

The Villager

The Official Newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 13

November 2014

Number 4

New Dues structure for 2015

Dues for the mailed newsletter membership level have been raised for the 2015 calendar year. Dues for the mailed black and white issues have been raised to \$15. Dues for the mailed color newsletter have been raised to \$45. The change in dues was noted in the August issue of the newsletter in the minutes of the

Executive Committee meeting. The increase was necessary due to an increase in printing and mailing costs. It is hoped that there will be no need for an additional increase in the next few years.

Dues for the electronic membership level (ePCA) remains at \$8.

2015 Dues Now Payable

Dues for the 2015 calendar year are now payable but do not send in payment yet. If your membership expires this year you will receive a notice in the mail to that effect. The mailing will include an addressed envelope in which you can remit your dues as well as a dues structure card. You also have the option of paying your dues on line through PayPal. There is a

membership renewal link on the home page of the PCA website. Be certain that you use the Renew option and not the Donate option.

If you have prepaid dues for 2015 and beyond you will not receive a notice requesting additional dues. Your membership dues will not increase until your current membership expires.

Still Looking for a New Contributing Editor

Your editorial staff is still looking for someone to come forward and volunteer to write articles on a continuing basis for *The Villager*. We would like someone to contribute articles on a quarterly basis to fill the page to a page and a half that will be empty after the February issue.

You need not be a Pulitzer Prize writer, only the desire to share your knowledge of plastic village pieces with the

membership.

Is there a Marx collector amongst us who would like to provide a quarterly article on buildings by that manufacturer?

Is there a Beemak collector amongst us who would like to provide a quarterly article on buildings by that manufacturer?

Is there a Littletown collector amongst us who would like to provide a quarterly article on buildings by that manufacturer?

Mystery Wall Identified

The mystery wall shown in the previous issue of *The Villager* and here has been positively identified by three individuals as the back wall of a Littletown #109 Railroad Station.

Richard Sipes responded, "I can definitely confirm it is a rear wall from a Littletown train station. I compared it with mine ...".

Glenn Bowman added additional detail in his reply, "In my opinion, the UFO wall is the back wall for the Littletown Station. The color is not correct to be a Kleeware station wall. "

Chris Matthy's added a bit more information with his reply, "... I'm sure you've heard by now that the wall is indeed a Littletown station back wall -- they came in 2 yellow-walled variations that I'm aware of. My Kleeware one is white with red doors, and from everything I've seen Kleeware only has one color variation per building, since the molds were borrowed

and run once...".

Thanks to Richard, Glenn, and Chris for providing information regarding the piece

PCA pen is going out to each for their help in identifying this piece.



The Villager

Published quarterly by the Plasticville Collectors Association.

President: Doug Gilliatt

Vice President: Fred Ruby

www.plasticvilleusa.org

Secretary/Treasurer: John L Niehaus

Newsletter editor: John L Niehaus

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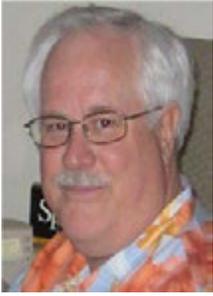
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CLASSIC TOY TRAINS MAGAZINE

A41C

From the President's Desk



As it has been in the past *Villagers* this time of the year I continue to hope that all of our members and their families had a safe and happy summer. We are finally having a bit of a 'cool' weather here in the Valley of the Sun (that means no temps in the 100s during the day). Usually myself and the my dog (Oscar) would be hitting a few garage sales in the early AM to see what we can find but since we are preparing to move to our new smaller home next year that endeavor is off the table.

Since I am busy packing up and trying to move my collection to the new homestead things have been a bit crazy (and messy) around the house. One does not realize what they have until they open storage boxes that have been put away for 15+ years (It's like Christmas).

Even if I am not hitting the sales I am sure that some of the members will be checking out the local garage sale/flea market or train shows now that Fall is here and come away with a prize they would like to share with the membership. So if you bought something recently or received a gift and you believe that it would be of interest please write a short article and maybe a picture or two for publication in *The Villager*. If you do send a photo (preferably on a green background), send to villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org and to webmaster@plasticvilleusa.org so that it can be placed on our website.

Hopefully I will be attending the desert division TCA annual train show in December this year. I will report in the next

Villager on any unique or rare Plasticville/etc. items that were present. Maybe a really rare piece shows up and I will get lucky enough to be the new owner, if so I will be sure to report on the item. At any of the other fall train shows that the members will be attending remember to mention the PCA anywhere train "nuts" are found. I continue to include myself in the "nut" group.

On another subject that you have all seen me write about many times is that of the On-line (e-mail) delivery of the PCA's newsletter, *The Villager*. I continue to promote the delivery of *The Villager* to our members via website download in place of the U.S.P.S. 'snail mail' delivery. If you have access to a computer and a color printer and are still receiving a paper copy, please consider the online delivery system. Next year's membership dues for mailed copies increased while the ePCA dues (you download the newsletter from the PCA website) stayed at a mere \$8.00.

As I have said many times before and continue to say 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.

It is also great so see that our Parts Bin offerings are being taken advantage of. Remember if you are in need of a part to complete a building check the Parts Bin to see if the PCA has it available.

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

Vice President's Musings



Fall is upon us; it is early October with leaves turning colors and starting to drop in most of the Northern Hemisphere. Here in Southern California, we are about to face 106 degrees F in much of the areas surrounding Los Angeles. Not much inspiration for traditional Autumnal pursuits. Then again, the mountain resorts 400 miles north of L.A. already have received their first dusting of snow. Yeah, that makes things seem better aligned with the calendar.

Yeah, Halloween is happening! Take out that set of striped overalls and hat, get a red bandanna and hand out candy showing your passion in costume form.

Plans for visiting the local train meets and antique shows are being penciled in on family calendars. Maybe plans are in motion for attending one of the Fall train shows that draw a national audience. The Fall S Fest in Chicago is but a few weeks away, York is also this month. Where are you going? What other activities will occur? Visits to family and friends coincide with the travel? Let our editor know if you come across a unique find. If you attend S Fest why not write an article on what you saw and did for *The Villager*?

This is also the time of year that most of us start swapping out

screens for storm windows, putting the patio furniture into the garage or storage shed, put a new filter into the furnace and cover any attic vents in preparation for the cold weather upon us, or soon to be.

Winterize the car? Get the heavy coats and sweaters out of storage and pack away the shorts and swim suits. Prepare your budgets for expensive fruits and frozen turkeys on sale or given away.

But in the Plasticville World, we can change out trees for the Autumn Foliage set, get some extras at the local meet or some of the new offerings and paint them in reds and golds to reflect what we see outside. Think a few minutes on how that might affect your layout's appearance. If you do, take a few before and after pictures to share with the PCA membership. An accompanying article would be great, but if you don't want to do so, or feel you're not talented enough (you really are, but that's another column), just send us the photos and we will set up a nice article for all to enjoy.

As you read through the minutes of our Executive Meeting held just last night, you'll see the club leadership is busy making improvements to the website (thank you Joe and now John); busy taking care of members contributions to the club; busy handling the Parts Bin requests (thanks once more to John) and resolving issues of direction for the club and *The Villager*.

Vice President's Musings (continued)

The surest way to keep the club healthy and active is for each member to contribute an article for *The Villager*. We all know that not everyone can do so, nor want to. But if a worst case happens and we get flooded with articles, we can have a grand time picking through and publishing a variety of writings for the next few years. Everyone benefits from that.

Here's hoping that as glorious Fall melds into Winter, El Nino hits the West Coast to end our drought, the Arctic Blasts stays away from us all and Santa brings you that red-roofed Post Office you dream of.

PCA Vice-President, Fred Ruby

Notes From the Secretary/Editor



It is a bit difficult for me to believe that this is the last newsletter with me at the editorial helm. It is also difficult to believe that this is our 52nd edition.

How the newsletters have changed over the last thirteen years. Our first newsletter was a mere twelve pages and contained only six display ads. Three of the six ads were PCA members. Gary holds the record for continuous advertising. He has had a business card sized in every issue since Volume 1, Number 1. Please accept my apologies if any other member has also been a continuous advertiser since the first newsletter.

This newsletter is forty pages. That increase in size over the years is due only to the generosity of members who have contributed a series of articles or even single articles. The newsletter would be a shadow of itself without member contributions.

I feel that our newsletter is at a turning point. We have new editor, Matthew Harvazinski, starting with the February 2015 edition. I am confident that Matthew will take newsletter to the next level and am anxious to see his editorial style. He cannot do that nor maintain the quality of the newsletter without input from contributing editors and single article contributors.

We are losing our longtime Contributing Editor John Gottcent after the February 2015 edition. We will also lose Contributing Editor Chris Matthy when he exhausts his articles on the StoryTown pieces. Their loss will leave a four to six page "hole" in the newsletter. That "hole" needs to be filled by new contributors. We need to have one or two, or more, people step forward and volunteer to write articles related to their favorite plastic village pieces if the newsletter is to continue be the same size and informative as it is today.

A series of articles on Marx, Skyline, Beemak, or other lesser know manufacturers would surely be appreciated and avidly read by our members.

Franklin D Roosevelt stated in his "Fireside Chats" that "The only thing we has to fear is fear itself". I totally agree with his statement. Not a single member of the PCA should fear that they cannot write an article for *The Villager*. I am confident that Matthew will work with you, as I have done with some article contributors in the past, to format your article so that it is well presented in *The Villager*. Why not give it a try?

I have had comments in the past, as well as in the last three months, that mailed letters to PCA members from fellow members have not been answered by the recipient. We all need to ensure that we use all of the various channels of communication with our fellow PCA members. We should all be aware that a small number of our members do not have email,

much less Internet access thus more traditional means of communication are employed by those members.

How does one determine if an email is spurious or from an actual PCA member? One method the recipient of a mailed letter can use to determine if the sender is a PCA member is to search for the sender's name in the Membership Roster on the PCA website. Conversely, if a member with no Internet access is sending a mailed letter to another PCA member it is advised that the sender include their PCA membership number as well as mention that they are a PCA member in their letter.

A member may also, as a last resort, contact the PCA Secretary to validate that the person sending them an email or a letter through the mail is a PCA member in good standing.

I am certain that all of you are aware of the Show N Tell meetings that we have at the York train meets. Do you attend multi-day train meets in your area where the possibility of other PCA members attending is almost a "given"? Do you attend larger meets such as Train-Fest, S-Fest, or Cal-Stewart? These multi-day train shows are an ideal time to meet fellow PCA members. Why not contact them and have a get together before, during, or after the show? Write up the meeting and send it to the editor of *The Villager* for publication in the next edition of our newsletter? I will be happy to provide you with the names and email addresses of members in your immediate area.

Have you visited the PCA's Facebook page and "liked" it. Check back often as our Facebook Superfriend is now posting various questions relative to collecting all things Plastic Village.

Our inventory of PCA t-shirts is extremely limited. Please contact me before sending an order to ensure that the size you wish is in stock.

It's with sadness that I announce that the wife of long time PCA member Chuck Neuman, #08-528, passed away on September 22 after a short illness. Some of you may remember Chuck's elaborate holiday displays that have been published in *The Villager* over the years. Check out his 2013 display on page 29 of this issue.

Another sad note. John Holtman, owner of Hybrid Systems Limited and the publisher of the Lionel and American Flyer CD's that have been reviewed periodically in *The Villager* has ceased production and sales due to his not renewing his licensing agreement with Lionel. This is a loss, in my opinion, due to the extremely high quality of his products.

Department of corrections: I am surprised that no one chastised me regarding the front page of the August newsletter. The mailed editions showed the month of May instead of August in the masthead!

October, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The October 2014 Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 8:15 PM, Eastern time, on October 1 by President Doug Gilliatt. Those in attendance were; President Doug Gilliatt, Vice-President Fred Ruby, Secretary/Treasurer John Niehaus, Immediate Past President James Dawes. Founder Joe Kutza was absent.

Old business:

Website Revision

Secretary/Treasurer Niehaus reported that he has sent three payments to the website developer. He also stated that he is working on a revised home page that will have graphics more relevant to the PCA. A mockup of that page was sent to the Executive Committee members and comments on its content were requested.

The Parts Bin

Secretary Niehaus reported that he received twelve requests for parts and that it was the largest number of requests in any other quarter. He also reported that ten of the requests were either partially or completely fulfilled.

Vice President Ruby asked if any recognition had been made as to the person who instigated The Parts Bin. Secretary Niehaus volunteered to write a short article relating how The Parts Bin came into being as well as sending to the person who initially made the program a reality a small gift as well as a certificate of appreciation.

Inclusion of eBay selling names in classified ads

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved, after a lengthy discussion, to continue the stipulation that eBay seller names may not be included in the free classified ads in *The Villager* unless the advertiser also has a paid display ad elsewhere in the same edition of the newsletter. The sentiment was that the free classified ads are for those wishing to sell items directly to members. It was also noted that some members sell quite heavily on eBay, effectively making that activity a de facto business. It was also noted that if eBay seller names were allowed in classified ads without having a display ad in the same newsletter then a member could create an ad that only mentioned their eBay seller name and be effectively placing an

ad for their business. A possible ad under this scenario might read: Check out eBay seller name JoePVille to see my quality Plasticville for sale on eBay.

Adding a link to the Eastern Division TCA's website on the PCA website

Secretary Niehaus reported that the link to the Eastern Division TCA website had been added to the Links/General page of the PCA website. He also stated that he is actively pursuing reciprocal links with other TCA divisions.

New Business

Large donation of Plasticville pieces

Secretary Niehaus reported that he had received a donation of approximately 40 Plasticville buildings and accessories with many in their original box. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to place the entire donation into a silent auction with all proceeds being earmarked for the website revision. Secretary Niehaus will have the auction list and possible photos available prior to the publication of the February, 2015 edition of *The Villager*.

New set of billboards

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has received explicit permission from the trade name holders for the billboards submitted for distribution to the members by Jason Rackawack. He stated that he has implied permission to use the seventh billboard. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to make the billboards available to members in either a PDF file at no charge or in a printed format at a cost of \$5.00, postpaid.

