



THE Lantern

June 2015

Volume 20 Number 6

Full Steam Ahead for 24th Tallahassee Model Railroad Show & Sale

June Meeting Rescheduled for June 23, Week of Show

As has become the club's custom, the June meeting has been moved back to the fourth Tuesday, June 23, just before the model train show weekend. We will devote the entire meeting to last minute planning. There will be division meetings as well as the club-wide meeting.

Set-Up – Friday, June 26, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

BBMRA President Andy Zimmerman will be opening up Building 2 and Building 4 at the Leon County Fairgrounds at 8 a.m. Friday, June 26, for club members who want to set up layouts and “early bird” vendors and there always are a couple, at least. Andy needs BBMRA members to help the early birds unload. There will be a lot of other jobs, including adjusting table arrangements, installing extension cords and who knows what else. Many other vendors arrive in the afternoon, so Andy, Show Coordinator Marc Beshara and other club leaders will need members' help all day.

The Large Scale Division will be staging its T-Traks Friday at 9 a.m. HO coordinator Art Wilson is asking his group to bring their modules at 9 a.m., also, and if there is any problem, call him at 320-1866. The N Scale folks will begin their set-up at 10 a.m. Sal Martocci says the Live Steamers will meet at the Fairgrounds in the early afternoon. Ron and Karla Fletcher will be running Garden Railroad trains and getting them in place Friday morning. Randy Lombardo plans to stage Thomas the Tank Engine in the afternoon. Joe Haley will, of course, be bringing the Time Saver.

Set-Up Saturday, June 27, 8 a.m.

Vendors will be allowed to complete their work. BBMRA members will be allowed in to complete theirs and get an early look at vendor wares. We need volunteers throughout Saturday for the ticket booth, admission supervision, security throughout the two buildings and general trouble-shooting. There is a report below on whom BBMRA members should contact to volunteer their time.

2015 Tallahassee Train Show, Saturday, June 27

The show will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

*** BBMRA Meetings ***

June 23, 2015

June meeting is Fourth Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

Last Things to Do for June 27 Show & Sale – club and division meetings.

July 21, 2015

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

Dues Renewals; We will be collecting dues and updating our roster. Also a program; still working on that.

“Old” Tallahassee Antique Car Museum, 3550 Mahan Drive.



Tear-Down, Saturday, June 27, 4 p.m.

Tear-down begins at 4 p.m. and will continue until the last vendor is out. We will need lots of help breaking down.

Our show is almost here. Please support Andy Zimmerman, Sheldon Harrison and other club leaders. Step up as John Sullenberger would have expected and – in his honor – ensure that we have another outstanding show and sale!

To Pledge Your Time and Support:

For general volunteering, contact BBMRA President Andy Zimmerman: GBTrainman@comcast.net

and Show Coordinator Marc Beshara: marc@digitalcents.com

To work in the ticket booth, contact Andy Millott: millott32073@hotmail.com

To help with the vendors, contact BBMRA Vice President Sheldon Harrison: Sheldon_harrison@comcast.net

To help with HO activities, contact Art Wilson: awilson177@comcast.net

To help with N Scale Activities, contact Garth Easton: gweaston@hotmail.com

To help with Large Scale Activities, contact Sam Miller: smiller@flains.org

To help with the Time Saver, contact Joe Haley: jhaley3rd@msn.com

To help with Thomas the Tank Engine, contact Randy Lombardo: penncentralpatriach@comcast.net

To help with the Live Steamers, contact Sal Martocci: sal.martocci@gmail.com

Large Scale Division Sales Table

We are setting aside a table near the O Gauge T Trak layout for members of the Large Scale Division with personal things to sell. The only condition is that you help out with the T Traks at some point. The division table will be in the group of tables which has been purchased by me and Eric Ecklund. Bring whatever you have for sale – any scale – and you can put it on the table. We will limit this to a few items per person.

You can drop off items as early as Friday morning and then pick them up or the money late Saturday. Each item must be marked with your name and the sale price. Use a string tag if you can, so it can be pulled off to help us keep up with what sells. Some of these tags will be available at the table. Sam Miller

Greensboro and the BBMRA Celebrate National Train Day.

by David Brazell

The City of Greensboro celebrated National Train Day on 9 May 2015 by having an open house at their recently renovated train depot and they invited the BBMRA to help them celebrate. The HO division took their T Track layout and Joe Haley brought over the switching layout.

