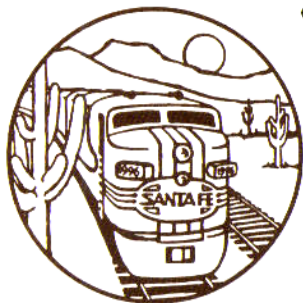


TCA Mission: To preserve an important segment of history – Tinplate Toy Trains – through research, establishment of collecting standards, education, community outreach, fellowship and to promote the growth and enjoyment of the hobby.



Desert Division

DISPATCH

ARIZONA • NEW MEXICO • WEST TEXAS



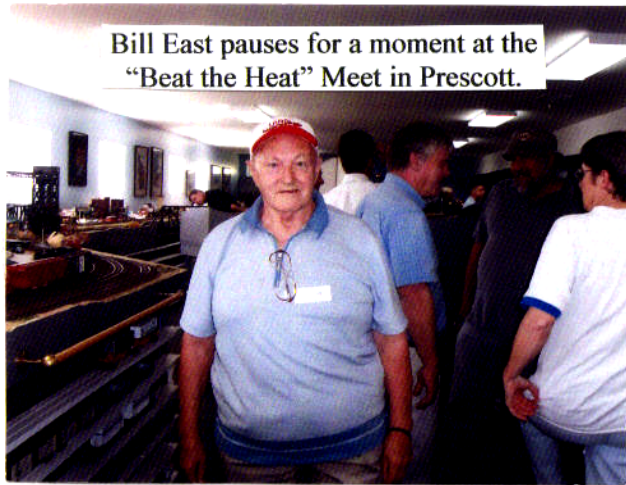
Volume 33, No. 7

"BEAT THE HEAT" MEET
by Chris Allen TCA 95-40580

September, 2004

August in Prescott, well for that matter just about any month in Prescott, what can be better? One can surely see why this part of Arizona is becoming so popular, not only with newly arriving residents, but also more and more retirees. The beauty of the Prescott and Verde Valley region, the cooler climate, and wonderful hosts have turned a one day event in what was once called "The Mile High Meet" into a hard to beat "Beat the Heat Meet" weekend. Held each August to allow us flat land desert rats some time off from the summer heat, the Central Arizona Model Railroad Club again hosted model railroaders from all over the state. With over 100 tables of everything railroad, in virtually every gauge, era, and manufacturer, these guys and gals continue to put on one heck of a show. Many Valley of the Sun day trippers leave early enough to have breakfast at one of our favorite haunts along I-17. Some go for local charm, while others want the biggest bang for the buck, or in this case buckwheats. Once we've settled our stomachs, it's on to the Meet where old friends and new acquaintances along with tables full of new treasures are waiting to be discovered and taken home. I spotted almost a dozen Desert Division folks holding down tables, and selling everything imaginable, and those that weren't selling were buying. What a great turnout! I counted over 50 Divisions members that morning coming from as far away as Tucson. When the train meet was over, the layout visitations started. Scale, garden, tinplate, you name it; it was on this self-guided tour. What a wonderful way to see so many excellent examples of model railroading in one day. Our tip of the Desert Division cap to the fine folks of the C.A.M.R.C. Although I wasn't able to stay, on Sunday those interested were able to go for a ride on the Verde Canyon Railway in nearby Clarksboro, AZ. What a superb weekend, we certainly look forward to next year and our trip up the hill!

Bill East pauses for a moment at the "Beat the Heat" Meet in Prescott.



A general overview of the "Beat the Heat" Meet trading pits. That's Sam McElwee in the foreground



VISIT OUR WEB SITE: www.tcadd.org

COMING UP . . .

SEPTEMBER 11	REGULAR DIVISION MEET – JAYCEES HALL, SCOTTSDALE – 9 AM
	OPEN HOUSE – ARIZONA TRAIN DEPOT, MESA – NOON
OCTOBER 2	ARIZONA TRAIN-O-RAMA – N. PHOENIX BAPTIST CHURCH – 10 AM
OCTOBER 9	REGULAR DIVISION MEET – JAYCEES HALL, SCOTTSDALE – 9 AM
OCTOBER 9-10	RAILFAIR – McCORMICK-STILLMAN PARK, SCOTTSDALE – 9 AM
OCTOBER 30	16 th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNEY, PAINTED MOUNTAIN, MESA – 11 AM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to you All!

