: www.kansascentralmodelrailroaders.org**KS, Lawrence***Lawrence Model Railroad Club*Bridge Pointe Community Church, 601 W. 20th Terrace. Information:www.lawrencemodelrailroadclub.org**KS, Manhattan****HO Scale***Manhattan Area Rail Joiners*

420 Westview Dr, Manhattan, KS 66502

Contact: Les Kuehne 785-587-0822

Email leslie_kuehne@yahoo.comWebsite <http://www.trainweb.org/MARJ/index.htm>**KS, Olathe****HO Scale***MO-KAN Rail Joiners*

Contact: Louis Seibel, 1069 North Logan Street, Olathe, KS, 66061; (913) 393-3495 or (913) 927-6850

eMail: L-seibel@comcast.net**KS, Olathe***Weekend N-gineers*16624 W. 126th St., Olathe, 1:00PM. Information: Ken Clark, hapheart@swbell.net**KS, Overland Park****O Scale***Kansas City Module "O"*

Contact: Jack Ferris, 10334 Ash Street, Overland Park, KS 66207

eMail: fhs1955@GMail.com**KS, Overland Park****HO Scale***Kansas City Society of Model Engineers*

Contact: John Teeple, President, 9539 Perry Lane, Overland Park, KS, 66212; (913) 492-4142

email: jsTeep@aol.com**KS, Topeka****N Scale***Topeka N-Track Associates*

At member's home, 7:00PM. Information: Bob Wright, 785-273-7835

KS, Topeka**F/G scale***Northeast Kansas Garden Railway Society (NEKAN-GRS)*

1308 SW Caldon Street, Topeka, KS, 66611

KS, Wichita**HO Scale***Wichita Model Railroad Club*

PO Box #48082, Wichita, KS, 67201

eMail: WCMR1@cs.com**KS, Wichita****N Scale***Kansas Area N-Trak*

2046 South Elizabeth Street Apartment #1306, Wichita, KS, 67213

KS, Wichita*Wichita Toy Train Club*

130 S Laura, Wichita

KS, Wichita*Wichita Area Garden Railway Society*At member's home, Information: Nancy Marin, nanmarin@att.net**KS, Wichita****All Scales***Wichita Area Model RailRoders (WAMRR)*

4323 West Maple Street Wichita, KS, 67206

Contact: Lionel A. Smith, Jr., (316) 239-1174 or (816)

518-9050: eMail: LionelSmith@hotmail.com

Meets 2nd Thursday each month 11:30AM Spears Restaurant

MO, Columbia**HO Scale***Columbia Area Model Railroaders (100% NMRA)*

Missouri United Methodist Church, 204 S Ninth St, or

member's homes. Thursday Evenings at 6:30PM.

Facebook: Columbia Area Model Railroaders; Contact:

Marty Oetting, martyoetting@gmail.com**MO, Jefferson City****All Scales***Capital City Model Railroaders*

PO Box #243, Jefferson City, MO, 65102-0243

Email: pollocka@mchsi.com**MO, Kansas City****16" Gauge Park Train***Kansas City Northern Miniature Railroad*

NM 60th Street & Waukonis Drive, Kansas City, MO

Contact: W. Ohrnell (816) 746-5663

Information: www.KCNRRL.com

Meets 1st Wednesday each month at 7:00pm

MO, Kansas City**HO Scale***Greater Kansas City Model Railroad Club*

Contact: Walter L. Ohrnell, 6060 NW Waukomis Drive, Kansas City, MO, 64153

eMail: wOhrnell@kc.rr.com**MO, Kansas City****HO Scale***Southern Kansas City Model Railroad Historical Society*

