



THE VILLAGER

The Official Newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 16

February 2017

Number 1

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SEEKING SUGGESTIONS

20th Anniversary Building

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is pleased to announce the decision to proceed with the creation of a special edition O scale Plasticville piece to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Plasticville Collectors Association. The Committee is asking members to submit their suggestion as to what they prefer for the piece.

Bachmann has stipulated that it will only make a special run of **current production** pieces. Current O scale production pieces can be viewed on pages 217 through 221 of the Bachmann Trains printed catalog. It can also be viewed on Bachmann's website at <http://resources.bachmanntrains.com/bachmann2016>. This link will provide you with the front cover of the 2016 Bachmann Trains catalog. A small menu will appear when you hover over the down arrow at the top center of the window. A search box will appear if you click the magnifying glass. Enter the word turnpike in the search field, and click the magnifying glass. You should now see a search result that starts with Page 217. Click on

the result and you will be navigated to the first page of the current production O scale Plasticville pieces.

Suggestions for other than current production pieces will not be accepted. Also, please do not suggest the Airport Administration Building or Airport Hangar as both pieces will not be offered in the 2017 catalog. This is their last year as current production pieces.

Send your suggestion by email to pca@netins.net. Please include "20th anniversary building" in the subject line of your email.

You may also send written suggestions to 20th Anniversary Building, C/O PCA, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021-3207.

All suggestions must be received no later than March 30 to be considered.

Information on the piece chosen as well as ordering information will be published in future editions of *The Villager*.



PCA 5th anniversary house



PCA 10th anniversary dairy barn

The Villager

Published quarterly by the Plasticville Collectors Association.

President: Chris Matthy

Vice President: Frank Ross

Webmaster: John L. Niehaus

www.plasticvilleusa.org

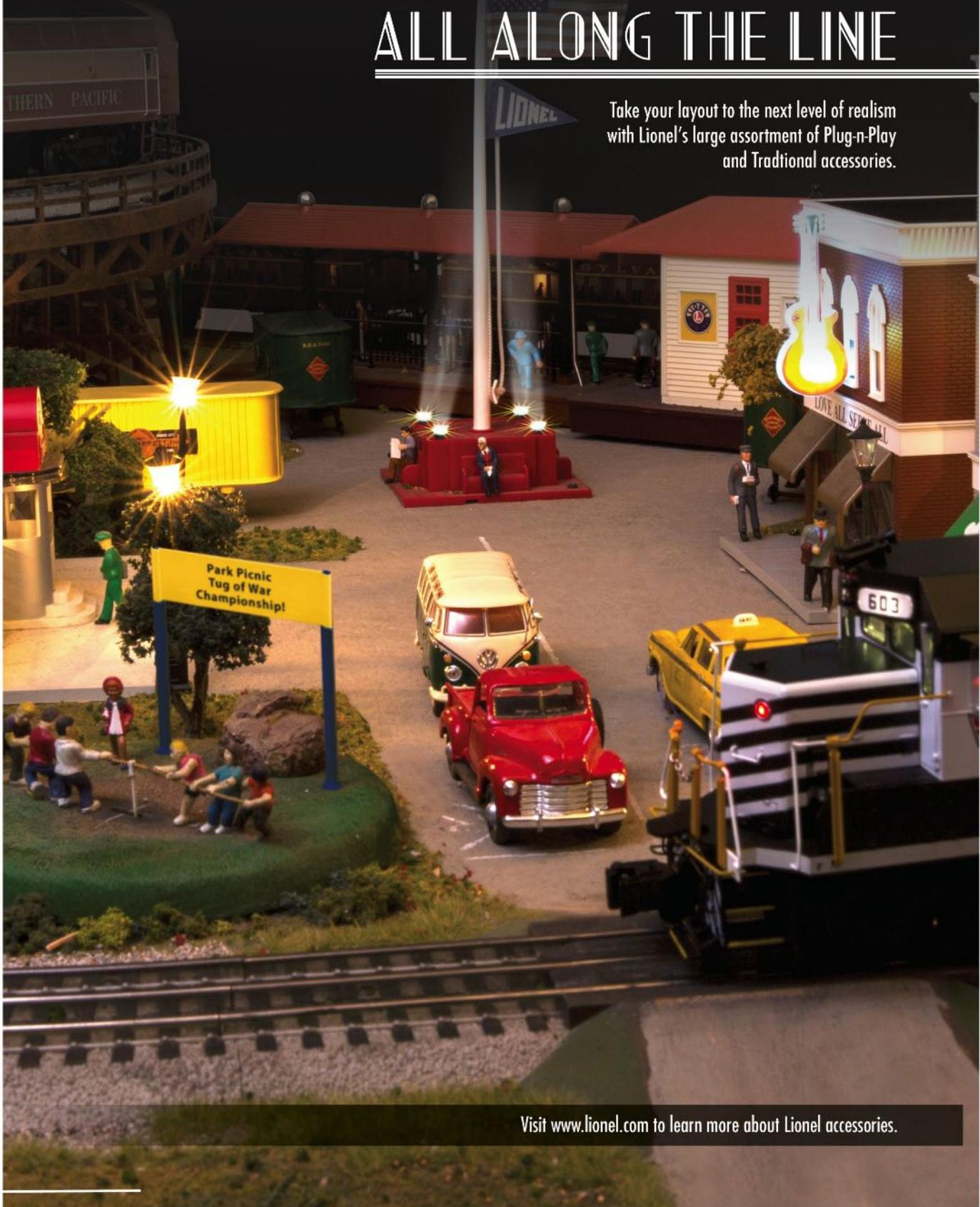
Secretary/Treasurer: John L. Niehaus
Newsletter Editor: Matthew Harvazinski

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



As we cross into 2017 I hope the year ahead will be a good one for you. Plastic buildings, after all, are just that -- but health and family and friendships are the important stuff. Be well in many ways!

Speaking of plastic buildings, have you had this experience? I was in a reputable hobby shop the other day and stopped to look at their large box of shrink wrapped old Plasticville buildings. On top was a dark gray police station with a red roof and a BN-1 barn vent instead of siren or antenna, and the label said "complete". I feel sorry for the novice who purchases this, not to mention the reputation of the store. Then again, we're not the self-appointed Plasticville Police. Still...

On to more serious things. We had an excellent Executive Committee meeting this past week. One of the things you will note in this newsletter is the invitation to submit your thoughts on a 20th anniversary building. Bachmann is quite gracious to do these limited runs for us, so give it some thought and let us hear from you. At the same time, let me say what is said elsewhere: we are limited by the molds Bachmann has in production in China, so don't expect a new run of the O Scale slot car buildings, etc.

Back to Exec. A good bit of our time was spent talking about the future of the PCA and especially how we will keep all the balls up in the air which our Secretary/Treasurer does by himself right now. John has filled this position since our start. Well, truthfully, he likes the hobby and has a great passion for the PCA, being one

of its founders. Still, there comes a time when others will need to take us forward, and John has told us all that he is ready to -- and, in fact, needs to -- step down from many of these responsibilities. So while I'm not kicking him out the door, I will be one of the first to say to John, "Thanks, and well done."

So what does "forward" look like? On page 7 you will find a description of all the work John is doing. You will note that the Secretary and Treasurer responsibilities are listed separately even though they are currently one position. If we were forced to, we could split them and add an officer, but our by-laws (yes, we have by-laws) say we would need a 2/3 vote of our estimated 500 members to do this, and none of us relished trying to figure out how to do that in an organization that has no official membership meeting.

But there also are other jobs that could be filled by other volunteers -- in fact, we already have a person doing the follow-up membership contacts -- thanks! What I would ask is that you give that list some thought. If you have questions (like how much time a particular task might take) John certainly would respond to any emails or snail mail. Believe it or not, we're just 9 months from new elections.

Well, thanks for taking that in. Now, I've just finished some major renovations in the basement and just took the plastic off the layout a few days ago, and company is coming -- so, I need to go play with my trains. Peace!

Chris Matthy
PCA President

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Now that the Christmas season is behind us, many of us may have the opportunity to work on our train layouts or some related activity until it starts getting a little warmer outside. This is usually the most productive time that I get because of limited interruptions. Hopefully I will accomplish great things in the next few months.

The 20th anniversary of the PCA is coming on the horizon, and the organization is asking Bachmann to produce a special structure(s) to recognize the event. The membership will be tasked to submit a suggestion or two as to which building they would like to be produced for us. Whatever is chosen will have to be in Bachmann's present production list, and it will be produced in the traditional PCA colors. I believe that whatever is produced, it will only be available to PCA members, and the box will have our logo on it. So, this is your opportunity to let us know your preference.

As a result of the tremendous response that we received regarding the Plasticville pick-up truck last year, I have been talking to the executive committee about doing another type of vehicle this year. As of now, we haven't been able to find enough supply of a generic vehicle at a reasonable price to pursue this project. We will continue to visit this idea in the future.



I had the opportunity to visit a few train layout displays this last month that are only open to the public during the holidays. One of our PCA members, Alvin Strausner, called and invited me to visit an O gauge layout that he, along with six other individuals, assembled just for the holiday season. He assured me that the layout had scenery, and that O scale Plasticville was well represented. I had to admit that I wasn't disappointed with what they created. I enjoyed it so much that I went back the next day with my camera and took some photos that I wanted to share with the

membership. Seeing all this Plasticville together certainly takes me back to my youth when most train layouts that I saw as a teenager (including my own) was full of Plasticville structures. I hope you enjoy this photo as much as I enjoyed visiting this layout.

Our current Secretary/Treasurer John Niehaus, has requested some help from our membership to volunteer to take over some of his many tasks that he has performed for over ten years. There is no doubt in my mind that John has spent an extreme amount of his time and energy for the good of this organization for many years, and that the PCA owes him a lot of gratitude for his efforts. I'm sure that there are some of our members who can devote a little of their time and effort to continue to keep this organization performing as well as it has been. You can respond to the PCA website, pca@netins.net with your input as well as your suggestion for the anniversary piece.

At the York train show last October, I visited the Bachmann booth in the Orange Hall and noticed an outfit of EZ Street type

automobiles with some track that is, or soon will be on the market. It also came with a Plasticville Turnpike toll booth structure. I wasn't able to open the box to see it's contents, but there was a print picture of it on the cover. The colors of the toll booth structure on the cover looked very much like the original blue and white structure that was first produced in the fifties. The Bachmann representative told me that the toll booth structure colors in the outfit were the same as those shown on the cover. Maybe if I could have seen the actual toll booth that is part of this product, my curiosity wouldn't have been raised so high. If any member has come across this outfit, I would appreciate some feedback as to its' resemblance to the original color combination.

As Lou Palumbo always says, "Keep Searchin".

Frank Ross

PCA Vice President

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY



The Executive Committee asked me to put together a list of the various activities/positions that I perform for our Association as well as a very generalized bullet list for each activity. The list was reviewed at our January Executive Committee meeting. It was decided that the list should be published in this newsletter along

with a request for volunteers for the various positions. The list is on page 7. Please read it over and contact me or any of the other current officers if you would like to volunteer for a position or would like more information. The Association runs entirely on volunteers. We sure could use a few more.

We have a unique opportunity to showcase our Association at this year's Train Collectors Association convention in Pittsburgh. The convention planning committee has extended an invitation to hold a Show N Tell session similar to our gatherings at the York meets. We are on the convention schedule for Thursday, June 29, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. I have accepted that invitation but now need your help. Please let me know if you intend to attend the convention and would be available to provide additional Show N Tell pieces. It doesn't matter what you bring as most attendees will be amazed by what we show them. You can contact me via email at secretary@plasticvilleusa.org, by telephone at 515 771-6888 after 6:00 PM Central time, or by mail at the address at the bottom of the front page of this newsletter if you can help me with this opportunity.

