

# SL-and-N construction blog

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04-20-2018, 11:38 AM #31

The spine for the blob is in place:

You can see the bracing on the lally column. This adds a lot of stability to the structure, unless there's an earthquake. I don't expect the column will move much :-)

And when you're working solo, clamps are your friends!

I need to add an intermediate set of legs (and sway bracing), and then do the cross-members for the blob itself. Once those are in place, this should be good and stable.

I'll need more wood, and I need to figure out how I'll do the small yard.

dave

Modeling 1890s (because the voices in my head told me to)

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04-20-2018, 04:23 PM #32

Quote:

Originally posted by deemery

And when you're working solo, clamps are your friends!

dave

After retirement the first layout I built alone I had to clamps from dewalt. Xmas was coming and told my Santa wife I wanted to more. Should have asked for 20 but Because of them I got it completed. The next layout my daughter and her friend helped. One never has enough clamps. It all looks great Dave, continue Tomo

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04-21-2018, 10:45 AM #33

Benchwork is complete (except for track risers) in the main train room.

I still need to do the small yard and the connector gate, but those depend in large part on the actual track height.

Still, it feels really good to get this done, even if I now look at it and say, "I still have a LOT of work to do!"

Does anyone have experience with Homabed-the-company?

dave

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04-22-2018, 05:42 AM #34

Looking great Dave! Your getting the part I like the least out of the way. The fun part is now just beginning!

Mark

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04-22-2018, 06:46 AM #35

Looks good Dave. Looking forward to the next step.

That's after you do your yard work!!! :erm:

Jerry

"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." A. Lincoln

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04-22-2018, 07:00 AM #36

I kinda like the carpentry part. I'm not a fan of trackwork or electrical, so the next phase will be a bit tough.

dave

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04-22-2018, 03:14 PM #37

Nice job. Envious.

Jim

Take the red pill

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04-24-2018, 02:16 PM #38

Most of the framing is in for the small yard.

I need to rip 1" wide (exactly) boards to use as joists underneath the plywood (which is just sitting in place), to get it to the correct height.

Rain tomorrow, but if it's not raining too hard I guess I can move the wife's car out of the garage to rip one board. (But first I have to go buy a 1x3 :-)) I'm putting homasote on top of the plywood, so I have something I can spike into for the yard tracks (HO and HO30). Once the track is in place, I'll decide if I have room for a turntable to the right, towards the bathroom door.

And as a break between benchwork sessions, I've been working on a Canfield/McGlone kit of a Wabash 4 truck extra heavy duty flatcar.

I've talked to Ed Traxler about a load for this, which will go on my next Shapeways order.

dave

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04-24-2018, 03:43 PM #39

Dave,

That flat car might be useful for checking track work when you get to that stage, which might come soon with the progress you're making.

Mike

I was so much older then, I'm younger than that now *Bob Dylan*

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04-25-2018, 06:17 AM #40

I'm so glad to see you building!

It's only make-believe

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04-25-2018, 06:46 AM #41

Has anyone seen construction notes or have suggestions on the 'removable bridge' section? My first thought was a swinging gate, which would provide stability, but then I realized it probably wouldn't quite fit the way I wanted. So now I'm thinking about a drop-in section. It'll be about 4' long.

dave

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04-25-2018, 07:59 AM #42

Dave,

I've built a couple of removable sections over the years, one a rather short 2' and the other about 4'. Both were made for removal on a regular basis. The longer one was across a window and I removed and replaced it twice a year to allow me to put in or take out a window ac unit. I built it pretty light and over about a decade it sagged. My approach was to have little shelves at the ends of the permanent benchwork on which the section rested. I had a couple shims to bring the track into alignment and I used clamps to hold everything together. The idea was sound but I needed to have built the section a little heavier.

Your situation is a little different because you might never have to remove the section. I would build a box, the ends of which might even have scenery profiles. It would bolt to benchwork on either side. Track support, roadbed would also be independent of either side. You could lay the track across the joints, but solder the rails to brass screws like many do with modules. You could cut the rail if and when you had to remove the section for panel access.

Mike

I was so much older then, I'm younger than that now *Bob Dylan*

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04-25-2018, 09:36 AM #43

The section will be "normally removed," so I'll definitely need to build this to make sure it doesn't warp, etc. The plywood section in front of the electrical closet is different from the removable bridge so you can get to the main shop/living space in the basement. On the track plan, this is the section in yellow at the bottom center of the drawing.

dave

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04-25-2018, 09:44 AM #44

If I got this right, it is a narrow piece of "bridge". How about if you used some aluminum angle pieces? You could bolt them together to make a "T" section that would be very stable. Aluminum is light and easy to drill/cut. You could screw a piece of plywood to the top to add scenery to.

Cheers,

dave

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04-25-2018, 09:47 AM #45

Dave,

I built and have been using a swinging gate on the main line of my railroad. It is opened several times each session and there are no problems with the latching or sagging. Its basis are steel columns for the supports and an aluminum channel for the gate itself. I will send you more information in a private email.

Don Ball

Stockton & Copperopolis RR

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