8600 Ward Parkway Suite 2030 Kansas City, MO, 64114

Contact: Richard Boone Telephone: (816) 996-1534

eMail: rBoone@traintown-kc.com

Meets 2nd Monday each month 7PM Open house Sat. & Sun. 12 to 5PM

MO, Kansas City**N Scale***Weekend En-gineers*

8600 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO, 64114

Contact: Richard Boone: (816) 966-1534

eMail: rBoone@traintown-kc.com

Meets 3rd Sunday at 11:30AM

MO, Kansas City*Kansas City Narrow Gaugers*

Members Homes, Information: Dean Windsor,

On3@worldnet.att.net

MO, Kansas City **Standard, G, O, S, HO Marklin,
HO, N, Z Scales and Wooden Trains**
Union Station Kansas City Model Railroad Society
30 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO, 64101
Contact: Ted Tschirhart, Telephone: (816) 816-3449
eMail: TedTschi@kc.rr.com

MO, Liberty
Heartland N-Trak Of Greater Kansas City
131 S. Water St., Liberty, MO, 1:00. Information: Bob
Osborn, 816-452-9227
www.lawrencemodelrailroadclub.org

MO, Mexico **HO Scale**
Mexico Train Works Model Railroad Club
415-B W Jackson Street, Mexico, MO, 65265,
eMail: info@mexicotrains.com,
Website: www.mexicotrains.com,
Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/
groups/754983012043978/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/754983012043978/)
Contact: John Johnson, 573-473-4928 or
rphjohn@hotmail.com

MO, North Kansas City **N Scale**
Missouri Northern Railroad Society, Inc.
PO Box #12591
North Kansas City, MO, 64116

MO, Odessa **HO Scale**
Eastern Jackson County Mainliners Model Railroad Club
"Outlet Mall", Odessa, MO, 64076
Information:
www.EasternJacksonCountyMainlines.com

MO, Saint Louis **N Scale**
Mississippi Valley N Scalers
1684 Harbor Mill Dr., Fenton, MO, 63026
eMail: mvns@railfan.net
Website: <http://mvns.railfan.net>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mvnsrr>
Featuring NTRAK and T-TRAK modular layouts
displayed at regional shows.

MO, Saint Peters **HOn3 Scale**
Modular HO Narrow Gauge Society
914 Summer Leaf Drive, Saint Peters, MO, 63376
MO, Savannah **G, O, HO Scales**
Green Valley Baptist Model Railroad Club
11993 County Road 162, Savannah, MO, 64485
Contact: Nancy Adams (816) 262-0304
eMail: GreenPetticoat@yahoo.com

MO, Springfield **HO Scale**
Ozark Model Railroad Association
424 West Commercial Street, Springfield, MO, 65803,
Info: <http://www.omraspringfield.org/contact.html>

MO, Webster Groves **2-Rail O Scale (1/4" to the foot)**
Big Bend Railroad Club, Inc.
8833 Big Bend Blvd., Webster Groves, MO, 63119
Email: kc0esl@att.net
Information: www.bigbendrrclub.org

NE, Freemont **All Scales**
Nebraska Railroad Museum
1835 North Somers Avenue, Fremont, NE, 68025
Contact: Dave Fachman (402) 727-0615
eMail: fevr@FremontRailroad.com
Information: <http://www.FremontRailroad.com>

NE, Hastings **N Scale**
Tri-City Model Railroad Association
607 South Shore Drive, Hastings, NE, 68901

OK, Oklahoma City **N Scale**
Oklahoma N-Rail
Contact: Bruce Alcock, President PO Box #96131,
Oklahoma City, OK, 73413
eMail: info@oknrail.org
Information: <http://www.oknrail.org>

OK, Tulsa
Tulsa Garden Railroad Club
Free Will Baptist Church. 1190 N Mingo Rd,
Information: info@tulsarailroadclub.org



