



The Mail Car

Newsletter of the St Lawrence Division – NMRA

Issue no. 66 – November 2011

St. Lawrence Division web site: www3.sympatico.ca/gd.knowles/sld/sld_index.htm

Superintendent's Report

By Ron Newby

Another season has begun and we started it off with a trip to Montreal in September. Although I heard murmurs about it being run with military precision, we did get to see four great layouts and two hobby shops and managed to get back by 6:00 PM. Everybody seemed to enjoy it and I heard a lot of positive comments about the trip.

Although I could not make the Kitbuster's clinic in October due to work, a little birdie told me that about 20 people showed up to learn about building cardboard building and that Andreas gave a great clinic. I managed to see a clinic on building cardboard buildings at the narrow gauge convention this year and with

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For Sale: The SLD Switching Module

By Grant Knowles

Over 10 years ago, the SLD undertook the building of a railroad module that was to satisfy a number of objectives. First and foremost - to be the club's key advertising vehicle at train shows and other railroading events. It also served as a Display Table at our meetings along with a number of "how to" clinics that used it to demonstrate their material. We even had a "loaner" program in place where a number of individuals operated the module in their homes between shows and other commitments.

Over the years, we gradually completed the scenery, expanded the rolling stock and improved the electronics. The module now

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St. Albans on the Vermont and Essex. Read more about our road trip to Montreal inside.
Photo: Andreas Mank

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January Issue - December 15
March Issue - February 15
May Issue - April 15
September Issue - August 15
November Issue - October 15

Special thanks to Beate Herzig for proof-reading and general nit-picking

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today's technology and printers cardboard buildings are cheap and can be put in foreground scenes, they are that good. If you have not tried building a cardboard building and would like to try it is not to late just come to the next Kitbusters clinic.

The next meeting in November will have two clinics. Peter Grey will discuss weathering freight cars and I will talk about tuning them. If you have seen Peter's work, this will be one clinic you will not want to miss. Layout tours will be the order of the day for the afternoon.

On another note, if you want to have a good time, think about going to a regional convention. The next one will be held April 27–29, 2012 in Sudbury and the snow should be gone by then. (*Note from the editor: I would not count on that. My last trip to Sudbury was on June 5, 2007 and it snowed a couple of inches*) Preliminary reports indicate that the boys up in Sudbury will be putting on a great show.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the end of the month, till then, may your train stay on the track and may you never run out of rail.

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sports 13 structures and 10 pieces of rolling stock not to mention a river and numerous trees. The module has been transported back and forth across Ontario and performed flawlessly at all the train shows with never an issue! Many a railroad enthusiast (young and old) have taken hold of the throttle and marshalled the trains back and forth to hours of enjoyment.

The Executive now wishes to re-focus on how we promote our club and have determined the module does not fit into the plans moving forward. So it must go. As with most things, the whole is greater than the parts, so we would rather see the module move onto a new life as a whole, instead of cannibalizing it for parts. Thus we are putting the module up for sale. This is a fantastic opportunity to own a piece of history!

By all estimates, there is over \$600 worth of parts and models in the package (sale includes the rolling stock) so instead of assigning a price to it, we will leave it up to you to determine its worth. Just make us an offer before December 15th, 2011. The highest bid by then will win it!

If you are interested, please contact Grant Knowles (613) 825 - 5438 with your offer.

Delivery can be provided in the greater Ottawa, ON region.

A full description and photos can be found by following the link on the SLD Web site home page or via this link:
http://members.fortunecity.com/gknowles/sld_module/advertisement/sld_module_ad.htm>

The 2011 / 2012 Kitbuster Program

By Andreas Mank

More than 20 members got together on October 29 for the first instalment of the Paper Kit Modelling Kitbuster Program. This was our first opportunity to view the renovated rooms at Emmanuel United Church and the first impression is very positive.

Peter Joyce and Stan Conley brought out samples of paper kits that they have been working on and gave detailed introductions to their models and some of the techniques used to assemble them. Once the kits and instructions had been distributed, we started with a presentation to introduce Paper Kit Modelling, using the Tower Kit as an example. I will not go into any detail as the complete presentation will be available on the SLD web page by the time you are reading this edition of the **Mail Car**.

The next Kitbuster session will be held in the afternoon of the next SLD meeting on January 21. I am looking forward to working on my own kits as well as seeing the progress all of you have made on yours. If you have any questions or advise, please contact me at amank@magma.ca.



Picture 1 (left): The renovated Emmanuel United Church made an excellent impression during our first Kitbuster session of the season. More than 20 SLD member came together to hear about and practise paper kit modeling.

Picture 2 (Bottom left): The object of the Kitbuster workshop, the crossing tower. This version was assembled without any of the 3D enhancements.

