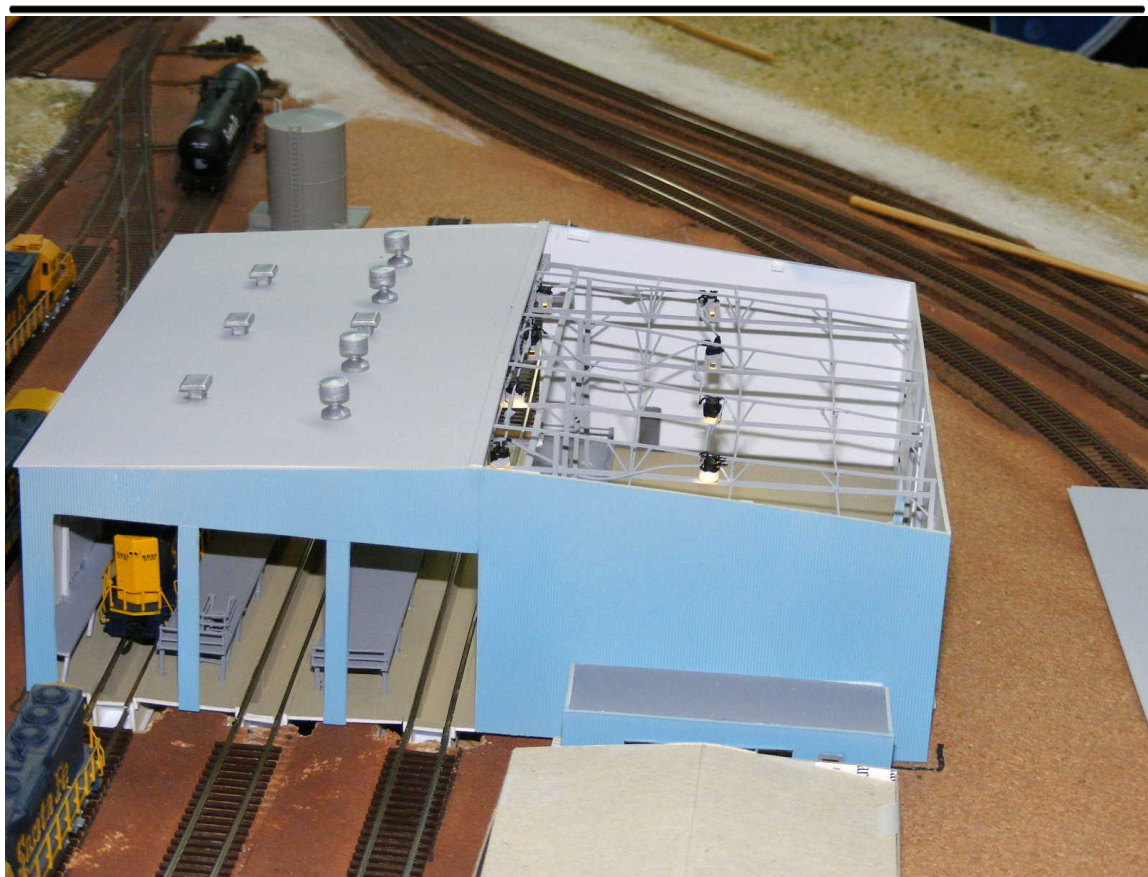




THE BRIDGE

The Official Publication of the Kentuckiana Society of N Scalers
Hosts of the 2008 National N Scale Convention



KSONS

Bruce Goreham, Publisher
July 2009

Joe Martin, Editor
Volume 24, Number 7

In this Issue: Building a Laser Wood Kit

KSONS Scheduled Arrivals (and Train Shows)

Visitors are welcome at all KSONS meetings

At the Platform:

July 9th. Business Meeting at John Voller's House, 1122 Forest View Drive. 502-291-9552. 7:30 PM. Bring some chairs.

July 18th. A get together/open house at John's house as well. Details to be ironed out at the July meeting. Looking at running on John's layout. Maybe a clinic on decoder installation, or a clinic on painting. Start time around 11 AM.

