



LAKE SHORES LIMITED

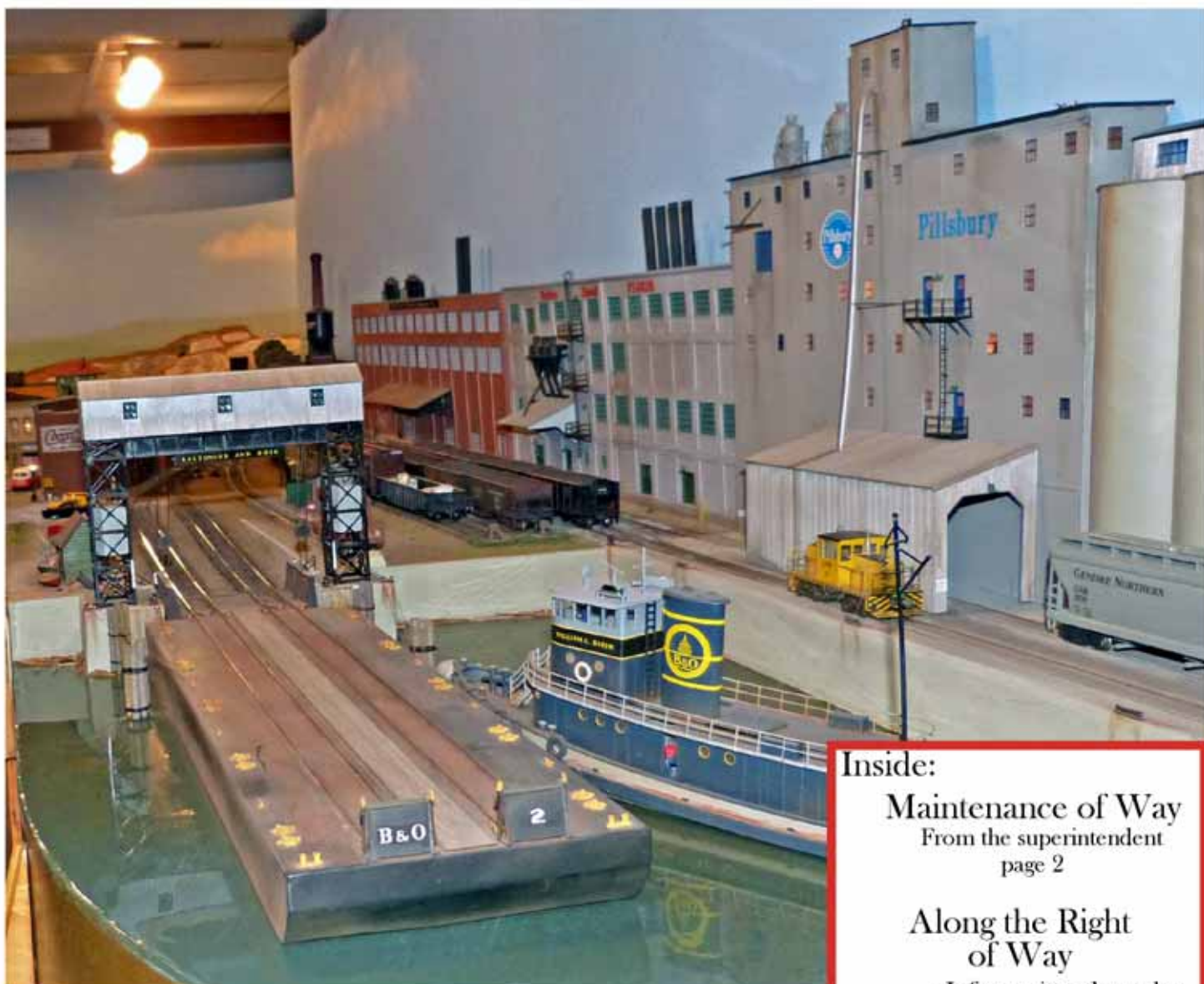
Newsletter of the Lakeshores Division

Niagara Frontier Region

National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

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The Harbor on Mike Pyszczek's B&O Buffalo Division. Mike's Layout was on tour for the Lakeshores Division Fall Meet last October.

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Maintenance of Way

From the Superintendent:

2 February 2017

I just checked the Weather Channel online and have the latest news on Old Man Winter... Punxutawny Phil predicts six more weeks of Winter!!! Well... That may give me some more time to get a few of the many items I had planned to finish on the Seneca Lake, Ontario, & Western RR down cellar at my house. Most of these projects I have thought long and hard about while doing work for several organizations I am part of, but little work has been actually accomplished this winter.

