



Wichita Toy Train Club

THE SEMAPHORE

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2025

From President, Rich Parsons

Time sure does fly. Another quarter has gone by in what seems a blur. There have been many things happening at the Museum.

The Fortieth Anniversary dinner is over. We had about 30 members and guests in attendance. The meal was very good. The 3 Charter Members who spoke about the beginnings 40 years ago were very enlightening. There were 13 original members in 1985. I asked the Speakers if 13 was a lucky number and contributed to the fact that we are still growing. We held a silent auction and raised \$200.00 for the general budget of the Museum. Thanks to all who participated.

The painting has been completed on the train we were given by New Spring Church. Thank you to all who had a part in making this a great addition to the Museum.

We are nearly complete with the sorting and pricing project that has taken over 2 years of work. If you or a friend are looking for train-related items, please give the Museum a look. We have everything from accessories to train sets available for purchase. Remember, members get a 10% discount when they purchase items.

The Board has voted to change the hours of the Museum to 10-4 on Saturdays. These changes will be phased in through the end of the year to be effective 1-1-2026. The Board is also recommending an increase in the cost of admission. The proposal is to charge adults \$10 and children 6-12 to \$5. Children 5 and under will still be free. There has also been discussion about offering a 10% discount to Military, Senior Citizens, First Responders and Teachers. No Board recommendation has been made. It will be discussed at the July Board meeting and will be presented to the Members at the August Business Meeting. These changes will be phased in through the end of the year to be effective 1-1-2026.

As I announced to the Board in May, I will be stepping back from my responsibilities effective December 31, 2025. Nancy and I need a break from duties at the Museum. This has created several opportunities for you to volunteer. Opportunities include, Gift Shop, Board Member, President, Train Show Sales, Upstairs Train Sales, Finance Committee and working Donations. I hope you will consider what part you can have in making the Museum a great destination place.

I think I have rambled long enough. THANKS for all you do for The Wichita Toy Train Museum.

Rich

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

The Fortieth anniversary Dinner of the Wichita Toy Train Club was held Friday, June 13, 2025 at the Wichita Firefighters Hall. Below are some pictures of the evening.

Guest speakers and Charter Members

Ray Girardo

Frank Provenzano

Bill Hendrix



Lots of visiting
took place



A quilted throw (found in a box of things upstairs), a one year membership to Cow Town, six, handcrafted wood pens made by Duane Dawson, and an O gauge engine were items for the silent auction. Two hundred dollars was raised through the silent auction! Thank you to all who bid on these items and congratulations to those who won!

Hutchinson Train Show on June 14th & 15th



Lots of folks stopped by and enjoyed the O and S gauge layouts! The stormy weather Saturday morning kept show attendance numbers low but picked up a bit later in the day and somewhat on Sunday.



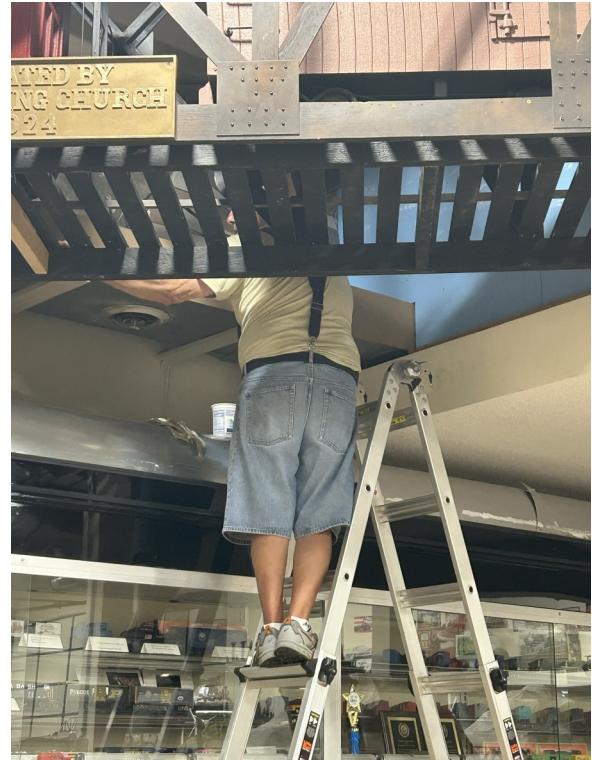
Lockers

The lockers are coming along. While not completed as yet you can see what they will be like.

Duane and Jerald continue to work on these as well as other projects around the museum.



Final Painting...



Duane Dawson

&

Frank LeBleu

Duane and Frank completed the painting of the underside of the bridge, duct work and surrounding wall to complete the "Train" donated by New Spring Church.

Pictures were taken of the completed work but seem to have disappeared from other pictures taken... gotta love technology! Pictures will be re-taken and put in the next Semaphore but, why not just come down to the museum and see it in person, you will not be disappointed!

Thank you to all who worked so hard to pick up, prepare the site, install and complete this project.

BATTERIES!

Please be aware that most if not ALL Lionel and MTH remotes have rechargeable batteries, the charger with new charged batteries is in the control drawer of the O Permanent layout.

Attached is a photo of the two brands of rechargeables you might see, please do NOT throw them away.





NEW MEMBERS



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We look forward to seeing you at the museum!

Bob & Lisa Talbott, Marcus Wright, David & Evelyn Rayson & Cecil Stokes



With Rich stepping back from all that he is doing at the end of the year... I will be ending my time doing the Semaphore. While I really enjoyed doing the newsletter, I will not have time to continue doing this as Rich and I wish to do more traveling..

I would love to see someone take up this project! There is a Publisher template set up and I would be happy to help anyone who would like to take this on and help get them started.

Nancy



Officers

President: Rich Parsons

Vice President: Brian Chestnut

Secretary: Shirlene LeBleu

Treasurer: Zachariah Hubl

Board Members

Norval Alliston

John Flinn

Mike Gable

Gary Thompson

Jr. Director: Isaac Langhofer

Greg Jamis

Frank LeBleu

Jerald Peterson

Conrad Youngblom

Hours:

Saturdays 10AM - 5PM (except holidays)

Age 13 and older: \$7 6 through 12: \$4

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wichitatrainmuseum.org