

The Editor's Notes

At last month's meeting, a post train show discussion was held. One of the topics was the required membership in the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). Before I get started, I want to acknowledge that several members and former members are, to say it politely, opposed to membership to the NMRA. The biggest complaint is that they don't get enough out of the NMRA to warrant membership. I'm on the other side of the issue. I feel that I get a lot out of the NMRA.

I've been to 2 national conventions and 3 national train shows, two Mid-Continent Region (MCOR) conventions, and several Turkey Creek conventions. I try to make a few Turkey Creek meetings. In honesty, most of these events I could attend without being part of the NMRA. I peruse the NMRA Bulletin, and I'm the recipient of the hobby standardization that the NMRA provides. The biggest thing that the NMRA does for me and the club is event insurance. The LMRR Train Show gets event insurance through the NMRA. Jim Turner is looking into other sources of event insurance, and he may find a cheaper or matching source. He makes a point that the cost of the event insurance is not just the amount paid to NMRA, but should also include the cost dues paid to the NMRA. Yes, but if the club goes outside the NMRA for event insurance, the club will have to raise our dues to cover the increased cost of non-NMRA insurance.

In fairness, this is what the current club dues are:

- \$20.00 per year to the club treasury,
- NMRA membership (no NMRA Bulletin subscription): \$44.00
- Total: \$64.00

That is all we ask of the membership. If you want to pay the \$22.00 extra for the NMRA Bulletin, that is your choice. Now, I assume that some members, like me, will continue to be NMRA members even if the club decides to drop NMRA event coverage and relax the 100% NMRA membership requirement.

Next Meeting: May 12, 2016, 7:30 P.M. at Steve's Place, 1388 N 1293 Rd., Lawrence, Kansas. Entrance is on 31st Street.

The group of us that remain NMRA members can't be counted as part of the cost of the current arrangement, NMRA event insurance, for the club. We are a zero net for the insurance.

If we drop the event coverage from NMRA, the club dues will be:

- \$20.00 per year to the club treasury,
- The cost of event insurance divided by the club membership: \$x.00
- Total \$20.00 + \$x.00

I waiting to see to see what Jim Turner can find and I'm sure that we will get the chance to discuss making a new arrangement or sticking with NMRA event insurance at future meetings.

Please note that we are still meeting at Steve's Place this month.

Gregory Ohlmacher
Newsletter Editor

2016 Lawrence Model Railroad Club Train Show and Swap Meet in Photographs (Part 2)

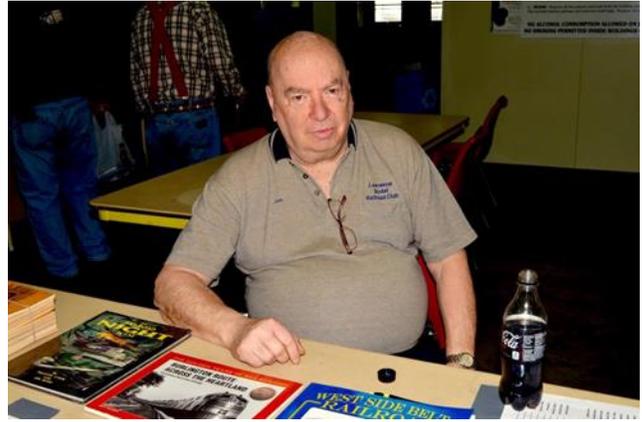
Photographs by Jack Rosenfield and text by Gregory Ohlmacher

Last month, I published some of Jack Rosenfield's photographs from the recent train show. The pictures were of children, adults, and layouts. This month, I have some pictures of the model contest and silent auction items. I hope you enjoy them.

Model Contest Entries:



Silent auction items under Jon's watchful eye:



Announcements and For Sale Items

I usually receive a number of emails from people looking to sell model railroad items or have announcements. Here's what I've received in the last month:

1. **Steve Meseraull** will have a number of model railroad items for sale at the April meeting.
2. **Nancy Grecian** (nancygrecian@gmail.com) has a live steam shay locomotive for sale (see below). Her deceased husband bought it in 2007 for \$800. She is looking for some help pricing this item and someone to purchase it. If you can help in either way, please contact her.



3. **Dwight Kaska** of Muscatine, IA is selling his O-gauge collection including Lionel, MTH, Rail King, K-line and Williams. If you are interested, he can be emailed at: badmomma265@yahoo.com.
4. **David Engle** is promoting the Rock Island Reporter:



The newsletter is free to e-mail recipients.

