

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
AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND

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Volume 54, No. 3

April 2025

SPRING HAS SPRUNG IN THE DESERT

Baseball Spring training is over, and all fans have left until next season while the regular season is in full swing with fancy new bats. The national champion in college basketball has not been decided yet. However, those of us in Desert Division have much more important questions to ask. With the upcoming three club picnic at Scottsdale McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park in less than a week, the timeless question must be asked, "what will the weather be like?" As is typical for this season in the Valley of the Sun, the answer is always, "who knows?" What we do know is that it is an opportunity to get together with our friends at GCMR and Paradise and Pacific and is the highlight of April made even better when you come to share in the fellowship. As always, hamburgers, hotdogs, brats, drinks, and ice cream will be provided. It is up to all of us to provide the side dishes and other desserts. This year we will be at the Stillman Ramada. Food will

be served at 11:00 AM. The picnic this year is happening on the date Desert Division would normally have our monthly meeting. If you show up at Paradise United Methodist Church expecting our normal meeting, **no one will be there!** See you at the Railroad Park!

The March meet was well attended with our typical 30 plus members although at first it didn't seem like it would be. Perhaps the rare rain we see these days got many off to a late start. President Mike Dietrich started the meeting promptly at 10:01 AM. Secretary Angelo Lautazi reported that our current membership is at 164 members with 46 of those also being members of Rio Grande Chapter. Treasurer Mark Thompson reported that the checking account currently has \$14,195.86, the savings account with \$499.73, the PayPal account having \$1091.15, the eBay account with \$1,611.00, and the Wells Fargo account having \$21,198.00.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

April 12 – Tri-Club Picnic
McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, Stillman Ramada
NO REGULAR MEETING

April 19 - Rio Grande Chapter Meeting
9:00 AM - Wheels Museum - 1110 2nd SW, Albuquerque, NM

May 10 – Desert Division Meeting
9:00 AM – Paradise Valley United Methodist Church – 4455 E Lincoln Dr, Paradise Valley, AZ
Meeting in Fellowship Hall

In new business, the National Convention in Jacksonville, Florida was discussed. It will be held between June 21-28 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Waterfront Hotel. Register at: <https://traincollectorsassociation.regfox.com/71st-annual-national-convention-jacksonville-fl> This may potentially be the last national convention for the near future that TCA hosts so make your plans now!

It was announced that all orders for the Atlas beer hopper car have shipped. Cars are still available through <https://www.tcadd.org> so plan on getting your order in soon if you would like one. There are less than 30 cars currently available.

The next Desert Division Auction is scheduled for November, but the date is yet to be determined. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Paradise Valley United Methodist Church, the same venue as previous auctions. The auction is full, but if you have items you would like to sell, please send a detailed list of those items to Chris Allen and they will be sold in the January 2026 auction.

It has also been determined that the Fall train show will also be held at Paradise Valley United Methodist church in the Fellowship Hall. Further details will emerge in the coming months, but it is anticipated that the hall will be able to support 80 tables. The date will be in November and will be determined once the auction date is finalized.

Once again, the plan is to hold the Holiday Party at the Elk's Lodge in Phoenix. While the reservation process for the facility is ongoing, the scheduled date will be December 14th this year. Continue to follow updates as they appear in the Dispatch.

The May, 2025 meet will be held at Paradise Valley United Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall. This will be our annual "Pizza Meetza" and as has been done in recent years, the theme will be "What else do I collect?". As we have all seen in prior years our members have very diverse interests and hobbies. Of course, if you

want to bring trains and discuss them, they are always welcome.

The May educational segment theme was "March Comes in Like a Lion(ess)", bring your favorite Lionel train. Chris Allen started off with a beautifully restored 260E and explained that the Paradise and Pacific had a lottery system to distribute items from the collection of Ray Strom that were donated to that club. Dana Price ended up winning the 260E but upon finding out how much Chris was interested in adding this to his collection, Dana gifted the item to Chris. As Christ stated this was his favorite Lionel train of "this week" as like children it is impossible to select a favorite. John Craft discussed his 1906 Lionel Trolley named "City Hall Park" and numbered 175. Lionel contracted with Converse of Boston to provide trolley shells to their powered and unpowered cars on their 2-7/8" gauge track. John's example was an unpowered one and he explained how rare these are in both versions. Jonathan Peiffer presented some Lionel Pennsylvania Railroad cabooses that were common Lionel offerings such as the pre and postwar metal N5b and the postwar N5c porthole window cabooses. He explained how the N5C was a gift from Lakes and Pines Division member Mike Speltz to go with his postwar 2332 GG1. Jonathan displayed true O scale sized equivalents of these cabooses in an Alexander Models cast aluminum N5b from 1936-1937 and a more modern Japanese brass N5c imported by Sunnyside Models in the 1980's. Ed Alexander has special significance to the formation of TCA and was member number two. The first meeting were held in his barn and the models he produced are still highly collectible to this day.

Your Dispatch Editor would like to take this opportunity to thank EVERYONE who contributed articles for this AND future issues. The diversity of topics makes for great reading!

Again, as a reminder there will be no meeting on April 12 as the three-club picnic will be held at the Stillman Ramada at the Scottsdale Railroad Park. See everyone there!

MARCH 8TH DIVISION MEETING PHOTOS



Lots of conversation as members arrive before the meeting.



President Mike discussing Division business.



Chris describing how he acquired his 260E.



Chris's beautifully restored Lionel 260E.



John Craft discusses the history of this rare 1906 2-7/8" gauge Lionel trolley trailer.



Pennsylvania Railroad cabin cars with Lionel cars bracketed by Alexander and Sunnyside scale models.

MINUTES MARCH 5TH, 2025 TCADD BOARD MEETING AT THE ELKS LODGE

In attendance: Mike Dietrich, Mark Thompson, John Craft, Paul Wassermann, Terry Haas, Chris Allen and Angelo Lautazi. Art Lites on the phone.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes: The Desert Division has 118 members and the Rio Grande Chapter has 46. The Division total is 164. Art noted that the decrease in membership is that many of the TTOS members did not renew this year.

Treasurer's Report: Checking \$14,195.86, Savings \$498.73, PayPal \$1,091.00, eBay Account \$1,611.00, and Wells Fargo \$21,198.00.

