

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 44, No. 2

February, 2015

SOUPER BOWL KICKS OFF 2015

What a way to start out a New Year. First the Division hosted our annual Business Meeting and then three short weeks later we hosted our own Souper Bowl. Let's look back at how all of this came to be.

The January Business Meeting started out with our usual free coffee club. Janet Mattern has agreed to take on the new duties however starting in February there will be one slight change. After discussing the matter, the Division Board has decided to eliminate sodas from our Meetings. During the holiday break we had over twenty sodas that date expired and had to be thrown away. Soda consumption among the members has been declining and in January we saw only ten sodas drank by the members. The cost of trying to buy sodas on sale, storing them and then purchasing the ice needed was just proving to be too expensive a perk to continue. Starting in February we will only have coffee and water available along with our usual donuts. They will still be free and we appreciate those members who toss a little money in the kitty to help us continue this program. We will continue to have sodas at the Spring picnic, Pizza Meetza and all our auctions, we have just eliminated them from our monthly meetings.

The annual Business Meeting kicked off on schedule and President Allen announced the budget for the upcoming year. The projected loss for the Arizona Toy Train Show was less than expected thanks to the hard work of John Upshur who came in under budget in every area. The fact that the Phoenix Coyotes had a game the same day as our event hurt the attendance as many of the public were mislead into thinking they had to pay for parking or were going to have to park a considerable distance away and walk in with their family.

John will meet with the Board of Directors and a decision will be made at the February Meeting about this year's event.

Most items on the budget such as the Toy Train Show, picnic, or Christmas Holiday Party have income to offset their expense in the form of admissions or raffle prizes. One item on the budget, this monthly newsletter, has no such offset. The president explained that it costs about \$1.35 to print and mail each newsletter. That cost would jump to almost \$1.60 if they would have to be mailed out first class instead of our current non-profit rate.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

February 14 – **Division Meet** – 8:30 AM member only swap – 10:00 AM Business Meeting – Phoenix, AZ

NOTE LOCATION CHANGE

Bethany Bible Church 6060 N. 7th Ave Phoenix 85013 (8 blocks east from our current location)

February 21 - **Rio Grande Chapter Meet** – Albuquerque, NM

February 28 – GCMR “**The Armory Meet**” – Phoenix, AZ – Show flyer inside

March 14 – Division Meet – 8:30 AM member only swap – 10:00 AM Business Meeting
Normal meeting location

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

President Allen and Treasurer Bob Herman then answered a few questions from the members about the current planned expenses and told everyone that the annual budget as well as last year's itemized expenses as well as the breakdown for the Christmas Holiday Party and the Arizona Toy Train Show were on the front table for everyone to review and that soft copies are available to any member who requests them via email.

Following the Business Meeting the January General Meeting began. Angelo Lautazi reported that we currently have 287 Division members and we expect some dropoff from the complimentary memberships that were given away at the 2013 Toy Train Show. Chris stated that we need to continue to enlist new members and thanked the hard work of our members who belong to the Paradise & Pacific Train Club who talk up TCA to many of their own members and encourage them to join TCA and the Division. Angelo also noted that Roger Meekoff was joining us as he and his wife do every year as they winter over in Arizona rather than Michigan. Treasurer Bob Herman reported \$27,787.22 in the Savings account and \$10,171.40 in Checking. Under old business, Chris mentioned that he was unable to present the member of the year and volunteer of the year award, usually given out at the Christmas Holiday Party, because of illness. President Allen called John and Eva Upshur in front of the membership and thanked them for a job well done in light of all the hardships faced the past two years as the husband and wife team that organized and ran the Arizona Toy Train Show.

There was no new business so Chris proceeded into the general announcements. The annual Hudson drawing will again be held with the winner's choice of either a C-8 or better Lionel postwar Hudson or \$750.00. The drawing is being moved to the annual Christmas Holiday Party rather than the Toy Train Show. Tickets for the Hudson and the monthly \$100 drawing will go on sale at the February Meet. This year also marks the return of the 50/50 raffle which will take place of the Spring Raffle. Details will follow when spring finally gets here. The multi-club spring picnic will be Saturday April 18th. The event will be held in the Aste Ramada which is located at the north end of the park near the playground area. The date for the Pizza Meetza and member's auction will be May 9th. Sounds like a pretty full winter and spring schedule for Desert Division members! John Upshur rose and thanked all the volunteers and team members for a job well done helping setup, operate and tear down the Toy Train Show. While the announcements were going on Barbara Lautazi was busy organizing what turned out to be our inaugural event. When Chris mentioned that the Super

Saturday auction was coming up Barbara Lautazi enlisted the help from Division members to bring in a crock pot of homemade soup for lunch, and just like that the Super Saturday Auction became the Souper Bowl Auction. Patterned after Division Director Phil Todd's Soup Kitchen which unites his neighbors, the "Souper Bowl" was a big hit for all those that attended.

