



PROMONTORY POST

NORTHERN UTAH DIVISION - NMRA

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ALL ABOARD FOR THE EVENT!

The May Monthly Event
will held at the
Redwood Recreation Center!

Saturday
May 18th, 2024
10:00 AM - Noon



CLINIC SCHEDULE

May 18th • 10:00AM - NOON

Presentation

Custom Signal Systems

Presented by Richard Piccuilla

Your model railroad layout is custom-built. Your signals can be, too. Custom Signal Systems has been manufacturing model railroad signals since 2006. Each signal is assembled by hand to your specifications using custom-designed printed signal components complemented with brass or photo-etched metal detail parts.

JUNE MEETING

PLEASE NOTE:

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING
at the Redwood Recreation Center for June!
Our June meeting will be canceled due to the Rocky Mountain Region Convention being held on June 5th - 8th at Stadler Rail here in Salt Lake.

TRAINS OF THOUGHT

There's so much more to this hobby than just "building trains in your basement!" Sometimes it's spending time with friends in their basement! Here we are at Lowell's again. This time passing him off on his Civil requirements. With the completion of this certificate, he only needs one more to achieve MMR! (More info about that in the Achievement Program article.)



Less than a month to go until the Region Convention! Don't wait to register:

<https://geoffreykarter.regfox.com/2024-rocky-mountain-region-convention>

You can also go to the Division homepage: <https://www.northernutahnmra.org/> and the first link in the header will take you there. The Stadler Open House on Saturday is open to the public but if you want to go to any of the clinics, layout tours, ops sessions or model contest, you need to register for the convention. More info about the model contest and special categories can be found in the Region newsletter, Callboard: <https://sites.google.com/view/callboardspring2024/the-contest-chair-2>

This will be a good opportunity to renew friendships, and make new ones, with those who are part of our region who we don't get to see that often. It's fun to see others than our normal daily (or monthly) associations and it's another way we can enjoy the journey together!

Jim Wanlass, MMR #585

Superintendent

Northern Utah Division of the NMRA

jamestowntrains@gmail.com

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

All About Adhesives and Paint

Presented by Bill Johnson and Blaine Holbrook

Bill and Blaine combined clinics on helping us to understand the complexity of adhesives, body putty, adhesive tape for masking and paint primers. Blaine identified the various types of plastics/wood that modelers generally work with and gave his recommendation for the best type glue to use.

With years of experience in the painting industry, Bill provided us some good info on the right tape to use for masking our models. He also gave some great tips for the best kind of primer to use along with other painting recommendations. **GREAT clinic gentleman!**





You can view past clinic information at the link below
<https://www.northernutahnmra.org/monthly-events/past-clinics/>

