



THE Lantern

October 2006

Volume 11 Number 10

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH, 7:30 MYERS PARK COMMUNITY ROOM

BBMRA Shirts:

submitted by Barrett Johnson

Shirt info: Below are the prices by quantity for club shirts. These shirts are short sleeve, button down collar twill shirts that are 100% combed cotton. Because the fabric is twill, these shirts will not snag the way knit golf shirts do and because there is no polyester in the fabric it will breathe better and be cooler. Prices include the club logo on the left chest.



In sizes S-XL the prices are: 1-12: \$33.98; 13-24: \$31.25; 25-36: \$28.98; and 37-48: \$27.48. Large sizes are slightly higher.

Although most will want khaki, other colors are available and color choice has no effect on price.

So that the BBMRA can better determine a shirt's cost, please contact John Sullenberger (sullyjws@aol.com or 562-5137) with the number of shirts (by size) you would want to order. You can bring the information to the next meeting as well. The color choices will be available at the October meeting and will be posted in the November Lantern.

Small _____ Large _____ 2 Extra-Large _____ 4 Extra-Large _____
Medium _____ Extra-Large _____ 3 Extra-Large _____

We found out what's behind the fence at 252 Bay Pine Drive!

The BBMRA would like to thank Eric and Ina Ecklund for hosting another great Model Railroad Open House. Eric's outdoor G Scale layout looks better than ever. The new logging addition looks and runs great. Five trains can now run at the same time, with two more in reserve to run on the lower loop.



New Members:

The Big Bend Model Railroad Association would like to welcome Chase and Fred (dad) Worrill from Crawfordville and Bob Murphy from Cairo, Georgia into our club.

Minutes of September 2006 BBMRA Membership Meeting

The September 26, 2006 membership meeting was called to order by Vice President Randy Lombardo at 7:10 p.m. in Program Room A of the Leroy Collins Leon County Public Library. There were thirty (30) attendees present.

Minutes: Minutes of the August 15, 2006 meeting, as published in the September issue of *The Lantern*, were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Boyle reported a bank balance of \$3,834.47 as of this meeting. His report was accepted.

Division Reports:

N-Scale: No report.

HO Scale: Sam announced that we will be participating in the Havana celebration on 9 – 10 December. The HO layout will be on display. Setup will be starting on Dec 6th.

O-Scale: Beth Edwards reported they are considering several ideas.

Veteran's Memorial – Bristol: John Anthamatten reported that they had received a waiver from the federal government for their rails. The annual "Spooktacular" will be from 27 – 30 October (except for Sunday). They are still running the 2nd Saturday in each month and the park and train can still be rented for birthday parties or any other event.

Good of the Group Comments, Etc.: Barrett Johnson recognized Dave Kerns as one of our oldest members.

Larry Benson reported that Tom Mann (a weathering expert) has allowed Shawn to use his web site (which includes pictures) to design a tutorial presentation on weathering and he is investigating the possibility of printing these in the lantern.

Dan King commented of the reciprocal agreement concerning admittance between our club and the Wiregrass Railroad Society (Dothan) and the Flint River Model Railroad Club (Albany) for each of our shows. He will negotiate with the Albany club and Larry Benson will negotiate with the Dothan club as each have connections in each club. Final proposals will be presented for approval by the club at a future meeting.

There was a question raised by John Edrington about our club nametags and shirts with the BBMRA logo. Garth got the nametags and we'll have to ask him about those. The Clothesline has the patterns for the shirts. John Sullenberger will put something in the lantern concerning the nametags and the shirts.

David Knowles announced that there will be a toy auction (including train memorabilia) on September 30, 2006. A list of the items to be auctioned is included on John Whitworth's web site (Affiliated Coins).

Sam Miller demonstrated his O Scale sea scene that Jim McGill assisted him on. It was awesome!

Dan King asked if anyone knew about Dan's Train Depot in Ocala moving as he had heard this rumor in Dothan. Drew Hackmeyer said that they were moving but farther from Ocala.

Randy Lombardo mentioned that there was a reconstruction project underway in Dothan on their depot. He'll report more as he investigates.

Sal Martocci reported that LGB has filed for bankruptcy. The Orlando show is on the 4th and 5th of November. The Folkston Swampfest will be held on the 14th of October. There will be several train related activities in the depot there.

There will be a swap meet next meeting.

Program: Bill Boyle presented a demonstration on weathering. Several, including one of our child visitors, were invited to assist in the weathering of several cars. The demonstration was enjoyed by all.

Visitors: We had several visitors in attendance. These included David Thompson, Eddie Wallat and Chase and Fred Worrill who joined before they left for the evening.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be at 7:30p.m., Tuesday, October 17, 2006, in the Community Room at Myers Park.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Respectfully submitted, David Brazell, o/b/o Lyn Heath, Secretary

Members Travel to Dothan for Wiregrass Train Show

By Larry Benson

I tried to keep track of the number of BBMRA members I saw at the annual Wiregrass Model Railroad Show and Sale in Dothan which was held on Saturday, September 16 and Sunday the 17th. Our members were very much in evidence and on Saturday I remember talking to at least 11 from our club who were there. I didn't go back to the show on Sunday, so anybody who attended that day isn't in the list below.

