



Volume 8, Number 6

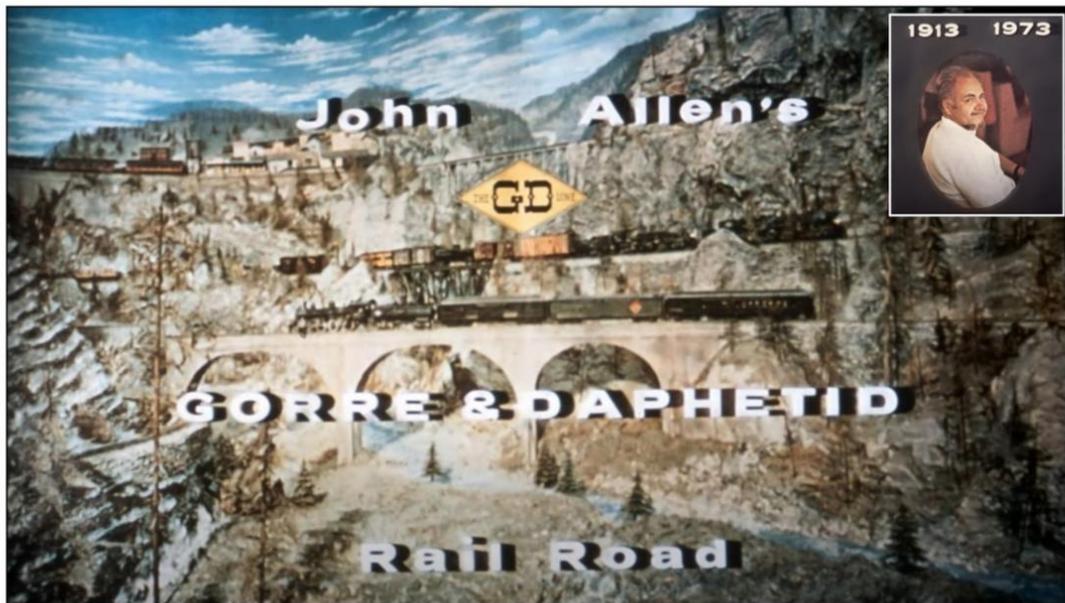
June 2024

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.

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## A Jerry Drake Clinic On: John Allen's Gorre & Daphetid Railroad



### [John Allen's Gorre & Daphetid Railroad](#)

This is the late Jerry Drake's NMRA clinic 780-36, created after John Allen's death. He was a good friend of John; most of the photos in this clinic were taken by him, except where noted.

**NMRA Gallery 3rd Anniversary Celebration**



## ***NMRA Gallery 3rd Anniversary Celebration***

John Stevens, HLM is the Howell Day Museum Department Manager (HDMDM). John's primary duty is overseeing The Magic of Scale Model Railroading Gallery, which opened on April 6, 2021, at the California State Railroad Museum (CSRM) in Sacramento.

Getting to opening day was truly an adventurous undertaking that took way longer than anyone anticipated when the project was started. It wouldn't have happened without the support of corporate sponsors, major donors, and members like you who donated monies to the project. Unfortunately, the Gallery didn't get the celebration that it deserved when it opened in April, 2021 due to the COVID restrictions imposed by the State of California.

When John took over as HDMDM in late 2021, one of his goals was to have a proper celebration of the Gallery. Even this took longer to plan than it was thought that it would. Once the Gallery was open to the public, it was determined that some changes were needed near the entrance and the exit to improve the visitor's experience. That work has been completed and it is now time to hold the NMRA Gallery Third Anniversary Celebration on July 31, 2024 at the CSRM – and you are invited to attend!

Starting at 10:15 PDT in the Museum theater, you will spend about 45 minutes to an hour in the Theater and then proceed up to the Gallery. After the Gallery visit, it will be on to one of the local restaurants for refreshments.

