

# *THE* **S** *RESOURCE* *SCALE*

NEWS, REVIEWS, INFORMATION TO USE  
**February/March 2023**  
**Volume 9 No. 3**



**My S Scale Journey (Early Years)**  
**Weathering Fox Valley Track on the MR2GO!**  
**Pacific Rail 3-bay Covered Hopper Into a 2-bay**  
**Cement Hopper**  
**NewTracks - Modeling with Mentoring from**  
**Talented Model Builders**  
**And So Much More...**



Published Bi Monthly

The Model Railroad Resource LLC  
407 East Chippewa Street  
Dwight, Illinois 60420  
815-584-1577

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**February/March 2023**

Volume 9 No. 3

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Welcome to the online S Scale Resource magazine. The magazine is presented in an easy to use format. The blue bar above the magazine has commands for previewing all the pages, advancing the pages forward or back, searching to go to a specific page, enlarging pages, printing pages, enlarging the view to full screen, and downloading a copy to your computer.

Front Cover Photo

*Dick Karnes' New York Central Class L-2b Mohawk. See the full description in his article beginning on page 11.*

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The Model Railroad Resource, LLC publishes *The O Scale Resource* and *The S Scale Resource*. Be sure to look at both of our magazines. There are many articles in our magazines that are not scale specific and will be of interest to you. Click the magazine title in this announcement to see the magazine.

# 2023 Spring S Spree

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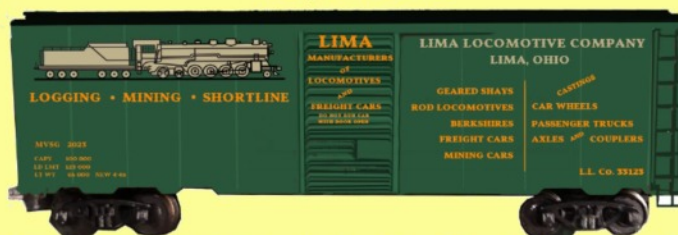
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[daniel@modelrailroadresource.com](mailto:daniel@modelrailroadresource.com)



# From the Publisher's Desk



We are in the middle of Winter, not that it's been to harsh here in Illinois. I was thinking back to the NASG Convention and how much fun Amy and I had. Not only the convention and side trips, but the journey out and back turning it into a vacation. The next convention is slated to be held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania from July 26th to July 29th, 2023 at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel. It will be hosted by the Lehigh Valley S Gaugers club.

And coming up before that is the 2023 Spring S Spree March 31st and April 1st at the Crossroads Expo Center, Exit 59 off of I-75, 6550 Poe Ave, Dayton, OH. [Check their Website here.](#)

After that is O Scale West - S West and Narrow Gauge West, May 25-27 at the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara (San Francisco area). This show has been the premier two-rail O Scale, S Scale and Narrow Gauge (all scales) show held West of the Mississippi since its founding by Rod Miller in 1991. [Check their Website here.](#)

Shows like this, as well as all the smaller ones, do have a purpose other then spending money. It's the networking and comradery between people. Yes, you can do Facebook and forums all day long, but it's nothing like being face to face with others. There will be items you may never see on forums or eBay, and if you did, I would bet they would be less money at a show.

We hope you all support these shows, and come away not only with more, trains but many good memories as well.

We are always looking for articles on anything to do with scale S. We know there are great modelers out there. We see them on Facebook and the other groups. Please get in touch with us at [daniel@modelrailroadresource.com](mailto:daniel@modelrailroadresource.com) and we'll help you get started.

Happy Reading & Happy Modeling,  
*Amy & Dan Dawdy*



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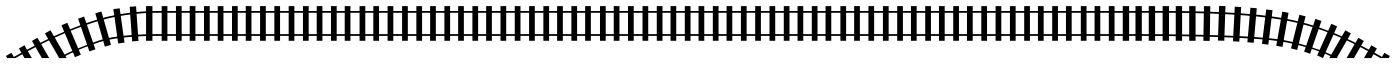
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*Along the Railroad* features the exciting and unique railroad images of photographer Howard Serig who has captured the special time "when trains were really trains!" Many have claimed it to be "The best railroad book out there!" To see a video preview of the contents of the book please click on the image above. This is a limited edition hard cover book containing 222 pages of content. Copies are available for \$49.95 plus actual shipping. Orders may be placed by contacting the seller below:  
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# NEWS YOU CAN USE



[Motrak Models](#) says: The Bisgeier Tool Company is a building that all started from a computer game back in 2012. I saw this structure in the game and I did a print screen and sent it over to Craig Bisgeier. I asked him if this would make a great kit.

This kit is not the same as the original that I sold back in 2013. The old kit had hydrocal brick walls, hydrocal stone foundation, LED lighting, and a water tank. The new kit has laser-cut brick walls, a laser-cut cinder block foundation and a couple of changes on the building.



You get the following items:

- Laser-cut walls, (double-wall construction and tab & slots)
- Laser-cut windows and doors
- Laser-cut slate roofing material
- Dimensions are 16.8" x 10.3"

[Check out their Website for more S scale buildings and detail items.](#)



[Lake Junction Models](#): When an office was needed for the division road master and his clerk, this building was moved to Downs, KS for his use. Previously it had served as a depot.



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[Check their Website for more S scale models.](#)



[Merritt 3D Designs and Printing](#) has an Sn3 model of the ET&WNC Azalea (Parlor Car).

Built in the early 1900's and purchased by the ET&WNC Railroad in May of 1912, the Azela served as a parlor car aboard the line from Johnson City, TN





to Boone, NC. The Azalea hosted many excursions for railroad executives along with financial investors. Riding in the parlor car was the true definition of luxury as passengers traveled into the mountains. Over the years, the Azalea became one of the most photographed passenger cars on the railroad and was often found on the rear-end of passenger trains. This 40' narrow gauge passenger coach became an icon and recognizable part of ET&WNC history.

[See their Website for more details.](#)

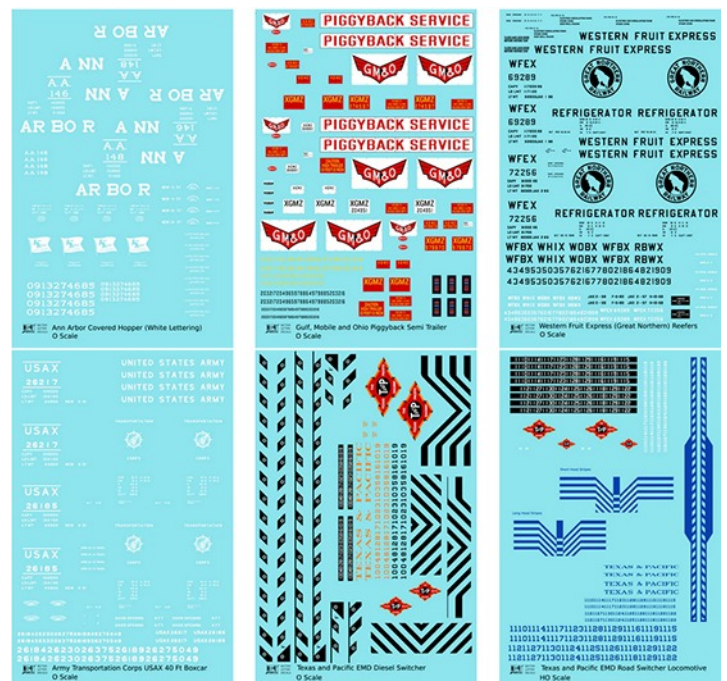
[From the NASG Website:](#) Last year, Inventive Models appeared on the scene producing working brass couplers that are based on Sergeant Engineering's design (which Frank Sergeant put in the public domain when he retired). Inventive Models is owned by Eric Xing, who is based in China. Eric was initially selling these through an eBay store, but ran into some eBay issues, oddly enough because he was selling "too many" of them, according to eBay! (he also makes HO-scale versions).



Inventive Models has a web site now, but it is not ready to accept orders yet; it does show the couplers they produce. S-scale modeler John Degnan has been a champion of these couplers (he states that he likes these even better than the last version of the Sergeant Engineering S-scale ones) and stands by them. So much so, that he is now accepting your firm orders for him to make one large purchase from Inventive Models, currently planned to happen sometime in March 2023. That company doesn't really deal in onesies and twosies, so by us pooling our orders together, we can make the order happen, and we collectively save on the shipping costs from China. John is now collecting orders for the standard E coupler version.

[Contact John via e-mail](#) to place your firm order. Indicate how many pair you would like to order. Update: John got an update on the price, and they are \$7.95 for a pair. This is no small effort, as John now reports well over 450 pair are reserved!

[K4 Decals](#) is the fastest growing producer of model railroad decals. We print decals in the most popular scales HO scale, O scale, and N scale, but also offer decals for the under served scales as well, including G scale, Z scale, TT scale, and S scale. Below is a very small selection of their new releases all of which can be ordered in S scale.



[See their Website for all their sets.](#)

[John Hagen from OBS-CALS](#) has a new Glaser Crandell decal available. Atlas "O" did sell a Glaser Crandell reefer some time ago. Branchline Trains did an "HO" car, also some time ago.

Due to the fine drawing of the horse head on the mustard car, it is a two-part decal. The brown background and the black horse head, which includes the 4 stars around the head. As the background decal also has those stars, getting the horse head in the correct position can be done by layering the stars over the stars.





Cars with OBS-CALS decals shown by John J. Mann, MMR. These cars are available in O scale and S Scale. [Email John](#) for more details.

[New from Tru-Color paints](#). Here is the new product information for the paint sets for January-February, 2023. The sets comprise six (6) 1-ounce paint bottles of either all sprayable or all brushable paints

### January, 2023

#### Railroad

- 328: Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit- Green
- 341: New Brunswick- Green
- 342: Brooklyn & Queens Transit- Cream
- 343: Brooklyn & Queens Transit- Salmon
- 344: Brooklyn & Queens Transit- Red

#### Paint Sets

- 10900: Modern Distribution Industry Set
- 800: Flat/Brushable White
- 801: Flat/Brushable Concrete
- 804: Flat/Brushable Grimy Black



- 805: Flat/Brushable Black
- 818: Flat/Brushable Light Tan
- 819: Flat/Brushable Dark Tan
- 11004: Midwest Railroads Set, #1
- 055: Soo Line- Red
- 067: Burlington Northern- Cascade Green
- 097: Montana Rail Link- Gray
- 098: Montana Rail Link- Blue
- 132: Chicago Great Western/ Soo Line- Maroon
- 157: Soo Line- Off-White

### February, 2023

#### Railroad

- TCP-322: Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee- Green
- TCP-323: Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee- Red
- TCP-324: Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee- Orange
- TCP-325: Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee- Maroon

#### Paint Sets

- TCP-11005: Northeast Railroad Set, #1
- 043: New York Central- Jade Green
- 044: Penn Central- Green
- 056: Conrail- Blue
- 075: Pennsylvania- Brunswick Green
- 129: New York Central- Light Gray
- 130: New York Central- Dark Gray
- TCP-10405: Railroad Layout Set, #1
- 403: Matte Mud, #1
- 408: Matte Aged Rust
- 412: Matte Steel
- 425: Matte Mud, #2
- 437: Matte Light Brown Tree Bark
- 440: Matte Light Gray Tree Bark

[See their Website for all their colors.](#)





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Currently, there are over a dozen new kits in development for release this year!

Oh, yea, I recently published two **Military Crime Novels**. Writing #3 now.

Yep, I've been busy! Thanks for keeping me that way!!

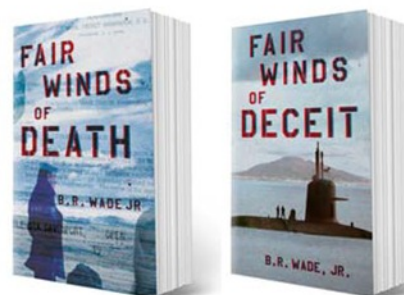
*Bill*

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## New Paint Sets

11005: Northeast Railroads Set, #1 (February, 2023)

TCP-043 New York Central- Jade Green  
TCP-044 Penn Central- Green  
TCP-056 Conrail- Blue  
TCP-075 Pennsylvania- Brunswick Green  
TCP-129 New York Central- Light Gray  
TCP-130 New York Central- Dark Gray

11006: Family Lines Set, #1 (March, 2023)

TCP-159 Louisville & Nashville- Blue  
TCP-160 Louisville & Nashville- Gray  
TCP-161 Louisville & Nashville- Yellow  
TCP-263 Atlantic Coast Line- Royal Purple  
TCP-278 Atlantic Coast Line- Yellow  
TCP-377 Seaboard Coast Line- Red



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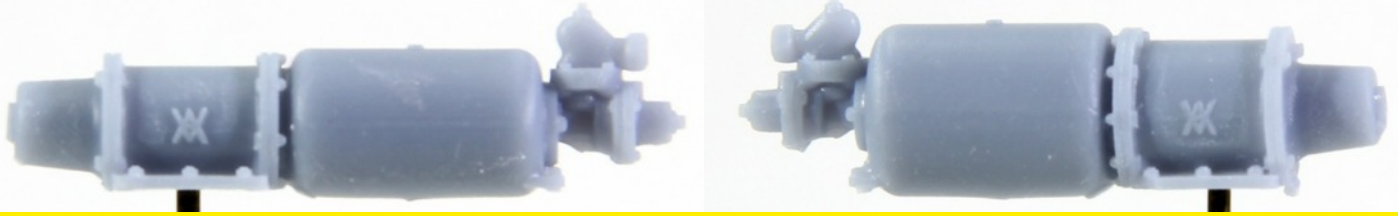
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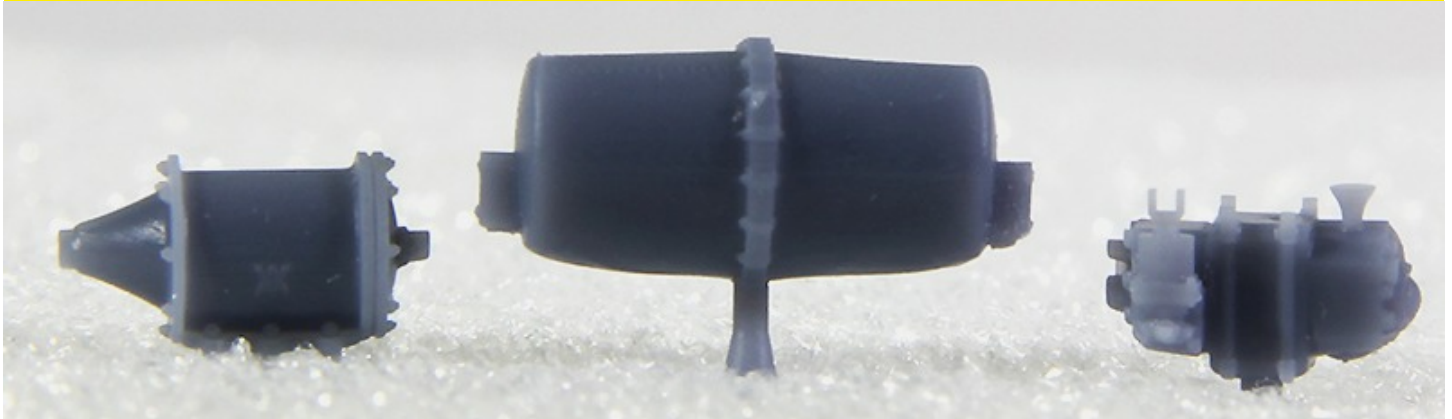
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## New S Scale Resin Castings

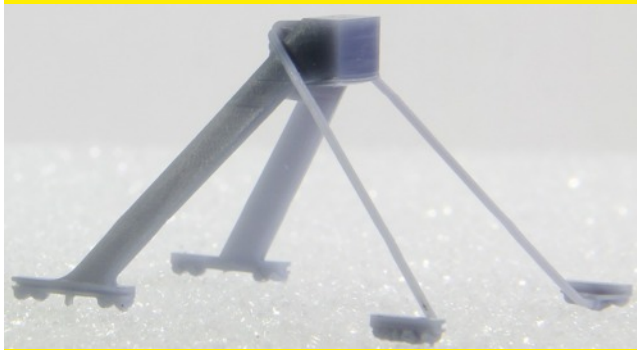


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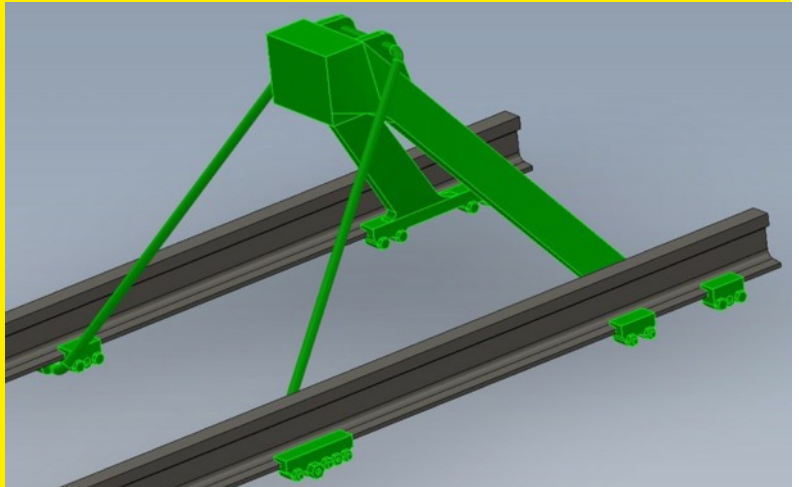
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**More to come!**



# ***MY S SCALE JOURNEY***

## ***EARLY YEARS***

**By Dick Karnes**

I've been in S since I got an American Flyer set for my tenth birthday (1949). That happened to be during a spurt of new S products blossoming after WWII. In the late 1940s, there was a monthly two-page centerfold spread in "Model Railroader" (next page) devoted solely to S scale manufacturers' ads, and there were a lot of them. They were what caused me to gradually purchase kits and equip them with AF trucks so I could run them with my AF equipment.

