



Western Division

Train Collectors Association

Newsletter



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<http://www.tcawestern.org>

January/February 2006

Meet Notice

Our next meet will take place on **Saturday, January 28th**, in the Arcadia Senior Center, located at 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue in Arcadia, CA. Admission is free and Sellers: *Tables are free!*

To get to the meeting, exit the 210 Freeway at Santa Anita Ave. Drive south about half a mile and turn right into the Arcadia Park parking lot. We're located next to the lawn bowling area. Look for the sign. Doors open at 10 a.m. for setup, trading and selling. Please check our newly updated Western Division website, at <http://www.tcawestern.org>, for more information and a map!

The January display theme will be **Your Favorite Lionel Train Item**. Show off that prized toy train or train related item and facilitate the transfer of knowledge on collecting toy trains. There will be a separate prize drawing for all those who display items!

The 2006 Meet dates are: Jan 28, Feb 25, Mar 25, Apr 29, May 20, Jul 22, Aug 26, Sep 23, Oct 28, & Dec 16. There will be no meets in June due to the National Convention and November due to Cal-Stewart meet conflicts.

There will be a short Board of Directors meeting at 8:30 AM before the January meet.

President's Message

By Wayne Sheriff, President, TCA Western Division

The December Meet was well attended and everyone had a great time. Thanks to Nancy Cochran for arranging the food and gifts for the wife's and all those that volunteered. What a great job. By the way, the winner of the BB1 raffle is William Clausen. Congratulations Bill. By the way, it only took one ticket to win.

Now that the holidays are over and we look forward to another great year, it is time to say thank you for some very dedicated service to the club. A very special thanks to Harold Shapiro for his years of service as Secretary/Treasurer He has agreed to stay on as a Board member and as the Webmaster and Editor in Chief for the news letter. Jon Lang, VP and Bob Lemberger, Secretary and the rest of the Board of Directors have done a great job in 2005. Most of all, thanks to the members of the Division who have supported the club throughout the year.

The Western Division officers for 2006 are:

Wayne Sheriff - President
Jon Lang - Vice President
Bob Lemberger - Secretary
Jim Kenney - Treasurer

The Board of Directors for 2006 consists of:

Robert Caplan	Michael Donovan
John Parker	Howard Bishop
Harold Shapiro	David H. Oth
C. Ray Sugg	William Clausen

In 2006, WD will have its 3rd in the series of special raffles. This year's prize is the new 'O' scale model Lionel GG1 that is reflected in the Lionel 2005, Volume 2 Catalog, on page 52. These



raffles have been an excellent fundraising mechanism for keeping your Western Division annual dues at the same level for the past 4 years. A member of Western Division has donated a very special item to the club to be used for fundraising. This item will be advertised once the Board of Directors has determined the format to be used.

In the January Headquarters News are two important items for your consideration:

First, in the center fold, you will find notice about the proposed increase in annual TCA National membership dues and the ballot to vote on the measure. You should consider the request carefully before making your decision. Please make sure to fully exercise your right as a member to be heard on this issue by filling out and returning your ballot.

Second, you will find the information for the TCA's 52nd National Convention to be held in San Antonio, Texas in June 2006. It looks like a great program of events. When planning your travel to the convention, keep in mind the excursion train trip to San Antonio on restored Pullman cars that Jim Kenney has coordinated.

Beginning this issue, we will publish the Newsletter every other month. Please do not forget that the issues will be posted on the division's Internet web site and if you would be willing to receive it by e-mail, the club could save the cost of publishing and mailing. This is another way of keeping the dues at the same level.

- *Wayne Sheriff*



November/December Meet Recap

Submitted by Robert Lemberger

The November winner for the Display was Calvin Smith, (Lionel Santa Fe Stock Car); Drawing winners were Harold Shapiro (Lionel Penn Merchandise Car), Don Goldberg (Lionel Flat Car w/trailer) and John Parker (Lionel Southern Pacific/Union Pacific Double door box car). The winner of the \$100 was Dave Gabay.

The December meet was abuzz with the feeling and energy of the holidays. While trading and conversation went on as usual, food tables were being readied for a hungry group.

Wayne began the business meeting by bringing out Nancy Cochran who had put together the spread we all indulged in. "Thank you Nancy" was followed by a well deserved round of applause.



Harold Shapiro (Secretary/Treasurer) talked about what a good year the club had. All the money collected had been paid out and the club had almost broken even for the year. He asked that everyone get involved in recruiting new members. There are 243 members of TCA National living in the Western Division region who are not members in our division. So, everyone please go out and spread the word about our great club. Harold asked for any suggestions to increase membership. If you think of something, let one of your board members hear your ideas.

Seven members attended all the meetings last year and as a result were awarded free membership dues for 2006. Next year's special raffle was also announced.

Speaking of raffles, the monthly winners included Mike Jenkins who selected a Lionel SP flat with trailers; Mario Liberatore who grabbed the Lionel flat with a Pepsi van; Ron Nelson who claimed the Lionel NP boxcar and Dennis Taube who got a Lionel Penn Central work car.

