

The Villager

The official newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 3

August 2004

Number 3

Add-A-Floor Promotion Ending

The PCA has a very limited amount of Add-A-Floor units with the special color shrubs in stock. The original price for these was \$35 plus \$5. The remaining will be sold on a first come, first served basis for \$25 plus \$5 postage. Please send a message to the PCA secretary at

secretary@plasticvilleusa.org if you want one of the very few remaining pieces. Do not send payment until you are notified that one of the remaining pieces has been reserved for you.

Frosted Flakes Billboards Revisited

By John Niehaus

The article on the Frosted Flakes billboards generated a nice assortment of emails with additional information. Two even included a challenge to research another cereal box premium although I am presuming the challenge was unintentional.

Gary Mosholder wrote, "I enjoyed your article on the billboards. I have the 4 sets but didn't know where they originated from. Now I know. The billboard on the back of the AC filter ad is Morton Salt. Also I have in similar packaging a street sign that I got with cut out names to put on the sign. The names and instructions for assembly look as though they were cut from a cereal box??".

Marty Lukatch added more information to Gary's plus the second "research challenge" when he wrote, "Hi John, loved the article about the billboards! I always wanted to know where they came from. On the other side of the AC Oil Filter is one for Morton Salt. It looks like

The Three Bears. It reads: Morton Salt comes in 3 sizes, too! Regulars Salters Miniatures. I hope this is a help. I was told that there are other billboards out there too. I don't know if these are the same as your article. They are supposed to be: Kellogg's Corn Flakes, Kellogg's Pep, Kellogg's Rice Krispies, and Kellogg's Sugar Smacks."

An interesting observation was made by Tom Fritsch when he said in his note, "Isn't it curious that these came with Frosted Flakes, but no inserts were for Kellogg's?".

My thanks to all of you who sent me information and comments on the article.

(Editor's note: See the "Letters to the Editor" section of this newsletter for additional comments received in response to the billboard article.)

From the President's Desk



I know that we have members all over the USA and Canada, but where I'm at, it's hazy, hot and humid. It can be a good time to sit down in the cool basement, look at all the Plasticville, and think about the PCA. Did you know that we now have over 250 active members?

We have a loyal member base with little turnover in the last couple of years. The web site continues to grow and to have new information added. We have had about 20,000 hits since things started rolling about five years ago. Just recently we added about two dozen pictures to the Storytown site. Thanks to Fred Ruby and Mike Gural

for taking the time, and making the effort, to improve that site. Many thanks to Bruce Batten, Dominic St. John, and Winnie Stang for submitting pictures of HO items. Our HO Plasticville web site now rivals the O scale site! Special thanks to Bruce Batten who has discovered that I do web site work in large batches, all at once. All of a sudden I send him about a dozen e-mails in one day looking for info and clarification on HO items, and he has really made the effort to set me straight in a timely manner. Finally a thanks to Charlie Gilliatt for providing more pictures for the Beemak/Matchbox Village site. That site has also come a long way. Don't forget our ongoing call for pictures for use on the web site (electronic or regular photographs are both helpful) and for articles to publish in *The Villager*. Feel free to send in notes,

thoughts and questions too, they will gladly be published in our mail bag section as they are available.

Seeing as how we are past the half-way point of yet another year, it's time for all of us to start thinking about PCA Officers for next year. If you've never stopped to think about it, let me tell you how much time and effort John Niehaus puts into our little group: a LOT! Between editing *The Villager*, and handling all the duties of a Secretary-Treasurer, he is truly doing more than his fair share. I think that I have managed to convince John to stay on as the editor of *The Villager*, but we are officially in search of a new secretary-treasurer for 2005. The job involves collecting dues, sending payments for our bills, maintaining all the financial records, keeping the membership database up-to-date, and contributing articles for each issue of *The Villager*. Although it would be helpful if the new Officer has some experience with this type of work either in other hobbies, or professionally, we are willing to work with any interested person. Send an e-mail to John if you have any questions about the position.

I hold two major positions in the PCA at the moment, President, and webmaster. The bulk of my time is spent maintaining the web site. I intend to continue working on

the web site as much as possible, but it's probably time to start thinking about getting a new President in here! Although I thoroughly enjoy being the President, as a growing association, we need to occasionally bring in some new blood, some new ideas, so that we don't stagnate. The duties of the President mostly entail answering questions from the public, writing this column, organizing the fund raisers, representing the PCA to businesses and other groups as needed, and being a cheerleader for the group. Everything in the PCA is ultimately decided by the Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and the immediate past-President) so don't worry about making those tough decisions without anyone to turn to.

If you think you may be interested in one of the Officer positions, please let us know. We need to start thinking about elections, and could use all the time available to be able to address all the potential issues. Keep in mind that the PCA has never really had formal elections yet!

That's it for this issue. Until next time..... keep cool out there, wherever you are.

Vice Presidential Insights

Having just returned from the 50th anniversary convention of the TCA I thought I would start out with a short review. My wife and I arrived several days early to give us a chance to check out Pittsburgh and its antique stores as well as the Flea markets. Well, pickings were pretty slim for Plasticville as well as Lionel. And what we found was priced at the level that would not allow me to take the plunge. We did have a great time at the Krueger Toy and Train Museum in Wheeling WV (about 1.5 hours SW of Pittsburgh). However, I have to say the Plasticville as well as all the other Plastic building manufacturers were not represented. Only on the operating layout did you see any of the buildings at all. I found that especially strange since we were in the heart of Marx country. It is also a shame that we were unable to go to the Official Marx museum in Glendale WV (does Glendale sound familiar to Marx collectors)? The museum is not open on the day we were there. Have any of our members been there and would they be willing to give us a short report?

As for the actual convention there was plenty of Plasticville and I did meet a few of our members, it was good to put faces to the names of these members. For the

better part the prices were reasonable and one could have picked up a few items if they chose wisely. I finally saw in person my first red roofed post office, which I would dearly like to own someday. However this one had been glued at one time and the price (in my opinion or maybe it was my wife's?) was a bit high. All in all a good time was had and I did pick up some Lionel items that caught my eye. I hope that if there were other members that they picked up some goodies also.

The PCA has been going thru another period of growth over the last few months and I want to welcome all of our new members. I also want to say that this has been a remarkable time and I have been proud to be a part of the growth.

Hopefully, everyone continues to enjoy the articles/pictures in/on both *The Villager* and the PCA Website and I would ask that we all try to contribute an article and/or pictures of interest for either the Villager or the PCA Website.

Last, I want to remind everyone please remember to patronize our advertisers that support the PCA.

Doug Gilliatt, PCA Vice-President

Suggest an Advertiser

Do you know of a business that may wish to advertise in *The Villager*? Contact the PCA Secretary at 515 964-0562, email at secretary@plasticvilleusa.org, or mail to PCA Secretary, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3207. The Secretary will ensure that any suggested advertisers are contacted soon after receiving their name.

