

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



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Volume 40, No. 9

October, 2011

## HAS AUTUMN ARRIVED YET?

President Peiffer opened the meeting at 10:03 AM, welcoming everyone. Fred Hunter reported that membership was holding steady. There were 2 visitors present at the meeting. One of the visitors, Tony Ford, joined TCA and the Desert Division. Bob Herman gave the treasurers report: Savings \$47,123.59 Checking \$23,130.80.

Rail Fair is October 8 and 9. Due to lack of participants, the Division will NOT be running modules this year. See President's Message for more information.

Chris Allen spoke on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and Boston Baked Beans were distributed to everyone. Art Triant reported on the Turkey Meet at the Chaparral Suites. Beth Stange and he are looking for volunteer help for the event. Loading will be on Friday, November 25, 10 AM-5 PM. Then at 7 AM on Saturday, doors will open for table holders. Pre-registrants can enter at 8:30 AM, and doors are open to the public at 9 AM-3 PM. Hopefully there will be 150 tables at this event. Art will report back about security at the event, and if there is a possibility to have static displays. Beth reported that the 1<sup>st</sup> table is \$25.00 and additional tables are \$20.00. Only 1 registration is included in the table fees, no matter how many tables one reserves. Beth is strongly recommending that people pre-register. Flyers are printed and available for distribution. Food is being worked out with the hotel, and there is also the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Grill. Art will be meeting again with the hotel and will report back at next meeting. Chet Henry has catalogs for the Sunday Auction. Cost is \$5.00 each. The room rate at Chapparal Suites is \$99 per night. Be sure to say you're with the Train Collectors Association.

The Holiday Party is December 10, at the Marriott Hotel in Mesa, beginning at 4PM.

Nominations for TCA National office from the Desert Division are as follows: Christie Wilson for National Secretary, nominated by Fred Hunter; and Katie Elgar for National Vice President, nominated by Bob Herman.

Chris Allen will be the Nomination Chair for the Desert Division and there will be a committee formed of 3 members. Remember the commitment for officers is 2 years. Get involved in your club!!! By Desert Division Bylaws, past-presidents of the Division cannot run for the office of vice-president or president again.

Reminder: There is a November meeting this year on November 12<sup>th</sup>. It will be held in the Chapel since we were late in deciding to hold a meeting and the main hall was already reserved.



## COMING UP . . .

**OCTOBER 8 – Regular Division Meet – Phoenix, AZ – 9 AM**

**OCTOBER 8-9 – Railfair – Railroad Park, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM**

**OCTOBER 13-15 – Eastern Division Meet – York, PA**

**OCTOBER 22 – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party – Chaparral Suites, Scottsdale, AZ – 6 PM**

**OCTOBER 30 – Pumpkin Meet – Sheraton Uptown Hotel, Albuquerque, NM – 9 AM**

**NOVEMBER 5 – Gadsden-Pacific Train Show & Meet – Tucson, AZ – 9 AM**

**NOVEMBER 12 – Desert Division Mini-Meet – Phoenix, AZ – 9 AM**

**NOVEMBER 26 - Turkey Meet Swap Meet– Chaparral Suites, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM**

**NOVEMBER 27- Turkey Meet Auction – Chaparral Suites, Scottsdale, AZ – 8 AM**

**DECEMBER 11 – Holiday Party – Mesa Marriott – 4 PM**

The Education Segment was next. Terry Bunish spent time in Cincinnati this summer and took a trip on the Dinner train. His daughter, who won a train trip in the spring from Cincinnati to Washington DC for the Cherry Blossom Festival, set up the trip, which had a '50's theme. The line was originally built for the Little Miami Railroad, Cincinnati to Milford, Loveland, Xenia, Springfield around 1846. Terry also shared a program from the Chicago Railroad Fair in 1948, celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chicago Railroad. Walt Disney & Ward Kimble were on the program. The program was a Guidebook/Program of the Fair. Marty Wik brought in some towers that he purchased in Prescott: an American Flyer tower that is O-scale, and a light tower built by Colber for A.C. Gilbert. He also found a porcelain transformer by Bell that had a screw-in plug. Chris Allen showed a flashing light display of about 7 flashers that can bring life to the layout. He got the idea from Bill McDowell, using a car flasher for signals on track. The only problem is the noise of the blinker system. Chris has continued to play w/circuit sets that he has bought on E-bay.

Raffle prizes were awarded as follows:

- Phil Todd - Lionel 2011 catalog and Great Trains of North America.
- John Upshur - Lionel 2005 TCA Convention Car 6-52376
- Tony Ford - Lionel 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Car 6-29910
- Trudy Matthews - Williams Club Car 47065
- Chet Henry – Lionel Spokane, Portland & Seattle Box Car 6-19213
- Sam McElwee - Dimestore Dreams Car with boat
- Chris Allen - Tow Truck and CTT Subscription
- Fred Hunter - Hudson Ticket

Ivan English announced that UP will be bringing the 844 to Tucson on November 11. There is also a Centennial stop overnight in Phoenix. Chris Allen mentioned Sweeties, as a store that sells bulk candy. The store is located on Alma School and Chandler Blvd.

