



THE LANTERN

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The Official Newsletter Publication of the
BIG BEND MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

May, 2004



NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY

May 18, 2004

7:30 PM

Myers Park

AGENDA

Airbrush Specialists
will demonstrate
their art!

Notice

The Tallahassee Mall
BBMRA storefront

(at the main entrance across
from Piccadilly's)

will be **open** on **Tuesday's**
from

5:00 PM until 8:30 PM

through the month of JUNE.

Come and run trains, work or
just hang out!

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN BY EVAN HUGHES

Now that we are in possession of the Tallahassee Mall storefront location, club members have been making progress with several work days. The front portion of the room contains the beginnings of an NTRAK layout that has most of the modules from the various setups. It runs down the wall for about twenty-four feet in a straight line with the two loops at the end. The modules composing the layout use the farm module, the two-city/industrial modules, the lumber mill module and the loops. Soon we will have trains running!

The HO division is discussing the development of a new layout for the store front and smaller shows, while the large-scale division had an O 27 scale Lionel running on a clever 3' by 6' layout. The Lionel setup is on a tabletop covered with a printed carpet showing roads and buildings. They also have a number of other model structures on the layout. It is in the front of the store.

The meeting this month will feature airbrushing. We will have a person demonstrate how to airbrush. The original speaker had a work schedule change so we will feature club members who have experience in airbrushing.

Special "Thanks" to all the people who helped move the old warehouse to our new storefront. Several members helped remove the last parts of the shelving from the warehouse. John Bennett, Sal Marocci, Eric Ecklund, John Sullenberger, and Shawn Vann helped remove the last of the BBMRA from the old warehouse. Thanks!

Plan Ahead

June 15 Myers Park *Program: Decaling and Weathering models*

July 20 Myers Park *Program: D.C.C. vs. DC (Analog) wiring*

July 10 Fair Grounds Building #2
Tallahassee Model Railroad Show and Sale

August 17 Myers Park *Program: Photo contest and RR film*



GRAND IRON HORSES AND THEIR FRIENDLY CREW

BY LARRY BENSON

Early in the morning on the first Saturday in April, Dan King, David Bruzell and I met at Sam's Club parking lot for a half-day railfan excursion which remained a mystery to them until we arrived at our destination. I had previously scoped out the timing, location and what was reported to be happening there every morning except Sundays.

We drove north a few miles to a restaurant where we had breakfast. After enjoying delicious bacon and eggs with all the trimmings and a gallon of coffee, we settled down to await the arrival of a north bound CSX freight.

About 45 minutes later, David heard the distinct wail of a diesel locomotive horn. Then around a bend in the track, a light appeared signaling the arrival of two CSX locomotives towing about 14 cars including covered condolas and tankers. As we had expected, the locos eased to a stop near the restaurant and, after locking down their "iron horses", two or three of the crewmen dismounted and entered the cafe for breakfast.

We introduced ourselves and asked if we might join them at their table. "Sure, sit with us while we eat," invited the engineer. He and the conductor ate as we chatted casually about their consist, where they were bound, etc. It seems they spend most of the day in South Georgia switching cars, and return to Tallahassee with a different tow, to repeat the same run next morning.

After eating, the crew went back to work. As the three of us headed home, we reflected about their friendliness which made our railfan trip and experience to remember.



GOT NEWS?

Please send all information before the **fifth of the month** to
E. Hughes
2401 Tree Top Court
Tallahassee, FL 32303

evandet@comcast.net