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.



Volume 37, No. 6

Desert Division DISPATCH

ARIZONA • NEW MEXICO • WEST TEXAS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.tcadd.org Click on the link to our e-Bay offerings.



Summer, 2008

WHAT HAPPENED TO JUNE?

Before you knew, June came and went and hardly a month went by it seemed! That did not stop the Desert Division from having a well-attended meet only a few short weeks before the 2009 National Convention in Vermont. The meeting started with an introduction of our 2007-2008 scholarship winner, Brad Dressler. He is currently attending Scottsdale Community College and is pursuing studies in pre-engineering. Upon graduation he hopes to attend ASU to study mechanical engineering. Brad spoke about his interest in sports, especially baseball and guitar. The Division wishes him nothing but the best in his continued studies. The scholarship program is just one way the Division can be active within the community. Bob Herman continued the meeting with his treasurer's report. As of the meeting date there was \$21,556.10 in savings, \$1,810.23 in checking and \$404.74 in Trains for Kids. The sales tax issue for the Turkey Meet was discussed at some length. With municipalities looking at lower revenues and attempting to offset them with more taxes, we will be facing taxes in Glendale. In summary, there will be a flat \$12.50 fee for any individual selling with a registered business license, or a \$20.00 one- time fee as an occasional seller. Both are valid up to \$3000.00 in reported sales and no additional filings will be required. This fee is assessed per vendor, not per table. See the Turkey Meet flier for additional details when it arrives in the mail within the next 6 weeks. Division member Jack Eaton discussed his recent adventure on the Kansas City Southern Belle Executive Special that traveled into Mexico. Both the president of Mexico and the governor of the state of Mexico were on board. He even had the chance to spend four hours in the cab. It sure helps to have a son in the business. Chris Allen discussed the TCA Legacy Endowment Funds plans to sponsor a rail and bus tour of the Canadian Rockies. This unique trip is planned to start in Vancouver and travel to Calgary over seven days and six nights. Stops along the way include Banff and the cost is estimated to be about \$3,800.00 per person, double occupancy. The education segment started with Terry Haas talking about the G Gauge national convention. After five years of preparation, over 1500 people attended this event. Vender displays and layout tours were quite successful. Terry also displayed several of the items available at the convention including a boxcar and a very professional multi-page publication for the layout tours. Earl continued the segment by displaying a cannon he received when he was 10 years old. It still functioned, although no one attempted to use it in the Jaycees hall. Paul Wasserman completed the segment by showing the new TCA tote bags, the Rocky Mountain Division American Flyer S gauge Yule Marble car with real marble, and finally he discussed the convention cars including the standard gauge gondola with containers.

Raffle Winners:

Art Triant:Lionel Stock CarBill East:Steam Locomotive BookBill McDowell:Peterbuilt TruckEarl Rasmussen:Williams BoxcarAngelo Lautazi:Hallmark Ornaments

Car Russ Roberts: notive Book Tom Stang: nck Bill East: car Robert Mancu

Russ Roberts:Cruise Raffle TicketTom Stang:Hudson Raffle TicketBill East:Lionel GondolaRobert Mancus:Book and DVD

Spring Raffle Winners:

Steve Rudy: Chris Allen: Wayne Ross: Lionel UP Train Set Lionel Lumber Mill Lionel Lift Bridge

COMING UP. . ..

AUGUST 9 SEPTEMBER 13 SEPTEMBER 20 OCTOBER 11 OCTOBER 16-18 OCTOBER 25 "Beat the Heat" Meet, Prescott, AZ – 9 AM Regular Division Meet, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM Rio Grande Chapter Meet, Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM Regular Division Meet, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM Eastern Division Meet, York, PA Rio Grande Chapter Pumpkin Meet, Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM

JUNE MEET PHOTOS



Ken Eaton talks about his trip on the KCS special to Mexico

Paul demonstrates how the chains were used on the container car (right), while Ed Rasmussen shows a cannon he received as a child (left).



A rare Knapp trolley and track system that the club will be offering on eBay.



52 car pickup - Desert Division Style!



Wayne Ross shows off his Spring Raffle prize.





IT'S HOT IN JULY!



Chris Allen shows off his Spring Raffle prize.

