



June 2024 - Volume 12- Issue 6

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**There is NO meeting this month!**

Our next meeting will be  
 Saturday  
 July 20th, 2024  
 10:00 AM - Noon  
 See you then!

# TRAINS OF THOUGHT

There's so much more to this hobby than just "building trains in your basement!" I was watching a show where the dad said, "Here, you take a selfie of me." and the mom replied, "I don't think you know what a selfie is." This is one of those situations. Keith took a selfie of me with Geoff and the Stadler CEO Martin Ritter running an HO model of one of their trains on the OT&W modular layout.

We had a great Rocky Mountain Region Convention at the Stadler US facility in Salt Lake City. Alan, along with Bob, Kevin, Geoff and a few others, organized lots to do and see. One train ride, 9 clinics, 13 layout tours, an ops session, model contest, barbeque with the Stadler employees, mini train show with the Stadler Open House and Keynote by the Stadler CEO Martin Ritter. I entered a number of items in the contest (it was easy to bring them) but it was Cameron who took the highest award in the NMRA judging points with his scratchbuilt boxcab locomotive!

Great job! It was also the highest number of entries at one of our regional conventions since Covid. We had 36 local members attending/volunteering plus 11 NMRA members from out of town.

Last year at the Open House/Train Show we helped double what their Open House number was to get 800 people there. When they first started doing it they only had about 40! They wanted to double it again this year and I was a bit skeptical that we could get that many people but the total number was 1,660 this year! With Dale's help and his Toyman TV YouTube channel, plus some additional marketing, we were able to achieve the goal. Next year they hope to double their building space and they want the train show to be even larger! I'm looking forward to that!

It was a crazy few days but a good crazy. Don't forget, no regular meeting this month - we did enough to last several months.... But we will see you again in July, if not before. I want to thank everyone who came and helped at the convention/show as well as just showed up and that way we can enjoy the journey together!

**Jim Wanlass, MMR #585**

Superintendent

Northern Utah Division of the NMRA

jamestowntrains@gmail.com





## Custom Signal Systems

*Presented by Richard Picuilla*

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. Richard gave a detailed presentation on the what, where, and why of trackside signals. He explained the different types of system options that you can use to power and show different indication. Starting with “Route Indication”, which is the simplest using relays like an Atlas #200 Snap Relay or something similar. Next was the “Next-Signal Indication”. This requires additional equipment and some programming. Azatrax provides a way to do this without the programming. The “Block Occupancy/Route Indication” requires more equipment and extensive work/. Richard is more than happy to help you set up your signals with the great products he sells. You can contact him at 801-664-1749 or go to his website at <https://customsignalsystems.com/>



