



TURNTABLE

Volume 8, Number 1

January 2024

The NMRA's *Turntable* is a monthly publication that, like a railroad turntable, will lead you in several directions on the internet.

This e-publication is a collection of railroad and model railroad videos, podcasts, websites, and/or other information freely available on the internet that we think may be of interest to you. The NMRA claims no ownership of this information, nor do we endorse its creators or their websites. The *NMRA Turntable* will not promote individuals or their for-profit ventures.

Steve Goring's Illinois Terminal Branch



[Illinois Terminal Branch](#)

This is an operations-oriented, point-to-point, shelf layout. The scenery is very well done and uses lots of both background and foreground tall trees that the mainline track passes through as would be the case in real life. In several locations, it is almost impossible to tell where the layout stops and the backdrop begins, the visual effect is outstanding. As one person put it, "This layout is gorgeous!"

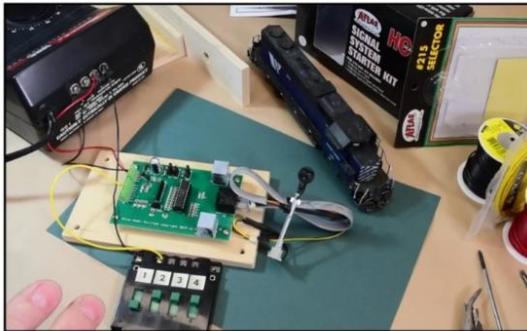
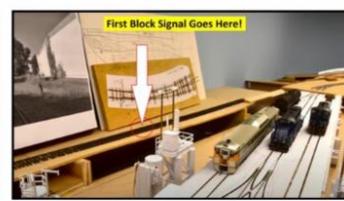
(Readers of Railroad Model Craftsman magazine may recognize Steve's layout from the July 2022 issue.)

Installing Your 1st Atlas ABS Signal



HO Scale

Functioning Signals are awesome on any layout!



The Joys of High Benchwork!

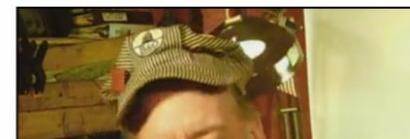


[Installing Your 1st Atlas ABS Signal](#)

Signaling adds a new immersive element to any model railroad. Contrary to what many assume, installing a signal is not as difficult as you might think. Are you intimidated when it comes to installing model railroad signaling? This tutorial will show how to install your first signal.

Furthermore, do you wish there was an easy entry-level starter "signal" system to help you gain confidence? Within this (step-by-step) comprehensive product review, Boomer will also demonstrate how simple it is to install your first signal on your model railroad which will bring your layout to another level.

Scratchbuilding A Freight House





Scratchbuilding A Freight House

A series on how to scratch build the freight house from Grafton, West Virginia on the B&O RR. Watch these videos to pick up hints of how to build a structure of your own for your railroad!

Using The Car Order System

**VIRTUAL MEETUP
NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

Using the Car Order System
on the Northstar Subdivision
Presented by Eric Smith

Car Order System – Card Fronts

CAR ORDER	CAR ORDER	CAR ORDER
Tank car	Boxcar	Covered Hopper, 50'-60'
Deliver To: St. Paul Park, MN St. Paul Feed and Grain Track 100C Spot 1	Deliver To: St. Paul Park, MN Newport Logistics Track 100F Spot 2	Deliver To: St. Paul Park, MN ADM Newport Grain Mill Track 100B Spot 1
When car has been delivered, place this card in box labeled: HOLD	When car has been delivered, place this card in box labeled: SETOUT	When car has been delivered, place this card in box labeled: HOLD
Northstar Subdivision	Northstar Subdivision	Northstar Subdivision

