

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 41, No. 4

April, 2012

MARCH MADNESS IN THE DESERT

The NCAA will have determined their winner by the time you read this, but the Desert Division kicked off our own version of the spring classic with a great March Meet and a very impressive turnout for the Educational Segment. Thank you to all who participated to make the segment very lively and very green! April's educational theme has been announced and has never been done before so it should make for some interesting interpretation as well. With Chamber of Commerce beautiful weather, the sales tables filled up early and the members were making or saving a bit of green, depending on who's telling the story. Peiffer opened the meet with an introduction of guests. Great Lakes member Kevin Patton from Solon, Ohio stopped in for a quick look at the sales tables and NETCA's Steve Singlar stayed for the business meeting that soon followed. Also in attendance was Division member Lori Cripps, who was looking for information on Glenn Trains. Read her story about helpful Division members and what she found out elsewhere in this issue. Division Secretary, Anglo Lautazi reported that 35 members of the Division still had not paid dues for the current year. Treasurer Bob Herman reported \$56,284.79 in Savings and \$12,605.20 in Checking, so the Division is in satisfactory financial shape to pay for the Pizzas and driver's tip for next month's Pizza Meetza meet. Several announcements followed about the Spring Picnic, Spring Raffle, and the Hudson drawing for 2012. The April Meet will be special for several reasons as outlined by President Peiffer including the addition of approximately 60 lots from the late Craig Voisine. Also mentioned was that Beth Stange would have the pizzas delivered at 11:00, which should be enough time for a terrific meet prior to our annual pizza spread. Certainly Eastern Division has its Ice Cream Social and Saturday morning donuts at York, but our Division ranks alone as the undisputed King with eighteen consecutive years of free pizzas to its members. If you include our order from this year, we will have served over 750 pizzas, and at 8 slices per pie, that's 6,000 slices, and counting! Division member Dallas Dixon described the after meet visitation at the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park and the rare access Division members will be given to all of the areas within the facility. President Peiffer spoke of a recently conducted tour of the City of Goodyear Ballpark facility and the upcoming combined Car Show and Train Swap Meet. Eight foot tables are available for \$25 which will include a coupon so that you can enjoy the fund raiser BBQ lunch for only \$5. With only 100 tables available, contact Beth Stange for table registration soon. The event is free and open to the public and another large crowd is

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 14 – Regular Division Meet – Phoenix, AZ – 9 AM

APRIL 14 – Pizza Meetza Auction – Phoenix, AZ - 12:00 Noon

APRIL 18-21 – Eastern Division Meet – York, PA

APRIL 21 – Car Show & Train Swap Meet – Goodyear, AZ - 9 AM

MAY 12 – Regular Division Meet – Phoenix, AZ – 9 AM

MAY 18 – Rio Grande Chapter Meet – New Mexico Railroad Fair – 9 AM

expected again this year. Under old business Chris Allen mentioned that he had contacted Director of Development, Jayne Boyce, at the TCA National Business Office regarding our contribution to the Division Annual Appeal. During the discussion of the motion last month, several members wanted the contribution to go towards the upgraded lighting project in the National Toy Train Museum, and specifically where the Cole Gibbs train is located. Chris reported that the lighting for that display has already been upgraded so the funds will be used for the “In Memory Of” case in the Lavinus Gallery instead. There was no new business so President Peiffer hi-balled it to the Educational segment where he spoke about Jersey Central Express Box Cars. Jonathan had several on display from various manufacturers including Lionel, Weaver, and Atlas many with modified scale trucks and couplers. Without making (m)any comments Jonathan also displayed one in Irish Orange. Continuing the St. Patrick’s Day theme of green, John Wiley was up next, displaying a wonderful Kusan Atomic train. He retold a great story about how it was acquired and his diligent search for parts and the eventual repair of this wonderful and unique train. Ralph Treichel displayed his Chicago, and Illinois, Midland Lionel set that he ran at the Lionel Centennial celebration in 2000. Since that time and through diligent eBay searches and opportunistic purchases Ralph has been able to expand the train today into quite an impressive consist. Gordon Wilson wrapped up the very busy segment with several interesting items. First up was a rare chance for the members to see all four known variations of the 3435 Traveling Aquarium Car side by side. This was a great opportunity to see what the books all talk about up close. Gordon then shared the #1430 Passenger train set from 1948 with the 2400, 2401, and 2402 streamlined green Pullmans. Wrapping up his segment Gordon spoke of his recent Cal-Stewart purchase of the service station re-issue of the set from 1990. A very green, enjoyable and educational segment indeed!

The winners of the monthly raffle drawing were Brad Martin, who promptly picked up the Hudson ticket, Gordon Wilson chose a boxed set of DVD’s, Chris Allen Lionel Boxcar, Jon Hinderer TCA Commemorative car, Tony Saulina Lionel Boxcar, Wayne Ross TCA Calendar (still available from the TCA Business office), Ralph Treichel American Flyer boxcar, and Sam McElwee TCA 50th Commemorative anniversary plates with stands. The winner of the \$100 Hudson monthly drawing was Katie Elgar. Congratulations All!



