

TCA Mission: To preserve an important segment of history – Tinplate Toy Trains – through research, establishment of collecting standards, education, community outreach, fellowship and to promote the growth and enjoyment of the hobby.



Desert Division

DISPATCH

ARIZONA • NEW MEXICO • WEST TEXAS



Volume 34, No. 3

April, 2005

DESERT MARCH MADNESS

The March meet was highlighted by a tremendous educational segment with extraordinary items on display for the packed house of members. In fact attendance was so high that every sales and display table was pressed into use. New members Teddy Waldhauser, Paul Saeugling, and Charles Mombteau were welcomed by the capacity crowd and all received their 2005 laminated Desert Division member card..

Treasurer Bob Herman reported that we have \$21,004.57 in savings and \$6,776.11 in checking. To date the Trains for Kids program has earned \$52.50.

Chris Allen was nominated and unanimously approved to run as a national candidate for the office of TCA Vice President! It is not too early to start spreading the word and encouraging all TCA members to vote for Chris this fall.

The Pizza Meetza is coming! This annual food and train fest will be held April 9 at the Jaycees Hall; auction procurement officer, Chet Henry, is the person to contact for your auction lot tickets. \$5.00 will get your item into the auction. Again a new plan is in effect that allows you to donate an item to the auction (all proceeds on the item go to the Division) and take an income tax deduction for full value on your 2005 income taxes. This will hopefully encourage members to place some quality items in the auction. The goal is to try and minimize "junk" lots like old rusty track, defective or common transformers, etc. Bring your trains, your wallet, and your appetite for a great time.

Speaking of trains and food, the TCA, TTOS, Paradise and Pacific combined Spring Picnic will be held the week following the Pizza Meetza on Saturday, April 16 at the Stillman Ramada (near the tunnel) at McCormick Railroad Park. We have the Ramada for the entire day, so come whenever you can and plan to stay. Lunch (hot dogs, chips, sodas, and ice cream) will be served at noon. As usual attendees are encouraged to bring side dishes to share with all.

The newsletter is now online. Despite the fact that this is a new feature, the program is being well received; if you have questions about downloading the monthly publication, contact Chris Allen, Angelo Lautazi, or Christie Wilson.

As work progresses on the 2009 TCA National Convention, the steering committee is encouraging members to submit ideas for a logo design. This does not have to be a work of art, just a sketch of a concept will do. The best design will win a Hudson raffle ticket. Get your idea, concept, sketch to Ed Micale.

Bill Mack's train layout was featured in the Kalmbach publication Electric Trains of the 1950's, on sale separately by Kalmbach. Though the book featured many Dealer Displays, Bill's was the only actual layout included.

An extraordinary Educational Segment began with Jerry Sienkiewicz's presentation of a Hafner train set. A 1915 Hafner set, in beautiful condition in the original box was made exceptional by the surprise inclusion of a complete 1915 catalog, the first year of Hafner production. This set the spontaneous theme for the other contributions which included many rare paper items! Paul Wassermann brought a reproduction of an American Flyer dealer display; a Biltrite scenery back drop for a layout, new in the box, made in the 1940's or '50's; and an uncataloged 1953 American Flyer "Trainorama" three-dimensional scenery display, marked 88 cents on the original envelope. Bob Mancus displayed his 1924 Dorfan set, purchased at a Greenberg Show in Philadelphia about 30 years ago.

COMING UP....

