



THE Lantern

February 2025

Volume 30 Number 2

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Breakfast, Lunch, HO, N Trains Saturday February 22

From Phil Weston, BBMRA HO Coordinator

This is an invitation to BBMRA members for an informal, in-person, gathering for breakfast at Hardee's Restaurant at 9 a.m. Saturday, February 22, then onto Keith Lawson Services Facility where we'll set up and run trains (N Scale & HO Scale T-TRAK Modules) until noon. There is a grill at the facility, and we'll cook burgers and hot dogs, chips and

soft drinks provided by BBMRA. After lunch we plan to run trains until 3 PM, then disassemble and head for home.

Agenda:

Meet at Hardee's Restaurant, 5818 N. Monroe Street (Hwy 27), Tallahassee, FL 32303 at 9:00 AM for Breakfast. Breakfast is on you.

After breakfast we'll travel to Keith Lawson Services Facility, 4557 Capital Circle NW, Tallahassee, FL 32303. The building has a 22' x 32' meeting room where we'll set up and run our trains. There is also a small break room and rest room. (N Scale will need to bring portable tables).

Not knowing how many people we'll have participating, it may be a bit cozy, but this building was graciously offered through Scott Garner by Keith Lawson and is the best opportunity we had available for this initial gathering.



Please RSVP by 2/18/25 to help us determine attendance, participation and how much food to purchase, Here's the reply link:

<https://forms.gle/vitvDe7KbREUf6qf9>



Driving Directions:

From US Hwy 27 (N Monroe Street)/Hwy 263 intersection proceed south on Hwy 263 1.3 miles to Village Way, then turn Left onto Village Way and go 0.2 miles to Keith Lawson Services Facility at 4557

Capital Circle NW, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

From I-10/Hwy 263 intersection on I-10 exit north on Hwy 263 and proceed 2.3 Miles to Village Way, then turn right onto Village Way and go 0.2 miles to Keith Lawson Services Facility at 4557 Capital Circle NW, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

(Plans are underway for a similar gathering in April. Details later.)

Annual Layout Tour is Saturday, March 22 – Still Room for Your Trains

March 22, 2025, Saturday, BBMRA Annual Model Train Layouts Tour: Andy Millott is coordinating this again for our club. Joe Haley/Doug Guyricsko and Tom Rush have agreed to show off their HO displays again, featuring a lot that is new since last year. Other members of the club are giving the tour consideration. Andy will be announcing final details a little later. Contact Andy at (850) 443-0781 to sign up as part of the tour.

Ballasting and Scenery Clinic at Ed Schroeder's House

Saturday February 1, 2025.

Ed Schroeder has a large HO-Scale layout in his double car garage that is named the New Orleans & North Eastern Railway. It is named for the hometowns of Ed and his wife Marietta. Ed is from New Orleans, LA and Marietta is from Wellesley Hills, MA. Ed's layout needed some repair to trackage and needed to be reattached and ballasted. Ed approached Andy Zimmerman for some assistance and Andy decided to host a ballasting clinic. The following photos show some of the activities during the clinic.

Prepping the Right of Way

Prior to ballasting, Ed checked the right of way and found that rails in one section of flex track had pulled out of the spikes.



The offending section was cut and pulled from the roadbed.



The “younger” Dave Blodgett slips sanded and thinned cross ties under the rail joiners.



Ballasting the Right of Way - Andy Zimmerman ballasts the rails using an old seasoning shaker from the wife’s kitchen.



Andy uses a brush to spread and remove ballast from crossties before applying Mod Podge while both Daves observe.



Ballast and scenery in place.



Another Ballast and Scenery Clinic to Come Around End of February

After the four-hour workshop on Saturday, 1 February, Andy indicated he would like to do a follow-up at end of the month, perhaps 22 February or 1 March, that would demonstrate techniques to show the granite cuts and the rusty red color of the N.O. & N.E. right of way coming through Wellesley Hills, MA, the home town of Ed's wife Marietta. Coffee is always provided. Perhaps we can run some trains as well!



Pictures and descriptions submitted by Ed Schroeder, Editing by Neal Meadows, Ed.D.

BBMRA Important Events in 2025!



Help us build this calendar. Email sammiller61113@outlook.com. Please confirm that an activity is still on before you travel to it. We are listing Internet links whenever possible.

Here is a terrific national calendar:
https://www.railserv.com/events/train_shows.html

The BBMRA meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month through

Zoom.

BBMRA Zoom: Go to Zoom Program or Internet site and use these codes.

Meeting ID: 873 5905 5848, Password: BBMRA2022

Lionel Interest Group Operating Sessions: most Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at Sam Miller's house in Woodgate. Call (850) 459-3012 for further information.

