



Vol 51 Issue 3

The Rock River Valley Division, RRVD, is a local division of the Midwest Region of the National Model Railroad Association, NMRA. The RRVD serves NMRA members in areas of Green and Rock Counties of Wisconsin and Boone, Jo Davies, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside, Carol, DeKalb and Winnebago counties in Illinois. The RRVD holds monthly meets typically the first Sunday afternoon of each month, September through May, in Rockford at the Midway Museum Center. The meets start at 1:00 PM. The meets consist of various clinics on model railroading along with a variety of model contests as well as door prizes for those in attendance. The RRVD will hold its annual Train Show and Sale March 24 and 25, 2018. **The show is moving to a new location at Belvidere North High School.** The new location provides more than adequate parking, something which our old venue at Jefferson High School in Rockford lacked

The dates for the following months' meetings are: March 11, 2018 regular meeting with clinics & contest, April 8, 2018 annual business meeting at which the election of Division Officers and Directors will be held along with clinics and contest. **The meeting will not be held at Midway Village due to scheduling conflicts but at the VFW Post 9759 2018 Windsor Rd. Loves Park.** The May meeting will be a joint Meet held with The SCWD at Madison Wisconsin.

### Board Members

Superintendent: Bruce Giersch

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### From the Superintendent by Bruce Giersch

I have been the Division Superintendent, I have met a lot of folks that come to our 'Meets' or when I go see their layouts. What surprises me is how many past NMRA members have let their membership lapse. I haven't asked the question and maybe I should – why are 40 to 50 percent of you no longer a member of the NMRA? I am sure there are many different answers to that question, but I am going to start asking that question.

Why? Is it the cost of membership? Don't see eye to eye with some of the officers and directors? Maybe you don't feel you are getting your money's worth. Is it the coffee and donuts that we have at the 'Meets'? The word I get on the street is that many of you are accomplished modelers and train enthusiasts, some even good clinicians. Well whatever the reason, the officers and directors would like to hear from you as to why you are no longer a member of the NMRA. We really like to have you at our monthly 'Meets' but it would be better if you did so as an NMRA member.

As most of you should be aware of by now, our Divisions' Model Train Show and Sale is just around the corner, March 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, at Belvidere North High School.

The gym is slightly larger than the one at Jefferson, so Don Brindle is working on filling it up. At the last couple of 'Meets', the Show & Sale Chairman, Doug Loy, has had the sign-up sheets out on the tables for volunteers to sign in order to cover all of the different needs to make this event a success. So, if you missed a 'Meet', but want to get on the volunteer list, give Doug a call at 815-765-3135.

When you do sign-up, also list what shirt size you wear. This year we will have blue vests for all the volunteers to wear. If you want to purchase one of these vests, I'll have the price and have them available at our March 'Meet'.

While on the subject of our annual Show & Sale, there are two new programs that will be at the show. One will be a new 'Kids' Korner'. While it won't exactly be in a corner, it will be located in a room entered from the doorway at the Northwest corner of the gym. Ken Reinert and his wife Martha have been getting this organized by creating crafts and having activities to keep those little wanabee model train enthusiasts busy. Martha would like to contact the spouses to get their help in running this program. Just give Ken & Martha the phone number at which your spouse can be reached, and Martha will give them a call. The second new program will be our Pilgrimage Tours. This program started in Atlanta, Georgia by the local Division there. At our show, individuals or families can sign-up to visit some of the NMRA members' layouts. It will be a chance for 'civilians' to see what layouts look like at home and be able to ask questions. See our Pilgrimage Tour Chairman's article for more information and how you can participate in this program, if you are an NMRA member.

The RRVD will soon be having elections for Division Officers and Directors at our April Business Meeting and 'Meet'. This will be on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, at the VFW 5979 Hall, on Windsor Road, just east of Alpine. If you are interested in running for one of the offices or for one of the three Director positions, please contact Gary Loiselle at 815-963-8326. He can also answer any questions as to what is required of that office. Doors open at 12:30, as usual, but we will start with the Business

Meeting, which will be open to NMRA members only. The 'Meet' will start right after the Annual Business Meeting is done, about 1:20. The last thing I want to remind everyone about is the upcoming Midwest Regional Convention being held this year up in Madison and hosted by the SCWD, on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>. We showed their video for the convention at the past 'Meet' and looks like there are many great looking layouts to be seen and 14 clinics scheduled to date. Go to NMRA-SWCD.org to register. Early registration ends March 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **Committee Chairpersons**

Membership Chairman – Clarence Welte  
Monthly Event Contests Chairperson – Ken Marshall (new)  
Layout Tour Chairperson – Burt Morris (new)  
Clinics Chairperson – Ron Johnson (new)  
Publicity Chairman – Joe Whinnery  
Trainfest Chairman – Ray Dyreson  
Annual Train Show & Sale Chairman – Doug Loy

## **Committee Members**

Registrar – Don Brindle  
Electrician – Dick Caudle  
Publicity – Ray Dyreson (asked Larry Ciche to help)  
Building Floor Layout – Tom McCabe  
Elections & Nominating Chairman – Gary Loiselle  
Midway Village Train Show Chairman – Tom Maladecki  
Midway Village Trick or Treat Event Chairman – Dick Caudle  
Christmas Layouts in Stores Chairman – James Devoe  
Flimzie Editor – Ken Reinert  
Advancement Chair – Gary Loiselle

## Members holding other division responsibilities

RRVD Archivist – Don Brindle  
Audio / Visual Technicians – Ken Marshall (new)  
Company Store – James DeVoe  
Facebook – James DeVoe & Ken Marshall  
BOD Meeting Site Coordination – Charlie Wickhorst  
Auditor – Tom Maladecki  
Library – Ron Johnson  
Website / Internet & Flimzie Mailing List – Mike Schmidt  
Photography and Publicity – Joe Whinnery

## Upcoming Contest Schedule

The following is a list of contests for the 2017 – 2018 season to give everyone a head start to generate a contest winner. First prize includes a \$25 gift certificate to an area hobby shop. (New this year.)

**March 11th:** Servicing facilities, engines, or RIP track. Could even be a car. Two per entrant limit.

**April 8th:** Funny car or oddball car. Example a car being used for something not originally designed as. Use your imagination. Two per entrant.

**May:** Meet to be held in Madison. We will update you about their contests.

## Upcoming Clinics

By Ron Johnson

March 11<sup>th</sup> – Clinic by Ken Reinert “Tricks I learned While Model Railroading” and clinic by Paul Agnew concerning “Estate Planning for Your Model Railroad Equipment When It’s All Over.”

## Facebook and You Tube

By Ken Marshall

Facebook, Twitter and YouTube accounts for the RRVD have been set up.

The Twitter and Facebook accounts are intended to help us reach new audiences, drive more traffic to our website, bring more people to our events and ultimately bring more people into the hobby and members to the NMRA.

The YouTube account will allow us to create and share videos of member layouts, member interviews, RRVD events, etc. with anyone searching for

model train videos. This is yet another method of drawing interest to our hobby and the RRVD.

You can get to these accounts by going to our Web page and clicking on their icons. If you are a member of Facebook or Twitter you can go directly to the Rock River Valley Division NMRA to view the latest posting.

