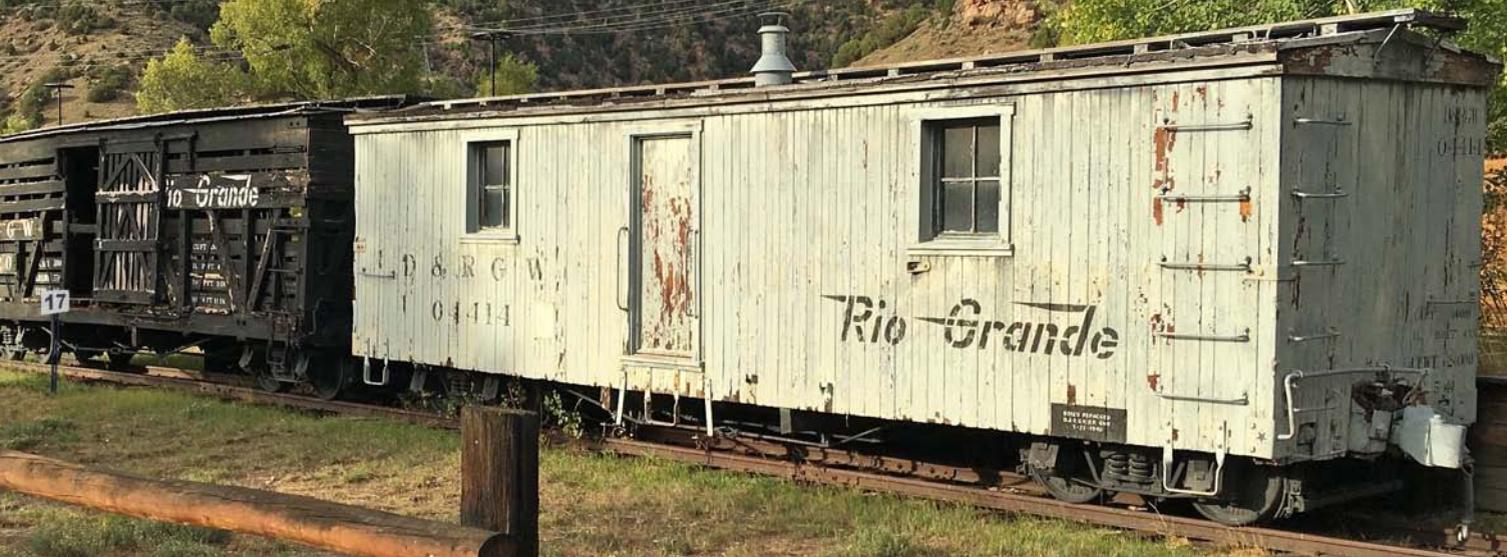




The Milepost

October 2017
Volume 37
Issue #10

Secret Colorado Narrow Gauge



In This Issue:

- ***Narrow Gauge Railcars At Cimarron***
- ***Fixing A Paper-Sides Boxcar Model***
- ***Upcoming Model Railroad Shows***
- ***And Much More!***

NEXT MEETING: Friday, October 13th, 2017 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).

INFORMATION

The Milepost is published monthly and is the official journal of the Pikes Peak Division, of the 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), 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 activities.

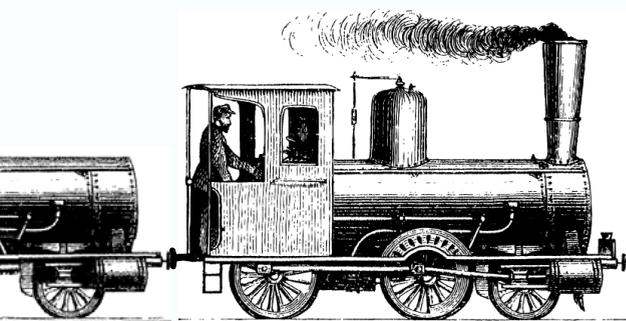
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Cover Photograph: Two narrow gauge railcars (D.&R.G.W Railroad stock car #5620 and D.&R.G.W Railroad M.O.W. car #04414) on a siding near Cimarron, Colorado. Photograph was snapped on Saturday, September 23rd, 2017, by Michael Murdock. Hey! If you are reading this, why not consider submitting a photograph of your own that you think might be a good cover photograph for *The Milepost*! We would love to see photographs of your layout or train scenes you have from your trips!

Don't Forget:

If you have any model railroad cars, models, books, etcetera, that you don't want, consider donating them to the monthly meeting raffle to help raise money for the Division!

This Month's Presentation:
Judging and open contest is the scheduled event.



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MODEL TRAIN SHOW

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www.tecoshow.org

CONTEST CORNER

At each monthly PPD-NMRA meeting, a contest is held. A contest must have at least three entries for voting. Below is the 2017 contest schedule.

