



THE SEMAPHORE

October-December 2023

FALL TRAIN SHOW...

During our upcoming Train Show we need personnel not only to run trains from 9am to 5pm on Saturday and 10am to 3pm on Sunday but to help with numerous other tasks. These tasks include setting up, directing vendors, and assisting with unloading on Friday. Working in the concession stand and admissions desk on Saturday and Sunday. Tearing-Down and assisting with loading on Sunday afternoon. These are very important tasks and ensure we have a successful show.

At this point we have a great nuclear group performing these tasks. All members gain free entrance to the show. However, some members can create a problem by not participating in the operation of the show. They create a bad example for the members who are working and helping that day. With this type of activity or rather lack of activity there is a feeling among the workers "Why should I do anything. It's their club too and all they do is shop." This not only affects our working members but it also sets a very bad example for new members who want to participate.

We understand that some members cannot help due to physical or other disabilities, but if you can, we always need cash donations to offset some of our expenses. To exist, ***we need everyone to help.***

Shirlene LeBleu

Rich Parsons

Co-Chairs



Wichita Toy Train Club

29th Annual Train Show

Saturday, Oct 28, 2023 9 am to 5 pm
Sunday, Oct 29, 2023 10 am to 3 pm

Cessna Activity Center

2744 George Washington Blvd
Wichita, KS

Admission: * Operating Layouts
\$8.00 * Buy, Sell, Trade
Children under 13 free * Concessions on site
(with paid adult)

For more information:
<http://www.wichitatomytrainmuseum.org>

FALL TRAIN SHOW CONTINUED...

This is a very special event for the club and it is a major fundraiser for the museum. This event requires many hours of planning by multiple individuals. It also requires many hands to get it all set up and ready to open. That's where you come in. We need volunteers on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Please look at your schedule and see where you can help.

Friday:

Table set-up day before the show. 10:00am - 2:00pm We need at least 5 people to help get the 180 tables into the correct spot. This requires some precision and strong labor. We have a detailed floor plan that you will follow to meet the needs of the vendors.

Saturday/Sunday:

Concessions: 10:00am - 5:00pm Sat & 10:00am - 3:00pm Sun.

Each day we need 3 people to serve the food items in the snack bar and 2 people to run the register and take payment. If you can only work part of the day let me know.

Train Layout: 9:00am - 5:00pm Sat & 10:00am - 3:00pm Sun. Each day we need several people to run your trains (both O and S gauge) on our modular layouts. We usually schedule people in 2-hour shifts. So please let me

Admissions Table: 9:00am - 5:00pm Sat & 10:00am - 3:00pm Sun.

We need a couple people each day to sit at the admissions table taking money as people enter the show. We usually schedule people in 3-hour shifts. So please let me know what times you can be there.

Sunday:

Tear-Down: 3:00pm - 5:00pm.

We need 5 people to take down all the tables and sort them into specific categories for storing. This does not require any precision, just strong labor.

You can respond to me with information about how you can help. Remember as a member you do not have to pay the entrance fee (\$8), so why not come out to the show, help for a while, then do your shopping.

Shirlene LeBleu

WTTC Secretary

NEW O GAUGE LION CHIEF ENGINE!

John Flinn brought back from the LCCA Convention a beautiful new **Lion Chief engine** (view it on display in the north cabinet). He is offering it to members for a donation (starting at \$300). This is your opportunity to get a unique O-gauge engine for much less than the retail price. Proceeds will go toward the purchase of the new trailer.

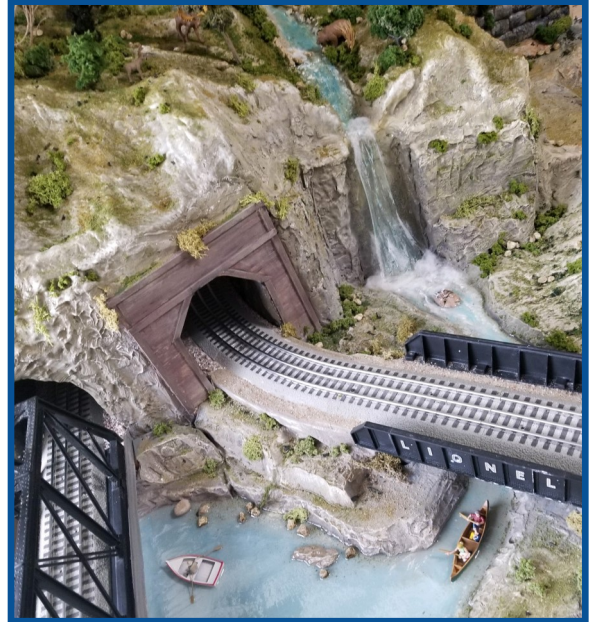


Member Layout...

Our featured member layout belongs to Frank and Shirlene LeBleu. It is always fun to see the different scenes and, while every layout may have a farm, city or industrial area, all the scenes are unique to those who are designing their scenes. Each layout is a personal expression of their creativity.



Picnic area and swimming hole



Waterfall into the lake



Grape Arbor



The farm at the close of the day



Church wedding scene



Down town

LCCA Convention Highlights

This summer's LCCA convention was held in Concord, NC. Concord is the home of Lionel and Nascar Racing. WTTTC was represented by Mike and Esther Gable, Albert and Zachariah Hubl, John and Kathy Flinn, and Joan Weigant.

Tours throughout the week consisted of train rides and visits to Nascar sites. Early in the week we visited the North Carolina Transportation Museum in Spencer, NC. It features an operating turntable and a 37 stall roundhouse. A short ride around the Museum grounds was also available. Later into the week we rode the Aberdeen, Carolina and Western Railroad behind restored F-Units out East to Pinehurst, NC. Consist included air conditioned passenger cars, a dome car, and open-air cars.