On a sad note Chris mentioned the passing of Division member Franklin Nickerson and spoke about his friendship and perpetual smile Franklin always seemed to have. Next Don Locke spoke of the upcoming memorial service and its location and his long time friendship with Franklin. Sam McElwee rose and spoke of being a co-worker with Franklin and although it had been many years since those early days he continued to remain impressed with his competence and expertise that was evident in every project they worked on.

The Educational segment featured Rolland LaHaie and one of his famous Christmas Hudson's. You can read all about Rolland's unique story elsewhere in this issue, but he mentioned of all the one's he received, he was most impressed with the Williams Dreyfus Hudson that his wife gave him. Rolland mentioned he had never seen a cab interior so detailed and the fact that it was a great puller and smooth running locomotive was an added bonus. Phil Todd was next explaining he had worked at numerous job locations the past few months including Alaska, Memphis, and Brazil. In Alaska Phil had several photos of a locomotive that once served during the construction of the Panama Canal and was being restored to operational status before the funding dried up. In Memphis Phil noted that it was the crossroads of numerous railroads but he was most surprised to see so many Canadian National cars in the rail yard. Phil's last trip took him to Brazil and a small community located "thousands of miles" away from any railroad yet just before he left, all of their Christmas celebrations had numerous train themed decorations. The idea that a remote area of Brazil uses trains as part of their Christmas festivities was quite intriguing. Chris Allen wrapped up the Educational by displaying the newest Bruce Greenberg book on Standard Gauge Trains. Chris mentioned that Bruce has offered the Division the opportunity to sell the books as a fund raiser with all profits going directly to the Division.

Winners of the monthly raffle prizes in no particular order; Phil Todd, Lionel LRCC Stock Car, Bill Richardson, Lionel 25th Anniversary Car, Katie Elgar, Fire Truck, Angelo Lautazi, Lionel Mickey Mouse boxcar, Dave Brown, Train DVD's, Beth Stange, Lionel RR Club Boxcar and Jack Eaton, Flyer 2007 Holiday Boxcar.



Volunteer and Member of the Year Eva and John Upshur



Members attending the annual Business Meeting



Rolland LaHaie and one of his Christmas Hudson's (read his story in this issue)



Phil Todd brought along many pictures from his recent work travels, here is the Panama Canal switcher found in Alaska



Roger Meekhof stayed after the January Meet and demonstrated his technique for making inexpensive roadbed



Roger's technique utilizes high density foam RV insulation and a homemade jig, very simple, easy and clever!

TCA Desert Division BOD Meeting – January 7, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM at the home of Chris and Laurel Allen

In Attendance; Chris Allen, Michael Dietrich, Bob Herman, Angelo Lautazi, Beth Stange, Phil Todd, on teleconference Greg Palmer and David Nycz

Approval of Agenda - The agenda was approved as distributed

Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes – The minutes from the previous meeting were approved

Treasurers Report - Treasurer Bob Herman reported that the Savings Account has \$27,787.22 and Checking has \$10,171.40. As money is being deposited into the PayPal account for the purchase of the Rio Grande fundraising car it is being transferred into the Savings Account. Bob submitted the year end Income/Expense report.

Membership Report - Angelo reported that membership stands at 287 members. This appears to be a multi-year cycle in which a larger than normal amount of Division members coming up for renewal. At present there were 155 members or 55% owing dues. Angelo noted that this year Rio Grande members will pay their dues to the Chapter Secretary Scott Eckstein, who will in turn keep Angelo notified for the roster updates.

BOD & General Meet schedule for 2014 - The schedule and location was set for the BOD meetings. Chris explained a conflict with the meeting location for the February meet. Chris can get a meeting room with his church in Tempe however because of the time of year it was suggested that a closer location be found so as to minimize members who would go to the Phoenix location only to find the meeting held 20 miles away in Tempe. Also the church hall is not available for a November “mini” meet this year.

BOD Annual Dinner - The Annual No-Host BOD Dinner will be held at the Chaparral Suites on Friday Feb. 13th. Invitation letters have been sent. Please RSVP and regrets to Bill Mack

Old Business:

Year End Review - Bob reviewed the year end Income and Expense report along with the specific breakdowns for the Arizona Toy Train Show and Christmas Holiday Party. The Holiday Party's expense was slightly less than expected. The ATTS had a smaller than expected loss of \$2,394. John Upshur stayed under budget in many areas and was on target for a break even show but the confusion over the Phoenix Coyotes parking likely hurt attendance.

