



THE VILLAGER

The Official Newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 14

August 2015

Number 3

WEBSITE REDESIGN FUNDRAISER NETS NEARLY \$1400

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The PCA website fundraiser is now history. Pledges were made on 49 of the 56 lots. The lots on which pledges were not received will be offered at various train meets that John Niehaus attends and the proceeds placed in the PCA treasury. As of this date the fundraiser brought in \$1373.10 after subtracting shipping costs.

The majority of the lots received at least three pledges. The highest number of pledges for a single lot was nine.

Those pledging the highest amount for each lot have been sent a receipt for their pledge as well as the items on which they had the highest pledge.

Our thanks to the person whose generous donation made the fundraiser possible as well as to all who submitted pledges. All pledge moneys have gone to the redesign of the website.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2016/2017 OFFICERS



Nominations are now open for the offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer for the 2016/2017 term.

You may email your nomination to the PCA President, Doug Gilliatt, at president@plasticvilleusa.org. Please include in your subject line the words *Officer Nomination* to ensure delivery.

Mailed nominations will also be accepted. Mail them to him at: PCA Officer Nominations, Attn: Doug Gilliatt, 514 Goshawk Way, Prescott, AZ 86301.

It is suggested that you contact the person you wish to nominate and inform them of your intent before nominating them.

Self-nomination is strongly encouraged. Feel free to nominate yourself for any of the offices for which you feel you are qualified.

Contact the current officers if you would like to know more about their duties. Their emails are: President Doug Gilliatt at president@plasticvilleusa.org, Vice President Fred Ruby at vice-president@plasticvilleusa.org, and Secretary/Treasurer John Niehaus at secretary@plasticvilleusa.org.

Nominations must be **postmarked no later than September 30, 2015**. Look for a ballot and nominee biographies in your mail in early October.

CLASSIFIED ADS

MATTHEW HARVAZINSKI



Recently there have been very few new classified ads submitted. These are a PCA member benefit so consider taking advantage of it. Classified Ads can be submitted by mail or email. A new "fillable" PDF form will be on the website shortly which will allow you to type your ad directly into the form and email it. You can email your ads to: villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org, or send them by mail to: *The Villager, c/o Matt Harvazinski, 4115 W. Ave. J-7 Lancaster, CA 93536.*

The Villager

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President: Doug Gilliatt

Vice President: Fred Ruby

Webmaster: John L. Niehaus

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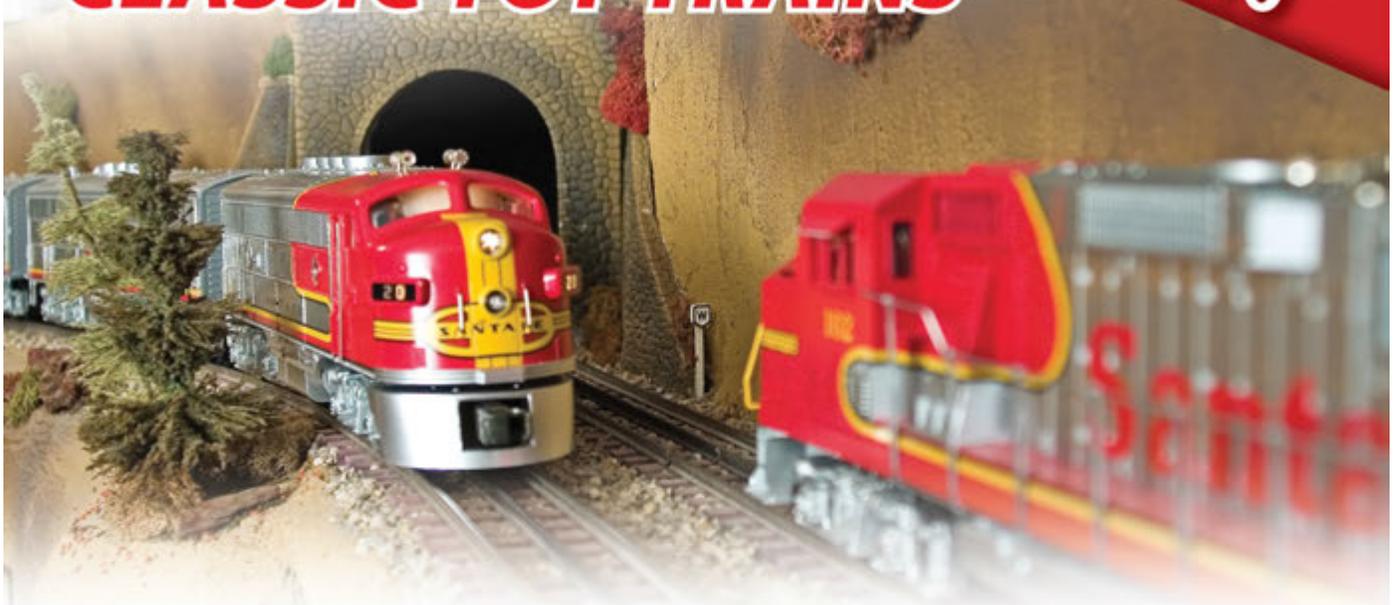
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Newsletter Editor: Matthew Harvazinski

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Yet another spring has arrived in the Valley of the Sun however this year we are enjoying a very cool spring in Prescott which is 2 hours north of the valley and 5000+ feet higher. This means our AC has not been turned on but our heat has been on for a few nights. In any case I hope that all the members are looking forward to a great summer of collecting and Model Railroading as well as good weather. At least there is a couple of good auction houses up here and maybe I will even find a 'goodie'.

And as always I hope that all of our members and their families will have a safe and happy summer and maybe a 'find' from a local garage sale/flea market or train show! So if you have bought something recently or received a gift or in the future pick up a 'goodie' and you believe that it would be of interest to all of us please write a short article and maybe a picture or two for publication in *The Villager*.

I will not be attending the TCA convention this year in New York. The new house with all the associated expenses has killed that idea. Hopefully in the coming months I am able to get some of the collection out of their boxes and back on display. I really miss my Lionel/Plasticville filled layout. But it's a chance to build a new empire (grin). One does not realize how much stuff you have until you have to pack it all up and then unpack it!

If other PCA members do attend the TCA New York convention maybe they can get together and swap some collecting stories and visit that would be great. And for those that do attend please (if you can) send in a report so it can be shared with the rest of the members in *The Villager* on what was available and prices.

Maybe a really rare piece shows up and one of our lucky members picks it up and shares the find with us. And remember to mention the PCA as you attend Train shows or anywhere else train "nuts" are found. I include myself in the "nut" group.

A very special thanks goes out to John Gottcent who was the very first member who provided continuing content in our newsletter and has now retired from submitting contributions. If he had not instituted his series of articles that *The Villager* would not be what it is today. Someone had to initiate a continuing column and he was the person who stepped forward and did that. We are all grateful for his contributions over the years to the Villager. We are hopeful that other member(s) will step forward to fill John's shoes and start a new series for our newsletter.

On another subject that I have always promoted; which is that of On-line (e-mail) delivery of *The Villager*. I continue to promote the delivery of *The Villager* to our members via e-mail in place of 'snail mail' delivery. If you are still receiving a paper copy please consider the online delivery system.

I am very proud at the number of members that stepped up and contribute articles to be published in *The Villager*. And as I have said many times before please continue to contribute articles, stories or pictures that make *The Villager* the great publication as we are always looking for material. If you have not done so then please consider submitting an article or tip that would be of interest to our members. It is always with great interest that we all await the next issue to see what new things we can learn from fellow members. So everyone continue to support our organization by sending in articles/photos etc. of interest to our members.

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

VICE PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS



The Summer issue must be in your hands, as you are reading this column. Summer time is when we travel to National Conventions (LCCA, TTOS, NMRA, TCA, and etcetera). There are big swap meets known far and wide in the Spring and Fall, but the conventions are happening now through almost Labor Day.

Ever attend one of those? Consider putting that on your bucket list and then making it a priority. First off, you'll probably find some rare item or two that won't go to the big shows. Second, the conventions feature real workshops to offer serious (and fun) knowledge exchange with experts. Think Legacy or DCS set up or kit bashing, detailing towards more realism, collecting variations and myriad of topics arcane to common.

Something else to get on your TO-DO list for the Summer is starting to sketch out the Xmas display. Yeah, we're 4 plus months away from getting started, but for many, half the fun is in the design, plotting what pieces to put out next to what pieces. Is the RAILROAD oriented buildings going to dominate this year? Show off one of each RANCH HOUSE or CAPE COD variation like a sub-division of tract homes? Maybe build a main street with all of the COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS.

I try to do a little of each when I set up a small board for my Flyer runs. As written previously, the local S club in Southern California displays up to 8 times a year. The smallest display we do is a 22' by 26' layout, allowing for one scale mile laps. That lets anyone run a decent sized train to realistic effect. The few younger members we have like to run full speed with the choo-choo at full volume and high speed; the smoke pouring out of the stack in realistic puffs and the Atlantic, Pacific and Docksiders flaying their side rods until blurred silver is all you can see as the hustle by at the speed of light. Then again, we get some of the guys with Legacy operating on BigBoys and Challengers and any of a series of modern diesels running S-L-O-W around the loop. We have done as large as 30' by 30', but recently, personal commitments have made 26' by 30' the norm. That yields 1.2 miles, 20% longer laps. So we can get a 30 car set behind a BigBoy, or a full count of 14 or 16 cars behind a Daylight GS.

But the best is the empty area inside, frequently large enough to allow a lunch table that we can all gather at to share company at meal time, have repair sessions by the experienced for the timid with tools.

When I joined the Southern California S Gauge Club (SCSGC) 8 years ago, the modular layout was in the research and planning

phase. Now we have the ability to really show off what can be done by a concerted team effort. By the way, the integration of all the strong individuals into a motivated and coordinated team effort has deepened and broadened the friendships between almost everyone participating. That includes the folks who show up to help others put a module table together, the guys who have hosted a mass building session in the driveway so all are getting done the same way at the same time. It includes the pioneers who sacrificed many weekends to design and construct the original set of corners the club used for 7 years.

The layout allows for the scale guys to run DC (and even DCC) on the outer loop and Flyer guys to run conventional, Cab1/TMCC or CAB2/Legacy on the inside loop. The rivet-counters have scale buildings, the real-Flyer guys have Gilbert build-

ings and accessories. But a growing segment of the club has embraced my vision of using Plasticville, some modified or painted, some right out of the box to create scenes of whimsy and joy. I published the story of Cindy's conversion project (church to synagogue and minister to orthodox rabbi). I guess I better set aside some time to write up her two section farm, or her cake factory, or the Halloween diorama or the Karo Syrup factory.

Okay the note is in my calendar and I will start on it this very month. Keep your eyes peeled for the article in the following issue.

Happy hunting at the swaps, antique shops and garage sales. Fred out.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY



The website redesign fundraiser was a resounding success. The total, so far, is a fantastic \$1373.10. I took the lots on which there were no bids to a local LCCA show and sold a few. There are five remaining lots that I will take to some fall shows. The pieces are reasonably prices and should sell. Any money received from the sale of these remaining items will be added to the PCA's treasury. I would like to again thank the donor who wishes to remain anonymous as well as all of you who submitted pledges.

There have been some revisions made to the PCA membership application. Please request the new version by email or letter as a replacement for those you currently have. You can determine if you have the current application by checking the lower right hand corner of the page with the membership fee chart for the words "Revision 4/12/15_2". I will send the applications at no charge to you.

You who are eBay sellers have an ideal way to give the PCA exposure. It should cost you nothing to include a membership application in every package of Plasticville you send to a buyer. Put your member number under the "revision" note on those you send out so that I can let you know if your efforts are working. Who knows, you may end up being one of our best recruiters.

