



THE Lantern

September 2016

Volume 21 Number 9

Andy, Paul, Ed & Drew Nominated as 2016-17 BBMRA Officers; Elections Tuesday, September 20

These recommendations were submitted by Sam Miller and Doug Gyuricsko, who served as the Nominating Committee, and were announced at the August meeting and will come before the full club September 20. The four officers are elected by the entire membership. The Board seats held by the division coordinators will be filled during division elections also September 20. Anyone can run, but they must be nominated by another BBMRA member. This publication in the August Lantern complied with BBMRA By-Laws' notice requirements. Here is the Nominating Committee's slate:

President: Andy Zimmerman for another term;

Vice President: Paul Schnieder – Sheldon Harrison has asked not to be nominated for reelection;

Secretary: Ed Schroeder – Doug Gyuricsko has asked not to be nominated for reelection;

Treasurer: Drew Hackmeyer for another term;

HO Coordinator: Art Wilson for another term;

N Scale: Garth Easton for another term;

Large Scale: Sam Miller for another term.

(Division coordinators are nominated and elected by each division's members. Art, Garth and Sam have agreed to continue as coordinator and Board member and they are likely to be reelected.)

Mitchell Green Memorial September 17 at VMRR in Bristol

From Roberta Robbins, Mitchell's sister:

The celebration of life as Mitchell requested, nothing religious, will be on September 17 at Veterans Memorial Railroad in Bristol. It begins with a meal at 2 p.m. provided by VMRR. Covered dishes are no longer requested as was originally planned.

There will be an open microphone for those who wish to say how they met Mitch, share a funny experience with him or just share a good memory. Free train rides will follow.

Donations can be made to the railroad for maintaining the cars in Mitchell's memory:

*** **BBMRA Meetings** ***

September 20, 2016: 7:30 p.m. "Third Tuesday" BBMRA Meeting – Election of Officers for 2016/17; T Trak and O Gauge Disney setups – running trains!
"Old" Tallahassee Antique Car Museum, 3550 Mahan Drive.

October 18, 2016: 7:30 p.m. Third Tuesday-
BBMRA Meeting – Rocky Mountaineer in
Canada, Sam Miller & Barrett Johnson;
Fantastic Alaska Trip, Mike Simpson.
"Old" Tallahassee Antique Car Museum, 3550
Mahan Drive.

Veterans Memorial Railroad
10561 NW Theo Jacobs Way,
Bristol, FL 32321

Dothan Train Show September 17-18

September 17-18, 2016: Wiregrass Annual Model Railroad Show & Sale, National Peanut Festival and Fairgrounds, Dothan, AL., Saturday, 9a to 5p, Sunday, 10a to 4p., BBMRA members admitted free.

Like probably all model train shows, this one is not as big as it once was, but it is still excellent and well attended by BBMRA because it is only two hours away and admission is free for club members. I expect to see many of you there.

The show doesn't officially open Saturday morning until 9 a.m., Central time, 10 a.m., Tallahassee time, but we usually get in a little early. Just say you are a member of the Tallahassee club to get in without paying admission.

Linda Medlin and I discovered a neat alternative route to Dothan over I-10 and U.S. 231 during one of our trips to Nashville to see Linda's family - going to Bainbridge and taking U.S. 84 to Dothan. It takes about the same amount of time and is a lot more pleasant, driving going through South Georgia and South Alabama farm country. Ask me for details if you are not familiar with this route.

Several club members plan to return to Tallahassee via Bristol, Florida, to participate in the tribute for Mitchell Green at Veterans Memorial Railroad beginning at 2 p.m..

Sam Miller

Initial Appointments to 2017 Show Committee

The dates for next year's show, the 26th Annual Model Railroad Show & Sale, have been finalized. The show is Saturday, June 24, 2017, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., again at the North Florida Fairgrounds in Tallahassee. Setup will be the day before, Friday, June 23.

BBMRA President Andy Zimmerman announced initial appointments to the annual Show & Sale Coordinating Committee. Andy will serve, along with David Brazell, Doug Guyricsko and Sam Miller. We need additional members and please contact Andy Z. if you are willing to serve.

Drew Hackmeyer is heading up a related project, developing written procedures and plans for the annual



show.

Flyers promoting the show have been printed and will be available from Andy Z at the Tuesday meeting.

Division Reports: HO T Traks Shining After Two Years Work; Large Scale Disney Layout Refurbished

From HO Coordinator Art Wilson:

The HO Division had a very good layout and participation at the 25th Annual BBMRA Tallahassee Model Railroad Show & Sale held at the North Florida Fairgrounds. We had a total of 14 T-Track modules used on the layout and could have included a couple extras if we had a little more room.