Car Order System – Layout Schematic

NORTHSTAR SUBDIVISION
www.northstarub.com

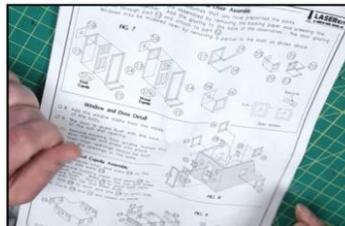
Car Order System – Card Backs

PICKUP ORDER	PICKUP ORDER	PICKUP ORDER
Tank car	Boxcar	Covered Hopper, 50'-60'
Pick up at: St. Paul Park, MN St. Paul Feed and Grain Track 100C Spot 1	Pick up at: St. Paul Park, MN Newport Logistics Track 100F Spot 2	Pick up at: St. Paul Park, MN ADM Newport Grain Mill Track 100B Spot 1
Forward car to: Canadian Pacific - WB	Forward car to: Union Pacific - WB	Forward car to: Union Pacific - WB
After car is gone, TURN card, then place in box labeled: UNFILLED ORDERS	After car is gone, TURN card, then place in box labeled: UNFILLED ORDERS	After car is gone, TURN card, then place in box labeled: UNFILLED ORDERS
Northstar Subdivision	Northstar Subdivision	Northstar Subdivision

Using The Car Order System

Eric Smith, editor of The Dispatcher's Office, introduces the Car Order System and how he uses/is planning to use it on his railroad, the Northstar Subdivision.

Building a Craftsman Caboose

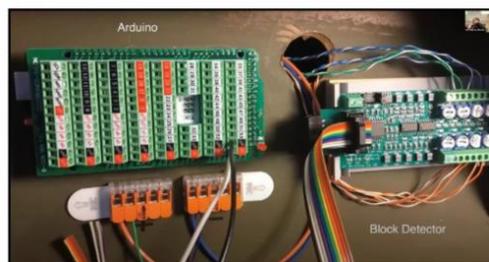
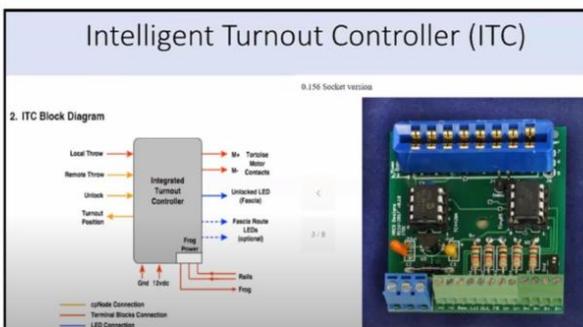
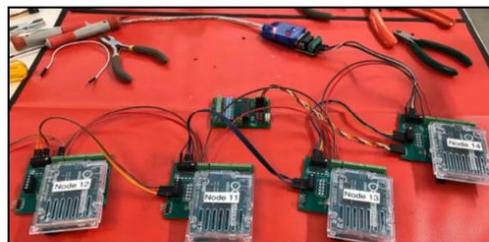
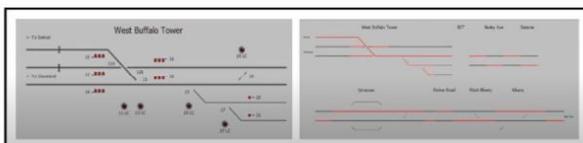
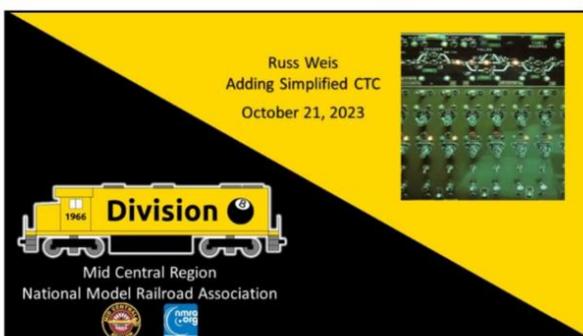




Building a Craftsman Caboose

Drew's friend Bob, a great supporter of Drew's channel, gifted him an AMB caboose kit. Although Drew has other kits that have been waiting longer to be built, he was really excited to start this one!

Adding Simplified CTC



Adding Simplified CTC

Russ Weis, Division 8, Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association created this presentation to tell us all about how he's installing CTC on his HO-scale New York Central layout.

Adding Scenery on the Layout





Adding Scenery on the Layout

It's about time we do some scenery on the HO Scale modular layout and that is what this episode is all about! Hopefully, you all had a good holiday season and a good Christmas. Some holiday music is in this episode since this is a favorite time of the year, even though it was a little late uploading this. The next episode will dive into doing much more details like signs and such because this episode was mostly on ground cover & and roads!