Old Business: Recap

- None

New / Ongoing Business:

- The Trailer storage unit will be kept for the full year to allow time to sell the Trailer.
- The Atlas Hopper cars have been mailed to fulfill the orders.
- The Spring Picnic has been scheduled for Sat. April 12, 2025, at the Railroad Park. The Picnic will replace the regular meet. Mark will be getting the food, Chris is bringing supplies from the Club, GCMR is bringing the drinks.
- The Train Show will be held at the PVUMC Fellowship Hall. It will hold 80 tables. The tentative date is Nov. 1st.
- The Train Auction will be held at the PVUMC Fellowship Hall and is anticipated to be held on November 15th. At this point these dates are flexible.
- BOD Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday Mar 30th, at the Bottega restaurant.
- The Holiday party will be scheduled for Sun. Dec 14th. Mark will send a deposit to the Elk's Club to reserve the room.
- The Hardcopy newsletter mailing is more costly than the \$10 surcharge will cover. We will honor the existing member's subscription, but we will no longer offer it as a choice for members.
- Art asked Chris to ask National whether they notify Divisions of new members in their area.
- Mark said he can host the May Board meeting.
- BOD Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday Mar 30th at the Bottega restaurant.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

The next Board Meeting on Wednesday, April 9th, 2025 at the home of Paul Wassermann.

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Angelo Lautazi

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Welcome to April and it certainly has been a great end to winter! With March Madness ending and baseball starting the spring and summer have so much to offer. Additionally, it is a busy time for the Board and the Desert Division as we have a full schedule of meetings, auctions, a show, and a party to plan for 2025. The upcoming events are listed below in the Ear to the Rail.

We will not have a regular Division meeting on April 12th as we are co-hosting the Annual Tri-Club Picnic at McCormick and Stilman Railroad Park. I want to thank Angelo and Smurf for their dedication to the grill and know it will be a fun day. We hope we get another mild day, and our chefs can prepare the brats, burgers, and dogs in relative comfort.

I'd like to take another moment and thank our volunteers that made these events a success. Their tireless dedication to the club is what makes what we love to collect more than a simple hobby. We held a fantastic volunteer luncheon at Bottega Ristorante in Glendale at the end of March. We enjoyed pasta, pizzas, and dessert while engaging in spirited conversation. I hope we can continue this engagement through our events throughout the year. To capitalize on this energy, we are going to feature the very popular "Tell us what you love to collect" at the May meeting. Bring items to let others know a bit more about you! These can include trains too. We encourage spouses to join in as they support us in our quests and often have unique collections to share.

We look forward to updates on the Holiday Party, Train Show, and auctions as the spring develops.

Ear to the rail through Fall of 2025

May 10th:	Regular meeting and Pizza (no auction) – Fellowship Hall
June 7th:	Regular meeting
July-August:	No meetings
September:	14th Regular Meeting
October 11th:	Regular meeting
November Auction:	PVUMC Fellowship Hall, Date TBD
Train Show:	Date and location TBD
December 14th:	Holiday party, Elk's Lodge

As I will close each newsletter, I hope to welcome you to one of our events or meetings and I'd like to add two more "Cs" to the Chamber of Commerce slogan: Collecting and Camaraderie, as the latter is what keeps us going!

May education segment: "Hello my name is Mike, and I have a problem(s)" – trains and beyond, what keeps us on the hunt.



DESERT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2024

President:	Mike Dietrich	623-572-3538	Directors:	Art Lites	505-463-1951
Vice-President:	John Craft	480-785-2432		Terry Haas	602-319-0499
Secretary:	Angelo Lautazi	480-580-5950		Russ Howry	864-419-9354
Treasurer:	Mark Thompson	307-631-4474		Paul Wassermann	480-949-1620

COMING SOON!

By Peter Atonna # 75-7578

As some may know, I am a paper collector - a pretty intense one as anybody can see when visiting here and seeing bookcases and file cabinets full of the stuff. But it gives me the chance to vicariously tour the history of our hobby. One of the most fascinating times was near the end of World War II, when toy production was still shut down. But all could see the end of the war was nearing. Toy manufacturers were now planning their postwar lines.

Of course, they didn't want to announce them before they knew when the resumption of production would occur, and they could resume production. Nor had they probably finalized the products they would be offering.

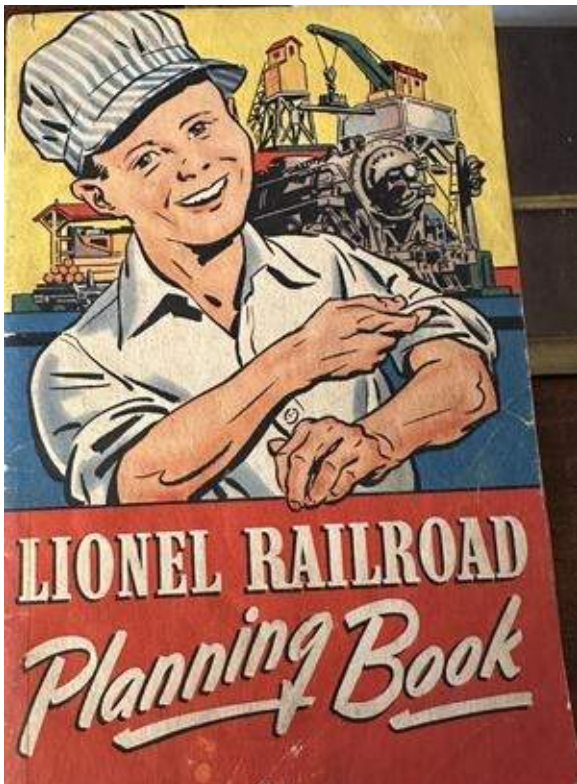
But they started hinting to get customers' appetites whetted.

To me the most fascinating of the "preview" material was Lionel's booklet, "Coming Soon!". In it they stoke the interest in building layouts as well as hints of things to come. But to me, their "hints" did not really reveal what was to come. Rather, they show they were hedging their bets (well, to give them credit, they were probably testing the new products from both manufacturing and marketing perspectives). But now was the time to get all dads and sons ready to buy the new offering by whetting appetites for the soon to be announced trains and getting a layout ready to run them on.