October *Judged & Open Contest.*
November *Kitbash Anything With Multiple Kits.*
December *Christmas Party (no contest).*

Last month's contest was *Passenger Car*. Here are the entries and the winner shown below:



John Emmot won first-place with this HO-scale D.N.W.&P. Railroad baggage car model.



Robert Allen won second-place with this HO-scale buffet car model.



John Emmot won third-place with this HO-scale D.N.W.&P. Railroad passenger railcar model.

RAILCAR WEIGHTS

By Michael D. Weidner

Cheap [model railroad] car weights. My sense is that a box of 576 individual 1/4 ounce weights outta last a while!! [;\} Even if this eBay auction times out I'm certain there will be others.

<https://tinyurl.com/y9wo2quk>



GREELY MUSEUM TRIP

By Charlotte Mountz



SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTES

By Joe Costa, Superintendent of PPD-NMRA

Official NMRA Judged Contest At October 13, 2017 Division Meeting

Master Model Railroaders are invited to judge and all modelers are invited to enter this contest.

TECO Show Reminder

October 28 and 29 will be our first TECO Train Show in a new location at the Chapel Hills Event Center (located inside the Chapel Hills Mall). We are very excited. For more information, for visitors or vendors, visit: <http://www.tecoshow.org>.

We are very proud of our updated website. There are lots of links to multiple web sites of interest to model railroaders and rail fans alike. The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club site has great news and pictures. The Division Swap Meet will be held this coming December at the Trinity Methodist church on December 16th, 2017.

National Railroad Safety Week

The last week in September was Nation Railroad Safety Week. Kristin and I along with other Operation Lifesaver Volunteers and the Federal Railroad Administration participated in multiple events around Greeley.



That's Ken Johnson, on the left side of the photograph, from the Federal Railroad Administration, a railroad equipment inspector.

Weld County gets about 10% of the railroad traffic and more than its share of incidents. With the Moffat Tunnel closed for maintenance for a couple weeks, they have seen even additional traffic. Amtrak was re-routed temporarily up from Denver through Wyoming to Salt Lake City.

Railroad Related Fatalities in Colorado Springs

Colorado Springs has some alarming statistics as reported by a recent article in the Denver Post.

More people have been killed by trains during the past three months in El Paso County than in the entire decade before, officials say, and three of the recent four deaths happened in less than three weeks.

A person on the tracks was killed in 2013, a worker on duty was killed in 2014 and another person on the tracks was killed in 2015, Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) data show. No deaths were reported from 2007 to 2012 or in 2016.

Emergency Sign Reminder

One of the things that really surprised us, was a lack of awareness by the general public about a sign that is present at every railroad crossing:



As we try to remind people, that's the number YOU can call and the exact location if you or someone else is stuck at a railroad crossing or you think there is something wrong like a malfunctioning signal. It gets you directly in touch with the railroad and they can get in direct contact with emergency personnel or the trains who may be approaching the crossing much faster than 911.

Speaking of signs, I visited our "favorite" railroad crossing at Foyers and Las Vegas, where every year at least one truck get stuck by "high centering" on the crossing, to take a few pictures:



While I was there, a truck carrying a pair of port a potties made a right turn. I wonder if they were full or empty. Could have been a real "mess" if the truck got stuck and a train came by.

As model railroaders know, and take advantage of, photographs can be deceptive depending on the angle. The slope is not at all apparent in this picture.

UFOs On The Tracks?

On a lighter note, I almost thought I saw UFOs been transported south-bound in Brighton on the way back to The Springs.



Continued on the next page...

Continued from the previous page...

There were dozens of them and they were very shiny carried on pairs of flatcars pulled by four Union Pacific diesels — it was a “Blade Runner” train.

Remember the freight train motto, “freight up here keeps your highway clear”:



SSP Technology

There was a recent videos in the news of a similar picture out of Scotland with a shorter blade. The rear wheels were steerable. Our on the UP train were “only” two flatcars long.

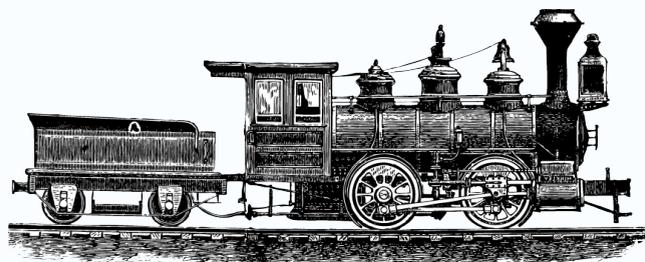
Dinosaur Center Visit And Invitation

Along with Mike and Mary Peck and John Emmot, I got to visit the Dinosaur Center in Woodland Park and talk with the Education Director. The N’gineers had they modular layout on display this summer for a weekend and they are looking for another model railroad event next summer.

