

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
AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND

Visit our Website: www.tcadd.org



Volume 50, No. 1

February/March 2021

MARCH IN PERSON MEET ON DECK

Editor's Note: Welcome to 2021! Because we are only holding in-person meetings on the odd months until the fall, means there is not much for this newsletter to write about every month. Until September, the Dispatch will be distributed on the odd months just prior to our in-person meets.

We will be meeting at the Phoenix Elks Lodge through April with next month's April Meet another Park 'n Swap Meet in the Elk parking lot. The March Meeting will be a closed TCA Division Meet indoors for TCA members only. As always, we will provide free sales tables to our members.

More on the Divisions Meets and events will be reported in the newsletter under the Annual Report coming up shortly.

The January Meet started with sales tables getting snatched up by the early birds Although we are quite back to pre-covid levels, members reported good sales.

The January Annual Business meeting started promptly at 10:00 AM with the President welcoming everyone and thanking them for maintaining proper distancing for the meeting.

Secretary Lautazi announced our current membership as 185 Active (dues Paying) members of the 271 TCA members in our boundaries. REMINDER, Because of covid your dues have been automatically extended for one year. There will be no dues collected this year. There were no visitors at the January Meeting.

Treasurer Mark Thompson reported the end of the year balances in all our accounts: Checking 12,781.82, Savings \$190.11 the CD \$20,045.47 and PayPal \$1,632.58. The PayPal account We are still waiting to hear from the IRS on our 501c3 application request. Editor's Note: Read the President's Message for latest information.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

March 13 – March Division General Meet

8:30 AM member only swap – 10:00 AM General Business Meeting
Phoenix Elks Lodge - 14424 N 32nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85032

April 10 – April Park n' Swap - Parking Lot Train Show

7:30 AM Vendor Setup 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM Open to the Public
Phoenix Elks Lodge 14424 N 32nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85032

~~CANCELLED April 17th Multi-Club Spring Picnic CANCELLED~~

~~10:30 AM – 1:00 PM Stillman Ramada
McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park Scottsdale, AZ~~

Next it was announced that the Member of the Year and the Volunteer of the year was postponed because we had very few events and meets last year.

The Committee Appointments for the upcoming year remain the same from last year.

There were no questions, and the Annual Business Meeting was adjourned.

The President next opened the General Business Meeting with general announcements. February and April will be Park 'n Swap Meets in the Elks Lodge parking lot. March and May will be in person meetings with the May Meet being the return of the Pizza Meet. There is an issue with the location of the May meeting since the Elks Lodge has a restaurant license, they will not us bring in the large orders of Pizzas we need for the Meet. Our fallback plan is to hold the Pizza Meet at the same location we hold our regular auctions, the Paradise Valley United Methodist Church. We are hoping that by June with the ramping up of the vaccines in Arizona, our new location on 32nd St will be open to renting to the public. Editor's Note: We have signed a contract with the Paradise Valley United Methodist Church on Lincoln and will hold the Pizza Meetza there on May 8. More details to follow.

All the spring school "Transportation Days" have been postponed this year for obvious reasons. We have been asked to supply our module trailer for the Paradise & Pacific Club to run at PVUMC which we agreed. They will run the module with their own club members, we are just supplying the layout to assist. Grand Canyon Model Railroaders who normally work with the P&P for this event has their module trailer down for maintenance and we were happy to assist both clubs for this event.

Next was the announcement that we are planning to combine the 50th Anniversary Party with the Christmas Party. The date will be Sunday December 12 and the location will be the Phoenix Elks Lodge where we have been meeting this winter & spring. Dinner will once again be buffet style with Prime Rib back on the menu. Other details will continue to be worked out.

Our 50th Anniversary two car set is on sale now. This will be the final car in the A-1 Beer

series. Our Members said they wanted a prototypical car and we delivered. The car is made by Lionel and made in the USA. You can order online using a credit card or by filing in the order form and leaving it with Angelo or mailing it to Peter Atonna. We have no control over PayPal charging online orders Arizona sales tax.

