



# THE Lantern

March 2013

Volume 18 Number 3

## Roy and Vernon

From Sam Miller, HO Coordinator

Roy Mantooth and Vernon Parramore were best of friends. I met Roy through Vernon at a BBMRA show when we were still at the Elk's Club years ago and then visited him in Fort Myers. Roy and Maxine Mantooth moved to Tallahassee a short time later, partly to be with Vernon and Jamie, but maybe also to spend time with me and my wife Linda.

These two guys are among the finest HO scale modelers who ever lived and probably were among the first to convert their layouts and most of their engines to DCC. They both had most impressive layouts and were generous with their time showing the rest of us how to do things and repairing our steamers and diesels.

Vernon died last month just before he turned 96. Most of you already know that and many from our club paid their final respects to Vernon.

Roy and Maxine have sold their house and are moving to Knoxville. Maxine has a daughter there and Roy's sons are in Louisville, a far piece away, but not nearly as far away as Tallahassee. Roy's layout, which was one of the finest in the country even though he protested whenever someone said that, has been broken down. The trains he is not selling have been boxed up for Knoxville. Bob Moody and Paul Richter have taken on most of this burden from Roy.

We are blessed that Roy is still alive and kicking although it will be a little tougher to take over engines for him to work on. (Fedex still works, though.)

It is pretty darn sad when friends like Roy move away and we lose others like Vernon, Larry Bensen, Dave Kerns, Buddy McChessney and others. That's because the sense of community which exists in our train club is important and wonderful and the friends we make are such fine and life-long friends.

## HO T-Traks Moving Ahead

By Sam Miller, HO coordinator

Several HO Division members have taken on T-Track modules and we will be setting them up during the June show at the Fairgrounds.

Ron Clark worked with Drew, John, Andy and the others who have been promoting this wonderful idea and will have the four corners to anchor the HO T-Trak layout.

\*\*\* Next Meeting \*\*\*

**March 19<sup>th</sup>**

**at the**

**'old' Tallahassee Antique  
Car Museum**

The 'old' Tallahassee Antique Car Museum is located at 3550 Mahan Drive just east of the intersection of Capital Circle and Mahan Drive (across from the McDonalds in the Wal-Mart parking lot).

The meeting will begin at **7:30 pm**.

Sheldon and Don have T-Track modules and other HO members do as well. I am taking on two doubles. We will have a couple of workdays on the T-Traks at my house this spring. If you are interested in taking on a module, you can and you will be able to participate in the June setup. Let me know.

## BBMRA takes the CEF Crafters market by storm!

By Andy J. Zimmerman, V.P. BBMRA

Thanks in great part to Gary Austin (BBMRA member). This marked the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row the BBMRA was invited back to the Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) market on March 9, for their 5<sup>th</sup> annual event to benefit children all over the world. The Child Evangelism Fellowship® reached more than 12 million children in over 180 countries last year and the BBMRA played a small part in that.

This year the N-scale division set up the day prior, Garth Easton and Neil Meadows loaded up their trailers with our Storage boxes and headed out around 3:30 pm. Accompanied by John Sullenberger and myself we made it to Thomasville Road Baptist Church around 3:45. This year the CEF crew decided to give us a whole wall so we decided to set up all 27 feet of



modules (27 feet long by 10 feet deep), there were small problems, however nothing untenable by this group. There were members on hand to work out potential issues, clean up track, and stage equipment for running trains on Saturday. It was a small but skilled and efficient group to say the least.

Children who were on location with their parents (likely the children of CEF vendors) marveled at the big cases as we rolled them off the trailers. They quickly and unashamedly asked "Are those the Trains?" When we answered in the affirmative they eagerly followed us into the hall and waited to see what we would roll out. One young man stood in quiet awe as we pulled out the modules and began to set them up. "He quietly asked,

do you remember me?" I told him sure I do, you are the young man I had helping me run trains last year. His mother said it is all he has talked about for weeks. Even on set up day we had no shortage of rail fans. As we unloaded each module our new found friends were all too happy to inspect each as we removed them from their storage cases. Time and again moms and dads alike commented on how the kids remembered last year and could not wait to see them again this year. Despite all of our new found help we completed set up and preliminary testing about 6pm and made plans to return around 7am on Saturday.

Bright and early Saturday morning, the N-Scalers, John Sullenberger, Garth Easton, Doug Gyuricsko and myself met to give the traveling layout its final check prior to putting our trains on display. We also took the time to set out our new and improved scavenger hunt,



clipboards, pens and Club and show information. The layout was given a test run and by the show opening at 9 am we were ready to rock and roll! Engineers stood at their respective stations with throttles in hand, looking over their personally selected consists and ready to do what we do best....run trains!! We had 3 sections running trains including our camera car that gave the viewers an engineer's view of the track and scenery, which is always a big hit with the kids!

Conveniently there was a monitor mounted above the layout on the wall, not so conveniently it did not readily accept the cameras receiver output. We were not about to disappoint the kids so a quick trip to RadioShack© and a little troubleshooting and we were back in business transmitting to the wall mounted monitor and showing off our camera train!