New Business

Preliminary 2015 Budget - Bob submitted a preliminary budget for 2015 which presently has a small operating deficit of \$2,394. There was some discussion on newsletter costs. The BOD considers it's too soon to go all digital but if the number of printed editions drops below 200, the Postal Service minimum for non-profit mailings, they would have to be sent first class and a surcharge might be called for those members who wanted a hard copy. There was also some discussion of reducing the number of editions published each year.

ATTS for 2015 – Chair John Upshur will be invited to the February BOD meeting for a full review and plan for 2015.

Holiday Party for 2015 -The party will be held on Sunday Dec 6th preliminary contracts already ongoing.

2019 Convention Fund Raiser Car - The sales have been slower than expected with less than 100 orders to date. Only four sales to Division members inside of Arizona. Needed emphasis that although the convention is in Albuquerque, it is still a Division Convention and we need to show our support for the Chapter.

Greenberg's Guide to Lionel Trains – Standard Gauge – Chris reported that he had been in contact with Division member Bruce Greenberg who offered the Division copies of his book at cost and we would retain the profit from all sales of the book. Chris has several copies on hand for sale and Bruce will accept back any unsold copies.

Spring Raffle Ideas – The spring raffle has been marginally profitable with income only slightly above our expenses. The spring raffle was originally offered to promote a diesel locomotive and newer operating accessories to our members who no longer or desire to collect postwar locomotives such as the Hudson. Beth suggested that we may want to investigate the tried and true 50/50 raffle as everyone still likes to collect money.

Trailer Module - Chris stated that there will still be some minor expenses for the trailer module going forward. The biggest anticipated expense will be the purchase of a spare tire and jack.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. The next board meeting is scheduled to be on February 11th at Phil Todd's home.

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Angelo Lautazi

President's Message

If you have read about the upcoming events set for the first half of this year you know we are on track to do what Desert Division is best known for, having fun while enjoying the fellowship of collecting and operating toy trains.

I can't stop smiling about our most recent accomplishment and another first among all the other Division's in TCA. While I was making the announcements about our upcoming year, my wife Laurel came up front and whispered in my ear, what do you have planned for food for the January 31st auction? Have you ever seen someone go into sheer terror before your eyes? I may have looked calm on the outside but my heart sank. How could I have forgotten about organizing the lunch break food? From the back of the room I could see Barbara Lautazi and Laurel talking with Phil Todd. When it came time to announce the upcoming auction Barbara came up front and spoke about her idea, soup for lunch. What a super idea. Before the meeting was over we had numerous members agree to bring in a crock pot of soup to share with other members and "Souper Bowl" was launched.

For those of you who did not attend you missed out on quite a treat and everyone who volunteered brought in not only soup but something special, homemade love. I tasted Don McCombs White Bean Turkey Chili, Barbara Lautazi's homemade Mushroom Soup and Beverly Locke's Split Pea soup. Since we came prepared Laurel traded some of our left over homemade Minestrone for some of Sally Treichel's Chicken Noodle and Phil Todd's Thai Curry Chicken. The aroma from the kitchen had me wanting to skip the auction all together and go directly to lunch. You may laugh, but I had been battling one of the worst cases of flu I have ever had and the soup did the trick as I woke up Sunday morning feeling great!

Thank you all who participated and brought in your favorites and a special thanks goes out to our new coffee club chair, Janet Mattern, who brought in a special scratch made dessert. True Desert Division fellowship, friendship and selfless service and spirit is

what sets us apart from so many other clubs. We just plain and simple love to get together and have fun!

Scarcely four years away, the Rio Grande Chapter will be hosting the 2019 National Convention. Desert Division is one of the few Divisions that routinely step up to the plate and volunteer to help host a National Convention and this time around the Chapter in Albuquerque is set to take on the task but they can't do it alone and you can help right now. In this edition is the order form for their first fund raising car. Just as we did the Celebrate Arizona series before our convention their first car celebrates one of the world's finest narrow gauge railroads, the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad. The story and history of the C&TS is worth a read and if you are ever in northern New Mexico or southern Colorado while the line is running during the summer it is a must railroad trip. At the present time sales to the Arizona Division members is sadly very lacking, in fact, they can honestly be said to be virtually non-existent. I ask that you help support the Division's Chapter with their efforts and purchase one of the fundraising boxcars. Unlike other cars often seen for sale, the Rio Grande C&TS boxcar is selling for the Lionel MSRP of \$79.99. There is a small limited production of only 300 cars being made so you will have a very limited edition of a famous western railroad that is listed as a National Historic Landmark.

