



# Atlantic Division Express

Where the TCA began



OUR AIM: TO PROVIDE INFORMATION, INSPIRE PARTICIPATION & CONNECT WITH MEMBERS

Winter 2016

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Need more info? Visit

[www.ADTCA.com](http://www.ADTCA.com)

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS



### Plumbers Union Hall (2003 – 2016) – So Long and Farewell

It has been 13 years of crowded aisles, a stage full of parts, Ed's and Dick's collection displays, Bob's test tracks, the 'Bar' decorated with Plasticville, friends watching friend's table for food or bathroom breaks, cold winds through the lobby, train layouts (ours and others) sandwiched In the lobby corner, super sweet donuts, great soups, stews, dogs, burgers and COFFEE. With one more show we say good-bye to familiar parking problems, traffic-hectic Roosevelt Blvd., and memorized drive time to the show.

Nevertheless, change is natural. We have seen friends leave our group, new ones show-up, and members bringing their grandkids. Now it is time for new memories, opportunities for sales to different customers, and showing what our hobby has offers to the next generation.

## Atlantic Division Train Shows — New Location

Since we announced that the Atlantic Division Train Shows are moving to a new location, we have heard many rumors regarding the facility, access, parking, etc. We will address all of these issues.

The facility is the Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall, 1301 South Columbus Blvd., Phila., Pa. The hall itself will hold about 20 more tables than we have now in both the hall and lobby at Plumbers Hall. We can also use the stage for more tables if need be. I was told by a member that we must have measured it wrong since it is much larger than that. It is not. The floor plan was provided to us by the Hall Management. The stage is also much larger than that at the Plumbers hall. In addition, we have the entire lobby area for other activities such as running layouts, displays, seminars, etc.

Loading-in is at ground level from a huge parking lot behind the building into multiple entrances..

We also have access to more and better advertising of our shows through the hall management's website, as well as banner advertising on the exterior of the building weeks in advance of the show date. The Train Meet Committee will look at laying out the table assignments so they will be similar to locations now at the Plumbers Hall. We will contact all table holders and have the floor plan available at the November show. We want the transition to be a smooth as possible for everyone.

The drive time between the Plumbers Hall and Sheet Metal Hall is about 10 minutes.

### *Why are we moving?*

We do not rent the Plumbers Hall from the Plumbers Union, but rather through its Managing Caterer. When we went to renew the contracts for 2017 we were told that **no bookings** were being accepted for 2017. In order to secure the dates that do not conflict with other shows or holidays we went to the new hall management and signed contracts to keep our shows going in 2017.

The Atlantic Division Board of Directors took a hard look at this move before voting to approve the new facility. We believe the move will improve our shows as we will have more space for layouts, family and child oriented activities. It is also felt that we will increase public attendance as a result of being in the proximity of the more heavily traveled area near Penn's Landing. We are looking forward to making the AD Trains Shows better than ever.

### *New Train Show Registration Chair for 2017*

The Atlantic Division Train Show Committee and Board of Directors welcome Joe Petrick as our new Train Show Registration Chairman. Al Craig and I will be working with Joe for a smooth transition to this important position. Joe comes along as we move the AD Train Shows to a new location at the Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall in Pennsport neighborhood near Penn's Landing in Philadelphia.

Bob Lubonski, Train Show Chairman

## Division News - September 25, 2016 Train Show



The winner of the Quaker City Limited was AD member, Zig Targonski, Bordentown, NJ who invited everyone to the [Bordentown Old City Hall Holiday Train Show](#). See page 8 for Website.

[Annual Event](#) drawing at the November 20th Show.

## September 25, 2016 Train Show - Member Display

For many years, the Atlantic Division train shows featured interesting displays of toy trains and related items presented by Dick Heinemann and Ed Kapuscinski. But a few months ago they both realized that they did not have anything remaining in their collections that had not been displayed previously and they did not want to repeat a display.

To fill the void at our shows, individual members are encouraged to create interesting displays from items in their personal collections. At our September show, member Richard Zipin presented a very interesting display of Lionel Dealer replacement lamps. The display featured several original Lionel Dealer lamp cases including the first wooden case from the 1920's.