Our collecting of soda cans has been suspended because of the fall of aluminum scrap prices. At the current recycling prices it is not worth the effort. Either recycle them yourselves or wait for the prices to go back up for the program to be viable again.

The Educational Segment featured **Paul Wassermann** brought two table prizes from the 1997 TCA National Convention in Phoenix, one was the limited edition of the Union Station in the gold box the other was a Bachman Plasticville Switch Tower. It was produced in unusual colors and has no tabs to assemble it without glue. Paul also had an original Lionel rivet press along with the rivet tools. **John Zaval** brought two Lionel 3512 Fireman and Ladder car. One had a silver ladder the other had the more common black ladder. John also displayed the difference in the hose reels. **Chris Allen** had several cars and several stories about each. First was the prize the Division won for the Win Big campaign. Although we didn't finish first we received a nice C&NW Hopper car that ran on the layout at the National Toy Train Museum. He stated he wanted to get the car back into the hands of the members so it will be in an upcoming raffle. Next, he displayed the TCA annual Christmas Car that was recently offered. Many people were unaware of this TCA member exclusive car. Last, he displayed his recent TCA Convention car arrivals which he plans to be running this year on the layout.

Raffle Prize winners in no particular order Ralph Treichel – Lionel MKT Stock car, Katie Elgar – Lionel NYNH&H Boxcar, Ralph Treichel was a two-time winner and snagged the Weaver Boxcar on his second trip up to the prize table. Loren Hess was next up and won the CP "Pacman" Boxcar. Somebody always gets drawn last and today it was Bill Lazenby who won a train themed picture frame that he gave to Christie Wilson. Thank you all for supporting the Division.



Gordon, where is your mask? As he looks over the paper work that Paul Wassermann brought in



Oh, there it is, as he prepares to purchase some first day cover train pictures from Janet Mattern



Treasurer Mark Thompson going over "the books" prior to the Annual Business Meeting



Some of the goodies that came in the door to sell in January



John Zavala displaying two postwar Lionel 3512 Fireman and Ladder cars. John noted variations besides the obvious color in the ladders



Chris Allen shows the C&NW Hopper car that the Division won during the last WIN BIG recruitment campaign

TCA Desert Division BOD Meeting

The Desert Division Board of Directors had a meeting on October 7, 2020. The minutes from that meeting were published in the Winter edition of the DISPATCH. There is a BOD teleconference meeting scheduled for March 10 and those minutes will be published in the next newsletter.

January "Souper Bowl" Auction

The Seventh Annual Souper Bowl Auction was held January 30th at the Paradise Valley United Methodist Church. It was one of our largest auction in recent years with over 350 lots of model train treasures. Every gauge and era were represented with the second auction in a row featuring a nice selection of American Flyer. If you had a chance to browse the catalog before the auction you know it was almost evenly split between postwar and modern trains, with a wide variety of road names to choose from. The fall 2021 auction is filling up fast. Contact Paul Malek if you have some items you would like to consign or just plan to join us for the day.



Overall view of the auction tables from the back of the hall



With the bidding underway, auction preview tables quickly become buyers treasure tables



Janet Mattern getting the Jimmy John's box lunches ready. Bidders were able to special order a lunch when they picked up a bidding card. Chairs in the gallery were spaced six feet apart.



How many volunteers to put on an auction? Here's a rare photo of most of the crew. L to R, Chris Allen, Bill Gonyea, Mike Dietrich, Paul Malek, Peter Atonna, Mark Thompson, & Angelo Lautazi. Missing in the photo was Phil Todd, just out of camera view.

Presidents Message

Dear Friends,

I must apologize for the lateness of this months newsletter. I recently had a change in meds that has had me a bit under the weather. I am feeling better but way behind in emails and other business including this newsletter.

