

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



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.tcadd.org](http://www.tcadd.org)  
Click on the link to our e-Bay offerings.

Volume 37, No. 4

May, 2008

## PIZZA MEETZA BEATSA RECORD

The weather was perfect; the setting was ideal; the visitors and members came in droves. This year's Pizza Meetza was a well attended affair for all involved. Visitors included Sonny and Erma Wolfe from Denver, CO, Dan Kline from Deming, NM, and Joe Lalla, guest of Roger Miller. In addition, we saw members John Przybyla, Ray Romstadt, David Gonzales, Tony Griskowitz, Mike Wells, and Roger Miller for the first time in many months.

President Katie Elgar read the Thank You note from the Ronald McDonald House in Albuquerque. They were grateful for the train table with accessories donated by the Division and delivered by Ralph and Sally Treichel. Convention Co-Chair Ed Micale discussed progress of the Convention Committee to date. Of special interest are the Banquet Car and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Fund Raiser Car. He requested that anyone going to the 2008 Convention in Burlington, VT, please help staff the tables for advertising the 2009 Convention and/or selling items from our Division's Convention Store. Gordon Wilson will have a sign-up sheet at the May Meet. Please let him know when you are available to help. If you cannot make the Meet, please call 480-837-5344 or e-mail [christielwilson@aol.com](mailto:christielwilson@aol.com).

The Convention has asked for help with cash flow until Registrations start to come in. Bob Johnston made the motion, seconded by Chris Allen – The Desert Division will extend a Line of Credit of up to \$14,000 to the Convention to be used to order and pay for Banquet Cars for the 2009 TCA Convention. - Approved.

The Turkey Meet location will be the Renaissance Hotel and Spa at Westgate Center, Route 101 and Maryland Avenue, in Glendale. Hall and seller set-up will take place on Friday, November 28. Because of the increased space, we will be holding various clinics during the Turkey Meet on November 29. Matt Imbrogno volunteered to offer his services to lube, oil, and check out engines which anyone might bring in to the Meet. The Auction on Sunday, November 30, will be held at the Jaycees Hall. So far we have a sizeable collection of items for the Auction, and we will be advertising extensively to attract buyers for both days.

May's Open House will be a daily double, with two visitations planned in the North Scottsdale area. Additionally, Chris Allen mentioned that Steve Palmer will be holding an Open House on May 2, from 4 to 8 PM, with a MTH representative in attendance. Ivan English announced the Gadsden Pacific Summer Meet on June 7, as well as the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad Trip in August. Currently the date of their Holiday Meet is December 13. The Desert Division Holiday Party will be held on December 7, at the Marriott Hotel in Mesa. Ken Barnes has been appointed the Cell-Phone Redemption Chair. Please bring any and all deactivated cell phones to the May Meet and give them to Ken. The Beat the Heat Meet will be August 9, and the Grand Canyon Model Railroaders will have a bus (at a cost of \$25 per person) to that event. Contact Dave Brown or John Pryor to reserve your seat.

The Educational Segment today was especially timely, as Australia and New Zealand have asked to become a Chapter of the Desert Division of TCA. Clark McClure brought in a specially designed car, which he calls the Boxing Kangaroo Car, to welcome them into our midst.

## COMING UP . . .

**MAY 10 Regular Division Meet, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM**  
**May 17 Rio Grande Chapter Meet, Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM**  
**June 7 Toy Train Show – Tucson, AZ – 9 AM**  
**June 14 Regular Division Meet, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM**

Raffle prizes were next on the agenda. Winners are as follows:

Angelo Lautazi  
Jerry Sienkiewicz  
John Przybyla  
Wayne Ross  
Diane Martin  
Ken Barnes  
Janet Mattern  
Ken Burling

Hudson Raffle Ticket  
Lionel Auto Transport Car  
Train book  
Lionel Exploding Box Car  
Lionel Penn Central Box Car  
Lionel log car  
OSH Calendar and figures  
Plastic church, chocolate train, and buttons

Boyd Reasor pulled the winning Hudson Raffle Ticket. The recipient of the \$100 bill was Angelo Lautazi.

