



ATLANTIC DIVISION LOCAL



FALL 1999

ATLANTIC DIVISION PREPARES FOR Y2K

NEWS FROM THE MEET COMMITTEE

The arrival of the year 2000 calls for a fresh approach to the way we conduct our meets. Over the past two years we have experienced a steadily declining attendance at our meets along with ever increasing costs for hall rental and postage. As a result we have lost money. It seems that the new millennium gives us the opportunity for a fresh start. To this end, the Meet Steering Committee with the approval of your Board of Directors has taken some innovative steps to improve our meets and regenerate interest and participation by the whole membership. In the 1999 - 2000 year we will hold only three meets. These will be in November, January and March. In addition, the committee is exploring ideas for educational activities to become an integral part of our meets. These will include more educational exhibits, clinics by Standards Committee members and restoration experts as well as other attractions. Hopefully these will make the meets more interesting and act as a catalyst to attract more attendees especially the younger folks who are the train collectors of the next millennium.

The November meet will be held at Westover Country Club in Norristown, PA. on November 21st. The January meet will be held at Holy Cross High School in Delran, NJ. on January 16th. The March meet will be retained as a pre-venties meet and will be held at the Pennsylvania National Guard Armory located on Belvoir Road off of Ridge Pike in Norristown, PA. on March 12th. This is a new location, three traffic lights West of the Blue Route, which we will be trying out. They have a large hall that is well lighted and affords easy access for loading and unloading. In addition the

price is very reasonable. We look forward to using this new facility.

The members meet traditionally held as a luncheon and annual meeting in September will not be held in 2000. Instead the usual family activities including races for the children will be held in conjunction with the November 2000 meet. The annual business meeting will be held at a specified time during that November meet as well.

Although economic necessity prompted these actions, we feel that the changes will create a new and refreshed interest in our meets that will allow them to grow once again. We ask that the membership remains flexible in response to the way our meets are conducted to better fit in with the changing times.

THE SEPTEMBER MEMBERS MEET

The Members Meet was held at the Westover Country Club on September 12th. Although the attendance was low (about 100 members, spouses and children) a very good time was had by all. Through the generosity of Nick Ladd at K-Line and Chris Gans at Nicholas Smith we were able to purchase a large number of nice door prizes at very low cost. The principle prizes included a K-Line Alco-AB unit Mint in the box, donated by Nick Ladd. It was selected as first choice by George Sottung. A post-war Lionel Sante Fe Alco A-A unit was selected by David Baxter; and the grand prize, an MTH Union Pacific Gas Turbine, that was kept under wraps to be awarded as the final unknown prize, went to Scott Forsyth.

During the meet various contests were held for the children. These included the Hill Climb and the Drag races. It

appeared that not only the children but also the folks that ran the games especially Phil Ritter and Bob Lubonski as well as many other adults were having a grand time. Certificates and trophies designed by Phil were awarded at the end of the meet. In connection with this activity there was a wonderful display of all the different kinds of trophies awarded in the past. Many of these were quite clever.

During the business meeting Bob Robinson brought up the fact that next year marks the 30th anniversary of the division. If anyone has any ideas for a special event to commemorate this event, please get in touch with the Board.

Phil Ritter pointed out that many of the tracks used for the children's games are in need of refurbishing. In response we received a generous donation from Norman Ridge to be used for this purpose. Thank you Norman. Now all we need are volunteers to help do the work. If you are interested please contact Gary Spear 215-628-8652 who will be forming a committee for this purpose

Chester M. Zmijewski

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The final Atlantic Division membership for 1999 stands at 803 members.

Ballots for the year 2000 election will be sent out the first week in October, included in the same envelope will be the year 2000 dues notice.

Candidates running for Office this year are:

President:

Ray Connolly & Malcolm Kates

Vice President:

Charlie Weber & Chester Zmijewski

Director: (5 to be elected)

George Donze, Ed Kapuscinski, Bob Robinson, Herb Thomas, Stanley Petty & Bob Huppman

Let's show some interest in the Division for the New Millennium and have a good voting return, these are quality people running this year and deserve your support.

Dick Heineman, Secretary

ATLANTIC DIVISION TRAVELING LAYOUT

The traveling layout visited the Variety Club Camp in July and August. As usual the kids enjoyed watching the trains and playing with the various accessories. A reporter with the Montgomery Life Newspaper attended one of our outings to take pictures to publish in the paper. Upcoming dates for the layout are as follows:

9/25/99 - Methodist Hospital
11/14/99 - Lankenau Hospital
12/05/99 - Bryn Mawr Hospital
12/08/99 - Philadelphia Airport
12/15/99 - Philadelphia Airport

We would like to thank the following people for their donations to the layout: Bill Wilson for his Standard Gauge #10 locomotive and Glenn Stinson for the buildings for the Standard Gauge layout. We would also like to thank Frank Paine for his donation towards the purchase of a #8 passenger set.

