

1 - Craig Wilson A Tribute to Jack Ozanich's Atlantic Great Eastern

The Atlantic Great Eastern Railway was the creation of Jack Ozanich in Battle Creek, Michigan. Jack was a proud professional railroader, and he made sure that the AGE represented a vanishing way of life - all the things that he and his fellow railroaders did every day. Although the AGE was a freelance railroad, everything about it was railroad prototype modeling. Using photos taken over three decades this clinic will illustrate all the prototype aspects of the operation that made it one of the finest railroads ever built and an inspiration for many others, including Mike Confalone's Allagash Ry.

2 - Mont Switzer Little Things that Define Era and Location

An overview of the LITTLE THINGS THAT DEFINE DATE AND LOCATION in the model railroad layout setting. The clinic also delves into how to make some of the details necessary to accomplish date and location.

3 - Bob Ristow Building a Steam Locomotive

Working at Henry Ford roundhouse, I was asked "How long did it take to build a steam loco"? I looked into answering that and created a presentation. We will look at Baldwins building of locos and answer the question.

4 - Rich Gortowski Chicago, Burlington, & Quincy Twin Cities Zephyrs - 1935 - 1970

Starting in 1935, the CB&Q introduced high-speed dieselized rail service between Chicago and Minneapolis/St Paul. A success right out of the gate, the Q had a host of interesting developments, from the initial articulated dieselized motors (train sets) to the first daily Vista Dome service.

We'll explore this important route, with its considerable competition from The Chicago & Northwestern and the Milwaukee Road. We'll look at the three vastly different iterations, and their interesting array of motive power - finally culminating in the magnificent 1947 Vista-Dome edition. We'll also touch on the downturn in passenger ridership, resulting in consolidations and compromises in the Q's efforts to stay profitable.

5 - Rene LaVoise Starting a New Layout

The clinic discusses knowing when to replace a mature operating layout. Follow along with Rene's decision process of why to replace? And what will take its place?

6 - John Wark The Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis in West Tennessee

The NC&StL is not very well known and its operations in West Tennessee are even more obscure. Once upon a time that sounded like a perfect research challenge! This clinic provides an overview of the NC&StL with a focus on the section of its Nashville Division running between Bruceton and Union City TN. in the 1946 to 1951 period. We'll look at signature equipment, industries, and operational patterns. It's part busy bridge line, part agricultural branch line with distinct "y'all road" character. And we'll briefly look at modeling it one layout design element at a time.

7 - Mark Vaughan Grain

The Nation's railroads and the grain industry have been linked for nearly 200 years. Roughly 20% of railroad freight tonnage is grain-related. This presentation will cover the big four of the commodities: wheat, corn, soybeans, and barley and reference the railroads' part in their distribution.

8 - Jerry Hamsmith A pair of 1920s Steel Box Cars for the Auto Industry

In the 1920s, the burgeoning auto industry fostered the building of new all steel box cars to meet the needs of carrying both finished automobiles and the parts to build them. The clinic discusses two of these cars - a Pere Marquette and a Michigan Central - each having some unique new build features. Both groups of cars lasted throughout the 1950s.

9 - Ed Rethwisch**Building NYC and C&O Auto Cars**

Ed provides a look at his methods and modifications to the building of three HO resin kits. Each of a F&C, Westerfield, and RCW kit is included in the clinic.

10 - Chris Vanko**Weathering Update**

Another installment in the continuing series of weathering clinics. This clinic will demonstrate a few new techniques and subject matter. Fading a brightly colored car and the steps used to weather a white or yellow car will be among the things covered.

11 - Tim VanMersbergen**Using AI as a Support for Scenery**

A look at using AI imaging to enhance a model railroad by creating anything from custom signs, structure interiors, and backgrounds from small scenes to full backdrops.

12 - Ray Breyer**Auto Car History**

An overview of early automobile boxcars from 1906 to WWII. The presentation includes a look at the growth of the automobile manufacturing industry, its relationship with the railroads, and one plant's traffic patterns.

13 - Ted Culotta**SP post war 40' boxcars – Prototype and Models**

The Southern Pacific and subsidiary Texas & New Orleans as well as the affiliated Cotton Belt added a huge number of forty-foot box cars built to the postwar AAR design, but with some interesting traits, including an inside height of 10'0" and other nuances such as some with alternate center rivets, 12-panel sides, and/or other interesting features. All classes from the B-50-24 through B-50-32 can be modeled in HO scale, although some require kitbashing. Come find out about these prototypes and interesting models.

14 – Steve Hile**Armour Meat Reefers**

Armour and Company was a major player in the meat packing business and had some very distinctive refrigerator cars. Steve will trace the history of this brand and take a closer look at four large groups of cars. He will then share some existing models and some tips and techniques for building several Armour reefers.

15 - Doug Harding**Railroad Cranes, Derricks and Wreckers**

A collection of vintage photos showing the variety of cranes, wreckers and derricks used by railroads from before 1900 up to the 1980s. A few will surprise you.

16 - Tony Thompson**The role of the Agent and how to model it**

The clinic describes some principles of realistic operation, as I see them. It is illustrated with a description of the operation of my small layout, emphasizing prototype practices and documents. The layout is switching-intensive, but does have mainline operating also. The presentation concentrates on both car and train movements, with a few comments on the use of prototype-format waybills to route cars, allowing a variety of operation in each successive operating session.

17 - Jim Panza**Suggestions for Modeling the TTX Fleet – Part 1**

Part 1 of this multipart presentation covers Trailer Train Company fleet acquisitions from 1956, when it began operations, through 1964. Car types covered include the 75-ft. flatcars, 50-ft. converted flatcars, and 85-ft. flatcars. The cars are shown in their as-built configurations and after modification to other than piggyback service until their retirement. Available models and suggestions for kitbashing are discussed.

