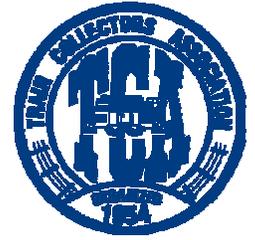




Western Division

Train Collectors Association

Newsletter



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<http://www.tcawestern.org>

September - October 2006

Upcoming Meet Notices

Western Division's next regular monthly train meet will take place on **Saturday, September 23rd**, in the Arcadia Senior Center, located at 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue in Arcadia, CA. Admission is free and Sellers: *Tables are free!*

The October 2006 WD meet will be held on Saturday the 28th.

To get to the meetings, 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 September display theme will be **Trolleys, Interurbans, Hand Cars, and Motorized Units**. The display theme for October will be **Military Trains to honor Veterans**. 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 members who display items.

Officer's Message

By Wayne Sheriff, President, & Jon Lang, Vice-President

At the August 2006 monthly meet, the WD membership in attendance nominated the current slate of officers and directors for 2006 to serve again in 2007. That is a vote of confidence for the work accomplished during 2006. The ballot for 2007 is included with this newsletter. Please send it back to Bob Spellmire in the enclosed envelope, or bring your completed ballot to the next monthly train meet.

It was announced at the August meet, that WD has been contacted by the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library through TCA Headquarters, to implement a train exhibit in 4,000 Sq. Ft. of space at the facility in Yorba Linda, Ca. Bob Lemberger has been named the Project Manager and is directing all activity.

There is one wall, approximately 80 feet long that will need to be filled with a display of trains. WD is soliciting members to provide old toy trains for the display. All trains on loan will be protected by the US Government, since the Library is a National landmark, and is fully insured. All inquiries should be directed to Jim Kenney jkenney10@aol.com who will be coordinating the display for trains.

This is an outstanding opportunity to obtain exposure for TCA and Western Division. We are presently looking for warehouse space in which to build the frame work, off site, for a modular 1200 Sq. Ft. operating layout and display shelves. If any WD member knows of space that we could use for approximately two months in the Orange, Fullerton, Yorba Linda or surrounding area please contact Bob Lemberger rlember104@msn.com or Jon Lang jonmlang@verizon.net. The club is requesting that this space be donated, or provided at a very low cost if possible.

Western Division would also like to have the ability to permanently store this layout somewhere after January 18, 2007, so we are asking if anyone knows of such a space or location. This will enable the ability to keep the layout, so it may be utilized at other future events.

WD is seeking help in staffing a table that we will have at the 2006 Cal-Stewart meet in Pasadena on November 18 & 19. If you have an extra hour or two to come and hand out brochures and chat with

meet attendees to promote TCA, it will help us greatly.

A reminder that there will be no WD November meet because of the proximity to the Cal-Stewart meet dates and the occurrence of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Plans are underway for the December 16 Christmas/Holiday meet.

WD will be providing submarine sandwiches, but will be once again requesting that the members bring salads and or desserts, based on the letter that your last name begins with. Details will come in the November newsletter.

Wayne Sheriff will be out of town until November and Jon Lang, will hold the fort down and preside over the monthly meets for the next several months.

- Wayne & Jon



July & August Meet Recaps

Submitted by Robert Lemberger, Secretary, TCA Western Division

Wayne Sheriff called the July meeting to order announcing that "This is John Parker's 50th anniversary in TCA."

Bob Caplan gave John a 'congratulations' reminding all that John was a prior TCA National President and convention chairman.

Wayne let all know that we are getting low on raffle tickets for the GG-1 and the Lionel Balloon. He also reminded the membership that next year's TCA National convention is being held in Denver, hosted by the Rocky Mountain Division, with Vermont targeted as the location in 2008.

Long time WD member Harvey Houck is moving away from Southern California. As a parting remembrance, he donated his 2003 Convention Red 6464 Banquet car to the club.

There were four new members in attendance: Dave Barton, Robert Hay, Nick Mustille and Manny Gonzalez.

The display theme for July was convention cars, since the 52nd convention was just held the month before. First up was yours truly who brought in an Issmeyer gondola that Drew Bauer had sold me claiming it was the first convention car as it was given to all in attendance at Yardley, PA in 1955. Unfortunately, I have not been able to substantiate the claim.

Bob Caplan displayed some rare McCoy trolley cars from the 1988 convention. One was the banquet car the other was available to purchase. The production of these detailed trolley cars was overseen by John Parker.



