

## THE MODELS OF DARRYL TOWNSEND



In the Spring 2016 edition, we emphasized the NGPF 's efforts in the preservation of significant narrow gauge models. In that issue, we highlighted the models of Doc Aiken as well as our significant collection of models from a selection of talented modelers such as Joe Crea. Preservation of models makes the NGPF unique amongst Railroad Preservation societies. We try to make a difference not just in worthy prototype projects but also in preserving significant narrow gauge models. For example, we were given most of the models of pioneer HO<sub>N3</sub> modeler Len Madsen, along with pieces of his HO<sub>N3</sub> layout. A future issue will highlight these early models and Len's significant articles that popularized narrow gauge modeling. In preserving narrow gauge models, we believe that these models, often of prototypes no longer in existence, serve as both three-dimensional artistic representations and also record how that prototype appeared. Thus, they serve as a historical record.

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Our Board Chair Bob Brown has an amazing personal collection of pioneer narrow gauge models and memorabilia from such famous names as Hugh Boutell, Jack Alexander, Vince Ryan and Dick Andrews. Even rare examples of John Allen's narrow gauge are included. Preserving our model heritage is an important part of the mission of NGPF and your support insures we can continue doing so.

### UPCOMING ISSUES

- The Models of Len Madsen
- Moving a T-12; the road to Restoration
- EBT Hoppers – A Long Way From Home
- Preserving Southern Pacific Narrow Gauge steam

In this edition, we thought we would depart from our normal format and emphasize the inherent beauty of the models of the late Darryl Townsend. He was an award-winning modeler in 1/2" scale and his largely scratch-built models are indeed works of art. Darryl was also proficient in rebuilding commercial models into exquisite accurate representations of a specific prototype.

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**Mission**

The Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation will preserve, exhibit and interpret significant prototype and model Narrow Gauge artifacts, as well as educate the public on the importance of Narrow Gauge railroading

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**BOB BROWN**

is editor and publisher of the Narrow Gauge and Shortline Gazette, the premier magazine devoted to Narrow Gauge. Since 1975, the Gazette has documented the history of narrow gauge in articles, plans, photos and has acted as a focus for the Narrow Gauge community. Bob Brown, a Master Model Railroader as recognized by the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA), has been building narrow gauge models for over sixty five years and has massed a collection of pioneer narrow gauge models reflecting his own interest in the history of Narrow Gauge. Bob also serves on the Museum Committee of the NMRA. Bob is the chairman of the Board.

**SAM FURUKAWA**

is a recognized photographer of Narrow Gauge, author and modeler. Retired from a long career at Microsoft Corporation, Sam is now a professor at Keio University in Tokyo, Japan. He is an author of three books on Colorado's preserved narrow gauge railroads. He has extensively photographed the operations of the surviving narrow gauge lines of Colorado and New Mexico and some of his videos have recently been released to the public by the NGPF.

**FRED HAMILTON**

was a long time employee for Kalmbach Publishing serving on the sales staff of both Trains and Model Railroader Magazines. Fred is also an avid On3 modeler and remains close to the model railroad industry. In the past, he has served as President and Executive Director of the industry's trade association and currently serves as the Treasurer of the NGPF.

**BOB HAYDEN**

is the author of numerous articles and books on narrow gauge topics and also was a long time employee at Kalmbach Publishing working on Model Railroader, Trains, Classic Toy Trains, Garden Railways and Fine Scale Modeler Magazines. Bob has also built narrow gauge models for over fifty years and currently works in the publication field. Bob serves as Secretary of the NGPF.

**FRED HILL**

is the owner of the original Whistle Stop in Pasadena, a major hobby shop in Southern California. He has long been active in railroad preservation for both narrow and standard gauges and is involved with two model companies, The Coach Yard and Thin Film Decals. He has served with distinction for many years as an officer and board member on several hobby trade associations.

**JIMMY BOOTH**

comes from a distinguished career as a principal at P-B-L (Peter Built Locomotives), a major supplier and importer of Sn3 locomotives and equipment. He also has dedicated much of his life researching the history of D&RGW narrow gauge equipment and has served as a historical advisor to both the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic and Durango and Silverton Railroads. Jimmy volunteers at a local museum as a steam locomotive engineer.

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Our collection includes 20 pieces, all in 1/2" scale, with 5 locomotives, 3 MW cars, 3 boxcars and 9 tank cars. Some of the best are presented here in professional photographs Darryl had taken. The lead photo on page one shows a scratchbuilt 1/2" scale model of D&RGW #361 begun as a project by a St Louis builder but completed by Darryl as an accurate rendition of this C-21 class engine.



