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

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**AUSTRALIA ● NEW ZEALAND** 

ORGANIZEO TOPO

Volume 51, No. 9 October 2022

## PUMPKIN ON THE TABLE TURKEY IN THE WINGS

That is right fall train season is in full swing with both the Pumpkin and November Train Shows on deck. Not to mention we have the Toy Train Auction and Christmas Holiday Party right around the corner as well.

The September Meet brought together the newly elected Board of Directors for the first time and members dusted off the cobwebs as well, greeting each other for the first time in three months. As usual Janet had the free coffee brewing and members happily munching away on donuts. A gentle reminder to those of us who attend. The club provides the coffee free, but Janet buys the donuts out of her own pocket. All she asks is that she break-even for the meet. The doughnuts are a buck a pop if you walk into the store and buy one Just keep that in mind when

you see the donation box next to the donut box at the next meet.

President Mike Dietrich called the business meeting to order promptly at 10 AM. Secretary Angelo Lautazi reported the membership now stands at 160 paid members. Angelo also introduced our newest member, Dan Casagrande. Dan is a longtime TCA member from Scottsdale and primarily collects Lionel 0 gauge.

Treasurer Mark Thompson gave the Treasurer report as follows: Checking Account \$11,503.27, Savings \$1,876.85, PayPal \$2,600.97, and the CD is currently at \$20,155. Mark noted that we received a partial refund check from Lionel over the damaged A-1 Beer Reefers.

Mike announced that negotiations with The City of Scottsdale regarding overnight

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1 & 2 - Rail Fair 2022 – Saturday & Sunday 10:00 AM- 5:00 PM

RAIL FAIR IS A GO! See you at the park

#### **October 8 - Desert Division October Meet**

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM member Only Swap, 10:00 – 11:00 AM Business Meeting Paradise Valley United Methodist Church - Rm H-1- 4455 E Lincoln Dr, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

October 29 Rio Grande Chapter - Pumpkin Meet – 10 AM - 2 PM Netherwood Park Church, 5101 Indian School Rd. N.E.., Albuquerque, NM

November 12 <u>DATE CHANGE!</u> Desert Division November Train Auction - 9 AM - 2 PM

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

security during Rail Fair is ongoing. Last year several clubs and individuals had items stolen during the two nights and this year we were not going to participate unless the city again provided security. We joined with other model railroad clubs in voicing our concerns. Mike encouraged members to attend the event even if we did not participate and to visit the model railroad building. (Editor's note: The city has notified the clubs that there will be security both nights of Rail Fair so the Division module will be running. VOLUNTEER HELP IS NEEDED BOTH DAYS!)

Mike next mentioned that the November Train Auction had to be moved up one week because of a schedule conflict with the church on Friday when we normal do 95% of the auction prep work. Hard copies of the auction catalog were available at the meet and Angelo announced it is also on the website.

Mike announced that the annual November Train Show will be held at the Shrine Auditorium on November 26 and that table reservations are underway. Chris Allen will act as Meet Chair for this year.

The Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday December 11th at the Phoenix Elks Lodge again this year. But with the changes at the Elks Lodge we will need to provide our own catering service for the event. While this is a challenge, it has been met with enthusiasm by the Board who will investigate several local caterers. There are very little options going forward. The average cost to host the party this year has skyrocketed out of control to an average of \$75 per person. The Holiday Committee has been able to help cover many of these underwriting costs with great raffles and tabletop auctions, but \$40 per person is just a little too steep a hill to climb. By finding a caterer the Board is hopeful to close that gap and make the Holiday Party happen this year.

Bill Lazenby announced that the Paradise and Pacific Railroad Club was able to secure the Stillman Ramada for the spring picnic next year. These reservations need to be made six months in advance to secure the large Stillman Ramada

that is highly sought after every year. The picnic will be held on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. No Foolin'.

The Board has decided to change the Bylaws back and have the officers term coincide with the calendar year after attempting to work with the TCA election cycle. The changeover midyear prior to our busy fall season proved to be very disruptive. This change will be presented to the membership during the spring of 2023.

