



The Milepost

Volume 39, Number 9 — September 2019

The official newsletter of the Pikes Peak Division

Rocky Mountain Region — National Model Railroad Association.



NEXT MEETING:

Friday, September 13th, 2019 at 7:00 PM

The New Sand Creek Police Station

950 Academy Park Loop

(Northeast of the intersection of Fountain/Academy)

Colorado Springs, Colorado

MODEL TRAIN SHOW



Union Pacific

October 12-13, 2019

Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4

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



Info and online ticket sales at www.tecoshow.org

Calendar Of Events

September 13th, 2019 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting.

Contest: Tank Car. Any scratch-built or kit-built. Added details and weathering a plus.

Program: {to be determined}.

September 17th, 2019

Roy's Model Trains Colorado Springs Swap Meet

Hotel Elegante, South Circle/I-25,
2886 South Circle Drive, Colorado Springs.
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. (719) 728-0503.

September 21st, 2019

Model Railroad & Toy Train Swap Meet, Lakewood, Colorado

October 11th, 2019 (Friday At 6:00 PM)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting. Meeting at TECO. This will be lower level of old JC Pennies, at the Chapel Hills Mall, Colorado Springs.

No contest, no program.

October 12th-13th, 2019 (Saturday/Sunday)

TECO 36 train show, Chapel Hills Mall.

October 12th-13th, 2019 (Saturday/Sunday)

Rocky Mountain Hobby Swap.

October 19th, 2019 (Saturday) (Proposed)

Roy's Model Trains Colorado Springs Swap Meet

Hotel Elegante, South Circle/I-25,
2886 South Circle Drive, Colorado Springs.
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. (719) 728-0503.

November 8th, 2019 (Friday)

NMRA-PPD monthly meeting.

Contest: Winter or Christmas theme (anything).

Program: {to be determined}.

November 16th, 2019 (Saturday) (Proposed)

Roy's Model Trains Colorado Springs Swap Meet

Hotel Elegante, South Circle/I-25,
2886 South Circle Drive, Colorado Springs.
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. (719) 728-0503.

November 16th, 2019

Model Railroad & Toy Train Swap Meet, Lakewood, Colorado.

November 30th-December 1st, 2019 (Saturday & Sunday)

Rocky Mountain Train Show (TCA)

Ranch Events Complex, First National Bank Building, Larimer County Fairgrounds
5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, Colorado.
Sat.: 9 AM-5 PM; Sun.: 9 AM-3 PM



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Michael Murdock (thru Dec. 2019), Kristin Phillips, and Jack Sousa

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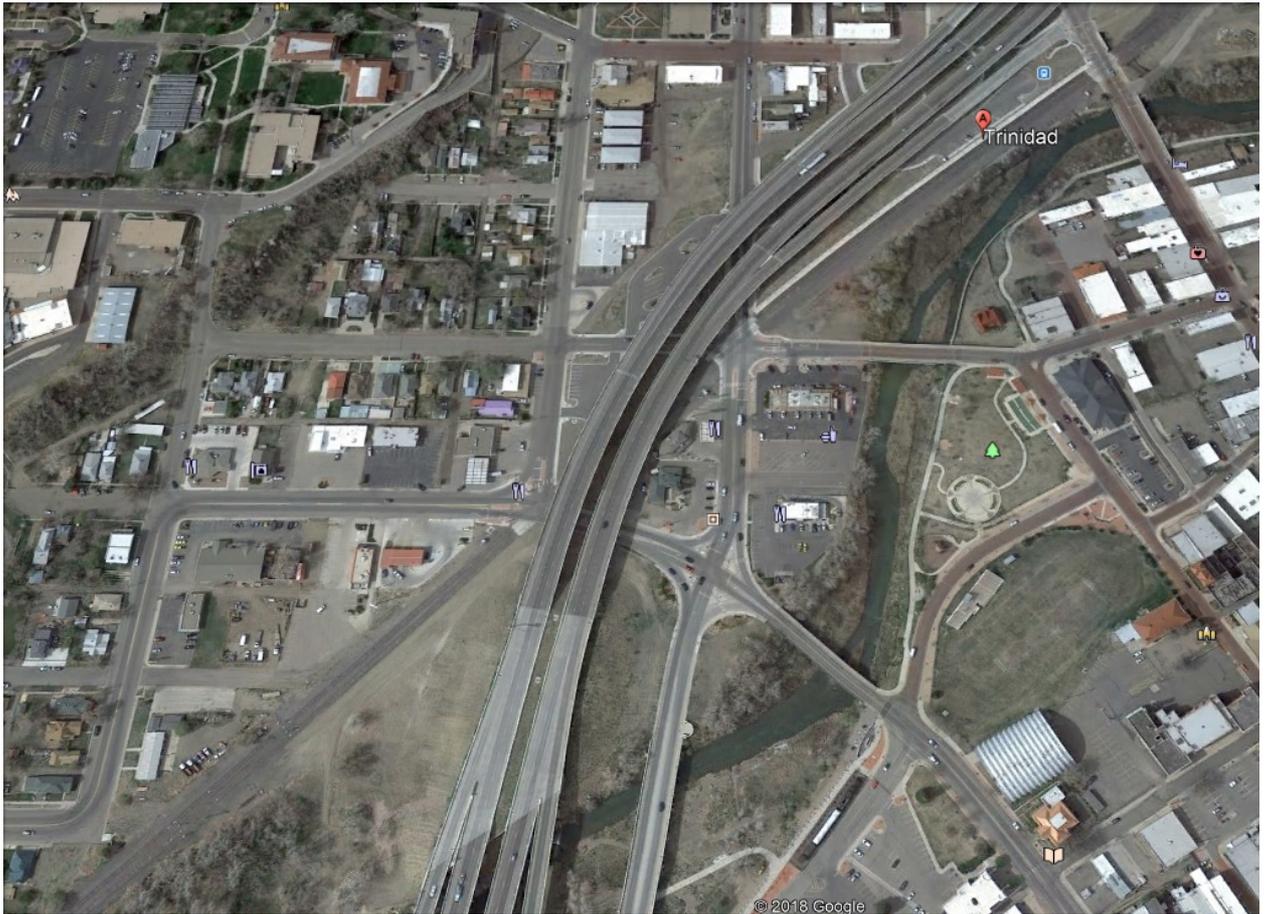
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The Milepost, Volume 39, Number 9, September 2019, is published monthly, as an electronic document (Adobe PDF file), by, and under the authority of, the Pikes Peak Division (Rocky Mountain Region), of the National Model Railroad Association. Our meetings are usually held on the second Friday of each month at the Sand Creek Police Station, 950 Academy Park Loop (northeast 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@ymail.com. Thank you.

