



# RPM Chicagoland

2017 RPM Conference in Lisle, IL

*24th Annual "Naperville" Meet*

## *Seminar Descriptions*

### Layouts Track

#### 1- Discovering Hope Springs: A New Way To Plan A Layout

*Bill Schaumburg*

Wine and chocolate. And maybe some talk about trains! Past Railroad Model Craftsman editor Bill Schaumburg is back to share his planning adventures for a new layout.

#### 2- The Story City Branch Part II: Rolling Through Roland

*Clark Propst*

Clark will explain why Roland, Iowa is so appealing and how he proportioned the rail served customers into a believable scene in the space he had available. He'll also show how he adapted backdrop photos to stretch the modeled area and truncated structures along the fascia.

#### 3- Cancelled

#### 4- Developing a Fleet: Prototype based freight car fleet for the Yosemite Valley Railroad

*Jeremy Dummler*

Using a variety of resources, Jeremy will discuss how he set about determining the number, type, and specific prototypes he's chosen to fill his freight car roster as he works toward building his version of the Yosemite Valley Railroad. The discussion will include how he created target numbers for each kind of freight car, and what models commercially available or scratch built are necessary to fill that roster to a minimum number in order to make the railroad operate properly.

#### 5- Prototype Modeling and Manageable Sized Layouts

*Eric Hansmann*

As many modelers downsize and move to smaller homes, we need to narrow our focus to build a manageable and enjoyable model railroad for a new space. Several prototype locations will be reviewed as well as research suggestions and layout examples.

## Tips and Techniques Track

### 6- A Journey in Detailed Paper Structure Models

*Allen Ferguson*

Allen has gone on a journey of building detailed paper models. He will review the techniques, where to obtain source materials, and what has worked well for him in developing structures for his layout.

### 7- Product Design in Resin and Etched Metal

*Pierre Oliver*

Pierre is the proprietor of Yarmouth Model Works and an accomplished custom builder. He will discuss the up and downs, successes and failures, of working with some of the more modern manufacturing processes we now have available to us.

### 8- Cancelled

### 9- Airbrushing 101

*Alan Welch*

Alan is a frequent guest on Trainmaster TV's Notch 8 segment and will be presenting his highly informative clinic that teaches the basic airbrushing and airbrush weathering techniques. He will cover air sources, compatible materials, different paints and their use, surface preparation and more. Attendees will also learn about different types of airbrushes, techniques, maintenance, control exercises, and more. Learn to airbrush your scenery, backdrops, locomotives and rolling stock, track and structures!

## Freight Car Research Track

### 10- Dr. Mary E. Pennington, PhD & the "Modern" Refrigerator Car

*Bill Welch*

America's refrigerator car fleet was already struggling to deliver perishable commodities in good condition and the country's entry into the World War in 1917 only exacerbated this problem. The USRA asked for help and the USDA's Chief Food Scientist Dr. Mary Engle Pennington was enlisted to sort out what the problems were. Her findings and resulting design recommendations would inform the rebuilding and new construction of ice bunker refrigerator cars until the end of the "age of ice." However the importance of Dr. Pennington's story neither started nor ended with this work.

### 11- Transition Era IC Boxcar Fleet Part II

*Brad Hanner*

This seminar will examine the special-purpose boxcar fleet of the Illinois Central in the ten years following WWII. Similar to Part I, first presented at Chicagoland 2016, we'll examine the ebbs and flows of the fleet with an emphasis on identifying the larger series of cars. Advice on proportional representation in your fleet and suggestions for modeling "signature" cars will round out the presentation.

## 12- CB&Q Coal Fleet from 1925 to 1960

*Jerry Hamsmith & Ed Rethwisch*

A study of the car types included in the Burlington's coal hauling fleet. An overview of the evolution of the entire fleet and a detailed look at each of the car types included.

## 13- Trailer Train Autorack Story Part II

*Jim Panza*

Jim Panza returns to discuss the rest of the early enclosed autorack fleet with information from the archives of TTX.

## 14- General American Refrigerator Cars: The Second Hand Cars

*Roger Hinman*

Following up on last year's presentation on General American built refrigerator cars, this year's presentation will look at all the cars purchased through fleet acquisitions or special purchase. Supporting data will be provided to show that the cars from the former Swift Refrigerator Line and Union Refrigerator Transit gave GA the heft and flexibility it needed to become a major lessor of cars.

## 15- A Geek's Guide to UTLX X-3 Tank Cars

*Steve Hile*

Steve will walk us through the evolution of UTLX's ubiquitous X-3 tank car design with detail images and spotting features. X-3 cars were built over a span of more than 20 years, beginning 100 years ago and encompassed capacities between 2300 and 12000 gallons in both single and multiple compartments. Some model examples will also be shown.

## 16- Wine Tank Cars

*Tony Thompson*

This clinic represents completion of a joint project of Richard Hendrickson and Tony Thompson. It concentrates on prototype wine tank cars, drawing on more than 100 photos of these cars from Richard's and Tony's collection, and also includes description of the wine business that used these cars; operating patterns of the cars; and some comments on ways to model these cars.

