



The Villager

The Official Newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 12

February 2013

Number 1

Silver Flaked Billboard - Seeking Additional Information

By John Niehaus

Based on recent Yahoo Plasticville group thread initiated by Jason Rackawack PCA #12-787

Jason Rackawack, PCA member 12-787 posted on the Yahoo Plasticville discussion forum that he had a green Plasticville billboard that had silver metallic flakes embedded in the plastic.

My first response to his post was whether he was certain that the billboard was a Plasticville/Bachmann emission or one of another manufacturer.

Photo 1 confirms that it was made by Bachmann and most likely in their Philadelphia, PA facility as the billboards are no longer part of the Plasticville listings on Bachmann's website.

Other responses to Jason's post were that these were something no one had seen before. Some of those respondents were known Plasticville experts.

I then asked Jason for photos of the front and back of the billboard as I felt he may have stumbled upon a one-of-a-kind find.

That's when he informed me that he had **TWO** of them, stating, "one was bought locally in a junk lot the other was from eBay from a seller near to me in PA".

I have included a large a photo (Photo 2) of the entire billboard so that you can see the silver flakes in the plastic. The flakes printed as white spots in both color and black & white test printings. They are most prominent along the top of the billboard.

If anyone else has these unique billboards in their collection please let me know at villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org.



Photo 1



Photo 2

New Confirmed Color Combination for 45618 Motel

By Wesley R Kidd, #09-584, and John Niehaus #-01-03

Wesley Kidd contacted me regarding a 45618 Motel that he picked up at a local train show that seemed to be of an out of the ordinary color combination.

He stated that the walls were the dark gray as were the windows! He also stated that the roof and doors were a sand color.

The photos at right shows the windows as the same color as the wall as well as the door being a sand color. The colors may look blue and white but I can assure you that they are dark gray and tan.

I assumed that this was a combination of multiple kits until Wesley dropped a bombshell!

Turn to page 29 to read about the bombshell and why we can call this color combination confirmed.

See MOTEL, page 29



The Villager

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President: Jim Dawes

Vice President: Doug Gilliatt

Webmaster: Joe Kutza

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Newsletter editor: John L Niehaus

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From the President's Desk



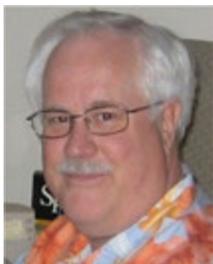
Hello from Syracuse, NY. Temperature 2 degrees below zero here on the 23rd., to warm up to 4 degrees above later in the day. Can't wait!

So glad to hear our surplus Plasticville parts are moving well, so if someone has extra parts and no place to store them please contact John Niehaus and he will help you with the shipping address.

I found a very nice airport administration building in a 9+ box. I am getting ready for our local Train Show to be held the last week of February. I always look forward to this show since it is only 3 blocks from my home. For a small town it is well attended and our sales are good.

I had an email from Glenn Bowman stating that he was having heart surgery January 24th. Let us all remember him in our prayers.
Jim Dawes,
President

Vice President's Musings



I hope that all the members had a Happy Holiday Season for themselves and their families. I also hope that some of you may have been given new building or another train related item as a present this past Holiday season.

If you received something that you believe would be of interest, please write a short article about your gift and maybe a picture or two for publication in *The Villager*?

I understand that the webmaster is in the process of loading several hundred new pictures to the PCA web site which will enhance our catalog of pictures.

As I said above, if you have pictures of what you believe is a variation or if you do not see your building on the web site, please send a photo, preferably on a green background, to villagereditor@netins.net and to webmaster@netins.net so that it can be placed on our website.

On another subject; which is that of On-line (e-mail) delivery of the PCA newsletter, *The Villager*. I have not promoted the delivery to our members via e-mail in place of snail mail delivery for awhile so here goes.

I am sure there are some of our members might not want on-line delivery and that is your decision. However, for those who are considering on-line delivery here are some good reasons:

1. Timeliness – Arrives as soon as you download it after you are notified that it is online and before the hard copies are mailed so you get to read the great articles and the ads ahead of everyone who receives it via snail mail. Plus you get first "dibs" on the newly arrived parts in the "Parts Bin" as well as first review of the classified ads.
2. Storage – You can save *The Villager* and all its great articles on-line, no more searching thru your other publications looking

for an issue.

3. Search capability on-line - so no more looking thru a stack looking for a specific article. On-line you can just search for the article (Keyword) to pull it up.
4. Portability – If you are like me and you carry a laptop when you travel, it is great to have the issues on your computer or your tablet. You can pull up and review an article while you are on the road. You never know when you will find something that requires some research on your part and the articles are there at your fingertips.
5. Last but not least, there is the cost savings to YOU and the Association as your membership dues is lower and there are no postage or printing costs associated with electronic delivery of *The Villager*. That savings translates into money that can be used to add additional photos and information to our website.

I was thinking about an informal Dinner at the TCA annual convention coming to St. Louis this year? I believe that Friday June 28th might work the best as it is on a night there are no TCA events scheduled for that evening of which I am aware.

Please send me your thoughts and if I get enough interest I will try to arrange something in the upcoming months. I would enjoy meeting more of our members and swapping stories of our finds.

As I have said many, many times before in *The Villager*, it is the hope of all of us that our organization continues to grow and attract new members which will allow us to be as vibrant and interesting 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

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Notes From the Editor



I received an email on January 23 from PCA member and former President, Glenn Bowman stating the he was going into the Harrisburg Hospital, in Harrisburg, PA the next day for open heart surgery. This concerned me as I wanted to know if he was to actually undergo open heart surgery or merely a coronary bypass surgery.

Sometimes bypass surgery is referred to as open heart surgery when in actuality it is not.

I made a call and spoke with his wife, Kris, and she confirmed that it was open heart and the Glenn was to have a heart valve replaced.

I asked that she add me to her email update list and was informed on the 24th that Glenn had weathered the surgery well. She again noted on the 25th that he had a new bovine heart valve and that he is going to be "back to what ever 'normal ' is in a few months".

WOW!!! I reported last year that the PCA received a \$200 donation from an anonymous donor and that their company matched that amount. We can thank that donor for a donation again this year. The donor must have been pleased that we earmarked half of the entire donation for upgrading the website as their donation this year was \$250. With the match from their company our treasury expanded by a total of \$500. Hopefully this year's donation can, again, be used to add value to the members through additional photos and possibly even a "new look" to the website.

Those of you who volunteered to be assistant webmasters have not been forgotten. The January Executive Committee meeting minutes in this issue state that our webmaster reported during the meeting that he provided 200 photos to our web developer for posting on the website.

He was in no way slighting you with by not getting you involved. He was, instead, taking advantage of a unique volunteer option offered by his company. The company for which he works offers a "volunteer day off ". They give a person a full day off with pay provided they perform volunteer work for a tax exempt organization. This work can be in person at an organization or a day of virtual work. As the PCA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, Joe spent the 8 hour day editing photos to post on our website.

Thank you all who volunteered and please bear with us as there

is certain to be additional photos sent to us that will need your helping hands.

I have taken the liberty of renaming the page with the listing of parts available to members from *Free Parts Bin* to *The Parts Bin* and added a note that this page is not a commercial ad but a listing of parts available to members. My concern was that members were viewing the page as a full page commercial ad. Hopefully, the changes I have made will entice more members to use this valuable member benefit.

The layout of James Steed, PCA member #01-55 is one of the featured layouts on TM Books & Video's new DVD, *THE GOLDEN ERA OF TOY TRAINS*. His layout is a 17 minute segment on the video. Look for a review of this DVD and James' segment in a future edition of *The Villager*.

If you can't wait to read a review of the DVD, look for the TM Books & Video ad on page 22 for a PCA member exclusive "Buy One Get One Free" offer. Use their toll free number to order any one of the three listed videos at \$14.99, a \$5 discount over list price, and get a second video free.

I hope all of you are enjoying the new format of the newsletter. After 11 years I thought it was time for some changes. You may notice that the margins are smaller. I reduced the top and bottom margins from 1 inch to 1/2 inch. The side margins have always been 3/4 inches. They are also now 1/2 inch. The change in the margins allow for a 20% increase in what can be put on a single page.

I also reduced the gutter, the space between columns, from 1/2 inch to 1/4 inch. This also adds more space for text and larger photos. I would appreciate your feedback on the new format. You can send your comments to villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org.

Dept of Corrections:

The address in the review of the Lionel Nation 8 DVD from TM Books was their former address in Michigan. The address should have been TM Books & Video, PO Box 9228, Michigan City, IN 46361. Telephone: 219-879-2822, FAX: 219-879-7909. Phone orders should be made using: 800-892-2822. Their website is: <http://www.tmbv.com>

If you have suggestions, comments, or wish to become a contributing editor of *The Villager* please contact me at villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org.



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January 2013 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The January, 2013 Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 9:00PM, Eastern time, on January 21 by President Jim Dawes.

Those in attendance were; President Jim Dawes, Immediate Past President Fred Ruby, Vice-President Doug Gilliatt, Secretary/Treasurer John Niehaus, and founder Joe Kutza.

Old business:

PayPal dues payment buttons on the website

Secretary Niehaus reported that the dues payment was available on the PCA website for members to use before the mailing of the November newsletter and that it was used by some members to pay their 2013 dues.

He also suggested that it be a direct link option under the Members option on the home page next year as members locating the option was not simple this year.

Securing photos on the website

Webmaster Joe Kutza reported that this is still under investigation by the web designer.

Register.com banner on new plasticville.org website

Webmaster Joe Kutza reported that payment was made to register.com to eliminate the banner.

Free Parts program

Secretary Niehaus reported that the Free Parts program has been used by many members in the last quarter.

He also reported that he is continuing to receive donations from members and that these donations will keep this membership benefit available for the foreseeable future.

TTOS Advertising

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has made contact with Don Kyle of the TTOS but has yet to work out an advertising exchange for 2013.

PCA ball cap

Secretary Niehaus reported that he received a quote from the supplier for quantities of 50, 100, 150, and 200.

Discussion on the amount to order was tabled until the April Executive Committee meeting.

New Business:

Adding additional photos to the PCA website:

Webmaster Joe Kutza reported that he has sent approximately 200 photos to the web developer to add to the website. He will inform the Executive Committee when the photos are posted.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM, Eastern Time

Respectfully submitted;

John L Niehaus

Secretary/Treasurer

Approved by the Executive Committee, January 31, 2013

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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*.

Along the Other line - the K-Line

by Ken Honick #10-628
Buena-Vista, PA



Photo courtesy: The Hobby Spot 407 647-2244

It is hard to believe that the holiday season has come and gone! It came so fast. It was Halloween then, Turkey Day, then boom Christmas was here. I put up my three level Christmas display, with a few changes here and there, striking gold at a local hobby shop by my home.

While checking out the O gauge section, lo and behold I found a older #1921 red and white Plasticville fire station, with two red fire trucks. I have a newer one with the off white, with gray roof and doors, two yellow fire trucks and red fire

chiefs car. I like it, but always wanted the older one. The older one is still in the box and still wrapped, it was a gift from my wife.

There was also a bonus. A K-Line church, minus the white picket fence and the people. It came in a plastic bag, just like the K-Line supermarket I featured in my article in November.

I finally found my 1999 K Line catalogs that I had been trying to locate for some time. I found them in my with many old catalogs I have in my train room/ TV room in my basement. I'm sure the Church came in a box when K-Line offered it when they were at

the wheel, but again it probably was a cost cutting thing when Lionel bought them out.

It is a simple church with a steeple with a little silver cross at the peak. It measures 6 1/2 inches long by 4 inches wide.

There are four simulated stained glass windows on each side. There are two windows in the back wall.

