

TCA Mission: To develop an appreciation of and to preserve an important segment of history – Tinplate Toy Trains –through research, education, community outreach, fellowship, establishment of collecting standards, and to promote the growth and enjoyment of collecting and operating toy, model and scale trains.



Desert Division

DISPATCH

ARIZONA • NEW MEXICO • WEST TEXAS



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Volume 43, No. 2

February, 2014

OFF TO A GREAT START!

A temporary change in the Meet location did nothing to deter Division members from kicking off the year with a flourish. We will be back at the Shepherd of the Valley Church this month and were thankful that a nearby meeting room was found under such short notice. It was a beautiful facility and the sales tables went up without a hitch.

The January Meet is also the yearly Business meeting, a sort of "State of the Division" for all the members to review the financial health of the Division, ask questions of the officers, and hear about the upcoming year. It sounds as if we have a very full year ahead. Incoming Division President Chris Allen was interrupted as the meeting began by former Division President Jonathan Peiffer. Jonathan continued a tradition rich in Division history by presenting incoming President Allen with the Miles Butler gavel. One of the original 25 founding members of this Division, Miles Butler hated meetings, and was often known to bang his walking cane on a table top to get everyone's attention that the conversation had gone on long enough and let's speed this meeting up so "We can get back to playing with trains!" The gavel is passed to each incoming President as a reminder to keep the Business Meeting short.



Congratulations Bob! Serving the Division for his 17th continuous year, Division Treasurer Bob Herman, was given the Lifetime Membership Award

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

February 8 – Division Meet – Members Only swap 8:30 AM – General Meeting 10 AM – Phoenix, AZ

February 15 – Rio Grande Chapter Meet – 10 AM - Albuquerque, NM

**** DATE CHANGE **** February 15 – Grand Canyon Model Railroaders Armory Swap Meet **** DATE CHANGE ****

February 28, March 1-2 – Cal-Stewart (NorCal) – Santa Clara, CA

March 8 – Division Meet – Members Only swap 8:30 AM – General Meeting 10 AM – Phoenix, AZ

March 15 & 16 – Gordon Wilson Auction – 9 AM Saturday 1 PM Sunday – Phoenix, AZ

March 15 – Rio Grande Chapter Meet – 10 AM – Albuquerque, NM

Promising to do just that, President Allen then introduced the incoming Board of Directors. Secretary Lautazi reported that there are now 304 members in Desert Division after the successful recruiting that was done at the Arizona Toy Train Show. One of the new members, Randall Skulemowski was present at the Meet and introduced himself to the members and gave a brief rundown of his collecting interests. Treasurer Bob Herman stated that the Division had \$35,793.89 in Savings and \$8,362.57 in Checking. Before he could sit down, President Allen announced that Bob was starting his seventeenth consecutive year as Division Treasurer. Acknowledging that not many members have served the Division for that length of time, let alone consecutively, Bob was recognized with the Division Lifetime Membership Award.

The Annual Business meeting then began with a detailed report on the recent Arizona Toy Train Show, Christmas Holiday Party, and Trailer Module project all of which had a slight negative drain on the budget. Detailed financial reports for the Party and Train Show were available before the meeting on the front table. Chair John Upshur spoke about the recently completed Arizona Toy Train Show thanking all the volunteers who helped make it a special day. Paid attendance for the one day show was 1,241 and John stated that he believed he could better that number this year.

President Allen informed the members that Larry Teresi has been quite ill recently and has been in and out of the hospital. We wish Larry a speedy recovery so he can join us once again playing with trains. Working in his absence the module committee went in a slightly different "track" and GarGraves was chosen for the three longest runs. GarGraves makes a combined Standard and "O" gauge five rail track that will give the module extra flexibility for one loop. The other two mainlines will be also running GarGraves which was chosen over several other manufactures. Without going into a lot of details the committee felt that the GarGraves was a quieter track and it with its longer lengths there would be minimal use of joints that might shake loose as we transported the module to various locations.

President Allen announced that the Board of Directors was looking at additional revenue sources to offset the preliminary budget deficit for this year, one of which will be the increased visibility of Division auctions. Desert Division has been conducting several auctions a year in the Valley for almost forty years. While the first

auctions were often closed to members only, they expanded greatly in the 90's after the club moved them from Ray Korte's backyard to the Scottsdale Jaycees Hall and opened the auction following the Turkey Meet to the public. Many of the membership present asked several question on how the auctions worked, commission rates, and advertising. Our website now has detailed information on Division auctions and a tri-fold that can be mailed to anyone wishing further information.

With no further question the Annual Business Meeting was closed. As part of the General Meeting it was announced that working collectively with the Grand Canyon Model Railroaders and the Paradise and Pacific Railroad Club, the spring picnic had been moved to the month of April. It will be held the first Saturday in April, this year on April 5th, unless that weekend happens to fall on Easter. If it does the picnic will move to the third Saturday of the month. It is hoped that the new dates will give us more reliable weather and allow the clubs to plan events that might capitalize on our increased winter visitors that are here for baseball spring training.

With no further New Business, Sam McElwee displayed a Box Car that he had custom painted with a graffiti motif, that was a homage to his wife Roxanne, who was in attendance with Sam at the meet. The more Sam spoke of the "Foxy Roxy" Box Car it becae apparent to those listening that Sam might be spending the night in a Box Car instead. Marty Wik was up next showing a lantern he found in an antique store. The Chicago, Milwaukee and St Paul was the precursor to the Milwaukee Road. Quite a find! Chris Allen had a display of several TCA Convention and Banquet Cars, including his recent acquisition, the Campbell's Soup Banquet Car from the 1989 Convention in Valley Forge he purchased from Peter Atonna. Gordon Wilson concluded the Educational Segment with a very informative example of some faked Lionel cars that were chemically altered to appear white instead of yellow. Gordon brought the "rare" white barrel car and white stock car as examples.

