



# The Superior & Seattle Railroad & Interchanges

## Gazette



These two structures overlook a future town that is in the design phase. Vogel Tool & Die is named for a good friend and colleague from my days at Chrysler. Noppe Manufacturing is named for one of my best friends since college Tim Noppe who passed away a couple years ago. This scene was built from Bob VanGelder's first two SRMW kits. Below are a few photographs of the mini scenes, details, and a view from another angle.

Wayne Olson helped me add some more trees in front of the two SWRM mills that occupy the mountainside.





A flashback to June of 2011. A little progress in the past 11 years.







The uprooted tree and the elk fighting are my contributions to Bob's mini-scene challenge. (see below)



## What's new on the S&S Railroad

About a month ago I started a new thread on the RR-line forum which will be my forum outlet for pictures of finished structures and scenes on the S&S RR. Here is a link: <https://railroad-line.com/node/988923>

This is the initial issue of the S&S RR and Interchanges Gazette. It is intended to be a journal of the building of the Superior & Seattle Railroad and replace the build thread that I maintained on "the Modelers Forum" for more than 12 years. I decided that forums were no longer any fun for me after losing 12 years of history for the third time because of software changes. After a phone conversation with Bob Parrish, this was expanded into a newsletter for multiple modelers to display and discuss their modeling work. It is my hope that others will see it as a way to document their layout and turn it into a modelers communication journal, hence the interchanges. It is intended to be a way of showing pictures of your layout or structure builds, and generating useful modeling discussion, in a way that does justice to your work, and at a resolution that assures that the pictures will be useful to fellow modelers.

The size and scope of each issue will be dictated by the email responses and contributions I receive by email. I will cut and paste the responses into the next issue. This first issue is the result of the emails I received from my draft mailing to 9 modelers. The content of future issues will be completely up to the individual readers. If you want to comment on anything, or contribute pictures of one of your builds or pictures of layout updates the timing and frequency is completely up to you. The idea is to show your work and generate an interchange of modeling techniques, ideas, and works. Proposing future topics for pictures or discussion is welcomed. Proposing changes to the format, content, frequency, etc. are welcome. There is also a baggage car where you can give an update to what's going on in your life. I consider all of the readers and contributors to this gazette friends and like to keep up with what's going on in your life. This will not replace a daily thing but at least we can get a periodic update. I have no interest in replacing any forum - I intend this to be for a small group of readers that are serious about modeling and have given up on the current forum formats to meet our needs. I can tell you from years of experience that this process of getting pictures into a document is the easiest I have ever used. I just slide and drop the pictures into a document in Pages and then convert the file to a pdf. The picture size issues are gone - posted pictures from my full frame SLR and my iPhone in this document.

The history of these interchanges will be preserved as a pdf file that is searchable. The pdf file format is being used by libraries to preserve books and will survive all the efforts of software manufacturers to make competitors software and data bases obsolete. You can have your own copy by saving the pdf files to your computer. I will have a backup on my computer which is backed up on three different disks in three different locations, including the iCloud. An email can get you a resend of any issue. As we move forward an index will be available to help find information.

This document will be sent out as a BCC (your email address will not be shown) with an attached pdf file. As this gets bigger, it may already be there, I may have to send out a link where you download the pdf file off a mail server. I'm doing some research on this and would welcome any advice.

To be added to the mailing list requires an email to this email address asking me to add you to the list. Also, if you want to get off the send list just send me an email.

All questions and comments: Send and email.

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## The complete forum history of the S&S RR has been preserved.

My project to backup my posts on the forum was very successful. I went into the archive forum (the one with the pictures) and backed up every page of my S&S RR threads, and the F&SM RR threads. I then combined all of the individual page pdf files into one big pdf file. My layout build history is preserved, at least for me. And for the readers of the S&S RR & Interchanges Gazette. If our discussions take us to one of my past builds I can do a quick search of the pdf file and find the information. I plan on doing the same process with the S&S RR Gazette. FYI the file sizes for Volume 1 of the S&S RR build thread is 849.6MB, Volume 2 is 1.22 GB, and Volume 3 is 2.08 GB. These volumes were approximately 200 pages each on the original Jimmy forum. If you remember something I have done in the past and would have looked it up on the forum, send me an email - I can send a pdf file of the pages from the forum in it's glory days. I may even include them here as a flashback once-in-awhile.

## What's on my work Bench.

At the present time my actual workbenches have one build going. Very rare, I usually have three builds going. The reason is that I'm pushing to complete the scenery for the Eagles Nest Yard. Here is a progress picture I took today.