Division member Lori Cripps asking for information about Glenn Toy Trains – read her story in this issue

**A Glenn Toy Train tank car, part of Lori’s collection
A very solidly built car!**

APRIL EDUCATIONAL TOPIC – IS IT A FOOD FIGHT?

In recognition of the Division serving over 6,000 slices of free Pizza the past 18 years, the April educational segment will be trains or rolling stock that has a food related theme. Let’s not just stick to the MPC era when food product cars proliferated under the General Mills banner and product co-licensing. The challenge will be to dig a little deeper and see who can come up with the earliest food related product or maybe the most obscure food product ever to be emblazoned on the side of a rail car. I personally love the colorful Coca-Cola “Fanta” train that has some pretty obscure cars, anyone have one to showcase? Fast Eddie’s Salsa Smoking Tank Cars do not qualify; it has to be a real food product but try to think harder than Baby Ruth Boxcars. This educational segment is sure to whet our appetites for the pizzas that will follow.



Top - Gordon Wilson's recent Cal-Stewart purchase (right) a rare treat - all four variations of the #3435



Ralph Treichel speaking about expanding his C&IM consist over the past decade



Smiles all around as Treasurer Bob Herman awards Katie Elgar the Hudson \$100



A rare behind the scenes look at the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park workshop

**AFTER MEET VISITATION AT McCORMICK-STILLMAN RAILROAD PARK
AND THE SPRING PICNIC – HUNGRY FOR MORE?
READ ANGELO's ARTICLE INSIDE**



TCA Desert Division BOD Meeting – March 7, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:05PM at the home of Marty and Paula Wik

In attendance: Jonathan Peiffer, Art Triant, Bob Herman, Angelo Lautazi, Ralph Treichel, Beth Stange, Marty Wik

Approval of Agenda - The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes - Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Secretary's Report - Angelo reported that there were 36 members still owing dues.

Treasurer's Report - Bob presented the Treasurer's report. There is \$56,284.79 in the Savings account and \$12,605.20 in the checking account.

Old Business

March Picnic – Marty reported that everything is set for the Spring Picnic. Marty will buy the food, Brad Martin is cooking, Angelo is bringing the soda and Beth will get some prizes for the games.

Goodyear Car Show – Art will follow up on whether the car club started their promotions. Marty says that there will be a large room to set up the sales tables. Beth is planning a trip to the stadium so she can better plan the table sales.

April Pizza Meetza – Beth will order pizzas for 11am delivery. Rosa Pillof from Domino's Pizza has guaranteed that the delivery will be on time and that there would be a wide variety of choices. Rosa stated that there would be a special presentation during the April Meet in recognition of the Division's 750th pizza purchase. The April auction will include 60 lots from the Voisine collection. Angelo will need to use the laptop and the auction program in order to track these 60 lots.

2012 Turkey Meet – Jonathan is planning to meet with representative from Chapparral Suites to discuss terms of this year's event.

2012 Holiday Party – set for Sunday Dec 9th. Katie is checking on the woman's gift and Ralph will follow up on the men's gift.

Rio Grande Chapter visit – Feedback from the Chapter is for the Division to participate in the Pumpkin Meet, Sunday October 28. Need to confirm date with members and develop an itinerary.

New Business

The Opportunities at the Scottsdale and Goodyear Railroad parks - We will visit the Scottsdale park after the March meeting to see what the new club building has to offer. Jonathan plans to meet with the park manager to gather some additional information. Jonathan asked the board members if they felt that the Goodyear Train park was a viable partner for our Division and the board was unanimous in exploring the opportunity.

The next board meeting will be on April 11th at Angelo's home.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm by Jonathan.

Editors Note: These minutes are condensed for publication – See the Division Secretary for the official minutes if you have any questions
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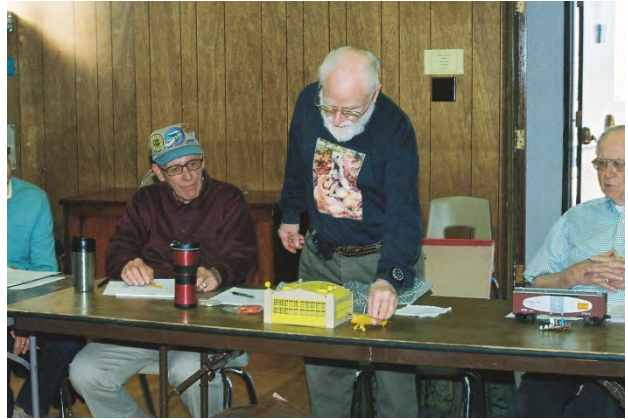
DESERT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-2013

