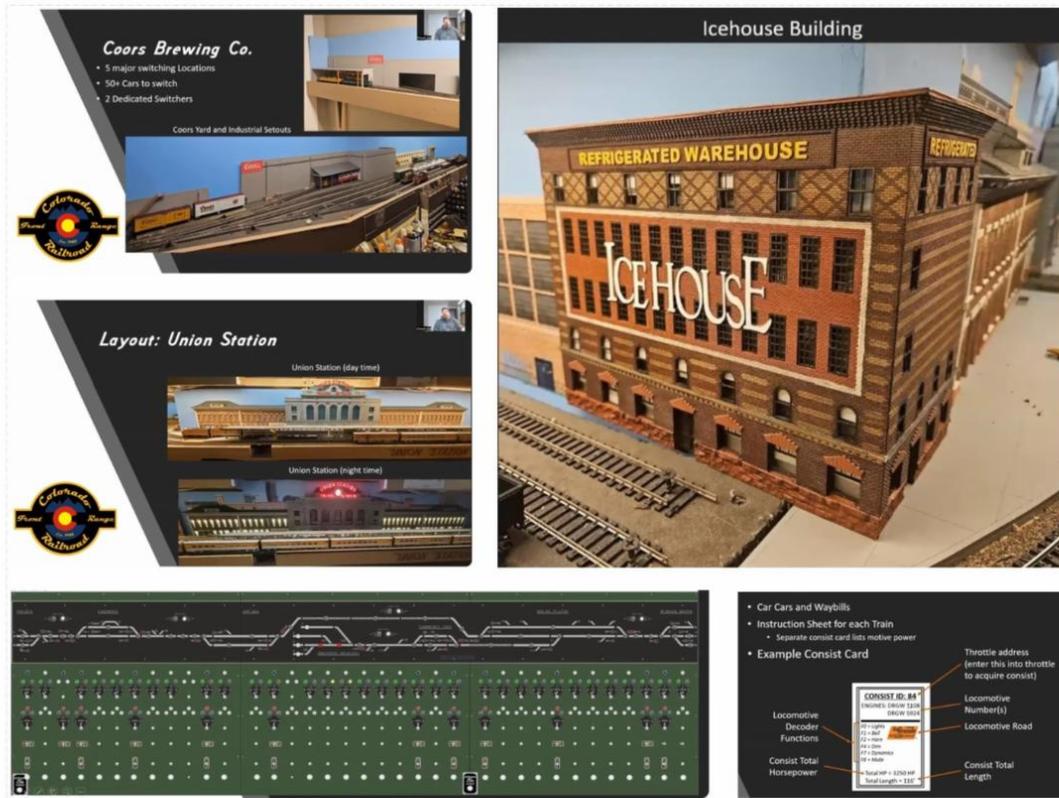


The NMRA's *Turntable* is a monthly publication that, like a railroad turntable, will lead you in several directions on the internet.

This e-publication is a collection of railroad and model railroad videos, podcasts, websites, and/or other information freely available on the internet that we think may be of interest to you. The NMRA claims no ownership of this information, nor do we endorse its creators or their websites. The *NMRA Turntable* will not promote individuals or their for-profit ventures.

Having trouble seeing this email? [View as Webpage](#)