During New Business Past President Chris Allen came forward with an item of Division historic significance, the Miles Butler Memorial Gavel. This gave I has been passed on to all incoming Division presidents for over twenty years with the reminder to keep the business meeting short.

The theme for the Educational Segment was: Found after a hard search. Jonathan Peiffer started things off with a slight variant, delivered after hard work as he presented the latest 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail EMC Santa Fe E1. As Jonathan explained the E1 was the first truly streamlined locomotive and this model by 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail faithfully captured all of that detail in the locomotive. John Craft told the tale that started in 1982 when he walked into a train store and saw a Carlisle & Finch #1 Trolley and Trailer. At the time he didn't carry that much cash with him but when he returned the next day with "the Rent Money", the trolley was gone. The search lasted almost 40 years until earlier this year he won one at auction. As e explained it is probably the great grandfather of all the trains in the room. Angelo Lautazi bought a military train at a Turkey Meet Auction years ago and never new the make of the locomotive. Jonathan identified it as Weaver for him. Chris Allen brought a MTH USPS Genesis Diesel, (with working Proto boards) and a Marx 51100 Auto Carrier in blue, he is still searching for the yellow version.

Winners for the raffle prizes in no particular order: Mike Dietrich-Hudson Ticket; Angelo Lautazi-Lionel Hopper, Katie Elgar-Williams Tanker, Dan Casagrande-Industrail Rail Caboose, Don McCombs Locomotive designed Beer stein. The Hudson Hundred went to Scott Russell

#### OCTOBER GENERAL MEET PHOTOS



Business was booming at the front table when we opened up shop for the fall train season



Sam and Roxanna McElwee along with Janet Mattern waiting for the business to move to the sales tables



Terry Haas was setup at the October Meet with a wide variety of items including American Flyer!



The passing of the gavel, outgoing President Chris Allen passes the gavel to President Mike Dietrich



John Craft with his elusive Carlise and Finch #1 trolley and the 40-year journey to get it



Long time member Scott Russell attended his first meet of the fall season and promptly won the Hudson Hundred. One more drawing this month!

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. 9 (October, 2022).

#### TCA Desert Division BOD Meeting - September 7, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM at the home of Angelo Lautazi

In Attendance; Mike Dietrich, John Craft, Angelo Lautazi, Mark Thompson, Terry Haas, 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 159 paid members.

<u>Treasurers Report</u> - Treasurer Mark Thompson reported that the Savings Account is \$1,876.85 and Checking is \$11,503.27, CD Account 20,155.10 and PayPal with \$2,600.97.

#### **Old Business:**

<u>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Car Update</u> – Peter Atonna sent the Lionel refund check to Mark for the A-1 cars we reported had paint issues. Mark deposited the check. The Board will decide what to do with the damaged cars once the remaining good cars sellout.

<u>Rail Fair 2022</u> – Date October 1 & 2 at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. The City of Scottsdale has not confirmed that there will be Security for the Event. Our agreement has specified that unless Security is provided our Club will not participate. Other clubs have echoed our concerns. Mike will try to get an update from the City of Scottsdale.

<u>November Train Auction</u> - Nov 12, 2022 (PVUMC). Mike has corrected the Dates on the catalogs and will bring them to the Saturday meet. Set up can happen on Friday afternoon. Terry will make arrangements 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 will take registrations, print the badges and do the hall layout. Mike will man the microphone at the Show. Front entry table will need to have 3 people.

<u>Christmas Party:</u> – Mark says he can get the Elk's Hall (table, chairs and tablecloths). We will need to have our own catering company for the food and beverages. Costs for the catering will need to be researched. Concerns are that the costs may be too expensive for our group.

<u>Division Bylaws</u> - We would like our election calendar to revert to our previous calendar where our officers served from January through December for a two-year term.

<u>Spring Picnic 2023</u> - Mike will need to confirm with Bill Lazenby for him reserving the ramada for the 2023 spring picnic. The date will be April 1, 2023

**Board Appreciation Dinner** – The Board will discuss this item at a later date.

<u>Special Raffle</u> – Raffle suggestion from Peter. Peter would like all the remaining good A-1 Cars be sold before he offers the paint returns. He suggests we hold a raffle at the Saturday meet. Tickets will be \$5 ea., after 10 tickets are sold the drawing will be held. (limit 2 tickets per person). After much discussion the BOD has agreed to try this method at the meet.

