



The Villager

The Official Newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 10

November 2011

Number 4

Vote for 2012/2013 Officers

The Executive Committee is pleased to announce the following nominations.

For the office of President: current President James Dawes and Thomas Friesner.

For the office of Vice President: current acting Vice President Doug Gilliatt and Charles Swanson.

A ballot has been included as part of the November hard copy newsletter mailing. You will find it in the return addressed dues renewal envelope along with the dues renewal option card.

ePCA members will receive the ballot as part of a mailing that will include a return addressed dues renewal envelope and dues renewal option card.

You may return the ballot with your 2012 dues remittance or mail it separately to: PCA, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50021. Postage to mail it separately is 30 cents. All ballots must be received by December 31, 2011. **We encourage all to vote.**

Dues Increases for Mailed Newsletters

Due to the increase in postage last year and the increased printing costs the Executive Committee voted during their May meeting to increase the dues for mailed newsletters by \$2.00 for both the color and the black and white mailed newsletters. This increase in dues is reflected on the 2012 dues renewal form. The ePCA membership level will remain at \$8.00 for 2012.

You may wish to consider opting for the ePCA membership

if you have a high speed Internet connection or wish to only print a part of a newsletter rather than the entire publication.

Another benefit of ePCA membership is that it is available wherever you go by merely logging onto the Members section of the PCA website and downloading it onto your personal computer or even one in a motel business center.

Three Year Dues Renewal Option now Available

There have been numerous requests to allow for multi-year membership renewals. You, the membership requested it and we, the Executive Committee, have provided it. You now have the option of pre-paying your PCA dues at a specific level for up to three years, beginning with this dues renewal period.

The dues renewal card that you will receive with your November newsletter or in a special mailing to ePCA members has a chart on it that allows you to specify the number of years that you wish to renew and at a specific membership level. Simply decide on the number of years and the membership level then circle the spot where the two meet. The amount shown at that intersection is the amount to send.

Years	ePCA	B&W	Color
1	\$8.00	\$12.00	\$42.00
2	\$16.00	\$24.00	\$84.00
3	\$24.00	\$36.00	\$126.00

The member in the illustration above opted to renew at the black and white mailed newsletter level for two years.

The Villager

Published quarterly by the Plasticville Collectors Association.

President: Jim Dawes

Vice President: Doug Gilliatt

www.plasticvilleusa.org

Secretary/Treasurer: John L Niehaus

Webmaster: Joe Kutza

Newsletter editor: John Niehaus

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From the President's Desk



I am writing this just after opening my new Plasticville 10th Anniversary Barn. I think this is a very nice looking piece, color goes nicely with our 5th anniversary house.

I have been very busy with train shows. Just completing one November 5 & 6 here in my home town of Syracuse, NY. The show was very well attended, in fact, 15 % over last year's attendance. Sales were brisk - Plasticville sold well. I even came home with some empty totes, which means I must get with it and spend the next few months washing, sorting Plasticville and repairing boxes for next year's shows.

I plan on, and am excited about, going and setting up at a show in Ottawa, Canada in July 2012. I also plan on setting up at six or seven other shows in the States next year. I always enjoy meeting new people, making friends, and keeping up with the news around the Plasticville Community.

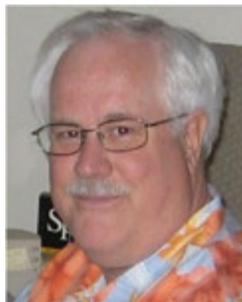
It is getting close to the holiday season and I have been thinking about setting up our Christmas Tree with our train underneath. Again this year my choice will be the beautiful Polar Express with a Plasticville village, of course.

Just a reminder to all -- Enjoy the trains and Plasticville, and remember it is just a hobby.

Blessings to all and enjoy the holidays.

Your President,
Jim Dawes

Vice Presidential Insights



I hope that everyone that was able to attend York this year brought back at least one 'prize' for their collection. If you brought back a unique piece and or a variation perhaps you would share it with the membership in *The Villager*? Send in some pictures and the story how you found the piece. I am sure all the members would appreciate seeing your find.

As we move into fall (only 90 here in Phoenix today as I write this) I want to wish everyone good hunting in their quest for that unique piece. There is sure to be many Garage Sales/Antique shows etc. that can be checked out to see what can be found. Since this edition of *The Villager* goes out before the Holiday season I will take the time to wish all the members and their families a Happy Holiday Season. I also hope that some of us might even get a new building or other train related item as a present this Holiday season.

I, as is the rest of the members, am waiting with anticipation the arrival of the 10th Anniversary PCA barn. Hopefully they should be in our hands before Thanksgiving or earlier. I just need a place on the layout to put it as there just has not been time to clear a spot.

With the dues increase this year for mailing a copy of *The Villager* maybe it is time to consider switching to the On-line delivery (ePCA) version of *The Villager* in place of a mailed black and white or color printed 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.

I continue to say and 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 as it is today into the future.

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.

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

PCA Vice-President,
Doug Gilliatt

(*The 10th Anniversary PCA barns were mailed on November 4. Editor*)

Are You A Collector of Marx Buildings?

If you are collector of Marx plastic buildings why not consider sharing your collecting experiences with your fellow PCA members. Contact villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org for more information on how you can become a contributing editor of *The Villager*.

Notes From the Editor



It is great to see that we have multiple nominees for the offices of both President and Vice President. It was my concern that we would again have an uncontested slate of officers.

The nominations came in at the last minute but I am glad that I had to create a ballot!

I have met all of the nominees and feel that any one of them will fill the position for which they were nominated in a full and honorable manner.

I strongly encourage you to vote. It is pretty simple when all you have to do is to vote and return your ballot in the same envelope as your 2012 dues.

THANK YOU - A PCA pen has been sent to Wesley R Kidd and Jason M White. As most of you are aware the PCA pens are sent to members when their short hints or suggestions are published in a newsletter in the *Pen Tips* column. In this instance Wesley and Jason responded to my post on the Plasticville Yahoo site asking for dimensional footprints for the freight station and the signalman's shanty.

My post was in response to an email received from a non-member asking for those dimensions prior to purchasing the pieces for his son's layout. Although I did not receive a reply after providing the information to the requester I hope it assisted him in his purchase decision.

Thank you again, Wesley and Jason. I hope you use the pens when casting your ballots.

The response to the free parts was greater than I anticipated! There are some parts still to be available. Check out the list in this newsletter on page 29 and let me know if you would like anything on the list. There are quite a few "complete" Cape Cods that are missing the chimney that are still available. Your only cost is for packaging and shipping.

I have had some recent inquiries from members attempting to access a member only section of the website and being navigated to a screen listing the reasons to join the PCA rather than the desired section.

When you click on the *Plasticville* or *Information* link in the blue menu bar on the home page, the next page will show, for some options, a blue box with a picture of a padlock and the words *Members only*. That blue box is a hyperlink and it will navigate you to a screen that lists the reasons you should join the PCA. This is intentional in the hope that non-members will be interested enough to, at the very least, request an information packet.

What you, as a member, need to do is to click on the text to the immediate left of the blue box. That is the hyperlink to the noted section. You will be prompted for your user name and password if you have not already entered them

during this session. And remember that you can always contact me if you have any access issues with your user name and password.

I have received emails from some of you in the past telling me that the attachment I sent in an email would not open. This is a compatibility issue between my Microsoft Outlook email program and your email program. Microsoft is aware of this issue but does not seem to be in any hurry to fix it. That is why the last line of my signature now states, "Please ignore any attachments below this line".

The name of the attachment is *winmail.dat* and was automatically added to the email you received somewhere along its cyber journey. It is not something that I actually consciously added. If you see an attachment with the name *winmail.dat* in an email from me please ignore it.

UNDELIVERABLE EMAILS: Yes, some of you are still not receiving emails when I send broadcast messages to the membership. If you have not received any emails from me in the months of October and NOember then what I have in your membership record is probably not current. Please contact me via email, using your current email address, so that I can update your membership record.

I believe that I sent at least five emails to the membership regarding the 10th anniversary barns and a free, for postage, offer of the empty specially marked shipping cartons in which I received the barns.

My most recent email would be that this newsletter was available on line. You are missing out on part of your membership privileges if you do not receive periodic PCA related emails. Help me keep your membership record current.

I have yet to review any of their offerings but Classic Toy Trains magazine is initially offering five books in digital format, with more to come. The first five cost between \$17.95 and \$24.95. The advertisement I received states that the books can be downloaded for offline reading (with sharing restrictions) so I am presuming that they can be read on certain portable document readers.

Please keep Mike Marmer in your thoughts as he will be going in for knee replacement surgery in the very near future.

In closing, I am saddened to note that I was informed by his wife that charter member Michael (Kit) Walshock passed away on July, 30. He was one of my most frequent customers of personalized PCA return address labels.

His wife has asked me to let the membership to know that if they are interested in purchasing part or all of Michael's Plasticville collection to contact her at the following address: Linda Walshock, 4776 Terry Rd, Jackson, MS 39212-5622. Her telephone number is 601 372-0131.

October 2011 Executive Committee Minutes

The October, 2011 Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 9:15 PM, Eastern time, on October 19 by President Jim Dawes.

Those in attendance were; President Jim Dawes, Vice-President Doug Gilliatt, and Secretary/Treasurer John Niehaus.

Old business:

10th anniversary piece

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has received the barns and will be shipping them to those who placed orders very shortly.

Unconfirmed Variations section on website

Secretary Niehaus reported that the Unconfirmed Variations section is now an option on the website but not populated with any photos and the information required to confirm a piece at this time.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to open this section up to the public as it is currently secured to members only.

