



Ozark Division 1st Quarter 2026 Newsletter

My apologies for this issue of the Ozark Division Newsletter being a few weeks late. My wife and I moved from our home for 23 years in Overland Park to a villa in Olathe, KS. We moved to a 55 plus community where all outside maintenance is provided. Our square footage is about a third less. I am sure many of you are familiar with the pain involved in such a move. The good news is the previous owner was a wood worker and had a terrific shop in the basement. Also, the basement has a finished area that will accommodate the 8' x 8' Lionel D-148 dealer layout. More on the D-148 later in this Newsletter. The Newsletter also includes an article by Rob English on the American Flyer "New Haven" Boxcars.

Greetings train operators and collectors!

There have been several emails from TCA recently regarding changes to national leadership and staff. Whether you agree or disagree with the changes, our local chapters are still strong and attracting younger members. And we are having a lot of fun! I would encourage everyone to participate in their local chapter's meets and other events and get to know the younger generation coming into the hobby. Help the younger guys where you can and I have found there is much to learn from them as well. Also, consider volunteering at your local events or even becoming a Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President or President in your area chapter or for the Division. Those posts don't take too much time, and you can direct what fun things we will do next!

Please don't hesitate to contact any of your Ozark Board members with your ideas and questions or concerns. Also, thank you to everyone who has reached out to me or another board member recently!

Happy training,

Darin Grant

Ozark Division President

The Recreation of Lionel Train Display D-148 Part I

Don Miller 06-59842

First a bit of a review of the Overland Park layout's demise and the disposition of most of my collection. Beginning in January 2025, we dismantled the layout. Most of the wood and scenery was hauled to the scrap yard. Below you see Sam VanHaste and myself working on taking the layout apart. My neighbor Terry Gray and my wife Judy were also a great help in the

dissassembbly.

Sam, now a Junior in High School, has worked with me on my layout since he was seven years old. Sam, a bright young man, picked up the fundamentals of electricity at an early age. He



Sam and I during tear down

wants to become and areonautical engineer. As you can see from the picture below right, Judy did not hesitate to pitch in and help. Also at the same time we cleaned, photographed, recorded in a data base and boxed all the trains we planned to sell. I kept five sets; the Polar Express for Christmas, the MPC Powhattan arrow, my 1955 Christmas Texas Special set, my brother's 1941 1666 steam set, and finally a recreation of a 2055 passenger set.

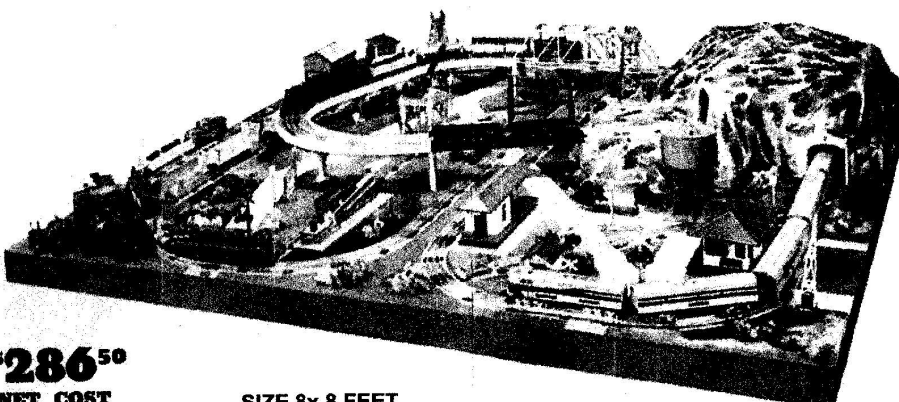


Judy cleaned all the trains and accessories

Finally, we selected Stout Auctions to dispose of the collection. To date they have held one large auction of modern equipment. We were pleased with the results. I will report in a future Newsletter.

Moving to the new house obviously required a downsized layout. Since I received my first train in 1955, I thought I would build a recreation of a 1955 dealer layout. The D-148 layout, made up of 2 4' x 8' sections bolted together looked like a good candidate.