I received an email from a member noting that they can no longer save photos on the PCA website to their computer. This was done, in agreement with the Executive Committee, in order to prevent the unauthorized use of PCA copyrighted materials for other purposes. It was discovered that individuals were using photos from our site as the items they had for sale in online auctions. This is no longer a possibility using the "Save photo as" option in a browser. Unfortunately, there is nothing to we can do to prevent a user from using our images using a screen capture program.

I am saddened to report the passing of two of our members. Robert A Connor, #04-288 of Jacksonville, FL has passed away per information published in the *Train Collectors Association Quarterly* publication. George J Sottung, #02-180 of Croydon, PA, passed away prior to this past Easter per Michael J Kane, #14-891. George was the owner of Sottungs trains. He was also an advertiser in our newsletters for many years.

Let's talk, *The Parts Bin*. As of this newsletter it now consists of twelve (12) flip top containers of twelve gallons each. As you can imagine it takes a bit of time for me to pull requested parts with this many bins. I need your help to make that task easier.

First and foremost. Please specify the color of the part that you need. Many of the buildings, regardless of manufacturer, were made in various colors.

Please specify the number of the part that you need if the building such as the coaling tower and split level house have such designations. I can email or mail you assembly instructions showing the part numbers if you do not have that information.

The list in this edition of *The Villager* has an entry under HO Plasticville; "Various industrial pieces". I could not list all of the various pieces as there are quite a few. Send me an email or a mail me a request for a list or photo of those pieces if you are interested. They may even work of O/S!

Most importantly; *The Parts Bin* is just that - an aggregation of parts. It is a membership benefit intended to assist members in obtaining a few parts to complete a piece. I have had various requests for "parts" that read "if almost complete" or "everything you have". Please do not make these types of requests as they are outside of the intended purpose of *The Parts Bin*.

By the time you read this I will have attended the Lionel Collectors Club of America's convention in Boston, MA. I was asked at their convention last year in Indianapolis if I would consider giving a one hour presentation on Plasticville's history and rarities. I will let you know in the November issue of *The Villager* how that presentation went.

This is election year for PCA officers for the years 2016 and 2017. All of the sitting officers have been in one elected position or another since the PCA was founded. That says a lot for your confidence in them but it is time for some new people to guide the Association. One officer has informed me that he does not care to run again and I have yet to hear from the other. The organization cannot maintain its corporate status or its 501(c)3 status without officers. Make a nomination or nominate yourself. Without officers the PCA will no longer exist.

EDITOR'S COLUMN



In this issue we have a new column by Ed Berg. He will be writing about K-Line and starts with a short history of K-Line. Ed is our third K-Line contributor. Interestingly I noticed that we don't have a Plasticville contributor! If you are one of the members with an abundance of knowledge about Plasticville please consider submitting an article or two. I have a few articles that I hope to prepare for future issues but will quickly run out of interesting topics. *The Villager* welcomes regular, occasional, and one time contributors from individuals with information to share. If you feel that you could contribute to the knowledge base of Plasticville, Marx, Littleton, Klee-ware, or anything else please feel free to send me an e-mail or a letter. I will be happy to assist in anyway I can.

A few more articles per issue would be very helpful. Because of the way the newsletter is printed the number of pages must be a multiple of four. As it stands now we have almost too much information for 36 pages and not enough content to fill 40 pages. Anything you can do to help would be most appreciated!

Chris Matthy wraps up his chronicle of Storytown in this issue. Before reading this series of articles I had very little knowledge of Storytown aside from the fact that the kits were tough to find. I found these to be very informative, especially with the tie in to the theme park. Please thank Chris for putting together this excellent collection of articles and sharing his knowledge with the PCA.

Long time K-Line contributor Ken Honick wanted me to pass on his apologies for not having an article this issue. He has been very busy with work and hopes to have a submission ready to share with us for the fall edition.

I have been receiving very few comments and photos from members to fill the *What Members Are Saying* section, please feel free to send me your comments, ideas (or complaints). Comments can be e-mailed to, villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org or mailed to *The Villager* c/o Matt Harvazinski 4115 W. Ave. J-7 Lancaster, CA 93536.

JULY 2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The July 2015 Executive Committee meeting was unable to be convened due to scheduling conflicts. The following minutes were presented to the Executive Committee via email and approved on the date noted below.

Old Business

The Parts Bin

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has written an article telling the origination of The Parts Bin and that it has been submitted to the editor for future publication.

Large donation of Plasticville pieces/buildings

Secretary Niehaus created a wrap-up report on the website redesign fundraiser. The report was reviewed by the Executive Committee and approved for publication in this edition of *The Villager*.

Reordering t-shirts and a special order of polo shirts

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has only received one (1) shirt order form.

Replacement lenses for the Signal Bridges, Turnpike Interchange, Block Signal, and Crossing Signal

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has again contacted Bachmann regarding the PCA purchasing replacement lenses. His contact person informed him that he had sent an email to the factory in China and was waiting on a response.

Adding a preferred user name for members access to the membership application

Secretary Niehaus reported that the membership application has been updated to include a preferred user name as well as whether the provided telephone number is a cell phone or landline.

John Gottcent certificate of appreciation and gift

Secretary Niehaus reported that he received an email thanking the PCA for the certificate and book sent to John Gottcent.

New Business

Gift for renewing membership prior to January 1, 2016

The Executive Committee was informed by Secretary Niehaus that the PCA has a supply of an item and suggested that it be used as a membership renewal incentive. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to provide the gift to all members along with their membership card if their membership renewal is received via PayPal or postmarked prior to January 1, 2016.

PCA pen for converting to ePCA for 2016

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to provide a PCA pen to any member converting to the ePCA membership level from either the color or black & white membership level for calendar year 2016.

Add "Ask the PCA a Question" email link on the Contacts page of the website

The Committee was made aware of a member who recently suggested that there should be a means for people to "Ask the PCA a question". A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to add a new email link on the Contact page of the website using the phrase "Ask the PCA a question".

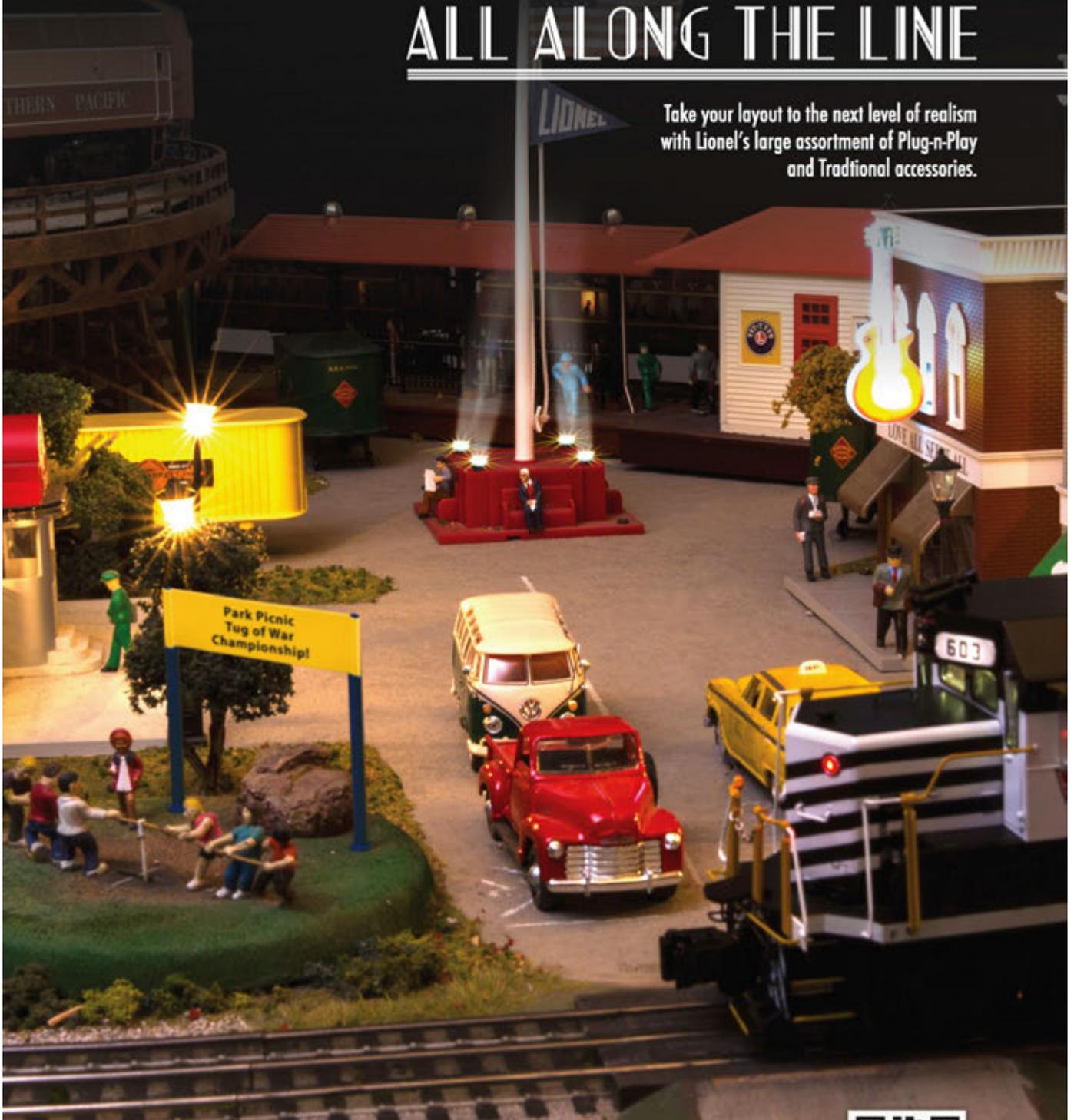
Respectfully submitted; John L Niehaus
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved by the Executive Committee, July 6, 2015

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FOLLOW UP TO THE APRIL 2014 YORK REPORT

JOHN NIEHAUS

One of the items at the April PCA Show N Tell were the metal houses shown in the picture below. All are of sturdy metal and painted in different colors. There were no identifying markings as to manufacturer on the various pieces. As no one at the Show N Tell nor I could identify them, I sent the photo to John Newbraugh, the author of the *Who Done It?* column in the Train Collectors Association magazine, *The Train Collectors Quarterly*. I did not receive a reply from John but the houses were illustrated in his column in the October, 2014 edition of *The Quarterly*. Lo and behold the houses have been identified in the January, 2015 edition of *The Quarterly*.



They were definitely not initially intended for use on model train layouts. They are Gingerbread House molds made by the MIRRO cookware company! The photo below shows an unpainted house plus what looks to be the front cover to the recipe and instruction booklet that accompanied the mold.



Used with permission of the Train Collectors Association

As Mr Newbraugh states in his article, "As we have learned in the past via this series, it is not the original intend or use of an item, but the fact that they were used with toy trains that makes them acceptable to this series."

My thanks to Mr Newbraugh for publishing both photos. My thanks to Mr Mark Boyd, editor of the Train Collectors Association Quarterly, for allowing me to use the MIRRO photo and to Bill Schoeck and Timothy Stier who responded to John's column regarding these pieces.



WHAT MEMBERS ARE SAYING WITH PICTURES

If you cut your PCA membership card just right - it makes a nice billboard sign.

Rich Kotowski, #13-818



The billboard on the right is available to all members see page 27 for details.

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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 October 1, 2015.

