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Bulletin

Southern California Chapter



2050

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Western Division

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Southern Calif Chapter
Train Collectors Assoc

President - Wes Frye
Vice Pres, - Al Shadler

Secty - R. Wheeler
Publicity - H. Bemis

Editors - H. Bemis

Wes Frye

No. 2050 Flag pole, with silk flag, height 21½ ins., each \$1.35

---PRESIDENTS REPORT---

Before going into our report for the January issue of the Bulletin, I would like to thank you fellows of the Western Division for allowing me the privilege of serving as President for the coming year. The success of our local organization has been due largely to the able officers that have directed the activities of our group in the past and I will try to the best of my ability to maintain this high standard.

Recently one of our respected old time collectors expressed to me his concern about trading practices that have created hard feelings among some of the members of the Train Collectors Association. Now our Association cannot tell you fellows how to conduct your trades nor do we want to, but we can advise you (I am speaking to the new members especially) against certain practices that often lead to trouble. The fellows in the TCA are human beings and are subject to human frailties so don't expect them to be perfect. Many of us value our integrity but some are a little careless I am afraid. Of course the TCA does have provisions for dealing with outright dishonesty.

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CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Christmas Party completed a successful year of Western Division Meeting and Growth. George Smiths house was decorated with streamers reaching from the perimeter to the center of the Family room. Christmas Gaiety was the keynote. A hugh cake decorated with a model train was the centerpiece in the refreshment area. Coffee, neopolitan ice cream, ham and other cold meats, salads, and cheese were just part of the wonderful menu served.

George very cleverly displayed an apple green 408 set by lighting the lights on the Loco and in the cars and by augmenting the display with signals and various accessories. On another wall a shelf held a Lionel Station platform and station all lighted.

The entertainment included a fine Southern Pacific movie on the Donner Pass Forty Five mile stretch were a corageous fight is waged each winter to keep the main line cleared of snow. The film showed the Winter of 1951 when enough snow fell to cover a five story building.

An exchange of presents added to the festive mood of the season. A fine auction was staged. After the auction was concluded and George's fine collection of Voltamp, Ives, Lionel and American Flyer was viewed we adjourned this last meeting of 1962.

We wish to extend our appreciation and thanks to the whole Smith Family for the effort and ingenuity displayed to help make this fine Christmas Party.

The Flyers sent out to each member of the Western Division announcing and giving details of the party were the fine work of
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OCTOBER QUARTERLY

On glancing thru the last quarterly we were flattered to see pictures of one of our 1961 meetings at Mel Roberts new home. Our own Gordon Nesbitt was the photographer at this occasion.

Specifically, regarding this issue of the quarterly, we feel, as some of the other Divisions, that the Quarterly would be more universally enjoyed if the material printed was varied. A variety of material touching on the trains which are in most everyones collection, would have wide spread appeal, especially to our newer members. Any detailed account or a manufacturer or lengthy desertation on a single subject would be better printed in a separate publication. A successful example of this is Herb Morleys Lionel Trolley Book and his new Carlisle and Finch Creation.

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NEW MEMBERS

We welcome into the ranks of official Western Division members the following:

Ernest Leo	Gus Paterson	Leroy Lowden
1000 N Los Robles	265 Temple Ave	947 N Orange
Pasadena	Long Beach 3	Azusa

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JANUARY BUSINESS MEETING

The next meeting will be at the home of Ralph Schissler Friday January 4. Be sure to plan on being present. Ralphs address is 141 Harbor Isle, Newport Beach.

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The last business meeting was the annual meeting of great importance to the Local Division as well as to the National Organization. The November gathering is when the officers that are to lead the Western Division for the coming year are selected. These men are chosen because of their leadership ability and their sincere interest in the TCA.

Our one and only Wes Frye is our new President, and a fine selection this was. Wes does as much as anyone, and probably a little more to unify our local group into the fine division it is. It was due to his efforts that this Bulletin was founded and continues. Wes's primary interest is finding collectors items altho he has a fine "S" gage layout boasting of almost every type of AF "S" gage loco and car ever built. Wes is now taking personal collecting in earnest, along with generously contributing to others, by putting aside as "Not for sale" a set or two standard gage beauties.

