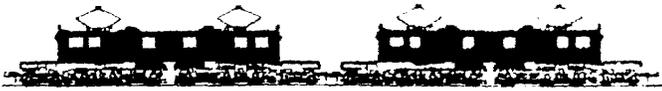


The poles went together in about an hour. I suppose I could do them quicker, but it's been a couple of years since I made an

If there's any moral here, I suppose it would be: "get out of the easy chair, and do some modeling." (In "N" traction, of course.)

For reference, you can find information on these line poles and Hal's overhead system in general in the NCat materials available from Tom Savage. Material is found in the NCAT Sourcebook, and NCAT Project Books #2 & #3. See the last page for information on obtaining the books.



## RIDE THIS CAR!



If you are in the vicinity of Duluth Minnesota, stop in and ride this car at the Lake Superior Transportation Museum. The Museum, housed in the old Duluth railroad depot, makes for an excellent days outing. You can see everything from this basic Brill trolley to a pair of those gigantic Milwaukee Road boxcab electrics.

The museum website ([www.lsrn.org](http://www.lsrn.org)) describes this car as follows: " This four-wheeled streetcar was assembled in 1925 Lisbon, Portugal, from American design (1902) and with American parts supplied by Brill Manufacturing Company of Philadelphia. It is typical of the early trolley cars operated in Duluth at the turn of the century. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, this trolley car operates along the main street of "Depot Square", an exhibit portraying a 1900-1910 Duluth street scene.

## BACKDROP IDEA

One of the hobbies currently in vogue is scrapbooking. Nationally, craft and hobby retailers such as Michaels and Hobby Lobby have expanded their supplies of scrapbooking items and a brand new retail store devoted strictly to scrapbooking supplies recently opened in a mall in my area.

I found sticky-backed strips of multi-colored deciduous trees for less than a dollar per sheet. The sheets (12 inches long by four inches high each contain two strips of the trees, one above the other. The store also had strips with multi-colored pine trees, as well as others with palm trees.

If, like me, your backdrop painting skills are weak, you might want to look into this option.



## THE TAIL END

I have not meant for this special 2004 issue to be a tease. One of the more enjoyable hobbies in my life was editing the NCAT NEWS for over ten years. What did me in was the lack of material, (especially hands on construction and modeling articles) to publish. We had many people who submitted material over the years, but that volunteering of information and articles dwindled drastically toward the end of my editing days.

There weren't a lot of people actually modeling N scale traction at the conclusion of the year 2001, and there still aren't. Some of our NCAT NEWS subscribers (who had previously done hands on work with N traction,) had moved on to other areas of the hobby and I was unable to locate "new blood".

The situation hasn't changed much in two years. Some new equipment (Modemo and Kato) has been released, but the number of N traction modelers has not increased at all.

As Larry Ede, Ray Gulden and I have always done the train show circuit, we've kept our modeling fingers going. I thought it would be good to bring you up to date on what we've been doing and where we've gone in the last two years. Will there be any future issues? I can't answer that question one way or the other at this time.

