



The Conductor's Corner by Tom Farrell

Bridging the Hobby's Past & Future



I often enjoy flipping through old model railroad magazines for inspiration—whether for a structure or a scene—and to see how the hobby has evolved. This time, I pulled out the Spring 1960 issue of *Model Trains*, once a quarterly published by Kalmbach alongside *Model Railroader*. It felt like stepping into a time capsule of the hobby's past.

One ad that caught my attention was for X-Acto, which was celebrating its 25th anniversary. Amazingly, they're still around! Other familiar names included Lionel, Walthers, Atlas, Model Rectifier Corporation (MRC), and many hobby shops and small manufacturers. Yet, it was striking how many once-prominent companies have vanished, reflecting how much model railroading has changed over the decades.

Despite these changes, the hobby continues to evolve, driven by new modelers and innovators. As technology, consumer interests, and market trends shift, some companies adapt while others disappear. This transformation affects everything from product availability to modeling techniques, keeping the hobby dynamic.

To help modelers stay informed, New Tracks Live brings key industry players directly to our audience. At each show, we strive to feature a major manufacturer sharing insights into their latest product releases and a cottage manufacturer showcasing their unique, nearly handcrafted products. This mix ensures viewers receive firsthand knowledge from those shaping the future of model railroading.

From new product releases, advancements in control systems, and new modeling techniques to mentoring in scratchbuilding and kit construction, New Tracks Live connects the hobby's rich past with its evolving future. Tune in live every Wednesday at 7:00 PM ET on YouTube and Zoom, or watch recorded episodes on YouTube anytime at your convenience.

From the Editor's Desk

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

Per our usual practice, announcements of new products from vendors, news about trains shows and conventions, New Tracks Modeling Scholarship news, are included within this issue of *Observations*. Updates and modification to regularly scheduled New Tracks Modeling program segments are included as available. Please 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

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 information shared and distributed to the modeling community by all means possible benefits all!

And yes! Articles and photos (like cover photos!) in *Observations* count toward the NMRA AP Author category. Contact me with any questions on that topic.

And just a quick reminder, send me a good quality portrait format photo and your modeling can be on the cover of an upcoming issue of the newsletter.

As always a special thanks to our proofreaders Greg Cassidy and Joel McCurry as well as our vendor liaison, Eric Kennedy.



Cover Photo: From Phil Edholm

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News and Announcements

Exciting News: Tom Yorke is Back on New Tracks Modeling!

We are thrilled to announce that Tom Yorke will return to our New Tracks Modeling Live Zoom and YouTube show!

Jim Kellow, MMR NTM, recently received an email from Tom Yorke, and I'm honored to coordinate the scheduling for two special presentations showcasing his incredible work in Gn15 modeling.

Here's what Tom had to say:

"Jim, it's been a while. I'm improving slowly, but the shoulder, limited movement, and the neck cannot be repaired! It looks like I will have to live with restricted movement and neck pain, along with not being able to lift my head. It doesn't keep me from modeling or drawing, though!"

Tom has proposed two fascinating programs, each featuring accompanying photos:

- 1) Gn15 History & Scratch-Built Structures – A deep dive into the history of Gn15 modeling and Tom's incredible handcrafted structures.
- 2) Gn15 Motive Power & Rolling Stock – Exploring the unique locomotives and rolling stock that bring this scale to life.

We are finalizing the two show dates, targeting late March and early April 2025, so watch our schedule for updates on these exciting presentations!

Welcome back, Tom Yorke—we can't wait to learn from you again!

Tom Farrell

Last Issue of the New Tracks Modeling *Observations* Newsletter will be May 1, 2025

First issue of *New Tracks Modeler* magazine will be June 1, 2025

New Tracks Modeling's monthly free newsletter, *Observations*, editor Martin Brechbiel, MMR, is designed to provide ideas and commentary about all scales and gauges in our great model railroad hobby and modeler's featured articles. We also provide advance notices about upcoming New Tracks Modeling features, opinions, and projects including our Scholarship program.

All subscribers to our website and donors to New Tracks Modeling's Patreon account, or to our Scholarship program automatically get a link to our newsletter by email each month. Also, all subscribers to Amy and Dan Dawdy's free O Scale Resource digital magazine receive a copy. Anyone can see and download our free monthly newsletter on our website: <http://newtracksmodeling.com>

Please contact our Executive Editor, Martin Brechbiel, MMR, NTM (Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com) with your articles (send us articles!!!), comments, suggestions, details, new product information in any Scale, upcoming events and shows, and more! We are also actively looking for someone to manage all our advertising aspects of New Tracks Modeling. If you have some interest in volunteering for that position, please contact our editor Martin Brechbiel, MMR, NTM. For those interested, note that publishing in *New Tracks Modeler* will count toward NMRA AP Authors points. Contact Martin for more information if needed.

Revolutionizing Model Railroading: Introducing "*New Tracks Modeler*" Magazine!

We are happy to announce the transformation our New Tracks Modeling newsletter, *Observations* into a vibrant, monthly digital magazine: *New Tracks Modeler* with its first issue happening on June 1, 2025. It will build upon the success of our popular weekly New Tracks Modeling Zoom (and YouTube)

shows. It is designed to be companion media with our live Zoom shows to be your ultimate resource for creative model building and mentoring. Its article will cater to model enthusiasts in all aspects of modeling in all scales and gauges. Whether you're a seasoned master or a budding beginner, this magazine is your gateway to unlocking new levels of modeling creativity and skill. Subscribe to our website, <http://newtracksmodeling.com> to get your free copy and find out about our other New Tracks activities.

What Awaits You Inside *New Tracks Modeler*

Meet Model Builders:

Dive into inspiring profiles of accomplished modelers, gaining invaluable insights into their techniques and philosophies. Connect with them directly through our interactive Zoom shows or through their articles.

Discover Hidden Gems:

We are passionate about supporting the lifeblood of our hobby: small manufacturers. Enjoy meeting many small manufacturers you may have never heard of through the free advertising space we provide, which showcasing their innovative products, and brings them directly to your attention.

Elevate Your Craft:

Determine how you can become a New Tracks Mentor (NTM) and join a network of over 500 dedicated modelers. Share your skills and help others become better modelers.

Fuel the Future:

Learn how you can play a pivotal role in nurturing the next generation of model railroaders through participation in their creative technological activities and by promoting our New Tracks Modeling Mentoring Annual Scholarships.

Master New Techniques:

Enhance your modeling repertoire with expert tips, tutorials, and inspiration to create breathtaking layouts and scenes. Learn how to include new skills and creative ideas provided by such technologies by AI, AR, and maybe even VR.

We greatly acknowledge our magazine sponsors who made this exciting venture

financially possible.

Sponsors:

1. The Great Scale Model Train Show in Timonium, MD
2. LocoFi(TM)
3. Brennans Model Railroading
4. O Scale Central

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Amy and Dan Dawdy of “The Model Railroad Resource LLC”, our invaluable Business Mentor and Distributor, for their steadfast belief in our model building and mentoring mission, and their commitment to fostering the growth of the Model Railroad community.

Mark your calendar for the Magazine’s June 1, 2025 Launch date

Don't miss out! Secure Your Free Subscription Today: Visit

<http://newtracksmodeling.com> to subscribe and receive your complimentary digital copies. Remember to confirm your website email address to finalize your subscription. You may download and print a copy if you prefer to read a paper version.

Calling All Small Manufacturers to get your free Advertisement:

Your Opportunity to Shine! We invite small manufacturers to take advantage of our free advertising offer in our magazine. Visit our website for detailed guidelines and submit your ad to our Editor, Martin Brechbiel, MMR, NTM, by May 1, 2025 if you want to be in the first issue (Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com)

Our Reader’s Voices Matter:

We are eager to hear your thoughts and suggestions for the magazine! Please share your feedback on "New Tracks Modeler" as we embark on this exciting journey together. Again special thanks to Dan Dawdy NTM and Martin Brechbiel MMR NTM, whose vision and dedication have made this valuable resource a reality for the model railroad community. By the way if you want to be a member of our magazine’s team, please email Martin Brechbiel, MMR, NTM at Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com

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.



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



O Scale Central
<https://oscalecentral.com/>



National Association of S Gaugers
<https://www.nasg.org/>



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>



NEW TRACKS MODELING

MENTORING SCHOLARSHIP

Help Us Reach Applicants for the NTM Scholarship!

Thanks to the generosity of our individual and corporate donors, we'll be awarding three \$2,000.00 scholarships for the 2025-2026 academic year to young modelers studying Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts or Mathematics (STEAM) on an undergraduate level. The scholarship is available for those who will be attending either a two or four year college, university or trade school. Our biggest challenge is to make sure that EVERY young modeler is aware of the scholarship and is encouraged to apply.

We're doing our best to get the word out by having a presence at train shows and encouraging clubs and organizations to publicize the scholarship. We've also partnered with several manufacturers who have agreed to include information about the scholarship in their products.

You can help us do more!

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

1. Your local train group. There are several ways to help spread the word with your local train club or group:

- Make an announcement at your next meeting
- Include a message in your newsletter
- Mention the scholarship at your next ops session

2. Your local hobby shop. Ask the owner if they can share information about the scholarship on their web page or physically in their store. We'll provide flyers and artwork to help make this happen. Just ask (email below).

3. Local train fairs/shows. There's always an information table with news about future shows and events. Ask the organizers if you can leave scholarship flyers on the table and ask them to help publicize the scholarship in their advertising.

4. Local schools. If you have a local high school, ask if you can speak with a guidance counselor and make them aware of the scholarship. Direct them to our website. If there's a local college (2-year or 4-year) or trade school, speak to the folks in financial aid and let them know about us.

These efforts will not only help young modelers, but help ensure that our beloved hobby can grow and flourish.



