



# THELantern

March 2015

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## Northeast GA Lionel Shop Joining BBMRA's June 27 Show & Sale

BBMRA President Andy Zimmerman is contacting former and potential new vendors for the Tallahassee Model Railroad Show & Sale, Saturday, June 27. Andy has picked up a major new participant, Memory Station of Wakinsville, Ga., near Athens, and commitments from many of our regulars.

"The BBMRA will be holding its 24th Annual show and

sale and we want YOU to be one of our vendors! I am sure you have heard by now that our founding

member and show coordinator for these last 24 years passed away last fall. While John Sullenberger was indeed the cornerstone of the club and the show, he would want to see it succeed in spite of all that has happened and succeed we will," Andy wrote to vendors.

"Please take a minute to send the requested information so we can lock your reservation in place. It is vitally important that you do so. We need to get the contracts out to each of you and do not want you to miss out. This is going to be a great Show"

"We are on track for another great show," Andy says. "We have had cancellations, but also new vendors, including Memory Station." The major cancellation so far was Bill and Jean Hollash, of Riverview, near Tampa, who are closing their Lionel/o gauge business and retiring. The tables the Hollashes will no longer be using have been picked up by Memory Station."

"Despite rumors to the contrary this show will be bigger and better than ever," Andy continued in his communication with vendors. "More vendors, more displays, more tables and more layouts than ever before. And we have increased our square footage to bring the very best this area has to offer in model railroading.

Many of the model railroading dealers participating in Tallahassee shows in the past have committed to the 2015 show, Andy reports. These include Rich Lucibello, an American Flyer dealer from St. Petersburg; Tucker Train Supply from Pensacola, N & HO; TRST Trains from Melbourne, specializing in N Scale; Jay Leinbach, Tarpon Springs, HO, N & railroading books; and David Kirkland, Panama City.

The Miracle Strip Model Railroading Club in Panama City has asked for space for both its N Scale and HO layouts. There is request for space for a layout from Pensacola. Each of the BBMRA layouts will operate as well.



### \*\*\* BBMRA Meetings \*\*\*

March 17, 2015

Third Tuesday-BBMRA, 7:30 p.m.

"Old' Tallahassee Antique Car Museum,  
3550 Mahan Drive.  
HO & N Scale T Trak Operations (Not O  
Gauge this month)

April 21, 2015

Third Tuesday – BBMRA, 7:30 p.m.

"Old' Tallahassee Antique Car Museum,  
3550 Mahan Drive.  
Program still being developed

Marc Bershara is deputy show coordinator. Andy and Marc need volunteers for several important jobs and will be calling on all of us to help.

#### **Sam Miller**

## **N Scalers, Time Saver Already Invited to 2016 Woodville Founders Day**

The club's N Scalers and the Time Saver operated during Woodville's Annual Founder's Day celebration February 28 and were asked to come back in 2016. Andy Zimmerman says three N scale modules and the Time Saver were operated before an enthusiastic crowd. Andy thinks 325 or so checked out the layout, during Founder's Day at the Woodville Branch Library and J. Lewis Hall Sr., Park. That is perhaps half the crowd for 2014, but it rained during much of the day.

Andy was assisted in the N Scale operations by Garth Easton, N Scale Coordinator, and Neal Meadows. Joey Haley operated the Time Saver/switching layout which he developed for our club years ago.

"The Founder's Day director asked us to come back next year and said they would provide us more space. We would like to operate all six modules of our main traveling layout," Andy says. "This is becoming a regular part of our activities plan for each year. It is great exposure for our club and the show this summer. A lot of people provided their contact information so we can remind them about the show."

Andy has been contacted by the Gadsden Historical Society about a club operating session and model train display in May at Greensboro. The location would be the "ANNR" Depot which has been preserved by the West Gadsden Railroad Society.

## **Wear Green & Ride the Steam Train, VMRR**

Veterans Memorial Railroad, Inc. will host its 4th Annual "Wear Green – Ride the Steam" fund-raising event on Saturday, March 14, featuring the Crown locomotive. This is the only two-foot gauge coal-fired steam engine, operating in a county park in the state. The train travels around the park, over one mile of track including a 350-foot trestle, through a cypress preserve.

Location: Veterans Memorial Park – 10561 NW Theo Jacobs Way, Bristol, FL.

Time: 11:00 a.m. -- 3:00 p.m. ET

\$8.00 per person. - Children 2 and under ride free

Enjoy a family fun day - picnic pavilions, playground, and walking trail are available.

A non-steam train will be available for riders at no charge. However, a donation would be greatly appreciated to help support the continued operation of the railroad.

Sponsored by Liberty County Board of Commissioners.