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Toy collectors always speak about "The Big Toy Box At Sears" in reverential tones. When this nearly 1" thick book was published back in 1997 it was the first (and only time) that ALL of the boys' toys pages from the the legendary Sears Christmas Wishbooks of the 1950's and 1960's had ever been reprinted in all their original full-color glory. Even the paper stock reproduced the original. But after the initial low-key sales push "The Big Toy Box At Sears" was soon forgotten and the remaining few copies stacked in a warehouse. What a find it was when we unearthed a stash of these incredible books, still sealed in their original shrinkwrap!

A huge 8 1/2" x 11" big and 584 pages thick, this massive volume contains all the toys collectors want to remember... Marx playsets, Lionel trains, Tonka trucks, robots, slot cars, G.I. Joe, cowboy and James Bond toys and pages and pages more. These books are collectibles themselves and are certain to increase in value.

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Max Kleeman, Kleeware Founder

By John Niehaus

A previous issue of *The Villager* contained a reprint of an article on the Kleeware Company. The article was written by Mr. Harry Kleeman. Harry is the son of the founder of Kleeware, Mr. Max Kleeman.

With my curiosity aroused, I decided to do a Google search using the phrase Harry Kleeman. Much to my surprise I not only got a hit but upon opening up the website found a picture of Harry. The site happened to be The Plastics Historical Society, a British organization.



Max Kleeman, Kleeware founder

I sent an email to their website asking if they would forward my email letter of inquiry on to Mr. Kleeman if he were indeed the son of the founder of Kleeware. Much to my surprise, not only did I get a reply from Mr. Kleeman but he also included pictures of both himself and his father.

I have never been shy when asking questions or for additional information. I sent a note of thanks back to Mr. Kleeman and asked if he could give me a biography of his father for use in our newsletter. He was gracious enough to respond with a short biography. That biography follows.

“Max Kleeman was born in 1887. His birthplace was in Bavaria - near Schweinfurt where his Father, Isaac, had a farm where they also bred horses. He lived there with

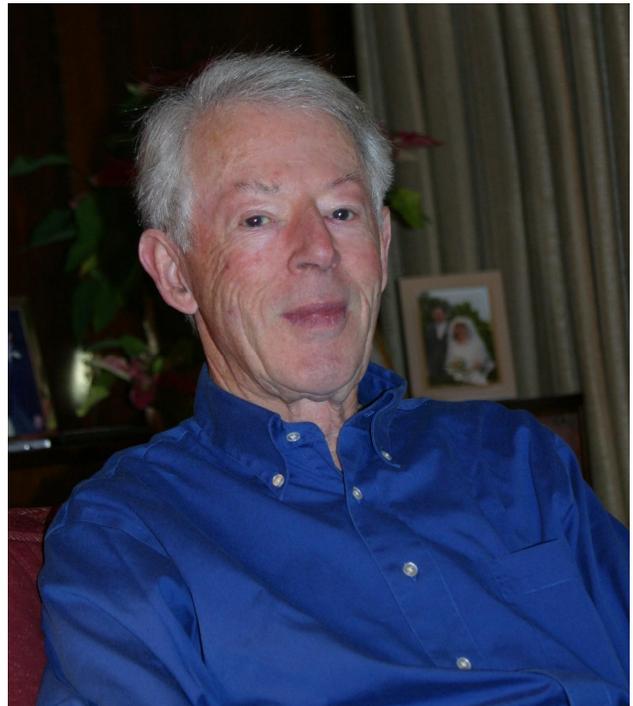
his elder brother, Oscar. They emigrated to England, and following this were naturalized as British citizens in 1914.

They started a wholesale business, importing toys etc from abroad.

In 1937 he had seen injection moulding machines for making plastics products in America and brought them over here and installed them in a factory in Welwyn Garden City (20 miles north of London).

After the war they expanded the operation and it became one of the biggest manufacturers of plastics toys in the country. He was one of the pioneers of plastics.”

After seeing some discussion on the Plasticville Yahoo discussion group recently concerning the Kleeware Milk Bar in mid-April, I thought I would contact Harry. My intent was to not only see what he could tell me about the actual building but to also see if he could define just what is a Milk Bar. I very shortly received a reply back from his son, Daniel, stating that Harry had passed away



Harry Kleeman, son of Max Kleeman the founder of Kleeware. (1928-2004)

the previous week.

Harry’s son was still kind enough to send me a photo of a milk bar box lid. He also noted that his father had a fairly extensive Kleeware collection. It is my hope that through contact with Harry’s son photos of his collection can be acquired for use as a valued reference source for future Kleeware collectors.

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Smoke 'Em If You Have 'Em

A review of currently available smoke fluids

By John Niehaus



Manufacturers supplying smoke fluid for this article are from left to right: Bart's Pneumatics Corp, Megs-Steam LLC, MTH Electric Trains, Model Power, and K-Line.

If you watch very many movies on the American Movie Classics channel you have probably heard the phrase, "Smoke 'em if you have 'em". Who would have ever thought that phrase could be applied to toy trains and buildings?

In the old days, the only thing that smoked on your layout was the steam engines, and they used pellets to generate a somewhat weak representation of real smoke.

Then along came the steam engines that used liquid smoke. Lionel took smoking one step further by introducing the number 6557 smoking caboos in 1958.

We now have smoking steam engines, smoking diesel engines, smoking cabooses, and last but not least smoking buildings. One has to ask themselves, "What's next?"

The answer is scented smoke fluids. There are numerous manufacturers who now offer smoke fluids in not only the unscented version but many different scents. One manufacturer offers twenty different scents.

With my curiosity up, I decided to see if these scented smoke fluids really did give off the advertised scent when put into a smoke unit. I also wanted to see if there were any differences in the volumes of smoke given off by smoke fluid from different manufacturers.

My test devices consisted of an MTH John Deere steam locomotive, a Lionel 6-19706 Union Pacific smoking caboos, and a new K-Line *Trackside Collection* smoking ranch house. (See a review of the smoking ranch house elsewhere in this issue. ed)

I received smoke fluids from five different suppliers of smoke fluid. They included Bart's Pneumatics Supersmoke, K-Line's number K-0153 smoke fluid, Mega-Steam LLC's Mega-Steam Smoke Fluid, Model Power's Locomotive Smoke, and MTH's Proto-Smoke.

The MTH, Model Power, and Bart's Pneumatics products state on their labels that they are non-toxic. JT's Mega-Steam states on the label, "Petroleum-based DO NOT DRINK". The K-Line smoke fluid label carries the warning that the fluid may be harmful or fatal if swallowed and to "keep out of reach of children".

The sample bottles came with a variety of dispensing devices. I found it easiest to use those utilizing an eye dropper although the K-Line bottle was of a stiff enough plastic that when opened could be used in an eye dropper manner.

