

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

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Volume 51, No. 1

February 2022

SOUPER BOWL WAS SUPER!

Well the new year started off with both a Meeting and two weeks later a very full day of auction fun and the return of the "Souper Bowl". Over the past few years we've kept things safe, following all the local guidelines and as soon as we can safely return to our regular refreshments that have long been a standard for Desert Division hospitality.

Janet Mattern did a great job last year individually bagging donuts into little sandwich bags so you could enjoy something sweet to start off your day. But our Auction lunches were a bit of a hassle. Last November things relaxed enough that we no longer had to serve the pre-packaged lunches that were made at the local sub shop and were able to again bring in bigger portions and better sandwiches.

The Souper Bowl brought back the great Division cookoff and great it was. It was so great

to see all the returning chef's. Better for all of us were all the great soups and chili's they all brought in to share. While the chef's like the bragging rights of whose pot was empty first, I think we all are winners tasting the wide variations available to us. I'm so glad to have this event back in the "just as it ever was" column.

Many of us, (including your truly) missed the January meeting for a variety of reasons. For all of 2022 we will be meeting at Paradise Valley United Methodist Church. We have secured very reasonable rates for a smaller meeting room that will fill our needs. Room H-1 is best accessible from the rear of the church and is about 75 yards west of the Fellowship Hall where we hold our auctions. Look for the signs that will be up this Saturday to guide you.

In my absence, Vice President Mike Dietrich held down the fort and conducted the

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

February 12 – February Division Meet

8:30 AM member only swap – 10:00 AM Business Meeting - Paradise Valley United Methodist Church (PVUMC)
Room H-1 (Look for the signs)
4455 E Lincoln Dr, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

February 19 - Rio Grande Chapter Meeting

11:00 AM Swap Meet and Meeting – Albuquerque, NM

February 19 – GCMR Cactus Winter Swap Meet– 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

North Phoenix Baptist Church – 5757 N. Central Av. Phoenix

March 12 - Desert Division March Meet

8:30 AM member only swap – 10:00 AM Business Meeting – PVUMC Rm H-1 Paradise Valley, AZ

meeting. Attendance was reported to be on the light side partially due to the fact that many members went to the wrong location, while others erring on the side of caution with the recent “pop” in cases.

Although not required, we have always taken business meeting minutes, so we know what was discussed and more importantly who won the raffle prizes. Since none were taken, we can only assume that the winners all went away with a wonderful raffle prize.

Following the January Meet and before the Souper Auction we were able to take the trailer out and run some trains for the kiddo’s.

This event came about in a few short weeks, it was also held outdoors so we felt comfortable participating. Actually, the school did a very good job of scattering the classes around a large parking lot and we had no more than a few kids and parents at the module at any one time.

That didn’t mean we didn’t have miscues and preschoolers will always have to touch the trains as they go by. If you take a good cleansing breath as they arrive, the derailments aren’t as bad. In fact I think more than a few dad’s enjoyed learning how to retrack the trains.

February is the kickoff of the Hudson Drawing and the first hundred will be pulled at the February Meet. There will be a minor change to the drawing this year that will be announced at the meet.

This is also election year. Several years ago the Division realigned our election cycle to correspond with TCA National. As a 501c3 our fiscal year begins July 1 and runs until June 30.

However our meetings and events are based on a calendar year. It makes no sense to have a changing of officers take place July 1st and not have a meeting for 2 ½ months. The board will review the bylaws and consider changing the bylaws and election cycle back to the calendar year.

Your 2022 annual dues are also due this month. Some of you have taken advantage of the five-year plan and rolled your dues out several years, others still pay as you go. Whatever you choice please make sure we have all your current contact information on file.

As I mentioned earlier, I’ve been fighting some minor health issues, mainly with my eyes and sitting in front of the computer is a bit difficult at present. This will be an abbreviated issue and I hope to be back at 100% next month.



The hard-working Auction Crew of Souper Bowl VIII

TRANSPORTATION DAY – TEMPE, ARIZONA



Trailer all setup and ready for the kids



Not too many places beside Desert Division where you can run trains outdoors on a January morning



Most of the preschoolers had one or both parents with them



With all the flashing lights, sirens and horns the little trains held their own



THANK YOU! The kitchen Chef's and Volunteers from Souper Bowl VIII

Presidents Message

Dear Friends,

Well, one month into the new year and I'm already struggling to keep my promise of getting the newsletter out to everyone on schedule for the New Year. Some issues might be smaller than in the past, but we'll try to keep all of you informed as the Division moved forward.

