

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 43, No. 8

September, 2014

HOT DOGS AND COOL TRAINS

Well we turned the page on the calendar and here comes the fall train season red ballin' down the mainline. As mentioned in the last issue of the DISPATCH our July meet had several surprises including two new prospective members.

We hope you and they return in September for what is shaping up to be a fun day and a first ever Hot Dog lunch and member auction. Instead of a BBQ or picnic, the Board of Directors has freed up the normal cook staff and we will cater in COSTCO Hot Dogs and Polish from the store at one of our old haunts, Chris Town Mall, ummm I mean Spectrum Mall. They will be made up and individually wrapped just before we pick them up for lunch. We will have the usual hot dog condiments to dress them out along with a side dish or two and chips. Maybe the desert fairy will stop by with cookies or cake, who knows? The only way to find out will be to join us for a fun day Desert Division style, which usually means trains, good friends, fun and food. We still have action lots available. If you would like to

get a jump on the crowd contact Chet Henry before the meet and reserves your lots now. If not you can still plan to bring your items to the meet and turn them over to the Auction Crew Saturday morning.

The main event for most of us brave souls who summer over in Arizona is the Central Arizona Railroad Club's "Beat the Heat" Meet and this year it seemed many in the Valley headed up for a weekend to do just that, your trusty editor included.

Hard to say if more members were buying or selling as everywhere I looked I saw folks on both sides of the table. I hope this is an indication of things to come for our meets and shows here in town.

Work continues to move along on the Division module trailer with a Rail Fair debut being planned. Beth Stange headed the build team and now it is time for someone to step up and head the team of members who will run on the layout. For Rail Fair we will have O gauge three mainlines each capable of running DCS, a fourth capable of Standard or O and one S gauge. So

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

September 13 – September **Division Meet**, Business Meeting, Lunch, Member Auction – Phoenix, AZ

September 20 - **Rio Grande Chapter General Meeting** – Albuquerque, NM

October 4 – West Valley Railroad Historical Society Train Swap Meet – 9 AM - Glendale, AZ

October 11- 12 Rail Fair 2014 – McCormick Stillman Railroad Park - Scottsdale, AZ

October 11 – October **Division Meet** – 8:30 AM member only swap – 10:00 AM Business Meeting – Phoenix, AZ

October 26 – **Rio Grande Chapter** – PUMPKIN MEET – Albuquerque, NM – Show flyer inside

November 1 – Adobe Mountain "Everything Railroad" Train Swap Meet

November 14-15 Gadsden-Pacific TTOM Toy Train Show – Show flyer inside

November 21 – 23 - Cal-Stewart Train and Toy Meet – Ontario, CA

there is space for just about everybody on the layout. Contact Chris Allen or any BOD member if you would like to head this committee. For the moment the Division will see that the trailer will be delivered to the event and pick it up after and get it back into storage. All you will need to do will be to organize a crew to run our trains, our yours, during Rail Fair in October and the Arizona Toy Train Show in December.

Speaking about the Arizona Toy Train Show John Upshur reports that everything is moving along as planned and continues to schedule team captains meetings to make sure everything is covered for our biggest event of the year.

So it looks like the September Meet will be the kickoff to a fun train season for the Division. Not only will we be having the member's auction in September but catalogs will go on sale for the 300+ lot Turkey MEAT Auction held the Saturday following Thanksgiving on November 29. Catalogs for the Winter Of Trains Auction held in January will go on sale following that auction and will be available at the ATTS. The return of the Mystery Greeter, an Educational Segment honoring the Red, White and Blue and of course the drawing for one of the last two Hudson Hundreds are all ahead in September. Will it be your turn to take home the Franklin? Be there to find out.



