



July 2014 - Volume 2 Issue 5

Thoughts from the Superintendent



Howdy, folks!

If you missed the **Golden Spike Limited**, you missed out on a trainload of fun!!

You may not know this about me, but I have been looking forward to joining the NMRA since I was 8 years old. I knew *even then* that the NMRA was the place to learn how to build the highly detailed, accurately scaled model railroad I have always wanted. It has been a long, long wait for me, and this convention was everything I expected the NMRA to be ... and more ... I had a blast!!

I met one of my model railroading heroes, Bruce Chubb (PhD), and learned from him about different signaling and track control strategies. I experienced the "Dr. Gil Show" and found out that painting backdrops isn't nearly as scary as I thought it would be (and that Gil Bennett is a talented and funny man). I learned how to make very attractive bulk trees, how to handlay detailed "proto" track, and how to make highly detailed foreground trees. I learned about the NMRA's new "EduTRAIN" clinic program – I can't wait to tell you more about that next month – and spent some "quality time" with NMRA President Charlie Getz.

I also found out that I used to buy stuff from Jim Harper's hobby store in Riverside, California, where I grew up!

I know how much hard work went into putting on this event, and on behalf of the membership of our Division and our Region, I would like to say, "Good job Alan, Fred, Jack, Stan, Pete, Geoff, Jim, Peter, and Ron. Thanks for putting on such a terrific event!"

So here's a toast to another successful model railroad event hosted by the Northern Utah Division; may our future be filled with all of the model railroading fun we ever wanted!!

Cheers,

Ken

THE MONTHLY CLINIC

Last month we had 24 wonderful clinics from some of the great modelers in our Region. From basic DCC, prototype history and tree making, to advanced computer control, modern prototype signaling, and backdrop painting, these clinics were spectacular. After attending, my knowledge, skills and vision have been given a much needed boost!



Standing Room only during Gil Bennett's Backdrop Painting Clinic

This month, we will be able to continue this great momentum with a great clinic on UP Turbines from our own Fred Baney. Come, and I'm sure you will come away with more knowledge than you thought possible about UP Turbines. See you this month at the meet!

Peter Lieber
NUD Clinic Coordinator

Help Me Promote the Division

OFF THE WIRE

Getting the word out can be daunting at times. I have been in the media business for more than thirty years. My job for the Division is to promote the activities of the Northern Utah Division, (such as meeting dates, information about upcoming clinics, etc.) to the magazines, E-publications like Model Railroad Hobbyist, and who ever might have an "audience" of train lovers. Many of these publications work up to four months in advance, meaning if you want to get it in their publication, for say the Sept. 2014 issue, I have to submit the material no later than June 15th as an example.

As you can see, if you have an upcoming clinic or information about a Division activity of any kind, I need to receive it ASAP. Your kind and timely input will be greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance. 😊

Steve Moore,
Division Marketing
kiss@kissmethodinc.com

[Editor comment] Steve has done a great job getting the word out to publications about our special run division club cars. He has done so good that we only have 4 green Saltair cars and 13 Tooele Valley hoppers left!

<http://northernutahnmra.org/club-car/>



In **June** we had 7 Fantastic ops sessions at Rob Spangler's, Quintin Foster's, Willard Johnson's, Lee Nicholas', Ted York's, Bob and Karin Gerald's and Gary Petersen's layouts.

They all went flawlessly. A great time was had by all!

The **July** DOG session will be on July 26 at Quintin Foster's N scale layout. Come and have a ball.

With Jack being out of town, Geoff will be the Assistant DOG Trainer for July. If you don't get an email from Geoff for the crew call and want to join in the fun you can email Geoff at: gcarter1945@comcast.net



Convention Highlights



The **Golden Spike Limited 2014** was considered a huge success! Sure there were hiccups here are there but that's to be expected. We received many compliments from the attendees and it was a convention well worth attending.

NMRA President, Charlie Getz, gave a great keynote: humorous, entertaining and gave us some insight into the NMRA going forward. There were layout tours, special tours, ops sessions and hours and hours of clinics! Bruce and Janet Chubb gave a great speech at the banquet dinner of how over the years Bruce included Janet and his girls with his obsession with trains. It was funny and insightful for the rest of us. Don't forget to include the family when you can!

Another highlight for many was the chance to be included in the Driving of the Golden Spike reenactment! What a treat that must have been!



The contest room had some great models! Most received merit awards and this was one of the highest number awarded! Great work everyone! Look for the list of the winners on the website soon.

Next year the Region Convention is in Denver and plans are well on the way. Plan to make it if you can! We look forward to the next time the Northern Utah Division hosts a convention. We learned a lot and it will only get better!