After the year that just ended, where we continued to learn how to work within all the guidelines, this year was to be a return to somewhat regular activities. For the most part we are proceeding, albeit cautiously, to that goal. If this past month was any indication of the year ahead, we might have an active year ahead.

I must apologize for not making it clear where our general monthly meeting will be held this year. Some went back to the Elks Lodge. The Elks were most gracious giving us a room a year and a half ago. But they can make more money renting out the facility to weddings than our small meeting.

I understand others went to Fellowship Hall where we've held our auctions the last several years. Very close, but we are just a few buildings away to the west.

There is no need for us to rent the larger Fellowship Hall at Paradise Valley United Methodist Church when a large room is adequate for our needs, and we can save we save the club some money. Actually, quite a bit of money.

It's not that we are in dire financial straits, we just need to continue to conserve our resources as prices all around us for rental space continue to skyrocket like the real estate market.

Room H-1 at Paradise Valley United Methodist Church is west of Fellowship Hall by about 100 yds, and is easily accessible via the rear, south parking lot. We'll have a few signs up Saturday to help guide you to the new

location. Both the November and January auctions will continue to be in Fellowship Hall and we are working with them for dates and schedule conflicts. The Board will discuss the possibility of holding the Pizza Meet in 2023 in room H-1 as well, for this year, the Pizza Meet will be also held in the larger Fellowship Hall. (We were able to sign the contract before the rate increase.)

Last month we also held our first "Transportation Day" for preschoolers in Tempe. While we lost our preschool in Phoenix, we were delighted to be able to participate in this one with our trailer module.

We need to continue to run at these types of events and I have been working with PVUMC (Paradise Valley United Methodist Church) to see if we can participate in any events they have on the schedule. They will contact us about an Easter event which we assisted in last year with fellow O Gaugers "Paradise & Pacific". Just as we assist the P&P with activities at the park, we will continue to help them whenever they request a module to run for children or the public.

Of course Division Auctions continue to be very popular, attracting buyers from both Western and Rocky Mountain Divisions as well throughout Arizona. The January Auction was the return of our "Souper Bowl" and Division Chefs responded with a great variety of homemade soups and chili's. Oh how I missed this event the past two years with us scrambling to fill the lunch void with prepackaged lunch boxes that never came close to what our Division Chefs would prepare.

We are moving forward, and it looks like a very busy year ahead full of activities that are the cornerstone for Desert Division. It's more than having fun with trains, it's enjoying the fellowship of our community of friends.

----- Chris

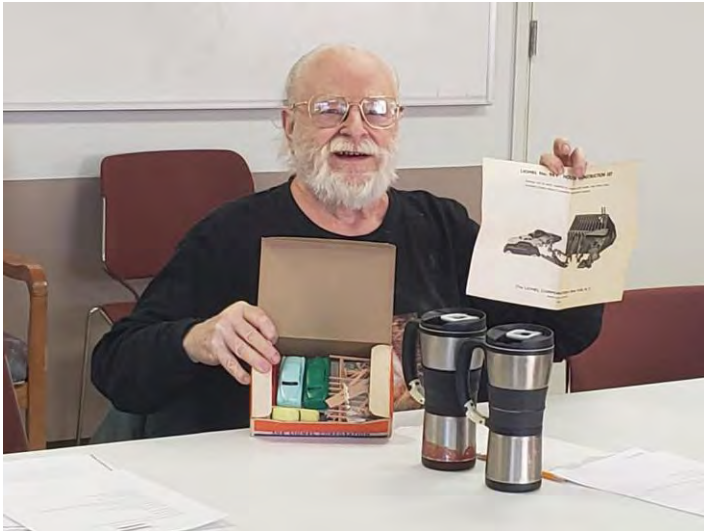
RIO GRANDE CHAPTER JANUARY EDUCATIONAL PICTURE



Greg Palmer brought some beautiful Bing and Hornby prewar trains and a Lionel 158 locomotive



Boyd Reasor talks about the Lionel CW-80 transformer and it's fast acting track protection



Jim Trevor and his Lionel 969 Construction set in like new condition



A small sampling of some scale O gauge 2 rail cars that will be offered to Chapter members first at the February meeting prior to being sold to the public

LAST CALL * DUES ARE DUE * LAST CALL

We hate chasing people down. So if your dues are due, please make our job easier and mail them in or drop them off at the February Meet. Better yet, why not pay for a few years ahead and not worry about this every January when the calendar rolls around?

