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GUIDE TO FLYER'S NEW HAVEN ENGINES p.28

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— PAGE 3 —

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[COVER STORY]

34 Designed for fun!

Story-telling scenes have the inside track on this O gauge layout. BY BOB & PAT CANFIELD COVER PHOTO BY BOB AND PAT CANFIELD

LEGENDARY HOBBY SHOP

74 His goal? Madison Hardware!

Mary Raguse fulfilled a hobby goal when he visited the Manhattan hobby store in the 1970s. BY ROGER CARP

28 American Flyer's New Haven Railroad love affair

> A number of impressive S gauge locomotives wore the road name and distinctive colors of the A.C. Gilbert Co.'s hometown railroad. BY MARK SUEK

LAYOUT HOW-TO

32 Accidental scenery A "senior moment" made all the dif-

ference in building a mountain lake. BY BOB MCLOUGHLIN & CANDY SCHROCK

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A great regional railroad inspired Roger Wasson's O gauge layout. BY ROGER CARP

BUILDING EXCITEMENT

Guide to Lionel sets for 1948

A careful examination of the products fielded by Lionel reveals a determination to meet the demands of the market across every price range. BY JOE ALGOZZINI & ROGER CARP

WEEKEND WORKSHOP

54 Locomotive restoration done right – on the second try!

Although it took two tries to get it right, a 100-year-old Lionel no. 156 Standard gauge engine is reborn. BY ROBERT RELLO



IN EVERY ISSUE

- Editor's Desk An old friend returns
- 6 Video Plus
- **Photo Album** 8
- 14 News

Menards upgrades its red barn, new F59s from Williams by Bachmann, and a structure kit salutes model railroading legend Frank Ellison.

- **Questions & Answers** 18
- 20 Collectible Classics Lionel's no. 9126 auto carrier
- 22 **Views From The Underground**
- 56 Reviews O gauge Union Pacific 49er from MTH and illuminated vehicles in O from Menards.
- 65 Ad Index
- 66 Tips, Tools, & Techniques

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An old friend returns

INTRODUCING A NEW COLUMN FROM FORMER CTT STAFFER KENT JOHNSON

here is something new this month in the pages of *Classic Toy Trains* – the debut of a recurring column called, "Video Plus." It is your guide to the rapidly expanding library of O and S gauge videos from our friends down the hall at Model Railroader Video Plus (MRVP).

Although the video side of the electric train hobby carries the name of the world's largest scale model railroad magazine, MRVP has plenty of content for those of us in the toy train hobby. But don't take my word for it – just turn to page 6 and read all about it in our new column written by MRVP's Kent Johnson.

Kent's name will be familiar to long-time readers. He served as senior editor of CTT for many years, and his O gauge Canadian Pacific layout has been featured on our cover three times (November 2009, and March and September 2013). Kent also built three project railroads for the magazine (the Cascade & Timber Trail Ry., the Readers' Choice RR, and his own take on Lionel's no. D-146 display layout). In addition, Kent and his father, Carl



Kent Johnson

Johnson, coauthored the popular column "Talkin' Toy Trains," which ran from September 2001 through May 2003.

Kent didn't leave his love for toy trains behind when he moved a few offices down the hall to join the team at MRVP. So it's no surprise to find hours of O and S gauge content at www.MRVideoPlus.com, including the *Bob's Train Box* video series, starring our own Bob Keller, and great toy train layouts featured in the long-running PBS series *Tracks Ahead*. There is much

else from inside looks at the real world of modern railroading to extensive how-to videos on all aspects of layout construction.

Kent's new column will guide you to the best of MRVP's growing range of videos. Many of the videos are available for sampling, and the entire library – well over 1,000 videos – can be unlocked for \$27 a year for current CTT subscribers and \$44 annually for non-subscribers.

That's a lot of railroad viewing for about the price of an O gauge boxcar!

I am sure the mention of the "Talkin' Toy Trains" column stirred happy memories for many readers. I am delighted to say Kent and Carl

Johnson bring us up to date in a new feature article in the pages of *All-Star Electric Trains*, our latest special publication. Catch up on their adventures by visiting www.KalmbachHobbyStore.com or your hobby retailer to pick up a copy today.

YOUR EDITORIAL STAFF



Carl Swanson cswanson @ClassicToyTrains.com



Senior Editor
Roger Carp
rcarp
@ClassicToyTrains.com



Associate Editor **Bob Keller**bkeller

@ClassicToyTrains.com



Editorial Assistant **Rene Schweitzer** rschweitzer @Kalmbach.com

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We assume no responsibility for the safe return of unsolicited material. Email submissions can be sent to manuscripts@classictoytrains.com.

Before preparing an article, contact us to determine whether we're interested. Guidelines for writing articles and taking photographs are available from our website.

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EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING

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To contact our **advertising department**, call us at 888-558-1544, or send an email to adsales@ ClassicToyTrains.com.

RETAIL QUESTIONS

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Elizabeth M. Weber Art Director Photography Supervisor William Zuback Sue Hollinger-Klahn **Production Specialist** Art and Production Manager Michael Soliday Ad Sales Representative Martha Stanczak Ad Sales Representative Mike Ferguson **Circulation Director** Liz Runyon **Cathy Daniels New Business Manager Kathy Steele** Retention Manager Kim Redmond Single Copy Specialist Dan Hickey CEO Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing Daniel R. Lance Vice President, Content Stephen C. George **Nicole McGuire** Vice President, Consumer Marketing Brian J. Schmidt General Manager

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VIDEO PLUS

WITH KENT JOHNSON

VP perks for CTT readers

LINK. LOOK. LEARN MORE FROM VIDEO!

've read that on average, a person changes jobs 12 times during his or her career. But when my most recent job change required me to swap my CAB-1 controller for an HD video camera, I never imagined parting from the endearing collective of CTT readers would leave such a void.

So when Editor Carl Swanson proposed a new CTT column, one that would allow me to reconnect to the devoted readers I've missed since becoming a producer for MRVideoPlus.com (MRVP), I immediately jumped at the opportunity! Just as quickly, I began tallying all the helpful, inspiring, fun, and even funny video efforts that have keep me engrossed with the video-streaming website since its launch in 2013. And yes, scores of the site's 1000+ instructional videos are very much relevant to the top-

ics covered in the pages of *Classic Toy Trains* magazine!

For example, if you liked CTT's "Talkin' Toy Trains with Kent & Carl", MRVP's Roundhouse series

presents similar casual

conversations with hobby notables.

Is it CTT's "Tips, Tools, & Techniques" you relish? Watch episodes of **Off The Rails** on MRVP, and you'll discover ways to make your modeling easier.



If you're looking for a familiar face, then you'll be pleased to see episodes of **Bob's Train Box** also appear on MRVP.

For me, it's all about the layouts! No surprise, many of the O and S gauge railroads showcased in *Tracks Ahead* on MRVP and in exclusive MRVP Layout

Tours have been featured in CTT.

All it takes to enjoy this treasure trove of game-changing hobby videos is an Internet– enabled TV, computer, tablet, or smartphone; a subscription to MRVP;

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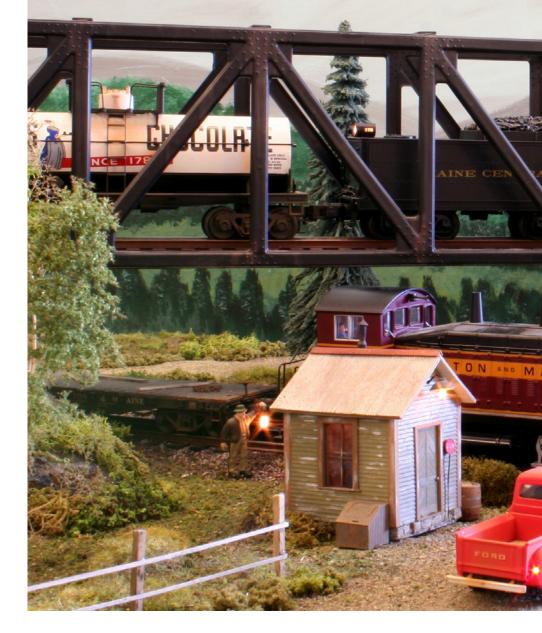
YOUR PICTURES

► BRIAN INCH'S O GAUGE LAYOUT

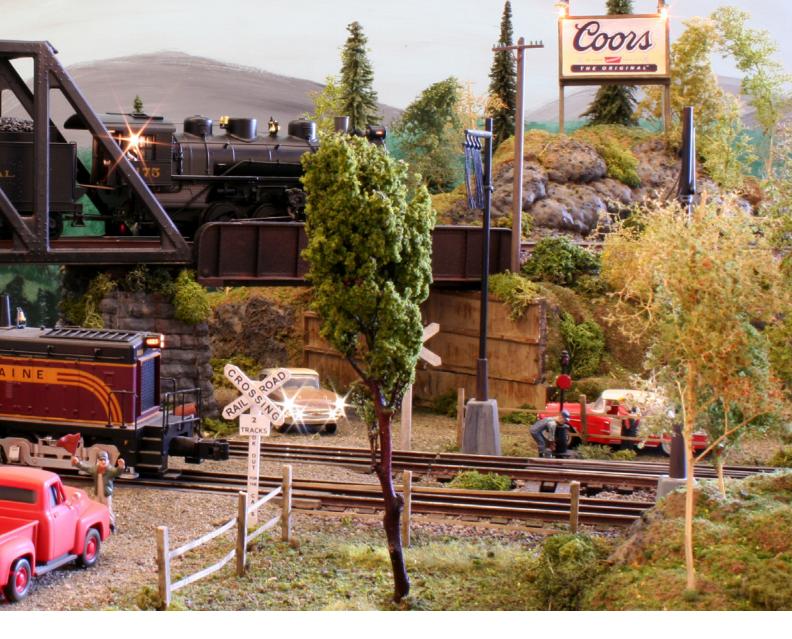
A short Maine Central freight train prepares to pick up a refrigerator car at a brewery early in the 1950s. Motive power from a different New England railroad occupies the lower line on the 4 x 16-foot O gauge display Brian Inch built with his son, Riley, in Hallowell, Maine. Their detailed tribute to Maine is one of the compact layouts featured in the March issue of *Classic Toy Trains*.

▼ STEVE NELSON'S O GAUGE RAILROAD

The October 2014 issue of *Classic Toy Trains* profiled Steve Nelson and his large, realistic O gauge railroad. Sadly, what readers saw in that magazine no longer exists. Steve loves to construct immense layouts, and his next one is approaching completion, ready to be featured in CTT. Between the two O gauge displays, this resident of Carmel, Ind., built a different one. Among the massive locomotives Steve and his wife, Liz, ran was this MTH Western Maryland 4-6-6-4 Challenger.









◀ ROD AND BARBARA LEWIS' O GAUGE LAYOUT

Amusement parks, chocolate, and electric trains - "These are a few of our favorite things." Or so Rod and Barbara Lewis might be singing if they had been asked to describe the compact O gauge railroad the two have designed, built, and wired for their home in Torrington, Conn. Accessories more than landscapes have been their focus on the layout. The husband-and-wife team of modelers hopes to find additional carnival rides, too.

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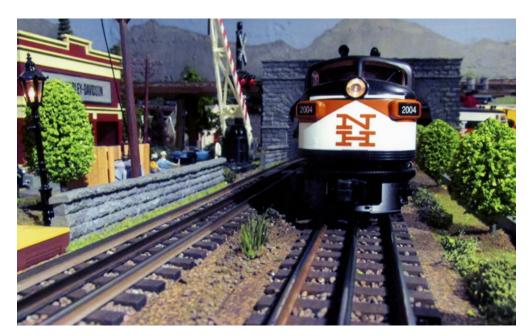
▲ JOSEPH ZARNOWSKI'S STANDARD AND O GAUGE LAYOUT

So much of what Joseph Zarnowski prizes in life highlight the photograph he recently shot of his Standard and O gauge layout. The scene captures his fascination with Lionel trains and accessories from the pre-World War II era and his respect for the reproductions sold by MTH. You also see how much Joe enjoys remembering the Central RR of New Jersey since he does reside in Manville, N.J. Only professional football as played by the Washington Redskins can take his mind off toy trains, which was why he fired up the trolley on the elevated line.



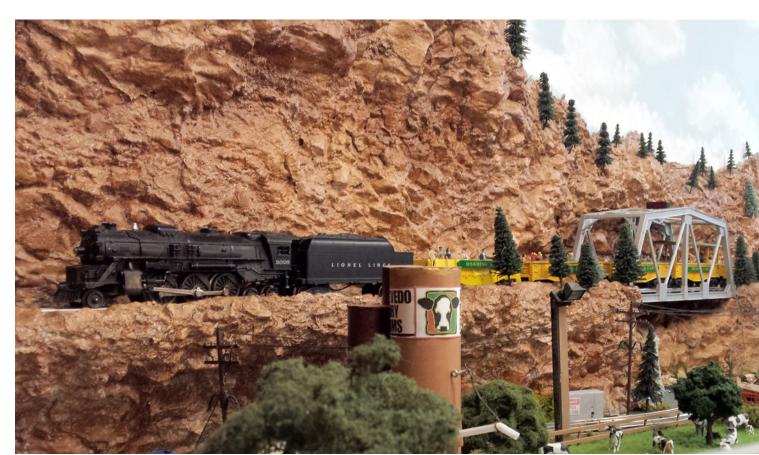
■ FRANK MICKLIN'S S GAUGE LAYOUT

Folks in the town nestled at the foot of the towering mountains on Frank Micklin's S gauge can't wait for the first of three performances of the circus. Clowns, acrobats, and daredevils will captivate them. If Frank were able, he would suggest they tear themselves away from the billboard and admire the Gilbert American Flyer heavyweight passenger train barreling across the suspension bridge he fashioned by hand for his expansive model railroad in Worth, Ill.



▼RICHARD PASCIUTO'S O GAUGE LAYOUT

Immediately after specifying that his R&J Lines covers only 64 square feet, O gauge modeler Richard Pasciuto lets you know, "I am not a hirailer." Yet the layout he has finished in Haworth, N.J., boasts a more realistic look than he'll admit. Richard has smartly blended GarGraves track, MTH structures, and Lionel and Williams motive power and rolling stock with scale details and scenery materials from Scenic Express to create a three-rail display with its own identity.



▲ FRANK MORRIS' O GAUGE LAYOUT

The colorful O gauge trains, the mountain scenery, and the long runs of track – there is so much to like about the layout Frank Morris built with the encouragement and cooperation of his daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Peter Evangel. Yet what makes this three-rail display truly stand out is learning that Frank launched the project well into his senior years. He had enjoyed the Lionel no. 2026 half a century ago, but didn't return to the hobby until 2006, not long after losing his beloved wife. As Pete reminds us, "You're never too old to start a hobby." Thanks to Frank, we have inspiring proof of that adage in the form of his 17 x 20-foot three-rail layout in San Jose, Calif.

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PRODUCT NEWS

WITH BOB KELLER



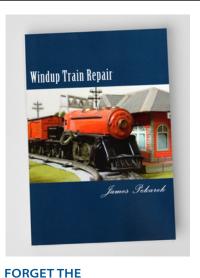
MODERN POWER ON THE HORIZON: Williams by Bachmann's F59 diesels are coming. The O gauge F59s will be available in three liveries. The models, which have two can-style motors and the Tru-Blast Plus® sound system, cost \$529.95 each. For more information go to **www.Bachmanntrains.com**.



FORD TOUGH: Atlas O has released a 1:50 scale die-cast model of the Ford F-250 pickup truck. The O gauge vehicles come in black, dark blue, gray, red, or white. The super cab, with either a six-foot or eight-foot bed, sells for \$74.95. A special two-vehicle set with the models decorated as escort vehicles for wide/special cargo loads is priced at \$169.95. See your Atlas O retailer or go to www.AtlasO.com for more information.



FOR BRICK BUILDERS: The Lego Trains Book by Holger Matthes has been released by No Starch Press. The 233-page hardcover book features all the information you need to build a Lego railroad, right down to track and power. The author takes you from the Lego building concept to constructing and motorizing your trains. There are intricately executed diagrams and parts listings for building a number of locomotives. The book costs \$24.95 and is available from the publisher at www.nostarch.com or www.amazon.com.



WATCHMAKER: Windup trains have a power system that originated in the 19th century, and no dealer network to support it. James Pekarek helps solve that problem with Windup Train Repair. The 76-page book covers motor design and theory, lubrication, motor parts, main springs, motor disassembly, and more. There are ample color photos to illustrate the tasks covered. Priced at \$19.99, the softcover volume is available from www.amazon.com or www.createspace.com.







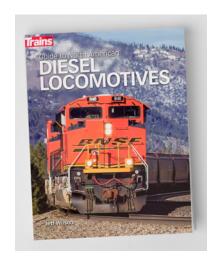
SWITCHEROOS: The venerable Electro-Motive Division SW9 diesel locomotive is decked out in the Florida East Coast's *Champion* livery on the no. 30-20464-1 O gauge switcher from MTH. The RailKing product has scale dimensions, two can-style motors, coil couplers, and the MTH ProtoSound 3.0 command and sound system. The model, which operates on O-27 track, sells for \$329.95. Also available is the no. 30-20464 unpowered SW9 calf unit for \$159.95. Other powered/unpowered SW9s in this run come decorated for the Canton RR, Conrail Express, and R.J. Corman RR. See your MTH retailer or go to **www.mthtrains.com** for more information.



PRIVATE LISTINGS: Robert Osterhoff's latest dive into the world of Lionel ephemera is the DVD *Lionel Postwar Private-issue Catalogs 1947-1961*. The disc features 40 private-issue catalogs from firms such as Hobby House and Model Railroad Equipment Co., legendary retailers that distributed their own catalogs carrying American Flyer, Lionel, Marx, Plasticville, and other train and accessory lines. The disc can be viewed on Mac or PC computers and uses the device's web browser. It costs \$40 plus \$2.50 shipping and is available from Robert Osterhoff, 1622 Garden Valley Dr., Wildwood, MO 63038; call 636-458-3659 or order online at www. Trainpaper.com.

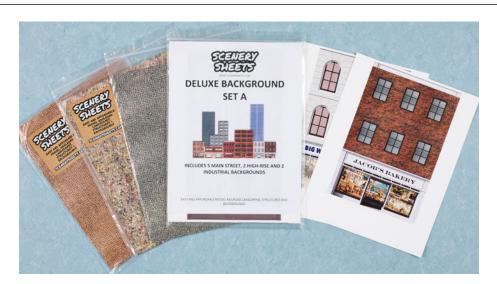


COAST DOWN TO CONEY: Trainworld is offering an excusive MTH RailKing bump-n-go trolley: the no. 30-5162 Coney Island trolley no. 751. The car features hit-and-reverse action, a movable power pol and interior illumination. The trolley operates on O-27 or wider diameter track and costs \$69.99. Order online at **www.trainworld.com.**



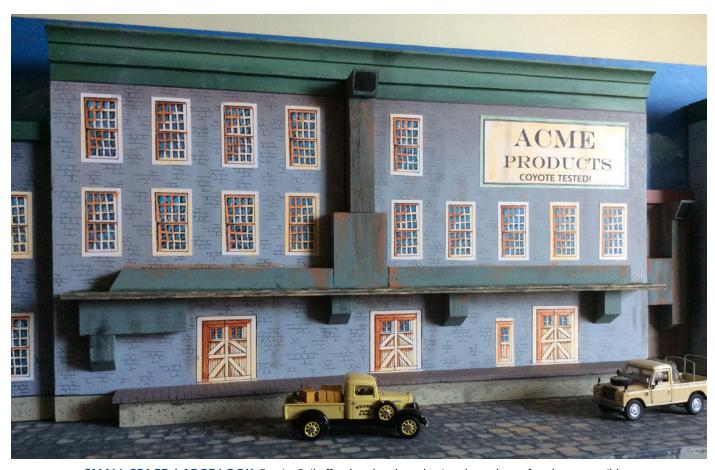
ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW: Jeff

Wilson has produced another major work of rail history with the *Guide to North American Diesel Locomotives*. The 350-page softcover book covers the history of North American diesel locomotive production and spotting features. It has all-time diesel rosters of more than 100 railroads through the 1970s, and 400 color and black-and-white photos and costs \$27.99 plus shipping. See your hobby retailer or **www.kalmbachhobbystore.com.**



PAPER POWER: Using paper for structures and scenery is a time-honored skill in the toy train world, and Scenery Sheets wants to introduce you to the craft. Scenery Sheets are background kits of paper products representing scenery, structures, or elements such as fieldstones and cobblestones. Sheets are available in packs of five for \$9.99 or packs of 10 for \$15.99 plus shipping. Order these at **www.buyscenerysheets.com.**

WANT TO SUBMIT A NEW PRODUCT? Send complete ordering information and a large, hi-res photo file to bkeller@kalmbach.com or on a CD by mail to Bob Keller, *Classic Toy Trains* magazine, PO Box 1612, Waukesha, WI 53187-1612.