Jacob Munn, Flushing, NY
John F Delaney, Weymouth, MA
August E Heithaus, Westhampton, NY
Richard A Brown, St Petersburg, FL
Ray E Kerollis, Hamilton, NJ
Daniel Kleine, Hobart, IN
Colleen Woods, Sewickley, PA
Nick A Incorvati, McKees Rocks, PA
Clarence H.F. Barthold Jr, Slatington, PA
Robert J Huppman, Brookhaven, PA
Dennis J Stephen, Boyerstown, PA
Richard T Perrott, Munster, IN
Richard J Armstrong, Castine, ME
Joseph T Zimmerman, Harrisburg, PA
Robert J Ross, New Baltimore, NY
Robert L Hammond, Grand Rapids, MI
David L Henkel, Fort Myers, FL
Michael A Trykowski, Rapid City, SD

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following individuals' names have been added to the Plasticville Collectors Association membership roster as of July 1, 2015. Their names are now permanently listed in the on-line roster.

George E Hohman, Honesdale, PA
Faith Veeder, Richmond, TX
Robert F Hall, Wynnewood, PA
Norbert A Przybylski, Bolingbrook, IL
Joseph A Varrone, Saint James, NY
Allan Reizman, Buffalo Grove, IL
Donald A Mills, Hellertown, PA
Joe M Romano, Winchester, VA
Robert V Woehr, Middletown, DE
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StoryTown U.S.A.

Part 8 - Final Thoughts

by Chris P. Matthy #01-73



I hope you have enjoyed our walk through Storytown USA -- both the original park and the plastic village park. Here are some final thoughts for this series.

Production

First comes a point I raised in the Jack and Jill article: how were these kits molded? Part of the answer is common sense, part is an interesting find, and part is sharing more of the wisdom I got from talking with Dave Horner.

In an earlier article I included a picture of an all-blue Castle. Here are two more interesting items -- an all-green Humpty and an all-yellow well from Jack and Jill. The obvious point is that they are mono-color. Humpty also has no printed graphics (ditto the cow). While it would be possible to gather enough parts to make such a variation, that would seem counterproductive with kits that go for a goodly sum. In reality, the molding of these kits was similar to many of our favorite buildings that come in reverse colors (think Frosty Bar, Motel, Switch Tower, Phone Booth, etc.) -- the mold, containing all parts, was done in solid runs, and then the parts were mixed and matched in assembly. But what if all the parts were kept together?

One of the challenges of the PCA is determining what are authentic variations and what are oddities. In my conversations I have heard about solid red and all clear Frosty Bars, and I have seen one of the two famous



black Greenhouse glass sets. Clear parts were molded to check for cleanliness in new molds but, obviously, were sometimes saved by employees, and sometimes lucky visitors touring the plant in Philadelphia were handed special pieces. One story behind unique items -- this one from Dave Horner, though I'm

sure there are more—is that Bachmann employees used to offer items, including unique items, to a local mechanic across the street from the plant in exchange for car work done. That was the 1950's!



The story related to me about my sets appears to be an employee who treated himself/herself to some unique pieces by keeping molded sets together. In other words, these are NOT collectible “variations” that were available to the public. Fun to have, yes; super-valuable collectibles, probably not—though eBay bidders with deep pockets make it seem so.

All of this seems improbable in today’s world. I recently overheard a conversation in a restaurant concerning a certain famous “wax coloring stick” manufacturer (I wasn’t snooping; they were talking loudly across the aisle). The person was stating how any employee who would be caught removing even a fragment of “branded” paper would be immediately fired. It obviously was a different time when the original plastic villages were first being manufactured.

This is a long way around explaining the color variations in Storytown USA kits. It was up to the production line to take the red buckets and assemble them with the yellow wells, and vice versa. Obviously the process got more complicated with the three and four color kits, but the theory is the same. That’s why finding a contemporary oddity like the recently reported motel with windows that matched the walls is still fun—someone overseas was asleep at the wheel for a minute!

Storytown On the Pike

So here is another interesting question: How many of you have Storytown USA pieces on your layout? I guess this would be similar to asking if you have your marbled hobo shacks or blue ambulance or red firehouse on your layout. Are these pieces so valuable that we wouldn’t think of using them on the layout?

If that makes you nervous, there is another option. I have purchased several glued and/or incomplete Storytown kits for a fraction of collector value. One such broken Gingerbread House I got from Dave and Scott Horner became my Santa’s workshop under the tree at Christmastime. These glued kits will be the heart of the Storytown that will on my Plasticville / American Flyer layout. Using maps, photos and postcards, it is possible to be faithful to the design of the original park; or, you can free-lance your own kiddyland.



Next: to paint or not to paint? to modify or not to modify? Do I stay in character with the rest of my layout, which displays my unmodified Plasticville collection, or do I take cues from the original park to make the Storytown USA kits more “realistic?”

You also could make additions. Kitbashed log cabin parts could produce a Little Red Riding Hood cabin. I have purchased an HO P-Ville barn that will give me the right roofline for the Little Red Hen display. I also found a \$.99 pumpkin at Walmart that is just about the right size for Peter Pumpkin Eater’s House. In the first picture it is with a well that has been painted to resemble Storytown USA’s well; in process in the second picture).



To make the park come alive, I stumbled upon the Marx Fairykins line. This is a series of miniature 5&10-style collectibles from decades ago that included a lot of the favorite fairy tale characters. Storytown USA was populated with many live costumed characters, and these little guys will add a lot of pop to my miniature park. You also could locate some cheap N scale streamlined passenger cars, chop off the roofs, add seats, and have a decent kiddie train like the later park.

Collecting We Will Go



One of the nice things about the Storytown USA kits is that there is a limited range to collect, and I seriously doubt there will be reissues. Your collection could be complete with just six kits; or, you could pursue all 17 variations of the 6 kits, plus the ultra-rare boxed set #5050, which included Goosey, Humpty, Three Men and a

Gingerbread House—which alone, by mathematical law, would have 72 possible variations! As with collecting regular Plasticville, you can start with unboxed or incomplete kits and “trade up” as you have opportunity.

You will note I have stayed away from any kind of pricing issues on these kits. I offer this one observation, similar to what John Gottcent offered in one of his last articles: both on-line and at train shows, Storytown USA kits seem to be much more affordable than the latest price guide suggests, though some dealers apparently haven’t heard that news, if you know what I mean. On the flip side, two empty playset boxes and an original Storytown catalog both recently went for sky-high prices on eBay.

And I have enjoyed this journey myself to the point of buying a few extras—the postcards, the banner, the mug, etc. When folks observe the park on my layout, I will be able to invite them to turn around and see a display of some items from the actual 1950’s park.

If you think about these kits, offered for only 2 or 3 years by retailers, they seem very limited in appeal. But if you consider that these kits were probably some of the more interesting souvenirs available on the shelves at Storytown USA for those same years, you can understand how many may be out there. It is interesting how many kits have survived, how many have survived complete, and how many original boxes are with them, especially since the rhyme sheet included in each kit says: “The colorful illustration makes an excellent cut-out to frame as a wall decoration in your child’s room.” Oh nooooo.....

Those same rhyme sheets state: “Dedicated to Little Girls and Little Boys Everywhere.” Thankfully, that meant to me when I was a little boy in the ‘50’s when these kits were manufactured, so I have little guilt enjoying them today. I hope you feel the same. Thanks for taking this journey with me.

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K-Line Marx Lionel Skyline & More

THE PARTS BIN SPARE PARTS PROGRAM

Its Origination and Purpose

JOHN NIEHAUS

There are many good things that occur merely by happenstance. The Parts Bin program is one of them. The first hint of even a member benefit such as this came at the October, 2011 York train meet. It seems that Charles Swanson, #02-183, had an accumulation of parts for Plasticville and other manufacturers for which he had no need. He brought the parts to our usual, at that time, luncheon meeting in the on-site cafeteria, placed them on the table, and stated that members could take what they wanted and he was going to throw the remainder away.

I suggested that instead of throwing away the remainder that I take them and offer them in a future edition of *The Villager*. This first offer of parts was published in the Nov., 2011 edition. The initial list contained twenty two entries listed by the part that was actually available. There were so many parts available that by Nov. of 2013 only a list of buildings for which we had parts in The Parts Bin was published. That list is now over 120 entries.

The first listing of an empty box was published in the February, 2014 edition. There has been as high as fifteen boxes listed in recent newsletters. This was also the edition in which photos of small items or items which I could identify appeared. The photos have proven to be a welcome addition to The Parts Bin program based on member feedback.

There are presently ten bins containing parts plus a couple of boxes with "overrun" for some buildings. The bins are actually twelve gallon flip top boxes. From what I have recently received and have yet to catalog I am presuming that there will be an addition of at least two more bins.

The Parts Bin is just that; a parts bin. The intent is to provide members with a means of completing a piece that is missing one or two parts. It is extremely rare that there are enough pieces to complete any given building. In many instances there may only be one or two pieces for a particular building, especially if it is other than a Plasticville building.

Thanks to Charles we have, what I consider to be, one of the major benefits of PCA membership. It is my feeling that The Parts Bin is second only to the newsletter when it comes to a member benefit. The fact that there has been over 130 packages sent to members since its inception seems to point in that direction. My estimate is that although 130 packages have been sent I have received upwards of 500 inquiries. It is unfortunate that in many instances The Parts Bin does not have the part requested.

In a future edition of *The Villager* I will give you an in depth look at how the parts go from a box on my doorstep to a box on your doorstep.



K-LINE: BOXES, BAGS, AND BLISTERPACKS

Box Type 3

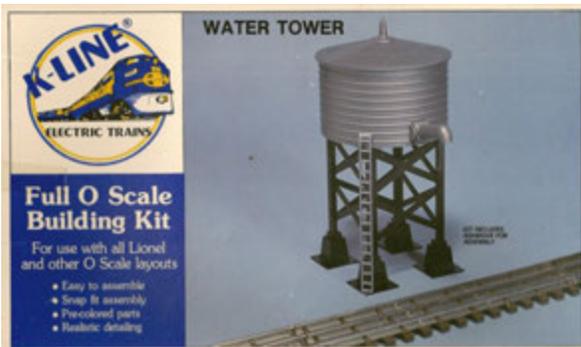
DONALD W. HUOVINEN



In the last two issues of *The Villager* I introduced K-Line's first two boxes that I called **Box 1** and **Box 2**. I have described these boxes as being generic although I guess they are not generic in the true sense of the word. Rather they were boxes that were partially pre-printed with general information that would have been applicable to any of the items that were included in the box. Both boxes were "customized" for the item included in the box by the addition of a sticker which both pictured the item and identified it by item number. In the case of Box 1 the sticker was quite small and did not promote the items well. Box 2 had a much larger sticker which did a very good job of illustrating the item included in the box.

This leads us to what I am calling Box 3.

Front



Instead of having stickers applied to the box to identify the item, the box is now completely printed. This means less work of course in getting boxes ready for order fulfillment but also means that if you run out of boxes, you have to wait until another run is printed. So there is a loss in flexibility.

As noted on the front of the box there was another major change. A new K-Line logo! The logo now states "K-LINE® ELECTRIC TRAINS" and sports a blue and yellow Santa Fe F-unit. Of course this new logo was in recognition of the fact that K-Line was now producing electric train sets and not just buildings and track. K-Line's first use of this logo in a catalog was on the front of the 1988 catalog which introduced "COMPLETE AND READY-TO RUN! TRAIN SETS FROM K-LINE®". The freight cars, made from the old Marx molds, had been cataloged the previous year.

Note that in the lower left corner of the front of the box the wording still remains "For use with all Lionel and other O Scale

layouts". There is no mention of K-Line trains despite the new prominently displayed logo.

This box is a one-piece box. I failed to mention in my previous two articles that Boxes 1 and 2 were also one-piece boxes. K-Line did also use 2 piece boxes with a lift off lid mostly when the buildings were included as components of larger sets.