I wanted to also thank Roger Meekhof for his impromptu demonstration following the January meeting. Roger demonstrated his homemade cutting tool that he uses to cut high density foam to use as track roadbed. The high density foam is quite inexpensive and it is used to insulate RV's back where Roger calls home in Michigan. The clever tool and use of the high density foam gave many members a useful tip on layout construction. Thank you Roger!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Todd", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

RIO GRANDE CHAPTER EDUCATIONAL PICTURES



Chris Wieclaw's static locomotive made from scrap metal parts and built by a local artist



Ross Jordan's beautifully restored 1939 City of Denver



Greg Palmer running one of his three clockwork engines for everyone to see



Jim Trevor had several items to share including this "Flying Saucer" car from the Area 51 set



After Meet visitation to see Frank Dean's layout which utilizes Lionel's FasTrack



Another view of Frank's layout showcasing many MTH & Lionel operating accessories



Rio Grande Chapter

NEW MEXICO • WEST TEXAS

TCA RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

By David Nycz - TCA 94-38787



The January Rio Grande Chapter meeting was held on January 15, 2015 at Los Altos Christian Church with 20 TCA members attending and 2 guests. The meeting began with Show and Tell.

Ross Jordan brought a 1939 Lionel City of Denver train that he had sandblasted and repainted adding wheels. Chris Wieclaw displayed a static model locomotive engine he bought which was made from scrap metal parts. Boyd Reasor brought photos of his new layout bench work and his track plans for S gauge. Chris Allen brought new Marx collector cars from 1994-2004, along with the new Greenburg Lionel Trains Standard gauge book on sale for \$100.00. Greg Palmer showed a Lionel factory error double stamped tank car plus 3 cast wind-up engines and track. Unfortunately the spring broke on the second engine he demonstrated. Jim Trever showed an original Marx School House and all its accessories from 1954, additionally two Lionel Area 51 cars, a flying saucer car and a capsule car.

President's Report: David Nycz reported that 2014 was a good year for the Chapter. The show and tell segments were both entertaining and informative. The Pumpkin meet was profitable with the Copper Canyon raffle actually making slightly more money than the Pumpkin meet. Thanks again to the Desert Division which donated the set. Then the Chapter officers were thanked for their work during 2014. David also noted how well the group worked together. He concluded by encouraging the Chapter members to make 2015 even better.

Treasurer's Report: Don Kuster reported a current balance of \$2,426.31 in the checking account. We made \$367.00 on the Copper Creek train raffle and \$267.15 on the Pumpkin meet.

Secretary's Report: Scott Eckstein discussed that the Desert Division dues were now to be paid to the Rio Grande Chapter and collected by Scott. Instead of being sent to the Division they will be added to the Chapters checking account. Scott Eckstein's address is 10805 Snow Heights Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112. If you have any questions his phone number is (505)332-0947. Dues are \$10 per year.

Convention Chair Report: Elaine Eckstein questioned Chris Allen about the status of orders for the Cumbres and Toltec car. There have been 72 cars sold, (only 10 from AZ and 14 from NM.) We can modify the ad to target certain areas. We have to sell 232 of the 300 cars before we make a profit.

Old Business: Next on the agenda was the 2014 Pumpkin Meet report. The profit was \$267.15 in 2013 there was an approximate \$50 loss. Forty eight tables were sold with attendance slightly higher than the previous year. There appeared to be a lot of new people which kept the attendance up. All of our efforts to increase the door did not improve the door as hoped. It is hard to know why attendance did not improve but the locale news often notes that Albuquerque economy is among the slowest to recover nationally from the recession. The real money maker was the raffle at \$483.00. Of interest is that average cost per table at the hotel is \$30.67. We sell the tables for \$20 to members and \$25 to non-members. Thanks again to all the members who helped run the show or purchased tables. Thanks to the Desert Division for donating twelve cars to the raffle and thanks to George and Sandy Domyeny for running the raffle. The Copper Creek train set raffle this year was separate from the Pumpkin Meet raffle. The most tickets were sold at NMRA Rails Across the Rio Grande two-day meet. Tickets were also sold at the TTOS meet in December. We made \$317.00 after paying \$50 for the table rent. The Desert Division donated the set.

New Business: The 2015 Pumpkin Meet is tentatively scheduled for November 1, 2015 at the Sheraton Hotel. The Deposit of \$125 is due in January. Additionally the ability to explore other potential locations was approved.

The next two Chapter meetings are February 21 and March 21 at Los Altos Church starting at 10am. The April meeting date and location is still TBD due to a building conflict.

The After meet activity was at Frank Dean's house. Frank has an O Gauge 22' x 13' layout with 75% of the scenery now completed. It can run 4 trains and 2 trolleys.

The Christmas of Four Hudsons

By Rolland LaHaie TCA 85-23095

This Christmas was a memorable one for me in many ways. Both my wife and I were in good health, the pre-Christmas decorating had gone very smoothly and all of my children, their spouses and children as well as both of our siblings from the Phoenix area were to join us at our home for the holidays. It was complete chaos but it was also tremendous joy for me.

