



THE Lantern

December 2019

Volume 24 Number 12

Happy 2019 Christmas & Jewish Holidays – with Family, BBMRA Friends and Model Railroading!



**Judy Meister, Mrs.
Claus**



**John Meister -
Everything is real
But the Santa suit.**



**Happy Hanukkah!
Built by Barbara
Donner**

**Sam & Linda's Holiday Reception is This Friday, December 13, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
(Also the BBMRA December Meeting)**

Sam Miller and Linda Medlin are hosting a Holiday Reception once again and inviting all of you and your families. Come to their home in Woodgate for lots of fun, food and various things to drink; holiday fellowship and model trains! We'll be celebrating the 2019 Christmas and Jewish Holidays with family, BBMRA friends and lots of model trains. Life is good! Sam used a new shoe horn to force additional Christmas lights and accessories into the Lionel layout. He believes he is close to a world record on the longest Christmas train.

The fun is this Friday, December 13, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. You don't have to bring anything, but if you want to, bring snacks like chip and dip or holiday desserts. Call Sam and Linda for more information at (850) 459-3012.

Sam & Linda live at 3008 Stillwood Court, off of Woodgate Way. Woodgate Way runs between Thomasville Road, just north of Tallahassee Nurseries, and Centerville Road, just north of Native Nurseries. From Thomasville, Stillwood is the first left turn, about half a mile down Woodgate. From Centerville, it is a right turn, about two-thirds of the way toward Thomasville. Look for Reddington and then Stillwood.

(Does anyone remember how long we have been doing this? Let us know. The party has become an important part of our December holiday celebrations.)

Sam and Linda

Special Upcoming Model Railroading Events

Saturday: Sopchoppy Christmas Festival, December 14, 2019: Phil Weston and the HO Division and Garth Easton, Andy Zimmerman and the N Scalpers will be operating their T-Traks at the City of Sopchoppy Depot Saturday, December 14, during that community's winter holiday festival. Operating hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Set-up is Friday afternoon. The HO group meets at the depot at noon, with the N Scalpers following at 2 p.m. Andy Zimmerman says he and Garth need help setting up and with any heavy lifting.

Saturday: Celebration of Life for Eric Ecklund: Saturday, December 14, 2019, 3 to 5 p.m., at his home in Crawfordville, 252 Bay Pine Drive. Eric passed away on November 30. He was 84. He was a long-time member of our club and pioneering large scale modeler in the Tallahassee area. Eric and wife, Ina, built one of the finest Garden Railroad layouts in the country in their Crawfordville back yard. This will be as much happy as sad. Ina has begun a wonderful tribute to Eric's Garden Railroading passion and it is wonderful to see.

VMRR's 2019 "Christmas in the Park:" Barrett Johnson is organizing a BMRA trip. The Veterans Memorial Railroad Christmas Train is back on track. Celebrate the Winter Holiday Season with "Christmas in the Park," beginning this weekend at VMRR in Bristol and running on other designated days from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Trains will be running Friday, December 13; Saturday, December 14;



From Sam Miller's Christmas layout.

Thursday, December 19; Friday, December 20, Saturday, December 21, and Sunday, December 22. Admission is \$10, with children two and under riding free. Fast Track tickets are available online at: <http://www.VeteransMemorialRailroad.org>. For additional information, go to the Internet site or call: (850) 643-6646.

Barrett Johnson is organizing a BMRA caravan for next week. If you are interested, contact Barrett at (850) 815-9392 or BGJohnsonlaw@aol.com

Sunday, December 22: Gary Edwards' Open House for Ox Bottom Manor Neighbors: Sunday, December 22, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Gary liked Sam Miller's November modeling railroading open house for Woodgate and has decided to do his own just before Christmas. He has invited members of the Large Scale Sunday Group to participate with their special modeling interests. Gary's address is 343 Milestone Dr., Tallahassee, 32312. (There will be no Sunday group meeting at Sam's house that weekend, although we are on for this Sunday.)

Winter Tampa Model Show: December 21-22, Saturday and Sunday, Winter Tampa Model Show, Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa, FL. Sam Miller is one of the vendors – his first time at this show.

Stephen Foster Park & Jacksonville: There are December Winter Holiday model train set-ups at Stephen Foster Memorial State Park in Live Oak as part of the Festival of lights and in Jacksonville at the children's science and technology museum. If anyone has details, please email Sam at sammiller61113@outlook.com

Lantern Plans & January 21 BBMRA Meeting

This December Lantern is an early edition with details on the December 13 Holiday Reception. The January Lantern will be produced early during the week of January 12 and will include minutes from the November meeting. Our regular club meeting in January is on the 21st. If you have photos and information for the Lantern, send them to Sam Miller - sammiller61113@outlook.com

Our Toys for Tots donation this year!

The BBMRA donation to Toys for Tots for 2019 was 12 60-piece wooden train sets. The donation came from the BBMRA Memorial Fund in honor of former President John Sullenberger and many of our other club friends who have passed away. Thanks to Garth Easton for the photo.