SMALL SPACE, LARGE LOOK: Empire Rail offers handmade and painted wood-core facades compatible with O gauge railroads. The designs are intended for backdrop use, with their depth ranging from ½ to 3 inches. The facades go from \$15 to \$125. For more information consult **www.empirerail.co** or call 860-887-5799.





FLASHBACK TO THE DAYS OF

YORE: Brennan's Model Railroading has annouced the first kit in a new series saluting structures on the Delta Lines O gauge layout built in the 1940s by model railroading legend Frank Ellison. The Ob Long Box Co. comes with a photo-illustrated instruction sheet geared toward beginners. An interior LED lighting kit is available as an add-on item. The limited-edition kit (only 100 will be made) is priced at \$129.95 plus shipping. Order online at www.brennansmodelrr.com.

QUESTIONS · ANSWERS

WITH JOSEPH L. MANIA AND THE CTT STAFF



A SMOKING CASEY?

DOES THE AMERICAN FLYER GAME TRAIN LOCOMOTIVE SMOKE?

I have an American Flyer no. 20800 Game Train set from 1963. I'm not sure how to make the no. L2001 Casey Jones 4-4-0 steam engine smoke. Can you help me? – Doris Wegner, Womelsdorf, Pa.

A Sorry to be the bearer of bad new, Doris, but that locomotive was an inexpensive model that had no smoke unit. The goal of the Game Train set was to link model trains with board games, so the A.C. Gilbert Co. selected an inexpensive locomotive to pair with the game contents. We're not sure if you could have placed a smoke unit in one, but the lack of it helped keep the price lower.

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MULTIPLE TRANSFORMERS

My O gauge layout is conventionally powered, with two Marx 100-watt, 15-volt transformers and a Lionel no. 1033 90-watt, 16-volt (via posts A and U) to run my three lines. Do these transformers have enough power to provide the voltage needed to use the LionChief remote controller? Or must I buy new power? – Garvin Davenport, St. Paul, Minn.

Operating with older power sources at maximum output always seems risky. Even so, it is safe and your 1033 should work, though performance may be slightly diminished. Top speed will be a little slower, and smoke output may decrease slightly due to the voltage being slightly lower than the 18 volts recommended for the LionChief.

PICKY COMMODORE

I have a red Marx Commodore Vanderbilt from about 1935 and a black one from about 1945. The red model works well on both Marx and Lionel 90-degree crossovers. The black model either stops or goes into reverse on them. Both locomotives have exactly the same single-plate sliding shoe of about 21/2 inches and appear to be wired the same way. I have several other Marx engines. Some have a slider the same size or a little longer, and some have two small sliders all manage to navigate the crossovers. Do you have ideas about the cause of the problem with the black version and possible solutions? - Frank Dies, St. Louis, Mo.

Without seeing your Marx engines, it is difficult to diagnose problems. Start by checking to see if there is more wear on the pickup of the motor on the black engine. If a groove is worn deeply enough in the copper pickup, when the locomotive traverses the plastic block in the center of the 90-degree crossing, the pickup can come up high enough that it no longer touches the center rail. As a result, the unworn part glides over the plastic and the worn part is now too high to contact the center rail.

HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT OPERATING NEW OR OLD TOY TRAINS? Write "Questions & Answers" on your letter and mail it to Classic Toy Trains, P.O. Box 1612, Waukesha, WI 53187-1612, or email us at qsandas@ClassicToyTrains.com and put the words "questions & answers" in the subject line.









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LIONEL'S NO. 9126 CHESAPEAKE & OHIO THREE-TIER AUTO CARRIER

ne indication of innovation and excellence at any manufacturer of toy trains is how quickly its designers manage to add to its product line a convincing replica of a locomotive or piece of rolling stock recently introduced to full-size railroads. Hobbyists follow what is happening and hope, perhaps expect, to be able to buy models of the latest engines, freight cars, and more.

Engineers at Lionel in the 1950s studied what was happening on Class 1 railroads and short lines. But few unique items appeared as the 1960s wore on.

Then General Mills, which was leasing the rights to manufacture and market Lionel trains, revived that trend in the 1970s. Its designers returned to the current industry to bring out a memorable group of three-tier auto carriers, including the no. 9126 Chesapeake & Ohio model (cataloged between 1973 and 1975).

Boxcars to modified flatcars

As explained in "Automobiles roll on Lionel Lines" in the December 2017 issue of Classic Toy Trains, manufacturers relied on boxcars, often equipped with two sets of doors on each side, to transport vehicles

through the first half of the 20th century. Starting in the 1950s, they turned to flatcars on which special metal frameworks had been installed to enable them to handle many more automobiles.

Lionel responded to the breakthrough with its no. 6414 Evans auto loader. That O gauge model made its debut in 1955 and

stayed in the line through 1966. Meanwhile, an S gauge flatcar with a miniature truck hauling a carrier packed with autos became part of the American Flyer roster from the A.C. Gilbert Co.

Changes continue

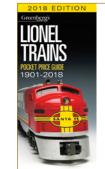
American automobile manufacturers had progressed from loading new

cars in boxcars to letting them ride in the open on flatcars equipped with a specially designed multi-level carrier. That noteworthy trend continued into the 1960s.

Soon, however, railroads and auto makers were forced to adapt. The threats posed to the valuable cargo by bad weather and daring vandals left them with no choice.

Lionel acknowledges change

Key people at Lionel must have been pleased with the Evans auto loader because they did not try to replace it with a model of a more contemporary automobile carrier as the 1960s wore on. After deleting the 6414, decision makers cataloged nothing related to cars.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Lionel cataloged the no. 9126 Chesapeake & Ohio three-tier auto carrier between 1973 and '75. The 2018 edition of Greenbera's Pocket Price Guide to Lionel Trains values the car at \$34 in mint condition and \$23 in excellent. Examples with the C&O logo in the upper and lower boards bring a premium.

Fortunately for O gaugers, individuals at General Mills noticed great possibilities in replicating the longer auto carriers added to American and Canadian railroads in the 1960s and into the '70s. They looked at the 60-foot open carriers in preparation for producing an attractive and realistic model for hobbyists.

Individuals at General Mills noticed great possibilities in replicating the longer auto carriers added to American and Canadian railroads in the 1960s and into the '70s.

Out in 1973 rolled three brand-new automobile carriers: the nos. 9123 Chesapeake & Ohio, 9125 Norfolk & Western, and 9126 C&O. Each unpainted plastic model was 14 inches in length and had on top of its flat surface one or two thin plastic racks to increase the levels on which autos supposedly rode. The result was a two-tier freight car 2¾ inches high or a threetier car 4½ inches high.

The three cars making their debut in 1973 looked good, thanks to rail-road names and related graphics generally hot-stamped on the shell (exceptions were electrocals). Unfortunately for Lionel, their operation left something to be desired.

The extra-long models needed a special offset plastic truck (type IIC or IID Symington-Wayne types) to negotiate the tight curves found on O-27 and O gauge railroad. But the plastic rivets used to fasten the trucks to the body shells permitted too much play between those different parts. Worse yet, the high center of gravity of the new automobile carriers and their minimal weight frequently combined to cause them to topple over as they rolled through curved sections.

A few variations

General Mills decided from the getgo it would catalog more than a single auto carrier in 1973, perhaps because leaders hoped consumers would buy several cars and so assemble realistic trains. There were, as a result, two styles (one or two racks), two road names (C&O or N&W), and two colors (blue or yellow).

The 9126 three-tier auto carrier (available in two sets and separately) had a yellow body with blue markings, making it the reverse of the 9123. The shade of yellow varied from light to medium. The C&O logo usually was on only the upper boards. Scarce examples had them on both the upper and the lower boards. – *Roger Carp*

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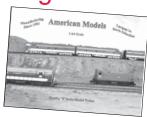
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VIEWS FROM THE UNDERGROUND

WITH LOU PALUMBO

Where have they gone?

REFLECTING ON THE DECLINE OF NEIGHBORHOOD TRAIN SHOPS

was saddened to hear of the recent passing of Jimmy Beaumont. Jimmy, in case you have forgotten, was the lead singer for the popular 1950s and '60s rock 'n' roll group, the Skyliners.

The Skyliners were one of many groups that hailed from Pittsburgh, Pa. Others, such as the Marcels and the Del-Vikings, were also part of that fabulous Pittsburgh Sound during what many of us consider the golden age of rock.

I was fortunate enough to see the Skyliners perform many times during the

past 50 years. They were always one of my favorite singing groups.

I sure miss that wonderful sound and regret that it's no longer here to enjoy live. Luckily, we're able to hear the recordings of the Skyliners and so many others.

Something else that's missing in today's landscape is the old school type of train and hobby shops. And believe me, we miss them as much as vintage rock.

I remember going into small retail establishments filled with treasures of model trains and accessories from years gone by. It seemed like there once was a train store in every big city neighborhood. By the way, the same was true with record stores!

But now they're gone. I guess the economics of owning and operating a model train store prohibits their existence in abundance here in the 21st century.

During the 1950s and early '60s, though, those places were everywhere. I shopped at many such stores from Pittsburgh to Youngstown, Ohio, all a modest drive from my home in New Castle, Pa. Occasionally, my pals and I would get a ride to one of those cities and spend the day going from train store to train store.

Today, most of the big box hobby centers carry some trains. Of course, they also have items and materials used in hobbies not related to model trains.

These retailers try to make everyone happy by offering stuff for every hobby. So it's almost impossible to find many pre-owned and older toy trains.

I try to re-create the feel and atmosphere of an old school type of model train store at my business, The Underground Railroad Shoppe, in New Castle. We buy and sell new and used O and S gauge trains. In addition, we do repairs on the older trains.

There are many challenges involved with running a train store these days. No

> wonder some businesses that had been around a long time have left the scene.

Unlike many of the other surviving train stores around the country, we do not attempt to turn into a fullrange hobby shop to supplement the sales during the offseason. Keep in mind that October through January are the busiest months for a train

store. After that, from February through September, sales really drop off.

Some of us have made a commitment to being exclusively train stores. It isn't easy. The costs related to having a sizable inventory of new and old trains, along with those tied to renting or maintaining the property, take a large chunk of the operating capital. And someone has to put in long hours behind the counter.

All the same, as the owners of the multi-generation train stores featured in the November 2017 issue of Classic Toy *Trains* explained, all the time and effort are worth it. We meet terrific people and do what we can to boost this hobby.

My advice to CTT readers? Look around in your town for a train store, because it may not be there much longer. Then do whatever you can to support it. Otherwise, it may vanish, taking with it many great memories. And once that store has shut its doors, all you'll be able to do is ask, "Where have they gone?"

Keep searchin'.



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L85144 GATX Tank Train Intermediate Car #1 - Black



His goal Vacison

MARV RAGUSE FULFILLED A HOBBY GOAL WHEN HE **VISITED IN THE 1970S**

By Roger Carp

Photos by Marv Raguse

ertain O and S gauge train collectors have indirectly shaped Classic Toy Trains almost since its beginning in 1987. They have offered opinions on the contents, shared models from their collections, directed us to novel topics and fellow hobbyists, and shared their expertise.

Mary Raguse has been in the CTT corner from its early days through the present. His knowledge of American Flyer trains and accessories has benefited the magazine, as have his insights into the hobby.

Mary's passion for toy trains was kindled when as a toddler

in the 1940s he played with a Marx set with his father. The flame grew after he received an American Flyer passenger set headed by a no. 322 Hudson steamer around 1950. Since then, Marv's fascination with model railroading has expanded from S gauge to HO scale and then to prewar Standard gauge and modern O and HO scale.

Mary tells great stories about growing up with toy and fullsize trains. Especially entertaining are his memories of visiting New York City in the 1970s and stopping by Madison Hardware Co., once the nation's premier Lionel retailer.

Taking the right path

"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Mary refers to Proverbs 22:6 as one of his favorite passages. Besides having the word "train" in it, this proverb neatly summarizes his life.

A photo taken when Marv was three years old shows him next to his dad. They were, as Marv says, "experiencing the joy of my very first train, a Marx windup."

"From my earliest days," Marv goes on, "I have always loved railroads. I aspired to grow up to be a locomotive





FAR LEFT Longtime toy train collector Mary Raguse snapped this terrific picture of the inside of Madison Hardware Co. in New York City in the 1970s. To the right stands Lou Shur, the owner of what was the premier Lionel retailer for decades.

LEFT Toy train collectors can only wonder what treasures were packed away in storage areas on the floors above the Madison storefront at 105 East 23rd Street.

ABOVE Mary cherishes this snapshot showing his father and him at age three, playing with Marv's first train - a Marx windup.

Hardware

engineer. Trains were everywhere, often paralleling major highways. I remember riding in our family's Chrysler and seeing them. I always sought and usually got a wave from the crew in the cab."

Lying in bed at night as a boy in Wisconsin, Marv could hear the sounds of Chicago & North Western and Milwaukee Road passenger and freight trains and local interurbans. Yet what meant even more was operating his own trains.

When Marv was six, his dad gave him the Flyer passenger set - "my most incredible Christmas gift!" Many hours of "running the fast mail," as Mary put it, "led me to dream of being in the cab as it roared through the local station."

A year later, Marv got a no. 282 Pacific and tender with freight cars. The trains ran on a scenic table layout with two main lines. Neat accessories soon joined them, including a cattle loader, a lumber mill, and an oil drum loader.

Rekindling his interest

Eventually, as happened to so many postwar kids, Mary drifted from toy trains to HO scale modeling. The realism and detail attracted him.

But a visit to a hobby shop in Detroit, where Mary was living in 1969, rekindled his interest in toy trains. He saw a collection of vintage Flyer and Lionel items. That was all it took to guide him back to what he had loved as a youngster.

As Marv built a collection and joined the Train Collectors Association, he heard about Madison Hardware Co. Not that he was unfamiliar with the nationally known store.

"Growing up in the 1950s," Mary noted, "the full-page ads Madison put in Model Railroader and Model Trains magazines presented quite a wonder. But for a boy living out in the Midwest, getting to Madison in New York was as unlikely as visiting Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif. That was okay, though, because I was a loyal American Flyer lad, and the large inventory Madison stocked was Lionel."

Off to Gotham

Marv's desire to visit Madison grew once he was a fullfledged collector without any specific brand loyalty. "Madison had become the place I had to visit. Other spots in New York were important, but only Madison was an icon."



A visit to Madison Hardware to converse with Lou Shur and buy trains was just one of the highlights of the trips to New York City Marv took in the 1970s with his wife, Julie.

In June 1973, Marv finally fulfilled that goal. With his wife, Julie, he visited Madison Hardware for the first time. It became a regular destination for the young couple.

"On every visit to New York," Marv recalls, "Julie and I would stop by Madison. Then, after time well spent there, we would head up to Grand Central Terminal and the Oyster Bar Restaurant in the lower level for a great lunch."

Once, Marv asked Lou Shur, the elderly and occasionally crusty owner of Madison, if he had pilot flags for Lionel's Standard gauge locomotives.

Lou replied, "How many do you need?"

Marv said, "A few, I guess."
We'll let Marv finish the
tale: "Mr. Shur disappeared
into the backroom, coming out
a minute later. 'Hold out your
hand,' he said. When I did, he
dropped a handful of original
Lionel flags into it. I was
thrilled at his kind gesture."

Getting amazing photos

Mary continued to visit through the rest of the 1970s

When Marv was six, his father gave him the Flyer passenger set – "my most incredible Christmas gift!"

and into the 1980s. Often, he brought with him Ralph Corapi, a fellow train collector. They explored every hobby shop in Manhattan and on Long Island. "That's how," Marv recalled, "I learned that a Lionel no. 120L Standard gauge tunnel could fit under the seat of a Boeing 727 for the return flight to Michigan."

Marv once asked Lou if he could take his picture. Lou said he could but then warned, "It won't come turn out."

Marv suspects Lou had in mind the lack of a flash on the camera. Marv believed the

photo would look fine. One glance leaves no doubt it did!

As cool is the photo Marv took of the storefront of Madison. He likes it because "the adjoining businesses come into view. The upper floors must have had a huge inventory of vintage Lionel equipment."

Still at it

Madison Hardware no longer exists in Manhattan or its later incarnation in Detroit. But Mary's photos preserve the interior and exterior for us.

Marv still collects trains and maintains his enthusiasm for the hobby. He recalls how his dad once walked through his train room and, after looking at the vintage and new models on display, said half in jest, "Where did I go wrong?"

Marv showed his father the photo of them with the Marx windup and thanked him. "We then shared a good laugh!"





