



The Villager

The official newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 8

November 2009

Number 4

New Dues Structure for 2010/Dues for 2010 Now Due

The Executive Committee voted in their October meeting to reduce the dues for ePCA members (those who download their quarterly editions of *The Villager* from the current \$10 to \$8. This means that you now have three dues possibilities; \$8 for ePCA, \$10 for a mailed black and white copy of the newsletter, and \$40 for a mailed

color copy of the newsletter. Please note on your renewal form the type of membership for which you are remitting dues and return the form with your payment to ensure your account is credited correctly. The form is included with this newsletter or will be mailed separately to ePCA members.

Vote in the 2010 Officer Election

The time to elect officers for the 2010 year is again upon us. Please review the candidate profiles elsewhere in this newsletter and vote. There is a contention for Vice President this year as our charter VP has decided not to run again. The President and Secretary/Treasurer are running unopposed.

A postcard sized ballot has been included in the dues remittance envelope included in the 9 X 12 mailing envelope if you are a hard copy newsletter member.

The same ballot has been included as part of the dues reminder special mailing you will receive if you are an ePCA member.

In order to make it easier for you to submit your vote for whom you wish to be the officers of the Plasticville

Collector Association for 2010, the Executive Committee has decided that ballots may be returned to the Secretary/Treasurer in the same envelope in which you remit your 2010 dues.

The Executive Committee encourages all members to take the time to vote and include their ballot in the envelope with their 2010 dues.

Remember that for your vote to count, it must be received by the Secretary/Treasurer before December 31, 2009.

Contact the Secretary/Treasurer at the address below or email him at secretary@plasticvilleusa.org if you do not receive a ballot with your newsletter or in a separate mailing if you are an ePCA member.

Bill Nole Given Lifetime ePCA Membership



Bill Nole (right) accepting his lifetime membership card from PCA President Glenn Bowman

Bill Nole was the guest of honor at the PCA noon luncheon at Fall York on October 16. President Glenn Bowman presented bill with a complimentary lifetime ePCA membership.

The Executive Committee debated whether to bestow this honor on Bill during the July Executive Committee meeting. The Committee felt that he was one of the most instrumental persons in reviving the collecting of Plasticville. As you might know, Bill was the person behind the King Plasticville buildings.

As there were numerous positive comments regarding making him a lifetime member from members who read the minutes of that meeting, Bill is now the first PCA lifetime member.

The Villager

Published quarterly by the Plasticville Collectors Association.

www.plasticvilleusa.org

President: Glenn Bowman

Vice President: Doug Gilliatt

Secretary/Treasurer: John L Niehaus

Webmaster: Joe Kutza

Newsletter editor: John Niehaus

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From the President's Desk



I was looking at EBay the other day and saw ads from a seller offering rare items that included everything from a #BL2 Bridge with Pond to an SW2 Switch Tower to a #HP9 yellow Cape Cod to Marx phone poles. It started me thinking what are some actual rare pieces?

Here are some that come to mind, and all are regular production pieces, not test shots, in no particular order. How many do you own? How many have you seen? How many were unknown to you?

The TV station with the "Plasticville TV Station" sticker for on the clear door? The #1617 Farm Buildings with the, molded in WHITE, small animals? The white Parish Church with foam base, people, trees, and shrubs? The sandstone color PD3 Police Station? The early light green roof BN1 Barn? The 4 different gray sirens for the FH4 firehouse?

Here are some more; we all know about the dark blue #1852 Rancher, how about the true Aqua color rancher? I see 10 dark blue to every aqua. The red roof New England Rancher is very rare, but how about the glossy reddish-brown roof New England Rancher? The Crockett Log Cabin is hard to find but did you ever see one with the door sticker having square corners, or the rifle over the door with the foil covering? How about the ultra rare "Make and Play" sets' Firehouse with red walls and white roof and trim? The gray roof Mansion with the slots for cardboard flames? The olive drab Hangar with matching windsock? The Split Level with the red outdoor BBQ, and cardboard 2nd floor for the Brown hospital furniture?

There are 2 seldom seen Master sets. The Railroad Center from 1962 had 5 structures including marbled Hobo Shacks, Watchman's Shanty, and ultra rare marbled Railroad Workcar. The bonus was all of the kits were in the normal kit boxes within the Master Set box. The Interceptor Squadron with the rare blue Ambulance is the other rare Master Set. There are a few smaller accessories

that come to mind including the black #SS5 street signs, the birdbaths with the single red, blue, or yellow LARGE bird, and the white 2 piece Spruce tree #TR6.

From Canada, the marbled dark brown or lighter green billboard frame with the BC Apples insert? How many of these smaller items are in your collection??

I know 2 minutes after I send this column to be published, more rarities will surface in my old brain. If you have any items I didn't mention please Email me with the info.

Speaking of EBay, this is a great time of year for the PV collector. The amount of listings for Plasticville, Littletown, Marx, etc. swells threefold. This is a good and bad situation. The good is the availability of more items, the bad is the items listed often are overgraded, incomplete, broken, glued, etc. Many sellers of collectibles list kits around this time of the year. The problem is some are not familiar with Plasticville and you end up with kits that "appear complete", "seems to be complete", and the famous "we did not try to assemble it so we don't know if it is complete". If you are interested in an item, Email the seller and ask for a picture of the parts. That will solve the mystery as to what is in the kit that only has the closed box shown in the ad.

The other problem I see is the same uninformed seller thinks a kit that is not glued together is 'mint'. They failed to read on the box the sentence "no glue needed, snap together assembly.....". A true mint kit from the 1950's and early 1960 usually does not have windows and doors installed. The doors and windows often came in a cellophane package within the kit. Also these early kits were NEVER sealed in a plastic bag. I saw an AP1 Hangar listed the other week that was "still factory sealed in the box" NOT!! Some clown used his wife's food sealing machine to bag the parts and create the "mint" kit.

I know it's early, but my wife Kris and I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. Maybe your present will be one of the Plasticville Holy Grails mentioned earlier in this column???

Glenn Bowman

Resource People Needed

The PCA needs volunteers to fill the following resource person categories. There is minimal involvement in that only when a member has a question that a knowledgeable member is available for assistance with their questions. Please let the Secretary/Treasurer know if you would like to fill one of these positions.

There are only five areas in which we do not have a resource person. In all cases we are referring to the plastic

buildings of these companies. Please let the Secretary know if you can fill one of the these positions.

Plasticville HO
Plasticville N
Lionel Plasticville
Skyline
Storytown

Vice Presidential Insights



By the time the Villager is out to our members, the York TCA meet will be over and hopefully all of our members that were able to attend found at least one treasure to return home with.

I do hope that all the members have or have had (depending on when this copy of the Villager is received) a Happy Holiday Season for themselves and their families.

Fall is here and as usual it's time for more Garage Sales/Meets and hunting for that missing piece for the collection. As usual I am requesting that if someone found an interesting/unusual piece either at York/local meet/Swap meets or Holiday present please consider sending in pictures and a description or even a short article on the item so your find can be shared with the members.

It continues to amaze me that the PCA is closing in on its 10th anniversary with over 400 members. I was just thinking again about the wealth of knowledge that exists within our organization and how much has been shared between members in these past years. As the PCA continues to grow our newfound knowledge uncovers previously unknown facts about these little plastic buildings. Let us hope it continues to do so into the future.

Please consider switching to the On-line delivery (ePCA) of *The Villager* in place of a mailed black and white or color copy. We have almost reached 50% ePCA delivery to our members but would like to get that

percentage up higher. It is really great to see the articles in color on your computer and save it for future reference, and of course there is the money you would be saving by receiving the On-Line version. If you are still receiving a paper copy and have a computer at home then please consider the online delivery system.

As I have said many many times before in the Villager, it is the hope of all of us that our organization continues to grow and attract new members which will allow us to be as vibrant and interesting into the future as it is today. While new membership is essential to the continuation and expansion of our organization we must all continue to be a source of interest/learning to our existing membership. If you are attending meets consider carrying a few applications for membership for folks that you think might be interested in becoming a member.

I would also like to say it's been a privilege to be your Vice President since the beginning of the PCA. I have decided not to run for re-election this year as I believe it's time for someone else to take over this position. The person that takes this position I am sure will come in with fresh ideas and enthusiasm and will help our organization grow even bigger. Thank you all for the support over the years and thanks to the board (both past and present members) for all of their hard work.

And as always, I want to remind everyone please remember to patronize our advertisers that support the PCA

PCA Vice-President, Doug Gilliatt



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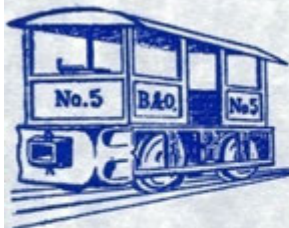
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Notes from the Editor



The PCA is growing in many ways; continued membership growth, expanded membership options, contested elections, and the designation of the first lifetime member are a few that come my mind.

