

# THE CALLBOARD

OF THE REDWOOD EMPIRE DIVISION



Visit RED at Website: <http://home.earthlink.net/~campgus/>

April – June 2006

**All Railroad enthusiasts are welcome to enjoy an afternoon of model railroading fun on Saturday, June 3rd.**

*There is no charge to attend.*

## June Meeting

at the

Napa Valley Northern RR  
Napa

The next meeting of the Redwood Empire Division will be held in Napa on **Saturday June 3rd** starting at 1 PM. The hosts for this meet will be the Napa Valley Model Railroad Historical Society, operators of the Napa Valley Northern Railroad. They are located in Napa on the grounds of the Town & Country Fairgrounds, at the Third Street gate.

Doors open at noon. Plan to have lunch before arriving or bring a bag lunch with you.

The Napa Club invites you to bring your pet locomotives and rolling stock to run on their layout. The only requirement is that the equipment meets NMRA standards and has properly aligned Kadee type couplers. The decision on any questions will be at the discretion of the Napa Club.

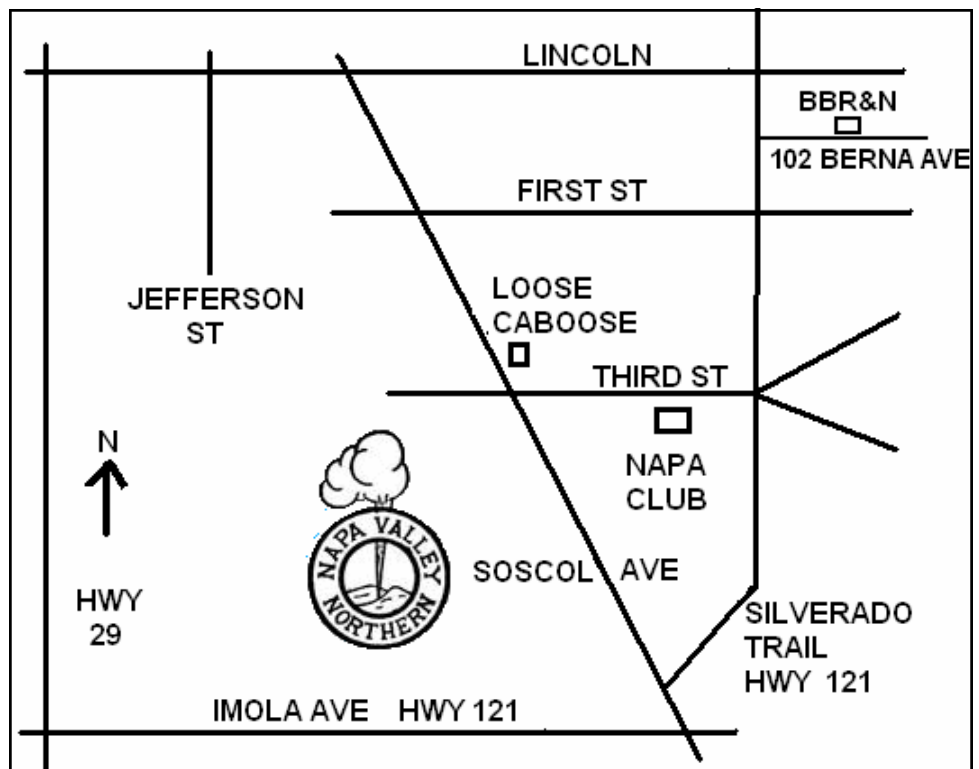
HAROLD MENTZER will present

a video enhanced clinic on saw milling during the first 60 years of the 20th Century. The presentation will examine the evolution of equipment and methods from the early hey day of lumbering to the beginnings of automated sawmill operation

As usual, everyone will get a free door prize ticket. If you are wearing your Division name badge, it will be

worth an additional free ticket, as will bringing at least one guest and/or a model for the contest display. See page 5 for contest details. Tickets can be purchased (3 for each dollar) for the special door prize, which will be a \$25.00 gift certificate donated by **The Loose Caboose Hobbies** store in Napa. They are located at 820-A Third St., on

*(Continued on page 2)*



**STAFF ROSTER****DIRECTOR**

Gus Campagna  
PO Box 6344, Santa Rosa, CA 95406-0344  
E-mail: [campgus@earthlink.com](mailto:campgus@earthlink.com)

**SUPERINTENDENT**

Nolan Alexander  
(Currently moving)  
(707)778-7656  
E-mail: [nolanalexander@msn.com](mailto:nolanalexander@msn.com)

**CHIEF CLERK**

Steve Skold  
5306 Yerba Buena Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
(707)539-1782  
E-mail: [sandcskold@aol.com](mailto:sandcskold@aol.com)

**CONTESTS**

Steve Skold  
5306 Yerba Buena Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
(707)539-1782  
E-mail: [sandcskold@aol.com](mailto:sandcskold@aol.com)

**MEMBERSHIP**

Gus Campagna  
PO Box 6344, Santa Rosa, CA 95406-0344  
E-mail: [campgus@earthlink.com](mailto:campgus@earthlink.com)

