

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
Click on the link to our e-Bay offerings.

Volume 36, No. 7

October, 2007

FALL TRAINING SEASON BEGINS

September brought out many members who have not attended meets in a long time, including Dallas Dixon, Terry Gibbs, and George Mertz. Also new members Chuck Eral and Phil Waszak joined us this month. Guests included Wayne Ross, Stan Sachau, and Tony Saulina, all of whom took applications to join TCA and the Desert Division, and Alice Greene. (See “The Bottom of the Bag” article elsewhere in this bulletin.)

Treasurer Bob Herman announced that we have \$21,380.65 in savings, \$2,552.44 in checking, and \$346.50 in the Trains for Kids fund.

Marty Wik gave us an update on the 2009 Convention Car offerings. He had recently been in touch with Nick Ladd, who agreed to make a Kids Club Rattlesnake Car, the prototype of which should be available soon, and a “copper hopper,” an engineering test to see whether copper paint will stick to metal. The result is a very stunning copper colored hopper. Marty and the Steering Committee will determine whether we can use this car at the 2009 Convention, and if so, in what capacity.

Ed Georgevich reported that the tri-folds would be ready to mail out soon, at which time, they will also be available on the Division’s website. The main difference is that the displays will remain set up for both Saturday and Sunday. Anyone who mistakenly comes on Sunday looking for the Swap Meet may make a donation and stay to see the operating layouts. For an additional \$5.00 they may buy an auction catalog and partake in the auction. Turkey Meet Auction catalogs were sold at \$5 each, or free with the purchase of a Hudson Raffle Ticket.

The Holiday Party is December 9, beginning at 11 AM. Santa will be there, followed by a brunch, favors, food, and fun. A Holiday Party Reservation Form is located in this issue of the *Dispatch*.

President Katie Elgar announced that we will NOT be doing Railfair this year, as we had only 8 volunteers, the module is not in good repair, and there was no one to return the module to storage and the trailer to U-Haul. Fred Hunter suggested that we need a Module Chair, for which position John Pryor volunteered. The next question was whether or not we would use it and for what venues. Paul Wassermann proposed that we redesign rather than salvage the module. Ken Barnes volunteered his carport as a work area. Boyd Reasor asked about the gauges which would be included. Jonathan Peiffer suggested that the Division make and own the four corners, and that individual modules be used to fill it out. Gordon Wilson reminded the members that in 1988 the Division did own the corners, and members brought the other pieces to the various venues where it was used. Dallas Dixon reminded us that having multiple gauges is a two-edged sword, as we would need people to run trains in all of the gauges. Paul Wassermann opined that if we could have one section finished and displayed at a Division Meet by early 2008, it might inspire others to finish their sections. Other considerations are size (comfortably transported, easily stored, and strong enough to avoid sagging in the middle), and the type of track to be used. John visited every member in attendance today and has a list of 26 names of members who will help with this project.

COMING UP...

October 13 Regular Division Meet - Jaycees Hall, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM

October 13-14 Railfair - McCormick Stillman Railroad Park, Scottsdale

October 18-20 Eastern Division Meet – York, PA

November 3 “Pumpkin Meet” – Albuquerque, NM – 9 AM

November 24-25 Turkey Meet and Auction - Mesa, AZ

Earl Rasmussen is the Elections Chair for this year. He will be working with Beth Stange to put together a slate of officers by the October Meet. After any nominations from the floor, a slate of candidates will be adopted and a ballot prepared. Brief bios need to be sent to Secretary Christie Wilson by October 20 in order for the ballot to be prepared, printed, and mailed out first class by November 1. All ballots must be returned by December 1 and the winners will be announced at the Holiday Party.

The Zoo Module is currently in storage, as the Zoo undergoes renovation. There is some damage, caused by the heat, but it can be repaired. The Zoo would like to have it back once their renovations are complete.

Don Locke announced the two visitation sites this month: Tom Stange and Dave Brown, both from Noon to 4 PM. Both are very close to the Jaycees Hall and thus easily accessible. Anyone who went was treated to very different layouts, using different spaces and gauges of trains.