Webmaster resignation

The Executive Committee was notified that the current webmaster, Joe Kutza, has resigned this position due to work demands. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved - with Secretary Niehaus abstaining - to accept Secretary Niehaus as the new webmaster.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM, Eastern Time

Respectfully submitted; John L Niehaus

Secretary/Treasurer

Approved by the Executive Committee, October 5, 2014

You Can Be Our Newest Contributing Editor

Do you collect Kleeware, Littleton, Beemak, Marx, or another manufacturer?

Why not share your knowledge with your fellow PCA members

Contact our newsletter editor at villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org and become a published author



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A More Complete History: SM-6; the “Small Supermarket” or Rethinking the Beginning Date of Plasticville

By Jack Swab #05-366

At first glance, calling the SM-6 kit a supermarket is a bit of a stretch—coming in at approximately 7.25 inches by 2.5 inches in 1:48 scale (29 ft by 10 ft, in real life) for a total of 290 square feet, the small super market might be more adept to being a modern day convenience store. Regardless of its shortcomings, for a number of years this was the only kit sold by Bachmann for a supermarket. The SM-6 model has been documented as being sold by Bachmann from 1950-1953. From 1950-1952, the supermarket was sold as an individual item, however in 1953 it was replaced by the much larger and more modern SM-7 “Large Supermarket.” Either due to excess product or possibly inaccurate advertising, the small supermarket was listed as being included in the boxed set Shopping Unit-5 along with a police department, small gas station, firehouse, diner, and a number of small accessories. By 1954, SM-6 was no longer listed as a product in Bachmann’s annual dealer catalogues. While the first documented listing of the SM-6 kit is in 1950, I believe that it is possible that the SM-6 small supermarket is the first piece of Plasticville marketed under the “Plasticville, USA” brand. I am compelled to believe this due to the construction and composition of the SM-6 box and building itself.

Figure 1



Among Plasticville items, the construction of the SM-6 box is among the strangest. In addition to being extremely oversized for the building parts (a practice that was not implemented until the 1970’s), this style of box has no similar “peers,” and contains additional inserts on the box to be cut out. The pop-up lid and the use of an insert (see Figure 1) to fill excess space* are two characteristics that are similar to other pre-Plasticville packaging, specifically the “Make-a-House” and “Toy Church” kits (later the Cape Cod and Country Church kits, respectively). Also, the idea that the box could be part of the product itself by cutting out the inserts from the box for use was something that

Figure 2



has never been replicated in any other Plasticville product since then (See Figure 2). Perhaps the executives at Bachmann realized the flaw of not having a box to store the supermarket in, thus eliminating this in future products.

In term of the characteristics of the box the graphics of this piece is out of place when compared to other items introduced in 1950. Other pieces from this time period are all similarly styled with the classic drawing of the piece in red or green, a decorative border along the edges of the box, and advertisements for other Plasticville products on the backside as seen in Figure 3, without advertisements for other products, it may imply that Bachmann wanted to introduce other products during that year, but had not decided on which ones. Additionally, the lack of the registered mark “®” logo next to the word Plasticville would indicate that this piece is extremely early. All signs seem to point to this being the transition piece between plastic toy products made by Bachmann and a unified line of products known as Plasticville.

Figure 3



The size of the piece is also interesting—at only 290 square feet (in real life) the small supermarket might be better suited for a gas station convenience store. While Plasticville pieces are normally out of scale and would be small in the real world, this piece is at the extreme. While the box art, especially in the early pieces, isn’t necessarily a reliable source for establishing what the pieces were like, I think that it is interesting to note that in the box art, the small supermarket is much longer, making it more of a supermarket. This in conjunction with the size of the box might indicate that the piece itself was initially designed to be larger than what was actually produced. While this is pure speculation, I thought it was an interesting observation.

My theory is that this box is one of the first Plasticville kits developed. While it is well known that items like the Cape Cod house and the Country Church were produced before this time period, is it outside of the realm of possibility that this piece was introduced in 1949? If not, is it possible that this was the first piece to be marketed under the brand of “Plasticville, USA”? I think so. With that being said, I want to know what you think. Email me at jj5846@psu.edu with your thoughts and comments.

*This is debatable—my kit came with what looks like an original insert similar to other pre-Plasticville kits, however in his book Bill Nole states that this piece is “unique in that you can assemble, put it into the box, and it fits comfortably” (54). With the insert in, this cannot be done.

Plasticville Reproduction Parts

Unless otherwise specified, listed parts are \$2.00 each

Specify items by building name, part needed, quantity of each part being ordered, and desired color of each part

Colonial Church, Country Church, Parrish Church – Cross

Parrish Church - Windows – Striped or Stained - \$3.00

BN-1 Barn – Horse Weathervane, Ventilator w/hole, Ventilator w/o hole

Farm Implement Hay Wagon Stakes – Set of 8, \$4.00

5 & 10 Store – Left Window insert, Middle Window insert, Right Window insert

Bank – Lamp & Globe (early; white or late; red, \$3.00), Front Canopy - \$3.00, Drive-Up Canopy - \$4.00

Factory – Stair Railing

Frosty Bar – Roof Sign - \$3.50, Stool

Small Gas Station - Window Insert (black or red & black)

Large Gas Station – Window Insert

Hardware & Pharmacy (DH2, 1611, black front) – Left Window Insert, Right Window Insert

Motel – Flowers – set of 3 on single sheet (you cut out) - \$1.50

Small Supermarket – Left Window Insert, Right Window Insert

Large Supermarket – Left Window Insert, Right Window Insert

TV Station – Antenna Globe (not glow in the dark) - \$1.50

1 1/2 Story House – Antenna, Chimney Half

Two Story House – Antenna, Rooster Weathervane, Chimney Half, Porch Roof Post (please specify color)

Cape Cod – Chimney (please specify color)

Colonial Mansion – Chimney Half

House Under Construction – 3 piece Sawhorse - \$2.50, Bucket, Hoe, Rake, Shovel

Ranch House – Chimney (specify same color as Ranch House wall)

Split Level House – Large Rain Gutter, Small Rain Gutter

Log Cabin – Chimney

Airport Hangar – Windsock - \$3.00

Fire House – Roof Siren (late, larger size) - \$3.00, Chimney Cap

Hospital – Siren - \$3.00

Police Department - Chimney Cap - \$3.00, Front Lights - \$3.00, Antenna, Antenna Base

Post Office – Front Light - \$3.00, Roof Flag - \$6.00, Left Window Insert, Right Window Insert

School – White Lamp w/Globe - \$3.00, Weathervane

Town Hall – Weathervane

Turnpike Interchange – Light Holder, Traffic Cone

Freight Station – Cardstock "Plasticville" sign - \$1.50

Loading Platform – Cardstock "Plasticville" sign (printed both sides) - \$1.50, Chimney

Suburban Station – Cardstock "Plasticville" sign (printed one side) - \$1.00, Bench, Chimney

Switch Tower – Platform - \$4.50, Chimney

Watchman's Shanty – Chimney, Front Light

Bench for 1918 Park Assortment – dark green

Swimming Pool Insert - \$2.50

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Questions – call or email me at judyp@atlanticbb.net. I'll get back to you

York Report, Fall 2014

By John Niehaus

You may notice that for the second time I am writing the York Report. What could be worse than missing a York meet altogether? Maybe being able to attend only the half day on Thursday. That was Joe Kutza's predicament and why he has asked me to fill in for him for the second time.

The change in our meeting site to the Orange hall seems to be working quite well. If only we can now get the show sponsors to make a timely and accurate announcement I believe we will see attendance increase.

We had a total of fourteen members at the Show N Tell but it seems that for the first time no one brought anything to share with those in attendance. We all sat there somewhat dumbfounded as this had never happened before.

Fortunately for us, new member Susan Shaw, #14-883 arrived and asked questions regarding Plasticville and other manufacturers. Her questions led to a very nice question and answer period. Her questions led to questions by others and I feel all who were there benefited from our discussions. Thank you Susan for being an unwitting facilitator.

I hope that those who won the wall calendar with the PCA imprint on it and LED key chain flashlights with the PCA's name on them enjoy them. I was asked later by a non-member if I had any more of the key chain flashlights as she wanted one.

My thanks to all who attended and my apologies to those

who missed the meeting due to the lack of, or incorrect time, announcement. I am diligently working to ensure that the announcement at Spring 2015 York is correct and announced in timely manner.

Are Plasticville sellers coming to their senses as to the current market? It did not seem so. I saw very little single pieces of Plasticville and when I did they seemed to be on the high side of their current selling price. One seller had a large table full of Plasticville with a sign stating, "60% off Plasticville". But if a ten dollar item was marked thirty dollars then that item is no bargain at twelve dollars. There were also some boxed sets on tables but again in the \$200 range and up.

My opinion of all the prices that I saw at the October 2014 York meet leads me to again give a rating of 3.5 gold bars. This was based on prices I saw in three of the four halls where dealers had large displays of Plasticville.

The Gold Bar rating (from 1 to 5 bars) is meant to provide an assessment of how much, in general, sellers think their plastic village items are worth. A high rating means people think the items they have for sale are worth their weight in gold. The Gold Bar rating below represents my opinion only!



Cereal Premium Cars

By John Niehaus



Plastic cars similar to the Plasticville vehicles but somewhat smaller were cereal premiums sporadically between 1951 and 1969 in various boxes of Post cereals. I have been able to positively identify that the cars were included or offered for sale in Post Grape-Nuts, Grape Nuts Flakes, Sugar Coated Rice Krinkles, and Super Sugar Crisp. I state "or offered for sale"

as illustrations on some of the boxes that I have seen do not seem to indicate that a car is inside but instead that one can send box tops only or 25 cents and boxtops to Post to purchase an assortment of vehicles. Either way cereal had to be consumed to obtain a car.

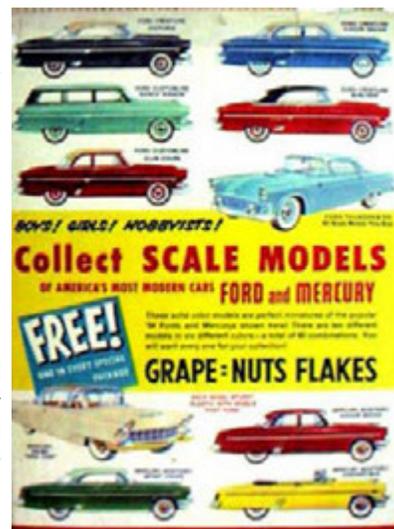
There were ten series of automobiles. The first eight series were made by F & F Mold & Die Works of Dayton, Ohio. The final two series were made John V. Zimmerman Company of St. Louis, Missouri (JVZ Co.). Collectors may disagree with the first series being in 1951 as there are some similar vehicles that were offered by Kelloggs and Cracker Jack in 1950 that are similar but do not seem to have been made by F & F.

The cars can generally be identified by the words F & F MOLD & DIE WORKS INC. DAYTON OHIO molded into the underside of the vehicle. Also included are the words MADE IN U.S.A. The make and sometimes the model names are also molded into the underside of the vehicles although I have one with neither marking. It did have the F & F name molded into it.

The series up to 1959 had metal axles and white plastic wheels. This was changed to a one piece white plastic axle and wheel with the 1960 series. This change was necessitated by new Food and Drug Administration rules. The cars were molded in various colors. The colors in the series run from only three to a whopping seven for the 1955 series. With seven colors and five different vehicles that makes for thirty five different combinations.

These cars are somewhat smaller than a typical Plasticville vehicle at approximately 3 1/4 inches long by 1 1/4 inches wide. A typical Plasticville car is approximately 3 5/8 inches long by 1 1/2 inches wide.

My thanks to Nancy Cashour, #07-481, and Dale Griebel, #14-858 for providing photos and background material for this article.



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Uncataloged, double stamped with two numbers

By Dominic St. John



Hello everyone, I hope your summer was long and pleasing and the current fall will be slow in giving way to the chill of winter. Despite the change in seasons, around here in Connecticut, my wife Jeanne and I are still hanging in there. We are taking advantage of every last bit of warmth before we can no longer enjoy the outdoors any longer. We've been out and on the deck so often this year that the thought of having to give it all up for another long and cold winter has us downright depressed. We still sit out and take advantage of every last bit of heat available to us. Even though the thermometer on the porch railing is now reading consistently in the 40's to 50's instead of the 70s to 80s we will go for as long as we can. We joke to each other that we're afraid our girls will find us frozen stiff and still sitting in our favorite chairs after thinking we can sit out just one more time. We swear, the warm weather months are becoming fewer while the cold weather just seems to go on and on.

This November's *Villager* offering is yet another in the continuing saga of my ongoing eBay Plasticville HO finds. It seems there is always something new and different lurking on that auction sight. Always hiding just around the corner and waiting to make itself available just as the time for another article draws near. Well it's happened again and I'm certainly very grateful for it.

This latest find came about almost in a supernatural way. I had received an email message from PCA member and Secretary/Editor John Niehaus. He was asking if I had any HO kits with both the two digit catalog number as well as the four digit catalog numbers stamped onto their boxes. I was quite sure I didn't as I don't remember ever seeing any.

Doing a quick search of my collection verified my first impression and I found none that fit that description. If there is one thing I've gotten good at, it is searching and finding new and interesting items on eBay. If I had noticed a box or boxes stamped with both numbers I would have certainly grabbed them by now and they would be in my collection. John went on to tell me about some kits he had and how they had that same condition he had asked me about. John mentioned how he may like to do an article about them and we may see it in a future *Villager*. That is how this story ended. At least until now.



Well, I'm sure you all know where this is going? Sure enough, on another one of my Internet mining expeditions I come across the subject #4498 HO Railroad Center. What I also noticed, along with the 4498 numbers printed on each end, was the

rubber stamping of the number 2683 on one end of the box. It is easily seen how this second number had to be stamped later as it sits at an angle and not straight like the factory number. The ink is also thinner and lighter on the second 2683 number and it couldn't have been done at the same time the #4498 or what I thought was the catalog number. I was surprised to say the least!