Do you have the newest edition of the O/S Airport Terminal #45985? How about the Airport Hangar #45986? If not, it would be best to procure one at your earliest convenience as they are discontinued as of the end of 2016. This information came to me from one of my sources at Bachmann. They are shown as sold out on Bachmann's website.

A review of the entire Plasticville listing on the website also shows the O/S Fire House, Signal Bridge, and Trestle Bridge as

sold out as well as the HO Saloon and Barber Shop. There are also seven N scale buildings listed as sold out. I have not been able to determine if any of these are also discontinued but my best guess is that the HO piece will not to be listed in the Plasticville section of the 2017 Bachmann Trains catalog. There would only be four N scale pieces remaining if all seven of the sold out pieces are going to be discontinued. I will let you know what I find out in the next newsletter.

PCA member Michael Lennon, #09-585, sent me a flyer for what I believe to be a self-guided tour of layouts and museums called Tour de Chooch. The 2016 program spanned November 25- 27 from 9:00-4:00 each day. The tours, depending on which one a person took, covered Massachusetts and New Hampshire museums, clubs, and personal layouts. Their website is <http://www.tourdechooch.org>. You may want to visit their website if you live in New Hampshire or Massachusetts. The information currently on the website relates to the 2016 tour. My information is sketchy but feel free to contact me if you have questions as the flyer has numerous telephone numbers.

I was contacted in October by the daughter of former PCA member, Edwin Boyer. She informed me that he had passed away on March 22 and she was looking for some help in disposing of his extensive Plasticville and train collection. He was a very active Plasticville dealer at Chicago area train shows from what she told me. She also told me that he did not have any of his Plasticville or trains inventoried. I am still working with her trying to determine the best way to dispose of the accumulation while also trying to maximize revenue for Edwin's widow.

This is an altogether too often scenario. The family has no idea what the person's holdings are and do not know where to start to itemize and value it and then find the most equitable solution for disposing of it. Please be kind to your family and inventory your collection/s. Take it a little at a time if necessary. It does not

have to be computer based. A regular old paper list will be most appreciated by your heirs if you do not use a computer.

I learned through the *In Memory Of* column in a recent edition of the Train Collectors Association's *National Headquarters News* publication that PCA member Gerald Fuglewicz, #02-93, passed away unexpectedly on March 31, 2016.

That's all for now but please do look at the list of positions and give consideration to volunteering.

John L Niehaus

Secretary/Treasurer



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EDITOR'S COLUMN



It is hard to believe I just wrapped up my third February issue. I am finding it increasingly difficult to find the time to put the newsletter together. Last fall I started a second job teaching at Cal State Long Beach in the evenings and that is taking up a lot of my free time. I have to thank our contributors this month for preparing some great submissions on time. I am also happy to have some additional material from regular members.

The "What Members are Saying" (WMAS) and "Classified Ads" sections are in real trouble. I had only four comments for WMAS, and not including my own, just one new classified ad. Please take advantage of these features. The WMAS is a great way to ask questions. Several people have had their question answered through this.

I would still like someone to step up and provide articles about Littletown and Kleeware. There is a great start to this with a special article by Chris Matthy in this issue. But there are a large number of variations in Littletown (sign type, colors, base types, etc.) It is my opinion that these are not well known and are not documented. Even if you only have knowledge about a single building that would be of great interest to the larger community.

If you are interested in submitting short articles with tips, tricks, or even the fun you had designing your layout please feel free to contact me. Submitting a single article is fine, there is no need to commit to a semi-regular schedule!

Matt Harvazinski
The Villager Editor
villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org

JANUARY 2017 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The January, 2017 Executive Committee meeting was called to order on January 5, 2017 at 7:13PM, Eastern time, by President Chris Matthy. Those in attendance were President Chris Matthy, Vice President Frank Ross, Secretary/Treasurer John Niehaus, and founder, Joe Kutza. Absent was Immediate Past President Doug Gilliatt.

Old Business:

20th anniversary piece

Secretary Niehaus provided the Committee with an announcement to be placed in the February newsletter soliciting member input as to their preference for a 20th Anniversary piece.

Photos on the website

Secretary Niehaus reported that a member has stepped forward to review a CD of nearly 150 photos provided by PCA member Thomas Fritsch with the intent of adding as many of them to the PCA website photo archive as possible.

Creating additional Association positions

Secretary Niehaus provided the Committee with a list of possible Association positions based on the activities he presently performs. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to publish the list in the February newsletter.

"Plasticville Dairy" Divco truck project

Vice President Ross inquired as to the progress on obtaining a Divco truck for the proposed project. Secretary Niehaus replied that he has not been able to find a supplier of undecorated trucks.

New Business: AmazonSmile

Secretary Niehaus provided information regarding an Amazon based fundraiser called Amazon Smile. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to refrain from registering with the program at this time.

Year end Treasurers report

Secretary Niehaus gave a verbal yearend financial report. He also stated that the Association is in excellent financial condition.

Membership dues review

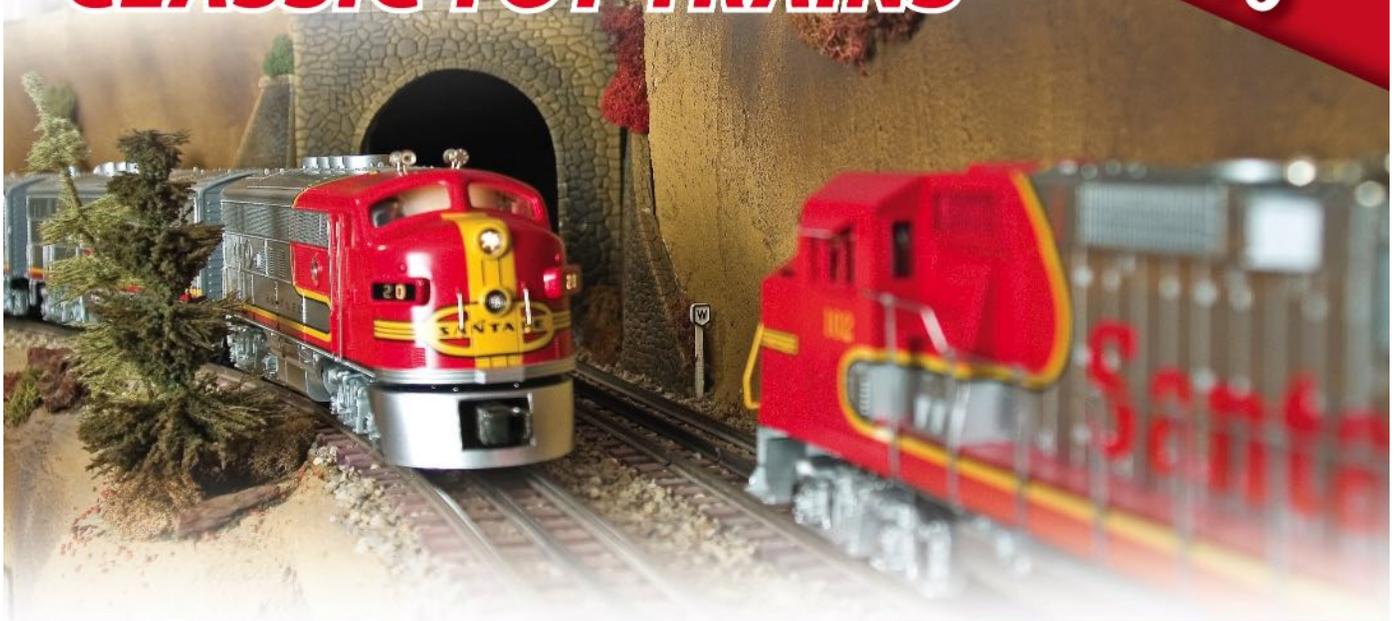
Founder Joe Kutza suggested reviewing the membership dues structure at a future meeting with the possibility of raising dues for the printed member levels for calendar year 2018 due to pending increases in postage rates. Secretary Niehaus will provide a cost breakdown for the printed member levels at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 PM, Eastern Time

Respectfully submitted; John L Niehaus, Secretary/Treasurer

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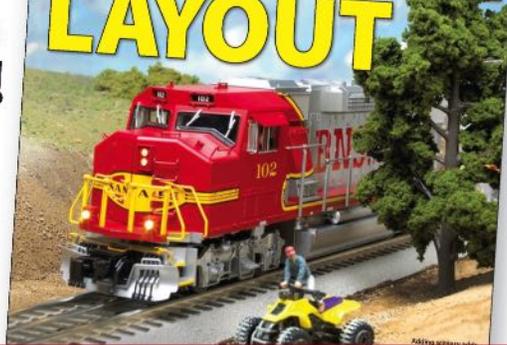
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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



John Niehaus, our current Secretary/Treasurer has indicated that he does not wish to run for that office for the 2018/2019 term. We asked him to make up a list of the various functions he is currently performing for the Association and to break them out into suggested offices or chairman positions. Our approved list is below.

Please take a look at the list and let us know if you feel that you could be the right candidate for one or more of the positions. Be assured that you will have the complete support of all members of the Executive Committee for any of the positions for which you volunteer.

Your comments, or better yet, your offer to fill one of the positions listed below can be sent to any of us by email through the website using the <http://www.plasticvilleusa.org> contact link. Pick the officer to whom you want to send your message from those listed. You may also mail your offer to volunteer for a position to: Plasticville Collectors Association, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3207.

Secretary:

- Keeps records of all meetings, business, memberships, handles correspondence, and makes necessary reports.
- Updates membership database as circumstances dictate.
- Removes non-renewing members' access credentials to the website prior to publication of the February newsletter.
- Processes membership applications.
- Attends to such other duties as directed by the Executive Committee.

Treasurer:

- Collects, deposits, and draws all Association money, under the direction of the Executive Committee.
- Processes membership renewal remittances including printing and mailing membership cards.
- Maintains membership database and website access database.
- Processes member remittals for charges incurred from their use of *The Parts Bin* program.
- Processes payments from advertisers.
- Updates advertiser database and communicates to the newsletter editor all advertiser additions and deletions as they occur. (Advertising Coordinator is responsible for communicating ad copy changes to the editor.)
- Attends to such other duties as directed by the Executive Committee.

Membership Renewal Chairman:

- Creates and mails a membership renewal notice to those whose memberships expire at the end of the current calendar year.

- Provides Membership Retention Chairman with a list of members who have not renewed for the following calendar year.
- Provides Membership Retention Chairman with a revised list of those members who have not renewed for the following calendar year.

Membership Retention Chairman:

- Contacts members who have not renewed membership for the next calendar year by email when provided a list from the Membership Renewal Chairman.
- Follows up with phone calls to non-renewing members upon receipt of a revised list from the Membership Renewal Chairman.

Advertising Coordinator:

- Contacts current advertisers to determine if they intend to continue advertising in the following year's newsletters.
- Creates and mails invoices to all advertisers indicating that they will be advertising in the following year's newsletters.
- Creates advertising copy for all advertisers indicating that they wish to use that service.
- Communicates to the newsletter editor all changes to ad copy as they are provided by advertisers.
- Actively solicits additional advertisers.

Newsletter Publisher:

- Proofreads newsletters and communicates any corrections to the editor prior to the finalization of each newsletter.
- Downloads finalized newsletters.
- Procures printing of the newsletters.
- Mails the printed newsletters.

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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 by-laws 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 March 31, 2017.

- Graham J Cook, Leicestershire, United Kingdom
- Thomas K Brady, Bensalem, PA
- Don C Kaiser, New Athens, IL
- Edward A Abraham, Allegany, NY
- William L Houck, Ellicott City, MD
- E Holste, Hopkins, MO
- Billy R Mills, Decatur, TN
- (L) Ted Heaney, Mew York, NY
- Gene E Nelson, Denver, CO
- Wallace M Kotyk, Sharon, PA
- Larry Middleton, Mentor, OH

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following individuals' names have been added to the Plasticville Collectors Association membership roster as of December 31, 2016. Their names are now permanently listed in the on-line roster.