The space available at the center would be almost the same size we use at the Division Swap Meet at Trinity Methodist. It is something we can discuss at the next division meeting. We also mentioned that there are a couple other module groups in the area that might be interested too and we promised to get back with them. They make up their schedule for 2018 in December.

Last Month's Picnic

Here is a photograph of last month’s PPD picnic:



SEPTEMBER 2017 MEETING MINUTES

September 8th, 2017 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Pikes Peak Division of the National Model Railroad Association

The meeting was held at the Sand Creek Police Station. The meeting was brought to order by Superintendent Joe Costa at 7:04 PM. There were 23 people in attendance.

Minutes from last month’s meeting were approved as printed in the last issue of *The Milepost*. The treasurer’s report by Frank Pareso was also approved. There were no new visitors.

Kristin reported that since Youth In Model Railroading has a new home at Immanuel, can \$25.00, be donated to them from PPD funds, for their monthly rent. This passed by vote.

The next TECO will be at the Chapel Hills Mall.

J.B. Thistlethwaite has a presentation on soldering — see the photograph shown below.

Contest was for *Passenger Car*. See Contest Corner column for more information.

J.B. Thistlethwaite discussed the upcoming trip to Greeley, Colorado to the model railroad museum up there.

Joe went over election rules for election nominations.

Kristin and Joe reviewed details for the division picnic that will happen this coming Sunday (September 10th, 2017).

Meeting ended at 7:20 PM.



J.B. Thistlethwaite showing his presentation on soldering.



MODULAR MUSINGS

By John Emmot, Chairman of Module Group

We are on the cusp of TECO 30 at the end of the month. This will be our first chance to try out the new Chapel Hills Mall Event Center venue. Andy Buco has let me know that he won't be bringing his modules to the show, so we will lose a bit of size. I have laid out a 36' x 36' foot boomerang layout with the remaining modules. We will need as many extra helpers as possible for the setup day on Friday, October 27th. All of the entrances for the materials are some distance from the show room, so movement from unloading zone to the setup location will be labor intensive. It won't be hard work as there will be carts and wagons available to haul on elevators and level floors, but it will require folks to move them. So, once again I ask that anyone who can come help, do so. Door holders will be as valuable as cart pushers. There are three primary entrances for our and vendors use. There is a Mall entrance on the south side of the lower level between Dick's and Sears. There are two service entrances on the north side upper level of the Mall. They are Service 17, just east of Sears and Service 15, just east of the old Gordman's store. They both lead directly to elevators to the lower level. We will have to deal with UPS and FedEx also trying to make deliveries through these entrances. Because of the unknowns associated with this location, we plan to start moving materials in around 8:00 AM to 8:30 AM. I understand the rented tables are due to arrive at 8:30 AM. We can also assist vendors who need help to get from the curb to the showroom.

Starting at 3:00 PM, on Sunday, we will have to move everything back out and into the appropriate transportation. This process will also require help to be successful. If you can't help on one day, perhaps you can on another. You don't have to stay all day, even a couple of hours will be appreciated. Show up when it is convenient for you or contact me or Joe Costa.

The layout will have the usual three tracks, one for DC and two for DCC. Bring your trains to run on Saturday and Sunday. I expect to have a sign up sheet for running at the meeting. If you don't want to run trains, we can still use your eyes to watch folks watching trains. With any luck, we will have a huge crowd of spectators. Mike Peck will also be looking for folks to monitor the switching layout at the show. He is looking for presenters for clinics on tree making and track laying. Remember, volunteers earn "points" for their parent clubs for the division of TECO profits.

On a different note, I believe Mark Fuerstenberger is going to acquire the two modules that Dusty Thomson built and James Patterson had last. Welcome to the "club" Mark. This will help cover Andy's absence in the future.

See ya around the TECO show.

PIKES PEAK N'GINNERS

By Mike Peck

October 14, 2017 — PPNG will be celebrating our 28th anniversary - 5:30 PM at the IHOP restaurant on Stetson Hills Drive just west of Powers, in Colorado Springs.

October 20 & 21, 2017 — PPNG will be running trains at the Brookdale, Village at Skyline. Friday 10 AM to 4 PM and Saturday 10 AM to 3 PM.



Down At The Depot

By Dennis Snyder

I wrote an article for the NMRA Magazine — please see the September 2017 issue. I hope people liked it.

I attended the National Narrow Gauge Convention in Denver last month. It was awesome. Clinics, layout tours, and huge vendor room with vendors from all over the country. Some of the layouts in Denver are very humbling. Funny thing, I eat lunch with Rick Huntrods almost every week and didn't know he was such a famous model railroader. And, he lives half a mile from me. Actually, Rick and I both go to Del Taco's Taco Tuesday at the same time for lunch. Until I toured his Elk Pass layout, I didn't know who he was. But, it sounded good at first.

