



THE Lantern

October 2010

Volume 15 Number 10

October 19th 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.

October Program – Big Bend Model Railroad Meeting Survey:

Part of the discussion during the July BBMRA meeting concerned workshops and presentations and I asked the members what they wanted to see during our meetings. I was also looking for volunteers to present a workshop or presentation. What actually came out of the discussion was that I should send out an e-mail asking the members what they wanted to see during our meetings. So, we'll discuss the results and see if anyone will volunteer to present one of the requested workshops.

Veterans Memorial Halloween Spooktacular by Tom Keenan

Our Halloween runs are scheduled for the nights of Oct 28th, 29th and 30th starting at dusk and going till the last customer has ridden.

We are still putting together the cast of scary people. We think we have it set in cement but it might be a good idea for any one driving over from the Tallahassee area to call before leaving just to make sure. The best phone numbers are Gloria's cell at 643-6646 or Babs Moran at 643-5491.

Jeff Crew submitted by Sam Miller

Jeff Crew, a skillful model railroader who loved to repair and build old Mantua and Bowser steam engines, died October 10th at the age of 90. Jeff had suffered a series of strokes in recent years and was no longer active in BBMRA. He was a charter member of the BBMRA and was one of the main "techs" to keep club and member engines going. The club has an early diesel which Jeff built from a Bowser kit.

Jeff had a layout in a room in his garage. It included the first lift-up bridge I ever saw. It was very sophisticated for operations.

Jeff was a pilot in the Army Air Corp and later the U.S. Air Force. He built plastic models of every plane he ever flew. It was quite a collection.

Dave Kerns, Roy Mantooth and Vernon Parramore were especially close to Jeff. In addition to sharing model railroading as a hobby, they all attended Trinity United Methodist Church.

Jeff was a talented modeler, wonderful person and good friend. I have several engines he either built or repaired and cherish them.

Minutes of September 2010 BBMRA Membership Meeting

The September 21, 2010 membership meeting was called to order by President John Sullenberger at 7:34 pm in the Antique Car Museum meeting room with 38 members and 1 guest present.

Raffle: Ron Clark won our meeting raffle....again.

Minutes: The August meeting minutes as published in the Lantern were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: There is money in our bank account.

Show Report: John Sullenberger reported that 37 tables had been reserved for the 2011 show.

Division Reports:

Small Scale: Garth Easton reported the Division will set up and run the N Scale layout at Home Depot (Capital Circle NE) from 8:30 to 12 noon.

HO Scale: Barrett Johnson reported that the Division will be looking to build a smaller traveling layout. Barrett asked that HO Division members meet after tonight's meeting adjourned. .

Large Scale: Randy Lombardo reported that the Large Scale Division is willing to set up and run during our Fall events.

Switching Layout: Joe Haley will set up and run the switching layout at Home Depot as well and is also willing to set up and run during our other Fall events.

Veteran's Memorial: No report.

Our Fall Schedule: Home Depot on October 2nd, Cub Family Weekend at Wallwood on October 23rd, Jingle Jubilee at the Civic Center November 20th, Fall Farm Day at the Tallahassee Museum on December 4th, Winter Festival, downtown on December 11th and Children's Day at the RA Grey Building on January 29, 2011.

Good of the Group Comments, Etc.:

Randy Lombardo reported that there is a Wiregrass Model Railroad Show clip on U-Tube and that the West Florida Railroad Museum Depot Days Celebration in Milton, Florida will be held on Saturday, October 9th starting at 10 am (CDT) to 4 pm.

Program:

Drew Hackmeyer held two sessions on locomotive lubrication.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 19th at the (old) Antique Car Museum meeting room.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lyn Heath, Secretary (taken and prepared by David Brazell)



Eric & Ina Ecklund are hosting an Open House

(See page four for details.)



Collecting May Boost RR Hobby Interest by Larry Benson

As many of you know, my current N Scale layout is all but finished. I say "all but" because I still have a few buildings to illuminate. However, along the way I began to realize my interest in the railroad hobby was beginning slowly to shrink. Rather than letting that happen, I looked around for other ways to boost my interest and enthusiasm.