On Christmas morning the present opening commenced and soon there was wrapping paper everywhere. Unexpectedly, my oldest son presented me with four large, heavy packages to open. I was very surprised because the tradition at my house is that the kids and grandkids get the presents. My wife and I truly enjoy watching the smiles and expressions on their faces more than receiving presents. So, needless to say I was taken aback by this offering.

By way of back story, in October when asked what I wanted for Christmas by my family, I replied that I wanted a steam locomotive. Not just any locomotive, but a very specific type and road name. I wanted a 1/48th scale New York Central Hudson. I added that I did not want them to spend a lot of money on this gift and gave them some basic ground rules:

First, they should look for something which was described as not running. I enjoy tinkering with my trains as much a running them and this would also keep the cost down.

Second, I instructed that whatever they bought it should be at least 15 years old. Again this would rule out most of the modern command control locomotives and help to keep the cost down.

Third, I did not care if things like original boxes or instructions were included. Again, keep the cost down (notice a theme here?)

Last, I was not particular which manufacturer made the locomotive. Nor did I specify that it had to be brass or die cast. Weaver, Williams, Lionel, MTH, K-Line, whatever.

With these ground rules in place my wife and children made their plan. They would pitch in to a common fund which they would use to make a purchase. Each would seek out a different locomotive however they could, meeting my criteria. They would gather in November to discuss their discoveries and decide which one to purchase.

This is where things got interesting. My wife is not a big fan of "black steam engines." However, my children found some things which were fairly colorful and the prices were quite reasonable. My wife volunteered to cover the costs above the budget they all had agreed to and they decided to get me three locomotives. To make things even more interesting, on December 19 I was in Burlings' Ton of Trains and I found what I thought was exactly the Hudson I was looking for. There on the floor was a K-Line Scale Hudson from the 90's. When I asked Ken about it he said he was going to keep it but it did not run very well, so he decided to sell it. Bingo! We discussed a price and I called my wife to announce that I had found my Hudson. She agreed that I should buy it but did not let on that she and the kids had already bought 3 other Hudson's! I brought my prize home, gave it to my wife and she added it to the pile of stuff which we had to wrap and put under the tree.



Back to Christmas Day. There I am, sitting on the living room sofa with 4 large heavy boxes to unwrap. I knew what was in one of them, but the other three were a mystery. The first box opened yielded the the Lionel 763e with Vanderbilt tender from 1997. This is a beautiful locomotive and has a unique look with its disk drivers and rounded tender. The next box contained a Mikes Train House Empire State Express Hudson with ProtoSound. I have always been a fan of this locomotive with its silver and black paint scheme. And the lights over the drivers make its appearance particularly striking in the dark. The third box was the K-Line Hudson I had purchased from Ken. This model has the best add on detail on the boiler of all the scale Hudson's in my opinion. The last box was a silver and red Williams Electric Trains box. Before I opened the box I thought "Oh no! Now I have 2 engines which are virtually the same!" But when I opened the box I found it contained a Dreyfus Hudson. It was exquisite. Needless to say, I was overwhelmed by this gesture from my family.



In the next few days I spent some time inspecting and testing each loco. The MTH unit was advertised as not running but just needed a new battery and a reset to bring it to life. The K-Line loco turned out to run perfectly in command mode but not conventional mode. This is OK by me since I have the necessary command equipment to operate it that way. The Lionel is typical of their scale Hudson's with the large AC motor and steep gear reduction. It is not

very speedy but it will pull a train a mile long! The best of the bunch is without a doubt the Williams Dreyfus. This is from the Master Series made in Korea in 1995 and has the best detailed boiler back head I have seen on any O scale locomotive. This engine abounds with other details as well and I find myself gazing at it endlessly. It was also advertised as not running but that just turned out to be a simple wiring issue with the loco receptacle for the tender tether. It has a great sound system featuring four chugs per driver revolution, deep whistle and terrific bell. There is even cab chatter upon start up.



All in all this added up to the best Christmas I have had in many years. All of my family was in my home and I had four new Hudson's to play with!

P.S. My birthday follows closely after Christmas in the first part of January. My family surprised me again with.....another Hudson!! This one is also from the Williams Masterpiece series. It is not streamlined but has the same level of detail as the Williams Dreyfus Hudson. Best of all, all five locomotives have different numbers!



Hudson Raffle 2015

Is this your year? The Hudson Raffle for 2015 features another beautiful Lionel 773 from 1964 graded C-8. The Hudson has been serviced and lubed and will make a beautiful addition to your layout, display or maybe even your wallet. Remember if you do not wish to take home this beauty you can also walk away with a cool \$750 and buy the real engine of your dreams. The rules for this year's drawing are simple and printed below. Tickets go on sale at the February Meet.