## Chuck Lee's New HO Scale BN / DRGW Front Range Layout Tour

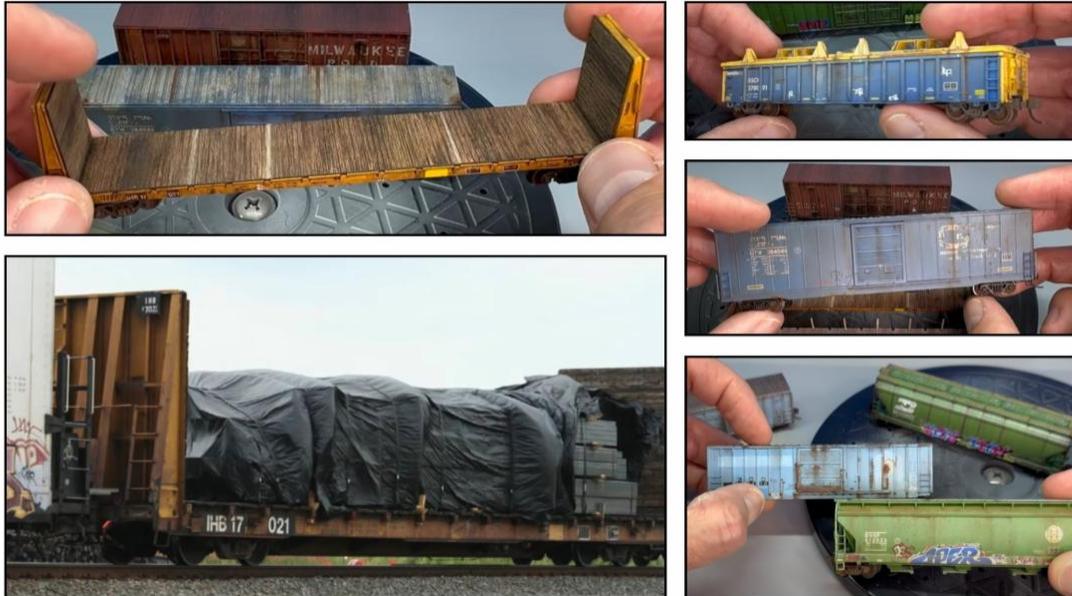


## [BN / DRGW Front Range Layout Tour](#)

Do you like Coors beer, oil refineries, stock pens and passenger service, all in Colorado? Watch Chuck Lee describe his new freelanced HO scale model railroad, set in the 1980s with both BN, DRGW and UP influences as he gives a complete layout tour in this video. You will be astounded at how much he has accomplished in the past six years, including working signals and CTC and regular operating sessions.

Chuck delivered this slide show presentation to the "Second Saturday" series of Zoom layout tours hosted by the fourth division (<https://4dpr.com>) of the Pacific Northwest Region (PNR) of the National Model Railroad Association.

## The Art of Railcar Weathering



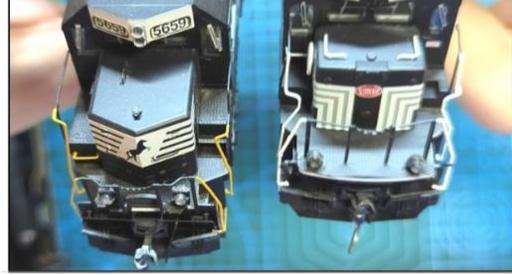
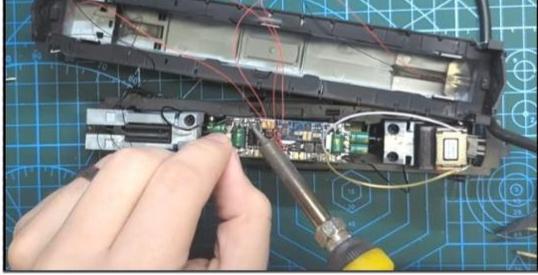
## [The Art of Railcar Weathering](#)

Taking a thoughtful approach to weathering railcars is more than just following a series of steps. It's a mindset and a philosophy, though nothing overly complex. Here are some thoughts, with railcars weathered as discussion examples.

## Ditch the Darkness

### A Complete Guide to Installing Ditch Lights





## [Ditch the Darkness](#)

A very good and informative video on how to modernize your motive power fleet by installing ditch lights on your locomotives.

