



THE VILLAGER

The Official Newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 17

August 2018

Number 3

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY PIECE ORDERS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is pleased to announce that orders for the Plasticville Collectors Association 20th Anniversary Frosty Bar are now being accepted. This is a uniquely colored Frosty Bar. It will be the first time that it has been created with two shades of the same color.

There is a limit of two (2) of these special edition Frosty Bars per member. All orders must be postmarked no later than November 30, 2018. Orders received after that date will be returned to the sender.

The number of pieces ordered from Bachmann will be determined by the number of orders received prior to the November 30 order deadline. The expected shipping date is mid-2019.

The order form can be found on the back page of this newsletter.



CAN YOU HELP

DAVID HOFFMAN #14-869

David Hoffman is looking for information about several 1960's plastic autos that came with a lot of Lionel and Marc trains. The cars have no markings on them. Please let us know if you know anything about these cars.



The Villager

Published quarterly by the Plasticville Collectors Association.

President: Chris Matthy

Vice President: Frank Ross

Webmaster: John L. Niehaus

www.plasticvilleusa.org

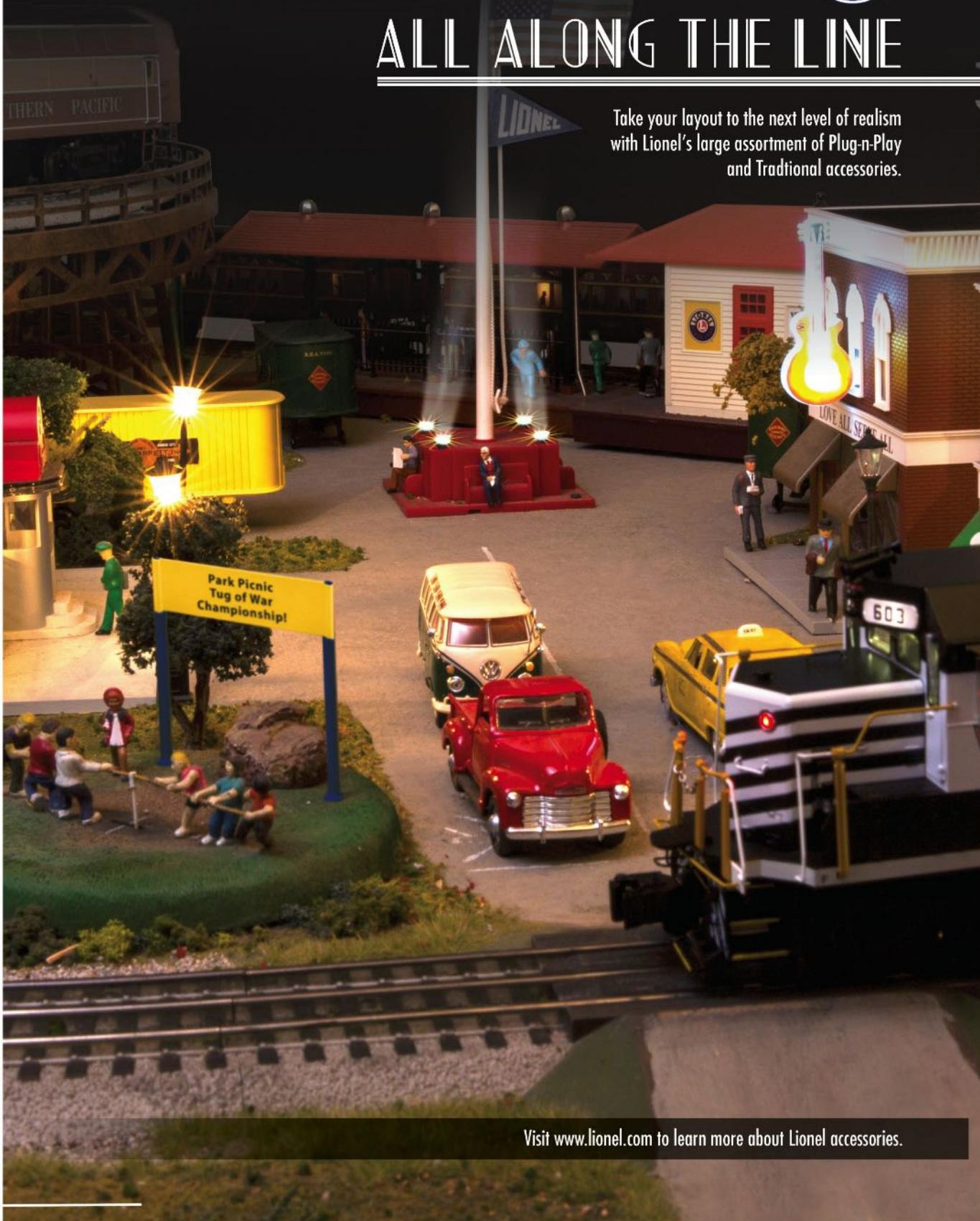
Secretary/Treasurer: John L. Niehaus
Newsletter Editor: Matthew Harvazinski

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



I am sitting at the computer on the day of the summer solstice -- which means every day now gets us closer to fall and winter and train shows and layout time. I know, my life isn't very exciting. The best news of the spring is that my son and daughter-in-law bought a new house that has ... wait for it ... a basement! There already is

an expectation that Granddad may come by to help the 3 grandsons start the train layout. You can bet some of my mass of Pville parts will be assembled into can't-really-be-hurt first buildings. Then again, if there are 3 grandsons, do we need to plan on 3 trains running as well? Actually, my hope is just that we can get them away from the video games long enough to take a lap or two around the Plywood Central.

And now for more good news. As you will have noticed, we finally have the PCA 20th Anniversary Plasticville piece ready for ordering. If you have followed the musings of all the officers over the past year, this has been quite a journey. As mentioned in previous articles, part of this had to do with getting in synch with Bachmann. Again, they are very generous to do this for us, and we are more than grateful. They are bound by decision-making that is done thousands of miles away, and we can make decisions only when they have the go-ahead. Not complaining, just sayin'.

The second hurdle, if you can believe it, was the colors of the Frosty Bar. First, it took some time to agree that we could move away from the PCA colors that have been on the House, Barn and Pickup Truck. Then came a curious bump in the road. Some of the officers were against using any color that has already been

used in prior production -- for example, using white as one of the colors. Please understand I am not criticizing my fellow officers, just stating that I didn't feel bound by the same view. Finally someone offered what seemed the right compromise -- the two-tone blue. As far as we know, no Plasticville item has ever been offered in complimentary hues of the same color, so this makes our 20th anniversary piece even more unique.

And again a compliment to Bachmann -- when we finally decided on the colors but weren't sure if it should be dark roof/light walls or light roof/dark walls, Bachmann's art department responded with color renditions of both versions in less than a week, and, truthfully, once received it was a unanimous no-brainer. By the way, you also may note that Bachmann has changed the way they mold the Frosty Bar so that the counter now matches the walls, not the roof and base. Whew!

So even though it is being stated elsewhere, I'll take the time to repeat: our order to Bachmann will be based solely on *your* orders to us, so try to be as timely as possible with your order of one or two (max) items. Remember what is yet to come: molding and packaging in China, shipping in a standard Bachmann shipment from China to the U.S., shipping to our secretary in Iowa, and boxing and shipping by him to you. Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines!

And then, in about two years, we start all over again thinking about a PCA 25th Anniversary piece.

Chris Matthy

PCA President

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Well, here it is in summer, and I'm still at war with my weeds and over-grown bushes and trees as the result of all the rain we had in May followed by warmer than usual weather to really give it all a growth spurt. I feel that I'm finally getting it under control after weeks of trimming.