There's a very nice double door in the front that would have been nice if it opened. It also has two Roman or Greek pillars on each side of the doors.

The walls lack a little luster. They are an off white. The roof, upper steeple, and snap-in doors and windows are a hunter green.

It is a handsome, simple church that I needed for the town at the corner of my Christmas layout. I added 2 singing carolers and 2 small snow covered Christmas trees in the front. With all the other buildings it looks very nice.

It is a very nice church but it lacks some of the things that the Plasticville church has, like the colored plastic for the windows.

I do not have a Plasticville church, I am going on the ones I have seen in photos on line and on YouTube and TM videos, I will have to take a closer look, at the Plasticville church again. I have seen Plasticville churches with a bell in the steeple.

That about wraps up my article in this edition of the Villager. I wish a very Happy and healthy New Year to all of my fellow members, and their family and anyone else who reads this article.

Thank You, Ken Honick

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A Visit With Lee Riley (part 3)



The names in bold below relate to the following participants in the visit with Mr. Riley:

Lee Riley, Vice President of Product Development, Bachmann Industries

Doug Blaine, Vice President, Marketing, Bachmann Industries

Joe Kutza, PCA founder

John Niehaus, PCA Secretary/Treasurer

Joe: The Plasticville that we have from the 50's, 60's, 70, is much different than the plastic we have today.

Oh yeah, because. Sure, because the thing is, plastics technology, remember the movie *The Graduate*? OK, "think plastics, think plastics". OK, plastics, there are many, many types. Polyurethane, polystyrenes, polypropolynes, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom. OK What they used to do is, back in the old days. And with the Bachmann brothers they started out as one of the first injection molders and made eyeglasses back in the 1800's. The first plastic was Bakelite. And there was also tortoise shell. It was natural materials that took and they ground up. Then as the technology got along because it comes from petroleum

Doug: But the answer is it wasn't proprietary but whatever was the plastic of the day is whaay they used.

Joe: The pieces we get now have sometimes issues. They are slippery. They're slidey. They are different than before.

Here's why. It's the chemical makeup in plastics. They are many plastics that are made that have changed and had chemicals in them that are no longer allowed to be produced. Because they had lead in them. Because they had different chemicals to make it up and all they did they were using at that time you didn't have delrin which was a registered trademark of DuPont. You have heard of Celcon. Well Celcon is made by Celanese Corporation. It's their registered trademark. It's a comparable product to Delrin, but Delrin's not made anymore. It's called Delrin Tough 2. It's a flexible, it's used in automobiles products. This technology did not exist back then. What we used was known as high impact. High impact plastic.

We're using ABS. ABS didn't even exist back then. ABS, you can paint with lacquer paints. You can put plasticizers in it. You add the extra components into the plastic when you mix it. The colors and all come in powders because basically you have white or you have black. That's what you start with. It comes in 50 pound bags or in big barrels. And then what you do is you have mixers. Looks like a MixMaster with a big thing and it's stirring it around. You dump your plastic in to start. You mix it up. Then you take your additives for your color. It's so many bags of this and so many bags of that and you get the different colors.

Talking about colors and plastics and all. They used to work piecework here. Do you know what piecework is? They were union.

Joe: You see those little pieces of paper in there, packed by number 22, packed by 47.

So if they got a shipment back. I checked with George and everybody on this. If they came back and there happened to be a shipment that was missing parts or something like that because they were union and they were working piecework. If the girls are up there on the line and they are putting products out and all of a

sudden they find out, they look down the line, in a bin there and say, "Hey we're getting low" they're going to holler to the line supervisor, George, and say, "Crank those machines. Why don't we have those parts here? Cause we're not gonna make our piece rate and the hours!" Well, "We don't have any more red"

George would holler out or Tom would holler out, "Whatta we got?" It's a weekend. "Whatta we got in storage?" We used to have a building out in the middle of the parking lot back there, where we used to keep barrels of stuff like that. The coloring. The mixer area was back in warehouse number two. That was all here when I came here.

I used to be over at AHM so we swapped parts a lot of times. I was over here when we doing all of this. So you see what I am saying.

JOE: We have had this discussion so many times about odd colors combinations

I'm telling you exactly what the real story is. You remember Paul Harvey saying, "And now for the rest of the story"? The real story is: it was piecework, and what it was: those women who were on the line, 300 of them, 350. Up until 11/12 years ago we were making Plasticville right here because I was on the machine, the last piece that ever came out of here. And then the molds were sent overseas. But the thing is: the piecework was kept up and if they ran out of a color, they grabbed a blue roof. They put it in the molding machine. You split the run 50/50 because most of the molds except for the accessory pieces were all one color.

DOUG: Who knew that our lack of efficiency and productivity and quality control would lead to a collector's market?

JOE: Color variations and box types

That again gets into boxes. That's in different eras from what the technology. If you look at the way the first boxes were made, they were made by box companies in the industry, and Doug will certify this: you hear the term "donut box". It's a glued box. You know a setup box. That you pull up. They stack them up and pull them up. They call them donut boxes. You go to a box manufacturer. They know it is a thin card stock that's folded.

And a window box, you didn't have window boxes. You didn't have cellophane at that time. You had early cellophane and it was very brittle. You didn't have the gluing techniques. Technology. These people gotta understand that as the printing industry and the packaging industry progressed.

JOE: Like the cellophane. We had the birds, right? Came in little cellophane packages. The Shrubs.

The first birds came out in a box. Because I bought them in a pharmacy in Baltimore.

JOE: Piece by piece. Out of a box

Yeah, and they were molded in flesh color.

JOE: The birds?

Oh yeah, the birds were painted a flesh color.

JOE: Never seen them

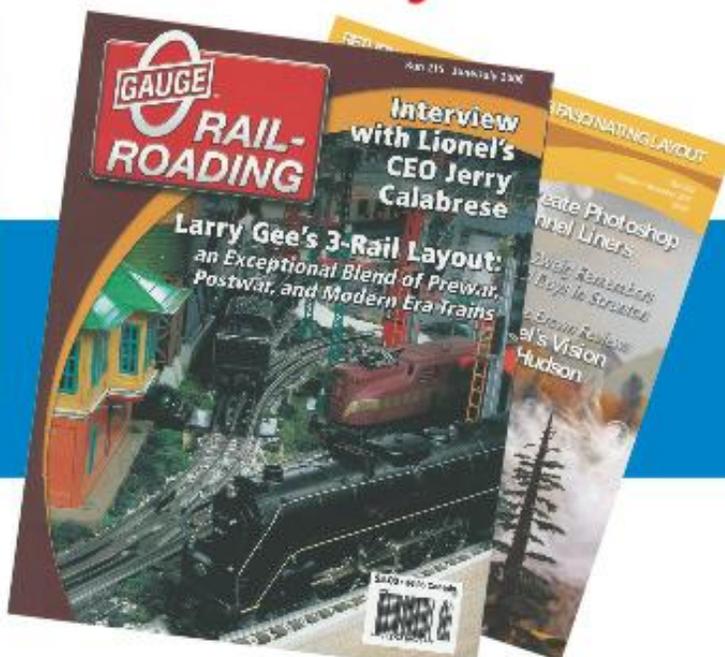
Oh yeah, they were in boxes with the artwork on it

JOE: Never seen a flesh colored bird. Red, yellow, blue, tail up, tail down.

Yep, yep, they had black.

Look for a continuation of our visit with Lee in the May, 2013 edition of The Villager

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Creative Use of Damaged Parts

Rap\$callion Bank (Part 5)

By Edward L Johnson



The Board of Governors is elated to proclaim the opening of our first Branch Office!! Conveniently located, your new branch office will offer superior banking to your community. Recent weather conditions have delayed the arrival of our signage. Rather than wait for our signage the Governors decided to open the new branch now so you can experience our superior banking services.

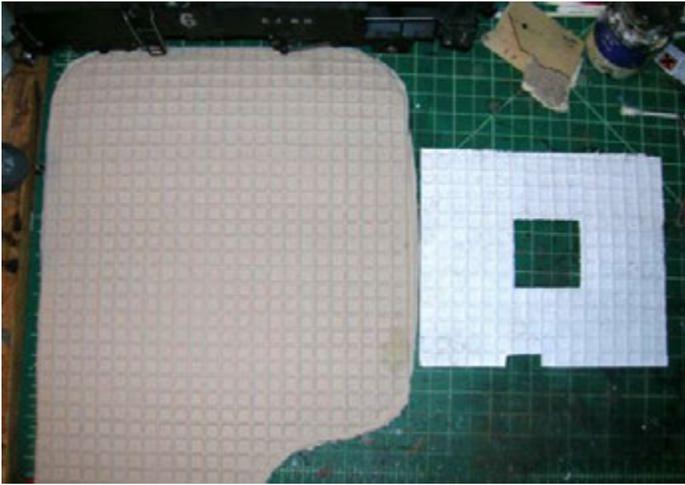
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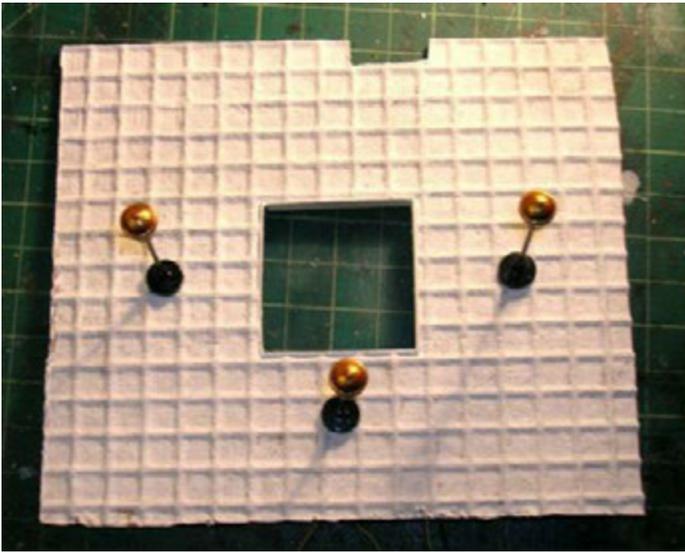
We concluded part 4 with a photo of the almost completed interior of the bank. The photo at left shows the completed interior. All of the small details were made with an assortment of small parts from my parts box. We see the first customers of the newly opened branch. The manager is overlooking operations from the platform. Note there is a security camera (next to the American flag).



After the interior was completed the front facade was glued in place. Originally I installed two ornate lanterns on the front facade. However, when they were tested they smoked and melted. *Two Model Power HO 493* lamp posts were substituted for the faulty lanterns. The lampposts were bent 90 degrees and painted with *Citadel Shining Gold*. The money bags in the center window were cut from a financial advisors business card. I collect business cards with logos that might be useful later on.



After the front facade was secured my attention turned to the roof. During the summer my beach club started using a new style of cardboard serving trays. The bottom has a grid pattern which suggested ceiling tiles. I cut a square piece, sealed it with *Dullcote*, and then painted it with *Citadel White*. The space in the center is for a skylight. The smaller space is cut out for the chimney.



The interior of the bank is lighted. Three *Model Power HO 500* lampposts were selected for lighting fixtures. The globes were painted with *Citadel Shinning Gold*. Holes were drilled into the ceiling. The wires were fed through the holes then the bases were glued to the ceiling. All wiring, front lights, ceiling lights are wired together. Power to the lights is supplied from two wires running up through the chimney. When the completed ceiling is lowered into the building all the wiring is exposed. Another roof section was assembled to conceal the wiring...



The final roof section conceals all the wiring. The roof is painted *Testors Flat Black*. *Testors Gloss Black* was used to simulate joints on a tarpaper roof. A small hatch provides access to the roof. The skylight gives a glimpse into the center of the bank. The stack vent is from an empty ink cartridge. The large vent is a cap from my wife's hair conditioner crème.