According to Wikipedia, National Train Day is a holiday started by AMTRAK in 2008 as a method to spread information to the general public about the advantages of rail travel and the history of trains in the United

States. It is held each year on the Saturday closest to May 10, the anniversary of the pounding of the Golden

Spike in Promontory, Utah which marked the completion

of the first transcontinental railroad within the United States. Events are held at Amtrak stations as well as railroad museums across the country and often have passenger cars and model railroad layouts on display.



Time Saver & HO T-Traks. The club helped the City of Greensboro celebrate National Train Day.

In addition to each person that brought over his TTrack module, Sheldon Harrison brought over his VIA Canada passenger train, Paul Schneider brought over his steam powered MOW consist, Art Wilson brought over his Army work train and I brought over several of my rolling stock that would have local interest, such as Apalachicola Northern, Bay Line, Chattahoochee Industrial and Southern woodchip hoppers, pulpwood cars and boxcars. I have no Apalachicola Northern power so I brought

over my Southern locos and also brought a Seaboard loco, which would have been more appropriate for this local area. Several of the older locals commented that they remembered seeing these cars in the local area.

Our President, Andy Zimmerman, was there with brochures about our upcoming train show. Several promised to come over in June.



19th Century Passenger Steamer Moving Lickety-Split!

Joe Haley, assisted by Ben Carroll, entertained the steady stream of children that enjoyed running the trains and working the switching layout. They were instrumental in not only letting the kids run the trains, but in teaching these kids how a railroad has to work. We awarded several new junior engineers certificates. All of the kids had a blast.

BBMRA attendees included Art Wilson, Andy Zimmerman, Sheldon Harrison, Paul Schneider, Joe Haley, Ben Carroll and his parents, and myself. Mitchell Greene also stopped by.

Then when all was over, the sponsors let us take home some of the cakes and goodies that were left over from the event. I was in German Chocolate cake heaven for over a week! They were very appreciative of us coming over and I hope they have the same event next year and invite us back.

Update on an Old Friend

by Sam Miller

Roy Mantooth turned 87 a few weeks ago. He and Maxine have been living in the Knoxville area (Lenoir City, TN) for two years now. Roy is doing fairly well even though his health is not as good as when he lived in Tallahassee. He is using a walker to get around and he has a stair lift to get up to his train room. He is still Roy, though, which is good.

My wife, Linda Medlin, and I visited Roy and Maxine Memorial Day Weekend. Roy's birthday presents included a book on his Tallahassee layout featuring the Attic and Lofty Railroad, which Maxine had made for him as a surprise. The wonderful photos came from BBMRA member David Blodgett.

David took extensive photos before Roy dismantled his layout. "It was such a tremendous layout that we needed to have a record of it," David says.



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

Confirmed Vendors for the 2015 Model Train Show

Show Coordinator Marc Beshara provided this list on June 16. It is of vendors who have returned their completed registration forms. Additional vendors are expected, but they have not yet finalized their registration.

Here is what is definite so far: Trains by Johnson; Tucker's Trains; Ed's Boxcar; Middleton; Joe Ray; David Roche; Cain's Trains; Bob Kettle; Chris Lucibello; Kenneth Meadows; Wayne Nusarra; Sam Miller/Eric Ecklund; Dale Kishbaugh; Memory Station; Gadsden Historical; Larry Newman & Wil Davis; Howard Berry; Jane's Tools; Raley's Confectionary; and Larry's Kettle Corn.

BBMRA Meeting Minutes for May 19, 2015

Andy Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:34 P.M.

Guests in attendance were Richard Harrison; Sheldon's dad. Mitchell Green, brought Louis, and Charles who are in HO. Thanks to Sam Miller. He brought our program presenters Ron and Shirley Meade.

Meeting Minutes: The minutes for April 21 were accepted as is.

Treasurer's Report: Bills are paid, Fairgrounds rental fees for the 2015 show have been paid. We are in the black.