Tony Saulina was his usual smiling self at the Beat the Heat Meet in Prescott



Pat Eiff and wife Wanda were very busy when we spotted them early in the show



Ralph and Sally Treichel had another table of goodies



You can almost see Terry Haas behind all of his sale items



I spot Marty Wik with nothing in his hands at the moment



Italy may have the Tower of Pisa, but Prescott had an equally impressive tower of its own. Roland LaHaie visiting Peter and Mary Jane Atonna



Bob Dennison and Nancy (back to the camera) came up for the weekend of cool weather



Sam and Roxanna McElwee also had tables and a very busy morning as well



I caught up with Don and Bev Locke with not one but two bags of new goodies, and they were going back for more...



Had a great conversation with John Craft and he was as upbeat as always. Sometimes it's more than just the sale of a train that makes the day

S. A. S.

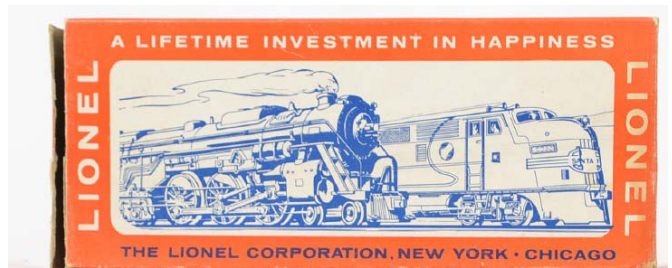
(Photos courtesy Stout Auctions)

In the business world “SAS” can be the acronym for an upscale line of Footwear, or if you wish to travel to northern Europe, the three letters refer to the Scandinavian Air Service. On September 13, those letters will mean: Super Auction Saturday.

First and locally is our “Hot Dogs and Cool Trains” Auction to be held at the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 1500 W. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85015, all day on Saturday, September 13, 2014.

Second, two of our members will have major portions of their collections being auctioned

off on the World Wide Web that same day. The Super Rare and Unusual Post-War pieces of Gordon Wilson's collection and many of the highly desired Pre-War O and Standard Gauge Rarities from Peter Atonna's collection will be a part of the same online Auction. That Auction is being conducted by Greg Stout, owner of one of our hobby's best known Toy Train Auction Houses. You may access the full catalog of Gordon and Peter's items by logging onto <http://www.stoutauctions.com/>. You may also place bids on items you may be interested in purchasing. Mark the date again – Super Auction Saturday: September 13, 2014.



President's Message

I will take a slight departure from my normal President's message to talk about the TCA, an Association where I have spent so much of my time working for both you as your President and a member of the National Board of Directors. As with any group our size there is a bit of politics, a bit of frustration and many hours enjoying friendships with people I would have never met without this organization.

This has been a very busy summer behind the scenes for me. During the National Convention I was elected by my peers, the other Division Presidents, to be one of three Division representatives on the TCA Executive Committee. This smaller committee works on behalf of the Board of Directors in between Board Meetings to handle many of the day to day operations of the Association.

During one of our meetings we hired an Interim Office Manager to help fill the need with the retirement of John Luppino, our Operations Manager. There were many reasons to hire on an interim basis as we continue to evaluate the needs of the Association going forward. All of us are volunteers, including the President, and much time was being taken away from our personal life to handle many of the day to day tasks of the business office. This should also help to stabilize our staff employees who were often getting conflicting requests from numerous sources during this time.

Also discussed was the proposal put forward by our National Treasurer, Bob Mintz, to pay off the loan on our sewage treatment plant early. This sounds like a no brainer to many of you but policies are in place to prevent the Treasurer from acting on their own over any financial obligation the Association might have. Even in our budget strapped times we decided that it was better to pay off the loan early to save on the interest payments over the next five years.

Many of the policies in TCA have been around for decades. Some never need to be changed while others require tweaking as modern technology

changes how members interact with each other and the Association. This process was not always done perfectly and many loopholes and contradictions began creeping into them. Recognizing this, the Executive Committee formed a committee focused on restructuring the Rules and Regulations and yes, I volunteered to be on it.