100 degree plus weather, monsoon season humidity, and a myriad of conventions including the TCA 2008 National Convention in Vermont, did not keep away the hearty desert dwellers from the July meet. Division member Dwane Turner was able to get some time off from military service to make his first meet. With many people still out of town and on vacation the business meeting was short. Division Vice President Jonathan Peiffer led the meeting in Katie's place and conducted his first division meeting without the benefit of a microphone, which had gone missing. In spite of technical difficulties, Ed Michale gave an update on the convention status, explained to the members that we have less than a year to finish preparations, and explained that we would need in the range of 100 volunteers to assist during the convention. Start thinking about where you might be able to help out now! Ed also gave a brief report on the success of sales for the 2009 National TCA Convention cars in Vermont. In general, the sales have been ahead of expectations and there seems to be genuine interest in the cars being offered. Look for a four-page spread in the September National Headquarter News on how to reserve your cars. Brad Martin made a brief presentation on the various convention store items being currently sold. Popular items included a tote bag with lots of room for those train purchases as well as the traditional shirts and hats. The new white 2009 National Convention shirts were a hit and many sizes sold out quickly in Vermont. Dave Brown followed up with a reminder that there was still space on the bus to Prescott for the "Beat the Heat" meet. A brief education segment followed with Jonathan Peiffer discussing his collection of rectifier electric locomotives (no GG1's this time!) and the history behind the prototype. Robert Mancus discussed his latest Dorfan acquisition, explaining how this one was running when it arrived. He'll certainly have to take the time to redo the windings of the motor or something. It just wouldn't be right! Paul Wasserman finally presented a painting that was donated to our Division for use at the National Convention. This beautiful framed and very limited edition print portrayed a classic set of Santa Fe F7s pulling the "Super Chief" out of Dearborn Station, Chicago. This will certainly be a wonderful addition to the auction items available at the convention. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 and there was no July visitation.



Tom Stang displaying his postwar offerings.



Marty Wik shows off the new white 2009 Convention shirts in style!



Robert Mancus discusses how his recent Dorfan find actually ran when he received it.



Ed Michale explaining that we have less than a YEAR until the National Covention.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

Again, as your division president, I was able and privileged, to represent the Desert Division at the TCA National Convention. The convention in Vermont was memorable, from the cracking lightening storms, the trading halls, to the banquet; the NETCA Division did a super job putting on the convention. Our motion to add New Zealand and Australia to our boundaries was successful, so I will be working with Merle Perise to help them to organize a chapter or two down under. This year's National Convention is a memory now, and time draws nearer on our own "at bat" for the convention here in Scottsdale.

If you are planning of helping out, great! If you are thinking of helping out, great! If you wonder if you can help out, great! Be sure to let Ed Micale know and he will find a spot for you and your family to help with the convention. It takes a lot of people to get a convention done and we can certainly use your help!

A big thanks to Jonathan for running the July meeting! I was back East joining my classmates in our 40th reunion, visiting family, as well as meeting my new great nephew. Just couldn't get a flight back for the meeting. Also, a big thanks to Jonathan for putting together the Dispatch this month as well.

Also thanks go out to Peter who has been working diligently on the Turkey Meet Auction lots. It is shaping up to be a great auction coming up this November!

We do not have an August meeting, as this is when we can go up to Prescott for the "Beat the Heat Meet". Don't want to drive that far? Take it easy, take the bus! contact Dave Brown for details. It is easier, and relaxing not to have to drive. Great fun to enjoy a day up in the cooler pine trees talking trains!

Hope to see you there or at the next meeting of your Desert Division!

There will train visitations in September that are nearby the meeting hall, so mark your calendars to include them as well.

Happy trains!

atie

DESERT DIVISION - TCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2008-2009

President:	Katie Elgar	623-580-6957
Vice President:	Jonathan Peiffer	602-561-4131
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	Sam McElwee	480-838-5847
	Greg Palmer	505-898-3840
	Gordon Wilson	480-837-5344

BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on Saturday, September 13, beginning at 8:00 AM at the Jaycees Hall. Members are welcome to attend.

RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

By Gregory Palmer TCA #94-39039

I hope all of you are having a great summer. The Rio Grande Chapter had a great membership display set up at the recent National Model Railroad Association Rocky Mountain Region Convention in Albuquerque the last weekend in May. We received two new members for TCA, the Division, and the Chapter. We also have four other people thinking hard about membership. Several of our members helped with this project. They are: Bill Harris, Marlin Janzen, Everett Hagan, Carl Soderburg, and Stuart Seis. The Chapter is very grateful for your help from a lot of different members. It makes our Chapter strong. The Rio Grande Chapter has a lot planned for the Fall and Winter. September 20th will be our first meet of the Fall. We have several items to go over. Any member who would like to have an after Meet visitation at their home, please let me know ASAP. At the meet in September we will see the finished New Mexico Railrunner Billboards. They will go on sale in September, so bring your wallets and purchase these one of a kind Lionel style 310 Billboards. They will be sold with and without frames. We will also be looking for help at our third annual TCA-Rio Grande Chapter Pumpkin Meet which will be Saturday, October 25th at the Sombra Del Monte Church at 2528 Utah N.E., in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It will start for members at 9:00 am, and the public at 10:00 am. A table registration form is included in this issue of the Desert Division Dispatch. I hope to see all of you at the September 20th Meet. Please bring items to sell or swap, as well as items for the Education Segment. We always have a great time with the show and tell items. See all of you September 20th at the Sombra Del Monte Church.



The Rio Grande Chapter's membership display at the National Model Railroad Association Rocky Mountain Region Convention.





Children loved the Chapter's membership display of post war and pre war toy trains at the NMRA RMR Convention.

A Youngster looks over the TCA Membership Flyer and photos at the Rio Grande Chapter's NMRA RMR Convention Membership Display Booth in May.

THE QUEST

by Gregory Palmer TCA#94-39039

I was involved in Public School Education for over 30 years. During that time there were several types of Quests teachers and Librarians tried to students involved in K-12. They were Research Quests, Reading Quests, Math Quests, Map Quests, and more recently, since the late 1990s' Web Quests. In the Toy Train collecting hobby there are various types of Quests. Some look for that one car to finish out a set. That one car to finish the last scarce variation, or that last set to finish a childhood dream collection. The Quest is part of the fun of collecting Toy Trains, and it is what the TCA was founded on. For me the Quest is 75% of the fun.

Having the item is great, but doing research, and finding the item is very satisfying. Maybe that is because I have a BA in History, and an MA in Library Media Science. Doing research, for me, is great fun. I also enjoy trying to find out as much information about the Toy Train item as I can.

Who owned it, what was the reason for it to be sold, where was it purchased, etc. The following two items are part of my never ending Quests to locate Toy Train items. The first Quest was to obtain a Lionel Mickey Mouse Barker, for my sister Mechele's Lionel Pre War Mickey Mouse Circus Set. This Quest took several years, and the help of another Quester Paul Wassermann. At this Octobers' York Meet my sister found the Mickey Mouse Barker. I had a meeting of the TCA Standards Committee Steering Committee Wednesday Morning. I informed Mechele to go to the Holidome Sale. She looked for the Holidome, but wound up in Gettysburg, PA instead. So she came back, and with the help of a cell phone call to me and Bob Robinson, Chair of the TCA Standards Committee, she was on the right track to the Bandit Sale. She arrivied and saw her Mickey Mouse. With the help of the photos, of an original Mickey Mouse Barker, sent to us by Paul Wassermann, she purchased Mickey. The Quest took us 3 years, but it was worth the wait. It was the Quest, and the help of Friends like Paul, and Gordon Wilson, who also was looking for Mickey Mouse, that helped make our Quest a success.



The lighted Lionel Trains Approved Service sign in my train room, which I won at a recent Stout Auction.



Lionel's Mickey Mouse Circus Set with the Micky Mouse Barker Purchased at the October York Meet.