Gary Varner's train room was open for the After Meet Visitation.

George Sokol won the Hudson drawing. Since he was not in attendance, he will receive \$25.00.



Terry Bunish shows the 1948 Chicago Railroad Fair Guidebook/Program.



Marty Wik holds his porcelain transformer.



Chris Allen arranges his display of railroad flashers.

### OCTOBER 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY GIVE-AWAY

During this Desert Division 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration year, we have strived to provide our membership with an interesting perk/gift at each regular monthly meet. October's gift will be two free dinner reservations to the Banquet for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. Names will be drawn from persons who reserved their dinner reservations on or before September 30. Each of these two persons will receive a \$25 refund (the cost of one dinner reservation).

### DESERT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2011

President:	Jonathan Peiffer	602-561-4131	Directors:	Greg Palmer	505-898-3840
Vice-President:	Bob Johnston	623-582-2110		Tony Saulina	480-756-1563
Secretary:	Fred Hunter	480-947-3639		Ralph Treichel	602-863-6985
Treasurer:	Bob Herman	480-948-2730		Marty Wik	480-488-8625

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall is upon us and it is still over 100 degrees here in Phoenix. The big question for me at this time of year is when will nature release our valley from the grip of heat? Just as the night temperatures drop, things continue to heat up as we move into the last three months of our year.

Our September meet was well attended and the Division nominated Christie Wilson and Katie Elgar as candidates for upcoming elections of the 2012 National Board of Directors. Congratulations to both of them and best on their campaigns to serve our national organization!

As we move into October we are getting closer to our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration at Chaparral Suites in Scottsdale. We have a special room rate of \$99 if you ask for the "Train Collectors Association" rate. Remember that if you sign up before October 1<sup>st</sup> you will be entered in the early bird contest where you could get your ticket price refunded! To offset the cost of the event we still have ruby hoppers for sale. At \$65.00 each, they are a bargain. We have sold 64 to date and about 40 remain. If you have an interest get one soon!

We of course have our October meet on the 8<sup>th</sup>. It will be a full meet discussing our final plans for the upcoming celebration and ongoing planning for the Turkey Meet. We also will have nominations from the floor for candidates for the Desert Division board of directors. All positions are up for election, so I would encourage you to consider running for a position if you are interested. An election with multiple candidates for every position would ideal. The Desert Division thrives on growing new leaders with new ideas and that is why you should consider running for a position.

The same weekend in October is Railfair weekend at the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park as is the tradition. This year we will NOT be operating a layout. It was clearly discussed at the September meet that if there is an interest in the Division being at events to operate trains, we would need to have volunteers to assist and to date we do not have enough people to make setting up, operating, and tearing down modules practical. Regardless, I encourage members to attend and see all the other layouts and the latest progress in the new layouts building. We will be there handing out flyers for the Turkey Meet and have some membership applications on hand as well.

The Turkey Meet is approaching quickly. Please volunteer to help with the preparations and the operations of the show. Talk with Art Triant or, as he mentioned at the September meet, he will talk to you! The new location is going very nice and we should

have a good showing. We need people to drop leaflets all over the valley promoting the show. If anyone needs copies, please let Art know. We will get them to you one way or the other! A registration form is on page 11 of this issue of the Dispatch. Note the very attractive table rates for vendors at this show.

Also, do not forget that we have our Holiday Party on December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Marriot in Mesa. The price this year will be \$25.00 and the date was pushed back so our Tucson members could attend this year. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. A reservation form is on page 12 of this issue. It should be a great party as always.

Finally, I want to extend a special thanks to Greg Palmer and all the members of the Rio Grande Chapter for being such wonderful and gracious hosts during my visit to their meet on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. Greg took time out of his Friday schedule to meet me at the airport, show me his incredible collection and share the wonderful stories surrounding some of the pieces, and discuss this great hobby over dinner. Ask Greg when you see him next time about how he got his standard gauge Blue Comet on a plane in November of 2001. All I can say is WOW.

The Rio Grande Chapter's Saturday meet was well attended and the permanent layout space in their meeting hall was a real treat. The Chapter plans to meet an hour early prior to each meet just to run trains. How wonderful is that! For those of you that have not attended a Rio Grande meet, I really encourage you to do so. The smaller group size includes a very efficient business meeting and is mostly focused around sharing stories, showing off new finds and simply getting to know each other better. The afternoon had a TTOS auction that was a lot of fun as well. Wish I had brought the \$40 cash needed to win the post-war turbine! I did get a few inexpensive items though. Again, thank you Greg and all at the Rio Grande Chapter. We have something special in New Mexico.

