



# THE VILLAGER

The Official Newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 18

December 2019

Number 4

## PCA OFFICERS FOR 2020

BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee has designated the following officers for 2020: Joe Kutza, President, Frank Ross, Vice President, John Niehaus, Secretary/Treasurer. The 2020 officers were designated, per Association bylaws, as no nominations were received for the open 2020/2021 offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary / Treasurer.

## PCA WEBSITE TO BE OPENED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON JANUARY 1, 2020

BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee has voted to open the PCA website up to the general public as of January 1, 2020. This decision was made as there were no nominations from members for the open offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary Treasurer for the 2020/2021 term as well as the current officers indicating that they were not going run again for that term. The lack of volunteers for the previously published volunteer opportunities has also precipitated this change.

All *Members Only* security will be removed as of January 1, 2020. You will no longer need to log onto the Members Only section of the website as both the *Login* option in the menu bar as well as the red *Members Only* option on the home page will no longer be available. A new link, replacing the Members Only link will allow you to access what was once restricted to members without the need for a username and password after January 1.

What does this mean to you, our current members?

- Starting in 2020, *The Villager* newsletter will only be available on our web site. Newsletter will no longer be printed and mailed.
- You will not be solicited for dues for calendar year 2020 and beyond. However, the PCA will count on your donations for the web site and newsletter to continue.

- Members who have prepaid for calendar year 2020 and beyond will be contacted by Secretary/Treasurer John Niehaus regarding whether they wish to donate their prepaid dues to the PCA or whether they wish a refund of the prepaid dues. A receipt will be sent to those who opt to donate their prepaid dues.
- The Parts Bin program will be suspended until the Executive Committee determines how that program will be administered in the future. All current members may continue to make requests during this transition period.

The Executive Committee thanks the following volunteers:

- Membership Renewal chairperson Nancy J Leonard who has been responsible for mailing the membership renewal notices in recent years
- Membership Retention chairman Anthony J Santay who took on the responsibility of contacting previous members who did not renew for the current year.
- Newsletter Editor, Matthew Harvazinski who does an excellent job of editing our quarterly newsletter and has done so for the last five years. We are very happy that Matthew has agreed to continue in this role.

*continued on page 5*

### 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 have a big oak tree that stands near the corner of my house -- which is part of the problem. It is just starting to show signs of decline, and if it ever decides to start dropping big pieces, ka-boom! But that's not the only reason it is coming down. If you know oak trees, they have massive amounts of leaves, and they wait until you have cleaned up the leaves from all your other trees in the fall to drop theirs. And I'm getting too old for that game. So the bid has been accepted, and by the time you read this that oak tree should be gone, gone, gone. But here's the bright spot: growing under that oak for several years, and further from the house, is a very healthy, perfectly shaped evergreen hemlock tree. In other words, my decision to make a change is a win-win situation.

Since the PCA was planted close to 20 years ago it has grown slowly and has been an enjoyable resource for people who enjoy learning about the plastic villages that have decorated model train layouts since the 1950's. For some of us it also has been fun to be "on the hunt" -- my own articles on Storytown and Dairy Barns, as well as smaller articles, have been fun to research, and there have been a great amount of members who similarly have shared their knowledge along the way. But the PCA also is an organization, governed by certain rules -- especially to maintain our tax exempt status -- and it is the demands of that organization that started to show signs of strain and decline. The good news: we think we have found a way to continue the benefits of the PCA to the hobby community. The "reality" news: the PCA has to change.

In the last *Villager* the details of, at that time, the proposed changes were available, and other articles in the issue will add some clarity. In short, in order to further the purpose of the PCA, we will become a web-based organization that is open to all users, not just members, and the membership model will be ended. We still can grow the website and further our "mission", and the greater hobby community will have greater access. While it is different, in the end I think the change is a win-win situation.

So this is my swan song as President. Beginning in the new year, Joe Kutza will become the permanent President of the PCA, and I (until such time as Joe steps away) will become the permanent Past President. Because the job description will be massively reduced, John has agreed to continue as Secretary-Treasurer and Frank will stay on as VP. Why officers at all? Because our tax exempt status requires it. We will continue our conference call meetings from time to time.

So a final word of encouragement: keep the information coming! We will continue to publish an on-line newsletter, so we still need contributors. We still would like to know about rare or just fun finds. We still would like to know about previously unknown or undocumented variations. We still would like to know how you deploy Plasticville on your layouts, whether "box stock" or glued and painted and modified. And if the web-site is still to be the "go-to" place for information on Plasticville (my "mission" since I began as president) then your help is welcome.

Thanks for your support over the years, and enjoy the change!

Chris Matthy, PCA President

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Well, here it is in mid-November, and I'm still in the middle of assembling my new train layout. After designing the track plan for the layout a few months ago using the software from "RR-Track" that I thoroughly enjoy using, I now have all the track for the first level on the plywood, and have all the wiring for the track and the 45 switches complete to a junction box under the table of numerous terminal strips. The next step is to design and build the control panel, and run it's wiring to the junction box. My favorite phase of building the layout is designing the scenery with all of the various buildings and details that I have collected in the last 30 years or so. That should be done by this time next year.

By now, all of the members who ordered the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary Frosty Bar have received them. I hope that you are satisfied with the color combination.

As you probably know by now, our executive committee has not received any nominations for officers for the next term. As a result, the PCA is going to go through some major changes. I will remain being the Vice President, John Niehaus will remain as the Secretary/Treasurer, and the organizations' founder Joe Kutza will be the new President. Our current President Chris Matthy will now be the Immediate Past President, and will still be involved with decision making issues as they may develop. All

of the changes to the organization are defined in the Executive Committee Minutes that are enclosed in this newsletter.

There will still be a newsletter as long as we get enough article material and advertising requests to justify the efforts to produce it. I believe that as of now, our advertisers have expressed interest and have paid their fees to continue through 2020. There will not be any reports from the executive committee unless one of us has something of significance to contribute.

A big thank you goes out to our Secretary/Treasurer John Niehaus who has contributed his talents and time to this organization to keep it running smoothly for almost twenty years. This organization as we know it would not have existed if it were not for John's dedication and expertise.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being your Vice President for the last four years because I wanted to be involved with a group that is dedicated to a product that I was passionate about since my early adulthood. I acquired a significant amount of knowledge and information from our newsletter articles and our meetings in York. We are not going away, so you'll still be able to do your research and receive periodic newsletters on the organizations' website

As Lou Palumbo always says, "Keep Searchin".

Frank Ross, PCA Vice President

## NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY



A fond farewell. This will be the last newsletter in which I pen comments as your Secretary/Treasurer. It has been decided by the Executive Committee that only our editor will continue with an ongoing column after this issue.

It has been a pleasure keeping you updated on PCA happenings this last twenty years. Although I will not have a regular column in future newsletters you will still be able to contact me at [secretary@plasticvilleusa.org](mailto:secretary@plasticvilleusa.org) if you have questions or comments as I am continuing that office into 2020.

I am hoping by now that all of you have received your 20th Anniversary Frosty Bar and are enjoying it. The color combination is a first in that it is in two shades of the same color - blue. It pleases me that I have heard only positive comments about it - see the *What Members Are Saying* column for a sampling of comments.

Thanks to all of you who returned the stamps and souvenir sheets that I used on the boxes. It is nearly impossible for the kids to acquire these, especially the large sheets that I used.

I probably can't stress enough that the newsletters will continue to be published. That is, the newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis but not printed and mailed to members. All 2020 newsletters will be published to the PCA website.

They can then be downloaded for reading on line. They can also be downloaded as a file to your computer after the newsletter opens, copied to a thumb drive, and taken to a local copy shop if you want them printed in magazine format. You need to tell the copy shop that you want the newsletter printed double sided, on #28 11 x 17 paper, and saddle stapled. Your cost will vary depending upon the number of pages as well as whether you wish color or black & white printing.

Publication of newsletters will continue as long as there is sufficient material to put into a newsletter. Please contact our editor at [villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org](mailto:villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org) if you have an idea for an article or even a series of articles. Let your acquaintances know that we will accept any articles that are plastic village related.

In addition, it is going to be advertising that keeps the PCA website a viable entity. Do you know anyone who may want to advertise in our newsletter? Their ad will be seen by "the world"

as the website will be available to the general public. Our ads are ridiculously inexpensive - no cheap! If you wish to advertise or know someone who may wish to advertise in our 2020 newsletters please let me know. I will be more than happy to send them a 2020 advertising "rate card".

