

# Resin Freight Car Kits

Past, Present and Future  
Chicagoland RPM  
2018

## Panelists

- Ted Culotta, author, publisher, supplier, pattern maker
- Aaron Gjermundson, modeler, caster, pattern maker
- Pierre Oliver, custom builder, supplier,
- Bill Welch, “extreme” modeler, pattern maker
- Steve Hile, Moderator

## Martin Lofton 1936 - 2013



- Air Force Academy Graduate
- Pilot
- Viet Nam Veteran
- Married to Tricia, two children- Charles and Elizabeth
- Launched Sunshine Models in 1989

## Model Railroad Author



- More than 70 bylines in:
  - Mainline Modeler
  - Model Railroading
  - Rail Model Journal
  - Railroad Model Craftsman
  - Model Railroader

## Sunshine Models

- 1989-2013
- More than 100 different base kits
- More that 1250 numbered variations
- Prototype data included
- Mini-kits – PMS gifts and others
- Decals
- Loads
- Trucks

## Sunshine Models

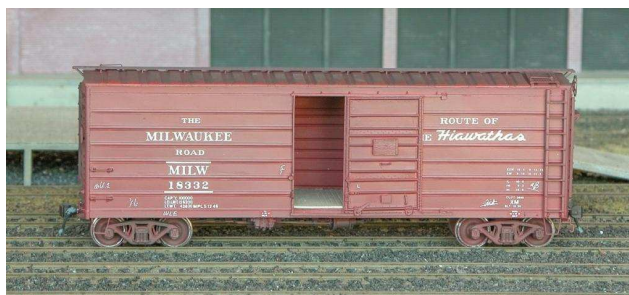


## Unique Cars and a Master Builder



Models and Photos by Ted Culotta

Models and Photos by Ted Culotta








## Sunshine Prototype Modelers Seminars

- Began in 1994 at Monrovia, CA and Naperville

### Prototype Modelers Seminar

The sixth annual Prototype Modelers Seminar will take place October 29-31, 1999 at the Holiday Inn in Naperville, Ill. The seminar is aimed at modelers interested in building models that follow the prototype as accurately as possible. As before the seminar is concurrent with the National Model & Hobby Show held in nearby Rosemont. There will be 25 presentations on railroad history and modeling in addition to model displays and discussion groups. The cost is \$40. Reservations and information may be had by writing to Sunshine Models, Box 4997, Springfield, MO 65808-4997. Please include an SSAE if you are writing for information only. - *Martin Lofton, Sunshine Models*

SEPTEMBER 1999 • MODEL RAILROADER 43



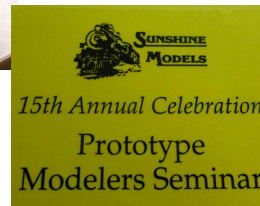
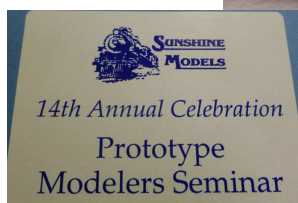
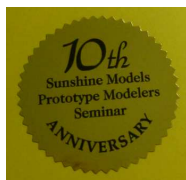
**Naperville 2006**

400 modelers & historians meet in Naperville IL, Oct. 26-29. Fifty speakers, two workshops, two evenings, 2600 sq. ft. of displays, 3000 sq. ft. of vendors, \$90. SSAE for info.



Box 4997, Springfield MO 65808-4997

## Sunshine Prototype Modeler Seminars



## Sunshine Prototype Modeler Seminars

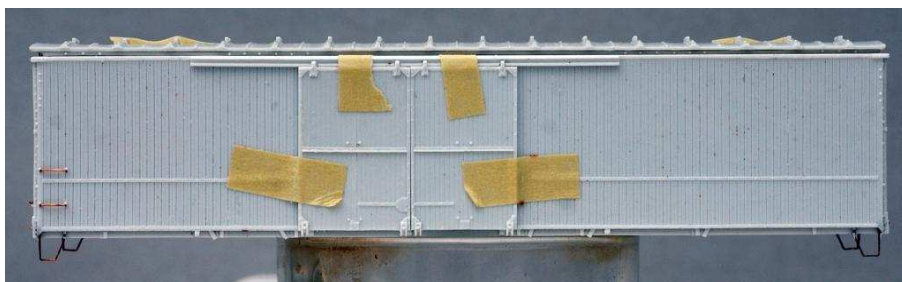
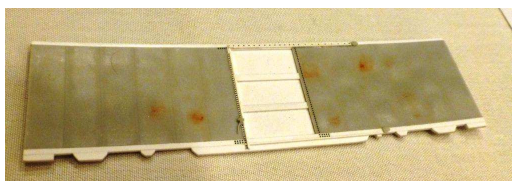


