

The



November 2018

Milepost

Official monthly publication of the Pikes Peak Division of the National Model Railroad Association



HO-scale river module scene on the Pikes Peak Division Module Group's layout, on Friday, October 12th, 2018, for the TECO 33 show.

NEXT MEETING: Friday, November 9th, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Sand Creek Police Station, 4125 Center Park Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado (southeast of the intersection of Fountain and Academy Boulevards).

Calendar Events

Friday, November 9th, 2018

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting.
Contest: M.O.W. equipment.
Program: Rock Island RR Sigi & Mike Walker.

Saturday, December 8th, 2018, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

NMRA-PPD swapmeet at Trinity Methodist Church.

Friday, December 14th, 2018

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting.
Christmas party (no contest or program).

Friday, January, 11th, 2019

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting. Meeting at TECO.
No contest, no program.

Saturday/Sunday, January 12-13, 2019

TECO 34 train show, Chapel Hills Mall.

Saturday/Sunday, February 2-3, 2019

The Great Train Show, Colorado Springs Event Center.

Friday, February 8th, 2019

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting.
Contest: {to be determined}.
Program: David Bristow and Internet RR.

Friday, March 8th, 2019

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting.
Contest: {tentatively judged contest}.
Program: no program, judged contest.

Friday, April 12th, 2018

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting. Meeting at TECO.
No contest, no program.

Saturday/Sunday, April 13-14, 2019

TECO 35 train show, Chapel Hill Mall.

WANTED:

Wade Mountz is wanting to purchase a USED Athearn (blue box) switch engine locally. Model requested: "EMD SW7" or "SW9" DC powered. Any road name is okay. Decoder to be added later. Contact Wade at: 719-380-9060 or w.mountz@yahoo.com



The Milepost, Volume 38, Number 11, November 2018, is published monthly, as an electronic document (Adobe PDF file), by, and under the authority of, the Pikes Peak Division (Rocky Mountain Region), of the National Model Railroad Association. Our meetings are usually held on the second Friday of each month at the Sand Creek Police Station, 4125 Center Park Drive (southeast of the intersection of Fountain and Academy), in Colorado Springs, Colorado, at 7:00 PM. Please come to one of our meetings. We'd love to meet you. All scales are welcome. Besides our monthly meeting, we have swap meets, train shows, and other model railroad (and railroad) activities. All content in this journal is copyrighted to its respective owner unless otherwise noted. Please do not use content from this newsletter in other publications, newspapers, magazines, books, web sites, etcetera, without explicit case-by-case permission. The editor of *The Milepost* is Mr. Michael Murdock. He can be contacted at the e-mail address of: midnightriver@gmail.com. Thank you.

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Pikes Peak Division's 2018 Annual Layout Tours

By Michael Murdock – August 19th, 2018 – Part II

This year's layout tours included six model railroad layouts in Colorado — one in Gleneagle, two in Colorado Springs, one in Pueblo West, and two in Canyon City. Thank you to all of the layout owners for opening their homes and showing their model railroad layouts to everyone. This article will cover the three "southern" layouts — the three northern layouts were covered in the September 2018 issue of The Milepost.

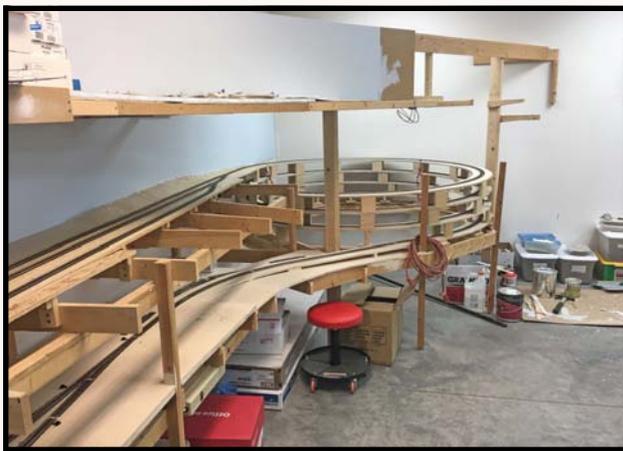
Paul Weyer — Cañon City Burlington's - Great Western Division

Paul has a beautiful HO-scale layout in the basement of his house. We were impressed on the size and attention to operations that he has created. From Paul's layout description on the south.rockyrail.org website: This layout is based on a premise that in 1960, the Chicago Great Western (CGW) was purchased by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy (CB&Q) in order to establish their own north-south corridors from Minneapolis to Kansas City and Minneapolis to Omaha. Now, in 1963, the CB&Q operates these routes as the Burlington Lines-Great Western Division (BGW). The engineering teams have been hard at work on the ex-CGW right-of-way upgrading the physical plant to make the BGW's Minneapolis to Kansas City route competitive with the competitors.



Steve Phillips — Cañon City San Joaquin Pacific

Steve Phillips has a huge, three-level, HO-scale layout in a large building in his backyard. Work is ongoing, but the layout basics have been tested. It is a impressive layout that is coming along nicely. The layout represents Southern Pacific's San Joaquin Division with an emphasis on the Fresno Subdivision which cover the mainline and branches between Bakersfield and Fresno, California around 1960. There are three branches that are included, but only one is fully operational at this time.