Granting of a complimentary ePCA lifetime membership to charter member Bill Nole is indicative of just how much this organization has grown over the past eight years. As many of you know, Bill was the driving force behind the *Iron Horse Publications* Plasticville price guides. He was also the person behind the King Plasticville products. It was the opinion of the Executive Committee that had it not been for Bill's efforts there may not be the current emphasis on collecting Plasticville.

Well it has happened, and it is probably a very rare occurrence! Dues for some PCA members have been reduced for calendar year 2010. The Executive Committee voted to reduce the dues of ePCA members to \$8 from the previous \$10. While on the subject of dues, it is now possible for members to opt for the high end dues of \$40 if they wish to be mailed a color copy of the newsletter.

We again have a contested election for the 2010 officers, although only the office of Vice President is being contested. I am very pleased that over 80% of the PCA membership voted in last year's election. That is an enviable participation that even the larger train collectors associations and other organizations can only dream of attaining. Don't forget to send in your completed ballot with your 2010 dues payment.

For you HO collectors, the drought is over! Commencing with this issue of *The Villager* the *Along the HO Line* is being resumed thanks to PCA member and HO collector Todd Hendrickson. Todd's first article is an article on the HO Scenic Classic units. I am certain that his future articles will be just as informative.

Founder Joe Kutza made some comments in his *York Report* regarding some issues concerning the semi-annual York train meet. I agree with his comments regarding the attendees at the meet. If you have not read his part of the *York Report*, please do.

I also agree with Joe on points 2 and 3 of the comments regarding the organizers of the meet. I am really surprised that those members selling at the meet have not banded together to lobby for the repeal of the ban on cell phone use. If I were a seller I would want a buyer to have

every advantage in purchasing an item I had on my table. If he wanted an item that I had for sale and his buddy could inform him of this fact then the only harm in not being allowed to contact him by cell phone is to my bottom line. In this day and age when "everyone has a cell phone", I believe this rule should be dropped.

I also have to agree with point 3. I have visited the Black hall – the one with the operating modular layouts – and would have liked to take photos of some of the modules for possible incorporation into my layout. The same holds true for when I am in the Orange hall.

Joe suggests in point 1 that the meet be opened to anyone, TCA member or otherwise. I would suggest a compromise on this point. It has been suggested, and in my opinion, would create a great outreach to non-TCA members and maybe even bring in new TCA members if the meet was opened to the general public on Saturday. The benefits of this may be twofold: more sales for those holding tables and sellers not "closing up shop" shortly after the meet opens on Saturday. The latter is a major complaint for me as I travel from Central Iowa to the meet and cherish every hour that I can spend at the meet and to return on Saturday to a table where I saw an item of interest only to find it has been vacated by the holder is both upsetting and depressing. It seems that the rule that the sellers must stay until the end of the meet on Saturday is very poorly enforced, if at all.

Some of you are, again, not receiving the emails being sent to members informing them of special offers, notices of Organization gatherings, and other important announcements.

I would greatly appreciate if the following members would send an email to secretary@plasticvilleusa.org from the email address at which they would like to receive Organization related emails.

LEE A JOHNSON
DONALD J CLAYTON
ROBERT J LUDWIG
SCOTT A HICKAM
DAVID T HORNER
DEBRA L PEPPER
JIM PRATT

I must conclude this quarter's notes with a sad announcement. I received an email from PCA member Stan Troski (03-208) on October 28 that his wife of many years, Gaylen had passed away on October 27. A sympathy card on behalf of the PCA was sent to Stan and his family.

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Another Plasticville feature for 1966 is the return of fifteen items in O and S gauge. These, as well as the New HO packages, are available now.

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In continuation of the tradition of your newsletter editor here is my holiday gift of a Plasticville advertisement from the October 1966 edition of Playthings magazine. This is one of only two ads from Playthings magazine in my collection.

2010 Officer Candidates

President

Glenn Bowman, #03-219, Newport, PA



Hello to everyone I would like to re-introduce myself. My name is Glenn Bowman and I am again running for President of the PCA. My wife Kris and I live in the mountains of Pennsylvania on a horse farm right outside the little town of Newport, PA. We own 8 horses

and board 4 others.

I have been a New Car Dealer Parts Manager for over 40 years. My interest in Plasticville goes back to my childhood in the 1950's and I have been dealing in Lionel trains and Plasticville since the late 1960's.

I joined TCA at the York meet in 1972 and PCA in 2003. I was a Standards Committee Rep for the TCA's Keystone Division from the inception of the program until

1997 when my interests shifted to areas other than trains. For the Last 10 years I have been selling on EBay and have had the good fortune to make many new friends thru that endeavor.

This past year, we started to change the pictures and descriptions on the PCA website. For me, the wheels of change are turning too slowly, but they are turning!! I would like to continue the change but at a little faster pace.

Also, this is the 10 anniversary of PCA and I am excited about another special issue Plasticville kit being offered to the membership. Stay Tuned!

I would really appreciate your vote for me for President. Thanks to all who have supported the progress we have been making and please continue that support into 2010.

Vice-President

James F Dawes, #01-61, Syracuse, NY



I have been married 46 years and have four grown children and six grandchildren. I have lived in Syracuse for the past 22 years and have been collecting plasticville for eleven years and a PCA charter member for nine years.

I have been attending the York

train show for the past seven years and set up at the Best Western Hotel. I also attend and set up at many shows in New York State and Pennsylvania. I have had the privilege of meeting many of you at these shows.

My trailer has the Plasticville Collectors Association logo on it to help promote the PCA. You can read the article on my trailer in the May 2005, edition of the PCA Newsletter.

I was a candidate for President of the PCA last year.

Reginald Henry, #05-336 Belfair, WA



I was born in southern California, and moved to Sonoma County north of San Francisco, as a teenager. I lived there until 7 1/2 years ago when my wife and I moved to the Olympic Peninsula across Puget Sound from Seattle.

I have had two careers, before becoming semi-retired. The first was as an Account Executive in the newspaper business for 15 years. The second was as a Jeweler for 15 years as well. My wife, Wendy, and I currently work as Interpretive Guides at the Grand Canyon, six months out of the year.

One of my best childhood memories was the Christmas morning I work up to find a Lionel train set under the tree accompanied by a massive ZW transformer. The next

step, a sheet of plywood, Plasticville buildings, more track, and a Colber water tower. As with a lot of us, my teen years came along and other interests took over. Then when my son was born in 1989, another Lionel set came into my life.

My serious collecting started after I moved to Washington. With the advice of a friend I met through EBay, I joined the PCA as well as the TCA, attending the conventions in Seattle a few years ago as well as the Phoenix convention this last July. I also am a member of the Seattle chapter of the TCA Pacific Northwest Division.

When I return home in November I plan to finish the benchwork and track laying for my attic layout.

My other interests include astronomy, fishing and traveling. My most prized Plasticville piece? My peach, brown, brown Cape Cod.

2010 Officer Candidates (continued)

Secretary/Treasurer

John Niehaus, #01-03, Ankeny, IA



I have been collecting toy trains for over 30 years. I started collecting Plasticville in earnest about ten years ago while browsing eBay for seatbelts for my 1967 VW beetle. In addition to Plasticville and Lionel trains I also collect K-Line buildings.

I am a charter member of the PCA and have been both the Secretary/Treasurer and newsletter editor since its incorporation. It was with my assistance that the PCA is

formally recognized by Bachmann Industries, the owners of the Plasticville trade name, as well as becoming a recognized non-profit corporation in the State of Iowa in 2001.

Through my dogged persistence the PCA has been designated as a Federal 501(c)3 non-profit tax exempt education organization.

It is my hope that I may continue to serve all of you as your Secretary/Treasurer as well as newsletter editor.

When Significant Others are Part of the Hobby

By Fred Ruby

It's been a bit since I've written anything for the Villager, but sharing with my PV collector friends is part of what made me want to accept the presidency two and a half years ago.

A new love interest came into my life not too long ago. Cindy has all the usual attributes a man could dare hope for: pretty, smart, funny, classy and still can be one of the guys, willing to try new adventures. Heck, she took up bicycle riding for the first time ever when most are content to watch TV and the same for snow skiing, loves 'em both. This gal is something else, as I tell her every chance I get.

Not too long into the relationship, I needed to run an errand and the bad weather that day made me ask if she wouldn't be happier staying alone for an hour. One glance at the rain and she agreed. So I took out my prized boxed Lionel 965 Farm Set and gently unfolded the illustration it came with, explained that the paper and box were more valuable than the contents, but to have a good time playing "farm".

When I got home, the farm was built, and so were several other PV items to enhance the farm (windmill, cattle loader, farm equipment) that she found in my collection.

