



NEWSLETTER

Central Arizona Model Railroad Club
March, 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Bob Northington

As the month of March gets going, the Board is working hard at putting together our first event for 2021! This will be an outdoor event, most likely at the pavilion in Prescott Valley where we had the picnic in September of 2018. Please watch your email for a note from Doug Gilliatt, polling the membership to see if they would be interested in attending such an event. The club will be adhering to social distancing guidelines including spaced seating with face masks to be worn when not eating or drinking. The event will also be catered! Watch for Doug's email and let us know!

We recently learned of Vic Turner's unfortunate passing. With the loss of yet another club member, the board has decided to form a committee to assist spouses or families that will help in the disposal or sale of layouts. This committee will consist of Fred and Gayle Williams, Doug Gilliatt, Terrel Tinkler, and Richie Scanapico. If a spouse or family need a layout dismantled, this group will assist. Should a surviving spouse want to sell train equipment, we can put them in touch with entities that buy collections and such. Please note: the club will NOT become a brokerage house for wayward trains.

BEAT THE HEAT NEWS!! Doug spoke to the school and it looks like WE'RE ON!! If you

haven't got your table from Doug yet, jump on it! There are tables available but that may change once the word gets out!

Stay tuned for further developments! Come hell or high water, we will get together again!!

Take care and 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 starts at 7pm. Meetings are held at the Prescott First Lutheran Church, 231 W. Smoketree Lane off Willow Creek Road

No **CAMRRC** monthly meetings are scheduled at this time

August 21 - Beat the Heat Meet - see the flyer in this issue

Please note: there are no monthly meetings scheduled at this time.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

by Doug Gilliatt

Members Present: Doug Gilliatt, Tom McColloch, Richie Scanapico, Fred Williams, Allan Steves

This meeting was held as a Zoom Meeting and will differ slightly from the normal meeting minutes.

Old business:

There are no donations from Home Depot for BTH probably as Bob no longer works there.

Fred may try to solicit donations (noting the need for ongoing use of masks and hand sanitizer)

The Treasure's Report was given and approved.

A decision needs to be made if the club will sell or give out masks for folks who do not have one at Beat the Heat. However, if the person refuses to wear one, they would not be allowed into the meet.

The decision was made, if we can get them cheap enough, to hand out masks to those who do not have one.

A decision will be made by the middle of June on going forward with BTH or cancelling. This will depend on State guidelines and the School allowing us to go forward.

Fred and his wife (Gayle) will again handle refreshments. Dick Gage will contact Daylight Donuts and the coffee vendor to see if they can donate again this year.

Dick or Doug will touch base with the school to see if students will be able to help with unloading this year as well as possibly loading at the end of the meet. They will probably not be needed to sell refreshments as last year, the students were bored waiting around during the meet.

Dick will also touch base with printer about getting flyers made. We possibly may not need

as many as last year due to the lack of meets in the valley to pass them out.

Holding a Spring Picnic/Meeting is still not decided. Fred was going to touch base with Julie to see if she has given this anymore thought. We would hopefully have this in May. Masks and social distancing would be required. Also, some thought needs to be given to having the picnic catered.

Multiple ideas were tossed around on a possible updated to club's web site but no decisions were made.

New Business:

A Committee is being formed to assist the Spouse/Family of our members or people contacting the club who have passed. This group will aid surviving spouse/ family on the disposal/Sale and tear down (If needed) of any layout.

Multiple ideas on how this Committee should actually operate were kicked around and it is still in the formative stage.

It was decided that the layout Peter has offered to the club from the Desert Division should be accepted. It could be reworked into a smaller portable layout for use at schools and BTH.

Allan Steves volunteered to get with Dan on layout he was building for the Museum downtown. Tom volunteered to check with museum to see if they are still open and if they know if Dan is working on a layout.

Next Board Meeting will be a Zoom meeting tentatively on March 26th 2021.

SUPPORT GROUP INFORMATION

by Fred Williams

The club has a new Family Support Group. It currently has five members: Fred & Gayle Williams, Terryl Tinkler, Doug Gilliatt, and Richie Scanapico. The committee is designed to help the families of deceased club members dispose

of the member's layout and trains. We will visit the family, review the layout, and discuss options for the family. If the project is too big for just the committee, an email will be sent out to all club members with information and a request for assistance.