If you have items that you would like to display at an upcoming Atlantic Division train show, please contact the meet chairman, Bob Lubonski, 856-608-9265. Horizontal step racks and tables are available for your display.

## Future Events

- Division Train Show, 8 am to 1 pm, November 20, 2016, Plumbers Union Hall, Southampton Rd. Phila. (The FINAL SHOW at this location.)
- Quaker City String Band Christmas Party, Noon to 4 p.m., December 10, 2016, Philadelphia
- Division Train Show, 8 am to 1 pm, January 8, 2017, Sheet Metal Workers Hall, Philadelphia
- Greenberg Show, 10 am to 4 pm, January 14-15, 2017, Greater Phila. Convention Center, Oaks, Pa (Set-up on Friday afternoon)

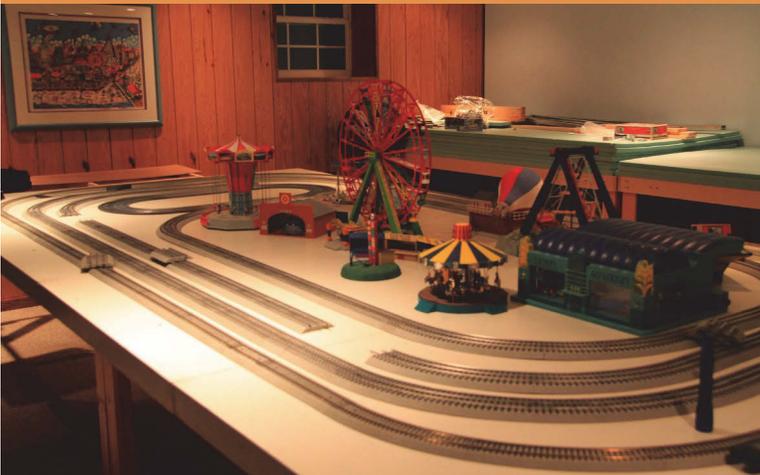
We need your help for the Quaker City party and the Greenberg Show; call Terry to volunteer.

*If you would like to schedule the Traveling Layout for your event, please contact me or any Atlantic Division board member. Terry Trickel (484) 924-9177 (northernfinds@yahoo.com)*

## Highlights of the September 21, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting

- 2017 Budget approved with increases in the Traveling Layout, Meets, and Printing budgets..
- Approved use of new hall for train shows beginning in January with one extra trial show in May.
- Approved purchase of circus accessories for new traveling layout.
- Direct phone contact with National's Division Drop List members is successful in renewing members. Most often reason for the failure to renew due to 'I mislaid the notice or I forgot'.
- Meet committee to identify issues related to the new show's location and implement solutions.
- Traveling layout progressing with completion expected by January Show.
- Annual Event tickets to state 'Suggested Donation' to comply with USPS regulations.
- In discussions with Wawa for license to use their name for fund raiser cars.
- Results of election will be disclosed at next BOD meeting, Nov. 9th.

## Traveling Layout - An Update



The new traveling layout is being assembled at Russ Keil's home with four separate panels to facilitate transport. There are four loops for running trains, including an 'end to end' bump track for a trolley. The outside track is a 2-rail 'S' gauge track. In addition, we have a two-lane Super Streets loop that allow two cars to operate simultaneously.

Along with the current accessories we have, we are adding the Lionel carnival pieces to the layout. The carnival will add plenty of color and action and keep the kids, young and old, busy. All accessories will be visitor operated by push buttons. Operating acces-

sories that require manual intervention have been purposely avoided.

With the use of light-weight materials for the surface and separate panels that can be assembled as two or four module configurations, the new layout will provide a lot of entertainment for our visitors. At the same time, it will make it easier for our members to transport, set up and take down.

## Kids Club Happenings

Leon Duminiak, AD Kids Club Coordinator (Lduminiak@verizon.net)

In the quiet little town of Fallsington Lower Bucks County, Pa., a group of youngsters ranging in age from pre-school to 'tweens meet between 6:30 and 7:30 pm on the last Tuesday of the month at the old Fallsington Library Company. They call themselves *The Train Club*. Membership in the club

is free. There are no club officers. The only rules are to be well behaved and have fun running trains. That is something they do very well as anyone entering the building can tell by the sounds of running trains and happy voices coming from the second floor.



