

The SP^{oke}KEⁿ Word

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

FALL 2024

MUSEUM WELCOMES FIRST SUPER HORNET BUILT



Tim Bischof, TNMOT Board Member and Test Program Manager at Boeing Phantom Works, speaks at the F/A-18 E1 dedication August 3. (Photo courtesy of Lou Countryman/West Newsmagazine)

The Super Hornet has landed, with an inspiring story to tell about St. Louis's part in defending the United States.

Speakers at the August 3 dedication of the new F/A-18 E1 display at TNMOT shared stories about the aircraft, its development, its pilots, and how it came to the Museum. But they also talked about the Super Hornet's part in the bigger story of naval aviation, of military history, of defending freedom.

From its perch overlooking the lower parking lot, E1 invites visitors to enter into not only its own narrative, but all the audacious stories the Museum has to tell.

"If you think about it, the Wright brothers flew in 1903, and less than eight years later some clown is trying to figure out how to do this from a boat. Pretty audacious,

Continued on page 8

CORPORATE PARTNERS ENJOY HELPING TNMOT GROW



Spire employees work on the concrete pad that supports the Super Hornet display.

Businesses know the value of having a strong community in which they, their employees, and their customers can thrive.

Several St. Louis corporations partner with TNMOT because they want to help maintain such a community and because

they believe in the Museum's mission.

"It's important for everyone to understand the advancements we've made in transportation from a technology standpoint. The Museum honors our history, and that's important," said

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**THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF
TRANSPORTATION**

I am always writing a list.

As we get to the end of 2024, I look back over the list of The National Museum of Transportation 2024 Goals and Objectives. *What must be accomplished? What needs our attention?* It's a list I wrote 11 months ago.

The year 2024 started much differently than expected with something not on my list. Within the first week of 2024, we were notified that we were nominated by the *USA Today* Readers' Choice Poll as one of the 'Best Open Air' museums in the country and ended up ranking in the top five. **Wow!** That is high praise from a national voting audience. I marvel at that as I can look at that accolade from a financial perspective. I know that we accomplish great things at TNMOT with such limited resources. A contemporary of mine noted, "That is an extraordinary accomplishment. You all run with the big dogs with a puppy budget." That is what I marvel at! We are a unique Museum in that we receive zero governmental funding. We are a 501(c)(3) organization **relying solely** on the generosity of our community to continue preserving the past for future generations. To those of you who visited, renewed your membership, or donated to the Museum this year...**I thank you!** Your donation **went directly back into the Museum** and enabled us to accomplish this extensive list of 2024 achievements:

EXHIBITS & INTERPRETATION

- ☑ The F/A-18 E1 landed at the Museum!
- ☑ C-47
 - As the world recognized the 80th Anniversary of D-Day, the Museum hosted events recognizing the contribution our C-47 played in D-Day delivery of troops and supplies.
- ☑ **Models, Maps, Memorabilia, & Memories** Exhibit Opened - Barrett Station Depot
- ☑ The Museum's 80th Anniversary Exhibit Debuted - **Museum Milestone Makers** – The William R. and Laura Rand Orthwein Education and Visitor Center
- ☑ 150th Anniversary of the Eads Bridge celebrated!

RESTORATION & PRESERVATION

(projects completed or in progress)

- ☑ Wabash Caboose #2847
- ☑ Chicago, Burlington & Quincy #1942
- ☑ Train of Thought
- ☑ MKT #311
- ☑ Laclede Christy
- ☑ Birney Streetcar
- ☑ Sabine River (cab upgrade)
- ☑ Steamrollers
- ☑ Baltimore & Ohio #173



F/A-18 E1 arrives



Garden train chugs along

EDUCATION

- ☑ ALL Aboard
 - More than 28,000 area children were invited to the Museum through the ALL Aboard program. These are children in underserved areas, those in foster care, or children facing ongoing medical challenges.
- ☑ Facilitated Field Trips
- ☑ Big Brothers Big Sisters Night at the Museum
- ☑ The Major Lee Berra Creation Station
 - More than 50,000 children learned and played in The Major Lee Berra Creation Station in 2024!
- ☑ Speaker Series
 - Presenters spoke to Museum guests about the 80th Anniversary of the 'Streetcar Series,' pitting the St. Louis Cardinals against the St. Louis Browns; the F/A-18 E1; The Rise and Fall of Trans World Airlines, and other exceptional topics.
- ☑ Feature Friday
 - Museum staff and volunteers selected their favorite artifact to share an in-depth look with the public.
- ☑ Storybook Trail completion

EVENTS & OUTREACH

- ☑ Car Shows including Pumpers & Pistons, BIG Truck Day, Overlanding Vehicles, the Horseless Carriage Shows and more
- ☑ Holiday Happiness..Always on TRACK
- ☑ Santa arrives by Helicopter
- ☑ Swap Meets
- ☑ Plein-Air Art Event
- ☑ Trick-or-TRACK by day! *And, by night!*
- ☑ Ambassador program presentations to area retirement and civic organizations

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

- ☑ Box Inventory
This is an exceptional feat. With 80 years of collecting, the Museum Board of Directors committed to ensuring that each item in the collection is properly catalogued with the intent of sharing this vast and historic collection with the public online. This is a phenomenal work in progress!
- ☑ Artifact of the Month
- ☑ The Library and Archives staff curates a monthly exhibit highlighting rare pieces in the archival collection.

GUEST SERVICES

- ☑ The Wm. F. Ross Miniature Train Debuted!
- ☑ Guest Services welcomed guests from 49 states and 31 foreign countries in 2024.
- ☑ Die-cast collection donation accepted and processed
This was no ordinary donation. This is a donation of more than 7,000 pristine die-cast vehicles gifted to the Museum by friends of Emery Cochran, the original owner of the collection, to sell or use in the best way possible for the Museum's benefit.
- ☑ The miniature train crew welcomed 63,808 guests while the trolley hosted 29,454 passengers.

The list of accomplishments in 2024 is extensive. We have much to be proud of. I am grateful that so many are committed to preserving and protecting the past for the next generations. I am astonished at the list of things done. Then, I walk out of my office and realize there is much more to accomplish! The next list begins....

