

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



Volume 40, No. 8

Visit our Website: www.tcadd.org

September, 2010

BEAT THE HEAT

Once again this August the Phoenix group trudged up the hill for a change of venue and temperature. Prescott's claims to "cool pines" are exceeded only by the variety of experiences which await the train crowd. A bus carried about 35 enthusiasts from the Valley of the Sun up to the Prescott Activity Center for the Central Arizona Model Railroad Club meet and ensuing layout visitations. Wares were as varied as the folks who viewed them, with some very special bargains and some rare and unusual finds.

Toy train tables filled the hall, while the Antique stores down town greeted those with other interests. Always a treat, Murphy's offered a varied luncheon menu. Shortly after noon, the bus carried eager hobbyists to various layouts in the central part of the state. Peter Atonna's layout, a "work in progress," is always a winner, from his aliens to his "towns" to his trains running around the various mainlines. Ray Dextrase has a most unique collection, from stoves to Mickey Mouse items to ships to sewing machines – all vintage, all in working order, and all artistically displayed. Marlin Benson treats everyone to New Lionel items displayed in a most tasteful atmosphere. Just count the Johnny Cash cars, for starters. On the way back down the hill, Mike and Joyce Nelson (celebrating her birthday that day) offer "dinner" for those who stop to enjoy his newest layout and the town of Humboldt – itself a page out of the past.

Hope you left the lights on, as it's a full day on the road when you try to "Beat the Heat."



A packed hall greets the crowd.



Ray Dextrase's Lionel Stove



Peter Atonna's Alien Mine Shaft



Nelson scenery

COMING UP

SEPTEMBER 11 – Regular Division Meet – Phoenix, AZ – 9 AM

SEPTEMBER 18 – Rio Grande Chapter Meet – Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM

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

OCTOBER 9-10 – Railfair – Scottsdale, AZ – 9 AM

OCTOBER 14-16 – Eastern Division Meet, York, PA

OCTOBER 30-31 – "Pumpkin Meet" – Albuquerque, NM

NOVEMBER 27-28 – Great Southwest Toy Train Expo (Turkey Meet) – Mesa, AZ – 9 AM

DECEMBER 5 – Holiday Party – Mesa Marriott – 4 PM

The *Dispatch* is published monthly except July and December by the Train Collectors Association, Desert Division, 16231 E. Ocotillo Drive, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268. This issue is Volume 40, No. 8 (September, 2010).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

While the thermometer may not be any indicator, schools have already started, people are wrapping up summer vacations, and the fall "training" season is upon us. We have a lot of business to attend to this fall including a vote on our proposed bylaws of which the first printing is included in this Dispatch for your reading pleasure. Railfair is the second Saturday of October and will once again fall on a meeting date. This year should be a special event as the new model railroad exhibits building will be open for the first time. Expect a huge crowd to attend this year, so we will certainly need all the help we can get. Planning for our 40th Anniversary celebrations is on-going and we should have a pretty good idea of how our year-long celebration will unfold in the next few months. Finally the "Great Southwest Toy Train Expo" is a scant three months away and there is always plenty to do to prepare for our signature event. You will note that there is a registration form in this issue.

As September traditionally marks a change of season, once again I must regretfully announce that another of our Division members, Elliot Klein passed away suddenly on August 1st. For those of you who knew Elliot personally, we all have a great story to share about his unique sense of humor, his kindness to friends, and his genuine passion of enjoying life to its fullest. Prior to my involvement in TCA, I had the pleasure of meeting Elliot professionally in 2001 through a hand-me-down project to design a radio transmitter building. Not a difficult building type, but these buildings were often located on difficult sites such as mountain tops in the most remote parts of the state accessible only by stout four wheel drive vehicles.

At our first meeting at a civil engineer's office we were chatting a bit to get to know each other and I mentioned I modeled trains. He said I should come by his house and see his train set sometime. Little did I know that he was a huge O gauge operator, collector, and a Desert Division member. The first time I saw his layout, I was stunned. Over the years, our business meetings were at his house followed by a session of train running. As I got to know Elliot personally, I began to appreciate the immense knowledge and skill he brought to everything he did.

Based on his electrical engineering background he was an early proponent of digital components in trains and due to the volume of items he purchased was made a local QSI rep. I don't think he ever sold a single board. He adopted command control early on so he could simply enjoy the operation of his trains.

While many of us knew him through his train hobby, his other passion was radio. At age 12 he started a pirate radio station in Phoenix recruiting other students to be on-air talent. He even sold spot ads to the local community. All was well until the FCC showed up at his parents' house.

A memorial service was held August 10th and of all the memorials I've been too, this was certainly the most entertaining, as strange as that sounds. Everyone in attendance had an "Elliot" story to share. Pat McMahon, the Phoenix broadcasting icon gave the first of many stories that had the group in tears from laughter. Pat explained how he was first lured to Phoenix radio in 1965 to work for upstart station KRIZ. When he was introduced to the staff, Pat remarked to the station manger that he didn't think the engineer was out of puberty yet. Sure enough Elliot was only 15 at the time, having dropped out of high school to spend a lifetime in the radio broadcast industry. Elliot was not only the station engineer, but also spent the six to midnight shift on-air and was great at it. Elliot was not one to compromise his principals and when management changed at KRIZ in 1967, he promptly nailed his shoes to the new station manager's door after his midnight shift with a note of "good luck filling these shoes." As his career progressed he finished his GED and went on to complete a degree in electrical engineering.

