



The

# *Milepost*

**Volume 43, Number 10 – October 2023**

**The official newsletter of the Pikes Peak Division  
Rocky Mountain Region – National Model Railroad Association.**



**NEXT MEETING:**

**Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00 PM**

**The New Sand Creek Police Station 950 Academy Park Loop**

**(Northeast of the intersection of Fountain/Academy)**

**Colorado Springs, Colorado**

# Calendar of Events

## January 13th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Show and Tell Program: {to be determined}

## February 10th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Offline Buildings Program: Joe Costa Presentation

## March 10th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: MOW Program: Rio Grande Southern

## April 14th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Odd Ball Program: Classic HO

## May 12th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Diorama Program: Trees

## June 9th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Rolling Stock Program: A Home Layout

## July 14th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Locomotives/Steam Program: SP Daylight SP4449

## August 11th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Photos Model/Layout Program: Virginia & Truckee RR

## September 8th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Photos Live Program: Layout Tour Re-cap

## October 13th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Railroad Structure Program: Mines in Cripple Creek

## November 10th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Locomotives/Diesel Program: Harvey Houses

## December 8th, 2023 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting.

Program: Xmas Party



*The Milepost*, Volume 43, Number 10, October 2023, is published monthly, as an electronic document (Adobe PDF file), by, and under the authority of, the Pikes Peak Division (Rocky Mountain Region), of the National Model Railroad Association. Our meetings are usually held on the second Friday of each month at the Sand Creek Police Station, 950 Academy Park Loop (northeast of the intersection of Fountain and Academy), in Colorado Springs, Colorado, at 7:00 PM. Please come to one of our meetings. We would love to meet you. All

scales are welcome. Besides our monthly meeting, we have swap meets, train shows, and other model railroads (and railroad) activities. All content in this journal is copyrighted to its respective owner unless otherwise noted. Please do not use content from this newsletter in other publications, newspapers, magazines, books, websites, etcetera, without explicit case-by-case permission. The editor of *The Milepost* is Mr. David Bristow. He can be contacted at the e-mail address of: [dave@bristow-family.org](mailto:dave@bristow-family.org) Thank you.

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## Next Meeting on Friday, October 13

Our meeting will be held at: The Sand Creek Police Station, 950 Academy Park Loop (northeast of the intersection of Fountain and Academy), in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Be sure to check out the Rocky Mountain NMRA Callboard:

<https://www.rmr-nmra.org/callboard.htm>

This year's programs in greater detail:

- October 13, 2023 – Switching the Mines in Cripple Creek – Mel McFarland
- November 10, 2023 - Harvey Houses of the Southwest / Harvey Girls - by Kristen Phillips
- December 8, 2023 - No Program / Christmas Party

## Editor's Thoughts

At last month's PPD Jack our NMRA Achievement Program chair approached me and suggested I could achieve a Golden Spike. I took his proffered form. When I read it, I discovered I could check most of the boxes except for the five structures as I have only built one!

The NMRA Golden Spike Award is a prestigious honor presented by the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) to recognize outstanding contributions and achievements in the field of model railroading.

The award is named after the "golden spike" used in the real-life completion of the First Transcontinental Railroad in the United States. This spike symbolized the joining of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads in Promontory, Utah, in 1869, marking the completion of the first coast-to-coast railway in the country.

In studying the NMRA Golden Spike Award I concluded it is important for several reasons:

- The award recognizes and celebrates excellence within the model railroading community. It acknowledges the hard work, creativity, and dedication of individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the hobby. This recognition can be a source of pride and motivation for recipients and can inspire others to strive for excellence in their own model railroading endeavors.
- By highlighting the achievements of model railroaders and their contributions to the hobby, the Golden Spike Award helps promote and raise awareness of model railroading. This can attract new enthusiasts to the hobby and help sustain its popularity.
- Many of the recipients of the Golden Spike Award are individuals who have a deep knowledge of model railroading techniques, history, and craftsmanship. Recognizing their contributions helps preserve and pass on valuable knowledge and skills to future generations of model railroaders.
- Model railroading is a hobby that brings together people with shared interests. The award helps build a sense of community within the hobby by acknowledging and celebrating the achievements of its members. It fosters a sense of camaraderie among model railroaders.
- The Golden Spike Award often recognizes innovations and advancements within the hobby. These innovations can lead to the development of new techniques, technologies, and products that benefit model railroaders and contribute to the evolution of the hobby.

In summary, the NMRA Golden Spike Award is important because it honors and promotes excellence in model railroading, preserves knowledge and skills, builds a sense of community, and encourages innovation and progress within the hobby. It plays a significant role in celebrating and advancing the world of model railroading.

Well back to the workbench!

David

# Keepin' it on the Tracks

By Mark Fuerstenberger

## September TECO Swap Meet

First of all, a big thank you to Elizabeth Maline and everyone else who was involved in TECO for putting on the Swap Meet this past Saturday at the Colorado Springs Event Center parking lot. I know that everyone who attended enjoyed seeing what was for sale as well as enjoyed a lot of fun railroad related conversations throughout the day. John Emmot & the Division purchased a table for the show, and Amber Fuerstenberger sold some of the odds and ends that have been donated to the club. Thanks to Charlotte Mountz for the donated box of railroad items that Wade had for the Division to sell. Several other Division members such as Charles Marchbanks, Ken Rambo, Mike Maline, Joe Costa & Kristin Phillips, and Jack Sousa, had tables and sold items as well. And for anyone else I may have missed naming, Thank You for attending and being part of the Swap Meet.

## Pueblo Rail Fair

Now to the present, we are looking forward to the Pueblo Rail Fair at the Colorado State Fair Grounds being held in the Livestock Pavilion. The event will be on Saturday, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 4:30pm, and again on Sunday, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Many of our members are part of, TECO, the Division's module group, the Pikemasters Free-mo Module Group, or are helping with the show. We will be setting up on the Friday before and then running trains both days. As I'm sure you all know, a TON of work goes into putting these shows together so hopefully if you are reading this you can come down and see us one of the days. All the hard work pays off when people attend the shows and enjoy our hobby of "railroading" together. Also, if you have an interest in getting to operate a train on the division layout, please let me know! Whether you have your own train or not, let me know and I'll find a train for you to operate. And for anyone at the Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> monthly division meeting, I'll have a sign-up sheet available for time slots to operate.