As you can see from all the write-ups for our 20th year anniversary piece, that the Frosty Bar was selected to be the structure to offer to our members. I personally didn't vote because I didn't want to be accused of swaying the vote one way or another. Bachmann dragged their heels to us as far as providing the unit cost to us, and had some restrictions on us as to how we could select the color combinations for the unit as far as what components of the structure could be one color, or the other. As a result, the executive committee talked up several scenarios of color combinations as to which one would be the most desirable for

our members to want to purchase for their collection, and stay within the realm of the PCA colors that were offered in the past. We hope that we did a good job for you.

I believe that the executive committee settled on a fair price for the piece, and am encouraging the members to purchase two units so you can display one unit on your layout, and also to keep one sealed in it's original packaging if you're a collector. Remember that this unit will not be available for sale to the general public.

I hope you all enjoy the summer weather, and keep cool as I do by spending some time working indoors on your layouts.

As Lou Palumbo always says, "Keep Searchin'"

Frank Ross

PCA Vice President

Did You Know?

Recently I received a question about which issue a specific article appeared in. While I am happy to help, there is also a self-help option. On the PCA website hover over the 'Newsletter' tab then pick 'Article Index'. You can search this document by author or title. Use 'Ctrl + F' on Windows or '⌘ + F' on a Mac.



PROPOSED MEMBERS

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Plasticville Collectors Association as of July 1, 2018. The names of all proposed members must be published for the review of the general membership before being accepted as members in accordance with the bylaws of the PCA. All names listed below will be permanently added to the Plasticville Collectors Association rolls on August 30, 2018 if no objection to such action is received prior to that date.

- #1047 John J George, Newfield, NJ
- #1048 George S Albany III, Wallingford, PA

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following individuals' names have been added to the Plasticville Collectors Association membership roster as of June 30, 2018. Their names are now permanently listed in the on-line roster.

- #1038 John B McLean, San Francisco, CA
- #1039 John J Kozul Jr, Havertown, PA
- #1040 Fred C Stillwell, Marietta, GA
- #1041 Tom C Webber, Elkader, IA
- #1042 David W Phillips, Concord, NC
- #1043 Donald H MacCormack, Huntsville, TX
- #1044 Jill Kaufman, Seminole, FL
- #1045 Leo E Weiss, Richmond, IN
- #1046 Kenneth Noll, Springbrook Twp, PA

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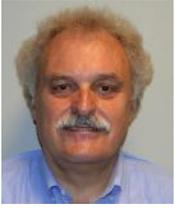
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NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY



20th anniversary Frosty Bar

It has been a lengthy process but we are finally able to announce the colors of the Frosty Bar, with a color mockup, on the front page of this newsletter. Determining the building to be offered as our 20th anniversary piece was easy.

The difficult part was determining the color combination that was visually appealing. We started out with our official colors of dark blue and gray. When we saw a color rendition of the Frosty Bar with dark blue walls and grey roof we knew we had to come up with something else. The blue was way too dark for the walls. We tried various color combinations that would relate to an ice cream stand but none of them seemed to look good also. I hope that our two color blue combination is as appealing to you as it is to me. (I already have an order for two pieces from our President)

Newsletter publication change

The PCA is an all volunteer organization. That includes our current newsletter editor. Our editor has had difficulties getting the newsletters ready for publication, due to the responsibilities of his employment, with our current publication months of February, May, August, and November. The Executive Committee voted to change the publication months to March, June, September, and December to better mesh with our editor's work responsibilities. Look for the change to the new publication schedule with the March, 2019 edition.

One more volunteer, please (advertising chairman)

I recently had a member volunteer to be our newsletter publisher. That leaves me with only one of my former PCA activities unfilled. That position is that of advertising chairman.

I frequently quote lyrics from various songs as they fit the situation. Here is a quote from the song *Nashville Cats* by the *The Lovin Spoonful*, "And I said, "But I Will".

I need someone to step up and be a "Nashville Cat" and volunteer to be our advertising chairman. This activity entails contacting all of our current advertisers in early October to determine if they wish to advertise in our newsletter for the next year.

Approximately half of our advertisers are at both York shows. A stop by their booth and quick question regarding their continued advertising is all that is usually needed. The remainder of the advertisers usually requires one or two calls to get a response. I will be more than happy to introduce you to all of our advertisers who have a booth at York so that you are not giving them what seems a "cold call" approach. The same with those not at York. I will let them know that you are our new advertising chairman contact. A phone call to all the advertisers is all that would be needed if you do not attend York. Don't let that stop you from volunteering to be our advertising chairman.

I will be more than happy to continue as your Secretary/Treasurer into the future if someone will step up and be a "Nashville Cat" and say, "But I Will". Email me or call me if you feel this is a PCA position that you can fill.

John L. Niehaus, Secretary/Treasurer

EDITOR'S COLUMN



Finally, an issue of the Villager is complete on time! My schedule is such that the months that I need to be working on the Villager tends to line up with heavy travel months for me. My hope is that next year by shifting the production schedule the newsletters will arrive closer to on time. I have been watching eBay recently and have not seen too many interesting finds, sometimes I have found that that rare gem in the summer when it would appear that fewer people are watching the auctions, but this year that has not happened. Prices seem to be much lower, in the month of June I saw a green roofed bungalow, a grey roofed colonial mansion, a dark grey house under construction, and a light green barn all go for about \$50 or less. Each of those is a great value, congratulations to the member(s) that grabbed them.

I appreciate all of the members that are sending in articles for me to add into the newsletter. The more material I have the easier it is to put together a newsletter. I would still like to see more comments from members, you may have noticed that the "What Members are Saying" column has been sporadic, that is because I get very few comments. Many comments are passed through John. Please help save time and send any Newsletter comments directly to me, this will help ensure that your comments are published quickly.

Recently I have been exploring an old pastime, LEGO. I have found a series of modular buildings aimed at adults based on their cost and complexity. They are very impressive structures once built and I may write a short article on them in the future. They are probably a bit too large for Lionel or American Flyer. A photo is shown below of two and a half buildings.

Matt Harvazinski, *The Villager* Editor
villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org
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JULY 2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The July 2018 Executive Committee meeting was called to order on June 7, 2018 at 7:10 Eastern Daylight Time by President Chris Matthy. Those in attendance were President Chris Matthy, Vice President Frank Ross, and Secretary Treasurer John Niehaus. Absent were Immediate Past President Doug Gilliatt, and founder, Joe Kutza.

Old Business

20th anniversary piece

A discussion was made and it was decided that a very light blue and a slightly darker blue would be used for the 20th anniversary Frosty Bar. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to have the walls be the lighter blue and the roof and base the darker blue with one abstention. As there were only three members present, a motion was made to withdraw the previous motion with the stipulation that Secretary Niehaus request artwork showing both a light blue wall version and a darker blue wall version. The motion passed unanimously. Secretary Niehaus will present the artwork to the Executive Committee upon receipt of the artwork. Secretary Niehaus will create an order form to be included in the August newsletter once the color combination has been finalized. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to offer the pieces at \$27 each, including shipping. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to limit the purchase of the pieces to 2 per member.

Membership dues review

Tabled

Transcription of Lee Riley interview of 2012

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has not taken the time to review the transcription against the audio file.

Large PCA sticker for truck tool box, etc.

A discussion was held pertaining to a sticker for a truck tool box. The Committee felt that there would not be sufficient demand to offset the cost incurred to have a minimum quantity created. He also stated that he had not received a mockup of the proposed

sticker from the person making the suggestion as well as not receiving any feedback from members.

New Business

Newsletter publication schedule

Secretary Niehaus reported that he had been approached by the current newsletter editor regarding the possibility of a change in the newsletter publication months to March, June, September, December in order for him to better work around his personal work schedule. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to change the publication months as requested by the editor starting with the first issue of 2019. It was noted that changing the publication months will also require the Executive Committee to hold their quarterly meetings in February, May, August, and November.

