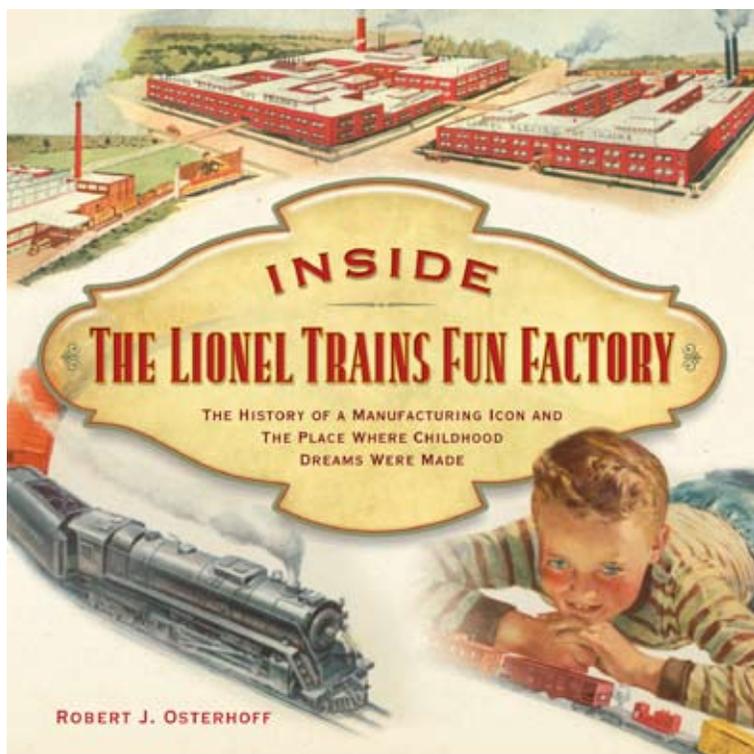


The Villager

The official newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association
Book Review



248 Pages - 10" x 10"

Full Color - 575+ Photos & Images

Hardcover - \$34.95, ISBN 978-1-9336-0005-5

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Bob Osterhoff **has hit a home run out of the park with this book!** His approach to the history of Lionel is uniquely refreshing. The book is loaded with color and black and white photos. In addition to historic photos there are illustrations of many, many documents that have not been made available to the general public until publication of this book. These include plant layout drawings, employee communications documents, and actual drawings of Lionel production pieces, to name a few. Two interesting illustrations are sketches by Joseph Bonanno of a proposed electric mixer.

In addition to 13 chapters there are three appendices; Lionel department numbers, a timeline of major Lionel fun factories, and a listing of Lionel patents through 1964. Both the timeline and the patent list have created spinoffs. Reviews of these spin-offs are below.

This is a very well researched and copiously illustrated book. **I highly recommend it** if you wish to learn of Lionel's fun factory from a refreshingly new point of view.

Inside The Lionel Trains Fun Factory: The History of a Manufacturing Icon and The Place Where Childhood Dreams Were Made by Robert J. Osterhoff. Available from Project Roar Publishing, P.O. Box 599, Winfield, IL 60190. To order, visit www.projectroar.com or call 630-653-ROAR (7627). 248 pages, 575+ color photos and images, Hardcover \$34.95 (ISBN 978-1-9336-0005-5), Publisher's Limited Edition Hardcover \$69.95 (ISBN 978-1-9336-0006-2). It is also available at your local book seller, hobby retailer, bn.com and Amazon.com.



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Product Reviews



PC and Mac Compatible

450+ Lionel/Ives Patents

1,600+ Pages of Original Documentation - \$19.95

The Lionel Patent Archives CD - The Companion To the Inside the Lionel Trains Fun Factory.

As noted in the title, this CD Rom is indeed a companion to the book in the above review. Upon inserting the CD into my player I was presented with a screen that required that I agree to the presented licensing agreement through a mouse click on the word yes. It seems

that this screen will be presented each time the CD is loaded into a player.

The CD contains four sections. These include Background on Patents, Lionel Patents, Lionel Trademarks, and Ives Patents. I found the Background on Patents section quite informative. It also explains what one will find in the other sections.

The Lionel patents section included all known patents issued to Lionel inventors, including employees, licensees and outside contractor inventors. I compared a number of patents listed in the Inside the Lionel Trains Fun Factory book to this CD. Every number I checked was represented on the CD. All of the documents on the CD are in Adobe Acrobat Reader format for ease of viewing and printing. I found the CD very easy to navigate. There is a "Return to Home" link on the three document sections as well as a Help link on the home page.

If you are interested in the actual patent documents or feel printings of some would enhance your train room then I recommend this CD. It is definitely a fine companion to the *Inside the Lionel Trains Fun Factory* book.

The Lionel Patent Archives CD - The Companion To Inside The Lionel Trains Fun Factory by Robert J. Osterhoff. Available from Project Roar Publishing, P.O. Box 599, Winfield, IL 60190. To order, visit www.projectroar.com or call 630-653-ROAR (7627). PC and Macintosh Compatible CD ROM \$19.95.



12" x 36"

Full Color - \$11.95

The Lionel Trains Fun Factories poster, 12" X 36", published by Project Roar Publishing, Winfield, IL, \$11.95

Appendix B of the *Inside the Lionel Trains Fun Factory* book is a four page graphic timeline of Lionel's many factories from the first one in New York City until the present.

This poster is a reproduction of those four pages. It is printed on slick heavy poster stock. It is suitable for framing and displaying in you train room or in an office.



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