

# NEW TRACKS MODELING

# OBSERVATIONS

JANUARY 2025



MODEL  
**BRENNAN'S**  
RAILROADING

Sponsored by:  
Brennan's Model Railroading  
<https://www.brennansmodelrr.com/>  
(816)-252-4605

## The Conductor's Corner by Tom Farrell

As we step into 2025, I want to take a moment to recognize Jim Kellow for his extraordinary vision and unwavering dedication as the founder of New Tracks Modeling (<https://newtracksmodeling.com/>). Under his leadership, New Tracks has flourished and expanded to include the New Tracks Scholarship, our Facebook group, and the Observations newsletter you are reading.

Jim has always emphasized that it's not about him—it's about promoting the hobby, with a focus on the art of modeling within model railroading that unites us as a community. Most importantly, his vision includes mentoring as a way to give back and prioritizing youth programs, which represent the future of the hobby.

My personal goal is to build on Jim's remarkable achievements. I am dedicated to ensuring that New Tracks Modeling continues to inspire and educate modelers around the globe, while upholding and advancing the values and initiatives that he has so passionately championed.

Thank you, Jim Kellow, for laying such a strong foundation for the future of New Tracks Modeling. I'm honored to take on the role of our new leader. I sincerely look forward to seeing you all on January 8, 2025, as host of the live Zoom & YouTube program!



## News & Announcements

### **Eric Kennedy's series on "Becoming a Model Railroader" starts on the March 12, 2025 show and continues every two weeks until completed...**

"On New Year's Day of 2023 I decided to make a New Year's Resolution different from any other year. After having been raised in a railroading family and spent some years as a railfanner, I decided to take on a new challenge, becoming a model railroader. I have plenty of space, but I wanted to start small, so I decided to build a 4' x 8' model railroad in HO scale. I spent much of the last two years acquiring the tools and materials I would need to build my layout including track, engines and rolling stock, bench materials, scenery materials, and other various pieces. I believe I am ready to begin this journey of assembling my model railroad with the help of New Tracks Modeling experts to help guide me along the way. Join me by watching my progress and I hope it inspires you to begin your own journey."

### **Check out Steve Sherrill's little layout**

<https://newtracksmodeling.com/2024/12/16/steve-sherrills-layout/>

The micro layout that I built in the video features a kid's Thomas the Train engine that I converted to Deadrail using an RC car 2.4 GHz system. I painted all the cars and the engine plus added some details I had from my scrap box. I took my time and put to use techniques I have used in the construction of my home layout. I added a On30 Forney cab after removing the original Thomas part and added the O scale engineer. I reengineered the pistol transmitter controller to allow a Hands-free operation. The unique story about the acquisition of the original train was from a young 8 or 9 year who was progressing to HO scale and was selling off his Thomas trains to get the necessary capital to switch to the beginning of his model railroading career. Later I went by his selling table and saw the new items he had shopped for. I had the pleasure of helping him test his new diesel and showed him how to improve its performance. I will be showing this layout at the New Tracks table at the February Great Scale Train Show in Timonium, Md.

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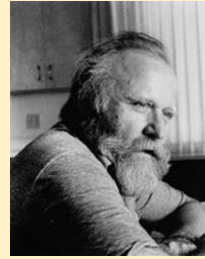
### **[Cover Photo: A view of scene on Stan Shields Layout](#)**

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## From the Editor's Desk

Welcome to the January 2025 issue of the New Tracks Modeling Observations Newsletter.

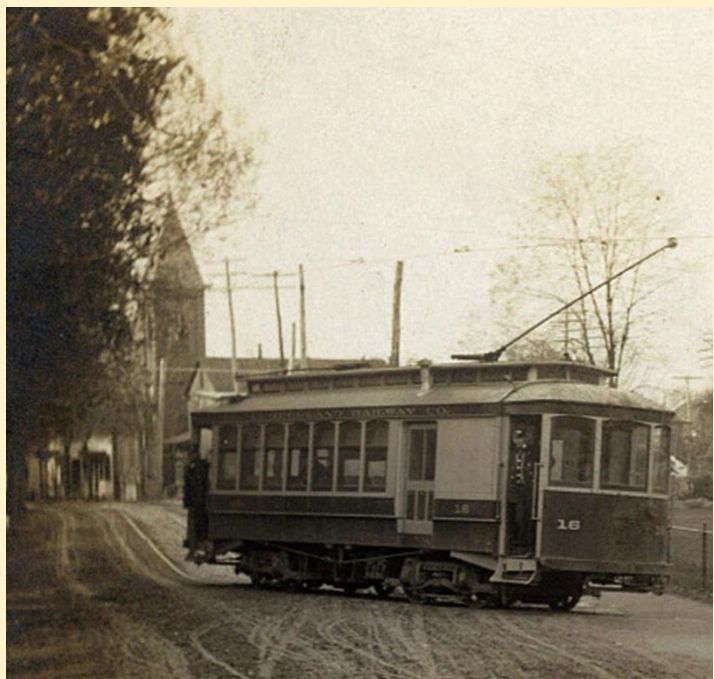


As usual, there are announcements of new products from vendors and news about trains shows and conventions, and New Tracks Modeling Scholarship news, and its travel about the country are included. Updates, additions, and changes to our regularly scheduled program segments are included along with the schedule (subject to change!) for January and February (see pp. **29-30**). As always, send your articles, tips or “tricks” about any aspect of model railroading, or just share a photo or two of a model you are building directly to me at: [Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com)

Also, please contact me with your articles, comments, suggestions, details of new products you are producing in any scale, upcoming events and Train shows, or any of your views, opinions, and comments. Getting this sort of information shared and distributed to the modeling community by all means possible serves all!

And now this is your chance to have your modeling on the cover. Just send me a good quality portrait format photo and your modeling can be on the cover of an upcoming issue of the newsletter.

Of special note, thanks to our expanded staff of proofreaders Greg Cassidy and Joel McCurry as well as our vendor liaison, Eric Kennedy (see page 3 for more about Eric).



## Organizational Sponsors for New Tracks Modeling

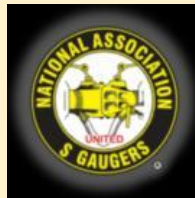
Thanks to our current Sponsors for their financial support to help pay for Shows, Zoom, YouTube, and other related out of pocket costs.



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O Scale Central  
<https://www.nasg.org/>



National Association of S Gaugers  
<https://oscalecentral.com/>



National Capital Trains  
<https://nationalcapitaltrains.com/>

Mainline Hobby Supply  
<https://mainlinehobby.com/>



American Models  
<https://americanmodels.com/>

Millhouse River Studio  
<https://www.studiozphoto.com/Millhouse.html>



## Individual and Company for our 2025 Scholarships

**Individual donors in 2024 for our 2025 scholarships are:** David Menard, Gerald and Linda Feeney, Jim Kellow, MMR, Ft. Ron Walters, Bob Charles, MMR, Jeff Zigley, Bob Davidson, Jim Foley, Anonymous, Greg Cassidy, Jamie Bothwell, Michael Gorczynski, Rich Randall, Steve Sherrill, Jeff Jordan, Pat Rivard, James Koryta, Bill Bunce, Martin Brechbiel, MMR, the Anonymous 2024 kick-off donor, Phil Edholm, Dave and Evelyn Sweeny, and Jeffrey Peck.

Thank you all so much for the leadership and financial commitment you have made to our young future modeler's education. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Company donations are greatly appreciated and will be recognized. Companies that donate \$250 in any annual scholarship cycle will be identified as Brass Donors; Silver Donors will be recognized for a \$500 contribution, Gold Donors for a \$750 contribution and Platinum Donors for a \$1,000 contribution. Donors who contribute at least \$2,000 will be listed as a specific scholarship sponsor. Please contact us at: [nttms@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:nttms@newtracksmodeling.com) to arrange for your corporate donations. Donate early to maximize your exposure. Remember, your contribution will help the young modelers who are the future of our hobby.