LIONEL TRAIN DISPLAY D-148



\$286⁵⁰
NET COST

SIZE 8x 8 FEET

Merchandise included with this display is as follows:

1 No. LW 125 Watts Transformer	1 No. 356 Operating Freight Station
1 No. ZW 375 Watts Transformer	1 No. 362 Operating Barrel Loader
5 No. 71 Lamp Post	1 No. 445 Operating Switch Tower
1 No. 132 Automatic Station	1 No. 450 Overhead Signal Bridge
1 No. 138 Operating Water Tank	1 No. 494 Rotating Beacon
1 No. 140 Operating Bender Signal	1 No. OTC Contactor
1 No. 145 Gatepost	1 No. 497 Coal Station
1 No. 151 Semaphore	3 No. 260 Illuminated Bumpers
1 No. 153 Black Signal	2 No. 022RH Remote Control Switch
1 No. 154 Highway Signal	1 No. 022LH Remote Control Switch
2 No. 003 Ins. Curved Track	42 No. 05 Straight Track
2 No. 003 Ins. Straight Track	22 No. 0C Curved Track
1 No. 199 Water Tower	14 No. 3505 1/2 Section Straight Track
2 No. 214 Girder Bridge	2 No. 350C 1/2 Section Curved Track
1 No. 232 Operating Crossing Gate	1 No. UCS Hoagville Track Set
1 No. 283 Operating Portal Crane	1 No. 2656-150 Carrol Platform
1 No. 317 Trestle Bridge	1 No. 3462P Milk Platform

OPERATES THREE TRAINS -- ONE ON UPPER LEVEL THROUGH TUNNEL AND TWO ON SEPARATE LOOPS OF LOWER LEVEL.

TRAIN SETS ARE NOT INCLUDED. THESE ARE TO BE TAKEN FROM DEALER STOCK FOR DEMONSTRATION PURPOSES.

PLENTY OF ACTION -- THREE TRAINS RUNNING AT THE SAME TIME! INCLUDES MOST EXCITING ACCESSORIES. CONTROLS AND TRANSFORMERS ARE LOCATED AT A CENTRAL POINT.

The layout can run 3 trains simultaneously, one on the upper level through a tunnel and two on the separate loops of the lower level. It also had space for lots of 1955 accessories.

For many years the Lionel Corporation built display layouts and sold them to dealers all over the United States. Not all the huge 8' x 8' size, but most I would suspect were the 4' x 8' variety. One of my strongest childhood memories was a Christmas time trip to go with my parents to Sioux Falls, SD and stop by Lewis Drug Store to see their Lionel Train display. Although a little boys eyes the layout seemed huge, but more than likely it was the 4' x 8' variety of dealer layouts. Never the less, those dealer layouts planted in my heart a love for Lionel trains and the desire to build layouts.

Lionel would build the layout and ship it to the dealer for the price shown. The layout included accessories but not the trains. The dealer was expected to provide the trains from

their stock. The moderately sceniced layout would also come with a wiring diagram, track plan, and accessories location.

As can see on the previous page the dealer would need to pay \$286.50 in 1955 dollars for the layout. The layout also included accessories and trainsformers which the dealer could sell when the Christmas season was over. Or, many times the dealer would sell all or part of the layout to a customer. I asked chat GPT how much \$286.50 would be worth in todays dollars. The response was around \$3300.