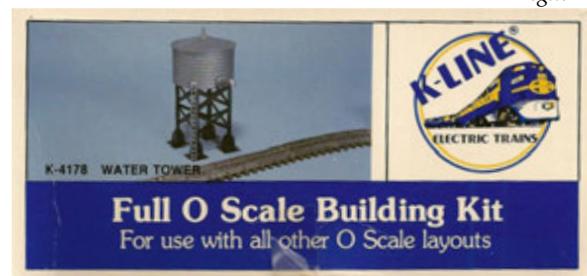
For the sake of completeness the highlights/details of the box are as follows. These are items that change as the boxes change:

- The box has a white background.
- There is a new round K-LINE® ELECTRIC TRAINS logo printed in the upper left corner of the front of the box. The locomotive is blue and yellow. This logo is the same as that appearing on the front cover of the 1987 catalog.



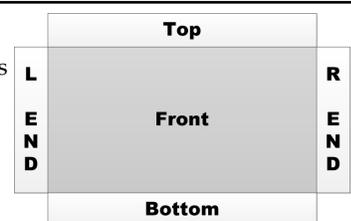
- On the lower left portion of the box front the item is described as being a "Full O Scale Building Kit/For use with all Lionel and other O Scale layouts/Easy to assemble/Snap fit assembly/Pre-colored parts/Realistic detailing". There is no reference to K-Line trains.
- "Snap fit assembly" was not inked out when this box was used for the K-4178 Water Tower despite the fact that this accessory had to be glued together. The box for the K-4178 clearly states the "KIT INCLUDES ADHESIVE FOR ASSEMBLY".
- The illustration on the front of the box is printed and includes a description of the item but no item number.
- The right of the box is now printed with an illustration of the boxed item on the left two-thirds of the box. The item

Right End



Common Box Lingo

- Front - Largest side with the most detail describing the contents
- Back - Largest side opposite the front
- Ends - Vertical surfaces on the right & left of the front
- Top/Bottom - Surface on the top/bottom of the front



number and description are printed on the illustration. The new K-LINE ELECTRIC TRAINS logo is on the right third of the box.

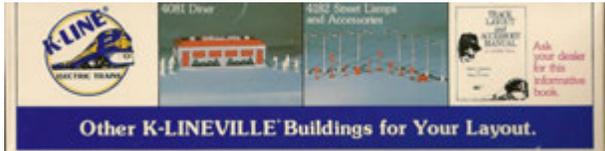
- The left of the box has a small photo of K-LINEVILLE along with the new K-LINE® ELECTRIC TRAINS logo. Except for the new logo this is identical to the left side of Box 2.

Left End



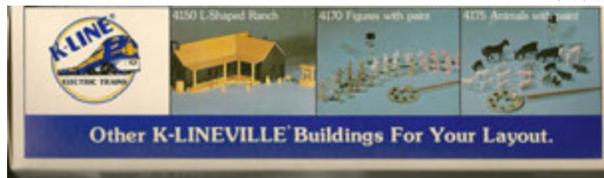
- The top of the box contains illustrations of the Diner and Street Lights and Accessories as well as an illustration of a Track Layout and Accessory Manual. The new K-LINE® ELECTRIC TRAINS logo has replaced the old logo. Except for the new logo this is identical to the top of Box 2.

Top



- The bottom of the box contains illustrations of the L-Shaped Ranch House, Figures with paint, and Animals with paint. The new K-LINE® ELECTRIC TRAINS logo has replaced

Bottom



the old logo. Except for the new logo this is identical to the bottom of Box 2.

Back



- The back of the box contains illustrations of twelve different buildings under a blue banner with white text reading, "K-LINEVILLE® O Scale Building Kits Make Your Layouts Fun and Realistic." with the same new logo as on the top of the box in the upper left hand corner. Except for the new logo this is identical to the back of Box 2.
- There is no mention of a country of origin, therefore it can be assumed that these items were manufactured in the U.S.
- As previously stated, 12 buildings are illustrated on the back of the box. The church is still listed as 4110 Church even though the 4110 Church had been superseded by the 4111 Church in the 1983 catalog.

As always I welcome your additions, corrections or comments. This is a work in progress and if you are interested in K-Line buildings and wish to assist please e-mail me at dhuov@aol.com.

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FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING

Backdrop Buildings Using Broken Plasticville

RON SCHLICHT



I have American Flyer Trains. I also have 22 AF switch tracks on my layout. There are a few things in life that I find to be somewhat unbecoming, one being looking in the mirror every morning. One of the other things I find somewhat obtrusive is the cover on an AF switching track. I have made every attempt to hide or camouflage the less than beautiful “**black boxes**”. Once again it is Plasticville to the rescue. What better for a switch track cover than a PV switch tower? On some of the original Plasticville packaging the artwork displayed the switch towers by a switch track.

PV actually made a pretty realistic control tower. Being a relatively common structure they also come pretty cheap. They can even be found on some *rivet counters* scale layouts. With a little acrylic paint, scrap material, and some time, you can hide the scars of the tough life that the PV structure endured. When those buildings are beyond repair you always have usable parts. With the detail that is on them, control tower sides can be used for all kinds of structures. Never, I repeat never throw away a piece with a window or door on it. In kit-bashing structures the only thing that my patience cannot endure is the construction of windows or doors. Below are some of the examples of AF switch covers made from various PV parts.

By removing the upper casting on an American Flyer remote control switch you automatically have lighting for the building. I have used both wood and Styrofoam to create the bases for the towers. Originally, when the above yellow base was made, the white beaded material was used. It was free with almost everything that you bought that was packaged. I now use mainly blue or pink construction grade for a lot of projects. One of the main advantages is that the static cling is easier to deal with. Those little white balls ended up in places that you wouldn't believe. Another tip is that the pink and blue is so readily available and for free. Almost any construction site has dumpsters full of scrap pieces, which are only going to end up in a landfill. Pink and Blue makes you Green.

Depending on where your switches are, relative to a full curve, the clearance can be pretty close when running newer style American Flyer passenger trains cars. The last structure shown has a very thin front wall. Since AF switches are not a collectable

item, the surface facing the track can be reduced in thickness to get even more clearance.



Now for an admission of guilt, not all of my switches are covered with PV stuff. I cheated and used some Lichen and trees to hide others. There are future plans to disguise a some of those with something more unique and will undoubtedly utilize some Plasticville scraps. The avid PV fan will be able to spot most, or all, of the PV pieces used. There will not be a test and certainly not a prize.



More photos on page 15.



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K-LINE KRONICLES

A Short History & The Colonial House

ED BERG



K-Line was started in the mid-1970's by Maury D. Klein as a part time mail order firm. In 1978 he and his associates incorporated the name 'MDK' and moved to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, the same year the venerable firm of Louis Marx Co. went bankrupt. In 1979 MDK began producing a line of low-cost 3-rail tubular track under the 'K-Line' banner to compete with Lionel's costlier offerings and their first switches, 42", were released in 1980.

In 1972, the Marx domestic toy production plants were sold to the Quaker Oats Company (who also owned Fisher-Price Toys). This turned out to be a disaster and in 1975 Quaker Oats announced the end to Marx manufacturing. By 1978 they had declared bankruptcy and the remaining assets (aka molds and tooling) for Marx became property of the bankruptcy court. Through diligence and perseverance most of the tooling for what had been the old Marxville line of plastic accessories for 3-rail O-gauge trains along with much of the engine and rolling stock tooling had either been bought by Klein from the court or through warehouse finds elsewhere. In 1982 Klein had the opportunity to buy even more tooling when some train molds were left over from the Mexican Plastimarx Division. These included freight car body molds (the Marx Deluxe Plastic Cars) and a group of operating accessory molds. By 1985 MDK was offering a full range of engines, rolling stock, buildings, accessories, track, and switches under the K-LINE product line.

K-Line manufacturing, like so many American businesses, moved off-shore to China where Sanda Kan Industrial was responsible for the manufacturing process. After a copyright dispute with Lionel, K-Line filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in 2005.

In 2006 Lionel took control of the K-Line brand, tooling, and other assets and produced the kits under the 'K-Line by Lionel' banner until 2010. Apparently Sanda Kan retained ownership of the tooling and produced the kits under license for Lionel. When the license expired the tooling was sold, some if it going to Atlas, Bachmann, and RMT.

The majority of K-Line buildings and accessories one sees on the shelf are in fact Marx. They were designed by Marx designers and the tooling was Marx for many years until new tooling was designed for a new line of operating buildings and made with casting resin. Some buildings were what I call 'mash-ups'—hybrids of two or more buildings. K-Line took those molds and continued to not only breathe life into them over the years but to keep alive a memory and managed to do so in a cost effective way. In the articles that will follow I'll make an attempt to chronicle some of this prodigious output but I can guarantee it won't be complete. Nothing short of a very large bag full of money and a warehouse to store everything will allow me to completely cover the range of buildings and accessories and that's not gonna happen in my lifetime! It won't be in any chronological order but what is presented will be as complete as I know how to make it.

#K-4050 Colonial House

This first article features the #K-4050 Colonial House. It was one of the largest Marx/K-Line plastic buildings and it is grand! It appears the most common color combination was powder blue walls with a black roof and trim but it did come in variety of colors through the years. Why was this kit chosen first? Well,

Continued on page 18



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logistics has a lot to do with it. During one of my Man Cave clean-outs, it was one of the first K-Line structures to be uncovered! So it will hold the seat of honor as the first to be presented.

The 'Colonial' period in American history is roughly the 1700s and the Colonial style house evolved from European styles stemming back even further to the 1600s. It, along with the Ranch style house, is one of the most popular styles of home architecture in America and appears as French, Spanish, English, Dutch, German, Mid-Atlantic, and Colonial Georgian sub-types. After a bit of research, this architecturally uneducated writer is betting that the Marx/K-Line house is a Georgian Colonial. In any case it's an attractive design with roots back to the 1600s.

K-line logo location: None (like Marx, not all accessories had the company logo)

Colors:

1. White walls and garage cupola; black roof, window shutters, chimney, doors, dark green shrubs along perimeter of house (1986-98)
2. Cream walls and garage cupola, black roof, window shutters, chimney, doors, dark green shrubs along perimeter of house (1986-98)
3. Blue walls and garage cupola; black roof, window shutters, chimney, doors, dark green shrubs along perimeter of house (1986-98)
4. Red first story, white upper story walls; white garage walls; white windows; black shutters; gray roof and chimney (1999-?)

Accessories included:

10-12 pieces of white board fence

5 Figures:

1. Girl jumping rope
2. Boy roller skating
3. Man in overalls
4. Milkman
5. Woman w/child



In 2002 K-line introduced the #K-42405 Operating Colonial House on Base. This was part of a series of operating structures which were based on the old designs but cast in resin and included various electrically operated motions like kids on swings, moving forklifts, etc.

Enjoy!

