



# Western Division

## Train Collectors Association

### Newsletter



Volume 48, No. 4

October 2002

#### President's Notes

Hello again, all you train collectors out there. Here we are chugging into October with full steam, for the run on into the Holidays. We had a neat turnout and a good group, last month. There was a nice variety of snacks available for all to enjoy, a great display of operating trains in the back room, with a good group of observers and an impressive variety of trains on the tables. It was good seeing some of our old and familiar faces again. Thanks for making the meet a success. Let's keep it up and join in for our October meet. There is a lot of activity on the run schedules, such as the York meet, our division meet, then on in to November and the Cal Stewart meet. Sounds like a lot of fun and trains ahead and to help you with your schedule, here is a timetable for our Western Division Meets:

#### 2002

All TCA Western Division Meets are on Saturday, in the Senior Citizens Center, Arcadia Community Park, 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia, Ca. Set up time: 10:00 AM.

Saturday, October 26, 2002

Saturday, November 23, 2002

Christmas Party, Saturday, December 14, 2002

#### 2003

January 25<sup>th</sup>.

February 22<sup>nd</sup>

March 22<sup>nd</sup>

April 26<sup>th</sup>

May 24<sup>th</sup>

June - Our Convention

July 26<sup>th</sup>.

August 30<sup>th</sup>

September 27<sup>th</sup>

October 25<sup>th</sup>

November 22<sup>nd</sup>

December 13<sup>th</sup>

Western Division is hosting the TCA National Convention at Ontario, Ca. Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2003 thru Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

#### October Meet

#### Saturday, October 26, 2002

As you know, we meet at the Senior Citizens Center located at the Arcadia Community Park in Arcadia, Ca. The park is located at 405 S. Santa Anita Ave.

Sellers have access to free tables and can set up at 10:00 AM. Buyers are welcome. There will be door prizes and snacks available. The business meeting will start at 12:00.

Our Display theme for October will be orange and black. Any operating piece in that color scheme would be most welcome for the display.

October is also the month for nominating your new Officers for the year 2003. If you have never served in any capacity as an officer in our division, now would be a great opportunity to step out and do so. Remember, our by-laws stipulate that you must be present to nominate or accept a nomination.

The election ballots will be distributed with the November newsletter and the results will be announced during the December meet. Please cast your vote to be sure that your voice in the management is heard.

Western Division has renewed its lease with the Park Authority to continue our meets at the Senior Citizens Center in Arcadia for 2003. The schedule is listed on the left.

Visit our Web site for current information on our division car for sale and other pertinent information.  
<http://www.tcawestern.org>

#### Notes from Our September Meet

By Peter Searls for Steve Waller

The September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting in Arcadia featured a number of electric locomotives on the layout in the back room, including three Milwaukee bi-polars, a standard gauge Rich-Art and standard and O gauge MTH as well as an MTH Ives reproduction. Thanks again to the Keppel's, R. A. and Dick Sr., who provided the wide assortment of trains operating on several loops of track including a figure 8.

There were several tables loaded with prewar Lionel standard gauge rolling stock. Among some of the items seen were Stephen Girard cars, various freight cars and a 384 engine. Other items noted were some classic O gauge rolling stock.

The display table Theme "Your first train" featured John Thousand's very first toy train which was an American Flyer windup steam locomotive and cars which he received for Christmas in 1925. This was followed by his first electric train, an American Flyer O gauge prototype which he got at Christmas, 1929. Both sets were in excellent condition. Bob Trimble displayed his first trolley car, a Pittman O scale kit which he received in the early 1950s. The display prize was won by John Thousand.

President Russ Lange called the general membership meeting to order at noon. He reported that the September 2002 issue of TCA's National Headquarters News featured the 2003 Convention on the front cover as well as the inside centerfold. He also reported that K-Line representative Don McCutcheon had arranged for 100 K-Line circus flat cars to be donated as prizes for the convention.

Bob Caplan reported on the convention cars and that all the major toy train manufacturers had donated items for the banquet auction. He and Wayne Sheriff reported that about 700 were expected to attend the banquet which would be about 70 tables.

John Parker and Wayne Sheriff both described the tours to be held for the convention. These include the Ward Kimball home, The Getty Museum, Empire Lakes Golf Course, Orange Empire Railroad Museum, the Nethercutt Museum,

Newport Harbor Dinner Cruise, Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills, Universal Studios, Riverside Mission Inn and the Live Steamers, Disney Barn and Travel Town at Griffith Park.

Mr. Parker reported that the Convention Hotel is the Double Tree Inn immediately adjacent to the Ontario Convention Center and that some convention events will also be held at the Marriott which is just across the street. He also said that parking would be free for the convention volunteers.

On a sad note, Mr. Lange reported that Don McCutcheon's father had passed away. He also reported that long time club member Ernie Renn had lost his wife Lillian.

Winners of the door prizes included Wayne Sheriff, Don McCutcheon, Don Wilson and Terry Fortuna.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by Peter Searls for Steve Waller.

Our Western Pacific 6464 Convention cars are going like hot cakes. Treasurer Dale Lange reports that over ninety cars have been ordered so far and the orders are still coming in. That's great. Book yours early, as the supply is limited.

Bob Caplan, Wayne Sheriff and John Parker are going to the York meet to promote our convention, the convention cars and the Grizzly Flats Station. Keep in mind that the Western Pacific Box car and the Grizzly Flats Station is representative of our fund raisers for the convention.

John Parker and Wayne Sheriff have put in a lot of time and effort to set up the tours, hotel accommodations and all of the other related items that will make our convention a success. They have the registration form in place that will appear in Headquarters News January issue, for the convention sign-up.

Mark Boyd of the Norcal division has volunteered to use his computer program for all of the registrations received, that will provide a complete listing for all of the events.

See you at our October 26<sup>th</sup> meet.

Russ Lange