



THE LANTERN

May 2010

Volume 15 Number 5

BBMRA'S NEXT MEETING: MAY 18TH

May 18th Meeting at the old Tallahassee Antique Car Museum

The old Tallahassee Antique Car Museum is located on Mahan Drive just east of the intersection of Capital Circle and Mahan Drive (across from the McDonalds in the Wal-Mart parking lot). The meeting will begin at 7:30 pm.

Program: David Brazell - Constructing Realistic Loads

This month David Brazell will present a program on constructing realistic loads. He will cover some premade loads as well as how to scratch build realistic loads. Loads for open autoracks, flatcars, open hoppers, bulkhead flatcars, gondolas, and centerbeams for all scales will be presented.

NMRA 50th Anniversary Convention by Barrett Johnson

The 50th anniversary of Sunshine Region and the 75th anniversary of the National Model Railroad Association is 2010. The Sunshine Region convention will be in Tallahassee for the first time.

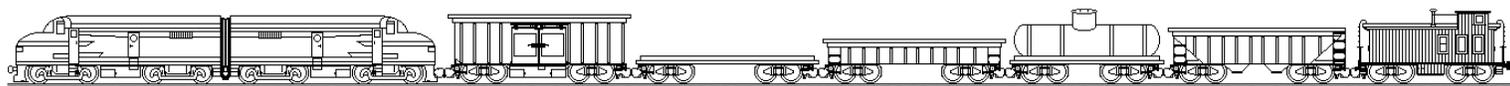
Things begin Thursday night with a free hamburger cookout at Barrett and Merry Ann Johnsons' FOR CONVENTION REGISTRANTS. Friday morning includes a tour of the Capitol with access to the Senate Chamber at 9 and a tour of the Governor's Mansion at 10:30. Friday afternoon are do-it-yourself visits to area attractions. Friday at 5:30 is the cash bar welcome reception at the Museum, which includes a tour. The BBMRA live steamers will be operating under the portico.

Convention registration is \$40 and includes a full Saturday of clinics, a model contest and a photography contest. Among those giving clinics are Sunshine Region President Stan Seeds, one of 6 people living who have earned all 11 achievement awards. Stan is giving a two hour make and take clinic on making trees. Master Model Railroader Dennis Little is giving two clinics, one on weathering freight cars and one on how the NMRA Achievement Program works. Master Model Railroader Gail Komar is giving a clinic on Modeling the New River, WVa Coal and Coke Company. Jim McGill is giving a two hour clinic on making paper models. Barrett Johnson and Sam Miller are also giving clinics.

Models may be judged for merit points toward Achievement Awards or exhibited for display only and not entered in the contest. Those entering the contest should go to the NMRA website and visit the sidebar "Achievement Program" which lists the judging matrices. Winners will be announced and awards distributed at the Saturday night banquet at the Holiday Inn at I-10 and North Monroe. Entrée choices are London broil or stuffed grouper. Banquet tickets are \$37.50, including all taxes and tip and all food and drink items. There will be a cash bar before the banquet. DeVoe Moore is the banquet speaker.

Sunday morning is the Sunshine Region board meeting at 8:30 followed by layout tours. Maps are in the registration packets.

NMRA has a trial membership called Railpass which gives a person full membership for 6 months, including the monthly magazine, for \$9.95. There will be vendors both Friday and Saturday at the Holiday Inn and those visiting the vendors DO NOT have to be registered for the convention. Attendance at clinics and other convention activities does require convention registration.



"The LANTERN" is the official publication of the BIG BEND MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC. and is published monthly just prior to each regularly scheduled meeting. Subscriptions are included in all members' dues. The deadline to submit materials for publication is the fifth (unless otherwise noted) day of each month sent in c/o BBMRA, Attn: Editor, PO Box 3392, Tallahassee, FL 32315-3392 or e-mailed to sullyjws@aol.com.