- Clay A Joiner, Moberly, MO
- Ken Harker, Elverson, PA
- Theodore M Hauser, St Joseph, MO
- Robert E Smith, Kansas City, MO
- Paula M Simon, Hillsboro, OR
- Ernest R Lenning, Harrison, MI
- Robert D Debrocco, Clayton, DE
- Michael O Graham, Cleveland, OH
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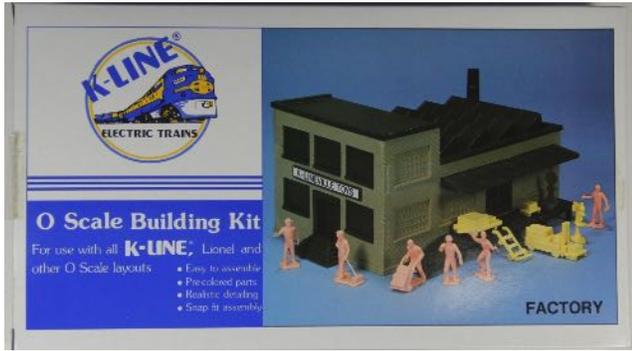
Box Type 9

DONALD W. HUOVINEN #11-714



When K-Line shifted their production to China, they produced a new box for those buildings which were not included in their Marketplace Series. The first boxes for the Marketplace Series were previously covered as Box 6 and the second boxes will be covered in a future article about Box 10. I have called this new box Box 9.

Front



Box 9 is the logical progression from Box 4. A couple of very important changes were to reflect the country of origin and to, I believe, increase the marketability of the buildings. Of course most importantly from a legal standpoint the box states that the items were now "Made in China" as noted on the back of the box. From a marketability standpoint, in the lower left corner of the box the text now reads, "For use with all K-LINE, Lionel and other O Scale layouts." As noted in the previous article about Box 4, K-Line had dropped the reference to Lionel in their text however it now returns! I believe this reflects the fact that Lionel, especially in the public's mind, dominates the marketplace. In today's world of mass marketing of trains there is very little personal service. Customers make their own purchasing decisions based upon what they believe. For most people, all 3 rail O gauge trains are Lionel. When I operate my trains at our club's public functions everyone "knows" they are Lionel when in fact the locomotives are Williams and the cars may be a mixture of manufacturers. In the case of the K-Line buildings, if it doesn't

sales were lost because of this. Curiously also the logo/text now takes up a larger percentage of the front of the box, 40%, compared to 33% previously. This is to the detriment of the photo which takes up the rest of the front of the box.

As stated previously Box 9 is the logical progression from Box 4 and shares most of the same features however 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 is a one piece box.
- The box has a white background.
- The now familiar round K-LINE ELECTRIC TRAINS logo is 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 an "O Scale Building Kit/For use with all K-LINE, Lionel and other O Scale layouts/Easy to assemble/Pre-colored parts/Realistic detailing/Snap fit 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 half of the box. The item number and description are printed on the illustration. The newer K-LINE ELECTRIC TRAINS logo is on the right half of the box.

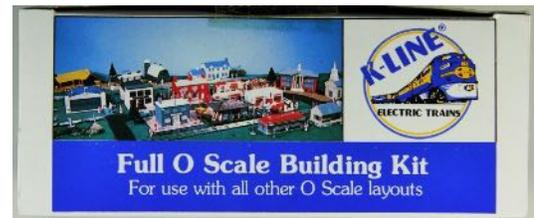
Right



Back

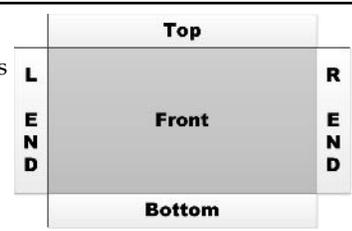
- The left of the box has a small photo of K-LINEVILLE along with the newer K-LINE ELECTRIC TRAINS logo.

Left



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



- 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 newer K-LINE ELECTRIC TRAINS logo is on the left side.
- The bottom of the box contains illustrations of the L-Shaped Ranch House, Figures with paint, and Animals with paint. The newer K-LINE ELECTRIC TRAINS logo is on the left side.
- The back of the box contains illustrations of twelve buildings 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 newer logo as on the top of the box in the upper left hand corner.
- In the upper right corner, the ZIP code for MDK, Inc. has been changed from 27514 to 27515.
- Also in the upper right corner the box states "Made in China".
- There is a bar code in the lower right corner.
- As previously stated, 12 buildings are illustrated on the back of the box. The church finally is listed as 4111 Church however the photo has not been changed and still illustrates the 4110 Church as evidenced by the figures.

- The box measures 12" × 6 3/4" × 2 3/4".
- The writer has noted some boxes with a "For Ages 6 Through Adult" sticker affixed to the lower front of the box.

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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Top



Bottom

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OUTDOOR BARBECUE

MATT HARVAZINSKI #11-682

Have you ever noticed all of the different colors that the Outdoor Barbecue can be found in? The Barbecue is numbered FR-5 and 1004. It can be found in dealer boxes of 12 under both of those numbers. It was also found in some master units, like the CU-1 Country Unit and the HY-6 House & Yard Accessories Unit.

Notice the different colors that you can find, ranging from light grey to very dark grey. There are also marbled examples with white and black in it. The red barbecue comes from the Make 'N' Play House and Garden Set, #4004, and is very difficult to find.

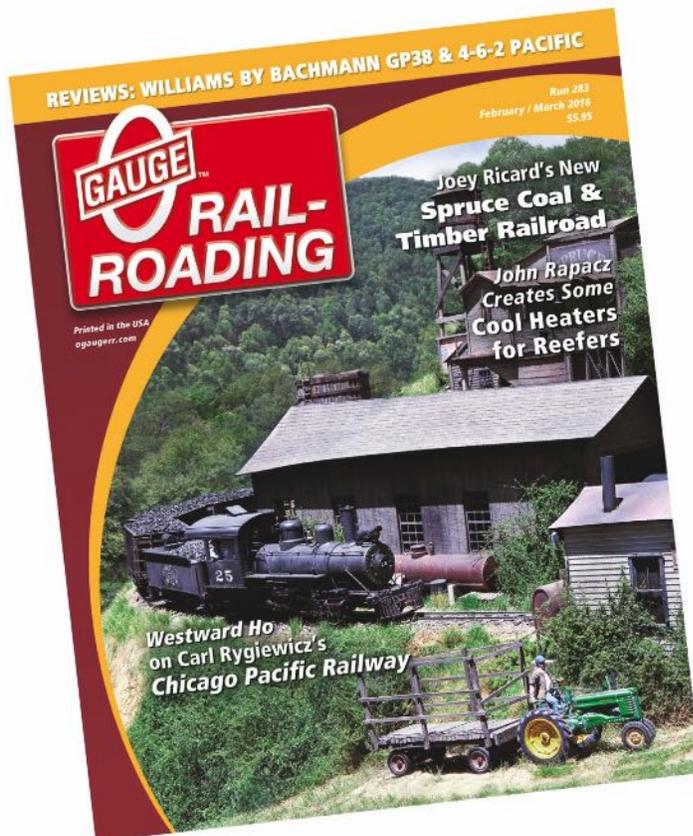
Each barbecue also has a number on the base, this corresponds to the mold cavity. Take a look next time and see what numbers you have!



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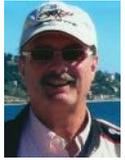
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PLASTICVILLE BOXED SETS 210

Suburban Railroad Centers

ROBERT SPIVEY #02-154



This final group of railroad center boxed sets regressed to the inclusion of the suburban station 1616 as its prime structure. The Union Station had been discontinued near the year 1961, along with nearly all of the other kits which had been made to sell at \$1.98. Kits which had been made to sell at \$1.00 or \$1.49 subsequently phased into the 1900 (\$1.98) kit number items, instead. Bachmann seems to have moved toward an arbitrary decision not to sell kits above \$2.00. A tragic and almost fatal loss of market share had already begun for Bachmann's O&S Plasticville products, and their high end boxed set sales were in trouble. Bachmann would need to search out favors from leading clients such as Montgomery Ward, Sears Roebuck, Woolworth's, and Western Auto, as though a life line resource, just to keep themselves going. Bachmann, for the duration of the final years of boxed sets in the Classic Era, was responding to pressure.

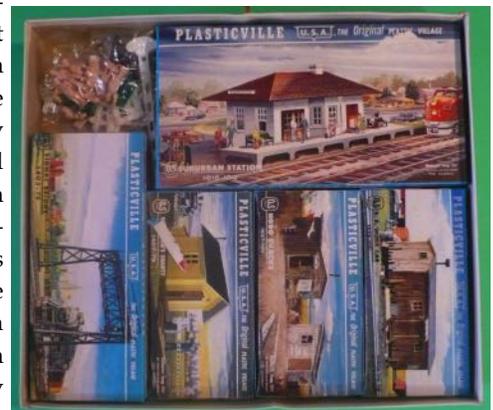
Their future was so uncertain that boxed sets were packaged in one of two generic box types, for which their only set identification was made by applying an external sticker or by rubber stamping the box end. Finally even the individual trays were eliminated. The box used for the suburban railroad centers was the same box which was first used by the Railroad Center 5608 (type II), discussed in chapter 209.



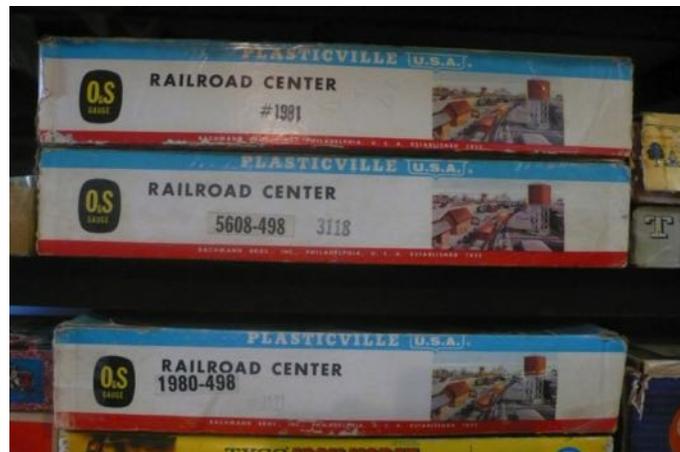
rectangular tray, were two twin trays measuring 9" x 3 3/4" each, one for the signal bridge and one for the work car structure. The 12 railroad signs were packed attached to two sprues, and the small marbled parts were attached to sprues. The railroad characters were packaged in a crisp heat sealed bag. Woefully, tray dividers were to be phased out in the last boxed sets of the Classic Era.

Railroad Center 1980 (type II) is among those final sets which had no individual trays. The set's contents were the same as the 1980 (type I), except for the color of the work car structure. The work car was solid maroon; there was no gray roof or trim. This is a variation that the individual box collector does not encounter, exactly because of its maroon stove pipe. When found in the 1980 that maroon stove pipe authenticates that the piece has not been subsisted. The marbled work car has also been packed into some 1980 (type II) sets.

The set was packaged in the generic Railroad Center set box without individual trays. Each kit was packaged in its own separate sale box and they all fit tightly and perfectly within the set box dimensions. This is not the first time that boxes seem to have been made to exactly fit – yet to be determined – boxed sets' components. The individual boxes were:



1616 suburban station, 1403 signal bridge, 1407 crossing shanty, 1627 hobo shacks, and 1625 work car. The heat sealed bag of railroad characters, two crossing gates and the sprues of railroad



Railroad Center 1980 (type I), cataloged in 1962, was an about face "C" change from any prior numbering system. Most of its components were marbled which makes it a very highly sought after set. The reason for marbling was to simulate weathering, however ill received at the time. The 1980 consisted of the following core structures: a green roof, well marbled brown platform suburban station, 1950, a pair of hobo shacks, each marbled in a reverse color, 1961, a marbled crossing shanty, 1958, a gray side, brown roof and trim railroad work car structure, 1960, and a signal bridge, 1954. The set was supplemented with 8 railroad characters, 12 white railroad signs both 1957, and two crossing gates, plus 2 benches both attributed to 1950.

