



Western Division Newsletter



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<http://www.tcawestern.org>

August – September 2011

Upcoming Meet Notices

Western Division's next train meet will take place on Saturday, September 24, 2011 in the Arcadia Senior Center, located at 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue in Arcadia, California.

To get to the meet, exit the 210 Freeway at Santa Anita Avenue. Drive south about half a mile and turn right into the Arcadia Park Parking lot. The hall is located next to the lawn bowling area. Look for the sign.

The doors open at 10AM for setup, trading, and selling. Please visit the Western Division website, at <http://www.tcawestern.org> for more information and a map.

The display theme for September will be "Maintenance-of-Way." Show off an item and facilitate the transfer of knowledge on collecting toy trains with your fellow members.

Our display themes and remainder of our meets for 2011 are: November 5th (Orange and Black Trains); and December 17th (Holiday Trains).

The regular monthly raffle for the membership will be held. The Board of Directors had ordered that to participate in the monthly prize raffle, each member must wear their membership badge. This year's "Grand Raffle Prize" is an original boxed Lionel Number 1100 Mickey Mouse Handcar with red base made between 1935-37. Tickets are only \$20 each! Ticket holders will have the opportunity to win a crisp \$100 bill to be give away to one lucky eligible member in good standing each month.

President's Message

By Manny Gonzalez, WD President

Summer is winding down, and though the warm days will continue well into the next few weeks and months, the memories of vacations have begun to subside as kids have started returning back to school.

Recently Western Division (WD) was invited by TTOS-SW to set-up our Inter-Active Display at an end-of-summer picnic held at Griffith Park (Live Steamers) in Los Angeles. It was graciously attended to all day by Wayne Sheriff and his wife Cynthia. Donated to the club, the layout is used to represent TCA-WD at train related events and has proven to be a big hit with the kiddies as well as their parents. The goal is to show what we're about and hopefully inspire a deeper interest in our hobby and what we do.

Ironically this raises a question posed by National to the divisions not long ago about the Top 10 Reasons our members belong to TCA.

"Why" people do something can be as fascinating and as varied as "what" it is they are doing. Let me just add that for this discussion that while all collectors don't necessarily run their trains, most operators by definition are pretty much collectors. Having said that, some people only deal with trains - be they toy, scale, vintage (you get the point) while others take a more expanded approach and collect many different things. I know this to be true because I'm always running into "train people" in the most unexpected places. In all honesty, this probably shouldn't surprise any of us.

The point is that whatever the reasons that lead us to belong, while initially very individualistic, in the end tend to sound remarkably familiar. Just like with the very things we seek to collect.

And we would like to hear from you about it. Send us your thoughts and let's see what we can come up with together.

We Did It!

**Western Division is the Quarterly Winner for the 2010 – 2011 TCA Membership Drive Contest!
Our Division received a \$200 Gift Certificate**

In Memoriam

Ralph Tomlinson, 00-51838, TCA Western Division member who always paid his dues as a \$100 donation to our club, passed early in the month of July 2011. May God Bless! Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family members.

July Meet Recap

By Robert Caplan, WD Recording Secretary



A Magnificent Display of Disney Toy Trains of all sizes

The display theme was: "Disney Trains". We had quite a few interesting display items. Bob Spellmire showed off a 'Scrooge' Pride Lines Trolley and an autographed painting made for him by Ward Kimble. Bob Trimble showed various Disney items, many of which he got at a thrift store. Calvin Smith showed us a Disney history book. Dave Burkhart showed a 'G' Gauge Disney Set he sets up at Christmas. Harry Chotanian showed a Disney Model T Mickey Mouse vehicle. Jim Kenney showed some prototypes of McCoy "Large Scale" locomotives. John Abbe showed off a Disney DVD. Leslie Cochran showed us a series of Lionel Disney boxcars that tell stories. Mario Liberatore showed a Pride Lines Disney Trolley. Rudy Felix showed off various other Disney items (i.e. Mickey handcar).

August Meet Recap

By Robert Caplan, WD Recording Secretary



A Magnificent Display of Motorized Toy Trains of all sizes

The display theme was: "Motorized Units". We had quite a few interesting display items. Bob Spellmire showed off a Lionel 529 Electric locomotive and Gang Car. Bob Nord showed us his Lionel handcar. Brian Fields showed off a Lionel Birney prototype trolley made for the 2005 TTOS convention. Butch Alvarado showed a Lionel streamlined Milwaukee locomotive. Calvin Smith showed displayed his Lionel "Peanuts" handcar. Dave Mabee showed displayed a Lionel Tamper locomotive and motorized rail truck.

Greg Pulis showed us his 1 gauge 2-rail European trolley. Herb Mayer showed off a Pride Lines TCA 25th Anniversary Silver Birney Trolley Jim Kenney showed another Lionel handcar. John Abbe showed us another Lionel "Peanuts" handcar. Mario Liberatore showed off a Lionel motorized rail truck. Mark Spears brought a Lionel track cleaning car. Steve Waller showed us some Lionel 0-27 Switcher locomotives and a "Bobber Caboose". Robert Trimble showed off some Pittman and related trolleys.



Dave Burkhart

Brian Fields



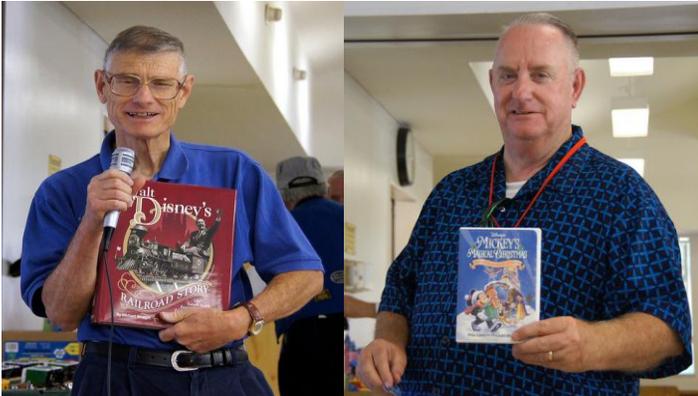
Harry Chotanian

Bob Trimble



Robert Spellmire

Butch Alvarado



Calvin Smith

John Abbe



July Prize Winners: Dave Mabee (Industrial tank car), Mark Spears (\$100 Monthly Raffle Winner), Dave Burkhart (Macys boxcar), and Mario Liberatore (K-Line Western Pacific boxcar).



Leslie Cochran

Mario Liberatore



Jim Kenney

Rudy Felix



August Prize Winners: Calvin Smith (Weaver Boxcar), Dave Mabee (\$100 Monthly Raffle Winner), Nancy Corsello (HO Bridge) and Mario Liberatore (Weaver Tank).

Photographs by Herbert Mayer