If you wish to attend this event, please RSVP at [MUSEUM@NMRA.ORG](mailto:MUSEUM@NMRA.ORG) no later than July 15, 2024, as space is limited. Your name will be placed on a VIP List located at the check-in area of the CSRM, and you will be given complimentary access to the event. The museum opens at 10:00 PDT so please allow sufficient time to check in and then move to the theater.

Can't make it? This is the story on its construction: [Gallery Build Article](#)

## Switching Ops 101: Offspots



## [Switching Ops 101: Offspots](#)

This episode of Lance Mindheim's "Switching Operations Tutorials" shows how to incorporate offspots into your switching operations sessions. What they are, how they work, and an example of the concept in action.

## Cajon Pass - San Bernadino - Victorville



Cajon Pass - San Bernardino-Victorville - Union Pacific and BNSF heavy traffic to/from California



## Cajon Pass - San Bernadino - Victorville

In a video from *Graniteblock\_Rail*: Shots of the impressive long-distance heavy freight railway traffic in the US state of California east of Los Angeles at Cajon Pass. The parallel route of UP and BNSF connect the greater Los Angeles area with the important east-west axes of the railway companies Union Pacific (UP) and Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF).

Endlessly long freight trains are moved with the diesel locomotives in multiple traction, sometimes with pusher locomotives, also in the middle of the train and at the end over the steep ramp to the top of the pass. Cajon Summit is located at 1150m (3700ft). East of this, the route continues into the Mojave Desert to Victorville and Barstow.

## A Journey To April 12, 1863 at 4 AM



## A Journey To April 12, 1863 at 4 AM

Take a train ride back in time on Thom Radice's magnificent Western & Atlantic Railroad, a fine HO scale layout. The train leaves Atlanta at 4AM and rolls through 1863 Georgia passing Big Shanty, Kingston, Allatoona, Dalton and other towns before crossing into Tennessee and ending its run at Chattanooga.

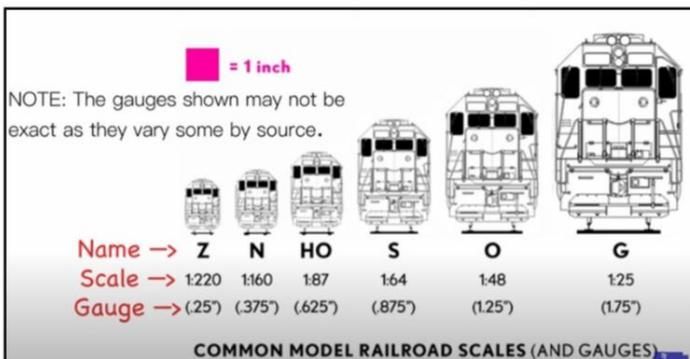
## Any Layout is Better Than No Layout

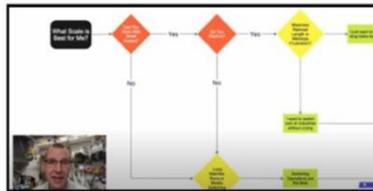
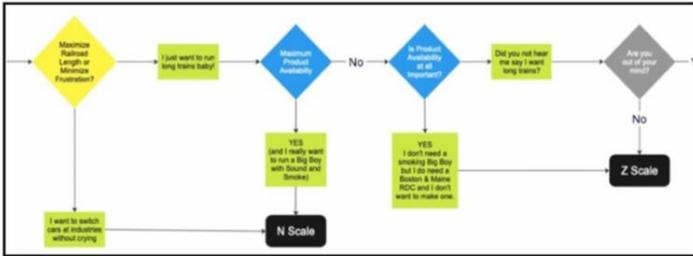
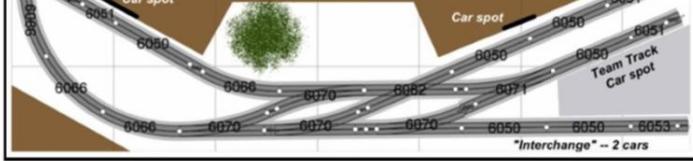


## Any Layout is Better Than No Layout

Everyone would like a model railroad, but not everyone has the space or the talent. However, as you'll see in this video, no matter what you build it's better than not building anything at all.