For more information or questions, call 850-643-6646, 850-643-5491

Visit us on the internet: [Veteransmemorialrailroad.org](http://Veteransmemorialrailroad.org)

[YouTube.com/veteransrailroad](http://YouTube.com/veteransrailroad)



**Send items for the Lantern to Sam Miller, [smiller@flains.org](mailto:smiller@flains.org) and Doug Gyurickso, [akdoug@mindspring.com](mailto:akdoug@mindspring.com) - suggestions, calendar items, Classifieds listing, tips, photos and anything else which is legal and not terribly dangerous**

## **BBMRA Important Events for 2015!!**

**BBMRA Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Old Antique Car Museum, 3550 Mahan Drive.**

**Lionel Interest Group Operating Sessions: Most Sunday afternoons, 1:30 p.m. – Sam Miller's, 3008 Stillwood Court.**

**March 14 & 15: Piedmont Division Model Train Show,  
Cobb Galleria 2 Galleria Parkway, Atlanta, Georgia**

**March 14: Veterans Memorial Railroad 4th Annual “Wear Green – Ride the Steam” Fund-Raising Event featuring the Crown, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., ET, Bristol.**

## **March 17: BBMRA Meeting:**

## **April 4: Large Scale Division Workday at Eric Eckland's Garden Railroad Layout, Crawfordsville.**

## **April 11; Folkston Tunnel Annual Train Watch Day, Folkston, GA**

**April 22: 51<sup>st</sup> Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County ‘Fairgrounds, Deland.**

April 21, 2015: BBMRA Meeting – Operating session (tentative)

**May TBD: BBMRA Operating Session in Greensboro, restored ANNR Depot**

## May 19: BBMRA Meeting

**Late spring/early summer: Lowes & Home Depot Setups – just before the annual show & sale.**

**June 6-7: 13<sup>th</sup> Tampa Model Train Show & Sale, Florida State Fairgrounds)**

## **June 16: BBMRA Meeting (This probably will be rescheduled for closer to the June 27 show & sale.)**

**June 27: BBMRA Show & Sale, Leon County Fairgrounds**

**July 21: BBMRA Meeting: Elections and 2015-16 dues**

August 18: BBMRA Meeting

**September 5-6: Wiregrass Annual Model Railroad Show & Sale, National Peanut Festival and Fairgrounds, Dothan, AL**

**September 22: BBMRA Meeting**

October 20; BBMRA Meeting

**October 22-25: NMRA Sunshine Region 2015 Convention, Jacksonville.**

**October TBD: Farm Day, Tallahassee Museum of Natural History (Junior Museum).**

**November 17: BBMRA Meeting**

**December 11: Sam Miller/Linda Medlin Holiday Reception, 3008 Stillwood Court.**

## Phil Weston's Erie/Lackawanna Railroad

Phil Weston in Crawfordville is kicking off what we hope will be a regular feature of the Lantern – photos and vignettes on BBMRA home layouts. Phil built his layout based on “selective memories” of railroading when he was growing up in Vestal, New York. His road name is Erie/Lackawanna. Sam Miller



**Phil Weston's Vestal, New York, Erie/Lackawanna Railroad**

Sam, You asked us to let you know if we had home train layouts. Here is an overview photo of my home HO layout in Crawfordville. It loosely models selective memories of my hometown of Vestal, New York, and the Erie/Lackawanna RR which adjoined my parents' property.

It is four-by-eight-feet, with DCC on the outer track and DC on the inside, including the yard and sidings. I had the whole thing set up in DCC but my engines were too sensitive for the switches, so I just run DCC on the outside now.

All of the buildings are lighted and I'm getting ready to install remote switches. As does everybody, I have plans to expand it a bit. I'm toying with spatial aspects in my garage turned workshop/storage/train layout.

I have a PowerPoint presentation that shows everything and I have music to accompany it (Phoebe Snow Train Song by Utah Phillips).

**Phil Weston**

## John Sykes: “Rail Yards Adapted to Models”

John Sykes, one of our outstanding club members, once again had done exhaustive research, this time into rail yards. John was the club's program February 17 and he used large printed sheets of aerial views of the yards, along with an on screen computer display showing various buildings for operational needs. He showed a diagram of the largest yard in North Platte, Nebraska. The yard is 8-1/2 miles long. The kicker is, that would be 502 feet in HO if completely modeled”.

John was able to show how railroads needed to fit track into small spaces just as we do. They have used three-way turnouts and wyes' to save space, and we can too. Much more was shown than I can report here.

Thanks John.

(Club members are a major source of our monthly programs, conducting workshops or other presentations on things which really interest them. Andy Zimmerman and the other offices always are looking for volunteers. Can you step up?)

**Doug Gyuricsko.**



**John Sykes, left, and Andy Zimmerman**

## BBMRA Meeting Minutes for February 17, 2015

President Andy Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

Guests attending: Ron and Marla Fletcher. Ron told us he has "G" scale, and "N" scale. Ron will be a new member. Welcome Ron and Marla Fletcher.