Finally, for the first time in a long time we are going to have a mini-meet in the Chapel at Shepherd of the Valley on November 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be discussing any last minute Turkey Meet preparations needed and having fun!

Look forward to seeing many of you at the October meet!



## RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

by Gregory Palmer TCA# 94-39039

The September Rio Grande Chapter Meet went off without a hitch. We also had a very special guest. Jonathan Peiffer, President of the Desert Division, came to Albuquerque to attend our Meet and participate in our activities. Thanks Jonathan for coming, and your input was very helpful. At 9:00AM the Jim Spatafora Train Room was opened and toy trains were run. At 10:00AM the group went up stairs to coffee and doughnuts, and the raffle. Then the Chapter does what it does best - educate each other on collecting and operating toy trains with the education segment. First to bring show and tell items was John Trever. He brought his two Girls Set 6464 cars he purchased at the 2010 Pumpkin Meet. He purchased these cars from Division member Gordon Wilson. The two Lionel Girls Set Boxcars completed Johns' collection of Lionel 6464 Boxcars. Next up was John's brother James Trever. James brought some very rare Marx items. If you know anything about Marx, you know that Marxville buildings are very scarce. James brought in three buildings, one with its original box. The Marxville Factory, which James showed off, is one of the rarest buildings in the Marxville line. Art Lites brought three 2500 series cars in for the Chapters' Standards Committee Members to help him grade them for sale. As you can see, our Meets are not only fun, but help educate each member who attends. If any TCA Rio Grande Chapter Member has any question on any Toy Train related item, please feel free to bring it to a Meet, where you will receive help on your question. David Nycz showed off his Lionel Boxed 736 set which his wife won at another Train group's Raffle. What a win. Thanks for showing off this set for us.

The Meeting went very well. We discussed the 2011 Pumpkin Meet which is on October 30th at 9:00AM at the Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown Hotel. Table Sales are moving along faster than last year. If you are getting tables, please send in your application and check ASAP. The applications have been in the past two issues of the Dispatch and are in this issue as well. We need to have a cutoff date of October 24th, so that the Hotel knows how many tables to sell us since this year we have to pay for each table. Please sign up as soon as you can. Also since I will be going to York I will not have much time to get the table orders to Meet Chair Bill Spofford, so send in your applications and checks right away. We have had our flyers out since the middle of May. We will have a classified ad in the Journal, and Craig's list. We will also have our information on the Web Sites of KOAT 7, KRQE News 13, and KOB TV 4, plus the Albuquerque Journal. If anyone wants to put information in other venues, please do so. You do not need to ask - just do it. We will also have flyers at the TTOS NMD Swap Meet, and the New Mexico Railroad Historical Society open house on October 1st. We still need more help at the door and the Auction. Please call me ASAP to get on the list 505-898-3840.



Top to bottom: Jonathan Peiffer at the Chapter Meet. Members enjoy the Spattafora Train Room. John Trever shows his Girls' Set 6464 cars and James Trever displays his Marxville buildings. Art Lites talks about his 2500 series cars. David Nycz displays the Post-War set his wife won at a raffle.

The next major topic was the 2019 TCA National Convention. Your BOD is also the Convention Committee, at least for the first year of planning. Since Jonathan Peiffer was here, we informed him that our first choice was the Sandia Resort. The Convention facilities and Hotel venue are ideal for a Convention. I took Jonathan on a tour of the Resort and he was also impressed. I have also showed the Resort to Gordon and Christie Wilson, who are on the TCA National Convention Committee. Our second choice would be to use the Convention Center and have ACVB help with the event. So we have a year to go to all the large Hotels in Albuquerque and get information for the TCA. However we think the choice is clear. The Sandia Resort is the choice. Jonathan Peiffer told us the Desert Division will help us with whatever we need, but that the 2019 Convention will showcase the TCA Rio Grande Chapter and Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Next we went through the slate of Officers and Directors for the election at our January 21st Meet. They are Gregory Palmer President, George Swajian for Vice President, Scott Eckstein for Secretary, Bill Harris for Treasurer, Art Lites, Carl Cataline, and Jon Spargo for Directors –at-Large. If anyone wants to run for any of these positions please feel free to contact Scott Eckstein or come to the January 21<sup>st</sup> Meet at 10:00AM and put your name in at that time.

With all of our business conducted, it was back to fun activities with a trip to a Toy Train Auction put on by our friends the TTOS New Mexico Division. It was a fun Saturday. By the way, your Division President purchased some items at the Auction, which shows you never know what you will find when a bunch of Toy Train guys get together. I hope all of you will be at the Pumpkin Meet on October 30th at 9:00AM at the Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown Hotel. If you want to help, please give me a call. If you want Tables, please send in your Application ASAP. See all of you October 30th.