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Item Number		
	SOUTHERN F-7 ABA (HRW) W/PS3 M11V2	567
M20-20192-1	CSX DASH 8 DIESEL W/PS 3.0 HIRLWLS MSRP 449.95 DAP11	378
	WESTERN MARYLAND SD40-2 DIESEL W/PS3 449.95 M12V2	338
M20-20250-1	NORFOLK & WESTERN GP30 DIESEL W/PS3 439.95 M12V2	351
M20-20263-1	SOUTHERN ES44AC DIESEL W/PS3 (HRW) MSRP 459.95 M12V2	383
M20-20263-3	SOUTHERN ES44AC DIESEL (NP) MSRP 269.95 M13V2	207
M20-20266-3	MILWAUKEE ROAD F-7 B-UNIT DIESEL (NP) 159.95 M12V2	117
M20-20304-1	WESTERN MARYLAND FA-2 ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 729.95 M13V1	522
	WESTERN MARYLAND FA-2 B-UNIT DIESEL (N/P) 179.95 M13V1	131
	NYC FA-2 ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 MSRP 729.95 M13V1	522
	NYC FA-2 B-UNIT DIESEL (N/P) MSRP 179.95 M13V1	131
	CANADIAN NATIONAL FA-2 B-UNIT DIESEL (N/P) 179.95 M13V1	131
	GE DEMO #2011 ES44AC DIESEL W/PS3 (HRW) (UNCAT) \$479.95	405
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	TEXAS SPECIAL F-3 ABA DIESEL W/PS3 HRW 729.95 M13V2	540
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	BOSTON&MAINE PIONEER ZEPHYR DIES PASS SET W/PS3 799.95 M13V2	
	NORF SOUTHN DASH-8 NARROW NOSE DIESEL W/PS3 HRW 459.95 M14V1	
	UP DASH-8 NARROW NOSE DIESEL W/PS3 (HRW) 459.95 M14V1	351
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	SANTA FE GE 44 TON DIESEL W/PS3.0 HIRL 449.95 6/15 M15V1	347
	GE HYBRID EVOLUTION ES44AC DIESEL PS3 HRW 529.95 M15V2	432
	GE HYBRID EVOLUTION ES44AC DIESEL PS3 HRW 529.95 M15V2	432
	WESTERN MARYLAND SD-35 DIESEL #7435 W/PS3 HRW 499.95 M15V2	387
M20-20539-1	WESTERN MARYLAND SD-35 DIESEL #7436 W/PS3 HRW 499.95 M15V2	
M20-20554-1	CANADIAN NATIONAL F-7 A-UNIT DIESEL PS3 HRW 449.95 M15V2	342
M20-20556-1	NORFOLK SOUTHERN F-7 A-UNIT DIESEL PS3 HRW 449.95 M15V2	342
M20-20578-1	NORFOLK SOUTHERN GP-40 SAFETY TRAIN SET PS3 749.95 M16V1	540
M20-20593-1	NORFOLK SOUTHERN SD60E DIESEL W/PS3 HRW 499.95 M16V1 04/16	360
M20-20594-1	NORFOLK SOUTHERN SD60E DIESEL W/PS3 HRW 499.95 M16V1	360
M20-20595-1	NORFOLK SOUTHERN SD60E DIESEL W/PS3 HRW 499.95 M16V1 05/16	360
M20-20612-1	C&O FREIGHT EXPRESS F-7 TRAIN SET W/PS3 MSRP 729.95 M16V1	540
M20-20662-1	UP DASH 9 DIESEL CAB # 9816 PS3.0 HIRLWHLS MSRP 499.95	360
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M20-2206-1	ELECTRO MOTIVE DIV EMD E-8 ABA W/PS	495
M20-2244-1	US POSTAL SERVICE USPS GENESIS PS2	315
M20-2374-1	CHESSIE WESTERN MARYLAND GP-40 DIESEL ENGINE W/PS2	333
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M20-2458-1	WESTERN MARYLAND FA-2 ABA ENG SET W/PS2 MSRP 649.95	495
M20-2663-1	MD MIDLAND GP38-2 DIESEL ENGINE PS2 MSRP 399.95	297
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M20-2689-1	WESTERN MD BL-2 DIE ENG W/PS MSRP 399.95 C+	297
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M20-2830-2	ELECTRO MOTIVE DIV SD70M-2 DIESEL W/PS2 SCALE M7V2	333
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M20-3034-1	CHICAGO NORTHWESTERN 4-6-4 E-4 HUDSON W/PS	405
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M20-3136-2	JERSEY CENTRAL BULLET 4-6-2 P47 PACIFIC 2-RAIL PS2	630
M20-3166-1	WM 2-8-0 H-9 CONSOLIDATED W/PS2 (HRW) MSRP 799.95	585
M20-3182-1	CHICAGO & ALTON 2-8-0 USRA LT MIKDO W/PS H/WHL MSRP 799.95	630
M20-3216-2	NYC 4-6-4 DREYFUSS PS2 (SCALE SCULLIN WHEELS) MSRP 999.95	720
M20-3276-1	CANADIAN NAT'L U1f STEAM PASS SET PS2 MSRP 1199.95 M7V1	986
M20-3299-1	PA K-4 STREAMLINED PASS SET W/PS2 MSRP 999.95 M8V1	720
M20-3300-1	·	.080
M20-3311-1	WESTERN MARYLAND 2-10-0 DECAPOD W/PS2 MSRP 999.95 M10V	675
M20-3314-1	SOUTHERN 4-6-4 ROYAL HUDSON W/PS 2.0 (HRW) 999.95 M8V2	765
M20-3363-1	N & W 4-8-4 J STEAM LOCO W/PS 2.0 (HRW) 1099.95 M10V1	855
M20-3369-1	BRITISH RW DUCHESS CLASS STM W/PS2 (HRW) 1199.95 M13V1	810
M20-3383-1	DAP ENGINEERING EDITION 2-3-1F PACIFIC W/PS2 MSRP 1099.95	720
M20-3386-1	NYC 4-4-0 EMPIRE STATE EXP W/PS2 (70"HRW) MSRP 699.95 M9V2	473
M20-3407-1	ENGINEERING EDITN 4-8-2 L4A MOHAWK PS2.0 MSRP 1099.95 DAP10	765
M20-3435-1	SANTA FE 4-6-4 BLUE GOOSE HUDSON STM W/PS3 HRW 1099.95 M11V1	849
M20-3435-2	SANTA FE 4-6-4 BLUE GOOSE HUDSON STM W/PS3 SW 1099.95 M11V1	849
M20-3459-1E	PENNSYLVANIA J-1 2-10-4 STEAM ENGINE W/PS3 (FROM DAP SET)	810
M20-3467-1	PA K4s METROPOLITAN DELUXE STM PASS SET W/PS3 999.95 M11V2	720
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M20-3469-1	PA 4-6-2 K-4s STM ENGINE W/PS3 (HRW) MSRP 899.95 M14V2	720
M20-3471-1	PA 4-6-2 K-4s STM ENGINE W/PS3 (HRW) MSRP 899.95 M11V2	720
M20-3472-1	PA 4-6-2 K-4s MODERN 1947 STM W/PS3 (HRW) MSRP 899.95 M11V2	720
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M20-3482-1	PENNSYLVANIA K-4 STREAMLINED PASS SET W/PS3 999.95 M14V2	720
M20-3485-1	SOUTHERN PACIFIC 4-8-4 GS-4 STM W/PS3 HRW 1099.95 M13V2	882
M20-3490-1	NOISY LE SEC 141P MIKADO STM W/PS3 HRW 1299.95 M15V2 07/15	990
M20-3515-1	NORFOLK & WESTERN 2-8-8-2 Y-3 FGT SET W/SP3 1649.95 M14V2	1,215
M20-3516-1	PENNSYLVANIA 2-8-8-2 Y-3 FGT SET W/PS3 1649.95 M14V2 09/14	1,215
M20-3518-1	PA.4-4-4 T-1 DUPLEX STEAM PS3.0 (HIRL) MSRP 1399.95 M15V2	1,080
M20-3519-1	PA T-1 FLEET OF MODERNISM PSET PS3.0 MSRP 1549.95 M15V1	1,170
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M20-3520-1	PA T-1 EXPRESS MAIL FT SET MSRP 1549.95 M15V1 6/15	1,170
M20-3532-1	UP FEF 4-8-4 NORTHERN STM W/PS3 (HRW) 1199.95 M14V2	855
M20-3535-1	UP FEF NORTHERN STRML PASS SET PS3 1349.95 M14V2	1,080
M20-3536-1	UP FEF NORTHERN EXPRESS REEFER SET PS3 1349.95 M14V2	1.080
M20-3558	UNION PACIFIC AUXILIARY WATER TENDER (HRW) 249.95 M1	198
M20-3574-1	NORFOLK WESTN 4-8-4 JCLASS SPEC PASS SET PS3 1349.95 M15V2	1,080
M20-3577-1	UP 4-8-8-4 BIG BOY STEAM PS3 HRW MSRP 1599.95 M15V2 10/15	1.260
M20-3578-1	UP 4-8-8-4 BIG BOY SPEC FRT SET PS3.0 MSRP 1749.95 M15V1	1,395
M20-3578-1E	UP #4000 4-8-8-4 BIGBOY W/PS3 - FROM M20-3578-1 SET M15V1	1,215
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M20-3584-1	NYC STREAMLINED PASS SET PS3.0 MSRP 1349.95 M15V1	1,080
M20-3585-1	NYC 4-6-4 J-1e FREIGHT SET MSRP 1349.95 M15V1 3/15	1,080
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M20-3591-1	B&0 4-4-0 AMERICAN STM PS3 86"HRW 799.95 M15V2	621
M20-3593-1	NYC EMPIRE STATE EXPRESS PASS SET PS3 999.95 M15V2 03/15	720
M20-3595-1	STRASBURG 4-4-0 AMERICAN STM PS3 HRW MSRP 799.95 M15V2 10/	15 621
M20-3596-1	PA 4-4-0 AMERICAN STM W/PS3 HRW MSRP 799.95 M15V2 10/15	621
M20-3602-1	MILWAUKEE RD 4-6-2 USRA HEAVY PACIFIC STM PS3 1099.95 M15V2	810
M20-3605-1	WESTERN MD 4-6-2 USRA HEAVY PACIFIC STM PS3 1099.95 M15V2	810
M20-3615-1	N&W 2-6-6-4 CLASS A W/TIMKIN SIDE RODS PS3 HRW 1499.95 M15V2	1,215
M20-3623-1	PA 4-4-2 ATLANTIC STM W/PS3 HRW MSRP 899.95 M16V1 03/16	720
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M20-3633-1	WESTERN MD 2-10-0 RUSSIAN DECAPOD STM PS3 HRW 999.95 M16V1	810
M20-3652-1	NP 4-6-6-4 Z-6 CHALLENGER W/PS3 MSRP 1499.95 M16V1 7/16	1,170
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M20-3655-1	SOUTHERN 2-8-2 USRA LIGHT MIKADO STM PS3 HRW 1099.95 M16V1	873
M20-3659-1	LONG ISLAND 4-6-0 G-5s STM W/PS3 HRW MSRP 999.95 M16V2 11/16	774
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M20-3677-1		
M20-3678-1	CHESSIE 4-8-4 GREENBRIER STM W/PS3 (HRW) 1199.99 M16V2 01/17	945
M20-3679-1	CHESSIE 4-8-4 GREENBRIER STM W/PS3 HRW 1199.95 M16V2 01/17	945
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M20-3685	CHESSIE AUXILIARY DIE-CAST WATER TENDER II HRW 249.95 M16V2	198
M20-3686	CHESSIE AUX. D.C.SAFETY TRAIN WATER TENDER II HRW 249.95 M16	198
M20-3705-1	PERE MARQUETTE 0-8-0 USRA STEAM W/PS3 HRW 799.95 3/17 M17V1	
M20-3706-1	NORFOLK WESTRN 0-8-0 USRA STEAM W/PS3 HRW 799.95 3/17 M17V	1 666
M20-5637-1	TUSCAN CROCODILE ENG W/PS3 (HI) MSRP 899.95 M12V2	657
M20-5637-2	TUSCAN CROCODILE ENG W/PS3 (SCALE) MSRP 899.95 M12V2	630
M20-5639-1	PENNSYLVANIA GG-1 ELECTRIC GREEN W/PS3 MSRP 799.95 M13V1	585
M20-5643-1	PA GG-1 ELEC W/PS3 MSRP 799.95 M13V1	540
M20-80002A		450
	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI)	450
M20-80002H	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR	450 135
M20-80002H Item Number	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES OUR	450 135 PRICE
M20-80002H	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR	450 135
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95	450 135 PRICE 270
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1	450 135 PRICE 270 315
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1 M30-1695-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1696-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 CHICAGO NWN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 CHICAGO NWN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 CHICAGO NWN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 CHICAGO NWN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351 360
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 CHICAGO NWN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351 360 360
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1695-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20127-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 CHICAGO NWN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351 360 360 261
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1695-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20127-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 CHICAGO NWN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351 360 360 261
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1669-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20127-1 M30-20282-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M17V1 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M15V1	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351 360 360 261 371
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1683-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20127-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20289-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 11/15	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 360 360 261 371 252
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1669-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20127-1 M30-20289-1 M30-20301-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 MARYLAND MIDLAND SD-45 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 11/15	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 360 361 371 252 306
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1669-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20127-1 M30-20289-1 M30-20301-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 MARYLAND MIDLAND SD-45 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 11/15	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 360 361 371 252 306
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20289-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-3	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 \$429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3 149.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3 399.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 11/15 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 360 360 360 361 371 252 306 138
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1695-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20289-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20315-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 0 MSRP 549.95 M15V1 MARYLAND MIDLAND SD-45 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 11/15 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR 2-CAR ADD-ON-SET MSRP 179.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL PS3 349.95 M15V2 10/15	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351 360 360 361 371 252 306 138 268
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1695-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20289-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20315-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 \$429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3 149.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3 399.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 11/15 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351 360 360 261 371 252 306 138 268
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1683-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20315-1 M30-20361-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 9S3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M15V2 11/15 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR 2-CAR ADD-ON-SET MSRP 179.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL PS3 349.95 M15V2 10/15 N. S.(FIRST RESP.) SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351 360 360 261 371 252 306 138 268 329
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1695-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-1 M30-20362-1 M30-20362-1 M30-20362-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3.0 MSRP 359.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 MSRP 359.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL PS3 349.95 M15V2 10/15 N. S. (FIRST RESP.) SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 361 371 252 306 138 268 329 329
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1695-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-1 M30-20362-1 M30-20362-1 M30-20362-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 9S3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M15V2 11/15 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR 2-CAR ADD-ON-SET MSRP 179.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL PS3 349.95 M15V2 10/15 N. S.(FIRST RESP.) SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 351 360 360 261 371 252 306 138 268 329
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-16659-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1705-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-1 M30-20362-1 M30-20362-1 M30-20362-1 M30-20362-1 M30-20362-1 M30-20383-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 CHICAGO NWN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3.0 MSRP 549.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACe IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 SENESEE & WYOMING RS-1 PS3 ALCO MSRP \$329-95	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 361 371 252 306 138 268 329 329 269
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1668-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1705-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20384-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 WILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3.0 MSRP 549.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL /CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACe IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 GENESEE & WYOMING RS-1 PS3 ALCO MSRP \$329.95 ILLINOIS TERMINAL ALCO RS-1 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M16V2 12/16	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 360 360 361 371 252 306 138 268 329 269
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1669-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1705-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-3 M30-20362-1 M30-20383-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20341-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3.0 MSRP 549.95 M15V1 MARYLAND MIDLAND SD-45 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 11/15 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR 2-CAR ADD-ON-SET MSRP 179.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS) SD70ACe IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 IN. S. (VETERANS) SD70ACe IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 ILLINOIS TERMINAL ALCO RS-1 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M16V2 12/16 GE NEXT FUEL ES44AC IMP DIE ENG PS3 3000 MSRP 339.95 M17V1	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 360 261 371 252 306 138 268 329 329 329 269 270
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1669-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1705-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20301-3 M30-20362-1 M30-20383-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20341-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 WILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 SO PA 4-6-2 49ER STEAM ENG PS3 2492 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3.0 MSRP 549.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL /CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACe IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 GENESEE & WYOMING RS-1 PS3 ALCO MSRP \$329.95 ILLINOIS TERMINAL ALCO RS-1 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M16V2 12/16	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 360 360 361 371 252 306 138 268 329 269
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1695-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20282-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-3 M30-20315-1 M30-20383-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20342-1 M30-20342-1 M30-20342-1 M30-20342-1 M30-20342-1 M30-20420-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3.0 MSRP 549.95 M15V1 MARYLAND MIDLAND SD-45 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 11/15 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR 2-CAR ADD-ON-SET MSRP 179.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL PS3 349.95 M15V2 10/15 N. S. (FIRST RESP.) SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 ILLINOIS TERMINAL ALCO RS-1 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M16V2 12/16 GE NEXT FUEL ES44AC IMP DIE ENG PS3 3000 MSRP 339.95 M17V1 CSX SD-45 DIE ENG PS3 8973 MSRP 339.95 M17V1 6/17	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 2 369 351 2 360 360 360 261 371 252 306 138 268 329 329 269 269 270
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1670-1E M30-1695-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1703-1 M30-1703-1 M30-20322-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20383-1 M30-20383-1 M30-20384-1 M30-20384-1 M30-203412-1 M30-20420-1 M30-20420-1 M30-20420-1 M30-20420-1 M30-20420-1 M30-20423-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SANTA FE 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 449.95 12/17 M17RTR PENNSYLVANIA ALCO PA AA DIESEL SET W/PS3 399.95 M12V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3 329.95 M15V2 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 11/15 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR 2-CAR ADD-ON-SET MSRP 179.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL PS3 349.95 M15V2 10/15 N. S. (FIRST RESP) SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACE IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 ILLINOIS TERMINAL ALCO RS-1 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M16V2 12/16 GE NEXT FUEL ES44AC IMP DIE ENG PS3 3000 MSRP 339.95 M17V1 CSX SD-45 DIE ENG PS3 8973 MSRP 339.95 M17V1 6/17	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 351 2 360 360 361 360 361 371 252 306 138 268 329 329 269 269 270 270 265
M20-80002H Item Number M30-1590-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1659-1 M30-1683-1 M30-1695-1 M30-1696-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1702-1 M30-1705-1 M30-1727-1 M30-20127-1 M30-20289-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20301-1 M30-20383-1 M30-20383-1 M30-20383-1 M30-20420-1 M30-20420-1 M30-20420-1 M30-20427-1	SANTA FE CLEAR BODY F-3 DIESEL SET (QSI) DAP 2000 PCC ELECTRIC STREET CAR RAILKING ENGINES GEORGE WASHINGTON 4-6-0 TEN WHEELER W/PS3 \$449.95 PA 0-6-0 IMPERIAL USRA STM SWITCHER W/PS3 429.95 M15V1 UP 4-4-0 GOLDEN SPIKE FROM PASS SET W/PS3 629.95 M15V1 MILWA RD 4-6-4 IMPERIAL HIAWATHA HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-4 IMPERIAL STMLINED HUDSON STM PS3 459.95 M15V2 SOUTHERN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG 617 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 2/17 HALLOWEEN 4-6-2 CRUS STEAM ENG PS3 1031 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 7/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 MSRP 459.95 M17V1 4/17 CHRISTMAS 4-4-0 GENERAL STEAM W/PS3.0 MSRP 549.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3.0 MSRP 549.95 M15V2 NORFOLK SO. ABA DIESEL SET W/PS3.0 MSRP 549.95 M15V2 MARYLAND MIDLAND SD-45 DIESEL W/PS3.29.95 M15V2 11/15 AMTRAK RDC BUDD CAR SET W/PS3 MSRP 399.95 M15V2 G.E. EVOLUTION ES44AC IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACe IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 N. S. (VETERANS)SD70ACe IMPERIAL DIESEL/CABOOSE W/PS3 399.95 ILLINOIS TERMINAL ALCO RS-1 DIESEL W/PS3 329.95 M16V2 12/16 GE NEXT FUEL ES44AC IMP DIE ENG PS3 3000 MSRP 339.95 M17V1 CSX SD-45 DIE ENG PS3 8973 MSRP 339.95 M17V1 6/17 AMTRAK GENESIS DIE ENG PS3 713 MSRP 329.95 M17V1 6/17	450 135 PRICE 270 315 315 315 360 360 361 360 361 371 252 306 138 268 329 369 269 270 270 265 17 351
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The hometown New Haven RR grabbed attention from American Flyer enthusiasts in 1956, when the A.C. Gilbert Co. introduced an Alco PA-PA duo in the black, orange, and white scheme. The S gauge diesels led freight and passenger sets between 1956 and '58.

New Haven By Mark Suek OVE affair

o one could blame the A.C. Gilbert Co. in the postwar era for including in its American Flyer line some S gauge locomotives and rolling stock decorated for the New York, New Haven & Hartford RR. After all, the New Haven's Shore Line Division ran right behind the Gilbert plant in New Haven, Conn., where S gauge trains and accessories were being manufactured and shipped.

Yes, engineering and marketing leaders at the Gilbert Co. did a little "home cooking," although not as much as Flyer collectors and operators might think. Then too, the New Haven, established in 1872, was one of the major railways in the Northeast, operating 2,133 miles of track and dominating rail traffic between Boston and New York City. It sported interesting color schemes and a great logo.

American Flyer steam, diesel, and electric-profile locomotives decorated for the New Haven during the postwar period, despite not being plentiful in variety,

deserve attention. Each engine had a stately, almost elegant quality that really causes it to stand out half a century later.

Waiting for the right engines

Surprisingly in light of Gilbert's proximity to the New Haven's double-track main line, the toy firm did not issue its first New Haven locomotive until 1953, the eighth year of S gauge production. It never offered any type of NH locomotive with link couplers.

Don't assume the New Haven RR had been ignored by Gilbert executives to that

point. After all, as George Hoffer pointed out in the July 2011 issue of *Classic Toy Trains*, several of the passenger sets added to the American GREAT S GAUGE LOCOMOTIVES WORE THE NAME OF GILBERT'S HOMETOWN RAILROAD

Flyer line in the late 1940s and early '50s, came with S gauge replicas of heavyweight cars on the New Haven roster. Green and red coaches and baggage cars came lettered for the New Haven.

The handsome models, equipped with link couplers as the nos. 650 and 651 from 1946 through 1953, made for impressive trains. Yet for virtually that entire period (right until 1953), Gilbert paired the NH cars with combinations of steam engines and tenders decorated for, among other prototype lines, the New York Central and the Pennsylvania RR.



Also making its debut in 1956 was Gilbert's replica of the New Haven EP-5 electric. S gauge models of the impressive locomotive developed by General Electric remained key members of the cataloged American Flyer line all the way through 1959.

Breaking through in 1953

The year 1953 saw Gilbert pay more attention to the railroad dominating its hometown. Making its debut was the sole steam engine placed in the American Flyer line lettered for the New Haven. It had a 4-6-2 wheel arrangement and turned out to be one of the finest steamers coming out of Erector Square in the 1950s.

The no. 293, which Gilbert cataloged between 1953 and '58, featured a blackpainted die-cast metal boiler with white side stripes. It came with a plastic tender having "American Flyer Lines" and "The New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Co." in fanciful letters.

Other details distinguishing the 293 included a four-position reverse unit, a simulated mechanical coal stoker atop the tender, a smoke mechanism, a working headlight, and knuckle couplers.

Additional features led Gilbert to differentiate two later New Haven Pacifics.

First in 1955 came the no. 296, which was given an air-chime whistle. Oddly, that deluxe model was not described or illustrated in the American Flyer consumer catalog for 1955.

Second in 1958 came the no. 21099, the only New Haven steamer ever cataloged with a five-digit number. In terms of features, it closely resembled the 296. A New Haven steam engine numbered 21095 appeared in the catalog for 1957, but was never produced.

Meteor sets

The Gilbert Co. made good use of the various New Haven Pacifics. Planners made it available for separate sale at to increase to \$39.95 in 1958.

The New Haven Pacific also served as the motive power for several solid train sets. All of them were given the name Meteor, whether they came packed with freight cars or passenger equipment.

The parade of sets began in 1953 with a four-car heavyweight train (no. K5328) and a six-car freight (no. K5329). They returned the next year, updated to include a no. 4B 100-watt transformer.

Gilbert cataloged only one set with a New Haven Pacific in 1955 and '56. The no. 5525TBW New Meteor Freight came with four pieces of rolling stock. Its successor, the no. 5630TBW, offered three different freight cars (only the no. 916 Delaware & Hudson gondola carried over).

The final two versions of the Meteor gave buyers a nice assortment of freight cars. The no. 20330 for 1957 differed from the set available a year before in its caboose. In place of the no. 904 non-illuminated model, planners of the line went





The sole steam engine and tender combination bearing the New Haven name and herald was a 4-6-2 Pacific (introduced in 1953). That New Haven boxcar plus other freight cars decorated for the railroad will be soon be covered in *Classic Toy Trains*.