We had a NMRA membership booth there and I met some interesting people passing through. The Saturday night auction was run by Charlie Getz, our NMRA president. There were 1,980 railroaders registered plus spouses and vendors. Attendees came from over the country with registrants from 11 different countries including Japan, Australia, Germany, UK, Austria, Argentina, etc. This likely the second largest railroad convention, after the NMRA national.

I am sure you have seen Monster Modelworks ads for their laser cut boards that look like brick, sidewalks, stone walls, old cement, etcetera. I had a chance to talk with Jimmy Simmons about one of my "projects". His work is even more convincing first hand than in the pictures. He is very flexible about his offerings. I was interested in getting brick work done on both sides of the board and he told me no problem. Interesting thing is that Monster is moving from San Diego to Colorado Springs in about two months. He loves giving clinics and we count on him to do some at the club once he gets established. If you have any interest, see a how to at:

http://www.monstermodelworks.com/_download_files/Scratchbuilding-with-MMW-brick-p1.pdf

It looks like this free e-magazine has been around for some time but it is brand new to me — and it's FREE! Thought I share:

<http://www.allscalerails.com/>.

RAILCAR WEIGHTS

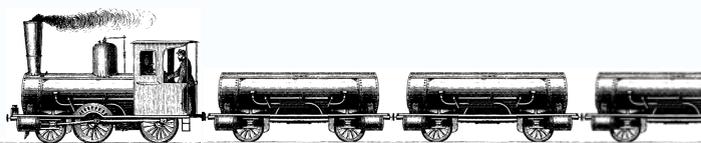
By Michael D. Weidner

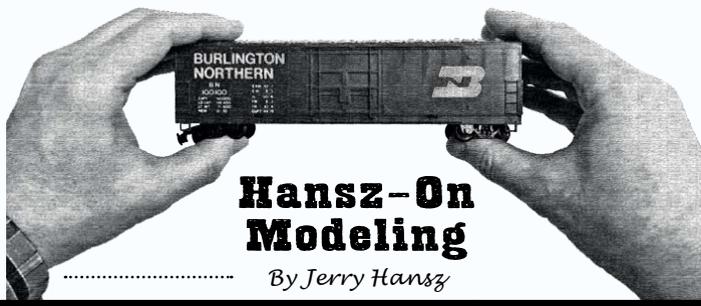
Everyone who is a model railroader, has a technique or a way of doing projects that is known only to him or her. A clinic can be anything that pertains to model railroading. It could be anything, maybe a material that no one but you have thought of. Have you made a special tool to make life easier to achieve what you want to accomplish? Everyone has different ideas on how to do things.

For Pikes Peak Division monthly meetings, a clinic or presentation of about 30 or more minutes would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact me, Charalee Topinka, at (719) 646-2783, or at charaletopinka@yahoo.com, and always give me a telephone number so that I can call you back.

I wish also to thank all the presenters for their time and efforts as presenters for the Pikes Peak Division.





Hansz-On Modeling

By Jerry Hansz

RESURRECTING AN OLD PRINTED SIDES CAR PROJECT

Back in the 1960's I started to build a printed sides car. The cutouts were mounted on heavy files dividers and balsa wood with rubber cement. The unfinished parts languished until 2016! As part of our current printed sides project, I decided to finish the car. Some of the following photos were taken from the video version.



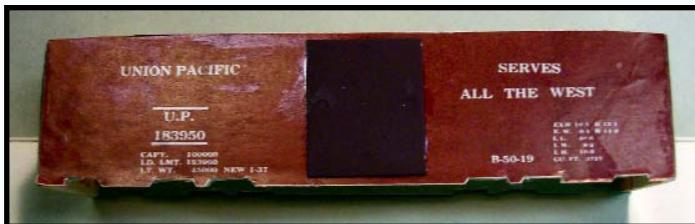
I decided to secure the parts with white glue.



The parts were laid out on my wonderful, well lit workbench.



The printed sides had to be trimmed to show the bottom detail. Cutting the heavy backing was quite a chore, but it was finally done. Two Tuscan blanks were found and secured to represent doors.



I secured the ends and loose parts of the sides with white glue.



After the glue dried, it was time to trim the car ends.

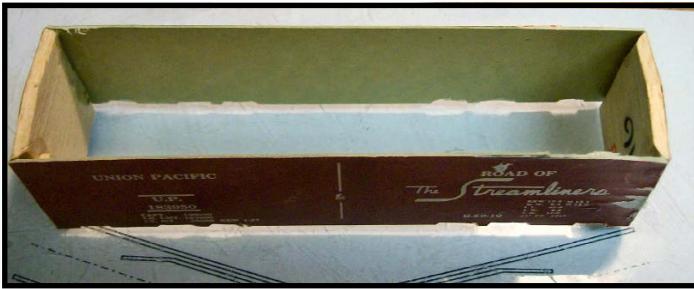


The rubber cement had let go, so I removed the ends and trimmed them.