Hard to believe that as I write this the final plans for the Turkey Meet and Holiday Party are coming together. You may have enjoyed a relaxing summer but the Desert Division and all of the committee chairs have been busy making sure your fall train season will be busy and fun filled, and as always, just a little bit better.

Many activities are planned to fill up the remainder of the year besides the two major events. The annual Golf tournament is right around the corner. Last year we had to fight off Mother Nature as a rare winter storm blew in and only the best of the tournament were able to capture my perennial award of scoring closest to the temperature of the day. I play golf twice a year, at both the National Convention and the Division Tournament, and those that have seen me play think that's it's two times too many, but I enjoy the fun of being out with friends, not to mention the wonderful dinner afterwards. Plan on joining us this year for an afternoon you won't soon forget. As the old saying goes, "I gave up both Golf and Bowling when my averages met." I haven't gotten there yet, but then again we don't have a Division Bowling tournament each year either.

The annual Railfair at Scottsdale Railroad Park is set for the weekend of October 9th and 10th. We will only have the sign up sheet at the September Meet as the event will coincide with our October Meet. Your help will be needed both Saturday morning before the meet at 6 AM for setup and Sunday afternoon at 4 PM for tear down. The Division Kids Club will meet at the Park Saturday morning and will run their trains on the module while we hold our October Meet. They will need some relief in the afternoon following the Meet. Sunday is also wide open for those of you who would like to help out and, at the same time, play with your favorite train. We will have TMCC and DCS up and running, along with plenty of old fashioned ZW power to pull the largest consist you can imagine. Come out and enjoy a wonderful fall afternoon either day at the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. It is a great way to showcase and recruit friends to experience railroading with the various clubs available in town along with seeing so many of the different manufacturers and gauges available.

I hope you were able to take some time out for a leisurely trip up the hill to the "Beat the Heat Meet." The crew up in Prescott did another fine job with a

very active public crowd in attendance all morning long. It was nice to get to see the Central Arizona guys on their own turf, and with every trip Laurel and I see more and more growth. (We stopped and filled up our gas tank at the Prescott COSTCO!) Being a fan of Arizona history (and trivia) I understand growth but to see this area, so rich with the colorful past of Arizona, being plowed under for yet another housing development

I guess that's what keeps many of us in the hobby of collecting. To the non collector, it's just "stuff," but to us, it sets off some kind of internal emotion. Sure, some of what we collect is quaint or colorful and some of it brings back happy feelings of our childhood, but let's be honest - a lot of this stuff not even a mother could love. Yet we polish off rust, carefully clean, oil, lube, rewire. We look for parts to keep our favorites running, or to make what others might call a basket case run again, while others get satisfaction in taking a rusted wreck and restoring it to its former glory. We enjoy the unique smell of electric trains, of oil, grease, and motors. To the uninitiated we're a bit off center, but as one of my early mentors, the late Jim Bong demonstrated, you either have that spark of joy that glows within whenever you watch a toy train run around, or...

Hope to see you soon. Right now, I've got to dust off an old 1479 freight set and set up a loop of track.



American 4-4-0 Classic Locomotive (circa 1855)

IN MEMORIAM

Gordon Wilson's father passed away on August 12 after a brief illness. Only such a family situation could stop Gordon from attending the "Beat the Heat" Meet. Our sympathies and condolences go out to the Wilsons at this time of grief.

16th ANNUAL DESERT DIVISION OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT

In August we had the "Beat the Heat" train meet for the main purpose of AVOIDING the Valley's sometimes oppressive summertime heat. Now, however, for the 16th consecutive year, we have our "Match the Temperature" Desert Division Open Golf Tournament. Yes, one of the major prizes to be presented at the Holiday Party is the "coveted" Closest to the Temperature trophy.

Have you ever participated in the Desert Division's Golf Tourney? You do not have to be an avid golfer or even a proficient one – just have a desire to play and have fun with your fellow Division members and their families. We play on a really fun layout – the Painted Mountain Golf Club located on McKellips Road in Mesa. Starting time is in the 11:00 AM area, which means we will conclude right around dinnertime. What a segue!!

Part of the experience connected with this event is the Steak Dinner following play. Between courses, prizes are awarded for such things as "Best Dressed Golfer," "Longest Worm-Burner," "Most Creative Shot," and any other "weird" thing which might be called to our attention. Of course, we do have some SERIOUS golf prizes as well.

