

cjwalas says Looks like we're trickling in...
Rick Raively says **Q&A Night?**
cjwalas says Ok, this looks like it?
cjwalas says **Correct, Log Boy!** 😊 Any questions?
Rick Raively says **What is everyone's opinion about the figures in the Dec issue of Garden Railways**
cjwalas says I was going to ask the same thing!
Torby says **I'm not tardy tonight.**
Rick Raively says **I thought some were silly but others were a good for ideas with our figures**
Ms. pcentral says **YUCKY**
cjwalas says Does anyone have that issue of GR handy beside me?
Rick Raively says **more of what the clothes looked liked**
Torby says **I'm not sure where mine is** 😞
Rick Raively says **pg 56**
Ms. pcentral says **I do**
cjwalas says Yes, although there is some dubious quality sculpting in some of the figures, they are decent reference for figures.
Torby says **Hmm. Here's last Decembers...**
cjwalas says I'd like to go through the makers one by one and discuss them?!
Ms. pcentral says **kay**
cjwalas says I thought some of the photos were not very flattering.
Rick Raively says **the USAT guys is sick**
cjwalas says Aristo is first up. Any thoughts on their figures?
Torby says **I found it encouraging that some commercial figures didn't look any better than mine** 😊
cjwalas says You mean the USAT vampire?
Rick Raively says **hehehe**
jlcop says *just a sec, have to find mine* 😊
Ms. pcentral says **I liked the open umbrella, and the top hat**
Torby says **I'm looking!**
cjwalas says Considering that the Aristo figures are 1/29, the sculpting isn't too bad. Not much detail, but the poses and ideas are interesting.
cjwalas says Here's an example of where the paint job isn't helping the sculpture, though. Some of the paint is particularly sloppy.
Rick Raively says **true, really can't see the size**
cjwalas says I've repainted Aristo figures before and they came out quite nicely.
Ms. pcentral says **Says Aristo figures are 1:24**
jlcop says *arms look too skinny*
cjwalas says Some are, some aren't. Some are definitely 1/29.
Torby says **I think I'm left out.. Here's a Smithsonian, but that's not much help** 😊
Rick Raively says **there is enough of them 100**
cjwalas says I think Aristo figures are OK, but not fantastic, either sculpturally or paint-wise.
cjwalas says Let's move on to my favorite, Bachmann. 😊
Rick Raively says **yeah the paint on the green coat is bad and just what is he doing?**

Torby says **I have a couple Bachmann!**

Rick Raively says **HA**

Rick Raively says **The engineer is driving with his eyes closed - Student of ER?**

cjwalas says **To me, Bachmann figures look like dolls.**

Ms. pcentral says **My dolls look better than that** 😊

cjwalas says **The thing of it is that these figures cost a lot more to tool up than most of the others and I wish they paid more attention to the quality!**

jlcop says *too toy like, almost like playmobile people*

Torby says **My Bachmann are laying on the window sill.**

Rick Raively says **paint is better then Aristo**

cjwalas says **I'm collecting Bachmann firemen to someday line up outside a model Unemployment line!**

Rick Raively says **not sure where my b-man are**

Rick Raively says **oh, thought the Lems where going to toast them**

cjwalas says **Aristo figures are hand painted while Bachmann figures are airbrushed using masks. Much faster and accurate painting on the Bachmann figs.**

Rick Raively says **like that poor short lived diesel**

Rick Raively says **hahaha**

jlcop says *very clean looking legs, no wrinkles must of all had there trousers pressed* 😊

Torby says **hehe I'd send you mine** 😊

Rick Raively says **really? how do you know that??**

cjwalas says 😊😊😊😊

Rick Raively says **true JL, wrinkle free clothes - must of paid extra for that** 😊

jlcop says *the Bachman figures are also a contrast to there wonderful engine's detail*

cjwalas says **Believe me, I know. For years I researched figure manufacturing. Most figures we see available for our hobby are hand painted. It's cheaper for short run, multiple color paint schemes.**

Rick Raively says **cool**

Torby says **I see.**

cjwalas says **One of the reasons Bachmann figures have less wrinkles (like LGB and Lifelike) is that the molds are hard and can't handle the detailed surfaces well. More folds makes the figures "stick" in the molds.**

Rick Raively says **Brandbright?**

cjwalas says **On to Brandbright!**

cjwalas says **I like these figures, They're very nicely sculpted, but they have a stiffness to the poses.**

Rick Raively says **yeah, I didn't like the pose but thought there was info there for my figs**

jlcop says *I agree on the stiffness and their faces are kind of bland*

cjwalas says **Still, I think they would look good painted up in the GRR.**

Torby says **I found their web site.**

cjwalas says **On to BUSY BODIES.**

Torby says **They seem very formal.**

Rick Raively says **yeah the info for the website is in the article**

cjwalas says **Agreed, Tom.**

Rick Raively says **NICE NOSE!!**

cjwalas says **Busy bodies are interesting as they are doing custom figures. I'd be interested to see how much they charge for one!**