Please Help Our Next Generation of Model Railroaders

More information can be found at:

<https://newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship/>

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Davidson at NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com



Individual and Company Donors for our 2025 Scholarships

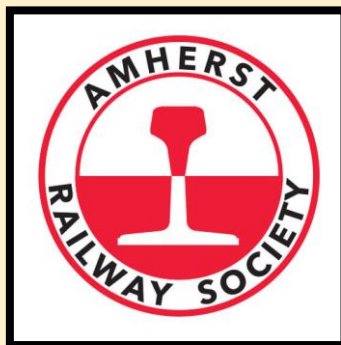
Individual donors for our 2025 scholarships are: David Menard, Gerald and Linda Feeney, Jim Kellow, MMR, Fr. Ron Walters, Bob Charles, MMR, Jeff Zigley, Bob Davidson, Jim Foley, Anonymous, Greg Cassidy, Jamie Bothwell, Michael Gorczynski, Rich Randall, Steve Sherrill, Jeff Jordan, Pat Rivard, James Koryta, 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 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/>

We are pleased and very grateful to announce our 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

We are 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/>



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

The Model Railroad Resource LLC

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

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Kershaw Craftsman Kits

<https://kershawcraftsmankits.com/>



WiFi Model Railroad

<https://www.wifimodelrailroad.com/>

owned by WiFi Model Railroad



NEW TRACKS MODELING

Where Mentors Help Modelers Build



LIVE WEEKLY On YouTube & Zoom

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

- Scratch Builder's Corner by Martin Brechbiel, MMR
- My Build by Chris Course (Monthly)
- The On30 Rustic Buff & Old Gothic by Tom Farrell
- Narrow Gauge Modeling by Steve Sherrill
- News & Views – All Scales by Invited Guests!

**EVERY
WEDNESDAY
7:00PM – 9:00PM
(EASTERN)**

**Subscribe on our website to receive links to the show:
www.newtracksmodeling.com**

Regularly Scheduled Segments on New Tracks Modeling

Scratchbuilder's Corner

by Martin Brechbiel, MMR (Martin.Brechbiel@newtracksmodeling.com)

Scratchbuilder's Corner went on hiatus for much of March and returned late in that month to wrap up the build of the Carstens Reefer.

This regularly featured part of the New Tracks Modeling show 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 as always to teach & share techniques and "tricks" that can be adapted into your scratchbuilding projects working from simple projects through those of increasing complexity.



Scratchbuilding a Layout – The Eberwein Coal Facility on The On30 RB & OG (Part 2)

by Tom Farrell (tfarrell60@comcast.net)

I continue to work on the **Eberwein Coal Facility Scene** for my **On30 Rustic Buff & Old Gothic Railroad** as part of the **Watch Me Build series on the New Tracks Live Program**. As noted last month, this project combines iconic structures from legendary modelers Len Eberwein and the late Al Judy, a Thomas Yorke original resin kit from Frenchman River Models, and my contest-winning scratch-built creations. At the heart of the scene stands Len Eberwein's museum-quality coal tipple, serving as the focal point.



A distinctive feature of this project is the integration of a Timesaver-style DC (analog) switching yard tailored to meet the operational needs of the Eberwein Coal Facility. This innovative setup allows me to operate my older, non-DCC locomotives independently of the DCC-controlled mainline of the RB&OG. The Analog Timesaver Yard and the DCC RB & OG layout are unlinked.

But precisely what is a Timesaver Yard?

A Timesaver Yard on a model railroad is a clever switching puzzle that turns yard operations into a strategic game of wit and precision. It was initially conceived by the legendary John Allen, a model



railroading pioneer, to challenge operators by making them think ahead about moves, car placements, and switching orders.

When John Allen's layout room caught fire only ten days after his fatal heart attack, all except a very few smaller structures of the Gorre & Daphetid were destroyed beyond recovery. The "Timesaver," however, miraculously survived. The original layout was donated to the NMRA Howell Day Museum in Chattanooga, TN, for display, whilst the copy twin of the original is currently on display at the San Diego Railroad Museum.

The Basics of a Timesaver

At its core, a Timesaver is a compact and deliberately inefficient switching layout. It consists of a main track with several sidings, each serving industries or freight spots, so switching movements require careful planning to avoid getting boxed in. The challenge typically involves picking up and delivering cars in a specific sequence with limited track space, forcing the operator to strategize every move.

Key Features of a Timesaver Yard

1. **Limited Track Space** – It's designed to restrict movement, often with short sidings that can only hold a few cars.
2. **Deliberate Obstacles** – Spur tracks are arranged in ways that make easy switching impossible, requiring multiple moves to get cars where they need to go.
3. **Game-like Challenges** – Operators must complete switching tasks as efficiently as possible, often against a timer or a set number of moves.
4. **Variety of Operations**—Depending on the arrangement, you can swap out industries and train, which consists of changing the challenge.

How It Works in a Model Railroad Yard

Integrating a Timesaver into a larger layout, such as my Rustic Buff & Old Gothic Railroad, transforms it into a dynamic and interactive yard. Trains arrive from a fictitious RB&OG branch line—which operates independently from the main layout—representing inbound freight movements. These trains must be

systematically broken down, sorted, or reassembled within the constraints of limited track space and carefully planned switching operations.

This design introduces an additional layer of operational challenge, requiring precise moves to spot cars at the coal tipple, prepare outbound consists, and efficiently manage yard congestion. By incorporating a Timesaver within my layout, I create a functional yet engaging switching hub, blending the strategic elements of puzzle-like railroading with realistic yard operations while maintaining seamless theoretical integration with the broader RB&OG system.

Why Use a Timesaver?

- Great for Small Spaces – If you have a shelf or a narrow layout section, a Timesaver-style yard gives you operational interest without requiring an entire mainline run.
- Engaging for Operators – Instead of running trains in loops, a Timesaver makes you think like a real yardmaster.
- Perfect for Solo or Group Play – You can operate it alone, competing against your best times, or with friends to see who can complete the switching puzzle most efficiently.

Expanding on the Concept

Some modelers modify the Timesaver to fit their themes. If you incorporate it into your layout, perhaps in the freight yard, you could make it a coal or logging operation where switching involves spotting empty cars for loading, moving full cars to departure tracks, and ensuring proper blocking of freight for outbound movements.

The construction of the RB&OG Timesaver Yard will be featured in the April 2025 New Tracks Modeling Live YouTube & Zoom Program, which airs every Wednesday evening from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM ET, with episodes recorded, segmented, and posted on YouTube for convenient viewing later. Subscribe for free on our website to receive program links: www.newtracksmodeling.com

New Tracks Modeling “MY BUILD” 2025

by Chris Course (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.

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 next MY BUILD will be on April 23rd

The Topic for this MY BUILD will be → “Automation/Animation – Make it move”

E-mail railrunner130@hotmail.com to participate preferably by April ??

UPCOMING MY BUILD CHALLENGES/SHOWS

May 28th FREE-FOR-ALL (ANYTHING GOES)/

Elections for future challenge themes

E-mail theme ideas to railrunner130@hotmail.com

June 25st “Water”, waterfronts, boats, bridges, etc.

July 23rd FREE-FOR-ALL (ANYTHING GOES)

Selected Photos From the March MY BUILD

From Martin Brechbiel



From Greg Cassidy



From Bill Davis





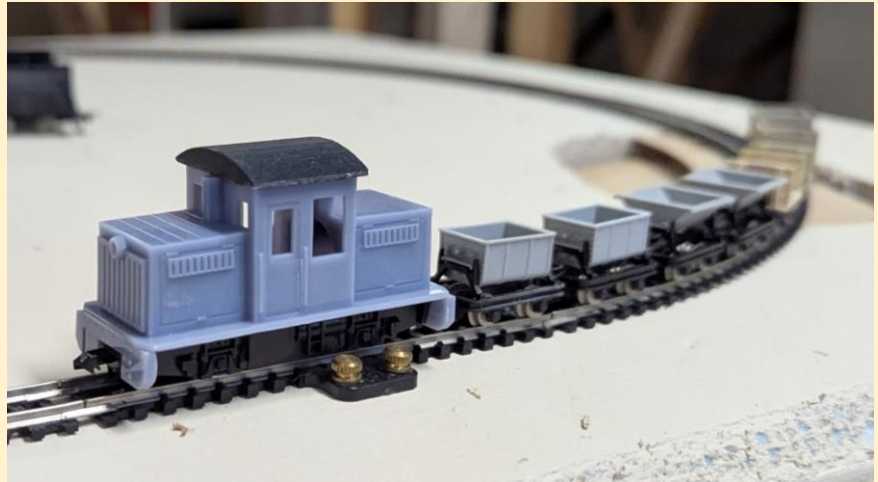
From Tony Dixon



From Bernd Fanghanel



From Jeffrey Jordan



From Bill Stimson



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.

Volunteers Working on the Real EBT Railroad

Well, winter played havoc with our work schedule this year. Seems like we got spoiled with the nature of the winters we've had in the past couple of years.

That said, we have been able to resume our work. Recent do'ins:

- We constructed the last bit of track between the 994 crossing and the north driveway at the Southern Huntingdon High School. This is about 600 feet of track. It is all now gauged and spiked. Once school is out in mid-June, we can redo the 994 crossing and both driveways in front of the school.



Track construction - March 11th (D. Johnson photo)



Lining track - March 11th (A. Gallo photo)



Setting spikes - March 11th (D. Johnson photo)

We've begun work in Saltillo, cutting brush and breaking apart joint bars in preparation for removal of the track, grading and relaying the rail.

Upcoming Railroad Prototype Modeler Events

Hindsight 20/20 is a virtual RPM, gathering on the Zoom platform. These occasional events have been all-day events featuring ten 30-minute clinicians on a Saturday every 6 to 8 weeks on prototypes and modeling. We also hold Wednesday Night Hindsight events featuring a single clinician, every 3-5 weeks. Registration is required but there is no event cost and is open at Speedwitch media (<https://speedwitchmedia.com/>).