All of the Bylaws changes since 2010 and an overwhelming percentage of the Rules and Regulations updates have come from Desert Division. It is not that we are a stickler for the rules, but rules and why many of us joined this great Association attempt to level the playing field for everyone. That is the value of your membership, a mechanism to help correct misrepresentations, level the playing field, as well as meeting a super group of people that subscribe to the same philosophy.

But enough of my summer, how has yours been going? I am anxiously awaiting the member's auction coming up following our September Meet. These auctions often provide such a diverse array of items it is hard to predict what will show up. With hot dogs and a few Polish, Delores Bean's famous Baked Bean Quintet (published elsewhere in this issue because it has been requested so much) made by yours truly, along with chips, soda pops, and maybe even desert, how can you go wrong?

Besides the kickoff to the fall train season here in the Valley, September also brings the Rio Grande Chapter out of hibernation as well. They plan their first meet of the fall in September and planning for their big event, the Pumpkin Meet, is in its final stages. So Division wide everyone is ramping up for the busy months ahead.

I look forward to seeing you at the meets this fall and hope you have a fun time operating and collecting the trains that have become such a special part of our lives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Chris', written in a cursive style.



TOY TRAIN SHOW AND SWAP MEET

2014 PUMPKIN MEET - SUNDAY OCTOBER 26TH

9:00AM TO 3:00PM

SHERATON UPTOWN HOTEL

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ADULTS \$5.00 CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE WITH ADULT
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Dealer setup from 7:30am – 9:00am (TCA Rules Will Apply)

For Information Call: Bill Spofford at 505-821-4051 or David Nycz at 505-350-4144.

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TCA Member Table # _____ @ \$20.00 ea _____

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Send a check payable to: TCA-Rio Grande Chapter

Mail to: Bill Spofford, 9609 San Rafael N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87109

Please return form with payment by October 18, 2014



TCA Rio Grande Chapter News



Time to mark your calendars for the start of the fall train season in New Mexico. The Rio Grande Chapter will hold its first meet of the fall season Saturday September 20 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. We continue to work on the Pumpkin Meet and have already received a few table registrations. The Meet has grown from its humble beginnings located in a church gym to now being located at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel. All of this is because of your active participation. The Pumpkin Meet is just a few weeks away so drop off your table registration at the meet next week or get it to us in the mail.

We are happy to report that our first fundraising car contract has been signed and sent to Lionel with our advertising campaign being scheduled to begin this fall. The picture below is from the Lionel prints and we will have a better picture next month. This car sports the new, very attractive, Cumbres & Toltec Railroad logo. Production will be a limited run of only 300 cars, which we expect to sell out very quickly. Plans also continue to move forward on our second fundraising car.

We hope to see you at the September Meet. Plan to bring something to share at the Educational Segment about what new addition you have added over the summer. See you there!



RIO GRANDE CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2015

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The 1984 Convention Car Variation

By Chris Allen 95-40580

Last summer's issue of the DISPATCH featured my article about the 1980's TCA Convention Cars that were essentially a set but was never marketed as such. Following that article Division member Jerry Ward from San Diego sent in pictures and in the September issue of the DISPATCH we ran an article of his variation. Jerry's find started me on a quest that ended this past summer when I also finally found the same variation, the logo-less Pullman coach.



Jerry mentioned that he picked up his set at a west coast train meet. His 1984 City of Pittsburgh Pullman also sported four wheel rather than the normal six wheel heavyweight wheel arrangement. Jerry never claimed the wheels were part of the variation but were what drew him to the set initially.

In fact looking closely at the wheel set in Jerry's photographs you could easily determine they were postwar in origin and not from the MPC era, but that still left the

coach body itself, which appeared to be a factory oversight.



My quest was on! I have acquired almost all of the TCA O gauge offerings and have written several articles about them, their variations and frauds. This was one I needed to track down for myself.

Skimming through my numerous "wants" one day on eBay there was the car I had looked for. To me, the logo-less pullman stood out like a sore thumb but the seller had it and the rest of the cars of the set all listed separately for a "Buy it Now" price. I noticed that several people were watching the auction as they were the rest of the cars of the set.