One of our PCA members has informed me that the gas station in the photo that appeared in volume 16, number 3 of *The Villager* was located at I and Hunting Park Avenue in Philadelphia. I am still not certain whether this particular station was the station after which the Plasticville Cheltenham Service Center was modeled but it seems that it was the one after which the Large Gas Station was modeled based on previous information.

I have always looked at Barnes and Noble and Amazon's websites for books that I have reviewed to check on their prices for the reviewed book. I believe that I have found another site that may sell some of the books for even less. The company is Hamilton Book. They have a website at <https://www.hamiltonbook.com>. One can also request a hard copy catalog from them at this website. Be aware that you will continue to receive catalogs on a periodic basis from them for probably two years or longer even if you do not make a purchase. Making a purchase will most likely "reset the clock" on mailed catalogs.

This is a late announcement but James Hellyer, #08-544, passed away in January of this year.

I received the following email and thought that I would pass it on to the members in case anyone may want to investigate 3D printing of Plasticville parts. *To whom it may concern at PCA, I am an avid modeler and model train enthusiast, I was doing some research recently about Plasticville and noticed that some Plasticville collectors were seeking replacement parts or new parts to complete/fix their sets and I just wanted to offer up my 3d printing service in case you guys need any help replacing, rebuilding or completing your Plasticville houses and structures! My friend and I have started a small new 3d printing shop in New England and wanted to see what kind of opportunities arise and where we can help in the community. Let me know if this offer is of any interest to you at the PCA and maybe we can help!* Josh Girard, [joshgirard21@gmail.com](mailto:joshgirard21@gmail.com).

John L Niehaus, Secretary/Treasurer

## EDITOR'S COLUMN



This marks the final printed newsletter. I hope that everyone who receives a printed newsletter is able to access the website so that they can continue to receive the newsletter in the new online only format. It is hard to believe that this issue marks my 20th issue (5-years). You may have noticed that this issue is a bit shorter than the normal holiday issue. In order to maintain the newsletter we will need people to step up and send in content. Without new content the newsletter will end.

If you have questions about what might make a good article, or if you need assistance in formatting, editing, and writing please

let me know and I can try to help. If you provide basic facts and photos I can help to craft the article and message. Of course you can also provide the text as well as the photos. Consider making supporting the *The Villager* part of your new years resolutions. You can do this by writing about an interesting piece in your collection, providing a comment for "what members are saying" or submitting a question for other members to answer.

Matt Harvazinski, *The Villager* Editor

[villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org](mailto:villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org)

*continued from page 1*

We also thank our Contributing Editors: Ed Berg, Tom Fritsch, Don Huovinen, and Robert Spivey for their serialized articles as well as all other members who have contributed and will continue to contribute articles. The PCA still counts on interested individuals to write and submit articles for future online editions

of *The Villager* and are happy that our Contributing Editors have agreed to continued writing their articles.

Please do not hesitate to contact the us through the Contact link on the website if you have questions or comments during this transition to the new PCA.

## 2019 FOURTH QUARTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The 2019 fourth quarter Executive Committee meeting was called to order on October 28, 2019 at 7:35PM Eastern Standard Time by Vice President Frank Ross. Those in attendance were, Vice President Frank Ross, Secretary Treasurer John Niehaus, and founder Joe Kutza, with President Chris Matthy joining later. (President Matthy was brought up to date on what had been discussed prior to his joining the meeting). Absent was Immediate Past President Doug Gilliatt

### Old Business

#### **20th anniversary piece**

Secretary Niehaus reported that all pieces that had been ordered have been mailed. He did note that one member found two right hand walls in one of the two pieces he ordered. The wall was returned and a left wall was mailed and has been acknowledged as received. He also noted that he has received positive responses regarding the piece. There are no leftover pieces.

#### **Early call for nominations for the 2020-2021 term**

President Matthy reported that he received no nominations for the upcoming officer's term.

#### **Parts Bin complete buildings (Garage Sale)**

Secretary Niehaus reported that the majority of the pieces were sold after the ad appeared in the June newsletter. The remainder of the pieces were advertised in the September newsletter with a few more being sold. He also noted that he has received a request from a member asking to purchase whatever is remaining after fulfilling the September requests.

#### **2020 Revision of the current bylaws**

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has taken no action. He will have the revision completed by the next Executive Committee meeting.

#### **Removal of Article III from the Constitution and modification of Article V**

Secretary Niehaus reported that he has made no changes but will have them completed by the next Executive Committee meeting.

#### **Refunds to prepaid members or donate them**

Secretary Niehaus stated that he plans to start contacting prepaid members in November.

#### **Revision of PCA home page and others as required**

Founder Joe Kutza will work with our web developer to ensure that the website is open to the general public no later than January 1, 2020. He will also ensure that the membership roster

is removed prior to the opening of the website to the general public.

#### **Legal officers as of 1 January 2020**

The Executive Committee designated the following officers for 2020: Joe Kutza, President, Frank Ross, Vice President, John Niehaus, Secretary/Treasurer.

#### **Continuation of newsletter**

It was agreed that the newsletter will continue but only in electronic form. A publication schedule will be added to the homepage of the website and Joe Kutza will post on various social media platforms when a new edition is available for download.

#### **Continuation of The Parts Bin**

It was agreed that The Parts Bin program will be discontinued until a new procedure can be determined. It was agreed that current members may continue to make parts requests using the current process.

### New Business

#### **2020 Executive Committee members**

The Executive Committee for 2020 will include Joe Kutza, President, Frank Ross, Vice President, John Niehaus, Secretary/Treasurer, Chris Matthy, Immediate Past President

#### **Advertisers**

Secretary Niehaus reported that he had excellent success in selling advertising for 2020 to those current advertisers who had a presence at York. He state that he also expects relatively good success when contacting those who do not have a presence at York.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19PM Eastern Standard Time

Respectfully submitted:

John L Niehaus, Secretary



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0550 King Add A Floor (Brown or Red) \$8 each 3/\$20	1504 Trailer \$30
1983 Colonial Mansion Scenic Classic \$20 Mint	1624 House Under Construction \$30
1984 Colonial Church Scenic Classic \$25 Mint	1804 Greenhouse, \$30
1985 Log Cabin under boxed \$30	45986 LCCA Hangar, \$20 Mint
1611 Hardware & Pharmacy (Rare Art Deco box) \$45	ON-5 Outdoor Necessities \$35
1618 TV Station with RARE Decal \$95	1987 Barn Scenic Classic \$18 Mint
45985 LCCA Air Admin Bldg Orange/Blue, \$20 Mint	SC-4 School with RARE red weathervane \$75

**No Box Kits, Complete**

Railroad Work Car \$10, Suburban Station \$8, Mobile Home (6 different colors) \$12 ea or 6/\$60  
Barn \$8, Hobo Shacks \$15, School \$10, Fire Department \$10, Turnpike (green walls) \$15  
Diner \$8, Add-A-Floor \$6 each 3/\$15, Colonial Mansion (red roof) \$15, Colonial Church \$15

**Accessories**

Telephone Booth \$4 each or 3/\$10, Telephone Booth(Never assembled) 7 pieces \$6 Outhouse (brown) \$4, 2 RED Fire Trucks \$10 per set, Street Corner signs with original tags 6 for \$8 24 Shrubs 3 each of 8 different colors \$20, Green Bus, Green or Yellow Ambulance \$5 ea, BBQs 5/\$10

**PLASTICVILLE PARTS - \$1.00 ea unless otherwise noted** (Reproductions unless noted as original.)

Factory(#1988): original walls, brown platform, Union Station: original walls, roofs, canopies, platforms, steps, Hobo Shacks: original walls & roof (brown or dark grey), original rear canopy \$5 (brown or dark grey), Railroad work car: original walls & roof, House Under Construction: shovel, rake, hoe, bucket, Hospital: desk chair, straight chair, 2 Story House: porch post, Fire Dept: red chimney cap, Police Dept: green chimney cap, Cattle Pen: crossbar, Turnpike: white lens holder, 2 lenses(Red or Green), Turnpike: white cone 4/\$3, green sign \$3, Post Office: flag \$5

**PLASTICVILLE PARTS - \$1.50 ea** (Reproductions unless noted as original.)

Airport: windsock, Log Cabin: chimney, Hospital: siren, Fire Department: siren  
Bank: large or small canopy, House Under Construction: sawhorse (3 pieces)

**STORYTOWN PARTS - \$1.00 ea** (Reproductions unless noted as original.)

Jack & Jill: pail, brick, 3 Men: oar, Old Woman: clothesline, Goosey Gander: castle flag, chain