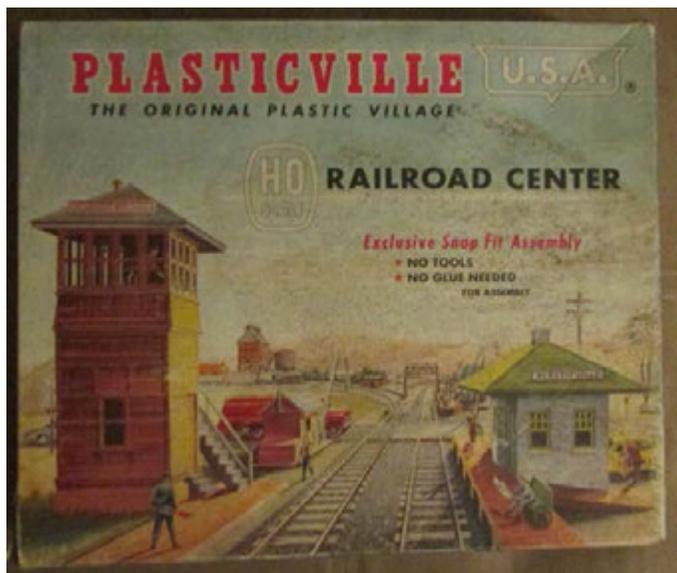
The email from John was fresh in my mind and there was no question that I would own this kit soon enough. Now I have to wonder if I would have ever noticed this unusual condition, if it weren't for the earlier email From John. The fact that this kit appeared after our online back and forth describing just this point makes it all the more unusual. Almost spooky! So, I go through my usual online auction motions expecting to have to bid on this listing only to be the sole bidder and finally the owner. I eagerly awaited its arrival and was looking forward to alerting John of my latest acquisition.

When it arrived it was a larger box than I thought. It was in an okay condition being somewhat worn, with a dirty cover and having some corner splits. Still, I'm not the type who needs pristine examples of these things. I'm just happy to have them as they are. When they turn out to be even more than I bargained for, it makes the defects all the more pleasing to look at. Besides, even like an ugly dog, they all need a good home!

Now I was pretty certain that I'd seen this kit before. At least I thought I had seen it before. I do already have a few of the larger sets with their boxes. I knew I didn't already have this HO Railroad Center. Among those that I do now have are a couple of the kits made for the Target Stores. Those Target Store set box kits are obviously uncataloged sets as they are not described in any of the catalogs. At this point I had no reason to believe this #4498 Railroad Center kit may have been uncataloged. The fact that it had two different numbers on its box initially, to me, was the only curious point. Since I now had it my possession it was time to look it up.



Whenever I add a new kit to my collection, one of the things first things I like to do is browse my catalogs and see if I can find when it was introduced. I can usually find the answers to what I'm looking for while looking in the catalogs and most times I can date an item that way. Well, I didn't find it... I don't have a complete collection of catalogs. I do have a few years missing. Still, I could not find any reference to it or its numbers. It was not found in the pages of my earlier catalogs nor could I find it in my later books. Did I come across something new even though it's old? Now I had to find out.



The set box cover has a railroad scene consisting of a Switching Tower, Crossing Gate and Suburban Station in the foreground. In the distant background are a Coal Tower, Water Tower and Signal Bridge. Inside the box are four inserts. Three inserts are smaller and sit side to side. The fourth insert is longer and sits at the ends of the other three. With four inserts included there must have been at least four structures included? There were a number of kits inside, but they were all unrelated to this set. Hopefully someone will add their input and list what kits would have been in this set box.

I sent an email message to John Niehaus telling him of my new find and how I couldn't find it cataloged. Obviously, to me later, John went to work behind the scenes and began his own investigation. He set out to contact other PCA members to try and get some answers for me and in turn for you. When John sent his return email message to me, it was full of information that no doubt took some time to put together. John recommended I look to PCA member Bruce Battens' list and images of HO boxes. Here is the link to Bruce Battens' page, <http://www.toytrain.com/plasticville>.

I have visited Bruce's' pages before. Since there is so much information available within the PCA it would be foolish of me not to take advantage of it. So, this time pre John's

recommendation, I went to do some research and not just look at the pictures. Again, I couldn't find this particular numbered kit. Within John's email there was information in which he described a set box that is found there. It has a #4603 catalog number instead of the #4498 number. The cover image on the #4603 is identical to the image on my #4498. I did see that set box too and saw that Bruce had the #4603 kit as being cataloged in 1961. I guess it would be safe to bet the #4498 was available at the very least also in 1961?

Some of John's other research took him to his Sears and Wards catalogs. He looked up into 1965 and found nothing listed. John feels it could be a regular set made up for sale in a hardware store or maybe a tire company store? Knowing that Target retail stores did have a set box kit marked with the Target name, and having it marked as for being sold only in Target stores, makes it easy to believe that other retailers had their own to sell too.

John was also in contact with PCA member Robert Spivey. John told me that Mr. Spivey is the author of the Plasticville Box column and credits him as being the best authority on Plasticville boxed sets that the PCA has. Robert Spivey did answer John and he told him how more than a few of his boxed sets are from Sears, Wards and possibly Economy Auto. Mr. Spivey went on to describe an HO All Assortment #4499 rubber stamped #3120 that he currently has in his collection. Mr. Spivey also mentioned in his article in Volume 5, Number 4 of *The Villager* that the Sears sets are numbered in the 4800 series. With the #4498 on this set box cover I guess you would have to rule out a Sears connection to this kit? It is curious how this HO Railroad Center kit is #4498 and the All HO Assortment kit in Mr. Spivey's' collection is the next number up at #4499. Again, if anyone would have anything they could add to this mystery, please send it along. It would be fun to solve this mystery at the same time as filling in some Bachmann history for the PCA.

I'd like to give credit and thanks to all those who, in one way or another, were kind enough to offer their expertise and information in the writing of this article. In no way do I wish to come across as an authority on Plasticville HO. I do my best in offering my opinions and theories from what I've been able to collect. I constantly learn from those with more experience than I in these matters and am more than grateful for their help. My Sincere thank you to; Mr. John Niehaus, Mr. Robert Spivey and Mr. Bruce Batten.

You know, when items like these turn up, with their oddities and variations, it makes it all new again. What I'm saying is that this hobby can get stale at times. Any hobby can get old. I find that to be true in my own hobbies. My train collecting as well as my old car problem can share this ailment. Sometimes all it takes to rekindle the motivation is a new mystery or project that you've never seen before. I have no doubt something new will be lurking just around the corner. I just hope I'll be there when it decides to show itself. Till the next time.

Till the next time, Dominic

Pen Tips

Mike Marmer, 10-635, offers the following tip for removing paint from plastic pieces. "All of the paint will dissolve in a product called Super Clean, including oil based model paint. I have used it before on a train car I was painting and messed up. You need to soak it overnight."

Pen Tips are helpful suggestions sent to the editor by

members that are too small to constitute an article and are used as newsletter space fillers. A PCA pen is sent to the author when their tip is published.

This can also be purchased in a quart sized spray bottle. It works but first test on a hidden side or on an inexpensive piece. editor



Plasticville on the Boards

Readers Write

By John Gottcent



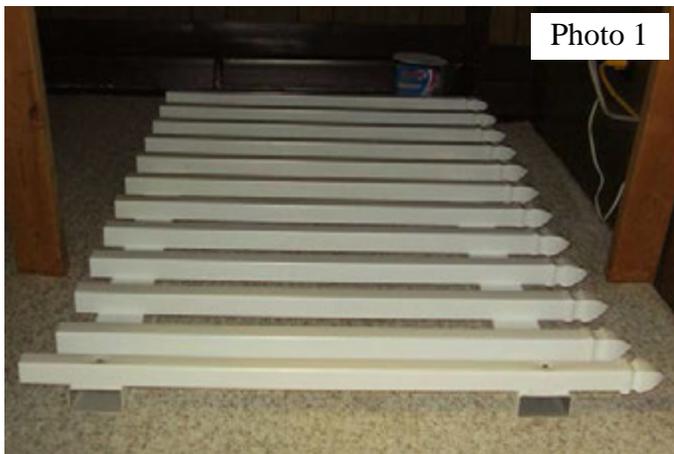
At the end of every Plasticville on the Boards column, I ask readers to write to my email address with comments. Over the years I've received a number of these, and I'd like to devote this column to sharing some of them with you.

The first was a response to a report I included in the August 2008 column about an earthquake which struck my hometown of Evansville, Indiana, and the "damage" it did to the citizens of Plasticville residing on my basement layout.

Wayne Beachy was kind enough to send in the following note: "Great article in The Villager. I had something similar happen to me a few years ago. I have a portable layout with Plasticville I carry to shows. Right after I set up in a school and went home for the night, a tornado hit the school and horizontal hail smashed all the windows in that side of the building. Fortunately for me, my layout was on the inside of that room and the only thing that happened was several trees were blown over. My homeowners insurance renewed shortly after that and I asked my agent if I could submit a claim for tree damage. He didn't get the joke at first."

In November, 2011, I wrote about how heavy rains sent 2 inches of water into my basement, ruining many of the cardboard boxes in which I was storing Plasticville items under my train table. I described how I'd foolishly depended on wooden supports, lying directly on the basement carpet, to protect the boxes, forgetting that the wood would soak up the water rather than keep it at bay. After that, I replaced the wooden supports with plastic ones. (See Photo 1.)

Gary Connor wrote in to say "I just read your article about the basement water issue. Although I've never had rain (or ground water) issues, I have had two hot water heaters burst over the years. The last time I decided to elevate everything by putting them on, you guessed it, pieces of wood. It never occurred to me until reading your article that the wood would wick the water up. Talk about a blinding flash of the obvious! Thanks for the tip. I'm off to get some plastic!"



In February 2010, I described how I tried to "model time" by photographing my House Under Construction during several phases of its eventual evolution into a Cape Cod house. (See Photos 2 and 3.)

Reader Mike Denuty wrote the following: "Reading through



the February issue of The Villager, I was impressed with John Gottcent's article *Moving Through Time* on construction phases



of a house combining the House Under Construction with the Cape Cod house. I did a similar scene on my train layout years ago, but didn't photograph the phases of construction. However, I did use parts from the House Under Construction kit to detail other construction scenes. (I hope Bachmann makes this kit available again.)

... "Regarding John's Cape Cod house construction scene, I see the neighbor with the suspenders visits the site every day and the postman is as regular as clockwork! I also note that there is a yellow Ford Mustang parked in front of the adjacent Plasticville Hardware/Pharmacy. The car must be broken down because it hasn't moved in months! I'm surprised that the store owner didn't have it towed away. (I like to poke fun when I can and I enjoy the humor in other PCA members' writings.)"

I appreciated Mike's humor, and replied as follows: "Actually, the car belongs to the store owner! He parks it there every day since it's so convenient."

Finally, a special thanks to another “Mike,” whose last name was missing from his email. Mike replied to a request I’d made back in 2008 for tips on how to keep dust from messing up a layout. (See the dust and debris on the street in Photo 4.)



He wrote: “Hi, John, Mike here. I read an article a little ways back, and I think it was yours (not sure without looking back) but it was about cleaning your platform.

I use a Swifter duster--it attacks the dust like a magnet. Try this out for yourself and if you think it’s worth passing along please do.”

It’s taken me a while, Mike, but I hope your suggestion helps other readers at last.

My next column will be the last in this series, so if you have comments or suggestions, write to me ASAP at jandjgott@gmail.com. Meanwhile, thanks to all who have already written in, and, as always, happy villaging.

“Spucing Up” TR-6 Spruce Trees

By Jason White #09-603



I recently bought a building from a lady who had numerous Plasticville items for sale. In the list of items was a bunch of plastic pine trees. When I sent her payment for the building, she went ahead and sent

me the trees for free, as she said there was no interest in them. They were Plasticville Spruce Trees, #TR-6 or 1001.

I decided to dress them up “spruce them up” a bit by adding some ground foam to them. I used a blend of Scenic Express’ Treelady Trees special blend green ground foam and 3M’s Super 77 multipurpose spray adhesive.

I started out by masking the bases and trunks with some blue painter’s tape. This was probably the most time consuming part

of the project. (Left photo)

Once I got them all taped up, I started spraying them one at a time with the adhesive. I did the first one indoors, and realized the error in my ways and moved the operation outside to fresh air. Then I shook the foam onto the tree and set it aside to dry.

I did about 20 total, shaking the foam on them while they were inside a box lined with newspaper (this allowed me to reclaim the foam that missed the trees easily)

After I let them dry for a few hours, I removed all the blue tape.

Here’s a picture of one of them covered in foam. (Right photo)

I think they look a lot better now, and it really didn’t take too long to do. I have a few other types of plastic trees that may get a similar treatment after I see how well these hold up.



How Do You Model Chain Link/Cyclone Fence?

Here’s How One Member Does It

Vice President Fred Ruby’s question in the August issue of *The Villager* asking how other members model chain link or cyclone fence on their layout was replied to by only one member, Mike Marmer.

Mike Writes: I read the piece in the current edition about chain link fence and what one did to make a fence. Well, I did not make a fence, but I made a backstop for my baseball field on my layout.

Being a S guager, I used plastic rods that are .035 round that was suggested to me, for a fence post in scale. I got the rod, painted them, and glued them together to form a backstop, 4 inch center and 2 inch sides, as 1 inch in S is 5.3 feet.

I then used white wedding veil material for the actual fencing, and painted it.

The only mistake I made was using a glue from Plasticstrut which melts the plastic together. Not being experience with this,

I had issues of getting the rods to stayed glued together, and the rods melted a bit. So, it’s a little warped, but its okay.

I might look into metal .035 rods and try to solder them to form the frame for the backstop, then paint and add the painted wedding veil material.



