



THE Lantern

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2013 / 2014 BBMRA Officer Slate

The BBMRA will elect their 2013/2014 officers during the Annual Business Meeting to be held Tuesday, July 16th, 2013 at the old Tallahassee Antique Car Museum. The following is the current slate of nominees: President – John Sullenberger; Vice-President – Andy Zimmerman; Treasurer – Sandy Scott; Secretary – Doug Gyuricsko.

Nominations can/will be taken from the floor prior to the elections. The Division Coordinators will be elected by their respective Divisions after the general elections.

The BBMRA would like to thank the David Brazell for chairing the Nominating committee.

Tallahassee Model Railroad Show & Sale Recap by John Sullenberger

The 2013 Tallahassee Model Railroad Show & Sale was one of our best shows ranking third overall in gate attendance. The gate this year was 615 which was up from the 548 we had in 2012. Counting children, BBMRA, Flint River and Wiregrass members we had between 900 and 1100 attendees. The next Tallahassee Model Railroad Show & Sale is scheduled for June 28, 2014 at the North Florida Fairgrounds, buildings 2 and 4.

I have four extension cords that I brought home from the show and will bring them to Tuesday's meeting.

Unfortunately we did not keep a good list of this year's member attendees so I can't thank everyone who helped with this year's show. However, I would like to thank my co-manager Andy Zimmerman, my volunteer coordinator Bob Ruggles and the Division coordinators – Garth Easton, Sam Miller, Bobby Woodard and Randy Lombardo for making sure their layouts were operational and ready to go.

Time to Pay Your 2013-2014 Dues

The BBMRA Treasurer will be accepting members' dues payments for the upcoming fiscal year – July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 at our meeting on Tuesday, July 16th.

Dues for the next year are \$20 and may be paid by cash, check or money order (made payable to BBMRA). To remain an active member you have until August 31, 2013 to pay their dues. After that date members who have not paid their dues will be considered in default and their membership privileges will be suspended until their dues are paid.

A Change in Philosophy by Mike Sassard

While my college degree was in Psychology, I minored in speech and Drama. I worked as a Disc Jockey for 8 years starting in High School. I had a number of years' experience with the Gulf Coast Limited, a portable, O gauge, public display layout. I remember once looking over at the BBMRA HO layout and seeing NO TRAINS.

A public display layout is like a circus. You put it up, you put on a GOOD show, and you take it down. What the BBMRA needs is a GOOD show. I would like to see a GG1 come around the bend pulling long lighted passenger

*** Next Meeting ***

July 16th

at the

**'old' Tallahassee Antique
Car Museum**

The 'old' Tallahassee Antique Car Museum is located at 3550 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**.

cars at 100 miles per hour. In real life, on good track, these engines really did hit 100 MPH. It was fast steam trains that inspired MUSIC.

You only have two mainlines, because that's prototype, but you need three because you need to entertain and maybe a few "S" curves to go around an obstacle. You need to change all wheel sets to metal. People LIKE wheel noise. You need a grade crossing with operating gates and lights and a bell if you can wire it in. People like ACTION. Put a "horn" building and a "whistle" building there. Use them! People like SOUND. Run all your trains faster. I know modern electronics will let an engine "crawl", mine will, but the PUBLIC is not interested in that. Keep all trains running. They won't wear out. Never let the layout be seen without a train moving on it.

You might add a lighted passenger station for the GG1 and OCCASIONALLY stop, but not for long. You will lose their interest. You can see a STILL train in a picture.

I think it was Hobby Surplus Sales, years back, that advertised an ANIMATED carnival. Wouldn't that be a hoot? Where are your lights? A building without lights is a chunk of dead wood. People like LIGHTS. Get Sam to help you.

I have a double crossing gate with lights and bell on my layout. I'm going to install it on one track of my double track mainline. A bit unorthodox but it's the only way I can use it. I like it and I paid good money for that thing.

Your track is too regular and even. I'm a sloppy layout builder and when I put in my figure eight, the crossing was a little low, but it was a thrill watching the train, without hesitation, go down and up. It was ENTERTAINING.

You say, but this will keep us too busy. You want a good show, don't you? It takes hard work.

Many years back I went into a train shop, I think Chester Holley's, and I saw a Marklin layout, not operating. After a while I heard this noise and looked at the layout. There were trains running everywhere, in and out of switches and up and down grades. Marklin is 3-rail AC, and used to mount its track on METAL roadbed, which was quite noisy, but the layout showed off the expert German engineering.

Minutes of June 2013 BBMRA meeting

Meeting starting at 7:39 PM.

Minutes of April and May, accepted as is.

Guest present; Diana McClain, and Jessie.

Treasurers report; we are in the black.

Division reports,

Small scale; Garth to be at the fairgrounds at 8 AM.

HO; meet at Sam's at 1 PM. Bring all "T" trak modules.

Switching; no report.

Large scale; everything running for the show, except Percy.

Show schedule Friday 8 AM. Main vendors to show up around 11 to 5 PM.

Saturday morning 7 AM. start. Teardown to start asap.

Show discussion, wrist bands, 12 and under free, scout uniformed people free, members family to have bands.

For name tags see John. extension cords will be needed, put name tags on the cords, hand trucks, volunteers, all hands on deck.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Doug Gyuricsko.

Lionel FasTrack Modules

Those interested in participating in the Lionel FasTrack Module concept, Richard Schmitt submitted this link from the LCCA.

<http://www.lionelcollectors.org/lcca-newsstand/lccanews/newsStory.aspx?id=512&catId=21>

They are looking for members who want to build and display modules at a Special Event Train Show in March.

"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 first Tuesday of the publication month (unless otherwise noted) sent to: BBMRA, Attn: Editor, PO Box 3392, Tallahassee, FL 32315-3392 or e-mailed to bbmra-editor@ngsouth.net.