



NEWSLETTER

Central Arizona Model Railroad Club
June, 2020

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Tom McColloch

Hello to All –

We are trying to keep communicating with all the CAMRRC members, even if we cannot have monthly meetings. There is still model railroading activity going on, so Peter Atonna has agreed to publish the newsletter on a more frequent basis to help share club information. To make this effective, however, members must help out by regularly submitting articles, photos, modeling projects, etc. to Peter.

This may not be as enjoyable as an actual meeting, but it will help keep us going as a club. There will be no club meeting on June 10. We will send out an update every month regarding the status of the monthly meeting. At this time, I do not think we will be meeting in July or August, but we will continue to assess the safety concerns. See Terry Fearn's discussion in this newsletter. There also was a suggestion about trying to meet in a town park, but the social distancing concerns are still an issue.

Fred Williams has a neat idea about a Paper Swap Meet, to help members buy or sell equipment. Check out Fred's material in this newsletter.

I indicated earlier that the Christmas party was cancelled, but I spoke too soon. Julie Gladish and BJ Rudy are the party planners, and we will wait a couple of months to make a better determination on what the party might be.

We also are considering a Fall picnic, which may be easier to safely accomplish as an outdoor activity. Club members can help in planning this event, so if you are interested, contact me or any other board member.

For now, maintain social distance, and wear a mask in the store out of respect for those around you. We are fortunate that the number of COVID-19 cases in the quad city area is fairly low, and we do not want to cause a spike in cases by relaxing too soon. Stay safe!

SCHEDULE

CAMRRC regular meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month. They feature tables where you are welcome to bring items for sale and most months also feature a program. They are also a great way to get together with your fellow members. Meetings begin at 6:30pm for socializing and swapping and the meeting at 7pm located at the Prescott First Lutheran Church, 231 W. Smoketree Lane off Willow Creek Road

June 10 - CAMRRC meeting, First Lutheran Church - **CANCELLED**

June 13 - NMRA Pacific Southwest Region meeting, First Lutheran Church - **POSTPONED**

July 8 - CAMRRC meeting, First Lutheran Church - **STAY TUNED FOR UPDATE**

August 12 - CAMRRC meeting, First Lutheran Church - **STAY TUNED FOR UPDATE**

August 15 - Beat the Heat Swap Meet - **CANCELLED**

BOARD MINUTES

by Doug Gilliatt

May 23rd, 2020

All Board Members present but Terry Fearn
Guests and Discussions: None

First Order of Business was the resignation of Dan LePage as the club President which the board accepted. Tom Mc McColloch will be president pro-tem until the time that a new election can be held.

Old business:

Beat the Heat swap meet was officially cancelled as the school has cancelled all events for the foreseeable future.

All Vendors have been notified and the reservation money is in the process of being refunded.

Notice has been sent to Radio Stations. Facebook Groups were updated with a cancelation notification.

The Club did get its down payment on tables refunded.

The Prescott Resort portable layouts for December 5th is finalized but there is no word if this is going forward at this time.

New Business:

The Western Heritage Museum N layout is being built by Dan LePage and is no longer a club project.

No Christmas Party will be held this year due to the virus and financial reasons.

A Fall picnic/swap meet might be possible and will be decided later. Would like some feedback from the members. Julie will be asked on who to contact and any particulars.

Fred Williams will be creating a 'Paper Swap' notification from time to time for anyone

wanting to sell or buy items and Peter will send out to the membership.

Peter will be asked if possible to send out a monthly newsletter or possible a bi-monthly newsletter to keep members informed and engaged where possible.

Members will be notified that we plan on continuing our club meetings, however if they feel ill or uneasy about attending please stay home. We will notify members when the church will allow us to have meetings again.

The next Board Meeting will be as needed due to the Virus.



Richie Scanapico makes sure all practice proper Covid 19 safety practices at his house

CHECKING OUT THE VERDE CANYON RAILROAD

by Ray Strom

Memorial Day I was restless and decided to be a Railfan for the afternoon. So I drove over to the Verde Canyon Railroad in Clarkdale. I thought I might at least find out what their status was with all this shelter stuff.

I was greeted with a sign on the door declaring words to the effect of 'The Verde Canyon

Railroad is Closed'. If you were not invited please do not enter this building'. So as a good former PFC I complied.

However, then I went exploring roads that did not have 'No Trespassing' signs. I had seen from the heights of Clarkdale 20+ passenger cars lined up behind FP7's 1510 and 1512.

There were no real good vantage points in the yard to the east but I did take a couple of photos anyway. Clarkdale Arizona Central Railroad's (reporting mark AZCR) EMD GP7 2164, EMD GP93413 and GP26s 2601 & 2602 were lined up on a parallel track.

Everything is at Full Stop on a sunny Arizona day! Too bad but it was better than staying inside.