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| April 9 | Regular Division Meet, Jaycees Hall, Scottsdale – 9 AM |
| April 16 | Spring Picnic, McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park – All Day |
| April 16-17 | Garden Railroad Fans Open House |
| April 29-30 | Eastern Division Meet, York, PA |

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Continuing the Educational Segment was Earl Rasmussen. Youngest of several boys in the family, he rarely got to play with the toys. As he was the last brother to leave home, he took all that was left. Available for us to enjoy today were a Marx display, flat tin soldiers, and a cannon (which Earl said shot gold wood bullets from across the room, knocking down the tin soldiers). Just last week, he found them - in storage, where they have rested for 32 years. Randy Efros is the proud owner of a Joy Line (earliest Marx) double-header steam loco set in excellent condition. From about 1934 or '35, it still runs, and is a beautiful consist of power unit, dummy steam loco, tender, bell ringer, and passenger cars, including the observation car with drumhead on the back. Gordon Wilson completed the exhibit with a complete set of Hallmark miniature locomotive ornaments.

Today's Mystery Greeter named Larry Teresi as the winner of the 10 Raffle Tickets. These were placed in the drum and the winners selected.

Ivan English
Ed Micale
Phil Monahan
Ken Barnes
Angelo Lautazi
Gordon Wilson
Bob Johnston
Paul Anstett

Hudson Raffle Ticket
Corgi Lionelville Semi-Skirted Tanker (donated to Kids Club)
Lionel 6464 Monon Box Car (donated to Kids Club)
Lionelville Suburban House
Lionel Burlington Flat Car with Vans
Lionel Calendar, Button, candy train, train necktie
Lionel Great Northern Double Door Box Car
NYC Gondola with Barrels

The Hudson Raffle Ticket winner, Marty Wik, was not in attendance. His \$25 prize will be mailed to him.

The meeting adjourned for lunch and then a visitation at the home of Bill East.

SCENES FROM THE MARCH MEET



1. Jerry Sienkiewicz with his 1915 Hafner set.
2. Gordon Wilson's Lionel/Hallmark ornaments.
3. Robert Mancus with his 1924 Dorfan set.
4. Paul Wassermann's AF Dealer Display.
5. Earl Rasmussen's Marx toys spent 32 years in storage.
6. Randy Efros' Joy Line Double Header

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to you all!

I'm writing this message on the first day of spring after returning from family vacation away from work, computers, emails, cell phones and generally just about everything fast paced. Spending a week splitting wood and doing general spring cleanup in the California Sierra foothills was a much needed break both Laurel and I needed, and of course much appreciated by my father, whose eight plus acres is getting the better of his eighty plus years. I want to thank all of you who stepped up in my absence. First of course Vice President Katie Elgar who took the podium and ran the meet, next Ed and Denise Micale made sure the hall was open on time and that you all had the coffee club goodies that have become a Saturday morning breakfast for many of us on meet mornings. Finally I'm sure the hall had a few other early risers who helped set things up, and since I wasn't there to thank you in person, please accept it now for the work you do on behalf of the Division.

Along the lines of thanking people, let me acknowledge all the Division members who showed up to support the Rotary International's Planes, Trains, Automobiles, and Up on 2 Wheels event held at Falcon Field. Though it was an untypical blustery winter day with scattered rain, we all had a great time, especially the kids who came out in droves. This is proving to be as big a draw as Railfair, though much easier on us as it runs for only one day. Look for my article about the day elsewhere in this issue where I can spend more time thanking those Division members who helped make this a successful module display.

I am a Pizza-holic. I believe that there is no such thing as a bad pizza and I've put this axiom to the test more than a few times. You see I've had everything from pizza sauce on an English muffin to the other extreme of some west coast goat cheese vegetarian artichoke concoction that would work on Superman as effectively as Kryptonite; and being a bachelor until my mid 30's, my primary diet consisted of this divine manna. I mean to tell you I'm no genius, but there must be a reason that the food pyramid resembles a slice of pie since it has all the basic food groups of bread, vegetables, meat, and dairy in one easy to eat slice of heaven. Yes, there is a reason I am the probably the "largest" supporter of the Pizza Meetza, and have come to appreciate the wonders that Beth Stange has been able to accomplish as she uses her skills to get some of the

most varied selection of pies for the Division each year. We will again draw for free sodas for the early monthly raffle ticket buyers before the meet starts so your drink could be as free as your pizza. Make sure you mark April 9th on your calendars and to quote Miss Piggy, "Never eat more than you can lift."

