



THE MAIN-LINE

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SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



A message from the President of AGTTA to its membership and all those that help keep the hobby of model railroading alive.

“Goodbye La Jolla, Hello, El Cajon”

We have looked at many locations, left a lot of messages, and talked to various individuals in our quest to find a new meeting location. I am pleased to announce that we have finally settled on a very nice hall in El Cajon. Beginning on Tuesday, May 10, 2016, we will meet at Hammons Hall, 311 Highland in El Cajon. It is the social hall for Unity Church (formerly known as Christ Church Unity). It is very easy to find and accessible from both I-8 and

125, located two blocks south of E. Main Street and a few blocks east of Magnolia.

This is not a perfect substitution, but it offers a lot and it should be remembered that our soon-to-be-ex was a great deal and could hardly be expected to be duplicated (maybe that is why we were terminated by the new corporate Christians). The negative aspects of the new hall

HOW-TO CLINIC

NO CLINIC THIS MONTH

The *How-To Clinic* is taking a little break this month. Our Tech Master, **Jim Weatherford** and his lovely bride Annette will be taking a well-deserved vacation and heading out of town and thus will not be able to attend the April Meet.

bus trip to the Pomona Fair Grounds, which is the new site of this year's Cal-Stewart Meet. (Ontario was not available for this year). We are trying to work out a deal with TTOS wherein they will sell us a block of admission tickets to the show at a discount price, which is yet to be determined, but we need to have a general idea of a number of committed attendees.

The other facet of this idea was that some of us (I'm thinking a lot of us!) might welcome having someone else do the driving, which is where the charter bus comes in. Neither the discount tickets or the charter bus are mutually dependent, but it sounds like a viable and relaxing alternative to driving through traffic, paying for gas and parking, and then driving back through L.A. traffic. This is just a general inquiry about the desirability of such a trip and we need to know if the general membership would take advantage of this.

Respectfully,

Jim Andrews - President AGTTA

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New/Past Members – Club, Secretary **Jim Weatherford** is pleased to report that we have two old members who've been away for a while that have renewed their membership. We are happy to extend a warm welcome back aboard to **Jerry Rindone** and **Bill Salyer**. ☺

2016 Membership Renewals – Jim is pleased to announce that we have had a number of our delinquent members submit their renewals. He reports that we now have 127 members paid up for 2016. However, he says that we still have 25 members who have not renewed. Let's hope most of these come back in the next month or two.

BOARD MEETING REPORT

MARCH 8TH

The Board held its third meeting on Tuesday, March 8th at the SDRRM in Balboa Park. Here are the Minutes of the Meeting.

BOD Attendees: Jim Andrews, Jon Everett, Alan Hamel, Ed Jones, Bill Hohnhorst Steve Pierce, Greg Smyth, Ken Steele Bob Wall & Jim Weatherford.

BOD Absentees: Dave Campbell & Al Keil

Visitors in Attendance: Bart Grey, Caroline Poindexter & Christine Poindexter and Happy and Martha Flohe.

1. Church Merger – Several months ago we had been made aware that there was the strong April, 2016

possibility that Torrey Pines church would be merging with another church and that this might or might not have a bearing on our relationship with the church. Jon Everett was scheduled to have a meeting with his church POC on the Thursday of our March Meet to find out the latest update on our status with the church.

- 2. Non-Renewed Members** – There was concern about the rather big number (50) of members who had not yet renewed their 2016 membership. Jim Weatherford said he would talk to folks at the March Meet and Bill Hohnhorst said he would send out e-mails reminders to those non-renewed members.
- 3. Club Trailer** – With Board approval Bart Grey purchased a Club Trailer for \$1000. He has spent an additional \$320.85 getting the trailer ready to be put into use for storing and transporting the modular layout to various shows. Mike Quigg helped Bart in upgrading the trailer. It was agreed that a rider needed to be added to the Club Insurance Policy to cover the trailer while in storage. Jim Andrews said he would go to the AAA to get the title registered. Once these actions have been completed the modular layout will be loaded in the trailer and it will be stored at Marshal Carpenter's home in Santee.
- 4. 5-Rail Layout Run at SDMRRM** – The dates were announced for our spring run at the Museum. It will be from Monday, May 23 until Monday, June 6.
- 5. Layout Tours** – Since we have not had one of these in several years the question was asked if we should try to have one or more this coming year. The idea to have one in conjunction with our 5-Rail Layout Run at the SDMRRM was discussed with positive inputs. Bill Hohnhorst said he would put out an e-mail to all members seeking their thoughts on this.
- 6. Rady Children's Hospital Layout** – Our layout continues to be a big hit. The kids and parents really enjoy this little respite from the stress of being in the hospital. Alan Hamel and Richard Thomson have been doing a fantastic job since its creation. But they need some others to step forward and provide some assistance in the operation and maintenance of the layout. (Please see below for more details.)
- 7. March Meet** – Water, soda and cupcakes for the March Meet will be coordinated by Cheryl Lyman.
- 8. June Open House Meet** – Most everything is in place for the Meet, except for the situation with the church.