The Mystery Greeter was revealed to be Barbara Lautazi who named John Upshur as the recipient of the free raffle tickets. Winners of the month's raffle were Tony Saulina Lionel RR Club Tank Car, Jonathan Peiffer 1990 TCA Convention Car, John Hinderer Diecast Fire Engine, Dave Kuszynski Diecast car and trailer, Bill Richardson Lionel Maintenance Shed, Dave Brown Bachman Union Station, Roger Kramer K Line Barn, Jim Caras Train video and plastic car.



Jonathan Peiffer and Steve Bienstock chat with Sam McElwee at his sales table (before he spent the night in the Box Car)



One of the busiest tables at any of our Meets, the Division Coffee Club. Barbara Lautazi and Sally Treichel (back towards the camera) making sure everyone is happy



Gordon Wilson gave a very information presentation on color variations that began appearing in the 1980's



Marty Wik proudly displaying the railroad lantern he found while antiquing



Some of the chemically altered cars from Gordon's collection. Originals on the left, "rare" variations on the right (thanks to modern chemistry)



Wow! A full house for the first meeting of the year.

TCA Desert Division BOD Meeting – January 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM at the home of President Chris Allen

In Attendance; Chris Allen, Michael Dietrich, Bob Herman, Angelo Lautazi, Beth Stange, Phil Todd, on teleconference Greg Palmer and David Nycz

Approval of Agenda - The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed

Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes - Bob noted that there needed to be a correction. The Income and Expense report was for the previous month and not for the year end. Angelo made the correction.

Treasurers Report - Treasurer Bob Herman reported that the Savings Account has \$35,793.89 and Checking has \$8362.57. Bob submitted the year end Income/Expense report.

Membership Report - Angelo reported that membership stands at 304 members which included the 18 new members that the Division sponsored from the ATTS. National has received our payment for these 18 memberships and have issued their TCA numbers. Greg and David asked that Angelo email them with any drop notices for Rio Grande Chapter members.

BOD & General Meet schedule for 2014 - The schedule and location was set for the BOD meetings. Chris explained the problem with the meeting location for Saturday's meet and the need to get the word out for the new location. The info is on the web site and emails have been sent. It was decided that there would not be a November "mini" meet this year.

BOD Annual Dinner - The Annual No-Host BOD Dinner will be held at the Chaparral Suites on Friday Feb. 7th. Invitation letters have been sent. Please RSVP and regrets to Bill Mack

Old Business:

Year End Review - Bob reviewed the year end Income and Expense report. It was noted that we were over budget mainly as a result of the Trailer project and the ATTS. Bob then distributed specific reports on the ATTS and the Holiday Party. The Holiday Party's shortfall was expected. The ATTS also had a shortfall but we will get into the details at the next BOD meeting when John Upshur will attend. Our new format and venue was considered to be successful by most. It was agreed that we will need to tweak some things going forward.

New Business

Preliminary 2014 Budget - Bob submitted a preliminary budget for 2014 which has a significant deficit. There was some discussion on possible spending cuts. Bob indicated that he had enough items for raffle prizes so there was no need to purchase more at this time. Chris asked Bob to submit some items for a Spring Raffle.

ATTS for 2014 - In conversations with Chair John Upshur it was decided that the show would be kept as a one day show the week after Thanksgiving.

Holiday Party for 2014 - The party will be held on Sunday Dec 7th preliminary contracts already ongoing.

New Income Generators - The Board feels that there are many opportunities to increase our income this year and this would make up the deficit on the preliminary budget. Income opportunities include the January Auction, the Gordon Wilson Auction, Spring Raffle and the Pizza Meet Auction. Angelo and Marty Wik will be putting together a sales sheet of the Club's Convention Cars. Chris stated he was in contact with Peter Atonna regarding the final Beer Reefer and that it might be available for sale this year as a club fund raiser. Also the club will be actively pursuing train consignments to sell at auction.

2019 Convention Fund Raiser Car - The Board agreed that the Division would fund the project for the Rio Grande Chapter and after the initial investment was repaid all profits would seed the 2019 Convention Account

Future Division Fund Raising - Beth wants to investigate the possibility of creating a fund raising car based on the "Freedom" train at the Scottsdale RR Park to help offset costs for the McCormick Stillman Railroad project that her committee is currently working on.

Rio Grande Chapter - The Board agreed with the suggestion from President Allen that any Division dues paid by the Rio Grande Chapter members be returned to the Chapter. This will aid them in recruitment for the upcoming convention and not adversely affect the Division budget.

Division Bylaws - Angelo asked if there was a completed copy of the newly edited By-Laws. Chris said he would get a copy of the revised By-Laws.

Trailer Module - Chris would like to get the Trailer to the February Meet to show the members the work in progress.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. The next board meeting is scheduled to be on February 5th at Beth's home.

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Angelo Lautazi

President's Message

Before I get too carried away I would like to thank all of you for giving me your support for these next two years. I have heard from so many of you and I am glad we all share the same joy of collecting and operating tinplate and toy trains. Your well wishes for me and the newly elected officers of the Division are always appreciated.

One of the things I have heard several times the last few months is, "I joined TCA and the Division to learn how to build.... or operate... or how do you...". So you come to the meeting hoping to pick up some clues and the educational segment is usually about a collectable postwar train, maybe something unique that has caught a members eye, or our travels and stories about a piece of railroadania from our travels.

