



# The LANTERN

Big Bend Model Railroad Association Volume 7, Number 9 Sept 2002

**NEXT MEETING**

**Sept. 17, 2002**

**FIC**

## **SEPTEMBER PROGRAM: A SWAP MEET: FLORIDA INSURANCE COUNCIL**

So you didn't want to buy a dealers table at our show? Well, now's your chance, the BBMRA will hold it's semi-annual (semi-annual because we hold one every couple of years) BBMRA Swap Meet during the September meeting. Any member from any club (Gulf Coast Limited or any other interested parties are invited to attend.).

**2003 TALLAHASSEE MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & SALE – ONE DAY OR TWO?: by John Sullenberger:** The 2003 Show will not be moved. It will be held on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, and maybe Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. The question of holding a two day show surfaced during our August business meeting. Eric and I decided that it should be looked at in depth. Another survey was mailed to our 2002 vendors and exhibitors asking for their views on the question. The results of the survey will be discussed during the September meeting.

Besides a commitment from the vendors I will need a commitment from our members. It's a long and tiring weekend, so I'll need to know if the membership will be willing and able to work a two day show. Think about it as the this will be brought before the membership at the September meeting.

## **BBMRA October Program: Our Annual Photo Contest – October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002: Myers Park Community Room**

The photo contest will have two categories: 1) Prototype railroads and 2) Model railroads.

### **Rules:**

1. Photographs should be in the form of color or black and white prints, 4X6 inches or larger.
2. Each photograph should feature a railroad subject and be taken by the individual submitting the photograph.
3. Each entry should include (a) a title; (b) a description of the prototype/model railroad featured; (c) a description of what is happening in the photograph; (d) a brief description of the photography techniques applied.
4. Enter up to 3 photographs per category.

### **Judging:**

1. The club members present at the meeting will conduct the judging.
2. All entries should be given to the Contest Administrator prior to the start of the meeting. The Contest Administrator will number the photographs and display them for the club. The club will be able to view all photographs.
3. The club will vote for the photographs that best depict the category.
4. The photograph receiving the highest score will win.
5. First, Second and Third place awards will be given out in each category.

**President's Column - submitted by Eric Taylor:** Hello again. I am sorry I, like John Sullenberger, will be missing the September meeting at FIC and the swap meet, but I have been called out of town to attend the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Florida Citrus Commission in Lakeland. I hope my schedule allows me to be here in October. In the meantime, we have to focus on the North Florida Fair, our participation in it and our assistance to the Fair Association for their electric dioramas.

The North Florida Fair begins at the end of October and runs through early November. The plans still are for the HO modules, the N Scale modules and the O-27 layout to be displayed. I cannot repeat this too much, because of all these layouts, we will need more people present throughout the day than we did last year. Each Division will have to insure adequate volunteers. I need a report from each of the Divisions by October 1<sup>st</sup> as to the progress of volunteering.

Here is a further update on the dioramas. The 4 2x4 modules have been delivered to the Fair. I have delivered many of the first models constructed and have taken them to the Fairgrounds. I want to thank David Knowles, Bob Swanson and Sam Miller for building those first models. Hopefully before the September meeting I will have delivered more completed models to the air. The expected additional models have not yet arrived at this writing. If necessary, we could still use other volunteers to build these models. I plan starting the week of September 9<sup>th</sup> to assist the Fair employees in doing the scenery for the dioramas. If you wish to help then or later, let me know.

Now for an update on our discussion about our 2003 train show. Last month we had a discussion about taking the show to two days. John and I secured information from the Fair about the costs of having a second day. We could do it if we charged \$30.00 a table for 2 days. John then sent out an additional questionnaire to the vendors to see if they would rather have our Show take place on two days. John will have more details in his report but I will state that the majority of the vendors who rent the larger number of tables do not want, and will not attend, a two day show. So, unless something

else drastically changes, we will be having our Train Show on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2003 for one day. If we make any changes, it will be small, as opening the doors at 9 or 9:30 AM instead of 10AM.

That is all the news for now. Have a good meeting. Let us focus on the Fair.

**Jeff Crew Recovering From Stroke - submitted by Sam Miller:** I am sorry to report Jeff Crew had a serious stroke August 27th. We expect Jeff to recover, but he is facing a long recuperation. He spent almost a week in intensive care at Tallahassee Memorial Regional Medical Center and was transferred to a room on August 31st. Jeff has been transferred to the Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Tallahassee on Riggins Road. We will update you at the next meeting. It does not appear very likely he will be able to go home for several more weeks.

Jeff is a wonderful friend and a very talented model railroader. He has worked behind the scenes on the HO layout. Many of the buildings were built by Jeff or donated by him. He also put together our steam engines from the kits we received from Don Boudreau's family. The airplanes for the airport were built by Jeff. One of the props was missing and he hand carved a replacement.

The club has sent Jeff a plant. Please remember Jeff in your thoughts and prayers.

**HO Division Gearing up for North Florida Fair; an HO Division Meeting is Planned for Sept. 17, 7 p.m., at FIC – submitted by Sam Miller:**

We took a short rest after all of the frantic work getting ready for the July show, but it's time to get busy again. The HO Division will meet at 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 17th, before the regular club meeting at the FIC Offices. We must begin getting ready for the North Florida Fair.

We will operate from Thursday, October 31st, through Sunday, November 10th. We have the opportunity to set up early this year, so we can work on the layout before we begin operations. We can go in as early as Sunday, October 20th, but probably Sunday, the 27th, will be soon enough. Tentatively, we will set up from noon to 5 p.m. on October 27th. I will be asking club members to come to the fairgrounds in shifts the following Monday through Wednesday and complete projects to be selected at our upcoming division meeting. Breakdown is scheduled for Monday, November 11, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Hours of operation are 4:45 to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 4:45 to 11 p.m. on Friday, 11:45 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday and 11:45 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday.

The N Scale Division will operate their refurbished layout at the North Florida Fair this year as well, so the HO division will have to staff its layout without assistance, but I don't believe we will have any problems. We had plenty of help last year and it was a lot of fun.

Like last year, we will seek volunteers in two-hour shifts and encourage you to sign up for a double shift when possible. Two club members are needed per shift. I am asking Vernon Parramore to once again help me coordinate the scheduling and call club members and remind them of their assigned shifts. We will begin circulating the signup sheets at the September 17th BBMRA meeting.

The division will develop a priorities list for further work on the layout during the upcoming division meeting. We had intended to add one more four-foot module to each side by the fair. It might be a good idea to delay that now until next year and focus on fine-tuning the new expanded layout introduced at the July show, but we should discuss it. The internal staging yard should be wired and, if possible, we should begin lighting the layout. Harold Odom has some structural fine-tuning in mind as well and it would be nice to add details to the new skyboards. Several BBMRA building kits need assembling, including three fine kits donated by Roy Mantooth. The fair setup will be a lot of fun again this year. I know all of you will help and I certainly appreciate it.