This year the N-Scalers were joined by Joe Haley and the switching layout. Joe was nothing short of value added to the "Train Experience" as he provided the kids with some great onsite training. Joe not only showed the kids how to run trains but he taught them the significance the bells, horn blasts etc. He was very patient with the young ones and he kept it interesting the entire time. Joe's approach was nothing short of outstanding. He put them at ease and showed them the ropes and all the while he was teaching them several things at once (and I do not think the kids even realized it). The kids were just delighted they could run trains and you can tell they enjoyed learning from Joe! From the sounds of the CEF leadership on site, it appears that Joe and the switching may well become a regular participant in future CEF markets.



Special thanks to those of you who came out to support and assist us. We had members such as Sheldon Harrison, David Brazell, Gary Austin, Larry Downing and John Rogers stop in or just hang out and lend a hand.

The BBMRA was proud to participate and help out this great organization and we look forward to future events!!

## **LCCA / Lionel FasTrack Modular Concept**

The FasTrack modular concept has drawn the attention of some BBMRA members.

Richard Schmitt has provided two additional write-ups on the techniques used in building these modules and the Accessory Bundles offered by Lionel.

Even if Lionel is not your thing, the construction ideas are worth studying.

Richard's write-ups are posted on our website at <http://bbmra.org>



# Minutes of the February 2013 BBMRA Meeting

Swap Meet, many items and magazines.

Business meeting starting at 7:34 PM.

Visitors: Sandy and Richard Fulton, Richard having an 'O scale Lionel Texas Special. Checking into the club.

Rick Kelly in "HO" scale from Ontario Canada.

Terry and Mitchel Baker in "N scale.

Phil Weston in "HO" scale. Welcome all.

The January minutes accepted as is.

Treasurer report: John reports we are in the black.

John said we are working on a budget, should be reported in a month.

Division reports;

Small Scale: Garth said there is a work party this Saturday, Feb. 23.

N scale was invited to the crafters market again March 9th, the whole "N" scale set up as seen in the 2012 show this time.

HO: Sam said a work day is scheduled for March 2nd. Get ready for the show.

Large scale: Randy reports Thomas and James ran well, but Percy is on the road to recovery.

Switching: Joe reports the operation at the Grey museum ran well. The set up was lent out for merit badges!

NMRA: Barrett said we have the best chance of attending the NMRA convention this year in Atlanta. It may be in Australia next year! Many special clinics can be seen given by the best in the hobby. Check the NMRA dot org site for more details.

John said we have sold tables for the show, looking for volunteers to help. He checked with vendors it makes a difference, example given was helping vendors to load out and back up. It saved hours. The show is big, and help is needed in many areas, hand trucks welcomed. Some set up for 7 AM Saturday morning also.

Module work in progress with Drew Thursday 28, 7 to 9 for those working on them, and Saturday March 2nd.

Good of the group: Cocoa Beach was excellent with high profile manufacturers selling direct. Demonstrators were excellent also with many exhibits.

We have committees working on the by laws.

Club members are encouraged to be presenters, with many who know how to do, can show others, lets step up.

Joe Haley suggests making a plan for a new switching layout.

John again lets us know there are many great magazines "for the taking" on the tables, along with the swap meet.

Meeting ending at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Doug G.

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# Upcoming Events

## **Friday, Saturday and Sunday March 15, 16, 17, 2013**

The 64th H&R Train Show  
H&R Trains  
6901 U.S. Highway 19 North  
Pinellas Park, FL 33781  
(727) 526-4682

Parking - Additional parking was available All Three Days,  
just one block to the north at the rear of the ROOMS TO GO.  
The lot is actually On 34th st. behind their Store.

[Driving Directions](#)

[Show Link](#)

## **Saturday March 23, 2013**

Homosassa, FL  
Lion's Club Hall  
3705 Indiana Terrace & Homosassa Trail  
Homosassa, FL 34446  
Adults \$4.00 children under 12 free  
EARLY BIRD \$6.00 9AM to 10AM  
Hours 10-3  
Vendors and Model Train Layout  
Lunch will be for sale

[Show Link](#)

## **Saturday March 23rd, 2013**

10:00am to 4:00pm  
**TCA Train Show---Stuart, FL**  
Knights of Columbus  
7251 S.W. Gaines Ave.  
Admission: \$5.00 Under 12...FREE

Displays, layouts, and door prizes.  
More Info:  
Al Galli [algalli@embarqmail.com](mailto:algalli@embarqmail.com)

## **Saturday & Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> 2013**

### **Suncoast Model RR Show and Open House MinnReg Hall- Largo FL.**

Train Show and Open House at Minnreg Hall and Club House.  
100+ dealer tables available

Hours: 9 AM until 3 PM both Sat. and Sun.  
*unless otherwise noted in the specific show flyer.*

Our shows are held at MinnReg Hall, located one block from the club.

The address is:

**MinnReg Hall 6340 126th Ave North Largo, FL. 33773**

[Click Here to get a specific map from your house to ours](#)

Admission:

Adults 18 and older - \$6.00

Children 12 to 17 - \$1.00

Children 11 and younger are always FREE

Contact: Irv Batten at (727) 443-1488 or at [irvbatten@yahoo.com](mailto:irvbatten@yahoo.com)

[Show Link](#)

## **Saturday April 20th, 2013**

10:00am to 3:00pm

### **Train Show---Pinellas Park, FL**

Knights of Columbus Hall  
7177 58th Street North  
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

Admission: \$4.00 Children Under 12...FREE  
EARLY BIRD...\$6.00 (9:00am)

Vendors and Small Layout  
Lunch Available.

More Info: [www.regalrailways.com](http://www.regalrailways.com)