**PLASTICVILLE BUILDING INSERTS \$1.00/SET** (Reproductions unless noted as original.)

Corner Store: original Hobby, News, or Sport, Factory: (#1988), original decal, Union Station: original decal, Motel flowers, Large or Small Gas Station, Large or Small Supermarket, 5 & 10 Store, Hardware Store, Post Office, Suburban Station: roof signs (2)

Plastic Village Gazette RARE Issue #1, \$2 each, Issues 5 or 6, \$1 each

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

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# K-LINE KRONICLES

## #K-4102 7-11 Store

ED BERG #02-123



Today's selection is another of K-Line's hybrid stores based on the Marx Supermarket: the #K-4102 '7-11 Convenience Store'. In our fourth installment early on in the series we took a quick look at what K-Line did with the venerable 'Supermarket' by adding a different store front with all new tooling. As with that building, the sides, back walls, and roof of this one are all Marx but the front has been re-vamped with a very modern façade. The new front is a one-piece clear plastic casting with window frame lines cast in and a door more suitably sized for O-scale/O-gauge vs. the smaller S-gauge compatible doors on the original Marx buildings. There is a hefty awning spanning

the top of the front wall with a '7-11' store sign on one corner. In order to make this stand out more, the window frames really need to be painted in. For those running pikes in which an older era is represented, this may not fit in well but for those more modern-day layouts this will work quite nicely. Like many of K-Line's newer offerings at the time, this one does not include any additional accessories but it's an attractive piece and gives railroaders some modern options for their pikes. Enjoy!

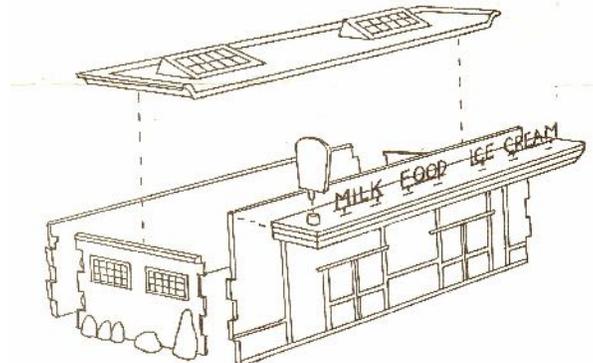
K-Line logo: "K-LINE" in bold capital letters on rear of façade.

Ed "ICE" Berg, Las Vegas, NV



### LIST OF PARTS - K-4102 CONVENIENCE STORE

1. Front wall
2. Rear wall
3. Right side wall
4. Left side wall
5. Roof
6. Overhang
7. Decals (4)
8. Sign (2 parts)
9. Trim (Milk, Food, Ice Cream)



# FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING

## The “Mini Beatles” 1/43 Scale



RON SCHLICHT #02-109

Ron Schlicht’s traveling layout has over 160 “celebrity” figures on his layout. The majority are, one of a kind, custom made figures that I have created. Nearly all have used an existing figure as a base. It’s kind of like “The Invasion of the Body Snatchers”. The Beatles are one of my most recent creations. The photos below show the before and after pieces. There was a lot of carving, breaking of limbs, adding body parts from other figures, making the clothes and doing the hairstyles. At shows when attendees ask me what I did for a living, I

jokingly answer that I was a plastic surgeon, part time hair stylist and dealt in haberdashery. Between downloading as many pictures as I could of the Abbey Road photo shoot, figuring out how to make the clothing, gluing, drying, sanding and a raft of other necessary tasks, the Beatles took over two weeks to make. The painting is the easy part and the least time consuming undertaking. I don’t have a real setting to place the figures on my layout. They will be on a crosswalk. I’m sure that the public will know who they are regardless of the local.



Originally a K-Line Maintenance worker, Service Station Attendant, Farmhand and Businessman



# HOLIDAY PHOTOS



Chris Matthy



Chuck Neuman



Matt Harvazinski

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# PLASTICVILLE BOXED SETS 305

## Lionel: A New Beginning

ROBERT SPIVEY #02-154



During 1959 Lionel Plasticville became more usable for train layouts. The assortment of components from a few of last year's sets was upgraded to provide more complete, and more useful scenes from the sets which were cataloged in 1959. Several sets in the previous category groups were improved upon, and new buildings were included for new groups in 1959. Additionally, a new feature was added to all Lionel Plasticville boxed sets from this year forward which was that all Lionel Plasticville boxed sets in 1959 would have an instruction sheet. The sheet was factory folded in quarters. These instruction sheets looked like mimeograph copies of a black and white tracing from a photograph about each set's built up scene, and they could, at a glance, be confused as reproductions. But there actually are many reproductions, so collectors must learn from experience how to recognize the original paper material. They were nothing like the actual instruction sheets which were found in all other Lionel products. Often the tracings looked like they were never completely finished. The following sets all had those instruction sheets.



No. 953 Figure Set, cataloged in 1959, was an improvement of the No. 952 Figure Set. It was enhanced with painting supplies, and a Lionel instruction page. In doing so a Bachmann instruction sheet, "Painting Plastic People" was also enclosed. This set was one of only a few Lionel Plasticville sets to have included two instruction sheets. The set included 24 flesh colored citizens and railroad characters with a paint brush, pallet, and painting fluid, two fire hydrants, two park benches, and a traffic light. The citizens were packaged in two heat sealed bags. One bag held the 16 citizens and the other held the 8 railroad characters and the benches. The painting fluid bottle was secured at the cap by a stubby insert to keep it from rolling around in the box and green tissue was used as a filler. The set was packaged in a late Classic glossy orange box measuring  $7 \frac{3}{8} \times 5 \frac{3}{8} \times 1 \frac{3}{4}$  inches.

No. 954 Swimming Pool & Playground Set, cataloged in 1959, opened a new category of boxed sets, namely a residential



group. The set included a swimming pool with a card showing wavy water, an umbrella table with two patio chairs, two outdoor lounge chairs, a swing set, a sliding board, a see-saw, a merry-go-round, two park benches, 12 sections of small fence and gate, and three shrubs. The set will become very useful when more residential boxed sets are to be cataloged in the following year. The set was packaged in a late Classic glossy orange box measuring  $7 \frac{3}{8} \times 5 \frac{3}{8} \times 1 \frac{3}{4}$  inches.



No. 956 Stockyard Set, cataloged in 1959, added new items to the group of farm sets. The set included a cattle loading pen, 3 standing cows (one of which was dull black), two laying cows (one of which was dull black), and a set of 12 white railroad signs. The set was packaged in a late Classic glossy orange box measuring  $7\frac{3}{8} \times 5\frac{3}{8} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$  inches.



No. 960 Barnyard Set, cataloged in 1959, was a redundant effort. It was not much different from The No. 957 Farm building & Animal Set with some additional vehicles. The set included the following farm out buildings with white sides: machinery garage, corn crib, chicken coop, dog house, water trough. The set was animated with a horse and a standing cow, plus the full assortment of 12 fowl and 4 domestic animals. The set was accessorized with a tractor pulling a harrow and a plow attachment, a jeep with a trailing hay wagon, and a pick up truck. The small animals were packaged in a heat sealed bag, and the vehicle parts were attached to a sprue. The set was packaged in a late Classic glossy orange box measuring  $7\frac{3}{8} \times 5\frac{3}{8} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$  inches.

No. 961 School Set, cataloged in 1959, finalized last year's group of public buildings. The set included a school house with an American flagpole, two orange buses, 12 white traffic signs, two park benches, and 12 sections of small fence and gate. School's out because, unlike the other public buildings sets from 1958, there were no figures included in this set. The set was packaged in a late Classic glossy orange box measuring  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches.

No. 963 Frontier Set, cataloged in 1959, also expanded the group of farm sets. The set included a log cabin, a windmill with a hand pump, 9 sections of split rail fence with no gate, three horses, two

standing cows, and one laying cow. When animals were included in Lionel Plasticville sets they were not of the very early shiny variation. The components were compiled from 5 original Plasticville kits. The set was packaged in a late Classic glossy orange box measuring  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The Frontier Set was also



included in the Lionel Outfit X-507 NA ( meaning no advertisement sharing) which was a train set from 1960. The 963-100 set was packaged in a unique picture top box Number 963-100, which measured  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches. Unfortunately the only Lionel customers to have seen that picture were the ones who bought the train set. If picture boxes had been used for all Lionel Plasticville sets then Lionel Plasticville might have been more popular because shoppers could actually have seen at a glance what a Lionel Plasticville set was all about.

