

# PROTOTYPE RAILS 2023

Rev. 03

Mark Amfahr: **Yard Operations in the Classic Era.**

A look at prototype yard operations in the 1940s-70s era and how various activities can be modeled. The clinic will examine issues like yard design, types of yards, car classification, train blocking, icing, freight houses, handling of livestock and cabooses, power swaps, RIP tracks, communication, and crew instructions. Also, tricks to unclog congested yards, and prototypical work that can be added if desired.

Frank Angstead & Doug Doloff: **Manufacturing the Intermountain Way.**

Intermountain Railway Company returns to Prototype Rails with the latest info on how they manufacture and import scale model trains. Come and hear how current events have affected the model train industry.

Paul Beckstrom: **The Minarets & Western / Sugar Pine Lumber Co.**

This clinic discusses the Minarets & Western Ry. / Sugar Pine Lumber Company Railroads that ran from Pinedale (lumber mill just east of Fresno CA) into the Sierra Nevadas 1920-30. Both railroads were standard gauge and were the only logging railroads in CA built to Class 1 RR standards. Central Camp was their woods headquarters and was also built to first class (resort) standards. Woods operations were responsible for the manufacture of five American Locomotive Works 2-8-2T locomotives, popularly called "Minarets" models, even though only one true "Minarets" locomotive, a 2-10-0T was built. SPLCo was also known for its use of electric powered Willamette yarders and loaders.

George Bogatiuk, III: **Introduction to the Soundtraxx Blunami.**

In this clinic, George will introduce you to Blunami, the next exciting product line from SoundTraxx. What it is, how it works, etc.

George Bogatiuk, III: **Introduction to Blunami and Operations with SoundTraxx Products.**

In this clinic, George will show you how to prototypically operate your trains using SoundTraxx Tsunami2 and Blunami to more accurately replicate real railroad operation with your highly-detailed and accurate models, no matter the era.

Mike Boland: **Blown Away: The 1935 Hurricane that Destroyed the FEC's Key West Extension.**

Modeler/author Mike Boland has a special fascination with the Key West Extension of the Florida East Coast Railway and the Labor Day Hurricane of September 2, 1935. That day, the most intense hurricane on record ended service and the story of this storm is an unbelievable tragedy with destruction and loss of life for the hundreds of World War vets in three camps in the upper Keys who waited for a rescue train that arrived at the height of the storm. Having extensively researched this subject, Mike tells the story of what happened to the FEC, the Extension, the vets, the relief train and even Ernest Hemingway.

Al Brown: **Some Boxcar Kitbashes.**

This talk will describe kitbashing of an Erie USRA single-sheathed boxcar steel-side rebuild, from a Tichy Georgia Railroad kit; and of Seaboard class A and A-1 auto cars, from Red Caboose kits.

Mike Brusky: **The GSC Heavy-Duty Flatcar - The Prototype, the Model.**

This clinic will focus on the many aspects of the 125-ton GSC HD depressed center flatcar manufactured in the 1940s and 1950s, from its construction to the unique details that made this car so interesting, and providing a focus on the numbers of variations within the standard car design as cars were customized by the various railroads that used them. We will then discuss the

Classonemodelworks.com model of this unique prototype and what went into the design and production of the new HO scale model.

Jon Cagle: **USGS Topographical Maps for RR Research.**

This clinic will demonstrate how to use the United States Geological Survey topography sites to research rail lines and Topography. There is a surprising amount of detail to be had, and maps were updated frequently, so railroad line changes can be easily seen.

Jeff Cauthen: **Rock Island - Southern Pacific Golden State Pictorial 1950s & 1960s.**

Color and B&W photographs of the train will be presented along with references to modeling and further research material on this interesting train.

Ted Culotta: **The Early 1950s PFE Fleet: Prototypes and Modeling Details You Might Have Overlooked.**

This presentation covers the PFE fleet at January, 1953 presenting data about all classes with more than 100 cars as well as many interesting details for modeling considerations that are easily lost in the scope of PFE's massive fleet. Interestingly, just about every class of car can be modeled in HO scale.

Chuck Davis: **Modifying Plastic Steam Engines.**

This clinic will address modifying and detailing plastic shell steam engines for unique, unavailable prototypes. The modeling philosophy used, and specific classes modeled from Bachmann, Broadway Limited and Proto 2000 models will be described.