**TRAIN SHOWS**

John Leins  
731 San Marco, Fairfield, CA 94533  
(707) 422-8266

**LAYOUT TOURS** (vacant)**NOMINATIONS**

Ed Zakareckis  
2408 Homestead Court  
Fairfield, CA 94533-7137  
(707)425-1159  
E-mail: [ezak@castles.com](mailto:ezak@castles.com)

**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**

Harold Mentzer  
102 Berna Avenue, Napa, CA 94559  
(707) 226-5153  
E-mail: [hsmmentzer@aol.com](mailto:hsmmentzer@aol.com)

**ESTATE COUNSELOR**

Don Clauder  
305 Garfield Park, Santa Rosa CA, 95409  
(707) 539-3510

**CALLBOARD EDITOR**

John Rolston  
240 Chase St., Sonoma CA, 95476  
(707) 938-5478  
E-mail: [jrolston@pacbell.net](mailto:jrolston@pacbell.net)

(RED Meeting Continued from page 1)

the corner of Soscol Ave.; the store entrance is on Soscol. The phone number is (707)258-1294. They will be open on Sunday from Noon to 5 PM, so drop by and say hello to RAY DAHLGREN and his crew and thank them for the day's special door prize.

A short RED business meeting will be held, including the introduction of RED's new director GUS CAMPAGNA.

To finish off the day, HAROLD MENTZER's home HO Gauge railroad layout, the *Bellena Bay Railway & Navigation Co.*, will be open from 4 to 5:30 PM. The BBR&N is located at 102 Berna Ave., just a few blocks from the Fairgrounds, off Silverado Trail, a block north of First Street.

The BBR&N is set in turn of the century Northern California. The road runs from Bellena Bay, a niche in the towering bluffs of the Northern Humboldt coast, to the SP line at Redding in the Sacramento Valley.

The layout has been designed for timetable operation using a car card system. The line uses block control and incorporates four mainline throttles. Also under construction is a 3 ft. narrow gauge line, the Loranine City & Williamsbur RR, connecting the gold diggings on the New River with the mill at Loraine City.

Harold continues to make changes and improvements to the layout; come see what's new. Everyone is welcome following the RED meet.

Refer to the map on page 1 which shows the Napa Club, Loose Caboose Hobbies and the BBR&N layout location. We hope to see you on Saturday June 3rd before 1 PM.

**THINK SMALL #44**

I promised -no wires -perhaps wheels --my offering is a box car, but one spanning many eras. Alas, there are no wheels !

Until quite recently the ordinary boxcar was the most common car type on most railroads. Everything: baby buggies, bulk grain, canned goods, doors, furniture, gold ore, hardware, LCL freight, pipe, even sacks of coal and hobo's rode in the side door Pullmans. Many boxcars had small doors on one or both ends so cargo skinny but too long to be inserted through the barn doors on the side could be slipped in and out through the end door. A 36 ft. car could accommodate 30' lengths of pipe or 2x6 lumber 28' long. Cars with full size end doors provided sheltered transport for fancy buggies and carriages, both horse and horseless.

Today the most common boxcar rides on rubber tires and passes you on the freeway at 75 MPH or fills your rear view mirror on down grades and at stop lights. ( Signals snuck in -sorry)

A good friend says that we model railroaders are really history buffs. Gus dreams of a layout depicting the Cal. Western when they ran a Pullman on the night train to Fort Bragg. Ron Kaiser is modeling Western Pacific's tracks over the Sierras at a time closer to today. My Bodega Western is a short line operating in the era between WW I and WW II. I cheat by switching with a 44 ton diesel. We are all history buffs, more or less, as we model eras we enjoy.

Railroads are tight with the bucks. Even today, old boxcars are serving as sheds or crew shelters in out of

(Continued on page 7)

## OUTGOING DIRECTOR'S REPORT BY RON PLIES

It has been said that old model railroaders never die they are just get put on a sidetrack. Sounds something like a statement by a famous General. I guess I have come to the end of my run and the dispatcher is lining the rails for the siding. I hope this will be a passing siding and not a sidetrack, so I might be able to be of service in the future to this great organization.

This has been a really great run and a wonderful experience for me. I would highly recommend that if anyone out there would like to be a crew member on this train do so, you will not be sorry.

I would like to thank each and everyone of you for your support, suggestions, and ideas that I have used to make suggestions to the board. I believe we've made some progress in making this organization work better. Your RED crew have been a real delight to work with and again I would suggest that you support them and help in any way you can. Nolan, Steve, Gus, Bill, John, Harold, and others have done an outstanding job in keeping this thing going over the years.

I have been given another engine to run called the PCR membership promotion chair and am looking forward in moving this train ahead. In order to have all high greens down the track I will once again need your support with any and all suggestions and ideas. I am sure you will agree that if this organization is going to be around in the future we need to bring new people into the organization to promote and help them with the hobby.

Please feel free to e-mail me at [rlplies@cox.net](mailto:rlplies@cox.net), mail to P.O. Box 950, Fortuna, CA 95540, or phone 707-725-9063.

## NEW DIRECTOR'S REPORT BY GUS CAMPAGNA

Well I'm starting my sixth year as a PCR Board of Directors member. Not all continuous service, but I'm starting a new term after doing five the last time. Do not be surprised to find I will not last two years at this post. Volunteers are hard to come by; this is evident in that I'm recycling this job again so soon. Please think about saying yes if asked to do some job for the Division or for the PCR/NMRA.

