

THE SEMAPHORE

The Monthly Newsletter of the Wichita Toy Train Club – Established 1986

Visit us on the web at www.wichitatomytrainclub.org or www.wichitatomytrainmuseum.org

September 2016 - Volume XXXI—Number 8

30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8,** **AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9**

The weekend admission price will be as follows: Adults – \$2; Couples - \$3; Family - \$5, children under 12 are free as usual.



BANQUET SATURDAY AT 6:30 PM AT **IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH** **BUY YOUR BANQUET TICKETS** **BY THIS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1**

There will be door prizes consisting of three sets of two tickets for the Abilene and Smokey Valley Train ride, and two \$25 gift certificates to Schrader's Rail Catalogue.

Tickets must be purchased by Saturday, October 1st. The ticket cost is as follows:
Couple - \$20; Individual - \$10; and \$6 for children under 12.

THE SEMAPHORE

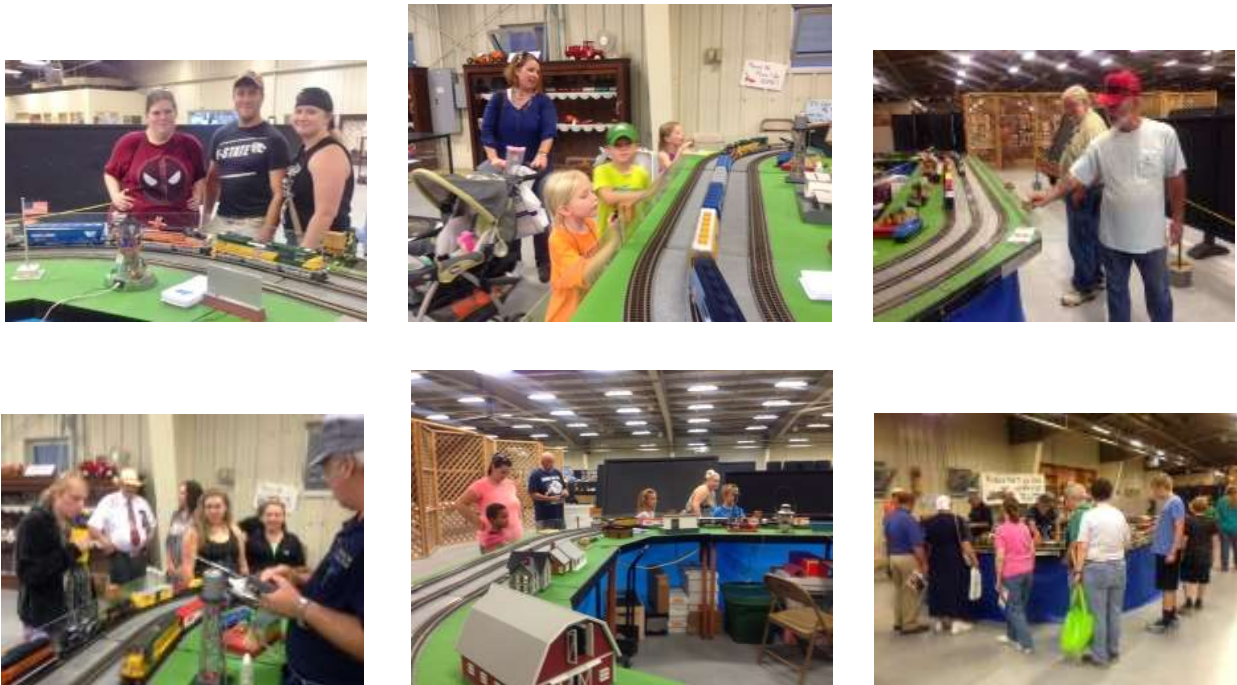
**Next Business Meeting is Saturday, October 1, at 8:30 am.
Plan to run as there is a Birthday Party at 10:30 am this Saturday.**



Kansas State Fair Blast Call

Thank you to all members that participated with set up, running trains and tear down. Gary Nicholas was Coordinator for Friday and Saturday and Mike Gable for Sunday.

This was an opportunity for WTTC to distribute our brochure, Birthday Party brochure, Model Train Show cards and the 30th Anniversary cards.



The Museum's members know how to work admissions and the gift shop.



Thank you Marsha Nicholas and Kathy Harrold for your help.

THE SEMAPHORE



THANK YOU TO ALL!

**EVEN THOUGH THE RESULTS ARE NOT FINAL,
WTTC HAD ITS BEST MODEL TRAIN SHOW!!!**



VENDOR MAKING A SALE. TROY BROWN RUNNING S GAUGE WITH THE CIRCUS. GERALD CASTLEBERRY RUNNING O GAUGE.



THANK YOU TO ZACHARIAH HUBL AND CHRISTOPHER MEISTER FOR THEIR PRODUCT REVIEWS. CHECK IT OUT ON THE WEBSITE WWW.WICHITATOYTRAINMUSEUM.ORG UNDER "LIONEL AMBASSADOR."