Rick Raively says **does he have a ring on?**

cjwalas says **Obviously, the busy body style is whimsical. I like the look, just not sure how many people will go for that particular style.**

jlcop says *would like to see more than one example*

Torby says **Busy Bodies web site isn't responding... Maybe they need my help 😊**

cjwalas says **I think that's the end of a cigarette, Rick.**

jlcop says *its a charactersure (sp) but very well executed*

Rick Raively says **Fine Folk - nice detail**

cjwalas says **They have a style that I've seen in a number of English train related cartoons, so I suspect they'll be more easily accepted in the UK.**

cjwalas says **Fine Folk are perhaps the best sculpted figures on the market, IMHO.**

Torby says **They seem less rigid.**

cjwalas says **Top notch in every respect. The castings I've seen were flawless.**

Rick Raively says **yeah almost Chris Quality**

cjwalas says **The poses are hardly dramatic, but they are what most people need on their layouts.**

cjwalas says **I WISH!!!**

Torby says **I like how the conductor has his hand in his pocket.**

jlcop says *FF look superb, like a sculpture from a museum was shrunk down*

cjwalas says **Notice the detail on the cloth folds.**

Rick Raively says **yes**

Torby says **Nice sculpting.**

cjwalas says **In sculpture, all the folds, wrinkles and drooping of the clothing is called the "drapery". These figures have great drapery.**

Torby says **They're big.**

cjwalas says **I suspect this is a long time professional sculptor doing these patterns.**

cjwalas says **OK, on to Fun and Games.**

Torby says **I've always wondered how to get a crease, like in the conductor's pants.**

Rick Raively says **not as good as FF but not bad**

Torby says **Eek! "G04" 😊**

Rick Raively says **better then Aristo, B-mann**

cjwalas says **Do you mean like an ironed crease?**

Rick Raively says **I like the 1:32 guy 😊**

Torby says **Yea.**

cjwalas says **I've seen a number of Fun and games figures in person. They lack sharp detail often, but the impression the figures give is usually quite good.**

jlcop says *F&G reminds me of our figures. not as still looking as Brandbright*

cjwalas says **Tom, I usually lubricate my thumb and forefinger with a little spit and slide them down the front of the pant leg, pinching the crease into place.**

Torby says **They have quite a variety.**

Torby says **Thanks, I'll try that.**

cjwalas says **I agree, JL. Not as much character and fun as we're having with a lot of ours, but these would look comfortable among ours.**

cjwalas says **George Turner models.**

Rick Raively says **they seem off**

Rick Raively says **strange bodies**

cjwalas says **The figure in the cab has a better feel than the two standing outside of it.**

Rick Raively says **the flag man is a Flintstone**

cjwalas says **The bodies are very blocky. Short legs and wide hips.**

Rick Raively says **yes, like someone else did the center guy - maybe a reject from FF**

cjwalas says **Heheheee!**

jlcop says *GT figures need to go to the Bachman figures drycleaners, too many folds*

cjwalas says **Next is Jons the People's people.**

Rick Raively says **the left guy reminds of the Michelin Man**

cjwalas says **And not very natural folds at that.**

jlcop says *that flagman's arm looks like a claw, the other two look pretty good 😊*

Rick Raively says **not sure but I don't like Jons**

Torby says **Not having any luck goggling that one. Too many common words.**

Rick Raively says **www.jonspeople.com**

cjwalas says **JTPP's figs. are not too bad. They lack detail, but using the ten foot rule, they would probably look good on a layout.**

Rick Raively says **but the ladies legs were done nicely**

cjwalas says **A new paint job would improve these figs. a lot.**

cjwalas says **I agree, Rick!**

Torby says **Found them.**

cjwalas says **LGB of America.**

Rick Raively says **Cartoons**

Torby says **I think if I wasn't sculpting my own, that I'd be pleased with them.**

jlcop says *the choice of paint colors I think is distracting 😊*

cjwalas says **I personally don't like the LGB figures much. Some are better than others, but I find they have a toy like look.**

cjwalas says **Agreed, JL. The styrene that these are made from has a slight translucence which loses some of the detail in viewing.**

Torby says **Perhaps they suit their trains.**

cjwalas says **These aren't badly done figures, but most of them suffer from having to be injection molded in a two-piece mold.**

cjwalas says **Good Point, Tom! I hadn't thought of that, but you're obviously right!**

Torby says **(Not meaning to start any fights 😊)**

cjwalas says **Color values are very similar between figures and trains!**

cjwalas says **But then I'm not a big fan of the LGB look myself. 😊**

cjwalas says **La Bella Figura. Whatcha think?**

Rick Raively says **could use a better paint job**

Rick Raively says **ok at best**

jlcop says *I like the 1:20.3, he looks like he has some character*

cjwalas says **While I know Carl Spirito has been doing these figures for years now, I find them a little crude and stiff. OK, as you say, Rick.**