## Meet the NMRA President

Sunday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> – Meet the President for the NMRA, Gordy Robinson.

Come meet Gordy Robinson, all the way from Orkney Island in the UK, on Sunday afternoon, October 29<sup>th</sup>. He will be a guest of the Colorado Model Railroad Museum. The CMRM will be open from Noon-4pm and then from 4pm-6pm we will set up a reception and question/answer time with Gordy. There will be snacks!

The CMRM has an admission charge of \$12 adults/\$10 seniors from Noon-4pm, but if you say code word: GORDY you can receive free admission all day.

## 2023 Rocky Mountain Region Annual Convention – Albuquerque, NM

Coming up Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>-12, the RMR Annual Convention will be taking place. There are layout tours, many clinics, Santa Fe 2926 tours, and lots to see in Albuquerque. Hotel registration has been extended to Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>, so register before then to get the group rate. After that the price will go up. If you have questions or need more information, please let me know.

# Chuggy Train Rides for Kids at Classic Homes Movie Night

By Amber Fuerstenberger

Chuggy the train was out again this August at Classic Homes for a special event. Classic Homes is a very family-oriented company and hosts events for their employees and families such as the movie night. Classic provides vendors with food and drinks, a large blow-up screen to watch the movie and this year we brought Chuggy to give the kids train rides.

Chuggy was originally built by Mark's grandfather and in the last few years we have updated and fixed different cars. This year we did quite a few updates for the St. Patrick's Day Parade in March and the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Parade in June. We built a new gondola car and a new car for the

“E. Z. Money Safe” (bags of money included). We also built an authentic wagon, and the lumber car was labeled, as well as some touch up paint on the engine. A large QR code with a link to model train clubs in the springs was added for quick access to train club information.

Friday morning Mark requested a Conductor or Engineer hat, so I (Amber), Lisa (Mark’s sister) and daughter Jamie set out on the town in hopes we could find something quick to be ready to load all the train cars at noon. Our first stop was the Colorado Springs Trolley Museum. There we met some very nice people who have blue and pink striped hats available for sale and vendor information to purchase other hats. With only a few hours before the event was supposed to start help came from an unexpected source, Mel McFarland. He was present at the museum and explained that we are involved in PPD, TECO, Greeley Model Railroad Museum and he vouched that we were trustworthy enough to borrow one of their Conductor hats if we returned it the next morning. Mel saved the day!



With the help of Jamie, Lisa, Lane (Jamie’s boyfriend) and Mark’s purchasing team we had Chuggy at Classic Homes on time to give many kids rides before the movie started. The new handmade wagon with “Classic Homes Movie Night” label and “Classic Express” were the few new additions for this fun event. Here are a few fun pictures of the evening.





Special thanks to Taryn Single for the letters on Classic Express.







## [Drawing Prizes Preview](#)

**By Tony Pawlicki**

“Teaser” preview of *some* prizes available at the drawing during intermission at the July 2023 Pikes Peak Division NMRA meeting. The idea is to entice more members to our meetings. ***HEY – feel free - encouraged, even - to bring/donate surprise items! The more the merrier! (Wade’s and Mr. Lugg’s and Alan Hutchins’s donations won’t last forever, folks – in fact, Mr. Lugg’s donations were exhausted with the February drawing.)***

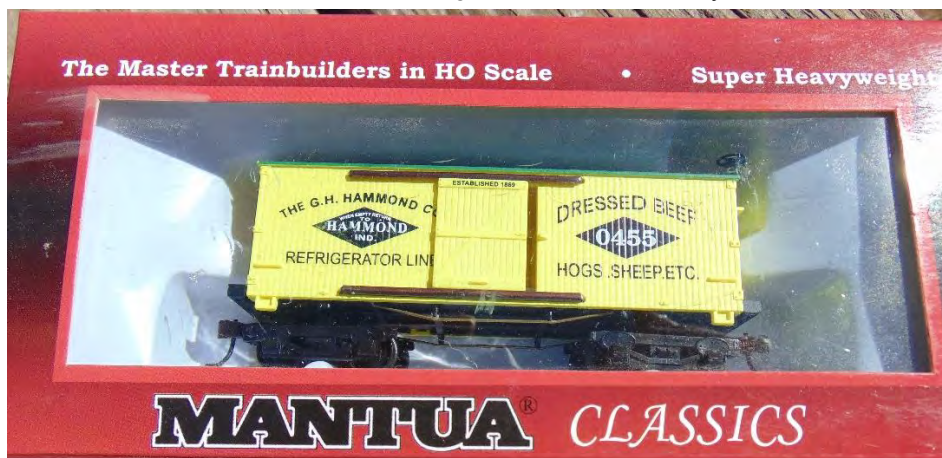
### **(Some of) The October Meeting Offerings**

(Something new this month: All prizes are exactly as received, no upgrades/fixes by me added. I have added remarks about room for improvement – must try to provide some value-added and talk is cheaper than work. I talk, you work.)

Hammond Company 1860 reefer, HO scale 36-foot iced reefer, partly assembled kit. Mantua Classics model in original box. Leftover from picnic silent auction.

Features:

- As received:
  - Kadee #5 couplers.
  - Plastic wheelsets.
  - NO modern markings (Consolidated Stencils, ACI placards, U1 wheel inspection stickers, et cetera).
  - All stirrup steps intact.
- Modifications: NO modifications, as such might affect collectability.





Cudahy Refrigerator Car Line 7487, HO scale 40-foot iced reefer. Old Dutch Cleanser billboard paint scheme Athearn Blue Box model. Gift of Alan Hutchins.

Features:

- As received:
  - Kadee #5 couplers.
  - Metal wheelsets.
  - All stirrup steps intact.
  - NO modern markings (Consolidated Stencils, ACI placards, U1 wheel inspection stickers, et cetera).
- Room for improvement:
  - Add cut levers and associated brackets.
  - Weather trucks and wheelsets.
  - Check coupler heights.



