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# ***HIGH BALL***

A Publication of the Mid-Michigan Railroad Club  
June 2022



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## **June 5<sup>th</sup> Impromptu Run/Work Day**

Mike Baker visited from Oregon with his electric powered Morris switcher. Several members came out to see it. The electric drive was smooth running and I thought it had one of the best sounding diesel horns I have heard, realistic but not overly loud. Tom Stuck had his CSX F Unit out for a couple trips.



Mike pulled the hood off to show how he had bundled the batteries and drive into the switcher body.





Tom Stuck and his F Unit.

At the same time our maintenance of way forces were working on the railroad. Jim Triemtstra worked on switch cleaning and adjustment at Soo Junction and then tackled weed spraying along the right of way. Mike Schmitzer, Dan Bockheim and Les Hale gave me a hand installing two section of new wall in the tunnel.

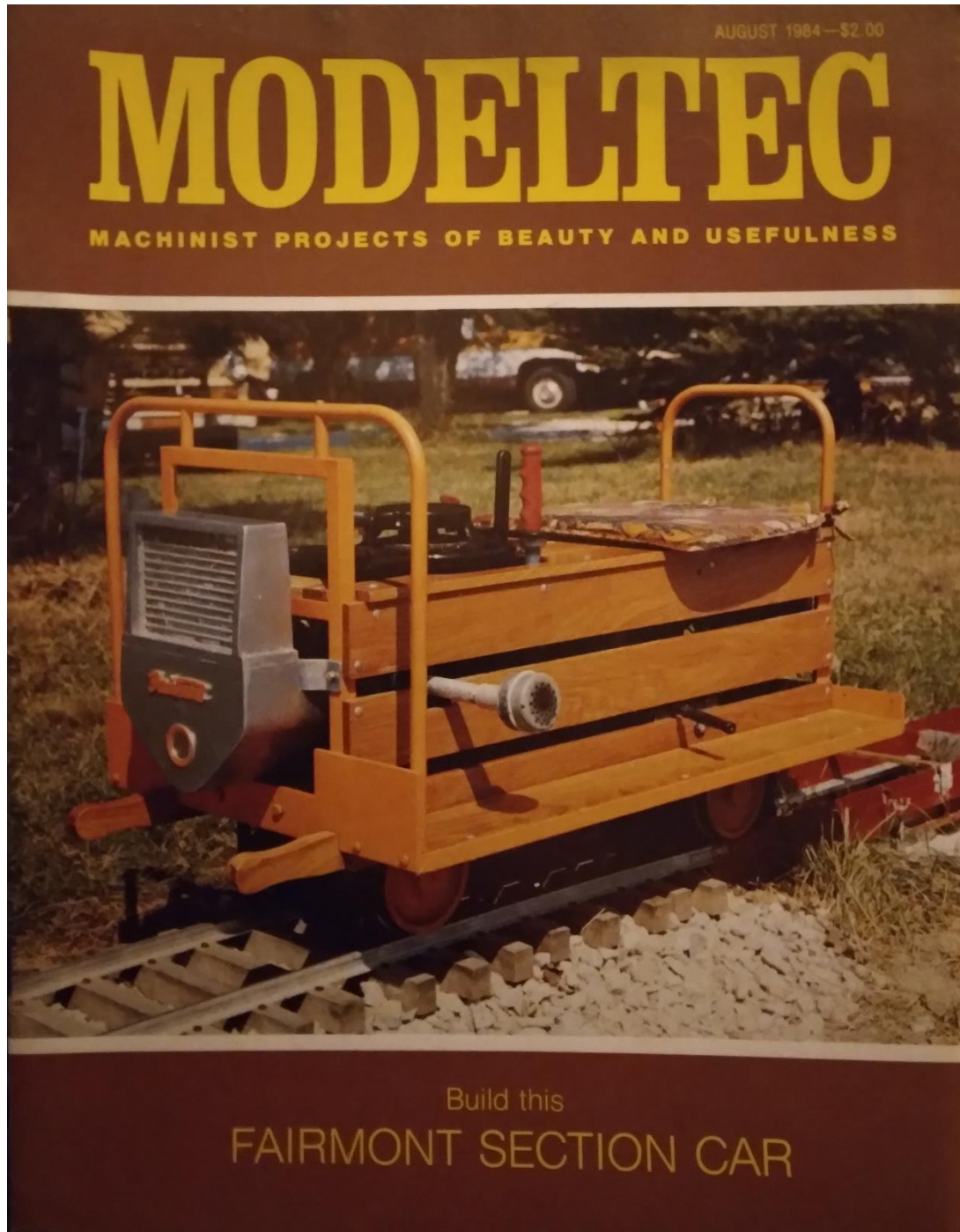


Two new tunnel wall sections.



## Section Car Anyone?

While digging through old Modeltec magazines I can across an article with drawings on building a Fairmont Section Car. You've probably seen Tim out on the track with his. If you're interested in building one let me know and I'll loan you the article. Pat Patton.