COPPER ANODE PLATE FLATCAR

by Anthony Piscitelli

I have been working on several projects since the pandemic started and we all had to stay at home. I painted and lettered several copper anode service boxcars for the various mining railroads I model. I also modeled some two bay covered hoppers, these cars were used by Phelps Dodge and other mining railroads to haul copper concentrate. It has been a fun project and it passed the time.

I found a prototype photo of a Southern Pacific flat car that had been modified to carry copper anode plates and are used for copper plating.



I decided to build one of these cars based on the SP prototype. I looked through my inventory and I found a Mantua 50 foot flat car. The car was molded in green, the deck was molded in tan, the model was lettered for ATSF, and I don't think I ever saw a prototype green ATSF flatcar.

I removed the lettering and painted the entire model with Tamiya Hull Red paint. I added some white to the hull red to lighten it and to resemble SP freight car red.

The racks were made with some Plastruct structural H beams, I beams and angle iron. I glued angle iron together to make channel iron beams. I assembled the racks and glued them to the flat car deck. I then painted the racks hull red.

I made the copper plates out of wooden tongue depressors and painted them with Floquil copper paint.



I lettered the model for Verde Tunnel & Smelter.
I designed decals and Stan printed them for me.

To achieve the weathered look, I liberally
brushed on Rust-All on the racks. I weathered
the deck by rubbing it with a Q
Tip dipped in alcohol. The alcohol removed the
hull red and revealed the tan beneath.

MOVABLE STAGING YARD

by Mike Scigliano

K&W needs ATSF traffic sources and
destinations. The Train Room is shared with
bunk beds. Limited space

Staging Yard Soliton

Movable three track Staging Yard - Sector plate
to provide runaround in limited space -
Removable "bridge" to connect with layout

Space Competitors



Movable Staging Yard



Three track Staging Yard



Staging yard support



10 inch Sector Plate

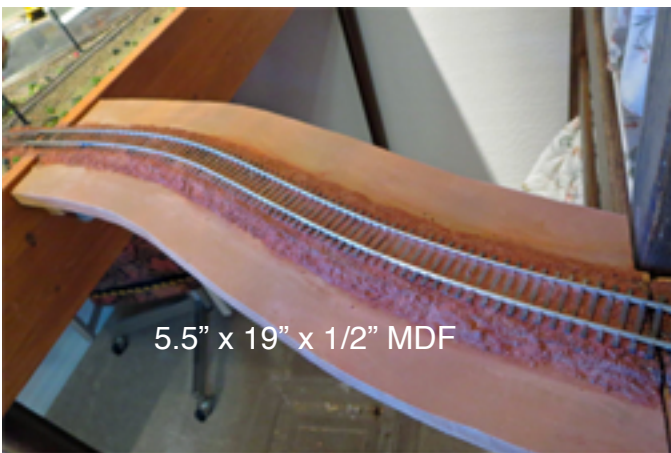




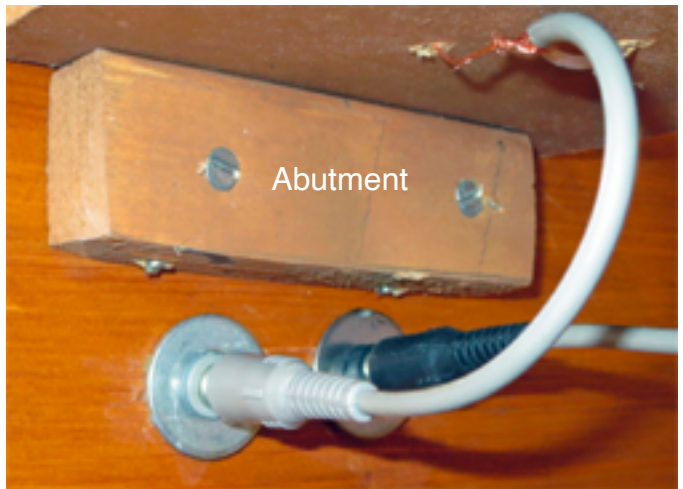
Sector Plate Components



The Bridge



Bridge Connection



STATUS OF 2020 CLUB MEETINGS

by Terry Fearn

As you read in the update from Tom McColloch, a number of club events and activities for 2020 have been cancelled. The Beat the Heat Swap meet was cancelled and the monthly club meetings are on hold. However, since Tom's email was sent, we are reconsidering the cancellation of the club's Christmas Party. A final decision will be made in September if we can go forward.

I want to give everyone more background regarding the status of the monthly club meetings. Per the governor's emergency

declaration in March plus the request from the First Lutheran Church we cancelled our meetings after the March meeting. With the recent easing of restrictions, the Church has resumed Sunday services. However, the safety of the clubs that use the Social Hall is a large concern for Rev. Rothe and the Church Council.

Multiple clubs use the Hall on a daily basis. The Church does not have the staff to do cleaning of the tables and chairs after each meeting nor do they have the money to hire a service for regular deep cleaning. As a result, the church has requested clubs to delay meeting until the Church Council can determine when clubs can use the Social Hall again and the guidelines for the clubs. We are considering other options, such as a monthly meeting held outdoors in a park.

