



# The LANTERN

Big Bend Model Railroad Association Volume 9, Number 8 August 2004

NEXT MEETING

August 17, 2004

Myers Park

## Program For August

It's Photo Contest time for the BBMRA members. The annual photo contest will be held at the August 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. There are two categories of photos: prototype pictures and model pictures with three awards in each category. Turn your photos into Roy Mantooh at the beginning of the meeting. He will display them for the members to vote upon at the conclusion of the first part of the program.

The first program will be a movie provided by Barrett Johnson. He has several films about the steam engine and other train adventures.

The meeting is at Myers Park, on the 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning 7:00 p.m.

## Short "Lantern"

Due to rain and wind and storms and excess doctor's appointments, the "Lantern" is a single page. Train Tour will be reported in next issue.

## President's Column

If you have been to the Tallahassee Mall recently you may have noticed that the windows on the storefront are covered with heavy black plastic similar to the empty stores. The mall management has asked us to cover the windows at least until we are finished building the new HO layout.

It is coming along very well and each week gets exciting to see what scenery, track and building have been detailed and added. People who come in from the mall when we are open on Tuesdays recognize the Whataburger, the Holiday Inn, Hungry Howies and other landmarks. Many ask if we are modeling Tallahassee and we tell them we are building our own community from our imagination. The HO division is doing a good job.

The Board of Directors have begun to discuss and plan for future actions

should we have to leave the mall. The Board is

exploring warehousing should we have to move quickly to another location. In addition, the Board members with Barrett Johnson are looking at possible relationships and housing with the city/county officials, we are also researching possible money grants from different sources for educational and/or historical reasons. We are going to look very hard at any possible staffing requirements, insurance costs, utility costs, etc. to be very positive that we can afford the time and money of any future actions. We have a lease with the mall until the end of December 2004.

## Dothan Train Show

September 18 and 19, National Peanut Festival Fairgrounds, 5622 U.S. Hwy 231S. Saturday, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Costs - \$4, children under 12 free.