**We are most pleased and grateful to announce a 2025 \$1000.00  
Platinum Donor:**

### **Platinum Corporate Sponsors**



**Amherst Railway Society**

<https://amherstrail.org/>

I am pleased and very grateful to announce our current 2025 \$500.00 Silver Donor:

**Silver Corporate Sponsors**



Great Scale Model Train Show  
<https://www.gsmts.com/>  
<https://sites.google.com/view/greatscalemodeltrainshow>  
produced by Scott Geare

I am pleased and very grateful to announce our current 2025 \$250.00 Brass Donors:

**Brass Corporate Sponsors**

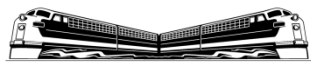


Brennan's Model Railroading  
<https://www.brennansmodelrr.com/>  
owned by Dennis Brennan

American Models  
<https://americanmodels.com/>



The Model Railroad Resource LLC  
<https://oscaleresource.com/WP/>  
owned by Amy and Dan Dawdy



3D Resin Castings In O and S Scale  
Custom Resin Printing  
We can print the following:  
Parts ready for priming and painting  
Parts ready for casting/wax molds  
Parts ready for direct burnout

The Model Railroad Resource LLC  
407 E. Chippewa St. Dwight, IL 60420  
815-274-8809 or 815-584-1577  
[info@modelrailroadresource.com](mailto:info@modelrailroadresource.com)

Kershaw Craftsman  
Kits  
<https://kershawcraftsmankits.com/>



WiFi Model Railroad  
<https://www.wifimodelrailroad.com/>  
owned by WiFi Model Railroad



## Manufacturer's Partnership with the New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarship Program

We have exciting news to report about our Scholarship program. As part of our efforts to increase public awareness of our scholarship program to young adults and potential donors, we are partnering with manufacturers by having them include information about the Scholarship program in their advertising and in their kits. This will help demonstrate how these companies support helping our youth in reaching their educational goals. While some of these companies also support the scholarship with financial donations that is not a requirement for joining this new program. Here is an example of what a promotional insert looks like:

*“Your Company name”*  
IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE

**NEW TRACKS MODELING MENTORING**  
**SCHOLARSHIP**

As the only non-profit organization sponsoring undergraduate and technical school scholarships for young model railroaders in the U.S., New Tracks Mentoring is helping ensure that our great hobby will be around for generations to come.

Please join us in supporting the scholarship.

To learn more, get an application, or make a donation, scan the QR code or visit: [www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship](http://www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship)  
Questions? E-mail us at: [NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com)



Please let us know at [NTMMS@NewTracksModeling.com](mailto:NTMMS@NewTracksModeling.com) if you participate so we can add your name to the list of manufacturers promoting our Scholarships in our advertising materials. Thank you for all your help!



The following Manufacturers are participating in this new program:

**American Models**  
**Brennans Model Railroading**  
**Carroll Creek Design Group**  
**Conowingo Model**  
**Kershaw Craftsman kits**  
**Lambert Locomotive Works**  
**WiFi Models**

If you are, or know of, any manufacturers or retailers who should consider participating in this new program, please have them contact us at: [NTMMS@NewTracksModeling.com](mailto:NTMMS@NewTracksModeling.com)

To learn more about this program, or how to apply for or donate to the Scholarship, please visit: [www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship](http://www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship)



Karen Bashista  
(owner of American  
Models) is now Karen  
Bashista Hanger!

# **NEW TRACKS MODELING**

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# **MENTORING SCHOLARSHIP**

## 2024 Year in Review

2024 was a banner year for the Scholarship. In August we were able to award three (3) \$2,000.00 scholarships to young modelers pursuing undergraduate degrees in STEAM programs across the United States.

This was made possible by the generous contributions of our corporate and individual donors. One of the scholarships was underwritten by the Pacific Coast Region of the NMRA. We are incredibly grateful to them for their gift.

On December 18 New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarship Chairman Bob Davidson announced that an additional three (3) \$2,000.00 scholarships will be awarded for the 2025-2026 academic year, bringing the total amount of scholarships awarded since the program was started to \$13,000.00!

We'd like to thank our corporate sponsors:

Platinum Sponsor: Amherst Railway Society  
Silver Sponsor: The Great Scale Model Train Show (Scott Geare)  
Brass Sponsors: American Models (Karen Bashista)  
Brennan's Model Railroading (Dennis Brennan)  
Kershaw Craftsman Kits (Paul Reeves)  
LocoFi (Peeyush Garg)  
The Model Railroad Resource LLC (Dan & Amy Dawdy)

We're also indebted to our individual donors:

Anonymous, Jamie Bothwell, Martin Brechbiel, Kirk & Barbara Bucher, Bill Bunce, Greg Cassidy, Bob Davidson, Amy & Daniel Dawdy, Phil

Edholm, Gerald & Linda Feeney, Michael Gorczynski, Jeff Jordan, Jim Kellow, James Koryta, Dylan Lambert, Frank Markovich, David Menard, Hank Primas, Steven Provencher, Rich Randall, Pat Rivard, Steve Sherrill, David Vaughn, Fr. Ron Walters, and Jeff Zigley

The application period for the 2025-2026 scholarships opens on January 1, 2025 and runs until June 1, 2025. The awards will be made on or about July 1, 2025.

We need everyone's help making sure that any qualified student is made aware of, and encouraged to submit an application for, the New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarship. You can help by making an announcement at your local train club, or by encouraging your local hobby shop to post an announcement. We can provide flyers for these activities.

The Scholarship will have a presence at several major train shows in 2025, starting with the Amherst show in Springfield, MA in January. We'll also be at all of the Timonium shows. If you know of a show or event that would be willing to help publicize the scholarship, please contact us at [NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com) and we can arrange for either a banner or flyers to be sent to the show.

We also started a new program to spread the word about the scholarship. We've partnered with manufacturers to include information about the New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarship in their products. We currently have 7 companies that we're working with:

American Models  
Brennan's Model Railroading  
Carroll Creek Design Group  
Conowingo Models  
Kershaw Craftsman Kits  
Lambert Locomotive Works  
LocoFi

Please support these manufacturers and ask any companies you purchase kits or supplies from if they'd be interested in supporting the scholarship.

In other news, we welcomed two new members to the Scholarship Committee this past year: Christian Nierman will be helping us develop programs so we can reach more applicants and Mitch "Doc" Lovelace has taken over coordinating getting banners to and from train shows. Thanks to them both. The Application Review sub-committee (Martin Brechbiel, Steve Sherrill, Jamie Bothwell) reviewed and amended the application form and are eagerly awaiting the influx of applicants. Their time and effort is greatly appreciated.

Board President Jim Kellow, Vice-President Bob Davidson, Secretary Phil Edholm, Treasurer Tom Farrell and Counsel Jeff Jordan thank everyone for their commitment to the scholarship and wish everyone a joyful holiday season and a healthy and Happy New Year.

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Davidson at [NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com)



## Regularly Scheduled Segments that you can see Weekly on New Tracks Modeling

### Scratchbuilder's Corner

by Martin Brechbiel, MMR ([Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com))

Scratchbuilder's Corner presents aspects of scratchbuilding (and kitbashing) primarily with wood as the medium to build structures and rolling stock, but this includes the use of other materials such as styrene, brass, resin, and other casting materials as appropriate.

Intentions here are to teach & share techniques and "tricks" that can be adapted into your scratchbuilding projects working from simple projects through those of increasing complexity.