Please register WELL IN ADVANCE

2025 events

Steel Town Railway Prototype Modellers' Meet – April 19, Eva Rothwell Community Centre, Hamilton, Ontario

RPM Carolinas: School of Railway Prototype Modeling – May 3, High Point, NC – the 2025 event is set for the May 3rd weekend.

Railway Modellers Meet – May 23 – 25, Vancouver, BC. Check their website for updated details.

New England/Northeast RPM – May 30 – June 1, Springfield Sheraton, Springfield, MA. In association with the Amherst Railway Society.

BAPM 2025 – The San Francisco Bay Area Prototype Modelers Meet – Saturday June 21, St. David's School Hall, Richmond, CA

Central Pennsylvania Shortline RPM – July 18-20, Bricktown Museum, Mount Union, PA

St. Louis RPM – July 24 – 26, Gateway Convention Center, Collinsville, IL

Waterloo Railway Exposition – August 30 & 31, Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Waterloo, Ontario

Mid-Atlantic RPM – September 11-14, Double Tree by Hilton at BWI

Anthracite Railroad Modelers Meet – September 19 – 21, Reading Railroad Heritage Museum, Hamburg, PA.

Colorado Rail Proto Meet – September 27 & 28, Island Grove Event Center, Greeley, CO

Bridgetown Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet – October 4, Holiday Inn Portland – Airport, Portland, OR

Central Ohio RPM – October 9 – 11, Marion Union Station, Marion, OH

RPM Naperville – October 17 – 18, Northern Illinois University conference center, Naperville, IL

Northern Alberta Railway Modellers Meet 2024 – October 25, Location TBA, Edmonton, AB

Train Show Schedule

Great Scale Model Train and Railroad Collectors Show
May 3rd and 4th, 2025 Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun 9am-3pm
Admission Sat & Sun \$12; Sun \$10
Maryland State Fair 2200 York Rd. Timonium, MD 21093
[Click here for complete map and directions from all points; https://www.gsmts.com/](https://www.gsmts.com/)
<https://sites.google.com/view/greatscalemodeltrains/how>

O Scale 2 Rail Indianapolis Train Show
September 18-20, 2025
September 19, 2025 3pm-7pm
September 20, 9am-3pm
La Quinta Inn & 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: <https://www.indyoscaleshows.com>
Phone: (833) 410-3872

**Send us your train show
Information!!!!**

NTM Mentoring Opportunities – Help Needed from Mentors & Readers!

When I first started the New Tracks Zoom shows, my goal was two-fold:

- 1) Introduce talented modelers who could help others improve their skills.
- 2) Allow viewers to interact with these experienced modelers and get their needed guidance.

While we've successfully showcased excellent modelers, time constraints during the show have made it challenging to offer direct one-on-one mentoring.

A New Approach to Mentoring:

With over 500 modelers earning the New Tracks Mentor (NTM) Award, I want to create a way for them to share their expertise with fellow modelers. Here's how:

- For NTMs: If you are a New Tracks Mentor, please send me a short write-up outlining the areas of the hobby where you'd like to offer mentoring support.
- For Readers Seeking Help: If you need guidance on a particular modeling challenge or have a question for a specific NTM modeler, let us know!

This is a fantastic opportunity to connect, share knowledge, and strengthen our modeling community. I'm excited to hear from both mentors and those seeking help. Please email me at jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com

Let's build something great together!

Jim Kellow

The 27th National Model Trolley Meet

Sponsored by the

EAST PENN TRACTION CLUB

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA (www.eastpenn.org)

MAY 15, 16 & 17, 2025 □

Meet Contest Theme:

“Contemporary Light Rail Vehicles & Trolleys”

(post 1976 original construction)



- ☞ *Manufacturer and Dealer Tables*
- ☞ *Awards for Modules & Displays*
- ☞ *Operating Layouts (All Scales)*
- ☞ *Pop-up Clinics*
- ☞ *Model Contests*
- ☞ *Silent Auction*
- ☞ *Evening Presentations*

To be held at the

Allentown Fairgrounds

Agri-Plex Charles Hall

17th & Chew Streets

Allentown, PA 18104

Free Parking on Site

www.allentownfairpa.org

Registration \$23 in advance, \$25 at the door.

See the back for more information.

**Visit www.eastpenn.org for the latest meet info
or to Register Online!**

Saturday
April 12, 2025



O / Proto48 / On3 / On30



Location: Strasburg PA Fire Company,
203 W Franklin St, Strasburg, PA 17579

Time: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Dealers entry 7:30 a.m.

Setup Friday evening, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Doors will be closed at 6:30 p.m., NO exceptions!

Admission: \$7

- Active military Free with ID.
- Wife and Children under 12 free

Table Cost: \$35 for first table

Additional tables \$30 each

**Amish
Style
Cooking**

Future Dates

| | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 |
|----------|----------|------|------|
| April 12 | April 11 | TBD | |
| Aug. 9 | Aug. 8 | TBD | |
| Oct. 11 | Oct. 10 | TBD | |

Sponsored by: Rich Yoder, 484-256-4068

For table registration or to pay for admission in advance, please fill in the form below, tear off along dotted line and mail with payment to:

Rich Yoder
625 Anne Dr.
Wernersville, PA 19565

Registration

Admission \$7 per person x _____ = _____

Table cost (does not include admission) ... \$35 first table x _____ = _____

\$30 per additional table x _____ = _____

Total _____

Please make check
payable to:
Rich Yoder

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone number () _____ email _____

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 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

NMRA 90th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EVENT
NMRA MIDWEST REGION EVENT

Labor Day Monday, September 1, 2025 11 A.M. To 2 P.M.



We, the Midwest Region, with the support of the Central Indiana Division, are hosting a 90th NMRA Anniversary celebration event in Carmel, Indiana on Labor Day, Monday, September 1st, 2025.

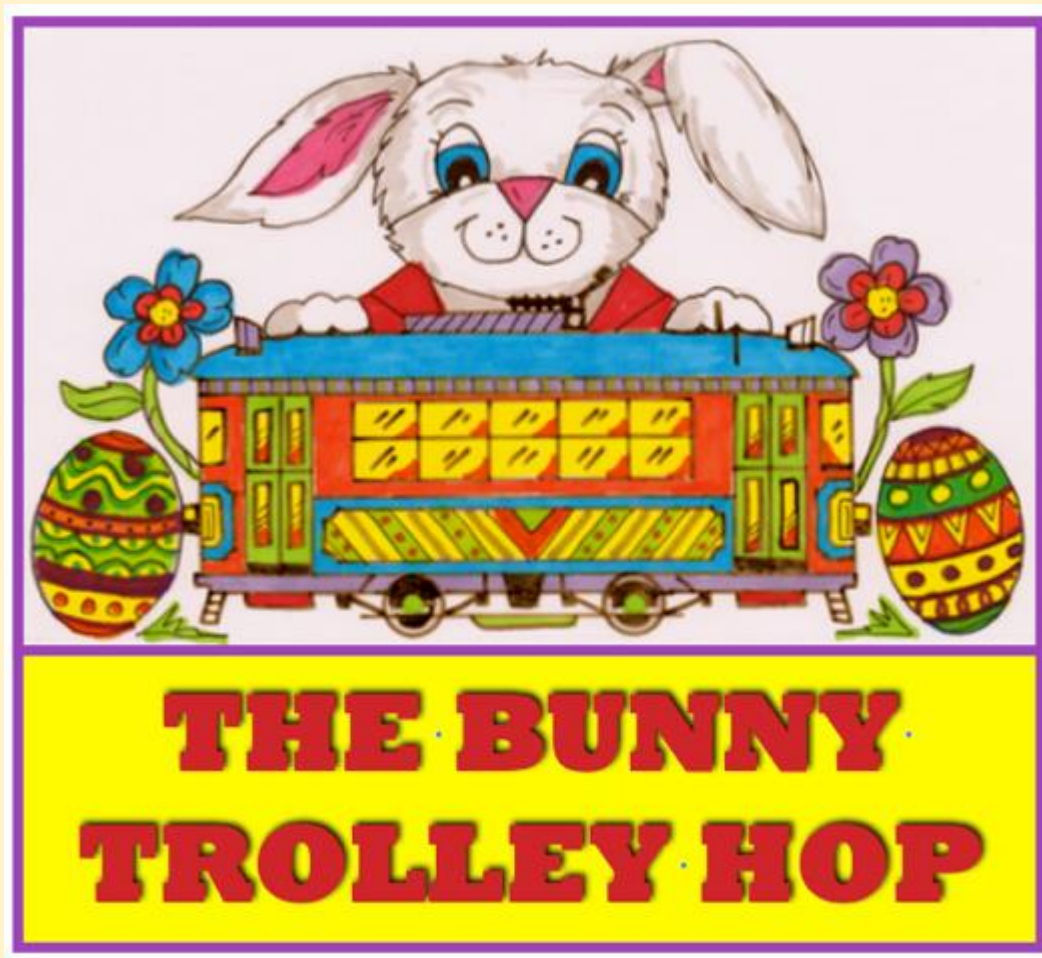
This event shall take place at the MCL Restaurant, located at 1390 Keystone Way in Carmel, Indiana, on Labor Day 2025 beginning at 11 A.M. September 1 is the actual anniversary day.

Fred Soward, Central District Director and National AP Chairman, Ray Pershing shall be our keynote speakers.

After the conclusion of remarks and lunch, you are all invited to visit a magnificent masterpiece of a world-class model railroad! It is "Rail Xpress (RxRR)" owned by Master Model Railroader #700, Dan Hinel. (address available at event—15 minute drive)

Don't miss this one chance, one-time only event!

Bunny Trolley Hop 2025



Join us April 12th, 13th, and 19th at the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, IL.

The Illinois Railway Museum is pleased to announce that we will be holding the Bunny Trolley Hop again in 2025.