CONSTRUCTION

I am constructing the layout using mostly 1" x 4" lumber salvaged from my old layout and I will use the scenary techniques used in the old layout as well. So, the layout will not be an

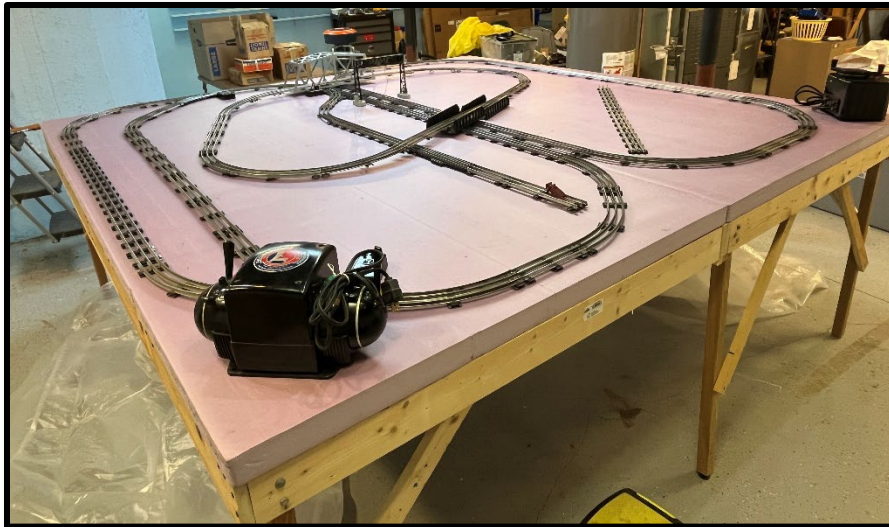


exact recreation, but rather an approximation.

The picture at the left shows the basic construction of the two sections bolted together and on the legs. Legs are reclaimed from my old layout and have a leveling bolt on the bottom of each.



The bottom left picture shows two 4' x 8' pieces of styrofoam glued to the top of the frame. This is my first venture into styrofoam. I find it has it's advantages and also disadvantages. More on that later.



Here are a few shots of the construction process. Upper left we, laid out the track to see how everything would fit. This included the upper level roughly laid on top of the lower-level track.



Not being able to crawl around under the tables like I used to (!) I bought 4 buckets at Home Depot, turned the up-side down and set the table on top of the buckets. We found that adding a brick on top of the buckets gave us just about the right height to sit on a mechanics stool and wire underneath the table.



The bottom left pictures show Sam and I behind the layout with most of the accessories placed and wired. Finally, we had to remove all the accessories and legs in order to get the layout ready to move to our new house. More to come in future articles.

Chapter Reports

TCA Heart of America Chapter



On Friday evening, February 20, approximately 20 Heart of America Chapter members gathered at host Darin Grant's home for our first chapter Friday Fun with Trains event. Most attendees

brought a favorite engine, car or whole train to run on Darin's layout. The evening was filled with trains running and lots of train-related conversation. Snacks and beverages were

provided by our chapter. Our next chapter event was our annual HOA Chapter Buy/Sell/Swap meet. The meet was held at the American Legion Hall, 7500 W 75th Street, Overland Park, KS on Sunday, April 19.



TCA Gateway Chapter

The Gateway Chapter reports that work has begun preparing for this year's "Beer & Brat" train show in December.



Photo 1

A PRIMER: American Flyer “New Haven” Boxcabs

Rob English 96-43303 • stfrisco@gmail.com



Photo 2



Photo 3

By 2001 I was firmly hooked on American Flyer Wide Gauge collecting. I was actively hunting for NYC 20th Century electrics at the time, as you read in the January *Quarterly*. The opportunity came in late 2001 to acquire a 1929 Eagle set, though at the time I did not know much about New Haven electric boxcab locomotives. My honorary Uncle Dave quipped that he felt that I would enjoy collecting sets with this little locomotive in them. He was, as usual, right on point! I started researching these sets, using original catalogs and talking with other wide gauge collectors.

The New Haven models were likely modeled after the New York, New Haven and Hartford's EP-2 electric locomotive. Built by Baldwin-Westinghouse, the EP-2 operated on the New Haven electrified division west of New Haven, Connecticut. Delivered from about 1920 to 1927, the EP-2s stayed in service until diesel-electrics replaced them in 1958.

