

PROMONTORY POST

NORTHERN UTAH DIVISION - NMRA

June 2016 - Volume 4 - Issue 6

In This Issue (Click links to read the article)

- Thoughts from the Superintendent
- What Happened Last Month
- Presentation/Workshop Schedule
- Discovery Gateway Project Layout
- Division News Items
- Division Operations Group News
- Achievement Program
- Notes from Golden Spike Train Club
- Notes from South Weber Club
- 2019 NMRA Convention News
- Intermountain Train Expo
- New Division Rolling Stock
- Classifieds
- The Club Car
- Division Officers and Volunteers
- Meeting Information

Thoughts from the Superintendent

TRAINS OF THOUGHT

Model railroading is fun. Isn't that what the header in Model Railroader magazine used to say? For me, it certainly is. I think that in addition to the modeling skills one develops with continued practice, the people one meets and the friendships developed are hugely important. I would not know most of the modelers and operations people that I now know well were it not for this Division. A "benefit of the NMRA"? You bet it is a huge benefit! Through hard work by several people, the Northern Utah Division has become the largest Division in the Rocky Mountain Region. In the past year we have grown approximately 20% to 166 members. Doesn't that kind of make you wonder why our monthly events average in the high 20s to 30 people? Last month our event at the new venue, the Discovery Gateway Children's Museum, had 39 attendees. This is a record for recent events. Was it because of the clinic (Gill Bennett)? Was it the location? We are not sure, but we plan to continue with great clinics at this location. The June event will feature Rob Spangler doing some hands on scenery methods.

In July of 2019 we will host the Golden Spike National Convention of the NMRA. Believe me that date is getting very close. We need more volunteers and ideas. In July, four of us will be journeying to Indianapolis to witness their National Convention, gather more ideas for our and to promote the 2019 Salt Lake Convention. We welcome any and all of your ideas as to what we should look for and do while we are there. Please funnel your ideas through Alan Anderson (our Chair), Stan or Janet Jennings, Steve Moore or me. Your ideas are most welcome and will be considered.

So, there are my thoughts for this month, what are yours?

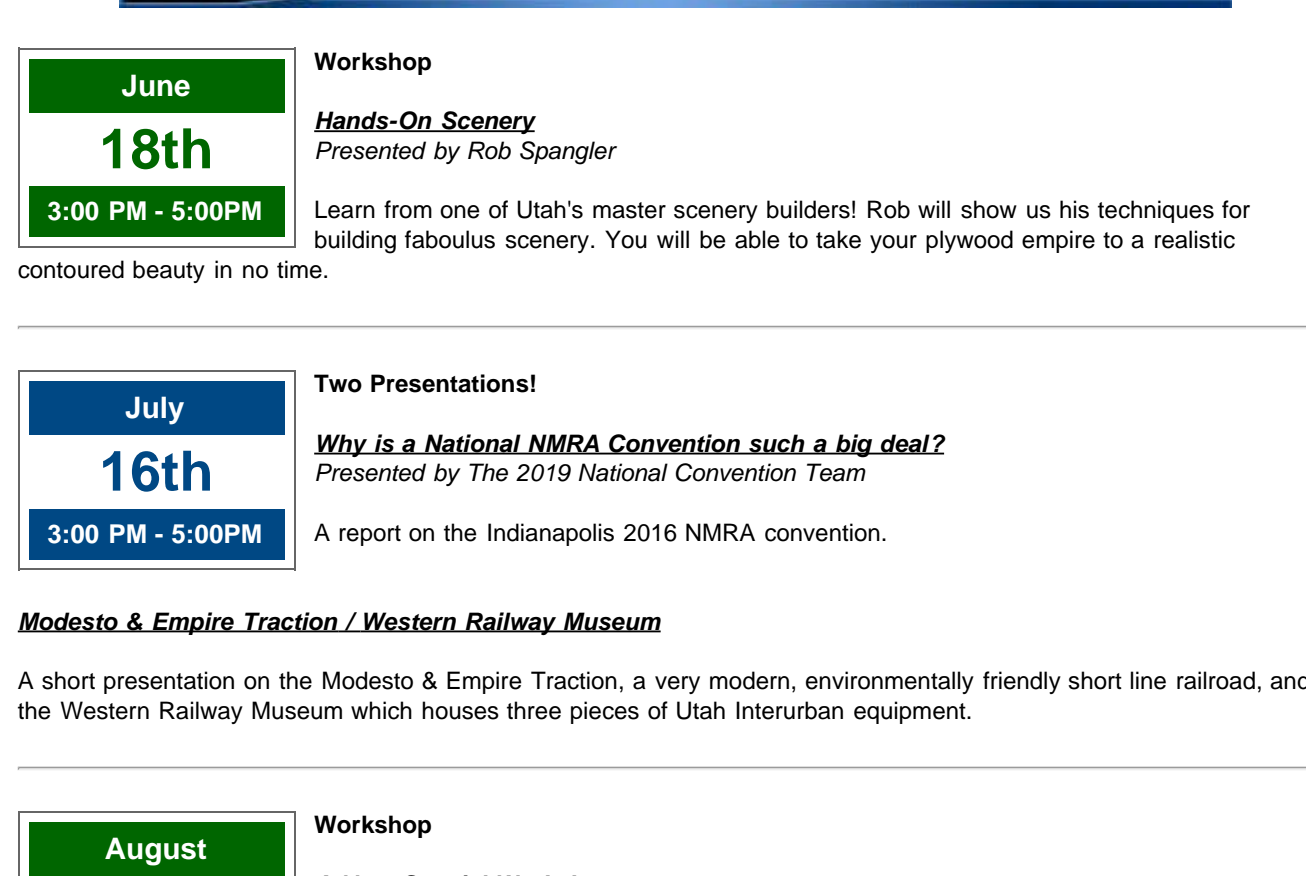
Jack Chase
Superintendent
Northern Utah Division of the NMRA
801-323-1148
jack_chase@gmail.com

