

HOW TO EASY LAYOUT PHOTO TOOL p.66

CLASSIC TOY TRAINS®

O AND S GAUGE FOR THE OPERATOR AND COLLECTOR

February 2020

**GO
BIG
WITH
STANDARD
GAUGE** p.42

**MARX GOES
LONGER** p.50

EXPERT ADVICE

50

GREAT IDEAS

TIPS FOR
IMPROVING
YOUR LAYOUT

p.26



INTERVIEW
HOBBY PUBLISHER
DON HEIMBURGER p.48

EXPLORE
S GAUGE SHOW
STOPPER p.52

ClassicToyTrains.com

**BONUS
ONLINE
CONTENT CODE**

— PAGE 3 —

Vol. 33 • Issue 2



NEW PEEL 'N' PLACE TUFTS™

Coming soon

- Ready to Peel 'n' Place right out of the package
- Position anywhere from meadows to railways
- Easy to use and repositionable



NEW FENCES

Six classic styles coming soon for N, HO and O scales

- Hand-painted and weathered
- Modular design for an easy installation
- 192 scale ft per fence



WOODLAND SCENICS®

woodlandscenics.com

Purchase from your local hobby store



LINEUP

February 2020 VOL. 33 NO. 2

[COVER STORY]

26 50 GREAT IDEAS!

Three fantastic modelers share tips on making your layout fun to run and attention grabbing.

BY ROGER CARP

Cover photo by Gordy Sauve

20 COLLECTIBLE CLASSICS American Flyer's no. 5655RH train set

The New Sunshine Special offering was all about color and variety.

BY ROGER CARP

34 Richie Rich gets a layout

Jack Halbleib's S gauge layout looks like it was built for the cartoon "Poor little rich boy."

BY ROGER CARP

40 MY GREATEST FIND Lessons gained

A friendship grows from the chance purchase of a Flyer set.

BY MARK SUEK

42 New chapter in Standard Gauge modeling

Reproductions invigorated Joseph Zarnowski's hobby interest.

BY ROGER CARP

48 Thank you Don Heimburger...

For boosting S gauge railroading for 57 years.

BY ROGER CARP

50 Marx goes longer with the 994 steam engine

The most impressive stamped-steel locomotive of postwar days.

BY GARY ANDERSON

52 Hail, hail, the gang's all here

A look at a landmark animated accessory by Gilbert.

BY ROGER CARP AND TED HAMLER

54 WEEKEND WORKSHOP Build a classic and compact layout

Have trains running in a weekend with this simple train table.

BY ERIC BEHEIM

IN EVERY ISSUE

4 Editor's Desk

6 Letters

8 Photo Album

14 News
MTH RailKing Alco C-630,
Woodland Scenics figures, a
digital guide to Marx trains,
and more!

17 Video Plus

22 Questions & Answers

24 Views From The
Underground

56 Reviews
Lionel LionChief ET44C4 loco-
motive, Menards National
Power & Light building,
Woodland Scenics windmills

65 Ad Index

66 Tips & Techniques

CTT ONLINE

SUBSCRIBERS have access
to more than 100 plans from our
Track Plan Database. Visit
www.ClassicToyTrains.com

It's the little things

CATCHING MY BREATH AFTER A WHIRLWIND MONTH

It's been a busy month or so since my start at *Classic Toy Trains*. There's lots to talk about, nothing huge but several things worth at least a short mention.

So, moving right along...

■ THE WELCOME WAGON

First, I'd like to welcome those of you who are former *S Gaugian* subscribers to the *Classic Toy Trains* family. We hope we can provide you with the American Flyer stories and photos that will make you feel at home with every issue. We also hope you enjoy everything else CTT has to offer.

There are some great S gauge features this month, including our Collectible Classics entry on page 20 focusing on American Flyer's no. 5655RH train set. It's aptly named the New Sunshine Special, something many of us could use more of this time of year.

Also be sure to check out Roger Carp's story on *S Gaugian* founder Don Heimburger on page 48. We wish Don the best



Good phone photos require plenty of light and a steady base.

in his retirement. The hobby is going to be a different place without him.

■ A TRIP TO YORK

I recently made my first trip to York, Pa., for the Train Collectors Association Eastern Division show.

I ran into many old friends and made some new ones. There seemed to be a lot of positive energy, too, wherever I roamed on the fairgrounds. Of course there was lots of buying and selling of new and used trains. The next time I go, I'll bring a

larger suitcase so maybe some of them can come home.

There were a lot of deals to be had no matter if you were a collector, a runner, or a little bit of both.

■ PHONING IT IN

About 20 years ago, I was involved in setting the standards at what was then Kalmbach Publishing Co. for submission and publication of digital photos in our magazines. Digital single-lens-reflex cameras were getting good; however, the cell phones of the time took photos that

were nowhere near publication quality.

Today, many smartphones have enough resolution to make photos that can make it into the magazine.

I offer some advice when shooting: Use enough light, and have something to steady your phone. Larry Roth's photo sled project on page 66 will help you with the latter.

Hal Miller, Editor

YOUR MAGAZINE TEAM



Editor
Hal Miller
hmiller@ClassicToyTrains.com



Managing Editor
Jeff Reich
jreich@Kalmbach.com



Senior Editor
Roger Carp
rcarp@ClassicToyTrains.com



Editorial Assistant
Rene Schweitzer
rschweitzer@Kalmbach.com



Copy Editor
Steve Otte
sotte@Kalmbach.com



Group Technical Editor
Cody Grivno
cgrivno@ModelRailroader.com



Contributing Editor
Bob Keller
editor@ClassicToyTrains.com



Design Director
Elizabeth Weber
lweber@Kalmbach.com

DO YOU HAVE A STORY?

Readers just like you provide stories featured in *Classic Toy Trains*. To submit an article and photos, send your work to *Classic Toy Trains* magazine, 21027 Crossroads Circle, P.O. Box 1612, Waukesha, WI 53187. Write the words "Manuscript Enclosed" on the envelope. Articles and photographs are paid for on acceptance.

We assume no responsibility for the safe return of unsolicited material. Send email submissions 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.

If you are a manufacturer or supplier and would like to see your products in our News or Reviews columns, please email **editor@classictoytrains.com**, or call 262-796-8776 for more information.

Classic Toy Trains assumes that letters, new product information, and other unsolicited materials are contributed gratis.



OUR MISSION

Classic Toy Trains is the indispensable source for toy train hobbyists. Our mission is to enhance our readers' enjoyment of the toy train hobby by publishing useful information and engaging insights about layouts, how-to projects, and hobby news and heritage.

William Zuback Photography Supervisor
Sue Hollinger-Klahn Production Specialist
Lori Schneider Ad Sales Manager
Martha Stanczak Ad Sales Representative
Mike Ferguson Ad Sales Representative

Trains.com

A. David Popp Executive Producer
Kent Johnson Producer

Kalmbach Media

Dan Hickey Chief Executive Officer
Christine Metcalf Senior Vice President, Finance
Nicole McGuire Senior Vice President, Consumer Marketing
Stephen C. George Vice President, Content
Brian J. Schmidt Vice President, Operations
Sarah A. Horner Vice President, Human Resources

David T. Sherman Senior Director, Advertising
Sales and Events

Scott Redmond Advertising Sales Director
Liz Runyon Circulation Director
Michael Soliday Director of Design and Production
Lisa A. Bergman Managing Design Director
Cathy Daniels New Business Manager
Kathy Steele Retention Manager
Kim Redmond Single Copy Specialist

NEED HELP?

For questions about new subscriptions, existing subscriptions, and magazine delivery, or to make an address change or purchase products, contact:
CUSTOMER SALES & SERVICE
Phone: 877-243-4903
Outside the US and Canada: 903-636-1125
Customer Service: customerservice@ClassicToyTrains.info

EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING

To contact our **editorial staff**, call us at 262-796-8776, fax us at 262-796-1142, or send an email to editor@ClassicToyTrains.com.
To contact our **advertising department**, call us at 888-558-1544, or send an email to adsales@ClassicToyTrains.com.

RETAIL QUESTIONS

Phone: 800-558-1544
Outside U.S. and Canada: 262-796-8776 Ext. 818
Fax: 262-798-6592
Email: tss@kalmbach.com
Web site: Retailers.Kalmbach.com
Outside the United States and Canada, call us at 262-796-8776.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

United States: 1 year \$39.95; 2 years \$74.95; 3 years \$106.95. **Canadian:** Add \$10.00 postage per year. All other international subscriptions: Add \$12.00 postage per year. Payable in U.S. funds, drawn on a U.S. bank (Canadian price includes GST) BN 12271 3209 RT.

© 2020 Kalmbach Media Co. Title registered as trademark. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.
Lionel and Gilbert catalog art reprinted with the permission of The Lionel Corporation.



SPRING THAW[®] TRAIN MEET

February 22 & 23, 2020 • Saturday 9-4 • Sunday 9-3
Train Races • Test Track • Switching and Operating Layouts

Adults **\$10.00** • Children under 12 **FREE!** w/adult
Allentown Fairgrounds Agricultural Hall

1925 West Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18104

Visit our website for more info or contact us at (610) 442-2859

www.allentowntrainmeet.com



Lionel Operating Train Society ^{40th Anniversary!}

Join LOTS today! Experience the Difference:



*The club for
O-gauge
operators!*

Switcher Magazine - still 6 times per year!

Limited Edition Lionel Cars - sold only to club members!

Exciting Conventions - Dayton, OH (July 5-11, 2020).

Lionel FasTrack Modular Layout - Great kid appeal.

Outstanding Website - includes "Track Changes".

Lionel Catalog Mailings - be among the 1st to see what's new.

Great Friendships and Operating Tips.

For membership info, visit www.lots-trains.org or call (513) 598-8240

The Serious Buyer

Travels anywhere to buy train collections!

Long time advertiser buying electric trains!
Specializing in larger train collections and estates.

I will travel **anywhere** for larger train collections.
In business for over **25 years.**
I offer professionalism, confidentiality, and fairness.

Easy to deal with, very honest!
Please contact me personally by phone, fax, letter, or e-mail.

Charles P. Siegel 321.799.4005

387 Imperial Blvd., Suite 2, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920 Fax 321.799.4044
Email: trainman@traincity.com Web site: www.traincity.com
Charles Siegel is president and buyer for Train City, Inc.



Stay up to date with *Classic Toy Trains'* **FREE e-mail newsletter!**

Our **FREE** biweekly e-mail newsletter delivers the latest hobby news right to your inbox!

Sign up now at ClassicToyTrains.com/newsletter. It's FREE!

Rest assured, your e-mail address is safe with us. We won't sell it, give it away, or otherwise violate your privacy.

LETTERS

FROM OUR READERS

K-LINE: JACK OF ALL TRADES

I loved Bob Keller's Modern Era Notes column on K-Line products ("K-Line: Jack of all trades," November 2019 *Classic Toy Trains*).

I have two K-Line 2-8-2 steam locomotives, one lettered for the Pennsylvania RR and the other for the Chesapeake & Ohio. I purchased both when they came onto the market. The detail and performance of these locomotives are both first class. It's amazing how many cars they can pull!

Richard Czech
Linden, N.J.

CHILDREN AND TRAINS

This is in response to Al Padeletti's question: "Putting the brakes on a child's O-27 train" (Questions & Answers, November issue).

A few years ago, I gave a Lionel

LionChief Thomas the Tank Engine to my 4-year-old grandson, and he had no problem with the remote-control operation of the train. As he grew older, I got him the Polar Express and then the LionChief 0-4-0 switch engine with couplers front and rear.

When my grandson was 6 or 7, he liked to pull flatcars loaded with model cars and trucks. Stop and go, load and unload, couple and uncouple — not just run the train in a circle. Two or three other children could participate.

They took the remote to the side of the track and played with the trains. I sat by the transformer. If speeds were excessive, I shut the power off.

A camera was also essential. Our favorite Christmas photos were taken when the kids were with the trains.

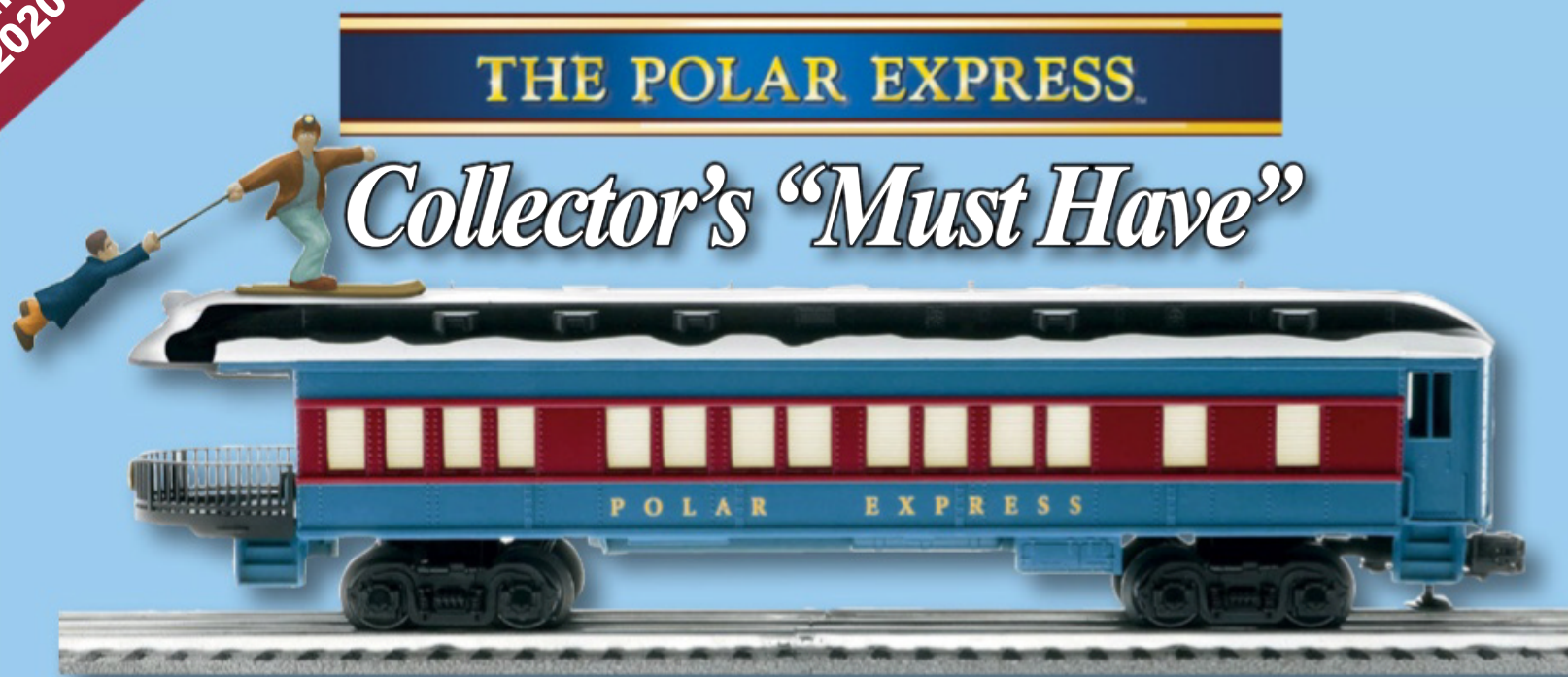
David Irwin
Tupelo, Miss.



Readers such as Richard Czech retain positive memories of the O gauge trains made by K-Line.

CORRECTION The caption written for Lew Schneider's picture in Photo Album on page 8 of the November 2019 issue misidentified the Lionel signals. They are no. 153 block signals. We regret the error.

50th LCCA
Convention in
Omaha July 2020



THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Skiing Hobo Observation Car, only from the LCCA

If you are not a member of the Lionel Collectors Club of America (LCCA), this deal is for you! Buy this exclusive Skiing Hobo Observation Car for \$95 and receive a year's membership free!

Membership Benefits

- Five free issues a year of the LCCA magazine – *The Lion Roars*
- Four free issues a year of the LCCA buy/sell magazine – *InterChange Track*
- Free access to the exclusive Lionel digital archives dating back to 1900
- Free access to the Members Only sections of the LCCA website

- Lionel product catalogs mailed to your door – Free
- Access to the annual LCCA national conventions
- Opportunities to buy other exclusive LCCA/Lionel products

To order, call the LCCA business office at 815-223-0115 during regular business hours. Current members can also order the Skiing Hobo Car and extend their membership one year by calling the business office.



LIONEL COLLECTORS CLUB of AMERICA
EST 1970

The Best Toy Train Club on the Planet!™
lionelcollectors.org

MENARDS.COM/TRAINS



Gondola Cars

279-4331	Santa Fe Gondola	\$19.99
279-4335	Union Pacific Gondola	\$19.99
279-4337	Pennsylvania Gondola	\$19.99
279-4339	Western Pacific Gondola	\$19.99
279-4341	Baltimore & Ohio Gondola	\$19.99
279-5241	Chicago & North Western	\$19.99
279-5243	Soo Line	\$19.99
279-5245	Milwaukee Road	\$19.99
279-5247	CSX	\$19.99
279-5249	New Haven	\$19.99
279-5251	U.S. Navy	\$19.99
279-4333	Military Gondola	\$19.99



Boxcars

279-4591	M&M's® (Silver)	\$19.99
279-4593	M&M's® (Yellow)	\$19.99
279-5331	Pennsylvania (Yellow)	\$19.99
279-5333	Virginian & Ohio	\$19.99
279-5335	New Haven	\$19.99
279-5337	Chicago & North Western (Green)	\$19.99
279-5339	Southern Pacific (Burgundy)	\$19.99
279-5341	Erie Lackawanna	\$19.99
279-5343	J. Shepherd & Sons	\$19.99
279-5345	Menards® (Green)	\$19.99
279-5253	Santa Fe Warbonnet w/ Silver Trucks	\$19.99
279-5255	CP Rail (Red)	\$19.99
279-5257	Great Northern (Red)	\$19.99
279-5259	Grand Trunk & Western	\$19.99
279-5261	Frisco (Yellow)	\$19.99
279-5263	Lehigh Valley	\$19.99
279-5265	Seaboard System	\$19.99
279-5267	Rio Grande	\$19.99
279-4542	Burlington	\$19.99
279-4544	Conrail	\$19.99
279-4546	Union Pacific (Burgundy)	\$19.99
279-4548	Southern Pacific (Silver)	\$19.99
279-4550	Reading (Green)	\$19.99
279-4552	Pennsylvania (Green)	\$19.99
279-4554	Minneapolis & St. Louis	\$19.99
279-4556	Menards® "Save Big Money"	\$19.99
279-4524	New Haven	\$19.99
279-4526	MKT The Katy	\$19.99
279-4528	Baltimore & Ohio (Silver)	\$19.99
279-4530	Milwaukee Road (Yellow)	\$19.99
279-4532	Santa Fe Grand Canyon	\$19.99
279-4534	Railway Express Agency	\$19.99
279-4536	New York Central (Black)	\$19.99
279-4538	Morton® Salt	\$19.99
279-4252	Illinois Central	\$19.99
279-4254	Baltimore & Ohio (Red)	\$19.99
279-4256	Chessie System (Yellow)	\$19.99
279-4260	Norfolk Southern (Gray)	\$19.99
279-4262	Norfolk and Western	\$19.99
279-3981	Southern Pacific	\$19.99
279-3983	The Rock	\$19.99
279-3985	Union Pacific	\$19.99
279-3884	Great Northern (Green)	\$19.99
279-3886	Western Pacific (Orange)	\$19.99
279-3814	Canadian Pacific (Green)	\$19.99
279-3816	Penn Central	\$19.99
279-3832	Great Northern (Blue)	\$19.99
279-3066	Alaska	\$19.99
279-3067	Chesapeake & Ohio	\$19.99
279-2626	Weathered Mississippi Export	\$24.99
279-4412	Weathered Santa Fe	\$24.99
279-4414	Weathered Baltimore & Ohio	\$24.99
279-4416	Weathered Frisco	\$24.99
279-4418	Weathered Milwaukee Road	\$24.99



Hopper Cars

279-4595	M&M's® Hopper	\$19.99
279-5281	Reading & Northern Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-5283	Norfolk and Western Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-5285	West Virginian Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-5287	Conrail Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-5289	Baltimore & Ohio Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-5291	Illinois Central Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-4572	CSX Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-4574	Erie Lackawanna Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-4576	Western Maryland Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-4578	Union Pacific Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-4580	Boston & Maine Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-4582	Soo Line Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-3045	Great Northern Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-3065	Alaska Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-3854	Burlington Northern Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-3855	Chessie System Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-3859	Reading Coal Hopper	\$19.99
279-5269	KC Southern Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-5271	Alberta Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-5273	Burlington Northern Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-5275	Soo Line Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-5277	Penn Central Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-5279	Delaware & Hudson Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-4560	Saskatchewan Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-4562	CNW Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-4564	Rio Grande Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-4566	Santa Fe Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-4568	NS Pennsylvania Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-4570	BNSF Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-3873	Northern Pacific Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-3874	Union Pacific Covered Hopper	\$19.99
279-3875	Western Pacific Covered Hopper	\$19.99



10-1/2" Flatcars

279-0710	Union Pacific with F150 and Barrel Load	\$19.99
279-2300	C.N.W. w/ Maintenance Truck	\$19.99
279-2301	B.N.S.F. w/ Maintenance Truck	\$19.99
279-2640	Santa Fe with Maintenance Truck	\$19.99
279-2641	Pennsylvania with Maintenance Truck	\$19.99
279-2642	Soo Line with Maintenance Truck	\$19.99
279-2643	Union Pacific with Maintenance Truck	\$19.99
279-2644	Wisconsin Central with Maintenance Truck	\$19.99
279-2653	Milwaukee Road with Maintenance Truck	\$19.99
279-2666	Pennsylvania with Pennsylvania Tractor	\$19.99
279-2667	Wisconsin Central with Wisc. Central Tractor	\$19.99
279-2668	B.N.S.F. with B.N.S.F. Tractor	\$19.99
279-3050	Union Pacific with Two U.P. Panel Trucks	\$24.99
279-3052	Soo Line with Two Soo Line Panel Trucks	\$24.99
279-3053	Santa Fe with Two Santa Fe Panel Trucks	\$24.99
279-3186	Chicago & North Western with Kubota Tractor	\$19.99
279-3995	Norfolk Southern with Pepsi® Bottle Truck	\$19.99
279-4516	Railway Express Agency with REA Panel Truck	\$19.99
279-3844	Lehigh Valley with Travel Bus	\$19.99



11-1/2" Flatcars

279-3178	Chesapeake & Ohio with Cement Truck	\$24.99
279-3436	Santa Fe with Shell Fuel Container	\$24.99
279-3437	Santa Fe with Shell Tanker	\$24.99
279-3444	New York Central w/ Mtn. Dew® Truck	\$24.99
279-3445	Rock Island with Kemps® Tanker	\$24.99
279-3476	Pennsylvania w/ Excavator - Lights & Sounds!	\$24.99
279-3560	MRS with Budweiser® Truck	\$24.99
279-3843	Southern Pacific w/ Bus - Lights & Sounds!	\$24.99
279-3435	Canadian Pacific with Lumber Load	\$29.99
279-3433	C&O Flatcar w/ Lit Goodyear Truck - Lights!	\$29.99
279-3446	A.T.S.F. Flatcar w/ Lit Stake Truck - Lights!	\$29.99



14-3/4" Flatcars

279-3057	Chicago & North Western (No Load)	\$29.99
279-3059	B.N.S.F. (No Load)	\$29.99
279-3060	Alaska (No Load)	\$29.99
279-4386	Santa Fe (No Load)	\$29.99
279-3074	Alaska with Dump Truck	\$34.99
279-3075	Alaska with Cement Truck	\$34.99
279-3076	Alaska with Excavator	\$34.99
279-3876	Santa Fe with Shell Fuel Truck	\$39.99
279-3167	Pennsylvania with Wire Spools	\$39.99



Specialty Cars

279-3688	TTX Container Car w/ 2 Yang Ming Containers	\$49.99
279-3912	Bi-Level Auto Carrier with 6 Cars	\$49.99



Military Rolling Stock

279-4588	Air Force Tank Car	\$19.99
279-4314	Military Tank Car (Camouflage)	\$19.99
279-4333	Military Gondola	\$19.99
279-5243	Navy Gondola	\$19.99
279-3850	Old Crow Express Commemorative Boxcar	\$24.99
279-3991	Diabolical Angel Commemorative Boxcar	\$24.99
279-3993	In the Mood Commemorative Boxcar	\$24.99
279-4442	Heavenly Body Commemorative Boxcar	\$24.99
279-4444	Yellow Rose Commemorative Boxcar	\$24.99
279-4446	Victory Girl Commemorative Boxcar	\$24.99
279-4448	Hard to Get Commemorative Boxcar	\$24.99
279-3093	10-1/2" Flatcar with Support Our Troops Trailer	\$19.99
279-3380	10-1/2" Flatcar with 2 Jeeps	\$19.99
279-3449	10-1/2" Flatcar with Military Van	\$19.99
279-3473	10-1/2" Flatcar with Truck & Missile	\$19.99
279-3474	10-1/2" Flatcar with Truck & Gun	\$19.99
279-3475	10-1/2" Flatcar with Cargo Truck	\$19.99
279-3478	10-1/2" Flatcar with Tarp-Covered Load	\$19.99
279-3962	10-1/2" Flatcar with Truck & Machine Gun	\$19.99
279-3964	10-1/2" Flatcar with HIMARS	\$19.99
279-3966	10-1/2" Flatcar with Semi Tractor	\$19.99
279-4484	10-1/2" Flatcar with Helicopter	\$19.99
279-4486	10-1/2" Flatcar with Tank	\$19.99
279-4488	10-1/2" Flatcar with Ambulance	\$19.99
279-4490	10-1/2" Air Force Flatcar with Rockets	\$19.99
279-7847	10-1/2" Flatcar with Pickup and Shells	\$24.99
279-3187	11-1/2" Air Force Flatcar with Fuel Container	\$24.99
279-3384	11-1/2" Flatcar with Half Track	\$29.99
279-3448	11-1/2" Navy Flatcar with Fuel Container & Van	\$29.99
279-3989	11-1/2" Flatcar with Leopard Tank	\$29.99
279-3089	14-3/4" Flatcar with Military Helicopter	\$39.99
279-3996	14-3/4" Coast Guard Flatcar with Helicopter	\$39.99
279-3398	14-3/4" Navy Flatcar with Seahawk Helicopter	\$39.99
279-3568	14-3/4" Flatcar with Wood Deck (No Load)	\$29.99
279-3691	14-3/4" Generator Car w/ Floodlights - Lights	\$39.99



Tank Cars

279-4310	Santa Fe Single-Dome	\$19.99
279-4312	Frisco Single-Dome	\$19.99
279-4314	Military Single-Dome	\$19.99
279-4316	Weathered Valvoline® Single-Dome	\$19.99
279-4318	NS Pennsylvania Single-Dome	\$19.99
279-4320	Australian Gold® Single-Dome	\$19.99
279-4584	UTLX Single-Dome	\$19.99
279-4586	BNSF Single-Dome	\$19.99
279-4588	Air Force Single-Dome	\$19.99
279-2679	Quaker State Tank Car Three-Dome	\$19.99
279-2680	Great Northern Three-Dome	\$19.99
279-2681	Wisconsin Central Three-Dome	\$19.99
279-3049	Chicago & North Western Three-Dome	\$19.99
279-3064	Alaska Three-Dome	\$19.99
279-3952	CSX Three-Dome	\$19.99
279-3954	Milwaukee Road Three-Dome	\$19.99
279-3960	Union Pacific Three-Dome	\$19.99



Lighted Caboosees

279-4378	Pennsylvania - Lights!	\$24.99
279-4380	Milwaukee Road - Lights!	\$24.99



0 Scale Structures

279-2674	Military Field Hospital	\$29.99
279-3987	Dave's Garage	\$29.99
279-3389	Chippewa Valley Farm Supply	\$69.99
279-4177	Lighted 24" Dual Track Train Bridge	\$79.99
279-4325	Starbucks® Coffee Shop	\$79.99
279-4435	Fire-Damaged Engine House	\$79.99
279-4436	Menardsville Train Station	\$79.99
279-4434	American Materials Plant	\$79.99
279-4405	Duplex Building	\$79.99
279-4431	Wally's Service Station	\$89.99
279-4430	Red Barn	\$89.99
279-4451	Taco Bell® Restaurant	\$89.99
279-4425	American Materials Plant #2	\$89.99
279-4426	Piggly Wiggly® Grocery Store	\$99.99
279-4032	Sally's Restoration Shop	\$99.99
279-4435	One Police Plaza	\$99.99
279-4494	J. Shepherd Dog Food Factory	\$99.99
279-4439	UFO Scene	\$99.99
279-4433	Oak Point Nuclear Facility	\$99.99
279-4033	Bus Maintenance Facility	\$99.99
279-3971	Watkins City Block	\$99.99
279-3860	Pepsi® Bottling Plant	\$99.99
279-3848	Fire Station No.12	\$99.99
279-3847	Morton® Salt Factory	\$99.99
279-3472	Red Owl® Grocery Store	\$99.99
279-4452	Multi-Sign/Purpose Building	\$99.99
279-4493	Sprecher's Brewery	\$99.99
279-4844	National Power & Light	\$109.99
279-4427	County Hotel by Menards	\$109.99
279-4428	Gamer & Thrones	\$109.99
279-4324	Vetter Sash & Door Co.	\$119.99
279-3972	World Headquarters	\$119.99
279-3973	York Hotel	\$119.99
279-4392	Parking Garage	\$119.99
279-4432	Tampa Towers	\$129.99



0 Scale Die-Cast

279-5881	1:48 1953 Ford® Red	\$2.99
279-5882	1:48 1953 Ford® Police	\$2.99
279-5883	1:48 1953 Ford® Two-Tone Ivory/Red	\$2.99
279-5885	1:48 1953 Ford® Menards®	\$2.99
279-5886	1:48 1953 Ford® Yellow	\$2.99
279-4478	1:48 Menards® Rental Van	\$2.99
279-3541	1:43 F-150 Electric Eddie Truck	\$6.99
279-3543	1:43 F-150 Shell Truck	\$6.99
279-3555	1:43 F-150 Mountain Dew® Truck	\$6.99
279-3556	1:43 F-150 Chippewa Valley Farm Supply Truck	\$6.99
279-3557	1:43 F-150 Valvoline® Truck	\$6.99
279-3500	1:48 Mountain Dew® Beverage Truck	\$9.99
279-3502	1:48 Goodyear® Stake Truck with Tires	\$9.99
279-4225	1:48 Military Jeep	\$9.99
279-4206	1:48 Menards® Stake Truck with Barrel Load	\$9.99
279-4208	1:48 Military Stake Truck with Shells	\$9.99
279-4212	1:48 Penske® Box Truck	\$9.99
279-4214	1:48 Jack Link's® Box Truck	\$9.99
279-4220	1:48 Military Flatbed Truck with Jeep	\$9.99
279-3796	1:48 Penske® Box Truck	\$14.99
279-2669	1:48 Santa Fe Box Truck	\$14.99
279-4221	1:48 Menards® Panel Truck	\$19.99
279-4222	1:48 Train House Panel Truck	\$19.99
279-4518	1:48 Railway Express Panel Truck	\$19.99
279-4226	1:48 Military Half Truck	\$19.99
279-4326	1:48 Ray's Ready Mix Cement Truck	\$19.99
279-4454	1:48 Santa Fe Box Truck	\$19.99
279-4455	1:48 Menards® Box Truck	\$19.99
279-4456	1:48 Morton® Box Truck	\$19.99
279-4457	1:48 Jack's Delivery Box Truck	\$19.99
279-4459	1:48 Park Ridge Dist. Box Truck	\$19.99
279-4461	1:48 Penske® Box Truck	\$19.99
279-4463	1:48 Starbucks® Box Truck	\$19.99
279-4463	1:48 Piggly Wiggly® Box Truck	\$19.99
279-3926	1:50 Compact Wheel Loader	\$19.99
279-3927	1:50 Caterpillar Excavator	\$19.99
279-3933	1:50 Water Tank Fire Engine	\$24.99
279-3934	1:50 Atego with Crane	\$24.99
279-3940	1:50 Single Drum Roller	\$24.99
279-3942	1:50 Dump Truck	\$24.99
279-3922	1:50 Aerial Platform Truck	\$29.99
279-3935	1:50 Log Transporter	\$29.99
279-3938	1:50 Backhoe Loader	\$29.99
279-3939	1:50 Four Wheel Loader	\$29.99
279-3931	1:50 Forklift Loader	\$29.99
279-3932	1:50 Aerial Fire Engine	\$29.99
279-3929	1:50 Low Loader with Excavator	\$34.99
279-4232	1:50 Container Handler	\$39.99
279-3920	1:55 Mega Crane	\$39.99
279-4327	1:55 Ray's Ready Mix Concrete Pump Truck	\$49.99
279-3941	1:55 Concrete Pump Truck	\$49.99

PHOTO ALBUM

YOUR PICTURES



▲ JIM BARRETT'S O GAUGE LAYOUT

Time to see how much you know about toy trains. Take a look at the picture Mark Horne shot on Jim Barrett's O gauge layout in Coquitlam, B.C. Now start listing all the different American toy train manufacturers represented in this part of Jim's eclectic display. The Burlington Zephyr streamlined train in the foreground came from the American Flyer Mfg. Co. It's running beneath a signal bridge from the Junior Bridge Co. Elsewhere are items from Department 56, Lionel, Louis Marx & Co., and who knows what else!



▲ **BOB NORTHINGTON'S STANDARD GAUGE LAYOUT**

You hear a lot of worry and consternation from current hobbyists that the next generation won't care about prewar or postwar toy trains. Well, Bob Northington set out to do something about that dilemma. He figured the best place to start was at his home in Lees Summit, Mo., during the holiday season, when his grandson was certain to visit. Bob showed the little fellow how to operate a train on his Standard gauge layout and then watched him have a ball. Looks as though we have a future reader of *Classic Toy Trains*.

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

PLEASE SEND your best pictures to CTT Photo Album, 21027 Crossroads Circle, Waukesha, WI 53187-1612 or email them to photoalbum@ClassicToyTrains.com. Digital photos must be taken with the camera set at the largest-possible file size. Include your name, address, and daytime telephone number; a description of each image; and the name of the photographer or layout owner. If your photo is published, we will pay you \$50 as long as we have not previously bought the photo.

For more on photos specs, please go to www.ClassicToyTrains.com/SubmissionGuidelines.

PHOTO ALBUM



▲ TIM MURPHY'S O GAUGE LAYOUT

Forget about the stark look and power of steam-driven motive power – at least whenever you're visiting Spokane, Wash., and ask Tim Murphy if you can run trains on his O gauge railroad. He's an unabashedly proud supporter of diesels of every generation and color scheme. These modern-day thoroughbreds are handling three long freight consists on the different levels of his compact layout, which appears much larger thanks to the mountain scenery and the photo backdrops Tim ingeniously added.



▲ BOB DAVIS' S GAUGE LAYOUT

Sharing the wonderful world longtime S gauger Bob Davis created using postwar American Flyer trains and accessories and their contemporary descendants was a highlight of the May 2018 issue of *Classic Toy Trains*. Why not return to his layout in Lyme, Conn., and show off another scene? Bob operates a Union Pacific passenger train near his current and vintage structures and figures.



◀ JACK CONLON'S O GAUGE LAYOUT

Almost 15 years have gone by since I twisted and contorted my body to squeeze up the ladder leading to Jack Conlon's attic in Burlington, Mass. But as readers of the December 2005 issue of *Classic Toy Trains* will remember, the journey was worth it. A terrific tribute to Lionel trains of the postwar era awaited me as I ran trains on Jack's 10½ x 31½ -foot O gauge railroad. Jack's friend Nick Cioffi recently made the same ascent with a camera in hand. He snapped one of Jack's favorites, a no. 2245 *Texas Special* F3 A-B duo as it tore past.

Time for a new era?

LET'S THINK BEYOND "MODERN ERA"

This hobby is organized fairly simply: Prewar, Postwar, and Modern eras. You know what sort of products to expect in each category.

This may be getting a little dated.

The Modern Era covers 50 years worth of trains. There are operators and collectors who give little attention to Prewar or Postwar trains and they would snub MPC-era gear. Why? Things have been radically changing for nearly a quarter-century. We may be living in the era of the best, most realistic, and most entertaining toy trains ever. This is where the action is.

Take the LTI Commodore Vanderbilt. It was huge. The shell may have been the largest O gauge die-cast metal product of its time. It offered Lionel TrainMaster and RailSounds system and the classic Pullmor motor. It was an audacious product, and it

was as dissimilar from any postwar Lionel product as possible.

