



THE Lantern

May 2016

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Confirmed Vendors for the 2016 Model Train Show

BBMRA President Andy Zimmerman provided this list 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; all scales, last year;
- Tucker's Trains, HO & N Scale detail parts, last year;
- Porky & Aven Bacon, t-shirts, hats, etc., last year;
- Ron DeVincenzo, all scales, heavy on O gauge, last year;
- Ed's Boxcars, last year;
- Tom Lacher, Crusader Hobbies;
- Joe Ray, last year; and
- Dale Kisbaugh, all scales, last year (Dale is selling the N Scale collection of our late, wonderful president John Sullenberger.)

Also, Kenneth Meadows, last year; Chris Lucibello, last year; Sam Miller, O gauge, last year; Doug Gyurisko, antique toys, collectible vehicles and kits; David Brazell, HO and videos, last year; Gadsden Historical, last year.

Full Steam Ahead for 25th Tallahassee Model Railroad Show & Sale

What's New This Year? WFSU's Dinosaur Train, State Museum & Other Activities

This is our Silver Anniversary show and it needs to be special and one of the best ever. BBMRA has partnered with WFSU Broadcasting, Florida State University, for years, operating Randy Lombardo's Thomas the Tank Engine layout whenever WFSU conducts its Thomas & Friends Day. Our club also has been a regular at Children's Day at the Museum of Florida History (State Museum). WFSU and the State Museum are reciprocating and will have exhibits at our train show. WFSU is presenting the Dinosaur Train and Thomas and Friends and the State Museum will be promoting special programs for children and upcoming major events.

Sam Miller and Doug Gyurisko are working with Andy Zimmerman and Marc Beshera to line up other special activities as well and more on this later. Let Sam know if you have ideas and contacts for something special.

BBMRA Meetings

May 17, 2016: 7:30 p.m.: "Third Tuesday" BBMRA Meeting, Old Antique Car Museum – 25th Anniversary Show Planning & Andy Millott, Modeling Interchanges.

Special 6:30: HO Division setting up its Traks layout. Call Art Wilson for details.

June 21, 2016: 7:30 p.m.: "Third Tuesday" BBMRA Meeting – Final Planning, 25th Annual Show & Sale.

TALLAHASSEE MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & SALE

Saturday June 25, 2016 -- 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



Lisa Blair Expanding BBMRA's Outreach to Schools and other Youth Activities

Lisa Blair and her son, Matthew, are fine active members of our club and Lisa was appointed by President Zimmerman last year as youth outreach coordinator. Lisa will direct two tables at this year's anniversary show emphasizing that club members will operate model trains and conduct workshops on the hobby at schools and other occasions when special activities for youth people and their parents are under way. She also will be promoting membership in the Big Bend Model Railroad Association. Over the years, the show and sale have been the prime source for new members.

June Meeting to be Devoted to Last-minute Planning for the show

The regular June meeting, the third Tuesday, is the Tuesday before our annual show and sale, by luck of the draw and calendar. It will not be necessary to reschedule for the fourth Tuesday as it the club's custom. Tuesday, June 21, is three days before the show weekend. We will devote the entire meeting to last minute planning for the show. There will be division meetings as well as the club-wide meeting.

Set-Up – Friday, June 24, 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 24, 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. BBMRA Vice President Sheldon Harrison is coordinating vendor assistance again this year.

Division leaders will announce specific details on their set-up plans in the days before our big weekend.

Set-Up Saturday, June 25, 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.

25th Annual Tallahassee Model Railroad Show & Sale

The show will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Building 2 and Building 4, Leon county Fairgrounds.

Tear-Down, Saturday, June 25, 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. Step up as John Sullenberger would have expected and – in his honor – ensure that the 25th Annual Tallahassee Model Railroad Show & Sale is special and outstanding.

To Pledge Your Time and Support:

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

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

Dedication of Sullenberger Room at Greensboro Depot Postponed

From Andy Zimmerman

With everything going on I have postponed the dedication which had been planned for May 22. The West Gadsden Historical Society, which maintains the wonderful old former Apalachicola Northern Railroad depot, in Greensboro meets every other month which means July or September are the next dates. This will give us time to get out there, take measurements, pre-build the shelves and have track and electronics ready for install.

Apalachicola Northern was late BBMRA President John Sullenberger's favorite railroad. BBMRA has negotiated an agreement with the Historical Society to dedicate a room in the Greensboro depot in John's honor. When the formal dedication takes place, John's family is expected to participate.

The club is installing a Garden Railroad train to operate along the ceiling, exhibits and displays and other special things for John's room.

BBMRA Meeting Minutes for April 17, 2016

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

The meeting minutes for March 15, 2016 were accepted as is.

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

New Business: President Zimmerman reported the 25th annual show is only 67 days away. The fairgrounds administration has sent the paperwork contract via email. The BBMRA Board was sent the information for review.

We will need to coordinate volunteers for the various positions critical to another successful model train show.

President Zimmerman called for division reports.

Large Scale: Sam Miller notified us of Eric Ecklund having broken his leg. Eric is recuperating at Centerpoint on Centerville Road and would enjoy visitors.

HO Scale: Art Wilson reminded the group that for the next meeting (May 17th) bring the T Trak modules for a test session prior to the show.

Switching: Joe Haley reports he will bring a bigger stick. (The stick is used for uncoupling the rolling stock.)

N Scale: Garth Easton notified N scalers to watch for a workday notice. Some module work is needed prior to the show.

Veterans Memorial: Mitchell Green requested volunteers for future events.

Good of the Group: Andy Millott has some HO items on a table for the taking.

Dedication of the John Sullenberger Room at the restored Greensboro railroad station is still on the burner, awaiting more information for the plan to start. G scale up around the room, and small Thomas sets for the younger crowd is the idea.

Education coordinator Lisa Blair reported on the Folkston train event she and Mathew visited. Lisa and Mathew had a good experience and observed many young people excited to see the trains. People from as far away as Canada were there. She has ideas to inform young people about the BBMRA in many forms. There were suggestions we set up the youth table during our upcoming train show near switching and the O gage Thomas set . She and Mathew are working to get younger people onboard with the model train world. One suggestion would be a graduating method such as the scouting system.

Ed Schroeder has extruded foam sheets for sale. 4' X 8' and as thick as 2". The funds would support more layout progress.

The business meeting ended at 8:03 P.M.

Our Program: Tonight Matt Baranovich described tried and true methods to install DCC control in older H.O. engines. Blue Box (Athearn) Atlas and other engines can be brought up to modern train control. Matt had the parts, the pictures, the materials, and methods (good and bad) to do it. He knows the manufacturers of the various decoders, speakers, circuit boards, even the tape that can be used to aid installation. He hinted at a future train control system beyond track power DCC. Great presentation Matt.

Respectfully submitted by **Doug Gyuricsko**.

"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 smiller@flains.org