[Click Here to Return to the Table of Contents](#)

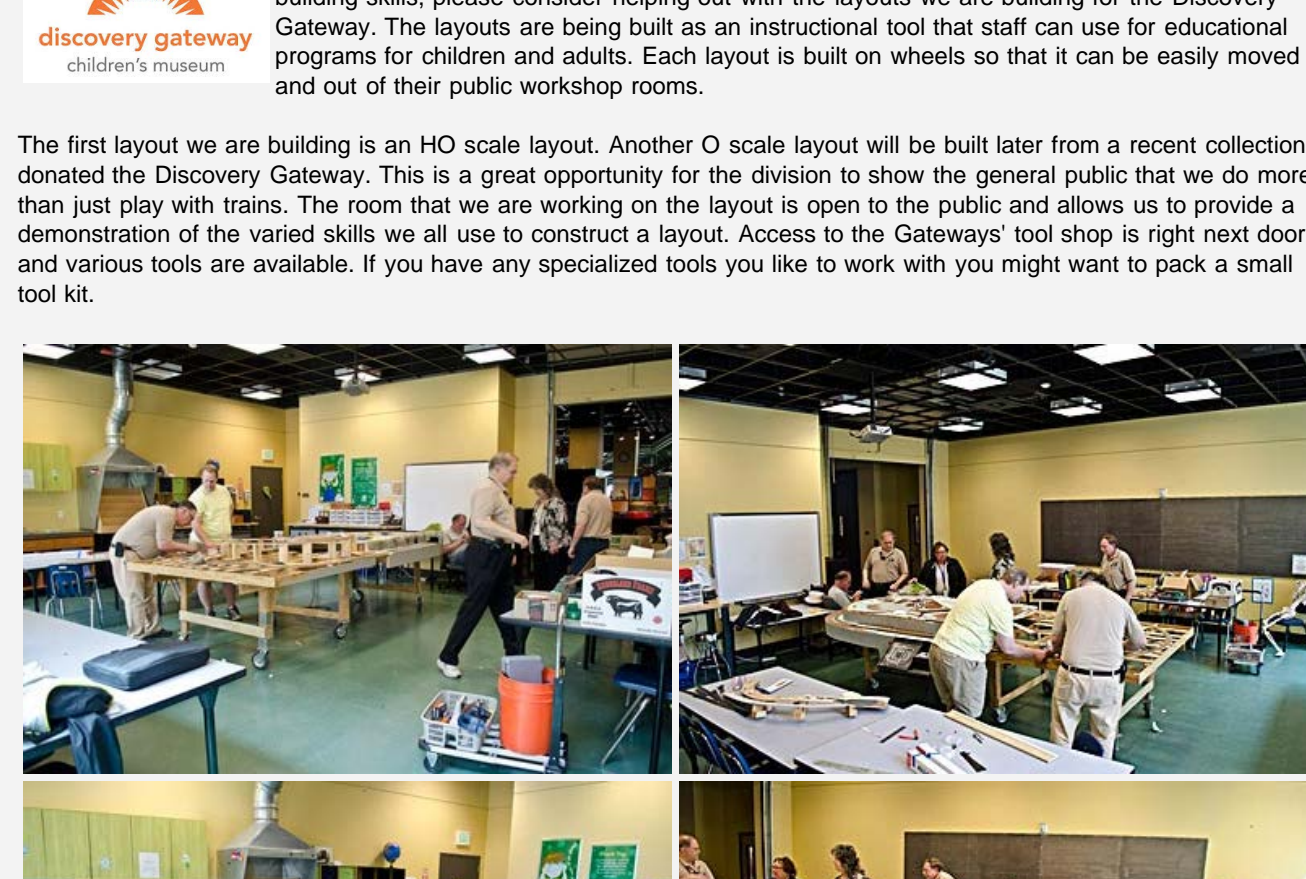
What Happened Last Month

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

The May 21st, 2016 event of the Northern Utah Division featured the entertaining and informative Gill Bennett. Gill has been painting for 30 years. During that time he has painted for private collectors, public and private businesses. He loves to paint trains, or as his friend says "A landscape with a train in it." Gill did not disappoint with his quick wit and simple ways for creating beautiful backdrops for your layout. The techniques he uses are something that will help even the most timid of us to try a painted backdrop. Using inexpensive hobby craft paints and a pre-painted sky blue sheet of Masolite, many of the participants were able create some very nice backdrops. Thanks Gill for a very enjoyable afternoon.



A big THANK YOU to the staff at the Discovery Gateway Children's Museum for allowing us to host our monthly events at their facility! The meeting portion of each event is being held in the theater on the second floor just above the first floor entrance. This is a nice big area that will allow us to spread out and be comfortable. The projector for presentations is very bright so that we will no longer have to turn the lights out to see the screen. The large tables and ample seating are another great bonus! Access to restrooms is located in the same room so that if you need to take a quick break you won't have to go far. The 'get down and dirty' portions of an event are being held in the Gateway's workshop on the third floor. Don't worry there are elevators on every level to make access easy. Not sure where the theater or workshop is? Just ask any of the helpful, courteous staff where you need to go and they will be happy to help you.



[Click Here to Return to the Table of Contents](#)

Learn Something New

PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

June 18th
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Workshop
Hands-On Scenery
Presented by Rob Spangler
Learn from one of Utah's master scenery builders! Rob will show us his techniques for building fabulous scenery. You will be able to take your plywood empire to a realistic contoured beauty in no time.

July 16th
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Two Presentations!
Why is a National NMRA Convention such a big deal?
Presented by The 2019 National Convention Team
A report on the Indianapolis 2016 NMRA Convention.

Modesto & Empire Tractor / Western Railway Museum
A short presentation on the Modesto & Empire Tractor, a very modern, environmentally friendly short line railroad, and the Western Railway Museum which houses three pieces of Utah Interurban equipment.

August 20th
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Workshop
A Very Special Workshop
Presented by Lee Nicholas
Stay tuned to this space for a great event.

September 17th
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Workshop
Hands on locomotive lighting
Presented by John Laser
Learn tips and techniques for installing lighting in your locomotives. John will also be doing some basic soldering techniques.