Twenty years down the road, the Commodore Vanderbilt is as distant from a steam locomotive made in 2019 as it is from my postwar no. 671 Turbine. Today's can-style motors, command-control systems, operating couplers, steam and whistle controls, and array of undreamed-of sound features have changed it all.

You say Prewar or Postwar and you know what you get. You say Modern Era and you may get a product similar to one built in 1962 or find a locomotive with steam coming from the steam chests and the whistle! The term Modern Era has ceased to draw a line between trains made in Lionel's New Jersey plant, and those made in the U.S. and around the world.



The difference? Five decades of train production with evolving technology and methods of manufacturing. There are better motors, more sophisticated speed controls, and a wider assortment of options than ever offered in O gauge.

I used to say I was a conventional kind of guy. I'd use TrainMaster or Digital Command System, but at home I did it Old School. But everything has changed. Technology has leaped over the multi-button TV-or-satellite-remote phase of train control and evolved to graphic interfaces that satisfy 75 percent of operators.

In short, I like to run my trains from an iPad or a smart phone. Whether using MTH's Wi-Fi interface or Lionel's Bluetooth app, this signifies where we are today. The changing technology creates an entirely new operating environment. **CTT**

ROSS CUSTOM SWITCHES
HI-RAIL TRACK
RCS
TRAINS - ACCESSORIES
ESTABLISHED IN 1972

SWITCHES & TRACK

for all 3 Rail O Gauge & O27 Trains
Demand them from your dealer or call us direct!
Visit us at: www.rossswitches.com

A sampling of some of our neat specialty switches.
All now available remote control ready to run!

#175

#170

4 WAY

#171

4 WAY YARD SET

*Featuring
ALL WOOD TIES
and STEEL RAIL!*

*All RCS
Products
are Proudly
Hand Made
in the USA*

*Also
Available
DZ1000 lighted
switch machine
and controllers
Not Shown*

Ross Custom Switches

1-800-331-1395 CALL FOR FREE COLOR CATALOG



Charles Ro Supply Company

662 CROSS STREET • MALDEN • MA 02148

Customer Service Line: 781-321-0090 • Fax: 781-321-6459

For Orders: 1-800-225-4424 (4425) Toll Free Fax: 1-800-287-0090

www.charlesro.com

Prices Are Subject To Change Without Notice And Are Valid For Mail Order Only



CHARLES RO CELEBRATES 48 YEARS AS THE WORLD'S LARGEST LIONEL DEALER

LIONEL LionChief™ Remote Control Sets

LionChief Remote Control System with Smoke & RailSounds

LIONCHIEF REMOTE CONTROL TRAIN SETS

L1923130	Polar Express Trolley Set w/Track & Power Pk.	\$144.95
L83510	Thomas & Friends LionChief Set w/Bluetooth	149.95
L1823010	Thomas & Friends "Percy" LionChief Set	149.95
L1823020	Thomas & Friends "James" LionChief Set	149.95
L83984	Pennsy Flyer 0-8-0 LionChief Set w/Bluetooth	224.95
L82982	The Christmas Express LionChief Set	229.95
L1923040	Union Pacific Flyer LionChief Set	239.99
L1923020	New York Central Flyer 0-8-0 LionChief Set	279.99
L83979	Mickey & Friends Express LionChief Set w/BT	279.95
L1923150	Winter Wonderland LionChief Set	239.99
L1823050	Mickey "The True Original" LionChief Set BLOWOUT	249.00
L1923140	Disney Christmas LionChief Set	279.99
L2023010	Strasburg Railroad Remote Set	295.99
L1923070	Blue Comet LionChief Set	295.99
L1923090	Lehigh Valley U36B LionChief Set	263.99
L1923050	NS Modern Freight Tier 4 LionChief Set	319.99
L2023020	Shark Research & Rescue GP38 LionChief Set	319.99
L84754	Anheuser-Busch Clydesdale LionChief Set w/BT	335.99
L83972	Hogwarts Express LionChief Set w/Bluetooth	335.99
L1923030	Polar Express 15th Anniversary Set w/BT	359.99
L83964	Mickey's Holiday to Remember LionChief Set w/BT	335.99
L84719	Santa Fe Super Chief LionChief Set w/BT	343.99

THE POLAR EXPRESS™

L84328	Polar Express Passenger Set w/Bluetooth	\$299.95
L1923030	Polar Express 15th Anniversary Set w/BT	359.99
L84600	Polar Express Combination Car	53.95
L84601	Polar Express Letters to Santa Mail Car	53.95
L84602	Polar Express Disappearing Hobo Car	57.95
L84603	Polar Express Hot Chocolate Car	53.95
L84604	Polar Express Diner	53.95
L84605	Polar Express Baggage Car	53.95
L83437	Polar Exp. LionChief Announcement Coach SALE	59.95
L1928430	Polar Express Barrel Car	57.95
L1928400	Hero Boy Operating Walking Brakeman Car	71.95
L1928410	Polar Express Operating Reindeer Stock Car	57.95
L1928420	Polar Express Operating Searchlight Car	50.95
L1929050	Polar Express Barrel Loader	50.95
L1929060	Polar Express Station Platform	42.95
L82735	Polar Express Conductor Gateman (PP)	93.95
L85410	Polar Express Hero Boy's House (PP)	69.95

LIONCHIEF® STEAM LOCOMOTIVES

L1932120	Great Northern LionChief 2-4-2 Steam	\$179.99
L1932130	Pennsylvania LionChief 2-4-2 Steam	179.99
L1932140	Santa Fe LionChief 2-4-2 Steam	179.99
L1932150	Southern LionChief 2-4-2 Steam	179.99
L2032020	Brooklyn Eastern District Terminal LC2 0-6-OT	224.99
L2032030	Bethlehem Steel LC2 0-6-OT #76	224.99
L2032050	Pennsylvania LC2 0-6-OT #2295	224.99
L1932030	Nickel Plate LC2 Berkshire #765	449.99
L1932050	Southern LC2 Berkshire #2716	449.99
L1932080	Disney LC2 Berkshire	472.99
L1932090	Polar Express LC2 Berkshire	472.99
L1932162	UP LC2 LionMaster Big Boy #4014	1079.99
L1932170	UP Greyhound LC2 LionMaster Big Boy #4000	1079.99

LIONCHIEF® DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES

L1934050	Burlington Northern LionChief RS-3	\$179.99
L1934060	Central of New Jersey LionChief RS-3	179.99
L1934070	Delaware Lackawanna LionChief RS-3	179.99
L1934080	Union Pacific LionChief RS-3	179.99
L2034091	UP LionMaster LC2 SD90MAC #8025	404.99
L2034020	Pennsy LC2 GG1 #4877 Tuscan 5 Stripe	449.99
L1934011	BNSF LC2 ET44AC #3738	359.99
L1934021	CSX LC2 ET44AC #3277	359.99
L1934031	Norfolk Southern LC2 ET44AC #3600	359.99
L1934041	Union Pacific LC2 ET44AC #2645	359.99
L1934090	Santa Fe LC2 FT AA Set	494.99
L1934098	Santa Fe LC2 FT B Unit	269.99
L1934120	Texas Special LC2 FT AA Set	494.99
L1934128	Texas Special LC2 FT B Unit	269.99

Prices are subject to change without notice. Not responsible for typographical errors.
©Copyright Charles Ro Supply Co. 2020

www.charlesro.com

ROLLING STOCK

L84608	Smithsonian - Southern 1401 Boxcar	\$60.95
L84612	Coca-Cola Vintage Pin Up Girls Boxcar	60.95
L84666	Battle for Guadalcanal Boxcar	60.95
L84678	Peanuts Comic Art - Winter Boxcar	64.95
L84894	Pennsy #497310 (Stores) X31 Boxcar	57.95
L85401	UP LED Flag Boxcar (Yellow/Gray) #1862	86.95
L85408	UP/1943 Spirit of UP LED Flag Boxcar	86.95
L85409	UP/Steam Program LED Flag Boxcar #4-8-8-4	86.95
L1926012	CSX 4 Dr HC 86" Boxcar #181056 (Boxcar logo)	71.95
L1926443	Santa Fe El Capitan 50' DD Boxcar #10350	57.95
L1926670	SP Overnight Frt. Sounds PS-1 Boxcar #97945	99.95
L1926680	Susquehanna Frt. Sounds PS-1 Boxcar #501	99.95
L1928640	Thomas the Tank Engine Boxcar	53.95
L1938040	Transcontinental Jupiter Boxcar	60.95
L1938100	PEZ® Vintage Boxcar (Made in USA)	60.95
L1938130	Road Runner Boxcar (Made in USA)	64.95
L1938210	Kiss the War Goodbye Boxcar (Made in USA)	60.95
L1938280	Wings of Angels - Brunette Made in USA	60.95
L1938370	Transcontinental Union Pacific 119 Boxcar	60.95
L85247	Clydesdales Reefer	57.95
L1928210	Anheuser-Busch Malt Tonics Reefer	57.95
L1928220	1980's Anheuser-Busch Reefer	57.95
L1928260	Miller Reefer - MillerCoors®	57.95
L1928270	Coors Reefer - MillerCoors®	57.95
L82447	Sheriff & Outlaw Stock Car	57.95
L84760	Daisy Duck Tank Car	53.95
L85089	ADM 30K Tankcar w/EOT #29252	86.95
L85111	Tank Train 2 Packs w/ EOT - Simplified	144.95
L85139	Tank Train Intermediate Car #2 - Simplified	64.95
L1926131	Pennsylvania Bunk Car #498393	71.95
L1926800	TILX (White) 30K Tank Car 3-Pack	179.95
L1928680	Union Pacific Uni-body Tank Car	50.95
L84010	Union Pacific Rotary Gondolas 4-Pack	199.95
L85099	Ready Mixed Concrete PS-2 Covered Hopper	54.95
L1928150	Reading Hopper 6-Pack	119.95
L1928160	Bethlehem Steel Ore Car 6-Pack	119.95
L1928180	Erie Mining Ore Car 6-Pack	107.95
L84854	TTX #56210 Husky Stack	94.95
L84872	Pennsy #469615 50' Flat w/40' PRRZ Trailer	85.95
L84876	Union Pacific #53017 50' Flat w/40' UPZ Trailer	85.95
L84910	CSX Scale Autorack #156256	86.95
L1926401	Rio Grande 50' Bulkhead Flatcar #22392	71.95
L1926550	Ely Thomas Skeleton Log Car 2 Pack B	107.95
L1926721	Pennsy 40' Flatcar w/Sherman Tank #925148	94.95
L1926751	US Army 40' Flatcar w/Sherman Tank #35351	94.95
L1928011	Burlington Northern Autorack #159173	57.95
L1928350	John Deere Flatcar w/Piggybacks	60.95
L1928530	CSX Maxi Stack	57.95
L1928570	Bat Symbol Searchlight Car	50.95
L1928580	Jokers Laughing Gas Missile Car	64.95
L1928610	GM Motors® Chevy Auto Rack	60.95
L84130	Burlington Northern Wide Vision Caboose	68.95
L1926492	Union Pacific CA-4 Caboose #3830	71.95
L1926900	C&O CupolaCam Wide Vision Caboose #3160	94.95
L1926960	Lionel Lines CupolaCam Wide Vision Caboose	94.95
L2026200	B&O #C2428 I12 Caboose	79.95

FaStrack™

LIONEL FASTRACK O GAUGE TRACK & SWITCHES

L12014	Straight Track (10")	\$4.60
L12015	O36 Curve Track (8 make a circle)	4.60

TRACK DEAL

L12015C 8 Pieces of L12015 O36 Curve Track (full circle) 27.95

L12017	O36 Manual Switch (Left Hand)	37.95
L12018	O36 Manual Switch (Right Hand)	37.95
L12042	30" Straight Track (min. order 10 pcs.)	14.95
	Case of 24	329.95
L12043	O48 Curve Track (12 make a circle)	4.95
L12056	O60 Curve Track (16 make a circle)	6.30
L12041	O72 Curve Track (16 make a circle)	6.30
L12061	O84 Curve Track (32 make a circle)	6.30
L12052	RR Crossing w/Flashers & Snd. (Upgraded) (10")	77.95
L12062	Grade Crossing w/Gate & Flashers	134.95
L81946	O36 Remote / Command Control RH Switch	82.95
L81947	O36 Remote / Command Control LH Switch	82.95
L81950	O60 Remote / Command Control RH Switch	89.95
L81951	O60 Remote / Command Control LH Switch	89.95
L81952	O72 Remote / Command Control RH Switch	89.95
L81953	O72 Remote / Command Control LH Switch	89.95

See our
Web Site for
Complete
Listing

AF AMERICAN FLYER S-Gauge THE POLAR EXPRESS



AF44039

AMERICAN FLYER "THE POLAR EXPRESS" S GAUGE

AF44039	The Polar Express FlyerChief Remote Set	\$399.95
AF44130	The Polar Express Baggage Car	57.95
AF44131	The Polar Express Hot Chocolate Car	57.95
AF44132	The Polar Express Add-On Coach	57.95
AF49882	The Polar Express Girder Bridge	SALE 12.95



AF44021



FLYERCHIEF BERKSHIRE STEAM LOCOMOTIVES

AF44020	Nickel Plate #756 FlyerChief Berkshire	\$332.99
AF44021	Nickel Plate #759 FlyerChief Berkshire	332.99
AF44022	Pere Marquette #1225 FlyerChief Berkshire	332.99
AF44023	Pere Marquette #1223 FlyerChief Berkshire	332.99
AF44024	Erie Flyer #3362 FlyerChief Berkshire	332.99
AF44025	C&O #2696 FlyerChief Berkshire	332.99
AF44026	Southern #2716 FlyerChief Berkshire	332.99

AMERICAN FLYER LEGACY DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES

AF1921080	CSX SD70ACe #4849	\$539.99
AF1921130	UP SD70ACe #1943 Spirit of UP	539.99
AF1921191	Santa Fe U36C #8703	539.99
AF1921211	CSX U36C #7281	539.99
AF1921221	Milwaukee Road U36C #5802	539.99
AF1921011	Santa Fe U33C #8500	539.99
AF1921032	Conrail U33C #6572	539.99
AF1921052	Guilford U33C #654	539.99

AMERICAN FLYER ROLLING STOCK

AF1919052	TTX Autorack #710899	\$57.95
AF1919142	Texas Single Dome Tank Car #9925	43.95
AF1919331	B&O Cylindrical Hopper #836037	57.95
AF1919351	CSX Cylindrical Hopper #225370	57.95
AF1919361	Erie Lackawanna Cylindrical Hopper #20019	57.95
AF1919381	Union Pacific Cylindrical Hopper #21328	57.95
AF1919221	Henniss / B&O TOFC Flatcar #9129	46.95
AF1919251	Santa Fe TOFC Flatcar #92868	46.95
AF1919171	BN 3 Bay Covered Hopper #453021	46.95
AF1919191	Lehigh Valley 3 Bay Cvr. Hopper #50122	46.95
AF1919420	Gilbert Aquarium Car	71.95
AF44070	Atlantic Coast Line #20921 Boxcar	43.95
AF44079	Reading #113054 Boxcar	43.95
AF44084	MEC #29213 Waffle-Sided Boxcar	46.95
AF44086	Seaboard #80008 Waffle-Sided Boxcar	46.95
AF44090	B&O #727056 2-Bay Hopper	43.95
AF44100	New York Central #870048 2-Bay Hopper	43.95
AF44135	FGE #35205 Woodsided Reefer	46.95
AF44140	MDT #17200 Woodsided Reefer	46.95
AF44141	Great Northern #67582 Woodsided Reefer	46.95
AF47935	Norfolk Southern Auto Carrier #NS171265	53.95
AF47964	Norfolk Southern Gondola w/Containers	46.95
AF47972	Boston & Maine Cupola Caboose	SALE 43.95
AF47982	Chessie System Extended Vision Caboose	SALE 29.95
AF47985	REA Piggyback Flatcar w/Trailers	46.95
AF48831	Angela Trotta Circus Comes to Town Boxcar	50.95
AF48847	New York Federal Reserve Mint Car	SALE 24.95
AF48848	San Francisco Federal Reserve Mint Car	SALE 24.95

SHIPPING & HANDLING POLICY

Shipping charges will be charged based upon your total order and will be shipped VIA FedEx or UPS ground service in the Continental United States (except Alaska and Hawaii). The following rates apply:

TOTAL ORDER	SHIPPING CHARGE
Over \$1500.00	\$30.00
\$1000.00 to \$1500.00	\$25.00
\$500.00 to \$1000.00	\$15.00
\$75.00 to \$500.00	\$9.00
Under \$75.00	\$10.00

For orders that require multiple shipments, there will be a \$9.00 charge for each shipment made on your backorder. To minimize these charges shipments will be in \$75.00 increments. We reserve the right to ship orders in any number of shipments per order we desire. Any customer request to ship backorder under \$75.00 require an additional \$5.00 shipping charge. Mass. residence add 6.25% sales tax. 15% restocking charges on returns if not exchanged for items of equal value. No Returns after 10 days. No Returns of Books or Video's.

TOLL FREE FOR ORDERS 1-800-225-4424 • 1-800-225-4425 • FAX TOLL FREE 1-800-287-0090
SEND SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED 9" X 12" ENVELOPE (with \$1.87 postage) FOR OUR "O" GAUGE PRICE LIST

PRODUCT NEWS

WITH THE CTT STAFF



I'M A KING BEE: The RailKing Alco C-630 diesel-electric locomotive from MTH Electric Trains features a metal frame, a pair of flywheel-equipped motors, ProtoSmoke exhaust, and ProtoCouplers at both ends. The new scale-proportioned no. 30-20664 O gauge locomotive is decorated in the Reading Lines "Bee Line Service" paint scheme and costs \$369.95. See your MTH retailer or go to www.MTHtrains.com for more information.



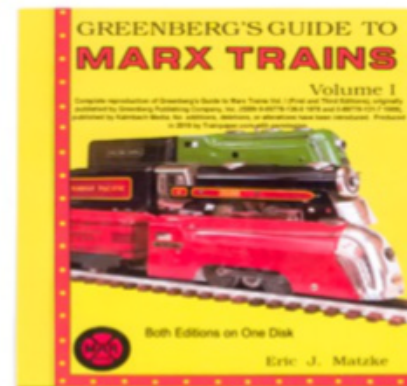
PLENTY OF PEOPLE:

Woodland Scenics, P.O. Box 98, Linn Creek, MO 65052 has added two O scale figure sets to its Scenic Accents line. The no. A2740 Newsstand contains eight pieces (four figures and four accessories) while the no. A2722 Train Personnel comes with eight pieces (six figures and two accessories). The figure sets are priced at \$24.99 each. See your local retailer or visit www.woodlandscenics.com



BOXCAR BLISS: Menards has expanded its growing roster of O gauge freight cars with a pair of boxcars. The nos. 279-5341 Erie Lackawanna and 279-5343 J. Shepherd & Sons have, among other features, sliding doors and are listed at \$19.99 each plus shipping. You can also select free shipping to a local Menards store. Order at www.menards.com/trains

MARX MASTERS: Lovers of Marx trains will be pleased to learn about the Marx Trains Digital Library, a series of DVDs available from Bob Osterhoff. *Greenberg's Guide to Marx Trains – Volume 1* provides both editions of the guide to Marx prewar and postwar locomotives and rolling stock and is priced at \$20. *Greenberg's Guide to Marx Trains – Volume 3* focuses on prewar and postwar sets and is priced at \$18. Shipping for either DVD is \$3.50. Order from Bob Osterhoff, 1622 Garden Valley Dr., Wildwood, MO 63038; 636-458-3659; email is bob@trainpaper.com. For more information, go to www.trainpaper.com



Don't Sell Your
TRAIN COLLECTION
Without An Offer From

TRAINZ

We are looking to purchase O and S scale collections all over the USA. Trainz.com will make selling your collection easy. Read more about how our cash sale and auction options work at www.trainz.com/ctt
Contact us today at sellyourtrains@trainz.com
or at 866-285-5840

YES! Help Me Sell
My Train Collection

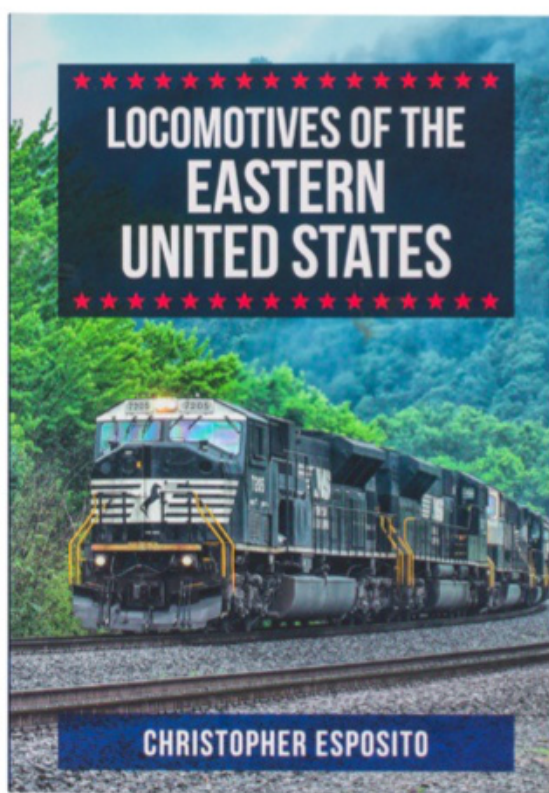
www.trainz.com/ctt

866-285-5840
(Fax) 1-866-935-9504

Looking for one of the
greatest selections of
new & previously owned
trains in all scales?

Check out our website at
Trainz.com
and especially our
auction site at
trainzauctions.com

PRODUCT NEWS



DIESELS AHOY!

Christopher Esposito, whose realistic and toy-like O gauge layouts have been showcased in *Classic Toy Trains*, reveals another side in his new book, *Locomotives of the Eastern United States*. The 96-page softcover publication from Amberley Publishing will delight railfans and modelers alike with its dozens of full-color photos showing contemporary railroading (mostly Norfolk Southern) from Pennsylvania and New Jersey all the way down the Atlantic coast to South Carolina and Georgia. Priced at \$19.81 plus shipping, it's available from www.Amazon.com

WANT TO SUBMIT A PRODUCT? Send complete ordering information and a large, hi-res photo file to hmillers@kalmbach.com or on a CD by mail to Hal Miller, *Classic Toy Trains* magazine, P.O. Box 1612, Waukesha, WI 53187-1612.



MERRY ANNIVERSARY: TM Books & Video is celebrating its 45th anniversary. To mark the occasion, it has put the finishing touches on its 12th Christmas video. *Toy Train Winter Wonderland* has everything, including holiday-themed layouts, Polar Express sets, and Christmas music. The 51-minute-long DVD is priced at \$14.99 plus shipping and can be ordered from TM Books & Video, P.O. Box 9228 Michigan City, IN 46361; 800-892-2822.



HAUL MORE COAL:

These O gauge hoppers will handle your coal in style. Menards has released two new road names: the nos. 279-5289 Baltimore & Ohio and 279-5291 Illinois Central Gulf. Each hopper has a simulated coal load and features metal wheels and operating couplers. They're priced at \$19.99 each, plus shipping, or select free shipping to a local Menards store. Order at www.menards.com/trains

Visit the Canadian Pacific

GO BEHIND THE SCENES WITH
KENT JOHNSON

One of the questions we often receive here at *Classic Toy Trains* is, "Do you have a layout?" For someone like Kent Johnson, former *CTT* staffer and current MR Video Plus Producer, the answer is a knock-your-socks off "Yes!"

A subscription to MR Video Plus gives you behind-the-scenes looks at layouts you won't see anywhere else, including Kent's own O scale Canadian Pacific. This 14 x 48-foot line features scenes from modern-day western Canada, both rural and urban.

Kent begins with an overview of the layout, the towns and locations he models, and a few of the scenery highlights. As he narrates, he interjects modeling ideas you

can use for your own layout. Many of his suggestions use common products (electrical tape and even LEGO bricks) but they look great.

While taking a ride around Kent's 3-rail layout, be sure to turn up the volume, because his locomotives have realistic sound systems.

Go to MRVideoPlus.com/KJCP to see

this video. The layout is fantastic, and the narration is compelling. Best of all you get access to a layout from a Kalmbach employee. You'll certainly want to watch this one several times! **CTT**



Want helpful how-to videos?

With an Internet-enabled computer and a subscription to www.MRVideoPlus.com, you can view all videos 24/7/365! Plus, you'll also see all the other toy train videos in the MRVP library. Subscribe at MRVideoPlus.com/27deal



**AL & LIBBY RUDMAN
AND CREW**

301-475-5381 • FAX: 301-475-0337
40845 MERCHANT'S LANE
P. O. BOX 1707
LEONARDTOWN, MD 20650
Siderackhobbies@erols.com
www.siderackhobbies.com



- 48 YEAR ANNIVERSARY -

Siderack Hobbies started importing and selling LGB in February 1972. Since then Siderack has sold most every O Gauge and G Gauge train manufacturer. We are now concentrating on Lionel and MTH Tinplate. We want to thank all of our thousands and thousands of customers that have enjoyed our pricing structure to add trains to their train collection and hobby.

From all our many years of employee staff members, Julie, Jim, Dot, Jon, Pam, Nick, Angie, Ethan, Lara, Ben, Doug, Mike, Joe, Mark, Sam, John, Brandon, Bill, Jack, James, Sandra, Libby and Al. We appreciate your business and we want to thank you for having the confidence in Siderack Hobbies to deliver your trains at competitive prices. Siderack Hobbies is looking forward to 50 years.

Thank You.

NICHOLAS SMITH TRAINS

MODEL RAILROADING FOR ALL SEASONS®

VISIT OUR WEBSITE, or GIVE US A CALL

2343 West Chester Pike Broomall, PA 19008

Just 1 Minute off I-476 Exit 9

Feb. 2020 Classic Toy Trains Ad • 110 Years Selling Lionel

Prices Subject to Change Without Notice. Store Hours M,W,F 10-9 • T&TH 10-7 • Sat 10-5 • Sun 10-5 (Nov-Dec)

MIN. Order: \$30.00 -15% Restocking Fee on Returns

Product information (610) 353.8585

ORDERS ONLY: (800) 848.9119 • Fax (610) 359.9846

Most domestic orders will follow shipping schedule below*

\$0.00 - \$500.00 - \$13.00

\$500.01 - \$1100.00 - \$17.00

\$1100.01 - \$1500.00 - \$26.00

*Orders with Track, Power & Control Devices, **Sets**, Expansion Packs, Oversized Items, & **SALE ITEMS** will be charged Actual Shipping

No P.O. Box's, PA Residents Add 6% Sales Tax

Not responsible for typographical errors

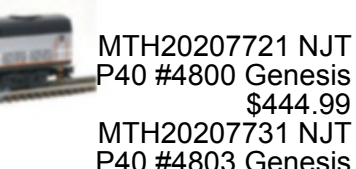
Lionel Legacy Locomotives

LIO682754 PC Vison GG1 #4828	\$1239.99
LIO682755 Amtrak Vison GG1 #926	\$1239.99
LIO6827XX 59/60 NS SD90MAC	\$543.99
LIO68279X 6/7 Conrail SD38	\$554.99
LIO68279X 8/9 DM&IR SD38	\$554.99
LIO68280X 2/3 PC SD38	\$554.99
LIO682808 UP FEF-3 #8444	\$1424.99
LIO682829 B&O E7 AA	\$849.99
LIO6831XX 98/99 Reading T1	\$1439.99
LIO68337X 2/3 Great Northern SD45	\$549.99
LIO683385 CSX NW2	\$449.99
LIO683392 Union Railroad NW 2	\$449.99
LIO683420 NS Veterans SD60E	\$400.00
LIO683421 NS Go Rail SD60E	\$400.00
LIO683422 NS First Responders	\$400.00
LIO68406X 4-6 Milwaukee Road S-3	\$1529.99
LIO684067 Milwaukee Road Fantasy S3	\$1529.99
LIO684068 DL&W S-3	\$1529.99
LIO684075 ACL E8 AA	\$899.99
LIO684081 Conrail E8 AA	\$899.99
LIO684084 EMD E8 A	\$584.99
LIO684088 NYC E8 AA	\$899.99
LIO684101 CSX SD70ACe #4843	\$549.99
LIO684102 EMDX SD70ACe #72	\$549.99
LIO684237 Cass Scenic 3 Truck Shay	\$1349.99
LIO684238 Elk River 3 Truck Shay	\$1349.99
LIO684240 West Side Lumber 3 Truck	\$1349.99
LIO684249 SP AC-9 #3805	\$1719.99
LIO684250 SP AC-9 Daylight	\$1719.99
LIO68426X 0/1 CSX SD40	\$584.99
LIO684263 PRR SD40 #6089	\$584.99
LIO68426X 4/5 Southern SD40	\$584.99
LIO68426X 8/9 Western Maryland SD40	\$584.99
LIO68427X 0/1 B&O GP9 Torpedo	\$494.99
LIO68427X 4/5 Milwaukee Road GP9	\$494.99
LIO68427X 6/7 NKP GP9 Torpedo	\$494.99
LIO68428X 0/1 Wabash GP9 Torpedo	\$494.99
LIO68428X 2/3 BN U33C	\$521.99
LIO68428X 4/5 D&H U33C	\$521.99
LIO68429X 2/3 PC U33C	\$521.99
LIO68440X 0/1 BN SD60M	\$544.99
LIO68440X 7/8 CSX SD60M	\$544.99
LIO684410 NS SD60M	\$544.99
LIO684508 NYC S2 Electric #113	\$719.99
LIO684510 PC S2 Electric #4710	\$719.99
LIO684512 S2 Electric Set	\$869.99
LIO68462X 2/3 D&RGW SD40T-2	\$539.99
LIO68462X 4/5 KCS SD40T-2	\$539.99
LIO68462X 7/8 GECX SD40T-2	\$539.99
LIO684659 Milwaukee Road E6 AA	\$899.99
LIO684662 UP E6 AA	\$899.99
LIO684687 NKP Berkshire #765	\$1349.99
LIO684690 W&LE Berkshire #2716	\$1349.99
LIO684965 L&N Berkshire #1992	\$1349.99
LIO684843 GE Demo AC6000 Green	\$584.99
LIO68484X 4/5 GE Demo AC6000 Red	\$584.99
LIO68484X 8/9 CSX Diversity AC6000	\$584.99
LIO684945 PRSL E-6 Atlantic #6009	\$719.99
LIO684946 Long Island E-6 Atlantic	\$719.99
LIO68496X 0-2 NYC Visionline Niagara	\$1709.99
LIO685018 ACL SW7	\$449.99
LIO685022 Lehigh Valley	\$449.99
LIO685024 NYC SW7	\$449.99
LIO68503X 0/1 B&P SD45	\$539.99
LIO68504X 6/7 BNSF SD70ACe	\$539.99
LIO68505X 1/2 EMD SD70ACe	\$539.99
LIO685172 R&N 4-6-2	\$1259.99
LIO685182 NYC 2-6-6-2	\$1439.99
LIO685176 Chesapeake & Ohio 2-6-6-2	\$1439.99
LIO685216 Conrail F3AA	\$764.99
LIO685219 Conrail Powered B	\$404.99

MTH Engines

MTH2037081 SP 4-8-8-2 AC-6	\$1349.99
MTH2037451 RBM&N 4-6-2 Pacific	\$999.99
MTH2037501 SP GS4	\$1099.99
MTH2037581 SP GS4 w. Lights	\$1299.99
MTH2057011 NJT ALP46	\$464.99
MTH2057091 Amtrak AME-7 #920	\$429.99
MTH20206481 NS GP38-2 W. PS3	\$409.99
MTH20207941 Amtrak F40PH Veterans	\$409.99
MTH20207951 Metra F40PH w. PS3	\$409.99
MTH20207981 Metrolink F40	\$419.99
MTH20208091 Reading SD70Ace PS3	\$409.99
MTH202081XX 31-41 Santa Fe GP60M	\$409.99
MTH20208221 UP AC6000 (Flag) PS3	\$409.99
MTH202085XX 71/81 NJ Transit E8 A	\$399.99
MTH202086XX 81/91 Rio Grande GP9	\$429.99
MTH20208761 USMC 44 Ton	\$399.99
MTH20208801 Strasburg 44 Ton	\$399.99
MTH202088XX 71/81 PRR 44 Ton	\$399.99
MTH20209041 Illinois Central GP38-2	\$429.99
MTH202091XX 71/81 NS ES44DC	\$439.99
MTH202092XX 11/21 CSX ES44DC	\$439.99
MTH20209461 Lehigh Valley Boxcab	\$439.99
MTH20209601 KCS SD70 Ace	\$429.99
MTH20209751 Lehigh Valley 44 Ton	\$379.99
MTH20209951 CSX SD40-2 #8888	\$449.99
MTH202099XX 11/21 RJ Corman SD40	\$449.99
MTH20209951 CSX SD40-2 #8888	\$449.99
MTH20211381 Reading FT A Unit	\$399.99
MTH30203561 RS33S Work Train 4 pk	\$399.99
MTH30203631 Southern ES44AC	\$284.99
MTH30203941 N&W E-8 AA Diesel	\$339.99
MTH30204041 GM SW-8 w. PS3	\$277.99
MTH30204381 Amtrak E8 AA w. PS3	\$349.99
MTH30204571 PRR RS-3	\$294.99
MTH30204701 Amtrak F40 Veterans	\$294.99
MTH30204721 NS Dash 8 w. Lights	\$339.99
MTH30204731 UP Dash 8 w. Lights	\$339.99
MTH30205001 UP E-3 AA	\$339.99
MTH30205351 Santa Fe FP45	\$309.99
MTH30205461 Lehigh Valley RS3	\$304.99
MTH30205571 NS Dash 8 w. PS3	\$309.99
MTH30205591 SF Dash 8 w. PS3	\$309.99
MTH30205651 Reading NW2 w. PS3	\$299.99

Nicholas Smith EXCLUSIVES

	
LIO685307 Nicholas Smith Operating Hobby Shop \$249.99	MTH20207751 Amtrak 44 Ton #1100 \$399.99
	
MTH2091635 PRR Bobber Caboose \$52.99	MTH2091632 Strasburg Caboose \$64.99
	
MTH20207721 NJT P40 #4800 Genesis \$444.99	MTH20207731 NJT P40 #4803 Genesis \$444.99

SALE ITEMS

O Locomotives

Lionel Locos below are sold without warranty

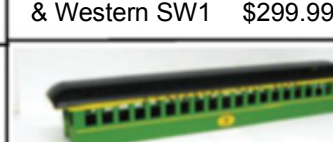
LIO611424 Pacific 4-6-2 Pilot	\$900.00
LIO681190 WP Heavy Mikado	\$875.00
LIO681191 Erie Heavy Mikado	\$875.00
LIO681193 W&LE Heavy Mikado	\$875.00
LIO681994 NKP Heavy Mikado	\$875.00
LIO682213 KCS Naked Bell ES44AC	\$450.00
LIO68221X 8/9 FEC ES44AC	\$450.00
LIO682238 Southern Alco PA AA	\$550.00
LIO682536 NYC J3a Hudson PT Tender	\$990.00
LIO682537 NYC J3a Hudson J3 Tender	\$990.00
LIO683203 Chessie T-1 #2102	\$1295.00
LIO68227X 4/5 B&O/Chessie SD40	\$450.00
LIO68227X 8/9 Grand Trunk SD40	\$450.00
LIO68228X 0/1 MOPAC SD40	\$450.00
LIO68228X 2/3 Conrail SD40	\$450.00
LIO682284 Conrail Savings Bond SD40	\$450.00
LIO682830 CB&Q E7 AA	\$700.00
LIO683401 Milwaukee Road H16-44	\$370.00
LIO68340X 5/6 Southern H16-44	\$370.00
MTH20207531 Red Arrow Liberty Liner	\$449.99

Lionel Passenger Cars

LIO625727 WP 18" Aluminum 2 Pack	\$199.99
LIO625731 CB&Q 18" Aluminum 2 Pack	\$199.99
LIO681769 Chessie Baby Madison 2 Pk	\$84.99
LIO681773 SP Daylight Baby Madis 2 Pk	\$84.99
LIO681774 SP Daylight Baby Madis 2 Pk	\$84.99
LIO681778 SF Baby Madison 2 Pk #1	\$84.99
LIO681779 SF Baby Madison 2 Pk #2	\$84.99
LIO681783 CP Baby Madison 2 Pack #1	\$84.99
LIO681784 CP Baby Madison 2 Pack #2	\$84.99

