

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. 4

May, 2009

PIZZA MEETZA - ANOTHER HUGE SUCCESS

April brings out the Pizza and the Desert Division members. We welcomed Loren Hess to his first Meet, greeted Rich and Lenore Stein and Miguel Nieves, guests of some of our members, Frank Pizzaiia from New York and Jim Hockley from Michigan. Regulars swarmed around the Auction items which would be the stars of the afternoon.

Treasurer Bob Herman announced that we have \$7680.25 in savings, \$5676.98 in checking, and \$533.85 in the Trains for Kids fund. President Elgar reminded members of the need for a Publicity Chair for this year's Turkey Meet, a sentiment seconded by Fred Hunter, who explained that we are incurring an additional \$2200 in debt by going to the two-day meet. Any member who can help out with this chore should contact Gordon Wilson or Chris Allen.

The National Convention is only two months away, and we need folks to come to the Thursday night Corona Ranch party. It is a beautiful facility with nicely manicured grounds. Dinner will be inside the air-conditioned restaurant, followed by the 30-minute rodeo, which is outside, about 50 feet from the restaurant and under "misters." Members were urged to register early and consider getting tables, as this will be a new set of potential buyers. Bill Mack announced that everything is progressing well, and we appreciate all the help we are getting from club members. Ralph Treichel again urged folks to serve on the Volunteer Committee by giving their names to him, even if they have already given their names to one of the Committee Chairs.

This month's Educational Segment contained only one item. Gordon Wilson showed the Ward Kimball Mickey Mouse plate which he had purchased at the Nor-Cal Meet in March. There will be an original Ward Kimball drawing at the Silent Auction during the Convention's Welcome Party. Plan to come to the Welcome Party, support the club, and maybe be the winning bidder on a prize from among the myriad gifts which have already arrived.

President Elgar drew the first Raffle ticket, which belonged to Gordon Wilson, who opted for the Hudson Raffle ticket. Other prizes are as follows:

Les Gnatz	Lionel Bureau of Land Management Operating Ore Car
Tony Saulina	Lionel Virginian Box Car
John Wiley	Set of 2009 Lionel Catalogs
Sam McElwee	Road Signature Car and chocolate train
Angelo Lautazi	Road Signature Car and set of O-gauge figures
Ken Barnes	<u>Lionel Standard of the World</u> book
Ken Burling	"Choo Choo Christmas" DVD and set of Standard Gauge figures

Ruth Elgar pulled the winning Hudson raffle ticket for the \$100 bill, and it went to Beth Stange.

COMING UP...

MAY 9 CONVENTION GENERAL MEETING – Jaycees Hall – 7:30 AM

MAY 9 DESERT DIVISION MEET – Jaycees Hall – 9:00 AM

MAY 16 RIO GRANDE CHAPTER MEET – Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM

JUNE 6 ROADRUNNER MEET, Tucson, AZ – 9:00 AM

JUNE 13 CONVENTION GENERAL MEETING – Jaycees Hall – 7:30 AM

JUNE 13 DESERT DIVISION MEET – Jaycees Hall – 9:00 AM

JUNE 28-JULY 5 TCA NATIONAL CONVENTION – J.W. Marriott Resort

Shortly after the meet, the pizzas arrived. Once everyone was stuffed, the Auction began. Items specified to be for the Convention, items from members for personal sale, and items from the Sun City collection made for a sizable Auction and a busy afternoon.



Meet tables abound with toy train items for sale.



Bob Herman tags the auction lots.



Sales tables convert to a dining areas.



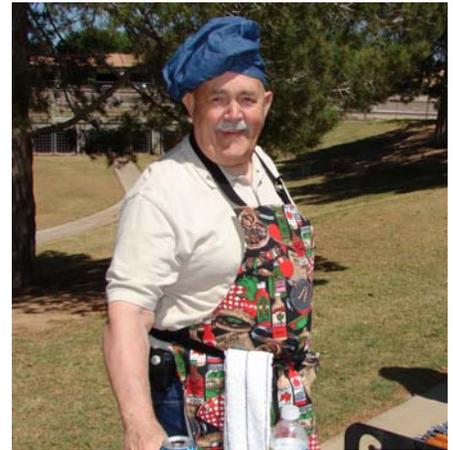
Beth Stange wins the Hudson Raffle \$100 prize.