My second Quest was to find an original Lionel Service Station Sign. This Quest took nine years. The first attempt was to win a bid at the Stout Auction for a sign that belonged to Richard Kughn and Madison Hardware. I thought my high bid was almost more than I could get a loan for, but I had no idea that so many people would outbid me and pay a winning bid price of \$10,000.00. So I tried several times at York, and at Auctions. I did not own an oil company so I could not come close to the winning bids or the York prices. This Winter I tried again. I bid on another sign at the Stout Auction. I bid only what I could afford, and aware that that price in the past was thousands of dollars off the winning bid. However to my surprise I won. My Quest was complete, I was the owner of an orginal Lionel Approved Service lighted sign. It was in great condition. It came from a Midwest Hobby Shop. It now resides in my train room, over my work bench. Since I am a Lionel approved Service Station it makes it even more of a joy. So the Quest is more than half the fun. For those of you still Questing do not give up, your Quest item is out there.

With the help of others in the TCA, your Quest will be great fun, and filled with wonderful stories. See all of you Questers soon.

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AMTRAKING TALES

by Peter Atonna TCA #75-7578

As many of you know, Mary Jane and I like to take a major Amtrak trip each year, making it our vacation. This year the Burlington convention was the incentive and since we had never been in Vermont, we decided to make it a two week New England visit.

Train time is always delightful, and Amtrak didn't disappoint, being right on time into Williams. Mid June and it is already getting light as we board and after Flagstaff we start the first of our many Amtrak meals.

Things moved smoothly all day through the beautiful New Mexico scenery and into the next morning. But things started to change when our attendant said we would be picking up 90 passengers at La Junta, CO, from the folks on the Zypher which was annulled east from Denver because of midwest flooding.

Later that afternoon we watched the muddy Missouri river churn far below us after leaving Kansas City. Approaching the Mississippi at Ft. Madison, Iowa, the streams and rivers got bigger and muddier. Then before reaching Ft. Madison, we stop. The conductor got on the PA and announced that Ft. Madison was going under water as he spoke and the BNSF was doing its best to shore up the track.

Two hours later we creep forward into a flooded yard, depot and waterfront. A ballast train stood to our side and waves sloshed over the banks up to our tracks. But BNSF had apparently let us through the backed up freights and we slowly crossed the river which was no more than a foot or two below the rail/highway bridge.

On the Illinois side, the river was coming into the town and we watched as people and the National Guard filled sand bags and tried to protect houses - not all were successful. We were surrounded by water for a good ten miles before finally climbing out of the bottom lands and finishing our run into Chicago.

We took the Lake Shore Limited to Albany which had a 10pm departure time from Chicago. However Amtrak lets folks board at 8pm and for sleeping car occupants, hosts a wine and cheese party in the diner until departure. What a delightful way to travel!

We were surprised at the number of rail lines in Vermont and New Hampshire, it was like every valley and town had its own rail line and most seem to still be in place. However, spoiled as we are with BNSF train frequency, we were surprised to see almost no traffic on the lines.

However, scenic railroads abound in the area also. We rode the Green Mountain Railroad south from Burlington on a rather disappointing two hour round trip. Saw a lot of green trees, though.

In New Hampshire, we rode to the top of Mount Washington on the cog railroad into a lightning and thunder storm - which according to the folks there, is not unusual at all. They still run their historic steam locos, but also have one diesel which I could have sworn was imported from the Island of Sodor (see photo)

We then took the train from North Conway up through Crawford Notch, a beautiful 2000 foot climb up to the plateau below Mt. Washington. That and the post convention bus trip to Montreal for the Montreal Railroad Museum and the Montreal Model Railroad club, meant that Mary Jane's quota for train activities was pretty well full by the time we were ready to return home.

Two days before we were to leave, we heard that additional flooding had caused the BNSF to shut down their main line in Missouri, meaning no Southwest Chief! Fortunately, the day before, it was re-opened and we had an uneventful trip back to Chicago and onto the Chief. The Mississippi was way down and we thought everything would be back to normal.

Wrong! After crossing the river, clouds and lightning started, and we began stopping and starting. Turns out that all freight traffic was jammed because of the closures and we crept from one yellow signal to the next all the way to Kansas City and bedtime. Morning and we are only 100 miles west of K.C.

Turns out the storm knocked out power, and thus probably the signals as well as forcing much freight traffic onto our single track line to New Mexico. So we spent the day going from siding to siding, freight train to freight train. Fortunately the Amtrak crew handled it well, and most passengers understood there was nothing Amtrak could do, so relaxed, ate more meals in the diner and enjoyed scenery you usually don't see during the normal nightime run.