I hear you loud and clear and it brings up an interesting observation. TCA is many things to many people. Without a doubt it is the preeminent toy train collecting organization in the United States. We will be celebrating our 60th Anniversary this year and no other organization or manufacturer has taken the time to document the rich history toy trains has had in this country, but times and our members change.

We have numerous interests besides collecting trains. Chasing trains, watching or helping old trains being restored, and riding the rails on train excursions is very common, but still related to our hobby. An automobile, or rather just about anything with a motor is another very popular hobby amongst train fans. A very dear friend of mine always wears his car hat to train shows and his train hat whenever he is bumping around car shows. It seems to him that many of us not only remember the trains of our youth but also our next love, the car that replaced it.

The challenges we face here at the Division are the same that face our national Association. With such a diverse interest in the hobby of collecting and operating toy trains, how do we keep the interest up and serve the needs of all of our members?

The trailer module project is one area you can both learn by doing as well as understand why certain decisions are made. Just like building any layout at home, each obstacle presents a challenge and a learning opportunity. By volunteering a few hours many of your questions can be answered or maybe you can provide the answer so others can learn from you. We will bring the trailer module to the February Meet, finished or not, so you can see where the project is presently at.

Another possibility to learn and ask questions will be the return of the layout visits. Dave and Judy Brown have opened their home after the February meet so we can view Dave's layout. As with many layouts, it is never completed and Dave is very knowledgeable and happy to share ideas with you. If you have a layout, no matter how big or small please consider having an after meet visitation at your house. It doesn't matter the size of the layout or the gauge of the trains, operating layouts are always a joy to watch and to learn from. Many ideas can be scaled up or down and there are always enough, "Why did you do it that way?" to go around

Gordon Wilson a long time member of the Standards Committee gave a very informative speech during the educational segment in January about chemically altered cars that swept the collectable market place three decades ago until the fraud was unveiled.

In future educational segments we hope to add to some of your other questions about how or why something was done a certain way and maybe hear from other members on how they solved a tricky situation. Of course we still will not stray far from our roots and talk about collectable trains as well. The hobby is as wide as the western sky, with plenty of views for everyone. Let me hear from you on what you would like to hear about at our educational segment and let's keep the conversations and interests going.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris", is located at the bottom right of the page. The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial 'C'.

RIO GRANDE CHAPTER EDUCATIONAL PICTURES



Greg Palmer had a IVES/Lionel transition observation car and talked about what came from who



Greg also brought the Junior Bridge Co. Signal Bridge that was recently featured in the TC Quarterly



George Domeny with his American Flyer prewar O gauge Golden State passenger set



Don Kuster with three nice American Flyer log cars



Chris Wieclaw discussing his Lionel postwar 1615 switchers



After Meet visitation to see Frank Dean's layout utilizing Fastrack and numerous postwar accessories



Rio Grande Chapter

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TCA RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

By David Nycz - TCA 94-38787



The January Rio Grand Chapter meeting was held on January 18, 2014 at Los Altos Christian Church with 21 members attending. The meeting began with the show and tell, educational segment.

Greg Palmer had a 1929 #186 Pullman Car Ives/Lionel transition car which he pointed out various components from both Ives and Lionel that were on the car. Greg also brought a Junior Signal Bridge; a similar bridge was shown in an article in the January 2014 TCA Quarterly magazine. Next, George Domeny, showed a three car American Flyer O Gauge "Golden State" passenger set #3280 – 3282 that was manufactured from 1928-31 and in 1934 in two tone blue. Don Kuster followed displaying three American Flyer Log Cars. Chris Wieclaw displayed a pair of Lionel #1615 Locomotives. Wrapping up the segment John Anderson spoke about a WWII aviation range finder with airplane identification made by American Flyer that his son had purchased.

Outgoing President Greg Palmer started the meeting by thanking the officers and members for their support in establishing, growing and maintaining of the Rio Grande Chapter for the last eight years. The treasurer reported a balance of \$1930.22 which noted we lost \$56.34 on the Pumpkin Meet. (\$100 price increase in advertising and lower attendance accounted for a \$56.34 loss for the meet). Art Lites presented information about building a train layout board as a possible Pumpkin Meet activity. The Chapter agreed to hold this year's Pumpkin Meet on October 26, 2014.

Next the Chapter held elections for the 2014 – 2016 term with the following members elected: President-David Nycz; Retired, with 30 years in manufacturing recycling service precious metals. Vice-President-George Domeny; Retired, with 35 years in hospital finance, served on three medical related boards and a county bond authority. Secretary-Scott Eckstein; Retired, 35 years on-site manager precast concrete manufacturing and is currently involved in restoring the 2926 Santa Fe Steam Locomotive. Treasurer-Don

Kuster; Retired, 37 years in Technical Development Law Book printing industry, Treasurer for two other non-profit charitable organizations. The Chapter Board Members are; Art Lites, Semi-retired, 40 years in sales for medical equipment and pharmaceutical, VP NM Corvette Association, former Credit Union and Children's charity board member. Jon Spargo, retired, 38 years safety officer at the Very Large Array Radio Telescope currently the safety officer for the 2926 Santa Fe Steam Locomotive restoration project. Greg Palmer (past President); Retired, 28 years Media Specialist, Librarian, and Teacher for High School and Junior High.