The volume of smoke per drop (SPD) varied somewhat though all performed satisfactorily. Model Power's SMOKE seemed to develop the greatest volume of SPD, followed by Bart's Pneumatics Supersmoke. K-Line's smoke fluid developed the smallest volume of SPD. It was a bit surprising to notice that the non-toxic fluids all seemed to be better at developing the greater volume of SPD than the petroleum based products.

The item in which the smoke fluid was used did not seem to have any effect on the volume of SPD. It was about equal in the steam engine, the smoking caboos and the ranch house.

Information supplied with Bart Pneumatics "Big-Puff" Supersmoke indicated that it is an "odorless smoke fluid". It further states that the fluid "produces a clean white smoke with no objectionable odor". I found that the liquid was definitely odorless. It was also one of the fluids that developed a high volume of SPD. As with all of the other smoke fluids, there was the distinctive smoke odor when used.

All of the scented smokes were quite strong in their liquid form making it was very easy to determine their advertised scent. Mega-Steam LLC's Mega-Steam smoke fluid had the strongest scent. It may be advisable to store these in an airtight container when not in use. I advise this as the scents are so strong that they can be smelled without even opening up their containers.

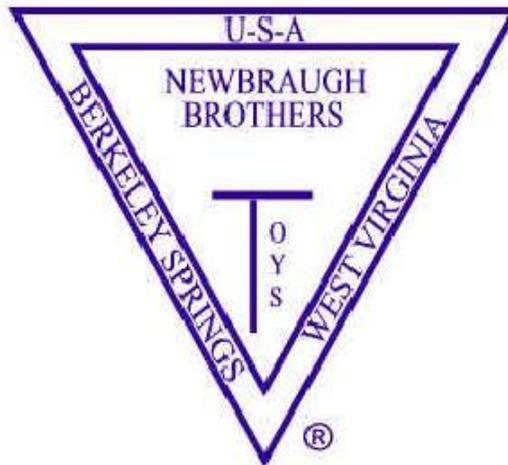
Unfortunately it seems as if the chemical used to scent the liquid is mostly lost when the liquid is turned to smoke. I could discern some differences in the scent of the smoke but the overall odor was still that of an unscented fluid.

The smoke fluids all performed well as far as the volume of SPD and I would not hesitate to recommend any of these products. I would suggest going with the non-toxic products for their added safety if you have toddlers, otherwise buy what appeals to you.

My thanks to Bart's Pneumatics, K-Line Trains, Mega-Steam LLC, Model Power, and MTH Electric Trains for supplying samples of their products for this article.

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Along the “HO” Line

By Dominic St. John

Due to the loss of his mother in early July, there is no “Along the “HO” line” article in this issue. Look for it to

return in the November issue of *The Villager*. Our condolences to Dominic.

Letters to the Editor

To PCA

I really enjoyed the article by John Niehaus about the breakfast cereal billboards. I knew these billboards were cereal premiums but I didn't know what cereal they came in or what year they were available.

1956 was a really good year for cereal premiums. Gilbert American Flyer had their Adventure series comic books come in Kellogg's Sugar Pops cereal. See enclosed copy of advertising flyer for this promotion. (*The flyer will be included in a future article in The Villager editor*)

Also in 1956, Lionel had their “Train O Rama” on boxes of cereal. These were 3 pc cardboard 3-D displays on the back of cereal boxes you had to cut out and assemble with tabs & slots. There were 12 different displays.

I have all 6 of the American Flyer series comic books but only one or two of the Lionel displays.

I have quite a few of the breakfast cereal billboards, even one or two sets in cellophane. I don't know if I have all 8, but didn't even know how many there were till I read the article! I'll have to find where I have these and check on what I have.

John J Wickland #04-257

sending me the “Villager” by mail. I will be happy to pick it off the web site.

Enclosed you will find some (used) stamps that I have been gathering in my desk. Also I have included some unused stamps that you can use when sending out copies of the “Villager” to other members.

My thanks to the publishing staff. Each issue is a little bit better than the last.

Now I would like to pose a question for anyone who has done it. There are times when pieces of Plasticville building are to loose to stay together properly and I would like to know if there is an easily removable adhesive that can be used to secure the pieces together. I was thinking about the adhesive that is used to secure ads into publications. To remove it you just rub your finger over it and it rolls up so that you can dispose of it. I want something that will not be permanent and will not discolor the plastic. I would appreciate any information that anyone can give me.

Ken Perez #02-172 (*Ken's question on how to safely “glue” loose buildings together is a subject under study for a future issue of The Villager. Please send your ideas or proven methods in a letter or email to The Villager editor. editor*)

Dear Mr Niehaus

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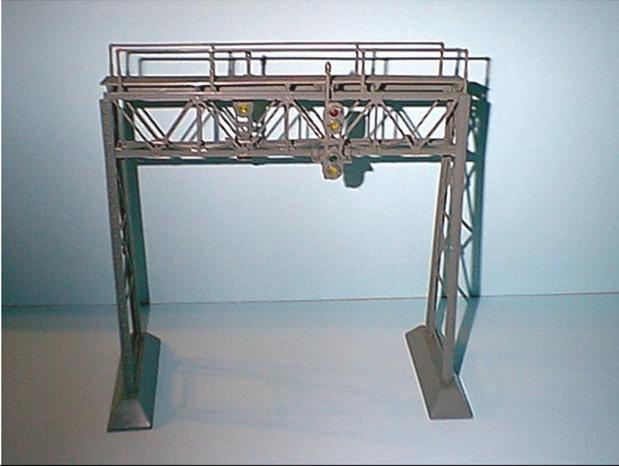
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Unusually Colored Plasticville Pieces

By Sheldon Wotring

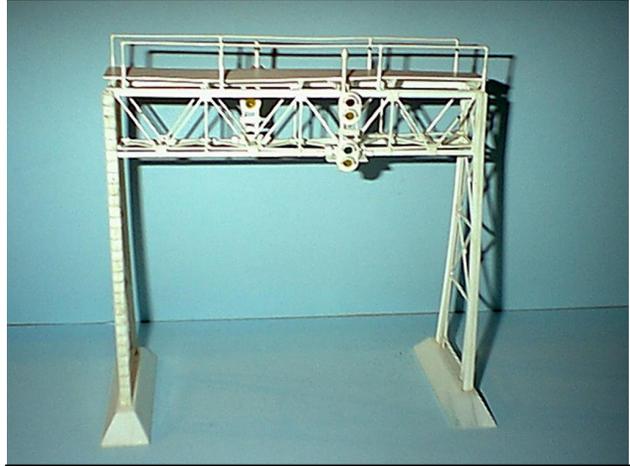
This was part of a group of items I acquired about 10-12 years ago. The story I got then was that Bachmann's R&D department made these up as color samples and they were supposed to be destroyed. One worker decided to take some things home and stored them away for many

years. When he died they turned up at a flea market. I have no further information except that I only got about one quarter of what was there. I have no idea what else might have been there.