Ed "ICE" Berg

Las Vegas, NV



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| 1611 Hardware & Pharmacy, tough box number \$50 | ON-5 Outdoor Necessities \$60 |
| 1809 Loading Platform, Mint \$20 | 1624 House Under Construction, Lt grey |
| \$401908 Split Level House, Mint \$25 | AD-4 Air Admin Bldg, Mint \$50 |
| 0600 Windmill KING MT \$30 | 45985 LCCA Air Terminal, \$22 Sealed |
| 45986 LCCA Hangar, \$20 Sealed | 1627 Hobo Shacks, \$75 |
| PO-1 Post Office, \$25 | 1405 RR & Street Signs, \$20 |
| 1850 Colonial Mansion GREY ROOF, \$75 | HF-2 Dealer box of 12 Fence boxes, \$150 |

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Col Mansion (red roof) \$25, Country Church \$6, Add-A-Floor (red or brown) \$8 ea or 3/\$19,
Mobile Homes (8 different colors) \$12 ea or 6/\$60, Fire Department, Grey Siren, \$45

Accessories

1050 Outhouse (brown) \$4 ea, Pickup Truck \$6, Telephone Booth w/3 BLUE Shrubs, \$6,
Fire Trucks (red, 1 pumper, 1 ladder truck) \$10 set – New: (yellow, 1 pumper, 1 ladder truck) \$15 set,
Hay Wagon w/8 stakes \$6, BBQs \$2.50 ea, SS-5 6 Street Corner signs with original tag \$8, no tag, \$1 ea
Shrubs (24 total) 3 each of green, blue, red, yellow, buff, flesh, chocolate & WHITE - \$20
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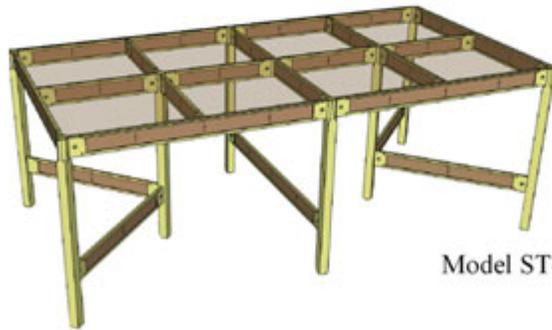
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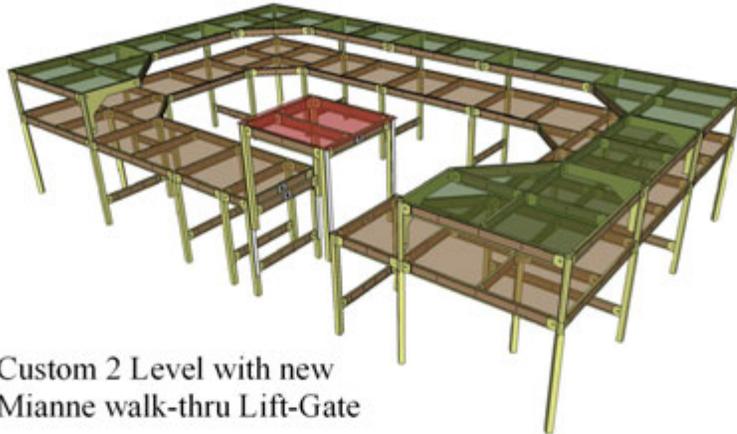
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CREATIVE USE OF DAMAGED PARTS

Two Story Post Office Building: Part III

EDWARD L. JOHNSON



Part two concluded with a template for the building front and a plan to have two offices on the second floor. One office would house an accountant. The second office would be for a law firm. Let's follow the progress of construction.

This photo shows the façade of the building. The roof has been completed. Usually to simulate a flat roof I paint it flat black and then paint lines with glossy black to simulate where the roofing material is joined. However on this model I used *Laser Art Structures Paper Roofing Shingles*. This product gives a good representation of a tar paper roof. The small brick structure would house the elevator machinery. There is a skylight and vent over the bathroom and a hatch for access to the roof is almost completed. Note there is a young woman waiting for the elevator



The next photo shows the two offices on the second floor. On the left is a shady accounting firm know as *Dewey, Cheetem & Howe*. Next door is the dubious law firm of *Goniff & Finagle*. The bathroom is located at the end of the hall. Since the bathroom window is frosted the bathroom was not detailed. After fitting the roof I tested the lighting for both floors. The lighting is from LEDs and looked really great. But it also revealed that one of the Post Office patrons had fallen down!



To fix the fallen figure would mean removing the entire second floor intact. While design for the second floor was made with a provision for this circumstance. There was concern the design may have been flawed and the entire project either set back or scrapped. I began carefully attempting to remove the entire second floor hoping it would remain intact. My design was a success! The third photo reveals all the details of the entire second floor.

Once the second floor was successfully removed intact I was able to correct the fallen patron. This photo shows the complete Post Office interior. The fallen patron is at the far left. The ceiling was designed to be lifted up. The four silver objects conceal the four LEDs that illuminate the Post Office. The four LEDs are connect-

ed to one resistor. This make illumination very easy. All of the figures were securely glued in place and have flat soles. The figure that fell is in a walking stride and does not have flat soles. To prevent future falling the figure was glued to a base that matched the floor.



After securing the figure the second floor with its offices was installed in place. Considering only one small trim piece needed to be glued back in place the design was a success. The ceiling will be lowered in place and the circuitry covered by the roof (also removable). Except for some exterior details the building is almost complete. These LEDs are by Evans Designs. There are four LEDs connected to one power source. If I had these LEDs when illuminating the apartment. I would have needed only two connections instead of six.



Hopefully by the time of the next newsletter this model will be completed.

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PLASTICVILLE BOXED SETS 103

Rarity Schedule

ROBERT SPIVEY



1. Introduction

As a group, all Plasticville boxed sets are scarce. Some boxed sets, however, are more rarely found than others. This chapter will address that aspect in an orderly fashion. Also, some boxed sets have more shelf appeal than others, and several boxed sets contain, or are thought to contain, an unusual variation of an otherwise common item. Originally they were retailed for their play value, resulting in longer production runs for some best selling set titles. Today all those things affect selling prices. Even though the primary question is "How much is it worth?", the concept of rarity is more basic. This chapter is presented to assist a willing seller determine a selling price to a willing buyer. No attempt will be made to link rarity with price values.

The subject of this study is a group of 63 titles of Plasticville boxed sets. The task is to determine how many occurrences of the 63 set titles were listed at one single and prolific website auction, now to be called the source, within a two year time period. This study, therefore, measures availability. The standards of including a listed boxed set from the source into the study are as follows: the set must have a recognizable set box, even an empty box was counted, and the box need not have its trays or dividers. No set was counted twice; this was accomplished by using appropriate sampling techniques. Data was collected at intervals never to exceed three days. Relisted auctions were not counted; resold auctions were not counted, even if they were resold months after the item had first appeared. The total number of auction occurrences found in this study is 359 Plasticville boxed sets. The time period for this study spanned Sept. 1, 2000, to Aug, 31, 2001. These were very good years for Plasticville collectors to find fresh items entering into the market. So, the data was extensive thus making the study a realistic cross section of all that was going on at that particular time.

2. Methodology

Recording data from more than one source would have been too complex to make a fair conclusion. By using this chosen single source method, then the problem of occurrences jumping in and

out of more than one source was eliminated. Crossover occurrences would have skewed the data. For example, if a seller tried to sell one item by using multiple venues, then his approach (for instance, to list the same set online, and in a club's magazine, and at a train show on the same day) would not have adversely affected this study. Furthermore, even if four or five very rare sets were discovered outside the test group then they would be ignored. Chances are that they would eventually be listed in the very popular website auction which was chosen for the source of this study.

A balanced approach ensures: one, an ample chance for a Plasticville boxed set offered by a seller to be included in the study, and two, dedicated provisions to achieve bell curve statistics. The easiest way to form a monthly report from the data within the source was to be the first bidder on all Plasticville boxed sets, and as a fallback position to add to a watch list the Plasticville boxed sets for which the selling price was too high. The raw data from both lists was combined to form a monthly report, and printed from the observer's website account. By careful observation multiple listings of the same item were ruled out; resales were identified even when passed along by different sellers. The photos show two typical data pages from a report captured on Jan. 1, 2002. (See page 24)

Content validity and accountability was essential while making this study. Subsequently, the observer was well practiced in recognizing and identifying boxed set auctions, even when the boxed set was only a portion of an auction's lot. Raw data had been collected for two years before and two years after the selected study group's time period (2000 -2001, inclusive). Thus the realism and validity of the study was refined. Because of the observer's technique, then this study has a high probability of being able to be duplicated at any time with the same results. That, indeed, is the premise for this chapter.

The following totals are provided for those who would be interested in calculating the standard deviation (validity) of the study: There are 41 different set titles with data (an occurrence). There are 22 different set titles without an occurrence (0 auc-



tions). The total number of individual auctions of boxed sets occurring within the source is 359. The sum of the squares of the number of cases occurrences found is 4561.

3. Results

The results are derived and presented following a method of averaging. The number of occurrences of each set in 2000, and in 2001, are added together. The total is divided by 2 to compress the results into a scale of 0–10, where zero is the least commonly found and ten is the most commonly found. For example, the set Highway Motel 5402 had 12 occurrences in 2000 and 9 occurrences in 2001. It's ranking is valued at 10. The set Plasticville Way Station had one occurrence in 2000 and one occurrence in 2001. It's ranking is valued at 1. The set Plasticville Public Buildings (PB-8) had no occurrences in 2000, and two occurrences in 2001. It's ranking is also valued at 1. The Airport & Accessories (AU-6) had six occurrences in 2000 and twelve occurrences in 2001. That total represents an example of a set group of boxed sets with total occurrences greater than ten, however the scale is compressed by dividing the total by 2. Therefore, it's ranking is valued at 9. The International Airport (AU-6) had no occurrences. It's ranking is valued at 0.

Finally, although not scientific, an anecdotal list is included (Chart 2) showing the number of rarity zero sets the author has owned and sold, or owned and kept. This list proves nothing other than the fact that these sets can be acquired. The accumulation of the zero valued sets in that chart spans four decades, and obviously from more sources than the popular website.

4. Discussion

The rarity of Plasticville boxed sets can be explained by several reasonable suppositions. First, a large number of original boxes were likely thrown out within a week of their original purchase. Often these sets would be given to a child, by a relative who knew the child plays with trains. They were quite expensive and a typical child's allowance in the 1950's would not exceed about a dollar a week. So, after the party or the Christmas Sunday, boxes were typically gathered up and trashed. Soon after, a child, upon setting up his permanent layout may not have had further use for the bulky empty box. Once again a great many boxes were likely forgotten or trashed. Lionel boxes are seemingly different because trains that are not actually running on an oval of track might have to be stowed below. The town that grows and grows stays up. Third, many years later a model railroad operator may offer a low price at a garage sale for a large set just to get a lot of buildings cheap. He didn't want it all and like others who don't care about boxes took out what he wanted and discarded the rest with the box. Through the years, more things similar to the garage sale happens.

Ultimately, rarity is affected by the size of the production run, the rate of attrition, and a person's desire to hold an item. For instance a collector may sell his TA-1 if he buys a RR-5. Thus the TA-1 may get passed along many hands over time. Plasticville boxed sets surface from time to time. I showed Plasticville boxed sets at train shows long before the Internet; people would tell me that they never knew Plasticville made sets. There are several Plasticville guides that don't even cover this topic at all. Rarity is truly special.

5. Summary

This summary is provided to guide the reader in the uses of the chart, even while skipping over the detailed paragraphs. The chart is divided into two eras. The letter era spans 1950 to 1955 and the number era spans 1956 to 1962. Generally the letter era is organized alphabetically by each sets designation (i. e. SU-7) and the number era is organized from low to high. The value ranking runs this way: 0 for the most rare (zero occurrences) to 10 for more commonly found. The scale is a closed system - meaning that the ranking is a comparison between the availability of one boxed set over another boxed set. Thus a ranking of 3 does not compare to a ranking of 3 in a Greenberg book. A Greenberg guide if so listed would classify all Plasticville boxed sets as NRS (*no reported sales*).

The data was collected from a popular website auction over a period of two years. The total number of boxed sets found during the two year period was 359. There are on any given day close to 2000 Plasticville items listed at the same time on that website! Some set titles like the Plasticville Railroad Center #1981 had no occurrences during the sampling. Chart two indicates how many of those sets without an occurrence in the two year time frame the author was ever able to acquire over four decades. And finally, the photographs show how the data was compiled from the source.