Paul Wassermann asked Bill MacDowell to begin the Educational Segment. He brought in several trains he built from brass strips purchased at Ace Hardware. First he made the frames, and then determined the loads. Between 1995 and 1998 he created 8 or 9 of these. Bill also brought in two engines he built in the 1980's using Lionel Motors. The front wheels of one came from Watertown, South Dakota, Bill's hometown, where he purchased a box of train parts in 1980 for \$20. The owner of the shop wrapped the items in old newspaper. On the way home, Bill's friend read those newspapers and learned that Bill's mother was hosting the bridge party that week. The newspaper was from 1920! Bill uses anything he can find to create his masterpieces. An example is the tires on his homemade cars. The tires needed to be very thin and none were available; so Bill, using checkers, cut out the centers, put them on axles, and threaded them to work. Bill's comment is "If you get bored, this is what you should be doing!" Sam McElwee brought in a stagecoach, from 1948 or 1949, to find out its origin. He knows it is British, but not Britains. The stagecoach is in very fine shape, though the strongbox and driver have long since disappeared. Gordon Wilson brought in two magazines honoring the late Lenny Dean. One is the December 21, 1959 issue of Life Magazine, in which there is a two-page spread of Lionel helicopters going off all at once, an experiment Lenny Dean set up in a New Jersey gymnasium for the publication. In the September 5, 1949 issue of the same publication, Lenny appears in an article about Lionel dieselizing its trains. A few years ago, Gordon took 3 or 4 copies of this issue to York for Lenny Dean to autograph. Lenny looked rather nostalgic, so Gordon asked whether or not he had a copy of this issue. As he did not, Gordon gave him one. After that, at every event where the two of them met, Lenny mentioned it and thanked Gordon again. Paul Wassermann brought in two Ives sets. One is the Blue Vagabond, an 0-gauge train made by Lionel in 1930. Paul related the story of William Furnish, who, with a friend, tried to piece one together by getting cars at various York Meets. Eventually they finished the project. Later Paul found what appeared to be a Blue Vagabond, but it had a black clockwork motor #176 engine. Dave McEntarfer, an Ives expert, informed Paul that this was also 1930 Lionel offering, but it was called the Iroquois. Paul had pictures of both offerings to share with the members. Now, says Paul, he needs the parlor car, #552.

Paul had also brought in some pictures of the J. W. Marriott Desert Ridge, which will be used at York to entice manufacturers to come to our Convention. He also brought in his HUGE poster of the Atlas Apache Brewing Company Car, our current fundraiser.

Gordon Wilson announced that the September issue of the National Headquarters News is in the mail and urged everyone to use the ballot inside to vote for next year's TCA National Officers. He also pointed out Dan Palaschak's poem about Cole Gibbs, and the note at the bottom: "A memorial fund has been established in Cole's memory. The money accumulated will be used specifically to acquire a Standard Gauge set or sets not currently found in our museum. All donations should be sent to the National Business Office with the notation that it is for the above stated purpose." Members may wish to contribute to this fund.

Katie Elgar had brought in two newspaper articles. One is about a young man with AT, who likes trains. She is researching what we can do for him. The other is about the restoration of the Mesa Train Depot. There was also a silent auction for a gift certificate at Chapps on the Hill in York, PA. Katie Elgar announced that John Wiley won the 10 raffle tickets as the choice of this month's Mystery Greeter. Raffle prizes were won by the following:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Glenn Hill | Lionel Pennsylvania Box Car |
| Ross Roberts | Harley Davidson Box Car (donated by AZ Train Depot) |
| Fred Hunter | Hudson Raffle Ticket |
| Wayne Ross | Lionel PA Flat w/Ertl Road Grader |
| Ross Roberts | Lionel Animated Billboard |
| Glenn Hill | Transformer and McDonald's Semi-truck |
| Jonathan Peiffer | Books and paper items |
| Chris Allen | Delivery Van and Holiday Party figures |

Wayne Ross volunteered to pull the ticket for the Hudson raffle. Gordon Wilson won the \$100 bill with a ticket he had bought during the September Meet.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

The September meeting brought out a great number of train enthusiasts! We had lots of visitors to the Meet as well as some new members. The trading was brisk and the stories were plentiful. During the meeting we were treated to a view of the 'Copper Hopper' by Marty Wik. The convention committee met early in the morning, and the plans are chugging along well. The September after-meet visits were indeed a treat. Thanks to Dave and Tom for opening their train rooms for visiting. Don Locke is lining up visits for 2008, so if you would like us to visit your train room, please contact Don or myself.

The module will not be making an appearance at Railfair this year; however John Pryor has agreed to chair the Module Committee which will take on the chore of revamping the module. He is armed with a list of 26 members who have agreed to help re-build or run the module. If this is something that interests you as well, please contact John, or myself, to add your name to the list of willing volunteers!

Speaking of volunteering, the Elections Co-Chairs, Earl Rasmussen and Beth Stange, are contacting members to participate as board members of your Desert Division. Contact them, if you are interested and haven't heard from them.

There is a great deal of train activity this fall: Railfair in October, Cal-Stewart and our Turkey Meet in November, Gadsden Pacific-TTOM in December, as well as the Holiday Party in December. Don't forget the delicious meal we had last year! Don't miss it this year!