I lusted for Dayton's gas-electric and trolley cars and drooled over Exacta Scale Models passenger car kits and Nord locomotive kits. My first kit was a Chester Industrial Arts 80-foot baggage car for \$2. I built it when I was 11 years old, knowing not a thing about minimum radii, curve overhang, etc. I equipped it with Nixon Model Co. (Nimco) trucks and AF couplers and put it on a temporary oval of 20" radius AF track. Yuck!! The next day I shortened the car by three inches and all was well. When Ambroid came out with their S scale kits for a snowplow, watermelon car, and stock car, I bought all three. I built them when I was 13 and still have the stock car and watermelon car on my current layout.



*NYC J-3a Hudson No. 5424' construction follows that of the Mohawk on the following pages except that the tender shell is AF, and the sprung and equalized trailing truck is scratchbuilt.*





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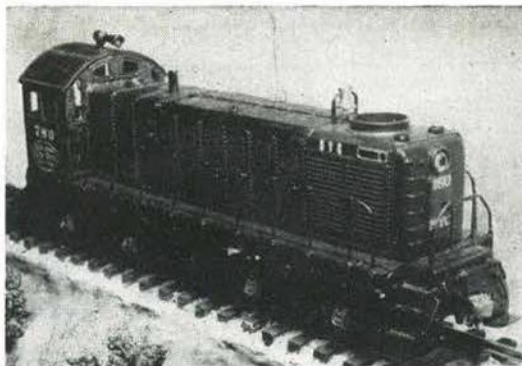
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I began amassing locomotives and passenger cars during my 20s, all scale. I was able to acquire lots of the late '40s/early '50s offerings from really stale back-room stock at various hobby shops. My locos were primarily AF converted to scale, first with Nimco conversion kits, then with NASG (later spun off as S Scale Loco & Supply) replacement chassis kits. It went smoothly because all scale (non-AF) S was manufactured to NMRA standards, and there were Culp, Nimco, and Northeastern trucks for all kinds of cars.

In those days, the NASG (founded in 1960) was aimed at scale modelers in other scales as well as S gaugers who were looking to migrate to scale modeling. Claud Wade, the first NASG "General Director," had a portable display at every NMRA national convention showing an ever-increasing array of investment-cast locomotive detailing parts, eventually blossoming into AF loco conversion-to-scale kits and complete brass locomotive kits.

**Uh-Oh!**

I began building a 25' x 25' L-shaped layout in my basement in my late 30s. All track was laid to NMRA standards, all turnouts had rigid (non-moving) frogs, and all the equipment I had and continued purchasing ran on it, no problems. Then the NASG threw a monkey wrench into everything. Because of a mere scale half-inch difference in track gauge (4'-8" to the prototype's 4'-8½") and "too-wide" guardrail flangeway width, the NASG established its own track and wheel standards, departing from the NMRA's 35-year standard, this even though, to the naked eye, the differences were essentially invisible. The expressed motivation was to make trackage look more prototypical, but the result was still not a strict 1:64 reduction from prototype, so what was the point? In 1980, the first models conforming to the new standard began appearing on the market, along with new track products matching the new standard. Thus began a flurry of S layout owners ripping up their switch work because the new stuff (imported locos, mostly) would not tolerate their old turnouts.





*This New York Central Class L-2b Mohawk consists of a re-detailed American Flyer Hudson boiler atop an SSL&S chassis. Its original tender was a hand-me-down AF Hudson tender, later replaced with the correct tender shown in the photo, built from a modified SSL&S Berkshire tender kit.*







I took a different path. With over a hundred cars, a dozen locos, and a 300-foot double-track main line, I was not about to rip out trackage and change maybe a thousand wheelsets.

Turnouts were the only real problem for the new stuff. “New-standard” wheel flanges picked the frog points because the guard rails did not pull the wheelsets all the way to the correct side of the frog points. So I fiddled. I discovered that all I needed to do was chamfer the frog points to a larger angle, thus widening the check gauge at the frog point enough for the “old-standard” guard rails to do their job with the “new-standard” wheelsets. To this day, I have a thorough mixture of “old-standard” and “new-standard” locos and cars running on my layout.

Finally, in the 1990s (as I recall), after years of inter-association arguing, the NMRA adopted the NASG wheel and track standards.

### **Another Hiccup**

Leading up to the 1985 NASG National Convention, the NASG Board of Trustees came up with a fantastic idea to increase the NASG’s membership and revenue stream. Henceforth, there would be an American Flyer Commemorative Car Project which would, for each yearly national convention, offer for sale one or more special-production AF cars, but only to NASG members. This project resulted in a rapid increase in NASG membership, inevitably leading to the membership majority transitioning from a “hi-rail moving to scale” majority to a “tinplate/hi-rail” majority in just a couple of years.

### **Where We Are Now**

One of the unintended consequences of the 1985 change is the non-S-ers’ assertion that “S is just American Flyer.” This perception is perpetuated in the current spate of well-written, but misdirected NASG “promotional materials.” These booklets and trifolds explain very clearly the various aspects of S: narrow gauge, scale (per NASG/NMRA standards), hi-rail, and tinplate. But for the prospective S convert, it all comes across as a mishmash of mutually incompatible wheel, track, and coupler options. The result over recent decades is that all but the most determined potential S converts just throw up their hands at these untargeted, mutually incompatible options and move to the next smaller or larger scale.

So my simple recommendation to anyone considering moving into S scale is to purchase equipment manufactured to the NMRA S scale standards. This alone is sufficient to ensure interoperability of rolling stock and trackage, no matter the manufacturer.

The NASG is finally in the process of producing separate sets of promotional materials targeted to the different kinds of S hobbyists: Scale-only for potential converts from HO, N, or scale O modelers; hi-rail for AF modelers desiring more realistic track; and Lionel/AF for toy train operators. It’s about time!"

As for where someone would procure realistic steam locos for scale track without paying brass prices, there are lots of old converted Flyer locos out there. As an example, I have a converted NYC Hudson and another Hudson superstructure atop a scale 4-8-2 chassis that became a NYC Class L-2b Mohawk. Both have open-frame DC-91 motors and DCC decoders. I used to have a similarly converted USRA 0-8-0 that's now on someone else's layout. Because my second/present layout is primarily heavy electric, some of these locos are becoming surplus. The upside is that there are probably hundreds of such steamers gathering dust in the basements/attics of people on this S-list that would love to see the light of day on someone else’s layout. The downside is that they must all have their wheel gauges widened ever so slightly to run on current scale trackage, unless you are willing to widen all your guardrail flangeways and chamfer all your frog points.

(I have purposely omitted S narrow gaugers from this rant. They have by themselves been extremely well organized over the last half century, intentionally segregating themselves from S standard gauge because of, and thus reinforcing, the “S is just American Flyer” perception.)



# Pacific Rail 3-bay Covered Hopper Into a 2-bay Cement Hopper

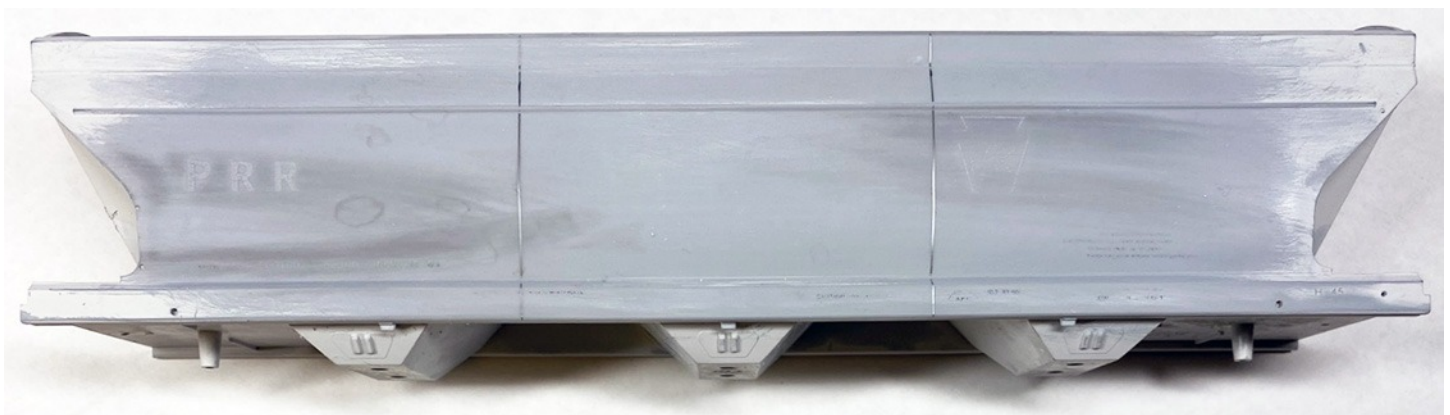
By Paul Butkowski

I have been a model railroader for over 40 years, modeling in HO scale. When it comes time for a new layout, I want to build it in S scale. The changeover is still going to be a few years away; so in the mean time, I'm going to build up my freight car roster. My goal is to have a very unique collection of cars that not every modeler will have. The first car that I chose to build is a C&NW 100 ton cement covered hopper. I really like their yellow cars, and I have a few HO scale ones from Athearn that I used a guide. While the cars may not be 100% accurate, they make a very close representation of the prototype. All that being said, let's get started. The Pacific Rail Shops kit is very nice with some really good detail which makes for a great starting point.



**Figure 1**

Figure 1: My models came decorated so I wanted to strip off the original paint. My preferred method is 91% isopropyl alcohol. I just dump a bottle into a large freezer bag, place the parts inside and let them soak overnight. A good scrub with a old toothbrush and most of the paint is gone.



**Figure 2**

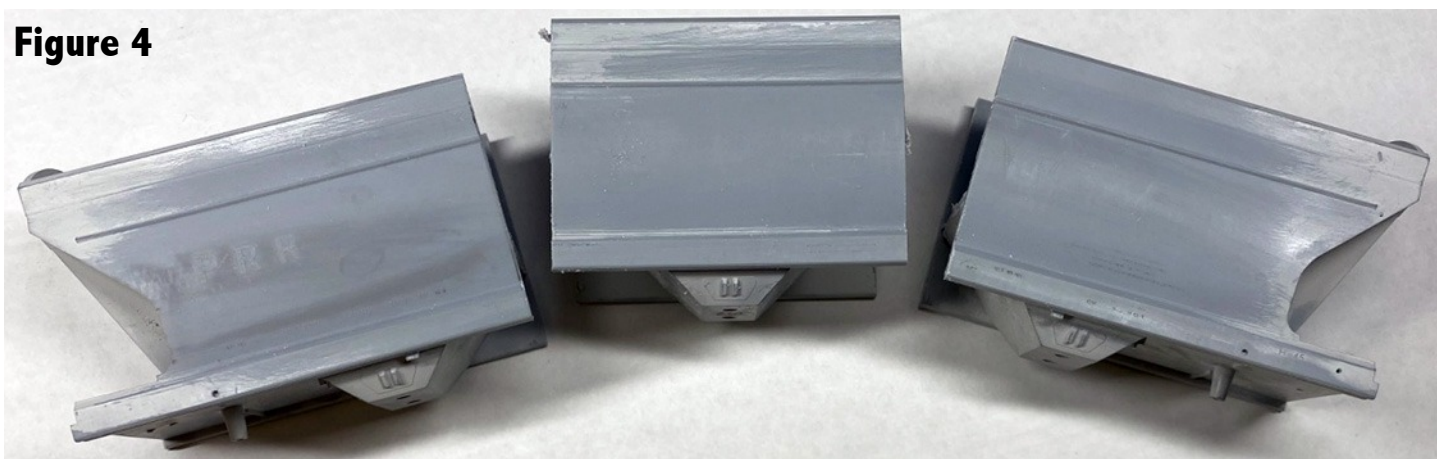
Figure 2: I used the Athearn model as a guide to get the dimensions I needed. Measuring 17'6" from each end to give me the 35' length of the Athearn car. To keep everything square, I use a piece of glass and a drafting square. Then draw my 2 vertical cut lines.





**Figure 3**

Figure 3: This is the no going back step. Being that I only have a hand saw, I use some drafting tape built up in a few layers as a cutting guide. I slowly begin to make the cuts making sure that they are nice and straight.



**Figure 4**

Figure 4: Now that the shell is in 3 pieces, I put the middle section into my parts bin for future use. After removing the tape from the end sections, it's time to square up the ends. A good file and some sand paper is all I need. I keep checking for square and the length.



**Figure 5**

Figure 5: Time to glue the 2 sections together. Great care should be taken to make sure both sections are lined up properly. All of the horizontal body lines of the car body have to match up. I used plenty of CA to glue the sections together. There are also a couple of holes on each side that need to be filled in with some .040 styrene rod. Once the glue is dry, I puttied the joints. Once again, I took care with sanding the joints, making



sure that I don't ruin the horizontal seams. I keep repeating the process until I'm satisfied the joints have disappeared.



Figure 6: To add some strength to the car, I added some pieces of scrap .020 styrene which I made to fit the length of the car to get the most coverage possible.



Figure 7: All of the photos I saw while doing research showed that the car has 3 weld seams. I wanted to represent these using .010 square rod which was the smallest that I could find. To keep the rod straight, I

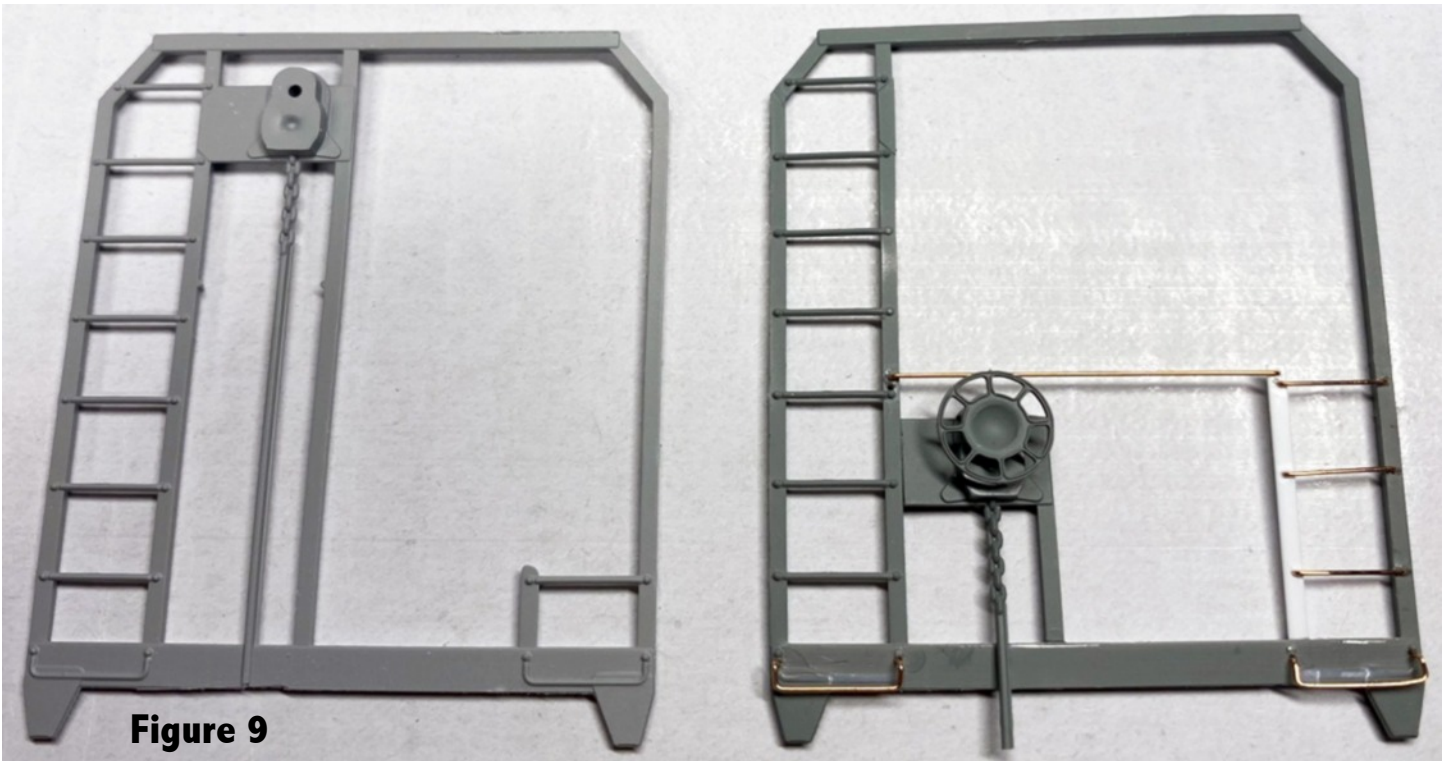


scribed grooves in the sides to accept the rod. The .010 rod is a bit large, so I sanded it down to make it smaller. It is still a bit oversized, but it gives the overall look that I'm going for.