Rick Raively says **is he 1:20 or 7/8?**

jlcop says *oops I guess that's 7/8*

jlcop says *never mind 😊*

Torby says **Hmm. Must not have the right site** 😞

<http://www.bellafigura.co.uk/img/gallery/thumbs/Torso.jpg>

cjwalas says **Some of Carl's figures are definitely better than others (like all of us!) and I wish they showed a wider variety.**

cjwalas says **Carl does a wide variety of sculpture, Tom.**

cjwalas says **Life-Like Products?**

jlcop says *Life Like don't look very life like, I think they look like crude LGB figures*

cjwalas says **I wouldn't even consider these figures without completely repainting them.**

Rick Raively says **HAHAHAHAH**

Rick Raively says **Frankenstein?**

cjwalas says **I agree, JL.**

Torby says **It says they've been acquired by Walthers.**

cjwalas says **It's interesting that two of the figures have painted eyes and two don't?!**

cjwalas says **Little Railways!**

cjwalas says **This figure pops up a lot.**

jlcop says *there is something about this figure that bothers me but I'm not sure what* 😞

Rick Raively says **he could use some more wrinkles - OK**

cjwalas says **While some of the drapery doesn't look all that accurate, it looks very nice all painted up.**

Rick Raively says **I think the head is too big**

cjwalas says **I agree, JL. I can't put my finger on it, maybe it's the longer torso and shorter legs?**

cjwalas says **Could be that as well (not that I would ever do that myself! 😊).**

cjwalas says **MTH!**

cjwalas says **These look like HO figures blown up in size to me.**

Rick Raively says **not bad for 1:32 - reminds of Aristo**

cjwalas says **I've never seen a human being hold an axe like that!**

jlcop says *unrealistic poses, the ax is too big and figure looks silly holding it like that*

Rick Raively says **sure Chris in the Axe parade**

cjwalas says **They obviously have different sculptors working on the line. Not sure how well they blend in style.**

cjwalas says **I was hoping to get through all of these figures tonight, but that's not going to happen.**

cjwalas says **I really wanted to go through them, not to flame any manufacturer, but to help us hone our perceptions of what makes a good figure.**

Torby says **I found the axe guy!**

cjwalas says **Maybe we can take this up next week after we look at the homework assignments.**

Rick Raively says **ok**

Torby says **Perhaps.**

jlcop says **OK**

jlcop says *depending on how many participate*

Torby says **I might try Archibald again. I wanted him more exaggerated in his pose, but he's standing rather erect.**

cjwalas says **Next week let's all try to have our GRs on hand. Then we can really get into it and compare similar figures of different manufacturers.**

Torby says **Maybe by next week, I'll find my December GR 😊**

cjwalas says **IS he sticking out his tongue, Tom?**

Torby says **I think that axe head must be made of upsidaesium.**

Torby says **Yup.**

Torby says **I wanted him leaning forward with his back arched and chest puffed out.**

Torby says **I think his sailor suit turned out ok.**

cjwalas says **Definitely, Tom. I think his face could use a little more definition and the changes in the pose you suggest would really sell it.**

Rick Raively says .

Torby says **I think I'll take another crack at him. It's hard to define face in 1:29. I might start using lighter color clay as I'm having trouble seeing the figure as I sculpt.**

cjwalas says **Ok, I'm really going to try to have my first two figures for this exercise done next Monday!**

Rick Raively says **I will try to have the next fig done by Monday 😊**

cjwalas says **Move your light source around as you work, Tom. Sidelight shows a lot that top and front light don't.**

Rick Raively says **have to put down the CPH to do that**

cjwalas says **Same here, Rick. 😊**

cjwalas says **I did get the swivel arm redone for the Kalamazoo truck today!**

Torby says **I think I need to work when the sun is shining in the window 😊**

cjwalas says **I like to work by candlelight if I'm doing something difficult. the soft warm light helps...for me anyway!**

Torby says **I had in mind "Christopher Robin" type shoes. Like this:**

<http://www.rakkav.com/homeworlds/greendoor/images/chriswalking.jpg>

Torby says **(I had a pair like that when I was little.**

cjwalas says **Never seen boy shoes like that before!**

cjwalas says **OK, guys, time for me get back to Daddy work.**

Rick Raively says **Night Chris - thanks**

cjwalas says **Take a look at the GR article this week and pick your most and least favorite and reasons why.**

Torby says **They have a strap around the ankle that fastens in the back to the heel.**

cjwalas says **Nite, guys!**

♦ cjwalas decided to leave us at Mon Nov 14 21:11:20 MST 2005

Torby says **Night, Chris!**