O Freight Cars & Accessories

LIO615084 GN High-Cube Boxcar	\$29.99
LIO615098 Lone Ranger Boxcar	\$39.99
LIO625050 BC Hi Cube Boxcar	\$24.99
LIO627286 PW Scale 6464 2pk	\$84.99
LIO627496 Polar RR Covered Hopper	\$43.99
LIO639362 Thomas Kinkd Emerald Box	\$37.99
LIO681706 Frisco 86' Boxcar 2 Pack	\$109.99
LIO682664 B&LE Gondola & Flatcar	\$109.99
LIO682667 DT&I Gondola & Flatcar	\$109.99
LIO684500 NS First Responders Tank	\$45.00
MTH2090896 CN 4 Bay Hopper 6 Pk	\$254.99
MTH2093661 US Army Waffle Boxcar	\$49.99
MTH2095158 LIRR Flat w. Trailer	\$53.99

	
MTH2062076 Strasburg Marian Coach \$114.99	MTH2062075 Strasburg Heritage 2 Pack \$199.99
	
MTH30204031 Wilmington & Western SW1 \$299.99	MTH20207741 ConDot P40 #836 \$444.99
	MTH2062073 - Green Strasburg 5 Packs 1 Combo, 4 Coach \$449.99
	MTH2057191 Amtrak AEM-7 #942 Chrome Body w. Retirement Trip Sounds \$444.99

www.nicholassmithtrains.com

Lionel Premium Sets

LIO682726 Postwar FA Passenger Set	\$479.99
LIO683595 Conrail OCS Set	\$1109.99
LIO684296 SP Salad Bowl Express	\$809.99
LIO684816 PRR 1930 Broadway Ltd	\$1799.99
LIO684953 PRR Coal Hauler Set	\$999.99

Lionchief Remote Set

LIO683072 PRR Keystone Special	\$239.99
LIO682192 MTA Long Island M7	\$319.99
LIO683972 Hogwarts Express	\$335.99
LIO684490 NS First Responders	\$344.99
LIO684700 Hot Wheels	\$319.99
LIO684719 Santa Fe Super Chief	\$343.99
LIO684732 BNSF Tier 4	\$334.99
LIO684754 Anheuser-Busch	\$335.99
LIO685241 Mystery Machine FT	\$344.99
LIO685253 End of the Line Express	\$264.99
LIO1823050 Mickey Celebration	\$324.99
LIO1923020 NYC Flyer 0-8-0	\$284.99
LIO1923040 UP Flyer 0-8-0	\$239.99
LIO1923070 Blue Comet Set	\$295.99
LIO1923110 UP America Proud GP38	\$309.99

Polar Express

LIO624251 Caribou Figures	\$20.99
LIO625134 Diner Car (Black Roof)	\$52.99
LIO625135 Baggage Car (Black Roof)	\$53.99
LIO625795 Gold Scale Heavyweight Car	\$159.99
LIO628425 Elf Handcar	\$85.99
LIO635130 Disappearing Hobo Black Roof	\$56.99
LIO681699 PE Scale 50 Ton GLa Hopper	\$57.99
LIO682877 PE Thomas Kinkade Boxcar	\$63.99
LIO682735 PE Conductor Gateman	\$91.99
LIO683185 PE Elf Figure Pack	\$24.99
LIO683249 PE Combo Car (Black Roof)	\$52.99
LIO683352 PE Double Sheathed Boxcar	\$71.99
LIO683437 PE Lionchief Announcement	\$82.99
LIO683455 PE Operating Billboard	\$63.99
LIO683645 PE Story Boxcars (2pk)	\$127.99
LIO683943 PE Story Boxcar	\$63.99
LIO684370 PE Silver Load Hopper	\$52.99
LIO684600 PE Combo Car (Snow)	\$56.99
LIO684601 PE Letters to Santa Mail (Snow)	\$56.99
LIO684602 PE Disappearing Hobo (Snow)	\$60.99
LIO684603 PE Hot Chocolate Car (Snow)	\$56.99
LIO684604 PE Dining Car (Snow Roof)	\$56.99
LIO684605 PE Baggage (Snow Roof)	\$56.99
LIO684811 PE Scale Baggage Car	\$149.99
LIO684813 PE Scale Combine Car	\$149.99
LIO684814 PE Scale Coach Car	\$149.99
LIO684815 PE Scale Diner Car	\$149.99
LIO684815 PE Scale Observation Car	\$149.99
LIO685271 PE Illuminated Flag Pole	\$45.99
LIO1923030 PE 15th Anniv Train Set	\$369.99
LIO1923130 PE Trolley Set	\$159.99
LIO1926370 Scale Gondola w. Presents	\$71.99
LIO1926820 PE Scale Boxcar w. Sounds	\$109.99
LIO1927351 PE Scale RPO White Roof	\$134.99
LIO1927352 PE Scale RPO Black Roof	\$134.99
LIO1928410 PE Reindeer Car	\$59.99
LIO1928420 PE Search Light Car	\$52.99
LIO1928430 PE Barrel Ramp Car	\$59.99

Lionel Legacy/LCS Items

LIO614294 #993 Legacy Expansion	\$245.99
LIO614295 #990 Legacy Command Set	\$349.99
LIO634120 TMCC Direct Lockon	\$43.99
LIO637125 Legacy Writable Module	\$15.99
LIO637146 Legacy Powermaster	\$74.99
LIO637147 Cab-1L w. Command Base	\$209.99
LIO637155 Cab-1L Remote	\$129.99
LIO637156 Base for Cab-1L	\$109.99
LIO637921 ZW-L Transformer	\$769.99
LIO637947 GW-180 Transformer	\$214.99
LIO681294 LCS 5" Fastrack Section	\$71.99
LIO681325 LCS Wi-Fi Module	\$134.99
LIO681326 Serial Converter 2 (SER2)	\$37.99
LIO681499 LCS DB9 Cable w. Power Sup	\$27.99
LIO681500 LCS PDI 1' Cable	\$10.99
LIO681501 LCS PDI 3' Cable	\$10.99
LIO681502 LCS PDI 10' Cable	\$14.49
LIO681503 LCS PDI 20' Cable	\$14.49
LIO681639 ACS2 Acc. Switch Controller	\$89.99
LIO681640 BPC2 Block Power Controller	\$89.99
LIO681641 AMC Acc. Motor Controller	\$89.99
LIO682728 STM2 Switch Throw Monitor	\$84.99
LIO682869 5" Sensortrack for O Gauge	\$71.99

Christmas

LIO611330 Polar RR Legacy K-4	\$550.00
LIO611331 Polar RR Conv. K-4	\$499.99
LIO617752 Polar RR Round Roof Box	\$35.00
LIO619366 Christmas 2 Bay Hopper	\$42.99
LIO625947 NPE Jack Frost Reefer	\$32.99
LIO625958 Gingerbread Icing Vat Car	\$44.99
LIO627263 Polar RR PS-1 Boxcar	\$52.99
LIO627496 Polar RR PS-2 Hopper	\$43.99
LIO627946 Christmas Savings Bond Box	\$39.99
LIO627948 GN Christmas Boxcar	\$44.99
LIO627949 PRR Christmas Merch. Box	\$56.99
LIO630219 Gingerbread Dockside Set	\$217.99
LIO636170 Partridge in a Pear Tree Reef	\$41.99
LIO636243 2002 Christmas Boxcar	\$19.99
LIO637151 Christmas Street Lamps Red 3	\$29.99
LIO637197 North Pole Girder Bridge	\$19.99
LIO637909 Let It Snow Jet Snowblower	\$101.99
LIO637997 Christmas People Pack	\$17.99
LIO638848 Christmas Zephyr Set	\$899.99
LIO639364 2013 Christmas Boxcar	\$44.99
LIO681428 Frosty Boxcar	\$40.99
LIO681990 Gondola w. Reindeer Feed	\$47.99
LIO682051 North Pole Central Ice House	\$84.99
LIO682739 North Pole Central 6464 Box	\$59.99
LIO682740 Winter Wonderland Aqua Car	\$71.99
LIO682742 Candy Mountain 4 Bay Hopper	\$48.99
LIO682743 Santa Reindeer Station	\$37.49
LIO682748 Silver Bell Casting	\$52.99
LIO682877 Kinkade Polar Express Boxcar	\$63.99
LIO683163 Kinkade Christmas Boxcar	\$63.99
LIO683191 Snow Transport Tank Car	\$63.99
LIO683291 Christmas Half Covered Bridge	\$52.99
LIO683308 Christmas Unibody Tank Car	\$56.99
LIO683311 Egg Nog Reefer	\$48.99
LIO683312 Cookies Vat Car	\$52.99
LIO683313 Reindeer Express Flat w. Traile	\$52.99
LIO683315 Christmas Toy Stock Car	\$59.99
LIO683689 Angela Trotta Covered Bridge	\$53.99
LIO683694 Toymaker Limited Trolley Set	\$159.99
LIO683791 Donald Duck Holiday Boxcar	\$63.99
LIO683925 Frosty Boxcar	\$63.99
LIO683952 Minnie Mouse Holiday Boxcar	\$63.99
LIO683964 Disney Holiday Set Bluetooth	\$314.99
LIO684163 Christmas Disconnect 4 Pack	\$119.99
LIO684340 Santa & Snowman Tag Boxcar	\$67.99
LIO684341 Tell-Tale Reindeer Car	\$59.99
LIO684372 Illuminated Christmas Station	\$32.99
LIO684374 2017 Christmas Music Boxcar	\$59.99
LIO684487 Donald Duck Tank Car	\$53.99
LIO684553 Reindeer Disconnect Pack A	\$119.99
LIO684554 Reindeer Disconnect Pack B	\$119.99
LIO684555 Santa Disconnect Observation	\$33.99
LIO684747 2018 Christmas Boxcar	\$50.99
LIO684748 Christmas Music Boxcar	\$59.99
LIO684765 ATT Christmas Pass 3 Pk	\$224.99
LIO684785 Naughty/Nice Ore 2 Pk	\$59.99
LIO684786 Christmas Essentials Barrelcar	\$52.99
LIO684787 Santa Freight Lines LC Set	\$232.99
LIO685412 Santa Pylon PEP	\$104.99
LIO1823040 Thomas Kinkade Set	\$324.98
LIO1923150 Winter Wonderland Set	\$239.99
LIO1928480 Santa Finder Searchlight Car	\$49.99
LIO1928490 2019 Christmas Boxcar	\$50.99
LIO1928500 2019 Christmas Music Boxcar	\$60.99
LIO1929090 Lighted Covered Bridge	\$52.99
LIO1931140 North Pole 4-8-2 Mountain	\$1169.99
LIO1938030 Well Stocked Shelves B/C	\$64.99
LIO1938310 ATT Christmas Boxcar	\$68.99
LIO1938420 Christmas Story Boxcar	\$64.99
LIO318703 Lionscale Hopper	\$45.99
MTH3011088 Christmas Tree LED Lights	\$39.99
MTH3072195 Lighted Gondola w. Santa	\$64.99
MTH3075610 Hopper w. Coal Load	\$47.99
MTH3076734 White Flat w. LED Trees	\$64.99
MTH3076736 Blue Flat w. LED Trees	\$64.99
MTH3076740 Christmas Flat w. 40' Trailer	\$49.99
MTH3076741 Flat w. LED & Santa Sleigh	\$69.99
MTH3090588 Country House w. LED Light	\$59.99

Lionel Gift Items

LIO941031 Lionel Canvas Tote	\$21.99
LIO941040 Lionel Money Clip	\$23.99
LIO941051 Lionel Leather Coasters	\$31.99
LIO942023 Lionel Pub Table (Oversized)	\$299.99
LIO942053 Lionel "L" Orange Neon Sign	\$149.99
LIO942059 Neon Pub Clock (Blue)	\$129.99

Lionel Accessories

LIO614090 Banjo Signal	\$44.99
LIO614218 Downtown People Pack	\$17.99
LIO614241 Work Crew People Pack	\$17.99
LIO616882 12" Half Covered Bridge	\$44.99
LIO624212 Lionel Art Blinking Billboard	\$17.99
LIO637112 Helicopter 2 Pack	\$19.99
LIO637129 Boy Scout Girder Bridge	\$17.99
LIO637166 Crossing Shanty	\$18.99
LIO637173 Green Globe Lights 3 Pk	\$18.99
LIO637174 Classic Street Lights 3 Pk	\$29.99
LIO637834 Boat Loader Boats 4 Pcs	\$18.99
LIO637851 Scale Telephone Poles	\$22.99
LIO637853 Alien Invasion Billboard Set	\$8.99
LIO637855 Airplane 2 Pcs	\$27.99
LIO637903 Cell Tower	\$53.99
LIO637913 Hopper Shed	\$26.99
LIO637958 SP Scrap Yard	\$82.99
LIO637975 SP Crate Loading Terminal	\$112.99
LIO637977 Hooker Tank Car Accident	\$89.99
LIO637986 NJ Transit Blinking Billboard	\$17.99
LIO681063 Lionelville Gateman PEP	\$71.99
LIO681433 PRR Crossing Shanty	\$16.99
LIO682016 Oil Pump	\$44.99
LIO682016 Operating Billboard PEP	\$52.99
LIO682020 Burning Switch Tower	\$97.99
LIO682026 #497 Coaling Station	\$224.99
LIO683440 Rico Station Kit	\$44.99
LIO683442 Large Suburban House	\$67.99
LIO683443 Deluxe Suburban House	\$67.99
LIO683634 Keystone Smoke Fluid Loader	\$262.99
LIO683635 N. American Smoke Loader	\$262.99
LIO684334 Strasburg Half Covered Bridge	\$45.99
LIO684496 Shell Gas Station	\$114.99
LIO684499 Mickey & Friends Water Tower	\$74.99
LIO684769 Wilie E Coyote Ambush Shack	\$91.99
LIO684792 PEP House Under Construction	\$75.99
LIO685309 Halloween Pylon	\$114.99
LIO685411 Pylon w. WWII Planes	\$112.99
LIO1929110 Halloween House PEP	\$97.99
LIO1930120 Mickey Celebration Billboard	\$15.99

Rolling Stock

LIO684312 Alaska Gondola w. Canisters	\$42.99
LIO684338 CSX Woodchip Hopper	\$49.99
LIO684434 NS 30K Gallon Tankcar 3 Pk	\$188.99
LIO684438 NS 30K Gallon Tankcar	\$59.99
LIO684443 PES 30K Gallon Tank 3 Pk	\$188.99
LIO68458X 2/3 BNSF 65' Mill Gondola	\$59.99
LIO68458X 4/5 CNW 65' Mill Gondola	\$59.99
LIO68458X 6/7 CSX 65' Mill Gondola	\$59.99
LIO68458X 8/9 NS 65' Mill Gondola	\$59.99
LIO68459X 0/1 SP 65' Mill Gondola	\$59.99
LIO68459X 2/3 UP 65' Mill Gondola	\$59.99
LIO684615 Coke Polar Bears Boxcar	\$63.99
LIO684677 Peanuts Meadow Comic B/Car	\$63.99
LIO684802 Gibson Wine Tank Car	\$55.99
LIO684804 AE Staley Tank Car	\$55.99
LIO684828 BNSF 66' Mill Gon w. Graffiti	\$61.99
LIO684829 BNSF 66' Mill Gondola	\$61.99
LIO684831 GNTX 66' Mill Gon w. Graffiti	\$61.99
LIO684833 GNTX 66' Mill Gondola	\$61.99
LIO684838 A&O 66' Mill Gondola	\$61.99
LIO684841 S&H 66' Mill Gondola	\$61.99
LIO684855 TTX Husky Stack	\$98.99
LIO684861 BNSF Husky Stack	\$98.99
LIO68487X 2/3 PRR 50' Flat w. Trailer	\$89.99
LIO68487X 4/5 TTX 50' Flat w. Trailer	\$89.99
LIO68487X 6/7 UP 50' Flat w. Trailer	\$89.99
LIO68492X 0/1 Conrail Cylindrical Hopper	\$67.99
LIO68492X 2/3 CSX Cylindrical Hopper	\$67.99
LIO685066 TTX Husky Stack w. EOT	\$112.99
LIO685069 AZRC Husky Stack w. EOT	\$112.99
MTH2064089 UP Bush 41 Baggage Car	\$89.99
MTH209214X 8/9 Flat w. Ambulance 4Pk	\$284.99
MTH209215X 0/1 Flat w. Tank 4Pk	\$299.99
MTH2093661 US Army Waffle Side Box	\$49.99
MTH2093665 C&O PS-1 Boxcar	\$55.99
MTH2093687 UP 50' High Cube Boxcar	\$59.99
MTH2097851 BNSF Coalporter	\$59.99
MTH2098986 CP Rail Flat w. Container	\$56.99
MTH3068127 UP Bush 41 Baggage Car	\$69.99
MTH3073517 NS Veterans Moderns Tank	\$50.99
MTH3075597 Conrail Map Hopper Car	\$47.99
MTH3075598 W&LE Map Hopper Car	\$47.99
MTH3075613 IPL 4 Bay Hopper	\$47.99
MTH3076546 PRR Flat w. Trailer	\$54.99

LIO1908010 CSMZ DZ-2500 Breakout Brd \$19.98

www.nicholassmithtrains.com



AMERICAN FLYER'S NO. 5655RH TRAIN SET

Kids who had American Flyer sets bragged to their buddies about having scale replicas running on realistic 2-rail track. Their friends who had Lionel outfits countered with how much more their O gauge locomotives, operating cars, and accessories could do.

Scalers had one other bit of ammunition to lob at their O gauge rivals. Sets from the A.C. Gilbert Co. surpassed Lionel's because they had lots of different freight cars. They came with more diverse and more numerous cars than what their equivalents in price in the Lionel line included.

Any number of examples may be selected to drive home this important if overlooked point for Flyer guys to gloat over. For now, the no. 5655RH New Sunshine Special diesel freight set from 1956 will do.

■ ONE OF EVERYTHING

Picture books for young boys and girls as well as teachers of students in kindergarten or first grade taught kids about the different types of freight cars railroads owned. Vivid illustrations helped them learn

what boxcars, flatcars, and gondolas looked like and what kind of cargo they carried.

Such fundamental knowledge came in handy when the latest catalog from American Flyer or Lionel arrived in toy stores and hobby shops. Naturally, the artwork and descriptions in the wish books reinforced what kids had learned.

The foundation for children's authors, primary-education teachers, and toy train catalog artists maintained that seven basic kinds of freight

**BUY TICKETS ONLINE NOW
& SAVE AT TRAINSHOW.COM**

FOR INFO OR TO EXHIBIT AT A SHOW CONTACT:
 280 Carlton Drive, Carol Stream, IL 60188
(630) 290-1962 · Info@TrainShow.com

Great Train Shows Quality Train Shows Coast To Coast Sat & Sun 10am - 4pm <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>December 14-15 • Overland Park, KS Overland Park Convention Center</td></tr> <tr><td>December 28-29 • Grayslake, IL Lake County Fairgrounds</td></tr> <tr><td>January 4-5 • Sacramento, CA Cal Expo</td></tr> <tr><td>January 11-12 • Louisville, KY Kentucky Exposition Center</td></tr> <tr><td>January 11-12 • Boise, ID Expo Idaho/Fairgrounds</td></tr> <tr><td>January 18-19 • Puyallup, WA Puyallup Fair and Event Center</td></tr> <tr><td>January 25-26 • Portland, OR Portland Expo Center</td></tr> <tr><td>February 1-2 • Ventura, CA Seaside Park Ventura County Fairgrounds</td></tr> <tr><td>February 1-2 • Saint Charles, MO Saint Charles Convention Center</td></tr> <tr><td>February 8-9 • Indianapolis, IN Indiana State Fairgrounds</td></tr> <tr><td>February 8-9 • Costa Mesa, CA Orange County Fairgrounds</td></tr> <tr><td>February 22-23 • Novi, MI Suburban Collection Showplace</td></tr> <tr><td>February 22-23 • San Jose, CA Santa Clara County Fairgrounds</td></tr> <tr><td>March 21-22 • Pleasanton, CA Alameda County Fairgrounds</td></tr> <tr><td>March 28-29 • Dayton, OH Montgomery County Fairgrounds</td></tr> </table>	December 14-15 • Overland Park, KS Overland Park Convention Center	December 28-29 • Grayslake, IL Lake County Fairgrounds	January 4-5 • Sacramento, CA Cal Expo	January 11-12 • Louisville, KY Kentucky Exposition Center	January 11-12 • Boise, ID Expo Idaho/Fairgrounds	January 18-19 • Puyallup, WA Puyallup Fair and Event Center	January 25-26 • Portland, OR Portland Expo Center	February 1-2 • Ventura, CA Seaside Park Ventura County Fairgrounds	February 1-2 • Saint Charles, MO Saint Charles Convention Center	February 8-9 • Indianapolis, IN Indiana State Fairgrounds	February 8-9 • Costa Mesa, CA Orange County Fairgrounds	February 22-23 • Novi, MI Suburban Collection Showplace	February 22-23 • San Jose, CA Santa Clara County Fairgrounds	March 21-22 • Pleasanton, CA Alameda County Fairgrounds	March 28-29 • Dayton, OH Montgomery County Fairgrounds	200 Booths of Manufacturers & Retailers! Huge Riding Train For Kids—FREE! HUGE Operating Model Railroads! Demos, Seminars, New Products and More! <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Jan. 4-5 • Columbus, OH Ohio Expo Center</td></tr> <tr><td>Feb. 8-9 • Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center</td></tr> <tr><td>Feb. 15-16 • Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Ctr</td></tr> <tr><td>Feb. 29 & Mar. 1 • Saint Paul, MN RiverCentre</td></tr> </table>	Jan. 4-5 • Columbus, OH Ohio Expo Center	Feb. 8-9 • Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center	Feb. 15-16 • Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Ctr	Feb. 29 & Mar. 1 • Saint Paul, MN RiverCentre	Greenberg Shows America's Premier Train & Toy Show Sat & Sun 10am - 4pm <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>December 7-8 • Timonium, MD Maryland State Fairgrounds</td></tr> <tr><td>December 14-15 • Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center</td></tr> <tr><td>December 28-29 • Virginia Beach, VA Virginia Beach Convention Center</td></tr> <tr><td>January 11-12 • Oaks, PA Greater Philadelphia Expo Center</td></tr> <tr><td>January 18-19 • Richmond, VA Richmond Raceway Complex</td></tr> <tr><td>February 8-9 • Secaucus, NJ Meadowlands Expo Center</td></tr> <tr><td>February 15-16 • Wilmington, DE Chase Center on the Riverfront</td></tr> <tr><td>February 15-16 • Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Center</td></tr> <tr><td>February 22-23 • Monroeville, PA Monroeville Convention Center</td></tr> <tr><td>February 29 - March 1 • Edison, NJ New Jersey Expo Center</td></tr> <tr><td>March 28-29 • Wilmington, MA Shriners Auditorium</td></tr> </table>	December 7-8 • Timonium, MD Maryland State Fairgrounds	December 14-15 • Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center	December 28-29 • Virginia Beach, VA Virginia Beach Convention Center	January 11-12 • Oaks, PA Greater Philadelphia Expo Center	January 18-19 • Richmond, VA Richmond Raceway Complex	February 8-9 • Secaucus, NJ Meadowlands Expo Center	February 15-16 • Wilmington, DE Chase Center on the Riverfront	February 15-16 • Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Center	February 22-23 • Monroeville, PA Monroeville Convention Center	February 29 - March 1 • Edison, NJ New Jersey Expo Center	March 28-29 • Wilmington, MA Shriners Auditorium
December 14-15 • Overland Park, KS Overland Park Convention Center																																
December 28-29 • Grayslake, IL Lake County Fairgrounds																																
January 4-5 • Sacramento, CA Cal Expo																																
January 11-12 • Louisville, KY Kentucky Exposition Center																																
January 11-12 • Boise, ID Expo Idaho/Fairgrounds																																
January 18-19 • Puyallup, WA Puyallup Fair and Event Center																																
January 25-26 • Portland, OR Portland Expo Center																																
February 1-2 • Ventura, CA Seaside Park Ventura County Fairgrounds																																
February 1-2 • Saint Charles, MO Saint Charles Convention Center																																
February 8-9 • Indianapolis, IN Indiana State Fairgrounds																																
February 8-9 • Costa Mesa, CA Orange County Fairgrounds																																
February 22-23 • Novi, MI Suburban Collection Showplace																																
February 22-23 • San Jose, CA Santa Clara County Fairgrounds																																
March 21-22 • Pleasanton, CA Alameda County Fairgrounds																																
March 28-29 • Dayton, OH Montgomery County Fairgrounds																																
Jan. 4-5 • Columbus, OH Ohio Expo Center																																
Feb. 8-9 • Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center																																
Feb. 15-16 • Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Ctr																																
Feb. 29 & Mar. 1 • Saint Paul, MN RiverCentre																																
December 7-8 • Timonium, MD Maryland State Fairgrounds																																
December 14-15 • Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center																																
December 28-29 • Virginia Beach, VA Virginia Beach Convention Center																																
January 11-12 • Oaks, PA Greater Philadelphia Expo Center																																
January 18-19 • Richmond, VA Richmond Raceway Complex																																
February 8-9 • Secaucus, NJ Meadowlands Expo Center																																
February 15-16 • Wilmington, DE Chase Center on the Riverfront																																
February 15-16 • Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Center																																
February 22-23 • Monroeville, PA Monroeville Convention Center																																
February 29 - March 1 • Edison, NJ New Jersey Expo Center																																
March 28-29 • Wilmington, MA Shriners Auditorium																																
Great Midwest Train Show DuPage County Fairgrounds 9am-3pm County Farm & Manchester, Wheaton, IL 60187 Largest Monthly Train Show in the US <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>Dec 8</td> <td>Jan 12</td> <td>Feb 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mar 8</td> <td>Apr 5</td> <td>May 3</td> </tr> </table>			Dec 8	Jan 12	Feb 9	Mar 8	Apr 5	May 3																								
Dec 8	Jan 12	Feb 9																														
Mar 8	Apr 5	May 3																														
Baltimore, MD B&O Railroad Museum April 4-5 Tickets Available At the Museum Entrance																																



Set courtesy Mark Speichert

cars existed. They expected their young audiences to be able to recite the list with ease: boxcars, flatcars, gondolas, hoppers, refrigerator cars, stock cars, and tank cars. Oh, and don't ever forget the red caboose riding at the end.

Once youngsters had memorized the pieces of rolling stock, they wanted to own one of each to couple to their S or O gauge steamer or diesel. The best way to do so was to start with as many different models as possible in your first set.

The odds of winning that toy train lottery increased if you received a Flyer set. Mid-range and high-end sets came

with more items – probably because the cars were smaller.

■ GREAT IN '56

Planners of the American Flyer line cataloged for 1956 knew children dreamed of long and varied trains. They created diverse sets for any family that could spend at least \$49.95. For the equivalent of \$456 in today's dollars, mom and dad or a grandparent could procure a train with five or more cars.

One of the best of those sets, in terms of its color, variety, and play value, was the 5655RH. The New Sunshine Special depended on a pair of Texas & Pacific GP7 road diesels for its pulling power. The

no. 3778 combination offered a powered unit with a worm-drive motor and a non-powered unit with an electronic horn and Gilbert's impressive Diesel Roar sound effects.

The orange-and-black engines led four kinds of freight cars, thus hitting almost all the seven basic categories. The nos. 924 Central Railroad of New Jersey covered hopper and 926 Gulf triple-dome tank car were familiar parts of the roster that looked good even if they didn't provide animation.

The second hopper was an open one lettered for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy with a fake load of coal. Behind rolled the brand-new

no. 989 Chicago & North Western refrigerator car, cool in yellow and dark green.

A no. 920 Southern Ry. gondola finished the group of revenue cars. Then a no. 977 American Flyer Lines action caboose thrilled with its moving brakeman.

Young engineers fortunate enough to be the owners of a 5655RH diesel freight set must have felt awed by the assortment of models. – Roger Carp

The A.C. Gilbert Co. cataloged set no. 5655RH in 1956. The third volume of Greenberg's Guide to American Flyer S Gauge (1992) values it at \$400 in very good condition and \$775 in excellent.



217 Central Way
Kirkland, WA 98033
(425) 828-4098
Toll Free (877) 857-7246



Come Visit us
On-line
@
www.eastsidetrains.com

LIONEL

11139	Milw 2-8-2 Mikado w/TMCC
11152	D&RG Lionmaster Challenger
11181	C.N. GP-9 Piggy Back Set w/Legacy
11201	W.M. 4-6-6-4 Challenger w/Legacy
11270	G.N. 2-6-0 Mogul w/RS
11379	Pennsy 0-4-0 Switcher Loco
11385	U.P. 0-4-0 Yard Switcher
11386	B&M Berkshire w/Legacy
11427	S.P. 0-4-0 Switcher
11428	Milw 0-4-0 (Conv) Multi Roads Avail
11446	U.P. 2-8-8-2 Y-3 #3671
1931250	U.P. 4-6-6-4 #3977 Gray Challenger
1931260	U.P. 4-6-6-4 #3985 Black Challenger
1933011	B.N. RS-11 #4186 w/Legacy
1933232	BNSF #4173 C44-9W
1933233	BNSF #5282 C44-9W Dummy
28312	B.N. SD60 #8301 w/Legacy
28363	B.N. SD60 #8302 w/Legacy
28384	C.N. Genset Switcher w/Legacy
29366	S.P. Tank Train Oil Can Set
30145	Candian Maple Leaf Frt Set
316020	BNSF 50' Modern Box Car 6pk
316050	ATSF 3-Bay Hopper 6pk
316100	Alaska 3-Bay Hopper 6pk
316150	D&RG 3-Bay Hopper 6pk
31778	#1484WS Hudson Pass Set
31783	BNSF Ice Cold Express Set
34737	N.P. GP-9 w/Legacy
34738	N.P. GP-9 #317 w/Legacy
37821	Smoke Fluid Loader
38310	#2185W NYC F3 AA Freight Set
38312	#2343 SF F3 AA
38324	#2507W N/H F-3 Freight w/5 Cars
38328	#1623W N.P. Frt Set w/Leg. Closeout
38329	#2261W Freight Set (646 w/5 Cars)
38353	X-628 Promo Navy Set
38358	#2239 I.C. F-3 Freight Set
38419	U.P. U30C #2918 w/Legacy
38421	N.P. U33C #3305 w/Legacy
38422	N.P. U33C #3307 w/Legacy
38784	C.N. #4000 GP-35
38855	G.N. GP-35 #2519
38919	Chessie SD40-2 w/Legacy
39568	BCR Dash-9 w/Legacy
39572	BNSF Dash-9 w/Legacy
81135	B.N. SD70MAC #9431 w/Legacy

749.00	81137	BNSF SD70MAC #9858 w/Legacy
829.95	82023	Saw Mill w/Sound & CC
699.95	82035	Crane Sounds Work house
849.00	82055	Beth Steele CC Trackside Crane
529.95	82097	Bucyrus-Erie Legacy Crane
429.99	82121	G.N. S-2 Diesel w/Legacy
429.95	82127	U.P. S-2 Diesel w/Legacy
1,139.00	82269	N.P. #1382 4-6-0 w/Legacy
439.95	82694	U.P. #3985 (BLK) 4-6-6-4 Challenger
439.95	82697	Rio Grande 4-6-6-4 LM Challenger
1,259.00	82528	Empire State Express Set
1,959.99	82726	Lionel Lines Alco FA Passenger Set
1,959.99	82761	U.P. SD-90MAC w/Legacy
479.99	82784	B.N. GP-9 #1706 w/Legacy
549.99	82785	B.N. GP-9 #1804 w/Legacy
299.99	82809	U.P. FEF #838 Black
469.95	82815	Mt. Ranier Scenic Heisler #91
469.95	82963	Rio Grande LC+ Mikado
769.95	82964	Milw LC+ Hudson
699.95	83193	S.P. Lines #4449 GS-4 w/Legacy
499.95	83197	AM Freedom Train #4449 GS-4
175.00	83371	G.N. SD-45 #400 Hustle Muscle
175.00	83380	U.P. SD-45 #1
175.00	83386	Milw NW-2 w/Legacy
175.00	84064	Milw #261 4-8-4 w/BT & Legacy BTO
449.00	84067	Milw Hiawatha #260 4-8-4 BTO
895.00	84072	Everett Mogul #11
449.95	84078S	B.N. E-8 AA w/6 21" Pass Cars
449.95	84088S	NYC E-8 AA w/4 21" Pass Car
219.95	84096	BNSF SD-70ACe
449.00	84104	MRL SD-70ACe
399.99	84248	S.P. AC-9 #3800
429.00	84250	S.P. Daylight AC-9 #3811
449.95	84641	S.F. E-6 AA w/Legacy
459.00	84843	GE Demo AC6000 #6000 w/Legacy
549.00	84850	S.P. AC6000 #601 w/Legacy
549.00	84960	NYC Niagra #6005 Vision Line
499.00	85034	MRL SD-45 w/Legacy (2 #s)
499.00	85047	BNSF SD70ACe w/Legacy (2 #s)
499.00	85057	U.P. SD70ACe #8650 w/Legacy
479.95	85058	U.P. SD70ACe #8665 w/Legacy
479.95	85173	N.P. 4-6-2 Pacific w/Legacy
499.95	85180	G.N. 2-6-6-2 w/Legacy
499.95	85315	U.P. SD70ACe #1943 w/Legacy
499.95	81881S	S.P. Crane & Sound Tender
549.00	81884S	Beth Stl Crane & Sound Boom Tender

549.00	14491	Pennsy 0-6-0 B-6 Switcher PS 2
199.95	16211	S.P. 4-8-4 GS-4 w/PS 3
129.95	16501	S.P. 4-8-8-2 Cab Forward Frt Set
449.99	16671	G.N. 2-8-8-2 Loco w/PS 3.0
299.95	17791	U.P. 4-8-8-4 Big Boy w/PS 3
599.99	25581	U.P. Dash-9 Diesel w/PS 2.0
599.99	26431	U.P. Dash 8 Narrow Nose w/PS 2
799.95	29021	G.N. GP-35 Diesel w/PS 2.0
969.00	29351	G.N. SD-45 LH Diesel w/PS 2.0
969.00	31681	UP 4-6-6-4 Challenger w/PS 2
1,849.95	34681	Pennsy 4-6-2 Pass Set
429.99	34851	S.P. 4-8-4 GS-4 w/PS 3.0 #4444
629.99	35351	U.P. FEF 4-8-4 4-Car Pass Set
499.95	35411	NYC 4-8-4 Nigara w/4 Car Pass Set
499.95	35681	NPR 2-8-4 Berkshire
1,599.99	36401	U.P. 4-12-2 #9000 Loco w/PS 3
1,199.99	36871	U.P. #3985 4-6-6-4 Challenger
389.00	37071	S.P. 4-8-8-2 AC-6 Cab Forward
389.00	37471	US Army USRA 4-6-2 Pacific w/PS 3
1,649.95	37581	S.P. 4-8-4 Daylight w/LED Xmas Lts
1,649.95	200341	N.P. GP-9 Diesel w/PS 2.0
599.95	200351	Amtrak Turbo Train
599.95	202481	S.P. GP-9 Diesel
479.99	202941	B.N. SD-45 Diesel w/PS 3.0
1,659.99	203391	G.N. DC-3 Rail Inspection Car w/PS 3
1,659.99	204121	Milw SD40-2 Diesel w/PS 3
619.99	204211	BNSF Dash 8 Diesel Frt. Set w/PS 3
1,899.99	204651	Pennsy GE 44-Ton Diesel
1,599.99	204681	S.F. GE 44-Ton Diesel
569.00	205061	GE Evo Hybrid ES44AC w/ps 3.0
569.00	205101	BNSF ES44DC w/PS 3.0
1,899.99	206531	N.P. SD-45 Diesel w/PS 3
1,899.99	206541	N.P. SD-45 LH Diesel w/PS 3.0
899.99	206641	BNSF Dash-9 Diesel
589.99	207311	S.F. Dash 8 Diesel w/PS 3.0
589.99	207981	MetroLink F40PH Diesel
1,799.99	209631	U.P. SD-70ACe Diesel PS 3
549.99	211021	MRL GP-9 w/PS 3
549.99	22001RK	BNSF SD-40 Diesel w/PS 3
549.99	205201RK	U.P. SD70ACe #1943 w/3.0
549.99	205481RK	SP&S RS-3 w/PS 3
1,349.99	205601RK	BNSF Dash 8 w/PS 3
1,549.99	206271/3	G.N. FT AB Unit w/PS 3
549.99	208001S	C.P. Xmas Loco w/4 Illum Frt Cars
699.95	210281S	N.P. F-3 AB Set w/6 Pass Cars
699.95	29901RK	MRL SD70ACe w/PS 2

Replacing wires on Lionel postwar streamlined cars

THE RIGHT GAUGE TO HANDLE THE LIGHTING AND COUPLERS



Lionel cataloged the nos. 2421, 2422, and 2423 streamliners from 1950 through 1953. During the first two years, it painted the roofs gray and added black stripes and window outlines. Then it switched to silver roofs and eliminated those details.

