MODEL RAILROAD CLUB
THE RAILHEAD

NEWS LETTER OF THE PIKES PEAK "N"GINEERS MODEL RAILROAD CLUBCelebrating 24 years of model railroading

March 2014 **RAILROADING SINCE OCTOBER 13, 1989**

336 Strykers heading to Ft Carson.

Artillery heading to Ft Carson.

2014 Club Officers

Superintendent:	**- Lester Coburn**
Assistant Superintendent:	**- John Grier**
Station Master:	**- Bob LaHair**
Paymaster:	**- Chris Dueker**
Member at Large:	**- Dave Woosley**
Member at Large:	**- Rick Shumpert**
Past Superintendent:	**- Mike Peck**

TIMETABLE FOR 2013

March 1: Photography clinic to be held at Applebee's at 1:30pm located on Academy at Goddard.
March 3: Board meeting at Big Train – dinner at 6:30pm meeting to follow.
March 4, 11, 18 & 25: Tuesday work session 7 to 9pm club room.
March 7, 14: Work session at club room 7 to 9pm.
March 8: Coupling & uncoupling at 1pm at Steve Peter's home
March 14: Leave for Garden City show at 7am. Breakfast at Denny's at 8am.
March 15 & 16: Garden City show
March 15 & 29: Run or work session at club room 1 to 4pm
March 20 & 21: MTL repair session at the Freedom Financial Expo Center, 10am to 4pm Thursday and 10am to 2pm Friday followed by setup of the MTL.
March 28: Business meeting Club room 7pm.
March 22 & 23: TECO 19: Colorado Midland theme, see story below.

April 3: Setup at Village at Skyline after 4pm, see story below
April 4 & 5: Village at Skyline, 10am to 4 pm both days, see story below.

Superintendent's Corner

Hi Guys

Wow it is March already and boy is it a busy month. Starting the 8th we have a clinic at Steve Peter's house on Coupling and Uncoupling. The next weekend we are off to Garden City, if you are going make sure Mike knows. The weekend following that we have TECO 19. Remember that we plan on working on the MTL wiring the Thursday and Friday before TECO. We will set up the MTL on Friday starting at 2 PM. Also due to TECO we need to move the Business Meeting to the following Friday (March 28)

I would like to thank Steve for the great clinic he held at his house on February 22. We had several members show up and we learned a lot. I think this club is about ready to start running DCC on a couple of lines.

We have some good ideas for Outings but still do not have a Trip destination. Be thinking about that.

With that said, we have been invited to the Nebraska West-Central Division of the NMRA Train Show at North Plate, Nebraska, April 12 & 13. I asked at the February meeting if people wanted to go but no one jumped at it so the idea was tabled to the March meeting. I have realized that we should be asking people who can go and who cannot go. Keep this in mind for the March meeting.

See you all at the club room.

Lester Coburn
Superintendent
Pikes Peak "N" Gineers

TECO 19 Colorado Midland

The club will be able to get into the Expo Center on Thursday March 20th after 10am to work on the MTL. We should be able to work until 4pm.
Friday's schedule will start at 10am and then at 2pm we will start the setup of the MTL. If you can get there by 4pm that would be great.
The TECO schedule for Saturday March 22nd, doors open at 7am for vendors and clubs, 8am early buyers are allowed in. Doors open to the public at 9am and will close at 4pm.
The TECO schedule for Sunday March 23rd, doors open at 9am to vendors and clubs, open to the public at 10am and will close down at 3pm followed by tear down.
I'll be asking for volunteers to work the door so get with me about what hours you would like to work.

Village at Skyline Show

The club has been invited back to the Village at Skyline. For those that can help we will meet at the Village at 4pm where we will start the setup on Thursday April 3rd.
We will run trains from 10am to 4pm on both Friday April 4 and Saturday April 5. We will tear down and load the MTL after 4pm on Saturday. Please let Lester know if you can help on these days to ensure we have enough people to do the show.

Alan Bower our affiliate from down under

Meet Alan Bowyer our associate member in Australia. I've known Alan for over 20 years.
Our friendship started by me answering an article in a model railroad magazine when Alan wanted to correspond with American N scalers. We had a connection right from the start. Alan was born in Reading, England and me in Reading, PA.
Alan is an excellent scratch and kit bash modeler, some of his work our members have seen running on the MTL at shows. The layout you see is what Alan used to take to local shows, now it is part of his home layout, a little bit of England in Australia. If you look at the layout, notice the buildings!!! , they are "card stock kits" you would never know it if you saw them up close.
Alan really enjoys being a member, even though he's at the other side of the world.
Through our newsletter and my daily e-mails he stays in touch with me and our club and very much feels a member. Alan said to say G'Day to all our members.
John Grier

DCC Clinic

Steve Peters hosted the clinic on DCC at his home for the club. Attendees were Instructor Steve Peters, guest Wade Montz, members Charley Bay, Chris Dueker, Rick Shumpert, Mike & Mary Peck and affiliates Uffe & Paula Bennensen.
Steve used the Digi-Trak Zephyr system for the class. After the initial presentation we got into the question and answer time and we all learned a lot. Then Steve opened the table up to anyone who wanted to run. We had three separate locomotives running around on the table.
It was a great clinic so THANKYOU Steve, job well done.