No. 964 Factory Set, cataloged in 1959, held a building which was never used in the original line of Plasticville boxed sets. The set included a Plasticville factory, with a green automobile sedan, four telephone poles, and 12 white railroad signs. The set was packaged in a late Classic glossy orange box measuring  $10 \times 9\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. This set is very hard to find.

No. 965 Farm Set, cataloged in 1959, was also redundant effort. Half of the Lionel Plasticville sets from 1959 were farm items, and even more of them will become cataloged in the following year. The set included a slide together dairy barn with five sections of split rail fence (with gate), white farm out buildings just like the No. 957 from 1958 (but no water trough), the dog, the cat and the goat, 6 fowl, two horses, two standing cows, two pigs, and two sheep. The set was packaged in a late Classic glossy orange box measuring  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 6 \times 3$  inches.

Sometimes the product selection for a corporation becomes too personalized. For instance, upon visiting an eyeglass store, it seemed like all the frame shapes and colors were all about the same no matter which brand name they were. That business was limiting their customer base. In order to avoid such pitfalls, most major retailers like Macy's have highly trained and savvy executives called buyers who research their projected product demand. Accordingly they choose the seasonal garments or products for their respective departments, and they can make or break the success of the sales managers. Think of Lionel Plasticville as if it was a department of Lionel Electric Trains, and that department had a bad start. Then so, in 1959 Lionel was trying to overcome that same bad situation. The product designer for Lionel Plasticville might have been compiling sets from things that he liked. Obviously he really liked farms a lot. But still, Lionel Plasticville was entering its third year and there was no railroad line related product yet to be found.

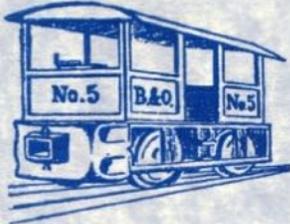
## Hunting for strange and unusual Plasticville.



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# THE YORK REPORT OCTOBER 2019

JOHN NIEHAUS #00-03

The morning Show N Tell at 11:00AM was attended by approximately 25 members and guests. The evening show was quite thin at only 7 members if I included myself. Two of the other 6 had also attended the morning session.

I had not planned on giving out door prizes during either meeting but Fred Stillwell, #18-1040 provided me with an early Plasticville HO catalog for the morning edition of the meeting. I visited with Frank Fenstermaker, a Plasticville vendor in the White hall inquiring if he had a catalog that I could purchase for the evening door prize. As he did not have any catalogs he provided donated to the PCA a CC-8 church, CC-8G church, and a Cape Cod with green roof and trim as door prizes for the evening meeting. All of these were Ziploc bagged pieces. As one of the evening attendees left early I was left with two couples and one single member so all received one of Frank's donations as a door prize.

The first part of the meeting revolved around the change from a secured, members only website, to that of a public website. Good questions were asked and answered to the best of my current knowledge. The answers given can be found in the article, " PCA Website to be Opened to the General Public on January 1, 2020" elsewhere in this newsletter.

There was a nice selection of Show N Tell items at the morning meeting:

Matt Harvazinski presented a number of pieces of Hospital furniture in colors other than white. It is presumed that this furniture was created during the process of purging the noted colors from a molding machine.

Jim Farace provided two different Littletown Gas Station fronts, one with printed lettering and the other with press on lettering. He also presented an HO unit #HO-350 along with a Littletown #402 Ranch House and Yard Accessory Combination set. Finally he passed around a boxed set of LeRoy (sp) cardstock buildings.

Glenn Dailey provided us the opportunity to see up close three different poly bagged w/header O/S pieces. Those pieces were a signal Bridge, a dark grey roof suburban station, and an turquoise sides w/white roof Ranch House.

Sue Shaw brought on of the best preserved BR-2 Trestle Bridge boxes that I can recall seeing.

I took a gamble on an unopened package of pink farm animals that looked a lot like the typical Bachmann farm animals. I was



informed by our "expert in attendance" that what I purchased was actually a package of K-Line animals.

All in all, the morning session was quite informative.

As I mentioned earlier, there were only seven of us at the 5:30PM session. The 5:30 meeting will still be on the schedule for the April 2020 meet but will be discontinued after that if there is insufficient attendance.

Tom Landis brought a boxed JC-3 Fence-N-Trees boxed set. His set contained the usual white fence and two translucent trees in red. I have this same set with two translucent green trees. I have also seen the set with two non-translucent white trees.

Pet and Sandy Robinson brought a foreign made gas station that looks quite like the Plasticville Small Gas Station. The station they presented was a large carded item that included the station, a pump island similar to the Plasticville piece. It included eight small cars that were more to HO scale than O/S scale. The walls are assembled in the same manner as the CC-9 church although with less interference between the pieces.

This is the second one that I have seen. The first one was shown to me by PCA member Anatol Vasiliev a few years ago. An article was published on his piece in volume 7 number 3 of *The Villager*. To the best of what we have determined the piece is of Columbian origin.

Regarding Plasticville being offered at the show: the prices were again all over the place. Do you know of anyone who wants to buy a CC-8 church for \$60? It will probably be at York in April. Maybe that price was because it was in a mediocre box. There were some very reasonable pieces as well. I picked up some King pieces as well as one painted K-Line at very reasonable prices. There were bargains to be had, as I discovered, if one looked very carefully.



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

# A HISTORY OF PLASTICVILLE: PART VIII 1957-1960

TOM FRITSCH #01-4

1957

## PINE TREE ASSORTMENT (1404)

In 1957, Bachmann introduced the Pine Tree Assortment. These trees were assembled from six sections and a trunk of varying heights to form a tree. The tree sections are held together by small pins that are cast into each piece. The Pine Tree Assortment contained 56 pieces that formed eight trees. The plastic was molded in green with flecks of brown. An "H0" kit was also released where the tree sections are a solid green color. Finally, a blue version was issued as part of the 1961 release of the #1975 Autumn Trees. The Pine Tree Assortment was discontinued after 1963.

## PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT (1406, 1982, 45611)

Playground Equipment was released in 1957. The set includes one sliding board, one see-saw, one merry-go-round, one swing set with two swings, one round table with umbrella, two straight chairs, two chaise lounges, one swimming pool, two green Benches and three Garden Shrubs. Except for the green Benches, green shrubs and table with umbrella, the colors of this kit are a combination of salmon and yellow. The table with umbrella is always a combination of bright green and yellow. The playground was closed after 1961, but Bachmann did produce some of the parts in the #1982 School & Playground "Scenic Classic" in red and white. The #45611 School House included silver-gray Playground Equipment. One straight back chair and one chaise lounge was included with the Apartment House.

The Plasticville Playground Equipment with the swimming pool was actually a Littletown design. The Littletown version showed "7 figures in action positions" including a "sitting man" on the chaise lounge, and a girl with her hands on her knees as a seesaw rider. An Adirondack style "deck chair" with arms probably was unnecessarily difficult to mold, so it was simplified and modified to a plain straight back chair when Bachmann put it into production.

Lionel issued the #954 "Swimming Pool and Playground Set" in 1959, which included all of the original items, except the Benches, but did include twelve sections of House Fence.

## WATER TANK (1615, 1916, 1935, 45978)

The Water Tank, released in 1957, came in box #1615. In 1974, the #1916 "bicentennial box" was introduced. When the #1935 was released in 1980, the Water Tank had been reduced in height. This smaller height remained with the subsequent issues. The Water Tank was reissued again in 1997 as #45978. The tank comes in combinations of brown and gray (sometimes with black marbling), but the base only comes in dark gray. An "H0" version of the Water Tank was also made; this was the same as the "0-S" version except the base section was not included. Although there is no way to be certain, this piece could possibly have been made from an unused Littletown mold that Bachmann acquired.

The Lionel "Freight Area Set" #985, from 1961, included A Water Tank, Switch Tower, Watchman's Shanty, Loading Platform,

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

## TV STATION (1618, 1964, 45964)

Introduced in 1957, the TV Station was possibly a former Littletown structure that was never produced. There are only two color variations to this kit: red walls with a white roof, or white walls with a red roof. The five tower pieces are also of two colors. The TV Station is known by its distinctive call letters, WPLA. (The WPLA call letters were actually used by an AM radio station in Plant City, Florida from the 1940s until the 1980s.) Early kits had a decal, reading "Plasticville Television Station," that could be stuck to the front doors. In 1987, the #1964 version was issued. This version has unpainted lettering. In addition, the entire tower is either red or white with a "glow in the dark" globe. The clear front door is identical to the one used on the Post Office, large Super Market, Bank and Factory.

The Lionel "TV Transmitter Set" #968, released in 1958, included a white with red trim TV Station, white Fence, Gate, Mail Box, Fire Hydrant, Jeep, two Automobiles and Pine Trees.