### DESERT DIVISION BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, October 5 at the home of Bob and Sue Johnston, beginning at 7:30 PM. Members are welcome to attend. Please call 623-582-2110 to be sure there are enough chairs.

### IT'S PARTY TIME!

by Paul Wassermann, TCA# 73-5169

Forty years! That is the number we will celebrate on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Chaparral Suites Resort and Conference Center when division members and invited guests will enjoy a wonderful meal, moments of reflection, entertainment, limited edition gifts and table prizes, a metal cast O gauge hand-painted figure, silent auction, auction of less than 10 fundraising items, and the special Ruby Hopper Raffle drawing!

Known by some as the “Mighty Mouse Division,” the Desert has established itself over the past forty years as a group of train collectors ready to accept any challenge, tackle any project, and implement new and innovative programs designed to further the fun and knowledge of toy train collecting. Other divisions have had 25 and 40 year milestones, but Desert is truly unique in celebrating these milestones with year-long recognition of the anniversaries culminating in a gala evening banquet.

A tremendous amount of work, energy, and effort has gone into planning the upcoming evening. Attendees are guaranteed to have a wonderful, memorable event. And at \$25 per person this is a true bargain (the Desert Division is underwriting a significant portion of the actual cost to make the evening even more affordable). The appearance of educator, story teller, author, and balladeer, and Emmy award winner **Marshall Trimble**, will undoubtedly be a highlight providing story, song, history and humor by a nationally renowned entertainer.



There is still time to make reservations but payment must be received by **October 8!!!** Don't be disappointed by waiting too long before sending in your registration form and payment check. And of course you can do this online with a Paypal account payment. We have a memorable evening ahead. Don't miss this once in forty-year opportunity!



## DESERT DIVISION CELEBRATES ITS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SIGN UP TODAY FOR THE GALA BANQUET

by Chris Allen, TCA #95-40580

On Saturday October 22 we recognize the vision of our founding twenty-five members and the hard work of all our members during the following forty years by doing what Desert Division does best, have a party! But in typical Desert Division tradition, we always try to outdo ourselves, and this “Ruby” Anniversary celebration will be no exception. As Arizona enters its Centennial year, what better way to celebrate our own milestone than by spending an evening with the Official State Historian, Marshall Trimble. Marshall is more than your average history teacher. Often referred to as the “Will Rogers of Arizona,” Marshall is a widely renowned cowboy singer, humorist, and story teller. We all look forward to hearing from this native Arizona son, as he speaks about growing up in Ash Fork and his father’s railroad days of working on the Peavine.

**The final day to purchase your tickets is Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.** That’s the date of our next monthly meet. We need to give an accurate count to the Resort Hotel for the evening’s meal and you have four wonderful dinner choices of Prime Rib, Cashew Crusted Chicken, Pacific Rim Salmon, or Vegetarian Lasagna. There will be a small silent auction, an even smaller live auction featuring one-of-a-kind artwork by Angela Trotta-Thomas made especially for the evening and a beautiful watercolor print by well-known West Coast railroad artist and Desert Division member Diane Rodriquez, along with over a dozen door prizes, gift baskets, a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary centerpiece designed and built by Division Treasurer, Bob Herman, in addition to which, everyone will take home a die cast figurine by Jim Spellmire, commemorating the occasion.

Plan on joining us for a special night you will never forget as we celebrate Desert Division’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Chaparral Suites Resort and Conference Center is located at the northeast corner of Scottsdale and Chaparral Roads in Scottsdale. No host cocktails begin at 6:00 PM with the evening’s festivities kicking off at 7:00 PM sharp. Plan to join your fellow members in this one time, never to be forgotten celebration. If you haven’t already done so, use the form below to secure your reservation.

**NOTE: You may wish to stay overnight at Chaparral Suites. Room rate is \$99 per night.**

**Be sure to ask for the “Train Collector Association” rate.**

### 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY DESERT DIVISION DINNER RESERVATION

(Return this entire form, or register on line – see note below.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print) Area Code

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Zip Code)

Person(s) attending with me: Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Choice(s): (Please indicate number in blank before choice.) Dinner cost is \$25 per person.

\_\_\_\_\_ Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus \_\_\_\_\_ Pacific Rim Salmon

\_\_\_\_\_ Cashew Crusted Chicken Bbreast \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Lasagna

Number of Dinners \_\_\_\_\_ at \$25 each for a Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed.

Please make checks payable to: Desert Division, TCA

***Return this form with your check prior to October 8, 2011 to:***

Christopher Allen, 1119 W. Plata Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210

Should you wish to use your credit card, access: [www.tcadd.org](http://www.tcadd.org). Fill out your choices accordingly.