## **Project List**

- Mainline tie replacement. Steve Morris and Pat Kinney have started working through the southmost curve behind the barn replacing ties and checking gauge. Ties, screws and gauge bars are in the barn. Check the gauge as you go.
- Bury a cable from the depot to the grade crossing signals south of the caboose so they can be operated without brining batteries out. Give Tim Childs a call and he will show you where to route the cable.
- Install outlets at the picnic pavilion. At the moment outlets are on a post south of the pavilion which can be inconvenient. This could be trenched when the grade crossing cable is laid.
- Wind break and shelf for the pavilion. The idea is to build a short wall along the west side of the pavilion to provide a wind break. This would also be a good spot to include a shelf for crock pots and so forth. Give Rod a call.
- Pre-drill ties. Tom Stuck found a nice multi-spindle drill press. He is setting it up so ties can be pre-drilled. This will make laying rail much easier. Once Tom has the drill press set up we can go to work drilling ties.
- The track panel jigs need some repair and TLC.
- Tunnel south portal has a rotted 2x4 at the roof edge. The roof drips rain water across the stringer. The 2x4 is water logged and in bad shape. There is a new treated 2x4 in the tunnel to replace it. A drip edge to carry water past the wood roof structure should also be installed.
- Rod and Tom do most of the mowing and trimming. They can always use a hand.
- Trim brush and weeds back from the driveways off 15-1/2 Mile Rd.
- Continue building track panels.
- Continue work on sidings for switching and card order.
- Seal the wood bridge decks with boiled Linseed oil. Check with Rod for materials.

Want to help but you are not sure what to do? Contact one of the officers.

## **2022 Schedule**

June 25

July 2-4, 9, 16-17

August 6, 20-21

September 3-4, 17-18

October 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30

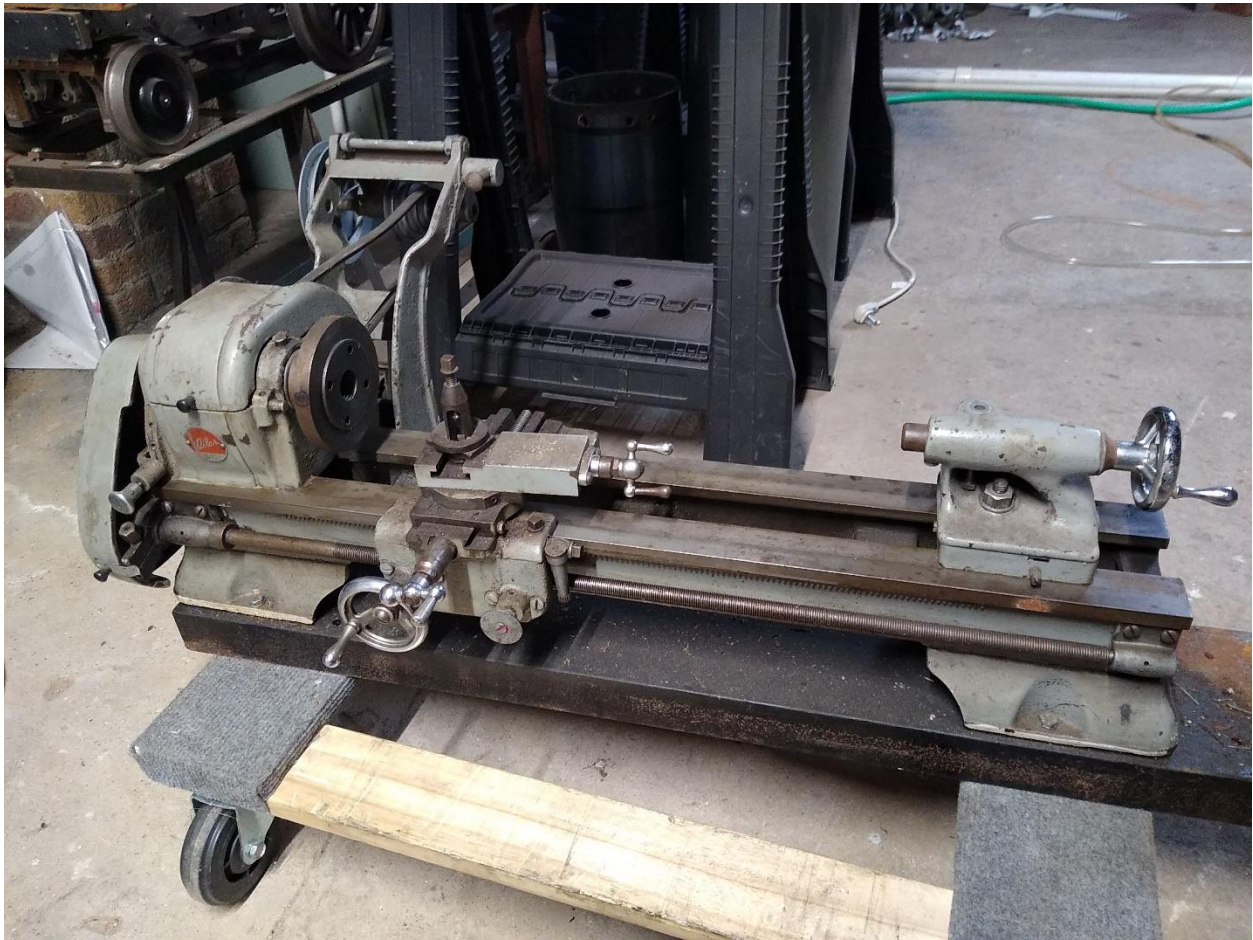
## **Officers**

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Have news pictures or a for sale item? Send it to Pat Patton [pattonpat@aol.com](mailto:pattonpat@aol.com)  
269.929.8194

## For Sale

### 6" Atlas Lathe



I machined a set of wheels and axles for my composite gondola on this lathe before acquiring a 9" South Bend. It has an adapter plate machined to accept a Bison four jaw chuck. I have a small bit of tooling with it. I can bring it along to the track if you'd like to see it in person. Contact Pat Patton 269-929-8194 [pattonpat@aol.com](mailto:pattonpat@aol.com)