

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

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Click on the link to our e-Bay offerings.

Volume 39, No. 1

February, 2009

“OH BABY, IT’S COLD OUTSIDE”

Well, maybe, but not at the Desert Division’s January Meet. Nearly one hundred members joined us for the first Meet of 2009. Visitor Dave Hollister from Lakes and Pines Division joined out-of-town Division members Tom Adams and Roger Meekhof as we greeted the newest members to TCA and/or the Division: Doug Hayes, Terry Bunish, Herb Andreen, Dave Kuszynski, and Bill Richardson. All enjoyed the camaraderie that is the trademark of the Desert Division.

Several announcements began the business meeting. Treasurer Bob Herman reported that we have \$15,687.61 in savings and \$4,847.99 in checking, with \$459.66 earmarked for Trains for Kids. The After-Meet visitation in January was at the Tempe home of Peter Atonna. This is not his typical immense layout, but rather a small one, filled with busy activity. He also stated that he is making videos of his layout in Paulden. The next item was the spring Auctions. There will be a regular April Pizza Meetza with members selling their items; however, the auction of the primo items from Sun City will be put off until “maybe” May.

Bill Mack asked several TCA Convention Chairs to say a few words about what will be happening in June. Gordon Wilson stated that we need tour docents. This is not, however, a “free ride.” Docents will need to research and find out about the areas into which they will be traveling. Brad Martin demonstrated the newest Convention store item, a long-sleeved blue denim shirt which can be ordered, at a cost of \$35 each, during the next several Meets. In response to the question about the green vests we wore during the 1997 Convention, Bill Mack said, “Bring them in.” We’ll see what we can do with them. The current plan is to have something red/white/blue for this year’s “Star Spangled Convention.” Ralph Treichel reminded everyone that we will need volunteers to help with the Convention. Anyone interested should contact Ralph. He will keep a list of names of members who are willing to help as the Convention draws nearer and assign them as needed. Chris Allen remarked that we had 54 registrants in the first 9 days of January. Some tours are filling fast, and some are already sold out. Angelo Lautazi mentioned the self-guided tours. If you wish to be involved in this, let Angelo know and he will photograph your layout so that it can be included, along with a map to your location, in the booklet available to those who opt for this tour.

Scottsdale’s McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park has been talking for years about expanding and updating its facilities. The project is now nearing the stage where work can begin. Russ Mosser brought pictures of what the finished project will look like. Each group, Paradise and Pacific, N gauge, and the HO group, will have 1300 square feet of space for layouts, plus 300 square feet of workspace in the new building. The old building will be preserved, as it is the original bunkhouse from the old Stillman Ranch. It will house artifacts which are currently in storage.

COMING UP...

FEBRUARY 14	CONVENTION GENERAL MEETING – Jaycees Hall – 7:30 AM
FEBRUARY 14	DESERT DIVISION MEET – Jaycees Hall – 9:00 AM
FEBRUARY 21	RIO GRANDE CHAPTER MEET – Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM
MARCH 14	CONVENTION GENERAL MEETING – Jaycees Hall – 7:30 AM
MARCH 14	DESERT DIVISION MEET – Jaycees Hall – 9:00 AM
MARCH 21	RIO GRANDE CHAPTER MEET – Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM
APRIL 4	SPRING PICNIC – McCormick Railroad Park – 11:00 AM

This month's Educational Segment began with Paul Wassermann's Pre-War Lionel Crossing Gate. A Lionel transition piece, this one was made by Lionel for the American Flyer Corporation. Next is a Lionel Trains uncataloged set box. It was made for a New York Department Store, Schranz and Bieber. Interestingly, Lionel misspelled the name of the store, inverting the *i* and the *e* in the second name. Tony Saulina brought in his New Haven, a Christmas gift, to share with the attendees. Jerry Sienkiewicz showed a 1957 Kusan set, which sold for \$40 at the time. He also shared an article about this set. It was the first Atomic Train ever made, and interestingly, it was given away free to anyone who bought a Sylvania 110 Slimline television set. Though it is considered rare, there are others in existence. Rich Bimmer has one in his store for sale, and Russ Mosser has the Kusan Cannon Car for sale on his table at the Meet today.

Upcoming dates for members to remember include April 4, the Spring Picnic at the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, and December 6, the Holiday Party at the Mesa Marriott.

Sarah Russell pulled the first winning raffle ticket. It belonged to Tom Stange, who chose the Lionel 1997 Toy Fair Car as his prize. Other prizes are as follows:

Ross Roberts	Lionel Rail Box Car
Chet Henry	Lionel Corporation Flat Car
Angelo Lautazi	Die Cast Truck and Trains DVD
Bill Richardson	N&W Trailer
Jim Vokac	TCA Coffee Mug
John Upshur	Badges, buttons, sign, and pen

The Meet adjourned to lunch and a visit to Peter Atonna's layout.



