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In the Herald

Next Meeting.....	1
Upcoming Clinics for 2019.....	1
Upcoming Tool Times for 2019.....	1
Upcoming Show 'n Tell Themes for 2019.....	1
Meeting Notes.....	2
From the Editor.....	2
Clinic.....	2
Swap Table.....	2
I'm Not Cheap, I'm Frugal.....	2
Tool Time.....	2
Show & Tell.....	3
URLs of the Month.....	4
Upcoming Events.....	4
Badges.....	4
Modules.....	5
Auction 2019.....	5
JMRI Clinic.....	6
Trackside.....	7

Next Meeting

Our next Division meeting will be Thursday, April 4, 2019, at Holy Love Lutheran Church, South Chambers Road at 7PM. **Note new time.**

Upcoming Clinic for 2019

April - 4th Annual Sunrise Division Model
 Railroad Auction - Rich Flammini
May - JMRI Decoder Pro - Jon Zook
June and after TBD - OPEN

Upcoming Tool Times for 2019

April - Micro Brushes, Pipe Cleaners and Cotton Swabs - Larry Stephens
May - and after TBD - OPEN

Upcoming Show 'n Tell Themes for 2019

April - Model/Prototype Photo
May - Your Favorite Railroad
June - Non-RR Hobby Item
July - Cancelled for Convention
August - Scratch Built Structure
September - Kit Built Structure
October - Scratch Built Car
November - Railfan Photos
December - Old Time Item

The following web page is for searching the Denver Library digital content.
<http://digital.denverlibrary.org/cdm/>

March Meeting Notes

Stu called the meeting to order. For introductions, we gave our scale and when we started in the hobby, along with the railroad we model. We had one of the largest gatherings we have had in a long time. This was due to Rich's long-time TCA Show spiel whenever anyone paused in front of him: "Are you a model railroader?" It paid off as we had seven or eight new people stop by from his recruiting efforts at the TCA show. We invited these new ones to become NMRA members and to help with the modules.

Frank Germon talked about his N scale (normal scale) at the Forney Museum. Frank invited us to visit his N scale layout. Their web is <http://moffatmodelers.org>.

Gary Myers talked about T-Track. The set up uses Kato Unitrack. The standard is using a small platform of a one-foot square module with all the units to be set up on a table. All units can connect to any other. See <http://t-trak.org>. Woodland Scenics has an N scale kit called Scenic Ridge that has all the details but has Atlas track.

From the Editor

I just received a very intriguing email. A new company just joined the many new companies that are providing new products to model railroading. It is called Aroma Models. They just released their first products today. They are all a variation of the same device.

Freight train--Two units. A cattle sound module with the appropriate stench. A caboose with train crew chatter and the smell of a coal burning stove and strong black coffee.

Passenger trains--Two units. Diner car module with dinner talk and the aroma of food.

Lounge car module with sounds of loud talk, laughter and glasses clinking and the smell of smoke and whiskey.

Layout--Three units. A welding shop with its unique smell. A wood working shop with the smell of sawdust. A cattle feedlot. Using a decoder such as Digitrax TF 4, this can be set as a small, medium or large feedlot. It can also be set for winter or summer operation.

They are going to be at the NMRA Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah this year. Their booth number is 4-1.

Clinic

Building the D&RG Narrow Gauge

Gauge-Mill, Yard, River, and Town Scenery.

Gary Myers continued with the video he started last month. We saw the river taking shape using many techniques from start to finish. Specifically, the clinic dealt with a scratchbuilt roundhouse and the supporting buildings. This was created using drawings of a real building. The video showed building one wall with styrene. Next a mold was made. From the mold the rest of the walls were made. Roof beams were put in place, then the roof, vents, windows, painting, weathering and small details were added.

The Swap Table

"You bring it, you take it back"

I'm Not Cheap, I'm Frugal

Plastic boxes with multi compartments seem to cost several dollars any more. You can buy 10 mini containers at Dollar Tree for one dollar. Great way to keep parts organized.



Tool Time

Woodland Scenics Wheel Cleaning Unit

Rich Flammini demonstrated the operation of this cleaning unit. It runs on DC or DCC. Power comes from the rails or power pack. Rich showed the cleaning on both steam and diesel engines. This makes a quick and easy way to keep our engine wheels clean. It requires no cleaning solution. For really dirty wheels, a cleaning solution is needed.

Show and Tell

The theme: "1st Scratch Built Item"

There were seven displays.

Gary Myers displayed the Gorge Depot he built that was located a couple of miles from the Hanging Bridge. He explained some of the details of the building and the need to do some repairs. His display below the blueprint shows the photo of the actual building.



Dick Hunter displayed a Potable water car used in logging operations. Scratch built on his desk in the barracks in 1973 using a hacksaw, screw driver and paint brush.