## LOADING PLATFORM (1620, 1707, 1809, 1817, 1952, 5620, 45307, 45951, 45977)

The Loading Platform was originally manufactured by Littletown in brilliant colors. Bachmann issued it in 1957 with more realistic colors of brown and gray in box #1620. In 1963, the Loading Platform was issued in Pliofilm bag #5620. In 1964, it was issued in box #1707. This box, along with the #1809 of 1967, is very rare and is highly sought after by collectors. In 1971, the box number was changed to #1817. The Loading Platform was issued in 1980 with the Watchman's Shanty under #1952, then as #45951 in 1995, as #45977 in 1997 and finally as #45307 as a "Built-Up" in 2005. In these later issues, the platform has no sign or slots for the sign in the roof. The set always included a hand truck, luggage truck and material truck. (Littletown hand trucks were red.)

Both the Lionel "Freight Yard Set" #981, introduced in 1960, and the "Railroad Set" #984 introduced in 1961 included a Loading Platform, Switch Tower, Telephone Poles and Railroad People. Only the later set added Railroad Signs. The Lionel "Freight Area Set" #985, from 1961, included a Loading Platform, Switch Tower, Watchman's Shanty, Water Tank, Railroad Work Car, three Automobiles, twelve Railroad Signs and eight Telephone Poles.

## MOTEL (1621, 1913, 45618)

First released in 1957 as #1621, the Motel was a Littletown design. In the July 1956 issue of Model Trains, Banner Plastics (makers of Littletown) advertised the release of the "Motel Office and two Motels set #LT400." The motel's office was shown as the first floor of the Apartment House, though the windows appear to be different from those in the Apartment House. The Littletown



Littletown structures were released by Bachmann. It is the only church in the

Plasticville line that does not have white walls. The #1910 box is more difficult to obtain. The #1984 is one of eight structures that were part of the 1980 "Scenic Classic" series. There is a color variation with the roof for this structure: the original release was light gray while the Country Church "Scenic Classic" is dark gray. Three Citizens were included with the "Scenic Classic." The original Littletown church included a cross, a Star of David and a weathervane for the steeple; the Plasticville version only included a cross.

GREENHOUSE (1804, 5804, 45615)

The Greenhouse was introduced in 1957. It originally came in two color combinations of gray and white and includes four rows of flowers (two red and two yellow), each mounted on a dark green base with dark green stems. In 1963, the Greenhouse was issued in a Pliofilm bag #5804. The #45615 version, released in 1999, had a dark gray base and walls and includes a row each of pink, yellow, white and purple flowers mounted on a gray base with light green stems. This version was made in China.

FACTORY (1906, 1988)

Introduced in 1957, the Factory was "a fine addition to the industrial district of the toy train layout." There are two color variations. The color of the roof, water tank and front door canopy are all the same color: either brown or gray; while the loading dock, chimney, water tank supports and cap are the opposite colors. A decal saying "PLASTICVILLE MFG. CO." was supplied for the water tank in some early issues. The Factory was issued as the #1988 Factory "Scenic Classic" in 1980. This version does not have the "PLASTICVILLE MFG. CO." name over the front door, nor any of the other molded signs, and has gray or brown doors (to match the roof color), rather than the usual green. This version contained stickers to place over the doors, with "BACHMANN" for the front. It included two Citizens and an Automobile. The clear front door is the same as the one used on the Post Office, large Super Market, Bank and TV Station; the side door and garage door are the same as those on the Two-Story House and Split Level House and large Gas Station. There is speculation that the Factory was designed to resemble a portion of the Bachmann factory.

The Lionel "Factory Set" #964, introduced in 1959, included a gray-roofed Factory, one green Automobile, Telephone Poles and Railroad Signs.

## 1958

SMALL PICKET FENCE (1101)

Replacing the Platform Fence in 1958 was the white Small Picket Fence, which came twelve pieces to a "modern blister pack for counter or rack display" and sold for 39¢. It is the only fence that did not come with a gate section. It lasted only three years in "0" scale, but can still be found with an "H0" scale designation.

WATCHMAN'S SHANTY (1407, 1633, 1816, 1952, 5407, 45307, 45951, 45977)

Initially released in 1958 as #1407, the Watchman's Shanty structure came with either light brown or dark brown walls, with dark gray or light gray roofs, or with these colors reversed. It was also manufactured with marbling of black in the brown and grey colors. The latter were most likely the Pliofilm bagged versions (#5407) which were issued by Bachmann in 1963. In 1967, the catalog number was changed to #1633, then to #1816 in 1971. The Watchman's Shanty was issued with the Loading Platform as #1952 in 1980, then as #45951 in 1995, #45977 in 1997 and finally as "Built-Up" #45307 in 2005. The Watchman's Shanty always included a Crossing Gate.

The Lionel "Freight Area Set" #985, from 1961, included A Watchman's Shanty, Switch Tower, Loading Platform, Water Tank, Railroad Work Car, three Automobiles, twelve Railroad Signs and eight Telephone Poles. The Lionel "Railroad Structure Set" #988, issued in 1962 included a Watchman's Shanty, Suburban Station, Water Tank, Railroad Work Car, Station Platform, Hobo Shacks, Bench and Citizens.

WINDMILL (1408, [0600-King], 45603)

The Windmill was introduced in 1958 in both light and dark gray, the latter being much less common. The #45603 version, issued in 1998, was brown with a gray base and wheel. This version came with Farm Machinery and was made in China. The Windmill could possibly have been made from a Littletown mold that had not been used before Bachmann acquired it.

The Lionel-issued "Farm Set" #983, in 1960, included a Windmill, red with gray trim Dairy Barn, white with gray trim Colonial House, yellow Automobile, cows and a horse.

CATTLE LOADING PEN (1623)

The Cattle Loading Pen was introduced in 1958. It consisted of 14 fence sections, one gate section, one ramp, two ramp walls and one large and two small ramp cross bars. It came with five standing black cows, although the catalog shows two sitting cows and two brown cows. It is possible that the Cattle Loading Pen was designed and planned to be produced by Littletown.

The Cattle Loading Pen was retailed as #956 "Stockyard Set" in the 1959 Lionel Catalog, which normally came with both light brown as well as black cows. It was also found with the #980 Lionel "Ranch Set," released in 1960. This also included Farm Implements and Barnyard Animals.

APARTMENT HOUSE (1907, 1963, [0500-King], 45315 45963, 45980)

Issued in 1958, the Apartment House is a former Littletown structure that was never released. In the July 1956 issue of Model Trains, Banner Plastics (makers of Littletown) advertised the release of the "Motel Office and two Motels set #LT400." The motel's office was shown as the first floor of the Apartment House, though the windows appear to be different.

When the Apartment House was released as Plasticville, it initially came in only one color configuration with tan walls, white roof and maroon balconies and doors. An uncommon swirled-tan roof variety has also been reported. One straight back chair and

one chaise lounge, originally part of the Playground Equipment, were included with the Apartment House. In 1987, Bachmann issued kit #1963, which had red walls with buff roof and trim. With kit #45980 of 1997, it had maroon walls and mustard trim. The #45315 "Built-Up" was released in 2005.

#### ADD-A-FLOOR (1503, [0550-King])

Issued in 1958, as a companion piece to the Apartment House, this item allowed a "high rise" to be created out of the Apartment House by allowing additional floors to be added. The Add-a-Floor was issued in only one color configuration with tan walls with maroon balconies and doors. Bachmann did not issue an Add-a-Floor version for the later release of the Apartment House.

#### 1959

##### TELEPHONE BOOTH (1090, 1918)

The Telephone Booth was issued in 1959 in chipboard dealer boxes of one dozen with the #1090 designation. It was cataloged from 1959 through 1963. Bachmann included the Telephone Booth in the #1918 Park Assortment from 1975 to 1979. This later release of the booth did not have the shelf or hanging phonebook as did the earlier release. A combination of blue and white were the only colors in which the Telephone Booth was available.

##### HOUSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION (1624, 45316 45613)

Using the same wall molds as the Cape Cod House, the House Under Construction was first available in 1959. The dark-gray sided version is much less common than the lighter gray. The #45613 version of 1999 was issued with tan walls and light brown accessories. A "Built-Up" version was issued in 2005 as #45316. The last two versions were made in China. The small parts include three roof joists, single plank, lumber pile, group of boards, bent boards, long ladder, short ladder, mortar box, sand pile, "PLASTICVILLE CONSTRUCTION CO." sign, two-piece wheelbarrow, bucket, two sawhorses, hoe, shovel and rake.