Ross Musser explains plans for the Railroad Park. Jerry Sienkiewicz brought in the Kusan Atomic Train and free Sylvania TV ad.

TCA RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

by Gregory Palmer TCA #94-39039

The first Rio Grande Chapter Meet of 2009 was greeted by plenty of sunshine and warmer than normal temperatures. We had around 19 members attend, which is more than 50% of our Chapter. A new Chapter-Division member, Don Kuster, from St. Paul, MN, has joined our Chapter and the Desert Division. Welcome Don to New Mexico, Albuquerque, the Desert Division, and the Rio Grande Chapter. The education segment started as I showed several types of pre-war transformers. What makes them different is the variety of voltages used. I showed an American Flyer Transformer which puts out 0-9 volts maximum; a Jefferson Transformer, called the little Jeff, which puts out 0-12 volts; an American Flyer Transformer made by Becker Electrical Company which also puts out 0-12 volts; and an Ives Transformer produced by Jefferson that puts out 0-24 volts, and has a lamp socket plug. These transformers show the many different operating voltages for toy trains in the pre-war era. Next was Don Mantay who showed off an Auction win from Silverton, CO. He also passed out photos of the Capital Trackers display at the White House National Christmas Tree Display. (Our TCA President Clem Clement is a member of the Capital Trackers) A wonderful display, and great photos taken by Don. Next to show and tell was Paul Hurford. He brought the new Lionel classic series 2124W Set. It has the 2332 GG1 and the Madison Cars. The loco is even wrapped in original looking Lionel paper. This good-looking set has electronic horn and bell only. Thanks to Paul for informing the Chapter on what is new at Lionel. Ross Jordon brought his Lionel 2400 series passenger cars. One of the cars was restored by Ross. He did a great job of restoration, and I hope he considers taking it to the TCA 2009 Convention and putting in the restoration contest. John Trever brought his variations of the 6736 Hopper Car. One has the Detroit and Mackinac logo correct, and the one has the incorrect logo. It was great to see this scarce variation. By the way John is a new member of the TCA Standards Committee.

The regular part of the Meeting started with reports. Bill Harris, our Treasurer, reported that we now have \$488.81 in checking. The next announcement was that Jon Spargo, Chapter Board Member, has made fantastic progress with the Trains for Kids program in Socorro, New Mexico. The Middle School Special Ed students are building a great model railroad layout with our Lionel Train Set donation. The photo at right shows the Holiday Display on the layout.



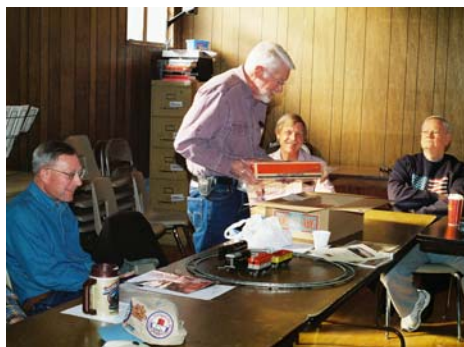
Our New Mexico Rail Runner Express Billboard project has hit a slight snag. The New Mexico Department of Transportation is being sued by the Railrunner Corporation of the Boston area. Since the name could be a problem, even though we have an OK from NMDOT, we have decided to sell the NM Rail Runner Express Billboards to TCA members only. We voted to wait for the suit to be settled before selling the Billboards to the public.

The next important topic was a possible change in Venue for our Pumpkin Meet. Bill Spofford, our Pumpkin Meet Manager, has found a great venue, the Sheraton Uptown, at the corner of Louisiana and Manual, across from Coronado Center and ABQ Uptown. Bill can get it for us on a special Sunday rate, no higher than \$500.00, and more likely around \$350.00. The Chapter approved a Sunday Meet, and authorized Bill to get a date and a firm rate. Having it at a large Hotel would allow the Pumpkin Meet to expand. We recognize that the economy is bad, but it might be the right time to go for it, so we are. I will report on Bill Spofford's progress at our Next Chapter Meet in February. We will also talk about table fees at that time.

The Standards Committee report was on the topic of the proposed Operating Standards. The Survey form was passed out and the results will be turned in to Bill Spanarelli. All members who have not done the survey are urged to do so. Please fill it out and mail it in to Bill. You will find it in the latest issue of the TCA National Headquarters News. A possible gift for the New Mexico Ronald McDonald House will be discussed at the February 21st Meet. We also received a \$300.00 donation from a Board member, to help with future Chapter events, such as the Pumpkin Meet. If you have not yet sent your Desert Division Dues to Christie Wilson, please do so ASAP. The Division Directory will be out soon, so do not delay. You must be a member of the Desert Division to be a member of the Rio Grande Chapter. The Chapter has no dues, so please pay your Division dues. Remember, you can pay for more than one year at a time.

