



The

# *Milepost*

**Volume 45, Number 8.5 — Mid-August 2025**

**The official newsletter of the Pikes Peak Division**

**Rocky Mountain Region — National Model Railroad Association.**



## **NEXT MEETING:**

**Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 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 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Show & Tell Program: The Royal Gorge by Postcard

### February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: MOW Program: Travelogue

### March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Rolling Stock Program: East Broad Top

### April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Odd Ball Program: Virginia & Truckee, Ore Movement

### May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Offline Bldg Program: Colorado's Biggest Rail Preservation Tragedy

### June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Railroad Structure Program: Layout Update

### July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Rolling Stock Program: Tourist Train Tour

### August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Diorama Program: Colorado Live Steamers

### September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Photos Proto Program: The McKeen Motor Car

### October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Photo Model Program: More Microcontrollers

### November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting

Contest: Loco Steam/Diesel Program: Vintage HO, At-hearn

### December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting.

Program: Christmas Party!



**The Milepost**, Volume 45, Number 8.5, Mid-August 2025, 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. Unless otherwise noted, all content in this journal is copyrighted to its respective owner. Please do not use content from this newsletter in other publications, newspapers, magazines, books, websites, etc., without explicit case-by-case permission. The editor of *The Milepost* is Mr. David Bristow. He can be contacted at the e-mail address [dave@bristow-family.org](mailto:dave@bristow-family.org). Thank you.

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[ Open ]

## Next Meeting on Friday, September 12

Our meeting will be 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 occasionally check the Rocky Mountain Region website for the latest events and happenings, as well as the current Callboard:

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

## 2025 Schedule

- September Elizabeth Maline – The McKeen Motor Car
- October David Bristow – More Microcontrollers
- November Ken Rambo – Vintage HO, Athearn
- December Christmas Party!

## Editor's Thoughts

In recent editions of the PPD Milepost newsletter, I've been using my Thunderbird email client to send out updates. To protect the privacy of our mailing list, I've been BCC'ing all recipients. However, it appears that Comcast has issues with emails that include both large attachments and multiple BCC recipients, and has been rejecting those messages.

To work around this, I've created a Python script that sends the newsletter individually to each person on the list. This ensures delivery and keeps attachments intact.

That said, I don't have names associated with every email address. So if you receive an email that begins with "Hi **NoName**", please reply with your name so I can update my records and personalize future messages.

Thanks for your understanding and continued support!

David [dave@bristow-family.org](mailto:dave@bristow-family.org)

## Keepin' it on the Tracks

**By Mark Fuerstenberger**

### **Georgetown Loop Railroad – Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, Silver Plume, CO**

The Pikes Peak Division picked the Georgetown Loop Railroad this year for our annual outing. At the June meeting it was decided that Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> will work best for everyone. The tickets will be \$38 each. We are planning for the 11:25am trip.

Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> – 11:25am train

We will be boarding the train at the Georgetown Devil's Gate station which is located on I-70 about 45 miles west of

Denver. Use Exit #228.

DEVIL'S GATE DEPOT LOCATION

646 Loop Drive, Georgetown, CO 80444

DIRECTIONS TO DEVIL'S GATE:

From I-70, take Exit 228 to Georgetown.

If you are on I-70 West, take a left off the ramp.

If you are on I-70 East, take a right off the ramp.

From here, take the first right at the roundabout. This is

Argentine Street. Follow Argentine until you reach a fork in the road. Stay to the right and the road will end at the Devil's Gate Depot.

Note: The coach cars on the train ride are wheelchair accessible

Questions: Call Mark Fuerstenberger cell phone: (719) 491-1291



**I-70  
From Silverthorne**

### **Colorado State Fair – August 21 thru August 24th, Pueblo, CO**

Things to know.....about our the PPD at the Colorado State Fair. We will be located in the Creative Arts Building, within the Colorado State Fair Grounds.





### Setup:

Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.

- Arrive between 9 am – 10 am
- We intend to be setup and out by 4 pm.

### Running Trains:

Friday – Sunday - Fair is open from 11am to 11pm

- Creative arts building closes at 9pm
- Remember your **Blue PPD Shirt**

### Tear down:

Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup> - We will start to breakdown and move out at 10 am.

**Parking lot address: 2701 W Mesa Ave., Pueblo, CO 81004**

### Directions:

Head south on I-25.

Take exit 97A, heading southwest toward McCulley Ave.