Thanks to the members who consistently give of their time for the traveling layout: Roland Bowers, Dennis Boyles, Neal Bradley, George Doan, Stan Petty, and Herb Thomas. These individuals are always willing to help us out, but more volunteers are needed.

The layout usually is taken out once a month, we need approximately four volunteers for each visit. The visits are scheduled on the weekends and run from 8:30am to 3:00pm. Please call either Karl Bowers at (215) 855-9362 or Scott Forsyth at (610) 828-6554 if you would like to help us out.

CHRISTMAS DISPLAY

Ed Kapuscinski and Dick Heineman are working feverishly to finalize plans for our Annual Christmas display at The Philadelphia International Airport.

Tentatively they plan to have a Large Scale operating layout sponsored by LGB of America as well as an O Gauge operating layout sponsored by MTH. The possibility of a third operating layout sponsored by K-Line is under consideration. The traveling layout will be featured in the Food Court on two successive Wednesdays,

Currently negotiations are underway to incorporate some static displays of antique trains into the overall exhibit. This would be a first for our division since the closure of the Campbell Museum.

ATLANTIC DIVISION ANNUAL DRAWING

We are rapidly approaching your last chance to win a brand new **WEAVER READING CRUSADER TRAIN SET**.

The set consists of a full size O Gauge set consisting of an engine and tender and five passenger cars. The cars include the prototypically correct twin observation cars. The Weaver set is sold out in retail markets. The only available one is in this raffle. The drawing will be held at our Meet on November 21st at the Westover Country Club.

A **LIMITED** number of chances are still available at \$5.00 each. Chances may be ordered by mail. Send your check to:

ATLANTIC DIVISION RAFFLE,
ATTN: JOE LEHMAN
P O BOX 7127
AUDUBON, PA 19407

PLEASE INCLUDE:

YOUR NAME, STREET ADDRESS,
CITY, STATE, ZIP and PHONE
NUMBER including Area Code

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Our newsletters are being published but the Division could use a new Editor. The job itself is relatively simple. The chairmen of the various committees and the Division officers will provide the news articles. What is needed is a person who can edit the articles, lay them out in the appropriate format and produce a copy that is ready for the printer. The printing and distribution systems are in place already and can swing into action as soon as the printing is complete.

I would like to remind the members to take advantage of our annual raffle this year. The Reading Crusader by Weaver is a "knockout" and is now available only through our raffle. As Joe Lehman points out, only a limited number of tickets are available.

The members meet was a success and a good time was had by all. Races and hill climbs for kids and different toys for mom and dad.

Meet attendance is still 'OK', but with the increased competition of other (bandit meets) a decrease in attendance and table requests is noticeable. New private meets have started to schedule their shows on the same days as the Atlantic Division meets.

The Meet Steering Committee has worked especially hard over the last few months to give our meets a fresh look. We feel very strongly that the actions they have taken will rejuvenate the membership's interest in the meets and continue to promote our mission. The division needs your attendance and support to assure successful delivery of our educational and social efforts.

Garry Spear

ECHOES OF THE PAST

In this issue, we are introducing a new feature. As many of the older members know, we had at one time published a magazine called, The Delaware Valley / Atlantic Division Express. For the benefit of our newer members, we hope to

reprint, from time to time, interesting articles that appeared in those publications. The first of these comes from The Delaware Valley Express of October 1972; courtesy of Dick Heineman. I hope you enjoy it.

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October 27, 1937.

Mr. S. K. Eaton,
Rumsey Elec. Supply Co.,
1007 Arch St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

S. K. E.

SUBJECT: DONALD DUCK RAIL CAR

NOV - 1 1937

Dear Mr. Eaton:

One of the most successful low priced mechanical novelties in our history is

#1107 DONALD DUCK RAIL CAR

It is beautifully lithographed on heavy grade steel, attractively packed with eight sections of track.

Will you kindly instruct your sales force to give greater emphasis, right now, to this handsome fast selling item.

We are shipping you, under separate cover, a quantity of special illustrations depicting our #1107. Please distribute these to your salesmen with a strong letter from your sales manager.

It is the only mechanical item in our line which is still available for sale. We are sold out of all our mechanical trains, Santa Cars, etc., and with the exception of a moderate quantity of #1100 Mickey Mouse Hand Cars, the #1107 is the only number on which we can accept reorders.

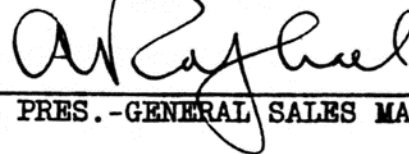
Any alert dealer who will display this now, before Thanksgiving, can sell this number right down to Christmas.

Please get your salesmen on the job and favor us with your reorders promptly while we are still in a position to ship.

Here is a chance for PLUS BUSINESS.

Your dealers will thank you for giving them something that they can sell immediately.

Yours most cordially,
THE LIONEL CORPORATION



VICE PRES.-GENERAL SALES MANAGER

A.RAPHAEL:VH

P.S. Your Cost - \$6.75 per dozen. One dozen to a shipping carton.
Resale - \$8.40 per dozen.