We have nine individuals that have contributed to our stock of various T-Track modules. There are some interesting modules displaying settings with solar panels, farms, downtown, homes, businesses, campgrounds, fishing lakes and a nifty John Wayne movie playing at the drive-in. Our layout has two parallel tracks with the inner loop operating on Direct Current (DC) and the outer loop operating on a wired Direct Command Control (DCC) system.

We have worked hard over the past two years to develop our base layout, but we want to do better. In model railroading there are lots of opportunities to learn. Model railroading technologies are changing rapidly and we're trying to embrace and incorporate them whenever we can. Learning DCC is my next project. A lot of the HO guys use it and we have used one of the tracks on our layout. We are considering applying DCC to the entire layout. This will enable us to expand the layout, diversify our operational capability and improve the running of our trains.

We will be running trains at the September BBMRA meeting mainly to see what we have and how we can make our layout better. We request everyone with T-Track Modules please bring them along with your suggestions.

There's lots of planning and action ahead and we extend an invitation and a welcome to folks with DCC, electrical, lighting, animation, layout planning, scenery, or various other skills and talents and a willingness to help us accomplish our goals. It should be entertaining as well. We'd like you to join us!

From Large Scale Coordinator Sam Miller:

We are setting up a reworked Disney Two platform Tuesday night to test it and consider future enhancements and possibly using it for Randy Lombardo's Thomas the Tank Engine setup on occasion. Bring rolling stock and locomotives; We can operate three loops at a time and let's do it!

Doug Gyuricsko spent a lot of work rewiring this and I really appreciate his efforts.

Mel McCarthy, who will soon be returning to Tallahassee from his family's North Carolina summer home, has suggested a Large Scale overnight trip this fall to the Sam's Shortline Railroad at Cordelle or maybe Savannah. This is a great idea and we should do it. Let me know if you are interested.

Scratch Building Using Coroplast Political Signs.

From Ron Fletcher:

The election season sees election signs pop up all over like mushrooms. Most of the signs are made of Coroplast plastic sheets. The material is weather proof and is UV resistant. After the elections, a lot of the signs are not removed. It is a great opportunity to acquire a great scratch building material for only the effort to go collect the signs (for free, free is good).

Coroplast is plastic cardboard. The material is perfect for making model buildings on your railroad. I have made several buildings using the material for my garden railroad. The plastic cuts easily with a hobby knife or box cutter. Since my structures are to be used outdoors I have used E6000 for gluing them together. The material can be painted by brush using acrylic paints and also with spray cans paint.

I have been pleased with the buildings I have made using Coroplast. Using Coroplast for modeling is a very frugal way to construct structures for your model railroad and help clean up the clutter around town.



Coroplast train station under construction

Train Station at BBMRR Show this summer



Ed Schroeder Remembers Wartime SP Argonaut Trip to Los Angeles

Ed Schroeder, who has been nominated as 2016/17 BBMRA secretary, posted this wonderful reminiscence on the Classic Trains Internet site:

"Sometime in the summer of 1942, my Dad, E.C. Schroeder, was transferred from New Orleans to Long Beach, CA, by the United Fruit Company of Chiquita Banana note.

German U-Boats were sinking more shipping in the Gulf of Mexico than along the West Coast.

In September 1942, my Mom and younger brother, Rob, and I followed Dad to Long Beach on the Southern Pacific's Argonaut from New Orleans to Los Angeles. I was five years old; my brother Rob was to turn four in



early October.

Dad had advised Mom to buy round trip tickets New Orleans to San Francisco; SP charged the same rate for sleeper accommodations NOLA to LA or SF.

Shortly after we reached Long Beach, Dad had to go to San Francisco; his Fruit Co. counterpart there had become critically ill.

At the end of September, Mom, Rob and I took the Pacific Electric from Long Beach to Los Angeles where we boarded the S.P. Daylight to San Francisco.

Several weeks later, Dad, Mom, Rob and I came south (Time Table East) from San Francisco on the Lark. The Daylight and the Lark were both pulled by Southern Pacific GS 4-8-4's; I don't know which version GS engines.

In August 1956, Rob, our younger brother Dave, who had been conceived in Long Beach, a neighborhood buddy and I took the S.P. Sunset Limited to Los Angeles, probably pulled by E units; then the Daylight to San Francisco.

From San Francisco we took the S.P. ferry to Oakland where we caught the San Francisco Overland to Kansas City via Denver. Somewhere along the way - in Wyoming I think - we connected with the Union Pacific's City of St. Louis.

In the Bay area we still saw some steam, I think a 4-8-4 from the Cotton Belt St. Louis Southwestern and in Wyoming, U.P. Challengers and Big Boys. I don't remember if we saw any S.P. Cab Forwards.

From Kansas City we rode the Southern Belle of Kansas City Southern back to New Orleans.

In August 1956, we paid \$ 100 each for our chair car accommodations - New Orleans - Los Angeles - San Francisco - Kansas City - New Orleans. No added fares for reserve seat accommodations on the Sunset, Daylight and Southern Belle.

