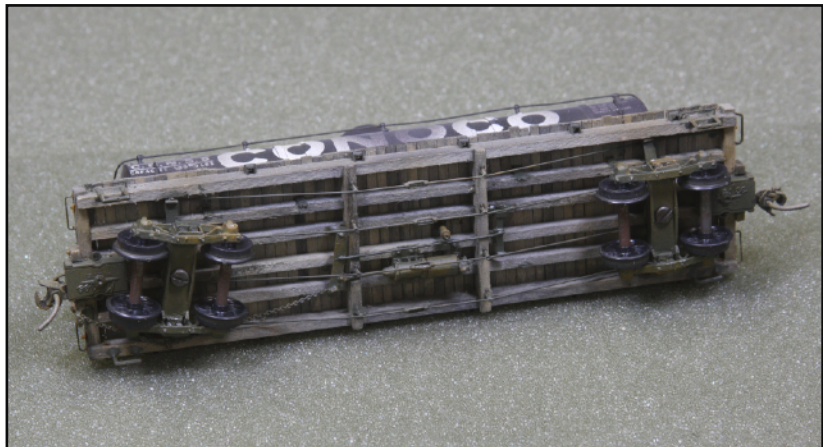


## 8. Ron King's Tank Car



I like all my rolling stock, but I have especially fond memories of one Sn3 tank car that I built. Maybe it's because everyone in my family worked in the oil industry at one time or another and also because of the circumstances during which I built this one – while working as a commercial deep sea diver out of the Beaumont-Port Arthur, Texas area. I had a small attaché case that carried my modeling tools and the supplies needed to build a few models while I was on the rig or in my motel room. The model started out as a kit, but it turned out well enough to become a contest and Merit Award winner. Because the prototype was basically a flat car with a tank on top, the “kit” consisted of a

urethane tank casting, half a dozen strips of basswood, and a drawing of the prototype. The rest was up to me. I had fun building the car while spending most of my time fabricating the brake rigging and other details. Construction info: The flat car was built board by board; the wood was distressed and stained with



leather dyes; the paint and weathering were air-brushed (Floquil).

During those years, I built several Sn3 models, but never built an S scale narrow gauge layout. There were very few of us working in that scale and gauge at the time, so building everything was a challenge. Today, this Conoco tank car still occupies a prime spot in my display cabinet and brings up many fond memories of my time in the Gulf region. *Ron King*