*The Train Club* started out about a year ago when Neil Vance, a friend of the librarian, offered to bring in some trains as one of the many activities offered by the library. His intent was to allow children to operate trains and listen to presentations about railroading. The idea was a success, with many families turning out on *Train Club* nights. He's never gotten around to having any presentations as the kids make a bee-line to the trains as soon as they arrive.



Support has been very good with donations of both O and HO trains, track, power supplies, and other layout supplies. Neil has fastened track down for an O27 and an HO layout that he can store in the room between meetings. Prior to each meeting, Neil puts each layout on top of a table and pulls out the bins of trains and "stuff". Then he stands back and is amazed at how quickly everything gets set up and running with minimal adult help.



The kids make good use of the one hour meeting by trying out different ideas, problem solving, and keeping the trains running. On my visit we watched as two boys attempted to pull an HO freight train with a Lionel O scale locomotive on O-31 FastTrack. It worked! I think they now believe that HO is really half O. At 7:30 there was another flurry of activity as everyone pitched in to put away all the trains.



Neil told me that he had some doubts about working with children. His experience with young people was as a professor of business at the University of Pennsylvania but everything has been working out better than he had expected. There is a lesson to be learned here. Trains have their own magic, especially to children. Neil is not a TCA member but is helping to spark an interest in trains among future generations just by sharing his hobby.

What can you do to keep interest in toy trains alive? If you can't think of anything, contact me, 215-355-1647. We can always use help with Kids Club activities at our train shows next year.

## Show Schedule: Fall-Winter, 2016-2017

Nov. 19, 2016	Keystone Div. – TCA	St. Philip’s Parish Hall, Rts. 741 & 999, Millersville, PA
<b>Nov. 20, 2016</b>	<b>At. Div. – TCA</b>	<b>Plumbers Union Hall, Southampton Rd., Phila., PA</b>
Nov. 26-27, 2016	Greenberg’s	Garden State Expo Center, Edison, NJ
Dec. 3-4, 2016	Greenberg’s	MD State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD
Dec. 4, 2016	Gilbertsville	Gilbertsville Fire House, Rt. 73, Gilbertsville, PA
Dec. 18, 2016	Montvale Train Show	St. Joseph High School, 40 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Montvale, NJ
Jan. 7, 2017	Keystone Div. – TCA	St. Philip’s Parish Hall, Rts. 741 & 999, Millersville, PA
Jan. 7-8, 2017	Greenberg’s	Garden State. EXPO, Somerset, NJ
<b>Jan. 8, 2017</b>	<b>At. Div. – TCA</b>	<b>Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd. Phila. PA</b>
Jan. 14, 2017	Lehigh Valley Show	Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12 <sup>th</sup> St., Allentown, PA
Jan. 14-15, 2017	Greenberg’s	Greater Philadelphia EXPO Center, Oaks, PA
Jan. 29, 2017	Hamburg	Hamburg Fire Co. Field House, Pine St., Hamburg, PA
Feb. 4-5, 2017	Scale Show	MD State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD
Feb. 25-26, 2017	First Frost (ATMA)	Allentown Fairgrounds, 17 <sup>th</sup> & Chew Sts., Allentown, PA
<b>Mar. 5, 2017</b>	<b>At. Div. – TCA</b>	<b>Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd. Phila. PA</b>
Mar. 11-12, 2017	Greenberg’s	Chase Center, 815 Justison St., Wilmington, DE
Mar. 18-19, 2017	Greenberg’s	Garden State Expo Center, Edison, NJ
Mar. 19, 2017	Gilbertsville	Gilbertsville Fire House, Rt. 73, Gilbertsville, PA

## Feature Article

### PARTS BUSINESS IS BORN OUT OF NECESSITY- a personal and family story

By Terry Trickel (79-13707)

A little more than 50 years ago, my father, Richard A. Trickel (HR67-1905), purchased an American Flyer Pre-war passenger set. The set included a #13 Clockwork 0-4-0 locomotive, tender, two passenger cars and a circle of two-rail tracks. He thought that it was almost ‘mint condition’ until he picked up the locomotive and discovered a broken wheel.

