

The Manifest<sub>SM</sub> – Sunday, November 10, 2013  
Railroad news and selected musings from  
Green Country Model Railroaders' Association<sub>SM</sub>

We'll celebrate Thanksgiving before the next newsletter, so the subject of food naturally comes to mind. One of the many things for which we can be truly thankful is our freedom compared to most of the countries of the world. Much of this freedom comes by the sacrifice of those who have served our country in the military. So how do we tie these two things together? By, of course, pointing out the free food offered to people who served in the military! Probably the best known is the entirely free meal offered by Golden Corral with no ID required, but check out free stuff from Village Inn, Applebee's and others as well. Here are links; be sure to check requirements and restrictions:

<http://militarybenefits.info/veterans-day-discounts-sales-deals-free-meals/>

<http://freebies.about.com/od/freefood/tp/veterans-day-free-meals.htm>

Many people are thankful several Tulsa restaurants are well-known for offering free meals on Thanksgiving Day.

We will be really thankful if we get passenger train service or even excursion train service in Tulsa. So here's a link, but my charter membership in Cynics International requires me to post the following disclaimer: Don't get your hopes up!

[http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/local/passenger-train-fans-push-for-oklahoma-to-keep-rail-line/article\\_19bfa419-44a0-54fb-8b00-47410c870d57.html](http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/local/passenger-train-fans-push-for-oklahoma-to-keep-rail-line/article_19bfa419-44a0-54fb-8b00-47410c870d57.html)

We're thankful no one was hurt and there were no environmental problems when a train derailed:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-11-03/cn-rail-train-carrying-sulfur-dioxide-derails-in-alberta.html?cmpid=yhoo>

Another derailment caused more trouble. As to the cause, a follow-up article pointed out the evidence they need to determine the cause is still under the wreckage. The article references concerns that increased shipment by rail increase spills on railroad tracks. But then we hear similar arguments against pipelines when they are used to transport oil and the same for ocean-going tankers.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/11/08/us-crude-train-explosion-idUSBRE9A70Q920131108>

But closer to home and happier is the following:

[examiner-enterprise.com/news/local-news/renovations-enhance-century-old-depot](http://examiner-enterprise.com/news/local-news/renovations-enhance-century-old-depot)

Also before the next newsletter is the American Train and Hobby Show, Thanksgiving weekend: [www.boxcar3.com](http://www.boxcar3.com). This promises to become a really big show in Tulsa, something we've lacked for years. We will be there with the entire 32' x 32' horseshoe layout, possibly with the 5' x 9' layout in the middle. I hear a couple of N-scale layouts will be there, one with 60' of track, and the South Canadian H-O club will have a display. Erailhobbies will be there. They will have clowns and facepainters. (Wonder what they could do with a beard? Don't worry, I'm not going to find out.) I may just have my photo taken with Santa Claus to prove to people we are two different, distinct individuals.

Speaking of tattoos, permanent face paint, so to speak: One of the store's regular customers is a talented tattoo artist. I saw his vintage car outside his shop Saturday and decided to go in to see what it's like. His long-term plan is to place G-scale trains on top of the room dividers. Cool! At least until someone surprises him by blowing the whistle and he jumps a foot or so. I have now added tattoo artists to doctors and barbers as people you don't want to hear say "Oops..." as they work on you. (Remember the old joke: "Bob, your name DOES have two O's in it... right?") So I got to see lots of different tattoo artwork, but got to thinking, "Why no planes, trains or automobiles?" to paraphrase the movie. I've seen motorcycles, so why not a speeding locomotive? Of course, 30 years and 50 pounds later, you might have to add extra wheels as your "yard goat" grows into a Challenger!

Yes, we have so much to be thankful for. We also have a lot to do in a short amount of time. If you've been thinking about joining, this would be a good time to do it so you could join in on all the activities. The meeting is this next Thursday at 7:00 PM at the layout. Come join us!

Vic B

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