Newsletter publisher volunteer

Secretary Niehaus reported that Scott Davis, #13-823, has inquired into what the newsletter publisher duties entail. He stated that he sent Scott an email overview of the various tasks as well as a spreadsheet with more detailed descriptions and time spent related to each entry. He stated that he is hopeful that Scott will accept this position and will work out the logistics of the transfer to Scott.

ePCA membership for volunteers

The subject of offering committee volunteers a paid ePCA membership was brought up. The subject was tabled until the full Committee membership is in attendance at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM, Eastern Daylight Savings Time

Respectfully submitted; John L Niehaus, Secretary/Treasurer

Secretary's note: The July Executive Committee meeting was held in June to continue progress on the finalization of the 20th anniversary piece as well as perceived attendance conflicts in July.

KEEP YOUR INFORMATION CURRENT

Have you moved? Have you dropped your landline phone? Have you changed your email address? Do you have a cell phone? Help the PCA keep your membership record current.

Please email secretary@plasticvilleusa.org or mail him any changes that should be noted in your membership record using the address on the first page of this newsletter.



The Villager is looking for new contributors. Contact the editor to find out how to participate and share your knowledge.

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Additional Information

DONALD W. HUOVINEN #11-714



With apologies to Al Osterud, I have altered his quote (with his permission) as follows "Whenever you say something about K-Line is certain, or always, or never, you will find out later that you were wrong." Well this certainly applies to me. In this column I am going to add some additional information to two of my previous columns.

My e-mailed article to our editor about header bags (published in Volume 17, Number 1, February 2018) had probably not even made its way through the ether when I became aware of another header bag. Rather than re-write the article I just figured I would amend it later as I knew of additional information about a Type 1 box that I received from one of our members that I wanted to pass on. This was fortunate as I have since become aware of yet another header bag.

Header Bag Additions:

Header Bag 0 (Zero) (I am calling this 0 as it obviously pre-dates all of the other header bags)

Size of Header Bag Label (One Side): 2 1/2" x 5"

Front (Rear Identical):

- K-LINEVILLE MDK logo w/red locomotive on left side on white background
- O SCALE ACCESSORIES in upper right corner
- Item description in typeface in lower right corner

Item packaged: K-4183 3-Rail FENCE (25 pcs)



Header Bag 5

Size of Header Bag Label (One Side): 3" x 7"

Front:

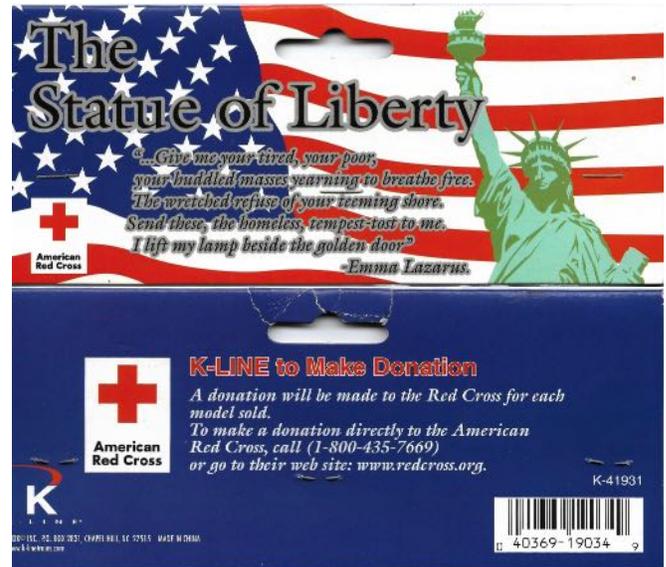
- US Flag as background
- American Red Cross Logo in lower left corner
- Statue of Liberty in lower right corner
- Emma Lazarus quote in center

Rear:

- Blue background
- K-Line swoosh logo in lower left corner

- Item number and bar code in lower right corner
- American Red Cross logo and "K-LINE to Make Donation..." in center

Item Packaged: K-41931 The Statue of Liberty



Type 1 Box Addition:

I received an e-mail from Mr. Wesley Kidd advising me that he had a variation of the Type 1 Box I described in Volume 14, Number 1 (February 2015). He subsequently sent me some photos of the box which are included here. The box shares all of the characteristics of the Type 1 box but it is a two-piece box! All Type 1 boxes I have observed have been one-piece boxes. The bottom of the box is just gray cardboard so there is no printing on the back of the box. I am calling this Type 1 Version B. As seen the box contained the K-4150 L-Shaped Ranch House. Was this box used for other buildings or is this box unique? Reader input is invited.



As always I welcome your additions, corrections or comments about all things K-Line. Please e-mail me at dhuov@aol.com.

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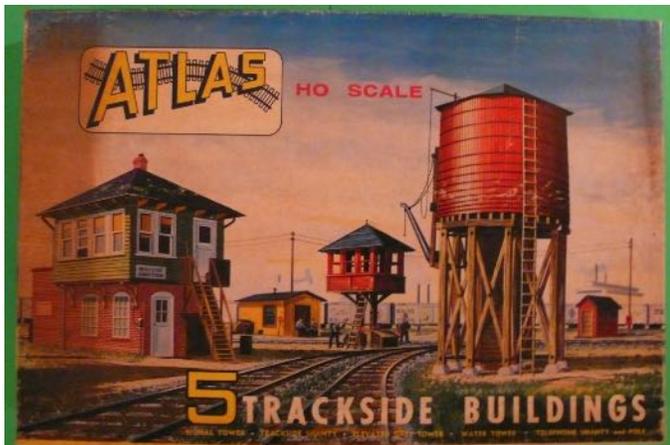
PLASTICVILLE BOXED SETS 105

Number Era HO

ROBERT SPIVEY #02-154



During the number era the HO line boxed sets became more solidified. Even though they were less progressive in nature, these sets maintained a more cosmopolitan theme. This was accomplished by including the beautiful Cathedral and the majestic Union Station. All the while, Bachmann's competitors had caught to Plasticville HO's market share by rolling out new HO plastic kit products; Bachmann was facing a new subset of hobby industry trade names. Highly detailed plastic kit structures were offered by Auroratown, Revell sold some attractive 4 kit packs: 9015 Barnyard set, 9003 Farmhouse Set, and 9002 Four Trackside Buildings. Atlas Tools even compiled an excellent HO masterset in a lift off gift box with dividing trays. The similarity of that Atlas 5 Trackside Buildings #700 to a Plasticville O & S set box style was unmistakable. Their slogan was a banter about Plasticville, "It's a 'Snap' to Assemble". Alternately, Child Guidance Toys used "slide together" simplicity by producing GUIDANCETOWN U.S.A. as their own boxed sets. Plasticville HO's first boxed sets of the number era were clones of two letter era sets.



Miniature Community 4601 was just like the Miniature Community (HO- 499). It's new number was added seamlessly into the original box art.

Miniature Farm 4400 was just like the Miniature Farm (HO-298). It's new number was added seamlessly into the original box art.

HO Town 4900 was an all new product. The set's centerpiece was the Cathedral. Three public buildings expanded the township: a fire station, a post office, and a school. A water tank, a switch tower with signal bridge, and a suburban station with extended platform, crowned Railroad Avenue. A ranch house completed the scene. The set was accessorized with 24 citizens, 36 pc pine tree set (makes six trees), and a generous amount of 18 phone poles. The set was packaged in an O & S repurposed 5400 series box with the same box top art and graphics as the Miniature Community 4601. The box color was yellow over blue. The letter boxed rendering of contents was set on a dark green airbrushed lawn under a twilight sky. The Cathedral was



pictured in reverse colors but didn't actually come that way (in the classic era).