**Figure 8**



Figure 8: Before I installed the air tank and triple valve, I drilled #77 holes to accept the wire air lines. Then I installed them as per the instructions. Using Tichy .015 phosphor bronze wire, I bent the 2 airlines to fit into the holes that were drilled. I needed a brake cylinder, but didn't have one, so I just made them using .156 styrene tube, .100 rod, and .020 x .188 styrene strip. I then connected it to the valve with the .015 wire. There is also a rod that connects to lever behind the brake wheel.



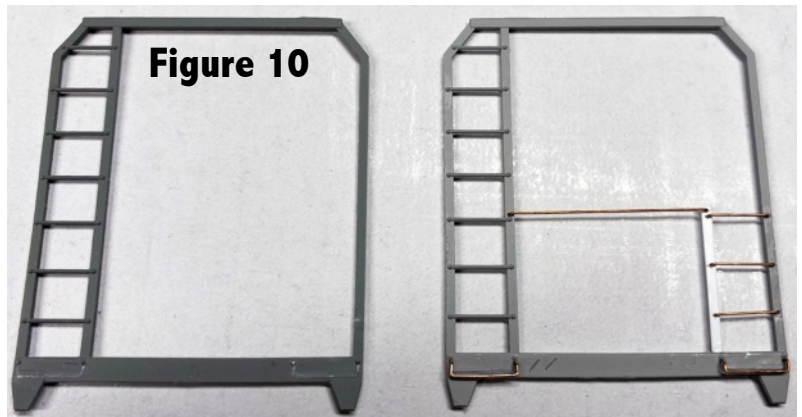
**Figure 9**

Figure 9: Here is the before and after shot of the brake end section. I started by cutting the brake wheel housing, chain, and upright brace and trimming it down so it sits in the lowered position. The single rung ladder on the right was removed and replaced with a 3 rung ladder using .060 styrene angle and .015 wire. I



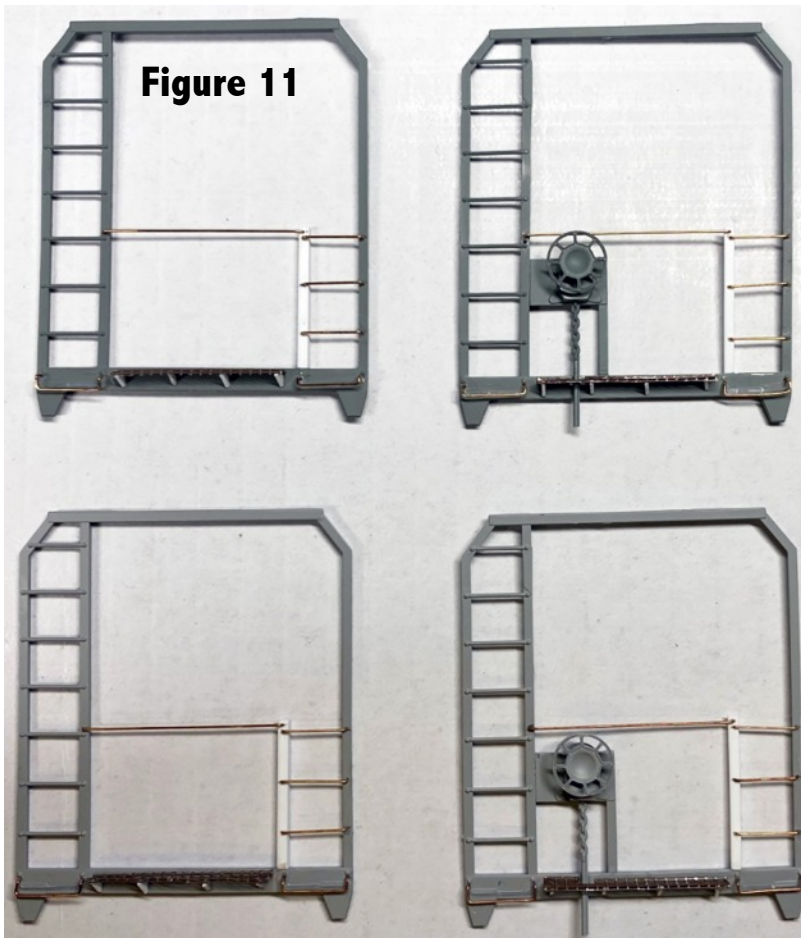
used the ladder on the left side as a guide for the rung placement and rung width.

Finally, I added the grab bar that connects the 2 ladders. Then I added the 2 grab irons that go below each ladder. On the sides of the ladders there are voids for the original side ladders that need to be filled in with .020 x .040 styrene and sanded smooth.



**Figure 10**

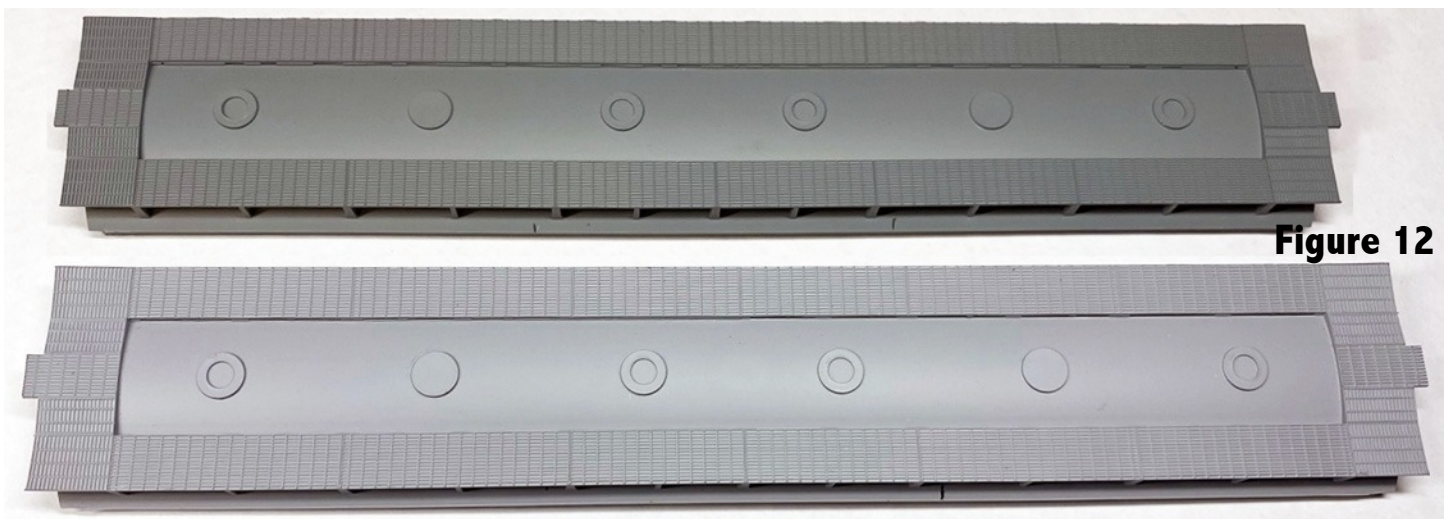
Figure 10: The non-brake end will get the same treatment as the brake end with regards to the ladders, grab irons, and the filling of the original ladder voids.



**Figure 11**

Figure 11: To finish off the ends, I used a scrap piece of HO scale Plano covered hopper roof walk to make the cross over platform. Once they were glued in place, I made 4 triangle shaped support braces and glued them to the underside.

Figure 12: On the roof section, I measured 17'6" from each end and used a miter box to cut the roof into 3 sections.



**Figure 12**





**Figure 13**

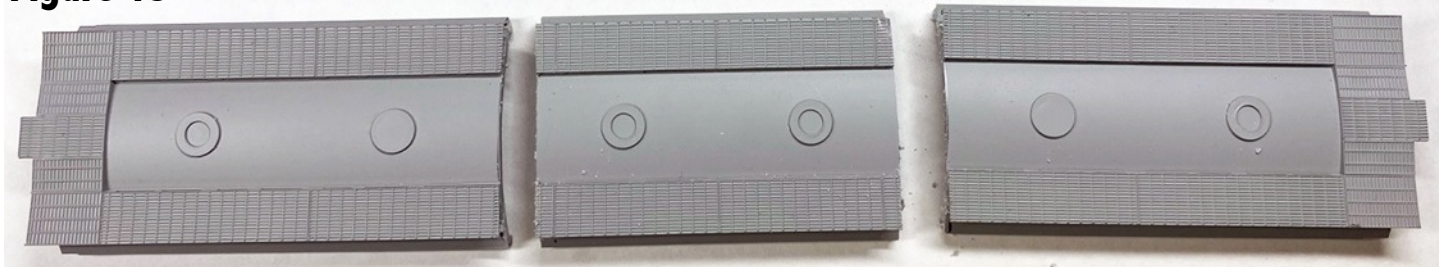
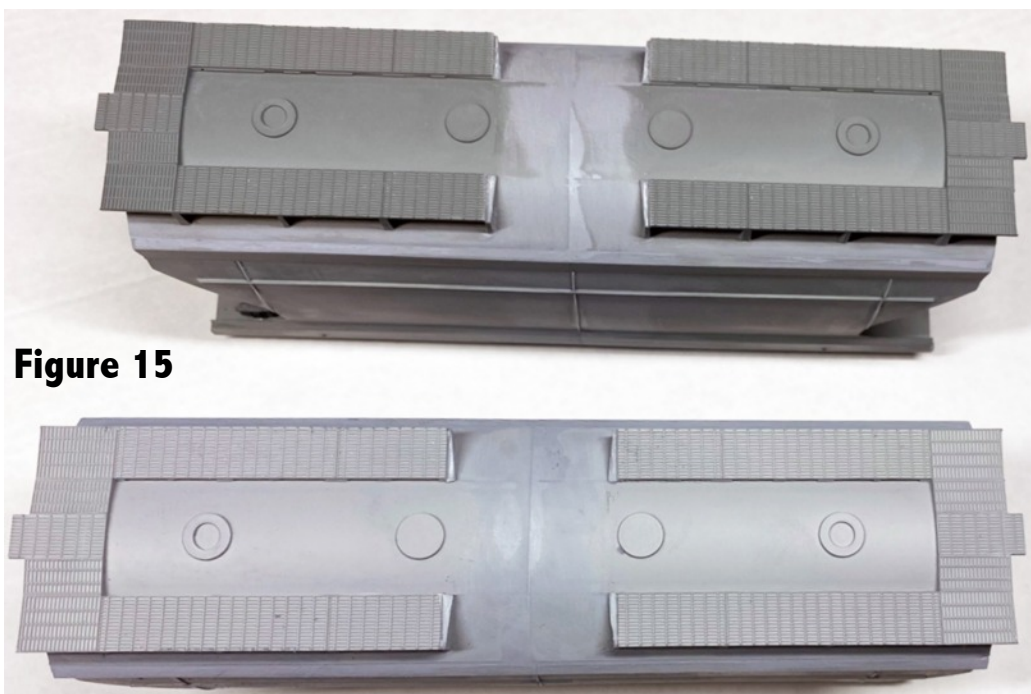


Figure 13: I saved the middle section of the roof for the roof walk. The walkways need to be cut off and the support brackets need to be removed and sanded flat.



**Figure 14**

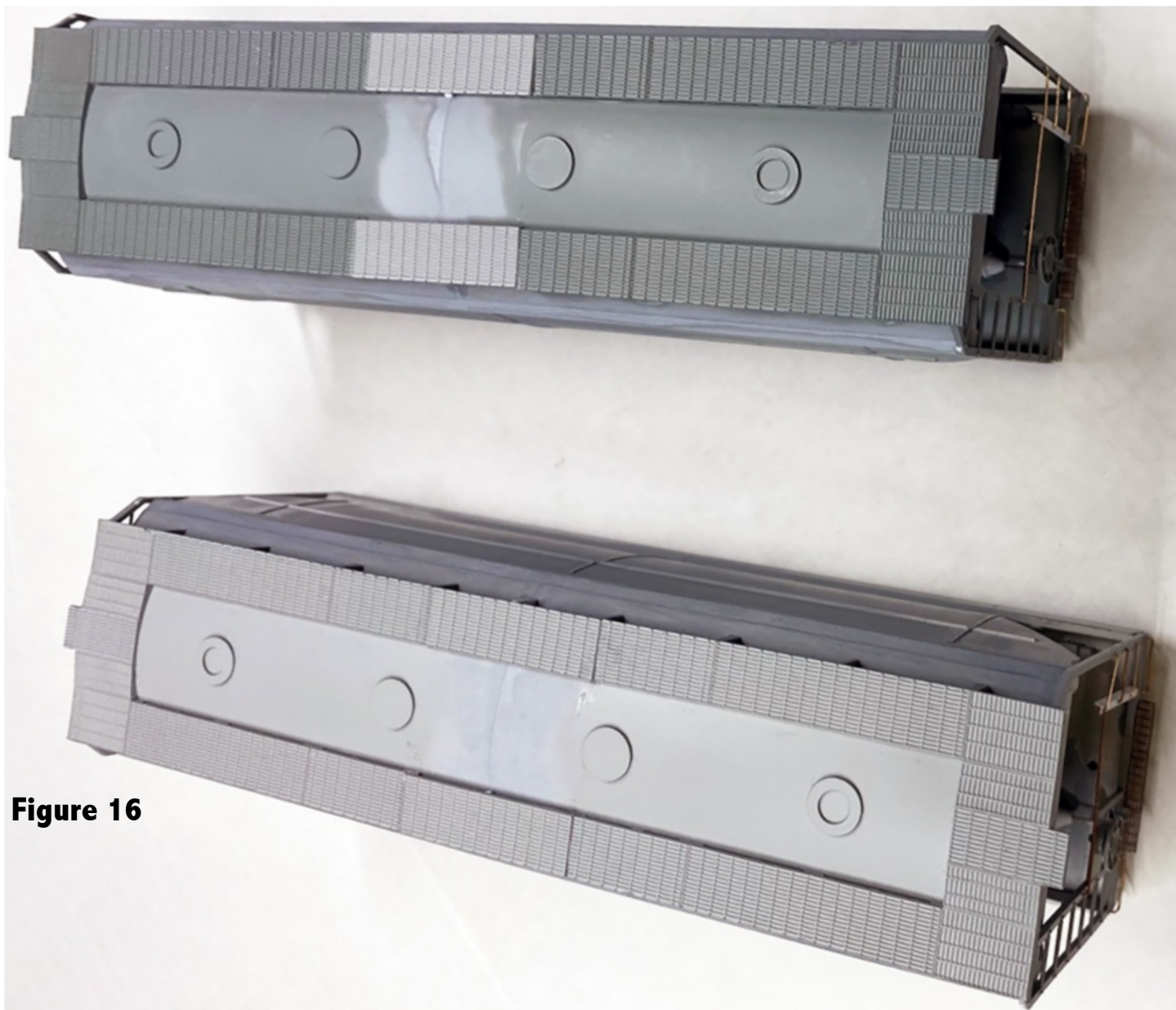
Figure 14: The roof walk on the 2 end sections needs to be trimmed back to the next support bracket. There is a joint in the walkway. I make a cut down to the support bracket with a razor saw from the top, then use a sharp hobby knife to make a horizontal cut. This will make a small shelf to support the new walkway section.



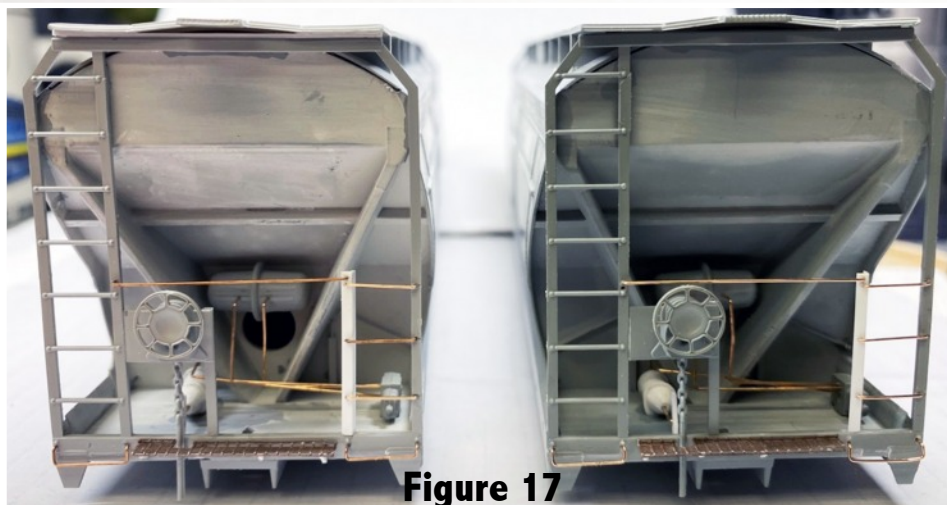
**Figure 15**

Figure 15: After lots of filing and test fitting, the roof is ready to be glued into place. I made sure to add weight before I glued on. I used the self sticking auto wheel weights (one strip of weights was 2 oz) . Once the glue was dry, I filled the seams with Tamiya putty. Next, I sanded them smooth, and repeated the process until the seams disappeared.