As usual, the 2-day show was held in the National Peanut Festival Fairgrounds on U.S. Highway 231 south of the Dothan bypass. Vendors displayed a wide array of new and used items in all scales. Locomotives, rolling stock, modeling supplies, tools, artwork, videos, T-shirts and caps all were being offered on dealers' tables.

Danny Lewis, President of the local train club and Show Coordinator, said there were 22 vendors occupying about 150 tables and six layouts. The Pensacola Model Railroad Club had two layouts in N and HO scales; the Miracle Strip Club from Panama City also had N and HO layouts. The Mobile club was running an O scale setup and Greg Mahlkov from Port St. Joe had his mini 2 x 4 N Scale layout. Quite a few locomotives and several freight cars in their consists were "weathered" to perfection looking a lot like their well used, or abused, prototypes.

Those I saw at the show in Dothan included: David Brazell, Dick Daniels, Lyn Heath, David Kerns, Dan King, Randy Lombardo, Roy Mantooth, Sam Miller, Paul Schneider, Louis Stokley and Bill Thompson. If I missed anybody, please accept my apologies.

Wiregrass is always a fun train show to attend and browse through even if you don't really *need* anything! Invariably, though, you'll come home with at least one purchase - not for your layout - but because you want a memento that reminds you of a good day "railroading" with friends.

The Unique, Artistic W&O Railroad – submitted by David Kerns

Modelers planning a layout and wanting to have their railroad give the appearance of running through natural settings will want to take a look at the W&O. This layout was built by an accomplished artist in his home and subsequently moved to Westminster Oaks, where it is on display. It is composed of a series of scenes which predictably and in normal fashion have a railroad running through them.

Too often, rail is laid around a tabletop in as extensive a manner as possible, and only after it is complete is some scenery crowded in any remaining space. The result is an artificial or forced appearance. Planning the scenery at an earlier stage of design avoids this problem.

The N-gauge W&O has a small settlement in one valley surrounded by mountains; a sawmill and lumber yard are nearby. These are followed by a wide expanse of arid land reminiscent of the Southwest U.S. Then there is a green valley with a few scattered houses, a church on a hill, and a featured deep river gorge, crossed by an attractive railway bridge. It is a pleasure to watch a train wind its way through these scenes.

While the notion that a modeler should think of scenery in planning his layout may seem odd, it can lead to a positive end. One may think of planning a stage for action and think of oneself as being in or on the stage. Or put oneself in the position of imagining how the railroad will react in its surroundings and environment. John Allen was a photographer and planned his scenes as he imagined them being seen through the eye of his camera; his resulting Gorre and Dephaetid railroad is legendary.

Members of the BBMRA made a major contribution to the present W&O. When the layout was sold to Westminster, it had to be cut into three pieces in order to get it out of the small bedroom where it was built. For lack of space, it was stored in the Westminster warehouse for several years. About four years ago, Lee Elgin, a Westminster resident, was appointed chairman of the railroad committee. He was successful in finding a space for the layout and getting it moved from the warehouse. At this point the BBMRA members, especially the N-gaugers joined in, first getting the three sections properly aligned on the base and then putting the railroad in operating condition. Work sessions continued over a period of several months, with four or five members attending each. Those participating included Larry Benson, Dan King, Evan Hughes, Shawn Vann, Paul Moon, Carlos Presley, Ken Brock and perhaps others. Since then members of the railroad committee have worked to perfect the W&O's operation, but on occasion one or two BBMRA members have gone out to Westminster to help find and correct a persistent glitch.

The W&O is located in the Athletic Center on the lower level of Oaks South, the first multi-story building reached on Meandering Way, in the Westminster Oaks Retirement Community. It is operated in the afternoon of the last Saturday of each month from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Operation at other times may be requested through David Kerns, 385-1366, or Lee Elgin, 402-1060.

BBMRA
PO Box 3392
Tallahassee, FL 32315-3392



Havana Centennial Celebration

The Town of Havana is located 14 miles north of Tallahassee in beautiful Gadsden County, Florida. In 1902, after the completion of a railroad track for the Georgia, Florida and Alabama Railroad, families who had originally settled in nearby Salem decided to move about a mile east to the present site of Havana. The railroad was very important to the town, as was tobacco. The Town was incorporated on December 5, 1906. The name "Havana" was proposed by a local schoolteacher, James Mathewson. Shade tobacco, used in fine cigars, was the major crop in the area at that time. Over the years, tobacco crops dwindled and now Town of Havana is well known for our many antique shops, art galleries, and specialty shops.

The Town, will be celebrating their 100th anniversary this December with so much, it will take two days - Saturday & Sunday, December 9th and 10th! The history of Havana throughout the past 100 years will be celebrated with a lawn mower parade, eldest and youngest citizen recognitions, arts & crafts vendors, activities in the Park, chorales, displays of historical memorabilia, a street dance in the evening, & more.

Sam announced that we will be participating in the Havana celebration on 9 – 10 December. The HO layout will be on display. Setup will be starting on Dec 6th.

TALLAHASSEE MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & SALE

Saturday, July 21st, 2007 -- North Florida Fairgrounds, Building #4 -- 10 am to 5 pm

Admission: Adults & children 13 and older: \$5 -- Children 12 and younger are Free -- Free Parking