Down the Pike: KSONS Scheduled to Appear:

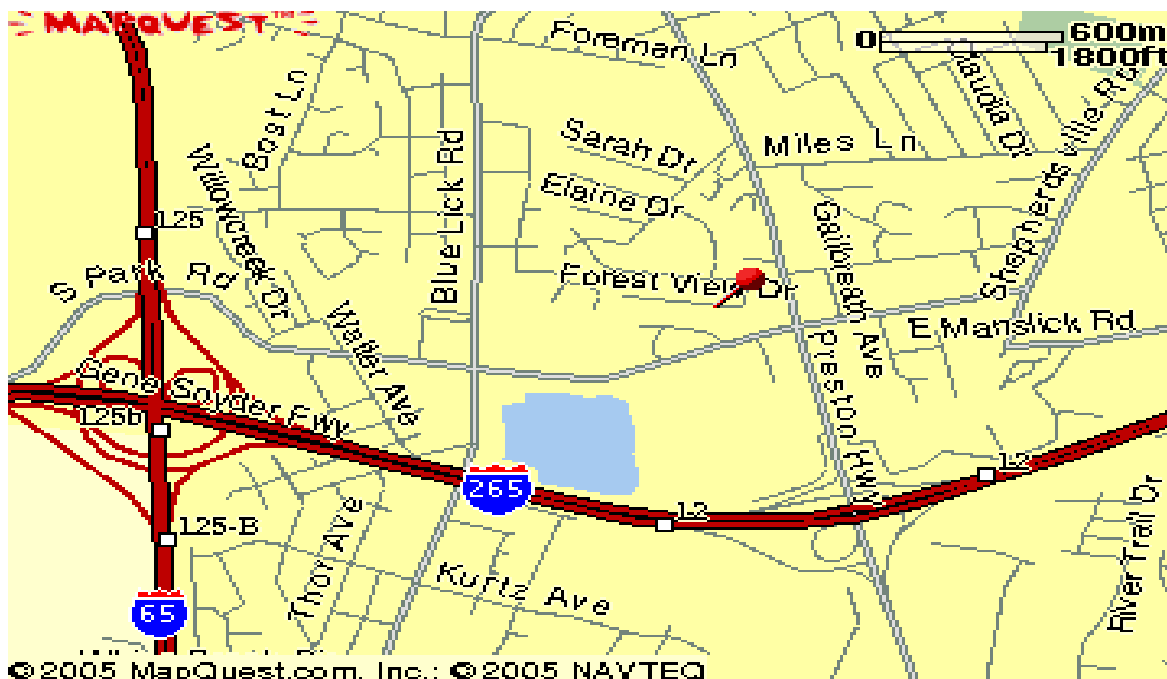
August 13th. Business meeting at Dawn and Jakob's house.

August 30th: Model Train Show and Railroadiana Show and Swap Meet. General Butler State Resort Park Conference Center, Carrollton, KY. 11 AM to 5 PM. T-Trak layout to be on display.

September 26th to October 3rd: N-Trak layout display at the New Albany Public Library. Show coordinator needed.

Other Shows/Events:

April 30 to May 2, 2010. Second Annual Ohio N Scale Weekend. Franklin County Fairgrounds, Hilliard (Columbus), Ohio. Presented by Central Ohio Ntrak. [Http://www.centralohiontrak.org](http://www.centralohiontrak.org)



On the Cover: A preview of what you will miss by not making it to John's house for the meeting and clinic: John's new engine house. Photo by Joe Martin.

June Meeting Minutes

The KSONS met at Bob and Ramona Johnson's home on the 11th. Kevin Rose presided over our business meeting which had to be held indoors due to rain. The minutes of the May meeting were accepted as printed and Dawn Jewell gave the treasurer's report. There was no old business to discuss.

There will be a model railroad swap meet in Carrollton on August 31st. The T-trak modelers wish to set up at this show using the KSONS name. A motion was passed to do just that. *[Editor's Note: My Bad. It is actually the 30th]*

Former treasurer John Voller reported a problem with the account for the credit card processing machine used at the convention. It seems that the account was not properly closed out even though the machine was returned. This will result in a one-time charge of \$250 which will have to come out of club funds since the convention account has been closed out. A motion was passed to allow the use of KSONS funds for this.

Mark Hedge made a motion that raffle winners should only be able to win one prize per meeting. Since the raffle is independent of the club, this is up to Mike Dockwiller, who currently runs the raffle. Mike is agreeable to this change.

Mark also reports that he has found the owner of a property in Jeffersonville that could be a suitable permanent home for KSONS. While not giving any details, Mark wants to know if the club is willing to put sweat equity into a clubhouse. Without having any detail, it was difficult to form this into a motion, but one was finally made to find out what how much space is available and what would be necessary to obtain it. Mark will look into the details and report back to the board of directors.