Minutes of Jan. 20, 2015: Accepted as is.

**New business:** Andy described the June 27 Annual Show & Sale status as of this time. We will have the two large buildings again this year. The Hollashes, Lionel/gauge vendors from Riverview near Tampa, are retiring, and have sold so much of their remaining stock to other dealers that they will not be here this year. Andy has been in contact with many new vendors who will be here. We are on track for this year's event.

**Treasurer's Report:** Drew Hackmeyer reports we are in the black.

**Division Reports/Large Scale:** Sam Miller, needing to travel out of town, asked Doug G. to thank the people who were at the R.A. Gray Building for Children's Day in late January. Sam would like any members who have rail related information for the Lantern to contact him for future articles. The new Lantern Classifieds have started and any members who would like to list their items should contact Doug Gyuricsko, or Sam.

**H.O Scale:** Art Wilson states, no report.

**Small Scale:** Garth Easton reminds "N" Scale of this Saturday's work day. Note: "due to the cold weather" the starting time at Garth's will be at 10 A.M.

**Switching:** Joe Haley reports he needs more "Engineer Certifications" printed. Many were awarded on Children's Day at the Gray Museum. Joe said many of the show cards were also handed out.

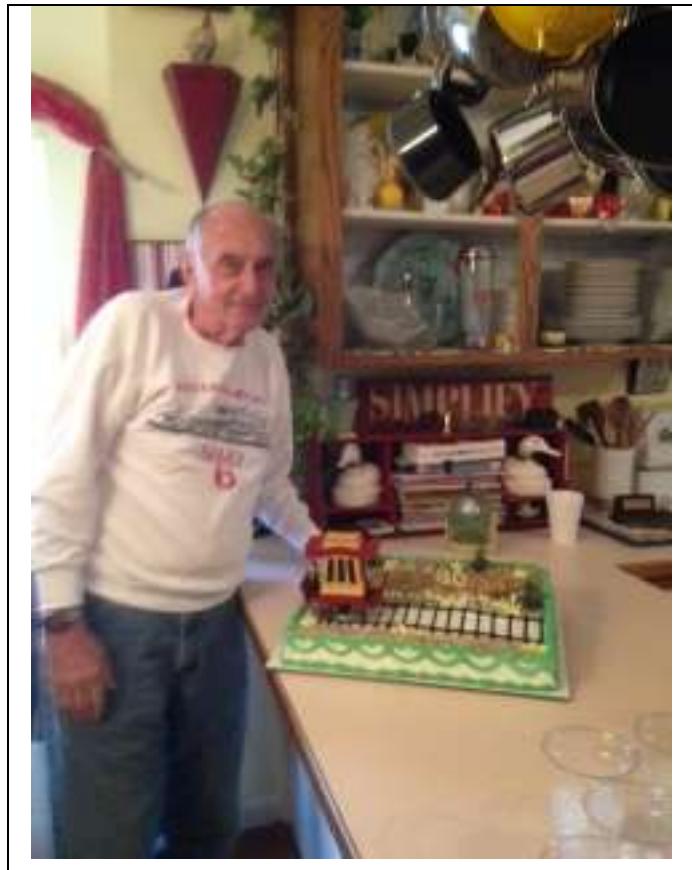
**Good of the Group:** President Andy Zimmerman also reported our Face Book page has had many more "likes" added to the existing likes. BBMRA non-profit, and, not-for-profit status was discussed. Members who went to the Jacksonville train show discussed that show, and meeting more vendors who are interested in our show. Andy had placed our show cards on the tables provided there, and those were quickly gone before he left.

Andy reports that he has been in conversations with the Gadsden Historical Society. They are interested in having us do a train layout display. The event would be in May. The West Gadsden Railroad Society has preserved the "ANNR" depot. Moved from the original location it has been restored. More information about the event will be coming for those interested in setting up.

The business meeting ended at 7:53 P.M.

I counted 28 present.

**Doug Gyuricsko**



**Eric Ecklund turned 80.** Several club members helped Eric celebrate his February 22 birthday during an open House at Eric and Ina's Crawfordville home.

## David Blodgett BBMRA Blog

David Blodgett, a fine BBMRA member and HO modeler, also is a master digital photographer. Sam Miller says David is the official photographer for his Lionel and HO layouts and Sam and Linda Medlin's annual Holiday Reception.

David is now the BBMRA photographer. He will help us establish a digital photo record of our model train club and fellowship group. We wish David had been recruited before our tragic losses last fall. Here is David's first BBMRA Blog report:



Are you interested in old movies with exciting railroading footage as an occasional program for monthly club meetings If so, do you have movies to show or suggestions? What are your favorite railroading movies? Contact Sam Miller at [smiller@flains.org](mailto:smiller@flains.org)

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