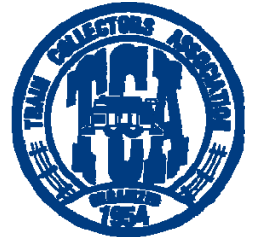




Western Division

Train Collectors Association

Newsletter



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<http://www.tcawestern.org>

March - April 2009

Upcoming Meet Notices

Western Division's April train meet will take place on Saturday, April 25th, in the Arcadia Senior Center, located at 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue in Arcadia, CA.

To get to the meet, exit the 210 Freeway at Santa Anita Ave. 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 Western Division Sign.

The doors open at 10 AM 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 April will be, "Flatcars & Loads". Show off an item and facilitate the transfer of knowledge on collecting toy trains with your fellow members. There will be a separate raffle prize drawing held for all those members who display items.

There will be the regular monthly prize raffle for the membership. The Grand prize raffle this year is for the Lionel Postwar Classics GG-1 and Madison car set and the Burlington diesel with silver car set with red stripes. Ticket holders will have a choice of one with the second drawing for the remaining set. A crisp \$100 bill will once again be given away to one lucky eligible member who has purchased a 2009 Raffle ticket.

Western Division scheduled meets for 2009 are: April 25, May 30, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24, and December 19. There will be no meets held in June or November.

President's Message

By Wayne Sheriff, WD President

Western Division has had outstanding members who step up and provide their time and support when requested for special projects and shows. "Thanks" go to Herbert Mayer who took the reins and arranged for TCA Western Division to have a booth at the Fillmore Railfest 2009. Herb, Harold Shapiro, and I spent time promoting TCA at the booth on Sunday. Herb spent all day Saturday by himself while we were assisting Western Division's March Meet. Herb reported that we have some very good prospects for Western Division New Members.



Wayne Sheriff, Cheryl and Harold Shapiro at Fillmore Railfest 2009

We are looking forward to participating at "The Big Train Show" in June at the Ontario Convention Center. This year they are including all train gauges.

Negotiations are still progressing with the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library staff for the Train Display over the 2009 holidays. The proposed theme is bridges and mountains. The dates are from mid November 2009 through the end of January 2010.

The time is running out for the TCA National Convention signups. The location is Scottsdale, AZ. More information is available on the web at <http://www.tcaaz2009.org>. Don't let this opportunity go by because we are so close to Arizona.

April is Auction month. Bring those unique trains or related items that have been sitting in boxes for the auction. Remember, quality means more bidders, more attention for what you have, and that means higher bids!

As the National Membership drive continues, don't forget that we as TCA are only a generation away from extinction. There are too many train lovers out there for that to happen.

If you are thinking about going to York, keep in mind (with this economy), it is still possible to get good airfares. I was able to get a ticket for \$99 each way from Orange County to Baltimore. Think about it!

February 2009 Meet Recap

By Bob Caplan, Secretary



The January Display Theme: "Trains I Love".

Gregory Pulis shared with us a Dorfan tin plate clockwork square cab. Dave Gabay showed off a beautiful 2004 Lionel Santa Fe shovel nose. Jim Kenney displayed a photograph of Frank Sinatra with Shirley McLain and an unknown train set in the background. Harry Chortanian shared a Marx pre-war engine. Bob Spellmire had an Ives #3235 Cast Iron Engine (single gear) that could outrun any train engine! Greg Hahn shared with us his Santa Fe F-3 that was inspired from Philippe's. Mario Liberatore brought his Macy's Thanksgiving box car with him. Herbert Mayer brought a highly detailed 'O' scale steam shovel that was used for the Panama Canal. Bob Caplan brought a #6464-150 Missouri Pacific TCA Lottery car. Thomas Hubbard shared a very special story about how he met his wife from Princeton using a Pennsylvania



commuter car. John Whitmayer had a hand reverse Lionel #262 that was his first steam engine. Dave Mabee showed off his 1946 #2111WS freight set. Les Cochran shared his bloody Lionel #4060 SP and #2925 SF Diesels. Harold Shapiro displayed his childhood #6250 Seaboard Switcher and SF #2343 F-3. Harvey Tafel showed a unique #1668E with one engine plate. Larry Pearson brought a green pre-war Lionel #390. Robert Nord brought a pre-war Marx engine. Bob Trimble shared old paper literature that he uses to identify cars that are unknown to him.



