

Thanks for

By Sam Miller, President

Thanks for your support working with Vice President. We appreciate your decision and will serve as co-coordinator.

As I have said several times, being a BBMRA member

Kids Day W

Please participate in our activities at the Lantern. Activities for neighborhood kids, any you can bring to the old train depot for

Van Trips t

As I am putting this collection of railroad memorabilia on the Seaboard and Atlantic Suburban and a van. If there is interest. Larry

Let Larry, John or me know if you are club members. We will

State Muse

The HO setup was open January 27th. We were the first to look. It was the perfect time to look. We have been there more than the time before. My friend used Sal Martocci's train set. It's a darn thing up.

Upcoming

We will have a busy spring. In April. We will discuss the trade. This should be a good house is available, but

BBMRA
PO BOX 3392
TALL, FL 32315-3392



BIG BEND MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION'S CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 11	Feb 12	Feb 13	Feb 14	Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 17 Jacksonville Trip
Feb 18	Feb 19	Feb 20 Meeting 7:30 to 10 pm Community Room Myers Park	Feb 21	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 24 Kid's Tour
Feb 25	Feb 26	Feb 27	Feb 28	Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3
Feb 4	Mar 5	Mar 6	Mar 7	Mar 8	Mar 9	Mar 10
Mar 11	Mar 12	Mar 13	Mar 14	Mar 15	Mar 16	Mar 17
Mar 18	Mar 19	Mar 20	Mar 21	Mar 22	Mar 23	Mar 24

constructed, Drew Hackmeyer will demonstrate his techniques for laying "sod." It's easy, quick and looks good. Come to Myers Park and check it out.



Ambrose's Book Interesting, But A Hard Read

A Book Review by Larry Benson - Veep

Stephen Ambrose's book entitled "Nothing Like It In The World" is interesting, but I found it also hard to read in places. In fact, somewhere about the third or fourth chapter I began to skip paragraphs and read only the first sentence or so in others.

His book published in 2000 by Simon & Schuster (\$28 - \$16.48 at Sam's) carries the more descriptive subtitle: "The Men Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad 1863-1869." If it wasn't for the subtitle and the picture of men laying track which illustrates the front of the dust jacket, a casual shopper might mistake the book to be about a trip to the moon rather than building a railroad across the continent.

Six or eight chapters are filled with the politics and infighting which occurred in Congress and among the major players involved. Selecting the route, the shenanigans practiced when financing construction and the forceful exercising of power by powerful men revealed in minute detail that I found uninteresting and quite frankly boring.

Woven in between and around these revelations are some interesting paragraphs about the actual surveying, blasting, grading, filling, bridge building and tunneling accomplished during construction. Ambrose has captured the dust, sweat, backbreaking labor and danger experienced by workmen as they toiled to get track down. One of the most interesting parts of the book is his description of how the Union Pacific and Central Pacific, who were racing to out-build each other and who faced worker shortages, solved their problems by hiring Chinese laborers by the thousands. The way these Chinese lived and worked is a highlight in Ambrose's narrative and he states that the railroad probably would not have been completed except for these workers who were imported from the far east.

I saw somewhere that Ambrose's book made a best seller's list, probably because, like me, the American public still has a romance with railroads and people buy books about them. While it is worth reading if your are interested in the history of the transcontinental railroad, I would have resisted the temptation to buy a copy had I known how it was written. Rather, I would have waited and checked it out at the library.

2001 SCHEDULE & TIMETABLE: all meetings 7:30 to 10pm

February 20th
March 20th
April 17th
May 15th
June 19th
July 17th

3rd Tuesday
3rd Tuesday
3rd Tuesday
3rd Tuesday
3rd Tuesday
3rd Tuesday

Myers Park Community Room
Myers Park Community Room
Florida Insurance Council
Myers Park Community Room
Myers Park Community Room
Florida Insurance Council

The track was 29 miles "B") in Calhoun County

During its final days, the pines of North Florida.

On a bad day in the '70 M&B locomotive in a ra two miles through my fa

You could swallow a fish up in two halves. The crowd awake like an exhausted

Around Marianna, plenty on a greased track in the

Allegedly, there was a actually carried paying custom-glide ride.

One elderly lady said "I watch her handsome, and the town in Calhoun Co

Throughout the '30s, '40 the payloads were unloaded

Optimistic businessmen

"Mighty Bridge-croser"

Near the end, when the before the wheels met the brakes off and the gear would eventually idle into

The M&B finally died in

Later, the line was built was true, but a bunch of railroad. Alas, even the

There's talk these days good set of Rollerblades

2001 Member