



THE SEMAPHORE

April - July 2024

**From President, Rich Parsons**

WOW!! It is hard to believe 2024 is one quarter gone. It has been interesting and exciting to see the progress that is being made around the Museum. The "O" Gauge layout is progressing. The Gift Shop renovation is moving along. Check out the "Ticket Window" that has been installed. Duane Dawson did most of the work on the construction and installation of the window. His helpers were Jerald Peterson and Rich Parsons.

The location of the old ticket window has been filled in and will be painted. The showcases will be moved downstairs early in April.

Danyel Casey and Shari Shockey have agreed to work with the Kids. The Crazy Caboose has been renamed the Kids Caboose.

The Loco Ladies train will be replaced with a wall which will allow us to better utilize that area for storage.

The sorting and pricing continues to be done. Progress is slow somedays. We gather on Monday morning to work on this project. See article elsewhere in the Semaphore concerning the results.

As you can see, a lot of things are happening around our Museum. Have you volunteered to help with any of these or other projects that are going on? The Museum can only be successful with the help of many people. Please give some consideration how you can help make **our** Museum better.

Closing thought sent to me by a friend:  
After 50, you're like an old phone battery. Even when you charge yourself overnight for 10 hours, by 10 am you're at 60%. (Sounds familiar doesn't it)? We really do need the younger folks to help.





## Gift Shop renovation.

How many workers did it take to install our new ticket window? Six: Four to watch, one to take the photo, and one to do the work. It's going well with Rich Parsons, Jerald Peterson, Shirlene LeBleu and Di-ann Dawson watching while Duane Dawson does the installation and Frank LeBleu took the picture.



Work will continue with oak trim around the countertop edges.

Also, there will be work filling in the opening left when the original iron bars were removed.



Duane Dawson stands by his work.





## NEW MEMBERS



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We look forward to seeing and meeting you at the museum soon!

Daniel & Katelyn Aleman   George Baird   Jim Fisher   Brent & Gail Forney  
Kevin & Cari Harper   David LeBleu   Devin Twombly   Joseph & Kathryn Roman

### Kids Caboose Club...

**Kids Caboose has a new time!** 3:00pm to 4:00pm. 2nd Saturday of each month. Come have fun, it's free!

Our young people have gone all out and are building a battery operated layout for their "Thomas" trains. Come help them build the layout and run trains!



Our Kids Caboose Club leaders: Theresa Molina, Danyel Gilmore and Shari Shockey. Thank you ladies for taking on this great program for our kids!



### Upcoming Train Shows



#### Festival of Trains

(Make a Wish Foundation)

April 13-14, 2024, OKC Fairgrounds 3212 Wichita Walk, Oklahoma City, OK

#### WTTC Ark City Train Show

April 20, 2024 -Agri-Business Building 712 W Washington Ave, Arkansas City, KS

#### Herrington Kansas Railroad Days:

April 27-28, 2024 - 810 S. Broadway in Herrington, KS

## Ark City Train Show!

Our 2024 Train Show is coming up in Ark City on April 20, 2024. This is always a special little show.

We have a great turnout at this venue and our long-time vendors make it to the show. As always we will need many hands on deck to make this work.

Shirlene LeBleu is the show coordinator and she will be contacting members soon, to get their commitment to help - *please* be open and willing to help!

## 9th Annual Arkansas City Train Show

OPERATING  
TRAIN  
LAYOUTS



\* Buy  
\* Sell  
\* Trade

Agri-Business  
Building  
712 W. Washington

**Saturday, April 20, 2024** Admission \$5 Adults  
9am - 4pm Children under 12 free  
w/paid adult



Sponsored by Wichita Toy Train  
Museum/Club  
(www.wichitatoytrainmuseum.org)  
and  
Visit Ark City



### MORE THINGS TO DO AND SEE...

Make-A-Wish  
OKLAHOMA

# FESTIVAL OF TRAINS

A TRAIN SHOW LIKE NO OTHER  
OKLAHOMA CITY  
APRIL 13TH - 14TH, 2024  
SAT. 9AM - 5PM / SUN. 9AM - 4PM  
OKC FAIRGROUNDS - THE PAVILION  
3212 WICHITA WALK OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73107

FESTOFTRAINS.COM

## Herington Kansas Railroad Days

Saturday/Sunday April 27-28, 2024  
Saturday: 9 am to 5 pm Sunday: 10am to 4pm  
Admission by Donation  
Herington Community Building  
810 S. Broadway - Herington, KS 67449

- Buy/Sell/Trade Model RR equipment and railroad memorabilia
- Operating Model RR Layouts
- Visit the Herington Historical Museum & Railroad Annex
- Clinics/Workshops
- Concessions
- Free Parking

www.heringtonrailroaddays.com  
phone: 316-258-4500  
email: [HeringtonRailroadDays@gmail.com](mailto:HeringtonRailroadDays@gmail.com)

Proceeds benefit Herington Historical Museum

## GOLDEN SPIKE TOWER

A panoramic view of the world's largest rail yard.  
Open Daily

*Annual Celebrations*  
Community Day, May 6th  
10th Anniversary, June 26th  
North Platte Rail Days, Sept 21-23rd  
Corn Maze, October  
Museum Store Sunday, Nov 25th

*Monthly Events*  
Twilight Tours, 3rd Saturday  
Lil' Spike Conductors Club,  
2nd Saturday at 3pm

GoldenSpikeTower.com

The Bailey Yard is really  
an interesting place to  
visit.