This event will run on three days: Saturday, April 12th, Sunday, April 13th, and Saturday, April 19th. **Gates open at 9:15 AM and close at 5:00 PM.**

As always, young visitors will be able to meet and be photographed with the Easter Bunny in his carrot coach and there will be lots of other attractions to enjoy. This year, Bunny and the other attractions will all be located on the

museum campus, with a frequent service of streetcars providing rides between the carrot coach and the following attractions:

- See live animals at the small animal zoo.
- Join the Easter egg hunt. Hopefully, the weather this year will allow the hunt to be outside, but we will move into one of our historic display buildings in case of inclement weather.
- Whilst riding the streetcar, help the Bunny to find his missing treasure.
- Enjoy games as well as our regular playground activities.
- Coloring activities will be available in our diner annex.
- Don't miss our large model railroad displays (under the Hobby Shop sign).

For those who would like a longer ride, electric main line trains will operate from the depot. The display barns, housing IRM's large collection of historical railroad equipment will also be open to enjoy at your leisure.

Tickets are available for purchase on the Museum website at \$20 each and are required for those aged two and over. On these days the Museum is open only for holders of event tickets. Everyone, including museum members, will need a ticket for admission to the event.

To minimize wait time and congestion in the carrot coach, a limited number of tickets will be available for each 30-minute time slot between 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. **The time on your ticket is the time when you should visit the Bunny in his carrot coach at the depot. You should plan to arrive at least 30 minutes before this to allow time to get to the depot.**

The time on your ticket does not restrict when you may enter the museum.



33rd Annual Model Train Show

O Scale WestPO Box 60574
Palo Alto, CA 94306-0574

650-218-5762

oscalewest.com**2025****May 23-25, 2025**

Friday - Saturday - Sunday

May 23-25, 2025 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Santa Clara, California

Hi Folks!

O Scale West 2025 is on track for May 23-25, 2025! You can register and rent table rentals for the meet on-line as well as make hotel room reservations on-line. (See table below)

Activities include buy/sell, clinics, model contest, on-site operating layouts, home and club layout visits, a company store, silent auction, and white elephant sales tables.

The meet location is in the heart of Silicon Valley - Santa Clara, CA - in the San Francisco Bay Area.

O Scale West includes S scale and all scales narrow gauge in addition to all scale 1:48 trains and associated items.

The O Scale West meet has been held every year since 1991 except for two years that were missed because of COVID precautions. As a result the long-term organizing committee is well-versed in putting on the event - issue-free fun is one of the things that makes O Scale West a favorite for many people.

So make your plans now to come to O Scale West!

Questions? Please email info@oscalewest.com

Rod Miller, Chairman. *O Scale West*

Meet at a glance

Admission and Table Rental

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|------|
| | Entire Meet | | \$50 |
| Registration | Sunday Only | Register at door | \$25 |
| | Significant others, Spouses and Kids under 18 (yours or not) | | Free |
| | Table size 30" x 72" | Each table | \$50 |
| Table Rental | | Electrical hook-up | Free |
| Maximum of 8 tables. | Registration required to rent tables. Helpers must pay registration fees. Limit 1 Helper per table rented, maximum of 4 helpers. Terms & Information for Table Renters | | |

Mail in/Walkup

[Download the 2025 Registration Form](#)

On-line

[Register on-line](#)

Hotel Information

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Hyatt Regency Hotel | 5101 Great America Parkway Santa Clara, CA 95054-1118 (San Francisco Bay Area) |
| Online | Hyatt On-Line Reservations |
| Reservations | National Registration: 1-800-421-1442 Hotel Direct: 1-408-200-1234 (ask for the O Scale West group rate) |
| By Phone | |

\$169.00 per night + tax, when made prior to May 4, 2025.

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Updated: 11 February, 2025

More information:
info@oscalewest.com

2025v4b

[Privacy Policy](#)

42nd Annual Cleveland O Scale Meet

2 Day Show

November 2nd & 3rd, 2024

Saturday 11am – 4pm

Sunday 9am – 1pm

Admission: \$10.00

(Spouses and Children under 12 Free)

(Readmittance allowed on Sunday for those admitted Saturday)

Clinics / Model Contest / Presentations

Supporting **everything** 1:48 Scale!

O Scale 2 Rail, Proto48, O Scale Traction, O Scale Narrow Gauge

Interested or New to O Scale?

We can help!

Location: UAW Local 1005 Large Hall

5615 Chevrolet Blvd.

Parma, Ohio 44130

Free Parking

Website: clevelandoscaleshow.com

Dealer setup Saturday morning

For all table information, contact Skyler Shippy (skylersh767@gmail.com)

Under New Management

Thanks to Sam and Janet Shumaker for their work over many years

2024 Cleveland O Scale Show Table Order Form

Primary Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Vendor Passes: Vendors will be issued passes according to the following table. Additional passes are \$10.00 each

| Tables | Passes |
|--------|--------|
| 1-2 | 2 |
| 3-5 | 3 |
| 6-9 | 4 |
| 10+ | 5 |

| Quantity | Description | Amount |
|----------|---|--------|
| | 6' Table: Before 10/1/2024 \$45.00 Each | |
| | 6' Table: After 10/1/2024 \$50.00 Each | |
| | Additional Vendor Passes \$10.00 Each | |
| | Total enclosed | |

Payment in the form of a check accepted with this form

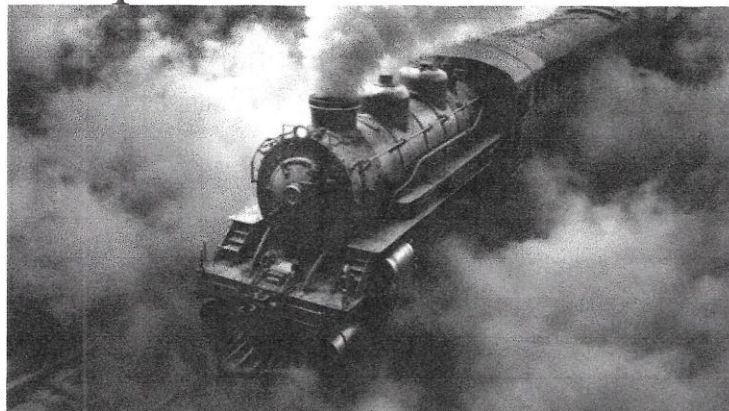
Send Checks payable to: Skyler Shippy, 5081 Mobile Dr, Flint, Mi 48507

Please contact me via email at (skylersh767@gmail.com) once you have mailed your reservation form

For Show Management Use

Date Received: _____

Indianapolis O Scale Show 2025



2 Rail O Scale Train Show

Friday September 19, 3:00 to 7:00 PM

Saturday September 20, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

La Quinta Inn & Suites Indianapolis South, 465 and Emerson Ave.

O Scale 2 Rail/P48, Narrow Gauge/On30, 3 Rail Scale welcome

Facebook: <https://fb.com/indyoscaleshows>

Website: indyoscaleshows.com

Email; indyoscaleshows@gmail.com

Phone (317) 435-8378

Check back regularly for more details.

✂ PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

DETACH AND RETURN THE LOWER SECTION OF THIS FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT

Name: _____

(Exactly as it would appear on badge)

Registration (2 day) \$20.00 \$ 20.00

Spouses and children under 18 free

of 30 x 72 tables @ \$40.00 = \$

\$50.00 after Aug 19 th

Business: _____

(Exactly as it would appear on badge)

Spouse Name: _____

(Exactly as it would appear on badge)

Number addl. Registrants X \$20.00 = \$

(List Names below, use back if necessary)

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Name: _____

(Exactly as it would appear on badge)

Phone: () -

Name: _____

(Exactly as it would appear on badge)

E-Mail: _____

Make Checks Payable to
Mail to

Hanson Rail Service, LLC
3202 Saint Paul Street
Indianapolis, IN 46237

Email

indyoscaleshows@gmail.com

Electrical needed for table(s)? Yes No

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED = \$

Delaware Seaside Railroad Club

MODEL TRAIN & TOY SHOW

Saturday, May 3, 2025
9 am - 2 pm

HOPE CENTER, OCEAN VIEW, DELAWARE

97 Central Avenue, Ocean View, Delaware 19970
Intersection of Route 26 Atlantic Avenue and Central Avenue

ADMISSION \$6.00 - Children 10 & Under FREE

Vendor Sales Tables • Operating Train Layouts
Refreshments • Door Prizes



For More Information, Visit Our Website: www.delawareseasiderailroadclub.com

A Non-Profit 501 (c) (3) Educational Charitable Organization • Contact: Skip Lee @ 443-618-6866