Bob Caplan opened up the display theme by first stating he would be brief. Bob showed off a Lionel #6464 1979 Disney TCA Convention car in "RED". He talked about there being only six of these cars in various colors other than white. His brief explanation was interesting but it did go on... and on... and on. Well done Bob! He also showed us a Lionel #152 crossing signal variation on an unusual base as well as a Red Caboose Club pin which is one of only two in existence.

Next up was Mario Liberatore who told us that York PA's nickname is the "White Rose City" which comes from the original York in England which first took the name during the War of the Roses. Lancaster, also the original in England, took the name "Red Rose City" at the same time. Very informative. Thanks Mario.

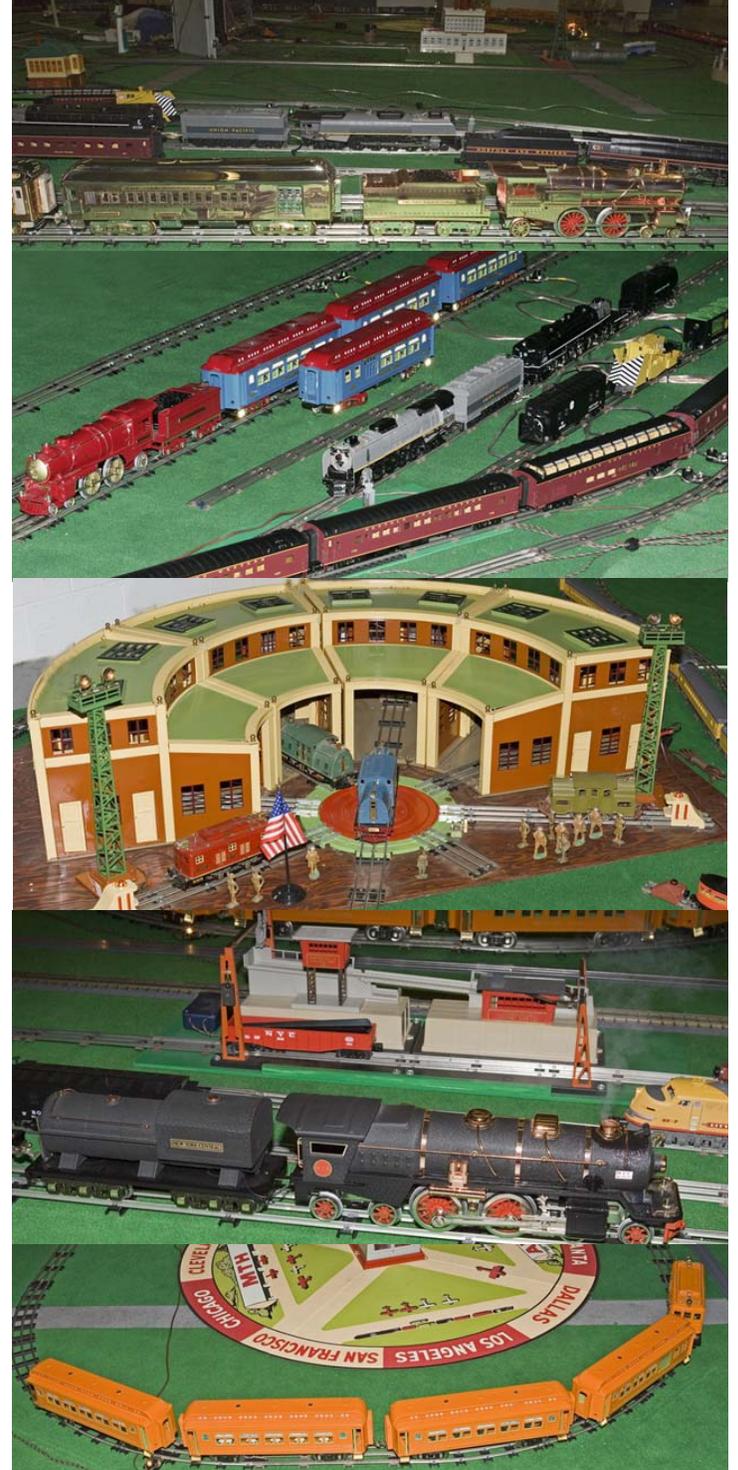


The winner of the special Lionel 'O' gauge BB-1 electric set raffle for 2005 was Bill Clausen. Enjoy it Bill!

It's been a pleasure being the recording Secretary for the club for 2005 and I just want to wish that everyone have a great 2006.

WD Layout at Cal-Stewart

Richard Keppel, Jr. once again represented Western Division at the 2005 Cal-Stewart meet with his massive floor train layout. The layout always features several loops of track in both Standard and 'O' gauge with multiple train consists running on each track via a TMCC set up that is unsurpassed for a portable configuration. Here are several photos of the layout from the November gathering.



In Memoriam

Since our last publication, we have lost two very close friends. On November 29, Bob Trimble's wife Nancy passed on. In December, Richard Keppel, Sr., WD member, father of Richard Keppel, Jr. and grandfather to kid's club member Christopher, passed on. Our hearts, thoughts and sincerest condolences to both families.