## **Sierra Central Railroad Layout Tour** **SMRHS Sacramento, California**

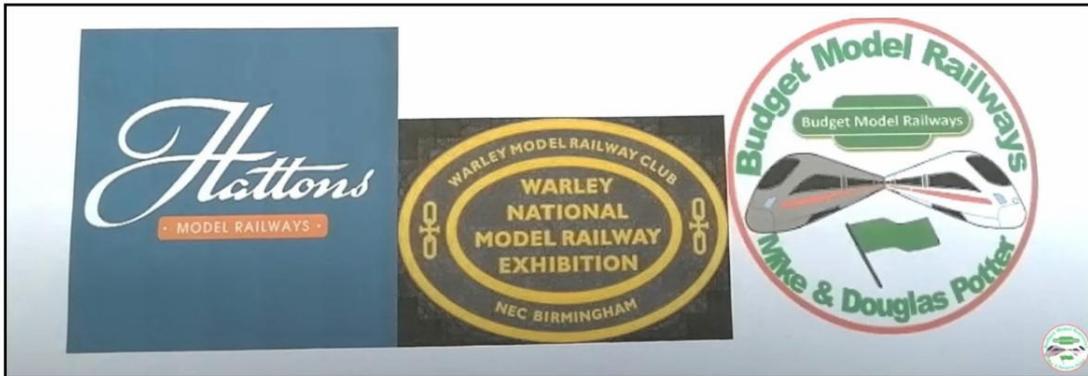


## [Sierra Central Railroad Layout Tour](#)

The Sacramento Model Railroad Historical Society is home to not one, but two HO scale layouts. One of these layouts is HOn3 narrow gauge, and the other is the Sierra Central, which models Western Pacific and Southern Pacific railroading from Oakland to Keddie, CA around the 1960s.

This is an operations-based layout with a full CTC (Centralized Traffic Control) machine which is the original Western Pacific CTC board that was used in the area modeled. This machine has been restored and now controls the signals and turnouts on the layout. When CTC is not being used, the layout can be operated using ABS (Automatic Block Signaling).

# The Model Railway Hobby is NOT Dying, It's Changing!



## *The Hobby is NOT Dying, It's Changing!*

A discussion of one person's view on what is happening in the model railroading world regarding the ongoing question by some as to whether or not the hobby of model railroading is dying, growing or just going through a change in direction.

## CSX Railgon #708218



## *CSX Railgon #708218*

Here we look at a cool modeling project, CSXT 708218! This car takes

form using an Athearn RTR Railgon. You will see how to go about upgrading, modifying, and detailing this model to match the prototype car!

## Wandering Spruce - On30 Layout



## Wandering Spruce - On30 Layout

An update on the Wandering Spruce On30 layout showing progress that has been made on this portable model railroad over the past few months.

# What Happened to the Old Los Angeles Street Car System?

Radio Story of the (First) Los Angeles Streetcar System with illustrations and some comments

From "This Is the Story" April 4, 2013



## [The Los Angeles Street Car System](#)

Although it currently is constructing both light rail and heavy rail transit systems, the Los Angeles area had, but then abandoned, an earlier streetcar network that was quite extensive. This telling, from the "This Is the Story" public radio program, describes what happens. It is a bit flip about some of the background history and comments are inserted in a couple of places to note more nuanced references to past events. Illustrations are provided to go along with the story.

## **SurfLiner 2024 - NMRA National Convention**

SurfLiner 2024  
NMRA National  
Convention  
Long Beach, California  
August 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

To visit our website:

<https://SurfLiner2024.org>

## [SurfLiner 2024 in Long Beach, CA](#)

A great convention needs an amazing location, and our hotel is the Westin Long Beach in downtown Long Beach. The Westin Long Beach is just two blocks from the beach, harbor, and pier. Directly across the street is the Center for Performing Arts and the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center.

### **This just in:**

The initial [Convention Timetable](#) is available. Updates to the Timetable

will occur frequently, so check on it from time to time.

**NOTE:** The times & days of operation of the Celebration (Contest) room are different from previous years. Entries can now be entered on **Sunday** August 4th between 6pm & 9pm, **Monday** 8am to 6pm, and **Tuesday only between 8am to 10am**. Entries must be picked up between 6pm and 9pm on **WEDNESDAY NIGHT!** The awards ceremony will occur on Thursday afternoon as usual starting at 2pm.