**Figure 16**

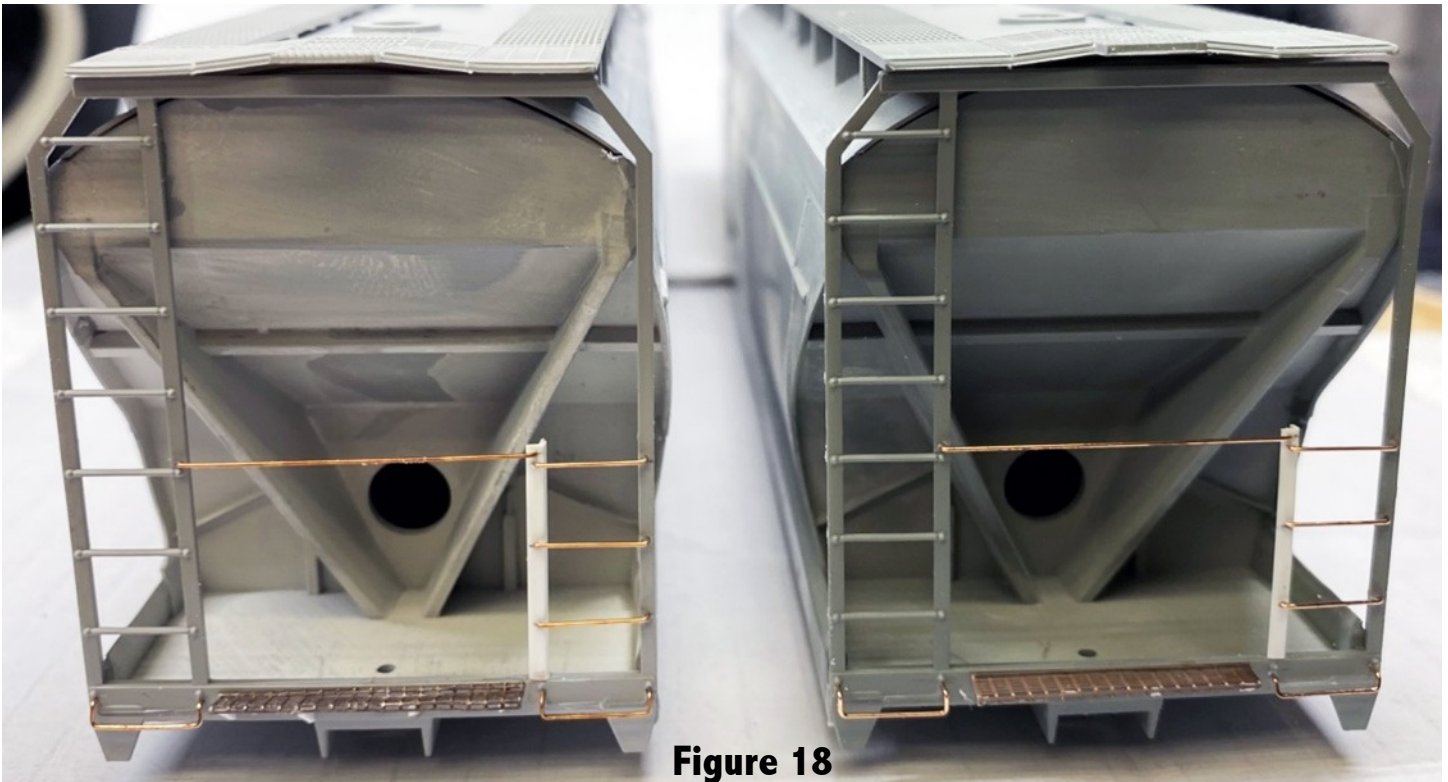


**Figure 17**

Figure 16: Sometimes a modeler gets lucky. For me this was one of those times. The walkway section that I removed from the center portion of the roof has molded in joints, and 1 section fits perfectly into the opening. I made a new support bracket by laminating 2 pieces of .020 x .188 strip styrene and cutting in the roof contour so that it fit properly. Doing this will throw off the overall spacing of the support brackets, but the overall look is what I was going for.

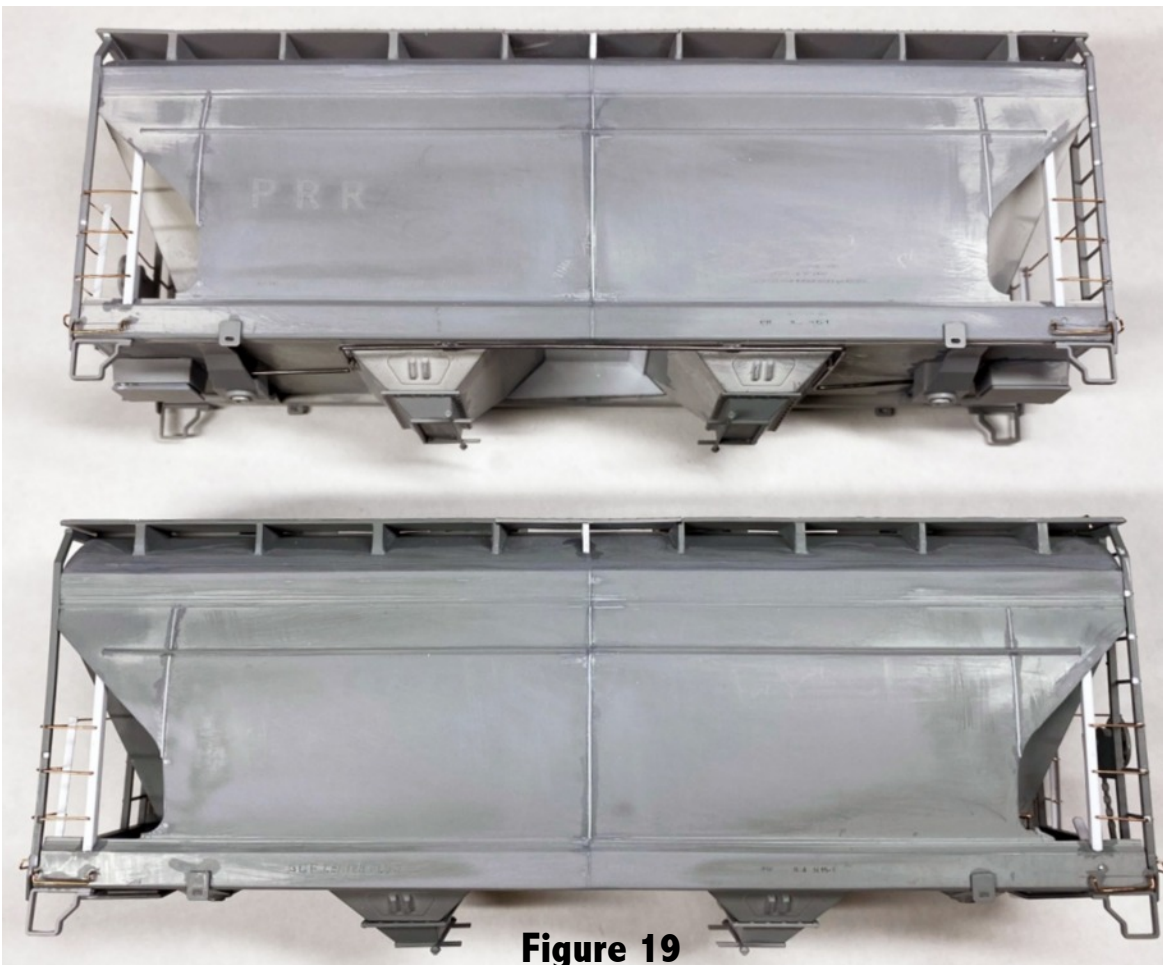
Figure 17: The completed brake ends are ready to be installed. I had to check the fit for gaps along the side sills and sand them down where needed. On my kits, the walkways curled up in the corners so I had to make sure they were straight before I glued them in place.





**Figure 18**

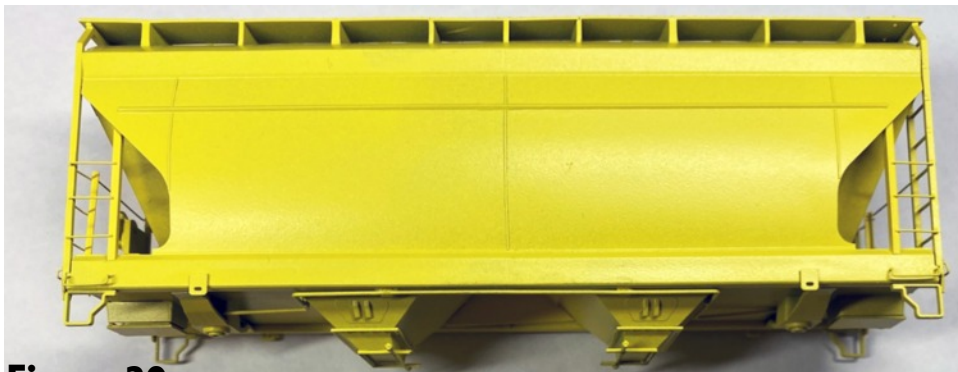
Figure 18: The "A" end was also installed at this time in the same manner as the "B" end. I also added the roof hatch covers (the covers sit too tall and had to be sanded down). A grab iron was also installed on the roof walk above the ladder on each end.



**Figure 19**

Figure 19: To finish up the sides of the car, I first made the air line from .032 piano wire using the plastic one from the kit as a guide. .060 angle was used for the side ladders with .015 phosphor bronze wire as the rungs. I used the end ladders as a guide for the spacing. Each end also received a drop step, and the plastic stirrup steps were applied. I finished them off by adding the car puller tabs and finishing the bay details.





**Figure 20**

Figure 20: painted the cars with Tru Color paint. I have never used this paint before, and I really liked it. It had a nice gloss finish that was perfect for decals. Just beware of the strong fumes, and use it in a well ventilated area.



Figure 21: My decals were made by Circus City. They have done all of my decals in the past and I really like their work. Now that the cars are finished, let's bring them to life.



**Figure 21**







**Figure 22**



Figure 22: Weathering freight cars is an aspect of the hobby that I really love because I can give each car its own personality. I like to use reference photos for my cars and my “go to site” is [RR Picture Archives](#). Even if I can't find the exact car, I can find one that is close because they have such a large photo library. I like to fade all of my cars with a mixture of Mission Models flat clear with a few drops of white added. After the fade, it's time to determine the amount of weathering. My products of choice are acrylics, artists oils, and Pan Pastels. I have found that it is very easy to go overboard when weathering even if you have photos to go off of, so I have learned to build up the weathering in layers. A few years ago, I came to the conclusion that all of my freight cars do not have to be contest worthy as all will blend together nicely in a train or sitting in a yard.

### ***Conclusion***

Building these two cement cars was a fun project for me. I have heard some people say that S scale is the "perfect scale", and for this project I have to agree. The large size makes it so much easier to add the details to really bring the car to life. I already have a few more projects on the work bench to build up that very unique roster of cars for when the change of scales finally happens.



## List of materials:

Pacific Rail Shops ACF 4650 center flow covered hopper

American Models 50 ton trucks with scale wheels

Kadee 802 couplers

Plano HO scale roof walk

Tichy .015 phosphor bronze wire

K and S .032 piano wire

Evergreen .020 x .080 strip styrene

.020 x .188 strip styrene

Evergreen .100 rod

.156 tube

.020 sheet styrene

.020 x .040 strip styrene

.060 angle

Plastruct .010 square rod

Tamiya putty

Tru-color paint TCP-140 C&NW zito yellow

Circus City decals





# Weathering Fox Valley Track on the MR2GO!

By Charles Malinowski

In the [August-September 2019 issue of \*The S Scale Resource Magazine\*](#), I told readers about my experience testing well known [Professional Model Railroader Lance Mindheim's](#) process for weathering flex-track. The commercial track used for testing was [Fox Valley's](#) fantastic line of track and turn-outs. Having successfully tested Lance's technique, I turned to application on my portable S Scale layout, the MR2GO.

I hope you enjoy following along in my photo-journal how I applied the lessons from Lance:

The most important weathering lesson that I keep seeing is layers. What follows is layers upon layers to get the desired effect that I was looking for. You may choose to use fewer layers, and if you're are happy with the results, that is great.



*The cork roadbed, flex track and the one turn-out was glued to the plywood base. I gave all the track a shot of grey Rust-Oleum automobile primer. Safety First! This was done in a well ventilated garage in June. The blue painter's tape covers my DCC control system that was installed and tested prior to weathering. The grey primer was applied with 2-3 coats to giving the cork, plastic ties, rail and rail-stops an even primed finished.*



*Immediately after the primer was applied, I dipped a 1x3 scrap of pine lumber into odorless terpenoid and rubbed the top of the rails, removing the primer before it completely dried. Allow the gray primer to dry 24 hours before the next step.*





*Left: Turing again to Rust-Oleum, I grabbed a can of their flat back primer. The black was “fogged” onto the grey primer. The result was a speckled look that I didn’t care much for...but I kept moving forward. Again clean the rail tops with the terpenoid and dry for another 24 hours.*



*Above right: The next goal was to mask the “wood” ties so we can “rust” just the tie-plates, spike-heads and rail. Masking off the cross-ties went fairly quick in the straight-aways. Between the rails, I trimmed my tape with a No 11 blade to cover only the ties between the edges of the tie plates.*

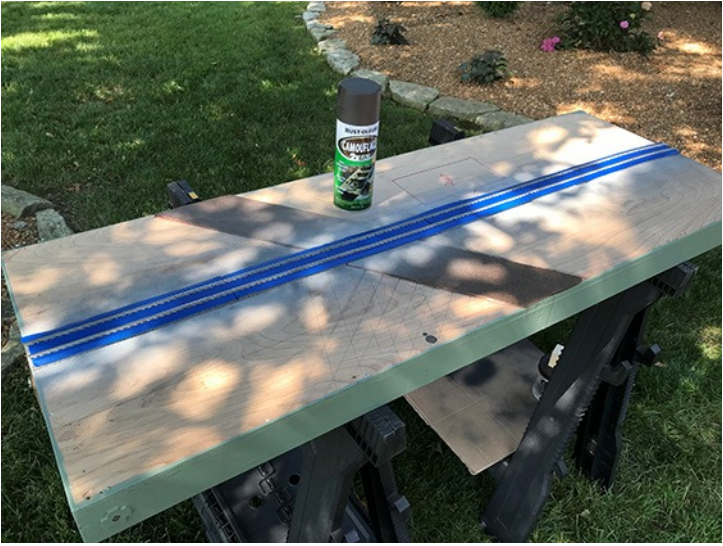


*Left: This photos shows how I taped off the switch-points and switch-machine. Also, take a Q-tip soaked in terpenoid to the switch-point rod so the primer paint does not hang up the point movement.*

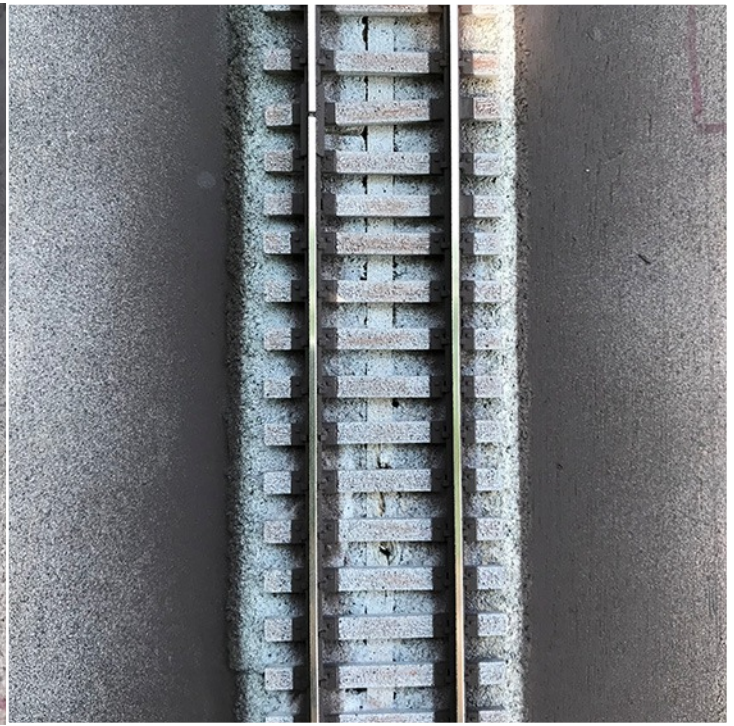


*Right: The next step is painstaking, but very rewarding. Detail masking of the turn-out. Really the most difficult because of the small strips to cover the cross-ties. I only had one turn-out to mask and I went slow. My speed could pick-up, but again a slow process.*