PayPal

Secretary Niehaus reported the he and Joe Kutza have yet to establish a PCA PayPal account. The account will only allow members to pay their dues initially . He and Joe will have the account in place before the November dues renewal period.

Multi-year membership payments

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has updated the membership renewal form mailed to all members to allow for up to a three year payment of dues.

(A sample of the form had been sent to the Executive Committee for review prior to this meeting.)

2012 dues

Secretary Niehaus reported that the current membership application now reflects the increase in dues.

He also reported that the current membership application has been added to the PCA website.

New Business

Commonwealth Plastics addition to Other Manufacturers section of website

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to add Commonwealth Plastics to the Miscellaneous > Other Manufacturers section of the PCA website.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to include the photo of three lamp posts with mailboxes supplied by Chris Matthy under that listing.

Register.com banner on new plasticville.org website

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to table the subject until a future Executive Committee meeting at which all Committee members are in attendance.

Advertising in O Gauge Railroading magazine

Secretary Niehaus reported that he is working on a trade of advertising with O Gauge Rail-Roading magazine.

Membership application revision

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to revise the current membership application to allow an applicant to remit up to three years dues with their application.

Secretary compensation

President Jim Dawes brought up the subject of compensating the Secretary/Treasurer for the time spent shipping the 10th anniversary barns.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to table the subject until a future Executive Committee meeting at which all Committee members are in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 PM, Eastern Time

Respectfully submitted; John L Niehaus
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved by the Executive Committee, October 23, 2011



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York Report, October 2011

By Joe Kutza



Due to heavy rain before the gathering at lunch it was necessary to take a photo of those who attended the luncheon "Show & Tell inside the cafeteria. There were some new faces as well as many "regulars".

What's better, the fall York meet or the Spring York meet? The answer: both. I've never noticed a significant difference between the two. I'm lucky enough to live close enough to get to both shows every year. Some people can only make one show, or tragedy of tragedies, neither. The only thing I noticed different about the Fall 2011 York meet is that while I got there earlier in the morning than I usually do, I had to park farther away from the center of the fairgrounds than I have ever had to before. I'll take that as a good sign that the show is still going strong in terms of attendance. Sometimes people say there aren't as many people at the shows. I think the TCA did an analysis and showed that attendance has not dropped over the last few years. Well, they measure by registrations, not attendance, but that's a minor difference.

As always, the best part of the show is meeting up with fellow PCA Members both throughout the day, and at the PCA luncheon. I am a total techie and by far prefer communication via e-mail to any other form, nonetheless, sitting around the lunch table and talking about Plasticville, the PCA, and whatever other topics might come up is always great fun, and a great learning experience. If you ever get to York, please join us for lunch at the cafeteria. We meet out front just before noon. And bring something for the show and share!

For example, this time we were surprised by an Airport Hangar with an orange roof AND an orange door. The orange colors matched the expected orange color and the door was not from the LCCA Airport Hangar, which has a darker/deeper orange color.

Speaking of interesting things, I stopped by to see PCA Member Dave Horner and his son Scott at their table in the orange hall, and was able to pick up a few dealer boxes of platform fence. Why a few? Do I really need more than one? It turns out I do. Dave showed me that there are different sized stamps of the "CS-5" on the end of the boxes, and one of them was stamped "packed by #22" when it's more

typical to find the little paper tags inside the box. Well, now I'm all interested in dealer boxes, so look forward to an article on them in a future issue of your *Villager*.



Another addition to the Unconfirmed Variations section of the PCA website will be this orange hangar door version of the AP-1 hangar.

The colors of the door and the roof piece in the lower left of the picture match and do not seem to be the colors of that of the LCCA hangar.

The illustrated piece is owned by PCA member Anatoly Vasiliev.

So, not directly related to York... but as an interesting side note... have you ever used Plasticville as a motivator/bribe? We are in the process of cleaning out the unfinished sub-basement of our split level house to make space for a new game room. Lots of my Plasticville will be going to off-site storage in the near future. As I was organizing, I'd place items I wanted to sell in one box off to the side. When I told my 10-year old son the plan, he said "I'll buy them from you". I said, "Let's make a deal.". He's been taking karate lessons and is a 6th degree Green belt. I told him if he keeps up with karate in the spring and earns his Purple or Blue belt, I would give him the box of Plasticville I was going to sell. His eyes lit up and he said,

“DEAL!”. Well worth whatever I might get for the items on eBay as far as I’m concerned.

I have a short list of prices this time around, I promise to get a longer list in the spring, as I know a lot of you enjoy seeing what plastic village items go for in the real world. Remember, these are just a few of the many, many items at the meet and represent prices as marked, when in fact everyone will give you a break and the more you buy, the cheaper it gets.

Also my assessment of quality is not based on the PCA Grading Guidelines, it’s based on just a quick look: Marx Chicken Coop, building complete, missing some smalls, box pretty good with one end crushed a bit, \$35; Storytown Three Men in a Tub, incomplete, no box, \$70; 1402 Switch Tower, complete in a good box, \$8; Marx Diner, green and yellow, complete, no box, \$45; RH-1 Ranch, blue and white, complete in a VG box marked “Grey/Pink”, \$9; DE-7 Diner, gray and yellow, complete in a VG box, \$15, Airport

Hangar, complete, glued, painted, no box, \$25; 1401 Pine Trees, complete, Regular, VG box, \$25; 1621 Motel with salmon sides, VG box, \$17. That’s it for this time.

My completely subjective opinion of all the prices that I saw at the October 2011 York meet (not just those listed above) leads me to give a rating of 3 gold bars to the fall meet. I predicted a higher gold bar rating in my last York report, and of course it’s completely subjective, so I can make it anything I want! In fact, it did jump up just a little from the 2.5 rating in the spring of 2011.

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!



Commonwealth Lamp Posts w/Mailbox - More Information

By Brian Nichols and Dan Palaschak

Brian Nichols:

I am reading the latest newsletter about the Commonwealth lamp post.

Here is the photo of my blue Commonwealth light pole and mail box.

It has Commonwealth Plastics printed on the side of the mail box.

The street sign is broken off of it.

My son remembered that I purchased it at the last Carlisle toy show in Toledo, Ohio.



Dan Palaschak:

I have had 3 of these items for years on display but did not know who made them so this is interesting news.

I will look for more information as you find it.

I have a unique color variation one of the 3 that I have - 2 red and one green.

The green one is a two tone green. Once side bright one side dull.

My first thought was maybe it sat in the sun light of a window but the finish on either side color wise is too perfect and the mail box lid color is the full bright green, so I think it was 2 different colored pieces glued together at the factory and shipped. So much for quality control back in those days.

I thought it may be of interest to the members.

(We still have little information regarding Commonwealth Plastics but we are learning more and more about the number of colors in which the lamp posts with mailbox were produced. Editor)

Creative Use of Damaged Parts

99 Cent House

By Edward L Johnson



"I'm just looking, there's nothing particular I'm looking for or interested in purchasing just Window shopping". I keep telling myself as I peruse e-Bay listings. Then an item pops up and I think "Well, I can't pass this up". So it was when I saw this e-Bay listing for a Plasticville bungalow @ **-99 cents!** The seller's description was straight forward "has glue residue and needs cleaning" putting it in the *used and abused* category which is no problem for me and only **.99 cents!** So I placed my bid and figured I was sure to be out bid. A few days later I won and my "treasure" arrived. This one slipped under my wife's "more junk radar". The above photo shows the condition of the model when I received it. There is the glue residue the seller described but it seemed at one time the roof was sprayed with artificial snow.



This photo shows the parts after cleaning. Vigorous scrubbing with soap and water cleaned up the artificial snow spray but left pitting. The panel on the left was sanded but sanding didn't help. The glue residue was easily scrapped out of the corners. However, the glue stains on the white parts remained. I was concerned cleaning the parts would reveal cracks.

Since there were no cracks to fill I decided to paint the walls white. The windows and doors were painted dark green. Window treatments were printed on velum and glued in place. The corner blocks were painted dark gray. The attic vent was painted a dark metallic.

The roof remained a problem and painting would not conceal the pitting. I started to construct a new roof by tracing the panels onto heavy card stock. Then it occurred to me to glue the card stock onto the original panels. The following photos show all the parts prior to assembly.



Here are all four of the painted and detailed walls with the window treatments in place.

The photo on the right shows how the roof panels were overlaid with heavy card stock. Covering the original parts was a lot easier than making new ones. The only remaining problem was the broken corner for the chimney part. You can see the missing piece in the upper right corner of the left roof half.

Walthers paper roofing material was glued onto the card stock roof. The peak was joined with black painted card stock. The Walthers paper I used is probably 34 years old and still good.



The remaining detail was a chimney. A portion of the original chimney location was missing. The space was squared off and – remember the egg crate cartons from my previous model? They came in handy again as a stucco chimney. Somewhere I saw a stucco chimney with a design or logo cast in at its top. Among my miscellaneous parts I found something and blended it onto the chimney top.

The four walls were glued together and the completed model glued onto thick card stock. The roof is not glued down because the model is lighted. In my perspective it looks more realistic if some windows show light while others remain dark. I accomplish this by partially partitioning the interior. Scenic material was added to the card stock base to finish the project.



Here's a front view (left) and back view (right) of the completed house.

Now it's an upscale 99 cent house.