The bank is finally finished and open for depositors. I hope my fellow travelers enjoyed the articles describing its construction. Before closing I would like to extend to all members and their families a Happy, Healthy and (if the government permits) Prosperous New Year!

That's all folks!!!!!!

Eddie J.....

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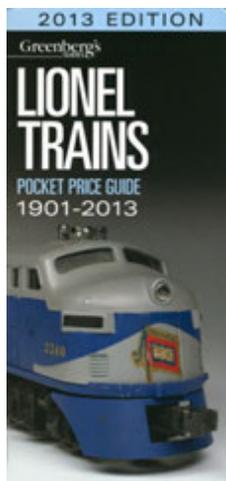
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Greenberg's 2013 Pocket Price Guides

By John Niehaus



The 2013 editions of Greenberg's Lionel and American Flyer pocket price guides have been available for some time. There will not be a 2013 Marx guide. It is my understanding that the American Flyer and Marx guides will be published in alternate years. This year's guides are in the customary 4 x 8 1/2 format.

The Lionel guide is becoming thicker every year. The 2013 edition is nearly 3/4 inches thick. This is due in part to the addition of a section listing sets. This section not only lists the set numbers and a value, in excellent condition, but also the items that were included in the set but by the item numbers only. This listing

comprises 16 pages of this year's guide.

One thing I do miss in this year's guide is the black section markings on the edges of the pages. I hope this was an oversight and those markings will make their appearance again in the 2014 guide. It sure makes navigation to the desired section a lot easier.

The American Flyer guide has grown by about 16 pages. There are no new sections in this guide, merely updated listings.

Let's look at the Lionel values for 2013. The values in the 2013 guide seem to reflect a stagnation in prices as compared to last year's guide. Seven out of the ten items I follow retained their 2012 values for both good and excellent condition although the prewar maroon 8E shows a \$60 reduction in value in good condition. The other three pieces that I review all lost value by 7 percent except for the 746 engine with the long stripe tender in Excellent condition. Its value increased by a bit over 9 percent.

It depended on the condition of the piece how well or otherwise the American Flyer values fared. I review five items for American Flyer. The good condition values held the same as in the 2011 guide as did the excellent condition value for one item. The other four items lost value by approximately 10 percent. Ironically the

same four items have been losing value since I started reviewing values for American Flyer starting with the 2010 guide. Either excellent condition American Flyer engines and other pieces are not increasing in demand/value or I may not be looking at a representative sample of pieces.

To rephrase my admonition of last year, it may be wise to hold onto your trains if the Greenberg guides are a valid indicator of values as it seem that, in general, values have stagnated for both Lionel and American Flyer.

The Lionel guide is priced at \$19.95, a buck more than last year's edition. The American Flyer guide is priced at \$15.95.

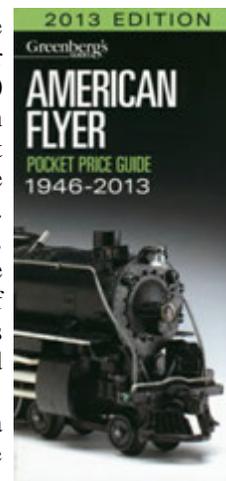
They are available from Kalmbach Books, 21027 Crossroads Circle, Waukesha, WI, 53186. You can order on line at: <http://www.kalmbachstore.com>. Their U.S. toll free number is 800-533-6644 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Central Time. The phone number if you are calling from Canada or outside the U.S. is 262-796-8776 Ext. 421.

I found one listing on Amazon at \$14.06 for the Lionel guide. The American Flyer guide on Amazon has quite a few listings starting at \$8.47 for a new copy.

A PLEA TO ALL MARX TRAIN COLLECTORS:

In order for me to be able to make semi-annual value comparisons of the Marx trains in future editions of the newsletter I need a list of sought after Marx trains. I feel that I need at least five sought after pieces if I am to make a representative comparison.

If you are a Marx train collector and knowledgeable of the more sought after pieces please contact me at villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org.



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We are in need of resource people for the following manufacturers. This is an easy position to fill as you will only be called upon when we need your expertise to verify a piece or offer historical information as the need arises. Please consider volunteering. Your name will be listed on the 2012/2013 Officers information page of the roster.

Plasticville N
Lionel Plasticville
Kleeware

Skyline
Storytown

Along the "HO" Line Agriculture

By Todd Hendrickson



Due to technical difficulties, Todd is unable to provide one of his very informative articles for this issue.

He has assured me that he will have an article for the May, 2013 edition. Editor

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Pen Tips are short suggestions that the editor uses when space is available, as on this page.

A PCA pen is sent to the contributor when their suggestion is used.

Send your Pen Tip to villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org

Pen Tips

Got some odd or broken HO and N road signs? Cut off the bases and fix them to the sides of buildings or fence posts. "high voltage", "keep out", and "no trespassing" are easily adapted. Mike Denuty

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Pen Tips

Here's tip on removing glue found on the inner locks of a building. Some glues do not attach the plastic and can be picked right off with an X-Acto® knife without the plastic being attacked. It may leave some traces of marks from the blade but quad aught 0000 steel wool will remove the marks, followed by

using a buffing wheel charge with white rouge (use none other than white which is made for plastic). The traces of the marks disappear and the plastic can be polished to a high luster. Keep the piece moving or the heat generated will melt the projected posts. Chris Rossbach

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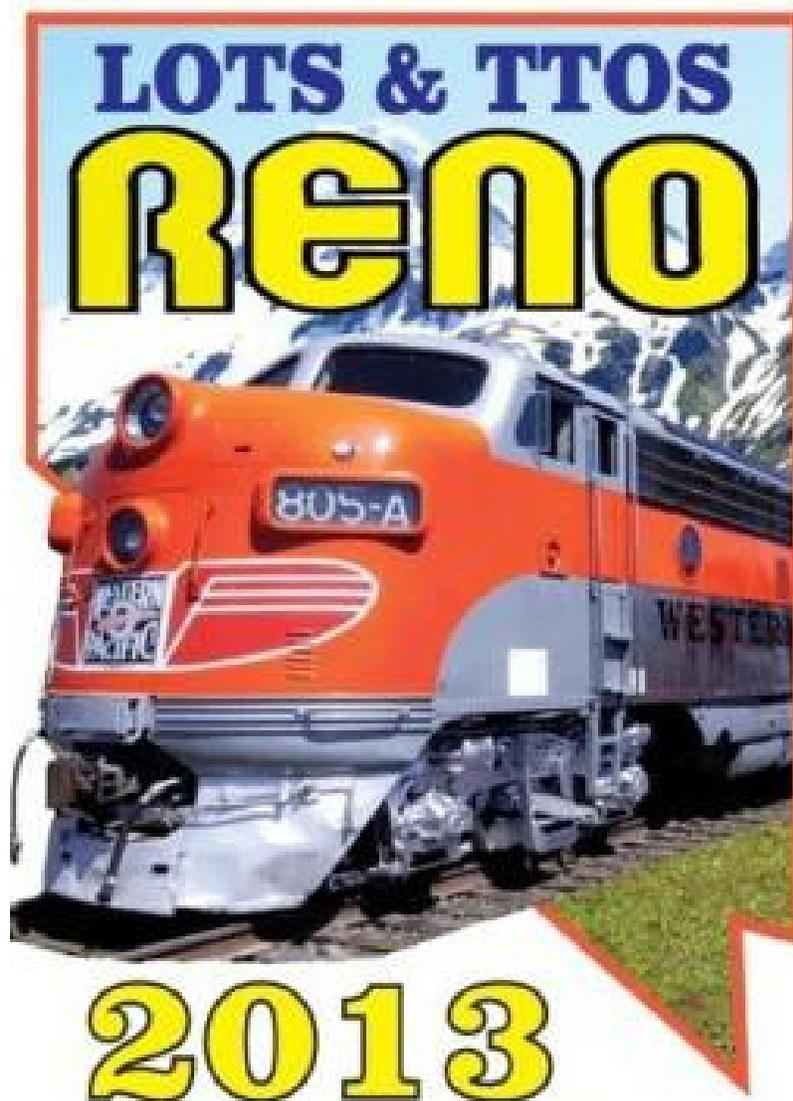
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Plasticville on the Boards

Cars

By John Gottcent



In the August 2012 *Villager* I wrote about trees and suggested that, despite many plastic varieties that have value to collectors, on a layout, more realistic trees fit the bill better. This month I want to make the same argument about cars and trucks.

Again, plastic vehicles produced as long ago as the mid-20th century can be appealing and valuable to collectors, especially if they're in pristine condition and still occupy their original boxes. But given the wide variety and availability of diecast metal cars and trucks these days, those of us setting up and operating layouts would do well to consider using them instead.

One problem with many plastic vehicles involves scale. As Photo One shows, the full-sized O-scale gentleman standing to the left would have trouble squeezing his long legs into that green Plasticville sedan. The long-suffering PV parson on the right looks as if he would fare little better, despite the fact that he was manufactured by the same company as the car.



Photo One

In contrast, when our two gentlemen upgrade to the diecast convertible in Photo Two, it's clear that they'll fit inside with room to spare. Of course, that snazzy car will set them back a few more



Photo Two

dollars, but who cares about money when it comes to "fitability"? The fact that the red roadster is also an obvious babe magnet may play a role as well.

When we move to the world of trucks, the situation is even more pronounced. The fire truck in the foreground of Photo Three came with several versions of the Plasticville fire station. Yet even a quick comparison of it versus the inexpensive diecast model behind it shows the advantages the latter has in terms of color, detail, and add-on features.

There is one problem with the metal fire pumper, though—it's too big to fit inside the overhead doors of the PV fire station itself. And this suggests one advantage that traditional plastic vehicles may have over their diecast cousins—they may fit better in tight quarters.



Photo Three

The garage in Photo Four can barely hold its owner's blue Plasticville sedan, for example. A vehicle even a bit larger would create serious logistical problems. And along the narrow entry ramp to the All American Highway on my small layout (Photo Five), any vehicle larger than that same sized sedan would have problems squeezing by the toll booth, creating trouble for the friendly attendant waving her hand to the driver (or is she simply getting ready to stick it out for the payment?) and perhaps threatening county funds needed for future highway repairs.

There can still be some problems, however. Even these small PV sedans don't fit completely inside the service bays of the small PV gas station, for example.

Of course, highly detailed diecast cars and trucks can cost hobbyists quite a bit of money. Precision models offered by companies like Brooklin may easily run into hundreds of dollars each. Ironically, if you spend that much cash on a vehicle you may be hesitant to put it on a layout, fearing an accident that could damage your purchase.

But plenty of good, lower-priced options exist, ranging from those catalogued by DieCast Direct to those you may find at your local Wal-Mart or Target. Train shows usually also include dealers featuring vehicles of many sorts, often at bargain prices.



Photo Four



Photo Five

As usual, it comes down to personal taste. But as a parting shot, look at the downtown scene in Photo Six. In the upper right hand corner, we do see that faithful blue PV sedan squeezing into its garage for the night.



Photo Six

But elsewhere in the scene, we find a Greyhound bus, a UPS delivery truck, a white service van, a USPS van, and a U-Haul trailer being pulled by a black and orange station wagon. Parked by the motel are a maroon Chrysler PT-Cruiser and a yellow taxi cab. Across the street is an old-time Coke delivery truck. And sneaking off behind the motel is a tractor-trailer carrying goods to the Lionel Visitors' Center.

All of these vehicles are diecast metal, and none cost more than a few dollars. And they add a note of variety and realism that plastic cars and trucks alone cannot match.

If you've got comments, or suggestions for future columns, contact me at jandjgott@gmail.com. Meanwhile, happy villaging!