This wonderful woman is now into the PV aspect of my life as strong as I am. She's the one rarin' to go on a Sunday morning to be the first one at the local train meet to find modestly priced PV so she can paint it, kit-bash and modify to suit her imagination. (BTW: I'm trying to get her to write a short article on some of the mods she's done – send me an encouraging note and I will pass it along to her).

I know other couples share their love thru this and other hobbies, what about any of you? A short note to me and I'll publish the results in my next article.

I'll close now by thanking John for the friendship and encouragement, generosity of time and spirit for making the PCA into an ongoing entity, tax-deductable, now. I want to thank Doug for all the shared laughs at the executive meetings. I want to thank Glenn for taking over an (almost) thankless job of running our Association. Most of all, I want to thank Joe for starting the PCA, meeting me one cold Sunday afternoon when he and I were both in the Northern California area and for offering advice, encouragement and unconditional friendship.

I can be reached at pca_prez@yahoo.com for encouraging notes to Cindy, survey stories or any other reason you have to contact a fellow PV collector.

Until next time, happy hunting and low prices to all!

ARE YOU A MARX OR K-LINE COLLECTOR?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WRITE ARTICLES FOR *THE VILLAGER*?

The Plasticville Collectors Association has grown to the point where there are a number of collectors who specialize in other than Plasticville buildings. Are you one of them?

If you are a collector of other than Plasticville buildings, how about sharing your knowledge with the members.

You do not have to be concerned with the format or even the quality of writing. Put your thoughts down in electronic or paper form and send them to *The Villager* editor. No contribution is too small or insignificant.

Minutes of the October, 2009 Executive Committee Meeting

The October, 2009 Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 11:00, Eastern Time on October 11 by President Glenn Bowman.

Those in attendance were; President Glenn Bowman, Vice-President Doug Gilliatt, Immediate past President Fred Ruby, Secretary/Treasurer John Niehaus.

Old business:

Donated items from Bachmann

Secretary Niehaus reported that all built ups have either been donated to clubs or sold.

Downloading issues with electronic documents from the on line storage provider

Secretary Niehaus reported that there has been no progress on this due to his lack of coordinating a research effort with Joe Kutza.

Adding scale interest to the membership application

Secretary Niehaus reported that scale interest has been added to the membership application.

Creating and mailing a member information update and satisfaction survey

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to discontinue pursuing this topic.

Securing Plasticville photos on website to members only

Tabled

“Plasticville Police” – volunteer to monitor eBay Plasticville listings and report incorrect/bogus listings

Secretary Niehaus reported that the person he contacted at the American Philatelic Society stated that they were no longer monitoring eBay activity.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to discontinue pursuing this topic.

New Business:

Officer nominations

President Bowman announced that he has received nominations for the office of President and Vice-President. He also stated that he had forwarded those nominations to Secretary Niehaus.

Reducing ePCA dues to \$8

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to reduce the ePCA membership dues to \$8.00 commencing with the 2010 year.

Revised membership application

Secretary Niehaus stated that he will revise the membership application and forward a copy to the Committee for their approval. He asked that all review the application and respond as soon as possible so that he can have applications ready for the York Train meet on October 15. The revisions include the addition of scale interest and a revised membership dues schedule as well

Backup developer to ensure continuity of the website

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has not been contacted by Joe regarding the steps required by the Secretary to purchase the upgrade of the software used by the web developer for use by Joe.

10th anniversary piece

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has received additional suggestions for a 10th anniversary building as listed in the document he sent to the Committee members. Vice President Gilliatt requested that the Diner be added to the list. Secretary Niehaus stated that he will personally present the suggestions to Bachmann at the Fall York train meet.

He also asked that the Executive Committee members think about which piece they prefer for the anniversary piece and communicate their choice at the January Executive Committee meeting.

Golf shirts on a pre-order basis

Secretary Niehaus reported that the total amount of golf shirts ordered was eleven (11). He also stated that has received the shirts from the supplier and that all have been mailed.

Commercial mailing of hard copy newsletters

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to discontinue pursuing this topic as commercial mailing would necessitate an increase in dues for hard copy members.

PCA home page update to denote that the PCA is a 501(c) (3) organization

Joe Kutza reported that a note that the PCA is a 501(c) (3) organization is now on the PCA website home page. Secretary Niehaus reported that all of the current PCA forms have had the note added if appropriate.

as changing the text, “*How long have you been collecting Plasticville and/or other plastic village buildings?*” to “*How long have you had an interest in Plasticville and/or other plastic village buildings?*”.

Advertising in CTT and TCA

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to determine the cost to advertise in the Kalmbach publication, Classic Toy Trains as well as in the Train Collectors Association quarterly publication.

Immediate Past President Ruby suggested that we also investigate advertising in the TTOS, NASG & S-Gaugian magazines as well as in the TCA and TTOS division publications. He suggested a text advertisement instead of a display ad.

Secretary Niehaus volunteered to investigate and report at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Lifetime Membership for former PCA member Bill Nole, member #01-79

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to honor Bill Nole with a gratuitous lifetime ePCA membership in the Plasticville Collectors Association, commencing immediately.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 PM, Eastern Time

Respectfully submitted; John L Niehaus
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved by the Executive Committee, October 14, 2009.

York Report

Joe Kutza

I never get tired of going to the York meet. There's so much to see, so much to buy, so many friends, old and new. For the last few years I've been going to York on Friday of the meet. However, due to a family commitment, I had to go on Thursday this fall. Now, there's nothing wrong with Thursday, in fact I thought I might find a few more deals because I figured that most of the scavengers have been through everything already by the time I get there on a Friday. On the negative side, the meet doesn't open until noon on Thursday, as opposed to 9:00am on Friday and Saturday. Another downside was that I would miss the PCA luncheon on Friday. It would be the first PCA luncheon that I missed, ever.

Well, of course it all worked out just fine even though it rained hard almost all day long. I arrived a few minutes early and was able to say "Hi" to John Niehaus and his son, David, as well as Tom Friesner who was also waiting in line to get in. As usual, I started in the Blue and Silver Halls. The crowds seemed to be of normal size, but again, this was a Thursday, not my usual Friday. I had no problem getting through the first two halls, though I really didn't find any good deals.

Next, I was on to the Red hall. The rain put a real damper on things and my glasses fogged up every time I went into a building, but a bad day at York beats a good day at work, anytime!

While in the White Hall I stopped by to see PCA Member William Gough and to take advantage of his special offer to PCA Members at York to pick up a mint Fire Department and a mint set of Railroad Signs. These were in sealed plastic bags. Along the way I was able to find some parts.

In the Purple Hall, where the Fairgrounds Association recently completed some renovations, I found three boxes of Pine Trees, 1 marked O scale and two marked HO scale and I bought all 3 for \$25. Later, I discovered that they were absolutely complete. What a find!

The Orange Hall, which is the main dealer hall, was the only place that I felt the crowd to be lighter than usual. I even heard a few sellers saying that things were much slower than normal but they were hoping that things would be different on Friday. Overall, I had a great trip and found some good bargains.

It's true that I rarely say anything negative about the York Meets because overall they are well run and a lot of fun. However, to be fair, let me vent a bit about a few things that could use a little help:

Regarding the Attendees:

1) Don't stop in the middle of an aisle! Holy cow, how clueless some people can be. The meet is packed and people move at different speeds, but if you want to look at something closer, move near to the table and get out of the way.

2) Don't have group meetings in the aisle, or at the end of aisle, take it outside or out of the way. I always run into a group of 3-4 people talking about some item one of them wants to buy. That's great, get all the information you can to make an informed decision, but get out of the way of the other thousand people trying to look at everything.

3) Take a bath! Wow, did I really have to say that? The answer is yes, I did. With so many people in such tight quarters, you can't help but be much closer to everyone than you might normally be. So do us all a favor and clean up.

Now, regarding the Meet Organizers:

1) I don't like the fact that you have to be a TCA Member to get into the meet. Yes, you can take a guest, once, but that's not much help. Open the meet to all comers and watch attendance rise. Would the TCA lose members? Maybe. I know I would quit. I just don't have an interest in anything the TCA offers except the York meet.

2) What's with the no cell phone rule? Take calls outside? What year is this? Everyone's talking anyway, so what's another conversation? Sure, cell phone users should show common courtesy just like in any other public forum, but to ban them doesn't seem right.

3) No cameras in the halls. Perhaps there is some concern over privacy? OK, I can buy that to a certain degree. But if the seller agrees to have a picture taken of an item, or if a person consents to being in a photograph, then there's nothing wrong with that.

Phew, thanks for letting me vent. Now it's on to my brief price list.