In 1958, the no. 20435 Meteor came with four different cars, notably an action caboose. That set served as the Collectible Classic in the January 2018 issue of CTT.

Diesel locomotives

Overshadowing the New Haven Pacifics after 1955 were the striking diesel and electric locomotives decked out in the railroad's black, orange, and white scheme. Every S gauge enthusiast seemed to want one of them, no matter how far he or she lived from the New Haven's route.

Diesels entered the Flyer line in 1956, making a splash as the nos. 494 and 495 (also known as the no. 494/95 or no. 4945) Alco PA units. Both the powered 494 and unpowered 495 had the NH's modernistic logo and "Built by Gilbert" on their flanks. Mechanically, the diesels came with two motors, working headlights, an electronic horn, and "Diesel Roar."

The next year, a single New Haven PA arrived as the no. 497. It was similar to the 494, but close inspection revealed black rather than white number boards. Also,

the lettering was thinner and more widely spaced than before. Some 497s came in boxes numbered 21560.

A third Alco PA joined the New Haven fleet in 1957 and '58 as the no. 21561. It had only one motor, and its decoration was something of a combination of the 494/495 pair and the 497. A true rarity among Gilbert's postwar Flyer diesels was a 21561 with glossy black paint and two pins attaching the metal steps to the sides of the locomotive.

The New Haven PA diesel units pulled



three sets: the nos 5675TRH Hot Shot (1956), 5670TRH Clipper (1956), and 20430 New Clipper (1957).

Electrics

As for electric-profile locomotives, the only units offered by Gilbert in S gauge were New Havens, beginning in 1956. They were models of General Electric EP-5s (known as "jets" or "rectifiers") and could be operated from traditional track power or via overhead catenary receiving "juice" through a pantograph.

Interestingly, Gilbert introduced the no. 499 New Haven EP-5 only a year after the full-size prototypes began plying the rails in the northeastern U.S. Gilbert's model had one motor, a four-position reverse unit, working headlights, and knuckle couplers. True to the prototype, the American Flyer EP-5 came equipped with a whistle rather than a horn.

In 1957, some 499 New Haven engines were packaged in boxes labeled 21570.

The New Haven EP-5 returned to the Flyer roster in 1958, but with a five-digit number (21573). In addition, the whistle had been removed.



One more fact worth knowing. The models assigned to the nos. 20435 New Haven Mainline Electric Freight set in 1957 and 20455 New Haven Mainliner in 1958 were painted a glossy finish. By contrast, the electrics used as the motive power for the nos. 20520 Bankers passenger set cataloged for 1959 had a dull finish.

All worth owning

All the American Flyer steam, diesel, and electric locomotives connected to the New Haven RR remain desirable pieces for any S gauge enthusiast to pursue. Values for examples in excellent condition make them worthwhile if only somewhat challenging models to acquire.





PHOTO 1. The ingredients of Bob McLoughlin's colorful cliff and lake scene include foam hobby board, figures and details, paints and chalks, foliage and boats – plus one happy accident!

ACCIDENTAL SCENERY A "senior moment" made all the

Story and photos by Bob McLoughlin with Candy Schrock

ou might call it a train enthusiast's dream come true! I have collected O gauge toy trains since I was four. I have added to them throughout the years until my layout now fills my large basement.

I've worked on creating a variety of realistic and scale-

appropriate scenes including an airport, a space saucer with crop circles and aliens, a seaside resort, and a haunted house complete with a flying witch and Bigfoot among many, many others.

Looking over my layout, I decided my next scene would be vertical cliffs with a water drainage pipe and a mountain lake with boats, a dock, and fishermen.

I planned out my method of attack, never dreaming that

a moment of forgetfulness, a "senior moment" perhaps, would work to my advantage and result in the life-like cliffs shown in **Photo 1**. Here is how I did it.

The cliffs

difference

I wanted my cliffs to look solid at the base and taper into crags at the top.

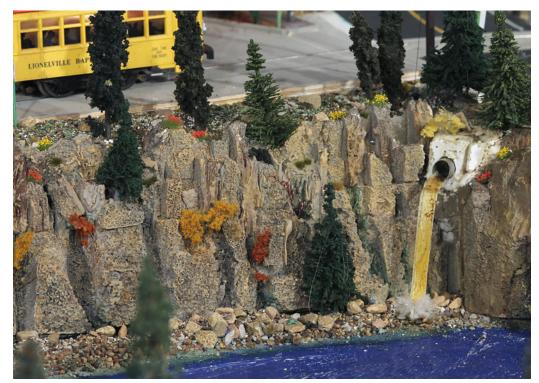


PHOTO 2. Solvents in the spray paint the author used partially melted the surface of the foam hobby board, suggesting the effect of erosion. Latex paints and watercolors completed the job.

I used a hot-glue gun to sandwich two pieces of Woodland Scenics no. ST1419 Foam front-to-front, with the rear piece standing about one-third higher than the front. I glued the cliff to the layout and then broke and cut off pieces of the foam until I had a jagged look along the top edge. Finally, using a sharp hobby knife, I carved horizontal strata.

Next I applied an inexpensive flat, medium gray latex paint to serve as the base color, being careful to cover all the cracks and crevices.

Now this is where my senior moment led to my realistic cliffs. I needed a second cliff, and painting it with a brush would take too long. So I used Rust-Oleum no. 249088 Painter's Touch Flat Gray Primer for the base coat. I immediately realized my mistake: Solvents in some paints melt foam board!

However, after I got over the frustration of "ruining" my cliffs, I looked at them more closely. As **Photo 2** shows, the resulting pitted appearance is actually a faithful representation of cliffs with crevices, precipices, and a craggy and eroded look. Delighted my senior moment had led to success, I carried on painting.

I mixed light gray and tan latex paints and brushed it on, blending it in as I worked my way along the cliffs.

I added the brown tones

Delighted

my senior

moment had

led to success,

I carried on

painting.

using Sargent no. 22-6088 washable liquid watercolor. I added touches of color, varying the amount of paint until I had just the effect I wanted.

I worked Prang black and green watercolors (available in sets of dried cakes from art supply retailers) deep into the recesses. Next I brushed on Prang orange and red tones to serve as highlights.

Finally, I dry-brushed flat white latex on the edges.

Water scene

The realistic mountain lake

is easy to make. I used acoustic ceiling tile for the base, cut it to shape and size, and attached everything with white glue.

I painted the base with Rust-Oleum no. 249114 Painters Touch Ultra Cover 2X Gloss Deep Blue to give a deep-water look to the lake. While there are many commercial water products on the

> market, this method is a no-hassle way to model water.

> > I formed the rippled water surface using GE no. 22608 Max3500 clear acrylic caulk. I applied it with an

inexpensive disposable 1½ -inch brush to create waves.

Be sure to use a light touch. If you are not happy with the result, simply dip the brush in water and smooth out the surface and start over. The caulking goes on white, which allows you to see the texture as you work. It dries to a clear, gloss finish in a few days.

Once my lake had cured, I



WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Gray latex paint
- Hot-glue gun
- Prang watercolor set
- Rust-Oleum no. 249114 blue and no. 249088 gray spray paints
- Sargent no. 22-6088 liquid watercolor
- Sharp hobby knife
- Woodland Scenics no. ST1419 Foam

highlighted the waves and ripples by dry-brushing on dabs of flat, white latex paint.

Drainage pipe

The drainage pipe (**Photo 2**) was fun to make and added a nice detail to my scene. I used a short piece of ½-inch brass tubing, which I pressed into the cliff material. You can leave a square patch of the cliffs unpainted to resemble concrete if you wish.

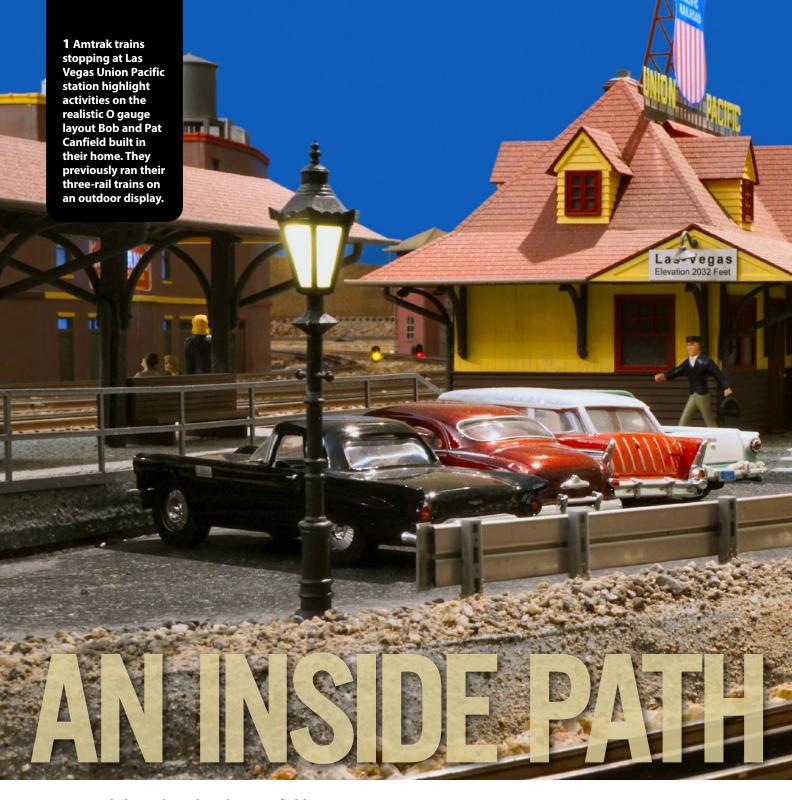
To create the appearance of water flowing from the pipe, I used a length of Ace no. 90701 ¾-inch strapping tape, which I glued to the bottom of the pipe and then to the base.

I used a disposable brush to apply a thin layer of caulking to the tape. When this had cured, I dribbled Minwax no. 63000 gloss polyurethane mixed with Minwax no. 70012 walnut stain on the strapping tape. I repeated this process until I had the desired result.

I formed the mist at the base by pulling apart a cotton ball and gluing it in place with Hob-E-Tac no. S195 adhesive.

I added the foliage, dock, boat, and figures from Woodland Scenics (www.woodlandscenics.com). Arttista made the kayak and figure, bird, and fish (www.arttista.com).

Finally, step back and enjoy the realism and interest your new mountain lake adds to your layout.



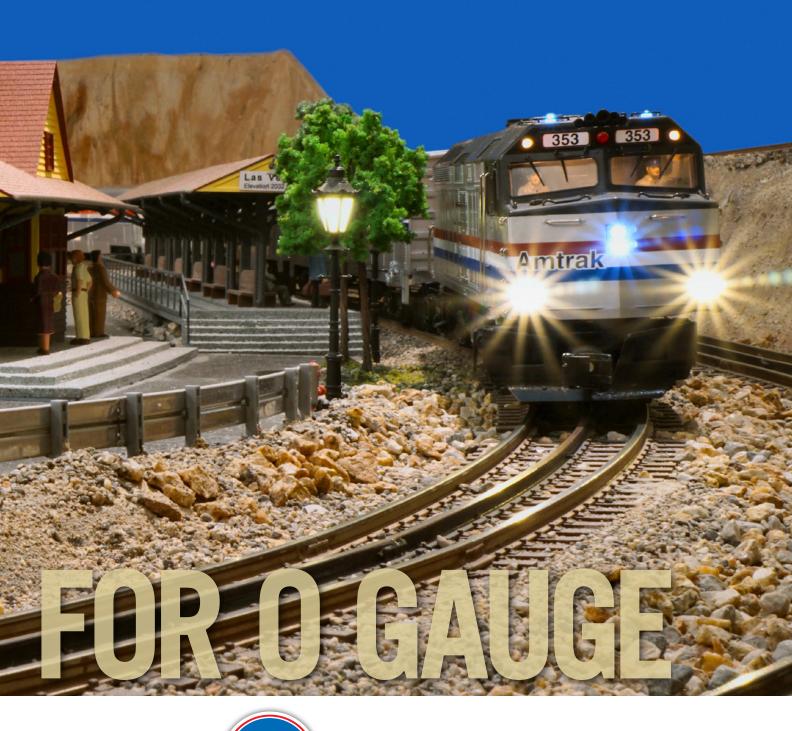
Story and photos by Bob and Pat Canfield

BOB AND PAT CANFIELD LEFT THEIR BACKYARD **TO BUILD A GREAT LAYOUT**

ou've heard all about modelers who kept building bigger and bigger layouts at home? We did something different. My wife and I went from operating a large threerail display in our backyard to constructing one indoors. Not until we moved to our current home several years ago did we have enough space to create an O gauge railroad inside.

Not my first love

The two of us became interested in O gauge railroading well past middle age. To be fair, I had played with a Marx Santa Fe set while growing up in southern California during the 1940s and later dabbled with HO modeling. But flying was my real passion as a teenager. I learned to handle a sailplane at an early age, thanks to my dad, who was an avid pilot.



Then life got in the way of hobbies. I served in the U.S. Marine Corps and later joined the Los Angeles Police Department. I raised a family with my first wife. Later, after marrying Pat, we retired and began looking for a new home to spend more time with our grandkids.

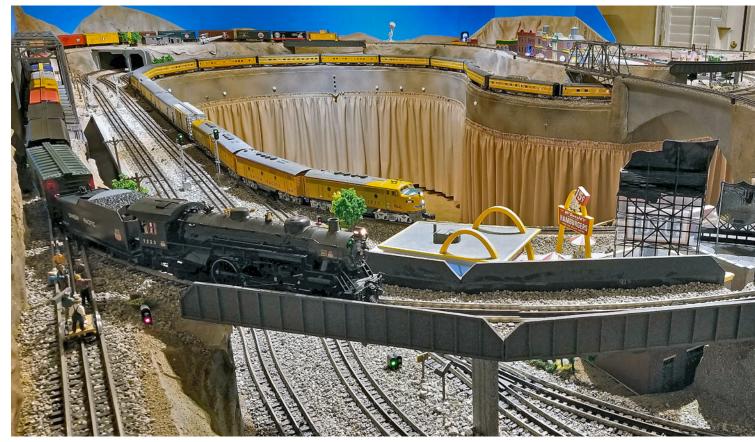
Enjoying a new generation meant operating an electric train on a loop of track

set up under the Christmas tree. For 2004, I bought a Lionel Polar Express set, which everyone in our blended family liked. The pleasure of watching kids play with trains

inspired me to expand the O gauge roster. Even though model railroading had

not been my first love as a boy or my hobby of choice as an adult, I found it perfect now that I was in retirement.

Very soon Pat and I were buying new and used locomotives and cars from retail stores and over the Internet. Models by K-Line impressed us, so we picked up some of the highly detailed and scale-sized engines equipped with Lionel's TrainMaster Command Control and RailSounds. Liking what we had acquired, conversations turned with seriousness to finally building a layout.



2 The $15\frac{1}{2}$ x $21\frac{1}{2}$ -foot B&P South-Western RR features spacious main lines on two levels to accommodate the biggest engines and longest trains the Canfields run. Try to count all the passenger cars being pulled by the Union Pacific diesels on the inner line.



3 Bob and Pat are proud of the intricate trackwork they installed using sections from Atlas O and turnouts from Ross Custom Switches. Now they watch trains journey over them without a hitch.

No room, we thought

Ten years ago, right after Pat and I had retired and wanted a big O gauge railroad, we realized our new house did not have sufficient space indoors for it. I thought about constructing a shelf-type layout around the walls of the garage. Or maybe building modules we could connect.

Pat's sister said, "Why don't the two of

you build it in the backyard?" I replied that constructing and operating an O gauge layout outside was problematic. Pat, being wiser, quietly turned to me and asked, "Why don't we build it there?"

After doing research about garden railroading and talking with O gauge modelers who ran their trains outside, we agreed to start what we named the B&P (guess where the initials came from?) Garden Railroad.

The project took three years, and we learned a lot from the ups and downs of construction and operation of the B&P Garden Railroad. By 2009, however, the itch to move to a

larger house had gotten stronger. A year later, the moving van had departed and we took the very next step.

Becoming insiders

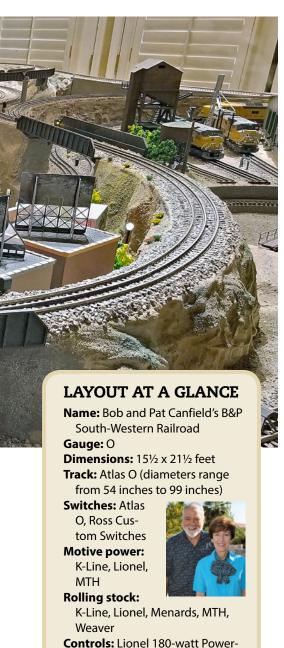
The next step being, naturally, another O gauge display. After all, we had wanted a house able to accommodate our dream of an indoor layout. Now we had it.

I spent hours on my computer, using RR-Track software to design a three-rail empire I thought would be appropriate for the 16½ x 21½-foot spare room available. I conferred with Pat on our priorities, and we reached some conclusions about the appearance and purpose of what would be the B&P South-Western Railroad.

Our design philosophy was to maximize the amount of track devoted to main lines, sidings, and yards within the room available. Additionally, we recognized the need to cut off or round corners of the tabletop so our visitors would be able to move around the layout comfortably. The features of the layout meant there would be less space for structures and streets.

Once we decided on how to adapt the design and goals to what was available, we moved forward. As first planned, the B&P South-Western was going to be a folded dog-bone with seven modules and two connecting bridges covering more than 270 square feet in a 355-square-foot room.

Envisioning the results of our planning, we launched construction. The beauty of what we achieved reflects hard work, experience gained from our outdoor layout, and help from other hobbyists.



Vehicles: Athearn, Historic Rail, Lionel, Matchbox, MTH

Plasticville, scratchbuilt

Figures: Model Power, WeHonest, Woodland Scenics

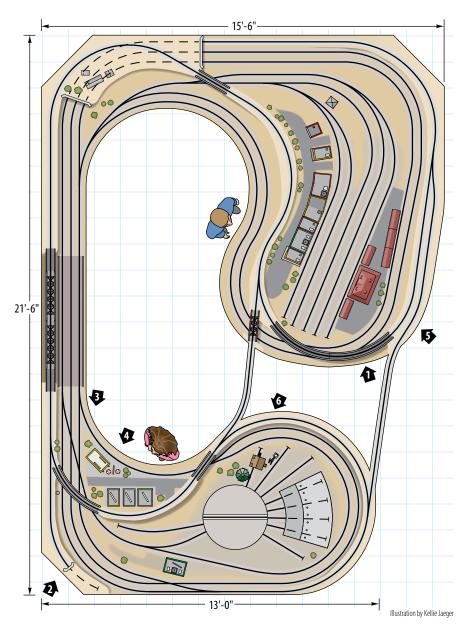
House (4) with Lionel TrainMas-

ter Command Control, MTH Digital Command System

Structures: Ameri-Towne, Atlas O,

Level after level

Once Pat and I got down to work, we recorded steady progress until, by 2012, we had completed the benchwork, laid and wired the network of three-rail track, finished the basic terrain, and scratchbuilt a few notable structures. The pieces crafted by hand included a highly detailed 30-inch



Sparse desert landscaping and detailed structures tend to be what people recall best about the B&P South-Western Railroad. The numbered arrows correspond to the numbers in each of the captioned photographs taken by Bob and Pat Canfield.

turntable, a four-stall roundhouse, and the two connecting bridges basic to our plan.

Before getting too far ahead in the story, let me stop here to summarize a few key facts about the B&PSW. It consists of 389 linear feet of track and switches. The three main lines (upper level, perimeter track, and folded dog-bone) have 51, 64, and 100 linear feet, respectively. The curves on these different routes range from 72 inches in diameter to 99 inches.

Other notable features of the layout include sidings and yards. The tightest curves in those areas are 54 inches. All grades are 2 degrees or less.

Pat and I investigated various brands of track before settling on Atlas O. For the

turnouts, we used products made by Ross Custom Switches.

We like operating trains via command control (Lionel's TMCC and MTH's Digital Command System). But we control the 23 turnouts manually. Blue Point switch machines take care of everything. Enhancing the operation are 69 scratchbuilt brass dwarf signals with light-emitting diodes.

Why did Pat and I insist on manual control? Because it requires operators to move about the layout as they run their locomotives. We I learned from our garden railroad how engaging it is to have people walking around the layout, throwing switches and handling other functions as their trains travel around.



Theme of nostalgia

Pat and I look back fondly on the eras during which we came of age and later met and married. We enjoyed growing up and working in southern California and then making our home in southern Nevada, both areas where automobiles and railroads played prominent roles.

We wanted the layout to nurture feelings of nostalgia and let us share memories. Scenes should convey to onlookers what we experienced and how we were shaped in the years spanning the end of World War II in the late 1940s to today.