The Marx "Made in Mexico" Log Cabin - An Update

Part I: The Model Power Connection

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

The article, "The Marx Plastic Log Cabin—Made in Mexico," which appeared in the last issue of *The Villager* (Vol. 11, No. 4, November, 2012), described my find of what I reported to be a "Plastimarx-De Mexico"-made O-gauge molded-plastic Log Cabin. In that article, I described this lovely little building and put forth a tenta-tive theory of its origins during the brief "Davy Crockett craze" of the mid-1950s. At the end of the article, I wondered out loud about the fate of the molds that produced this highly artistic Marx village item. Well, today I'm happy to report that the molds that produced the Marx "Davy Crockett" Log Cabin have reappeared in recent times and seem to be "alive and well," at least for the time being. This means that examples of this fine O-gauge building are likely available to alert village collectors, both at train shows and through Internet sales (of course, as of today, it appears that you'll be on the hook to pay an online asking price of \$39.95 for this item). However, I only learned of all this some six months after I discovered that first Marx Log Cabin at an Ocala, FL train show. So it was half a year later when I found, once again, how a village collector's life can be visited by an unexpected, and pleasant surprise. And this surprise was most timely, to say the least!

Early Saturday morning, on May 19 of last year, I drove the Interstates from Orlando up to Jacksonville (that's usually "Jax" to most Floridians) to attend one of the four yearly TCA Southern Division train shows held throughout our (rather inconveniently large) state. The Jax event was another small train show, not unlike the Ocala show, where I found the Plastimarx Log Cabin discussed in my previous article. I had already completed one, or possibly two, complete circuits of the Jax show's exhibit hall in a private school, and had purchased three nice boxed Plasticville items. (But that's another story!) I was making my next "tour" of the hall, where I was now attempting to take a close look at everything that was for sale. (It's nice that you can actually do such a thing at a small train show—see everything.) The "everything" in this go-round included all the model-railroad stuff, most of the very modern O-gauge stuff, and all the miscellaneous collector stuff, like railroadiana, in none of which I have any keen interest, as well as those items of real interest to me that I'd somehow missed previously. While on this tour, I spied (for the first time!), on a high shelf that a Dealer had set up, a white box from the Model Power Company with big black letters on it that declared "LOG CABIN." One look at the picture on the cover of the box let me know what I held in my hands—the Marx "Davy Crockett" Log Cabin in its modern form. I checked the contents of this box to make sure that the little chimney piece of the six-piece Cabin was present (since the box was a bit crushed and somewhat "leaky")—and, sure enough, it was. I happily paid the Dealer what he asked for the item—\$8.00—since I considered this to be quite a fair price for any O-gauge operator and a real bargain price for a village collector like me with a Marx Log Cabin image burned into his brain.

This kit is identified by the words "LOG CABIN with Corral & Animals" printed on the box. It is Model Power product No. 6100. A view of the Model Power kit box is shown in Photo 1. The top panel of the box declares the Log Cabin and the ancillary items



included in the kit are of "O-027 [*sic*] SCALE," and describes what else, besides the Log Cabin, is in the box: "CONTENTS HORSE, BULL, STEER AND CORRAL." On one long side-panel of the box is the UPC mark, and under it, in tiny letters, is the legend "LITHO IN HONG KONG." The other long box side-panel has a far more interesting legend: "MADE IN MEXICO." The picture of the kit contents on the top panel of the box shows an assembled Log Cabin that has been "weathered" (in the model-railroading sense), most professionally and artistically, in shades of brown and gray. The Bull is shown in a rich red-brown color, the Steer is painted dark gray, or perhaps black, and the Horse is white. Behind the three Animals is shown a dark-brown section of "Rustic" Fence. The bottom panel of the kit box is devoted to an advertisement for Model Power "HAND PAINTED O FIGURES." Seven sets of these figures are shown there.

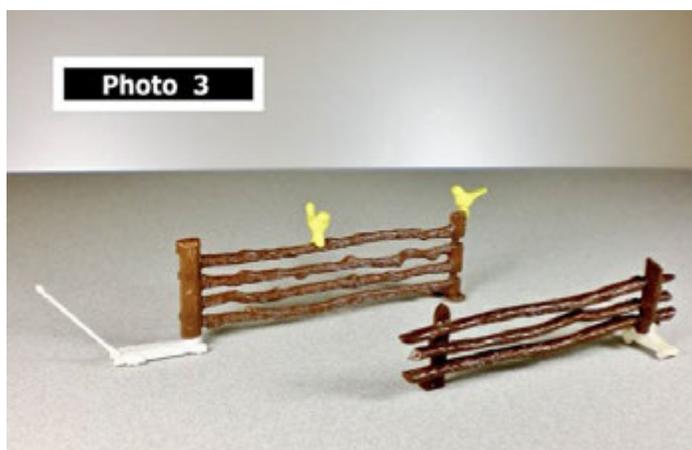


The full contents of the box are displayed in Photo 2. At the left in that photo, is the assembled Log Cabin. On the right in Photo 2, the Horse, the Bull, and the "Long-horn" Steer are shown in their Corral, which is constructed using the four interlocking sections of "Rustic Fence" included in the kit. To make the three Animals stand out in Photo 2, the Fence section forming the front wall of the Corral has been removed and placed, face-up, on the

display platform. All six parts of the Cabin, all the four sections of Rustic Fence, and all the three Animals are molded from the same batch of red-brown plastic; there are no color differences among the plastic items in this No. 6100 kit. Also in Photo 2, on the display platform in front of the Log Cabin, is shown the 1/3-page paper item, "#6100 0/027 LOG CABIN WITH CORRAL AND ANIMALS SNAP TOGETHER INSTRUCTIONS," included in the kit. This printed instruction sheet has, apparently, seen so much copying and recopying that the quality of its lettering has suffered significantly.

I carefully compared the Model Power Log Cabin being considered in the *Villager* article here with the Plastimarx Log Cabin discussed in my previous *Villager* article, side-by-side and piece-by-piece. Except for being slightly different in their brown color, the two Log Cabins are virtually identical. The molding of the Model Power Log Cabin is equally as detailed as the molding of the earlier Plastimarx item in all respects. It is, indeed, a bit of good fortune that the Marx molding molds are still in such good shape after all these years—and a lasting credit to the creative Marx craftsmen and their industry associates of long ago! I note that the brown of the Model Power Log Cabin is of a slightly more reddish hue than is the brown of the Plastimarx building—a superficial difference. However, despite being "Made in Mexico," the Model Power item nowhere bears a "HENCO EN MEXICO" label—a significant difference.

But my Model Power No. 6100 kit comprises more than just a lovely O-gauge Log Cabin. The other items that this kit contains should also draw the attention of any village collector with broad interests. First, one observes that the kit's Rustic Fence attests to the Louis Marx & Co. heritage of the Model Power No. 6100 Log Cabin. Each of the four sections of the brown molded-plastic Rustic Fence found in my Model Power boxed kit bears the familiar 1/4-in. dia. circle-within-circle Louis Marx & Co. logo, "(MADE IN U.S.A. (MARX) TOYS)." Apparently, no one ever bothered to infill the impressed Marx logo in the Fence molds when these molds changed hands in the past. These bold Marx logos appear at the center of the reverse side of the Fence sections, along with a mold-cell (or "cavity") number for each Fence section (My four Fence sections have mold-cell numbers 24, 27, 28, and 29.), as well as the molded-in legend, "PAT. APPL. FOR." Marx Rustic Fence, or, more properly, Marx "Log Fence," has a long and interesting history, but that history, so far as I can follow it, ought not to be recounted here. For reference, a section of the Marx Log Fence is shown, along with a section of Plasticville No. RF-1 Rustic Fence, in Photo 3. The Plasticville Rustic Fence section measures 6 1/8 in. long by 1 1/2 in. high. The slightly larger Marx Log Fence section measures 6 5/16 in. long by 1 13/16



in. high.

To put some color into Photo 3, I've included, appropriately, a pair of Marx "Fence Birds." (My vintage Marx Fence Birds were insistent; they did not want to miss out on a rare opportunity to once again appear in public—and especially to appear in their "native habitat," on a Marx Fence!) Since Marx Log Fence and Plasticville Rustic Fence both furnish only one supporting fencepost per section, two automotive jacks were required when setting up Photo 3, in order to hold up the unsupported ends of the Fence sections.

Photo 4, on the left side, shows the three Animals from the No.



6100 Log Cabin kit, along with a 5 11/16 in. tall Marx "Hickory" Tree at center stage. For comparison, the right side of Photo 4 shows comparable Plasticville items—a brown-and-white Standing Cow, a black Horse, and a 4 1/4 in. tall No. MT-2 green Maple Tree. (I note that the hue of green on the Marx Tree is almost identical to that on the Plasticville Tree. That sure wasn't some-thing I was planning on when I went to the several "tree" boxes in my village collection to choose items to put into Photo 4!) Photo 4 is intended to illustrate the rather large size of the Animals put into the Model Power No. 6100 kit. So, despite the declaration on the No. 6100 box that these Animals are for use on O-gauge train layouts, they clearly appear to be a good deal larger than the typical O-gauger would desire to install in a farm or ranch scene on his or her layout. But then again, you can find many a Lionel postwar No. 045 Automatic (Giant) Gateman, or even a prewar Standard Gauge No. 45 Automatic (Larger Giant) Gateman, on O-gauge layouts, with no one even batting an eye. "Appropriate Scale" is, after all, a matter of the individual operator's "Artistic Vision"! (The observant Reader may note from Photo 4 that my Longhorn Steer is damaged—his long tail is absent, his left hind leg is broken off, and the tip of one of his horns is missing.)

The three Animals included in the Model Power No. 6100 kit originated as items in either of two different, but similar, "Rodeo" Playsets made by Louis Marx & Co., Inc., which were sold in 1952. These Animals, originally, were never intended to be toy-train accessory items. One of these Marx Playsets, the "Roy Rogers Double R Bar Rodeo," featured "Roy Rogers, Dale Evans and 8 cowboy rodeo figures, molded in lifelike vinyl plastic. Standing figures 2 1/2 in. high, others in proportion . . . [emphasis added]." Note the scale of the "Citizens" in this Roy Rogers Play Set—they are hardly O-gauge. This Playset, also promoted as the "Mineral City Roy Rogers Life-Like Rodeo Set," was featured in the 1952

Sears Roebuck & Co. Christmas "Wishbook," and sold for \$3.79. A similar Playset was sold by Montgomery Ward. This other Playset, the "Plastic Lone Ranger Rodeo," which also sold for \$3.79 that same Christmas, was "complete with reproductions of Lone Ranger and Tonto." (The Lone Ranger was always a boyhood hero of mine—from radio, not TV, of all things. I never imagined, when I was a kid, that the Lone Ranger, besides being a "Champion of Justice" and "riding again!," was also a "player" in the rodeo business.) My sources for this and subsequent information concerning the 1952 Rodeo Playsets are two particular volumes from among a related series of toy-collector reference books. Both of these volumes are edited by Thomas W. Holland. The first of these references is *Boys' Toys of the Fifties & Sixties; Memorable Catalog Pages from the Legendary Sears Christmas Wishbooks 1950-1969* (Windmill Press, Copyright 1997). The other reference is *More Boys' Toys of the Fifties & Sixties; Toy Pages from the Great Montgomery Ward Christmas Catalogs 1950-1969* (The Windmill Group, Copyright 1998).