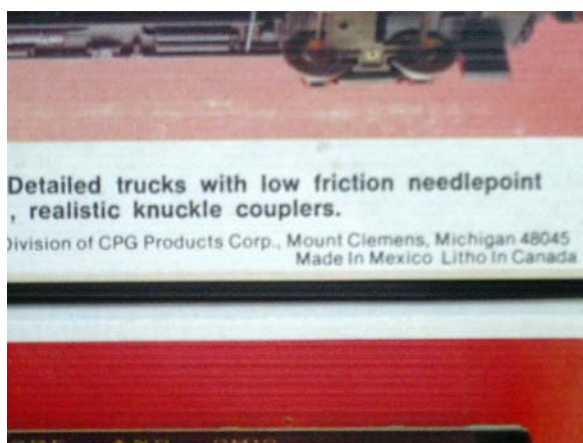
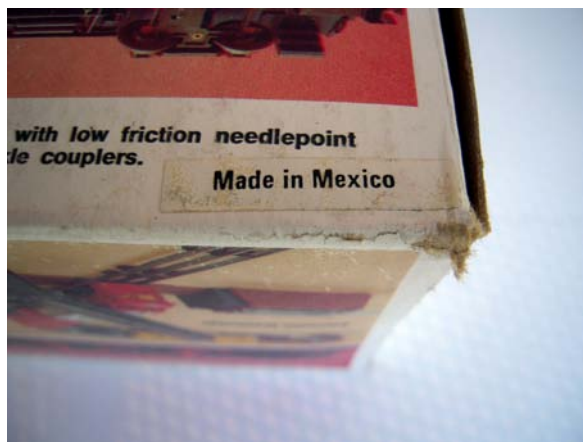
I couldn't pull the trigger fast enough and within a week the car was sitting on my bench and I had my first opportunity to see it close-up.

If you follow the Division on facebook we featured and discussed this car late in August and close examination of the car reveals exactly what Jerry documented to me. The car is indeed logo-less and it was indeed a factory error. The paint was never applied at the factory.

I have a special place in my heart for this much misdirected, overlooked and poorly documented set. As I have noted in earlier articles the continuity between cars leaves much to be desired. The set itself is a mishmash of 7200 and 9500 series cars, with production starting in the US, going to Mexico and ending back up in the US spanning not only Fundimentions but also Lionel LTI. There is a very nice baby Hudson that matches and pulls the set, but it is equipped with Lionel's now infamous "Sound of Steam". How could you not love a set like this?

The first two years, 1980 and 1981, the TCA logo is black ink over a white background decal. In 1982 Lionel painted in a two step process, first the gold detail and trim of the car and then in white the Division and TCA graphics. In 1983 the Division detail was done in the gold trim but the TCA logo was still in white. This car was made in the U.S.A. just prior to manufacturing being shipped to Mexico. The hapless 1984 was one of the casualties of Lionel's early production woes and this unusual variation was probably a result of

early poor Quality Control. Interesting to note is that the box my logo-less Convention Car came in had a sticker applied stating "Made in Mexico" possibly indicating it came from a very early production run. The other 7212 with the proper markings has a boxed stamped "Made in Mexico Litho in Canada".



How many of the 1984 TCA Conventions cars are running around logo-less? Well between Jerry and myself we know of two, the rest is up to you my fellow collectors.

As I have mentioned this little set has a history all to itself and maybe this little variation might bring it a little fame once again.

BAKED BEAN QUINTET

Courtesy Delores Bean

Editor's Note – After requesting the Baked Bean recipe served at the Spring Picnic I received several requests that when I got it to forward it on, so here it is.

