



THE Lantern

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Doug- If You Don't Come to My House, We are Coming to Yours!

From Sam Miller:

Everyone knows Doug Gyuricsko; if not necessarily how to pronounce or spell his name.

Doug has been the backbone of the O Gauge T-Traks and is an outstanding, detailed N-Scale modeler as BBMRA President Andy Zimmerman notes below. He is a former BBMRA secretary. He helped Andy fill a critical void in planning for the annual show and sale after John Sullenberger passed away five years ago. He worked with Joe Haley to shore up the switching layout. He redesigned and rewired the Large Scale Division's Disney layout.

Doug lived in Alaska and worked on the Alaskan Pipeline for 25 years, which has nothing to do with his tenure in BBMRA, but shows how interesting a fellow he is.



Doug retired from regular jobs a few years ago to clear the way for 60 to 70-hour work weeks on his homestead, his hobbies, helping his wife, Donna, and helping his friends – me, maybe most of all.

Doug informed Andy Zimmerman recently he is retiring from the train club because of health issues, minor, but painful, to focus on the incredible N-Scale layout he is building in a shed behind his house near Lloyd and to be of further assistance to Donna, now working for the Kearney Center from home.

Doug will still be around and involved on a personal level with the many friends he has made through the model railroading hobby. Doug cannot retire from the Sunday Group Therapy sessions. If he doesn't come to

my house, we will come to his and he will be on the hook for the beer and snacks. (Actually, Doug has promised to return regularly to the Sunday sessions in Woodgate once the virus fears have eased.)

Doug has been the backbone of the O Gauge T-Traks. He designed our T-Trak setup, including his innovative support system based in part on legs from old folding tables he found along the side of the road. He personally built several modules, including two bridge scenes, the drive-in movie and Sullenberger Bay, his ship yard and Navy scene. Doug also rebuilt and rewired the Disney II layout.

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Among Many Skills, Doug is Outstanding N-Scale Modeler

From Andy Zimmerman:

Doug Gyuricsko has been an integral member of the BBMRA and has brought his skills and great modeling technique to both the N-Scale and the O Scale teams. Doug first impressed me when we had a modeling competition at one of our meetings. I worked long and hard to create a detailed model for presentation and Doug created a diorama with a model on it, complete with a door that could be remotely opened... IN N SCALE.

I was duly impressed and knew that moment I needed to up my game. Doug was a machinist and he likes precision, he likes minimal tolerances, and it is evident in his modeling. Next time we set up the N-Scale layout, look at the snow scene. They don't sell N-Scale skiers or N-Scale snowboarders, ENTER DOUG! Doug milled the skis to the proper width and thickness of real skis! He manufactured poles to the proper length and size and then shaped the people into the right poses.

We indeed have something unique on our layout thanks to Doug and his participation. Doug did not stop there. He was at nearly every N-Scale work party and could be counted on to make shows and meets. Doug was a consummate team player and worked to improve the club in many ways. It was leadership by example.



Doug, right, and Joe Haley

I will miss Doug, the way he thinks and wraps his mind around a problem, the way he works through the issue to produce a quality result. While I hate to see him leave I must respect his decision. This was a tough thing for me to hear as the president. I wish Doug the best and hope he has fair winds and following seas as he takes on new challenges.

CMR T-Traks, Decals Presenting to the Club August 18 via Zoom

From Andy Zimmerman:

Join us Tuesday night for a presentation by CMR Products LLC. Aric and Bryan Hartle will be giving us a presentation on the latest from CMR. "I'm happy to give an overview of what CMR has done and will be doing, or focus in on a couple of our product lines," says. "Our lines include railroad decals, weathering decals, vehicle decals, T-Trak modules, desktop organizers, Easy Streets, 3d Parts and more."

CMR is based out of Pennsylvania and has been in business since Artie and Bryan's father, Bob Hartle, founded the company in 1990. The owners of the company have a combined 80 years of model railroading experience. With over 15 layouts built between the owners, and years of modeling and scratch building experience, operations, and command control systems, this is sure to be a great, won't want to miss, presentation. See you Tuesday night" Here is a link to their website: <https://www.cmrproducts.com/>

BBMRA is continuing to meet through Zoom, including our regular monthly session August 18. More and more of you are participating in the Zoom sessions and we are hoping for a really fine turnout Tuesday. The business session will include election of officers and collection of 2020/2021 club dues, which should be paid now.

2020/21 BBMRA Officers to be Elected August 18

A slate of officers – with President Andy Zimmerman agreeing to run for another 12-month term – was developed during last month’s Zoom meeting of the club. Each of the current officers was asked to run again and all agreed. Anyone can submit their name as a candidate at the upcoming meeting.

Here is the official slate for 2020/21:

BBMRA Officers

President: Andy Zimmerman.
Vice President: Stacey Elliott.
Secretary: Sheldon Harrison.
Treasurer: Drew Hackmeyer.