John Denny — Pueblo West Santa Fe, Raton Pass

John was a very gracious host — as we had arrived about 15 to 30 minutes before the end of the layout tour — thanks for letting us in and showing off your layout John! John's layout represents the Santa Fe starting at Albuquerque, New Mexico and going over Raton Pass to Trinidad, Colorado. This location allows for a helper district over the pass running at prototype speed and time schedule. The time period is 1949, during the steam to diesel transition.



November Superintendent Notes

The October Division was held at 7:00 PM at Chapel Hills Mall Event Center. Unfortunately, the Judged Contest did not happen and will have to be rescheduled. Tony Pawlicki did get to show off his connected ore car set and gave an interesting talk about them.

Fun at the October TECO Show

Even though we did not have quite as many guests as the April show, it was still a success. People really enjoyed seeing Slim Rails, Slick-X and the Kansas N-Scale layout.

Now what, do you say, does an ambulance have to do with model railroading? Well a converted ambulance is how Robert Simmons transports his n-scale modular railroad around the country from his home in Kansas. Sunday afternoon, we verified that all his modules fit snugly into it.



Fun at the Trolley Museum for Rock Island Days

Kristin and I had a table just inside the roundhouse. Division members as well as visitors from the TECO show came by to ride the trolley, take the tour of the roundhouse, Rock Island REA museum car and the D&RG caboose. Having a table at TECO helped bring in visitors to the event. The Model A Club had a number of their cars parked next to the roundhouse.



Sigi and Mike Walker will be our guest presenters at the November Division Meeting.

Fun at Hobby-Expo in Denver

Maybe not as crowded as the train shows there at the Merchandise Mart but there were lots of layouts and big names like Bachmann, Kadee and Iwata. Colpar and Caboose were there too.

Bachmann had an Area 51 Fuel Station at their booth:



Apparently, hauling off cows takes a lot of octane.

I enjoyed talking with the creator of the Disneyland n-track modules. He grew up in Southern California. As a teenager I once rode the Cyclone Rollercoaster at the Pike in Long Beach. The Pike is long gone replaced by an Aquarium and yacht harbor with a view of the Queen Mary and cruise ship pier across the Los Angeles River.



Sidetracked Army Train

Hat to pull off I25 to take a look at this long construction train parked on the way north near Monument Park:



Using my cellphone, the image was a little too dark but using a free online tool improved the contrast.

Cool Videos and Images

Robert Simmons took a great videos of modular layouts modules at TECO 33. Check it out on the TECOshow.org webpage.

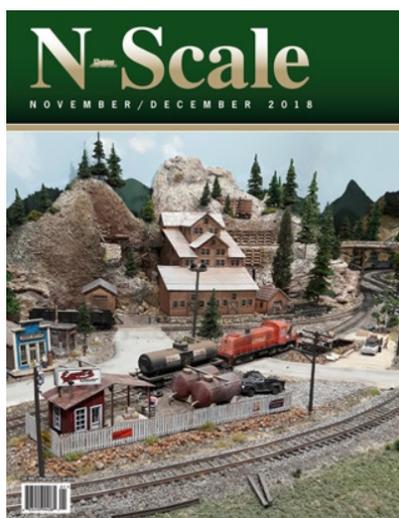
<http://www.rockymtnrrclub.org/rmrrcnews/news.htm> , with a link on the TECOshow.org website, is a great source of videos and stills.

TECOshow.org has a couple regional videos --- one is a Rock and Rail video from Canon City and the second is a Cog Railroad video with Mel McFarland narrating.

Remember, both PPDNMRA and TECOSHOW are on Facebook.

Congrats to Jeff Cahill on his Article in N-Scale Magazine

Photos of his Gunnison Division were by Bob Folz.



Upcoming Train Shows

We have reservations locked in for the Lower Level Event Center for TECO Shows in 2019 March and April and first dibs on the Upper Level if available.

Nov 17-8 RARG (Rails along the Rio Grande) Train Show at Balloon Fiesta Pilots Pavilion, Albuquerque

November 24-25: Rocky Mountain Train Show at Ranch Events Complex, First National Bank Building, Larimer County Fairgrounds, Loveland, Colorado.

December 8: 9 AM—3 PM: Pikes Peak Division Swap Meet at Trinity Methodist Church, Colorado Springs

January 12-13, 2019: TECO 34, at Chapel Hills Mall Upper Level Event Center

February 2, 2019 10:00 am - Sun Feb 3, 2019 4:00 pm.: Great Train Show, *Colorado Springs* Event Center 3960 Palmer Park Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80909. The Division will participate.

March 2-3, 2019: Rocky Mountain Train Show at the Denver Mart, Denver, Colorado.

April 13, 14: TECO 35, at Chapel Hills Mall Event Center

July 12-14, 2019: NMRA NATIONAL TRAIN SHOW, Utah

July 24-27, 2019: Santa Fe Railway Historical and Modeling Society, Pueblo Colorado.

