

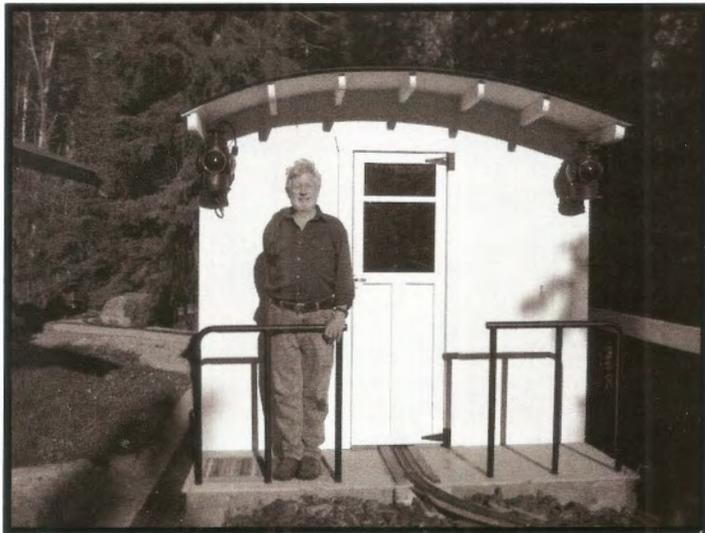
E.R. (Ross) Crain's 1:1 Scale Model of DSP&P Waycar no. 60

Large Scale Model Train Storage — “Par Excellence”

by E.R. (Ross) Crain
(photos by the author)

I have been a fan of the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad for more than 30 years. I indulge this fancy with an outdoor large scale model railway with a large number of more or less “G-Scale” models of real and imagined DSP&P locomotives and rolling stock.

After a few failed attempts at storing my trains in



E.R. (Ross) Crain and “waycar no. 60”

semi-protected locations, I decided to build a human-sized storage shed. But what kind of shed? I had decided on a transfer table inside the shed to allow for storage of eight trains. That gave the interior dimensions of 7 feet, 9 inches by about 12 feet.

I happened to be browsing my collection of DSP&P model plans while mulling over a building design and noticed that the dimensions I needed were similar to the body of a typical DSP&P waycar. Finally 2 + 2 made 5 and I decided to build a waycar replica instead of an ordinary shed. The actual building is the same length as DSP&P waycar no. 64, but it is 5 inches wider to accommodate 8 tracks on the transfer table.

My friend and local contractor Jeff Sande built the structure using the plans for waycar no. 64, aided by photos of my Accucraft 1:20.3 waycar. Construction is standard 2-by-4 stud walls with V-groove T&G pine siding. A one-piece black metal roof has no joints, so no leaks. The railings were bent and welded at the local Carline muffler shop. Grab irons were fabricated by a neighbor, Doug Hansen, and the lettering came from a vinyl sign shop, applied by my wife Sonja. Brakewheel and lanterns came from eBay. Neither are authentic DSP&P, but who will notice?

I am really happy with the transfer table concept for train storage and with Jeff's construction skills, as well as his faultless interpretation of the model's plans. My rolling stock stays, clean, dry, secure, and unmolested by critters, large or small.

For more stories and information on my DSP&P model railway, visit www.ross-crain.com/modeltrains.htm.