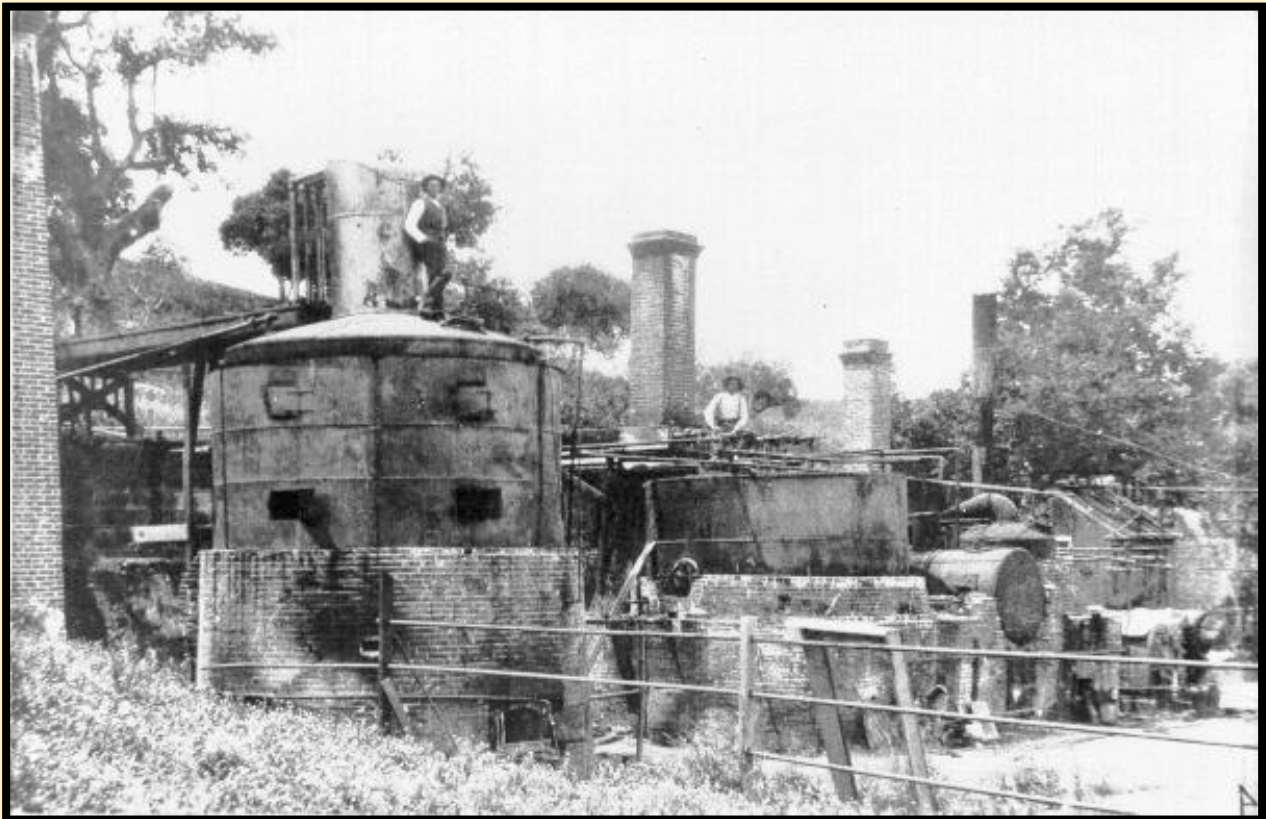
Len Eberwein's Scratch-Built 19th Century Petroleum Refinery

By Tom Farrell

Len Eberwein's museum-quality O-scale scratch-built 19th-century oil distillery is a marvel of craftsmanship and historical accuracy! This isn't merely a model; it's a living, breathing testament to the foundation of America's petroleum industry.

The Genesis of an Industry

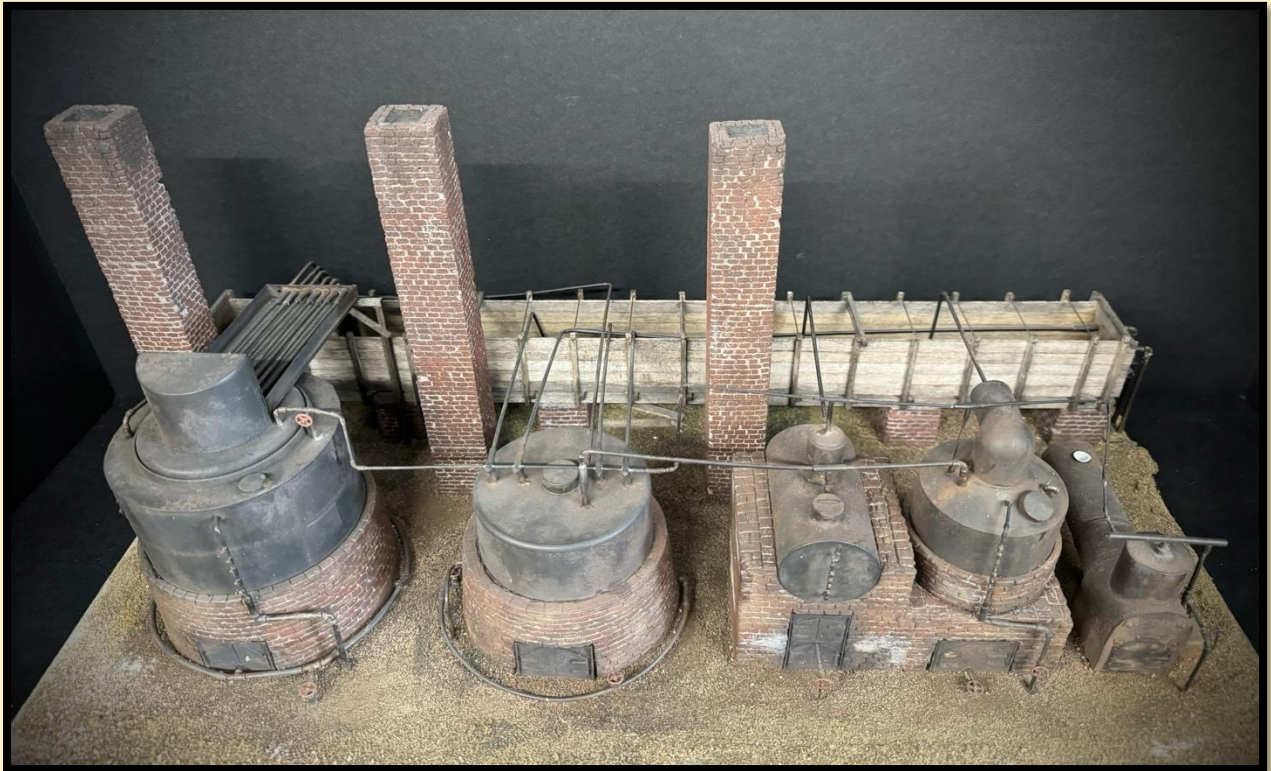
To set the stage, let's turn back the clock to 1859. Along the banks of Oil Creek in Venango County, Pennsylvania, Edwin Drake drilled the first commercial oil well in the United States. He struck black gold at a modest depth of 69 feet, igniting an oil rush that would change the world forever. Soon after, Pittsburgh's first modern refinery—a humble one-barrel still—was built. Crude oil was heated, its fractions separated, and kerosene quickly became the preferred lamp fuel, pushing whale oil into obsolescence.



This is the backdrop against which Len Eberwein's distillery is set—a time when wooden derricks dotted the landscape, crude was stored in open pits, and refineries were small, primitive, and dangerously flammable operations.

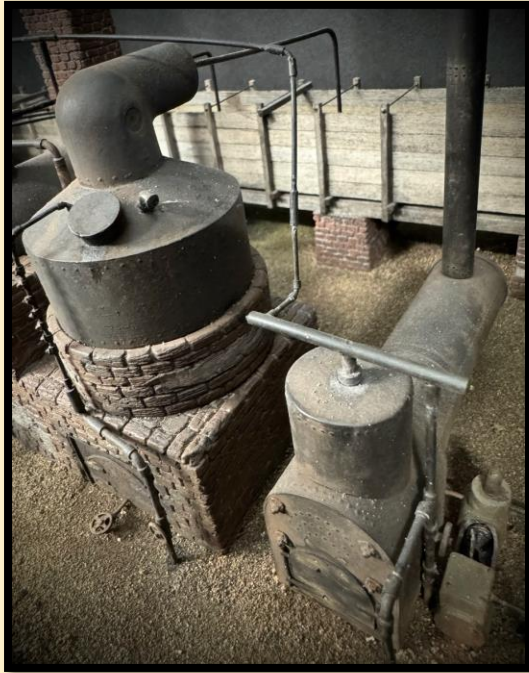
A Museum-Quality Masterpiece

Len's O-scale model exquisitely captures this early industrial scene. The distillery features **four brick furnaces and riveted boilers**, where raw crude undergoes its initial separation. The **brick furnaces**, blackened with soot and grime, house the roaring fires that fuel the distillation process. Overhead, a **network of pipes, valves, and wooden stave tanks** distributes the separated products into cooling vats and collecting barrels.

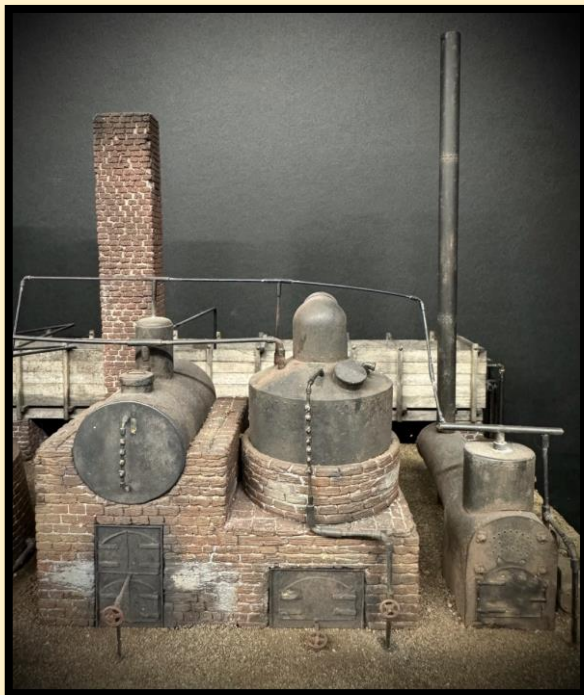


What sets this model apart is the depth of realism—**extensive piping and valving, weathered wooden platforms, dripping oil stains, and grime-coated surfaces**, all meticulously crafted to appear like they've endured years of rugged industrial use. The **crude storage tanks**, constructed from wooden planks and bound by iron hoops, are period-accurate, exuding an authenticity that only deep historical research and fine craftsmanship can deliver.

A Tribute to America's Oil Heritage



What Len has achieved here is more than just a model—it's a **historical document in miniature**. Every plank, every pipe, and every weathered surface tells the story of the men and machines that laid the foundation for the modern petroleum



industry. In an era when oil was transported in wooden barrels rather than through pipelines and when refineries were as much trial-and-error as science, his scratch-built distillery brings that world to life with an authenticity that belongs in a museum.

This is not merely an O scale masterpiece; it's a **time machine**, transporting us to the dawn of the petroleum age when **fire and steel wrestled crude oil into something useful, and fortunes were made—and lost—by the barrel**.