- Only 100 tickets will be sold and they will be sold exclusively to Desert Division members until the October General Meet. Following that meet, any remaining unsold tickets will be made available to any TCA member or the public.
- Starting in February and at every Division Meet with the exception for the July mini-meet, a name will be drawn from the tickets sold and that person awarded \$100.
- **You MUST be present to win the \$100.** If the member is not present, another name will be drawn until a member in attendance is called. However, if a member's name is called and they are representing the Division such as working at a module display and the event coincides with the General Meet, that member would be considered present at the meet and be awarded the \$100.
- The winning ticket will be pulled and announced during the annual Christmas Holiday Party in December. The winner has the option of either the Hudson or \$750.



FEBRUARY AFTER MEET VISITATION

It has been a while since we visited Dave Brown's layout. He and Judy are opening up their home for you to visit and check on his progress. Those of us who know Dave knows he likes to tinker with gadgets, lights and control circuits so if you would like to get some tips from one of the Division's "wizards" be sure to plan to stop by following the February Meet.

THE MYSTERY GREETER RETURNS

Make sure you are wearing your member badge when you attend Division Meets. The Mystery Greeter is back and the only requirement we make is that you must be wearing your name badge to score ten free raffle tickets. Don't have a badge or you have lost yours? Contact Division Secretary Angelo Lautazi

DUES ARE DUE

It's that time of year again. Desert Division dues are due. Please remit \$10 per year for up to five years in advance in a check made payable to Desert Division – TCA and include it in an envelope with the Registration Form which appears elsewhere in this issue of the Dispatch. If you don't want to pull apart your newsletter you may also print out the form from the Desert Division website. Visit TCADD.ORG and click on the "How to Join" button on the left, at the bottom of that page is the link for the current Registration Form. Mail forms and checks to Angelo Lautazi, Division Secretary, at 6109 E. Sonoran Trail, Scottsdale, AZ 85266 on or before February 28, 2015. That will help us create the Desert Division roster and membership cards which will be distributed in March.

FEBRUARY MEET LOCATION

CHANGE !!

It seldom happens but every once in a while we have a scheduling conflict with our hosting facilities and we need to find an alternate location for our monthly Meet. For the month of February we will be back at Bethany Bible Church located just 8 blocks east of our current location and where we met last January. Bethany Bible Church is located at 6060 N. 7th Ave just north of Bethany Home Road. We will be meeting in the Activities Center which is located on the south side of the campus in rooms 133 & 134



DESERT DIVISION BOD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on February 11th at the home of Phil and Dotty Todd beginning at 7:00 PM. Members are welcome to attend. Please call 480-288-0094 a day in advance to be sure there are enough chairs.

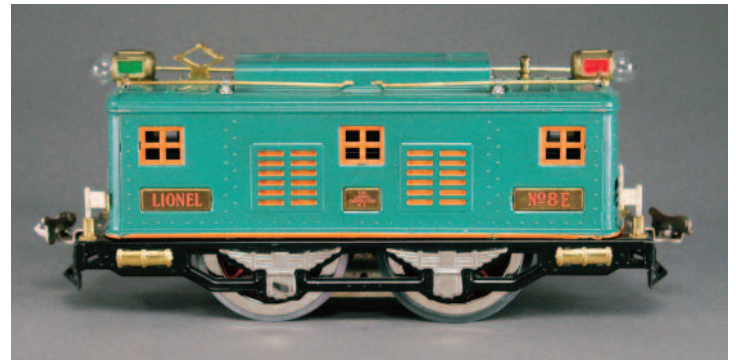
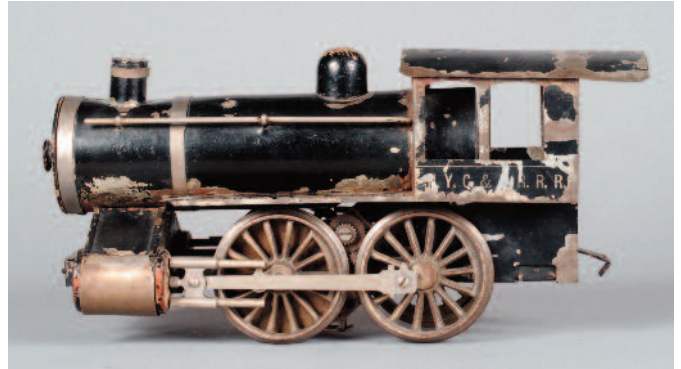
New Edition

Greenberg's® Guide to Lionel® Standard and 2⁷/₈" Gauges, 1901-1940

Greenberg's® Guide to **Lionel® Trains** Standard and 2⁷/₈" Gauges



1901-1940
Bruce C. Greenberg, Ph.D.