This year's PCR Board of Directors meeting was a lot of the same stuff once again; pretty easy to take until you (me in this case) try to spend some of PCR's money. They have been listening to me these last few years and are starting to make some noteworthy changes.

The excess convention funds that PCR has accumulated over the years are now in a certificate earning interest for the general operating fund. Hopefully soon, the 2000 NMRA Convention surplus fund's interest will be added to our budget as well. With all this extra income and the money from the NMRA (not really \$2.00 per member as once thought), I

assumed that the PCR could spend some on their Divisions. They did agree to give half of what the NMRA dues rebate to the Divisions, to cover some of the cost to mail the quarterly newsletters. BUT, they also added to that cost by requiring that the Divisions print an extra page in their newsletters provided by the PCR Publication Department.

I had proposed that the PCR fund postage for three newsletters, including the extra page of PCR regional content, leaving the Divisions on their own for the January issues. Instead they limited the amount of subsidy to one half of the NMRA dues refund. My estimate is that RED, with a high percentage of LIFE members, will get very little money from the PCR. My proposal would have cost PCR a total of about \$1600 per year; the one approved will cost about \$1000 per year. *NMRA has decided that non-actuarial Life members will be rebated at \$.50 per year.*

If you want even more of an earful get me started at the next RED meeting. By the way, it is on **Saturday** this time. See you there!



Photo supplied by Jim Long

Newly elected RED Director GUS CAMPAGNA presenting STEVE SKOLD (on the right) the RED member of the year award at this year's PCR convention.

**From the  
SUPERINTENDENT  
BY NOLAN ALEXANDER**

The first order of business this quarter is to send a big THANK YOU to RON PLIES for his four years of service to the Redwood Empire Division as its Director. Ron served the division and the PCR well in his role and now, he can get back to spending his hobby time on the layout. Well done, Ron.

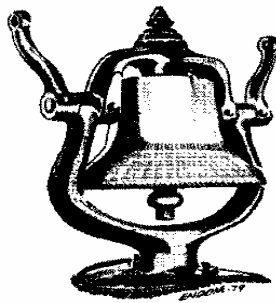
It's time too, to thank GUS CAMPAGNA for stepping forward and running for the Director's job again. Gus has been the director from RED before and knows the process well. I'm sure he will represent our interests on the PCR board with the same energy and dedication he brings to all his other endeavors. Thank you, Gus.

Before I address the subject of our next gathering, I wanted to take a few minutes of you time to tell you about our last meeting. It was well attended and we had a lively exchange of ideas. Thanks to everyone who attended and participated in the discussions.

The questions about the future of the Redwood Empire Division brought a lot of input from the membership and some really good ideas; I won't try to recreate the entire thread of the discussion but just the consensus. Mostly we seem to be doing okay was the main thought; the format of the meets was okay and the frequency wasn't bad. One idea put forward was to not hold the meeting on Sunday afternoon but to hold the meet on a Saturday instead. Another idea was to change the time to morning and run longer if we had some activities going.

What kind of activities to have at

the meet? How about actually building a model at the meet? If we started in the morning and ran to the afternoon, there would be time to complete a basic model. We would have to charge for the kit but it would be a nominal amount. Another activity would be to have a time-saver layout at the meet. PCR provided all the divisions with a stipend to build their own timesaver some time ago. We were thinking of doing it in On3 for all of us visually challenged users.



Of course, clinics are still the staple of any meet. The local division meet is the perfect place to develop and practice a clinic before taking it to a PCR or other convention. Some of you have information to share that the rest of us would love to have; give it some thought, will you?

We're going to try out some of these new ideas starting with the next meet; Saturday, June 3 in Napa. We're not changing the time, it's still at 1:00 PM, but the day is changed. I hope I'll see you there and you can tell me how it works out for you. It's our annual business meeting as well and right now, the agenda is pretty thin. If you have anything that you think should be brought before the membership as new business, please let me, or STEVE SKOLD, know about it. Right now, I'm between addresses so, if you have something, send me an e-mail at: [nolanalexander@msn.com](mailto:nolanalexander@msn.com).

I'm told we can bring our locos to the Napa club to run on their rails; DCC

or DC. Have a favorite engine that's too big for your layout? Here is your chance!

Our Summer Picnic meet will be in August. Ron Kaiser and his charming wife, Pam, have agreed to host the party again this year. Ron and the **Highballers** are working feverishly to get the main line of his layout done for the event. If you haven't seen Ron's layout in the last twelve months, you just have to come to the picnic and take a look. The hand painted backdrop alone is reason enough to come on out. As added enticement, RED is supplying the hot coals for cooking your meat and the cold beverages for washing it down. If the weather isn't too hot, Pam will hitch up the team of draft horses for a wagon ride around the ranch. There is monster rope swing and a fenced pond with water fowl to toss bread to, so bring the grandkids and kids; let's have a good time. Oh yeah, bring a pot luck dish for the table and we'll have a feast!