American Flyer introduced the New Haven style locomotive in 1927 in the inaugural “The Eagle” set. This loco was numbered 4643 and was thistle green in color (Photo 1). Roof top details included a nickel headlight shroud, bell, and small DC type pantograph. Accompanying the 4643 in 1927 was the 4653 loco in brilliant orange livery with red window trim (Photo 2). This locomotive pulled the three car orange “The Commander” set. Rooftop details were the same, as was the gloss black frame. The 4653 added brass journal boxes and air tanks to its black frame. 1927 also saw the first reported uncataloged New Haven boxcab set. “The Empire Express” was a tomato red 4743 or 4753 with identical details to the 4643 and with two fourteen inch cars, specially lithographed in tomato red livery (Photo 3). This set is hard to find in any condition.

1928 saw significant growth to the number of New Haven locomotives in the lineup. Flyer saw fit to start naming their locomotives as well. A slight numbering change to 4644 introduced “The Pioneer” locomotive, which started a run of commonly detailed cabs and frames. Generally the cabs now had two cast headlights painted gold, a large brass AC type pantograph, and a brass bell. The frame had a brass pilot overlay and four turned brass flag holders. Then there were two brass journal boxes and two brass air tanks on each side. Leading “The Trail Blazer” set was the 4644 painted sunset red with a black frame (Photo 4), while “The Eagle” was painted emerald green on

a black frame. The 4654 locomotive got the moniker “Daniel Webster” and was slated for “The Statesman” set in brilliant orange and azure livery (Photo 5). This loco ushered in the French gray chassis, which pervaded the line until the end of production. The other significant introduction for 1928 was the electromechanical reverse unit for wide gauge. To identify locomotives equipped with the new remote control function, the 4644/4654s mentioned above were numbered 4684—the “8” being an indication of “R/C” or remote control. That made a total of six new locomotives for 1928!

1929 was simply a total duplication of the line. There were no innovations, no color changes, and no new introductions indicated in the catalog. I propose that we started to see changes in the lithography of the fourteen inch cars to include translucent gold in the liveries of “The Statesman” and “The Eagle” sets. More specific letter boards, and six colors instead of four in the lithography, made for spectacular combinations.

In 1930, American Flyer got back to implementing refreshing changes to the line. After a short transition period, the French gray frame took complete control in the New Haven boxcab line. Flyer introduced the first “complete railroad” in the wide gauge line, called “The Frontiertown.” This set was a version of “The Statesman” (Photo 6) in Northwestern railroad livery, along with a #96 Flossmoor Station, a #4266 tunnel, a #92 watchman’s tower, a #2021 crossing gate, a #2216 danger signal, a #2109 light, a #2012 semaphore, and a #460 fuse set. At the price of \$37.50 it was a good value. The basic sets cost \$24 to \$26, and steamer locomotive sets started at \$47. In addition to French gray, there was a color change to victory red for “The Eagle” set (Photo 7) and a color change to emerald green for “The Trailblazer” set (Photo 8). It was this year that we saw unusual color transitions, like sunset red on French gray locomotives appear (Photo 9), as Flyer used up their new old parts stock. 1930 also produced the other well-known uncataloged set, via JC Penneys’ Nation Wide Lines brand. The set consisted of a 4644 with NWL plates, 4017, 4018, and 4011 in stock colors with a 4677 number plate (Photo 10).

Slipping further into the Great Depression, US buyers were cutting back on toy train purchases (as well as other products), and this was reflected in the 1931 offering by American Flyer. “The Trailblazer,” “The Eagle,” and