The rest of the memorial was full of these kinds of memories. My story was of him asking on a Monday if I was available sometime during the week to help diagnose some acoustic issues for some radio station studios in Idaho. Less than ten minutes after explaining that I'd need to discuss it with my wife, an e-ticket arrived in my e-mail for a Tuesday flight.

Elliot was a very good friend. His generosity to me included many repeat architectural projects in challenging locations, the gift of the E-8 ammeter I displayed in July, and simply taking the time to get to know me as more than a hired professional.

However, as tragic as his passing was, he was the sort of individual who would not want us to grieve over his passing, but celebrate the lives he touched in a positive way. It is unfortunate that his work schedule of the last 5 years prevented him from being at as many meets as he would have liked. Our prayers are with his wife Nancy as she deals with her personal loss. Fortunately for those of us who were his friends, there are many precious memories to cherish.



DESERT DIVISION HISTORY

Back in 1970 a group of individuals known as the Grand Canyon Train Collectors, began a process that resulted in the forming of the Desert Division. The following year at the June 1971 TCA National Convention held at the Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim California, division status was granted. The original boundaries of the Division still stand today 39 years later with one notable exception. The states of Arizona, New Mexico, and eleven counties in far West Texas in the immediate vicinity of El Paso have been joined by the great countries of New Zealand and Australia. As we offer encouragement and begin making stronger ties to help form a Chapter with our southern hemisphere neighbors, it will be the first Chapter formed outside of the continental U.S. in TCA history.

Since 1971, the following Presidents have served the Division:

| | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1971-1972 Jim Harrison | 1978-1978 Cole Gibbs | 1990-1993 Paul Wassermann | 2002-2005 Chris Allen |
| 1973-1974 Ron White | 1979-1979 Phil Hill | 1994-1997 Gordon Wilson | 2006-2009 Katie Elgar |
| 1975-1976 Tom Stange | 1980-1983 Cole Gibbs | 1997-1997 Bill Mack | 2010- Jonathan Peiffer |
| 1977-1977 Fred Goulden | 1984-1989 Peter Atonna | 1998-2001 Fred Hunter | |

- In 1975, the Division's Bylaws were first ratified. They are currently being updated to conform to new TCA policies.
- Each year since 1977 the Desert Division has hosted the "Turkey Meet" on the weekend following Thanksgiving. From its humble beginnings of 51 tables at the Ramada Inn on Van Buren in Phoenix, the Turkey Meet has grown to become the largest toy train swap meet and auction in the greater southwest. It should be noted that in 1977 this meet was originally known as the "Thanksgiving Tinplate Meet". In 1978 the name was shortened to "Thanksgiving Meet", and in 1979 the name was changed to "Turkey Meet".
- Starting in 1991 and selling only 100 tickets each year, the popular postwar Lionel 773 Hudson Raffle began.
- In 1995 the Division began its most "flavor-ite" tradition, *The Pizza Meetza*, where following the monthly meet and prior to the Spring Auction members enjoy a lunch break of free pizza and to date, have eaten over 4,000 slices of pizza!
- The Division has hosted two TCA National Conventions. In 1997 the Desert Division hosted the 43rd National Convention at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and the Phoenix Convention Center. In 2009 the Desert Division hosted the 55th TCA National Convention at the luxurious JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort in Scottsdale.

RIO GRANDE CHAPTER NEWS

by Gregory Palmer TCA#94-39039

Even though we have not had a Meet since May, your Chapter officers have been busy. The Board of Directors had a meeting a few weeks ago to continue planning for the 5th Annual Pumpkin Meet. The Board passed a motion that the 5th Annual Pumpkin Meet be held in the memory of Division Member Tom Stange. Tom not only came to the 2009 Pumpkin Meet but was a great supporter of the Rio Grande Chapter, so this year's Pumpkin Meet is dedicated to Tom. We have also concentrated our efforts on advertising. We are exploring having the Morning of October 30th, the day before the Pumpkin Meet, for a possible trip on the Railrunner Express. We would need to be back before the Pumpkin Meet dinner at 6:00PM at the Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown Hotel. As you can see, your Board has been very busy this Summer.

Our first Regular Chapter Meet will be September 18th at 10:00AM at the Sombra Del Monte Church at 2528 Utah N.E. This is a very important Meet and Meeting, for it is our last time we can plan before the October 31st Pumpkin Meet. It is very important for everyone to come. We will need help planning and we will also need a lot of members to help during the Pumpkin Meet as well. The Pumpkin Meet has now expanded to events on both Saturday and Sunday. Therefore, we will need help with the Meet, the Auction, and the Dinner on Saturday. Please come to the Chapter Meet on Saturday September 18th at 10:00AM.

We already have several items already for our Pumpkin Meet Auction. The Pumpkin Meet Auction will be like a table top Auction, all items will be sold with no reserve, and 10% will go to the Rio Grande Chapter. No Catalog will be used, but a 30 minute preview will be held. Contact me if you are planning on bringing some toy trains to the Auction at the 2010 Pumpkin Meet.