October 12-13, 2019: TECO 36, at Chapel Hills Mall Upper Level Event Center

Division Nominations and Elections Coming Up

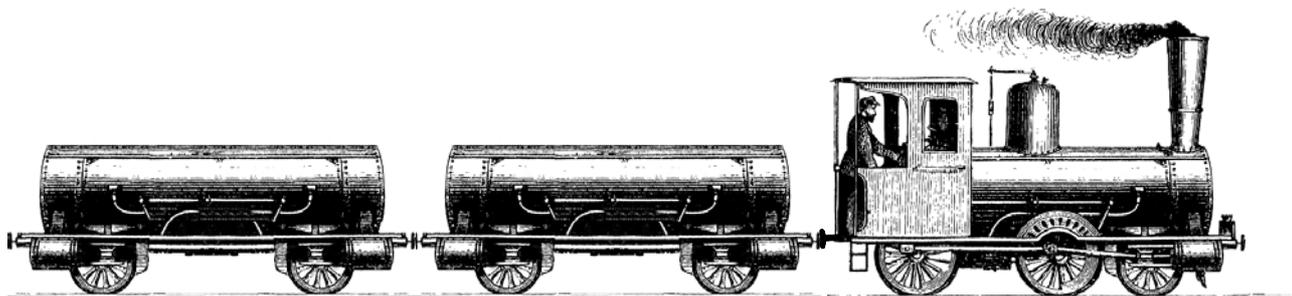
Open Positions:

Secretary and Assistant Superintendent

Nominations for Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary, and Treasurer made by the Nominating Committee shall be accepted during the November regular meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Everyone listed on the Milepost as PPNMRA Staff is a member of the Nominating and Election Committee.

Election of Officers will be held during the business meeting held in December. These elections shall be conducted by secret ballot, unless no opposition exists for any of the four positions. All successful candidates shall take office on January 1st following their election. **and verified by the Election Committee.**



Another (Recent) Picture from Royer and Las Vegas, Our Favorite Crossing



Did the driver not see the sign? Doh!



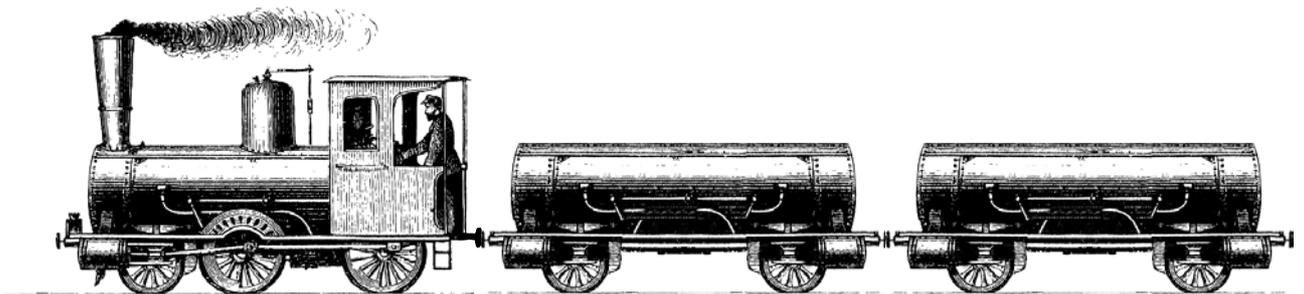
March, hopefully, will be judged contest.

April's meeting will be the evening of TECO sat Chapel Hills Mall so no program.

May and beyond is TBD. (May 10 I will in Cartagena, Spain)

July's NMRA Convention in Utah does conflict so some of us will miss the meeting.

October's meeting will be the evening of TECO at Chapel Hills Mall so no program.



Modular Musings

About this time I am regretting not making some notes after the last meeting. That was just after the last TECO show and almost meeting. As best I remember, we setup the largest boomerang layout yet at 44' by 44' on the afternoon of 12 October. It was mostly the module owners with Tony Pawlicki and Dave Gonce, helping. Gerry Drewes also had some help from the YMR crew to assemble the modules he brought. Amber Fuerstenberger ran the train to bring in our pieces and parts for many other layouts and vendors. Mark was returning from a business trip and didn't arrive until late afternoon. Layout assembly went well with only minor adjustments needed to get everything to 'fit'. Amber had completed sewing the Velcro to the skirting and adding the other side to the modules went pretty quickly. She really enjoyed installing the skirt. The 150 feet was just one module short of going all the way around. Once it was all together, we had to make it run. As it was getting late, we only went for the DCC. Mark and I finally got a DCC loco to make a trip around both track two and three and called it a night. The next morning things seemed OK until they tried to run trains on DC and DCC at the same time. This resulted in the old disconnect and isolate trouble shooting. The first find was metal shed door laying across a track three siding. Removing that helped a lot. Intermittent issues continued so we kept looking. Following more disconnect and isolate, it was discovered that there was a jumper connection between rail two (DC) and rail four (DCC). Cutting that cleared everything and all ran well after that. Thanks to Mark for being involved and staying with the search until it was resolved. As I recall, Jerry Hansz, Dave Gonce and Tony Pawlicki ran trains on the DC track at various times through the show. Andy Bucu, Charles Marchbanks, Gerry Drewes, Mark Fuerstenberger, Myron Gelsing and John Emmot ran DCC trains. If I missed anyone, it is a function of the three weeks that have passed. Although the weather forecast was a bit iffy for part of the weekend, it didn't turn out as bad as predicted. While the attendance was not a record, the show as a success with many great vendors and layouts, including two first time layouts in the O scale Slick-X and N scale Western Kansas Rails.