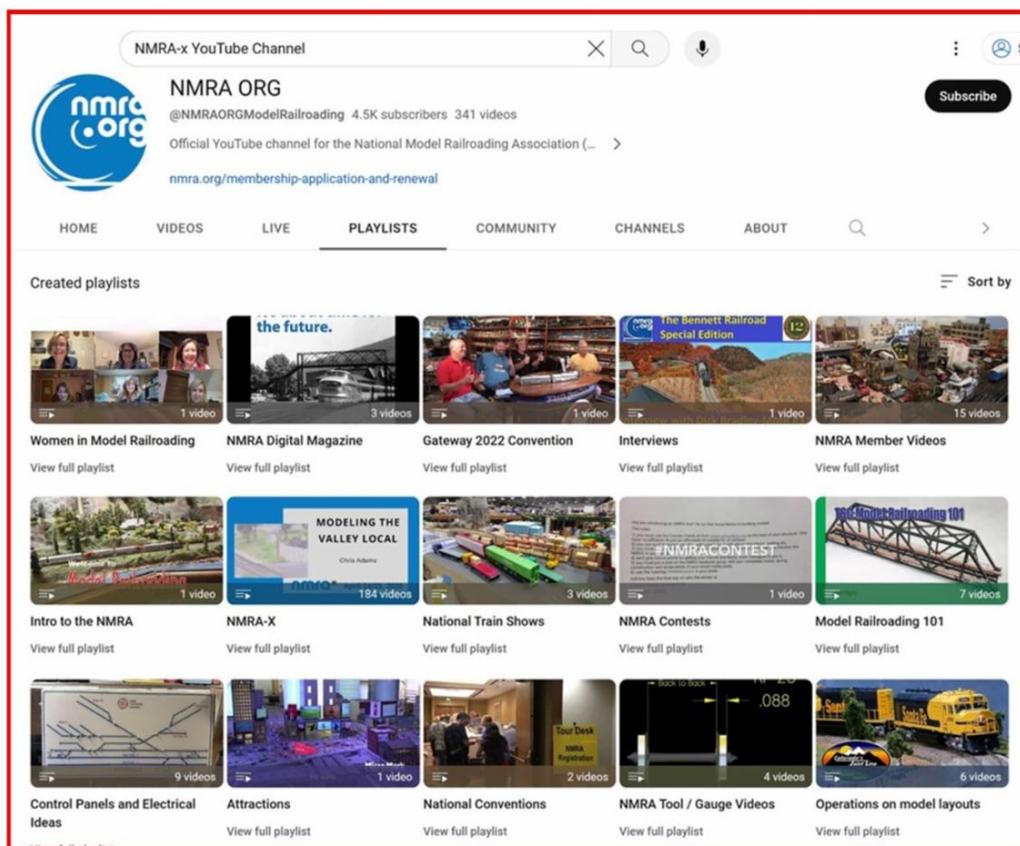
**Layout Bus Tour 5 added.**

Check out the [Layout Tours](#) page for the details.

Sign up for these tours when you register for the convention, or if you have already registered you can modify your registration to add any of these tours.

**The Convention Team looks forward to seeing you in August!**

## NMRA-x YouTube Channel



## [NMRA-x YouTube Channel](#)

This is the Official YouTube channel for the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). Here you will find over 350 videos including clinics, layout tours, reviews and how-to presentations along with the popular NMRax clinics, all told there is about seven years' worth of material to look over and watch!

# Electrified Dinosaurs

Pacific Electric Days at the (former) Orange Empire  
now Southern California Railway Museum



## Electrified Dinosaurs

On June 18, 2016, a visit was made to the Pacific Electric Days at the Orange Empire Railway Museum (this has since been renamed the Southern California Railway Museum) in Perris, CA. The day was full of fun stuff to see, and at a vast location like the OERM, it was hard to decide what to film. The stars of the day were freight motor 1624, and the Pacific Electric Red Cars, also known as "Blimps". Seeing and hearing working machines from around 100 years ago is truly a sight to behold. So, sit back and enjoy the sights and sounds of the Pacific Electric.

## Review: Bachmann Siemens Venture Coach HO Amtrak Ultra Modern Passenger Cars Unveiled!





## [Bachmann HO Scale Siemens Venture Coach](#)

This is an in-depth review of Bachmann's latest HO Amtrak Siemens Venture Coach, showcasing ultra-modern passenger car excellence! Explore every detail, from design to performance, in this comprehensive analysis.