At the Regular Meet on September 18th be sure to bring something to show and tell at our Educational Segment. It is always great to see what everyone collects. Our after Meet activity will be a visit to the 2926 Locomotive Restoration Project. Jon Spargo will conduct a brief tour of the project starting at 12:30PM. A map will be available at the Chapter Meet on the 18th. We have a lot of stuff to go over, so mark your calendar for the Rio Grande Chapter Meet on September 18th at 10:00AM. I hope to see every member there.

TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

RIO GRANDE CHAPTER

TOY TRAIN SHOW

SWAP MEET-AUCTION

SUNDAY OCTOBER 31st

SWAP MEET 9:00AM TO 2:00PM

AUCTION 2:30-5:00PM

SHERATON UPTOWN HOTEL

ON THE CORNER OF LOUISIANA AND MENUAL N.E
IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

ADULTS \$2.00 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.

THERE WILL BE A TCA RIO GRANDE CHAPTER DINNER ON SATURDAY
OCTOBER 30TH AT 6:00PM, AT THE SHERATON UPTOWN HOTEL FOR ALL
TCA MEMBERS AND THE TRAIN SHOW TABLE SELLERS RSVP 10/22/10.

NAME _____ TCA# _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

TCA MEMBER TABLES # _____ @\$10.00EA _____

NON MEMBER TABLES# _____ @\$20.00EA _____

DINNER: Prime Rib ___ Chicken ___ Vegetarian ___ @\$34.00EA _____

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 any such item to be appropriately marked as a restoration or reproduction.

AS I SEE IT

by Gordon L. Wilson TCA #76-10233

The last time I wrote an Editorial, at least one member took exception to it and blasted me publicly at one of our meetings. One function of an Editor, which is the title the leadership of this Division has bestowed upon me, is to occasionally write such articles. I have never been one to shrink from a controversial question or subject, and recently I have been privy to the comments of both members who attend and proprietors/employees who own or work in toy train stores in our Valley of the Sun.

We are blessed to have several Toy Train stores whose owners are members of the TCA and who support this Division with Donations way beyond the call of DUTY. One of them is on the East Coast, The TRAIN STATION in Mountain Lakes, New Jersey, and I'd simply like to call everyone's attention to the amount of material that Don Shaw and his son, David Shaw, and part owner, Doug Waller contribute to this Division when asked for a Donation regarding the recently completed National Convention or the yearly Turkey Meet or Spring Raffles. Their contributions are enormous. The TRAIN STATION is a Top Ten Lionel Dealer in the United States. I have done business with these people since they first opened their doors in 1973, in a Train Station on the old Erie-Lackawanna Commuter Line in Northern New Jersey.

However, locally in Mesa and Fountain Hills, we are extremely fortunate to have two well-stocked toy train stores, who have inventory way beyond the wildest dreams of anything that you can ever hope to obtain at any meet, short of the EASTERN DIVISION'S and TCA's Gigantic YORK MEET. Burling's TON OF TRAINS on Colony Drive in Fountain Hills is without a doubt the largest Train Store I have been in, West of the Mississippi River. Trust me, I have been in a lot of them during my travels. Recently, I was able to find a Lionel Gray Barrel Car with Red Lettering and a very ODD number that I have been seeking for 20 years, at Ken's store. Better still, I was able to pick it up, look at it, handle it, and be sure that it was all there and complete. I didn't have to rely on a set of "doctored up" pictures on an Internet site which may or may not cover up an imperfection. As the TCA Membership Chair, believe me when I say that the overwhelming majority of the complaints I handle begin with disputes arising from deceptions that occur in just this way. This car I bought from Ken, was not inexpensive. It would not have been inexpensive at YORK or Cal Stewart, but here, I knew the person from whom I was buying it and furthermore, he actually figured it was rare enough that I didn't have it, so he put it away, knowing my collecting habits. That is called the PERSONAL TOUCH, something else that cannot be had on a computer screen.

At the Arizona Train Depot, the main thrust is aimed at MTH Trains, and Steve Palmer has a boat load of the trains put out by Mike Wolf. He is one of Mike's main dealers. Why else would Mike agree to do workshops here in his store? He also has a selection of materials of other train companies that one only reads about in CTT and Model Railroader. Things that you can actually open a box and look at - so much nicer than reading about it in a magazine or looking at a picture of it. If you are a club member, you also get a discount over and above his already discounted prices.

Yet, what I have been told by some people who go to both of these stores frequently is that members of the two main train clubs in this Valley do not frequent these two stores on anything resembling a regular basis. That is correct! Burling's Ton of Trains and The Arizona Train Depot are both on the East Side of the Valley and the EXCUSE being used for not visiting them is that they are "TOO FAR AWAY." Too far away from where? I look at our roster and I see Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe, Goodyear, Glendale, Chandler, and Tucson as recurring addresses. I will concede that Tucson might be a bit removed from Mesa and Fountain Hills, but when was the last time anyone took a close look at a map and discovered that there is now a BY-PASS, High Speed set of Freeways around Phoenix and that they have been there for quite some time? The 101 and 202 Loops extend south and north to Apache Junction on the East, almost to Casa Grande on the South, Goodyear and Surprise on the West, Sun City on the North West, Carefree on the North, and just about every place in between. I live in Fountain Hills and for me to get to Sky Harbor Airport it takes, on a normal day, about 20 minutes of driving time. If I want to go to the Symphony, in the center of Phoenix, I allow half an hour. Before those roads were built, going to the Symphony Hall was at least an hour trek. Now I am virtually on a high speed road all the way.