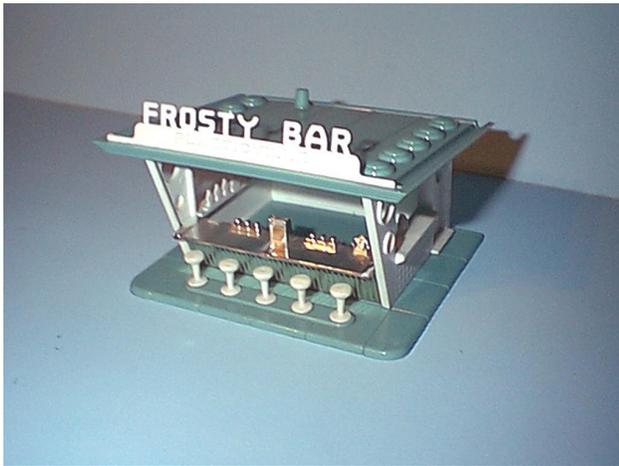
Gray Signal Bridge

This was one of the color samples. I think it makes a good looking bridge. I have not seen the new signal bridges but I don't believe they are the same



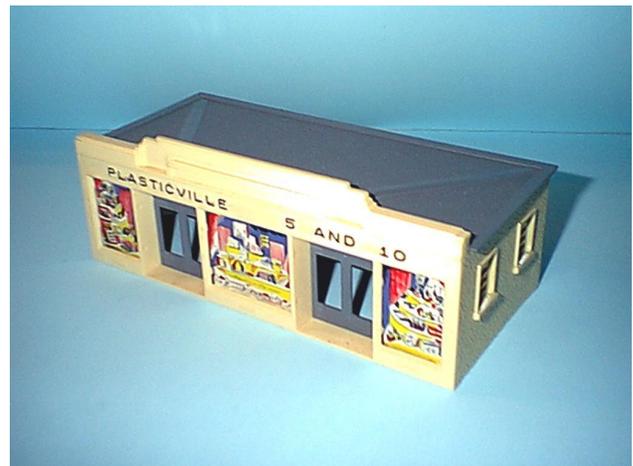
White Signal Bridge

This is the white Signal Bridge. This and the clear one must have been die tests. I can't imagine them considering this for production.



Turquoise Frosty Bar

This is one of my favorite pieces. Again, I only got the odd colored pieces and added the rest from normal buildings. I did get the unpainted white sign. I also have gray roof and floor which I put with salmon sides.



Gray Roof 5 & 10

This was not part of the group of color samples. It was found in circulation. I have found two of them. I'm curious to know if anyone else has seen one. The roof and door color is not the same gray as used on the Hardware or Drug stores. Also the lettering is black instead of red.



Blue Union Station

As you can see this station is blue where the normal ones are green. Also the clock face and 'PLASTICVILLE' lettering on the back are black instead of the usual red. The original back was too badly warped to assemble the building so I used a good back from a normal one and painted the letters black. I still have the original warped, black lettered back. I didn't get the platforms with it so I don't know if it was intended to have the normal gray or the much scarcer light gray platforms.



White Switch Tower

This was probably a die test but I think it would have made a nice production item. I only got the white pieces so I added the brown trim. I am missing the chimney so I made one up as best I could.

Special offer from Evan Designs

Evan Designs, a PCA advertiser, is offering PCA members their new building light kits at a special price of \$12 through the end of October. Each building kit contains a circuit board with three mini-bright LEDs, a mounting channel, and a six inch wiring lead. The kits are available in white, red, yellow, green, and blue. They use 12 volts DC but will work fine with 9 volts DC but with less brightness.

The kits are usually \$16 each for the white light kits and \$17 for the red, yellow, green, or blue light kits.

Wiring kits for connecting two or more building light kits' circuit boards together are also available. A six inch interconnect kit is \$1.50 while an eighteen inch interconnect kit is \$2.00.

You may order the lighting kits directly from Evan Designs, PO Box 176, Suffield, CT 06078, Phone them at 860 668-2759. Shipping is \$5.00 regardless of the size of the order.

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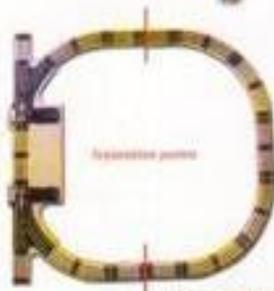
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The Polymer Theater

By Deb Deming



Figure 1

The Polymer Theater is built from parts from three Plasticville structures: Bank, 5&10, and Suburban Station. The main structure is made up of front and rear walls, roofs, and the right walls (without the drive-through window) from two banks. The theater marquee and front doors are made from the front wall of the 5&10. The ticket booth is from a couple of side and/or rear walls of the Suburban Station. Sheet and strip styrene and a few other craft items are used to scratch build other elements of the theater. The project consists mainly of work on the front of the theater. The other three walls and the roof are relatively easy and straightforward. Let's begin.

The first and most important cuts are made to the two Bank front walls. A cut is made down the middle of the narrow side vertical windows of each wall; the left windows of one wall, the right windows of the other. When the two walls are joined at the cut edges, the resulting center vertical window strip should be equal in appearance to the remaining left and right. Save the remaining pieces of the bank front walls. Reinforce the joint of the two front walls with scraps of sheet styrene.

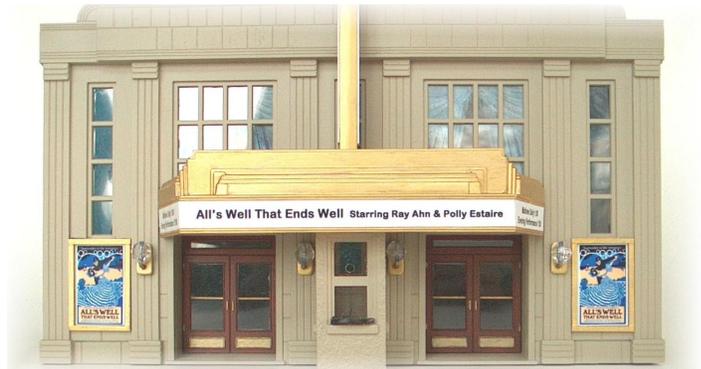
The second most important cuts are made to the front wall of the 5&10. The top of the wall, or parapet, to just above the doorways is to be carefully cut and saved. The door wells are cut from the remaining wall piece. The door wells are cut and dressed to fit within the door openings on the front wall of our theater. The doors will be painted, detailed and reattached later.

The 5&10 parapet is the basis for the theater marquee. Cut the parapet into three pieces: Center piece and two ends. For a neat appearance, miter the two ends

to the center section to form a marquee that will fit between the appropriate columns on the front wall (see photo at right). Then fabricate a trapezoidal 'sandwich' of 1/4" foamcore board between two sheets of styrene to form the marquee roof.