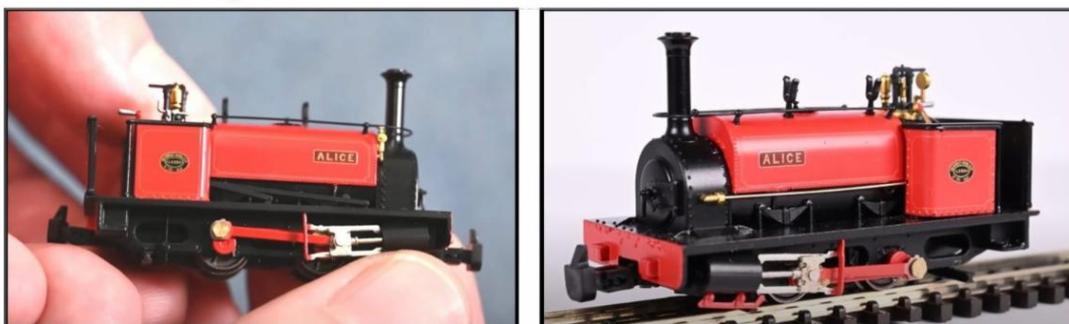
## Realistic Transformer Load

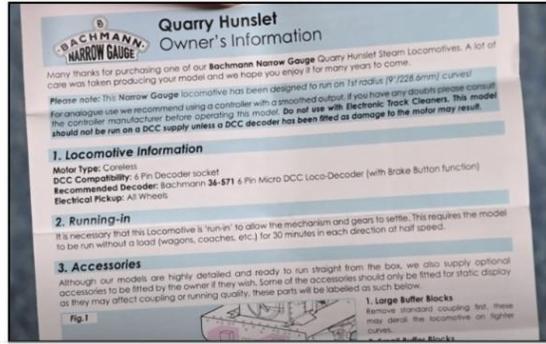
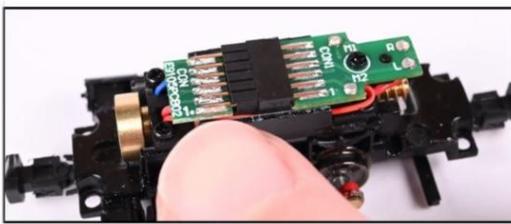


## [Realistic Transformer Load](#)

In this video a realistic transformer shipment is modeled. This is a smaller unit, say around 5MVA or so, on an Intermountain 70-ton flatcar. The transformer itself is from Artitec, thus is actually a European (AEG) prototype, but some slight modifications were made that make it look better for a domestic USA shipment.