John Voller wants to have a model railroading get together at his home in July. This is in addition to the regular KSONS meeting to be held at his place on the 9th of July. The additional date would be an open house of his layout and some clinics and possibly a potluck lunch. John and the club members decided on Saturday July 18th at 11:00. We will discuss the potluck at the next meeting and decide on a course of action.

There is no work session scheduled. No activities at Buckner are on the calendar at this time. Our next show will be at the New Albany Floyd County Public Library in September. Setup will be September 25th and the show will run from the 26th to October 3rd.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for the next three months. The July meeting at John Voller's, the August meeting at Dawn Jewell's and September finds us back at Jerry Harris's home.

The roundtable followed. Bob Johnson detailed the changes that have occurred at his home layouts this year before we went in to see them.

Kevin spoke about Steve Shetter's article for the N Scale Collector Magazine about convention planning. Kevin also showed off an example of the new Bachmann GE 44 ton locomotive. It's a nice looking locomotive and we all look forward to seeing it run.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Minch, secretary

Traipsing in Paducah, Day 2

Day 2 consisted of a trip to the Casino. Unfortunately, I did not see any trains on the Metropolis Bridge.

We got back in enough time for me to return to Paducah with my cousin's son. We saw some deer at the North Yard. I heard on the scanner a train requesting access to the track to continue onward towards Calvert City. We only saw the train crossing the bridge that goes over more or less the mid-point between the North and South yards.

Once again, the radio provided useful, for a request from the Fulton Paducah Turn to enter the North yard was requested. Versus Tuesday, there was no one fouling the line. After a while, the train came in. This was worth it, since on the point was 1024, an Illinois Central SD70 that had not been assimilated into CN colors. Just waiting for this unit was worth the price of admission. I thought the radio reported 24 cars, but Nick said he counted 28.

Amazingly, that was the only action we were able to see, since it got dark. The action in Paducah heats up in the evening hours. The night's train is getting put together, plus transfers from other lines come in, and those that went to the rail to river transfer facilities in the Calvert City area come back.

I was kind of bummed out not seeing an Illinois Central unit on day one. That was made up in a big way seeing unit 1024 on day 2. I wonder what day 3 will be like?

[Sorry I have to keep you hanging in suspense. Let's see what happens to our hero next month.—Ed]

Building Laser Kits By Ken Halgash

If you would like to add some nice buildings to your layout or module, why not give a laser kit a try. They are easy to build, the fit is outstanding and the results will want to make you come back for more.

I would suggest giving a simple barn or outbuilding a try to get started and as your basic skills improve the easier they become. I got my start with an NScale-Architect kit during the blizzard and a week off. The kit was as board by board construction, but that was the kit that got me hooked. Since then I have put together kits from LaserKit, GC Laser, NScale Arch, Laser Art, Model Tech and the list goes on.

The Laser cut kits have simplified construction from the early board by board construction, but if you get an itch to go farther after a few of the lasers, give me a yell , because I still have several of the others.

To get started, start with a simple kit. Most are tab and lock systems that just require you a carpenter's type glue and just a few basic tools. Here are a few of the things you will need for these kits: X-Acto knife, lots of blades, toothpicks (for the glue), a set of jeweler's files or emery boards, a small metal square, rubber bands and a cutting mat. As I have advanced, I have added other things but this is the basic list. Most everything is already on the modelers work bench, so you won't need to buy much. Anything else is available at Scale or at the shows. One of my first stops at most shows is to see the Tool Man. With what I have listed, you can build most all laser cut kits. Glue is important in building. I am currently using Elmer's Carpenter's wood Glue. Most kits will list a suggestion of type of glue in their instructions. Most Elmer's type of glue can be used. CA's can be used but remember if you use it on wood, you have to use it twice, once to seal and once to glue. CA's are best saved for plastic kits. Recently I have been using more of Formula 560 Canopy glue; it is great for adding windows to buildings. Fabric glues can prove useful in some applications.

Now grab the instructions, parts list, and start reading.....in fact, read them several times, familiarize yourself with the all the part list and then get started. N Scale Architect offers painting hints and ideas in their kits and most others do also.

A couple of other ideas that are very helpful is sealing the wood on the back with either a flat black paint or a sanding sealer. I like the black because the lighter wood can be seen thru even N scale window. Another thought is using scrap wood from old kits, help hold down warping. An old text book (I knew that University of Louisville education would come in handy) or something heavy to put down on them to help dry flat is very useful.

Solvent paints are the best for painting, you can use a water based paint, but you must be extremely careful using them.

Now go find a good starting kit at Scale and get started. The results will be great everyone will want to know how you built such a great kit.