Operating a Small Switching Layout



Operating a Small Switching Layout

In this video, Steve shows how he set up operations on his small switching layout, including making car cards, building car-card racks, and running through a short operating session.

NMRA-x Clinics on YouTube

The screenshot shows a YouTube playlist interface. On the left is a video player for 'MODELING THE VALLEY LOCAL' by Chris Adams, dated April 24/25, 2020. The playlist title is 'NMRA-X' and it contains 184 videos with 29,410 views, last updated on Feb 26, 2023. Five video thumbnails are listed on the right:

- 178: Lloyd Henchey Building the Historic Contoocook Covered Bridge (49:32)
- 179: Dave Salamon Cement plant modeling (54:58)
- 180: Joey Giunto Easy and Fun Operations for Your Model Railroad (1:02:14)
- 181: Jordan Kramer Trackside with Jordan Travels Abroad (51:22)
- 182: Kevin Marks Getting started in Track Building (1:04:08)

NMRA-x Clinics on YouTube

NMRAx Dec 2023 Clinic Show

(If you missed watching one or more last month!)

List of Clinics

The 6 Pillars of Scenery (Monthly thru August)	Lloyd Henchey NFR
Amherst Railway Society - Railroad Hobby Show	John Sacerdote NER
Scenery Built on your Workbench	Thomas Gaisor TLR
2024 SurfLiner—Long Beach, California	Pat Raymer & Joel Morse



NMRAx December 2023 Clinic Show

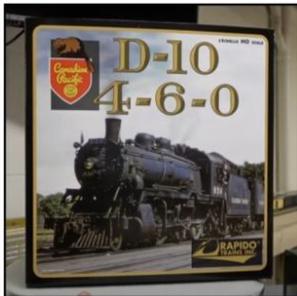
This presentation was four hours of virtual model railroading brought

to you by our NMRAX Team, which was streamed LIVE on the NMRA Facebook page & and YouTube channel. The first clinic started at 5pm and the last clinic ended around 9pm EST.

These are monthly presentations that the NMRAX Team will be hosting monthly throughout the year on the NMRA Facebook page and the NMRA YouTube channel.

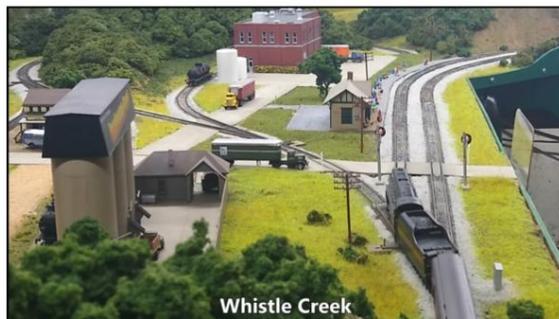
Next month's Clinic Show will be broadcast LIVE on February 24th starting at 5pm EST!

Rapido 4-6-0 Canadian Pacific D10 Review

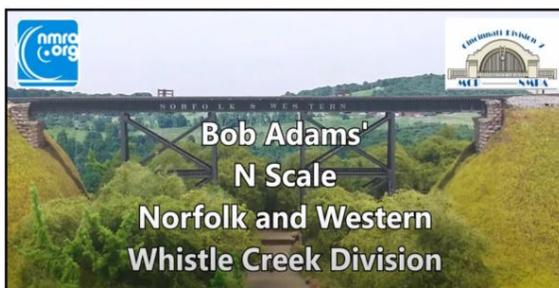
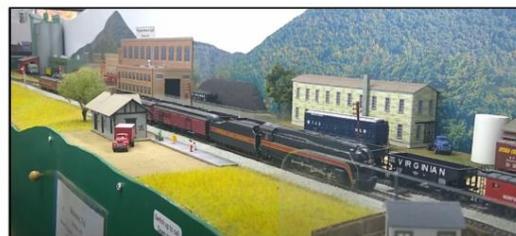


[Rapido 4-6-0 Canadian Pacific D10 Review](#)

James reviews Rapido's new HO scale Canadian Pacific D10 4-6-0 steam locomotive model.



Bob Adam's N&W Whistle Creek Division



Bob Adam's N Scale Norfolk & Western

Bob Adams shares his beautiful N Scale Norfolk and Western Whistle Creek Division in this video from the NMRA Division 7. The Whistle Creek Division models the seventy miles of Norfolk and Western mainline between Hagerstown, Maryland and Roanoke, Virginia.