All of the Divisions have been requested by TCA National to include the required following text in all meet notices:

- A. "I agree to comply with all of the rules and regulations of the TCA and its Divisions and Chapters in effect from time to time, especially including all rules and regulations of all TCA Committees and any actions and rulings of all TCA Committees."
- B. "I also agree that all items sold by me to any TCA Member or at any TCA sponsored meet shall be sold on the basis that I represent that all such items are authentic and in the manufacturer's original condition unless I have caused any such item to be appropriately marked as a restoration or reproduction."

We have been requested to consider special TCA project needs for the National Toy Train Museum and Toy Train Reference Library. If you are considering a donation, please consider the request. I have a complete list of needs.

Hopefully you voted in the National TCA election. Remember to vote in your Desert Division election in November.

We are still looking for some help in the Coffee Club, perhaps someone to set up a rotating schedule.

Looking forward to seeing you at the October Meet of your Desert Division.

Happy Trains!



CONVENTION DONATIONS ACCEPTED

Again this year, the 2009 Convention Committee is asking the members to donate items to the Turkey Meet Auction. The proceeds from the sale of these items will go into the Convention Fund and be used to help defray expenses for which the Division is responsible. As we are a 501c3 organization, your donations are tax deductible. Secretary Christie Wilson will provide letters for tax purposes for anyone who takes this opportunity to support the club and the 55th TCA National Convention, aptly named "A Star-Spangled Convention," to be held in Scottsdale from June 28 through July 5, 2009.

BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, October 10, beginning at 7:30 PM at the home of Phil Monahan. Members are welcome to attend. Please call 480-607-3956 to be sure there are enough chairs.

DESERT DIVISION – TCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| President: | Katie Elgar | 623-580-6957 |
| Vice-President: | Gordon Wilson | 480-837-5344 |
| Treasurer: | Bob Herman | 480-948-2730 |
| Secretary: | Christie Wilson | 480-837-5344 |
| Directors: | Steve Bienstock | 480-998-9227 |
| | Don Locke | 480-854-2546 |
| | Phil Monahan | 480-607-3956 |
| | Gregory Palmer | 505-898-3840 |

IN MEMORIAM

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of TCA National Secretary Sarah Lavinus. She served the association for several years as its Secretary, being most visible during TCA Conventions. Her death on September 29 leaves a void in the TCA and in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

DESERT DIVISION GOLF TOURNEY POSTPONED

As November fills up, there are fewer and fewer dates to hold a Golf Tournament, so it has been decided that we will postpone the 2007 Desert Division Open until February of 2008. The venue will still be Green Valley, Arizona, with a home-cooked dinner served at the home of Dannie and Lynne Martin. The Callaway Handicap System will assure that even the novices amongst us will have a chance to break par, or come close. Watch next month's bulletin for the exact date and time. Then plan to join the caravan to Southern Arizona for a fun-filled day.

KIDS CLUB NEWS

By Thomas Plies, TCA #01-52481

The Kids Club asks you to bring in any magazines, brochures, etc., that relate to toy or real trains. Presently there are 80 kits put together for distribution at this year's Turkey Meet. However, we need to build that supply to approximately 300 to 400 kits for the 2009 Convention. Please bring your unwanted paper items to the Turkey Meet at the Kids Club table located in the entrance lobby of the Mesa Community Center.

Additionally, the Zoo Kids Club Operational Table had to be removed from the zoo due to a massive construction project at the Safari Train Station. It will be a while before it will be put back. Down time will give the preventive maintenance folks a chance to clean up, do repairs, and make some new dioramas.

KIDS CLUB KIDS WANTED FOR 2009 CONVENTION

By Thomas Plies, TCA 01-52481

The Desert Division Kids Club is putting together approximately 8 to 10 activities for children at the 2009 TCA National Convention. Thomas Plies, Kids Club Co-Chair, is now trying to find out what boys or girls would be willing to volunteer to commit for a minimum of 4 or 5 hours working/helping with the venues.

Kids Club will donate engineer hats and red scarves to each volunteer, so counting heads is important. Only ages 9 and above need apply, as the child must have a good command of communication skills with the public. We need the kids' sponsors' assistance here. Please check with your children and call Thomas Plies (602-264-5192) or e-mail him (tplies@qwest.net) if your sponsored child is interested.

CELEBRATE ARIZONA!

The second in a series of cars by the Desert Division

Buy this Atlas 40' woodside reefer with authentic graphics and share the spirit of the beer that Arizona drank in the '30s following prohibition

Order deadline: Nov. 15, 2007
Expected delivery: Spring 2008



Send me _____ cars at \$71 ea, includes shipping in the US

\$

Name _____

Desert Division members, pick up your car at a meet and pay only \$66 with no sales tax!