David Nycz suggested we move our account to US New Mexico Federal Credit Union to avoid the new fee schedule with our current bank. The membership voted to allow the President and Treasurer to make a change with the Boards approval. The membership voted to elect Scott and Elaine Eckstein as permanent co-chairs for the 2019 Convention. Chris Allen will be at our February meeting to discuss a Chapter Convention Car to be funded by the Desert Division. The 2014 budget income of \$2,420.00 and expenses of \$2,245.00 was approved by the members.

2014 Meetings: (Location at Los Altos Church@ 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted): February 15, 2014 (after meet David Nycz); March 15, 2014 (after meet Dale Schafer); April 12, 2014 with Swap Meet, 9am – 12am (Change from 19th due to Easter); September 20, 2014 Pumpkin meet October 26, 2014-Sheridan Uptown.

The after meet activity was at Frank Dean's house which featured his 13.5' x 22' U shaped O'Gauge layout. The layout has four operating levels of trains. Four trains can be run simultaneously along with two trolley lines. The layout is unique in it utilizes Fastrack which has been modified for use with Post War accessories. Odyssey Locomotives are utilized to navigate the different inclines automatically. The track work is complete however the scenery is only 25% complete.

SCALE CRAFT

By Peter Atonna TCA 75-7578

At our local train club meet last month, a friend brought me an "old" train car. He is in HO and had no use for it, so thought I might be interested. Well, I never turn down anything "free". When he gave it to me it was obviously an old O scale refrigerator car. But turning it over to see if I could find a clue as to the manufacturer, I saw it was made by Scale Craft. Now, I am excited. Although I know of Scale Craft's history in OO gauge, I had never had one of their O scale cars. So, why is this exciting to me? And why might it be of interest to folks in the tinplate side of the hobby?



Photo 1 - the Refer

In the 1930's, the toy train hobby was rapidly evolving. Scale modelers were growing rapidly in numbers and many new manufacturers entered the field to cater to them. Many, such as Walthers, offered their models in both scale and tinplate versions. And we all know of Lionel's movement towards scale detailed if not size models toward the end of the decade. And the most famous of that movement was the introduction of the Scale 700E Hudson in both three rail and outside third rail. In fact many photos of O scale layouts of that era had 700E's prominently featured (see many photos of Frank Ellison's layout for example).

Then in 1938 Lionel introduced its direct entry into the scale market with their OO scale line, offered in both two and three rail track and trains. And the tie to Scale Craft? Although never proven, it has long been speculated that the original photos of the OO cars in the catalog were actually Scale Craft OO cars, repainted and re-

lettered. There are even stories that Lionel copied Scale Craft's dies for its four freight cars. However, if copied, the Lionel version did have some differences, see the undersides of the two cabooses, for example.



Photo 2 - Scale Craft and Lionel cabooses, Lionel on the right



Photo 3 - Undersides of Scale Craft and Lionel cabooses, Lionel on the right

So, now back to Scale Craft. This Chicago firm had been making O scale models throughout the 1930's. I have two of their O scale catalogs, one from 1934 and one 1937. So looking for my new refer, there it was in both catalogs. So, I was able to verify its authenticity. (Photo 4)

Looking more closely at the car, it was not built up, but obviously a kit as the lettering was by decals and the painting done by the builder. Looking at the underside, you can see the trucks were quite unique, being held on by a cotter pin and the bolster rotated in the side frame for equalization. The coupler is held on by a pin also. Yet, otherwise the car matches the construction of scale car kits used to this day. (Photos 5 & 6)



Photo 4 - Scale Craft catalog page showing my Refrigerator Car



Photo 5 - Reefer underbody showing the Scale Craft name in the frame

But, back to Scale Craft. In addition to their "Lionel" four cars, they offered a full line of kits in OO scale. My favorite is a baggage car and coach. These are of die cast metal and are of equal in quality to the cast freight cars - and in my opinion of a quality equal to anything produced in the next 50 years. The doors open and the stairwell traps even fold back to let OO scale passengers climb into the car! (Photo 7)



Photo 6 - Reefer trucks and coupler



Photo 7 - Scale Craft coach

Other cars were more typical of the construction of the O scale freight car. Wood or stamped metal sides with wood frames. But they produced a wide variety of cars and road names.

Finally, back to my new gift. It has now a place on my display shelves as a living symbol, not only of the history of our hobby, but how so many elements of are tied together.



Photo 8 - Scale Craft trains with Lionel OO gauge Hudsons. The passenger train has all Scale Craft cars

AUCTION INFORMATION

by Gordon L. Wilson, TCA #76-10233

Since the announcement several years ago that I was contemplating the reduction in size of my toy train collection, the one repetitive question has been, "Why?" The answer is really quite simple – I'd like to share what I've accumulated with others. My collection, especially of Post-War Lionel, came about as a result of two things: Frustration with MPC and a Challenge.

It is said we're all a product of our environment. I knew there isn't an official medical "gene" connected with COLLECTING, but my mother was a collector. I inherited her "Collector Gene!" I have extensive collections of Sports Memorabilia; M&M's Candy Memorabilia; Navajo Indian Kachina Dolls; Miniature figures playing Musical Instruments; Musical Instruments from around the World; Major "Events"; and, of course, Post-War Lionel Trains.

Previously, I've collected and sold a complete collection of Post-War Marx Toy Trains and Complete MPC Trains from 1970 through 1981. It was the latter which steered me onto this complete Post-War Lionel Collection. In 1982, MPC Lionel came out with 14 new Box Cars, which seemed "way over the line" of rational marketing. "Enough is enough," I reasoned, and sold everything I'd collected of the NEW LIONEL I'd been collecting since getting back into the toy train hobby after a lengthy absence.