Scratchbuilder's Corner entered December with an exploration of the

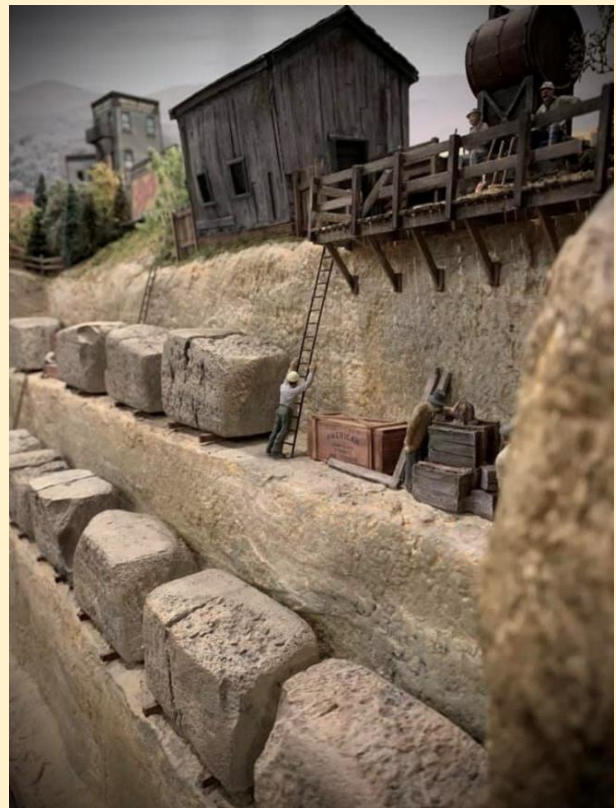
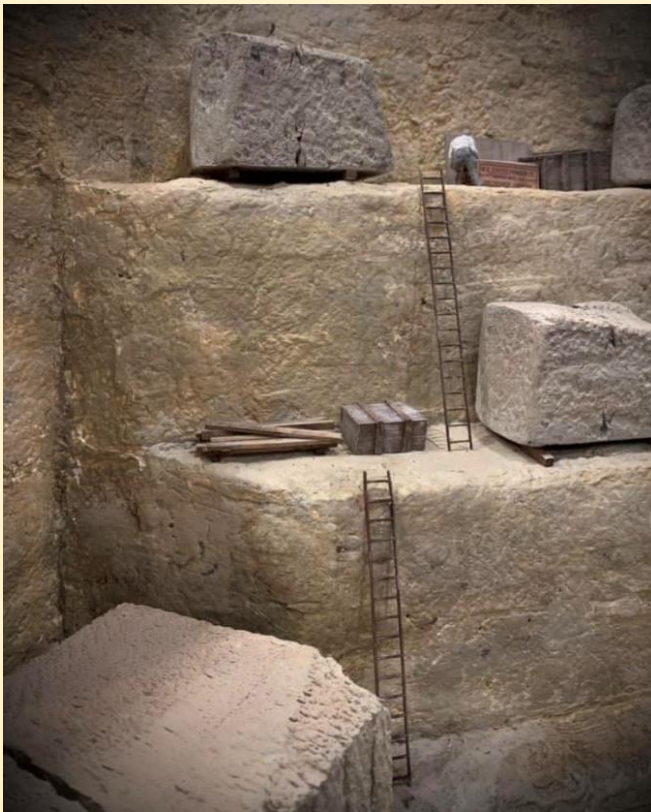


restoration (restoration of vintage rolling stock can easily count as scratchbuilding!) of a pair of Exacta kits cars of Wagner Sleeping Cars.

## Scratchbuilding a Layout – Limestone Quarries on the RB & OG, By Tom Farrell ([tfarrell60@comcast.net](mailto:tfarrell60@comcast.net))

The Oolitic Limestone Quarry scene was a defining feature of my original Rustic Buff & Old Gothic On30 model railroad (2008–2022). Rarely depicted in model railroading, it was a unique and authentic scene on my layout.

Set in 1930, during the height of the Great Depression, my fictional RB & OG Railroad was inspired by the southern Indiana limestone belt, renowned for producing dimensional cut stone used in many of America’s most iconic structures, including the Empire State Building, the Pentagon, the National Cathedral, and numerous federal and state buildings. I blended this rich architectural history with the gritty urban backdrop of Pittsburgh, my hometown, to create a dynamic theme that tied together two distinct yet complementary worlds for my railroad.



If you’d like to learn more about the new RB & OG, be sure to tune-in to New Tracks Modeling’s Live YouTube show this coming year. The show airs every Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM ET, with all episodes recorded, segmented, and available on YouTube for convenient viewing anytime.

# New Tracks Modeling “MY BUILD” 2024

by Chris Course ([railrunner130@hotmail.com](mailto:railrunner130@hotmail.com))

Model railroading is about sharing and the monthly MY BUILD is your opportunity to share and show off your build with the world. Trains, structures, or boats, it doesn't matter. It doesn't have to be your latest build. Heck, it could even be something you found at a yard or estate sale and just thought was neat. Or, maybe if you're stuck on something, need a different technique, or are stumped on how to proceed on a project. This is a good part of the show to ask questions. Please ask. We can help. The December 18<sup>th</sup> My Build is on YouTube at:

<https://youtu.be/iGr3r0EVyoA?si=T1emV-Dou4tA5qOj>

Every other month we have a “theme.” These are not rigid. If you can find something to share that fits in a category, regardless of being “outside the box”, that is ENCOURAGED!

## The schedule and topics for the 2024-2025 My Builds:

- Jan. 22** Free for all! Anything goes!
- Feb. 19** Kitbashes, Scratchbuilds
- March 19** Free for all! Anything goes!
- April 16** Automation/Animation - Make it move!
- May** Free for all! Anything goes!
- June** Water; Waterfront buildings, wharves, boats, covered bridges, water tanks, anything water related
- July** Free for all! Anything goes!
- August** Harvest: farm equipment, grain elevators, hopper cars, mills, tractors, agriculture, barns, chicken coops, livestock, cattle pens/ranching, cattle cars, reefer cars;
- September** Free for all! Anything goes!
- October** Layouts; Finished, In-progress, Switching layouts, Modules, Dioramas
- November** Free for all! Anything goes!
- December** Interiors, Insides of buildings, engine houses, cabooses
- Jan 2026** Free for all! Anything goes!

## Select Photos from the 2024 December "My Build" -- Interiors

From Bill Stimson



From Bob Farquhar



From Earl Hackett



From Ed O'Rourke





From Gary Shurgold



From Greg Shinnie



From Jeff Jordan



From Phil Edholm



From Ron Walters



From Steve Sherrill



## What's to know about The Scales We Model In?

We have had many discussions with modelers who ask, “What is O scale or N scale all about? Does anyone really model in S scale? Can I really scratchbuild a model in N scale?” Your scale of choice may be G, O or O Hi-Rail, S, HO, or N, and there are others yet that modelers choose to build in today. However, we frequently know little about the details of other scales, are possessed of misinformation, or simple mythology.

To discuss this on a regular basis, New Tracks Modeling is running monthly segments on G, O, O Hi-Rail, S, S AF/Hi-Rail, HO, and N scale hosted by knowledgeable talented modelers in each scale. These modelers will try to answer your questions, present information about what is possible to accomplish, and then present what a new modeler entering a scale might need to consider.

The 2024/2025 schedule for “**The Scales that We Model In**” is:

Jan. 2025	8th O, O-HR S & S HR	15th HO, N, G		
Feb.	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
March	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
April	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
May	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
June	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
July	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
August	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
Sept.	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
October	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
Nov.	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
Dec.	O, O-HR	HO, N	S & S HR	G
Jan. 2026				

If you have specific questions you want addressed, or a specific person you would like to see interviewed on a scale segment, please contact the appropriate host. Their email addresses are shown below.

## Inspiration for Everyday Imagination

I'm sure you've been amazed at the creativity of talented modelers and wondered how does one do that? We're all creative in our own way but some modelers simply seem to have a knack for creating scenes or models that just look "right". Now, no one is a born craftsman. We all have to hone our skills. But still, there's that intangible creative spark that leave some of us in awe. How can we achieve that? Does inspiration spur imagination? And, if so, where does that inspiration come from? Or, perhaps, it's the imagination that creates the inspiration.

Together, we're going to discover these gateways to open up our creativity in a brand new 15 minute segment in a monthly Zoom show hosted by Paul Reeves and me, Dennis Brennan. This came about from a concept originated by Chris Coarse. Jim Kellow liked the idea and Paul and I are going to run with it. It's titled **Inspiration for Everyday Imagination**. So please tune in January 22<sup>nd</sup>! Chris will be our 1<sup>st</sup> guest.



