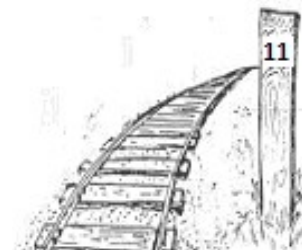




# The MILEPOST

Volume 31, Issue 10 October, 2011  
www.ppdnmra.com  
The official newsletter of the Pike's Peak Division



**NEXT MEETING**  
November, 11  
Sand Creek Police  
Station 7:30 PM

**Our Meetings are Normally Held on the second Friday of each month at the Sand Creek Police Station 4125 Center Park drive(Southeast of Academy and Fountain)**

**Superintendent:**  
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[rbinder2@mac.com](mailto:rbinder2@mac.com)  
Phone: 719 392-2077  
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Phone: 719-591-9470

**Secretary:**  
Adam Lütt

## Chairpersons:

**Achievement:**  
Jack Sousa 576-7017  
**Contest**

:Ed Pagels 534-9232

**Door Prizes:**  
Frank Pareso 591-9470

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Bill Poley 266-8989

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Chris Fox

## October Meeting minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM

Minutes from September were approved as printed in the milepost.

Treasures report: \$976.91 in September with current total of \$668.20.

Old Business

Contest rules were gone over again.

Running DCC at Slim Rail Show with dog bones

Division Train Show 33 tables sold and 24' by 10' layout.

Charles Software still checking options.

TECO possible in December at event center

Region Convention in June 2012 at Chama NM with a photo mixed train for region only.

New Business

UP 844 coming to town at end of October 30 and 31.

Former Member Norman Clark passed away in October.

TV with DVD player and other hook ups purchased by the division. Purchase approved by division membership.

Pike Masters open house 12 and 13 November and December 3 and 4. December date is Saturday of the light Parade.

Jack mentioned the website Digcom.com were you can download printable pdf files of containers that can be cutout and glued together. The cost is \$5.95 per file that can be print as many times as you want.

Charles Marchbanks acting secretary.

## Train Swap to be held at Each Meeting

Bring your unwanted items to sell or swap.

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## Module Display Schedule

TECO December 17 and 18, 2011 at Freedom financial event center.

## Up coming Division 4 Clinics/Programs:

November-Clinic Bob Foltz

**Got a project that you would like to share? Is there a technique you would like to learn? Let Bob Binder or Charles Marchbanks now.**

## 2011 CONTESTS

November	Photo of your Model RR, module, or diorama
December	No contest

## Local Area Notes & Events

**TECO December 17and18, 2011 at Freedom financial event center.**

Find other events at:

<http://www.tecoshow.org/index.htm>

<http://www.ppdnmra.com/>

<http://www.trains.com/trc/community/events/search.asp>

<http://www.tecoshow.org/colocalevents.htm>

<http://www.trainweb.org/drgwscenicline/events.html>

## **Modular Musings**

by  
John Emmot

SlimRail: SlimRail had a good show and swapmeet on October 15. The Pikes Peak Division setup a dogbone layout with modules from Charles Marchbanks, Dusty Tompson and Adam Lutt. We were able to complete the setup on Friday afternoon and had test trains running before we left. Setup was accomplished by Bob Binder, John, Adam, Dusty and Charles. The layout was all DCC due to the dogbone configuration. On Saturday, trains were operated by Bill Poley, Jimmy Patterson, Dusty and Charles. Bill Galloway was in early to help get started. The NCE radio controls worked as advertised. Thanks to all who participated in this event.

Pikes Peak Division: Two weeks later we did our own show. We setup the hall and the layout on the Friday before. Modules included

Marchbanks, Bonds, Gelsinger, and Poley as well as the Division orphans. Special thanks to Wade Mountz who again transported some of the orphans from Myron's to the show and back. We had good help setting up the layout and had 32 feet up in about two and a half hours. We had both DC and DCC on the layout. Operations on Saturday were impacted by more glitches and grimlins than normal, but eventually smoothed out. As we use DCC, we find that the layout is more sensitive to wiring and connectivity problems through the joiner tracks. It would be beneficial if everyone would look at their modules and add more track feeds as needed. It is helpful to have feeds on both sides of a diverging turnout rail where the frog or points contact may not power the distant track. We also need to pay attention that the rail joiners on joiner tracks are tight so that continuity is assured. Again, thanks to all participated in this event. I believe that table sales and gate admissions resulted in another success for the Division.

