



Western Division

Train Collectors Association

Newsletter



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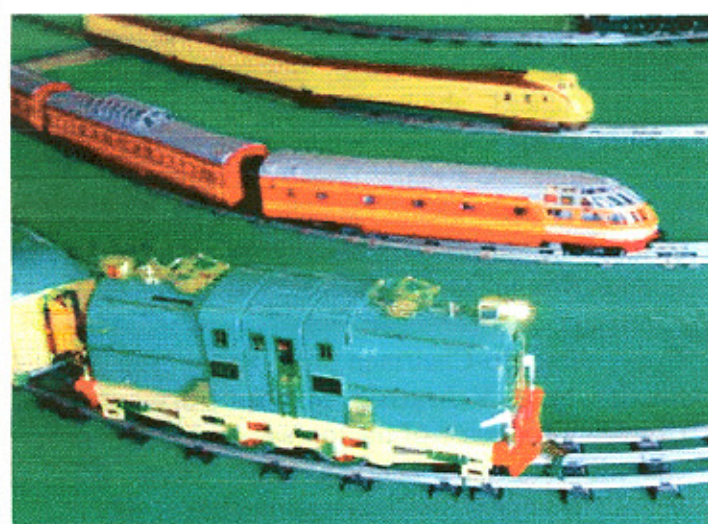
APRIL WESTERN DIVISION MEET

Saturday, April 26th, 2003

We meet at the Senior Citizens Center in Arcadia Community Park, 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia CA. Setup and trading starts at 10 A.M. and the business meet follows at 12:00 Noon. More info is available on our web site--
www.tcawestern.org

Sellers – Here is an opportunity for you. Bring your trains to sell; use our free tables and you will receive a California Lottery ticket for a chance to win a million dollars! (April meet only.)

Members- Here is your opportunity to come and enjoy the benefits of your membership with Western Division and add to your collection.



Our Operating Layout last month featured both Standard and "O" gauge trains

DISPLAY THEME FOR APRIL

Let's bring your Electric Style Engine, any Gauge and any Manufacturer and be prepared to discuss why you liked that particular one. Trolleys are also welcome!



New! Embroidered TCA Convention Shirt is worn by President Russ Lange & Treasurer Dale Lange

CONVENTION PROGRESS

Enclosed with this newsletter is a registration form for the 49th convention that your division is hosting. Along with John Parker and Wayne Sheriff, I am urging all Western Division members to not only register for the convention but to take at least one table and bring trains to sell or display.

We also need volunteers to help at Ontario with the myriad of details that it will take to make this a roaring success. Our registration from the East, Midwest and Texas has been great and nearly all of the tours are booked.

We are urging our members to attend the banquet (as hosts) and the Newport Beach Dinner Cruise as well. Our Welcome Party is reaching capacity and our division members should plan to attend as well, to get acquainted with our many visiting TCA members and their families. Many thanks!

--Russ Lange

President, TCA Western Division
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TCA-Western Meeting Notes

The March Meet was another great gathering! A beautiful **operating layout** was set up by Richard Keppel, Jr. & son Chris, assisted by Jerry Johnson & son Steven. Many different trains were running, including an MTH Bipolar, a K-Line GG1, an MTH 2-10-4 Texas, an MTH 400E, an MTH Legionnaire set and an original American Flyer 4000.

The March Display theme was "**something green**" for Saint Patrick's Day. Among the interesting items, we spotted Mike Stella's Crocodile, Bob Trimble's Thomas Industries tinplate, Jerry Johnson's Ives No. 30 clockwork, Jim Kenny's Ives New Potomac set, and new member Bill Kluss' rare MPC paint-sample boxcars. We were all "**green**" with envy when Emmert Stouffer won the prize for his Marklin No. 1 gauge windup. *Congratulations!*



Michelle (age 10) brought her sister Mary (age 14) to help sell trains at John & Wha Abbe's table

The Door Prizes were all **LIONEL** double-door boxcars. The prizes & their winners were:

6-39230 NH (McGinnis paint) Kay Lang
6-39229 B&O (Tuscan) Nancy Cochran
6-39228 B&O (Blue paint) Dale Lange



Dave Aikens had lots of Marx tinplate to sell, including a scarce Lumar pull-toy floor train

President Russ Lange called the business meeting to order at 12 noon. Our upcoming **TCA Convention**, from June 22nd-29th was the main topic. (*Editor's note: there are only two Western Division meetings left before our Convention!*) Dale Lange presented the Treasurer's Report. He asked members to please be sure your dues are current.

Steve Waller discussed plans for the Exhibitor's Hall at the Convention. Volunteers are needed to help with the operating displays. Contact him at (626) 792-6750 or tca2003@earthlink.net. Bob Caplan talked about the Western Pacific blue feather **Club Car** that is available to support the Convention. Not many remain, so get your orders in! Bob's also looking for help with the Kid's Club at the Convention. Contact Bob at (213) 382-5266 or RMCStrains@aol.com.

Convention Co-Chairmen John Parker and Wayne Sheriff have **Volunteer Signup Sheets** for the Convention. Many of the tours are sold out, but you can still sign up to help! Contact Wayne at (714) 970-2779 or cnswws@mindspring.com.

A lively auction rounded out the March meeting. During the course of the heated bidding, auctioneer Bob Caplan was asked to test a vintage transformer. As Bob plugged it in, Convention Treasurer Hal Shapiro snuck up behind him and made a loud **BZZZ!** You should have seen our auctioneer jump!

--notes by Steve Waller, Recording Secretary