Picture 3 (Bottom right): The model of a garage / shed, assembled from a Clever paper kit by Stan Conley
All Photos: Andreas Mank



The 2011 Railfair Raffle Layout

By Grant Knowles



Photo 1: Many hands were involved in building this scene – David Gardner (switch tower), Lorne Munroe (hotel), Debbie Stewart (Rutter Rubbers) and Ed Brandon (Roadway).
All Photos: Grant Knowles



Photo 2: Another view of the “industrial” area. Dave Primeau built the freight house while Grant Knowles kit bashed the remaining buildings.

Photo 3: View lengthwise down the Industrial section. Ed Brandon built Glengarry Castings and Tom Badenoch kit bashed the electrical supplier (right corner).



It is now early November and I am pleased to announce the 2011 Railfair Raffle layout was not only completed but was completed in time for Railfair with time to spare! Hats off to all involved to transform the dream and plan into reality.

Since early September, the team has been focused on completing the scenery, adding life to the structures through the addition of countless figures, crates, barrels, signs and even vehicles. Last activity entailed track cleaning (dreaded task!) and running trains around and around (yes Chris, roundy-roundy operation can be fun!).

The layout, legs and accessories fit comfortably in a minivan and was quickly delivered and set up at Railfair. The layout saw a steady flow of traffic over the weekend with over \$1,600 raised for CHEO. Many seasoned model railroaders were heard to exclaim this was the best raffle layout yet and proceeded to purchase tickets when they realized the layout contained many craftsman structures.

Ultimately the layout was won by a young family in Vars. Their young son, Jacob, helped us unload and set



Photo 4: Mike Hamer “sliced” a corner off the farm house so it fit against the back drop on the “rural” side.



Photo 5: View down the rural side of the layout. Ron Newbury kit bashed the General Store to fit the available space. Chris Lyon worked his magic on the train station.

Photo 6: The other end of the rural side. The red freight shed was built from the General Stores leftovers! Other contributors include: Paul Anderson (freight crane), Fred Adams (eatery) and Grant Knowles (engine house, bridge).



up the layout and no doubt will be thrilled to operate the layout for years to come.

The 2011 Raffle layout was made possible through the generous donation of materials along with time and effort from various individuals.

Here is a list of the donors:

- Bruce De Young (USA)
- Bud Nelson (Canada)
- Doug Lake (Canada)
- George R. Downer (USA)
- Hobby House Limited (Ottawa, Canada)
- Joe Rutter & Rick Hunter (Canada) (<http://www.hunterline.com/>)
- Jan Kirkwood (USA)
- Grant Knowles (Canada)
- Mario Rapinett (Australia)
- Mike Hamer (Canada)
- Pete Magoun, MMR (USA)
- Simon Griffin (USA)
- Bob Hobbs (Canada)
- Ken Byars (Canada)
- Lark Spur Line (Canada) (<http://www.larkspurline-trains.com/>)
- Wesley Bekker (South Africa)
- Bill Meek (Canada)
- Peter Gray (Ottawa)
- Andreas Mank (Ottawa)

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Photo 7 (Top): End view of the industrial side.
Photo 8 (Center): From the other end



And the talented crew who made it a reality:

- Ken Byars
- Peter Nesbitt
- Andreas Mank
- John & Debbie Stewart
- Paul Anderson
- Lorne Munroe
- David Premeau
- Chris Lyon
- Ron Newby
- Mike Hamer
- Tom Badenoch
- David Gardner
- Ed Brandon
- Stephen Glew
- Grant Knowles
- Peter Gray

Further information regarding the construction of this layout can be found in two sites on the web:

Railroad Line Forum
(<http://www.railroad-line.com/>)

The Railroad Line Forum contains numerous articles and threads authored by many very talented model railroaders from around the world. We



Photo 9: Our last task was to confirm the layout would fit end-to-end as designed. It worked perfectly both with track alignment and structures!

have documented the Raffle Layout build in its entirety though this thread:

http://www.railroad-line.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=33053

This forum has generated interest from as far away as Australia and South Africa!

The second web site is the SLD Club's site. Here we have a section devoted to the build:

http://www3.sympatico.ca/gd.knowles/sld/raffle_layout_2011/raffle_layout_2011.htm



Building the Raffle Layout was a lot of fun, was for a good cause and most importantly, allowed us to share our knowledge in the hobby with our fellow members and to provide the opportunity to practice what we have learned. Yes completing the layout is a key objective, but the journey is also very important.

I want to thank all those who have participated in the build all the way from making donations, to investing their effort and offers of opinions. Without this investment, we would not have been able to build this wonderful layout so quickly.

Photo 10: (Top) There was a steady flow of admirers at Railfair. SLD members were close by to talk with the visitors and table any and all inquiries.

Photo 11: (Right) Delivery day! Chris and Mike unload the first module and Jacob admires the family's new railroad.