Pat and I knew we would have to be selective when picking vignettes for the layout. Landscaping, structures, and details must be blended successfully to communicate what we remembered and hoped visitors would feel. Sentiments of whimsy and pleasure should predominate.

After long discussions and occasionally heated debate, Pat and I finalized our list of scenes. In every one, railroading would play a part, although sometimes it would be more of a cameo than a starring role.

Great examples of fascinating scenes include the atmospheric detonation of a nuclear bomb less than 100 miles north of Fremont Street in downtown Las Vegas and Car Club Night in Downey, Calif., where you will find the oldest continuously operating McDonald's restaurant.

Railroading grabs attention on the section of the layout where you'll find a three-rail salute to Metrolink, the heavy rail commuter service spanning southern California. Trains roll by our depiction of the famed Hollywood sign.

The B&P South-Western also pays respect to the relationship between the Union Pacific RR and Clark County, Nev. For more than 110 years the UP has been the only railroad to continuously serve Las Vegas and southern Nevada. In fact, from the late 1940s well into the 1960s, five

CTT ONLINE

TO WATCH A VIDEO of Bob and Pat Canfield's O gauge layout, go to www. ClassicToyTrains.com/LayoutVisits streamliners stopped in Las Vegas daily. Pat and I sought to re-create that history with our replica of the UP station there.

More to go

Work on the layout never seems finished! Does that comment sound familiar to many of you? Not that Pat and I ever complain about finding new projects. Truthfully, we love changing the appearance of scenes and believe expansion ends up reinforcing the identity of our O gauge model railroad.

With that perspective in mind, Pat and I took a fairly big step back in 2014. We decided to add a third main line to the railroad, one we wanted to rise above the main level. So we took the longer of the two folded dog-bone lines and, through the use of four new turnouts and two new connecting bridges, created what we call the Upper and Perimeter Mainlines and two sidings.

The two connecting bridges can be removed to facilitate access. Once the bridges are in place, the track electrical



4 LEFT Memories of postwar Los **Angeles and Las Vegas infuse Bob** and Pat Canfield's O gauge B&P South-Western Railroad with life and fun. Owners of vintage muscle and sports cars have gathered in Downey, Calif., on a summer evening to show off their classics while wolfing down hamburgers at the McDonald's.

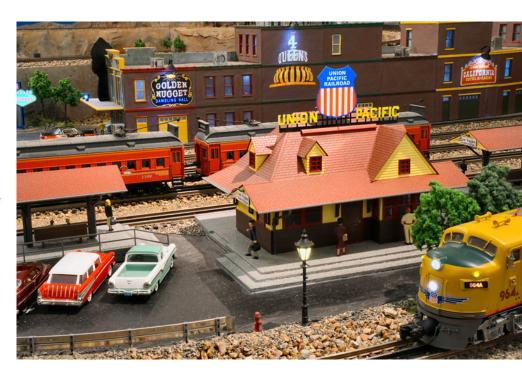
5 RIGHT An eniovable part of retirement for Bob Canfield has been collaborating with his wife, Pat, on O gauge layouts, whether set in their backvard or inside their home.

connections are made with the placement of two machine screws per bridge.

What has been going on more recently? Pose this question to Pat and she'll mention how we put down more trackside and building details on the California and Nevada portions. "We started with the

addition of six three-color trackside signals from Z-Stuff for Trains. To make these signals look even more prototypical, Bob and I painted most of the black plastic parts silver to match their metal parts."

Pose the question to me, and I will quickly direct your attention to how we have upgraded the Car Club Night vignette by installing on the roofs of three adjacent structures eye-catching signs from Miller Engineering. Pat and I also boosted the visual appeal of downtown Downey by converting one of the buildings to a USO center.



One more change reflects my recollections of my youth. If you grew up in southern California anytime from the 1940s to the '60s, you saw lots of oil wells in action. They're still working, even if many are disguised within buildings that blend in with their surroundings.

Memories of those oil fields - plus the smells associated with them – inspired me to buy two scale models of the Lufkin oil pump and then install them on the layout.

Eager to share

Pat and I could keep talking about the structures and scenes. A favorite is a scale replica of Len's Hamburgers, a family business from postwar Los Angeles I recall with relish (so sorry about the pun!).

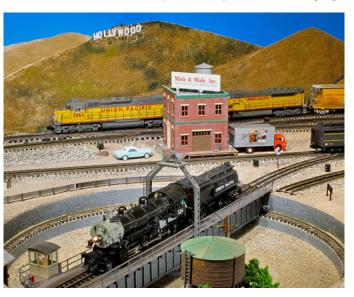
More important is the use of our layout to pay back our debt to other model railroaders as well as new members of the toy train hobby. We have benefited from the experiences and wisdom of others. That was true with the B&P Garden Railroad and has been the case with the B&P South-Western Railroad.

To express our tremendous appreciation to everyone who helped along the way and share what had been learned, Pat and I established www.bpsouthwestern. com in 2011. We dedicated that noncommercial model railroading website to promoting the enjoyment of toy trains by outlining techniques and lessons behind the construction and operation of their our O gauge layout. In addition, we have

> posted several noncommercial videos of the B&P South-Western on the Internet.

Seen from this perspective, it strikes Pat and me as funny how a couple whose layout captures a wonderful slice of the past provide assistance using the technology of the future. One more way toy trains turn out to be more exciting and useful to us.

6 New and old blend on the lavout. A Union Pacific 4-6-2 Pacific from K-Line rests on the turntable within shouting distance of a contemporary UP SD90 diesel by Lionel.



A GREAT REGIONAL RAILROAD SURVIVES ON ROGER WASSON'S LAYOUT

Relive Frisco memories

By Roger Carp • Photos by Dennis Brennan

nce upon a time, in a country not so long ago, railroads laid tracks along highways and through industrial and farming areas in every section of the U.S. Standing near a grade crossing as a freight went by provided a lesson in geography. If you're of the right age, close your eyes and remember reading the names of fallen flags like the Atlantic Coast Line; the Boston & Maine; the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio; the Spokane, Portland & Seattle; and the Minneapolis & St. Louis. Watching boxcars and gondolas roll past taught you about America.

Another of those once-thriving regional lines boasted an impressive name: the St. Louis – San Francisco Railway. Truth be told, as O gauge modeler Roger Wasson knows, the Frisco, as it was nicknamed, never reached the Pacific Coast. Even so, he honors the legacy of that Midwestern railroad on a terrific 30×46 -foot layout he never thought would be!

No business having a layout

When Roger and his wife, Louanna, moved into their current home about a dozen years ago, their understanding was they were downsizing. Their son and daughter had grown up, so the Wassons felt no need to own a large house.

Large meant no basement. Which wasn't a problem until Roger, always a toy train enthusiast, became good friends with Vernon Hart. Besides being a great pal, Vernon enjoys designing layouts and sharing knowledge about prototype and model railroading. Seeing the O gauge display Vernon was completing at the time lit a flame inside Roger's mind.

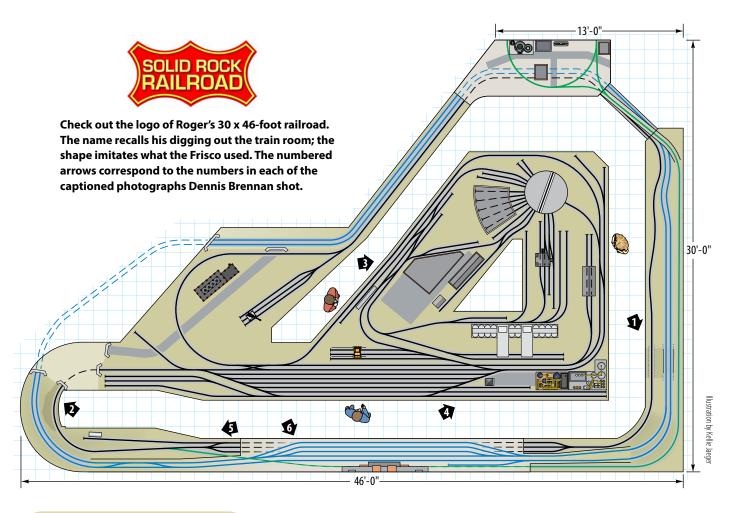
"I had to have an O gauge layout," Roger put it simply. Louanna wanted to make her honey happy. But she didn't want their living room or family room to be a train paradise.

"Fine," Roger thought. "There are other ways to get room for a layout." Aware of the seams of limestone under their spacious home, he came up with a solution: "Why not drill out an area large enough for a great layout?"

1 The Frisco – formally, the St. Louis – San Francisco Railway – thrives on Roger Wasson's O gauge layout almost 40 years after it went out of business. Memories of the motive power and rolling stock guide him as he operates trains like these.







LAYOUT AT A GLANCE

Name: Roger Wasson's Solid **Rock Railroad** Gauge: O

Dimensions: 30 x



war, modern), MTH

Rolling stock: Atlas O, Golden Gate Depot, K-Line, Lionel (postwar, modern), MTH

Controls: Lionel TPC 400 (4), 180watt PowerHouse (8); MRC Dual Power transformer, with Lionel TrainMaster Command Control and Legacy

Accessories: Lionel, MTH

Structures: Ameri-Towne, Brennan's Model Railroading, K&P Brick & Building, Korber, Menards, Stan's Tanks, Woodland Scenics

Vehicles: Diecast Direct, Lionel, MTH, SpecCast Collectibles Figures: Arttista, Woodland Scenics

Limiting his efforts to less than two hours daily, Roger excavated a massive cavern without destroying his house, his health, or his marriage in the process.

Three years of labor culminated with a fairly roomy spot for a layout. Admittedly, the ceiling was low (the lumps on Roger's forehead from smacking it against the ledges testify to that fact). Still, what is his man cave would soon be sealed against moisture and wired for lights and power.

Then, sometime in 2008, a tired and dusty Roger - his hearing not the same after banging away at solid rock for so long – pronounced the hardest task of his life to be finished. Let the Frisco begin!

Cramped quarters

For some toy train operators, the idea of carving out a space under their home for a layout might seem unreasonable. The tight, crowded area would leave them uneasy. The dirt and darkness so oppressive they couldn't progress.

Roger, though, has been working in cramped quarters for much of his life and in

many ways. Even the place where during the 1950s he played with his first electric train was far from spacious. His family pooled their resources to get Roger a Lionel outfit as a gift for Christmas of 1954. Then his grandparents told him their attic would be his train palace.

Luckily for eight-year-old Roger, his grandparents lived next to his house. But an attic was hardly the most comfortable or best-illuminated spot for a boy to create the finest rendition of the Lionel Lines.

Cramped quarters of a different sort defined much of Roger's subsequent life. A superb mechanic, he earned a place on the elite team charged with preparing and maintaining stock cars for the legendary

> NASCAR driver, Richard Petty. Roger toiled for years beneath his boss' Plymouths.

For a fellow who handled myriad jobs inches from hot engines with his fingers pressed into tiny spaces, Roger considered the newly created empty area at home as roomy and inviting as a luxury suite at a football stadium. He couldn't wait to dig

ROGER HAD NEVER BEEN WITHOUT THE **ENCOURAGE-MENT OF HIS** WIFE AND THEIR KIDS.

2 The streamlined *Texas Special* train, operated jointly by the Frisco and the Missouri-Kansas-Texas RR, dominates the passenger roster of the Solid Rock RR.

out his vintage Lionel set as well as all the new equipment, much of it decorated for his favorite railroad. The Frisco would regain life through Roger.

Local encouragement

Through the backbreaking and tedious labor involved in creating the underground train room, Roger had never been without the encouragement of his wife and their two children (Tammy and Roger Jr.). Better still, he said, their grandchildren turned out to be the greatest cheerleaders.

Another special person also stood by Roger. Depending on the task going on under the house, he might really be kneeling, squatting, or crawling by Roger. All along the way, through summer and winter, humid and dry spells, aches and pains, our host could count on words and gestures of support from Vernon Hart.

Together, the two men, whose friendship grew tighter and tighter as more of the train room was completed, discussed the ultimate plan for the aptly named Solid Rock Railroad. Vernon offered advice on where to arrange the main lines, what kind of track to buy, and how to install a dependable control system.

On top of the rocky areas left in place to support the surface of the layout went the L-girder benchwork made out of 1 x 4 pieces of lumber. The main level of the railroad, built over ½-inch-thick plywood was going to rise 42 inches off the wood floor. Elevated sections would stand another 7 inches higher.

Reducing the amount of noise produced by O gauge trains running in an acoustically challenged room emerged as a priority. Roger had no wish to divert any of the disposable income reserved for locomotives to buying hearing aids!

Therefore, sheets of Homasote went on top of the plywood. Strips of cork roadbed followed wherever Roger intended to lay the GarGraves track he liked.

"What can I say? The reputation of

3 Roger specifies as among the favorite models on his roster the Atlas O Frisco SW9 diesel switcher and flatcars carrying Campbell 66 Express trailers. People and equipment tied to both have touched him, so he wanted them on his layout.







4 Lights burn brightly around the clock at the massive Sunoco refinery. Roger developed this, one of his primary industries, using items from Stan's Tanks.

GarGraves speaks for itself," Roger replied when asked about his choice of track. "The straights and curves look like actual track. And getting them in place with 34-inch-long screws was a breeze."

As for turnouts, Roger mixed a few GarGraves products with those from Ross Custom Switches. He vouches for Ross because it offers such a wide range of items known for their durability. The big selection of turnouts made by Ross swayed Roger because he wanted curves with a maximum diameter of 108 inches.

Midwestern feel

Roger had grown up near the Frisco. He was acquainted with employees of the railroad and spent leisure hours looking at or walking through its facilities. Traveling meant catching one of its passenger trains at the local depot. Fantastic memories that Roger hoped to bring to life on the Solid Rock RR. He would measure success by the landscapes he was able to create and the structures he used to fill out scenes. None of that seemed simple, not for a hobbyist who had built just one true layout in the past. But Roger moved forward with determination.

Roger began with scenery, which for the Frisco in its centralized states of Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma meant rolling hills, prairies, and forests. Roger set out to model those very features.

Landforms went up using chunks of Styrofoam arranged with care along the main lines. Roger covered that foundation with both newspapers soaked in diluted Hydrocal and plaster-infused cloth. Rubber molds he purchased from Bragdon Enterprises made it easy and enjoyable to create rock outcroppings. Then he colored the tough scenery base with assorted water-based acrylic paints.



5 The travelers lazing in the observation of the Texas Special sure are glad it has air conditioning. Outside, the humidity and heat are brutal, as people eating at the Whistle Stop Diner will admit. Summer in Missouri is not for the faint of heart!



Roger approached landscaping with confidence, in part because of all the excellent products on the market. He mentions ground cover in various colors and textures from Woodland Scenics and Scenic Express. Those firms, along with Grand Central Gems, Heki, and Noch, were the sources of his trees.

> Water highlighted a number of areas. Waterfalls, ponds, and streams all looked great. Roger credited items from Enviro-Tex for enabling him to create the eye-catching effects that suggested the Middle West.

Buildings were key

Nice as the landscapes turned out, Roger understood they could replicate almost any region of the country. His structures were the key to getting viewers to feel as though they were in the land of the Frisco during the postwar period.

Roger looks back at the many kits he assembled and the



6 Lionel F3s, decorated for the Frisco, grunt only slightly as they pull a long train consisting entirely of refrigerator cars along the double-track main line. Photo backdrops complement the outstanding landscaping and trackwork Roger did.

improvements he made to them by adding interior lights and admits they make him proudest. Better yet is knowing how he refined his skills at weathering them.

The roundhouse and locomotive-serving area get the nod as Roger's favorites, mainly because they remind him of facilities he saw in his hometown. Adding detailed miniature replicas to his version of the Frisco therefore became a priority.

Good thing firms such as Brennan's Model Railroading, Korber, Stan's Tanks, and Woodland Scenics have brought out outstanding kits and finished buildings.

Roger benefited from what he found available, although as noted he made sure to take the next step with detailing that made those buildings unique.

Into the future

A career devoted to highperformance automobiles taught Roger the importance of embracing innovation and remaining on the cutting edge of technology. That approach to motor racing helped him see the advantages of command control. He might have started with conventional modes, but wouldn't stick there.

First Roger experimented with Lionel's TrainMaster Command Control with his fleet of new steam and diesel locomotives. When Lionel pressed on with its Legacy system, he upgraded the layout to use it.

Four Track Power Controller 400s and eight 180-watt PowerHouses (all made by Lionel) provide all the power necessary to animate the layout. A smaller unit from

> Model Rectifier Corp. services accessories and lights.

Books about toy train electronics and wiring and magazine articles on specialized topics expanded Roger's understanding of how to get his layout running at its best. When questions or concerns arose, he had only to ask Vernon to troubleshoot.

Roger soldered feeders every 9 feet on main lines with 14-gauge wire. He used the same thickness for bus wiring. Thinner wires, ranging from 18 to 22 gauge, channeled current to the accessories.

The only blocks installed went for the yards. Roger reported having 10 blocks in the freight yard and four in the passenger yard. Illuminated switches he purchased from a local RadioShack controlled everything - and they looked great.

Still amazed

The detailed structures astonish, and the scenic effects impress. If only a surviving executive from the Frisco could visit, he would be thrilled to see what one railfan devoted to that fallen flag has done.

What Roger has carved from solid rock is quite a feat. Then with help from family members and friends he completed there an O gauge layout that's top notch in every sense. He did so with the enormous obstacle facing him of having to spend years just getting the area necessary.

THE DETAILED

EFFECTS

IMPRESS.

Focus on classics



LIONEL DEMANDS AT EVERY PRICE LEVEL

By Joe Algozzini and Roger Carp • Photos by William Zuback

xecutives at the Lionel Corp., with two full years of production and sales under their belt since World War II, felt ready to introduce to a growing population and expanding market many new products in 1948 – mainly, yet not exclusively, electric toy trains. They were optimistic consumers would respond positively; after all, Lionel had recorded profits exceeding \$1 million for 1946 and 1947.

Lawrence Cowen, president of the toy train manufacturer, expressed the prevailing mood on May 12, 1948: "The demand for Lionel trains and accessories, etc., is at an even higher level than last year." He went on to promise plenty of great new items, including "models of the General Motors F3 diesel locomotives, switching engines, passenger rolling stock, four transformers and several ingenious automatic accessories."

In spite of the hopeful outlook prevailing at Lionel, Cowen and other corporate

leaders saw the wisdom in diversifying the product line. Lionel cataloged construction kits in 1948, although it had dropped chemistry outfits. It had acquired 66.67 percent of the outstanding capital stock of the Airex Corp., a maker of fishing equipment, not long before promoting the sale of Airex spinning reels in the January 1948 issue of *Model Builder* magazine.

But toy trains remained Lionel's cup of tea. Larry Cowen and his elderly father, co-founder Joshua Lionel Cowen, sought to back up their promises to consumers.

Marketing, pricing and selling

Before focusing strictly on 1948, let's review what Lionel had done the two previous years. In 1946, Lionel had priced its O-27 outfits from \$24.95 through \$85 and its O gauge sets from \$37.50 to \$87.50.

Lionel had reduced prices in 1947. As noted in the February 2017 issue of *Classic Toy Trains*, O-27 outfits had ranged from \$22.50 through \$70. O gauge train sets had been priced at \$35 to \$75.

For 1948, President Cowen stated, "Your company, fully cognizant of the desirability of popular price lines, has developed simplified electric train sets that enable us to start our line at lower prices." To be specific, the range of O-27 sets went from \$15.95 up to \$65. O gauge outfits climbed from \$39.95 through \$75. (Be aware, however, Lionel did toss in a sleeper priced at a whopping \$199.95!)



New Scout sets

If Lionel's top brass had identified a weakness in its sales strategy for the previous two years, they might have worried the firm had been conceding the low end of the domestic market to its two principal competitors: the A.C. Gilbert Co. (maker of American Flyer S gauge trains) and Louis Marx & Co. To remedy that problem it brought out basic and inexpensively made outfits known as Scout sets.

Lionel's consumer catalog for 1948 heralded the two novel trains as "the biggest model railroad news in years." Targeted to the low end of the market, the Scout sets apparently replaced the promotional sets put out during 1946 and '47.

The no. 1111, priced at \$15.95, used a no. 1001 plastic steam engine with a 2-4-2 wheel arrangement. It had forward and reverse motion and led a no. 1001T nonwhistle tender. Rounding out the O-27 set were nos. 1002 Lionel blue gondola, 1005 Sunoco single-dome tank car, and 1007 Lionel Lines caboose.

Each car came equipped with the newly designed plastic "Scout" couplers. Modelers quickly discovered the new coupler head was not compatible with the typical magnetic knuckle couplers installed on every other Lionel model. It was, as a consequence, nearly impossible to add other cars, other than Scout items, to a set. Lionel later solved this problem with the Magnetic Coupler Conversion Unit.