Two of Martin's key Pattern Makers: Frank Hodina (left) and Charlie Slater (right). Photo from Charlie Slater

## Pattern Makers

- Frank Hodina estimates that more than 50% of Sunshine Kits were made from his masters.
- Charlie Slater created masters for more than 50 numbered variations of Santa Fe cars (and two for Westerfield.) Also loads, mini-kits and some more recent ones for RCW.
- Bill Welch created masters for several FGEX reefers and rebuilt boxcars. Working on a DS DD D&RGW boxcar (still to come from Speedwitch)
- Others

## Patterns and Molds



## Honoring Martin at 2009 Meet for 15 years



Steve Hile Photos

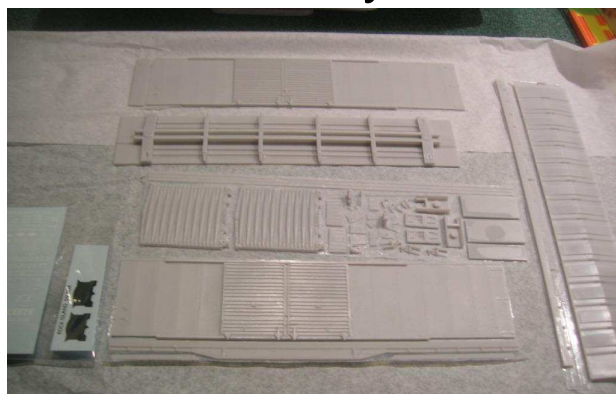


## Latest Models on Display



Mini-Kit for Covered Hopper, masters by Bob Massey, Steve Hile Photos

## Even newly announced kits



Kit 83.11

Bob's Photos





## A Potential Sunshine Kit



**SUNSHINE MODELS**  
Box 4997  
Springfield MO  
65808-4997

Steve -  
You can be the first  
to see your parts for the  
GARX / R.I. refig.  
I haven't "put a word" at  
yet, but have been, broke,  
dead etc.  
Thanks for your help  
Best regards,  
Martin

## Host Hotels



## A Variety of Clinics

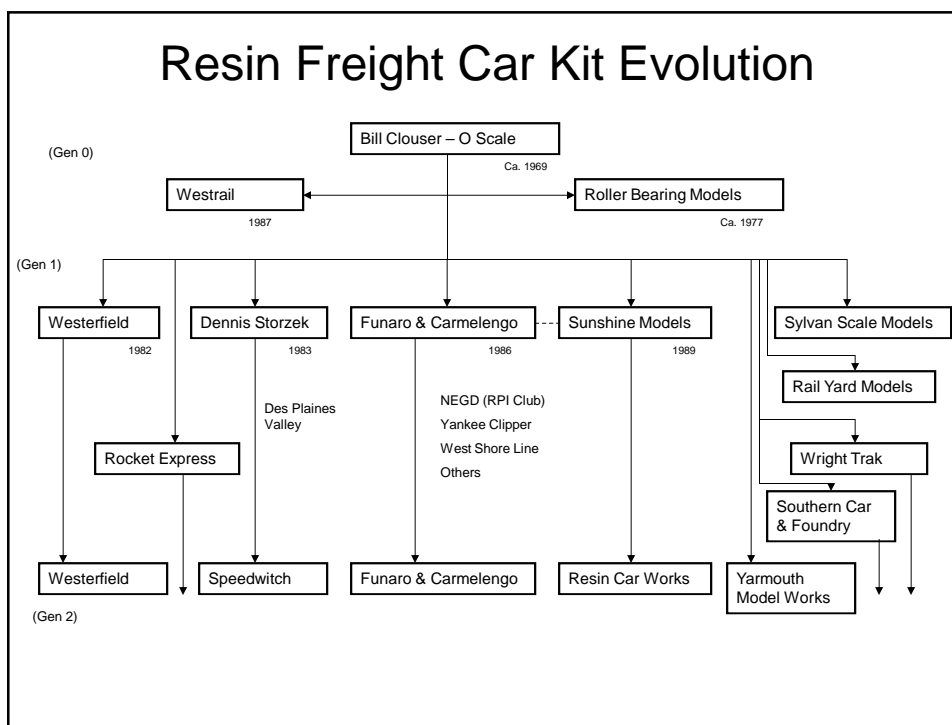


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## Some useful links for resin freight car builders

- <http://blog.resincarworks.com/helpful-links/>
- <https://groups.io/g/ResinFreightCarBuilders/topics>
- [https://www.facebook.com/groups/161669424454706/permalink/301268817161432/?comment\\_id=301279043827076](https://www.facebook.com/groups/161669424454706/permalink/301268817161432/?comment_id=301279043827076)



## Bill Clouser

**For perfectionists:**

We offer the first of a series of limited production models tailored for discriminating modelers and collectors. These custom models are assembled by master craftsman William J. Clouser from his newly-perfected **Ultra Scale** resin injection castings, incorporating lost wax cast brass hardware. The wealth of detail produced by this process achieves true perfection in modeling.