Respectfully,



Terri McEachern
Executive Director, The National Museum of Transportation



Friends of Emery Cochran generously donated his collection of die-cast vehicles to the Museum. See tnmot.org/shop/ for details about buying one.

PEOPLE

- ☑ Dedicated volunteers logged more than 16,110 hours performing tours, beautifying the grounds, operating the trolley line, and completing restoration projects (That's an estimated annual labor donation of \$539,523.90!)
- ☑ The Board of Directors continued to develop the organization's strategic plan, and the Young Professionals Board hosted numerous events, increasing awareness of the Museum.
- ☑ Experienced staff continue to pursue a 'Historic District' designation for The National Museum of Transportation campus.
This is a designation that will recognize the historical significance of the collection while expanding funding and grant opportunities.

GROUNDS & FACILITIES

"I love to look at the extraordinary gardens and beautiful grounds at the Museum while my husband enjoys the impressive collection of artifacts."

ONLINE REVIEW

- ☑ Our very small staff and dedicated volunteers maintained 42 acres, ten buildings, two pavilions, one garden train, a pollinator and rain garden, and numerous other gardens and areas too many to count!
- ☑ Upgraded security, telephone, and Internet capabilities



Garden train captured in Plein-Air



REHM COLLECTION SPOTLIGHTS ST. LOUIS CYCLING



And they're off in the "circa 1938 start of event #6 in St. Louis Forest Park," according to notes on the photo.



Andrew Biondo (cyclist at left) nabbed the 1933 Junior City Championship, while Bob Pohl was the runner-up.

Long before regional greenway plans, TrailNet, or the Katy Trail, St. Louis was a hub of bicycling activity. The St. Louis Cycling Club, established in 1887, lays claim to being the oldest continuously running cycling club in the United States.

TNMOT Archives house the Rehm Collection, memorabilia from the Guaranty Cycle Company, a key bicycle dealer and race sponsor a century ago. An Artifact of the Month display over the summer at Barrett Station Depot showcased the business, begun in 1922 by brothers George Rehm Jr. and Edward Rehm. (Edward started his own bicycle dealership a few years later.)

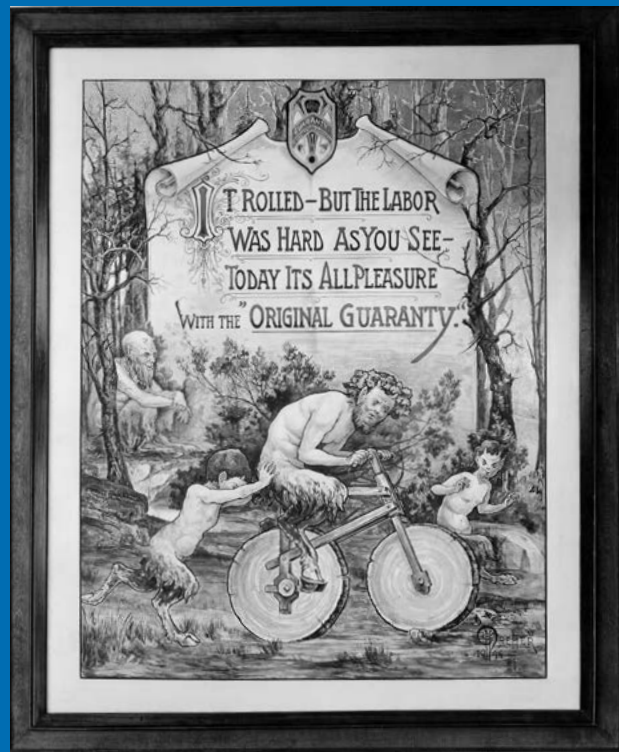
The Rehm Collection provides a glimpse of cycling's popularity with dozens of race medals, newspaper

clippings, advertisements, and boxes of photos of cycling club members, races, and Guaranty showrooms, said Margarita Tschomakoff, Library and Archives Assistant.

Launching in 1922, Guaranty had at least six dealerships in mid-20th century St. Louis, with its last flagship store in the Guaranty building at the intersection of Olive and 20th streets downtown. The store reflected Guaranty’s claim to be “America’s most exclusive cycle house.” It displayed murals of St. Louis landmarks and a painting by Charles H. Dreher. (A study for the painting remains on display at Barrett Station Depot.)

Guaranty sold bicycles, pedal vehicles for young children, accessories, parts, anything a person might need for a bike. It also had a service department and a large warehouse on Chouteau Avenue. Sadly, George Rehm Jr. was killed in a car accident in 1947, the year Guaranty celebrated 25 years of business.

Newspaper ads and articles online show that Guaranty continued retail operations through at least the 1950s. A 1973 article quotes bicycle wholesaler Don Rehm, and a 1977 blurb in the real estate section refers to Guaranty’s selling its warehouse on Chouteau. But the Museum’s Rehm Collection forever preserves the faces and feats of the cycling scene in and around St. Louis in its first heyday.



Guaranty commissioned art for its showroom, such as this painting by Charles H. Dreher.



Schwinn bicycles, left, plus, right, pedal tractors, and more for young children on display in the ornate showroom of Guaranty Cycle Company’s flagship store at Olive and 20th streets in St. Louis.

TRAIN TALK LEADS TO CREATION OF FIRST AID KITS

A conversation between strangers on a train in the late 1880s brought about creation of the commercial first aid kit, which eventually spread across society in the 20th century.

Robert Wood Johnson, one of the founders of Johnson and Johnson, was traveling aboard the Denver and Rio Grande Railway and began talking with a D&RG surgeon about the challenges the doctor faced in treating injured workers. Workers laying track and employees running and maintaining trains performed dangerous duties far from traditional medical care.

For example, along the 1,300-mile rail line from St. Louis to El Paso there were no hospitals in the 1880s (railwaysurgery.org). Railroads employed physicians, created hospital railcars, and even built hospitals along their lines to serve workers and customers crossing remote regions of the United States.

Keeping sterile supplies easily accessible along the miles of railroad track proved difficult. Enter Johnson, whose fledgling company produced surgical products. Johnson envisioned portable kits that could be taken to the injured easily. He saw the opportunity to both advance healthcare and build his young business. Johnson wrote to railway surgeons asking for their advice about what to put in the kits.