All club members should make a little note for their family to call any Support Group member or any Board member if the need arises. We are a club of mostly older members and one of the objectives of the Club shall be "to promote the fellowship of model railroading among model railroaders." Helping each other is what we do. If anyone else would like to help with this Group, please contact Fred Williams at wmsaudio@hotmail.com. It would also be nice to have a member that is familiar with "O" gauge and Lionel.

THANK YOU'S

Members may remember the club sponsoring a giveaway of a Lionel train set over the Holidays. In the last issue, we showed photos of the presentation. Here are a couple of thanks that we received.



Dear Mr. Gage & all club members,
What an absolute treat it was to see 3 of my grandkids with the beautiful Lionel train set! Thank you for such a beautiful gift to them. Josiah, the oldest, asked us to send a video of him demonstrating the train to his 3 cousins. He was so thrilled. Can't wait for them to be in town to share in the gift. Gratefully,
Lynn Finner

P.S. Christie and I have added the swap meet in August to our calendars. It sounds like a great morning for the kids to see some trains in action!

Central Arizona Model Railroad Club
My kids are loving playing with the train you gave them this weekend. Thank you for such a wonderful gift! Thank you also for taking the time to come to our home and give it to them personally. Hopefully we are able to come to the swap meet and see some more trains!
Thank you!
Christie Schafer

Thank
you! Josiah
Schafer

HISTORY OF THE ACES & EIGHTS MINING DISTRICT PART IV: TOOTHPICKS & COFFEE STIRRERS

By Bongo Re-Pete

Prior to the establishment of the mining district, the Nellis family homesteaded the area which become known as Tortilla Flats. The Nellis' migrated to the Colonies with a grant from the English King. With the war for independence looming they skedaddled across the border into Canada.

Beginning in the early 1800's they began sneaking back in to what was now the United States. This is a pretty personal story, as the Nellis' are Maureen family and she was actually born in Ontario, Canada. We had already modeled a Nellis farm stake bed truck in our Pyrite siding and now decided to add the homestead to the outskirts of the mining district.

Family photos, from the early '50s, show a rather small barn with an attached shed, an offset main door and large wheels for rolling the doors open and closed.



I decided to attempt a design that included a detailed interior. This meant I needed interior walls and removable gables and roof. In turn this called for separate interior and exterior walls, as wood sheets are only scribed on one side, as far as I know.

I needed the walls thick enough so that they would not warp and would provide me with a decent gluing surface. With limited space, my typical use of " balsa wood blocking (for gluing) wasn't going to work and I instead turned to wooden coffee stirrers.

So, I wound up with three ply walls, two layers of scribed wood with a core of coffee stirrers between them. Here are the top of the resultant walls, including the exterior corner post.



After rejecting twigs for shed posts, as I really needed some structural stability, I turned to toothpicks. Note, the detailing of the interior walls is different that the exterior.



The remainder of the interior detailing will be built right on the bench work with the building fitting over the finished work.

Barns were painted red, as the iron oxide used for coloring was also a good wood protector. Farmers also using linseed oil mixed with iron oxide as a protector.

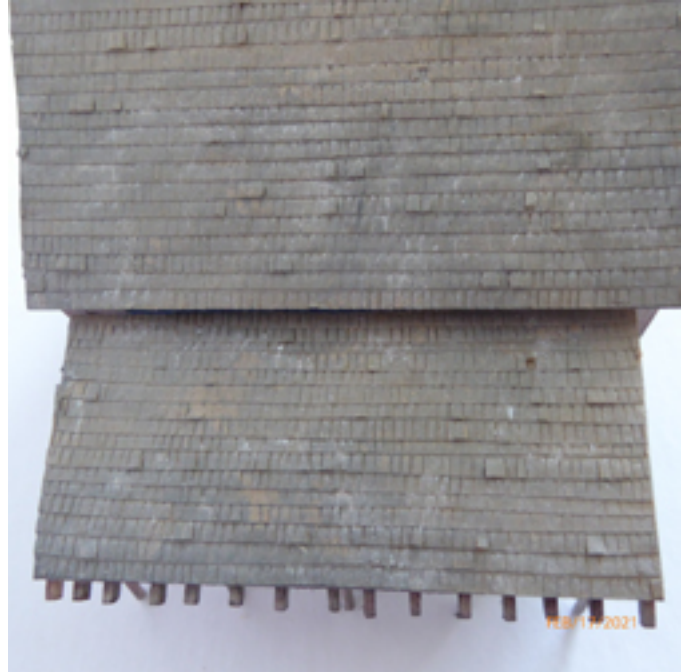
But I digress and now back to modeling. As I'm now in new modeling territory I tested and modified my weathering scheme as I went along, coming up with the following steps: I first applied a random diluted coat of red acrylic paint to simulate faded barn paint. These paints can be found in craft stores in 2 oz. plastic containers. The paint was diluted 50% with water (it was now more of a wash than a paint) and dry brushed so that the wood would not be sealed by the wash. This was necessary as following weathering steps needed to adhere to the wood.