Don't let my waxing "food-osophically" about pizza sidetrack the main event of the day which will be the Spring Auction. As has been reported we are undertaking several changes to both upgrade the auction and at the same time get a kick start for the 2009 Convention committee coffers. We will be accepting your donation to the Division that morning, as well as items you'd like to sell yourself. We will have about 100 lots at \$5 each with a limited amount of reserve items, and we do ask that you evaluate your items that you will place in the auction to have a fair value of \$10 or more. Let's have fun and bring the sparkle back to the Spring Auction this year.

Now if you happen to be Pizza intolerant, don't worry. We'll still keep you happy and well fed. Joining with our friends from the Grand Canyon TTOS and Paradise & Pacific, the Ray Korte Spring Picnic is coming up Saturday April 16th. You got it, one week after all the Pizza you can eat; we'll have Hot Dogs, lots and lots of Hot Dogs! The history and tradition of the spring Picnic comes from long time TCA/TTOS member and supporter Ray Korte, who would open his home each spring for a meet, auction, and picnic. After Ray's passing both clubs decided to keep the tradition alive by sponsoring the picnic in Ray's honor. With a limited amount of room in the Ramada, both clubs have turned the picnic into a family affair rather than another meet by asking members to leave the trains at home for the day and just enjoy the time together swapping tales, playing a few games, and enjoying the day. Both clubs will supply the Hot Dogs, chips, sodas, and ice cream. To round out the menu, we ask you to bring a favorite salad or desert to share. As I have reported on over the years, this happens to be my favorite part of the day - tasting the varied salads or other goodies. I enjoy it so much that we usually go home with a new recipe or two.

Hope to see you soon!



Desert



Division

NO CHILDHOOD SHOULD BE WITHOUT A TRAIN

KIDS CLUB NEWS

By Rob Davis, John Huber, and Tom Plies

Kids Club continues to sponsor varied and interesting pursuits. You can get your "kid" involved, and it's FREE. Just fill in the form below and turn it in to one of the Co-Chairs. We will see to it that it is sent on to the TCA National Business Office.

Anyone who has a friend/connection with one of the railroad companies, please contact Thomas Plies, Kids Club Co-Chair ASAP (602-264-5192) or tplies@cox.net. Mention the pending program Picnic/Freight Car Painting.

In addition, the Kids Club is currently setting up a raffle program which would include Grand Canyon Railways, Phoenix Zoo Safari train, a Polar Express train set, and Polar Express poster & video. Details will be outlined in a future issue of the Dispatch.

The Kids Club is also working to help one of its own new members to make a 4'x8' train table for his apartment. DeLon Freije is helping with the construction and Phil Monahan donated the wood.



Cub-Boose
Kids Club Mascot

Kid's Club Registration Form

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Sponsor Name _____ TCA No. _____

Phone No. _____ Relationship to Kid's Club Member _____



MORE SCENES FROM THE MARCH MEET



Everyone gets into the act:
L-R: R. Efras, R. LaHaie, J. Sinkiewicz, B. Jewell



Denise Micale in the kitchen.

ENROLL YOUR CHILD(REN) IN KIDS CLUB

IN MEMORIAM REMEMBERING DOUG

by Paul Wassermann TCA #73-5169

It was perhaps thirty years ago when I bought a trio of red and silver 610 cars from a wheel chair bound, chipper, full of life, Doug DuBbay. Since that time I grew to admire Doug and Vi as our paths would cross at York and the TCA National Conventions. This friendship broadened as the DuBbays moved to Arizona from Iowa. Then, unfortunately, Doug developed an advanced malignancy and our relationship transformed again from toy train friends to patient-doctor. Doug passed away recently after a long battle with his cancer. In fact what should have been a six-month fight turned into a multi-year campaign of courage, strength, resilience, and good humor as Doug refused to cave into the relentless progression of his malignancy. These same traits are what made Doug so special as a toy train enthusiast and businessman. He served the hobby with distinction, from operating a nationally successful toy train retail business to operating a fabulous toy train museum and layout, from serving as a National Officer for the Lionel Collectors Club of America to helping host a tremendously successful National Convention for that club in Des Moines.