This is the first in what will hopefully be a series of videos featuring the best model railroads from members of the NMRA Division 7 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

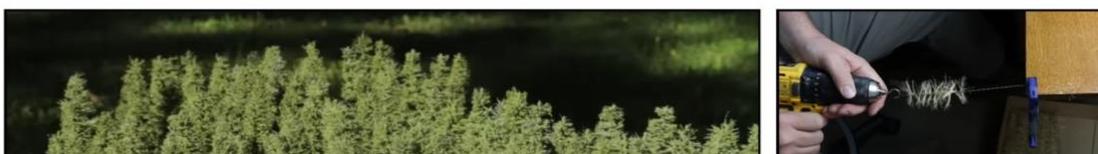
Steve Davis's Kansas City Southern



Steve Davis's KCS - 3rd Subdivision

This is a massive layout of the Kansas City Southern HO scale model railroad of Steve Davis's. The 60-foot by 45-foot layout is located near Tulsa, OK.

Building 100 Model Trees in a Weekend





100 Model Trees in a Weekend

In this video, Ron will show how he built 100 realistic model trees in a weekend. He needed a lot of Lodgepole Pine trees for his layout, so he set out to build 100 of them in a weekend. He shows us the techniques he used to build these beautiful model trees in just 1000 minutes.

Australian Model Railway News

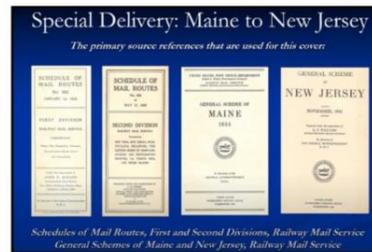
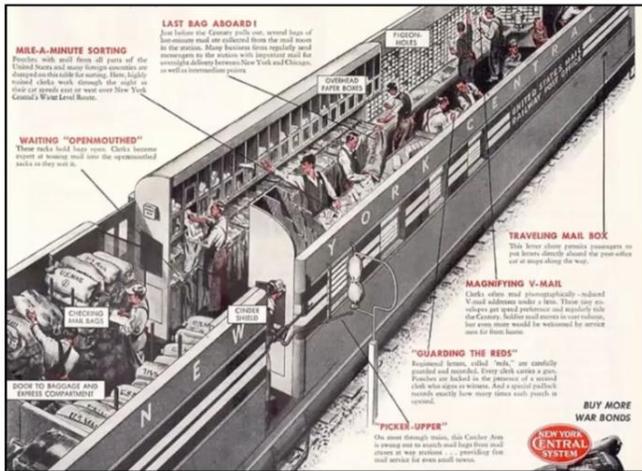
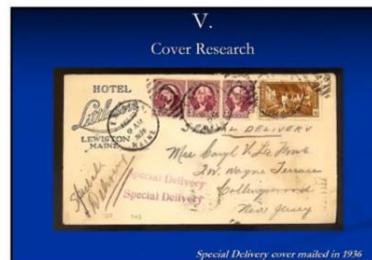
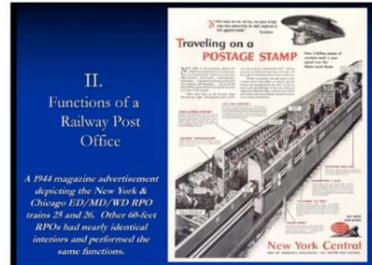


Australian Model Railway News

Welcome to the December 2023 edition of Australian Model Railway News. In this episode, Will James brings you up to date with the latest developments, product releases, and industry news from Australian model railway manufacturers. He'll explore a variety of scales, manufacturers, historical eras, and regions.

He values your feedback, so please feel free to leave a comment, and if you haven't already, consider subscribing for regular updates. He'll return next month with more captivating news from the world of model railways in Australia.

USA Railway Mail Service



USA Railway Mail Service

Dr. Frank Scheer gives a talk about the USA Railway Post Office System, which was the way the postal service moved mail by train until the late 1960s. This was a talk given as a free monthly public program of the National Railway Historical Society, Washington, D.C. Chapter, Inc. at their regular meeting on March 18, 2022 - online.

