

2014 Summer - Part 2 of 2



Inside the New Jersey Aquarium, a Phillies Game, and the Cape May tour.

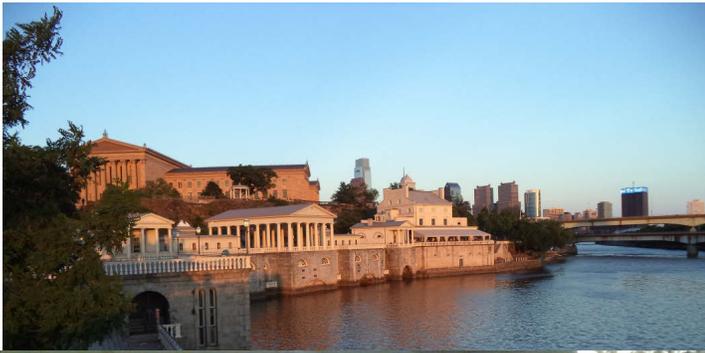




New Hope and Ivyland Railroad, Steamtown (from NPS Web site) and the USN Battleship New Jersey

The 'Spirit of Philadelphia' cruise provided views of the waterfront from up-river to the Navy Yard. Along the way were sights of the Port Richmond coal pier, the city skyline, Admiral Dewey's flagship, the Olympia of the Spanish-American war, the 4-masted Moshulu, the SS United States, the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy and the battleship New Jersey. There was also some time for partying and dancing.





With the Art Museum in the background, the original water works on Philadelphia's other river, the Schuylkill, was the meeting place for the TCA's Division leaders to exchanged information and get to know each other.

At the Welcome party, members and guests had a 'Taste and Sound of Philadelphia' when the entire Quaker City String Band entertained us while we dined on soft pretzels, cheesesteaks, hoagies and, of course, Tastykakes. During the party silent bidding took place on a huge assortment of train stuff. There was even some dancing in the aisles!





From all comments, the Trading Halls (2 rooms packed full of 'buys') was a huge success. This year, for the first time the Division opened the doors to the public with a small admission fee. This helped increase attendance, exposed our hobby to the public and resulted in some new TCA members. The closing banquet marked the end of a fantastic week. The Master of Ceremonies was committee member Bill Erskine. A large assortment of donated items was auctioned-off by Atlantic Division member Ted Maurer demonstrating his unique style of auctioneering.



There were table prizes for everyone with the white caboose as the last to be drawn. President Bob Lubonski thanked all for coming to our convention. Next years convention, hosted by METCA, is only 'up the road' from Philly and we are all looking forward to another great time. *Buy those fundraiser items and see you there.*





And while the adults were dining, Leon Duminiak and Harry Barnes (the voice of the 'Amtrak Police robot, page 3) entertained our 'future' members at their own banquet.



The Banquet ended with everyone feeling the camaraderie in the room; old friends said their 'Good-Byes until next year' and new friends were made and 'See you in Somerset'. That's what being a member provides - the fellowship in something that we all love.
 And to top everything off, the AD TCA Store practically 'sold out' all the stock. Hurrah and Hooray!
 This indeed was a GREAT Convention for everyone.

CONVENTION EDITION

This issue is a special one for all of us. The Division held one of the best National Conventions in recent time. There were more than 20 tours, some repeated because of high interest, great displays of memorabilia, running train layouts in the hotel, parties and just great fun for all who attended.

I asked for and received over 260 pictures, taken by members. We can only show a small sample in this issue. You will see some of what our guests, local as well as from all parts of the country, had an opportunity to experience. My hope is that you will find these interesting and try some of these tour destinations for yourself and family.

My thanks to all who sent in pictures of their experiences;
Ed Beaver, Alan Craig, Ed Gerson, Carl Olson, Philip Smith, Glen Stinson, Mindy Taylor, Tom Wagner,

NEW LEADERSHIP FOR THE EXPRESS

The AD Express Team is changing and so will our newsletter's content. We will strive to provide a mix of content that we hope will inform you of the activities of the Division, provide a service to your collecting and operating of model trains, and connect you with the work of the Division.

Some new contributors have come on board to help make this happen. Here are some of the ideas that we will be pursuing and will be introducing these in the coming editions:

Meet reporter, List of coming meets, Relevant topics of interest from the AD BOD meeting, Usage of TCA resources, Restoration tips and mentoring, Current events, Classified and commercial ads, Projects of interest and involvement for all scales and eras.

This is an exciting time for us as the Express moves ahead with new leadership.

Bob Wittendorf, Bob Robinson, Joe Lehman, Glen Stinson, Art Bink, and you, our members.



It's appropriate that a train crosses the Ben Franklin Bridge as the 'Spirit of Philadelphia' approaches during the Dinner Cruise, June 26, 2014.