It is especially fun to  
watch how they sort out  
cars to build the  
different consists.

Get your best view overlooking  
Bailey Yard- the World's  
Largest Classification Rail Yard.

From atop the Golden Spike Tower's two observation decks, you'll watch the action as the crews of Union Pacific Railroad sort and connect over 10,000 cars a day on two classification hump yards, with nearly 120 bowl rows and 315 tracks.

We invite you to stop by our large gift store, enjoy a walk around the outdoor flag walk or ride the elevator to the eighth floor indoor observation deck overlooking the rail yard.

Ask questions and hear "behind the scenes" stories from our guides, who once worked on Bailey Yard, learn how the hump yard works with interactive kiosks or simply relax and listen to the trains in our beautiful brick pavilion.

There's no place else to see it than right here at the Golden Spike Tower. Open Daily.

To enjoy our live web cam or to get more information about the Golden Spike Tower and our special events including the annual North Platte Rail Days, visit [GoldenSpikeTower.com](http://GoldenSpikeTower.com)

Certificate of Excellence 2017  
tripadvisor

1249 N Homestead Road, North Platte, Nebraska  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

## We Are Selling Things!!!

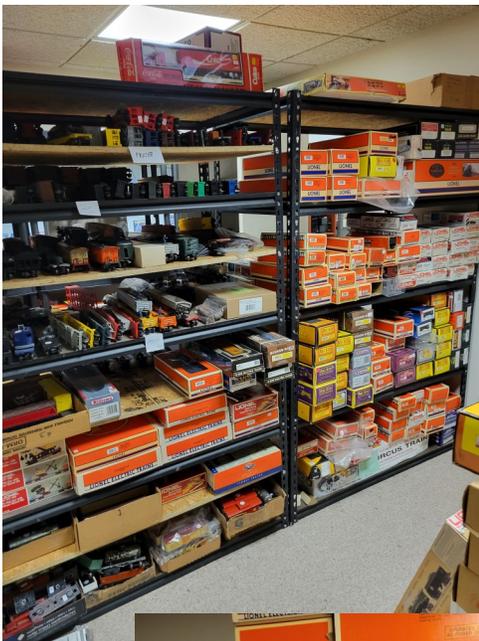


You have probably heard that we are cleaning and sorting the storage areas upstairs. This is definitely the case and we have some real jewels ready for sale. Take a look at some of the photos taken recently! These shelves are overstocked and ready for you to shop.

We aren't finished with the project yet and many items haven't been priced yet. So, we need to sell things to give us more room.

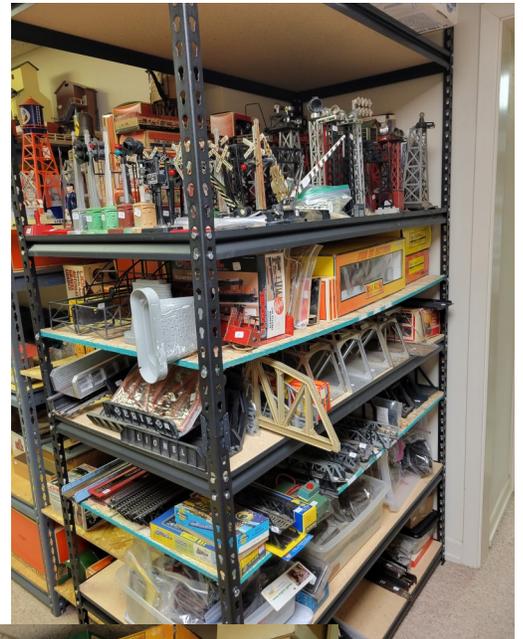
If you are interested in doing some "train shopping" on a Saturday, just ask the Yardmaster. But, please be patient when you ask, as we need two members to accompany you, and one must be a Board Member.

We have just about everything from engines, cars of all kinds, track, accessories, buildings, and even the materials to make your layout look real. Some things are new, others gently used, some just plain used. But all are priced accordingly. All items are priced below retail and about average price from on-line and we don't charge you shipping. You get it right away!



This is a small sample of what is available!

Also, you can see the work that has gone into organizing items to make it easier to see what is available.



### **Officers**

President: Rich Parsons  
Vice President: Brian Chestnut  
Secretary: Shirlene LeBleu  
Treasurer: Cheryl Thompson

### **Board Members**

Norval Alliston  
John Flinn  
Mike Gable  
Zachariah Hubl  
Jr. Director: Isaac Langhofer  
Greg Jamis  
Frank LeBleu  
Gary Thompson  
Conrad Youngblom

### **Hours:**

**Saturdays 10AM - 5PM**  
**(except holidays)**

**Age 6-12: \$4 and age 13 and older: \$7**

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**130 South Laura Street**

**Wichita, Kansas 67211**

**( 620) 837-3006**

**wichitatrainmuseum.org**