Both of these references feature a picture and a description of the particular Rodeo Playset being offered. The picture and the description of the Playset in the Sears' Wishbook is markedly different from the picture and the description of the similar Playset found in the Ward's Christmas Catalog. While neither Playset is explicitly identified as being produced by Louis Marx & Co., there is incontrovertible evidence that Marx made both Playsets. And what would that evidence be? In the picture of the Sears' Playset as well as in the picture of the Ward's Set, it is found that a Marx Hickory Tree, identical to that which I've placed in Photo 4, is one of the Playset items. Since this same Hickory Tree can be also found as an accessory to other items known to be Marx products (*i.e.*, Marxville plastic building kits), there is no question about the maker of the Rodeo Playsets I've described above.

Of the two pictures of the Rodeo Playsets, the one found in the 1952 Montgomery Ward Christmas Catalog is the most useful when studying and discussing the Animals in the Model Power No. 6100 Log Cabin kit. The picture of the Ward's Lone Ranger Rodeo Playset shows the Bull, which is the bovine with short horns, being ridden by a cowboy out of the "authentic three-stall Rodeo Chute." Moreover, in the rodeo corral, just in front of the Hickory Tree (growing there for some unfathomable reason), another cowboy is seen bulldogging the Longhorn Steer. The Rodeo Set picture in the Sears' Wishbook, on the other hand, is much less dynamic. In that picture, both the Bull and the Steer appear quite passive for rodeo animals. The bull is seen creeping out from a stall in the Rodeo Chute with no cowboy nearby, while the Steer stands, all by himself, but in a defiant pose, near the center of the corral. From the picture in the Sears' Wishbook, it would not be easy to tell which is the Bull and which is the Steer. The Ward's Catalog picture makes this identification a simple matter.

As far as "documentation" of the items found in the Model Power No.6100 kit is concerned, the story could end at this milepost. But it should really end just a little farther down the road. The wonderful Marx-designed Rodeo Animals deserve to remain in the spotlight just a bit longer before they go back into their box. Up close, the village collector, particularly one who admires Marx toys, can see the superb artistry of the Marx toy designers and the practical genius of the Marx production personnel in all three of the Animals. These Marx-designed Animals, unlike so many plastic toy critters, are quite realistic, and their poses capture in miniature some of the grace and the power of their live counterparts. They also capture certain realism not often found in toy animals, even if such animals are sold as "model

figures." For example, both the Bull and the Steer possess anatomical features, somewhat rudimentary it is true, which make it clear that at least one of the master toy designers of Louis Marx & Co. was once a Country Boy, who grew up with a quite matter-of-fact view of livestock.

In addition, one of the details of the Horse (likely a Mare) also merits a closer look. At first glance, this Mare seems to possess a rather oddly-shaped tail. As her tail is not really prominent in

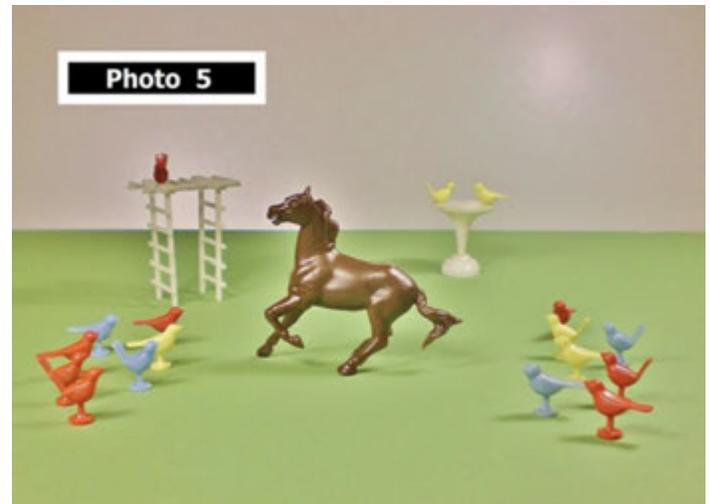


Photo 4, I've let the Mare make a cameo appearance in Photo 5, so that her tail can be admired. But the Mare's long swishing tail is seen to have a peculiar and somewhat unnatural "point" projecting backwards near its midpoint and has another point at its tip. Was this pointy appearing tail a design oversight by the Marx toy-figure creators? No indeed. If tilted back-wards, the Mare will balance on the tip of her tail and on her hind feet, so as to give the appearance of rearing up and pawing (hoofing?) the air with her forelegs! The added point near the center of the Mare's tail gives her tail a more natural look when she is rearing up than it would have if it were not so shaped. (The Mare has two tail tips—one for use when she's trotting along and the other for "keeping up appearances" when she's doing her trick!) The Mare in such an "action pose" can be glimpsed in both pictures of the Rodeo Playsets previously mentioned. But no more pictures here. Village collectors who are not ashamed to admire such wonderful little toys should seek out and purchase a Model Power No. 6100 kit, so they can see for themselves the rearing Mare in action! You certainly get more for your money in this kit than just a really neat Log Cabin. (Determined not to be upstaged by Marx Fence Birds, several flocks of colorful, but rather large, "O/S-gauge" (lol!) Plasticville Birds have shown up in Photo 5 to observe the little brown Mare.)

Like Marx Log Fence, the three Marx-designed Rodeo Animals found in the No. 6100 kit appear to have interesting and nuanced histories in subsequent Marx Playsets, histories which extend, possibly, at least to 1962, so far as I can determine. Again, however, recounting such histories is best left for another day, and perhaps best left to someone, not me, who really knows their Marx Playsets and who is, as well, a dedicated student of the thousands(!) of different Marx Western Figures and their variations and offshoots.

The Model Power No. 6100 Log Cabin is, most certainly, a highly interesting, as well as a potentially confusing, item to village collectors whose interests extend beyond the rich array of Plasticville products. Village collectors, who've acquired an

example of the Model Power Log Cabin, might have been quite unaware of the existence of earlier versions of this lovely little building. But I only learned of the Model Power Log Cabin some considerable time after I'd become aware that, somewhere out there, a Plastimarx De Mexico Log Cabin was waiting for me to find and bring home, if only I was fortunate enough to encounter it and recognize, when I saw it, what it was that I had before my eyes. (And, to be sure, that its price was right—every collector has certainly seen wonderful things for sale that they can't afford!)

So the first question I asked myself when I returned home from the Jax show and reviewed, at leisure, my "collector finds" of that day was "How the heck do I know that my earlier Ocala Log Cabin find wasn't just an unboxed example of the Model Power No. 6100 Cabin?". I didn't believe that this is the case for several reasons. I concluded at the time that my Ocala Log Cabin and my Model Power Jax Log Cabin were items of two different origins, even if they did, apparently, "come out of the same mold," as the old expression goes. But I had to admit to myself that, while I might convince myself that my Cabins had different origins, other village collectors, particularly those already familiar with the Model Power item, would, justifiably, be quite skeptical of any assertion of this conclusion without a sufficient argument to back up that claim. And, clearly, it was up to me to provide other collectors with such an argument.

I've been both thinking on and investigating this "question of origins" of my two Log Cabins ever since that Jax show last May. I began these investigations almost immediately, however. Within days of the Jax show, I visited the Model Power Co. website and looked for the No. 6100 Log Cabin in the then-current Model Power online catalogue. It was not there. The Model Power main site, however, had links to several other company websites, one of which fielded inquiries regarding Model Power products. A blind email inquiry to this site requesting information about the No. 6100 Cabin was promptly rewarded by a reply email from a knowledgeable and helpful Model Power employee known to me only as "Michael" (of *Mantua Classics*—Many thanks, Michael!). Michael informed me that the Model Power No. 6100 Log Cabin with Corral & Animals was offered as a catalogued item from 1998 through 2011. The so-called "Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price" for this item seems to have been \$14.95, from other online research.

Another question, with regard to the "pedigree" of the Model Power No. 6100 Log Cabin kit, might arise due to a village collector observing the "LITHO IN HONG KONG" legend printed on the kit box. Should he or she conclude from this that there is some connection of the No. 6100 version of the Davy Crockett Log Cabin to the Far East? Not really—this printed legend refers, not to the plastic Cabin, Animals, or Fence sections found in the No. 6100 kit, but to the kit box, itself. While the plastic items in the Model Power kit were all "Made in Mexico," the box for the kit was obtained by Model Power from a separate supplier, who fabricated boxes in Hong Kong. The "LITHO IN HONG KONG" box marking refers to the lithographic printing that was applied to the cardstock from which the box is made, right before the box

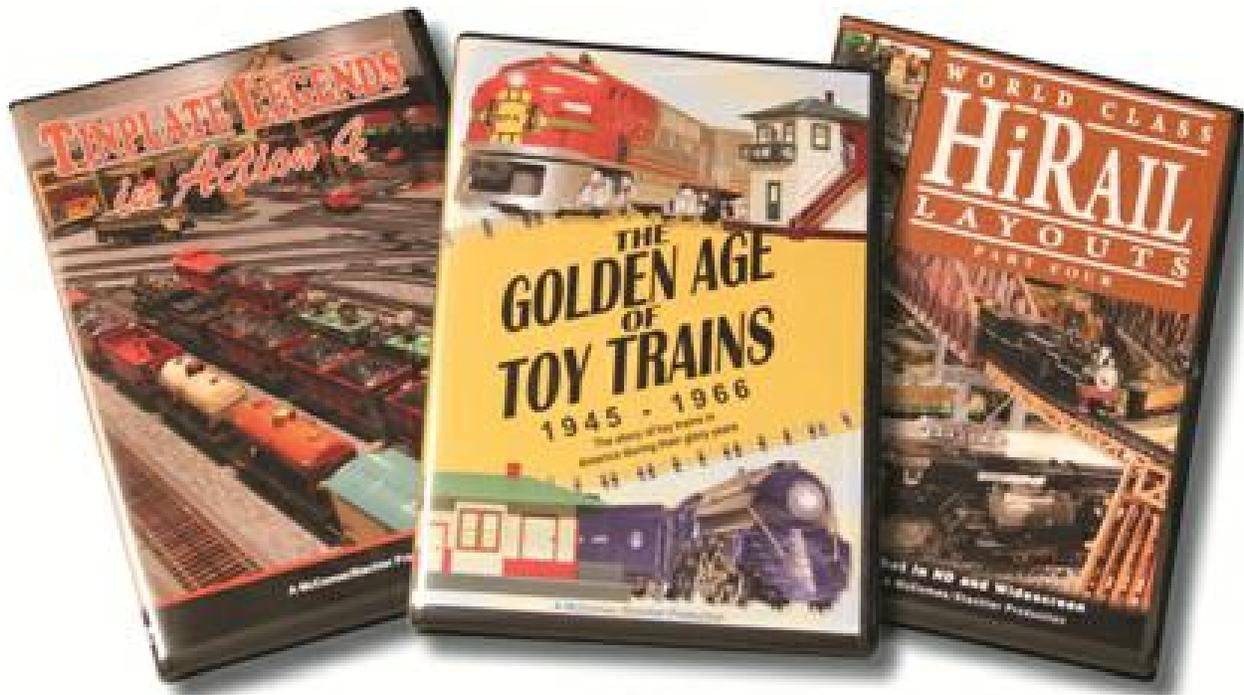
was finished. The "litho" graphics might have been applied either before or after the cardstock was die-cut to form each individual kit box. After printing the box graphics and cutting out the individual kit boxes (in whatever order that might have occurred), the cardstock was then folded and glued as necessary to finish each kit box. The kit contents: (a 6-piece Log Cabin, 4 ea. Fence sections, and 3 ea. Rodeo Animals) and the kit boxes (likely folded flat) were shipped separately from Mexico and Hong Kong to some site (likely Farmingdale, NY, Model Power company headquarters), where the plastic items were put into the boxes, along with Instruction Sheets, so as to get the No. 6100 kits ready to supply to all of the Model Power retail vendors. Observation of Model Power HO- and N-scale building kits offered for sale at train shows further evidences this conclusion about how Model Power building kits are assembled. For example, at a recent train show, I examined the box for a Model Power No. 400 Town Hall "HO Scale Building Kit." Although the box for this kit is much larger than that for the No. 6100 Log Cabin kit, the graphic designs for the two kit boxes are similar. On the bottom panel of the Town Hall kit box, in one corner, is found a small text legend. That legend reads, in part, "MADE IN GERMANY LITHO IN CHINA FOR MODEL POWER." I noted that almost all the Model Power HO-scale building kits with similar graphics, which I looked at that train show, were manufactured in Germany, with the older kits being marked "MADE IN WEST GERMANY FOR MODEL POWER." The box for the No. 400 "Made in Germany" kit I examined, however, is seen to have been manufactured in China.