Farewell to an Amazing Proto48 Model Railroad Jim Harper's Sacramento Northern - Southern Pacific





Farewell to an Amazing Proto48 Model Railroad

Well, all things must end. Jim Harper is dismantling his layout and has sold it. It will be moving to Oregon to join an On3 model railroad in December of 2023.

Jim wants to ensure the survival of his labor of love for the past 37 years, and so before his death, he is turning the railroad over to a fellow O scaler who will continue to operate and love and maintain and expand his masterpiece.

Proto48 differs from the "normal" O scale in that the gauge and flanges are proper to the 1:48 scale. "O" scale uses a cheated five-foot gauge and oversized flanges to keep the operation more stable and the gauge easier to figure out. Proto 48 uses 100% accurate track and wheels meaning that the modeling and track laying must be very accurate, or the trains will derail.

SurfLiner 2024 - NMRA National Convention

SurfLiner 2024
NMRA National
Convention
Long Beach, California
August 4th-11th, 2024

To visit our website:

<https://SurfLiner2024.org>

SurfLiner 2024 in Long Beach, CA

A great convention needs an amazing location, and our hotel is the Westin Long Beach in downtown Long Beach. The Westin Long Beach is just two blocks from the beach, harbor, and pier. Directly across the street is the Center for Performing Arts and the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center.

SurfLiner 2024 - NMRA National Convention



SurfLiner 2024 NMRA National Convention
August 4 - 11, 2024, Long Beach California




SurfLiner 2024 Promotional Video

THE 6 PILLARS OF SCENERY

So, what's next?

Scenery clinics continues

On our ongoing Scenery Clinic, we'll look at diverse avenues for creating compelling landscapes.

- We'll look at the cost considerations, ensuring that your scenic pursuits align with your budgetary constraints.
- We'll look at time, a precious resource, will be thoughtfully addressed, offering insights into efficient methods that suit your schedule.
- Finally, we'll tap into the realm of artistic capabilities, unlocking the creative potential that transforms scenery from ordinary to extraordinary.

Month	Date	Start Time
February	24th	1700 (EST - New York)
March	23rd	1700 (EDT - New York)
April	27th	1700 (EDT - New York)
May	25th	1000 (EDT - New York)
June	29th	1000 (EDT - New York)
July	20th	1000 (EDT - New York)
August	24th	1000 (EDT - New York)
September	28th	1700 (EDT - New York)
October	26th	1700 (EST - New York)
November	23rd	1700 (EST - New York)
December	28th	1700 (EST - New York)

Here is the NMRAx Clinic Schedule for this year along with the special presentation, "*The 6 Pillars of Scenery*" clinics which will run every month through August 2024.

NMRA's Partnership Program



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in and click on the **Benefits** tab to view the **NMRA Partnership Program**. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

Bespoke Rail
CatzPaw Innovations
CB Train Junction
Clever Models, LLC
Coastmans Scenic Products
Composite Designs, Inc.
CMR Products, LLC
Conowingo Models
Daylight Sales (Merchandise)
Deepwoods Software
Deluxe Materials
Cowcatcher Magazine*
Diorama Hobbies
Dwarvin Enterprises, Ltd
East Coast Circuits
Enterprise and National Car Rental Services
Evan Designs

Hot Wire Foam Factory
K.I.S.S Method, Inc.
LaBelle Woodworking Co.
LARC Products
Logic Rail Technologies
MAC Rail
Mainline Model Railroad Products, LLC* (Hobby Shop)
Micro-Mark
Mine Mount Models
miniprints
MRC (Model Rectifier Corp)
Model Train Catalogue
Modelers Decals & Paint
Motrak Models
Mudd Creek Models
New Creations Victorian Railroad Buildings

RR-CirKits
R & J Details
Scale Model Plans
Scale Railroad Models
Scenery Solutions
Showcase Miniatures
Team Track Models
The N Scale Architect
The Old Depot Gallery
The Train Place (Hobby Shop)
Tichy Train Group
Touch of the Brush Model Weathering
Train Installations, LLC
Train Show, Inc.
Trainmasters TV/Model Railroad Hobbyist Store
TRAINZ.com

Feight Studios
Fusion Scale Graphics
Gatorfoam
Great Decals!
Green Frog Productions
Highways and Byways Model