# Modeling Track

## 17- Bringing the 2016 Mini-Kit to the Next Level: B&O M-15k Wagontop Rebuilds

*George Toman*

Last year's 2016 Mini-Kit was a great start to a unique model but George wanted to make improvements to it. What is included in this clinic is info to model the unique brake arrangement and underframe, as well as modifying the supplied parts to make an accurate model. Besides a step by step how to, George includes some tips and techniques on making the brass steps and other unique details.

## 18- Resinators Unite! (Building and detailing resin freight cars)

*Jeff Sankus and Bill Welch*

Bill Welch and Jeff Sankus will discuss modeling freight cars that use resin as a medium.

Tools, techniques and details will be discussed. Bill and Jeff will also, talk about the Chicagoland RPM 2017 mini-kit: Chicago & Great Western 40' boxcar

Having an issue? Maybe you will find the answer during our discussion. Bring your models to share finished or not!

### 19- Great Northern 40' Boxcars – All that color! (Late 1960's)

*Jim Ruffing*

Jim will help answer questions such as:

What color scheme and letter style was a GN number series delivered in?

What color schemes and letter styles appeared on a given number series over time?

What color schemes and letter styles are appropriate for a given era?

When and on what car series was your favorite scheme applied?

What models are accurate in these regards?

### 20- Modeling Freight Cars in the 70s and 80s

*Kevin Kayser*

FIRST TIME SLOT AFTER THURSDAY LUNCH MAY HAVE SAT CONFLICT

Disco music, bell bottoms, and Pac Man. While these cultural icons defined the 70s and 80s, railroad freight cars during this time period had their own distinctive characteristics. Kevin will cover ACI labels, COTS stencils, and Per Diem boxcars. He will also show examples of models that are updated and backdated to fit the time period.

### 21- Forty Foot Boxcars of the Monon Railroad

*Mont Switzer*

Indiana's own Monon Railroad rostered a mere 1395 forty foot boxcars of 3 distinct designs: AAR 1937, pre-PS- 1 and PS-1, all from a single manufacturer. Delivered between 1941 and 1957, each new series had its own distinct "as built" paint and lettering scheme. Over time each series of cars received modifications, upgrades, and the railroad's "signature" or "standard" paint and lettering. Two series were rebuilt prior to the Monon/L&N merger in 1971 which ended it all. Come see which HO scale Monon model best represents your modeling location and era.

### 22- Finding Kitbashing Opportunities in Freight Cars

*Ted Cullota*

This is a continuation of a clinic presented in earlier this year with updates to in-progress projects. This clinic focuses on highlighting how to find opportunities for freight car kitbashing subjects and how to replicate models of those prototypes. There will be in-progress models available for inspection in addition to the presentation. By recognizing subtle differences in prototypes, one can modify commercially available kits and models to accurately replicate unusual or unique prototypes that are distinct from the run-of-the-mill cars seen on most layouts.

## 23- Sequel to 40' Boxcars of the 60s and 70s

*Tim VanMersbergen*

Tim will dive deep into the forty foot boxcars that, following rebuilds, served throughout the 60s and 70s including new looks at L&N Rebuilds with gussets and Pullman doors, SAL Magors, PRR/PC X43Cs, GN waffleside rebuilds, GN rib side rebuilds, GM&O appliance boxcars, ATSF rebuilds with Transco sides, UP rebuilds of mid-60s, and continue on to building models.

## Time Table & Train Order and Prototype Operations Track

### 24- Introduction to Operations

*Al Kempf, Jr.*

Interested in starting operations on your layout? Or interested in operating on another layout but need some background? Al will introduce you to operations in a 100 level course designed to familiarize you in the various operating schemes.

### 25- TT&TO Training Sessions and Live Operating Sessions

*Harold Krewer & Bill Navigato*

The Chicago Peoria & Southern will again be reincarnated as a Unitrack table top layout! Bill and Harold return with their popular TT&TO live operating sessions this year in the main ballroom. Come practice TT&TO, learn from the masters, and have fun developing your skills without worrying about messing up at an intense session.

### 26- TT&TO Operations Made Simple for Guests

*Lowell Smith*

This workshop will give you proven tips to create a Time Table & Train Order operating session that will not intimidate your guests, and make them want to come back for more.

Lowell Smith from Portland, Oregon will show how he runs TT&TO op sessions that are fun and 'welcoming' to first timers. Build a faithful operations crew that will keep them talking about the fun times and create great memories!

## Prototype Railroad Operations Track

### 27- Modeling Canadian Freight in a U.S. Setting: Data and Implementation

*Charles Hostetler*

Charles is modeling the Milwaukee Harbor area in September /October of 1957. This setting emphasizes the rail/maritime interface, and the operation scheme is centered on the layout as a setting for modeling freight commodity flows. This presentation explores the data sources and methodologies for prototype-based modeling of Canadian freight traffic in the context of a specific layout setting.

### 28- Chicago's Potato Market (Largest in the World): C&NW's Wood Street Yard

*David Leider*

This clinic on the Wood Street potato yard traces the journey of a potato from farmers field to the local storage warehouse, then via freight car to the Wood Street yard and eventually to the retail consumer. Dave will show how Chicago became the great distributing center, how potatoes are shipped and marketed and where they are grown and used.