Afraid you can't compete? Don't! We use the Callaway Handicap System, which evens the playing field very quickly. Believe it or not, this handicap system makes each of us competitive with Tiger Woods and Annika Sorenstam, the world's No. 1 male and female golfers. That is NOT an exaggeration – it is a fact.

Save Saturday, October 30, from 11:00 AM through dinnertime. The cost for the golf, an electric cart, and your meal will be \$32.00 or less. The more who golf, the less it costs everyone. Please contact Gordon Wilson on or before October 25 with your commitment; however, before October 10 would be much better, as Gordon will be away from the area during the middle of October.

* * * * *

REGISTRATION FORM – GOLF OUTING

____ Yes, sign me up.

Name (Please print) _____ @\$32.00

Playing family members _____ @\$32.00

_____ @\$32.00

_____ @\$32.00

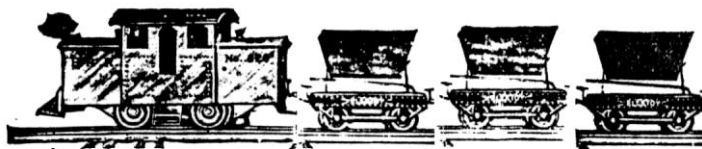
_____ @ \$32.00

Send this form and a check for the total amount to:

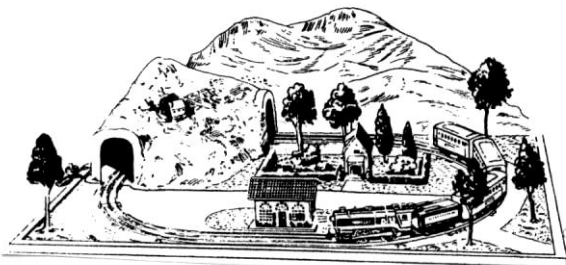
Gordon L. Wilson
16231 E. Ocotillo Drive
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

Make checks payable to TCA – Desert Division.

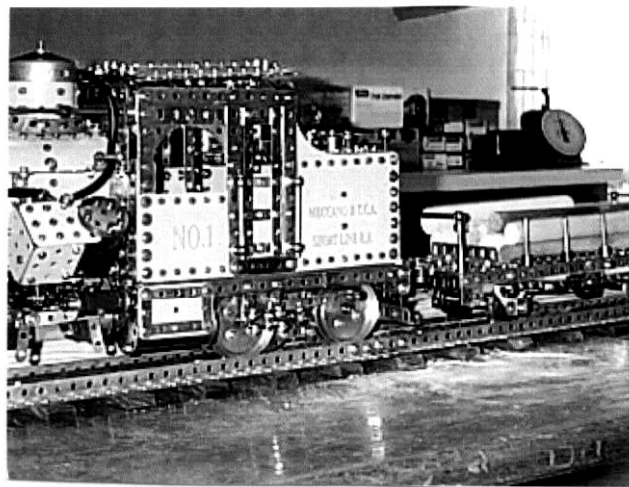
Start time on October 30 is 11:00 AM.



922—Outfit contains 1 No. 921 Locomotive, 3 No. 906 Dump Cars, 1 Controller, 8 curved and 2 straight lengths Track, in partitioned box 19½x11x4½ inches. Weight, 7 pounds Price. **\$6.00**



A preview of the
Erector/Meccano project
being put together by
Gerry Klei for the
Turkey Meet.
A "Shay," perhaps?



MARX CARTOON HANDCARS

by Paul Wassermann, TCA #73-5169

It's 1935 and the recovery from the great depression is underway. Louis Marx's toy company was to produce thousands of different metal toys, many of them based upon cartoon characters, popular during that era. Two such items were the handcars, O gauge, featuring Popeye/Olive Oyl and Moon Mullins and his sidekick, Kayo.

The Popeye handcar is notable because the delightful rubber figure representations of the characters harden and decompose with time. It may be impossible to find original figures in operable condition as the rubber's flexibility turns to a hardened stone like material that crumbles and fractures under stress. I recently obtain a boxed example of the toy with the figures in about the best condition I have ever seen. Olive has lost some height due to the resection of about 1/2 inch of leg bilaterally, but Popeye is close to perfect and even his pipe remains imbedded in his mouth. Neither will stand up to any handcar pumping, however.