Step two was dry brushing Light Grey Weathering Mix by Hunter Line, which can be found online. Third - I dry brushed on Medium Brown mix by Hunter, this time diluting the mix 50% with 91% alcohol (which can be found in local pharmacies).

In the last step, I added very fine dust that I collected from the filter in our home vacuum cleaner. I have yet to see how well this dust will adhere over time. Here are the results.



The roof was another new venture for me. Since the roof section would be handled frequently, I used thicker sheet wood than I would otherwise use. The shingles you see are a paper product that comes in rolls with a glued back.



I got several rolls in various grab bags at swap meets, but think they are available from Campbell Scale Models on line. I made up an additional roof section and conducted a half dozen or so weathering tests.

My chosen steps were as follows: First I flooded the roof sections with Blue Grey weathering mix, from Hunter, and immediately dabbed the roof with a paper towel to vary the look and allow some of the original brown color of the shingles to show through. Next I mixed Grungy Grey and White 'Doc O'Brien's Powders' (from Micro Mark) and applied with a makeup brush. The white showed up as little specs, which kind of look like bird dropping and what could be more natural!

I recommend, for the application of powders, that you get your own set of such brushes and **DON'T USE YOUR SPOUSE'S**. Going into a cosmetic section and asking for make-up brushes will broaden your horizon. My silent

partner, Charlie Scardino [928 443-0869], will handle any questions you may have.

This is Bongo saying hang tough, stay safe, we are almost through this.

SOMETHING FROM NOTHING

by Greg Picard

Here's more in my continuing pursuit of making things out of trash. Yogurt dish made a great pool and hot tub:



Brave swimmers. The chill of fall is in the air!

MORE CATENARY CONSTRUCTION

by Joe Agosta

Now that the live catenary on the main line is almost complete, I've decided to build a trolley line. It's a point-to-point line starting across from the main line tracks at the passenger station then passes through a 19-degree mixed gauge

crossing (HO & HOn3) to the other side of the layout in a small town and ends by a feed store and a passenger shelter.



The vintage brass poles were thankfully given to me by Mike Scigliano saving me the time of

making them from scratch. I did have to reposition the hangars and the pull-backs were built from scratch.



this point is an inverted code 70 HOn3 rail with the rail head/top filed and narrowed down to accept the trolley shoe.

LAYOUT CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

by Marv Mason

The overhead wire is .0125 bronze piano wire. The trolley is an old Bowser model that has been sitting on my shelf for fifteen years. It has the original Pitman motor that I rewired to run on the overhead.

At present, the trolley runs and sparks but has a tendency to drag at times so I have ordered a trolley wheel for the pole that will hopefully provide smoother running. Also, as another option, Bowser makes a modern power truck that I am considering although they're on the pricey side.



Looking closely where I have the red pencil, you can see where the trolley wire went on to tunnel catenary which goes under a bridge. The rail at





NOT YOUR TYPICAL MODEL RAILROAD LAYOUT

by Alan Steves

I am not your typical model railroad person. My brother and I grew up in the 60's with a HO slot car track, but I also wanted a train. When I retired, I decided to build a large slot car layout in the basement of our home.

My first layout was focused on slot cars with DC trains being added in afterwards. This offered me a chance to become familiar with trains. After completing the layout (below), I decided to build something bigger and better and I joined the CAMRRC to meet people involved in the model railroad hobby.

I relocated my basement workshop, built a new table, and used a piece of software (Modelrailroader Pro) to design a slot car and DCC train layout together with a southwestern theme in mind.

I started the new build by constructing the slot car track and then laid down the train rails. Using borrowed rock molds from two CAMRRC club members during the COVID-19 'Stay at Home' period, my wife and I cast and painted over 40 feet of rock walls to face the sides of the elevated mainline. Ongoing work includes adding terrain features, ballasting, 'digging' a lake, creating a campground, including buildings, and adding lighting.

I know CAMRRC club members enjoy the camaraderie of *Operation Days* with their model railroad layouts, but there is a whole lot of fun going on in my basement during *Race Nights* on the hybrid **Steves Railroad and Raceway**. Come check it out!