Having already accumulated a good sized amount of Post-War Lionel in my youth, I read a challenge in a hobby journal which stated, "I've never seen a complete collection of every piece of Post War Lionel Trains." That did it! I was already working at the most successful Toy Train Store in the Philadelphia area, ANTIQUE TRAINS of Turnersville, New Jersey, and had been a member of the TCA, LCCA, and TTOS for a number of years. I had met and become friends with men whom I could already turn to for advice and help as needed. The late Rich Bimmer, the late Charles Weber, Bruce Greenberg, the late James Sattler, the late Lou Redman, the late Al Levin, William Sivley, Terral Klaassen, Don Shaw, Ed Prenderville, and the late Lennie Dean are but a few. I soon became quite knowledgeable about Post-War Lionel's history and variations. My collection grew by leaps and bounds, especially because of working at Antique Trains and my proximity to The Train Station and Train Collectors

Warehouse, both in North Jersey. The "C" in Train Collectors Association really stood out for me, despite a large layout in the 2000 square foot basement of my home in New Jersey.

For personal reasons, I chose to base my collection on two things: Color, and Having at least one piece of everything Lionel catalogued between 1945 and 1969. So far as I can determine, up until this past December of 2013, there were fewer than six pieces missing from that goal.

Since making it known that this collection is going to auctions in the Desert Division and those run by Greg Stout, a number of people have said to me that they aren't familiar with the descriptions I've used in the Desert Division Auction Catalog. My only response is that I guess I underestimated why people don't know the terms because the "C" in TCA does stand for "Collector." For instance, the so-called lower end locomotives, usually referred to as "Scouts" are very difficult to find in whole, nice, and operating condition. They were generally available in ENTRY LEVEL sets. Even Lionel's Customer Care Department didn't pay close attention to them, thus some very strange and unusual variations were created. Many of these "cheap" engines are worth hundreds of dollars to collectors because so few survived. The best way to determine the rarity of what appears in the catalog of the trains in my collection is to check the Full Volume Guides to Post-War Lionel rather than try to rely on the Pocket Editions. If you do not have these large editions, they are available for sale at Burling's Ton of Trains, AZ Train Depot, E-Bay, the National Toy Train Museum Library in Strasburg, Pennsylvania, possibly via Amazon.com, or Google or maybe your local library. Perhaps a train collector friend has one you may borrow. Bruce Greenberg, a Desert Division member, also has them for sale.

Why do you need to know these things? When I decided to offer these items for auction in the Desert Division, rather than send everything to Greg Stout or put it on E-Bay, I did so because I wanted to offer our members the opportunity to obtain some hard-to-get pieces at affordable prices. I realize a Desert Division auction is not going to bring the huge sum a National venue will. This is the Division which has supported me since 1979 and I wish to say Thank You.

No, the contents of this auction are not “left overs.” You are going to find the very rare 2465 Sunoco Two-Dome Tank Car with the Single Decal in the center of the Tank from 1946. When I first moved here in 1988, I was offered \$5,000 for it. I said “No,” because I never dreamed I'd ever find a second one. There are a dozen Motorized Units in this Auction; four (4) F-3 Diesels; three (3) FM Trainmasters; two Lionel Icons: a 773 Hudson and a Pennsy GG-1. Did you ever try to find the N&W Work Caboose? How About the 2023 Gray Nose Union Pacific Alco A-A from 1950? It was a Christmas present of mine that year! In 1964 Lionel made a Mylar Space Balloon they called a HELIOS, probably the rarest of all their Space and Military items. Those are just a few samples of the items in this auction. I don't think you'd call them “left-overs,” would you?

To run the trains you need power and there are numerous transformers, many of the strange, unusual, and yes, boxed variety. BUT, to get the truly rare and unusual pieces, you will need to know which pieces are which. Try to obtain one of the full-size Greenberg Guide Books, so you can increase the size of the “C” in your TCA membership.

Because of size and time limitations, there are only 500 lots in each auction, Desert Division and Stout, this year. That adds up to roughly 1,000 pieces. My collection numbers well over 5,000. In all probability, this March 15-16 will be just the first of at least one more Desert Division auction of my items, with many more pieces of rolling stock and accessories in the next one. I hope you will be able to attend and bid on the items which I am sharing with you, my train friends and colleagues in the T. C. A.

EDUCATIONAL SEGMENT ANNOUNCED FOR FEBRUARY MEET

Yes, it is February and you have been probably thinking of that sweetheart in your life. Maybe your mind wanders off to that sweetheart of a deal you worked out when you bought that special piece for you collection or layout? Not every member can show their love by having that special person immortalized on the side of a Box Car but maybe you can bring your favorite red train or chocolate special. Use your imagination to provide your own twist for your Valentine tie in. You say you're not the unromantic type; well fear not, February also has us honoring President's Day as well. So if your allergic to pink ribbons and hearts, think of dusting off that President's Set or Congressional you might have on the shelf and bring it to the meet with a great story.

FEBRUARY AFTER MEET VISITATION

Dave and Judy Brown will open their home following the February Meet so we can view the progress in Dave's layout. Dave is a member of several Train Clubs here in the Valley and enjoys sharing his knowledge about layouts, construction tips and of course running trains. Maps and directions will be available at the Meet.