There are two distinct versions of the Moon Mullins and Kayo car. The black base version is of less durable construction and has a rather flimsy wire spring motor that was used on Marx toy tanks and the Joy Line litho locomotives. This version of the car has the humorous detail of Kayo standing on a box containing 48 sticks of dynamite and "do not jar" as a warning! The "deluxe" yellow base version features a stronger, more powerful clockwork motor used on Joy Line cast iron and sheet metal locos. These toys are reported to come in non-flanged floor models, although mine all have flanged wheels.

Of note is the fact that the track, which came with the Popeye and the Deluxe Moon Mullins handcars, is different. Both are banked circles, but have a different construction. None is marked as made by Marx. Another note about my pictures, the boxes are probably switched. I believe the cheaper Mullins came in the colorful cartoon box (obviously no room for track!) while the deluxe version came in the larger cardboard box. One can only speculate why Marx would make two contemporary versions of the Moon Mullins car. The cheaper version has been found in a box marked \$.49 so probably it was a move to broaden the market for these post depression toys.

These toys, along with the Lionel handcars of the same period, make a wonderful collection of cartoon character train items and are always sure to bring a smile to young and old train enthusiasts alike.



Olive Oyl and Popeye ride again.



Popeye and Olive with their "OB"



Moon Mullins/Kayo Black Base Hand Car w/OB



Moon Mullins/Kayo Yellow Base Hand Car w/OB
Note "plain" graphics on the box.

Desert



Division

NO CHILDHOOD SHOULD BE WITHOUT A TRAIN

KIDS CLUB NEWS

By Rob Davis, John Huber, and Tom Plies

Jeanine Monahan has volunteered to help Kids Club. Our thanks to Angie Davis, who was doing the Birthday Card and Gift project, but has to step down. Jeanine has volunteered to step in and help out. She will take over the Birthday chores. This entails sending Birthday cards out each first of the month to Kids Club members for that month along with a reminder to attend that month's Kids Club meeting so they can pick up their Kids Club Birthday Gifts.

Also note that the Zoo Table will be changed to a Halloween theme sometime this month. October brings Railfair. The Desert Division Kids Club helps set up and dismantle the table and runs the module this entire weekend. This year, Railfair is October 9 and 10.

Do you want to enroll someone "FREE" between the ages of 4 through 18 in the Kids Club? Use the form below. Give it to one of the Kids Club Chairs at the Meet on June 12, and we will see to it that it is sent on to the TCA National Business Office.



Kid's Club Registration Form

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____ Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

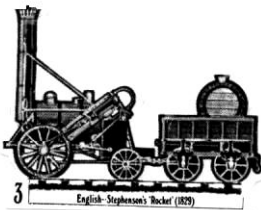
Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Sponsor Name _____ TCA No. _____

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



Have You PADE Your Way?

Purchase raffle tickets

Author an article for the Dispatch

Donate something to the club

Enlist to help

PADE PROMOTIONS

The Desert Division thanks everyone who made a PADE donation during the past months. The Dispatch staff thanks Dave Brown for his pictures for the "Beat the Heat" article. Keith Swett provided yeoman service as Chair of the Bylaws Revision Committee. These revisions, which appear elsewhere in this bulletin, will be included in the November ballot for your vote. Also a hearty Thank You to the Convention Committee (Ed Micale, Chair; with Chris Allen, Bill Mack, Paul Wassermann, and Gordon Wilson) for their winning presentation to the TCA National Convention. Because of their efforts, we were awarded the 2009 Convention, to be held in Scottsdale, Arizona.

SEPTEMBER TRIVIA

by Chris Allen TCA #95-40580

Well, either I stumped quite a few of you or the question was just too vague. Unfortunately if I give away any real specifics, all of the internet hounds would find the answer faster than Google's stock price shot up; but since some of the answers I received last month were so far off track, I will try to reword the question without giving too much away.

As stated last month the answer will probably forever change your view of the Arizona Territory, the New Mexico Badlands, and even El Paso City, but let's say that your view of the shoot out at the OK Corral will never be quite the same, and quite possibly your view of the battle of The Alamo. As with so many things I had my roots in the Mid-West, but have appeared throughout the West as a direct result of the railroads and wagon trains. I am frequently seen in both Western movies and TV shows and I am synonymous with "real west"; however, I did not exist anywhere in the Arizona Territory until the early 1900's. What am I?