Along the Other line - the K-Line

K-4178 Water Tower

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



Mr Ken Honick ran into some severe time constraints and could not provide an article for this issue. With his agreement I am providing an article on a somewhat unique piece of K-Line accessories. Editor.

The K-Line #K-4178 Water Tower is the same as the Marx 065 water tower. The Marx tower came fully assembled while the K-Line tower requires assembly. This fact is alluded to on the K-Line box by a note in black text that reads, "KIT INCLUDES ADHESIVE FOR ASSEMBLY". (See an enlargement of the text in the photo below.) Oddly enough the box also states, "Snap fit assembly".

I have noticed very similarly designed boxes that do not have the glue note and would presume that the glue is no longer included in those kits.

Even though the note was on this particular box I was able to assemble it without glue. It would be debatable though as to how sturdy it would be on a layout with trains operating if it were not glued.

The adhesive, most likely a gel type styrene glue, was included in a very small metal container similar to toothpaste

tubes of many years ago. The tube of adhesive is visible in the foreground of the assembled tower photo.

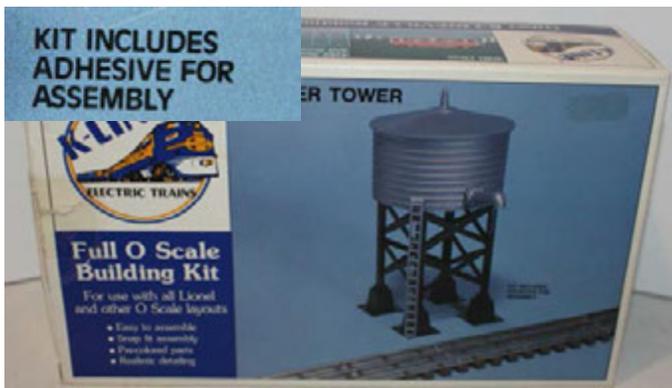
These towers are known to come in the silver tank and black supporting legs. I have also seen a silver tank with brown legs in a K-4178 box. There are probably additional combinations for this stock number.

These towers were also included in various train sets such as the very limited edition Texas Special set. Additionally they were sold in themed boxes such as the Coca Cola Water Tower, K-41781. Its colors are a red tank and a pastel green support structure. Another example is the Hershey's

Water Tower, K-41782. It comes with a silver tower and chocolate brown support structure. As can be seen, to differentiate between the normal retail pieces and the special color pieces an additional number was added as a suffix to the retail stock number. This was a common practice with K-Line.

These water towers are not rare and can be found on auction sites in the eight to 15 dollar range.

PS: Mr Honick asked that I include the below photo of the 1993 K-Line Christmas car as his way of saying, "Seasons Greetings, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year."



PCA Members Meet at LCCA Convention

By John Niehaus

Jason White, #09-603, posted a note to both of the Plasticville related Yahoo groups inquiring as to whether any PCA members were going to attend the convention. I responded that I would not be attending. To which he replied in such a manner that he spurred me into making the seven hour drive.

He then inquired as to whether he felt we could at the last minute set up a PCA member get together during the convention. We reviewed the schedule of events for the convention and felt that we could shoehorn in a lunch meeting and notified the membership of our intention. That one meeting evolved into two meetings.

PCA member David Starre, #09-580, approached us, having recognized us due to our wearing PCA shirts, while Jason and I discussing where to eat breakfast the following morning. When David realized we were discussing our breakfast options for the next day he asked if he could join us as he would not be able to make the lunch meeting. Thus an impromptu breakfast meeting of Jason, David, and I was added to the agenda. (Photo 1).

David brought some of his large bird birdbaths as well as a trellis to share with us at the breakfast. The birdbaths created a very nice discussion on the supposed origin of the birds.

The lunch meeting went as planned. There were four members able to attend. They included Jason White, Ken Beliveau, #10,627, W Neil Holcomb, #08-509, and me. (Photo 2)

There were other PCA members at the convention who could not make the lunch meeting. These included Shirley Hunter, Charles Skjeveland, Dennis Devito, and Al Kolis.

My thanks to Jason White for spurring me to attend the convention. I am now able to put more faces with names as well as having a good time at the convention.



Photo 1 - Left to right: John Niehaus, Jason White, and David Starre at the impromptu breakfast meeting.



Photo 2 - Left to right: Jason White, Ken Beliveau, W Neil Holcomb, and John Niehaus at the lunch meeting.

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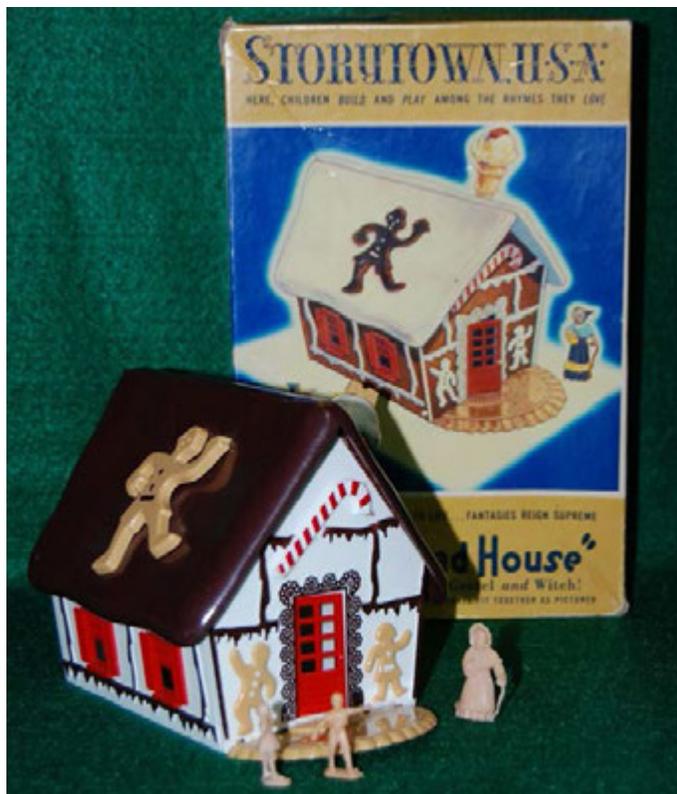
StoryTown U.S.A. #5013 Gingerbread House

by Chris P. Matthy #01-73



“Nibble, Nibble, like a mouse
Who is nibbling at my house?”

Wood, along with Bachmann, translated the character of the original into kit #5013. The most obvious thing is that the park building has a side extension with an extra peak, while the kit building has a simpler rectangular design with a simple peaked roof. The extension has two small windows with large twin candy canes on each side, which became the single red and white candy cane over the door in the kit -- the only part color common to all the variations.



Unlike the other five Storytown USA kits, the Gingerbread House is based, not on a nursery rhyme, but on the famous German fairy tale of Hansel and Gretel as recorded by the Brothers Grimm. For those who have forgotten, the story involves a wicked step-mother, child desertion, cannibalism, imprisonment, slavery, and death by incineration. Did we really read these things to our kids? And who would want to recall this story in a theme park?

Well, there was that house made of cake, icing, candy and spun sugar windows from the fairy tale, and that's what found its way into Storytown U.S.A.'s happy landscape. And there was no danger of being imprisoned or cooked for dinner in this house. As a post card says, "While the Gingerbread House looks good enough to eat, you will have to be content with eating gingerbread boys inside the house at Storytown, U.S.A., near Lake George." That's more like it.

And quite a house it was. Judging from the photos and postcards I have been able to see, the Gingerbread House was one of the larger story-theme buildings at Storytown. This was because you actually could go into the House, as opposed to many of the buildings that were really just props or displays.

The sign on a tree outside the House invites guests to "SipnSnack at the Gingerbread House", so I guess drinks were available as well -- hopefully a glass of ice cold milk to go with that cookie. (Photo 1)

Observing pictures of the building gives us the opportunity once again to see how Storytown's owner and designer Charley

Paying attention to original Storytown maps may offer a clue as well. In the earliest brochure map I have, the Gingerbread House is depicted as a small rectangular building very similar to the kit we know; it also shows multiple gingerbread characters on the roof. A later brochure shows the more elaborate building. It is possible that the kit as developed by Woods and Bachmann represents an earlier building; or, as with the castle, production limitations may have dictated a simpler design. More on this later.

Next, notice that while the fanciful icing lines were carried over (though more "drippy" in the kit), the various decorations were reduced to the gingerbread boy and girl on each side of the kit door and their big brother up on the roof. Obviously, the two-color trim lines would have been a production nightmare, but it sure is attractive. If my eyesight is true, at one time the trim was white-on-blue (postmarked 1955), while another time it was pink-on-blue; if it follows other attractions, the more complex decorations were the later ones. Notice, too, those wooden flowers in the flower boxes that look suspiciously like the lollipop flowers that will show up with Humpty-Dumpty!

I suspect the little cupola on the original building may have housed a chimney for the ovens for baking cookies. This was replaced by the fancy ice cream cone chimney in the kit. The little "brick" on top of the chimney is often missing but is available as a reproduction in all colors. And at ground level the simple concrete step was replaced in the kit by a "cookie" front step, which often has its mounting hinges broken; luckily it, too, is reproduced. The only original Plasticville pieces to find their way into this kit are the door and windows, which come to us from the Two-Story Colonial molds.

Finally, there are Hansel, Gretel and the witch; again, very delicate; again, often missing limbs, base, or altogether. And there is, of course, the familiar ½ sheet, with a brief (un-

gruesome) bit of the original story.

Now to variations. Both our PCA site and a Roger Carp article (see the August 2013 "Villager") list four color variations. However, in consulting with Hizhonor the Mayor of Plasticville, Bill Nole, he confirmed that there are only three variations; the other listing (tan walls, brown roof and trim) is just mixed parts.

The variations are: (Photo 2)

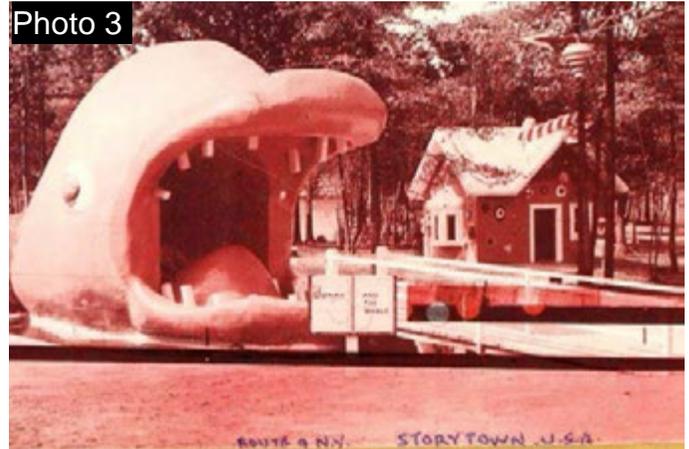
1. White - walls & ice cream
Tan - gingerbread men, cone, brick & cookie
Brown - roof and trim
Red - door & windows.
2. Tan- walls & ice cream
Brown - trim, gingerbread men, cone, brick & cookie
White - roof
Yellow - door and windows
3. Brown - walls & ice cream
White- trim, gingerbread men, cone, brick,
cookie, doors & windows
Tan - roof.



Notice that there is no exact symmetry in the variations like other kits. Also, something like light blue doors and windows might have looked nice with the dark brown walls, since the other two kits had doors and windows outside the "theme" colors.

As another illustration of how the original park grew and

changed, I have included a very rough picture I bought which seems to show an early version of the Gingerbread House in the background. Notice the same tan walls and white roof with the large candy cane on the roof, but all in a much smaller version. By the way, Jonah's whale (another Bible story vs. fairy tale) also lost his teeth, got lower eyes and grew more friendly



through the years, and you could walk down inside to see a fish tank. (Photo 3)

Finally, I have included an Internet picture from the much newer Six Flags park which shows a restored Gingerbread House, smaller, with icing lines in the roof and attached to another little building, with Jack's beanstalk nestled between. (Photo 4)

So Storytown USA does indeed live on, and not just in our collections.



Seven New Billboard Inserts Available

The PCA is pleased to announce that a sheet of eight inserts for Plasticville billboards, with seven of them being new can now be offered to the membership.

The illustrations on the new inserts are: Friskies Dog Food, Supreme Motor Oil, Lincoln automobiles, Mercury automobiles, Motorola television, Sunoco Oil, and Van Dyke pencil erasers. The eighth one is the previously offered "Welcome to Plasticville" insert.

It has taken quite some time as well as dogged persistence to obtain permission to make the inserts available to members from the various trade name holders. In some instances the trade name has changed ownership many times since the product was advertised. The pencil erasers insert is an example where it was necessary to contact a lengthy string of companies before finally obtaining approval.

This new set of inserts is available as a PDF file or as a printed sheet.

To request the PDF file send an email to PCA@netins.net with BILLBOARDS in the message title. We will reply to you and attach the file to the reply.

You can then save the file to your computer and either print the billboards or take the file to a local print/copy shop to have

them printed.

For those of you who do not have email access, a sheet of the billboards can be ordered from the PCA for \$5.00, postpaid.

The inserts are printed on white faced card stock and shipped as a single uncut sheet.

To place an order by mail, payment in the form of a check or money order payable to Plasticville Collectors Association, can be sent to the address on the front page of the newsletter.



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Creative Use of Damaged Parts

Block Signals

By Edward L Johnson



Fellow travelers let's take a quick trip back to the 1950's . Specifically 1950's in Brooklyn, NY. where I grew up. On the corner of 9th street and 5th Avenue. An appliance store at that corner always put up a nice train layout at Christmas. Plasticville models and Lionel Trains were the subject of their display. Among the models displayed was the pond with water and small live fish, the usual station and houses and signals. The signals didn't light but to me they looked great with the trains. But I could never find them.

Perhaps thirty years later I found two signals at a train show. Then I won an eBay bid for three more signals. Of the three eBay signals only one was in good condition. The others were missing ladders and lenses. Repairing them was easy . Using Plastruct HO ladders (90672 LS-4). I cut away alternate rungs and they make a good substitute ladder.