DESERT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2015

President:	Chris Allen	480-820-9559	Directors:	David Nycz	505-296-8905
Vice-President:	Mike Dietrich	623-572-3538		Greg Palmer	505-898-3840
Secretary:	Angelo Lautazi	480-575-7006		Beth Stange	480-947-5663
Treasurer:	Bob Herman	480-948-2730		Phil Todd	480-288-0094

RIO GRANDE CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2015

President:	David Nycz	505-296-8905	Directors:	Art Lites	505-463-1951
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Secretary:	Scott Eckstein	505-332-0947		Jon Spargo	575-835-1606
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Hudson Raffle 2014

If you were at the January Meet you heard last year's Hudson winner, Marty Wik, talk about winning the 2013 Hudson. As many of you know Marty is a avid American Flyer collector but he still purchased a Hudson ticket to support the Division and it paid off in aces for him. Marty was able to sell the Hudson to another Desert Division member, Bill Sivley, on the spot at the Arizona Toy Train Show. Bill got the very desirable Hudson and Marty in turn bought a new American Flyer loco with the proceeds and everyone walked away happy. Is this your year? The Hudson Raffle for 2014 features another beautiful Lionel 773 from 1964 graded C-8. The Hudson has been serviced and lubed and will make a beautiful addition to your layout, display or maybe even you wallet. The rules for this year's drawing are simple and printed below. Tickets go on sale at the February Meet.

- Only 100 tickets will be sold and they will be sold exclusively to Desert Division members until the October General Meet. Following that meet, any remaining unsold tickets will be made available to any TCA member or the public.
- Starting in February and at every Division Meet with the exception for the July mini-meet, a name will be drawn from the tickets sold and that person awarded \$100.
- **You MUST be present to win the \$100.** If the member is not present, another name will be drawn until a member in attendance is called. However, if a members name is called and they are representing the Division such as working at a module display and the event coincides with the General Meet, that member would be considered present at the meet and be awarded the \$100.
- The winning ticket will be pulled and announced at the end of the Arizona Toy Train Show in December. The winner has the option of either the Hudson or \$750.



TRAILER MODULE UPDATE

The trailer module continues to roll along, no pun intended. We recently asked for some member donations and several members already answered the bell. Gordon Wilson donated many of the much needed girder bridges as did Ray Pomper of Arnell Service and Repair and John Upshur. John also donated a like new Lionel #140 Banjo signal. Steve and Bonnie Rudy donated a new in the box MTH 152 Crossing gate. The layout, when unfolded, measures 12' x 13' and as you can see from the picture is a pretty blank canvas so we appreciate any donations you might have of "quiet" accessories, or those accessories that do not need to be "reloaded". Search light towers, oil wells, bubbling water towers, crossing signals and gates, #145 gateman, passenger or freight stations and platforms are just among some of the items we can use to help fill up the real estate of the module. The Division owns a Standard Gauge set and is currently looking for a solid running American Flyer "S" gauge set to be donated and kept with the module.



DUES ARE DUE

It's that time of year again. Desert Division dues are due. How do you know whether you owe dues? Look at your address label. If it is highlighted in orange, you owe dues. Please remit \$10 per year for up to five years in advance in a check made payable to Desert Division – TCA and include it in an envelope with the Registration Form which appears elsewhere in this issue of the Dispatch. If you don't want to pull apart your newsletter you may also print out the form from the Desert Division website. Visit TCADD.ORG and click on the "How to Join" button on the left, at the bottom of that page is the link for the current Registration Form. Mail forms and checks to Angelo Lautazi, Division Secretary, at 6109 E. Sonoran Trail, Scottsdale, AZ 85266 on or before February 28, 2013. That will help us create the Desert Division roster and membership cards which will be distributed in March.

THE MYSTERY GREETER RETURNS

Make sure you are wearing your member badge when you attend Division Meets. The Mystery Greeter is back and the only requirement we make is that you must be wearing your name badge to score ten free raffle tickets. Don't have a badge or you have lost yours? Contact Division Secretary Angelo Lautazi

DESERT DIVISION BOD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on February 5th at the home of Beth Stange beginning at 7:00 PM. Members are welcome to attend. Please call 480-540-9654 a day in advance to be sure there are enough chairs.



Desert Division Membership Form



Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____ TCA No. _____

Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Dues are \$10.00 per year. (Members may pay up to 5 years in advance). No of Years: X \$10.00 =

A Desert Division Badge is \$10.00 (optional):

Make your check payable to: **TCA - Desert Division** Enclosed Total =

How would you prefer to receive your Newsletter? ☐ By E-Mail (Color Pages)
☐ By Reg. Mail (Black&White)

Please Indicate Your Hobby Preferences from the Categories Below. Check All that Apply.

TRAIN ERA

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Prewar (1850=1942) | <input type="checkbox"/> 17. Ives | <input type="checkbox"/> 23L. LGB | <input type="checkbox"/> 23DD. Fleischmann |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Postwar (1945-1969) | <input type="checkbox"/> 18. Dorfan / Fandor | <input type="checkbox"/> 23M. Marklin | <input type="checkbox"/> 23EE. Carette |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Modern (1970-present) | <input type="checkbox"/> 19. MTH | <input type="checkbox"/> 23N. Metzel | <input type="checkbox"/> 23FF. Eastwood Auto |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Scale / NMRA | <input type="checkbox"/> 20. Williams | <input type="checkbox"/> 23O. Mini-Scale | <input type="checkbox"/> 23GG. Amer. Model S Ga. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Standard | <input type="checkbox"/> 21. K-Line | <input type="checkbox"/> 23P. Phoenix Ltd. | <input type="checkbox"/> 23HH. Downs S Gauge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. G or #1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22. AMT / Kusan | <input type="checkbox"/> 23Q. Plasticville | <input type="checkbox"/> 23II. Colber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. O or O-27 Tinplate | <input type="checkbox"/> 23. Other - Please Specify | <input type="checkbox"/> 23R. Littleton/Skyline | <input type="checkbox"/> 23JJ. Unique |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8. S | <input type="checkbox"/> 23A. Basset / Lowke | <input type="checkbox"/> 23S. Pride Lines | <input type="checkbox"/> 23KK. Sakai |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. HO | <input type="checkbox"/> 23B. Bing | <input type="checkbox"/> 23T. REA / Aristo-Craft | <input type="checkbox"/> 23LL. Bowser |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10. OO / American | <input type="checkbox"/> 23C. Boucher | <input type="checkbox"/> 23U. Right-O-Way | <input type="checkbox"/> 23MM. T-Reproductions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11. N | <input type="checkbox"/> 23D. Bub / Karl | <input type="checkbox"/> 23V. Rokal | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Z | <input type="checkbox"/> 23E. Buddy-L | <input type="checkbox"/> 23W. Voltamp | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Live Steam | <input type="checkbox"/> 23F. Carlisle / Finch | <input type="checkbox"/> 23X. Weaver | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23G. Elletren | <input type="checkbox"/> 23Y. McCoy | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23H. Hafner | <input type="checkbox"/> 23Z. Nationwide | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23I. Hoge | <input type="checkbox"/> 23AA. USA Trains | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23J. Hornby | <input type="checkbox"/> 23BB. S-Helper Service | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23K. Issmayer | <input type="checkbox"/> 23CC. Astor | |