## New NMRA Membership Benefits

The RRVD has added a new benefit for NMRA members allowing them to place a small advertisement in the electronic edition of the “Flimzie.” A current NMRA member or family member of a deceased NMRA member can place a 20 - word advertisement in the “Flimzie” to sell or trade model railroad items or railroad artifacts. Non-railroad items cannot be advertised; for example, household appliances or furniture. The advertisement should contain a telephone number and/or e-mail address which will not be counted towards the 20 - word limit. The individual placing the advertisement must contact the “Flimzie” editor by e-mail to place the advertisement. The current editor is Ken Reinert at [sewtrain@foxvalley.net](mailto:sewtrain@foxvalley.net) . The advertisement will run for one issue. There are four issues of the “Flimzie” per year. Additional advertisements will require the “Flimzie” editor to be contacted each time an advertisement is to be placed.

The advertisements will be placed in the “Flimzie” under the heading “**SALE OR SWAP.**”

A second benefit is a Discount Program at local hobby shops who are supporting the NMRA 10% discount program to all members on any item not already on sale. To take part of the program, bring your NMRA membership card to the store when you make your purchases.

Hobby Town USA  
5782 N. Alpine  
Rockford, Illinois 61114  
See John  
Midwest Rail Junction  
1676 N. Alpine  
High Crest Shopping Centre  
Rockford, Illinois 61107  
See Scott

## **Pilgrimage Tours**

By Ron Johnson

People in our community will be able to see layouts created by members of the Rock River Valley Division and experience model railroading right before their eyes. They won't have to wait until a Train Show to see, sometimes, a massive layout. They will be able to hear directly from the owners of the layouts and answer questions about how they might become a model railroader. The layouts they see will be within the confines of a home, perhaps not unlike their own home.

RRVD Pilgrimage Tours — May 19th, 20th, 26th and 27th from 10:00am to 5pm.

Here's how it works:

1. NMRA members of our Division may conduct a Pilgrimage Tour for their layout in their home. Members may open the Tour for all four days or just part of one day and any schedule in-between.
2. People, probably families, but sometimes individuals, will be able to sign up at the Train Show. They may sign up for more than one layout, but for only one hour. They must sign up ahead of time. The doors of your home are not open for walk-ins.
3. People signing up to see a layout must agree to the following:

I (or we) understand the model railroad train layout we are visiting is inside a private home. We will stay within the boundaries of the location of the layout and not touch the models, scenery or railroad engines or cars on the layout. If there are children attending with us, we will monitor the children to make sure they obey these simple rules. Further, we understand that our visit should be no longer than one hour unless the layout owner or host especially says I (or we) may stay longer. Photography is VERY permissible.

4. You may sign up to hold a Pilgrimage Tour. You must be an NMRA member. (NMRA membership is required for insurance reasons.)

Call Ron Johnson, 815 633-3945 and let him know you're interested or if you have any questions. Sign up for at least one half of one day. **IMPORTANT:** Your layout does not have to be completed with scenery. Or, maybe you're working on a new part of your layout. People are interested in seeing every aspect of your layout - how it is built or being built would be of high interest to everyone. ALL scales are welcome.

## **2018 Show & Sale**

By Doug Loy

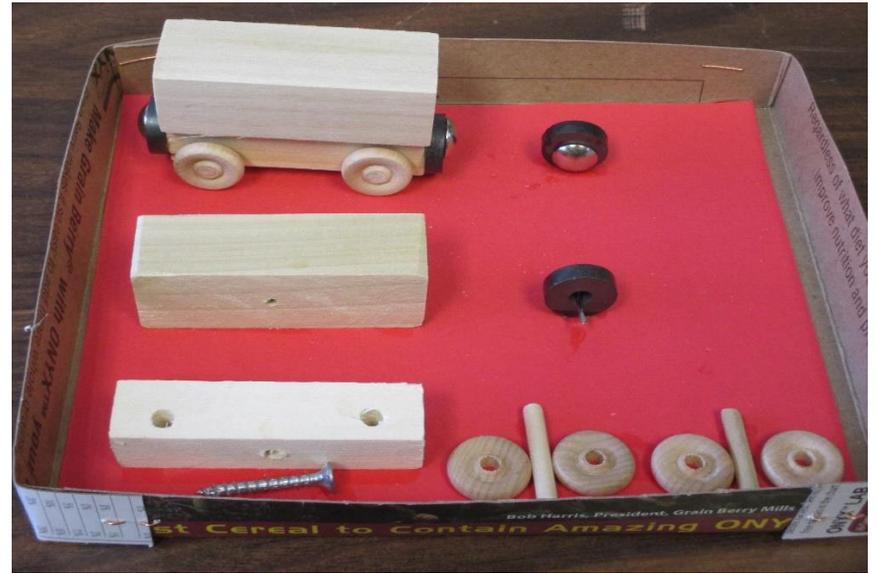
The 2018 Show & Sale is coming, date March 24 thru 26 at Belvidere North High School. Remember that this is a new location. Volunteer signup sheets have been out at the January and February meets. You will have one more chance to sign up at the March meet. With signing up to work you get a free pass to the show, so there are advantages to helping out! There is a new attraction this year we are calling The Kids' Corner. [See more in following article. -ED.] Young model railroaders will get a chance to build their own Thomas style box car, with parents help of course.

So remember to come Friday March 24 to help out and see everyone on Saturday and Sunday at the Belvidere North High School, on 9393 Beloit Road just North of Belvidere.

## **"Kids' Korner"**

By Ken Reinert

As Bruce and Doug have mentioned in previous articles this year's show and sale will feature a "Kids' Korner." After observing how kids loved interacting activities at the Police Station, Midway Village and Nicholas Conservatory train shows, the Division has decided to include activities for children at our Show & Sale. Each child will be given a special ticket to enter the "Kids' Korner" in addition to a door prize ticket. It should be noted that the child must be accompanied by an adult. See ticket below.



There will be five Thomas Train style train sets to play with, two large Lego style block activity tables, train pictures to color, train locomotive paste up images, railroad crossword and word search puzzles and a wood craft table where the kids can assemble their own style Thomas the Train style box car. James DeVoe will have his hands-on layout there for the kids to help run. See the wood craft car pictures below.

## District one Police station train show.

By James Devoe

There was short time to put this show together. Thanks to everyone including the police and members of the RRVD of the NMRA. Everything went well. We turned the police station community room into a mini train show. Using Facebook and posters the word got out. This show was set up not only for model train lovers, but for something for the families to enjoy on a Saturday. The goal was for 180 to 200 people. We reached that goal and then some with over 210 people. The police were there to serve snacks as well as pizza for lunch. We had three Thomas the train tables as well as a big Lego table. The event started at 9 a.m. and went to 4 p.m. There were a couple of craft tables, and two NMRA members had hands on tables for the kids to do things with trains. Rockford Route HO layout was there and an O Scale layout. There was a lot of info provided by Clarence Welte. See setting up area below.



CNN exhibit below.





Rockford Route



Police officer helping



Large Lego Block Table



James with children and police officer

## Nicholas Conservatory Exhibit

By Ken Reinert

This year the RRVD was asked by the Rockford Park District to partner with them to support their exhibit of a new garden railroad in the conservatory. The RRVD displayed the Rockford Route and Clarence Welte set up a display of historic Rockford electrical railways and mainline railroads. He also displayed items explaining model railroading practices to conservatory visitors. RRVD members were there daily during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Shown below are pictures from the event.