The marquee is located on the front wall just above the door openings. Filler strips of styrene added to the front wall between the columns will provide a continuous gluing surface for attaching the marquee roof. The tall vertical sign is made from the two remaining narrow pieces from the front Bank wall cuts. Glue these back-to-back. Use scrap styrene to fill the upper cavity. Cut the assembly to length to fit from the top of the marquee roof to the top of the theater wall (see Figure 1).

The ticket booth is made from three pieces cut from Suburban Station walls. Cut the pieces to form a 3-sided booth which fits between the two center columns of the front wall. Cut out the window muntins from the lower



sashes of the two side walls, and both sashes of the front wall. Add a rounded shelf to the front ticket window. Cut clear acetate pieces for all three windows, but do not glue them in until all painting is completed. The front window glazing has a small speaker hole in the top and a semi-circular pass-through hole in the bottom.

The front walls have a few details to prepare. The doors from the 5&10 are painted dark brown with brass or gold trim. Clear acetate pieces are cut to fit on the inside of them. Push bars are then made from brass wire or painted styrene rod and attached inside the glazing. The four entrance lamps are fabricated from styrene, brads, and clear faceted beads. Styrene rod and tube are used to make upper and lower pins, respectively, for the lamps to fit the existing holes in the walls. A bent brad provides support for the clear bead globes. The movie poster frames were fabricated from scrap styrene sheet and strip to fit between the outer columns of the front wall.

With the front wall completed, the remaining walls and roof can be quickly sized, cut, and assembled. The two side walls simply have their windows blanked out with sheet styrene. Cut the inside corner lugs off of one wall. This will be the left wall of the theater and will not naturally interlock with the corner lugs of the front and rear walls. Attach the two side walls to the front and square them up. Carefully measure for the rear wall and roof lengths. Then cut each rear wall and roof piece equally to achieve your overall size. Use styrene scraps to reinforce the joints. Assemble the rear wall to the side walls. You may leave the roof loose in case you choose to add a light or interior detail.

Our building was painted a light stone gray over all. The roof was painted dark green. The marquee front, the vertical theater sign, the lamp bases, and the poster frame were painted gold. Marquee and theater signs were laid out on the computer and printed on photo stock paper. The tall "Polymer" theater signs were mounted on pieces of sheet styrene before being attached to the structure. After the paint has dried, finish glazing the windows. The front windows of the theater are glazed in clear

acetate backed up with translucent colored acetate. Since our movie posters were blue, we used a complementing translucent blue in the windows. The curtains were taken from catalogue photos from the Internet, sized to fit. Finally, add the details, such as doors, lamps, posters, and signs.

What you choose for movie title and stars is up to you. Here's a good chance for a bit of 'plastic' witticism. We searched the Internet and its auctions for appropriate movie posters. There are literally hundreds to choose from.

We hope you will agree that the "Polymer" is a classic deco-styled theater that your village would be proud to have. It may not have the flashing lights and glitz of the dramatic Walthers Palace Theater, but it is a great focal point for your downtown business district.

Editor's note: This is one of many buildings created by Deb from damaged Plasticville building pieces. Deb may be contacted at dkdkrd@charter.net for further information on the construction of this building or to enquire about her other creations.





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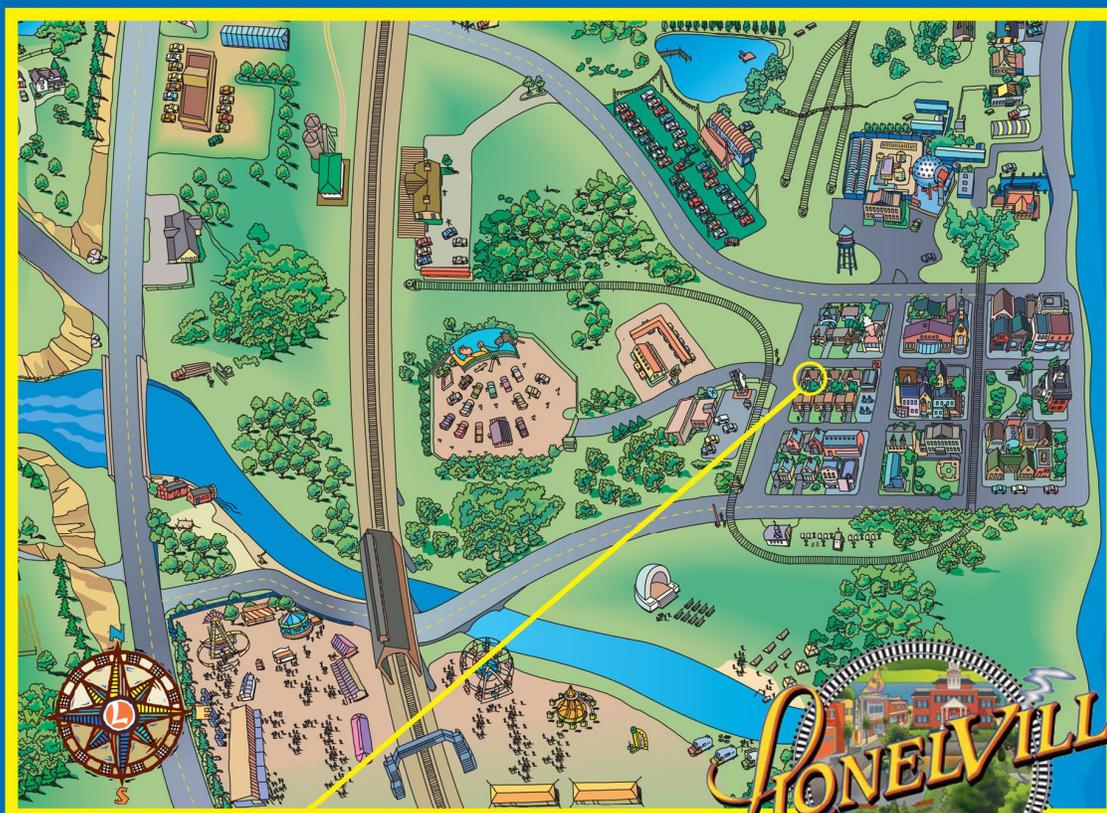


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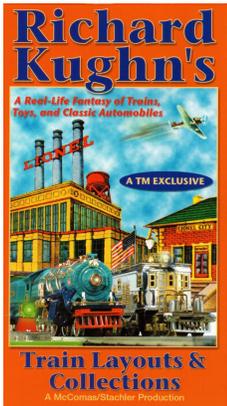
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Product Reviews



Richard Kughn's Train Layouts and Collections, a video by TM Books and Video. (55 minutes approximate running time.)

Few of us have had the opportunity to visit Carail, the building in which Richard Kughn housed his many collections. Still fewer of us have had the honor of being invited to view the layouts he has in his home. This video affords everyone the opportunity to view a good portion of both.

The video opens with a visit to the 1500 square foot Standard gauge layout at Carail. Nearly every piece of rare Standard gauge engines and sets are shown operating on this mammoth layout. Not only does one see the trains but also numerous vintage Standard gauge accessories in their various color variations. The video also notes that there are a total of 12 Hellgate bridges on the layout.