An Esmarch triangular bandage was in many of the first aid kits. Developed for use on battlefields, the bandage features instructions printed right on the bandage covering itself.

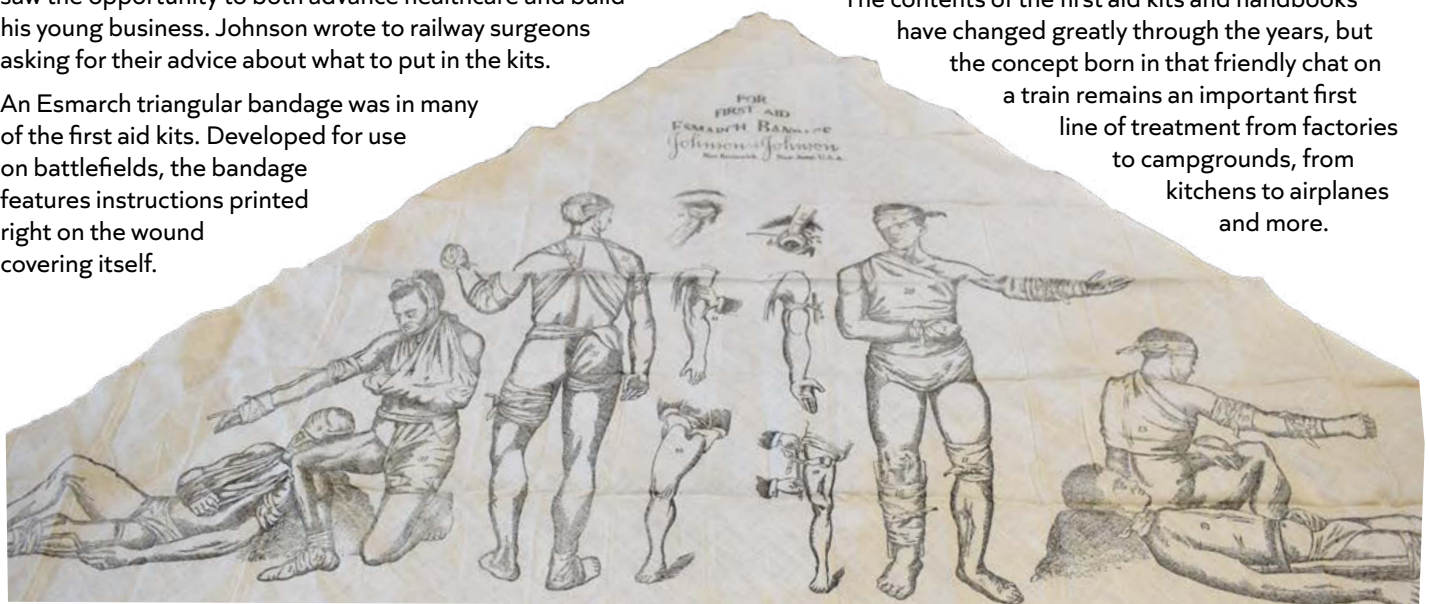


First aid supplies were part of a summertime Artifact of the Month display at Barrett Station Depot. Check the depot on your next visit for interesting items from the Museum's collection.

TNMOT has such a bandage in its archives, as well as an early Johnson and Johnson first aid kit and other railway aid kits through the years, said Margarita Tschomakoff, Library and Archives Assistant, who assembled the items for an exhibit last summer in Barrett Station Depot.

TNMOT's J&J kit includes rudimentary emergency aid instructions, but as use of first aid kits spread rapidly, so too did the call for for more extensive medical emergency instructions. Johnson and Johnson's director of scientific affairs, Fred Kilmer, wrote a manual to be included in first aid kits, and it was first published in 1901.

The contents of the first aid kits and handbooks have changed greatly through the years, but the concept born in that friendly chat on a train remains an important first line of treatment from factories to campgrounds, from kitchens to airplanes and more.



An Esmarch triangular bandage was a staple of early first aid kits. Instructions were printed on the bandage itself.

FUND-A-NEED

The National Museum of Transportation is a 501(c)(3) organization relying solely on the generosity of our community to continue preserving the past for future generations. We receive no governmental funding. Every tax-deductible dollar that you donate directly benefits the Museum.



Please consider donating in full or in part, to one of the items below.

FUND-A-NEED

(in full or in part)

_____ **Kubota mini-truck/ Cart** to be shared between the Building & Grounds crew and landscaping volunteers as they maintain 42 acres of beautiful grounds. **\$28,000.00**



_____ **Crossing Gate for the miniature train \$7,400.00.**

This will be a conversion to a lower maintenance, higher security, crossing gate.

_____ **Three Point Blower.** Provides Building & Grounds crew the ability to efficiently move leaves and maintain grounds. **\$7,597.38** (photo above)

_____ **Hose Mobility cart(s).** This allows staff and volunteers to freely move around the campus as they powerwash artifacts and designated areas. **\$239.95 each. Three needed.**

_____ **3D Printer.** Curatorial and exhibit staff will use this to enhance exhibits. **\$740.00**

FUND-A-PROGRAM / PROJECT

_____ **ALL Aboard** - provides Museum admission and a miniature train ride to underserved children, those in foster care, or children facing ongoing medical challenges. **\$10.00 per child**

_____ **Transportation Walk-of-Fame.** Contribute to the Museum's efforts in ensuring we recognize those pioneers that made transportation history. **\$1,000.00 toward walk installation**

_____ **Cosmetic Restoration of the Burlington Northern Caboose #10032 \$6,960.00**

_____ **Cosmetic Restoration of the MOPAC #13889 \$9,580.00**

_____ **Cosmetic Restoration of the Chicago, Burlington, & Quincy #6117 \$8,760.00**

_____ **A Flat of Annuals. \$13.00 each. 80 needed.**

FUND-AN-AREA of INTEREST

(donation restricted to checked area of interest)

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| _____ Education | _____ Library & Archives |
| _____ Garden Train | _____ Restoration |
| _____ Landscaping | _____ General Operating |

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

email address: _____

Include a check made payable to TNMOT and mail to: 2967 Barrett Station Road, St. Louis, MO 63122

DONATE
online at
tnmot.org

F/A-18 E1

Continued from page 1

and audacity has marked naval aviation since that day," said Captain Sterling W. Gilliam, Director of the National Naval Aviation Museum. E1 is the latest addition to the naval museum's collection of 950 aircraft across 50 states and 6 countries.