There wasn't a formal meeting, though the group got together for some railroad discussions. No one coordinated the NMRA Merit judges so Tony Pawlicki's unit train will have to wait for another time.

There are several things on our future agenda.

The first is our PPD show and swapmeet on December 8th. We need a 32' oval for that setup. That means 24' of straights on each side. Do I have any volunteers?? I would like to keep some variety if I can. I don't know how the owners feel about truncated pieces of their sets. For instance, we could have 16' of Vandalia and 8' of Alien Abduction on one side and 12' of Maline loco shops and 12' of Kansas intermodal on the other. Or some other combination. Please let me know at the meeting or by email what you are willing to do. I'm sure that setup will take place on the Friday evening before (Dec7). That is one week before our regularly scheduled Christmas Party.

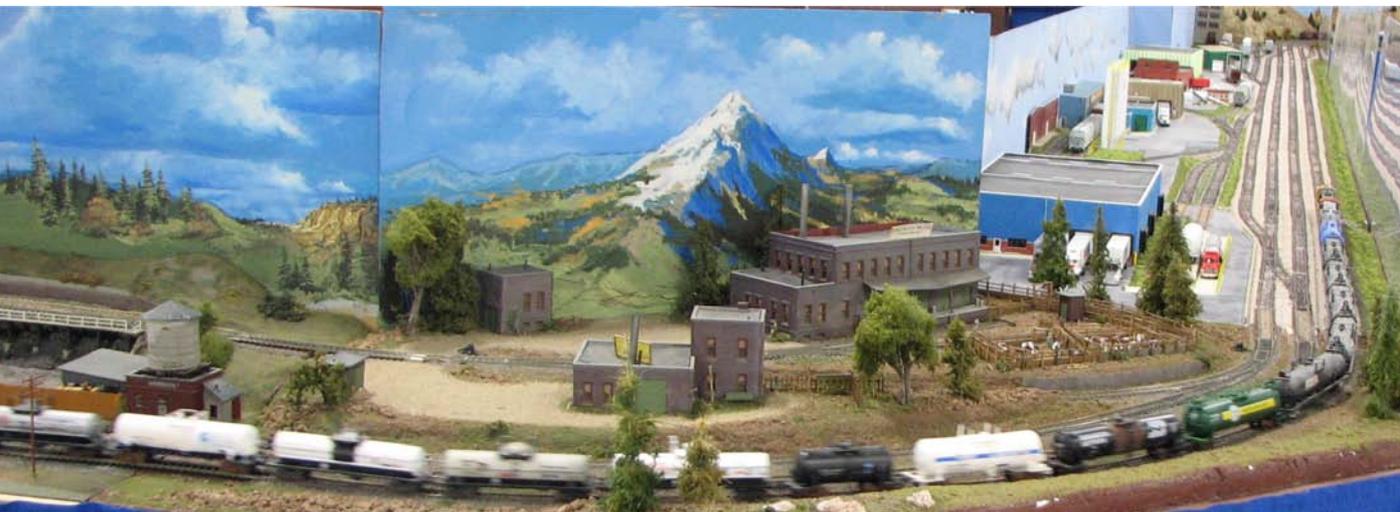
The next is the January 12-13 TECO show at the Chapel Hills upstairs event center. This event also falls on the weekend after our regular meeting. I assume we will maxout the boomerang for that as we don't know for sure if we will get to use that space after that.

We need to discuss what, if anything, the Division is willing to support for the Great Train Show at the Colorado Springs Expo Center on the weekend of February 2-3 with setup on the 1st. This is not our trainshow, so all we have to do is setup our layout if we decide to go. If so, we need to decide how large we want to set up. There is no guarantee that they would give us space for our maximum size. There could be an appearance payment for this show. I would hope for a solid commitment of time from the membership if we decide to participate. Layout crews do get free admission to the show. I had hoped to discuss this at the last meeting, but with so few attendees, it didn't happen. We must request space from them if we want to go, so we must decide at this meeting.

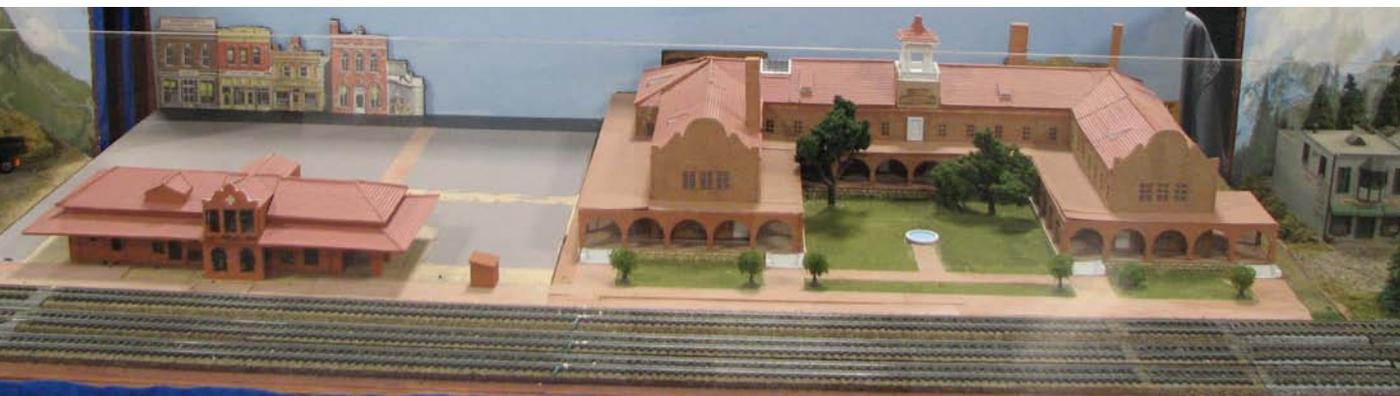
Just for info, the next TECO after that is booked for April 13-14 at Chapel Hills. This one will be contingent on TECO finding a new chairman. Mike Peck is going to retire from the position after the January show. If no one steps forward to lead, TECO will disband. I would hate for that to happen, but it is possible. Is there anyone out there who is willing to take on the job???