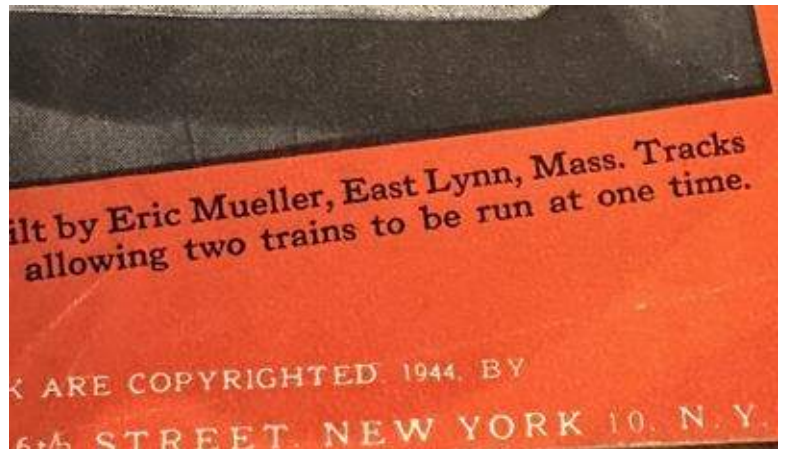
Great marketing.

So, let us now look at some of the pages from this publication.

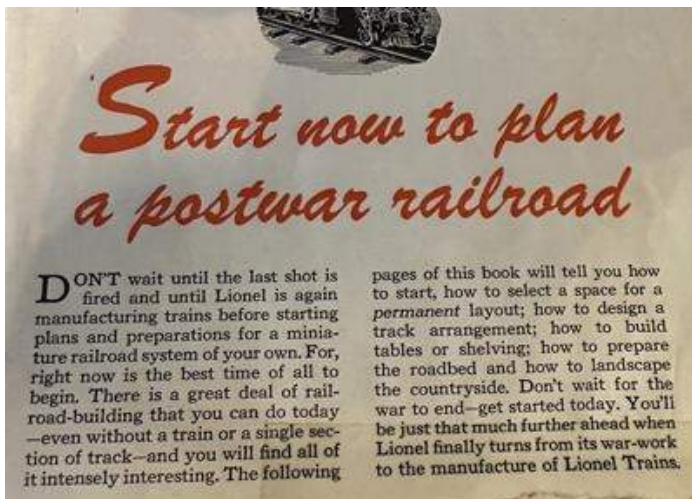
Here is the Booklet



Note the 1944 publication date. There is no way of knowing whether it was early or late that year, but the text amplifies the feeling that the war was coming to an end.



Here is the theme of the booklet.

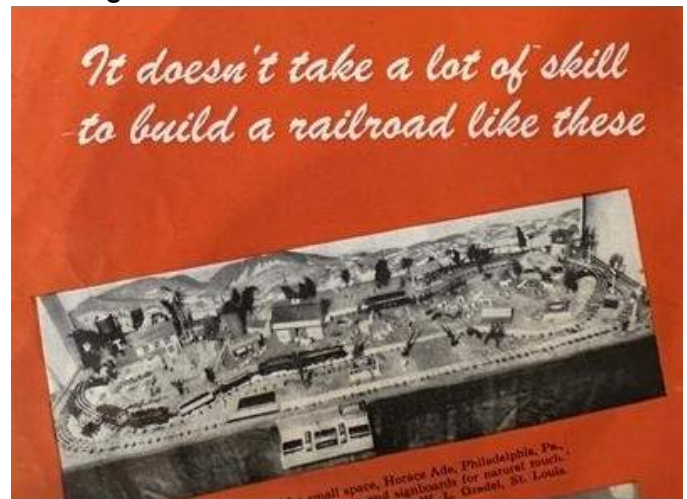


Start now to plan a postwar railroad

DON'T wait until the last shot is fired and until Lionel is again manufacturing trains before starting plans and preparations for a miniature railroad system of your own. For, right now is the best time of all to begin. There is a great deal of railroad-building that you can do today—even without a train or a single section of track—and you will find all of it intensely interesting. The following

pages of this book will tell you how to start, how to select a space for a permanent layout; how to design a track arrangement; how to build tables or shelving; how to prepare the roadbed and how to landscape the countryside. Don't wait for the war to end—get started today. You'll be just that much further ahead when Lionel finally turns from its war-work to the manufacture of Lionel Trains.

Illustrations, even if fanciful, get the juices flowing.



It doesn't take a lot of skill to build a railroad like these

small space, Horace Ads. Philadelphia, Pa., and signposts for natural touch, and signposts, L. Godel, St. Louis

Basements were common in the East Coast, so it was easy for kids and parents to imagine a basement location.

Some of the delightful Bob Sherman layout sketches. These worked well to stimulate imaginations of your own possibilities with sketches of dozens of existing layouts: big, small and intermediate.



THE SECOND THING TO DO

Find a place for building a permanent train layout

THE most important thing in the construction of a miniature railroad system is that an adequate space be provided where the railroad may be built as a permanent fixture. It may not be easy to obtain space for your model, but remember, real railroads once had the same trouble. If you live in an apartment, explore the possibilities of using your bedroom. The railroad table might be constructed to slide under the bed itself