Address _____

Total Enclosed: Make check/money order to: Desert Division \$ _____

Mail to: Desert Division 25375 N. Feather Mtn. Rd. Paulden, AZ 86334

You may also order from our website: www.tcadd.org

RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

by Gregory Palmer TCA #94-39039

The September 29th Chapter Meet went very well. Once again about half of our membership attended. To our new members Carl Soderberg and Vince Kole, welcome to TCA, the Desert Division, and the Rio Grande Chapter. Our Meet started off with show and tell. John Trever brought his complete, except for one, collection of 6464-150 Missouri Pacific Boxcars. He showed the group the different variations and explained the one rare variation he is looking for. It is supposed to have the same graphics and variations as the 3494-150 Missouri Pacific Operating Boxcar. He has been unable to find it. He even wrote to author Paul Ambrose who was unsure about its existence, even though he states in his reference books and guides that it does exist. If anyone has the car, let John know, as he would like to look at it. Everett Hagan showed how old Fax Machine cardboard tubes from empty film reels can make good loads for cars. George Swajian brought an American Flyer piece custom painted for the Rocky Mountain Train Collectors Club. It is stamped 1977 as the year. Does anyone have an idea about the nature of this club, and was it the Rocky Mountain Division before its incorporation into TCA. Call George (505-298-7099) with any knowledge about this Flyer car. The last show and tell was Mike Shea, who brought an example of Lionel, K-Line, Williams, Weaver, and MTH Diesel Locomotives. He went over the differences and similarities between them.

The meeting part of the Chapter Meet got underway with the election of Scott Eckstein (TCA# 92-36114) as Secretary and Art Lites (TCA# 97-44623) as Board Member at large. Scott took Brenna-Leigh Bosch's term, and Art took Scott's term. Thank you both for helping the Chapter. We now have a partial slate of Officers and Board members for 2008-2010. In the Winter Issue of the Dispatch, the Chapter will have a complete list for the election at the Regular Meet on January 19, 2008, beginning at 10 AM at the Sombra Del Monte Church. Be sure to attend so you can vote.

Our next Meet, however, is the 2nd Annual TCA-Rio Grande Chapter Pumpkin Meet on November 3rd, at 9 AM at the Sombra Del Monte Church, 2528 Utah NE, Albuquerque, NM. Tables are going fast, with 20 of the 40 possible tables already reserved. Do not be left out – we sold out last year. Tables must be paid for by October 22. The Chapter also needs help with set up and tear down. Give Bill Spofford a call (505-821-4051) or myself (505-898-3840) as soon as possible.

The Chapter voted on and approved a motion to donate the 2007 Lionel Toy Fair Car to the 2009 TCA National Convention. We also voted and approved a motion to form a Train Set for a Kid program. We already have a kid in mind, and all we need is donations to buy a new Lionel Set for this program. This person comes from a broken home, and he loves Electric Trains. Donations will be taken through November 4, at which time we will have a donation can set up at the Pumpkin Meet so the public can help with this project. Please send your donation to our Treasurer Bill Harris at 4645 Bismark Hills Way, Rio Rancho, NM 87144.

Our new member Carl Soderberg will operate an E-mail alert system for members who have E-mail addresses. This will be used for Meet novices and important information. It will help alert Chapter members about our activities. Now Chapter members will have the Desert Division Dispatch, the telephone tree, and now the E-mail alert system. We all should be well informed about Rio Grande Chapter activities. The Desert Division President and Secretary will be included on the E-mail alert list, so the Division will also have access to current Chapter events. If your e-mail address is not listed in the Desert Division 2007 roster, and you want to be on the E-mail alert list, please call Carl Soderberg (505-881-2485).

The Meet concluded with a discussion of Standards Committee issues. Last is a plea for people to host after-meet activities. Please call me (505-898-3840) if you can do the January 19th or February 16th Meets.

See all of you at the Pumpkin Meet on November 3.

COMING EVENTS...

All are held at the Sombra Del Monte Church, 2528 Utah NE, Albuquerque, NM

NOVEMBER 3 2nd ANNUAL PUMPKIN MEET - 9 AM

JANUARY 19, 2008

REGULAR CHAPTER MEET – 10 AM

FEBRUARY 16, 2008 REGULAR CHAPTER MEET – 10 AM

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 36, No. 8 (October, 2007).

TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION RIO GRANDE CHAPTER



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PUMPKIN MEET



TOY TRAIN SWAP MEET

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3rd

9:00AM TO 3:00PM

SOMBRA DEL MONTE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2528 UTAH N.E., ALBUQUERQUE, NM

ADULTS \$1.00 UNDER 12 FREE WITH ADULT
TCA MEMBERS FREE WITH CURRENT TCA CARD
TCA MEMBERS CAN SHOP EARLY FROM

9:00 AM-10:00 AM

OPEN FOR THE PUBLIC FROM 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM



TABLE RESERVATIONS FOR TCA MEMBERS ONLY
AT \$10.00 PER TABLE - LIMIT 3 TABLES



DEALER SETUP FROM 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM - TCA RULES WILL APPLY
FOR INFORMATION CALL: Greg Palmer 505-898-3840 or Bill Spofford at 505-821-4051