The BBMRA Board will consist of the officers and the three division coordinators. The coordinators will be elected by the divisions. The current coordinators are willing to serve again:

HO Coordinator: Phil Weston.
Small Scale Coordinator: Garth Easton.
Large Scale Coordinator: Sam Miller.

BBMRA Dues - Time to Pay Up

Annual dues of the Big Bend Model Railroad Association need to be paid now and will be delinquent after August 31. Dues remain at \$20, which is pretty darn attractive. Please submit your dues by cash or check to:

BBMRA
P. O. Box 3392
Tallahassee, FL 32315-3392

Doug is Retiring from BBMRA

From Page One

He has agreed to train Large Scale folks who will be taking over from him and to donate “the modules, and benches and many scenic things I had with it.”

Doug was secretary of the club for four years, stepping down in 2016, and wrote detailed, entertaining club minutes. “I was getting busier and busier with both N-Scale and O Gauge and I had to give up that position. Ed Schroeder took the reins,” Doug remembers. (Ed served for several years until he turned things over to our current secretary, Sheldon Harrison.)

Doug was an active member of the Annual Show & Sale Committee for years. For a couple of years, he undertook the time-consuming job of planning the placement of vendors and layouts in our two buildings at the Fairgrounds – what he called “the show table project.” “The year 2015 after John Sullenberger had passed away was a time when many of us needed to step up and do the work which John had managed single handedly for years,” Doug recalls. “Andy Zimmerman had a number of positions which needed filling very quickly and I thought I could help with the placement of vendors.”

“Though I’m retired there seems to be less time than I had, or it takes more time to do what I used to do,” Doug wrote me last week. “The storm Irma knocked down trees on our land. Though my brain thinks I can, my body can’t lift those 400 lb. limbs any more, I did some damage limiting my working skills soon after that.

Doug is Building a Grand Trunk, Vermont to Canada N-Scale Layout

From Doug Gyuriscko:

I have been researching for years how to replicate a prototype railroad for operations. Family history in Vermont and loving the scenery up there gave me a place to start. The Grand Trunk Railway System that ran from Montreal, Canada, to the seaport in Portland, ME, was interesting. Island Pond in Vermont was the halfway point and the first railroad station to be international. That part was called the Berlin Sub Division, 154 miles. I based the time period in 1954 so I can utilize the last gasps of the falling flag steam system and also diesel.



**Grand Trunk Station at Ocean Pond in 1907;
Doug is Scratch-Building This!**

the Antique Car Museum layouts. With no ability to have a BBMRA operations layout and the museum closing the layout room I did not see any way except to build my own.

(From Sam: Nothing in our bylaws says only active members can participate in the annual layout tour. We are signing up Doug when he is ready.)

Knowing many layouts are destroyed if moved, I have designed my layout to consist of large moveable modules. N-Scale Atlas Code 55 rail is used with a few custom Fastrack turnouts. Between the modules, a copper clad sheet is used to hold the rail ends in exact alignments when cut in the future. DCC will be the power. Twisted AWG 12 wire is the main bus; this simplifies wiring in large rail yards.

This compressed layout will run from the docks to Island Pond through God's North Country. Operations will be the main focus for me. The closest thing to operations in our club was



Next Zoom Trivia Night is September 1.

The next BBMRA Zoom Railroad Trivia Night is Tuesday, September 1. These have become a regular event for now and they are a lot of fun. Because club members cannot physically get together as normal, President Andy Zimmerman and the other officers have planning these special events. Vice President Stacy Elliott is the trivia moderator. Club members will receive Zoom notices from Andy as they have been getting for the regular Third Tuesday meeting.

Hotel Indigo's Debut Highlights Tallahassee's Railroad History

Excerpted from the Tallahassee Democrat, August 15, 2020

Hotel Indigo Tallahassee - CollegeTown debuts with its take on the area's railway past and underground caves.

The seven-story, 143-room boutique hotel operated by InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG) has about 5,650 hotels through its brands Holiday Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Crowne Plaza, Staybridge Suites and Candlewood Suites, among others.

Despite properties in major Florida cities like Gainesville, Sarasota and St. Petersburg and dotting the globe in London, Madrid and Paris, no two Hotel Indigo properties are alike.

That's an intentional distinction as company designers swoop into cities to infuse an area's history and character into the aesthetic.

Located at 826 W. Gaines St., Hotel Indigo's concrete floors, black brick walls and industrial touches bring a signature look that marries the past to the present.

The Gaines Street District was once an industrial hub of rail

lines that birthed lumber and brickyards, gristmills and bottling companies. Today the area is a buzzing cross section of boutiques, restaurants and nightlife sandwiched between the boundaries of Florida State and Florida A&M universities.

"The railroad motif is apparent throughout the property," General Manager Mark Xenophon said, adding shades of blue pay homage to the area's underground caverns and the water motif connecting Cascades Park and Wakulla Springs.

The hotel has an on-site restaurant called "R&R" that features local vendors like Bradley's Country Sausage and Lucky Goat Coffee. It also includes a private board room and roughly 1,800 square feet of meeting space.