*The weather was nice enough with no breeze that I moved to the front yard to spray 2-3 light coats of Rust-Oleum Camouflage Earth to the rail sides and tie-plates. And you guessed it, terpenoid + pine blocks to clean the rail head.*



*After dying again for 24 hours, I removed the tape. The result was not appealing, high contrast between the gray primer and the camouflage paints. We need to keep applying layers!*





*These next three photos show the turn-out section of the layout with the tape removed. Upon closer inspection I found that my tape didn't stick well, maybe because I didn't rub it down enough or curving the tape caused it to peel up. Also I wasn't (initially) happy with the taping around the turn-out. Stay with me, it will be fixed with more layers.*



*The photo above two photos show Neutral Grey PanPastel artists' pastels were applied to the "wooden" ties to give them a sun-bleached look. I used a foam micro brush that I buy by the 100 pack to layer the grey on the ties.*





*Next, PanPastel's black was applied randomly to the ties. Try not to get a pattern going. I consulted photos from my visit to the Monticello Railway Museum to get an idea of what good track maintenance would look like. You may choose to go for a different look depending if you're are a Class 1 Main Line or a Mixed-Daily Branch Line.*

*I used the applicator that PanPastel provided in the kit. It sorta looks like a make-up applicator to me.*

*At this point, I decided to ballast the track. With the ballast in place it would get a weather of powders. Why ballast now? Because the elements that weather the rail and ties also weather the ballast. Think about the look you are trying to achieve. You could have weathered track and fresh ballast giving a striking (and prototypical) appearance.*





*Next I turned to our good friends at Bragdon Enterprises and their weathering system. The Brandon system consists of fine powders in various dark “rust/soot” shades that bonds to your models when gently rubbed on. I scooped out small individual piles of light, medium and dark rust, plus soot black onto a reused butcher foam tray. Then blended them much like an artist would blend oil paint to get a subtle variety in the shade. The powders were first applied with a soft artist brush then rubbed in with a tooth brush to “stick” to the track and ballast. I worked in 6 to 8 inch sections to get the level of weathering that looked right to me.*

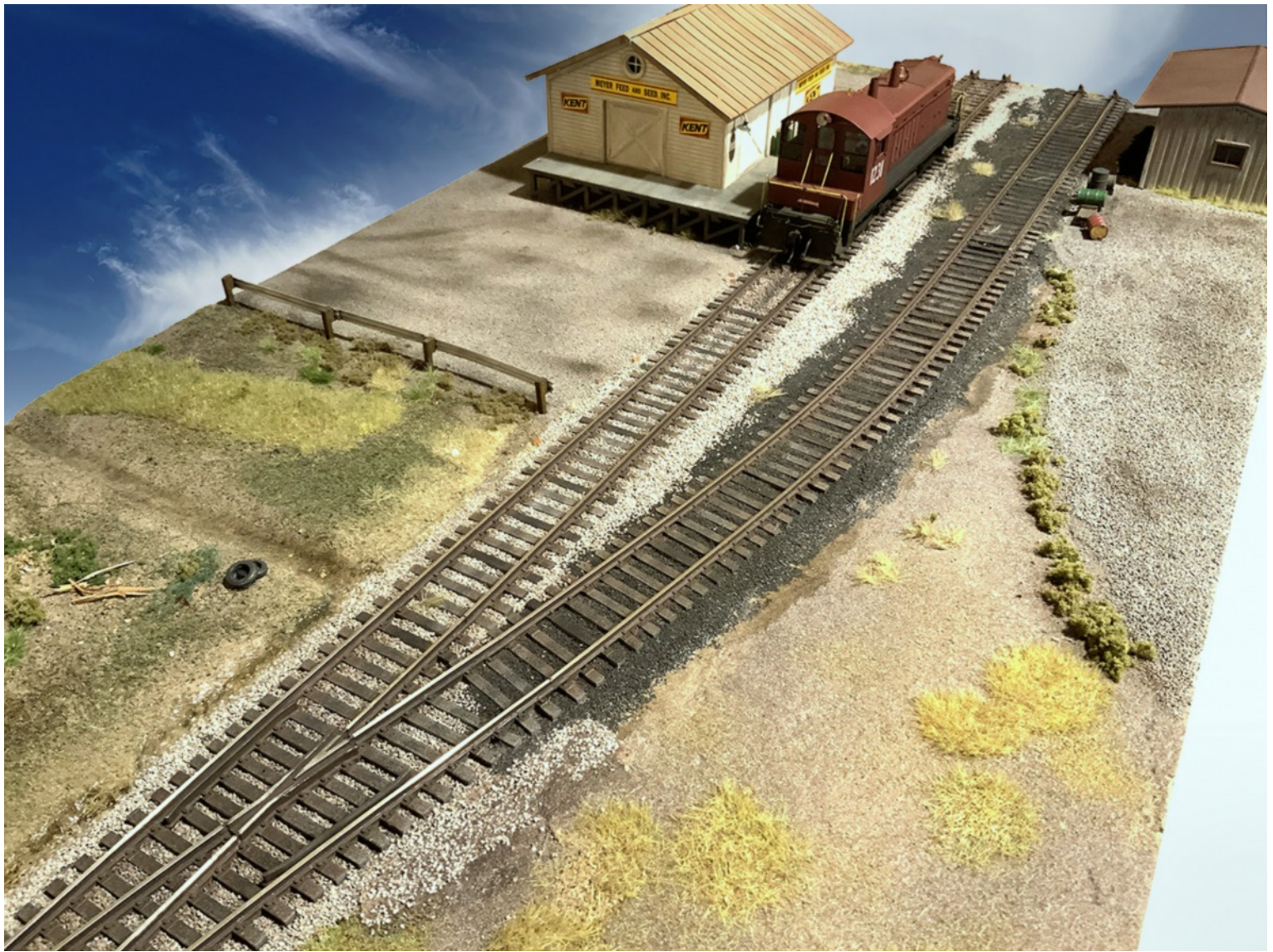


*In the end, the masking of the cross-ties was slow, but for me the results are well worth the effort. Thank you for following along, and I hope that I have encouraged you to give track weathering a try, just like Lance!*









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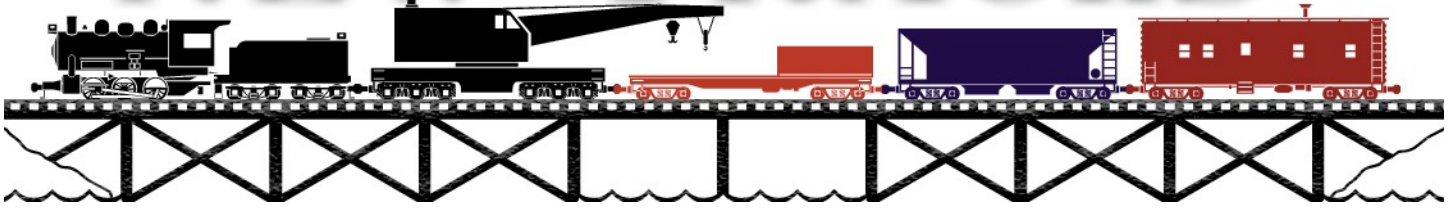
## ONLINE MAGAZINE

# SCALE

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read our other  
magazine, The O  
Scale Resource, for  
more modeling  
ideas.**



# NEW TRACKS



**Mentor Definition: A Trusted Counselor or Guide**



**By Contributing Editor Jim Kellow MMR**

## **MODELING WITH MENTORING FROM TALENTED MODEL BUILDERS AND EVEN FROM MODELERS IN OTHER HOBBIES**

### **New Tracks Announcements:**

***“New Tracks” Mentoring Scholarships You Made It Happen  
Thank You!***

As I told you in my last article, we are raising contributions for “New Tracks”. We will use these funds to pay the direct costs for “NewTracks” future shows and to fund the “New Tracks” Mentoring Scholarship Program. The Scholarship is an exciting new program to help young Model Railroaders continue their post High School education in a STEAM program at an Institution of Higher Learning.

Your generous contribution to “New Tracks” first Scholarship Program has allowed us to have it fully funded, and has also provided funds to form a new non-profit corporation, which will seek recognition from the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charity and grant similar scholarships in future years. Thank you so very much for your support. We will keep you informed about the status of our Scholarship Program and the 501(c)(3) designation.

Needless to say, without the pro bono legal help provided by Jeffrey Jordan Counsel at ARENTFOX SCHIFF LLP, we could never be as far along in our Scholarship Program as we are now. To justify all the financial and other support “New Tracks” is receiving for our new Scholarship Program, it is obvious to me that “YOU”, the volunteers who produce our shows, and do all the many jobs necessary to participate in our shows, and create the website, YouTube, Zoom, etc. are doing an outstanding job. Thank you for all that you do to make our shows possible and successful. I truly hope each of you are as proud as I am of your contributions and that together we are creating “New Tracks” as the mentoring place to be for current and future model railroaders. This is what sets us apart: “Mentors Helping Modelers”. And the great part is we are only getting started in helping the younger modelers develop into the mentors of tomorrow. Please meet the “New Tracks” Mentoring Scholarship Committee who is guiding us as we offer our first \$1,000.00 scholarship in 2023, and getting our 501(c)(3) designation for future Scholarship Programs.



## **Chairman Bob Davidson**

Bob was born and raised in the Metro New York area where he began his love of trains and model railroading riding the New York City subways. After attending college at SUNY Brockport and graduating with a degree in Technical Theater and Design, Bob's career took him to the Alley Theater in Houston, the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and then to Syracuse University where he served as an Associate Professor of Theater and Production Manager for Syracuse Stage. In 1985, Bob was one of the founders of Exhibits And More, a full-service exhibit house specializing in trade show and museum displays. The company maintains offices and a production facility in Liverpool, NY. Bob is a Past-President of Make-A-Wish Foundation of Central New York, Past-President of Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum and current board member of the International Boxing Hall of Fame. He is a long time member of NMRA and the NRHS, and currently models in HO scale. His "Gowanus & Northern" railway is a freelanced switching layout based in Brooklyn, NY and features an elevated subway line. Bob lives in Cicero, NY with his wife Laura. In his spare (non-snowing) time, he is an avid motorcyclist, having ridden more than 250,000 miles on his Harleys.

## **Phil Edholm**

Phil Edholm is an active model railroader. He is part of the California Central Coast On30 Modular group and the ACCRS club that operates layouts at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. While his primary focus is on O and On30, Phil also models in HO. Phil is the Superintendent of the NMRA/PCR Coast Division and helping drive the NMRA and railroading forward as a hobby. Phil Edholm is a retired visionary and leader in the Enterprise Communications market. In 2007, he was recognized by Frost and Sullivan with a Lifetime Achievement Award for Growth, Innovation and Leadership in Telecommunications for an essential role in creating the VoIP industry. He has been recognized by the IEEE as the originator of "Edholm's Law of Bandwidth" as published in July 2004 IEEE Spectrum, one of four Laws of Technology. He was a leader in the market adoption of webRTC, the technology underlying much of today's video collaboration solutions. Phil has 18 granted US patents and holds a BSME/EE from Kettering University.

## **Kevin Macomber**

Kevin Macomber is the owner of NGMC, which includes eight former model railroad brands and Narrow Gauge Modeling Co. The company founded in 2015 has risen to become one of the top leaders in 1/4" scale product, hobby supplies and quality model paint.

Prior to this, he was an engineer and product manager for two Fortune 100 companies. NGMC is the sponsor of the Harrisburg Narrow O Meet and New Track's Modeling Lifestyles. Kevin is also known for his concept 'Modeling 1940s Style' gaining broad acceptance in the hobby.

## **Jeff Jordan: Legal counsel**

Jeff Jordan is an attorney who has practiced corporate law in Washington, DC for more than 40 years and is now mostly retired. He has had model trains since childhood, and has been a serious railroad modeler for more than 35 years (mostly HO, but recently in On30). Other interests include driving and maintaining his 1959 Morgan Plus 4 and horseback riding. He is married with three children and two grandchildren and lives in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia.

## **Some Other Good News:**

Several of our "New Tracks" supporters offered Challenges to other viewers to match their contributions.

Jeff Zibley pledged to match all donations to "New Tracks" dollar for dollar, up to a maximum of \$250.00. Jeff's challenge was matched by Scott Geare, Owner of the Great Scale Model Train Show (GSMTS) in Timonium, Maryland. Thank you Jeff and Scott.



David Schultz pledged to match all donations to “New Tracks” dollar for dollar, up to a maximum of \$100.00 for the scholarship program. David’s very generous challenge was also matched by contributions from Phil Edholm and a modeler who wished to stay anonymous.

Thank you Phil and Anonymous for your contributions to meet David’s challenge.

These Challenges are a great idea, and I hope we get a lot more of them when we start our 2024 Scholarship Program later this year after we get our 501(c)(3) designation. Stay tuned.

## Applicants for our Scholarship

Now we all need to turn our attention to notifying potential applicants about the availability of our Scholarship and encouraging them to apply.



**Attention all  
High School Seniors &  
College Students!**

*Are You a Model Railroader?  
Are You a Modeler?  
Are You Pursuing a STEAM Degree?*

---

**New Tracks Modeling  
Mentoring Scholarship**

A unique scholarship focused to  
Model Railroaders and other  
modelers pursuing a STEAM  
related college degree or  
technical school credential.

Scan the QR code to learn more  
and download an application!



Questions? E-mail us at:  
**NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com**

[www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship](http://www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship)

Bob Davidson donated three banners through his company, Exhibits And More, which will be shown at train shows and rail expos across the country. Each banner is 3’ wide and about 7’ tall. It’s a retractable unit that is very easy to ship and set-up. Please Look for our banner and tell your sons, daughters, grand kids, and all other possible applicants about our Scholarship and encourage them to apply.

One banner is going to start out on the East Coast at the Amherst Railroad Hobby Show in Springfield, Massachusetts January 28-29, 2023.

Chris Course, owner of Conowingo Models and a Member of the “New Tracks” team is a vendor/participant at the Amherst show. He volunteered to transport it and set it up. Dylan Lambert, owner of Lambert Locomotive Works, will also represent us at the Amherst show and will be at our table.

The banner will then be sent to Earl Hackett, also a team member of “New Tracks”, who will take and display it at the upcoming Great Scale Model Train Show (GSMTS) in Timonium, Maryland and be at our table. From there, the banner will be picked up by Kevin Macomber and taken to two shows in Pennsylvania. Look for “New Tracks” at any show you attend. We hope to be represented at as many as possible. If you want to take one of our banners or man a table for us, please let Bob Davidson know at: [bobdavidson@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:bobdavidson@newtracksmodeling.com).

Banner #2 is being shipped to Phil Edholm, a member of “New Tracks” team in California, to be used at shows on the West Coast. Please contact Phil at [philedholm@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:philedholm@newtracksmodeling.com) to have the Banner displayed at any event you are Producing or attending out West.

Banner #3 will remain with Bob Davidson for use as needed anywhere in the US. We hope that all three banners will be in use every week at a local Train show or other event. Contact Bob to arrange the use of these banners. Thank you Bob and everyone who can help us display the

Banners at Shows around the Country. Any questions about these banners can be directed to [bobdavidson@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:bobdavidson@newtracksmodeling.com).

For your additional information there is a Handout with basic information about our 2023 Scholarship you can duplicate and/or pass on to applicants. More detailed information is available on our website at: <https://newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship/> and a copy is on the next page. Again, your help and support is needed to reach as many qualified applicants as possible.



## “New Tracks” Mentoring Scholarship Program Handout

Please help us to get young model railroaders who can directly benefit from the scholarships to apply. Tell your kids and grand kids about our program, encourage, and help them apply. After all, this program is for their benefit.

***Are You a Model Railroader?  
Are You a Modeler?  
Are You Pursuing a STEAM Degree?***

***Apply for the***  
**New Tracks Modeling  
Mentoring Scholarship**

A unique scholarship focused to Model Railroaders and other modelers pursuing a STEAM related college degree or technical school credential.

**The 2023/2024 academic year scholarship is US \$1,000.**

To learn more, visit: [www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship](http://www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship)  
Questions? E-mail us at: [NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com)



### **New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarship**

**Qualified applicants MUST meet the following criteria:**

- Must currently be either a current high school senior or a high school graduate living in the United States.
- Are planning to or currently attending a two-year or four-year university, college or accredited technical school in academic year 2023-24 with an intent to pursue a degree in one of the STEAM fields.
- Have a current GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Demonstrate participation in either a Model Railroading or other modeling youth activity program such as Youth in Model Railroading®, Scouts MRR program, 4H model railroading, MRR Youth clinics, active participant in building a home layout, or belong to an organized model railroad club. Participation in general modeling clubs and activities will also be considered.
- Write an essay of at least 500 words describing how their involvement in modeling and model railroading as a hobby has impacted their lives and benefited their education within one or more of the STEAM areas of academic pursuit.
- Demonstration of having designed and/or built models by submitting photos and descriptions of at least two models completed by the applicant.
- Provide two references to affirm applicant's involvement in railroad or other modeling activities. (NTMMS will be contacting any listed references, so please let them know ahead of time).