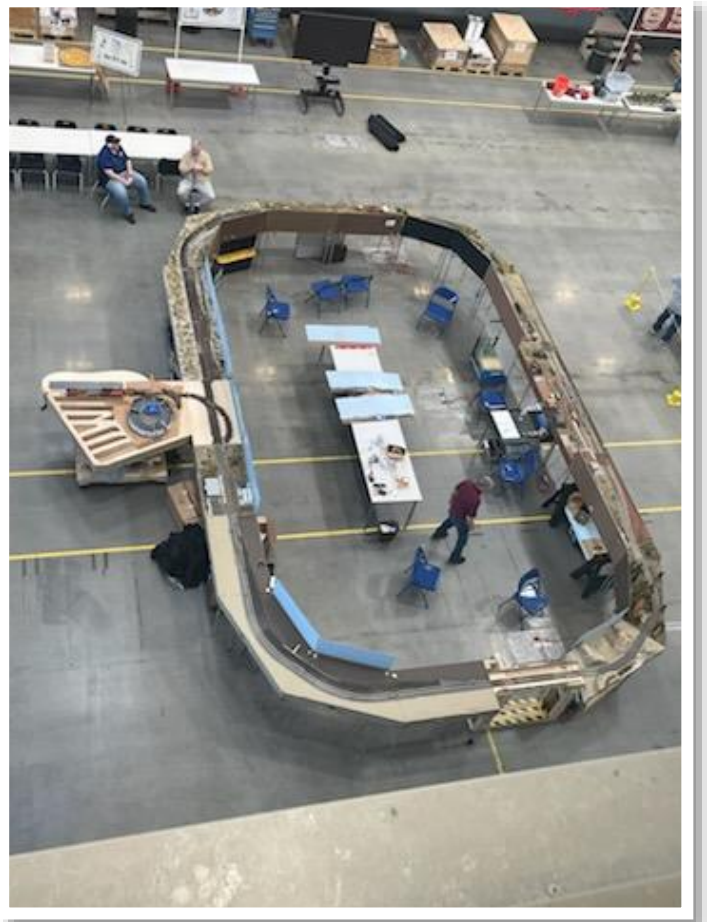
## 2024 Regional Convention Update

I wanted to say **thank you** for the hard work and time involved to put on a simple yet great convention and Train Show. I think it was relaxed, had no time pressure, inexpensive for modelers and region attendees. It's obvious that Martin Ritter wants us back and we may have other opportunities with their new building more than twice their size.

I had a great visit with Justin after Martin's keynote and he is excited to work with us in the future. They had their counter device sitting on the table as I left and it showed 1,582 at about 3:30. I hope they started at 0000.

I'd like to see if we can get together later this month and discuss what worked, what didn't work, what can we do better. Think about ways to improve for next time. I'll touch base with Gary at RMR and we'll do it again.

Thank you,  
Alan Anderson  
Convention Chairman







Layouts



Visitors

"OPS" Sessions



Heber Valley



Clinics



# Awards from the convention model contest



Regional President Gary Myers presented the awards



Jim Wanlass received the Pioneer Award.



Jim Wanlass received the Best Representation of Utah Railroading Award.



Stu Jones received the Fred Carlson Award for the 3rd highest NMRA score in the contest.



Stu Jones received the Duane Miller Award for the 2nd highest NMRA score in the contest.

**Cameron Lafleur was presented the Summit Award  
for the highest NMRA score in the contest**







Geoff Carter was recognized for his work in for the new Region shirts sporting the updated RMR logo.



Rick Luther was recognized for his design of the new RMR logo.

**Listed below are the winners in the modeling contest that were either judge for NMRA Merit Award or the Popular Vote.**

### Steam Locomotive Category

**Tom George**

1st Place - NMRA Judged  
1st Place-Popular Vote

### Diesel Locomotive Category

**Cameron Lafleur**

1st Place - NMRA Judged  
2nd Place-Popular Vote

**Jim Wanlass**

2nd Place - NMRA Judged  
1st Place-Popular Vote

### Passenger Car Category

**Cameron Lafluer**

1st Place - NMRA Judged  
1st Place-Popular Vote

### Freight Car Category

**Jim Wanlass**

1st Place - NMRA Judged  
1st Place-Popular Vote

**Jim Wanlass**

2nd Place - NMRA Judged  
2nd Place-Popular Vote

### Diorama

**Lowell Didas**

1st Place-Popular Vote

### Online Structure Category

**Stu Jones**

1st Place - NMRA Judged  
2nd Place-Popular Vote

**Stu Jones**

2nd Place - NMRA Judged

**Jim Wanlass**

3rd Place - NMRA Judged  
1st Place-Popular Vote

**Stu Jones**

3rd Place-Popular Vote

### Offline Structure Category

**Gary Myers**

1st Place - NMRA Judged  
3rd Place-Popular Vote

**Jim Wanlass**

2nd Place - NMRA Judged

**Jim Wanlass**

3rd Place - NMRA Judged  
1st Place-Popular Vote

**Geoffrey Carter**

2nd Place-Popular Vote

### Model Photography

**Jim Wanlass**

1st Place-Popular Vote



# ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM



**Jim Wanlass, MMR #585**  
AP Chairman  
Northern Utah Division of the NMRA  
jamestowntrains@gmail.com

Congratulations to Lowell Didas for earning his Certificate of Achievement in the Master Builders Structures!