For missing lenses I used Lego transparent parts. The Lego pieces I called lenses are round pieces of clear colored plastic. All the Plasticville signals have red and green lenses. One of my e-Bay "wins" was missing the green lens. So I used a yellow Lego piece in place of the green lens. I thought of it as a caution on a sharp curve.

In the photo to the right the three signals on the right

are originals. The two on the left were re-worked. You will notice how their ladders match up to the originals. Also note the yellow lens from Lego.

Till next time

That's all folks! Eddie J!!



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Plasticville Boxed Sets 203

Letter Era Stations

By Robert Spivey



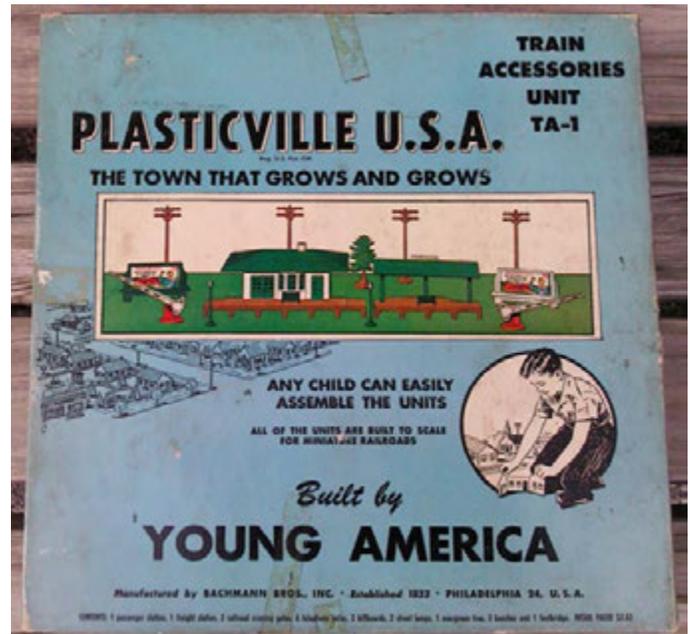
Plasticville station boxed sets of the letter era consisted of a suburban station, 1950, with an adjacent station platform, 1950, and often contained support accessories for signaling. Within each and every boxed set to be covered, the suburban station and it's adjacent freight station platform had no variations. I have looked. Therefore, without further mention, the core components for each set will be the white stucco, green roof, with brown black platform, with a long stem chimney, and thick signboards. Sometimes there was a little grayish cream mixed into the stucco walls, but not in the early sets. When a station has been compiled to make it complete, the whiter walls will always be the originals. This suburban station had been available individually since 1950, yet was never featured in a boxed set until 1952.

The Train Accessories Unit (TA-1) cataloged in 1952, was that debut of a series type which would endure for every subsequent year that Bachmann produced boxed sets. The TA-1's accessories were: two shiny black base crossing gates (not milk white arm), four brown black telephone poles (with diagonal support struts), two billboards with monochromic ads, two green glow in the dark lamp poles, two dark green benches (not hunter green), and one green evergreen tree with brown black trunk: all 1950. The TA-1 was packaged in a solid blue lift off box (12 X 12 X 2 1/4) that was typical of the letter era. Many sets before 1952 were not. The contents were neatly separated with four dividing inserts. One large insert was nearly the size of a RS-8 box. Two twin inserts were both 7 3/4 X 2 1/2 inches, and one insert was 3 3/4 X 5 1/4 inches. The letterboxed rendering of the contents was set on a dark green lawn under a blank sky. The crossing gates were incorrectly pictured with red bases, and both billboards show the same school zone picture (Drive Safely was actually enclosed).

The Train Accessories Unit (TA-1) cataloged in 1953, was just like the 1952 TA-1 in every aspect except that the box top's line listing of contents was changed. The last two items were stated: three benches and one footbridge. Coincidentally, the letterboxed picture was left unchanged. The third bench and the footbridge were actually included in the set box. This 1953 set is not nearly as difficult to find as the 1952 set.

The Train accessories Unit (TA-2) cataloged in 1954, is just as hard to find as the 1952 set. The TA-2's accessories were: three billboards, of which two are green, two green spruce trees, eight brown black telephone poles with diagonal braces, all 1950. The signal items were one shiny black base crossing gate (not milk white arm), 1950, with a flagpole (a very ancient signaling device) displaying our most honorable symbol - the American Flag, 1953. The set was packaged in a small 12 inch square yellow letter era box. The inserts remained exactly the same as the TA-1. The letterboxed rendering of the contents was set on a dark green lawn under a blank sky. The crossing gate was incorrectly pictured with a red base.

Plasticville Toy Train Accessories (TA-2) cataloged in 1955, was among the group of sets which had been renamed to express their play value, rather than what was featured in the box. For further example, Church and House Unit (CH-9) was renamed Community Church (CH-9). The name which was chosen for



the TA-2 was the least imaginative of the group. Bachmann's esteem for this set was evident by the following description, "A beginners assortment that goes with the youngster's toy trains". Similar to the earlier TA-1's, this second version of the TA-2 was widely distributed, however the TA-2 of 1954 was not. Bachmann's sales manager may have initially underestimated the popularity of the station boxed sets. Necessarily, he might have ordered a set back into production, or he might have filled 1954 orders by releasing the 1955 set early. But there were never any corresponding variations, nor could there have been. The suburban station, 1950, was like the Ford model T of the railroad hobby industry. There were to be variations, but not in the letter era sets. 1955 and 1956 were the most pivotal years in Plasticville's history, thus the most difficult of periods to analyze.

This TA-2's accessories were enhanced by including a signal bridge, 1954, which fits precisely into the twin divider next to the one that holds a station platform, 1950. So, did Bachmann make this divider to have held a future kit, or did they make the signal bridge to precisely fit an existing divider? This is not the only time a divider seems to have been created before a kit was produced. The set included the following small accessories: two billboards advertising Solorex (year of glossy color ads undetermined), two brown black telephone poles with diagonal struts, and one shiny black base crossing gate (not milk white arm), all from 1950. The TA-2, 1955, was packaged in a twelve inch square yellow letter era box. The inserts remained exactly the same as the TA-1. The signal bridge small parts were packaged in a crisp heat sealed plastic bag, and instruction sheet number SG-3 was placed in the larger divider, along with Monsanto's jingle contest form "win a trip to Disneyland". Bachmann had been using Monsanto's catalynn plastic for years. The letterboxed rendering of the contents was set on a green lawn under a bright blue sky with high status clouds, just

like the Community Church (CH-9), 1955. A "win a trip to Disneyland" sticker was applied to the box top. The signal bridge was artistically pictured as test mold color grey; it's too bad it never came that way because the piece would have always photographed better. So, the TA's story was that Bachmann brought last year's crop to market. All of that changed when a truly comprehensive station set was presented.

Plasticville Railroad Accessories (RR-5) cataloged also in 1955, was that transitional set. It was a true railroad center, designed around the suburban station, 1950, and it's single freight platform, 1950. The RR-5 included a trestle bridge, 1955, that was new to that year, and a signal bridge, with a light grey/ brown switch tower, both from 1954. The set had the following small accessories: two automobiles, 1954, one of which has a hood ornament, the American flagpole, 1953, three billboards with Solorex ads, of which two frames are green, four brown black telephone poles with diagonal braces, two glow in the dark street lights, and two shiny black base crossing gates (not milk white arms). The set was packaged in a one of a kind letter era box. The box color was brick red. The box size was unique: 11 1/2 X 18 X an expanded depth of 2 3/4 inches. The set name was heralded most boldly along the upper edge of the box top. The slogan "Built by Young America" was eliminated. In place of that slogan's traditional location was then put "Plasticville USA", with a registered R designating the brand name's protection. Even though this registered R made it's first appearance in 1955 on boxed sets, two very early boxed sets had previously displayed "copyright 1949" centered under "Plasticville U. S. A." The letterboxed rendering of the contents was set on an expanded green lawn under a bright blue sky, with somewhat splotchy clouds. Both the trestle bridge and

the signal bridge were shown in test mold grey, otherwise the picture accurately represented the contents. A "win a trip to Disneyland" was applied to the box top. There was one divider exactly the size of the RS-8 box, and twin dividers (3 X 11 1/2) were placed on either side. These dividers were 1 3/4 inches tall; that's one inch below the top lip of the set box bottom, because the trestle bridge had to lay over the entire length of the box. The remaining divider along the flank of the RS-8 divider was 2 1/2 inches tall, subsequently chocking the trestle bridge into position. This arrangement made a set box size like never before or ever again. The signal bridge small parts were packaged in a crisp plastic heat sealed bag. Instruction sheet number SG-3 and Monsanto's jingle contest form were placed in the larger divider.

In summary, the story of the train accessory units was one of repetition. Any one of them would have been just fine for the typical 4 X 8 Christmas season layouts of the early 50's. Add a couple of Plasticville houses and the barn to a child's first layout, and he's up and running before breakfast. For today's collectors, it's all about the box. The following kits are recommended to supplement the letter era station sets: at least one more station platform for the opposite end, the railroad characters, some Plasticville citizens, a number era union station boxed set, and the coaling tower. If you don't get that union station boxed set, then at least get that station individually, along with a water tower, and a crossing shanty.

In closing, it's too bad Bachmann never made for their stations a Plasticville & Cheltenham train set in any scale. They certainly had the opportunity in HO scale, or with their recent Williams Trains acquisition then an O gauge set in the Golden Memories class would be possible.

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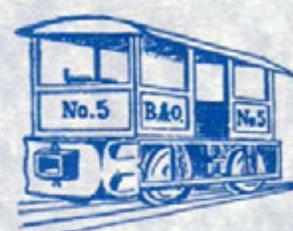
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Florida PCA Members Meet in Daytona Beach

By John Niehaus



Pictured left to right: Bob Scott, Geraldine Scott, John Niehaus, Karen Rudgers, Anthony Rudgers

I have tried for the last two or three years to meet some of the Florida PCA members during my annual family vacation in the St Augustine, Florida area. This year was met with success thanks to the hard work of PCA member Anthony Rudgers #02-139.

As in past years, I sent an email to all of the active PCA members noting that I would be in the St Augustine area the last two weeks of August and would like to meet some fellow members. Anthony replied with a suggestion that we meet somewhere for a lunch that was a convenient travel distance for as many members as possible. He also volunteered to contact the members in Florida, knowing that the distance some would have to travel precluded their attending a lunch. I sent him the email addresses of all active Florida members and he did the rest.

His choice for a meeting was the Golden Corral in Port Orange, Florida. Port Orange is just a few miles south of Daytona Beach. We met there for lunch and a show N tell on August 21. The Golden Corral was kind enough to allow us to use one of their private dining areas even though there were only five of us.

Those attending were Anthony Rudgers, #02-139, and his wife Karen, Geraldine Scott, #04-321, and her husband Bob, and me. Others indicated they wished to attend but could not due to schedule conflicts.

Anthony provided a perspective on the various colors of light blue/pastel blue ranch house roofs and light blue/pastel blue ranch house chimneys. He also provided somewhat of a progressive color display of green automobiles ranging from a

light green to an extremely dark green.

Geraldine brought various portions of her many collections including a complete set of one each of the Storytown pieces. She also brought parts of her dollhouse dishes collection as well as pieces of her swizzle stick and Cracker Jack premiums collection. Some of the Cracker Jack premiums she brought were from the 20's & 30's. The dollhouse furniture was of great interest to Anthony's wife, Karen as she is also a dollhouse furniture collector as well.

Geraldine also brought some very small plastic buildings that no one could identify. If anyone can positively identify the buildings in the photo accompanying this article please send an email to villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org or a letter to the PCA at the address on the front page of this newsletter. The belief is that they may be either German or postwar Japan products.

And as a final item she presented all in attendance with an unopened box of Cracker Jacks!

Yours truly brought a Marx #062 lamp post in yellow with a green globe. This color is not listed on our website and I wanted others to view it and verify that the globe had not been painted. I also brought a lighted sign manufactured by BGR Graphic Sign Co that was supposedly to be used on a Plasticville building. I am in the process of researching that company as it does not seem to still be in business.

Between lunch and the Show N Tells we were at the restaurant from Noon until 3:30. I believe that I can categorically state that all had a good time. It seems that there may already be consideration for a repeat event next year with the hope that more members can attend.



Please send an email to villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org or a letter to the editor at the address on the front page of this newsletter if you can provide any information regarding the manufacturer of these buildings.



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What Members Are Saying

John, I saw the HSL add in the Aug. issue and recalled asking you if there is any interest in putting all the Plasticville catalogs on a CD. The catalogs were only a few pages so it would not be a huge project compared all of the Lionel catalogs. Richard H. Wedekindt #06-440 (*I spoke with the owner of HSL and made the suggestion but he felt that there would not be an adequate market for a CD of Plasticville catalogs. Also, if you have not read elsewhere in this newsletter he no longer has a license with Lionel and as of this writing can no longer sell any of his Lionel CDs and may totally drop out of selling train related CDs in the near future. editor*)

I will miss John Gottcent's column. It has been the first one I read since joining. Nan Cashour #07-841

In the July 2014 issue of Classic Toy Trains, on page 56, there is a picture of Suburban Station. The station has white walls, grey doors, brown platform and a RED roof. While the roof may have been painted red, one can't tell from the picture. Could this possibly be a new issue? Jim Gordon #01-34 (*The station you saw was in an article about Mike Marmer's S gauge layout. Mike paints many of his Plasticville buildings. The Suburban Station in one of the photos is one of his repaints. editor*)

At the LCCA convention, (*John and I*) had talked about the 15th anniversary piece over breakfast. *He* asked me to email (*him*) with my idea so it wouldn't be forgotten. My idea was to issue a piece that had paper window inserts for the 15th anniversary piece, such as the corner store. And then each year after that to include a new insert in *The Villager* for the 15th anniversary kit. Naturally, all this would depend on Bachmann's ability to make a kit that has window inserts. I am leaning toward the corner store because I think it was the last item made with window inserts, and it also doesn't have anything molded in that indicates what it is (such as "Supermarket" or "Post Office"). I'll also admit that I don't currently own a corner store, though I would bet that will change before the 15 anniversary kits arrive. We had also talked about including a billboard insert with the window inserts, possibly matching the window inserts for that year. Jason White #09-603 (*I like the idea of maybe creating inserts for a building over a period of time. I will have to review the list of available molds provided to me by Bachmann and see if the Corner Store still exists. Then I will have to contact Bachmann to see if they would do a special run for us. As far as the inserts we would probably have to have them made and provide them as a sheet from which they can be*

cut as trying to get them die cut would be definitely cost prohibitive. You mention a 15th anniversary piece but the next proposed piece will be for our 20th anniversary in 2019 as this year, 2014, is our 15th anniversary.. editor)

You may have seen this video on the making of the train scenes for the "Lone Ranger" movie, but if you have not, you will most likely enjoy the video. This brought me to some thoughts like: Many, if not most, of our membership probably use their plastic structures with trains, regardless of the scale or gauge. Would there be an interest in having a section in *The Villager* containing internet links to video clips of model/real railroads? The videos would not necessarily have to feature plastic structures (I suspect there are probably not too many of these anyway), but contain "interesting" train videos such as the one in the following message.