"G" gauge in the conservatory. The garden railroad made use of all-natural materials. In the far background can be seen a trestle made of long natural twigs.



Interurban crossing over a bridge made of all-natural twigs



Ken Mosny and Gary Loiselle discuss world problems while James Devoe looks on.



Visitor checks out winter scene on Rockford Route



Night time group looking at the detail of Rockford Route



Small boy gets street level view.



Clarence Welte's railroading display. Children playing with Thomas layout in the background.

## Katie's Cup Train show

By James Devoe

This was the second year for Katie's cup. The RRVD went all out to make this a good show. We had the O Scale layout, and Thomas the train table, with many things for the people to look at that showed what it was like around the 1940's and 50's on seventh street. Again, using Facebook and flyers as means of getting the word out, we had a lot of people come. For some it was going to be the first stop on their way to see the Nicholas Conservatory with the Garden train. The Rockford Route was going to be there after the 26<sup>th</sup> of December, Katie's cup was on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December. Maybe next year we can be at the Conservatory a little bit earlier. The RRVD was engaged in 6 shows in 2017. I think this was the most we have ever done in one year. A big thank you for the members who helped to make 2017 a year of trains.

Clarence Welte with his old Rockford Exhibit



James' layout above and below





Girl running James' trains.



Little girl playing with Thomas the train table.



Clarence explaining his historical exhibit.

## Detailing an MDC Boxcar

by Ken Mosny

By now, most of you know that I am a period modeler of the 1903 era. It is said those were the days of wooden trains and iron men. The MDC Roundhouse "Old Timer" series car basically represents a car of about the 1895 to 1905 time period just before the coming of steel. It has the classic wooden frame, arch-bar trucks and truss-rods. As such, it is a good boxcar for my era to fill out the fleet. As the typical shake-in-a box kit, good detail and variety are somewhat lacking. This article is not an effort to make a contest model from one. Even John Allen, who was a pioneer in modeling, recognized he simply couldn't put the effort to make every model on his railroad contest level. This article will show how I have added various details to improve the appearance and add variety to this staple MDC car. You are, of course, free to pick and choose which of these details you apply, but I feel the best improvement to the appearance of the car is to remove the door guides, plug the holes and attach the MDC door to the side. This is very easy to do as shown in

**photo 14.** Even if you do not model the wood car era, I think you will get some ideas here that can be applied to any era car.

The MDC old timer plastic boxcar has three different tooling variations that I am aware of. The first two are shown in **photo 1.**



The one on the right is the earliest which I will call type 1. Building this one requires the modeler to apply most of the details himself. Wire grabs are inserted in holes molded in the body and the brake shaft details are applied as shown in this end view. All this detail requires touch up painting. The next tooling variation, type 2, has practically all of the detail molded in as can be seen in the end view on the left making assembly much easier with no touch up painting required. Type 2 is very common. It has grabs and ladders in all of the post 1910 safety appliances, so it is somewhat too modern for me. Curiously though, type 2 has link and pin end buffers which were usually removed when all cars were finally converted to Janney couplers by about 1900. Thus, it has a mix of pre1900 and post 1910 detail. The last tooling, type 3, has a multi piece body with all the post 1910 grabs and details molded on but sans buffers. I prefer the type 1 as I like the appearance of the applied details and I don't have to tolerate unwanted post 1910 detail. Type 1 has not been made for 50+ years so I buy one at train shows if I (rarely) see it.

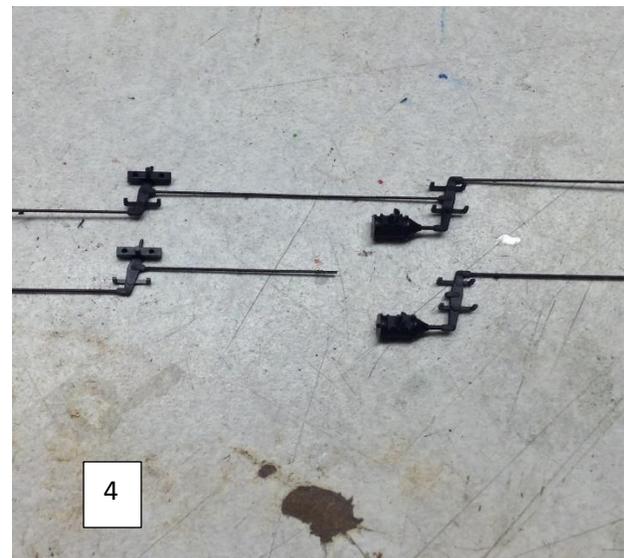
Both the type 1 and type 2 cars have sliding doors with huge guides. See **photo 2.** Type 3 has molded on doors which look much better but are hard to change. Any kind of door can be attached to the side of a type 1, 2, or 3 reefer since it is easy to scrape off the reefer door detail and attach a boxcar door. All types have only the basic underframe brake cylinder. The molded-on brake shaft, brake platform and roof walk appearance are marginal on all types. This article describes easy ways to improve these areas.