Congratulations to Doug Jolley for earning Merit Awards for Structures. Plus, Certificates of Achievement for Master Builders Cars, Scenery, and Prototype Models!





The Northern Utah Division, National Model Railroad Association, is proud to offer a line of Utah Oil Company (UTOCO) Tank Cars manufactured by InterMountain Railway Company in HO Scale. These highly detailed cars come with metal wheelsets and Kaydee Couplers. If you remember, these unique historically relevant cars were to be offered as Convention Cars for the 2019 NMRA National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. However, due to hiccups in the Chinese supply line at the time, we were not available at that time. We have coordinated with the InterMountain Railway Company to produce these cars as a fundraiser for our Division and offer them for sale at \$50.00 for a single car, \$45.00 for two cars, and \$40.00 for three or more cars. Contact Geoff Carter at [gkc4502192@gmail.com](mailto:gkc4502192@gmail.com) for more information.

## History

Utah Oil Company was incorporated on June 3, 1901, and was the first commercially successful petroleum company in the state. In 1917, half interest in Utah Oil was bought by Midwest Refining Co. Standard Oil of Indiana took ownership of Midwest Oil in July 1921, including Midwest's half ownership of Utah Oil Company (UTOCO). Standard later acquired 75 percent of Utah Oil, and in the 1950s, that percentage was increased to 100 percent. UTOCO relied upon crude oil delivered by Union Pacific in tank cars until a pipeline was built between Salt Lake City and Wyoming oil fields in 1939. Utah Oil Company was owned as a subsidiary of Standard Oil of Indiana. In 1946 when the parent company decided on a common logo, combining the oval shape from subsidiary AMOCO and the torch from Indiana Standard. Utah Oil Refining became UTOCO. UTOCO became a familiar brand of gasoline throughout Utah and Idaho, and later, in eastern Nevada, western Wyoming, and eastern Oregon and Washington. In late 1960, the parent company, also known as Indiana Standard, decided to tweak its marketing strategy. The subsidiaries AMOCO and UTOCO became the American brand. In 1974, the American brand was changed to AMOCO. <sup>[1]</sup>

[1] <https://utahrails.net/industries/oil.php>



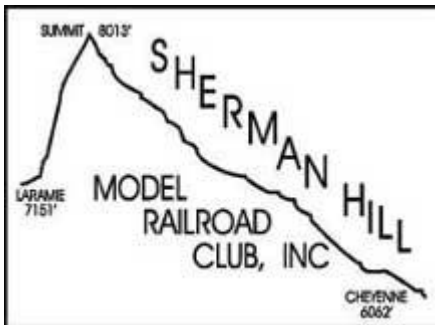
## GET ONE BEFORE THEY'RE GONE!

We have a few unspoken for HO Scale 40' Bamberger Wood side boxcars from Accurail. You can have one of your very own limited edition boxcars for \$45.00. If you buy more than one you will pay only \$40.00 for each car. For those buying more than one, you will get a decal sheet that allows you to renumber the cars.



Drop a note to Geoff Carter at [gkc450219@gmail.com](mailto:gkc450219@gmail.com) and he will bring them to the next Norther Utah Division Event. Credit card is preferred, but we will take cash (exact change only). This will be the last run of these local railroad gems!