Don't forget that the Division needs to elect officers for the 2019 year. As I understand, the Assistant Superintendent and Secretary are in need of new occupants. Joe and Frank have said they would continue as Superintendent and Treasurer. We will identify the slate at the November meeting for the vote to take place in December.

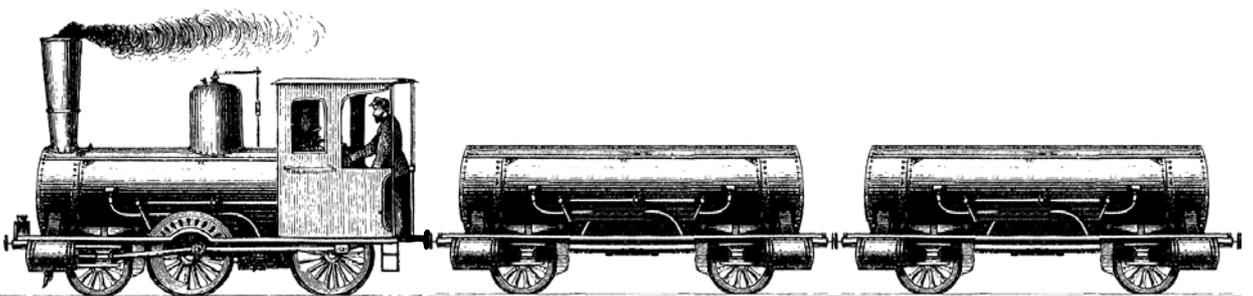
That's enough for now. Hope to see everyone 'round the roundhouse on Friday. Please enjoy my pictures from TECO.
John

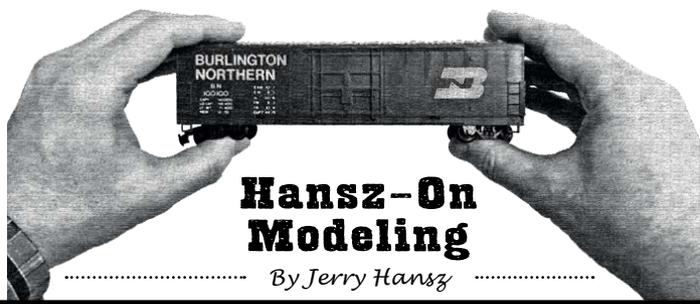












SERIOUS FOR A CHANGE

Recently, John Emmot I were talking to a lady at the Ivywild School. She had a collection of Lionel trains. Her late husband hadn't left her any list of the trains or their value. Some man, unnamed, had gone through her collection, and then offered her less than \$200 for the entire lot! Fortunately, she was wise enough to reject his offer. This brings to mind a dilemma many widows have. What is my late husband's collection worth?

We, as model aficionados, should provide a way to help heirs solve the problem. There are published guides to assist in appraising collections, and individuals with the knowledge and skills to do the appraisals. I feel that it is incumbent on organizations such as PPD to develop the system, and publicize it through model and other media to prevent widows from being victimized.

If the Division members will step up, I'll donate a copy of a guide I acquired from Sidetrack Hobbies. I personally don't feel I have the knowledge about Lionel trains to take on the action. Someone does.

John and I invited the lady to come to a meeting and tell her story.

ANOTHER PRINTED SIDES CAR PROJECT

After struggling to recover the partially complete printed car, I decided to start on a new project. Looking through my printed sides collection, I selected SRLX 15134, a Swift Refrigerator Line car. The HO sides for a metal car were cut out of the sheet.



The sides measure 5 7/16" long x 1 1/2" high.

