



Western Division

Train Collectors Association

Newsletter



Volume 49, No. 5

"Special Pre-Convention Collector's Edition"

May 2003



President's Message

by Russ Lange, TCA Western Division

Our next meet will be Saturday May 24th at the Arcadia Park Senior Center, 405 South Santa Anita Avenue in Arcadia, CA. Doors open at 10 a.m. sharp! The business meeting begins at 12 noon. For more information

and a map, go to www.tcawestern.org.

SELLERS—get a California Lottery ticket as our gift when you use our *free* tables to sell your trains. This promotion was very popular at the last meet, so we are repeating this fantastic offer. **MEMBERS**—any unused tickets become part of the door prizes this month. **Next auction will be at the July meet.**

We are going to have a Board of Directors and Convention Committee meeting after the regular meet to focus on the remaining issues and plans. We look forward to seeing you at the Convention!

--Russ Lange



TCA member Rob Likani of Arcadia will bring a portable layout to our Convention in Ontario. *What have you?*

Display Theme for May

Our display theme this month is "Conventions"! Please bring a TCA Convention item from your collection (any year). Or something you'd like to display in Hall "B" next month (see attached flyer). How about bringing a nice train you plan to sell at your table in Hall "A" at the Convention Center?

Last Meeting before Convention

by John Parker, TCA Convention Co-Chairman

As the May Meet is our last before hosting the TCA 49th National Convention in Ontario, CA, we will conduct a full review of preparations. Please plan to attend and participate!



The Convention Committee needs volunteer help in the following areas:

(1) On Saturday, June 14th, we will have a registration packet "**Stuffing Party**" at the Arcadia Park Senior Center (back room) starting at **10 a.m.** We need about a dozen volunteers for 2 or 3 hours.

(2) Starting Saturday, June 21st, we need help with registration & the Western Division table during the week of the Convention.

(3) On Thursday June 24th, we need to get tables covered & marked in Hall A; we also need help setting up our club's train layouts in Hall B. In the evening, we'll need help with the silent auction at the Welcome Party.

(4) On Friday, June 27th we need helpers monitoring the evening layout tours.

(5) On Friday & Saturday June 27th & 28th we need people to watch over the train layouts and help with the Kid's Club activities.

Volunteer signup sheets will be at the May meet, or contact Convention Co-Chairman Wayne Sheriff at (714) 970-2779 or cnswss@mindspring.com. This is your chance to get involved!

Pre-Convention Meeting Notes

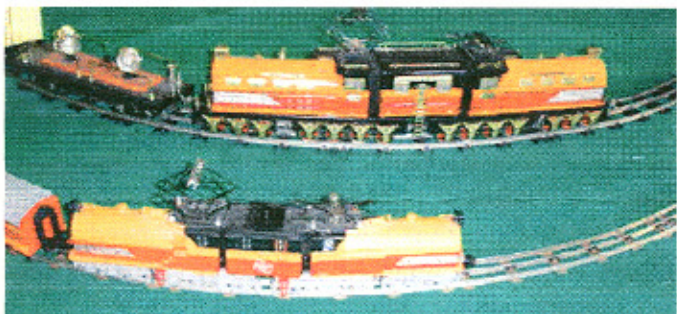
by Steve Waller, Recording Secretary

Heard the news? We're hosting a Convention in June! That was the hot topic at last month's meet. Besides the members-only Trading Pit in the Ontario Convention Center's Hall "A", we will invite the public to a *free* event in Hall "B" that we're calling the **Toy Train Expo!**



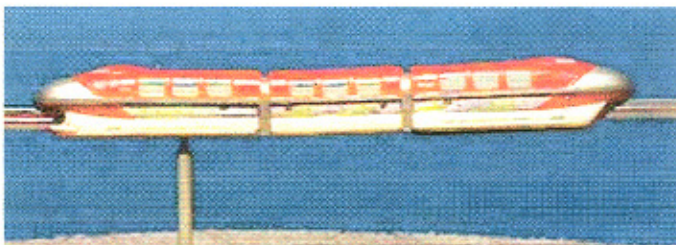
The Nissen Family Circus will be a highlight at the Toy Train Expo at the Ontario Convention Center. Please volunteer!

The **Toy Train Expo** will feature modular train layouts, manufacturers, and special exhibits. We need volunteers to help with setup on Thursday June 26th, operation on June 27th & 28th, and teardown June 28th & 29th. Don't be bashful! Call Display Chairman **Steve Waller** - (626) 792-6750, email tca2003@earthlink.net or just show up!



Bi-Polars in O & Sid. gauge on last month's Club Layout by Richard Keppel, Jr. Wait till you see his Convention layout!

Meet after meet, **Richard Keppel, Jr.** works hard setting up and operating our club layout. Now, he needs *your* help creating a **GIANT** version at the Convention Center! Do you have a mini-van you can haul boxes with? Can you help set up or run the trains? (He uses DCS and TMCC remotes.) Please bring some of your own trains to run! Contact Richard- (626) 282-4542 or lourichchrisk@aol.com.



Next month's Disneyland 1959 exhibit will have an operating Schuco monorail, with special guest Imagineer Bob Gurr.

Our meet in April had a lot of "juice". That's because the theme was "electric-type trains". We spotted a GG-1, Pacific Electric trolleys, PCC Streamliners and several early Lionel and Ives electrics. The sparks were really flying! The prize-winner was Harvey Tafel for his well-loved Lionel 253 in olive. Two other door prizes were awarded, a Lionel 6-29285 Seaboard boxcar and a postwar x3464 Pennsy double door boxcar.



Errol Flynn (right) has a bet riding on his Lionel M-10000. *Toy Trains Go Hollywood™* will be a show-stopping exhibit at our Convention, directed by Dave Otth & Hollis Cotton.

Bob Spellmire was elected President-Alternate to represent TCA Western Division at the upcoming National board meeting, in the unlikely event that our President is unable to attend.

Western Pacific Club Car Sells Out

Our Western Division WP blue feather boxcar (Lionel no. 1954-2003) has **sold out**. John Parker and Wayne Sheriff worked hard at York making this happen. We will have a shipping party when the cars arrive. More details to follow!

This Special Pre-Convention Collector's Edition of the TCA Western Division Newsletter was edited by Stephen J. Waller. Color printing and distribution by Russell & Jane Lange.