



THE Lantern

January 2014

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January 21st Program – “Run Trains!”

The BBMRA will start this New Year running trains, the HO and Small Scale Divisions will set-up and run their T-Trak modular layouts. If you have a module that's ready-to-run (meaning the track is glued down) then please bring it.

As in November there will be a short business meeting: accepting the minutes and the treasurer's report and a few announcements and then we'll be back to running trains.

Beth Edwards Passes

Beth Edwards a long-time member and former Large Scale Division Coordinator passed away on December 31st. Please keep Beth's family in your prayers during their time of need.

Children's Day Festival is January 25, 2014

Joe Haley and the Time-Saver layout, Randy Lombardo and the Thomas layout and Sam Miller's Disney layout will be participating in this year's event which will include entertainment, hands-on crafts, exhibits, storytelling, and much more for the whole family. There is a small fee for some crafts. The event runs from 10 am to 4 pm at the Museum of Florida History.

February Program – the return of Jim Gore

Well BBMRA you are in for a treat! When I asked Jim Gore if he would do a clinic he said sure! “I will schedule February 18th for the clinic. The title will be: “Telling A Good Story!” the use of details, figures, and vehicles on a model railroad layout.” Jim has presented at many NMRA conventions, club meetings and other venues. Make sure to be on hand for this one. Jim has promised a full description of his clinic and I will send that after the New Year! February 18th is a date you will not want to miss!

February Project: A Paper Challenge

As Jim Gore will be returning in February this seems to be a good time for another “BUILD A PAPER MODEL” challenge.

There are many free resources available. Your only investment is to print a sheet of cardstock and the time to assemble it. This is not a contest. There will no grades, scores or prizes, just a “show and tell.”

Jim provided (in March 2012) a list of resources and instructions:

- 1) Study the model pieces and plan your assembly

*** Next Meeting ***

**January 21st
2014**

**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.**

TALLAHASSEE MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & SALE

Saturday, June 28th, 2014 – North Florida Fairgrounds, Buildings 2 & 4 – 9 am to 4 pm
Adults & Children 13 and older: \$6 – Children 12 and younger are free – Free Parking



- 2) Plan some more and make notes of how you will assemble the model
- 3) SHARP blades are a must!!!
- 4) Use a metal straight-edge and a cutting mat
- 5) Spray the printed sheet with a clear flat coating
- 6) Use the photo or best quality setting on your printer
- 7) Ink-jet printers are preferred
- 8) Remember HIWAB.... if you screw up, Hide "It With A Board"... or a Bush.

Also, if you want to build something that is not in your scale, you can use the Print to Scale Percentage feature of your printer. If you are going to resize something, better to scale down than scale up. An HO building on one sheet scaled up will run off the paper. An O scale building scaled down will have extra white space on the page. The S scale building I scaled down from O has an extra inch of margin all around. To calculate the percentage to use, divide the scale ratio of the original by the scale ratio of your scale. Example, an O scale original (1:48) to S scale (1:64), divide 48 by 64 equals .75, so print at 75%. HO (1:87) to N (1:160), divide 87 by 160 equals .54375, so print at 54%. HO to S, 87 divided by 64 equals 1.359, so print at 136%. Got it?

The Rebirth of Camelot by Mike Sassard

Awhile back, I thought I was going to move and completely dismantled my model railroad. I have since decided not to move and have had the humongous task of rebuilding my railroad. This did give me a chance to learn from the mistakes I made in my previous layout.

The new railroad would be on ½ inch plywood, supported by plastic sawhorses, covered by green indoor/outdoor carpet and I would continue to use Lionel FasTrack. None of this would be fastened down or together, except for the plywood. I would fill the room, leaving only an 18 inch watching path and an 18 inch center work area and control area. This small space proved to be successful.

I set out two goals:

- Have all the rolling stock on the layout, no shelves. As I worked I determined I needed more space and built a second 4 by 8 layout, in the same way, in the living room, and called it Camelot II. Goal accomplished.
- Instead of imitating real life, I would try to make the layout as beautiful as possible. This did not apply to the trains as I wanted them as scale as possible. I did not use the normal model railroad landscaping but items purchased from Michael's and Jo Ann Fabrics and Crafts. There would also be some scenery items that had a message. I continued to go by Linda Quicks email statement "and whatever we put on our layout that makes us happy is all that matters".

