



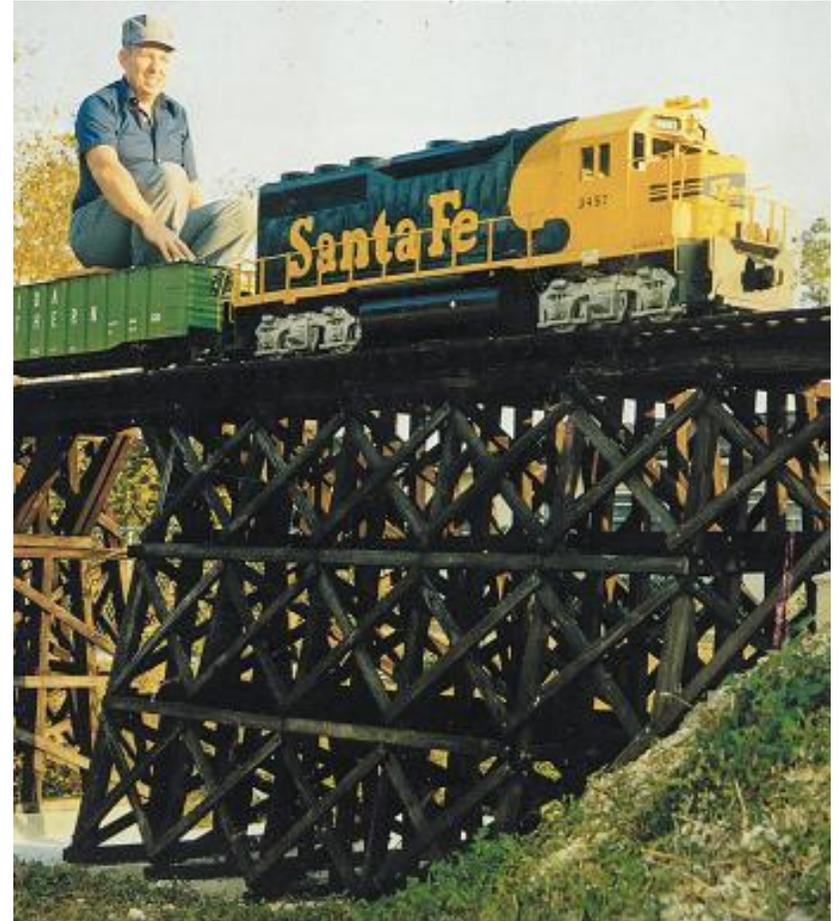
During the Sebring System meet in December 2013, Bill Koster was seen running his latest locomotive. The locomotive is an Alco S-4 switcher.

This locomotive was built at the same time as our group built the FA-1 locomotives.

Two S-4's were made with this one being sold to Bruce Elder and the other one owned by Carroll Downen.

The location is the front driveway crossing on his former 4,000 foot railroad. The property is now owned by Mr. & Mrs. Brian Roberts.

Behind the scenes at Koster's Miniature Railroad Supplies



At the throttle we see Bill Koster test running a new GP-40. This picture was taken in 1979 on the trestle of his backyard railroad in Homestead, FL.



This is the cover from my first catalog.

Printed October, 2014
S&G Press,
Osprey, Florida

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What has Bill done since?

My wife Alice & I bought 3 ½ acres of mountain land in 1980 near Boone, NC. Our neighbor Bob Fink was also in the hobby. Together they built the Blue Ridge Summit, ½ mile in length with steep grades, trestles, a tunnel and steel bridges..

In 1989 Alice & I attended the first meeting of the Riverside & Great Northern, a 15” gauge railway in Wisconsin Dells, WI. Together we helped at that railroad for the next 15 years. I served in every capacity from gandy dancer to president.

During winters in Florida, I built the Sebring Southern on our 5 acres. I worked as a part of a group designing and building 6 Alco FA-1 locomotives. My portion of the project consisted mostly in designing and machining on the locomotives.

Unfortunately an old injury resurfaced. I had an ankle transplant in 2009. It worked nicely but failed in 2012. Since then I have had two fusions, both of which have failed. I am considering one more attempt to get my mobility back. Meanwhile, my wife Alice has developed dementia. To assist in her care, I have moved into assisted living with her. I hope to visit more tracks in the future when conditions permit.