#### **New Business:**

Rio Grande Chapter Dues - Art asked when member dues from the Rio Grande members would be returned to the Chapter. The BOD has agreed that this year we will send the Chapter their dues. Angelo will get a count of the dues renewals for 2022 and tell Mark the amount. The BOD also discussed that going forward the Division may withhold some percentage of future dues. Mike proposed that we think on the issue for now.

<u>Hobby Day at ASU West</u> – John Zaval was contacted by ASU West as to having the club participate in their upcoming "Hobby Day" event. John will meet an ASU representative and get more details

<u>Adjournment</u>: Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM. The next Board meeting is scheduled to be on October 5, 2022, at the home of Mike Dietrich

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Angelo Lautazi

Editors Note: These minutes are condensed for publication - See the Division Secretary for the official minutes if you have any questions

#### **Presidents Message**

Dear Friends,

We've returned from a long, hot, and thankfully wet summer. The monsoon is technically past us, and we look forward to cooler evenings and life outdoors once again. Our September meet was a great chance to catch up and talk about life and trains or trains and life. Reading Chris' President's Message from October 2020 I realize that we are in a far better place than we were two years ago. In 2020 we were preparing for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration not knowing if it would happen. Despite the rising cost of everything, October 2022 is better(?) than those very uncertain days just two years ago!

This October finds us preparing for (or if you are reading this after October 1<sup>st</sup>, completed) Rail Fair, yes, it's back on for the Desert Division! The park agreed to have overnight security and we were able to cobble a team to run trains at this awesome event. We'll report next month with pictures and a more detailed story. Needless to say, this came together quickly and without Chris' flexibility and Angelo's e-blast we would not have participated.

I'd love to report on new donations, but as the new president I've not gotten many of those calls but will keep you posted when we do. Additionally, and thankfully, I'm not the bearer of any bad news this month.

We are diligently working on the details for the Christmas Party (December 11<sup>th</sup>) and will have more information soon. We knew coming out of COVID things would be harder to book and more expensive. We didn't realize

how much harder and more expensive things are. We are working to make the cost reasonable and still have a delicious meal and wonderful fellowship.

On the train front:

- 1. Pumpkin Meet, October 29<sup>th</sup>, presented by our friends in Albuquerque, please see the flyer in the newsletter for more details.
- 2. Fall Desert Division Auction, November 12<sup>th</sup>, Fellowship Hall (larger meeting room) at PVUMC. The catalog is now available and on-line. You will need to purchase a catalog to get a bidder's card so bring your \$5 to the October meeting or the day of the event!
- 3. Turkey Meet, Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, Shriner's Auditorium, Phoenix. Table sales are open, and we anticipate a big crowd once again.

October's meeting will find us with a few familiar faces missing...Treasurer Mark Thompson will be cruising Portugal and Spain and I will be off to the Boston area to see a WWII battle reenactment and ride in a Sherman tank with my family. I know the meeting will be in good hands as VP John Craft will be presiding!

We do not have a regular meeting in November or December, but with our auction and Turkey Meet I know I will 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**



George Domeny walked away with the final Gift Card for the year. Don't miss a meeting or you might miss out



Jon Westfall at the Wheels Museum working on the switchyard



So, you say you have a really long train you would like to run. We think the 20' x 40' layout and mainlines at the Wheels Museum might be just the place for you to stretch your trains legs.



#### **Rio Grande Chapter News**

#### By Art Lites TCA 97-44623



We are into train season. The Fall season means train shows and all the train activities, the smell of smoke and the sound of whistles and remembering toy trains of my youth. The nights are getting cooler, and I can spend longer hours working on my garage layout. Those of you with a garage layout know what I mean.

We just held our last members meeting for the year. This month we welcomed three new members: James and Terrilee Workman, and Renee Schornack. The Workman's are collecting Prewar and Standard Gauge and brought an Ives/Lionel transition set to show.