## Train Show Schedule

<p><b>Great Scale Model Train and Railroad Collectors Show</b>  <b>Feb 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun 9am-3pm</b>            Admission Sat &amp; Sun \$12; Sun \$10            Maryland State Fair 2200 York Rd. Timonium, MD 21093  <a href="https://www.gsmts.com/">Click here for complete map and directions from all points; https://www.gsmts.com/</a>  <a href="https://sites.google.com/view/greatscalemodeltrains/how">https://sites.google.com/view/greatscalemodeltrains how</a></p>	<p><b>O Scale March Meet</b>  <b>March 20-23, 2025</b>            Westin Lombard Yorktown Center            Lombard, IL The March O Scale Meet is a 3 day gathering of vendors, customers, clinics, and fun held annually in March in the Chicagoland area. This is the Chicago O Scale train show you've heard of. Website: <a href="http://marchmeet.net/">http://marchmeet.net/</a></p>
<p><b>Strasburg 2 Rail Train Show</b>  <b>April 12th, 2025 9am-1pm</b>            Strasburg Train Show: Two-rail swap meet at the Strasburg Fire Co., 203 W. Franklin St, Strasburg, PA            Admission \$7, wives/children/military with ID free            Tables \$35 for first table, additional \$30 per.            Great food, modular layout, clinics. Contact Richard Yoder EST evenings 484-256-4068 <a href="#">Click here for info.</a></p>	<p><b>Great Scale Model Train and Railroad Collectors Show</b>  <b>May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun 9am-3pm</b>            Admission Sat &amp; Sun \$12; Sun \$10            Maryland State Fair 2200 York Rd. Timonium, MD 21093  <a href="https://www.gsmts.com/">Click here for complete map and directions from all points; https://www.gsmts.com/</a>  <a href="https://sites.google.com/view/greatscalemodeltrainshow">https://sites.google.com/view/greatscalemodeltrainshow</a></p>
<p><b>Strasburg 2 Rail Train Show</b>  <b>August 9th, 2025 9am-1pm</b>            Strasburg Train Show: Two-rail swap meet at the Strasburg Fire Co., 203 W. Franklin St, Strasburg, PA            Admission \$7, wives/children/military with ID free            Tables \$35 for first table, additional \$30 per.            Great food, modular layout, clinics. Contact Richard Yoder EST evenings 484-256-4068 <a href="#">Click here for info.</a></p>	<p><b>O Scale 2 Rail Indianapolis Train Show</b>  <b>September 18-20, 2025</b>  <b>September 19, 2025 3pm-7pm</b>  <b>September 20, 9am-3pm</b>            La Quinta Inn &amp; Suites Indianapolis South            Near the intersection of I465 and Emerson Ave.            Indianapolis, IN            O Scale 2 Rail/P48, Narrow Gauge/On30, 3 Rail Scale            Website: <a href="https://www.indyoscaleshows.com">https://www.indyoscaleshows.com</a>            Phone: (833) 410-3872</p>
<p><b>Strasburg 2 Rail Train Show</b>  <b>October 11th, 2025 9am-1pm</b>            Strasburg Train Show: Two-rail swap meet at the Strasburg Fire Co., 203 W. Franklin St, Strasburg, PA            Admission \$7, wives/children/military with ID free            Tables \$35 for first table, additional \$30 per.            Great food, modular layout, clinics. Contact Richard Yoder EST evenings 484-256-4068 <a href="#">Click here for info.</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Send us your train show information!!!!</b></p>



## 2025 Railroad Hobby Show

Tickets are NOW ON SALE for the 2025 Railroad Hobby Show!  
January 25 and 26, 2025  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm on Saturday | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm on Sunday

<https://www.railroadhobbyshow.com/index.php>

[Tickets for the Big E](#)

# 2025 HARRISBURG All O Scale Meet

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O Scale 2 Rail – O Scale  
Traction - Proto 48 - On3  
On30 - On2 - On18

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**Saturday Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>** - 9:00 to 3:00

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**LOCATION:** **New Hope Church**  
584 Colonial Club Drive  
Harrisburg, Pa. 17112

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**Guest admission:** \$10 – *Spouses and children under 12 free.*

Clinics and instructional displays on going throughout the event.

**Food and drinks:** Available all day. It has been called  
*"The best train show food in North America!"*

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**Vendors:** For table information, availability, admission and fees  
please email us at [millcreekrr@yahoo.com](mailto:millcreekrr@yahoo.com) for detailed information.

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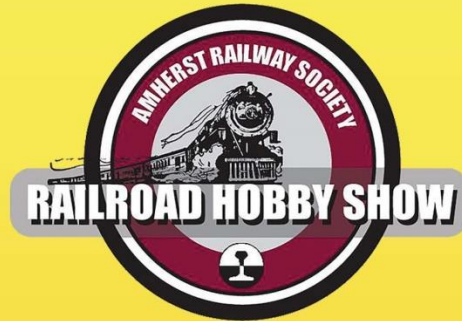
Additional information or updates can be found on the meet's **Facebook**  
page under the title "Harrisburg All O Scale Meet".

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Near by hotels for any one staying over. **Quality Inn Harrisburg-Hershey Area**,  
200 N Mountain Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17112 (717) 540-9339 or **The Ramada Inn**,  
300 N. Mountain Road, Harrisburg, Pa. 17112 (717)-461-9602 Both are only  
about 3 minutes from the New Hope Church venue.



# Amherst Railway Society presents



## January 25 & 26, 2025

Eastern States Exposition  
West Springfield, Massachusetts 01089

[railroadhobbyshow.com](http://railroadhobbyshow.com)

operating model railroads  
railroad art and photography  
railroad books and videos  
model railroad clinics  
family entertainment  
tourist railroads  
collectibles



*America's largest railroad-themed trade show*



[amherstrail.org](http://amherstrail.org)

Eastern States Exposition is the home of the BIG E Agricultural Fair



# 2025 HARRISBURG Narrow O Summer Meet

On3 – On30 – On2 - On18

A two day event focused on anything and everything O scale narrow gauge.

**Friday June 13** (11:00 to 6:00)  
and **Saturday June 14** (9:00 to 3:00)

**LOCATION:** **New Hope Church**  
**584 Colonial Club Drive**  
**Harrisburg, Pa. 17112**

Guest admission: \$20 for both days – *Spouses and children under 12 free.*  
Clinics and Maker Spaces demos on going throughout the event.

***“The best train show food in North America”***

*Due to church rules and insurance restrictions: NO alcohol will be allowed*

**Vendors:** For table information, availability, admission and fees  
please email us at [millcreekrr@yahoo.com](mailto:millcreekrr@yahoo.com) for detailed information.

For updated information on the event, including the vendor list, Clinic topics, Maker Space presenters  
and layouts along with any additional information or updates can be found on the Meet's  
Facebookpage under the title “Harrisburg Narrow O Summer Meet”.

Most attendees have used either the **Quality Inn Harrisburg-Hershey Area**,  
200 N Mountain Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17112 (717) 540-9339 or **The Ramada Inn**,  
300 N. Mountain Road, Harrisburg, Pa. 17112 (717)-461-9602 in the past and  
found it to be a clean, friendly and a good value. Best of all they are located  
only .9 of a mile or about 3 minutes from the New Hope Church venue.

*The largest all O scale Narrow Gauge event in North America*

## Volunteers Working on the Real EBT Railroad

A large group of fifteen (15!) of us met in Robertsdale on Saturday last to tackle three projects:

1. Build another twelve (12' long bridge over a washout just north of the village of Wood.



The newest bridge (side view) - Nov 9th (G. Tucker photo)

2. Install ten (10) ties to correct gauge in the same area (making available several hundred more feet for railbikes, speeders and handcars).



Tie installation north of Wood - Nov 9th (Dave Johnson photo)

3. Brush cutting and clearing to a point about fifty yards north of the road in Wood.

Assisting in this work were: Dave Johnson, Larry Fuchs, Daniel Klinger (new - welcome!), Christian Shelley (new - welcome!), John Quinn, Rick Rourke, Christian McCann (new - welcome!), Kevin Lekas, Sam Painter, Steve Jackson, Blair Stewart, Ed Kompare, Roy Burnham, and Victor Booth. A thousand thanks, one and all.

Extra credit is due to Victor Booth for bringing a chipper, and to Steve Jackson who brought his Gator to get us to and from the work site. Larry Fuchs and Rick Rourke also came early to get a jump start on the brush cutting. Kudos to them, as well.



Brushcutting with new bridge - Nov 9th (Roy Burnham photo)

More work in clearing the line remains to be done.



New end-of-track limit - Nov 9th (Sam Painter photo)

Nine of our number joined Henry and Galen for a gauging and spiking party. We were able to gauge and spike up 450' of track (we think this is a new, one day record!), reaching a point about 100' from the PA Route 994 crossing.