**NO RESERVATIONS TAKEN AT THE DOOR.**

### RUBY HOPPER RAFFLE

In addition to the custom designed Ruby Hopper Cars (See order form below), there is one special car, the prototype, number 1. With the car comes a ruby jewelry set, including earrings, ring, and necklace. The ring will be sized to fit the winner, after that winner is announced. The entire collection, jewelry and hopper car, will be raffled off by the Committee from now until the Anniversary Party on October 22, when the lucky winner will be announced. Tickets, which cost \$1 each or 6 for \$5, will be available for sale from now through the gala Banquet on October 22, 2011.



### GET YOUR DESERT DIVISION RUBY HOPPER NOW!

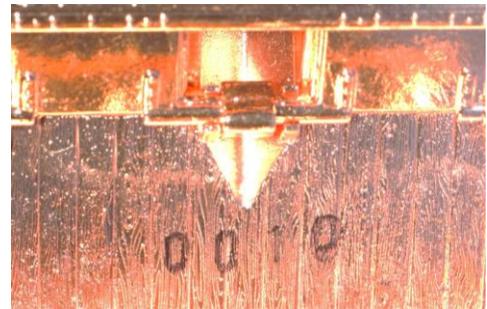
Have you purchased your 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Desert Division Ruby Hopper made from Copper, yet? There were but 104 of them made, but as this is being printed the number is far closer to 50 and they are selling very well. To insure that you have your commemorative memory of the Desert Division's Celebration as a Division in the Train Collectors Association on June 25, 1971, be sure that you place your order today.



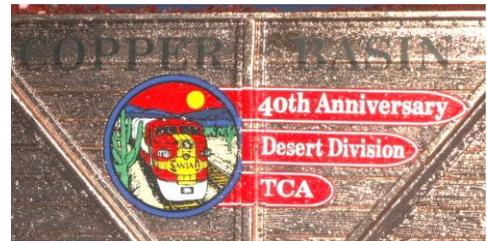
Thanks to Nick Ladd, these cars were specially constructed for K-Line by Lionel out of real Copper. They are similar to the cars which were used as Banquet Table prizes at the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual TCA Convention held at the Phoenix/Scottsdale Desert Ridge JW Marriott in 2009. There are differences, and they are significant. First of all, the loads are a sparkling Ruby, which is the jewel associated with all 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries. One end of the Hopper is emblazoned with data about the formation about the formation of the Desert Division, plus each car is individually numbered from 002 to 104. The same number appears on its box. Upon the sides of the Hopper is a small decal which discreetly shows off the Division's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo. The hatches on the bottom of the Hopper are spring loaded and actually work, manually. The total weight of this car is in excess of two pounds, so it is quite substantial.



You would expect to spend in excess of \$125.00 for such a special car, and at that price it would be a bargain. However, we can offer it to you for the unbelievably low price of just \$ 65.00, if you can pick it up at one of our meets in September or October, or at the Banquet on October 22, 2011. Should we need to ship it to you, we ask that you add an additional \$10.00 to the cost, which is below what it will cost us to ship it to you, but the Division has agreed to pick up the difference.



Fill out the attached form and send your check made payable to: TCADD to the following address: Christie Wilson, 40<sup>th</sup> Ruby Hopper, 16231 E. Ocotillo Drive, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 – 4950.



\*\*\*\*\*

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ TCA Number \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

No of Ruby Hoppers \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 65.00 each; Shipping @ \$ 10.00 each; Total = \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up at a Desert Division train meet in October.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**ST. PETER'S BASILICA FOUND IN SCOTTSDALE!**  
(The HOLY RAIL of all buildings)  
by Angelo Lautazi TCA# 93-37260

I bumped into Marty Wik at the "Beat the Heat" Meet in Prescott and he told me that he had recently visited Gerry Klei and saw Gerry's latest creation, a model of St. Peter's Basilica and Vatican Square. On hearing Gerry's name, I immediately thought of the terrific Meccano toys that he has built over the years. The most impressive, in my opinion, was the Meccano ore car dump that he displayed at the Turkey meet a few years back. When I asked Marty if St Peter's was a Meccano model he said no, it was made from paper and cardboard. He asked if I would visit Gerry's with him and take some photos that we might submit for a newsletter article. I said "sure" and a few days later we were driving to Gerry's with my camera in tow.