Show and Tell: Chris Wieclaw brought a Flyer handcar for our display. Our Flyer group pointed out that this was a scarce variation much to surprise of Chris. George Domeny brought some "O" and "S" to give away. Jim Trevor collects all things Lionel including a Wendy's Halloween Promotional plastic four-piece train set given away with Kid's Meal. Many of us wondered how many Kids Meals he ate to get the complete set. Those who missed the meeting also missed the chance for a \$100 restaurant gift card. No catches, show up at a local restaurant eat for free. George Domeny walked away with the \$100 gift card.

Speaking of our last eight months, we have had some exciting and interesting meetings. Did you catch Pete Gerity recount his youth growing up in the shadow of the Lionel factory or Chris Allen demonstrating modern low-cost locomotive control? We have taken the mystery out of modern control systems and learned about rare Postwar trains. Several members have walked away with additional cash prizes. All they did is come to the meeting.

The Chapter has been busy during the hot summer. We have been promoting the Pumpkin Meet and selling Raffle tickets for the Polar Express with proceeds going to the Wheels Museum by participating at the Socorro joint club meet in late August and at the Rail Yard Open Market this month. On September 24<sup>th</sup> we will be at the 2926 (12" = 1ft) Santa Fe Northern Open House selling raffle tickets and promoting both TCA membership and the Pumpkin Meet. October 16<sup>th</sup> we again will be at both the Rail Yard Open Market promoting our Raffle, the Pumpkin Meet, and TCA. As always, we will be running trains at the Wheels Museum. If you have always wanted to run a long train, come to the museum, and put it on the 40'x20' museum layout.

Next year we planning some exciting activities including a field trip to Belen to find out how the real BNSF is run. We are planning a trip to Bernalillo to explore the railroad that was terminating there. In the works is a demonstration of toy trains at a local Multi-Generational Center. A majority of our meetings will take place at the Wheels Museum which centers around toy trains. You, as a member of the Chapter, will have an opportunity to run your trains on this layout.

Last but not least the Pumpkin Meet is quickly approaching. It is scheduled for October 29<sup>th</sup>. As of last weekend, we had 33 tables sold and we only have a few spots left. With the additional promotion, I expect a record crowd through the door. Other activities coming up include Rails Across the Rio Grande on November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Look forward to seeing you at the 2926 and the Pumpkin Meet.

Art



### **TOY TRAIN SHOW**

### **Operating Train Layouts**

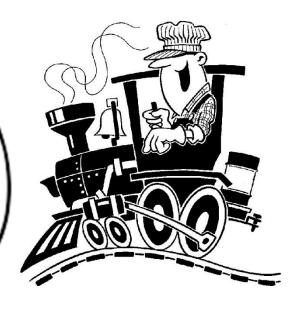
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TCA RIO GRANDE CHAPTER ANNUAL PUMPKIN MEET - SATURDAY OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup> 2022

10:00AM TO 2:00PM
NETHERWOOD PARK CHURCH
5101 INDIAN SCHOOL RD. N.E.
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

**ADULTS \$3.00 – FAMILIES \$5.00** 

TCA MEMBERS EARLY ADMISSION 9:00 AM



Dealer setup from 7:30am – 9:30am (TCA Rules Will Apply) For Information Call: Scott Eckstein 505-270-0516 or Tom Lawler 505-294-0298

Name:		TCA#	
Address:			
Phone:	Email:		
TCA Member Table #		@ \$15.00 ea	
Non Member Table #		@ \$20.00 ea	

#### DO NOT SEND MONEY YOU WILL PAY FOR YOUR TABLES AT THE MEET

Mail to: Scott Eckstein, 10805 Snow Heights Blvd. N.E. Albuquerque, NM 87112 Please return form by October 15, 2022

Visit our web site at: www.tcadd.org

I agree to comply with all of the rules and regulations of Train Collectors Association (TCA) committees and any actions and rulings of TCA committees. I also agree that all items old by me to any TA member at any TCA-sponsored meet shall be sold on the basis that I represent that all such items are authentic and in the manufactures' original condition unless I have caused and such item to be appropriately marked as a restoration or reproduction.