Lionel also made a few 1007 cabooses in brown plastic, and they are rare. Another variation that's hard to find had a raised plastic, molded centerboard on the roof. (The same detail could be found on the no. 4357 illuminated Southern Pacific-type caboose in the no. 4110WS Electronic Control Set.)

Scout outfit no. 1112, a four-car freight train, retailed for \$18.95. The additional \$3 made it a much better buy, because it included a die-cast metal locomotive instead of a plastic one. Furthermore, there was an extra car.

The 2-4-2 steamer, numbered 1101 and patterned after a Columbia type, came with forward and reverse motion. It pulled a no. 1001T non-whistle tender. Besides the gondola, tank car, and caboose, it had a no. 1004 Baby Ruth boxcar.

The consumer catalog incorrectly depicted the locomotive in set 1112 as a 1001. All the same, Lionel did stamp some die-cast metal examples with that number. Be aware both of the Scout sets included a no. 1009 uncoupling track set.

The Scout sets served three purposes

for Lionel. First, they helped it challenge Gilbert and Marx for supremacy in the low end of the market. Second, Scout sets were ideal for Lionel to make further inroads in the array of merchandise handled by retail giant Sears, Roebuck & Co. (it cataloged set 1112 as its no. 5940) and the nationwide chain of Firestone tire stores (it cataloged outfits 1111 and 1112 as its nos. 11-L-107 and 11-L-106, respectively).

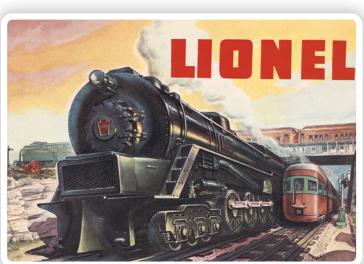
In addition, the Scout sets motivated consumers to buy more Lionel items, in particular, O-27 track and switches and accessories. Owners would eventually want to move up to better outfits.

O-27 sets with small steamers

Outfit no. 1423W should be considered special because it introduced Lionel's new no. 6400 series of rolling stock. Also helping the three-car freight set stand out was its new no. 1655 steam engine (another 2-4-2 Columbia type). Lionel paired it with a no. 6654W whistle tender.

> The O-27 outfit, which was priced at \$29.95, came with the nos. 6452 Pennsylvania RR gondola, 6465 Sunoco double-dome tank car, and 6257 Lionel Southern Pacific-type caboose. Lionel experimented with the hot-stamped graphics on the gondola, as the first run included a small "G27" font to right of "BLT 12 45" on the lower right side of the car. A larger "G27" font replaced it later in the production run.

Set no. 1425B cost \$35.95 and heralded the reintroduction of an 0-4-0 to the product line after a year off. A no.



The 36-page full-color consumer catalog released by Lionel in 1948 featured bold, dramatic artwork on the front cover.



1656 switch engine (dubbed by Lionel "the smart little yard goat") and a no. 6403B bell-ringing tender headed the O-27 set.

Cars packed with the locomotive and tender included nos. 6456 Lehigh Valley hopper and 6465 Sunoco double-dome tank car (both with new 6400-series numbers). At the end rode a no. 6257X Lionel SP-type caboose. The "X" designation meant Lionel assembled the caboose with a rear operating coupler.

Prairies led O-27 trains

For 1948, the new no. 2026 steam locomotive with smoke was patterned after the 2-6-2 Prairie locomotives. Coupled to a no. 6466WX whistle tender, it served as motive power for a trio of O-27 outfits: two freight and one passenger.

First was set no. 1427WS, retailing for \$39.75. The outfit included nos. 6454 box-car, 6465 Sunoco double-dome tank car,

and 6257 SP-type caboose. Precisely whether the set had a New York Central or a Santa Fe boxcar has stumped collectors, as is explained in depth in the accompanying sidebar.

The 2026 steam engine
next handled set no. 1429WS.
That four-car train, which
retailed for \$47.95, featured
nos. 3451 operating lumber
car, 6454 boxcar depicted in
the consumer catalog as a
New York Central, 6465
Sunoco double-dome tank
car, and 6357 SP-type caboose with inte-

rior illumination.

It was smarter to buy the 1429WS than the 1427WS. For another \$8 you got one more car (and it operated) plus a caboose with a light. Both meant more fun!

The 1426WS was a three-car passenger

LAWRENCE COWEN AND OTHER CORPORATE LEADERS SAW THE WISDOM IN DIVERSIFY-ING THE LINE. outfit priced at \$42.75. Its components came from the new no. 6400 series of sheetmetal cars painted green: two no. 6440 illuminated Pullman cars and one no. 6441 illuminated observation.

The no. 2025 Prairie with smoke returned to handle passenger and freight sets. Lionel now paired it with a 6466WX whistle tender and not a no. 2466WX.

Notable for its consist was set no. 1430WS, which Lionel

priced at \$59.75. It was the first train set cataloged with new green-painted streamlined passenger cars: nos. 2400 *Maplewood* Pullman, 2402 *Chatham* Pullman, and 2401 *Hillside* observation.

The 2025 steam engine with a 2-6-2 wheel arrangement also went into outfit

MYSTERY SURROUNDING OUTFIT NO. 1427WS

he consumer catalog for 1948 described and pictured O-27 set no. 1427WS as coming with a no. 6454 boxcar. But which one? A Santa Fe or a New York Central model (painted brown, orange, or tan in 1948) might have been used.

There are two other sources of information from 1948. But they just add to the confusion.

First, the section of the fullcolor consumer catalog specifying items available for separate sale illustrated what was certainly a 6454 New York Central model in orange. Yet the accompanying text described the 2454 boxcar from 1946 and '47.

Second, the advertisement that retail outlet Madison Hardware Co. in New York City placed in the November 1948 issue of *Model Builder* showed set 1427WS with a 6454 decorated for Baby Ruth. Lionel probably assembled that car



first in the production year and then offered it as a separate-sale item at \$4.50.

Even an examination of original examples of the 1427WS train set does not solve the mystery.

I've purchased two sets

from their original owners and one from a hobby shop that got it from the original owner.

The first outfit came from northwestern Indiana and had a 6454 Santa Fe. The second set, although bought near Chicago, had been initially



Lionel developed Scout sets to grab a larger share of the low end of the market. The second and bigger of the two for 1948 was the no. 1112, a four-car freight led by a no. 1101 steamer with new rolling stock.

no. 1445WS. That freight, priced at \$52.50, had nos. 3559 operating dump car, 6454 boxcar, 6465 Sunoco double-dome tank car, and 6357 illuminated caboose.

Lionel produced so many 6357 Southern Pacific-type cabooses in 1948 it apparently ran short of completed shells. To solve that problem, the company substituted a few 6257 caboose shells and stamped the bottom of the frame with the correct corresponding "6357" number, unintentionally creating a rare item.

Finest O-27 sets

At the peak of the O-27 roster reigned the no. 2020 Pennsylvania RR steam turbine, returning for its third consecutive year although now with a no. 6020W whistle tender. The 6-8-6 pulled two sets, each loaded with play value.

Outfit no. 1447WS was a four-car work train with nos. 3451 operating lumber car,

2461 transformer car with a black-painted transformer, and 2460 operating crane car. At the end rolled a new no. 6419 DL&W work caboose.

Priced at \$59.50, the 1447WS sold for only \$2 more than a similar set had the previous year (no. 1441WS). Yet Lionel had replaced the no. 2560 crane car, a prewar carryover, with the no. 2460, a rugged and realistic model with 12 wheels.

Remember how President Lawrence Cowen had stated that prices would be reduced? Well, set no. 1449WS retailing for \$65 proved his promise would be carried out. That excellent five-car freight was a upgrade over a similar set (no. 1443WS) from 1947 priced at \$70. The 1449WS featured a no. 3462 operating milk car with platform, 6411 log car (not part of the 1947 set), 3459 operating dump car, 6465 Sunoco double-dome tank car, and 6357 illuminated SP-type caboose.

O gauge sets with a 675 steamer

The no. 675 steamer had it all. Starting with a 2-6-2 wheel arrangement designers at Lionel adapted from a Pennsylvania RR K5 4-6-2 Pacific intended for passenger service. Add to it a smoke mechanism, running boards, steam dome, valve gear, and grab irons. Lionel then paired it with a no. 2466WX whistle tender.

The 675 headed three O gauge outfits in the line cataloged for 1948.

The first, no. 2135WS, retailed for only \$39.95, so it could be considered a starter set (keep in mind, that price was only 20 cents more than the retail price assigned to O-27 outfit 1427WS). The train included the new no. 2456 Lehigh Valley hopper as well as a no. 2411 flatcar with logs and a no. 2357 illuminated SP-type caboose.

Next, with a retail price of \$42.50, was outfit no. 2136WS. It really was a repeat of no. 2120WS from 1947 (also led by a 675),

sold near New York City and had a 6454 New York Central. The third, also obtained through a dealer in northwestern Indiana, had a New York Central. Too bad the dealer selling that train set had no idea where it had come from originally.

What's the answer? The most logical explanation appears in the third volume of *Greenberg's Guide to Lionel Trains, 1945 to 1969* (1999). Describing the 1427WS, author Paul Ambrose concludes, "The 6454 boxcar could have come in any of three road names since its inclusion in 1948 sets was done randomly."



Five variations of the no. 6454 boxcar are associated with 1948 production. Besides cars lettered for Baby Ruth and Santa Fe, there were three New York Central models. That's why collectors remained uncertain about which boxcar Lionel put in set no. 1427WS.



except it cost \$1 less. Both trains consisted of three sheet-metal passenger cars with interior lighting: two no. 2442 Pullmans and one 2443 observation. The three models came painted brown.

Not only did the 2136WS sell for less than its predecessor had just a year before

LIONEL

BOLDLY

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THE F3 UNITS

MADE BY THE

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SION OF GM.

but it also had a lower retail tag than did a similar O-27 passenger outfit. Remember that set 1426WS went for \$42.75, perhaps owing to it featuring a trio of 6400-series models. The main difference in the two trains came down to the O gauge set having a more powerful locomotive (a 675 as opposed to a 2026).

The third outfit cataloged for 1948 with a 675 was the no. 2137WS. The four-car freight retailed for \$47.50 and included the nos. 2458 Pennsylvania RR automobile boxcar, 3459 operating dump car painted green, and 2456 Lehigh Valley hopper.

The illustration and the description of the outfit in the consumer catalog indicated that the caboose was a 2357 illuminated SP-type. During the production run, however, Lionel began to substitute a 6357 with front and rear couplers.

The 675 sets were important to Lionel, because they gave consumers a choice between freight or passenger sets priced between \$39.95 and \$47.50.

Turbine and Berkshire sets

A step up in quality and price were the pair of O gauge sets headed by a no. 671 turbine, both beautifully illustrated on pages 14 and 15 of the consumer catalog. Outstanding color artwork characterized by evocative and realistic backgrounds

would continue to distinguish Lionel catalogs through the 1950s and into the '60s.

The 671 Pennsylvania RR turbine returned to pull the no. 2140WS, a passenger set at \$57.75. The 6-8-6 locomotive came coupled to the new no. 2671W streamlined Pennsylvania RR tender

> equipped with a whistle. Backup lights for the tender offered more realism. However, after adding that feature in early stages of packaging, Lionel subsequently removed them from production.

> The outfit included three brand-new green-painted streamliners: 2400 Maplewood Pullman, 2402 Chatham Pullman, and 2401 Hillside observation. Some component boxes were stamped "O," which probably meant they were reserved for O gauge usage rather than O-27 (notably, set 1430WS).

For just \$1 more, anyone

desiring a turbine could get a four-car freight. Set no. 2141WS had a 3451 operating lumber car, 3462 operating milk car with platform, 2456 Lehigh Valley hopper, and 2357 illuminated SP-type caboose with front and rear couplers.

The 671 also pulled outfit no. 2143WS, a four-car work train. Lionel sold the set for \$60 and included a 3459 operating dump car, 2461 transformer car with a black transformer, 2460 crane car, and 2420 wrecker car with searchlight.

The no. 726 2-8-4 Berkshire steam engine with a no. 2426W whistle tender returned for a third year as the pulling power for two quality outfits.

Set no. 2145WS, with a retail price of \$67.50, came with a 3462 operating milk car, 2411 flatcar with logs, 2460 crane car, and a 2357 illuminated SP-type caboose. The 2145WS resembled set no. 2131WS from 1947 (priced at \$75), except it lacked the 3451 operating lumber car and 2420 work caboose with a searchlight.

For 1948, Lionel gave the 726 and not the 671 the honor of serving as the motive power in a set with three heavyweight Pullman cars finally stamped with their correct corresponding numbers. Selling for \$75, outfit no. 2146WS included a 2625 Irvington, 2627 Madison, and 2628 Manhattan. The 2627 and 2628 finally had their own numbered boxes rather than using over-stamped 2625 boxes.

The 726 equipped with a simulated coupler on the front pilot was the norm, although a transition was always possible. The Lionel Service Manual announced new 1947 part numbers for the front assembly (726-11), the handrail (726-109), and the stanchions (1666E-11) as replacements for the 1946 part numbers.

GG1 offers elegance in O gauge

Given all the positive publicity Lionel earned after releasing its O gauge replica of the Pennsylvania RR's GG1 electricprofile locomotive, the firm wisely revived the no. 2332. The Brunswick green unit led a freight and a passenger set.

Outfit no. 2139W was a four-car freight that retailed for \$57.50, which was a terrific value for anyone wanting to add a great locomotive. In fact, the set had a price just a few dollars below what the two finest O-27 outfits cost in 1948.

Purchasers of a 2139WS brought home a train loaded with play value. The most entertaining items were the 2458 Pennsylvania RR automobile boxcar and 3451 operating lumber car. Then came the 2456 hopper. Cars in the first run had three and not the usual two lines of horizontal data stamped on the left side of the shell (the



scarce variation was shown in the April 1948 issue of *Model Builder*).

Last rode a 2357 SP-type caboose featuring interior illumination. The consumer catalog for 1948 described the model as "1 No. 2357 new illuminated Caboose." That was incorrect, as Lionel introduced the 2357 the year before.

The 2332 returned to head another three-car heavyweight passenger set. The no. 2144W retailed for \$67.50, which was only \$5 more than outfit no. 2124W had sold for the previous year with the same engine and passenger cars.

The 2144WS included the same three

Pullmans as did 2426WS. Each passenger car had its own corresponding number and individual box (the top and bottom of the Lionel lettering touch the trap lines above and below it).

Lionel was proud of its GG1, going so far as to point out the pantographs were insulated and could easily be wired to draw electric current from overhead lines. But even more attention was directed to a brand-new model about to arrive.

Debut of the F3

Lionel boldly heralded its O gauge replica of the F3 units made by the Electro-

Motive Division of General Motors: "Diesels which have been shattering speed records on East and West coast runs."

Lionel assigned the number 2333 to a pair of A-A models with different road names: New York Central and Santa Fe.

The Santa Fe and the New York Central powered and unpowered duos were named the motive power for versions of set no. 2133W. Each retailed for \$65 and had a 2458 automobile boxcar, 3459 operating dump car, 2555 Sunoco single-dome tank car, and 2357 illuminated caboose.

Incidentally, the year 1948 proved to be the last one Lionel cataloged the 2458

UPGRADES FOR THE ELECTRONIC CONTROL SET

ionel's Electronic Control Set was a breakthrough in toy train technology when introduced to the product line in 1946 as outfit no. 4109WS and reissued the following year. For 1946 and '47, it had a retail price of \$75 (around \$856 today).

For 1948, decision makers probably thought the market was ready for an expanded version of the revolutionary outfit. They therefore introduced set no. 4110WS, which was proclaimed in the catalog as "Sensational New Lionel Electronic Railroad."

Retailing for the unheard-of price of \$199.95 (\$2,037 today), the four-car freight train was once again pulled by a no. 671R Pennsylvania RR turbine with smoke. Behind the 6-8-6 was a no. 4671W Lionel Lines whistle tender.

The remaining components of the 4110WS included the nos. 4452 Pennsylvania RR gondola with four barrels, 4454 Baby Ruth boxcar (not the Pennsy model illustrated in the consumer catalog), 5459 operating dump car, and 4357 illuminated SP-type caboose (replacing the no. 4457 illuminated tinplate Pennsylvania RR caboose used the two previous years).

To justify raising the set price \$124.95, Lionel packed with the train nos. 97 coal elevator and 151 automatic



semaphore. Also put in were a pair of no. 022 remote-control switches, a new type-VW 150-watt transformer, and extra track to form an interior loop. All very nice, but evidently not nearly enough to tempt many consumers.

Lionel upgraded the Electronic Control Set (renumbered as the no. 4110WS) with more track and a few accessories. They raised the price of the technologically innovative outfit from \$75 to \$199.95 (\$2,037 today).



The roster of rolling stock developed by Lionel for its cataloged line in 1948 included boxcars, a husky crane car, flatcars with two different realistic loads, a gondola, a new hopper, single- and double-dome tank cars, and two kinds of cabooses, along with three groups of passenger cars. Innovative and dependable operating cars handled coal, logs, and milk cans.

double-door boxcar. It had removed some rivet detail from the tinplated steel body shell so laborers at the factory could more easily apply the hot-stamped graphics.

As fantastic as the two F3 outfits were and as great as demand for them might have been, Lionel failed to package them in time for the holiday season. Ads placed by leading Lionel retailers in the December 1948 issue of Model Builder conveyed the unfortunate news.

Boston dealer Eric Fuchs noted: "The Lionel Corporation has just announced that [the] #2333 Diesel Locomotive will not be ready until after the first of January." Madison Hardware instructed consumers, "a small deposit will reserve your Diesel Loco or Freight Set for delivery as soon as it's received from the factory."

Great trains and more

Everything was really starting to fall

into place for Lionel in 1948. Maybe that explained why President Cowen insisted the company would make every effort to maintain or lower prices without sacrificing quality of product - or a fair profit.

The corporate strategy must have worked, because for the fiscal year ending February 28, 1949, the net income declared by Lionel amounted to \$1,588,437.13. Net sales were the highest in the firm's history at \$15,559,275.71, which pleased the team of executives

Stockholders must have been pleased, too, as Lionel paid \$531,000 worth of dividends. It was an increase of 47.5 percent from the year before (\$360,000).

Meanwhile, distributors, retailers, and consumers delighted in the great displays and layouts at the refurbished headquarters and public showroom in New York City. They appreciated new, highly innovative accessories, such as the nos. 364

conveyor lumber loader and 397 operating diesel-type coal loader.

No observer could overlook the fully redesigned Trainmaster transformers. Gaining plenty of attention was the new type-ZW 250-watt transformer. It had a retail tag of \$25, which meant it was priced only \$5 more than the older type-Z.

Optimism about the future

From powerful transformers and ingenious accessories to top-of-the-line O-27 and O gauge outfits led by models of contemporary steam, diesel, and electric locomotives, Lionel grew stronger and more prosperous in 1948. Even its Scout sets proved successful in helping it penetrate the low end of the domestic market. As a result, Lionel continued its significant trend of increasing net sales and income year after year since the end of the war.

President Lawrence Cowen and all members of the board of directors must have been more than pleased by the year's results. Filled with optimism, execu-

tives at Lionel already had plans in place to ensure circumstances improved more in 1949.

For advancing the research for this article we thank Paul Ambrose, Bruce Balsley, Tom Budniak, Dave Christianson, Ray Fetzner, Robert Pasztor, and Larry Ulrich.

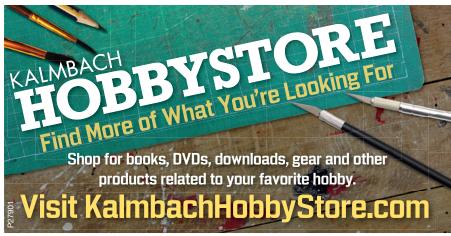
Lionel had its no. 671 Pennsylvania RR 6-8-6 turbine steam locomotive and no. 2671W tender pull three brand-new streamlined passenger cars in O gauge outfit no. 2140WS.