I am very optimistic about the fall train season and touching base with many of the other clubs as we plan for the fall schedules they seem as hopeful as I do that most of the restrictions currently in place, will be lifted. In fact listening to Dr. Cara Christ of the AZ DHS, she feels we might be normal by the end of May, but that still leaves a spring of careful planning of our events.

The March Meet will be indoors, and a regular Division meet for members only. Of course visitors and non-Division TCA members are always welcome, but we will not have guests selling trains. We will be indoors and the masking and social distancing requirements have not changed. If you plan to attend bring your mask or ask for one at the front table. Hand sanitizer will also be there. We did get the coffee and donut restriction lifted so there will be some refreshments and munchies available as well.

April will take us back outdoors to the parking lot and another Park 'n Swap Meet. These are proving to be quite popular with our members and the general public. The Grand Canyon Model Railroaders is planning a similar event at their location at the end of April. We have also learned that Terry Gibbs is hosting a "Hobbyist Meet" in Mesa also in a parking lot. <https://www.arizonamodeltrains.com/> Check Terry's website for more information

The Paradise & Pacific, Grand Canyon Model Railroaders, and the Division will be keeping a close watch on virus conditions as we look to host the spring picnic. As of this writing in early March it is still a go. More and more of us are being vaccinated every week.

This plus the fact that the majority have followed guidelines and continue to stay within our close circle of family and friends has greatly reduced the transmission rate. Just as dining in restaurants has shown a low chance of contracting the virus, and even lower if you dine outside like the picnic, we need to brainstorm our food service. The good news is, we have done this for so long it does not take us long to ramp up for a picnic, and a bigger plus is the Paradise & Pacific has been given permission to soft open the Model Railroad Building, limited occupancy, during and after the picnic for those of you who wish to attend. Please follow us on Facebook or the Division website for the most up to date information as there will not be an April Dispatch Newsletter.

We have worked out arrangements to hold the Pizza Meet at the same church where we hold our auctions. This is great news for those of you who feel safe coming out to the meetings and maybe a few of you who have seen the videos of how we conduct both the meetings and auctions. The church has advised us how we can safely hold the Pizza lunch.

The details on how to host the Pizza lunch have been worked out with the church. We will be working with our volunteers so that you can safely eat as much pizza as your heart desires, you just will not be able to walk into the kitchen to get it.

But more importantly will be the bringing back of our member auction. We have general layout items such as used track, switches, transformers, buildings just too much to list. We have several footlockers of this type of merchandise ready for you to take home, and who knows what walks in the door that day!

Stay safe, I hope to see you soon.

- Chris

PICTURES FROM THE FEBRUARY PARK 'n SWAP MEET



It was a cold cloudy and windy February day when we held the meet, but we still had a great turnout of over 30 sellers



Looks like Angelo Lautazi has a box of bargains for you to buy. He can't even get the table setup and customers are lining up



Division founding member Ron White was in attendance and we caught up with him out front of the Lodge



National TCA Secretary Katie Elgar had a table and was busy selling when we stopped by



Looks like member Terry Haas brought a whole trailer full of goodies to sell. The outdoor Meets allow us a great flexibility for setups



Chris Allen collecting table fees from the sellers is a bit wary of that bat Terry Gibbs is swinging



TCA Rio Grande Chapter News

By Gregory Palmer TCA 94-39039



Once again I hope all of you are well. We have no new news to report, however with the Vaccine now here, and the Covid-19 rates coming down I am in hopes that we can meet again soon. Albuquerque has moved into the Yellow which means only ten people can meet. Once we move into the Green category groups of twenty people will be allowed to meet under the current guidelines.

This will mean that we can have Chapter Meets again. My worry is that in order for the Chapter to have the October 2021 Pumpkin Meet, Albuquerque would have to move into the Green Plus category. This would allow sporting events and shows like the Pumpkin Meet, to happen with restricted crowd sizes. All these complicated rules and restrictions are arrived at by the State Health Department, and that is what is worrying me about the October Pumpkin Meet.