Official unveiling of 3<sup>rd</sup> Fund Raiser Car Kitchen crew - Shirley Hunter, Greg Novak Clark McClure's Boxing Kangaroo Car



The pizzas have arrived – all at once!



Everyone “eatza” pizza.



Auction inspection



## ROSTERS ARE OUT

Desert Division Rosters and Membership Cards were handed out at the March Meet and the April Picnic. All members whose dues were current as of February 29 were included. If the Roster and Membership Card were not hand delivered to you, they were put into the mail on April 7. You should have yours by now.

Take a look at the Membership Card - it will tell you when your dues lapse. Notice that it is signed by your new Division Secretary, Fred Hunter. Now, look at the Roster. If there are any changes, let Christie Wilson know ASAP so she can start to update the 2009 Roster.

## AMERICAN FLYER FOR SALE

Gene Smith, a long-time member of the Desert Division, is cleaning out his American Flyer collection. After his recent retirement from working at the Jeep plant in Ohio, he started to clean up the basement. (Yes, they not only have basements in Ohio, but they use them to store and run toy trains.) Lo and behold, he found that he had over the years purchased many duplicates of American Flyer items. Now he is looking for good homes for some of these duplicates.

Do you have a “Want List”? Are there American Flyer items on that list? You can help Gene while you are helping yourself. First of all, he’d love to hear from you. Second, he’d love to clear out a space in his basement so he can have more room to run the trains he has always adored. Contact Gene at 419-891-7353 or write to him at 1444 Cass Road, Maumee, Ohio 43537.

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 37, No. 4 (May, 2008).

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

Ah, the Pizza Meetza is behind us now, and you probably still can smell the pizzas in the room! After our regular meeting, we had a great meal and a great auction, full of surprises, as well as donations to the club and convention fund. Thanks to those who helped pull off the event: Beth Stange and Clark McClure for handling the pizzas, Chet Henry and Peter Atonna for the auction, Bob Herman and Angelo Lautazi for the financial part of the auction, and Greg Novak for the coffee window!

As we go into the month May, we are feeling the heat moving into the Valley. While the rest of the country is looking forward to spring, we are looking for a cool place to hang out and play trains, if possible!

This month the After Meet Visit will be to two layouts in the far Northeast Valley. Be sure to pick up a map at the meeting for directions.

This month we have started with plans for the modules. About 14 people gathered at Dallas Dixon's house to play with trains and discuss direction for the modules. We will be continuing to work on these ideas. If you weren't able to come to that meeting, please be sure to let Jonathan Peiffer know that you are interested in working on or running trains on the module. The goal is to have an Operating Modular Layout for Rail Fair.

Ken Barnes has agreed to take over the cell phone collection/redemption program. Be sure to bring in your deactivated phones. You do not need to bring in any chargers, cases, etc. If anyone has any ideas for using the old phone chargers, let us know. We have plenty!

The 2008 Convention in Vermont looks like an exciting event! I hope many of you are able to attend. There are lots of great tours planned for you. Don't forget your Passport! You should still have time to get one, just in case you decide to go into Canada since you are so close. Once again we are putting together tables for the Saturday banquet for the Desert Division. Generally, selection is done early in the week. If you are not arriving before Wednesday, please e-mail me if you want to sit with the Division at the Banquet. We always try to get some great seats!

The 2009 Convention here in Arizona is coming along seemingly faster now! The various chairs are working hard on the various aspects of the Convention, to pull together all the necessary items to make this the best TCA National Convention ever.

Thank you to those who have called or e-mailed about my mom, Ruth. She is doing much better and looking forward to the attending the May meeting and the Convention.

There may be some interesting items that were found at April York brought to the May meeting, so you want to be sure to attend!

Happy Trains!



## RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

by Gregory Palmer TCA#94-39039

I am writing this article after just returning from another great York week. I spent way too much on everything, but you only live once, right? If any Rio Grande Chapter member is thinking about going to York, please do not put it off. It is a fantastic week of toy train viewing, buying, and meeting other TCA members who share the love of toy train collecting and operating. The Group meetings alone are well worth the trip. The fine restaurants and sites are also a plus. As the famous shoe commercial says, "Just do it."