Our After-Meet Visitation was at the home of our Chapter Secretary, Scott Eckstein. Scott's layout has had several improvements since our last visit. His combination of Lionel, American Flyer S Gauge, and Standard Gauge is remarkable. Thanks again to Scott, and his wonderful wife, Elaine, for the tour, and all the things he does for the TCA Rio Grande Chapter.

The next Rio Grande Chapter Meet will be February 21st at 10:00AM at the Sombra Del Monte Church at 2528 Utah N.E., in Albuquerque, NM. I hope to see all of you there.



Paul Hurford shows what is new from Lionel. On the far right is new member Don Kuster.



At left is Ross Jordan with his 2400 Series set. At right is John Trever with Lionel Hopper Car variations.



Host Scott Eckstein inspects his layout during the after-meet visitation.

2009 HUDSON RAFFLE BEGINS THIS MONTH

Bring your wallet to the February 14 Meet and one of the first to buy some 2009 Hudson Raffle Tickets. They remain \$25 each and we have only 100 to sell. The prize, a 1964 Hudson, will be on display at the front table. Remember, the earlier you buy your tickets, the more chances you have of winning the monthly \$100 drawing.

The Dispatch is published monthly except July and December by the Train Collectors Association, Desert Division, 16231 E. Ocotillo Drive, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268. This issue is Volume 39, No. 1 (February, 2009).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

The January meeting was hopping! We had over 80 people in attendance and lots of sales tables. We signed up a few new members, as well as seeing several of our winter visitors! Always good to see them return from the colder parts of the country!

This month our Desert Division Members will be recognized for their years of membership. So if you have been a TCA member for at least 5 years, you will be presented with a certificate for belonging 5, 10, 15, 20 25, 30, 35, 40 or 45 years. (Hint your year number ends in a 3 or an 8.) Certificates will be presented at the February 14th meeting.

We have a national contest for membership. This is a great promotion, with some of the lucky winners to be announced at the Convention here in Phoenix this June. Yes, it is important to seek new members to continue to grow the hobby, but it is also important to maintain our members. Look around; some of the people you have sat and talked trains with over the years are not coming or have dropped their membership. You may still see them elsewhere. If so, give them a call, invite them back to a meeting, and rekindle their excitement and interest in trains! The Convention in June may be a good reason for them to be a part of the National Convention right here in the Valley of the Sun!

Desert Division will start with the 2009 Hudson Raffle sales in February. Buy a ticket and get in on the \$100.00 monthly drawing right away! Don't wait and miss out on the monthly drawing!

The Pizza Meetza Auction is scheduled for April 11, 2009. See Chet Henry if you are interested in purchasing lot tickets to enter items into this auction.

Do you want to assist at the Convention but are not sure where you may be able to help? Be sure to give your name to Ralph Treichel (602-863-6985) if you are interested in volunteering for the Convention. He will be coordinating the volunteers. The Convention Committee meets at the Jaycee Hall starting at 7:30 AM before our regular meeting. Everyone is invited to attend!

Visitation will be in Fountain Hills after the February meeting. Plan on going and supporting your fellow members who open their homes for this fun part of being in the club!

See you at the Desert Division meeting on February 14!

Happy Trains!

DUES ARE DUE

This is your last reminder to pay your Desert Division dues in order to be included in the 2009 Membership Roster. You can find out the date that your dues expire by looking at your Desert Division membership card, or the address label on your mailed bulletin, which will be highlighted if your dues have already lapsed. If you receive your bulletin electronically, you will receive an e-mail apprising you that your dues are due. Fill out the form on page 9 of this issue and mail it, along with your check, made payable to TCA – Desert Division, for \$10 per year for up to 5 years in advance, to the address on the bottom of the form. For those with address or collecting changes, please use the same form to update the roster, which will be printed in March.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Do you want to read the Dispatch in living color and save yourself some extra paper at the same time? You may opt to receive your monthly Desert Division Dispatch online instead of in the mail.

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

Name _____

TCA Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, February 11, beginning at 7:30 PM at the home of Steve Bienstock. Members are welcome to attend. Please call 480-998-9227 to be sure there are enough chairs.

DESERT DIVISION – TCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2008-2009

President:	Katie Elgar	623-580-6957
Vice-President:	Jonathan Peiffer	602-561-4131
Treasurer:	Bob Herman	480-948-2730
Secretary:	Fred Hunter	480-947-3639
Directors:	Steve Bienstock	480-998-9227
	Sam McElwee	480-838-5847
	Greg Palmer	505-898-3840
	Gordon Wilson	480-837-5344