#### **How to Apply:**

Applications can be submitted on-line or by mail. Scan the QR code to download an application, or visit [www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship](http://www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship) for more information and the on-line application forms.



#### **NEW TRACKS MODELING**

New Tracks Modeling is the premier organization promoting mentoring in the modeling and model railroad community. Through on-line meetups and other activities, New Tracks Modeling engages modelers with mentors to build more and better models. New Tracks Modeling is the sponsor of the 2023/2024 NTMMS.

*Please note: Scholarship funds will be disbursed directly to the Bursars Office of the school where the student will be attending. Any NTM staff member or relative is prohibited from applying for this scholarship.*

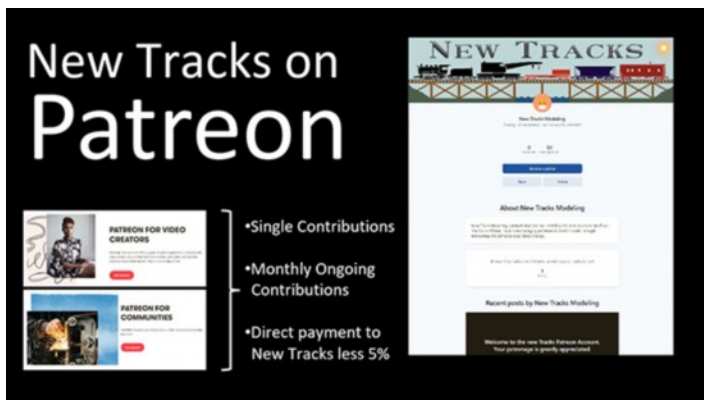
Also please let your club, Train Show Promoters, or other organizations you belong to know about our Scholarship Program, show our Scholarship banner and pass out our handouts at their events. We want to reach as many young eligible students as we can and encourage them to apply. We need your help to get our Scholarship availability message out.

I hope you see our banner at the Amherst Show January 28-29, 2023 and the Train Show in Sacramento on January 28-29, 2023. Also look for us at the upcoming Great Scale Model Train Shows (GSMTS) in Timonium on February 4-5, 2023 and April 28-29, 2023; the O Scale March Meet in Chicago March 16-19, 2023; the National O Scale Convention in Denver, Colorado, June 8-11, 2023; and others we have scheduled to attend by the time this article is printed. If you don't see your event, please email me [jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com) so we can get your event on our schedule.

### **Your Help Is Needed In Other Areas**

As with any volunteer operated effort, there are always out of pocket costs that must be paid. These costs are not associated with our Scholarship Program. We have a Patreon account NewTracks Modeling for your donations to help fund our shows. We hope you can make a financial contribution. We also have a monetized





YouTube account New Tracks Modeling If you like the advertising placed on our videos, click and watch them so we can earn a little money from YouTube. Thank you in advance for your consideration and help.

Volunteer your time to make our shows possible. We are fortunate to have as many fantastic volunteers as we do who donate their time to make our programs possible. But as our show's audience continues to grow and the types of segments viewers ask for increase, we are always in need of more volunteers. Specifically, we need help with our website to keep it up to date, help being a part of the Production Team who run our shows, and help with ideas and preparation of our advertising for our shows and fundraising efforts. Please help us keep the shows going.

Everyone who watches our shows has a contribution they can make. Offer your help in participating by sharing your modeling skills, or help make and produce our Zoom and YouTube shows, or help with our Website and digital marketing, etc. Any amount of time and help you can provide will be greatly appreciated



and is definitely needed. Contact me at [jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com) and let's discuss.

### Wednesday Evening at 7 PM EST

Subscribe to our website [newtracksmodeling.com](http://newtracksmodeling.com) to get all the current information about our shows and emails with weekly emails with the log in links for our shows. Join us live on Zoom or on our YouTube channel, New Tracks Modeling. By the way, we have over 900 videos of our past shows on our YouTube channel for you to enjoy. They are all free!

### “NewTracks” MY BUILD: **Sponsored by Model Railroad Resource LLC**

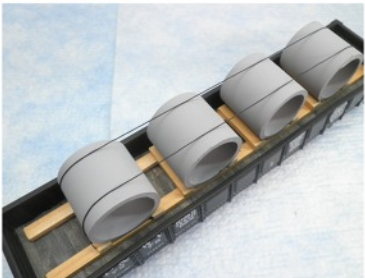
Join our weekly Zoom shows with our host Chris Course. Our monthly “New Tracks” MY BUILD segments provide opportunities for viewers to have their work featured. You can show your latest project, discuss your modeling technique, or a new tool you found, or give a tip you learned that helped your modeling

These are some of the photos modelers shared on our recent December 21, 2022 My Build. Each of the participants has an email address included and would welcome your contact. You can see all the MY BUILD models shown and the modelers comments on our YouTube channel New Tracks Modeling. <https://youtu.be/7u9McRGftb4>.



If you want to participate in our next monthly MY BUILD, send your model photos with a brief description and your name to Chris Coarse at [railrunner130@hotmail.com](mailto:railrunner130@hotmail.com). The next MY BUILDS are scheduled for, February 15, 2023 and March 15, 2023. This is the time to plan a projects you want to share at these upcoming shows.





Top Left: Martin Brechbiel - [Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com) - O scale - Rebuilt a Railcraft kit. Tin plated steel. Decals by K4.

Bottom Left: Tony Dixon - [Tony.Dixon@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Tony.Dixon@newtracksmodeling.com) - S scale - Items built for Chris Steeb's National Farm Toy Show competition. Various manufacturers + 3D printed parts built in TinkerCAD.

Top Right: Bill Davis - [Bill.Davis@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Bill.Davis@newtracksmodeling.com) - On3 scale - Scratchbuild of an 8-Ton Plymouth Switcher.







Top Left: Greg Cassidy -  
[Greg.Cassidy@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Greg.Cassidy@newtracksmodeling.com) - O scale -  
 Sidetrack Laser Wilderville Depot kit reworked for  
 Western Maryland Spring Run station.

Bottom Left: Gary Shurgold -  
[Gary.Shurgold@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Gary.Shurgold@newtracksmodeling.com) - HO scale -  
 "Flying Gondola" Milt Moore tribute. Curator of  
 Thumbs.

Top Right: Patrick Rivard -  
[Patrick.Rivard@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Patrick.Rivard@newtracksmodeling.com) -O scale-  
 scratch built planer mill. 3D tooling.







Above Right: Bob Farquhar - [bob.farquhar@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:bob.farquhar@newtracksmodeling.com) - HO scale - Builds of Atlantic Scale Models, Full Steam Ahead, FOS and Banta kits.

Above Left: Jeff Jordan - [Jeff.Jordan@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Jeff.Jordan@newtracksmodeling.com) - On30 - Upgrades and weathering to Bachmann stock car.

## "New Tracks" Build Alongs

Our "Build Along" Modeling experiences provide you a personal mentor and great discounted prices on the models to be built. Join us on our weekly Zoom shows for a great learning experience that will help you improve your modeling.



### Banta Models

Starting January 25, 2023, Bill Banta will begin a Build Along of Duncans Boots. Bill is giving a 15% discount off the kit from January 1 to February 1, 2023. The kit is available in HO, S, O, and F/G scales. Additional information is available on the Banta Website <https://www.bantamodelworks.com/> and on our website [NewTracksModeling.com](http://NewTracksModeling.com).





## Atlantis Models

Starting February 22, 2023 Atlantis Models owner Peter Petri Will build a O scale gasoline Truck. There is a 15% discount for “New Tracks” modelers building this model for orders for one year beginning September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023. This is the first truck model we have built on the show, and I believe it will appeal to many viewers. Please visit the Atlantis website and see this and other O scale models they offer.

<https://atlantis-models.com/white-fruehauf-gas-truck-sinclair-us-army-plastic-model-kit-1-48/>.



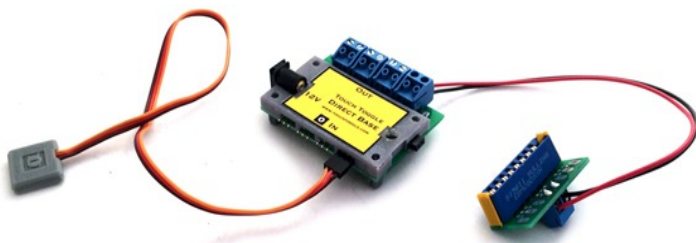
## Rockin H Farm Toys

Starting February 22, 2023, Eric Haselhorst, owner of Rockin H Farm Toys, will begin a Build Along of a S Scale (1/64) Kenworth T370 service truck that is in Frederick Harvesting's Fleet. The whole model will be 3D printed. Eric has everything a modeler might need (less paint) listed and available on his website. There is a 15% discount off the model, parts, and supplies to

build the model. Use the Coupon code buildalong to get the discount. The discount will be available until March 31, 2023. [Please visit Eric's website for more information.](#)

## Rail Tales Hobby Shop

Starting March 1, 2023, Bret Jones of Rail Tales Hobby Shop will begin a Build Along of his zero depth Water demonstration. More information and details concerning discount pricing will be available soon on our website.



## Touch Toggles

Starting March 22, 2023, Kevin Hunter, owner of Touch Toggles Company formerly Barrett Hill Trains, will announce his Build Along starting April 19, 2023 using his Touch Toggles. A “New Tracks” viewer who wants to Build Along with Kevin will need at a minimum a 4 channel package of any of the turnout machine operation packages.

Kevin is offering a one time 15% discount off of the total purchase made for the Build Along. So a modeler will be able to purchase as much additional product as needed, and get the 15% discount off the total purchase. In order to get the 15% discount please send an email to Kevin: [kevin@berretthill.com](mailto:kevin@berretthill.com). Kevin will send you a one time coupon to use for your order. Please visit the Touch Toggle website at:

<https://www.berretthill.com/controls/>

## Modeling with Inkscape

Starting March 29, 2023, Fr. Ron Walters will begin a Build Along series on how to use the “FREE” software called Inkscape. He will start out with three segments: one on how to design windows with fine mullions using Inkscape and self adhesive labels; one on using Inkscape to change signage; and one on using Inkscape to plan walls for a scratch build. If viewers like these he will look at a couple other uses of Inkscape for your modeling. Each segment will last 15 minutes so you can learn a little at a time.



## Tom Yorke

Starting May 10, 2023, Tom Yorke is coming out of retirement, a little, to do a Build Along for one of his Structure Kits called the White Front Grill. There is a limited number of 25 O Scale kits available to “New Tracks” viewers, at a price of 50% off the normal retail price for the kit. Viewers may start ordering the kit on March 1, 2023 by emailing Tom at [tom.yorke@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:tom.yorke@newtracksmodeling.com) using the code word ‘White Front Grill’. When I talked to Tom while he was working on the prototype model for the kit, his enthusiasm for the kit and building it on my show made me realize that here was a true lover of our hobby, and this opportunity might be your last chance to get a Tom Yorke kit.

“Jim, Here are the finished photos...

I apologize for the delay, however, Covid didn’t care. Got it on Nov. 28th and it sapped all of my energy for almost three weeks. Good thing I had 5 shots. I shudder to think what would have happened if I hadn’t had those shots! Finally feeling better.



The kit is available starting March 1, 2023 for \$40 post paid in the U.S., signed and numbered kits up to 25 (the entire run if needed). The Build-Along will be mainly focused on the painting and weathering of the model resin kit. All signs shown included - just not the '36 Buick. My goal is to take the fear out of painting and weathering a resin kit. It's really quite simple. Thanks, Tom”.

We O scale modelers all owe Tom a “thank you” for this one great opportunity to watch a Master Modeler at work. Don’t miss his Build Along or the opportunity to get his last kits at a great price.

### More Build Alongs to Come

I hope you want to participate in all the "Build Alongs". The modelers and manufacturers, who are making these events possible, are doing them to try to help you improve your skills and have more enjoyment and confidence in your modeling. They are a true learning experience that have helped many modelers. So if you have been sitting on the sidelines for awhile, give model building a try.

I am looking for more Modelers and Manufacturers to be involved in future "Build Alongs" in 2023. Contact if you are interested me at: [jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com).

### "Watch Me Build"

These segments provide modelers the opportunity to build a model to demonstrate their modeling skills and techniques. Viewers can ask questions and learn from experienced modelers in various facets of our hobby.



## Upcoming Segments:

March 22, 2023 – Learn figure painting from a master craftsman Ian Fainges

May 3, 2023 – Ralph Renzitte Weathering

These segments have modelers who want to share their modeling efforts, their skills, and discuss their modeling techniques so others can benefit. These segments can be for one or more shows depending on the details included for the model building presentation.

I hope you will share your modeling experience in this segment so other modelers can benefit from your knowledge and techniques.

## Mentoring Modelers and Manufacturers

There were three Contest Drawing winners from manufacturers in my last article in this magazine.

### 3DP Train

Winner: Rob Fuhst – Rob is building a new S scale layout with his grand kids. Good luck Rob. I would love to see some of your modeling photos.

### Scale Model Homes

Winner: Jeffrey Hintz – Jeff is an S scale farm modeler and manufacturer. He owns Farm Factor 3D. I first met Jeff when I wrote the article in this magazine about the common interest that S scale farm modelers and S scale model railroaders have. I look forward to see how Jeff uses this model in his farm modeling.

### New Creations Victorian Railroad Buildings

Winner: Phil Scandura – Phil is a long time (10 years) S scale model railroader. Phil, I would love to see some photos of your model railroad.

Congratulations to all three winners. I will show you the finished models, and how they used them in their modeling in a future article. Thanks to everyone who entered the contest drawings. Please keep entering, maybe next time you will be the winner. Where else but in my articles, can you get a chance to win prizes and be mentored in how to build and use them by the manufacturer who created them? Plus, all you have to do to enter a Contest Drawing is read my articles, for free, in this magazine, and fill out a simple form, provided by the magazine. Pretty easy. Enjoy and Good Luck.

Now let's meet a modeler who has become an S scale manufacturer. Don't forget to enter his contest drawing. You might win.

### Rick Barton



I've been playing with trains since I met my friend Tim Dickinson in Kindergarten growing up in the L.A. area. (He was likely born with a train in his hand, and he got me hooked.) Built a few childhood layouts, then discovered girls and cars (necessary to have a cool car to get the other). Built a few other layouts over the years after getting married, but moves and work limited them. And then I lost everything from my childhood on in the fire that destroyed Paradise, California in November, 2018. Fast forward, moved to Maryland in January 2000, bought a house and remodeled it from the basement up and am now building! I model HO. Toyed with going to N or S or O proto, but decided on HO for its size in my limited space and ability to super detail.

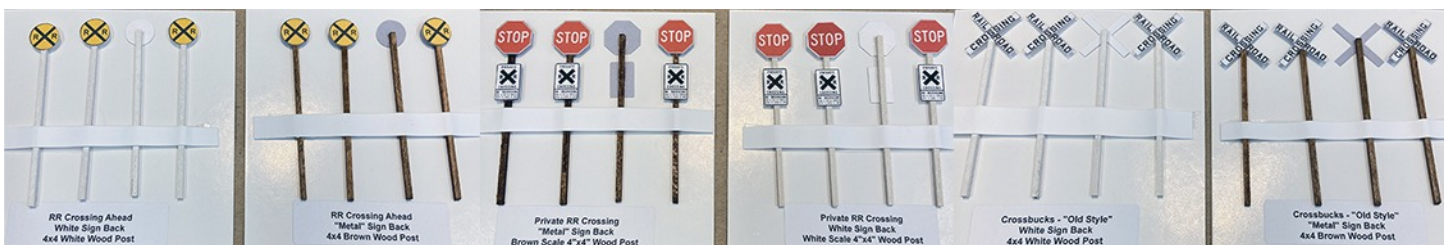


I owned a small hobby shop in Paradise in the mid 1980s and loved it, but working full time as a cop did not lend itself to maintaining a full time store, so I gave that up. I have always thought about doing something again, and when Ian Pugliese put Tennessee Valley Custom Models up for sale, I thought this was the opportunity for me to get back into it. It's a small business, making HO and N scale road signs and generic railroad signs, and the equipment doesn't take up much space.

My short term goal is to learn and be comfortable with re-issuing and making the HO and N scale signs Ian already created, and keeping them in stock. Since these are already created in a CAD file, I should be able to enlarge them into exact S and O scale and offer them quickly.

I am happy to tell you that Rick is now offering S and O Scale signs. So I asked him to hold a Contest Drawing for his O scale signs, and he readily agreed.

Rick sent me some of his S scale signs and I will absolutely be using them in my modeling. Nice looking and a great variety of text size and texture of wood metal and painted stands. Here are some photos of the signs I received. I hope Rick keeps diversifying his types of signs for us.



My longer term goal, obtain a bunch of standards and plans for railroad and roadway signs from whatever sources I can find, focusing on railroads from the past like SP (near where I grew up) and Wabash (my grandfather and great grandfather both worked for Wabash), as well as many others. I want them to be as scale and realistic as possible. And offer custom signs, e.g. city limits, street name signs, etc. The joy is that I am financially stable and I won't need to depend on the business for income.