## What is the Best Scale for YOU?





## [What is the Best Scale?](#)

Steve looks at some ideas that might help you decide what the best scale and gauge of model trains is for you. You might think you want to use HO scale trains, but perhaps O gauge, N scale or Z scale are better matches for you.

## The 2024 West Penn Trolley Meet



## [The 2024 West Penn Trolley Meet](#)

This event was held at The Pennsylvania Trolley Museum in Washington, PA. June 7th - 9th. This video is a mix of real trolleys, model traction and a vintage vehicle show (Anything on Wheels).

# SurfLiner 2024 - NMRA National Convention



## [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.

### **This just in:**

The initial [Convention Timetable](#) is available. Updates to the Timetable will occur frequently, so check on it from time to time.

**NOTE:** The times & days of operation of the Celebration (Contest) room are different from previous years. Entries can now be entered on **Sunday** August 4th between 6pm & 9pm, **Monday** 8am to 6pm, and **Tuesday only, between 8am to 10am**. Entries must be picked up between 6pm and 9pm on **WEDNESDAY NIGHT!** The awards ceremony will occur on Thursday afternoon as usual starting at 2pm.

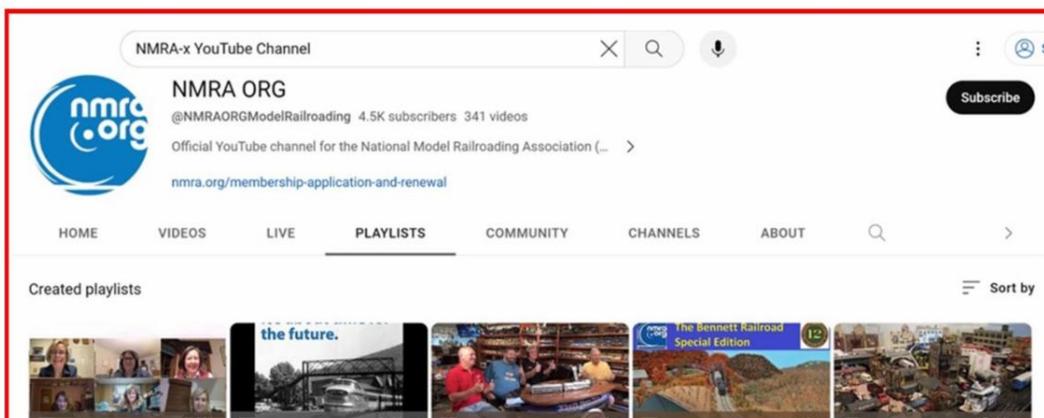
### **Layout Bus Tour 5 added.**

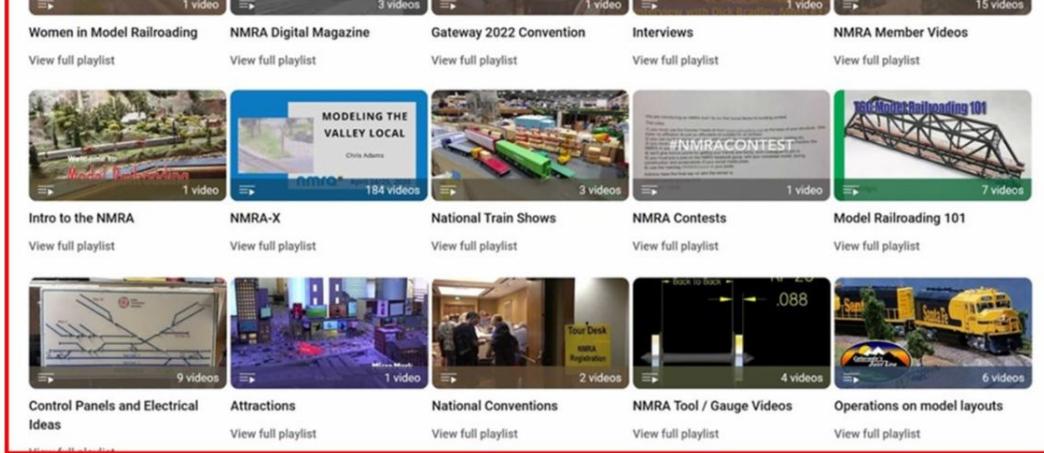
Check out the [Layout Tours](#) page for the details.