AN ADVENTURE IN GRILLING WITH CHEF BRAD

by Angelo Lautazi, TCA #93-37260

The annual Spring Picnic was held on Saturday April 4th. It has been a Desert Division tradition to gather at McCormick Railroad Park with our train brothers from the Grand Canyon Model Railroaders and the Paradise and Pacific train club for an annual picnic. Dave Brown, who is a member of all the clubs, reserved a very nice Ramada that was large enough and not too far from the parking lot. This last fact is important if you have to tote supplies from your vehicle to the picnic Ramada. Thank you, Dave. Barbara and I arrived early as Head Chef Brad Martin had asked me to assist him in this gastronomic adventure and I was eager to begin. However, Chef Brad had not yet arrived and I attributed his tardiness to his culinary confidence. I was only the lowly newbie and had not acquired this confidence that Chef Brad has earned through his many years of commanding “The Grill” at the Spring Picnic. I had already learned something on this first day of my grill education; Chef Brad’s time and Arizona time are not in sync. Should I have been surprised? Probably not, after all, a diva is not the first to arrive at the party.

Some time had passed and I was nervously scanning the horizon and hoping to spot the arrival of Chef Brad. At last my diligence was rewarded, as off in the distance I saw a figure, his Chef’s hat bobbing to his confident stride; it was Chef Brad and his lovely wife Diane. His self-assured gait was hindered somewhat by the large yellow wagon, filled with supplies, which he pulled behind him. Yes, I did say “yellow” wagon. I know you expected a “red” wagon; after all everyone has or had a red wagon among their possessions. Not Chef Brad. He has a yellow wagon because that’s “the way he rolls.” (Ooh, bad pun intended.) This culinary fashionista was also pushing the style envelope, as today Chef Brad was sporting a denim chef’s hat and not your boring traditional white hat. To say his apron was colorful is a definite understatement. It was a mixture of condiment bottles, picnic food and recipes that screamed for your attention. My second lesson for the day; one must look the part.



Did I mention the menu for the Spring Picnic? All club members are encouraged to bring a dish and everyone responded generously. There were all kinds of salads, baked beans, and delicious desserts; I especially loved those chocolate cupcakes. Yum! The main entree to accompany this plethora of picnic fare was to be hot dogs, of course. After all, hot dogs are Chef Brad’s specialty and he is known far and wide for his plates of Dogs and Kraut. Chef Brad’s education on cooking the “Dog” began many years ago. I believe the hot dog vendors pushing their steaming carts down the New York City streets were a big influence on Chef Brad. It took him years but he finally wrestled the secret from these wily vendors. “Don’t change the water,” they relented. Lucky for us, today’s menu called for grilled dogs not boiled, so Chef Brad would have to pull a different recipe from his bag of cookery secrets. When grilling dogs, “the secret is in the heat,” whispered Chef Brad into my ear. Our “heat” will be provided by charcoal briquettes that Chef Brad has brought in his yellow wagon.

Chef Brad proceeded to pour some briquettes into the stationary cement grill that is part of the park's Ramada. The pile of briquettes seemed a bit skimpy to me but Chef Brad assured me that they would do the job. He skillfully doused the coals with the charcoal starter liquid and I stood back awaiting the inevitable whoosh of flame. The ensuing flash was impressive but the inferno soon collapsed and the coals started to smolder and whiten. The lesson continued. "You need to let the coals heat up long enough so the starter fluid odor will dissipate," Chef Brad imparted to his student. I reined in my urge to throw some "dogs" on the fire to get this party started.

Finally, when the coals were just right, Chef Brad began to layer the "dogs" on the grill. As the appetizing aroma started wafting through the Ramada, the hungry crowd began to form up in a chow line. Chef Brad worked the right side of the grill and as the hot dogs became "ready" he moved them to the left and I would then place them on the beckoning buns that the hungry rail fans presented to me. Everything started fine, the cooked dogs were doled out and the first members through the line were happy campers (or picnickers). But through a convergence of events, things started to break down. Everyone in the line wanted their "dogs" well done, charcoaled, burnt, charred or mutilated in a way that would sicken any New York City push cart vendor. We tried to please these demanding customers, but Mother Nature intervened and the wind began to kick up. The wind kept the heat from reaching the "dogs" and it was taking forever to get them "cooked." Chef Brad's skimpy pile of briquettes was coming back to haunt us. Chef Brad had countless culinary skills but his frugality with the briquettes was truly unexpected. Another lesson learned; don't cheap out with the briquettes.

