

Brighter headlights for \$5 • Control garden pests

Garden RAILWAYS

APRIL • 2006
gardenrailways.com

REVIEWED: USA Trains diesel switcher

Modern-day mainline

ONE MAN'S DREAM
creates a spectacular result

Easy-to-make
BILLBOARDS

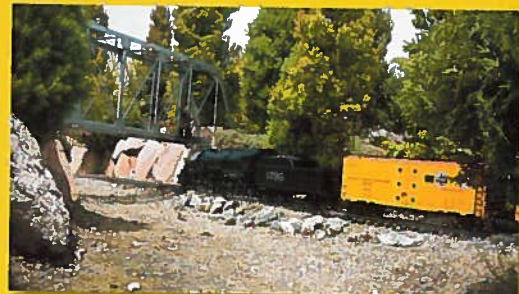
9 PRODUCTS
reviewed in this issue

Build durable, concrete bridge **ABUTMENTS**
Creative uses for **PLASTIC FIGURES**



A heavy BN freight crosses
the Crooked River bridge
on Jens Bang's Snake
River Railroad in Idaho.
See page 58.

SNEAK PEEK: 2006
NATIONAL CONVENTION PHOTO PREVIEW



\$5.95 • \$7.95 Canada



Vol. 23 Issue 2

Apr '06

Volume 23 Number 2
gardenrailways.com

FEATURES



- 50 Staff corner: Kevin Strong
Family resemblances *by Kevin Strong*

- 52 Glued concrete bridge abutments
Readily available materials make solid foundations *by David Outteridge*

- 56 2006 Garden Railway Convention preview
The San Francisco Bay area beckons you *by Tom Shumard and Dave Connery*

Cover story

- 58 The Snake River Railroad
Mainline railroading in the Northwest *by Jens Bang*

- 68 Acoma Railtruck N° 2
A heavy kitbash results in a unique vehicle *by Alan Olson*

- 72 Billboards for garden railroads
Add interest, send messages *by Mike Garforth*

- 74 Make your headlights really shine
The secret is a good reflector *by Jim Kottkamp*

- 76 Garden railway design & construction
Realistic train operation *by Jack Verducci*



DEPARTMENTS

- 6 From the Editor
Notes from Marc

- 10 Notes & news
What's new for the garden railroader

- 16 Letters
Views from our readers

- 22 Questions & Answers
We respond to your hobby questions

- 24 Garden railway basics
Brass tacks and other metal bits, part 3

- 28 Looking back
A glance into the history of garden railways

- 41 Pathways
Great railroad gardens, part 2

- 47 Plant portraits
Trident maple and miniature hosta

- 80 Miniscaping
Pest management

- 96 Scribbles on a workshop wall
Further thoughts on figures

- 98 Online station
A large-scale guide to the Internet

- 100 Raising steam
In search of information

- 102 Events
Upcoming shows and exhibits

- 104 Club directory
Garden railroading around the world

- 106 Product reviews
USA Trains diesel switcher, Bachmann railtruck, and more

- 122 End of the Line
RDC twilight

- PLUS Pullout drawings
Insert plant #76: Build a 1:20.3-scale delivery wagon

ON THE COVER

Brighter headlights for \$5 [page 74](#)

Control garden pests [page 80](#)

Reviewed: USA Trains diesel switcher [page 106](#)

Modern-day mainline [page 58](#)

Easy-to-make billboards [page 72](#)

9 products reviewed in this issue [page 106](#)

Sneek peek: convention preview [page 56](#)

Build durable, concrete bridge abutments [page 52](#)

Creative uses for plastic figures [page 96](#)



RIGHT: A heavy UP diesel lashup crosses the freelance steel truss bridge on Jens Bang's Snake River Railroad in Idaho. The 350-pound bridge, built by Jens, was lifted into place by a tractor.