Cotton Belt SD40T-2 dummy locomotive, HO scale. Athearn Blue Box model. Gift of Alan Hutchins.

Features:

- As received:
  - Plastic wheelsets on trailing truck and lead truck center axle, metal on lead truck outer axles.
  - Kadee #5 couplers.
  - Front and rear road numbers.
  - NO modern markings (Consolidated Stencils, ACI placards, et cetera).
  - Handrails painted white for front and rear boarding areas.
  - Heavy (12.25 ounces) for good tracking.
- Room for improvement:
  - Add cut levers and associated brackets.
  - Weather trucks and wheelsets.
  - Check coupler heights.
  - Add appropriate decals for your era (ACI or Consolidated Stencil)



# October Wavy Rails

By Joe Costa



Folks in Canandaigua decided to recycle an old depot. After a few drinks, I am sure any rail patrons stumble across would look twisted or wavy.



Interior Shot



Original Inspirational Image

## Southern Exposure near Gulf Shores



Chuggie imposter in Orange Beach



We revisited the Foley Train Museum and captured this nearby mural.



It was a little rainy in Foley so their kid museum train was not running

## Bob Foltz's Las Vegas Castaneda on his Santa Fe

<https://www.trains.com/mrr/how-to/model-train-layouts/santa-fe-inspiration-gallery-1/>

The layout is full size about 45' by 47'. The picture below is the Castaneda from the link above:



This is a Fuerstenberger picture from the recent open house tour

The last two pictures above are from Google Earth. We went to MOST of the open houses this year but Bob Foltz's layout was one we missed. The Fuerstenbergers took some great pictures which they showed off at the September 2023 PPDNMRA meeting. The pictures in the last row came from Google Earth.

I am jealous of the trackside bay windows on the second story of Bob's Castaneda and now must upgrade mine. On Google Earth and on Bob's layout, the left and right second-floor bay windows do not match by design. Another difference I noticed is the reduced number of arches in the front

porticos. On the station side of Bob's Castaneda six are shown. On my model, I did all ten. I certainly don't have any issue with selective compression. Here is what the official Fred Harvey postcard shows regarding the track-side bay windows and arches:



I need to tone down the color of the portico roof and do bay windows:



**Streetside view of Castaneda**



On my module, I modelled this rear facing portico. I should make some sign decals. I had to remove my module background to even take this picture. It needs a little TLC. As you see from the above photo, there are at least four bay windows in the rear.



From Google Earth, here is a picture of the rarely shown rear corner:



Now, I can't find the older picture I once saw, but there was once a second story door between the bay windows with wooden stairs (fire escape) leading to the ground. Right below is a door. The area has been cleaned up and is currently fenced off to hide the dumpster. The sides and rear of the Castaneda were "symmetry challenged" by design.

Now, not to stir up any trouble, but according to this old picture, it looks like the trackside dormer window should be on the track side:



Need to add windows panes to the dormer, but this is my version trackside view:



Not far from the station, the original roundhouse is still standing:  
The 34-stall structure was a typical "low-type" roundhouse built to plans drawn in 1916.  
A 100-foot through plate girder turntable provided access to the stalls.



Bob has it active back in the day:

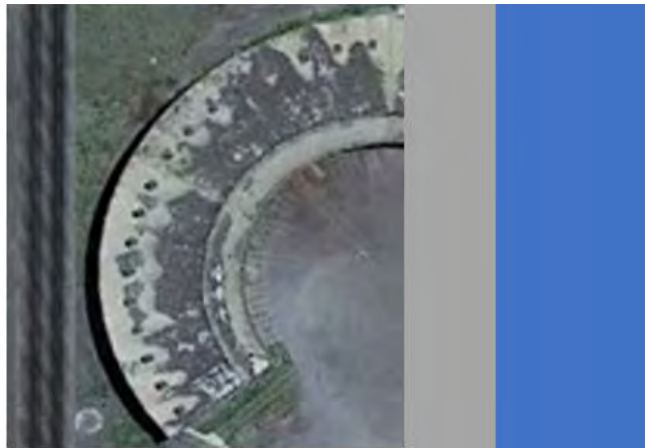




The orientation on Bob's layout provides easier access to the roundhouse and a more interesting view.

### Another Module?

One thing I've often thought about doing, is adding a companion module to my Castaneda with a mirror on the right (lower part of the background piece) to create the illusion of a more complete roundhouse when viewed from trackside:



The gray bar represents the vertical mirror and above it the blue sky.

I will use two Heljan roundhouses which are 15" deep.



I also have a three stall Walthers roundhouse which looks more authentic with its end pieces:





The three blocks between the old roundhouse and the station will be “surgically” removed:



LASER Cut Alternative



An alternative to plastic kits would be to buy or build a roundhouse LASER kit. Online, LASER kits are not any cheaper than plastic but certainly have a more craftsman-like look and with a LASER they can have a wood or brick like texture.

Notice that all these model roundhouses have the same windows layout unlike the original.

It is not that hard to recreate these shapes with a drawing program on computer and send it to a LASER — it's all smoke and mirrors. That is how I did my Castaneda walls.

### **Moving back to the Station and Hotel**

Next to the station is the white-roofed building with a very nice brick façade. Las Vegas celebrates a unique heritage with more than 900 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. Visitors can experience adobe buildings created during territorial times, Victorian structures that arrived with the railroad, and California Mission Style architecture.

Not far is Montezuma Castle (Armand Hammer World University), another jewel in town.



Originally, it was a Harvey House.

## Hubble - Julia Joe Navajo Rug

Allan Allfeldt and Tia Mion are the folks who restored the Castaneda and La Posada. They turned the old Santa Fe station in Winslow into an Art Museum. Yes, Hubble, was the famous astronomer but one brother ran an Indian Trading Post which we have visited. BTW, that's Tia Mion's Nancy Reagan on the right wall.



