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.



Volume 51, No. 10

Desert Division DISPATCH



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November 2022

AUCTION, TRAIN SHOW, AND CHRISTMAS PARTY CLOSE OUT THE YEAR

We have a full calendar the next few weeks, but you will be able to relax and put your feet up in time for Christmas and the Holiday Season once it is over.

First up will be the November Toy Train Auction, Turkey Meet Train Auction, Turkey Train Auction, whatever you want to call it, it will be held on Saturday November 12. That is a very busy day here in Phoenix, with the Arizona Railroad Museum having their Fall Festival, our Division auction, and a train show in Glendale. Our friends down in the Old Pueblo are having their train show on Sunday. What a busy weekend!

It's unfortunate that the Glendale group continues to move the dates of their shows and step on weekends that have long been reserved for other clubs.

Next up will be the annual November Train Swap Meet. Not all of us can claim to have lived most of our life in Phoenix and remember "The Turkey Meet". For most people, that moniker means very little and does not help us bring in the public. Times change and so do we and while we like to think everyone's "in on it" a Train Swap Meet is what it is and so named.

We will be back at the Shrine this year and tables are still available, but the deadline is fast approaching. The Shrine Auditorium has a few new policies this year and one of them is the need for the table count ten days in advance.

Another last-minute item was that the Board was able to work out arrangements for the Annual Christmas Holiday Party. It took many hands to pull this off with the desire of keeping

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - UPCOMING EVENTS

November 12 Desert Division November Model Train Auction - Over 300 lots of modern and postwar trains

Auction Preview 8:00 AM - Auction starts promptly at 9:00 - Bidder cards \$5 includes auction catalog

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church - Fellowship Hall - 4455 E Lincoln Dr, Paradise Valley, AZ

November 13 Gadsden Pacific TTOM Model Train Show – Sunday 9 AM – 2 PM Gadsden Pacific Toy Train Museum 3975 N. Miller Rd Tucson, AZ

November 26 Desert Division Model Train Swap Meet – 9 AM – 12 noon EL ZARIBAH Shriners Auditorium, 552 N. 40th St. Phoenix, AZ 85008 Vendor Table Form inside

<u>December 11</u> <u>Desert Division Annual Christmas Holiday Party</u> - 4:00PM Meet and Greet- 5:00 PM <u>Buffet Style – Reservation Form inside</u>

Phoenix Elks Lodge - 14424 N 32nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85032

the cost reasonable in a very challenging market. The event will be catered and back again at the Phoenix Elk's Lodge where we had the event last year. A fun evening of food and fellowship is planned so we hope you can join us.

At the October General Meeting Vice President John Craft manned the podium and ran the meet while President Mike was off playing GI Joe in a WWII Sherman Tank. John started the meet a little late at 10:05 because of a flurry of raffle ticket purchases at the front table. There were about thirty members in attendance.

Secretary Lautazi announced paid Division membership at 163 members with no guests at the meet. Since Treasurer Mark Thompson was away, Angelo gave the financial report from the numbers presented to the Board at their meeting on October 5: Checking Account \$10,863.27, Savings \$12,455.94, PayPal \$1,921.90, and the CD is currently at \$20,155.

John reported that Rail Fair was successful with the club being able to run the module both days. Chris Allen recounted some of the more memorable experiences of the weekend, highlighted by the running of Paul Wasserman's Toonerville Trolley to an audience that had no idea what it was, but enjoyed it immensely.

John next mentioned that help will be needed for the Friday November 11 afternoon setup of the Auction. If you have an hour or two to assist the crew from 3:00 PM until it's completed show up and pitch in. We are usually done and locking things up by 6:00 PM.

John announced that the November Train Show will be held at the Shrine Auditorium on November 26. Early setup is available on Friday afternoon from 2:30 – 4:30 but we must clear the auditorium promptly at 4:30. You can resume setting up Saturday morning at 7 AM. The show will run from 9 AM to 12 noon with the table top auction immediately following. Table reservations close on November 17th so if you don't have your tables yet the form is in the newsletter.

John turned the floor over to Angelo who spoke about the Christmas Holiday Party. Angelo announced that the Phoenix Elks Lodge had been secured for the location. Since the Lodge no longer caters events, we need to find one ourselves. Angelo gave the members a heads-up that keeping the costs down continues to be a challenge. The club does not underwrite any costs for the dinner, so to keep the prices in a range where most can afford the options are few. Paul mentioned that the Division was always looking for ways to promote fellowship for its members and their families. In order to continue these traditions, it is up to our members to support the club's events.