6. Conclusion

The writer expects that this chapter may become the least read, while remaining one of the most used. It's all about this chart. The chapter's significance is a well meaning resource for experienced collectors to form their own value standard for selecting or acquiring Plasticville boxed sets. This is not a price guide. The PCA recommends that neophytes get expert advise before purchasing a high dollar item. One once said: The ad says "All the Plasticville boxed sets you can carry out for \$175.00", but you only have two! So sorry sir, but that IS all you can carry out.

| Item | Start | End | Price | Title | High Bidder |
|------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|-------------|
| 1 | Nov-25-01 | Dec-02-01 | \$62.01 | PLASTICVILLE HIGHWAY MOTEL #5402 | RNM |
| 2 | Nov-25-01 | Dec-02-01 | \$46.00 | PLASTICVILLE HO#98 UNIT (must seeooooo) | |
| 3 | Nov-26-01 | Dec-03-01 | \$10.49 | vintage plasticville unit TA-1, NR (must see at Dec-02-01) | |
| 4 | Nov-26-01 | Dec-03-01 | \$61.00 | PLASTICVILLE HIGHWAY MOTEL IN BOX GREAT LOOK | |
| 5 | Nov-27-01 | Dec-04-01 | \$50.99 | Plasticville SU-4 Shopping Unit NIB No Res CLOTH box | (*) |
| 6 | Nov-27-01 | Dec-04-01 | \$16.00 | Plasticville Train Accessories TA-1 No Res CLOTH box | (*) |
| 7 | Nov-29-01 | Dec-06-01 | \$374.00 | Lionel Plasticville 962 Turnpike Set in OB | |
| 8 | Dec-01-01 | Dec-08-01 | \$112.50 | Vintage Plasticville Community Church, New | (*) |
| 9 | Dec-01-01 | Dec-08-01 | \$26.00 | LIONEL PLASTICVILLE #952 FIGURE SET, LIKE NEW | RNM |
| 10 | Dec-03-01 | Dec-08-01 | \$395.00 | Littlenon Pro-Plasticville Suburban Set 1952 | |
| 11 | Dec-04-01 | Dec-09-01 | \$20.00 | 1968 Matchbox Roadway Series Layout MIP NR! | |
| 12 | Dec-04-01 | Dec-09-01 | \$18.51 | 1968 Matchbox Roadway Series Const Layout NR | |

Chart 1. Schedule of Plasticville Boxed Sets Rarity.

| Name | Year | Ranking |
|--|------|---------|
| AU-6 Airport & Accessories | 1954 | 9 |
| AU-6 International Airport | 1955 | 0 |
| BA-6 Barn & Animal Unit | 1954 | 4 |
| BA-7 Barn & Animal Unit | 1952 | 8 |
| CH-4 Church & House Unit | 1953 | 7 |
| CH-9 Church & House Unit | 1954 | 3 |
| CH-9 Church & House Unit | 1955 | 0 |
| Community Unit (No designation) | 1950 | 3 |
| CU-1 Country Unit | 1954 | 0 |
| CU-6 Christmas Platform Unit | 1950 | 0 |
| CU-7 Christmas Unit | 1951 | 0 |
| CU-9 Christmas Table Unit | 1951 | 0 |
| CH-10 Christmas Platform Unit | 1950 | 0 |
| HU-5 House Unit | 1954 | 4 |
| HU-5 Homes for Town & Country | 1955 | 1 |
| HU-6 House Unit | 1950 | 0 |
| HU-6 House Unit | 1951 | 6 |
| HU-7 House Unit | 1952 | 7 |
| 198 Jr. Chief Fire Dept. | 1953 | 0 |
| MU-1 Master Unit | 1953 | 0 |
| MU-2 Master Unit | 1954 | 2 |
| MU-2 Master Village | 1955 | 0 |
| PB-8 Plasticville Public Buildings | 1955 | 1 |
| RR-5 Plasticville Railroad Accessories | 1954 | 3 |
| RU-2 Rural Unit | 1950 | 7 |
| RU-2 Rural Unit | 1951 | 0 |
| RU-3 Rural Unit | 1952 | 7 |
| RU-4 Rural Unit | 1954 | 4 |
| RU-4 Plasticville Dairy Farm | 1955 | 2 |
| SP-8 Plasticville Shopping Center | 1955 | 0 |
| SU-4 Shopping Unit | 1950 | 10 |
| SU-4 Shopping Unit | 1951 | 0 |
| SU-5 Shopping Unit | 1952 | 8 |
| SU-7 Shopping Unit | 1954 | 1 |
| TA-1 Train Accessories Unit | 1952 | 1 |
| TA-1 Train Accessories Unit | 1953 | 8 |
| TA-2 Train Accessories Unit | 1954 | 1 |
| TA-2 Train Accessories Unit | 1955 | 7 |
| 1890 Road Racing Accessories | 1963 | 0 |
| 1980 Plasticville Railroad Center | 1962 | 1 |
| 1981 Railroad Center | 1963 | 0 |
| 1990 City in a Box | 1962 | 0 |
| 5200 Plasticville Roadside Rest | 1956 | 2 |

Chart 1. Continued.

| Name | Year | Ranking |
|---|------|---------|
| 5400 Plasticville Toy Train Accessories | 1956 | 7 |
| 5401 Plasticville Community Church | 1956 | 4 |
| 5402 Plasticville Highway Motel | 1957 | 10 |
| 5403 Plasticville Toy Train Accessories | 1958 | 0 |
| 5404 Plasticville Way Station | 1959 | 1 |
| 5600 Plasticville International Airport | 1956 | 2 |
| 5600 Plasticville Int. Apt. (Box II) | 1956 | 0 |
| 5601 Plasticville Turnpike | 1956 | 1 |
| 5602 Plasticville Railroad Accessories | 1956 | 5 |
| 5603 Plasticville Farm | 1956 | 5 |
| 5604 Plasticville Residential Square | 1957 | 4 |
| 5605 Plasticville Railroad Accessories | 1957 | 4 |
| 5606 Plasticville Countryside Farm | 1957 | 5 |
| 5606 " (with letterboxed picture) | | 0 |
| 5607 Plasticville Interceptor Squadron | 1958 | 2 |
| 5608 Plasticville Railroad Center | 1958 | 7 |
| 5608 " (with landscape box) | | 0 |
| 5900 Plasticville Master Village | 1956 | 2 |
| 5900 Plasticville City in a Box | 1961 | 0 |
| 5901 Plasticville City in a Box | 1957 | 7 |

Chart 2. Schedule of Plasticville Boxed Sets Rarity

| Name | Year | Number Acquired |
|--|--------|-----------------|
| AU-6 International Airport | 1955 | 0 |
| Christmas Units (any one of them) | 1950-1 | 4 |
| Church & House Unit | 1955 | 2 |
| Country Unit | 1954 | 1 |
| House Unit | 1950 | 2 |
| 198 Jr. Chief Fire Department | 1953 | 6 |
| MU-1 Master Unit | 1953 | 2 |
| MU-2 Master Village | 1955 | 1 |
| RU-2 Rural Unit | 1951 | 0 |
| SP-8 Plasticville Shopping Center | 1955 | 3 |
| SU-4 Shopping Unit | 1951 | 0 |
| 1890 Road Racing Accessories | 1963 | 3 |
| 1981 Railroad Center | 1963 | 2 |
| 1990 City in a Box | 1962 | 2 |
| 5403 Plasticville Toy Train Accessories | 1958 | 2 |
| 5600 Plasticville International Airport (Box II) | 1956 | 2 |
| 5606 " Countryside Farm w letterboxed picture | 1957 | 1 |
| 5608 " Railroad Center with landscape picture | 1958 | 2 |
| 5900 Plasticville City in a Box | 1961 | 2 |

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A sheet of 30, personalized, high-quality color labels are available from the PCA. The labels will include the PCA logo in color and up to four lines of address. Each label is a generous 1 x 2 5/8 inches. 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.

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Navy blue 100% cotton, short sleeve shirt T-shirt with the PCA logo printed on the front in white. 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.

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 \$15.95, postpaid. Please specify your color choice when ordering. Only 24 pieces of black logo mugs were produced.

PCA Ball Caps

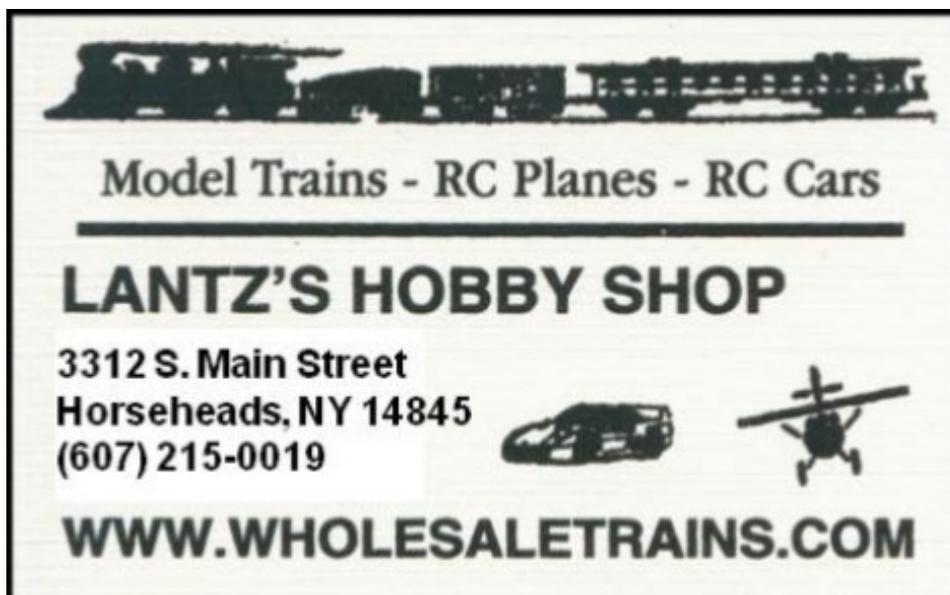
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2. Seven different subjects plus one "Welcome To Plasticville" inserts including Friskies dog food, Motorola, Mercury and Lincoln autos, Sunoco and Gulf motor oil, and Eberhard Faber pink erasers. All are mid-fifties vintage.

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.



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ALONG THE HO LINE

HO Railroad Center

DOMINIC ST. JOHN



Hello again everyone. I have another Internet find I'd like to share and some more information regarding the HO Railroad Center. In these last weeks and during my usual eBay searches, I came across two more HO Railroad Center kits. I went after these two boxes purposely for the way one was marked and how the other was not marked. These kit boxes seem to fit into the story of the first HO Railroad Center kit I got last year. I guess you can say it's the continuing story that goes on and on?

First let me go back and touch on that kit from last year. In the November 2014, Vol. 13 No. 4, *The Villager* I wrote of a #4498 HO Railroad Center that I found on eBay. When I first saw that kit, I did what I usually do and looked in my HO catalogs for any reference to it. A few of the PCA members also did a search and they too couldn't find a reference to it. So, having found no listings, for a kit with that number, I felt it could be considered an uncataloged item. That kit from last year also had a second number stamped onto it. The number 2683 was also found on the box. So, that is why I described last years' kit as uncataloged and double stamped in the heading of my Villager article.

Fast forward to this year and I found another HO Railroad Center. Actually I went after two and now they are both now in my collection. One of the two new kit boxes is now marked with a catalog #4603 followed by the 498 for the price. What is somewhat curious about the way it is marked is the fact that the numbers are now printed on two small paper labels and the labels had been glued to the box. The second box was in another listing. I saw no numbers on that second box so I asked the seller if there were any. The seller answered no he saw no numbers on the box. When the second box arrived it was easy to tell that it did, at one time, have labels present but they were now gone. There was evidence in two locations of there being labels glued in place. As a matter of fact, the labels on the first kit box I received are loose and would easily come off if care wasn't taken when handling the box.