<https://ammwsa.com/news/julia-joe-descendants-with-hubbell-joe-rug/>

Although John Lorenzo =Hubbell established the post in 1878, the back story of Hubble Trading Post begins in the early 1860s, when General James H. Carleton began forcibly removing the Navajo Indians from their homelands in an effort to find gold in the Navajo territory. Leading this gruesome campaign was [Colonel Christopher "Kit" Carson](#) who, under the direction of Carleton, instituted a "scorched earth" policy in the Navajo territory. Under this policy, Carson's troops destroyed the Navajo's livelihood by killing their livestock and burning their homes and crops. To terrorize the Indians into leaving their homelands further, Carson and his men massacred Navajo men, women, and children.

**Most, but not all, modelers make compromises.**

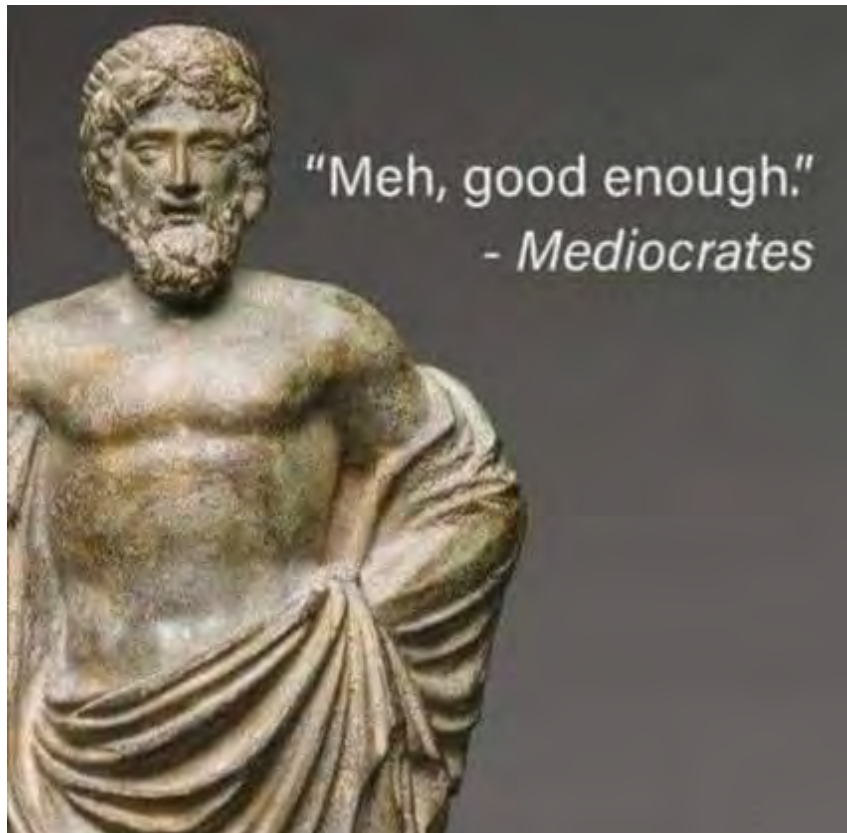




<https://www.seawarstore.com/IBRCShirt.htm>

There is even a Facebook Group [International Association of Rivet Counters and Scale Model Pedants](#)

Some of us follow a more relaxed hero:



## O-Scale Operation Lifesaver Boxcars with the Message



The Lionel car on the right, with plastic wheels, came inexpensively off eBay. The car on the left with metal wheels from Menards, lights up with battery or track power. And yes, that is my favorite photo background.

### September 18-24, 2023 Rail Safety Week

Greeley was our target this year and Michelle Kempema was our hostess (with the moistest model trains):

This Atlas model caboose looks just like the full size one in the CMRM:



Wig Wag at Colorado Model Railroad Museum

Another coincidence?



Mystery Passenger Cars on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Greeley:



## Safety Squares at Estes Park Train Show

### Estes Valley Model Railroaders

#### One Square Foot Contest Rules

- Can be a diorama, a display, a layout, or ?
- Limited to one square foot in area
- Must have some connection to railroading or model railroading
- Can be scratch built or have commercial items
- Must have scenery so the base does not show
- Any scale, any time period, any gauge
- Must have a name/title
- Be creative!!

#### Categories for judging

- Originality
- Craftsmanship
- General appeal
- President's choice award
- Most humorous

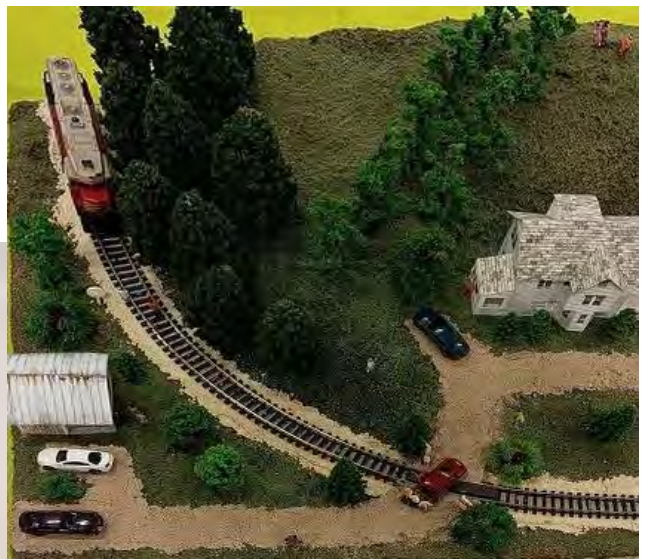
I guess as a part of our railroad safety warnings we will have to remind folks not to ski down slopes over train tunnels:



# Push a Little Faster

by  
Bill Allan

N Scale



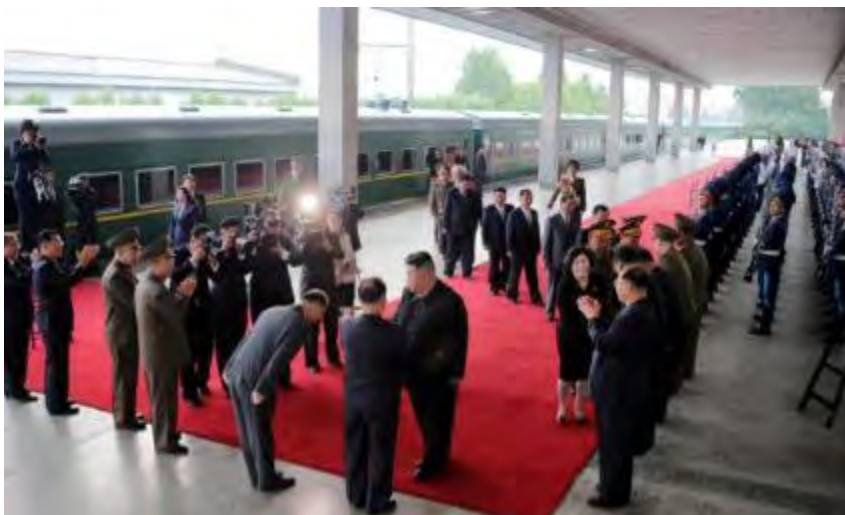
We should also remind people not to run out of gas when trying to cross railroad tracks, not to have someone try to flag a train to stop while standing on the tracks and remember that trains can come from either direction.

## Kim Jong-un's Orient Express

Kim rides the family armored train into Russia to visit Vlad.



The train has also visited China in the past:



Kim has six luxury trains, 19 private stations and 90 carriages. Kim's father Kim Jong II and Grandfather Kim Il Sung both loved trains and often travelled by rail during their tenures as North

Korea's leader, according to a 2019 Reuters report. Kim Il Sung, the country's founding leader, travelled abroad by train regularly until his death in 1994. Among his journeys were a trip to Beijing in 1958 where he transferred to a plane to Vietnam, and a trip around Eastern Europe via the Soviet Union in 1984. Kim Jong Il took a memorable three-week rail trip to Moscow in 2001, with the journey recounted in a 2002 book by Kremlin insider Konstantin Pulikovsk.

### Visiting North Korea...

Visas are not normally granted to foreign independent travelers to North Korea, only to visitors on an organized tour with a guide. Several companies can arrange visits to North Korea. Try Regent Holidays at [www.regent-holidays.co.uk](http://www.regent-holidays.co.uk) who can arrange group or individual tours to North Korea.

Also try [www.juchetravelservices.com](http://www.juchetravelservices.com) (a new London based agency), Koryo Tours (Beijing-based) at [www.koryogroup.com](http://www.koryogroup.com), VNC Travel at [www.vnc.nl](http://www.vnc.nl) (in the Netherlands). Each of these companies can book the Beijing-Pyongyang sleeper train and help with visas. You may also find this web page useful: [www.tripbase.com/c/northkorea/](http://www.tripbase.com/c/northkorea/). Although talks are progressing, there are no trains across the border between North and South Korea.



Don't get too excited, I suspect Americans are not welcome.

### Speaking of Big Boys...

TEMU has new kit with 1600 pieces you can assemble, the Badboy:



Or for you Hogwarts fans, the Express:





Some of their brick kits are 20" long.

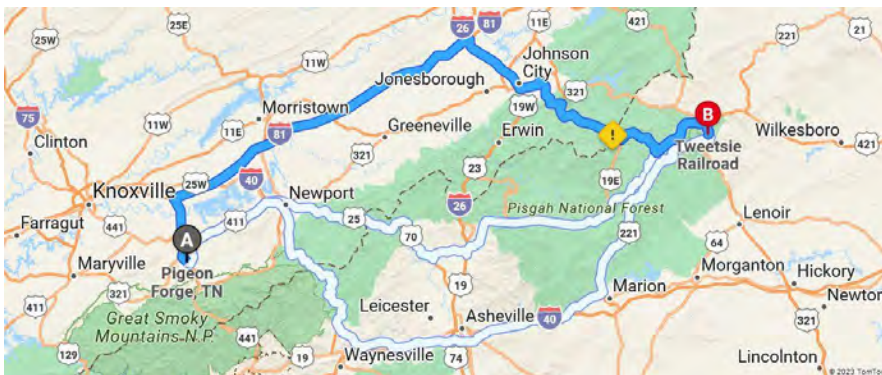
### Dollywood Express Derailment

Klondike Kate derailed with no injuries. Cinderella is their other steam engine. Both Mikados were refugees from the White Pass and Yukon in Alaska.



## Tweetsie Railroad

Three hours away are other refugees from the White Pass and Yukon:



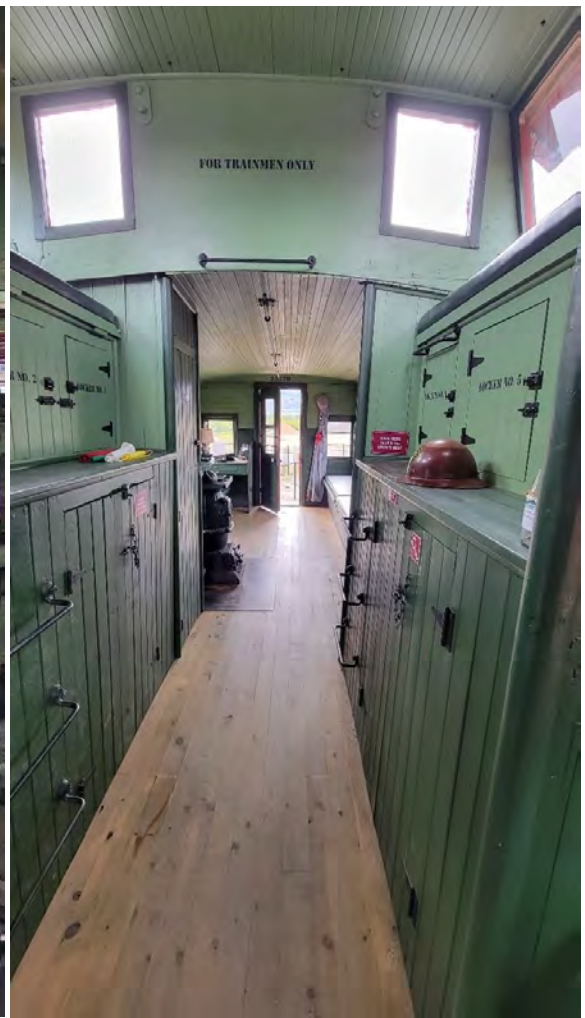
## Where did September Go!