The ends were trimmed at a 45 degree angle on both sides, so that the car sides would fit with little or no gaps. Then the sides and ends were assembled with white glue.

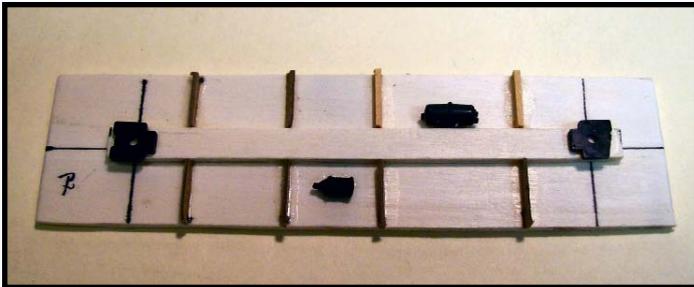
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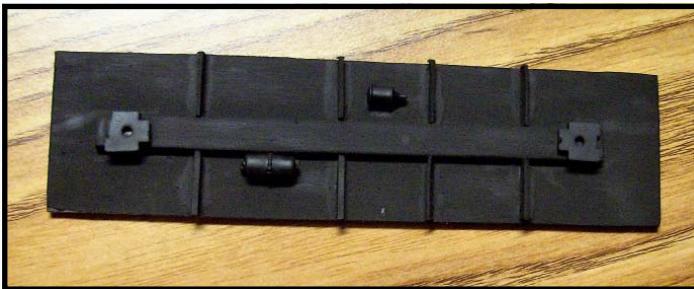


Assembled car sides.

Using some plywood that I picked up at Hobby Lobby, I built the floor and under frame. Found items provided minimal brake parts and plastic pieces to provide truck bearings. Cardboard and wood scraps were used for stringers.



Assembled under frame. B-end marked.



Under frame after painting.

The floor/under frame was secured to the sides/end with white glue. Trucks and couplers were located.



The Kadee couplers and trucks were mounted, and coupler height was checked. One end was low, so a washer was added to that truck.



Car bottom after assembly.

With the car assembled, less the roof, it was weighed. The NMRA recommended weight for a 5½" car is 3.75 ounces.

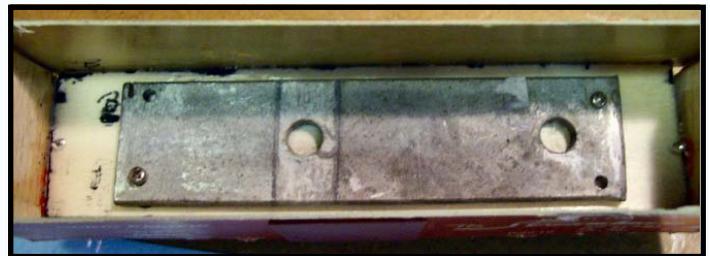


Car weighed 1.4 ounces.



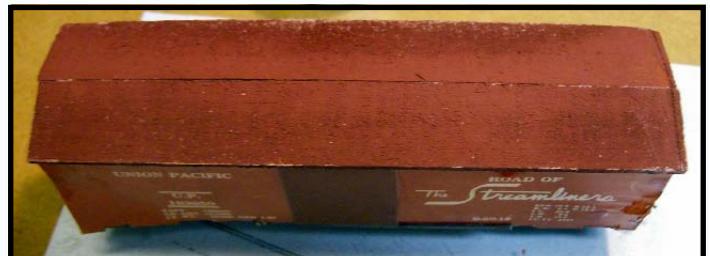
Car weighed 3.6 ounces with added weight.

To avoid the dreaded loose weight after the roof is installed, two screws were added to the "super glue" securing the weight.



There was some bowing of the sides, so more bracing was added.

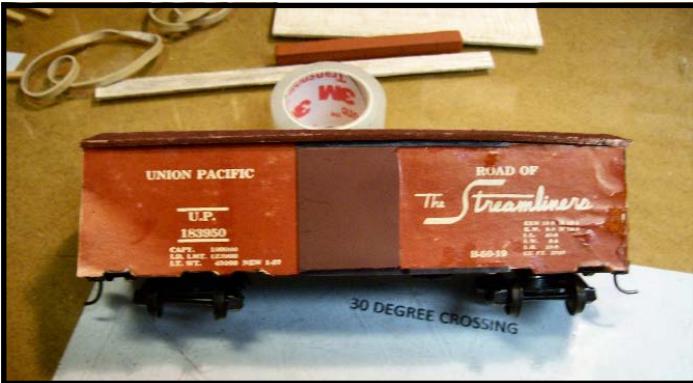
The next step was the roof. I finally found some balsa wood at Hobby Town, and fashioned a rough wood roof. I shot it with some rattle can Tuscan paint, and glued it on the car.