Car dimensions (taken from an Athearn box car parked at Oidar):

Ends - 1 3/8" wide x 1 7/16" high to roof peak, 1 3/8" high at roof edges

Roof - 5 1/2" long x 1 5/16" wide

Truck mounting holes - 5/8" from car end

Underframe - 4 3/4" long to the coupler pockets

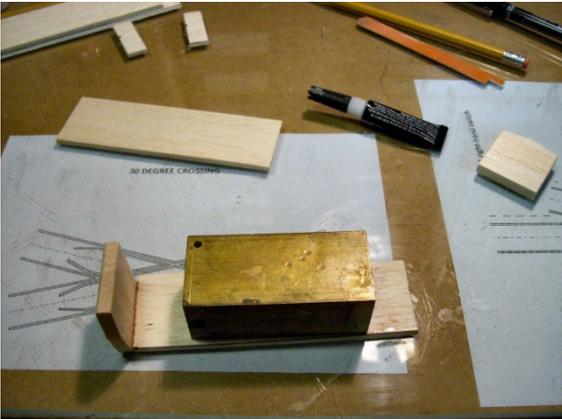
Center beams - 1/8" high

Cross beams - 1/8" high at center beams, 1/16" at car sides

Roof walk - 5 3/4" long x 7/32" wide

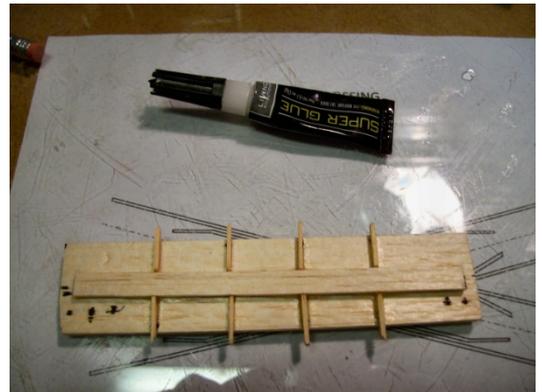
Sides must fit the printed sides. Enjoy all the numbers?

I used balsa wood for the car frame. I cut the ends from 1/4" thick sheet to the dimensions shown above, and the sides from 1/8" thick sheet.



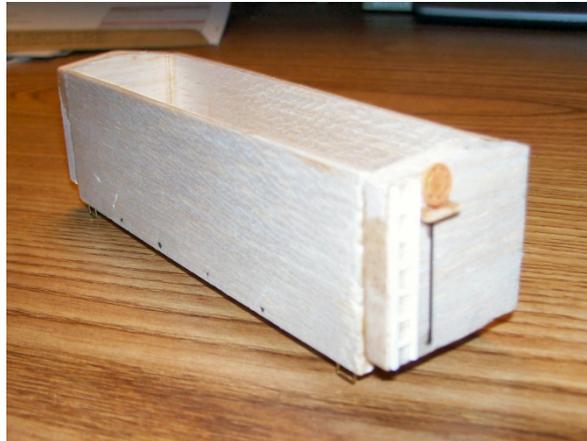
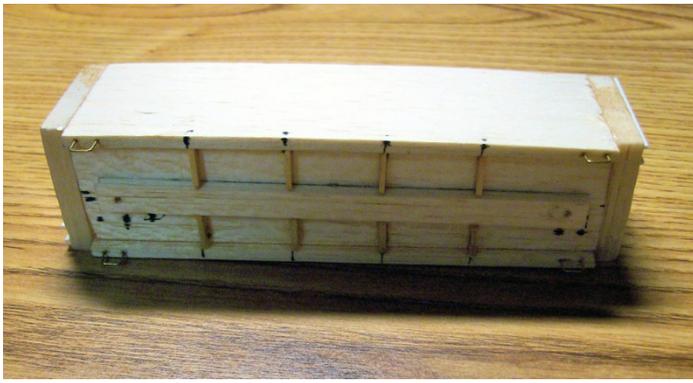
The ends and sides were secured with "super glue" to speed up the process.

The 1/8" thick floor (base) is 4 15/16" long x 1 1/8" wide, to fit between the car ends.



I used 1/8" balsa for the center beam. The cross beams were cut from some switch ties that were laying around. Lining them up was difficult, since the super glue grabbed quickly. They were trimmed flush when dry.

The 4 15/16" long x 1 1/2" high x 1/8" thick sides were fit over the base edges with the center beams and bolsters in place, and between the ends.



The completed frame, with brake wheel and details.



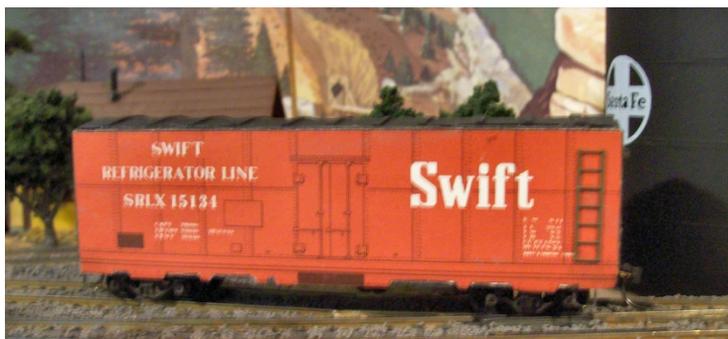
The printed side was secured to the frame with spray adhesive.

Addition items added were a pair of Bettendorf trucks, ladders, stirrup steps (they had to be moved closer to the ends to clear the trucks), Kadee #5 couplers with draft gear.



The car was weighted to NMRA recommendations.

The roof was constructed of styrene, with styrene ribs, and painted flat black. It was secured with liquid glue to provide time for adjustment. (Most other gluing was done with “super glue”).



The finished car, parked on the main at Hays.