6 slices bacon	1 (15 oz.) can garbanzo beans, drained
1 c. chopped onion	3/4 c. catsup
1 clove garlic, minced	1/2 c. light molasses
1 (16 oz.) can butter beans, drained	1/4 c. packed brown sugar
1 (16 oz.) can lima beans, drained	1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 (16 oz.) can pork and beans in sauce	1 tbsp. prepared mustard
1 (15 1/2 oz.) can red kidney beans, drained	1/4 tsp. pepper
	Onion, sliced and separated into rings (optional)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Cook bacon in skillet until crisp. Remove bacon, reserving 2 tablespoons drippings in skillet, drain and crumble bacon; set aside. Cook onion and garlic in reserved bacon drippings until onion is tender but not brown; drain.

In a large bowl, combine crumbled bacon, onion, garlic, butter beans, lima beans, pork and beans in tomato sauce, kidney beans and garbanzo beans. Stir in catsup, molasses, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce, prepared mustard and pepper. Turn in a 2 1/2 quart bean pot or casserole.

Cover and bake in a 375 degree oven for 1 hour or until heated through. Garnish with onion rings, if desired. Makes 12-14 serving

IN MEMORIAM

Tim Whalen

Tim Whalen, TCA 79-14050, Rio Grande Chapter and Charter member of TTOS New Mexico Division passed away, Thursday August 28, after a brief illness. Tim retired after serving over 36 years in the Albuquerque Public School system and most recently as Principle of Manzano High School. Tim came out of retirement and was currently serving as principle at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School. Although busy in his public life, Tim loved trains and shared that passion with all who knew him. He collected anything Lionel, was an avid MPC collector, had a large Post War Layout and even some Pre-War ended up in his collection over time. Tim was among the first Rio Grande Chapter members and a regular at all the meetings and as well as the Pumpkin Meet. Tim will always be remembered as someone who had great fun and endless energy at all New Mexico train meets.

Chris Gray

Past Desert Division member Chris Gray passed away at the end of August. Chris had been an active member of the Desert Division and is best remembered by many of us from his very active days at the Scottsdale Jaycees Hall. Recently he stepped away from attending meets because of his declining health however his love affairs with trains remained unabated. Unable to physically attend train meets and shows, he continued to purchase trains for his collection online. Chris was a very eclectic collector but primarily focused his attention on Lionel Pre-war O gauge and Standard Gauge trains as well as "OO" which made up the bulk of his collection. Chris will be remembered by Desert Division members as a diligent worker on every project and committee he served. Our sympathies go out to his family and friends.

LOST AND FOUND

Yes, we know the spring picnic was months ago but things sometime get scooped up and put in the storage shed not to see the light of day until we get busy again. These two items were left over at the picnic, let me know if they are yours and I will bring them to the September Meet.



Here is a slightly different view of the Leaning Tower of Prescott, or was it Atonna?



Glen Gordon, DeLon Freije, and Don McCombs all were happy in Prescott. DeLon looks like he is getting ready to sign up for the ATTS with that flyer.



Although you can barely see it, with Thumb Butte in the background you know you are in Prescott and the annual Beat the Heat Meet

DESERT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2015

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Fall Show & Meet

TOY TRAIN SHOW

Operated as a Benefit Fundraiser for
Gadsden Pacific Division Toy Train Operating Museum
3975 N. Miller Avenue Tucson, AZ
<http://www.gpdtoytrainmuseum.com>

Tucson Expo Center

3750 E. Irvington Road at Palo Verde
(From 1-10, exit 264)

Great Location, Free Parking, Snack Bar
Entrance on South side of Building (Banquet Hall)



Friday, Nov. 14, 2014

Open to the Public 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014

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

Need Vendor Tables?
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Future Shows: January 9-10, 2015 May 29-30, 2015

RAILROAD



-CHANGE



ARENELL SERVICE & REPAIR – **AUTHORIZED Lionel & MTH Service Station** located in the rear of the Arizona Train Depot - Visit “**RAY'S CAVE**” for Lionel Postwar, MPC, LTI & more for sale at great prices - I buy train collections large or small, old or new Large consignment of MTH Premier trains arriving weekly and priced to sell fast – Still have great selection of Dept 56 on hand - If you are looking for a special item let Ray be your extra set of eyes – VISA & M/C - 755 E. McKellips, Mesa, AZ 602-565-6603

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.