## Bachmann's Outstanding Narrow-Gauge OO9 Quarry Hunslet 0-4-0 Tank 'Alice'

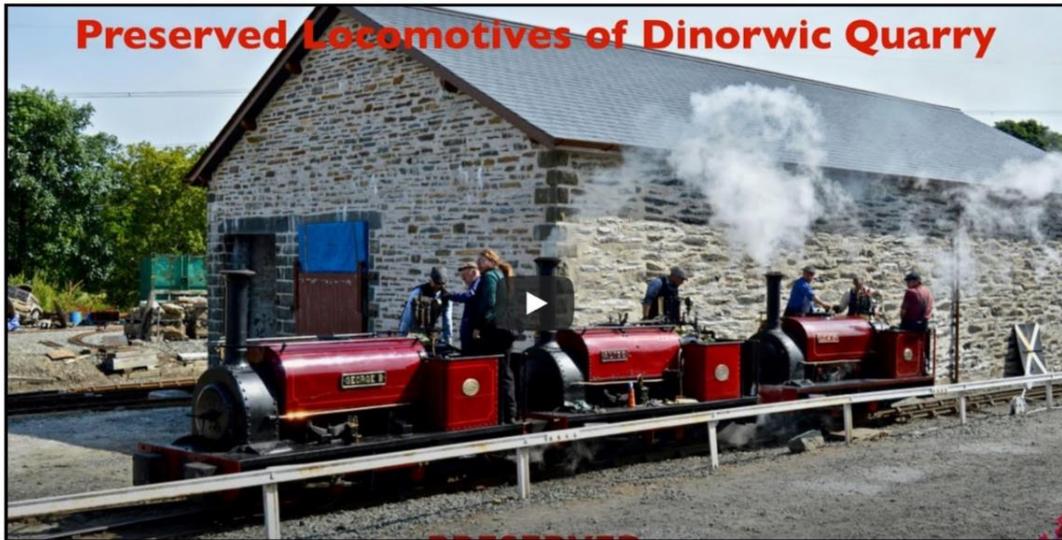




## [Quarry Hunslet 0-4-0 Tank 'Alice'](#)

A review of Bachmann's diminutive narrow-gauged Quarry Hunslet 0-4-0 Tank locomotive modeled in scale 1:76/OO9. The locomotive is named 'Alice' and it is painted in Dinorwic Quarry Red.

The following video shows some of this type of locomotive (including Alice) in preservation and operation.



## [Preserved Locomotives of Dinorwic Quarry](#)

A look at some of the preserved steam locomotives of Dinorwic Quarry, Llanberis

Starting off is a look at the Gilfach Ddu workshops at the National Slate Museum in Llanberis, before taking a look at Bagnall Sybil under restoration at the West Lancashire Light Railway.

The remainder of the locomotives that will be looked at are of Hunslet design and build. First off are examples of the **Alice class of Quarry Hunslet**, Velinheli, King of the Scarlets, George B, Enid, Cloister, Holy War, Alice, Maid Marian and Irish Mail, then moving onto the Port Class

with Dolbadarn and Michael, before finally taking a look at Jerry M.

The locomotives are seen at several locations including the Llanberis Lake Railway, Ffestiniog & Welsh Highland Railways, West Lancashire Light Railway, Threlkeld Quarry Railway, Stafford Barn Railway and Bala Lake Railway.

## 100 Car Freight Train on a Mountain Grade



## 100 Car Freight Train on a Mountain Grade

At 100 cars, this was one of the longest trains ever operated over this railroad and care was needed to transverse the railroad grades with a train of this length.

## DIY Skeleton Log Car Build



# [DIY Skeleton Log Car Build](#)

How to scratch build a skeleton log car for your model railroad. A list of parts and tools needed is provided for this relatively easy scratch building project. This is a good starter project to introduce you to the world of scratch building and the satisfaction that can be achieved when your creation is finished!

## **Last-Ever Coal-Powered Train From Durango**



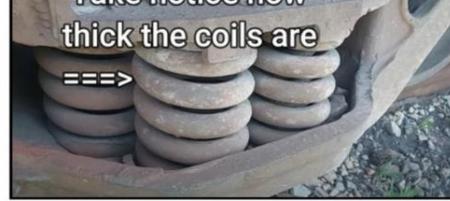
## [Last-Ever Coal-Powered Train From Durango](#)

March 23, 2024, was a somber day in the San Juan Mountains of La Plata County in Durango Colorado at the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad yard. For 139 years, the railroad had been powered by coal-fired steam locomotives until after it began converting its locomotives from coal to oil fire to help mitigate the chances of fire ignition after the 416 wildfire was started near the trackside, possibly from a passing train, whether from the locomotive or a passenger's carelessly thrown cigarette. One by one, the steam locomotives were turned from burning the bituminous rock to recycled waste oil.

Watch as the locomotive hostlers shake the coal and ashes from the ashpan for the final time and 481 rolls into the stall of the roundhouse to begin her 'Rebirth of a Locomotive', well, into an oil-burner.

## **Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Freight Car Truck Springs**





AAR Freight Car						
Part No.	Bar Dia.	Outer Dia.	Solid Height	Free Height	Solid Capacity	Scrap Height
CO-Outer	1 7/32	5 1/2	6 5/8	8 1/4	15,929	7 15/16
CO-Inner	1 1/16	2 15/16	6 5/8	8 1/4	10,721	8 5/8
CO-Outer	1 1/16	5 1/2	6 9/16	9 1/16	4,259	9 5/8
1	2 1/32	3 1/4	6 9/16	9 1/16	9,128	9 1/16
2	5/8	5 1/2	6 9/16	9 5/8	3,433	9 1/16
3	5/8	5 1/2	6 9/16	10 1/4	8,256	9 5/8
4	5/8	5 1/2	6 9/16	10 5/16	4,204	9 5/8
5	5/8	3 3/8	6 9/16	9 15/16	4,107	9 5/16
6	2 1/32	3 7/16	6 9/16	9 15/16	1,536	8 3/8
7	3/8	2	6 11/16	9	8,642	10
8	15/16	5 1/2	6 9/16	10 13/16	8,642	10
9	5/8	3 1/2	6 9/16	10 3/4	4,108	10