I have been exchanging all kinds of emails and talking on the phone with others about the planned move to the NER for our Division. Lots of folks in the NMRA are working on this and an announcement will be made at the Joint Meet in Auburn in March. I may actually know what is going on by that time, but my lips will be sealed prior to the Meet!!! I can tell you that we are on the... Hah! Not going to tell you yet! So.... I hope that I will see a large turnout for the Combined LSD - CNY Spring meet in Auburn. More about the Meet is on page 3. Come and have some fun!

The LSD will also have a Meet of our own later in the Spring or Summer (probably in late May) to do some important business like holding the election we postponed at the Fall Meet and look at several other items needing to get done along with some great clinics, and layout tours. So stay tuned for more info.

I can tell you that the Division is in the process of setting up a new website thanks to Ed O'Connell. We will get information out to everyone as soon as we know more. Thanks Ed!

Hope to see you soon!



Along The Right of Way....



**Lakeshores Division, ???, NMRA
And the Central New York Division, NER, NMRA
Joint Early Spring Meet
Saturday, March 18**

Location:

**Knights of Columbus Hall
47 Market St.
Auburn, NY 13021**

Meet and Greet will start at 8:30AM with program starting at 9:00AM.

Program for the day is being developed now and will be published in the next issue of the LSL. I can tell you that there will be some MAJOR Announcements at that Meet. If you want to hear it first... You better come and have fun with us at the Combined Meet in Auburn, NY. This is always a great time to meet with and socialize with our neighbors to the East and learn more about our hobby. Hope to see you there!



Dick Senges, MMR has asked me to let our members know that he has many kits he would like to sell. These are high quality items (Fine Scale Miniatures, Keystone Locomotive Works, Builders in Scale, Micro-Scale Models, Campbell, Jordan, Sierra West, and others). He can be contacted at: (585) 924-8379 or OCRR2016@gmail.com.

BODY-MOUNTED COUPLERS FOR TRIX BOXCARS

By Dave Durr



A few years ago, while rummaging through the clearance bin at Dan's Crafts and Things, I came across a Trix Union Pacific Boxcar priced at less than \$8.00. Looking through the window in the box, it looked as if there was a fair amount of detail for a rather inexpensive model - separately applied ladders, grab irons, and brake detail. How could I pass up this bargain?

When the car was out of the box, I found some of the details to be a bit bulky as compared to the other Kadee, InterMountain or Red Caboose boxcars on my roster. This was not such a big deal; once the car was weathered, these disparities would become less apparent. A bigger problem for me was the rather clunky double swing mount couplers that looked as if they could allow for operation on 3" radius curves. (OK, slight exaggeration!)



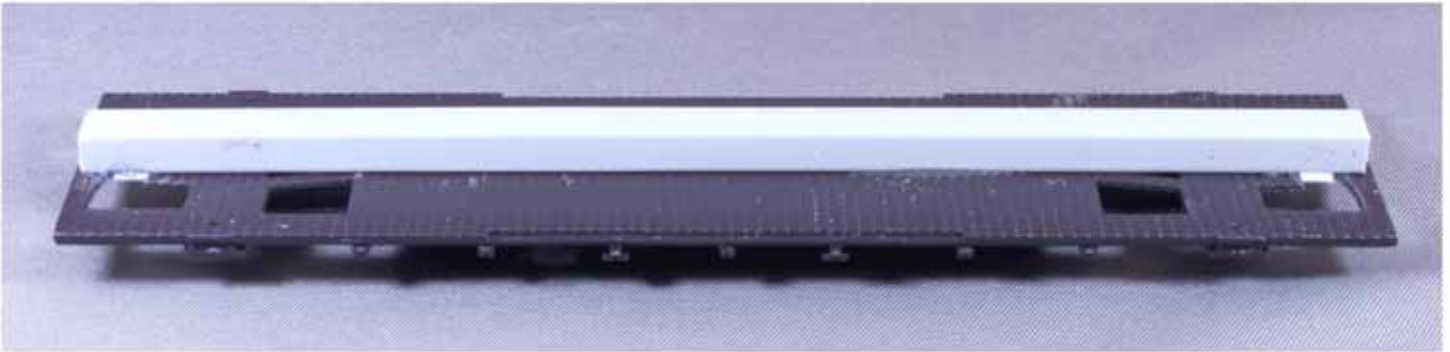
Well, no real problem...Just remove the swing coupler, and fasten a Kadee coupler box to the underframe. Or so I thought...