President:	Jonathan Peiffer	602-561-4131	Directors:	Greg Palmer	505-898-3840
Vice-President:	Art Triant	480-284-4665		Beth Stange	480-947-5663
Secretary:	Angelo Lautazi	480-575-7006		Ralph Treichel	602-863-6985
Treasurer:	Bob Herman	480-948-2730		Marty Wik	480-488-8625

RIO GRANDE MEET PHOTOS



David Nycz demonstrates his Balast King ballast car



James Trever displays his Marxville hangar with a Marxville operating crop duster



Art Lites shows off his Lionel #1479W set



David Nycz's after meet visitation showcased his new train display shelves



Just one small scene from David's layout visitation



David Nycz's Lionel #204 on one of the many levels of his magnificent layout

RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

By Gregory Palmer TCA#94-39039

The Chapter had a well attended March 17th Meet, even though the NCAA Tournament was in town at the famous "Pit" (UNM Arena), and the hometown University of New Mexico was itself playing in March Madness up in Portland. Even with all the basketball action and alma maters playing in the tournament, toy trains and friendships still came out on top that morning. Kicking off the St. Patrick's day meet with the Education Segment or "Show and Tell" as some call it, I displayed some pages I had copied from a 1954 Albuquerque Telephone Book with advertising for Hobby Shops, Toy Stores, and Department Stores selling Lionel Trains in the area. For those of you unfamiliar with this device, a Telephone Book is what people used to find businesses and people before the age of the Smart Phone, Computers and GPS Systems. It was fun to see all the stores advertising and selling Lionel and American Flyer Trains back then. There were around 30 stores selling Trains and Model Railroading Supplies at a time when there was a population of about 50,000. Today there are only about three Hobby Shops in the same area with our present Albuquerque Metro population of close to one million. David Nycz demonstrated his Ballast King Car which he uses to ballast his wonderful layout. Next up, John Anderson talked about a store he visited that used a Gilbert American Flyer Whistling Billboard for its door entry chime. Jim Trever once again brought in several one of a kind Mark and Pyro items from his collection including a Marxville Airport with an operating crop dusting plane, a Kusan Howitzer, and Pyro Truck and Barge. Dale Schafer, a member of the TCA Standards Committee, talked about the 6464 Central of Georgia Boxcar with the scarce red ends he once owned, and what to be on the lookout for in determining a fake or fraud. He sold his several years ago for \$4000.00. Art Lites showed off his Lionel #1479W outfit which is a 2056 set. It is in almost C-8 condition. Last up, Warren Smalley brought in his childhood 1947 Train Set which was made a car at a time, and was pulled by a 221 Steam Locomotive. Great looking Passenger Set.

The Meeting was called to order and the first item for discussion was the October 28th Pumpkin Meet. We hope to have a large group of Division members from the Phoenix area coming by bus to visit us. Although this is still in the early planning stages the guest hotel will be the Sheraton Uptown where we can get good rates for our out of town guests. Ideas are needed to fill out an itinerary for their stay including some layouts and collections to tour. Plan to attend the May 19th Rail Fair Meet with your ideas and suggestions so that we can put together a schedule for the members in Phoenix to enjoy. Speaking of the Meet itself, we still need donations for the Pumpkin Meet Raffle and are always looking for new and inexpensive advertising ideas. If you, your spouse, or friend might be able to help with the door registration and many of the other things at the Pumpkin Meet, please let the committee know. Next up for discussion was the visit by the TCA National Convention Chair Dannie Martin and Past National President Chris Allen in regards to the Rio Grande 2019 TCA National Convention bid. They were in town as guests of the Albuquerque Convention Visitors Bureau on a familiarization tour or FAM. The FAM went well and ten of the larger Hotels in Albuquerque were toured along with several family friendly attractions that would make for some great convention tours. Both Dannie and Chris came away confident that we will be able to host the convention, but the devil is in the details. There are challenges to fit all of the TCA needs regarding meeting space, location, and room nights into each Hotel toured. A preliminary report will be given at the Convention Guidelines Meeting at York in a few weeks and then approval of the National Board of Directors in Atlanta at the National Convention this year. I will keep everyone updated on the progress and decision by the TCA Convention Committee. The next item discussed was investigating a new cost free meeting location for the Chapter starting in 2013. Don Kuster and I will tour the possible new Hall in a few weeks. We will know something by the May 19th Rail Fair Meet. To keep you up to date on all late breaking news we need to make sure that the Division and the Chapter has your current E-mail address. Send your changes to Division Secretary Angelo Lautazi at lautazi@aol.com and to James Trever at prairie_dog5@yahoo.com to be included on the e-Blast chain. You should also send new phone numbers or address changes to both Angelo and to Scott Eckstein for our Rosters. National Train Day is scheduled to be at the Alvarado Transportation Complex on May 12th from 9:00AM to 4:00PM. The next Rio Grande Chapter Meet will be May 19th at the New Mexico Railroad Fair at School Arts Building at Expo New Mexico. Discount coupons are at Trains West. The Chapter will be notified via E-mail Blast if we get the free table for the Chapter Donation Sale at the New Mexico Railroad Fair on May 19th. We will have very important items to talk about at the Meeting which will start at 10:00AM. See you there!