## UPCOMING TRAIN SHOWS



### Cheyenne Railroad Heritage Days

#### Sherman Hill Train Show

June 29th & 30th, 2024

Event Center at Archer

3801 Archer Pkwy

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009

<https://www.shermanhillrails.org/>



### 26th Annual Evanston Roundhouse Festival

August 2, 3 & 4

Roundhouse & Railyards

1440 Main Street

Evanston, Wyoming 82930

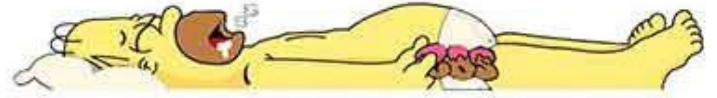
Friday 4pm - 8pm

Saturday 9am - 6pm

Sunday 10am - 2:30pm



## FREE RR Graffiti, Signs, art work



I have hundreds of prototype railroad graffiti, signs, and artwork all ready to be used for signs, decals, etc. I would like to make them available to the Division members. For the most part, they are all cleaned up and ready for use. These are all from real rolling stock, buildings, RR yards, and signs. If anyone would like to have some of them or see what I have that they could use, just E-Mail me or give me a call. Again, those shown are just samples. I have tons, old time, current, and everything in between but all of them are the real deal. Remember all of these are FREE!

Steve Moore, 801 694-8394

[kiss@kissmethodinc.com](mailto:kiss@kissmethodinc.com)



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>

Also check NMRA home page for membership discounts through the NMRA Partnership Program. You can get discounts at over 30 vendors including Micro-Mart, Green Frog Productions, MinuteMan Scale Models, Motrak Models, MRC (Model Rectifier Corporation) and many others.

The discounts could add up to what a years membership costs!

<https://nmra.org/partnerships>





The Northern Utah Division is home to many outstanding modeling clubs, in every scale from Z to Live Steam. You are sure to find at least one of them that will meet your needs, so drop them a line and join the fun!

Contact information is the most recent we have on file. If you have a railroad modeling club in the state of Utah, we would be happy to include your information here. Just send us the name of your club, the scales you support in your club, and how prospective members may contact your club.

**Color Country Model Railroad Club** - This multi-scale club is located in the Southern Utah Division in St. George, Utah. Contact Dave Merrill by email at: [professordavemerrill@gmail.com](mailto:professordavemerrill@gmail.com). Visit their website at <http://colorcountrytrains.org/sud/>

**Color Country T-Trak Club** - This N Scale club, located in the Southern Utah Division in St. George, Utah, uses the T-Trak modular system. Contact the club by email at: [ColorCountryTTrak@gmail.com](mailto:ColorCountryTTrak@gmail.com). Visit their website at <http://www.ccttc.info>

**Golden Spike American Flyer Train Club** - This S scale club meets the third Friday of each month at various club member homes. Their newsletter contains the time and place. Call Jim Buckley by phone at: (801) 252-1921 or by email at: [jamesbuckley7@comcast.com](mailto:jamesbuckley7@comcast.com). Visit their website at <http://www.gsaftc.com/about.htm>

**Golden Spike Train Club of Utah** - This HO 100% NMRA club meets the second Saturday of each Month 10:00am - 11:00am (summer) 12:00pm - 4:00pm (remainder of year), at the 132 S 800 W SLC UT in the Sugar Space Arts. Contact Jon Thomas, Treasurer at [Thomas.JT@Yahoo.com](mailto:Thomas.JT@Yahoo.com) for more information. Out of the area memberships are available. Visit their website at <http://www.goldenspiketrainclubutah.org/home.html>

**Great Basin Lego Train Club** - Adult fans of LEGO. Meeting times and club info is posted on their website. Contact Reed Cowan by email at: [gbltc@aol.com](mailto:gbltc@aol.com). Visit their website at <http://greatbasinlrc.utahlug.org/>

**HOn3 Club of Northern Utah** - Specializing in local narrow gauge railroads in HOn3, this group meets informally and has a layout in Grantsville. Contact Fred Voelcker by email at: [fred.voelcker@gmail.com](mailto:fred.voelcker@gmail.com)

**Hostlers Model Railroad Club** - This Multi-scale club, including live steam, meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at Ogden's historic Union Station. Contact Mike Murphy by USPS mail at: 752 W 4375 South, Riverdale, UT 84405 or by phone at: (801) 394-4952. Visit their website at <http://hostlers.org>

