

subjective—which dimensions are adequate, which will need to be altered. Using the HO dimensions as a guide, the height of the roof above the floor and the top of the railing above the floor appear too short for S scale. The addition of a short stem wall, .25 inches tall by .125 inches thick, 16" x 8" in S gauge, around the floor will resolve the height deficiency. The remaining dimensions appear reasonable in an S scale setting.

The very detailed six-page instruction booklet outlines the order in which the kit should be assembled. It also includes diagrams to identify the various pieces.



Except for adding the stem wall, following the instructions to assemble the structure is quite straightforward. However, because of the stem wall, it became necessary to change the order of assembly; attaching the roof supports to the roof assembly instead of the floor assembly.

The instructions infer the kit can be assembled in minutes which seems an oversimplification, whether in HO or

S scale. The kit, however, is quite simple to assemble following the instructions and using standard plastic kit assembly techniques. The instructions suggest priming and painting all the parts before assembly, but it seems simpler to preassemble the floor and roof sections, priming them with a good plastic primer, and then brush or spray painting them. Final touch-up with an artist brush highlights the smaller details.

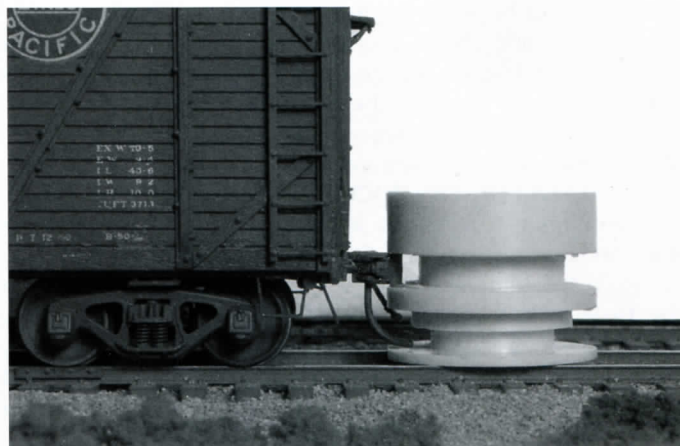
A small orchestra and a crowd of dancers will make your downtown area ready for the outdoor Saturday night summer fun. *Richard Ward*

TRU-GAGE COUPLER HEIGHT GAUGE (#119). Great Decals!, PO Box 994, Herndon, VA 20172. www.greatdecals.com. Price: \$7.99.

The instruction sheet says it all, "Easy to use — the world's simplest." Thanks to the efforts of a number of S scale modelers, Great Decals! has introduced a one-piece coupler height gauge for S scale Kadee-style couplers that is amazing in its simplicity of use.

The gauge is a resin cylindrical casting that includes indentations for the rails, the knuckle coupler head and the wire uncoupling pin. Simply place the gauge on the rails and roll a car or locomotive up to the gauge. You can quickly see if the coupler head and pin are at the proper height. If the coupler and pin slip into the channels in the gauge, then they are at the correct height. If the coupler head or pin strikes the gauge, then you can easily determine the adjustment that needs to be made. Because the gauge is made of resin it can be used with the power on (AC, DC and DCC).

Bob Hogan



lighter shades of green, with nicely-portioned contours, will be used in town areas on my layout. The Waters Edge trees have white and brown bark to represent birch trees.

I'm very pleased with these products, and I know they'll make a big hit on your S layout. Just remember the tree heights that are listed on the packages so you know what you're getting and how you'll use them before they arrive.

PUBLIC PAVILION. Woodland Scenics, P.O. Box 98, Linn Creek, MO 65052. (573) 346-5555, woodlandscenics.com. Price \$34.99.

Woodland Scenics offers a series of HO scale, well-detailed, plastic building kits they refer to as "Pre-Fab Landmark Structures." Several make up into credible S scale structures with some kitbashing. The kit chosen for this review, the public pavilion, is one of those which can be easily modified to fit into an S scale scene.

To begin, measurements should be made with a vernier caliper to assure reasonable accuracy when translated into HO and S scale sizes. Certain measurements, such as door heights and widths, are critical if the structure is to be altered to fit into an S scene.

Overall, the pavilion floor measures out to 1,098 square feet in HO, 594 square feet in S. The height of the structure from the floor to the edge of the roof measures 1½"; 11' in HO, or 8'1" in S. The floor sits ½" above the ground; 4' 3" in HO, or 3'1" in S. The top of the railing is 0.436 inches above the pavilion floor; 3'1" in HO and 2' 3" in S. The steps have a rise of 0.100" each; 8" in HO, 6" in S.

The next decisions are quite