September Superintendent Notes

Trinidad Visit

Technically, this happened on the Monday before the August Division Meeting. Kristin and I were doing an Operation Lifesaver presentation to the school bus drivers at the high school in the northwest corner of the map. The Amtrak train was stopped in the middle of the intersection on the diagonal under I-25. There is no physical train station, more like a bus stop with a platform.



After the presentation we drove around the town. The business district, east of the river, has quite a few colorful classic buildings along the brick street.

We saw a colorful “trolley” in a parking lot near the track northeast of the red symbol on the map:

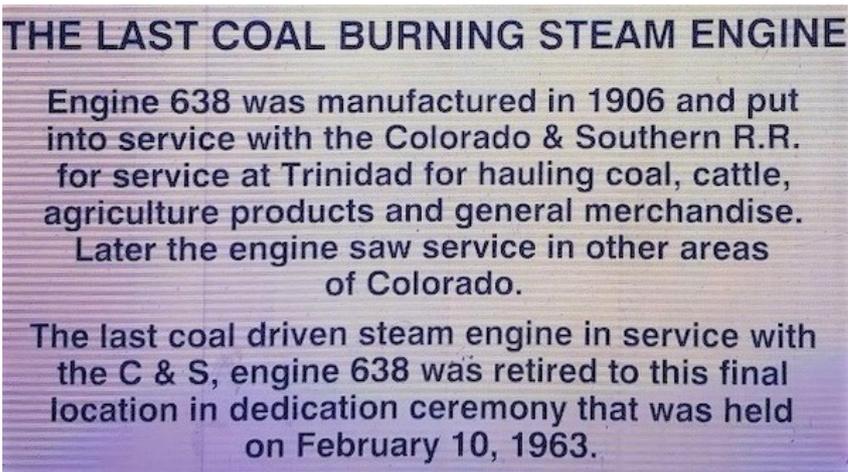


After wandering around town, we saw a cool static train display (on the bottom of the map):



I confess I cheated with the train using a panorama stitching program. You can see a little distortion.

There was a plaque in front of the engine:



I used a perspective correction program to straighten it out.

Boreas Pass Days in Como

On August 17, at least five of us from Division visited Como.

We started with the roundhouse and the turntable:



For some, a self-propelled ride on a hand cart is enough:



Then we starting walking down to the station checking out a crossbuck and a stub switch along the way:



John Emmot tells us that stub switches were quite common in Colorado because they were easier to move and deice in the winter.



Here is a closeup of the DSP&P passenger car (inside it was stenciled D&RGW):



Here is a picture of Klondike Kate, the wood burner, loading up at the station.



The C&S freight car behind the roundhouse looked cool:



Future plans include rebuilding a water tank.

Division Picnic at the Malines

It was fun for those who attended at we had a successful silent auction making \$138 for the Division. Some participants really scored. Unloved items were donated to TECO for seek and find or door prizes. The weather actually cooperated.

Upcoming Division Events

The September Division meeting will be at the Sand Creek Police Station Community room on **September 13 at 7:00 PM.**

The October Division meeting will be at the Event Center at Chapel Hills Mall on **October 11 at 6 PM.**

October 12 & 13 the Division will be at the next TECO show at Chapel Hills Mall.

TECO is working on the 2020 schedule for dates and locations which should be posted on the tecoshow.org and ppdnmra websites and in the Milepost before the October 2019 show.

December 7 at Trinity United Methodist Church will be the Division Swap Meet.

December 13 will be the Division Meeting and Christmas Party at the Sand Creek Police Station meeting.

Upcoming PPLD Maker Faire

October 19 will be a Mini Maker at 21C from 10 AM to 4 PM. Folks in the Division have made buildings or rail cars using 3D printers or LASER cutters at PPLD.



Contest Winners (August 2019)

Oldest Railcar You Own



First place was Mark Fuerstenberger .



Second place was Jack Sousa.



Third place was John Emmot.

DON'T FORGET THE LITTLE THINGS !!

BY WADE MOUNTZ

I never hesitate to give anyone my free advise. I've tried selling my advise several times and failed miserably. Besides, as one of the oldest members in the division, I know that I have made more bonehead mistakes than any of the rest of you several times. I have started getting my little layout ready for another operation session and found a disgusting problem that I thought could never happen again — **FILTHY WHEELS** on my rolling stock! Several years ago, I began switching over to almost all steel wheels for two reasons: 1) less friction with the track for less rolling resistance and 2) cleaner wheels that do not attract grit like plastic wheels do. I should go back to elementary model railroading!