NAME _____ TCA# _____
ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

NUMBER OF TABLES _____ @ \$10.00 EA _____

SEND A CHECK PAYABLE TO TCA-RIO GRANDE CHAPTER. MAIL TO:
GREGORY PALMER 9633 2nd St. N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87114

I agree to comply with all of the rules and regulations of Train Collectors Association (TCA) and its Divisions and Chapters in effect from time to time, specifically including all rules and regulations of all TCA committees and any actions and rulings of TCA committees. I also agree that all items sold by me to any TCA member at any TCA sponsored meet shall be sold on the basis that I represent that all such items are authentic and in the manufacturers original condition unless I have caused any such item to be appropriately marked as a restoration or reproduction.

Signature

Date



31TH ANNUAL TCA
DESERT DIVISION



TURKEY MEET

2 DAY EVENT



2 DAY EVENT

TOY TRAINS

The OLDEST & LARGEST Toy Train Swap
Meet and Auction Held In The SOUTHWEST

Saturday November 24, 2007
9 AM TO 3 PM

Sunday November 25, 2007
8 AM TO 5 PM

SWAP MEET AND
OPERATING TRAIN
DISPLAYS

AUCTION AND
OPERATING TRAIN
DISPLAYS

275 + Auction lots

150+ Tables of Trains for Sale and
Operating Layouts

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Meet Chairman : Ed Georgevich 623-764-2960

email: ed.georgevich@tcadd.org

Registration questions, contact Bob Herman
480-948-2730

www.tcadd.org

Train Collectors Association
Desert Division
16231 East Ocotillo Drive
Fountain Hills AZ 85268

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SCHEDULE

SATURDAY – November 24

7:00 AM – 9:00 AM Registration/Unloading
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Trading Hall Open
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Table Top Auction
5:00 PM – Trading Hall Closed

SUNDAY – November 25

Operating Displays during Auction

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM Auction Preview
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Auction
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Break
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM Auction Resumes

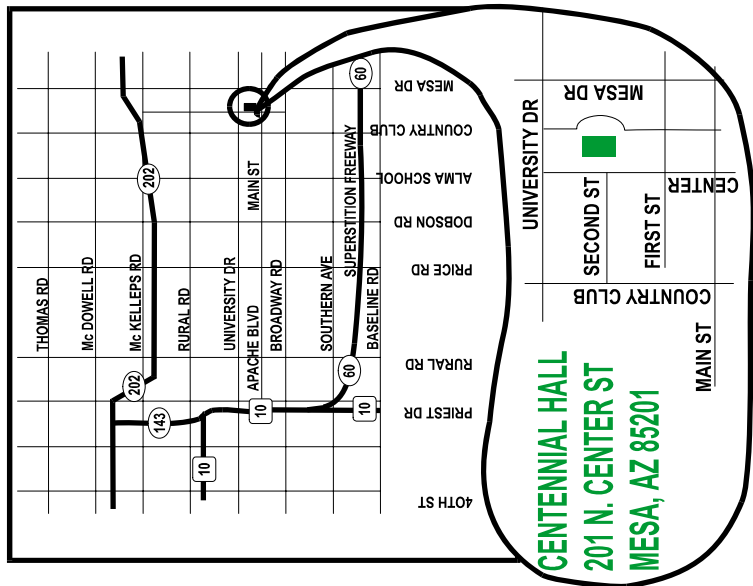
Location of meet



Mesa Convention
Center

University & Center St.
MESA, ARIZONA

Formerly Centennial Hall



HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Both the Phoenix Marriott Mesa and the Best Western Mezona Inn have blocks of rooms reserved for the Turkey Meet participants. Contact the hotels directly and ask for TCA Desert Division Turkey Meet rate.

Phoenix Marriott Mesa (\$89.00)

**200 North Centennial Way
480-898-8300**

Located adjacent to Centennial Hall

Best Western Mezona Inn (\$74.00)

**250 West Main Street
480-834-9233**

Located just minutes from Centennial Hall

HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINES

November 15th, 2007

RULES

- Seller badges must be worn at all times.
- All sale items must meet TCA policies
- Restoration and reproduction items must be marked per TCA policy
- Table holders must remain setup until 3:00 PM on the day of the meet.
- Trading will not be permitted during unloading or setup. Persons not involved in setup will be asked to leave the hall.
- NO SMOKING PERMITTED in trading hall.
- Keep your table covered for security when leaving the hall
- Sellers are responsible for obtaining the sales tax permit from the City of Mesa unless the exemption for Casual Sales applies. [Ref: City of Mesa ordinance, Chapter 5-10 Privilege and Excise Tax]
- "I agree to comply with all of the rules and regulations of the Train Collectors Association (TCA) and its Divisions and Chapters in effect from time to time, especially including all rules and regulations of all TCA Committees and any actions and rulings of all TCA Committees."
- "I also agree that all items sold by me to any TCA Member or at any TCA sponsored meet shall be sold on the basis that I represent that all such items are authentic and in the manufacturer's original condition unless I have caused any such item to be appropriately marked as a restoration or reproduction."