Q I have a set of Lionel postwar no. 2400-series passenger cars (the nos. 2421 Maplewood Pullman coach, 2422 Chatham Pullman coach, and 2423 Hillside observation). The wires to the lights (likely 14- or 16-gauge) and the wires to the automatic couplers (possibly 18-gauge) are brittle and disintegrating. I want to replace all the wires. What is the smallest gauge of wire that I can use for these tasks? – *Allen Spitzer, Dayton, Va.*

A Lionel originally wired your passenger cars with 22-gauge wire. My preference is the “super flex,” which is 22 gauge. I use it for the shoe-to-coupler wiring, the roller-to-light socket, and the socket-to-socket wiring.

LIONEL OIL PUMP WON'T BUDGE

Q I bought a new Lionel no. 34162 operating oil pump several years ago. It stopped working after about a month, so I was able to get it fixed under warranty. I then set it up so it came on when I hit the main switch to the layout. It has worked

fine for years (2 to 3 hours per week), but now has just stopped dead.

How can I determine if it is the motor or the printed-circuit board (or both) that has failed? I have a multimeter to use for this. – *Joe Polanin, Greenbelt, Md.*

A Your operating oil pump uses a circuit board to control the small can-style motor that drives the pump head. Power up the accessory and then check for DC voltage at the terminals on the motor. Depending on your multimeter, you may have to reverse the probes to get a reading. If there is nothing, the board is bad. If there is voltage, the motor is bad. To verify the latter, power it with a 9-volt battery.

VOLTAGE FOR LIONCHIEF ENGINE

Q I recently purchased my first LionChief locomotive and was told to set my Lionel ZW transformer to 18 volts. I did, and everything works great. But my young grandson wants the engine to go faster. I worried that doing that would launch it off the track toward the moon! So I figured out

that if I dialed the ZW to a much lower voltage I could get the engine to run at a faster speed while remaining on the track. But is running the LionChief unit at less than 18 volts a good idea? Will it ruin the electronics or affect the cruise control on grades? – *Kevin Myers, Marseilles Ill.*

A Most electronic circuits do not suffer from too low a voltage. They are affected by voltages higher than they are designed to operate on. Also since the boards operate on low-voltage DC, a part of the circuit controls that to the components on the board. Lowering the voltage to the track will lower the voltage available to the motor and lower the top speed.

If the voltage is set too low, it may get to less than what the circuit board is designed to operate at and not work. Since your postwar ZW starts around 6 or 7 volts, I doubt that will be a problem. And that low a voltage will probably be too low to make the train move. All said, there should be no problem as far as damaging the electronics from a voltage set too low.

MARX SET WITH TWO LOCOMOTIVES

Q At an antique store I came across a box of Marx trains. There were two locomotives (a no. 588 New York Central diesel switcher and a no. 400 New York Central steam engine and tender), along with four different freight cars and two cabooses. The owner of the store said everything had come from one owner, who said it was one train set. Did Marx ever offer something like this? – *Walter Springer, Moncks Corner, S.C.*

A Yes it did, at least according to information in the third volume of *Greenberg's Guide to Marx Trains* (1991). There you will find this photo of set no. 39360, known as the Marx Electric Twin Train.

Besides the two engines and cabooses mentioned, it came with a no. 2532 Cities Service green single-dome tank car, 21913 Lehigh Valley black hopper, 347100 Pennsylvania RR gray gondola, and 467100

Marx always sought to innovate with its O gauge train line. A great example was releasing the Marx Electric Twin Train, which had two locomotives.

Baltimore & Ohio red boxcar. Also packed inside the box for the 39360 were sections of track and a no. 1239 50-watt transformer. Any youngster fortunate enough to own this Marx set would have plenty of fun thanks to its having plenty of trains.

STIFF FIGURES ON FLYER HANDCAR

Q After 50 years or so, the arms on the figures of my American Flyer no. 740 handcar that must bend back and forth while the unit is running are stiff. I can see where this stiffness adds to the work the unit must perform while running.

Is there a material I can spread on the arms to soften this stiffness, perhaps an oil, to ease the pressure on the drive gear on the axle? The unit is so small that I wonder whether the drive of the unit, when properly lubricated, will cause gear slippage. Possibly bending those stiff arms by the pumping handles will add pressure to the apparatus. Maybe substituting new figures



with softer rubber is the solution. – Mickey Demian, Cedar Grove, Wis.

A The rubber compounds used for many figures on our trains have a tendency to harden and deteriorate over the years. In the case of the Lionel no. 65 handcar or the American Flyer no. 740 handcar, the flexibility of the figures is important to the proper operation of the unit.

Sorry to say, I'm not aware of anything that can be done to reverse the deterioration once it has set in. What I do is replace the offending parts with new reproduction parts that are soft and provide the proper operating characteristics. Reproduction parts are the answer when operating items. Still, make sure you save the original parts in case you decide to return the items to their original state. **CTT**

Looking to build a new layout?

Look no further, GarGraves has what you need for your model railroad empire!

We have been manufacturing track, switches, operating and special tracks for 80 years.



Visit our website, give us a call or stop in to your local dealer and ask for GarGraves Track Products.

www.GarGraves.com

GarGraves Trackage Corp.
8967 Ridge Road
North Rose, NY 14516
315-483-6577
email gargraves@gargraves.com



S&W PARTS SUPPLY WE'RE BACK!

LIONEL PARTS DEALER AND AUTHORIZED
SERVICE STATION #91 PROVIDING
EXPERT REPAIRS TO PREWAR, POSTWAR
AND ALL MODERN LIONEL EQUIPMENT

EMAIL: trains@sandwparts.com

WEB: www.sandwparts.com

Hours: Tuesday - Friday: 9-5PM EST

TEL - (518) 280-5197

762 Whitney Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309
NY Sales Tax (where applicable) & shipping

Authorized
**Lionel, MTH and
Bachmann** dealer



MARIO'S TRAINS™
THE SOURCE FOR THE ENTHUSIAST

GIVE US A CALL (540) 868-0025

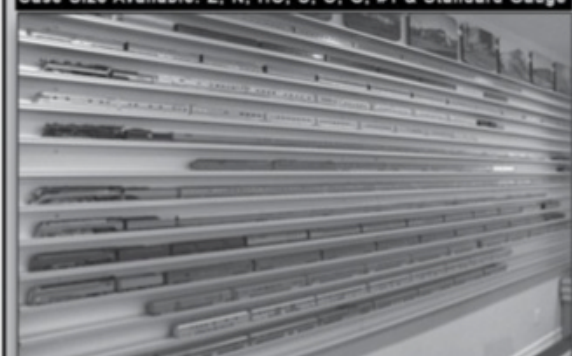
Mention
this ad for
FREE shipping
anywhere in
continental
USA

mariostrains.com

SHOWCASE-EXPRESS

Wall to Wall Expandable Display Case

Case Size Available: Z, N, HO, S, O, G, #1 & Standard Gauge



Lighting Kits and Backgrounds Available

Join Top to Bottom
or End to End

714-842-0672

www.SHOWCASE-EXPRESS.com

Texas Trains & Diecast



(972) 824-7123
We buy collections of all sizes!

30 Years of Experience
Finances Available
Ready to Travel
Confidential at all Times
Professional Treatment

www.txtrains.com
texastrains@yahoo.com

DISPLAY SHELVES FOR YOUR TRAIN ROOM!



Satin Finish,
Hardened Anodized
Extruded Aluminum
No Brackets Needed
Raised Rails Hold
Your Trains in Place
6 Ft. Lengths,
Expandable with
Joiner Pins Supplied
Special Cutting
Available

Combination "HO/S" Gauge \$14.00
"O" Gauge \$18.00
Combination "O/STD/LGB" Gauge . . \$27.00
Plus UPS Shipping

RAIL STOPS - This extremely versatile product is designed to fit our shelves or similar shelving from HO/S gauge or O gauge to O/STD/LGB gauge. RAIL STOPS can be used any place along your shelves and will prevent your trains from being rolled along the rails. RAIL STOPS fit all track and can be used in place of bumpers on train layouts.

RAIL STOPS are \$10.00 per dozen, including shipping.



RAIL END CAPS - The newest addition to Glenn Snyder Display Systems product line. Designed to trim the ends of our shelves or similar shelving. RAIL END CAPS will give a finished look to the end of your shelves and

will prevent your trains from being knocked off the ends.

Please specify when ordering: combination "HO/S" gauge, "O" gauge or combination "O/STD/LGB" gauge.

RAIL END CAPS are \$3.50 each, any size. Plus shipping and handling.

GLENN SNYDER DISPLAY SYSTEMS

5940 Woodlee Court • Orchard Park, NY 14127

Toll Free 1-877-852-4676

e-mail: glenn@gsds.com • www.gsds.com

ALL PRODUCTS MADE IN USA

VIEWS FROM THE UNDERGROUND

WITH LOU PALUMBO

Supply and demand

THE MARKET NEVER LOSES ITS VIGOR

I was looking at the brand-new *Greenberg's Pocket Price Guide to Lionel Trains, 1901-2020*, published by Kalmbach Media Co. I couldn't help noticing how long and how hefty it is. The latest edition of this reference book seemed quite larger than earlier price guides.

Greenberg's Pocket Price Guide to Lionel Trains is divided into three main sections, each covering a major period of production: Prewar (1901-42), Postwar (1945-69), and Modern (1970-present).

The section dealing with the modern era is much longer than the others. The prewar section has 37 pages of listings. The section on postwar has 44 pages. But the one on the modern era has a whopping 279 pages, listing all the sets, locomotives, and rolling stock made by Lionel.

The guide designates the types and names of trains produced. It does not state anything about the quantities.

Yet there's no question production of toy trains has increased immensely since 1970. Especially considering the O gauge models made by other manufacturers.

MTH Electric Trains, Atlas O, K-Line, Williams, and Weaver are some of the domestic manufacturers of trains, other than Lionel, during the past 40 years.

The baby boom generation helped fuel the resurrection of the train business. Besides collecting sets and models from the postwar era, they absorbed the many new trains with an appetite fed by their model memories of their past.

The market had been driven by the demand for these trains relative to the limited supply of domestic trains available during the 1970s. Then MTH led the parade of new businesses to meet the demand and encourage Lionel to improve the quality of its trains.

The various toy train manufacturers seemed to meet the growing demand. They produced many great trains for the public. In time, the supply of new trains met the demand for them. Manufacturers got it, as the market seemed to level off.

As a consequence, new trains have remained steady on price for the past few years. Companies have been doing their best to create new types of trains to sell.

A review of the latest consumer catalogs from MTH, Lionel, and Williams shows many new road names, locomotives, and accessories to

tempt buyers. Clearly, manufacturers are still working on improving their products to meet the new demand for trains. My feeling is that there are millions of people that still want to buy and collect toy trains.

The Internet is full of people selling trains to people getting into the hobby. Meanwhile, Lionel, MTH, and others are making new products to meet demand.

There's also a healthy market for contemporary model trains in like-new or better condition that are being sold by their original owners. I purchase many collections and then resell the various items to new customers at reduced prices.

Millions of people still desire toy trains, especially modern ones. They enter the market daily and increase the demand. Those of us who handle retail sales provide the supply. I don't think we've reached the saturation point yet.

Yes, the market for trains will keep changing, with high points and lows. Still, the magic of toy trains remains highly contagious. There are many more people who have yet to fall in love with them but definitely will. We're lucky if we already have.

Keep searchin' **CTT**



LOU PALUMBO, the owner of the Underground Railroad Shoppe in New Castle, Pa., writes this exclusive column for *Classic Toy Trains*. He can be reached at 1906 Wilmington Rd., New Castle, PA 16105 or by email at trainplum@yahoo.com

Bring Together All The Pieces

Get Yours
Today!



America's Colorful Toy Trains Puzzle 500-pieces - 15" x 21" when completed

Toy trains have delighted children and adults alike for more than 100 years. Keep the fun going by completing this colorful jigsaw puzzle, exclusively from *Classic Toy Trains* by Masterpieces, Inc.

KalmbachHobbyStore.com/CTTPuzzle

Sales tax where applicable.

Great Products from *Classic Toy Trains*

Check out the editors' favorite products! Choose from a wide selection of books, special issues, digital downloads, DVDs, posters, and more!

Shop now at
KalmbachHobbyStore.com/ToyTrains



P35511

Price does not include shipping. Sales tax where applicable.

{ **MASTER THE ESSENTIALS** }

**HOW-TO
TIPS FOR
IMPROVING
YOUR
LAYOUT**

50 GREAT IDEAS

By Roger Carp



» **One of the gems of wisdom** passed from one generation of layout builders to the next is, logically enough, there can never be enough gems of wisdom! Modelers benefit immensely when they discover the ways their peers have developed realistic or whimsical displays whose detail, color, animation, and authenticity command attention.

The value of intelligent insights and smart tips is clear. So, we enumerated more than 500 tips in *Best Toy Train Layouts*, the latest special-interest publication from *Classic Toy Trains*. Yet we wanted to give readers even more nuggets of wisdom and experience from the builders of the layouts profiled there.

Two of the men whose O gauge railroads are spotlighted there (Thomas Olsen and Gordy Sauve) had submitted manuscripts outlining some of the ways they had improved their layouts. So also had John Coy, whose layout had been featured in the November 2018 issue of CTT.

With great ideas at our fingertips, there was no question about gathering what these three O gauge maestros had to say and organizing their tips into a story packed with terrific pictures. And here it is!



The smartest thing readers can do now is study our cover story slowly and carefully. Consider how to apply various insights to what you have constructed or intend on making. Think about the techniques described and the materials used before starting another scene or section of your latest O or S gauge display.

What Gordy, John, and Thomas suggest will not lose relevance or worth over time. They are veteran builders who have picked up tons of knowledge by investigating the work of others and making mistakes before trying again. They have figured out what works in a consistent manner while cutting financial costs and reducing the time devoted to achieving it. The three make things look simple and effective because they've worked so hard to reach their goals.

Best Toy Train Layouts, the latest special-interest publication from *Classic Toy Trains*, showcases 10 O gauge railroads, including those Gordy and Thomas built.

So much of what makes Thomas Olsen's O gauge railroad enjoyable is evident in this photo he snapped of his Thomasville RR. His 11 tips include ideas on enhancing the details and lights on buildings; using hand-painted or commercial backdrops; and strategically arranging figures.





GETTING PHILOSOPHICAL WITH GORDY SAUVE

Tips come in all sizes, tastes, and varieties. John Coy thinks big and focuses on the major steps builders should take to ensure their layouts can be developed in a comfortable and worthwhile manner.

Thomas Olsen doles out his wisdom as small change: He writes about the benefits of detailing structures, installing tiny lights, and using figures.

Gordy Sauve, the owner of a 24 x 52-foot three-rail empire, also thinks big. As readers of the article about his Amherst Junction Short Line in *Best Toy Train Layouts* learned, he has two floors in a renovated barn for his growing display.

But Gordy thinks big from a perspective diverging from John's. He likes to philosophize about the hobby. "Here are a solid **18 ideas** I've refined over a lifetime of building layouts."

1 Gordy has a mantra he recites every time he prepares to work on the layout or run a few trains. "Remember," he admonishes himself, "you are still a kid at heart. You love to play with trains. And there's nothing wrong with that!"

2 Gordy's imagination rules his train room. He indulges his passions and permits himself the freedom to have fun.

3 Inject pleasure into your hobby. Gordy does that by getting out of the house and meeting other model railroaders, especially those who share and apply his easy-going approach. They offer guidance on the skills and materials necessary for designing layouts that best show off their trains.

4 Fun in the hobby derives for Gordy from searching for or, better yet designing, a

track plan he loves. You should do the same. "Love everything about it: main lines and mountains, sidings and settlements, industries and farms, and stations and yards." You love your plan so much that spending a few years bringing it to life will never be a burden.

5 Gordy believes the secret to a successful layout for both the builder and any visitor is the number of stories it manages to tell. "Load your layout with vignettes so people linger," he says. "You do that by using structures, scenery, and details in clever and special ways."

6 In need of assistance for developing the attractive and persuasive scenes that distinguish the finest layouts? Gordy thinks a great place to start is by consulting websites whose videos offer instruction

on building layouts every step of the way. Gordy recommends Model Railroader Video Plus (Kalmbach Media Co.), plus videos by Scenic Express and Woodland Scenics.

7 Of course, Gordy goes on, "every one of us messes up." We occasionally end up with scenes on our layout that simply don't work for us. In that case, he says, never fret or worry. "Be fearless and tear down what you hate, even if it takes up a lot of room and you spent a lot of time making it."

GORDY NAMED PORT WOLDING AFTER A FRIEND, AS HE SUGGESTS MODELERS DO ON THEIR RAILROADS.

Then just relax and start over, albeit with a clear conscience and a sharper and firmer vision of what you want to achieve. Predictably, you will reach your goals.

LEFT Transitions from one scene to the next, critical to the visual and operating value of an O or S gauge layout, challenged Gordy throughout construction. For this nook, he capitalized on fueling devices placed between the engine house and the signal tower to increase appeal and realism. The figures and vegetation bolster the effect.

RIGHT Gordy's tips have improved this scene: a backdrop, natural materials, figures and details, and lighting and signs.



8 From these seven general thoughts, Gordy shifts to specifics. He reminds builders about the critical need to make their scenes seem bigger and deeper. Try using painted murals and photo backdrops for these ends.

9 To camouflage flat lines of track, vary the elevations surrounding them. Gordy recommends using cuts, bluffs, and bridges, just as he did.

10 When it comes time to vary the topography, try to make use of different materials. Gordy created foundations for his many elevations,

plateaus, valleys, peaks, and mountains with foam insulation boards and ceiling tiles.

11 Another way to add depth to areas while saving on space when making scenery involves experimenting with different proportions.

12 Think about how transitions can be created between scenes so viewers shift their attention from one to the next in a logical, consistent, and pleasing manner. Gordy points to his layout to strengthen his conclusion that bridges and tunnels, mountains and forests, and various

and inexpensively available in your backyard. Gordy has used dirt, pebbles, sand, stones, twigs, weeds (including roots), and brush from around his house and barn. Once he's harvested what he needs, he cleans or bakes it to get rid of microbes.

14 Always, Gordy insists, become familiar with the businesses supplying parts and scratchbuilding materials for projects that put your touch on structures and other scenic elements. He especially likes Evergreen Scale Models and Grandt Line.

LEFT A plan promising fun is a great way to ensure you keep working on a layout. Gordy did so by leaving space for the accessories introduced by MTH. He put die-cast metal automobiles and trucks nearby, along with figures to create neat vignettes.

waterways serve as ideal transitions.

13 When your landscapes call for more natural effects, look for what is easily

15 Sometimes, of course, no one manufactures what you want. So, learn to make it. Using jigs and latex molds will pay big dividends, Gordy points out.

16 Don't forget that toys can make wonderful additions to layouts. Gordy has in mind die-cast metal vehicles (check out releases from Diecast Direct), plastic ship and airplane kits, cartoon characters, movie tie-ins, and vintage details.

17 Gordy's penultimate insight is simple and straightforward. Automobile striping, he says, can be used to mark off crosswalks and parking lot spaces.

18 Finally, Gordy told us with a twinkle in his eye, name towns, stations, and businesses on your layout after family members and friends. They will love it!



John Coy advises determining the configuration and height of a layout with care and foresight. He also recommends giving thought to the depth and accessibility of each nook and cranny.



Spacious aislesways are essential, says John, for ensuring that ongoing work and regular maintenance can be done comfortably and thoroughly. These features, like the quality lighting and flooring, make it enjoyable for people to visit the layout.

» BUILD FOR SUCCESS IN 21 STEPS WITH JOHN COY

Back in the November 2018 issue of *Classic Toy Trains*, readers were introduced to the 36 x 36-foot O gauge layout John Coy with help from his wife and son had completed. The Glacier Line paid tribute on a grand scale to the Great Northern Ry's operations in Montana during the 1940s all the way to the 1960s, when steam motive power gave way to the first generation of diesel units.

The extensive and in-depth look at the Coys' 3-rail empire offered many terrific photos and lots of information about how they had expertly handled the trackwork, the electronics, and the mind-blowing mountain scenery. It did not, unfortunately, give equal time to how the room and the layout had been designed.

John enjoys focusing on these areas. Not only does it afford him the opportunity to share more about his layout but it also encourages him to offer tips to enlighten his fellow O gauge modelers.

19 John starts by defining the location of a layout and being aware of its boundaries. He advises builders to determine where at home they have the freedom and space to construct and operate a model railroad. They should be clear about how much real estate they can claim while understanding the need for leaving ample open area around the layout.

20 Think creatively about the size and configuration of your layout. It need not be a single rectangular sheet of plywood or a few of them. You may want to develop a layout placed along the walls of your train room on a narrow and firmly supported shelf or on top of several bookcases.

21 A third point John brings up relates to designing your layout. Besides the templates out there, he mentions computer software for track planning (notably SCARM) and computer-aided design (CAD) programs.

22 When sketching out your layout, plan for what John calls "people space." Everyone wants to have relatively easy access to the layout to construct, wire, and maintain it and run trains on it.

23 Be sure to place on your drawing circles 24 inches in diameter. Each circle represents one person. Draw as many circles as you anticipate will be the number of people present at your layout at any time. By doing this, you can provide yourself with a visual illustration of how many

people your layout area will easily accommodate.

24 Remember visitors tend to gather around areas of interest, namely, accessories, turntables, and yards. You may need extra space there.

25 After you have defined your space for both trains and people, you're ready to prepare the train room. Yes, exactly when you want most to begin construction of your layout, you had better slow down and concentrate on the train room itself.

26 ^wAt a minimum, this stage involves creating a comfortable and clean setting in which to work and relax. The room should be environmentally regulated. It has to be inviting and accessible, so whatever comforts you offer enhance the experience in positive ways for others and you. Everyone will enjoy the layout more and stay longer, and you will work on it more, if the area is comfortable.

Comfort means different things to different people. To John, a train room should have, at a minimum, interlocking rubberized tiles on the floor and painted pieces of sheetrock (drywall) attached to the studs on the walls and ceiling. There also ought to be portable heaters or cooling devices.

27 It must be possible to reach every square foot. To build it, to revise it, and to maintain it, you need access to every area. The places that are the most difficult and inconvenient to reach always seem to require the most attention.

The typical person can reach about 30 inches across a surface that's waist high. If the surface is shoulder high, that person's reach is reduced. Hence, the maximum depth of any spot on a layout should be 30 inches, unless that area can be accessed from more than one side. If you place skyscrapers between both sides and the center, you may not be able to reach the center.

28 This reach provision may be circumvented by the use of access hatches or openings in your benchwork. Use this option sparingly because it ends up being more challenging each day to crawl and come up through these access openings.



There are no hard-and-fast rules about how far apart to space parallel main lines. John advises checking the clearance between them and nearby scenic effects and structures.

29 How about the height of a layout? John doubts there is one right or wrong answer. It depends on the height of the builder and the adults and children he or she intends to visit and wish to operate the railroad.

A layout lower to the floor gives people a "helicopter-view." A higher one brings details closer to the eye. Lower layouts are easier to reach across, and higher layouts are easier to work underneath.

30 Low ceilings above the layout or obstructions below it may necessitate a certain height in a particular area. The typical layout height is 42 inches. Layouts have points 36 to 72 inches off the floor. A useful compromise would be building the main level 36 to 48 inches high – a good range for operating and viewing.

31 The width of the aisles in the benchwork is also key. A bare-bones solution is 36 inches when planning aisle ways or the area around the perimeter of your layout. Two average people will be able to pass by one another relatively easily in that space. Anything less will prove uncomfortable for them.

32 Now is the time to divert our attention to the design of the network of rails, starting with the width of curves. At first, in John's estimation, the most sensible conclusion is to make the curves as wide as possible. There is, however, much more to be considered when planning.

33 John states emphatically that if you install very wide curves on your layout, trains will appear to operate more smoothly and realistically. Even so, wider curves mean more space is required; this may not be possible on a small model railroad.

WHEN YOU ARE SKETCHING OUT YOUR LAYOUT, BE SURE TO PLAN FOR WHAT JOHN REFERS TO AS "PEOPLE SPACE."

34 So, be practical about the matter of curves. Ask yourself, "How long is the longest piece of equipment I intend to operate?" Should the answer be a tiny ore car pulled by a four-wheel engine, use the sharpest curve. But if you run passenger cars ranging in length from 13 to 24 inches, you must use larger curves.

35 John's suggestion is to read a manufacturer's information about its product and plan accordingly. The longest piece of equipment you intend to operate will determine the minimum sharpness of your curves. Just because a certain length of railcar can go through a curve doesn't mean it will look good doing so.

Nearly every builder varies the curvature of main lines as opposed to the sidings. For example, if a siding or spur is made exclusively for short rolling stock, the curvature may be very sharp. By contrast, if the siding is for scale-length auto carriers, the curves would need to be much broader.

36 Next, what should be the distance between two tracks or one track and adjacent scenery or a building? Plainly, rolling stock must not make contact with any other objects as it travels. Spacing between parallel lines of track has a huge variation, as it depends on the width and length of the equipment being run and the sharpness of the curvature.

The best method for determining if your spacing is set sufficiently for any area is to physically test it. Do so by

temporarily setting up parallel lines of track and using your longest pieces of rolling stock.

37 Yet another important matter relates to grades. Builders of toy train layouts use grades for dramatic effects and operating entertainment. When putting in a grade for a main line, always consider what effect it may have on a locomotive's capability of pulling freight or passenger cars uphill.

If you want one train to pass over another one, you must determine what height your clearance should be. Then you must calculate the length of track required to raise the train to the desired level.

Typically, O scale clearance recommendations suggest 6 inches of space between the top of the rails below to the bottom of whatever is above those lower rails for clearance.

To determine your grade, John advises calculating the so-called “rise over run.” In other words, what distance does the train travel until it reaches the peak of the grade? For example, if a train traveled 100 inches to reach a 4-inch crest, the grade would be 4 percent. Modelers shouldn’t exceed a 5 percent grade. A grade so steep may cause issues with long trains or heavier pieces of rolling stock.

38 Moving along, John mentions duckunders, both those whose purpose is accessibility and those whose purpose is operational (any place on a layout where you have to crawl on the floor to get from one point to another to run trains). The latter is horribly inconvenient and must be avoided at all costs.

39 An access duckunder is any place on a layout where you have to crawl on the floor to get to another point to reach an object, rerail a train, or make repairs. If you can’t avoid adding these kinds of duckunders, please try to minimize them.

Okay, now please take the 21 insights and tips John has shared and employ them to make your train room more comfortable and inviting and your model railroad easier to construct and wire and ultimately more enjoyable to see as well as operate.



Many of the tips Thomas Olsen likes to share with other model railroaders make this scene on his O gauge Thomasville RR come to life. He has added lights and detailing to the interior and exterior of several of the structures. Figures at work and play can easily be observed throughout, and the blend of new and vintage items keeps us looking for more.

» FIGURES AND DETAILS MAKE A LAYOUT IMPOSSIBLE TO FORGET

The 11 x 16-foot Thomasville RR represented a three-rail display constructed after the Olsen family had moved to a smaller residence. Thomas told a tale of having to surrender the ample real estate he had formerly enjoyed for his layout. The new home dictated a smaller railroad.

Rather than keep building up and out, Thomas learned the tricks of getting smaller and tighter and making every scene meaningful. He made it impossible for viewers to ignore areas.

Thomas acknowledged the space available for his new layout had decreased. He had to reconsider what

his goals were and to revise his modeling techniques.

Important as the trains would be on the Thomasville RR, so too would its owner place equal emphasis on the structures. Buildings – stores, houses, depots, restaurants, and offices – were going to provide Thomas with opportunities to entertain onlookers curious about what was happening and wondering just why.

The starting point for Thomas was exploring the enormous variety of O gauge structures. He studied the models available from, among other firms, Ameri-Towne, Bar Mills, Design

Preservation Models, Gloor Craft Models, Lionel, MTH Electric Trains, Plasticville, and Woodland Scenics.

Once Thomas had selected the buildings he wanted to complement the network of track, he set out to modify them. He added personality

INTEGRATE VINTAGE AND CONTEMPORARY DETAILS AND STRUCTURES INTO SCENES.

and visual interest so visitors lingering at different scenes feel at home.

The valuable lessons Thomas picked up have

ready application to everyone out there modeling in either O or S gauge. He has ideas about improving the vignettes, nooks, and corners on a layout. Figures, signs, lights, and details are the keys.

40 Enhance the lighting on every building, Thomas says. First, figure out how to install a light inside. Then examine the exterior to see where flashing lights can be added. These alterations and additions are particularly important on the landmark structures dominating major scenes. Then you can plan for dramatic night views.

41 Improve the lighting on buildings that come with grain-of-wheat bulbs. Thomas does this by replacing those older types with up-to-date fixtures and bulbs using light-emitting diodes (LEDs). Station platforms are obvious candidates for better light bulbs, because by brightening the area they enable viewers to see passengers more clearly and to read and appreciate any of the signs there.

42 Utilize the amazing range of neon signs currently available to boost the color, light, and excitement of a layout. Rotating and wall signs multiply the good effects of illuminated signs. Just make sure they match the historical era being modeled.

43 Create activity inside structures. Many modelers leave the interior of buildings as empty as they were when purchased, even if they have windows on the outside revealing the vacant space. Begin by adding lights and then move forward with miniature furniture and appliances. And don't overlook the need to arrange figures near

the windows so viewers can imagine people doing their jobs, making use of what manner of business is located there, or merely loafing inside.

44 Upgrade the exterior of the buildings. Besides adding lights, Thomas says it makes sense to put fixtures on the roofs and sides. He also recommends painting doors and window frames, weathering walls, and rubbing white paint over the sides of models meant to have brick sides so you can simulate mortar.

46 Customize signs to honor family members and friends. An easy step sure to please the people who spend the most time with the layout. The names put on signs and structures can be fictitious, so they bring to mind individuals who assisted with the layout or who love operating it. Thomas, like other modelers, goes out of his way to make signs with the names of his grandchildren. The fun comes when a business on the layout reflects the interest of a youngster.

on the market boggles the mind. Insert them into scenes of work and leisure, travel, eating, and drinking.

49 Integrate vintage and contemporary details and structures into scenes. The Thomasville RR features post-war items alongside some of the recently produced buildings. Watch for the Plasticville telephone poles and Dinky gasoline pumps, not to mention the familiar railroad and street signs sold by Lionel in the 1950s.



Miodel citizens, some standing to watch the oncoming Atlantic Coast Line train zip past and others perched in the driver's seats of the cars and trucks – all of them reflect thought and skilled modeling by Thomas. Signs on the grocery store and the makes and models of the vehicles clarify the Thomasville RR layout is set in the post-World War II era.

45 Depend on signs to establish the era and locale being modeled. Billboards, placards, and business names do much to suggest to viewers when your layout is supposed to be set and in which region of the country or elsewhere. They also add color to your scenes, boost the level of nostalgia, and give folks reason to pause to read what you have posted on or next to a structure and then to reminisce about it.

47 Fill scenes with children. More than just signs, arrange figures of boys and girls in many of the scenes. Visitors have a blast spying youngsters on their way to school, playing games outdoors, riding bikes, and walking dogs.

48 Make great use of the enormous variety of figures available. The range of painted die-cast metal human and animal figures currently

50 Swap and shift buildings regularly. Thomas cautions against conceiving of every structure as being in its permanent site. To the contrary. He likes to replace some of them with new ones just discovered on the market. If he doesn't want to remove a particular structure altogether, then he will search for another location on his layout where it will fit in naturally. Changes give viewers justification for returning again and again. **CTT**

RICHIE RICH

GETS A LAYOUT



JACK HALBLEIB'S S GAUGE DISPLAY COULD BELONG TO THE CARTOON "POOR LITTLE RICH BOY"

By Roger Carp • Photos by Jack Halbleib

American Flyer enthusiast Jack Halbleib, like many of his modeling peers who came of age in the 1950s and '60s, recalls the dozens of comic books he used to buy and read. The adventures of Superman and Batman, Archie and Jughead, Bugs Bunny and Porky Pig elicited wows, sighs, and laughs.

Then Jack remembers the odd and humorous characters that had populated the brightly colored publications put out by Harvey Comics. Casper the Friendly Ghost and Baby Huey were two. But the one who paid the bills was Richie Rich, a kind and down-to-earth kid whose family just happened to be incredibly wealthy. Why, Richie's middle name was simply a dollar sign!

Jack constructed an action-packed S gauge layout he believes would have been just right for Richie Rich. Lots of American Flyer toy trains and operating accessories were going to fill its 96 square feet. There would be thrills and fun for anyone, even the richest lad on the planet.

Starting with Flyer

The day Jack got going on the design of what became this 10 x 12-foot S gauge display with an additional loop of track on a 6 x 8½-foot elevated portion, he didn't have Richie \$ Rich on his mind. Uppermost was himself and what he wanted to do after waiting so many years.

Jack is one of those rare toy train enthusiasts who never abandoned the hobby, not even when, as so many guys admit, girls, cars, and sports came along. He's been a loyal S gauge modeler since the late 1940s, when, according to a faded clipping from his hometown newspaper, a young mother soothed her fussy baby (Jack) by letting him gaze at American Flyer trains running on a display at a hardware store.

1 This scene, consisting of some accessories from the postwar era, gives Jack – or his alter ego, Richie \$ Rich – lots to enjoy while running that classic Texas & Pacific Baldwin switcher. A backdrop adds depth and interest to this area.

AT A GLANCE

Name: Jack Halbleib's S gauge layout

Dimensions: 10 x 12 feet

Track: Gilbert American Flyer, K-Line (radii range from 19 to 22 inches)

Switches: Gilbert American Flyer

Motive power: American Models, Gilbert American Flyer, Lionel

Rolling stock: American Models, Gilbert American Flyer, Lionel, S-Helper Service

Controls: Gilbert American Flyer nos. 1½, 19B (2), 30B transformers

Accessories: Gilbert American Flyer, Lionel, MTH

Structures: Gilbert American Flyer, Lionel, Plasticville, scratchbuilt

Vehicles: Manoil, Marx, Plasticville, Renwal

Figures: American Flyer, Ertl, K-Line, Marx, Plasticville

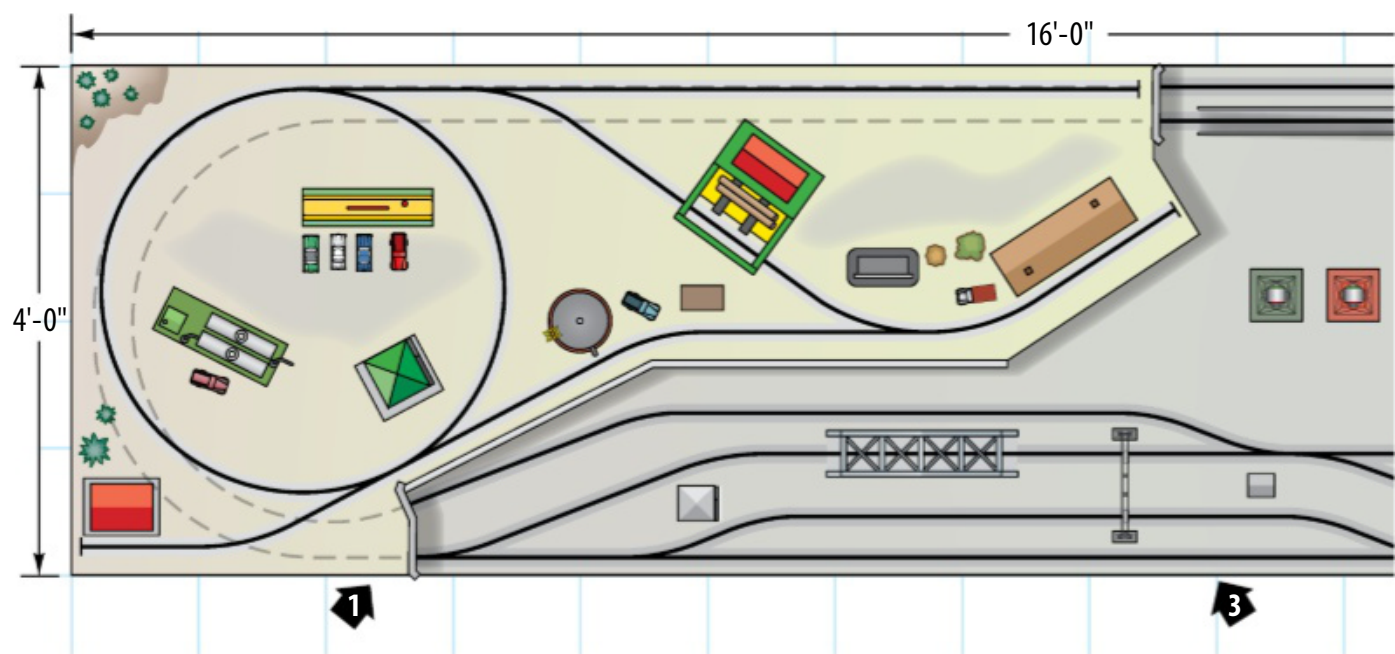
2 A nice assortment of American Flyer accessories and Plasticville U.S.A. residential and commercial structures gives life to this portion of Jack's layout.