THE SEMAPHORE

Wichita Toy Train Club 22nd Annual Model Train Show

Article submitted by Rich Meister for publication in Cowcatcher

The Wichita Toy Train Club just celebrated its 22nd Annual Model Train Show and Swap Meet held at the Cessna Activity Center in Wichita, Kansas on September 24th and 25th. The group reports the event was a whopping success. Paid admissions were up by 30% over the previous year. There were plenty of attractions to account for the increase. Over 170 tables chock full of vintage and modern trains of all scales and dealers from Kansas, Oklahoma Colorado, Missouri, Nebraska, Minnesota and California were on hand to deal. Complementing the sales tables were 8 layouts featuring N, HO, O, S, and G gauges. Some as large as 20 feet x 50 feet!

A new activity this year was what the Club calls “Kids Depot”. Located on the 2nd floor of the facility, the Kids Depot featured activities geared for children 12 years of age and under. A ride-on Thomas the Tank Engine train ran both days for aspiring, young engineers, a 10ft x 26ft Lego train layout was exhibited by a family from Oklahoma, children’s videos were on hand for wind down time, tattooing, coloring, bean bag toss, and a floor layout that the children could operate themselves made for great entertainment. The Kids Depot was a HUGE success drawing over 200 children. It’s an event that simply should not be missed.

The Club regularly sponsors two train shows every year. One at the end of September and the other the first part of November. The next event to be held by the Club is the Arkansas City Train Show on November 5th and 6th in Arkansas City, Kansas. Further information can be obtained by logging onto:

www.wichitatomytrainmuseum.org

KIDS DEPOT

Children enjoyed the many activities upstairs. The Chandler Family “Lego” set is always a big hit. There was even an area for the kids to build their own item. There was running Thomas the Train, Brio set, Coal in the Hole, Playhut Thomas the Train, Playhut Train, Coloring, Tattoos, Vote for Your Favorite and for under 40 lbs. riding Thomas the Train.

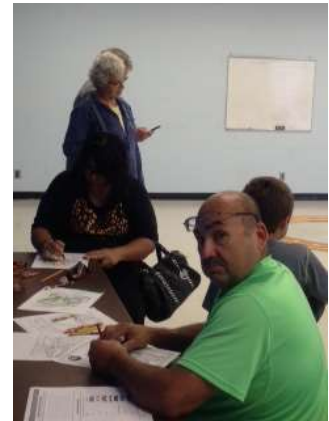


THE SEMAPHORE

Kids Depot Continued



Who's going to win?



Parents coloring too!



THREE GENERATIONS OF THE HAUNS. JUNE MEISTER RECEIVED A SPECIAL GIFT AS CONDUCTOR FROM PHILLIP. WEIGHING IN AT 36 LBS., HE ENJOYED RIDING THOMAS THE TRAIN. SEE THE PICTURE ABOVE SHOWING HIS APPRECIATION FOR GETTING TO RIDE. RECEIVED VERY POSITIVE COMMENTS FOR KIDS DEPOT AND MANY RETURNED TO PLAY SOME MORE. NEXT YEAR...MORE KIDS!!!

American Flyer Product Review Sept. 2016

Submitted by John Flinn, Director

The Wichita Toy Train Club recently received two American Flyer Scale Cylindrical Hoppers, The Canadian National 6-48639 Hopper and the 6-48641 UP Heritage MoPac Hopper. The CN Hopper is decorated in the colorful rainbow stripes on one side and plain gray on the other with the CN Canoodle on both sides. I believe the CN had an actual car painted in this scheme. The UP Hopper is painted in the MoPac Heritage scheme that matches the UP Heritage SD-70 MoPac engine. I don't believe there is an actual hopper painted in this scheme.



THE SEMAPHORE

American Flyer Product Review Sept. 2016 Continued

The photo on page 5 of the two Hoppers are on the under construction WTTTC S Gauge layout. Each hopper features die cast trucks, operating couplers, opening hatches on the roof, separately hand applied metal details, and a length of 10 1/4". The MoPac Hopper has silver painted trucks, the CN trucks are black. Both of these hoppers are very colorful and we decided to have a contest to see which was the more popular paint scheme.

At our Train Show the weekend of Sept. 24 & 25 we had a vote taken at our Kid's Depot activities area. The results and comments are reported below by Shari Schockey, Club President.

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE!

Children between the ages of 3 to 12 voted for their favorite hopper at the Kids Depot, part of 22nd Model Train Show and Swap Meet on Saturday, September 24. This was a major fund raising event for the Wichita Toy Train Club with proceeds going to the Wichita Toy Train Museum.

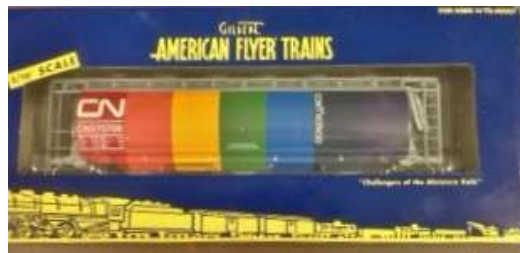
The winner. #1, by five votes, was the UP Cylindrical Hopper MoPAC.