A few of my steel wheels had gotten so filthy over time and running that they actually derailed themselves going around curves or through turnouts. Read on if you want to know what I did: First, remember this - steel wheels get dirty also, they just get dirty a little slower. Soaking the wheels in soapy water or alcohol or track cleaner did virtually nothing. I had to scrape the most stubborn wheels with my X-acto knife or a pretty small flat screw driver. Then I polished up the wheels with a soft cotton rag and my thumb nail in the wheel groove. This will take you a while as you can only do one side of the axle at a time. Best to do this after you have done at least some of the chores your wife ask you to do last week or last month. My results were better than expected. Even the expense of better equipment does not eliminate regular maintenance. I'm glad I caught myself before I have some friends over.

RAILROAD WORKS IN COMO

BY CHARLOTTE MOUNTZ



Notes From The Siding

BY JOHN EMMOT

Time moves on. There may be several things of interest in the Pikes Peak Division. A select few of the members were at the Maline's for a PPD picnic last Saturday. I don't think we had the numbers this year as before, but a good time was had by all. There was a good cross section of the group, including one first time visitor who is pursuing a recent awakening to model railroads. The weather didn't meet the dire predictions and a pleasant afternoon prevailed. There was plenty of great chicken and lots of pot-luck dishes. There were good conversations and the silent auction where many items changed hands to the benefit of the Division treasury. Mike also had the opportunity to show off the progress on his Virginia and Truckee layout. Our thanks to Mike and Elizabeth for hosting a great get together.

Next month (October) is the TECO show at the Chapel Hills Mall lower level and since it falls on the PPD meeting weekend, this will be the last meeting to plan for the event. As of this time, we know that the Ngeineers will not have their new N scale layout ready. Most of our other supporting group layouts will be there and we do have a small Lego group promised to come. This condition will open the possibility for a maximum effort by the Division. I don't know what the final configuration will be, but the thinking seems to lean toward some sort of 'traditional' module setup AND a separate layout using the Division dog bones. Two layouts will need extra personnel to monitor and operate. The dog bones can only use one control system, it is all DC or all DCC. Those who plan to run on the dog bones might consider shorter equipment since they have curves in the 20 to 24 inch radius range. The module group should have plans to discuss at the meeting. They will need commitments from modules and operators to make it work.

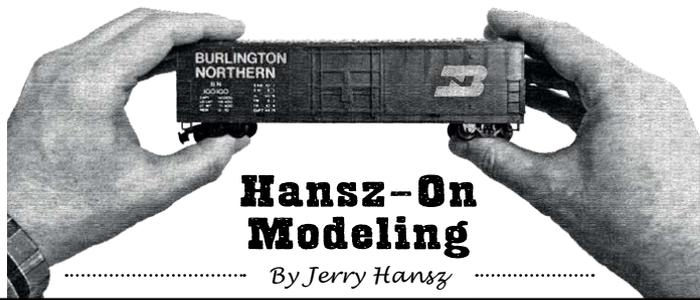
The TECO board has committed to adding TV advertising for this show. The limited budget will dictate what we can do, but we will try to reach more people to make them aware of the show. We will also try to reach a new group by making free tickets available to the MWR offices for the use of active service members and their families. Please do your part by reminding friends and relatives of the event. Its people through the door that makes the continuation of TECO possible.

As for the bigger TECO show, there will be a special consignment of collectable Teddy Bears available at this show. We also have word that there will be a large collection of G-scale material present. It includes rolling stock, track and buildings. If you have an interest in either, you don't want to miss this show.

A few Division members were at the Boreas Pass Railroad Day in Como last month. The DSP&P group is doing great things at the roundhouse and depot there. Its worth a trip up if you haven't been there.

Don't forget, the Division will be hosting our own swap meet and show at the church off of Unitah in December this year. See ya all 'round the roundhouse.





Hansz-On Modeling

By Jerry Hansz

GOOFING UP A PERFECTLY GOOD CAR

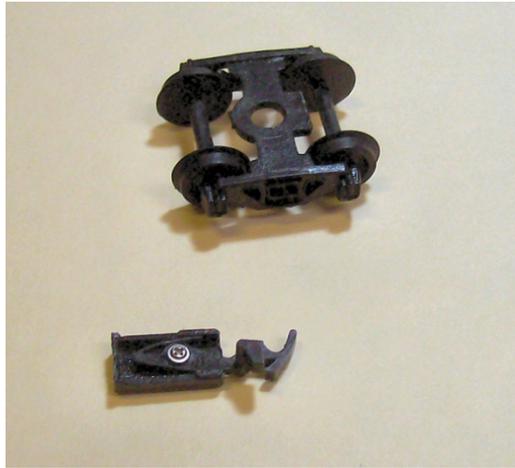
One of the three cars from the 2017 PPD Christmas party drawing was a nice Bachmann 50 foot boxcar. It came with truck-mounted horn and hook couplers. So-to the workbench.



When the car was weighed, it was too light, so one of my current weights was super glued to the existing metal weight.



I pulled the trucks and removed the couplers. Removing one axle gave me room to get the cutters in, and CLIP, they were gone!



From the parts drawer came Kadee couplers and coupler pockets, plus two plastic 2-56 screws. I filed ends of the underbody flat, and secured the coupler pockets with plastic cement.



Obviously, I would have been better to work on the couplers without the weight attached!

While the glue dried, I shot the car body with Dullcote. When it dried, I decided that the car was entirely too yellow! Maybe some rust would help. This is where I screwed up. I'm a lousy weathering guru!



Maybe more distressing will help!

