MMRM Newsletter January 2025

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Message from the President - Dale Shipman

First of all I want to say thank you to all of our members/volunteers for your dedication and support with all the activities and projects we have been working on. In 2024 with only having opened our doors in May, we welcomed 1300 visitors. Each week we welcome more new members, tour groups and introduce more exciting activities for every one to partake in. 2025 is looking to be a very exciting year with continuing progress in the Museum. So please join us in welcoming a very exciting 2025 for the Museum.

Tales from the Rails - Monthly Series

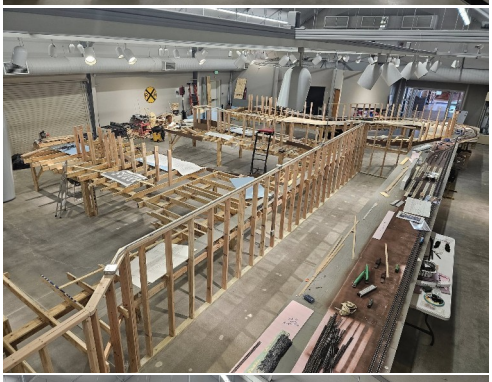
This month we welcomed Andrew Osborne, Conductor and Matt Phalen, Engineer, both with Amtrak. With a combined over 30 years of Amtrak experience they have a very personal telling of their careers on the rails from coast to coast. We had a great turn out and everyone had a great time viewing the museum progress after the event.

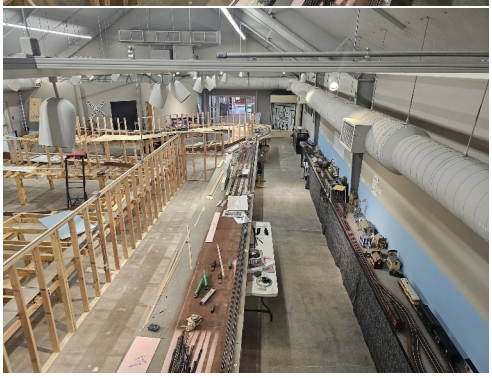
Tales from the Rails is a Monthly Series that MMRM will be hosting the third Saturday of each month.

Little Engineer's Corner

Thanks to the MMRM, the Kid's Depot has expanded its presence within the Missouri Model Railroad Museum, now featuring the Itty Bitty Engineers play area, separate from the bLittle Engineers model train layout, ensuring safe play for both groups.

Construction News and Updates





There has been tremendous progress at the Missouri Model Railroad Museum from National Train Day last March until now. The Train Room was empty except for the temporary layouts on display.

The first operational layout was the 14’ x 4-6” HO switching layout in Gallery “A”. Buildings were added, and scenery progressed. A continuous loop of track added, and backdrops to break up views.

The next operational layout was the Lionel, which was on display at the National Train Day on a trailer, now a 27’ x 7’ double track layout. It is still a work in progress but with scenery and lighted structures. In addition, the many Lionel trains that were donated are displayed in a case and on shelves on the wall.

In addition, a “G” scale switching layout 53’ x 2’ on the west wall of the Train Room. It has a temporary set-up of buildings and people, but will ultimately have hand-made structures of Independence, MO. The layout is to represent the Union Pacific “Pixley Industrial Lead” which runs from Truman Depot, through backyards, up to caves east of Route 291 near the drive-in theater.

The HO layout, representing Kansas City to St. Louis, being built in the Train Room is a massive project. It consists of a 62’ long base structure of Kansas City Union Station and a train yard, with four 20’ long by 8’ thick peninsulas, with allowed viewing between. At this point all peninsulas are framed. Backdrop and staging yard framing is still progressing. Elevation changes for trackwork need to be done. Some trackwork in KC has been laid up to Lee’s Summit and occasionally a test train is run.

Also, in Gallery “A” an ON3 layout is progressing nicely as it was broken apart to relocate it to the museum. It is going to be expanded slightly from its present size to complete a loop of track.

Please stop by the Museum to see what is happening, or volunteer and get involved.

Fundraising

The Missouri Model Railroad Museum would like to thank all the individuals, families and estates that have contributed to the museum and helped to achieve this amazing dream of a railroad museum. All monies and donations received go right back into the creation and building of the museum layout.

We have received so many amazing collections in 2024 and all of our volunteers are working hard to integrate, restore, preserve and showcase these incredible collections. Every one of the collections has a history and we are working hard to share the histories with everyone who comes through our doors to keep these legacies alive.

We offer several Membership Levels and each level comes with perks. More and more perks are being added all the time! One of our perks is Free Lectures!

Upcoming Events

Tails from the Rails
Saturday, February 15, 2025, 1:30 to 3:00
Speakers to be announced
MMRM Members - A free event benefit
Non MMRM Members - $5.00

Saturday, March 15, 2025, 1:30 to 3:00
Speakers to be announced
MMRM Members - A free event benefit
Non MMRM Members - $5.00

MMRM Spring 2025 Train Show and Swap
Saturday, March 22, 2025, 9:00 to 3:00
We still have Vendor space available for $25.00. Please contact Gina at gina@showmerails.org for a Vendor Form.
General Public Admission $5.00 for adults and youths 13 and up

National Train Day
Saturday, May 10, 2025
More exciting information will be coming soon.