"It's a wonderful, wonderful job to tell this great 113-year story. And a huge part of that story has been the F-18 Super Hornet and the impact that it has had on our navy, our nation, our country, over the last three decades," Gilliam said. "It's a story that continues to be written."

Tim Bischof was present near the beginning of the F/A-18 story, serving as flight test engineer on the Boeing/McDonnell Douglas team that tested and refined the Super Hornet. When he learned that E1, the very first F/A-18 ever built, was back in St. Louis and slated to go to the boneyard or to be scrapped, Bischof knew he had to find a way to preserve it.

Another person from the early part of E1's story is Vice Admiral Frank Morley, who was Lt. Morley when he flew E1 in 1996. Morley was also the first pilot to land a Super Hornet on an aircraft carrier when he flew F1, the two-seat version of the F/A-18, and landed it on the John C. Stennis in 1997.

"All these years later I just happened to bump into Vice Admiral Morley when he was in St. Louis. He asked me about the wingless Super Hornet that he saw in a shelter next to the building. I told him it was E1," Bischof said as he introduced Morley at the dedication ceremony. "Do you remember what you said to me, sir? You said, 'don't let anything happen to her'



U.S. Navy Vice Admiral Frank Morley spoke at the dedication as his last official duty in uniform before retiring. (Photos on this page courtesy of Lou Countryman/West Newsmagazine)

and 'if you need my help, call me.' So thank you for taking my call."

And Vice Admiral Morley made calls to clear a logjam in the process of the Navy and the National Navy Aviation Museum's approving E1 being on permanent loan to TNMOT for



display, as did Bischof and TNMOT Executive Director Terri McEachern. The list of people whose efforts brought E1 to TNMOT and set it up so beautifully is lengthy (see thank-you note on page 9).

Morley offered deep thanks to "our mentor and leader of the original test program, the individual who flew this airplane for the first time, the lead test pilot for the program." Fred Madenwald flew E1 on November 29, 1995, at what was then McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Corporation in St. Louis. Madenwald died in 2012, but his wife, Mindy, and sons Luke and Brayt attended the dedication. "His name is where it shall always be, on the left side of this airplane," Morley said.





The crowd at the dedication included dozens of people with personal connections to the Super Hornet program. "Realize that many among us today are naval aviation legacies, those responsible for the last 30 plus years of naval aviation—test pilots, project managers, designers, engineers, manufacturers, maintainers," Morley said.

"To many of us the F-18 is more than just a fighter jet. It's a representation of the pride, the determination, and the hardworking spirit of our family, our friends, and of this community," said Mark Sears, Vice President and Program Manager of the Boeing Fighter Program. "We continue to build on E1's legacy."

State Senator Tracy McCreary (District 24) congratulated all involved in making the display happen. "I also want to extend my thanks and my congratulations to all the volunteers who worked to restore this jet so that it looks as impressive as it did when it came off the St. Louis assembly line nearly 30 years ago."

Morley said the dedication ceremony was the last official thing he would be doing in uniform before his retirement. "It's really great closure for me, so thank you."



Well-Earned Thank-Yous

The August 3 dedication of TNMOT's new F/A-18 display was also a huge thank-you to the many who worked to save E1 so that it can inspire visitors to the Museum for years to come.

Tim Bischof said it was time to celebrate "their hard work, tenacity, and dedication to preserve this important piece of Boeing, U.S. Navy, and St. Louis history." He was gratified to see the interest of well over 100 people and singled out a few for recognition:

Aaron Boswell led the disassembly and transportation of E1; **Josie Stieglitz** located the crated plane parts that were in the warehouse at Boeing; **Oscar Harrell** took Bischof to see E1 on Lambert International Airport property; **Matt Gerner and Mike Rudloff**, original foremen who built E1, brought back their team plus new members for the reassembly; **Bob Kaitchuck, U.S. Navy**, provided parts to complete reassembly; **Nathan Fenske, Coti Murphy, and Scott Lafave** led the painting.

Corporate sponsors provided support too. "The airplane would not look like she does without their help," Bischof said. **GE Aerospace** provided nozzle flaps; **PPG** provided paint; **Spire** leveled the ground and built the concrete platform E1 sits on; **Cowboy Cranes** transported the aircraft from Lambert to TNMOT; **Boeing** provided funds, volunteers, and sponsored the events; **The Hornet Industry Team of Boeing Northrup Grumman, GE, and Raytheon** provided funds for the concrete pad.

U.S. Navy Vice Admiral Frank Morley added a few people to the thank-you list. **Ace Eaton** and **Paul Steffens** "were really instrumental" in moving the plane into place. **Mark Franko** "played an instrumental role." So did **Sterling Gilliam** with "the magic he was able to do from the standpoint of the [National Naval Aviation] museum." The **legacy Super Hornet test team** are too numerous to call out by name, Morley said, saluting their contribution to aviation history, along with test pilot **Fred Madenwald**, whose widow, Mindy, and sons Luke and Brayt were at the ceremony. Morley thanked **TNMOT** for "accepting E1 and accepting our story and allowing us to tell it."

Morley thanked **Bischof** for being "the main orchestrator" of preserving E1, as well as taking care of it "from manufacturing to delivery to first flight" nearly 30 years ago. He said Bischof and Franko "took care of it from its birth; they're taking care of it now."



2024 HOLIDAY SPECIALS

CYBER MONDAY

November 11 - December 2

**TNMOT GIFT CARD
\$50 value for \$30**

ONLINE ONLY - LIMIT TWO

May be used for admission, gift shop purchases, miniature train rides, The Major Lee Berra Creation Station, or towards a Museum membership purchase.

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAYS

November 16, 23, 30

Buy \$150 in merchandise and get a Conductor Membership FREE!

That is a \$260 value for \$150!