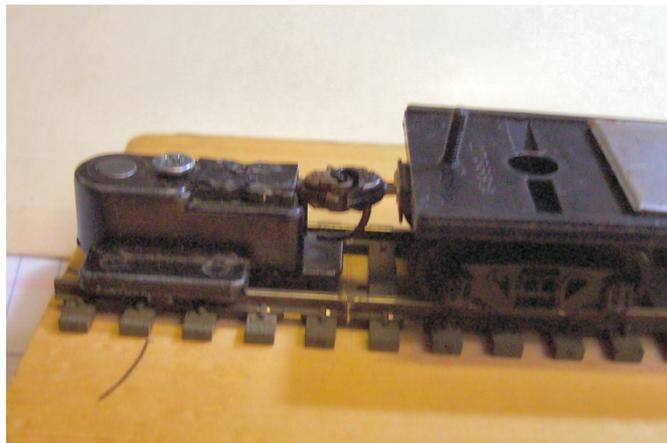
A little darker weathering was applied to the trucks. (Fortunately, the other two cars didn't require my skilled efforts.) I decided that if a little weathering looked lousy, might as well make it really lousy!



Success!

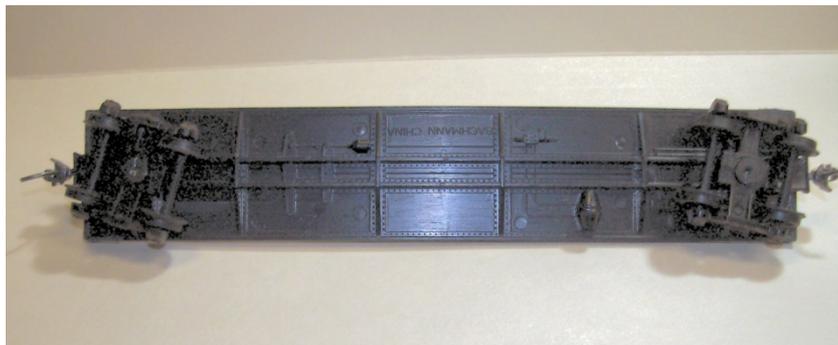
After my tantrum produced the above scene, I shot it with Dullcoat again, and left it to dry.

The Kadee short center set couplers were installed and checked for height on our coupler gauge.

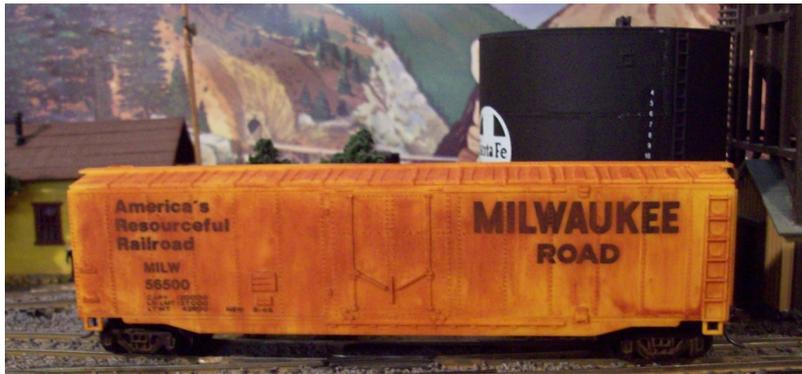


Looked good.

Then the trucks were reinstalled.



With everything dried, the shell was attached to the chassis, and a light application of cement was added along the inside edges of the car. It's as complete as it will get.



MILW 56500 parked at Hays.

What a distressing sight! Reminds me of cars I saw at Council Bluffs, Iowa where my stepfather worked as a “car knocker”.



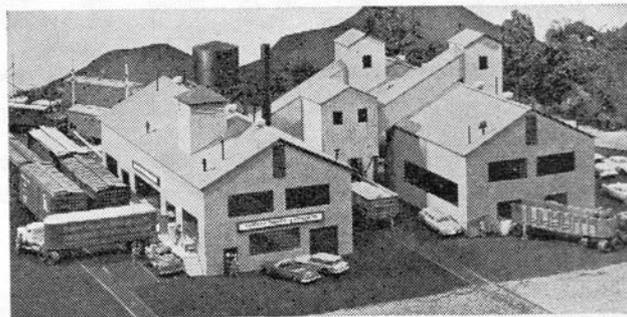
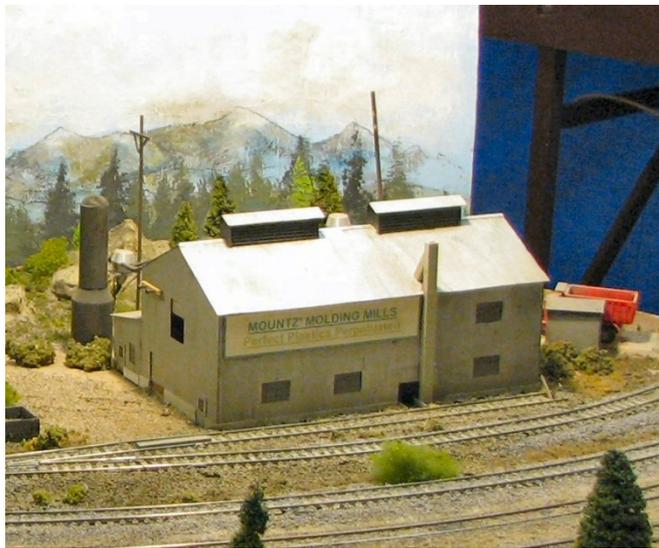
Here we see the car parked behind the livery stable.

Back then, continued....

Talking to Mike Murdock at the 2017 Christmas party, we reminisced about early modeling attempts. That triggered my thoughts about more early efforts on my part. This article will add things to the original “Back then” article in the Milepost.