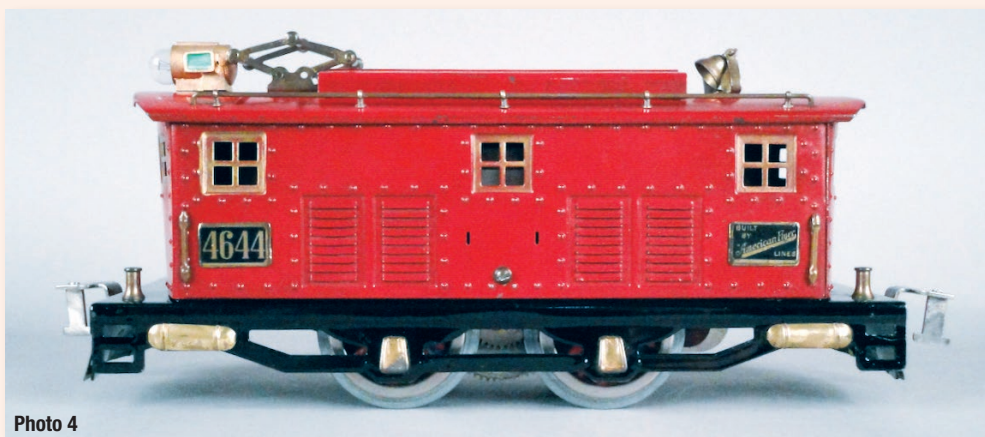


Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



Photo 7

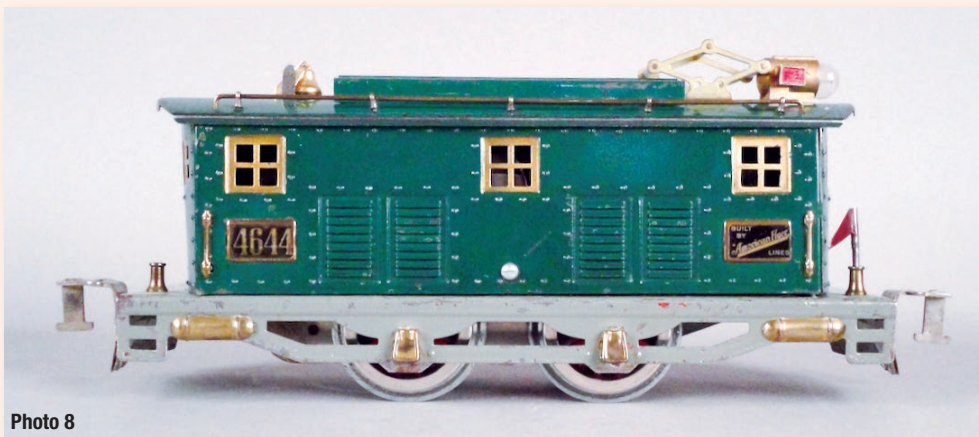


Photo 8

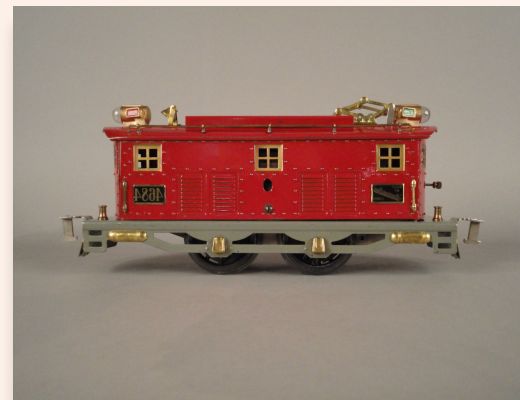


Photo 11

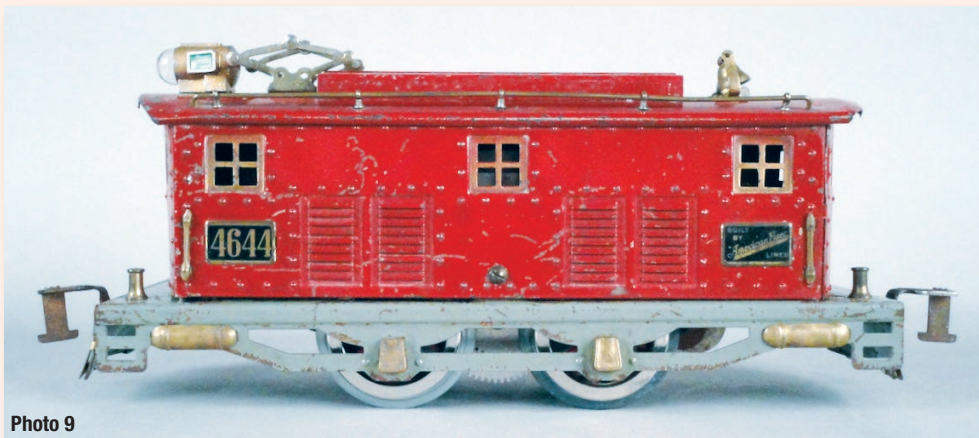


Photo 9

"The Statesman" sets were carried over from 1930, but the remote control (4684) option was discontinued. Flyer renumbered the R/C loco from 4684 to 4644R/C. It was offered in one set only, "The Brigadier," which had two new cars (4331 and 4332), all in victory red (Photo 11), a harbinger that lithography was on the way out. As usual with American Flyer, the exception is the rule. Photo 12 shows a 4684 plated 4644R/C (stamped on the frame).

1932 ushered in the beginning of the end for wide gauge. The deepening Great Depression left people who would otherwise be in the market,



Photo 10

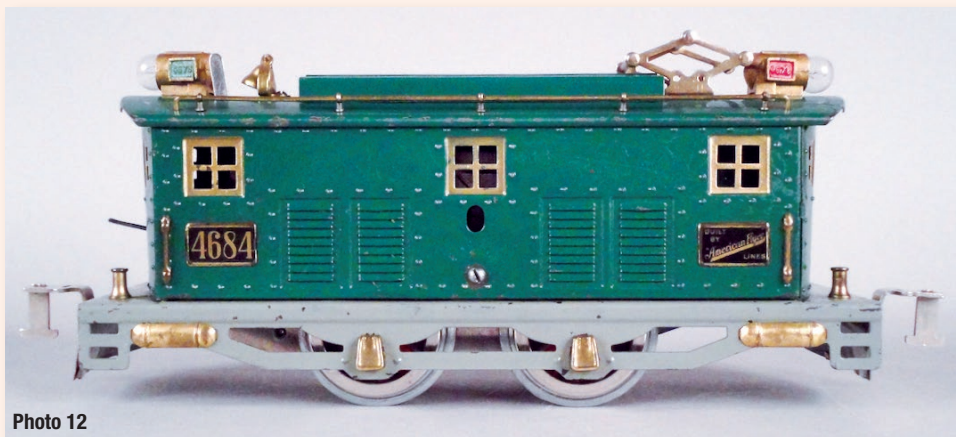


Photo 12

were now looking for starter trains sets. The New Haven part of the offering was reduced to two sets, "The Trailblazer" and "The Brigadier." Gone were the lithographed cars. Interestingly, the more expensive sets were now all remote control and still going strong. Locomotives were no longer offered for separate sale.

1933 saw the end of the New Haven cab offering. "The Trailblazer" was the sole offering carried over from 1932. The set was renumbered to 1471R from 1471. "R" was for manual reverse. "RC" was for remote control, now exclusive in the higher end of the product line.

Accompanying this article is a chart of

these locomotives, with their applicable catalog set names and numbers.

This article is meant to introduce readers to the 46XX series New Haven boxcab locomotives as manufactured by American Flyer in Chicago, IL, during the 1920s and 1930s. Readers may contact me at my email under the byline.