## 29- Steam Transfer Ferries of the Mississippi River from St. Louis to New Orleans

*Gene Semon*

A brief look at the railroad transfer operations across the Mississippi on 13 railroads. We'll look at these steam powered boats operated by the Wiggins Ferry Company, Madison County Ferry Company, Missouri Pacific, Mississippi River & Bonne Terre, Illinois Southern, Iron, Mountain & Southern, Yazoo & Mississippi, Illinois Central, Frisco, NOT&M, Southern Pacific, Texas & Pacific and Morgan's, Louisiana & Texas Railroad.

## 30- Santa Fe's San Francisco Fleet: Nine Decades of Rail-Marine Traffic on San Francisco Bay

*John Barry*

Santa Fe broke the Southern Pacific blockade of San Francisco in 1900, making its entrance to the City by the Bay via wooden carfloats, tugs and passenger ferries. Over the years, the fleet was expanded, improved, modernized and then sold off. We will examine the vessels that broke the Octopus's strangle hold on The City and the remnants of the infrastructure that remain today. Researching this clinic he found a distaff pair that exhibited a taste for tugs. Bonus points for those who can answer "Where's Jane?"

John models Santa Fe's Third District of the Valley Division and the Alameda Belt circa December 1944. The location and era come from his multi-modal interest in transportation and military history.

## 31- Tractors & Trains: Moving J.I. Case Equipment By Rail

*Keith Kohlmann*

A look at the movement of tractors by rail, with a focus on material from J.I. Case, a Racine Wisconsin based manufacturing firm that was among the 10 largest builders of farm tractors as the company transitioned to construction equipment in the 1950s.

## 32- The Boat Race Trains, New London, CT pre-1941

*Kristin Dummler*

Did you know the idea for intercollegiate athletic events was born on a train? Ever consider sitting in rows of bleachers on flat cars covered with a canopy to watch a sporting event? The Central Vermont Ry and the NY,NH&H Ry did it for one special event for over 60 years! Learn about the unique boat race train observation cars that both the Central Vermont and New Haven ran along the Thames River in New London, Connecticut to chase Harvard and Yale boat racers at their annual Regatta. History, research and prototype project planning will all be discussed.

## 33- Electrically Locked Switches: CB&Q Era GRS Equipment and Layout Implementation

*Perry Sugerman*

The Rochelle to Oregon portion of the CB&Q C&I that Perry is modeling has upwards of 30 electrically locked switches. Modeling their method of operation is key to the model. Working models of the prototype switch locks is not feasible. Perry will describe an "in facia" operating electric lock.

## 34- The Western Fruit Express and Associated Facilities at Hillyard, WA

*Tyrone Johnsen*

The Great Northern Railway had a major yard and shop facilities in the Spokane, WA where the mainline between St. Paul in the east and Seattle had a primary junction to Portland and California. The GN owned Western Fruit Express built one of its two car shops at Hillyard which maintained the pool of FGE,

WFE, and BRE cars; and the yard area originally was home to seven large ice storage houses and then an ice manufacturing plant. Through the use of the old GN maps and photos we will look at and discuss these facilities and how they were utilized to support the shipment of perishables in this area.

## Passenger Track

### 35- Fans and Scouts 1960 (CB&Q Passenger Department Files)

*Jim Singer*

More passenger oddities, this time from the CB&Q Passenger Department Files. Jim will review a multitude of fantrip and boy scout movements from the 1960s.

### 36- Building HO Passenger Cars with 3D, Injection Molded, Resin, and White Metal Parts

*John Greene*

John Greene of Bethlehem Car Works will discuss ideas on building heavy-weight passenger cars, parlor cars and Pullman sleepers using 3D printed car sides and parts, modified car sides and available detail parts.

## DCC & Sound Track

### 37- Tsunami2 by Soundtraxx: Not Your Father's Tsunami!

*George Bogatiuk*

George from Soundtraxx will be presenting on the new Tsunami2 DCC sound decoders. Each of the two presentation times will cover different material, so feel free to attend both sessions for extra information.

### 38- LokSound DCC/Sound Products and New Full Throttle Features

*Matt Herman of ESU*

Learn all about DCC and Sound from Matt Herman of ESU/LokSound. Matt will be talking about the state of the art in sound decoders, how to get the most from your sound equipped models, and also demonstrate the features of the new Full Throttle sound from LokSound.

## Other

### 39- Estate Planning: Make a gift to yourself, to your heirs, preserving your collection

*James Dick & Tony Thompson*

Where will your railroad collection go after you are gone? What does your family know or understand about your fascination with trains? Most of us "collect" with little thought of the efforts and years that have gone into the preservation of our collections. We should give some thought to seeing that our collections are preserved as nobody gets out of this life alive. This presentation is set up in a way as to help you make that preservation as painless as possible.

### 40- Midwestern Scenery on the Corn Belt Route

*Jason Klocke*

Jason will discuss his scenery methods on his CGW layout. This is the state of the art materials used to model everyday scenes in a highly realistic manner.