"Wow" was my first reaction on seeing Gerry's impressive handiwork. There was St. Peter's Basilica and Vatican Square on display on Gerry's kitchen table. It was a four foot by two foot representation in 1:400 scale. The model was 45"L x 22"W x 15"H and constructed from paper and cardboard. He showed us the kit, which was manufactured in Germany and consisted of pages of colorful graphics of components that represented St. Peter's when put together. So he had to carefully cut each part from the pages, glue them to form the part and then assemble the parts to construct the building. OMG! Talk about tedious work. Take a look at how many little columns there are surrounding St. Peter's Square. Gerry said that the first task was using his computer to get translations of the German instructions into English. After that it was scissors, razor blades, Elmer's glue, patience, and a steady hand to complete the daunting task. I forgot to ask how long it took him to complete this project, but I'm guessing a few months at least.

I took many photos, some of which are included with this article, and I'll post the rest on our website. [www.tcadd.org](http://www.tcadd.org). If you are interested in seeing more of the model's details check out the website.

On the ride home, Marty and I started crunching numbers to put the St. Peter's model into train layout perspective. At 1:400 scale, the model would most closely match an "N" scale layout which is 1:450 scale. To scale this model to an "O" gauge layout, it would need to be 30ft (L) x 15ft (W) x 9ft (H). Any takers? Just think, you could be running your Lionel Hudson past St. Peter's Basilica. What a sight that would be.

Kudos to Gerry Klei for completing that remarkable St. Peter's kit. Perhaps we can convince him to display it at our upcoming Turkey meet.



Above: Gerry Klei sits behind his latest creation – St. Peter's Basilica and Vatican Square.  
Below: Note the columns in front of the building.





TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION  
 RIO GRANDE CHAPTER  
**TOY TRAIN SHOW**  
**SWAP MEET-AUCTION**  
 SUNDAY OCTOBER 30TH  
 SWAP MEET 9:00AM TO 3:00PM  
 AUCTION 3:30-5:00PM  
 SHERATON UPTOWN HOTEL  
 ON THE CORNER OF LOUISIANA AND MANUAL N.E  
 IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO



ADULTS \$4.00 UNDER 12 FREE WITH ADULT  
 TCA MEMBERS FREE WITH CURRENT TCA CARD



DEALER SETUP FROM 7:30AM-9:00AM-TCA RULES WILL APPLY  
 FOR INFORMATION CALL: Greg Palmer 505-898-3840 or Bill Spofford  
 at 505-821-4051.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TCA# \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TCA MEMBER TABLES # \_\_\_\_\_ @\$20.00EA. \_\_\_\_\_  
 NON MEMBER TABLES# \_\_\_\_\_ @\$25.00EA. \_\_\_\_\_

SEND A CHECK PAYABLE TO TCA-RIO GRANDE CHAPTER. MAIL TO:  
 GREGORY PALMER. 9633 2nd St. N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87114.

*I agree to comply with all of the rules and regulations of Train Collectors Association (TCA) and its Divisions and Chapters in effect from time to time, specifically including all rules and regulations of all TCA committees and any actions and rulings of TCA committees. I also agree that all items sold by me to any TCA member at any TCA-sponsored meet shall be sold on the basis that I represent that all such items are authentic and in the manufacturers' original condition unless I have caused and such item to be appropriately marked as a restoration or reproduction.*



## **Gadsden-Pacific Toy Train Museum**

**Seeks Vendors for its**

### **Train Show & Meet**

**SATURDAY NOV 5, 2011**

**9:00AM TO 3:00PM**

**LAS CAZUELITAS EVENTS CENTER**

**GRANT RD & I-10**

**TAKE GRANT RD EXIT WEST**

**TURN IMMEDIATELY SOUTH INTO**

**PARKING LOT NEXT TO GRANT INN**

**EARLY REGISTRATION: 8 FT. TABLES ARE \$25.00 EACH**

**TABLES RESERVED AFTER OCT 15<sup>TH</sup> WILL BE \$30.00 EACH**

**TABLE RESERVATIONS MUST BE PREPAID. SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO GPD TTOM**

**TO: BUD STEWART 13325 E. PLA. EL ALGODON TUCSON, AZ 85749**

Questions? Contact BUD STEWART at (520) 749-0228 (leave Message)

OR EMAIL [bud@at.tuccoxmail.com](mailto:bud@at.tuccoxmail.com)

Vendor Badges must be worn for free entrance into the hall. Vendors will receive two badges for the first table and one per additional table up to four badges total. Set up will be 7:00 am Saturday. A snack bar/lunch counter is available in the hall. Vendors still set up at 3:00 pm will be participants in a raffle. First prize: GPD Ore Car / Second Prize: GPD Box Car

Public is welcome. There is a \$5.00 admission at the door for adults. Children under 16 are admitted free.

To register please cut bottom portion, fill out completely and return with payment to Bud Stewart at the address above.



