



Western Division

Train Collectors Association

Newsletter



Volume 49, No. 8

August 2003

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

The convention is now history and according to all reports that I have heard and read, plus my own evaluation, being there, it was quite a success. Now follow that up with a great meet and turnout, that we had last month, what more can we meet for? Thanks Western Division members. We had quite an array of trains in all gauges seen on many tables last month. Several very valuable standard gauge sets, such as the Liberty Bell set with the 392 engine in front, an American Flyer standard set in orange (very colorful), a baby state set in excellent condition along with another set with blue cars.. Also seen was several Standard accessories that you do not see much of anymore – even at York.

It was nice to have some of our older members return to the meets. Dr. Jay Richlin, Charles Licha, and Don Landenberger. - welcome back.

For those of you who would like to see a lot of convention photos, log on to the Desert Divisions web site (www.tcadd.org) and scan down to the Ontario Convention photos. Thanks to Gordon Wilson. See you in August. – Russ Lange

August meet and Display theme

Our next meet is August 23, 2003 at the Senior Center in the Arcadia Community Park.

The address is 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia, Ca. and the time is set for 10:00 AM.

For our display, let's bring a recently acquired favorite piece that you have been looking for and found and be ready to tell us about it.

REVIEWING THE JULY MEET.

President Russ Lange called the meeting to order at twelve noon.

After a brief welcome to all of the members, he announced the passing of Al Spellmire, the grandson of Bob and Kay Spellmire and Chris Rohlfing of the Midwest Division. A moment of silence was called in their honor. Russ also announced that Western Division would be contributing to a fund set up in Al Spellmire's name as a college fund for his brothers.

Recognition was also made for Phillip Maddox who joined TCA during our convention.

Russ also announced that several members who joined TCA during the convention were also invited to attend the meet and join Western Division as well. The display theme this month was red, white and blue Jay Keeley showed several new cars from Lionel in those colors along with some of the cereal box cars that are still available.

Bill Claussen brought several variations of Marx streamliners in excellent condition and discussed the different merits of each.

Bob Trimble had an unusual Pepsi blue and white- round container with coins in it Alan Rebis had a blue, red and white loc that he displayed. The display prize was awarded to Bill Claussen

The tables in the hall were filled with a lot of good quality trains in all gauges. One table had several quality standard gauge sets such as the baby state set, the Liberty Bell set with the 392 engine, an orange American Flyer set along with several miscellaneous standard gauge cars.

Also noted was an Ives standard freight set complete. On another table was several quality standard gauge sets as well as some prominent prewar accessories. Quality merchandise that is not often seen at the meets. Also seen were many O gauge items ranging from Weaver streamline cars thru to Lionel rolling stock.

Bob Caplan conducted the auction where several nice items were available for bidding. Hal Shapiro stopped the action with an announcement that Bob Caplan was an outstanding auctioneer for his record setting performance at the Convention Banquet auction. His auction totals exceeded anything that has been done in the past, at the conventions. He received a well deserved hand of applause in appreciation for his efforts.

President Russ Lange also acknowledged and thanked the Convention Co- Chairs, John Parker and Wayne Sheriff for their outstanding effort and time that they put into making the convention a success. Also recognized were Hal Shapiro, Convention Treasurer, Don Stotts for security, Dale Lange for Registration Chairman and Jon Lang for all of the tours. Several happy members received some nice rolling stock as door prizes.



Don Ladenberger – July Meet

Nominations for National Offices

| | | |
|------------------|----------|------------------|
| President Elect: | NETCA | Bradley Fuller |
| | P.NW | Merle Perise |
| Vice President: | DIXIE | Bob Keller |
| | METCA | Joseph L. Mania |
| | MIDWEST | G. Werderich |
| Secretary | EASTERN | Sarah V. Reed |
| Treasurer | ATLANTIC | William E. Miles |

Watch for the ballots and be sure you vote.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

The tours were outstanding and well attended. Several members went back to revisit the Nethercut collection. Ward Kimbal's collection and the Grizzly Flats Station was a highlight of all of the tours. Jon Lang was the flagship that set the course. He was so busy that his wife Kay thought she lost a husband. So did Cynthia Sheriff.

The registration desk was busy for all six days. The Welcome party really was a plus and the members made the silent auction a success for our Division.

The banquet auction was also outstanding in the sense that auctioneer Bob Caplan set a record for banquet auctions. Score one for Bob and Western Division.

Thirty one new members registered for the convention.

Thanks to all of the volunteers whose efforts made this a successful convention.

Visit our web site: tcawestern.org.



Welcome Party



Orange Empire Museum Tour Credit Desert Division



Grizzly Flats Station – Ward Kimbal Tour