In November we're trying to arrange for an all-day meet on a Saturday to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Redwood Empire Division. We'll have cake, trains and pictures plus more. If you have pictures from past RED meets, that show the members through the years, we'd love to have a copy to share on our display board. You can send them by e-mail if you have a way to do so or, you can give them to me and I'll have them scanned and return the originals to you. Also, if you have convention cars and/or other memorabilia from PCR conventions sponsored by RED in the past, bring them along to share as well.

I'm looking forward to seeing you on June 3rd.

## CHIEF CLERK'S REPORT

BY STEVE SKOLD

The February meet was held at the Monroe Clubhouse in Santa Rosa. DAVID TURNER won the Special Door prize which was a one year subscription to his favorite model magazine. Regular door prize winners were: MIKE MCSWEEN, DAVID TURNER, DON CABRALL, RON KAISER, MORRIS BUDGE, DOUG LAMBERT, NOLAN ALEXANDER, GUS CAMPAGNA, and RUSS CLOVER. A lively discussion on the future of RED was held and it was decided to continue as we are. We are able financially to continue for about three more years if we don't come up with additional sources of income.

At the recent PCR Convention, RED members won the following awards. In contests, JOSEPH AYMAR took first place in diesel and Best in Show with his Diablo Canyon Bridge. ED MERRIN took a first and second in prototype prints and STEVE SKOLD a third in model prints. STEVE SKOLD also was selected RED's Man of the Year.

Our next meet will be in Napa on Saturday June 3rd starting with doors open at noon and meeting to start at 1PM. The Special Door Prize will be a \$25 gift certificate donated by **The Loose Caboose** of Napa. The following meeting will be at the Westside Farm of RON and PAM KAISER. This is our BBQ meeting, bring something to BBQ and a side dish to share. There will be a hayride for the kids of all ages. Weather permitting, the wagon will be pulled by a pair of the Kaiser's work horses. Ron's layout will be open (the room is air conditioned) and the entire mainline should be up and running by then. See you all there.

### Technology, kids and ....

At the last RED meeting, a general discussion ensued about the interests today of young children (and adults) and how difficult it now is to get them interested in model railroading. A major obstacle is that technology can now provide endless hours of activity, which can consume all available free hours after school and/or work. RED member Brice Benson read an article, after the meeting, in his home town newspaper which reminded him of the meeting discussion. The following is a portion of the article:

I darn near have the whole TV remote, DVD and VCR player thing figured out. I have even mastered the options on my cell phone. Yet, I keep falling further and further behind in the dizzying world of technology. Henry David Thoreau once warned that the day is coming when we will become tools of our tools. Old Henry was pretty prophetic. That day arrived long ago.

Now, the three worst words typically spoken in the workplace are, "The computer's down." When the computer system crashes, employees are suddenly relegated to doing tasks that don't require a computer - mostly dusting their office furniture or rearranging the pens and pencils in their desk drawer.

The latest technological craze, apparently, is something called the Xbox. As I understand it, the Xbox console is a gizmo that allows a user to access somewhere in the neighborhood of three billion computer games, not one of which anyone over the age of 40 would have the slightest idea of how to play. Microsoft sold 450,000 Xbox 360 consoles on Nov. 22, 2005, the first day they became available. Of course, by this time next year the 360 will be obsolete, to be replaced by the XXgeekbox, a device that will allow the average 10-year-old to completely

avoid reality for the next 25 years.

Last year in this country alone, \$8 billion was spent on video games. At the rate we're going, the limbs of our young people are going to start to atrophy to the point where someday only the push button fingers will work. Mother Nature, it seems, is losing the battle with technology for the hearts and minds of the young. Rather than race home after school to join dad for a couple hours of pheasant hunting (or to run trains or work on the layout – Ed.), many of the younger crowd races home to the computer. Rather than trade stories with friends about their latest outdoor adventure, they talk (in code) to complete strangers over the Internet.

We live in a world of information overload. It comes from so many sources, so quickly, that it's like trying to drink water from a fire hydrant. If it isn't fast-paced and glitzy, many kids lose interest....

*Article from the Minnesota DNR by Tom Conroy, 2006*

## CONTEST/DISPLAY REPORT

BY STEVE SKOLD

Contest at the Napa meet will be a show and tell of recently complete models. We would also like to have the contest winners from the PCR Convention displayed. That would be JOSEPH AYMAR, ED MERRIN and STEVE SKOLD. I am still looking for someone to take over the responsibilities as Contest Chairman. Contact me at [sandcskold@aol.com](mailto:sandcskold@aol.com) if you are interested.



**KALMBACH MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Many NMRA members often overlook this terrific resource, which is available to them. The library houses a unique collection of railroad material that model railroaders and historians use to gain further knowledge of the many facets of the hobby.

There are two basic ways that the library can be used; in person or long distance. You can either come to the library (in Chattanooga, TN) to do the research yourself, or you can have the staff do the work and mail the material to you. To submit a research or photocopy request you can call, write, fax or email, or use the online fill-in form on the library website [www.nmra.org/library](http://www.nmra.org/library). Other contact information is listed at the end of this article.