We adjusted our strategy, raised the grill, and piled the coals higher until we managed to "burn" the "dogs" as requested by our finicky customers. So it took a little longer than expected but everyone was eventually fed and Chef Brad and I finally served the last "dog."

Oh and this Spring Picnic also included the usual display of member camaraderie, socializing, grand kids playing games, raffle prizes and of course the mystery box auctions.

I did of course, being the "grasshopper," learn a final lesson. Even the "Master" can add to his knowledge. So, Chef Brad, thank you so much for sharing your wisdom, but next year please bring two bags of briquettes.



The Spring Picnic means Kids and Games - Raffle Prizes and Mystery Boxes - and Food! Chef Brad tutors Angelo Lautazi in the fine art of grilling.

REMEMBRANCE

Dear Friends

Thank you for the donation you made to TCA Memorial Fund. TCA was very important to Alvin especially his membership in Desert Division. Selma

HEALTH UPDATES

Ken Barnes is recovering at home after surgery. Cards may be sent to him at 6826 N. 11th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85014. Frank Koenig is still in the hospital, Phoenix Baptist, Room 353. Cards may be sent to Dale Downey's house, 2039 W. Montebello, Phoenix, AZ 85015.

Frank Nickerson is recovering at home after surgery. Send cards to 1164 E. Commonwealth Pl., Chandler, AZ 85225. Barry Peiffer is in rehab after suffering from a fall and fracturing several vertebrae. Cards may be sent to Scottsdale Healthcare Osborn, Room 435, 7400 E. Osborn Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85251.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

April has been a great month for trains! Starting on the 4th was a picnic at the Railroad Park. More than 50 people attended, all brought together through the love of toy trains! The tasty hot dog grilling was handled by Brad Martin and Angelo Lautazi. The weather was clear and bright, a bit windy towards the end. The next week was the "nearly world famous" Pizza Meetza Auction. The Desert Division worked their way through nearly 40 pizzas, lots of sodas and an auction of trains to boot! There were lots of sales tables before the meet as well. Thanks to Chet Henry for organizing the Auction, to Peter Atonna for auctioneering, and to Beth Stange for arranging the pizza delivery.

The next week, a number of our members went off to York armed with lots of literature on the National Convention as well as the opportunity to see lots of trains and old friends. Perhaps we will get a glimpse of their finds from York at the May meeting.

On Saturday April 25th the Desert Division had a larger module display at the 3R's at Falcon Field in Mesa (Rails, Roads and Runways). Jonathan Peiffer and Dallas Dixon worked hard to expand the layout, adding bridges, water and some backdrops to enhance the layout. A big thanks goes to Jonathan and Dallas, and their crew who worked on Friday night to set up, then returned on Saturday to run trains, meet lots of people, pass out flyers and do some promoting of the train club and the Turkey Meet. The roar of the planes overhead did not deter the crowds from watching the trains and asking lots of questions. The module crew is looking for someone to adopt a section or two for the National Convention and the Turkey Meet. See Dallas for more information. Running your trains on the modules at special events gives you a chance to but time to lots of people who have or had trains, worked or rode on trains, or just like trains. We can expand the hobby through this type of activity. Also the running the module gives you a chance to run your huge trains that maybe don't get the chance to stretch out on your own layout. Good time to show of that new or old favorite engine to your fellow trainiacs.

Remember only 2 months left to buy tickets for the Spring Raffle. Hudson Tickets are still available as well. Support your division.

The Convention Committee will have a meeting before the regular meet on May 9 at 7:30 AM. Come check it out what's going on. There will be a layout visit in North Scottsdale after the May

meeting. So try to save time in your Saturday schedule to check it out! Be sure you are registered for the National Convention. Contact Ralph Treichel if you can volunteer to help out somewhere at the convention.

Looking forward to seeing you at your next Desert Division meeting May 9th.

Happy trains!



RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

by Gregory Palmer TCA# 94-39039

The Rio Grande Chapter had no Meet this Month because of York and other factors. I did not get to York this April due to a foot injury problem. I am going through Crab Cake withdrawal. I truly miss going to the Eastern Division Meets at York. They are truly the Mecca for Toy Train collectors and operators. I hope to go to October York, and hope some of you go as well. It is great fun.