Assisting yesterday were: Dave Hart, Al Gallo, John Quinn, Todd Johnson, Joel Myers, Brian Hoffman, Bill Reynolds and John Widmeyer. Kudos, gents, for an excellent day yesterday.



Setting spikes - Nov 26<sup>th</sup> (G. Tucker photo)



View from 994 looking north - Nov 26<sup>th</sup> (G. Tucker photo)

We had a good and productive day yesterday, working in cold temps (mid-20s when we started, mid-30s in the afternoon!).

We were able to:

- Tie in the gauged and spiked track to the 994 grade crossing. About 100' of track was constructed.
- Lay about 30' of new track on the south side of 994.

Assisting yesterday were these hardy souls: Kevin Lynch, John Widmeyer, Al Gallo, Brian Wolfe, Brian Hoffman, Daniel Lane, Bill Reynolds, and Mark Reese. Everyone stayed warm (bundled up!) and worked well.



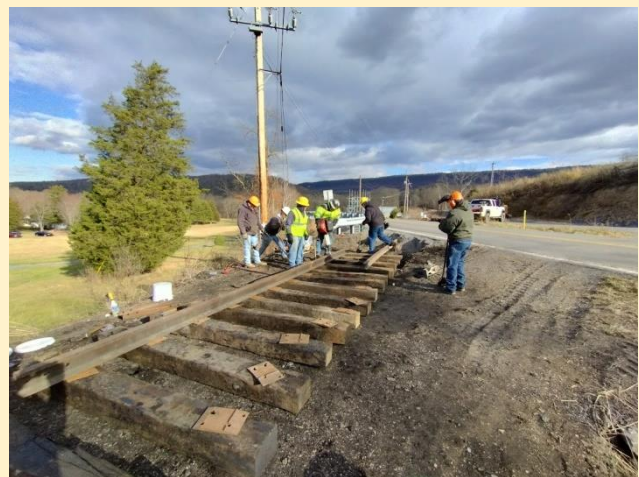
Closing in on 994 - Dec 3rd (G. Tucker photo)



It was cold! - Dec 3rd (G. Tucker photo)



North side of 994 - Dec 3rd (Dave Johnson photo)



South side of 994 - Dec 3rd (Dave Johnson photo)

# New Tracks Show Schedule – December / January

(Register at: <https://newtracksmodeling.com/>)

**Jan. 1**

# Happy New Year!

**Jan. 8**

Welcome & Announcements; Jim Kellow  
New Tracks Modeling Founder Jim Kellow MMR  
kicks off 2025 year with Introduction of Tom  
Farrell as the New Host of New Tracks Modeling  
O Scale Modeling with David Schultz  
O High Rail with Dennis Brennan  
S scale Modeling with Jamie Bothwell  
S gauge Modeling hosted by Joel Weber  
Charles of KATO USA  
Build Along Part 1 with Bernie Kritzer - Mini  
Dioramas Circus (National Capital Trains)  
Building old kits of structures with Steve  
Montgomery  
Scratchbuilder's Corner 46 with Martin Brechbiel  
Scratchbuilding his layout with Tom Farrell  
"What Do You Want to Talk About" with Steve  
Sherrill

**Jan. 22**

Welcome & Announcements; Tom Farrell  
"Using our Imagination with Everyday Inspirations  
for Our Modeling" with Paul Reeves, owner  
of Kershaw Models; Chris Coarse first guest  
Charles of KATO USA  
Build Along Part 3 with Bernie Kritzer - Mini  
Dioramas Circus (National Capital Trains)  
**MY BUILD with Chris Coarse and Greg  
Cassidy**

**Jan. 15**

Welcome & Announcements; Tom Farrell  
HO Scale Modeling with Ed O'Rourke  
N Scale Modeling with Bill Stimson  
G Scale Modeling with Steve Bittinger  
Charles of KATO USA  
Build Along Part 2 with Bernie Kritzer - Mini  
Dioramas Circus (National Capital Trains)  
Building old kits of structures with Steve  
Montgomery  
Scratchbuilder's Corner 47 with Martin Brechbiel  
Scratchbuilding his layout with Tom Farrell  
"What Do You Want to Talk About" with Steve  
Sherrill

**Jan. 29**

Welcome & Announcements; Tom Farrell  
David Banks talks about his new kits, and shows  
photos of "Structures Begging to be Modeled!"  
Charles of KATO USA  
Build Along Part 4 with Bernie Kritzer - Mini  
Dioramas Circus (National Capital Trains)  
Building old kits of structures with Steve  
Montgomery  
Inglenook Switching layout with Jeff Jordan  
Scratchbuilder's Corner 48 with Martin Brechbiel  
Scratchbuilding his layout with Tom Farrell  
"What Do You Want to Talk About" with Steve  
Sherrill

<p><b>Feb. 5</b>                  Welcome &amp; Announcements; Tom Farrell                  O Scale Modeling with David Schultz                  O High Rail with Dennis Brennan                  Inglenook Switching layout with Jeff Jordan                  Alan Loizeaux Empire Switch Building Company.                  Scratchbuilder’s Corner 49 with Martin Brechbiel                  Scratchbuilding his layout with Tom Farrell                  “What Do You Want to Talk About” with Steve Sherrill</p>	<p><b>Feb. 12</b>                  Welcome &amp; Announcements; Tom Farrell                  S scale Modeling with Jamie Bothwell                  S gauge Modeling hosted by Joel Weber                  Model Railroad Magazine Index with Michael Petersen                  Scratchbuilder’s Corner 50 with Martin Brechbiel                  Scratchbuilding his layout with Tom Farrell                  “What Do You Want to Talk About” with Steve Sherrill</p>
<p><b>Feb. 19</b>                  Welcome &amp; Announcements; Tom Farrell                  HO Scale Modeling with Ed O’Rourke                  N Scale Modeling with Bill Stimson                  “Using our Imagination with Everyday Inspirations for Our Modeling” with Paul Reeves, owner of Kershaw Models  <a href="#">MY BUILD with Chris Coarse and Greg Cassidy</a></p>	<p><b>Feb. 26</b>                  Welcome &amp; Announcements; Tom Farrell                  G Scale Modeling with Steve Bittinger                  Scratchbuilder’s Corner 51 with Martin Brechbiel                  Scratchbuilding his layout with Tom Farrell                  “What Do You Want to Talk About” with Steve Sherrill</p>

## From Jim Kellow

When I was a Lionel collector I had one of these Lionel 0-6-0 scale models. I paid a substantial amount for it back in the mid- to late-1980s. Wonder what this prototype one will sell for?

Tinplate Times posted the following on a Facebook group.

“The Lionel scale PRR 060 switcher prototype is coming up for auction as part of the Jerry Poch collection sale offered by Stout Auctions , Middlesex Pennsylvania location ( February 22nd 2025). The brass prototype was found in a Montreal hobby shop in the late '70s by Gary Baloun. The model was found painted black over gold paint (700e brass prototype when initially found was over painted with gold also). Joshua Cowen must have been very proud of his achievements in the scale world as he had the prototype for the Hudson O & OO gauge and 060 switcher behind his office desk for many years. Photo of Joshua & Lawrence Cowen at the desk found in the new Project Roar Publishing book "Lights, Camera, Lionel Trains!" by Rodger Carp. Lionel Switcher prototype to be offered in February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 Stout's Auction of Middlesex, Pennsylvania; catalog with additional photos available closer to auction date.”

## More Traction Modeling From Eric Diehl

Here are some more traction models from Eric.

Indianapolis Railways kit-bashed from a Spectrum Peter Witt.



DS&U/OE Medway Ohio powerhouse shifter brass bashed using a Suydam flat motor and heavily modified white metal casting from MTS for the cab.

DC&P steel combines No. 30 and No. 32 scratchbuilt from styrene, logo decals designed by me and printed by Rail Graphics and Paul Mayer.





Scioto Valley trailer scratchbuilt in wood.



CD&M original redbird color scheme first used on a wood car that was made into a platform observation after a rear end collision. The model is a kit bash using Vane Jones sides and end.

ISC Wabash Valley Flyer 2 car train with Little Turtle parlor car. From Locomotive Workshops photo etched kits my dad purchased in the early '70's. Decals designed by me and printed by Rail Graphics.