As always, this list of prices is very imprecise. These represent prices as marked and my assessment of quality is not based on the PCA Guideline, just a quick look: Factory, complete in fair box \$22; pea green ranch, missing one wall, no box, \$7; light gray House Under Construction, complete in good box, \$45; turquoise ranch house, complete in fair box, \$12; original Hobo Shacks, complete in good box, \$85; black letter Hospital with furniture, no box, \$30; BN-1 Barn with white walls and

red roof, no weathervane and no box, \$20; white CT-6, \$3; large Picket Fence in a 5002 poly bag with original card, still sealed, \$100; a regular DH-2 black wall, gray roof Pharmacy and Hardware, in a DH-2 box but marked "1971", \$55!; 5608 Railroad Center in a fair box, mostly complete, \$125; 5604 Residential Square, VG box, with a Littletown Colonial Mansion (not Plasticville), \$125; Turnpike, complete, like new box, \$70.

OK, that's all I have for this time. These prices were provided to give you a general idea of what's out there and where things stand in the real world. My completely

subjective opinion on prices that I saw at the October 2009 York meet led me to give a rating of 2.5 gold bars to the fall meet. That's a full Gold Bar less than the April 2009 York meet! Maybe it's the economy. The Gold Bar rating (from 1 to 5 bars) is meant to provide an assessment of how much people generally think their plastic village items are worth. A high rating means people think the items they have for sale are worth their weight in gold. The Gold Bar rating represents my opinion only!



York Report (Part Two) Breakfast and Luncheon Report

By John Niehaus

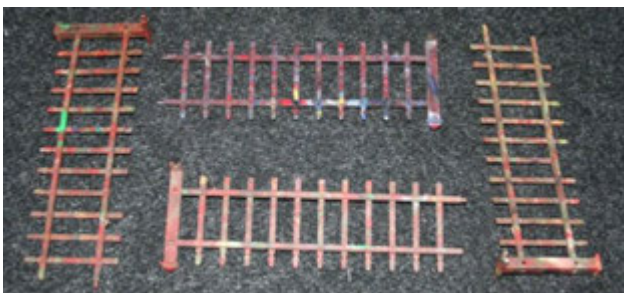
Attendance at the breakfast meetings continue to grow as does the PCA luncheon. The Thursday breakfast meeting at Alexander's was attended by ten people. There were some interesting pieces shared with those attending. William Muller brought an MT-2 maple tree in



The Thursday breakfasts are growing. Pictured are eight of the ten members and guests who attended the Thursday breakfast at Alexander's.



Dan Gills presented what seems to be a Beemack cottage in a matchbox style package. He stated it is the only building he has of this style in a matchbox type package.



Two interesting items presented at the breakfast by William Muller were four pieces of picket fence similar to number 1-C but molded predominately in brown but with additional colors mottled throughout (above) and a clear maple tree (left). If anyone has information on why the fence was made in this color combination, please contact William or your newsletter editor.

which the trunk was the usual brown but the normally green part was clear. This was assumed to be a test shot piece.

More interesting were the four pieces of brown, with multiple additional colors molded along with the brown, number 1-C picket fence. If anyone can shed light why this was made please let us know.

Dan Gills brought a Matchbox Village Cape Cod house in HO. The color and illustrations on the box are identical to those found on Beemak building packages. The interesting part about this particular item is that it is in a matchbox type box! Dan surmises that Beemak was the manufacturer but maybe ran afoul of the Lesney company, the manufacturer of Matchbox cars vehicles, and subsequently changed the name of this series of buildings to just Beemak and discarded the matchbox style packaging in order to prevent possible litigation with Lesney.

Fourteen people attended the Friday luncheon in the fairgrounds cafeteria. Others, including Charles

Gildehaus stopped by to make acquaintances before continuing on in the quest for more Plasticville bargains.

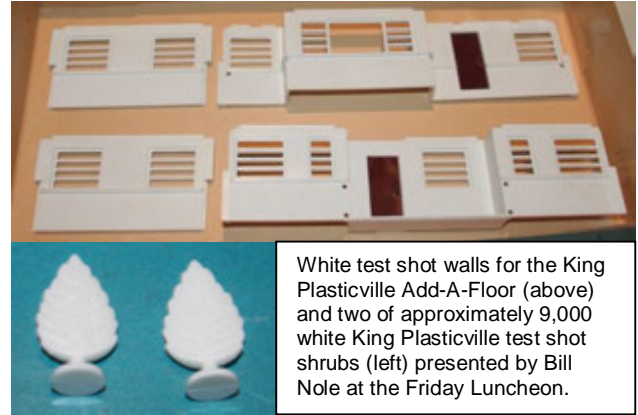
Charter member Bob Persing brought a, believed to be, complete set of buildings made by the Austrian company Hoffman. The buildings in the set included eight cottages, a church, and a gas station. There were also trees, European type road signs, various color fence



Bob Persing's set of Hoffman of Austria buildings. See more about these in back issues of the TCA Quarterly as well as future issues.

sections, and four vehicles.

Tom Friesner showed what looked like typical 1-C picket fence but with both end posts as separate pieces. Glenn Bowman informed Tom that what he had was the first design of the picket fence to be manufactured and it predates the 1-C picket fence. Glenn further stated that he believes that this style fence was used in the 1946 Monsanto ads promoting the use of their plastic compounds.



White test shot walls for the King Plasticville Add-A-Floor (above) and two of approximately 9,000 white King Plasticville test shot shrubs (left) presented by Bill Nole at the Friday Luncheon.

Former charter member Bill Nole brought along the all white test shot of his King apartment house Add-A-Floor including the shipping box in which it was mailed. He also brought a few white, test shot, garden shrubs. Bill stated that he agreed to a one pound of plastic test shot of the shrubs only to receive over 9,000 pieces from the one pound of plastic!



This white picket fence, owned by Tom Friesner, predates the 1-C fence.

This was a special luncheon as Bill Nole was invited to attend, unbeknownst to him that he was actually the guest of honor. Upon completion of the luncheon, and after Bob, Tom, and Bill showed what they brought he was presented with a lifetime ePCA membership by President Glenn Bowman.

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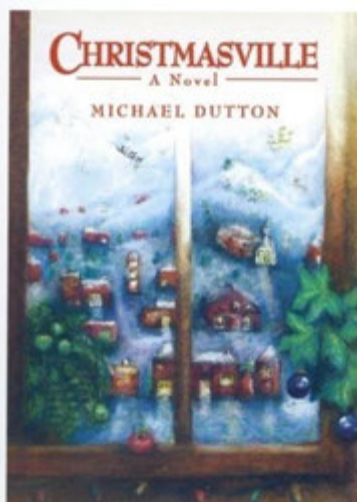
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Scenes from Christmasville

("Life on the Scale of Lionel!")



It's the same routine every year: at Carson's Gas Station Mary Jane picks up the new map of Christmasville because, with each December first, all the homes and buildings are rearranged - just like the pieces on a checkerboard. But no one, but her, seems to notice.



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Along the "HO" line

Scenic Classics

By Todd Hendrickson

When I was about 12 years old I got my first Bachmann (plasticville) kits. The Christmas before, I got the Bachmann Yard Boss Power House train set. It was the best! It had an automatic pipe loader, an automatic cattle loader, and an automatic switch tower. It had cardboard buildings on a flat 4 part cardboard picture layout board.

During the week, I would save my recycling money for the local Mom and Pops hobby store. On Saturday my Dad would take me to the store. I first purchased Life-Like bushes to make my flat lay out look 3-D. I also purchased Bachmann telephone poles, street signs, and so on.



Four of the HO Scenic Classic kits clockwise from top left to right: Salvage yard, Two Story House, Tree House, and Rural Cemetery.

My Father noticed how much I was enjoying this and on a Saturday after pay day he took me to the lumber yard, got a 4 X 8 sheet of chip board along with a few 2 X 4 s and built me my first lay out table. (I think it was just as much fun for him as it was for me) He got enough track to go around the table, and set up the automatic parts. "Have fun son." he said and I was on my way with this huge empty lay out in the basement.

My Aunt took me to the toy store and there where these new kits called Scenic Classics. They came with all the landscaping, building, sidewalks, grass, dirt and everything to make a 10"x 10" part of a layout. My first kit was the Rural Cemetery (# 2559), all I needed to build this kit was to read the instructions and a bottle of Elmer's glue. Wow, I was on my way!

My layout grew over time with the help of these kits. I learned the basic landscaping techniques to fill the gaps around my layout. Every new kit gave me a new technique, like the Two Story House (# 2551). I learned to make sidewalks. With a ruler, scissors, gray card stock, and a black pen I could make all the sidewalks, front walks, and patios I needed. The best part of these kits is everything on the box came with the kit unlike other kits.

The components could also be bought separately, if you wanted the Stone Wall (# 2312) from the Rural Cemetery for another house.



I learned the basics of landscaping with the help of the Scenic Classic kits. Pictured here are the contents of the Tree House kit which required one to not only complete the tree but do so in such a way to be able to attach the tree house and ladder when complete. .