Lionel's business is 70 per cent model trains and 30 per cent Die Cast Nascar Collectible Race Car Models. With their Headquarters in the heart of Nascar territory, there were also several racing related tours, including Roush, Fenway Racing, Hedricks Motorsports, Nascar headquarters, and Nascar Hall of Fame. One the highlights of the trip was a visit to Lionel Headquarters. We saw the Service Dept, Graphics & Design Dept. Research and Engineering Dept, the American production and painting Dept. and the warehouse and shipping areas which took up most of the building. Every member on the tour also got to sit at Howard Hitchcock's CEO's desk and got their picture taken. Then two days later we received a boxcar with that picture on the side!

Another highlight was a dinner held Monday night at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. It was on the sixth floor Speedway Club overlooking the whole racetrack. At every table there was for each person a exclusive painted die cast car and Howard announced there would be a special guest coming for dinner. It turned out to be The King Richard Petty! After dinner there was an interview with Richard and he said he would sign the cars for us. He ended up staying and signed all the cars for the 220 members at the dinner.

Next year's convention will be in Omaha, and we have requested space so we can bring the WTTTC Modular Layout there.



Display cases...

Frank LeBleu has asked those who have items in the display cases to please provide information on your items. Also, we would like to have the donor(s) recognized. To date, no one has responded to this request. There are some really nice things in our display cases, and many would not know the origin or history behind those items. Having this information is not only informative for our members but shows visitors that we truly have, like other museums, great items and information and documentation to go along with our displays. So, please, get your information to Frank or Shirlene. Thank you.

Clean-up!

Wiring on the O Gauge layout will be starting soon! *However*, there needs to be some major cleaning out under the layout as it is packed with materials and tools. We need those who have or are working on the layout to please help get things cleaned out or at least re-arranged so that those doing the wiring can get under the layout and begin their work!



NEW MEMBERS



August

Randy & Martha Ferguson
 Dean & Salley Richardson
 Thomas Schulz
 Chris & Elizabeth Stanley
 Graham & Sally Richardson
 Ben & Marsha Wahl

September

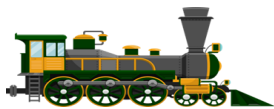
Justin & Christina Carlson
 Jaylen Godby
 Garrett & Jessie Lindley
 Bill & Joyce Young

Welcome to all our new members! We hope to see each and everyone of you at the museum. There are plenty of opportunities to help with projects, and to learn from other members who are always happy to share their knowledge!

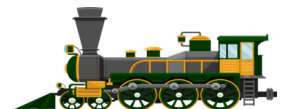
Crazy Caboose Club...



The older youth are interested in setting up a "Thomas" battery operated layout. They have been working on some of it on Saturday afternoons on the empty table in the corner of the main hall. They are also interested in learning to do some minor maintenance work on engines. We are looking for some donated items that they can work on as well as someone to show them how to do the work. We are still in need of someone to take over the leadership of this committee.



Upcoming Train Shows



- ◆ **TTOS Toy Train Show:** Chickasha, OK
 October 14, 2023 - 9 am - 3 pm
 Grady County Fairgrounds 500 E. Choctaw Ave.
- ◆ **WTTC Fall Train Show:** Wichita, KS
 October 27, 2023 - 9 am - 5 pm & October 28, 2023 10am - 3pm
 Cessna Activity Center 2744 George Washington Blvd.
- ◆ **Mid America Train & Toy Show:** Kansas City, MO
 December 10, 2023 - 9 am - 2 pm
 KCI Expo Center 11728 Ambassador Dr.
- ◆ **Grand Central Station Christmas Open House:** Hutchinson, KS
 December 16, 2023 - 10 am - 5 pm
 16 East 3rd Ave.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October-December

Mike Baxter	October 1
Bob Crawford	October 6
Justin Carlson	October 8
Bruce Mullins	October 15
Mike Shockey	October 26
Randy Ferguson	October 27
Caleb Birket	November 16
Jon Birket	November 21
Garret Lindley	November 21
Graham Unruh	November 22
Noval Alliston	November 28
Shari Shockey	December 4
Jason Krumrey	December 5
Carol Flower	December 12
Esther Gable	December 12
Greg Jamis	December 17
Easton Krumrey	December 17
Duane Dawson	December 18
Echo Krumrey	December 24
Jesse LeMaster	December 25
Aaron Friesen	December 31



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

October-December

Justin & Christina Carlson	October 21
Bruce & Kelley Mullins	November 15
Troy Sr. & Linda Brown	November 20
Mason & Rebecca Houfek	November 21
Graham & Rachel Unruh	December 29



3 D Printing ...

If you are needing items made for your layout - contact member Thomas Schulz. His business information is: 785-640-1831 or bluekitsuneenterprises@gmail.com.

A Chicago, Illinois law once prohibited eating in a place that was on fire. After much discussion, a 1912 amendment exempted dining cars on steam trains.



Wichita Toy Train Club

Officers

President: Jerald Peterson
 Vice President: Brian Chestnut
 Secretary: Shirlene LeBleu
 Treasurer: Albert Hubl
 Jr. Director: Isaac Langhofer

Board Members

Norval Alliston
 Bob Crawford
 John Flinn
 Zachariah Hubl
 Greg Jamis
 Ben Langhofer
 Rich Parsons
 Conrad Youngbloom

Hours:

Saturdays 10AM - 5PM (except holidays)
 Age 13 and older: \$7 6 through 12: \$4

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 Wichita, Kansas 67211
 (620) 837-3006
wichitainmuseum.org