The Chapter Board will have a meeting shortly, and the Pumpkin Meet will be one of the topics along with finding places to have our regular Meetings, once Albuquerque gets into the Green category. I would also like to see what everyone has done, Toy Train wise,

during this past year. Until then please send your updates and photos to Chris Allen so they can be put in the newsletter so we can share them with everyone.

Our last Meeting was in February of 2020, it seems like it was years ago and not just a year ago. Once we get into the Green I would like to have an outdoor tailgate swap meet, much like the Desert Division has had.

I want to encourage everyone to obtain your Covid-19 Shots as soon as you can. The more of us who have had the vaccine the better it will be for everyone. I know some of us have had problems with the wait times but I think things will improve.

It is also very important to continue being a member of TCA. The Train Collectors Association is important to the promotion of the Toy Train Hobby. Just because we can not meet we all need to support the TCA. Also just remember, you do not need to pay for 2021 Desert Division (Chapter) dues. This was done because of the lost year. Please keep the faith that we will meet again, and have Shows again. I hope to see all of you real soon.



We had VP Mike Dietrich take off his mask for the photo (He's holding it in his right hand) Mike watched over the Division Test Track at the meet



To bad Gordon Wilson missed the meet, Terry Gibbs was taking practice swings with his branded Phillies bat

WERE THEY, OR WERE THEY NOT?

By Peter Atonna

Some Background

In the middle 1930s, the hobby of scale model railroading began to take off. Primarily O scalers wanted realistic trains operating on two rail track, even if power had to come from a raised outside third rail. Manufacturers, other than the classic toy train companies of Lionel and American Flyer, began to offer kits to assemble cars and locomotives, but as scale models.

During that time period two new scales took hold, HO and OO scale. They were derived from trains already being made by European manufacturers. But, the new, smaller scale in Europe was a hybrid. Track was 1:87th while the trains were built to a 1:76.2 scale. In this country, one group kept the track size and built equipment to the same 1:87 scale which became HO scale. The other preferred the slightly larger equipment, so kept the 1:76.2 scale and upped the **track gauge to about 3/4"**. That was called OO scale.

Each had its ardent proponents and each had several manufacturers building in their scale. **For a while in the mid 1930's, each had about the same number of proponents.**

Meanwhile, Lionel obviously did not miss out on this new segment of the hobby. Thus, they began ramping up the scale fidelity of their trains. Early examples included the City of Portland and Hiawatha streamliners. Even steam locos were redone with new, much more detailed die castings.

But it took until 1937 before Lionel introduced the famous 700E, full scale Hudson. It was offered with inside or outside third rail to appeal to scale O gaugers. It also came in a kit, with several subassemblies so the budget minded hobbyist could build his loco over time (remember this is still in the depression).

In 1938 O scale was still dominant in the hobby. Model Railroader magazine did a survey of readers and found:

O scale – 39%
HO scale – 36%
OO scale – 11%
O tinplate – 9%

Here is an ad from April 1938 Model Railroader magazine, (which focused on the scale side of the hobby) promoting the Hudson.

"OK LIONEL.."

it's as imposing and impressive as the engines that haul the famous Century

Mr. F.E. Williamson
President, New York Central System

Getting No. 700EW, "O" Gauge, quarter-inch scale model Hudson 4-4-4. Built in accordance with N.M.R.A. specifications for operation on any "O" Gauge track having curves of at least 3-foot radius. Collector (also) provided for use on either

inside or outside 3rd-rails. Complete with built-in whistle and without track display stand. Price, complete, **\$75.00**

Getting No. 700EW model Hudson model with built-in whistle and track display stand. Price, complete, **\$37.50**

Right from headquarters, from the "top man" on the line that operates the greatest fleet of Hudson locomotives in the world comes this enthusiastic "OK" for the new Lionel super-detailed scale model. To Lionel, Mr. F.E. Williamson writes:

"I have just been examining the scale model your company made of a Hudson locomotive. The manner in which you have been able to reproduce minute detail is admirable and extremely interesting. Spent an eye and the model looks for all the world as if it were a real locomotive as it is, perhaps, the finest model of the famous Century."