To sign-up, go to: <http://eepurl.com/Ut8UL>

Please pass the above link to anyone interested in the Rock Island Railroad. Back issues are available. E-mail address updates are appreciated. Stories and smaller

articles are welcome. Send materials to Tom Brugman at tbrug@aol.com.

David Engle: RIRocket@att.net, Kansas City, clerk-helper

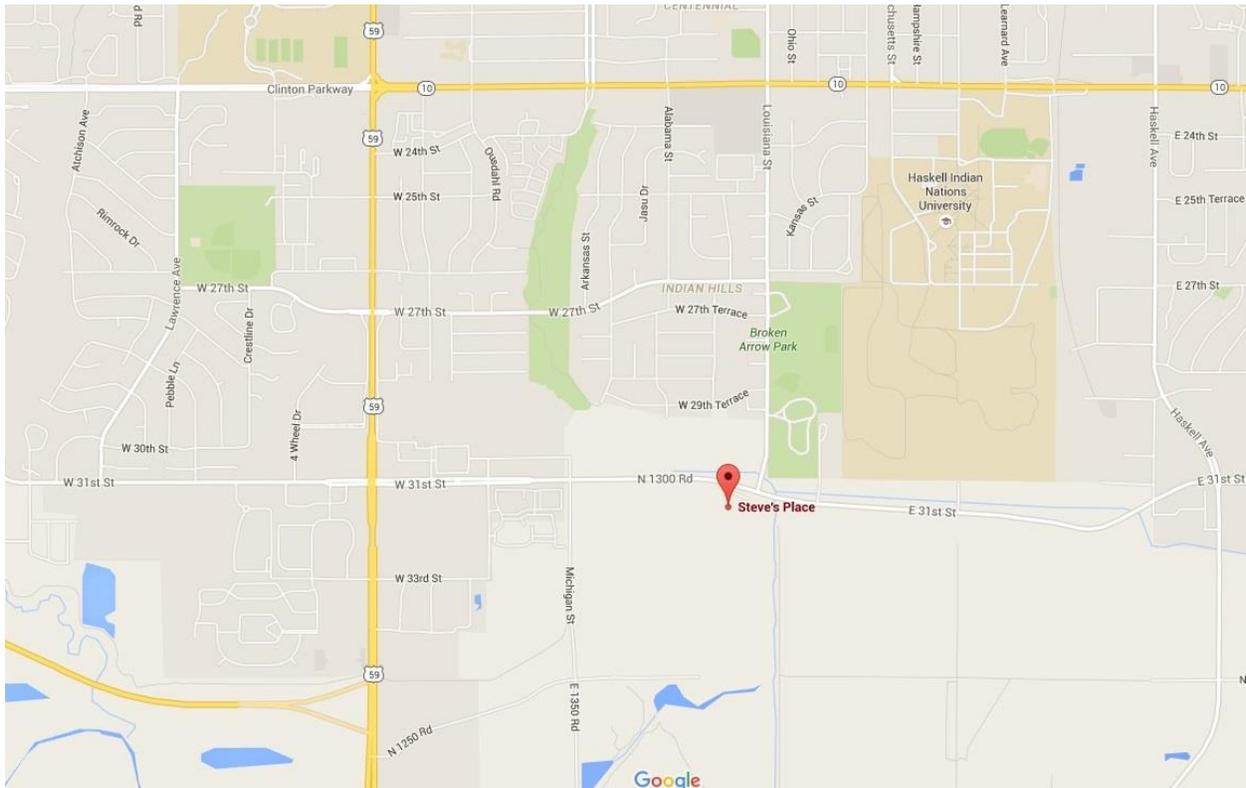
Program and Map

The April Meeting of the Lawrence Model Railroad Club will be Tuesday, April 12 at Steve's Place, 1388 N 1293 Rd., Lawrence, Kansas (see map). The meeting will start promptly at 7:30 PM.

Program:

Car tagging (Graffiti): Jim Turner promises a hands-on demonstration. He is not providing a full sized freight car for practice nor is he offering a midnight tour of the freight yard, but **he has suggested that you bring a model freight car of your own.** I assume that he is providing all the materials besides the model.

Now if you don't come prepared, his backup program is a sing along featuring railroad ballads. Am I kidding? Come and find out.



Lawrence Model Railroad Club



Excavator with clamshell bucket. This model was an entry in the model contest at the 2016 Lawrence Model Railroad Train Show and Swap Meet. This highly detailed model was one of many entries in this year's contest. This issue of the newsletter has pictures of several entries. The photograph was taken by Jack Rosenfield.

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

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