IN THE CELLAR

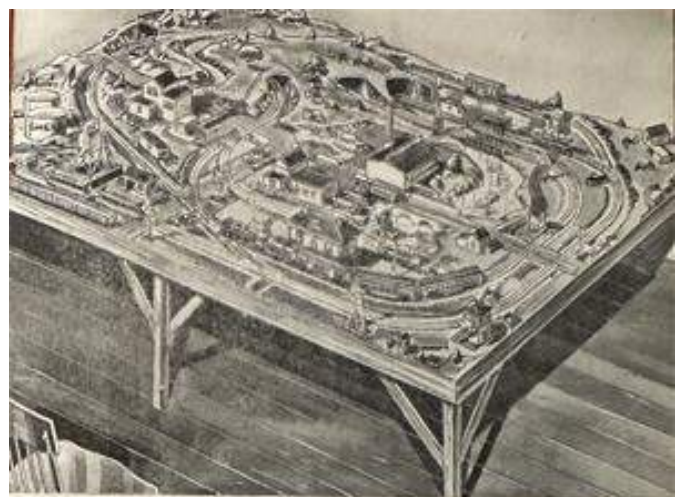



TABLE LAYOUT

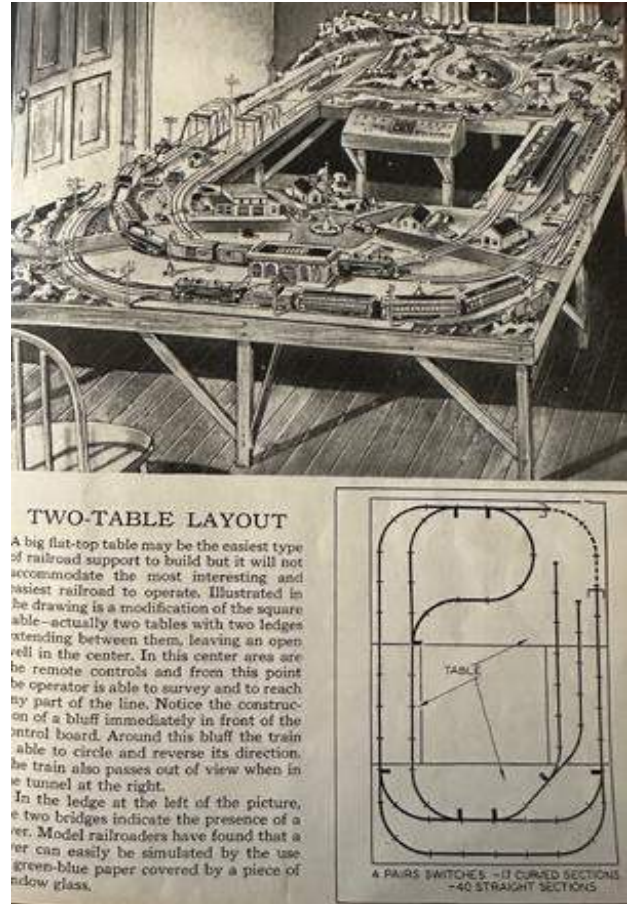
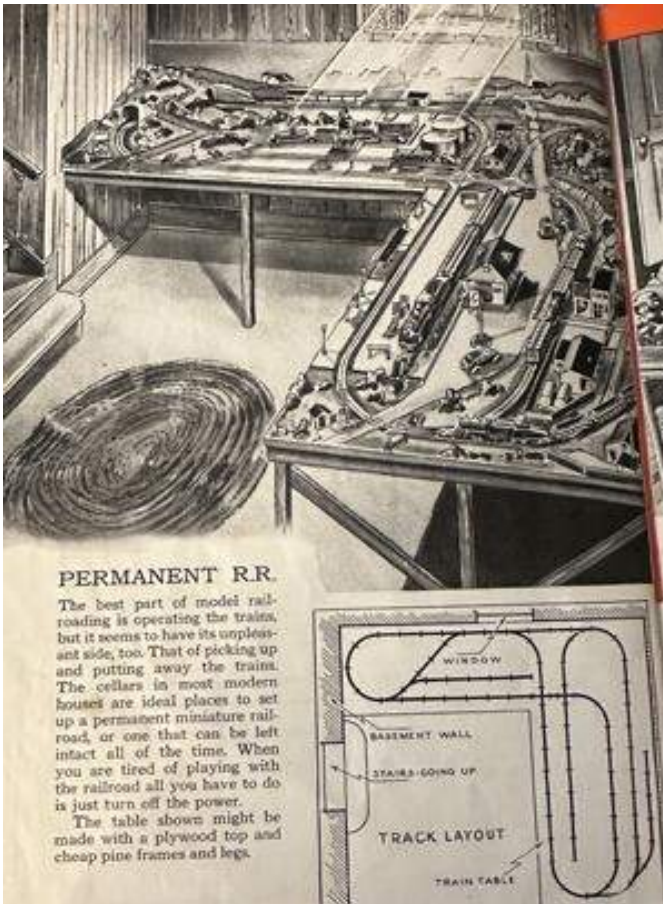
A layout of this type is small enough to be stood up against the wall when not in use. The framing of the table top may thus be built strongly and the legs made collapsible. The various accessories, such as signals, stations, etc., can be fastened to the platform. The tunnel in the background has interesting wooden portals and a picturesque waterfall which can be simulated with cellophane drawn in tight vertical lines. Then streamers can be cut and fastened tightly over this to further portray a falling stream.

The conventional glass over a base of pastel colors gives a good imitation of water for the flat water surfaces. A few small bits of sandstone can be unevenly distributed along the banks of the stream. Glue will securely hold these bits of sandstone in place.

TRACK PLAN



More Bob Sherman layout sketches.



Just a reminder of how to build a layout, and look, it is dad and son working together. Another Lionel theme.

Scenes from earlier Frank Ellison articles stimulates scenery ideas.



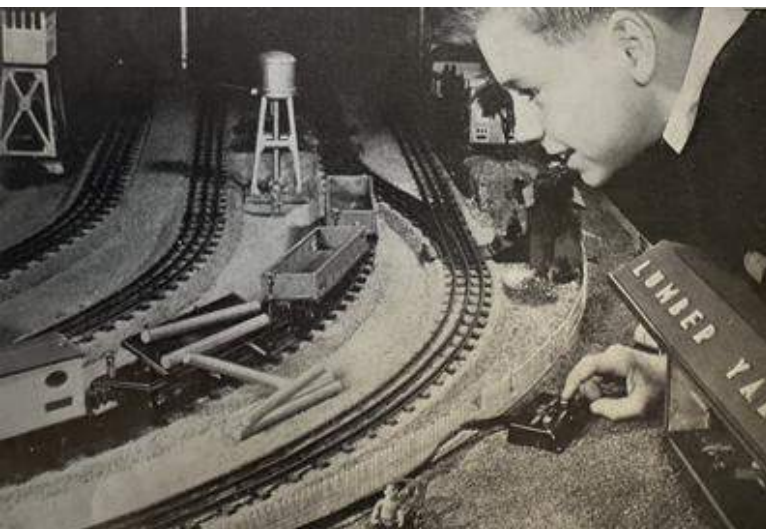
Even at that late date, the decision not to run OO gauge after the war had not been made.



Note that not one of these locomotives were offered after the war.



Next another midair catch from a curved section of T rail track without even an operating track section under the car. Guess, the postwar operating cars were to run from mind power!