Turn right onto McCulley Ave (92 ft)

Turn right onto E Abriendo Ave (0.1 mi)

Turn left onto W Northern Ave (1.6 mi)

Turn right onto Gaylord Ave

Parking lot will be straight in front of you.



**Mark Fuerstenberger**

**Cell: (719) 491-1291**

## Grand Pacific Northwestern



The "Grand Pacific Northwestern" RR is having an Open House, Saturday August 23, From 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Please RSVP with number attending and time to Bob Bandy at [lrbandy@comcast.net](mailto:lrbandy@comcast.net)

### **Sunrise Division & Scenic Line Modelers - 90th NMRA Anniversary Potluck**

The link below please enter your contribution for the Greater Metro Denver Divisions' Potluck & Open House to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the NMRA

Hosted by Sunrise Division & Scenic Line Modelers

SW Denver (Littleton)

Lockheed Martin Recreation Area

August 30 10AM-3PM

(Near Colorado Golf & Turf Co)

Map to Colorado Golf & Turf, Littleton, CO to get directions close (at the bottom of our hill), then consult maps. The club does not have an address. Overflow parking lots at softball fields (down the hill from picnic pavilions).

# Scenic Line Modelers, Inc

The Lockheed Martin Narrow Gauge Model Railroad Club

Clubhouse  
Bldg M-41E

## Lockheed Martin Recreation Area

Gate (call 7-4646 to  
open if closed)

North to C-470

Wadsworth

C-470

Hwy 121

4.6 miles  
To C-470

Colorado  
Golf & Turf

3/4 Mile South  
to Waterton Plant  
Main Gate

Softball Fields

Gate

### LEGEND

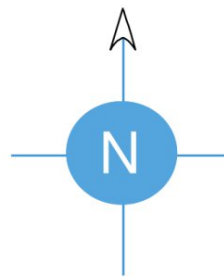
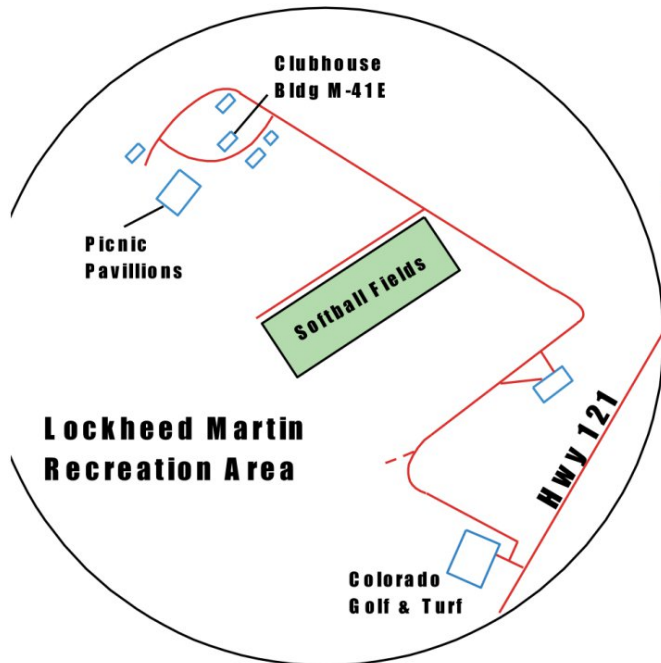
- A - Skyline Hunting & Fishing Club
- B - Amateur Radio Society
- C - Picnic Pavilion
- D - Showers & Restrooms
- E - Antenna Test Bldg (Phone  
inside lobby)

[www.trainweb.org/drgwScenicLine](http://www.trainweb.org/drgwScenicLine)

Contact:  
Gary Myers  
720-837-4393

**No Address!**  
GPS Coordinates:  
39.508936, -105.100792  
or Google Colorado Golf & Turf and follow map!





**C-470**

**Wadsworth**

**Deer Creek Canyon**

**0.65 mi**

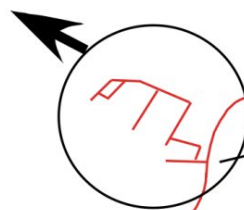
**0.3 mi**

**Chatfield Reservoir**

**Trailmark**

**Hwy 121**

**3.6 miles**



**No Address!**  
GPS Coordinates:  
39.508936, -105.100792  
or **Google Colorado Golf & Turf and follow map!**

**Lockheed Martin**

**Main Gate**

**Roxborough Park**

**[www.trainweb.org/drgwScenicLine](http://www.trainweb.org/drgwScenicLine)**

Contact:  
Gary Myers  
720-837-4393

Take C-470, exit south on Wadsworth / Highway 121  
Go 4.6 miles south  
Turn right (around bend) into Colorado Golf & Turf  
Make immediate right on Skyward Blvd  
Follow road up past softball fields to parking area  
almost to picnic pavilion  
(do not go to Main Gate)

You can simply enter your name and dish without having to sign in, then simply close your window.

