



Western Division

Train Collectors Association

Newsletter



Volume 47, No. 1

January 2001

Monthly Meet Notification

TCA Western Division's next train meet will be held on **Saturday January 27th, 2001** at the *Arcadia Park Senior Citizen's Center, 405 S. Santa Anita Ave., Arcadia, CA 91006* (Santa Anita exit off of the 210 freeway, then head south). Visit our Internet web site at <http://www.tcawestern.org> for a detailed map.

Hall doors will open at 10:00 AM for sellers only to enter and begin setting up their tables.

The hall opens for members and guests to enter and for trading and festivities to commence at 11:00 AM.

This will be our first meet for the New Year and the new millennium. Out with the old and in with the new. The display theme for this meet will be 'something old or something new' (trains or accessories). This could potentially be something that you have received or purchased recently. Possibly your recent Christmas or Chanukah gift? Or it could be the oldest item in your train collection. Or it could be the item in your collection that you have had for the longest period of time. Or it could be an item from your collection that you have owned for a while but was manufactured recently. Or perhaps, something old that has been restored to be like new! Anyway, you should be getting the gist of this by now.

We will continue with the practice of awarding a special prize to the person chosen to have the most interesting display and the best story to go with it.

The auction will begin at 12:00 noon, and the business meeting and the raffle will follow. Members are encouraged to donate items to the auction to help the division raise funds.

Schedule of Western Division 2001 meet dates:

January 27 th , 2001	February 24 th , 2001
March 24 th , 2001	April 28 th , 2001
May 26 th , 2001	July 28 th , 2001
August 25 th , 2001	September 22 nd , 2001
October 27 th , 2001	November 24 th , 2001
	December 16 th , 2001

All meets are held the 4th Saturday of every month, except in December, when we meet on Sunday the 16th for our annual Holiday party. There will be no Western division meeting in June 2001. The TCA 47th annual National Convention will be held June 24th through the 30th, 2001 in Chattanooga, TN.

Officers & B.O.D. Election Results

Robert Spellmire, our official election supervisor has submitted the results of the 2001 ballot for Western Division officers. Here they are:

President - Russell Lange

VicePresident - Kurt Bondi

Recording Secretary - Peter Searls

Membership Secretary/Treasurer - R. Dale Lange

Board of Directors: Lester Cochran, Don Gatz, Don

McCutcheon, John Parker, Bill Shepard, Dennis Taube

Immediate Past President/Board Member: Harold Shapiro.

Congratulations to the winners!

November 2000 Meet Recap

There was a good display of holiday themed trains at the November Western Division meeting. Highlights included a K-line 1992 set #2323 with its various candy box cars, including Reeses Pieces, Hershey's Kisses, Mr. Goodbar and a Krackel caboose. Steve Waller displayed this train and kept the gondola plentifully stocked with the proper freight loads of Kisses, Krackel's, Reese's peanut butter cups and Mr. Goodbars.



The November Holiday Display

John Thousand brought his TCA Western Christmas train. This consisted of red and white candy-striped repros of American Flyer and Ives standard gauge Pullman & observation cars. Club member Dick Mayer and his Rich-Art manufacturing business made these cars originally. John purchased them through the auction several years ago at a TCA Western Division Holiday party.

Harold Shapiro displayed an original Lionel #6826 flat car with its scrawny Christmas trees. Along side of it, he displayed 2 more Lionel postwar 'O' gauge red flat cars, but these were transporting much more healthy examples of the traditional holiday evergreens.

Seen on the sales tables were some interesting collectibles including four 'O' gauge Dorfan litho cars. This included a NYC gondola, an UP green box car, an Indian Refining Co. tank car, and a #607 red and green caboose.



Steve Waller's G gauge layout

Also seen for sale were a Lionel post war #773 NYC Hudson with whistle tender, complete with master carton, two nice pairs of pre-war #47 crossing gates, a ZW transformer, a Lionel #203 switcher with 4 scale cars – hopper, Pennsy. Box car, Shell tank and NYC caboose.

The most unusual item seen was a Shoenhut Hollywood Homebuilder building kit in the original box. A Williams Northern Pacific six car passenger set with F-3 AA motive power was also noticed.

Raffle winners included Ray Sugg, who took home a TCA Museum 'O' gauge Lionel Frisco box car, and Mike Olaerts who won a TCA Museum heavyweight die-cast LN&W hopper car.

In the back room Steve Waller set up a very nice, big, LGB working display with 20th and 30th Anniversary sets he had purchased at the 'Great Train Store' going out of business sale. He elevated his track on triple bridge piers and the result was very effective. Steve also ran some trolleys, and set up the overhead cantenary.

Submitted by Dave McCully

December Holiday Party

There was a large turnout of the membership and their families for the club's Holiday meet on December 10th, 2000. The raffle had lots of terrific prizes and there was a wonderful 'pot-luck' buffet for everyone to feast on. Fellowship was at an all time high.



Lots of good food on the buffet line

Santa Claus took some time out of his busy schedule and made a welcome visit. Lucky children had their photos taken with him and he handed out toys and gifts to all the youngsters.



The Lange clan and Santa – looks like next year's greeting card!

There were lots of prizes raffled to the membership, both members and spouses. The ladies raffle included flowers (Holiday Pointsettias), candy, scented candles and assorted knicknacks. The membership raffle included lots of trains, videos, and books. The highlight was 2 different Lionel #6464 series 3-boxcar sets (series IV and V). Lloyd Burland and Robert Spellmire won these.



The Loeweke family visits with St. Nick

Offered up in a special raffle to raise funds for the club was a Lionel 'O' gauge Western Maryland #8501 limited edition diesel switcher – one of the fallen flags series. Ed 'Animal' Maggiora was the lucky winner.



A mugging – "okay Santa, hand over the trains or we'll shoot Blitzen!"

Holiday trains ran in the back room. Once again many thanks to the Keppel's – Dick and Richard Sr. – for setting up a huge layout of Standard gauge and 'O' gauge track. Lots of members got into the action: John Thousand ran his Candy-striped TCA Standard gauge Christmas train. Mike Jenkins ran his Standard gauge Blue Comet set. Bob Spellmire ran his 1929 Ives #11234 Western set, with a steamer pulling #184, #185, and #186 parlor, baggage and observation cars – all with full vestibules.

Submitted by Dave McCully