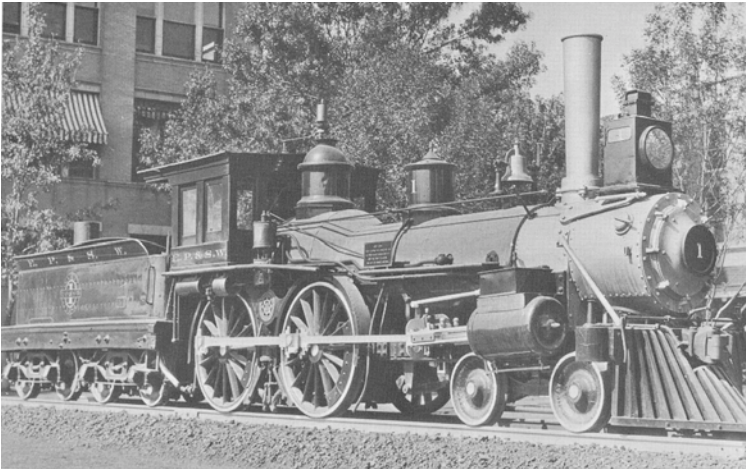
RIO GRANDE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012 - 2013

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

THE TRAINS OF ARIZONA

by Peter Atonna

Railroads operating in Arizona reflected the equipment being used throughout the country. So, in addition to being able to import and export minerals and merchandise with the rest of the country, we were also stops along the routes of some very special passenger trains. Here are illustrations of some of the trains traversing our state during its territorial and statehood years. All photos by Atonna unless noted.



The American, or 4-4-0 wheel arrangement locomotive was the standard design of the late nineteenth century. Flexible for pulling freight or passenger trains, these locomotives were often furnished with brass trimmings and elaborate paint schemes. This is El Paso and Southwestern #1 on display. Photo: anonymous



By the early part of the 20th Century, steam locomotive design had evolved in size and sophistication. These were the machines that fascinated generations of men and boys with their size, sounds and even smells. Here is a Southern Pacific 4-10-2 steam locomotive hauling an ore train eastbound from the mines at Bisbee to the smelter at Douglas.



Scenes such as this could be found throughout Arizona. A heavy freight train leaving town, pulling a long string of mixed freight cars. Railroads operated 24 hours a day. Many Arizona towns were founded as watering stops along the main lines. You can follow those original lines by visiting towns such as: Kingman, Seligman, Ash Fork, Williams, Flagstaff, Winslow and Holbrook along the Santa Fe main line in northern Arizona and Yuma, Gila Bend, Casa Grande, Tucson, Benson, and Wilcox along the Southern Pacific main line in southern Arizona.



Arizona railroads were also major employers requiring large number of men to man the trains themselves, but also to service and repair them, to act as public agents, and to man stations in towns large and small.



The Pullman car and day coach were the way the majority of Arizonans experienced train travel for the first half of the 20th Century. Dozens of passenger trains stopped at any town of size throughout the state. Here is the Imperial, a full service train which travelled between Chicago and Los Angeles on the Southern Pacific.



Development of diesel powered locomotives in the late 1930's began a major transformation in the nation's railroads. More efficient, consuming a different fuel and visually streamlined, they began a series of profound changes, most notably the reduced need for men to run and to service them. In addition, they were the visual image of new streamlined passenger trains that were the symbol of postwar passenger travel.



Here are two of the most famous passenger trains to traverse Arizona. To the left is the Santa Fe's premier train, the Super Chief which made its run from Chicago to Los Angeles. On the right is the Southern Pacific's Sunset Limited which travelled from Los Angeles to New Orleans. Photos: right - Keith Ardinger, left Atonna



Railroads exited the passenger business 40 years ago as the Federal government stepped in and created a public-private corporation, Amtrak. Sadly, only a small fraction of the routes or frequency of the original passenger service survives. But Arizona is fortunate to still have passenger trains on the two historic routes, Santa Fe to the north and Southern Pacific's to the south, even though our historic railroads are now part of two huge national railroads. Here is Amtrak's Southwest Chief during its stop in Winslow.



Fortunately, people can still enjoy the feel and excitement of travel in the classic manner in a passenger train. We are very fortunate to have two of the nation's finest tourist railroads, The Grand Canyon Railway, based in Williams and the Verde Canyon Railroad based in Clarkdale.

Travelers on either of these lines can experience not only the way America traveled for well over a century, but visit two of the country's greatest scenic attractions: the Grand Canyon and the Verde Canyon.