Railroad Accessories 4600 was an urban railroad center. The set's principle structure was the Union Station with 4 platform extensions. A switch tower with signal bridge, and a trestle bridge were also included. The set was accessorized with a dozen phone poles and six O & S shrubs (as if they were small trees). The 4600 was packaged in a set box which was styled just like Railroad Accessories (HO- 497). The box color was yellow over red. The artist's rendering of contents was done in the same style as the (HO- 497). The picture was an accurate scene.

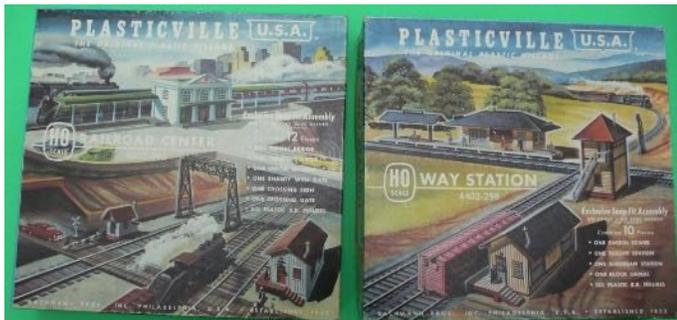


Train Accessories 4401 included a repurposed O & S scale structure. The HO scale water tank just had no base. In the Target (big box store) sets this structure will be refined. The remaining core structures were: a signal bridge, and a suburban station with one platform extension. The set's only accessory was a



dozen phone poles. The set was packaged in a box and dividers like the Railroad Accessories 4600, except for one modification: the set box side panels and dividing trays were made taller to accommodate the water tank's main body. The box color was white over peach. The artist's rendering of contents was done in the same style as the 4600. The picture was an accurate scene.

Railroad Center 4602 was packaged in a remarkable box. The box top art work showed the same quality of work and imaginative perspective as the O & S Railroad Center 5608 (see chapter 209). A Union Station was terraced above a freight yard as if it was a multilevel scene. A highway crossing at the freight yard emerged from a tunnel under the Union Station and an overpass across the freight yard led back to the Union Station. The Union Station was servicing a varnish passenger train. A large Metropolis filled a diminishing horizon. Clouds showed weather changes in the distant sky. The entire box top was a borderless dynamic scene and the side panels were illustrated the same as the 5608, otherwise the physical box used was just like the Railroad Accessories 4600. This set contained, for the first time, a building which was not scaled down or repurposed from the O & S line: a cracker box styled freight station. The set also included a crossing shanty with an extra crossing gate and a non operating flashing signal, plus a signal bridge and a Union Station with four platform extensions. The set was accessorized with six railroad characters. Did I mention how talented the artist was? - He finally did the signal bridge in black and still showed it's details.



Way Station 4402 had all the box top art qualities of the 4602. It's scene was an interlocking crossing out in the countryside. On the East - West line The Pennsylvanian was steaming down off the Alleghenies, in the foreground a box car was parked at a freight station. On the North - South line passengers were waiting in a suburban station under a shady grove. An interlocking tower guarded the 90 degree crossing. The box size and trays remained the same as the Railroad Center 4602. The set contained a cracker box style freight station, a suburban station, a switch tower, a block signal, and six railroad characters.

Late into the number era Bachmann had cause to be concerned. The O & S line was entering the frugal generic box years. Competition was strong from the HO hobby industry. Walthers, Railroad Model Craftsman, and Model Railroader shunned Plasticville. But Bachmann reached out to Sears Roebuck and Montgomery Ward. Would the collapse of O & S Plasticville at the heels of Lionel Corp. take down the HO line? !! Find out next in Chapter 106, HO generic boxes.



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0500 KING Apartment House (Brown) \$30	1920 Covered Bridge, \$18
0550 King Add A Floor (Brown or Red) \$8	1504 Trailer, \$30
1987 Barn Scenic Classic (sealed) \$20	1624 House Under Construction, Lt grey \$30
1986 New England Rancher Scenic Classic (sealed) \$20	1804 Greenhouse, \$30
1983 Colonial Mansion Scenic Classic (sealed) \$20	1627 Hobo Shacks, \$75
1984 Colonial Church Scenic Classic (sealed) \$25	LCCA Air Admin Building, (sealed) \$20
1985 Log Cabin Scenic Classic (sealed) \$35	1405 Railroad & Street Signs, \$12
1982 School House Scenic Classic (sealed) \$25	45986 LCCA Hangar, \$20 Sealed

No Box Kits, Complete

Railroad Work Car \$10, SUB Station \$8, Barn \$8, Motel \$8, HOBOS SHACKS \$15, School \$10,
Fire Department \$12, Diner (red or yellow roof) \$10, Bank \$25, Turnpike green booths \$15,
Col Mansion (red roof) \$15, Colonial Church \$15, 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, \$25

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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PLASTICVILLE PARTS - \$2 ea

WINDSOCK, LOG CABIN CHIMNEY, FIRE DEPARTMENT SIREN, CHIMNEY CAP, POLICE
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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

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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

FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING

RON SCHLICHT #02-109



Nearly every building in the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" would have had the Potter name on it had it not been for George Bailey (Jimmy Stewart) coming to the rescue. Well if you are really into Plasticville nearly all of your commercial buildings have the name Plasticville on them. On my home layout, most of those buildings still do. It really doesn't work that well on my traveling layout. It worked for me, but not necessarily for the public. So I went the route of the today's sports facilities and the practice of naming rights for many of my commercial structures.



It is relatively easy to make various signs for PV on your home computer. Covering up PV on the diner took a little extra effort. Simply adding silhouettes, a touch of paint, roof vents and a billboard to your diners will enhance the look of the building. Wonder woman is taking off from the True Value Hardware and Pharmacy. Modified PV figures are shopping. I remove all bases from figure for appearance reasons. Every once and a while you can pick up a trashed PV five and dime store or a hardware/pharmacy. Regardless of the condition, even if trashed, there are two pieces that I feel are of particular value, the DOORS. I have used those doors on many of my buildings. They are great for scratch builds. It seems like people are always looking for the clear double doors used on the bank, post office, super market, and the TV station. Unless you add something to the inside of the door it just looks like a big hole in the wall.



On the supermarket and some other structures I have put clear plastic in front of the window inserts giving them more of a glass window look. Another method for this is putting clear packag-



ing tape over the inserts. You might not want to do this to original inserts, but many of mine are reproductions. I used the hardware/pharmacy door on the front of the Piggy Wiggy supermarket. (OK I misspelled Piggly Wiggly.) By taking the left side of the supermarket window insert, reversing the image, trimming it and placing it on the inside of the door I think that it makes the market inside look bigger and better. The Plasticville lettering was removed from the tower portion. One other reason for new signage on some buildings is that in many cases the lettering is chipped or nicked up. The filling station was a total basket case and required repairs and a repaint. Goodluck Auto Repair seemed like more



than appropriate name.

Actually if you take a post office, five and ten, hardware/pharmacy and supermarket, eliminate the sides, trim the roofs and then glue them together you have a version of today's strip malls. On my traveling layout I wanted a little more depth perception, thus a two story Woolworths was constructed. If I should ever put this on my home layout it will require a fire escape for the second floor. Again using a damaged PV structures I modified the top front edges and used damage sides for the upper floor gluing them together and adding styrene strips to hide the glue joints. Amid the modified PV population is a one of a kind Forrest Gump waiting at the bus stop.

The bank was in reasonably good condition only needing minor repair. I used broken pieces of (cracked ice) lighting panel material as window inserts reversing them with the smooth side out.

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This camouflages the open barnlike appearance of the interior of the bank. This is also one of the structures that I like the clear PV double door on, as long as it isn't clear. I used a small mirror like material on the inside. Spiderman is the protector and bank guard while Marilyn Monroe is being ogled by some local businessmen. The banks name (not Plasticville) has drawn some attention.



