



THE Lantern

October 2016

Volume 21 Number 10

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Ghost Train at VMRR, Bristol; “Spooky Fun for the Entire Family”

It's October, Halloween is coming up and it is time for the Ghost Train at Veterans Memorial Railroad in Bristol!

Operating sessions have been scheduled for 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on five nights near Halloween. The Crown, a wonderful steamer, will be running Saturday, October 22, and Saturday, October 29. Diesels will be providing the fun and pull on these nights: Friday and Saturday, October 21 and 22; Friday and Saturday, October 28 and 29; and on Halloween, Monday, October 31.

Admission is \$5 for diesel trains and \$10 for steam trains.

Children two and under ride free. The rides are about 25 minutes long around Veterans Memorial Park to and from the Tom Keenan Station. Fast Track tickets are available online at:

<http://www.VeteransMemorialRailroad.org>. For additional information, go to the Internet site or call: (850) 643-6646.

VMRR is located at Veterans Memorial Park, 10561 NW Theo Jacobs Way, Bristol, FL 32321. Although pretty far west of here, it remains in Eastern Standard Time.

Our club has had a special relationship with Veterans Memorial Railroad over the years. The late Tom Keenan was a long-time member of BBMRA. Current member John Anthamatten was an officer at the railroad for several years. Mitchell Green was our VMRR liaison until his passing this summer. Barrett Johnson is active with this wonderful organization.

VMRR's two-foot gauge Crown Live Steam Locomotive is the only coal-fired live steam locomotive operating in a public park in Florida. This little train requires a lot of muscle and work - an engineer and fireman in the cab to keep it running – shoveling coal and watching gauges.

*** BBMRA Meetings ***

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.

November 15, 2016: 7:30 p.m. “Third Tuesday” BBMRA Meeting – John Sykes III, Non-traditional Paints for Buildings and Other Model Railroad Structures.
“Old’ Tallahassee Antique Car Museum,
3550 Mahan Drive.

Veterans Memorial Railroad was founded in 2001 when a group of local people, interested in both railroading and community service, banded together to install a passenger train at Veterans Memorial Park in Bristol. The Liberty County Board of Commissioners gave their permission to use a large area of the park for the Railroad.



The Crown will be pulling Halloween celebrants October 22 and October 29 at Veterans Memorial Railroad in Bristol.

Special & Fun Modeling Things to Do the Rest of the Year

(See also the Important Events calendar in this Lantern. I know about some special holiday shows, shows and exhibits, but am sure there are a lot more in our area. Please let me know for the November Lantern. Sam: sammiller611134@outlook.com)

Christmas and Jewish Holiday Sales Displays at Michael's; Lowes (Christmas Village items at the West Side Lowes only); Home Depot; Joann's Arts & Fabrics; Hobby Lobby USA; Hobbytown; Espositos; Walmart and other stores. Dozens of Christmas decorations feature trains. Many small lights and ornaments, model trees and some buildings can be used to decorate model train layouts. Boxed model train sets also are available at this time of the year at some stores, including Hobbytown and Hobby Lobby. (More on this in the November Lantern.)

Pickup Truck Model Railroading Sale: October 28, 2016, a Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Sam Miller's house in Woodgate. Sam will be loaded up for the NMRA/SER Gulf Division Tailgate Swap Meet at Milton the following day and is inviting BBMRA members to a private preview. All scales. Call 850-459-3012 for more details.

NMRA/SER Gulf Region Old Fashioned Tailgate Swap Meet, Milton. October 29, 2016, a Saturday: NMRA/SER Gulf Region Old Fashioned Tailgate Swap Meet, 8 a.m., to 1 p.m., Central Time. Milton, FL, at the old Railroad Depot. No admission but donations to the Railroad Museum will be appreciated.

Farm Days, Tallahassee Junior Museum: November 12, 2016, 9a to 4p, Farm Days, Tallahassee Museum of Natural History (Junior Museum), BBMRA set-ups, including the Time Saver and Thomas the Tank Engine.