I continued to run all passenger trains, from a variety of manufacturers. The big layout has two independent loops, with sidings on the inner loop. Engines are from a variety of manufacturers. The trains run fine. I had to do some adjustments to the trees as they hung over the track and hit the trains. I have used all of my scenery items. There are "dummy" sidings for engines I don't use often. I am totally, without a doubt, pleased with the results. It was worth the hard work.

The second layout, in the living room, Camelot II is finished and running. The layout has one loop and one short point to point route. The lighthouses flashes and the lights on station change patterns. I used one transformer, a post war Lionel 1033 90 watt. The sound effects work fine but the horn doesn't blow and the train reverses when you push whistle. CAUTION: New Lionel trains do not run well on post war transformers. At full throttle it is satisfactory. Selector switches determine which train will run.



A Lightweight Problem with a Weighty Solution by Mike Sassard

I've had my Berkshire pulling my semi scale Amtrak cars which works fine. I decided to try entering and backing out of its storage siding. It entered fine, but when I went to back out, the engine pushed the tender right off the track

when it hit the switch. The reason, not being a scale engine the tender didn't have enough weight. I replaced the engine with my diesel dash 9, (lettered for Amtrak) and tested that and it worked fine both ways. So that stays. But I wanted to use that Berkshire as it is my best smoker. I put it on a train with a gentle siding of one O72 switch. But these were scale cars and heavy, so before even trying it out I decided to add weight to the tender.

I went to Walmart and bought more than enough of their heaviest fishing sinkers. Taking the tender apart was easy, but they had mounted the sound board vertically, so I used clear liquid nails and glued as many of the sinkers as possible to the tender top on either side of the sound board. I hate that glue, but it works. In case they break loose, I glued squares of cardboard over them so they won't short out the sound board. Putting those four little screws back in was more of a challenge, but it's done and resting upside down for a couple of days, so the glue will dry and set.

The added tender weight helps and the sound still works, so I didn't mess anything up. But, I discovered something new. You can pull a 70' scale car around an O36 curve, but you cannot push that car around that curve. I had some O60 wide radius left over so I replaced the track and had to move the log lodge up and over a little and replant 4 trees. All is well!

Veteran's Memorial presents their "Christmas in the Park"

Veterans Memorial Railroad has scheduled a special Christmas in the Park with the Winter Wonderland Express. The trains will operate from 6 pm to 10 pm Eastern Time on December 14th, December 20th, December 21st and December 23rd. The Crown coal-fired steam train will not run on December 23rd. Admission for the Crown steam train is \$7 per person and all other trains are \$5 per person.

BBMRA meeting minutes for Nov. 19th, 2013.

President John Sullenberger called the meeting to order at 7:54 P.M.

He reminded us of a short business meeting giving to the idea of "running trains".

Treasurer report; Sandy says we are in the black. Report accepted.

Minutes of Oct. 15th 2013, accepted as is.

John Thanked HO for the Fall Farm Day event, John also mentioned the Thomas sub division will be at WFSU Thomas and Friends event Dec. 7th. Reservations needed, but they are full at this time. (I need to thank John for a follow up on this for my notes).

John said Veterans Memorial RR will have the "Christmas in the Park" December 14th,20,21, and 23rd. 6-10 P.M. (check the web site).

John mentioned setting up for the Children's Day event Jan.25th, 2014. Joe Haley, switching, Thomas, and Sam with "O" scale.

John was asked about 2014 show table sales? John said they are being sold. He then read a note from Sam Miller; No operation on Sunday Dec. 1st. but remember the open house at Sam's again this year on Dec. 13th. 6 to 9 P.M. A pot luck railroad event. There will be no BBMRA meeting in December.

The business meeting ended at 8:02 P.M.

Tonight's meeting focus is running trains. New corner modules for HO getting new track and wiring. They were up and running quickly, some neat trains. The HO modules are going to look good.

N scale modules up and running with many modules in various stages of details being worked on.

Joe Haley had the switching layout completely set up and running with sounds. Many railroad ideas, thoughts, plans, and other discussions going on all over the room. It was a fun time watching the members checking out the modules, trains and friendly conversations.

Respectfully submitted by Doug Gyuricsko.

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