In Texas in 1959, I would set up a piece of track in the hallway, and move cars back and forth. My daughter Linda would squat down and watch the action. One night I quietly moved her away. There was a scorpion right under her rump!

While in Alaska, I build a metal Suydam lumber mill building. Thank goodness the solder job doesn't show from the outside. It now resides on the Prosperity module as the Mountz Molding Mill.



HO INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX by E. Suydam & Co., Box 55, Duarte, Calif. These buildings, of metal construction, create an effective industrial area for all manner of switching activity. Building to the left, kit, \$5.95; building to the right, kit, \$6.75.

This Suydam ad shows similar buildings.

I constructed other buildings, some from magazine cutouts.



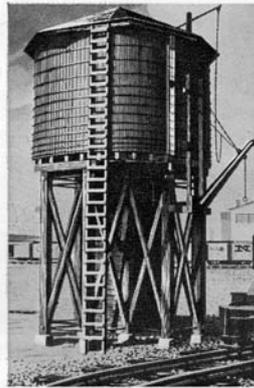
Fleeze hotel and control tower at Unter-Talheim.



Mail Pouch barn at Hays.



Water tank and gate tower at Oidar.



#703 WATER TOWER 98c



#701 ELEVATED GATE TOWER
69c

Similar models from early books.



Oidar station.

#706 PASSENGER STATION \$1.98



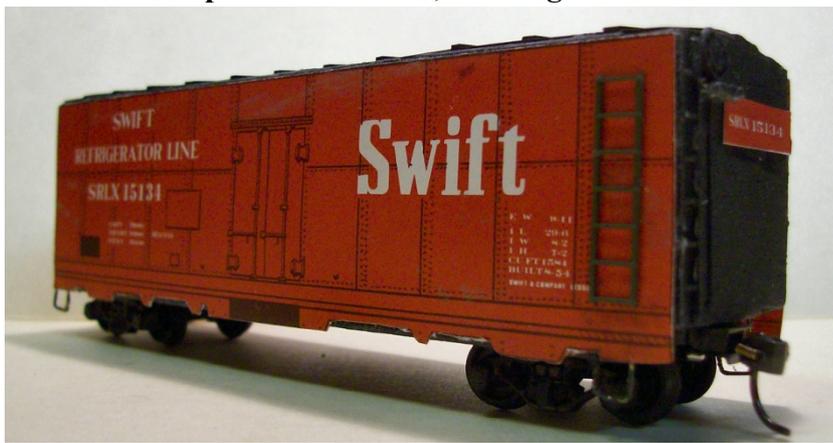
Looks like the same station.

Famous modeller, Linn Wescott did a construction article on the Big Six:



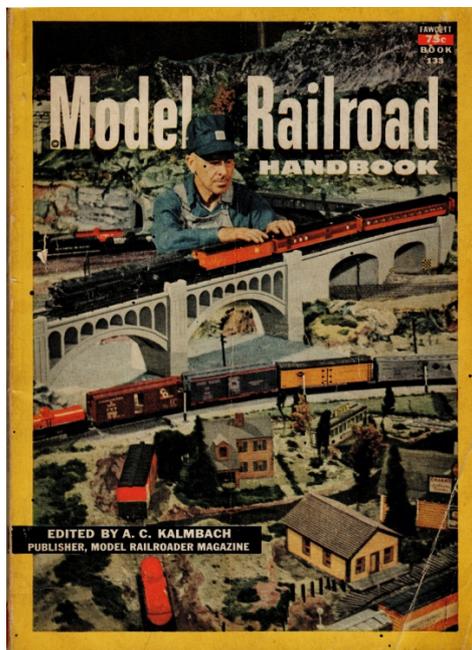
I never did convert it to DCC, as even with the can motor, it was rather jerky.

We did another article on the printed car sides, showing recent efforts.

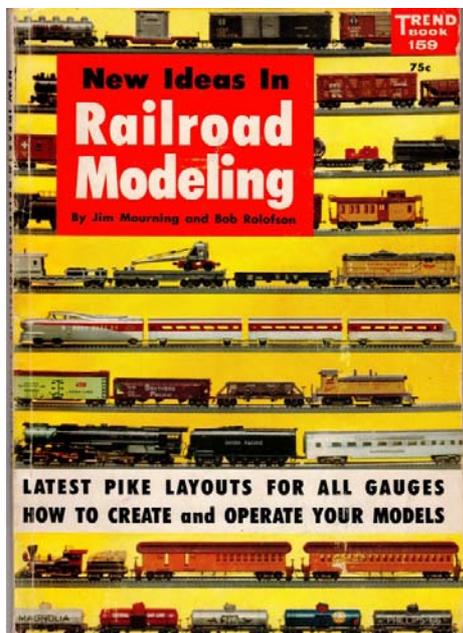


SRLX 15134 was the latest printed sides project.

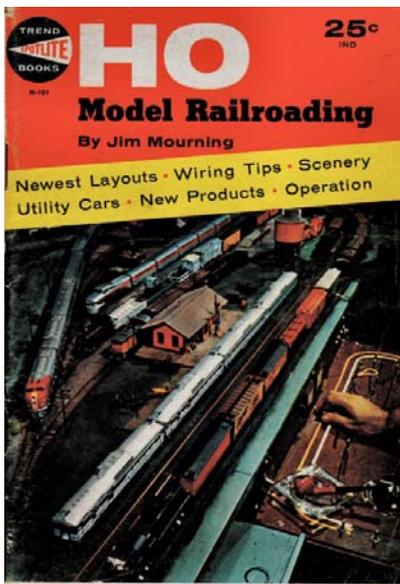
My modeling back then was mostly "lone wolf", using information from the various model railroad publications available. I'll show cover shots of a few of them.



