



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well it's December and this is the last President's Message that I will write.

I hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving and are ready for the rest of the Holidays. I hope to see you at the Christmas Dinner or the December Meet. If not I wish you a very Happy Holidays.

I want to thank you for your support the last three years and hope you will support Bob Wall as your new President.

We have a Membership Drive on right now and we need to get more members. Because the more members we have the more fun we all can have.

The Board Of Directors is already starting on planning for next year's June Open House. It will be on June 20, 2009. If you want to volunteer to help out please talk to your Officers or Directors. The more members that help the easier it will be.

See you at the Meets,

Bart Grey

HOW-TO CLINIC

No Clinic In December

As they did during last year's Holiday Season, our *How-To Clinic* experts **Jim Weatherford** (Lionel) and **Bart Grey** (American Flyer) are going to have the *How-To Clinic* also take a Holiday. For this month only there will NOT BE a Clinic. But not to fret!

Coming In January SERVICING OF THE 3641 LOG DUMP CAR

They'll be back at it in January when the subject will be how to repair a 3461 Log Dump Car. Particulars to be covered will be the cleaning of the solenoid, adjusting the tray and proper lubrication. Don't miss it!

Don't forget that if you have a suggestion for a subject you would like to see covered at a future Clinic just let either Jim or Bart know.

THE MAIN-LINE

is published around the first of each month. The *Main-Line* is the official publication of the *All Gauge Toy Train Association of San Diego*.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Meets are normally held on the second Thursday of each month at the Torrey Pines Christian Church, 8320 La Jolla Scenic Drive North, La Jolla, CA, beginning at 4:30 PM. A big All-Day Saturday Open House Meet is held yearly in June.



As he does every month our super **Raffle Master Bob Wall** put together another excellent raffle for the November Meet. Here's this month's list of the lucky winners:

Andy Anderson

JWTrains Train Repair Software DVD
Lionel Lehigh Valley Diesel Switcher

Greg Drusch

Lionel #252 Crossing Gate

Carol Frandsen

Lionel Airex Box Car

Roy Lindgren

Watch

"Railways & War" Book

"Train Shed Cyclopedia, Locomotives" Book

"Highball: Pageant of Trains" Book

Gene Mrowka

MTH NYC 3-Dome Tank Car

Jim Murphy

'O' Switch Tower w/ Lights

K-Line Timken Box Car

"Rails Across America" Book

"The Twilight of World Steam" Book

Caroline Poindexter

MTH B & O Gondola w/ Junk

Steve Pierce

UMD Log Car w/ Logs

Mike Quigg

Lionel #252 Crossing Gate

2282 Black Bumper

"Antique Toy World" Magazine

Ed Samsen

Lionel #153 Block Control Signal

Ken Steele

Lionel Pair of Bumpers

Bob Wall

6019 Uncoupling Track

"THANK YOU!" – As we do every month the Club extends a warm and sincere **"Thank You!"** to the following Club Members who generously donated items to the October Raffle: **Lee Davis, Dave Ely, Bart Grey, Ed Karper, and Jim Weatherford.** Thanks guys! ☺

AGTTA BOARD MEETING

A Board Meeting was held on Tuesday, November 18th at Bob Wall's home. The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. Those in attendance were:

President

Bart Grey

Vice-President

Syd Mason

Secretary

Andy Anderson

Treasurer

Jon Everett

Director

Al Keil

Director

Christine Poindexter

Director

Ken Steele

Director

Bob Wall

Director

Jim Weatherford

Past President

Steve Pierce

Also in attendance was guest **Caroline Poindexter.**

Under **Old Business** the Christmas Dinner was discussed.

Under **New Business**, a discussion took place regarding what the Club might want to do to commemorate the Club's 40th Anniversary, which will occur in 2009. Jim Weatherford discussed the possibility of building a replica of the famous Lionel Disappearing Train Layout (See page 6). After discussion a vote was taken to provide Jim with \$200 seed money to get the project going. All present voted yes.

This was followed by the discussion of this year's Club Appreciation Awards that would be presented at the Christmas Dinner. With inputs from all present and those submitted by Members a list was compiled. Andy Anderson said he would take care of having them made. (See page 8 for a list of the awardees.)

A Change Over Board Meeting was scheduled for January 6th at Filippis Pizza Grotto. 5353 Kearny Villa Road. (Guests are always welcome to attend Board Meetings.)