The photo below shows the underframe with the trucks and couplers removed. The left side is the stock view. A trial fitting of a Kadee coupler pocket revealed that the mounting hole was partway over the metal frame and partway in thin air. My solution was to

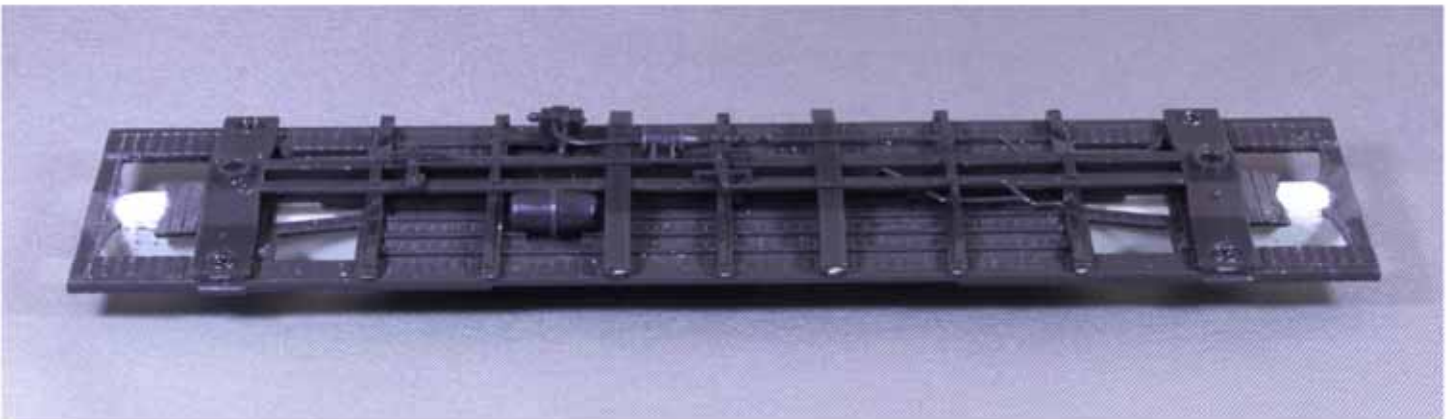


remove the interfering point of the metal frame and create a plastic "subframe" on which to mount the coupler. The right side of the picture shows the modified metal frame prior to fabricating the "subframe".

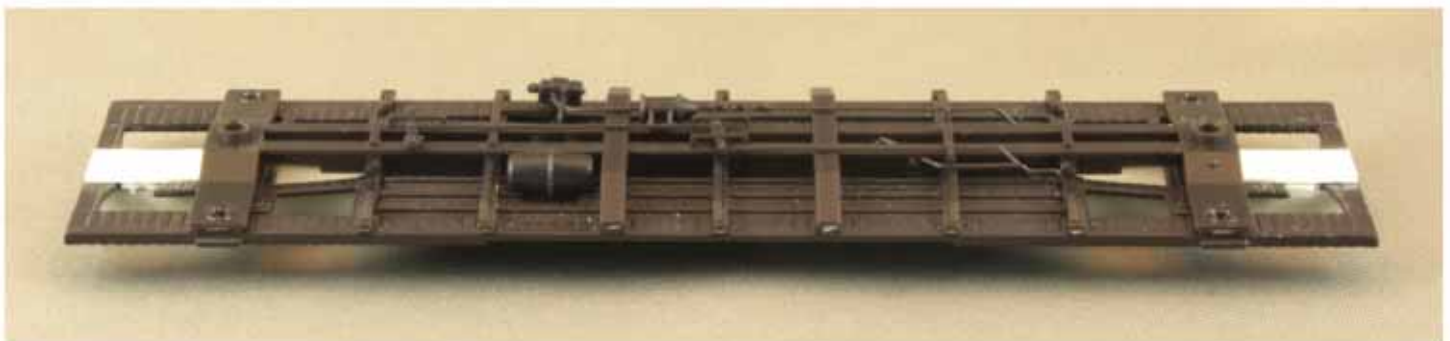
Next a .250" x .250" scrap piece of structural plastic was epoxied to the topside of the metal frame along the centerline.