18 - Roger Hinman New York Central Steel Freight Cars, Part 8: 40' 10'6" IH Boxcars

This presentation will look at the larger class of 10'6" IH boxcars beginning with rebuilds prior to WW2, then the fifteen lots built to updated Spec 936, the unique double door cars of 1947, and finally its PS1 fleet culminating in a new lot of Pacemaker cars.

19 - Rich Remiarz Modeling the GN Mid-1950s Freight Car Roster 40' Boxcars - Part 3

This clinic will complete the coverage of Great Northern 40' boxcars. The six series of boxcars covered in this clinic made up over 50% of the GN's 40' boxcars in the mid-1950s. These cars were originally built between 1923 and 1942, with some of the series rebuilt in the 1940s or mid-1950s. The clinic will discuss the prototype cars and how to model them.

20 - Clark Propst Upgrading Roundhouse DD, SS boxcars

Using a Richard Hendrickson car list from a Rail Model Journal article as a guide I have upgraded details or modifying bodies of Roundhouse and Walthers 50' DD SS box car models to better match the prototype.

21 - Jim Singer Oddities: Trains, Industries, and Team Tracks

Jim explores Oddities that modelers never think will happen on the railroad. From consists to industries, things that can make your operating sessions interesting. Proof it really does happen! Passenger and Freight examples.

22 - Joe Binish Soo Line PBM from 3 AHM cars.

The Soo Line had a passenger problem. This former C&O "entire train in one car" might solve it. Come along to see the prototype, the reason I needed it and how to bash it from a handful of parts. As a bonus, see the same car from a Walthers kit and what pulled it in Northern Minnesota.

23 - Jason Klocke The Joy of Scenery

Jason Klocke will present on the scenery techniques he developed while building his Chicago Great Western layout. The clinic will provide his basic methods for static grass application, roads, backdrops, agricultural scenery and how to blend it all together to give the layout a realistic representation of typical midwest scenery.

24 - Earl Tuson Milk Tank Cars, 1903-1930, Part 1

Part 1 of this 2-part discussion presents the history of milk tank cars prior to the establishment of the General American-Pfaunder joint venture in 1930. Car designs and rosters, businesses and mergers, dairy handlers, and routings shall be covered. Part 2, forthcoming, will address GARE leases.

25 - Seth Lakin NYC 40-foot PS-1 boxcars

Seth looks at Pullman Standard 40-foot PS-1 boxcars and how general details changed over the course of production between 1947 and the late 1950's. The clinic then looks at the 5000 widely traveled examples that were built for the New York Central, details that differ between individual groups and progression of the cars through Penn Central and Conrail. Finally, examples on modeling them in HO scale are provided.

26 - Al Kempf, Jr Tailoring your Freight Car Fleet

This clinic will offer advice on what you can do to make sure that your freight car fleet serves the industries you have on your railroad and yet enhances the operations. How closely should you follow a prototype? How can you run an uncommon car, or one that does not fit your industries? How many freight cars do you really need?

27 - Eric Hansmann Using maps for layout design

Of course we use maps, but can we make even better use of them? We will review the details of railroad valuation, real estate, and fire insurance maps to assist our layout design. These resources can be used in a variety of ways to help us better understand the prototype and translate it into an effective model railroad layout.

28 - Adrian Sherill Operations around L&N's Canal St. Station in New Orleans

The Louisville & Nashville's compact New Orleans terminal is an ideal candidate for a prototype-based urban model railroad. This photo essay explores the history of the L&N's Canal Street Station and Julia Street Yard, where the railroad's primary passenger and freight stations were crammed between the Mississippi River and the growing downtown core of New Orleans. Aerial photographs and maps show the development of a simple passenger line into a bustling passenger and freight terminal, and ultimately its demolition in preparation for the 1984 World's Fair. A room-sized track plan and a preliminary operational model is derived from these photos and maps.

29 - Dick Harley Wood PFE Reefer Modeling

Recently uncovered data gives us new insights about the PFE rebuilt wood reefers done between 1936 and 1948. Even in 1955 the two largest groups of PFE reefers were the R-30/40-9 class and the R-30/40-18, -19 and -21 very similar classes. Come learn interesting details to model these reefers from the mid-1930s to the early-1960s.

30 - Ken Akerboom B&M Post War Freight Car Roster

This clinic covers the Boston & Maine Railroad's 1946-1955 freight car fleet, with general notes on painting & lettering, followed by specifics on most individual classes of freight cars.

31 - Alex Hoffner An Inside look at Design and Manufacture of 3D Printed Parts

With 3D printing becoming increasingly popular in model railroading, have you ever wondered what goes into creating a 3D-printed model railroad part? Join a 3D-printing manufacturer for a behind-the-scenes look at the complete process, from prototype research and digital design through printing, cleanup, finishing, and installation on the layout. Using real-world examples, we'll explore the challenges of designing parts specifically for resin 3D printing, common mistakes to avoid, and practical tips for getting started with 3D printing at home. The clinic will also cover the equipment and safety practices needed to work with resin, along with general guides and resources for modelers who may want to start creating their own parts.

32 - Bob Hanmer DM&IR Passenger Service and the Fight to Discontinue

This clinic focuses on the DM&IR little known passenger operations. We look at how passenger traffic was handled in Northern Minnesota, how it was discontinued and resurrected, and how it interacted with needs in the region and beyond.

33 - Bob Bender Domestic Container Evolution

After 40 years of growth and investment by railroads, domestic Intermodal traffic has finally overcome structural barriers to growth. In 2025, US 53' domestic container railroad traffic reached parity with international container traffic created by globalization. An overview of the top US domestic intermodal companies, and the structural infrastructure changes that have spurred growth.