Pensacola Railfest: November 19-2016: Pensacola Railfest, Hadji Shrine, 800 North Nine Mile Road, Pensacola, 32534. Saturday from 9am to 5pm, Central. Sunday from 10am to 4pm, Central. Admission \$6 for adults, with children under 10 getting in free. layouts in all major scales including Z, N, HO, O, and G. Also workshops and panels on different model railroading topics throughout the weekend.

51st Annual Market Days: December 3 & 4, 2016, Leon County Fairgrounds; benefits Tallahassee Junior Museum. This is one of the Southeast's largest and best juried arts and crafts shows, with some 300 artists, artisans and craftspeople.

Sam Miller/Linda Medlin Holiday Reception, December 9, 2016, 6:30 p.m. Woodgate. Call 850-459-3012.

The Villages Christmas Train Show: December 15-18, 2016: The Villages Christmas Train Show, Colony Cottage Recreation Center, 510 Colony Blvd., The Villages, FL 32162. 3,000 square feet of trains. Free admission, although donations requested. Thursday-Saturday, 9am to 4pm Sunday, 10am to 3pm: Train Show. Large Scale Division planning a day trip on Friday.

Andy Millott Seeking Diverse Program Ideas

From Program Coordinator Andy Millott:

Hey BBMRA members:

We are looking for a diverse selection of programs to present to you all in future monthly meetings in 2017, but we need your help. If you find an organization (railroad related, of course!) or someone that can come by and present to the club, please contact either Sam Miller or Andy Millott. Listed below is our tentative schedule through February 2017

- October 2016 - Canadian Rockies by Sam Miller & Barrett Johnson
- December 2016 – Holiday Party at Sam Miller's house
- January 2017- Running trains
- February 2017 -Modeling flatcar loads by David Brazell

Andy's contact information is: Millott32073@hotmail.com, or 443-0781.

Sam's contact information is: sammiller61113@outlook.com or 459-3012.

Andy, Paul, Ed & Drew Elected as 2016-17 BBMRA Officers

The BBMRA adopted unanimously the officers slate proposed by this year's nominating committee and then, as a committee of the whole, reelected the current division coordinators who completed the Board. Here is the 2016/17 BBMRA Board:

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.