By Mark Fuerstenberger

Time flies as they say, but I think it flew right past because we are all so lucky to live in the state of Colorado and enjoy all that it has to offer us. This past month Amber and I took the time to go and visit a couple of railroading destinations. The first was the Moffat Road Railroad Museum in Granby, CO. The museum features several historical pieces of railroad history such as the old Denver & Salt Lake boom crane, several cabooses, a 1905 passenger car, and even a Shay locomotive with an operating whistle. Great work is being done on all the equipment to not only preserve it but bring some of it back to life.



1913 Denver & Salt Lake Boom Crane



Close-up of a machine with gears and cogs 1923 all wood Union Pacific caboose - restored



Interior of 1905 Passenger Car



1906 Wooden Caboose/being restored to 1936 Steel Caboose appearance.

Moving inside the museum features a very large collection of Lionel trains that we got to see in operation. There at the controls to it all was Dave Naples who is the museum's director. It was great to see him and get to visit about all his future plans for the museum as well as the large HO scale layout that is under construction.



1922 Shay Locomotive #8



Dave & Amber



Lionel Collection



HO Scale model of opening day of the Moffat Tunnel



Photo of opening day of Moffat Tunnel. Feb. 26, 1928



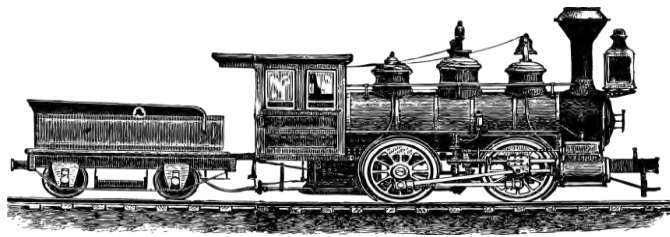
One other fun fact for those that haven't been there yet is that the museum grounds are located adjacent to the Union Pacific mainline so rail fanning while you're there is also enjoyable.

After leaving Granby, CO we drove down Hwy. 40 to Winter Park, CO. Since we had just been talking about the Moffat Tunnel I pulled off the road, scampered up an embankment and was able to take a decent photo of the Moffat Tunnel West Portal.

Right: Moffat Tunnel West Portal

In mid-September, Amber and I took a day to go up north and operate trains at the Colorado Model Railroad Museum in Greeley, CO. While it is a 2 hour drive each way, getting to operate trains on a layout that has 80 scale miles of track on it is always a lot of fun for us. However, this trip turned out to be a little bit different than most. As visitors started to show up and it was time to start running trains an entire section of the layout was dead. So, we jumped right in and started to help trouble shoot the 5,500 square foot layout. After about 30 minutes we located the problem which was a dead power supply to that portion of the layout. Then we spent another 20 minutes hunting for a replacement. Finally, it was decided to pull the power from the branch line to get the main line up and running again. After all that was done, we had trains up and running. What a crazy day it was.





## Notes from The Siding

**By John Emmot**

There is activity in the model railroad world. TECO had an outdoor swap meet last weekend. The weather was generally cooperative with blue skies. The breeze increased through the day, but we closed at 1 PM before it got too bad. There were lots of good train stuff available. (I even bought some and I sold some.) I don't know of anyone who 'soldout', but a lot of stuff moved. Attendance wasn't as good as I had hoped it would be, but it was reasonable with several parents and kids looking for new joys. There were plenty of serious modelers who also had lots to choose from. The next TECO show is at the Event Center with a new date of January 27-28, 2024.

The next local show is the joint PMRA/TECO Rail Fair at the Colorado State Fair Grounds on the weekend following our meeting. In fact, many of us are counting on being finished with the setup in time to make it back to Colorado Springs for the meeting. The PPD modules will be there with the PikeMasters Free-mo layout and the Nginers mini modules. The Albuquerque Society of HO Module Engineers layout will also be present. To make the weekend more interesting for me, my wife's brother called and said he had arranged to come visit us at that time. It is my plan/intent to do the Friday setup, the Friday meeting, and the Sunday show. However, it looks like I will not be there on Saturday.

There is activity at Calhan. We have traded a depot roof mounted signal for a pole mounted semaphore. It was delivered this week. One more project to add to the list. We are still looking for folks who are willing and able to help with the caboose restoration work. It has been decided to use polycarbonate to replace the destroyed windows in the steel caboose and for the new windows in the wooden caboose. We are hoping to find some woodworkers around the Woodcraft store or CO Lumber. We also need someone to lay brick pavers in front of the depot for the platform. Do you know anyone? The work on our Fairmont speeder has been completed and it is waiting for a ride home from Fort Lupton. The pigeon barrier on the depot is still working, but we need to finish the repair of the soffits.

The Denver & Salt Lake Historical Society wants to discontinue their magazine, so I have been trying wrap up a couple of items I wanted to get published. I have found several interesting facts in the Moffat passenger roster. I could be forced to get on Facebook to stay in touch.

It was good to see Ulrick at the meeting. He was an active Division member before the turn of the century. He built a couple of American style modules while here. He is still very active in a German module group. He did report that he lost his wife about three years ago. His daughter was with him on the trip.

I encourage all those getting this newsletter to support the Rail Fair this weekend. Come help set it up on Friday AND come back to support the show on the weekend. We plan to have the regular meeting on Friday evening at the Sand Creek Police station. Hope to see lots of folks 'round the roundhouse.