The theme for the Educational Segment was Halloween or Fall related. Paul Wassermann started off with a Marx tinplate tunnel whose camouflage paint scheme resembled fall colors. Paul also brought a set of W. Britain figures from 1953. The set celebrated Queen's Elizabeth's II coronation and brought quite a response from those in attendance. Several members remember where they were when the coronation took place. **John Zaval** brought in a wooden "puzzle" made by ROKR. John felt the steam locomotive looked like a skeleton, hence the association with Halloween. The set had 376 pieces and John related that he had about 32 hours wrapped up in the model. Not only did it look great but it has a mechanical motor and runs! Chris Allen had a Halloween mystery with his 30th Anniversary Turkey Meet Step Van. The graphics were correct for the 30th Turkey Meet Show held in 2006, but not taken from the buttons. Chris bought the car on eBay from a seller in New River. When asked about the history he just mentioned it came from an estate sale he bought done in Phoenix.

Winners for the raffle prizes in no particular order: Jim McDonald Lionel Hopper, Sam McElwee Lionel Target Launcher, Chet Henry Lionel Box Car, Nick Schnakenber Lionel Caboose, John Upshur railroad coffee mugs. Angelo Lautazi was surprised when his name was called, and the Hudson ticket was laying on the table. He filled it out just in time but the final Hudson Hundred for 2022 went to Chet Henry. We sold ten of the special raffle tickets and the winner of the 50th Anniversary A-1 Beer reefer was Bob Miazga.

OCTOBER GENERAL MEET PHOTOS



Gordon Wilson stopping by Terry Haas' table looking for a deal, and Terry had several



Paul Wassermann's W. Britian's set from 1953 of Queen Elizabth's II coronation was the hit of the day!



We understand that Laurel Allen bought lunch following the meet, until Chris discovered that one of his sales boxes was only half full...



Division Secretary Angelo Lautazi hard at work and doing double duty with Treasurer Mark Thompson wiggling his toes in Cabo San Lucas sand



John Zaval with his wooden train puzzle. It does look like a ghost train and as John demonstrated it does actually run as well



Who's smiling more? Vice President John Craft handing Chet Henry the last Hudson Hundred for the year. The Hudson raffle is at the Christmas Party

The <u>Dispatch</u> is published monthly except July and December by the Train Collectors Association, Desert Division, 1119 W. Plata Ave., Mesa, AZ 85210-8250. This issue is Volume 51, No. 10 (November, 2022).

TCA Desert Division BOD Meeting - October 5, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM at the home of Mike and Michelle Dietrich

In Attendance; Mike Dietrich, John Craft, Angelo Lautazi, Terry Haas, Paul Wassermann, and John Zaval. On teleconference: Art Lites and Chris Allen

<u>Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes</u> – The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

<u>Secretary's Report</u> - Angelo reported that membership stands at 163 paid members with Rio Grande Chapter adding three new members..

<u>Treasurers Report</u> - Treasurer Mark Thompson reported that the Savings Account is \$2,455.94 and Checking is \$10,863.27, CD Account 20,155.10 and PayPal with \$1,921.90. Mark would like the Board to consider approving the purchase of a 6 month Treasury Bill with a yield of 3.4%. The board agreed to the purchase.

Old Business:

Rail Fair 2022 – Mike thanked Chris for handling the trailer for the weekend. Both Chris and Mike commented that without the help[of the Paradise & Pacific Railroad club we would not have been able to participate. We had a positive experience and handed out flyers for the November Train Show and many club members helped out even with the short notice everyone had.

<u>November Train Auction</u> - Nov 12, 2022 (PVUMC). Chris will bring the catalogs to the Saturday Meet and look for volunteers for the Friday setup. Terry will plan for loading his trailer and getting it to the Church.

<u>Desert Division Train Show 2022:</u> – Saturday, November 26 at the Phoenix Shrine Auditorium. Chris reported table sale underway with 40 sold to date. Paul suggested that we ask our members to promote the meet via their own social media platforms.

<u>Christmas Party:</u> – Mark has secured the Elk's Hall including the use of tables, chairs and tablecloths along with cleanup crew. Angelo is planning to meet with Divito's Catering for prices and menu selection that will be within our price range and acceptable for our members.