Till next time

That's all folks

Eddie J

10th Anniversary Barn Feedback

Found the barns on the porch this afternoon (Tuesday!). Opened one up and set it on the kitchen counter, but as my wife and I looked at it, something was wrong. Thankfully, one of those battery votive candles was nearby. Put it in, put out the lights -- ah, now THAT's Plasticville! Chris Matthy

I just posted a picture of mine assembled on my dinette table in the photo section here (*on the Plasticville Yahoo group. Editor*). The logo on the roof is just amazing! How did they do that that perfect on an irregular surface? My daughter saw me building it and wanted to help. She volunteered to put the roof vents on, and was quite excited to do so. Jason White

Many thanks John for all your special efforts with this project. Best regards, John Busch

John, Received ...Thanks to you and the others for all your hard word getting this done. GREAT ADDITION TO MY COLLECTION. Thanks again. Robert McGurk

Received the barns on Monday. Great Job. From Penna. Ron Dise

The blue and very-light-gray building looks like it will go together just fine and the PCA advertising logo on the roof is very good looking. Mike Denuty

I received my barn on Monday. Thank You for all your hard work. Jon Polinski

(The above are email and Yahoo posted comments from members who have received their 10th Anniversary barns. Editor)

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Plasticville on the Boards

Those Old Basement Leak Blues

By John Gottcent



My model train and plastic village layout is located in the basement of our home in southern Indiana. I store many of my train cars and buildings beneath the layout's tables.

It's a finished basement, heated and air conditioned, with carpeting and paneled walls. Like most basements, however, it tends to take in water when the ground gets rain-soaked.

Water and layouts don't mix well, so over the years, we've taken several steps to keep the lower level dry. A tile drainage system, supported by a sump pump, had been installed by previous owners. We had the basement professionally waterproofed, updated the pump, added two dehumidifiers. We installed a natural-gas-driven backup generator in case the power went out. We even replaced the household socket into which the sump pump is plugged with a commercial grade, to make sure the plug didn't jostle loose from the pump's vibrations.

At one point we also installed a battery-powered backup sump pump, but found it was not powerful enough to keep the water flowing out as needed.

But ah, the best laid plans! While we were in Europe this past spring, we got a frantic call from the helpful neighbors who were keeping an eye on things at home: "Your basement has 2 inches of water on the floor!"

What happened? One of the dehumidifiers, plugged into the same circuit as the sump pump, blew a breaker, disabling that machine. Sometimes you just can't win.

I'm telling this story because I suspect I'm far from the only hobbyist whose trains and buildings reside in the

lower depths, and I'd like to share what I've done to limit such catastrophe in the future.

Perhaps catastrophe is too strong a word, because due to the diligent assistance of those nice neighbors, the sump pump was quickly put back on line, and only a few Plasticville boxes got wet, none beyond salvation. Still, my wife and I decided it was time to stop trying to prevent water from getting in, and to start working on minimizing the damage when it inevitably seeps through.

My first step was to remove all the boxes beneath my layout tables and store them in rooms on the main floor. They say you never know how much stuff you've accumulated until you move, and that proved true, even for this limited move. Before I knew it, two bedrooms and a computer room looked like the scene you see in Photo One.

Next my wife cleaned the carpet with a product called Capture, available at Menards or Lowes. It not only removed water stains but also eliminated the odor of mildew. When she was done, the areas below the layout looked fresh and new. (See Photo Two.)



Photo One

Two bedrooms and a computer room looked like this after bringing everything stored under the train tables up from the basement.



Photo Two

A view of the carpet under the train table after using Capture® to remove the water stains and mildew odor.

Before the flood, I had foolishly placed my under-layout boxes on wooden supports, thinking that would keep them away from the carpet and therefore dry in the event of water seepage. Alas, wood absorbs water almost as well as cardboard, and those supports proved useless. So this time, we decided to put down a grid of non-water-susceptible plastic, about 2 inches thick.

I had visions of searching long and hard for such material, then measuring, sawing, and somehow attaching



Photo Three

Plastic picket fence sections, cut to length, now raise anything under the train table approximately four inches.

the pieces into the size grid I would need. But lo and behold, while walking through Lowe's garden section one day, we spotted some white plastic picket fencing. It was just about the width I needed, and with its support beams, would provide the necessary height. Best of all, it was already assembled into a "grid," so all I had to do was cut it to length and place it beneath the tables. (See Photo Three.)

All materials sitting directly on the grid are also stored in plastic containers similar to these illustrated here. This adds an additional six to twelve inches of protection.



Photo Four

Grids alone would not suffice, however, so we made another executive decision: all boxes sitting right on the grid would be stored in plastic containers of the kind seen

in Photo Four. These would provide from six to twelve additional inches of "waterproof" protection.

The result looks like what you see in Photo Five. It's not perfect, since a real deluge or, worse yet, a busted water heater, could produce much deeper water on the floor. (I may invest in additional plastic containers as I



Photo Five

The finished project: A picket fence grid with plastic storage containers on the grid for extra water protection.

can afford to over time, so that ALL items stored beneath the tables can be kept in them.)

It also cost me between \$200 and \$300 (I lost count) to buy all the supplies for this renovation. But that's a lot less than the value of my collections.

The moral of the story? As an old TV commercial used to say, "It's not nice to fool Mother Nature." She'll always find a way to seep in, despite your attempts to keep her out. The best response in cases like this is probably to assume there will be water at some time or other in your basement and just do your best to keep your valuables away from it.

If you've got alternate ideas, or even just similar tales to tell, contact me at jandjgott@gmail.com. Meanwhile, happy villaging!

Seen Along the Road

1621, 1913 Motel

Contributed by Mike Denuty

I've driven by it a number of times over the years, but in June 2011 I finally spotted it: A Plasticville Motel prototype on the west edge of the town of Reardan, Washington, population 608, located 21 miles west of Spokane.

There it sat, all by itself on the north side of U.S. Highway 2. A three-room motel building, just like the Plasticville O/S model.



The room numbers are 7, 8 and 9, so there must have been more at one time. There is no business sign and the exterior needs a little

maintenance, but the units look as if they are intact and ready for use. Nobody was around, however. Parking would have to be to the right of the building.

Send your "Seen Along the Roads" to villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org.

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PLASTICVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SET

On the outskirts of town young "aviators" will find this assortment of airport hangar, administration building, airplanes, bus, autos, fire engine, ambulance, "official" runway. Billy loves to direct the planes off the runway. By Bachmann. Ask for 47BR3.

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Without notice, all prices subject to change. In some sections of the South and West, some items slightly higher.

PLASTICVILLE MASTER VILLAGE SET

You'll love the village! Over 100 pieces. Barn, supermarket, church, fire house, diner, gas station, ranch house, street signs, fire engines, autos, farm animals, white fence, people. Wouldn't you like to live here? By Bachmann. Ask for 47BR4.

9.98

It has been a tradition of your editor to include a Plasticville ad from his collection in each November edition of The Villager. This ad is from the 1956 Billy & Ruth catalog and illustrates probably the rarest of all sets, the Junior Chief Fire Department Kit. Also notice what seems like a salmon wall, dark gray roof, and white trim Ranch House and the orange door on the Hangar in the Master Village set illustration. Look for other undocumented color combinations as there are more.

Member Layouts

The Villager receives numerous member layout photos during the year. It has been my practice to hold all of them and present them to you in the November issue of the newsletter. I hope you enjoy this year's offerings. Maybe something you see will spur you to ask a question or even pen an article for a future edition of *The Villager*. *Editor*

Chuck Neumann



The left photo shows my overloaded tree with 2 levels of trains.

The upper village is Dept 56 and some stained glass buildings.. The outer village is Plasticville, Littletown, MTH & K-Line. So that every building is not a ranch house, I started them on the right corner of the layout and continued them on the bookcases on either side of the tree.

I have about 19 ranch houses with the correct boxes. Most have either been purchased from Bill Nole or from the father and son on the left wall of the Orange hall (*PCA member Dave Horner and his son, Scott. Editor*) My last purchase was the red roof post office from them at the Somerset, NJ show.

I am still looking for the tan & light blue ranch house that I saw on Long Island. The guy who had it passed away and I tried to buy it from his family but they say that they have not found it.

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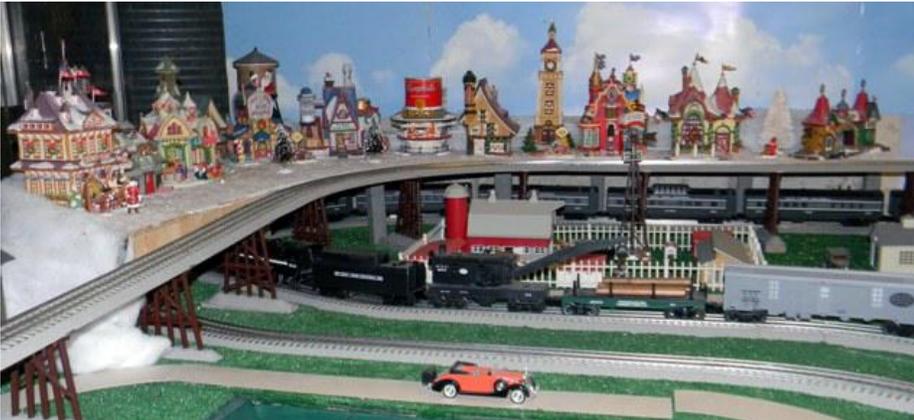
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Donald R House



The Department 56 and other ceramic buildings are on the upper level in one corner of my layout and is my North Pole village.

A view of my cooling tower, factory, town hall, and other Plasticville buildings. Also shown in this photo are a K-Line bank as well as a Marx fire station and school house. The Frosty Bar in the lower right has been custom painted.



Mike Marmer



A night game at the ballpark.



Main Street looking toward the farm. The stores have the roofs painted and the roof of the TV station and the WPLA letters are black.