Not only are there Standard gauge trains on the layout but the top two tiers of this multi-tiered layout runs O gauge trains. The O gauge trains do not look out of place due to what is known as "forced perspective" per Mr. Kughn. Forced perspective uses objects smaller than that being modeled to give the illusion that they are at a greater distance from the viewer.

The Carail O gauge layout is also shown in the film. It is 1600 square feet but was also built using forced perspective. Forced perspective allowed the use of S gauge trains on the top two tiers of the layout.

One is treated to viewing various dealer display layouts. These include a prewar scenic plot dealer display and the postwar 4' x 8' "disappearing train" layout. Two 2035 steam engines and thirteen Scout sized gondolas enter a tunnel that is way too short to engulf the entire consist yet the train completely "disappears" into the

tunnel and only then appears exiting the other side. The answer to how this happens is on the video.

The video also takes us into Mr. Kughn's home for a visit to his layouts there. The first layout addressed is a suspended combination Standard and G gauge layout that circumnavigates the train room.

The main layout is O gauge and measures 20 x 25 feet. It contains many of the vintage and even newer Lionel operating accessories. The video shows many of these in operation including a sawmill, newsstand, ice cream stand, diesel fueling station, and log loader.

There is a brief look at some of the vintage automobiles from the thirties and forties in the Carail collection. Not only do we see autos but various pieces of vintage automobilia. One unique facet of the automobilia collection is a complete collection of Lalique hood ornaments.

Commentary on the video includes comments by Mr. Kughn and John Lauder, one of the builders of both the Carail and home layouts, in addition to the narrator. The video runs for approximately 60 minutes.

My son and I spent a very enjoyable hour watching this video. I saw trains in operation that I had not seen before in addition to some very impressive automobiles. My recommendation would be to get on the call the TM order phone number or go online and order this video. You won't be disappointed.

The video may be ordered by phone, or through the TM Books and Video website. The price is \$19.95 with an additional shipping charge of \$5.95.

TM Books and Video may be contacted on line at <http://www.tmbooks-video.com>. Their toll free number for placing an order is 800 892-2822. You may also contact them with inquiries at 219 879-2822. They may be reached by mail at TM Books & Video, PO Box 279, New Buffalo, Michigan, 49117.



Smoking Ranch House from the K-Line Electric Trains, Trackage Collection. This piece consists of an

assembled Ranch House, five pre-painted figures, seven pieces of fence, four pieces of lawn furniture, a wading pool, a sliding board, and a 1957 Chevrolet Nomad station wagon. The vehicle illustrated in the 2004 catalog shows a metallic blue auto. The auto in my review copy was a metallic bronze.

A single sheet of instructions, four pieces of connecting wire, an on/off slide switch marked *SMOKE* to power the smoke generator and a small bottle of smoke fluid complete the package.

My first impression was that the building was the typical ranch house made from the Marx molds and assembled but differences became evident when I compared this building to the Marx ranch house. The

most significant difference is the lack of shrubs and trees present with the Marx building. Overall, the fit of the pieces also indicate that this building is not from the Marx molds but is made from new tooling.

There are lights attached to the roof sections in both sides of the building that are illuminated constantly when power is applied to the house. The roof sections are removable to allow for the changing of the bulbs when necessary. Also, there is a mini connector that can be disconnected to allow the complete removal of either portion of the roof from the building to help facilitate bulb changing.

All window openings are covered with a translucent covering to eliminate the glare from the bulbs inside.

The smoke unit is housed in the smaller right hand side of the building. It consists of both the smoke generator and a fan to push the smoke up the chimney.

It took about a minute for the smoke to reach peak volume when the smoke switch was turned on but then a very large amount of smoke poured from the chimney. A mere six drops of the supplied fluid allowed me to run the smoke unit for over 45 minutes. The fan on my review copy pushed a plume of smoke nearly six inches into the

air.

There is a slight but noticeable high-pitched whine to the smoke generator fan, but that whine should be barely noticeable if you are operating a train or other accessories at the same time this piece is operating.

The smoke is very susceptible to air movement. I would recommend that it not be set too close to the tracks or other details that may cause air disturbances for that reason.

If you are a collector and not an operator you could justify buying this piece with the logic that it is reminiscent of the Marx/K-Line ranch houses.

Overall this is a very well made and unique piece to add to a layout. I would not hesitate to add it to mine.

The list price for the smoking ranch house is \$49.95. The Smoking Ranch House should be available from your local hobby shop. It can also be ordered on line from K-Line trains at <http://www.klinetrains.com>.

K-Line trains can be contacted at K-Line Electric Trains, PO Box 2831, Chapel Hill, NC 27515. Telephone 919 929-8420 from 8:30 – 4:30 ET.



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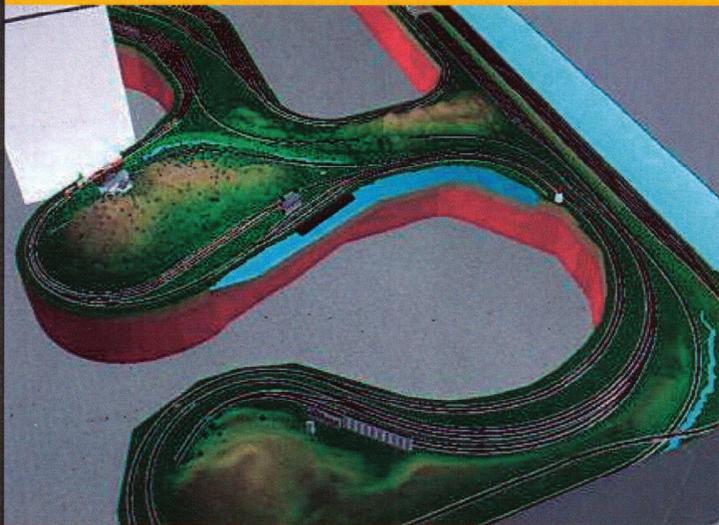
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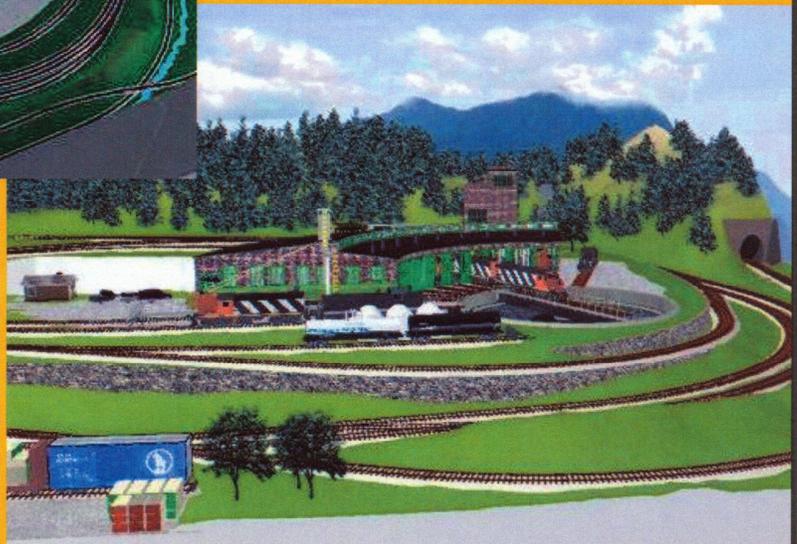
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Welcome New Members