At this juncture, the (relatively) easy part of my ongoing investigation ended. In order to continue with my inquiry into the origins of the Davy Crockett Log Cabin (of which I now had two examples to confuse me!), it was time for me to go on an extended expedition into the wilds of the "www," equipped only with such free gear as is provided by the well-known Internet Outfitters' firm of Google & Bing, a good bit of patience, and, as I found out later, a valid credit card. Like real research of any kind, results in my investigation here did not develop in a logical, linear fashion in accord with some preplanned outline, so giving *Villager* readers a blow-by-blow account of my *www* digging would be rather absurd. My Internet research into the history of the Davy Crockett Log Cabin proved to be quite fruitful, however, in more ways than I could have guessed at its outset. But it turned out, too, that there was a good deal more to this research effort than I'd anticipated when I began it. Consequently, the results of this research will be the subject of a "Part II" of this article, hopefully to appear in the near future in our Newsletter. (My investigative efforts on Part II are not yet complete as I write these words. Not only does this chapter of the "Log Cabin Story" span all the years between the "Davy Crockett Days" of the 1950s and the present, but it also touches many times on a wide cross-section of the toy (as well as the plastics) industries in Mexico and the U.S.A. during those years.) I hope Readers of *The Villager* will stick with me until the concluding (I also hope!) report of this Davy Crockett Log Cabin saga is complete.

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*.

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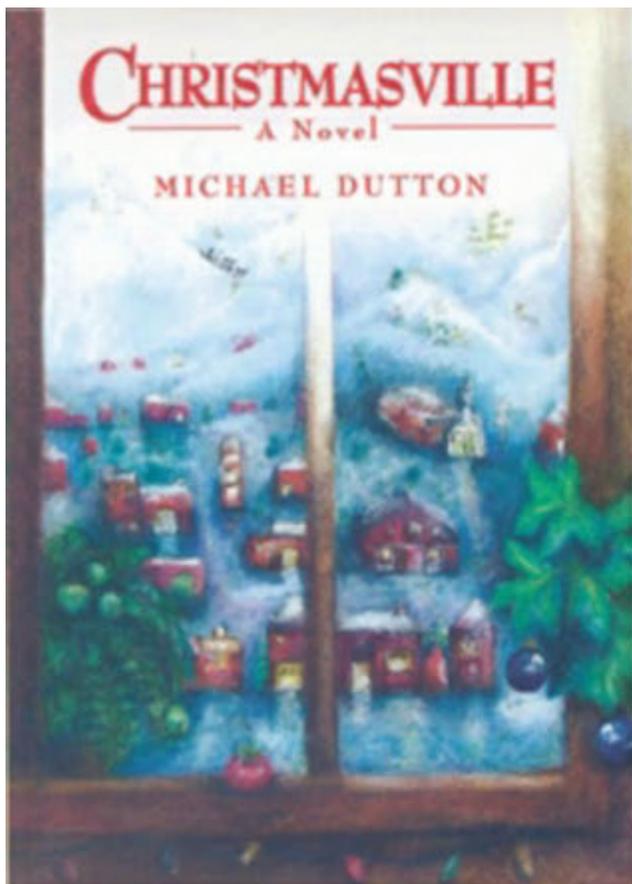
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Finding Christmasville: ISBN 978-0-9786655-2-4, trade paper, 1st edition, copyright 2012, 420 pp. Nominated for both ForeWord Reviews 2012 "Book of the Year Award" and IBPA's "Ben Franklin Award."

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PCA MEMBER #03-236

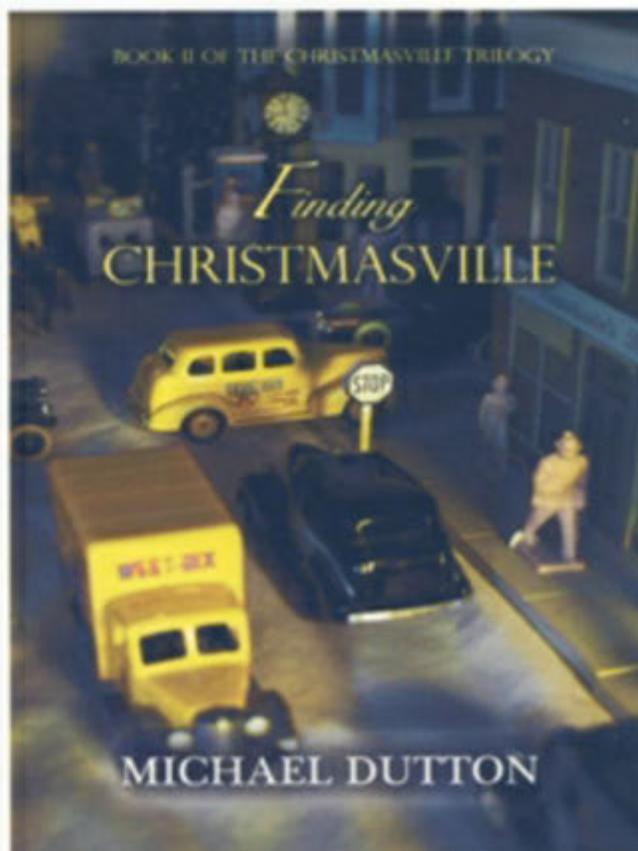
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What Members Are Saying

First of all, let me say this last newsletter is, in the words of Tony the Tiger, GREAT!. I know you put a lot of work and time into it and I know the membership appreciates it. Thank you. ...

Having done newsletters on employee relations issues for Federal government agencies, I know how much work goes into them. I also know how much you have to depend on input from others. So, I add my thanks to all who contribute. Rick Haisch #06-428

You and your staff are doing a great job, thanks again. Robert W Johnson #02-117

I have been attending the York train show for many years. In the orange hall you have a lot of train dealers, including Bachmann. What you never see is a display of Plasticville products by Bachmann. WHY? The train display is there, They can place a nice display of material in a van and drive to York, its only a one hour drive. How can you promote the hobby if you don't show up.

Also, are any of the big executives, members of the club? If not maybe we could send them a few copies of our magazine to show them what they are missing. *(I am communication with two Vice Presidents on a continual basis. Neither are members of the PCA although I do periodically send them copies of our newsletters. Editor)*

I still think they should produce a yearly product for our members and place the ad in our publication. *(We are a small Association of approximately 500 members. In both instances when the PCA offered the 5th and 10 anniversary buildings only approximately one third of the members placed orders in both instances. As you will see in the continuing visit with Lee Riley 200 - 300 pieces is well below their usual production run quantity. The pieces they create for us as a special order they do as a courtesy to our Association and actually sustain a loss on the items. Editor)*

Ok members its your turn to rise to action. If we can call or e-mail Bachmann and let them know how we feel maybe they will do something. Thank you for your time reading my thoughts. Dennis Bartley #06-397

First, thanks for your efforts with the parts -- must be quite a job. Chris Matthy

Thanks Again, I received the parts yesterday and I will be sending the payment, along with some of my spare parts to use in the parts exchange. I'm just happy to help. I was able to save a junk box Cape Cod with the help of the PCA. Jason Rackawack #12-787 *(It is member, tax deductible, donations to the Free Parts Bin that keeps it a viable member benefit. Thank you for your additions. Editor)*

Just this past year I resigned as the editor of the S gauge club that I belonged to. I was secretary/newsletter editor for over 27 years. I always tried to inject some humor into the newsletters and a little critique to inspire participation in club activities.

I really appreciate the job that you do on the PCA publication. I enjoy the articles that people provide with pictures. Someday I will have a camera that will take decent photos of my layout.

In the past issue of the Villager, the article on creating scenes with figures (or as I call it inanimate animation), was entertaining.

As I have at present a population of 3,355 little people, I may be able to provide some interesting situations that I have created on my home and traveling layout. I make a lot of one of a kind very unique celebrity figures. Here and there I will send you something that I have created.

My traveling layout is one of the most popular at train shows and has been featured on multiple occasions on our local television stations as a promotional tool. I will see if I can dig up some of the YouTube stuff that was done.

Again thanks for the job that you do for the PCA. Ron Schlicht #02-109 *(view a video of Ron's layout by copying and pasting this link into your web browser: <http://youtu.be/55EjleUIMKs>, Editor)*

Hi John. MERRY CHRISTMAS. Just got The VILLAGER. Again and again, THANK YOU for your time and effort. It is always fun and nostalgic to read.

Your question to the readership,,,,, YES, I would support a larger dues to get better/larger pictures. In fact, that's what it's all about,,,seeing and learning. I Love this stuff. Bring it on to me in the best way possible. Thanks, Jim Steed, Blairsville, Ga. #01-55

I may have to store my Plasticville collection in a Self Storage outdoor facility someday. I would like to see an article on how to properly store Plasticville in such a facility. I guess you are really storing things outdoors in this type of place. I would not want my Plasticville collection to suffer any kind of damage. Perhaps you or other members could have some input on this topic. Bob Stout #08-543 *(I may be in a similar situation in the future and would like to hear from members who have stored their collections in a Self-Store facility. Editor)*

I disagree with your observation on the two Plasticville ads shown on page 28 of the November Villager. You state that the 1962 and 1964 photographs are identical, except the latter has "sis" airbrushed out. On closer examination, the 1962 ad shows more of the right side of the boy's face (you can barely see his left eye), while the 1964 ad shows most of his entire face. Also, in the 1962 ad you can only see the front of the bungalow that the boy is holding while in the 1964 ad you can see the front and one side. I suspect that these were from one photo shoot, but they're not the same photo. Tom Fritsch Charter member #01-04

Are You a Boxed or Master Set Collector?

We are looking for a member who has a knowledge of the larger Plasticville boxed and master sets.

We need an associate editor for both the O/S and HO sets. If either of these sets are your area of expertise, please consider sharing your knowledge of the sets with fellow members through articles in *The Villager*.

Contact villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org for more information on how you can become a contributing editor for these sets in *The Villager*.

What Members Are Saying - With Pictures

... **an idea.** I was with my dad at a local model train open house and found myself taking pics of how pville was used on a club pike. Would this be an interesting feature (maybe regular, if others joined in around the country) for the newsletter?

I've attached 4 pics -- the station is a good pun; the farm and log cabin looked really nice, almost scale; the cape cod/mc club was

kind of tacky but unusual.

The show was an open house for the Black Diamond Society of Model Engineers in Bethlehem, PA. They have an HO layout upstairs and 2-rail O/3-rail O/On30/S layout downstairs. I think the only pville on the HO layout was one switch tower. Chris Matthy #01-73



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Member Layouts

As promised and as is usually on the November issue of *The Villager* here are photos of member layouts. That I have received since last year. I hope you enjoy them and maybe even pick up a few pointers for a Christmas garden layout or your permanent layout.



Dan Palaschak #08-548 writes about the diner in this picture: "... this from a local diner, Route 58 delicatessen, here at the beach which has fabulous sandwiches just like the old delis of NYC where the owner apprenticed.

One of the things he does is put a flag on each dish as it comes out and he cooks and cuts his own meat. The corned beef is to die

for and plentiful on a plate and the Reuben wins a "best of" every year.