GLENN TOY TRAINS and TCA FRIENDSHIPS

By Lori Cripps TCA 04-58283

As may happen to wives of train collectors, I was left as a widow with a rather valuable train collection about eight years ago. I had been on the scene for many years when much of the collection had been procured, having enjoyed with my late husband the yearly trips to the Cal-Stewart meets in Santa Clara and Pasadena as well as many of the TCA conventions and two trips to York. I did not have much of a feel for layouts and the mechanics of model railroading, but I did have an inventory and an appreciation for the beauty of the trains in our collection. When it came time to part with some of the treasures I resorted to eBay, and to some extent I was quite successful. I maintained my membership in TCA, but the March meeting of this year is actually only the second local meeting I have attended. What a treat that was! I set up a table with perhaps seven items of standard gauge cars. Among them were a few mystery cars. I remembered them as Glenn Toy Trains, but I didn't know much more than that about them, so I put up a handwritten sign asking for information. Many of the members were impressed with the cars, but none knew anything about them. Member Jon Hinderer, however, took it upon himself to contact by cell phone a friend by the name of Arno Baars. Arno lives out of state, and he was the right person to contact since he is actually writing a book about the many small Standard Gauge manufacturers of which Glenn Toy Trains is one. Arno contacted me by email and provided me with quite a bit of background information on Glenn trains.

Glenn Gerhart started making trains in the late 1970's. He continued production in his basement until 1987 when he sold the company. Glenn passed away in 1995. He made many different types of freight cars along with a diesel and steam loco. All Glenn Toy Trains were constructed of cast or sheet aluminum, and as many of the members who picked up the cars I had at the March meeting can verify, they can be quite heavy. They are well constructed and equally well detailed. Around 30 different styles of cars were produced through the years.

I sent Arno photos of my Glenn cars, and he in return commented in detail on each of them. We also exchanged ideas on the McCoy trains, which also have a place in my collection. Arno does not have a publishing time frame for his book at the moment, but he continues to work on it nonetheless. It's been a great labor of love for him, and he enjoys the challenge. I'm sure you will find it of interest when it does get published.

One of the other problems I have and need to solve is the fact that my late husband, who was not a purist, liked to be able to run his trains in reverse remotely, so he changed a few of the engines to a system that would do that by installing a bridge circuit in the engine. Most collectors are purists and wouldn't like that change, so I need to find someone in the club with an electronics background who can show me how to change those engines back to original.

I am grateful for the help I got from Arno and the friendly interchange with the TCA members at the March meeting. I have a renewed sense of the camaraderie, and I thank you for that. My special thanks to Jon Hinderer for his efforts on my behalf. If anyone has, or is in need of, information regarding Modern Era Standard Gauge trains, please contact Arno at classictrains@mac.com or call 678-431-1399.



Two fine examples of Glenn Toy Train craftsmanship

*** CAL-STEWART ALERT ***

As this issue of the DISPATCH was being finalized we learned of a date and location change for the fall Cal-Stewart Meet – The new date and location is the November 2 - 4, 2012 at the Ontario Convention Center

It's More Than Train Meets

Clem Clement TCA HR-64-987

Editor's Note: Clem is a Past President of Eastern Division and Past National President of TCA. Desert Division members may recall Clem as the sitting National President in 2009 when we hosted the National TCA Convention in Scottsdale. This is an excerpt from his article about ideas Divisions, Chapters, and Members can do to increase their enjoyment in the hobby and alternate sources he has found for trains and potential new club members.

"Cross hobby events" is a strong theme of mine. Going to an auto show and having train photos and a train hat/shirt on works for me. The Antique Automobile Club of America or AACA is the equivalent of TCA for antique cars and their car meets are fine sources of trains. There are several in my area throughout the year and one recent auto show looked like a train meet with all the trains for sale. I couldn't find any bargains with all the TCA'ers swooping about. At a Cambridge show where the nearby bay was frozen over and even the seagulls were not flying, a car guy had an IVES tender for \$5. What was I to do? During my tenure as Eastern Division President, we even used the AACA Hershey Antique meet for Eastern Division BOD meetings. Collectors, collect...., a lot of neat stuff.

Each fall, and sometimes in the spring if the schedules don't conflict, a car full of local TCA'ers attend the famous Car show at Carlisle, PA. We all start the day with breakfast behind the grandstand and then rush off to enjoy the cars, parts, and merchandise. One time we had a grand plan; Dan and I would go one way and Frank and George would go the other to start our goodies hunt. One went left and the other went right and we all ending up meeting around the back side of the building trying to fool each other. That show Frank got an IVES set, I got some rusty bolts.

Wear your other colors wherever you go. A guy came to our train table last weekend at the Atlantic Division meet with a Ford hat on. Lots of interesting talk ensued about dirt track racing. I sometimes drop the word Lionel in conversation with non-train or new people we meet. If the person I'm talking to doesn't care, they will not respond to the word but if they do, well then we have something else in common to talk about. Remember, many ladies have inherited their Dad's or brother's trains so don't exclude them out of your conversations. I have photos of my cars and trains at the ready where ever I am in case the subject comes up or as a conversation initiator.

