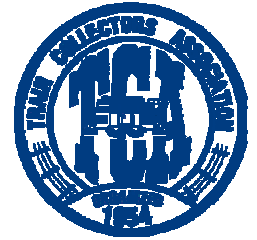




Western Division

Train Collectors Association

Newsletter



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<http://www.tcawestern.org>

January – February 2007

Upcoming Meet Notices

Western Division's first train meet for 2007 will take place on **Saturday, January 27th**, in the Arcadia Senior Center, located at 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue in Arcadia, CA. Admission is free and Sellers: *Trading tables are free!*

To get to the meet, exit the 210 Freeway at Santa Anita Ave. 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 10 a.m. for setup, trading and selling. Please check our newly updated Western Division website, at <http://www.tcawestern.org> for more information and a map!

The display theme for January will be 'Your favorite American Flyer Train'. Show off that prized toy train or train related item and facilitate the transfer of knowledge on collecting toy trains. There will be a separate prize drawn for all those members who display items.

There will also be the regular monthly prize raffle for the membership, and raffle tickets for this year's 'Special Raffle' will be available. The item offered for 2007 will be the 50th Anniversary Hudson Set as displayed in the Lionel 2002 catalogue. Another \$100 bill will also be raffled to anyone purchasing the 2007 Raffle tickets for the Hudson set. Coffee, donuts, and sandwiches will be available at the meet as usual.

Western Division scheduled meet dates for 2007 will be: January 27, February 24, March 24, April 28, June 2, July 28, August 25, September 22, October 27, & December 15. There will be no May meet and there will be no November meet due to Cal-Stewart coming earlier this year.



Guess Who Was the Winner of the December \$100 Bill? Me!

President's Message

By Wayne Sheriff, WD President

First, I would like to wish everyone a very happy new year. 2006 was a great year for Western Division, and 2007 will be a great one too.

The 2007 Board of Directors and officers of Western Division held its first meeting on Dec. 30th. Meet dates and publication dates for 2007 were finalized. The WD newsletters will be published in January, March, May, July, September, and November. A monthly meet reminder postcard will be sent for February, April, August, and in October.



Richard & Chris Keppel's December Floor Layout Included Some Familiar Characters in a Winter Diorama

The 2007 budget is being prepared by Treasurer Jim Kenney. Jim reported that the division broke even for 2006. The display themes for the monthly meets have been developed by Michael Donovan. The BOD has decided to participate in the Fullerton Railroad Days event again in May. Jon Lang will head up the project. The club plans to utilize a portion of the Nixon Library layout at the Fullerton RR Days event.

Dave Oth reported how successful the Boy Scout activities were at the Cal-Stewart meet this past December. Dave will be working with Jon Lang to plan a Boy Scout event with TCA WD. Another item that the BOD discussed was the auction at each monthly meet and what can be done to make it better.

The Nixon Presidential Library has asked Western Division to come back next year and re-create the Holiday Festival of Trains exhibit once again. This is driving a requirement to store the layout materials, frame and accessories in a dry, secure location. We are currently looking for storage facilities for these purposes.

A great big 'Thank you' to Bob and Tina Castillo, and to pending new member John Bowman, for volunteering their time at the Nixon Library. Also to Steve Waller, who served as Conductor at the Library display for TCA. I forgot to mention in the last newsletter that Arnie's Trains in Westminster was also a sponsor of the layout. In addition, thanks to Jon Lang for printing business cards for the team and for printing WD applications.

On December 29th 2006, TCA National President Jim Burke visited the Nixon Library exhibit along with John Parker, Bob Lemberger, and I. Jim was over-whelmed with the layout and display efforts. As a result, Jim is sending Jane Boyce, TCA's recently hired Director of Development, out to California to see the exhibit as well. Jane will determine if this effort can help TCA build its image in other parts of the country, and how National can help Western Division for the next Nixon Library display to be put up at the end of this year.

Western Division membership dues for 2007 are currently being requested. A dues notification letter was included with the last WD Newsletter and many of you have already responded. For those members who have not submitted your 2007 dues, please send in your \$15.00 as soon as possible. According to the Western Division By-Laws, those members not paying their dues by March are to be dropped from the roster. The BOD has worked hard to keep the dues at the same level again this year. Members are provided a great value for the money. Do not forget, the \$15 is just for Western Division, it does not include TCA National Dues that are billed separately by the National Business Office. If you have any questions, please contact WD Treasurer Jim Kenney.

Western Division officers for 2007 are:

Wayne S. Sheriff, President,
 Jon Lang, Vice President, Pj .Mgr. Fullerton RR days
 Bob Lemberger, Secretary, Pj. Mgr. Layouts
 Jim Kenney, Treasurer.

The WD Board of Directors for 2007 are:

Robert Caplan, TCA Standards Committee
 John Parker, TCA Historian
 Harold Shapiro, Web Master, Newsletter Editor
 C. Ray Sugg, Member
 Michael Donovan, Theme Chairman
 David H. Otth, Boy Scout liaison
 Howard Bishop, Member
 William Clausen, Member

Non-Elected:

Richard Keppel Jr. Monthly Train Layout
 Christopher Keppel, Monthly Train Layout
 Jerry Johnson, Monthly Train Layout
 Les Cochran, Monthly raffle cars

The 53rd National TCA Convention will be held in Denver, Colorado this June. It is expected to be a great time and it is not that far from Southern California. Hope to see you all there.

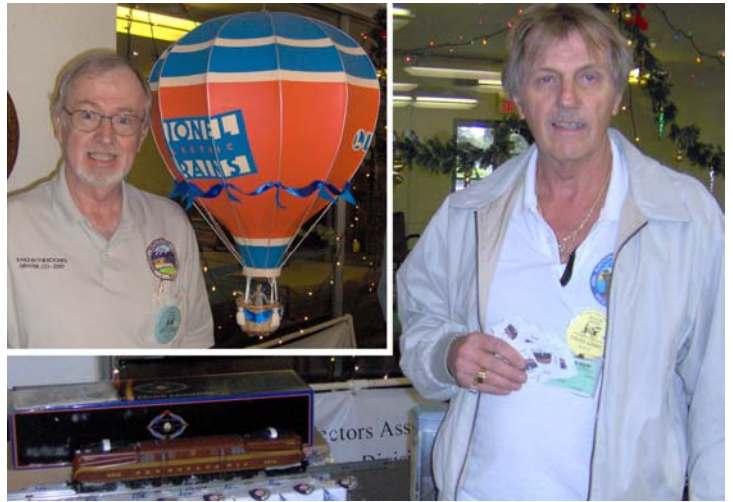
- *Wayne*



Christopher & Richard Keppel Enjoy the Holiday Meet

December Holiday Meet Recap

The December meet was a big success. Everyone said they had a great time. Thanks to all the members who brought food to share in the potluck. The sandwiches were great and thanks to all the spouses and others who set everything up. In addition, thanks to those who took the time to stay and replace the tables and chairs. Thanks to Nancy Cochran, who took care of the gifts for the ladies.



At the December meet, the lucky winners of the special raffle prizes were determined. The drawing for the one-of-a-kind Lionel balloon donated by Tim and Diane Simendinger, went to Jim Kenney. Dave Gabay was the winner of the Lionel 'O' scale GG-1. Wayne Sheriff won the December \$100 bill drawing.



There were drawings for the children in addition to a gift for each.



The winner of the monthly display theme drawing was Michelle Abbe, other raffle winners were Ron Nelson, Harry Harris, Shoji Yamamoto, and Neal Meyer.



John & Pat Parker, Don Ladenberger & Bob Spellmire enjoy the festivities at the Holiday Meet.