## TENNESSEE VALLEY CUSTOM MODELS DRAWING

To enter the Tennessee Valley Custom Models drawing, each modeler must complete the [form here](#). I am looking forward to seeing what the winner selects and how he/she uses them in modeling. I will share this information with readers in a future article. The winner can have his/her choice of roadway and railroad signs, such as

warning signs, like Crossbucks, stop signs, private property crossing signs, whistle signs, railroad crossing warning, up to \$30 worth from the TVCM website.

Thank you Rick for your help and interest, and good luck with your new company. Rick can be reached at: [Rick.Barton@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Rick.Barton@newtracksmodeling.com).

A Trolley Modeler for you to meet. I don't get to hear from many modelers who are dedicated traction modelers. It is always a pleasure, however, for me to meet them and introduce them to you as this is what I model.

**Donald Yingling**

I was born June 22, 1949 and raised in Hanover, PA. I'll do the math, at this writing, I am 73.



Attended school in the Hanover School District, graduating from Hanover High School in 1967. After attending Penn State University, York, for 2 years, I entered the U.S. Air Force and was on active duty from November 1969 to November 1973 as a Security Police.



After the service, I started working at York International Corporation in York, Pennsylvania in December, 1973. I worked here until my retirement on July 1, 2009. Then went back to work there for 2 ½ years as a consultant to train two people for my job. I started working there in small parts packaging, and got the chance to apply for the apprenticeship for a maintenance electrician. Later, I was able to move up the Electronics Specialist position.

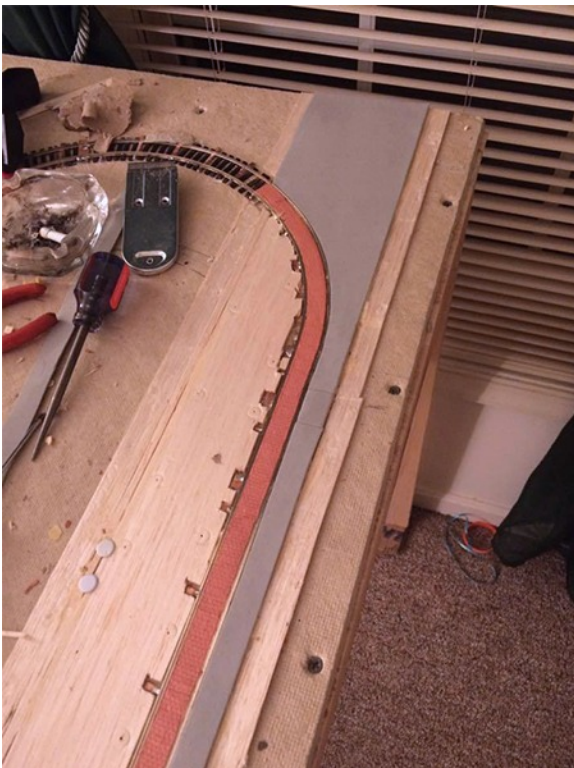
I was married the first time in 1976, moved to York New Salem in 1978. In 1987, we moved to a new house and brought home our baby son. I divorced in 2001, and remarried in 2005 to Evelyn, who has 4 children. My family now consists of 4 sons, 1 daughter, 15 grandchildren and 1 great grandson. We now live in the Dallastown, Pennsylvania area.

### **The Hobby:**

My interest in trains started as a 4 year old boy when my dad setup an American Flyer train set on a 4'x 8' platform under the Christmas tree. He bought houses and buildings, and painted the roads and sidewalks. After a few years, he replaced it with an Athearn HO, Hi-F drive train set. Ok, now I'm hooked. After a few years under the tree, I set it up in the basement and played with it. When Mom and Dad bought a new house, I started dabbling in N scale. I liked it, but I built the layout with twice the gradient it was supposed to have so that lost it play value.

After the service, in 1974, I joined an HO club in York, Pennsylvania. The hobby really took off from there. I liked switching the industrial areas, and became proficient in hand laying track and switches.

Then came the NMRA-MER conventions. At one of them, Bob Detrich showed up with a couple of his traction modules. At that point, I knew where my interests were going. We tried to get trolley modules going at the club and for shows, but that was only half-hearted with the members. The club folded after a few more years when it got too expensive to afford the rent and build a layout.



Now I have delved into what I really want to do, build my own modules, and make them what I want. All the work is done by me. I don't scratch build the buildings. They are all plastic kits that I painted and assembled. However, the tracks, roadway covering, and the overhead are all scratch built by me. I love showing them off and take pride in their operation. I take what I have learned for years as a maintenance electrician and apply it to the automatic operation of the trolleys.

About a year ago, I joined another railroad club, Miniature Railroad Club of York, and as soon as they knew I was into trolleys and showed them what I had done, their eyes got wide. I am now building a small town on the club layout with trolley service. It has a clockwise and a counterclockwise loop that intertwine. Progress here is slow. I can only be there on Monday nights for about 3 hours each week, but it's getting there.

I don't build my own trolleys. I get the ready to run variety. Some do have to be modified to make it around the 7" radius.





Why so sharp? The one module is 20" wide while the other is 24" wide. Both are 48' long.

The modules use Orr girder rail and switches for the track in the street there is some POW and that is code 100 flex and code 100 switches.

I didn't want the mess of making my streets out of plaster of Paris, spackle or some other kind of plaster. So my technique is a little different. The bricks between the rails is DAS clay with an embossed roller run over the top to produce the brick work. The paving is 2mm foam sheet glued down to 3/32 balsa wood sheets. In fact, the balsa wood is used to build up the height for the sidewalks and for the building foundations. The scenery is mostly Woodland Scenics. For street

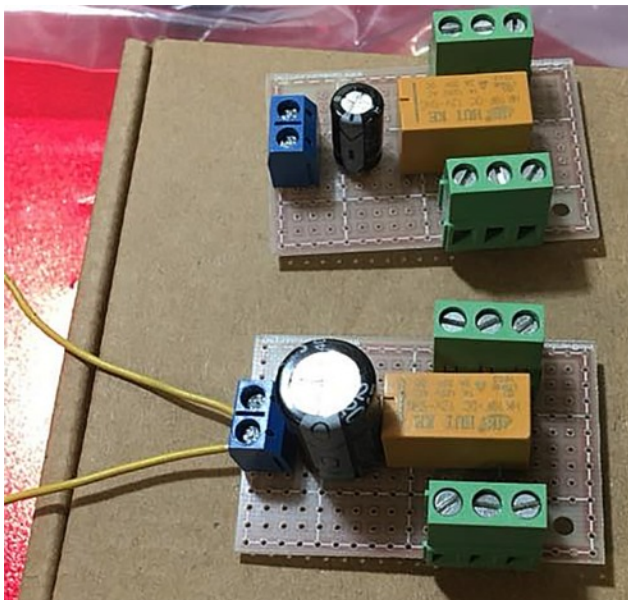
lighting, I use 12 volt incandescent bulbs that I supply with 5 VDC to reduce the light to a nice glow and makes the bulbs last many times longer.

### Detection:

The detection circuits I use are simple relays. The small cube ones you find on printed circuit boards. They are 12 VDC. Since I am running from the overhead wire, I have all the wheels on the trolleys hooked together. The left rail is common to all circuits freeing up the right rail for detection. One side of the relays, plus, is run directly to the relay. Since the minus from the power supply is connected to the left rail, the circuit is completed by connecting the other side of the relay to the right rail. When a trolley runs through a block section, the wheels complete the circuit to energize the relay. ~ Don Yingling, Codorus Valley Traction Company







Thank you Don for your help and interest. It's always nice to see a fellow traction modeler since there's so few of us around. Don can be reached at:  
[Donald.Yingling@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Donald.Yingling@newtracksmodeling.com).



Are you a Freelance modeler? Have you ever considered Freelance modeling? Well here is a Freelance Modeler you definitely need to meet. But be careful, he will try to convert you. By the way, Al is scheduled to be on our live Zoom show June 7, 2023.

### Al Pugliese

History in the hobby. Started at 13 years old December of 1973 with a HO train set. Totally self-taught building various kits up until I was 16. At this time, I became totally frustrated with HO trains always derailling and having running issues. I had problem after problem with no help, so I threw out all my HO stuff and went nuts into Lionel.

I loved the larger size and the sound and presents of these trains because I've always felt HO trains themselves were just too small. I got out of Lionel because, at that time, there was no full-size scale equipment like there is now. It was too toyish for my taste, and I was unaware of the better-looking Gargrave's track. Had I had a Hi rail scale mentor or O scale mentor at that time, I might have stayed with it but didn't.



I reluctantly returned to HO scale because I loved the detail, and all the great layouts – John Allen, George Sellios and Howard Zane were HO. Luckily, I met an incredible HO modeler in my neighborhood whose son was friends with my brother. He had a HO 60-inch height eye level 14 x 22 ft model of the Sierra Railroad in the 1930s with the Westside Lumber Company feeding it and the big sawmill at Tulum, California. He was an incredible modeler who hand laid all his track. It had incredible beautiful scenery, all scratch built structures, and ran only brass.





He convinced me to get under control and become a prototype modeler; ie: specific place, specific year so that way I'm constrained since I was going off into a thousand tangents when I started. I convinced my family to go to Cass, West Virginia for vacation, and I was hooked around 1977.

Cass would be my prototype in the steam era, so I started scratch building it again with help from my Sierra RR mentor, the late Arty Windesdrorfer. In junior high school, I got exposed to *Model Railroader* magazine and studied John Allen. I also saw ads for George Sellios's incredible FSM kits. I was hooked, and started building them. George's directions were so good, it made you a great modeler! Every kit I built looked like a museum piece, and many are still on my layout to this day. In an indirect way, he also became a mentor and I study his work to this day fanatically.

It was around this time I met Howard Zane at the Great Scale Train Show, and he invited me to his open house that night. Seeing his enormous super detailed layout forever etched me into the hobby, and he has remained a mentor to me to this very day.

I also want to credit the late Harry Clark, who my wife and I met in 1985. At this time, I was just getting back into the hobby after about a 6 year break during college. I read in *Model Railroader* a feature about Harry's layout the Indian Creek and noticed he modeled Cass on the layout! I contacted him and he invited my wife and I up to see it. It was one of the finest layouts ever built in my opinion, and he and his wife, Dorothy, befriended my wife and I like adopted grandparents I never had. He taught me everything he knew about scenery, and I have emulated his style and teachings on my layout to this day.





My goal is to promote the hobby and share what I've learned from these great mentors. I'm also an avid freelancer now, and wish to help promote the freelance side of our hobby. [I currently have a You Tube Channel Al Pugliese Trains to help accomplish this.](#)

You can reach Al at [Al.Pugliese@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Al.Pugliese@newtracksmodeling.com). Al Thanks for your interest and help understanding Freelance model railroading.

Now, please meet a dead rail modeler and see one of his unbelievable O scale model railroads.

### Steve Sherrill

I received my first electric train in 1947, an American Flyer. Each year at Christmas, I would receive different pieces of



equipment for my empire; for example, switches one year, passenger cars another year. Always had it running around the Christmas tree, and kept it on a train board under my bed. About 1952, my dad gave me \$100 for anything I wanted. So I bought a Varney ready-to-run train set in HO. By the end of one day, I had spent the whole hundred on track, switches, etc, so now I was really rolling.

I started building kits by simply reading the instructions. I was a sloppy young kid with glue everywhere and paint everywhere, and my early models weren't very good. I was more interested in creating scenes with natural dried flowers, twigs, gravel dust, and florist supplies, things I'd find in my yard. My older sister was an artist, and we lived in a Cape Cod house with the slanting roof, and she painted my bedroom wall with a mural of clouds and mountains, and I thought I was in heaven.

I was an avid model train magazines reader, and was introduced to the legendary model railroaders of that era. During my modeling days, I had many mentors. The most influential mentors came during my adulthood; prior to then, I was more of a lone wolf. As I was introduced to narrow gauge railroaders, and HOn3 and Sn3, I had completed layouts in both those scales. During this time I was going to Howard Zane's train show in Timonium, Maryland, and there I first saw On30 and was fascinated, although I didn't get into On30 until about

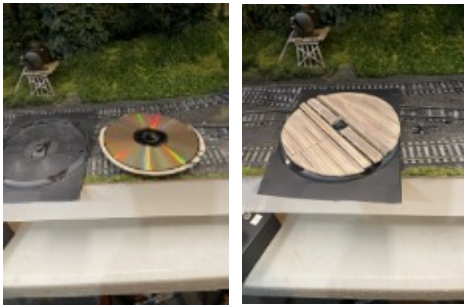


10 years later when Bachman introduced their On30 models. When I saw those, I knew that was the direction I wanted to go in. One of my mentors, the late Bill Miller, MMR, had operating sessions on his On3 railroad, and he designed my railroad and gave me many hints on good operating equipment and track operation. At his sessions, there were as many as 7 MMRs operating at one time, and they were willing to give me a lot of help, answering my questions.

I like to mentor others. I'm into dead rail and always try to show modelers how to convert to battery power, and how easy it is to convert. I've given clinics and displayed dead rail layouts at train shows. I always encourage youngsters to operate my railroads to inspire their interest in the hobby.

Take a look at his Lazy Susan layout.

One note, only one structure is O scale. All others are HO. Layout and trains are so small that there is a strange forced perspective. The turntable is made from a DVD.

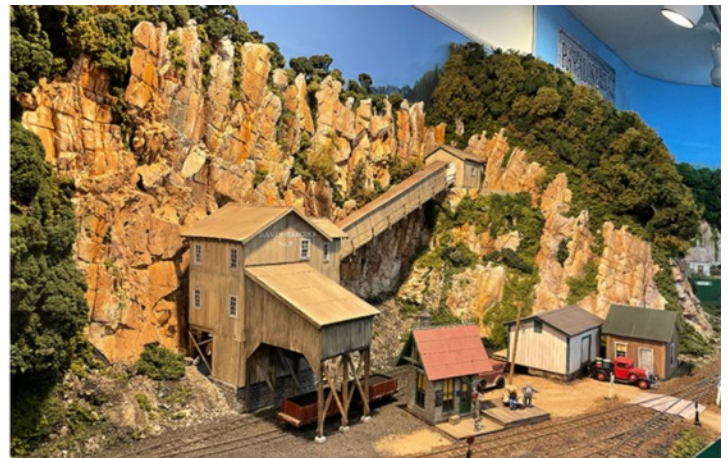


**Another article for next time:** One thing Steve forgot to include in his profile was the story of using a crane to lift a complete railroad building over the poorhouse and connecting it together to make a 24'x32' layout room. I have pictures of that, and the story that went with it. I really want to see this.

Thanks Steve for your help and sharing your knowledge of dead rail. You can reach Steve at [Steve.Sherrill@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Steve.Sherrill@newtracksmodeling.com).

Now let's meet a true modeler maker. I am not sure there is anything Charles can not make.

**Charles Hamper**







Hi, I'm Charles Hamper and I've been a modeler/maker for as long as I can remember. In my youth, I would make all sorts of things with just masking tape and cardboard, and loved building plastic model kits. It wasn't until my late 20's that I found an avid interest in N scale model railroading that I still have today. I suppose the basis of what I have learned is from trial and error, but building on that knowledge has come from close friends with the same interest. I can't begin to list all the techniques and methods that I have picked up by watching someone close to me work. Sadly, these days I am far away from friends that were once mentors, but I continue to find ideas, methods, and tips virtually online, as well as, occasionally sharing my own projects through online build videos. My interest in N scale modeling started when I was introduced to Japanese prototypes by a close friend.

I liked how unusual the trains all seemed, the small size of N scale, and that these models could move rather than be static. I was hooked, and today enjoy Japanese, US, and some British prototypes. I also have become very fond of modeling Elevated Trains, Traction, Streetcars, Trams and Trolleys.

Within the last several years I have started using CNC, 3D printing, and Laser tools in the things I make. There is something really great about designing an object on the computer and using these tools to make real tangible models or parts. There is a lot that I have to learn modeling with these tools and processes.



If you would like to see what I do, join me on my YouTube channel!  
<https://youtube.com/c/CharlesHamperMakes> Thanks Charles for sharing your modeling with us. You can reach Charles at: [Charles.Hamper@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Charles.Hamper@newtracksmodeling.com)



N scale Japanese Dojo - scratch built from card stock



N scale Matchbox Trolley and building facade scratch built from card stock



N scale London Tram - 3D printed



1:6 scale standup bass - scratch built from wood with CNC and laser cut parts



1:6 scale British telephone booth lamp - scratch built of wood, laser parts, 3D printed parts



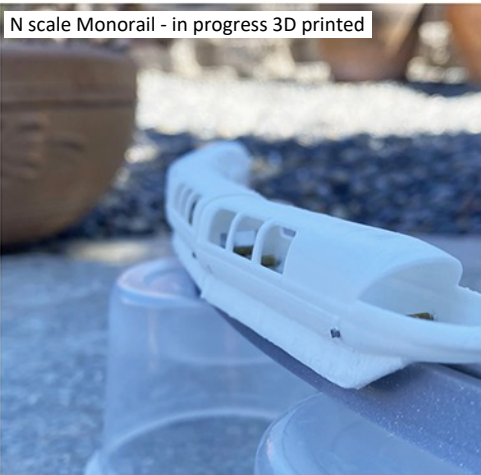
N scale PE Hollywood car scratch built from card stock



N scale Japanese EB901 - in progress some parts 3D printed



N scale Monorail - in progress 3D printed





Now, let's venture to Germany to see our next modeler.