Sign up for these tours when you register for the convention, or if you have already registered you can modify your registration to add any of these tours.

**The Convention Team looks forward to seeing you in August!**

## NMRA-x YouTube Channel

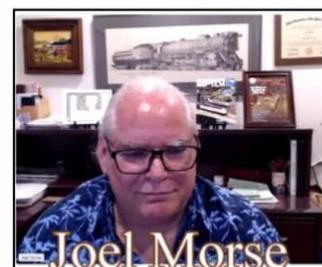




## [NMRA-x YouTube Channel](#)

This is the Official YouTube channel for the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). Here you will find over 350 videos including clinics, layout tours, reviews and how-to presentations along with the popular NMRAx clinics, all told there is about seven years' worth of material to look over and watch!

### **What's Neat This Week in Model Railroading NMRA Long Beach Convention Preview**



### [NMRA Long Beach Convention Preview](#)

This week they have SurfLiner 2024 convention co-chairmen Pat Raymer

and Joel Morse presenting the line-up for the SurfLiner 2024 NMRA national convention and train show in California, on August 4-11, 2024.

## Evanston Operations Weekend 2024

<p>Raising the Bar in N Scale Evanston Operations Weekend 2024</p>   <p>2024</p> <p><b>EVANSTON</b></p> <p>July 24 - 28, 2024</p> <p>for more information: <a href="mailto:NScaleMeet@gmail.com">NScaleMeet@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Evanston, Wyoming</b> N-Scale Operations Meet 2024</p> <p>The event takes place from July 24th with early check-in, and runs through July 25-28, 2024 in Evanston, Wyoming.</p> <p>Participants can enjoy a Huge T-TRAK layout, an equally Huge NTRAK layout, and a simply ginormous FREE-MON layout.</p> <p>The event will run 24 hours a day for those who want to run their trains.</p>
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## [Evanston Operations Weekend 2024](#)

This event is about “Raising the Bar for N-scale”, it is also to showcase the best of what the three largest N-scale Modular standards in the country are capable of, NTRAK, T-TRAK and Free-moN. They want to come together to have fun, share ideas, build and run some epic layouts!

This Is an N-Scale event for the modeler by the modeler. E24 is a pay to play event, which means there is a \$50 charge for per participant to attend. It is tentatively scheduled for July 24-28, 2024, in Evanston Wyoming, in the historic Roundhouse and Machine shop.

There will not be any dealers or manufacturers with booths setup. The entire space is dedicated to modular N scale layouts. There will be limited time that the event will be open to the public. Operations of the layouts can go 24 hours of the day for the time that we have the buildings. They are planning clinics, tours, door prizes and at least 2 dinners.

For more information check out their website [HERE](#).

## Building an Awesome Rail Yard





## [Building an Awesome Rail Yard](#)

Steve Brown has had the Bentleeville rail yard on his layout for years. But, he had never actually finished it. As a part of his NEW layout, he just hunkered down and got it done. He painted and ballasted the track, installed the lighted structures, some cool LED details, and some general details! From a Regular Guy perspective, this is just totally the bomb!