The Rio Grande Chapter has a Meet scheduled on May 17th during the New Mexico Rail Fair, at the School Arts Building at Expo New Mexico (Fairgrounds). The Meet portion will be at 10:00AM. Discount tickets are available at Trains West. It should be a fun Meet with the Rail Fair. The tables will be full of Railroad items, but I have heard that some Chapter members will have several tables full of toy trains as well.

I also need to let all the Chapter members know that the E-mail notification system, operated by Chapter member Carl Soderberg, is now in operation. You will receive E-mails from the Rio Grande Chapter to let you know of changes in Meet times, members in the Hospital, reminders on Division dues, etc. This system will not be for daily messages or for sale items. If you do receive an E-mail from the Chapter via this system, it will be very important. If you do not want to receive E-mails from the Chapter, please let Carl Soderberg know ASAP. The following Desert Division members will also be on the E-mail system: Chris Allen, TCA President; Katie Elgar, Division President; Christie Wilson, TCA Secretary and Division Newsletter Editor; and Fred Hunter, Division Secretary. If any other Desert Division member, who is not a member of the Rio Grande Chapter, wants to be on the Chapter E-mail list, please let Carl Soderberg know. I want to make sure that the Rio Grande Chapter is kept up to date on all important Chapter activities. You will now have several ways to receive Chapter information. Number one will be the Rio Grande Chapter News article in every issue of the Desert Division Dispatch, by telephone, by the TCA National Headquarter News Chapter Activities Section, and now by direct E-mail. In this way I hope that you receive all the Rio Grande Chapter activities and news as fast as possible. I would like to thank Carl Soderberg for operating this E-mail system for the Rio Grande Chapter. It was his idea to expand the way we all receive information. Thanks again Carl.

That's all for now. Hope to see all of you at the Meet on May 17th, 10:00AM at the New Mexico Rail Fair.



## APRIL PICNIC

There was no such thing as an April Fool's joke this year. The weather was perfect; the crowd was enthusiastic; the hot dogs were done to a turn; everyone had a great time. When? April 5, at the Spring Picnic. Folks arrived from 9 AM until 12:30 PM, and stayed well into the afternoon. The hot dogs, prepared by Brad Martin and Tony Saulina, were embellished by side dishes and desserts brought by the members. Wow! What a spread! Anyone who went away hungry just didn't sample the wonderful goodies that were available.

Beth Stange organized the games for children of all ages. Anyone who participated received one ticket; anyone who could toss an egg into a bucket or hit a pin with a ring received extra tickets. Skatch resulted in ten tickets to each member of the winning team. After everyone had a chance to play, Beth pulled the winning tickets. K-Line Cruisers were won by Christie Wilson, Shirley Hunter, Katie Elgar, Ralph Treichel, Bryan and Brandon Brown (grandsons of Earl and Jan Rasmussen), Larry Melvin, Angelo Lautazi, Ross Musser, Christine Skidmore (Larry Melvin's stepdaughter), and Janet Mattern.

The official part of the picnic began when Bob Prehara, Treasurer of the Grand Canyon Model Railroaders, introducing Russ Mosser, who said a few words about the proposed Railroad Park Museum. The Master Plan is to go before the Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Department on May 7. Wayne Ross thanked everyone for including Paradise and Pacific in the festivities.

The GCMR Mystery Box, containing an Animated News Stand, went to high bidder Art Triant; while the Desert Division TCA Mystery Box, containing a Holiday Train with Blue Comet, went to Thomas Plies. Thank you to all who bid.

The picnic would not be complete without the annual Door Prizes. Every lady present was given a pink ticket and every man was given a blue ticket. At day's end the lucky pink ticket belonged to Christine Skidmore and the blue ticket belonged to Thomas Plies.

Top: Chefs Tony Saulina and Brad Martin pose for a photo op.  
Bottom: Katie Elgar assists with the egg throw contest.