MANUFACTURER

- ☐ 14. American Flyer / Gilbert
☐ 15. Lionel / Winner
☐ 16. Marx / Mars / Allstate

PERIPHERALS

- ☐ 26. Figures
☐ 27. Toys
☐ 28. Paper / Books
☐ 29. Buildings
☐ 30. Railroadiana

Do You Have a Layout?

- ☐ 24. YES ☐ 25. NO

Member or Applicant's Signature

Date

Mail to: **Angelo Lautazi**, Div. Secretary
6109 E Sonoran Trl
Scottsdale, AZ 85266

Desert Division Presents
THE GORDON WILSON AUCTION

March 15 - 16, 2014
Phoenix, AZ

500 lots of postwar trains



Grey nose UP #2023



2332 GG1



Virginian FM



#42
Picatinny Arsenal



#53 with "correct A"

Admission \$5 - includes complete catalog

For catalog viewing, go to: www.tcadd.org

**Catalog includes directions to the auction and nearby
hotel information**

“ONE OF ARIZONA’S LARGEST”

MODEL RAILROAD SWAP MEET AND SHOW



THE ARMORY MEET SATURDAY, FEB. 15th, 2014

9 AM - 1 PM \$6/PERSON \$11/FAMILY

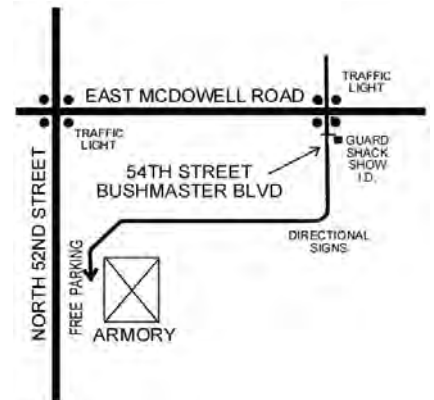
(\$1.00 off coupon available in fliers and newspaper advertisements)

AZ ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

East McDowell Road and
North 54th Street/Bushmaster Blvd.

(Proceed south on 54th Street through gate and guard shack)

**Aggressive Promotion, All Scales, Great Location,
Trains Layouts, Food Services, Raffles, Free Parking
High-Noon Engine Races and Engine Demolition,
“Buck-A-Bark” Table Advertising, End-O-Swap Auction**



To reserve your space and required admission name badges, submit this form by February 8, 2014

No refunds after February 8, 2014. Security is scheduled to unlock the hall at 6:00 AM,
however, their prompt arrival cannot be guaranteed. Please print form legibly.

Name	\$25 per 8' banquet table (Bring a table cover, if desired) How many tables? _____ Amount enclosed? \$ _____ Request? _____ Will you participate in the auction? Seller? _____ Buyer? _____ Admission Name Badges 1 or 2 tables = 2 badges max. Badge #1 _____ Badge #2 _____ 3 tables or more = 4 badges max. Badge #3 _____ Badge #4 _____ More badges available at \$5.00 each
Address	
City State Zip	
Phone Email	
Buying, selling, ethics and behavior: In case of dispute, the Meet Chairperson and/or impartial referee appointed by the Meet Chairperson shall arbitrate the dispute and render a timely decision and I hereby agree to be bound by such decision. I will not pack until 2:00 PM. Not responsible for lost or stolen articles.	
Signature	Date
Make check payable to: “ Grand Canyon Model Railroaders ” Mail to: Glenn Saber, 3415 E Pasadena Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85018 Info: Glenn Saber 602-956-6695 Credit cards accepted via PayPal - Visit www.gcmrr.org Email: info@gcmrr.org	

RAILROAD



-CHANGE



ARENELL SERVICE & REPAIR – **AUTHORIZED Lionel & MTH Service Station** located in the rear of the Arizona Train Depot - Visit "RAYS CAVE" for Lionel Postwar, MPC, LTI & more for sale at great prices - I buy train collections large or small, old or new Large consignment of MTH Premier trains arriving weekly and priced to sell fast – Still have great selection of Dept 56 on hand - If you are looking for a special item let Ray be your extra set of eyes – VISA & M/C - 755 E. McKellips, Mesa, AZ 602-565-6603

BUILDING A LAYOUT? – We can furnish all GarGraves products at discount prices. Flex and sectional track, uncoupling tracks, and accessories in all gauges; the new 072 and 100" and 042 switches; DZ1000, Rix, and Tortoise switch motors, Acme controls, NJ signals, and the new Z Stuff optical crossings. For a list, contact Peter Atonna 928-636-4228 or e-mail at mjatonna@gmail.com.