Achievement Program



It was a GREAT convention with lots to do! One area I enjoyed of the convention was the contest room. A few of us received training on judging models which is helpful with being a new AP Chairman. Even though I've been building models for awhile I haven't been involved with critiquing other's models very often. Also, a benefit that is helpful to me is knowing what the judges are looking for. I suggest that if you are wanting to have models judged, be a judge yourself. It's a great experience!



One thing I did experience personally was why I hear so many people give as their reason for not participating in the Achievement Program. Let me clarify something. There are two parts to the contest. First the popular vote and second AP judging. The popular vote is purely based on votes by the attendees at the convention. The AP judging is based on certain criteria pre-defined on the NMRA website and the AP paperwork. It is purely based on points added up in a number of categories. Your goal is to receive a total of 87 ½ points to receive a "merit award."

I had many compliments on my sawmill that I entered and enjoyed the process. There were several judges and I thought most were very fair. I was extremely disappointed in one judge however whom I thought was overly harsh. Most left good comments but this one said things that did not relate to the category he was judging and that I should include more info which I already had included. The other judges gave me what I thought were very fair scores and good comments. This one was not consistent with the other judges however so I don't think it was me or my model. That is the frustrating part. I'm not saying I'm an awesome modeler but

judges however so I don't think it was me or my model. That is the frustrating part. I'm not saying I'm an awesome modeler but rather the inconsistency that occurred. What gives me some solace is that I received more than the required 87 ½ points so that I received my merit award!



I've heard many say they don't want or don't feel the need to have their work judged by others. Well, that is actually just a small part of the entire AP Program. For the most part it is actually doing the work, and only partially doing "quality" work, which only just helps you become a better modeler.

If entering contests is not your thing, not to worry. You don't actually have to even enter a contest. For more details check the NMRA website or ask me. For the small number of items that need to be "judged" they can actually be done at a Division meeting or even in your own home!

For me, being involved in the AP program has helped me become a better modeler and increased my awareness of what this wonderful hobby can provide. I hope that it can help you do the same. I will be making a chart to help those who want to join me and I hope we can enjoy the journey together!

Jim Wanlass
AP Chairman
ap@northernutahnmra.org

The Club Car



There are many model railroading clubs and organizations within the Northern Utah Division territory. Rather than listing them all here go to our website and you will find a list of them. If there are any corrections please let us know so we can update and keep it as current as possible! admin@northernutahnmra.org

<http://northernutahnmra.org/local-clubs/>



What follows is a list of railroady-type events that may be of interest to all you train nuts.

Rocky Mountain Express

Rocky Mountain Express propels audiences on a steam train journey through the breathtaking vistas of the Canadian Rockies and highlights the adventure of building a nearly impossible transcontinental railway. Recruited to realize this venture—one of the greatest engineering feats of all time—were engineers and laborers from around the world.

The film weaves together spectacular IMAX aerial cinematography, archival photographs and maps, and the potent energy and rhythms of a live steam locomotive to immerse audiences in this remarkable story from the age of steam.

- ATK Imax Theater at Clark Planetarium
- 40 Min program shown multiple times daily thru Apr 3rd
- clarkplanetarium.org/shows/rocky-mountain-express/

Evanston Train Show

August 1st thru 3rd. For more information goto:
<http://roundhouserestoration.net>

Northern Utah Division Social

October 11, 2014

Save the date!
More details to follow.
A fun family time for all is in the planning stages right now!

Railshow 2014, Idaho Falls, ID

www.ida.net/org/errhsi
Saturday & Sunday, October 11 & 12, 2014
Admission: \$3.00 per person with at least 2 cans of food
Multiple Scale Model Railroads, Swap & Commercial Dealers
Videos shown throughout the day
Modeling Contests, S Scale Layout, Trolley layout
Trains you can ride in the parking lot!
Brio Trains for the Young (and old) to play with!
Door prizes awarded each hour of the show!

ERRHSI Train Layout in the Basement

Wasatch Rails 2014

- November 7th, 8th, & 9th
- Utah State Fairpark

Step up and volunteer to help make this the most successful Train Show sponsored by the Division in many years. Contact Alan Anderson.— alan.anderson66@gmail.com. Come on, this is your division and your reputation that is on the line. Don't just stand there... lend a hand. It's fun and rewarding, I promise.

Convention Video Highlight



How many of you knew that our own Dale Angell is "Toy Man" with his own YouTube channel?



Check out the Toy Man show on the Rocky Mountain meet. Super fun!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pG39fPXb0VA>

Thanks Dale! Great recap!



[Forward To A Friend](#) | [View Online](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Report Abuse/Spam](#)

This message was sent to noreply@www.emailcontact.com.

To ensure delivery, add editor@northernutahnmra.org to your address book.



Northern Utah Division of NMRA
Meets at Pioneer Valley Hospital 3460

Pioneer Parkway
West Valley City, Utah 84120
meets 3rd Sat.

editor@northernutahnmra.org
www.northernutahnmra.org