Thank you, Mr. Williamson, but there is more to this Lionel locomotive than the eye can see. From beginning to end, the story of this wonder model is the story of power, strength and stamina. Its

cab and boiler is a single die casting of metal that is stronger than strong statue bronze. Drive wheels are fired with bands of seamless steel. Drive rods are bushed with oil-impregnated bearings. The drive worm is cut out with a jeweler's accuracy, sealed permanently in a bath of lubricant.

Get a copy of the 700EW catalog that tells all about this Lionel model of models. By mail, 10 cents. Free from your dealer.

THE LIONEL CORPORATION
Brooklyn 1, N.Y.
15 East 28th Street, New York, N.Y.

LIONEL SCALE MODELS

Then, in 1939, Lionel shocked the model train world by introducing their line of OO scale trains. The line consisted of a beautiful reduction of the 700E steamer to 1:76th scale, with or without a whistle and with four die cast freight cars. The trains and track came in either inside three rail or two rail. Lionel was covering all bases. You could buy either

a "full scale" or a "modified scale" loco and cars to run on traditional AC power on track that made a 30" circle, complete with automatic switches and a cross track. Or you could buy the two rail version that ran on track that made a 40" circle. In any case your train would run on a traditional Lionel AC powered transformer.



The OO gauge line was heavily promoted in catalogs up until WWII cut off production of toy trains.

ENGINEERED ..for Experts!

165,519 LBS.

DRAWBAR PULL This engine pulls the heaviest of loads on the 30" or 40" track. It has a drawbar pull of 165,519 lbs., more than any other toy train.

ACCURATE DESIGN! CLEAN DEFINITION! FINE CONTROL!

NEW "OO" MODEL BUILT FOR SCALE ROADS—LIKE YOURS

KNEE ACTION WHEELS This engine has the most accurate wheels of any toy train. It has a drawbar pull of 165,519 lbs., more than any other toy train.

METEORIC TRACKS This engine pulls the heaviest of loads on the 30" or 40" track. It has a drawbar pull of 165,519 lbs., more than any other toy train.

LIONEL "OO" HOBBY MODELS

After the war Lionel's OO line never came back.

And that is a mystery. Many have speculated, me included, that if Lionel had kept the line

after the war, it plus the other OO manufacturers that returned, may have made OO scale, rather than HO scale, the dominant model train size today.

Watch "OO" Gauge

THE NEW LIONEL SCALE MODEL MIDGET

IT'S MOVING UP FAST!

LIONEL

Lionel "OO" gauge trains are made for operation on 30" or 40" track, as well as three-rail track. To understand Lionel "OO" gauge operation, forget every other model so made, you have never seen. Visualize the same features (operation of the New York Central, the fastest engine in the world) from the past in the world. Picture that power-plant-on-wheels as reduced in size you could hold it in the flat of your hand—that's Lionel "OO" gauge. See these models of your choice.

Here is my speculation as to why Lionel dropped the line: Before the war, Lionel had developed an array of operating features for their trains. Not only the whistle, but automatic couplers, cars that unloaded, accessories that loaded coal and logs, an electromagnetic crane, an operating gateman. These were heavily promoted and helped keep new and old customers coming back to get the latest "innovations".

And, other than a whistle, a smaller motor and an E unit, I suspect that the technology was not there to miniaturize those other operating features. Thus, Lionel was reluctant to give up on a successful O scale line to concentrate on a new size that did not offer the features already perfected in their older, traditional, size. Hence, they stuck with O scale after the War. But all components from the OO line did not disappear after the war. For example, the #38 operating water tank and the #165 and 182

electromagnetic cranes utilized the OO gauge motor from the small Hudson.