The Lionel-issued "Construction Set" #969, issued in 1960, included a light gray House Under Construction, four Automobiles and Citizens.

##### SPLIT LEVEL HOUSE (1908, 1953, 45302 45953, 45607)

The Split Level House came to Plasticville in 1959 as #1908. There are six color variations on this house. The exterior lights used on these houses were later used on the Bungalow, while the windows, doors and garage door were previously used on the Two-Story House. The doors and garage door had also been used on the Factory.

The Split Level House's modern design made it popular, but not as common as many other houses because it was the top of the line home. It appeared in the 1980 catalog as #1953. The outside

lights became gray with the #45607 release of 1998. In 2005, the #45302 "Built-Up" was released. The last two releases were made in China

The #4004, "Make 'N' Play - House and Garden" set of 1964, consisting of the Split Level House, Swimming Pool and Playground Set, Barbeque, six Citizens, one Automobile and 22 pieces of hospital furniture - all of Plasticville origin. The Hospital furniture was converted to play furniture for the Split Level House. The Lionel-issued "Suburban Split Level Set" #982, issued in 1960, included a Split Level House, Pine Trees, red Auto, white Fence, Bench and Citizens.

#### 1960

##### CROSSING SIGNAL (1304, 1937, 45937)

The Crossing Signal was originally sold in a blister pack of two signals with a card stock backing. The Crossing Signal was only available from 1960 through 1963 in this type of packaging. In 1981, Bachmann sold this Crossing Signal in the #1937 kit with six Crossing Gates, as well as with kit #45937. The Crossing Signal is white with red lenses.

##### BLOCK SIGNAL (1305)

The Block Signal is one of the more elusive small accessories made by Bachmann. It was only sold in a blister pack of two signals with a card stock backing. The Block Signal was only available from 1960 through 1963. The Block Signal is black with red and green lenses.

##### POPLAR TREES (1409)

The green Poplar Trees were composed of several sections of diminishing sizes placed one atop another to form the tree. They are somewhat structurally similar to the Pine Trees, but with a different shapes. They were introduced in 1960 and sold as four trees to a box (40 pieces). The Poplar Trees only lasted for two years.

##### RAILROAD WORK CAR (1625, 1917, 45306, 45983)

The Railroad Work Car was released in 1960 as #1625. Having disappeared after 1962, it reappeared in 1974 as #1917. The #45983 Hobo Jungle of 1997 includes a Railroad Work Car, two Hobo Shacks and an Outhouse. In 2005 the #45306 "Built-Up" Hobo Jungle was released.

The Lionel "Freight Area Set" #985, from 1961, included A Railroad Work Car, Switch Tower, Watchman's Shanty, Loading Platform, Water Tank, three Automobiles, twelve Railroad Signs and eight Telephone Poles. The Lionel "Railroad Structure Set" #988, issued in 1962 included a Railroad Work Car, Suburban Station, Watchman's Shanty, Water Tank, Station Platform, Hobo Shacks, Bench and Citizens.

## 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.



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## WHAT MEMBERS ARE SAYING

I was saddened at the recent newsletter to hear of the pending changes in the PCA. I feel bad at the lack of volunteers, but I understand. Age and health do take their toll! ... I want to thank all who served the PCA through the years, they have made the hobby very enjoyable. One last note, the newsletter has been excellent! Many thanks to all who have contributed. It will be interesting to see how we continue without having to pay dues.- Richard Bird #03-207

*The newsletters will continue as long as we have adequate material to publish them. The website will be funded through donations instead of through dues. It is hoped that former members will make periodic donations to ensure the website continues. A link is already on our home page through which donations can be made via Paypal. A Paypal account is not necessary to make a donation. John.*

The PCA is one of the most enjoyable groups that I have ever been a member of. - Ron Schlicht #02-109

Putting my factories together for pictures I thought my Gray roof had a brown canopy and I was right. Went to put it on for pictures but it would not fit. The canopy has square pegs, check others and that was right. Check canopy holes and they are small round holes. Are there different canopy and building fronts for factories? thanks Wesley Kidd #09-584

*I don't know if Bachmann made the factory as a built up. If they did then you may have a canopy that was not glued well and fell off. The other possibility is that it is an HO piece as I have noticed that some of the HO pieces do have square or rectangular pins rather than the round ones found on O/S pieces. John*

In the June 2019 (Volume 18, Number 2) issue of The Villager at the bottom of page 20 there is a "What Is It?" inquiry from Len-ny Walton. This item is the drinking fountain accessory from the #3822 Marxville School House Set (described on page 253 and pictured on page 254 of the Edward Berg Pictorial Guide to Marx Plastic Accessories disk). This item is also described in a Marx Museum Spotlight article by Francis Turner on page 16 of the June 2001 (No. 72) issue of Plastic Figure & Playset Collector magazine. Plus, I have the School House Set and all of its accessories (to include this drinking fountain) in my personal Marx collection. Neal M. Brewer #19-1098

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#### Frosty Bar feedback

Nice Frosty - Bruce Lorence #04-299

The new Frosty Bars look fantastic, nicely done. Thank you - Doug Jines #01-38

I had a pleasant surprise yesterday when the mailman left an unexpected box. Upon opening it I discovered the Plasticville snack bars. They arrived safe and sound. I would like to thank you and the other officers for taking on this successful project on. - Tom Gaskell #08-516

Just to let you know I received my Frosty Bar (2) on Friday 4 October 2019. They are excellent! I have already installed one of the two on my layout. - Richard Bird #03-207

Hi, John. Rcvd. my 2 Frosty Bars today, just thought I'd send a short note to let you know your efforts are appreciated. - Mike Maslowski #07-491

My Frosty Bar arrived safely on October 16th. Thank You, for all you did on this project! Mike Lennon #09-585

I got my box of Frosty Bars not sure what I am going to do with them, since I have no room on the layout but I thought it would be a nice item to purchase to help support the PCA in any way. Mike Marmer #10-635

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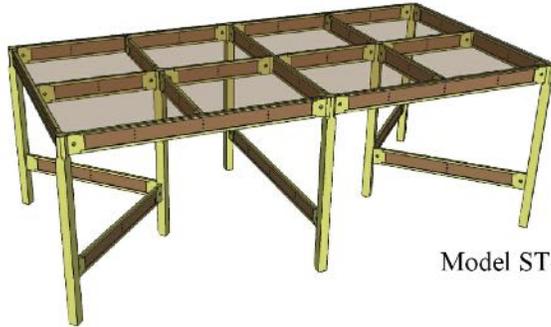
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## THE PARTS BIN - A PCA MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

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 Miscellaneous Window Inserts	House Fence Gate	Union Station
O/S Misc doors & windows	House Under Construction	Watchman's Shanty
12-A Railroad & Street Signs	Large Gas Station	Water Tank
Airport Administration Building	Large Super Market	Windmill
Airport Hangar	Log Cabin	Wishing Well
Apartment House	Maple Trees	
Bank	MISC street & rr signs	HO Miscellaneous Window Inserts
Billboard frames	Mobile Home	HO Misc doors & windows
BN-1 Barn	Loading Platform	HO Barn
Bridge & Pond	Motel	HO Cape Cod House
Bungalow	New England Rancher	HO Cathedral
Cape Cod	Picket Fence	HO Coaling Station
Cathedral	Picket Fence - no posts	HO Colonial House
Cattle Pen	Picket Fence - posts only	HO Contemporary House
CC7 & 8 Church	Playground Equipment	HO Factory
CC-9 Church	Police Station	HO Fire House
Chain Store (5&10)	Post Office	HO Freight Station
Christmas Tree - no bases	Railroad Work Car	HO Frosty Bar
Coaling Tower	Ranch House	HO Gas Station
Colonial Church	Roadside Stand	HO Hardware Pharmacy
Colonial Mansion	Rustic Fence	HO Hobby Shop
Corner Store	Rustic Gate	HO House Under Construction
Covered Bridge	School House	HO Motel
Crossing Gate	Signal Bridge	HO New Car Showroom
Dairy Barn	Small Gas Station	HO Police Station
Diner	Small Super Market	HO Post Office
Drug Store	Split Level	HO Railroad Work Car
Evergreen Trees - no bases	Spruce Tree	HO Ranch House
Factory	ST-1 Street Accessories	HO School House
Farm Buildings	Station Platform	HO Signal Bridge
Fire House	Street Lights	HO Split Level
Flagpole	Suburban Station	HO Suburban Station
Footbridge	Switch Tower	HO Super Market
Frosty Bar	Telephone Poles	HO Switch Tower
Greenhouse	Town Hall	HO Theater
Hardware & Pharmacy	Trestle Bridge	HO TV Station
Hobo Shacks	Turnpike Interchange	HO Two Story House
Hospital	TV Station	HO Union Station
House Fence	Two Story House	