## 68 YEARS IN THE MAKING

By Thomas Plies, TCA # 01-52481

It all started at 5:30 AM Christmas morning in 1937. This four-year-old ran down the stairway to see, to my excited disbelief, a grey Lionel Torpedo Freight Car Set running around the six foot tree. I don't remember what other gifts Santa left me, because I was so mesmerized the rest of the morning by this fantastic train. Each year for the next 28 years, even after my two sons were born, I set up that Lionel under the tree. Then during 1972 I hit some very bad financial times. I sold the train set along with many accessories for \$35.00. Needless to say, my heart broke, but it had to be. Only years later did I realize what a big mistake that was. I now hope to find a replacement.

Time moves on and the year is 2000. In September at the Christown Mall, now named "Spectrum Mall," the Train Collectors Association had set up a module with trains running, as did several other train clubs. A very personable gentleman by the name of Fred Hunter, seeing that I looked very interested, approached me. He introduced himself and started to tell me about his TCA club. He did a good job. Since I was looking for some kind of hobby like toy trains, I joined on the spot.

During the following four years, I proceeded (with help from many people – Chris Allen, DeLon Freije, Art Triant, to name a few) to build my three-track operational train table with switches. I laid down Lionel 017 track but didn't like it, so changed to new MTH track on my 11' x 9' table.

It was exciting to think about how to design and build various dioramas for the table. I purchased a Lionel "Polar Express" Set and a "Spirit of the Century" Set to run. Next came many different accessories, including some Dept 56 Dickens Village houses. Then I had another idea. Why not have "Eaglewings" install a ceiling track for G-Scale and run it through the closet? Visiting kids just love it when they see the train disappear into the closet tunnel and come out again on the far side of the room. The table now includes a Fire Station, Airport, Dept 56 units, a public park with Czar Nicholas II statue as its centerpiece, a farm a large mountain with gorillas and cave, Chitty-Chitty Bang-Bang, and some airplanes flying overhead.

Joining the Desert Division, being a Board member, and currently Co-chairing the Kids Club for the 2009 Convention has been a fun-filled time period. Also included is my joining the San Diego 3-Railers Club at the San Diego Balboa Park Museum, where I get the chance to run my trains on their beautiful four-track layout on several first Tuesdays of the year.

## TURKEY MEET AUCTION LOTS

This is the time of year we begin putting together the 2008 Turkey Meet Auction. If you have any train related items that you would like to put in the auction or any questions about the auction, please contact Chet Henry at 480-838-0783 or [bchenry@cox.net](mailto:bchenry@cox.net).

## CHAPTER CHALLENGE

The Rio Grande Chapter of the Desert Division is creating and selling Railrunner Commuter Train billboards as a fund-raiser. In order to complete the project, they need plastic billboard holders. Do you have any empty Lionel #310 billboard holders lying around? If so, please bring them to the May Meet and give them to Gordon or Christie Wilson. We will then get them to Greg Palmer, President of the Chapter, and he will see to it that they are used in the project. The Rio Grande Chapter thanks you in advance for your part in this endeavor.

## DESERT DIVISION - TCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2008-9

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	505-898-3890
	Gordon Wilson	480-837-5344

### BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, May 7, beginning at 7:30 PM at the home of Fred Hunter. Members are welcome to attend. Please call 480-947-3639 to be sure there are enough chairs.

Right: The third Desert Division Fund-Raiser Car. Order forms Will be included in the next issue of the Dispatch.





# **\* Desert Division's \*\* Spring Raffle 2008 \***



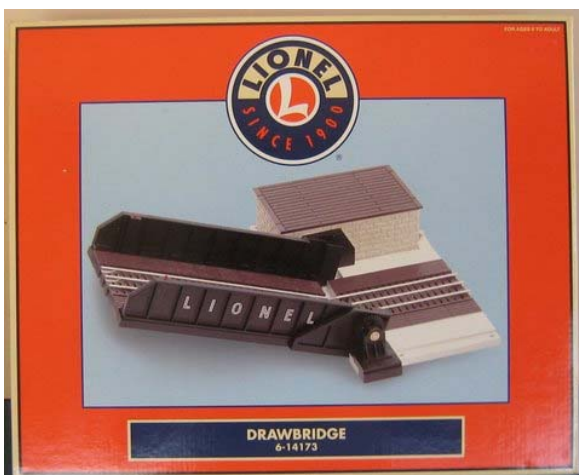
## **1<sup>st</sup> Prize**

### **Lionel 6-11785 Union Pacific Express Ready-To-Run set**

N/OB set features 27" x 86" Figure 8 Track, transformer and four car freight consist

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Lionel 6-2301 Operating Saw Mill**

N/OB Operating  
Accessory is a must for every  
Layout



## **3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Lionel 6-14173 Operating Draw Bridge**

Tickets on sale at the Meet, May 10, 2008 – Drawing date June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008

\$10.00 ea 3/\$25.00

Need not be present to win!

