

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

Volume 42, No. 8

September, 2013

ALL ABOARD, FALL TRAIN SEASON IS HERE!

With daily temperatures still toasty here in the Phoenix and Albuquerque areas it is hard to believe that fall is just weeks away. While Mother Nature likes to play her tricks on us, Father Time marches on and both Division and Chapter are getting ready for their annual train shows. Actually with all the shows in the southwest, Rio Grande's Pumpkin Meet can really be called the first train show of the fall season. Fellow trainiac's will be going from Albuquerque, Tucson, Ontario, and Phoenix in the upcoming months all in search of untold treasures both to buy and sell. As the shows ramp up so does the need for help. Don't believe that you can't help out because you will be selling that day. There are some jobs that need to be done before the show that you might be able to help with in addition to during the show as well. If you are bringing a helper for your sales table consider letting them go solo for a few hours while you help during the show. You will be close by if a question comes up and everyone walks around during the show to see the sights and visit, just pull a two hour stint helping out before or after your stroll. You can make it work and help your friends get a much needed break from their volunteering so they can stretch their legs and enjoy the show as well. Remember the old acronym for TEAM, Together Everyone Accomplishes More, and if everyone pitches in and does a little then a few will not have to do a lot.

Both Division and Chapter have Meets scheduled this month so dust off those trains under your table and bring them to the meet to either sell or talk about. It is always fun to look for new additions to your collection or layout, or to sell an accessory or train that no longer fits into your style or manifest. **Division members attending the Phoenix meet remember to bring in three empty boxes wrapped in Christmas paper and ribbons to help out the Arizona Toy Train Show committee.** Speaking of the Arizona Toy Train Show and Christmas Party you will find your registration forms inside this issue for them. There is no December issue of this newsletter so you might think we are early but both committees need your registration to help plan for a great event. Note on the Christmas Party reservation this year you may designate either a "S" or "O" gauge member gift from Santa this year. One of his elves whispered that if you are late in registering for the Christmas Party you might just end up with some coal for your tender instead. We hope to see you all at the September Meets and enjoy the pictures from the "Beat the Heat Meet" and open houses in Prescott last month.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

September 14 – Division Meet – 10 AM – Phoenix, AZ

September 28 - Rio Grande Chapter Meet – 10 AM ** DATE CHANGE **

October 12 – Division Meet – 10 AM – Phoenix, AZ

October 12 – 13 – Railfair 2013 – McCormick Stillman Railroad Park – Scottsdale, AZ

**October 27 – Rio Grande Chapter - PUMPKIN MEET – 9 AM – Albuquerque, NM
(Meet Flyer inside)**

November 8&9 – G.P.D. T.T.O.M. Train Show – Tucson, AZ (Meet Flyer inside)

"BEAT THE HEAT" MEET PHOTOS



Peter Atonna holding down the fort while Mary Jane is looking for more trains



Ralph and Sally Treichel at Beat the Heat – Is that a Christmas Party reminder on their table?



John Craft early in the show with a full table of great deals



Bob Dennison smiling with an empty table means a very successful show for him



Brad Martin taking a break from his spending spree



The show is open; it was a busy day for the sellers and bargains for the buyers



Peter Atonna's ever changing layout now includes a narrow gauge line



Peter also added a beautiful replica of the Douglas, Arizona train station



Another treat, the open house at Marlin Benson's drew big crowds



TCA President-elect Katie Elgar in one of three rooms of trains at Marlin's home



Mike Nelson is currently working on his railroad, a spectacular On30



Another view of Mike's attention to detail on his On30 layout

2013 HOLIDAY PARTY

Sunday, December 8, 2013

Mesa Marriott
200 N. Centennial Way
Mesa, AZ 85201

4:00 PM: Meet and Greet (cash bar available)

5:00 PM: Dinner

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

Chair: Ralph & Sally Treichel

Reservation deadline: November 30, 2013



-----Cut here and send with check-----

Make check payable to Desert Division TCA and send this form and check to:

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, giving ages of children 12 and under.