SPRING USE	PART NO.	O.D.	FREE HT.	HT.
OUTER	0-332	4 3/8"	10 3/4"	10 1/8"
INNER	0-334	3 1/8"	10 3/4"	10 1/8"
TOP	0-300	2 5/8"	5 9/16"	5 10/16"
MAIN	0-201	5 1/2"	8 11/16"	8 1/4"



## Freight Car Truck Springs

All about freight rail car springs. This video shows defects and types of springs on rail freight cars along with the springs getting compressed as the car is loaded and decompressed as the car is getting unloaded. Also shown are some rail car spring groups and patterns of groups along with a nest of springs and spring designations.

# NMRA's Partnership Program



## PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in and click on the **Benefits** tab to view the **NMRA Partnership Program**. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

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 Railroad Graphics  
 Hot Wire Foam Factory

Ipswich  
 ITLA Scale Models  
 K.I.S.S Method, Inc.  
 LaBelle Woodworking Co.  
 LARC Products  
 Logic Rail Technologies  
 MAC Rail  
 Micro-Mark  
 Mine Mount Models  
 Miniprints  
 MrTrain.com  
 Model Railroad Benchwork  
**Model Railway Backshop\***  
 MRC (Model Rectifier Corp)  
 Model Train Catalogue  
 Modelers Decals & Paint  
 Motrak Models  
 Mudd Creek Models  
 New Creations Victorian  
 Railroad Buildings  
 Nick and Nora Designs  
 Northlandz  
 NScale Works by Mike Holly  
 Old Depot Gallery  
 Old West Scenery  
 RAM Track

RR-CirKits  
 R & J Details  
 Scale Model Plans  
 Scale Railroad Models  
 Scenery Solutions  
 Showcase Miniatures  
 T-Trak by Denniston  
 Team Track Models  
 The N Scale Architech  
 The Old Depot Gallery  
 Tichy Train Group  
 Touch of the Brush Model  
 Weathering  
 Train Installations, LLC  
 Train Show, Inc.  
 Trainmasters TV/Model  
 Railroad Hobbyist Store  
 TRAINZ.com  
 TSG Multimedia  
 UGEARS  
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 Badger Airbrush  
**White Rose Hobbies, LLC\***  
 WiFi Model Railroad, LLC  
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[ New Partners in RED\* ]

May 2024

# *Partnership Program*

The NMRA Partnership Program is a member benefit that truly has a tangible payback. We've partnered with model railroad manufacturers of all sizes, giving them exposure on our website in return for receiving generous discounts for NMRA members all year long. Some provide members with special codes, others prefer a phone or email order, but all appreciate the additional business from our members. And of course, our members appreciate the extra savings...savings that can actually pay the cost of NMRA membership!

Also, be sure to check back often as new Partners are being added all the time!

## *New Partner* **Model Railway Backshop**

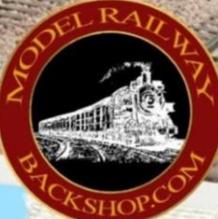


The National Model Railroad Association is excited to announce the Model Railway Backshop as our newest NMRA Partner!

**10% OFF FOR NMRA MEMBERS**

 national model railroad association

Visit our website  
[www.nmra.org/partnerships](http://www.nmra.org/partnerships)



## *Model Railway Backshop*

Exciting News! We are thrilled to welcome Model Railway Backshop to our esteemed NMRA family of partners! It's partners like this who help us bring unparalleled Discounts and exclusive Member Benefits directly to you! Model Railway Backshop is a game-changer in the world of model railroading, specializing in making your brass model trains look and sound

like the real deal. Whether you're a collector, operator, or a visionary building your dream railway, their attention to detail ensures a prototypical appearance for your models.