3RS? EXPLAINED IN IMAGES AND WORDS

by Jonathan Peiffer TCA #01-530437

One of the great advantages of 0-scale is the extensive variety of trains that can run on 3-rail track. We are all familiar with terms like Tin Plate, Prewar, Postwar, 0-27 and High Rail scale. There is a new movement building in the 0-scale community that is starting to gain interest and the attention of the manufacturers known as “Three Rail Scale” or 3RS among its proponents. The concept is fairly simple: trains modeled upon their prototype as realistically as possible. One might ask how 3RS differs from “High Rail.” The main difference includes elimination of swinging pilots on diesels, use of Kadee and other scale couplers, accurate painting, and finally weathering of the model. Furthermore, how does this differ from two-rail 0-scale? In its most basic form, it takes advantage of the abundant amount of good quality trains in the three-rail market, while also being able to use all the bells and whistles without extensive internal modification. It does require wider curves, so this is certainly not for everyone. Since being introduced to this concept about 6 months ago, I have made the decision to make this the focus of my model railroading. Most recently, I took the opportunity to convert an MTH diesel and document the process.



This journey started with the acquisition of a used MTH VIA Rail F40PH. As a little prototype background on this locomotive, the F40PH was designed by EMD and sold to Amtrak originally in 1976 as a replacement for the flawed design of Amtrak’s first new passenger locomotive, the EMD SDP40F of 1973. The F40PH quickly became Amtrak’s standard diesel and many ran 2 million or more miles during their nearly 30-year careers. Many transit agencies also purchased this locomotive through the 80’s. Second hand ex-Amtrak locomotives can be found in both freight and passenger service throughout the US. Our closest example is at the Grand Canyon Railway which owns several. With 3000 horsepower, this diesel can pull a large passenger train with a single unit.

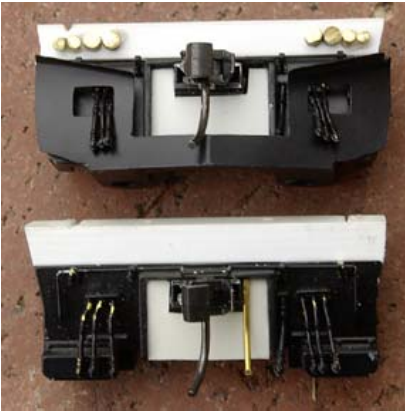


I elected to model my locomotive based upon the New Jersey Transit version, which I first saw trackside in 1982 before they officially entered service. Using the website www.railpictures.net, I was able to find many prototype photos and elected on road number 4120. The first step was to remove all the handrails and added detail parts that would interfere with the painting and remove the shell from the chassis. Repainting it with my base colors using modeler’s masking tape and an airbrush was a fairly simple process. The next step was to relocate the horn to the front. I also added working strobe lights above the cab with the use of a Microtronics strobe kit and translucent

plastic plumbing connectors found at Ace Hardware to cover the strobe lights. Upon completion of this step, decals were applied. Finding 0-scale decals is difficult these days, but luck would prevail in the purchase of some second hand custom run decals made by Microscale.

Once the body was completed, I moved on to the chassis. This is the emotionally challenging part as I cut the electro coupler wiring, removed the coupler and the mounting pad on the power trucks with a Dremel tool. The pilots were removed from each end and the chassis put aside. In order to fix the pilot, the gap needed filling in where the pilot was permitted to swing. Styrene tubes available at most hobby shops were used to fill in the “gap.” At this time, Kadee #805 couplers were added to the pilots with the help of a Kadee #812 height gauge and some plastic shims. The space from the old larger Lionel style coupler was filled in using sheet styrene, and brass





tubing was cut to simulate the Head End Power (HEP) connections found on all modern passenger diesels. The pilots were painted black then reattached to the chassis using two #2-56 screws and epoxy. After 24 hours of drying time, the pilots were permanently fixed.

Finally the locomotive was reassembled and weathering was applied to it. Weathering is a skill best learned by ruining many cars, as I did in my youth modeling HO. "Less is more" certainly applies at this stage. Using my airbrush with thinned paints, I worked closely off photos to get the right look. Three colors were applied including light brown, dark brown, and grimy black to simulate dirt and grease that is kicked up off the track while the train is running. This was built up in several layers to prevent over doing it. The final step was to apply a matte clear coat to the entire locomotive to make it complete.



While certainly a niche portion of the hobby, Kadee equipped cars still connect to traditional O-scale couplers, so they can run in any consist of cars without issue. 3RS is finally taking hold in the marketplace with MTH developing a scale Proto coupler and providing the hardware to mount Kadee couplers. Atlas O is offering fixed pilot diesels and 3rd Rail looking at providing Kadee mounts on all their new products. The simplicity of operations combined with the scale size is sure to bring more people into O-scale and the TCA has an opportunity to welcome new members to the broad tent that O-scale modeling has been for many years.