First correct answer to Chris Allen at 480-820-9559 or tcadd.org@cox.net wins! My offer for 10 extra raffle tickets, out of my own pocket, still stands if you can tell me the tie in between the answer (you will have to be specific) and last month's "Beat the Heat" Meet. Of course, those of you who guessed last month are ineligible this time.

BEYOND THE CALL...

By Katie Elgar TCA #94-39348

At the July 10, Desert Division meeting I showed a Barclay set of figures with a stretcher, man on the stretcher and one man holding the end of the stretcher that I had found in Pennsylvania this June. I lamented that I was now going to have to look for another stretcher-bearer, or the one man would have to drag the other around on the stretcher.

Fellow member Bill Schulte mentioned that I might be able to locate the missing figure at the Bruntons Barracks store he frequents in Prescott when I attend the Beat the Heat Meet. I agreed that would be a place to look.

The next week I received a copy of a letter that Bill had written to the owners of that store asking about the figure, along with 2 pages Bill had copied out of one of his books so I would know what I was looking for. Then I received a phone message from Bill telling me that they did indeed have the figure, how much it would cost, and that they would hold it for me.

At the local TTOS meet, when I was thanking Bill for the information, he told me about further medical personnel that go with those figures and that I would probably find a number of them up there in Prescott.

Bill certainly exemplifies the warmth and friendship of the Desert Division. He went above and beyond in finding out about this figure for me, and I appreciate his help. Bill has been a great help in many cases through my 10 years as a member of the Desert Division. I was able to meet Pam and complete the set of stretcher carriers when I went to Prescott. Thank you Bill!!

LIONEL OPEN HOUSE WITH JIM KEELEY

Lionel's West Coast representative, Jim Keeley, will be in town Saturday, September 11th at the Arizona Train Depot, 755 E. McKellips, Mesa. Jim will be demonstrating several of Lionel's latest products and will gladly answer your questions about the fall product line and future releases. If you were unable to attend the National Convention in Pittsburgh, this would be an excellent opportunity for you to meet and talk to one of the men in the know at Lionel. Show your support to both one of your local brick and mortar hobby shops and one of the major manufacturers by stopping by the Arizona Train Depot after the September meet, only minutes away and freeway close, Saturday, September 11th from 12 Noon until 5 PM.

BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on Saturday, September 11, beginning at 8:00 AM at the Jaycees Hall. Members are welcome to attend.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Bylaws Committee, chaired by Keith Swett, has proposed the following changes to the current Desert Division Bylaws. Please compare the items below with your copy of our current Bylaws. Copies of the current Bylaws will be available at the next two Division Meets for your perusal and comparison. These revisions will be published in this and the next issue of the newsletter, then be included on the ballot for your approval in November. What appears below allows for a group of members to petition for Chapter status. It also allows the Division to have a Media/Relations Chairperson.

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES

Change Article II Section I to Article II Section 1A.

Add sections B and C to read as follows:

B. A Chapter may be formed by filing a petition to the Desert Division Board of Directors with the geographic boundary, proposed name, and 25 signatures pledging membership as outlined in Article II Section 1A.

C. Final approval of the petition for Chapter formation resides with the Desert Division Board of Directors.

Change Article III Section 3 as follows:

Add the words "all Chapter officers" so that Section B reads as follows:

B. The terms of office for the Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Directors, and all Chapter officers shall be for one calendar year.

Reletter "C" to "D"

Reletter "D" to "E"

Reletter "E" to "F"

Insert a new section "C" as follows:

C. The elected President of a Chapter becomes a Director on the Desert Division Board of Directors.

Article VII – Add a new Section 3 as follows:

A Media Relations Chairperson shall be appointed by the President for a one-year term. He/She shall promote the growth of the Division through exposure of meets, events, and activities.

DESERT DIVISION - TCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2004

President:	Chris Allen	480-820-9559	Directors:		
Vice-President:	Katie Elgar	602-547-9010		Ed Georgevich	623-764-2960
Secretary:	Christie Wilson	480-837-5344		Phil Monahan	480-607-3956
Treasurer:	Bob Herman	480-948-2730		Art Triant	623-556-0846

Train Collectors Association - Desert Division

29th Annual Turkey Meet & Auction

The oldest and largest toy train swap meet and
auction held in the southwest!



Admission \$5

Children under 18
free when
accompanied by an
adult

SATURDAY

November 27th, 2004

9 am - 3 pm

**Swap meet and Operating
train displays**

SUNDAY

November 28, 2004

Auction 250 + Lots

8 am to 5 pm



Where?