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

THE 2009 AGTTA BOARD

The voter "turnout" for our 2009 Board Of Directors Election was outstanding. Of course with a ballot containing so many highly qualified candidates who would have expected anything less. The race for Directors was very tight with only a few votes separating the candidates. The election results for the 2009 Board, which were announced at November Meet, were:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| President: | Bob Wall |
| Vice President: | Ken Steele |
| Secretary: | Andy Anderson |
| Treasurer: | Jon Everett |
| Directors: | Andy Estep |
| | Al Kiel |
| | Pete McCall |
| | Steve Pierce |
| | Jim Weatherford |
| Past President: | Bart Grey |
| Main-Line Editor: | Bill Hohnhorst |

AGTTA 2009 MEET DATES

So you can mark your 2009 Calendar now and not miss one of next year's Meets, here are the dates for our 2009 get-togethers:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| January 8 | July 9 |
| February 12 | August 13 |
| March 5 | September 10 |
| April 9 | October 8 |

May 14

November 12

June 20 – Open House December 10

All meetings will be on a Thursday except for the June 20th All Day Open House Meet, which will be on the traditional Saturday.

The annual Christmas Dinner will be held on December 3rd.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2009

The Dates: November 1 to May 14, 2009

The Prize: Williams Diesel Loco worth \$150

The Rules:

- 1) Can't be a 2008 Member, the exception being your own Membership Renewal
- 2) A Regular Membership counts as 1 while a Family counts as 1 ½
- 3) All new members are subject to Article II, Section 2, Qualification and Admission, of our Bylaws, which states:

"Members shall be persons of responsibility and integrity. An applicant shall be admitted to membership upon submission of a Membership Application Form and approval of the Board of Directors or such membership committee as the Board may appoint."

So start signing up those new Members!

CLUB NEWS

Thank You Mr. President – The 2008 Board, on behalf of all Club Members, would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our outgoing President, **Mr. Bart Grey**, for his outstanding three years of leadership as President of our Club. Bob Wall has some big shoes to fill, both figuratively and literally, as he ascends to the position of President. So what are Bart and the Girls going to do with all that time on their hands? Travel is the word. We wish them many fun and happy adventures.

Club Appreciation Awards – were presented at the annual Christmas Dinner. Please see the Christmas Dinner article on pages 8 & 9 for a list of the deserving recipients. The Board would like to thank everyone for their inputs.

40th Anniversary – Believe it or not the Club will be celebrating its 40th birthday next year. We couldn't let this momentous occasion go by without appropriate recognition and celebration. The Board will be working on some cool things to honor this achievement. The first of these is a very neat idea that Jim Weatherford has come up

with. Make sure you check out his article on pages 6 & 7 to see what cool idea he has proposed.

Dave & Jean Ely Leave Us – If you haven't already heard the Ely's have sold their SD area home and are in the process of moving back to Iowa to be near their son and his family. Dave said that he hopes to be able to find some product in the Des Moines area so he can keep Elytoys in business, but hopefully at a little less aggressive pace. I know I speak for all Club Members when I say that Dave & Jean will be greatly missed by the Club and all their friends within. Over the years they have contributed so much time and energy and goodies to the Club, more than we can ever thank them for. We can only wish them the very, very best in their new home, but we do hope they will stay in touch. Their new phone number is 515-664-8217 and e-mail address is: elytoys@gmail.com.

Thanks Mike – If you missed the last Meet then you missed another of **Mike Wheeler's** soldering *How-To Clinics*. Mike had guys standing around the table all evening, right up to the end of the Meet. Guess we're just going to have to have Mike do another Clinic next year, for sure. ☺

AGTTA MART

Free – Free – Free! – I still have a nice accumulation of end flaps for Lionel pre-war and post-war boxes. If you have a box missing one

make a list of what's needed. Ed Karper / (858) 452-8773 anytime after 6 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Del Mar Great Train Expo Show – This year's show will be held on the weekend of December 13 & 14. Admission is \$7 for adult with kids under 12 admitted free. Admission is good for both days. Show hours are 10 to 4 both days.

COOL TRAIN RELATED STUFF

Extreme Trains – For you guys who also like your trains on a 1 to 1 scale you need to check out the new series currently running on *The History Channel*. It's an eight-part series titled "*Extreme Trains*" which they claim is "about the biggest, most powerful and most awesome trains in history." It's on Cox, Channel 55, every Tuesday evening at 10pm. I've watched the first couple and it's not bad, definitely worth a watch. So get those DVR's set to record and enjoy.