February 8, 2025, 46th Annual Jacksonville Train Show & Sale: 9a to 4p, Admission, \$13; children under 12, free. Prime Osborne Center, 1000 Waters Street, Jacksonville, 32204. Golden Spike Enterprises.


March 22, 2025, Saturday, BBMRA Annual Model Train Layouts Tour: Andy Millott is coordinating this again for our club and will be announcing details a little later. Contact Andy at (850) 443-0781 to sign up as part of the tour.



April 26-27, 2025, Pensacola Railfest 2025: Saturday, 9a to 5p (Central), Sunday, 10a to 4p. Pensacola Fairgrounds, Building No. 1, 6655 Mobile Highway, Pensacola, 32526.



ALL ABOARD FOR
**PENSACOLA
 RAILFEST**
 2025
 MODEL RAILROAD SHOW AND SALE
 SATURDAY APRIL 26TH, 9AM TO 5PM
 SUNDAY APRIL 27TH, 9AM TO 4PM



LOCATION: PENSACOLA INTERSTATE FAIRGROUNDS
 6655 MOBILE HIGHWAY BUILDING 1
 ADMISSION: \$10. CHILDREN, 12 AND UNDER, FREE.
 PARKING: FREE!



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 PENSACOLA MODEL RAILROAD CLUB
 VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PMRC.US LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! /PENSACOLAMRC
 EMAIL US AT PENSACOLARAILFEST@GMAIL.COM FOR DEALER INFO



T-TRAK N-Scale Modular Railroading **NTRAK** **T-TRAK-Z** Z-Scale Modular Railroading

June 28-29, 2025, 34th Annual Tallahassee Model Railroad Show and Sale, North Florida Fairgrounds, 441 Paul Russell Road, Tallahassee, 32301. 9am to 5pm, Saturday the 28th and 9am to 3pm, Sunday the 29th. The set-up is Friday, June 27, from 8am to 4pm. Kids 12 and under get in free; ages 13 to adult, \$10.



Sopchoppy Depot Days September 13,

2025, Sopchoppy, FL: The BBMRA HO Division has become a regular participant, operating a special layout developed for this festivity.



These cars have been custom decorated and some custom built by Phil Weston and Scott Garner and others on the HO-Scale Team to use at Sopchoppy for the GF&A Railroad display.

The 2025 BBMRA Show and Sale is Scheduled

This year the Annual Show and Sale will be held on Saturday, June 28 from 9am to 5 pm and on Sunday, June 29 from 9am to 3pm. It's a little different from last year. The vendor table purchase has a different process as well. This year the link on the vendor page goes to a screen that gathers data for a database for vendor data. The contract forms and hotel information will be accessible from that set of screens. Vendors may still pay online vial our PayPal cart for tables they wish to purchase. Vendors may still opt for paying for tables via cash or check mailed to the po box. Hopefully, vendor sales will be great again this year.

Big Bend Model Railroad Association

T-TRAK
N1010 based Modular Railroading

2 day Show!
Sat & Sun

T-TRAK 2
2-Scale Modular Railroading

34th Annual

Tallahassee Model Railroad Show and Sale
June 28th & 29th 2025 at the North Florida Fairgrounds

Facebook

Nifty Mail!



BBMRA meets on Tuesday, February 18, at 7:30 p.m. through Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87359055848?pwd=WTVtUDhBUmhXVFp3RkY4WWNnZ2NXdz09>

BBMRA Zoom: Go to Zoom Program or Internet site and use these codes.

Meeting ID: 873 5905 5848, Password: BBMRA2022



**Minutes from November 19, 2024,
Meeting of BBMRA**

Submitted by Sheldon Harrison

The minutes of this meeting will be sent out under separate emails.



Pay Your 2024-25 Dues – *Not Paid? Get your dues paid quickly – Use PayPal!*

The BBMRA now has the option for new and current members to pay their dues online by using the PayPal link on the BBMRA.ORG website. It is under the Membership menu item. When you select the PayPal button you will get the option to use your PayPal account if you have one or use a credit/debit card. The dues are \$21.25 using this method, 2 years for \$42.00.



BBMRA dues are \$20 a year and must be paid by July 30, under club bylaws. Over the years, however, we have not considered dues delinquent until the end of August, BBMRA President

Andy Zimmerman says.

If you want to mail a check, please mail it directly to Neal Meadows at 2812 Whittington Dr. Tallahassee, FL 32309. This will expedite the process since the mailbox only gets checked about twice a month during this time.

A Few Foreign Train Postage Stamps!



"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 day of each month sent in c/o Editor. P.O. Box 3392, Tallahassee, FL 32315-3392. Items may also be forwarded to the Editors via email attachment: (Neal Meadows) meadowsn1956@gmail.com or (Sam Miller) samthetrainmanmiller@gmail.com.