GREAT VALUE!

Use the membership yourself or gift it to someone else!
Cannot be combined with any other offers, discounts, or promotions.
Prior sales excluded.

BLACK FRIDAY SPECIAL

November 11 - 29

ONLINE SPECIAL - tnmot.org

Great gift & stocking stuffer

Buy one Family Pack Gift Card for **\$59.50**
50% SAVINGS!

BUY EARLY, LIMITED SUPPLY
(\$119 Value)

- 2 adult admissions
- 2 child admissions
- 4 miniature train rides
- \$15 gift card to The Boxcar Boutique Gift Shop
- Two tickets to The Magic House - a great stocking stuffer = \$28 value

(Limited supply available. After MH tickets are gone, two TNMOT admission tickets will be added.)

GIVING TUESDAY

December 3

ALL Aboard!

Sponsor a child's visit to The National Museum of Transportation and a miniature train ride.

Tickets are gifted to the underserved children in our community and those facing ongoing medical challenges.

\$10.00 per child

TNMOT MEMBER SHOPPING DAY

December 6 & 13

9 am - 4 pm

The Boxcar Boutique Gift Shop

50% off one item of your choice - books excluded
(one 50% discount per membership)

30% off everything in the store - books included

Cannot be combined with any other offers, discounts, or promotions

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION

2933 Barrett Station Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122

tnmot.org | 314.965.6212



The Region's **LARGEST** Model Train Holiday Display



Holiday Happiness Always on Track

NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 30, 2024

MUSEUM HOURS: Wednesday – Sunday: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

PLUS: Dec. 23 and 30

Museum Tours: Visit the entire Museum! Daily: 10:00 am

Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day

In the case of inclement weather, please call (314) 289-3508 to confirm Museum hours

ADMISSION: \$16 Adults | \$14 Seniors, Military & First Responders | \$8 Children 2-12

(extra fees may apply for some activities)

SANTA'S TIP:

**Check Out Museum's
Memberships and Daily Pass
Discounts at tnmot.org!**
(extra fees may apply for some activities)



E. Desmond Lee Holiday Train Exhibit

Weekends and Nov. 29
Dec. 23, 26, 27, 30:
9:15 am - 3:30 pm

Dec. 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20
9:15 am - 1:30 pm

The Magical Macy's Model Train

Weekends and Nov. 29
Dec. 23, 26, 27, 30:
9:15 am - 3:30 pm

Dec. 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20:
9:15 am - 1:30 pm

The Wm. F Ross Jupiter Miniature Train* | \$7

**weather permitting*

Nov. 29, 30, Dec. 1:
9:20 am - 3:20 pm

Dec. Saturdays & Sundays
PLUS Dec 23, 26, 27, 30:
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Santa Arrives by Helicopter*

**weather permitting*

Nov. 30: 10:00 am

Santa Claus Visits

(included with admission)

Nov. 29, 30

Dec. 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22:
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Live Reindeer

(included with admission)

Nov. 29: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Dec. 7, 14, 21: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Boxcar Boutique Gift Shop MEMBER Shopping Days:

Dec. 6 & 13

50% off one item of your choice
books excluded (one 50% discount per
membership)

30% off everything in the store
books included (cannot be combined with
any other offers)

The Major Lee Berra Creation Station | \$3

Wednesday - Friday

Boarding Times: 9:15 am, 10:30 am &
11:45 am

Nov. 30 Boarding Times:
11:45 am, 1:00 pm, 2:15 pm

Holiday Additional Hours: Nov. 29,
Dec. 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 - 23, 26 - 30

Boarding Times: 9:15 am, 10:30 am,
11:45 am, 1:00 pm & 2:15 pm

*(First-come, first-served. Arrive early! Entire
party must be present to purchase tickets)*

The Holly Jolly Trolley*

**weather permitting*

(included with admission)

Nov. 29, 30: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Dec. Thursday - Sunday

PLUS Dec. 23, 30: 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Museum Memberships Make Great Gifts!

Visit the welcome desk during regular
Museum hours to make your purchase,
or buy online at tnmot.org

SPONSORS:

Dr. & Mrs. Darryl Ross

Koller
Enterprises, Inc.



Walmart



Berra Family Foundation



FRESH LOOK FOR MUSEUM FAVORITES

Several TNMOT artifacts are sporting beautiful fresh coats of color after a summer of wet paint signs, spray cans, rollers, brushes, and stenciling of letters.

With Big Boy's sprucing up leading the way in 2023, others in the neighborhood (the Train of Thought and a Railway Post Office car) followed suit and are sparkling in the sun. The Train of Thought (once the Texas and Pacific Railroad #1603 [No. 23]) is a combination baggage and passenger car built by the Pullman Company. The RPO, aka Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy #1942, was built in 1922 by Standard Steel Car Company.

The Wabash #2847 Caboose next to the William R. and Laura Rand Orthwein Education and Visitor Center shines as it welcomes Museum visitors.

Road rollers near the new F/A-18 display also received a makeover, including the Buda roller built by the Austin Western Company.

RAILWAY POST OFFICE CAR



WABASH #2847 CABOOSE





THE TRAIN OF THOUGHT

The Train of Thought

Education Rail Car

BEFORE



AFTER

BRINGING BACK THE BIRNEY



Work continues on the Kansas City Public Service Co. #1533 streetcar. Dedicated volunteers have made a lot of progress. American Car Company built the interurban streetcar in 1919. It is 27'10" long, 7'8" wide, 9'10" high, and weighs 15,400 lbs. It is of steel construction and ran on a gauge of 4'8" track. The car held 28 seats and was last in service in 1949. The Birney Safety Car was a joint effort between Charles O. Birney and Joseph M. Bosenbury, who applied in 1915 for a patent for their design. The cars were smaller, lighter, and less expensive to build than other streetcars of the period.

BUDA ROLLER

BEFORE



AFTER





Boeing provided funding for the F/A-18 display, and Boeing employees past and present joined other volunteers in getting the job done.

Corporate Partners

Continued from page 1

Todd Gibson, Director of Field Operations for Spire, Inc., which has supplied materials and labor for several Museum improvements, such as the concrete pad for the F/A-18, the deck in the back of Barrett Station Depot, the Spire rain garden next to the lower parking lot, the Train of Thought's ramp, and more.

