



Western Division Newsletter



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<http://www.tcawestern.org>

May - June 2010

Upcoming Meet Notices

Western Division's next train meet will take place on Saturday May 22, 2010 in the Arcadia Senior Center, located at 405 South Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia California.

To get to the meet, exit the 210 Freeway at Santa Anita Avenue. 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 10AM 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 May will be "Red, White, and Blue." 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 also be the regular monthly raffle for members. Just a reminder that the Board of Directors has ordered that to participate in the monthly raffle prize, each member must wear their 2010 membership badge at the meet.

The special raffle for this year is well underway, with several tickets already being sold. Up for grabs is a 1950 Lionel #773 'O' gauge Hudson loco and tender with original boxes. Tickets are a mere \$20. Ticket holders will also have the opportunity to win a crisp \$100 bill at each meet between now and December. The Hudson will be given away at the December meet. Only 100 tickets will be sold.

Western Division's remaining meet dates for 2010 are May 22nd, July 24th, August 28th, September 25th, October 23rd, and December 18th (Holiday Meet).

President's Message

By Wayne Sheriff, WD President



March Meet Layout Action

Steve Waller has been coordinating having an operating layout at each WD monthly meet. He is looking for members to volunteer to bring in trains and track and set up a layout for upcoming meets. This is a great opportunity for the members to take out trains that have been sitting in boxes, or gathering dust on shelves, and run them. Please contact Steve if you are interested in participating. Steve set up a 'G' gauge layout at the March meet. The layout at

the April meet was an 'O' gauge layout presented by Steve Eastman and Bob Nord. It consisted of tinsplate Hafner, Marx, Lionel and Hogue trains and accessories. You can watch a short video of Steve & Bob's modular layout in operation on the Internet at <http://youtube.com/watch?v=hpNQrRTBig4>.



April Meet Layout in Operation

The WD BOD has acquired a quantity of promotional business card size refrigerator magnets to hand out to the public at the various train shows where the club sets up. We used them at our booth for the first time at the Brea Railroad Days event held during the first weekend of May. Thanks to WD Vice-President Manny Gonzalez for his work coordinating the development and manufacture of the promotional magnets. WD is scheduled to have a booth at the Big Train Show being held in June at the Ontario Convention Center.

Please keep an eye out for WD member Richard Keppel's stolen train collection. The list of items was published in the recent edition of the TCA Headquarters News.

The Western Division BOD has approved the recently updated Division Bylaws. These Bylaws have been submitted to TCA National for approval prior to the WD membership voting on them.

At the National level, The Executive Board has approved and implemented the new TCA Policy Book. It was necessary to prepare a new policy book after the approval of the new National Bylaws. The Water Treatment Plant at the Headquarters is scheduled for completion in mid June. The Museum has taken steps to dispose of excess trains given to TCA. Notices of the disposal are advertised in the Headquarters News.

As a last reminder, if you are considering attending the 2010 National TCA Convention in Baltimore, be sure to make your reservations ASAP, June is rapidly approaching.

March Meet Recap

By Robert Caplan, WD Secretary

The March display theme was "Passenger Trains". Alvin Costa brought an outstanding Marx Copper Mercury train. Bob Caplan presented a 1929 Bing passenger train. Bob Spellmire brought a Red Standard Gauge Dorfan engine and passenger car. He took apart the engine for us. Greg Hahn displayed a Lionel 'O' Great



The March Meet 'Passenger Train' Display

Northern passenger car that was named after a National Park. Harold Shapiro had a Lionel post-war Baltimore and Ohio 3 car Budd set. Harvey Tafel showed us two pre-war Lionel engine variations, one 'O' gauge #269 and one 'O27' gauge #1666.

John Abbe showed us his three Lionel TCA passenger cars. Calvin



Smith brought a Lionel #9 Special Macys Standard gauge Green State Set. John Parker displayed an Ives 'O' gauge Red Seneca Set. Les Cochran brought a Marx Santa Fe Passenger car he got at the recent Nor-Cal meet. Neil Torrance displayed a beautiful pre-war Lionel #700E Rail Chief Set. Robert Cesarone talked about his Sakai post war Blue Passenger Cars (one with very dark blue almost black). Robert Trimble's theme was "Trolleys from Trash" and showed us his example of how one could be duplicated.



Jim Kenney's Standard Gauge Dorfan

Steve Eastman had a Johnson Russell Red SF Passenger train with Indian names for each car. Jim Kenney displayed a Dorfan Standard gauge set.



Neil Torrance won the display raffle prize. Bill Shepard, Ken Chan, and Steve Waller were the other raffle prize winners, and Jim Kenney was the \$100 Winner.

April Meet Recap

By Robert Caplan, WD Secretary

The Display theme was "Real or Fake?" Dave Gabay showed an unusual 'aluminum' Standard gauge light tower, similar to the Lionel 'O' gauge #395. Jim Kenney displayed a Voltamp Trolley repro by Pride Lines. Dave Mabee had a Lionel #813 Cattle Car in brown paint that was inspected by experts, and deemed real.



Jim Kenney's Voltamp Replica Interurban

Bob Spellmire showed a Lionel Standard gauge #402 in green with orange cars. Larry Pearson showed a rare Lionel 'O' Timken #6464 MTA Box Car. Bob Trimble displayed both original and repro 1930's Lionel Hudson advertising catalogues, each with different dates. Calvin Smith showed his copy of the TCA's Postwar Lionel Reproduction Handbook Guide. Wayne Sheriff presented a bag of fake Lionel #208 Coal alongside a jar of real coal he gathered from the train yards.



Dave Mabee



Bob Spellmire

Bob Trimble

Wayne Sheriff



Jon Lang, Bob Trimble, a TCA Guest from Utah, Dave Maybee and Calvin Smith were the raffle prize winners, Bob Nord was the \$100 Winner.

In Memoriam

Virgil Chritton, HR66-1622, a long time Western Division member, passed away on Sunday, April 4, 2010. A memorial service for Virgil will be held May 5, 2010 at 1:30 PM at Todd Memorial Chapel, 570 North Garey Ave., Pomona, CA.