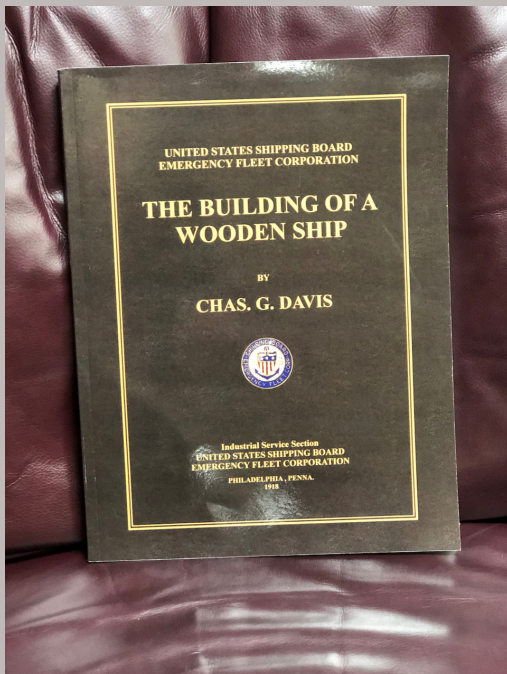


I'm also working on window and door casting installation on the Bar Mill Tribute kit for the Eagles Nest yard on my workbench. I sit down and add a casting or two when I need a break from scenery work.





I always have new areas of the layout on the drawing board. It all starts with research and reading. I start design process by marking up pictures on my iPad, and then move to a real drawing board to lay things out. Here are few photographs to describe what's going on at this point in time. I will update these projects here. In the research category, I'm doing research for my large waterfront scene, which will come after the completion of the large town in the mountain valley. Here is a picture of what's currently in my reading chair.



One of the scenes in this waterfront town/area will be a wooden ship building facility. I have the Sierra West Water Front kits that will serve as the backbone of the Shipbuilders scene and surrounding structures. There will be kit bashing, expansion and added details. The ideas are coming from my reading and research.



My big design project at this point in time is the large town that will fill the mountain valley below the two mills in the picture on page 1. The opposite side of the town will have the Sayles Mill and O.V. Hooker and Son converted to an apartment complex. My process for this is to take pictures of the area and mark them up with sketches and concepts using my iPad. This will go on for awhile until I get something that I want to layout on the drawing board. I then take those big white pieces of drafting paper, cut to the shape of the baseboards for the town, to my drafting table. Yes, I still have one. It is here that I start really laying things out and making sure there is room for what I want to do. I find it much easier to do this on a drafting table in 1:1 scale of what I'm building. The following pictures describe the process. The one inch foam sheets are being used here to establish the elevation and its relationship to the background rock work. I'm using the foam only as a visualization aid - I will build the baseboard out of wood once the design has been completed. The wood baseboard sections will be moved to my workbench for the building process. Depth and elevation change are the goals here. I will be working from the back towards the front as I build the sections of the town.







This is one of the pictures in my iPad that will be used to draw sketches - I really like the idea of this town being on a hill - I'm thinking about structures at six different elevations. This will be an update in the Gazette for a few issues to come.

Also, in the picture you can see that I have moved the Sayles Mill build and the O. V. Hooker and Sons builds to the layout. I have marked up pictures with changes and fixes and will be moving them back to the workbench to make them happen. I also have some changes to the rock work and scenery to make in these locations before these two builds are permanently planted on the layout.

You can also see that the Stone Church is in a test location across the river from the Apartment Complex (my version of O.V. Hooker and sons).



## The format for the Superior & Seattle Railroad & Interchanges Gazette

The format for the Gazette ( for this initial issue and subject to change based on your input) is basically:

- 1) A few pictures of the finished sections of the Superior & Seattle Railroad. This section will also be posted in my RR-Lines thread. For right now this will be the only forum outlet for the Superior & Seattle RR.
- 2) **A what's new on the Superior & Seattle Railroad.** This is the replacement for the build threads I did on the Modelers Forum for all those years. It will include: What's on my workbench with selected build techniques used etc. I plan on including progress photographs with detailed descriptions of the techniques. The depth of the build threads will be based on the feedback and questions that I get through emails.
- 3) **The Interchange Siding.** This is where any of our readers can post finished pictures, progress pictures, discussion topics etc. When you send emails about any section of the gazette I will cut and past them from your emails to build the next issue of the Gazette. I have include a few from my draft issue of this gazette to get things started.
- 4) **The Baggage Car.** This will be an area where you can keep everyone up-to-date on what's going on in your life. Just like on the forums but will be more of a monthly summary, rather than a daily like we had on the forums.
- 5) **Can anyone help me with.** This section will be a place where you can pose a question on a technique. Ask for help finding something - I will get it started this issue. This could be a place where we can purchase an item or can you look through your parts drawer and see if you have one of the requested items.
- 6) **New products I have found.** This will be reader driven but I have no problem with a kit manufacture letting us know about a new project. I plan on adding the stuff I'm buying to help those trying to make a living servicing our hobby. This will all also be handled through the email that has been set up for the S&S&I Gazette.

General discussion of this newsletter: This news letter idea was suggested by a number friends over the years that are scattered all over the world and wanted to keep up with the building of the S&S RR. I started playing with it about a year ago but never made it happen. The issues with the Modelers Forum prompted me to make it happen. The expansion to include a place for other modelers to show their work and discuss techniques, was as I said earlier, the result of a phone discussion with Bob Parrish. The feedback from the few modelers that I sent a draft to was very favorable. So we are going to launch this thing and see where it takes us. The size and scope beyond a news letter for the S&S Railroad is up to you as a reader.