Speaking of fun, the Rio Grande Chapter's Regular Meet will be part of the 2009 New Mexico Rail Fair at the School Arts Building on the Expo New Mexico Grounds. It will begin at 10:00AM; however, the Rail Fair starts at 9:00AM, so come early and view the tables of Toy Trains and Railroadiana items. During the Meeting portion of the Regular Meet we need to finalize the table seller fees for the Pumpkin Meet, as well as the public admission fees. Please come by and help with this. Discount Coupons for the New Mexico Rail Fair are available at Trains West. Please feel free to bring items for show and tell as well. We will have a separate meeting area for the Rio Grande Chapter. The job of doing an inventory at the New Mexico Wheels Museum is finished. Chapter Board member Jon Spargo put this inventory on a spread sheet for the Museum, and the Chapter also has a copy. Jon Spargo will be our liaison with the Wheels Museum. Thanks to all who helped. Their names were in the last issue of the Dispatch. Make sure, if you are going to the 2009 TCA National Convention to contact Ralph Treichel 602-863-6985 or Katie Elgar at ktrains@aol.com about spending an hour or two helping with Convention Activities. That's all for now. Hope to see all of you at the New Mexico Rail Fair, for our Rio Grande Chapter Meet at 10:00AM, at the School Arts Building on the Expo New Mexico Fairgrounds.

APRIL YORK & ENVIRONS – A SPRING TO REMEMBER!

by Gordon L. Wilson, TCA #76-10233

I think, as many of you know by now, my Bi-Annual treks east for the Eastern Division's York Train Meet and Show takes on the aura and mystique of a vacation. First of all, unlike most Desert Division members who attend by flying there via BWI, I fly into Philadelphia International Airport, normally about a week prior to the York Week of TCA and non-affiliated "hotel and firehouse train meets."

For me, there are more things in the world than toy trains. My life prior to coming to Arizona in 1988 was centered in the world of pro-sports and classical music. The City of Philadelphia in the spring simply explodes with both. The world's finest symphony orchestra and the World Champion baseball team are two that everyone knows about. I was able to indulge in several of my favorite East Coast passions during my visit this April.

It started when the man who shared the music suite with me during my teaching days in New Jersey joined me in a trek to Washington, D. C. to see the sights. I wanted to visit the World War II Memorial, as I had uncles and 2nd cousins who had served in both the Atlantic and the Pacific theaters. Additionally, we saw the Washington Monument, Jefferson Memorial surrounded by the cherry blossoms in full bloom, the Kennedy Center of the Arts, the Capitol Building, the Holocaust Museum, and the Bureau of Engraving.



L – Washington Monument R – World War II Monument

Our main destination, however, was Nationals Park, to see a baseball game between the Philadelphia Phillies and the Washington (DC) Nationals. When I pulled into the parking lot for this, the worst team in the major leagues, I was greeted by an attendant asking for a \$40 fee. I asked him if I'd made a wrong turn and somehow wound up in New York. He didn't much care for my sarcastic bit of humor.

I've now been in all of the Major League ball parks, except for the two new ones in New York City, both having opened this year. Alas, the Nationals won the game.

Two nights later the two of us went to Citizen's Bank Park in Philadelphia to see the Phillies host the San Diego Padres. The Phillies lost again. However, by the time I left Philly to return to Arizona they were in a virtual tie for first place, those being their only two losses in two weeks.

Now for all of the good things. There is an old country auction near where my sister-in-law lives. You all know I collect trains, M & M's memorabilia, and art work. I also collect small figures playing musical instruments. In this auction was a boxed set of 12 piglets playing band instruments. I left an absentee bid, as I couldn't attend the "live auction." Mine was the winning bid! This "band" will join all the other ones in my entertainment center at home.

A very close friend of mine joined me in scouting out a wonderful flea market in Lambertville, NJ. It was here that I found a very rare #41 US Army Switcher. Recently there have been articles about #41 Switchers with black enamel paint atop the shiny black paint. There's only one way to find out for sure and that is to scrape along a small area on the underside. Try asking someone who is selling one of the #41's and see how quickly he says "No." I took a chance, due to the low price. When I got back to my sister-in-law's house, I did the "scratch-test" and guess what! It IS black paint over shiny black plastic. Dumb luck! I got a \$400 (book price) item for \$80. I should've run right out and bought a NJ lottery ticket, but alas, I didn't.