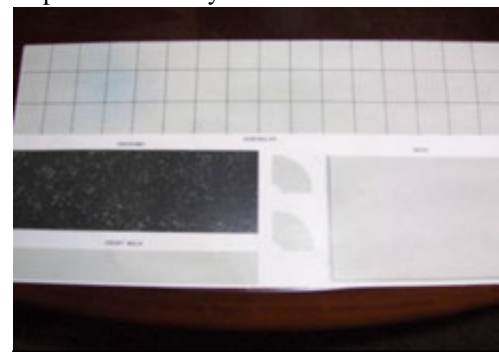
Three years ago I wanted to have these kits again, but couldn't remember their names. I did a few searches and found the PCA. I went through the HO section of the website and in the Accessories Section was a picture of The Center Square Monument (# 2563). Whahoo!

I was then off to eBay to start bidding on yet even more stuff. These kits don't have such great age as other Plasticville kits. I found most of my collection still sealed in the plastic wrap and for less than ten dollars each. I tell you this now because my collection is complete and I didn't need to participate in any more bidding wars. That is why I am writing this and future articles for the newsletter.

The PCA helped me find my childhood kits and there are people like me who may want to find these kits.

On the following page is a list of all of the Scenic Classic kits to help make

their search a bit easier. Questions or comments contact me at Mortemobire@yahoo.com. (Please add PCA in subject as I get a lot of email)



Pictured is a representative "base" from a Scenic Classic Kit. All structures and details were to be affixed to these "bases".

HO Scenic Classic Kits by Item Number and Description

By Todd Hendrickson

2551: Two Story House
2552: Split Level House
2553: Green House and Garden
2554: Barn Yard and Animals
2555: Vegetable Garden
2556: Mobile Home and Car
2557: Salvage Yard
2558: Tree House

2559: Rural Cemetery
2561: Picnic Ground
2562: Swimming Pool
2563: Center Square monument
2564: Fire House
2565: Factory
2566: Country Church
2567: School House with Play Ground

Creative Use of Damaged Parts

Sausage Factory

By Edward Johnson

One day as my wife and I were wandered around Williamsburg (Brooklyn), I came across a very old one story building. The front looked very much like the Plasticville Police Dept. That old building gave me an idea for a factory building, using the Plasticville Police Department building and a portion of the Plasticville Fire Department building.

Starting with the back it's the standard back for the Police Dept or Fire Dept building. The right sidewall has two windows bricked over. As I've previously written this is fairly common in Brooklyn, NY. The front has had the holes for the lanterns blocked off with wood and the windows replaced with Walthers factory windows.

At one time Hebrew National ®, the maker of Kosher

Franks, advertised that they answer "to a higher authority" so it seemed appropriate that the maker of "Spicy Smoked Sausages" should answer "to a lower authority"; a pun of sorts.

The left side is made with sections from the Fire Dept. building. I left the Plastic words intact as it is also common for an old building to have some remnants of a prior occupant's name.

Since this building would not be near rail service there is some space to park a truck when the garage door is open. The roof details are a large vent, some small vents and a smoke stack.

That's all folks, Eddie J

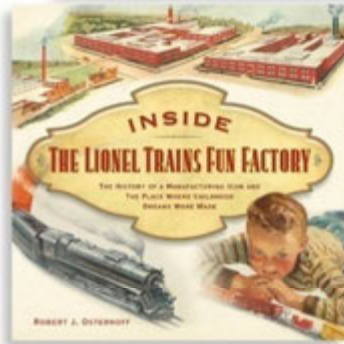


The rear two windows on the right side of the building have been "bricked over" as is common in Brooklyn, NY. (Left photo). The front windows have been replaced by the current occupants as well as the "holes" where the lamps existed have been "boarded up". The sign over the door reads Smuthaus Smoked Sausage / We answer to a lower authority. (Center left photo). The two pictures on the right show the back of the building with the truck door closed.

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BY: ROBERT J. OSTERHOFF



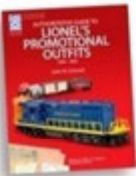
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Non-Railfan Antics

A View from the Other Side

By Gordon C Kelley

Preface: I was telling this story to another rail earlier this year and though it might give you a little insight into what old railroaders thought of their jobs.

I started on the Milwaukee Road on May 28, 1960. All of the engineers were men who started in the 1920's and had worked through The Great Depression. These men were of Irish, German, Hispanic, Greek, and Polish descent. They all were "steam men" who worked sixteen hours a day – seven days per week.

In the late 1950's the five day work week came to the Milwaukee Road. The old heads fought the five day week tooth and nail. The lost but still worked sixteen hours a day.

They disliked railfans and considered them "sick perverts". "I know where they can put their cameras. Give one of those perverts to me for a day and I will show him what a day's work really is!" my grandfather Kelley would say. Thus was the thought of many of these early rails.

When the eight hour day came to the Milwaukee Road, the old heads fought that also. They lost and today engineers and conductors can only work twelve hours with overtime for any hours over eight.

One of these early rails was Dennis Patrick Murphy. He worked the day north Milwaukee job. By 1970 the

Milwaukee Road instituted a mandatory retirement age of 70. Dennis Patrick Murphy was old in 1960, very old in 1970. He produced papers from Ireland which showed him to be in his early sixties. Every time the railroad tried to get him to retire he would produce more papers showing he was less than 70 years old. He kept working his regular job, five days per week, and would work his off days for time and a half.

His forced retirement came in 1980. The trainmaster and railroad police went to North Milwaukee and boarded the engine he was operating. They pulled his fingers off the throttle, carried him off the engine, and escorted him off railroad property. They claimed he was 90 years old.

Eight years later, my wife who worked at West Allis Memorial Hospital entered the room of a 98 year old man. She noticed a railroad engineer's newspaper and asked him for what railroad he had worked. He told her it was the Milwaukee Road!

When he found out that she was married to a rail he started complaining about being forced to retire. He was 98 years old and still complaining about retirement; sad, very, very sad.

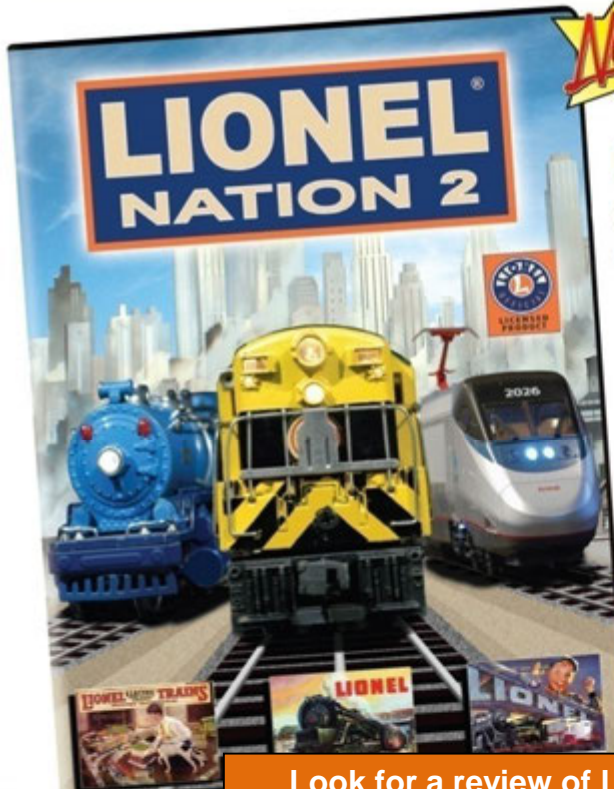
To him and others like him; men worked! They worked sixteen hours a day, seven days a week. A man worked until he was number one on the engineer's roster or died.

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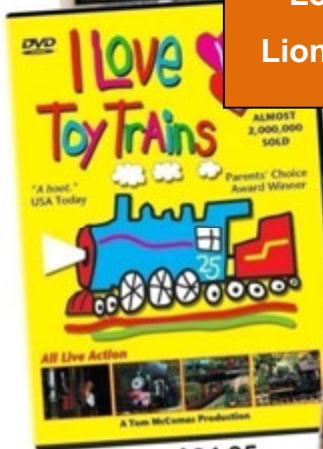
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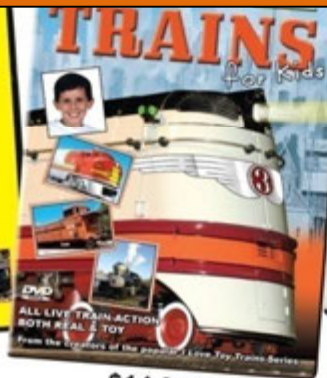
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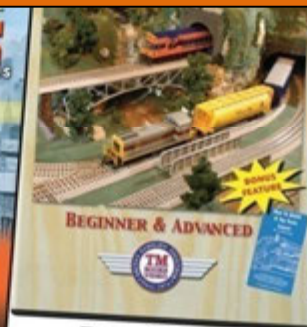
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Plasticville on the Board

Two-Story Motel

By John Gottcent

My column in a recent *Villager* about making adjustments to plastic village buildings while doing no (or at best little) permanent damage to the structures (see the May 2009 issue) got me thinking about the Plasticville Motel. Two things have always disturbed me about it. One is the incredibly small number of rooms it provides: three. Another is the absence of anything resembling a motel office. Recently I set about trying to solve both problems.