This was an interesting project. Using balsa for the frame speeded things up, however I’d prefer basswood for a more sturdy assembly. Drilling truck centers on the balsa was an adventure! On to another project!

DETAILS ON AN OLD CAR

You may recall that I mentioned an old printed sides car in my junk boxes. I recently found it, and decided to give it an update. It was originally built in 1963 and had very little detailing.



The car was “Bare Bones”, with plastic couplers, one of which was missing. There was no underbody detail, only some weights.



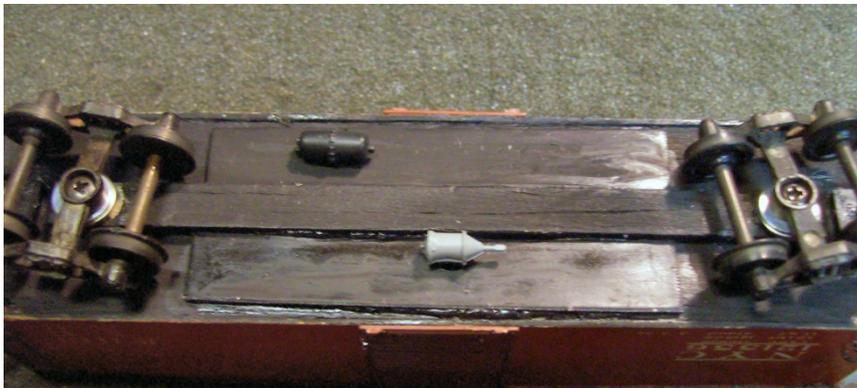
I added Kadee couplers and corner steps, as shown by the arrows.



The junk box produced a brake wheel assembly and step. A piece of a long brass grab iron was added.



The junk box also produced some brake system parts, which help the undercarriage somewhat. This is enough detail for this old car! No roof walk was added. Pretend that the car had been updated to meet current safety standards.





Side view of the completed update.



NYC 121556 parked on the main at Hays.

Union Pacific's Big Boy Update

By Joe Costa

https://www.up.com/aboutup/community/inside_track/october-steam-update-10-31-2018.htm



Steam Update: Big Boy's New Suspension System Promises a Smooth Ride

With completion of steam giant No. 4014's massive front engine restoration looming, the UP Steam Team has rebuilt and installed a cushion to cradle all that heavy metal: a brand new coil and leaf-spring suspension system.

www.up.com

There is a linked video on the tecoshow.org website taken during Depot Days during the Regional Convention and Train show showing a "before" picture.



Roy's Model Trains

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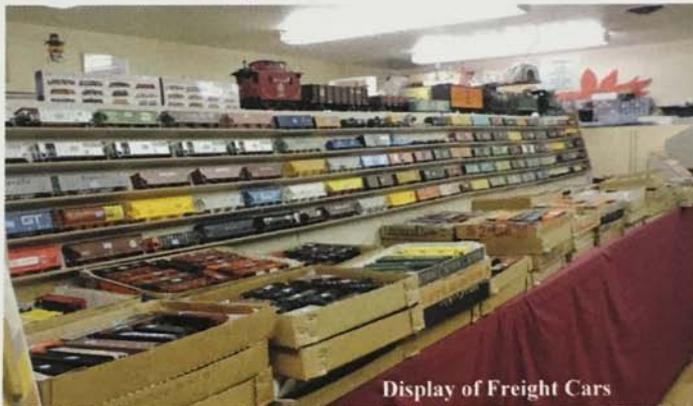
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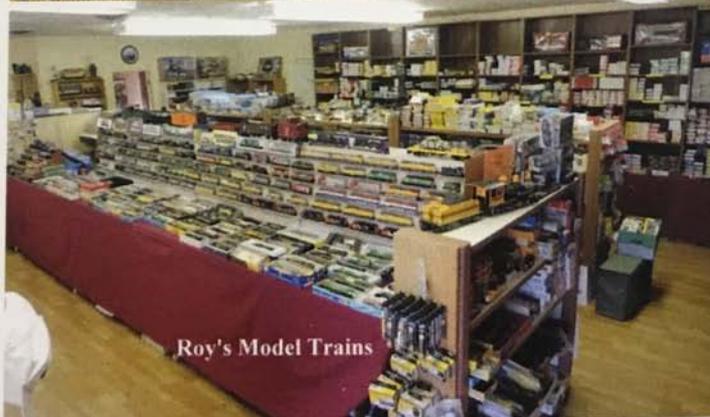
Website: Roysmodeltrains.com