Spire has also supplied board of directors members in Gibson and George Godat, who recently retired from Spire and from TNMOT's board. Godat spoke of Spire's community service



"At the Museum, we survive by the expression 'It takes a Village.' Our community partners are essential for our continued success. There have been so many times that we did not have the equipment, manpower, or financial resources to begin or complete projects. I am extremely grateful to the corporations, foundations, and stakeholders that we can reach out to asking for help. They always come through. That is so rewarding and gratifying."

-TERRI MCEACHERN, TNMOT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

before his retirement: "For our customers, and we have roughly 700,000 in the St. Louis area, we want to do everything we can do to support them and the community. We think that's as important as anything we do as an organization."

CMT Transportation Group Manager Jay Rakers said helping TNMOT is a natural fit for his business: "CMT is an engineering firm that is 'centered in value,' meaning we are committed to improving our communities, whether it be through our projects with our clients or our volunteerism. Our St. Louis Surface Transportation group was particularly enthused in volunteering with the National Museum of Transportation with its mission to 'protect and interpret North American transportation heritage.' The transportation profession is rooted in serving the communities which have operated along roads, tracks, and trails, and it is important to know where we have been before to inform where we can go in the future."



CMT employees helped inventory a massive collection of die-cast vehicles donated to the Museum and being sold online (see tnmot.org/shop/ for details).

"As a member of the St. Louis car community, it was a perfect opportunity to volunteer time and give back to a staple in the St. Louis car scene! It's a really cool museum," said Justin Krones, CMT GIS Specialist.



A crew from Home Depot comes out at least once a year to help with special projects, and the corporation also donates supplies and money.

As a corporation with deep roots in the history of aviation, Boeing is interested in supporting the Museum as a preserver of the company's own story and as an important community asset. The new F/A-18 display gives Boeing employees and retirees the opportunity to show family and friends the fruit of their labors up close. "I've heard so many people from the company say, 'I can finally show my family what I worked on all those years,'" said Tim Bischof, Test Program Manager at Boeing Phantom Works. "People who have worked on this plane and on the F18 program in general are very proud of what they've done because it's for the country."



Spire workers create new ramp and platform for Train of Thought

The excitement among many Boeing workers, including Bischof, about the first Super Hornet ever built being put on public display helped cinch the corporation's participation. "When you see your employees are interested in something, that there's a cause

important to them, you want to show your employees that it's important to you also."

Home Depot is another corporation whose support ensures TNMOT's success. It provides plants, supplies, helpers, and money to the Museum each year. "We ask you (the Museum) what you need, and we bring out some muscle to help," said Lisa Delatte, Specialty Assistant Store Manager. "We like to get out in our community and really just be a presence to show our partnership, to help make things better."



Deck work behind Barrett Station Depot

Plus it's fun. "We get to get out of our
Continued on next page



Spire has provided money and labor for several projects, such as the Spire Rain Garden.



Coby Ellison and Andrew Arth install directional signage at the top of the zig-zag path.



CMT employees helped inventory die-cast vehicles that are being sold to raise money for the Museum.

Continued from previous page

store and hang out with our community, spend quality time,” Delatte said. “It’s a fun time for us.”

Union Pacific Foundation has partnered with the Museum through grants, most recently giving to ALL Aboard! for the past three years. The railroad’s 2024 grant will enable 2,000 children and caregivers to experience the Museum. The Foundation says it has a commitment to “create, sustain or expand artistic and cultural experiences offered to a broad and diverse audience.”

TNMOT’s continuing growth depends on strong relationships. “At the Museum, we survive by the expression ‘It takes a Village,’” stated Terri McEachern, TNMOT Executive Director. “Our community partners are essential for our continued success. There have been so many times that we did not have the equipment, manpower, or financial resources to begin or complete projects. I am extremely grateful to the corporations, foundations, and stakeholders that we can reach out to asking for help. They always come through. That is so rewarding and gratifying.”



PlanCorp, LLC employees work on a walkway around the pumpkin and squash patch behind the Earl C. Lindburg Automobile Building.



Visitors Learn about Museum's Seasonal Residents

Another season of informative Feature Fridays gave Museum visitors the back stories and details on Museum artifacts.

Tessa Wasserman shared details on a natural feature at TNMOT, the purple martins who live in their houses high above Museum grounds. They are the Museum's purple martins, as they come back to the same location annually. Tessa tied her presentation to transportation, noting that the Wright Brothers studied birds, observing how they maintained their balance in flight by adjusting the angle and position of their wings. Museum visitors were given an up-close look inside the purple martins' gourds.

Wasserman reported in August that the purple martins had left the Museum grounds for South America, including 73 new fledglings. See you next spring!



Remembering D-Day 80 Years Later

TNMOT and American Legion of Missouri District 10, Post 111, commemorated the 80th anniversary of D-Day, the Allied Forces' landing on the beaches of Normandy, with a salute to the Museum's own World War II veteran C-47, which actually flew paratroopers into the fight on D-Day plus one, June 7, 1944.



Lt. Martin Platt

Randy Jurgensen organized the event and created a detailed history of the DC-3, its military counterpart the C-47, the C-47 plane at the Museum (aka the old 635), and its World War II pilot, Lt. Martin Platt. Jurgensen's booklet is a fascinating look at the development of commercial flying with the DC-3, the key role the C-47 played in World War II, and the bravery of Lt. Platt and his fellow pilots. It's also the tale of a romance between Lt. Platt and a nurse who cared for him, culminating in their wedding at Notre Dame in Paris. The booklet is for sale in the Museum Gift Shop.

The U.S. Army Air Force Douglas Aircraft C-47A "Gooney Bird" #N 3-15635 was built in 1943. In addition to its service in Operation Hackensack on June 7, the plane flew in other battles in southern France in August 1944; in Operation Market Garden in September 1944; in the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944 (delivering supplies to Bastogne); in an assault across the Rhine River in March 1945; in Operation Varsity in May 1945; and other operations.

Lt. Platt died in 2008, but Museum visitors can see the actual plane he flew in the skies over Europe 80 years ago.