During the mid 1960’s there were few parts available for trains, especially *Chicago Flyer* train



parts. Looking at the locomotive, he noticed that the remaining wheels were in good condition. He remembered that I had a toy casting set with molds and lead pot to reproduce lead soldiers. He saw a great use for my casting set. Looking at the problem of needing a new wheel, why not make one.

My father made a mold using one of the good wheels for a pattern. His first attempt was to make it using *plaster of Paris*. He was successful in making two or three wheels before the mold broke when the new parts were removed. He cleaned and painted the new wheel and installed

it on his almost mint locomotive.

In the 60’s, we lived in the Chicago area and my father worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad. One of his fellow workers invited him to a local train group. They were members of the Midwest Division of the Train Collectors Association. They would often meet in a backyard of a member’s home. Members would set up tables or sell and trade their extra trains from their car’s trunk. My Dad had his newly restored locomotive was on display and many expressed interest in his new formed wheels.

At that time, many of the train manufacturers used die cast metals for wheels, headlights, and

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other components. These were typically made of from alloys like zamac (zinc, aluminum &, magnesium and other metals). As you know, if not processed properly during the casting process, over a period of time, the metal would deteriorate, expand and crack. I once had a Dorfan electric locomotive sitting on a shelf that had a die cast shell. With the temperature and humidity changes common in many basements, the shell popped in front of me leaving a large chunk missing on the side of the locomotive. American Flyer locomotives are famous for broken wheels and headlights made of the dirty zamac metal. The same problem is found with other train manufactures too.

Being 'Chicagoans', my father grew fond of Chicago American Flyer. The more locomotives he purchased, also with an assortment of broken wheels and parts, the more demand there was for replacements. He experimented with different materials to make molds (tub chalking, silicon glues), using the original parts for patterns. After many years, he finally used a RTV (room temperature vulcanization) rubber silicon based material. He realized that making parts for his own use was great and also that there was a great demand for parts both from his Division members and many others for their train or toy.

As you know, the beginning years of collecting could run the family income into the ground. With a wife and nine kids to feed, a way to fund his new hobby was now at hand. A parts business was created to fill the void of available parts for the American Flyer market. Most of his entire collection was financed by the business. The business is 'Trickel Cast Parts'.

Trickel Cast Parts, was started with that first wheel made from a plaster mold and has expanded into a parts line to include both train and toy manufacturers. The parts line is primarily cast metal with some steel parts provided by an outside vendor for train manufacturers such as Lionel, Dorfan, American Flyer, Voltamp, and many foreign and cast iron manufacturers. The parts line expanded into the toy industry to include items for Tootsietoy, Hubley, Weeden Steam engines, and others. The business provided a number of floor toy parts. A main customer was Thomas Toy Company of Flint, Michigan with many parts in this line manufactured by Trickel Cast Parts. Currently, there are over 3,000 different parts available.

My Dad has passed on and the family still runs the parts business. My sister, Carol, manufactures the toy parts and my brother, David, currently manufactures the train parts. Both are members of the TCA and found in the TCA directory. So, if you need a train or toy part, give them a call. A little over fifty years ago the parts business was started with that broken wheel. Having to replace the wheel encouraged Dad to forge ahead and provide a service to fellow collectors.

## **What's New at the National Toy Train Museum**

### **At the Library**

- Using the new high-capacity KIC Scanner purchased with funds from the Malcolm Kates estate, Ron Morris recently scanned Joe Algozinni's POSTWAR LIONEL REPRODUCTION HANDBOOK, originally issued to all TCA members back in 2000. The Handbook is now available for all members to access on the website at [www.traincollectors.org](http://www.traincollectors.org).
- Former Library intern, Hunter Mengel, has been asked to do a second internship with us. We have asked Hunter to undertake a new project in which he will create a digital program incorporating excerpts from some of our 54 oral histories to be featured at the June 2017 Convention in Pittsburgh, PA.
- The Library earned \$1,137.00 through the sales of duplicate material during York week. We no longer have a sales table at York. Material sold included duplicate books, catalogs, railroad memorabilia and magazines. We are currently seeking new donations.
- Four DVDs are available for sale for \$35-each in the Library. These include Lionel: Standard of the World, Graham Claytor's Layout, The Dorfan Movie and Frank Ellison's Delta Lines.