Conoco #5 is completely scratchbuilt and was started in 1983 until other priorities interrupted the progress of construction. In 2009, Darryl finally completed the model. Made from brass, almost every part is scratchbuilt including the trucks. Of course, the car features complete underbody detail and brake system. The prototype could be found on the Rio Grande and Rio Grande Southern as a part of a small fleet of Conoco tank cars operated on those railroads.



This car actually started as a Precision Scale Models import and it is one of the few models in the Townsend collection not built by Darryl Townsend. Imported in approximately 1990, this model was extensively re-detailed and painted to resemble D&RGW #3268 by noted narrow gauge modeler and painter, Kelley Morris.

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Started by another builder, this car was destroyed when it hit the floor. Darryl rebuilt it completely with a new floor, end platforms, and trucks, which were completely scratchbuilt. Darryl also rebuilt the original wood coach body into a combine, lettered for Northern Forest Products. Combine #304 is a work car converted from passenger service as was common on logging lines.



This boxcar in pristine condition is an early Accucraft import when they were made in 1:24 scale. Later Accucraft scaled its cars at 1:22.5 and the current 1:20.3 to reflect 3' gauge on the 45mm track. Darryl detailed the car for #8613 and rebuilt the trucks to the correct gauge for 1/2" scale. This makes this car both unique and rare.

### From The Executive Director

This issue highlights another example of the NGPF making a difference in narrow gauge model preservation. While some might question the need to preserve models, we believe that effort worthwhile. Indeed, the diorama at our Chama visitor facility is very popular and we hope to present more models at the Colorado Railroad Museum one day soon. Perhaps in the future, we will open a Museum of Narrow Gauge models but until then, we will seek opportunities to share these models with the narrow gauge society. With your continued help, we will be able to preserve and display these models and we all will be richer for the experience.

I hope to see many of you in Augusta Maine this September at the National Narrow Gauge Convention. We will be holding a clinic and a roundtable on the NGPF so bring your questions and meet fellow and new members along with our Board members. See you there. Thanks for being a member and thank you for your help.

*Charlie Getz*

Since 1975, Charlie has written a column for the Narrow Gauge and Shortline Gazette and has been active in the NMRA, currently serving as its President. He has been Executive Director of the NGPF since its inception.



This K-27 represents RGS #461 as acquired by the RGS in September 1950 and is accurate for the as-delivered appearance. Before delivery to the RGS, the Rio Grande shops at Alamosa repainted the engine and fine-tuned her for service on the RGS. For the majority of its life, #461 operated on the D&RGW, although often leased by the RGS. This is a first run circa 1995 Precision Scale 1/2" scale import extensively remodeled by Darryl.



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### WHO WE ARE - WHAT WE DO AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation (NGPF) was first established as the Narrow Gauge Trust in 2000. It was the dream of one of our board members to help preserve Narrow Gauge in both its prototype and model form. In 2002, the Narrow Gauge Trust Fund was incorporated as the Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation, and acquired non-profit status both within the State of California and as recognized by the Federal government. As a non-profit public benefit corporation, our mission is to establish interactive exhibits where the public can learn of the significant history of Narrow Gauge railroading as well as to support preservation activities and projects wherever possible.

The foundation is administered by a board of directors, which does not receive compensation. The NGPF is proud that less than five percent of its funds are spent on administrative costs. Thus, ninety five percent of the funds raised go toward preservation efforts.

Our primary function is the creation of interactive exhibits where the public can be told the story of Narrow Gauge, such as the one at Chama. As with the Chama exhibit, each exhibit will include interactive video presentations and models as well as dioramas, photographs and other graphics to explain the significance of the Narrow Gauge railroading experience. As a secondary function, the NGPF assists Narrow Gauge preservation efforts across North America. These efforts to date have exceeded over one million dollars and in some cases have made the difference between preservation and loss of significant artifacts.

The foundation is also unique in supporting the efforts of Narrow Gauge Preservation projects throughout the United States rather than concentrating on one area or one particular project. To date, the organization has supported projects on the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, Ardenwood Park in California, Friends of Denver and Rio Grande Engine #169, the Southern Pacific Narrow Gauge Railroad Foundation, The Colorado Railroad Museum, the Southeast Narrow Gauge and Shortline Museum in North Carolina and the Durango Railroad Historical Society, among others. In addition, we have preserved the collections of prominent narrow gauge modelers, extensive libraries of books as well as important art pieces depicting narrow gauge scenes.

One of the unique aspects of the NGPF is the use of matching grants to encourage the receiving parties to reach out to the public for support. Many of our grants require that the receiving agency establish within a set time frame, an equal number of individual new donations from members of the public, which not only shows support for the particular project, but also provides new sources of funding for the organization. As a result of this policy, organizations receiving our grants have reported increased donations. Donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible, acknowledged and appreciated. By donating, you support a variety of worthwhile projects and thereby enhance preservation of Narrow Gauge.