OLD 635 Douglas C-47 Skytrain 



The 80-year History of a D-Day Veteran

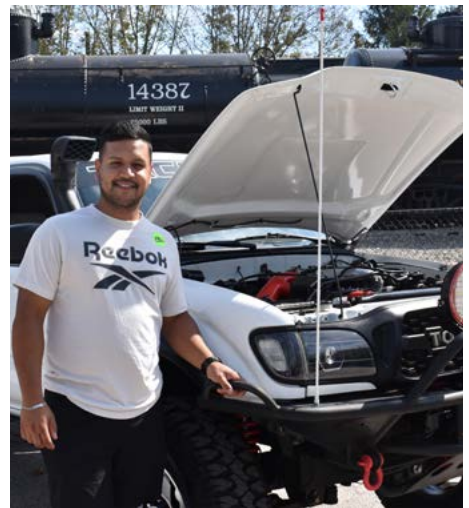


**80TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION
JUNE 8, 2024 - 11:00 AM**



Weekend Shows Roll Along

Whether enthusiasts were showing off their classic cars, overlanding setups, or big trucks, Museum visitors again enjoyed special one-day exhibits on the upper parking lot.



Museum Work a Perfect Match for History Student

Aiden Drohr has an encouraging word for anyone concerned about keeping history alive for future generations.

"I think rail preservation and preservation in general is in good hands," said the Maryville University junior, who works at TNMOT as a tour guide and miniature train engineer. Drohr is doing his part, and he is seeing more of his peers touring and working at museums he visits.

Drohr is a natural ambassador for TNMOT.

"I like all things railroad and transportation," he said. "I like being surrounded by it. I've been coming here since I was three years old, so it's always been on my radar."

For a time Drohr considered going to work for a Class I railroad, but an interest in history too steered him a different way in his studies and life goals. To meet his service hours requirement at Ft. Zumwalt North High School, Drohr chose to shadow workers at the non-profit TNMOT.

"I reached out to Terri [Museum Executive Director Terri

“

I think places like the Museum are imperative to understanding history.

— AIDEN DROHR

”

McEachern], saying, 'Can I come see how you guys operate and just follow you around for like a day or so?' Then I not only shadowed Terri but also Coby [Museum Curator Coby Ellison] and Jessica [Jessica Hood, Community Outreach and Visitor Experience Manager] and a few other people. That's what basically got my foot in the door."

After graduation, Drohr returned to the Museum, beginning as a tour guide in July 2022 and as miniature train engineer in November 2023. He loves to interact with visitors and to find



out more about the Museum's fascinating artifacts. He said the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western #952 is probably the engine he knows the most about, having researched it for two different Feature Friday presentations.

"I've spent time analyzing its history to death, and I know almost every inch of the locomotive mechanically at this point."

Drohr also likes the mechanical aspect of the Illinois Terminal #206 (aka Dinky) railbus. "It looks goofy. It does not look like something you would find on a railroad," he said of the school bus that was put on railroad wheels to transport riders more directly and quickly via railroad tracks from Grafton to Alton in the 1940s and early 1950s. "That's one of the plethora of stories I enjoy telling people."

"Without railroads the whole development of this nation would have been completely different," Drohr said. "I think places like the Museum are imperative to understanding history." Reading about a train in a book or on the Internet is interesting, but experiencing one goes deeper. "To come out here and actually see it, touch it, go inside of it. You can look at the parts and see what makes it tick."

Drohr is studying history at Maryville and plans to do his graduate work in the Museum Studies program at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He recently received a \$3,000 scholarship from The Railway & Locomotive Historical Society. "My keen interest is from the Industrial Revolution forward....There's a lot that I'm interested in."

Working at the Museum is the perfect fit with his studies and passions. "Every time I come here I learn something new, whether it's something about the artifacts or something about museum operations in general."

New Board Members Emphasize Public Awareness

TNMOT's newest board members see increasing the Museum's visibility as a key to its future.

While each brings unique interests, perspectives, skills, and experiences, they all mentioned making the Museum become better known as one of their goals for TNMOT.



Todd Gibson

Todd Gibson is the Director of Field Operations for Spire and has been involved in many of Spire's projects at the Museum, including putting in the concrete pad and footers for the new F/A-18 display.

An appreciation of transportation may be in his genes. His grandfather supervised paint crews at American Car and Foundry Company and had a massive model train layout in his basement. "Grandpa just loved trains," Gibson said.

"I'm also a history nerd. To me, the Museum is living, breathing history that you can go put your hands on."

The Museum's C-47 is just one example. As a Marine, Gibson jumped out of planes flying 27,000 feet high because he could wear an oxygen mask. His World War II counterparts had to jump from a LOT lower altitude. Seeing the C-47 up close allows Gibson to imagine what those men faced. "You were a sitting duck coming out in that parachute from that altitude."

Gibson said Museum exhibits allow visitors to experience the advancements in transportation. He'd like to see some military vehicles not yet represented at the Museum, such as tanks or amphibious vehicles.

Mostly Gibson wants to help the Museum increase its community engagement. "We've got to get the word out more that we're here," he said. "How do we get out in the community more and get involved, communicating what our vision is and what we bring to the table?"



Elizabeth Smart

Elizabeth Smart is the Assistant Director of Landside Operations for St. Louis Lambert International Airport.

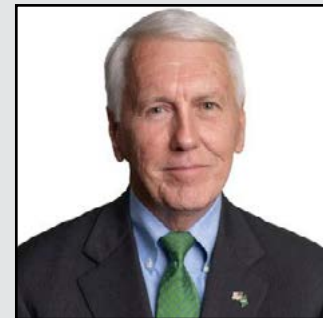
When Rhonda Niebruegge, Director of St. Louis Lambert International Airport, encouraged Smart to serve on the board, Smart agreed it would be a worthwhile endeavor. She appreciates the Museum's mission.

"The Museum not only documents and preserves St. Louis's rich transportation history but also allows residents to physically interact with different (in some cases groundbreaking) modes of transportation," Smart said.

Aviation is Smart's focus. "I love all things aviation (the new F/A-18 is awesome)." But she also sees boosting TNMOT's visibility as an important part of her new role.