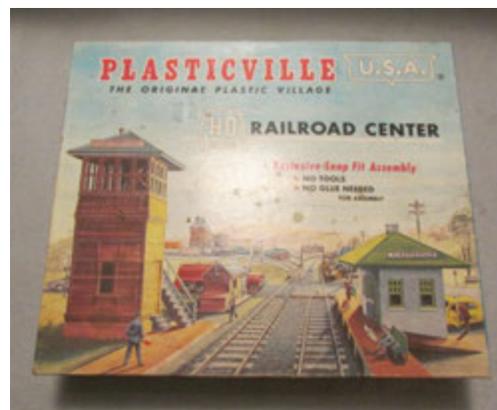
Well it was time do so some research and I went to my catalogs to look for this new number. In the 1960 catalog I did find the #4603 Miniature Railroad Accessory Box complete with paint kit. This isn't my kit! That #4603 kit comes with unpainted buildings

"in a neutral color" and is meant to paint it yourself. Included in this kit is, a Switch Tower with accessories, 1 Watchman's Shanty with accessories, 1 Freight Station with accessories and 1 Suburban Station with accessories. Also included is a paint kit with 12 color pellets, 2 bottles of fluid and 1 artist brush. You would also get a 16 page coloring book of railroad scenes.

This unpainted set kit turned out to be quite the rare piece. I had found it listed on eBay, and I decided to bookmark and watch it. It was the first time I'd ever seen one. Well when the listing ended the kit commanded a rather handsome price for its seller. No doubt its final value was a testament to its scarcity. Maybe I'll get lucky one day and put one into my collection. A representative photo of this type kit can be seen on the PCA HO Set Box web site pages. That and many other Set Boxes are courtesy of PCA member Bruce Batten.

While still looking in the 1960 catalog I came across another Miniature Railroad Center. This kit had a #4602 catalog number.

The group of buildings and accessories shown in the catalog illustration, included in the #4602 kit, was different than what my #4603 kit had illustrated on its cover. This isn't my kit either.



There is one point to note regarding these kits and the catalogs I found them in. None of the kits were shown to be "NEW". Whenever a new item was introduced, the catalog would have that item marked as being new. I can only wonder if all these kits are "NEW" in the 1959 catalog. That is one of the years I don't have and can't use for reference.

Well, I'm still looking for my new #4603 HO scale Railroad Center kit. I went to my 1961 catalog next and sure enough, there

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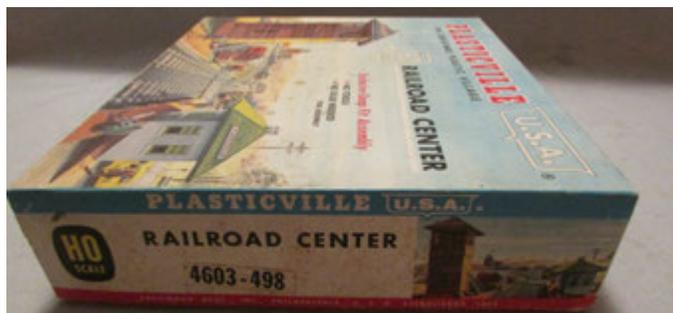
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it is. The #4603 Miniature Railroad Center with a retail price of \$4.98 has been found! Boy, there sure are a lot of Miniature Railroad Centers in Plasticville HO! Okay, now once again, the catalog illustration showed a different group of buildings than what was found in the image on the set box cover of my #4603. The items in the #4603 undecorated kit seem to copy the items shown on the cover of my #4603 kit. Although the box cover shows a particular group of buildings, they are not all inside! This is very hard to follow and gets confusing! This box cover must have been used for a number of kits and did not always represent the kits' contents by what was on the cover... Got that? I think I got that right.



My #4603 Miniature Railroad Center box has four inserts. There are three small and one large insert included. The catalog shows five kits as well as the small accessory items supplied with my kit. Some items had to share accommodations, don't you think? Even though there is a Suburban Station sitting large and in the right side foreground on my box cover, it is not included in this kit. Neither is the Switch Tower that sits large and is in the left foreground on my box cover. If you were to buy this kit today, I'm sure you would have expected those buildings to be inside being they are the first thing to catch your eye. The Watchmans' Shanty, that is sitting more towards the middle of the covers image, is included. The Signal tower in the background is also included. The Water Tower and the Coaling Station, sitting way back in the distance in the cover image, are found inside too.

Now I'm curious and want to know if there are any other catalog numbers used for another Miniature Railroad Center. I looked in my 1962 catalog and I find the same kit and illustrations and the 1961 book. Looking in my 1963 I no longer find the #4603 kit. In its place and introduced as new is now a #4604 Railroad Center. No longer is the Railroad Center considered Miniature. I guess by 1963 it has grown up!



Now for my theory! The Railroad Center seems to have been a multi purpose kit that was used a number of times and with different catalog numbers. I think this particular box is one of the largest boxes in the HO line? I wonder what the reasoning was

that caused this box and cover image to be used for different kits? I always look to the economic reasons when a large company makes decisions regarding their products. Maybe Bachmann needed to use up existing or left over product and this box, with its large assortment of railroad buildings on the cover image, would help them do just that? Why package a single building in a single box, when you can create a larger kit with left over buildings and sell it for more money? Or am I just over thinking all this?

So, for now, that concludes my latest foray into the online world of HO Plasticville buildings and assorted other items. I hope to have another offering in the near future. It might just fit in with my theory regarding left over parts and kits? Till then, enjoy the summer and all the warm weather you can take in. After this last bitter cold winter we've just suffered, my wife Jean and I refuse to suffer another without first spending every possible moment outdoors and in the sun. Not to say we haven't sat under the umbrella holding smaller umbrellas while enjoying a light spring shower. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served on the rear porch, until further notice and weather permitting! We will go for as long as we can. It was this past November where we would have been found taking in our last Sunday afternoon on the deck. We were reluctantly sitting under a blanket and watching the thermometer as it dropped to 40 degrees signaling the end of our outdoor time. Let's see if we can break that record.

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THE PARTS BIN

A PCA MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

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*** 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 - no downspouts
 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 -specify large or small light holes
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
 1624 House Under Construction - no smalls
 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
1006 Platform Fence
 WG-10 Platform Fence Gate
 1703 Colonial Mansion
LM-3 Station Platform
 BB-9 Billboard - specify color & type
1907 Apartment House
 1805 Covered Bridge
 1804 Greenhouse
 1806 Roadside Stand
1007 Rustic Fence
 1034 Rustic Gate
 YW-4 Yard Pump
 1626 Corner Store
 Swimming Pool (yellow, no insert)
Park Bench
 Telephone pole
Shrub
 Street signs - specify text
 Wishing Well
 Playground Equipment - specify piece & color
Trestle Bridge
1407 RR & Street Signs - specify text on sign
Yard Pump
Outhouse - specify color
Spruce Tree
Fire Truck - missing ladder or water cannon

PF-4 instruction sheet
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 - specify part by letter
2801 Factory - water tower
 2901 Split Level wall - A/E
 2976 Contemporary House
 2907 New Car Showroom
 School House
 Police Station
Post Office
Railroad Work Car
Gas Station
Cathedral
 House Under Construction
Motel
 Street Signs - specify text
Various doors and windows
Window Inserts - specify what you need
Switch Tower
TV Station
Various industrial detail pieces - ask for description
***** LITTLETOWN *****
 101 Super Market
 105 Corner Store
 106 General Store
109 Railroad Station
111 Loading Platform
 112 School House

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

Newly Added Parts!



Parts available in The Parts Bin:

The parts in all four photos are currently in the Parts Bin and are available to all members. This is their first offering. Please note both the item and the photo in which it appears when making a request.



Available parts continued from the previous page.

113 Church
110 Ranch House

*** MARX ***

Barn
Railroad Station

Super Market
 Gas Station

Church

Fire House

General Store

Airport Hangar

Ranch House

Factory

Water Tower - 065

Rustic Fence

Telephone poles

RR Signs - specify text

3-rail fence

Slide, lounge, pool, umbrella table -
 specify needed item

*** SKYLINE ***

Ranch

Church

*** K-Line ***

Ranch House

L-Shaped Ranch

Chicken Coop

*** MISCELLANEOUS ***

Post type mailbox w/base kit - HO

Tyco 9088 Operating Crossing Gate

Lifelike billboards - HO

Guidancetown USA building parts

Lionel billboard inserts - specify design

Atlas power poles - HO

Atlas Block Signal - HO

Atlas white street signs - specify text -

HO

Lionel RR & Street signs (white) -

specify text

Lionel Ammo Dump base

*** EMPTY BOXES ***

2617 HO Cape Cod

2803 HO House Under Construction

Build A House - red

45534 Pink Lady Boutique

45521 Rural Station

45526 Joe's Pizza & Video Store

45522 Bud's Convenience Store

V-10 Assorted Vehicles

1701 1 1/2 Story Rancher

2301 Ranch House

1616 Suburban Station

1618 TV Transmitting Station

DE-7 Diner

2410 Pine Trees

1407 Watchman's Shanty - lid only

1405 RR & Street Signs - lid only

1403 Signal Bridge

AS-4 Airport Administration Building

1617 Farm Buildings and Animals

1620 Loading Platform

HO-59 Ranch House

2407 Post Office

1625 Railroad Work Car

1407 Watchman's Shanty

1622 Dairy Barn

Sw-2 Switch Tower

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:

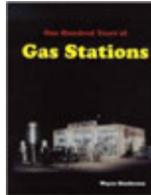
The Parts Bin, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3207.

PRODUCT REVIEWS

JOHN L NIEHAUS

One Hundred Years of Gas Stations, Wayne Henderson, 356 pages, hardbound, \$55. Published by PCM Publishing. Over 2,000 black & white and color photos.

Who would have ever thought that the first purpose build gas station was built in 1913 or that the first location where one could purchase gas directly from a storage tank directly into their auto was in 1907. These are just two of the many facts found in this book.



The book has a total of 30 chapters. The first one contains photos of stations from 1907 through 1925. The next seven show stations in approximately ten year increments. There is a chapter on unusual building configurations such as a repurposed interurban car, a tepee, a dinosaur, and one that emulates the Shell Oil shell logo. There are also eight chapters on independent stations. These chapters are based on regions of the country for the most part although the author give Florida as well as Canada exclusive chapters. There are also chapters on truck stops, travel stops, and turnpike gas rest stops.

One may not think of them as such but there are also gas stations at marinas and airports. The author takes them into account with a single chapter with photos of both. The final chapter provides photos of disasters that befell some very early stations through those caused by more recent events such as hurricane Camille.

Streamliners to the Twin Cities, Photo Archive, 400, Twin Zephyrs, & Hiawatha Trains, John Kelly, 126 pages, soft back, 10 1/4 X 8 1/2, \$39.95. Black and white photos throughout. Published by Iconografix through its Enthusiast Books division. This is one of over a half dozen books in the author's photo archive series.

As is noted in the title, this is a photo archive of the various streamliners that traveled exclusively between Chicago and the Twin Cities. It contains photos of streamliners from the three major railroads running between these two cities; Chicago and North Western, Chicago Burlington and Quincy, and the Chicago Milwaukee St Paul & Pacific.

There is a highly informative introduction that runs for three pages. It is one of the few introductions where I have seen an explanatory graphic, in this instance a route map, as part of introduction.

The book is broken down into five chapters with the first chapter devoted to Chicago and its various stations rather than a specific train. There are still plenty of train photos in this chapter. It isn't all station photos.