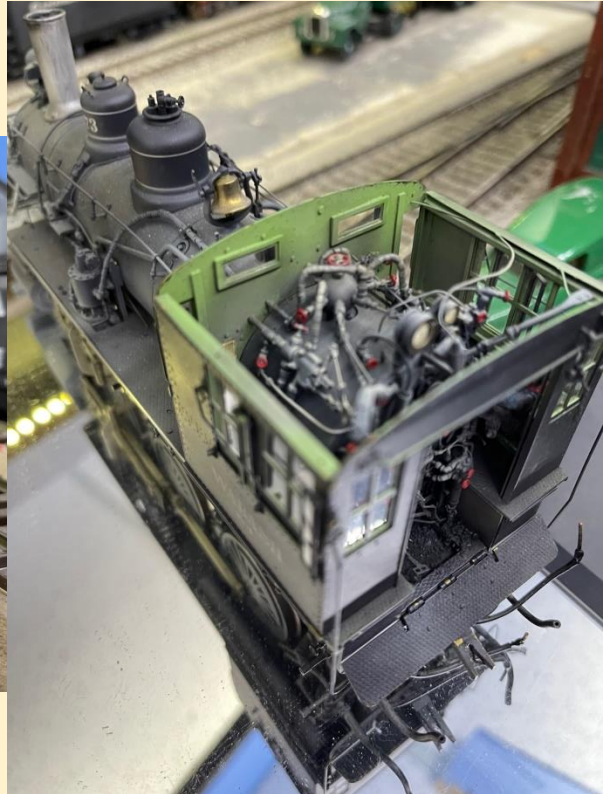


There are more, I have about 125 operable models, many are ones I have either built or at least painted.



## O Scale From the Collection of David Vaughn

Here is a Wabash mogul built and superdetailed by the late Louis Bartig from a Kemtron kit. The model illustrates the level of detail and realism which can be included in O Scale models.



## 1:64 Scale Transfer Station with Animation Update

We, *CatzPaw Innovations LLC*, *New Creations Victorian Railroad Buildings LLC*, and *American Models*, want to thank everyone who pre-ordered the *1:64 Scale Transfer Station with Animation!* This has been an exciting project and we look forward to bringing this kit to market.

We received positive feedback from S-Fest Convention attendees who had the opportunity to witness the prototype in action. We also received a few suggestions which we are reviewing for implementation. One notable suggestion that will be implemented in the final version is the option to mirror the building design and loading dock, i.e. relocating the tractor trailer and rail cars to the opposite sides.



Pre-orders will be shipping in mid-December, just in time for the holidays.

For more information visit the product page at: <https://tinyurl.com/AnimatedTransferStation>

Or by scanning the QR code.



## VENDOR'S CORNER



We offer over 75 HO scale premium kits to choose from  
[https://www.besttrains.com/premium\\_kits\\_ho.html](https://www.besttrains.com/premium_kits_ho.html)



There are almost 50 HO scale kits available - All for under \$20!  
[https://www.besttrains.com/basics\\_kits\\_ho.html](https://www.besttrains.com/basics_kits_ho.html)



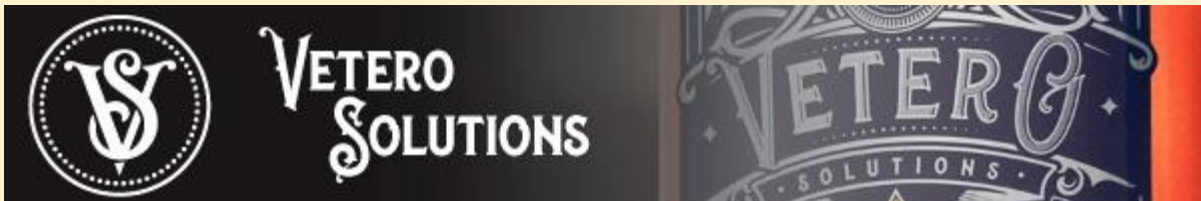
# CASTINGS

There are over 540 pewter detail castings to choose from  
[https://www.besttrains.com/castings\\_ho.html](https://www.besttrains.com/castings_ho.html)



# SHINGLES

And for you scratch builders we have over 250 styles of shingles in N,  
HO, and O scale  
<https://www.besttrains.com/shingles.html>



Choose from 24 colors of solutions



<https://www.besttrains.com/vetero.html>



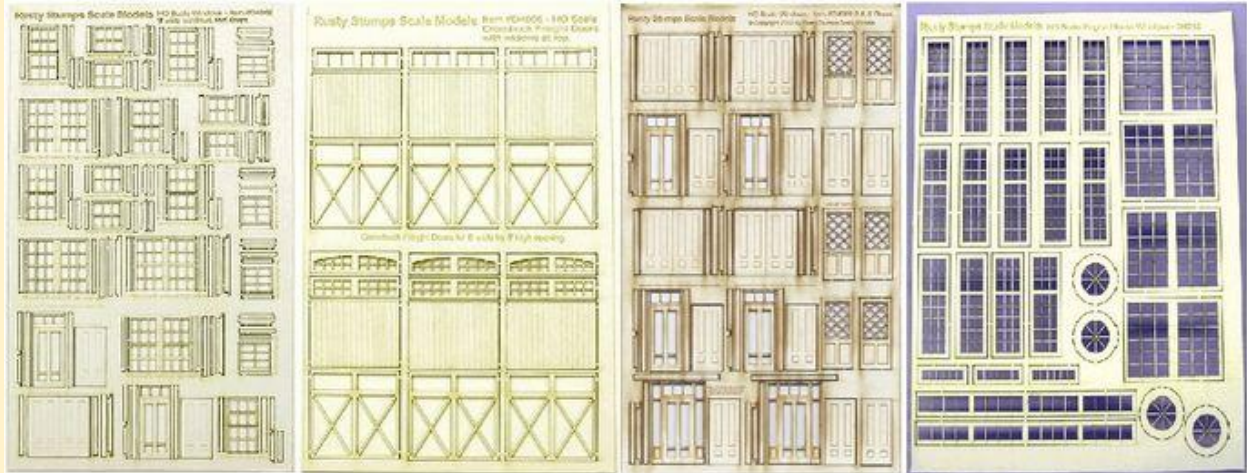
*Did You Know...* **Rail-Scale-Models** offers a variety of laser-cut window and door assemblies ? ...over 50 different sets... available in the four (4) popular scales plus larger scales like G and F.

These are popular items for the scratchbuilder and kitbasher... those looking for a unique window and door set for their structure build.

Double-Hung Windows, Arch-Top Windows, Factory-Style Windows, Store-Front Windows, etc., etc. Single Doors, Double-Doors, Freight Doors, Garage Doors... for wood structures or masonry structures... with trim details, headers, & sills. Lots of details available !!

This product line comes to **Rail-Scale-Models** through the acquisition of the **Rusty Stumps Scale Models** laser-cut details business back in 2018. Since then, we've added many new products to enhance the line-up. ...be sure to check it out at **Rail-Scale-Models.com**.

Can't find exactly what you're looking for?? We offer custom-designed window and door sets for whatever style, size, and scale that you need. We can work from photos or sketches, and draw up your set in CAD... with whatever details you'd like - double-hung frames, perimeter trim, headers & sills, etc., etc.



Interested ?? Just drop us an email at [RailScaleModels@yahoo.com](mailto:RailScaleModels@yahoo.com)

Here are the latest details for the Train Show calendar for the Fall / Winter of 2024 / 2025. Thanks to all those who stop by to visit with ***Rail-Scale-Models*** at these shows!

- Jan 25-26 Amherst Society Railroad Hobby Show - in W Springfield, MA
- Feb 1-2 The Great Scale Model Train Show - in Timonium, MD
- Feb 14-15 Central Railway Museum Railroad Expo - in Easley, SC
- Feb 21-22 Western NC Model Railroaders Train Show – Fletcher, NC
- Mar 8-9 Piedmont Division Train Show – Cartersville, GA

# Rusty Rail

For the HO scale crowd we have 3 items this month!

First item is our stand alone boiler and steam donkey (RRLE-H-14). Can be used as an active machine in logging or mining. Would also make a great piece to place as abandoned equipment at a logging camp or mining camp. Measures 2" by 3/4" by 5/8" and the boiler measures 5/8" round by 2" high. Castings come unpainted.