On the way back to my friend's home, I suggested that we stop at a movie theater that would be showing a live broadcast from the Metropolitan Opera Company. He then told me that that afternoon, in his hometown and the town where I was employed as the high school Choir Director and Baseball Coach, there was to be an organ



Nationals Park in Washington, DC



Citizen's Bank Park in Philadelphia, PA

recital by one of my former students. It was an easy choice – this now 54 year old woman had been my accompanist as well as a member of two New Jersey All-State Choruses and three All-Region choirs. The unnerving thing about her was that she still was the same physical size as I remembered her when she was 18 years old. That just isn't fair – I've gained considerably more weight and inches in the intervening years. At the same recital were four other former students who had been accompanists of mine while they were in high school. What a great day! And it hadn't yet ended, as I still needed to go to Philadelphia International Airport to pick up the TCA National Secretary, Christie, my wife.

On Tuesday, we headed for York, but not without a stop at the TCA National Headquarters in Strasburg, where I presented Librarian Jan Athey with a book that I wished to dedicate to the memory of my dear friend, the recently deceased Richard A. Bimmer. We also made some purchases from the counter in the atrium. Then it was on to our motel in York, the Wingate by Wyndham. After checking in, we began the seemingly endless “pavement pounding” at the bandit meets held in two fire halls and three hotels. Two semi-rarities resulted from these treks: a 2456 Lehigh Valley Hopper Car with three lines of data rather than two or four. A further unusual piece I was looking for and found was a 1948 2026 locomotive equipped with flat, pre-war, sliding shoes instead of the usual post-war roller pickups. There is yet another variation, but I could not locate it during this trip. Sleep took precedence that night over the fireworks display as Wednesday morning, we were certain, would come quickly.



TCA Museum, Library and National Headquarters

Sure enough, Wednesday morning arrived all too soon and off we went to the hotels and fire halls we'd not gotten to on Tuesday. Search as we might, that other 2026 variation just would not show itself. I did get lucky for the sake of Richard Gayle. He had asked me to look for a boxed U. S. Navy Azimuth ring manufactured by Lionel during World War II. I was able to find one for him in reasonably nice condition. I called him to describe it to him and got a go-ahead to purchase it. Little did I know that it would be the first, last, and only one I'd see the whole week. That afternoon was spent at our TCA Museum before returning to the fairgrounds to begin setting up the Desert Division's Convention promotion tables. Later that evening came a culinary disappointment. Bumper Bob's, a restaurant on the Desert Division circuit of fine dining, is no more! It is now Gia's. We gave it a try but it was much more like a Denny's than a fine dining establishment.

Thursday morning called for the completion of our Convention promotion table. Thanks to the efforts and help of Glenn Johnston, Terry Johnson, Bill Jenkins, and Fred Claassen, it was up and running by the time the York show opened at Noon on Thursday. Later on came Chris Allen and Fred and Shirley Hunter to help Glenn Johnston, Christie and me man the booth. Chris also had his lap top with him and registered some dozen people for the Convention. We also need to thank John and Eva Upshur, Les and Rochelle Gnatz, Glenn Johnston, and Chris Allen for bringing back to Phoenix the materials which did not sell, plus a plethora of donations which Christie garnered from several individuals, Divisions, and manufacturers.

While walking through the Silver Hall on Friday, I had a wallet-emptying experience. For as long as I've been seriously collecting post-war Lionel trains, I've been looking for a 3494 AT&SF Operating Orange Box Car with black letters. I had never seen one, so I had pretty much resigned myself to the disappointment of never owning one. And then, there it was! But the price tag? Do I dare? I talked it over with the TCA Secretary and went back to this man's table to buy it – hopefully with a check. I introduced myself as a former TCA President and Chair of the Membership Committee. At that moment another member walked by and recognized me. He stopped to say Thank You for solving a case for him last year. The seller of the black-lettered Santa Fe had his confirmation as to who I was. I now own what is probably the rarest Lionel box car ever made. As I said, this was a York to remember!

Once the Convention Booth was torn down and all the materials packed up, we left York for my sister-in-law's house in southern New Jersey. The trip back took us once more past the TCA Headquarters and the Red Caboose Motel, where we had to stop for the passing of the Strasburg Tourist Train. What an appropriate ending to this year's April York.