"What I am most interested in is making residents of the region aware of the Museum's existence. A lot of folks don't know we have a National Museum of Transportation right here in St. Louis. That needs to change. Community awareness is key to the Museum's future."

Tim Bischof is also nominated to TNMOT Board of Directors. He was featured in the Spring 2024 newsletter, is Test Program Manager at Boeing Phantom Works, and played a major role in bringing F/A-18 E1 to the Museum.



Ted Williams

Ted Williams returns to the board after retiring from his law practice, though he is now associated with U.S. Arbitration and Mediation Service in St. Louis. His clients through the years included railroads and other transportation-related companies.

Williams' work for the Museum started in his teen years. "I love the Museum. I worked at the Museum when I was in high school, worked with Mary Roberts," Williams said. "I took people on tours, and I spent a lot of time scraping rust and painting." He especially remembers a lot of hours spent on the Mohawk, the New York Central #2933 steam engine.

Those memories make him want to help TNMOT raise money so that it can shelter more artifacts. "Particularly that F18, I want her covered."

Increased community awareness can only help with fundraising, Williams said. The exhibits and grounds look great, and the people involved with the Museum are great too. "We've got a wonderful infrastructure in place to build this thing up as far as public perception, public interest goes."

"We've got things that actually changed the history of this country, and we have people who know those stories."

"The future of the Museum, in my opinion, is bright. I don't see anything that's going to deter us from finally accomplishing what our goal is, which to me is to have the best museum in the United States."



The Wm. F. Ross Special Miniature Train makes its inaugural run on October 19, 2024.

Jupiter Launched


The Museum's new William F. Ross Special Miniature Train is now carrying visitors around the beautiful TNMOT campus. The engine is a replica of Jupiter, one of the trains present at the Golden Spike Ceremony that marked the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869.



Dr. Darryl Ross visits the Museum for the inaugural run of the Wm. F. Ross Special Miniature Train named in honor of his dad.



The Wm. F. Ross Special Miniature Train first passengers gathered for a photo before the crew yelled All Aboard!



We welcome our current members to the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Membership

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, 2024 | 4:00 PM

The Earl C. Lindburg Automobile Center - ENTRANCE #2
2933 Barrett Station Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122

Guest Speaker: Tim Bischof, Aerospace Engineer
Member of the Board - The National Museum of Transportation

PLEASE RETURN THIS SECTION IN THE INCLUDED ENVELOPE OR RETURN TO The William R. and Laura Rand Orthwein Education and Visitor Center Welcome Desk by SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH, 2024.

2024 PROXY STATEMENT

I hereby nominate and appoint John Brophy, Dr. Darryl Ross, and Charley Taylor as my attorneys, or proxies, and each of them, will full power to act without the others, to represent me and cast my vote by proxy at **The National Museum of Transportation Annual Meeting of the Membership, Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024**, in **The Earl C. Lindburg Automobile Building at 4 pm** or at any adjournment thereof, as fully and with the same effect as I might or could do personally present at such meeting, thereby ratifying and confirming his/her vote on the matters to be presented at said meeting.

Without limiting the general authorization and power hereby given, said proxies are specifically directed to vote for the following, except as indicated below on this reply form, on the election of directors to be submitted at the meeting:

Terms Expiring - December 31, 2027

Renominated to the Board
Frank Cunetto, Lee Rottmann

Terms Expiring - December 31, 2027

Nominated for a First Term
Tim Bischof, Todd Gibson, Elizabeth Smart, Ted Williams

REPLY SECTION

I have read the 2024 TNMOT Proxy Statement. I accept the Proxy as stated YES NO

Additions/Exceptions to the 2024 TNMOT Proxy Statement: _____

Member Name: _____

Member Signature: _____

I plan on attending the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Membership YES NO

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION

2933 Barrett Station Road
St. Louis, MO 63122

The National Museum of Transportation Annual Meeting of the Membership Election of Directors

Please return ballot to The William R. and Laura Rand Orthwein Education and Visitor Center or by return mail with the included envelope. **Thank you!**

MISSION

The National Museum of Transportation will be the leader in protecting and interpreting North American transportation heritage. As stewards of our heritage, we will provide engaging education programs, interactive and interpretive exhibits, and conserve transportation history for the next generations.

VISION

The Museum's successful operation depends on eight equally important units known as our 'drive wheel': Education • Exhibits Interpretation • Grounds & Facilities • People • Events & Outreach • Guest Services • Restoration & Preservation • Library & Archives. The unified force of the 'drive wheel' successfully moves the Museum forward.

VALUES

What we value is reflected in one word:

Respect. We respect the people, artifacts, campus, and stewardship that preserve the transportation past for future generations.

People. We respect our fellow volunteers, staff, guests, and stakeholders. We will share knowledge and collaborate, as well as be considerate and supportive of those with different and differing ideas.

Artifacts. We will respect the history and historical significance of artifacts entrusted to us to protect and preserve. Objectivity, accuracy, and integrity will prevail.

Campus. We will respect the grounds, buildings, and equipment by keeping these clean, orderly, and in working condition. We will be a good steward of our environment by emphasizing pollinator and native plants to our campus to foster not only attractive, but also sustainable, landscaping.

Stewardship. We will respect the significance of our treasured collection, acknowledge our role in preserving it, and remain accountable for the gifts we receive.

GOAL

We preserve and protect our transportation heritage enabling us to teach our children and our children's children about the significant role transportation played in the development of our Country.

We actively preserve history every day for the next generations!

The National Museum of Transportation is a 501(c)(3) relying solely on the generosity of donors to preserve the past for future generations.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Darryl A. Ross
President of the Board

Charles Taylor
Vice President of the Board

Lee Rottmann
Secretary of the Board

Directors

Charles J. Baine
Amanda Barbieri
Tim Bischof
John Brophy
Richard Chenault
Todd Gibson
Fred Goebel
Oscar Goldberg
Frank Cunetto
Ben Hilliker
Lindley James
Herman Jimerson
David Koller
Daniel Pook
Eric Shelhorn
Elizabeth Smart
John L. Stein
Ted Williams

Executive Director
Terri McEachern