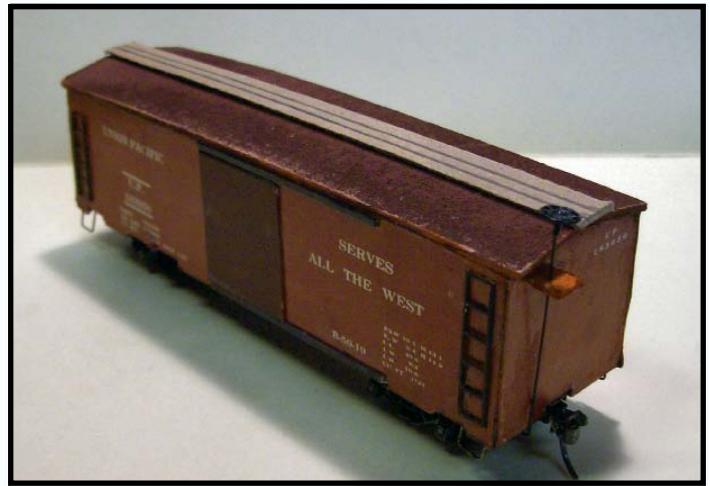
This car represents a car that was rode hard and put away wet! The printed sides keep separating. There are bare spots on the sides.

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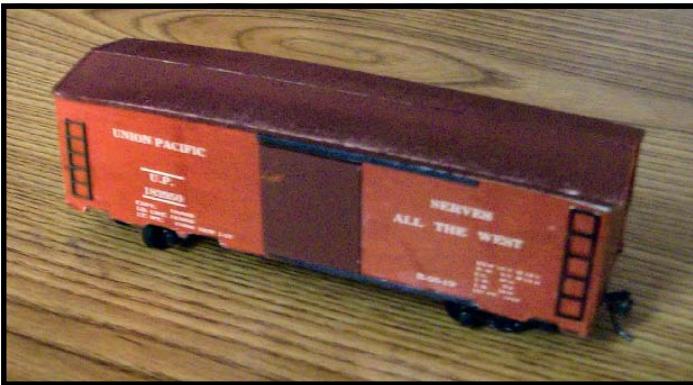
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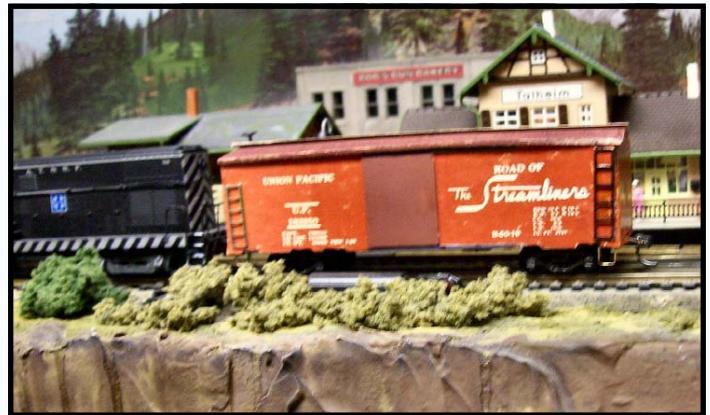
I found a chalk stick (see top) that was close to the car sides. It covered most of the bare spots. Another application of white glue was used on the left corner, and it was weighted down.



Then we shot a coat of Dullcoat over the whole thing. Here it is parked at Talheim.



Completed car, less roof walk, stirrups, and brake wheel.