Railroad Center 1980 (type I) was packaged in the generic landscape box used by the 5608, however in the place of the large

signs were placed in an unreinforced corner void, measuring 4 inches square.

New Railroad Center 1981, cataloged in 1963, always included only marbled variations. The set consisted of the following core structures: a green roof, well marbled brown platform suburban station, 1950, a marbled loading platform with 3 hand trucks, and a marbled water tower, both 1957, a marbled crossing shanty, 1958, and a signal bridge, 1954. The set was supplemented with 8 railroad characters and 12 white railroad signs. Each kit was packaged in a flexible bag, folded at the top, and hand stapled with miniature staples. There were no dividers. The figures were packaged in a crisp heat sealed bag and the sprues of railroad signs were laid over the kit bags. This boxed set was produced for an undetermined number of years.



Railroad Center 4850 was not cataloged. The set included the following kits: a green roof, well marbled brown platform suburban station, 1950, a marbled water tower, 1957, a marbled switch tower, 1954, a marbled crossing shanty, 1958, and a signal bridge, 1954, and 6 marbled phone poles with diagonal braces plus two benches, both attributed to 1950. The set was packaged in a box identical to the 1980 (type I), having the twin 9" x 3 3/4" trays. If a 4850 is found without dividers then that's probably alright. The photo of this set does not show a water tower because when the author sold a 4850 before, the buyer was preferred to receive their own set as complete.



Railroad Center 3121 is just like a 1980. If the set is found with the contents scattered across the bottom of the box, that's probably alright. They could have been in flexible bags from the factory.

So the unique quality of the suburban railroad centers was marbled contents – as if to achieve weathering. The comparative rarity of these sets reflects their failure to achieve that goal. Production was so low that the suburban railroad centers are among the most rare of all boxed sets. The hobby was gravitating to HO; all the magazines of that era were dedicated to HO. "Realism" was the buzz word, and O gauge was seen to be the outsider. Weathering and "to scale" were required of the subject matter within these magazines. You might say there was a falling out with Plasticville in the main stream media. Bachmann had to fight to stay in the field by shifting their focus over to the HO line. Within a decade they would blank over their Plasticville namesake; the slot on the switch tower roof was the first to go. No switch tower without that slot was ever packed in a boxed set. A Union Station clock would become a Plasticville named sticker which did not need to be applied. No Union Station with a clock sticker was ever packed in a boxed set.



The following kits are recommended to supplement the suburban railroad centers: a coaling tower, a diner with phone booths, many automobiles, and several LM-3 freight stations to extend the passenger platform. The 1980 (with a maroon stove pipe work car) is featured in the last photo of this chapter thusly depicting The North Pole Station. The North Pole Station is the only place where all inbound trains arrive from the South, and without turning, all departing trains continue to go forward to the South. It is the hub of the Polar Express world.



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FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING

Putting People in Their Place

RON SCHLICHT #02-109



Some may wonder why I used the title Figuratively Speaking for all of my articles. The significance is in the constituents on my home layout. In the early years of the layout, well before the four expansions, I had no operating accessories to speak of. Trains going around and around could get a bit boring. I created a self-made term, “inanimate animation”. This amounted to creating a lot of little figures around the layout to add some “LIFE” to it. Initially it was cutting up a lot of Plasticville figures and modifying them. Eventually I purchased all types of little people, more Plasticville, K-Line, Preiser, Merton, Artista, Marx, Littletown, Model Power and on and on. The population kept growing. More than just randomly popping them around the layout, I tried to create Scenarios, creating situations in everyday life. You might say that it was their destiny to be in a particular place at a particular time in their little lives. (There are stories, I will explain later, even though this is beginning to sound a bit crazy.)

Many of the figures were given to me as gifts (birthdays, Christmas, etc.) and some were scavenged out of scrap boxes at hobby shops. The cost has ranged from two for a nickel to over \$8.00 each. The scale of the people varies somewhat, ranging from true S scale being 1/64th to 1/43rd scale, most are not S gauge. Some HO figures have been used as children. Approximately 10% of the figures were given to me by friends, because they know of my interest in figurines. I can't begin to tell you how much time has been spent interchanging torsos, decapitations, the trading of external limbs, bending, twisting, filing and carving, anything to make identical figurines look considerably different, I've spent up to three nights on one person. (Some of you might recall my first article on the modification of the K-Line filling station figures into the Ghostbusters, virtually weeks.) When people ask my wife what I do for a living, I've told her to jokingly tell them that I'm a plastic surgeon and a part-time hairdresser. The placing of a completed figure may take up to a half hour or more. I look at them from every angle possible and sometimes only a 1/8-inch movement, in one direction or another, will make the difference in the final, “satisfactory” placement. You might say I'm overly picky. I've purchased figures knowing at the time of purchase, exactly where they were going to be on the layout, to

within one half inch of their position. (My layout is over 260 square feet.) I've also had some figures for years before they found a home on the layout, some are still in drawers.

Story Lines

In my last Villager article, the one on foundations the Colonial Mansion was pictured. At the front door was the butler while the CEO was approaching his chauffeured Packard as the dairy products were being delivered. Missed in the picture are the grounds keeper and his wife planting a new tree. In the back was a servant bringing refreshments to the two young debutants. Sissy was on a lounge reading a novelette while junior was practicing his putting stroke. A poor older lady was raking the lawn.

In a small downtown park an accident is about to occur. A young ladies dress has been blown up by the wind. A real gentleman doffs his hat. The monsignor covers his eyes while the boy lying up against a tree enjoys the view. The hobo sleeping on the bench misses it all but one of the the men on a bench has suddenly lost interest in the newspaper article that he is reading. The roller skater is about to crash into a pedestrian who is obviously also distracted. A young boy is dropping a coin in the veterans cap.



Grandma and Grandpa have decided to have a pool party for the grand children; Grandpa also invited some of the young ladies that are part of his office staff. As one of the girls timidly walks the diving board, her bratty brother is about to help her into the

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water. Other activities are taking place including a drinking contest at the picnic table.

All is not happy in Ronstown, WI as the Plasticville manufacturing is undergoing a strike. The union leaders are manning the sign supply while the company security is at the doors. All is being observed by the detective bureau to ensure the peace. Other work still goes on after the two men complete the installation of the "now hiring full and part time" sign.



The happy bride and groom leave the church and are greeted by a rice thrower and cameras. Perhaps the grieving, jilted girl, being consoled by a young man can find some solace with the man on the other side of the church sign whose ex girlfriend has found another. Among some of the gifts the couple will receive is the parking ticket being written by the kind hearted meter maid, while the groomsmen pay no attention.



There many inexpensive sources for figures if you want to spend a little time and effort to modify them. There are also a lot of figures that in my mind are just too expensive. One source that makes very detailed and inexpensive figures is Heroclix. They are fully painted and the detail rivals the higher priced manufacturers. I have purchase some for as little as \$0.39 each. One of the groomsmen above is actually Bruce Wayne of Batman fame. There are a lot of DC Comics and Marvel figures that after removing the game portion, are just ordinary people.

It's just another pool party using modified K-Line figures used for swimmers. A coffee can was used for the pool. The jump rope

girls were modified to look different from one another and one was used for the gender changed boy jumping into the pool. One of the other swimmers was a K-Line roller skater.



After beating the railroad crossing the Porsche driver has to stop for the girl crossing the street. The construction worker also has an interest in the young lady. The fence only allows the handle of a rake to be seen. That is the rake he stepped on, which he is



about to get smacked with!

By the time this article is published the man at the billboard will have changed the population count in Ronstown (Yes the count is right. Only an anal individual would have all of the people mapped.)

These are just some of the scenarios created on my layout. Most of my little people have a reason or a connection for where I place them, Figuratively Speaking.

K-LINE KRONICLES

Hybrids & Store

ED BERG #02-123



Hybrids

Starting as early as 1987, K-Line began selling 'hybrid' buildings. The buildings featured parts made from the original Marx tooling and parts made from all new tooling. The first building to see this transformation was the venerable Marx 'Supermarket'. It received a makeover with an all new front wall and the building now sported two businesses. The makeover didn't stop with just one style of wall however. Through the years, different front wall styles would be introduced allowing for a wide variety of businesses to be added to a 3-rail pike. Also, this was the first building based on the old Marx tooling which required glue for parts of the assembly. The front wall now sported clear plastic windows which had to be glued in place as there were no connecting tabs.

#K-4104 Bakery and Liquor Store

Introduced in 1987 the 'Bakery' and 'M' Liquor Store (hmm-mm, could the 'M' stand for Maury as in Maury D. Klein???? Hey, why not. It was his company, if he wanted to name a building after himself then OK. There were a couple of obvious changes to the old 'Supermarket' store front. The façade was taller; the signs stuck out perpendicular to the wall; and the doors are quite a bit larger, making the building more compatible with O-gauge pikes. While I was assembling this model another quite unwelcome change made itself evident. Apparently the tooling was modified by gouging out a portion of the mold cavity where the plastic for the side wall tabs would flow into. This allowed more plastic to flow into the tab location thus making the tabs thicker. Too thick unfortunately, as this 'improvement' wouldn't allow the wall sections to connect properly. It took at least a half hour of sanding and scraping to thin out the tabs sufficiently for proper assembly. But once assembled it's a very nice addition to any O-gauge train layout. Enjoy!

- K-Line Logo Location: 'K-LINE' in big block letters located behind front wall
- Accessories: None
- Figures: None

Enjoy! Ed "ICE" Berg, Las Vegas, NV



CREATIVE USE OF DAMAGED PARTS

Factory - Part II

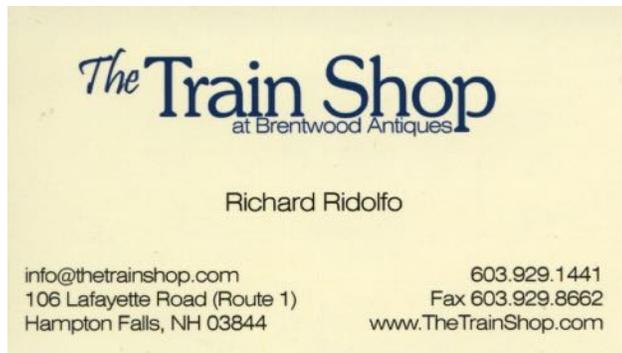
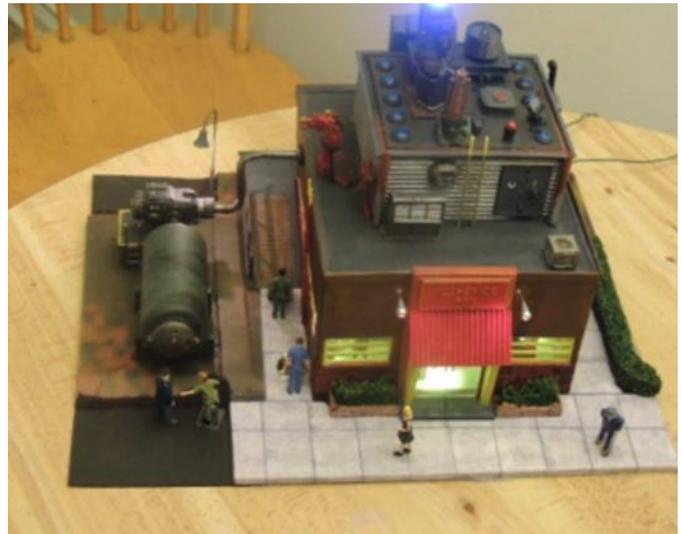
EDWARD L. JOHNSON #05-380



Sort of like a ship without a compass", was the closing line of the previous newsletter. I had no plans or ideas for the factory building in the previous newsletter.. What I wanted to achieve was a model different from the basic Plasticville design. Different ideas were not achieving my goal. Then my son Zack came to the rescue. He is an avid modeler of *Warhammer* models. He gave me stock of extra model parts. These *Warhammer* parts are for futuristic military vehicles and weapons. But the various vents, weapons and antennas could be also be used to suggest machinery for a factory. This photo shows the completed factory. The *Warhammer* parts are mostly concentrated on the roof of the Ice Cream mode. Other parts are spread around the factory building. This building is the home of a start corp. named *Alchemied, Inc.* It's business model is to revive the ancient art of *Alchemy*.