The most comprehensive book ever published on Lionel Standard and 2⁷/₈" Gauges.

- * Many new insights -- based on two years of research -- on the production, manufacturing and marketing of Standard Gauge trains.
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- * \$100 plus \$7.00 shipping. Virginia residents, please add \$6.00 sales tax.

**To order please call Bruce Greenberg 68-2249
at 703-461-6991 or
email brucecgreenberg1@gmail.com (note c)**

Top: "The Grand-Daddy:" the prototype for Lionel Standard Gauge steam locomotives. **Center:** No. 8E locomotive in unusual colors for Macy's Department Stores. **Bottom:** 381U Bild-A-LoCo in original box.

“ONE OF ARIZONA’S LARGEST”

MODEL RAILROAD

SWAP MEET AND SHOW

THE ARMORY MEET

SATURDAY, FEB. 28th, 2015

9 AM - 1 PM \$6/PERSON \$11/FAMILY

(\$1.00 off coupon available in public fliers and at www.gcmrr.org)

AZ ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

East McDowell Road and

North 54th Street/Bushmaster Blvd.

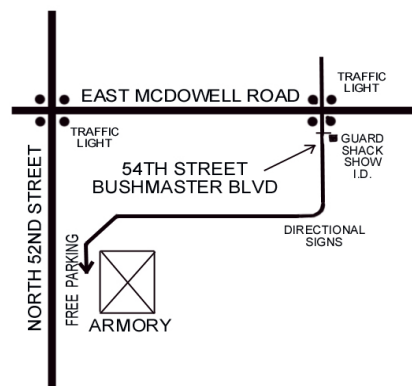
(Proceed south on 54th Street through gate and guard shack)

**Aggressive Promotion, All Scales, Great Location,
Train Layouts, Test Track, Food Services, Raffles**

Free Parking, “End-O-Swap” Auction

To reserve your space and required admission name badges, submit this form by February 21, 2015

No refunds after February 21, 2015. Security is scheduled to unlock the hall at 6:00 AM,
however, their prompt arrival cannot be guaranteed. Please print form legibly.



Name	\$25 per 8' banquet table (Bring a table cover, if desired) How many tables? _____ Amount enclosed? \$ _____ Request? _____ Will you participate in the auction? Seller? _____ Buyer? _____ Admission Name Badges 1 or 2 tables = 2 badges max. Badge Name _____ Badge Name _____ 3 or more tables = 4 badges max. Badge Name _____ Badge Name _____ More badges available at \$5.00 each
Address	
City State Zip	
Phone Email	
Buying, selling, ethics and behavior: In case of dispute, the Meet Chairperson and/or impartial referee appointed by the Meet Chairperson shall arbitrate the dispute and render a timely decision and I hereby agree to be bound by such decision. I will not pack until 1:00 PM. Not responsible for lost or stolen articles.	
Signature	Date
Make check payable to: “ Grand Canyon Model Railroaders ” Mail to: John Draftz, 1507 W Willow Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85029 or Credit cards accepted via PayPal - Visit www.gcmrr.org Email: info@gcmrr.org Info: John Draftz 602-942-3437; Jack Eaton 602-321-4809	



Desert Division Membership Form



Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____ TCA No. _____

Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Dues are \$10.00 per year. (Members may pay up to 5 years in advance). No of Years: X \$10.00 =

A Desert Division Badge is \$10.00 (optional):

Make your check payable to: **TCA - Desert Division** Enclosed Total =

How would you prefer to receive your Newsletter? ☐ By E-Mail (Color Pages)
☐ By Reg. Mail (Black&White)

Please Indicate Your Hobby Preferences from the Categories Below. Check All that Apply.