BURLING'S TON OF TRAINS – Authorized Lionel, MTH, K-LINE & Mantua Dealer. With the largest selection of Post-War through new Lionel in Arizona, we invite you to see our different "Set of the Month" each month. We also buy trains. Hours are 11 AM to 5 PM, M – F and by appointment. 16924 E. Colony Dr., Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 Phone: 480-816-6501 Website: www.tonoftrains.com **AUTHORIZED LIONEL SERVICE CENTER**

GERRY'S TRAINS – Parts & repair service for Lionel, American Flyer, standard gauge pre & post war and Marklin HO trains. I buy old trains and toys, one piece or entire collections. Gerry Klei, 8608 E. Cheryl Dr., Scottsdale, AZ Phone 480- 998-5349

THE TRAIN STATION – Mountain Lakes, NJ. Top 10 Authorized Lionel and AF Sales and Service since 1974. New, Used, Bought, Sold, Repaired. 973-263-1979 www.train-station.com.

ARIZONA TOY TRAIN REPAIR – Complete parts and repair service for ONLY Lionel postwar and prewar trains and accessories at reasonable rates by a long-time hobbyist. Rapid turnaround usually within a week, if parts are in stock – two weeks or less if parts need to be ordered. Repairs guaranteed for a year. Occasionally postwar items for sale. Complete access to Lionel postwar and prewar service and operating documents at central Phoenix' only Lionel repair facility. TCA members mention this ad and get the first hour of labor FREE. Tony Ford, 5547 N. 10th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85013 (602)369-5938

Your source for 3rd Rail trains: In stock: One 3 rail New Haven FL9, \$575.00 TMCC and Railsounds. These are more or less sold out! Taking Preorders: FP7 A & B units available for the first time in O in many roads including SP Black Widow, modernized heavyweight coaches and Pullman Standard coaches. Special project ideas? Let me know! call Jonathan Peiffer at 602.561.4131, email at jonathanpeiffer@live.com or facebook at IBTA Trains

Expanded selection of Lionel and American Flyer Parts – Call or stop by my table at the Meet - DeLon Freije 701-331-2837

WANTED: Small Orange/Blue Lionel Bulb Boxes (1" square) Nos 28-3 and 2026-58. Gordon L. Wilson, 480-837-5344, exTCA1@aol.com

For Sale: Pabst Beer train sign. This is the classic companion sign to the auto sign, both from 1961. Lights, but motor is no longer working. A classic train room decor item. \$195. Send an email for photos. Peter Atonna 928-636-4228 or mjatonna@gmail.com

FOR SALE Marx 2002 Hand Car Red OB \$50 - Marx 2002 Hand Car Grey OB \$50 - Lionel 5734 REA Reefer 1985 TCA Convention Car C-8 P10 \$50 - 2011 TCA Banquet Car Weaver Speckles Sugar PS-2 Grey Covered Hopper C-10 P-10 \$175 - K Line K611 NY Central Classic Illuminated Caboose C-8 P-10 \$25 – Lionel 6-29968 Beatles Hard Day's Night c-10 P-10 \$60 – Lionel 6-52361 NTTM 50th Anniversary C10 P-10 \$75 Please call for information Dannie L. Martin 520-360-0519 dannieaz@cox.net

FOR SALE: Out of print Greenberg books: Lionel, American Flyer, Marx, etc. Call Bruce Greenberg at 703-461-6991 (9-5 Eastern Daylight) or visit his web site, www.sykesvillehistory.us, for a current list.

FOR SALE: Lionel All-Brass Binnacle from U.S. Navy WW II Ship - \$2,000 plus shipping. Gordon L. Wilson, 480-837-5344, exTCA1@aol.com

FOR SALE: Lionel Scale O 6-52500 Desert Division ATSF Grand Canyon Reefer \$50, Lionel 6-18562 SP GP9 w/TMCC \$150, 2 ea Pair of used Super O switches w/OB P-8 \$35ea or both \$55 - Postwar Lionel 675 w/tender \$125 – 665 w/tender \$100 – 621 NW-2 \$60 – 611 NW-2 \$75 – 602 NW-2 \$75 – 356 Freight Station w/carts no box \$50 Chris Allen 480-820-9559

FOR SALE: Lionel "O" operating layout 4'x8' and 17" high. Includes 2037 w/whistle tender, 2 manual switches, oper. Barrel car and loader, oper 3656 Cattle car and stockyard, Milk car and platform w/1033 transformer. Loco, tender, and transformer serviced by Gerry Klei 6 months ago. Layout was designed for my grandchildren and to fit under my layout for storage. Heavy duty legs with casters 4 yrs. old in like new condition \$1,200 Joe Bock 928-282-0850 or email jgbock@commspeed.net for photo

This page is provided as a service to our members for trading among themselves on a space available basis. Contact them directly for items listed above.

THE BACK PAGE

FOR THINGS THAT DIDN'T FIT ELSEWHERE



More from Frank Dean's layout tour following the Rio Grande Chapter Meet



Frank's layout utilizes Lionel's Fastrack but he uses Postwar Lionel accessories throughout his layout



Dan Palaschak caught paying his dues. Have you?



NOT trick photography, you just never know what will show up at a Meet

The 60th TCA National Convention
Philadelphia, PA



DIVISION MEET LOCATION

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
1500 W. Maryland Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85015



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