I'm sure that many of our members, have, over the years, been exposed to several links to "interesting" train videos. A request in *The Villager* could be made for such links and then the list included in a future issue. The article might even be an ongoing article as more links are provided, or the list could be limited to four or five in each issue and spaced over a year. There could be a short explanation of what each link contains. The provider could be identified, unless they opt out. Someone (I know, who will volunteer?) would have to review the links to ensure the video is not just a forum for selling stuff or contain something that might be considered off color, but I could not imagine that the review process would be a real time consuming process. In fact, it might even be fun. The "request for links" could include a request for a volunteer. Another issue might be that of copyright infringement. I'm not versed in the legalities of providing free links to videos. The PCA is non-profit and would obtain no revenue by providing the links, so I can't imagine there would be copyright issues, but I don't know. Perhaps one of our members would have information on this. I subscribe to *Classic Toy Trains* and I don't recall them doing anything like this (most of the train magazines have calendars of upcoming trains shows or a list of train repair/sale shops). James Gordon #01-34 (*We may be able to include a few links in each edition, space permitting. Any comments from other members? editor*)

It has come to my attention that there has been a rise in prices on eBay & with the trickle down effect should be GREAT for those selling during this upcoming holiday season. Rich Kotowski #13-818

What Members Are Saying, With Pictures



I sold a Flag Pole FP-5 to a guy and he returned it saying the flag was bent.

When I inspected it, it looks to me like a factory furl where the flag piece was shaped from the star field corner to the lower stripes tip to make it look like the flag was flapping in the wind.

I had never seen any of these before. All of the other FP-5 flags I have feature flat flags. A new variation?????

The flag is creased from the slit down to the tip. There is no way for the crease to have been done after assembly.

My thought was very very early samples may have been creased to simulate the flag furling in the wind.

Do any other members have flags with the furl?

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Member Layouts

The Villager receives member layout photos during the year. I hope you enjoy this year's collection. Feel free to send your editor photos of your layout r upgrades to it since your layout was last published in the newsletter. Real photos or JPG electronic photos are the best. If space permits, your photos will be published in the next November dition of *The Villager*.

Chuck Neuman, 08-528, creates a rather large holiday spread of his Plasticville, Department 56, and trains each holiday season. These photos are of his 2013 display.

He has provided us with photos of his holiday layout/Christmas garden for many years. It is always a treat to see how he uses the same buildings each year to create a different Christmas garden scenario. Here are photos of his

efforts for the 2013 holiday season.

He starts with what has to be an eight foot or taller natural tree. He then festoons it with an overly generous amount of ornaments of which most seem to be of the glass variety. I am surprised that the tree can hold all of those ornaments as can be seen in the photo on the left.

He is also not concerned with displaying his less common pieces as can be seen in the photo of the 5 & 10 cent store and the less common red lettered large grocery store. Check out the photo immediately below! The red lettered large grocery store is on the right in the photo.



And what does he do with his "leftover" ranch houses? He arranges them across the top of his Video and DVD cabinets per the photos below.



And last, but definitely not least, he has created a "home" on his display for he and his wife, Donna, in both 2012 and 2013. That's him in the Santa suit and Donna giving him moral support in the bottom left photo.

The complete text on the side of the van in the photo reads, "You're Never Too Old To Rock" and the number 231. 231 is the name of a musical group in which he is a member .



Larry Madaj, 10-663, sent the following photos as well the following comments when he sent in his, actually someone else's, layout pictures.

"The male half of my 54 month old twins laid it out without any thought of Urban Planning or Zoning Laws.

He also build the POP Train consist (Sorry I am from Detroit, Michigan and it is POP, Soda is what you buy at Sanders).

John's sister did help but only followed his orders as a good sister does."



The great part of this layout is that it was built by a youngster and his less than 5 year old sister. Now that's the way to get kids interested in Christmas gardens and, hopefully, model railroading.

Readers may also notice that the church in the photo at left is not Plasticville nor is the little building in the lower left hand corner.

Kudos to Larry for fostering the thrill if creating layouts in his his youngsters.

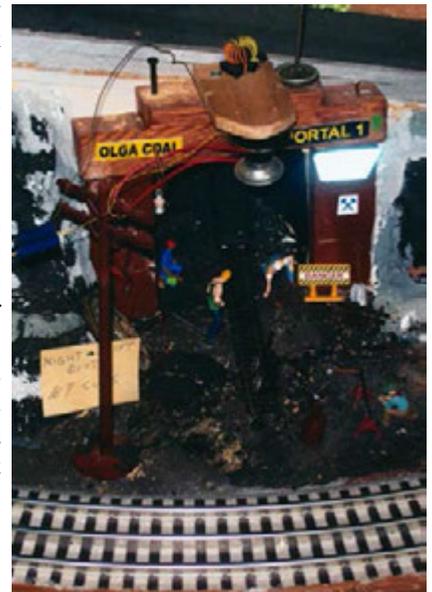
Thomas Virden, 11-684, is a modeler who enjoys creating scenes on his layout. One of his recent creations was to take two Plasticville Cape Cod houses and, in his own words, made to look like coal miner's homes.



You may ask why coal miner's homes but as the other photos show there is a coal mine in the neighborhood.

The locale of his layout seems to be in the State of Virginia as railroad underpasses are marked as those of the N&W.

Does that mean the the Area 51 train in the photos has taken a "wrong turn" and is it taking its cargo to Washington, DC?



Mike Marmer, 10-635, has an extensive S Gauge layout. He feels that many of the Plasticville pieces more readily fit an S gauge layout than an O gauge layout. Mike comments on his layout, "My layout has a mixture of building kits and Plasticville. I could not find the right buildings in my commercial district and RR station to go with the layout, that I would like. So, I used Plasticville, and painted them up a bit.



The roof of the RR station is now a red. I need to paint the chimney walls, doors and the windows, next.

The barn, was given to me, painted, by a couple that had no farm on their layout.

I painted the windmill. It took about 3 hours to paint the blades.



The Switch tower is not painted, as it is a Plasticville piece made for American Flyer as a lighted switch tower. A little nicer product than the usual switch tower."



A.J. Trains presents...WHISTLING BILLBOARDS ...CLEAN TRAINS

Bring some excitement to your layout.
 Lighted Billboard that has been completely restored. Whistle has been cleaned and lubricated, Motor and lights have been rewired. Also includes an American Flyer whistle control button and reproduced copy of the instruction sheet. Includes a replacement billboard which attaches easily with magnetic strips just in case you need a change in scenery.

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New wide-mouthed jar \$8.25
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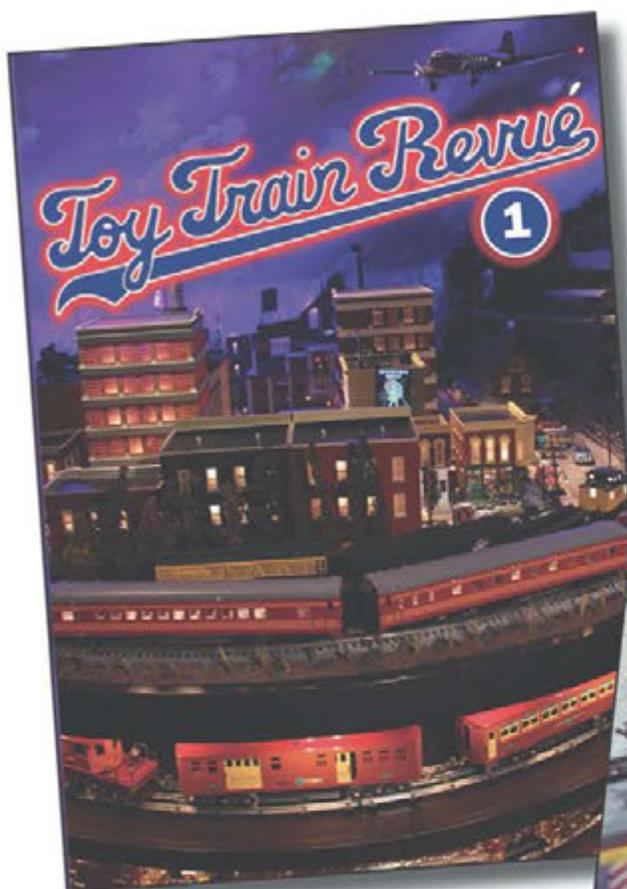
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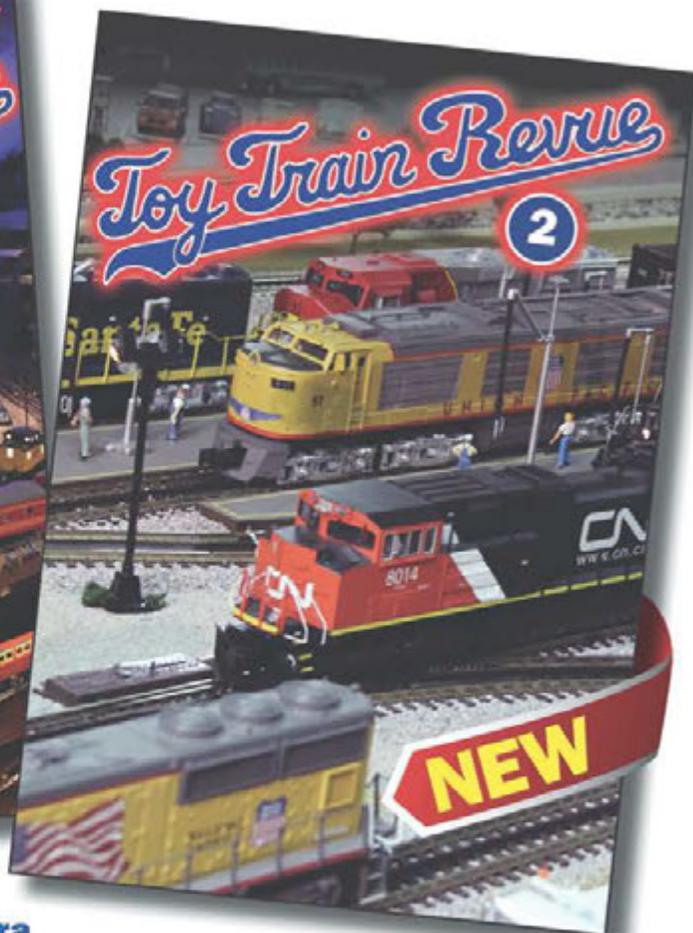
The totally restored American Flyer lighted whistling billboards.
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TM'S NEW VIDEO MAGAZINE COVERING ALL THINGS TOY TRAINS



1



2

90 min. each

Prewar, Postwar, and Modern Era

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The Parts Bin

A PCA Membership Benefit

Various parts are available for the buildings listed on this page and are offered free to members on a first come first served basis. The only cost is the packaging and postage to mail the pieces requested. Send an email to secretary@plasticvilleusa.org listing the pieces you wish or send your list to: The Parts Bin, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3207. Please be as specific as possible with your request: part color; window color; front, rear, left, or right walls in your request . **There are no complete buildings in the listing below - only parts.**

Note!