Gordon C Kelley



This is my second layout. It is on a 4 X 8 board. It has a 1940-1941 American Flyer 3-rail freight and passenger train. It is also home to a Marx U.S. Army train and base.

Upper left: The American Flyer locomotive in the background. The Plasticville farm, and downtown Plasticville.

Upper right: The entire Marx Army train set and a cardboard mountain that it took me only 60 years to mount.

Lower right: Log cabin and pine forest. I hope that the grazing deer does not wander onto the tracks.

Lower left: Downtown Plasticville. Notice the mixed freight and passenger consist on the far track.



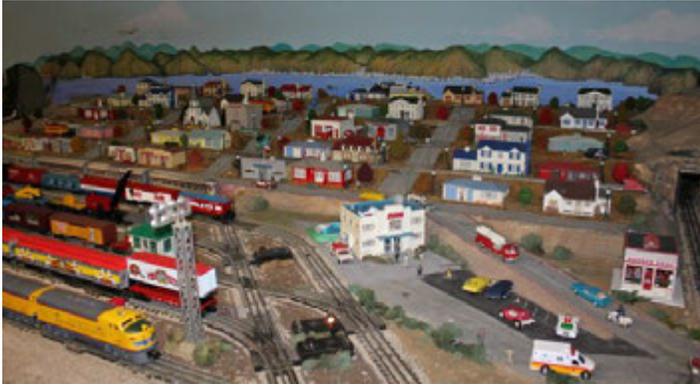
This photo shows my new cattle pen, Milwaukee RR cattle car and, of course, how well the Club's house fits into the general area.

It sits next to my "new" diner with the nice, brown, roof. The contact paper worked well and it cost me a whole \$4.00 at a recent train meet.

(Photos of the PCA 5th Anniversary House were published in a previous issue of The Villager. This one was missed. I must express my thanks to Gordon for his understanding and hope the inclusion here compensates for his wait to see it published. Editor)

Judy Smith-Atwood

The below photos were taken by me on a recent visit to Trainland U.S.A. in Colfax, Iowa. Although it is Judy and her husband' "Red"s, layout it is also an operating toy train museum. Editor



Ken Landry

I kind of like how the scale Hudson, the 726 Berkshire, and the semi scale Madison cars go so well with the Plasticville station. Kind of "high buck" to "low buck" - and it works.!



Timothy J Price

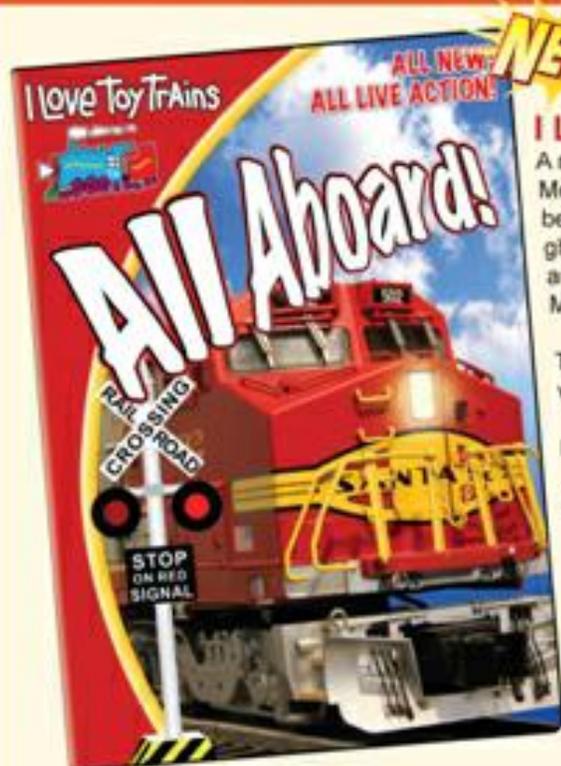
My layout is 70" X 108.5". I just put 3 sheets of particle board on top of my ping pong table to extend it a little bit and pull my wires under a sheet to the transformers. I start putting up my layout every year during the weekend of Thanksgiving and take it down the first weekend in February. For the most part the track arrangement, as well as the location of my Plasticville kits, is different every year.



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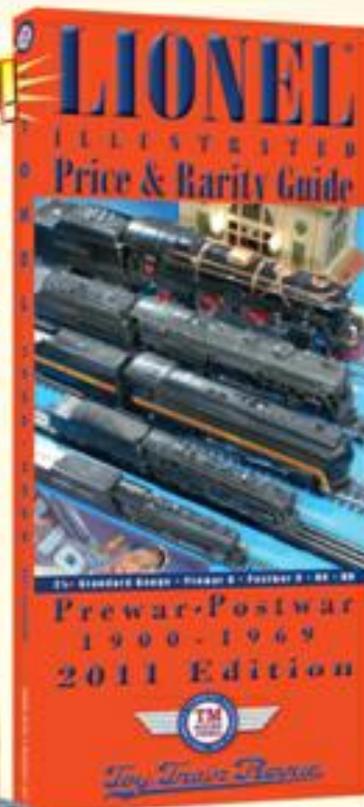
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Just in Time for Christmas Giving

TM Books & Video has recently released a DVD titled *Christmas Train Spectacular*. It is 60 minutes in length and sells for \$19.99.

It contains operating scenes from five different layouts. Each segment is prefaced with a different jolly Christmas song.

The layouts belong to, in the order they are on the DVD are:

Tom Germann, Missouri, layout size 23 X 29

Steve Klein, Colorado, layout size 15 X 14

John Smith, Illinois, his is a unique layout as one section very accurately depicts scenes of the movie *Polar Express* including Plasticville Cape Cods as the homes of the children plus the mountain the train climbs. The remainder models urban Chicago including the EL trains.

Bob Wilke, New Jersey, Layout size 25 X 30

Gordon Hough, Ohio, his layout is a three level with numerous animations. He also has a second layout that is all Ohio State. Everything is scarlet and gray, including the figures.

This DVD is sure to be a hit with those who either have or are contemplating creating a winter or Christmas layout.

Christmas Train Spectacular can be purchased from TM Books & Videos, Box 279, New Buffalo, MI 49117. Their website is www.tmbv.com. I also found it listed on Amazon's website at www.amazon.com.

Pen Tips

A Plasticville pen is on its way to Nan Cashour for this rather tasty pen tip.

If you don't have any Goo Gone ® handy and need to remove a label or what is left of one use peanut butter. Just spread on a thin layer and let it sit for a few hours. It works just as well as Goo Gone ® and costs less.

While on the subject of tasty, here is another tasty tip from Mike Marmer.

I use clay to make apples and potatoes for my produce stand. Go to Michael's and get clay, any color. The cost is about \$1.50 for each color. Make it the shape you want and bake on a baking sheet at about 275 degrees F for 20 minutes.

(Pen tips are used to fill smaller spaces in The Villager. Send your tips to villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org.

A Plasticville pen will be sent to you when your tip is published in the newsletter. Editor)

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Along the "HO" Line

Operating Railroad Accessories

By Todd Hendrickson



As we come to the end of another year, I would like to wish all members and your families a safe and happy holiday season.

I was looking at the back of one of my kits and thought last time I didn't cover the Operating Railroad accessories that Bachmann has made over the years. Trees, cows and automobiles are great to add detail but when the only thing moving is the train itself on your layout, that is where these kits come into play. Like all Bachmann kits they are not what you get but what you do with them.



Cattle Crossing is one of my favorite operating accessories. Moving the cow onto the tracks causes the train to stop until you use a lever to "pull the cow to safety".

Kit #3027, the Operating dual crossing gate looks good as it is out of the box but can be so much better depending on your skill level and how much time you want to spend. I have seen people remove the working guts from the kit and not use the plastic road and grass. Instead they model their own road and grass to match their layouts.

Other kits like the #3029 blinking bridge and trestle set and the #46212 oil storage tanks with light add a subtle lighted effect to otherwise boring parts of your layout.



This scan from the 1982 catalog illustrates the Disaster Crossing accessory. I seems to be relatively rare as I have yet to see it offered on eBay.

The ones I like best are the ones with a story like the #1434 Cattle Crossing. A cow walked on the tracks, the

locomotive stops and you push the lever and a cowboy saves the cow.

There is one with an automobile on the train tracks and a tow truck pulls it away. I have not won this on eBay yet, so I cannot give you an item number. (#46-1201, *seemingly first catalogued in 1982, editor*)

You can add sound effects with kits like #1433 Talking Train station and # 1435 Diesel Horn Oil Storage Tank. The talking Station has a built in loudspeaker and a microphone into which you talk.

Yes some of these are geared more for children but aren't we all big kids at heart. I am sure the grandkids would get a kick out of it.

Bachmann was clever on the ways they power the operating accessories. Some ran off the power from the tracks while others required you getting up and pulling a lever to make it work.

Kit #1428 Operating Caboose uses springs and trick levers on the platform to make the action happen.

The first train set I got was The Yard Boss set and using a lever you back the locomotive onto the accessory and the power of the wheels ran the pipe loader or cattle loader.

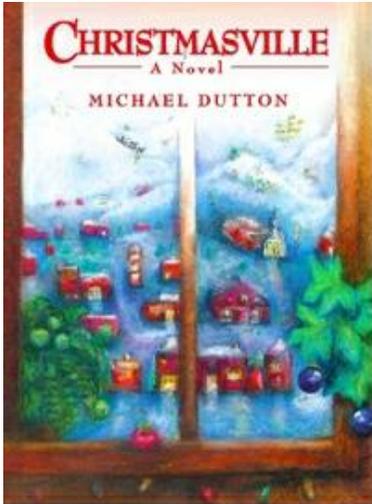


Hand levers were used on the log dump car (left) to dump the logs while hidden levers caused the figure in the caboose (right) to pick up the bag of mail. (Has anyone ever seen a caboose with a side door for retrieving a mail bag?)