New Business: BBMRA President Andy Zimmerman turned the June 27th show subject over to Marc Beshara. Marc said he had received questions about tables. Anyone needing tables please let him know. Sheldon Harrison is coordinating to have hand carts; 10 may be needed. Extension cords will also be needed; put your name on them.

Andy said wrist bands will be used for the public. Andy expects to be at the fairgrounds around 8 a.m. Friday, June 26, to let our members and early vendors begin to set up. Andy Millott is gathering volunteers for the ticket booth and filling the time slots for the booth. The Hot Dog Man has been calling many members. He is expected to be at the show, but should he not; a food truck can be called.

The Woodland Scenics, very detailed, assembled, "Sully's Tavern" buildings in "N", "H.O." and "O" scale are here. These will be put on each of the club's layouts in memory of John Sullenberger. (Sam plans a special report in the July Lantern.)

Division Reports/Large Scale: See, or contact Sam Miller to sign up to help set up for the show. The T Tracks will need people, along with helping vendors.

HO: Art Wilson thanked the members who showed up at the museum to organize materials. Art also brought various items located on the front tables, "for free". He said the Greensboro HO and switching demonstration went very well, and some very good pies were had.

N: Scale: Garth Easton said set up of the N Scale large modules will be early on Friday the 26th. Matt Baronovich will be working the N Scale T Track modules. Garth said Home Depot, and Lowes is tentative as to setting up modules, due to stores resetting departments.

Good of the Group: Matt Baronovich said he can install DCC, decoders, and help members who need help getting into, or wanting to learn more about DCC.

John Sykes reported split gears were determined as the source of erratic (like a flat spot) running of the Proto 2000 locomotive. He researched the issue, and found Athearn makes a gear that will work with slight modification to the bore. Using his micrometer he determined there is a .002 to .003" (that's thousands of an inch) difference. A number 42 drill bit (.093") can be used to ream the new gear bore to fit the Proto shaft. An expert report on this fix.

The meeting program was presented by Ron Meade. He and his wife, Shirley, teach at Lakewood Christian School in Crestview, where Shirley also serves as principal. Ron has created the idea of using an "O" scale layout to enhance engineering students education as an extracurricular course. He studied many areas and structures to be accurately modeled to scale. One structure is a bridge (Tampa Bay, Sunshine Skyway Bridge) 14 feet long.

They even sacrificed a bridge section in a load test. Engineering mathematics is just one part of this project. Shirley has younger students who will learn about Railroading and add to the layout. Ron used video's and photo's to research and show us many historic sites, along with pictures of the school, students, property, and future plans for a metal building to house the huge layout. Ron showed us model railroading is alive and well with young people. Many things to learn, and varied trades to be experienced. An expert presentation, welltimed and informative.

I counted 35 members and our guests present.

Doug Gyuricsko

David Blodgett Digital Photo Report:

Ron Meade, Lakewood Christian School in Crestview. Ron and his wife, Shirley, were our program at the May meeting, discussing their plans for a large Lionel model train layout for extracurricular activities at Lakewood.



Mapping Out the Fairgrounds. BBMRA President Andy Zimmerman and Show Coordinator Marc Beshara.

Late Breaking Train Show News

by Andy Zimmerman

Our commercials are already playing on Freedom 93.3 and WFRF 90.1 FM, 105.7 FM, 1070 AM (N. Florida & S. Georgia) 104.5 FM (Eastpoint, FL) 91.3 FM (Lake City, FL) 91.3 (Moultrie, GA) We have a Taping on WCTV on Monday and we have already had an interview with PBS. Our Articles were written and submitted to the Tallahassee Democrat and the Chronicle. The Chronicle says it will run it next week. Democrat has not responded back after asking for the Article. We will have an ad in the Limelight coming up as well.

Each of the patient firsts have put up our show on their Marquees..... Hope it is enough!

New Year Starts July 1

BBMRA's operating year starts July 1. Dues will be payable on that date and must be paid by August 31.

The other major item is Election of Officers. Please volunteer to serve on the nominating committee or to serve as an officer. We cannot function without your active participation.

"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 2315-3392 or e-mailed to smiller@flains.org