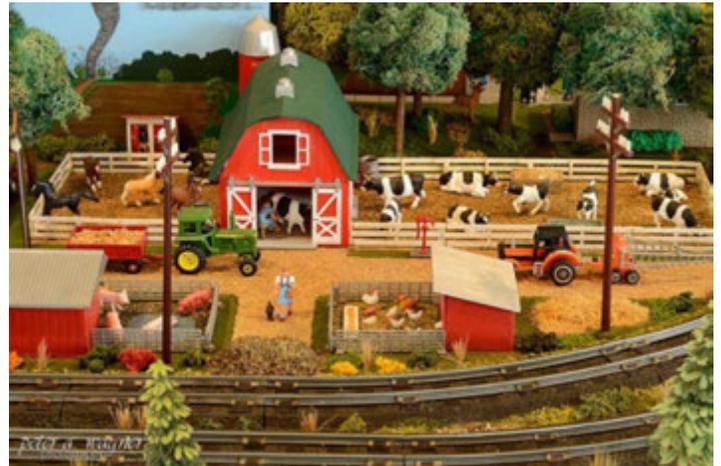
To honor him I set up some Plasticville and took this shot. Flag works well with the diner - I added the motels and Frosty bar to make it feel at home!"



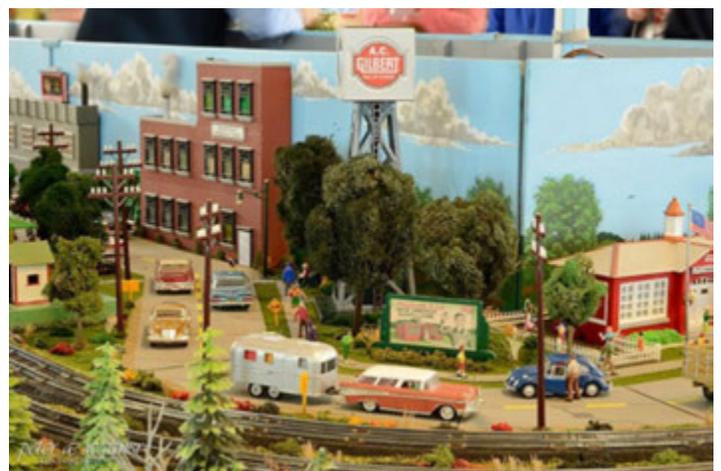
Ken Honick, #10-628 creates a small layout each holiday season in his basement and invites friends and neighbors over to enjoy his labors. Notice his very predominant display of the PCA 10th Anniversary barn.



Chuck Neumann #08-528 seems to have enough time each year to create an extremely large Christmas garden display. Not only does he use Plasticville but also Department 56 and K-Line..



Ron Schlicht #02-109 has a very large S gauge traveling layout. Here are four of three of the sections of the layout and a corner view in the lower right photo. (See anything out of the ordinary in the upper left photo?) Photos courtesy of Peter Wagner.





Robert W Johnson, #02-117 How many of us can boast of having photos of our very first layout? Robert can! The backs of the photos are dated June 1997.

Confirmed Color and Parts Combination for 45618 Motel

By John Niehaus #-01-03

MOTEL, from page one Shortly after I replied that the unit was probably made up of various pieces Wesley dropped a bombshell! He had just purchased another unit of the same color combination. He carefully opened one end of the box to view the contents and found the same color and parts combination as his original purchase illustrated on page one.

As he now had two examples, he offered his latest purchase to me. Of course, I accepted. Upon receipt I again verified that this was a unique color and parts combination and one that was unknown to me.

As shown in the photo at right, the kit contains the following: dark gray (almost steel gray) walls AND windows, with a tan roof, front walk, and doors. The parts are still in the sealed plastic bag making this a definite confirmed variation.

This is the first time that I have seen a motel with the windows the same color as the walls. All previous versions of the Motel have had the doors, windows, and sidewalk molded in the same color as the roof.

The burning question I have about this item is, "Why did Bachmann mold the windows in the same color as the walls?" We may never get an

answer to that question.

If you have a 45618 Motel in this color combination I would like to hear from you.

If you have a 45618 Motel in the reverse color and parts combination I would like to hear from you.

Contact me at villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org





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When the Railroad Came to Our Town My 2012 Christmas Layout in a Photo Story

By Larry Madaj #10-633
Lupton, MI



When the railroad came to our town, our churches were set off in a small space without grade.



But our town is so small that we all walk to church for Christmas services using the walk-way above the tracks. (Left)



The “fishers of men” wish that our :”fishers of fish” would come to the service too! (Right)



Our Christmas tree farm is doing well. (Left)



While Stan the Mounted Officer hopes he can get back to the station at shift end before he falls off his horse from all those cups of “coffee” that the townsfolk shared with him for the season (Right)



It looks as the animal rescue shelter may have an adoption in a few minutes but look at the naughty dog (Left)



Look at all the returning townspeople’s planes at the airport (Right)

Welcome New Members

The following individuals' names have been added to the Plasticville Collectors Association membership roster as of January 1, 2012. Their names are now permanently listed in the on line roster.

Wm Robert Bentley, Barre, MA
John Krill, Wilmington, DE
William S Lemak, Peekskill, NY
Fred J Gorbell, Jacksonville, FL
Mark B David, Champaign, IL
Bill C Rieken, Bourne, MA
Robert E Barton Sr, Bloomsburg, PA
George C Pipis, Cortland, NY
John F Sprague, Allendale, NJ
Tom J McDonald, Somerset, MA
William H Moye, Bay City, TX
Louis A Visi, Toledo, OH
Fred M Cancilliere, The Villages, FL
Edmond J Danielson, Lexington, MA
Michael P Linkowich Jr, Baltimore, MD
Steve Dsurratt, Spencer, NC
Michael J Kawaler, St Louis, MO

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 April 1, 2013.

Donald L Orr, Rockwall, TX
Joseph Polchopek, West Seneca, NY
Jim Kennedy, Nesconset, NY
Michael R Mills, Altamonte Springs, FL
Jason Rackawack, Catasauqua, PA
David C Petritz, West Lafayette, IN
Gene C Dawson, Weatherford, TX
Dennis M Denk, Sayreville, NJ
Thomas VanVoorhis, Ocala, FL
David M Harris, Harrisburg, PA
Frank L Martinll III, Fort Wayne, IN
Mark R Pletcher, Lake Hopatcong, MK
Joseph Troyan, Folsom, PA
John D Pelton, Carmel Valley, CA
Fred L Peltz, New City, NY
Daniel R Dahling, Kings Mills, OH
Frederick H Hachmeyer, Maywood, NJ
Jonathan B Wagner, Levittown, NY
Ralph R Oswald, Crestwood, MO

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 20 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:

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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.

PCA ball caps coming soon!

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.

Future Train Meet Dates

York Meets

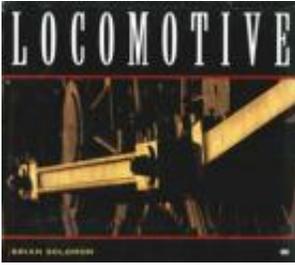
2013: April 18, 19, 20 - October 17, 18, 19
2014: April 24, 25, 26 - October 16, 17, 18

Cal-Stewart Meets

2013: March 8-10, Santa Clara

Send your information of future non-commercial meets to villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org for publication here
TCA, LCCA, LOTS, and other non-commercial meet dates accepted.

Product Reviews



LOCOMOTIVE. Brian Solomon, originally published by Crestline, a division of Book Sales, Inc. and rereleased by Voyageur Press, 160 pages, hardbound, 10 1/2 X 12 horizontal format, \$14.99, currently listed at a discount on the website at \$11.24. Color and black & white photos throughout.

When I first saw the steam engine drivers and connecting rods illustration on the dust jacket and the cover of this book I thought, "Wow, a book on steam engines". But when I opened the book up I found my wow just a bit abated. Instead of the book dedicated totally to steam engines, and I believe such a book by Mr Solomon is more than possible, I found steam, diesel, and electrics were subjects.

There are three sections to the book; a section on steam locomotives, diesel locomotives, and electric locomotives. The steam section contains ten chapters. The diesel section contains fifteen chapters. The electric section contains five chapters. Each section is prefaced with a short one or two page historical overview of the locomotives in that section. The chapters in each section are a discussion of a specific type of locomotive. The chapters are generally four pages with copious photos but some extend to six pages.

Each chapter is a discussion of one particular locomotive. Although the chapters are mostly photos, the text included is highly informative. An added feature that I thought interesting is a LOCOMOTIVE FACTS box for each locomotive. Some of the locomotives, especially steam and electric are related to a specific road such as New York Central's Hudson steamer, the Pennsylvania GG1, or the Milwaukee's "Little Joe" electrics. The chapters in the diesel section are related to the manufacturer rather than a specific road.

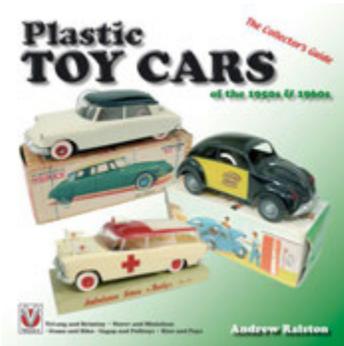
Along with the requisite acknowledgments and introduction at the beginning of the book, there is a one page bibliography and a two page index at its conclusion.

I have never failed to pick up tidbits of information when reading Mr Solomon's books. This one is no different. I thoroughly enjoyed sitting in my recliner with my feet up, reading this book and at a whole \$11.24 plus shipping how could I go wrong.

LOCOMOTIVE can be purchased directly from Voyageur press on their website at voyageurpress.com or <http://qbookshop.com>. You can also order by telephone at 800 458-0454. This book was originally published at \$29.99. Voyageur Press' list price is \$14.99. It is currently offered on both websites at a discounted price of only \$11.24.

In addition to ordering it directly, the web page also has hyperlinks to purchase the book directly from various online retailers.

Don't forget to mention you saw the review of their product in the newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association when placing an order.



Plastic Toy Cars of the 1950s & 1960s, The Collectors Guide. Andrew Ralston, published by Veloce Publishing, 126 pages, softbound, 10 X 10 format, \$39.95. Color photos throughout. Veloce is a British publishing company although they do have offices in the United States through Quayside Publishing.

Who could resist checking out a book with a title of Plastic Toy

Cars? Especially from the 50's and 60's? I sure couldn't.

The book contains eight chapters. Each chapter is a review of various plastic vehicles of a specific country. I state vehicles as in some chapters the illustrations are other than cars. Some of the additional vehicles are various types of trucks as well as busses. There is even an ambulance of two, including the one on the book's cover.

Each chapter begins with historical information regarding some of the major manufacturers of the subject country. The remainder

of each chapter is a collection of color illustrations of vehicles made in that country. Additional information includes the length and whether the piece had a friction motor or electric control.

Most of the vehicles are illustrated with their respective boxes. This information helped me to determine the manufacturer of some of the vehicles in my collection.

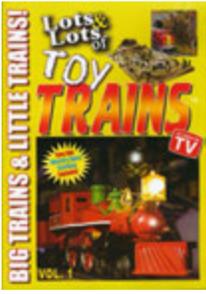
Although this book is mostly European, the chapters on US and Hong Kong manufacturers were quite interesting. My only small issue is that the author, as do others, noted Plasticville as a manufacturer rather than Bachmann Industries. Plasticville has been a trade name of Bachmann Industries since the name's inception. Other than this small factual error I found this book to be informative and in some instances as I stated previously helpful in my identification of some plastic vehicles in my collection.