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11152	D&RG Lionmaster Challenger	829.95	38358	#2239 I.C. F-3 Freight Set	549.00	16211	S.P. 4-8-4 GS-4 w/PS 3	449.95
11181	C.N. GP-9 Piggy Back Set w/Legacy	699.95	38419	U.P. U30C #2918 w/Legacy	499.00	16451	Erie 2-8-8-8-2 Triplex w/PS 3.0	629.00
11201	W.M. 4-6-6-4 Challenger w/Legacy	849.00	38420	U.P. U30C #2897 w/Legacy	499.00	16471	Erie Triplex w/5 Cars	779.95
11257	Pennsy 2-8-2 Mikado w/Legacy	849.00	38421	N.P U33C #3305 w/Legacy	499.00	16481	S.P. 4-8-8-2 Cab Forward	679.95
11270	G.N. 2-6-0 Mogul w/RS	529.95	38422	N.P. U33C #3307 w/Legacy	499.00	16671	G.N. 2-8-8-2 Loco w/PS 3.0	629.00
11276	L&W 0-8-0 #1 w/Legacy	629.95	38737	BNSF S.F. #1999 SD70ACe Dummy	259.95	25581	U.P. Dash-9 Diesel w/PS 2.0	369.00
11295	Elk River Shay #1 w/Legacy	859.95	38738	BNSF Frisco Heritage SD70ACe	499.95	26431	U.P. Dash 8 Narrow Nose w/PS 2	389.00
11330	Polar RR K-4 w/Legacy	699.95	38742	BNSF B.N. #1975 SD70Ace	499.95	27741	U.P. SD70 Heritage w/2 Frt Cars	449.00
11367	C.P. #111 2-Truck Shav w/Legacy	799.95	38743	BNSF B.N. #1980 SD70ACe Dummy	259.95	29021	G.N. GP-35 Diesel w/PS 2.0	429.00
11379	Pennsy 0-4-0 Switcher Loco	429.99	38750	EMD Demo #2012 SD70ACe	499.95	29351	G.N. SD-45 LH Diesel w/PS 2.0	399.00
11385	U.P. 0-4-0 Yard Switcher	429.95	38784	C.N. #4000 GP-35	479.95	31681	UP 4-6-6-4 Challenger w/PS 2	1,395.00
11386	B&M Berkshire w/Legacy	1.139.00	38855	G.N. GP-35 #2519	479.95	34831	S.P. 4-8-4 GS-4 w/Ps 3.0 #4449	1.049.95
11413	J-Class 4-8-4 Pilot Loco	1,139.00	38976	S.F. GP-35 #/2519	449.95	34851	S.P. 4-8-4 GS-4 W/Ps 3.0 #4444 S.P. 4-8-4 GS-4 W/Ps 3.0 #4444	1,049.95
11413	S.P. Blk GS-2 #4412 w/Legacy	1,199.95	39562	B.N. GP-35 w/Legacy	479.95	34981	C.N. U1F Steam Pass Set w/PS 3	1,149.95
11427	S.P. 0-4-0 Switcher	439.95	39568	BCR Dash-9 w/Legacy	499.95	34991	G.N. 4-8-4 w/Ps 3.0 #2579	1,049.00
11428	Milw 0-4-0 (Conv) Multi Roads Avail	439.95	39572	BNSF Dash-9 w/Legacy	499.95	35011	G.N. 4-8-4 w/Ps 3.0 #2584	1,049.00
11446	U.P. 2-8-8-2 Y-3 #3671	1,259.00	81135	B.N. SD70MAC #9431 w/Legacy	549.00	200341	N.P. GP-9 Diesel w/PS 2.0	399.95
11449	U.P. 4-8-8-4 Big Boy #4004	2,395.00	81137	BNSF SD70MAC #9858 w/Legacy	549.00	200343	N.P. GP-9 Dummy Unit	189.95
11462	S.P. AC12 Cab Forward #4294	1,599.99	81155	U.P. ES44AC #7388 w/Legacy	549.00	200351	Amtrak Turbo Train	829.95
28297	S.P. GP-9 Diesel w/Legacy	379.95	81270	Bethlehem Steel Docksider Set	259.00	201201	BNSF Dash-9 w/PS 2	399.95
28307	Wabash FM w/Legacy	469.00	82121	G.N. S-2 Diesel w/Legacy	599.99	201431	G.N. SD-70ACe Diesel	399.95
28311	U.P. DD35 #70 Diesel w/Leg (2 #s)	599.95	82122	Pennsy S-2 Diesel w/Legacy	599.99	35351	U.P. FEF 4-8-4 4-Car Pass Set	1,229.00
28312	B.N. SD60 #8301 w/Legacy	479.95	82127	U.P. S-2 Diesel w/Legacy	599.99	35361	U.P. FEF Reefer w/6 Cars Set	1,229.00
28354	CSX Genset w/Legacy	779.95	82205	BNSF ES44AC Golden Swoosh	649.95	35411	NYC 4-8-4 Nigara w/4 Car Pass Set	1,229.00
28363	B.N. SD60 #8302 w/Legacy	479.95	82269	N.P. #1382 4-6-0 w/Legacy	799.95	202481	S.P. GP-9 Diesel	399.95
28383	Conrail Genset w/Lgcacy	769.95	82270	S.P. #2353 4-6-0 w/Legacy	799.95	202911	S.F. GP-35 Diesel w/PS 3	399.95
28384	C.N. Genset Switcher w/Legacy	769.95	82694	U.P. #3985 (BLK) 4-6-6-4 Challenger	969.00	202941	B.N. SD-45 Diesel w/PS 3.0	439.95
29366	S.P. Tank Train Oil Can Set	699.95	82697	Rio Grande 4-6-6-4 LM Challenger	969.00	203391	G.N. DC-3 Rail Inspection Car w/PS 3	459.95
30145	Candian Maple Leaf Frt Set	499.95	82528	Empire State Express Set	1,849.95	204021	G.N. F-3 ABA Diesel Set w/PS 3	779.95
31774	AEC Radioactive Transport Set	239.95	82716	Mickey's Holiday Express Set	299.95	204121	Milw SD40-2 Diesel w/PS 3	449.95
31778	#1484WS Hudson Pass Set	449.00	82761	U.P. SD-90MAC w/Legacy	629.99	204171	BNSF Dash 8 Diesel w/PS 3	459.95
31783	BNSF Ice Cold Express Set	895.00	82784	B.N. GP-9 #1706 w/Legacy	499.95	204211	BNSF Dash 8 Diesel Frt. Set w/PS 3	729.95
34559	N/H F-3 AA w/Horn	479.99	82785	B.N. GP-9 #1804 w/Legacy	499.95	204651	Pennsy GE 44-Ton Diesel	429.00
34625	N.P. F3 AA Frt Set Inquire "B" Units	679.95	82806	U.P. FEF #844 Black	1,599.99	204681	S.F. GE 44-Ton Diesel	429.00
34737	N.P. GP-9 (Mult Roads Avail)	449.95	82809	U.P. FEF #838 Black	1,599.99	205061	GE Evo Hybrid ES44AC w/ps 3.0	499.95
34738	N.P. GP-9 #317 w/Legacy	449.95	82815	Mt. Ranier Scenic Heisler #91	1,199.99	205101	BNSF ES44DC w/PS 3.0	469.95
38354	#1464 U.P. Anniv. Pass Alco Set	429.95	82959	115th Anniversary Nano Painted Berk	1,979.99	206541	N.P. SD-45 LH Diesel w/PS 3.0	459.00
38310	#2185W NYC F3 AA Freight Set	449.00	83080	Rio Grande 0-4-0 Switcher Set	249.95	207311	S.F. Dash 8 Diesel w/PS 3.0	449.95
38311	#2276W Budd RDC Set	369.00	83193	S.P. Lines #4449 GS-4 w/Legacy	1,649.95	200241RK	N.P. RS-3 w/PS 2.0	299.95
38312	#2343 SF F3 AA	399.99	83197	AM Freedom Train #4449 GS-4	1,649.95	200243RK	N.P. RS-3 Dummy	149.95
38313	B&O Budd RDC P&D	269.00	83371	G.N. SD-45 #400 Hustle Muscle	599.95		N.P. Alco RS-1 Diesel w/PS 3.0	299.95
38324	#2507W N/H F-3 Freight w/5 Cars	429.00	83380	U.P. SD-45 #1	599.95		G.N. SD-45 w/PS 3	319.95
38328	#1623W N.P. Frt Set w/Leg. Closeout	449.95	84072	Everett Mogul #11	619.99	204621S	Milw E-6 ABA w/5 Pass Cars	1,249.00
38329	#2261W Freight Set (646 w/5 Cars)	459.00	84248	S.P. AC-6 #3800	1.899.99	29831RK		289.95
38338	#2129WS Berk Freight Set	549.95	113198	Pennsy K-4 Red Arrow w/4 Pass Cars	1.399.95		MRL SD70ACe w/PS 2	299.95
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WEEKEND WORKSHOP

WITH THE CTT READERS AND STAFF

A Lionel no.156 S-2 is reborn

DOING IT RIGHT THE SECOND TIME AROUND

Here is a tale of a 100-year-old Lionel New

York Central class S-2 locomotive that would not disappear and came to me twice for help. It started in May 2015, when my friend Bill asked me to paint the shell of a Lionel no. 156 so he

could operate the O gauge locomotive. At the time Bill also had a motor and chassis, but I never saw either of them and assumed he had only the shell. The shell was in bad condition.

I removed the handrails from their stanchions, stripped the paint from the shell, ground off the rust, straightened the sheet metal, soldered some open joints that didn't match, sanded everything to a smooth finish, and proceeded to apply primer and four coats of Rust-Oleum Dark Machine Gray paint as Bill had approved (Photo 1). Bill also asked for red window trim and grills, which I did in addition to installing the handrails.

I didn't know too much about the age and value of this engine, and finished the job without doing research on its original appearance, motor, color, and trim. Everything looked good, so I returned the box-



Robert's first crack at a Lionel no. 156 locomotive was a fast, basic repaint for a friend. Some years later he encountered the model in an auction and decided to do a proper restoration.



Thanks to Robert's patient and careful work, the restored O gauge no. 156 is ready for a second century of operation.

cab to Bill, who liked the finish. The job was completed, or so I thought.

Fast-forward to June 2017. While looking at auction items I came to a screeching halt when I saw a gray 156. I knew immediately that was the shell I had done for Bill more than two years earlier (Photo 2)

The 156 in the auction had never been completely restored and was listed as a "Lionel O Gauge Prewar 0-4-0 Electric Locomotive-Custom Painted." There was no reference to its being a 156 (the number wasn't on the shell or body).

I called Bill and asked about his putting this locomotive up for auction. He replied that he had given it to a friend and was not aware of the auction.

I found out Lionel cataloged the 156 between 1917 and 1923, which made it a 100-year-old design. I also found out the 156 had leading and trailing four-wheel trucks (missing from the auction piece) and early tab couplers. I put in a bid and

won the auction. My research went from "basic" to "advanced detail," and I searched for information about 156-type electrics.

QUICK HISTORY

I learned the 156 was based on a New York Central class S-2 electric-profile locomotive. The correct designation of the S-2's wheel configuration is 2-B-2 and not 4-4-4 like a steam engine's configuration.

While waiting for delivery of the model, I hunted for parts for the leading and trailing trucks and learned they're difficult to find. I even considered buying an old 156 that had trucks, but had no luck at finding one at a reasonable cost (less than hundreds of dollars).

I eventually found what I needed at Henning's Trains in Lansdale, Pa. The price was higher than I'd expected (\$60 plus shipping), but I reminded myself it was a 100-year-old locomotive and deserved the very best in this restoration.



The original repaint was gray with red trim.





Robert needed to apply graphics in the Lionel style, so he obtained a rubber stamp and gold ink to practice stamping. He used the shell from an old Lionel Standard gauge no. 33 locomotive to develop his skills.

COLORS AND STAMPS

Next, I established that four colors were available on the original: dark green (most popular), maroon, olive green, and gray (scarcest). Not knowing the original color of this particular locomotive, I decided to go with gray. Using a paint chart published by the Train Collectors Association, I determined the gray color chip used for the no. 152 series of locomotives that included the 156 could be replicated with a spray paint made by Train Enamel (www.trainenamel.com).

I was interested in duplicating the side herald (New York Central oval shape) and "156," but didn't like the film image for decals. The dry transfers I found did not include the herald I wanted. I then decided to look for ink stamps, as used on the original 156 locomotives.

I settled on stamps provided by JLM Trains, along with its gold ink. To do the best stamping, I needed a sheet of glass and a brayer to spread the ink thinly and evenly on the glass. I purchased the brayer at Michael's store for less than \$10 with a coupon, but they are available at any crafts store. Make sure to get one with a soft roller for ink stamps.

The glass sheet came from a 5 x 7-inch picture frame I had. Remember to handle the glass sheet carefully and wear glasses and gloves for safety. I was fortunate to have a Lionel Standard gauge no. 33 shell with New York Central stamps in my junk pile that I used to test stamps before turning to the 156 (Photos 3 and 4).

MOTOR AND BODY WORK

Once the 156 had arrived, I checked it and realized it needed general maintenance. I soaked the motor in mineral spirits for five minutes and carefully cleaned the parts I could get to, including the brushes, gears, wheels, and side frames. I disassembled the manual direction controller and cleaned all the contact surfaces



The motor received a routine cleaning and maintenance and it ran flawlessly.

with CRC QD Electronic Cleaner.

When I had finished reassembling the unit, I placed light oil on the axles and shafts and white lithium grease on the gears. Then I filed the brushes to clean off the carbon and cleaned the rotor contact plates with an eraser (Photo 5). I put the chassis on the test track, and away it went!

Since I had painted the shell two years before, I knew what was now needed. I removed the railings, roughed the surface, and put on four new coats of the gray paint until I had a smooth finish.

I next sprayed the chassis semi-gloss black and painted by hand the window frames and motor wheels red to match the red on the new leading and trailing trucks (Photo 6). A few days later, I attached the railings and prepared the model for reassembly and ink-stamping the NYC oval and locomotive number on the sides.

I checked for continuity of ground for the headlight. Most prewar tinplate engines have a single wire going to the headlight and rely on the shell, frame, and motor to complete the circuit to ground. Since new painting can leave the shell and frame insulated, you must exercise care to verify a ground is available after assembly. I checked each step of the ground circuit with a voltmeter.

I made sure to scrape off the paint where the headlight strap tabs went through the shell until the voltmeter indi-



The surface was roughed, and coats of the gray paint applied until the finish was smooth. The chassis was semi-gloss black and windows were hand-painted.

cated continuity. I did the same at the tabs, where the shell was connected to the motor frame and the motor frame was attached to the motor.

After reassembly, a final check for continuity verified ground had been established for the light. The final test involved putting the engine on a track and seeing the headlight glow.

FINAL TOUCHES

Using an old Lionel no. 33 shell, I determined the ink amount and stamp image detail. I made a stamp support using a 2 x 4 piece for a guide to hold the stamps level and parallel to the 156 side.

I rolled a thin layer of gold ink on the glass and applied the oval stamp on one side before proceeding to the other side.

The second stamping did not go as well, and I had to erase it using mineral spirits, as recommended by JLM Trains. That worked well without affecting the gray enamel color already on the shell. Using the stamp guide, ink, roller, and mineral spirits to correct mistakes, I completed the stampings.

After drying for a few days, I applied a coating of clear polyurethane varnish spray to the stamps to provide scratch resistance. I now had a no.156 I hope will run another 100 years! – *Robert Rello*

PRODUCT REVIEWS



The 49er's carbody design was possibly the most distinctive steam design run by a railroad west of the Mississippi River.

n the world of streamlined steam-powered locomotives, it would be fair to say the goal was a visual statement of something akin to a bullet passing through air. Some designs achieved this end: the New York Central 4-6-4 Dreyfuss Hudson, the Norfolk & Western J-class 4-8-4 Northern, and the Baltimore & Ohio Royal Blue 4-6-2 Pacific. Other locomotives varied from this premise, including the Pennsylvania RR's T1 (axe head), the New York Central's Commodore Vanderbilt (overturned wash tub), and the Union Pacific's 49er (getaway car).

Yes, I said getaway car. The 49er looks fast and built for rugged use, like the New

Hot rod!

O GAUGE UNION PACIFIC 49ER 4-6-2 PACIFIC FROM MTH ELECTRIC TRAINS

This model is

a mover! It

has enough

York Central's *Mercury*. I can envision William Bendix at the throttle as he and Humphrey Bogart pull off a heist of a Railway Express Agency car full of gold. Walter Brennan will be hanging out the side of the cab, looking for pursuers. When the railroad tries to pull that heavyweight coach over the junction crossing to stop them, this baby will blast right through. Next stop, Canada!

Suffice it to say, the Union Pacific 49er looks like a hardworking locomotive and not some frilly lightweight steamer just off the local milk run.

mass to make The 49er was one of two the test track Union Pacific locomotives streamlined to act as power for vibrate when the passenger train of the same running fast name. The 49er was created as a once-every-five-days train to supplement the City of San Francisco. This helped speed additional passengers to the celebrated Golden Gate International Exhibition held in San Francisco in 1939 and '40. One locomotive was the no. 7002,

an Alco 4-8-2 Mountain. The other was the no. 2906, a Baldwin 4-6-2 Pacific. The train ran from 1937 to 1941. The streamlining came off in 1942.

OPENING THE BOX

First impression: Heavy and compact. Very brick-like. It feels like a loaded ammo can. I'm guessing the difference is the shape and thickness of the die-cast

metal shell.

The nose of the 49er is smooth, but with a raised band running up from the pilot to the stack area. Two metal belts overlap this ridge, and each has wingtips at the ends. A photo of the prototype reveals hinges on both sides, but I can't find any means to open them, other than removing the pins from the

hinges. Design element or practical (though mysterious) hatch, who knows? I prefer to think it reinforces the nose, lest it be shaken apart by the vibrations at speed.

The pilot is a solid design that suggests

a plow for snow. There is a set of three steps running up each side of the pilot.

The headlight is centered in the middle of the nose. Crowning the front are vents for an air duct system to facilitate the efficient flow of smoke along the body.

What is cool about this is that along the roofline of the shroud there are recesses for hardware, such as whistles and pop-off valves. This isn't unusual for streamlined models. But there are clearly designed channels to facilitate air flow and reduce resistance. This is a very interesting visual element!

The number boards are on the sides of the boiler, and there is a handrail running from the pilot to the cab. The running boards have a curved side that fits right in with the curvature of the shell. Save the topside appliances, the sides are smooth, other than the seams and some rivets.

The cab has an interior painted brown. There are two crew figures. The decorated backhead has white-faced gauges and red valve handles. There is a light in the center of the backhead.

The cab's side window bars are very thick. They seem more like bars from the movie 20,000 Years in Sing Sing than window frames. I was surprised that prototype photos revealed they match the thickness on the model.

The sides of the cab have grab irons for the crew to use getting into the cab. Interestingly, the cab roof of the *49er* is flat! I'm not sure I'd seen a modern (post-World War I) steamer with a flat top!

The tender is a tall, square hunk of metal with nicely designed curves at the top of the car sides. There are steps and grab irons on the front of the car. The coal load is the chunk type and not cast in.

The car mounts three axle trucks. There is a ladder, rather spiffily attached to the rear on the fireman's side. There is a backup light in the middle of the car's rear flank. The locomotive is equipped with MTH's wireless drawbar.

The paint scheme was delightful. A livery unlike what we expect from the Union Pacific! The brown, red, and yellow would



Nothing says the future like a streamlined locomotive with an aggressive paint scheme, including the Union Pacific 49er.

have stood out on the point of a streamliner. I particularly liked the cat's whiskers on the nose. One author noted the two colorful *49er* locomotives virtually became the public face of the railroad during their short life.

The Union Pacific's Overland Route logo was applied to the nose and on the sides at roughly the steam chests. The name "Union Pacific" was placed on the tender with accent striping that suggested movement.

ON THE TEST TRACK

This O gauge model was a mover! It ran well at low speeds and had enough mass to make the test track vibrate when the throttle was open wide. The sound package was good, with deep sounds and a nice whistle. Right out of the box, the model produced enough smoke to fill the skies of Train Town without any fluid needing to be added.

I experimented with different car and weight combinations, and there was no change in the locomotive's performance. It was steady throughout the testing.

The tender's coil coupler worked flawlessly, even during the oft disastrous



The cab has a crew, a decorated boiler backhead, painted handles and gauges, and an LED cab light.



The round cab windows and the prototypical thick frames lend this an element of Buck Rogers-like style.

"speed up, uncouple the car, and open the switch after the locomotive but before the train game."

The speed range was good, ranging from 6 scale miles per hour on the low end to 64 scale mph on the high side. I was more than a little surprised that the drawbar pull exceeded 2 pounds. I checked it a few times, and it was at or just higher than that number. So I think we may have a good freight hauler here, too!

I love the fact that these RailKing steamers give operators with modest layouts (or budgets) a chance to field an amazing variety of locomotives that are affordable and built as well as their Premier Line cousins. If you're a Union Pacific fan or have an eye for unique streamlined steam, check this out at your local MTH retailer. – *Bob Keller*

O GAUGE UNION PACIFIC 4-6-2 FROM MTH

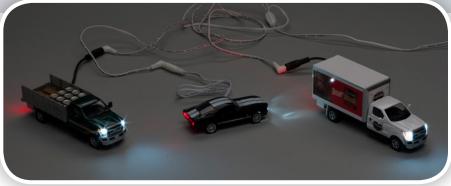
Price: \$499.95 (no. 20648-1) **Min Curve:** O-31 **Cmd Low:** 6.1 smph **Cnv Low:** 7.7 smph **High:** 64.1 smph **Drawbar pull:** 2.1 lb. **Features:** Two can-style motors, ProtoSound 3.0 command and sound system, smoke unit, coil coupler on tender **Current-production road names:** Baltimore & Ohio, Lehigh Valley, Norfolk & Western, Southern Pacific, and Union Pacific

PRODUCT REVIEWS



Light 'em up!