Our Thursday night Williams arrival turned into a Friday morning arrival. In fact we arrived just as the next day's eastbound Chief left. Amtraking continues to be an adventure, but what the heck our bedrooms were comfortable, the food decent and remember on a train you can walk around, chat with folks and actually see the world.

AMTRAK THROUGH FORT MADISON, IOWA



IT'S ABOUT TIME

by Ed Michale TCA #93-36857

IT'S ABOUT TIME.... time to compliment the Desert Division's Convention Committee members and spouses for the last four years of time and effort that have brought us to the final year of preparations for an event which for most of us, will occur only once or twice in our lifetimes, the sponsoring of the TCA National Convention. It is also time to "bear down", adopting the U of A's team motto, in coming together as a team to make the 2009 convention one that will be fondly remembered and perhaps even envied, by all of TCA.

At the 2008 convention in Vermont, Paul Wasserman provided a dynamic presentation of the 2009 convention status, which met with positive reviews by the TCA Board of Directors and others present. These adventurous train collectors noted that they are still tasting the Nuclear salsa gifted during the 2007 convention and were appreciative of the much milder green chile verde Sting-n-Linger salsa that was presented to them this year. If a way to someone's heart is through their stomach, what better way to keep the 2009 Convention in the hearts and minds through the final year of preparation!

Marty Wik also did a terrific job presenting the convention car offerings to the board and all 7 proposed cars were approved. The initial sales of the cars at the Vermont convention were happily brisk, with the smoking salsa tank car being the star offering with sales exceeding that of all the other cars. Look for the ads for these convention cars in the National Headquarters News. The 2009 convention store sales also began in Vermont and were excellent in the scope and amount of shirts, hats and tote bags that now are being worn by the proud owners and marketing our convention. All 10 sets of Grand Canyon/Verde Canyon cars flew off the tables. We have only about a dozen of these sets available for the lucky few in the future. The beautiful wavy flag mint car has 38 pre-orders already and promises to be a popular car that will celebrate both the TCA convention and the birthday of our nation in 2009. This car will be advertised in the National Headquarters News and in CTT; it is also available for purchase on the Desert Division website. We also heard from many Burlington convention goers who are planning on attending our convention. Sincere appreciation of their efforts go to the convention store sales team of Laurel & Chris Allen; Peter & Mary Jane Atonna; Fred Claassen, Katie & Ruth Elgar (Ruth too was a real trooper, there every day for every minute with her welcomed sense of humor),Bill Jenkins, Bob & Sue Johnston, Bill & Jean Mack, Paul, Irene, & Katie Wassermann, Paula & Marty Wik and Gordon & Christie Wilson's sisters who received and stored for us all the give-away items that the hotel would have charged us a very dear fee for storing. Christie's sister, Cathy Flaherty, lives in New Jersey while Rachel Moulton lives in Burlington, Vermont.

IT'S ABOUT TIME... time to remember our convention dates of June 28- July 5, 2009. As we embark upon this final year of preparation, we look back and see the efforts of many Desert Division members, without whom it would not have been possible to have come this far in preparing for a successful convention. In this final year, we need YOU to join the Convention committee ranks if you have not already done so, because the clock is ticking and each person really does make a difference!

Please contact as many committee chairs as you like to see how you can help towards the success of our convention. They will be excited to hear from you! We need your help with the following, just to name a few:

- Docents for tours
- Help with the banquet and welcome parties
- Trading pit loading and unloading
- Displays
- Security
- Registration.
- and many more to numerous to name!

A final note: our Atlas Apache Beer Cars have arrived! Thank you to Peter and Mary Jane Atonna who worked very hard getting most of them ready for shipping. For those of you picking your car up at a club meeting, they will be here in time for our September club meeting.

Thanks again to all of you involved in the 2009 Convention planning and preparation. We look forward to growing our team and hosting the best TCA convention by the best Division of the TCA!