To the right is the Forty Winks Motel Chain. I originally made only the pink version. It had to be removed from the home layout, packed up for transport and setup on

the traveling layout, then removed, repacked, unpacked and replaced on my home layout. The better solution was to make another one. I detest scratch building stairs so I used the staircase for a couple PV switch towers. Styrene strips were used to level the second floors and hide the gap created in the leveling process. Catwoman is on a roof and Michael Jackson is also making an appearance.



A HISTORY OF PLASTICVILLE: PART III

REMAINDER OF 1950

TOM FRITSCH #01-4

SMALL SUPER MARKET (SM-6)

The small Super Market is one of the earliest Plasticville structures. Collectors are unsure if this item was released in 1949, but it was available by the 1950 Christmas season. It was contained in some of the early Master Units and was not produced after 1952. It only appears as white and red. This was first building to feature Bachmann's new "snap-fit" assembly design. The small Super Market has two types of window inserts – white or black background. In the white-background insert, peas cost 23¢; the price was raised to 43¢ when the black insert was released. Only one box was made for this market. Bachmann encouraged the purchaser to cut out other window inserts that were illustrated on this box that could be installed in the market's windows. The small Super Market uses the same walls and roof as the small Gas Station.

SMALL GAS STATION (GO-2, 1962, 45962)

This is one of the early structures produced by Bachmann. Its initial production spanned the years 1950-1954 and it was included in many of the early Master Units. The first-issue of the small Gas Station can be found with two different window inserts (white or black background – possibly representing day or night). The clock time on the insert reads 3:00. When it was reissued again in 1987 as #1962, the raised letters on the front were no longer painted red and the window insert had a blue background with no clock. In addition, there was no longer a "T" bar connecting the gas pump island to the front wall, though the slit for it was still present in the wall. Instead, the pump island from the large Gas Station was used along with two unpainted pumps and an oil rack. Lastly, on the reissued version, the garage doors were changed from those shared with the Ranch House to those used on the large Gas Station. The small Gas Station uses the same walls and roof as the small Super Market.

BARN (BN-1, 1601, 1704, 1811, 1851, 1987, 5601, 45932)

Issued in 1950, the Barn has had several variations. The first of these, available only in 1950 (and possibly 1949), was the red walls and a dark green roof version. The second happened in 1954-1955. This version had silverized/chrome roof vents, silo cap and weathervane. This silver metallization process, was also used a short time on the Diner walls as well as on the counter of the Frosty Bar. This process was previously used on church steeple crosses. A third, and the most difficult version to locate, had white walls with a light green roof, silo cap and weathervane.

The #1601 box was introduced in 1956. In 1963, the Barn was available in the #5601 Pliofilm bag. Of the boxes that this barn came in, the #1704, released in 1964, is the most difficult to find. The #1811 box was introduced in 1971. The Barn was reintroduced again in 1982, along with 16 domestic animals and twelve pieces of House Fence, as "Scenic Classic" #1987. The #45932 version had bright red walls and a white roof.

The #4002 "Make 'N' Play – Farm" set, released in 1964, consisted of a Barn, Farm Vehicle set, four Citizens and 32 Barnyard Animals. The Lionel "Farm Set" #986, issued in 1962, included a white with red trim Barn, a white with green trim New England Ranch House and 18 Barnyard Animals.

FIRE HOUSE (FH-4, 1607, 1921, 1956, 45956, 45610)

The Fire House was introduced to the Plasticville line in 1950 as FH-4 and has been in production ever since. It was first described as "a real Fire House with overhanging doors and in addition a ladder truck that can be 'driven' in or out of the Fire House." In 1957, #1607 was introduced and in 1976, #1921 was issued. Except for the front and the siren, the Police Department, issued in 1951, is the same as

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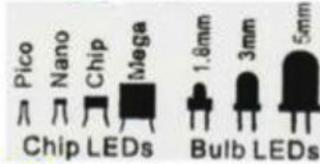
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the Fire House. This is an excellent use of one set of molds to produce two items. It was "depicted in White for alertness—and Red for Courage."

Due to its long existence, it is inevitable that some changes in this structure would occur. The siren has two sizes and shapes on the bottom (one larger flat and one smaller curved) and corresponding roof indentations. When first released, this kit had the larger siren that was 5/8 inch across. A rare gray siren (in both light and dark gray of both sizes) only came in kits in which the "PLASTICVILLE FIRE DEPT." name was on the front. By 1976, when the #1921 kit was released the "PLASTICVILLE FIRE DEPT." name had been removed. Some of these kits came with the "ENGINE COMPANY NO. 7" and "LADDER COMPANY NO. 8" in black letters instead of the normally seen red colors. By the time the #1956 was released, in addition to there being no "PLASTICVILLE FIRE DEPT." name, none of the remaining raised letters was painted.

Bachmann included no fire engines with the initial release, one Ladder Truck in 1954 and two fire engines with the #1921 and #1956 kits (one Ladder Truck and one Pumper Engine). The #45610 Fire House, released in 1998, was manufactured in China. It had cream walls and a black roof and included two yellow fire engines.

In 1956, Bachmann issued the #198 "Junior Chief Fire Department" set. This set came with a Fire House, Ladder Truck, Pumper Engine, Ambulance, Automobile, Flagpole, Fire Alarm Box, and Fire Hydrant, as well as a "scale model Fire Helmet Pencil Sharpener." The 1956 catalog called this "... a new toy that'll outsell the hottest of hotcakes! In fact it's hotter than a blowtorch." It may have been hot, but apparently, its sales record was not. It was never cataloged again.

The #4003 "Make 'N' Play – Fire Rescue" unit of 1964 came with a red-sided, white-roofed Fire House with no "PLASTICVILLE FIRE DEPT." name, two fire engines, one white Ambulance with a red cross on the roof and doors, one Automobile, a burning house (dark gray-roofed Colonial

Mansion with holes in roof to hold paper flames), fire accessories (Fire Alarm Box, Traffic Signals, Fire Hydrants, Street Signs, Benches), six yellow and blue Citizens, and a 25" x 38" scenic play sheet. The Lionel "Firehouse Set" #966, issued in 1958, included a Fire House, two red fire engines, one orange Ambulance, one gray Bus, three light blue yellow and dark blue Automobiles, Traffic Signals, Street Signs, Street Lamp, Bench, Mail Box, Citizens, Telephone Poles and Pine Trees.

SUBURBAN STATION (RS-7, RS-8, 1616, 1706, 1813, 1911, 1954, 5616, 45954)

This is one of the first structures introduced by Bachmann. RS-7 was the first designation given to this station when it was released in 1950; the box was labeled as "Passenger Station." Later issues would rename it "Suburban Station," which would remain its title until production ceased in the 1980s. In 1951, Bachmann released the station as RS-8. The box for the RS-7 is about one inch taller than the RS-8, because in the earlier issue there was a one-inch tall box insert that is located beneath the contents. The RS-8 box did not have this insert. In 1956, the Suburban Station was cataloged as #1616, changed to #1911 in 1971, then to #1954 in 1980. It was issued in a Pliofilm bag in 1963 as #5616. The Suburban Station always included two Benches. The chimney was the same one that was used on the Cape Cod House.

The Lionel "Railroad Structure Set" #988, issued in 1962 included a Suburban Station, Station Platform, Watchman's Shanty, Water Tank, Railroad Work Car, Hobo Shacks, Bench and Citizens.