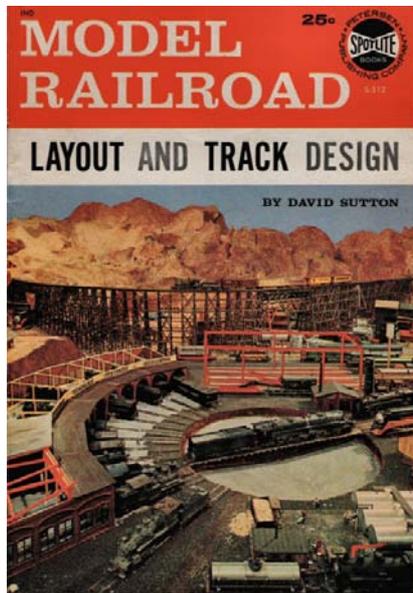
1951



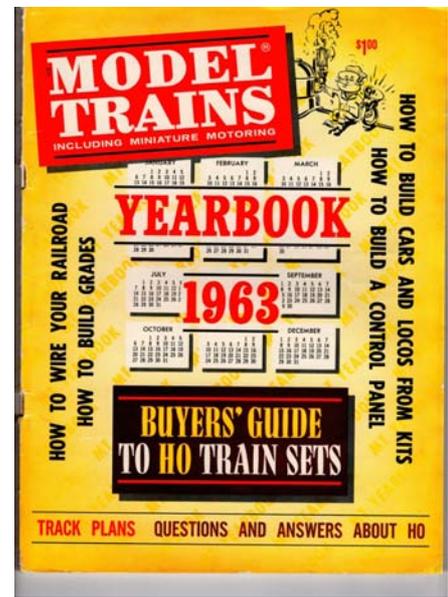
1957



1958

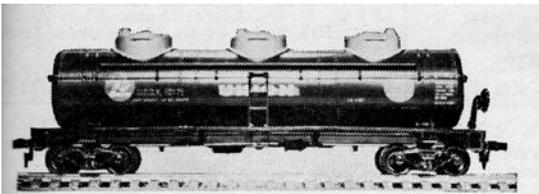


1961



This one was probably the most useful.

Here are some other cars built in the earlier times. They are still on the railroad.



THREE-DOME TANK CAR from Athearn is available in five different color and name combinations. Kit, \$1.89; ready to run, \$2.49.



I have 3 rubber-band drive diesel cars, with DCC. The Ambroid reefer was lettered for various railroads. Enough reminiscing!

EXPRESS REEFER			
AMBROID UNICEL		W-W	KIT 3.50
AMBROID G.N.	L/T	W-	KIT 3.50
#141 BINKLEY DAIRYMEN'S EXPRESS		W-GR	KIT 3.65
LACONIA RUTLAND GN		M&W-	KIT 2.50
LACONIA CENTRAL VERMONT		W&M-S	KIT 2.50
MAINLINE BASIC UNIT ROUND ROOF	L/T	W-U	KIT 3.45
MAINLINE BORDENS MILK	L/T	W-G	KIT 3.45
MAINLINE DAIRYMEN'S LEAGUE	L/T	W-W	KIT 3.45
MAINLINE ILLINOIS CENTRAL	L/T	W-G	KIT 3.45
MAINLINE MILWAUKEE EXPRESS	L/T	W-	KIT 3.45
MAINLINE MISSOURI PACIFIC	L/T	W-G	KIT 3.45
MAINLINE NORTHERN PACIFIC	L/T	W-G	KIT 3.45
MAINLINE PAC. FRUIT EXPRESS	L/T	W-G	KIT 3.45
MAINLINE PENNSYLVANIA EXP.	L/T	W-R	KIT 3.45
MAINLINE RAILWAY EXPRESS	L/T	W-G	KIT 3.45

LIFELIKE AXLE PROBLEMS REVISITED

Some time ago I did some columns on the “cogging” problem I had with axles on Lifelike EMD F3 locomotives. I have two A-B sets (all powered).



Being basically cheap, I tried a couple of ways to fix the slipping axles. Recently one of my F3s, ATSF 200 again developed the malady. All four axles were loose.



Obviously, my fix hadn't worked. If I wanted to use the 4 F3s, I'd have to bite the bullet and buy replacement axles!

I looked at Walthers and Athearn on the internet. The most cost-effective solution seemed to be buying three ATH 40028 6-axle sets of 40 inch drivers from Athearn (their SD40 sets). That provides four 4-axle sets, plus two extra axles. So, out came the credit card. The replacement axles arrived in 6 days (\$68+ with tax).



Athearn ATH 40028 axles

After the axles arrived, I pulled four units and ran a test. ATSF 201C/201B ran fine. The repaired axles were okay. ATSF 200/200B did indeed cog. So, to the workbench!