Ken Burling and Steve Palmer provide this Desert Division with donations for Raffle and Door Prizes which bring into our treasury each year, thousands of dollars. These are dollars which provide you, the members with all the perks of membership that the members in the other 19 Divisions have to PAY FOR - things like the **FREE PIZZA** at the Pizza Meetza; reduced costs on the Donuts and Coffee prior to our monthly meets; an endless supply of nice Raffle Prizes; really super nice prizes for our Spring Raffle; and the list goes on.

No one can force anyone to do business with anyone; that is the American Economic Way. You can continue to search out the BEST PRICE from the advertisers in CTT or check out the best deals on E-BAY. But

where are you going to go when you need something fixed? Did you know that Ken Burling's TON OF TRAINS is the ONLY Authorized OFFICIALLY LICENSED LIONEL SERVICE STATION in the STATE of ARIZONA? Ken made sure that his repairman went to the Lionel Factory Approved Seminar and became Certified so that he could have that distinction. That bit of Licensing was not free, as a gift from LIONEL. I think we all owe Ken and Steve a large bit of gratitude for their contributions to the Desert Division.

So, the next time you are in need of some Toy Train "stuff," hop into your car and pay one or both of these men's stores a visit. Handle the merchandise you wish to buy. Make sure it is what you really want. Ask questions about it. Don't buy a "Pig in a poke," so to speak, and then be unhappy when it shows up in the mail and it is not what you thought you bought. Both Ken Burling and Steve Palmer stand behind the products they sell. Both are members of the Desert Division and the TCA. Fountain Hills and Mesa are NOT as far away as you might think or imagine. The world gets smaller everyday!

ALUMINUM CANS FOR THE MUSEUM

By Katie Elgar, TCA 94-39348

Perhaps you have noticed a box by the coffee area at our meetings for aluminum cans. This is part of a project that began in January, 2010, when the Desert Division started to save aluminum cans for the TCA National Museum. It only takes a second to set your empties in the box. You may also bring in your recyclable cans from home. Those, as well as the ones gathered during the meet, are all recycled. To date we have raised over \$30.00 (not bad for trash). We will continue to collect the cans and set the money aside for the TCA Museum.

Please continue to save aluminum cans for this collection, and bring them with you to the Desert Division meets. However, we must ask that you please do not put trash, food, cigarette butts etc. in the empty can before you deposit it into the collection box. The Division thanks you for helping with this earth-friendly, charitable, painless method of helping your national organization.

2010-2011 DESERT DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|------------|----------------|--------------|
| President: | Jonathan Peiffer | 602-561-4131 | Directors: | Katie Elgar | 623-580-6957 |
| Vice-President: | Bob Johnston | 623-582-2110 | | Greg Palmer | 505-898-3840 |
| Secretary: | Fred Hunter | 480-948-2730 | | Ralph Treichel | 602-863-6985 |
| Treasurer: | Bob Herman | 480-948-2730 | | Marty Wik | 480-488-8625 |

BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Desert Division Board of Directors will be held on Saturday, September 11, beginning at 7:30 AM at the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church. Members are welcome to attend.

40th ANNIVERSARY PLANS TAKE SHAPE

by Gordon L. Wilson TCA 76-10233

The 40th Anniversary Committee has already met to discuss ideas for the celebration of our 40th year of existence as a Division. There will be activities throughout 2011, beginning at the January Meet and culminating in a celebratory party in October. Save the date of October 22 for a gala dinner and evening of fun activities.

DIVISION BYLAWS REVISION

By Christie M. Wilson TCA 91-32878

Eighteen months ago, TCA National adopted new Bylaws, in order to bring the association into compliance with the newest federal laws regulating 501(c)3 rules and regulations. Over the past several months, in order to align the Desert Division with TCA National, our Bylaws have also been revised, following a template provided by the National organization. Those revised Bylaws are printed on the next four pages of this bulletin.

As required by the current Division Bylaws, they will be published three times, the first being this issue of the Dispatch. You will be asked to vote on the proposed Bylaws in November. Once adopted, these Bylaws will take effect on January 1, 2011. Please note the PROVISIO section at the end of the Bylaws, allowing for a smooth transition from the old to the new. Please read the next four pages so as to be an informed voter in November.

BYLAWS OF THE TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION - DESERT DIVISION

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1: Name

This organization shall be known as the Train Collectors Association (hereinafter referred to as “TCA”) Desert Division (hereinafter referred to as “Affiliate”).

Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of the Affiliate shall be to adhere to and support the mission of the TCA

- A. By conducting programs and activities, and to especially serve those TCA members residing within the boundaries of the Affiliate,
- B. To uphold the ethical standards of the Train Collectors Association as expressed in the National Bylaws and policies, and
- C. To conduct activities in compliance with all requirements and standards applicable to a Not-for-Profit organization.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Qualifications

Membership in the Affiliate is open exclusively to TCA members, as that TCA membership is set forth in the TCA Bylaws.