Fantastic Christmas Present – Historic Rail is offering a deal that is almost too good to believe. Celebrate the most beloved name in toy trains this holiday season with this exclusive special. You get the beautifully illustrated book, *Lionel: A Century of Timeless Toy Trains* and the DVD, *Great Lionel Layouts* - a \$64.95 value - for the incredible price of only \$19.49! They claim that you won't find this offer anywhere else, and I tend

Huge Lionel Collection To Be Sold

The San Diego Model Railroad Museum has been the recipient of a huge 400 piece, mostly Lionel, collection that has been donated to the Museum. The donation came as a result of an insurance settlement brought about by a water damage claim filed by the owner of the collection. The Museum asked **Jon Everett** to handle the disposition of the collection. Jon says that the bulk of the collection is mostly newer, Fundimensions era pieces, all boxed. There are quite a few engines, both steam and diesel, but he has not seen any recent TMCC equipped engines, although he states there might be a couple. Most of the rolling stock is "O" gauge, but there are several STD "O" pieces, and lots of "027" sized cars. Jon has not yet had a chance to look at all the pieces, but he has looked at several cars and engines and the reviews are mixed in terms of any rust or water damage. Most appear to have had damage to the boxes only. Jon adds that there are several lots of cars such as the liquor/spirit cars (gin, vodka, whiskey makers), at least 12 state box cars, several Disney lots - one is a fairly new train set; another one is the early Disney Fundimension cars, and there is a third that splits the first two in time frame. The museum is hoping to realize about 50-60% of the book value. The collection will be available for viewing and purchase this coming Monday evening, 8 December, at 7 pm in the Museum's library great room area. First come, first buy – Cash and Checks only, no CC. If you have any questions or would like additional information you can contact Jon at (858) 538-0930.

end, and it can still be saved, give me a call or to believe them for this is a definite deal. You can

call them toll free at **800-261-5922**. The item number is #R87262.

Thomas The Train Comes to San Diego – For all the kids out there and those who have young ones here's event you are not going to want to miss. There will be a *Thomas The Train* on-stage event at the San Diego Sports Arena on March 20-22, 2009! To get all the info and to order tickets just enter this address in your browser:

www.sandiegoarena.com/event.php?eoid=204

New Lionel Nation - No. 2 – has just been released. Here is the write-up on this 2nd DVD. "We visit John Potter's prewar layout and collection and Norm Charbonneau's incredible Legacy-controlled modern era layout. Norm is a true modeler and a dedicated and skilled craftsman. His layout is the most realistic and exquisitely detailed layout we've ever seen. Prepare to be amazed. Also included is a behind-the-scenes peek at a toy train auction and a look at the engines and cars that inspired Lionel's new *Conventional Classics™*. Plus operating tips, and much more." This 65-minute video is available from TM Books and Video for \$19.95. Just visit their website (www.tmbooks-video.com) for more info and to order your copy.

No January Newsletter – Yours truly will be taking an extended vacation to Spain, the home of my lovely wife. I will be leaving SD on the 8th to join Montse who is already in Spain visiting with her parents. We will be spending the Holidays there and will return on January 8th. So as you can see I will not be back in time to put out a January Newsletter. But Andy Anderson and company will be sending out a *January Meet Reminder Postcard*, just in case you have so much fun over the Holidays that you forget about our first 2009 Meet.

Happy Holidays - I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your Family a very Merry Christmas, a Wonderful Holiday Season and the very best of New Years. I would also like to thank you one and all for all your inputs that you have provided me with throughout the last twelve months. I hope you have enjoyed this year's Newsletters and will keep those inputs coming next year. They enable me to keep the Newsletter full of informative, fun and exciting "stuff". And I know you guys like that kind of "stuff" so don't hesitate to send every and anything my way. It will be most appreciated. ☺

AGTTA 2009 DUES INVOICE / RENEWAL FORM

All Gauge Toy Train Association Year 2009 dues are now payable.
Annual dues are \$25 for an Individual Membership and \$30 for a Family.
Please make your check payable to AGTTA.

PAYMENT IS DUE JANUARY 1, 2009. A Late Fee will be charged after February 28, 2009.
Renewals not received by February 15, 2009 will not appear in the Year 2009 Roster.

NAME _____ MEMBER NUMBER: _____
STREET ADDRESS: _____ APT. NO.: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
PHONE: (____) _____ E-MAIL: _____
GAUGE / INTEREST: _____

(Please include all information for the Roster!)

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Cash _____
Check _____

PLEASE MAIL TO:

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San Diego, CA 92117

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NEW MEMBER'S SPONSOR NAME: _____
MEMBER SPONSOR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: _____

EDITOR'S CORNER