The worst was a line of four loaders in the 80s, was a gravel #1426, log #1427, pipe, and barrel loader. Most of the time you hit the lever and they would just fall apart. It still makes me laugh how they stated these kits required no glue.

Now being a much better model builder I look at a broken switch track and think how I can make it work with a push of a button, how about you?

Any comments or questions contact me at Mortemobire@yahoo.com please put PCA in the subject as I get lots of E-mail



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Help Needed Identifying Street Sign, Follow-UP

By Anthony J Rudgers
PCA # 02-139, Orlando, FL

The article, *Help Needed in Identifying Street Sign*, by David Allen, appeared on p. 17 of the August, 2011 issue of *The Villager* (Vol. 10, No. 3). In spite of the "light lemon-yellow" color, and the absence of the BB logo on its base, I believe the "WATCH CHILDREN" sign in question may well be a Bachmann Bros. Plasticville product for the following reason.



I have in my collection several sets of boxed and unboxed Plasticville that include street signs (Nos. 12-A, Nos. 1405, and No. ST-1 (unboxed)). All sets with street signs that I have, save one, contain the usual chrome-yellow colored signs, marked on their bases with the BB logo. However, I have one (partial) set of street signs (9 ea. of 12 ea., likely from an unboxed 12-A set), including a "WATCH CHILDREN" sign, that is molded in light lemon-yellow plastic such as is described in David Allen's article. All of the 9 signs in my lemon-yellow set, however, have the usual BB logo in the center base declivity. Also, my signs all have black-highlighted lettering and borders (with lettering and borders even more boldly stamped than on any of my chrome-yellow black-stamped signs). So there is no doubt that Bachmann Bros. manufactured lemon-yellow street signs.

I bought this set of light lemon-yellow signs some years ago, probably at a train show, precisely because I thought, at that time, they were of an uncommon color. I have not seen another such lemon yellow Plasticville street sign or sign set since then, although I have certainly been on the lookout for any or all such less-common Plasticville items.

On the other hand, it could be that, since Mr. Allen's unidentified sign lacks the BB logo on its base, it is a "knockoff" of the Bachmann Bros. item by some unknown manufacturer, possibly Japanese. In this connection, I purchased, at a 2005 train show an assortment of 21 lemon-yellow plastic street signs with black "stamped(?)" lettering and borders. The yellow is of a significantly darker hue than my lemon-yellow Plasticville signs.

These signs appear to be what could be called a "double knockoff"-- the signs have characteristics of both Plasticville street signs and Marx small Rite-O-Way railroad signs. Without going into detail here, I have concluded both, that these signs were likely made in Japan, possibly in the immediate postwar period or in the early 1950s, and that they might also have been sold in sets without the black lettering applied. While Mr. Allen's sign may have been "Made in Japan," it is not from a set such as is described here. My plastic Japanese signs all have square bases, whereas Plasticville street signs, Mr. Allen's sign, and, indeed, Marx Rite-O-Way signs all have round bases.

If Mr. Allen's sign is of Japanese manufacture, it is unlikely that its particular maker will ever be identified, owing to the structure and practices of the Japanese toy industry. However, if Mr. Allen's sign was "Made in U.S.A.," and if it can be established that it is not a Plasticville item, then there is still hope that its manufacturer will eventually become known.

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"Y" Did He Do It?

By Gordon C Kelley



I was working on the 11:00 PM Gibson job and we had to "Y" a boxcar so that a customer could empty it. The junction at North Milwaukee served as a "Y". So off we went to North Milwaukee.

We pulled into the right leg of the "Y" and stopped for a red pot signal. The signal did not change for quite some time but when the crossing signals came on we knew why. There was a freight coming South from Green Bay.

A car pulled up to the crossing, slowed down, and the driver looked up at me. My headlight was off. The driver did not look for the Southbound train. It was blowing its horn, and ringing its bell. In addition the crossing lights were flashing and the crossing bells were ringing. Nonetheless the driver hit the gas, gave me a "one finger

salute", and pulled in front of the Southbound train. WHAM!

The car was hit in the middle of the passenger door and crushed around the front of the engine. It was Alco "F" unit. The car was pushed past us and took out the trackside signal control box. The driver's arm was smashed across the roof of his car and left a permanent "one finger salute" in the roof.

Outcome:

The driver broke his left arm and got a ride to the hospital

The car was smashed

The signal box was lost

The driver was ticketed

We spent most of our night right there and didn't service customers

What Do You Collect?

Do you collect plastic village pieces not made by the Bachmann or Marx? Are you a Storytown, Littletown, or Skyline plastic village collector? Why not consider sharing your collecting experiences with your fellow PCA members. Please send an email to villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org for more information on how you can become a contributing editor of *The Villager*.

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1913 Motel, No Cars \$15

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1908 Split Level House, Mint \$60

1807 Two Story House, Mint \$65

1816 Watchman Shanty, Mint \$25

BN-1 Barn (Chrome Trim) \$40

1611 Hardware & Pharmacy, Hard Box # \$95

AD-4 Air Admin. Bldg. Mint \$90

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Diner (red or yellow roof) \$15

Bank \$25

Supermarket (small) \$15

Colonial Mansion (red roof) \$25

King Add-A-Floor (red or brown) \$8 ea or 3/\$19

NE Ranch (white/tan windows/black roof) \$25

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1025 Street lights 12/\$8

SS-5 Street Corner signs with original tag \$2 ea - no tag \$1 ea

1050 Outhouse (brown) \$5 ea or 3/\$12

1090 Telephone Booth (blue) 5/\$25 or (white) 6/\$30

Ambulance (yellow or green) \$5 ea

Fire Trucks, red (1 pumper, 1 ladder truck) \$10/set

Bus (yellow or green) \$5 ea

Fire Trucks (new), yellow (1 pumper, 1 ladder truck) \$15/set

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Oar (red, yellow) Cattle Pen crossbars (with 2 holes or slot)

Gingerbread House brick (white, tan, choc)

Hospital siren Jack & Jill pail or shrub (red, yellow, blue)

Castle flag or chain (red, yellow, blue, white)

Straight chair Clothesline (red, yellow, green)

Police Department red light* or chimney cap

Desk chair Log Cabin chimney

Bank red light*, large canopy, small canopy

Airport wind sock School white light*

House Under Construction shovel, rake, hoe, bucket, or sawhorse

*Police Department, Bank, and School lights are not reproductions.

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PLASTIC VILLAGE GAZETTE – Issues 1, 5 & 6 - \$2.50 ea; other issues \$5 ea

Many empty Plasticville boxes available.

Want lists welcomed

Dealer inquiries welcome for Plasticville Guides and Plasticville parts listed above.

Shipping:

Books \$5

Kits or ERTL truck \$6

Parts \$3.50

What Members Are Saying

Ever think of having PCA return address labels and stationery made up? (*Return address labels are available from the PCA for \$1.00 per sheet of 30 plus \$1.50 postage for up to three sheets. We might consider some sort of stationery if there seems to be enough interest. Editor*)

I can't wait to receive the color newsletter and enjoy what other Plasticville collector's new ideas. Kenneth Welker

...which I think is a good idea concerning the "FREE" Plasticville left-over parts that individuals are donating to the Organization - in whole or broken pieces that can be glued together. I would like to see a special section devoted to this cause. You never know who may need what sooner or later. Chris Rossbach (*The free parts listings will continue as long as members have items to donate. The PCA always issues a receipt for any in-kind or monetary donations and those donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Editor*)

...as always, you and your staff are doing an excellent job. Robert W Johnson

For many years I was advertising an AD-4, air administration building for sale for parts.

Three or four months ago a member called me looking for a specific piece from this incomplete building. I could not find the building and took his information.

This week I found the building. It was where it should not have been. I lost that members information.

Could you put a blurb in the next Villager? Thank you. Lawrence Fachler

Mine showed up in beautiful GAP, PA on Friday the 12th. ANOTHER Great Effort. Jim Lyle (*Mr Lyle is referring to the August issue of The Villager. Editor*)

Here's one for you ... Burma Shave with the Statler Brothers. <http://oldfortyfives.com/DYRT.htm>.

You may need to watch it twice; once to watch the Burma shave signs change and once to catch all the pictures plus listening to the music of the Statler Brothers.

I still get the Villager in black and white, but it is a pleasure to check out the pictures in color on the PCA website. Those Commonwealth lamp posts on Page 1 of the August issue are SWEET, especially the Jade green one.

The Curio Shop is just fantastic. It brings back memories of the 1950s. We used to have Curio Shops and "Western" shops here in the Northwest along U.S. 10 and 99 [replaced by I-90 and I-5] and they almost always got \$2-3 out of me. I'd love to see a lot more scenes on Dennis Palazzolo's Route 66-themed layout.

I have a special issue K-Line L-shaped Ranch House, produced as a Coca-Cola Country Store, almost as colorful as

one of those Western shops I spoke of. Such stores had western wear, leathers, tack, guns, beadwork, curios, imports, cold pop, beer, snacks, cigarettes, rest rooms and lots of clutter -- not that much different than curio shops. [One shop in Post Falls, Idaho, was the town's Greyhound Bus stop and it was run by a woman who served as an Idaho State legislator for many years.]

I have talked a few O-scalers into picking up the Plasticville Fruit Stand for their layouts -- it has lots of possibilities, especially with a greenhouse out back. Not quite as neat as Dennis's Curio Shop, however.