The rare McCoy trolleys

Harry Chortanian showed the New Orleans convention caboose from 1986. Rudy Felix showed us four convention boxcars: 1975 Florida series 9700, 1976 Pennsylvania 9700 series, 1978 Boston hi-cube and the 1979 Anaheim Silver Bullion 25th anniversary mint car complete with the coin token.

Les Cochran had his TTOS 2004 Popsicle Ice Car marked Fresno and BN&SF. Mario Liberatore showed his Portland convention flat car. Bill Grove had his TTOS 'HO' gauge car from 1967 which he designed from an open competition. Bob Spellmire brought in his 1979 TCA Museum 'Mortgage Burning' car. John Abbe showed miscellaneous Lionel cars with the Pere Marquette road name.

Mike Jenkins had the York boxcars and the Ontario Convention car. Bob Trimble brought in miscellaneous HO convention cars and the new Ward Kimball Grizzly Flats box car in 'S' gauge.



In the raffle Bill Corsello picked up an 'O' gauge tinplate car, Mervyn Lew won the Union Pacific Lionel boxcar, Robert Trimble won a K-line reefer, Richard Keppel won the K-line Robin Hood beer car, and Neal Meyer won the Lionel KC Southern Tank Car. Dave Gabay won the \$100.00 bill in the GG-1 drawing.

Jon Lang mentioned that the new Lionel catalogue had K-Line products listed in it. Bruce Lazarus let us know that the Ward Kimball Grizzly Flats 'S' gauge box cars had been shipped but that the 'O' gauge box cars had been delayed due to late shipping.



Dave, Cindy & Harvey

Wayne started the August business meeting announcing, "We have something special this week." He then stood aside as Cindy Largey led us in singing Happy Birthday to Harvey Taffel. Dave Maybee made arrangements for a cake for Harvey. By the way a CD with Cindy's greatest hits is available on eBay

Wayne told us that Rocky Mountain division national convention car is available to order. It's a Coors box car in 'S' gauge. Wayne asked for nominations of officers for the 2007 BOD. Someone suggested that all who are current BOD members should be re-nominated, and this motion was seconded and passed. No one else offered their name as willing to serve on the board.

Yours truly was asked to give a summarization of the Richard M. Nixon Library train display project plans.

Bob Caplan took over running the display session for Mike Donovan who was absent. The theme for the meet was foreign made trains. Dave Gabay brought in what appeared to be a bomb from WWII; when he attached two wires to it from a large battery, instead of exploding, it turned out to be a new digital RR crossing bell - a very loud crossing bell. To add to the soundtrack, Michele Abbe displayed her Lionel clock with a running train and sounds.



Jerry Johnson had a neat little clockwork engine and cars made in Germany. Harry Chortanian had a tinplate train made in China. Jim Kenney showed us his Electron engine and cars made in Milan Italy. They were made in the 50's and early 60's and were highly detailed. The passenger car even had seats and tables, and the tables were set with plates and silverware.



Jim Kenney's Electro 'O' gauge trains

Mario Liberatore brought in his Rivarossi Legend train, a 4-6-0 electric modeled after an 1890 era train that the infamous Casey Jones engineered.

Ed Largey showed what looked like a New York Central Engine in '1' gauge that was reminiscent of an old Ives electric, but, was actually made in Japan. It featured brass wheels.

Bob Caplan showed two advertisements for Lionel sets in Japanese. They included the Chessie set and the SP Daylight set. He also had a Lionel gondola car labeled with an export decal for Mexico and 2 wind-up tinplate tanks.



Bob Caplan's Lionel Gondola for Mexico & Japanese Ads

Dave Gabay won the display raffle and chose a Lionel flat with 2 trucks on it. In the membership raffle, John Abbe selected a Lionel C&O standard 'O' boxcar, Bob Lemberger won a Lionel plated tank car, Harvey Taffel, the birthday boy, picked up the Wabash flat with a trailer. Bill Corsello was the lucky \$100 bill winner in the GG-1 raffle drawing.



The 23rd Annual Allied Model Trains Auction will be held Sunday, October 29, 2006, at the Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd. in Arcadia. Over 300 lots of trains & toys will be sold with no reserve. Allen Drucker, auctioneer. Free admission, free parking. Doors open for viewing at 9am, auction runs 11:00 AM until 5:00 PM. For more information, call 310-313-9353 or visit <http://www.alliedmodeltrains.com> on the Internet.