

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

July 2016 - Volume XXXI—Number 6

30TH ANNIVERSARY 1986 - 2016

This year the Wichita Toy Train Club is celebrating 30 years of existence. In this day and age this is truly a remarkable achievement in which all WTTTC members can take pride. We would like to commemorate this achievement by having a special 30th anniversary celebration weekend which will include some games and prizes for kids, reduced admission, special anniversary t-shirts for club members and a dinner for club members and their invited guest(s).



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The weekend we have set aside for our celebration is Saturday and Sunday, October 8th and 9th. As a committee we do apologize for not being able to hit a weekend that works for everyone but we know, too, that this would be an impossibility. The weekend admission price will be as follows: Adults – \$2; Couples - \$3; Family - \$5, children under 12 are free as usual. There will be a “Throw the Coal in the Hole“ game, Find the Objects On the Layout, and special coloring sheets. There will be prizes for the “ ... Hole” and “...Object” games. As always there will be opportunities for the kids to run trains.

The dinner for club members (and guests) will be Saturday evening the 8th, 6:30 pm at Immanuel Baptist Church and will be catered by the ladies of the church. We have had some wonderful meals prepared by the ladies! 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. We do not want *anyone* to feel they cannot attend the dinner due to the cost. There are scholarships available. If you need a scholarship, please, do not hesitate to contact me, Rich Parsons, at (316) 283-5415.

We are hoping that you will plan to attend for a good meal, dinner music provided by the *Out of the Moors* group which includes WTTTC club members Barry Cooper and Richard Kinney and a program by a member of the Speeder Club.

We also have t-shirts for sale commemorating our 30 years. The cost for the shirts is \$10 per shirt up to size XL. Shirts are available in sizes up to 4X and the price for these are: 2X - \$12; 3X - \$13; 4X - \$14. The t-shirts are light, athletic grey, with our anniversary logo in black. They are 100% *pre-shrunk* cotton. The last date to order t-shirts will be at the October 2nd club meeting (the order will be placed on Monday morning October 4th) and all shirts *must* be paid for at the time of ordering. This is a one-time opportunity for these shirts and once the order goes there will be no more of these shirts made. There is an order sheet in the kitchen at the club on the side of the refrigerator.

The 30th Anniversary Committee consists of Norval Alliston, Rich (chairman) and Nancy Parsons and Adolph Weigant. As a committee we would like to take this special weekend as an opportunity, to say thank you to all the members who have had a part in WTTTC throughout the years, and an opportunity to get to better know our newer members as well as to help bring more attention to the club and our hobby. We do hope you will all take the opportunity to get together and celebrate this incredible milestone of the Wichita Toy Train Club. Rich Parsons

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Next Business Meeting is Saturday, August 6, at 8:30 am.
There is a Birthday Party at 10:30.



Parties – August 6 (Saturday) Birthday Party, 10:30 pm, 5-year old boy.
Plan on running trains after the Business Meeting.

August 27 (Saturday) Birthday Party, time to be determined

Exhibit – Lionel Collectors Club of America Convention display O Gauge Modular Layout, July 29 and 30.
Hilton Kansas City Airport
8801 NW 112th Street, Kansas City, MO 64153
T: 1 816-891-8900

When is the Trading Hall open?

The Trading Hall is open on Friday
Trading Hall will be open for trading
registered Convention attendees only.
until 9 p.m. The Trading Hall will be open
members not registered for the
a.m. until closing at 3 p.m. Non-registered



Trading Hall free of charge on Saturday. Show your valid membership card at the entry door.

evening and all day Saturday. The
starting on Friday night at 6 p.m. for
This registered-only trading will continue
to the general public and LCCA
Convention on Saturday starting at 9
LCCA members will be admitted to the

What does it cost to visit the Trading Hall?

Adult admission on Saturday is \$5 for visitors who are not club members. Children 18 and under will be admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult.

Layout Tour – National Model Railroaders Association/Wichita tour, September 10 (Saturday) afternoon

COHEN LAYOUT PROGRESS

Thank You to Javen Schmucker, Ron McLeran and Mike Shockey for completion of the fascia.



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Cohen Layout Progress Continued



Javen Schmucker has leveled the track. There are a few electrical issues to be fixed. However, the ballast is ready to be permanently laid and need volunteers to help. Skirting will be done by the end of August.