DR. MIKE'S TRULY SUPERIOR GLUE

by Gordon Wilson, TCA 76-10233

Rarely have I ever flat out promoted one product over another. I do this for a couple of reasons. First and foremost is because my name is so very often associated with TCA, that such a promotion is automatically interpreted by many members as being tantamount to TCA's endorsement of that product. A secondary reason is that I learned while completing my academic degrees that to make a "for sure" statement, one should have a great deal of positive statistical evidence to back up that statement. All that having been said, allow me to say that what follows is ME speaking for myself and not TCA. This product is a fast-adhering glue and I feel I've tried enough of these products to be able to know whose claims work and whose don't!

Last April (2008) while at the York Meet and in the Orange, or Dealers' Hall, I came across a vendor who was selling some beautiful wooden, larger sized items, such as musical instruments, golf carts, motor cycles, airplanes, and locomotives. They were of museum quality – the type of piece that you'd put in a prominent place or in a display case. I bought several of them, some of which needed some minor assembling with a glue. How often have we all listened to a vendor tell us of all the positive effects of a product? "It will hold 'x' number of pounds; it will never dry out; you can leave it without a cap for hours and not worry about it drying out or clogging up the spout; it will bond anything in a matter of seconds." Do these claims sound familiar? Upon arriving at home, you then try it out, but like the gadgets sold on TV in those Info-mercials, for some reason it doesn't work.

Well, ladies and gentlemen of the TCA, Dr. Mike Rice "threw" the glue into the packages I bought and asked me to try it. I listened to his "pitch" about the qualities of this product and more or less said to myself, "Yeah, sure, just like all the rest!" To say I was skeptical of the claims he made for his product would be an understatement. Was I ever wrong!

Mike Rice, who no longer carries the wooden models (what a shame – they were and are gorgeous), told me that his adhesive does not evaporate while in its container, nor does it congeal over a period of months. He said he knew it would last in liquid form at least nine months. I can tell you for sure that that is without a doubt the absolute truth. How often I've gone to a brand new, never been opened vile of Crazy Glue, only to find that it has solidified. I've had to scratch the project I'm working on until I can get some new glue, not to mention the fact that down the drain went the money I'd spent on the congealed new container of Crazy Glue. Dr. Mike's glue will not dry out, even if left open all day. I have done that already to Dr. Mike's glue for over 24 hours – sometimes I'm not too careful when using glues of any type. You can also keep his glue in a refrigerator without harming it. Dr. Mike's adhesives can be used on Delrins, acrylics, rubber, pvc's, styrene's, some polyethylene's, abs, resins, die-cast iron, brass, ceramics, porcelain, lead crystal, stained glass, blown glass, fiberglass, leather, some aluminum, pewter, pot metal and many more too numerous to list. I've never come across anything quite as good – anywhere, anytime, or anyplace. I recently fixed a Christmas ornament of Blown Glass for Beth Stange. Was she ever happy!

It is, however, currently not available in any store. As of this article, it is available only by ordering it over the Internet or by placing a Fax, USPS Mail, or telephone order with Dr. Michael Rice, the owner of Innovative Promotions. There are two types of glue available and I would recommend you speak with Dr. Mike or read about them on his website to determine which one best fits what you wish to do. One glue is called "Dr. Mike's Model-n' Crafter's Glue" and that is the one on which I based this article and review. The second one is called "Lightning Bond" and has a three-year shelf life. It sets in seconds and can actually be used, if need be, with very little oxygen.

To reach Mike Rice and Innovative Promotions –

Write: Innovative Promotions, P. O. Box 1401, Ashland, VA 23005

Telephone: Michael Rice, 1-804-798-5225 EST

Fax: 1-804-798-4070

E-Mail: DrMikesGlue@aol.com

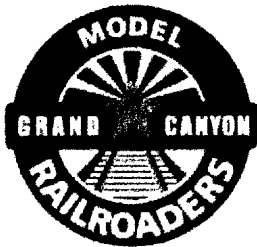
Website: www.DrMikesGlue.com

I would suggest using the website to familiarize yourself with the product line, as it will allow you to bring up the following links: Home Page; Product Info; Dealers; Order on-line; Contact Us; Directions; and View Cart.



Above: Dr. Mikes Model-n'
Crafter's Glue
Below: Lightning Bond





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Swap Meet & Operating Trains

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THE GRAND CANYON
MODEL RAILROADERS
Announces

THE MID-WINTER MODEL RAILROADING MEET

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2009
9 AM to 3 PM

at the

52nd Street Armory

1335 N 52nd. Street, Phoenix, AZ (Next to Papago Park)

A Family Affair for young and old alike, this event will feature a sales hall for vendors of all model railroad scales. There will be continuous How-To demonstrations that address modeling from the ground up. Modular layouts in several scales will be running.

Hall is **scheduled** to be available to vendors at **6:00 AM 2/28/2009**.
(The prompt arrival of the security guard to open the building is scheduled, but his timely arrival can't be guaranteed!)