The only problem I had with the August issue was I read it too fast! I'll read it again in a couple of weeks. I still haven't read all the issues from before I joined. I'm glad they are available on the PCA site now. Mike Denuty

The quarterly newsletters have gotten better and better. Chuck Neuman

I have, as of today, thought of a simple-to-implement suggestion that I think might promote PCA membership & increase contributions to The Villager, as well as to add to our ability to do better "forensics" on variations of Village items.

This is to add a simple author byline to every submission to *The Villager* comprised of the PCA member's Membership Number (or something like "PCA Guest Submission" if you are able to invite some non-PCA member to submit an article) and the PCA Member's home location.

Thus we might have:

About Plasticville Blue Busses

by Edgerton P. Sailwip

PCA No. 89-101, Orlando, FL USA.

If we had non-US members (do we have any?), this would encourage them to describe Village items that are common elsewhere but uncommon in our country. (I have a really nice plastic garage, Made in Canada, in my collection, as well as other non-US made items.) Also, where an item is found by a Village Collector is important. The unique brightly colored Cape Cod House discovered by Chris Manley (*The Villager*, Vol. 5, No.1, February 2006) was found in the Philadelphia area, where one might be expected to find very early & uncommon Bachmann Bros. products. In this connection, you will certainly find more Marx train items in Pennsylvania than you will in Utah. But if you do find an oddball Marx train in Utah, it sure has a story to tell the collector. Anthony J Rudgers (*I like your idea of a stronger attribution for single article contributors and have adopted it with this edition of the newsletter.*)

Welcome New Members

The following individuals' names have been added to the Plasticville Collectors Association membership roster as of October 1, 2011. Their names are now permanently listed in the on line roster.

Pete Henningsen, Milford, CT
Steven C Getman, Spokane, WA
Louis J Brody, Sewell, NJ
R Dennis Breda, Medina, OH
Bruce D Schrimpf, Milwaukee, WI
James A McClenin, Ontario, NY
MaeyAnn Kowalsky, Ambridge, PA
Paul T Fagley, Burnham, PA
Donald W Huovinen, Wilmington, NC
William M Kelly, Harrisburg, PA
Steve R McAdams, Phoenix, AZ

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 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, 2012.

Frank Basil, Pound Ridge, NY
Andrew A Buco, Woodland Paark, CO
Michael S Miller, Linthicum, MD
Kenneth W Welker, Ashland, PA
Mark S Varga, Nova, OH
Victor F Bodek, Sterling Heights, MI
Paul F Lansing, Punta Gorda, FL

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NOW WITH IT'S OWN APPLICATOR!

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 \$1.50 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
FOUNDED 1999 - \$4.00, postpaid.

Coffee Mug with PCA logo

White ceramic 11 oz. ceramic mug. PCA blue or black logo. \$9.95 or two for \$13.95, postpaid. Please specify your color choice when ordering. Only 24 pieces of black logo mugs were produced.

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.

We are investigating the production of a "Plasticville Dairy" Divco milk truck.

We are investigating the production of a Plasticville Construction Company modern era pickup truck.

We are investigating the production of a 1950's Plasticville Construction Company Ford F100 pickup truck.

FREE ITEMS

The following items are offered free to members on a first come first served basis

Your only cost is the cost to mail the items to you

Send an email to secretary@plasticvilleusa.org listing the pieces you wish
or send your list to the address on the front page of this newsletter

Please specify front, rear, left, or right walls in your request if applicable

Bank green roof - chip out of one corner
 Cape Cod - green. Missing one long wall, roof shows gluing on underside of roof
 Cape Cods, white w/red, green & brown roofs - no chimneys, black tape residue
 CC-8 Church - large door, brown trim - no door, melt on one window
 Corner Store roof - not certain but roof has small molded in hole in one corner as well as a slot
 Dark Green BN-1 type roof
 Fire Dept roof
 Fire Dept front w/doors - red letters
 Frosty Bar sides - yellow
 Littletown barn roof and silo cap, blue - black crayon blobs on roof and cap, but will clean off

Marx Barn silo - red w/gray glued on cap
 Police department chimney walls - light gray
 Police department side wall - light gray
 Police department chimney corner with glued on chimney cap - light gray
 Red 1622/1932 type barn walls
 Red BN-1 type barn roofs
 Red BN-1 type barn walls
 Split Level living room roof
 Split Level walls - specify letter of wall needed
 Two-Story House - large roof half- gray
 White BN-1 type barn walls
 White BN-1 type silo

Restoration Train Parts
 135 RICHWOOD DRIVE, GLOVERSVILLE, N.Y. 12078 (518) 725-4446

LIONEL - STANDARD AND "O"
 IVES - STANDARD AND "O"
 AMERICAN FLYER - BUDDY "L"

NEW!

STAMPINGS
 CASTINGS
 CUSTOM WORK

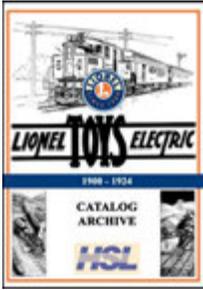
NEED PARTS FOR PRE AND POSTWAR
 LIONEL, AMERICAN FLYER, IVES, DORFAN, MARX, A.M.T., NOMA STATION?
HUGE 1-1/2 INCH THICK PARTS CATALOG
 OVER 20,000 INDIVIDUAL PARTS. PLUS PAPER CATALOG INFORMATION
 ITEMS STOCKED:
 TRUCKS - PILOT, TRAILING, FREIGHT, AND PASSENGER, PARTS
 WHEELS, GEARS, FIGURES, ROOFS, SCREWS, STEAM CHESTS, BULBS,
 FRAMES, BODIES, CONTROLLERS, BELLS, DECALS, PLATES

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER THIS PARTS CATALOG AT \$25.00 POSTPAID

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Please return this form with your payment. You can copy it so as not to harm your newsletter.

Product Reviews



Lionel Catalog Archive, 1900 – 1924, CD Rom, Hybrid Systems Ltd, Inc., \$50. A digital archive of all primary Lionel consumer catalogs and other paper from 1900 through 1924. Compatible with MS-Windows and Macs. This is the fourth offering of digitized Lionel Catalogs by Hybrid Systems.

The CD is designed to run automatically when you insert into the CD player. I had to refer to the instructions included on the printed EULA included with the CD on how to manually launch the it due to security measures installed on my desktop computer. The instructions were flawless. I used the first option of the three listed.

Once you have launched the CD, you will be presented with a licensing agreement page. After clicking YES to accept the licensing agreement you are navigated to a page with a link to frequently asked questions. At the bottom of this page is a link to actually access the program as with the other volumes in this series.

The next 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. Kudos to HSL for including a tip that some may not know that when using Internet Explorer one may increase or decrease the magnification while viewing a screen by holding the Ctrl key and pressing the plus (+) or minus (-) key. I viewed both the large and small images on a 19 inch notebook and my 26 inch monitor and found all to display quite well when using at least the recommended screen resolution.

Regardless of whether you choose the large or small picture option you are 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. I suggest that you add this or the previous page as a favorite to eliminate navigating through the

licensing agreement and subsequent pages during future uses of the program.

The right hand frame contains five vertical bar type hyperlinks. The first three of these are hyperlinks that navigate one to either the catalogs of 1900 thru 1909, 1910 thru 1919, or 1920 thru 1924. The fourth link carries the title Master Index. Selecting it will navigate one to a scrollable front cover view of every catalog contained on the CD. The fifth link is for viewing the “bonus” items on the CD. These items include a 1917 mailing envelope, a letter of apology from Joshua Cowen as well as various miniature folders and catalog wrappers.

Clicking on any catalog cover in the master index option displays the catalog cover along with a panel to the right with numerous options which include “paging” through the currently displayed catalog. Clicking on any of the four links to the right of the master index and then on a catalog cover will give one the same options.

The “Regular Features” link on the Home page is designed the same as in previous editions. From this link you can toggle through various subjects such as front covers, inside covers, O or Standard Gauge train sets or engines, motorized unites, 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.

The Scans on this CD are nothing short of flawless. I am again very impressed by their high quality. If you are interested in the first 24 years of Lionel catalogs then you can’t go wrong with this CD. This another fine product of Hybrid Systems. I just wonder what will be their next release.

The Lionel Catalog Archive, 1900 – 1924, 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.

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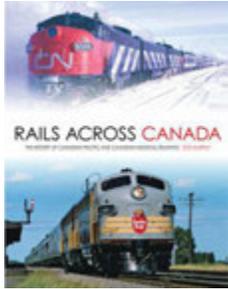
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(540) 375-3750 bob@dominionmodels.com

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We carry a selection of vintage Plasticville kits in our inventory as well as original parts.

Please visit our web page at:
[HTTP://PLASTICVILLEKITSFORSALE.WEBS.COM](http://PLASTICVILLEKITSFORSALE.WEBS.COM)
David Allen: TCA 80-15069 PCA 02-121

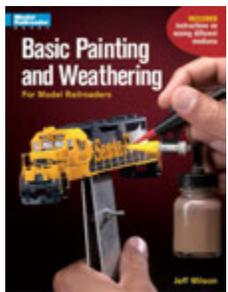


Rails Across Canada, The history of Canadian Pacific and Canadian National railways, Brian Solomon, published by Quayside Press, 320 pages, softcover, 8 1/4 X 10 1/2 format, \$30.00 US, 33.00 Canada. Illustrated with over 300 black and white and color photos.