Member: _____ Spouse: _____ Guests: _____

Adults @ \$25.00 _____

children 12 and under: \$15.00 _____

Total enclosed _____

Please Check One: "O" Gauge Member Gift ____ or "S" Gauge Member Gift ____

Tables will be set for eight people. Thank you.

**THE DESERT DIVISION OF THE
TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION**
PROUDLY PRESENTS THE

ARIZONA TOY TRAIN SHOW

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH 2013
SHOW TIME 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

SET UP

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

6:00 pm - 10:00pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

6:00 am - 9:00 am

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WWW.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 TCA Desert Division 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: Beth Stange, 8619 E. Chaparral Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85250

NO MAIL REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER NOVEMBER 16, 2012

FEES:

Registration \$8.00

(Children under 13 FREE)

Spouse or Guests ____ x \$ 8 ea \$ ____

Table Fee ____ x \$ 25 ea \$ ____

TOTAL Enclosed \$ ____

Reg# _____ Date Rcvd _____

Chk# _____ Chk Amt _____



TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION
RIO GRANDE CHAPTER
**TOY TRAIN SHOW
AND
SWAP MEET**



SUNDAY OCTOBER 27TH

9:00AM TO 3:00PM

SHERATON UPTOWN HOTEL

ON THE CORNER OF LOUISIANA AND MANUAL N.E.

IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

ADULTS \$5.00 UNDER 12 FREE WITH ADULT

TCA MEMBERS \$2.00 WITH TCA CARD

DEALER SETUP FROM 7:30AM-9:00AM-TCA RULES WILL APPLY
FOR INFORMATION CALL: Bill Spofford at 505-821-4051 or Greg Palmer
At 505-898-3840.

NAME _____ TCA# _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____
TCA MEMBER TABLES# _____ @\$20.00EA _____
NON MEMBER TABLES# _____ @\$25.00EA _____

SEND A CHECK PAYABLE TO TCA-RIO GRANDE CHAPTER. MAIL TO: Bill
Spofford, 9609 San Rafael N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87109



Rio Grande Chapter

NEW MEXICO • WEST TEXAS



TCA Rio Grande Chapter News

By Gregory Palmer 94-39039

It is once again time to get training in the Rio Grande Chapter. Our next Meet and Meeting is Saturday September 28th at 10:00AM at the Los Altos Christian Church South Education Building at 11900 Haines N.E., which is just East of Juan Tabo N.E. and just south of Indian School. Note the date change. We had to move the date to the fourth Saturday due to a conflict with another group. We will go back to the third Saturday next September. This is a very important Meeting in that we need to have help at the Pumpkin Meet on October 27th. We need help at the front door, and we need help with Raffle prizes. Scott Ecksteins' Nominating Committee will be telling us the names of the Members who are going to run for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as the two open Board positions. The election will be January 18th. Let me take this time to tell you that it has been a real treat being your Chapter President since the founding of the Chapter in 2006. I am most proud of the expanding of the Chapter Membership from 20 to over 40 Members, and the expansion of the Pumpkin Meet, from a Church Gym with 20 tables and 50 people attending to the Sheraton Uptown Hotel with 55 tables, three modules displays, and over 400 people attending. I could not have done this alone. All of the current and past Board Members have made this Chapter a success. I hope the new Board will continue moving the TCA Rio Grande Chapter forward. My last Chapter News Article will be for the Winter issue which reports on the Pumpkin Meet results. The new President will take over the writing duties in January. Speaking of the Pumpkin Meet, if you want a table for the October 27th Pumpkin Meet please do so soon. Table sales are already going strong and we have sold several tables already. This is much earlier than last year. So a word to the wise, if you want a table or tables, use the enclosed Pumpkin Meet Flyer and send in your check today. Please bring items to show and tell at our Education Segment. It is always fun to see what the Chapter Members collect and operate. Also please feel free to bring items to sell or swap. There are a few tables available but you may bring a table if you want. No charge for tables or space, and we can also spend some time after the Meet buying and selling. Once again please plan on coming to the September 28th Meet and Meeting at 10:00AM at the Los Altos Christian Church South Education Building at 11900 Haines N.E. in Albuquerque. We need every Member there to help support the Pumpkin Meet and the future of the Chapter. See all of you there.