AMERICAN FLYER NEW HAVEN BOXCAB LOCOS

Year Catalogued	Loco Number	Loco Name	Loco Color	Set Name	Set Number	Set Contents	
1927	4643		Thistle green/ Black	The Eagle	1422	America/Pleasant View	
	4653		Orange / Black / Red	The Commander	1423	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	
	4743		Tomato Red/Orange/Black	Empire Express	1422	Henry Hudson/Knickerbocker	Uncatalogued JCPenny
	4753		Tomato Red/Orange/Black	Empire Express	1422	Henry Hudson/Knickerbocker	Uncatalogued JCPenny
1928	4644	Pioneer	Sunset Red / Black	The Trail Blazer	1471	4017 / 4011	
	4644	Pioneer	Emerald Green / Black	The Eagle	1472	America/Pleasant View	
	4654	Daniel Webster	Orange/Grey/Azure	The Statesman	1473	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	
	4684	Pioneer	Sunset Red / Black	The Trail Blazer	1481	4017 / 4011	
	4684	Pioneer	Emerald Green / Black	The Eagle	1482	America/Pleasant View	
	4684	Daniel Webster	Orange/Grey/Azure	The Statesman	1483	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	
1929	4644	Pioneer	Sunset Red / Black	The Trail Blazer	1471	4017 / 4011	
	4644	Pioneer	Emerald Green / Black	The Eagle	1472	America/Pleasant View	
	4654	Daniel Webster	Orange/Grey/Azure	The Statesman	1473	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	
	4684	Pioneer	Sunset Red / Black	The Trail Blazer	1481	4017 / 4011	
	4684	Pioneer	Emerald Green / Black	The Eagle	1482	America/Pleasant View	Eagle Litho?
	4684	Daniel Webster	Orange/Grey/Azure	The Statesman	1483	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	6 color Litho?
1930	4654	Daniel Webster	Orange/Grey/Azure	Frontiertown	1469	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	
	4644	Pioneer	Emerald Green / Grey	The Trail Blazer	1471	4017 / 4011	
	4644	Pioneer	Victory Red / Grey	The New Eagle	1472	Eagle Litho	
	4644	Pioneer	Victory Red / Grey	Nation Wide Lines	??	4017/4018/4011	All cars numbered 4677
	4654	Daniel Webster	Orange/Grey/Azure	The Statesman	1473	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	
	4684	Pioneer	Emerald Green / Grey	The Trail Blazer	1481	4017 / 4011	
	4684	Pioneer	Victory Red / Grey	The New Eagle	1482	America/Pleasant View	
	4684	Daniel Webster	Orange/Grey/Azure	The Statesman	1483	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	
1931	4654	Daniel Webster	Orange/Grey/Azure	Frontiertown	1469	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	
	4644	Pioneer	Emerald Green / Grey	The Trail Blazer	1471	4017 / 4011	
	4644	Pioneer	Victory Red / Grey	The Eagle	1472	Eagle Litho	
	4654	Daniel Webster	Orange/Grey/Azure	The Statesman	1473	Bunker Hill/Yorktown	
	4644RC		Victory Red / Grey	The Brigadier	1474	4331 / 4332	
1932	4644	Pioneer	Emerald Green / Grey	The Trail Blazer	1471	4017 / 4011	
	4644RC		Victory Red / Grey	The Brigadier	1474	4331 / 4332	
1933	4644	Pioneer	Emerald Green / Grey	The Trail Blazer	1471R	4017 / 4011	

Train Related Activities

May 2nd, 2026: Marceline Train Show
Saturday 9:00am – 3:00pm
Walsworth Community Center
124 E. Ritchie Ave, Marceline, MO 64658

May 9-10th, 2026: 2026 Annual Train Show
Saturday 9:00am – 5:00pm, Sunday 10:00am – 4:00pm
Sandhills Global Event Center (Formerly Lancaster Event Center)
4100 N. 84th St. Lincoln Nebraska 68507

May 23rd, 2026: After the Storm Train Show
Saturday 10:00am – 2:00pm
Arnold Eagles Hall
1725 Jeffco Blvd. Arnold, MO 63010
Information call Steven Mantia at (314) 369-3949

June 22-27th, 2026: 72nd National TCA Convention
Hyatt Regency DFW Airport
2334 N. International Pkwy. Dallas, TX 75261
www.tcatrains.org/national-tca-convention/