This book is a combination of the hardcover editions of the *Canadian Pacific Railway* book, published in 2006 and the *Canadian National Railway* book, published in 2004. Each book is separate and contains its own acknowledgement, introduction, seven chapters, a single page of sources, and an index. The *Canadian National Railway* book also contains a single page epilogue.

The first chapter in each book introduces the reader to that specific railway and how it came into being. There are chapters on the services of both railways during the First World War as well as a chapter dedicated solely to each railway's passenger services. Every chapter was a very interesting read, and I do read each of the books reviewed from cover to cover.

Each chapter is copiously illustrated with captioned photos but not to the extent where it becomes a "coffee table" book. The author goes into great detail, with most



Basic Painting and Weathering for Model Railroaders, The Complete Photo Guide, Jeff Wilson, published by Model Railroader Books, a division of Kalmbach Books, 88 pages, softcover, 8 1/2 X 11 format, \$19.95.

This is a review of the second of the three books to which I have access in Kalmbach's "Basics" books series.

It is hoped that I will have the opportunity to review the remaining three at a future date.

A review of the *Basic Scenery for Model Railroaders* book was in the August, 2011 issue of *The Villager* and a review of the *Basic Structure Modeling* book will be published in the February, 2012 edition.

This book was published in 2003 yet the information in it is as relevant today as it was back then. As with the *Basic Scenery for Model Railroaders* book, this book is written by an HO modeler, yet his techniques and ideas apply to any scale.

Chapter one's title is, *All About Paint* as it relates to painting models for a layout. This includes matching colors, primers, mixing paint, and appropriate thinners for various types of paint. It also includes an illustration of both a color wheel and a color triangle.

Chapter two discusses the tools (brushes), the equipment (air guns and spray booths), and more importantly the safety

pages containing a greater amount of text than captioned photos. The author also kept in mind that this book would appeal to Canadians as well as U.S. readers in that any time that a distance is given in miles, the equivalent distance is also include in kilometers.

The two books in this single edition are a very well-written history of both railways. I recommend it for anyone interested in the railways of Canada.

Rails Across Canada can be purchased from Voyageur press on their website at <http://www.qbookshop.com> or by telephone order at 800 458-0454. Merely perform a search for the book title after accessing the qbooks web page.

Their website also has links to five major booksellers where you may find the book at a lower price. I did. It also has links to the download sites of the nine predominant E-Book readers.

I checked some of the major bookseller websites and found each of the hardback editions available but at a price that makes this book a bargain. One bookseller had the hardcover edition of the *Canadian Pacific Railway* book for \$174.99 and the hardcover *Canadian National Railway* book for \$119.95. At those prices, this book is a bargain if you wish to read the history of both railways in one volume and are not particular as to whether you have a hardcover or softcover edition.

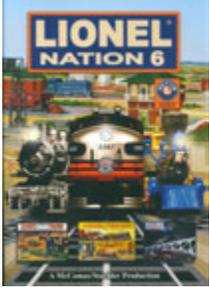
when painting. There is a three quarters page sidebar related to safety while airbrushing as well as a full page that includes an illustration of a correctly configured spray booth.

Chapter three is where the author finally gets past the generics and into painting with both an air brush and spray cans. He also offers a suggested process for stripping paint with the comment that the best way to strip paint is to "avoid stripping paint at all costs".

Decals, weathering with paint, and weathering with chalks are discussed in good detail in the next three chapters. The next two chapters discuss weathering freight cars and weathering locomotives. Chapters nine and ten discuss painting structures and painting figures and vehicles. I was very intrigued with how the author uses dry transfer letters as a painting mask and then removes them with masking tape.

As with the previous book in this series, there is a list of suppliers and manufacturers as well as an index to conclude the book. I enjoyed reading this book and it will become a part of my library.

Basic Painting and Weathering for Model Railroaders can be purchased from Kalmbach Books via their website at <http://www.kalmbachbookstore.com> or by telephone order at 800 533-6644. It is currently on sale on their website for \$19.95, plus shipping. It is also available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble's websites. I did not find it listed on Borders' website.



Lionel Nation 6, DVD, 65 minutes, TM Books & Video, \$19.99. This is the sixth edition of TM Books newest Lionel series. It follows the format of the previous editions. It is the same length as Lionel Nation 5 and as with 5 contains a bonus section 16mm films circa 1953-1960 of TCA charter member layouts.

As with the other editions, there is an introduction that informs the viewer of whose layouts are featured as well as the other features on the disc.

Chapters on this edition include one on 040 and 060 switchers, that includes postwar, MPC, and modern switchers, their differences and features.

Three short operating sections preview the Lionel Vision-Line products. These include the Norfolk Southern 300 Genset Switcher, the Union Pacific UPY 2701 and the Union Pacific 3983 and 3967 4-6-6-4 Challenger. These are tucked in at the beginning or end of various chapters.

There is a real nice lengthy chapter on Steve and Rickie (tha's his wife's name) Strauss' layout. It is interesting to watch how the layout was built in a modular fashion by Tom McComas' company. And if you are ever in Chicago and want to meet Steve you may wish to stop by Sluggers Sports Bar and Grill and introduce yourself. Sluggers is right across the street from Wrigley Field.

Animated cars of all types are reviewed in another chapter. These include, of course, the milk car and cattle car but also

many of the operating boxcars and their variations. a few pre-war cars are also reviewed.

How many of you know the story behind how a masked man on a white horse became the Lone Ranger The story is well told on this edition while viewing the operation of the Lionel Lone Ranger train set.

A chapter of interest to me was on items catalogues in colors that were never produced. This chapter brought the pieces in the catalogued colors to life. It was interesting to see a Santa Fe F3 along with passenger and freight cars in black and red rather than the usual silver and red.

The other visit to a layout was that of Wayne Koebel. He has a philosophy that is unique and probably not one shared by many collectors, "Either run it or display it or don't keep it." If I did that then a good portion of my collection would be on someone else's collection.

The video concludes with operating tips on how to install Teledyne or MagicElectrol couplers in early postwar engines, especially some NW-2 switchers.

Lionel Nation 6 is another fine sampling of Lionel variations, operating layouts, and helpful hints and don't forget the bonus section.

Lionel Nation 6 can be purchased from TM Books & Videos, Box 279, New Buffalo, MI 49117. Their website is www.tmbv.com. I also found it listed on Amazon's website at www.amazon.com as well. It was also offered it in a recent Historic Rail catalog.

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Storytown Word Search

E	V	O	L	D	W	O	M	A	N	H	B	T	R	B
Y	S	B	U	R	H	S	Y	F	Y	U	K	L	G	N
A	P	S	R	J	I	T	X	S	T	Q	W	B	O	D
L	O	L	L	I	P	O	P	C	K	C	A	J	L	R
P	G	X	H	M	R	E	H	O	E	A	N	Y	A	A
S	O	Z	U	T	S	E	A	G	E	S	W	D	T	W
I	S	H	L	U	R	F	R	U	M	T	O	S	A	B
D	T	L	O	Z	P	O	N	D	Y	L	T	Z	C	R
M	I	H	T	D	E	W	D	N	H	E	Y	K	T	I
J	C	T	R	G	I	N	G	E	R	B	R	E	A	D
A	K	R	E	D	N	A	G	Y	E	S	O	O	G	G
C	Y	K	K	M	E	O	F	Q	I	R	T	J	L	E
A	A	G	A	C	O	L	O	R	S	B	S	H	O	E
L	L	N	B	T	V	A	R	I	A	T	I	O	N	S
P	W	E	S	O	O	G	R	E	H	T	O	M	S	C

Find the words below in the puzzle. They all relate to the Storytown plastic village pieces.

BAKER	GOOSEY GANDER	OLD WOMAN	DRAWBRIDGE
BUTCHER	HOUSE	POGO STICK	LOLLIPOP
CASTLE	HUMPTY	POND	STORYTOWN
CATALOG	JACK	RHYME	GINGERBREAD
COLORS	JILL	SHOE	MOTHER GOOSE
DISPLAY	LAKE GEORGE	SHRUBS	VARIATIONS

Do you have buildings that you would like to sell and without the hassle of Internet auction sites?

Do you have parts that you would like to sell and without the hassle of Internet auction sites?

Do you have buildings that you would like to trade?

Do you have parts that you would like to trade?

Do you have buildings that you want that don't seem to be available on Internet auction sites?

Do you have parts that you need that don't seem to be available on Internet auction sites?

As a member you may place up to a 50 word plastic village related classified ad in **each** of the three classified ad categories:

For Sale, For Trade, and Wanted, at **no charge!** The 50 word maximum does not include your contact information, but only the body of your classified ad.

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.

For Sale

Plasticville for sale. Boxed and unboxed glued and pieces. I have too much to list. Send your wants to trainmanvb@msn.com and I will endeavor to meet your needs. I also have set boxes. Fair prices, honest dealer. See my website <http://danstrainsandtoys.webs.com/> Thanks. Dan #08-548, Dan Palaschak, 2328 N Wolfsnare Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23454. Phone 757-412-4117 (Nov 11)

PO-1 red roof Post Office kit, complete, no glue or cracks, with OB - \$300. JC-3 Fence/Tree kit, 2 white trees, one set of fence, OB, good condition, \$100. 1852 dark blue Ranch House, mint condition, \$250. Davy Crockett Log Cabin kit in original bag w/header, \$300. 1607 grey siren Fire House kit, \$125. 1608 red Weathervane School House kit, \$200. #01-26 Louis Conway, 6984 Ely Rd, New Hope, PA 18938. Phone 215 862-5936 (Feb 12)

I have a large collection of Plasticville for sale. All in original boxes with original pieces. No repro parts in my collection. I will sell any amount whether it be one item or 10. I will sell below the competition. e-mail me with your want list. #09-580 David Starre, 5105 Herman Ave, Cleveland, OH 44102. Phone 216 631-6100. starredm@gmail.com (Feb 12)

CH-9 Church & House Unit \$45, TA-1 Train Accessories unit \$50, SU-5 Shopping Unit \$80, Ru-3 Rural Unit \$90, 198 Jr Chief Fire Department missing helmet \$75. Plasticville HO assortment #4801 \$50. #10-626 Bryant Bennett, 759 Turj Ave NE, Palm Bay, FL 32907-1654 (May 12)

For Trade

Have boxed Plasticville to trade from the 50's (Post Office, Large Supermarket, Police Station, Fire Station, Hardware/Pharmacy) for Fleischman Magic trains. Contact

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.