The cars shown were simply cars and different price lines, O and 027, from before the war.



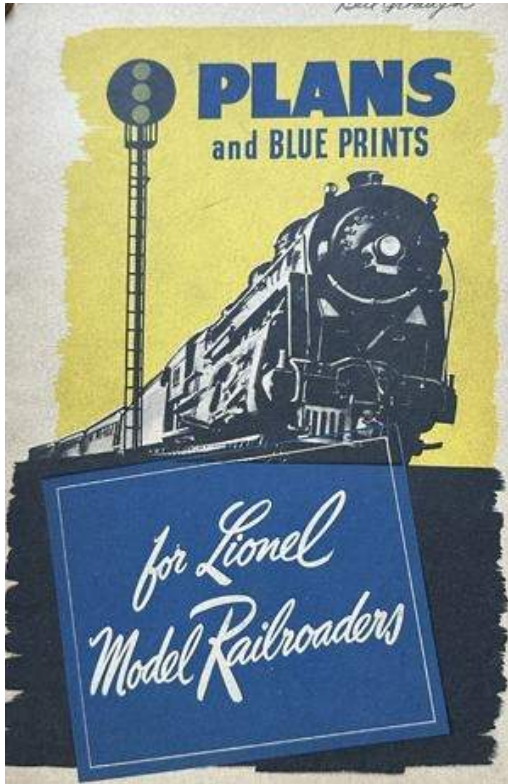
A couple of my favorites. Note the "instant" photo of a huge load of coal caught in midair being dumped from a section of prewar Lionel T rail track.



It was not for another year, when the next year's booklet was published that an announcement of one of the great postwar innovations was announced.

Late the next year a booklet keeping ideas going for those new postwar layouts was published.

From the text, the booklet was published later in 1945.



Here it is, now trucks will have realistic die cast side frames and knuckle couplers!

Brand New!

REMOTE CONTROL REAL R. R. KNUCKLE COUPLERS, DIE CAST TRUCKS AND SOLID STEEL WHEELS ON LIONEL TRAINS

NOTE THE SOLID STEEL CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRUCK FRAME AND WHEELS IN THESE CUT-AWAY VIEWS

Flash news! This is only a pre-view of what's coming in 1946. Your new Lionel Trains at your favorite store have these features NOW! See them! Even greater realism is on the way!

More Sensational Improvements Coming in 1946!

New Remote Control Real R. R. Knuckle Couplers

Hi, Fellows!

"LET'S START BUILDING OUR LIONEL RAILROAD — LET'S GO, NOW!"

Now that Lionel has finished its war job for Uncle Sam and Lionel Trains are back again — let's get going, fellows!

Soon we'll have plenty of track, switches, signals, locos, and rolling stock. Soon, we'll have new Lionel railroad accessories the like of which you never dreamed of.

Start planning the kind of Lionel railroad you've always wanted. Then begin building the layout, so that when all the new Lionel equipment is ready all you have to do is throw the switch, and let 'er roll!

That's the purpose of this little book — to give you ideas and suggest easy and inexpensive ways to build. Read every page carefully. Talk it over with Dad. His advice and help is very important. And don't forget to get mother on your side, too.

"DAD WILL HELP BECAUSE HE'S GOOD AT BUILDING THINGS!"

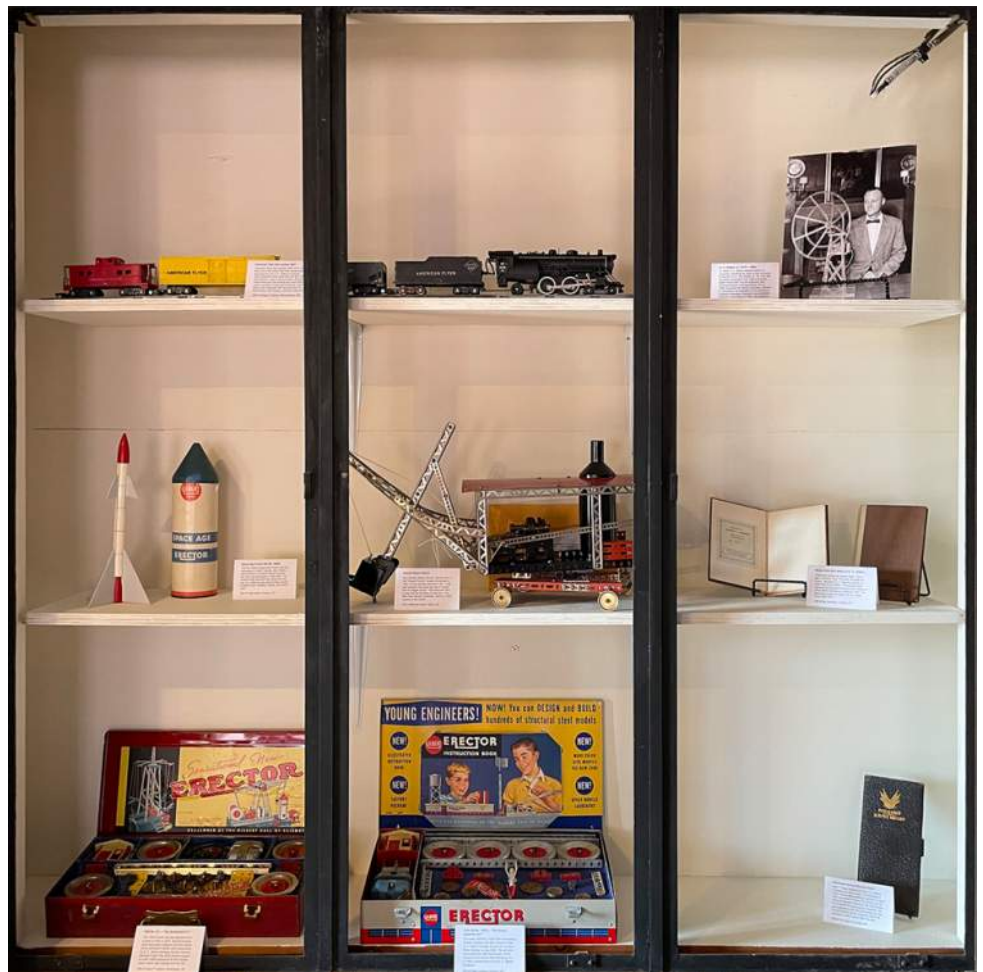
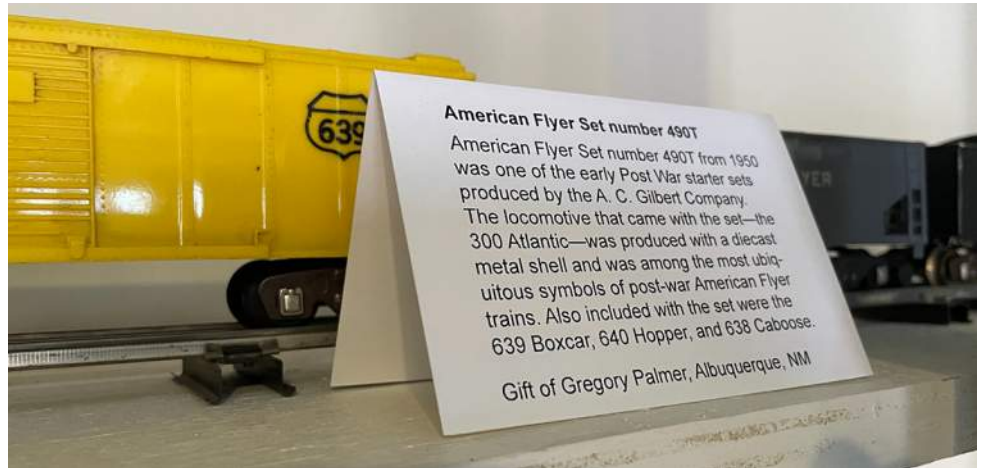
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A DONATION TO THE AC GILBERT MUSEUM AT ERECTOR SQUARE