## Joachim Gundlach

My name is Joachim Gundlach, I am 54 years old and live in Dortmund, Germany. I have been in early retirement since 2014, was a bus driver for many years and was been active in the volunteer fire department Dortmund for 35 years. I got into model railroading when I, as a 12-year-old boy, fell in love with a "Western train" from Minitrix (N-scale) and wanted one for Christmas. At that time, my father said that there were no accessories or supplements to buy for this set and gave me a starter set of a German Railroad, but at least N-scale. From this, a small layout was accrued. Over the years there have been a few excursions into HO-scale Fire Truck modeling, but as a teenager, I lost the connection to modeling.



A few years ago, when my son wanted a train set for Christmas, my love for the "Western train" reawakened, and I was even able to buy the starter set on a world-renowned auction platform. I quickly

realized that my father wasn't right at the time and that there are a lot of accessories and supplements to buy, but I also had to realize that my great love wasn't a prototypical model, it was purely a game train. So I started collecting and planned to build a small N-scale layout in the "Wild West" style. During my research, however, my interest expanded beyond the Wild West era to the entire Steam era. I became a fan of Logging and Short Line Railroads and started building my own rolling stock based on some models I had seen on the www. In the beginning it was more bad than right, but I was able to improve over the years. I just kept trying more and more, and my models got better and better with every piece, at least in my interest. My interest in vehicle model building also germinated again, but I also stayed here with the N-scale. It never came to the modeling of a layout and so my models are all slumbering in showcases. A few years ago, I bought a small finished N-scale Terrain to let me run my locomotives, and sometimes I arrange small Scenes on it for making pictures.



*Showcase with the custom-made rolling stock of my Logging and Mining Railroad. The Stuff is mostly kitbashed, but at a minimum weathered.*





© Joachim Gundlach



© Joachim Gundlach

*My absolute heart project, on the original I learned to drive a truck, 1967 Magirus Deutz Pumper. 3D printing kit from a German small series manufacturer.*



© Joachim Gundlach

*Kenworth open cab pumper from Clinton Volunteer Fire Department, built from an Athearn Pumper and a Herpa/ConCor Kenworth Cab.*



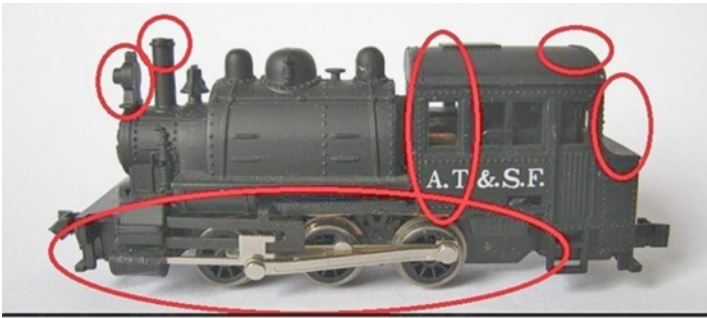
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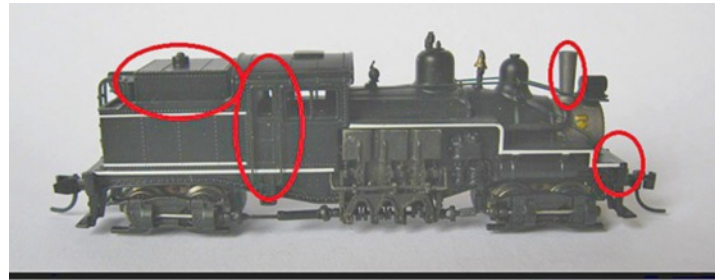
*Custom-made Whiskey Distillery Diorama. It was built from an used, built up Pola Factory that I bought on eBay. It was completely dismantled, processed accordingly and reassembled.*





© Joachim Gundlach

2-6-2T Logging Engine, built from a Body of a Life Like 0-6-0 Saddle Tank Switcher on an Atlas Mogul Chassis. On the chassis, the front was modified and I have affixed a trailing axle. At the body, the cab was separated from the boiler, and it was reduced. Under the boiler, I have placed plastic profiles to affix the body on the chassis. Afterwards, the engine was painted, lettered and weathered. Some detail parts and an engineer complete the model.



© Joachim Gundlach

Conversion of my Atlas Shay. It was completely disassembled, the tender was cropped from the cab and equipped with a wooden structure. Afterwards, the Shay was painted, lettered and weathered. Some detail parts and an engineer complete the model.



© Joachim Gundlach

Logging Work Train, pulled by my custom-made Atlas Shay. The cars were mainly built from resin bodies from Model Tech Studios on custom-made chassis and plenty of accessories out of the leftover box.



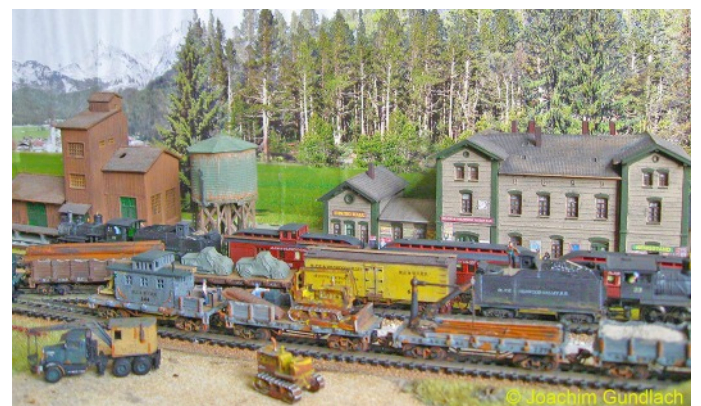
© Joachim Gundlach

Logging Train leaving the woods on its way to the Sawmill, pulled by my 2-6-2T Logging Engine. The log cars are modified Micro Trains skeleton log cars and the Barnhart Log Loader is a 3D printing kit from a German small series manufacturer.



© Joachim Gundlach

Association of my two hobbies: model railroading and fire service, my custom-built fire train.



© Joachim Gundlach

Busy morning scene on my freelance Short Line Railroad. All the stuff is kitbashed, but at a minimum weathered.



You can find more pictures of my work here: <https://www.facebook.com/Joachims-N-Scale-World-196384317055776>, <https://www.facebook.com/Feuerwehr-Dortmund-in-1160-400999247042073/> and [https://www.flickr.com/photos/joachims\\_n-scale\\_world/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/joachims_n-scale_world/albums) Joachim, thanks for your help and interest. You can reach Joachim at: [Joachim.Gundlach@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Joachim.Gundlach@newtracksmodeling.com).

### Now some more “New Tracks” upcoming Show Announcements



*Click image to view Narrow Gauge Modeling Company's video introduction.*

### Modeling Lifestyle

NEW bi-weekly YouTube Show Thursday evenings at 7pm EDT on our YouTube channel New Tracks Modeling.

Sponsored by Narrow Gauge Modeling Company (NGMC).

“New Tracks” has started a new, bi-weekly live series called: Modeling Lifestyles. It is available to watch live on our YouTube Channel, New Tracks Modeling. This is your opportunity to meet and

chat with some of today's outstanding modelers and a few of their friends. You can see all of the Interviews we have conducted so far on our YouTube channel, New Tracks Modeling. Here is the November 17, 2022 show with Al Judy: <https://youtu.be/16IwebVXUQs>. For a complete list of the modelers and their friends who will be on our shows, please visit and subscribe to our website [newtracksmodeling.com](http://newtracksmodeling.com).

Please subscribe to our YouTube channel: [New Tracks Modeling](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqWz8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8), and Ring the bell to get prior notification of the shows and be able to join us live.

### New weekly Wednesday Show Segments

Find a Local Mentor at Local CLUBS and NMRA DIVISIONS: A bi-weekly segment about local organizations supported by the NMRA.



This bi-weekly segment introduces local model railroading organizations where many of us have found modeling help and met some really outstanding modelers. I have been honored to have served on two NMRA Regional BOD and as Superintendent for one NMRA Division, AP chairman for three Regions, and Contest Chairman for two Regions. I credit these local organizations with providing much of my modeling education, and believe such organizations can also help you.

I believe, at its core, mentoring is best done “one on one” at a local level with a talented model builder, who can guide a person in learning the skills, techniques, and gain confidence in their modeling efforts. These are some of the greatest memories I have from participating in local clubs and NMRA Divisions.

A mentor does not have to be an MMR or a famous model railroader, he or she just needs to be able to build models you admire or have some skills you want to learn. Ultimately, a mentor wants to help you improve your modeling. Those were the people and friends who helped me become a modeler.

Since all of my “New Tracks” efforts are focused on modeling and mentoring, I have been trying to figure out how to communicate with you, the “New Tracks” audience, the value of seeking local mentoring and how to find it.

This new segment is based on my personal experiences and is my answer to how you can find a local mentor and meet some great people in the process. Join us in this special segment of our show.





I have asked Phil Edholm a NMRA Division Superintendent of the NMRA PCR/Coast Division, which includes the San Francisco Bay Area down to Monterey in California, to lead this segment. We kicked off the series with Gordon Robinson, the President of the NMRA, who discussed the value of NMRA Clubs and divisions to improving the modeling abilities of their members.

Phil recently sent this short article to all NMRA Regional publication Editors and asked them to include it in one of their publications. I am including Phil's short article here and asking readers to make sure your local club or other group, is aware of our special show segment and participate. Thanks for your help.

### **Local Clubs and NMRA Divisions on New Tracks Modeling**

For anyone looking for ideas to improve your club or division, there is a new resource. On the Wednesday night New Tracks Modeling meet-up every other week there is a segment called Local Clubs and NMRA Divisions. Every other week the segment features an NMRA Division or Local Club leader to discuss what they are doing. The segment focuses on key areas for all of us: what activities they do, how they engage with members, how they recruit new members, and other topics. The focus is a discussion around what they have done that is successful and unique. The goal is to have actionable ideas come out to be used by other organization in their local activities. Each time we try and identify a few key nuggets that all of us in model railroading leadership positions can use. Each person on the show is interviewed by Phil Edholm, Coast Division Superintendent. The segments are typically 15 minutes and are live on the New Tracks Modeling Zoom meet-up and the New Tracks YouTube channel and are available later on YouTube. To date, we have hosted 14 interviews and will continue with many more in 2023. You can see all of the previous interviews on YouTube here [New Tracks Modeling](#).

If you or someone you know is actively involved in an NMRA Division or a Local Club and you would like to discuss how your organization is thriving (or surviving) in the new world, please contact Phil Edholm at [coastsup23@gmail.com](mailto:coastsup23@gmail.com) or at 408-832-5618.

New Tracks Modeling is the premier organization promoting mentoring in the modeling and model railroad community. Through on-line meetups and other activities, New Tracks engages modelers, along with mentors, to build more and better models. You can join the live Wednesday night meet-ups on the New Tracks website.



### **Let's Go To Our Local Modeling Hobby Store: A Monthly segment with Hobby Store Owners**

Sponsored by the [National Retail Hobby Stores Association](#) (NRHSA).

Mark Poggendorf, a NMRA member working on his MMR, a hobby manufacturer, an owner of Poggies Trains Hobby Shop, and a member of the National Retail Hobby Stores Association (NRHSA), started a monthly show segment concerning common issues facing hobby shops and modelers. The focus of these segments will be on how both

groups can work together for their mutual benefit and hopefully introduce the value of your local hobby store to help you become a more knowledgeable and more skilled model builder.

Mark's involvement in our hobby as a modeler, manufacturer and hobby shop owner, who not only has a brick and mortar store in California, but also attends, as a vendor, many of the train shows throughout the Country, makes him well suited to lead these discussions and provide insights into the problems and issues facing both the hobby shop industry and modelers. Who knows, you also may find a new source for your modeling products from this series.



If readers have a hobby shop to recommend to be on our show, or you are a hobby shop owner who is interested in being on our show, please let Mark know at [Mark.Poggendorf@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Mark.Poggendorf@newtracksmodeling.com).

Well it's time for me to return to my workbench and start working on something that I fell in love with and just have to model. Happens all the time.

While I am modeling:

1. Please consider a contribution to our [Patreon](#) account to help pay for our out of pocket cost to run our shows.
2. Please subscribe for free to our YouTube Channel, [New Tracks Modeling](#), and ring the bell to get advance notices to our YouTube shows. If the advertisements on our YouTube videos are of interest, please watch them so we can gain a little revenue to produce our shows.
3. Please get a free subscription to our website [NewTracksModeling.com](#) which provides log in links to our Zoom events and also provides information about what "New Tracks" you can travel.
4. Please write! I love getting your comments, suggestions, and modeling ideas. I so enjoy hearing from you and having a conversation. My email is: [jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com)
5. Please spread the word about our New Tracks Mentoring Scholarship program to every young model railroader you know.

Thank You. Till next time with more "New Tracks". Happy Modeling

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### About New Tracks Modeling

New Tracks Modeling is an exciting new digital opportunity to obtain mentoring to help you improve your modeling. You will meet talented modelers and manufacturers from all over the world who will share their model building expertise and artistic advice. New

Tracks Modeling is open to all modelers of all skill levels in any scale or gauge.

New Tracks Modeling meets every Wednesday evening at 7pm East/4pm West and features recurring segments all geared to the modeling hobby as well as featured modelers and programs.

New Tracks Modeling shows are live on Zoom and YouTube. Scan the QR code to visit [www.newtracksmodeling.com](http://www.newtracksmodeling.com)

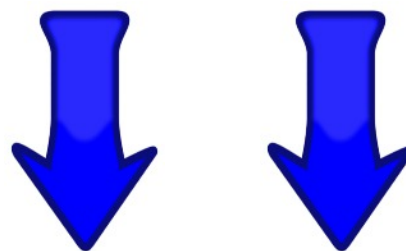


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# S SCALE SHOWS & MEETS

## S-scale Zoom Meeting

Every Tuesday at 8pm Eastern Standard US time.  
hosted by Ken Zieska or Bill Lane

[Zoom Link](#)



## 2023 Spring S Spree

March 31st and April 1st, 2023

Crossroads Expo Center, Exit 59 off of I-75  
6550 Poe Ave, Dayton, OH. 45414

Exclusive Feature (no additional entrance fee): The Gilbert American Flyer Factory Museum Items from Maury Romer, the man in charge of A. C. Gilbert's AMERICAN FLYER train line 1944-1966. Presented by Bob Bernard.

Lots of "S" Dealers at over 100 tables in 9000 sq. ft.  
Door Prizes, Raffle, Clinics, & Modular Layouts.

[Check their Website here.](#)

Email: [tctrain@roadrunner.com](mailto:tctrain@roadrunner.com)

## O Scale West - S West and Narrow Gauge West May 25-27, 2023

Hyatt Regency Santa Clara (San Francisco area)  
O Scale - S Scale - Narrow Gauge - West has been the premier two-rail O Scale, S Scale and Narrow Gauge (all scales) show held West of the Mississippi since its founding by Rod Miller in 1991. Plan to join us over the Memorial Day weekend in sunny California.

Website: [www.oscalewest.com](http://www.oscalewest.com)



## 2023 NASG Convention

The 2023 NASG Convention is slated to be held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania from July 26th to July 29th, 2023 at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey hotel, 4650 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111. It is hosted by the Lehigh Valley S Gaugers club. Check back in later issues for more updates.

The S Scale Resource Magazine will be providing a free listing of upcoming events. This small, text only listing will include the Event, Date, Location, Type of Event, and Contact Information. [Click here](#) to go to the sign up form. This form will take your information, and we will publish it in our next issue. If it is an annual event, you will need to submit your information every year.

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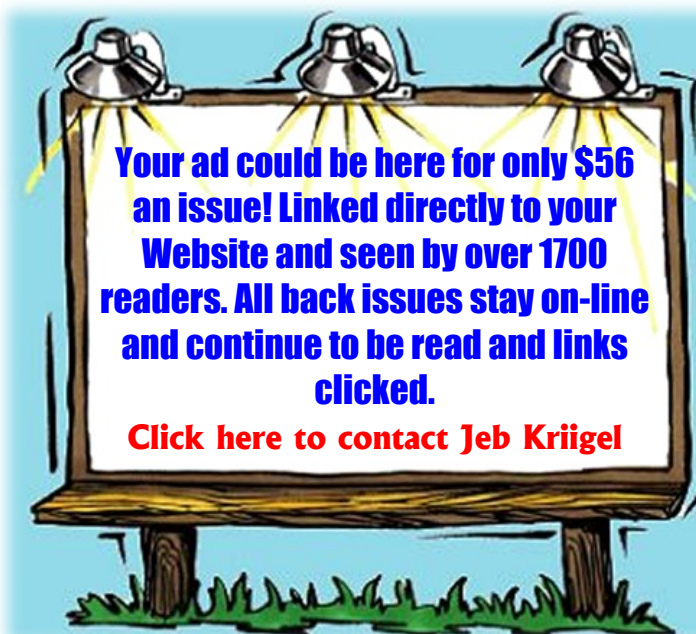
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