My OO Trains

Back in the 1990's, I "discovered" OO gauge trains. To me they were fascinating. First **they were Lionel's, but not at all like O scale** Lionel. Their smaller size offered the same interest that perhaps still drives people to HO scale.

I amassed a small collection. Since there were only four versions of the Hudson and four styles of cars, it was not that difficult to acquire a pretty complete collection. I now have three of the four Hudson variations and I believe each of the paint schemes of the cars.

At the same time, I discovered other manufacturers of **OO equipment**. I **couldn't** use the locos, since, unlike Lionel, they operated on DC current. But I found Scale Craft had also produced a line of OO freight and passenger car kits, that included die cast freight cars. A couple of shelves were filled with Lionel OO scale and also even more Scale Craft cars.



In the second iteration of my Paulden layout, I built a small, three rail OO gauge Lionel layout. It was just to enjoy and to run for visitors to show how neat that 80 year old equipment was.

Recently, **building my new "upstairs" layout** resulted in major changes to items on shelves around the basement layout. The OO shelves were around the corner from the OO layout. They were redone and you can now see the

OO trains and the layout. You can also contrast Lionel from Scale Craft trains.



On the first photo you can see Lionel OO gauge on the top five shelves and Scale Craft die cast cars on the lower three.

On the second photo you see all Scale Craft cars, including their spectacular die cast passenger cars.



Look back at the photo of the Lionel and Scale Craft trains. This leads to the third part of this story.

Are they, or are they not?

Many years ago, there were articles in TCA and other publications that noted the extreme similarity between the four Lionel die cast OO gauge freight cars and the same models already in production by Scale Craft. The speculation was that, Lionel, in its hurry to get an OO scale line into production, took the four cars, already in the Scale Craft line, and made molds from them. These became the cars Lionel offered.

That appeared to be entirely plausible. Lionel never offered any other models and theirs **looked to be identical to Scale Craft's**. An urban legend was formed and has lasted all these years.

I was curious (thanks to Covid and being pretty much stuck at home). I thought I would investigate since I had examples of both **manufacturer's cars**.

I will now give away my conclusion. Lionel **did NOT copy Scale Craft's molds**.

Here is why.

First, all four cars are clearly based on the same prototype cars.

BUT to a greater or less extent, the details on the cars are quite different. So much so, that in my mind, even if Lionel had made dies from the Scale Craft, why would they go to the trouble to make so many modifications. And, I hate to say it, but in several circumstances, the Scale Craft cars are better looking than their Lionel equivalent.

Here is my side-by-side comparison of the cars. I will let you be the judge.



Tank car: Lionel is on the top. On the detail photo, note the differences between the rivet pattern and the absence of the tie down strap on the Lionel.



Hopper car: Lionel is on the top. These two are awfully close but notice different rivet pattern on the sides and the difference in the method and design of the bottom doors.





Box Car: Lionel is on the top. The ladder on the Lionel is far more pronounced.

Then compare the details on the doors. Finally, on the topside photos, the slides and end of the Lionel car are squared off while the Scale Craft is more rounded.



The roof walks are totally different.



Caboose: Lionel is on the top. Again, these two are awfully close, perhaps the closest of all four cars. The main difference I can find is on the end where Lionel added a brake wheel that Scale Craft did not.



This is a case where I find the Lionel rivets cruder than those on the Scale Craft caboose.



And there you have it. I will leave it up to you to make your judgement. But in my mind, Lionel had a great start on a new line of trains, which was never fulfilled. Just think that if **today's Lionel catalog, rather than featuring** the current plastic HO steamer, was instead offering a classic die cast OO scale Hudson, complete with sounds, smoke, and Bluetooth/Legacy control.

Could you resist?