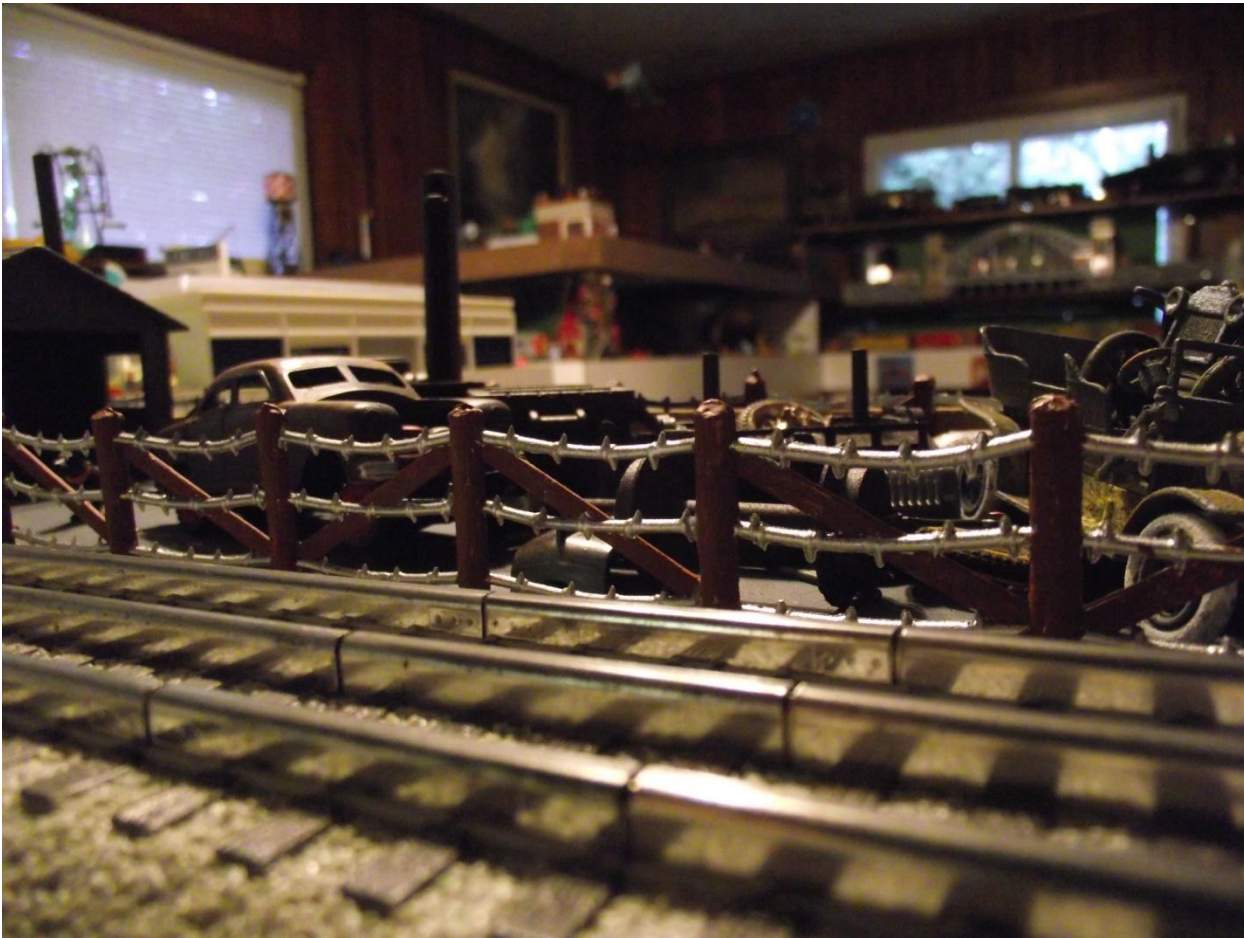
Use Model Railroading Junk for Realistic Junk Yard

From Jack Herzog:

Here is a simple project for a model railroad. Most of us have broken or damaged bits and pieces of stuff laying around. Put them to use in your model junk yard.

I built one for my Lionel O Gauge layout and placed it on a lift out section. It mostly features car and metal scrap. It could just as well have been a railroad scrap yard.

I saw a couple of those in California at the Jamestown railroad museum and at the Big Trees and Roaring Camp RR near Fenton. The barb wire fence is a Marx reproduction. I brought two old time broken cars at our train show. I think I paid a quarter.



Jack Herzog's O Gauge junk yard from junk in his model railroading workshop.

Sopchoppy Depot to House Historical Museum

From Phil Weston:

The Wakulla Neighbor newspaper, in an article early this month, described the beginning of the restored Sopchoppy Depot as a historical museum. The Sopchoppy Depot Committee is looking for Georgia, Florida & Alabama (GF&A) artifacts, pictures and people to be contacted regarding oral histories.

The Depot Committee is offering \$100 reward to anyone who has a good photograph of the depot taken when a train was operational. All of the photos which have been located so far only show small portions of the depot in the background. They would really like to have a photo of a train on the tracks at Sopchoppy.

Perhaps there are members of the BBMRA that might be interested in providing information to the Depot Committee. Anyone with pictures, artifacts, stories to tell or who would like to volunteer at the depot museum can call Arlene Vause (850) 962-2210 or Nelson Martin (850) 251-7020.

I haven't contacted the museum but perhaps this might be an opportunity for the BBMRA to place a GF&A model railroad of some scale for display at the museum if there is any interest. I've heard some discussions about the GF&A at meetings and maybe there's somebody that models this former line.

Coming in the November Lantern:

- **Jack Herzog on the Hood Industries sawmill at Metcalf, GA., near Thomasville, where railroad and railroad-like operations play a critical role. This is something neat to model.**
- **Sam Miller on Decorating Model Railroad Layouts for the Holidays**
- **Mike Sassard modeling reports from California.**
- **Lots more.**

BBMRA Meeting Minutes for September 20, 2016

President Andy Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Business meeting minutes of the August 16, 2016, meeting were approved without any amendments.