Requests come in many forms. They can be as simple as a copy of a certain article that you may have

heard of or seen a reference to, or they can be as complex as finding out the type of water column used on the Reading, the number of different manufacturers who have produced models of Big Boys, or information on how to scratch build live catenary systems. Frequently, questions also involve plans of locomotives and rolling stock, as well as information about a specific location, such as a yard or passenger station.

In order to answer these questions, the staff has a variety of source material from which to get information. Some of the collections and resources available at the library are:

**John Kentlein–H.K. Porter Collection**  
**Bruce Meyer – EMD Collection**  
**Photo collection**  
**Periodical collection**  
**Car & Locomotive Builder's Cyclopedias**  
**Official Guide of the Railways**  
**Official Railway Equipment Registers**  
**Poor's Manual of Railroads & Moody's Railroads**  
**Book collection**

**Historical society, club, museum & SIG publications**  
**Video collection**

These resources include photos, slides, negatives, catalogs, blueprints, paint diagrams, passenger train schedules, equipment rosters and railroad finances. The videos are divided into 3 categories: modeling, prototype & clinics – and are available for rent. Copies of most of the other materials can be supplied.

Contact information:  
 Kalmbach Memorial Library  
 4121 Cromwell Road  
 Chattanooga, TN 37421  
 Phone: 423-894-8144  
 Fax: 423-899-4869  
 Email: [kalmllibresearch@aol.com](mailto:kalmllibresearch@aol.com)

*This article is a portion from the first of a series written by Thomas Mossbeck, Research Associate at the library.*

**Redwood Empire Garden Railway Society (REGRS)**, No. 1 gauge, various scales. If you are interested call Ken Brody at (707)526-0195 or email [westie@sonic.net](mailto:westie@sonic.net)

**Napa Valley Model Railroad Historical Society**, HO layout. Meets Fridays 7:30 PM at Napa Fairgrounds, 575 Third St., Napa. For information call: Clubhouse (707)253-8428 or Ron Rogers (707)224-4040 or John Rodgers (707)226-2985. [www.nvmrc.org](http://www.nvmrc.org)

**Lake County Model Railroad Club**, HO layout. Meets Wednesday at 7:00PM in the old National Guard Building at the Lake County Fairgrounds on Martin Street, Lakeport. Call Mike Ernst at (707)263-4949

**Coastal Valley Lines**, HO modular. Meets 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at Sam's For Play Café, 2630 Cleveland Ave., Santa Rosa. Call Brad Squires (707) 568-4298 or Don Hanesworth 823-9615  
<http://home.pacbell.net/jrolston/>

**CLUB SCHEDULES**

**Sonoma County Model Railroad Society (SCMRS)** is looking for members to help create a large permanent HO scale model railroad display to be located in Sonoma County. Modeling items are currently stored at the historic Healdsburg Railway Depot building. Contact Dave Gibbons at (707)526-2057 or email [rrgibbons@sonic.net](mailto:rrgibbons@sonic.net)

**NPC Operators**. An On3 operating group meets one Sunday each month. Contact Steve Skold (707)539-1782 or email [SandCSkold@aol.com](mailto:SandCSkold@aol.com)

**Redwood Empire Live Steamers**. A new group is forming with the goal to build a 7 1/2 inch track facility in a local park. For information, call Don or Ann Bruner Welch at (707)578-4414 or write to PO Box 4594, Santa Rosa, CA 95402  
[www.santarosals.org](http://www.santarosals.org)

**Bay Area S Scalors**. Contact Lee Johnson at (925)943-1590.

**Mendocino Coast Model Railroad &**

**Historical Society**, a Fort Bragg area group that promotes the hobby of model railroading. This group meets the 3rd Saturday of each month. At present, HO modules are being constructed. Contact Phil Miller at (707)937-3605 for more information.

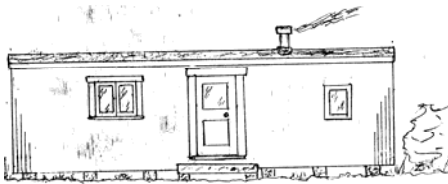
**North Coast Live Steamers**, a group, from the Fort Bragg-Willits area, that promotes the hobby of large-scale railroading and other steam related history. Contact Bill Shepard at (707)961-0329.

**Eel River Valley Model Railroaders**, HO Scale layout. Meets each Friday evening at 7:30 P.M. at the Humboldt Co. Fair Grounds, Ferndale, CA. Write to P O Box 950 Fortuna CA 95540 or contact Ron Plies at (707)725-9063 or email [rlplies@cox.net](mailto:rlplies@cox.net) for more information.  
[www.eelrivervalleyrr.org](http://www.eelrivervalleyrr.org)

**Humboldt Bay & Eureka**, HO layout, Eureka, CA. Contact David Berriman, PO Box 915 Arcata, CA 95518. (707)825-7689.

(THINK SMALL Continued from page 2) the way locations next to rails 4'-8 1/2" or less apart. Regardless of your chosen era, a boxcar body beside a siding or spur with an ordinary people door and perhaps small windows and a smoke jack will add a point of interest to your layout or module.

Small windows, doors and smoke jacks are available at hobby shops



and by mail order. Scribed siding is also available in both wood and styrene. Do not be terrified. Building a box is not as difficult as you think. Just choose your material-and get to work !!