THREE MILLION HAPPY FACES!

by Thomas R. Plies TCA #01-52481

That's the number of children and adults that pushed the buttons to make our trains move on the TCADD-Kids Club Zoo Table. Unfortunately, its an era that has recently come to an end due to renervation and reconfiguration of the Phoenix Zoo grounds. The changes made it impossible for the Kid Club table to be relocated anywhere on the PHX ZOO grounds. The train table is now in storage, hopefully waiting to find a new location. Thanks go to Thomas Plies, who built & came up with the idea of putting an operating train table in the PHX ZOO. Chris Allen, who faithfully handled the perventive maintenance over the three years. Also, Jonathan Peiffer, & DeLon Freije, and those who donated the trains, dioramas, and working accessories. All these dedicated members helped to make this a very, very successful project.

Note: If you know of any place where we could reinstall the unit, please let Tom Plies know.

Please contact Thomas R. Plies,602-264-5192, with any and all ideas.

SPECIAL DIVISION OFFERING ORDER YOUR CELEBRATE AMERICA CARS TODAY

There is a Celebrate America order form in this issue of the Dispatch. Hopefully you will order several of this unique and extremely attractive wavy flag Lionel Mint Car. There are two ways you can buy your car. If you would like to pick it up at a Desert Division meet, you can delete \$5 for shipping and pay only \$64 for the car. If you want it shipped to you, then pay the \$69 on the order form. But, in any case, as a Desert Division member, you do not have to pay the Arizona sales tax. Just ignore it on the order form. Keep this in mind when you place your order.

2009 TCA NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTE CHAIRS

Convention Co-Chairs - Bill Mack and Ed Micale Treasurer – Chet Henry Events/Tours - Gordon Wilson Registration - Chris Allen Trading Hall & Loading/Unloading - Ed Georgevich Recording Secretary - Christie Wilson Convention Cars - Marty Wik Hotel Liaison – Dannie Martin Displays - Paul Wassermann Banquet – Angelo Lautazi Publicity - Gordon Wilson Fund Raising Cars - Peter Atonna Web Site – Angelo Lautazi Convention Store - Brad & Diane Martin Security – Art Triant Photographer – Jonathan Peiffer Kids Club - Thomas Plies Auctions - Bob Johnston



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TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION RIO GRANDE CHAPTER



PUMPKIN MEET

TOY TRAIN SWAP MEET

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25TH 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 - NO LIMIT

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#

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 cimmittees 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.



ANTIQUE TRAINS #1 Lantern Lane, Turnersville, NJ 08012 (Phone: 856-589-6224) Rich Bimmer, Proprietor. Lionel Value-Added Dealer/Authorized Service Center. MTH, American Flyer. New, used, trade-ins welcome. Lionel and Flyer parts back to 1915. Repairs guaranteed for one year.

SUMMER RAFFLE – Stop in between June 1st and August 31st for your chance to win over \$500 in prizes. For every purchase of \$100 you will receive one ticket for the drawing held Sept. 10. You do not need to be present to win! TCA Member discounts still apply to all purchases. Full details and contest rules on our website www.arizonatraindepot.com – Be sure to check out our consignments and in-store specials! AZ TRAIN DEPOT, 755 E. McKellips Road, Mesa - 480-833-9486 - open late Wed, closed Sunday.

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 complete list, contact Peter Atonna 928-636-4228 or e-mail at mjatonna@commspeed.net.

BURLING'S TON OF TRAINS – Authorized Lionel, MTH, K-LINE & Mantua Dealer. Pat Eiff has joined our staff to better serve our customers in sales and service of both new and pre-owned trains. With the largest selection of Post-War through new Lionel in Arizona, we invite you to see our different "Set of the Month" each month. We also buy trains. Hours: 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM, M – F and by appointment. 16924 E. Colony Dr., Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 Phone: 480-816-6501 Website: www.tonoftrains.com

GERRY'S TRAINS – Complete 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 Drive, Scottsdale, AZ Phone (480) 991-2536.

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. Store hours: 10 to 5:30 Mon-Fri and 10-5 Saturday. Visit our website at https://www.mesamodels.net 6032 E. McKellips Road, Mesa (NE corner of McKellips/Recker Road) 480-357-8800.