New Business/Officers: The BBMRA adopted unanimously the officers slate proposed by this year's nominating committee and then, as a committee of the whole, reelected the current division coordinators who completed the Board. Here is the 2016/17 BBMRA Board:

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Large Scale: Sam Miller for another term.

Show Coordinating Committee: Andy Zimmerman asked for additional volunteers for the 2017 Annual Show Coordinating Committee and appointed them – Barrett Johnson, Carlton Ingram and Phil Weston. Barrett, Carlton and Phil join Andy, who will chair the committee, Sam Miller, Doug Gyuricsko and David Brazell. Andy is expected to convene the group for its first meeting in the near future.

Andy reported that he met with all of the vendors at the Dothan show the previous weekend and got several commitments for our 2017 show in late June.

2016/17 Program Committee: Andy Zimmerman asked Andy Millott to serve for another year as Program Coordinator and Andy M. agreed. The program for the remainder of this year is complete – Andy M. reported. In October, it is a presentation on their extraordinary summer trips by Mike Simpson to Alaska and Barrett Johnson and Sam Miller to Seattle and British Columbia, Canada, to ride the Rocky Mountaineer. In November, it is a presentation by John Sykes III on the use of inexpensive, “non-traditional paints for model railroading. The December meeting, as has become customary, is the holiday reception at the home of Sam Miller and Linda Medlin.

Layouts Tour: Andy Millott said a layout tour will be organized for early next year, after the conclusion of football season.

Education/Recruitment Coordinator: Lisa Blair will be serving in this important from for another year and made a significant presentation on her ideas, especially to establish a BBMRA Youth Club. This will be discussed in detail in a special report in a future Lantern.

Dues Deadline: Andy Zimmerman noted that 2016/17 dues which have not yet been paid are considered delinquent and must be paid for modelers to continue to receive the Lantern and enjoy other club benefits. Dues can be mailed to Drew Hackmeyer, club treasurer.

Treasurer’s Report: Presented by Andy Zimmerman for Drew Hackmeyer, who was not present. “We have money and we are doing fine,” Andy reported.

Large Scale: Sam Miller noted that the rewired Disney II layout works great, thanks to Doug Gyuricsko. It was set up and tested at the meeting.

HO: Art Wilson noted the wonderful progress made by the HO Division on its T-Traks, which were set up for the meeting. (The layout really looks good.) Art said it will get even better.

Small Scale: Garth Easton said N Scale workdays are planned “once it gets cooler.”

Switching: Joe Haley reports he has been talking with some of the HO members about plans for a new switching layout. The new Timesaver would be much simpler and much less trouble-prone, Joe says. The new layout would have to be a project for the entire club.

Good of the Group: Doug Gyuricsko and Joe Haley reported on the September 17th tribute to Mitchell Green at Veterans Memorial Railroad in Bristol. Joe and Doug represented the club, along with David Blodgett. “His family and his friends were there,” I had a great time and it was a great meal!” Doug said. The reproduction steam locomotive “acts like a real train,” he added.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m. We counted 26 members present.

Respectfully submitted by **Sam Miller** for Ed Schroeder, who was out of town.

January 10, 11, 2017: 50th Florida Railfair & Train Show & Sale, Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 East. New York Avenue., Deland, FL, 32724. Saturday, 9am to 4pm, Sunday, 10am to 3:30pm. Admission is \$8.

January 28, 2017, 34th Annual Children's Day, Museum of Florida History, Tallahassee, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. BBMRA set-ups, including the Time Saver, and Thomas the Tank Engine and Large Scale's Disney II.

February 4-5, 2017: The Villages Spring Train Expo, Savannah Center, 1545 Buena Vista Blvd., The Villages, FL 32162. Saturday, 9am to 4pm, Sunday, 10am to 3pm.

June 24, 2017: BBMRA's 26th Annual Model Railroad Show & Sale, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., again at the North Florida Fairgrounds in Tallahassee. Setup will be the day before, Friday, June 23.

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

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