New additions are listed in **BOLD** - Additional parts added to previous listings are underlined

*** O/S PLASTICVILLE ***

RH-1 Ranch House
 CC-9 Church
 1901 Union Station
 GO-3 Large Gas Station
 BK-1 Bank
 1908 Split Level House
 LH-4 2 Story House
 LC-2 Log Cabin
 GO-2 Small Gas Station
 SM-6 Small Super Market
 RS-7 Suburban Station - no signs
 PO-1 Post Office - no flags
 SM-7 Large Super Market
 1615 Water Tank - no spouts
 CC7 & 8 Churches
 1906 Factory
 SW-2 Switch Tower - no signs or smokestacks
 C-18 Cathedral
 PD-3 Police Station
 FB-1 Frosty Bar
 1622 Dairy Barn
 1408 Windmill
 1623 Cattle Pen
 1617 Farm Buildings
 MH-2 New England Rancher
 1407 Watchman's Shanty
 1900 Turnpike Interchange
 1803 Colonial Church
 DH-2 Hardware & Pharmacy
 1620 Loading Platform
 1853 Drug Store
 AP-1 Airport Hangar
 AD-4 Airport Administration Building
 SC-4 School House -no weathervanes or lights
 PH-1 Town Hall
 DE-7 Diner
 1618 TV Station - no globes
 BN-1 Barn
 FH-4 Fire House
 HP-8 Cape Cod
 HS-6 Hospital
 1621 Motel
 SG-2 Signal Bridge
 1629 Bungalow
 1624 House Under Construction
 CS-5 Chain Store

1504 Mobile Home
 BL-2 Bridge & Pond - specify lt, med, dk green
 CF-5 Picket Fence
 1957 Coaling Tower
 WG-2 Crossing Gate
 WG-10 Platform Fence Gate
 1703 Colonial Mansion
 LM-3 Station Platform
 BB-9 Billboard - specify color & type
 Miscellaneous doors & windows

*** HO PLASTICVILLE ***

HO-59 Ranch House
 HO-74 Super Market
 HO-76 Drug and Hardware store?
 2611 Cattle Pen
 2617 Cape Cod House
 2608 Suburban Station
 2904 Drive-In Bank
 2101 Block Signal,
 HO-73 Signal Bridge
 2904 Toy & Hobby Shop roof
 2700 Coaling Station
 2801 Factory - water tower
 2901 Split Level wall - A/E
 2976 Contemporary House
 2907 New Car Showroom
 Barn
 School House
 Police Station
 Post Office
 Railroad Work Car
 Coaling Tower - E/G wall only
 Gas Station
 Cathedral
 Street Signs
 2673 instruction sheet
 45972 instruction sheet
 Various doors and windows

*** SKYLINE ***

House

*** LITTLETOWN ***

101 Super Market
 111 Loading Platform roof
 112 School House
 113 Church

108 Gas Station
 110 Ranch House
 Slide, lounge, pool, umbrella table
Street Accessories - specify item & color

*** MARX ***

Barn
 Railroad Station - roof
Super Market
Gas Station
Rustic Fence
Church - roof only

*** STORYTOWN ***

Jack & Jill base - damaged (**last call**)

*** MISCELLANEOUS ***

Post type mailbox w/base kit - HO
 Woman hanging laundry kit - HO
 AHM power poles - HO
 ATLAS HO fence - unassembled
 Frosted Flakes billboard - frame only
 ? Street & RR signs - HO
 Tyco 869 Horse Depot w/horses - no car
 Tyco 9088 Operating Crossing Gate
 Tyco railroad signs
 Lifelike billboards - HO
 Guidancetown USA building parts

EMPTY BOXES

2806 HO Suburban Station
 2617 HO Cape Cod
 2803 HO House Under Construction
 FH-1 Firehouse
 Build A House - red
 BN-1 Barn - green printing
 2806 Suburban Station
 2807 Gas Station
 2907 - New Car Showroom
 45534 Pink Lady Boutique
 45521 Rural Station
 45526 Joe's Pizza & Video Store
 45522 Bud's Convenience Store
Littletown 307 Street Accessories Unit

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

Donors receive a tax receipt from the PCA for the parts they donate. Members have the opportunity to acquire needed parts.

The Parts Bin

A PCA Membership Benefit

Parts in the photo below are currently in The Parts Bin and are available to all members on a "last call" basis. Anything remaining after January 31, 2015 will be recycled.

The only cost for these parts, as with all Parts Bin pieces, is packaging and postage.

Send an email to secretary@plasticvilleusa.org listing the pieces you wish or mail your detailed list to: The Parts Bin, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3207.



LAST CALL

The building pieces in the lower left corner, the bell and wreath on the green roof, and the roof in the upper right corner have been taken.

A Christmas Card From Days Past



The above illustration was sent to me by PCA member Dale Griebel, #14-858, with the comment, "I wonder if this is common knowledge among Plasticville collectors. My brother sent it to me about 15 years ago."

I was able to read the name Ken Eberts in the lower right hand corner of the card and did a Google search and contacted the artist. His story of the print and greeting card is reproduced below.

I chose to include this article in lieu of my usual Plasticville ad. editor

"A CHRISTMAS DREAM" 1996

This painting portrays a dream about the train set given to me by my parents in the early 1950s. My train set has come to life in this dream.

It is Christmas Eve, and I am riding with Santa Claus in a new 1953 Chevy Pick-Up loaded with a Christmas tree and boxes of Christmas presents.

We are driving up a mountain road that edges the town of

Plasticville (also part of my train set.) The Plasticville buildings shown are the General Hospital, Train Station, Police Station, Church, Fire Department, Gas Station Barn and Ranch House. The building in the center foreground is a Root Beer Stand of unknown manufacture. The fences, signs, light poles, signals and barrels are also all part of the train set.

The cars shown are 1/43rd scale rubber 1938 Buick, Universal Jeep by Dinky, 1954 Studebaker, 1949 Ford by Dinky. Also shown are a 1953 Chrysler Police car, 1946 Ford Sedan, 1953 Kaiser Vagabond, and 1950 Mercury Two-Door Sedan. (I own a real-life 1938 Buick and 1954 Studebaker.)

In addition to the Pennsylvania Railroad "O" Gauge Locomotive and tender are several refrigerator cars (one that unloads milk cans), a Great Northern box car, an auto loader with four 1955 Fords, a Sunoco tank car, and a couple of New York Central gondola cars.

The train has going through the double track electric signal after going through a steel girder bridge.

This painting was created by first setting up the train set, drawing it, and then changing it to a real-life scene by adding snow, electric lights, and people. It was very nostalgic for me to do this painting, and I hope it evokes similar warm feelings of nostalgia to the people who view it.

This train set is one of my most prized possessions, as it brings back not only memories of my childhood toys, but also memories of my father and mother.

I truly enjoyed doing this painting and am proud that Leanin' Tree Publishing is producing a Christmas card of it.

I am also pleased to think that many people will purchase the limited edition prints and hang them in their homes for years to come for many other people to enjoy and share their memories.

The original painting was purchased by a noted model train collector and I am please that it, too, is going to a good home.

Note: A portion of Ken's story has been edited out due to space limitations. editor

Welcome New Members

The following individuals' names have been added to the Plasticville Collectors Association membership roster as of October 1, 2014. Their names are now permanently listed in the on line roster.

John P Mead, Detroit, MI
Ray D Stoudt, Ephrata, PA
David J D'Ardene, Fernandina Beach, FL
Allan J Johnson, Maugansville, MD
Dennis Brennan, Independencem MO
David I Hoffman, Fairfax, CA
Willard Draper, DeKalb, IL
Byron A Heidenreich, Bloomington, IL
Charles B Young Jr, Franklinville, NJ

Proposed Members

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

All names listed below will be permanently added to the Plasticville Collectors Association rolls if no objection to such action is received prior to January 1, 2015.

Joseph J Castorino, Spring Hill, FL
Frederick D Webster, Elkton, MD
Phyllis A Krochmal, Vienna, VA
Stephen D Burkett, Oakton, VA
Michael A Baibak, Clarkston, MI
William H Stitt, Chattanooga, TN
Kenneth P McCune, Indianapolis, IN
David F LeBlanc, Amesbury, MA
Edward J Burshnick, Austin, TX
John C Gerding, Glassboro, NJ
Susan J Shaw, Mountain Lakes, NJ
Daniel (Pete) C Robinson, Reistertowon, MD
Todd W Edeker, Jewell, IA
Katherine Scaccia, Irvington, NY
Mark J Gimbel, Bear, DE
Louis F Palumbo, New Castle, PA
Doug J Wolff, Yardley, PA
David A Bollinger, Upperco, MD
Michael J Kane, North Wildwood, NJ
James Shimer, Nottingham, PA
Dennis Ingalls, Norton, MA
Robert K Mentzell, Treichlers, PA

The PCA Corner Store

Items for sale by the PCA

Send a description of item you wish to purchase and a check or money order, payable to Plasticville Collectors Association for the total amount to Plasticville Collectors Association, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, IA 50021-3207.

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 silver barrel with blue soft grip, black ink ballpoint pen with silver accents. The pen is imprinted **Plasticville Collectors Assn, www.plasticvilleusa.org** in two lines in blue lettering. \$4.00, postpaid.

Coffee Mug with PCA logo

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

Only 6 black and 4 blue remaining.

PCA Ball Caps

Dark Blue, Velcro-back ball cap with white PCA logo embroidered on the front. \$8.50 plus \$4.50 P&H.

Only 10 remaining

"Welcome to Plasticville" billboard inserts

Six identical inserts, sized to fit Plasticville billboard frames depicting a 50's vintage auto passing a billboard on its way into town with the same greeting. Printed on white cardstock. \$5.00 postpaid. There is no charge if the PDF file is requested and sent by email.

Assorted billboard inserts

Seven different subjects plus one "Welcome To Plasticville" inserts including Friskies dog food, Motorola, Mercury and Lincoln autos, Sunoco and Gulf motor oil, and Eberhard Faber pink erasers. All are mid-fifties vintage. Printed on white cardstock. \$5.00 postpaid. There is no charge if the PDF file is requested and sent by email.

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.

Product Reviews



I Never Met a Train I Didn't Like, The Art and Enjoyment of Collecting Toy trains, Lou Palumbo, 169 pages, softbound, 8 1/2 X 11 format, \$12.99. Published by Windy City Publishers.

Lou Palumbo has been writing short articles related to the collecting and operating toy trains since 1987. His articles first appeared in the publication *Train Traders*. His most recent articles can be found in the pages of *Classic Toy Trains* magazine.

The very first page of this book contains comments from such people as Tom McComas and Kenny Bianco. I concur with their comments. Next are a dedication and an acknowledgements page. These are followed by a nine page foreword by Roger Carp, senior editor of *Classic Toy Trains* magazine. Before one gets to the various chapters there is a short introduction by the author.

The chapters of the book are presented in a yearly sequence beginning with 2007 and ending with 2013. There were only two columns for 2007. There were nine articles for the remaining years associated with this book. The grand total of articles in the book stands at fifty six. Although the book ends with the 2013 articles, Lou is still writing his *Views From the Underground* articles for *Classic Toy Trains* magazine.

The articles in this book are quite insightful and maybe even in some cases "inciteful". He takes any and all to task in some of his articles but in a gentle, chiding manner. An example of his comments related to manufacturers can be found in his

article *Rolling Stock Overload* where he states "...toy train firms should use their engineering expertise to develop new models of exceptional types of cars and be sure they don't cost an arm and a leg".

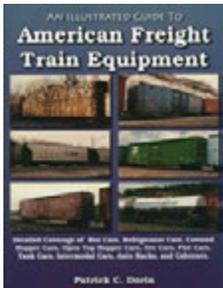
Another of his articles relate how an individual - a purported "investor" - told him that he had "lost money" on the trains he previously purchased. Read the article, *Creative Accounting* to see Lou's take on whether the "investor" lost money or not.

Many of the other articles are reminiscent of Lou's earlier years. One of my favorite articles relates to how catalogs were anxiously awaited each year and how they now assist those coming into his shop with the intent of recreating their childhood train set. He also takes to task the manufacturers for creating numerous catalogs instead of just one each year in this same article.

I am a long time subscriber to *Classic Toy Trains* magazine. Although I have read every one of his columns through that publication I still read this book from cover to cover. The nicest part about Lou's book is that I now have the first seven years of his columns in one easy to access volume.

Whether you are a subscriber to *Classic Toy Trains* magazine or not I recommend this book for the down home common sense manner with which Lou writes his articles.

I Never Met a Train I Didn't Like is available directly from the author from *The Underground Railroad Shoppe* by telephone at 724-652-4912. I did not find a means of ordering it electronically on the website. It should also be available for on line ordering at Barnes & Noble and Amazon.



An Illustrated Guide to American Freight Equipment, Patrick C Dorin, 127 pages, softbound, 8 1/2 X 11 format, \$34.95. Published by Enthusiast Books. Predominately black and white photos throughout.

The subtitle of the book reads "Detailed Coverage of Box Cars, Refrigerator Cars, Covered Hopper Cars, Open Top Hopper Cars, Ore Cars, Flat Cars, Tank Cars, Intermodal Cars, and Cabooses". By my count that is ten different car types. There are actually twelve chapters in the book instead of the presumed ten. The Cabooses chapter is split into cupola and non-cupola units. That would make eleven chapters. The twelfth chapter, although not noted in the subtitle, is seven pages on Gondolas.

Each chapter begins with as general introduction as to the various uses of the equipment being highlighted in that chapter. The remainder of each chapter consists of one third page sized

photos with a short paragraph accompanying each. Most of these describe the type of construction and other information. Some of the information in the box car chapter notes whether the car is wood sided, rib sided, plug door, double door, etc. Most of the captions also note the road owner as well as the assigned car number.

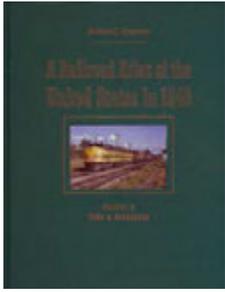
The only chapters with color photos are the two on cabooses. As the captions on many of the photos note being taken in the 1970's and 1980's it would have been nice for more of those photos in color.

I found this book to be interesting especially due to some trivial information of which was unaware. Even with a minimum of color photos I feel that this would be a source to use researching the numerous varieties of freight train equipment.

An Illustrated Guide to American Freight Equipment is available for on-line purchase from Enthusiast Books at www.enthusiastbooks.com. You may also order by telephone. Their toll free number is 800 289-3504. The book is also available through Amazon as well as Barnes and Noble.

Are You a Collector of Marx Buildings?

If you are a collector of Marx buildings why not share your knowledge of those buildings with your fellow PCA members. Contact villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org for more information on how you can become one of the PCA's Contributing Editors. There is always room for more Contributing Editors.



A Railroad Atlas of the United States in 1946, Volume 5, Iowa & Minnesota, Richard C Carpenter, 212 pages. Hardbound in cloth binding with gold leaf cover printing. 9 X 11 1/4 format, \$70. Published by The Johns Hopkins University Press,

As the title implies, this is an atlas of railroad maps as the railroads stood in 1946. What it does not imply is that all of the maps are hand drawn by the author. There are 118 main maps. I will detail their contents shortly.

The book has probably one of the longest introductions I have read. It is eight pages in length. In it, the author describes why he decided to create this series of books. He also gives a brief history of the railroads in general as well as a more specific discussion of the railroads in Iowa and Minnesota in 1946.

