



TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION WESTERN DIVISION NEWSLETTER



VOL 60, NO.2

MAY 2014

2014

UPCOMING MEETS

May 24th

July 26th

August 23rd

September 27th

October 25th

November - no meet

December 6th - Holiday Party

The Show and Tell theme for
MAY is SOUTHERN
PACIFIC RAILROAD.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Not long ago, another Valentine's Day slipped past us along what increasingly seems an endless inventory of "special" dates for us to take notice of.

In its most simple form children give Valentines to all of their classmates, often including the teacher - to them everyone is special. As they get a little older, the field narrows and the focus will tend to become a bit more deliberate. But it is only as adults that we truly get to lavish our attention on the object of our affection. While that often is someone special in our lives, it can and often is *something* special.

Much gets written about "Romance" at this time of year, but in truth it takes many forms. There are romantic dinners, getaways, and gestures. There are Romantic Languages, and there are Romantic Notions. I think you see where this is headed. For many of us, if not everyone, there is above all "the Romance of the Train". Be it the real thing, or simply a "toy", there can be no denying the magical hold that both can hold for the enthusiasts both young and old. But that world continues to evolve and change, seeming to resemble what we once knew less and less all the time.

One reason things become so valued to us is because at some point they are no longer commonplace and simply not available. Things from our past evoke memories and nostalgia unthinkable at the time. As our lives change and time slowly passes through our fingers, it's only natural we would try to hold on to some of those things that have given our lives context and meaning. It is often through such a prism that we tend to savor the positive, while downplaying the challenges. If so, therein may lay one of the keys to our great love affair with trains.

Having almost said as much, let this serve as a small reminder that not all things survive. Just like this club, there are no guarantees that it will always be here - especially if we neglect and take it for granted.

In light of this, nominations and elections for the club's board of directors (BOD) are coming up. Please think seriously about where you would like to see Western Division head, and what role you can play by your participation: be it by helping out, simply voting, but definitely by attending the meets regularly when possible. To paraphrase a great line from a movie, when one character complains about how difficult the challenge is - the other responds that THAT is what makes it worth anything! Thank you all, for being a part of something truly worthwhile.



Visit www.TCA60.org to register for the 60th National Convention in June. Time is running out!

PHOTOS OF THE APRIL 5 MEET

(AKA the March Meet)

THE THEME WAS

“CELEBRATING WARD KIMBALL’S 100TH BIRTHDAY WITH DISNEY TRAINS”



MORE PHOTOS OF THE APRIL 5 MEET



PHOTOS OF THE APRIL 24 MEET THE THEME WAS "NON-ELECTRIC TRAINS"