Doug loved the association and fellowship of his fellow toy train enthusiasts. It did not matter that he was wheel chair confined as a consequence of his cerebral palsy. He asked for no favors or special attention; he was just Doug, our friend who loved life and made us all realize how lucky we were to have a person like Doug to show us how to face life's challenges with the greatest courage and sense of humor. His resilience and tenacity were inspiring to me, and I am sure I am not alone in expressing my wonderment at what he was able to accomplish and how he left a mark on all of us who knew him. We all feel that little pang of emptiness and loss knowing Doug won't be with us physically anymore. But anytime we see someone enthralled with trains, or battling a handicap and making the most of it, we will all have a little Doug left inside us to remind us again how fortunate we were to have known him.



MY FIRST TRIP TO YORK

by Scott C. Russell (TCA 96-44125)

Tradition is at the heart of model train collecting. My father, Al Russell (TCA 72-4650) collected trains, I do now, and I hope my son Kevin and daughter Sarah will do the same. One important tradition of the Desert Division is to report on your first trip to York, which I accomplished last year. I was looking forward to my first trip to York having heard so many stories about it from Division members.

It was a long and tiring plane trip east. I was very surprised that they fed us several meals; that is so uncommon on flights these days. I arrived safely and picked up my rental car at an airport to the south. I had a little trouble understanding the car rental agent, eastern accents do vary from the west. I must have been tired after the flight because everything on the car seemed backward to me. I headed into town to find my B & B (located outside the wall). The next morning I headed into town to see the trains which were housed in several large exhibit halls. I spent many hours perusing them. They were in much better condition than I expected; some of them were obviously the crowning achievement in transportation at the time they were built. Building after building of trains - I was in a conductor's heaven. I was lucky to be in York just after two significant anniversaries in training which made my visit even more exciting.

Wow! The trains were a much bigger gauge than I expected. I looked and looked, but could find very few that matched my trains at home. None of them were the same railroads I collect (they were all eastern lines). They were also much more colorful than I expected, lots of greens, royal blues, and reds. Many of the steam engines had also been repainted I felt, but I could not find any TCA modification stickers on them. Another trouble I had was that the couplers didn't match mine at home; everything in the east is so different. I was also having trouble finding anything to buy, which is surprising with trains all around me. My favorite train at York, even though it was in pieces, was my namesake—I got high just seeing it. When I finally found items to buy, they were more train collectables (ties, sweatshirts, etc.) than rolling stock. Everything I bought was also very expensive, it literally took pounds of money to pay for my meager purchases.

Surprisingly, while in York I never saw anyone from the Desert Division. I had heard so many stories of York, I expected to see everyone I knew. I spent my time looking at the trains, eating (the watercress on my sandwich was a little different—they also didn't have any ice for my diet coke), and wondering how, if I bought a train, I could get it back home. I loved York, and hopefully will return again. On my next trip I hope to see some of my friends in the Desert Division.

PREPARE FOR THE FAMOUS “PIZZA MEETZA”

Are you ready? April 9 is coming and so is our Division's legendary Pizza Meetza! It is a meet like no other. First is our regular monthly meet, then comes ALL the pizza you can eat, and finally our afternoon concludes with a 100-lot auction.