National Model Railroad Association

Sunshine Region Convention

Saturday, May 15th Clinics (subject to change):

Presenter	Clinic Name	Synopsis
Jim McGill	3D Paper Modeling	Each member will be given (for keeps, for free) all the tools necessary to assemble the model of a Service Station. I will build one of the HO scale models along with the workshop attendees. This model has been chosen to show several basic paper model techniques.
Gail Komar	Modeling the New River, W Va Coal and Coke Co.	This clinic and it is excellent, involving some very complex modeling. Gail gave this clinic at Prototype Rails in January and it was very well received.
Stan Seeds, Fort Myers	Tree-Building, Some Unique Techniques	Make & Take, limited to 10 people: There are dozens of tree modeling techniques, but Sunshine Region President Stan seeds has come up with a couple of dandy unique ones. You will come away with a couple of trees and the material to build a lot more. There is a fee.
Drew Hackmeyer	Fast Tracks	Fast Tracks
Dr. James Gore, Tampa	Freelancing the Chili Lines to Los Alamos: A layout based on a rumor.	Jim describes it this way: its a little history (of the Chili Lines), a little bit of how to plan to represent the prototype (scenery, structures, and equipment), plus a tour of my own layout which was based on the rumor that the D&RGW did not abandon the Chili Lines.
Dennis Little, Fort Myers	Weathering Your Freight Car Fleet	Dennis, the SSR's newest Master Model Railroader, is a master at putting realistic, prototypical, well used looks on his freight car fleet. You will pick up many good ideas and the inspiration to "clean up" your new in-the-box rolling stock.
Dennis Little, Fort Myers, SSR AP Director	AP Program a Sunshine Region Priority	Dennis directs the AP Program for the Sunshine Region and has been aggressively promoting participation by region members. If you have a layout, you probably already qualify for or almost qualify for one or more achievement awards.
Sam Miller, Tallahassee, SSR Northern Division Superintendent	"Christmastizing" your Layout	This is not for rivet counters because some of the Christmas lights and other accessories are not 100 percent to scale, but you can make your layout special during the holidays. Sam suggests how you can model a small town decorated for Christmas.
Bob Temple, Lakeland	Twenty Heroes of Early HO	This is a biographical survey of some of the inventers, tinkerers and manufacturers in HO scale/gauge. The 20 heroes include Eric Lanal, Edward Beal, George Stock, Gordon Varney, John Tyler and Irvin Athearn.
Robert Bell, North Carolina	How to apply Decals ...And not play by the rules	Decals can add impressive detail and realism to buildings and rolling stock, but putting them on effectively can be tricky. Bob Bell's innovative ideas will surprise you.
Barrett Johnson, Tallahassee, SSR Secretary	Building Life-like Highways and Roads	Barrett has conducted this clinic at several SSR conventions and it is always well attended. He keeps updating his topic, so you always learn something new. He uses sandpaper as his basic material. Do you know the width of a highway?
Jesse "Ace" Fairley, Tallahassee	NMRA Weighting of HO Scale Rolling Stock - a "Mindless-Mini-Clinic"	Jesse "Ace" Fairley is one of the senior NMRA members in Tallahassee and an innovative, classy fellow. I would like to present a Mindless-Mini-Clinic which would give the attendees a chance to just sit down and rest their tired bodies for a few minutes....

Minutes of April 2010 Meeting

The April 20, 2010 Membership Meeting was called to order by President John Sullenberger at 7:40 p.m. in the Banquet Room of the old Antique Car Museum. Forty (40) people were present.

Guests: Doug Dersk was introduced. He recently moved here from Alaska. He models N-Scale.

Raffle: Sheldon Harrison won the raffle and donated a portion of his winnings back to the club.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 2010 meeting as published in the Lantern were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Sullenberger reported a plus balance. Most of the bills have been paid. We still need to pay the fairgrounds.

Show Report: John Sullenberger reported that the show is sold out. There is a layout of where each exhibit will be placed if anyone wants to see it. He is scheduled to tape a promo to appear on the Good Morning Show and asked for volunteers to appear with him. Barrett Johnson volunteered. There are also flyers available if anyone wants them. We will have our June meeting just before the show. Everything is going well.

Division Reports:

Small Scale: Garth Easton announced there would be a work party at his house on Saturday.

HO Scale: Barrett Johnson announced would have a work party at the ACM on the Saturday, the 24th of April from 10 – 12 at the museum.