TRAIN ERA

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Prewar (1850=1942) | <input type="checkbox"/> 17. Ives | <input type="checkbox"/> 23L. LGB | <input type="checkbox"/> 23DD. Fleischmann |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Postwar (1945-1969) | <input type="checkbox"/> 18. Dorfan / Fandor | <input type="checkbox"/> 23M. Marklin | <input type="checkbox"/> 23EE. Carette |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Modern (1970-present) | <input type="checkbox"/> 19. MTH | <input type="checkbox"/> 23N. Metzel | <input type="checkbox"/> 23FF. Eastwood Auto |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Scale / NMRA | <input type="checkbox"/> 20. Williams | <input type="checkbox"/> 23O. Mini-Scale | <input type="checkbox"/> 23GG. Amer. Model S Ga. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Standard | <input type="checkbox"/> 21. K-Line | <input type="checkbox"/> 23P. Phoenix Ltd. | <input type="checkbox"/> 23HH. Downs S Gauge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. G or #1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22. AMT / Kusan | <input type="checkbox"/> 23Q. Plasticville | <input type="checkbox"/> 23II. Colber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. O or O-27 Tinplate | <input type="checkbox"/> 23. Other - Please Specify | <input type="checkbox"/> 23R. Littletown/Skyline | <input type="checkbox"/> 23JJ. Unique |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8. S | <input type="checkbox"/> 23A. Basset / Lowke | <input type="checkbox"/> 23S. Pride Lines | <input type="checkbox"/> 23KK. Sakai |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. HO | <input type="checkbox"/> 23B. Bing | <input type="checkbox"/> 23T. REA / Aristo-Craft | <input type="checkbox"/> 23LL. Bowser |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10. OO / American | <input type="checkbox"/> 23C. Boucher | <input type="checkbox"/> 23U. Right-O-Way | <input type="checkbox"/> 23MM. T-Reproductions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11. N | <input type="checkbox"/> 23D. Bub / Karl | <input type="checkbox"/> 23V. Rokal | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Z | <input type="checkbox"/> 23E. Buddy-L | <input type="checkbox"/> 23W. Voltamp | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Live Steam | <input type="checkbox"/> 23F. Carlisle / Finch | <input type="checkbox"/> 23X. Weaver | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23G. Elletren | <input type="checkbox"/> 23Y. McCoy | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23H. Hafner | <input type="checkbox"/> 23Z. Nationwide | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23I. Hoge | <input type="checkbox"/> 23AA. USA Trains | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23J. Hornby | <input type="checkbox"/> 23BB. S-Helper Service | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 23K. Issmayer | <input type="checkbox"/> 23CC. Astor | |

MANUFACTURER

- ☐ 14. American Flyer / Gilbert
☐ 15. Lionel / Winner
☐ 16. Marx / Mars / Allstate

PERIPHERALS

- ☐ 26. Figures
☐ 27. Toys
☐ 28. Paper / Books
☐ 29. Buildings
☐ 30. Railroadiana

Do You Have a Layout?

- ☐ 24. YES ☐ 25. NO

Member or Applicant's Signature

Date

Mail to: **Angelo Lautazi**, Div. Secretary
6109 E Sonoran Trl
Scottsdale, AZ 85266

RAILROAD



-CHANGE



ARENELL SERVICE & REPAIR – **AUTHORIZED Lionel & MTH Service Station** located in the rear of the Arizona Train Depot - Visit "RAYS 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

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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!

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For Sale 6-52408 The End of The Line Gary Lavinus Maintenance of Way Caboose \$50. 2000 TCA National Convention Grand Rapids & Indiana Woodside reefer and reverse color Banquet Car both for \$100, 2008 Burlington, VT Cabot Creamery Reefer by Weaver Banquet Car \$200, 2010 Baltimore American Brewery Inc. Banquet Car \$150, 2011 Sacramento Banquet Spreckles Sugar PS-2 Covered Hopper Gray/Red GACX 42692 \$125, 2012 Atlanta TCA Convention 34' Box Car Banquet Car \$100, 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 6-24177 Balloon Ride \$200/obo - K Line UP MP-15 Switcher w/lighted caboose \$80 - Lionel 6-52078 TTOS 30th Anniversary SD9 w/matching SP Division caboose \$175 - Scale O 6-52500 Desert Division ATSF Grand Canyon Reefer \$50, Lionel 6-18562 SP GP9 w/TMCC \$150 – 356 Freight Station w/carts no box \$50- Chris Allen 480-820-9559 sparkyshome@cox.net

WANTED: Looking for neon Lionel sign used in hobby stores – 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 "FIRST" BACK PAGE – SOUPER BOWL 1

Because of space issues I could not run pictures from our Souper Bowl Auction. They will appear in the March issue but you get a sneak peak of them in this electronic issue. Yes, we had that much fun!



Volunteers setting up the day before the auction



The crowd arrives early for the auction!



Everyone is looking for a bargain and many found them



Everyone is ready, Let the bidding begin!



The lunchtime break was delicious homemade soup



The Chef's behind Souper Bowl I, without their help it couldn't have been done. THANK YOU!

THE BACK PAGE

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



The Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad Boxcar. First in a series of fundraisers for the Rio Grande Chapter 2019 TCA National Convention. Limited production to only 300 cars order yours at http://tcadd.org/pages/for_sale_page_02.html



Happy raffle prize winner Phil Todd with his new treasure



Beth Stange was also among the numerous winners at the January Meet. Thank you all for supporting the Division

The 61st [TCA National Convention](#)
New York, New York



DIVISION MEET LOCATION

THIS MONTH ONLY
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