[NMRA 90th Anniversary BBQ Lockheed Martin August 30, 2025 - Google Sheets](#)

Any questions please contact: Gary Myers at [garymyers06@comcast.net](mailto:garymyers06@comcast.net) 720-837-4393



## 2025 Layout Tour

- **Saturday September 13**
  - Paul Petty 9am - 12pm Woodland Park
  - Jeff Cahill 1pm - 5pm Rockrimmon
- **Saturday September 20**
  - Bob Bandy 11am - 4 pm Gleneagle
- **Sunday September 21**
  - Ken Rambo 11am – 4pm Falcon
- **Saturday September 27**
  - Steve Jankowski 11am - 4pm Monument

For directions please contact Dr David Solly at [drdsolly@att.net](mailto:drdsolly@att.net)

### NMRA Interchange

If you like to be online, you should check out the NMRA Interchange. You'll need to create a login on the Discord website. <https://discord.com/> From there you'll need your login information to the NMRA website, and once you're there check out the link to the Interchange.

<https://www.nmra.org/members/nmra-interchange> You'll find a few simple steps to get setup.

This setup process is only required the first time, and after that it's easy to jump online and see what others are doing. The site also allows for easy conversations, just like you might do on Zoom. I encourage you to check it out.



## PIKES PEAK “N”GINEERS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

**By Mike Peck**

**Superintendent's Corner**

**By Glenn Hobbs**

As I write this, I just returned to the United States from my trip to Kenya. What an amazing and exciting trip. It was one of the most incredible experiences in my life. As I mentioned in my last column, I would try and get some pictures of trains in Kenya. There was more than I expected. I did get some pictures. However, this was not the focus of this trip. I therefore intend to write an article about the trains in Kenya. I hope to have it ready for the September Railhead.

Our club will have a couple of activities in August. On August 1-3, we will be in North Platte, Nebraska for the North Platte Rail Days show. The show is put on by the Golden Spike Tower and includes tours of the Tower and the Union Pacific Bailey Yard. When we were there 2 years ago, some of us got to tour inside UP's locomotive shop.

On Sunday, August 24, we have our field trip to the Colorado Railroad Museum in Boulder. The Galloping Goose will be running and there will be a docent led tour of the museum. After our visit, we will meet at Woody's Wood Fired Pizza. The restaurant is about 10 minutes away from the museum. I sent out some information from Kristin about the event.

On August 30, we will be having another pizza and potluck at the clubhouse. Please come and enjoy some pizza and or potluck with other club members.

## **DCC Primer Part 4**

### **By Glenn Hobbs**

This is the fourth in a series of articles to help you get started using DCC to run trains. In my previous articles, I went over the basics of setting up DCC on a layout and how to run trains. In this article, I will go over a popular feature of DCC, and that is using your smart phone as a throttle.

Before I go any further, I want to discuss the Loconet. You will notice that your command station has an interface that looks like a phone jack and your command station probably comes with a black cable that also resembles a cable for a landline phone. Although, very similar in appearance, there are some differences. First of all, Loconet uses 6 wires (3 pairs) instead of 4 wires or 2 pairs on traditional phone connections. Also, the electronic signaling (protocol) is also different than that of a landline phone or the regular wired network connection for your computer. Also, keep in mind that computer networking cables are also not compatible. These cables have 8 wires (4 pairs). These are referred to as Ethernet cables and are named after the protocol that they use.

The Loconet is designed to allow you to add more DCC accessories to your Layout. These can include handheld throttles, turnout controllers, occupancy detectors, reverse loops, block signals, and so on. Each DCC accessory is connected in a daisy chain fashion. In other words, you connect one device to the next device.

To use your phone as a throttle, you need a device that acts as a Wi-Fi access point (WAP). Keep in mind that this device will not allow you to connect to the Internet as a traditional WAP would. Unlike a traditional WAP that connects to a wired (Ethernet) network, these devices will connect to the Loconet instead.