Nick and Nora Designs
Northlandz
NScale Works by Mike Holly
Old Depot Gallery
Old West Scenery
Ram Track

TSG Multimedia
UGEARS
USA Airbrush Supply/
Badger Airbrush
WiFi Model Railroad, LLC
Yelton Models

January 2024

[New Partners in RED*]

Partnership Program

The NMRA Partnership Program is a member benefit that truly has a tangible payback. We've partnered with model railroad manufacturers of all sizes, giving them exposure on our website in return for receiving generous discounts for NMRA members all year long. Some provide members with special codes, others prefer a phone or email order, but all appreciate the additional business from our members. And of course, our members appreciate the extra savings...savings that can actually pay the cost of NMRA membership!

New Partners for this month:

Mainline Model Railroad Products, LLC

Cowcatcher Magazine is published bi-monthly by Ballpark Impressions, LLC, combines model railroad and prototype railroad news in one print magazine. For 20 years, we have taken our readers inside the model and prototype railroad industries with compelling articles on current trends, personalities, products, and layouts, Class 1 and short lines, heritage, and more. All are professionally written and edited by accomplished journalists and contributors who share the same passion for railroading and model railroading.

NMRA members are eligible for an introductory 10% discount on the price of a six-issue subscription. Included free is our monthly e-newsletter, Cowcatcher Tracks.

Also, be sure to check back often as new Partners are being added all the time!

NMRA@HOME

How you can help market & grow your division (or region)

A clinic presented by Christina Zambri, Marketing Consultant for the NMRA, at the 2023 NMRA National Convention, Texas Express, in Grapevine, TX



Gain new ideas on how to better market and promote your Division (or Region) and improve member experiences. Topics include the benefits of membership, welcoming new members, incorporating a mentorship/buddy system, monitoring reports, doing more with social media/online presence, proper communication, working with local media, proper booth management, and overcoming special circumstances such as geography, aging members and periods of less face-to-face interaction.



Painting Porcelain Sinks

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the December 2023 issue of NMRA Magazine.

Here is a quick tip for you. Jerry Lauchle, MMR® shows you in one phot and a short paragraph how to paint porcelain fixtures, such as sinks, bathtubs, and toilets, in the Mid-Eastern Region's Division 11 newsletter,

"Susquehanna Sidetracks"

More DCC for Zebras

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the December 2023 issue of NMRA Magazine.

Kelly Russell, a member of the 100% NMRA San Jacinto Model Railroad Club in Houston Texas, continues sharing how he installed DCC in his Santa Fe zebra-striped engines in the club's newsletter, *The Derail*, in Parts 3 and 4. You can find Parts 1 and 2 below.



NCR Capital Division Layout Tours

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the December 2023 issue of NMRA Magazine.

Four layouts are covered in this layout procelain of the North Central Region's Capital Division. All four layouts are in the Grad Rapids, Michigan area.

Making Your Own Decals

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the December 2023 issue of NMRA Magazine.

Need to make your own decals? Larry Nelson of the Illinois Valley Division of the Mid Western Region shows you how in the *The Time Table*, the division newsletter.



The ***Division Business Car*** column appears in even-numbered months in NMRA Magazine. It's loaded with great modeling ideas, plus useful information that can help make your Division, Region, or 100% NMRA Club even better. The information comes from articles published in Region, Division, and Club newsletters. The best of these articles are posted on the NMRA website. You can read the entire archive, from as far back as 2011 right up to the latest posting, by clicking [here](#).

Previous issues of the ***NMRA Turntable*** are available on the Turntable Archives page. You must first log in as a member at: nmra.org After you are in the members-only section, then you must hover over 'Publications' on the menu bar, then 'NMRA Turntable', and then click on one of the list of back issues.

Editor: [Paul Voelker, HLM](#)

Executive Editor: [Rick Coble](#)

The NMRA Turntable is an official monthly production of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc. Publishing Department (Riley Triggs Manager). Its purpose is to introduce NMRA members to a selection of instructional videos and online publications that they may find of interest. If you know of an NMRA member who is not receiving this mailing, please direct them to [here](#) to update their email address. If you no longer wish to receive these mailings, please don't mark them as SPAM. Instead, click the Safe Unsubscribe link at the bottom of this page. ©2021 National Model Railroad Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy TN 37384.