The first solution seemed obvious: add a second story. As it happens, I own two motels, one with white walls and salmon trim, the other with the colors reversed. (You can pursue this project with identically colored buildings too, of course.) I began by providing identical “curtains” on all the windows and doors via tissue paper attached to the inside walls by means of rubber cement (easily removable and leaving no residue should I change my mind later).

I removed the roof from the building that would form the bottom story of my structure and experimented with placing the other building atop it. With identical footprints, the walls matched up exactly. But how to keep the top story from shifting off base without using glue?

After hoping it might just sit there by itself, I quickly discovered this wouldn’t work, especially with the vibration of a passing train in the offing. Then I noticed that in the upper corners of these buildings (which fasten via the Littletown “tongue-and-groove” method rather than the Bachman “interlocking corners”) there are small holes, just large enough to hold small flat toothpicks. I cut the picks to a length that left about 1/4 inch exposed, and inserted them into the corners (see Photo One). Then I set the other building on top.



There are small holes in each corner of the building that are just large enough to hold small flat toothpicks.

As it happens, these same small holes appear in the bottom corners of the motels, so the upper building fit right over the toothpick supports. The result was a firm,

though not permanent, attachment to form a two-story motel—firm, that is, except for the upper story’s front walkway, which tended to sag.

That problem was easily solved by the introduction of two white posts which I cut to length from leftover plastic scrim. (Rule # 1: Never throw anything away.) I placed these pillars at the corners where they fit well enough to need no glue, though in a pinch a small amount of rubber cement at each end would hold them in place, again leaving no permanent damage.

Now I needed a guardrail to keep customers from falling off the second story balcony. Plasticville’s small white fence did the trick nicely. Again, it could stay in place by itself, or with the help of more RC (rubber cement). (See Photo Two.)

But how would customers get up to the second story? This proved the biggest challenge—and the only time



Three sections of small fence make up the front guardrail for the second floor.

when I had to permanently “adjust” two small parts.

The first part was an extra piece from a damaged Coal Tower—the “Stairs with Walkway” (part # 15 on the Tower’s instruction sheet). Mine had its top railing broken off, which turned out to be good, for that railing would have been too big for my purposes.



Seen in the center is the modified “Stairs with Walkway” piece I used for the stairs to the upper level.

I removed the walkway from the bottom of the steps, and then cut it six ridges from the end (about 3/4”) so when turned 90 degrees it matched the width of the steps themselves. (Photo Three.) After removing the walkway’s railing—but not the post at its very end—I glued the piece to the top of the stairs, this time using permanent

Testor's® plastic cement, for this joint would have to be strong enough to help support my stairway once in place. I added a top railing between the post on the stair top and that remaining on the walkway.

The result fit nicely along the side of the building. But how to keep it there without glue applied to the motels themselves? Here's where I had to "damage" one other piece—one of the fence railings used for the guardrail.

I cut one piece of railing to a length of approximately 1 3/4" (but measure twice, cut once) and glued its loose ends to what had been the walkway's post. This allowed it to fit into the other guardrail pieces and at the same time hold the stairway in place. Again, permanent cement was necessary since this too would be a load-bearing connection. (See Photo Four.)

To soothe my conscience, I discovered the small piece of fencing I'd just cut away from the newly glued piece fit perfectly as an end piece at the other side of the guardrail—this time with no adhesive needed. (See Photo Five.)



Photo Four

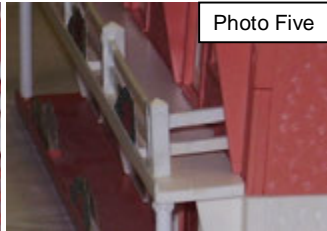


Photo Five

A short piece of fence trimmed and then permanently glued to the stairway vertical support helps to support the stairs (Photo Four) while the remainder became the guardrail on the opposite side of the building (Photo Five)

I applied some finishing touches—numbers on the doors (using RC), a flashing neon sign from Miniaturics

Corp., and an ice machine from PCA member Mike Cedro—to complete the scene. And should I choose to dismantle it later; the two motels will still be in fine shape, with no evidence of once having lived together.



Photo Six

With numbers on the doors, a Miniaturics flashing "MOTEL" sign, and an ice machine from PCA member Mike Cedro my two story motel is ready for guests.

(Photo Six.)

Oh—almost forgot the motel office. That will come from a small HO building I picked up for a buck at a train show. I spray painted it white and now plan to ask my wife to help me mix some paint to match the motels' salmon color. This I'll apply to the office's roof and trim, gluing an O-scale door over the small original entry to match things up with the motel proper. An appropriate sign will identify the auxiliary building, and my project will soon be complete.

Six rooms may still seem small for a motel, but it's twice as good as three! I suppose one could add more stories in the same way, but I'll save that project for another time.

If you have comments or suggestions for future columns, let me know. And as always, happy villaging!

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Photos of Member Layouts

The PCA receives photos of member layouts from time to time and will publish a group of them when space is available.

I some cases I have held photos out of this section as they will be used in a future newsletter as a feature article.

If you send digital photos it is best to send them in JPG format. Color photos are acceptable also as I have the

ability to convert them to digital photos.

If you are sending photographs it is best to send a note of description along with them rather than write an explanation on their back sides. The writing may migrate to the face of the photo next photo. I have no real good way or removing those markings if that happens. Editor



Frank Ross 14-285



Richard Wedekindt 06-440



Gary Connor 07-497



Joe Kutza 99-1



John Hicks 02-128



Michael Kingston 02-158



Ed McGuigan 02-179



Gordon Kelley 05-351

What Members Are Saying

One of the member asked about the Ac units. I know of Nucomp miniatures, www.nucompinc.com, which sells the AC units 2 for \$ 1.50. They have lots of little detail items at very good prices. Maybe we can ask them to do a add in *The Villager* ? (Todd Hendrickson)

Shirt arrived today. It looks good! (Tom Fritsch) *Tom is referring to the special order golf shirts recently offered to PCA members. Editor*

I am on the quest for information/ actual object. Many years ago my collection was stolen. Many more years before that there was a guy in CT, since passed away who made neon lights for the windows of some of the businesses. It was at least during the King era since he made corner store lights.

He also may have been one of the first to make repro window inserts. I believe that was his main business (lithography, not PV!)

Has anyone ever seen any neon lights for PV be it these or some others. His went over the window insert and was an adjunct to his insert business. The one for the Hardware/Pharmacy was particularly hip as it flashed "Trains" (Bobby Abrams) *Neon signs can be purchased from Miniaturonics in Deer Park, NY. Their website is www.miniatronics.com. They make several "neon-like" signs, including the one advertising trains that should fit on the Hardware/Pharmacy building.*

Did any issue of The Villager discuss painting out the yellow on the older buildings; in particular how to mask off the doors and windows so the do not get paint on them. I would appreciate some guidance on that matter. (Charlotte Rench) *The yellow you see on the buildings is discolored glue. It is the glue that was used to attach the windows and other trims to the pieces. There is not good means of removing the glue. Many have tried various methods without success. It is best to leave the buildings "as is" if you are collecting them. Painting them will destroy their collectability and value. Editor*

Is there some way to tell which version of a Plasticville item that I hold in my hands? Since the molds seem to have remained the same over the years, when there is no box (or someone has swapped boxes), is there a foolproof way to determine if you hold an older piece vs. a more recent release?

The ranch house served as an example. Instead of a rare color of RH-1 in a RH-1 box, somewhere in time a newer version had been tossed into an older box. For items like houses, the colors were often stamped on the sides of the boxes of the older Plasticville items. For some of the newer items the color was identical to the colors on the front label but I have purchased houses that were not the same color that the box showed (and they were still cello wrapped when I bought them).

It is confusing especially with items that command a premium. I have both an older and a newer roadside stand. They are identical except the clear plastic on the older one has yellowed just a little over time. Looking to learn more. (Chuck Bryner) *The only way to be certain if a piece is in a box in which it would have originally been packed is through the intimate knowledge of the piece or an accurate listing of stock numbers and the color combinations packed in each stock number's box. The PCA now has what is believed to be a comprehensive list for the RH-1 Ranch Houses. We are working to create similar lists for the remainder of the Ranch Houses as well as other pieces. As you can imagine, this is a time consuming endeavor.*

There is no means of determining the color of a sealed piece if there is no color marking on the outside of the package. I feel that is a shortcoming with the current and most recent packaging. I am aware of three different color combinations on the 45971Rural 2- Story House. There are a minimum of three known variations of the 45606 Frosty Bar that even includes one variation that seems to have been factory painted. Editor

Welcome New Members

The following individuals' names have been added to the Plasticville Collectors Association membership roster

Richard L Lilleberg, Cypress, CA
David G Florio, Roseto, PA
Todd M Hendrickson, Fairfield, CA
John L Faso, Pembroke Pines, FL

as of October 1, 2009. Their names are now permanently listed in the on line roster.