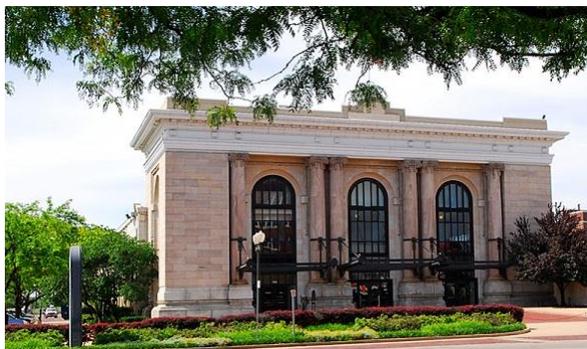
Kansas Elks Training Center for the Handicapped (KETCH) Visits

On Tuesdays, July 12 and July 19, the Wichita Toy Train Museum was visited in the mornings by two day care groups from KETCH. Thank you to the many members that were available to run trains and help the visitors. Charley George spoke about being an engineer. All the exhibits and running trains were enjoyed by everyone.



The **Kansas Elks Training Center for the Handicapped, Inc. (KETCH)** offers a comprehensive set of supports through programs and services that are designed to meet the unique needs of adults with developmental disabilities whether it be daily life skills training, development of vocational skills, or assistance with in-home activities. KETCH is well-established as a leader in the rehabilitation industry with over 50 years of experience in integrating people with disabilities into mainstream community life. At KETCH it's important to help each person identify and live to their fullest potential.

THANK YOU KETCH FOR COMING TO SEE THE WICHITA TOY TRAIN MUSEUM!



HOT! HOT! HOT! KANSAS RAILFEST!

Kansas Railfest was held on Saturday, July 16, 9:00 – 4:00. Set up of the O Gauge Modular Layout was on Friday starting at 5:30. WTTC selected to set up inside Union Station (in case of bad weather) instead of on the outside platform of Great Plains Transportation Museum (GPTM). GPTM hopes to have an annual Kansas Railfest and this year, the approximate attendance was 1,000 paying visitors.

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Kansas Railfest Continued



We set up in the Fred Harvey Lunch Room. We realized that fans were needed. Thanks to all who brought fans, especially Richard Harrold for bringing 4 standing fans and extension cords.



Being in the Historic Union Station brought back memories for some of us. Some of us remembered riding a

train when we were young. For a school field trip, Conrad Youngblom, Mike Shockey and I talked about boarding a train at Union Station to go to Topeka, Kansas. There were many pictures of Union Station in the 1940's and 1950's. Pictured below are photographs of what the lunch room and the past looked like during that historic period.



Now for the present...



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Kansas Railfest Continued



Charley George, left picture, displayed his Ottawa Miniature Steam Locomotive that were built in Wichita before and after World War II by the OttawaAmusement Co. A sister to this locomotive was given as a gift from the City of Wichita to its sister city, Orleans, France and still operates in a public park.



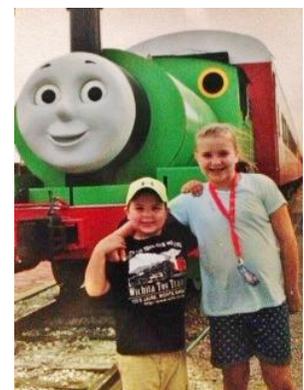
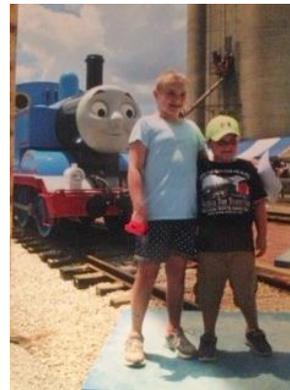
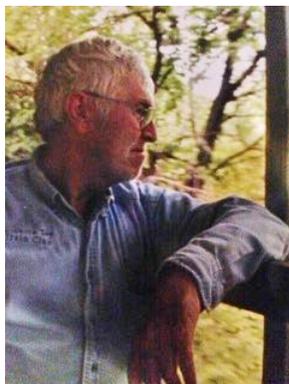
Conrad Youngblom brought his laptop for the public to view actual trains running.

THANK YOU TO
EVERYONE THAT
PARTICIPATED!



Day Out with Thomas and Friends!

WTTC Members Troy and Linda Brown spent June 4 with their family riding Thomas the Train at the Midland Railway Historical Association in Baldwin City, Kansas. The Wichita Toy Train Club and Museum was advertised by Troy, Linda and Cooper wearing their club shirts as you'll see in the pictures. Troy also distributed the museum brochures to interested people. Thanks for the free advertising.



Wonder what Troy is thinking about? Possibly working on the Permanent S Gauge Layout?

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Area Train Shows

August 6, 2016 (Saturday) – Central Missouri Rail Road Association Train Show and Swap Meet, 10:00am until 2:30pm, Admission Adults \$5.00, Ages 11-17 \$3.00, 10 and under free. Free Parking. Operating train displays. 1101 E. Veterans Memorial Parkway, Warrenton MO 63383.

August 7, 2016 (Sunday) – Mid-America Train & Toy Show, KCI Expo, 11730 NW Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO (I-29 North Exit 13 East). 7am Earlybirds \$10. Open 9am – 2pm, Adults \$5.00 Kids 12/under free. Next show Nov. 27, 2016.

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