In closing I wish all club members a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2017.

Eddie J



LOCUSTS INVADE PLASTICVILLE!

TOM VIRDEN #11-684

Tom wrote in with some photos of a Locust invasion on his layout. Tom has been a Plasticville collector since the 1950's and commented that the locusts were particularly bad in West Virginia this past year. I think Tom need's some giant Plasticville birds on his layout to scare away that pests!



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0550 King Add A Floor (Brown or Red) \$8	ON-5 Outdoor Necessities \$60
1987 Barn Scenic Classic (sealed) \$20	1624 House Under Construction, Lt grey \$40
1986 New England Rancher Scenic Classic (sealed) \$20	AD-4 Air Admin Bldg, Mint \$50
1983 Colonial Mansion Scenic Classic (sealed) \$20	1627 Hobo Shacks, \$75
1984 Colonial Church Scenic Classic (sealed) \$25	1618 TV Station w/RARE TV decal \$95
1988 Factory Scenic Classic \$30	SC-4 School w/RARE RED vane \$45
LCCA set Air Admin and Hangar \$39 mint	

No Box Kits, Complete

Railroad Work Car \$10, SUB Station \$8, Barn \$8, Motel \$8, HOBO SHACKS \$15, School \$10,
Fire Department \$12, Diner (red or yellow roof) \$12, Bank \$25, Turnpike green booths \$15,
Col Mansion (red roof) \$25, Country Church \$6, Add-A-Floor (red or brown) \$6 ea or 3/\$15,
Mobile Homes (8 different colors) \$12 ea or 6/\$60, Fire Department, Grey Siren, \$45, Colonial Church
\$20, Log Cabin Olive Green \$18,

Accessories

1050 Outhouse (brown) \$4 ea, Pickup Truck \$6, Telephone Booth 3/\$10,
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
Bus (green only) \$5 ea, Ambulance (green & Yellow) \$5 ea, WHITE SHRUBS 10/\$25,
Jeep, Tractor, Plow, Harrow \$4 ea or 4/\$12,
Silver Flagpole with DECAL flag \$2.50 each or 3/\$6

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DEPARTMENT RED LIGHT, CHIMNEY CAP, HOSPITAL SIREN, ST CHAIR, DESK CHAIR,
CATTLE PEN CROSS BARS (with 2 holes or slot), BANK RED LIGHT, LARGE CANOPY, SMALL
CANOPY, SCHOOL WHITE LIGHT, HOUSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION SHOVEL, RAKE, HOE,
BUCKET, SAW HORSE, GINGERBREAD HOUSE BRICK (white, tan, choc), JACK & JILL PAIL,
SHRUB (red, yellow, blue), OAR RED OR YELLOW, CLOTHESLINE (red, yellow, green), CASTLE
FLAG OR CHAIN (red, yellow, blue, white)
POST OFFICE FLAG \$6

LITTLETOWN, BOXED, COMPLETE #303 Street Lights, \$25; #304 fence \$15

KING PLASTICVILLE – Covered Bridge (grey roof) Mint \$20

KING PLASTICVILLE ERTL TRACTOR TRAILER WITH BANK - \$12

Many empty Plasticville boxes available. Please send your want list.

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

Shipping: \$5 for books, \$6 for kits and ERTL truck, \$3.50 for parts, \$8 for LCCA Set

LEADING A TRIPLE LIFE:

An Amazing Adventure in the Plastic Village

CHRIS P. MATTHY #01-73

As many of you know, several of the plastic buildings we collect have lived multiple lives. By that I mean that they were originally designed and manufactured by one company and were later manufactured under other names by other companies. An obvious example is the Marx buildings that later were produced by K-Line and which has been explored in recent articles by our K-Line authors. A more complex story is the HO Matchbox Village line that became Beemak and then, in at least two examples, became the Plasticville HO Movie Theater and Colonial House.

My interest here is following the O/S gauge buildings that began their lives as Littletown and then found further life. A well-done article by Dennis Brennan in the December 2004 [Classic Toy Trains](#) is a good source of information; I have added what I have learned through purchases, conversations, correspondence and research.

Right away we face a fork in the road. Littletown was begun by a relatively new company, Unlimited Plastics in 1953 and then was produced by Banner Plastics beginning in 1955 - except that they may have been the same company, or one company adopting the marketing power of another. So it's your choice - is this one life or two? In any case, again to the best of our knowledge, the Littletown line was bought by Bachmann Brothers by 1957, which began introducing some of the buildings, as well as accessories, into the Plasticville USA line that same year.

Before we leave Littletown, I invite you to examine the pictures of the two 107 Barn boxes, both of which are Unlimited Plastics boxes, though they are of different fold designs. The first thing that hits your eye is the different green coloring. Now look closer - do you see it? The illustration of the barn is reversed - the silo is on the wrong end! The vents on the roof also are of a square design with (lightning?) rods. Is it possible that the artwork was done before the design was finalized?



Finally, look at the Littletown Village on the long side of the box. The light green box, obviously the later box, shows Littletown as we know it was produced, without the Bank, Apartment Building and Movie Theater which were publicized in brochures. The dark green box, however, shows what are obviously a Police Station and a Fire House and a third building, perhaps a Bank. This, it would appear, is an earlier box design. I have not

seen reference to this in any articles, but again it hints at the possibility that the box art not just of the barn but even of the entire product line was developed before mold designs were finalized. I would be glad if any experts would chime in here.



Now, before the molds came to Philadelphia, sometime in those four years of 1953-1957, they were shipped across the pond to England and used to produce the collection of buildings known as Kleeware (also the name of the plastics company). In corresponding with members of the Train Collecting Society in England, it turns out they know as much (or as little) about the Kleeware story as we do. It was the habit of companies in post WWII England to do this borrowing as an easy way to spur the economy without investing in major tooling; Kleeware copies of Ideal toys are regularly on eBay. Kleeware even produced its buildings with the Littletown signage, though they modified some of the cardboard inserts.

Of the twelve buildings in the Littletown line, eleven were produced by Kleeware; we will probably never know why the Loading Platform didn't make the cut. The numbering of the Kleeware kits matches the order of the Littletown kits, including the gap in Littletown for the unproduced 104 Movie Theater. And to the best of my knowledge, while Littletown boasted an amazing array of color combos in its short production life, Kleeware buildings were issued in one color only. So that, in my book, is life two.



As for life three, we know that the molds were with Bachmann by 1957 because 3 of the buildings appear in the Plasticville line that year. To me, there is no clear rhyme or reason to what was and wasn't produced. The school and ranch house were so similar visually that it probably didn't make sense. There already were two stations in Plasticville, so I guess a third one wasn't needed. On the other hand, there were already three churches being produced, but perhaps the Littletown church was different and so visually striking (and more striking than the very comparable church of competitor Marx?) that it was introduced immediately.



As you can see by the following chart, six of the Littletown buildings became Plasticville buildings, though only five have the triple parentage that includes Kleeware (and enjoy those British names):

- ◆ Littletown 101/201 - Modern Super Market
- Kleeware 6101 - Supermarket
- Plasticville - *not produced*
- ◆ Littletown 102/202 - Cape Cod with Trellis
- Kleeware 6102 - Cornish Cottage
- Plasticville 1629 (1960) - Bungalow - *modified*
- ◆ Littletown 103/203 - Southern Colonial House
- Kleeware 6103 - Manor House
- Plasticville 1703 (1957) - Colonial Mansion
- ◆ Littletown 105/205 - Corner Store
- Kleeware 6105 - Corner Shop
- Plasticville 1626 (1960) - Corner Store - *modified*
- ◆ Littletown 106/206 - General Store
- Kleeware 6106 - General Store
- Plasticville - *not produced*
- ◆ Littletown 107/207 - Barn and Silo
- Kleeware 6107 - Barn and Granary
- Plasticville 1622 (1960) - Dairy Barn
- ◆ Littletown 108/208 - Gas Station and Pumps
- Kleeware 6108 - Petrol Station

- Plasticville - *not produced*
- ◆ Littletown 109/209 - Railroad Station
- Kleeware 6109 - Railway Station
- Plasticville - *not produced*
- ◆ Littletown 110/210 - Ranch House
- Kleeware 6110 - Bungalow
- Plasticville - *not produced*
- ◆ Littletown 111/211 - Loading Platform with Storehouse
- Kleeware - *not produced*
- Plasticville 1620 (1957) - Loading Platform
- ◆ Littletown 112/212 - School House
- Kleeware 6112 - School
- Plasticville - *not produced*
- ◆ Littletown 113/213 - Church
- Kleeware 6113 - Church
- Plasticville 1803 (1957) - Colonial Church



In talking with a few experts, it apparently is anybody's guess as to whether the unproduced Littletown molds still exist somewhere. Wouldn't it be a blast to have a few of those buildings back? Note, too, this list doesn't include other slide-lock buildings that are assumed by many to have come from unproduced Littletown molds, such as the Apartment Building, the Motel and the TV Station. We're talking produced here.



So that is three major lives for five of our buildings. But wait – there's more. Now I guess you couldn't call these whole other

lives, because Bachmann was still the producer. But two of those Littletown/Plasticville buildings had further adventures.

In the case of the little Corner Store, it was produced by Bachmann for the 1984-86 Plasticville Collectors Series for King Distributing as three different kits: 0100 Hobby Shop, 0200 Sport Shop and 0300 News Stand. That's clever marketing strategy, as opposed to multiple signs included in one kit like its ancestors.

But the one I like the best is the Dairy Barn. Having passed through the initial Littletown/ Kleeware /Plasticville heritage, it was one of the buildings produced by Bachmann for Lionel distribution in those famous orange boxes. If I'm correct, it is the only one of those twelve buildings to do so, and it actually appeared in three Lionel offerings: 959 (1958), 965 (1959) and 983 (1960).



But it doesn't end there. In 1997-99 Bachmann reintroduced much of the O/S gauge Plasticville line in a 50th anniversary campaign, and while the Loading Platform is there, the only Littletown building with the triple heritage to make it was the 45602 Dairy Barn; the Bungalow, Colonial Mansion, Corner Store and Colonial Church did not make the cut and have not been reproduced to this date.



So the Dairy Barn, to me, is the king of the survivors; which is why it's even more fascinating that the story isn't over yet. As

you know, the PCA had its very own custom run of 45602 blue and gray Dairy Barns done by Bachmann for our 10th Anniversary in 2011 (and it's not even on our web site - oops!). Then, there is the absolutely curious appearance of our star as the HO (!!!) built-up 45007 Barn. I could hardly believe it when I first saw it in a hobby shop, and I had to go home and double-check the Bachmann catalog – before buying two, of course.

The final entry is really more of a curiosity. In 1994 the Lionel Collectors Club of America prepared a special Dairy Barn for its convention attendees. This process was covered in *The Villager* Vol. 8 No. 3 by John Niehaus. To review, these were 144 standard 45932 red with white roof barn kits which hobbyists modified by painting the roof black and adding vinyl letters which say "See Rock City"; the silo cap is still white. In other words, these are not special pieces produced by Bachmann, and, at least in my opinion, shouldn't draw the ridiculous prices they do.