Larry Stephens displayed a log lodge. Lincoln Logs, two and three sections, were cut at the ends and glued to make longer lengths of four and five sections. It can be broken down and with a few other pieces, makes three houses or two downtown businesses. Built in the late 1970s for his old Lionel layout. Not to scale (too large) but Lionel didn't care either.



Rich Flammini displayed A great learning project. Rich's shack was built learning how to scratch build. Rich explained the steps he used in building the shack.



Bob Rothgery displayed his Elk Pass Station built 30 years ago from an article in a Model Railroader of the same vintage. Interior detailing is limited with lighting due in the future.



Steve Schweighofer displayed a modern steel truss bridge built with 1,380 pieces. Construction is paper and wood. He explained how delicate it is and indicated he wished he had built it with stronger material.



Stu Jones displayed his rock products bunker. This was not the first but is the oldest one in his possession. It was built from a series that appeared in Model Railroader starting in 1974. When he built it in 1995 he had only the first issue. The upper structure was from the photos. Later, when he obtained the remaining issues, his guesswork proved to be reasonably accurate. (This one required two photos).



URLs of the Month

Railfan

A couple of 10-minute visual travelogues.

From Sucre to Potosí in Buscarril

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tSxF3WxyfAg>

Sucre is the constitutional capital of Bolivia, the capital of the Chuquisaca Department and the 6th most populated city in Bolivia. Located in the south-central part of the country, Sucre lies at an elevation of 2,810 meters. This relatively high altitude gives the city a cool temperate climate year-round.

Potosí is a capital city and a municipality of the Department of Potosí in Bolivia. It is one of the highest cities in the world at a nominal 4,090 meters (13,420 feet). For centuries, it was the location of the Spanish colonial mint.

From Aiquile to Cochabamba in Buscarril

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqVp-Qc8XCU>

Aiquile is a town in the Cochabamba Department, Bolivia. It is the capital of the Narciso Campero Province and Aiquile Municipality. Most of its population is Quechua, and its residents are reputed to be the best charango makers in the country.

Cochabamba (Aymara: Quchapampa, Quechua: Quchapanpa) is a city and municipality in central Bolivia in a valley in the Andes mountain range. It is the capital of the Cochabamba Department and the fourth largest city in Bolivia, with a population of 630,587.

Upcoming Events

April 13--14 --10AM to 5PM Sat; 10AM to 3PM Sun
Train Expo Colorado
Chapel Hills Mall Event Center
1710 Briargate Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO
\$6/person, \$9/family of two or more, under 12 free. \$1 Discount for Seniors or Military

May 4--Big Boy will be leaving Cheyenne at 10AM traveling through Laramie and on to Rawlins where it will stay the night. Great time to see this great engine. Those who have not busted the budget going to the NMRA Convention could go to Ogden as there are planned activities to celebrate its arrival. There is going to be a meet at Promontory Summit May 9 between the Big Boy and Number 844. On May 17 both engines, double heading, will arrive in Laramie for a one-day layover. Both engines will head back to Cheyenne on Sunday, May 19. More on the web.
<https://www.up.com/forms/steam-trace.cfm>

May 18--19 -- 9AM to 3PM Sat; 9AM to 3PM Sun
Cheyenne Depot Days
Cheyenne Depot
121 W 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001
Adults \$10; Children under 12 free

May 25 -- Sat 9AM to 11:30AM
Model RR & Toy Train Swap Meet
Green Mountain Presbyterian Church
12900 W. Alameda Pkwy, Lakewood, CO

Badges

The badge boxes have been redone. The badges for regular attendees will be in the plastic tray. In the cardboard box will be a bin for Sunrise members as listed in the RMR roster. There is also a bin for not listed and a bin of blank badges. If your badge is not in the plastic tray try the badges in the bins. They are alphabetized. When done with your badge, place in the plastic lid.

Modules

The modules were set up at the TCA Train Show at the Mart. In attendance were Bob Hochstetter, Bob Rothgery, Dick Hunter, Don Francis, Evan Leisey, Larry Stephens, Mike Menze, Rich Flammini, Steve Schweighofer, and William Boorman. Those who showed up for setup but didn't run trains, extra thanks. Special thanks goes to Evan for bringing in the modules from way out there in Watkins.

The first problem to show up was the circuit breakers for each section of track that did not work. Trouble shooting was performed and it was found that the plug from the Command Station was connected to the wrong table. The second problem was the duplex control (UR94) kept dropping out. I did some research and will try to fix the problem at the next display of the modules.