HUDSON DRAWING FOR 2021

So after an eleven-month hiatus, the Hudson drawing for \$100 returns with the March Meet. We last awarded a Hudson Hundo to Christie Wilson in March of 2020. Since next month is a Parking Lot Meet, we decided to restart the drawing with the March Meet in keeping with the tradition of giving ticket purchasers seven chances to win the coveted Benjamin. (after the April Parking Lot Meet the rest of 2021 is scheduled for in person meetings) **Two March's minus one April equals seven chance** for you to win the hundred-dollar drawing. Yes, we go out of our way to make things as even as we can.

There is one change to the drawing. Since the IRS now recognizes the Desert Division as a 501c3 charity we can no longer offer the \$750 as an alternate prize. Well, we

can but you will need to fill out but W-2G **gambling winnings form. I'm going to have an attorney look over the requirements to make sure I'm reading it correctly. However if** you happen to win the Hudson drawing this year you do not need to look no further than the editor of this newsletter or a dozen other members who will offer you \$750 for that troublesome postwar Hudson.

Although we do not bring the Hudson to every meet anymore, **I've seen it in the storage locker, and you will not be disappointed.** It is a 1964 postwar version and it is in C-8 condition. It will look great on any shelf or if you prefer, running around your layout. I really enjoy seeing **Hudson's on the layout stretching their legs.**

EDUCATIONAL SEGMENT FOR MARCH

There are so many ways we can go for March since we did not have a February Meet and we will not have an April or Easter Meet. **If you must need a theme think of St. Patrick's Day green, springtime or Easter. Remember you NEVER have to stick with our suggested theme. Bring in something you would like to share and tell us about it. I'm still waiting for someone to bring in a Shamrock Farms Tank Car**

RAILROAD



- CHANGE



ARENELL SERVICE & REPAIR - FACTORY AUTHORIZED MTH AND LIONEL SERVICE.....1825 E. LAUREL ST. MESA AZ 85203. CALL RAY 602-565-6603 FOR SERVICE APPOINTMENT. ARENELL@AOL.COM TCA#97-45797 Repairs on Postwar Lionel, MPC, LTI as well as MTH "O" Gauge and "G" Gauge. Certified MTH upgrade center Discounts to members of all local clubs. I pay cash for train collections old or new, large or small. VISA & M/C

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 – We will remain open reducing Ken's inventory. We have the largest selection of Post-War through new Lionel in Arizona, we invite you to stop by and browse. 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

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. Phoenix's only shop that SPECIALIZES in Lionel trains and accessories. Quick service using factory parts. Lifetime guarantee on all work. Please contact Tony Ford, 3222 E. Hartford Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85032. Call at 602-369-5938 or contact me at aztrainrepair@yahoo.com with your needs. Please note my new email address.

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.

3rd RAIL & GOLDEN GATE DEPOT DISCOUNTED TRAINS: Now accepting pre-orders for the 10 car Sunset Limited for the first time in true scale O! Introducing the first 17" true scale Harriman cars in many roads. Also new, SD7s & SD9s in too many roads to list. Call Jonathan Peiffer at 602.561.4131. Your Arizona authorized 3rd Rail and GGD Dealer. Now accepting credit cards.

FOR SALE: RAILRAX – USED ON CONSIGNMENT We have 34 sections that are 6' long \$7.50 each. 3 pieces 4', 9 pieces 3', 6 pieces 20" and 12 pieces 18" – ALL 64 pieces \$300 obo. Items in club storage in west Mesa or we can bring to the Meet for pickup. The club can do credit card for purchase. Contact Chris for details

FOR SALE: Southern Crescent Limited Passenger 5 Car Set 9530-34 never out of the box \$225. Dan Martin 520-360-0519 dannieaz@cox.net

FOR SALE: Southern Crescent Limited Passenger 5 Car Set 9530-34 never out of the box \$225. Dan Martin 520-360-0519 dannieaz@cox.net