[Click here to check it out](#)

Second item is a 1950 GMC Truck (RRTK-H-32). Minor assembly required attaching the tires to the frame. Truck measures 2 1/2" long 7/8" wide and 1" tall. Casting comes unpainted.



[Click here to check it out](#)

The third item is a 1950 Buick Sedan (RRS-H-39). Check out all the chrome on this car. I remember my dad had one of these Buick's and I always like the front grille. Minor assembly required attaching the tires to the frame. Sedan measures 2 1/4" long 7/8" wide and 5/8" tall. Casting comes unpainted.



[Click here to check it out](#)

For the O scale crowd we have 1 item this month!

Here is an O scale dock crane (RRS-O-03). You can use it on a loading dock or like I'm going to use it on a work train car coming soon. The crane requires some simple assembly. Measures 2" by 7/8" by 2" tall. Casting is unpainted and figure is not included.

[Click here to check it out](#)



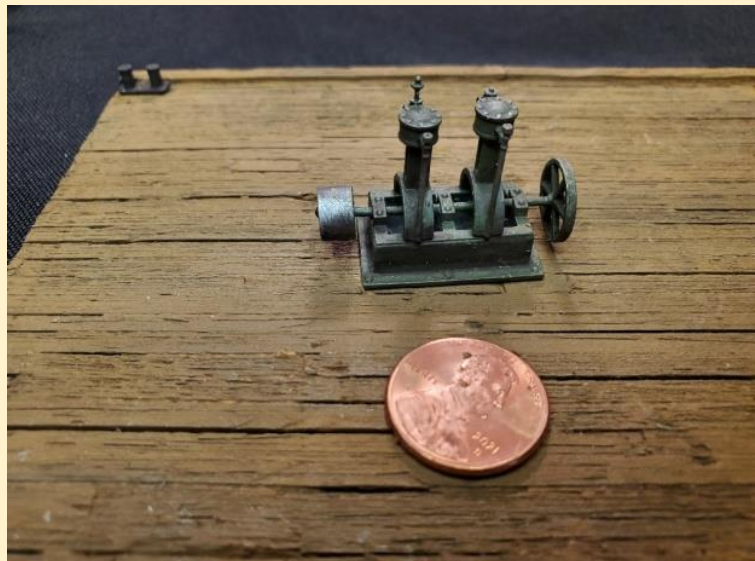
Working on a new Work Train car and should come out soon!

[Click here to shop all HO scale products](#)

[Click here to shop all O scale products](#)

## 3D printed parts

Check out our new 3D printed Industrial Air Compressor kits in HO and O scale. May cost a little more but the detail is great.





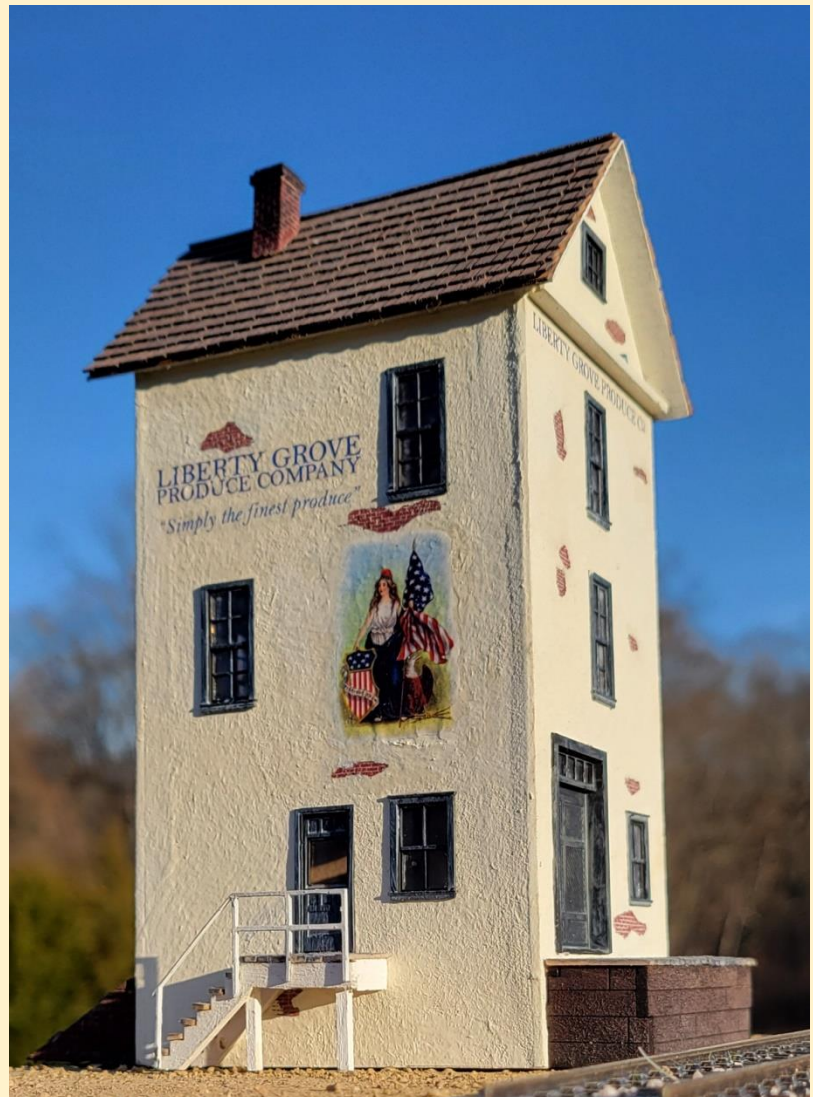


COMING SOON!



Repurposed 24' Boxcar in HO scale

Liberty Grove Produce Company in HO scale



# **O** RESOURCE

*THE*

**NEWS, REVIEWS, INFORMATION TO USE**  
**We're putting the "modeling" back**  
**in Model Railroading!**

# SCALE



**The O Scale Resource Magazine is the only bi-monthly magazine dedicated to everything 2 rail O scale. Whether you model O standard, P-48, narrow gauge or other 1/48 scale modeling we have you covered.**

**It's free to read and download!**

**<https://oscaleresource.com>**

## MODEL RAILROAD RESOURCE LLC O AND S SCALE RESIN PARTS



### **BUDA No. 30 Clamp Type Steel Bumping Post**

The Buda No. 30 track bumper was used on North American railroads. They could be found all over, on customer sidings, yards and more. Our kit includes the clamping parts to attach to the rail. Designed for code 100 track, however, larger codes may be used by removing or filing the pieces. Once glued and ballasted in place you will not notice the difference.

Parts come on supports and will need to be carefully cut. We always recommend a good sprue cutter for this. Some minor sanding may be required. Parts come unpainted.

**\$8.95**

See all or fine products at:

<https://modelrailroadresource.com/WP/>

## Reaching Applicants for the NTM Scholarship – Getting the Word Out!

Every reader of this newsletter can help get applicants for our scholarships both at their local HS and college levels. Promoting scholarship availability and reaching out to college students can be done through various effective methods. Here are some suggestions:

1. **College Websites:** Contact the administration or career services departments of various colleges and universities, asking them to include your scholarship opportunity on their websites or scholarship portals. This will ensure visibility to a large number of students.
2. **Social Media:** Utilize social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn, to share information about your scholarship. Create visually appealing posts and encourage students to share the information with their peers.
3. **Email Campaigns:** Obtain email lists from colleges and universities, targeting students who fit the eligibility criteria for your scholarship. Send out personalized emails offering information on the scholarship, application process, and deadlines.
4. **College Fairs and Events:** Participate in college fairs and events to directly interact with students. Set up a booth or table where you can provide brochures, answer questions, and raise awareness about your scholarship opportunity.
5. **Campus Ambassadors:** Collaborate with student organizations or campus ambassadors from different colleges to help promote your scholarship. These students can serve as brand ambassadors, spreading the word about your program among their peers.
6. **Press Releases:** Draft and distribute press releases to local and national media outlets to generate wider awareness about your scholarship program. This can attract attention from a broader audience, including potential applicants.
7. **Online Scholarship Databases:** Register your scholarship on popular scholarship search platforms, such as Fastweb, Scholarships.com, or College Board's Scholarship Search. These platforms are frequently used by students searching for financial aid opportunities.