<u>Special 50th Anniversary Raffle</u> – After the success of the first raffle it was decided to hold a second raffle at the October Meet. In addition to the raffle, there was discussion if the "variation" 50th Anniversary cars should be sold at a premium from the normal production.

<u>Spring Picnic 2023</u> – Paradise and Pacific was informed that the Stillman Ramada and the entire back area of the park will be closed for a private fundraising event. The Asti Ramada near the north entrance to the park was secured for the Multi-Club Picnic on April 1.

<u>Pizza Meet 2023</u> – There was discussion about how the auction would be conducted. Some years we have numerous consignors waiting for an available spot and no auctions space. Currently we have no backup, but when needed items will be added to the Pizza Auction.

BOD Luncheon – The no host dinner needs to find a new location since the private dining room is no longer available at the Side Door. Paul will be researching new venues and report at the next meeting.

New Business:

<u>October General Business Meeting</u> – Mike will be out of town for the meeting, John Craft will preside. Treasurer Mark Thompson will also be out of town, Chris and Angelo will fill in for Mark.

BOD Meeting Schedule 2023 – The 2023 calendar was passed out and the Board members picked the dates they would host the meeting at their home.

<u>Adjournment</u>: Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM. The next Board meeting is scheduled to be on Wednesday January 11, 2023, at the home of Paul Wassermann.

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Angelo Lautazi

Presidents Message

Dear Friends,

The wet summer continued as the monsoon had one or two more events before the turn to the highly anticipated cooler days of fall. These cooler days see us with a break in regular meetings but keep us busy with awesome train news and events.

I trust that VP John C was able to "craft" a fantastic October meeting as both Treasurer Mark Thompson and I were out of town. While "Smurf's" travels took him across the pond, my travels landed us outside of Boston and a date with a WWII Sherman Tank. The same one feature in the James Garner movie "Tank". It was a thrill to ride in this loud, lumbering beast and reminded me of my cab ride in the 4449 many years ago. The connection with all thing's mechanical runs through many of us and train collecting, operating, and modeling link us in fascinating ways. This link is never more evident as we begin train season.

The kick-off to fall train season occurred on October 1st-2nd as we were able to display at the annual McCormick and Stillman Railroad Park Railfair 2022. It was tough and go leading up the event as we had a serios misunderstanding with the city of Scottsdale who seemed to forget we exist. This was not the first time a club and city have had "misunderstandings" and our friends at the Paradise and Pacific club had anticipated and planned for just such a contingency. By rearranging &P friends we pulled it off!

I want to thank everyone who helped and made the weekend a success, despite the

heat. Chris Allen resumed his role as module Chair and transported the trailer and ran trains on both days. Setup Saturday morning was done by an able crew of John Hinderer and grandson, Janet Mattern, Paul Wassermann, Chris and me. John was able to hang around for a little and had a chance to run his Blue Comet before family obligations called him and his grandson away. Running either their own trains or the clubs during the two days was John Craft, Paul, Janet, Chris, Ray Pomper, and yours truly. Tear down Sunday evening also went quick and the trailer was back in the storage unit ahead of schedule

Next up is the Turkey Action! We have a great mixture of items for this event so please come by on November 12th. The auction is in Fellowship Hall at Paradise Valley Methodist Church to bid on these great items. The auction begins at 9AM with pre-view at 8.

Not long after the auction is the Fall Train Show (Turkey Meet, November 26th). This well attended annual event is returning to the Shrine Hall and promises to be the must attend event of the season. We expect a sell out and a full house so get your tables now!

As stated last month, we have worked out the details for the Christmas Party on December 11th. The reservation form is in the newsletter and will be at the Elk's Lodge and will be catered. We have a very tight time frame so please fill out your reservation and get them back to Angelo for this fun filled annual party.

See you real soon!

Mike

DESERT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2024					
President:	Mike Dietrich	623-572-3538	Directors:	Art Lites	505-463-1951
Vice-President:	John Craft	480-7852432		Terry Haas	480-827-8604
Secretary:	Angelo Lautazi	480-575-7006		Paul Wassermann	480-949-1620
Treasurer:	Mark Thompson	307-631-4474		John Zaval	602-843-4909

RIO GRANDE CHAPTER PHOTOS



Before the Meet open the candid camera caught your editor perusing the donation sales table



The quiet before the storm. All setup and waiting for the doors to open.



The winner of the Polar Express set to benefit the Wheels Museum was Jerry Quintana of Albuquerque, here with Director Ross Jordan



All the huddles before the show, checking out what everyone brought.