What is in the AUCTION? Well, that is up to you, the Division Member. First, there will be the items you have donated to the club. (See article “Donated Trains = Tax Deduction” elsewhere in this bulletin.) Second, you may sell your own items. For a single entry fee of \$5.00, you may place for auction a “lot” of toy trains, either singly or in groups. For each lot there is a \$5.00 fee and, should you wish, you may designate a minimum bid on any, or none, of your lots. We will make available only 100 lot tickets. You may purchase one or all 100 (if you're first in line), but when they are gone, there will be no more until next April's Pizza Meetza. Tickets may be reserved at the April 9 Meet, so make sure that you do not miss out. The club takes no sales commission, regardless of what dollar amount the lot may bring – this is a service done strictly for our members.

How can you miss? A regular meet to buy, sell, trade, and swap tales with friends, then a feast of every imaginable kind of Pizza you ever dreamed about and some you may never have known existed. There will be somewhere between 30 and 40 large-sized Pizzas. Our all-time undisputed TCA record is a total of 50 at one Pizza Meetza.

So now, ARE YOU MORE READY? Mark down April 9 on your calendar. Bring your family, purchase some Auction lots, and above all – Enjoy the Day and a very special Pizza Meetza!

BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, April 6, beginning at 7:30 PM at the home of Phil Monahan. Members are welcome to attend. Please call 480-607-3956 to be sure there are enough chairs.

ON THE MEND

Bill Schulte recently spent time in the hospital. He is recuperating at home. Cards would be appreciated. Mail them to Bill at 5815 E. Calle del Norte, Phoenix, AZ 85018.

Desert Division shirts are still available. Navy blue \$20; maroon \$30. Contact Katie Elgar: 623-580-6957.

HALF A GARAGE AND MILES TO GO

A Visitation to the Layout of Bill East
by Christie Wilson TCA #91-32878

What can you do if you love trains, have a lust for American Flyer S-Gauge, and want to build a layout? Ask Bill East. He has transformed half of his garage into an operating layout of which we could all be proud. He enters through a hinged section of track, revs up the transformers, and watches his toy train empire go. Lots of scenery, several loops of track, and many consists run continuously as spectators watch. Not only is there lots of action on the rails, there is also a collection on racks above the track. Thank you, Bill, for sharing your S-Gauge layout with us. I think we all came away with ideas for our own "little" worlds.



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

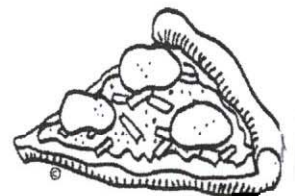
Do you want to save the Division some money and yourself some extra paper? You may opt to receive your monthly Desert Division Dispatch online instead of in the mail. As you read in the lead article of this issue, we are currently doing this on a trial basis. You will still receive your newsletter in the mail until we have worked out all of the kinks, bugs, and problems. If at the end of the trial period, you wish to discontinue your hard copy mailed bulletins, receiving only the online copy, please let the secretary know, and your bulletins will no longer be mailed to you. The savings in printing costs and postage will be used to help defray the costs of the TCA National Convention being hosted by the Desert Division in 2009. This program relates to newsletters only; all members will still receive ballots, rosters, and membership cards via the US Post Office.

If you wish to receive the newsletter online, please fill out the bottom section of this page and return it to Christie M. Wilson, Secretary, 16231 E. Ocotillo Drive, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268.

☐ Yes, I want to save printing costs and receive my newsletter online only.

Name _____ TCA Number _____

E-Mail Address _____



TCA DESERT DIVISION 2005 SPRING RAFFLE

The Train Collectors Association Desert Division is proud to announce this year's Spring Raffle. **First Place is the 1999 Lionel Corvette GP-7 Train Set mint in the box!** Second Place is a Lionel B&O Berkshire with Railsounds and smoke. Third place is a nice selection of three different Lionelville houses.



Don't miss out on any of these fine prizes this year. Remember **you do not need to be present to win** when the drawing is held on June 11th. Ticket price is \$10.00 each or 3/\$25.00

Have You PADE Your Way?

PADE PROMOTIONS

Purchase raffle tickets

Author an article for the Dispatch

Donate something to the club

Enlist to help

The Desert Division thanks everyone who made a PADE donation during the past months. Various members have made contributions to the club this month.