Dairy Barn color variations:

Littletown*: White / Red Roof

White / Blue Roof

White / Dark Green Roof

Red / White Roof

Red / Blue Roof

Kleeware: Orange / Silver Gray Roof

Plasticville: Red / Gray Roof

Red / White Roof

Tuscan / Gray Roof

Brown / Silver Roof

Red Brown / Silver Roof (HO)

Blue / Gray Roof (PCA)

So, if my research is correct, there is only one building that has the triple Littletown/Kleeware/Plasticville heritage, with a side appearances in Lionel and Plasticville HO built-up lines, and with the PCA tacked on for good measure, and which is still in production: ladies and gentlemen, I present to you the humble Dairy Barn!

* Editor's note: I am aware of other possible colors, if you have more information contact, villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org.

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 - ✓ Saturday Evening Convention Banquet and Auction
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For information/registration: visit our website at:

www.TCAconvention.org



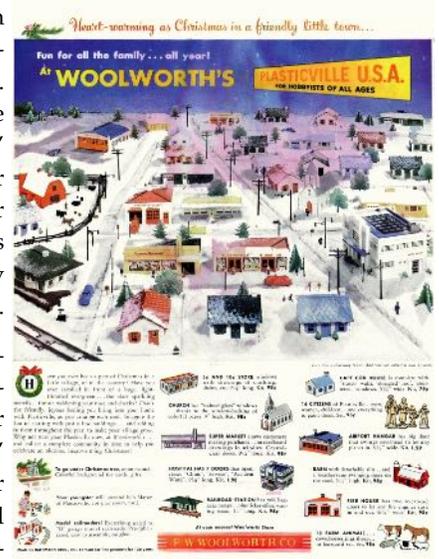
PLASTICVILLE ADS

TOM FRITSCH #01-4

The inquiry about a Plasticville ad from member Tony Santay in the November 2016 Villager prompted me to delve into this topic more extensively. I first saw a vintage Plasticville advertisement from Woolworth's reproduced in a Christmas issue of the TCA's "Toy Train Collector" magazine sometime during the 1980s. Somehow, I found it fascinating that our humble Plasticville was at one time advertised in national magazines read by the general public. At the time, I didn't know the source of the ad, so I took a photograph of it, had it enlarged and hung it on the wall. There it hung for many years until eBay came along in the late 90s. After signing on to eBay a few years later and beginning to look for our favorite plastic village for my collection, I would periodically notice Plasticville ads for sale. I started buying them and have accumulated eighteen of them, which I have framed, and have hanging on my train room walls. The earliest ad that I have is from the "Saturday Evening Post" in November 1946. This was actually an ad from Monsanto Chemical Co of St Louis, which showed many toys made of Monsanto's Lustron plastics, including the yet-unnamed Plasticville picket fence, only identified as Bachmann Brothers fence.

In the 1950s, when Plasticville was becoming of age, the F.W. Woolworth Co put the Bachmann Brothers' product in all of their stores, taking out color full-page magazine ads detailing the many products being offered.

The Woolworth Christmas ad that Santay presented is from "Better Homes & Gardens" magazine, November 1951. A redesigned ad was repeated the following year in the same publication. The PCA reproduction that I had found was from "Woman's Home Companion" magazine, November 1953. At first, I wondered why Plasticville was advertised in a woman's magazine, but I concluded that mom was the biggest influence on what junior would be getting for Christmas. Woolworth also published their own "Christmas Books," a mini-catalog of all of the toys available in their stores that year. A full page was dedicated to Plasticville. I have two examples – one from Christmas 1952 and the other of unknown date.



Santa Claus is coming to town with Lustron

Old Santa knows his stuff, all right! The brightest, the loveliest, the most eye-catching presents in his bagging \$300,000,000 toy bag this year are going to be made of beautiful Lustron plastic.

Santa knows he can get faithful models of cups, railroad coaches, planes... down to the last rivet made... faster and more economically with Lustron than with any other material. He knows he can get more wonderful colors in Lustron, too... colors that won't come off. He knows his dolls and books and more are all more attractive, smoother, lighter, stronger, and more sanitary when he makes them of Lustron.

MONSANTO CHEMICALS - PLASTICS
LUSTRON PLASTIC

Yes, Santa's right... and what these young hearts will appeal to millions of others who are going to receive beautiful Lustron presents... the plastic with the Christmas joy packed in.

MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY, St. Louis 4
Lustron Plastic, Inc., 1000 Olive Street, St. Louis 4
Lustron Plastic, Inc., 1000 Olive Street, St. Louis 4
Lustron Plastic, Inc., 1000 Olive Street, St. Louis 4

What is YOUR problem?
Helping to create better things is only one small part when it comes to Lustron... concentrating your mind on better things. It can be a great pleasure to your family, to matter what that. It's not one of those "What's the matter with you?" kind of things. It's a real pleasure to your family and to your group of friends.

- 1. Plastic Santa Claus, 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 (1000)
- 2. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 3. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 4. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 5. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 6. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 7. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 8. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 9. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 10. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 11. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)
- 12. Plastic Snow, 100 lbs. (1000)

An ad appeared in October 1953 "Model Railroader" promoting Plasticville as "the town that grows and grows." It states that it is first in design, public acceptance, construction, and in presenting new items to the trade.

In the 1960s, the Plasticville ads became focused on a more captive audience – boys. All of the ads that I have found, starting in 1959, are from "Boy's Life" magazine (from Boy Scouts of America). I have ten of these, which are generally mono-color half page ads of various designs. Many of these ads emphasize H0 scale, but also note that 0-S is available. Several ads featured a mail-in coupon to receive a catalog for 10¢.



In 1949, an ad appeared in "Model Railroader" magazine from National Model Distributors of Chicago, featuring Plastic Accessories for "0" or "S" Railroad Layouts. Two "fine assortments" were available: Railroad Assortment (later cataloged as RA-1) for \$1.00 and Community Assortment (designated as VU-4) for \$4.50. A note to "Mr. Dealer" says to "Give your customers the famous Plasticville accessories in these new assortments. Everybody likes them and the big extra value saves them money." This is the first known year for Master Units.

I also have a half-page ad (of unknown origin) for Solorex Sunglasses, which are promoted on many billboards throughout our town of Plasticville. It has been several years since I have run across any new ads. I wonder if there are any that I have missed.

GREENBERG'S 2017 POCKET PRICE GUIDES

JOHN NIEHAUS #00-3



Fun for all with
PLASTICVILLE, U.S.A.

Your pike looks like a million with these true detailed snap-together buildings and accessories.

Model railroading takes on a new thrill when you plan your pike around true-to-life **Plasticville, U.S.A.** buildings and road accessories.

Whether you run an HO or O-S gauge pike, you have a wonderful choice of authentic, fully detailed houses, stores, public buildings, and other fascinating accessories when you insist on **Plasticville, U.S.A.** This year, your miniature town can even have a **Roadside Fruit Stand** complete with fruits, vegetables, cash register and scales—exactly as you see them along the highway.

You'll be thrilled with the new full-color catalog of **Plasticville, U.S.A.** Send 10¢ along with the coupon below—and be sure to specify whether you want HO gauge or O-S gauge.



BACHMANN BROS., INC.
P. O. Box 1138
Philadelphia 8, Pa.
Enclosed is 10¢. Please send the new catalog of Plasticville, U.S.A. model-railroad and miniature village buildings. My system is _____ HO gauge
_____ O-S gauge.
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

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K-Line
RMT

Greenberg's pocket price guides for 2017 are now available from Kalmbach books. A Lionel as well as an American Flyer guide is available this year. The last American Flyer guide was published in 2015. I had hoped for a new Marx guides as the last Marx guide was published in 2011. It was not to be again this year.

The Lionel guide gets fatter every year. It is now 7/8 inches thick as opposed to 3/4 inches last year. The Flyer guide checks in at a bit less than 1/2 inch.

In a nutshell, the market is still relatively stable with a few exceptions. This seems especially true for Lionel. The majority of Lionel pieces I have tracked, whether pre-war, postwar, or modern, since 2007 maintained their 2016 values. The American Flyer values were a bit more volatile.

On the bright side for Lionel; The 2343 B unit, type B, picked up a \$3 to be listed at \$193. The 746 with the long stripe tender is now valued at \$983, an increase of \$43 over the 2016 value. A \$68 increase for the Tuscan, 5 stripe, GG-1 was the greatest increase of the items I track.

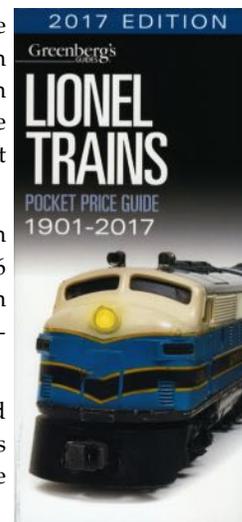
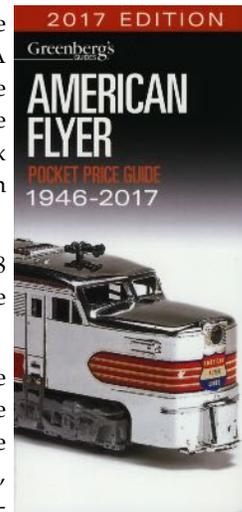
On the other hand. The 2343 AA set lost \$20 in Excellent condition while maintaining its 2016 Good condition value. The 2360 green GG-1 in Good condition lost \$32 but maintained its Excellent condition value at \$870.

I only track five American Flyer pieces as opposed to ten Lionel pieces. Here is how those five pieces fared overall. One increased. Two remained the same. Two decreased.

The 342 NKP, type A, switcher gained a sizeable increase going from \$1750 last year to \$1875 this year in Excellent condition. It maintained its 2015 Good value. The 21004 switcher lost \$14 over its 2015 listing while the 377/378 T&P GP7 lost \$9 in Excellent condition while also maintaining its 2015 value in Good condition.

We seem to again be in a time of comparatively stable prices except for a few postwar pieces. It is probably advisable to hang onto your pre-war and modern at this point in time.

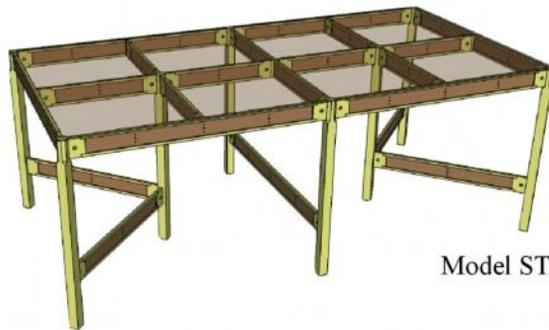
The 2017 Lionel guide is available from Kalmbach Books, 21027 Crossroads Circle, Waukesha, WI, 53186. It is listed on their website: <http://www.kalmbachstore.com>. The listed price is \$21.99. The 2017 American Flyer guide is listed at \$15.99. Their U.S. toll free number is 800-533-6644 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Central Time. The phone number if you are calling from Canada or outside the U.S. is 262-796-8776 Ext. 421. The guide on Amazon for approximately \$15, new, and on Barnes & Noble's website for \$16.35. The American Flyer guide lists for approximately \$12. I was unable to find it on Barnes & Noble's website.



