

Lake Shores Limited

Newsletter of the Lakeshores Division of the Niagara Frontier Region,
National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

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ROCHESTER, NY

MARCH 2013

Next Lakeshores Division Meet – April 20, 2013 – Rochester Model RR Club



An old 2- 4- 0 rests on the HO scale model RR of Dick Senges, Victor, NY. Photo by Bruce Shepard.

News from the Division Superintendent - *by Ray Howard*

The Lakeshores Division April 20, 2013 Meet

BCW Passenger Car Kits *by Dave Durr*

News from the LSD "Super"

Model Railroading – the act of building and operating a model railroad.

This is how I personally Define the term model Railroading. So, I in turn see the National Model Railroad Association as a national association that is (should be) about building and operating model railroads. This is my direct and simple purpose in being part of the NMRA... with but one exception. That is, a personal goal is to bring model railroaders together to various events in order for us to share what we have learned or to learn what we have yet to experience – all pertaining to building and operating model railroads.

The above quote is from Jim Six introducing a Division Educational and Training Conference being held in his division in April. His personal goal is one I hope we are and will continue to accomplish here in the LSD. If we are not providing events where we can share and learn (and have some fun) your officers need to hear about it! The NMRA provides events for sharing and learning at all levels (Division, Region, and National). But... it really should start here in the division. And, it is something we all should be a part of! We need to know what you would like to learn and what you have to share. We also would like to see you, share with you, and learn from you at our division meets! The definition above isn't going to happen for **you** if **you** don't participate. Come on to Rochester on April 20th to learn, share, and have some fun with Model Railroading. We are putting together a great day. Hope to see **you** there!

By the way, Jim Six is the Chair of the new NMRA Education and Training Program.

Speaking of opportunities to learn and share, **Streetsville Junction** is coming up Friday through Sunday, April 26 – 28, in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada. Looks to be a great Convention. Hope to see a bunch of us from the LSD there. Consider joining us for a fantastic weekend learning and sharing. More information can be found at: <http://streetsvillejunction.com/>

Email addresses for the NMRA eBulletin

If any members did not receive the first issue of the NMRA eBulletin, which was mailed out on March 5, it means either your SPAM filter is preventing it from getting through, or the **email** address on file with NMRA Headquarters isn't current. Please visit <http://www.nmra.org/member/content/member-info-update> to update email information. Also know that it may take a little bit of time for the update to take effect, since this is currently being done manually by HQ staff. The next issue of the NMRA eBulletin is scheduled to be mailed out in early May.

Superintendent

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Lakeshores Division Website

www.lakeshoresdivision.org



Lakeshores Division, NFR, NMRA 2013 Spring Meet

Location:

**Rochester Model RR Club
150 Clinton Ave. South
Rochester, NY 14604**

Morning:

- 8:30 to 9:00 Registration, Meet and Greet, register Models for Contest
9:00 to 9:05 Welcoming remarks – Ray Howard
9:05 to 9:50 *Clinic* (To be Determined)
9:50 to 10:00 Break and Voting on Popular Choice Model Contest and Photo Contest
10:00 to 10:45 *Creating the Operations Layout* – Bernie Messenger, Bill Brown MMR & Jim Heidt
10:45 to 11:00 Break
11:00 to 11:45 *Operations Issues (A discussion)* – Bernie Messenger, Bill Brown MMR & Jim Heidt
11:45 to 12:00 Door Prizes, Raffle, Announcements, Maps, etc. – Ray Howard

12:00 to 1:00 Lunch - on your own.

Afternoon: 1:00pm – 5:00pm

Layout Tours

Note:

Cost: \$3.00 members and \$5.00 for guests.

We will have a “Modelers Choice” Model Contest. Please bring a model.

Also, a Photo Contest, so bring in those RR images!

And door prizes so bring in those unwanted Model RR items!