I will be sending it by BCC so your email addresses will be confidential. If you want to have a readers list with or without email addresses we can add it in future issues. The initial issue is going out to about 60 modelers that have sent me an email. Another dozen or so copies of the initial issue will be sent to other contacts to see what their interest level is. If you have a friend that would like to get added to the email list, have them send me an email.

I'm not sure what problems we will have with email servers stripping the attachment or throwing this in the junk file so please let me know if you have issues.



# Interchange Siding

I was searching for a new title for this Gazette now that it was expanded to beyond the S&S RR. I was at a local OPS session and had orders to drop 2 box cars on the interchange siding. Perfect, that is a great description for this section of the gazette. And it functions just like the prototype railroads - I'm going to be cutting your posts from your emails and setting them on the interchange siding for the readers of the gazette. This area is for layout updates **and diorama and structure builds**. Please feel free to add your work here. Send me the emails and I will cut and paste them into the next issue. You can ask questions or comment on any of the work presented here through an email that will also be a cut and pasted into the next issue. I just added Mark Dalrymple's contribution to this document and it took me about 5 minutes including figuring out how to transfer the pictures into the document. I really like this. All of the resizing of pictures is done by the software that exports the document from Pages into a pdf file. I have added photographs from my iPhone, and my full frame SLR with just cut and paste, along with four different emails created with different computer and software systems.



## What's new on the Boise, Nampa & Owyhee Railroad by Bob Parrish

Bob Parrish sent these pictures of a mini-scene on his layout the Boise Nampa & Owyhee. Railroad. He would like to see pictures of your favorite mini-scenes from your layouts. Bob's mini-scene challenge.





## What's new on the S&T (Shadowlands and Tellynott).

Here is a photo showing the 'lid' in the room. The plan is to remove all the studs around the 600mm high backdrop at this end, lift it and move it back towards the far wall. Once it is in the narrowest section (where the benchwork is only 250mm wide) it will be rotated 90 degrees anticlockwise. The 600mm section will rotate over the existing Tellynott layout at right, and once rotated the full 90 degrees it will then be able to be lowered into position with 40mm tolerance. That is the plan. Although I have tried very hard to get things perfect, I'm almost certain there will need to be a bit of 'fudging' to get the two pieces to splice together. Just hopefully not too much fudging! I will then add the remaining studs - although this may get done during the process. I'm thinking of purchasing a plasterboard lifter which I can use for this process and other such upcoming exercises, and then sell it again when done. I have done some calculations and I believe the whole assembly weighs about 45kg (99 pounds). Gib lifters are generally rated to lift 68kgs. The problem, of course, is that the benchwork will get in the way of the lifter, and so the 'lid' will still need to be slid into position. If all of my studs were the same length things would be easier, but I have four different lengths of stud, depending on which bit of the benchwork they are being attached to.

Photo 3 is for the mini-scenes. Morning coffee at the cannery.











Editors note: This contribution was in response to my initial draft gazette and the mini-scene is in response to Bob Parrish's call for mini-scene pictures. I think this may become a section on its own. We all have mini-scenes on our layouts or dioramas that we can show.

Mark is building a great layout. I have been watching his build threads for many years. Thank you for sharing your work here Mark.



## The Baggage Car

John Siekirk: I just got back from a trip to California to visit my oldest daughter, her husband, and my youngest Grandson. Grayson just celebrated his first birthday and we got to see him take his first steps while we were visiting. We had a great visit.

I have been spending a lot of hours working on my layout the last three months. You will see photographs of what I accomplished in the future issues of the Superior & Seattle Railroad & Interchanges Gazette.

We have been having winter like weather for an extended period of time this year. Yesterday, morning (April 27th) we woke to a coating of snow and 28 degrees. It is now past time for getting the lawn green again, and free of sticks, we had a lot of wind this winter. I will also be opening up the Northern Hqtrs. of the Superior & Seattle RR for some fishing trips.

Tom Langford: ... coming soon

Jaime Zepeda: Jaime is working way too much and needs to dust off that layout he started.

Mark Dalrymple: Mark has been inviting his friends over to his place to lift big sections of his benchwork into place.

Your update will be cut and pasted here in the next issue.

## Can anyone help me find

I'm looking for some detail castings of lawn furniture, umbrellas, etc. for the deck of my Hooker & son build that was converted into an apartment complex. So far every attempt has resulted in an out of stock message.

## New products

Brett Gallant at SierraWest Scale Models is offering large sets of his 3D printed detail castings. The cost per casting goes down with these new sets. I ordered a couple sets for my upcoming waterfront scene. Brett is also helping me out with some extra pieces for one of his kits. More on this when I get to the build.

Here are a couple pictures of the two casting sets that I ordered - there are more - check out Brett's website.

<https://www.sierrawestscalemodels.com/index.html>