9. **July Meet** – Unless something changes, we are leaning towards, as we did last year, not having a July Meet.
10. **Christmas Dinner** – **Ken Steele** will get in contact with his friend at the Handlery Hotel to see if he can again get us the same great deal for our Christmas Dinner.
11. **Special Raffle** – It was brought up that we have not had a Special Raffle in a while. After discussion the Board's consensus was that the club is not ready to support another raffle at this time.
12. **Meet Raffles** – **Bob Wall**, our Raffle Master, stated that our Meet Raffles have gotten a little slow. He encourages members to both donate items for the raffles and to buy raffle tickets.
13. **Future GTX Shows** – We need a way to ensure our application for future shows has been received and attendance confirmed. Alan Hamel, Jim Andrews, and one other Board Member will contact the show management to verify this has occurred.
14. **Cal-Stewart** – **Mike Stella** will be working on setting up a discount price for club members to attend the November Cal-Stewart Meet. There was discussion regarding the possibility of arranging to have a chartered bus to take interested folks to the meet. Members will be queried to see if there is sufficient interest.
15. **Motormen** - A request was received from the Motormen to consider the possibility setting up the 5-Rail Layout at a one day show in Poway. **Jim Andrews** said he would follow-up.
16. **Condolence Card** – **Greg Smyth** stated that he had sent a Sympathy Card to the family of member **Jim Klein** who we had just learned passed away last year.
17. **Treasury Status** – **Jon Everett** reports that we currently are in good shape with approximately \$5,800 in the Club account.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

BOARD MEETING REPORT APRIL 5TH

The Board held its fourth meeting on Tuesday, April 5th at the SDRRM in Balboa Park. Here are the Minutes of the Meeting.

BOD Attendees: Jim Andrews, Dave Campbell, Jon Everett, Ed Jones, Bill Hohnhorst, Al Keil, Steve Pierce, Greg Smyth, Bob Wall & Jim Weatherford.

BOD Absentees: Alan Hamel

Visitors in Attendance: Bob Shaw

1. **New Meeting Hall Status** – After many folks checking out many possible locations **Ed Jones** found a meeting hall that the Board thought would work best for us. It is the Unity Church's Hammon Hall located at 311 Highland Avenue in El Cajon. The Board decided to contract with the church for the remainder of our 2016 Meets from May through December. The cost per month will be \$350 for use of their 2,400 SF facility, which includes a kitchen and a storage area for our tables. We will have the hall on the second Thursday each month from 2-8 PM. We have to set up and tear down the hall the same as we do now. Jim Andrews said he would contact the administrator on the day following the Board Meeting and sign a contract and pay for May and June dates.
2. **Calendar of Events:**
 - June All Day Meet** – Will be held at our new location on Saturday, June 18th.
 - July Meet** – We will **NOT** go dark in July, but have a regular Meet.
 - December Meet** – Our Holiday All Day Meet will be held on Saturday, December 3rd.
 - Christmas Dinner** – Will be held on Tuesday, December 6th. **Ken Steele** has made reservations with his friend at the Mission Valley Handlery Hotel and has succeeded in getting us another excellent price for our sit-down Christmas Dinner. The Board approved a \$500 deposit to hold the room.
3. **Club Trailer** – Work has been completed on the trailer improvements and it was moved to **Bob Wall's** home where most of the modular layout pieces have been loaded. Just the bridge module and transformers are left to be added. There is plenty of room in the trailer for all the components. The only thing that still needs to be done is applying a coat of sealer and then paint to the roof. We are still working on getting applicable insurance in place.
4. **Membership Status** – We have 127 members who have paid their 2106 dues, but still have 25 who have not.
5. **5-Rail Module Layout Run at SDMRRM** – The setup will be Monday, May 23 and will be operational through Sunday, June 5, with takedown on Monday, June 6. Al Keil will be in charge of signing up members to support this run.
6. **Layout Tour** – The Board voted to have our 1st 2016 Layout Tour on Friday, June 3rd. It will be

CLUB NEWS

at the Balboa Park SDMRRM where we will view both the AGTTA 5-Rail Layout and the SD3R O Gauge Layout. The museum will be closed to the public so viewing will be exclusive to our membership.