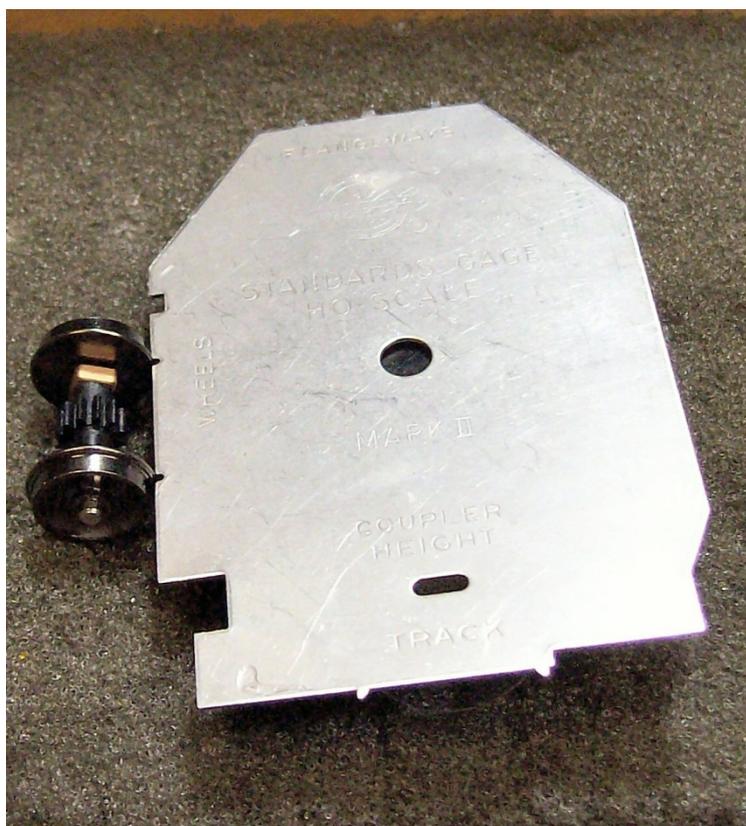
With the units on the pad, I removed the covers and pulled the bad axles. The Xacto #17 chisel blade fits nicely.



Removing the cover.

I slipped the #17 blade in from each end of the cover, to avoid breaking it. Slight pressure resulted in a smooth removal. The old axles went into my alcohol bath, for future repair.

Before installing the new axles, I checked them for proper gauge. I always use the NMRA gauge for this.



Checking wheel gauge.

After checking gauge, I inserted the axles, using tweezers to get the bearings into the frame. Then I applied 1 drop of Labelle 106 grease to each axle gear.



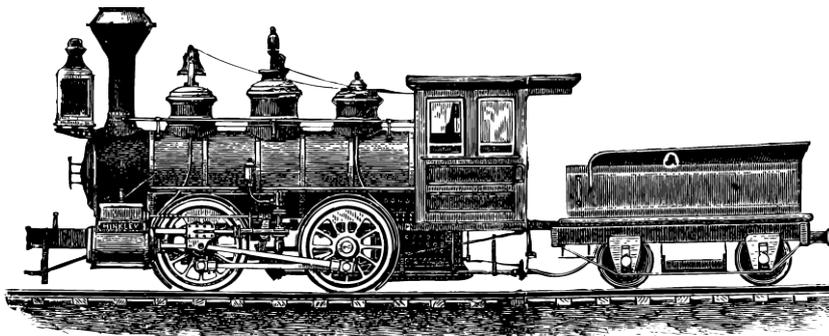
Lubricating the gears.

With the covers replaced, I test ran the locomotives. They performed well and smooth.



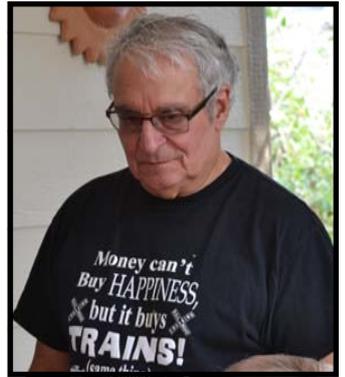
ATSF 200/200B at Talheim.

This repair was very satisfying. I'll continue to keep bad axles and attempt repairing them, but new axles are very easy. A little costly, but.....so what?



PICNIC PHOTOGRAPHS

BY JAMES VADEBONCOEUR



MURDOCK'S SIDING

By Michael Murdock, Editor of *The Milepost*.

Thanks to everyone who contributes articles and photographs to *The Milepost*. This issue has 28 pages and there were a lot of articles and photographs contributed.

In my last column, I mentioned that I am stepping down from being the editor for *The Milepost*. I pleased that there are at least two people interested in picking up the reins and continuing our Division's newsletter.

I wanted to add that being editor also includes the responsibilities of maintaining the Division's e-mail sending list (obviously, for e-mailing out *The Milepost* — and for sending out other Division-related mailings as requested).

In reviewing my list of activities with the Division, I realize that I am still taking on too many things — biting off more than I can chew — if you will. To make a long story short, I am also going to step down from being the contest chairman for the Division as well. I will finish out planning the contests for the remainder of 2019 and then that position can go to someone else. It is not a hard position — so anyone interested can talk to Joe Costa. I will be happy to answer any questions anyone interested in position has. It is a good position and one will share the work with Jack Sousa and Kristin Phillips in handling the monthly contests. I would like to focus on helping out with the PPD Module Group and writing articles for *The Milepost*.

Here are some photographs from the picnic last week:



August 2019 Meeting Minutes — By John Emmot

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at the by Superintendent, Joe Costa at 7:00 at the new Sand Creek Police Station community room. There were 25 members and visitor, Jim Roth, present.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved as published in the Milepost.

Treasurer, Tony Pawlicki provided a printed update on activity in the PPD bank account. The statement was approved as submitted. Mark announced that the Dinosaur Resource Center had given the PPD an honorarium for our recent module setup. Elizabeth Maline presented a bill for \$27.83 for Facebook advertising. Motion was passed to pay the bill.

Awards and Announcements:

Jack presented Joe Costa and Kristin Phillips each with NMRA Certificates of Achievement for Association Volunteer. They were recognized for their work with the Scouts of America, Operation Life Saver and the Pikes Peak Division. Congratulations to both. It was announced that the PPD needs to find a replacement for Mike Murdock as the Milepost editor beginning with the New Year. Mike will continue as an active member and contributor. If anyone would like to pick up the task, please contact Joe Costa.