### **November 5<sup>h</sup> 2011 Meet Registration Form**

Name

---

Address

Phone

---

Number of Tables Requested

Number of helpers

Total Enclosed

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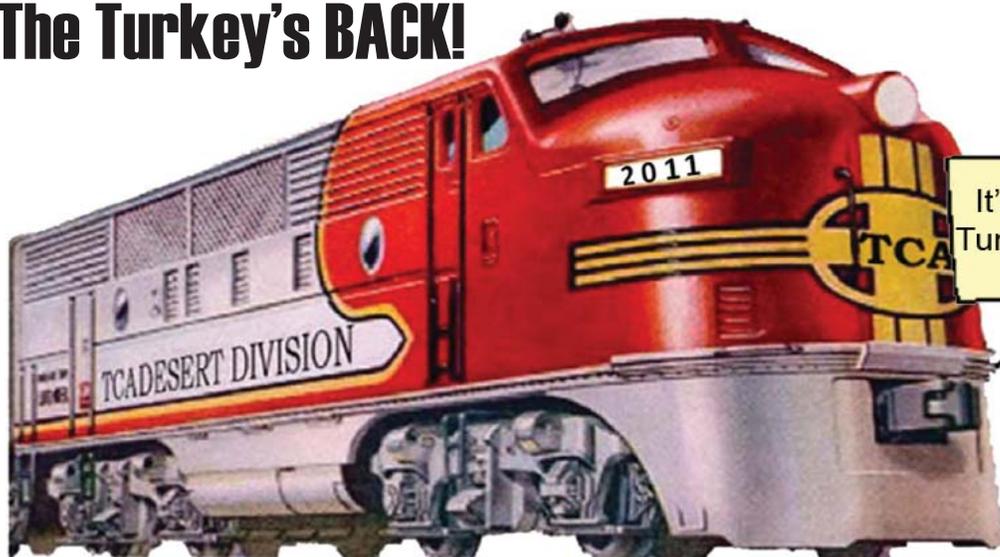
**Desert Division Train Collectors Association**

# 36th Annual Turkey Meet

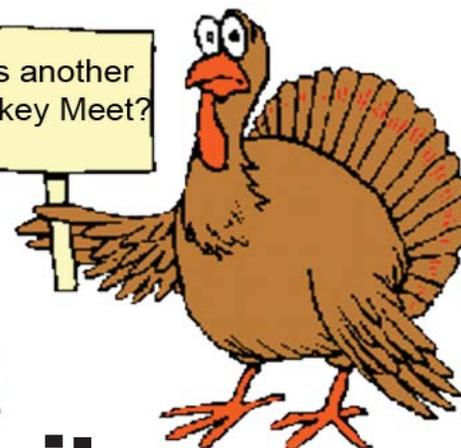


## The Turkey's BACK!

## Toy Trains!



It's another Turkey Meet?



# Now at Chapparal Suites

**5001 N. Scottsdale Road - Scottsdale - Arizona - Close to the AZ 101!**

[www.tcadd.org](http://www.tcadd.org)

For additional information and registration contact: Beth Stange 480-947-5663

**Saturday, November 26th**

**Sunday, November 27th**

**Swap Meet: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Auction: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

REGISTRATION – PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY



NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TCA# \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_ GUESTS \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby agree to be bound by the rules of the Great Southwest Toy Train Expo in regards to buying, selling, ethics and behavior. I further agree, that in the case of a dispute, the meet chairman, or an impartial referee appointed by the Meet Chairman shall arbitrate the matter and render a binding decision. I shall upon the direction of the Meet Chairman, in the case of a disputed sale, refund a buyer's money.

Signed X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Desert Division TCA

Mail Registration to: Beth Stange, 8619 E. Chaparral Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85250

NO MAIL REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER NOVEMBER 20, 2011

FEES:

Registration\* \$5.00  
\*(1 Registration fee per table included in Table Fee)

(Children under 14 FREE)

Spouse or Guests \_\_\_ x \$ 5 ea \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Table Fee \_\_\_ x \$25 ea \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Tables \_\_\_ x \$20 ea \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reg# \_\_\_\_\_ Date Rcvd \_\_\_\_\_

Chk# \_\_\_\_\_ Chk Amt \_\_\_\_\_

## 2011 HOLIDAY PARTY

Sunday, December 11, 2011  
Mesa Marriott  
200 N. Centennial Way  
Mesa, AZ 85201



4:00 PM: Meet and Greet (cash bar available)  
Santa will be there to see the children under 12

5:00 PM: Dinner

Fellowship, Food, Favors, Raffles, Auctions and Fun!

Chair: Ralph & Sally Treichel

Reservation deadline: December 3, 2011

-----Cut here and send with check-----

Make check payable to Desert Division TCA and send this form and check to:

Ralph Treichel  
16802 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85023

Adults: \$25.00  
Children 12 and under: \$15.00  
Children 2 and under: Free

Please print names of persons attending, giving ages of children 12 and under.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Adults @ \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

# children 12 and under: \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you will need handicapped seating.  
Thank you!