TCA DESERT DIVISION

31th Annual TURKEY MEET

November 24-25, 2007

TOY TRAIN SWAP MEET - The Toy Train Swap Meet is our 31th Annual Turkey Meet. The meet features approximately 150+ sales tables of toy trains and related model railroading items for sale by local train enthusiasts. The Swap Meet brings people together with special interests in the model railroading hobby to buy and sell toy trains and train related items of all gauges.

ADMISSION FEE

Admission fee for the event is \$5 cash donation per person. Children under 18 years of age are admitted FREE when accompanied by an adult.

REGISTRATION

Everyone must register. Registration fee is not included in table fees. **Pre-Registered members of TCA, TTOS, LOTS, & LCCA, in good standing**, will be admitted to the trading hall thirty minutes prior to the general public.

TABLE SALES

Tables will be assigned on a first come - first serve basis. The tables are approximately 30" wide x 8' long. Consult posted floor plan for seller assignments. Limited electrical outlets are available for an additional fee and must be requested at registration. Special table requests with friends must be made in writing with pre-registration. Every effort will be made to accommodate special requests.

TRADING WILL NOT BE PERMITTED DURING UNLOADING OR SETUP

AUCTION

Auction will be held on Sunday with over 275 lots of toy trains. Purchase of an auction catalog is your admission to the auction. All items are auctioned **AS-IS WITHOUT RESERVE**. All sales are final

COURTESY

All workers are volunteers. Children must be supervised at all times. Parents may be held liable.

We will do our best to make the **TURKEY MEET** a success for everyone involved!



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

FEES:

Registration* \$5.00

*** (Registration fee not included in Table Fee)
(Children under 18 FREE)**

Spouse or Guests ____ x \$ 5 ea \$ ____

No. of Tables* ____ x \$25 ea \$ ____

Auction Catalog ____ x \$5.00 \$ ____

Catalog Mail Fee (65¢ Potage) \$ ____

TOTAL Enclosed \$ ____

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Reg# _____ Date Revd _____

Chk# _____ Chk Amt _____

REGISTRATION – PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME _____ TCA# _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SPOUSE _____ GUESTS _____

I hereby agree to be bound by the rules of the Turkey Meet and the TCA as described in this published information in regards to buying, selling, ethics and behavior. I further agree, that in the case of a dispute, the meet chairman, or an 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 a buyer's money.

Signed X _____ Date _____

Make check payable to: Desert Division TCA

Mail Registration to: Robert Herman, 11429 N. 68TH St. , Scottsdale, AZ 85254-5148 480-948-2730

NO MAIL REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER NOVEMBER 20, 2007

THE BOTTOM OF THE BAG

by Christie Wilson TCA # 91-32878

Paul Wassermann has thrilled both TCA and the Desert Division with his “Bottom of the Box” stories. Well, this one doesn’t have a box, but it is just as important to those of us who love a good train story.

Just prior to the September Regular Division Meet, I received an e-mail from a total stranger who had learned about the TCA and the Desert Division on our Website. She had been cleaning out her late father’s belongings and came across a train. Not knowing what it was or what it was worth, she asked if she could attend our Meet and have someone look at the train. “Just what we need, another over-rated Scout Set,” I thought, as I very politely answered the e-mail from Alice Greene and gave her directions to the Scottsdale Jaycees Hall. I told her where I’d be and at what time. She promised to introduce herself so I could direct her to someone who could help identify the train.

Shortly after 9 AM, a lady entered the Jaycees Hall carrying a Macy’s shopping bag. As I didn’t recognize her, I asked if she was a member of TCA. “No,” she exclaimed, “I’m Alice Greene, and I’ve brought the train for you to look at.” Not knowing much about the values of train items, I sent Ms. Greene to see Gordon Wilson, who would know not only what the train was, but what it might be worth.