The membership form is included in this newsletter and available on our website.

Please ensure that we have all your personal information including phone numbers and email address correct.

Mail forms and checks to Angelo Lautazi, Division Secretary, at 6109 E. Sonoran Trail, Scottsdale, AZ 85266 **The deadline for dues this year is February 28, 2022.** You may also save yourself postage if you wish to bring it to the February Meet.



TCA Rio Grande Chapter News

By Art Lites TCA 97-44623



Happy New Year. I think 2022 will be a great year for the Rio Grande chapter and the TCA. Our agenda is being finalized and it looks to be exciting. We have had our challenges with Covid and what I will call post-convention letdown, but your board has been busy and has come up with some new and interesting ways to make our hobby more fun. So, expect something different for our future get togethers.

Our first meeting was held on the 15th. **Show and Tell** was very informative with **Greg Palmer** leading off with a rare prewar Bing 7101 engine and cars still in like new condition after 90 years. **Jim Trevor** followed up with a hard to find Lionel 969 Construction Set in the original box complete with instructions. **Boyd Reasor** talked about his recent purchase of a new Lionel transformer and how the quick blow fuse protects modern equipment. Finally, **Scott Eckstien** showed a representative group of scale O gauge cars that were part of the Russel Meade collection. The cars were either kits or hand made. The craftsmanship was amazing.

The Business Meeting was called to order.

Treasurer's Report: Everett reported a Balance of \$6166.98 in checking and \$15013.36 in savings.

New Business:

2022 Budget - The 2022 Budget was discussed and approved.

Election of Officers - Scott Reported that the Nominees for office are as follows:

Art Lites – President, Jim Trever – Vice President, Scott Eckstein – Secretary, Everett Hagan-Treasurer, Members at large Jon Spargo, Ross Jordan, and Boyd Reasor. The motion to elect by acclamation was unanimous.

Pumpkin Meet 2022: The business meeting was short with the majority deciding to continue with the Pumpkin meet. The date has not been determined yet (end of October) but the location will be the Netherwood Church of Christ.

Meeting dates for 2022: February 19, March 19, And April 16, May 22, and September 17. The meeting will revert to 9AM from this point on. This allows members time for other activities on Saturday.

Other Events:

February 26 - TTOS Swap Meet Netherwood Church - Albuquerque, NM 9AM – 2 PM

April 2,3 - Rocky Mountain Train Show, National Western Complex - Denver, CO

Both I and the board will be making some meeting format changes which I think most members will enjoy. Some of the changes will include: a show and sessions which will allow you to see some trains operate, Train related field trips, Some clinics and guest speakers on toy train related subjects. We will be reviewing new items being introduced to the Hobby on a regular basis.

In the upcoming months **the club will be giving away three coupons for dinner for two locally. These meals will be given to meeting attendees on a random basis. More on this will becoming shortly.**

Our objective is to make our activities something you can't miss. Our second objective is to increase membership. I and the board are open to any suggestions that you think will improve this club and the Toy Train Hobby. Our next meet and meeting will be February 19, 2022. at 9:00AM. It will be at the Los Altos Christian Church, South Education Building, 11900 Haines N.E. in Albuquerque, NM. See you there.



Desert Division Membership Form



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

Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

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

E-mail Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Dues are \$15.00 per year. (Members may pay up to 5 years in advance). No of Years: X \$15.00 =

Desert Division Members must also be members
of the TCA National organization.

A Desert Division Badge is \$15.00 (optional):

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

The Desert Division Newsletter, "The Dispatch", will be sent to your email address.

