

## Ron King's Misty Creek Junction



*Eastbound number 342 is crossing the  
“new” steel bridge over Misty Creek*

- 1. What is the name of your layout?** The Misty Creek Junction, a fictional branch line of the D&RGW railroad
- 2. What scale is your layout?** HOn3 - HO scale, 3-foot narrow gauge
- 3. Does your layout have a specific era and/or location?** Southwestern Colorado, Era - 1939 to 1950.
- 4. What are the overall dimensions of your layout?** 18 feet x 11 feet. It is an L-shaped folded dog bone with two reversing loops and a terminal yard off to the side.
- 5. How do you control your layout?** Digitrax DCC
- 6. When did you start making your layout?** The layout was started in February, 2013 as an HO standard gauge eastern truck line with a double track main. The first three sections were built and operated very well for a couple of years. (A photo tour of the standard gauge Misty Creek Junction was published in the Spring 2016 issue of the Potomac Flyer.) Then I realized that I did not have the time, money, energy, or desire



*Westbound number 342 is passing through the “Devil’s Rock” formation. Vertical scenery with great rock formations is one of the features of narrow gauge modeling. All of these rocks were cast in place one at a time using Hydrocal in my original molds.*



to recreate a major Class 1 railroad in my basement, so I went back to my first love - narrow gauge in the Rockies. I always loved smaller trains, pulled by small tea-kettle locomotives running through rocky terrain. So in late 2019, I ripped out the double track and replaced it with a single track main. Then I moved the basic scenery to the west by removing several hundred deciduous trees and replacing them with evergreens, junipers, and aspen.



**7. Do you host operating sessions or would you consider doing so?** The Misty Creek Junction operates as an out and back system. Local trains will originate at the interchange yard in Sandy Spring and service the on line customers at Misty Creek and points west. My layout is small and while it could host a small operating crew when it is fully functional, I still have to recover my health and build the yard before I could consider hosting anything.

**8. What type of track (sectional, flex track or hand laid) and switches are on your layout and what is its code?** There are a few short pieces of Code 70 flex track on



the layout and most of the switches are modified Micro Engineering units. But the bulk of the track is hand laid Code 70 rail on hand cut scale ties and my favorite switches are my own hand-built units. Even though Code 70 is somewhat big for HOn3, my personal experience has shown that it simply works better than smaller rail.

**9. If you were to brag about your layout what would you describe as**

*Proof that no layout is ever finished*

its **outstanding feature(s)** I have been doing rock castings for almost 50 years and think they look pretty good. I also think my finished scenery looks pretty good. I have also been doing my own trackwork for well over 50 years and am pleased with how it operates.

## The Misty Creek Track Plan