2



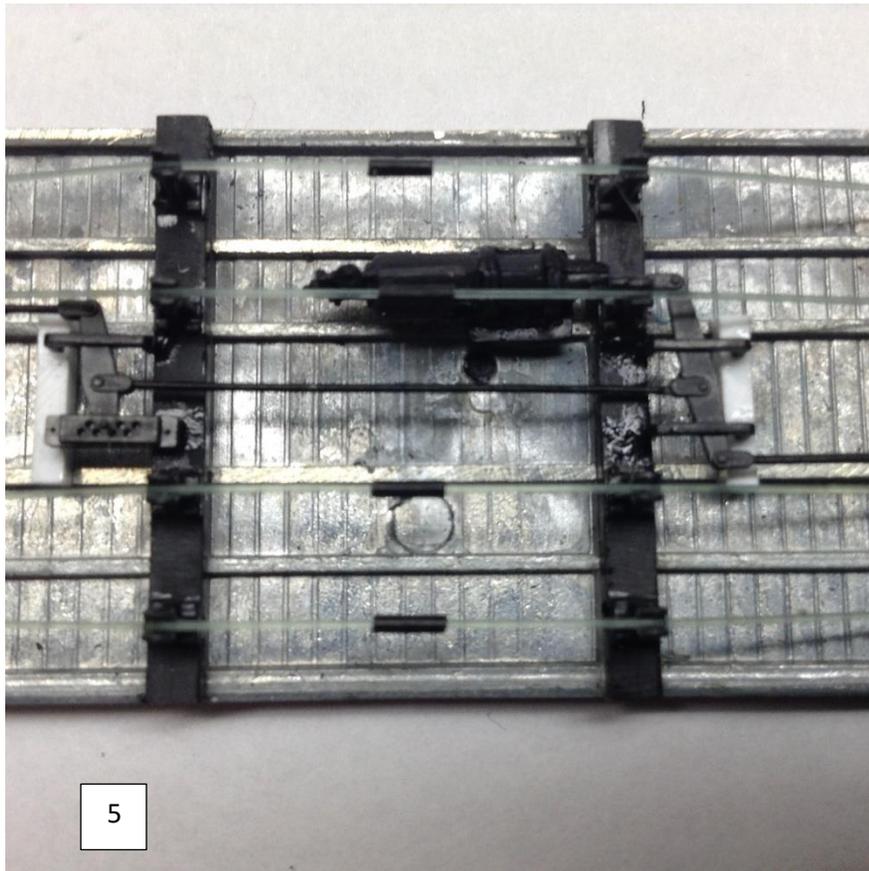
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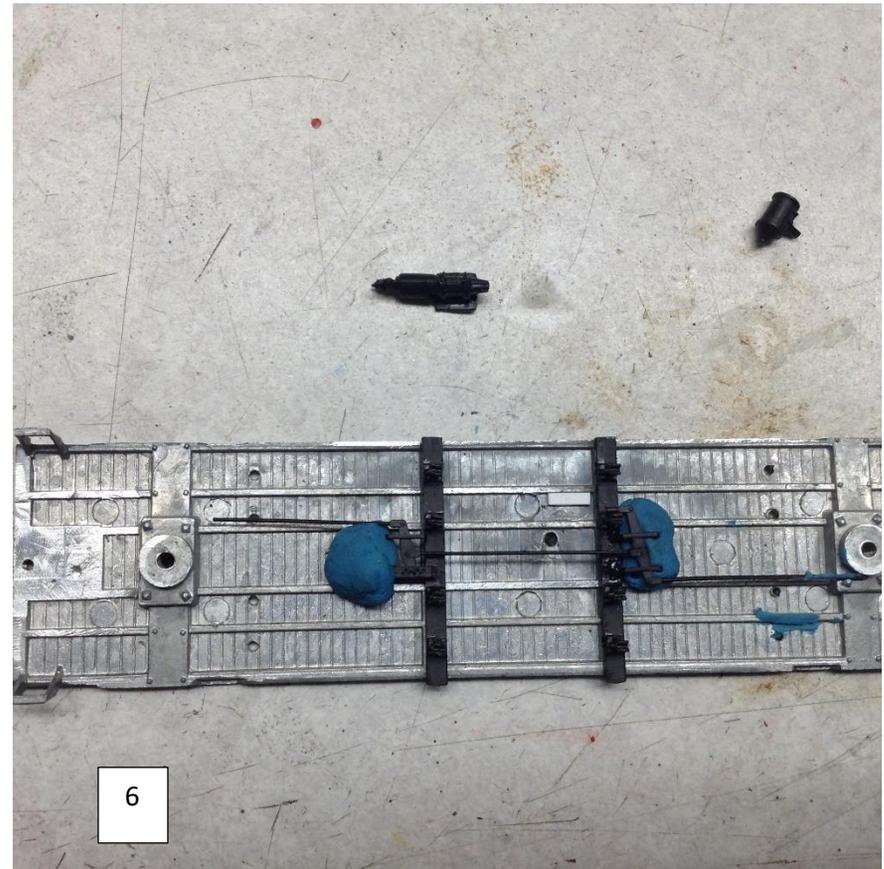
Let's start with brake rigging. Accurail makes the nifty underframe brake rigging detail set shown for a 50 ft car for the bargain price of \$1.00. The only thing is that it has a modern slack adjuster at the pivot lever end, but you can't see that from normal viewing angles. **Photo 3** shows the Accurail set with the MDC queen-posts, MDC trucks and Kadee 711 couplers I use. This die cast underframe has the cast in coupler pockets already milled off and tapped to accept the Kadee 711. If you use a Kadee 5 type, you can use the cast in NMRA compatible pocket already there. The Accurail rigging is for a 50 ft car so it will have to be shortened by cutting. See **photo 4**.

Also cut off the modern AB cylinder. Arrange the rigging and cylinder as shown in **photo 5**.



Since the rigging is centered on the car, the brake cylinder is moved off center supported on a styrene pad. The brake hangers are too short, so two 0.060" square styrene blocks are used as spacers to support them. Although the Accurail rigging is Delrin, CA seems to hold it sufficiently.

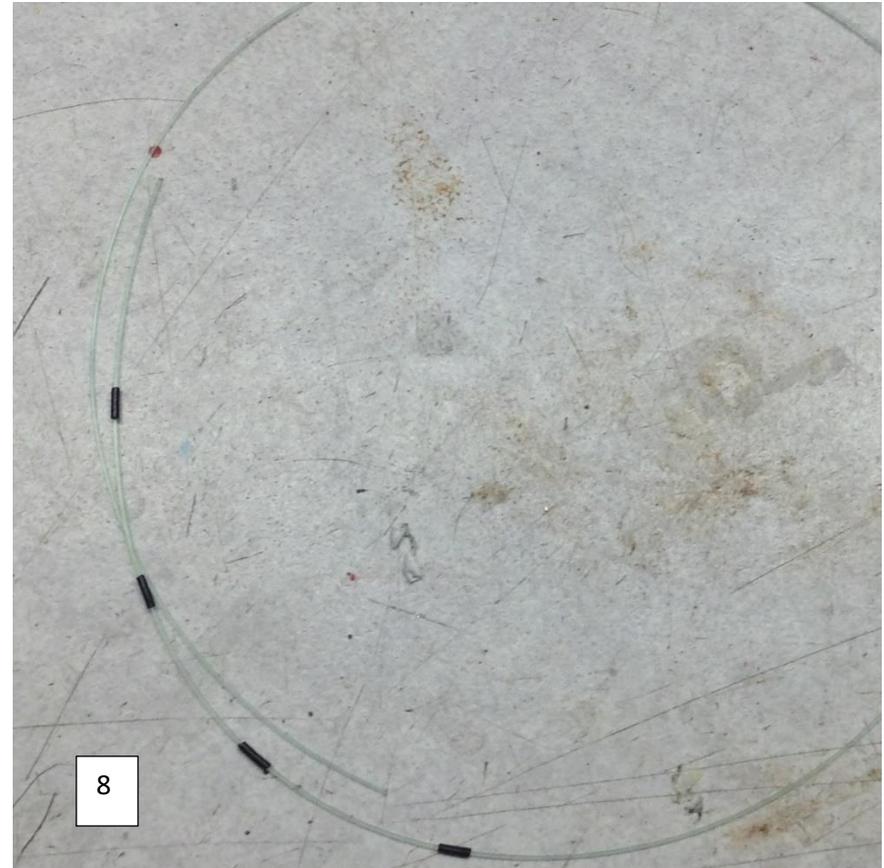
Modeling clay can be used as a temporary support as in **photo 6**. Just make sure to wash the oily clay residue off with detergent and very hot water.