Bravo, Len. This is history in miniature at its finest.

Vendor's Corner

Tennessee Valley Custom Models

Hello Everyone! It's with mixed emotions that I am announcing the sale of TVCM effective March 1st. The new owner is Mike Thidemann, and I'm sure he'll be reaching out to everyone and tell you about himself soon.

I want to thank every one of you for a fantastic two-plus years since I purchased TVCM from the original owner. Since then we've added lots of product with many options. I know Mike will continue to add more and more items on this, our main website, and on our eBay website that we started last April. I don't recommend going through the eBay website, as it will charge you sales tax, and we haven't had time to enter everything there, as eBay makes entering variations difficult.

I've made quite a few personal connections since taking over the business. In case anyone wants to stay in touch, I've created an email, rick.tvcm@yahoo.com in case you want to reach out. Feel free if you're ever in the Baltimore area. I'll be doing a blog soon that will talk about my layout, which I will finally have time to start plus working on my other hobbies, including my '68 Camaro.

Take care everyone, and Happy Modeling!

Rick Barton

Tennessee Valley Custom Models

8509 Arborwood Road

Pikesville MD 21208



The Tenth Avenue House Returns!

We recently dug out some parts for the Tenth Avenue House that had been in storage for a while and decided to manufacture the balance of the parts for it so that we could reintroduce it.

This cute, narrow addition would make a great apartment-above-a-shop structure. Perhaps a cafe or gift shop would be appropriate. Or, maybe, just a house. The choice is yours.

The kit features Tichy doors and windows, a full ridge beam with



rafters and self-adhesive shingles by Rail-Scale Models.

ORDER YOURS TODAY

Rail-Scale-Models

News & Notes

...from the **RSM Studios*****New 3D-Printed Jib Cranes.***

Working with one of our 3D-printing partners, we now have available a nicely detailed 3D-printed Jib Crane component. This **Jib Crane** has a hand crank detail, a swivel base crank detail, a lift hook detail, and many rivet details. The image below is a painted version of this component... it will look great on your industrial dock or wharf scene.

This **Jib Crane** is available in N scale in a 12' tall version (from base to top of vertical mast), and in HO scale in either a 12' tall or 9' tall version. Check them out on the ***Rail-Scale-Models*** website.

[N Scale Version](#) [HO Scale Version](#)



Sneak Peak at Fort Erie Station.

It was about five (5) years ago we received a request for a custom structure design and laser-cut kit - **Fort Erie Station**. This station had once resided on the Grand Trunk Railroad, and it has some unique character to it. We're now working to release it as part of the product line-up at **Rail-Scale-Models**.

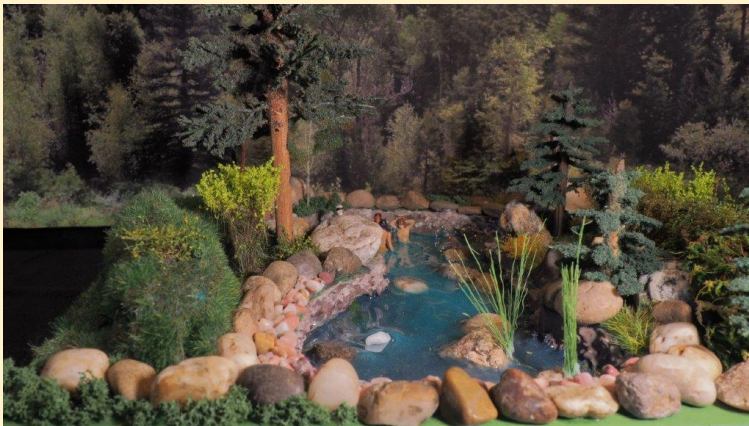
It's a brick structure that was at one time a sandstone color, as well as painted to a brick red color. It has an interesting roof line, interesting brick details, and will be a fun build. **Fort Erie Station** will be available later this Spring in HO scale.



Here's the latest details for the Spring / Summer 2025 train show calendar:

- May 3 - The Great Scale Model Train Show - in Timonium MD
- May 4 - Augusta County RR Museum Train Show - in Fishersville VA
- Jul 19-20 - NMRA National Train Show - in Novi MI
- Sep 3-6 - National Narrow Gauge Convention - St Louis MO
- Sep 20-21... - N Scale Weekend - Altoona PA

From Ted DiMone – Adventures at Indian River



MODEL RAILROAD RESOURCE LLC 3D DIVISION



The M5R24 is the same grouping of five Airchimes as in Model M5, except that bells 2 and 4 have been reversed on the base for greater warning coverage to the rear.



Whistle sign with and without post. Based on Pennsylvania railroad signs, but used on many other eastern roads. Your choice of sign only or sign attached to pole. The sign only will accept a 3/64" wire. 12 to a package. (Note images are highly magnified)



Caboose Steps Southern
Railway Style

New Items!
O Scale

See all our new products at
modelrailroadresource.com/WP

The Model Railroad Resource LLC 407 E Chippewa St Dwight, IL 60420 815-263-2849



Fancy **Standard**
Globe **Options**

Five Street lights. Common North American-style street lights used in many communities. Fit popular modeling eras 1890s to present as they are now they are back in historic districts, but made from metal. The standard globe was found all over the country. The fancy globe was measured from an actual top in Elmhurst, IL.

Choice of globes, standard or fancy. Package includes five poles, five globes, five LEDs and five 9V to 14V resistors.

Custom Printing

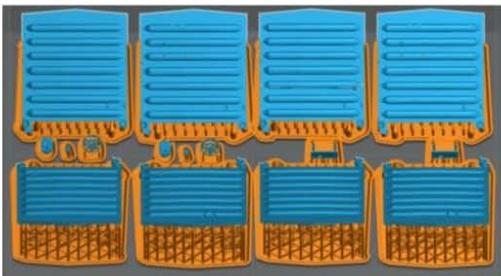
From Your Files

Model Railroad Resource 3D Division

<https://modelrailroadresource.com/WP/custom-resin-printing/>



Erie Express Trucks: The Erie Railroad used these General Steel Casting trucks under their milk cars and Caboose. Files from trainkitchen.com.



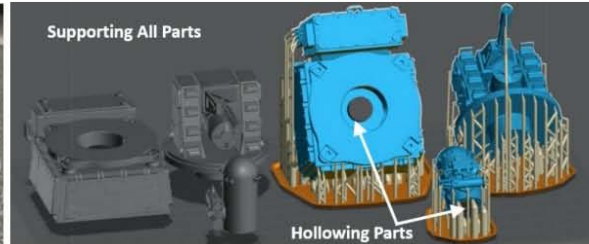
We can print the following:

- Parts ready for priming and painting
- Parts ready for casting/wax molds
- Parts ready for direct burnout
- Build Volume of 218.88 × 123.12 × 250 mm
- Many Resin Choices*:
 - Machinable Black / Grey
 - Castable for Burnout (Blue) **
 - Standard Grey

From your files \$25.00** per platen 218.88 × 123.12 × 250 mm (8.6 × 4.8 × 9.8 in)

Plus one time support charge per file \$45/Hour.

We guarantee the finished product using our supports***



MK 15 - Phalanx Close-In Weapon System (CIWS) Printed for client from files by 3d_molier International.



Above is a set of custom parts built in castable resin, needing no molds, direct to burn out for beautiful brass castings.

Below are diesel locomotive seats. Files from trainkitchen.com



*Many custom resins available for your project.

**Blue casting is \$35.00

***We may start the weeding process on delicate models before curing.

The Model Railroad Resource LLC 407 E Chippewa St Dwight, IL 60420 815-263-2849

Recognizing Our New Tracks Mentors (NTM)

For some time now, I've wanted to create a special recognition award for New Tracks Mentors (NTM)—and I believe the time has come to introduce it proudly. This award honors modelers who showcase their craftsmanship and contribute to the model railroading community by mentoring others.

What It Takes to Be an NTM

To qualify for the NTM Award, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1) Share Their Knowledge – This can be done by:

- Giving a model-building presentation on our New Tracks Zoom shows.
- Being profiled in my New Tracks articles in the O Scale Resource magazine or the previously published S Scale Resource magazine.
- Being featured in our New Tracks Observation newsletter.

2) Be a Mentor—Actively guide and help less-experienced modelers improve their skills and confidence in the hobby.

- While NMRA Achievement Program participants are naturally eligible, this award is open to anyone—regardless of whether they've received other formal recognitions. My mentor, for example, had no official awards, yet he was widely respected as a highly skilled model builder and teacher. His HO-scale layout was even featured in Model Railroader magazine.
- This initiative is about more than just honoring talent—it's about recognizing those who believe in mentorship and the importance of fostering model-building for the future of our great hobby.

Who We Recognize as an NTM

We celebrate modelers who:

- Possess strong modeling abilities and skills.
- Share their talents and knowledge.
- Are willing to mentor others.

- Support New Tracks' mission of keeping the art of model building alive.

Where to Find Our NTMs

A dedicated New Tracks Mentor (NTM) page listing NTM honorees will be available on our website. You'll be able to:

View their profiles and modeling work in the O Scale Resource or S Scale Resource magazine archives.

Read their featured articles in the New Tracks Observation newsletter.

Watch their New Tracks Zoom presentations.

By providing direct access to experienced modelers, we aim to encourage more model-building and mentorship within our community. You can explore a complete listing of all appearances on Zoom shows and in articles at some point in the future on the New Tracks web site:

Keeping Our NTMs Recognized

Each month, we'll publish a listing of new NTMs in our newsletter, complete with details about their Zoom show appearances, magazine features, and newsletter profiles. Our website will also be regularly updated to reflect these honors.

I would be truly honored if you shared my enthusiasm for recognizing these outstanding modelers. I welcome your thoughts and feedback on the NTM Award, and if you're interested in becoming an NTM, please reach out to me at:

jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com

Celebrating Our NTMs

The following 512 modelers have earned the New Tracks Mentor (NTM) distinction and may now use the NTM initials after their name. Congratulations to all!