As you have probably read, a number of other model railroad clubs are facing the same issues we are and have cancelled their upcoming activities. Among the cancellations are the NMRA National Convention, the National Narrow Gauge Convention and the NMRA Arizona Division Meet in Scottsdale. The planned Arizona Division Northern Mini-Meet Scheduled in Prescott on June 13 is postponed but given the concerns from the Lutheran Church, it may not happen this year.

As Tom described, we are taking actions to help club members keep in contact. Among them are publishing the newsletter monthly, organizing paper swap meets and holding an outdoor picnic in the fall. Please help out by writing articles for a monthly newsletter. The status of your projects or work on your layout will be much appreciated. In a future newsletter, I will describe progress on my SP themed layout set in the San Joaquin Valley in 1952.

SUMMER UPDATE

by Walt Bouman

It is the end of the month. So here are some things. I wanted to add a switch yard to my outdoor G Gauge layout. The West end was the only place I could do it.



Here is the original West End.

Here is what I have so far. I am hoping to have it done in a few weeks.



MAKING CATENARY, CONTINUED

by Joe Agosta

The jig is made by nailing 3/4" brads into a 1/2" piece of plywood. the pattern is hard to see because of all the burn marks from soldering but you will soon see the results.



The entire catenary is made from .032 bronze piano wire. the section lengths are mostly 120 scale feet in length. The stiff wire as opposed to rolling out soft brass wire has the advantage of greater stability and also enabling bending for radii which reduces the need for pull offs.



Once the two wires are placed in the jig, I then proceeded to make the hangars. as seen in the photo, I bend a a small loop/eyelet to hang from the catenary wire and a 90 degree bend to solder to the contact wire.



Also I removed a lot of trees!

Next, once all hangars are in place proceed with soldering. Once soldering is completed, using sand paper and a small file, sand off and smooth excess solder especially on the bottom of the contact wire so the pantograph glides smoothly underneath with no snags.



The last phase is to solder the catenary to the poles. This was my first attempt at this project and I'm still learning the ins and outs of overhead an in no way am I an expert on this subject.



But now that the main line is complete except for finishing the insulators to isolate sidings it has been rewarding and fun to see engines run under live wire.

But, as seen in the photos I've recently started soldering a 2" piece of wire under the tip of the registration arm.



I found by doing this it gives me more room with ease of soldering joining contact wires to the registration along with greater strength and stability. With resistance soldering and alternative hangars this probably wouldn't be necessary. The inception of this design was given to me by Model Memories (without the two inch wire).



After soldering and adjustments, it is crucial to file off any solder or wire misalignment's underneath the contact wire so the pantograph can glide smoothly against it with no snags. The messenger wire is bent with a loop on each end and placed over the vertical pole. Once the contact wire is soldered I complete the

loop on the messenger wire, trim off excess wire and solder in place.



In conclusion, I'd say happy sparking although that may mostly apply to a trolley line.

AT HOME PROJECT

by Peter Atonna

Like all of us, my out of home trips have been drastically curtailed. So, I have more time to work on the layout and layout related projects. But wait, as most members know, my layout is pretty well finished and I have been enjoying only minor projects, upgrades, etc.

And here is one. Recently, an ad for a great price on an Atlas O scale bulkhead flat car caught my eye and I could not pass it up. Upon arrival, it is a really neat car, but barren. No load. My trains need to make money for the owners, so it needed a load. Fortunately, the real world often interferes with my O scale world.

Recently, when going under the BNSF overpass on SR 89 here in Paulden, we caught a train

going overhead. And what passed was a bulkhead flat with a neat pipe load! Great idea, I can buy a package of straws at the grocery, paint them and make them into a load.

Well, Safeway, at least, does not carry old fashioned straight straws. Now they flex to bend or have kiddie ends. But luck intervened again. On a subsequent trip through that underpass, a train with another bulkhead flat passed over and it was carrying steel beams!



New idea, I might already have a bunch of extra Plastruct beams to make that load. And, checking, I did. Between some "I" beams and shallow roof trusses I had enough for my load. Styrene strips were cut and painted brown for the support boards. The beams were painted black and dull coated. Since everything is styrene, all were glued together.

Tie down straps made from more styrene strips with 20 gauge wire loops to tie to the car. And now my car can start earning money for the Seligman and Paulden lines.



Editor's Note: As you saw in the Vice President's Column and Terry Fearn's article, we are all trying to cope with the new reality of surviving this pandemic. So, I am trying the first monthly newsletter. And I have been delighted in your response with photos and articles.

If you can keep that up, we will continue to produce this newsletter on a monthly basis.

I will send a reminder out toward the end of each month calling for articles, to give you time to send me what you are doing, where you have been or anything else you think might be of interest to your fellow club members.

Here is a reminder that things now are now vs. how they used to be. Here is an ad from the January 1971 Model Railroader.

How we would react to this ad today and do you remember Tru-Scale wooden roadbed and track sections?
We've come a long way in our hobby!