Even SMALL projects need guidelines. I flipped through John White's "American Railroad Freight Car" to Fig. 3.46 on pages 232 and 233. The basic dimensions of that car were my guide for this exercise. In spite of what Athearn and MDC wanted us to believe, boxcars came in a variety of lengths. SP had boxcars listed as 28, 34, 36, 40, 41 and 50 feet long. We have license to adjust the length of a model to accommodate the scribed siding available or the space we want to fill.

Modeling an old car, still useful in its last days, has advantages

1. One side can be forever hidden away and therefore very plain.
2. It will fit any era. (1886 to 2006)
3. No trucks or underbody detail to fuss with.
4. Details to suit your whim are quite ok.

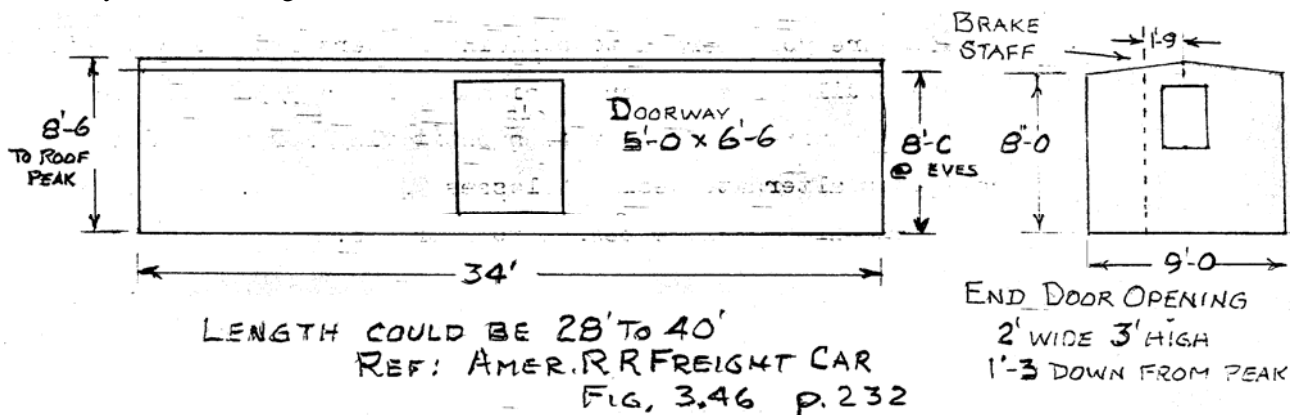
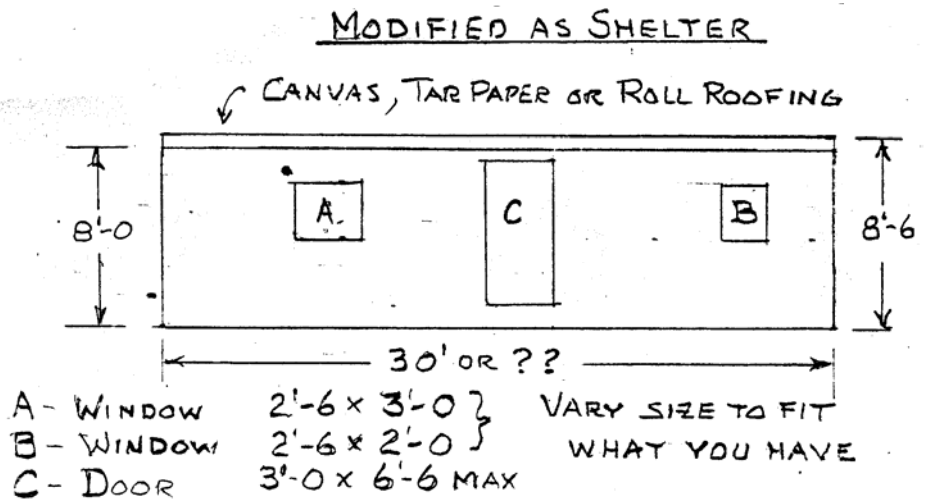
The spur you use for a RIP track would be a good home for this simple shelter. You can experiment with six kinds of weathering. You are modeling an OLD car fulfilling a need in its last days. If you set the car body on stone or concrete blocks just a step above the ground, the floor timbers will be out of the mud. A step, perhaps made from old ties, will provide easy access to the door. This is an easy project -why not give it a try ??

I chose an old car because I THINK SMALL. The side door is 5', not 6'

wide. A later vintage car would be taller and longer, taking more precious layout space.