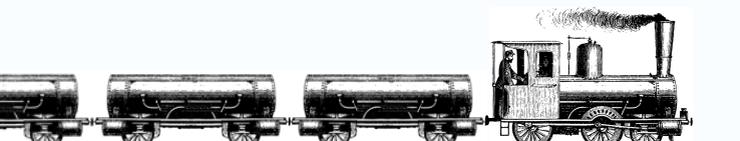
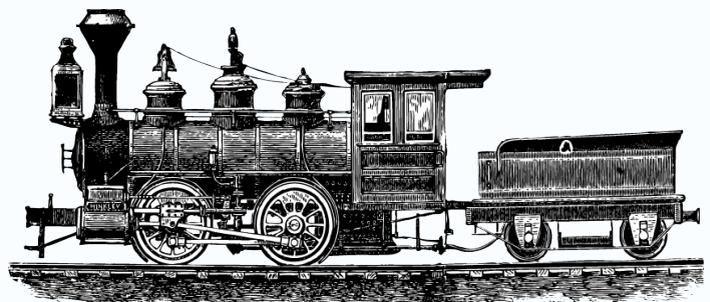
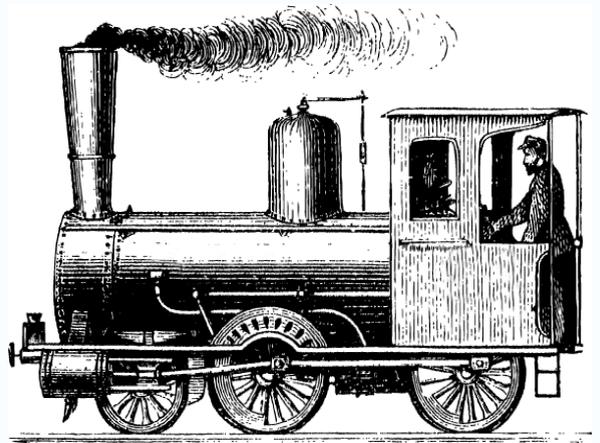


Brass stirrup steps were added. The original balsa roof walk split, so I used cardboard.

Nuff sed!



CHEAP! No so. Just tired of trying to get narrow balsa to stay together. Basswood would probably be a better choice! After the brake wheel and shelf were added, we called it complete.



MURDOCK'S SIDING

By Michael Murdock, Editor of *The Milepost*.

Secret Colorado Narrow Gauge

Last month, my wife and I visited Cimarron, Colorado. I was pleased to find a large display of narrow gauge equipment setup near the Cimarron Visitor Center, in the Curecanti National Recreation Area. I am always amazed how many of these “secret” narrow gauge displays there are around Colorado. I say “secret” because they are not widely known by other model railroaders I talk to.

This display at Cimarron was nice because one could walk up and actually touch the railcars, look inside, and look at things up close — without a barrier that keeps everyone away from the railcars. Being this close to narrow gauge railcars is making me think about installing some HO_{n3} track on a layout.

We went further into the Recreation Area, heading towards the Morrow Point Dam. On the way there, we saw a partial bridge over the Cimarron River — this is a display track for additional narrow gauge railcars. The railcars were absent because they are being refurbished.



Full view of one of two Rio Grande narrow gauge stock railcars.



Inside view of one of the stock railcars.



The display bridge over the Cimarron River.



The visitor's office is inside the Cimarron depot.



The Morrow Point Dam.



Beautiful hiking trails in this area.