Removable Roofs for Bethlehem Car Works Passenger Car Kits

by Dave Durr

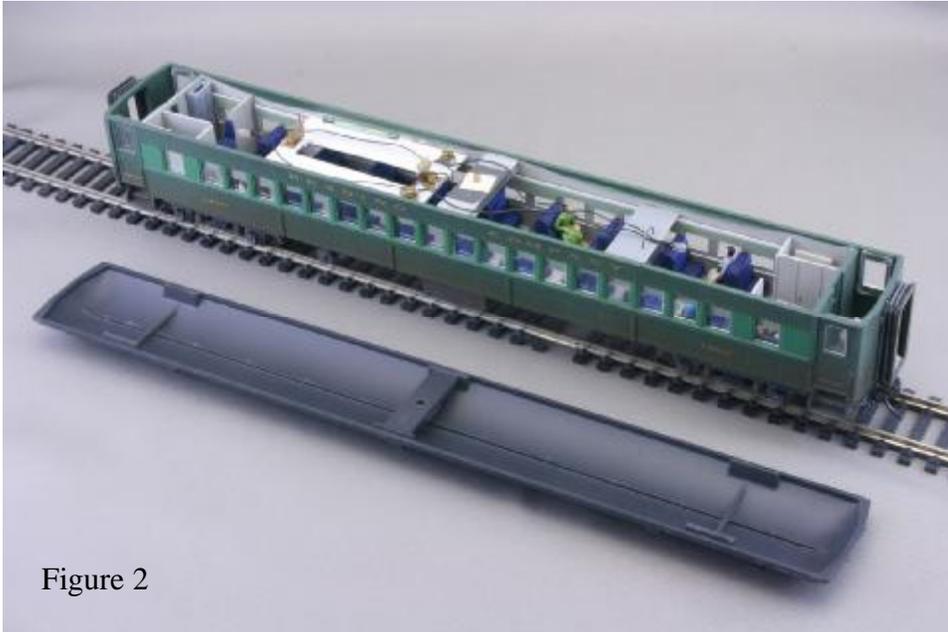


Several years ago I built three *BCW* Reading Company passenger car kits with removable roofs to access the lighting and interior details. Recently I decided to add a few more *RDG* passenger cars to my roster and thought I would document the steps followed in making the removable roofs. Additionally one of the *PBn* coach kits had some very warped car sides. At first I thought I'd have to scrap the kit but then came up with a way of straightening the car sides and still making the removable roof. Here's the story.



Figure 1

RDG #1290, the *PBn* coach kit that was completed quite a few years ago.



Left: The same car with the roof removed displaying the interior and lighting.

The lighting operates with a reed switch and uses a AAA battery which has been removed for storage. Looking closely, one can see that the roof attaches to the car body with a single 2-56 screw and 5/16" *Plastruct* channels that are cemented in the middle of both the roof and the car body.

Figure 2

Now let's look at the model currently under construction. I didn't think to take a photo of the warped car sides, but please take my word, they were very wavy. Cementing them to the car's floor took care of straightening the bottom, but the tops were still way off parallel.

Below: My solution is a soldered rectangular frame of 3/16" square brass tubing; the outside width of the brass frame was based on the inside width of the car sides just above where they were cemented to the floor. A brass channel was soldered to the middle of the frame, and a 7/64" hole was drilled through the center of the channel. The brass frame was epoxied to the car sides, and 1/16" plastic angles were added for additional support (probably overkill). Also the 5/16" *Plastruct* channel was cemented to the center of the roof.



Figure 3



Figure 4

Left: Next, a 9/64" hole was drilled through the center of the car floor in line with the hole in the brass channel. The roof was hand-held in place, and a 7/64" drill bit was passed through the hole in the floor and the brass channel to mark the center of another 7/64" hole that would be drilled in the *Plastruct* channel of the roof.

As an aside, whenever drilling these larger holes in plastic or metal, once the center is marked, I start with a .020" drill bit and gradually work up to the final size.

Right: The top part of the photo shows a 3/16" 2-56 screw that was placed through the underside of the brass channel; a 3/16" square piece of note card with a small X cut in the middle prevents the screw from falling while still allowing rotation. The blue arrows were added to the channels so that the roof could be oriented to the body in the same way all the time.

Also shown is another short piece of *Plastruct* 5/16" channel through which a 9/64" hole was drilled in the middle. A 2-56 hex nut was press fit into the hole and epoxied.