## **Review: Rapido MLW M420A/B Locomotives**

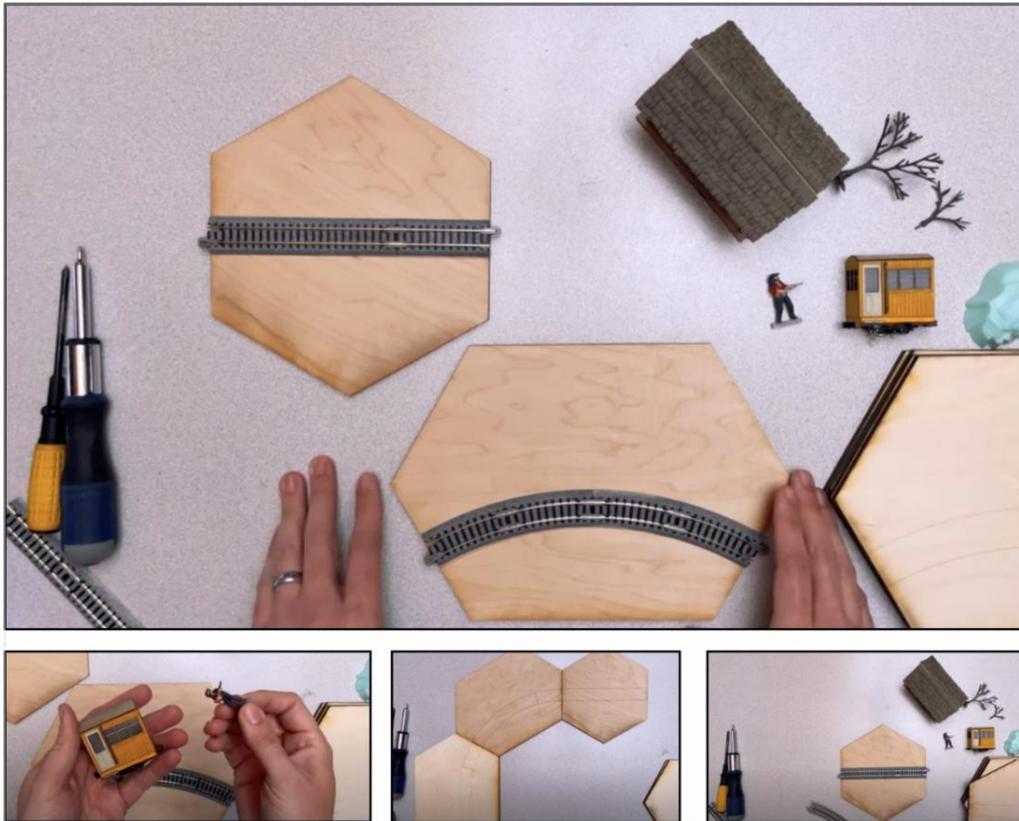


## [Review: Rapido MLW M420A/B Locomotives](#)

Discover an in-depth review of the Rapido HO Scale MLW M420 A/B Locomotives, featuring ESU LokSound for both DC and DCC operations, along with detailed lighting features. Learn about their performance, sound quality, and realistic lighting in this comprehensive evaluation. Perfect for

model train enthusiasts and collectors looking for high-quality locomotives. Watch now to see if these models meet your expectations!

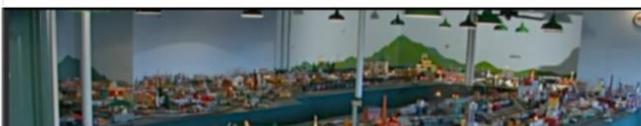
## HexTrak—A New Modular Model Railroad System?



## [HexTrak—A New Modular Model Railroad System?](#)

A conversation around some of the difficulties with model railroading at home, and an idea for something new. **Hex-Trak** - A home-scaled modular model railroad layout system utilizing N-gauge Kato Unitrack and hexagon modules. Let's see how it goes...

## Great Georgia Central & Southern





## [Great Georgia Central & Southern](#)

A video from O Gauge Railroading Magazine, on Jim Steed's Great Georgia Central & Southern Railroad is a classic 1950's style Lionel layout. Green plywood, Plasticville buildings, Lionel operating accessories and lots of postwar trains make this railroad something special.

## **MOBEXPO 24**

**MOBEXPO 24**  
**FEATURING**  
**BELGIUM'S BIGGEST**  
**MODEL RAILWAY**  
**CLUB**

*with Dawn Quest*

## [MOBEXPO 24](#)

All the highlights from Model Railway Quest's weekend visit to MOBEXPO 24 in Sint-Niklaas, Belgium. Including a look inside the impressive clubhouse of Belgium's biggest model railway club. Dawn Quest talks to Club Chair, Erwin Stuyvaert, who explained just how the club grew from 55 members to over 150!