From that moment on, Jack never cried or threw a tantrum, at least not if a miniature train could be held or moved. From the plastic and metal locomotives and cars he pushed across the floor as a toddler, he graduated to a Marx windup.

The turning point for this lifelong Gilbert devotee came on Christmas morning of 1953. Santa, wishing to teach Jack and his brother how to share, bestowed on them an American Flyer no. 5312T Black Diamond Fast Freight. The boys fell in love with the four-car set led by a no. 302 Reading Lines 4-4-2 Atlantic and tender with smoke and "choo-choo" sound.

A layout followed in short order. Jack recalls his dad assembling a table measuring 5 x 9 feet that he covered with some kind of spongy material to absorb the roar produced by a dashing and crashing train.

Before heading off to junior high school, Jack had shifted from S gauge to HO scale. He could, after all, put together a larger and more elaborate rail empire on the 5 x 9 platform if he laid down the smaller tracks and switches.



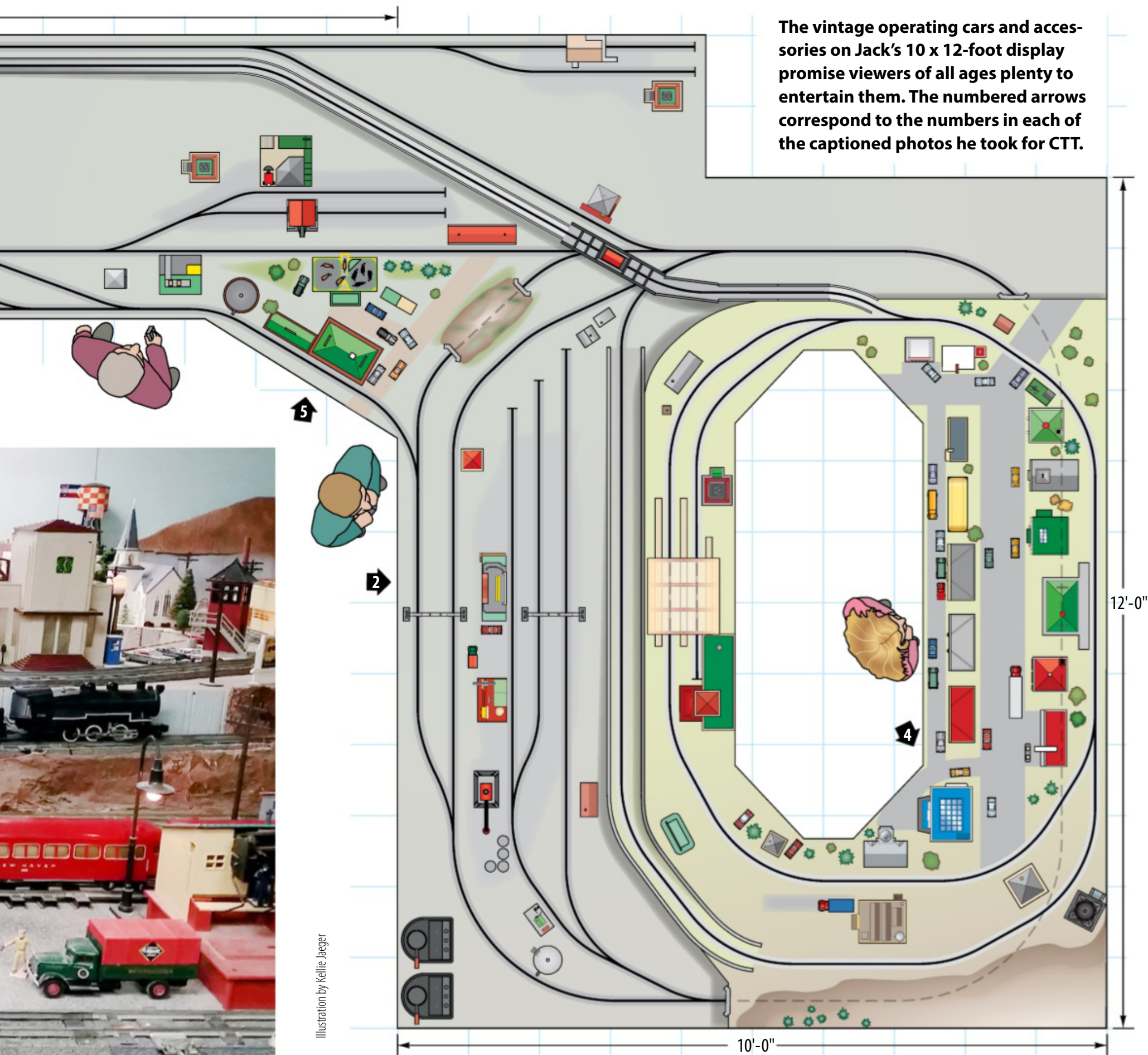
Which is what Jack did. Layout after HO layout consumed him through the years after marrying Mary Lee and raising their two children, Jason and Jodene.

Returning with Richie

Career and family all but took over Jack's time. Somehow, Mary Lee and he still found a few hours on the weekends to check out local garage sales and tote home various treasures. Inevitably, folks placed on card tables vintage toy trains. Jack's eyes all but jumped out of his head the morning he saw a Flyer set for sale.

He had to buy the train, especially once he realized the owner had replaced the engine originally in it with a 302 Atlantic. "I went home and fired up the steamer," Jack recalled. "It smoked and ran, but the headlight didn't work. Then I tapped the top of the boiler, and the light flashed on." An omen of the fun Jack was to have!

In half a second, HO lost meaning to Jack. His passion for all things Gilbert burst forth and has remained searing hot ever since. Of course, once his thoughts started drifting back to the postwar era and his childhood, other interests revived,



The vintage operating cars and accessories on Jack's 10 x 12-foot display promise viewers of all ages plenty to entertain them. The numbered arrows correspond to the numbers in each of the captioned photos he took for CTT.



Illustration by Kellie Jaeger

including music, television programs, and comic books.

The last part of Jack's youth brought back memories of Richie Rich. Fortunately to have everything a kid might desire, Richie never reported on having an electric train. The time had finally come, Jack announced, to give the fictional child a Flyer display loaded with action!

Upgraded foundation

If Richie, who resided in a mansion and owned at least two of everything money could buy, was going to have an S gauge

railroad, it had to be erected on a solid and attractive foundation. Nothing shoddy or ugly for that young mogul!

To the rescue rode a friend Jack knew from model railroading. Dennis Bowe had honed every skill needed to create handsome furniture, including cabinets with display shelves. He envisioned a handcrafted table about 10 x 12 feet in size with places along the lower sections where models could be shown. The foundation would be strong enough that Jack would be able to safely walk across the top when necessary.

MEET JACK



Jack, who enjoys vintage comic books as much as he does American Flyer trains and accessories, considers his layout perfect for a popular character, Richie Rich.

Thrilled with what Dennis was busy assembling, Jack recommended the surface stand about 42 inches high. Experience had taught him such a height would



EXCLUSIVE VIDEO //

Go to www.ClassicToyTrains.com/LayoutVisits



3 Life got pretty easy for the engineer at the throttle of the American Flyer no. 355 Chicago & North Western Baldwin diesel switcher after he unloaded the freight in the two Boston & Maine boxcars. Then he could accelerate onto the main line.

make it easy to work on the underside for wiring. Just as important, the tracks and scenic effects could be comfortably seen by children.

Dennis, assisted by Jack, used 1 x 4 lumber for the framework and supporting legs fastened to the tabletop with 16-inch centers. For the top, they concluded ½-inch-thick plywood would be ideal.

The track and switches, Jack decided, ought to pay homage to the great trains of his youth. We're talking about the rubber roadbed Gilbert marketed, along with its straights, curves (with a radius of 19 inches), and electric turnouts. Where installing wider curves seemed beneficial, Jack acquired 22-inch units by K-Line.

"I wanted to keep things as much like an American Flyer layout from the 1950s would be," Jack said. Richie \$ Rich would have preferred his railroad be consistent in that manner. When pressed, Jack does say if he were starting over, he might go with new track by Lionel or S-Helper Service.

Every accessory there

More than 60 years ago, fast-moving Flyer trains, flashing signals, and bright lights entranced Jack as an infant. Ask Mary Lee, and she'll chuckle when saying that her husband has hardly changed. Gilbert's accessories never fail to thrill Jack.

Gratified by the innovative items, Jack has added virtually every one from the line. The rationale for wiring so many accessories on the platform boiled down to Jack's belief "Richie Rich would have demanded (in a friendly way) all of them."

Study the photos and you can pick out many classics. Jack directs our attention to the accessories, including a few not in the pictures: the nos. 577 whistling billboard, 583 electro-magnetic crane, 593 switch

tower, 596 water tank, 751 log loader, 755 talking station, 772 bubbling water tower, 779 oil drum loader, and 23796 sawmill.

There's no better way to animate the more than two dozen postwar accessories and structures (plus a few Lionel and MTH reproductions) than with some transformers developed by the Gilbert Co. Jack recites their numbers, ranging from a 1½ for lights and loaders up to two 19Bs (175 and 190 watts) and a 30B.



4 Whether residents of Jack's layout are recuperating at the Plasticville hospital or worshipping at the church, they just can't keep their eyes off the cool American Flyer no. 5535TBH New Silver Comet Passenger set rounding the bend along Main Street.

Then Jack shares a bit more information about how he runs the trains. “I use Atlas selectors for block control, with toggle switches enabling me to use sound controllers made by Lionel. The selectors date from my HO days, but they work fine. I consider them part of a ‘starter system’ that newcomers to the hobby might think about installing to dramatically increase operational capabilities.”

Still a period piece

Imagine 45-rpm records by Little Richard and the Fleetwoods or the Royal Teens spinning in the background as Jack proceeded to decorate the train table. Everything he could add should, he knew, advance the impression he was creating a layout from the 1950s.

And it takes knowledge and experience to pull off such a feat in the early 21st century. Unsure of what this means? Jack sheds light on the notion by reminding us he has been reading *Model Railroader* magazine since his teens. What he learned there decades ago has influenced his modeling.

“So has an article I read in *Boys’ Life* in the early 1960s,” Jack says. It convinced him simple landscaping could be effective. Therefore, he opted to make the mountains using cardboard forms over which he draped shop towels dipped in joint compound. He colored the hardened surface with whatever spray paints were on hand: brown primer, gray, and camouflage hues.

The ancient wisdom gleaned from *Boys’ Life* and MR prodded Jack to paint the roads right on the tabletop using gray color. The curbs and sidewalks amounted to thin white cardstock cut to shape, with block lines drawn in pencil.

To fill up the town and rail yard, Jack did exactly what Richie might have done long ago – or asked his butler, Cadbury, to do. Namely, various wood and plastic facilities from the Flyer (nos. 271 whistle stop set, 767 Bradford diner, and 793 Union Station and platform, among others) and the Plasticville U.S.A. lines.



5 Travelers, a bit weary from waiting for the next express to halt at the Plasticville station, rush to board the American Flyer passenger train led by classic Santa Fe Alco PA diesels. The action takes place on Jack Halbleib’s tribute to the trains and accessories made by the A.C. Gilbert Co.

Basic wiring, too

Built for Jack or any comic book character, the layout had to run like a dream – no derailments, shorts, or collisions allowed.

Jack notes the basic wiring was done with 22-gauge pieces. He powered the turnouts with four-strand telephone wire. Further, he hooked the lights to a separate circuit so he could run them at a reduced load while giving the switch machines “the full shot of juice.” Low-voltage Christmas lights illuminated many buildings.

Jack describes his layout as “basically a common rail system.” Each of the 15 blocks (including the wye) he isolated via rail joiners, with individual feeders going to the different blocks. All the commons are eventually connected together and controlled using the Atlas selectors.

Constructing HO layouts taught Jack about wiring, and he has applied that knowledge to his Flyer railroad. Articles in *Classic Toy Trains* and information in Atlas publications supplemented what he had figured out. Also, Jack’s “very accomplished friends in model railroading” made sure he learned the lessons required to wire and maintain an S gauge layout with reliable operation.

True to theme

Jack says proudly, “I have been true to my theme.” But what does he consider the theme of his compact S gauge railroad?

This layout was intended, Jack says, to be fun and functional. “I wanted to create a whimsical display that evokes nostalgia in older people who, like me, remember how trains can mesmerize children.” The layout should, he says, “fulfill my childhood dreams of giving the Black Diamond freight set an expansive land in which to run amid all the accessories possible.”

THE VIVID COLORS CHARACTERIZING GILBERT’S ROSTER FROM THE MIDDLE AND LATE 1950s INJECT FUN AND FANCY INTO THE MOST REALISTIC OF FLYER MODELS.

Even if Richie \$ Rich could’ve afforded a Flyer layout many times the size of Jack’s, he would still have a ball operating it. “You’re never too old to have a happy childhood,” Jack insists, which is why he has built a toy train display guaranteed to bring joy to every baby boomer. **GTT**

LESSONS GAINED

FROM A FLYER SET AND ITS OWNER

FRIENDSHIP GROWS FROM A CHANCE PURCHASE

By Mark Suek

Unlike many of the stories shared of “My Greatest Find” in *Classic Toy Trains* over the years, mine doesn’t involve the discovery of a particularly valuable toy train or a rare prototype. It isn’t about uncovering an engineering sample or a long-sought-after item.

My greatest find is more about people than trains, although a postwar American Flyer set is involved. My story highlights some lessons learned and a chance encounter under unlikely circumstances. It’s about treasure, but not the kind you may think.

Meeting a stranger

Let’s go back to the summer of 2015 – a sweltering summer day during the Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club’s annual two-day Parkersburg Homecoming Open House. As an officer of the West Virginia club, I was busy running my 8 x 22-foot S gauge layout for a packed house of guests who share a fascination with model trains.

I noticed a mountain of a man enter our club’s main room, housing seven layouts in various scales. Other than his physical size, what made him stand out among the crowd was that he was dressed in “filthy dirty” bib overalls and looked and smelled like a person who had been working in a barn or a field all day.

I knew that look and scent because my paternal grandparents had owned and operated a large dairy farm along the nearby Ohio River for more than 50 years. I realized club members and some guests were shying away from that man, though he appeared to have something on his mind. I decided to seek him out.

In polite and kind conversation, he told me he had “an old train set” outside and

wanted someone to look at it, determine a value, and, possibly make an offer to buy.

I agreed to take a look at his set and try to provide a value. The two of us climbed the stairs to go out into the sunshine and the parking lot. On the way out the door, the visitor mentioned he desperately needed \$50 to buy medicine for his wife.

Remembering I’d learned long ago not to judge anyone, especially when it comes to personal appearance at a given time, I followed the man to the back of a rusty, beat-up Chevrolet pickup truck from 1971. The bed of the truck was full of loose hay. I couldn’t image finding a train set worth having from where it was. Then again, I had given the man my word that I would look at his set and evaluate it.

Quite a surprise

The man’s well-worn hands pulled out from under the hay the tired and decrepit remains of what was once a cardboard box. The surprise came when he opened the box with the light touch of a surgeon. Lo and behold, it contained an American Flyer S gauge set in almost-new condition.

The owner reminded me he needed \$50 for the trains. The life soon drained from his face when I told him I couldn’t give him \$50 for the set and extras.

“No,” I quickly added, “I can give you \$250 for them.”

A big country smile came across his face. The sweaty man engulfed me in a bear hug, so excited was he to learn he’d have enough money to cover five months of medication for his ailing wife.

The set he owned turned out to be the no. 4801A Atlantic Freight Set from 1948, including track, a track terminal, and a remote uncoupler. The train consisted of nos. 302 Reading 4-4-2 Atlantic steam locomotive with smoke and “choo-choo” sound and its tender, 628 Chicago & North Western log car, 633 red Baltimore & Ohio boxcar, and 630 Reading caboose.

Also rescued from under the dry hay were three items dating from 1950, all of them an absolutely new and never having been run: the nos. 302AC Reading 4-4-2 Atlantic steam locomotive and tender, 625 silver Shell single-dome tank car, 640 American Flyer open hopper, and 638





Mark Suek brought home a pristine example of American Flyer freight set no. 4801A from a train meet a few years ago. By paying attention to the disheveled man eager to sell it to pay for medicine for his wife, Mark learned again not to judge others unfairly.

American Flyer caboose. In addition, I noticed a no. 642 Tuscan red American Flyer boxcar from 1951.

I couldn't help wondering whether the beautiful 302AC and the equally pristine 625, 640, and 638 were components of a promotional set or something assembled by a shop owner or an employee. Or they might have been items from the same year purchased separately.

Another possibility: perhaps a store manager or employee had grabbed some pieces left over from 1950 and paired them with the 642 from the next year to use up inventory by creating an interesting and entertaining set. Dealers did that long ago, so anything was possible.

I shared those scenarios with the fellow wearing the shredded overalls. He listened and then admitted to me that all he could recall was the 302AC and cars "had always been together."

Time for lunch

Following a brief exchange of additional pleasantries and noting the time was approaching 2 p.m., I inquired as to whether my new friend had yet eaten lunch. He replied that he had not. I went inside to the club and fixed each of us something to eat.

The two of us spent the next 30 or so minutes talking while eating hot dogs and chips and consuming mass quantities of grape soda while seated on the tailgate of his truck, which had "Farm Use" spray painted on it. Mind you, I had completely forgotten about the S gauge train running unattended on my layout inside the building. No matter.

Upon departing, the man, whose name I never caught, said I'd made his day by buying the trains and feeding him. He said

he had learned a lot in his short time at the train club. I responded by telling him it was I who had re-learned an important lesson that day.

You see, at that moment and every time since then that I look at the S gauge steam freight set and the other items I bought from the man, I remember what I'd been taught in church about not judging people. Like most folks, I require occasional reminding not to be judgmental in my

HE OPENED THE BOX WITH THE LIGHT TOUCH OF A SURGEON. LO AND BEHOLD, IT CONTAINED AN AMERICAN FLYER S GAUGE SET.

daily life. I receive just that lesson every time I view with fond memories the American Flyer pieces.

In retrospect, I'm not sure if my greatest find on that hot and humid August day a few years ago was the group of S gauge toy trains or their previous owner. **CTT**

NEW CHAPTER

in Standard gauge
modeling

REPRODUCTIONS INVIGORATED JOSEPH ZARNOWSKI

By Roger Carp • Photos by Joseph Zarnowski

Every niche in the toy train hobby is being revitalized in exciting ways. Since the dawn of the 21st century, participants have seen an avalanche of terrific new products. Innovations range from sets and control systems to structure details and scenery materials. No better time exists than now to jump in and plan an operating layout in any of the primary gauges.

What's happening applies to an area often overlooked. Standard gauge – the large and colorful trains run over three-rail track measuring 2 1/8 inches between the inside of the outer rails – is experiencing a true

growth spurt. Younger people who came of age after the post-war era chase after original models and purchase reproductions. Like modeler Joseph Zarnowski, they're creating ingenious and eye-catching displays.

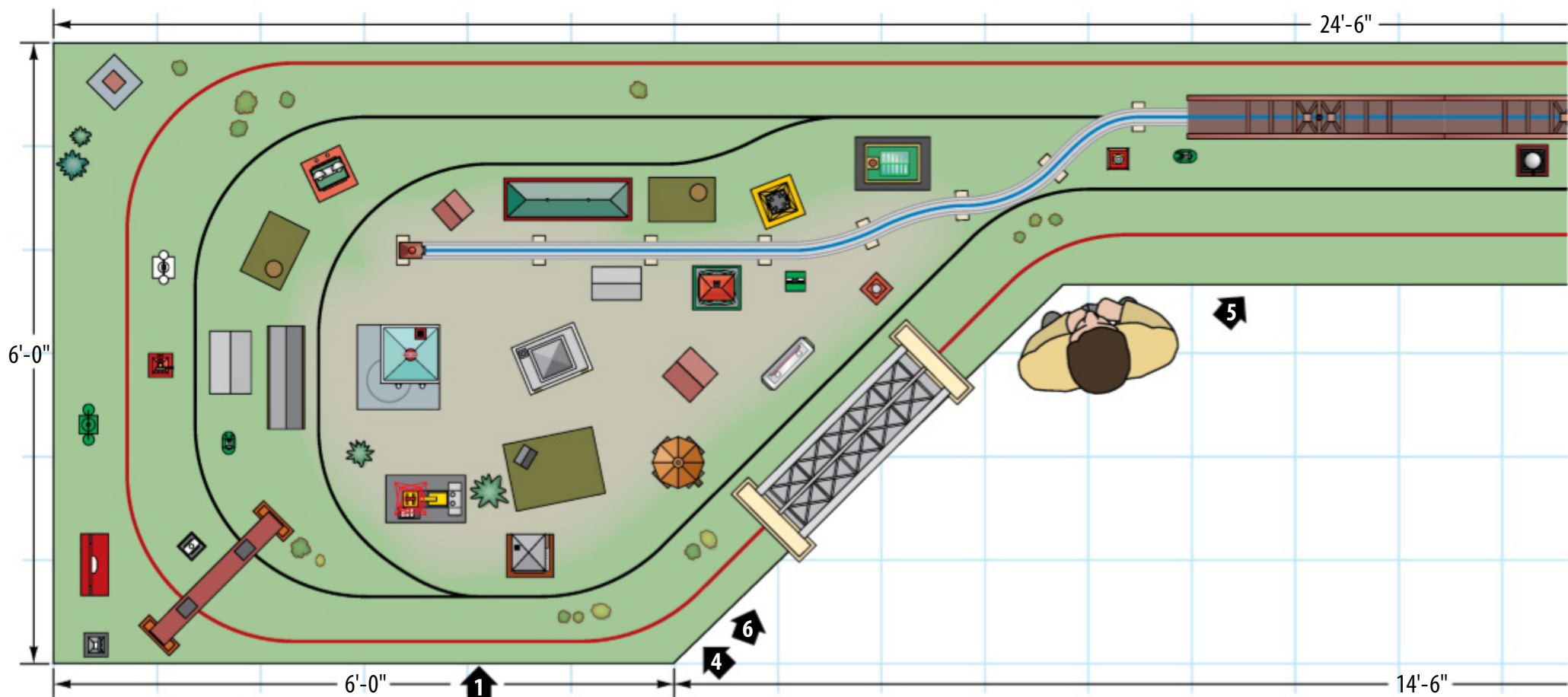
Traditions change

Classic Toy Trains has been featuring great Standard gauge layouts since its earliest days. Back then, builders shared a wish to run original locomotives and rolling stock on layouts enhanced by antique stations, bridges, signals, and tunnels. Each of those displays presented a lifetime of searching for common and unusual pieces. Viewers studied the significance of every item.

1 How many kids in the 1930s dreamed their Lionel *Blue Comet* set came with a no. 400E steam engine capable of smoking and whistling? Joe Zarnowski has the best of all worlds because he can operate reissues of classics equipped with new technology.







Joe Zarnowski emphasizes operation on his home 6 x 24½-foot dual-gauge layout, which he hopes is reminiscent of store displays from the prewar and postwar periods. Joe wanted to run his trains using the Digital Command System by MTH Electric Trains. The numbered arrows correspond to the numbers in each of the captioned photos he took for this exclusive article.

These days, many of the hobbyists who favor Standard gauge still focus on acquiring original sets and accessories. Demand for choice models remains strong, a trend proved by the high prices pristine locomotives, railcars, stations, signals, and more fetch at auctions and through private sales.

Yet a complementary trend has characterized the Standard gauge field in the past

couple of decades, and it has done much to bolster an area that otherwise might be abandoned. Lionel and MTH have seen the wisdom of marketing reproductions of Standard gauge sets and accessories from a host of manufacturers.

Traditions can change. Collectors who crave beautiful and massive trains from long ago yet whose budgets are smaller

can leap in if they opt for reproductions. Once they do so, what they can achieve on Standard gauge layouts turns out to be inspiring and entertaining.

Typical Joe

With pride and interest, CTT has shone a spotlight on a few of the younger devotees of Standard gauge models. Becky Chestney and Chris Lonero, featured in the December 2013 and January 2015 issues, respectively, epitomize the trend described here. They honor the golden age spanning the 1920s and '30s by operating reproductions from the 1990s and 2000s.

So does Joseph Zarnowski. He would enjoy filling his roster of working engines with boxed originals. But for practical reasons, Joe, like Becky and Chris, has been chasing after reproductions from MTH and Lionel of the classics on which the modern hobby has been established.

Joe resembles the two Standard gauge enthusiasts just mentioned here in that he did have O gauge trains as a youngster. Yet like Becky and Chis, he really didn't start soaking up the pleasures of operating until



2 Quite an eclectic group of models here! Every visitor has a favorite, with many voting for the reproduction of Lionel's State Set on the outermost line or the MTH Coors Light train rushing by it.

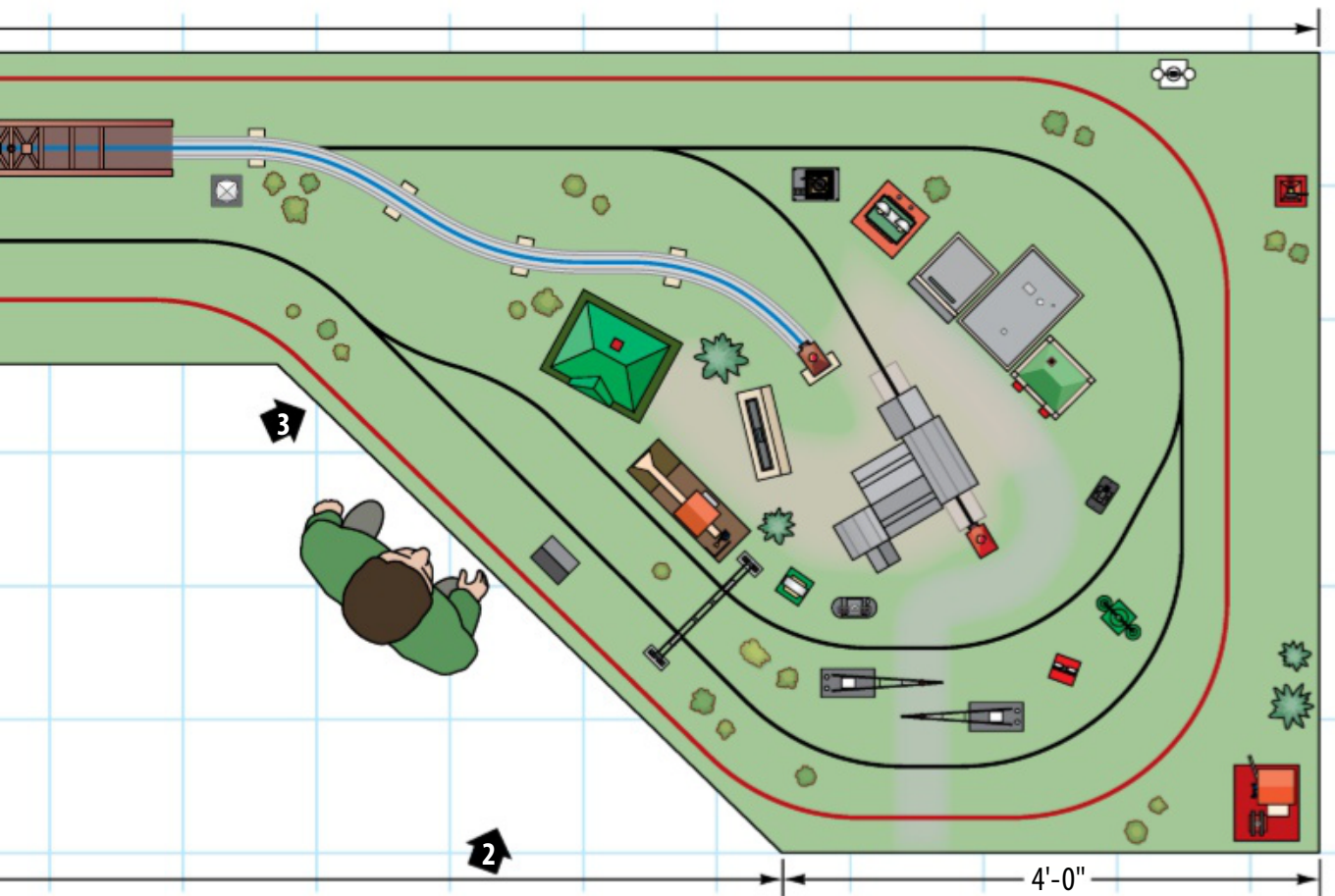


Illustration by Kellie Jaeger

AT A GLANCE

Name: Joseph Zarnowski's Standard and O gauge layout

Dimensions: 6 x 24½ feet

Track: Lionel O gauge and MTH Standard gauge (42-inch minimum diameters)

Switches: K-Line

Motive power: Atlas O, Lionel, MTH, Ready-Made Trains

Rolling stock: Atlas O, Lionel, MTH, Ready-Made Trains, Weaver

Controls: Lionel type-ZW transformers (3), 180-watt bricks (4) with MTH Digital Command System

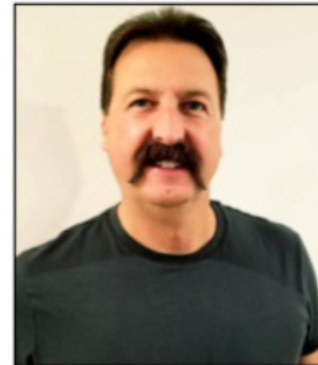
Accessories: K-Line, Lionel, MTH

Structures: Lionel, MTH

Vehicles: K-Line, Lionel

Figures: Arttista, Plasticville

MEET JOE



Joe, who enjoys indulging his passion for Standard gauge models with current reproductions, wanted to run trains with the Digital Command System by MTH.

The right plan

Joe, after consulting with Christine, envisioned a dual-gauge display meant to be the centerpiece of a well-lit room filled with vintage items associated with railroading in New York and New Jersey. Their goal was to create a Standard and O gauge layout filled yet not crowded with the reproductions of prewar and postwar structures, bridges, and lights Joe loved.

Available was a space 24½ feet long and 6 feet wide. He didn't want to make the dog-bone shaped layout so large that standing in the room to watch trains was uncomfortable.

The framework came together fast. One factor was ensuring children could see the trains and details. Consequently, Joe chose to have the plywood tabletop stand only 24 inches above the floor.

To support the sheets of ½-inch-thick wood, Joe relied on a framework made out of 1 x 4-inch pieces of lumber. He spaced the joists 16 inches apart. The legs holding the sturdy tabletop were 2 x 4 pieces Joe carefully bolted to the frames.



3 Flip on the banks of lights, prepare the camera to take another terrific shot, and enjoy all the action. This is the sequence of fun awaiting visitors to Joe's layout.

after the postwar period had ended. The first chapter outlining Joe's involvement opened in the late 1970s. It took place on a 5 x 9-foot ping-pong table. Stars included Lionel nos. 2035 steam engine and 634 Santa Fe NW2 diesel switcher, along with a type-LW transformer.

"I was not allowed to drill holes in the table," Joe says, "so I had to be creative when installing accessories, scenery, and wires." A large grass mat came to the rescue; Joe ran most of the wires under it.

Up in November and down in March or April – that was the routine for Joe until

the middle of the 1980s. By then, he was turning his attention to the artifacts known as "railroadiana": old lanterns, signs, timetables, and nameplates.

Not that Joe ever quit caring about toy trains, but marrying Christine, and raising their son, Brian, kept him running on all eight cylinders. Early in 2003, the three of them realized a layout, preferably a permanent one, would be the perfect addition for their home. Joe set out to finalize a plan while gaining a solid understanding of the different systems of command control on the market.



4 Joe designed his 6 x 24½-foot dual-gauge layout for the purpose of showcasing his collection of new and vintage trains and accessories. He received the Lionel no. 634 Santa Fe NW2 switcher passing the no. 12768 burning switch tower as a boy.

Next, Joe glued a layer of Homasote on top of the bare plywood to reduce any noise produced by running trains. Over that material he glued indoor/outdoor carpeting. Stained and varnished boards served as the fascia around the exterior. Shelves built into each end of the display offered places to keep favorite models.

Track consisted of Standard gauge sections from MTH and O gauge straights and curves from Lionel. Diameters typically reached 42 inches on sections familiar to Joe from the temporary layouts he had built so long ago.

It comes to life

Joe felt obligated to test the Standard and O gauge lines before he moved ahead with what he knew would be the most enjoyable stages of work. Years of accumulating buildings and accessories were on the verge of shifting to situating those cool pieces on the display and letting them impress.

Joe had already decided how to operate everything. Solidly in the 21st century, he's a walking, talking advocate for command control. He's studied every system on the market since the 1990s, settling on the Digital Command System by MTH. He appreciates its design, which enables him "to run equipment from all the manufacturers – and from any era," he said.

Power behind the scenes would, Joe decided, come from a blend of old and new. Specifically, he wired a pair of Lionel type-ZW transformers for running trains.

A modern ZW with four 180-watt bricks was going to handle accessories.

Why so many? "There are approximately 60 tinplate lampposts on the layout," Joe explained, "not to mention all the lights in the buildings and the operating accessories. All the special effects required a lot of accessory power!"

Toy train paradise

Looking back to the pre-World War II era, Joe says that individuals building layouts and displays for department stores and other public venues lacked the vast array of choices modelers now enjoy with scenery and structures. They had to



5 Just when you think you've figured out Joe, he brings out something different. His love of steam power led him to buy the Western Maryland 2-8-0 on the left and the Jersey Central 4-6-0 on the right (both from MTH).



6 Scenic effects on Joe's display are few and far between, typically amounting to a clump of lichen and maybe a tree. But the trains, lights, signals, and accessories, plus the neat signs and photos on the wall behind provide lots for us to look at.

highlight accessories and form vignettes around stations on terraces and tunnels painted in vivid colors.

Nowadays, designers can create realistic landscapes and pick out detailed structures for their O gauge and even Standard gauge railroads. Caryl Pettijohn has done so, as shown in the October 2013 CTT.

Joe, however, adopted a different, more traditional course. He wanted to have a dual-gauge display reminiscent of what kids might have seen when Standard and Wide gauge trains were at their peak.

On top of the green carpeting, Joe did what his mentors might have done long before he was born. He spurned modern scenic effects in favor of clumps of lichen and a few trees. He plunked down reissues of antique buildings and refused to clutter them with add-on details.

In place of the painted backdrops or enlarged photos layout owners secure to the walls around their railroad, Joe figured artifacts and signs he has collected would

attract interest. "People like to pick out the items associated with railroads they have heard of, but never seen operating."

The trains and accessories set on carpeting without the usual mountains and lakes let Joe preserve the mood and create the environment he desired. Include the die-cast metal vehicles and figures scattered around, and you'll understand how his vintage toy train paradise arose.

Smart guy!

It takes a smart and ambitious hobbyist to form a unique vision of what his or her collection can mean and how to effectively share it. Such a person must understand what can makes his or her trains and accessories special to onlookers not knowledgeable about them or possibly aware of them.

Joseph Zarnowski pulled off such a grand feat because, above all, he genuinely appreciated the beauty and appeal of Standard and vintage O gauge models. Then

he designed a large layout capitalizing on the size, heft, gloss, and color of prewar locomotives, cars, bridges, stations, and lights. Finally, he grasped how new reproductions of those classic toys captured every quality he loved about them, so his selections would still enable him to achieve his ultimate hobby goals.

The result of Joe's years of collecting

JOE ... ENVISIONED A DUAL-GAUGE DISPLAY MEANT TO BE THE CENTER-PIECE OF A WELL-LIT ROOM.

trains and conceiving how best to present them enlightens and delights everyone who visits. With encouragement from Christine and Brian, he looks forward to accomplishing even more with his growing roster of models and a powerful vision of what to do with them. **CTT**



LEFT Don Heimburger, shown with his Denver & Western RR S gauge and Sn3 layout, has shaped S gauge modeling with the books he's published and the products he's made and distributed. Above all, he's popularized the hobby segment with *S Gaugian* magazine.

RIGHT After 57 years, *S Gaugian* magazine has ceased publication with the November/December 2019 issue. Don offers special thanks to Associate Editor Susan O'Brien and his longtime assistant, Cindy Kelly.

THANK YOU Don Heimburger . . .