The March Meet brought out several "volunteers." Sally Treichel helped distribute rosters and membership cards. Larry Teresi had pictures of Planes, Trains, Etc. for use in this bulletin. Chark McClure donated an Orchard Supply House calendar for use as a future raffle prize.

Both Ed Micale and Phil Monahan donated their raffle prizes, Lionel rolling stock, to the Kids Club for use on their layout. During the March Meeting several members donated train items to the club for inclusion in the April Auction: Steve Bienstock, Gerry Klei, Brad Martin, Phil Monahan, Larry Teresi, John Upshur, and Gordon Wilson. The club's project to build a train table for one of our members was duly assisted by Phil Monahan, who donated the wood; Gordon Wilson, homostote; and Bob Herman, labor. A great big thank you goes to Glenn and Nancy Hill of Dayton, NV, who made a generous monetary donation to the Division. In the kitchen this month was Denise Micale.

TCA 2009 CONVENTION LOGO CONTEST

How would you like to be eligible to win \$100 at each Desert Division Meet and the 1964 Lionel 773 Hudson in November? "Aha," you are thinking, "this is an article explaining the Division's Annual Hudson Raffle." Well, you are wrong! One **HUDSON RAFFLE** ticket is going to be offered as a prize in the recently announced **TCA 2009 CONVENTION LOGO CONTEST**.

Between your receipt of this announcement and May 1, 2005, you may conjure up (Shakespearean term) and submit as many ideas for the Desert Division to use as a LOGO to help promote the upcoming 2009 TCA National Convention as you wish. Please take notice here that the key word is IDEA(S). Yes, you are going to be asked to draw your idea on an 8.5" x 11" piece of white paper, BUT you may be as primitive or elaborate as you wish. As we stated, the optimum word is IDEA(S), not how professional your "artwork" looks, although quite obviously the better it looks the easier it will be to interpret. We have a plan for taking what the Convention Steering Committee deems as the best idea and turning it into an eye-catching, attention grabbing logo which will be synonymous with not only the Convention, but also with the well-accepted ideals of the Desert Division.

To perhaps give you a "heads up" on where you might wish to go with your "brainstorming," consider that this Convention is the first ever to be held beyond the normal dates of the last full week in June. Our concluding Banquet at the JW MARRIOTT DESERT SPRINGS RESORT will be held on Saturday night, JULY 4, 2009 – our Nation's Birthday. That is why we already have a MOTTO – remember the 1997 Convention and "By the Time I Get to Phoenix"? Just in case you have not heard the Motto for 2009, here it is: "A STAR-SPANGLED CONVENTION!" The very name implies fireworks, parades, and patriotic activities. Combine all of that with TOY TRAINS, and the possibilities are not just mind-boggling, but endless.

Let your imagination flow. No idea is too wild, just as none will be too tame. We're looking for just the right mix of reality and fantasy to provide a worthy LOGO for such an earth-moving Convention. The 1997 Convention took all previous TCA Conventions to a new level of excitement. We'd like for this one to raise the bar for the next decade even higher. YOUR imagination can help do that.

Here's all you need to do: 1. Put your idea down on an 8.5" x 11" piece of white paper. That may be done in any color of ink, pencil, paint, or crayon. 2. It may be completely colored/shaded/elaborate or just plain. If you feel you have some artistic ability, show it off! The object is to be sure that your idea(s) are readily apparent to the Steering Committee. 3. On the page side opposite from the drawing/sketch/artwork, be sure to plainly PRINT your name, address, phone number, and TCA number and any explanation which you feel might enhance your sketch's idea(s). 4. You may submit as many entries as you wish. 5. Place it in an envelope and address it to ED MICALE, 2009 Convention Chairperson, 7498 E. Mary Sharon Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85262 or you may send it to Ed via the Internet. His email address is: ed027@qwest.net 6. All entries must be received on or before May 1, 2005.