Plus, some exceptional layouts from Belgium, the Netherlands, France and Germany... and the UK!

## **The Snowdonian 2024**





## The Snowdonian 2024

Eighty miles of prime two-foot gauge railway action in ten hours with eight steam locos involved on the Ffestiniog Railway & the Welsh Highland Railway in Wales.

# 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!

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**ITLA Scale Models**  
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**Micro-Mark**  
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**MrTrain.com**  
**Model Railroad Benchwork**  
**Model Railway Backshop\***  
**MRC (Model Rectifier Corp)**  
**Model Train Catalogue**  
**Modelers Decals & Paint**  
**Motrak Models**  
**Mudd Creek Models**  
**New Creations Victorian Railroad Buildings**  
**Nick and Nora Designs**  
**Northlandz**  
**NScale Works by Mike Holly**  
**Old Depot Gallery**  
**Old West Scenery**  
**RAM Track**

**RR-CirKits**  
**R & J Details**  
**Scale Model Plans**  
**Scale Railroad Models**  
**Scenery Solutions**  
**Showcase Miniatures**  
**T-Trak by Denniston**  
**Team Track Models**  
**The N Scale Architech**  
**The Old Depot Gallery**  
**Tichy Train Group**  
**Touch of the Brush Model Weathering**  
**Train Installations, LLC**  
**Train Show, Inc.**  
**Trainmasters TV/Model Railroad Hobbyist Store**  
**TRAINZ.com**  
**TSG Multimedia**  
**UGEARS**  
**USA Airbrush Supply/ Badger Airbrush**  
**White Rose Hobbies, LLC\***  
**WiFi Model Railroad, LLC**  
**Yelton Models**

[ New Partners in RED\* ]

# Partnership Program

## NMRA@HOME



### Randy Watt's Tuscarora & Appotomac

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the June 2024 issue of NMRA Magazine.

In the *Susquehanna Sidetracks*, the newsletter of the Mid-Eastern Region's Susquehanna Division, Randy discusses all aspects of the design and building of his HO scale Tuscarora & Appotomac Railroad, a prototype-based freelanced short line railroad.

### The Rise of the Phoenix

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the June 2024 issue of NMRA Magazine.

Mat Thompson, MMR® takes us on a three-part series on how a layout was built, torn down, moved, and rebuilt in another location in the *Potomac Flyer*, published by the Potomac Division of the Mid-Eastern Region.



### Coupler history

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the June 2024 issue of NMRA Magazine.

Have you ever wondered about the history of railroad couplers? So did Bob "Shep" Sheppard of the Bremerton Northern Model Railroad, a 100% NMRA Club in Silverdale, Washington. Bob did the research and wrote an article for the club's newsletter, *The Flimsy Board*

### Clothespin Clamps

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the June 2024 issue of NMRA Magazine.

Mike Tylick, MMR® shares with readers of the Northeastern Region's magazine, the *NER Coupler* how the longtime household tool, the clothespin, can be easily modified for use as a clamp to hold parts for gluing, painting, and other modeling projects.



### Rusty Roofs

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the June 2024 issue of NMRA Magazine.

Greg Cassidy takes you step-by-step through all the procedures and precautions in his article on creating rusty roofs, whether it is acrylic paint on paper, wood, or plastic, or an etching solution on metal in his article that appeared in the *Potomac Flyer*, the newsletter of the Mid-Eastern Region's Potomac Division.

### Motive Power Depot

Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the June 2024 issue of NMRA Magazine.

Rod Vance of the Mid-Eastern Region's James River Division discusses the many uses of a product from DCC Concepts in the *Crossties*, his division newsletter. The product can be used to turn a locomotive, a case to carry a locomotive, a cradle when working a locomotive, and a container to store a locomotive.



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](http://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.

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Executive Editor: [Rick Coble](#)

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