The various railroads noted on the map are denoted by colored lines. The colors used for a specific railroad are an approximation of the primary color used by the lines in 1946. The primary maps, those with only a whole number and not a letter suffix, are quadrangles of one degree by one degree latitude and longitude. Some are only 30 minutes by 30 minutes latitude and longitude where the density of rail lines required greater definition. The maps progress "row by row" from west to east, commencing with the northwest corner of Minnesota. Each of these maps are named with the most prominent railroad station on it as well as the primary map number. There are instances on these main maps where the author has outlined a

specific area and added an alpha character to the outline. This indicates that there is an enlarged supplemental map showing the outlined area in greater detail. This practice is generally used for the larger cities such as Minneapolis, MN and Des Moines, IA.

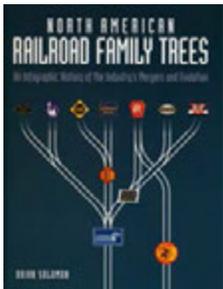
Before delving into the maps themselves, I recommend that you read the three pages of information on how to use the atlas. I found it invaluable.

There are nearly forty pages following the maps with considerable information. This includes a list of railroads listed in the atlas. I quick count indicates over 75 railroads. In order to keep the maps neat and clear of clutter all notes relevant to the various maps are included in a Notes On the Maps section immediately following the list of railroad names.

The last part of the index lists in separate categories the coaling stations, interlocking or former interlocking stations, passenger and non-passenger stations, tunnels, and viaducts. These lists alone would prove invaluable for anyone researching any of these subjects or taking road trips to discover if these structures still exist.

This volume and the preceding volumes are definitely a labor of love. I thoroughly enjoyed paging through the maps and reading the information in the introduction as well as in the index.

A Railroad Atlas of the United States in 1946, Volume 5, Iowa & Minnesota can be purchased directly from the publisher at <http://www.press.jhu.edu>. I also found the book on the Barnes and Noble website with a price of \$64.75. It was also listed on Amazon in new condition at \$55.06 and \$51.06.



North American Railroad Family Trees, An Infographic History of the Industry's Mergers and Evolution, Brian Solomon, 160 pages, hardbound, 8 1/2 X 11 format, \$40.00. Published by Voyageur Press.

For those of us in the Midwest and especially those in northern Illinois, the Chicago & North Western Railway seemed to be everywhere.

This is a uniquely different book than the usual offerings from Mr. Solomon. The book still includes a very large number of photographs, most of which are in color. Interspersed throughout the book are also illustrations of timetables, route maps, and advertisements. What makes this book different are the "family trees" and other unique features that I have never seen in any of his other books.

There are six chapters to the book along with the usual acknowledgments and introduction. There is also a nice bibliography of four pages as well as a two page index. Mr Solomon very nicely describes how he created the family trees in the introduction. He also provides a "How to Read a Railroad Family Tree" generic diagram in the introduction. With his explanation and the diagram I was able to understand the actual diagrams throughout the book.

Most of the trees are a single page although some are a two page foldout. The various rail lines associated with a specific

tree are in various colors. This definitely makes it easier to read than if the entire tree were in black or another single color.

All of the chapters except for numbers five and six are dedicated to a specific era of railroad mergers and significant changes in the industry. Chapter four carries the title "Extended Families: The Megamergers" and covers the 1980 to 2005, the era of extremely large mergers.

The last chapter explores what Mr Solomon believes are six possible merger scenarios as well as one unmerger scenario. I found all of these to be quite interesting. There are also three route maps, two on transparencies, so that the entire route structure can be seen in this chapter.

This is a refreshing departure from his usual style for Mr Solomon. I am pleased that he took the time and effort to document in an easy to read format the various family trees of railroads over the years. I enjoyed this book and recommend it if you are interested in merger history beginning with the very early mergers to the present.

North American Railroad Family Trees is available from Voyageur press through their website at <http://voyageurpress.com> or <http://qbookshop.com>. You can also order by telephone at 800 458-0454. The book is currently listed on their website at \$30.00. There are also direct links to Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and other websites when the search results for the book are displayed. There are also links to e-book links if that is your preference.

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

Wanted

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 (Nov 14)

Set of shrubbery for the Marx School House. Marx preferred, but K-Line OK. Cap for the Marx School House in light gray. #99-01, Joe Kutza, 13301 Pepper CT, Germantown, MD 20874 Phone 301 528-6679 (Nov 14)

Jack and/or Jill figure for #5012 Story Town Jack & Jill set. Figure/s must be undamaged. #05-378, Charles Nadraus, 175 Neighborhood Rd, Mastic Beach, NY 11951 Phone 631 281-7675 tsquare819@aol.com (Feb 15)

Diving board for #1406 swimming pool, complete TV antenna for #1618 TV Station, Light Blue roof for 3HP-8 Cape Cod. Issue #10 Plastic Village Gazette. #10-663 Larry Madaj, 3621 Forest Dr, Lupton, MI 48635 larrymadaj1941@gmail.com (Feb15)

Oil can rack for large or small Plasticville gas station. #14-847 Jim Falatek, 812 Stonybrook Dr, Norristown, PA 19403 jfalatek9876@verizon.net (Feb 15)

BK-1 Bank side and front canopies, BN-1 Barn green weathervane, PD-3 Police Station antenna and front lights #10-665 Henry Yesionek, 4009 Bublane Ct, Murrysville, PA 15668 yesionek2006@comcast.net (Feb 15)

Plasticville and breakfast cereal premium vehicles and any other unique vehicles. #07-481 Nan Cashour, 6500 Schneider Dr, Middletown, MD 21769 Phone 301 371-7258 (Feb 15)

Skyline: house front wall w/2 red windows & flower box, white chimney. Will buy or trade for other Skyline parts for my wants. Kits wanted: K-20 house with red, blue, or green roof/accessories. K-10 house with garage in blue, green, or maroon roof or accessories. Also box for K-10 #07-498 Gary Weickart, 185 Maple St, Islip NY 11751 gweickart@aol.com (Feb 15)

Various parts and boxes. Email me for a list. #12-747 Patricia Mills, 427 Birch Rd, Hellertown, PA 18055-1901

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.

donald.a.mills@verizon.net (Feb 15)

Light gray water spout for 1615 Water Tank. #05-348 Peter Pucak, 4725 Schurr Rd, Clarence, NY 14031 Phone 716 759 - 2988 ppucak@business.buffalo.edu (Feb 15)

Looking for Beemak HO plastic building kits. Do not need to be complete. Also empty Beemak boxes. #01-15 Chris Frey, 243 memorial Blvd, Newmanstown, PA 17073 cfrey57@aol.com (Feb 15)

Complete upper rear wall for 1607 Apartment House; White roof and stools and yellow sign for Frosty Bar; gray doors for orange roof Airport Hangar. #10-647 Al Hery, 229 Suzanne Dr, Shreveport, LA alhery202@yahoo.com (Feb 15)

2 maroon doors for apartment house, stairwell roof hatch (1/2 section), white corn crib base, fire department roof siren, red antenna support (split half to hold antenna), Boxes: HP9 Blue Cape Cod, RH-1 Pink/Grey Ranch, RH-1 Yellow/White. #05-356, Don Rosa, 7670 Sly Park Rd, Placerville, CA 95667 (Feb 15)

Plasticville autos. Aqua and black with or without hood ornament. #11-725 Kevin Szafranski, 14 Metzger Dr, Orchard Park, NY 14127 kds71@netzero.net (Feb 15)

Looking for O/S scale parts with no breaks or glue: Need 1 Gray ladder for 1615 Water Tank. Need 1 White Wheels and Axle for Old Plasticville Automobile. Need 2 Gray Wheel set for modern Plasticville farm Jeep. Need Entire Black Signal Bridge without box, I have an empty box. #12-787, Jason Rackawack, 503 Race St, Catasaugua, PA 18032-1114 rack776@yahoo.com (Feb 15)

Original, unbroken Littletown parts: any/all of: boulevard lamp; 2 Cape Cod cottage trellis fences; 1 Jewish star, 2 weather vanes, #05-359 Mark Lembersky, mark290638-rail@yahoo.com, FAX 206 935-8973 (May 15)

PV: 2 hospital beds, gray ranch house front wall, few broken tree bases - damaged but useable OK. Littletown: yellow Cape Cod chimney, lt. green ranch house chimney, white side wall w/2 large windows. Amloid: ranch with gray or green roof, any color roof only. Joe Endicott, #01-50, 13 Bradford Pl, Turnersville, NJ 08012. Call 856 534-8919 joe_endicott@comcast.net (May 15)

Dark Salmon Ranch House back wall. #01-16 Yvonne Flory, 415 E Monroe Ave, Orange CA 92867 floryk@yahoo.com (May 15)

Lil House Wonderful, My Dolly's House, Ideal, Marx, etc.: furniture and other small hard plastic items. #04-321 Geraldine Scott Geraldine@Collector.org (May 15)

King's Plasticville Corner Store gray L shaped wall part C and white roof - Plasticville acceptable. King's Mobile Home blue base and cream back with small window (small part). 45971 Rural Two Story House gray chimney. #09-584 Wesley Kidd, 105 Linda Ct, Jeannette PA 15644 Phone 724 744-3668 wrkidd2000@yahoo.com (May 15)

Parts for Roadside Stand. I need the scale (in white) and the cupola roof (in gray). #09-603, Jason White, 6307 Lakewood Ave., Portage, IN 46368 or jwse30@yahoo.com (Aug 15)

Plasticville O: Bungalow, corner store, hospital, police, used or glued do not have to be complete, block signals, traffic lights, mailboxes. K-Line convenience store factory. Littleton gas station. Plastic Village Gazette #10 or copy. Revell #1420 White

For Sale

Plasticville reproduction paper inserts for windows or rooftops, 13 different: 5&10 store, drug store, large & small gas station, suburban station, loading platform, large & small supermarket, corner store men's, post office, motel flowers, hardware/pharmacy. Each building set \$2.95. #14-834 David B Hollingsworth, 2612 Kanawha Ter, St Albans, WV 25177-3218 Phone 304 543-2697 dhollingsworth2701@yahoo.com (Nov 14)

No boxes: Yellow/Gray Diner \$5. Littleton Spruce Trees, UNOPENED box, \$30. NOS School House lights postpaid \$10. NOS School House weathervane postpaid \$5. Near mint Plastic Village Gazette #3, postpaid \$6. Contact me before sending payment for postpaid items. #00-3 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021 Phone 515 771-6888 10:00 AM-8:00 PM. johnln@netins.net (May 15)

Airport Hangar w/jet planes excellent +, box in VG condition \$75 postpaid. White sides, orange roof and grey doors. Jets are in original perfect condition. Limited edition LCCA Municipal airport made in 2005 item No 45986-LCCA (airplanes not

For Trade

Fits perfect with Plasticville or Dept 56. Fleischmann Magic Trains (Discontinued in 2008) Euro style 2 axle bogies. Locomotives 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 (Nov 14)

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. (Nov 14)

Small Plasticville parts: bought, sold, TRADED! Numerous small parts available; lights, antenna. I need Hospital furniture, Playground, and House Under Construction parts. Let's exchange

Mobilgas truck kit. 14" long plastic gas tankers: Clark, CITGO, Sinclair, Union 76. #14-858 Dale Griebel, PO Box 6602, Sherwood AR 72124 Phone 501 541-4508 (Aug 15)

Signal bride traffic lights and jewels. #11-723 Paul Lansing, 2194 Bayou Rd, Punta Gorda, FL 33950 Phone 941 637-4986 plansin@aol.com (Aug 15)

Brown canopy, water tank & gray smokestack, water tank support, and water tank roof for 1096 Factory. #12-770 Mark David, 1210 W Daniel St, Champaign, IL 61821 Phone 217 351-1696 mbd1325@yahoo.com (Aug 15)

Red floor jack for K-Line or Marx Gas Station, 2 chimney halves for Plasticville Colonial Mansion, antenna for Plasticville HO Police Station, siren for Plasticville HO Fire House, #10-628 Ken Honick, PO Box 515, Buena-Vista, PA 15018 Phone 412 513 9748 genlee57@yahoo.com (Aug 15)

Plasticville HO catalogs A, B, and D. These are not part of the O/S catalogs of the same year. #01-03 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021 Phone 515 771-6888 johnln@netins.net (Aug 15)

included) with an orange roof, blue sides, and orange doors \$33 postpaid #09-580 David Starre, 5105 Herman Ave, Cleveland, OH 44102 Phone 216 631-6100 (May 15)

#403 Littleton Train Accessories set in box, like new \$150 postpaid. Mint Gold Union Station from 2012 Phoenix TCA convention, one of 212 \$150 postpaid. Assorted Plasticville, Littleton, Storytown for sale. Send me your wants. #01-39 Richard Sipes, 541 Dandy Valley Rd, White Haven, PA 18661 Phone 570 751-8028 richsipes60@yahoo.com (Aug 15)

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 15)

K-Line #4150-50 Coca-Cola General Store, new, unbuilt in box \$20 postpaid or trade for items in my Wanted ad. #14-858 Dale Griebel, PO Box 6602, Sherwood AR 72124 Phone 501 541-4508 (Aug 15)

lists of needed parts! See my display ad in this issue. #07-491 Mike Maslowski, 108 s Lincoln Ave, Wenonah, NJ 08090. mmaslowski@verizon.net (Feb 15)

My Christmas Platform (CU-6 in excellent plus condition for your Christmas CU-7 or CU-9 in near good condition with an undamaged box. My Marx Glendale plastic signboard or my Littleton plastic Station signboard for your Marx Diner signboard. My whole Marx church steeple for your Marx Factory side awning. #02-154 Robert Spivey, PO Box 33484, Decatur, GA 30033. (Feb 15)

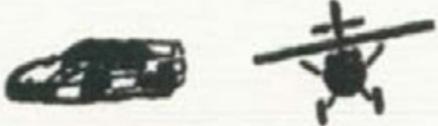
Have big list 'O' diecast vehicles: trade for items in my Wanted ad - Plasticville, K-Line, Littleton, plastic gas tanker trucks. #14-858 Dale Griebel, PO Box 6602, Sherwood AR 72124 Phone 501 541-4508 (Aug 15)



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Cal-Stewart Meets

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