Gordon waited patiently as Ms. Greene took an item from the bag and carefully undid the ragged green tea towel which protected the “train.” Gordon took one look at it and knew he was in over his head. Indeed, this was NOT “another over-rated Scout Set,” but a piece of pre-war merchandise which looked like turn of the century – 19th to 20th Century, that is – European production. Gordon called on Paul Wassermann to assess the piece. He immediately recognized the Marklin engine, and confirmed that it was indeed from a different century. This very well preserved piece turned out to be a Marklin One gauge train, dating from 1905-1910, which could easily be worth thousands of dollars. Paul asked whether there were any more pieces. Ms. Greene unwrapped two other items which she had brought with her, and stated that indeed there were more. She went back home to get the rest of the set which she said might have belonged to her grandfather before her father inherited it. As she unwrapped the rags and tea towels around the additional pieces, it became obvious that not only was the set complete, but there were a few additional items, not connected to the set. Paul offered Ms. Greene his expert opinion on the set, which she said she had no use for. She would sell it to him if he was interested. Paul then told her he did not know the value, but she had several options, one of which would be to consign it to the Desert Division to put on e-Bay and see just how high the price would go. Ms. Greene agreed that that was the route to use.

By Saturday afternoon after the Meet, the set was photographed and listed on e-Bay through the Desert Division’s Convention site. Within minutes there were bids, and by the end of the first day, the bidding had reached \$3500. Then the bidding slowed, reaching about \$4500 by mid-week. Knowing how e-Bay works, we all felt that there would be a surge at the very end, and sure enough, there was. The set had realized over \$9000, with 10% of that going to the Desert Division’s Convention Fund.

But wait! The bidder, even though the listing had stated that orders would only be shipped to the USA or Canada, was from Germany. The entire deal might have to be voided! Fortunately, our German bidder had an American contact in Kentucky to whom we could ship the train. Whew! The deal stood, as we waited for the Cashier’s Check to arrive. It did, the train was shipped, and Alice Greene was thrilled with the results.

It is only fair that we offer thanks to those who made this happen. First, Angelo Lautazi, our Web Master, put forth a site which attracted Ms. Greene. Second, Gordon Wilson knew who would best be able to identify this “mystery” item. Third, Paul Wassermann had the integrity to get the best deal for this stranger in our midst. Fourth, and most important, Alice Greene trusted the Desert Division with this relic from the past.

Now, that’s what I call a “Bottom of the Bag” story.



Ms. Greene’s Marklin One set on display.



Ms. Greene with her engine.



Club members inspect the display.

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HO COLLECTIBLE TRAINS – AN O SCALER’S PRIMER THE PREWAR PERIOD

by Jonathan Peiffer TCA #01-53047

As the most common scale modeled in the world today, the perceived ubiquity of HO scaled model railway items are often ignored or simply overlooked by the ‘serious’ collector. However, the early years of HO railroading have a fascinating history. The odd proportion of the scale 1:87 (3.5 mm to the inch) comes out of its European roots. The beginning of this scale prior to World War I consisted primarily of novelty toys and was commonly referred to as 00. These toys had no real scale other than the fact that they were smaller than O. The first real near scale offering was the “Bing Table Railway” of 1924 and was loosely based on designs by Basset Lowke and Henry Greenly. Clearly still a tin-plate product, the set introduced the first practical clockwork and electric motors of small size.

With a growing interest in scale trains in the late 1920’s and early 1930’s, HO scale became an attractive alternative to some modelers due to smaller running room as well as the ability to produce a very prototypical looking train with less detail than its cousins. In the early 1930’s several pioneers of the scale started offering kits. Finding photographs of some of these early models, let alone the actual pieces is difficult if not impossible.

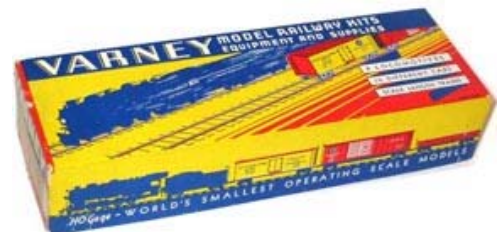
While the number of small manufacturers is too numerous to list in this article, several notable pioneers are worth mentioning. Perhaps the earliest producer of US HO was George Stock who may have been building custom HO as early as the late 20’s, but began his business in earnest in 1930. He continued building custom locomotives and offered boxed kits for sale from 1935 to 1950 of several Eastern prototype locomotives including the PRR E6, K4, A5, B6 and GG-1. As a curiosity, the kits were only assembled and boxed *after* an order was placed clearly showing the small size of the operation. Stock kits are very rare and for those who know what they are selling, command a premium price in the HO market. John Tyler co-founded the Mantua Toy Company in 1926 with James Thomas and got their start in model railroading by producing small motors to power their model boats. An HO line of trains was started producing a Reading Consolidation in 1937 and in 1938 a Reading Camelback and Atlantic. Walthers started their line of HO trains in 1937 as well and offered a Milwaukee Road 4-6-4 that proved nearly impossible to assemble making a true find for the one seeking such a piece. It was discontinued right after



WWII. During this period they also produced wooden freight cars as well as bristol board passenger cars. Finally, no discussion on vintage HO can be complete without a mention of Gordon Varney. His business began in 1936 and in similar fashion with his contemporaries started with custom locomotives. In the late 30’s his kit offerings included such locomotives as 2-8-8-2 Yellowstone and a GG-1 like locomotive based on his Mikado frame. Varney’s line also included freight and passenger cars.