Now for the tear down. Dick Hunter, Don Francis, Larry Stephens, and William Boorman spent most of Sunday showing the modules. Tear down was done with the assistance of Steve Schweighofer and John Keiss. Murphy's law reared its ugly head. First, Evan was snowed in and we had to suffer through 8-degree weather. Frank Germo, who was there with his N scale out of Forney Museum, offered us the use of his truck as we were truckless. After he delivered his modules, he came back to help us move out. Murphy's law still held. Our 7/8-inch hitch did not match his 1 1/8-inch ball. Long story made short (you don't want to know the full story). Don rounded up tools, William found a 3-ball hitch at O'Reillys. The whole gang suffered from frozen fingers and toes. Even the TCA people said they had never seen it so cold at their show. I did think this would be a good time to leave and change hobbies, such as growing roses. Nah-h-h. We finally got loaded up at 7:30pm.

Auction 2019

Once again we will be substituting the clinic for an exciting night of auctioning. It's spring cleaning time so seek out that item that can be someone else's treasure from your vast collection of surplus items. It can be any scale such as that G scale caboose that your aunt Margaret found at a garage sale. She knew you were into trains and thought it was cute (G scale cute?) even though you are an N scaler. Or it can be all scales.

Following are a few details:

You can bring two items to the auction. We usually get through all the first offerings and into some of the second. An item can be a multiple such as the trailer of a semi and the tractor or just the trailer or an engine lashup.

Cash is the preferred means of payment so raid your piggy bank but often the seller will accept a check.

If the item is an engine, it must be proven to run or otherwise be noted.

There's no charge to enter items but a 10% donation to the Sunrise Treasury is nice for a successful sale.

If you know of anyone who isn't a Sunrise NMRA member but is a potential buyer, invite them to come along. I'll cover a couple of additional details at the April meeting but that should do it for now. And remember, an auction isn't any fun unless there are sellers of good items and competitive buyers.

If you have any questions, call me at (303) 627-8087.

Auction Engineer, Rich Flammini

JMRI Clinic

From the Author

Programming with JMRI Decoder Pro

In this presentation, you will be shown how to set up JMRI to connect your computer to your test track using a Sprog II interface. Next, you'll see how to start adding your DCC equipped fleet of locomotives in the Decoder Pro database and start programming the various features and functions of each decoder. We'll look at programming momentum, using speed tables to speed match and tune the speed of the locomotive. We'll go over function mapping, and how to change what functions are controlled by which buttons on the throttle. We'll also review all of the sound settings and volume settings, as well as look at the lighting functions. We'll briefly touch on advanced consisting in Decoder Pro, and we'll also touch on the Reverb settings and Digital Dynamic Exhaust (DDE) for sound decoders.

From the Editor

JMRI is no longer just used on large layouts with a large roster of engines. With more layouts having the newest decoders in their engines, DCC control of switches and every other function even small layouts could use JMRI. I downloaded a copy of Decoder Pro a year ago. I don't mind changing several CVs one at a time. So I didn't think learning Decoder Pro was a high enough of a priority.

I spent a couple of hours trying to speed match some Athearns. I read that Decoder Pro makes speed matching much easier. Now that I have a couple of Soundtraxx Tsunami 2 decoders installed, it is time for Decoder Pro as I spent an hour programming the wrong series of CVs. Off to Amazon to search for Decoder Pro for Dummies. Gee, I thought they had everything. Nope. Well, there is You Tube. Yep. It's going to be a long haul. So Jon's Clinic came at a perfect time for me.

I mentioned a couple of more things for Jon to cover in his clinic. The use of Engine Driver with Decoder pro. He felt that the clinic needs two evenings to cover his presentation. The second one will "do a deeper dive into using this technology." At this time, I do not know if Jon can do part two in June.

Reference Web Sites

More on JMRI: <http://jmri.org/>

Engine Driver:

<https://enginedriver.mstevetodd.com/>

Aroma Models email:

aromamodels@aprilfools.org

Track Side



Photos

Photos by Larry Stephens

DLCX is the reporting mark for Waste Management. Why do they own an Engine? They do move some trash by rail, often hazard waste or waste requiring special disposal. But in this case, it was probably leased to OmniTRAX. DLCX 3131 is an X-CN SD-40-2.

OMLX is the reporting mark for OmniTrax Leasing. Great Western Railroad is one of their company's. (From their Web) The Great Western Railway of Colorado (GWR) operates over 80 miles of track and interchanges with the BNSF and UP. The railroad runs through Ft. Collins, Longmont, Windsor, Loveland and Greeley. OmniTRAX and Great Western Railway were using these two engines on a work train of ties and rails. They were contracted by a joint effort involving BN & SF and the Union Pacific to upgrade an east/west track to reduce train traffic in Fort Collins. (I believe the track was owned by Great Western Railway. I could not find out for sure). OMLX 4201 is an X-CN SD-40-2W. W is for wide nose.