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

TRAIN ERA

- ☐ 1. Prewar (1850=1942)
☐ 2. Postwar (1945-1969)
☐ 3. Modern (1970-present)

- ☐ 17. Ives
☐ 18. Dorfan / Fandor
☐ 19. MTH

- ☐ 23L. LGB
☐ 23M. Marklin
☐ 23N. Metzel

- ☐ 23DD. Fleischmann
☐ 23EE. Carette
☐ 23FF. Eastwood Auto
☐ 23GG. Amer. Model S Ga.

GAUGE

- ☐ 4. Scale / NMRA
☐ 5. Standard
☐ 6. G or #1
☐ 7. O or O-27 Tinplate
☐ 8. S
☐ 9. HO
☐ 10. OO / American
☐ 11. N
☐ 12. Z
☐ 13. Live Steam

- ☐ 20. Williams
☐ 21. K-Line
☐ 22. AMT / Kusan
☐ 23. Other - Please Specify

- ☐ 23O. Mini-Scale
☐ 23P. Phoenix Ltd.
☐ 23Q. Plasticville
☐ 23R. Littletown/Skyline

- ☐ 23HH. Downs S Gauge
☐ 23II. Colber
☐ 23JJ. Unique
☐ 23KK. Sakai
☐ 23LL. Bowser
☐ 23MM. T-Reproductions

MANUFACTURER

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

- ☐ 23A. Basset / Lowke
☐ 23B. Bing
☐ 23C. Boucher
☐ 23D. Bub / Karl
☐ 23E. Buddy-L
☐ 23F. Carlisle / Finch
☐ 23G. Elletren
☐ 23H. Hafner
☐ 23I. Hoge
☐ 23J. Hornby
☐ 23K. Issmayer

- ☐ 23S. Pride Lines
☐ 23T. REA / Aristo-Craft
☐ 23U. Right-O-Way
☐ 23V. Rokal
☐ 23W. Voltamp
☐ 23X. Weaver
☐ 23Y. McCoy
☐ 23Z. Nationwide
☐ 23AA. USA Trains
☐ 23BB. S-Helper Service
☐ 23CC. Astor

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

RAILROAD



- CHANGE



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FOR SALE: ON CONSIGNMENT We have two 6' tall x 9' long custom-made shelf units to display your trains. The shelves are grooved for O gauge and they come with plexiglass covers to minimize dust. All mounting hardware and brackets are included. The shelf units are currently in club storage in Mesa. Considering the cost of RailRax recently these are quite the bargain at \$125/pr 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: FOR SALE: Lionel Model Builder magazine, complete run #1 thru #80 (1937-1949) plus the pre-release Sample Copy of Lionel Model Engineering. All with covers, no cut-outs; \$495 + S/H, or I'll bring to DD meet. Tim Halchuck, Fountain Hills, AZ. Cell 213-700-5455 or email tim@sound-sources.com

FOR SALE: Chicago Union Station by TWTrainWorX in OB. \$995 Off the layout, new scratch built station is under way. New \$1750. See it at their website: <https://www.twtrainworxstore.com/product-category/classic-landmark-series/> Peter Atonna: mjatonna@gmail.com or 928-308-3559

FOR SALE: Lionel 6-17901(2), 17902(2), 17903, 17904, 17904, 17905, 17908, 17909, 17963, 17899 Uni-Body Tank Cars All 12 cars \$180, will split up - Lionel 6-26908 Apple Computer TTUX \$45 – MTH 30-4158-1 RailKing R-T-R Alaska SW-1500 PS2 4 car set, track & transformer mint in box w/shipper \$250 – Lionel 6-12929 Animated Loading Dock Mint in Box \$20 - Plasticville Sets & Price Guide 1989 edition \$20, PayPal and credit cards ok - Chris Allen 480-820-9559 sparkyshome@cox.net

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? Contact me I want to bring those old engines back to life. I'm out of town for the summer but will be back in town in the fall 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

It takes a lot of work to put together an Auction. There's an easy 40 hours' worth of work before and after each of these pictures



Another consignment being added to the Auction
Storage locker



Shelves are full, for now



Day before the auction, loading up the trailer



And the cycle continues...



DIVISION MEET LOCATION

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church
Room H-1
4455 E Lincoln Dr, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

2022 TCA National Convention
Dixie Division Convention
Nashville, Tennessee
June 25 – July 2



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