



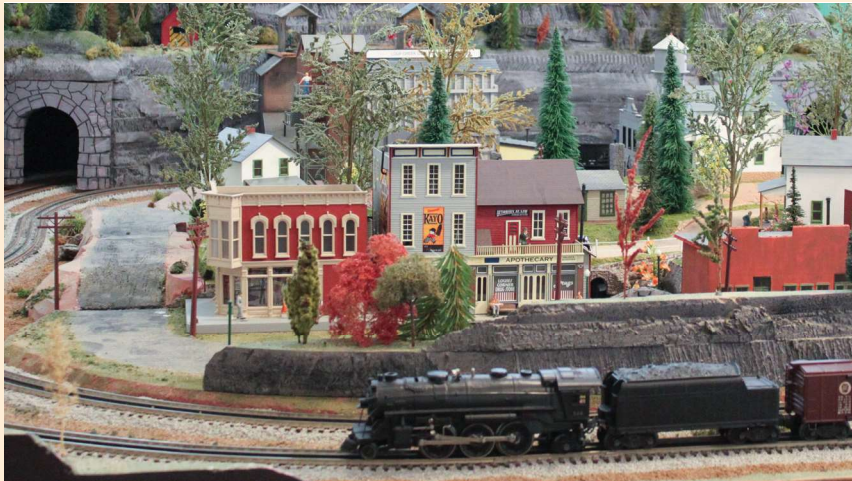
Steam power and the Railway Express Agency's green trucks were once common sights in many areas.

All in the Family

My grandfather presented my dad with his first Lionel train set back in 1945, and that gift still ranks among my dad's treasured possessions. Dad has enjoyed O gauge trains ever since and he was instrumental in getting me started in the world of Lionel railroading back when I was a kid. Dad would set it up every year at Christmastime. From time to time, he would want to set up his trains, so he would call me over, and I would spend a few hours with him setting them up. He finally put up a permanent 4' x 8' table in my bedroom, and we had lots of fun with it over quite a few years.

Not too long ago, he told me that he wanted to set up a permanent layout. Having no time available to build a layout, I kept my eyes open to see if anyone on the OGR forum might have a layout for sale. My timing couldn't have been better! A fellow forum member, Steve, posted one for sale on the website's buy/sell forum. It was just the size of layout I was looking for. Wasting no time, I e-mailed Steve, and we struck a deal. A few days later, Steve showed up with his team from the TMB Model Train Club, and they set the layout up. About two hours later, it was running, and my dad was sporting a huge smile on his face.

The layout is modular in three sections with an overall size of 8' x 11'. It has two main lines running on Atlas track. It is also equipped with TMCC. My dad is enjoying his layout and running his treasured old Lionel 262 freight set on it.



Dad's postwar Lionel from 1945 handles its freight consist as smoothly today as it did back in his boyhood days.



My parents, Carl and Connie, both enjoy the layout.