7. **Radys Children's Hospital Layout – Richard Thomson & Bob Wall** went over and did a thorough cleaning of the layout. It is now back up to normal operational capability. However, to keep it in this condition it needs to be maintained at least every two weeks. The Board would like to request volunteers to help in this task.
8. **501(c)3 Status – Jim Andrews** submitted what was believed to be the required paperwork, but it was returned with request for additional items. **Jon Everett & Bob Wall** with get with Jim to revise the paperwork package and resubmit.
9. **Cal-Stewart Meet Update:**
 - a. **New Location** - This year the Meet will be held at the Pomona Fairgrounds vice Ontario.
 - b. **Bus To Meet** - More discussion took place regarding reserving a bus to take club members up to the Meet. We agreed that a number of 30 members should be used by **Jim Andrews** to get a cost from a local bus company for the trip. Jim will poll members at the April Meet to see if there is enough interest in making this commitment.
 - c. **Entry Fee Discount – Mike Stella** is still negotiating with the Cal Stewart folks to get us a discount price. The normal Saturday price is \$35 and he is trying to get a much lower advance group price.
10. **Motormen At Poway Park – Members Brian Leisberg, Kristian Tristan and Chris Buono**, aka the Motormen, are going to have their HO layout at an event in Poway Park on Sunday, April 17th and they have asked for help in running the layout.
11. **Child Train Set Giveaway – Marshal Carpenter, Cheryl Lyman and Richard Thomson** are in the process of assembling another train set that will be given to a child at the June All Day Meet. They are asking for donations.
12. **Treasury Status – Jon Everett** reports that we currently with approximately \$4,700 in the Club account.
The Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Last Meet at Torrey Pines Christian Church – After a very long and positive run at our current location (over ten years) our April Meet will be our final gathering at the beautiful church. Unfortunately, due to financial difficulties they have had to merge with a larger mega-church. We had hoped that we could continue using the Hall after the merger, but we learned last month that the policy of the new church is not to rent out any of their facilities. Doesn't make sense for a church to have that policy, but that is the way it is. They said that our last meeting would be the April Meet date. The folks at Torrey Pines have treated us extremely well and we have enjoyed our time with them. They and the church will be missed.

New Meet Location – With the loss of Torrey Pines we were left us with no option other than to begin a search for a new location. Many, many members participated in this endeavor and we are very thankful for their efforts. After checking out more than 20 possibilities we are very happy and pleased (and relieved) to announce that we have a new home – Hammond Hall, which is the social hall for the **Unity Church**, located at 311 Highland Avenue in El Cajon.

We had some specific needs and we are pleased to report that our new location meets or exceeds almost all of them.

- 1) **Size:** Wanted 2,500-3,000 SF of floor space / Has 2,300 SF
- 2) **Hours:** Needed 3-5 hours of meeting time for our monthly meets, and 6-8 hours for our two All Day Saturday Meets / Hall is available from 2 to 8 pm for our monthly Meets and all day and even the Fridays prior to our two All Day Meets.
- 3) **Parking:** Wanted 50 to 100 spaces / Has 85 spaces & plenty of overflow street parking
- 4) **Rental Fee:** Wanted \$200 to \$300 per month, higher for the Saturday meets / Negotiated down to \$350 for monthly meets AND the same for the All Day Meets (We were paying \$225 for the monthly meets & \$450 for the two All Days.)
- 5) **Tables:** Wanted 40-50 6-8 foot tables with some chairs / They have 25 8' footers and 12 of round tables & the Club has 20 of its own tables.
- 6) **Storage:** Wanted area to store and lock our tables / They have a storage room.

Optional Desires:

- 1) **Kitchen:** It has a great kitchen.
- 2) **Sound System:** It has one.