## BEAT THE HEAT MEET

by Peter Atonna, TCA #75-7578

It is time to mark your calendar for this year's edition of the Beat the Heat Swap Meet in Prescott on August 9th. Please note that for this year, we will be hosting the meeting on the second rather than the third Saturday of August. Sponsored again by the Central Arizona Model Railroad Club, the meet features almost 100 tables of goodies, an afternoon of layout visiting, and an invitation for you to take a weekend in the Prescott area. The meet will be held at the Prescott Activity Center, 800 E. Gurley, in downtown Prescott. If you haven't come before, the Activity Center is right on the main street, one half mile after you enter town on SR 69 or 89; just follow the signs to Gurley Street. There is construction on the interchange of SR 69 and 89 as you come into town, but just stay on Gurley as usual and you will get right to the Activity Center.

Each year we have been selling out the 100 sales tables so you will have a great selection of trains. Admission is \$4, with kids under 12 free with an adult. The show starts at 9 AM and runs to 1 PM. We are taking table reservations now in case you want to make sure you have one waiting. We sold out pretty early last year. They are only \$23 each and that includes one admission. Table reservations must be paid in advance. Dealer setup is 7 – 9 AM. Send your reservation with your check to Norm Delucchi at 242 Thoroughbred Dr., Prescott, AZ 86301-6688. If you have questions, call him at 928-445-5379 or email to: [npdelucchi@cableone.net](mailto:npdelucchi@cableone.net).

Now here are the rest of the weekend's activities.

Shopping - Prescott has one of the finest antique and arts districts in the state. Located conveniently downtown, less than a mile from the Activity Center, the district lines Cortez and Marina Streets.

Museums - Next door to the Activity Center is the Smoki Museum, while downtown is the Sharlott Hall Museum and just north of town is the Phippen Art Museum.

Train Rides - Both the Grand Canyon Railroad and the Verde Canyon Railroad are less than two hours from Prescott and would make a great Sunday activity. If you like train watching, there are a couple of superb locations near Williams and Ash Fork. Just check with me for the locations.

Outdoor activities - The Prescott area is a jumping off point for camping and fishing in the Bradshaws, bike riding on many of the area highways, hiking Thumb Butte, Granite Mountain or the Peavine Rails to Trails.

Open Houses - This year we have seven fellows who have generously opened their layouts and collections for your enjoyment. The time for visiting starts at 2 PM on Saturday, after the meet. There will be maps available at the meet registration.

Mike Nelson - A large O scale layout complete with multiple layers and bridges. Mike also has a nice collection of beautiful O scale locos.

Brent Schnitzius - A large HO layout with broad curves and mountain scenery. Long trains run flawlessly. Scenery is rapidly filling in and a new yard is in operation.

Ray Dextraze - Early 20th Century American and European toys and trains all displayed in a beautiful setting. Come see his new Marklin #1 gauge steamer and two Japanese prewar handcars.

Marlin Benson - Two huge train rooms filled with tinplate trains and displays, From prewar and postwar to the latest gorgeous new scale steamers and diesels, Marlin's displays are a delight to see. A Large Scale loop is the wall of one train room and the permanent layout is well under way.

Stan Cedarleaf - A huge outdoor Large Scale layout over 100 feet long with multiple trains running. Bridges and scenery are in.

Warren Webster - Another outdoor Large Scale layout, just down the street from Stan.

Peter Atonna - O gauge high rail and prewar O and Standard gauge fully sceniced layouts. The basic scenery has finally been finished and Peter is already redoing some of the original scenes.

For those of you who miss stopping at Young's Farm, Yavapai College, located on Sheldon St. just north of the Activity Center, hosts a farmers' market Saturday's 7:30 till Noon. So, if you miss some of the great corn and other area goodies, you might plan to stop by.