**O Scale Guys** - An O and On3 scale club. Contact Steve Strebel by phone at: (801) 973-0367.

**Ophir, Tintic and Western** - This club models in HO and N and meets at the SCERA Theater Boardroom (745 South State Street, Orem) at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday every month. For more information contact HO-VP Mike Lambert, [mlambert54@comcast.net](mailto:mlambert54@comcast.net) 303-919-4703 - N-VP Chris Cox, [coxcl1@gmail.com](mailto:coxcl1@gmail.com) 801-897-2269. Visit their website at <http://www.otwtrainclub.com/>

**Railway & Locomotive Historical Society (Golden Spike Chapter)** - An historically oriented group of researchers and preservationists, the Golden Spike chapter of the R&LHS meets every second Tuesday at noon at Two Bit Street Cafe on 25th Street in Ogden and is presently in the midst of the restoration of the D&RGW #223. Visit their website at <http://www.save223.org>

**South Weber Model Railroad Club** - This 1-1/2" club runs trains every 3rd Saturday & Sunday at South Weber Canyon Meadows Park. I-84 exit #85, two blocks south, two blocks east. Visit their website at <http://southweberrr.webs.com/>

**Utah Free-MO** - A travelling HO Modular group conforming to the Free-MO standard. Contact Mike Nelson by email at: [i\\_m\\_loco@hotmail.com](mailto:i_m_loco@hotmail.com)

**Utah Free-moN** - We subscribe to the N scale Free Mo standards. You can find us on Facebook at Utah Free-moN.

**Utah Garden Railway Society** - A "G scale" group dedicated to the art of Garden Railways. Contact Lynn Stringham, President (UGRS) by USPS mail at: 4464 S 4100 West, West Haven, UT 84401

**Utah Large Scale Society** - A G scale group that meets in various member's homes. Contact Stan White by phone at: (801) 546-4085 or by USPS mail at: 920 N 1550 East, Layton, UT 84040

**Utah Live Steamers** - Our railroad is at Shay Park, 400 West Aspen Hills Blvd, Saratoga Springs, UT which encompasses 12 acres. The key feature is the abandoned railroad grade of the Salt Lake & Western Railroad. Our track gauge is 7.5" and we have a new, beautiful 1.6" scale locomotive to pull twice as many cars as before. Rides are 1st and 3rd Saturday of the Summer months. Contact Mike at utahlivesteamers@gmail.com or watch Facebook for event listings. <https://www.facebook.com/cmry260/>

**Utah Train Collectors Association** - Primarily 3-rail O gauge, though other scales are represented. Promotes model railroading in Northern Utah. Meets the last Thursday of each month. Contact Kent Silver (Club President) by email at: webmaster@utahtca.com. Visit their website at <http://utahtca.com/default.htm>

**Wasatch N Scale Model Railroad Club** - For contact info visit their website at [wasatchnscale.org](http://wasatchnscale.org)



### Northern Utah Division Officers

- Superintendent ..... Jim Wanlass
- Assistant Superintendent ..... Blaine Holbrook
- Treasurer ..... Jerry Bragg
- Director-at-Large ..... Kevin Anderson
- Director-at-Large ..... Mike Dean
- Director-at-Large ..... Geoff Carter
- Director-at-Large ..... George Bell

### Committee Positions

- Advertising/Marketing ... **Looking for a volunteer**
- Convention Chairman .... Mike Dean/Geoff Carter
- Achievement Program ..... Jim Wanlass
- Clinic Coordinator ..... **Looking for a volunteer**
- Layout Tours ..... Bob Connolly
- Division Librarian: ..... Robert Arnesen
- Secretary: ..... Carolyn Chase
- Newsletter Editor: ..... Rick Luther
- Membership Chair Person ..... Lowell Didas



**Website:**

[www.northernutahnmra.org/](http://www.northernutahnmra.org/)

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/groups/nutahnmra/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/nutahnmra/)



**Website:**

[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/NMRA.org](http://www.facebook.com/NMRA.org)



# 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

