



The LANTERN

Big Bend Model Railroad Association Volume 8, Number 10 Oct 2003

Oct 21, 2003
Myers Park -

ROAD CAR KIT WORKSHOPS TO START IN OCTOBER: The InterMountain boxcar kits have arrived and were distributed at the September meeting to members who had ordered a car. The first workshop will deal with building the Master Modeler Mike Ashey leading the workshop. Future workshops will include: detailing, painting, decalizing and will be scheduled during the coming months. If you would like to hold/teach a workshop or have questions, please contact John Sullenberger at 410-8425 (8 am to 4 pm), or 562-5137 (home phone) or via e-mail at js@bma.org. Both telephones have voice mail.

CITY OF TALLAHASSEE WINTER FESTIVAL: Logistical problems with the Tallahassee Parks & Recreation "Train Station" has forced the TPD to cancel our invitation to "run trains" in this year's Festival. They had hoped to build the windows instead of building a walk-around deck. As the HO modules are about 4 inches higher than the cars and as we can't lower the height of the modules, the layout would be too high for public viewing.

LITTLE RED CAN IN THE LITTLE RED BOXCAR - submitted by Larry Benson: Shirley and I often cruise around Georgia on weekends, stopping in small towns to poke our heads into interesting stores full of "goodies." A couple of days ago, we journeyed up to Moultrie where we walked the square snooping in antique shops and enjoying a lunch.

On our way back to Tallahassee, we paused in Thomasville to see if Rose's had any good bargains to offer. They offered a few things. Although we were beginning to tire, we hit a couple antique shops.

Several years ago, I have been on the lookout for a metal wind-up locomotive similar to the one I had as a kid. I finally found one! (Okay, so steel wasn't invented yet when I was a child.) My find is a Marx O-Scale train complete with a locomotive, and a tender, boxcar and cabooses all made of tin. The loco and tender, typically painted "New York Central" almost new; the boxcar and cabooses have a couple minor scratches which don't mar their looks. With a little research, I found out the train was made prior to January 1, 1960, when Marx switched from tin to molded plastic.

When I bought the train, the dealer didn't have the winding key but he suggested I could undoubtedly find one in the area. And he was right. With a little searching, I found a key at Robert Grossman's in Ohio which I ordered and received perfectly. The loco's spring is still strong and after some cleaning and lubricating, the steamer runs like a charm. I'm looking for some 2-rail, O-scale track.

The key was hidden inside the red "Merchandise Service," Pennsylvania flagged boxcar. I soon had the bottom corner of a little red and buff colored can, two inches tall and one inch in diameter decorated with tiny, bright straw-colored flowers on vines. The can was wrapped in a 3-Star School Edition of Our Little Messenger, published on January 1, 1960. The date on the letter-sized newspaper seemed to confirm the train was manufactured sometime before 1960.

The can was heavy to be so small. What could be inside? Perhaps gold coins? Or maybe electric panel slugs? Or maybe electronic parts? Nothing quite so romantic or interesting. When I finally got the top off (it was rusted shut), I found dried, dried-out, red colored dirt of the kind found in South Georgia! While the content of the can was disappointing, the Marx wind-up sure isn't.

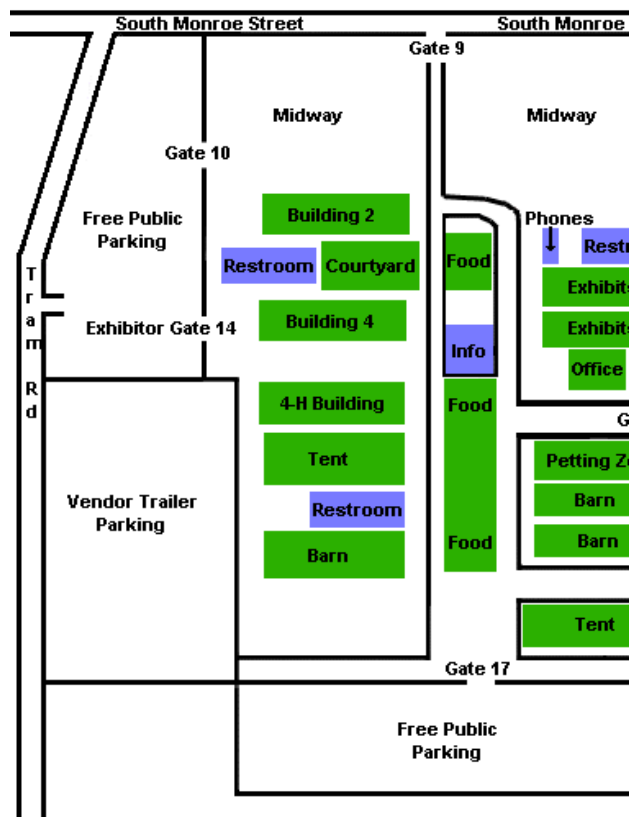
GEARING UP FOR THE NORTH FLORIDA FAIR: submitted by Sam Miller:

I will be setting up the layouts on Sunday, October 26th from 10:00 am until 5 pm. Operations will begin on Thursday, October 30th and run through Sunday, November 9th. I will be asking club members to come to the fairgrounds in shifts during the week Monday through Wednesday and complete our layout projects. Breakdown is scheduled for Monday, November 10th, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Hours of operation are 4:45 to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 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.

This year, we will seek volunteers in two-hour shifts and encourage you to sign up for a double shift when possible. At least two club members are needed per shift. Eric Taylor is the "Schedule Coordinator" this year (see article below). He will circulate the signup sheets at the October 21st Club Meeting for schedule finalization.

Our fair setup will be a lot of fun again this year. I know all of you will help and I certainly appreciate it.



HO Scale Schedule

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11:45 to Noon	Oct 27	Oct 28	Oct 29	<u>Oct 30</u> 4:45 to 6:30 Joe Haley	<u>Oct 31</u> 4:45 to 7:00	<u>Nov 1</u> 11:45 to 2:15
2:15 to 4:30				6:30 to 8:30	7:00 to 9:00	2:15 to 4:30
6:45 to 9:00				8:30 to 10:30	9:00 to 11:00	4:30 to 6:45 6:45 to 9:00 Joe Haley 9:00 to 11:00 Joe Haley
2:15 to 4:30	<u>Nov 3</u> 4:45 to 7:00 Joe Haley	<u>Nov 4</u> 4:45 to 7:00 Joe Haley	<u>Nov 5</u> 4:45 to 7:00	<u>Nov 6</u> 4:45 to 7:00 Joe Haley	<u>Nov 7</u> 4:45 to 7:00	<u>Nov 8</u> 11:45 to 2:15
4:30 to 6:45	7:00 to 9:00	7:00 to 9:00	7:00 to 9:00	7:00 to 9:00	7:00 to 9:00	2:15 to 4:30
6:45 to 9:00	9:00 to 10:30	9:00 to 10:30	9:00 to 10:30	9:00 to 10:30	9:00 to 11:00	4:30 to 6:45 6:45 to 9:00 9:00 to 11:00
2:15 to 4:30	<u>Nov 10</u> Tear down 11 am to 2 pm	Nov 11	Nov 12	Nov 13	Nov 14	Nov 15
4:30 to 6:45						
6:45 to 9:00						

NORTH FLORIDA FAIR: Eric Taylor volunteered to be our Staff Coordinator for the 2003 North Florida Fair. If making reservations for the Fair that starts at the end of this month (the 30th). He has asked that all shift requests be via e-mail (ejtaylor3416@netzero.com). The Fair dates are from October 30th through November 9th. The table below shows the days and times we will be working the Fair. We will need at least two people per shift, preferably three people; one "inside" person for each of the HO and N layouts and one "outside" person to work the scales. Please contact Eric and reserve a shift.

Florida Fair Set-Ups – HO and N Scale Operations - submitted by John Sullenberger: Between the scales, John Anthamatten, Larry Benson, Garth Easton, Sandy Scott and myself, the N Scale layout is manning the scales for operations when the Fair opens on Thursday, October 30th until it closes on Sunday, November 9th.

On the other side, Joe Haley is the only HO Division member who has signed up for specific times. The number one priority for the HO Division at the October 21st meeting must be to sign up members for HO operations.