Andrew Deak: **Using Arduino for Prototypical Operations.**

Jim Dick: **Modellable Interlocking Towers.**

In the steam era, one would often come across many modest-sized Interlocking installations. Sometimes with a tower or even a more modest cabin interlocker and located at home road junctions or where two railroads crossed, these sites serve as highly modellable, and can add much to operations in addition to providing a visual richness. Many of these survived into the 1980s until railroad deregulation allowed their removal. The presentation gives ideas on how to model these and additionally points you to little known on-line resources that assist you with the realistic modeling of these sites.

George Eichelberger: **The US Mail - From Passenger Trains to Intermodal.**

This clinic will discuss how the US Mail transitioned from being delivered in Baggage-Mail cars to being hauled in Intermodal trailers. As Washington DC was an important end point for Southern's mail, express and intermodal traffic, I will include more "operational" data for there and include Cincy and New Orleans.

Steve Funaro: **Mathieson Dry Ice Cars.**

This clinic will provide a look at Mathieson's dry ice manufacturing facilities, and the special freight cars used to transport the dry ice.

Brent Greer: **Shake-N-Take – The Santa-Fe Class Fe-26 40' Double Door Automobile Boxcar.**

This project was inspired by the last modeling clinic presented by Greg Martin at Prototype Rails, and part of the fun of this project is to endeavor to preserve the factory paint. Based on the C&BT factory decorated HO car kits, we will have new correct doors and side sills in resin and upgraded detail parts for ladders, running boards, etc. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED – Sign up in advance in order to receive the resin parts for this kitbash.

Steve Hile: **Swift Refrigerator Cars – Prototype and Model.**

Swift refrigerator cars went everywhere in the US from the 1880's through much of the first half of the 20th Century. Steve will review the Swift fleet through the decades and present some suggestions for kits and kitbashes that will match the variety and commonality of the cars.

Roger Hinman: **MDT/NRC Composite Refrigerator Cars, 1931-1941.**

Using newly available photos and other data, an update on the cars built, their similarities and differences, and why the Sunshine kit is only good for the last production units.

W. Jim Langston, III: **The Last Florida Special – 1971-1972 Winter Season.**

An in-depth look at the last Florida Special, run by Seaboard Coast Line and paid for by Amtrak. Arguably the best Florida Special, certainly at least equal to its SCL and ACL predecessors, it was also the fastest, carded at 23:45 New York to Miami. Extensive photo coverage by Phil Gosney and Bill McCoy of a train that featured the best cars of the east and the west, SCL, PC, UP, SP, BN, and the first six cars refurbished by Amtrak along with promo material collected by Reid Adams. Presentation will include modeling tips and a handout including comprehensive roster of the 80+ cars which operated on the Last Florida Special between December 1971 and April 1972.

W. Jim Langston, III: **Twilight of the Great New York – Chicago Limiteds: Penn Central Passenger Cars of 1970 in Broadway Limited and Train 61-27/62-28 (ghost of the 20th Century) service.**

Detailed look at Penn Central passenger cars assigned to the Broadway Limited and train 61-27/62-28 (ghost of the 20th Century). Will also include a look at PC cars in Florida service in 1970. Extensive collection of photos by David Staplin and Bill McCoy illustrating the evolving various PC paint and lettering schemes, complete assigned car lists with modeling tips and handout.

David Leider: **The Chicago & Western Indiana RR.**

This clinic will be on the history of the Chicago & Western Indiana Railroad. We will follow the line from the beginning to end, and the struggle it endured to get to Polk Street, where it built Dearborn Station, and its 5 owners (Wabash, Grand Trunk, Monon, Chicago & Eastern Illinois and Erie and 1 tenant, the Santa Fe.

Donovan Lewis: **Iron Ore Rail Cars.**

Whenever we think of iron ore cars, we imagine the Mesabi Range “jennie” type of stubby cars. But many car designs were used to haul ore. We will try to cover some of the evolution of this type of car from wood designs to modern steel designs of today.

Carl Marchand: **Prototype Sound Enhancement with ESU Decoders.**

Enhance your operation experience by setting up your ESU decoders to closely resemble the prototype. Learn how to setup horns based on direction, DPU lighting, choosing engine sounds, customize sound file sets and more!