RIO GRANDE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012 - 2013

President:	Greg Palmer	505-898-3840	Directors:	Carl Cataline	505-450-7575
Vice-President:	George Swajian	505-298-7099		Art Lites	505-463-1951
Secretary:	Scott Eckstein	505-332-0947		Jon Spargo	575-835-1606
Treasurer:	Don Kuster	505-771-2970			

CONSIGNMENT SEALED BID AUCTION RULES

The most recent consignment to the Division contained a large collection of locomotives, both diesel and steam, from postwar to very current production. So as not to flood the winter auction with an excessive amount of locomotives the Division Board of Directors has decided to offer a few locomotives in a sealed bid auction format. This is the **final** auction of the year. Any and all remaining locomotives or sets from the auctions will be offered at the fall train shows or online auction to the public.

The rules for the auction are simple;

1. This is not a first come, first serve sale. All interested parties for an item should submit a bid with the Division Treasurer or his appointee. Bids must be received by the close of the monthly Division Business Meeting.
2. Highest bid wins. In the event of a winning tie bid, only those tie bidders will be allowed to rebid.
3. Offers below the reserve price will not be considered.
4. If an item is not sold it will be offered for sale to the public or placed on eBay for sale at the Division's discretion.
5. All items are sold as is, where is. If you are interested in an item, it can be brought to the Division meet for your inspection. In the case of our Chapter members or members living outside of the immediate Phoenix area we will supply photographs if requested.
6. Known obvious defects will be noted, i.e. blown electronic boards, missing parts, etc.
7. Prompt payment is expected. Division accepts Cash, Check, Credit Cards or PayPal.
8. Winning bidder is responsible for any/all shipping costs if not picked up at the meet. Rate charged will be actual USPS Priority Mail with insurance and delivery confirmation.

The following items will be available this month with closing bids accepted no later than 11:00 AM, September 14, 2013. If you would like to inspect an item please contact Chris Allen cell 480-204-6437 or email sparkyshome@cox.net and he will bring it to the September General Meet for you to view. Items **WILL NOT** be brought to the meet unless requested in advance!
ITEMS 1-3 are new, ITEMS 4-17 new lower opening bid

- 1) K Line K 25431 Milwaukee Road F-7 All Powered (6 motors) A-B-A – bench tested good - \$325
- 2) MTH 20-2417-1 Santa Fe C Liner A-B-A w/PS2 – bench tested good - \$250
- 3) MTH 20-2346-1 Western Pacific FT A-B-A w/PS2 – bench tested good - \$250
- 4) MTH 20-5543-1 Pennsy L-5 Electric w/PS2 – bench tested good 36 Hrs run time - \$300
- 5) Lionel 6-38402 Amtrak HHP-8 Electric w/TMCC & RS – bench tested good - \$250
- 6) Williams GEN200 – Amtrak Gensis Phase 4 NE Corridor A-A Power/Dummy cab# 105 & 108 - \$150
- 7) MTH 30-6504 Amtrak 2 car Amfleet Coach set – 4 sets, 8 cars total – no breakup – all 8 cars \$225
- 8) MTH 20-2319-1 Amtrak California F59PH w/PS2 (1 of 2) bench test good 21 Hrs run time - \$300
- 9) MTH 20-2319-1 Amtrak California F59PH w/PS2 (2 of 2) bench test good 42 Hrs run time - \$300
- 10) MTH 20-6575 Amtrak California 4 car Superliner, MTH 20-6675 Amtrak California 2 car Superliner add-on, no breakup – all 6 cars \$300
- 11) Lionel 6-8100 N&W 4-8-4 “J” – MPC reissue of postwar classic – two small nicks on cab roof original box and insert show shelf wear – runs smooth - \$175
- 12) Lionel 6-38300 “Black” Virginian Trainmaster – reissue postwar classic - \$175
- 13) K Line K-29212 Rio Grande PA-1 A-B-A w/TMCC and railsound - \$200
- 14) MTH 30-1189-1 D&RG 4-6-6-4 Challenger w/PS2 – tested good fresh battery - \$375
- 15) MTH 30-1337-1 Erie 2-8-8-2 Triplex w/PS2 – tested good - \$450
- 16) MTH 30-1191-1 B&O 4-6-2 Pacific (Blue) w/PS2 – tested good - \$200
- 17) MTH 30-6919 4 Car Madison (blue) and MTH 30-6920 2 car Madison add-on – no breakup all 6 cars - \$125