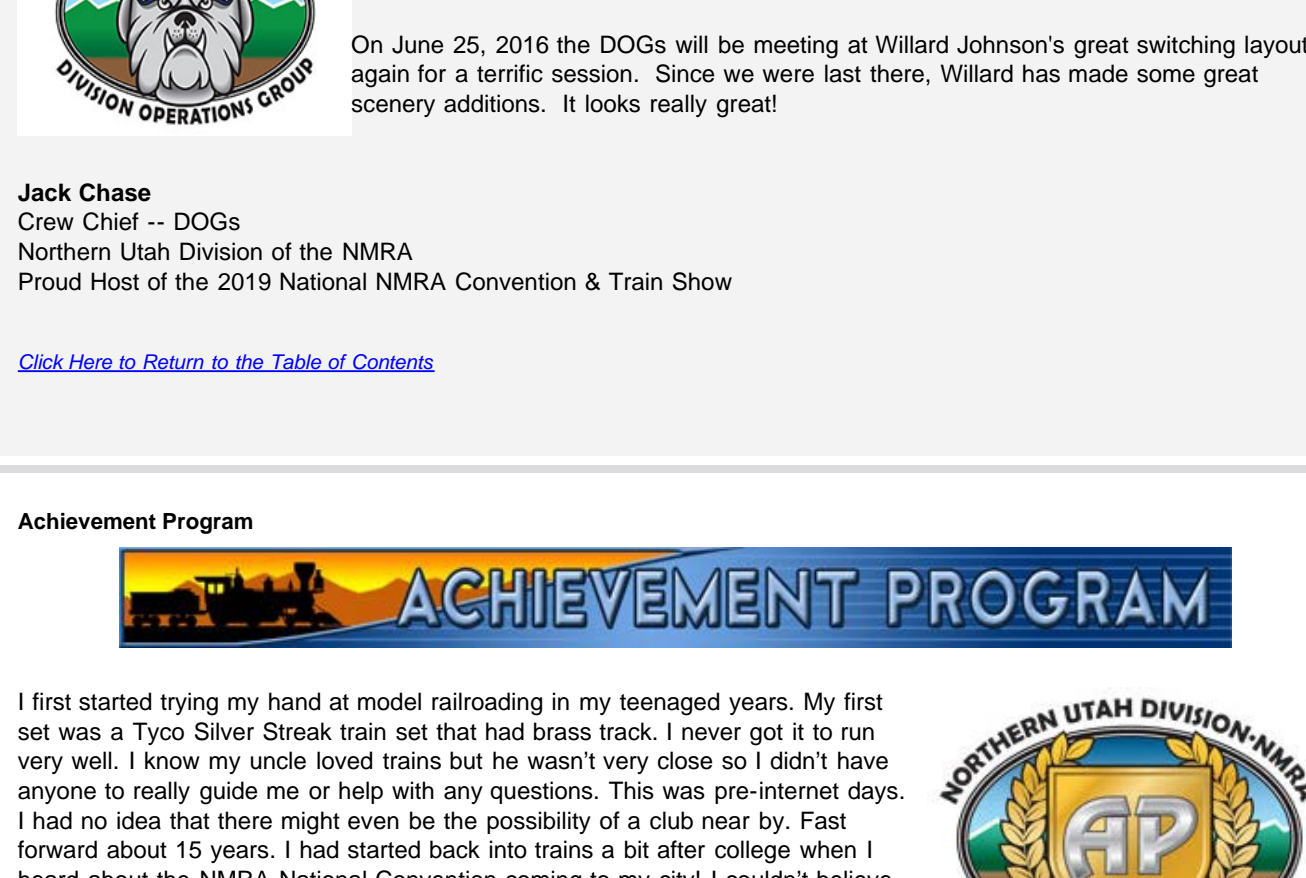
[Click Here to Return to the Table of Contents](#)

Discovery Gateway Project Layout

UNDER THE HOOD

For those that would like to get some real hands on experience or chance to sharpen your layout building skills, please consider helping out with the layouts we are building for the Discovery Gateway. The layouts are being built as an instructional tool that staff can use for educational programs for children and adults. Each layout is built on wheels so that it can be easily moved in and out of our public workshop rooms.

The first layout we are building is an HO scale layout. Another O scale layout will be built later from a recent collection donated the Discovery Gateway. This is a great opportunity for the division to show the general public that we do more than just play with trains. The room that we are working on the layout is open to the public and allows us to provide a demonstration of the varied skills we all use to construct a layout. Access to the Gateways' tool shop is right next door and various tools are available. If you have any specialized tools you like to work with you might want to pack a small tool kit.



We need someone to repair a section of track and someone to make a custom curve bridge. This can be an AP project with several submitting work and we will pick one to put on the layout. Work sessions are scheduled for every Tuesday from 10 am to 12 pm and 12 pm to 4 pm. The first meeting of the month will be held on the third Saturday of the month. Please contact Blaine at blhobbs1466@gmail.com or by phone at 801-580-1459 for more information and to confirm the work session time.

Blaine Holbrook
Director at Large, Northern Division, NMRA
blhobbs1466@gmail.com

[Click Here to Return to the Table of Contents](#)

Division News Items

DIVISION NEWS ITEMS

On May 14th the division participated in the Ogden Heritage Festival at the Union Station. Along with other cultural programs for the public, the division displayed the Engine Drag Races and two timesaver layouts for the public to view and have an opportunity to get a hands on experience with model railroading. The festival was well attended by the public and gave us an opportunity to share our hobby with the general public. The Hostlers and the Golden Spike American Flyer Train Club both brought layouts for display. The South Weber Model Railroad Club provided train rides in the court yard area.