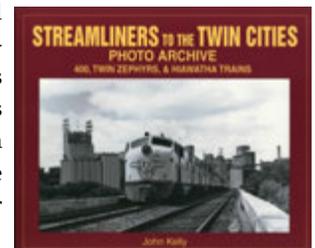
Each of the next three chapters are dedicated to the trains of one of the aforementioned railroads. Both the Milwaukee and the Burlington trains followed the Mississippi river for a good por-

tion of their trip. The photos and the travel brochures in their respective chapters give a nod to this in both the captions as well as some of the photos. The photo on page 68 has a fantastic view of the Zephyr traveling along the Upper Mississippi palisades.

The last chapter contains photos of the Twin Cities depots. The majority of the photos are approximately 6 inches high by 8 inches wide. Each photo has a caption of up to five sentences. The captions are quite informative and in some instances contain information that could be used when playing a railroad trivia game.

With the combination of photos of trains, stations, travel brochure covers, and timetable covers I found this to be a quite interesting book. I may very likely revisit again.

For some reason I could not find the book listed on the enthusiastbooks.com website. I believe the reason for this is that it has sold out and that until another printing arrives it has been removed from their listings. I did find it available on Amazon for a price of \$29.71. It is also listed on Barnes & Noble's website for \$29.54.



WHAT MEMBERS ARE SAYING

Many, many thanks for the wonderful gifts you sent me, which arrived safe and sound - and with quite a bit of surprise! - today. I appreciate the certificate, the lifetime membership, and the book very much. Any one of them would have been more than necessary, but all three are a testimony to your thoughtfulness and generosity. I have very much enjoyed writing for *The Villager* and look forward to reading it, and participating in the PCA, for a long, long time.

John Gottcent, #01-24

John wrote "Plasticville On the Boards" for over 10 years, check out the online archives to view his articles.

I like the new PCA website. It seems much easier to navigate and responds faster. Well-done.

Donald Mills, #15-913

Ooooooh how wonderful *The Old Woman in a Shoe* article by Chris Matthy was - I totally enjoyed this read. I think it is actually my favorite PLASTICVILLE set.....even though mine is not complete. I just scanned most of this PCA issue - but will give it a better read -and print it out- when we get back home.

Geraldine Scott, #04-321

I was able to download the May newsletter yesterday with no problem. I continue to be amazed at all of the great information that is available not only on the website, but also in the quarterly newsletters, and all for only \$8 a year! Keep up the good work.

Fred Hachmeyer, #13-799

This was first time I've been to York in 2 years. Last time I attended the Plasticville meeting was at restaurant and split up over a couple tables. I believe venue you have now is excellent. And thought the meeting I attended on Friday to have been excellent. It might have been nice to go around room quickly, everyone introduce themselves, where from, how long been into Plasticville, or any special interest they have in regard to Plasticville.

Just thought of idea for website. How about a question and answer page. Where a member can ask a question if they have one, and allow members to post response. The lady after the meeting seemed to have a lot of questions, and apparently new to hobby, and don't think we had enough time to really talk with her. May be our website can have place for members or new members to ask questions if they have any.

Charles Swanson # 02-183

There are three ways that any person, member or otherwise, can ask questions and hopefully get a reply. They can post a question on our Facebook page where anyone can post a reply. The second method is to send an email to any of the contacts listed on the Contact page of our website. Maybe a new addition to that page with a title something like, "Ask a question" should be added. I will bring this up at the next Executive Committee meeting. The third method would be to post a question in either the Plasticville or Plasticvillage Yahoo groups. The downside to this option is that a person must be a member of the group to post a question. Questions do come up infrequently and are answered generally by a PCA member in short order. Secretary.

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

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

STAMPINGS
 CASTINGS
 CUSTOMWORK

NEW!

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

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

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

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

THE VILLAGER CLASSIFIED ADS

Is your ad ending? Want to learn how to submit an ad? Check out the details on page 35.

WANTED

Ending August 2015

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

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. Littletown gas station. Plastic Village Gazette #10 or copy. Revell #1420 White Mobilgas truck kit. 14" long plastic gas tankers: Clark, CITGO, Sinclair, Union 76. #14-858 Dale Griebel, PO Box 6602, Sherwood AR 72124 Ph. 501-541-4508

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

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 Ph. 217- 351-1696 mbd1325@yahoo.com

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 Ph. 515-771-6888 johnln@netins.net

Ending November 2015

Amloid gray, green roof houses. Littletown red roof ranch house, gray walled ranch house, littletown parts. Ranch house chimneys 2 green 2 white. Supermarket/Gas station side wall white, cape cod windows: red, green, cream side wall, red door LH hinge, chimneys yellow cream. #01-50 Joe Endicott, 13 Bradford Pl. Turnersville, NJ 08012. Ph. 856-534-8919 joe_endicott@comcast.net

Copy of Littletown "Builders Handbook" or any brochures, ads. Littletown boxes: gas station, super market or color copies of box covers. "K-Line" - convenience store, small street lights, factory, radar tower. "Plasticville" 'D' block signals, gas pimps, R.R.-X-signals, bungalow, corner store, trees, shrubs, empty boxes,

FUTURE TRAIN MEET DATES

YORK MEETS

2015: October 22-24, York, PA
2016: April 14 - 16, York, PA

CAL-STEWART MEETS

2015: November

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

especially small supermarket. Used Items OK. Dale Griebel #14-858 P.O. Box 6602 Sherwood AR, 72124, Ph. 501-541-4508.

Ending February 2016

Wanted Frosted Flaked billboard parts: 4 billboard feet, 8 lights that go on top of billboards, 1 billboard insert (any design). #10-626, Bryant Bennett, 759 Turj Ave, Palm Bay, FL 32907-1654. Ph. 321 725-5973.

Wanted: Parts 17 (walkway) & 18 (rail) for coaling tower. These attach near the letter F on the side near the long vertical chute. Please contact John Niehaus, 515 771-6888, if you have these parts as the person needing these parts wishes to remain anonymous.

Ending May 2016

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. Ladder for silver/red Marx O-gauge water tower, #10-628 Ken Honick, PO Box 515, Buena-Vista, PA 15018 Ph. 412-513 9748 genlee57@yahoo.com

Wanted: 2014 Bachmann Catalog, O-Scale: Greenhouse #45615, Union Station #45976, Split Level House #45607. HO: Park Assortment #42209, Picnic Set #42213, Playground Equip. #42214, Swimming Pool & Acc. #42215. #15-928, Richard Brown, 200 72nd Ave N. Apt 105. St. Petersburg, FL. 33702-5936.

Wanted to buy: The following Plasticville Items: #45971 Rural Two Story House - #45972 Rural Station Plasticville white crossing gates with red signal aspects (WG-2), total number wanted 6 pieces. #15-296, John Delaney 147 Belmont Street, Weymouth MA. 02188-1207

FOR TRADE

Ending August 2015

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

Ending November 2015

Looking for citizens molded in color (not flesh!) Willing to trade my doubles for yours. Contact me for a list of doubles and include yours. Matt Harvazinski, 4115 West Ave. J-7, Lancaster, CA 93536. villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org

My Amloid red roof ranch house for your gray or green roof house. My littletown blue or green roof ranch house with yellow walls for your red roof ranch house. #01-50 Joe Endicott, 13 Bradford Pl. Turnersville, NJ 08012. Ph. 856-534-8919 joe_endicott@comcast.net

THE FREE PCA CLASSIFIED ADS BRING RESULTS!

- Do you have buildings that you would like to sell and without the hassle of Internet auction sites?
- Do you have parts that you would like to sell and without the hassle of Internet auction sites?
- Do you have buildings that you would like to trade?
- Do you have parts that you would like to trade?
- Do you have buildings that you want but don't seem to be available on Internet auction sites or at train meets?
- Do you have parts that you need but don't seem to be available on Internet auction sites or at train meets?

Use your Classified Ad membership benefit and place a classified ad if you answered YES to any of the above questions. You can download the member classified ad form from the PCA website or send a letter requesting a form to PCA, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3207. Classified ads run for four consecutive issues unless a change is made to the ad or notice is given to remove it.

The ads, up to 50 words, are free to members and contact information is not included in the word count. Ads in the For Sale or Wanted categories must be plastic village related. Items other than plastic village pieces such as trains or non-plastic accessories are not allowed. Ads in the For Trade category may contain toy trains or other items providing plastic village pieces are being traded or sought as one side of the trade. (Plasticville for trains or Department 56 for Plasticville.)

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.

FOR SALE

Ending August 2015

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

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 Ph. 501 541-4508

Ending November 2015

Assorted Plasticville Littletown Storytown for sale. Send me your wants. Richard Sipes, 541 Sandy Valley Rd, White Haven, PA 18661 Ph. 570-751-8028 richsipes60@yahoo.com

No box, Yellow shades/Gray Diner \$5. NOS School House lights, large pin, postpaid \$10. NOS School House weathervane postpaid \$5. Near mint Plastic Village Gazette #3, postpaid \$5. Contact me before sending payment on all items. #00-3 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021 Ph. 515-771-6888 10:00 AM-8:00 PM, Central time. johnln@netins.net

Littletown color "reproduction" window inserts on heavy card stock. Corner store: barber, drugs, ice cream, florist, jeweler, restaurant. Set \$ 6.00 ppd. General Store: bakery, butcher, hardware, 5&10, ladies wear, post office. Set \$6.00 ppd. Or pick and choose \$ 1.25 each ppd. Color box covers: ranch house, bungalow, corner store. \$2.00 each ppd. Dale Griebel #14-858 P.O. Box 6602 Sherwood AR, 72124, Ph. 501-541-4508.

Ending February 2016

Storytown "Old Woman in a Shoe" kit in Like New condition except for missing chimney and paper insert. Box is excellent and all other pieces (including all nine figures) are present and in fine shape. Photos available on request. Asking \$75 or best

offer. #01-24 John Gottcent, 3912 West Oregon Street, Evansville, IN 47720. Ph. 812-426-2989 or email jandjgott@gmail.com

Collector-quality Plasticville and Littletown kits and master units, complete, unbroken, unglued, comprehensive selection. Many scarce, mint, desirable items for advanced or beginning enthusiasts to enhance or start a collection. Prefer to sell collection intact. Detailed inventory available, phone and e-mail inquiries welcomed, personal inspection can be arranged. #15-921 Roger Schattel, 2 Dunnerdale Rd., Morris Plains, NJ 07950. Ph. 973-993-9372 or email rcde4@optonline.net

Ending May 2016

Plasticville buildings for sale without boxes. They are all in excellent condition. Pictures and additional information available on request as hammond.r4420@gmail.com. Suburban Train Station, Freight Station, School, Frosty Bar, Diner, Large and small Gas Stations, Hardware/Drug Store, Cape Cod House, two car garage, Barnyard Buildings and animals. #15-940 Robert Hammond, 53 Aspen Lane NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

**You Can Be Our Newest
Contributing Editor**
**Do you collect Kleeware, Littletown,
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

HO
SCALE

Plasticville
USA



Railroad Work Sheds
(two per box; each measures
4.875" W x 1.25" H x 1.25")
Item No. 45175
MSRP \$39.00

THE RETURN OF A CLASSIC HO RAILROAD WORK SHEDS KIT

Most recently offered only as Built-Ups, these Sheds are back in our HO Plasticville® U.S.A. lineup as a kit. They come two to a box and include lots of accessories: washbasin bench, tree stump and woodpile, barrel, and coal bin with coal. Visit your favorite hobby dealer to get reintroduced to this classic kit.

Shipping Early 2015!



ALLEGHENY OIL STORAGE TANK
with **BLINKING LED LIGHT**
(2¾" H x 4¾" diameter)
Item No. 46219
MSRP \$30.00

Another Bright Idea from Bachmann
Allegheny Oil Storage Tank with Blinking LED Light

Add some interest in a flash with our Oil Storage Tank with Blinking Light in a new Allegheny Refining paint scheme. Now supplied with an LED light, it attaches to the AC accessory terminals of your power supply to brighten your HO layout.



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