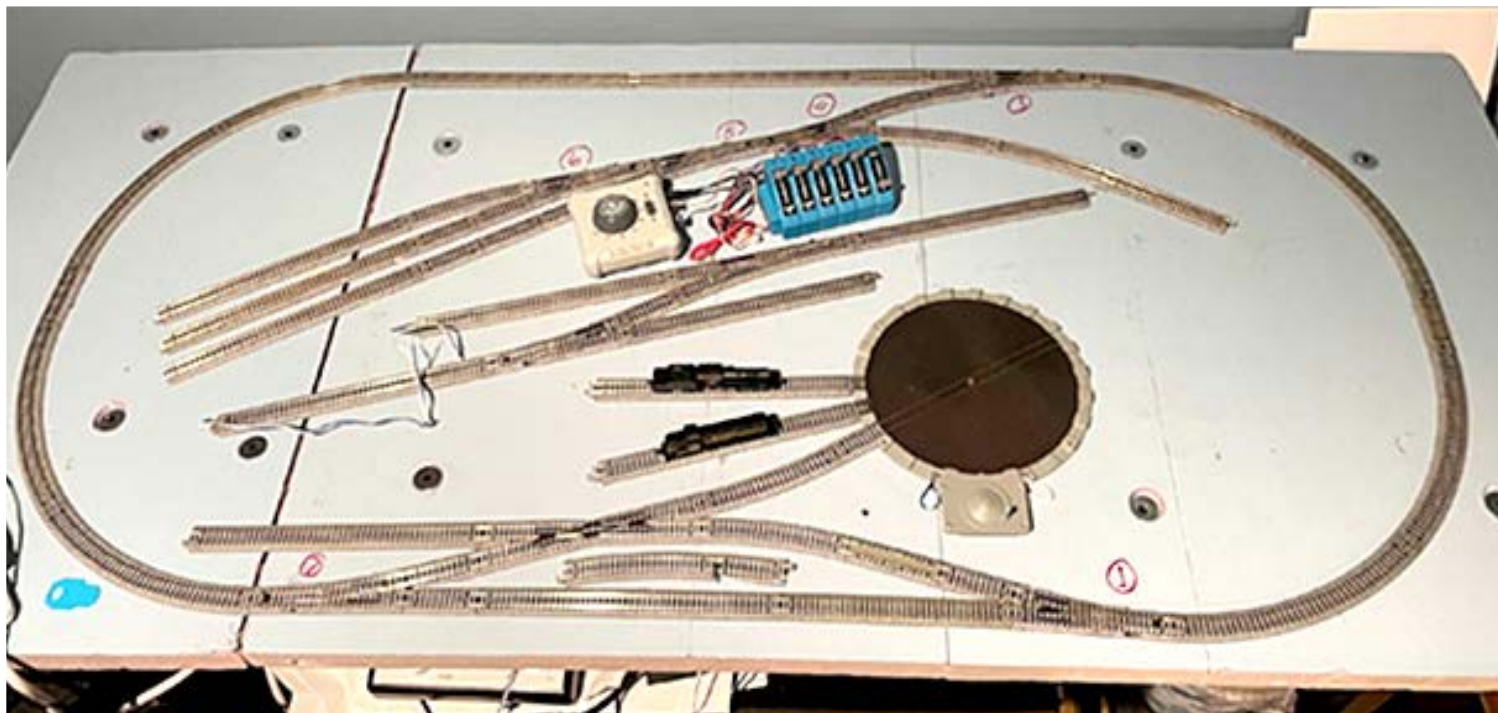
AP PROGRAM

We have a couple of guys really going strong at passing off requirements for their AP! I received more certificates in the mail a few days after the last meeting so you'll have to wait until next month to see pictures of those.

In the meantime, Lowell was trying to figure out what he would do for his last certificate. He has done scenery in the past but doesn't have those modules anymore for us to evaluate. His home layout is On30 Dead Rail. While there is electrical work involved in running Dead Rail, the beauty of it is you don't have to wire up track and worry about gaps, polarity, etc. Most of the requirements for the Electrical Certificate don't really apply to Dead Rail users. When I asked if someone could get the Electrical Certificate using Dead Rail the answer was: Yes, if he completes comparable options to replace the ones listed, then he can earn the certificate the same as anyone else. Just provide a rationale for why you believe the alternate options are comparable in spirit, complexity, and skill required relative to the existing requirements. We have been working on "Dead rail" options so welcome any input and thought.



One thing Lowell wanted to do was to accomplish his MMR while still Rocky Mountain Region President. The board meeting where he steps down is May 21st so he didn't have a lot of time. Another thing he kept coming back to (which I have read time and time again) is "don't make it harder than it has to be," and "don't read into it more than is there." Lowell also models in N scale so he decided to do the requirements for the Electrical Certificate using a small N scale layout. It doesn't have to "look pretty" - it just needs to run.



Lowell also made some creative choices in doing all of the requirements. For example, the crossover, seen in the middle, didn't need to be part of the layout. He just had to make it run - the electrical components need to work. He also needed to show diagrams and schematics for all of the requirements which were all done by hand. He was able to show that you don't need to be good on the computer to pass things off. There are a few other requirements off layout that were also included. While at first he had hesitated to go this route, he has expressed how fun it is running this little layout! The paperwork has been submitted for Lowell's 7th certificate and his MMR status. I will let you know when it is official. Until then great work and thanks to all who have helped!

I have found that in many cases the items required in the Achievement Program by themselves do not make one a "Master" at anything but rather show competency in a certain task or area. Then one can explore further, if they desire, to excel in that thing. Otherwise, the real goal of the AP is to give one a well rounded view and experience with model railroading as well as interacting with fellow modelers to give each other advice and share expertise with one another. This truly helps us to enjoy the journey together!

Jim Wanlass, MMR #585

AP Chairman

Northern Utah Division of the NMRA

jamestowntrains@gmail.com



Looks like an interesting paint scheme to replicate!

Member Spotlight: Larry Carter

By Lowell Didas
Membership Chair

Larry was introduced to model railroading by his dad who, on his 16th birthday, purchased him an N Scale train set made by Aurora. To this day, Larry still has the train set.

Larry and his dad would set up a 4 x 8 sheet of plywood on sawhorses in their front room and lay track. If anyone wanted to watch t.v. they would have to scrunch down and watch it from under the plywood. Obviously, Larry's mom wasn't too happy. Larry joined the Ophir, Tintic and Western Model Railroad Club (OT&W) at least 35 years ago, serving for over 14 years. He is still a very active member of OT&W, currently building a display for Evanston 24 in Free-Mo N. He also displays both N-Track and T-Track. He has just been elected to the Rocky Mountain Region Board of Directors. As Larry likes to say, "JUST LOOKIN' FOR NEW FRIENDS."