The Display winner was John Whitmayer: Lionel #022 switches, Raffle Prize Winners were: Mario Liberatore (Lionel Rio Grande caboose), John Abbe (Lionel Rio Grande hopper), Herbert Mayer (Lionel Toy Fair car), Don Gatz (Lionel #8701 Pennsylvania passenger car), Ken Chan (Lionel Pennsylvania passenger car), and Roy Bell (flat car loads).



Dave Mabee won the \$100 Monthly Prize for February!

March 2009 Meet Recap

General Business Meeting 12 Noon

President Wayne Sheriff welcomed all members. Herbert Mayer is volunteering for the Fillmore Train Show. Our display at the Nixon Library will continue from November 11th until mid January 2010. National Train Day will take place May 9, 2009 at Union Station. There will be examples of all kinds of rolling stock, train layouts and a very large celebration at the downtown station. Wayne introduced our newest Western Division member Don Baker. The TCA Directory will no longer be printed. You can get a CD or go on Line for a list of TCA members. This will save National \$50,000. Our Display Theme for April will be "Flat cars and their loads". Also April will be our Auction Meet, so bring your trains!

The March Display Theme: "Trolleys".

Steve Eastman brought a wind up tinplate Christmas trolley. Harry Chortanian brought a San Francisco "Powell Street" trolley to share. Jon Lang brought a variety of trolleys from Bachman "Saint Paul", a PC Corgi (and last), a cast iron trolley that he wanted to share with Bob Trimble. Calvin Smith shared his Lionel trolley that he was giving to his grandson whose family lost their home in last years fire. Steve Waller shared a book "Big Red Cars" and brought a Lionel Pacific Electric and Lionel Transit trolley. Jerry Johnson brought his Pacific Electrics by "Industrial Rail". Dave Gabay shared a real trolley bell with us. Al Vargas shared his "Red, White, and Blue" trolley. Bob Caplan shared his little San Francisco Music Box trolley. John Parker brought an Ives #808 trolley and #810 trailer plus a Third Rail Clockwork Ives 3rd Avenue trolley. Bob Spellmire talked about his second fastest engine, a Standard Gauge #201 Blue trolley. Larry Pearson brought a Standard Gauge Summer Lionel #101 trolley. Gregory Pulis shared with us a great Converse lithographed Broadway and



Lexington trolley and a Carlise and Finch brass trolley. John Abbe showed a plate with a trolley that was given to him by his wife and a Convention car. Bob Trimble shared his story about the Pittman motor he found in a trolley

he bought, a lunch box, M&Ms, Auburn Model Trains and Industrial Rail material.



The Display winner was Calvin Smith. Raffle Prize Winners were: Greg Pulis (KMT box car), Dave Gabay (Lionel caboose), Robert Cesarone (Lionel Macy's box car), Don Gatz (Lionel car), Howard Bishop (Lionel car), and CA Meyer won the \$100 Monthly Prize!



*2009 Officers and Members of the Board of TCA Western Division
Wayne Sheriff-President, Manny Gonzalez-Vice President, Robert Caplan-Secretary, Jim Kenney-Treasurer, Board of Directors: Steve Eastman, Mike Donovan, Jon Lang, Robert Lemberger, Herbert A. Mayer John Parker, Harold Shapiro and Stephen J. Waller*

In Memoriam

Donald Goldberg, 91-33246, recently passed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife and family.

Photographs by Herb Mayer and Harold Shapiro