FOR BOOSTING S GAUGE MODELING FOR 57 YEARS!

By Roger Carp

Let's suppose that somewhere in the Taconic Mountains of western Connecticut, about two hours from the site where The A.C. Gilbert Co. long ago manufactured its American Flyer trains, S gauge fans decide to create their version of Mount Rushmore.

We have to start with A.C. Gilbert, who launched the line of S gauge trains and accessories that transformed the hobby. Next, we should add the visage of Maury Romer, who supervised the development of the Flyer brand during the postwar era. Then we can jump to the past 40 years, when Ron Bashista launched American Models and Don Thompson manned the helm at S-Helper Service.

If we're duplicating what tourists see at the famous national memorial in South Dakota, then we can stop with four faces.

But fairness demands we add a fifth. It will pay tribute to a publisher and modeler who has extolled the best S gauge layouts and bolstered the popularity of these great postwar and modern-era trains. Time to salute Donald Heimburger, the mastermind behind *S Gaugian* magazine.

Teenage phenom

Don has announced his retirement after 57 years of putting out one terrific issue after another of the premier publication for S gauge collectors and operators. Still

in the best of health and eager to explore new areas, he recalls his most meaningful achievements and the challenges he faced.

Don resembles the late Al Kalmbach, who established the media company that oversees *Classic Toy Trains*. Like Al, he has enjoyed both model railroading and publishing since boyhood.

Don grew up in the 1940s and '50s in Tolono, a town in the central part of Illinois known for being where the Wabash RR met the larger and more prosperous Illinois Central. He remembers spending evenings with his father at the local station, watching freight trains and colorful passenger expresses as they passed by.

Because his dad distributed petroleum to farmers, businesses, and even the railroads in town, Don became familiar with brakemen and engineers in the cabs of steam and diesel engines. But Raymond Heimburger also handled the local sales accounts for American Flyer. So he was

constantly bringing home cataloged sets for his young son. Together, they build a large S gauge layout in their basement.

More than a close relationship with his father, Don gained from these experiences a lifelong love for the Illinois Central (he worked in the IC's public relations department) and a deep respect for the Gilbert Co. and its S gauge models.

Don liked to pool his trains with those of his buddies to create big, if temporary, layouts. Soon they had formed a club. At the age of 14, Don suggested their group create a newsletter. Volunteering to be its editor, he was pleased when he was elected unanimously. Don even had a name in mind for their brand-new, mimeographed publication. "Why don't we call it *S Gaugian* since that's what we are?"

Steady growth

What began as a simple black-and-white newsletter available for a few pennies an issue grew as interest in S gauge railroading remained a factor in the hobby. Even when the Gilbert Co. went out of business, *S Gaugian* stayed the course. Think about it: the main manufacturer of trains in that gauge ceased production after 1966, and yet neither the hobby nor its primary publication ran up a white flag.

Solid testimony to Don's dedication and motivation, the magazine continued to showcase innovative S gauge layouts while paying homage to the history of its principal firm and the Flyer locomotives, cars, and sets it had cataloged decades earlier.

S Gaugian featured historic photos of the Gilbert Co. and its leadership. In addition, it published extensive interviews conducted with Maury Romer. In them, he revealed the background tales associated with specific engines and pieces of rolling stock. Collectors gained untold knowledge, thanks to the many articles.

Covering the field

The success of *S Gaugian* and its respect in the hobby might have sufficed for Don to make a living for his wife, Marilyn, and their daughters, Alison and Amy. So there was no real reason for him to broaden the offerings of what he'd founded as Heimburger House Publishing Co.

All the same, to have expected Don to be content with only a single magazine underestimates his fervor for the hobby and personal energy and dedication. His next move, again like Al Kalmbach's, was to establish a second magazine. Fascinated



with a cousin of mainstream S scale trains, he offered *Sn3 Modeler* every six months. It caught on with a devoted niche of modelers and remained in print for 32 years.

Books came next, with volumes about prototype railroading in the U.S. and S gauge modeling released on a regular basis. Heimburger House Publishing produced more than 50 books, beautifully written and amply illustrated with contemporary and vintage images. In the meantime, Don was distributing more than 300 railroad titles nationally and internationally to hobby shops, railroad museums, and tourist railroads.

Besides shepherding numerous manuscripts by other authors to publication and sales, Don has authored more than a dozen books. The topics have ranged from American streamlined trains from the prewar and postwar eras to construction equipment, such as crawlers and bulldozers, to his newest book, a history of the Baltimore & Ohio RR.

Making what's missing

Year after year of publicizing the best S scale layouts using postwar and modern-era trains left Don with an unmatched understanding of the 1:64 niche. He had seen so many displays that his knowledge of the products being used was unsurpassed. And that in turn meant he had gained insights on what other firms were not producing.

Not surprisingly, considering Don's sense of entrepreneurship, he elected to enter the manufacturing field in 1971. For the nearly 50 years following, he has put

out under the Scenery Unlimited brand customized pieces of plastic and brass rolling stock, detail parts, structures, vehicles, bridges, trestles, figures, track, turnouts, and signals. Further, Scenery Unlimited has risen to become the most prominent distributor of S scale model railroad equipment. Its catalog covers the offerings of 150 companies over its 228 pages.

In seizing the opportunity to produce items large and small Don believed were necessary for S gauge layouts, he moved into a field Al Kalmbach had never tried. But anyone who was acquainted with Don and appreciated his foresight and daring was not shocked when he blended his journalism with manufacturing and sales. He has since his youth, when he was winning awards for delivering the most newspapers in his hometown, been characterized by an astonishing work ethic and eagerness to innovate.

Refusing to stop

For some guys, retirement is synonymous with slowing down and cutting back. They dream only of relaxing and minimizing the stress and demands in their life.

You can guess Don doesn't conform. He may be retired and glad not to be producing eight magazine issues and several books annually. Yet Don, often accompanied by Marilyn, will go on journeying overseas and writing articles about traveling in Europe, particularly via railroads in Germany and Switzerland. He also has plans to fix up the great-looking and smooth-operating Denver & Western RR, the S gauge and Sn3 layout he erected a few years ago to demonstrate new models.

All in all, the past 57 years have been a remarkably fruitful and enjoyable time for Don. He has mastered every dimension of the S gauge field while advancing the hobby and its trains for many thousands

DON EVEN HAD A NAME IN MIND FOR THEIR BRAND-NEW, MIMEOGRAPHED PUBLICATION. "WHY DON'T WE CALL IT S GAUGIAN SINCE THAT'S WHAT WE ARE?"

of readers. All of us who prize toy trains should express our gratitude to Don for his wise editing and writing, his manufacturing and selling, and his whole-hearted love of all miniature electric trains built to a proportion of 1:64. **CTT**



Louis Marx & Co. had developed the no. 994, its largest and most detailed stamped-steel steam locomotive, in response to an engine from Unique Art Manufacturing Co. A preproduction model shows how colorful the lithography might have been.

Marx goes longer with the 994 steam engine

Story and photos
by Gary Anderson

THE MOST IMPRESSIVE STAMPED-STEEL LOCOMOTIVE OF POSTWAR DAYS

The no. 994 steam engine, which Louis Marx & Co. brought out in 1950, stood out on the postwar O gauge market for its length. The 0-4-0 was 11 inches long and, depending on the version, could feature bright colors.

At nearly a foot in length and with three kinds of tenders, the 994 occupied a place of excellence during the 1950s. Collectors and operators of

Marx trains prize the beauty of the stamped-steel steamer. As a result, postwar enthusiasts should be well aware of it.

Response to a friend

Why did Marx, which had issued a stamped-steel steam engine after World War II, feel a need to develop an eye-catching model in 1950? Most likely because a rival had brought out in 1949 a steamer made of the same material and a bit longer than the no. 898.

The 898, introduced in 1946, was 9 inches long. It had

a black enamel sheet-steel boiler and cab, a black pressed sheet-metal boiler front, and a plastic headlight lens. Nothing wrong with any of that, except that in 1949 a new kid arrived to challenge the Marx 898.

The Unique Art Manufacturing Co., in Newark, N.J., had been making toys longer than had Marx. But not until 1949 did it release a toy train. Unique began making O gauge models equipped with windup and electric motors. The stamped-steel and tinplated steam locomotive and cars

stood out, thanks to their detailed and beautifully colored lithographed designs.

The steam engine produced by Unique (no. 742 as a windup for two-rail track and no. 1950 as an electric for 3-rail track) was slightly longer than the 898. Additionally, the freight cars measured 7¼ inches in length, which also made them longer than the similar 6-inch rolling stock being made by Marx.

Louis Marx did not like being upstaged by his friend and competitor Samuel Berger,



The most desirable of the 994 models came decorated as the motive power for the Mickey Mouse Meteor set.

who had founded Unique in 1916 to manufacture inexpensive mechanical toys. His anger motivated him to beat Unique at its game.

Thus was born the 994. The 0-4-0 overshadowed both the homegrown 898 and the newcomers announced by Unique in its decoration and length. The new addition to the Marx roster was 11 inches long.

Further details

The 994 steamer came as a windup or an electric. Among the characteristics were a stamped-steel boiler and cab painted dull or glossy black, a pressed sheet-metal boiler front embossed with rivets, round pressed sheet-metal forward and rear domes, and single-axle front and rear simulated trucks. Also noteworthy were the metal handrails that wrapped around the boiler.

The absence of lead and trailing trucks was deliberate, as it made the 994 less likely to derail. The lack of simulated detailing in the lithography on most examples caused them to seem less attractive than the Unique engine.

Catalog appearances

Marx cataloged the 994 for four years. During that time, three styles of tenders joined the steamer: the 7-inch-long

Nickel Plate Road, the 6-inch-long New York Central, and the plastic four-wheel Southern Pacific Lines.

The mechanical version of the 994 was identical to the electric. However, it could have a red-painted boiler and cab as well as black ones. Some had plastic headlight lenses; others did not. Finally, it had a sparkler, a bell, and handrails.

Best known among the 994 engines was the windup beautifully decorated as Walt Disney's Mickey Mouse Meteor. Pale blue and yellow were the dominant hues, along with the figures of Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck. It came with a whistle, reverse unit, and a battery-powered headlight.

Marx executives used both versions of the long steamer



Collectors chase after the version of the 994 steam locomotive painted a bright red. That variation went with a matching Nickel Plate Road 7-inch-long tender.

BEST KNOWN AMONG THE 994 STEAM ENGINES WAS THE WINDUP BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED AS WALT DISNEY'S MICKEY MOUSE METEOR.

and tender as the motive power in sets in the early 1950s. The 994 appeared in the Sears, Roebuck & Co. Christmas catalogs for 1950 and '51 as well as the holiday catalogs released by Montgomery Ward for 1950, '51 and '52.

In those sets, the 994 pulled the brand-new, 7-inch-long freight cars Marx had put on the market. Shortly thereafter, it guided the 6-inch metal freight cars after they had made their debut. Later, the large locomotive led plastic

four-wheel cars, forming a smart consist.

The 994 steam engine last appeared in the catalog Montgomery Ward put out for 1957. It was an electric with the number 994 printed under the cab window. The 994 pulled four-wheel plastic cars, along with the scarce no. 967 plastic dumping gondola.

Most variations of the 994 are easily acquired. Exceptions are the Mickey Mouse Meteor, the all-red model, and the one with a battery headlight. **CTT**

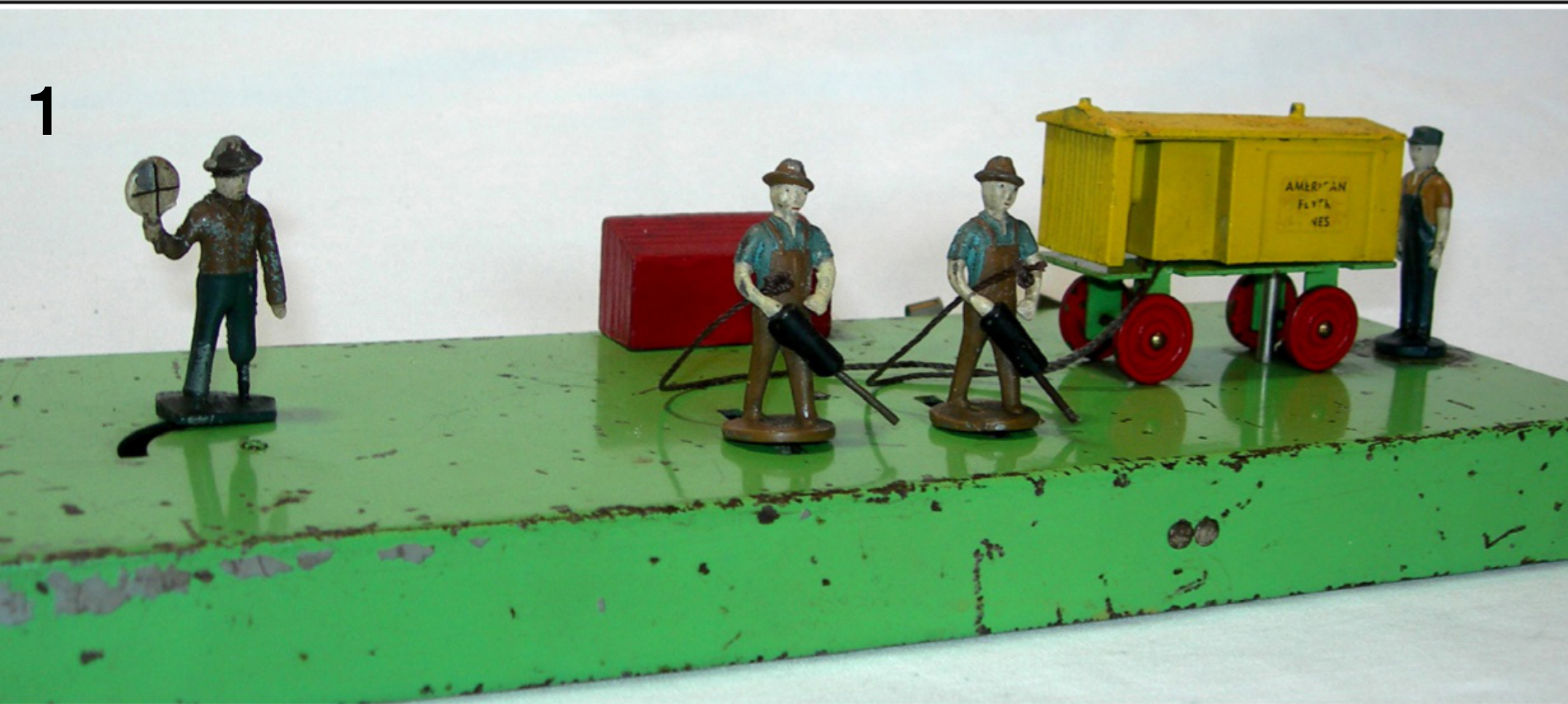


When the 994 went into production in 1950, Marx typically painted it glossy or dull black and paired it with a matching tender lettered for the Nickel Plate Road.

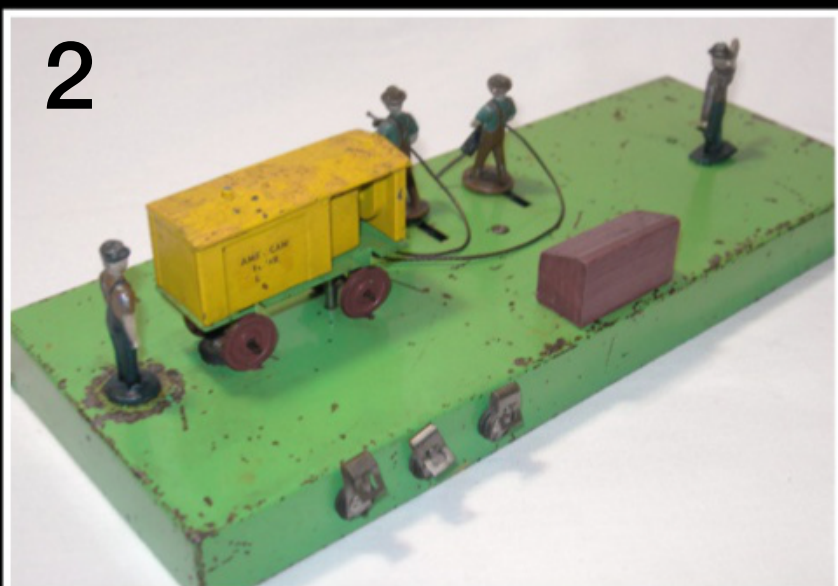


Toward the end of the production run of the 994, Marx outlined the cab number in white and paired it with a plastic tender lettered for Southern Pacific Lines.

1



2



3

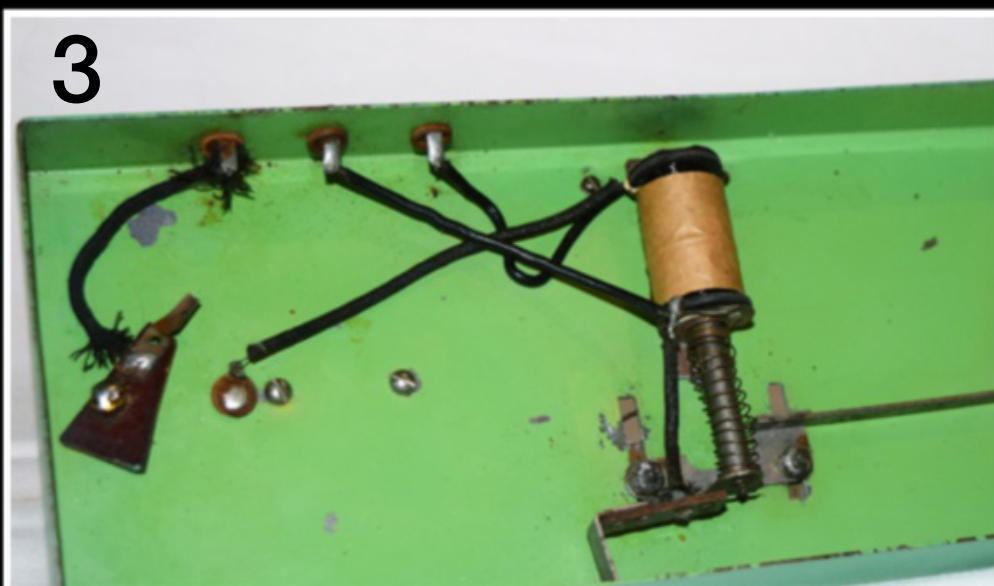


PHOTO 1. The American Flyer no. 594 animated track gang set, introduced in 1941 and revived in 1946, promised lots of play value, thanks to its three moving figures. **PHOTO 2.** An operator connected the trip included with every 594 to a section of track and three clips attached to the rear of the green-painted stamped-steel base. **PHOTO 3.** An electromagnet installed on the underside of the base made it possible for wires to shift the position of three of the figures when a train passed over the track trip.

HAIL, HAIL, THE GANG'S

A look at a landmark animated
accessory from Gilbert

Toy train enthusiasts focused strictly on the post-World War II period miss the extraordinary achievements of the late 1930s and early '40s. They fail to grasp how key innovations from the late prewar years carried over to 1946 and later.

An important example of what was developed immediately before the war and then brought back was the American Flyer no. 594 track gang. Designers at the A.C. Gilbert Co. had created that entertaining animated novelty then revived it for their brand-new line of S gauge trains.

Accessories build the market

Accessories provided manufacturers with ancillary items to promote and market to the buyers of their trains. Their goal was to bring in more cash while enabling consumers to build railroad empires at home.

That merchandising philosophy had been motivating American producers of toy trains, notably Ives and Lionel, since the first quarter of the 20th century.

Yet the degree of movement enhancing accessories remained small into the late 1930s. About all modelers could expect was that gates would rise and lower and trains might pause alongside stations.

Breakthroughs took place when engineers at Lionel began using solenoids and electromagnets to invent log and coal loaders that could pick up and dump miniature raw materials. They did the same to finish a magnetic crane and even a bascule

achievement was the introduction of an electromagnetic crane (item no. 583) a year later – beating Lionel by a full year.

Labor in motion

Gilbert blazed a different trail in 1941. Designers relied on their imagination, not to mention sense of humor, to create something unprecedented and thoroughly delightful. Aware of how laborers of all sorts made it possible for trains to operate dependably and safely, engineers figured out how American Flyer enthusiasts could replicate that activity on their own layouts.

The 594 track gang made its debut in 1941 and returned the next year. The accessory consisted of a stamped-steel base measuring 10 x 3¼ x 2½ inches and painted green. On top were a yellow-painted compressor wagon, a red-painted box for tools, and four die-cast metal figures painted by hand with great detail.

Gilbert bought supplies of the figures (a flagman, a stationary worker, and two tampers equipped with jackhammers) from Comet Metal Products. That firm, based in Richmond Hill, N.Y., had in 1939 patented a better method for casting a zinc and lead alloy using centrifugal force to push the molten metal into molds.

Engineers came up with an ingenious series of motions dependent on an electromagnet. An operator started by slipping the trip packed with every 594 under a nearby section of track.

Then he or she switched on the accessory by gently twisting the stationary figure standing alongside the compressor wagon.

Activating the track gang set the two tampers in motion. However, once a train had reached the accessory and hit the trip,



Gilbert returned the 594 to its list of Flyer accessories in 1946. The track gang was shown in the consumer catalog issued the next year.

they retreated and stopped moving as the flagman shifted forward. After the train had passed, the tampers resumed work while the flagman returned to his spot.

Back again

The pressure to release a full lineup of trains and accessories to herald the new S gauge brand in 1946 caused executives at Gilbert to bring back the 594. It looked the same and operated the same. The sole difference related to the wiring. Specifically, the insulation was made of cloth before the war and plastic after.

Although Gilbert returned the animated track gang for 1947, the items available might very well have been left over from the previous year. Quantities probably were low, which could easily explain why more prewar versions of that scarce accessory tend to appear on the collector market than do postwar versions.

Weak sales or possibly problems with manufacturing the 594 led company leaders to delete it from the product line for 1948. Today, the track gang is among the scarcer accessories associated with the postwar Flyer line, especially examples that operate correctly and have little damage to the figures or the paint of the base.

Demand for the 594 resulted in the creation of a reproduction from Heck's Hobby Supplies in the late 1980s through the early '90s. Still later, in 2006, Lionel put on the market for just a year its own reissue. The no. 49808 operated smoothly, thanks to contemporary electronics. **CTT**

ALL HERE!

bridge with a span that could be raised and brought down via remote control.

Their counterparts at the Gilbert Co. struggled to keep up after that firm had acquired the assets of the American Flyer Manufacturing Co. in 1938. Their finest



Photo 1. Based on a track plan from an 80-year-old booklet published by Louis Marx & Co., Eric Beheim's low-cost, simple, and portable train table can be completed over the course of a weekend by just about anyone.

Build a classic and compact layout

HAVE TRAINS RUNNING IN A WEEKEND WITH THIS SIMPLE TRAIN TABLE



The desire to build some sort of layout probably exists within most of us. Inspired by books such as Dennis Brennan's *Realistic Modeling for Toy Trains* and by the layouts showcased in *Classic Toy Trains* and other model railroad magazines, many hobbyists build room-filling layouts with realistic scenery and cityscapes, complex track plans, and state-of-the-art command-control systems.

Speaking as someone who doesn't have a lot of space and who is easily intimidated by technology, my options for building and operating an O gauge layout are limited. Although my primary interest is photographing my vintage trains, I do like to see them run.

Looking to the past for a solution, I used a track plan described in a Louis Marx & Co. Marlines booklet published

more than 80 years ago. This plan calls for 12 pieces of Marx straight track, 8 pieces of regular curved track, 2 pairs of manual switches, and 1 crossover. The resulting oval fits comfortably on a 3 x 7-foot sheet of plywood.

As shown in **Photo 1**, I built this basic layout that's relatively compact and ready to use on short notice. Although this particular track plan uses O gauge tubular

track, it could be adapted for use with other track systems including American Flyer S gauge track.

The ¾-inch-thick plywood sheet was cut to size for me at a local home-improvement store. I painted it green before nailing down the track, as shown in **Photo 2**. Had this layout been intended for use during the holiday season, I might have painted the plywood white!



Photo 2. With the trackwork nailed in place on a painted 3 x 7-foot plywood board, the layout is ready to use. It can be permanently mounted onto a train table or kept portable for easy storage.



Photo 3. With a few trackside accessories set in place, the layout now looks the way a respectable layout is supposed to look. Although it's compact, having the switches increases the paths a train can follow.

My layout is stored in my garage. The only items permanently attached to it are the tracks.

To make the layout easier to move, I securely attached two heavy-duty brass handles along one of the side edges.

If the weather is nice, I often set up my train table outdoors on our deck or patio. During inclement weather, I can place on it on the floor of our living room.

To prepare my layout for use, I need only vacuum it and wipe it down with a dust cloth before connecting the transformer. The placement of a few trackside buildings and some vehicles completes the setup like the one in **Photo 3**.

The antique Marlines booklet showing this track plan described it as "the choice of many amateur railroaders." After having run my O gauge trains on it for sev-

eral years, I can see why it was popular. The two pairs of switches allow a train's direction to be reversed. This can be done while the train is moving forward or by backing it through the switches and then reversing direction.

Since the layout requires only a basic transformer, even my little granddaughters can, under supervision, pick up or drop off freight, stop at the station to pick up passengers, and change the train's direction. This "low-tech" layout is perfect for running traditionally sized O gauge trains made 60 or more years ago.

Building this simple train table is a fun project that can be completed in a weekend by just about anyone. Get your children or grandchildren to help build it!

While not in the same category as the beautifully detailed layouts typically shown in *Classic Toy Trains*, my layout doesn't require great modeling skills or a big investment in time or money. It may even whet your appetite for tackling a larger and more complex layout project in the future. – Eric Beheim

Building this simple train table is an inexpensive and fun project that can be completed over the course of a weekend.

SUPERSMOKE®

- Non-Toxic Liquid & Vapor
- Fast Wicking

Cedar * FIR TREE
Arctic Mint
Christmas Tree
Sugar Maple
Hickory * Cinnamon
Big-Puff Odorless

2 OZ. W/ DROPPER \$ 8.50
4 OZ. W/ SAFETY CAP \$15.00

PLUS \$10.00 SHIPPING & HANDLING PER ORDER
AVAILABLE SINCE 1979

BART'S PNEUMATICS CORP.
1952 LANDIS VALLEY RD. * LANCASTER, PA. 17601
717-392-1568 VISA - MASTERCARD
www.bartspneumatics.com MINIMUM ORDER 2 BOTTLES
PA. RESIDENTS ADD 6% SALES TAX

MIANNE
Customizable Benchwork

The Fast Track to Layout Construction

Model 06-24 12'x16' overall

IT'S TIME FOR THE
ROLLING STOCK
TO START
ROLLING....

Send \$1 for catalog or visit us on the web at:
www.miannebenchwork.com
Foley Woodworking 44 Union St., Attleboro, MA 02703

*Your Southern Connection for
Quality O Gauge Products*

**ROUNDHOUSE
SOUTH**

4611 S. Ridgewood Ave. • Port Orange, FL 32127
PH. 386-304-7002/7003  

MTH 20-20339-1 Great Northern DC-3 Rail Insp. P3.....	\$399.95
MTH 20-20446-1 CSX SD-60M with Proto 3.0.....	\$439.95
MTH 20-20469-1 Southern 44 Tonner with Proto 3.0.....	\$399.95
MTH 20-20479-1 Norfolk Southern MOW Set w/P3.....	\$699.95
MTH 20-20546-1 Grand Trunk GP-9 with Proto 3.0.....	\$419.95
MTH 20-20661-1 Union Pacific Dash-9 w/Proto 3.0.....	\$439.95
MTH 20-20663-1 BNSF Dash-9 with Proto 3.0.....	\$439.95
MTH 20-20802-1 NS AC4400CW P3 (Blue Markings).....	\$439.95
MTH 20-20803-1 Southern Pacific AC4400CW P3.....	\$439.95
MTH 20-20815-1 Maersk GP60 with Proto 3.0.....	\$439.95
MTH 20-20907-1 Amtrak Dash-8 with Proto 3.0.....	\$439.95
MTH 20-21019-1 Indiana Railroad GP-40 P3.....	\$439.95
MTH 20-21025-1 Chessie GP-40 P3 GM50 Gold.....	\$449.95
MTH 20-21058-1 BNSF AC4400CW with Proto 3.0.....	\$469.95
MTH 20-21060-1 CSX AC4400CW with Proto 3.0.....	\$469.95
MTH 20-21081-1 Ontario Northland GP38-2 P3.....	\$439.95
MTH 20-21115-1 George Bush SD70ACe with P3.....	\$489.95
MTH 20-3618-1 N&W Class A 2-6-6-4 with Proto 3.0.....	\$1349.95
MTH 20-3693-1 New York Central L3 Mohawk P3.....	\$1099.95
MTH 20-64075 Milwaukee Road 4 Car Passenger Set.....	\$345.00
MTH 20-65207 Amtrak 5 Car Passenger Set.....	\$399.95
MTH 20-65295 Florida East Coast 5 Car Passenger Set.....	\$419.95
MTH 20-91616 Florida East Coast Bay Wind. Cab Uncat.....	\$69.95
MTH 20-92138 Florida East Coast Tank Car Uncat.....	\$69.95
MTH 20-92139 Florida East Coast 40' Box Car Uncat.....	\$64.95
MTH 30-1683-1 Milwaukee Hiawatha Steam w/3.0.....	\$419.95
MTH 30-1696-1 Southern Streamlined Hudson P3.....	\$399.95
MTH 30-20419-1 Union Pacific SD-45 with P3.....	\$309.95
MTH 30-20520-1 UP SD70ACe Spirit 3.0 w/Cab.....	\$389.95
MTH 30-20536-1 Amtrak FP-45 with Proto 3.0.....	\$319.95
MTH 30-20635-1 George Bush 441 SD70ACE P3.....	\$339.95
MTH 30-20637-1 Halloween ES44 P3 with Caboose.....	\$399.95

Freight charges added to ALL orders.
www.roundhousesouth.com



Modern starter set power

THE BNSF ET44C4 DIESEL FROM LIONEL

I was at Sommerfeld's Trains in Butler, Wis., and asked shop owner Jack Sommerfeld what merchandise that had come in recently he thought was neat and exciting. Jack pointed out Lionel's no. 84732 BNSF Tier Four LionChief set.

What caught my eye was that the set was led by a General Electric ET44C4 diesel. Where many starter sets have a steam engine or a cab unit from the 1960s on point, this one had a contemporary road diesel. I thought that was great – giving kids a set with models of what they might see at a grade crossing.

Jack graciously agreed to let me borrow the O gauge locomotive for a few days of testing for this review. I was pleasantly surprised with the results.

What the heck is an ET44C4? The model number stands for Evolution Series Tier 4 4,400 horsepower. The ET44C4 originated with GE Transportation (now Wabtec). It's a locomotive meeting Tier 4 environmental standards that's been popular with North American railroads. The BNSF alone has 275 ET44C4s operating through its system.

■ OUT OF THE BOX

This is part of the Lionel no. 84732 BNSF Tier Four LionChief set. The set contains the locomotive, and three BNSF freight cars: a Uni-Body tank car, a Hi-Cube boxcar, and an intermodal car with two containers. Also included are 12 sections of track, a 54W wall pack power supply, and a LionChief handheld remote controller.

Please be aware that I tested only the locomotive rather than the entire set. You should be able to find the GE diesel with the rest of the set or sold individually through dealers who break up sets and sell components.

Hats off to Lionel for introducing this GE locomotive. The model is made from new tooling that captures the look of the prototype diesel. Remembering that the target audience is beginners and the traditional-sized train market, this is an attractive addition to a new fleet.

The model has a fair size. The frame is 15¼ inches long, while the coupler-to-

O GAUGE ET44C4 STARTER SET LOCOMOTIVE FROM LIONEL

Price: \$399.99 for no. 84732 set, separate-sale locomotive approximately \$220

Features: O-36 operation, two motors, operating couplers, Lionel RailSounds RC sound system, illuminated cab and directional headlights, handheld remote controller. **Low speed (app):** 11.8 scale mph **Low speed (universal remote):** 16.25 mph, **High speed:** 56.2mph **Drawbar pull:** 10 ounces **Current-production road name:** BNSF



A highlight of the new Lionel line is this BNSF ET44C4 diesel. It serves as the motive power for the no. 84732 Tier Four Lion-Chief starter set.

coupler length is 16½ inches long. The frame is stamped steel, and the handrails are folded portions of the frame. This means they are darned near unbreakable – and you can carry the engine with one finger if you want to. The side handrails are black, while the handrails on the pilot are yellow. The pilot is basic, with steps and a yellow safety stripe above the couplers.

The safety cab looks good, with front corners angled downward. There are cast-in detail points representing grab irons and sand filler caps. The face has cast-in grab irons running up. A cast-in access door to the left of the headlight.

The cab has two front windows, and there are three on each side of the cab. There are also windows on the rear of the cab. Up top are number boards illuminated by the cab bulb.

The cab roof has antennas and HVAC equipment painted white. Behind the cab, the roof has rivet and seam detail for three narrow panels and one large panel.

Each panel has two cast-in lift-rings. Behind them is a lower section with eight



small panels with hinge detail, a flat walkway with safety tread, and what might be the smallest horn available in O gauge!

Next is a taller section with four cast-in lift rings and an exhaust sack.

Though you can peer into the stack, there is no smoke unit.

Next is the most distinctive feature of the body: the radiator wings. You'll find cast-in screen detail as well as some lift rings on the walkway and each wing top.

The sides emulate the GE prototype very well, with deeply cast screen and vertical louver detailing. The model's many access doors are easily identifiable as well. The rear has additional screen detail and cast-in grab irons and a sand filler cap. The engine number is painted on the overhang, and there are rear lamps for directional lighting.

The six-wheel trucks

look great with their simulated spring and brake detailing. The trucks and fuel tank are painted silver.

The print and decoration of the locomotive may be the most complex I've seen on a starter set locomotive, except perhaps for the Santa Fe warbonnet. From the bottom the paint is black; next you have a yellow stripe with two thin black stripes dividing it. Then the scheme runs black, orange, and a repeat of the yellow and black striping. The upper part of the body is all black.

The number of assorted nomenclature tags, like safety warnings, surprised me. There were 12 on the side, not counting the builder's plate and the engine type (ET44C4) applied to the frame.

■ ON THE TEST TRACK

Per the instruction manual, the locomotive is not designed to respond to transformer controls (horn/bell), even though it can be



PRODUCT REVIEWS

QUICK LOOK

New colors for a fan favorite

THE NATIONAL POWER & LIGHT BUILDING FROM MENARDS

When Menards came out with the American Power & Light building, it was an astonishing structure model for O gauge in terms of its size and price. The building had a good compressed footprint that could represent a portion of a power plant, and it presented a credible destination for all those hopper cars rolling around your layout. It sold out fairly quickly and at the time I wrote this review has been selling for as much as \$250 on the secondary market.

So I was a little surprised when the Wisconsin-based home-improvement chain reissued the structure. Bad news for someone waiting to sell a stack of the original buildings, but good for Joe or Jane layout owner.

As near as I can tell, the key elements of the structure is the same building as first released. The model still has a 9½ by 14½-inch footprint. The only difference I note is the original structure came with a base that supported the run-through. Presumably this was for protection during shipment. The damage rate must have been very low, because that is gone.

The two major cosmetic changes are good. I bought the original power plant and liked the decoration. I might have preferred the blue steel of many industrial buildings, but I was never motivated to break out the paints.

The new model is a pleasing industrial gray I found appealing. The smokestacks are black with red and white stripes up top for better visibility by aircraft.

The star of the show is the National Power & Light sign. The company name is in white on a black background – with twin lightning bolts. The cool thing about the bolts is they



illuminate in sequence – the upper third, the middle third, and the lower third re-creating a bolt from above.

The rest of the detailing has the same appeal. The large number of windows and security lights, the multiple windows, rooftop ducts, and of course, the power transformers with flashing lights.

You can use the building with or without power. If you do wish it to illuminate, you will need to get a Menards 4.5-volt power system available separately.

So a word to the wise: If you missed the American Power & Light building, now is your chance to get this new version. – Bob

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 57

powered at 18 volts by a conventional transformer. Operation and features are controlled through the handheld remote or the Lionel app.

Some of the features you can control are the obvious forward/reverse/horn/bell as well as triggering the Rail-Sounds RC sound system with assorted prime mover sounds, background noise, horn, bell, and special announcements that can be played at will. Parents or grandparents will like the fact that there is an on/off switch for the sound system on the underside of the locomotive.

Since we didn't test the starter set and the wall power supply, we opted to use an MTH no. Z-4000 transformer for providing 18 volts of power for the locomotive.