Dive into the realm of authenticity with high-fidelity DCC & Sound Decoders that capture the genuine whistle and bell sounds of the locomotives you adore. Plus, their expert precision paintwork will elevate your models' value above and beyond a factory paint job.

## ***New Partner*** **White Rose Hobbies, LLC**

The National Model Railroad Association is excited to present White Rose Hobbies, LLC as our newest NMRA Hobby Shop Partner!

**10% OFF FOR NMRA MEMBERS**

 national model railroad association

Visit our website <https://www.nmra.org/partnerships>

## ***White Rose Hobbies, LLC***

We are also thrilled to announce White Rose Hobbies as our newest NMRA Partner!

This hobby shop just recently announced the acquisition of Bethlehem Car Works. At White Rose Hobbies, they offer model trains for any enthusiast. Whether you prefer O scale, N scale, or HO scale model trains, you'll find a wide selection of trains in your preferred scale. In addition, they offer model train supplies including DCC, model scenery, and electronics & wiring supplies. Most U.S. orders ship the same day they're placed.

## **NMRA@HOME**



**Randy Watt's Tuscarora & Appotomac**

*Featured in the Division Business Car Column appearing in the June 2024 issue of NMRA Magazine.*

Division, Randy discusses all aspects of the design and building of his HO scale Tuscarora & Appotomac Railroad, a prototype-based freelanced short line railroad.

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### The Rise of the Phoenix

Featured in the *Division Business Car Column* appearing in the June 2024 issue of *NMRA Magazine*.

Mat Thompson, MMR® takes us on a three-part series on how a layout was built, torn down, moved, and rebuilt in another location in the *Potomac Flyer*, published by the Potomac Division of the Mid-Eastern Region.



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### Coupler history

Featured in the *Division Business Car Column* appearing in the June 2024 issue of *NMRA Magazine*.

Have you ever wondered about the history of railroad couplers? So did Bob "Shep" Sheppard of the Bremerton Northern Model Railroad, a 100% NMRA Club in Silverdale, Washington. Bob did the research and wrote an article for the club's newsletter, *The Flimsy Board*

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### Clothespin Clamps

Featured in the *Division Business Car Column* appearing in the June 2024 issue of *NMRA Magazine*.



Mike Tylick, MMR® shares with readers of the Northeastern Region's magazine, the *NER Coupler* how the longtime household tool, the clothespin, can be easily modified for use as a clamp to hold parts for gluing, painting, and other modeling projects.



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### Rusty Roofs

Featured in the *Division Business Car Column* appearing in the June 2024 issue of *NMRA Magazine*.

Greg Cassidy takes you step-by-step through all the procedures and precautions in his article on creating rusty roofs, whether it is acrylic paint on paper, wood, or plastic, or an etching solution on metal in his article that appeared in the *Potomac Flyer*, the newsletter of the Mid-Eastern Region's Potomac Division.

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### Motive Power Depot

Featured in the *Division Business Car Column* appearing in the June 2024 issue of *NMRA Magazine*.



Rod Vance of the Mid-Eastern Region's James River Division discusses the many uses of a product from DCC Concepts in the *Crossties*, his division newsletter. The product can be used to turn a locomotive, a case to carry a locomotive, a cradle when working a locomotive, and a container to store a locomotive.

The ***Division Business Car*** column appears in even-numbered months in *NMRA Magazine*. It's loaded with great modeling ideas, plus useful information that can help make your Division, Region, or 100% NMRA Club even better. The information comes from articles published in Region, Division, and Club newsletters. The best of these articles are posted on the NMRA website. You can read the entire archive, from as far back as 2011 right up to the latest posting, by clicking [here](#).

Previous issues of the ***NMRA Turntable*** are available on the Turntable Archives page. You must first log in as a member at: [nmra.org](http://nmra.org) After you are in the members-only section, then you must hover over 'Publications' on the menu bar, then 'NMRA Turntable', and then click on one of the list of back issues.

Editor: [Paul Voelker, HLM](#)

Executive Editor: [Rick Coble](#)

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