Let's continue building a stronger, more connected model railroading community that fosters creativity, craftsmanship, and mentorship. After all, model railroading is an art form.

A complete NTM Listing will be made available on the New Tracks Web site in the near future. At present the below list is provided as compiled by Jim Kellow

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| John Ackerman | Jeff Adam | Dave Allen | Frank Amatangelo |
| Chris Anderson | Jim Anderson | Will Annand | Andria Antonakos |
| Scott Ask | Mike Astley | Mike Baker | Marco Balk |
| Bill Banta | David Barnes | Graham Barnewall | David Barnkow |
| Karen Bashista | John Bates | Ted Becker | Dave Bell |
| Daniel Bella | Dan Beresford | Roger Bernier | Ethan Bernstein |
| Dan Bigda | Ross Biggs | Daniel Biggs | Joel Bingham |
| Alex Binkley | Steve Bittering | Allan Black | Kris Blackmarr |
| Anthony Boccaccio | Brian Bollenger | Jamie Bothwell | Bill Boucher |
| Richard Bourgerie | Bill Bozeman | Craig Brandt | Cal Brannin |
| Martin Brechbiel, MMR | Dennis Brennan | Paul Brennecke | Rich Breton |
| Bob Bridges | Alan Briggs | Neil Brooks | Craig Brotan |
| Bob Brown | Kirk Bucher | Peter Bulkai | Vick Bunkens |
| Jeremiah Bunyan | John Burchnall | Larry Burk | David Burn |
| Phillip Burnside | Rick Burton | Ed Cady | Tom Cain |
| Dwayne Calloway | Randy Cambell | Art Carlton | Tom Carson |
| John Cary | Mark Cason | Matt Cassety | Greg Cassidy |
| Stan Cedarleaf | Bill Chaplin | Paul Chapman | Kaustav Chatterjee |
| Alan Chesnut | Andrew Chier | Rod Clark | James Cleveland |
| Anna Cleveland | Leslie Cliff | Andrew Cliff | Chris Coarse |
| Al Colins | Nell Colley | Neil Colley | Al Collins |
| Ademir Conicelli | Jack Conn | Ryer Corbet | Fred Cosgrove |
| Doug Coster | Ross Dando | Robert Darby | Bob Davidson |
| Lee Davies | Bill Davis | Dan Dawdy | Ralph DeBlasi |
| Jim DeBoer | Randy Lee Decker | Ger Deguelle | Nathan Delay |
| Frank Deuterium | Nancy Diaz | Eric Diehl | Tony Dixon |
| Grant Dodd | Erik Doedijns | Richard Dolezalek | Paul Dolkos |
| George Downer | Les Downey | Jess Dozier | Rajeev Dubey |
| Brad Duenow | Adrian Dunning | Jeremy Dunnler | Jack Dziadul, MMR |
| Jacob Dziubek | Marion Eberserger | Anke Echardt | Phil Edholm |
| Geoffrey Edward | Lawrence Eggering | Paul Egri | William Eldredge |
| Steven Elliott | Victor Encalada | Jurgen Engel | Philip Entingh |
| Guy Estes | Paul Estudios | Art Fahie | Henry Fahrenheit |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| ian Fainges | Bernd Fanghanel | Bob Farquhar | Tom Farrell |
| Robert Farscella | Curtis Fay-Wolf | Col. T F Feely | John Feraca |
| Antonio Ferreira | E.C. Stan Field | Stan Field | Zeke Fields |
| Pat Finelli | Steve Fisher | Stephen Fisher | Cliff Flatten |
| Bill Flint | John Frankforther | Jerry Freestone | Joe Fugate |
| Todd Gamble | Chad Garber | Joseph Garcia | Camila Garcia |
| Peeyush Garg | Bill Gaver | Mike Gegner | Bob Geldy |
| Charlie Getz, MMR | John Gibbons | Arron Gibbons | Gaylord Gill |
| Tim Gillman | Tim Gilman | Clint Glichrist | Glen Gollrad |
| Charles Goodrich, MMR | Patrick Goodwin | Jim Gore, MMR | Patrick Grace |
| Tom Greco, MMR | Laurie Green | Howard Greenfield | Alex Gregg |
| Sarah Griessenbock | Renee Grosser | Tom Grossman | Ray Grossman |
| Jeff Grove | Michael Groves | Bradley Guhle | Joseph Guinto |
| Joachim Gundlach | Earl Hackett | Nicholas Ham | John Ham |
| Ken Hamilton | Nicholas Hamm | Charles Hamper | Clem Harris |
| Forrest Harris | Steve Harvath | Neil Harwicke | Frascella Has |
| Eric Haselhorst | Kieren Haskell | Keith Haynes | Robert Helm |
| Wayne Hills | Jeff Hintz | Timothy Holker | Guilherme Holtz |
| Harold Hopkinson | Walter Horlach | Ady Horner | Bruce Horst |
| John Howe | Virgil Howell | Timothy Huebner | Heath Human |
| Frederick Humphries | Rick Hunter | Maureen Hunter | Kevin Hunter |
| John Hunter | Paul Hurly | Mark Huskins | Bjorn Jackobsen |
| Mather Jackson | Darryl Jacobs | Russell Jacobs | Paprika Jairuba |
| David Jamison | John Jensen | Lenny Joerg | Darren Johns |
| Sherri Johnson | Tom Johnson | Brent Jones | Jeff Jordan |
| Jeff Jorner | Warren Judge | Al July | Nicholas Kalis |
| Dennis Kamper | Alan Kap | Dick Karnes | Justin Keeler |
| Andrew Keeney | Jim Kellow, MMR | Bernie Kempinski, MMR | Jill Kenik |
| Pete Kershaw | Ralph Kimball | Jim Kindraka | Graeme King |
| Bob Kjelland | Ronald Klass | Alan Kleipass | James Knabb |
| Larry Knapp | James Knapp | David Knecek | Karen Knecek |
| Clark Kooning, MMR | Charles Kraft | Henry Kranz | Michael Kreisler |
| Doug Krieg | Bernard Kritzer | Rick LaBelle | Marc LaChey |
| Dylan Lambert | Don Lambert | Chris Lane | John Langridge |
| Joe Lavender | Shaun Leonard | Mark Lewis | Warren Lewis |
| Jason Lien | Julie Lightburn | Julie Lighturn | Jim Lincoln |
| Greg Lints | Allen Littlefield | David Livengstone | Mitch Lovelace |

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| John Lowrance, MMR | Aaron Loyet | William Lubert | Steve Lucas |
| Dave Lull | Daniel Lutz | Mike Lytle | Peter Mack |
| Kevin Macomber | John Mann, MMR | Myles Marcovitch | Frank Markovic, MMR |
| Craig Marshall | Nick Massey | Roger Massu | Michael Maurer |
| Ron Maxfield | Scott Maze | John McCartan | Stuart McCartan |
| Michael McCasland | Lynn McCurty | John McEwan | Mike McNamara |
| Mark Mead | Henk Meerhof | Bill Meredith | Brian Michael |
| Dave Miecznikowsk | Stephen Milley | Jas Millham | Ed Minas |
| Ron Mitchell | Nob Mitchell | Ordra Mokry | Steve Montgomery |
| Sean Moore | Frederick Morin | Robert Mountenay | Gert Muller |
| Jim Murphy | Justin Murphy | Kenneth Myers | Jordan Neidort |
| Bill Neile | Ken Nesper | Seth Neumann | Seth Newman |
| Scott Newton | Bruce NicholSEN | Bruce Nicholson | Jor Norman |
| Dan Notley | Tony Nygren | Chris O'Donoghue | Terrance O'Kell |
| Richard Olieux | Chris Oliver | Ed O'Rourke, MMR | Al Oslapas |
| Michael Osterta | Eduardo Ovalles | Paul Pallansch | Robbie Paramor |
| Lex Parker, MMR | Larry Patch | Roger Pattensen | Roger Patterson |
| David Paulson | George Paxon | Frederick Perez | Tim Peters |
| Christopher Petersen | D Scott Peterson | Eric Peterson | Justin Peterson |
| Benjamin Piffero | Santiago Pineda | Arron Piotraschke | George Podus |
| Mark Poggendorf | Bill Pontin | Bob Poole | Dick Poole |
| Chris Poppe | John Poray | John Pratt | Mark Pretties |
| Hank Primas | Al Pugliese | Ken Quast | Don Railton |
| Richard Rands | David Rarig | Roger Rasmussen | Charles Rausch, MMR |
| Martin Ray | David Rea | Paul Reeves | Paul Reinhart |
| Ralph Renetti | John Reynolds | Gary Rhnbergen | Duane Richardson |
| CJ Riley | Ken Rimmel | Ronnie Rise, MMR | Glenn Ritter |
| Pat Rivard | Mike Robert | Scott Robertson | John Robertson |
| Gordon Robinson, MMR | Carl Roe | Alan Rogers | Gavin Rose |
| Bruce Rosenberg | Diger Rossel | Roger Rossellini | Dan Rousseau |
| Gary Rushton | Dana Russell | Harry Sage | Frank Saladino |
| Nataly Saladino | Frank Saladino | Paul Sanchez | Jason Sandberg |
| Nick Santos | George Sarra | Lou Sassi | Cheryl Sassi |
| Paul Schenk | Chuck Schipper | Bob Schneider | James Schultz |
| Jeff Schumaker | Tom Screnson | Mark Sebesta | Mike Seuderi |
| Stan Shields | Skyler Shippy | Rick Shoup, MMR | Gary Shudgold. MMR |
| Dave Silvernail | Robert Simmons | Jimmy Simmons | Doug Simon |