Ronald P Tedesco Sr, Boothwyn, PA
William R Klein, Danville, IL
Allan L Becker, East Peoria, IL

Proposed Members

The following have applied for membership in the Plasticville Collectors Association. The names of all proposed members must be published for the review of the general membership before being accepted as

Jason M White, Portage, IN
Bobby Abrams, Reseda, CA
Donald B Martin, Venice, FL
C A Rench, Glendale, AZ
David L Grubb, Rochester, IL
Michael A Lauria, Jr, Carmel, NY
Louis C McLaughlin II, Flatwoods, KY

members in accordance with the bylaws of the PCA. All names listed below will be permanently added to the Plasticville Collectors Association rolls if no objection to such action is received prior to January 1, 2009.

Leonard M Johnson, Centennial, CO
Don Davis, Fort Collins, CO
Bruce K Hartman, Phoenixville, PA
Gary R Jones, West Chester, PA
Al Maio, Doylestown, PA
Edward D Schnepel, Lexington, SC
Robert A Plisiewicz, Bridgeport PA

Product Reviews



Atlas O Ice House kit #6906 \$52.50 and **Icing Platform kit #6905** \$62.95. As these structures complement each other, I felt it appropriate to review them together.

Ice House The assembled Ice House is approximately 14 long X 6 wide X 9 high. It is molded in three colors. The walls are white while the roof sections are black. The few trim pieces are a light gray as is the base. The base contains slots into which tabs on the wall fit to assist in correct placement as well as alignment. I also like the fact that the light gray base gives the impression of a concrete foundation. Included in the kit are three different “ice company” labels from which to choose to affix to the side of the building.

There is a small note on the box suggesting that this kit be assembled by a person age 14+. This may be a good kit for a father and son project if the son is under fourteen years of age. I believe someone twelve or older could probably assemble the kit provided they had adult assistance.

Icing Platform The assembled icing platform is approximately 37 long X 4 wide X 6 high. It is also molded in three colors. The platform office walls are white. The roof sections are black as is the ice block conveyor chain segments. The remaining pieces are molded in light gray. You may wish to paint some of these white to complement the platform office walls.

Clear plastic is provided for the platform office window glazing. Also included are ten clear plastic blocks of ice. Accessories in the kit are a two wheeled ice truck and three long handled tools; a shovel, fork, and ice hook.

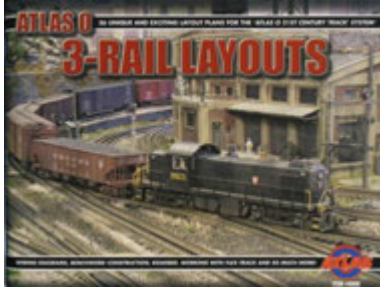
The roof, base, and icing deck are in two pieces and must be glued together. I recommend that you have a nice flat surface for this purpose. I use a Formica topped kitchen sink cutout. The kit has slots and tabs or holes and pins for ease of assembly but don’t hesitate to use hobby clamps if it seems appropriate.

The same small note recommending age 14+ should probably be believed with this kit as there are many smaller pieces that require removal from their plastic “trees”.

I have never seen better packaging designed to prevent breakage or even scratching as with these two kits. All of the parts are in a taped shut plastic bag as one would expect. What surprised me was how many of the pieces were wrapped in bubble pack as well.

Both of these buildings are impressive when assembled but do require a rather large footprint. They are impressive when combined. If you have a layout of adequate size to accommodate these buildings they should create quite an impression with two or three billboard reefers awaiting their turn to be iced.

The kits can be purchased on line from Atlas O LLC. Their website is <http://atlaso.com>. Click shop online then scroll down and click on Structures to order the pieces. Your local Atlas dealer should be able to order them for you also.



3-Rail Layouts, 36 Unique and Exciting Layout Plans for the Atlas-O 21st Century Track system, published by Atlas O, LLC, 78 pages, stapled 11 X 8-1/2 format

\$8.95. Item number 6008.

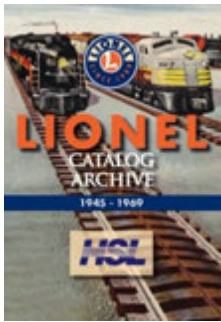
As can be deduced by the title, the layouts in this book are designed using Atlas' 21st Century Track system. The second page of the book lists the advantages of using Atlas O track. The title of page three is "Dreams Do Come True" and shows photos of the winner of the Atlas O layout contest as well as photos of the his layout. Page

four is the Table of Contents. The next few pages contain basic information regarding the track system as well as listing of available pieces, roadbed, and pre-assembled buildings. There are also the expected sections on benchwork and wiring.

The remaining 54 pages are layouts starting with a simple 5 X 9 foot oval with a passing siding and industrial spur. The most complex is a three level 14 X 33 foot layout replicating the PRR and CNJ lines along the New Jersey coast.

Although the book is written for use with the Atlas 21st Century track system there are plenty of ideas one could incorporate into their own layout.

3-Rail Layouts, 36 Unique and Exciting Layout Plans for the Atlas-O 21st Century Track system, is available through the Atlas O website.



Lionel Catalog Archive, 1970 – 1995, CD Rom, Hybrid Systems Ltd, Inc., \$50. A digital archive of all Lionel consumer catalogs and other paper from 1970 through 1995. Compatible with MS-Windows and Macs.

The CD is designed to run automatically when you insert into the CD player. You will be presented with a licensing

agreement page. Also on this page is a link to frequently asked questions. At the bottom of this page is a link to actually access the program.

The following screen instructs users in how to change the resolution of their screen as well as options to select either small or large images for viewing. I found that the small images were more than adequate but, as the instructions state, "Don't be afraid to experiment!"

Upon selecting the small pictures option I was presented a page divided into two frames. The left frame lists the Introduction, Table of Contents, Regular Features and FAQs hyperlinks as well as an Exit button. This is the page you should add as a favorite to eliminate navigating through the licensing agreement and subsequent pages during future uses of the program. The right hand pane contains six vertical bar type hyperlinks. The first three of these are for the 1970, 1980, and 1990 decades of catalogs. The fourth is for service station flyers. The fifth is for the Side Tracks (train related items) and the last is a master index.

The master index is a listing of all catalogs and brochures on the CD in a year per line format. I found this handy for just doing a quick search. When I wanted to search for a specific year, it was the same operation, just click on the vertical bar for the decade in which the catalog was distributed.

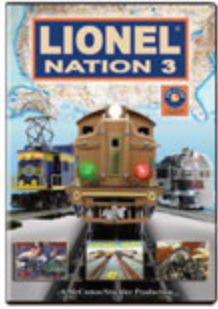
Clicking on any catalog cover in the master index option or decade option again displays the catalog cover but also a panel to the right with numerous options which include "paging" through the currently displayed catalog.

The "Regular Features" link on the Home page is quite interesting. From this link you can toggle through various subjects such as front covers, inside covers, O or O-27 train sets or engines, operating rolling stock and others.

Searching for a specific item number is unique. The search must be accomplished using the search function of your browser while viewing the Table of Contents page.

This is a very well laid out and thought out CD as was its predecessor, the Lionel Catalog Archive, 1949 – 1969. It is definitely a worthwhile investment if you do not wish to purchase a comprehensive collection of catalogs of this vintage.

The Lionel Catalog Archive, 1970 – 1995, CD ROM sells for \$50 plus \$5 shipping. It can be purchased directly from Hybrid Systems Ltd, Inc., 200 University Park Drive, Edwardsville, Illinois 62025. Their toll free number is 800 799-2802. They have an order form on their website but it still entails a call if paying by credit card or printing the form after submitting it electronically and mailing it along with your payment.



Lionel Nation 3, DVD, 60+ minutes, TM Books & Video, \$19.95. This is the third edition of TM Books newest Lionel series. It follows the format of the previous editions. There is an introduction that informs the viewer of whose layouts are featured as well as the other features on the disc. There are three layouts featured as well as an

article on the second series Conventional Classics and one on the Pioneer Zephyr.

The first layout is Steve Garofalo's re-creation of the 1957 Lionel showroom layout. He recreated it with some minor modifications including reducing the size slightly to 30 X 13.5 feet. His layout even includes a re-creation of the elevated control booth although it is not as high above the layout as was the original.

The second layout is that of Fritz VonTagen. Fritz was the official photographer for Lionel from 1986 to 1993. He shot every page and every cover of the catalogs during that time. His layout features T-Rail track. It is a cast track that is held together by fish plates and small hardware. He used the unique medium of a medium gray indoor/outdoor carpet under the track.