**Ticket sellers**



Good variety



Lookers and buyers





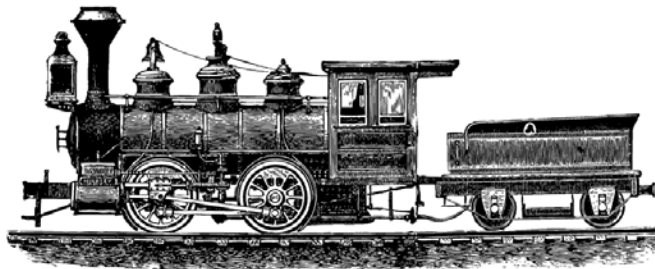
The 'shady' dealers



Ngineers-all by themselves



Lots of stuff



## September 2023 Minutes

**Secretary, John Emmot**

The regular monthly meeting was called to order by Asst Superintendent, Mark Fuerstenberger at 7:00 in the community room of the Sand Creek Police Station. There were 18 members present and one visitor, Ulrik Bernsmann from Germany. Again, Amber had a laptop computer connected to the room's display screens and was able to show relevant portions of the Milepost during the meeting.

### **Secretary Report**

The minutes of the July meeting were approved as published in the Milepost.

### **Treasurers Report**

Tony had provided an email update to the officers on activity in the PPD bank account and he passed out hard copies at the meeting. The statement covered the income and expenses (\$292.33 was paid out in August.). The statement was accepted as submitted.

### **Announcements**

Mark began the meeting by recognizing Ulrick as a visitor. He had been an active member of the Division when he was working in the United States.

He also noted the Pueblo Rail Fair show in October. The PPD layout will plan to setup on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>. Mark will design the layout using the available modules. It was pointed out that that is the regular meeting day for the Division. As of now, we plan on having the meeting in Colorado Springs as usual.

Mark reminded everyone about the outdoor TECO show at the Colorado Springs Event Center on September 30. There was discussion whether the PPD wanted to rent a space to sell more of the donations held by Mark and Amber. It was voted and passed to request one space. John said he had some items to sell as well, and he would share a portion of the cost.

Mark highlighted the Rails Along the Rio Grande show in Albuquerque, NM in November 9-12, 2023.

Tony did a review of the door prizes available for the meeting.

Mark described the two different loads he had for two centerbeam flatcars. One was made up of individual lumber packages and the other was simply printed on a sheet of paper and mounted in place. Both looked very convincing.

Tony did a show and tell about an \$8 unique span bolster flatcar from Roy's Train Store and the upgrades he added to it bring it up to operational standards.

### Program

This month's program was by Mark and Amber who had photographs of six of the eight layouts from the tour. They were able to display them on the digital screens around the meeting room. They had many great pix of the details accompanied by narrative about on each one.

### Drawing

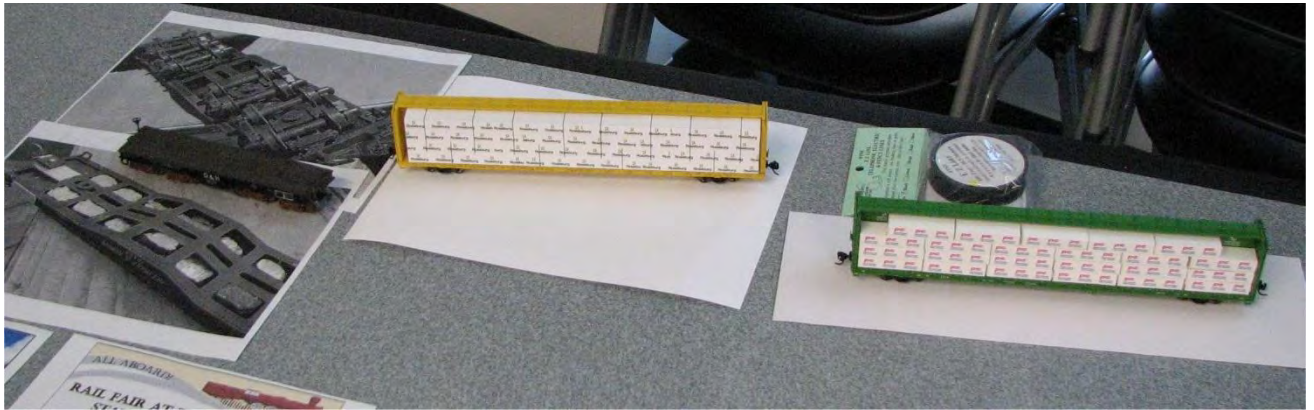
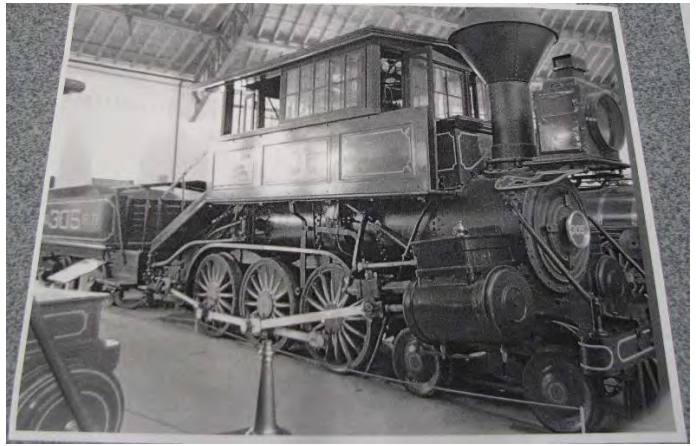
The monthly drawing was held with more RR kits and cars.

### Contest

There were several entries in the prototype photos contest for September. First place went to Mark for his sepia tone picture of the C&T, second to Tony for his camelback loco in the shop, and third to Dave for his photo on the C&T.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29.





## Pikes Peak "N" Gineers Model Railroad Club

By Mike Peck



## Superintendent's Corner

October is here and the weather is starting to cool down, Waite! No not yet!! Well maybe?

We've had some good train action down at the clubroom, see the story below.

It's time to start thinking about the club board for 2024. All offices are up for renewal or replacement. Chris is stepping down from the paymaster's position, so we need someone to step up and run for that position. As superintendent I would like to step down as well and let someone else take over the reins of leadership. I don't know if the other board members want to run again or not. IT'S TIME TO STEP FORWARD and get new ideas on the board.