FOR SALE: 2 each Lionel 6-16360 N&W Maxi Stack \$50/ea. or \$90/pr. - Lionel 6-16912 CN Maxi Stack rough box but complete \$50 - Lionel 6-16322 Sea Land TTUX \$45 - Lionel 6-26908 Apple Computer TTUX \$45 – Plasticville Sets & Price Guide 1989 edition \$20, Chris Allen 480-820-9559 sparkyshome@cox.net

WANTED: Plasticville. The new layout has a farm scene and I need a red/white barn, a house, farm animals and horses, fencing. If you can help, please contact me: Peter Atonna mjatonna@gmail.com

WANTED: for my collection. Lionel prewar and postwar engines in master cartons, scarce separate sale items such as Lionel scrapers, bulldozers, boxed autos, Lionel 6464-700 Santa Fe, -900 New York Central, -250 Western Pacific, -450 Great Northern boxcars in Type III body molds, mint freight cars in high grade original boxes, 6414 Autoloaders with autos in yellow, brown, or kelly green with grey bumpers, following cars in separate sale boxes: 6352 Culvert car, 6352-1 PFE icing car, 3460-25 Piggyback car, any rare Lionel items. Bill Sivley 281-804-3629 or mrwls911@yahoo.com

WANTED: Do you have a postwar Lionel steam engine laying around that you are stripping for parts, or worse? Contact me I want to bring those old steam engines back to life. I'm back in town for the winter with spare parts for all your needs. Give me a call for your parts or if you have a steam engine that needs a new home. - DeLon Freije 701-331-2837

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. Contact Editor when your item sells so space can be made available to other members.

****DEADLINE FOR AD's – THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH ****

The Back Page – Late news or items that did not fit elsewhere

PICNIC CANCELLED

On Wednesday March 10 the Desert Division held a Board of Directors Meeting. They reviewed the still current restrictions in place for mass gatherings and reviewed how it would affect the upcoming picnic. The Board decided that although we felt we had all the food service safely and properly handled we would still need to maintain proper spacing as we do at our Meets. Asking those in attendance to space out around the Stillman Ramada on the lawn and avoid sitting shoulder to shoulder on the picnic tables was defeating the purpose of fellowship and camaraderie that has been the centerpiece of the joint picnic. The fear of another possible uptick following spring break was also considered. We are too close to the finish line in this current covid season to risk anyone's health, so it was decided to cancel the picnic again this year. The newsletter is already late, so instead of editing out where the picnic is mentioned we will notify the membership through alternate communications.

MEMORIAM Johnny Ourso



I'm sad to report the news that our longtime friend Johnny Ourso passed away on February 20. Those of us who shared laughs, and smiles will have a lasting memory of his friendship. Johnny moved back to Arkansas to be near his family, and we've missed him at all the Tucson meets since.



Irvine, CA June 19 – 28, 2021

DIVISION MEET DATE & LOCATION

B.P.O.E. Phoenix Elks Lodge #355
14424 N 32nd St
Phoenix, AZ 85032



Click on the
button to
follow us on
Facebook or
YouTube

CELEBRATE WITH US!

The Desert Division is 50

1971 - 2021



But wait, there's more!

The A-1 Beer car wraps up the Arizona Brewing Company story. Our first two cars in the series featured the prewar Apache Beer brand. After the war, all Arizona drank Arizona Brewing Company's A-1 Beer.

Is that all? Absolutely not!

Our A-1 Beer car comes in two versions to help celebrate the Desert Division's anniversary. Hint, the other car may have the number 102021.

This limited run of Lionel's mechanical reefer is expected in Spring 2021. Check below for special pricing.

Please send me:

_____ single cars (our choice of number) @ \$84.99 (shipping included) \$ _____

_____ two car pairs, one of each number @\$154.99 (shipping included) \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please make checks payable to: **Desert Division** and mail to:
Desert Division 25375 N. Feather Mountain Rd. Paulden, AZ 86334
You may use a credit card or PayPal by going to: tcadd.org