[Editor's Note: Now I have a use for \$13,000 worth of textbooks that did not help me one bit for a year. It helped Mr. Sullivan. Thanks for the article Kenny]

Super's Dispatch

I really enjoyed meeting the Southern Indiana group, it was really nice of them to let us have our meeting there with them and enjoy their layout. I had arrived early and was talking with Jeff, their superintendent; he finally asked me why we as an N-scale club wanted to meet with and H0 club. I told him it's not about the scale, but a love of all model railroading. There always seems to be a little friction between scales, but it doesn't seem to be as intense as I remember. Besides it's just a hobby. I'll be honest I'm somewhat jealous of what they have there, and only hope that at some point we will have a permanent location to build an operational layout.

There are a couple of things that I would like to go over so that hopefully our business meetings may go a little faster. **Old Business** will be for the discussion of anything from a previous meeting; I will only bring up items from the previous meeting, but if there is other old business that you feel needs to be discussed please bring it up. **New Business** will be for discussion of any subject that is related to the operation or appearance of the club. This is where we will talk about any new issues, shows, problems, purchases or ideas specifically about the KSONS. **Work Sessions** is for scheduling needed repairs and maintenance on our modules. **Next Shows** will be the shows that we will be participating in the future, there will be no discussion about the shows here, if discussion is needed it should be brought up in Old or New Business. **Roundtable** is where we can discuss any non-club related items, other shows, concerns of non-members, product announcements, rail fanning, etc.

Okay, that was my Dispatch that I should have had in the last Bridge. I forgot to send it to Joe. I am really excited about doing the clinics at John Voller's, he will be doing a backdrop clinic and I'll be doing an Atlas decoder install and speed matching clinic using Ops programming. Don't worry I will set up a separate oval of track so we (meaning I) don't reprogram John's layout again. Bring a locomotive and decoder for the install clinic or a couple locomotives for speed matching. I am really looking forward to the clinics and hope that other members will think about hosting a clinic too.

Thanks,
Kevin

WANTED: Southern Railway Budd Coach Car and Budd Diner Car. If you have these, please contact Kenny Halgash at 502-294-0181.

Your KSONS Board

Please call on us!

Kevin Rose, Superintendent: (502) 296-5084
Mike Wingfeld, Assistant Superintendent: (502) 767-8513
Paul Downs, Membership: (502) 895-6578
Kenny Halgash, Show Liaison (502) 348-6119
Dawn Jewell, Treasurer: (502) 523-3474

The KSONS website is <http://www.trainweb.org/KSONS>. Contact Dawn Jewell at ddjewell7@yahoo.com for any suggestions to the site. Please indicate in the heading of the email "KSONS website changes".

The electronic version of *The Bridge* is now available. It will be available on the website. If you do wish to receive the newsletter electronically, please contact Joe Martin as soon as possible. If you do not want a paper copy sent, please let Joe and Bruce Goreham know.

The Electronic “bonus” picture for this month is at John’s layout again. Here is the start of a trailer park that is outside his yard.



Obviously, he needs some more details. Like the trucks on blocks, tires on top of the trailer, etc. But it is a nice start. Good job John.

Join The KSONS!

Membership in the KSONS is open to anyone who is or wishes to become actively engaged in N scale model railroading. Dues for Full Membership are \$50 for one year and should be included with your application. Affiliate Members (non-voting, \$25.00) are available to a Full Member's immediate family and those under 18. Applicants under 18 must have an adult sponsor who is a member of KSONS.

With over 35 N Scale modelers, the KSONS are dedicated to the advancement and enjoyment of N scale model railroading. Business meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month in the Louisville and Southern Indiana area. Public shows are held at various times throughout the year, including the shows held at The New Albany-Floyd County Public Library in the spring and fall and the Christmas Gift and Décor show in December at the Fairgrounds.

The KSONS are leading the way in the Louisville area with digital command control (DCC), a switching yard almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of a scale mile in length, 100+ car trains, and award winning models and modules.

KSONS Membership Application

C/o Paul Downs, Membership Chair
209 Gibson Road, Louisville, KY 40207
(Enclose a \$50 check made payable to KSONS)

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Time in N scale: _____

Do you own a Module? _____ Roads/Eras modeled:

Interested in: Shows? ____ Work Sessions? ____ Operating Sessions? ____ DCC?
____ N-Trak Modules? ____ Models? ____ Scenery? ____
T-Trak Modules? ____ FreeMo N Modules? ____ Home Layouts