August 15 SSR Northern Division Zoom Meeting Pushed Back a Week

From Richard Segall, NMRA SSR Northern Division Superintendent:

Larry Eggering, the presenter for our featured clinic on August 15, has had an emergency come up and cannot do the program as scheduled and I do not have one in reserve.

Very simply, we will move the program to August 22 (it is so easy with Zoom!). The rest of the program remains the same with Show and Tell and update on the AP Program. If you like to attend this meeting contact Richard Segall at NorthernDivision.SSR@gmail.com

If you have already responded for this weekend, you will be sent the replacement link automatically. If you are now available to attend, contact Richard Segall.

The program will begin at 10 AM on August 22.

Larry's Arduino workshop on the 22nd will use materials from the starter kit we distributed at our October 2019 meeting. If you need another one, the slightly modified kit is available from Amazon at Photosensors

St. Louis Online- National Narrow Gauge Convention This Fall

From Bill Bell:

I thought you might like to put some of this information in the Club News Letter. The convention is free and will be on Zoom. I plan to attend.

[St. Louis Online - A Virtual Narrow Gauge Convention for 2020](#)

It's confirmed! We will have a virtual National Narrow Gauge Convention this year - St. Louis *Online*. We have selected nine clinics and six layouts, that will be presented online over three Saturdays (August 22, August 29 and September 5, 2020). A complete [schedule for St. Louis Online is here](#). This virtual convention is being offered to the narrow gauge modeling community free of charge. We are very grateful to the clinicians and to the layout hosts for going the extra mile to make their clinics - and homes - available online.



We will also be hosting a business meeting online, on September 5, to hear from future convention hosts and to [select a location for the 2024 and 2025 conventions](#).

We will use Zoom to host the events. This has proved very successful across our community, enabling us to keep in touch through the COVID-19 pandemic. Please download and install Zoom on your device (PC, Mac, laptop, iPad or smartphone) *before* the online events commence.

40th National Narrow Gauge Convention Cancelled

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the St. Louis convention committee has decided to cancel the "live" 40th National Narrow Gauge Convention. All registered attendees and vendors should have received an email containing additional details. Thank you for your understanding and support. But, all is not lost, we will be hosting an online edition of the convention - see the details above!

Big Bend Model Railroad Association Minutes for Meeting July 21, 2020

President Andy Zimmerman called the meeting, held on July 21 to order via Zoom at about 7:30 p.m. The virtual meeting was attended by about 16 present at the maximum.

Minutes – The minutes from the June meeting were accepted and passed without objection.

Treasurer's Report – Drew Hackmeyer gave the Treasurer's report. The numbers were shared online with attendees. We are in the black and looking good. Drew mentioned receipt of dues for the new financial year. There was a request to share the dues address information to which President Andy directed attendees to the Zoom chat. The information was also available via Facebook. There was also discussion about alternative dues payment methods such as electronic means like Paypal etc. A motion was moved, accepted and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Division Reports

Large Scale – Sam Miller mentioned that a new addition was done to his layout. There was discussion of show cancellations in the region and the likelihood that no shows will be held for the rest of the year. The discussion then diverged to the COVID impacts and the likelihood of a vaccine and likely timeframe.

NMRA – Robert Feuerstein mentioned additional activities and programs that the Sunshine Region of the NMRA has in progress and gave a brief presentation that included a timetable of upcoming events, among other things. Sam also added that a few club members are looking at cooperating on electrical and other items with the aim to qualify for certificates etc. There was then extensive discussion about the requirements of the NMRA AP programs and getting speakers to talk with the club etc.

HO – Phil Weston the HO coordinator, mentioned that he had nothing to report, just trying to stay safe.

Small Scale – Garth had trouble connecting and could not deliver his report. President Andy mentioned continued module work on N-Scale T-Traks.

Switching Layout – On a sad note, it was shared that Joe Haley lost his only son recently and several club members reached out to offer condolences and support.

Good of the Group – Sam went through the slate of officer nominations. The nominations included the current incumbents as follows:

President – Andy Zimmerman

Vice President – Stacy Elliot

Secretary – Sheldon Harrison

Treasurer – Drew Hackmeyer

President Andy asked if there were any additional nominations and that voting will be done for the next month.

There was discussion about some ancestry items for some club members. There was a plug by Bill Bell for genealogy help if any club member is interested. Sam mentioned that Ron Clark is interested in resuming his participation and wonders about how much is owed to the club to become current. There was question about finding a replacement O Scale engine light bulb for a club member. Sam and the large scale group agreed to install the bulb at one of his Sunday afternoon sessions and addresses were exchanged via Zoom chat.

Drew shared pictures of modeling projects he has been working on. They includes various castings, masters for different models such as dynamite igloos, etc. These may be useful for both N and HO scale. The business meeting was concluded at approximately 8:03PM following which Andy Millott and Rob Feuerstein had presentations.

Submitted by Secretary Sheldon Harrison