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December 16, 2017

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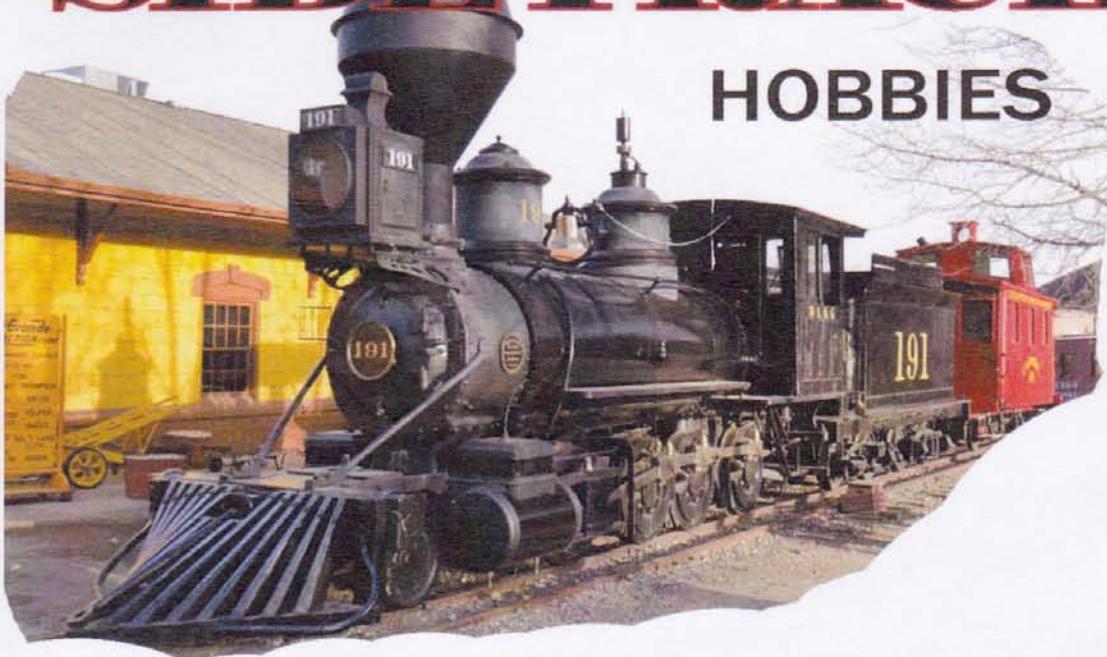
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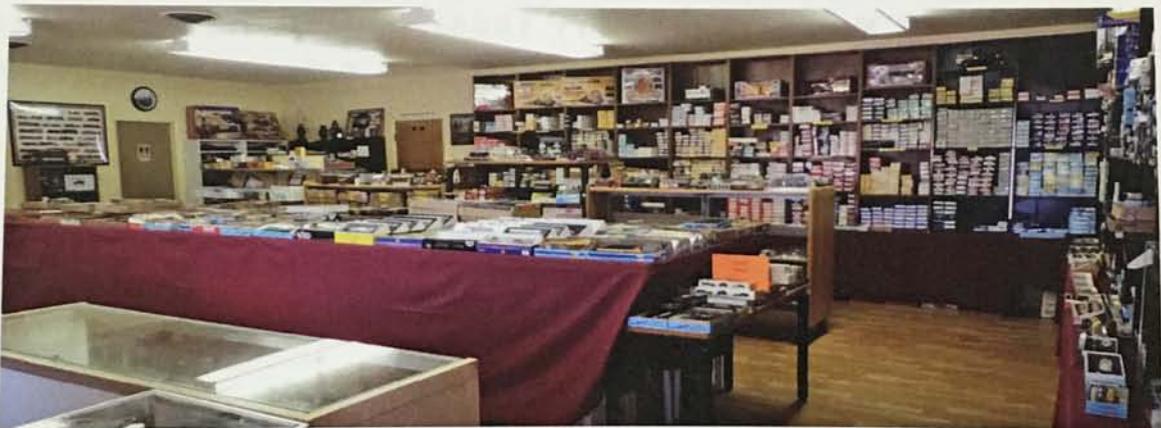
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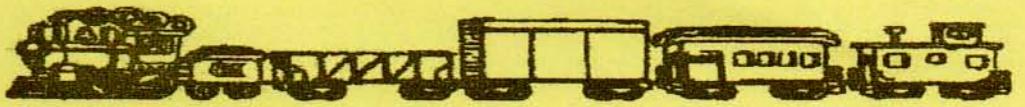
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(On the corner of Pikes Peak Ave. & Institute

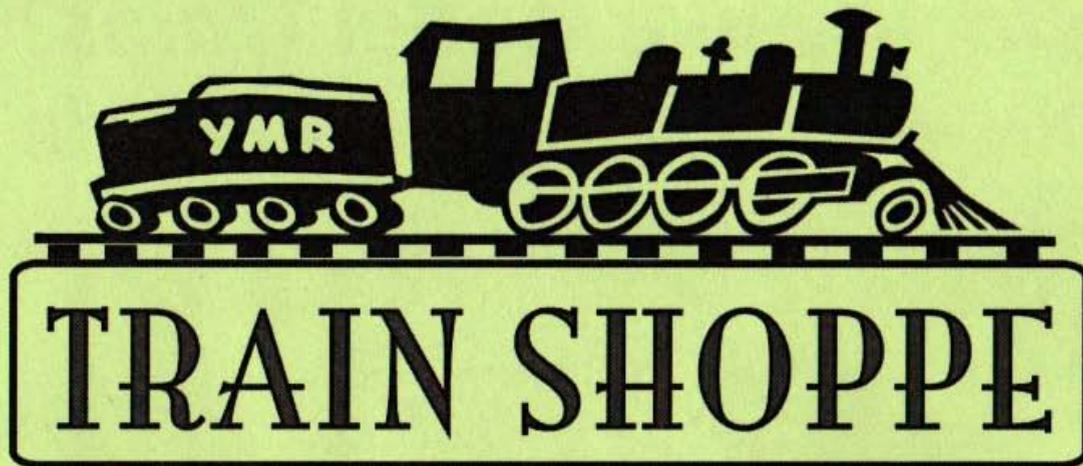
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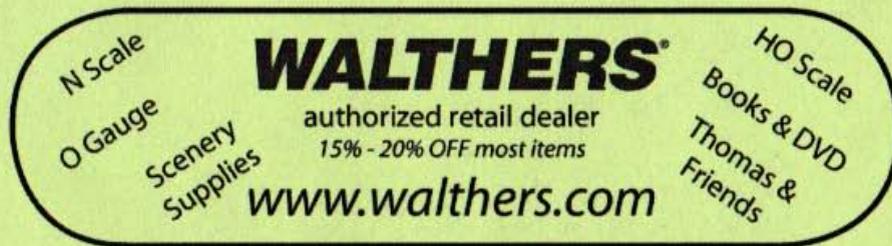
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