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

Steve D D'Ambrosia, Clakamas, Or
Jeffrey L Feldmeier, Allen Park, MI
Dan McDaniel, LaGrange, IL
Jerome J Williams, Cadillac, MI
John J Wicklund, West Allis, WI
Robert Flanagan, Beverly MA
Ronald B Rosen, West Long Branch, NJ
Joseph P Kearney, Ytica, NY
Stan Tallmadge, Norwalk, CT
Robert M Shaw, Warminster, PA
George J Caravas, Calistoga, CA
Philip J Rentz, Ottawa, IL
Ralph O Abildnes, Swan Lake, NY
John E Kohr, Tremont, PA
Walter J Roberts, Manahawkin, NJ
Emory M Hall, North Canton, OH
Larry Porco, Bronx, NY
Joe M Zeller, Wheaton, IL
Thomas A Radcliffe, ChicaGO, il
Myron W Opferman, Martinez, GA
Philip C McKnight, Lawrence, KS
Julian D Heislup, Free Union, VA

as of July 1, 2004. Their names are now listed in the on line roster.

Philip F Dullinger, St Cloud, MN
Darryl R White, Palm Springs, CA
Toby E Thoresen, Galveston, TX
Glenn T Dailey, Scranton, PA
Torby W Barker, Tonawanda, NY
James E Quinn Jr, Shillington, PA
Leon W Schwab, Buffalo, NY
Jim Heider, Wilmette, IL
Roger L Miller, Sinking Springs, PA
Frank B Ross, Centennial, CO
Daniel A Gills, Hinsdale, IL
Phillip L Coduti, Munster, IN
Robert A Conner, Jacksonville, FL
Richard B Pontello, Cary, NC
George Donahue, Willow Grove, PA
Richard L Worden, Luray, VA
George W Hendricks, Danville, PA
Kurt M Rabold, Tonawanda, NY
Joseph L Mania, Freehold, NJ
Lester T Froelich, Coatesville, PA
L Stephen Keough, Hampton, VA
Wilfred L Kus II, Lakewood, OH

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

William J LaFerriere, Fortuna, CA
Bruce M Lorence, Tinley Park, IL
Walter M Olson, Los Angeles, CA
Jeff Blazo, Hanford, CA
Richard A Longley, East Aurora, NY

members in accordance with the bylaws of the PCA. All names listed below will be added to the Plasticville Collectors Association rolls if no objection to such action is received prior to October 1, 2004.

Anna R Manson, Willow Street, PA
Lawrence I Rappoldt, Coatesville, PA
Norman E Brickl, Baraboo, WI
Paul DiStefano, Wilmington, DE

Notes from the Secretary Treasurer

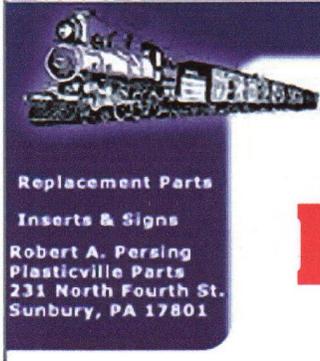
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Chet Grodek, #02-155, chet_grodek@ars.aon.com
Phillip Coduti, #04-287, plcodu@inland.com
Charles A Lowe, #03-210, charles.a.lowe@dupont.com
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- RED__ WHITE__ TAN__
- RED__ WHITE__ TAN__
- RED__ WHITE__ TAN__
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- WHITE__ TAN__
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- RED__ WHITE__
- RED__ WHITE__
- TAN__
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For Sale

0400 Mobile home, cream/blue, mint \$60 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. factf@juno.com #02-87 Lawrence Fachler, 6 Bosko Drive, East Brunswick, NJ 08816-4542 (Aug 04)

45979 Coaling station. Complete in box. Best Offer. mfrankfsa@yahoo.com, #02-189, Michael Frank, 100 Arden St., (5B), New York, NY 10040 (Aug 04)

AD-4 Airport administration building, original box, Complete, \$49. FH-4 Fire House with hollow siren, original box, complete, \$25. 1603 Ranch House, Turquoise sides, white roof, original box, complete, \$20. See complete list of Plasticville at www.garystrains.com. gtrains@floodcity.net #01-77, Gary Mosholder, 186 Pine springs Camp Rd, Boswell, PA 15531 (Nov 04)

For Trade

My green walled Storytown Humpty Dumpty for your yellow walled version. #02-183, Charles Swanson, PO

Wanted

Megow, Ideal, Skyline cardstock structure buildings in HO scale. Ideal kits as follows: B5 Water Tower, B27 Barn and Outbuildings, B8 Factory, B37 Meat Packing Plant, B43 Paoer Mill, B1 Combinatin Station, B7 Roundhouse, B38 Two Stall Engine House, B31 Railroad Terminal, B41 Icing Plant, B42 Hedge. #01-81, Chris Rossbach, 135 Richwood Dr., Gloversville, NY 12078 518-725-4446 11 AM to 3 PM. No night calls, please. (May 05)

#1504 Mobile Home awning, white. Storytown parts, people, boxes, or poems. rsipes@webtv.net #01-39, Richard Sipes, 839 First St, Nescopeck, PA 18635 (Nov 04)

Complete, unglued, Skyline K-5 all white church, box not important. Littletown #102 Cape Cod houses, any color combination but must be complete and unglued.

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.