The winning entry will be announced at the Desert Division's JUNE Monthly Meet and the LOGO will be unveiled (with credit given to the winning entry) at the 2005 TCA National Convention in Seattle, Washington this JUNE. Should you be in attendance, we will introduce you to the entire TCA Board of Directors. The prize of one (1) 773 HUDSON RAFFLE TICKET will be awarded at the June Division Meet and will immediately become eligible to win the monthly prize, as well as the main prize in November. Theoretically, that one ticket could win for each of the next three meets (\$300 maximum & \$75 minimum) and then win the \$1,500 #773 Lionel 1964 Hudson Locomotive and Tender. It could multiply into an \$1,800 prize plus your logo will forever be connected with the 2009 TCA Convention.

There you have it, a contest with absolutely NO negatives. To win it, all you need to have is a very imaginative idea put down on paper. The winning entry will certainly gain more than the proverbial "15 minutes of fame." AND --- that entry COULD come from you!!!!!! NOW, go get a paper and pencil !!!

PLANES, TRAINS, AUTOMOBILES, AND A WHOLE LOTTA KIDS!

by Chris Allen TCA #95-40580

Once a year the train clubs in the Phoenix area get the call to assist the fellows over at Rotary International for their annual fund raising event. In its third year at Falcon Field in Mesa, the Rotary's "Planes, Trains, Automobiles, and Up on 2 Wheels" is a combination of a custom car show, motorcycle show, train layouts of every gauge, and of course the Commemorative Air Force Arizona Wing's Museum. Each year we have seen the turnout get larger and younger as the event has gotten better and more varied, and this year was the best yet. One of the nice things for the train clubs that participate is the location that we are in. The Commemorative Air Force moves a few of its planes out from a newly constructed hangar for the weekend and the train clubs move in. In past years it has provided us with some nice shade and a cool breeze, but this year with a blustery rainy winter weekend we were sitting high and dry. Setup began Friday afternoon around 2:30 with bench work and track laying. Already on site before my arrival, DeLon Freije was rarin' to go, and we unloaded the U-Haul and had a rough set up in place when we were joined by John Wiley, Ruth and Katie Elgar. Shortly after getting all the tables bolted together we proceeded to lay track and before long we were running the test train on all four "O" gauge mainlines. Then, since it was 4:30 on a Friday and we weren't really that anxious to get out on the freeways, we did a little bit of module dressing to help save us some time in the morning.

Saturday morning was a mess. Overnight a winter rainstorm came in soaking the tarmac early, and was replaced with a constant blustery wind. However, inside the hangar life was a bit more pleasant, cold for sure, but we were dry. Again DeLon and I were joined by Gordon Wilson and Don Locke where we quickly finished the layout and began to run trains. Gordon uncorked his Lionel Freedom Train for its inaugural run and after a brisk walk across the street for a battery we had the Star Spangled Banner playing every time the "horn" button was pressed. Jonathan Peiffer arrived in his 1949 Chevrolet which he entered into the Car Show. Inside it was loaded with a truckload of trains; and if you know Jonathan, it included a GG-1. Kid's Club members Nathaniel Davis and James Allen ran trains for a while but all too soon, 3:00 PM arrived and the show was over. Jon Wiley again showed up along with Ed Georgevich and the rest of the crew began tear down in earnest. Everything was down and back in the trailer by 4:15! Not only that but the trailer was unloaded back at the shed and returned to U-Haul, and I was sitting in my La-Z-Boy drinking a root beer by 5:30. That's a successful module setup in MY book! Thank you to all of the Division members who helped make this a successful day for us and the Rotarians.



From l to r: DeLon Freije, Gordon Wilson, Jonathan Peiffer (back to camera) & Don Locke enjoy a quick chat prior to the show starting Saturday morning, and the only real quiet time we had all day!

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: www.tcadd.org