# RAILROAD



# -CHANGE



ARIZONA TRAIN DEPOT - MTH Premier store demo, Santa Fe U25B \$349.95 - MTH barn in John Deere green/yellow club price \$71.95 - MTH Santa Fe crane with matching boom tender \$107.95 - Alaska America crane \$62.95 - Store special MTH premier hoppers and reefers no boxes \$39.95 - 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 TMCC Operating Crane car and boom tender w/sounds NIB \$450 - Lionel 2343 F3 AA w/orig boxes \$275-253X pass cars w/orig boxes, inserts and paper also available - #50 Gang Car w/orig box \$60. See Ray in service station for these specials and others.

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](mailto:mjatonna@gmail.com).

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

GERRY'S TRAINS - Complete parts & repair service for Lionel, American Flyer, standard gauge pre & post war and Marklin HO trains. I buy old trains and toys, one piece or entire collections. Gerry Klei, 8608 E. Cheryl Drive, Scottsdale, AZ Phone 480-998-5349.

THE TRAIN STATION - Mountain Lakes, NJ. Top 10 Authorized Lionel and AF Sales and Service since 1974. New, Used, Bought, Sold, Repaired. 973-263-1979 [www.train-station.com](http://www.train-station.com).

NOW AVAILABLE! The Titan U for HO - 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](http://www.The-Scaled-Tin-Rail.com) for lots more features and details. Product is now available for delivery. Specify locomotive sound set desired. Price: 119.95. Introductory price is: \$99.95. Optional installation is additional. Keep checking the STR website. 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: #14105 Lionel operating aquarium, OB - \$175, #14237 Lionel #175 Rocket Launcher, OB - \$200. Peter Atonna 928-636-4228 or email: [mjatonna@gmail.com](mailto:mjatonna@gmail.com)

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](http://www.sykesvillehistory.us), for a current list.

WANTED - 1700 engines, cars, and parts. Condition unimportant. Contact Bob Herman 480-948-2730.

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, 607 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. 681 6-8-6 Turbine tattered box no liner 2046 PRR 8 wheel tender box \$160; 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; 6457 SP-type Caboose o/b \$27; 6445 Ft. Knox Gold Reefer o/b \$90; 362 Barrel Loader, Like New o/b \$90; Lionel 1915 Outfit Set Box only \$95; Lionel Rocky Mountain 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reefer, \$50 no box. Dannie L. Martin 520-360-0519 or e-mail [dannieaz@cox.net](mailto:dannieaz@cox.net).

WANTED - CTT - October 2009, Lion Roars - August 2001 and October 2002. Keith Swett, 480-332-0255 or e-mail [k-swett@cox.net](mailto:k-swett@cox.net).

FOR SALE - Lionel and Marx Pocket Guides, coming soon. Contact Gordon Wilson at [christielwilson@aol.com](mailto:christielwilson@aol.com) or call 480-837-5344.

This page is provided as a service to our members for trading among themselves.  
Please contact them for items you may have, want, or need.

**TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION  
DESERT DIVISION**

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

**POSTMASTER:** This Federal 501c3 Newsletter  
contains **DATED MATERIAL** requiring action  
by members. **PLEASE DELIVER** on or before  
**October 1, 2011**

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**Every Childhood Should Have a Train  
Enroll your children in Kid's Club Today!**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.tcadd.org](http://www.tcadd.org)  
Click on the link to our e-Bay offerings.**

**COMING EVENTS**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| October 8      | Regular Division Meet – Phoenix, AZ – 9 AM  |
| October 8-9    | Railfair – McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM to 5 PM  |
| October 13-15  | Eastern Division Meet – York, PA  |
| October 22     | 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party – Chaparral Suites – 6 PM – <b>RESERVE NOW!</b><br>Use the form on page 6 of this issue of the <u>Dispatch</u> .                                   |
| October 30     | Pumpkin Meet – Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown Hotel, Albuquerque, NM – 9 AM<br>Contact Greg Palmer: 505-898-3840 or e-mail <a href="mailto:mechele@nmia.com">mechele@nmia.com</a>        |
| November 5     | Gadsden-Pacific Toy Train Museum Train Show & Meet- Tucson, AZ – 9 AM<br>Contact Bud Stewart: 520-749-0228 or e-mail <a href="mailto:bud@at.tuccoxmail.com">bud@at.tuccoxmail.com</a> |
| November 12    | Desert Division Mini-Meet – Phoenix, AZ – 9 AM  |
| November 26-27 | Turkey Meet and Auction - Chaparral Suites, Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM   |
| December 11    | Holiday Party – Mesa Marriott, Mesa, AZ – 4 PM  |

**DIVISION MEET LOCATION**

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