I urge you to never go to a train event with an empty car. Take your significant other, friends, neighbors, grand kids to enjoy the event, they might like it. Remember the old axiom "If you can't enjoy the way to the picnic, a fun picnic ain't gonna happen". When a new person joins or a TCA'er moves into your area do you offer recommendations to help them get settled like the better shopping areas, restaurants, train shops and local contacts of other members who share their collecting interests? It's a great way to get to know the other person better and help them get established. Also, when you sponsor a layout visit to your home, try to have something for the significant other, non-train person to do or see. For instance: antiques, other collectibles, visit a neighbor to look at art or a classic car, even a special event that you attended and have a video of playing on your TV.

Use your current or past work connections to display, buy and sell trains. Recently I received a call from a former job guy about one of his staff needing to sell an HO layout. The transaction was done successfully thru TCA. If you still work, how about sponsoring a "Bring your train or hobby to work day"? Does your employer have a free buy/sell bulletin board near the employee entrance or lunch room? Use it! One year I set up a static display of trains in the Defense Intelligence Center atrium, we also had a loop of G gauge under their tree. Golly this went great! Sandy and I were doing the setup on Sunday and the DIA Director, General Jim Clapper came by. He was delighted with our display and had lots of questions. The display was up for about a month garnering plenty of visitors.

A stunning explosion of modular layout groups is occurring across America and drawing huge crowds. Does your Division or Chapter have a portable or Modular layout? Folks like trains! In Lionel President Jerry Calabrese's recent interview for LCCA he is most excited about the rise of modular layouts. Go to the LCCA website to hear his comments in Part 4 of a great interview he conducted with them. <http://www.lionelcollectors.org/lcca-newsstand/lccanews.aspx>

The National Capital Trackers are currently conducting 32 modular layout events per year in the Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis area. WOW! That is really bringing the hobby to the people and giving members much excitement in participating. <http://nationalcapitaltrackers.com/>

The National Christmas Tree Railroad just finished their 18th year setting up and running trains around the National Christmas Tree in Presidents Park in front of the White House. Thousands visit the Park to enjoy the special scene and see the trains. This is a great promotional opportunity for model railroading and TCA. I give out many TCA cards and talk about TCA big time. <http://www.nctrr.com/index.html>

Shortly Sandy and I will visit NYC for a week. I have asked fellow TCA'ers for advice as to what to visit and where to eat. This is a great and often unused benefit of our organization. I use my TCA connections like an Angie's list. For example, arriving in the Boston area from our European tour, I looked and found that Lexington was near Hansom AFB so I dialed Dr. Jim Storer. He welcomed us and said the next meet is Sunday...be there. That kindness resulted in me meeting Jim, Marty Visnik, Tom Sage and many others. Whatta GREAT club!



Clem with another "standard" find at York. Happiness is finding trains wherever you go!



How do you combine your love of toy trains, vintage cars, and aircraft? Quite easily if you ask Clem!



Clem and Sandy Clement, enjoying another day of vintage cars and searching for toy trains. According to Clem, you can find them if you just look.



No story about Clem would be complete without a mention of STOMPER. It is rumored the heart of the homemade beast is a vacuum cleaner motor...

Goodyear's Classic Car & Train Show

Train Swap Meet, too!!!



Sponsored by: PebbleCreek Car Club &
Train Collectors Association Desert Division



Saturday, April 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Goodyear Ballpark

(Estrella Parkway, south of Yuma Road, two miles south of I-10 in Goodyear)

Proceeds from the event will benefit the restoration of Goodyear's Historic Litchfield Train Depot, the City of Goodyear's official Arizona State Centennial legacy project. Donations are also accepted!

Car Show Awards, 50/50 Drawing, Vendors & much more... Enter today!

Spectators Enter Free

ENTRY FORM (Please complete all sections that apply to your entry):

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Entry: **CAR SHOW**

Entry Fees: \$20 per car on or before April 15th

\$25 after April 15th

Year/Make/Model _____

Club Affiliation _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

- Participant plaques for the first 150 cars registered.

Entry: **VENDOR BOOTH (10' x 10' space)**

Entry Fees: \$25 per booth

Number of Booths _____ x \$25 = _____

Type of Booth: _____

Make check payable to:

Goodyear State Centennial Committee

Mail entry form and payment to:

16278 W. Cheery Lynn Rd., Goodyear, AZ 85395

For Car/Booth Info Call: Charlie Miller (623) 734-6011

Entry: **TOY TRAIN SHOW & SWAPMEET**

Entry Fee: \$25 per table

Number of 6-ft Tables _____ x \$25 = _____

Make check payable to: TCADD

Mail entry form and payment to:

8619 E Chaparral Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85250

For Train Info Call: Beth Stange (480) 947-5663

In consideration of the acceptance to the Goodyear's Classic Car & Train Show, the undersigned owner and/or exhibitor hereby fully and unconditionally agree to the following: to release PebbleCreek Car Club, City of Goodyear, Desert Division Train Collectors Association, and their representatives, agents, and employees from any liability, risk of injury, loss or damage to property, and to assume all risks including civil disturbance, riot public commotion, negligent acts, or violence of third parties arising from or related to the April 21st event; release all officials jointly and severally from any liability arising from said event; no firearms, alcoholic beverages, or glass containers permitted; warrant that the undersigned has personally read the above rules, maintain a valid auto liability policy, and will abide by said rules and regulations.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



Pizza Meetza Auction Items

The April Pizza Meetza Auction will feature over 60 lots from the Craige Voisine estate. These trains range from postwar to Lionel LLC and most have the original box. Both steam and diesel are represented from various road names as is the rolling stock. There is still room for your items as well. Contact Chet Henry at 480-838-0783 and reserve a spot in the auction.



IT'S THAT TIME!

After 72 years of a "Love Affair With Trains" and 34 years in our home Nancy and I are regretfully looking at DOWNSIZING. This means our train collection must also be downsized. We are offering our collection to you our train friends. Maybe there is something in our collection that you have been looking for, or maybe something that might excite you when you see it. Much is new and all is in excellent condition. Most with boxes. The collection runs from the 1930's to current manufacture, and includes Lionel, American Flyer, MTH, Williams, and K-Line.

Give us a call, come join us for coffee or a cold drink, and look at what we have enjoyed. No obligation to look. Give us a call: *82-480-899-1233

Nancy and Franklin Nickerson
1164 E, Commonwealth Place
Chandler, Arizona 85225

JUST VISITS ARE ENJOYED!

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Spring Picnic Excellent Weather + Great Food = Good Times.

by Angelo Lautazi - Apprentice Chef

We held our annual Desert Division spring picnic with the Grand Canyon Model Railroaders on Saturday March 24th and the weather was perfect. This year it was held at the Scottsdale Ranch Park because of a schedule conflict at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. Because the location was new, some members were challenged in finding the park but they slowly trickled in until we had close to sixty people in attendance. The new facilities were great with plenty of parking and nice Ramadas shaded with trees. However the Ramadas were located down a hill from the parking lot which was a bit of an obstacle to getting our provisions to the site of the picnic. Undaunted, our picnic coordinator, Marty Wik, said "follow me" and we drove our small caravan down along the pedestrian pathways ignoring the "Don't drive vehicles on Path" signs. Luckily it was a short trek and we managed to avoid hitting children and baby carriages and it sure saved our backs from toting coolers and boxes down the dirt hill.

Many thanks to Marty and Paula Wik for getting the food, ice cream, charcoal, tablecloths, serving table and all the accoutrements necessary for a successful picnic. They had everything set up before most members arrived. Barbara and I brought four coolers of soda and water and Bill Richardson brought another from the GCMR. We did not run out of drinks! Beth brought a few games and she set them out under the trees where there was plenty of room to toss the Frisbees and plastic eggs. Beth and her young volunteers coaxed members into trying their skills at the games and everyone was rewarded with game tickets for their efforts. As usual our members brought some side dishes and desserts and before long there was an enticing buffet on the picnic table.

The picnic was advertised as starting at 10am with the food being served at Noon because as we all know, Chef Brad is not an early riser. However, to everyone's shock and amazement, Chef Brad came sauntering down the hill at 10:30. OMG! Chef Brad early! Well now we can get this party started. Marty brought two super gigantic extra extra large bags of charcoal briquettes and using that tried and true method of "go big or go home" Chef Brad dumped both bags into the grill. He doused the foot high pile of briquettes with his trusty charcoal lighter fluid and whoosh the flames shot skyward. Being the apprentice chef, Chef Brad has taught me that you need the right "tools" to do the job. Note to self, next year bring oven mitts. In a short time, the charcoal had become an inferno, so hot that the plastic handles on my spatula began to melt. Trying to arrange the charcoal to even the heat was akin to being close to a blast furnace in a foundry. Reaching across to turn a hot dog or flip a burger resulted in the hair being singed off the back of my hand. Chef Brad's strategy evidently was to try and set a record for cooking burgers and dogs for sixty people. I think we succeeded. To say the burgers and dogs cooked quickly is an understatement so there was very little waiting by our hungry diners.

After the meal, there were the customary raffles by both clubs. Jonathan was pulling tickets for the Desert Division and when he noticed that the first ticket was not bent or marked he announced confidently that the winner was probably not Chef Brad (notorious ticket bender). Hah! Guess whose ticket it was? It was that clever Chef Brad who had deviously not bent his tickets. Chef Brad's wife, Diane also scored a raffle prize as well as Gordon Wilson. It seems that living in Fountain Hills is a pre-requisite for winning raffle prizes. Drat! Jonathan then auctioned off the traditional "mystery box". Art Triant was the lucky winner of a Lionel DVD. Cookies, ice cream and plenty of conversation rounded out the afternoon. I almost forgot to mention that it was Chef Brad's birthday and Diane brought a delicious birthday cake. We all joined in for a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday to Brad. When the party broke up we packed up our gear, policed the area and headed out. Oh, by the way, if you're near Scottsdale Ranch Park and need to cook some food I think our grill fire is still plenty hot.

