



THE Lantern

August 2013

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Time to Pay Your 2013-2014 Dues

The BBMRA Treasurer will be accepting members' dues payments for the current fiscal year – July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 at the August 20th meeting.

Dues for this year are \$20 and may be paid by cash, check or money order made payable to BBMRA. Members 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.

Program for August Meeting

John Sykes will be presenting a program/demonstration of weathering with chinks and pastels.

*** Next Meeting ***

August 20th

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.**

BIG TRAINS By Mike Sassard



Before I switched over to O gauge , I was in G gauge for a while. I started with some trains by Bachman. They were inexpensive, but not meant for heavy duty use. I feel they were worth the money. Before I got serious I got some expert advice from this area's Guru in G, Eric Ecklund, who advised me to go with Aristo Craft. He was right. I found Aristo Craft trains to be excellent. If you have any G gauge questions, e-mail him, trainman-1@Comcast.net.

A number of years back I got into NEW Lionel and Lionel Fastrack and over the years have mixed in an equal number of

Mike's Train House products. On the MTH trains I would suggest going with the Premier line. They are scale and more detailed. I have recently purchased a MTH DL109 and "B" unit. The "B" unit is powered, so to use it you have to plug in the umbilical cable to the "A" unit. For me this proved unsatisfactory as the umbilical cable kept coming unplugged and stopping the train. Now, I just use the "A" unit. One delightful surprise was the "working" Mars light in the "A" unit. The diesel sound is that of the very early diesels. I am happy with MTH and look forward to buying more.

Another pleasant surprise was a garden I made, inspired by Jim and Linda Quick's gardens from O Gauge Railroading articles. Linda got most of her supplies from Scenic Express, www.scenicexpress.com. Scenic Express is a little expensive, but very detailed and high quality.

I live in an apartment and don't have as much room as I would like for a railroad but the second bedroom has been dedicated entirely to my railroad. I have two mainlines and three long and winding sidings for train storage. I run all passenger trains. I started with a majority of steam engines but over the years have added more diesels. All my trains have sound. I am quite liberal how I landscape my layout. I have increased the number of MTH passenger cars because I find them superior to any others. I have two diesels which I just keep on a shelf, by Williams. They are the only company that makes a BL 2, one of my favorite engines.



Just for display I have a MTH reproduction pre-war "O" gauge train and one American Flyer, "S" gauge, post war train.

*Happy Rails,
Mike*

Richard Schmitt has provided the following write-up also available here:

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

2014 - LCCA/Lionel FasTrack Modular Railroad Layout in Florida

The LCCA is seeking members in the Florida area who have an interest in participating in a LCCA/Lionel FasTrack Modular Railroad Activity. We are looking for members who want to build sections and bring them to a Special Event Train Show scheduled for March 2014. If you have an interest, please contact Bob Eberley for more details. You can build a module from scratch on your own, you can purchase a modular kit from the LCCA or Lionel, or you can have a company such as TW TrainWorx design and build a customer modular section for you. If you do not have the room to have your own layout, this modular activity is a great way for you to run your Lionel Legacy trains with fellow member and friends. Get your friends together and build them as a group project. If you have a company, school, scout group etc you can custom decorate your modules as a personal expression of your interests. Have fun with this project and help introduce the magic of Lionel trains to an entire new generation of people.

For additional information, please contact:

Bob Eberley
941-722-4722
anv@tampabay.rr.com

Florida, Palmetto - RealRail is holding its 36th Annual Train & Model Railroad Expo on March 1 & 2, 2014 at the Manatee Convention Center, 1 Haben Blvd. Hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, and from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday. Attractions will include more than 150 tables, six layouts, as well as the famous Tampa Lego Group and the S-Scale disaster. Plenty of free parking will be available. Admission: \$8 Adults; children under 13 admitted free. LCCA members will be admitted for \$6 with valid membership card. For additional information, contact: Steven at (941) 321-5847; e-mail: stevenhaber2012@gmail.com or visit: www.realrail.org.

Minutes of July 2013 BBMRA meeting

John S. started the meeting at 7:32 PM.

Visitors (members) Mr. & Mrs. "Porky" Bacon, Dealer in the wood trains. They were very pleased with the help with the show set up and teardown.

New member Dan Lhotka, he has been in American Flyer "S" scale trains. Welcome.

Dues for the year are due and remain the same.

June minutes; Accepted as is. A suggestion from the floor to include the date of next BBMRA meeting.

Treasurer report; We are in the black.

Division reports;

Small scale; Garth reports an N scale set up at Home Depot on the west side first Saturday in September.

HO; Sam says thanks to all who helped with this years show.

Large scale; Randy reports Lionel will have hard copies with new Polar express set.

Switching; Joe reports 120 engineer certifications issued at the show. He also thanked Sandy for helping him.

NMRA; No report.

John reports we had the third best show ever. The clubs volunteers, and family members were great, and to Bob R. for his work with the volunteers, this helped the vendors in many ways. The ticket booth worked very well. The hot dog man did well also, and was very happy with the turnout.

The show for 2014 will be June 28th. This is a change maybe for the better.

Andy Z. says we need committee members for program, by-laws, and welcome committee, The by-laws need some changes, and updates.

Good of the group, John says Woodville has a founders day Friday Oct 11-12th. He asks if we are interested in participating with HO, & switching?

We may be invited to Children's day in Nov. The Auto Museum is still open to us but the air conditioning will not be running, go early before the heat sets in.

Elections of officers; all incumbent officers were nominated and elected by the members present.

John S. - President, Andy Z. - Vice President, Sandy S. -Treasurer, Doug G. – Secretary.

Division leaders were elected by individual groups, Small scale; is Garth E. HO; is Art W. Switching; is Joe H. Large scale, "O"/ "O-27" is Sam M.

Committee members who volunteered this year to help out are as follows.

Program committee: Sam M., Andy M., and Sheldon H.

By Laws committee: Andy Z., Dan K., David B., Paul S.

Welcome committee: Bobby W.

Now, I'm sorry I think I missed the show committee people as of this report.

Respectively submitted by Doug G.