Mesa Convention Center

**University & Center St.
MESA, ARIZONA**

Questions? Directions? Call or visit us on the web at:

www.tcadd.org

Meet Chairman: Ed Georgevich 623 764 2960

Email: ed.georgevich@tcadd.org

Registration: Bob Herman 480 948 2730

Email: treasurer@tcadd.org

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 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

NO MAIL REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER NOVEMBER 15, 2004

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 \$20 ea \$ _____

Auction Catalog _____ x \$ 3.00 \$ _____

Catalog Mail Fee (50¢ Postage) \$ _____

TOTAL Enclosed \$ _____

For Official Use Only

Reg# _____ Date Rcvd _____

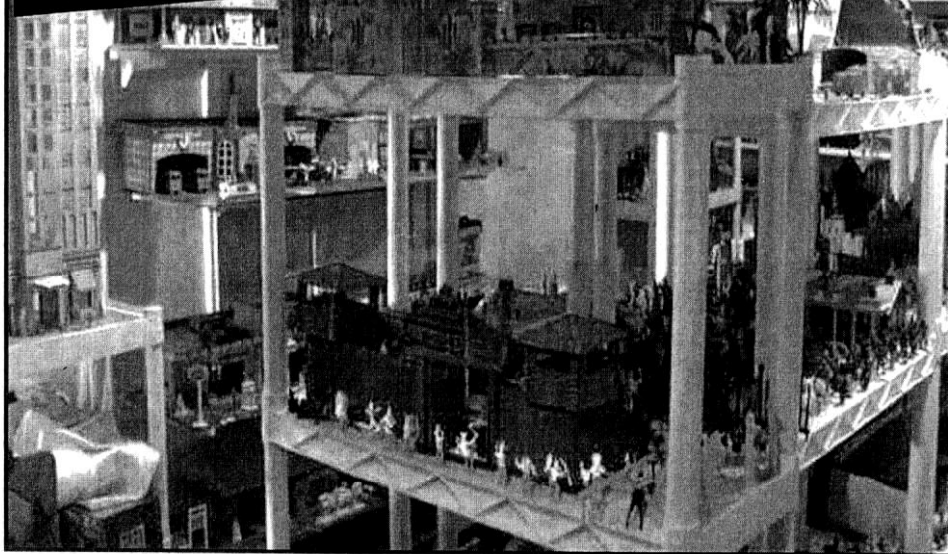
Chk # _____ Chk Amt _____

MY SIDE

by Kathy Kern



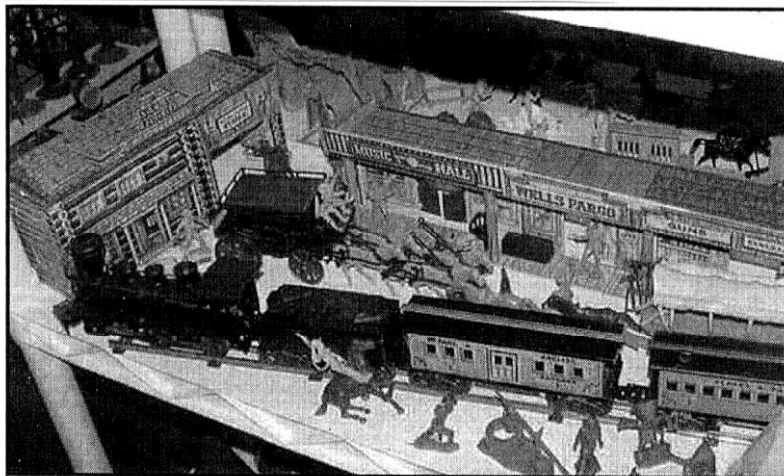
PALASCHAK'S COLLECTION



Playset Magazine



Dan Palaschak found a great use for portable shelving! Much of his collection gets display space here. Top to bottom: his Wells Fargo set, a Ben-Hur set up, and below that, a Civil War diorama with trains, his second passion. In the background you catch a glimpse of his extensive train collection arranged on wall shelving. Below is a nice group of Cape Canaveral. I especially like the pleasing arrangement of missiles and rockets! Thanks Dan, until next time - Kathy



This article about Desert Division member, Dan Palaschak, appeared in the July/August 2004 issue of the nationally distributed PLAYSET MAGAZINE.