Visit us on the web: www.members.cox.net/gcmrr

Rates 1-3 tables \$23.00 each
4+ tables \$18.00 each
Day of the event \$25.00/ table

To reserve your space complete and mail this form by Feb 1, 2009

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ St _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

Fees:
Tables ____ x@ \$23 = _____
Tables ____ x@ \$18 = _____

(one free admission with each table)

TOTAL Enclosed _____

I hereby agree to be bound by the rules governing the GCMR Mid-Winter Meet in regards to buying, selling, ethics, and behavior. I further agree that in case of a dispute, the Meet Chairman, or and impartial referee appointed by the Meet Chairman shall arbitrate the matter and render a binding decision. I shall, upon the direction of the Meet Chairman, in the case of a disputed sale, refund the buyers money.

Signed _____ Date _____

For Official Use Only	
Reg # _____	Date Received _____
Check # _____	Amount _____

Make checks payable to "Grand Canyon Model Railroaders"
Mail registration to : John Pryor, 102 N Sierra Circle, Casa Grande, AZ 85222
For additional information call John Pryor 602-799-8570 /
Paul Boston 480-314-3373 / Dave Brown 480-423-8725

DESERT DIVISION REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ TCA No. _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Spouse's first name _____ e-mail address _____

Enclosed is a check made payable to TCA - Desert Division in the amount of \$ _____ to cover my dues for the next _____ (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5) years at \$10.00 per year.

The following is a list of categories from the Registration Form representing your preferences in toy trains and accessories. Circle numbers of all categories that apply.

TRAIN ERA

- 1 PREWAR (1850-1942)
- 2 POSTWAR (1945-1969)
- 3 MODERN (1970-Present)

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

MANUFACTURER

- 14 AMERICAN FLYER/GILBERT
- 15 LIONEL/WINNER
- 16 MARX/MARS/ALLSTATE
- 17 IVES
- 18 DORFAN/FANDOR
- 19 MTH
- 20 WILLIAMS
- 21 K-LINE
- 22 AMT/KUSAN
- 23 OTHER - PLEASE SPECIFY
 - 23A BASSETT/LOWKE
 - 23B BING
 - 23C BOUCHER
 - 23D BUB/KARL
 - 23E BUDDY-L
 - 23F CARLISLE & FINCH
 - 23G ELLETREN
 - 23H HAFFNER
 - 23I HOGE
 - 23J HORNBY
 - 23K ISSMAYER
 - 23L LGB
 - 23M MARKLIN
 - 23N METZEL
 - 23O MINI-SCALE

- 23P PHOENIX LTD.
- 23Q PLASTICVILLE
- 23R LITTLETOWN/SKYLINE
- 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
- 23DD FLEISCHMANN
- 23EE CARETTE
- 23FF EASTWOOD AUTOMOBILIA
- 23GG AMERICAN MODELS S GAUGE
- 23HH DOWNS S GAUGE
- 23II COLBER
- 23JJ UNIQUE
- 23KK SAKAI
- 23LL BOWSER
- 23MM T-REPRODUCTIONS

DO YOU HAVE A LAYOUT?

- 24 YES
- 25 NO

PERIPHERALS

- 26 FIGURES
- 27 TOYS
- 28 PAPER/BOOKS
- 29 BUILDINGS
- 30 RAILROADIANA

Mail to: **Christie Wilson**, Secretary
16231 E. Ocotillo Drive
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Seven years ago, when the J. W. Marriott Desert Ridge was just a sand lot on the north end of Scottsdale, two golfers, Paul Wassermann and Gordon Wilson, envisioned this oasis as the site of a future TCA National Convention. The Desert Division would host the event, in what seemed like the “distant future,” the summer of 2009. Who would have believed the time would pass so quickly!

A contest was held to suggest a potential logo for the Convention. Ideas came from several sources. We all know which design won the nod, but you may not have seen the others. One of them is on our web site as the logo for the Convention e-Bay items. Two others can be seen here. From the suggested drafts came the shield which encompassed our Desert Division logo with the Santa Fe engine, the Arizona flag, and stars all the way around it. The theme, “A Star Spangled Convention,” was born.



The site grew to its present stature – a world-class resort and spa; fund-raisers took place; folks throughout the Division volunteered to help; and now we are about to embark on another adventure of Desert Division hospitality, inventiveness, and creativity. Registrations are pouring in, and we are “ready to roll.”

CELL PHONE COLLECTION CONTINUES

The Desert Division still wants your old, deactivated cell phones. We are collecting them in conjunction with a recycling program which will reprogram older models into 911 phones for folks who may need an emergency contact, without having to spend the money for all the “bells and whistles.”

Bring your unwanted and useless cell phones to our next meeting on February 14, and give them to Ken Barnes, who will see to it that the phone is sent in. All proceeds for this project go to the Division’s 2009 TCA National Convention Fund.



MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT ENHANCES TCA AND THE DIVISION

TCA National has instituted a program to recruit new members. Each of you can help. Bring a friend to a meet; encourage that person to join TCA and the Desert Division. Application forms are available at every Division Meet during the year, or they can be downloaded from the Desert Division web site www.tcadd.org. What do you get for your efforts?

First of all is the camaraderie for which the Desert Division is famous. Second is the fellowship of a fellow toy train hobbyist. Third is the influx of new thoughts and ideas into our club. Fourth is cash. That’s right. If you co-sign for a new member, your name is put into a hat for a quarterly drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to the TCA Museum Store. One lucky co-signer will win \$200 cash during the Convention in June. Not only that, but the Division could also win, as every new member of the Desert Division provides us with an opportunity to be drawn for a cash prize.

At the end of the membership drive, October 31, 2009, even more prizes will be awarded. Persons who have signed the most applications, Divisions with the greatest number of new recruits, Divisions with the largest percentage of new members, and one lucky randomly drawn “grand prize winner” will share in the proceeds from this recruitment drive. For more information, see the November 2008 National Headquarters News, the November 2008 Desert Division Dispatch, or the TCA web site www.traincollectors.org.

RAILROAD



-CHANGE



ANTIQUE TRAINS - #1 Lantern Lane, Turnersville, NJ 08012 (Phone: 856-589-6224) Rich Bimmer, Proprietor. Lionel Value-Added Dealer/Authorized Service Center. MTH, American Flyer. New, used, trade-ins welcome. Lionel and Flyer parts back to 1915. Repairs guaranteed for one year.

ARIZONA TRAIN DEPOT - Lionel AT&SF and NYC Hudson w/TRAINSOUND\$179.99 – Lionel UP Pacific w/RAILSOUND \$269.99 – Lionel BNSF all aluminum 3 car Hopper set, these are the finest cars ever made, come in and see for yourself! \$199.99 – Lionel scale UP Tank Car sale \$41.99 – MTH Santa Fe 50' Hi Cube \$39.95 – Many consignments from rolling stock to locos in wide assortment of road names - Always ask for your TCA club member discount - AZ TRAIN DEPOT, 755 E. McKellips Road, Mesa - 480-833-9486 Mon-Sat 9-6 open late Wed. until 9 PM.

BUILDING A LAYOUT? – We can furnish all GarGraves products at discount prices. Flex and sectional track, uncoupling tracks, and accessories in all gauges; the new 072 and 100" and 042 switches; DZ1000, Rix, and Tortoise switch motors, Acme controls, NJ signals, and the new Z Stuff optical crossings. For a complete list, contact Peter Atonna 928-636-4228 or e-mail at mjatonna@commspeed.net.

BURLING'S TON OF TRAINS – Authorized Lionel, MTH, K-LINE & Mantua Dealer. Pat Eiff has joined our staff to better serve our customers in sales and service of both new and pre-owned trains. With the largest selection of Post-War through new Lionel in Arizona, we invite you to see our different "Set of the Month" each month. We also buy trains. Hours: 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM, M – F and by appointment. 16924 E. Colony Dr., Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 Phone: 480-816-6501 Website: www.tonoftrains.com

GERRY'S TRAINS – Complete parts & repair service for Lionel, American Flyer, standard gauge pre & post war and Marklin HO trains. I buy old trains and toys, one piece or entire collections. Gerry Klei, 8608 E. Cheryl Drive, Scottsdale, AZ Phone (480) 998-5349.

MESA MODELS/MESA TRAINS – Valley's largest selection of building and structure kits, layout details and accessories at everyday discount prices. Atlas O (2 and 3 rail) and Weaver rolling stock plus a full line of Atlas O track and accessories. Scales include O, On3/On30, HO and G. Store hours: 10 to 5 Mon-Fri and 10-4 Saturday. Visit our website at <https://www.mesamodels.net> 6032 E. McKellips Road, Mesa (NE corner of McKellips/Recker Road) 480-357-8800.

THE TRAIN STATION – Mountain Lakes, NJ. Top 10 Authorized Lionel and AF Sales and Service since 1974. New, Used, Bought, Sold, Repaired. 973-263-1979 www.train-station.com

AVAILABLE – **QSI 3-rail Products** information, including QS3000's, QS2+, QSI Reverse Units, Hooters, Tooters, and other QSI accessories, please go to: www.The-Scaled-Tin-Rail.com. Art Boynton, The Scaled Tin Rail, Inc. 928-525-0755.

REPAIRS - Pat Eiff, 28 years of toy train repair experience, does train repairs in his home. Also trains for sale. Call him at 480-816-9624 or visit his website <http://www.toysthruetime.com>.

FOR SALE – Out of print Greenberg books: Lionel, American Flyer, Marx, etc. Please call Bruce Greenberg at 703-461-6991 (9-5 Eastern Daylight) or visit his web site, www.sykesvillehistory.us, for a current list.