Section 2: Duties and Rights of Members

- A. Active Division Member
 - a. Any TCA member in good standing current in fees, dues, and assessments. Members whose dues have not been paid as of March 1 shall not be considered in good standing and will be placed on the inactive roster. The Board of Directors may take such action as it sees fit in the event of extenuating circumstances.
 - b. Active Division members in good standing are afforded full rights and privileges as outlined within the Bylaws and policies of the Affiliate.
- B. Inactive Division Member
 - a. Any TCA member living within the boundaries of the Desert Division as set forth by the TCA National, but not paying yearly dues to the affiliate.
 - b. Inactive Division Members may attend Division Meets, but shall not vote in elections or hold office.

Section 3: Complaints

- A. The Affiliate’s Board of Directors shall take such action as it deems appropriate to protect the Affiliate and to take action to enforce the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of itself and the TCA.
- B. Complaints pertaining to the Affiliate’s functions or activities must be referred, in writing, to the Affiliate’s Board of Directors for appropriate action.

Section 4: Complaints – Disciplinary Action

- A. The Affiliate reserves the right to restrict members from attending meets or events where the member’s presence and/or actions are judged to be adverse to the goals and purposes of the TCA as determined by the affiliates Board of Directors.
- B. All other matters pertaining to member-to-member conduct and/or sales transactions will be submitted to the TCA Membership Committee for review and action, if necessary.

ARTICLE III - OFFICES, DUTIES, TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1: Officers

The officers of the affiliate shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Directors at Large. They shall be members in good standing of both the TCA and the Desert Division and all duly elected.

Section 2: Duties of Officers

- A. The President shall be the chief executive officer of this Affiliate, shall preside at all meetings, and except as otherwise provided herein, shall have the powers, duties, and responsibility usually vested in the office of the President of a not-for-profit organization. The President shall have general supervisory control of all other elected or appointed officials.
- B. The Vice-President shall be vested with all the powers and perform all the duties of the President during his/her absence or incapacity, or as directed by a simple majority of the Board of Directors.

- C. The Secretary shall act as clerk, shall send out notices of meetings to all members, keep minutes thereof, and send copies to the National Secretary. The Secretary shall receive and record all Desert Division fees, dues and moneys, and after recording, transfer all funds to the Treasurer of the Desert Division.
- D. The Treasurer shall disburse funds on properly presented and approved bills. All funds shall be deposited in a bank selected by the Treasurer and approved by a simple majority of the Board. The President and the Treasurer are authorized signers of a Desert Division check. The Treasurer shall prepare and maintain monthly Treasurer's Reports.
- E. The Directors shall serve on various committees and act in an advisory capacity for the good of the Division.
- F. All offices shall carry full voting privileges.

Section 3: Terms of Office and Vacancies

- A. The term of office for the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Directors shall be two calendar years and coincide with the Affiliate's fiscal year.
- B. If the office of President shall become vacant, the Vice President shall thereupon fill the position of President for the remainder of the unexpired term. In the event the office of President becomes vacant at a time when the office of Vice President is also vacant, the Board of Directors shall fill the office of President for the remainder of the term.
- C. A vacancy of an office other than President or Vice President by resignation, termination, or death shall be filled by the Board of Directors, who may appoint a member to fill the remaining term of the vacated office until the next regular election.

Section 4: Re-Election of Officers

A member shall serve no more than two (2) terms as President and is no longer eligible to be a candidate for the office of President or Vice President. After serving as President, a member may be a candidate for Secretary, Treasurer, or Director at Large. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Directors may serve for an indefinite number of elected terms.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEETINGS

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall consist of:

- A. Each of the officers of the Affiliate, namely, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer during their term in office.
- B. Directors at Large being comprised of
 - a. Elected President(s) of a Chapter(s).
 - b. Three duly elected members.
- C. All past National Presidents shall be honorary, non-voting members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Duties of the Board of Directors

- A. The Board of Directors shall have full power to manage the business and affairs of the Affiliate except as otherwise provided by these bylaws.
- B. The Board of Directors shall control and govern the affairs, property, and finances of the Affiliate.
- C. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each quarter year, and any additional times as called by the President.
- D. A quorum (majority) of officers, including the President and Secretary, is required to transact Division business. The Secretary shall record and maintain the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings. In the absence of the elected Secretary, a Secretary pro-tem may be appointed by the President. Any member in good standing may attend a Board of Directors' meeting.

Section 3: Compensation

All Affiliate Officers, members of the Board of Directors, and committees serve "pro bono" without compensation. Compensation for travel to represent the Affiliate at the annual National TCA Directors' meeting by the President or his/her designee is at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors and requires a majority vote.

Section 4: Removal from Office

Any Officer or Director may be removed for cause at any meeting of the full Board of Directors by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the participants in said meeting.

Section 5: Parliamentary Authority

Parliamentary rules as set forth in the most current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Affiliate in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order TCA or the Affiliate may adopt.

ARTICLE V - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1: Eligibility

- A. Any candidate eligible to run for an elected office shall be a member in good standing of the Desert Division for at least one year and reside within the geographical boundaries of the Desert Division.
- B. No one who is an officer in, or who is seeking office in, another nationally recognized train club may run for office in the Desert Division.