Pictures of these trains are available on the Desert Division website www.tcadd.org

THE TWEENER CONVENTION CARS

Chris Allen TCA 95-40580

The first TCA Convention set ended in 1972 with the issuing of the “7+11” tank car. Not counting the TCA Bicentennial set in 1976 and the TCA 25th Anniversary set in 1979, TCA continued to offer convention cars from 1973 until 1980 when the convention passenger car set with matching Hudson locomotive was produced in the 1980's. We covered that unusual set in our last article. This time let's look at a handful of cars that are quite inexpensive and easy to add to your collection. These MPC era Box Cars use various shells from the period rather than the postwar 6464 used on the earlier cars.



In 1973 the Detroit Toledo Chapter of the Great Lakes Division hosted the convention in Dearborn, Michigan with an empty Auto Carrier.



The Pacific Northwest Division hosted the TCA 20th Anniversary Convention in Seattle, Washington in 1974 and offered this attractive Box Car.



“The Southern Belle” is a very colorful Box Car reminiscent of refrigerated Box Cars used throughout the south and west. Southern Division hosted the 1975 Convention in Orlando, Florida.



Such a beautiful car, such a horrendous mistake! Unfortunately not a rare variation but the entire production of this car suffers from a flaw that makes it an embarrassing addition to the TCA convention suite



Do you see the error? Many do not and obviously several TCA and Lionel “proofer’s” didn’t catch it either, it is still a great car with clever graphics.



In 1977, on the 10th Anniversary of the infamous 1967 Box Car, whose counterfeit’s were then making the news, Lone Star spoofs with their version. You just gotta love Texas humor!



The “Flying Yankee” showcases the 1978 NETCA Division Box Car when they hosted the National TCA Convention in Boston.



To round out the decade, in 1979 Western Division celebrated the 25th TCA Anniversary with a Silver Jubilee Mint Car. The car isn’t rare but finding one with the silver coin can be a formidable task.

MORE INFO ON 1980’S CONVENTION CAR SET

Last month we had a short article on the 1980 TCA convention passenger car set. Division member Jerry Ward, who now resides in San Diego, contacted me with two unique cars that he owns from that series. The first car is the 1981 St. Louis REA Baggage Car. Jerry’s car has a sticker of Charles Lindberg’s “Spirit of St. Louis” with the TCA Convention dates. Researching this I discovered that this sticker was a “placard”, to be placed on the St. Louis convention car and according to TCA minutes, would only be given to those

TCA members who attended the St. Louis convention that year. Official attendance for that convention was 723 and it is unknown how many of those stickers that were handed out actually made it to the baggage car. Jerry's is the first I have ever seen in my years of collecting these cars. His other unique car is a classic "whodunit" and the first known variation from this set that I have heard of. The first thing you notice when looking at the 1984 Pittsburgh Passenger Car is that the "heavy weight" car only has four wheel trucks and then you quickly see that it also had fixed couplers installed. Jerry told me that he purchased the car at a non-TCA west coast train show and the wheel set shows some obvious heavy usage. Jerry does not claim it to be anything more than a great conversation piece. But what really set it aside is not the unusual trucks it has, but something it hasn't, the TCA logo. Missing from the side of this unique car is any evidence that a TCA logo was applied or removed. Since the white painted logo would have been a separate process from the gold painted color scheme it is possible this one slipped on by, making this a rare find in more ways than one. Thanks to Jerry for contacting me and sharing the story and photos so that we could document these two rare cars from that 1980's set.