Plastic Toy Cars of the 1950s & 1960s can be purchased through Veloce's US representative, Quayside Books at <http://www.qbookshop.com>. It is listed on their website at a sale price of \$29.96.

It is also available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble at additional discounts. There are even links on the book's web page to Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

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*.



Lots & Lots of Toy Trains, Vol. 1 - Big Trains & Little Trains. DVD Approximately 80 minutes. Produced by Marshall Publishing & Promotions, Inc., \$19.95 - currently on sale on their website for \$12.95.

There are eleven chapters on the DVD plus a "big steam" bonus chapter which translates onto videos of real steam engines.

Each chapter is prefaced with a very short real steam train run by. Some of these run by seem to be of vintage British engines.

The toy train segment is a little over 40 minutes of the disk while the real trains take up the remainder of the time. That is a bit of a disappointment as I feel that the audience to which this DVD and the other one in the series, youngsters up to about eight years of age, would be more captivated by the toy trains than the real ones.

James Coffee, whose name may be familiar to those of you who have purchased the TM Books & Video *I Love Toy Trains* videos, provides musical accompaniment to the *Counting Song* and *Landmarks of America* chapters.

As O and O27 trains run in various displays James sings *The Counting Song*. Some of the car sequences are viewed so that as James sings the numbers cars with loads of wooden blocks of the numbers pass by. I found this a nice way to help youngsters associate the words with the numbers.

The *Landmarks of America* chapter seems to be a G gauge layout either in a mall or an out of doors layout. It was easy to recognize the landmarks such as The White House, Wrigley Field, the Statue of Liberty, Old Faithful, Mount Rushmore, and the "Painted Ladies" Victorian and Edwardian houses on Alamo Square in San Francisco.

In addition to all of the toy train videos there is a bonus section



Bryant Bennett, PCA member #10-626 has introduced a set of track pliers to the world. These are a heavy duty set with very soft comfort grips. (See his ad is on page 4 of this newsletter).

They are chrome plated. They weigh in at nearly 12 ounces. They seem to be a modified pair of Sheffield Hardware's Easy Cut

Linesman 7 inch pliers.

They have been modified to include a semi-circular groove near the tips running across the face of each jaw. When closed these

of real steam. The bonus section seems to be featured run by on media from Highball Productions (traintapes.com) as the opening sequences prominently display the Highball name as well as the traintapes website.

Some of the featured engines are; a doubleheader of engines numbers 7 and 8 of the South Carver, Massachusetts, Edaville Railroad, a Nevada Northern #93 run by, and a Durango & Silverton railroad K-36 cab ride up the Animus river canyon.

This is a very enjoyable DVD for both children and adults due to the diversity of trains featuring themes such as Halloween, garden railways, and Lego trains to name a few.

I enjoyed this DVD and would recommend it to any grandparents or parents seeking to instill an interest in toy trains in the younger set.

I would be remiss if I did not note that this DVD should not be equated with those of TM Books & Video. This video, with *The Counting Song* and *The Landmarks of America* songs seems to be more directed at youngsters up through about the age of eight years, although adults should enjoy it as well. I am well past the age of eight years old but still enjoyed this production.

Lots & Lots of Toy Trains, Vol. 1 can be purchased for the sale price of \$12.95 from Marshall Publishing via their website at marshallpublishinginc.com. It can be ordered by phone at 888 300-3455. I found the DVD also offered on Amazon's website.

I also viewed **Lots & Lots of Toy Trains, Vol. 2, Model Railroads in Action** and found it just as entertaining, if not more due to more songs by James Coffee. He has five songs on this DVD including an *Alphabet* song and the old standby *I've Been Working on the Railroad*.

Lots & Lots of Toy Trains, Vol. 1 & 2 may be purchased separately at \$12.95 each or you may wish to consider purchasing the highly discounted package of Volumes 1 and 2, plus a free audio CD for a total of \$14.95.

grooves become a complete circular groove. The groove is to be used to "tighten" track pins in the ends of tubular track.

I found that using this groove not only did it make the track pin tighter in the end of the track but is also helped in taking any out of round condition out of the end of the rail as well.

There are also serrations on the jaws for greater gripping of extremely tight track pins when attempting removal of such.

This tool should be in your toolbox if you model in traditional tubular track.

The pliers can be purchased directly from Bryan Bennett for \$15.00 plus \$6.00 Priority Mail shipping. His address is 759 Turj Ave. N.E., Palm Bay, FL 32907-1654. His email address is squaredea@aol.com. Phone 321 725-5973

- 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 Parts Bin

A PCA Membership Benefit

The parts listed on this page are offered free to members on a first come first served basis
The only cost is the packaging and postage cost to mail the pieces requested
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 part color, front, rear, left, or right walls in your request if applicable

UPDATED!

Check Out the Listings in Bold, They're NEW!

Cape Cod - walls, roofs - specify color
Coaling Tower pieces - request by letter on part
Suburban Station - platform, roof - green, white w/brown door wall, rear and side walls
Motel - roofs, front walks, walls - specify pink or white and w or w/o doors & windows
Small Super Market or Small Gas Station - side & rear walls - specify side needed
Small Super Market or Small Gas Station - roof - red
Hospital - red letters, steps - missing 1 pin, walls, - specify by wording on wall
Bridge & Pond - dark green
Station Platform - roofs, platforms - specify light or dark brown
School House - all walls - red - white lettering
School House - roofs - light gray - note that the color is not consistent from one piece to the next
School House - cupola - white
PO-1 - Post Office , in poor box - no inserts or flag
AD-4 Airport Admin Bldg - walls, roofs
Signal bridge - specify parts needed
BN-1 Barn - specify parts and colors needed
Colonial Mansion - chimney half - one or no pins
Two-Story House - garage wall, white
Bank - walls & roof
Fire House - roof
Footbridge - missing one side
RH-1 - Ranch House walls - white w/light blue trim

BB-9 Billboard - green
New England Rancher - walls
2 Story House - back wall, red
Split Level House - walls
Log Cabin w/chimney - unglued
Log Cabin - side walls, roof w/chimney
Frosty Bar - roof, wall - white
Passenger Station - in box, no signs or chimney
Littletown Cape Cod wall - no window or door
Marx - General Store front wall - no window displays
Covered Bridge - tan floor - specify parts needed
45609 Police Station, minus lights & car - w/instructions
Unknown 6" tall tree with shrubs on each side
MT-2 Maple Tree base, chip out of mounting hole
Switch Tower roof w/sign slots - light gray
Marx Ranch House front wall - white
Marx Ranch House center wall - white
Police Station small chimney half & cap - green - glued
Independence Hall, roof railings - no pins
2 Story House - gray roof
Ranch House - left wall, -yellow
Fire House - chimney cap
Small Gas Station - pump island
Gas Station - "Regular" gas pump
Gas Station - oil can rack
Littletown House - garage front wall
Littletown House - chimney

Donations to The Parts Bin are a Win-Win proposition!

Donors receive an in kind receipt from the PCA for the parts they donate.

Members have the opportunity to acquire needed parts.

Let's keep it going! What is in your "junk" box just taking up space that another member may need?

The Villager Classified Ads

Note:

Member name, address, email address, and member number should not be considered part of the word count.

The telephone number will be included in an ad only if it is 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.

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 in the For Sale or Wanted categories must be plastic village related. Items other than plastic village pieces such as trains or

non-plastic accessories are not allowed.

Ads in the For Trade category may contain toy trains or other items providing plastic village pieces are being traded or sought as one side of the trade. (Plasticville for trains or Department 56 for Plasticville.)

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.

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

For Sale

Box for House Under Construction, No. 1624-100. Very good condition, all tabs and flaps present. No tears or holes, very square and crisp. Color and graphics excellent. One minor tape damage spot. Some minor glue and tape to restore. Great for display. \$6.00 firm. #01-55 Jim Steed, 123 Moon Shadow View, Blairsville, GA 30512. Phone 706-745-0629, gayleandjimstead@gmail.com (Feb 13)

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 13)

Small collection and accumulation of Plasticville for sale. Prefer to sell as a lot rather than piece by piece. Send for list or request list by email at facltf@verizon.net. #02-87, Lawrence Fachler, 6 Bosko Dr, East Brunswick, NJ 08816-4542 (Feb 13)

Long-time collector thinning out collection. Have Plasticville, Littletown, Marx, Storytown. Call or email me your wants. All pieces complete with nice boxes. Some rare pieces. #01-39 Richard Sipes, 541 Sandy Valley Rd, White Haven, PA 18661 Phone 570 721-8028, richsipes60@gmail.com (May 13)

For Trade

Fits perfect with Plasticville or Dept 56. Fleischmann Magic Trains (Discontinued in 2008) Euro style 2 axle bogies. Locos 0-4-0. All in original boxes. Over 100 pieces. Runs on HO track similar to ON30 size. Will trade for plastic village pieces I desire. #11-660 Harold (Hal) Seitz, 5141 NW 84th Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33351. hal5141@comcast.net (May 13)

Marx Fire House Roof. Have light gray roof. Want red roof. #09-572 W Douglas McHan Jr, 113 New Milford Tpk, New Preston CT, 06777. robbie_eggs@yahoo.com Put Marx Fire House in the subject if sending an email. (August 13)

Wanted

Charcoal cupola roof for 1806 Roadside Stand, #08-509, Neil Holcomb, 6408 Shamel Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46278. 317-872-0575. Please contact me at wnholcomb@comcast.net (Feb 13)

Antenna for TV Station, side porch (right side) for the 2 Story House, pavement for pink Motel w/white roof, roof for Hospital, weathervane and top crown for Plasticville Town Hall, very top piece for factory water tower. #12-745, John Barnish, 1117 Marquette Rd, Hartland, WI 53029 Phone 262 367-3788 (Feb 13)

Set of shrubbery for the Marx School House. Marx preferred, but K-Line OK. Cap for the Marx School House in light gray. Five basic fence pieces for the Plasticville #1623 Cattle Loading Pen. #99-01, Joe Kutza, 13301 Pepper CT, Germantown, MD 20874 Phone 301 528-6679 (May 13)

Roof for Split Level House, roof for red and white barn silo, felt or paper church stained glass window inserts, roof for Ranch House. Items are for O scale buildings. #01-81, Chris Rossbach,

135 Richwood Dr, Gloversville NY 12078 Phone 518 725-4446 (May 13)

1640-100 Presidential kit that came with set 1640W Campaign Special passenger train. Need banners, Plasticville figures, and packaging including box. #12-757, James Amato, 601 Broad St, Box 333, Sewickley, PA 15143 (May 13)

Wanted brown/black marbled water spout for 1615 Water Tank. 1951 Plasticville catalog. Buildings from K-Line train sets. #01-03 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021 515 771-6888 after 7:00 PM (May 13)

Looking for O/S scale parts and boxes. Need box for 1906 Factory, 1501 Bank, 1402 Switch Tower. Parts: need signal heads, brackets, all lenses and one upright for Signal Bridge; Gray ladder for 1615 Water Tank; one piece white wheels and axle for Automobile. #12-787 Jason Rackawack, 503 Race St, Catasaugua, PA rack776@yahoo.com (Nov 13)

Plasticville
USA



CHECK INTO THIS MOTEL

Bachmann's O scale Motel Building Kit is now being offered in a crisp white and blue paint scheme. And you'll want to provide nearby services to your motel's hungry guests with our classic *Plasticville*® U.S.A. Diner, Frosty Bar, and Roadside Stand Building Kits. Make your reservations now to check out the Motel's colorful paint renovations at your favorite hobby dealer.

Item No. 45616 Motel MSRP \$24.00

COMING SOON!



Diner
Item No. 45605
MSRP \$24.00



Frosty Bar
Item No. 45606
MSRP \$19.50



Roadside Stand
Item No. 45621
MSRP \$24.00

SHIPPING NOW!

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