Katie Mitzner: **The Construction of Florida's New Brightline.**

Come and hear Katie Mitzner, the Director of Public Affairs for Brightline. Brightline is the only provider of modern, eco-friendly, intercity rail in America. The company currently serves Miami, Aventura, Fort Lauderdale, Boca Raton and West Palm Beach with its Orlando station beginning service in 2023. This clinic will provide an update on the \$2.7B Orlando extension construction project and showcase recent milestones as well as an inside look at how Brightline is reinventing train travel.

Jim Murrie & Naomi Petersen: **US Army Mortuary Trains 1950-51: The Golden State Route.**

Research has uncovered a box at UTEP that contains 400+ telegrams maintained by the Gen. Passenger Agent at El Paso. Based on this info and other research, Jim will share some consists, some routings

(Oakland to Brooklyn) and other misc. items. The remains being moved contained both WWII and Korean War dead since the programs overlapped.

Bill Neale: **Key Aspects to Modeling the Pennsylvania Railroad.**

Every railroad has markers or characteristics that identify it as a certain prototype. When we build our layouts, we attempt to capture this look and feel of our desired prototype. In this clinic I attempt to point out those important characteristics that identify my model railroad as a model of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Of course, this goes beyond the right engines and the right labels on the cars. What makes our right-of-way scenery, or the appearance of our model equipment leave the impression of a specific railroad? Or for that matter, a specific time-period? My discussion is focused on the PRR but can be applied to almost any other prototype railroad.

Joe Oates: **The Last Picture Show.**

Long-time presenter Joe Oates will show photos of passenger trains (mostly pre-Amtrak) from his collection.

Joe Oates: **Scenes Along the ROW in Florida.**

A wide variety of scenes such as towers, stations, track work, train derailments, etc. A few taken in the late thirties from Auburndale to Hialeah, including one from MP 763 showing nothing but countryside which is now West Palm Beach.

Steve Orth: **Preparing Brass Locomotives for Layout Operation.**

Do you have a favorite classic brass locomotive that you'd like to run on your DCC powered layout, but you're not sure what needs to be done or how to accomplish some of the tasks? Come to the clinic and learn how the author/presenter prepares a 1980 vintage brass locomotive to operate on his layout. The presentation will include the steps to be performed, suggestions on how to accomplish them, and recommendations on tools, products and parts.

Jim Panza: **Early Trailer Train Flatcars.**

The presentation will discuss the 500 Pennsylvania Railroad 75-ft. cars that became the first cars in Trailer Train's fleet. Modeling the F39 and F39A classes in HO scale using the Walthers flatcar, including modifications to make it more accurate, will be discussed. In addition, the F30D and F30G classes will be discussed using the Rapido F30 flatcar.

Stephen Priest: **Building a CTC Panel for your Layout.**

This clinic shows how to brainstorm, create the graphical layout, physically design, and build a prototypically operating CTC panel from scratch. This How-To clinic also features sections on materials, creating easily, cost effective graphics, how to layout and design the graphics for a uniform and prototypical look and how to handle the wiring and switches associated with the panel. Creature comforts will also be discussed including lighting, HVAC, flooring and room design. If you have ever wanted a CTC machine this really is the clinic for you!

Stephen Priest: **Rebuilding ATSF 5704.**

Last year a small group of hardcore modelers led a team in a project to restore a prototype locomotive. The ATSF 5704, an SD45-2 was pulled from a scrap line and extensively rebuilt back to its original 1974 appearance. This is a fascinating clinic that shows how experienced model railroaders can re-engineer, rework and rebuild a prototype locomotive. Great photographic coverage including time-lapse video of the process.

Robert Raymond: **TT&TO For Dummies.**

Alex Schneider: **NYC Delivers the Mail.**

This clinic discusses RPO cars on the New York Central. The clinic combines modeling content, data and photos of representative cars, and discussion of the lines that ran on NYC. Sources are given which modelers of a different road could use to realistically model postal operations on their railroad.

Bill Schneider: **My New NYO&W Prototype-Based Double-Deck Layout.**

Researching and building an 18'x30' double deck prototype-based layout based on the NYO&W in upstate New York circa 1947. Discussion on where to find prototype information and how to capture the essence of a scene. Additional discussion on designing and making your own laser-cut structures with a hobby-level laser cutter, making your own photo backdrops and kit-bashing "layout quality" steam locos.