Rio Grande Chapter News

By Art Lites TCA 97-44623



We have just finished the Pumpkin Meet and by all indications it was a resounding success. I do not have the final numbers, but I believe we increased attendance by 20-30% over recent years. We sold out of tables several weeks before the meet date.

An informal survey among vendors indicated most were pleased with their sales. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped with the setup, tear down, publicity prizes and other numerous details involved in putting this show on.

We completed the Raffle for the Polar Express among a flurry of last-minute ticket sales. The suspense of drawing kept some attendees staying to the end. Jerry Quintana of Albuquerque was the lucky winner. The result of the Raffle allowed us to add some 200 names to our e-mail list and netted over \$300 for the Wheels Museum. Not bad for sales only running two months. Again, another success for our Chapter.

With next year in mind, my son, Connor agreed to make a video of all aspects of the Meet. He will put these on short videos which we will place on several social media locations such as TikTok, Instagram, and YouTube. I plan to reference to these social media sites will be part of our promotion for next year. If

you have not checked out YouTube with reference to the train hobby, you are missing out on a valuable resource. Just about anything you want to do, you can find a video on the subject.

Speaking of YouTube, those of you who say this hobby is dead need to check out some Millennial sites. Those sites to name a few include: RPB trains, JD Stucks trains, Chris's trains, and Erics trains just to name a few. What you will see is 30-40s adults showcasing their layouts and O gauge equipment of several eras including reviews of the latest equipment. These are young men who are fully into O gauge railroading and some are producing videos every week. They are spending significant amounts of money and considerable time to promote the train hobby. I think that if you view these videos, you will have a different perspective on the hobby.

Membership remains the lifeblood of our club. We have a lot to offer the hobbyist with hundreds of years' experience in all aspects of the hobby. If you want to promote the club, talk about our hobby with your acquaintances and other organizations you belong. When you find interested individuals ask them to attend a meeting.



RIO GRANDE CHAPTER BUARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023					
President:	Art Lites	505-463-1951	Directors:	Ross Jordan	505-299-0759
Vice-President:	Jim Trever	505-872-9842		Boyd Reasor	505-286-6347
Secretary:	Scott Eckstein	505-332-0947		Jon Spargo	575-835-1606
Treasurer:	Everett Hagan	505-892-1080			

Halloween at the Lautazi's



Division Secretary Angelo Lautaz had his Halloween layout running in his driveway last month.



Angelo first came up with the idea almost ten years ago and it is now the neighborhood "treat" to over 100 visitors each year

RAIL FAIR 2022



John Hinderer and grandson arrived early to help setup the trailer module Saturday morning



After the setup John had a chance to run his Blue Comet for a few hours.



Buildings are in place, but it looks a little bare, something appears to be missing



No, we didn't start drinking early, the box holds dozens and dozens of die cast vehicles to complete the layout

MORE RAIL FAIR PHOTOS



Janet Mattern filling up the smoke unit on the MTH
Coors Silver Bullet



Around the bend the Coors Silver Bullet puts on its show as Janet tells the crowd to "Wait for it...and as the doors open, "you have to be 21 to reach for a cold one."



Mike Dietrich reaching for a fallen Billboard to keep the city scene looking spot on.



Paul Wassermann poses with the hit of the weekend, his Toonerville Trolley



The smiles always makes our day as this Dad and daughter duo enjoy the trains



The LionChief remote continues to be a crowd pleaser and you can clearly see



TCA DESERT DIVISION ANNUAL

TOY TRAIN SWAP MEET

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2022 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Formerly known as the Turkey Meet







EL ZARIBAH SHRINERS AUDITORIUM 552 N. 40th St. Phoenix, AZ 85008

40th St. and Fillmore St.