This technique is applicable to all scales, and our initial Masterpiece Model Series is 1/4" scale—the classic house car still in use on nearly every American Railroad—World War II era AAR 40' and 50' box and auto cars. These superbly detailed bodies are prime finished and priced competitively with quality imports. They will be available by direct mail after December 15th, and we invite you to send a large, stamped SAE for a free, informative brochure.

**Ultra Scale** Models of perfection  
157 Alpine Terrace, San Francisco, CA 94117  
Dept. M1

MR December 1969!



Our 1/4 scale 40' house car is here from the first of the great models of William J. Clouser. The car is a true masterpiece of detail, with a body in a one piece, super prime painted epoxy coating in which a few wood pieces and brass fittings are added to complete the model. The car is painted, primed, and ready. With the Ultra Scale 1/4 scale box car, you can now build the best 1/4 scale box car ever made.

**Nichol Plate Products**  
P.O. Box 28, Richmond, VA 22601

**1/4 SCALE 1938 AAR DESIGN BOX CARS**

- Choice of Seven Body Styles
- In 40' and 50' Lengths
- Assembled Body as Shown
- Cast in **Ultra Scale** Tooling Resin
- Fittings in Lost Wax Brass
- Produced by W.J. Clouser
- Four Page Brochure for SAE
- Direct Mail Only

**\$29.75**

157 Alpine Terrace, San Francisco, California 94117

MR April 1970



MR March 1971

## Roller Bearing Models



### Announcing A New Series of Modern GATX Tank Car Kits

Series One: GATX 14,000 gal. general series or chlorine tank. Plastic body with cast metal & wood structure parts. Building time approximately 3 evenings or less. Less trucks & couplers.



601 GATX  
Chlorine 14,000  
gal. general series  
\$9.95



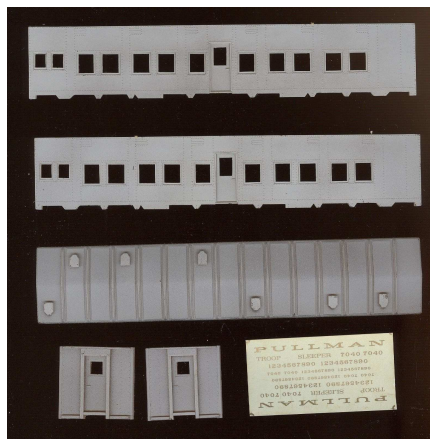
602 GATX BASE  
Vinylidene 14,000 gal.  
general series tank  
\$9.95

Also Coal Loads for Roundhouse Thrall Cars - 2 for \$1.95

**ROLLER BEARING MODELS**

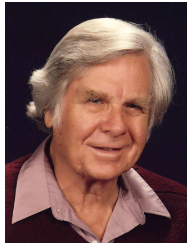
P.O. Box 573  
Livingston, N.J. 07039

Multi-media kits wood, soft metal, plastic and resin.

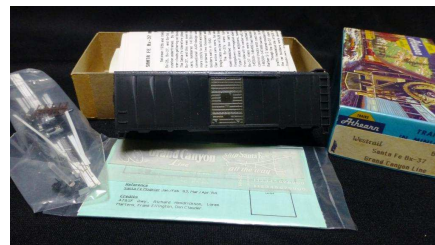


Troop Sleeper Kit

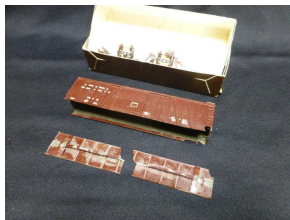
## WestRail



From Tony Thompson's Blog



## Past





## My first resin kits



Sunshine Models



Funaro & Carmelengo



Storzek

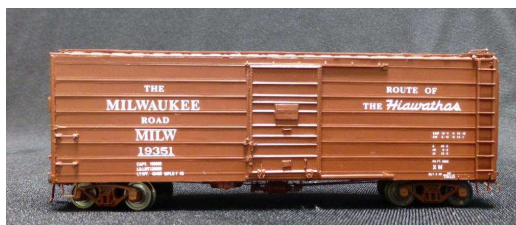


Westerfield

## Signature Cars



Sunshine B&O Wagon Top



Sunshine Milwaukee Rib Side



Yankee Clipper (F&C) CP "Mini" Box



Westerfield New York Central "USRA" Steel

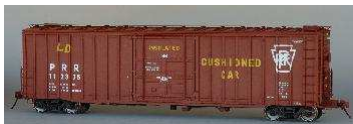
## Dennis Storzek, Model Maker



Tony Thompson Photo

## Rail Yard Models

- Modern Era Prototypes
- Gene Fusco
- 2001-2012



# Rail Yard Models

MAY 2004

MODEL RAILROADING ▼ 15

## HO SCALE REVIEW

## Rail Yard Models PC X79 Boxcar



by Doug Geiger, MMR

Photos by the author

The finished Penn Central boxcar (weathering not yet applied).