American Flyer H0: #35701 Passenger & Wayside Station
STATION PLATFORM (LM-3, 1200)

Designed as a companion piece for the Suburban Station, the Station Platform was introduced in 1950 as a "Freight Station Kit" with the catalog number LM-3. It came with either a brown roof and light gray platform or a green roof and brown platform. Additional units could be used to

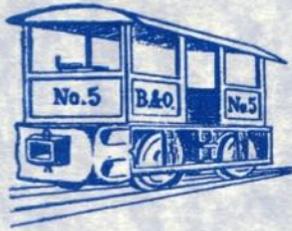
extend any station to any desired length. It was renamed "Station Platform" when the #1200 box was issued in 1956. These kits have not been produced since 1962; probably losing popularity to the Loading Platform. A Bench was first shown in 1955 catalog.

The Lionel "Railroad Structure Set" #988, issued in 1962 included a Station Platform, Suburban Station, Watchman's Shanty, Water Tank, Railroad Work Car, Hobo Shacks, Bench and Citizens.

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K-LINE KRONICLES

#K-4178 Water Tower

ED BERG #02-123



Marx made the good old fashioned water tower in a nice subdued silver/gray tank with brown legs and an all black version. These were nice colors to use on any toy train layout and even looked good on layouts that tended to lean towards the more 'realistic' look of railroading – or what passed for it in the 1950s. But in true Marx fashion they also had some fairly bright colored toy-like offerings. Marx was an old school toy company and wasn't afraid to use color, producing tanks in bright yellows, greens, and reds. It was a sign of the times. K-Lines' first tank, to be sure, continued with the toy look with its shiny silver tank with chocolate brown legs. However, it could be 'weathered' to make it appear as an older veteran of the pike and thus would fit in on a more realistic scale-like layout. As a general rule though, they pretty much stayed away from cartoon colors except perhaps for their licensed Coca-Cola offering with bright red tank. Other tanks decorated for licensed products like Nabisco and Campbell's were pretty reserved and that is the common thread through all of my posts on early K-Line products. The toy train landscape was slowly changing in the 1990s as the hi-rail look took over the hobby like Kudzu on a well groomed lawn. K-Line wisely shied away from bright colors to meet the demands and expectations of the times making them 'relevant' even as they were selling re-pops of products that were first offered in the early 1950s.

Being one of traindom's most basic and utilitarian of accessory's it deserves a place on every layout regardless of color – now, if I can just find room on my own layout for one! :-)

No figures or accessories included.

K-Line logo: None present

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A PCA OUTREACH ACTIVITY

SCOTT A. DAVIS #13-823

I hope everyone survived the winter and is looking forward to a warm and happy spring. My name is Scott A Davis and I teach a program called Career Based Intervention (CBI) at West Branch High School/Middle School in Beloit, Ohio. CBI is a program designed to help students realize their potential by helping them explore the many careers that are in the world today. It helps them to discover what their strengths are and then teaches them how to use those strengths to become successful in school, work, and life.

Career Based Intervention students explore career options as well as what kinds of schools are available and what financial options may be available to them. They are also exposed to many careers that they did not know existed. The premise of the program is to help students find their passion and use that passion to form goals to graduate, get additional education through a college or technical school, and enter the workforce.

I am always wracking my brain trying to think up new ways to teach the students in my program. My 7th graders in particular are left out of the really fun stuff because they aren't quite developed enough to be trusted with anything even remotely dangerous. It was a real problem for me and I couldn't help but feel that they were missing out and could be doing so much more. One day last fall while I was upstairs in my "train" room an idea popped into my head. What if I could incorporate building a train with teaching my students how to research a career? The wheels started to turn in my head and before too long I had a good idea of what I wanted to do, I just needed to find out if it was something that I could afford and it was feasible to do in the space I had available to me at school.

The idea was simple. Much like the modules that Lionel has pioneered I would create smaller ones that my students could design and build. Each of my students would find a career that interested them, research that career and then design and build their module to resemble the career that they had researched. I found a club on YouTube that had created their own module system and contacted them. They sent me a copy of their plans so that my students could build their own modules. The next



step was to figure out what they would put on their modules. That is where the Plasticville Collectors Association comes in. I have been a member for about three years and thought that possibly some members might be willing to donate some items for my students to use on their boards. My first train board was all Plasticville when I was a kid and even though times have changed and there are other companies out there making more detailed and better quality accessories for today's collectors. One thing hasn't changed and that is the fun I got and still get with Plasticville. Plasticville was my first exposure to model trains and it has stuck with me throughout my life. My current train board is all Plasticville.

I sent an email to the Plasticville Collectors Association to ask for possible donations to my project and I received a response from John L Niehaus who is the current Secretary/Treasurer of the club saying that it might be possible. Later, I received a phone call from John and he offered four big boxes of various Plasticville parts! I was blown away! I had hoped for a couple houses or a factory but to get four boxes had not even crossed my mind. In the meantime I talked to my students and told them about my idea and they got really excited about it. When the boxes arrived my students went through them to inventory what we had and immediately they started getting ideas about what they were going to build.

At this point my students are in the process of researching the career that they will represent on their module. When their research is complete they will start building their modules and the board will be assembled. Their modules should be finished by the end of the school year (June 6). I will send pictures of the completed board in a future issue of the newsletter. If this works out I would like to make this a permanent part of my curriculum as well as possibly include my 8th grades classes too. Thank you to John and everyone at the Plasticville Collectors Association for the generous donation.

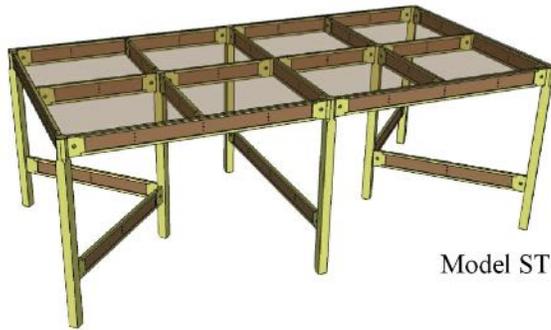
All pieces sent to the school were either broken, glued, or painted. None were acceptable to be added to The Parts Bin



MIANNE

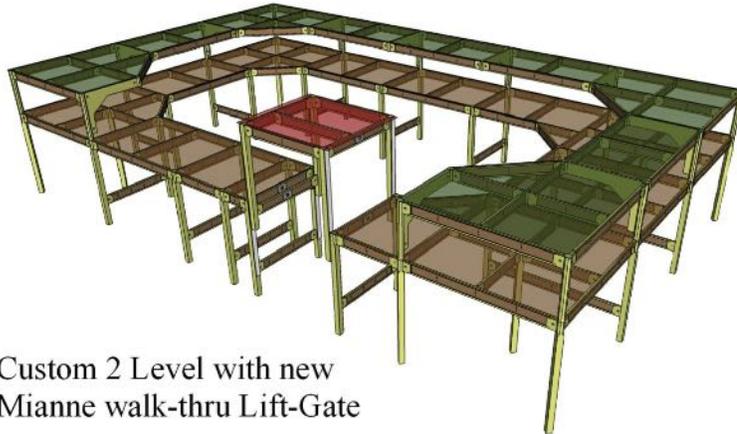
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A COLD DECEMBER DAY

JERRY C. BURNETT #02-130

I enjoyed reading president Chris Matthy's article in "The Villager" about Plasticville memories, and it brought to mind my first encounter with Plasticville USA.

My Dad had built me a train layout in 1956 and had provided me with three Lionel train sets over the previous years. Money was tight and I only had the trains, track and a KW transformer for my layout. Buildings were made from cardboard boxes and a tank farm from Quaker Oatmeal boxes. Twice a month we went downtown to pay bills, get haircuts, etc., and if I behaved, I was treated to a trip to Woolworth's 5&10. It was a cold December Saturday and I was on my way into Woolworth's when I saw something in their front window. Their Christmas display had buildings called Plasticville USA arranged in a town like arrangement. I could not believe what I was seeing. A trip inside

proved to be disappointing; their entire Plasticville inventory had been sold. My dad talked to the manager without me knowing and tried to purchase the three buildings, the Bank, large Service Station and Post Office, in the window. The manager would not sell them, but agreed to let them go after the Christmas holidays. In January, I received my first but not last Plasticville USA.

