



Western Division Newsletter



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May - June 2011

Upcoming Meet Notices

Western Division's next train meet will take place on Saturday, May 21, 2011 in the Arcadia Senior Center, located at 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue in 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 "Santa Fe Railroad." Show off an item and facilitate the transfer of knowledge on collecting toy trains with your fellow members.

Our display themes and remainder of scheduled meets for 2011 are: May 21st (Santa Fe Railroad); July 23rd (Disney Trains); August 27th (motorized Units); September 24th (Maintenance-of-Way); November 5th (orange and Black Trains); and December 17th (Holiday Trains).

The regular monthly raffle for the membership will be held. The Board of Directors had ordered that to participate in the monthly prize raffle, each member must wear their membership badge. This year's "Grand Raffle Prize" is an original boxed Lionel Number 1100 Mickey Mouse Handcar with red base made between 1935-37. Tickets are only \$20 each! Ticket holders will have the opportunity to win a crisp \$100 bill to be give away to one lucky eligible member in good standing each month.

President's Message

By Wayne Sheriff, WD President

I am now coming to the end of six years as your president for Western Division. I am stepping down to allow new blood and thinking to take place in Western Division. It has been a great run with no regrets. This time has allowed me the opportunity to gain new friends at the local division level and the national level. We belong to a great organization with the largest membership, (about 28,000 members) a world class National Toy Train Museum, and a National Reference Library on trains bars none, we have resources that are the envy of all train collectors. I would just remind each



TCA member that the National Annual Appeal for the museum and library is a good investment and is tax deductible.

At the April meet, Mike Donovan brought the new traveling layout that he made from scratch which will be easier to maneuver in and out of cars and shows. Mike added another track plus many improvements for easier put ups and take downs. Great job Mike and thank you. I encourage every one to spend an hour at one of

the shows manning the booth to see the excitement in the children's eyes when they can make things happen. Again, thanks Mike.

The layout of the month has been very interesting program with great layouts. Steve Eastman and Bob Nord brought their great modular layout with the Easter cars. We look forward to further months layouts. Thanks to Steve Waller for coordinating the layouts.

The monthly theme has provided some very interesting and informative sessions that make one look forward to each session.

Just a reminder that during the weekend of May 21 and 22 the Big Train Show will be at the Ontario Convention Center. I am looking for some help in manning the booth especially on Saturday morning which is the same time as the WD meet. If you can spend an hour or two it sure would be great. The Convention Center is providing \$10 lunch vouchers for each member who works.

The National Convention in Sacramento is coming upon us and it is going to be great. Don't miss the experience.

The results of the Western Division elections are as follows: Manny Gonzalez, President; Robert Nord, Vice President; Jim Kenny, Treasure; and Robert Caplan, Membership/Recording Secretary. The new members of the Board of Directors are: Harold Shapiro, Steve Eastman, Michael Donovan, Steve Waller, Herbert Mayer, Jon Lang, and Mark Spears. John Parker, Past National President, and Wayne Sheriff as WD immediate Past President are automatically on the board. Good luck to the new Officers and Board.

I thank each and every one of Western Division for their support over the past six years. We don't always agree on everything but we have always had the club in our best interest. Please give Manny and the officers and board of directors your same great support that you gave me. **After all, it is all about toy trains.**

March Meet Recap

By Robert Caplan, WD Recording Secretary



Steve Waller set up wind-up train layouts.

The display theme was: "Clockwork & Pull Trains". We had quite a few interesting display items. Bob Nord showed this Marx wind-up bunny rabbit made in Japan. Bob Spellmire showed Lionel Easter Rabbit wind-up toy. Calvin Smith showed this Donald Duck Disney Fisher Price pull toy. Dave Gabay this Lionel Schylling wind up train toy. Jerry Johnson brought a #30 Ives, Bing Crane, and American Flyer sets and Jerry brought Ives, Bing, and

American Flyer sets. Jim Kenney showed some 1935 American Flyer wind-up Coal Loader set. John Abbe showed this Playschool Lionel talking Circus and Candle pull toy train. Mario Liberatore showed three Disney pull toys. Robert J. Cesarone showed this Nosco Train of Tomorrow and showed off a Lionel wind-up torpedo locomotive #1588. Steve Eastman showed Lionel, Marx Mountaineer Set, Joy Line, Hafner Chicago World's Fair, and Thomson wind-up trains.



Bob Nord



Bob Spellmire



Calvin Smith



Steve Eastman



David Gabay



Jerry Johnson



Jim Kenney



John Abbe



Mario Liberatore



Robert J. Cesarone



Prize winners: Steve Waller (Display), Jerry Johnson (\$100 Winner), John Abbe and his wife, Les and Nancy Cochran, Neil Mayer, Mario Liberatore, and Robert Caplan.

April Meet Recap

By Robert Caplan, WD Recording Secretary



The display theme was: "Why Did I Buy That??" Dave Gabay showed us an Engine and Tender that was good for parts. David Mabee displayed a Lionel 1108 Peter Rabbit and a WW II Lionel Paper Train. Al Vargas showed off a chassis and caboose that someone put together. Jim Kenney brought an original Lionel packet with Ives Track Clips. Greg Pulis brought a TT Gauge HP Products E7 Loco with cars in kit form with decals and number plates. Mario Liberatore showed off his Macy's Day Box Car. Robert Caplan brought an Ives O gauge passenger and freight set. Larry Pearson brought an Ives 17644 Set with 1767 and 1766 cars. Robert Spellmire shared with us his 7540 and 195 Ives cars. Steve Waller displayed a weird tank car on a roof. John Abbe brought Pullman Passengers Cars with HO gauge lamps. Robert Cesarone displayed a Lionel 6044 Airex Box Car.



Al Vargas



Dave Mabee



Prize winners: Robert Spellmire (Display), Ken Chan, Jerry Johnson (\$100 Winner), Bruce Lazarus(not pictured), Jim Kenney(not pictured), Bruce Lazarus, Neil Mayer, Tina Corsello, and Cheryl Shapiro.