The winner was selected by primarily boys for the following reasons:

The main reason was the color and eagle. It looks faster. It has an eagle. Because it's blue. It looks like it should go behind a steam engine. Like logo and paint sheen. It's cool, MoPAC blue. Like Missouri Pacific Lines. It has the UP slogan "Proud Heritage, Powerful Future" on it.

The runner up, #2, was the CN Cylindrical Hopper.



The runner up was selected by primarily girls for the following reasons:

The main reason was the colors, more colorful and rainbow colors. One boy likes Canadian style trains which this reminded him of. The impact of design does determine choice.

Submitted by Shari Schockey, President
Wichita Toy Train Club and Museum

THE SEMAPHORE



Parties – October 1 (Saturday) Birthday Party, 10:30 am, 6- and 4-year old boys.
Plan on running trains after the Business Meeting.

December 3 (Saturday) Birthday Party, 10:30 am, 2-year old boy



Hello everyone! Now that our Wichita train show is over, we need to start our final planning process for our train show in Arkansas City, Kansas. Our show this year is on **November 5th** and **6th**. We will have our first meeting on **Thursday** the **6th** of October at our museum starting at 6:30 in the evening. Everyone is welcome to come to the meetings we will be holding during the month of October.

New this year we will be participating in the Ark City festival on Saturday **October 29th**. Our group will have an entry in the **Saturday** afternoon parade. Our plan is to tow member Charlie George's twelve-inch gauge diesel engine and have W TTC members walking along either side handing out cards announcing our show the following weekend. It should be lots of fun so don't miss out on this one.

We will again be using Cowley County College students to assist with table setup and teardown at the train show. The good news with that is we won't need to much physical work for the event.

Tresa Miller will be in charge of the concession booth and will be sending out an advance list indicating the food items we would like to have donated to keep our costs down.

Anyway as I said, everyone is invited to participate so I hope to see you at our kickoff meeting on October **6th**.

Thanks,

Javen Schmucker

THE SEMAPHORE

After the 30th Anniversary Celebration...What's Next?

Exploration Place, Oct. 15-16 – Gary Nicholas, coordinator. Set up is at 7:30 am on Saturday morning; open hours are Saturday 10:00 -5:00 and Sunday 10:00 – 4:30. Tear down on Sunday at 4:30 pm. Carpet Central with both O & S gauges running. Halloween theme.

Museum Open – Oct. 8 & 9 for 30th Anniversary; Oct. 22-23; Move next Business Meeting from Nov. 5 to Nov. 12 due to Arkansas Train Show. WTTC open 11/12-13 and Thanksgiving weekend 11/26-27. Move next Business Meeting from Dec. 3 to Dec. 10 due to Derby Library. WTTC open 12/10-11 and closed on 12/24-25 for Christmas. Next Business Meeting on January 7 at 8:30 am.

Chicagoland Lionel Railroad Club first Open House with the NEW LAYOUT Saturday September 17, 2016.

We have worked hard to get the track laid for this first Open House of the 2016-2017 season. The new layout has four levels of track. The lowest level is the Logging Route. The logging train starts out at the lowest level, rising up with a helix and switchback taking it to the lower main line. The rise is about 50 scale feet of height. There are two main lines that include a coal siding. Above this level is another pair of mainline tracks that wind around the full layout, including a large Drive-in Theater. We still support our Belt Line layout which is surrounded with a 120 foot background picture of Chicago, Lemont, Joliet refinery and power plant. This complements our refinery and power plant built on the layout. Of course we still have the Thomas layout upstairs.

Guests came in and were **WOWED** by our new layout.



Connor and Logan run accessories as mom watches



Mike, Colin, and Austin with CLRC member Bill



Amy, Effie and Gavin enjoy the accessories



WOW can be heard as the Big Boy is on the top track

THE SEMAPHORE

Chicagoland Lionel Railroad Club first Open House with the NEW LAYOUT Continued



Big Boy streaking down the track



Control instructions by Ron



Corner view of the new Layout

Trains 'n Toys at Garden Railway Gizmos is now closed

Thanks to all who have purchased over the years!

Store/House/Garage/Moving SALE

**Thursday Oct 6, Friday Oct 7, & Saturday Oct 8
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

Please do not come earlier – I may not be up

(House auction Oct 27, time not determined yet.)

**Some model train items
A number of children's toys, train and otherwise
Puzzles
Display racks and hooks
For Better or Worse cartoons
Supplies and a few tools from the Fix-it Lady days
Few pieces of furniture, collectible and every-day
Wire shelving
Usual garage sale items
...and uncategorized**

Park on Market north of 13th or in back yard; do not block flow through lot

The WTTC September 2016 Minutes will be sent by separate email.