First find windows and a door that will fit. When I allowed for the frame timbers under the floor, all my Campbell and Grant doors were too tall. I cobbled a 5'-10" door from sheet styrene. It was easier than modifying a commercial product. Two odd caboose windows and a six light window, cut down to four, provided light and air for my people. A cast smoke jack will show that the car can be warmed on cold mornings. Add styrene scribed at 3 1/4 HO inches (Evergreen #2037) plus plain at .010 or .015 and .020 thick and a few bits of micro-slide glass or clear plastic sheet to your materials list

(Continued on page 8)

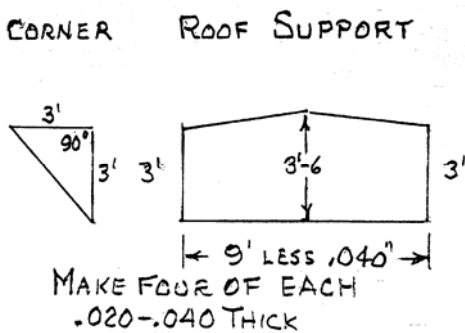


(THINK SMALL Continued from page 7)

To help keep everything square, I cut a chunk of 7/16" pine the car side length minus 0.040" and 9 HO feet minus 0.040" wide, then sanded off the fuzz. Guided by the previous 2 sketches on page 7, cut a length of scribed siding 8' high by the car length you chose and two pieces 8'-6" high by 9' minus .040 inches wide for the ends. Cut the hidden side from plain .020 styrene to match the scribed side.

The scribed side and perhaps one end will need cutouts for your door and windows. Measure carefully. The door must clear an inside floor and should set against one side of the original doorway. ( A 3' door will be 1' off center.) Window sills 3' above the floor will be about 4' above the bottom of the side. Added trim will cover minor errors if necessary. Also, the wood block may need a shallow notch for your door.

Weld your door and windows into their cutouts. Next, place your wood block on a glass or flat metal plate to keep the box square as you weld sides



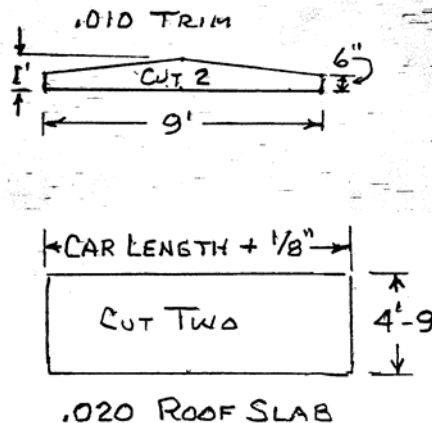
and ends together. Cut the corner and roof supports, per the sketch above, from plain styrene .020 to .040 thick. Rest the triangles on the wood block in the corners and weld to sides and ends. Weld the roof supports into place at the ends and third points of the box body. We do not want paint on our window glass, so our box will be topless for a while. Mask the top edge of sides and ends so we get a

good bond later -when we weld on the roof.

Find your spray can of boxcar red or air brush and jar of boxcar paint. Give the car body a basic coat of paint. You could use boxcar red as your trim color. If you want another color, now is the time to paint window frames and door. Pay particular attention to the windows. The main body color will be applied much later.

Our next step is to glaze those windows. I like real glass held in place with white glue. Clear plastic will work. Also, the white stuff you tease with a toothpick should work for windows this small. When you are happy with the windows, paint the interior black. Go run some trains or mow the lawn. We want the glue and paint to get really dry before we slap on the roof.

I cut the roof trim from .010 and the roof from .020 styrene. Trim on the



side is just a 6" board. The end trim matches the roof slope. The sandwich at the car ends provides a good

anchor for welding on the two slabs of .020 styrene for the roof. The roof slabs are a bit oversize to take care of minor problems. They should join at the car centerline with overhang at both ends and sides. When the welds at top of sides and ends are cured hard you can carve and sand to get a neat joint. As an old carpenter told me, molding and sandpaper make average work look good.

A likely top for this old car would be canvas and tar or roll roofing. I sanded the roof, then spread white glue to stick a bit of spent fabric softener sheet from the clothes dryer in place. While the glue was drying there was ample time to smooth out the big wrinkles. Next day I trimmed the overhang with a sharp blade and painted the roof a dark gray. The thin wash of cream and gray on the barn red undercoat added years to the look of my little structure.

After I installed the smoke jack, I did a bit of touchup and weathering; my little people had a shelter for those cold and wet days.


If you hung in this far, you know that scratch building is no big deal. It can be fun. You are in control- THE BOSS- enjoy!

Bill Williams The Ancient One



This form can be used for both new memberships and renewals. A NMRA membership now also includes membership in the Pacific Coast Region (PCR) and Redwood Empire Division (RED). Subscriptions to the monthly NMRA *Scale Rails* magazine and quarterly PCR *Branch Line* newsletter are optional. The quarterly RED *Callboard* newsletter is included at no additional charge. If desired, a NMRA member can subscribe to additional regional newsletters.

10/05



**NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC.**

4121 Cromwell Road  
 Chattanooga, TN 37421-2119  
 Phone (423) 892-2846 FAX (423) 899-4869  
 Email: nmrahq@aol.com Website: www.nmra.org