MIANNE

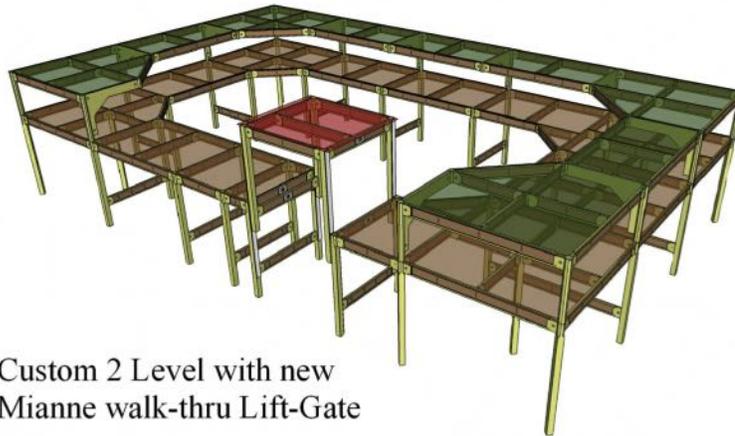
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WHAT MEMBERS ARE SAYING

Thanks for the parts. These will help a lot. Enclosed is a check for Please use the extra for supplies for the parts bin. ... The parts would cost me a lot more than \$.... if I bought these on the open market. Thanks again. #10-664 Clint Baker

Just joined the club and am already enjoying my membership. #16-998 Billy Mills

Still loving the pickup truck, thanks again for your efforts on that winner! #07-491 Mike Maslowski

A couple of weeks ago I spent some time on the PCA website reading some of the past issues of the Villager. I found that very enjoyable even though I still have all of my black & white copies. With all the other magazines & newsletters I get, storage in my basement is getting to be a problem. So I thought, as long as we have such a nice website with all the Villagers and other information on it, why not use it more? I thought about a three year ePCA renewal but decided to try it for one year first, then if I don't miss the hard copy I'll do 3. #04-256 Jerry Williams

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The list is free but please include \$2.96 to cover actual First Class mail postage.

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THE PARTS BIN - A PCA MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

Various parts are available for the buildings listed on this page. They are offered free to members on a first come first served basis. The only cost is for the packaging and postage to mail any available requested pieces to you. Send an email to secretary@plasticvilleusa.org listing the pieces you wish or mail your list to: The Parts Bin, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3207. New additions to the list are in **bold**. Parts added to previous listings are underlined.

There are no complete buildings in the listings below - only parts.

Examples of requests that will be processed:

Switch Tower - roof - brown w/o slots

Motel - rear wall - white

Coaling Tower - Part C



Examples of requests that cannot be processed:

Bungalow - Yes

Littletown General Store - I'll take it all

Ranch House - Whatever you have

*** O/S PLASTICVILLE ***

Miscellaneous doors & windows
Miscellaneous window inserts - specify exact item needed

12-A RR & Street Signs - specify text on sign

Airport Administration Building

Airport Hangar

Apartment House

Bank

Billboard - specify color & type

BN-1 Barn

Bridge & Pond - specify lt, med, dk green

Bungalow

Cape Cod

Cathedral

Cattle Pen

CC7 & 8 Churches

CC-9 Church

Chain Store (5 & 10)

Coaling Tower

Colonial Church

Colonial Mansion

Covered Bridge

Crossing Gate

Dairy Barn

Diner

Drug Store (1853)

Factory

Farm Buildings

Fire House

Footbridge

Frosty Bar

Greenhouse

Hardware & Pharmacy

Hobo Shacks

Hospital

House Fence

House Under Construction

Large Gas Station

Large Super Market

Loading Platform

Log Cabin

Mobile Home

Motel

New England Rancher

Picket Fence

Playground Equipment

Police Station

Post Office

Ranch House

Roadside Stand

Rustic Fence

Rustic Gate

School House -specify large or small

light holes

Signal Bridge

Small Gas Station

Small Super Market

Split Level House - no downspouts

ST-1 Street Accessories - specify piece

needed

Station Platform

Suburban Station

Switch Tower - no signs or smokestacks

Telephone pole

Town Hall

Trestle Bridge

Turnpike Interchange

TV Station - no globes

Two Story House

Union Station

Watchman's Shanty

Water Tank - no spouts

Windmill

Wishing Well

*** HO PLASTICVILLE ***

Miscellaneous window inserts - specify exact item needed

Barn

Cape Cod House

Cathedral

Cattle Pen

Coaling Station - specify part by letter

Contemporary House

Drive-In Bank

Factory

Fire House

Freight Station

Gas Station

Hardware Pharmacy

House Under Construction

Large Supermarket

Motel

New Car Showroom

Police Station

Post Office

Railroad Work Car

Ranch House

School House

Split Level

Suburban Station

Super Market

Switch Tower

TV Station

Union Station

Miscellaneous doors & windows

Miscellaneous window inserts - specify exact item needed

*** LITTLETOWN ***

Barn

Cape Cod

Church

Gas Station

General Store

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.



First Call Parts

Parts in these photos are currently in The Parts Bin and are available to all members on first request/first served basis. Please note both the item and the photo number in which it appears when making a request. Also be aware that the items shown may have already been spoken for and are no longer available.

Available parts continued from the previous page.



Loading Platform
 Railroad Station
 Ranch House
 School House
 Southern Colonial House
Telegraph Pole
 *** MARX ***
Barn
 Church
 Colonial House
 Fire House
 Gas Station
General Store
L-shaped Ranch House
 Railroad Station
 Ranch House
 RR & Street Signs - specify text
 Rustic Fence - specify color
 School House
 Super Market
 Telephone poles

*** SKYLINE ***
 Ranch
 Church
 *** K-Line ***
Chicken Coop
L-Shaped Ranch
Church
 Ranch House
 Two Story House
 *** MISCELLANEOUS ***
 Lionel billboard inserts - specify design
 Lionel RR & Street signs (white) - specify text
Frosted Flakes Billboard - frames only
 *** EMPTY BOXES ***
 2600 HO Water Tank
 2617 HO Cape Cod
 2803 HO House Under Construction
 45534 Pink Lady Boutique
 45521 Rural Station
 45526 Joe's Pizza & Video Store

45522 Bud's Convenience Store
 HO-59 HO Ranch House
 2402 HO Switch Tower
 SC-4 School House
 LM-3 Freight Station Kit
 RA-5 Railroad Accessories - no insert
 PF-4 Plastic People
 RD-8 Passenger Station
 CS-5 5 and 10 Cent Store
 1613 Supermarket
 RH-1 Ranch House (white/green color stamp)
 FH-1 Firehouse - lid only
 1951 Signal Bridge & Switch Tower
 45614 Town Hall
 45606 Frosty Bar
 45982 log Cabin & Rustic Fence
 45979 Coaling Tower
 K-4120 K-Line Ranch House
 K-4150 K-Line L-Shaped Ranch House
 1932 Barn assembly instructions

THE FREE PCA CLASSIFIED ADS BRING RESULTS!

- Do you have buildings or parts that you would like to sell and without the hassle of Internet auction sites?
- Do you have buildings or parts that you would like to trade?
- Do you have buildings or parts that you want 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 PCA CORNER STORE



ITEMS FOR SALE BY THE PCA

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

Personalized address labels

A sheet of 30, personalized, high-quality color labels are available from the PCA. The labels 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 \$3.00 per sheet plus \$1.50 P&H for up to three sheets. Please add 20 cents per additional sheet over three.

PCA T-shirt

Navy blue 100% cotton, short sleeve shirt T-shirt with the PCA logo printed on the front in white. 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. *** Only Small and 3X are currently in stock ***

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. 1 black remaining.

PCA Ball Caps

Dark Blue, Velcro-back ball cap with white PCA logo embroidered on the front. \$13.00 postpaid. 10 remaining

Billboard Inserts

Printed on white cardstock. \$5.00 postpaid or emailed as a PDF for free. Two versions available:

1. "Welcome to Plasticville" billboard inserts Six identical inserts, sized to fit Plasticville billboard frames depicting a 50's vintage auto passing a billboard on its way into town with the same greeting.
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.

STUBBORN SLIDE BUILDINGS



MATT HARVAZINSKI #11-682

Have you ever tried to assemble a Plasticville, Littletown, or Kleeware building that slides together and had a really hard time getting the pieces to slide? My experience shows that if you push too hard you can snap the plastic guides or the wall piece. There is nothing worse than breaking something! Especially a rare piece.

I have found that an aerosol silicon lubricant can work wonders in aiding in the assembly of difficult slide buildings. I typically spray some of the lubricant onto a Q-Tip. And then rub both sides of the piece with the lubricant. While the lubricant is still wet slide the two pieces together and you should have no problem. Wipe any excess off with a paper towel.

This can also be used to disassemble buildings that are stuck. I expose as much of the joint as possible, then apply the lubricant. After allowing it to penetrate the joint it is typically easy to continue to slide. On really stubborn joints you may have to repeat this process multiple times.

You should be able to find this at your local store, I used *WD-40 Specialist Water Resistance Silicone Lubricant* which is safe for use on plastics.



PRODUCT REVIEWS

JOHN L. NIEHAUS #00-3

Strainliners, Locomotives and Trains in the Age of Speed and Style, Brian Solomon, 208 pages, hard cover, 8 1/2 x 11, \$35. Published by Voyageur Press. 115 color and 81 black and white photos. Additional engineering and patent drawings.

The book contains five chapters directly addressing streamliners. The title of Chapter 1 is: *Experiments, Aerodynamics, and McKeen Motor Cars*. McKeen motor Cars were an early attempt at making interurban vehicles aerodynamic by incorporating a V-shaped front to the units. They were made in the Union Pacific shops in Omaha, Nebraska.

Chapter 3 illustrates and discussed the various attempts at streamlining steam engines. It also covers the very first diesel streamliners. If you are a fan of the early post war streamliners then Chapter 4 should be right up your alley. There are numerous photos of trains of this vintage in this chapter. Chapter 5 delves into the last of the streamliners of the 1950's and 60's.

The last chapter in the book, Chapter 6, carries the title: *Preserved Streamliners*. It contains 28 pages of photos and information as to where various streamliners can be seen. With a price of only \$35, or less, these 28 pages are worth the investment if one has a penchant for visiting venues where the remaining streamliners can be viewed.

The book also contains an introduction, acknowledgements, a bibliography, an index, and uniquely an *About the Author* section. The index lists people, museums, railroads, named trains just to list a few of the possible look up options.

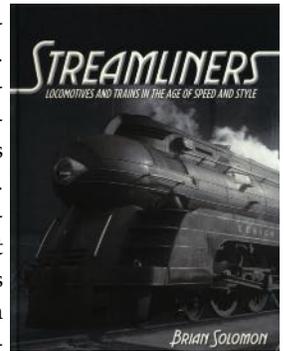
Vintage & Modern Diesel Locomotives, Prime Movers of America, Stanley W Trzoniec, 160 pages, hardbound, 11 1/4 x 9, \$35. Published by Voyageur Press.

I have always been interested in the vintage diesels as I grew up at the very end of steam power. I can remember one small steamer, probably a TP&W, running along the levee behind my cousin's house in Central Illinois. But I digress.

The book is broken down into five chapters, one for each of the five major diesel manufacturers. Those being Electro-Motive Division, General Electric, American Locomotive (ALCO), Baldwin Locomotive Company, and Fairbanks-Morse. Each chapter begins with a four to eight page history of the subject company. It is followed by photos of the company's various products. Each photo carries a lengthy caption. The captions not only identify the unit type but sometimes contains other pertinent information. Some of the additional data provided is when the unit was manufactured, who was the original owner, how many of that model were produced, distinguishing characteristics, and alterations for specific railroads.

The majority of the photos are in color with only those of the forties and older in black and white. Many of these are full page with the caption on the following or preceding page. One that

Here is a bit of trivia from first chapter. Do you know when the first U.S. patent was awarded for a wind-resistant (streamlined) train. The Burlington Zephyr of the early and mid 1930's probably comes to mind. The first U.S. patent was actually awarded to Samuel R Calthrop for his wind-resistant train in 1865. Many of his concepts were incorporated into the modern streamliners. These included an articulated unit and a smooth as possible underside to the cars.



If you have an interest in the development of the streamlined train and its predecessors then this book is worth the price. The text is well written as are all of Mr Solomon's books. The captions accompanying the photos are excellent as well. I am sure you will enjoy the book. It was an enjoyable and enlightening read for me.