Lester & Mary waiting for the clinic to start.

Wade watching Steve setting up.

Chris & Charley watching Steve setup a locomotive. Chris, Charley, Uffe & Lester

During and after the DCC clinic much discussion took place about adding DCC to the club layout and MTL. The club currently owns a "Lenz" system that can be utilized on one of any line we choose.
It was decided to hook the DCC up to the blue line on the club layout. Then we'll test out the track and perform any necessary repairs to make the DCC work. By adding the DCC to the blue line this will enable the membership to perform "OPERATIONS" for the first time ever.

Field trips

The club has the following proposed field tips to consider. Field trip #1 Union Station grand opening May 9, 1 to 5 pm, Cheyenne Depot Days May 17 & 18. A trip to Longmont to research sugar beets. A trip to the Greely Museum.
As you can see a couple of these are coming up right away and so we will need to vote on these at the next business meeting. Also be thinking of some other field trips the membership may be interested in doing. If we can't get to them this year there is always next year.
We have not discussed any train trips for 2014, so be thinking of one to try and go on this year.

Club Happenings

On Friday February 14, Mike finished some track adjustments to walk in bridge on the club layout. Lester was testing a couple of his locomotives so we decided to try and test out the bridge. First lap on the red line proved that the track needed to be cleaned, so a quick rub down with a bright boy and we tried again. Lester's locomotives ran smoothly through the worked over areas and so we cleaned the yellow line and ran on that one.
We noted that it's been quite a while since we have ran a train around the layout.
Other work that still needs to be completed on the bridge is to finish correcting the track on blue line and ballast the new track on green line.
Bob, Lester, & John are working on a sugar beet unloading ramp and field for the corner yard module. This may be in place later this year, so come on down and see what's going on. If you haven't been down to the club in a while you need to check out all the work Bob did in the yards.

Before after

The yards on the north wall of the club room before and after Bob worked on them.

2014 Dues

Just a reminder that the 2014 dues are due. For the regular membership you can make regular payments to the Paymaster or if you wish to get the one month exclusion you need to have 11 months paid in full by midnight March 1, 2014.

The Affiliate dues are due. For those who have not paid the affiliate dues by March 1st this will be your last Railhead until your dues are paid. You can send your dues to PPNG co/ Mike Peck, 4970 Iron Horse Trail, Colorado Springs, CO 80917 or drop them off at the club or use the mail slot at Ron's office.

2014 Train Show Schedule by Sigi Walker

3/22 & 3/23	TECO 19 Theme: Colorado Midland	Colorado Springs, CO Freedom FS Expo Center	9-4; 10-3
4/12 & 4/13	North Platte 20th Annual Train Show	D&N Event Center, 501 E Walker Rd, North Platte NE	9-5; 10-4
4/26 - 4/27	9th Annual Winslow Railroad Days 2014	Snow Drift Art Gallery Winslow, AZ	9-5; 9-3
5/3 ?	Pikes Peak Division/NMRA	Colorado Springs, CO Methodist Church	9-3
5/10	2014 Midland Days symposium	Divide, Colorado John Wesley Ranch	9:30-3:30
5/10	2014 National Train Day @ Alvarado Transportation Center	Albuquerque, NM Amtrak Station Depot	1 - 5
5/10	Wheels Museum -National Train Day Contact:	Albuquerque, NM Ex-Santa Fe Shops	10 - 5
5/10	GS Albuquerque Rail Fair	Albuquerque, NM NM State Fairgrounds	9-4
5/17 & 5/18	2014 Cheyenne Depot Days	Cheyenne, WY Union Depot	9-5; 9-5
6/7 & 6/8	TECO 20 Theme: Cog Railway	Colorado Springs, CO Freedom FS Expo Center	9-4; 10-3
6/17 - 6/22	2014 NMRA Rocky Mountain Region Convention	Sandy, UT	All day each day
7/26 & 7/27 tbc	Rocky Mtn Toy Train Show (TCA) @ The Forney Museum	Denver, CO Forney Museum	10-4;10-3
8/2 & 8/3	2014 Southern Colorado Rail Fair	Pueblo, CO Pueblo Union Depot	9-5; 9-4
8/16	2014 Durango & Silverton Railfest	Durango, CO D&S RR museum	8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
9/12, 9/13 & 9/14	TECO 21 Theme: Joint Line	Colorado Springs, CO Freedom FS Expo Center	4-9; 9-4; 10-3
9/19, 9/20, & 9/21	North Platte Rail Fest	North Platte, NE National Guard Armory	11-5; 9-5; 10-4
10/11 ?	Slim Rails Model RR show	Colorado Springs, CO Rampart High School	9:30-3
10/19 & 10/20	Western Kansas Train Show	Hays, KS Ellis County Fairgrounds	9-5; 11-4
10/25 ?	PPD/NMRA	Colorado Springs, CO Methodist Church	9-3
11/29 & 11/30	TCA Rocky Mountain Holiday Show	Denver, CO Merchandise Mart	10-5; 10-5
12/6 & 12/7	TECO 22 Christmas Show Theme: Circus Train	Colorado Springs, CO Freedom FS Expo Center	9-4; 10-3
12/13 & 12/14	Boulder Model Railroad Club	Longmont, CO Boulder County Fairgrounds	9-5; 10-5