Section 2: Election Committee

- A. The President shall appoint an Election Committee of three, including the Chairperson, to prepare a slate of candidates for elected office.
- B. The Chairperson of the Election Committee shall accept nominations from the membership at the October Business meeting. The slate of candidates will be announced and nominations will close at that time.
- C. The Chairperson of the Election Committee shall prepare a ballot, with provisions for write-ins, to be mailed on or about November 1 to all members in good standing. The ballot shall contain provisions for the voting member's name and TCA number for ballot authentication. Ballots shall be returned by mail to the Chairperson of the Election Committee, postmarked no later than November 30.
- D. The Election Committee shall count the ballots prior to the December meeting and announce the results at the December meeting. Ballots shall be retained for ninety (90) days and then destroyed.
- E. Candidates with the largest plurality of votes cast shall be elected to the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Director(s).
- F. The Secretary shall notify the candidates who do not attend the December meeting of the election results.

ARTICLE VI - DIVISION MEETINGS

Section 1: Annual Membership Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting shall be the first business meeting of the calendar year. Installation of any new officers and the financial report for the closing of the fiscal year shall be given at that time.

Section 2: Business Meetings

- A. The business meetings shall be for the purpose of conducting such business as is usually brought before a general membership, including elections, and Bylaws changes.
- B. Members may buy and sell trains prior to the start of the business meeting; however, all transactions must end with the commencement of the business meeting.
- C. A minimum of eight official business meetings will be held during a calendar year.

Section 3: Visitors at Business Meetings

- A. Definition: A visitor is anyone who is not a current TCA member or an immediate family member of a TCA member.
- B. A visitor may attend one meeting.
- C. Minors attending meetings are the responsibility, moral and financial, of their parents or sponsors.

ARTICLE VII - FINANCIAL

Section 1: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall be the calendar year, starting January 1 and ending December 31.

Section 2: Dues

Dues are due January 1st and shall be payable annually in advance. Dues may be paid up to five (5) years in advance. Amount of dues and initiation fees are to be determined by the membership.

Section 3: Special Expenditures

Normal operating expenses will be sanctioned by the Board of Directors. Special expenditures must be approved by a majority of votes cast by the attending members at a regular business meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Section 1: Sergeant-at-Arms

A Sergeant-at-Arms shall be appointed by the President for a two-year term. He/She shall be charged with the duties of maintaining order and security.

Section 2: DISPATCH Editor

An Editor of the Division Newsletter shall be appointed by the President for a two-year term.

Section 3: Media Relations

A Media Relations Chairperson shall be appointed by the President for a two-year term. He/She shall promote the growth of the Division through exposure of meets, events, and activities.

ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES

Section 1: Special Committees

The President shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, such special committees as he/she from time to time deems necessary. Such committees shall be vacated when the President who appointed them goes out of office or when disbanded by the President.

Section 2: Finance Committee

- A. The Finance Committee shall consist of the Vice President, Treasurer, and a Director at Large. The Committee shall review, supervise, and document the revenues and expenses of the Affiliate.
- B. The Finance Committee shall assure compliance with all financial recording and reporting requirements of the TCA.
- C. The Finance Committee shall insure the timely reporting and filing of all I.R.S. forms consistent with a not-for-profit organization.

ARTICLE X – CHAPTERS

Section 1: Formation, Approval, Finances

- A. Groups of members may organize as a Chapter affiliate within Desert Division subject to the Bylaws and policies of the TCA and of the Division within which the Chapter is organized.
- B. A Chapter may be formed by filing a petition to the Desert Division Board of Directors with the geographic boundary, proposed name, and 25 signatures pledging TCA membership.
- C. Final approval of the petition for Chapter formation resides with the Desert Division Board of Directors.
- D. All fees and dues collected by the Chapter are the financial responsibility of the Chapter. The Chapter President and Treasurer shall insure the timely filing of all applicable I.R.S. forms consistent with a not-for-profit organization.

ARTICLE XI – RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Section 1: Power

All power, rights, and authority granted to the Affiliate is dependent on the membership of its members in TCA and the continued adherence to TCA policy and standards by the Affiliate.

Section 2: Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the Affiliate, the Affiliate's Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities, distribute all residual assets in the following manner. First, the Train Collectors Association or its successor; Second, the National Toy Train Museum; Third, one or more organizations which themselves are recognized as not-for-profit under current or future codes of the federal or state government for exclusively public or charitable purposes.

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed at any official business meeting, and upon favorable action, will be referred to the TCA Rules and Regulations Committee for review. Upon favorable review by the TCA Rules and Regulations Committee and notice duly given by publication, the amendment shall be submitted by mail to the entire membership for a vote. If a majority of the ballots returned are affirmative, the amendment shall be approved.

ARTICLE XIII – ADOPTION OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws shall become effective January 1, 2011 as prescribed in the regulation governing "Amendments," Article IX, as adopted by the membership of the Desert Division January 1, 1976 and amended under Article IX of these Bylaws in 2004.

PROVISO

- A. These Bylaws shall become effective January 1 2011, and upon approval of this revision, the terms of all officers in the Affiliate will end December 31, 2011. Newly elected officers will then be seated.
- B. The current President shall serve until December 31, 2011, and as outlined in Article III Section 4 of these Bylaws, be considered to have completed his first term in office.
- C. The office of Past President/Director is eliminated. The current Past President/Director shall serve until December 31, 2010.
- D. The office of Director-at-Large shall be filled January 1, 2011 from the third highest voted candidate of the most recent held election, November 2009. This term shall be for one year and end December 31, 2011.
- E. The President shall form a new Finance Committee January 1, 2011 to insure proper I.R.S. filings for the immediate past tax year under Article IX Section 2c of these adopted Bylaws.