Exit 2 Loop 202 or McDowell Rd via Hohokam Expressway 143

Featuring

- YES We still have 8' tables
- First two tables \$30, three or more \$25
- <u>FREE Parking</u> and easy access from Loop 202 or- Hohokam Expressway 143
- Multi gauge Test Track will be available on site
- Vendor drawing for \$100 at 12 noon If you are setup when your ticket is called, you win \$100 on the spot! One ticket for each table purchased



TRAIN MEET HOURS

Saturday, November 26, 2022 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon Admission \$5

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Table Top Auction VENDOR SETUP:

Friday 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM SHARP! Saturday 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

TABLE REGISTR	\$30 per 8′ table	
NAME		(Bring your own table cover if desired)
TCA#	Tables 1-2 @ \$30 each	
ADDRESS	Tables 3+ @ \$25 each	
CITY	STATE ZIP	Requests?
Email for table confirmation		
I hereby agree to be bound by the rules of th selling, ethics, and behavior. I further agree t referee appointed by the Meet Chairman shall the direction of the Meet Chairman, in the cas	YOUR TABLE REGISTRATION INCLUDES ONE FREE HELPER	
Signed X	Date	NAME BADGE IF NEEDED
Make check payable to: Desert Div	Helper Name	
Mail Table Registration to: Chris Al	Extra Table Helper Badges are \$5 each Special Requests? - Contact Meet Chairman	
More info: Chris Allen 180-820-9559 or		

Desert Division's 2022 Holiday Party

Sunday December 11, 2022 Elk's Lodge 14424 N 32 St Phoenix, AZ 85032 4:00 PM Meet & Greet Cash Bar Available 5:00 PM Dinner Reservations Deadline: Nov. 28th Clip here and send with Check Dinner will be Buffet style with Servers. Cost of the Dinner is \$35.00 per person. Please print First and Last Names of persons attending. Write the Meal# choice after each Name. Guests are Welcome. Meal # Name Meal # Name Entrée Choices: Please enter your selection with the number of dinners next to the entree Meal #1- Mediterranean Chicken (1/4 chicken) How many ____ Meal #2 - Cheese Ravioli with side of Meatballs How many Meal #3 – Baked Salmon How many Meals will include a Salad and Dinner Rolls. Sides will include Roasted Potatoes (for the chicken), Basmati Rice for the Salmon and Steamed Vegetables for both. Beverages will include Ice Tea, Coffee and Water. Holiday cake for Dessert. There will be Raffle Prizes and Tabletop Auctions. Make Check Payable to: Desert Division TCA. Send form and check to: Angelo Lautazi Number of Persons @ \$35.00 6109 E Sonoran Trl **Total \$ Enclosed** Scottsdale, AZ 85266 Ballroom will be set to tables of eight. **Business Attire is Suggested.**

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. <u>ARENELL@AOL.COM</u> 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

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<u>THE TRAIN STATION</u> – 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.

<u>3rd RAIL & GOLDEN GATE DEPOT DISCOUNTED TRAINS</u>: 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: ON CONSIGNMENT Lionel TMCC Command Base and handheld, from clubs old module layout \$75 – MTH 50-1004 AIU New in Box \$125 (we have two) The club can do credit card for purchase. Contact Chris for details

FOR SALE: TMK Lionel Prewar 0 & Standard 1900-43, Lionel Postwar 1945-69 TM Lionel 1970-89, 3-Rail price guide, Lionel 1901-95, Lionel 1970-1992, Lionel 1901-1997 each \$20, Greenberg's Repair & Operating Manual 736 pages \$30, Postwar Lionel Reproduction Handbook Guide by Joe Algozzini & Standard Committee Operations Manual \$15. Lionel Train Book 131 pages \$20, Hess Toy Truck &Racer 1997 \$15, Southern Cresent Limited 9530-34 new \$75, Lionel 3 dome tank car Lionel Corp. \$10. MDH Track Layout &Accessory Manual 64 pages \$20, MDH Operating 0&027 Trains 237 pages \$20. Dan Martin 520-360-0519 dannieaz@cox.net

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

<u>WANTED</u>: 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

<u>WANTED</u>: 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

<u>WANTED</u>: VHS Tapes, Lionel - The Great Years 1955 & 1956 by Joe Algozzini/Don Varda (I have 1954) - Marx 51100 Southern Double Deck Auto Carrier - Chris Allen 480-820-9559 sparkyshome@cox.net

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.

THE BACK PAGE - MORE PHOTOS FROM RAIL FAIR



Chris Allen with one of his two tubs of Horse
Transport and Giraffe Cars. It makes for a colorful
consist when they are all tracked



The weather was perfect, and we had a great time passing out flyers for the November Train Show



Children running trains, plant the seeds and wait. If nothing else we all had fun.



2023 TCA National Convention
New England TCA Division
Burlington, Vermont
June 24 – July 2

NEXT DIVISION MEET

January 14, 2023 8:30 - 11:00 AM
Paradise Valley United Methodist Church
Room H-1

4455 E Lincoln Dr, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253



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