Rare sticker for the 1981 TCA Convention Car



The underside of the 1984 Pittsburgh Convention Car showing fixed couplers and four wheel trucks



Side view of the 1984 City of Pittsburgh with four wheel trucks and missing TCA logo



Close-up of the area with the missing TCA logo, no evidence one was ever applied or removed

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Fall Show & Meet

TOY TRAIN SHOW

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Open to the Public 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Saturday, Nov. 9, 2013

Open to the Public 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

ADMISSION \$6.00 PER PERSON (daily)

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

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-CHANGE



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

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FOR SALE: Buddy L train; Loco, tank car, cattle car, caboose and three sections of track. Selling on consignment. \$2995 for all including track. Photos of each piece available. Can deliver it to the Phoenix area (and Paulden, too). I want to give the Division members first shot before advertising it nationally. Peter Atonna 928-636-4228 mjatonna@gmail.com

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

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

Your source for 3rd Rail trains: call Jonathan Peiffer at 602.561.4131, email at jonathanpeiffer@live.com or facebook at IBTA Trains. In stock: One 3 rail New Haven FL9, \$575.00 TMCC and Railsounds. These are more or less sold out! Taking Preorders: FP7 A & B units available for the first time in O in many roads including SP Black Widow, modernized heavyweight coaches and Pullman Standard coaches. Special project ideas? Let me know!

ARIZONA TOY TRAIN REPAIR – Complete parts and repair service for ONLY Lionel postwar and prewar trains and accessories at reasonable rates by a long-time hobbyist. Rapid turnaround usually within a week, if parts are in stock – two weeks or less if parts need to be ordered. Repairs guaranteed for a year. Occasionally postwar items for sale. Complete access to Lionel postwar and prewar service and operating documents at central Phoenix' only Lionel repair facility. TCA members mention this ad and get the first hour of labor FREE. Tony Ford, 5547 N. 10th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85013 (602)369-5938

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

American Flyer Close Out Sale-Following cars have issues,625 Shell Black Tank Car, 628 C&NW.R.Y. Flat Car, 632 Virginian Hopper, 634 Yellow Floodlight Car, 23743 Track Maintenance Car Yellow/Black, offered as a lot for \$25 – 310 PRR 4-6-2 Pacific Pennsylvania Loco with a 630 Red Redding Caboose Pair \$40 – 650 (2) New Haven Red/Cream plastic frame Pair \$60 – 755 Talking Station (no talk) Green Roof \$25 – 760 Automatic Highway Flasher \$15 - S-Helper 155# Rail “S” Gauge Track (new in box) 19” radius 12 curve 4 straight sold new for \$70, asking \$25 - Call for Lot price. Dannie L. Martin 520-360-0519 dannieaz@cox.net

FOR SALE: Lionel Scale O 6-27206 & 6-27208 60’ Boxcar NOB both \$100 – 6-27330 GN Reefer, 6-27328 SPFE Reefer & 6-17716 C&NW Stock Car NOB all 3 \$100 – MTH Scale O 20-98615 FEC Auto Carrier 2 dif #’s both \$40 – 20-93440 & 20-93439 55’ All Door Box Cars both \$50 – Postwar Lionel 675 w/tender \$125 – 665 w/tender \$100 – 621 NW-2 \$60 – Prewar 97 Coal Loader \$110 – 313 Bascule Bridge \$150 - Williams Great Northern 3 unit Budd Cars 1 powered/2 Dummy \$100 - Chris Allen 480-820-9559

This page is provided as a service to our members for trading among themselves on a space available basis. Contact them directly for items listed above. Deadline for ads is NLT ten days following the Division Meet. Please contact Editor when you sell an item so your ad may be deleted and the space used by another Division member.

THE BACK PAGE

Two more pages of photos from the Beat the Heat Open Houses



At Peter Atonna's new mainline station, platforms for both the freight and passenger service are running on time



Of course the aliens are busy working in the mines under the layout as well

DIVISION MEET LOCATION

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
1500 W. Maryland Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85015



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ORDER DEADLINE IS NOW **OCTOBER 31, 2013**



Part of Marlin Benson's train collection which filled most of the walls in his train room(s)



Still another wall of trains at Marlin's open house. Well laid out and lots to look at and admire



You guessed it, still admiring shelves of trains and trains running throughout the rooms



Back to our visit with Mike Nelson and his wonderful On30 layout that is a work in progress



The detail and planning is evident wherever you look and your eyes just imagine what is coming next



The pride Mike is putting into his layout makes it a must stop for next year to check on his progress