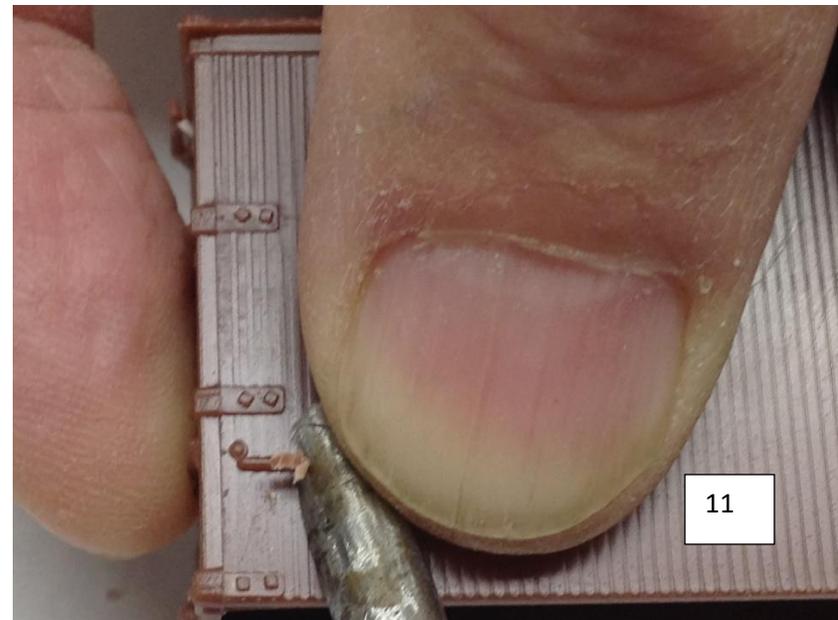
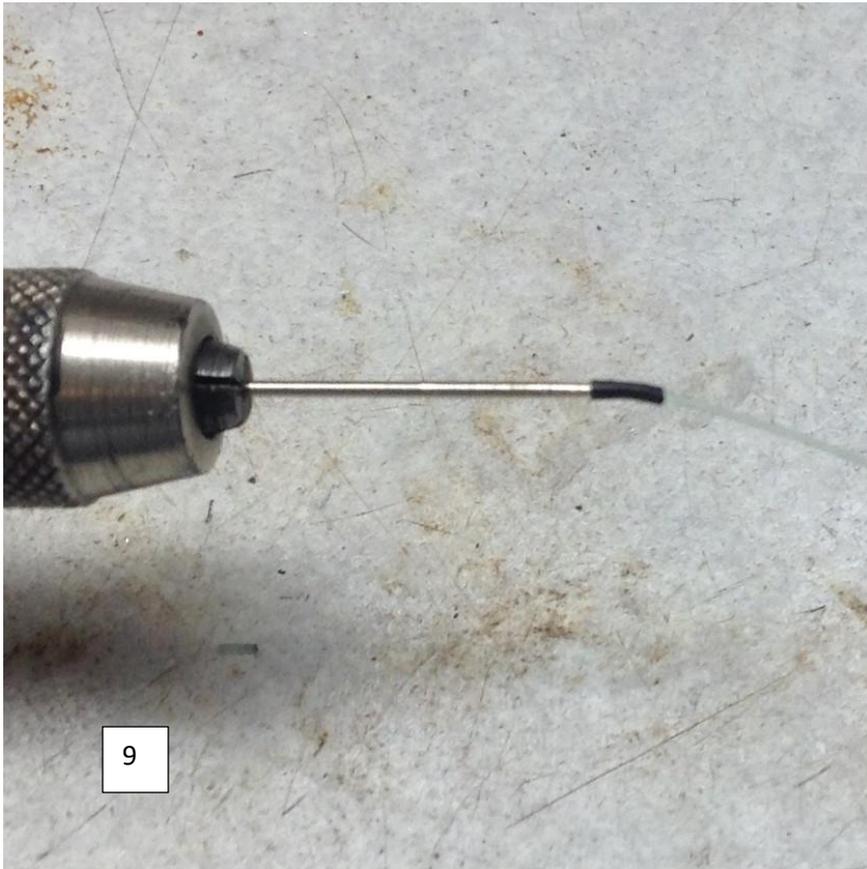
Simple turnbuckles can be made from the insulation of fine wire. See **photo 7**.



**Photo 8** shows #28 wire insulation slipped onto the 0.015" monofilament fishline truss-rods.

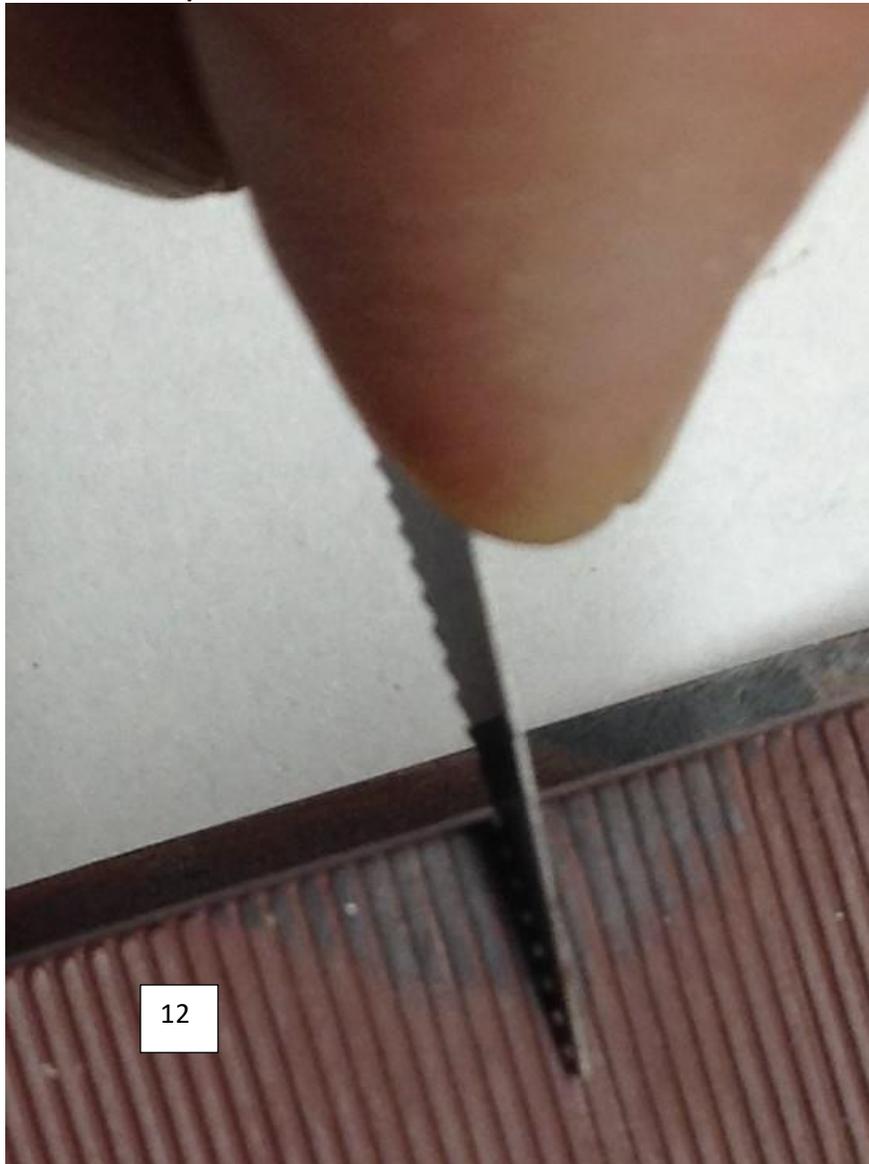


In **photo 9**, I am using a sewing needle to slightly expand the insulation making it easier to slip onto the fishline. Molded turnbuckles can also be used, but, from a typical viewing distance, they look like lumps anyway. Once the turnbuckles are strung, the line is laced through the holes, over the needle beams and the knot secured with a drop of CA. After knotting, stretch the line over the queen-posts to take up the slack.