MARCH MEET RAFFLE RESULTS

<u>WINNER</u>	<u>ITEM DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>
Greg Smyth	K-Line 'O' Seaboard S-2 Diesel	Provided by AGTTA
Bob Gyde	MTH 'O' Flatcar w/ Airplane	Provided by AGTTA
Steve Pierce	Lionel 'O' C&O Auto Carrier	Provided by AGTTA
Bill Sayre	Lionel 'O' Crossing Gate	Provided by AGTTA
Bob Gyde	Lionel 'O' Penn Central Caboose	Provided by AGTTA
Bart Grey	AMF 'S' Gilbert #638 Caboose	Donated by Bob Shaw
Doug Bowen	Train Watch	Donated by Carl Lewis
Doug Bowen	T-Shirt: "Still Plays With Trains"	Donated by Arlen Hurt
Bill Sayre	'O' "Hillside" Tunnel Portals	Donated by Jerry Clark
Cheryl Lyman	Pair of Thomas The Tank Train Buildings	Donated by Ed Jones
Bob Gyde	'HO' Transformers (2)	Donated by Ed Jones
	'N' Village of Buildings	Donated by Ed Jones
Bob Wall	Framed Calendar Picture: "UP Freight"	Donated by Richard Thomson
Martha Flohe	Die-Cast 1/24 "Sports" Race Car	Donated by Doug Bowen
Martha Flohe	VHS Movie: "Steam Across America – Vol 1 & 2"	Donated by Mike Kaplan
Cheryl Lyman	Magazines: "Model Railroading" – 2013 - 12 issues	Donated by Jim Osborne
Bart Grey	Magazines: "Model Railroading" – 2014 - 12 issues	Donated by Jim Osborne
Doug Bowen	Magazines: "Trains" – 2013 - 12 issues	Donated by Jim Osborne
Christine Poindexter	Magazines: "Trains" – 2014 - 12 issues	Donated by Jim Osborne
Caroline Poindexter	Magazines: "Classic Toy Trains" – 2008 - 9 issues	Donated by Jim Osborne
Al Vargas	Magazines: "Classic Toy Trains" – 2009 - 9 issues	Donated by Jim Osborne

A Special "Thank You!" to the good Members who donated to the March Raffle

3) Stage: That it does not have.

4) Covered Overflow Area: Parking lot can be used for overflow during our All Day Meets, but it is not covered.

Bonus:

For those who might wish to grab a bite to eat after the Meet, it's just a short two block walk (or drive) to downtown El Cajon's Main Street, which offers lots of good restaurants and drinking establishments.

So I think you can understand and see why the Board decided that at this point this was our best option. Yes, we will be paying more per month, BUT the prices at various other locations that were checked were much, much more, and they wanted to charge us for the Fridays before the two All Day Meets where here we are not paying anything extra to get in and setup on the preceding Fridays.

The consensus was to try this location for the rest of the year and then evaluate the situation at that time. But please understand that the Board remains open to other suggestions and inputs. If you know of a location that meets our requirements and that you think should be considered as a possibility, then by all means let

Jim Andrews or anyone on the Board know of its whereabouts.

Thanks for All Your Efforts – The Board would like to extend a big "Thank You!" to all the members who spent their time and energy in helping us to find a new home. And especially to **Ed Jones** who found Unity Church's Hammond Hall.

New Meeting Day – Because Thursday's were not available at our new meeting hall beginning with the May Meet our Meets will be on Tuesdays vice the current Thursdays. For you long time members you might recall that prior to moving to La Jolla we use to meet on Tuesdays. We just have to be flexible.

Club Trailer Update – Thanks to **Bart Grey, Mike Quigg** and many other members the Club Trailer has been spruced up and loaded up with our the 5-Rail Layout Modules. All it now needs is some sealer and paint applied to the roof and it will be ready to roll to our first "show", which will be our Spring Run at the SDMRRM in May. Thanks to everyone who made this happen. ☺

5-Rail Modular Layout Run at SDMRRM – The dates have been set for our Spring Run at the

Museum. Monday, May 23rd will be our setup day with operations taking place from May 24th to June 5th. Take-down will be on Monday, June 6th. To make this another successful run the Club needs your support. If you would like to come down and run your trains and talk to folks about the pleasures of model railroading this is your opportunity to do so. Just get in contact with **Al Keil (619) 482-8823** and he'll sign you up.

Motormen at Poway Park – Here's an e-mail that was received from the Motormen's **Brian Leisberg**.

Brian from the Motormen here. As some of you may already know we will be having an event at Old Poway Park on April 17th called "Train Song Festival" (or I think it's called "I've been workin' on the railroad" now but god that's not catchy!).

AGTTA was going to set up their 5-Rail display on the same day in the larger room with us, but unfortunately due to scheduling problems on the Park's behalf, a wedding got scheduled the day right before the event leaving us only the morning of the event to set up in that room. So I've booked the smaller Parlor Room in the Porter house, which will not be able to house both the Motormen & AGTTA layouts. So, only the Motormen layout will be present during the event.

We are however still looking for members who would like to either run or help set up. Kristian will not be in town during the setup time so I'll need some extra help. It will probably be the Thursday/Friday before the event.