Large Scale: Randy Lombardo reported that they had ordered a diesel. Percy was still broken from Children's Day at the Gray Building. They are still working on it. He also reported that he had a 2010 Lionel catalog if anyone was interested.

Switching Layout: John Sullenberger announced that Joe Haley was doing well after his surgery. He was present and looked well. Still not 100% but will be so by the time of the show.

Veteran's Memorial – Bristol: John Anthamatten reported that they are presently running 2 locomotives. They are using coal and propane. They have a third locomotive that is a steam locomotive with a diesel engine in the tender. It is 99% ready to run. They still run every 2nd Saturday in each month from 10-3. Donations are always welcomed.

Good of the Group Comments: Barrett Johnson provided an overview of the upcoming NMRA Sunshine Division Convention to be held here from the 13th through the 16th of May. There will be a dinner at his home on Thursday the 13th. On Friday the 14th, there will be an opportunity to tour the capitol and enter into the chambers. In the afternoon, people are going to the Veterans Railroad in Bristol. That evening, there will be a cash bar reception at the TACM. On Saturday the 15th, activities will include many clinics, door prizes, a modeling contest, and an evening dinner and award ceremony. Sunday morning will include a local layout tour, including Eric Ecklund's G-Scale layout. If anyone is interested, a 6 month membership is available for \$9.95. Their basic regular membership is \$40.00 a year and advance membership, which includes the yearly magazine, is \$48.00. Members also get discounts on train books. The web site is Gulfwind.com. Registration for the convention is \$40.00.

John Sullenberger announced there is still scheduled a 3rd of July anniversary at the TACM. More details will be provided later.

Barrett Johnson announced that Overland and Union Pacific were teaming up to model an engine to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts. It will probably be expensive and limited in number.

Antique Car Museum Update:

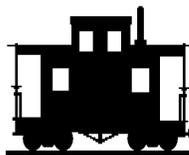
Program: Barrett Johnson conducted the program that consisted of discussion of electrical issues for you layout. The program was enjoyed by all.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be at 7:30p.m., Tuesday, May 18, 2010, at the Old Antique Car Museum.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Lyn Heath, Secretary

TALLAHASSEE MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & SALE

Saturday, June 19th, 2010 – North Florida Fairgrounds, Building #4 – 9 am to 4 pm
Adults & Children 13 and older: \$5 – Children 12 and younger are free – Free Parking



CSX Trundles 21 Freights Through Folkston Funnel

By Larry Benson

The 150 or so railfans gathered trackside on April 10 for "Rail Watch 2010" couldn't help but notice that CSX must have pulled road diesels from their mothball sidings to tow freights through the Folkston Funnel. The power units were dirty and bedraggled to say the least. Maurice Stone, Dan King, David Brazell and I watched 21 CSX freight consists in 10 hours trundle through the funnel in both directions. What's more, during the day three Amtrak passenger trains rumbled by. One of Amtrak's drags was the Auto Train reputed to be the "longest passenger train in the world". When you add the eight or so auto haulers attached to the back, it surely is a competitor for that title.



Larry Benson, Maurice Stone, Dan King, David Brazell enjoying "Rail Watch 2010" at Folkston Funnel



Amtrak powers Auto Train through Folkston Funnel

On a cool, picture-perfect day amongst congenial railfans chatting and exchanging pleasantries, taking photos and filming videos we were amazed to see a total of 24 trains during the time we were in Folkston. The final tally of train types numbered two coal drags – one empty and one loaded; two open "gons" filled with road gravel; seven intermodals – one a dedicated "military"; one 70-car long auto carrier; seven mixed freights – five that rambled through the Funnel; and two powered by Norfolk Southern we encountered at the grade crossing on highway 121 in St. George, GA on the way to and from Folkston.

As if a full day of train watching wasn't enough, the evening was capped off with a free hot dog and hamburger barbecue including delicious side dishes of potato salad and black beans 'n rice. Added to the cookout was the camaraderie of fellow railfans which enriched our overall experience.



CSX mixed freight approaches crossing gate at Folkston Funnel

Are we looking forward to "Rail Watch 2011"? You betcha!