

## The Editor's Notes



Let's start this month's notes with the upcoming Christmas Party in December. We have agreed to have a catered event at Steve's Place on Sunday afternoon, December 13. Please contact Steve Meseraull if you plan to attend. More information on the event can be found later in the newsletter.

Jon Ardahl provided me with information on the Santa Fe Modelers Annual Kansas City Mini Meet. The event will be November 14<sup>th</sup>. Mike Tomei will be presenting along with others. The flyer can be found later in the newsletter.

We need to keep working on the 2016 Lawrence Model Railroad Club Train Show and Swap Meet. I'm certain there will be more discussion at the meeting.

Back in August, I wrote that I added a German prototype steam locomotive to my collection. The model manufacturer is Trix, which makes DC versions of Marklin models. I pointed out that I discovered some track glitches when I tested the locomotive for the first time. Recently, I found time to work on the track and fixed one of the problems. This problem

involved the lead drivers of the steam engine jumping the track on a #4 turnout. In this issue of the newsletter, I wrote a short article about diagnosing the problem and my approach to fixing it. I still have a few other areas with problems to work on, but the locomotive remains on the track everywhere on the layout.

Last month I thought the presentation would be by Mike Tomei, but he was unable to present. The replacement program was a video on soldering. I checked with Mike this month, and he will present a talk on detailing Santa Fe diesel locomotives. I'm certain it will be a great presentation.

Gregory Ohlmacher  
Newsletter Editor

**Next Meeting: November 10, 7:30 P.M. at Steve's Place, 1388 N 1293 Rd., Lawrence, Kansas. Entrance is on 31<sup>st</sup> Street.**

## Turnout Repair

My notes in the August 2015 newsletter mentioned that I bought a German steam locomotive by Trix to add to my collection. It worked great except for one turnout. This article discusses what caused the problem and how I fixed it. The design of the Trix and Marklin steam locomotives features flanges on all the drivers. This locomotive's configuration features 6 drivers. My other two steam locomotives have no flanges on the center drivers. With the Trix design, on curves and on the diverging routes of turnouts, the first and last drivers on the outside rail are in solid contact with the rail, and the center driver on the inside rail is also in solid contact with the rail. All the other drivers are in loose contact with rails. What was happening was the lead driver on the inside was off the rail enough to catch a part of the turnout. To understand this, I need to explain how my turnouts are constructed.

For those that don't know, all tracks on my layout are handlaid, including the turnouts (Figures 1). I had guides on how to cut and shape the rails of the turnout, but not how assemble the turnout. I used manufactured turnouts as a guide. The point rails have two pieces of rail, the point and a section that is part of the frog. The two sections are connected with a rail joiner that is tight on the frog rail, but I spread the joiner slightly on the point side. This allows the point rail to rotate slightly. The frog section is spiked down to the rail joiner and the point rail is not spiked down. In order to improve the electrical connection, I soldered a jumper to the two rails. The jumper is a piece of nickel silver that is bent to allow the point rail to move (Figure 2). Here is the problem, the bend in the jumper was too far off the

point rail and lead driver on the inside rail was catching the jumper and lifting the front of the locomotive off the rail causing it to jump the tracks.



Figure 1. Switch design



Figure 2. Close up of jumper

The repair involved removing the old jumper and replacing it with a new one. I chose to change the design. I used a piece of stranded wire instead of the nickel silver. After tinning the end of the wire, it was soldered to the point rail (Figure 3). Those who showed up to the last club meeting saw how to tin wire as part of the video. The point rail was placed in position and soldered to the frog rail (Figure 4). After a little clean up, the fix worked like a champ.



Figure 3. Stranded wire soldered to point rail



Figure 4. Completed repair of turnout

LAWRENCE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

# Christmas Party

Steve has obtained the following information on our annual club Christmas party. He contacted several caterers and also several locations where the party could be held. Other caterers were more expensive and locations were either not available or would cost a fee.

A caterer in Eudora is available to provide the following meal on Sunday afternoon December 13, 2015 at Steve's Place for \$8.50 per person to be paid by attendees. The meal would include the following:

- Turkey
- Ham
- Mashed potatoes and gravy
- Green beans
- Salad
- Rolls
- Ice tea and water

The caterer will not be providing a dessert so we will need to provide desserts. Also, we will need to provide plates, and utensils.

If we want anything else on the menu we can provide it ourselves or we can check with the caterer.

If these arrangements are not acceptable we could always do what we have done in the past.

Steve will need to know how many people will attend the dinner by the November 10 club meeting. Family members are welcome. Please tell Steve at the November 10 meeting if you will be attending the dinner and how many will be attending. If you are not able to make the meeting, please let Steve know ASAP how many will be attending. Please acknowledge receipt of this notice even if you are unable to attend so we know that you were notified. Thank you.

Steve needs to confirm the arrangements with the caterer.