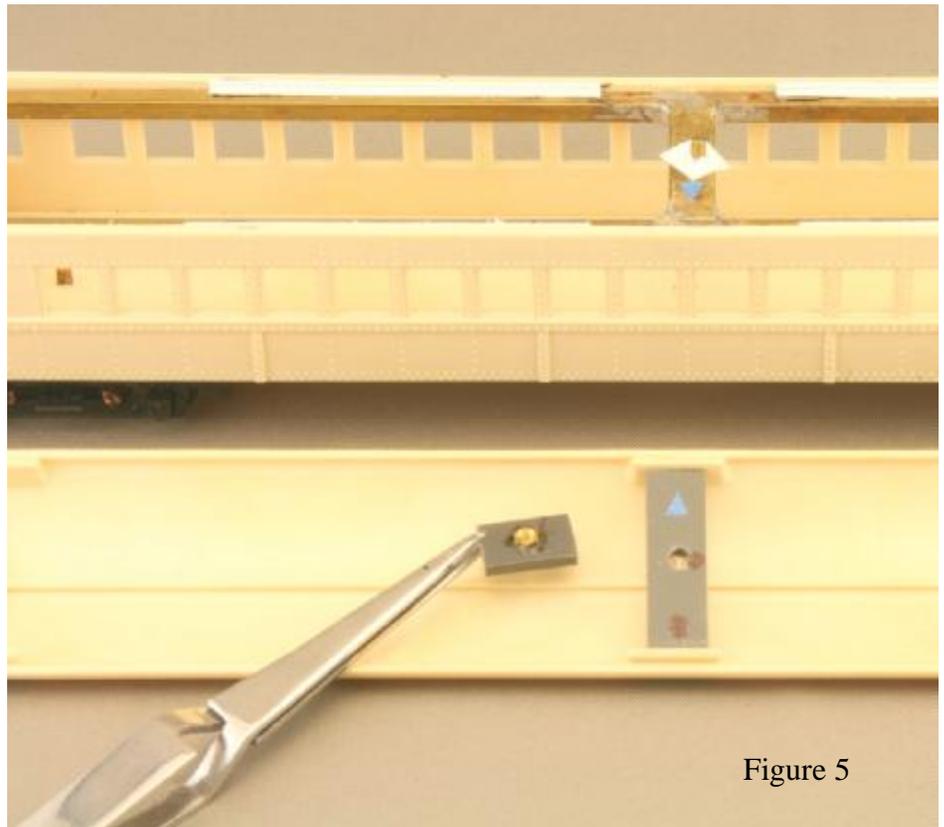


Figure 5

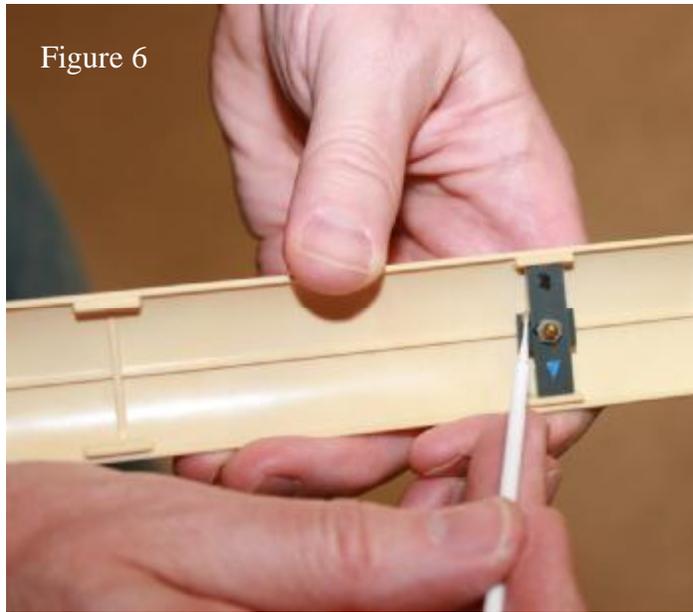


Figure 6

Left: The small piece of channel being positioned on the roof channel using a 2-56 screw; a nylon hex nut was used as a spacer so that the screw didn't hit the underside of the roof.

The two pieces of channel were then cemented with good old Testors. After the cement had set, the screw was removed.

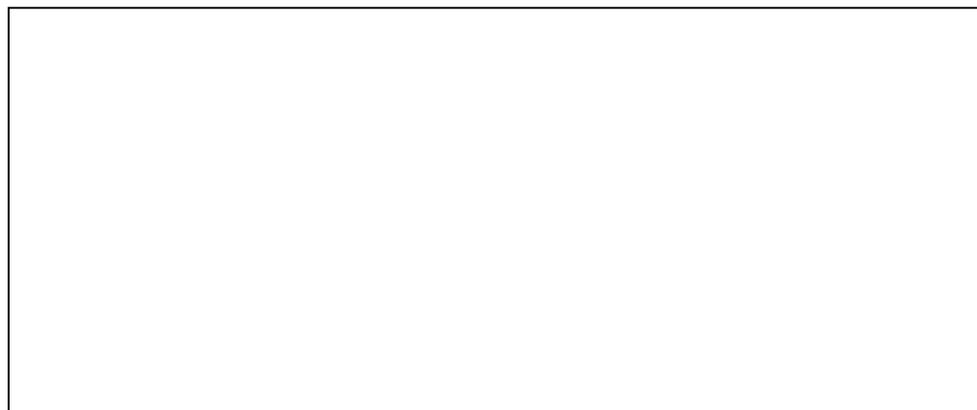
Below: Finally, the roof and car body were assembled using a jewelers' screwdriver through that hole in the center of the floor (Figure 4) to access the screw in the brass channel (Figure 5). And yes, those are *Central Valley* trucks. A few years ago, when travelling south, I found a bunch in a Memphis hobby shop and bought 'em out.



Figure 7

The next steps for this model are detailing and painting. This is the only *BCW* kit that I have on my shelves that had a problem with the plastic warping. I don't think it was a problem in manufacturing but rather due to prolonged storage in the relatively high heat of an attic. I had gotten this kit second hand at a swap meet for a bargain basement price. *Bethlehem Car Works* makes some really nice kits for us Reading modelers.

**NMRA NFR LSD
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Next LSD Meet

April 20, 2013

at the Rochester Model RR Club

LSD website: www.lakeshoresdivision.org