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

AVAILABLE – QSI's QS3000 Conventional 3-Rail Sound System is available in a limited quantity. Two versions available: MTH Conversion for ProtoSounds (1), & for After Market Upgrades. Sound board: \$119 ea. after \$30 Rebate. Additional \$10 Rebate per board purchased for turning in QS 1.0/1.1. After Market Sound System kits – plug into QSI Reverse Units: \$219. QSI Power Guards & Reverse units are available. QSI's QS2p SALE – Conventional 3-Rail Sound Systems: Top Board: \$69 (Regular \$85); Kit: \$165 (Regular \$189), while supplies last or sale's end on November 14th, 2008. Bonus, receive a \$10 Rebate per board purchased for turning in QS 1.0/1.1. The Scaled Tin Rail, Inc., 97 Shoshone Street, Flagstaff, AZ 86001. Business Hours: 9 AM – 2 PM, M-F, MST. Art Boynton 928-525-0755; fax: 928-525-1091 (Call to have fax turned on.); e-mail: stri230h@npgcable.com

REPAIRS - Pat Eiff, 28 years of toy train repair experience, does train repairs in his home. Also trains for sale. Call him at 480-816-9624 or visit his website http://www.toysthrutime.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 - Do you want quality, good-looking, versatile shelving to display your trains? RAIL RAX is the way to go! Contact Bill Mack, 480-391-3336 for an incredibly low price quotation.

FOR SALE – MTH 3020LDJ1Hudson w/4019 NTC # coaches, Baggage & Observation C-10/P-10, \$695; MTH 20-30-30 Duluth, Missabe, & Iron Range "Yellowstone" C-10/P-9, \$770; 6-8606 B&A Hudson 4-6-4 "784" + 6902 Caboose C-10/P-9, \$495; 6-8406 NYC Hudson 4-6-4 "783" + 6907 Caboose C-10/P-9 \$395; 18221 DR&G SD 50 + 15000, 16416, 17008, & 17617 C-10/P-9 Set \$450; 6464 Series 2, 3, 4, & 5, C-10/P-10, \$295; 2331 Virginia Blue Plastic Mold, blue/yellow o/b liner C-9/P-10, \$900; 2321 Lackawanna Maroon Roof converted to sound, no box, \$200; 624 C&O Switcher 3 Stanchions C-9, \$175. Dannie L. Martin 520-360-0519 or e-mail dannieaz@cox.net.

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.

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 DIVISON

Gordon Wilson, Editor Desert Division Dispatch 16231 E. Ocotillo Drive Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

POSTMASTER: This Federal 501c3 Newsletter contains **DATED MATERIAL** requiring action by members. **PLEASE DELIVER** on or before August 4, 2008 NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** SCOTTSDALE AZ PERMIT NO. 253

11 MONTHS and COUNTING!

Every Childhood Should Have A Train Enroll your children in Kid's Club Today! VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.tcadd.org Click on the link to our e-Bay offerings.

COMING EVENTS

August 9	"Beat the Heat" Meet, Prescott, AZ Contact: Peter Atonna at 925-636-4228 or e-mail mjatonna@coimmspeed.net
August 21-24	Cumbres and Toltec Narrow Gauge Railroad Excursion Contact Ken Kelley at 520-299-3243 or e-mail kjkwildcar@q.com
September 13	Desert Division Board Meeting – 8:00 AM, and Regular Division Meet – 9 AM Drinkwater Clubhouse, Jaycees Hall, 8102 E. Jackrabbit, Scottsdale, AZ
September 20	Rio Grande Chapter Meet – Albuquerque, NM - 10 AM Contact: Greg Palmer at 505-898-3840
October 11	Convention General Meeting – 7:30 AM and Regular Division Meet – 9 AM
October 16-18	Eastern Division Meet, York, PA
October 25	Third Annual Rio Grande Pumpkin Meet – Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM Contact: Greg Palmer at 505-898-3840
Have You PADE You	r Way? PADE PROMOTIONS

P urchase raffle tickets A uthor an article for the Dispatch	Our thanks go to many members this month. Thanks to Katie Elgar and Greg Palmer for help with the Dispatch this month, special thanks to all the contributing authors and finally thanks to the Wilsons for giving me this opportunity.
Donate something to the club Enlist to help	Your name could appear in this space. You need only do something to benefit the Division.