BOWMAN'S DIGGINGS

by Peter Atonna



For many years (long ago!) on our trips to Prescott from the Valley, we passed this small house a hundred or so feet north of SR64. Inquiring, I found out it was a relocated Prescott and Arizona Central station occupied by a gentleman named "Bowman". In it he had filled it with all manner of railroadania from this area.

So, on one trip, we made a stop and he generously allowed us to visit. The house was literally filled with signs, photos, paper. And it was far, far beyond my knowledge of the railroads of the Prescott area.

Here is shot taken by Mary Jane of me and the kids with Mr. Bowman. Sadly on future trips I learned that he had passed away and his collection dispersed.

The house still stands, although highly modified by a subsequent owner. It seems quite close to today's RT 64 as the four lane improvement brought the road closer to the house.

See if you can spot it.

THE NEW FARMSTEAD

by Peter Atonna

No rush. I am happily taking my time on the new upstairs layout. But, now a new scene has been completed - the farm.

When laying out the scenery design, there was an area that called out for a farm scene. Not only that, but since this is my "retro" layout, it meant that there must be Plasticville on it.

As most of us at one time had a selection of Plasticville buildings, one could create a nice rendition of 1950's America with them. And farm scenes were no exception: two varieties of barns, out buildings, animals, fences and if you wanted to go rustic, a log cabin and outbuildings, including an outhouse!

But with no swap meets, I turned to CAMRRC members for their extra's and Rod Lorenz offered a barn. But then it was off to EBay. A nice purchase gave me the outbuildings in perfect shape. But in the New England Rancher listing, no mention was made in the seller, but upon arrival, there were four missing pieces and two cracked walls. As usual, Ebay buyers beware.

But by making two of the missing pieces and finding a parts dealer for the rest, the house looks pretty nice now.

Horses. The animals set contains only one horse. No Atonna household can host only one horse. So, then I had a brainstorm, Lionel's General set has a car with eight Plasticville horses. So I contacted a Desert Division parts dealer member who winters in Arizona. That yielded a purchase of four horses.

No Plasticville items are painted. So, upon arrival, and with a consultation from Mary Jane, each received more appropriate coloring.

Next, I needed fencing around the chicken coup so they could not wander away. Soldering brass rod for the framework with bridal veil material, all painted aluminum, yielded the chain link fence to keep the chickens in. Then more soldering of the rod gave me the horse stall fences - again painted aluminum.

A John Deere tractor came up from the basement parts supply, but what about the farm families car? Most who work with Plasticville know that the buildings are scaled somewhere

between O and S gauge. So, my O gauge pickup from the basement layout did look too big. It was then replaced with an S gauge one from the supply that populates the rest of the layout.

Finally, with a couple of loose horses, the farm needed fencing. Along the road, first class farm fencing was scratch built, while around the sides and back, tree cuttings provided posts for the barb wire fence surrounding the rest.

And now there is only one major scene remaining - the river valley over which two bridges have been carrying trains across a void.



QUICK NOTE FROM JOE:

For those members who model trolleys, please inform club members that Jason's Brass poles no longer has a web site and purchases can best be made by going to ebay or phone him at 440 282 9225. His email was bweisman@roadrunner.com but that was rejected by Microsoft.

Thanks,
Joe Agosta



Prescott Area **BEAT THE HEAT**

SWAP MEET

Model Trains, Accessories & Toys

At the Liberty Traditional School

3300 N. Lake Valley Rd, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Saturday, August 21, 2021: 9am - 1pm

Presented By:

The Central Arizona Model RR Club

Adults \$5.00 – Children 12 and under Free

Contact: Dick Gage © 802-272-1352 or Doug Gilliatt 480-390-0320

Table Reservations \$30.00 per table in advance

**** 1 Free Admission with Each Table purchased ****

Dealer Setup Time 7-9 AM – No Early Public Admission

The CAMRRC is Not Responsible for Lost or Stolen Items

Please Note: FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED IN THE HALL

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

of Tables _____ (Limit 4 per seller) @ 30.00 each _____

Helper Name _____ @ 4.00 ** _____

Helper Name _____ @ 4.00 ** _____

Lunch Reservations (sandwich, chips, soda) _____ @ 7.00 ea _____

Special Requests _____ Total _____

**Make Checks payable to: CAMRRC and mail to
CAMRRC, 514 Goshawk Way, Prescott, AZ 86301**