Remember to include clear instructions on how students can apply, including any required documents and deadlines. Make the application process straightforward and easily accessible to maximize student engagement with your scholarship opportunity.



## Please Continue to Help Our Next Generation of Model Railroaders by Donating to our 2025 Scholarship Program

We are currently asking for donations for our 2026 scholarships and are hopeful we will exceed our 2025 level. We will offer three \$2,000.00 scholarships in 2025. As a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, your donation to the scholarship is tax deductible as allowed by law.

The New Tracks Mentoring Inc, grants Scholarships to qualified High School graduates who will be, or are currently, pursuing a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts or Math) undergraduate program at a two-year or four-year college or university or an accredited technical school.

Our scholarship funds are paid directly to the school in the Student's name and can be used for any fee owed to the school, including room, board, or other school fees such as stuff bought at the school's bookstore. The 2025 Scholarship application will be available on our website: <https://newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship-application/>

### It's Easy to Donate to our Scholarship Fund.

The simplest way for individuals or Corporations to donate is to use Zeffy. We chose Zeffy as they insure that 100% of your contribution goes to our scholarship. There are no processing or administration fees. To use Zeffy, please click → [here!](#)



If you wish to make a contribution by check, please make the check payable to: **New Tracks Mentoring, Inc.**, and mail it to:

**New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarship  
c/o Tom Farrell  
2026 W. Stanton Ct.  
Bloomington, IN 47404**

# **New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Scholarship**

## *For Modeling's Future*

**In 2023 New Tracks Mentoring, Inc. was formed as a Florida 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation to provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships to model railroaders and other modelers pursuing a STEAM related undergraduate college degree or technical school credential.**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

To encourage young modelers to develop their skills and maintain their connection to model railroading through mentoring and educational opportunities.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

To provide financial assistance, through educational scholarships and grant programs, to inspire continued interest and expertise in railroad modeling.

Our first scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000.00, was awarded in 2023, and we were able to grant three \$2,000.00 scholarships in 2024. We will grant another three \$2,000.00 scholarships June 1, 2025. We are asking for applications for our 2025 awards January 1, 2025, through June 1, 2025.

To learn more about the application process, please click [\*\*HERE\*\*](#).

Questions? E-mail us at: [NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com)

**Everyone who reads this can help get the word out to potential Scholarship Donors and Applicants by Displaying our Scholarship Banner at Shows and Events around the Country and by your “Word of Mouth” communication at your local club and to friends.**

Bob Davidson generously designed, printed, and donated 5 banners through his company, Exhibits and More, which are available to be shown at train shows and rail expos across the country. Bob recently sold his company and I am pleased to announce the new owner has agreed to donate undated banners.

Each banner is 3' wide and about 7' tall and has a QR code on it to link you directly to our website to get more information including the application to apply. The banners are in a retractable unit that is very easy to ship and set-up. Table top banners, about 16" wide and 3 and 1/2 feet tall, are also available. In addition to the banners, we can also provide handouts about the Scholarship Program to local events we are not able to attend in person. If you want any of these supplies for your event let Bob Davidson know at: [bobdavidson@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:bobdavidson@newtracksmodeling.com)

Look for **New Tracks Modeling** at any show you attend. We hope to be represented at as many shows as possible in 2025. If you want to take one of our Banners, or help man a table, or have us be a part of your table display, contact Bob Davidson at: [bobdavidson@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:bobdavidson@newtracksmodeling.com)

We will be at the Amherst Show, the Great Scale Model Train Show (GSMTS) in Timonium, the O Scale in Chicago, the National Narrow Gauge Show in St Louis, Al Judy's two shows, O Scale, and O Narrow Gauge, in Harrisburg, the NASG 2024 National Convention, and various other shows and conventions to be announced. Thank you to everyone who has helped us display our Banners, pass out our handouts at Shows around the Country, and vocally promote our program within their clubs and at events, last year.

New Tracks Mentoring Inc., is the only national volunteer nonprofit model railroading organization representing all scales and gauges who have created a nonprofit 501(c)(3) company for the sole purpose of raising funds and providing scholarships throughout the United States for the benefit of young modelers that are pursuing a STEAM undergraduate education after High School graduation, in a college, university or accredited technical school. Our scholarships are paid directly to the school in the Student's name and can be used for any fee owed to the school, including room, board, or other school fees such as stuff bought at the school's bookstore. So please help us help the young people in our great hobby.

The Contributions and support by the current model railroad community can help the next generation of modelers provide the leadership and continue the traditions

of our great hobby. For more scholarship information and to donate visit our website: <https://newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship/>

## **New Tracks Modeling 2024 Wrap up and What's up for 2025**

*From Jim Kellow*

### **2024 has been a highly successful year for New Tracks Modeling.**

1. Our Weekly Zoom shows increased viewership, both live on Zoom and YouTube, and on the videos of the shows on our YouTube Channel. At viewer's request this year we expanded our MY BUILD segments, and started new Zoom show segments with knowledgeable Hosts for N, HO, S, S Hi-Rail, O, O Hi-Rail, and G scales, Diorama modeling, new modeling technologies, Hobby Shops, NMRA Divisions and Local Clubs, Watch Me Build Kits, Scratchbuilding, and even an open "What do you want to talk about" segment.
2. Our Webmaster has improved our website, which has gained viewership and subscribers, who get advance weekly Zoom show agendas, log-in Zoom links, and copies of our monthly newsletter.
3. We continue to write about New Tracks Modeling updates and activities in each issue of the O Scale Resource digital magazine. Unfortunately, the S Scale Resource magazine halted publication so to get S scale news you need to go to our Observations Newsletter.
4. I completed the first year of the monthly Model Railroading column in my local Chronicle newspaper. These articles reach an audience model railroaders don't normally talk with, but I believe is our future.
5. Our Monthly Observations Newsletter with Editor Martin Brechbiel, MMR completed its first year with rave reviews. Its distribution has grown very significantly this year thanks to it being distributed to all our website subscribers and readers of the S and O Scale Resource digital



magazines. It is becoming a significant all scales and gauges modeling digital publication which is free to subscribers.

6. We started a New Tracks Modeling Facebook group. It is designed for followers and subscribers to continue and further explore subjects they either heard about on our Zoom or YouTube shows, or saw in our newsletter, or just to start discussions they feel will be of interest to other modelers. It already has over 1,000 followers.

7. We expanded our Scholarship Program by awarding three \$2,000.00 scholarships to modelers attending Colleges and Universities throughout the country. You can find more about our Scholarship Committee elsewhere in this newsletter from Chairman Bob Davidson.

We owe many thanks and a great debt of gratitude to each of our volunteers, and donors, who help make our New Tracks Modeling shows and activities possible. These volunteers provide all the production capabilities, develop, and maintain our website, handle our communication needs, help pay our out-of-pocket costs, contribute to our Scholarship program, and carry out all the various other jobs that allows New Tracks Modeling to function and grow. I want to personally thank each and every one of you.

And yes, we still need more volunteers to help those who are currently volunteering to make sure we have at least two people for each job.

### **What is Planned for New Tracks Modeling in 2025?**

As you know I am passing along to the next generation of New Tracks Modeling leaders the continuation of much of our workload.

Starting January 1, 2025, Tom Farrell, Phil Edholm, Bob Davidson, Martin Brechbiel, MMR, Jim Allen are all taking on much greater rolls in the management and future development of New Tracks Modeling

Zoom and YouTube shows, YouTube videos, our newsletter, Facebook group, website, and Scholarship.

I plan to concentrate my attention on writing articles and looking to the future for New Tracks Modeling opportunities to promote our great hobby of model railroading, mentoring in our hobby, getting more modelers building more models, and helping wherever I am needed. Also, I plan to do more modeling!

Naturally, we all want New Tracks Modeling to continue to grow. To do that we need your help to know what you want New Tracks Modeling to continue to do and what we are not doing you want us to start. Please tell us.

Thanks again for all your past support. Please continue your support New Tracks Modeling and to our new team of leaders. Now let's have fun in 2025 and help each other build some great model railroading pieces of ART and have fun running our railroad empires. You can always reach me, and I love to hear from you, at

[jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com](mailto:jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com)





[www.gsmts.com](http://www.gsmts.com)

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PROGRAM**