We hope you plan to spend the weekend in Prescott. If you would like a nearby motel for your stay, here are some suggestions (the Prescott area code is 928).

A short distance from the Activity Center are:

- + Heritage House Motel (across the street from the Activity Center) 819 E. Gurley - 445-9091
- + Apache Lodge (a genuine 30's motel) 1130 E. Gurley - 445-1422
- + American Motel, 1211 E Gurley - 778-4322
- + Super 8 (on the next street to the north) 1105 E. Sheldon - 776-1282

If you would like to stay at a beautiful historic downtown hotel, we have:

- + Hotel St. Michael 205 W. Gurley - 776-1999
- + Hotel Vendome 230 S. Cortez - 776-0900
- + Hassayampa Inn 122 E. Gurley - 778-9434
- + Marriott SpringHill Suits in Depot Square - 776-0998.

Don't forget the downtown hotels are right in the middle of Prescott's arts and antique shopping district.



# Prescott's **Beat the Heat**

## **Model Trains & Old Boys Toys**

# ***SWAP MEET***

**Saturday, August 9th, 2008 9am to 1pm**

**Adults \$4.00, under 12 free with adult**

**At the Prescott Activity Center 800 E. Gurley**

**Presented by:**

## **The Central Az Model RR Club**

For information call: Norm Delucchi 928-445-5379

Brent Schnitzius 928-445-6560

**Not responsible for lost or stolen items**

**Table reservations \$23.00 per table in advance**

**Table sales subject to availability**

**1 free admission with each table**

**Dealer setup time 7am to 9am-No Early Public Admission**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Tables \_\_\_\_ (Limit 4 tables per seller) @\$23.00 each \_\_\_\_  
Helper Name \_\_\_\_\_ @ 4.00 each \_\_\_\_  
Helper Name \_\_\_\_\_ @ 4.00 each \_\_\_\_  
Lunch Reservations (sandwich, chips, soda) \_\_\_\_\_ @ 6.00 each \_\_\_\_  
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Requests \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail payment to:

Norm Delucchi, 242 Thoroughbred Dr, Prescott Az. 86301-6688



-9-  
42<sup>ND</sup> BIENNIAL

# TOY TRAIN SHOW

SPONSORED BY THE GADSDEN-PACIFIC DIVISION  
TOY TRAIN OPERATING MUSEUM, LTD.

PHONE: 520-888-2222

MUSEUM'S WEBSITE: <http://www.gpdToyTrainMuseum.com>

ALL GAUGES

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RAILROADIANA

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BUY

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SELL

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TRADE

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DOOR PRIZES

SATURDAY JUNE 7, 2008 9:00AM TO 3:00PM

(Seller Table Setup: 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM)

ADMISSION \$5.00

FREE FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 13 ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

**QUALITY INN EVENT CENTER**  
**W. GRANT RD. & I-10 (EXIT 256) \* TUCSON, AZ**

DUE TO CONSTRUCTION EXIT I-10 AT PRINCE RD. (IF COMING FROM THE NORTH) OR EXIT I-10 AT 22<sup>ND</sup> STREET (IF COMING FROM THE EAST OR SOUTH) AND FOLLOW THE FRONTAGE ROADS TO GRANT.

**SPECIAL SELLERS ONLY RAFFLE**

SELLERS STILL SETUP AT 3 PM WILL PARTICIPATE IN A FREE DRAWING FOR THE FOLLOWING PRIZES

1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE: \$50 CASH 2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE: \$25 CASH 3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE: LIONEL GPD-TTOM ORE CAR

**8 FOOT TABLES**

**PRE-PAID TABLE RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**

**TABLE: \$25.00 EACH**

**FOR TABLE RESERVATIONS CALL BUD STEWART AT (520) 749-0228  
OR E-MAIL BUD AT [bud@at.tuccoxmail.com](mailto:bud@at.tuccoxmail.com)**

**SEND TABLE RESERVATIONS CHECKS PAYABLE TO GPD-TTOM TO  
GADSDEN-PACIFIC DIVISION TOY TRAIN OPERATING MUSEUM, LTD.  
P.O. BOX 85425; TUCSON, AZ 85754-5425  
ATTN: TOY TRAIN SHOW COMMITTEE**