DESERT DIVISION TCA
Great Southwest
Toy Train Expo



Mesa, Arizona
 Celebrating 35 Years in the Desert

DESERT DIVISION TCA
GREAT SOUTHWEST TOY TRAIN EXPO
MESA CONVENTION CENTER
CELEBRATING 35 YEARS



November 27-28, 2010 201 North Center Street - Mesa, AZ

TWO DAY SHOW 9:00am – 3:00pm
RULES

TOY TRAIN SWAP MEET - The Toy Train Swap Meet is our 35th meet. The meet features approximately 200 sales tables of toy trains and related model railroading items for sale by local train enthusiasts. The Swap Meet brings people together with special interests in the model railroading hobby to buy and sell toy trains and train related items of all gauges.

ADMISSION FEE

Pre-registration admission fee for the event is \$5 cash donation per person. Children under 14 years of age are admitted FREE when accompanied by an adult. Admission fee at the door is \$6 cash donation per person.

REGISTRATION

Everyone must register. Registration fee is not included in table fees. **Pre-Registered members of TCA, GCMR, LOTS, LCCA & TTOS and P&P, in good standing**, will be admitted to the trading hall thirty minutes prior to the general public.

TABLE SALES

Tables will be assigned on a first come - first serve basis. The tables are approximately 30" wide x 8' long. Consult posted floor plan for seller assignments. Limited electrical outlets are available for an additional fee and must be requested at registration. Special table requests with friends must be made in writing with pre-registration. Every effort will be made to accommodate special requests. **TRADING WILL NOT BE PERMITTED DURING UNLOADING OR SETUP**

- Seller badges must be worn at all times.
- All sale items must meet TCA policies.
- Restoration and reproduction items must be marked per TCA policy.
- Table holders must remain setup until 3:00 PM on both days of the meet.
- Trading will not be permitted during unloading or setup. Persons not involved in setup will be asked to leave the hall.
- NO SMOKING PERMITTED in trading hall.
- Keep your table covered for security when leaving the hall.
- Sellers are responsible for obtaining the sales tax permit from the City of Mesa unless the exemption for Casual Sales applies [Ref: City of Mesa ordinance, Chapter 5-10 Privilege and Excise Tax].
- "I agree to comply with all of the rules and regulations of the Train Collectors Association (TCA) and its Divisions and Chapters in effect from time to time, especially including all rules and regulations of all TCA Committees and any actions and rulings of all TCA Committees."
- "I also agree that all items sold by me to any TCA Member or at any TCA sponsored meet shall be sold on the basis that I represent that all such items are authentic and in the manufacturer's original condition unless I have caused any such item to be appropriately marked as a restoration or reproduction."

www.tcadd.org
 For Additional Information and Registration
 Contact: Bob Herman 480.948.2730

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: Robert Herman, 11429 N. 68TH St. , Scottsdale, AZ 85254-5148
NO MAIL REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER NOVEMBER 20, 2010

FEES:

Registration* \$5.00
 *(Registration fee not included in Table Fee)
 (Children under 14 FREE)
 Spouse or Guests ___ x \$ 5 ea \$ ___
 Table Fee ___ x \$35 ea \$ ___

TOTAL Enclosed \$ _____

| | |
|------------|-----------------|
| Reg# _____ | Date Rcvd _____ |
| Chk# _____ | Chk Amt _____ |

THE BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD MUSEUM; A TRUE RARE GEM

By Jonathan Peiffer (TCA 01-53047)

As we approach our 40th anniversary as a Division, there has been talk of it being our “Ruby Anniversary” since this precious gem represents 40 years of marriage. In some ways, membership in TCA can often be like a marriage, but that is not the topic of this article. During the 2010 TCA National Convention, I had the opportunity to make a visit to a real-life railroad gem in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Museum. Having missed the “official tour,” I was treated to a much more personalized and relaxing visit with Past National President Jim Burke and Lakes and Pines Division President Mike Speltz. Certainly shame on us for not taking the official tour; however, we had a full THREE hours to look at the exhibits, and that wasn’t nearly enough time to take them all in.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad is the oldest railroad in the United States to have operated US built steam locomotives with the operation of the “Tom Thumb” in 1830. This vertical boilered, open-air steam locomotive was affectionately known as the “Grasshopper” type. There are many amazing railroad museums in the US, but out of all of them the B&O is the most authentic to its history. The site of the museum is at the original B&O shops at Mt. Clare and has been in continuous operation on this site since 1829. Many of today’s exhibits are housed in the 360 degree roundhouse dating from 1884, the Mt. Clare depot of 1851, and the car shops of 1869-1870. Rarely do you see such a stunning collection in such an original environment.