BURLING'S TON OF TRAINS – Authorized Lionel, MTH, K-LINE & Mantua Dealer. 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 are 11 AM to 5 PM, M – F and by appointment. 16924 E. Colony Dr., Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 Phone: 480-816-6501 Website: www.tonoftrains.com **AUTHORIZED LIONEL SERVICE CENTER**

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.

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3rd RAIL & GOLDEN GATE DEPOT DISCOUNTED TRAINS: Taking your preorders for now for EMD F7s in lots of road names including many Santa Fe Schemes. Also taking your preorders for the first correct Budd El Capitan cars of 1956 in Santa Fe and Amtrak. What else are you are interested in? Call Jonathan Peiffer at 602-561-4131. Your authorized 3rd Rail and GGD dealer in Arizona. Now accepting credit cards!

Expanded selection of Lionel and American Flyer Parts – Call or stop by my table at the Meet - DeLon Freije 701-331-2837

WRECKER SALE: One layout down, one going down means lots of accessories and ceramic buildings for sale. Some are ready now, some starting after next month. Accessories are post war to modern. Send an email for the list. Peter Atonna mjatonna@gmail.com.

FOR SALE : Lionel #269 E O-gauge freight train set. Prewar celebration series, rail sounds/whistle and bell. \$425 - MTH Proto ATSF Streamline Northern Pacific Blue Goose locomotive with whistle/smoke & Six car Williams Blue Goose aluminum set. \$450 Don Locke 480-854-2546

For Sale Gilbert Remote Control Airplane with Cox Gas Engine including Bombs Away Crew Chief Accessory #40175 in OB. \$300. Wadrie Jay Circus Stock Cars, Flat Cars, and circus loads built and painted. \$100. Prototypes from the Daniel Tassell Lionel Collection: 8111 DT&I NW-2 Yard Switcher, only lettering on one side, complete engine \$75. 2815 NYC U36 cab only \$50, 8361 Western Pacific Alco AB units \$150, 2558 Erie Lackawanna U36B built up Proto Type cab only \$50- 6-52361 NTTM Golden Anniversary Box Car \$50, 6-52408 The End of The Line Gary Lavinus Maintenance of Way Caboose \$50. 6-52488 METCA NYC Lighting Stripe Mint Car \$65. Please call/email for additional bargains. Dannie Martin 520-360-0519 dannieaz@cox.net

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.

FOR SALE: Lionel All-Brass Binnacle from U.S. Navy WW II Ship - \$2,000 plus shipping. Gordon L. Wilson, 480-837-5344, exTCA1@aol.com

FOR SALE: Lionel Scale O 6-52500 Desert Division ATSF Grand Canyon Reefer \$50, Lionel 6-18562 SP GP9 w/TMCC \$150, 2 ea Pair of used Super O switches w/OB P-8 \$35ea or both \$55 - 665 w/tender \$100 – 621 NW-2 \$60 – 611 NW-2 \$75 – 602 NW-2 \$75 – 356 Freight Station w/carts no box \$50- Chris Allen 480-820-9559 sparkyshome@cox.net

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. Contact Editor when your item sells so space can be made available to other members. - DEADLINE FOR AD's – THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH -

THE BACK PAGE

FOR THINGS THAT DIDN'T FIT ELSEWHERE or BREAKING NEWS!



A few more pictures of the 1984 TCA logo-less Pullman.
This one had the correct 6 wheel heavyweight trucks



The Pullman also had the correct MPC era pickup assembly.
The wheels show no sign of use



The front door of the old Armory in Prescott with its
impressive iron work looks like it is protecting the king's
ransom instead of toy train treasures



What, Santa in September? Yes! The Arizona Toy Train
Show is less than 3 months away. Look for table
registrations forms at the September Meet

The 61st [TCA National Convention](#)

New York. New York



DIVISION MEET LOCATION

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



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