CANNIBAL ATTACK! After combining several kits, I have leftover empty boxes: AU-6 condition 6, TA-2 Condition 6, 5608 condition 6 - all with dividers. AP-1 and ST-1 conditions 0. 1403 & 1603 conditions 3 to 5. PD-3 condition 7. PH-1 condition 9. \$43.00 for all. #02-154 Robert Spivey, PO Box 33484, Decatur, GA 30033. Phone 404 633-6777. r_spyv@hotmail.com (May 12)

#1304 Crossing Signals, mint in blister pack. Never opened. Bill Nole price: \$50. Your price: \$25 OBO, plus shipping. Photo available on request. #01-24, John Gottcent, 3912 West Oregon Street, Evansville, IN 47720. Phone 812-426-2989. Jandjgott@gmail.com (Aug 12)

0400 Mobile home, cream/blue mint \$25. HS-6 Hospital, complete, missing one tab on steps, tattered box, \$30. Above prices plus shipping. #02-87, Lawrence Fachler, 6 Bosko Drive, East Brunswick, NJ 08816-4542 facltf@juno.com (Aug 12)

Two #45974 pedestrian bridges. One sealed other opened but never used. \$20 for both including USPS ground shipping. Lot misc. parts for the following buildings: Police station, Church, Cape Code, Barn. \$15 including shipping. Church seems complete but all others missing one or two parts. BONUS! Glued HO school house. #03-214 J Wayne Beachy, 3929 Coles Point Way, Glen Allen, VA 23060 beachy3929@comcast.net (Aug 12)

Look for my business card ad elsewhere in this newsletter. #02-121, David Allen, 318 Wheatsheaf Dr, New Castle. DE 19720 visit my website at plasticvillekitsforsale.webs.com (Aug 12)

me for more information on the pieces I am seeking. #11-660 Harold (Hal) Seitz, 5141 NW 84th Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33351. 954 749-1090 (Aug 12)

Wanted

Plasticville shrubs green, BS6 and 1030 reasonably priced. #06-440 Richard H Wedekindt, 16 Addison Ave, Amherst, NY 14226-2323 wedekindt2@verizon.net (Nov 11)

Littleton: General Store, Animals. Plasticville Parts: Shade tree - 1 top, Turnpike - 4 pylons, 1 light holder, 1 door. Mobile Home: Chimney/vent (white). Men's Store: front door (gray). Trees: loose pine, poplar. #03-202, John Rossi, 4107 Victory Blvd, Staten Island, NY 10314. fantumdrum@aol.com (Nov 11)

Wanted: Plasticville citizen "little girl" molded in any color: blue ,red, green, grey, brown, etc.(Please!.,no normal flesh color wanted!) #01-21, Jonathan Morse, 48 Agawam Dr, E Wareham, MA 02538. Phone 508 291 2653 Sunday to Sunday 9-12 am or email me at ashemorse@comcast.net (Nov 11)

Plasticville Factory Roof and front Door Canopy in undamaged and not previously glued condition in any color. #04-307, Charles Wilber, P.O. Box 245 Whitmire SC 29178-0245. tandem@tandem-associates.com (Nov 11)

I collect dollhouse furniture from the 40's/50's. Please check your extras/parts/misc. boxes/bins for dollhouse dishes, dustpans, stools, buckets, etc. Let me know what you find?

If you/your spouse also collect vintage dollhouse toys, I have a club of collectors -- let me know if interested. THANKS. #04-321 Geraldine Scott, 540 Viridian St. Englewood, FL 34223 Phone 941-474-8888. Geraldine@Collector.org (Feb 12)

Have boxed Plasticville to trade from the 50's (Post Office, Large Supermarket, Police Station, Fire Station, Hardware/Pharmacy) for Fleischman Magic trains. Contact me for more information on the pieces I am seeking. #11-660 Harold (Hal) Seitz, 5141 NW 84th Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33351. 954 749-1090 (May 12)

1875 O Pit Stop like new with box. George Endress Canada Plasticville HP-8 Cape Cod like new with box. VU-4

Community set like new with box. Frank Martin Canada Plasticville HP-8 Cape Cod like new with box. SC-4 School with Canadian flag like new with box. Call anytime. #06-397 Dennis Bartley, 344 13th St So, Brigantine, NJ 08203 Phone 609 266-2379. expressmale@comcast.net (May 12)

SM-6 box in god or better condition or box and kit if box is in good or better shape. #10-621 Ronald Cortese, 101 Beatrice St, Greenville, SC 29611 Phone 864 220-9404 (May 12)

Loading Platform - gray/black pillar and chimney; Cape Cod - pair of solid brown roofs; Corner Store - white roof and gray sign frame; Hospital - light gray steps. #01-04, Thomas Fritsch, 630 Wyandot Ave, Akron, OH 44305-1832 tgfritsch.1@juno.com (May 12)

Bank front door, switch tower roof sign in brown . #05-351 Gordon Kelley, 5775 Alvin Howe Road, P.O.B. 141, Lyons, WI 53148. (May 12)

Wanted: Seeking an off-white two pin chimney for a Littleton Cape Cod. #05-375, Jim Deacon, 422 Circle Ave, Forest Park, IL 60130. Phone 708 692-7917. j61deacon@gmail.com (Feb 12)#45972 Rural Station. Original box preferred but not essential. #01-24 John Gottcent, 3912 West Oregon Street, Evansville, IN 47720. Phone 812-426-2989. (Aug 12)

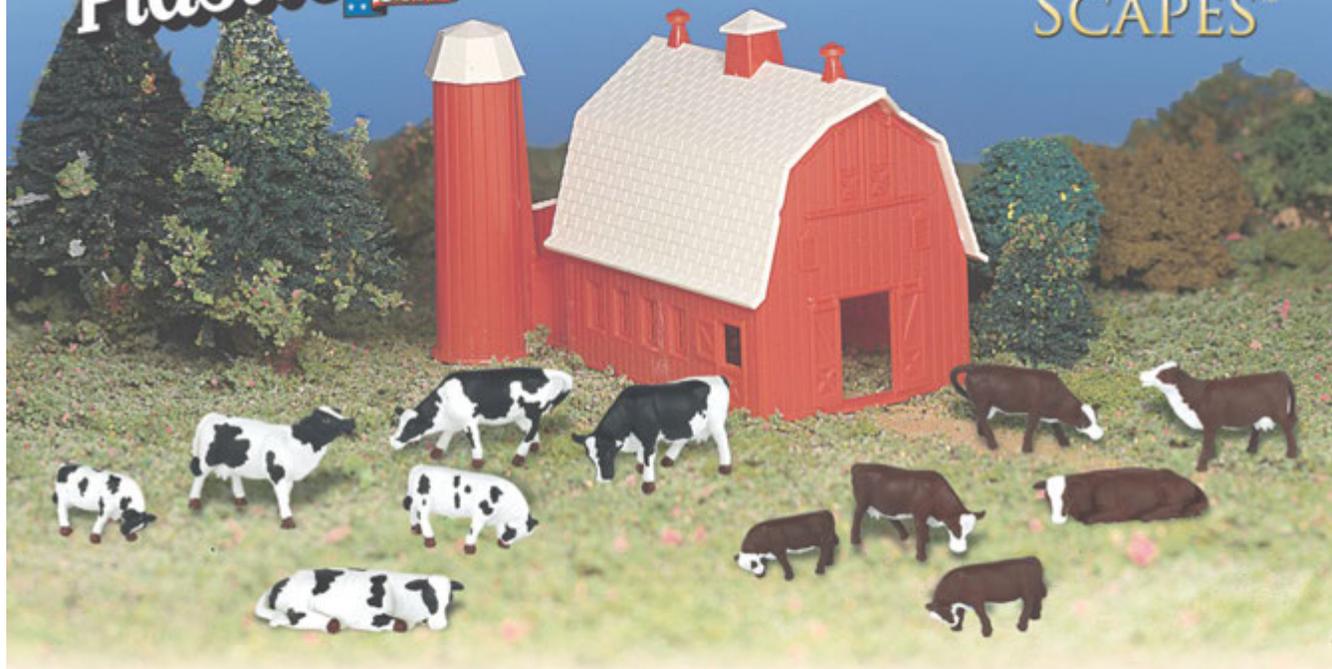
1993 edition of Plasticville guide by Iron Horse Productions. #05-550 Joseph M Ferry, 309 Brookline Blvd, Havertown, PA 19083 Phone 610 449-3679 (Aug 12)

Please call or send your sale list of any Marx/Littleton/Skyline buildings and/or any accessories. Looking for any 1950's-60's cereal premiums - cars, trucks, signs, billboards, etc. Need one yellow disk base for cereal premium road signs. Flag and flagpole for Marx/K-Line police station. #07-481 Nan Cashour, 6500 Schneider Cdr, Middletown , MD 21769 Phone 301 371-7258 (Aug 12)



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