A great time was had by all.

BBMRA Meeting Minutes for August 16, 2016

President Andy Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:31 P.M.

Business meeting minutes of July 19th 2016 were accepted as is.

New Business: President Zimmerman presented the new officer slate as listed by the nominating committee. The elections have been delayed due to the pressing issues of this year's show.

The elections will be done during the next meeting, (September 20, 2016). At that time the division members will elect their division leaders.

The new show cards have been made and are ready for members to pass around for the 26th annual BBMRA 2017 show.

Treasurer's Report: Drew Hackmeyer reports we are in the black. Drew has a developing updating roster that shows current dues information.

Large Scale: Doug G. reporting for Sam Miller who is out of town. The Disney layout after having problems at this year's show (an emergency diagnostic and temporary repair challenge by Jeff Hornsby got it going.) has been rewired and will be ready for demonstrations this year.

Thomas Subdivision; Randy reports a new Thomas extra car has been acquired (personal funds). It's marked as Atlantic RR.

HO: Art Wilson requests that any, and all HO modules be brought to the next run trains meeting (September 20, 2016) for evaluation.

Small Scale: Garth Easton had no report, except to remind us of the heat right now! There will be work when it subsides.

Education Coordinator: Lisa Blair; no report except having a new partner to help with the coming school year. (School has just started).

Switching: Joe Haley reports switching will need help to set up and run at times.

Good of the Group: President Zimmerman announced the new show committee (he, Andy Z., Doug G., David B, Sam M., possibly more) and noted club members are stepping up to help with the next show.

Program coordinator Andy Millott confirmed the September meeting will be "Run Trains". He and Sam Miller can be contacted to announce program ideas in the Lantern. Proposed program for October is about a famous Railroad trip in the Canadian Rockies; Barrett and Sam had made the trip recently. Also, Mike Simpson will talk about his outstanding Alaskan vacation.

Barrett announced the closing of Caboose Hobbies in Colorado, which has lost its lease and has vastly discounted its items. Tom Rush added the newest report (while looking at his Smart Phone) that the business may have been sold, and the owners are to retire. Barrett also had news of the Veterans Memorial Railroad needing to school volunteer operators before they could run trains. The plans are for the railroad to run five days at Halloween, and 10 days beginning December 4 for Christmas. Volunteers are greatly needed.

David Brazell thanked the BBMRA members who attended the church memorial for Mitchell Green. He also thanked David Blodgett for his great job speaking for BBMRA and Mitchell's other model railroading friends at the memorial. David Brazell said there have been too many of these sad events this year and all agreed we are losing too many good people. David recalled events he shared with Mitchell, then called for a moment of silence to honor Mitchell.

The August Lantern has the date of September 17th 2016 for Mitchell's memorial at the Veterans Memorial park in Bristol where Mitchell loved to volunteer and gave him Many good times.

David Brazell had again brought many railroad items and memorabilia for the taking.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 P.M. (another Smart Phone report from John Meister warned of serious storms in the area). I counted 29 members present.

Respectfully submitted by **Doug Gyuricsko**.

BBMRA Important Events for 2016/2017!!

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

Lionel Interest Group Operating Sessions: 1:30 p.m., most Sunday afternoons. Sam Miller's, Woodgate. Call 850-459-3012.

September 17, 2016: Mitchell Green memorial service at Veterans Memorial Railroad in Bristol; mid-afternoon, although exact time to be determined. Covered dish dinner, free VMRR rides and "open mike" tribute to Mitchell.

September 17-18, 2016: Wiregrass Annual Model Railroad Show & Sale, National Peanut Festival and Fairgrounds, Dothan, AL., Saturday, 9a to 5p, Sunday, 10a to 4p., BBMRA members admitted free.

September 20, 2016: BBMRA Meeting.

October 1, 2016: 57th Florida Rail Fair, Deland, FL.

October 8, 2016: Regal Railways Train Show & Swap Meet, Kissimmee, FL (Orlando area).

October 18, 2016: BBMRA Meeting.

October , 2016: TBD: Farm Day, Tallahassee Museum of Natural History (Junior Museum),

October, 2016: TBD, Hobbies Garage Sale, BBMRA, Large Scale Division, Tallahassee, TBA.

November 15, 2016: BBMRA Meeting.

November 19, 2016: TCA Southern Division Toy Train Show & Swap Meet, Jacksonville, Saturday; open to public but first couple of hours limited to TCA members.

December 9: Sam Miller/Linda Medlin Holiday Reception, Woodgate. Call 850-459-3012.

December 17-18: 16th Tampa Model Train Show.

January: Children's Day, Museum of Florida History, Tallahassee, Details to be Announced.

NMRA 2017 Orlando: July 30-August 6, 2017, The Rosen Plaza Hotel, International Drive, Orlando, NMRA National/International convention.

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