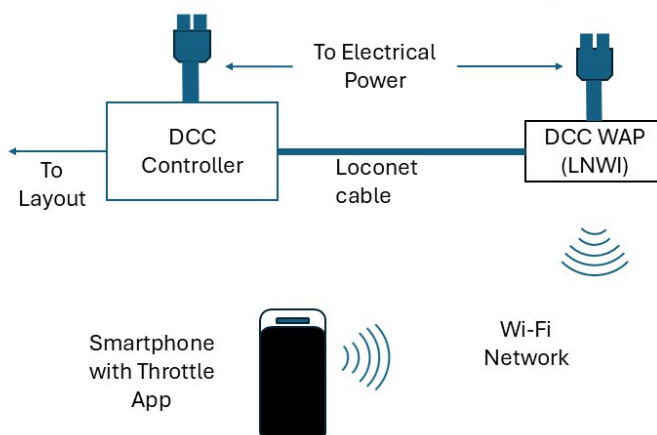
Now that you understand Loconet, let's move on to what is required to use your smartphone as a throttle. There are two things that are needed, a Loconet WAP and a smartphone app that will turn it into a throttle. I use a Digitrax LNWI for my WAP. These can be purchased from Amazon or many online hobby retailers. Just type "Digitrax LNWI". There are throttle apps for just about any device out there. For smartphones, I recommend Engine Driver for Android and WiThrottle for Apple devices. Each can be found in the Google Play store and the Apple App Store respectively. Each of these apps are free for their respective device.

The LNWI device will plug into the Loconet and a regular AC power source. No configurations are required. Before using the throttle app, you will need to change your Wi-Fi connection to the LNWI. Follow the standard procedures for connecting to a network on your device. For example, for the LNWI, look for a network named "Dtx1-LnServer\_XXXX-X".

The "X" s would be either letters or numbers and will be unique for a particular device. Once you have a connection, you will probably get a warning on your smartphone about no Internet connection. You can dismiss or ignore this warning. When you start your throttle app, you will be asked to connect to a server. Use the same name that you used to connect to Wi-Fi. You should now be prompted to enter a DCC address for a locomotive. The throttle apps usually have sliders for speed and braking, directional buttons, and numbered buttons to operate the various features and controls of your locomotive decoders. Please refer to the documentation of the specific decoder, you are using, for details.

I have include a schematic below that shows how everything I mentioned is con-nected.

## Schematic Showing use of a Smartphone to Control a DCC Layout



With this article and the 3 before it, you should have all the basic information for running DCC on your layout and for using DCC on PPNG layouts. In my next installment of this series, I will go over how to wire for reversing loops using DCC.

### Como, CO

In past years the Como roundhouse was open only on Boreas Pass days. There are usually so many people there that taking photos without getting photo bombed is a miracle. A couple of years ago it was decided to have a work session, open house. The Depot is open, and you can walk around the roundhouse and ask the work crew questions about what is happening.



Klondike Kate awaiting final repairs.



Kate's completed tender.

The Como Project hopes to have Kate back in operation for the 2026 season. Volunteers continue to lay ties and track in anticipation of Kate's return. Other projects going on include rebuilding some old freight cars for future use or display.

If you have never been to Como, it is worth the trip. Boreas Pass Railroad Day is Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup>. There are all kinds of activities going on, food vendors, and docents to give you tours of the roundhouse, depot, and soon the hotel. If the weather is nice a trip over Boreas Pass is worthwhile.

There will be two more Como open house/work days, the dates are September 20 and September 27.



After your visit go to Jefferson for a hamburger and ice cream!





*Do you  
like trains  
and enjoy  
history?*

## **THEN WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!!!**

We are recruiting volunteers to help us build a Railroad Heritage Center in Calhan, CO honoring those who operated the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad in El Paso and Elbert Counties from 1887-1968.

### **GET INVOLVED • HAVE FUN • LEARN HISTORY • MEET NEW PEOPLE!**

Volunteers wanted regardless of age or skillset. Painters, Electricians, Plumbers, Woodworkers, Writers, Photographers, Researchers etc.  
Anyone & Everyone is welcome!

**IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CALL 303.961.5929 OR EMAIL [denverzephyr64@yahoo.com](mailto:denverzephyr64@yahoo.com)**