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

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

# Last Call Parts



HO Watchman's Shanty		1408 Windmill
K-Line Chicken Coop	Frosted Flakes billboard - no feet or lights	1776 Independence Hall
K-Line Church	Frosted Flakes street signs	1406 Playground
K-Line L-Shaped Ranch	Frosted Flakes traffic signs	PF-4 People with Color Kit
K-Line Ranch House		1624 House under Construction - poor
K-Line Suburban Station	American Flyer Scenic Panel bridge	12-A Road Signs, no insert - poor
K-Line Two Story House	American Flyer Two Story House	HO-70 Frosty Bar (HO box) - fair
Littletown Barn		2606 Contemporary House (HO box) - poor
Littletown Cape Cod	Auburn Log Cabin	1701 RR Work Car (HO box) - good
Littletown Church		45526 Joes Pizza & Video Shop (HO box) - excellent
Littletown Corner Store	Block City fence	45534 Pink Lady Boutique (HO box) - excellent
Littletown Gas Station		2300 Cape Cod (HO box)
Littletown General Store	Lionel RR & Street Signs	2410 Pine Trees (HO box)
Littletown Loading Platform		2600 Water Tank (HO box)
Littletown Ranch	EMPTY BOXES	
Littletown RR Station	1600 Church	K-Line K-4150 L-Shaped Ranch, illustration sticker on box - excellent
Littletown School House	1901 Union Station	
Littletown Southern Colonial House	1618 TV Transmitting Station	Lionel 6-12711 Water Tower
Littletown Super Market	1876 Grandstand (Large Scale)	Lionel 9758 BOX (possibly repro)
	SC-4 School House	
Marx 3 rail fence - oval feet	1964 TV Station	#10 Twinkletown Houses build it yourself kits
Marx 3-rail fence - triangle feet	1958 Union Station	#30 Twinkletown Houses build it yourself kits
Marx Accessories	1963 Apartment House	#50 Twinkletown Houses build it yourself kits
Marx Barn	1915 Citizens	
Marx Church	MH-2 New England Rancher	Aurora #301 Patton Tank
Marx Colonial House	SW-2 Switch Tower	
Marx Diner	1402 Switch Tower	Mantua Busy Little B
Marx Factory	1402 Switch Tower - lift off lid style	
Marx Firehouse	LC-2 Log Cabin Rustic Fence and Tree	
Marx General Store	SG-3 Signal Bridge	
Marx House Fence	1403 Signal Bridge	
Marx House Fence Gate	1953 Split Level House	
Marx L Ranch House	1623 Cattle Pen	
Marx Railroad Station	1700 Two-story Colonial	
Marx Ranch House	CH-8 Church and House Unit	
Marx RR & Street signs	HP-9 Cape Cod	
Marx Rustic Fence - specify color	AD-4 Airport Administration Building	
Marx School House	1906 Factory	
Marx Statue of Liberty base	LH-4 2 Story Colonial House, marked red	
Marx Supermarket	AP-1 Airport Hangar	
Marx Telephone Poles	7851 HO Custom built Ranch Home	
	7852 HO Custom built Colonial Home	
Skyline Church	1803 Colonial Church - poor	
Skyline Ranch	5200 Roadside Rest	



# 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](mailto:secretary@plasticvilleusa.org) or mail your suggestions to him at the address noted above.*

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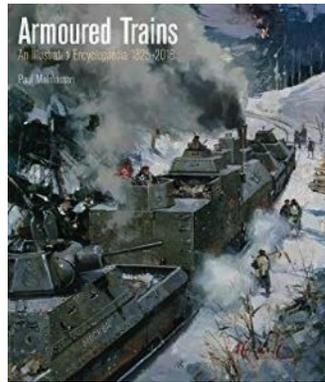
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# PRODUCT REVIEWS

JOHN L. NIEHAUS #00-3

**Armoured Trains, An Illustrated Encyclopedia 1825 - 2016**, Paul Malmassari, 528 pages, hardcover, 10×11 ¼, \$75. Published by Naval Institute Press. Black and white photos, my estimate is over 4,000, throughout except for Appendix 1 which is in color.

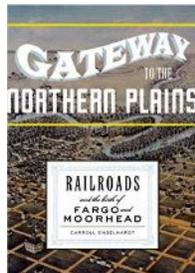


This book is the 2016 English language edition update of the French language edition of 1986. It took me a few pages to determine that some of the terms in the book were not the usual American English terms but European English terms. I had to realize that vans were generally boxcars, that a bogie wagon was most likely any type of car with four wheel trucks or that a trolley was a self-propelled unit amongst other terms.

There are over seventy countries listed alphabetically with each country given its own chapter. The countries start with Angola and conclude with Yugoslavia. Both the United States and the Confederate States are subjects. I had expected the United States to be included but the inclusion of the Confederate States was a surprise. As can be expected many European countries have extensive listings. Both France and Germany have over thirty pages each. All countries have a minimum of a half page.

The aforementioned Appendix 1 contains the only color illustrations in the book. It reproduces illustrations of over fifty toys,

**Gateway To The Northern Plains, Railroads and the Birth of Fargo and Moorhead**, Carroll Engelhardt, 366 pages, hardcover, 7×10 ¼ format, \$29.95. Published by University of Minnesota Press. Black and white photos throughout.



Any time that the Northern Plains and Railroad are both included in the title of a book one can be fairly confident that the name James J Hill and the Great Northern Railway will be found in numerous places in the book. That is definitely the case with this book. It is as history of how James J Hill and the Great Northern Railway shaped the Fargo, North Dakota and Moorhead, Minnesota.

It details how both cities wanted to be the gateway city in the Red River valley. It also notes how each city reacted to various "promises" made by Mr. Hill. Both cities were led astray at times with his "promises" causing both cities problems especially financial. Both cities started as a boomtown or a town that grew due to the railroad being constructed in the area. Boosters in both cities, especially Moorhead lost their fortunes trying to outdo the other city. Fargo eventually became the Gateway City and Moorhead a poor cousin.

cigarette cards, postcards, and propaganda posters where armored trains are the focus.

Appendix 2 carries the title, *Selected Original Factory Drawings of Armoured Trains and Trolleys*. This is where you want to go if you want to create a model armored train as close to the prototype as possible.

An extensive introduction is included as well as an index and acknowledgements after the indexes.

I mentioned that all of the photos are black and white. This should be expected as the majority of photos were taken well before color photography became the norm. There are also sketches by the author and even builder proposal illustrations included in the various chapters where pertinent. My estimate is a minimum of 4,000 it takes keen eyes at times to see what the caption is noting.

This has to be the most comprehensive book published related to armored trains. I would be difficult to not call it the definitive book on the subject. It rightfully deserves to use the word encyclopedia in its title. This book was well worth my time to read it. I hope you will find it just as interesting.

**Armoured Trains** is available directly from the Naval Institute Press at <https://www.usni.org/press/books/armoured-trains> for \$75. A member price of \$60 is also listed. I did not pursue what a membership entailed.

The book is also available on Amazon's website in hardcover for \$52. Barnes & Noble's website lists it in hardcover for \$67.50

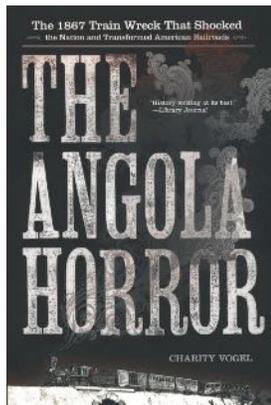
Both cities dealt with the usual issues initially created by their being boomtowns. Both eventually set down laws and ordinances intended to create what the author calls "middle class order". Definitions were developed for hobo, tramp, and bum in order to better define those types of people. Hoboes wandered to find work, tramps worked only to facilitate their wandering, and bums neither wandered or worked.

The book details quite well the railroads at the Red River and how both cities went about making each a place to safely raise a family. There were some interesting laws and ordinances enacted but I will leave them for you to find when reading the book.

Although I initially misunderstood the title and thought it was a history of the Great Northern Railway only to find that it was more a history of Fargo and Moorhead in their very early days. I found it to be quite interesting. That is especially true where one city was competing against the other for businesses and railroad facilities. It is a great urban history of these two cities.

**Gateway To The Northern Plains, Railroads and the Birth of Fargo and Moorhead** is available from the University of Minnesota Press at <https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/gateway-to-the-northern-plains>. It is also available on both Barnes and Noble's and Amazon's website.