### Marty McGuirk Model



### Hunter Hughson Model





# Present



**RESIN CAR WORKS**  
**RCW** *Freight Cars of Every Description*



**RESIN CAR WORKS**  
**RCW** *Freight Cars of Every Description*



Laying out master for detail casting





<http://www.rocketexpress.biz/>



Standard Steel Car Company Builder's Photo



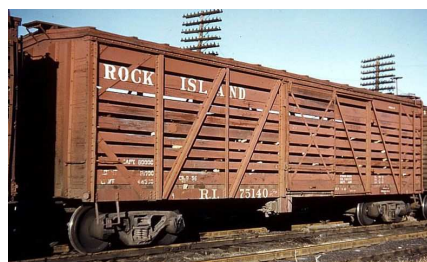
NMRA Bob Charles Collection



Not currently on website



Coming Soon! – RI 75000 – 75249 Stock Cars, built in 1940 by Ryan Car Company



## Southern Car & Foundry

<http://southerncarandfoundry.com/>



## Speedwitch Media

Publications and Models devoted to Railroad Prototype Modeling



### FOCUS ON FREIGHT CARS



Volume Six: Refrigerator Cars 2

Ted Culotta



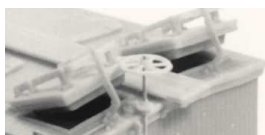
FRUIT GROWERS EXPRESS		WESTERN FRUIT EXPRESS	
FOEX	51720	VENTILATOR - REFRIGERATOR	
34396	51720		
WFEK	67132		
87132	67132		
01234567890123456789		30142	

<http://speedwitchmedia.com/>



WESTERFIELD MODELS BOX 455, GARDNERVILLE, NV 89410

<http://www.westerfieldmodels.com/>



- Detail Parts
- Decals
- ORER's on CD ROM



<https://wrighttrak.com/>



#### MODERN MODELING

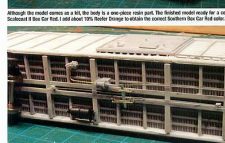
#### SOUTHERN WAFFLE-SIDE 50-FOOT BOX CAR FROM THE WRIGHT TRAK KIT

By Bob Rivard

This Southern 50-foot waffle-side box car was built from the Wright Trak Models (P.O. Box 158, Clarksville, GA 30522) kit. The car is a 1:87 scale model. The car is a 50-foot box car with a waffle-side design. The car is a 50-foot box car with a waffle-side design. The car is a 50-foot box car with a waffle-side design.



**BILL OF MATERIALS:**  
Wright Trak 50-foot Southern Box Car Kit  
Hatchwork 50-100 Rivet Bearing  
Hatchwork 25-inch Wheels  
Hatchwork 1/8" Couplers  
**PAINT & DECALS:**  
Southern 50-foot Box Car Red  
Southern 50-foot Box Car Orange  
Southern 50-foot Box Car Yellow  
Southern 50-foot Box Car Green



© HANDBOOK JOURNAL • JUNE 2003



# YARMOUTH MODEL WORKS



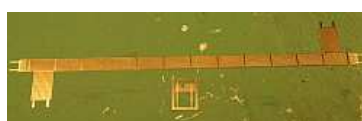
©2018 YARMOUTH MODEL WORKS



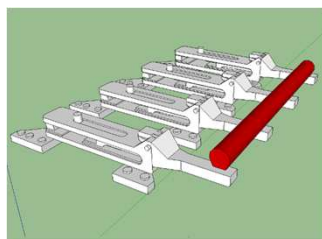
©2018 YARMOUTH MODEL WORKS



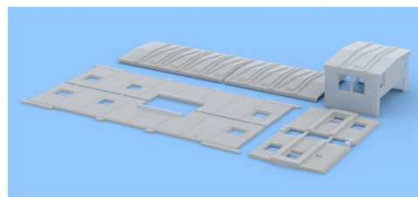
©2014 YARMOUTH MODEL WORKS



## Future



\$106.90 on Shapeways



\$86.79 on Shapeways

## Issues

- Casting services
- Cost of resin supplies
- Pattern making
- 3D Printing
- Choices of Prototypes
  - Transition Era?
  - Baby Boomer Era?
  - Modern Era?
  - Earlier Steam?
- Others?