Now for the sides. If you want to shave off any of the grabs, **photo 10** shows the tool I use. This is a lot of work if you remove ladders and brake staff. The effort approaches the work of just scratch building the basic box. The tool is a drill bit ground off at an angle. The edges of the tool are honed sharp. The tool is much stiffer than a knife blade giving good control by pushing it with your thumb as shown in **photo 11**.

The siding scores are restored with a micro saw blade. The sides of the blade have been honed flat to remove the set of teeth making the blade narrower. See **photo 12**.



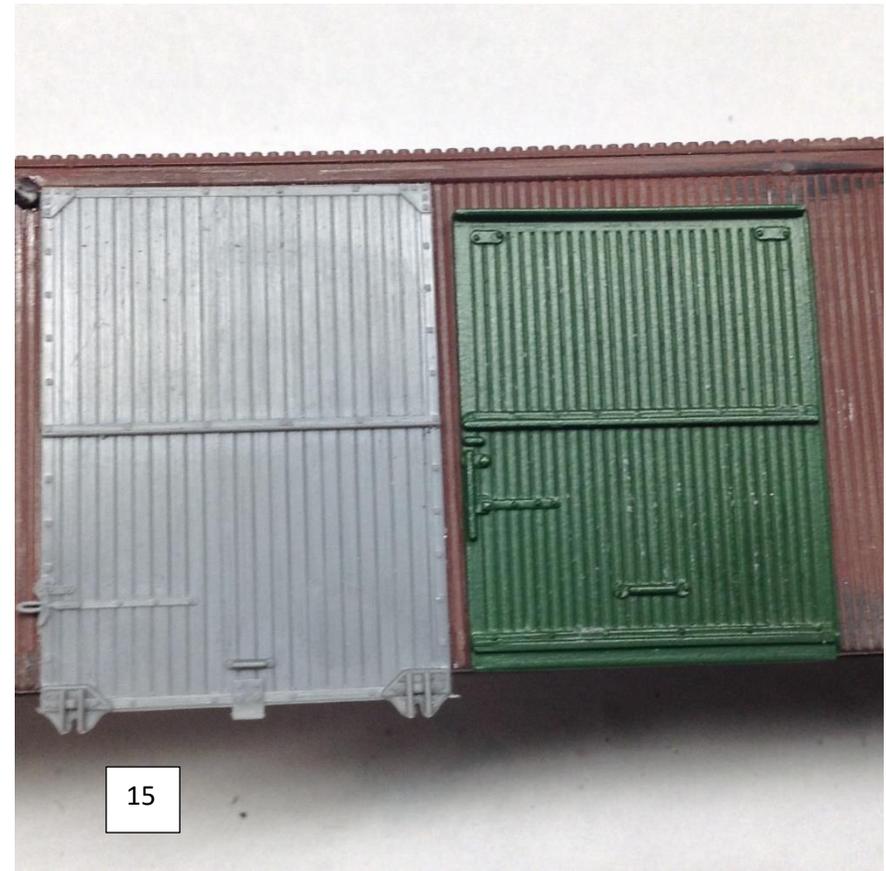
Plug the door guide holes with styrene rod as in **photo 13**. I just use the nibs off the old guides because they fit well. The holes are an odd size for Evergreen rod. Scrape flush and restore the siding grooves on the lower plugged holes with the micro saw blade. The upper holes will be covered by the door guide, so I don't bother rescoring the siding for them. Note that if you start with an MDC reefer, you don't have these holes to fill.



**Photo 14** shows three door types I have done previously. The top car is a scratch-built door with bits of Tichy detail on a type 3 reefer. The type 2 FW & D car just has the MDC door with a strip of styrene for the upper guide cover board and spikes for the lower guide and stop. This is the easiest door alteration to do. The MV type 2 car at the bottom of **photo 14** has an optional resin door left over from a Westerfield kit.



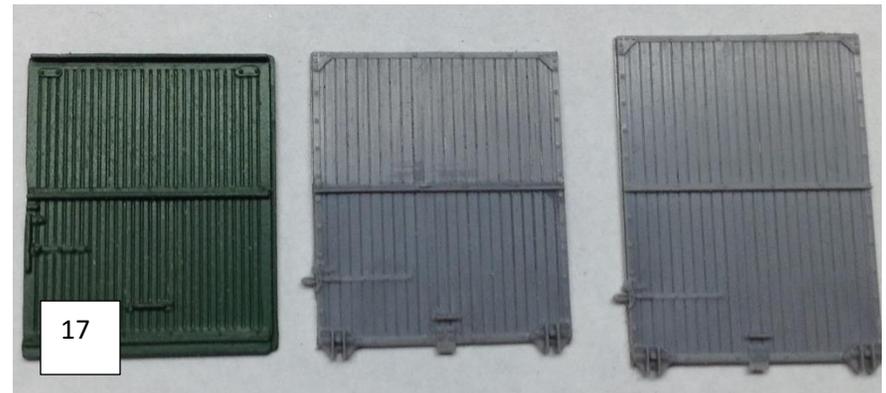
Since this project car was missing one door when I bought it, I will use the Tichy doors shown next to an MDC door in **photo 15** for this project.



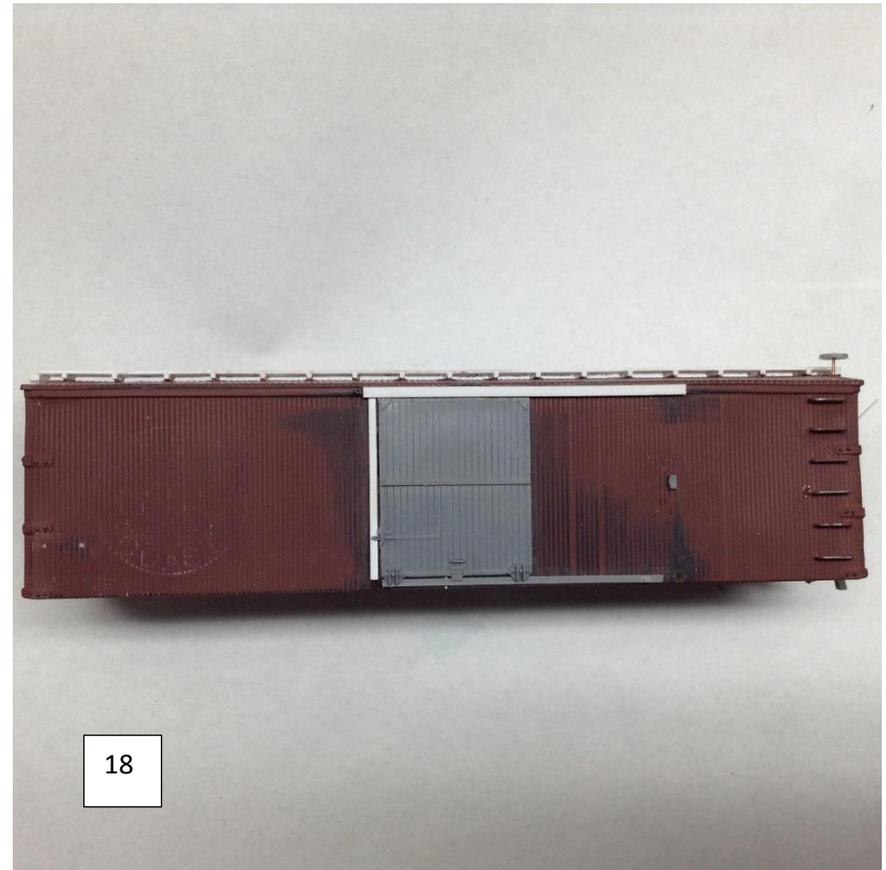
The Tichy door is one foot too high so it will have to be sectioned by removing six inches above and below the center rib as in **photo 16**. Cut the door just below the center rib, remove six inches from the lower panel, file the edges square with a slight back angle so the faces meet, and cement the pieces back together with MEK. When the MEK is dry, repeat for the top half.