FOR SALE – Lionel 227 0-6-0 (C-7) w/Tender (relettered) and the semi-scale 2954, 2955, 2956, 2957 (C-7/8) - \$3200. Presidential Passenger Cars 2521, 2522, 2523 (C-10) – Boxed \$775. 2363 Ill. Central F-3's (C-7) \$850. Following are all Mint/Boxed - Nickel Plate FF#6 Set – 18505, 17612, 19602, 19318, 19527, 19411, 19235 - \$550. 18304 Lackawanna M. U. Commuter Set (1991) - \$400. 11733 Feather River SSS (1992) - \$325. 19138 S. F. Roomette \$100. 19128 S. F. Full Vista Dome - \$175. 18115 S. F. "B" Unit - \$150. Tony Griskowitz 928-717-1206.

FOR SALE - Do you want quality, good-looking, versatile shelving to display your trains? RAIL RAX is the way to go! Contact Bill Mack, 480-391-3336 for an incredibly low price quotation.

FOR SALE – Lionel 1700E, 1701 (2), 1702, C-7, \$395. Lionel 440N Signal Bridge & 440C Panel Board C-6, P-4, \$475. Lionel 6-7515 1981 Denver Mint Car C-8, P-9, \$65. 6-25026 R. I. High Cube C-10, P-10, \$25. 6-26401 NP Ore Car C-10, P-10, \$20. 6-26197 D&H Tank Car C-10, P-10, \$20. 52077 TCA Great Northern High Cube C-10, P-10, \$300. Marx 7096 Mercury Passenger set C-7, \$450. Marx 3993M Commodore Vanderbilt Freight set C-7, \$175. Marx 490 Union Pacific set C-7, \$90. Marx 666 2-4-2 SP 8-wheel tender C-6, \$25. 666 2-4-2 Penn Central 8-wheel tender C-6, \$25. Marx 254000 scale Gondola C-7 & 20102 scale Caboose C-7, \$15 each. Marx 59 UP Stock Car C-7, \$25. American Flyer: 322AC Hudson w/AF 6-wheel tender-link C-7, \$150. 283 4-6-4 Northwestern Lines knuckle C-7, \$80. 210(88) FY&P Franklin C-7, \$100. Dannie L. Martin 520-360-0519 or e-mail dannieaz@cox.net.

FOR SALE – Lionel 390E Freight Set – 5 cars restored - \$750.00. Santa Fe with 15 cars, Mint - \$650. 400 E Reproduction Engine – Mint - \$800. Contact Sam Testa, 17541 Camino Confianza, Sahuarita, AZ 85629, or call 520-625-8303.

FOR SALE – Painted 4x8 HO layout board with electronic control board - \$35.00 – track already in place with some switches – no landscaping – will need some work to finish. Contact Phil Webster evenings 623-877-0754 or e-mail pwebs10319@aol.com.

This page is provided as a service to our members for trading among themselves.
Please contact them for items you may have, want, or need.

**TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION
DESERT DIVISION**

Gordon Wilson, Editor
Desert Division Dispatch
16231 E. Ocotillo Drive
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

POSTMASTER: This Federal 501c3 Newsletter contains **DATED MATERIAL** requiring action by members. **PLEASE DELIVER** on or before **February 6, 2009**

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DUES ARE DUE

**Every Childhood Should Have A Train
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**VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.tcadd.org
Click on the link to our e-Bay offerings.**

COMING EVENTS

- February 14 Convention General Meeting – 7:30 AM and Regular Division Meet – 9 AM - Jaycees Hall
8102 E. Jackrabbit Road, between McDonald and Chaparral, Scottsdale, AZ
- February 21 Rio Grande Chapter Meet – Sombra Del Monte Church, 2528 Utah NE, Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM
Contact: Greg Palmer 505-898-3840
- March 14 Convention General Meeting – 7:30 AM and Regular Division Meet – 9 AM – Jaycees Hall
- March 21 Rio Grande Chapter Meet – Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM
- April 4 Spring Picnic – McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park – 11 AM
- April 11 Convention General Meeting – 7:30 AM and Pizza Meetza and Auction– 9 AM – Jaycees Hall
Contact: Chet Henry (480-838-0783 or e-mail bchenry@cox.net) for Auction Lots
- May 9 Convention General Meeting – 7:30 AM and Regular Division Meet – 9 AM – Jaycees Hall
- May 16 Rio Grande Chapter Meet – Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM

Have You PADE Your Way?

PADE PROMOTIONS

- P**urchase raffle tickets
- A**uthor an article for the Dispatch
- D**onate something to the club
- E**nlist to help

Thank you to Tom Adams and Sam McElwee, both of whom donated Raffle Prizes for use by the Desert Division. The Kitchen Crew, under Barbara Lautazi, did a super job this month, with donut sales at an all-time high.

Your name can appear in this column. You only need to do something helpful for the Division.