Plasticville Grandstand #1876 NIB (box shows some fading), complete, \$195 each. I pay all shipping and insurance. Full money back guarantee if not 100% satisfied. #02-152 Ralph Ciarlo, 515 Broad Ave, Leonia, NJ 07605-1538 (Nov 04)

Plasticville parts for sale: Please visit my eBay store, "North Pole Railroad". Good used parts: walls, roofs, windows, and doors. Many priced at 99¢. More added every week. Thank You. beaglema@myshorelink.com #04-248, Robert Y Anderson, 119 Dundee Ave, Chester, MD 21619. (Feb 05)

Varney HO parts catalog listing original and reproduction parts. \$15.00 postpaid. #01-81, Chris Rossbach, 135 Richwood Dr., Gloversville, NY 12078 518-725-4446 11 AM to 3 PM. No night calls, please. (May 05)

Box 33042, Knoxville, TN 37930. 865-693-5740 (May 05)

Cfrey57@aol.com #01-15, Chris frey, 234 Memorial Blvd, Newmanstown, PA 17073 (610) 589-2573 (Nov 04)

Motel 1 'R' Salmon end wall, 2 white roofs, 1 white walkway. Independence Hall, 1 clock wall side w/4 posts white w/black clock lettering, 1 clock wall front w/8 posts, black clock lettering. Turnpike Interchange, 1 blue door. #03-206, Robert F Rzasa, 379 Tully Rd, Orange, MA 01364 (Nov 04)

Need boxes: Fire, Police, Town Hall, Diner, Post Office, Gas Station, Barn, Pond (2), School, and Airport. Parts: Police Station – chimney half, & cap, lights (2), antenna. Diner - red window blinds (3). 2 story house – white middle window, front door. Town hall – half tan roof railing, white back door. mundel@bellatlantic.net. #02-

223, John O'Hara, 555 Bower Ave, Washington, PA 15301 (Nov 04)

Wanted: Porch roof and porch floor for red w/dark grey roof LH4 2-story Colonial house. 2 yellow farm implement wagon stakes. Figures and accessories for K-Lineville buildings. johnln@netins.net #00-3, John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St., Ankeny, IA 50021-3207 (Feb 05)

Your discarded, miscellaneous Plasticville walls, roofs, parts, pieces, glued or unglued, large or small, HO or "O"

for scratchbuilding an "O" and HO layout. #02-158, Michael Kingston, 3345 Fox Wood CT, West Bloomfield, MI 48324 (248) 363-3167 (Feb 05)

Red Roof New England Rancher. Boxes: 1707, 1611, 1607 & 1614. Misc. "N" play sets or parts. Storytown shoe complete or parts. Littletown ranch, red walls, maroon roof. Marbled Plasticville work car. #02-183, Charles Swanson, PO Box 33042, Knoxville, TN 37930. 865-693-5740 (May 05)

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The PCA Corner Store Items for sale by the PCA

Visit the PCA website to view all of the items offered.

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.

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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. \$1.00 per sheet plus 50 Cents P&H regardless of the number of sheets ordered.

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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.

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.

Lionel Plasticville American Flyer

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1090 Telephone Booth: \$15 each or 2/\$25.
1004 BBQ: \$3 each or 4/\$10.
SS-5 Street Signs (no tag) \$1 each or 12/\$10.
1050 Outhouse (brown) \$4
1029 BS-6 Shrub (green) 12/\$5.
PB-5 Footbridge \$4 each
Misc Black Auto \$8 each; 2/\$15.
Misc Traffic Light \$3 each
Misc Fire Trucks in red: \$5 each (Ladder or Pumper)
RG-3 Rustic Fence Gate \$2 each
BB-9 Billboard and Frame \$3 each; 4/\$10.

1623 Cattle Pen \$75.
1302 Farm Implements \$95.
1923 Roadside Stand - Sealed - \$85.
DE-7 Diner (Red or Yellow) \$30.
1800 Gas Station \$45.
FB-1 Frosty Bar \$30.
1877 Sitting People \$275. MINT
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ON-5 Outdoor Necessities \$250.
5002 Picket Fence, Blister Pack \$150.
HF-2 House Fence, Dealer Box of 12 Packs - \$250.

PLASTICVILLE NO BOX - COMPLETE

CC-9 Church \$8.
BN-1 Barn \$10.
1620 Loading Platform \$10.
1616 Suburban Station \$12.
1303 Log Cabin \$10.
1703 Colonial Mansion (Red Roof) \$25.
0550 KING Add-A-Floor (Red) \$10. ea. or 3/\$25. MINT
0550 KING Add-A-Floor Brown \$15. ea 3/\$39. MINT
SC-4 School \$15.
DE-7 Diner \$18.

BK-1 Bank \$25.
FH-4 Fire Dept. \$15.
FB-1 Frosty Bar \$15.
SM-6 Supermarket (small) \$18.
Misc Windmill (Silver/Brown) \$15.
MOBILE HOME Assortment - No Box - \$20. ea 6/\$99.
(Cream/Teal, Cream/Pink, Cream/Blue, Teal/Cream, Pink/Cream, Pink/Blue, Blue/Cream, Blue/Pink, Blue/Silver) Make your own MOBILE HOME PARK.

KING PLASTICVILLE

0400 KING Mobile Home (Blue sides or Buff sides) \$30 ea 2/\$50. MINT
0550 KING Add-A-Floor in Red \$15. each; \$2/\$25. MINT
0550 KING Add-A-floor in Brown \$25 each; 2/\$40. MINT
0700 KING Bank (Buff or Green Sides) \$30. each; 2/\$50. MINT

0500 KING Apartment House in Red \$25; 5 Story \$60.
0500 KING Apartment House in Brown \$45; 5 Story \$90.
0650 KING Covered Bridge (Grey Roof) \$40. MINT

STORYTOWN

5000 3 Men In A Tub (Red or Yellow) \$250.
5001 Humpty Dumpty (Red, Green or Yellow) \$300.
5010 Castle (Yellow, White or Blue) \$250.

5012 Jack & Jill (Yellow or Red Well) \$250.
5013 Gingerbread House \$300.
5011 Old Lady In A Shoe (Red, Yellow or Green) \$600.

PLASTICVILLE PARTS

Hobo Shack: Chimney \$5. ea; Curtain Rollup \$8. ea.
Hospital: Siren \$3. ea; Straight Chair or Desk Chair \$2. ea.
Bank: Red Light \$2. ea; Front Canopy \$3. ea; Side Canopy \$4. ea.
Fire Department: Siren \$3. ea; Chimney Corner \$3. ea; Chimney Cap \$3 ea.
Police Dept: Red Light \$2. ea; Chimney Cap \$3. ea; Chimney Corner \$3 ea;
Antenna Set (2 pieces) \$5.
House Under Construction: Shovel, Hoe, Bucket, Rake, Saw Horse \$3. ea.
Air Administration Building: Ladder \$15.; Canopy \$12.; Handrail Set \$12.
Jack & Jill: Pail (white) \$5. ea; Shrub (red, yellow or blue) \$5. ea; 1 of ea \$12.

School: White Light \$2. ea; Weathervane \$2. ea.
Air Hanger: Windsock \$3. ea.
Windmill: Ladder \$15; Wheel \$8.
Log Cabin: Chimney \$3. ea.
Cattle Pen: Cross Bars (2 holes or slot) \$5. ea; Set of 3 - \$12.
Gingerbread House: Brick (white, tan or chocolate) \$6. ea.
3 Men In A Tub: Oar (red or yellow) \$5. ea.
Castle: Flag or Chain (red, yellow, blue or white) \$5. ea.
Old Lady In A Shoe: Clothes line (red, yellow or green) \$15. ea.

SHIPPING INFORMATION: \$4.00 FOR THE BOOK ONLY. \$5.00 IF ORDERING BUILDINGS, PARTS, AND TRUCK

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