Hudson Raffle 2012

The Hudson Raffle for 2012 features a beautiful Lionel 773 from 1964 graded C-8. The Hudson has been serviced and lubed and will make a beautiful addition to your layout or display. The rules for this year's drawing have been restored back to "the way we used to do it". As part of the fund raising efforts for the 2009 convention the first name drawn each month was a winner regardless if they were present at the meet or not. However if they were not in attendance when their name was called they received \$25 instead of the usual Ben Franklin. The remaining \$75 was put towards the convention fund. Last year following the Hudson drawing, a motion from the floor was approved to restore the original Hudson rules to keep you in your seat for the whole meet. To help refresh everyone's memories they are:

- 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 meet except for the July and November 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.
- The only exception to the above rule is if a members 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.



RAILROAD



-CHANGE



ARIZONA TRAIN DEPOT – Lionel Rio Grande 4 Bay Hopper \$58.49 – Lionel Santa Fe PS2 3 Bay hopper \$49.49 – MTH CONSIGNMENTS ALL PS/2 AND LOW RUN TIME UP SD-45, BNSF GEVO, SP SD-35, UP SD-70 ACE w/FLAG, UP GEVO w/flag, BNSF GP60M priced to sell \$369 - \$379 – Also MTH Dummy GP60M engines \$99 – Rio Grande Heritage SD&) ACE w/5 18” passenger car Ski Train \$699.95 - Always ask for your TCA member discount! AZ TRAIN DEPOT, 755 E. McKellips Road, Mesa - 480-833-9486 Mon-Sat 9-6 open late Wed. until 9 PM – **Lionel & MTH Authorized Service Station specials** - Lionel Western & Maryland NW-2 and smoking caboose \$150 – Lionel “On Track” Step Van \$50 - see Ray for these specials and more!

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@gmail.com.

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NOW AVAILABLE! The Titan U for HQ - The new QSI Titan DC Operated After Market Sound System. Operates in either DC DC/QARC or DCC. Automatic selection occurs at Power Up. Go to: www.The-Scaled-Tin-Rail.com for details. Now available for delivery. Specify locomotive sound set desired. Introductory price is: \$99.95. Installation is additional. Art Boynton, 928-525-0755.

FOR SALE -Lock, Stock, and Barrel -Lionel Fastrack entire inventory at current Lionel retail would be \$23,167 to include 120 remote switches, every configuration of track, lighted bumpers, and accessories, etc. Sold as is and no individual items sold. Herb Andreen – 480-807-5151 or 847-640-2262.

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.

WANTED – 2011 LENOX SNOWMAN ORNAMENT from last year’s Holiday Christmas Party, Contact Chris Allen 480-820-9559

FOR SALE – Ives 3255 0-4-0 black cab, red frame w/ 135,135 & 136 black body, red roof & trucks, restored is reverse colors. Excellent Condition Set \$400. Dorfan Freight Cars, 605 PRR Coal Hopper & 604 Tank Indian refining Co. each \$60, 4 Car Dorfan Set, 496 Pullman Atlanta, Boston, & Seattle with people, 497 Observation no people, 8 wheel nickel trucks, extra roof. Set \$360 LIONEL 92 Floodlight Tower (red) Original Corrugated Box \$195; 1684 2-4-2 black w/1689WT \$60, 1679 Baby Ruth Box Orange Door (tattered box) \$30. 1680 Shell Tank 3 dome (tattered box) \$30; latch couplers, 2660 Operating Crane nickel plate (post war trucks) repo boom \$75; 607(2) Pullmans, & 608 Observation Girard Green, Yellow windows & doors, roof repainted dark green, copper journals, latch couplers Set \$180. Lionel Set 224E Black 2224W, 2620,3659,2654,2652, & 2657 \$675, some boxes. Lionel Set 225E Black 2235W Set 853W 2755, X2758, 2812X & 2757 \$675, some boxes 736 2-8-4 w/736W Tender original boxes \$275; 2343 Santa Fe ABA Screen A Power corrugated box, A Dummy tattered box, “B” unit no box \$375; 2321 Lackawanna Grey Roof corrugated box excellent, \$425; 3461x-25 Log Car Green o/b \$75; 3472 Operating Milk Car o/b \$75; 6343 Barrel Ramp Car o/b \$30; 6445 Ft. Knox Gold Reefer o/b \$90; Lionel 1915 Outfit Set Box only \$95; Dannie L. Martin 520-360-0519 or e-mail dannieaz@cox.net.

WANTED – At least three (3) 6-foot sections O-gauge Rail Rax, used or new. Contact Gordon Wilson at christielwilson@aol.com or call 480-837-5344.

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