As you can see by the photos, I acquired a lot of Plasticville over the next few years and my layout was something to admire. I have kept all of my childhood trains and Plasticville and added some more over the years. They have a special place in my train room today. I never look at them without thinking of that cold December day in 1956.



GUIDANCETOWN - FOLLOW-UP

JOHN L. NIEHAUS #00-3

Wouldn't you know it. Shortly after my article about using Guidancetown building pieces on an HO layout was published I came across some buildings made with those very pieces. As you should be able to see from the photos, it doesn't take much to detail these for an HO layout. I cannot give the creator high marks for painting quality but you get the idea. I will give them high marks for adding curtains or drapes in every window. What you see in the windows are actually scraps of cloth, not paper.



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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

Miscellaneous Window Inserts	Large Super Market	HO Cape Cod House
Misc doors & windows	Loading Platform	HO Cathedral
12-A Railroad & Street Signs	Log Cabin	HO Cattle Pen
Airport Administration Building	Mobile Home	HO Coaling Station
Airport Hangar	Motel	HO Contemporary House
Apartment House	New England Rancher	HO Factory
Auburn Log Cabin	Picket Fence	HO Fire House
Bank	Platform Fence	HO Gas Station
BN-1 Barn	Playground Equipment	HO Hardware Pharmacy
Bridge & Pond	Police Station	HO Hobby Shop
Bungalow	Post Office	HO House Under Construction
Cape Cod	Railroad Work Car	HO Motel
Cathedral	Ranch House	HO New Car Showroom
Cattle Pen	Roadside Stand	HO Police Station
CC7 & 8 Church	Rustic Fence	HO Post Office
CC-9 Church	Rustic Gate	HO Railroad Work Car
Chain Store (5&10)	School House	HO Ranch House
Coaling Tower	Signal Bridge	HO School House
Colonial Church	Small Gas Station	HO Signal Bridge
Colonial Mansion	Small Super Market	HO Split Level
Corner Store	Split Level	HO Suburban Station
Covered Bridge	ST-1 Street Accessories	HO Super Market
Crossing Gate	Station Platform	HO Switch Tower
Dairy Barn	Suburban Station	HO TV Station
Diner	Switch Tower	HO Union Station
Drug Store	Telephone Poles	
Factory	Town Hall	K-Line Chicken Coop
Farm Buildings	Trestle Bridge	K-Line Church
Fire House	Turnpike Interchange	K-Line L-Shaped Ranch
Footbridge	TV Station	K-Line Ranch House
Frosted Flakes Billboard	Two Story House	K-Line Two Story House
Frosty Bar	Union Station	
Greenhouse	Watchman's Shanty	Littletown Barn
Hardware & Pharmacy	Water Tank	Littletown Cape Cod
Hobo Shacks	Windmill	Littletown Church
Hospital	Wishing Well	Littletown Corner Store
House Fence		Littletown Gas Station
House Under Construction	HO Bank	Littletown General Store
Large Gas Station	HO Barn	Littletown Loading Platform

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.

Littletown Ranch - glued
 Littletown RR Station
 Littletown School House
 Littletown Southern Colonial House
 Littletown Super Market
 Littletown Telephone Poles

Marx 3-rail fence
 Marx Accessories
 Marx Barn

Marx Church
 Marx Colonial House
 Marx Factory
 Marx Firehouse
 Marx General Store
 Marx L Ranch House
 Marx Railroad Station
 Marx Ranch House
 Marx RR & Street signs
 Marx Rustic Fence

Marx School House
 Marx Supermarket
 Marx Telephone Poles

Skyline Church
 Skyline Ranch

Lionel RR & Street Signs
 MISC street & rr signs

DID YOU EVER NOTICE?

Send comments or your finds to: villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org



Later issue switch towers did not have slots for the "Plasticville Junction" sign in the top of the roof, the slots remained on the bottom of the roof which indicates that the same mold was probably modified to make the new roofs without signs.



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.

**** SOLD OUT ** Coffee Mug with PCA logo ** SOLD OUT ****

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.

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PRODUCT REVIEWS

JOHN L. NIEHAUS #00-3

Images of Rail, **San Diego Trolleys**, Douglas W Mengers, 128 pages, softcover, 6 1/2 X9 1/4, \$21.99. Published by Arcadia Publishing. Black & white photos throughout.

Arcadia Publishing has a series of Images of ... books. Other series include Images of Aviation, and Images of America to name a couple additional series. I did a search on the town in which I currently live, Ankeny, and found an Images of America book. This is the newest addition to the Images of Rail series. There are numerous other books in the Images of Rail series. One that would be of great interest to me would be the Horseshoe Curve book.

This book contains the usual acknowledgements and introduction as well as 8 chapters. All photos in each chapter have lengthy captions.

The first chapter contains photos of horse drawn streetcars. The second chapter shows photos of the first electric and cable cars. Yes, San Francisco was not the only city to have working cable cars at one time. San Francisco was the first, followed by Oakland, and then San Diego. San Diego's system lasted for just over a year. The next three chapters illustrate the various upgrades, expansions and consolidations. Chapter seven addresses the decline of trolleys as well as the resurgence of them, especially during the second World War. The last chapter is near and dear to my heart as it describes the retirement but especially the restoration of the trolleys. Here is another trivia fact. Did you

Lionel Postwar classics. Prints suitable for framing, \$14.99 each or \$39.99 if purchased together, published by Kalmbach Publishing.

Kalmbach, through their Classic Toy Trains subsidiary offered the prints for sale through the Classic Toy Trains magazine a few months back. They were on display in the Classic Toy Trains booth at the Spring York train meet this year. I was impressed enough with them to acquire the entire three piece set.

All three are of classic postwar Lionel pieces painted in what I believe to be watercolors. They include the 2330 GG-1, the Santa Fe 2343 Warbonnet F3, and the 773 O gauge Hudson. All three are by railroad artist Robert Sherman. Each print is 16" X 20". Printing is in full color that extends to the edges of the print in all three instances.

The Classic Toy Trains logo is displayed in the upper right or left hand corner of each print. My feeling is that it would have been better to forego the logo but there is a bright side to this. If one were to decide to have these professionally framed it should not detract from the overall design if the logo is hidden behind a mat. It would only reduce the vertical size of the framed print by about two inches.

These are well done prints and would look great hanging in anyone's train room especially if the are Lionel collectors.

A single print or all three can be ordered through Kalmbach's online store at <https://kalmbachhobbystore.com>. Type the word

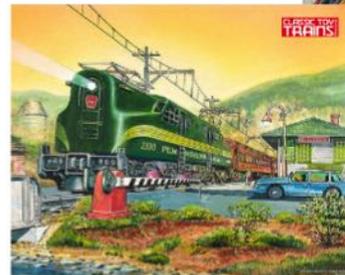
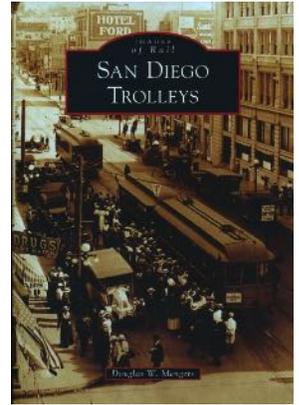
know that in the mid thirties some of the larger retired cars were mated together along their long sides and converted into two bedroom homes?