Searching for and collecting railroad items did the trick. For example, some things that have caught my attention include RR lanterns, long-spout oil cans once used to lubricate steam engines, certain Coca-Cola bottles, several static locomotives, a Marx O Gauge consist and a Russian wind-up train. Also among my meager collection are a small "electric train", two table lamps with locomotive bases one of which is Lionel with an HO steam engine that runs and whistles when it's switched on. I have already written about one or two of these collectibles in The Lantern and several forthcoming articles about others are currently in draft form.



After 72 years this Hornby clockwork locomotive still runs "like a clock".

My most recent addition is an early Hornby train set from the 1930s which I first spotted two or three years ago in a shop in Thomasville. At that time I couldn't believe my eyes! Not only was the price ridiculous but also it was way beyond what I was willing to pay. I made a counter offer but the owner of the shop refused to accept it. Not long ago Shirley and I stopped in the same store where I made a bee-line to the display case to see if the Hornby was still there.

It was sitting on a shelf peeking out from behind a display cabinet's glass door. What's more, the price was slashed almost in half – down to nearly the same as my prior offer. Really? To make sure it was true, I summoned the manager to ask if she could open the cabinet and let me take a closer look at the price tag.

Smelling a possible sale, she obliged immediately. Smelling possibly a better deal, I asked if that was her "very best" price. Without hesitating, she took another 20% off which was exactly the same as my previous offer. I tried not to laugh out loud and resisted the temptation to jump up and click my heels (as if I could).

The train set came in the box with a yellow label on one edge saying "Clockwork Hornby Trains - Gauge O M1- Goods Set Made In England By Meccano Ltd., Liverpool". Also included were the winding key, eight sections of O gauge track, six circular and two straight, and clips to secure the track together at the joints. The locomotive is red and black with forward-reverse and start-stop levers in the cab. A matching red and black wood/coal tender imprinted with the numbers "3435" in a rectangle in gold couples behind the locomotive. Two green open-top gondolas with large gold letters "L M S" and small numbers "12530" printed on each side complete the set. The letters stand for "London- Midland- Scottish" railway which was one of the Big 4 railroad companies in the United Kingdom (UK) from 1923 to 1948. Some other vintage Hornby trains I've seen carry these same markings.

Hornby is the leading brand of model trains manufactured in the UK. Their factory which is located in Liverpool is still in business. The company dates back to 1901 when Frank Hornby obtained a patent for his Meccano trains. The first Hornby "O" scale clockwork trains were produced starting in 1920 and came off the line until 1938 when Hornby sold out to the French company Tri-Ang. They manufactured trains branded "Hornby/Tri-Ang" until the 1980s when Tri-Ang entered into receivership. At that point Hornby again became an independent entity.

Although I haven't yet found an exact date of manufacture, the fact that it's "clockwork powered" suggests it must have been produced sometime prior to 1938 when Hornby quit making spring-wound locomotives solely under their brand name. By my calculations that's 72 years ago and the engine still runs "like a clock"!

TALLAHASSEE MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & SALE

Saturday, June 18th, 2011 – North Florida Fairgrounds, Building #4 – 9 am to 4 pm
Adults & Children 13 and older: \$5 – Children 12 and younger are free – Free Parking



"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.

Eric & Ina Ecklund, 252 Bay Pine Dr, Crawfordville

What is behind the fence at 252 Bay Pine Drive in Crawfordville, Florida?

Ponds, Water Falls, and an



Outdoor Garden Railroad!!

You are invited to visit, relax, and watch model trains on

Saturday October 30th 2010
Starting at 10:00 AM till 1:00PM

And

Sunday October 31st 2010
Starting at 2:00PM till 5:00PM

Eric & Ina Ecklund 926-4297



Directions to the Ecklund's:

1. Drive south to Crawfordville, FL
2. Driving south into Crawfordville look for the Wal-Mart on the left
3. At the stoplight at Wal-Mart: turn right onto Ivan Church Rd
4. Continuing on Ivan Church Rd, turn right onto Bay Pine Dr
5. Eric's house (252 Bay Pine Dr) is the third house on the left