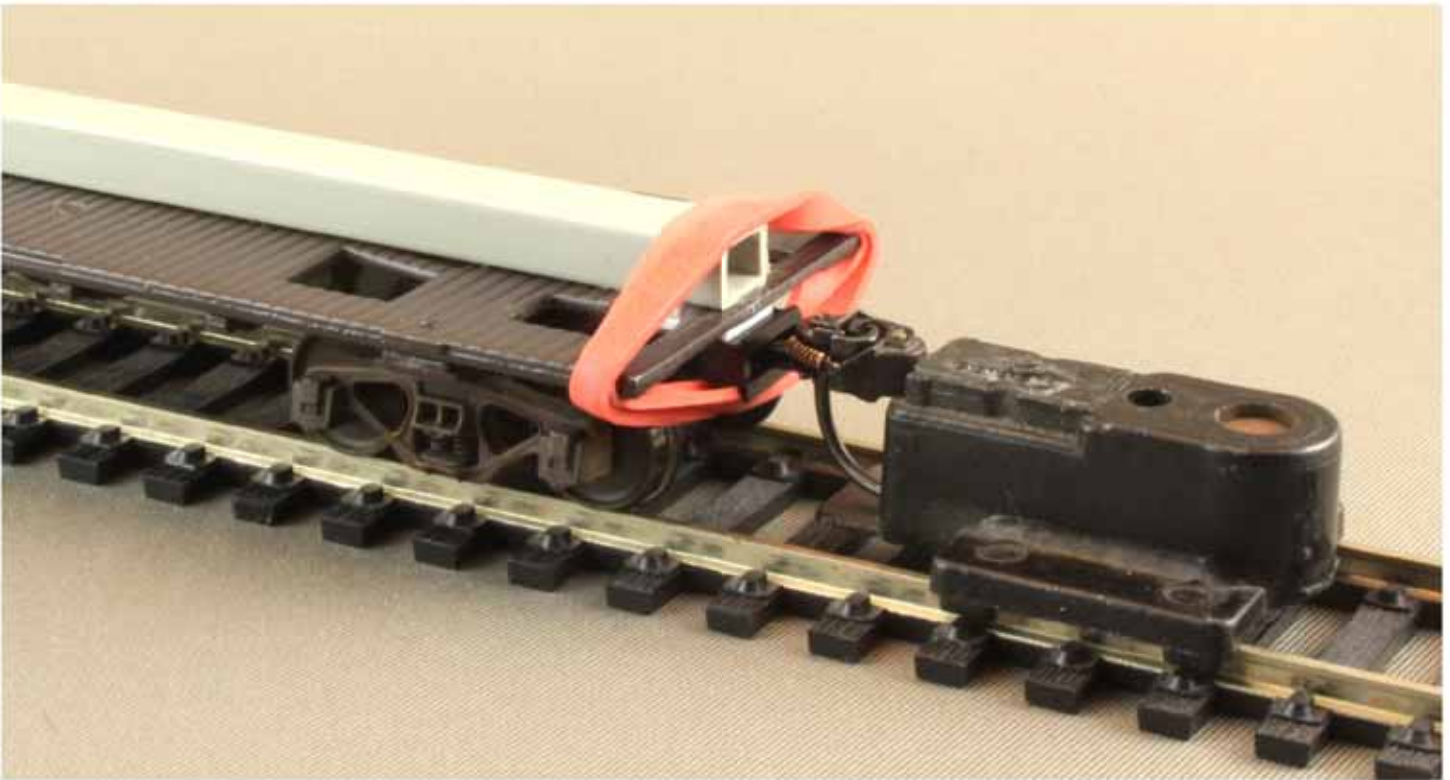
Then strip plastic was cemented to the underside of the .250" x .250" spline to fill in the open spaces of the metal frame. The strip plastic was filed even with the surface of the metal frame.



When assembled, the boxcar body has a slight lip over the frame. To compensate, scale 4' lengths of .030" x .250" were cemented to each end of the frame and "subframe" as shown in the photo below.



Now it was time to test some coupler options. As luck would have it, the Kadee #147 Standard Head Whisker Coupler with the Medium Underset Shank came out dead on with the coupler height gauge. No further modifications to the spline "subframe" were needed.



The top lip on the front of the coupler box was filed smooth, and the boxes were cemented to the plastic “subframe”. They were located flush with the end of the carbody and obviously along the centerline (below left). Then a #50 (.070”) drill was used for the mounting hole in the “subframe”; 2-56 screws were used to secure the coupler and box cover (below right).



Coupler cut levers, touchup paint, and light weathering were added to finish off the car as shown below.



There aren't too many western roads represented on my version of the 1960's Reading Company. UP 188000 will make a nice addition; it was inexpensive, and changing the coupler mounts kept me out of trouble for a couple of evenings.



At left, John Becker, Jeff Faust, and Dave Tyson, members of The Genesee-N-Intario Model N-Gineers, show off some of their fine T-track Modules at the division Fall Meet, in October 2016.

Bruce Shephard and Gordon Spalty at Gordon's Maine & Western RR and Portage Oneida RR. One of the layouts open at the Fall Meet!



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Next Meet:

**Saturday, March 18, 2017 at the
Knights of Columbus Hall
47 Market St., Auburn NY 13021**

Combined Meet with The Central New York Division, NMRA