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Ed Skuchuas | Chris Smith | William Smith | Neil Smith |
| Paul Smith | Neil Smith | Wilber Snyder | Hans Sodenkamp |
| Fred Sotcher | Kevin Spacy | Kevin Spady | Dale Spaulding |
| Jim Spice | Chris Stafford | Keith Stamper | Dennis Stanezak |
| Juan Stasa | Christopher Steeb | Pete Steinmetz | Jon Stetz |
| Colin Stewart | Burr Stewart | Kevin Strong | John Sullivan |
| Eric Sutton | John Tabler | Darrell Tarwick | Brian Taylor |
| Leo Terrion | Randi Terrion | JB Thistlewait | Peter Thomas |
| Kurt Thompson, MMR | Paul Thomson | Scott Thornton | Todd Threester |
| Michael Tong | Edward Traxler | Caesar Triantino | Kevin Tully |
| Pat Turner | Mike Tylick, MMR | James van Bokkelen | |
| Jorge Van Ebnbergen | Jozef Van Eenbergen | | Wendy Van Schaijk |
| Joel Vander Waal | Bruce VanHuis | Pete Vassler | Barbara Vassler |
| David Vaughn | Andy Vaughn | Axel Vega | Damitri Voronov |
| John Wubbel | Steve Walcott | Stuart Walker | Ft. Ron Walters |
| Garland Ward | Mike Warman | David Watson | Joel Weber |
| Job Weessles | Matt Wellhouser | Wayne Wesser | Rich Westerman |
| John Wiffen | John Wiffen | Don Wilde | Jan Willard |
| Cary Williams | Greg Williams | Shane Wilson | Lance Windhelm |
| David Wingrove | Boyd Wirkkala | Keith Wiseman | Rick Wolfanger |
| Brian Wolfe | Dan Wolschon | David Wood | David Woodhead |
| Paul Woods | Matt Woods | Paul Wusson | Donald Yingling |
| Tom Yorke | Alan Zamorski | Howard Zane | Lynn Zelmer |
| Sven Zethof | Goffy Zhen | Ken Zieska | Scott Zieske |
| Andy Zimmerman | Mike Zucker | | |

Please note: The list is arranged alphabetically by last name. This is the most comprehensive list I could assemble, covering everything from the birth of New Tracks in the Nov/Dec 2017 O Scale Resource magazine issue to our S Scale Resource magazine features (Jan/Feb 2018—final issue) and our newsletter starting in January 2024. If you notice an omission or error, I sincerely apologize—please let me know so we can correct it.

Earl Hackett – New Tracks Modeling

Earl Hackett has been a dedicated volunteer with New Tracks Modeling for a long time. He plays a crucial role in organizing and segmenting our Zoom shows into specific topics for our YouTube channel. His efforts make it easier for modelers to find videos that match their interests. In addition to this behind-the-scenes work, Earl has made numerous presentations on our shows, sharing his deep knowledge of model railroading.

Earl writes:

"Jim Kellow created New Tracks to promote model building in the model railroading hobby. While many world-class modelers share their techniques on our weekly show, there are few opportunities for modelers to get direct help with specific problems. So, Jim asked for volunteers willing to assist individuals."

"I've always loved teaching and helping others—it's a great way to meet people and make new friends. When Jim put out the call, I immediately signed up. Having been an active model railroader for over 60 years, I've tried almost every technique. While I can assist in many areas, I have developed powerful skills in the following:"

Areas of Expertise:

Hand-Laid Track – Even if you use flex track, hand-laying your switches and crossings is well worth the effort. This allows for custom trackwork suited to specific locations rather than limited to standard turnouts. With practice, a switch can be built in just a few hours, while more complex structures like double slips and curved turnouts take a bit longer. When done correctly, derailments become a non-issue.

3D Printing is one of the most revolutionary modeling techniques available today. I now print my figures, posed precisely as needed in a scene. Stone walls? No problem. Larger structures can be printed in sections and assembled seamlessly.

Laser Cutting—I've returned to using Strathmore board, a favorite material from the 1960s and 1970s. With a laser cutter, I can achieve finer details than with a hobby knife and straightedge.

Signaling – While block signaling is well documented, only a few model railroads are large enough to implement it fully. However, interlocking signaling—which controls switches and signals at key points—is something most layouts can benefit from. My previous layout featured lever locks that prevented unsafe movements, and I developed custom-coded software to replicate prototype operations. Writing such code may seem daunting, but when properly structured, it is manageable.

Resin Casting – Even with 3D printing, epoxy resin, and silicone molds are still the best solution for specific modeling needs. In the past, I used brass masters pressed into clay to make molds. Now, I use 3D-printed mold boxes, resulting in much higher precision.

Digital Circuit Design – Sometimes, there’s no off-the-shelf solution for a particular operating challenge—like activating crossing signals at a multi-track grade crossing. While an Arduino can often do the job, sometimes a custom-built circuit using small logic ICs is better.

Thank You, Earl!

We genuinely appreciate Earl’s contributions to New Tracks Modeling and his dedication to helping others in the hobby.

— Jim Kellow, MMR | New Tracks Modeling



Kevin Macomber, NTM - Model Railroader Author and Artist

Kevin Macomber, NTM, is the owner of Narrow Gauge Modeling Company, who produces O Scale models. Kevin is a friend and was very helpful to me in getting my New Tracks Modeling zoom shows started. He is also a very talented modeler who I have written about in my articles in O Scale Resource magazine.

But what I think is really something special about Kevin is he has Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and recently was interviewed by a local Pennsylvania Fox TV station about his illness and the book he has written about it. [Here](#) is the Fox TV station interview and here is a link to his book:

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0DWXCPDLX>

Congratulations Kevin for your recognition and achievements.

Not only is Kevin trying to help others with the same PTSD illness, he truly believes that Model Railroading and building models has helped him process through his illness and overcome it.



As an example, he entered one of his models in the Art contest at the State Museum of Pennsylvania.

His acceptance letter states: “Congratulations! Your work has been chosen to be exhibited in Art of the State 2025 at The State Museum of Pennsylvania”. This is a judged Art Contest with 2,344 entries. Kevin’s model is one of the 97 accepted by the 3 Art judges and will be part of the final judging this June 2025.

Best of luck winning First Place, Kevin, and thank you for taking a leading role in bringing your modeling to the attention of the Art World. I hope other model railroaders also enter their models in judged Art contest in Art Galleries and Museums around the Country. I have always believed our Railroad modeling is an Art Form and it is nice to see the Art community officially recognize this fact. It is up to us now to have our hobby recognized by the World Wide Fine Art Community. Let me know what you think and if you enter one of your Artistic models in an Art contest. My email is jimkellow@newtracksmodeling.com.



What's Been Recently Added to the New Tracks Modeling YouTube Channel

My Build (Feb)

<https://youtu.be/hkTfTBCVPL4>

A particularly big presentation of models built by our viewers.

March 5th

Watchmen's Shanty

<https://youtu.be/MZHN6U-dEHg>

Tom picked up a 1970s-era Lionel plastic Watchman's Shanty at a recent train show for just \$15.00, a simple but promising structure ripe for transformation. In this video, Tom shows with less than \$5.00 in additional materials—some Rail-Scale Laser-Cut Shingles and Eve Support Brackets details, new scratch-built Basswood Railings, weathering powders, Hunter-line Stain, and a careful repainting job—he turned this toy-like relic into a museum-quality scale model that could easily pass for a \$150.00 laser-cut craftsman kit. This now one-of-a-kind structure fits seamlessly into the On30 Rustic Buff & Old Gothic Railroad, proving that even a bargain-bin find can become a showpiece with a bit of ingenuity.

G Scale Garden Layout Part 2

<https://youtu.be/BPKuxDOch04>

Continuing with G scale modeling in the garden, Part 2 with Steve Bidttinger, and real weathering of models - just sitting them out in the rain.

Localizing your layout

<https://youtu.be/c9h3lssn3Gk>

How to establish your layout in a specific location by use of backdrops and enter techniques.

Narrow Minded - a better test track

<https://youtu.be/QwnWHiD-z2w>

On18 - O scale on N scale track, and how to get more out of your test track

March 12th

Caboose - Pizza layout

<https://youtu.be/M5o4X4fAmQI>

A layout for making pizza.

G Scale locomotive modeling

<https://youtu.be/jSbE9rkpagY>

Modifying G scale models to a specific prototype

High Rail controllers

<https://youtu.be/nFhpi2Wuf5c>

Advanced controllers for Hi Rail AC operation

Talk About cleaning track

<https://youtu.be/Wa-JaXjwhRk>

Talk About track cleaning

Bar Mills water tower kit

<https://youtu.be/steVwNU5uHM>

A Bar Mills On30 water tower kit

Charles Ro Supply

<https://youtu.be/vfPWG-ktvxY>

Manufacturer of G Scale trains

March 19th

Modular Buildings in N Scale, Part 2

https://youtu.be/_ktTgfTyPFI

Using modular wall units and stuff from your left overs bin to build an industrial building in N scale.

Agnnew Station Part 1

<https://youtu.be/vgqpacfUKmY>

Modeling historic Agnew Station with Phil Edholm. This is another of Phil's masterpieces

Frenchman River Model Engine House

<https://youtu.be/eT6yHhm6hs0>

Building the single stall engine house from Frenchman River Model Works.

Building a Carstens reefer, Conclusion

<https://youtu.be/juVR4DfouJs>

Kitbashing an old Huff 'n' Puff reefer kit into a Carstens reefer; Conclusion

Talk About

Are you a Model railroader or a Railroad Modeler

<https://youtu.be/59Z5ebpYX-c>

Steve Sherrill asks "Are you a Model railroader or a Railroad Modeler"

March 26th

Interview with Thomas York

https://youtu.be/TpJtaGE_mE

An interview with Tom York who shares his modeling history and his efforts to build a model of a Cuban sugar cane railway in Gn15, 1/2" to the foot running on HO gauge track.

My Build

<https://youtu.be/qQ00Q1Aoobs>

Another big presentation of models built by our viewers.

Caboose

https://youtu.be/p_7AqIIRUWk

A table top layout in Z scale





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