By Greg Palmer # 94-39039

I am a member of the AC Gilbert Heritage Society. In 2023 I was asked to donate an American Flyer S Gauge Set to the AC Gilbert Heritage Society. They were in the process of remodeling AC Gilberts office at the original Erector Square in New Heaven Connecticut. The grand opening of the museum was to coincide with the 2023 AC Gilbert Heritage Society's Annual Convention in July 2023. The person in charge was the President David Gilbert who is AC Gilberts' Grandson.

I am very proud of having my train set on display in AC Gilberts' office for as long as Erector Square remains. The photos show the set and one of the Display Cases that was built to display AC Gilbert items. AC Gilberts' office has been restored to original condition including his desk, carpet, and curtains. So having my American Flyer Set on display in his restored office was a true proud moment. If any of you go back East visit Erector Square.



COMPACT GARAGE LAYOUT

by Bruce Brown – TCA #95-41451

While it's quite common to label model train people as either collectors or operators, I've always been a bit outside that categorization. For me, the appeal of the hobby has mostly been about building, scenicing, fixing, and playing with electronic control systems.

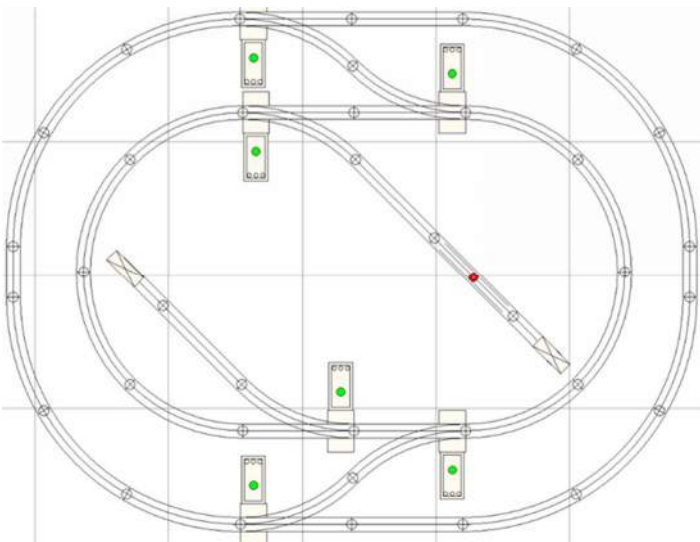
Snowbirding in a Scottsdale apartment for the first time last year, I experienced withdrawal symptoms being away from my soldering iron, oscilloscope, and 43-legged train table back in Virginia. I decided I needed to do something different for this 2024-2025 winter season. I was especially concerned that both Lionel and MTH would be coming out with new control systems in the Fall of 2024. I just didn't want to miss the opportunity to immediately experiment with these latest technologies.

Knowing that we would be shipping an SUV by a truck carrier from our Virginia home to Scottsdale, I estimated that a 4- by 5-foot plywood sheet could nicely fit in the back. I used the old RRTrack software program to determine how much trackage could fit onto the plywood.

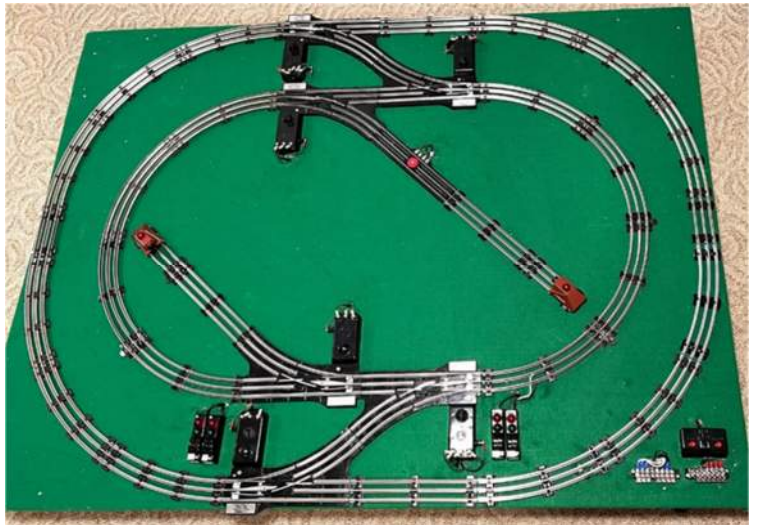
I selected the old Lionel tubular track because I had an abundance of it collecting dust in my basement. When I re-entered the hobby in 1995 and unfamiliar with the company names "Gargraves" and "Ross", I bought a lot of Lionel tracks and switches. I ultimately built my Virginia layout using just Gargraves and Ross, so I had a lot of unused Lionel tracks lying around.