TECO: It appears that TECO is on track for a show in Colorado Springs before Christmas. They are set for the weekend of 17-18 December. I still need to determine if the PPD will have an independent layout then or if we would add our modules to the PP&S layout. Some indicated a willingness to bring modules, but I need to see if we can find enough help to get the rest of the pieces there separately. Dogbones are a viable option. Please call me (380-8421) with your input. See ya at the meeting.

**John**



**UP 844 pass by soccer fields off Mark Dabbling**

## Module Photo Gallery



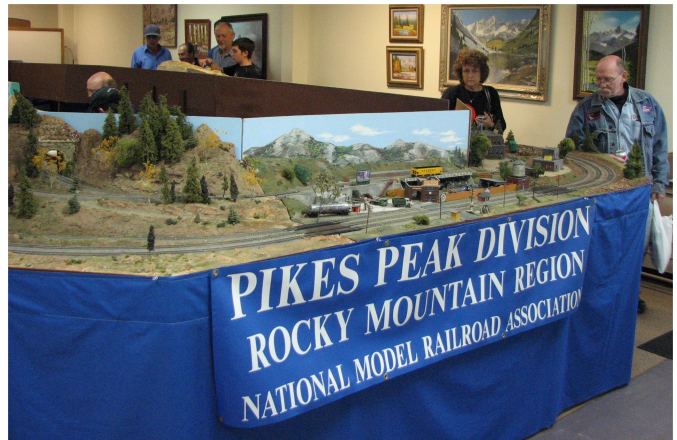
Northside Food Wholesalers on Charles' modules.



Container yard on Charles' modules at the Slim Rails train Show.



Coal train and maintenance of way trains on Adam and Dusty's modules at Slim Rails show.



Modules at the division show.



Jerry Bonds and his Modules at the division show.



Corner modules and Charles' modules at the division show.



Myron's Modules at the division train show.

Slim Rails photos by Charles Marchbanks and division show photos by John Emmot.

## NMRA Info Net News

Here's all the news that's fit to print for October:

In order to ensure the financial well being of the NMRA into the future, there will be a **dues increase on January 1, 2012**. Regular memberships will increase by \$5 to \$44, and subscriptions to *NMRA Magazine* will increase by \$3 to \$22. Sustaining memberships (including the magazine) will increase by \$13 to \$110, and student memberships (including the magazine) will increase by \$4 to \$32. In addition, our highly successful RailPass trial membership program will continue at \$9.95. The current RailPass conversion rate to regular memberships is around 65%.

Di Voss, who's heading up the Cruise Convention committee, continues to receive **results from the survey published in the October issue of NMRA Magazine**. To date he's received around 200 responses, and estimates those "in favor" to be about 75%. In addition, Di would like to remind those who think there won't be enough time on a Cruise Convention for layout tours, OPSIG meets or other activities, that the ship will be in port from about 8:00 a.m. until about 10:00 p.m.

For some reason, the story that the NMRA membership has been declining over the past few years continues to persist. **IT AIN'T TRUE. NMRA membership is holding steady** at around 19,500. According to the latest "Membership Thermometer" figures compiled by Marketing, Advertising and Promotions manager Tom Draper, the NMRA lost 104 members between August 2009 and August 2011, but gained 91 members between August 2006 and August 2011. Please help us set the record straight by mentioning this to your membership!

Convention news: Even though Grand Rails 2012 will have dozens of top notch model railroads open for self-guided tours, the convention committee wanted to make sure everyone has a chance to see some of their great layouts. So there will also be **several bus tours to some of the area's best layouts**. Layouts include every scale from Z to G, and every level of completion. They're also offering a very special, exclusive seven-hour limo layout tour for groups of 6 to any of the six layouts on the self-guided list. The price for the limo is only \$120 per person. Get all the details and registration info at [www.gr2012.org](http://www.gr2012.org).