*The Library Committee is actively seeking new members. It involves a commitment of one Saturday per month. Each member takes on a project or projects to benefit the Library which might in-*

*Continued on page 8*

clude anything from data entry to organizing material to writing articles. Projects are determined in part by individual interest. Please contact Jan at the library!!

### At the Museum



York week this fall saw a large crowd attending the museum for the open house, the manufacturer presentations and the deaccession sale.

### Holiday Events—All Scales

Abington Lines Model Railroad Club	Scale: HO	<a href="http://www.abingtonlines.org">www.abingtonlines.org</a>
Black Diamond Society of Model Engineers,	Scale: HO	<a href="http://www.bdsme.org">www.bdsme.org</a>
Bordentown Old City Hall Holiday Train Show	Scale: O	<a href="http://www.downtownbordentown.com/event-details.php?eid=211">www.downtownbordentown.com/event-details.php?eid=211</a>
Brandywine River Museum	Scale: O	<a href="http://www.brandywine.org/museum">www.brandywine.org/museum</a>
Burlington County Model Railroad Club	Scale: HO	<a href="http://www.bcmrc.org">www.bcmrc.org</a>
Cheltenham Hills Model Railroad Club	Scale: HO	<a href="http://www.cheltenhamhillsmrr.org">www.cheltenhamhillsmrr.org</a>
Coopersburg Area Society of Model Engineers	Scale: HO	<a href="http://www.casme.org">www.casme.org</a>
Keystone N-Trak Scale	Scale: N	<a href="http://www.keystonetrak.us">www.keystonetrak.us</a>
Model Railroad Open Houses in DE & MD	Scale: Var.	<a href="http://www.themodelrailroadopenhouse.com">www.themodelrailroadopenhouse.com</a>
Model Railroad Open Houses in PA & NJ	Scale: Var.	<a href="http://www.pennsyr.com/index.php/mroh-home">www.pennsyr.com/index.php/mroh-home</a>
Pequea Valley Model Railroaders Scale	Scale: S	<a href="http://www.pvmr.org">www.pvmr.org</a>
Royersford Modular Model Railroaders	Scale: HO	<a href="http://www.royersfordmodular.org">www.royersfordmodular.org</a>
Saint Alban's Railroad Fellowship	Scale: HO	<a href="http://www.StARR-MRC.org">www.StARR-MRC.org</a>
Schuylkill Valley Model Railroad Club	Scale: HO	<a href="http://www.svmrrc.com">www.svmrrc.com</a>

### Classified Advertising

**Trains For Sale All Gauges —Mike Hudek,**  
[mikeh0402@gmail.com](mailto:mikeh0402@gmail.com), 856 358 2442  
 370 Three Bridge Rd., Monroeville NJ 08343  
 Lionel, MTH, K-Line, Williams, Prewar, Post War,  
 American Flyer, New, Used, Sets, Parts, Track, HO Trains  
 All Makes, N Scale Trains All Makes.  
*Search Craig's List for "Toy Trains For Sale" to see pictures.*  
 Open for sale on: Sat. Nov. 12, 9-4, and Sun. Nov. 13, 9-3  
 Sat. Nov. 26, 9-5, Sun. Nov. 27, 9-3



**Layout Collection For Sale,** William Reed, 12  
 Devonshire Rd, Mount  
 Laurel, NJ, 856-235-  
 0084, Call for details  
 and availability

Retired D-56 Bldgs. & Accessories, Very Low Prices. For Free list call Frank Bowers (71-3604) at 215-742-3160 (aft. 7 pm)

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 News/Articles/Stories/Help—Bob Robinson, [carolsfancy@gmail.com](mailto:carolsfancy@gmail.com)