**The Angola Horror, The 1867 Train Wreck That Shocked the Nation and Transformed American Railroads**, Charity Vogel, 296 pages, softcover, 6×9 format, \$18.95. Published by Three Hills Books, an imprint of Cornell University press. A few black and white illustrations throughout.



I was aware of the Angola, New York train wreck due to my reading and reviewing *Train Wreck, The Forensics of Rail Disasters*. I decided to obtain this book as it seemed to be a much more in depth study of the wreck. It is definitely that.

The wreck involved the last car of a passenger train derailing just prior to crossing a bridge near Angola, New York and falling along with the second last car approximately 50 feet down an embankment while crossing the bridge. The last car was subsequently was set afire by the heating stove in it, causing the immolation death of over 20 passengers.

The book is written in the form of a novel with an ending know by anyone who is even slightly familiar with the Angola train wreck. The facts presented are well annotated. The author states that where historical facts or reactions of those involved is not

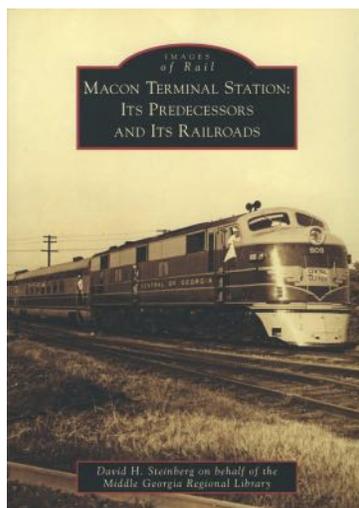
available that “the narrative is based upon educated conclusions drawn from research into the time, people, and places”.

The author prefaces the book with a list of over 80 people connected with the wreck in some manner. This includes passengers, Angola residents, railroad executives, and others connected with the wreck. It then progresses through the entire story of the wreck starting with a railroad employee who was a passenger with a premonition about dying to the coroner’s inquest at which no one definite cause was determined. The book continues with chapters with the titles, Mourning, Judging, Debates, and Changes. It concludes with an epilogue and postscript. There are also 50 pages of Author’s Notes (acknowledgements), notes, a bibliography, and an index.

This probably the most thoroughly researched book that I have read on a particular train wreck. It is an easy to read yet fact-filled story of a train wreck that could have been prevented. I enjoyed reading it and am now more aware of the facts of the wreck.

**The Angola Horror** is available from Cornell University Press in hardcover, paperback, or EBook. It is also available in hardcover, paperback and Nook format from Barnes & Noble. Amazon lists hardcover, paperback, as well as a Kindle and Audible Audio-book format.

**Macon Terminal Station: Its Predecessors and Its Railroads**, David H Steinberg, 128 pages, softcover, 6 ½ × 9 ¼ format, \$21.99, published by Arcadia Publishing. Heavily captioned black and white photos throughout.



This is a very recent addition to Arcadia’s *Images of Rail* series. The Information sheet that I received with the book notes a publication date of July 1, 2019. There are approximately one and a half pages of introductory information for each chapter as with other books in this series.

The introduction to this book is probably one of the longest I have seen in this series of books. It covers nearly five pages and is loaded with historical information not found in the book’s chapters.

The book, itself, comprises five chapters. The first details how Macon became a railroad hub. My question was, “Why Macon?”, when I received the book. My question was answered in the introduction to this chapter. There were ten different railroads that served Macon around the turn of the century.

The second describes the first Union station of 1855 surviving until 1925. Ten pages are devoted to chapter three which describes and illustrates the East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia Railroad’s station which was built around 1886. Chapter four is

the longest with many photos of the Macon Terminal Station. The last chapter, five, notes the current use/s of the station. It seems that good fortune has fallen on the station and that it will be around for quite a few more years.

This is definitely a good photo reference book if one is interested in the Macon Terminal Station. I enjoyed learning about the station and have a lot more early railroads to investigate when I have the time.

**Macon Terminal Station** is available directly from the publisher. The link to the book is <https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467103015>. I found it on Barnes and Noble’s website at the publisher’s price. It does not seem to be available through Amazon.

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# THE VILLAGER CLASSIFIED ADS

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Independence Hall built up #45303. \$29.95 plus shipping. This is a **first edition** built up. It can be identified by having no acetate film covering the front opening of the box. To remedy this, Bachmann added a clear sleeve that surrounds the box front, top, bottom, and back. The building is complete. The weathervane which has been broken off the cupola is included. Either in transit or by a previous owner both the building and the included 50 star flag has been removed from its clear preformed packaging. That packaging is also included. As a bonus, it will be packed in a 45602PCA 10th anniversary Dairy Barn shipping carton. All previous labels other than the original Bachmann shipping label has been removed. Proceeds from this piece will go into the PCA treasury as it is the property of the PCA. Please contact secretary@plasticvilleusa.org if you wish to purchase it.

Ending December 2020

Plasticville collection for sale, over 500 pieces, excellent to mint condition, hard to find pieces all boxed. No Duplicates. Ask for more information. #01-77 Gary Mosholder, 186 Pine Springs Camp Road Boswell, PA 15531.

## WANTED

Ending September 2019

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

Ending March 2020

Need green plastic Christmas tree for Royal and/or NOMA Hard plastic snowman or Santa's Vintage 1950s Christmas decoration. #10-626 Bryan Bennett, 759 Turj Ave NE, Palm Bay, FL 32907 Ph. 321-725-5973.

LITTLETOWN: farmer's wife, seated man, man with grip, cream roof sign for General Store, Loading Platform grey smokestack yellow roof support, red Railroad Station Roof sign, Spruce tree, Boulevard light, red trash can, red mailbox, telephone pole.  
PLASTICVILLE: complete Maple trees. #00-03 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021 Ph. 515-771-6888  
johnln@netins.net.

## FOR TRADE

Ending June 2020

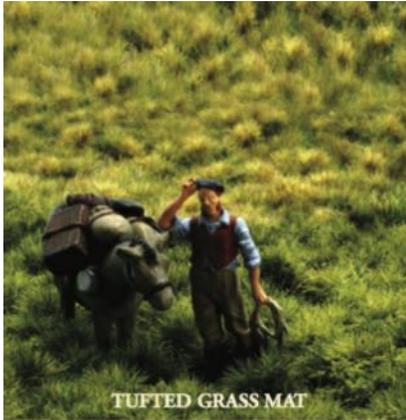
FOR TRADE: My marbled water tank, hobo shacks, watchman's shanty, and railroad work car pieces. Pieces you need for what I need. #00-03 John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St, Ankeny, IA 50021 Ph. 515-771-6888 johnln@netins.net.

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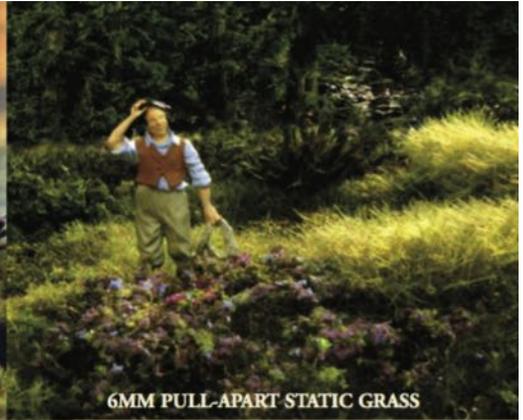
Use your Classified Ad membership benefit and place a classified ad if you answered YES to any of the above questions. You can download the member classified ad form from the PCA website or send a letter requesting a form to PCA, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3207. Classified ads run for four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



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**WESTERN RANGE**  
Item No. 32924



**DRY GRASS**  
Item No. 32925



**2MM PULL-APART STATIC GRASS** (one 11" x 5.5" expandable sheet)  
MSRP \$16.95 each



**LIGHT GREEN**  
Item No. 31011



**MEDIUM GREEN**  
Item No. 31012



**DRY GRASS**  
Item No. 31014



**GOLD**  
Item No. 31015



**6MM PULL-APART STATIC GRASS** (one 11" x 5.5" expandable sheet)  
MSRP \$16.95 each



**WILD GRASS**  
(medium green with gold highlights)  
Item No. 31001



**DARK GREEN**  
(dark green with subtle gold highlights)  
Item No. 31002



**ALPINE GREEN**  
(dark green with subtle gold highlights and blown leaves)  
Item No. 31003



**6MM TUFTS** (100 pieces)  
MSRP \$10.95 each



**MEDIUM GREEN**  
Item No. 31031



**DARK GREEN**  
Item No. 31032



**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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