July 5-11th, 2026: Lionel Operating Train Society (LOTS) Annual Convention
Buffalo Marriott Niagara
1340 Millersport Hwy, Amherst, NY 14221
<https://lots-trains.org/>

July 10-11th, 2026: Heartland Summer Toy Train Show
Friday 5:00pm – 7:00pm, Saturday 9:00am – 3:00pm
Payne County Fairgrounds
4518 Expo Circle E., Stillwater, OK
<https://www.ttos-soonerdiv.org/train-shows.html>

July 20-25th, 2026: Lionel Collectors Club America (LCCA) Annual Convention
Denver, CO

August 1st, 2026: Model Train & Diecast Tailgate Swap Meet
Saturday 9:00am—1:00pm
The National Museum of Transportation, Parking Lot #2
2967 Barrett Station Road, St. Louis, MO 63122

August 15th, 2026: Central Missouri Chapter TCA Open House
Saturday 10:00am – 2:00pm
2002 Grindstone Parkway, Columbia, MO

August 29th, 2026: Boeing Employees Model Railroad Club Swap Meet
Saturday 10:00am—3:00pm
Greensfelder Recreation Complex at Queeny Park
550 Wiedman Rd. St Louis, MO 63011

August 30th, 2026: Mid-America Train & Toy Show
Sunday 9:00am – 2:00pm
KCI Expo Center
11730 NW Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO

September 11-12th, 2026: Ozarks Model Railroad Association Annual Train Show
Friday 4:00pm – 8:00pm, Saturday 9:00am – 3:00pm
E-Plex East Hall
3001 North Grant Avenue, Springfield, MO 65803
<http://www.omraspringfield.org/>

September 26th, 2026: Pacific Eagles Train Show
Saturday 10:00am – 3:00pm
707 West Congress Street, Pacific, MO 63069

October 3rd, 2026: 35th Annual Greater St. Louis Metro Area Train Show
Saturday 10:00am – 4:00pm
Kirkwood Community Center
111 S. Geyer Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122

October 20-24th, 2026: York Train Meet Eastern Division TCA
York State Fairgrounds, 334 Carlisle Ave, York, PA 17404
<https://www.easterntca.com/>

November 7, 2026: Model Train Meet
NMRA Gateway Division Mid-Continent Region
Saturday 9:00am – 3:00pm
VFW Post 5691
1234 Vandalia, Collinsville, Illinois 62234
<https://trainshows.net/club/11/nmra-mid-continent-region>

November 14th, 2026: 28th Annual Swap Meet - Central Missouri Chapter of the TCA
Open to TCA, sponsor members at 9:00am, public from 10:00am - 3:00pm
The Cosmopolitan Luncheon Club
1715 Burlington, Columbia, MO 65202

November 14th, 2025: Dupo Train Show
American Legion Hall
Saturday 9:30am – 2:00pm
200 South 5th, Dupo, IL 62239

November 14-15th, 2026: OKC Train Show 2026

Saturday 9:00pm – 5:00pm, Sunday 10:00am – 4:00pm
Bennet Event Center
3101 Gordon Cooper Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73107

November 22nd, 2026: Mid-America Train & Toy Show
Sunday 9:00am – 2:00pm
KCI Expo Center
11730 NW Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO

December 5th, 2026: Gateway Beer and Brat Train Show
Saturday 9:00am – 3:00pm
Orlando's, 4300 Hoffmeister Ave, St. Louis, MO 63125
Ave, Independence, MO 64050

Contact Jim Bryan 314-550-1529
ozarkdivision2024@gmail.com

December 5th, 2026: Broken Arrow Holiday Train Show
Saturday 9:00am – 4:00pm
Rhema Ninowski Recreation Center
1367 East 71st South / West Kenosha, Broken Arrow, OK 74012
<https://www.ttos-soonerdiv.org/train-shows.html>

December 12th, 2026: TCA HOA Chapter Annual Meeting
Saturday, 2:00pm to 5:00pm
Missouri Model Railroad Museum
318 W Pacific

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