MID – CONTINENT
REGION

Region Resources

Online Division Libraries in the Region

Waiting at the Station

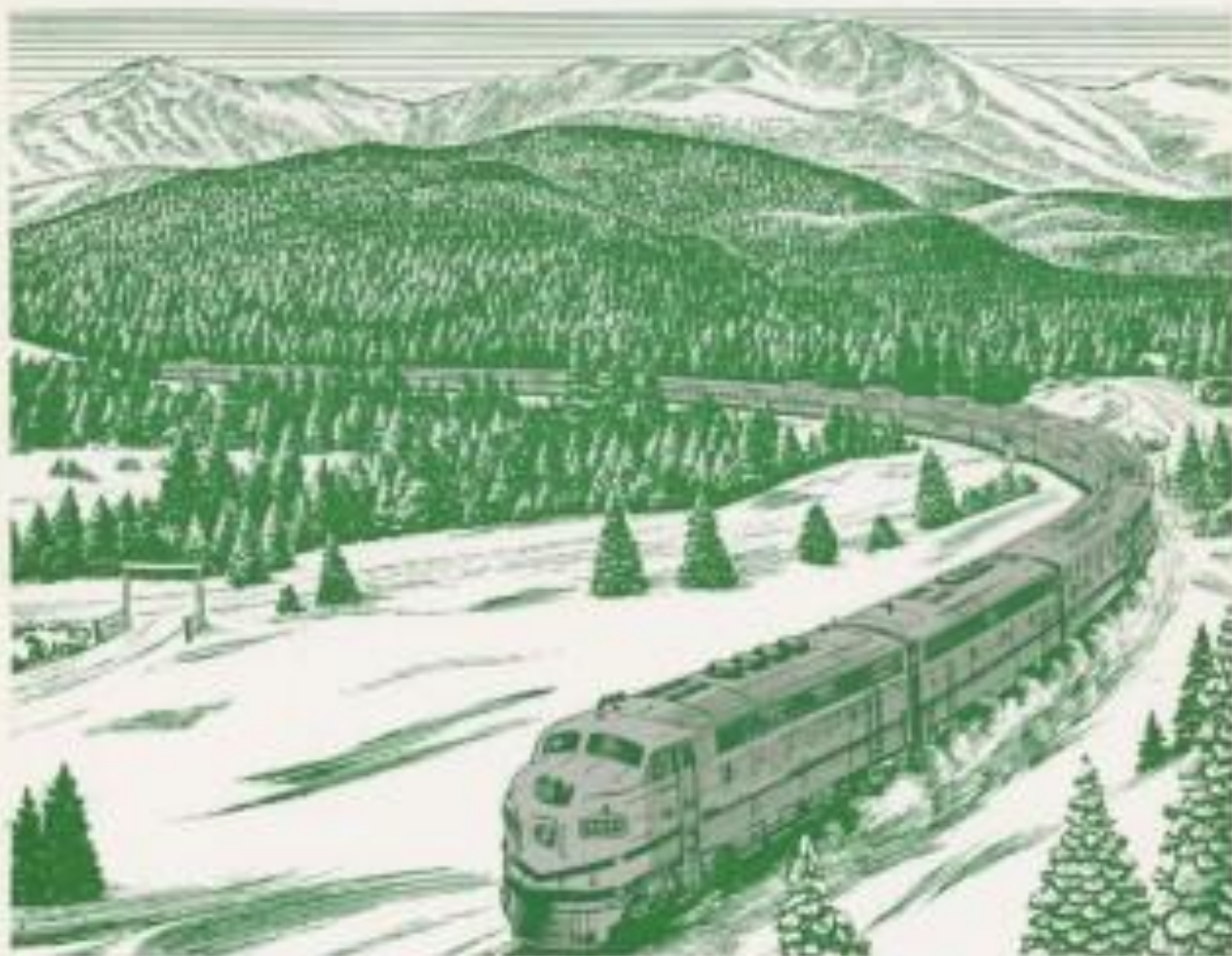
Our NMRA Divisions offer numerous articles and clinic presentations in their online libraries. Check out their offerings here:

Gateway Division <http://www.gatewaynmra.org/model-railroad-article-library/>

Turkey Creek Division <http://www.tc-nmra.org/TC-Library.html>

Indian Nations Division <http://www.tulsanmra.org> and click on "Resources"

*This table card from the California Zephyr
sums up the Caboose Kibitzer's wishes for you
during the holiday season and beyond*



*May the Joy and Peace of Christmas
be with you
And may abundant blessings of
Good Health and Happiness
Be yours in the New Year*