## Gadsden-Pacific Tour



### Cumbres and Toltec Narrow Gauge RR, Chama, N.M.

**Aug. 21-24, 2008**  
**\$450.00/ Person**

"One of the best 20 railway experiences in the world"

**The Society of International Railway Travelers**

**S**tep back in time and explore daily life on the former Rio Grande narrow gauge railroad.

**B**uilt in 1880 and little changed since, the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad is the finest and most spectacular example of steam era, mountain railroading in North America. Its equipment, structures and vast landscape exist today as if frozen in the first half of the twentieth century.

**G-P** has reserved a 2-8-2 Mikado narrow gauge steam engine and freight train including a

passenger car, sightseeing gondola and an authentic caboose. Enjoy the sights, sounds and smells in the open air, the luxury of a passenger seat or experience the view from the caboose cupola.

**Payment Plan:** Pay in three installments: April 1<sup>st</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup> & June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**T**rip package includes:

- ★ first class motor coach
- ★ Saturday train ride
- ★ Friday train yard tour
- ★ Three nights lodging
- ★ Morning buffet Fri/Sat
- ★ Lunch on Train Ride
- ★ Evening buffet Fri/ Sat

**R**ooms include two standard beds. Prices are for double occupancy. Those traveling single will require a roommate.



**M**ake checks payable to **GPD TTOM / Chama**. Present checks to Ivan English, G-P treasurer or Ken Kelley, Chama chairman or mail to:

**Gadsden-Pacific/ Chama**  
**P.O. Box 85425 Tucson,**  
**AZ 85754-5425**

Please include, name, name of others covered by registration, name of roommate if sharing a room, address, phone and/or email with check.

**O**n board our private freight train at 8:00 AM Saturday, we will climb up to and over Cumbres Pass to Osier for lunch and return by 5:00 PM. Many photo run-bys will be staged on the most picturesque spots on the railroad. A regularly scheduled passenger train leaving Chama station at 10:00 AM will pass us as we are on a siding. While "in the hole" we will get great photos of the passenger train.

**B**ecause of the elevation (8-10 K ft.) even in summer the weather can be cool in the shade. Nights will definitely be cool. You will probably experience several different types of weather including rain showers.

### RECOMMENDED CLOTHING

- layers of clothes that you don't mind getting a little dirty
- sturdy shoes
- warm jacket or sweater or both
- a brimmed hat
- trail rain poncho
- sunscreen

**F**or additional information please call Ken Kelley at (520) 299-3243. Or Email at: [kjkwildcat@q.com](mailto:kjkwildcat@q.com)

Reservations are on a first come first served basis and are made by sending in your first payment

# 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 C&O 4-6-2 Scale w/TMCC RS 5.0 odyssey, list \$1160 SALE BELOW OUR COST - \$899.95! MTH B&O GP-7 PS 2.0, reg \$400, sale \$299.95. Just in – Lionel C&NW 3-bay Hopper, TCA priced \$62.95. Lionel RED DOT IN STORE SAVINGS – UP 2-bay Covered Hopper, reg \$60, sale \$44.99, with all three road #'s available. ATSF die cast flat w/load and real wood deck, list \$70, sale \$48.75. AZ TRAIN DEPOT, 755 E. McKellips Road, Mesa - 480-833-9486 - open late Wed. – Now carrying ATLAS O gauge.

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**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](http://www.tonoftrains.com)

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**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](http://www.train-station.com)

**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](http://www.sykesvillehistory.us), for a current list.

**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** – MTH 3020LDJ1Hudson w/4019 NTC # coaches, Baggage & Observation C-10/P-10, \$695; MTH 20-30-30 Duluth, Missabe, & Iron Range "Yellowstone" C-10/P-9, \$770; 6-8606 B&A Hudson 4-6-4 "784" + 6902 Caboose C-10/P-9, \$495; 6-8406 NYC Hudson 4-6-4 "783" + 6907 Caboose C-10/P-9 \$395; 18221 DR&G SD 50 + 15000, 16416, 17008, & 17617 C-10/P-9 Set \$450; 6464 Series 2, 3, 4, & 5, C-10/P-10, \$295; 2331 Virginia Blue Plastic Mold, blue/yellow o/b liner C-9/P-10, \$900; 2321 Lackawanna Maroon Roof C-9, no box, \$625; 624 C&O Switcher 3 Stanchions C-9, \$175. Also, will the person who bought the wood house set at the Gadsden-Pacific Show in Tucson please contact me. Dannie L. Martin 520-360-0519 or e-mail [dannieaz@cox.net](mailto:dannieaz@cox.net).