**PLEASE CONTACT STEVE at 785-979-2711**

First  
NOTICE

**Santa Fe Modelers**  
**28<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Kansas City Mini-Meet**



**November 14, 2015**  
**At the Old Mission Methodist Church**  
**in Fairway, Kansas**

**“You want to do....WHAT?!?”**  
**by Warren Scholl**

**“ATSF Strong City Subdivision”**  
**by Lance Garrels**

**Announcements – Future Mini Meets, Wichita**  
**Convention, plus Society News**

**“Warbonnets in the Flint Hills”**  
**By Scott Thomas**

**“Modeling Yellowbonnet Geeps”**  
**By Mike Tomei**

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**Doors Open at 8am, Early Bird Depot Display**  
**and Slide Show at 8:15 am, Main Program**  
**Begins at 9:00am, Layout Tours in the**  
**Afternoon, Cost is \$5 at the Door**  
**Tables Available for Purveyors of Santa Fe Related**  
**Products and Items**

**Directions to Church 5519 State Park Road, Fairway, KS 66205**  
**Exit I-35 at Shawnee Mission Parkway and go east approximately 4 miles**  
**to Mission Road. The church is on the south side about 300 feet past**  
**Mission Road, on State Park Road**

**Info: [www.atsfrr.com](http://www.atsfrr.com) or Jeff Needham 913-645-3841**



February 20 (9am-4pm) & 21 (9am-3pm)

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Admission: Adults \$6.00 donation & Children 12 and under free with paid adult

**Bring canned food donations and receive \$1 admission discount per person**

**Lawrence Model Railroad Club supports L.I.N.K. Inc. Food Pantry**

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**Douglas County Fair Grounds, Building 21  
2120 Harper Street, Lawrence, KS (2 blocks north of K-10)**

**More information at [www.lawrencemodelrailroadclub.org](http://www.lawrencemodelrailroadclub.org)**

Features: Layouts (HO scale and N scale), Model contest, vendor tables, silent auction, door prizes, concessions and more

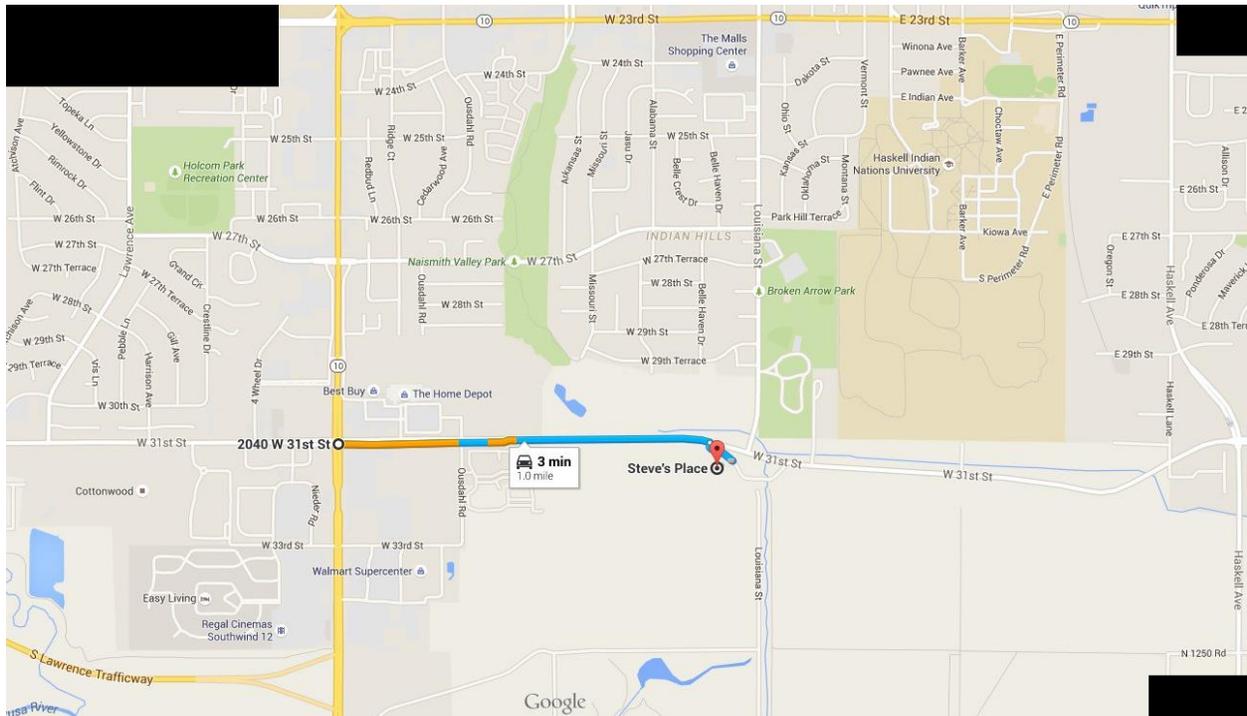
Model Contest Categories Include: Diesel Locomotive, Steam Locomotive, Rolling Stock, and Structures. More info and entry forms can be found on the LMRC website and accepted the first day of the show

## Program and Map

The November meeting will be held at Steve's Place on Tuesday, November 10 at 7:30 PM.

The presentation will be by Mike Tomei on detailing Santa Fe diesels. This is a follow up to my Detailing Diesels presentation I gave a couple of years ago where I showed how I researched, procured, built, painted, decaled and finished some models. Santa Fe Gp-20us and GP-30us were the subjects. I may bring a couple of models to display.

The business meeting will cover the 2016 Lawrence Model Railroad Club Train Show and Swap Meet and the Christmas party.



## T2 Decals

I received an email from Todd Thornberry asking that I introduce his company T2 Decals to the members of our club. This is not an endorsement of their products, just information to pass along. The following is reprinted from their website:

*"T2 Decals is a manufacturer of quality waterslide decals in HO, N, and O scale. Our products include graffiti, pre-weathered Ghost Signs, Feed & Seed, Skid Row, and Circus Sideshow. Shipping to the US is always free."* (Reproduced with permission of Todd Thornberry of T2 Decals on November 2, 2015)

Their website is: <http://www.t2decals.ecrater.com/>

## Lawrence Model Railroad Club



Several members and guests are in line for dinner at her 2013 Lawrence Model Railroad Club Christmas Party. The 2015 Christmas Party is coming up at the December meeting. This year the food will be catered, and the cost will be \$8.50 per person.

Meetings are at 7:30 P.M. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

Lawrence Model Railroad Club  
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