#### 30th Anniversary Step Van?

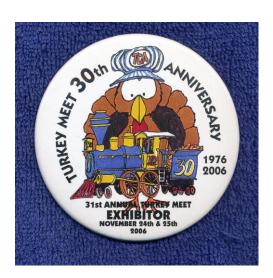
By Chris Allen HE95-40580

So, you never heard of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Turkey Meet Step Van? Well, as it turns out, neither has anyone else that I contacted before I sat down and wrote this article. I don't want to say that we are all showing our ages. But if no one can remember what happened just sixteen years ago, I think we are all headed for our rocking chairs.

In November 2006 I was not that involved with the Division since I had just been elected as President-elect of TCA and the Division was being run by Katie at the time. I asked Katie, then Secretary Christie Wilson and then treasurer Bob Herman about the van and everyone returned the same I just don't remember that project.

The van is obviously repainted from the stock gray, and it appears the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary decals had been removed.





The graphic is the correct graphic for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Turkey Meet held in 2006, but different from the button which had the graphics superimposed over the turkey.

Since I just acquired the Step Van as we were going to press, I still have a few more leads to track down, but it appears the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary graphic will be the key to unlocking this mystery.

More interesting to me anyway is the fact that no where in any 2006 Turkey Meet article, newsletter or ad from that year talks about this commemorative. Was only one made? Was it used for a raffle, a table prize?

For the moment the mystery hangs on, but the search will continue until the answer is found. Until then, I have the most unique Step Van in Desert Division livery.







#### TCA DESERT DIVISION ANNUAL

#### TOY TRAIN SWAP MEET

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

Formerly known as the Turkey Meet







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- **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 REG	STRTION – PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY	\$30 per 8' table	
NAME		(Bring your own table cover if desired)	
	PHONE	Tables 1-2 @ \$30 each	
ADDRESS		Tables 3+ @ \$25 each	
CITY	STATE ZIP	Requests?	
Email for table confirmation_			
selling, ethics, and behavior. I further ag referee appointed by the Meet Chairman	of the TCA & the Desert Division Train Meet in regards to buying, gree that in the case of a dispute, the meet chairman, or an impartial shall arbitrate the matter and render a binding decision. I shall upon ne case of a disputed sale, refund a buyer's money.	YOUR TABLE REGISTRATION INCLUDES ONE FREE HELPER	
Signed X	Date	NAME BADGE IF NEEDED	
Make check payable to: Desert	: Division TCA	Helper Name	
Mail Table Registration to: Chr	is Allen, 1119 W. Plata Ave. Mesa, AZ 85210	Extra Table Helper Badges are \$5 each	
More info: Chris Allen 180-820-95	50 or amail toadesertdivision@amail.com	Special Requests? - Contact Meet Chairmar	

#### RAILROAD



#### - CHANGE



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**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:** Southern Crescent Limited Passenger 5 Car Set 9530-34 never out of the box \$225. Dan Martin 520-360-0519 <a href="mailto:dannieaz@cox.net">dannieaz@cox.net</a>

**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:** Lionel MPC AMTRAK 4 Car Budd consist 8868, 8869, 8870, 8871 No Breakup, \$150 – MTH 30-4158-1 RailKing R-T-R Alaska SW-1500 PS2 4 car set, track & transformer mint in box w/shipper \$200 – PayPal and credit cards ok - Chris Allen 480-820-9559 <a href="mailto:sparkyshome@cox.net">sparkyshome@cox.net</a>

<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 <a href="mailto:mrwls911@yahoo.com">mrwls911@yahoo.com</a>

<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

WANTED: Marx 51100 Southern Double Deck Auto Carrier - Chris Allen 480-820-9559 sparkyshome@cox.net

YES, THERE'S A BLANK SPACE FOR YOUR AD - SEND IT TO THE EDITOR

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 FROM THE SEPTEMBER MEET



Scott Russell and John Craft share a few thoughts looking at the Educational Items



Roxanna McElwee and Janet Mattern patiently waiting for the buyers to show up!



Jonathan Peiffer and his newest 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail locomotive, the EMC E1. Gorgeous is an understatement



Mystery solved for Angelo as he found out his long ago Turkey Meet locomotive was a Weaver



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

#### **DIVISION MEET LOCATION**

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church

#### FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR THE PIZZA MEET

4455 E Lincoln Dr, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253



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