Old Business:

The PPD summer picnic for members and families will be held at the Maline's on September 7 at 3 PM. The menu is pot luck except for the main course meats. A motion to authorize up to \$100 for the main dish and supplies was passed. Attendees are asked to/but not required to bring a summer side dish to share. Kristin will run a silent auction in conjunction with the picnic with the proceeds going to the PPD treasury. Attendees may bring railroad and non-railroad items to contribute to the auction. The Division Fall swapmeet at the Trinity United Methodist Church will setup the tables and layout starting about 6 PM on Friday evening before the Saturday, December 7 show. The module configuration will be determined before the date. Contact Kristin Phillips or Amber Fuerstenberger for sales tables. Several tables have been spoken for already.

New Business:

Several events were discussed here, but no motions resulted.

The Boreas Pass Railroad day in Como, CO on August 17 was discussed. Several plan to attend.

TECO 36, in October was discussed.

TCA shows in Denver for December and February were discussed. The Division will consider whether they wish to attend in February. The Calhan Depot restoration project by the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Society was brought to the attention of the membership. With Saturday, August 10th as a work day at the site.

It was mentioned that the U.P. 4014 may be in Limon sometime this Fall.

Dusty Thompson has indicated that he would entertain doing a Colorado Rail Road Museum roundhouse tour for members of the PPD. A show of interest was taken and it was decided to check for schedule and timing for a possible visit.

There were several nice entries for the old/first car contest. First place was Mark Feurstenberger, second place was Jack Sousa and third place was John Emmot.

The program was a description of their respective entries by the contest entrants. There were several interesting 'back stories' behind entries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM with lots of good coordination after the meeting.



Roy's Model Trains

We Sell-Buy-Trade Model Trains all Scales

We buy collections large & small

2218 E Pikes Peak Ave, Colorado Springs CO 80909

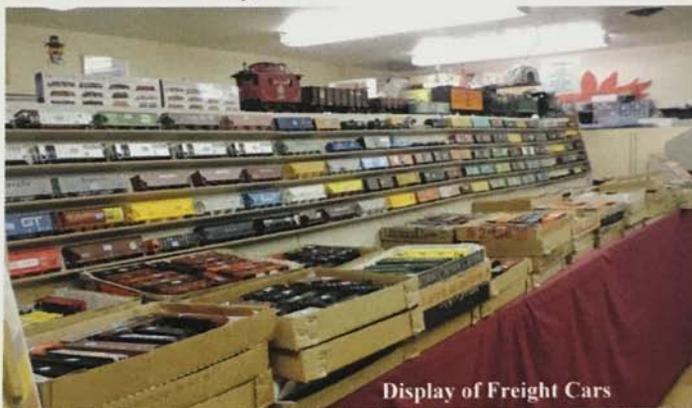
Open Tues-Fri 1-6pm Sat 11am-4pm

Closed Sun-Mon

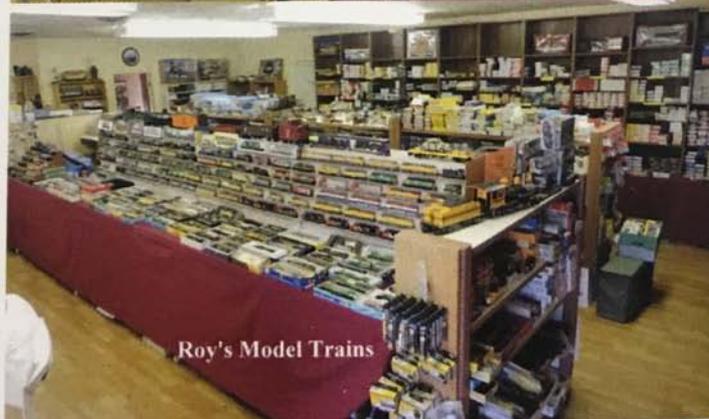
Website: Roysmodeltrains.com

Email: roysmodeltrains@comcast.net

Phone; 719-728-0503



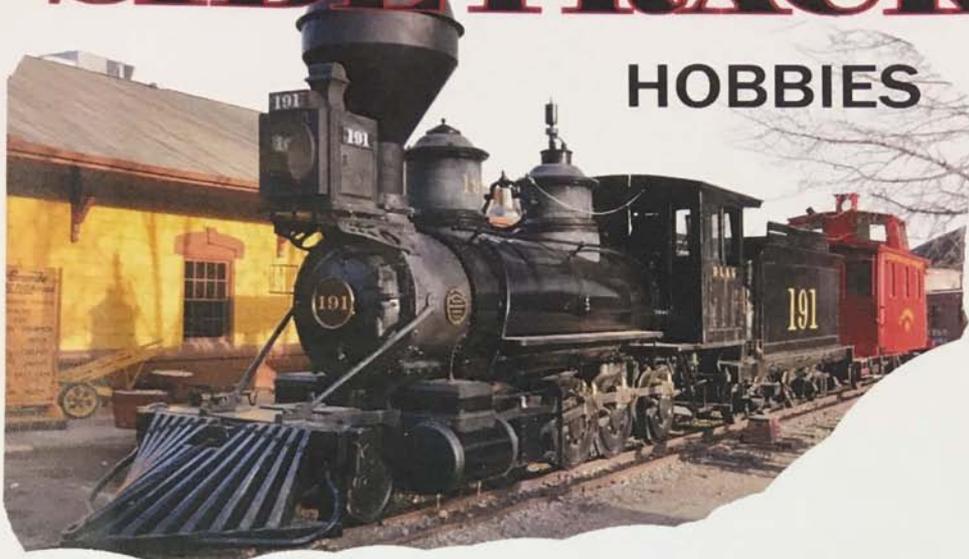
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