## Club Anniversary Pary

The annual club anniversary will be held at Mimi's Café at N. Academy and Woodman at 6pm. John Grier is the chairman for this event, and he needs the head count by Wednesday October 4<sup>th</sup> so he can make the reservations. Instead of a guest speaker I thought I would talk about something, don't yet, but something.

## Rail Fair at the State Fair

Set up for Rail Fair will be on Friday October 13<sup>th</sup>. I'll go over the schedule during the October board meeting. Saturday hours are 9am to 4:30pm and Sunday hours are 10am to 3pm followed by teardown and we head over to Earl and Bobbies for a chili dinner. Bobbie is requesting a head count for this, so she has an idea how much chili to make.

The Club will have a six-table layout setup for the T-TRAKers, I'll send out a notice of who is bringing their modules. We'll try and do the same set up as the Dino show only on 8' tables.

The club will also have three sales tables for this event. I can use help with both operations.

## Clubroom

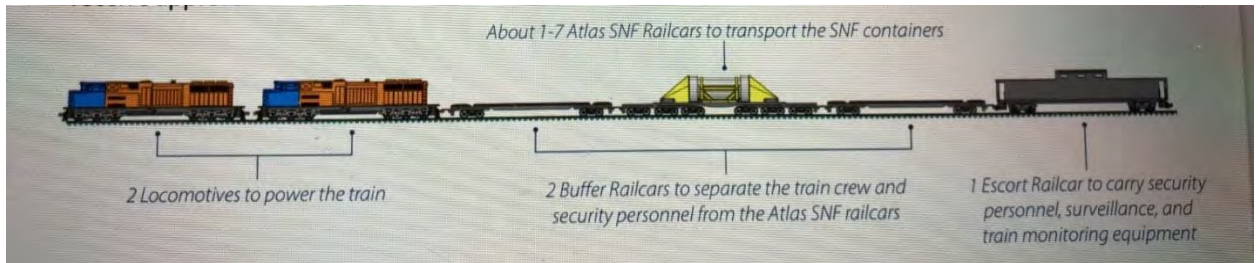
Run sessions at the clubroom are doing well as we have from three to six people there running both DC & DCC. The three main lines have the ability of using the old DC handheld power supplies we used on the MTL, green line is still waiting for a handheld throttle. Earl has added an additional Digi-Trak LNWI to the Wi-Fi set up so now we can host 8 engineers, the first four frequencies have already been assigned, do not try to use these. The second LNWI has one assigned frequency and three open ones waiting for an assignment. The club is looking for at least one more of the LNWI.

The train traffic was interesting as well. One Saturday we have nothing going by and then on another five different trains go by. We still see the occasional coal train go by but nowhere near what used to go through.





Some of the mixed freight coming through.



Then we got to see this train fly past the club. Later we found out it was an empty load, and it was being tested for speed and reliability. It was cool looking even though we didn't even have a chance to raise a camera.

### Editor's Notes

The witness of last month's train wreck went missing! Will be searching for him so we can get the full details of the train derailment.

Thanks, John, for the photos of the nuclear cars, seems no one got any photos of the actual train when it went by. Any other trips by this train will be at night from now on.

I'm still looking for additional photos and stories for the Railhead.

## It's all in the details.....

### By Mark Fuerstenberger

On July 30, 2022, Amber and I had the opportunity to ride behind the Union Pacific Big Boy 4014 from Denver to Cheyenne. As you might have guessed, it was truly an amazing experience.

Leading up to the event, I had the idea that it would be fun to purchase a radio scanner so that I could listen to the crew on their radios throughout the trip. After a lot of Google research for railroad radio frequencies and learning how to program the new radio I got it working the night before just in time to hear Amtrak backing into Union Station. I was able to listen to the conductor call out the number of car lengths to the engineer as they backed into the station platform. Then the following day with my radio scanner in hand we boarded the train for our trip to Cheyenne.

Throughout the trip we listened to Ed Dickens, engineer for UP4014 constantly communicate to the diesel helper UP4015.

I don't know the exact reasons why Ed Dickens chose to use UP4015 as the helper diesel, but I believe he chose to do so because it is very easy to remember the number you're calling out over the radio. While operating the Big Boy, watching for crossings, signals, and all the rail fans he wouldn't have to try and remember the helper locomotives number. Plus being 1 number different than the Big Boy is just kind of fun.

So, since I have the HO models for a lot of the Union Pacific heritage fleet, and since Amber and I got to ride on a train with it in the consist, naturally I wanted to have UP4015 accounted for in my collection.

UP4015 was originally a freight locomotive only, so it had a grey underframe, fuel tank, and trucks as shown below.



Photo Credit: RRPictureArchives.NET – Copyright Keith B – 6/11/2008

But when the Union Pacific Steam Crew got a hold of it they wanted it to match the gold and silver passenger cars of the heritage fleet. So in July 2021 they started in painting it up to hide the years of use as well change the color of the trucks, redo the fuel tank color, redo the hood color, and clean up the rest of the paint and striping.



Photo Credit: RRPictureArchives.NET – Copyright Matt Albert – 8/11/2021

Making all those changes would have been quite a bit of work, so thankfully, Athearn's released a version of the repainted engine that matches the paint changes by the Union Pacific Steam Crew pretty well to the real locomotive.



However, the Union Pacific Steam Crew didn't stop there and by July of 2022 they took it one step further and added a 4015 "Shield" to either side of the front hood.



Photo Credit: RRPictureArchives.NET – Copyright Aaron Mandolesi – 7/22/2022

Well, if I wanted my engine to look like the real deal, then I'd need to add that small shield to my locomotive. Mike Welke with Circus City Details sells hard to find decals, so I was able to purchase it from him through e-bay for around \$6. Last week I took the time to install them on my locomotive, and it looks great.



My model after applying the 4015 Shield to either side of the front hood.

After posting a picture of my model on Facebook, Ed Dickens himself commented on it and sent me a picture of Ted Schultz (left) and Ed Dickens (right) in front of UP4015.









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