Short features entitled Railsscenes separate each of the layout features as well as the Pioneer Zephyr feature. The Railscene between Steve and Fritz's layout segments

features a modern era NYC F3-headed passenger train passing various scenes on a layout. All other Railsscenes are similar but with different consists.

The last layout is a traveling layout created by T.W. (Theatrical Warehouse) Design of Dallas, Texas for Lionel. For those who visit the York layout this is the layout you see in the Lionel booth in the Orange hall. The logistics involved in creating this very large layout are quite interesting. T.W. Design also creates custom layouts for individuals. Designing model train layouts is a fairly new endeavor for the company. Their initial work was creating scenery and sets for theatrical productions.

As we are aware, Lionel is reissuing many of the early postwar pieces under the name Conventional Classics. Jeff McComas narrates a descriptive of all of the pieces being offered in the second year's offering of the Conventional Classics. During his narration videos of the postwar pieces are viewed.

There is an historical perspective on the Pioneer Zephyr. It includes vintage film of the original train as well as videos of the 2004 Lionel model. In addition there is film of the original Pioneer Zephyr in its resting place at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Illinois.

This edition of Lionel Nation is as good as the previous two editions.

Lionel Nation 3 can be purchased on line from TM Books at www.tmbv.com. I also found it listed on Amazon's website at www.amazon.com.

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The Villager Classified Ads

Note:

Member information such as name, address, email address, and member number should not be considered part of the word count. Telephone numbers will be included in the ad only if they are part of the submitted ad.

Classified ads run for four consecutive issues unless a change is made to the ad or notice is given to remove it.

The month and year at the end of each ad notes the last issue in which your ad will appear.

It is suggested that the names of pieces being offered in the classified ads follow the names found in reference material such as price guides or catalogs.

Ads may be edited to conform to both the suggested naming convention and to bring them to fewer than 50 words if payment for the excess words is not included with the ad.

For Sale

Plasticville for sale. First the duplicates will be sold in first list. Future lists will have my collection of 25 years. Send name and address for FREE list. #04-257, John Wickland, 2331 S 58th Street, West Allis, WI 53219 (Nov 09)

For sale or trade. New England scenic rancher, factory sealed. \$20.00 each or two for \$30.00. gfuglewicz@aol.com #02-93, Jerry Fuglewicz, 11262 Sunrise Ln, East Aurora, NY 14052 716-655-0223 (Nov 09)

0400 Mobile home, cream/blue mint \$25. HS-6 Hospital, complete, missing one tab on steps, tattered box, \$30. AD-4 Air Administration building, incomplete, good for parts, \$10. Above prices plus shipping. factlf@juno.com #02-87, Lawrence Fachler, 6 Bosko Drive, East Brunswick, NJ 08816-4542 (Feb 10)

I have a large assortment of Plasticville parts for sale. All parts are original vintage Plasticville. All parts are 50 to 75 cents per side, roof, or wall. Email me your want list and I will email back with items in stock. Some hard to find parts too. starredm@gmail.com. #09-580 David M Starre, 5105 Herman Ave, Cleveland OH 44102 (Feb 10)

My childhood early 50's Plasticville. No boxes. Two story, on story, and ranch homes. Fire, police, and railroad station. Diner, gas station, hardware store. Supermarket, corner store, school, church. Assorted accessories. Best offer for entire lot. #09-602, almjbecker@mchsi.com Allan Becker, 1253 N Wayhi Cir., East Peoria, Il 61611 Phone (309) 698-2845 (Aug 10)

The PCA Corner Store Items for sale by the PCA

Send payment and the description of item desired to Plasticville Collectors Association, John L Niehaus, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, IA 50021-3207 unless noted otherwise noted.

Personalized address labels

A sheet of 30, personalized, high-quality color labels are available from the PCA. The labels will include the PCA logo in color and up to four lines of address. Each label is a generous 1 x 2 5/8 inches. The price is \$1.00 per sheet plus \$1.00 P&H for up to three sheets. Please add 17 cents per additional sheet over three.

PCA T-shirt

Navy blue 100% cotton, short sleeve shirt T-shirt with the PCA logo printed on the front in white. Sizes available are Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, XX-Large, and XXX-Large. The prices are \$18 for small through X-Large, \$19 for XX-Large and \$20 for XXX-Large, shipping included, for each shirt. Please order the next larger size if you are concerned with fit. An order form is available on the PCA website, or request a form from the Secretary at the address listed above.

PCA ballpoint pen

PCA dark blue barrel with black soft grip, black ink ballpoint pen with gold accents. The pen is imprinted in gold tone with three lines:
PLASTICVILLE COLLECTORS ASSN
[HTTP://WWW.PLASTICVILLEUSA.ORG](http://WWW.PLASTICVILLEUSA.ORG)
FOUNDED 1999 - \$4.00, postpaid.

Additional items with the PCA logo

Do you have an idea for an item? Contact John Niehaus at secretary@plasticvilleusa.org or mail your suggestions to him at the address noted above.

Look for a new item next issue!

For Trade

I will trade some Plasticville parts of your choosing for original Union Station roofs to complete my model.

Wanted

Wanted: glued structures. I plan on building a permanent display so any "O" or "O27" plastic kits or built-ups or otherwise "value added" will be OK. I plan to paint them, etc. anyway. Thanks. Oh – partial or "parts" buildings, etc. also suitable. William.gruendler@gmail.com. 08-540, William "Paul" Gruendler, PO Box 60997, Palm Bay, FL 32906 (Nov 09)

Box for SC-4 School House Box. Have the school house need a good empty box. william.r.samsell@jci.com #04-317, William R Samsell, 19 Harmony Dr, Falling Waters, WV 25419. (Nov 09)

WANTED! PLASTICVILLE 'LITTLE GIRL'. Molded in colors other than the common flesh color. WILL trade! ashemorse@comcast.net #01-21 Johathan Morse, 49 Agawam Dr, E Wareham, MA 02538. Phone 508 291 2653 Monday – Friday; 9 am-12pm, anytime weekends (Nov 09)

Wanted: An excellent condition copy of Bachmann's 2005 catalog. One "Butcher" for the Storytown "Three Men in a Tub" kit. #99-01 Joe Kutza at webmaster@plasticvilleusa.org (Nov 09)
6-1/2" Galoob 2-story dollhouse plus attic w/turret, approx 1/50. Victorian. Mainly white + pastels (except roofs). Wallpaper on exterior walls. "Lewis Galoob Toys" 1990 on bottom. Excellent condition not necessary. Will pay more extra for 3 X 3" garage, bathroom and kitchen fixtures. Describe porch rails and removable floorboards, colors. #06-409 Robert.J.Heine@irs.gov Robert Heine, 1718 P St NW, #301, Washington, DC 20036 (Feb 10)

starredm@gmail.com. #09-580 David M Starre, 5105 Herman Ave, Cleveland OH 44102 (Feb 10)

Small marbled parts for Hobo Shacks. Porch roof and porch floor for red w/dark grey roof LH4 2-story Colonial house. K-Line buildings that were packed in train sets. Figures and accessories for K-Lineville buildings. johnln@netins.net #00-3, John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St., Ankeny, IA 50021-3207 (May 10)

Littleton passenger station parts; red or yellow chimney. Red left hand door and white base. Also built-up toy garage; yellow walls, red roof, blue doors (manufacturer unknown from the 50's. 01-56, Joseph Mace, 10083 Perry Hwy, Wexford, PA 15090-9224 (May 10)

HO parts; walls, doors, windows, roofs, chimneys and other small pieces. #02-117, Robert W Johnson, 419 US Hwy One, Apt 101E, North Palm Beach, FL 561 845-2484. (May 10)

Looking for crisp clear high quality photocopy of nursery rhyme for Goosey Gander Castle and Old Lady in a Shoe. Also can anyone supply the measurement of an original rhyme sheet. PDF file of the above copies is acceptable. #02-121, David Allen, 318 Wheatsheaf Dr, New Castle. DE 19720 (May 10)

Small marbled parts for Hobo Shacks. Porch roof and porch floor for red w/dark grey roof LH4 2-story Colonial house. White front porch floor with both pins for 1701 1-1/2 Story Rancher. K-Line buildings that were packed in train sets. johnln@netins.net #00-3, John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St., Ankeny, IA 50021-3207 (May 10)

Where is your free *For Sale, For Trade, or Wanted* classified ad?

Why not take advantage of more of your membership privileges? All members are allowed one free classified ad in each of the three classified ad categories per issue. The ad is free for up to 50 words. Your email address, membership number, name and address are not counted in the free 50 words either! Only the body of the ad is counted.

Download the ad form from the PCA website or contact the PCA Secretary for a copy if you don't have Internet access.



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