* Desert Division's ** Spring Raffle 2009 *



1st Prize

TCA Bicentennial Special

- No. 1976 "Spirit of 76" Lionel Diesel
- No. 1975 Pullman car AMERICAN EAGLE
- No. 1974 Pullman car STARS & STRIPES
- No. 1973 Observation car FREEDOM BELL

2nd Prize

Lionel 6-12915
#164 - Log Loader



3rd Prize

Lionel 6-52105 TCA 1997 Desert Division Superstition Mountain Line Lost Dutchman Gondola

Tickets on sale May 9th, 2009 – Drawing date June 13th, 2009
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Please mail payment to:

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

MODULES OPERATED FOR 3R's

For the third time in less than a year, the TCA had a successful run of the modules. This time we were at the 3R's event at Falcon Field on April 25. The name unfortunately did not stand for three rails, but instead stood for Roads, Rails and Runways. Unlike previous times there, it was a promotional event for the airport and run by the city of Mesa. Highlights included a classic car show, a display of RC aircraft, flights on the Commemorative Air Force's B17 and B25 bombers and most importantly operating train layouts by both the AZBTO and the TCA. The TCA layout ran flawlessly and continuously the entire day in a 12'x24' configuration and included some new features such as a lift bridge module to access the center of the modules, a newly restored 2'x8' bridge module with simulated water and Gar Graves track, and finally some more detail to the "sky" boards. With the exception of the corners, all of these modules are in addition to the ones operated at Rail Fair last October so we can expect a 12'x32' operating layout for the convention! When the event wrapped up at 4:00, we were able to disassemble the entire layout and pack it into the back of a Suburban and small trailer in about 1 hour. Katie did not bring her own train, but purchased a nice 224E set from one of the RC plane club members! It ran well, even if it was only in reverse. In total an estimated 1000 people came by to see the operating layout. Special thanks to everyone who helped including Dwane and Barbara Turner, Dallas Dixon, Tom Plies, John Wiley, Tony Salina, Katie Elgar, Rolland LaHaie, Bob Meyer and Jonathan Peiffer. With the growing support group helping transport, assemble and operate the modules, we will continue to promote the division and the model railroading hobby throughout the valley as new venues become available. As Dallas would say, "Bring a train!" All are welcome.



The newly restored river on a nearly 20 year old bridge module.

HUDSON RAFFLE

The Hudson Raffle is well under way. Tickets are being sold at each and every meet. The Hudson will be on display at the May Meet. Be sure to look at it, buy your tickets, and hope your name will be pulled for the monthly \$100 prize. April's prize winner is pictured on page 2.

DONATIONS

Donations for the Convention Silent Auction at the Welcome Party are being accepted. We need new, boxed rolling stock or accessories. Manufacturer is immaterial, as we want offerings for every collector, no matter what gauge he/she prefers. See Christie Wilson if you want a Desert Division donation letter for tax purposes. See Bob Johnston if you wish to donate without the benefit of a letter. Bob would like all Silent Auction items to be in his hands by the May Meet, so let's see how generous the club can be. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 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.

DESERT DIVISION - TCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2008-9

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

RAILROAD



-CHANGE



ARIZONA TRAIN DEPOT - Lionel UP 4-6-2 w/Railsounds, reg. \$300, sale \$224.99; Lionel NYC 4-6-4 w/Trainsounds, reg. \$200, sale \$149.99; Atlas 60' Box Cars (Milwaukee Road, MKT) at \$43.40 each. Have Ready-to-Run set breakups starting at \$200 w/PS2. Consignments include MTH Scale Big Boy w/PS1 at \$799.95; MTH Rail King SP Cab Forward w/PS1 at \$349.95; MTH Scale Pennsy K-4 w/PS2 at \$749.95. More consignments arriving daily. 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.

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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 - 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

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COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 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 |
| June 6 | Roadrunner Meet – Tucson, AZ – 9 AM
Contact: Bud Stewart 520-749-0228 or bud@at.tuccoxmail.com |
| June 13 | Convention General Meeting – 7:30 AM and Regular Division Meet – 9 AM – Jaycees Hall |
| June 28-July 5 | 2009 TCA National Convention - J. W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa, Scottsdale, AZ |
| July 25 | “In the Heat” Railroad Swap Meet – 9 AM - North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, AZ |
| August 15 | “Beat the Heat” Meet – Central AZ Model RR Club – 9 AM – Prescott, AZ
Contact: Norm Delucchi 928-445-5379 |

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

Thank you to all who helped with the Convention Store in York this spring. (See article on pages 5 and 6) Kids Club thanks Robert Mancus for the 13-inch TV and Peter Atonna for two clip-ons.

Brad Martin, Angelo Lautazi, and Beth Stange made the Picnic a success. Peter Atonna (auctioneer) and Beth Stange (Pizza coordinator) and all who donated items at the April Auction are thanked. Jonathan Peiffer and crew made the 3 R's a day to remember.

Barb Lautazi and Lenora Stein kept the kitchen open throughout the April Meet and Auction.

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