I would be remiss if I did not mention The San Diego Electric Railway Association. It is an organization dedicated to the preservation of the history of the San Diego Electric Railway. Their website is SDERA.ORG and are a Federal 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

I enjoyed my time with this book. This may be a good book for those building a streetcar era layout as many of the photos are of street scenes. As usual, I picked up a few more questions for trivia night. I am sure that you will do the same.

San Diego Trolleys is available from Arcadia Publishing through their website at arcadiapublishing.com. Search on the text string San Diego Trolleys. Search on the key word trolleys if you are interested in additional trolley books. The book seems to be only available in a softcover version. I found the book available on Amazon's website for around \$14 in new condition. I found it on Barnes & Noble's website in the same softcover format for around \$13 through a third party seller.

PRINTS in the search box and click the magnifying glass and you will be taken to the page displaying the prints.



When *Atlanta Took The Train*, David H Steinberg and the Southeastern Railway Museum, 143 pages, softcover, 9 1/2 X 9, \$26.99. Published by Arcadia Publishing. Black and white photos throughout.

As with most of Arcadia Publishing's books, this is a photo essay book. The majority of the book is photos with a few illustrations such as menus, maps, advertising flyers and stereopticon slides. Every picture, etc is heavily captioned.

There are seven chapters related to the trains and their depots. An additional chapter, the final one, contains photos of various railfan excursions. Each chapter includes a short introduction to the chapter's subject. The chapters are preceded by acknowledgements and an introduction that covers four pages. The introduction concludes with an 1864 map of Atlanta showing the various railroads serving the city at that time.

The first chapter contains photos of the 1853 depot and earlier. Most of you reading this are aware of the fate of the 1853 depot during the Civil War. Chapter two related to the 1871 depot. Additional chapters cover the East Tennessee and Georgia depot, the Atlanta Terminal Station, the Atlanta Union Station of 1930, today's Peachtree Amtrak Station, and finally metro suburban stations.

This book also has an afterword, something not usually seen in a book of this type. It details the failures on two occasions to

Guide to *North American Diesel Locomotives*, Jeff Wilson, 304 pages, softcover, 8 1/4 X 10 3/4, \$27.99. Published by Trains Books, a subsidiary of Kalmbach books. Hundreds of color and black & white photos throughout with captions and attributions.

The introduction gives a very brief historical overview of diesel builders and their models. It also includes under a paragraph heading of "What's Included", a chapter by chapter listing of "What's Included" in the book.

The first two chapters cover the diesel locomotive history and how a diesel engine works. A timeline from 1905 when the first functional diesel locomotive was introduced through 1960 is included in the first chapter. Chapter three delves into the various options that were/are available from the various manufacturers while chapter four discusses the three types of locomotives; switchers, cab units, road switchers.

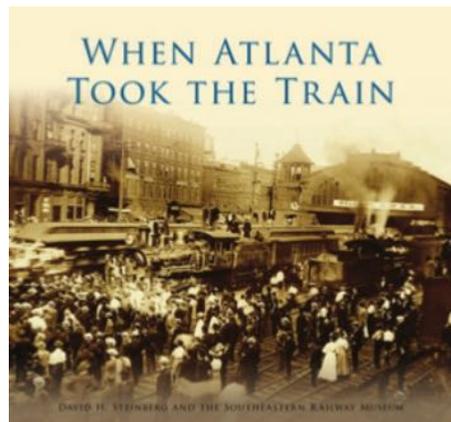
The next five chapters are dedicated to one of the five most significant diesel locomotive manufacturers and their foreign counterparts. These include EMD, General Electric, Alco, Baldwin, Lima, and Fairbanks Morse. Each chapter has charts that show the various production levels of the types of units the company produced as well as a lengthy history of each of the various types. Then comes the meat of each chapter. I am no expert but it is my feeling that a photo of every model of locomotive produced follows the chapter's introduction. There are generally four, boxed, photos on a page with what I feel to be excellent information with each. Chapter ten contains photos of, as its title notes, rebuilds, slugs, and hydraulics.

create a new terminal for use by Amtrak as well as the MARTA light rail system. The station was to include high-rise apartments, retail establishments, and commercial spaces as well as serve as a common station for the trains. You will see why this new

terminal would be a great improvement over the current facility once you have read the Peachtree Amtrak Terminal chapter.

I always enjoy the books published by Arcadia Publishing. This one is no exception. Are you looking for a photographic history of Atlanta and the railroads served by it plus a bit of Civil War history? Then this book may be one to add to your collection.

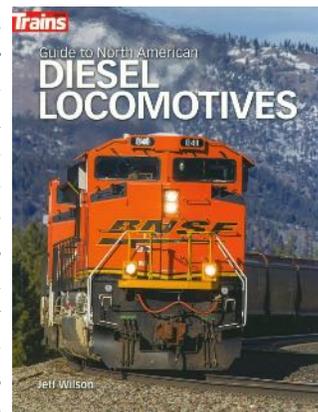
When Atlanta Took The Train is available from directly from Arcadia Publishing at <https://www.arcadiapublishing.com>. It is also available on Amazon in new condition for as little as \$15.84 plus shipping. It is listed on the Barnes & Noble website at \$23.66.



Pages 147 through 301 are rosters for more than 120 railroads, per the introduction. The introduction to each railroad contains a relevant photo, the years of operation, and a one to three paragraph historical overview. The rosters include the original, as delivered, road number, second numbers if applicable, quantity delivered, model number, builder, build dates, and in many cases addition notes. The railroads are listed in alphabetical order. They contain not only present Class 1 railroads, fallen flags, and some railroads of which I was unaware.

This book is just as good as the *Guide to North American Steam Locomotives*. For those of you who are diehard railfans you should have both of these within easy reach when trainspotting.

Guide to North American Diesel Locomotives is available directly from Kalmbach Books. It is listed there at \$27.99. The direct link to the book is <https://kalmbachhobbystore.com/product/book/01303>. I also found the book on Amazon with a new price listing of \$19.12. It is also available on the Barnes & Noble website with a price of \$26.70.



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Plasticville 1953 HO catalog, HO-A. It is a separate HO catalog. It is not part of the 1953 O/S catalog. Smokestack for Littletown #111 Loading Platform need light grey one. #00-03 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021 Ph. 515-771-6888 johnln@netins.net.

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FOR TRADE: My marbled water tank, hobo shacks, watchman's shanty, and railroad work car pieces. Pieces you need for what I need. #00-03 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021 Ph. 515-771-6888 johnln@netins.net.

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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.

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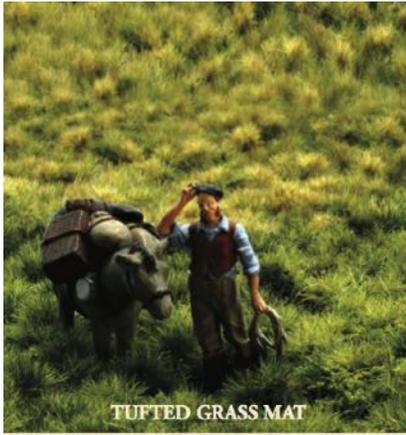
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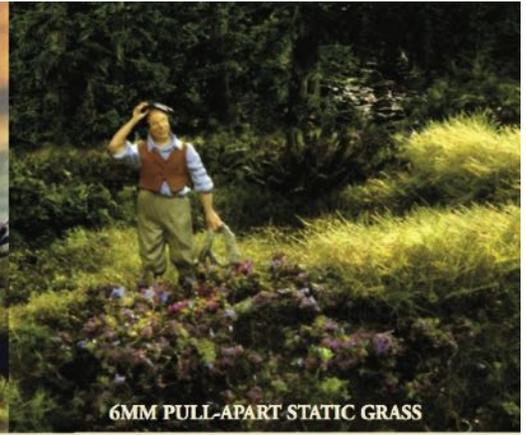
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