O GAUGE VEHICLES AND PLUG & PLAY SYSTEM FROM MENARDS



The Plug and Play system and the new lighted vehicles from Menards let you build a power network to place and swap out vehicles in scenes of your choice. The lighting is bright and will create an impressive traffic scene in dim light.

irtually every layout I've ever seen has vehicles scattered about the train board. They help to convey realism while presenting a scene that tells a good story. The autos generally aren't the stars of the show, but they are often vital members of the cast. Hobbyists want their layouts to look natural in bright or dim light, so vehicle illumination is a desirable feature.

I believe the first illuminated vehicles I saw were from Canadian artist Jack Pearce, who rigged lights in fire trucks, police cars, and sedans. You name it and he could put in lights. Jack even came up with diorama scenes for your layout, such as car wrecks and one with a helicopter spinning up (with a sound clip)! So rest

assured, functioning vehicle lights are a real thing in toy train hobby.

Menards is no stranger to illuminated vehicles, primarily battery powered. Now, the home-improvement chain has launched a new line of trucks and automobiles with an interesting twist. They have the potential to spice up any street

scene. They are pre-wired to plug into a power grid!

We received four of the 12 vehicles (six Mustangs and six trucks) released by Menards: the nos. 279-4207 lighted Menards stake truck with barrels and lumber, 279-4215 lighted F350 Jack's Links diecast box truck, 279-4237 lighted yellow Mustang, and 279-4238 lighted classic-style black Mustang. The cars cost \$24.99 each, and the trucks cost \$29.99.

There is also the no. 279-4035 Plug and Play adapter, an eight-piece plug and play accessory kit. There are six straight male/female wire pieces and two "Y" splitters. This pack costs \$9.99.

THE VEHICLES

The O gauge vehicles are standard Menards die-cast vehicles that have been modified. The cars look sporty, the trucks have loads, and there are some great color combos. They are also mixes of die-cast metal and plastic. For example, the Jack's Links truck box is plastic. On the pickup truck the barrels and lumber cargo load are plastic.

The vehicles all have working headlights and taillights.

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PRODUCT REVIEWS



Here are the Menards O gauge delivery truck and a Ford Mustang and their electrical connections. Also shown is the eight-piece Plug and Play adapter kit. Six extensions and two "Y" splitters will expand the reach of power for vehicles or illuminated Menards structures.

They have a plug and wire dropping down from the center of the body. The internal wire on the trucks is thin, with a heavy black protective sheath over the wires. The autos don't have the extra sheath, but a robust plastic insulation. All the vehicles have a male barrel plug attachment at the end.

THE CONCEPT

Wiring has always been the trick with powering lighted vehicles. Back in the late 1990s, some of the earlier vehicles could be powered with a tap into track power (not such a good idea in the era of steady 18-volt power to the track), and some were directly powered with a small adapter.

The new releases from Menards move the concept forward. Each vehicle plugs into a connector that can be one of a series of vehicles fed from the adapter. While you can feed it over the surface of your layout, you'll be better served by drilling a hole down through the street/parking lot/dirt road where you wish to locate the vehicle.

If you sink a 7/16-inch hole, the plug will clear the board just fine. You may want to number or color-code the wire with tape under the table for future reference.

We used an older three-outlet AC to DC power adapter and powered three of the vehicles from that. We also hooked up the Plug and Play kit to a single line and operated three vehicles from one of the feeder lines. It is a simple process.

BUILDINGS TOO

If you have added a number of the Menards structures to your layout, this will eliminate the need for one wall adapter per building.

Just apply the same practice as with the vehicles and build your power network beneath the tabletop, feeding the wires over the surface. This greatly simplifies the wiring process and eliminates tabletop clutter. You may want to color the wires to look more natural.

Keep in mind that the Menards Hotel and O Gauge World

O GAUGE ILLUMINATED VEHICLES FROM MENARDS

Price: Autos 24.99, trucks, \$29.99, no. 279-4062 4.5-volt three-outlet adapter \$9.99, no. 79-4035 Plug and Play adapter kit \$9.99 Features: Die-cast metal and plastic construction, front and rear lights, each vehicle has a male barrel plug connector pre-wired to the frame.

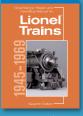
Headquarters will require the 4.5 volt 5000-mV adapter to suport the greater quantity of LEDs the buildings use.

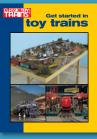
The new lighted vehicles from Menards will increase the variety of traffic on the streets of your train town. When the room lights are low, they will help its citizens find their way home safely. – *Bob*

Build a **loy Train**

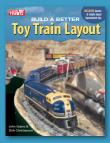
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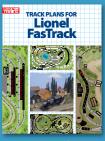












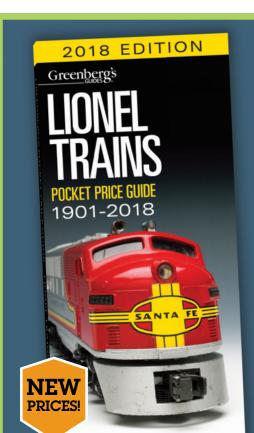
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CLOSING DATES: Jan 2018 closes Oct 10, Feb. closes Nov. 1, March closes Dec. 8, May closes Feb. 8, July closes Apr. 12, Sept. closes June 14, Oct. closes July 12, Nov. closes Aug. 9, Dec. closes Sept. 13.

Events

AL, MOBILE: Model Train Show sponsored by South West Alabama Railroad Modelers (SWARM). Via Health, Fitness and Enrichment Center, 1717 Dauphin Street. March 10, 11, 2018, Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm. Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm. Admission \$5.00, family \$10.00, children under 10, FREE. Operating layouts, several scales, train dealers, how-to-clinics. Information: Bob Adams, santafebob95@msn.com. Sellers contact Charlie Boyer, 251-454-0572, charlieboye6@comcast.net

CO, DENVER: Rocky Mountain Train Show March 3-4, 2018. Denver Merchandise Mart, 451 East 58th Avenue, Denver, CO 80216. Saturday, 10:00am-5:00pm, Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm. 2-1/2 acres of model trains of all scales, 30 layouts, 600 sales tables, clinics and more. Admission \$10.00 Free-Parking.Phone: 303-364-0274 www.RockyMountainTrainShow.com information@RockyMountainTrainShow.com

FL, JACKSONVILLE: 40th Jacksonville Model Train & Railroadiana Show. Saturday, February 10, 2018. Prime Osborn Convention Center, 1000 Water Street. 9:00am-5:00pm. Admission: \$9.00, under 12 free. Info: Alan Altman, P.O. Box 985, Land O' Lakes, FL 34639. 813-949-7197 Email: rrshows@aol.com or www.gserr.com

FL, STUART: Martin County Model Railroaders 11th Annual Train Expo. Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 Old Dixie Hwy. January 20-21, 2018, 9:00am-3:00pm. Admission: Adults \$6.00, Operating layouts, sales tables, displays & NMRA information. Information: Bill Smet, 772-233-0279, mcmr2616@yahoo.com or PO Box 1498, Stuart, Fl. 34995.

IA, MONTICELLO: M.R.R.C. Train Show and Swap Meet. Berndes Center, Jones County Fairgrounds, 766 N. Maple St. Sunday, January 28, 2018, 9:00am-3:30pm. Admission \$5.00, children under 12 free. Contact Denny Beasley, CircleBarB607@aol.com or phone 319-270-1171 between 6 and 10 PM.

IL, CHICAGO: Lionel Collectors Club of America will hold its 48th National Convention July 23 through 28, at Westin Yorktown, Lombard, IL. Includes area tours, banquets and train store exclusively for LCCA members, swap meet open to the public Free Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm. LCCA club membership details on club website Lionelcollectors.org. Convention details at website early 2018.

IN, MUNCIE: 27th Annual Muncie Model Train Show, Delaware County Fairgrounds, 1210 N. Wheeling Ave., Zip: 47305. Saturday, February 24, 2018, 11:00am-4:00pm. Admission \$5.00, 12 and under free. 2004-Vendor tables, operating layouts, Circus Memorabilia, Free parking. Food on-site. Contact: Brandon Mundell, 765-288-6505, Store@toysforeverhobbies.com

MA, BOXBOROUGH: NASG National S-scale Convention: July 24-29, 2018, hosted by Bristol S-Gauge Railroaders at the Boxboro Regency Hotel, Vendors, Clinics, Tours, Auctions, Model contest, operating layouts & more. Cost varies with registration date and activities selected. For full information: www.bsgr.us or email doug@portliens.com

ME, AUGUSTA: Whitefield Lions Club 32nd Annual Model Railroad & Miniature Dollhouse Show, National Guard Armory, Western Avenue. February 17, 2018, Doors open 10:00am. 10:00am.3:30pm. Adults \$5.00, under 12 free, family \$10.00. Operating layouts, miniature displays. Contact: Steven Laundrie, 50 Fairview Ave., Randolph, ME 04346. Telephone: 207-582-1410, E-mail: slaundrie@roadrunner.com

NJ, BRICK: National Collector's Club Show, Elks Lodge, 2491 Hooper Avenue. Brick, NJ 08723. Sunday, February 4, 2018, 9:00am-2:00pm. Admission: \$6.00; under 10 free with adult. John LaLima 732-845-5966. Go to www.eastcoasttrainparts.com and click on The Brick Show.

NJ, LINCROFT: National Collector's Club Show, Christian Brothers Academy, 850 Newman Springs Rd., Zip: 07738. Sunday, January 21, 2018, 9:00am-3:00pm. Admission: \$7.00; under 10 free with adult. Contact: John LaLima 732-845-5966 or Joe Bianco, 201-327-5254. Go to www.eastcoasttrainparts.com and click on Lincroft Show.

NJ, TOMS RIVER: National Collector's Club Show, Elks Lodge, 600 Washington St. Sunday, January 7, 2018, 9:00am-2:00pm. Admission: \$6.00; under 10 free with adult. John LaLima 732-845-5966. Go to www.eastcoasttrainparts.com and click on Toms River Show.

NJ, WAYNE: National Collector's Club Special Christmas Show, P.A.L. Hall, 1 Pal Drive. Wayne, NJ 07470. Saturday, February 11, 2018, 9:00am-2:00pm. Admission: \$6.00; under 10 free with adult. John LaLima 732-845-5966. Go to www.eastcoasttrainparts.com and click on The Wayne Show.

NY, ROCHESTER: TCA Upstate NY Chapter & Edgerton Model RR Club, Åôs Train Show. Edgerton Community Center, 41 Backus Street. Zip: 14608. Saturday, February 24, 2018 TCA Members: 9:00am-10:00am. Public: 10:00am-3:00pm. Admission \$5.00, children under 17 free w/paid adult. Call: Chuck 716-390-8216 or Lee 585-544-0916. E-mail: tca.usnyc@yahoo.com or www.upstate-ny-tca.com

OH, MT. HOPE: CJ Trains Spring Train and Toy Show. Mt. Hope Event Center, 8076 St. Rt. 241, Zip 44660. Saturday, March 24, 2018, 10:00am-4:00pm. Admission: \$5.00, Free under 12. \$25.00/dealer table. 600+ tables. Contact, Jon Ulbright, 330-262-7488, cathijon@sssnet.com Website: www.cjtrains.com (GPS info 8076 St. Rt. 241, Millersburg, OH 44654)

OH, TOLEDO: Greater Toledo Train & Toy Show. Owens Community College (SHAC), 30335 Oregon Rd., Perrysburg. OH 43551. Sunday, March 11, 2018, 11:00am-3:00pm. Early Birds: 9:00am-3:00pm. Adults \$6.00/Early Birds \$10.00, 12/under FREE w/adult. Contact: Randy Ramsey, 1566 South Ave., Toledo, OH 43609, 419-215-4181, toledotoymasters@gmail.com

PA, ALTOONA: Alto Model Train Museum Association. Blair Convention Center, 1 Convention Center Blvd. Sunday, March 11, 2018, 9:00am-2:00pm, \$5.00 admission, under 12 FREE. Over 100 tables of TOY TRAINS & PARTS, largest train show between Pittsburgh & York. Vendor tables available \$20.00 each. For info contact: John Curfman, 814-695-2938 or e-mail: jmcurt@aol.com

PA, NEW CASTLE: BLRHS Frosty Rails Train Show. Shenango Twp VFD Social Hall, 2424 E. Washington St., 16101. Next to Dunkin Donuts, February 18, 2018, 10:00am-3:00pm. Adults \$5.00 (\$4.00 if you mention Classic Toy Train ad) Children under 12 free. For show info: blrhs.org or table reservations: Clark McKim cmckim1@verizon.net

SC, COLUMBIA: Jamil Temple, 206 Jamil Road. Saturday, March 24, 2018, 9:00am-3:00pm. Admission \$5.00, under 10 FREE. Over 200 vendor tables, Thomas the Train & Friends, Railroad collectibles. Contact Todd at 843-307-8674, southcarolinatradeshows.com or www.SouthCarolinaTradeShows.com

TX, PLANO: NTC 3rd Annual Fall Plano Train Show. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. January 20-21, 2018, Saturday 10:00am-5:00pm; Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm. Adults \$10.00, 12 and under free w/adult. All scales & Tin Plate. Dealer tables, How-To Clinics. Information: Chris Atkins, chris@railroadmodeler.com 469-438-0741. Visit www.dfwtrainsshow.com

CANADA: ONTARIO, ESSEX: 23rd Annual Model Train Show. Essex Public School, 72 Brien Ave. E. Essex, ON. N8M2N8. February 24 & 25, 2018, Daily 9:30am-3:30pm. Adults \$5.00. Display, Memorabilia, Interactive Train Model and More! Contact Historic Essex Railway Station at 519-776-9800 or heritageessex@bellnet.ca

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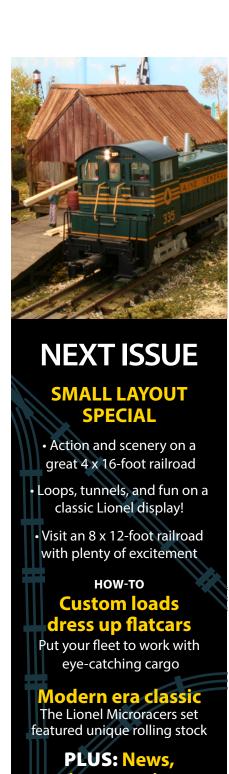


IN THIS ISSUE

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Affordable Model Railroads59	Lionel Operating Train Society, Inc21
Allentown Train Meet5	Mario's Trains21
American Models	Menard, Inc
Amherst Railway Soceity	Metro Trains & Hobbies
Arkansas Traveler Hobbies	Mianne Benchworks53
Barts Pneumatics Corp	Millhouse River Studio59
Brasseur Electric Trains, Inc	Nassau Hobby Center67
Brennan's Better Ballast59	Nicholas Smith Trains
Bridge Boss59	Port Lines Hobby Supply
Charles Ro Supply Co	Raildesign59
Charles Siegel's Train City	Rich Roman
Charlie's Trains	Ross Custom Switches
Classic Toy Trains Books	Roundhouse South21
Die-Cast Direct, Inc	S & W Parts Supply19
East Coast Enterprises	Showcase Express
	Side Track Hobbies27
Eastside Trains	Stockyard Express
Gargraves Trackage Corp	T & K Hobby Shop59
Glenn Snyder Display Systems	T-Trackers II
Great Midwest Train Show30	Texas Trains & Diecast
Great Train Expo30	Train World
Greenberg Shows30	Traincity.com
Grzyboski's	Trains and Toy Soldiers19
Henning's Trains59	Trainz.com
Jamestown Trains	TW Trainworx53
L & L Model Train Co	Western Depot, The21



PLUS: News, reviews, projects, and more!

ON SALE FEBRUARY 6



TIPS · TOOLS · TECHNIQUES

WITH THE CTT READERS AND STAFF

Make a swimming pool

COOL OFF TRAIN TOWN AND BEAT THOSE HOT SUMMER DAYS

Whether you have Plasticville, kitbashed, or custom-built structures, this quick project will make a more convincing and fascinating suburban scene.

The original Plasticville swimming pool never seemed durable enough for my kid-friendly layout, so I decided to build my own stronger version.

To make this simple piece you'll need some quality 1/8-inch-thick plywood. (I used Baltic Birch.)

To decide on the size, use your available space and eye for proportions that look convincing.

Place a paper pattern on your lot to survey what looks good and fits with your structures. Experiment with shapes like kidney bean, circle, and rounded rectangle.

After cutting the pieces, use sandpaper to smooth them to your liking and add drain detail in the bottom if desired. When sizing the diving board, you have some wiggle room because

66 Classic Toy Trains • February 2018

residential pool diving boards vary in size from their Olympic counterparts.

If you prefer your diving board to taper a bit toward the end, you can achieve this with appropriate sanding.

Next, choose your paint. This is where you can really have fun showing off your ideal pool. I used blue and gray acrylic paints from a hobby shop.

For the diving board I mixed blue and green to get a minty fiberglass color. It's easier to paint all the pieces before gluing them in place.

To get a glossy water sheen, you can apply a clear coat of your preferred finish

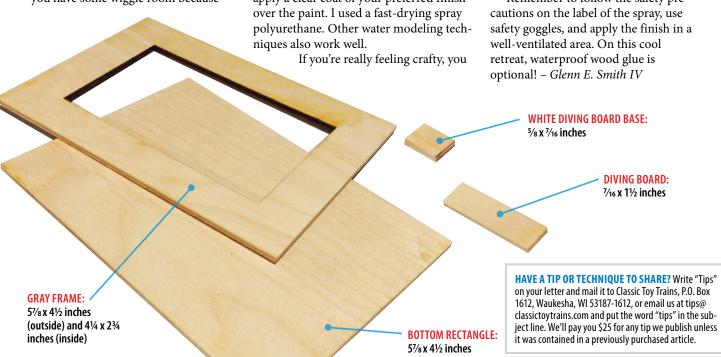
WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- 1/8 -inch-thick Baltic Birch plywood
- Coping saw or rotary cutting tools
- Paint, brushes
- Wood glue
- Small clamps or a heavy book to hold pieces together while they dry

Let the residents of Train Town cool off on a hot summer day by taking a dip in this easily made swimming pool.

can add stairs or a pool ladder.

Remember to follow the safety precautions on the label of the spray, use well-ventilated area. On this cool retreat, waterproof wood glue is optional! - Glenn E. Smith IV



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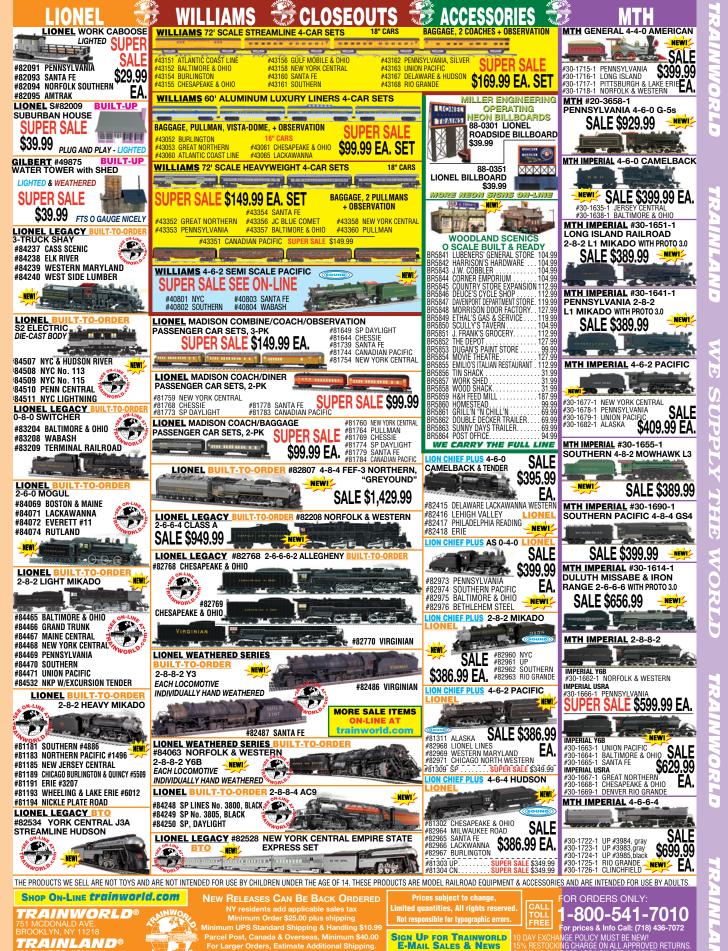






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