My goal was to put in the widest curves possible to accommodate the largest selection of engines and to have a 2nd main line for running two trains simultaneously. To further the action, I also wanted to include an activation track and sidetracks.

Here's what I came up with:



And this is how it came out:



The actual layout dimensions are 4' by 5' 3". The outer loop is O-42; the inner O-31. The switches are the newer versions of the O-22's. (6-5132/5133). The track is laid upon green felt that is stapled to the plywood.

Luckily, our Scottsdale apartment complex has a private garage that is large enough for a car and the layout. I placed the plywood on top of two inexpensive Amazon-purchased 4' x 2' tables placed side-by-side and added Plexiglas around the edges to ensure no trains would fly off. I then populated it with as many interesting and entertaining objects as I could squeeze in.

Here is the layout:



The layout has conventional, Lionel TMCC and Legacy, and MTH DCS capabilities. The new Lionel Base3 is used with the CAB2 handheld. (The new CAB3 smartphone app is still not reliable.). An MTH TIU is used with the DCS handheld. (The new WTU with the smartphone app is not yet fully reliable either.)

Panning around the layout....



A fearful giraffe about ready to get his head boiked...or maybe not!



Inexpensive die-cast cars from CVS and Lowes populate this recognizable Menards structure.



LEMAX carnival rides add plenty of action and sounds.



Another highly recognizable building thanks to Menards.



A Woodlands Scenic sleazy roadside motel hearkens back to the 50's...



...as does the Menards Ice Cream stand.



The bubbling K-Line water tower adds a moving-water effect with lighting.



At the press of a Lionel Activation Button, the MTH helicopter flies up to the garage ceiling and somehow lands safely back on the layout.



And out of the pages of Ripley's "Believe It or Not!", a Lionel F-19 Scale Pacific - spec'd for a minimum 0-54 radius - runs flawlessly on 0-42 tubular track.

To impress visitors, I run locomotives at full steam using Mega-Steam Eliminator citrus-smelling fluid. They are amazed to see all the white smoke billowing out of the engine. The animated carnival rides and miniature versions of familiar buildings are very surprising to unsuspecting guests who were just expecting to see a simple toy train running around a track. "Wow. Where did you find that?" is an often-repeated comment.

Even with all the pain of working with the new Lionel BASE3 and MTH WTU, the layout has provided many long hours of satisfaction building, wiring, and even operating the trains while away from home.

IT'S HERE!

**Atlas O Premier 3 bay
hopper featuring
Talldragger Beer
from the Saddle
Mountain Brewery**

**Only 125 were made:
order now while they
are still here**

The Desert Division is offering a brand new beer car



Please send me:

☐ single cars @\$94.95 (shipping inc.) \$ _____

☐ two cars @\$179.90 (shipping inc) \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Please make checks payable to: **DESERT DIVISION** and mail to: Desert Division 25375 N. Feather Mountain RD Paulden, AZ 86334. You may order online by going to: tcadd.org and use a check or with a credit card or PayPal (3% service charge on those)



Desert Division Membership Form

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

Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

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

E-mail Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Dues are \$15.00 per year. (Members may pay up to 5 years in advance). No. of Yrs. X\$15.00=

A Desert Division Badge is \$18.00 (optional):

The Desert Division Newsletter, "The Dispatch", will be sent to your email address.

Make your check payable to: **TCA - Desert Division**

Total \$=

Mail your check to the Division Secretary:

Angelo Lautazi, Div. Secretary 6109 E Sonoran Trl Scottsdale, AZ 85266

Member or Applicant's Signature

Date

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

TRAIN ERA

- ☐ 1. Pre-war (1850-1942)
- ☐ 2. Pre-war (1945-1969)
- ☐ 3. Pre-war (1970-present)

GAUGE

- ☐ 4. Scale / NMRA
- ☐ 5 Standard
- ☐ 6. G or #1
- ☐ 7. O or O27 Tinplate
- ☐ 8. S
- ☐ 9. HO
- ☐ 10. OO
- ☐ 11. N
- ☐ 12. Z
- ☐ 13. Live Steam

MANUFACTURER

- ☐ 14. American Flyer
- ☐ 15. Lionel
- ☐ 16. Marx/Mars/Allstate
- ☐ 17. Ives
- ☐ 18. Dorfan/Fandor
- ☐ 19. MTH
- ☐ 20. Williams
- ☐ 21. K-line
- ☐ 22. AMT/Kusan
- ☐ 23. Other-please specify _____

- ☐ 23A. Basset/Lowke
- ☐ 23B. Bing
- ☐ 23C. Boucher
- ☐ 23D. Bub/Karl

- ☐ 23E. Buddy-L
- ☐ 23F. Carlisle/Finch
- ☐ 23G. Elletren
- ☐ 23H. Hafner
- ☐ 23I. Hoge
- ☐ 23J. Hornby
- ☐ 23K. Issmayer
- ☐ 23L. LGB
- ☐ 23M. Marklin
- ☐ 23Q. Plasticville
- ☐ 23R. Littletown/Skyline
- ☐ 23S. Pride Lines
- ☐ 23T. REA/Aristo-Craft
- ☐ 23W. Voltamp
- ☐ 23X. Weaver
- ☐ 23Y. McCoy

- ☐ 23AA. USA Trains
- ☐ 23BB. S-Helper Service
- ☐ 23DD. Fleishmann
- ☐ 23EE. Carette
- ☐ 23FF. Eastwood Auto
- ☐ 23GG. Amer.Model S Ga.
- ☐ 23II. Colber
- ☐ 23LL Bowser

PERIPHERALS

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

Do You Have a Layout?

- ☐ 24.YES ☐ 25.NO

RAILROAD



- CHANGE



ARENELL SERVICE & REPAIR - FACTORY AUTHORIZED MTH AND LIONEL SERVICE.....1825 E. LAUREL ST. MESA AZ 85203. CALL RAY 602-565-6603 FOR SERVICE APPOINTMENT. ARENELL@AOL.COM TCA#97-45797 Repairs on Postwar Lionel, MPC, LTI as well as MTH "O" Gauge and "G" Gauge. Certified MTH upgrade center Discounts to members of all local clubs. I pay cash for train collections old or new, large or small. VISA & M/C

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

ARIZONA TOY TRAIN REPAIR - WE HAVE MOVED! NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS AND EMAIL Complete parts and repair service for ONLY Lionel postwar and prewar trains and accessories at reasonable rates by a long-time hobbyist. Arizona Toy Train Repair, 1771 Knowlton Street, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635. Phone: 602-369-5938, Email: aztrainrepair@yahoo.com New website: www.arizonatoytrainrepair.com. All my information is on the website. Lifetime guarantee on repairs, \$75.00/hr.