Operation was smooth and quiet, and the locomotive was responsive to commands from the remote or the app. The engine sounds were good yet basic. I was surprised that it revved according to the model's speed. Heck, 20 years ago having a sound system like this starter set engine has would have been crazy talk. The bell and horn were both loud and clear.

I did the low-speed testing with both the handheld unit and the app and found an interesting, though not particularly meaningful, difference. Our app low-speed average was 11.8 scale mph while the handheld remote's was 16.25 smph. High speed came in at 56.2 scale mph. That was limited primarily by the short straight run of our test track.

Drawbar pull came in at 10 ounces. I hooked up 10 freight cars on hand, and the diesel pulled them with ease.

Operating this engine was a pleasing surprise. Often the

NATIONAL POWER & LIGHT POWER PLANT BY MENARDS

Price: \$99.95 (no. 279-4844) **Features:** Illuminated signage, flashing transformer lighting, removable run-through access for mainline running or freight car placement. Lighting requires a Menards 4.5-volt power supply (nos. SKU 279-4050, 279-4061, and 279-4062). For more information go to www.Menards.com/Trains

locomotive paired with a starter set is basic, and has a short lifespan before something better is acquired.

This GE ET44C4 is a budget locomotive that has good performance numbers and a paint job worthy of a higher-end product. I'd like to thank Sommerfeld's Trains for letting me test this gem. – Bob Keller



The six-wheel trucks look great with simulated spring and brake detailing. The trucks and fuel tank are painted silver.

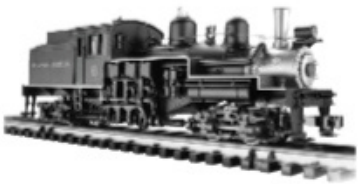


THE WESTERN DEPOT

1650 Sierra Ave. Suite 203 Yuba City, CA 95993

worldwide shipping!

Everything Model Trains!



- Huge in-stock inventory
- Website updated daily

Call 530-673-6776

westerndepot.com

Hours:

Tuesday-Saturday 10:00-5:30

OVER 25,000 PARTS



Brasseur

ELECTRIC TRAINS

410 Court St.
Saginaw, MI 48602

989-793-4753
Mon.-Sat. 9:30-5:30

www.brasseur-electric-trains.com

989-793-6887

40 years of Lionel service and sales.
Authorized MTH service and sales.
Best Source for K-LINE parts.

Just 90 miles north of Detroit, just off I-75.



RAILROAD HOBBY SHOW






January 25th & 26th 2020

EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION

1305 Memorial Avenue • West Springfield, MA 01089

ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

WWW.RAILROADHOBBYSHOW.COM





Custom Model Railroads

Nation's #1 Source for laser cut bridge solutions. Now offering 3D printing.

You dream it. We build it.

www.trainlayouts.com • 973-366-5788

We specialize in:

- Complex Multi-Level Track Plans
- TMCC™ and DCS Control Systems
- Multi-Train Operation

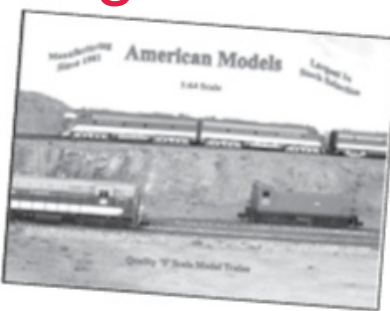
- Operating Accessories
- Yards and Switching
- Highly Detailed Scenery

East Coast Enterprises • Roman Electric

S Gauge Trains

Since 1981

Engines
Cars
Track
Structures
Figures



68 Pg. Catalog send \$10.00

American Models
11770 Green Oak Industrial Dr.
Whitmore Lake, MI 48189
www.americanmodels.com



Till the cows come home

FARM WINDMILLS BY WOODLAND SCENICS

More than 40 years ago, I was driving cross-country through the Southwest. The view from the interstate highway was spectacular. When the Southern Pacific main line was visible, you could see as many as three trains in the distance all several blocks behind the other.

There were a few odd spots where a boxcar or tank car has been parked in the middle of nowhere. The only exception to this whole lot of nothing I was seeing was a notable number of forlorn trackside cattle-loading ramps. No houses, no cows, no stations. Nothing. Except, that is, for a nearby windmill.

The Woodland Scenics windmill is the answer to anyone with a small farm or farmhouse, a field with cows, or a barren field with an abandoned cattle station.

The O gauge windmill comes in two flavors: the no. BR5867 “Old” version and the no. BR5868 “New” windmill.

The windmill itself is a compact structure measuring about 9 inches tall and 2 inches wide at its triangular base. The beams have wood texture and “steel” reinforcements and bolts as critical joints.

The turbine’s blade and fin assembly has three supports on a topside platform. A ladder for maintenance runs up one side to the top. The windmill rotates 360 degrees, and the blades are functional and rotate. The tail fin is rigid.

A “pipe” runs up the center of the structure and arises from a red pipe and a wood floor that must surely cover the wellhead! An additional pipe runs out at a

The no. BR5868 “New” windmill from Woodland Scenics will look great and add realism to O gauge layouts with a rural setting. Modelers will also want to take a look at its companion, intended to look like an old, well-used structure.

O GAUGE WINDMILLS FROM WOODLAND SCENICS

Price: \$54.99 each (nos. BR5867 “Old” and BR5868 “New”). **Features:** Plastic construction, rotating blades, cattle detail pieces. For more information go to **www.Woodlandscenics.com**

90-degree angle from the structure. This supplies a round wood cattle trough.

There is a third piece in the set – a hay rack for storing cattle feed.

If you have about a foot of green or brown real estate (and a few O gauge cows), plop this windmill down and you have a ready-made story to tell.

The “Old” version of the windmill is definitely “distressed,” with rusty and missing turbine blades. The detail pieces are nicely varied – a hand pump, a small trough, and two oblong stock tanks to be fed from the well. You could put both of the windmills together on the same farm, and it wouldn’t be a duplication – new has replaced the old.

These clever structures are well made and compact and will add greatly to the story of your railroad. – Bob



Do You Remember Your First

The #1
Resource
for Toy Train
Enthusiasts!



Toy Train?

Classic Toy Trains magazine celebrates the joy of collecting and operating toy trains from your past. Whether you're a collector or operator, you'll find a wealth of information to inspire your passion as you experience fond memories.

Your subscription includes 8 issues (1 year) filled with layouts and track plans, compelling photographs, personal collections, and more.

- How-to projects written by experts.
- Profiles of collectible pre/postwar trains.
- Tips, tools, and techniques.
- Product news and reviews.
- O & S gauge trains.
- Bonus online videos and track plans.

*It's never too late to rediscover
your favorite childhood memories.*

Subscribe Now!

2 WAYS TO ORDER:

ONLINE: ClassicToyTrains.com • **CALL:** 877-243-4903

Outside the United States and Canada, call 903-636-1125.



MODEL RAIL SCENES
**CUSTOM LAYOUTS
 & BUILDINGS**
207-564-0705
www.modelrailscenes.com

Port Lines
HOBBY
www.portlines.com
 doug@portlines.com
 (978) 465-8798

"Your S-Gauge Specialists!"
 ON-LINE AMERICAN
 FLYER PARTS CATALOG
 AF, Lionel, MTH, Am. Models,
 & other S-gauge products!

THE O SCALE HAULER

 The ultimate transportation and storage
 solution for your O Scale trains
 oscalehauler@verizon.net • 951-500-0506
www.oscalehauler.com

ChooChooAuctions.com
*The premier site for serious train collectors,
 whether you are buying or selling!*
 Easy to use. Friendly, fast, and fun.
 Please stop by and say hi!
**New items
 listed
 every day!**
www.choochooauctions.com

Crushed Granite BALLAST
*Dennis Brennan says,
 "It ain't chicken grit!"* 
Brennan's Model Railroading
 P.O. Box 520174 Independence, MO 64052 • (816) 252-4605
www.brennansmodelrr.com

Arkansas Traveler Hobbies
Located in the heart of Bald Knob
**Visit our 100 year old 1915 MoPac Depot,
 and Regional Rail Museum**
400 Market Street • Bald Knob, AR 72010
501-RAILFAN (724-5326)
athtrains@yahoo.com

TK
TRAINS
 Phone 740-633-6607
 500 Hall St, Building 1
 Bridgeport, OH 43912
 Just off I-70
 O Gauge Trains, Track, Scenery,
 Accessories and Much More!
 Fully detailed, operating O gauge layout.
 We have Lionel, MTH,
 Atlas and many others!
 Visit us online for great savings!
www.tandkhobby.com

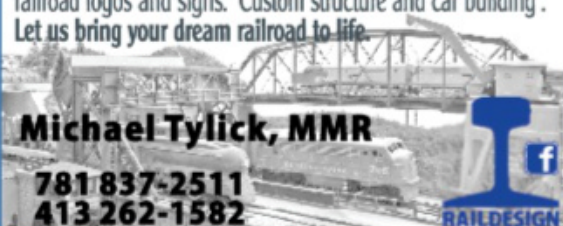
LEN CARPARELLI
ACCURATE, AUTHENTIC, PROFESSIONAL
RESTORATIONS SINCE 1972.

L&L Model Train Restoration Co.
www.LenCarparelli.com
 1 Orient Way, Suite F-348, Rutherford, NJ 07070 • (201) 438-1266
 Visit our website to download our free catalog.

HENNING'S TRAINS
Serving the Model Railroader Since 1939
Pre-War/Post-War Parts
COLLECTOR COLOR PAINT
Model Engineering Works
Toy Train Restoration Products
128 SOUTH LINE ST. • LANSDALE, PA • 215-362-2442
www.HENNINGSTRAINS.COM

Millhouse River Studio
 2641 River Rd., Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Division of Studio Z
Turntable & Transfer Tables

 Aluminum Construction Made in USA Scale Brass Details
**Don't Settle for Less,
 Buy the Best!**
 Aluminum Doesn't Warp Like Wood
(716) 830-5267
millhouseriverstudio.com
 NEW
 Rotary Tiptle

www.raildesignservices.com
 Design model railroad layouts in any scale or revamp any
 existing track plan to suit your specific requirements. Original
 railroad logos and signs. Custom structure and car building.
 Let us bring your dream railroad to life.

Michael Tylick, MMR
781-837-2511
413-262-1582

RAILDESIGN

Watch
Classic Toy Trains
 on **You Tube**
youtube.com/classictoytrains

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

This section is open to anyone who wants to sell or buy toy trains merchandise. CLASSIC TOY TRAINS reserves the right to edit undesirable copy or to refuse listing.

Word Rate per issue: 1 insertion – \$1.06 per word, 5 insertions – \$1.00 per word, 9 insertions – 92¢ per word. \$35 minimum order per issue. Payment must accompany the ad. To receive the discount you must order and prepay for all ads at one time. Count all initials, single numbers, groups of numbers (i.e. 4-6-4 or K4's), names, address number, street number each as one word. Example: R. Meister, 400 E Depot Ave., Waukesha, WI 53187 would count as 8 words.

Events Rate: \$45 per issue (55 word maximum). Ads will contain the following information about the event: state, city, sponsoring organization and name of event, meet, auction or show, dates, location, times, admission fee, name and/or telephone number and/or email of person to

contact for information. Name, daytime telephone number and street address of the person providing the information is also required but need not be included in the ad. Unless otherwise requested, ads will be published in the issue month that the event occurs in. Additional months are available at the \$45 per issue fee. Please specify issue date(s).

All copy is set in standard 6 point type. First several words only set in bold face. If possible, ads should be sent typewritten and categorized to ensure accuracy.

For CTT's private records, please furnish a telephone number and when using a P.O. Box in your ad, a street address.

SEND YOUR ADS TO: *Classic Toy Trains* — Classified Advertising
 21027 Crossroads Circle, P.O. Box 1612 Waukesha, WI 53187-1612
 888 558-1544 Ext. 551 Fax: 262-796-0126
 E-mail: classads@kalmbach.com

Events

AL, MOBILE: Model Train Show sponsored by South West Alabama Railroad Modelers (SWARM). Via Health, Fitness and Enrichment Center, 1717 Dauphin Street. March 14-15, 2020, Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm; Sunday 11:00am-4:00pm. Admission \$5.00, family \$10.00, under 10 free. Operating layouts, demonstrations and dealers. Contact Charlie Boyer, 251-454-0572, email charlieboye66@att.net

CO, DENVER: Rocky Mountain Train Show March 7-8, 2020. 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, 700 sales tables, clinics and more. Admission \$10.00 under 12 Free, Free-Parking. 303-364-0274 www.RockyMountainTrainShow.com information@RockyMountainTrainShow.com

CT, WALLINGFORD: Classic Shows, LLC will hold a Train and Toy Show on Sunday, February 9, 2020 from 9:00am-1:00pm at Zandri's Stillwood Inn, 1074 South Colony Road, (U.S. Route 5), exit 13 on Interstate 91. Admission \$6.00, children 15 and under are free with an adult. For information please call 203-926-1327 or go to www.ClassicShowsLLC.com

FL, JACKSONVILLE: 42nd Jacksonville Model Train & Railroadiana Show. Saturday, February 8, 2020. Prime Osborn Convention Center, 1000 Water Street. 9:00am-5:00pm. Admission: \$9, under 12 free. Info: Alan Altman, PO Box 985, Land O'Lakes, FL 34639. 813-949-7197. Email: rrshows@aol.com or www.gserr.com

FL, KISSIMMEE: Regal Railways Presents Toy Train Collectible & Hobby Show, 2000 Neptune Road. Saturday, February 15, 2020, 9:00am-2:00pm. Admission: \$5.00 adults. Vendors, operating layout, videos playing. Lunch items for sale. Contact Joe: 727-244-1341 or visit: www.regalrailways.com for more information.

FL, SARASOTA/BRADENTON: 43rd RealRail Train Show. March 21-22, 2020, Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm and Sunday 10:00am-3:00pm. Bradenton Area Convention Center, 1 Haben Blvd, Palmetto, FL. Door prizes, interactive Lionel layout, Florida LEGO user group layout, kids' HO layout, 150 vendors. Adult admission \$8, Children under 13 free. Contact David Fontaine for more information: 941-685-2221 or david_f_34205@yahoo.com

IA, MONTICELLO: M.R.R.C. Annual Train Show and Swap Meet. Berndes Center, Jones County Fairgrounds, 766 N. Maple St. Sunday, January 26, 2020, 9:00am-3:30pm. Admission \$5.00, children under 12 free. Table \$20.00. Vendor set-up on Saturday available. Contact: Ron Ackermann, 319-480-5671 or rack611@gmail.com

IN, MIDDLEBURY: Essenhaus Train Show. Saturday, February 22, 2020, 9:00am-2:30pm. On the Das Dutchman Essenhaus campus, 240 US 20. All gauge, operating layouts, repairs, parts dealers, selling and trading. Display tables \$20.00 each. Admission cost \$3.00/person or \$12.00/family. (Children under 3 FREE w/adult). Essenhaus.com or call 800-455-9471 (x443).

ME, AUGUSTA: Whitefield Lions Club 34th Annual Model Railroad & Miniature Dollhouse Show, National Guard Armory, Western Avenue. February 15, 2020, Open 10:00am-3:30pm. Adults \$5.00, under 12-free, family-\$10.00. Operating layouts, miniature displays. Refreshments will be available. Contact: Steven Laundrie, 50 Fairview Ave., Randolph, ME 04346. 207-582-1410, slaundrie@roadrunner.com, Website: www.whitefieldlionsclub.com/modelrailroaddollhouseshow

NJ, TOMS RIVER: National Collector's Club Show, Elks Lodge, 600 Washington St. Sunday, February 2, 2020, 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.

NY, LINDENHURST: Northern Spur Model Train/Diecast Vehicles/Toy Meet. Firemen's Memorial Park, 555 Healing Blvd. (north of Hartford St.) February 16, 2020, March 22, 2020, September 27, 2020, November 1, 2020 and January 3, 2021, 8:30am-1:00pm. \$5.00 adults, under 16 free w/adult. Handicap accessible. Contact: Carmelo Sancetta. PO Box 1286M. Bay Shore, NY 11706. 631-666-6855

OH, KIRTLAND: Lakeland Community College (AFC), 7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, OH 44094. Railfest - NMRA MCR Div. 5. March 14-15, 2020, 10:00am-4:00pm. All Gauge Train Show with over 400 tables. For Information: 440-357-8890 or www.Railfest.org

CLOSING DATES: Jan 2020 closes Oct. 8, Feb closes Nov. 7, Mar closes Dec. 6, May closes Feb. 13, July closes Apr. 8, Sept closes June 10, Nov closes Aug. 12, Dec closes Sept. 10.

Events Cont.

OH, MT. HOPE: CJ Trains Spring Train and Toy Show. Mt. Hope Event Center, 8076 St. Rt. 241, Zip 44660. Saturday, February 29, 2020, 10:00am-4:00pm. Admission: \$5.00, under 12/FREE. \$25.00/dealer table, 600+ tables. Contact: Jon Ulbright, 330-262-7488, cathijon@sssn.net.com, www.cjtrains.com (GPS info: Millersburg, OH 44654)

OH, TOLEDO: Greater Toledo Train & Toy Show. Owens Community College (SHAC), 30335 Oregon Rd., Perrysburg, OH 43551. Sunday, March 8, 2020, 11:00am-3:00pm. Early Birds: 9:00am-3:00pm. Adults \$6.00/Early Birds \$10.00, 12 and under FREE w/ paid adult. Contact: Randy Ramsey, 1566 South Ave., Toledo, OH 43609, 419-215-4181, email: toledotoymasters@gmail.com, website: toymasters.org

PA, CHESWICK: "TRAINS, TRAINS, TRAINS: SHOW!" At the Pittsburgh Shrine Center, 1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA 15024. Sunday, January 26, 2020 and Sunday, March 29, 2020. 10am-3pm. Sponsored by the Fort Pitt Division of the Train Collectors Association. www.hobbytraincollectors.org Please enjoy our event for \$5. Thank you for attending.

TX, PLANO: Dallas Area Train Show. Plano Event Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. January 18-19, 2020, Saturday 10:00am-5:00pm; Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm. Adults \$10.00, 12 and under free w/adult. All scales. 80,000 sq. ft. of layouts and vendors. Information: Chris Atkins, chris@railroadmodeler.com 469-438-0741. Visit www.dfwtrainsshow.com

WA, CHEHALIS: Lewis County Model Railroad Club, Annual Spring Train Show and Swap Meet. Southwest Washington Fair Grounds, Blue Pavilion Building, 2555 N. National Ave., Zip: 98532. April 4-5, 2020, Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm and Sunday 10:00am-3:00pm. Admission \$5.00. Free parking. Contact information: Ted, 360-985-7788 or tedstrains@lewiscounty.com

WI, MILWAUKEE: Milwaukee Lionel Club Swap Meets. Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 15, Feb 23 and March 15, 8am-noon. Four Points Sheraton Airport, 5311 South Howell Ave., Milwaukee. Call 414-764-5375 to reserve a table. Buy, Sell, Trade, New and Used O gauge and other gauges.

S Gauge For Sale

AF TRAINS, PARTS, ACCESSORIES. Visit www.trainsmore.com or send \$2.00 for printed catalog to Trains & More, P.O. Box 1751, Manchester, CT 06045-1751.

MASSIVE LIST OF GILBERT AND LIONEL AMERICAN FLYER: Updated daily. Original boxed sets, engines, cars, accessories, rare paper, catalogs and more, including boxed Plasticville, American Flyer and Plasticville parts. Buying all Flyer. Send \$3.52 actual postage, Judy Hajash, PO Box 5, Augusta, WV 26704-0005. 304-359-2194.

O Gauge For Sale

ESTATE SALE. LIONEL-MOB: Scale F-3 Sets. 14592 Penna ABBA \$795: 24520 Alaska ABA w/ 4 Pass \$1,195: 24534 Erie Lackawanna ABBA \$795: 14565 B&O w/ 4 Pass \$1,195: 14568 W. Pacific ABA \$695. PWC F-3s & SETS: 38188 Southern ABA w/ 6 Pass \$995: 38100 Texas Special ABA w/ 4 Pass \$1,195: 31742 Santa Fe Super Chief AA w/ 4 Pass \$595: 31752 B&O Freight Set \$595: 31711 Wabash AB Freight Set \$595: 18191 W. Pacific ABA \$595: 14500 Kansas City Southern AA \$475: 18140 N. Pacific ABA w/ 4 Pass \$695: 11903 Atlantic Coast Line ABA \$395: 18131 N. Pacific ABA \$495: 21759 Canadian Pacific AA w/ 4 Pass \$795: 21955 Rio Grande AA w/ 4 Pass \$795: 14559 Rio Grande AA \$395: 21786 Santa Fe Anniversary Set \$1,295: 18130 Santa Fe ABA \$495: 38100-38103 Texas Special ABA \$795: 38368 New York Central Red Stripe AA \$495. MISC & ADD-ONS: 19166 N. Pacific 4 Pass \$175: 21766 Atlantic Coast Line 2-Pack \$295: 14518 Canadian Pacific B Unit \$250: 14564 Canadian Pacific Powered B \$295: 29129 Texas Special 4 Pass \$475: 29134 W. Pacific 4 Pass \$425: 39119-39157 Southern 6 Pass \$595: 14520 Texas Special B Unit \$250: 38103 Texas Special Powered A Unit \$350: 18128 Santa Fe Powered A \$250: 39106 Canadian Pacific 2-Pack \$175: 39151 Canadian Pacific 2-Pack \$250. Have most add-on's for Lionel F-3 Sets. Call Jim for prices: 570-655-4891, 4pm-9pm EST, Sun-Thurs. Visa-MC-PayPal-Checks.

LIONEL "SUPER O" TRACKAGE: All "Super O" items "SOLD" & "BOUGHT". Special Pricing available on 112r electric switches & 142 manual switches. Special prices on CURVES. Contact Mike at: shpanier@aol.com or Cell 708-845-0937

LIONEL MARX PLASTICVILLE: Big list of boxed sets, engines, cars, etc. Rare paper, catalogs, Lionel O, O27 & HO. Marx O & HO. Plasticville and Plasticville parts. Send \$3.00 actual postage Judy Hajash, PO Box 5, Augusta, WV 26704-0005. 304-359-2194.

O Gauge Wanted

ALL TRAIN COLLECTORS- We need more trains to supply our large customer base. Modern era specialists-Lionel, MTH, K-Line, Williams, Weaver, 3rd Rail, etc. We buy collections, store inventories, and parts of all sizes and eras. Send us your list or call us today. We travel extensively all over the US and Canada. Trainz, 2740 Faith Industrial Dr., Suite 200, Buford, GA 30518. 866-285-5840, Scott@trainz.com Fax: 770-271-1295.

HONEST, VERY RELIABLE, established buyer of Lionel, MPC, American Flyer, Ives, Marx and others. I will pay cash for large or small collections or dealer inventories. Long time advertiser in this magazine. I want to spend \$200,000 this year. I will travel if merited. Please call or send a list (with your price if possible). Charles Siegel, 387 Imperial Blvd., Ste. 2, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920. 321-799-4005. Fax 321-799-4044.

WE BUY ALL COLLECTIONS BIG & SMALL Lionel, American Flyer, K-Line, Marx, Weaver, Williams, Marklin, Hornby & more. Ready to travel, 30 years experience, confidential. Send us your lists today, 306 Sonoma Drive, Suite 773, Allen, TX 75013. www.txtrains.com, texastrains@yahoo.com, Phone: 972-824-7123

Miscellaneous For Sale

FOR SALE - 1935 AMERICAN FLYER: Burlington ZEPHYR Train set. Locomotive and three cars, transformer and 34 pieces of track. \$700.00 O.B.O. For information call Stan at 715-462-9425.

Miscellaneous Wanted

ALL ELECTRIC SLOT CARS WANTED. Any kind, any condition. Top dollar paid. PAUL at 248-760-6960. E-mail: slotcarguy@slotcarguy.com

MODEL AUTOMOBILE AND TRUCK KITS. Unbuilt or built. One piece to large collection. Good prices paid. Fred Sterns, 48 Standish, Buffalo, NY 14216, phone 716-838-6797, fax 716-836-6057, email: fsterns@aol.com

Parts and Accessories For Sale

PARTS CATALOG - LIONEL, AMERICAN FLYER, IVES, MARX, BUDDY "L", NOMA STATION, DORFAN, ERECTOR HUDSON, MPC- 2" Thick, 35,000 Parts Inventory: 700E Cabs, Frames, Roofs, Controllers, Bodies, Trucks, "E" Units, "OO", 55 Airplane, PREWAR-POSTWAR, \$25.00 Postpaid. RESTORATION TRAIN PARTS, 135 RICHWOOD DRIVE, GLOVERSVILLE, NEW YORK, 12078, (518) 725-4446, (6:00PM-10:00PM). PAYMENTS: MONEY ORDERS. CATALOG CLOSING: OCTOBER 20th.

Services Available

RESTORATION AND REPAIRS on all Lionel and American Flyer trains. Call AJTRAINS, ask for Andy 732-859-1606, or email: ajtrains@optimum.net

Custom Painting & Building

ARTWORKS Kit assembly service, kit bashing, scratch building service, painting and detailing. 972-989-3834, artroberts43@icloud.com

Subscribe to Classic Toy Trains!

Call 1-800-533-6644 or visit
ClassicToyTrains.com today!

LEADING MODEL RETAILERS

Dealer Directory spaces are sold on a year's basis at \$284 per year, eight issues, (payable in advance), or at \$40 per issue (billed to established accounts for one year minimum). Ads will be set in standard format typography. All insertions must be consecutive and may be invoiced if you have credit established with us. No mention of mail order business permitted. Closing dates listed in the Classifieds section. Call 888-558-1544, ext. 551.

ARIZONA • Fountain Hills

Lionel Value-Added, K-Line Dealer. Lionel repairs. The most postwar thru LTI Lionel in AZ. AF, Marx, LGB, Athearn, G to Z. 35 min. from downtown PHX. Mon-Fri 10:00-4:30 & weekends by appt. Email: totbargin@yahoo.com

BURLING'S TON OF TRAINS

16924 East Colony Drive 480-816-6501

CALIFORNIA • Burbank

All scales G through N, collectibles old & new. Authorized LGB, Lionel, MTH & Märklin dealer. One of the most complete train stores in So. Calif. UPS worldwide shipper. Visit our website at www.trainshack.com

THE TRAIN SHACK

1030 N. Hollywood Way 800-572-9929

CALIFORNIA • Concord

Largest selection in the East Bay. 93 foot operating HO layout. Buy - sell - trade - consign - repairs - detail parts in all scales. Lionel. Discount prices & friendly service. Website: www.just-trains.com

JUST TRAINS

5650 Imhoff Dr. 925-685-6566

CALIFORNIA • Costa Mesa

Lionel, AF, LGB, HO, N, & Playmobil. New, used, & collectibles. Buy, sell, trade & repair. Tue - Fri 12-7, Sat 9-5, Sun 11-3.

THE TRAIN CROSSING

1113 Baker Street, Ste. F 714-549-1596

CALIFORNIA • Pasadena

Model rail specialists since 1951. LGB, Lionel, O, S, On3, HO, HOm3, N, Z. Complete stock of brass imports, new & used. Books, tools, structures, detail parts. Open 7 days www.thewhistlestop.com

THE ORIGINAL WHISTLE STOP INC.

2490 E. Colorado Blvd. 626-796-7791

CALIFORNIA • Westminster (Orange Co.)

Specializing in big trains only (O & G). Discount Prices, Open 6 Days a Week! Authorized Lionel, MTH, LGB, PIKO Dealer! www.milepost38.com

MILEPOST 38 TOY TRAINS

6462 Industry Way 714-892-9471

CALIFORNIA • Yuba City

A full service model train Store! Large inventory, HO, N, O & O27 Tinplate. Books, videos, collectors & gift items. Repair service. We buy old toy trains. www.westerndepot.com

THE WESTERN DEPOT

1650 Sierra Ave. #203 530-673-6776

COLORADO • Denver (Lakewood)

Caboose, sharing our passion for trains since 1938. North America's largest full-service train store, and your go-to source for the ultimate toy train enthusiast. Open Daily or at MyCaboose.com

CABOOSE

10800 W Alameda Avenue 303-777-6766

CONNECTICUT • Cos Cob

Lionel, HO & N. Lionel authorized dealer & repair. Plastic, wood kits, rockets, tools, structural & diorama supplies. Special orders welcome. www.annshobbycenter.com

ANN'S HOBBY CENTER

405 E. Putnam Avenue 203-869-0969

DELAWARE • Ocean View

No sales tax at the Delaware seashore. Lionel new & used . . . also Atlas, Bachmann, MTH. We buy used trains. Auth. Lionel repairs. Large inventory of used HO trains. Open Tues-Sat 11-4:30, Closed Sun & Mon

SEASIDE HOBBIES

15 Daisey Ave. 302-539-1601

FLORIDA • Cape Canaveral

Lionel, American Flyer, MTH on the internet www.traincity.com www.choochooauctions.com

TRAIN CITY, INC. - CHARLES SIEGEL

387 Imperial Blvd., Ste. 2 321-799-4005

FLORIDA • Cutler Bay (Miami)

Lionel, MTH trains, O and Standard. Die cast vehicles. 1:43, 1:32, 1:24 and 1:18. Mon-Fri 10:00-5:30, Sat-Sun 10:00-2:00.

HOLLYWOOD STATION

19301 SW 106TH Ave. STE 9 305-278-1669

FLORIDA • Fort Myers

N, HO, O scale model railroading. Paint, tools, scenery, accessories & plastic models. Mon - Sat 10:00am-6:00pm; Closed Sunday www.victorymodels.com

VICTORY MODELS & TRAINS

12951 Metro Parkway 239-332-0422

FLORIDA • Miami

Largest train store in the South. MTH, Lionel, LGB, HO & N. Five operating layouts. Open Mon - Sat 10am-5pm Sun (Nov-Jan) 10-1.

READY TO ROLL

831 NW 143rd Street 305-688-8868

FLORIDA • Pensacola

Competitive prices, friendly service. All makes & models, trains & accessories New store hours, Tue-Sat. 9:00am-5:00pm. www.trainbyjohnson.com Directions: Old Palafox St. at 10 Mile Rd.

TRAINS BY JOHNSON

10412 N. Palafox Hwy. 850-478-8584

FLORIDA • Tampa Bay - Pinellas Park

2600 sq. ft. Showroom. Lionel & MTH Dealer NEW, USED, BUY/SELL * All Gauges Z thru G Over 6,000 Parts. Repair Services. Trains, Track, Sets, Scenic Supplies. Tues - Sat 10-6 www.zitniktrains.com

ZITNIK TRAINS

5193 73rd Ave. N. 727-201-9668

GEORGIA • Atlanta (Lilburn)

Lionel Train Top 10 Dealer MTH Train Mega Dealer 400 s.f. layout, HUGE selection, service, repair www.legacystation.com 800-964-8724

LEGACY STATION TRAINS

4153 Lawrenceville Hwy., #12 770-339-7780

GEORGIA • Buford (Atlanta)

Quality, Selection & Service. Discount pricing in all scales. Mon - Sat 11-6, Sun 1-6 Across from NS Mainline in Downtown Buford Web store at: www.trainmastermodels.com

TRAINMASTER MODELS

601 East Main St. 678-546-3600

GEORGIA • Watkinsville (Athens)

Lionel and HO Railroadiana Service and Repair Open Tues - Sat 9-6 Closed Sun - Mon

MEMORY STATION

171 South Main St. 706-769-8986

INDIANA • Atlanta

Model train museum and hobby shop MTH • Atlas • Lionel • scenery supplies Layout construction help / workshop Club sized 3-rail display layout mrmuffintrains.com

MR MUFFIN'S TRAINS

177 West Main 765-292-2022

INDIANA • Indianapolis

"An old fashion train shop." HO, N, O27. Brass, books, magazines, detail parts, paints & accessories. Southeast corner 17th Street and Shadeland Ave. Mon-Sat 10:30-6. www.waynestrains.biz

TRAIN CENTRAL

1651 N SHADELAND AVE 317-375-0832

INDIANA • Michigan City

Home of I Love Toy Trains DVDs, Lionel, MTH, Toys, and 8'X16' operating layout. Lionel Factory Authorized Sales & Service. Mon - Sat 10-4 CST Web: tmbv.com WE BUY/SELL LIONEL

I LOVE TOY TRAINS - THE STORE

4212 West 1000 North 219-879-2822

IOWA • Dubuque

MTH, K-Line, Williams, Lionel, Gargraves, New & Used, Authorized MTH & Lionel Service Center. Mon - Sat 10-5; Sun 11-4
skippertim99@gmail.com

CATHY'S TREASURES

Electric RR Dealer/Upgrades 563-590-5318

KANSAS • Overland Park (KC Area)

O, S, HO, N, Z & G Scale
Lionel, MTH, A/F, Marklin, LGB & more!
New, Used & Vintage. Extensive scenery line.
Repair, custom work & layouts.
www.fredstrainshop.com

FRED'S TRAIN SHOP

9322 W. 87th St. 913-383-3500

MARYLAND • Hagerstown

One of the largest operating train layouts and museum. MTH, Lionel, Z, N, HO, O, G, scenery, magazines, videos, Thomas, Brio, Rokenbok System, Lionel/AF logo stools. Call for hours.
www.the-train-room.com

THE TRAIN ROOM

360 S. Burhans Blvd. 301-745-6681

MASSACHUSETTS • Duxbury

G - 1 - O - S - HO - N - Z
Buy - Sell - Trade - New - Used - Repairs
Marklin Dealer
Wednesday - Sunday 11-6

DUXBURY GREEN, INC.

382 Kingstown Way (Rt. 53) 781-585-2164

MASSACHUSETTS • Lexington

Parts and service, factory experienced.
Parts list available, \$4.00. Tue - Fri 9-5.
"The Coupler", repair hints, back issues.
Email: dave@drinkertrains.com
http://www.drinkertrains.com

DR. TINKER'S ANTIQUE TOY TRAINS

1 Belfry Terrace 781-862-5798

MICHIGAN • Fraser

Long term experience with customer service.
We service the products we sell and are here to help you. 7,000 sq ft of retail space.
Stop in or visit www.pdobbyshop.com
Open M-F 10-8, Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5 EST

P & D HOBBY SHOP

31280 Groesbeck Hwy. 586-296-6116

MICHIGAN • Traverse City

Let your imagination run wild!
Z to G, Lionel, scenery, tools,
structures, scratchbuilding supplies,
special orders, ships, armor, cars, more...

TRAINS & THINGS HOBBIES

210 East Front St. 231-947-1353

MICHIGAN • Wyoming

HO, N and Marx bought and sold.
American Flyer and Lionel also.
Tuesday thru Friday 12-6, Saturday 10-5.
Other hours available by appt. Please call.

HOBBY RECYCLING

2313 Lee St. SW 616-257-7155

MISSOURI • St. Louis

Largest selection of prewar & postwar in Midwest. Lionel, Am Flyer, Marx, Athearn, Proto, Atlas, etc.
Highest price for large collections.
www.TrainTownstl.com

TRAIN TOWN

9832 Manchester Road 314-716-2755

NEVADA • Las Vegas

The area's most complete Lionel MPC, LTI selection. Buy, sell & trade.
Postwar new & used.
Accessories, parts and supplies.

THE TRAIN ENGINEER

2550 Chandler #53 702-597-1754

NEVADA • Las Vegas

Big selection of HO, N and Lionel O Gauge trains. Only 7 miles west of the Las Vegas strip.
www.westsidetrainslv.com

WESTSIDE TRAINS

2960 S. Durango #117 702-254-9475

NEW JERSEY • Mountain Lakes

Direct dealer for LIONEL and MTH. The largest train store in northern NJ since 1974! 4 Showrooms plus Operating Layout. WE BUY OLD TRAINS ~ Lionel Service Station #556.
www.TRAIN-STATION.COM

THE TRAIN STATION

12 Romaine Rd. 973-263-1979

NEW JERSEY • Totowa

Lionel, K-Line, Gargraves.
Authorized Lionel service station.
New and used bought and sold.

WALKER'S HARDWARE

294 Union Blvd. 973-942-2694

NEW JERSEY • Trenton/Ewing

Lionel Value-Added Dealer.
Authorized Service Station.
Lionel, MTH, Williams, Weaver, K-Line, GarGraves. New & Used O & O27.
Glen Roc Shopping Center.