Photo 12: (Left) Here Jacob and his dad become acquainted with the layout in its new home. Mike Hamer reviewed the layouts detail and operations with the new owners to ensure they got off to a good start.

Layout Tour

By Andreas Mank

The September meet saw the SLD embark on a bus trip to Montreal to visit four layouts and two hobby shops. The well organized trip was a lot of fun and gave us a chance to see some outstanding layouts.



Photo 1: The first layout on the list was the AMFM Canada Central located under the approaches to the railway station. This enormous layout comes to an end very soon and this was one of the last opportunities to see it.
All Photos: Andreas Mank

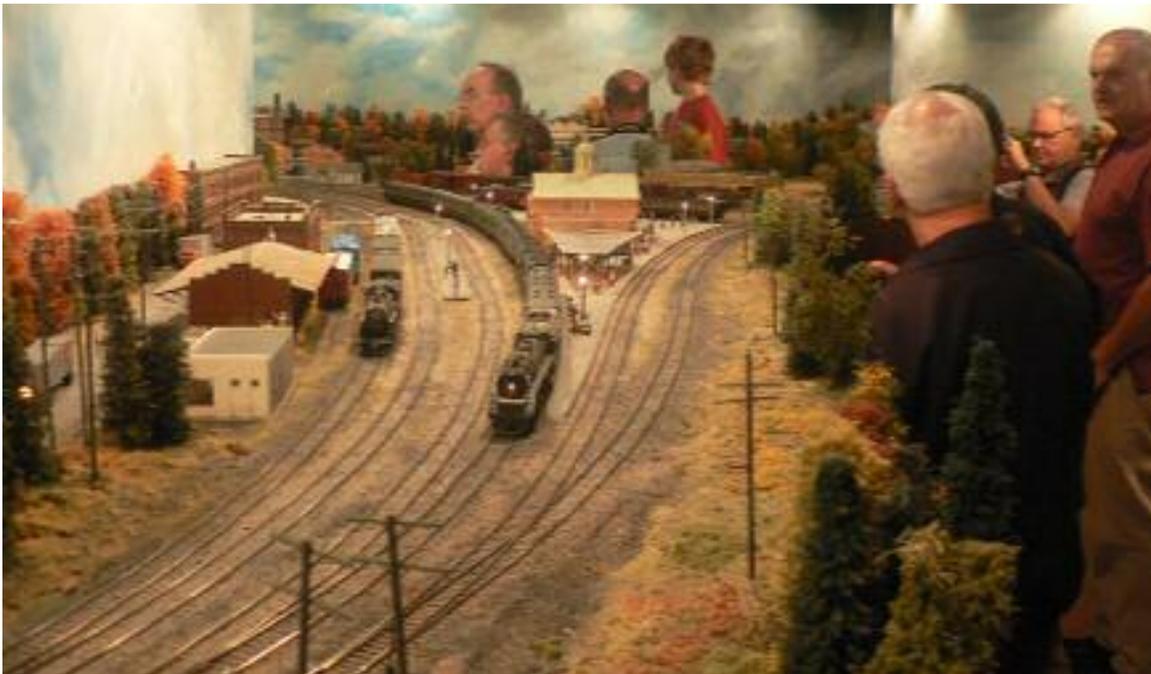


Photo 2: From the AMFM we moved on the Vermont & Essex, located in the basement of a small hobby shop. This layouts scenery is outstanding. Having just returned from a trip through Vermont I can attest that the modellers hit the target dead center. The picture shows White River Junction



Photo 3: Next on the list was an indoor G scale indoor layout full of details. The layout is part of a museum with an interesting collection of railroad and model railroad artifacts

Photo 4: The layout visits were rounded out by a trip to the West Island club, the permanent location of their modular layout. The trip ended with a visit to Hobby Junction, which is just around the corner from the West Island Club.



TimeTable

Date	SLD Meetings		SLD Workshops
November 26, 2011	Emmanuel United Church		
January 21, 2012	Emmanuel United Church		Emmanuel United Church
February 25, 2012			Emmanuel United Church
March 31, 2012	Emmanuel United Church		
April 21, 2012			Emmanuel United Church
April 27 – 29, 2012	NMRA NFR Regional Convention Sudbury		
May 26, 2012	tbd		



Next Division Meet

St Lawrence Division – NMRA

When:

Saturday, November 26, 2011

Where:

Emmanuel United Church

691 Smyth Road,
Ottawa

East of CHEO at Dauphin Road
Doors open at 9:00 am -- Admission \$7.00

What's on:

Morning:

Division Business

Clinics:

Peter Grey
Weathering modern freight cars with graffiti

Ron Newby
Freight Car Tuning

Display:

Weathered Cars

Afternoon:

Layout Tours

Dave Primeau
Jack Scott