World War II put the manufacturing of model railroading items to a stop, but these early manufacturers paved the way for a post war boom of HO popularity, which continues to this day. The explosive growth through the late 40’s and all through the 50’s leaves a legacy of enormous variety in locomotive and cars modeled.

With the baby boomer and younger generations being in a position to become collectors, many of them grew up with HO scale. For the budget conscious collector original HO pieces can still be found for very reasonable prices. While outside the mainstream of most TCA members, basic knowledge of the historical value of these collectible items can only help to attract future generations of TCA members who don’t know or even appreciate such household names like Lionel or American Flyer. Can anyone say Varney, Penn Line or Bowser?





2007 Holiday Party
Sunday, December 9, 2007
Phoenix Marriott Mesa
200 N. Centennial Way
Mesa, AZ



11 am: Meet and greet (cash bar)
Santa will be there to see the kids.
Noon: Brunch

Fellowship, Food, Favors, Raffles, Auctions and Fun!

Co-Chairs: Brad & Diane Martin
Ralph & Sally Treichel

Reservation deadline: December 3, 2007

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Ralph Treichel
16802 N. 1st Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85023

Adults: \$25.00

Children 12 and under \$15.00

Children 2 and under Free

Please print names of persons attending please give children's ages 12 and under:

adults x 25.00 _____

children 12 and under _____

Total: _____

Please indicate if you will need handicapped seating. Groups of 10 may pre-reserve tables. Please list all names of your party on the reverse of this form. Thank you.

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GARGRAVES ANNUAL SALE! - From now until October 8th, all GarGraves prices will be 10% off my discounted prices. Yes, put in an order at our usual 80% of retail prices and take another 10% off your discounted total. (Unfortunately, GarGraves has raised their prices on some items, so check if you have a current price list.) Peter Atonna 928-636-4228 or e-mail at mjatonna@commspeed.net.

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. The store has just been expanded and has newly extended hours – 9 AM to 5:30 PM Tu-Fri; 9-5 Saturday and 11-3 Sundays. Visit our website at <https://www.mesamodels.net> 6032 E. McKellips Road, Mesa (NE corner of McKellips and Recker Road) 480-357-8800.

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 my web site, sykesvillehistory.us, for a current list.

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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 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.

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.

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**

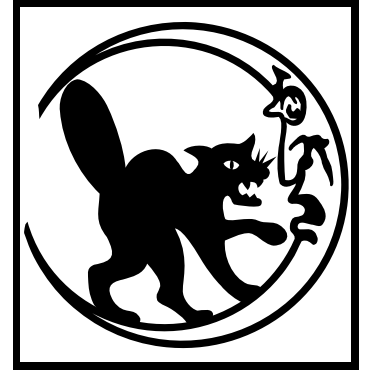
Gordon Wilson, Editor
Desert Division Dispatch
16231 E. Ocotillo Drive
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COMING EVENTS

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|----------------|--|
| October 13 | Regular Division Meet, Jaycees Hall, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM 8102 E. Jackrabbit Road, between Chaparral and McDonald |
| October 13-14 | Railfair, McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, Scottsdale, AZ |
| October 17-20 | Eastern Division Meet, York, PA |
| November 3 | 2 nd Annual Rio Grande Chapter "Pumpkin Meet" – 9 AM Sombra Del Monte Church, 2528 Utah NE, Albuquerque, NM Contact: Bill Spofford (505-821-4051) or Greg Palmer (505-898-3840) |
| November 24-25 | Turkey Meet and Auction – Mesa Convention Center, 263 N. Center St., Mesa, AZ Contact: Bob Herman (480-948-2730) |
| December 8 | Toy Train Show, Quality Inn Event Center, Tucson, AZ Contact: Bud Stewart (520-749-0228 or e-mail bud@at.tuccoxmail.com) |
| December 9 | Holiday Party – Sheraton Hotel at Mesa Convention Center Contact: Ralph Treichel (602-863-6985) |

Have You PADE Your Way?

Purchase raffle tickets

Author an article for the Dispatch

Donate something to the club

Enlist to help

PADE PROMOTIONS

John Huber's donation of magazines will help the Kids Club fill its packets for the 2007 Turkey Meet. All cell phone donations are gratefully accepted as well. We thank Terry Gibbs for the box of accessories he donated to the Division, and we also thank Paul Wassermann and Ed Georgevich for their recent donations to the 2009 TCA National Convention stockpile. Their items were placed on our Division e-Bay site.

Thank you to John Pryor, our new Module Chairman. Our guest author this month is Jonathan Peiffer. Also, thank you to Laurel and Chris Allen, who ably handled the kitchen in September.

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