Repeat announcement: The Howell Day Museum is issuing a new release of its highly successful **Gorre and Daphetid bobber cabooses**. Two new bobbers, numbered 3 and 5, are available from Headquarters immediately. A single car is US\$19.95 + \$4 shipping and handling, and the set of two is US\$34.95 + \$4 shipping and handling. The new cars are available in HO scale only, and are ready to run. They feature operating magnetic knuckle couplers and free-rolling metal wheels. Watch for the ad running in *NMRA Magazine*. To order, call HQ at 423-892-2846.

*If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer. You'll find those addresses at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) or in NMRA Magazine.*

*And if you're changing email addresses, please let me know at this email address: [NMRA-infonet@earthlink.net](mailto:NMRA-infonet@earthlink.net)*

-Gerry Leone, MMR  
NMRA Communications Director

**2012 Rocky Mountain Region  
Convention info:**

**Charlie Getz is now confirmed as our guest speaker. Please pass this info on to your members and friends.**

**Charlie will be speaking at our Friday, June 8, get together in Chama.**

For those who have never heard Charlie, he is the best railroad speaker I have ever heard. You will get a barrel of laughs out of his talk.

**Our schedule for the convention is:**

**Friday, June 8, 2012**

Afternoon - registration at the depot in the Chama yard.

Evening - registration and welcoming get together at the Chama Community Center.

**Saturday, June 9, 2012**

Morning and afternoon - Mixed freight and passenger trip with photo run-bys, to Big Horn Wye and return.

Evening - RMR Board meeting and model contest.

**Sunday, June 10, 2012**

Morning - Breakfast (TBA).

We should be done with all activities early enough Sunday, so those that want to, can chase the regular train up Cumbres Pass. The regular train departure is scheduled for 10:00 am.

Don't forget to show the video we gave out at the September Board meeting . Also, for Divisions on the Front Range, I might be able to visit and show the railfanning program that I did in Loveland.

See you in June, if not before;

Dick Hunter



**Teco Swapmeet**

We are motivated and focused to make Colorado Springs a center of excellence in the Model Railroading Community. The success is based on producing quality educational events and the effort of all those active in the hobby. We are committed to advertise aggressively throughout Colorado and the surrounding States. We are contacting over 200 clubs, associations, societies, all news media as well as any interested parties.

**Admission Fees**

Early Bird Saturday 8:00am \$7.00/person  
Regular admission \$5.00/person, Family group of 3 or more \$8.00  
Military and family, with ID card, serving, retired, reserve \$1.00/off/person  
Children under 12 must be accompanied to enter free.

**Space & Table Fees**

Vendors buy your tables early. We usually sell out our shows. These are the rates. Call in and reserve your tables. Then fees need to be mailed in within 5 days. Fees are set prior to each event and can change.

**Vendor tables**

8 ft. tables \$30.00 each for both days. Vendors required to bring their own table covers.

**What can you do to help.**

Pass the word around  
Book a table or two.  
Share a table with a friend  
Book a table and advertise your organization  
Bring a group of people

**Rules for vendors, operators & participants**

TECO Swap-meets are open to all.  
TECO covers all Model Railroad gauges.  
All participants are to use appropriate language in consideration of the youth present and to leave a professional image with the public.  
Vendors should be set up by 9:00am.  
Vendors cannot break down their tables till 3:00pm.  
Vendors cannot sell or display weapons and associated material.  
Vendors selling other than RR material and toys must receive permission to sell indicated material.

## **Vendor or Participant Registration**

Call in and tentatively book your space table (719-574-4382)

Fill in the registration form and mail or email in, to include your check.

Email: [trainexpoco@comcast.net](mailto:trainexpoco@comcast.net)

Address, **TECO 1923 Payton Cir, Colorado Springs, Co 80915**

Please make checks out to: **TECO**. Note in your check's note section, *Example: 3 tables December 18-19*

**Look for confirmation and check that details are correct. Advise us immediately if you need any changes.**

### **Support Your Local Hobby Shops:**

Caboose Hobbies  
500 S. Broadway  
Denver, CO 80209

Discount Trains  
3311 N. Academy  
Colorado Springs, CO 80917

Custom Railway Supply  
1025 Garden of the Gods Suite D  
Colorado Springs CO 80907