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.

FOR SALE: RAILRAX: Used RailRax O gauge 6' sections \$10 each - **Only 20 left!** - MTH 50-1004 AIU New in Box \$75 - Division can do credit card for purchase and bring to meet for pickup. Contact Chris for details

FOR SALE: Lionel 38071 SP Cab Forward 4-8-8-4 Brand new, never run \$750. Lionel 51008 Burlington Pioneer Zephyr brand new, never run \$900. Lionel 38014 D&RG Challenger 4-6-6-4 OB \$750. Lionel Prewar STD Gauge #10 set, Peacock, 332, 339, 341 cars. Individual boxes and set box \$325. Lionel Prewar STD Gauge #8 set, Red, 337, 338 cars plus transformer. Individual boxes and set box \$250. Lionel Santa Fe 2333-20 P X AB Diesel, battery compartment clean. Individual boxes and set box \$250. Chet Henry 480-532-3065 or bchenry@cox.net.

FOR SALE: TRACK SALE - New: Case of GarGraves phantom rail track, 50 sections OB, \$350 (retail \$635); case of Midwest cork roadbed, 25 pieces OB, \$50 (retail \$75). Can be shipped at actual shipping costs. Peter Atonna mjatonna@gmail.com

FOR SALE: TMK Lionel Prewar 0 & Standard 1900-43, Lionel Postwar 1945-69 TM Lionel 1970-89, 3-Rail price guide, Lionel 1901-95, Lionel 1970-1992, Lionel 1901-1997 each \$20, Greenberg's Repair & Operating Manual 736 pages \$30, Lionel Train Book 131 pages \$20, Hess Toy Truck & Racer 1997 \$15, Southern Crescent Limited 9530-34 new \$75, MDH Track Layout & Accessory Manual 64 pages \$20, MDH Operating 0&027 Trains 237 pages \$20. Dan Martin 520-360-0519 danniez@cox.net

FOR SALE: Lionel Model Builder magazine, complete run #1 thru #80 (1937-1949) plus the pre-release Sample Copy of Lionel Model Engineering. All with covers, no cut-outs; \$495 + S/H, or I'll bring to DD meet. Tim Halchuck, Fountain Hills, AZ. Cell 213-700-5455 or email tim@sound-sources.com

FOR SALE: MTH Premier 20-20340-1 DC-3 w/PS3 \$300, MTH MT-6019 UP Four Car aluminum passenger set \$100, MTH 20-6538 Five car ABS passenger set \$150 -- PayPal & credit cards - Chris Allen 480-820-9559 sparkyshome@cox.net

WANTED: for my collection. Lionel prewar and postwar engines in master cartons, scarce separate sale items such as Lionel scrapers, bulldozers, boxed autos, Lionel 6464-700 Santa Fe, -900 New York Central, -250 Western Pacific, -450 Great Northern boxcars in Type III body molds, mint freight cars in high grade original boxes, 6414 Autoloaders with autos in yellow, brown, or kelly green with grey bumpers, following cars in separate sale boxes: 6352 Culvert car, 6352-1 PFE icing car, 3460-25 Piggyback car, any rare Lionel items. Bill Sivley 281-804-3629 or mrwls911@yahoo.com

WANTED: VHS Tapes, Lionel - The Great Years 1955 & 1956 by Joe Algozzini/Don Varda (I have 1954) - Marx 51100 Southern Double Deck Auto Carrier or Flat Cars with trailers/tractors, Marx E-7's - 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 ****



TOY TRAIN SHOW & SWAP MEET

**Saturday, August 16, 2025 from 9 AM to 3 PM at
the Socorro City Convention Center at Highway
60 west next to the rodeo grounds. Admission:
\$3.00 per person, \$5.00 per family. TCA members
free with National Membership Card.**

**Operating layouts, swap meet, door prizes, raffle,
“O”, “S”, “HO”, “N” and more!**

**For more information or to reserve tables contact
Jon Spargo at 575-418-7534 or email:
KC5NTW@sdcc.org**



**Sponsored by the Rio Grande Chapter, TCA
The Socorro Train Gang Railroad Club and the City of Socorro**



TCA Rio Grande Chapter

Invites you to a

MODEL TRAIN SWAP MEET

BUY * SELL * SWAP

Trains, scenery, track, collector's items from Lionel, American Flyer, K-Line, MTH, Marx, Hallmark, HO,O, and S Gauge & other scales too.

Saturday, October 25, 2025

Netherwood Park Church of Christ

5101 Indian School Road NE, Albuquerque, NM

See our Modular "O" Gauge Train Layout

SCHEDULE: Setup : Building opens at 7 am (Member Swap 8am to 9am) Meet Opens to Public@ 9am
Meet closes 2pm

RESERVATIONS: Size 6' long tables, chairs provided. **Tables reserved by submitting the form below with a check made out to TCA Rio Grande Chapter and mailed to the swap meet coordinator by October 18, 2025. Reservation forms submitted after the deadline are subject to an additional \$5 late fee per table.**

GENERAL GUIDELINES: Tables assigned by the Meet Coordinator and special requests treated on a first come first served basis; Electrical setup provided as requested. Vendors will please set up for the entire Swap Meet. We will do everything possible to make the event a pleasant experience for vendors as well as the general public.

Swap Meet Coordinator : Scott Eckstein 505-270-0516
10805 Snowheights Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112

NAME.....TCA##.....

ADDRESS.....

PHONE.....EMAIL.....

TCA MEMBER #TABLES.....@\$15.00EA.....

Non MEMBER #TABLES.....@\$20.00EA.....

I hereby agree to be bound by the rules of the TCA Train Meet in regards to buying, selling, ethics and behavior. In case of dispute the Meet Coordinator shall arbitrate the dispute.

Signed.....

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 18, 2025