Our new Vice President is Al Shadler, who along with Frank Cox, Gordon Nesbit and Herb Morley keep everyone on their toes and amused, during our lengthy auctions. Al is a relatively new collector coming into the club about two years ago. He is a tremendously active collector as can be readily understood when one views his hobby. He has constructed a large room which is not a shop, a den, in fact not anything but a pure Train Room to house his large and varied Train Collection. We welcome Al as an officer of our club.

Dick Wheeler has again accepted the job that is the most work, takes the most time and bears the most responsibility. Dick, we all appreciate

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When you enter into a deal with another fellow, conclude the deal on the spot or as quickly as possible unless of course you know your man well and know from past experience that his word is as good as his bond. Don't extend credit unless you know that the fellow you are dealing with will keep his word.

The following are some examples of practices to avoid:

Tom has a good 400E and tender and Joe a 408 with some 200 series freights. Tom wants a 408 and Joe would like the 400E, so they dicker for a trade. This trade would be a fair one except that the 408 is missing a pantograph and two wheels are bad. Joe promises Tom that he will get a pantograph and replace the wheels if Tom will let him have the 400E immediatly. Time drags on and Tom gets very upset because Joe is slow about completing his end of the bargain. Finally a showdon and hard feelings.

Bob has two 263E's that need repairing. George offers to repair one if Bob will let him have the other. Time elapses and George has the two locos but still hasn't found time to fix one for Bob. Again there are hurt feelings.

Jack and Terry agree upon a trade by mail. Jack is prompt with his shipment but for some reason or another Terry is slow with his. Jack writes several letters, each one getting hotter. finally an ultimatum and very strained relations.

Let's try to avoid the above occurances - don't make promises you cannot keep. If you are unable to complete a deal promptly, it might be better not to make the trade.

In conclusion let's not do anything that will detract from the enjoyment of our very fine hobby.

MEETING - JIM KURTENS HOME

The November 2 Business Meeting during which the officers for 1963 were elected was held at the home of Zereta and Jim Kurten. There were 29 members and 4 guests in attendance which was a nice size gathering for the Kurten residence.

A feature during the evening was the tape recorded comments of Simon Chaplans on the American Flyer Mfg Co during his years with them. Our appreciation is extended to the Midwest Division for loaning the tape to us.

A total of \$132.50 passed thru our secretary, Dick Wheeler's hands netting our club treasury the usual 10% gain. For those that do not realize the amount of money that changes hands during our meetings this meetings amount was only average. At times over \$200.00 is recorded in a night for auction items only.

During the evening Mel had to be put out-of-doors for making too much noise. This excluded Mel from the auction but it seemed to make no difference to Mel. The Mel that was put out of course is not our esteemed connoisseur of very old Marklin but the Kurtens dog Melony, a doleful Bassett Hound.

A welcome treat of home made Pumpkin Pie piled high with whipped cream was the refreshment highlight.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Kurtens for their kind hospitality.

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Gordon Nesbitt. These sheets, printed in three color on a yellow background displaying Santa in a Deisel Loco with cars full of toys were just wonderful.

— Trading Post —

Gordon Nesbitt has a Peacock Green Lionel, No 10E with three matching coaches for trade. He would prefer to trade on AF standard gage coaches.

Bill Lowndes, of the Norther California Division is looking for an Ives 1694E Loco.

Al Shadler needs parts for his newly aquired 763. He needs a pilot, front truck and boiler front.

Jerry Brown wants Ives No 188 passenger cars in junker or repainted condition.

Wes Frye is putting out a second call for a Lionel Build-A-Loco motor.

Harrison Bemis has an Ives No 65 Live Stock NYC & HR, 0 gage Frieght for sale or trade. He also has two American Model Toy passenger cars which are surplus.

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ate the fine job you do for the TCA and especially as Secretary of our Local Chapter.

The office of Director of Publicity has primarily to do with the publishing of the Bulletin and is again shared by Wes Frye and Harrison Bemis. The difference now is that since Wes has top billing as President he has had to share second billing on the Editorial Staff.

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