16



17



18

Cement a piece of styrene on the back for reinforcement **Photo 17** shows the MDC door, sectioned Tichy door and original Tichy door. Cement the door to the car centered on the opening using the Tichy lower door track. A scale 2 x 4 styrene strip is used for the side door stop. The supplied Tichy upper track did not fit well so I used a 0.030" x 0.060" strip for an upper track cover. The finished door is in **photo 18**.

This project type 1 car needs all the end detail shown in **photo 19** added. Scrape off the molded roof walk braces as in **photo 20**. The brake platform is made from scale 2 x 10 styrene and 0.010" x 0.020" styrene braces. I added the Tichy brake wheel, Tichy brake shaft bracket, 0.020" wire shaft and a Kadee air hose bracket. The roof braces are also 0.010" x 0.020" styrene. A bend is made in the brace strip and the flat is stuck to the car with a dab of the "light oil" cement described below for the roof walk. The other end is adhered with a dab of the same cement forming a fillet behind the brace where it joins the platform or roof walk. Trim the ends flush after the cement dries.



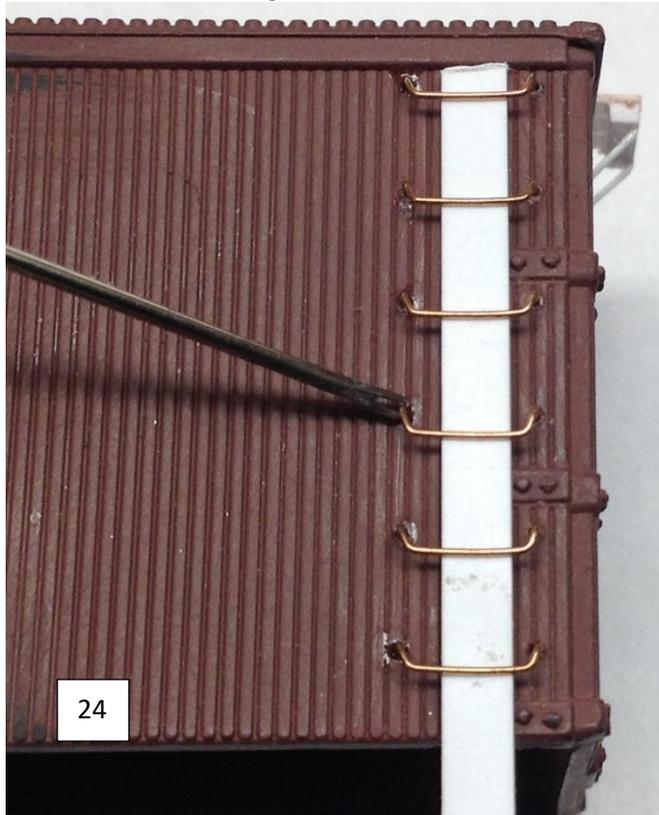
If you wish to improve a type 2 or 3 car you will have to scrape off the molded-on detail which is lot of work. I only did this once. Since the type 2 and 3 cars have a small platform and no braces, a bit of styrene will make the platform larger and you can add braces as in **photo 21**. Type 2 cars also lack truss rod nuts so add four NBW castings in line with the truss rods. To remove the buffers on type 2 cars, you can scrape them off and rescore the siding or cover the scraped off buffers with an 8 x 8 end block which some cars had. See this also in **photo 21**.



On to detailing the roof. **Photo 22** shows styrene rod plugs cemented into the holes in the roof. The roof has molded roof walk supports but they are too short. Stick three strips of scale 2 x 6 styrene on a surface with double stick tape. Carefully space 0.030" x 0.030" styrene supports the same spacing as the molded supports on the roof. The spacing repeats at 11-foot intervals at least every so often one will be right. I use dividers to gauge in between as shown in **photo 23**.

Do not try to use MEK or other liquid cement. It will just wick all over and make a mess. I use glue made from clear styrene scrap dissolved in toluene to a light oil consistency. You could also take some tube styrene cement and thin it with liquid cement or MEK. Trim the length to about 10" end overhang and the supports flush on the sides.

I replaced the oversize MDC wire grabs on the side of the car with Tichy 16" drop grabs. Use a strip of 0.040" styrene to evenly space the grabs from the car side. Just make sure the spacer strip is narrow enough to stay away while you apply CA to one side, so you don't glue the spacer strip to the car. **Photo 24** shows using water thin CA applied with a forked tool made from a sewing needle.



Last item to add are the stirrup steps to the side of the car. The diecast frame has steps molded in but they are bulky. The steps from the Accurail parts are attached inside the car body with a drop of CA. See **photo 25**. Notches were filed into the frame to clear the steps.



Photo 26 shows the car with a first coat of paint.



## Contest Entries

By Ken Reinert

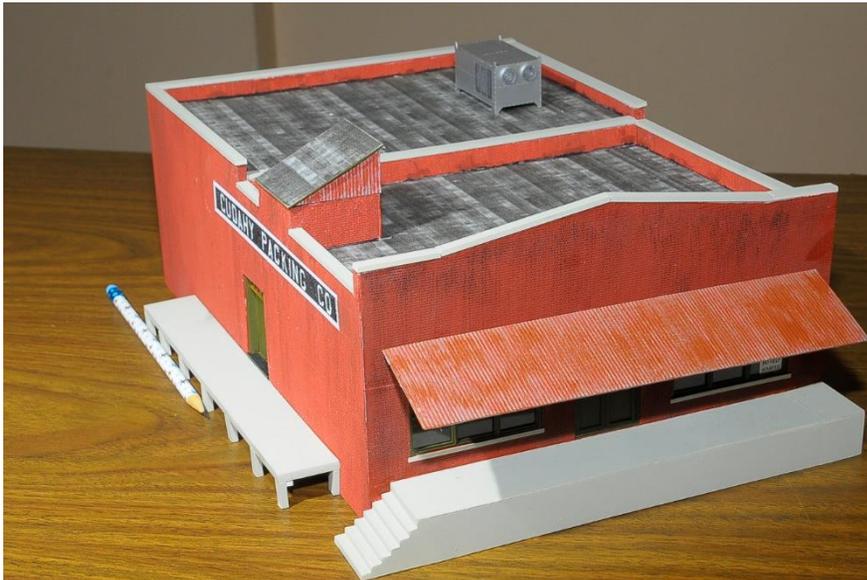
At every meet we hold a contest covering a model railroading activity. The members attending the meet vote on the entry which most reflects the skills to achieve the contest goals. The winner of the contest receives a \$25 gift certificate to a local hobby shop. The January contest included both on-line and off-line structures. Shown below are pictures of the entries. The winner for an on-line structure was Jim McQueeney and he also won for off-line structure.