The most incredible display of pristine 19th and early 20th century vintage railroad history is housed within the walls of the roundhouse. A replica of “Tom’s Thumb” built for the 1927 100th anniversary of the railroad is on display and still operational, as are a majority of the locomotives in their collection. Having been founded in 1953, many of the pieces on display arrived in working order. A new machine shop about 1 mile down the tracks continues to restore each of the locomotives both cosmetically and functionally to this day. During our 1.5 mile train ride to the interchange with B&O successor CSX transportation, there was a locomotive dating from the 1850’s under steam just outside the shops. My personal favorite is CNJ 597, an American Standard type Camelback locomotive that pulled the famous “Blue Comet” on occasion. It is one of two Camelback locomotives in existence and only one of two CNJ steam locomotives preserved. The lone diesel in this building is another CNJ locomotive, Ingersol Rand #1000 credited with being the first successful diesel electric. As the B&O maintained controlling interest in the CNJ for many years, it is natural that these pieces be preserved here.

Inside the Civil War era car shops is the first E series locomotive, the EA, with a bronze logo proudly displayed on its streamlined front. Also housed here is a presidential series Pacific type locomotive. Representing sister railroad, the Chesapeake and Ohio is the enormous 2-6-6-6 Allegheny articulated and the streamlined 4-6-4 Hudson that once pulled the signature train called the “Chessie.”

Finally, there is equipment stored outdoors. Due to the ocean air, this equipment is not faring as well, but some icons of the modern steam era exist including a USRA light Mikado, a C&O Berkshire 2-8-4 and one of the remaining GG1’s, 4876. While in a greatly deteriorated state, GG1 4876 earned the infamous reputation as the GG1 whose brakes failed pulling the “Federal” into Union Station, DC in 1953 and crashed through the station, into the concourse and sunk into the basement. A testament to the design is that it was cut into pieces, sent to Altoona for rebuilding and was still on New Jersey Transit’s active roster when all GG1’s were retired in 1983.

In conclusion, there are many fine railroad museums in this country. Without question though, the B&O museum has the most extensive collection of early railroad history to be found on the continent. Should you ever find yourself within a few hours of Baltimore, it is well worth the visit. What a gem of a museum and if TCA grading rules applied, most of the collection would rate R5. R5? Check your grading standards and enjoy.



RAILROAD



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FOR SALE – Collection of TCA Museum cars and select 1984-2003 TCA Banquet cars. All mint and OB. E-mail me for a list. Peter Atonna 928-636-4228 or mjatonna@gmail.com.

AVAILABLE – **QSI 3-rail Products** information, including QS3000's, QS2+, QSI Reverse Units, Hooters, Tooters, and other QSI accessories, please go to: www.The-Scaled-Tin-Rail.com. Art Boynton, The Scaled Tin Rail, Inc. 928-525-0755.

FOR SALE – Out of print Greenberg books: Lionel, American Flyer, Marx, etc. Please call Bruce Greenberg at 703-461-6991 (9-5 Eastern Daylight) or visit his web site, www.sykesvillehistory.us, for a current list.

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

FOR SALE – 2343 Santa Fe Louvered AA \$300, 205 AA Missouri Pacific \$150, 229 AB M&StL \$95, 628 NP GE 44-ton Switcher \$125, 681 6-8-6 WX 2046 \$150, 736 2-8-4 736W \$275, 2025 2-6-4 6466 WX \$125, 2026X 2-6-4 6464 \$80, 2036 6466 W \$85, 2037 2-6-4 6026W \$50, 2245 F-3 Texas Special A unit only \$125, 2321 Lackawanna w/gray roof/ Box \$465, 2328 Burlington GP-7 \$175, 8551 Penn EP-5 \$100, 8600 NYC 4-6-4 \$175, 224E Set \$675, 225E Set \$675, Santa Fe ABA+2530-2533 \$1300, 2613 Pullman restored professionally \$295, 6445 Ft. Knox \$100, 6464-25 GN Box \$70, 6464-350 MKT Katy \$195, 6464-475 B&M \$95. Dannie L. Martin 520-360-0519 or e-mail dannieaz@cox.net.

WANTED – Used Armature for 621 JC NW2. Need OGR magazines Run 209 through 215, 217 - 224, 231, 233, 235. Need VG Marx 034 curved, Flex track 35” in .125, .148, .172 silver or steel “O” or S. Want Mike’s UFO Café 32961. Does anyone read X-change? Contact Bud L. O’Toole at 520-886-2234.

FOR SALE – 2011 Greenberg Pocket Guides for Lionel and American Flyer. Contact Gordon Wilson at 480-837-5344 or e-mail christielwilson@aol.com.

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

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COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| September 11 | BOD Meeting – 7:30 AM, followed by the Regular Division Meet Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ – 9 AM |
| September 18 | Rio Grande Chapter Meet – Sombra Del Monte Church, Albuquerque, NM – 10 AM Contact Greg Palmer 505-898-3840 |
| October 9 | Turkey Meet Planning Meeting – 8 AM, followed by the Regular Division Meet Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ – 9 AM |
| October 9-10 | Railfair – McCormick Stillman Railroad Park – Scottsdale, AZ |
| October 14-16 | Eastern Division Meet – York, PA |
| October 30-31 | Rio Grande Chapter “Pumpkin Meet” – Registration flier in this issue. Contact Greg Palmer 505-898-3840 |
| November 27-28 | Southwest Toy Train Swap Meet (“Turkey Meet”) – Mesa Convention Center |
| December 5 | Holiday Party – Mesa Marriott – 4 PM |

DIVISION MEET LOCATION

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