Jim Singer: **From Coast to Coast and A Little In Between – A Lake States Journey by Paul Swanson.**

Jim Singer presents materials from the Lake States Archive. Photo Collections, Drawings, All the GREAT stuff they have for researchers. Coverage is not merely the Great Lakes region, but Coast to Coast.

Bruce Smith: **Working with Brass and 3D-Printed Car Sides.**

In this clinic, you'll learn how to use brass car sides and 3D-printed resin car sides to model passenger cars, with an emphasis on baggage cars. These techniques are crucial for modeling prototypes that will never be produced in injection-molded plastic.

Paul Spilman: **Southern Railway's Murphy Branch in the Late 1970s.**

More than just a simple branch, the Southern Railway's Murphy Branch was a busy line that offers something for every modeler no matter your space. We will take an overview of the line, the industries, and how it was operated, exploring how to recreate it as it existed in the late 1970s.

Paul Spilman: **Southern Railway's Saluda Grade in the Late 1970s.**

Take a tour of the famed Saluda Grade and see how the Southern Railway operated trains on the steepest mainline grade in the US. We will look at the prototype features needed to accurately model the grade and talk about modeling considerations to recreate these operations on a layout.

Mont Switzer: **Loads for TTX F30 and F39 flats.**

Mont will show how he built prototypically-correct loads for TTX F30 and F39 flat cars. These include not only semi-trailers, but also non-TOFC loads.

Tony Thompson: **Modeling SP Passenger Equipment of the 1950's.**

This clinic is oriented toward sleepers, both heavyweight and lightweight, but is concentrated on Southern Pacific (of course the heavyweights are Pullmans). Nevertheless, the techniques are relevant to all railroads. You will learn how Tony has been re-visiting the old AHM cars and upgrading and kitbashing them into the cars he needs. You can apply these same techniques for your own prototype.

Mark Vaughan: **PRR & NYC - The Central Indiana RR.**

Mark will share with us the fascinating history of the CI, which was owned 50/50 by the NYC and PRR. It ran east-west across the state and was operated by an iconic President Ike Duffy. It was owned 50/50 by the NYC and the Pennsylvania but operated, at a profit, by Ike. He was paid a King's ransom of \$1.00 per year. Mark will share historical details including interchange numbers, lots of photos, personal recollections with the interchange in Noblesville, and customer carloadings.

Brad Voth: **The Thrall TWF10 Well Car.**

DTTX 54000-54074, class TWF10, were unique double-stack cars in the TTX Company fleet. These cars had Waggon-Union trucks, also referred to as the North American Bogie. The cars were capable of

hauling containers that were a maximum of 48-ft. in length in the well and a 53-ft. container in the upper position. It was also capable of hauling two 20-ft. containers in the lower position. This clinic will focus on the many aspects of the TWF10s from their construction to the unique details that made this car so interesting. We will then discuss the Classonemodelworks.com model of this unique prototype and what went into the design and production of the new HO scale model.

Bob Webber: **The Pullman Library - A Moving Experience.**

Consolidating most of the drawings, photos, documents, etc. from 9 locations into 1, picking up pieces of multiple (new to us) collections along the way. 2 million moving parts, in one room, allowing for discovery and access. Photos, unfortunately, do not do it justice.

Fenton Wells: **Southern Railroad Transition-Era Box Cars.**

A brief discussion about the boxcars that the modeler would find on the Southern Railroad during the transition era. The clinic covers the prototype cars with car data and photos. It also covers the models available to model them, with model photos if available in HO scale. Also discussed are the kits needed to kitbash models if they are not currently on the market. Paint and decals are also discussed.

John Wilkes: **Moving Coal on the L&N, N&W, and Southern Railways.**

Presentation of how the L&N, Southern Ry. and N&W are modeled on John's Virginia South Western, focusing on moving coal.

Tom Wilson: **The West End Branch of the P&WV/N&W Railroad.**

Layout renewal based on Prototype Industries and Area served by the P&WV/ N&W. The branch was an interchange with the P&LE but has a history back to 1800 and coal. The clinic will show the history of the branch and the industries that influenced my renovation of my part of the railroad. New track, industries, upgrading the current buildings, and a little on operation will be presented.