Jim McQueeney's Patty's Texaco prize winner.



Dick Caudle's WM&A elevator complex



John Mann's Cudahy meat Market Street Rockford



Bruce Giersch's Upper Beaver Station



Jim McQueeney's Hank's Hardware first prize winner on-line structures



Charlie Wickhorst & Steve Young's station.



Ken Reinert's Zola's "PaintZ & Zupplies"

The February contest was for open loads and other types of freight cars



Charlie Wickhorst's transformer on depressed center flatcar first prize



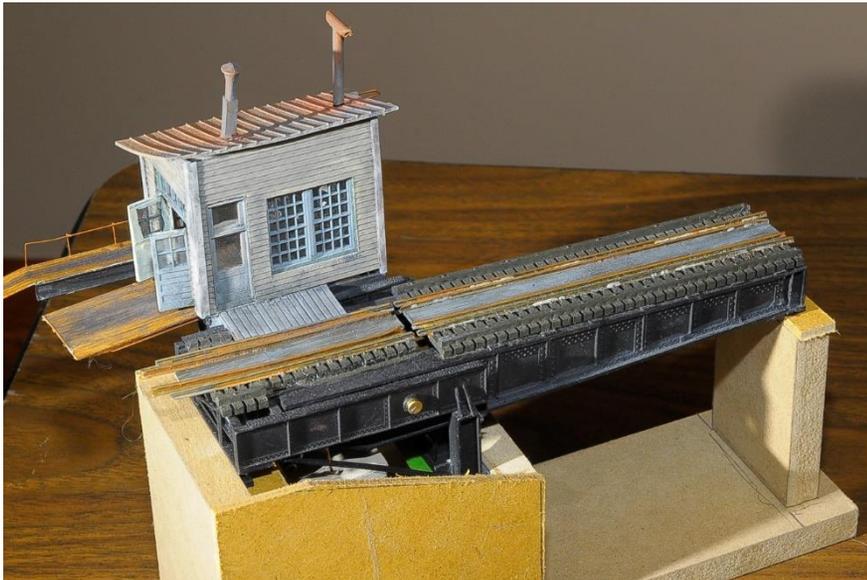
Gary Loiselle tire load



Ken Mosny's circus train flat car



Ken Reinert's Anchor gear gondola load.



Dick Caudle's Bascule Bridge



### Layout tours after Meets

After the RRVD meets at Midway Village which feature how-to clinics, contest judging and door prize drawings those attending are invited to visit two home layouts of fellow members. Below are photographs from visits to the modular layout of the State Line "S" Gaugers and Dennis Blunt's home layout.



Layout features American Flyer operating accessories with push buttons to keep children busy and interested, always a show favorite.



Did you ever see such a surly group of model railroaders?



Ron Johnson and Ken Mosny playing with an automatic log loader.



Dennis Blunt surveying his large railroad yard.

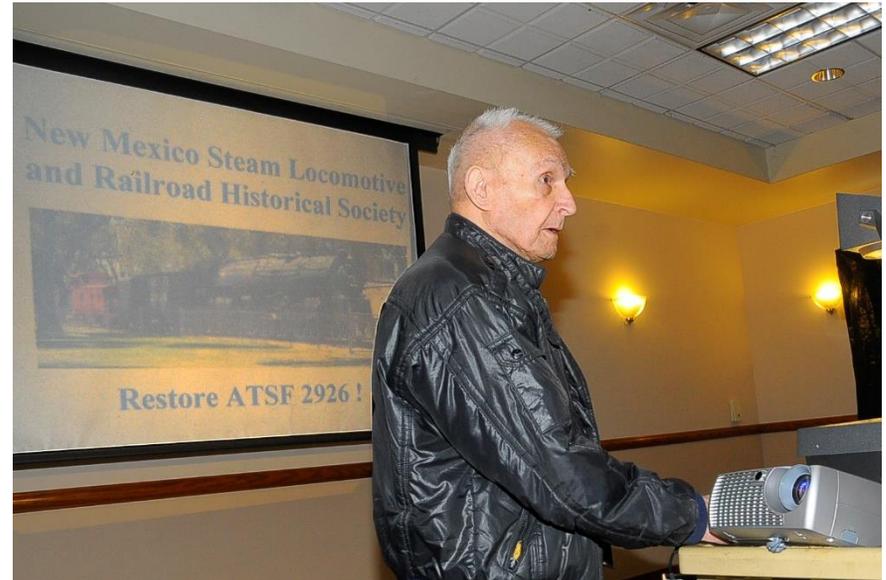


River and power house dam scene



Street level view of town on railroad

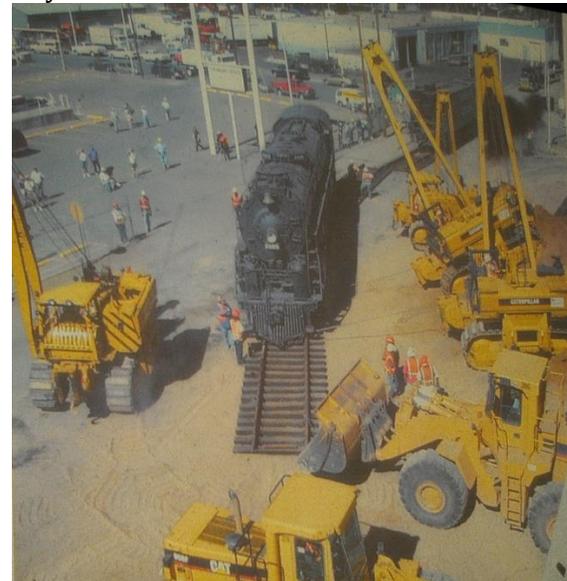




Ed Barkova gave a presentation on how the New Mexico Steam Historical Society moved a million-pound ATSF #2926 4-8-4 from a park to a facility for restoration.

## Clinics

At the RRVD meets there are a variety of clinics which highlight model railroading skills or prototype railroading. The aim of the clinics is to enhance one's modeling skills or present prototype information which can be transferred to one's model railroad. The following are photos taken of clinicians and their subject matter.



They used panel tracks, cranes and front end loader to push the loco.



Charlie Wickhorst gave a mini-clinic on how to make simulated steel rolls during February's round robin clinic session.



Gary used toys and windshield wiper parts for economical loads.



Gary Loisel gave a mini-clinic on how to model open loads on the "cheap".



Mike McBride explains how he built the benchwork for his Iron Cross Railroad and the things he did to speed up construction.



Mike shows some scenery details to the group.



The same small group as above moved on to Dick Caudle's clinic on designing your layout for operation to make sure the railroad's flow favors operation and there is room for the operators.



*All aboard the capital 400*

**Midwest Region Convention.  
April 13-15, 2018  
Madison, WI**

- Operating Sessions Friday Afternoon and Evening
- Clinics Friday Evening and Saturday Morning and Afternoon Including:
  - The Photography of O. Winston Link
  - MR Editor Tony Koester
- Layout Tours Saturday Afternoon and Sunday
- Every Registration Includes the Banquet with Guest Speaker Tony Koester

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