Complete all personal information at the top of this form, then choose your membership type(s). If you would like a subscription to *Scale Rails*, please add the subscription fee in the TOTAL column. You also have the option of subscribing to any NMRA Regional publication for the additional fee listed. **WELCOME ABOARD TO THE NMRA!**

|          |             |        |  |
|----------|-------------|--------|--|
| Name:    |             |        |  |
| Address: |             |        |  |
| City:    | State:      | Zip:   |  |
| Phone:   | Birth date: | Scale: |  |
| Email:   | Occupation: |        |  |

| NMRA Membership Type<br>Circle the option(s) of your choice in columns at right  | 1 Year  | 2 Years  | TOTAL |
|--|---------|----------|-------|
| <b>Member</b> - All rights and benefits; does not include NMRA <i>Scale Rails</i> .  | \$33.00 | \$66.00  |       |
| <b>NMRA <i>Scale Rails</i> subscription</b> – Must be an NMRA member to subscribe.   | \$12.00 | \$24.00  |       |
| <b>Family</b> - Spouse or minor child of above member in good standing. No NMRA <i>Scale Rails</i> nor voting rights. Provide family member's name and date of birth here:<br>Name: _____ DOB: _____ | \$ 9.00 | \$18.00  |       |
| <b>Student</b> - Any person 18 yrs and under or student between the ages of 19 - 25 yrs possessing valid student ID. All rights and benefits and NMRA <i>Scale Rails</i> .                           | \$22.00 | \$44.00  |       |
| <b>Sustaining</b> - Mandatory for group memberships (Clubs, Associations, Businesses). All rights and benefits and NMRA <i>Scale Rails</i> .   | \$90.00 | \$180.00 |       |

| Optional Region Subscriptions for Member<br>Circle the options of your choice |         |         |                                   |         |         |
|---|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Subscription type   | 1 Yr    | 2 Yr    | Subscription type                 | 1 Yr    | 2 Yr    |
| 21-Northeastern Subscription  | \$ 7.00 | \$14.00 | 29-Mid Continent Subscription     | \$ 6.00 | \$12.00 |
| 22-Niagara Frontier Subscription  | \$10.00 | \$20.00 | 30-Mid Eastern Subscription       | \$ 6.00 | \$12.00 |
| 23-North Central Subscription   | \$ 7.00 | \$14.00 | 31-Lone Star Subscription         | \$ 6.00 | \$12.00 |
| 24-Thousand Lakes Subscription  | \$10.00 | \$20.00 | 32-Mid Central Subscription       | 0       | 0       |
| 25-Pacific Northwest Subscription   | \$ 6.00 | \$12.00 | 33-Southeastern Subscription      | \$10.00 | \$20.00 |
| 26-Pacific Coast Subscription   | \$ 6.00 | \$12.00 | 36-Sunshine Subscription          | \$ 6.00 | \$12.00 |
| 27-Rocky Mountain Subscription  | 0       | 0       | 37-Pacific Southwest Subscription | \$ 8.00 | \$16.00 |
| 28-Midwest Subscription   | \$ 6.00 | \$12.00 |                                   |         |         |

All payments must be made in U.S. FUNDS ONLY. Make checks payable to NMRA.  
We also accept MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover

|  |  |  |  |  |  |         |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|--|
| Credit Card <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/><br>Expiration <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/><br><div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> <span>Month</span> <span>Year</span> </div> |  |  |  |  |  | PAYMENT | NMRA Membership Total: \$ _____<br>Region Subscription Total: \$ _____<br><hr/> <b>Grand Total:</b> \$ _____ |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|--|

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Go to the NMRA website at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) and visit the online store for the latest merchandise updates

---



---

**COMING DOWN THE LINE**
**EDITOR'S NOTES:**

Future CALLBOARD schedules are:

**July-September CALLBOARD****Staff Meeting:** 7 PM, July 11**Text Deadline:** July 18**Mailing:** July 25**Meeting:** August 13**October- December CALLBOARD****Staff Meeting:** 7 PM, October 17**Text Deadline:** October 24**Mailing:** October 31**Meeting:** November 18

**Submit all articles, calendar items, adds, comments and corrections to the Editor.**

*Many of the art items used in this newsletter are courtesy of Ken Houghton Rail Images or came from the website:*

*[www.rrhistorical.com](http://www.rrhistorical.com)*

May 20: **Daylight Division** meet in Santa Barbara.

Saturday June 3: **Redwood Empire Division** meet in Napa. Details are on page 1.

June 4: **Coast Division** meet in Mountain View.

June 24-25: **Coastal Valley Lines** train show at Spring Lake Village, Santa Rosa. #

June 25: **Redwood Empire Garden Railroad Society** meeting at the Murray's home in Corte Madera. #

July 2-9: **NMRA National Convention** in Philadelphia, PA.

July 3-9: **National Garden Railway Convention** in Santa Clara.

July 12-15: **SP Historical Society Convention**, Airport Hilton in Oakland.

July 30: **Redwood Empire Garden Railroad Society** meeting at the Guy's home in Novato. #

August 5-6: **Coastal Valley Lines** train show at Oakmont, Santa Rosa. #

August 13: **Redwood Empire Division** meet in the Healdsburg – Guerneville area.

August 19: **Napa Valley Model Railroad HS** swap meet at the Napa fairgrounds. #

Saturday November 18: **Redwood Empire Division** meet in Santa Rosa.

# Contact information is listed on page 6.

**Visit RED at Website:** <http://home.earthlink.net/~campgus/>

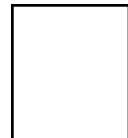
---



---

**CALLBOARD**

John Rolston, Editor  
240 Chase Street  
Sonoma, CA 95476




---



---

**FIRST CLASS**