Email: roysmodeltrains@comcast.net

Phone; 719-728-0503



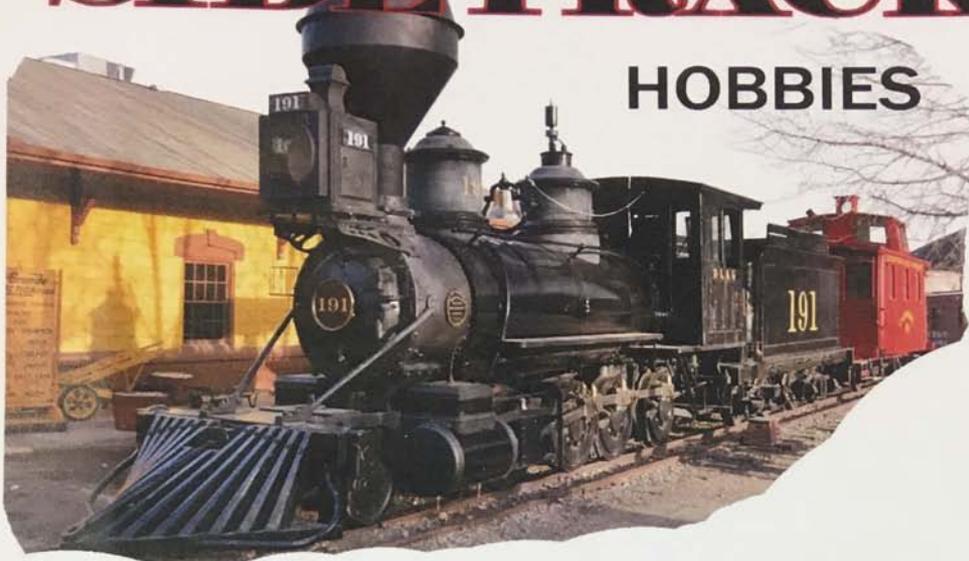
Display of Freight Cars



Roy's Model Trains

SIDETRACK

HOBBIES



GOT TRAINS?

N, HO.S.O, 1-1/2 "

SCALES

You have seen us at the train shows with a full line of narrow gauge train equipment and supplies.

You know me as President of Pike Masters Railroad Club and active member in Pike's Peak Division of the NMRA.

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July 1, 2017

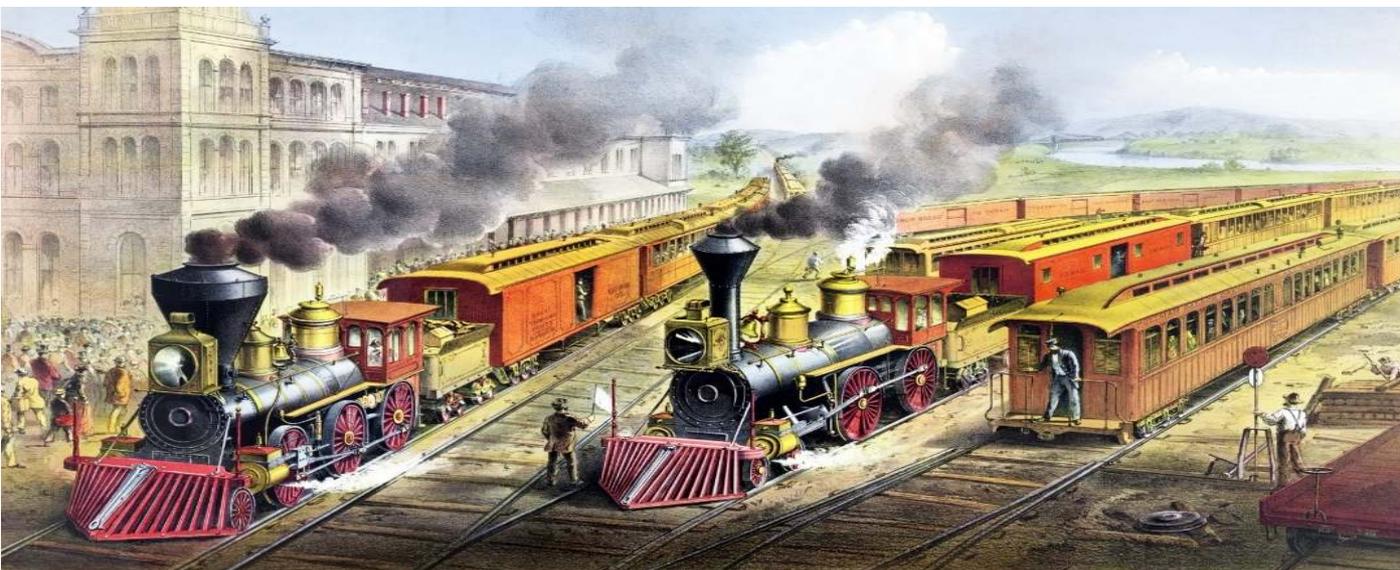
Sidetrack Hobbies will be open for regular business hours. Stop by between 1:00pm and 6:30 Tuesday through Saturday and see our expanded line of railroad supplies, to include homocote, hydrocal, scenic materials, scratch builder parts, paints, cement, and much more.

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TRAIN SHOW & SWAP MEET

Saturday 9:00 – 3:00

December 8, 2018

Trinity United Methodist Church
701 N. 20th Street
Colorado Springs, CO

Adults \$5
Children under 12 free
Seniors/Military \$1 Discount

Lunch available onsite



www.ppdnmra.com

MODEL TRAIN SHOW



Denver & Rio Grande

**Model Train Layouts * Vendors * Hourly Door Prizes * Clinics
Seek and Find * Switching Puzzle * Historical Presentations**

**January 12 & 13, 2019
Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4**

**Chapel Hills Mall Event Center
1710 Briargate Blvd
Colorado Springs, CO 80920**



\$6 per person

\$10 Family of 2 or more

Children under 12 free

Seniors/Military \$1 Discount

www.tecoshow.org