Member Spotlight: Rusty, old, broken down, Iron Man

By Lowell Didas
Membership Chair

When this ex-super hero was 7 years old, he was sucked into a passing speeding passenger train. Broken collar bone and bruised hip. That started an interest in trains that continues to this day. That same year, the Disney movie, the Great Locomotive Chase, came out and train interests grew, including a #1 on bucket list, to see the star of that movie, the locomotive "The General." A little Civil War 4-4-0. Since then, he has built several HO layouts and N Scale layouts. Currently into narrow gauge dead rail. He does have a major distraction, he likes to build structures, which keeps him from laying track, which keeps him from playing with trains.



Oh, and he has been known to do some really dumb stuff.



Just a reminder for everyone to check their expiration date on membership NMRA cards. Please don't let them lapse! You should receive a membership renewal form in the mail months before your expiration. If you can't find it or didn't get it, you can always go on-line and renew there. Below is the link to NMRA website page.

<https://nmra.org/membership-application-and-renewal>

ROCKY MTN REGION CONVENTION

2024 Rocky Mountain Regional Convention

All Aboard!! It's time for the Rocky Mountain Region Golden Spike Limited 2024 in Salt Lake City, Utah on June 5th through 8th. (We will have a special excursion on the Heber Valley Railroad on Wednesday, June 5th at Noon for those desiring to kick off the convention with this activity. See <https://www.hebertrain.com/>



What is unique this year is the Northern Utah Division has partnered with Stadler Rail which builds light rail vehicles around the world and we will be inside their facility for the model contest, clinics, model contest, and a train show! How cool is that! Stadler Rail is located just west of Salt Lake City and just off I-80. You can see what they do and learn more about their facility at https://stadlerrail.com/en/about-us/locations/stadler_us_inc/26/

We will have self-guided layout tours each day on Thursday and Friday, a self-guided trip to the Golden Spike National Historic Site, and an op session on Lee Nicholas' Utah Colorado Western on Saturday! There is an op session each night, one at Bob & Karin Gerald's Milwaukee Road, a remarkable N-scale basement layout, and Doug Jolley's DRGW 3rd Division in Sn3! We've designed the evening op sessions for our out of town guests and are first-come, first-served. We hope you'll come join us! Watch our website at <https://www.northernutahnmra.org/> to register for the convention and have new adventures added. You will need to reserve your space for an op session when you register for the convention. Once the spots are full, they are full.

We will have embroidered polo shirts, hats, and mugs available for those interested. Mugs are \$9.99, hats are \$19.99, and polos start at \$32.49.

Just a note: Stadler Rail is a manufacturing facility and the rooms are not all together, nor on the same floor. Their staff will be gainfully working on Thursday and part fo the day on Friday. There will be walking involved, stairs involved, and a few freight elevators. There will be walking involved...It looks like I already said that. Bring your walking shoes and get your steps in.

Hotels: (based on website information provided by the hotels)

Hampton Inn & Suites - 307 North Admiral Byrd Road, Salt Lake City, 801-530-0088

- Free WiFi, breakfast, free parking, ADA, outdoor pool, smoke-free
- Checkin 3:00p, checkout 11:00a
- ~1.9 miles from Stadler

DoubleTree by Hilton - 5151 Wiley Post Way, Salt Lake City - 801-539-1515

- Free Wifi, breakfast, free parking, ADA, bar, smoke-free
- Checkin 4:00p, Checkout Noon
- ~2.5 miles from Stadler

Hyatt Place Salt Lake Airport - 52 Tommy Thompson Rd, Salt Lake City - 801-363-1400

- Free WiFi, breakfast, free parking, bar, restaurant, smoke-free
- Checkin 3:00p, Checkout 10a
- ~3.3 miles from Stadler

There are other nearby hotels. Since we are not holding the convention at a hotel, we do not have a book of rooms for the convention. Pick your favorite hotel near the facility or a favorite hotel chain you are comfortable with. For those desiring, Stadler has offered space for you to park and “camp” overnight in your vehicles (no tents) at no cost. However, there are no facilities for hookup to water, sewer, gas or electricity services. The building will be closed at 7pm each night. This lot is also an unsecured parking lot area. This map below shows the hotels that are close to the Stadler facility.



The Northern Utah Division looks forward to meeting with all of you all this June for this unique experience!



MEETING INFORMATION

Utah's center for model railroading excellence!
Join us every third Saturday at the
Redwood Recreation Center
3060 Lester Street
West Valley City, UT 84119
from 10:00 AM to Noon