TRAINS & THINGS

246 Scotch Rd. 609-883-8790

NEW YORK • Hurley

Trains- Z, N, HO, S, O, G scale, models, rockets, hobby supplies. Lionel & MTH authorized dealer. Four working layouts. Repairs, buy/sell. Open 7 days. An old-fashioned general store. www.hurleycountrystore.biz

HURLEY COUNTRY STORE INC

2 Wamsley Pl. (Old Hurley) 845-338-4843

NEW YORK • North Rose

Lionel MTH Sales and
Lionel Service Station #144
Monday - Friday 9-5, Saturday 10-4
(Saturday hours October - April only)
www.gardnerthetraindoctor.com

GARDNER, "THE TRAIN DOCTOR"

8967 Ridge Rd., 1 mi E of 14 315-483-6577

NEW YORK • Staten Island

We are your source for O gauge trains & accessories. We carry MTH, Lionel, Atlas O & Gargraves.
www.e-zcatch.com e-zcatch@verizon.net

E - Z CATCH TRAIN SHOP

5 Tysen St. 718-727-7373

NORTH CAROLINA • Winston (Salem)

K-Line Superstore, MTH, Lionel. Large selection of older MTH. First in O gauge.
In-store layout! Located off I-40. Tues-Sat 9:30am-5pm. E-mail: JKonc52032@aol.com
www.trainloft.com Celebrating 20 years!

THE TRAIN LOFT

4007B Country Club Rd. 336-760-9817

OHIO • Akron

Akron's largest old & new Lionel Dealer
Authorized Lionel & MTH sales & service stations. We specialize in MTH DCS and Lionel Command and Railroads. We buy, sell, trade & restore. EandSHobbies.com

E & S TRAINS AND HOBBIES

980 Kenmore Blvd. 330-745-0785

OHIO • Oberlin (W. Cleveland)

MTH Service Center
Authorized dealer for MTH, Lionel, Atlas.
Closed Sun & Mon
30 miles west of Cleveland - off State Rte. 20
www.stockyardexpress.com

STOCKYARD EXPRESS

49293 Plate Rd. 440-774-2131

OREGON • Portland

Full service train shop
Lionel, 3-Rail, American Flyer
New-used-buy-consignments
T-F 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-4, Closed Monday
www.hobbysmith.com 1-877-284-1912

THE HOBBY SMITH

1809 NE Cesar Chavez Blvd. 503-284-1912

OREGON • Portland

Your complete model railroad store.
Gauges Z through G.
Lionel, MTH, Atlas, K-Line
Mon - Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5, Closed Sunday
www.wsor.com

WHISTLE STOP TRAINS

11724 SE Division St. 503-761-1822

PENNSYLVANIA • Blue Ridge Summit

The Exclusive model railroad store.
From N to G, we stock it all.
OPEN 7 days a week.
Only minutes from Frederick, MD.
www.mainlinehobby.com

MAINLINE HOBBY SUPPLY

15066 Buchanan Trail E. 717-794-2860

PENNSYLVANIA • Broomall

Lionel, American Flyer, LGB, Atlas & MTH
HO, N, ON30, Standard, O & S gauges
bought, sold & traded. Auth. service station.
Mon, Wed, Fri 10-9, Tue & Thu 10-7, Sat 10-5
www.nstrains.com

NICHOLAS SMITH TRAINS

2343 West Chester Pike 610-353-8585

PENNSYLVANIA • Greensburg

Authorized Dealer of Lionel, Atlas-O, MTH. N to G, Track, Remotes, Buildings, Accessories. Buy, Sell, Trade, Repair. Mon-Sat: Noon-6pm 5,500+ SqFt. Exclusively Trains! 20,000+ items

BRADY'S TRAIN OUTLET

1046 S. Main Street 724-838-8448

PENNSYLVANIA • Hanover

Lionel, American Flyer & MTH.
New Lionel & MTH at discount prices.
Standard O & S gauges bought, sold & repaired. Authorized service station.
20 min. from York PA. Tue-Sat 12-6

TOY TRAINS UNLIMITED

28 York St. 717-637-4717

PENNSYLVANIA • Hatboro

Lionel, American Flyer, LGB, MTH, Marklin, Bachmann, Williams. HO, N & Z.
We buy, sell & repair. Mon-Fri 12-8; Sat 10-5
www.JoesTrainStation.com

JOE'S TRAIN STATION

283 E. County Line Rd. 215-322-5182

PENNSYLVANIA • Imperial (Pgh.)

Pittsburgh's largest MTH dealer.
Lionel, K-line, Atlas, Gargraves, USA Train Scenery supplies for HO, O and G gauges.
Buy, sell, trade old trains. Expert repair service. Tue-Sat 10-6. www.imperialtrainco.com

IMPERIAL TRAIN COMPANY

450 Penn Lincoln Dr. 724-695-7552

PENNSYLVANIA • New Castle

Buy/sell/trade, repair all types of trains.
Giant Lionel village display during the holiday season, November - January
Call for hours. Email: trainplum@yahoo.com
www.undergroundrrshop.com

THE UNDERGROUND RR SHOPPE

1906 Wilmington Rd. 724-652-4912

PENNSYLVANIA • Strasburg

From trains to diacast to scenery, everything for the layout builder. Open 7 days a week.
N, HO, O, Lionel, LGB.
Buy, sell, trade used trains. Located adjacent to Choo Choo Barn. www.etrainshop.com

STRASBURG TRAIN SHOP

226 Gap Road 717-687-0464

PENNSYLVANIA • Zelienople

Lionel, MTH, Atlas O, Ross Custom Switches
GarGraves, Woodland Scenics
Please call or visit our website for hours.
www.cttrains.com

CT MCCORMICK HARDWARE

147 S. Main St. 724-452-6130

SOUTH CAROLINA • West Columbia

All scales, all major brands
of model railroad equipment.
We buy & sell used Lionel trains.
Open daily 10-6. Closed Sun.

NEW BROOKLAND RR & HOBBY SHOP

405 State St. 803-791-3958

TENNESSEE • Murfreesboro

MTH authorized service center & dealer. We repair Lionel, MTH, Bachmann, Atlas, K-Line and much more. Hours: Mon-Sat 9-5. Closed on Sundays. Call me 615-956-9084, or email me: info@littlettrainrepairofennessee.com or just stop in.

LITTLE TRAIN REPAIR SHOP

814 Woodmont Drive 615-956-9084

TENNESSEE • Murfreesboro

Authorized Lionel Dealer. Pre-War, Post-War & Modern. Hundreds of rolling stock cars. Large inventory of engines and accessories including O, HO, & N Scale. Monday - Saturday 9-5

THOR'S

416-F Medical Center Pkwy. 615-895-6918

TEXAS • Dallas

Official Lionel Layout Builder Since 2001
Traingineer shop/showroom includes:
Custom Layouts, Modulars, Model Stations,
Bridge Kits...come see...there's always something new!!! www.TrainWorxStore.com

TW TRAINWORX

2808 McGowan St. 877-881-4997

VIRGINIA • Ashland (Richmond)

OPEN 7 DAYS: Mon-Sat 10-6; Sun 11-4
Personal service/repairs/layout ideas. We ship.
Gauge G, O, HO, N, Thomas Wooden, & more.
I-95, EXIT 92, ONLY 1.2 Miles West to tracks.
www.trainandtoystore.com

TINY TIM'S TOYS & TRAINS

104 S. Railroad Ave. 804-368-0063

VIRGINIA • Manassas

Northern Virginia's largest & most complete train store for new & gently used Lionel, MTH & Bachmann. We carry Standard, O, O-27, S, HO & N. Expert repairs.
dandhtrains@comcast.net

TOY TRAINS & COLLECTIBLES

7216 New Market Court 571-379-5497

VIRGINIA • Roanoke

Lionel, LGB, G, AF, HO, N & MTH
Buy, sell, trade, repair.
Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 10-5
Two minutes off Exit 146 on I-81.

RAIL YARD HOBBY SHOP

7547 Williamson Rd. 540-362-1714

VIRGINIA/MARYLAND • Chantilly, VA

Full service storefront & online store. All makes & scales. New/used trains sales, service, repair & upgrades. All scales & Digitrax dealer.
Online Sales Visit www.traindepot.biz

TRAIN DEPOT

13944 Willard Rd., Suite I 703-953-3767

WASHINGTON • Burien (Seattle)

Close to SEA-TAC airport - short drive from downtown Seattle. New & vintage electric trains in all scales. Tues - Sat 11-6
www.electrictainshop.com

THE ELECTRIC TRAIN SHOP

625 SW 152nd St. 206-244-7077

WASHINGTON • Kirkland

Lionel, American Flyer, LGB, HO, N.
Buy, sell, and repair.
Supplying all your railroading needs.
Open Mon.-Sat.
www.eastsidetrains.com

EASTSIDE TRAINS, INC.

217 Central Way 425-828-4098

WEST VIRGINIA • Wheeling

Largest Selection of Trains in the Valley
Buy - Sell - Trade - New & Used Trains
MTH-Weaver-Williams-Lionel-Atlas-Dept 56
M, F 12-7, Tu, W, Th 12-6, Sat 10-3
www.patstrains.com

PATRICK'S TRAINS

142 29th Street 304-232-0714

WISCONSIN • Green Bay

NE Wis. largest O Gauge dealer. Lionel, MTH, Atlas O, 3rd Rail, Weaver & Williams Accessories, structures, books & videos. Open Mon 12-7 Tues-Fri 10-5 (Sat 10-2 Nov-Mar)
www.railtycoon.com (formerly GB TV & Trains)

GB TRAIN SHOP

1353 Velp Ave. 920-496-9697

CANADA-BC • Savona

Model trains in G, O, S, HO, N, Z. Old toy trains, railway antiques, art, books, DVDs, souvenirs and Thomas too. Canadian road names a specialty. 20 min. west of Kamloops.
www.kellyskaboose.ca

KELLY'S KABOOSE, THE RAILWAY STORE

6648 Savona Access Rd. 250-377-8510

CANADA-ON • Dunrobin (Ottawa)

New & used Lionel, MTH, Marx, AF. Trains & accessories for the collector & operator bought & sold. Walther's dealer. Lionel SS#516. Orders 1-888-MALWOOD (toll free)
e-mail: malwoodstation@rogers.com

MALWOOD STATION

1169 Murphy Side Rd. 613-832-1374

CANADA-ON • Mississauga

6,000 sq. ft. All Trains!
Premier Selection & Service!
In store clinics and layouts!
Railfan Headquarters! Quick special orders!
www.cvrco.com

CREDIT VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY, LTD.

2900 Argentia Rd. Unit #24 1-800-464-1730

CANADA-ON • Toronto (Markham)

Model Railroad Specialists since 1962
Lionel Authorized Distributor & Repair Center
All Scales - Special Orders
Closed Mondays www.georgestrains.com

GEORGE'S TRAINS LTD.

550 Alden Rd., Unit 101 905-470-6200

Run your Retail Directory ad in the next issue of **Classic Toy Trains!**

Call 888-558-1544, ext. 551
for more information.



Go Digital!

Visit ClassicToyTrains.com/DigitalEditions

Read *Classic Toy Trains*
on your favorite device!

- Live links.
- Zoom in & magnify.
- Bookmark pages.

AD INDEX

IN THIS ISSUE

WE BELIEVE THAT OUR READERS ARE AS IMPORTANT AS OUR ADVERTISERS. If you do not receive your merchandise or a reply from an advertiser within a reasonable period, please contact us. Provide details about what you ordered and the amount you paid. If no action is obtained after we forward your complaint to the advertiser, we will not accept further advertising from them. *Classic Toy Trains* magazine, 21027 Crossroads Circle, Waukesha, WI 53186-4055

The Advertiser Index is provided as a service to *Classic Toy Trains* magazine readers. The magazine is not responsible for omissions or for typographical errors in names or page numbers.

Allentown Train Meet.	5	Menard, Inc.	7, 68
American Models.	59	Mianne Benchworks	55
Amherst Railway Society.	59	Millhouse River Studio.	62
Arkansas Traveler Hobbies.	62	Model Rail Scenes	62
Bart’s Pneumatics Corp	55	Nicholas Smith Trains.	18-19
Brasseur Electric Trains.	59	O Scale Hauler.	62
Brennan’s Model Railroading	62	Port Lines Hobby Supply	62
Charles Ro Supply Co.	13	Raildesign	62
Charles Siegel’s Train City.	5	Rich Roman.	59
CIA Inc.	20	Ross Custom Switches.	12
Classic Toy Trains.	61	Roundhouse South.	55
Classic Toy Trains Products.	25	S & W Parts Supply	23
East Coast Enterprises	59	Showcase Express.	23
Eastside Trains.	21	Side Track Hobbies	17
Gargraves Trackage Corp	23	T & K Hobby Shop	62
Glenn Snyder Display Systems	24	Texas Trains & Diecast	24
Henning’s Trains	62	Traincity.com.	62
L & L Model Train Co.	62	TrainWorld.	67
Lionel Collector’s Club America.	6	Trainz.com.	15
Lionel Operating Train Soc. Inc.	5	The Western Depot.	59
Mario’s Trains.	23	Woodland Scenics	2

www.ClassicToyTrains.com

NEXT
ISSUE

HOW TO
MODEL REALISTIC
RURAL SCENERY

Neil Schorr shows how he
creates stand-out scenes on
his great O gauge layout.

PLUS

- Highlights from a
great train collection
- One layout shared by
three generations
- Colber’s pack of toy
train accessories

CLASSIC TOY
TRAINS

ON SALE
FEBRUARY 4

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION (Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)		
1. Title of publication: CLASSIC TOY TRAINS.		
2. Publication No. 005-466.		
3. Date of filing: October 10, 2019.		
4. Frequency of issue: 8 times per year.		
5. Number of issues published annually: 8.		
6. Annual subscription price: \$39.95.		
7. Location of known office of publication: 21027 Crossroads Circle, Waukesha, WI 53187-1612. Telephone: 262-798-6607.		
8. Mailing address of the headquarters of general business offices: Same as 7.		
9. Publisher: Steve George, 21027 Crossroads Circle, Waukesha, WI 53187-1612. Editor: Hal Miller, same.		
10. Owner: Kalmbach Media Co., 21027 Crossroads Circle, P.O. Box 1612, Waukesha, WI 53187; stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock are: Deborah D.H. Bercot, 22012 Indian Springs Trail, Amberson PA 17210; Gerald & Patricia Boettcher Living Trust, 8041 Warren Ave., Wauwatosa WI 53213; Alexander & Sally Darragh, 145 Prospect Ave., Waterloo IA 50703; Melanie J. Duval Trust, 9705 Royston Ct., Granite Bay CA 95746; Harold Edmonson, 6021 N. Marmora Ave., Chicago IL 60646-3903; Laura & Gregory Felzer, 3328 S. Honey Creek Dr., Milwaukee WI 53219; Susan E. Fisher Trust, 3430 E. Sunrise Dr., Ste. 200., Tucson AZ 85718; Bruce H. Grunden, 7202 Wild Violet Dr., Humble TX 77436; Linda H. Hanson Trust, PO Box 19, Arcadia MI 49613; George F. Hirschmann Trusts, PO Box 19, Arcadia MI 49613; James & Carol Ingles, 1907 Sunnyside Dr., Waukesha WI 53186; Charles & Lois Kalmbach, 7435 N. Braeburn Ln., Glendale WI 53209; Kalmbach Profit Sharing/401K Savings Plan & Trust, P.O. Box 1612, Waukesha WI 53187-1612; James King Trust, US Bank, PO Box 1449, Minneapolis MN 55480; Mahnke Family Trust, 4756 Marlborough Way, Carmichael CA 95608; Milwaukee Art Museum, Inc., 700 N. Art Museum Dr., Milwaukee WI 53202; Thomas & Kathleen Murphy, 3469 Meadow Sound Dr., De Pere WI 54114; Lois E. Stuart Trust, 1320 Pantops Cottage Ct. #1, Charlottesville VA 22911-4663; David M. Thornburgh Trust, 8855 Collins Ave., Apt. 3A, Surfside FL 33154-0436.		
11. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total bonds, mortgages or other securities: N/A.		
12. Tax status: For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates (Section 423.12 DMM only). N/A		
13. Publication title: Classic Toy Trains		
14. Issue date for circulation data below: September 2019		
15. Extent and nature of circulation:		
	Average # copies each issue during preceding 12 months	Actual # copies of single issue pub- lished nearest to filing
A. Total no. copies printed (net press run)	34,132	33,274
B. Paid circulation:		
1. Paid/requested outside county mail subscriptions	25,225	24,240
2. Paid/requested inside county mail subscriptions	0	0
3. Street vendors and counter sales	2,314	2,248
4. Other classes mailed through USPS	0	0
C. Total paid circulation (sum of 15B (1 through 4))	27,538	26,448
D. Free distribution by mail and outside		
1. Outside county	0	0
2. In county	0	0
3. Other classes through USPS	295	292
4. Outside the mail	0	0
E. Total free distribution (sum of 15d)	307	292
F. Total distribution (sum of 15c and 15e)	27,833	26,780
G. Copies not distributed	6,299	6,494
H. Total (sum of 15f and 15g)	34,132	33,274
I. Percent paid and/or Requested circulation	98.96%	98.93%
16. Electronic copy circulation		
a. Paid electronic copies	609	522
b. Total paid print copies + Paid electronic copies	28,148	27,010
c. Total print distribution + Paid electronic copies	28,442	27,302
d. Percent paid (both print and electronic copies)	98.96%	98.93%
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership: Statement of Ownership will be printed in the February 2020 issue of this publication.		
18. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. (signed) Steve George, Vice President of Content and General Manager		

Build a useful photo sled

A SIMPLE TOOL MAKES FOR GREAT IMAGES

The approach of the holidays meant it was time to put together a temporary O gauge layout on the carpet. It took me two days to set up, and I wanted some photos to remember it.

My iPhone 7 Plus has a 12-megapixel camera, two lenses, a built-in flash, autofocus, autoexposure, and the software to do basic photo and video editing. It also has a pretty good video camera.

The photo and video capabilities were why I bought my iPhone. However, the simple tool I'll describe making here will work with any brand of smartphone with a good camera – and there are a lot of them with comparable or better features.

Too bad smartphones don't come with a tripod mount. You may end up shooting shaky handheld photos if you can't brace the phone. If you're trying to get a close-up picture, it can be almost impossible to get the camera to lock focus.

You can buy adapters to put the phone on a tripod or some other kind of mount, but that still wouldn't work for what I was trying to do – photograph the trackside view of my layout shown in **Photo 1**.

So I came up with "the sled" shown in **Photo 2**. It's easy to make; dimensions are not critical; and it need not look pretty.

I used a 5- to 6-inch-long scrap piece of 2 x 4 lumber for a base. Another 7- to 8-inch off-cut of 1½ x ¾-inch wood became the upright. I nailed the latter on one side of the 2 x 4 at a right angle (**Photo 2**).

Then I used painter's tape to secure the phone to the upright (**Photo 3**). With this quick-and-dirty gizmo, I had a stable support for the camera with the lens at about the right height for trackside photography.

The tape is sticky enough to hold the phone securely, and it pulls off easily. I was able to leave my phone in its protective case to shoot the pictures.

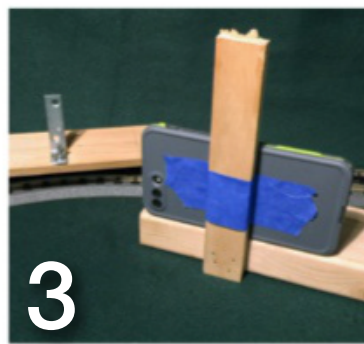


Photo 1. Larry's camera sled made this photo of Williams O gauge Delaware & Hudson sharknose diesels emerging from a tunnel a snap.

Photo 2. Built from two pieces of scrap wood nailed together, the sled is easy to make and makes creative photos easy.

Photo 3. Here are the camera sled (front) with an iPhone taped in place and the camera car (rear) described in the September 2019 CTT.

Photo 4. This is a frame from a video shot using the camera sled to chase the Lionel Polar Express 2-8-4 Berkshire.

Since the viewfinder for a smartphone camera is the screen, it makes setting up a photograph easy. The camera's autofocus and autoexposure take care of the rest.

The more light you have, the more depth of field you'll have to work with and the easier it will be for the autofocus to get a lock. I used an LED spotlight bulb in a work light reflector on a jury-rigged stand for photos. It lit up the scene and let me control where the shadows fell.

This works because my smartphone camera can get good photos at very short distances. Putting it on the sled and eliminating hand shake let the autofocus sort things out. The pictures end up looking like I was standing next to the track.

My holiday layout was set up on the floor, and I found that with a little practice I could slide the whole shebang across the carpet to chase trains going around the outside loops. The sled's 2 x 4 base was wide enough and heavy enough to keep the camera from bouncing around too much as I slid it along.

Photo 4 shows a single frame of video I shot with the phone. I was surprised at how well it came out, with both the background and the wheels blurred by motion but the rest of the engine in focus.

I was able to go through videos frame by frame with iMovie. (Comparable tools are out there for PCs and Android smartphones.) I was able to select the shots I liked and save them as still photos. A single frame from a digital video these days can match what top-line digital cameras were doing just a few years ago.

Using the sled I was able to get a couple of stills out of a video of a Lionel turbine speeding through my layout. One is a straight capture of the postwar locomotive speeding past the sled blurred by motion. The second was taken while turning the sled to keep it pointed at the engine. That blurred everything around the locomotive but kept parts of the engine in focus. This is about as close as you can get to photographing a real Pennsy S2 turbine from trackside these days! – *Larry Roth*

WANT TO SHARE? Write to "Tips" at Classic Toy Trains, P.O. Box 1612, Waukesha, WI 53187-1612, or email us at tips@classictoytrains.com and put the word "tips" in the subject line. We'll pay you \$25 for any tip we publish unless it was contained in a previously purchased article.

MTH PREMIER

MTH 20-20953-1 UNION PACIFIC SPIRIT SD70ACe

MTH 20-20648-1 NS FIRST RESPONDERS GP38-2

TRAINWORLD® EXCLUSIVES
MTH PREMIER LONG ISLAND GP-38-2

20-20954-1 #256
20-20955-1 #259
20-20956-1 #266

MTH GE 44TON

SALE \$399.99 EA.
20-20466-1 LI
20-20468-1 SF

20-20723-1 GN
20-20725-1 B&O

SALE \$409.99 EA.
20-21113-1 SPRINGFIELD
20-21115-1 MIDDLETOWN
20-21117-1 STATEN ISLAND

MTH C LINER

SALE \$349.99
20-20476-1 CANADIAN NATIONAL

MTH F-7A

20-21233-1 EL #16351
20-21234-1 EL #16355
20-21235-1 GN #274
20-21236-1 GN #274B
20-21237-1 NYC #1654
20-21238-1 NYC #1655
20-21239-1 NKP #83

MTH DASH-8

SALE \$379.99 EA.
20-20727-1 NS 8401
20-20728-1 NS 8407
20-20731-1 SF 930

20-20732-1 SF 934
20-20733-1 BNSF 882
20-20734-1 BNSF 824

MTH DASH-9

SALE \$369.99
20-20658-1 NS

20-20664-1 BNSF

MTH GP38-2

SALE \$469.99
20-20904-1 ILLINOIS CENTRAL GULF

SALE \$449.99
20-21080-1 NEW YORK & ATLANTIC #262

SUPER SALE \$399.99
20-20645-1 NEW YORK CONTAINER

MTH GP-40

\$449.99
20-21099-1 ROCKY MOUNTAIN #8016

SALE \$419.99 EA.
20-20839-1 NORFOLK SOUTHERN #4700

SUPER SALE \$349.99
20-20574-1 BNSF #3001

MTH GP60M

SALE \$439.99 EA.
20-20445-1 BNSF
20-20815-1 SF/MAERSK

U50C

SALE \$459.99 EA.
20-20760-1 UP #5025
20-20762-1 UP #5032

MTH SD70ACE

SALE \$474.99 EA.
20-21155-1 GEO. BUSH #4141
20-21156-1 UNION PACIFIC 9096
20-21157-1 KCS #4006
20-21158-1 UNION PACIFIC #1943
20-21159-1 CNW #1995
20-21160-1 MOPAC #1982

SALE \$473.99
20-20961-1 EMD DEMO #1608

SALE \$429.99
20-20518-1 UNION PACIFIC

MTH ES44AC

SALE \$439.99 EA.
20-20736-1 UP
20-20738-1 CITI RAIL
20-20740-1 SF

SALE \$474.99 EA.
20-21122-1 UP #7400
20-21123-1 UP #7419
20-21124-1 GE DEMO

ES44DC SALE \$444.99 EA.
20-21120-1 CSX #5218
20-21121-1 CSX #5225

MTH RAILKING

MTH NORFOLK SOUTHERN SD70ACE PLUS CABOOSE

30-20361-1 FIRST RESPONDERS

30-20362-1 VETERANS

MTH SW-1

SALE \$319.99 EA.
30-20598-1 REPUBLIC STEEL #353
30-20599-1 INLAND STEEL #76
30-20600-1 ALASKA #1204
30-20601-1 PERE MARQUETTE #11
30-20634-1 PENNSYLVANIA #8593

MTH SW-8

SALE \$299.99 EA.
30-20406-1 SP
30-20409-1 NICKEL PLATE RD.

MTH SW-9

SALE \$319.99 EA.
30-20490-1 PITTSBURGH & SHAWMUT
30-20585-1 CAMBRIA/INDIANA
30-20588-1 UNION PACIFIC #1874

MTH MP15

30-20593-1 UP
30-20594-1 SCL
30-20595-1 READING
30-20596-1 SP
30-20597-1 BELT RAIL OF CHICAGO

MTH F-3 ABA

SALE \$499.99 EA.
30-20461-1 RI
30-20462-1 SF

30-20463-1 ACL
30-20552-1 ALASKA

MTH F40

SALE \$319.99 EA.
30-20602-1 AMTRAK #406
30-20603-1 ALASKA #31
30-20605-1 FLORIDA TRIRAIL #807
30-20606-1 CSX #49999

MTH GP20

SALE \$329.99 EA.
30-20607-1 BOSTON & MAINE
30-20609-1 NORFOLK SOUTHERN
30-20610-1 RJ CORMAN #4121

MTH DASH 8 with SPECIAL MULTI COLOR LED LIGHTING EFFECTS

SALE \$359.99 EA.
30-20436-1 CHRISTMAS
30-20473-1 UNION PACIFIC

MTH SD70ACE

SALE \$339.99 EA.
30-20635-1 Geo. BUSH #4141
30-20636-1 UNION PACIFIC #9096

SUPER SALE \$299.99
30-20369-1 NEW YORK CENTRAL

MTH ES44AC

SALE \$329.99
30-20570-1 SANTA FE, #778
30-20413-1 CIT RAIL

SUPER DEAL \$309.99
30-20413-1 CIT RAIL

MTH INGERSOLL RAND BOX CAB

SALE \$499.99 EA.
20-20945-1 LV
20-20946-1 LV
20-20947-1 B&O

20-20948-1 UNION
20-20951-1 LI

MTH ALP46 ELECTRIC

SALE \$499.99 EA.
20-5700-1 NJT #4600
20-5701-1 NJT #4654

MTH AMTRAK AEM-7

20-5708-1 #4915
20-5710-1 #4939

SALE \$439.99 EA.
20-5689-1 AMTRAK . . . \$449.99

SALE \$399.99 EA.
20-20682-1 AMTRAK #393
20-20683-1 AMTRAK #409

SALE \$439.99
20-20794-1 AMTRAK, Salute Veterans

MTH F40PH

SALE \$589.99 EA.
84401 BN #9200
84402 BN #9225
84407 CSX #8783
84408 CSX #8784
84409 NS #6808
84410 NS #6815
84411 UP #6165
84412 UP #6187

SUPER SALE \$549.99 EA.
84404 SOO #6061
84405 CONRAIL #5504
84406 CONRAIL #5510

BEST DEAL \$519.99
84400 BN #1991

SALE \$559.99 EA.
83371 GN HUSTLE MUSCLE
83373 GN #407

LIONEL SD-60M

SALE \$589.99 EA.
84401 BN #9200
84402 BN #9225
84407 CSX #8783
84408 CSX #8784
84409 NS #6808
84410 NS #6815
84411 UP #6165
84412 UP #6187

LIONEL

TRAIN WORLD IS LIONEL'S LARGEST DEALER IN THE WORLD!

LIONEL UNION PACIFIC #1943 #85408 SPIRIT OF UP
WITH **BLUE TOOTH** FLAG BOXCAR with LED Lights

#85315 SD70ACE
WITH **BLUE TOOTH**
#85316 UP
WIDE VISION CABOOSE

LIONEL #82726 LIONEL LINES
FA POWERED & DUMMY
SUPER SALE \$389.99 3-Car Set CONVENTIONAL

LIONEL 1955 TRUCKS **COMMAND CONTROL**
81126 WP
81129 MILWAUKEE
81132 N&W
SALE \$159.99 EA.

LIONEL TIE JECTOR **COMMAND CONTROL**
81444 PENNSYLVANIA
81447 NS
SALE \$179.99 EA.

LIONEL BIPOLAR **BTO**

MILWAUKEE **ADDITIONAL ROADNAMES**
1933571 #E1 1933580 GREAT NORTHERN
1933572 #E2 1933590 NEW HAVEN
1933573 #E3 1933600 NEW YORK CENTRAL
1933574 #E4 1933610 PENNSYLVANIA
1933575 #E5 1933620 POLAR EXPRESS

LIONEL ALCO PA AA

82220 SP
82223 RG
82229 MP

1933160 SF
1933170 D&RG
1933200 SP
1933210 UP

LIONEL E7 AA

LEGACY
82829 B&O
82833 PERE MARQUETTE
82834 SEABOARD

LIONEL E8 AA **BTO**

LEGACY **SALE \$899.99 EA.**
84075 ACL
84085 L&N

LIONEL TORPEDO GP-9

WITH BLUE TOOTH **BTO**
84270 B&O #3414
84274 MILWAUKEE
84278 TH&B
84280 WABASH

LIONEL U33C **BTO**

WITH BLUE TOOTH
84282 BN #5716
84283 BN #5723
84284 D&H #757
84286 GUILFORD

LIONEL SD-40 **BTO**

82282 CONRAIL #6308
82284 CONRAIL #6300
82285 SP #8402

SUPER SALE \$549.99 EA.
84264 SRR #3170
84265 SRR #3200
84267 SP #7500
84269 WMD #7549
84268 WMD #7547

BEST DEAL \$519.99

LIONEL SD45 **BTO**

83371 GN HUSTLE MUSCLE
83373 GN #407

LIONEL SD-60M **BTO**

SALE \$589.99 EA.
84401 BN #9200
84402 BN #9225
84407 CSX #8783
84408 CSX #8784
84409 NS #6808
84410 NS #6815
84411 UP #6165
84412 UP #6187

SUPER SALE \$549.99 EA.
84404 SOO #6061
84405 CONRAIL #5504
84406 CONRAIL #5510

BEST DEAL \$519.99
84400 BN #1991

LIONEL SD45 **BTO**

83371 GN HUSTLE MUSCLE
83373 GN #407

LIONEL SD-60M **BTO**

SALE \$589.99 EA.
84401 BN #9200
84402 BN #9225
84407 CSX #8783
84408 CSX #8784
84409 NS #6808
84410 NS #6815
84411 UP #6165
84412 UP #6187

SUPER SALE \$549.99 EA.
84404 SOO #6061
84405 CONRAIL #5504
84406 CONRAIL #5510

BEST DEAL \$519.99
84400 BN #1991

LIONEL SD45 **BTO**

83371 GN HUSTLE MUSCLE
83373 GN #407

LIONEL SD-60M **BTO**

SALE \$589.99 EA.
84401 BN #9200
84402 BN #9225
84407 CSX #8783
84408 CSX #8784
84409 NS #6808
84410 NS #6815
84411 UP #6165
84412 UP #6187

SUPER SALE \$549.99 EA.
84404 SOO #6061
84405 CONRAIL #5504
84406 CONRAIL #5510

BEST DEAL \$519.99
84400 BN #1991

LIONEL SD45 **BTO**

83371 GN HUSTLE MUSCLE
83373 GN #407

LIONEL SD-60M **BTO**

SALE \$589.99 EA.
84401 BN #9200
84402 BN #9225
84407 CSX #8783
84408 CSX #8784
84409 NS #6808
84410 NS #6815
84411 UP #6165
84412 UP #6187

LIONEL

WILLIAMS F-3 AA POWERED & DUMMY with SOUND

20107 BOSTON & MAINE
SUPER SALE \$199.99 EA.

20108 ERIE

20105 NS EXECUTIVE TRAIN

WILLIAMS SCALE 44 TON WITH TRUE-BLAST PLUS SOUND

SUPER SALE \$169.99 EA.
23102 SANTA FE
23104 DENVER RIO GRANDE
23105 PENNSYLVANIA
23107 UNION PACIFIC

BEST DEAL \$149.99 EA.
23103 SOUTHERN
23106 CANADIAN NATIONAL

WILLIAMS NW2 WITH TRUE-BLAST PLUS SOUND

SUPER SALE \$199.99 EA.
21650 BOSTON & MAINE
21651 PENNSYLVANIA
21652 UNION PACIFIC, black
21653 WESTERN PACIFIC

WILLIAMS RS-3 WITH TRUE-BLAST PLUS SOUND

SUPER SALE \$199.99 EA.
23001 PENNSYLVANIA
23002 ROCK ISLAND
23003 CANADIAN NATIONAL
23004 SEABOARD

WILLIAMS #21457 UNION PACIFIC with SOUND

SUPER SALE \$184.99

WILLIAMS GP-30 WITH TRUE-BLAST PLUS SOUND

SUPER SALE \$249.99 EA.
22903 UP, #804
22905 BURLINGTON
22906 CHESAPEAKE & OHIO
#22904 GREAT NORTHERN

WILLIAMS GP-38 with SOUND

SUPER SALE \$199.99 EA.
21222 UNION PACIFIC
21223 CSX
21225 SANTA FE

WILLIAMS HERITAGE SERIES NORFOLK SOUTHERN GE DASH-9 with SOUND

SUPER SALE \$219.99 EA.
20430 CENTRAL OF GEORGIA
20431 SOUTHERN
20432 LEHIGH VALLEY
20433 PENNSYLVANIA
20434 NICKLE PLATE ROAD

WILLIAMS HERITAGE SERIES NORFOLK SOUTHERN SD-90

SUPER SALE \$199.99 EA.
21830 LACKAWANNA
21831 NEW YORK CENTRAL

SUPER DEAL \$179.99 EA.
21832 JERSEY CENTRAL
21833 ERIE

BEST DEAL \$149.99
21834 READING

WILLIAMS GENESIS A-UNIT with SOUND

BEST DEAL \$199.99 EA.
23301 AMTRAK PHASE V
23302 AMTRAK PHASE I

SUPER SALE \$219.99
23303 NEW HAVEN

WILLIAMS 70 TONER TRUE-BLAST PLUS SOUND

SALE \$269.99 EA.
23501 SOUTHERN PACIFIC
23502 CANADIAN NATIONAL
23503 TROPICANA
23504 RUTLAND

WILLIAMS F59 PHI with SOUND

SUPER SALE \$299.99 EA.
23401 AMTRAK PAC
23402 AMTRAK CALIFORNIA
23403 CASCADES

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

SALE \$269.99 EA.

MENARDS.COM/TRAINS

**PRELIT WITH
OVER 20 BRIGHT
LED LIGHTS!**

**INCLUDES TWO
SMOKE STACKS
AND THREE
ROOF VENTS**

**BUILT-IN TRAIN
TUNNEL FOR
A MINIMAL
FOOTPRINT**

**ELECTRONIC SIGN
WITH LIGHTNING
STRIKE ANIMATION**

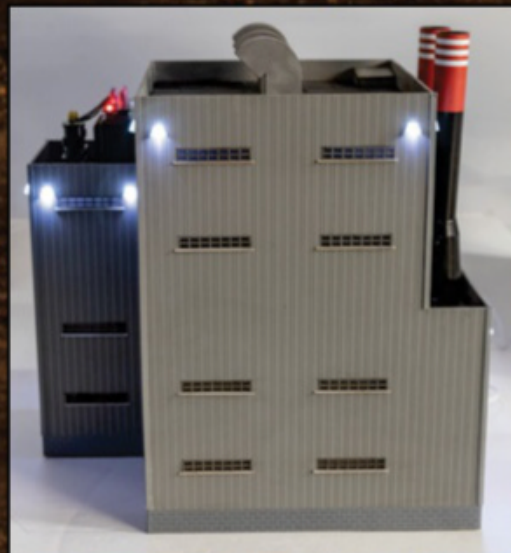
**DETAILED ELECTRICAL
TRANSFORMER WITH
RED BLINKING LEDS**



Tubular track and Norfolk & Western Hopper (279-5283) sold separately.

National Power & Light

0 Scale (279-4844) ... \$99.99



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ORDER, VISIT MENARDS.COM/TRAINS