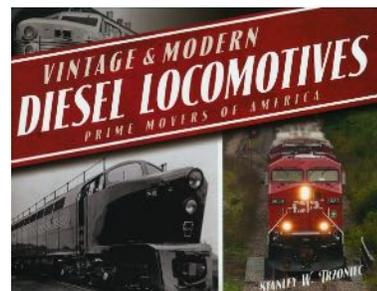
Streamliners is available directly from Voyageur Press. The direct link on their website is below. There are also hyperlink icons to various online retailers for the U.S as well as Canada. There is an additional hyperlink for those who may wish to purchase the book and live in Europe. It is listed on Amazon in new condition at about half the cover price. Barnes & Noble lists the book at its cover price but does offer it in the Nook format for \$19.99.

<http://www.quartoknows.com/books/9780760347478/Streamliners.html?direct=1>

particularly impressed me was of two GE engines pulling a freight across a trestle somewhere around Glacier National Park in Montana. The only thing besides the train and trestle in the photo are coniferous trees!

I thoroughly enjoyed my time with this book and learned a few more facts along the way. I am sure you will also.

Vintage & Modern Diesel Locomotives, Prime Movers of America is available from Voyageur Press at <http://www.voyageurpress.com>. The page for the book also includes for icons for the most recognized booksellers from which you can also purchase the book by merely clicking on an icon. You may want to check these other sellers out as I found the book available on Amazon's website for as low as \$19.49



Tower City Trains, The Stunning O Scale Train Layout of "Papa" Bill Bramlage, Bill Bramlage, 80 pages, hard-bound, 12 1/4 x 9 1/4, \$44.95. Published by O Gauge Rail-Roading magazine.

Essentially this book is a photographic trip around the author's layout. But the photos are far from the usual. They were created with a process called "stacked" digital photography. To quote part of the introduction to this book, ""Focus Stacking" is a technique which allows a photographer to "stack" digital images each with a different focus point. ... Unlike most photos of small models, these photos have fantastic depth of field and everything is in focus. It makes the images almost look real". There were anywhere from 30 to 100 photos taken for each scene in the book. I can attest to the fact that what is in the background of the photos is just as clear a focus as what is in the foreground. Absolutely amazing!

The book begins with an introduction by O Gauge Rail-Roading CEO and publisher Richard Melvin. He gives a brief synopsis of Bill's model train experiences as well as a brief overview of the layout. The layout is 2,000 square feet. It was started in 2015. It is wired to run in either conventional mode or using MTH's DCS. It has four main lines, two trolley lines, and one elevated subway line.

The first few photos in the book show the beginnings of the layout. One, especially shows the room with only the elevated control platform in place. Others show the base table while others show track being added. Page 3 shows a view of some of

Classic Toy Trains, 25+ Year Collection, 1987-2014, DVD, \$99.99. Published by Kalmbach Publishing Co. A digital compilation of the first 27 volumes of Classic Toy Trains magazine plus two pre-CTT issues from 1986 and 1987.

It seems that many publishers are now digitizing back issues of their magazines. Classic Toy Trains by Kalmbach is now one of them. This 2 disc set contains every page of Classic Toy Trains from November 1987 through December 2014. The two PER-CTT issues contained on these disks are the October 1986 and 1987 issues of Toy & Model Trains.

The collection can be installed in either a basic or a full install. The basic install requires approximately 2 GB of hard drive space. It also requires the use of the discs to access the desired issue. The full install requires approximately 13 GB of hard drive space as it copies the entire 2 disc set to the hard drive negating the need to insert either disc into the CD drive.

I chose to use the basic installation. It took quite a few minutes to complete the install but worked flawlessly after completion. Clicking on the icon on the desktop brings up a front page thumbnail display of all the issues in chronological order on a simulated bookshelf. There is also an option to view all issues, 1986-1999, or 2000-2014. One can also select a list view rather than the thumbnail view. Double clicking on an option opens that selection.

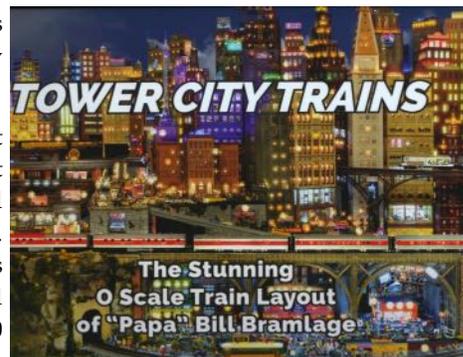
Above the issue selection option is a menu bar that includes the following options: Home, Bookmarks, Options, About, and

the various tracks before the scenery was added.

How about a short tour? Let's start with the circus and carnival peninsula. There are 50 rides and attractions and more than 1,000 lights on this section alone. Next is the 7 track passenger yard. Have you ever seen a door covered with lighted building panels? There is a set of two doors on this layout that allows people to walk all the way around the layout. Anyone for golf? This layout has one. This layout is so large that Bill has even created a failed trestle train wreck. There are two population areas on the layout. One is Happy Valley. The other may be part of Happy Valley but has definitely seen better times. This short tour is but a small part of this fantastic layout.

I have flipped through the pages on more than a few occasions. The photography is fantastic and anyone who reads it should pick up more than a few ideas for their layout.

Tower City Trains is available in O Gauge Rail-Roading's web store at <http://ogaugerr.com/shop/tower-city-book>. It seems to be available only through their website as I did not find it on Amazon's or Barnes & Noble's websites.



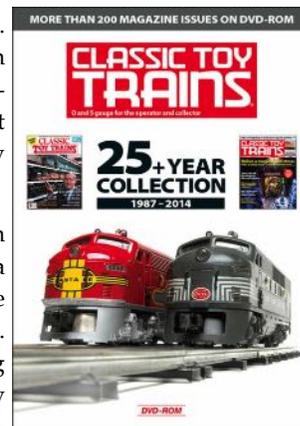
Help. There is also a search option. Every page on which the search word or phrase is found is displayed in either a thumbnail or list view based on the current view setting.

I entered Plasticville in the Search option and was surprised to get a return of 27 articles that has the word Plasticville included in them. The articles were wide-ranging from an article on Bill Nole to how to detail/improve a Suburban Station, to color matching Plasticville structures.

It was interesting to browse through the various issues and see ads from some of the names of dealers such as Owen Upp, Doug's Train World, and others that are no longer in business. It was also interesting to see how the magazine format has changed, in my opinion, for the better over the years.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time with this DVD and am certain to revisit it on numerous occasions in the future.

Classic Toy Trains, 25+ Year Collection, 1987-2014 can be purchased directly from Kalmbach through their website at kalmbachhobbystore.com. It is listed on Amazon for \$89.99 plus shipping. It does not seem to be available through Barnes & Noble.



THE VILLAGER CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

Ending February 2017

For Sale: Original vintage Plasticville Turnpike Interchange #1900, all parts like-new with solid box and 4 original pilons - \$37.00 plus postage. Many parts for sale - Ask, send list. Parts are all ORIGINAL. Many hard to find. Marbled Hobo Shacks, like-new with solid box #1627 \$100.00 plus exact postage. #09-580 David Starre, 5105 Herman ave, Cleveland, OH 44102.

Ending May 2017

Long time collector thinning out collection: Plasticville, Storytown, Littletown, all boxed and complete. Send me your wants by e-mail richsipes60@gmail.com, phone 570-751-8028, or mail. #01-39 Richard Sipes, 541 Sandy Valley Road, White Haven, PA 18661.

Near mint Plasticville catalogs from 1953 through 1964. Send me your wants or ask for my price list. Also have NOS School House lights, large pin variety, \$10, postpaid and NOS School House weathervanes, \$5, postpaid. Lights and weathervane plus four assorted Plasticville figures in factory sealed bag, \$12, postpaid. #00-03 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, IA 50021.

WANTED

Ending February 2017

Wanted: 4 light blue windows for American Flyer Pikemaster house colonial house. Wanted: 1 Dark Blue SMALL roof section for American Flyer Colonial House. Available: 1 light blue SMALL roof section for American Flyer colonial house. #10-643 Eugene Sankowski, 6008 Timmons Ct, Charlotte NC 28227.

Olive drab chimney for log cabin and outhouse or two doors and roof for senic classic. King mobil home blue base and cream back with small window. 45971 rural two story house gray chimney. Corner Store Gray 'L' shaped wall part 'C' and white roof. wrkidd2000@yahoo.com. #09-584 Wesley Kidd, 105 Linda Ct., Jeannette, PA 15644.

Ending May 2017

Plasticville HO catalogs A and B. These are not part of the O/S catalogs of the same year. They are separate catalogs. #00-03 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021 Ph. 515-771-6888 johnln@netins.net.

Ending August 2017

Catalog number BB-9,1028 1950 billboard frames with the following inserts: "Drive carefully school zone", "Come on Kids - wear Majestic sunglasses", "Solarex lady on billboard", "Solarex man on billboard", "Solarex man with fishing pole", "Solarex car with green background". #08-543 Robert Stout, 500 East Spring St. Apartment # 34, Olean, NY 14760-2930. Ph. 716-378-6292.

Ending November 2017

BEEMAK large upright SUPERMARKET sign. Also small BAKERY sign for marquee or letters 'E', 'R', 'Y'. Prefer white in color but will accept any color available. I can also use BEEMAK boxes for supermarket and theatre. Call, write, or email. #07-498 Gary Weickart, 185 Maple Street, Islip, NY 11751 Ph. 631-581-5834. gweickart@aol.com

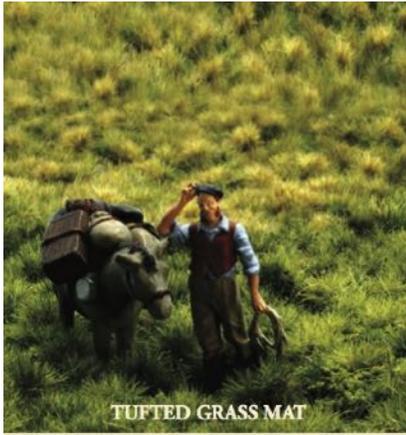
Make 'N' Play, complete boxed sets. Fire Resuce, Jungle Attack, & Farm. #11-682 Matt Harvazinski, 4115 W. Ave. J7, Lancaster CA, 93536. Ph. 518-421-1130 villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org

FOR TRADE

Ending February 2017

Wanted marbled outer ends for covered bridge. Need two letter B and one letter C. Will trade for a complete building or any parts you may need. Example I have parts for Littletown gas station or Plasticville corner store and other hard rare parts. I need a red diner roof. #09-580 David Starre, 5105 Herman Ave., Cleveland, OH 44102.

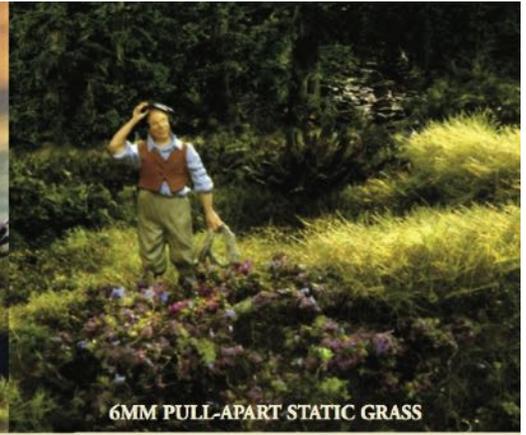
PV Rural two story house #45971 tan sides, brown roof, green trim for rural house white sides, gray roof, black trim or gray sides, white roof, dark gray trim white sides and roof must be white not light gray. wrkidd2000@yahoo.com. #09-584 Wesley Kidd, 105 Linda Ct., Jeannette, PA 15644.



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Item No. 31002



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Item No. 31003



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TAN
Item No. 31033



YELLOW and RED
Item No. 31034



WHITE and BURGUNDY
Item No. 31035



10MM TUFTS (50 pieces)
MSRP \$12.95 each



LIGHT GREEN
Item No. 31041



MEDIUM GREEN
Item No. 31042



TAN
Item No. 31044



YELLOW and RED
Item No. 31045



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