If you have HO trains and would like to run them, or just like to talk to the kids/public about trains, you're welcome to come down on Sunday and operate.

The event draws a large crowd every year so there will be no shortage of people. Live bands will be playing at the center of the park, there will be great food from the farmers market, arts & crafts, historical displays, and of course No.3 will be running all day!

Please check out our Motormen Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1160882880597324/>

And the Old Poway Park page:

<http://poway.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=618&month=4&year=2016&day=17&calType=0>

OK guys, let's get out and support the *Motormen* as they continue to spread the word about model railroading. You can get in touch with Brian at 858-748-1154.

SDMRRM Layout Tour – Our first layout tour event in several years will take place the evening

of Friday, June 3rd. Our destination will be the SDMRRM in Balboa Park.

There are two layouts we will be viewing. One will be our own 5-Rail Modular Layout which will be just about to conclude its run in the Pacific Beach Room at the Museum. If you have never seen our layout this will be a perfect opportunity to see it up and running. And if you like you will be most welcome to bring one of your trains with you to operate.

The other layout we will be viewing will be the SD Three Railers incredible detailed layout. Again, if you have never seen this layout up close and personal, you are in for a treat. It is truly a fantastic creation.

We'll be visiting the museum after it has been closed to the public so viewing will be exclusive to our membership. And there is plenty of free parking located just outside of the Museum's rear entrance.

So mark your calendars now for you are not going to want to miss this rare opportunity to see these great two layouts in operation, at the same time, on one evening when there will be just you and your fellow members. Watch for all the details in the May MainLine.

Children's Hospital Layout Needs Your Support – **Richard Thomson & Bob Wall**

recently spent some time giving the layout a thorough cleaning and checkup. It is now back up and running as it should be. However, to keep it in this condition it needs to be maintained at least every two weeks and to do that we need some volunteers to help in this task. We need teams of two people who can work after hours to clean the track and police the layout. If you would like to be one of these folks that will help keep a smile on a kids face as they are facing difficult times please give Richard Thomson a call (760-747-6827) and he can explain to you all the details. And thanks!

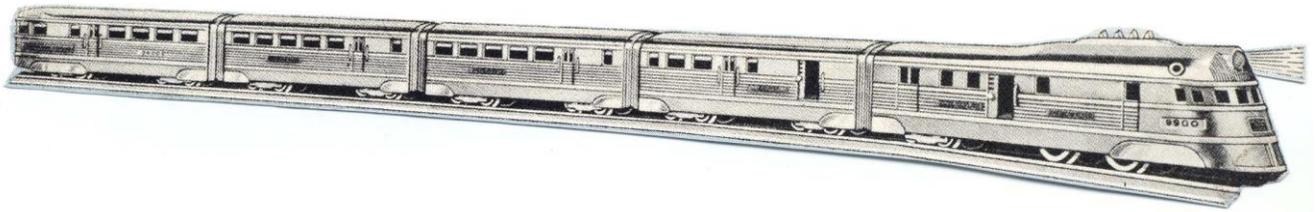
Child Train Set Giveaway – As they did for the December Holiday All Day Meet, **Marshal Carpenter, Cheryl Lyman and Richard Thomson** are in the process of assembling another complete 'O' gauge train set that will be given to a child at the June All Day Meet. You might recall the excitement that the very happy winner, Carter Glinski, had when he claimed his prize. If you would like to be a part of bringing this joy to another child please think about donating something to the set. Just check with Marshal (619-306-8446) see what he might need.

And Thanks!

AGTTA APRIL NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | | | | |
|---------|----------|---|--------|----------|--|
| Apr 14 | Thursday | AGTTA April Meet
Jim Andrews (619) 441-8462 | Apr 24 | Sunday | TTOS-SP April Meet
www.ttos-sp-sw.org |
| May 10 | Tuesday | AGTTA May Meet
Jim Andrews (619) 441-8462 | May 1 | Sunday | TTOS-SW May Meet
www.ttos-sw.org/activities.htm |
| June 18 | Saturday | AGTTA June All Day Meet
Jim Andrews (619) 441-8462 | May 21 | Saturday | SDRRM Swap Meet
Jim Anderson (619) 224-1041 |



ALL GAUGE TOY TRAIN ASSOCIATION
6621 Cartwright Street
San Diego, CA 92120-2407

NEXT MEET:
Thursday, April 14th
3:00 – 7:00
Torrey Pines Christian Church
8320 La Jolla Scenic Drive North