**WANTED** – Standard Gauge preferred, or Gauge 1: Rich-Art McKeen motor cars, Rich-Art Cascade Bipolar Electric, MTH Ives black diamond set, MTH Flyer President's Special, Roberts Lines Burlington Zephyr, Lyle Cain's Toonerville Depot with figures, Delton Santa Fe railtruck with tools and garage set. Condition: C-7 or better. Donald Neely, 7 Allen St. – STE 300, Hanover, NJ 03755-2065. E-mail [donaldjneely@earthlink.net](mailto:donaldjneely@earthlink.net) Phone 603-643-1200 or FAX 603-643-9269.

**FOR SALE** – Post War Lionel ZW Transformers in Ex Condition: 250 Watt - \$195; 275 Watt - \$245. Buyer pays shipping costs via UPS Ground. Call Marty Nickerson at 928-778-4294 or e-mail [4aztrains@earthlink.net](mailto:4aztrains@earthlink.net).

**WANTED** – Motor for 616 Flying Yankee power car or 636 City of Denver power car. Will buy complete power car if reasonable. Call Marty Nickerson at 928-778-4294.

**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](mailto: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  
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### COMING EVENTS

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| May 10       | 2009 Convention General Meeting – 7:30 AM and Regular Meet – 9 AM  |
| May 17       | Rio Grande Chapter Meet – New Mexico State Fairgrounds, School Arts Building – 10 AM   |
| June 7       | 42 <sup>nd</sup> Biannual Toy Train Show – Quality Inn Event Center, Tucson, AZ – 9 AM<br>Contact Bud Stewart at 520-749-0228 or e-mail <a href="mailto:bud@at.tuccoxmail.com">bud@at.tuccoxmail.com</a> |
| June 14      | Desert Division Board Meeting – 7:30 AM and Regular Division Meet – 9 AM   |
| June 22-29   | 54 <sup>th</sup> Annual TCA Convention, Burlington, VT   |
| July 12      | Desert Division Mini-Meet, Jaycees Hall, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM   |
| August 9     | “Beat the Heat” Meet, Prescott, AZ<br>Contact: Peter Atonna at 925-636-4228 or e-mail <a href="mailto:mjatonna@coimmspeed.net">mjatonna@coimmspeed.net</a>   |
| August 21-24 | Cumbres and Toltec Narrow Gauge Railroad Excursion<br>Contact Ken Kelley at 520-299-3243 or e-mail <a href="mailto:kjkwildcar@q.com">kjkwildcar@q.com</a>  |

### Have You **PADE** Your Way?

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

### PADE PROMOTIONS

Our thanks go to many members this month. Chet Henry ably handled the April Auction, with Peter Atonna acting as Auctioneer Extraordinaire. Donations from Dallas Dixon, Bob Herman, Jerry Sienkiewicz, Ralph Treichel, Marty Wik, and Gordon & Christie Wilson netted \$403 for the 2009 Convention Fund. Beth Stange planned and supervised the games at the Spring Picnic. Brad Martin and Tony Saulina cooked hot dogs to a turn. Beth Stange and Clark McClure are responsible for the Domino's Pizzas being delivered to the Pizza Meetza on time and in assorted varieties. Ed Stencler's donation of a Lionel Service Station Freight Set and Rich Bimmer's donation of a box of RailKing motorcycles are gratefully acknowledged. Guest author Thomas Plies has an article in this month's issue of the Dispatch. Shirley Hunter and Greg Novak served coffee and donuts in the kitchen in April.

Your name could appear in this space. You need only do something to benefit the Division.