



Atlantic Division



FALL 2003

Atlantic Division Exceeds 1000 Members

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The National Convention affords the 20 TCA Division Presidents the opportunity to discuss issues which concern their respective divisions. The two most pressing problems are decreasing meet attendance and diminishing membership. A few divisions with little or no competition from non-TCA meets have been able to maintain meet attendance. Others have had to reduce the number of their meets or move to smaller, less expensive locations. In our case, the number of table holders at our meets appears to be stabilizing; but the number of attendees, both TCA members and public, has been disappointing.

We now have over 1000 members in Atlantic Division. It is essential that we retain these members. This can be accomplished only by improving the quality of our meets, our Newsletter and adding other activities to our agenda. If you have any suggestions, please write to me.

In January of this year, the Atlantic Division's Board of Directors voted to sponsor a motion guaranteeing Divisions one-quarter page of free advertising in each issue of The National Headquarters News. This motion was presented to and passed by the National Board. This will enable us to advertise other events in addition to our train meets.

Our last newsletter received favorable comments both from our membership and several division presidents at the National Convention. The rare Lionel Standard Gauge 8 Set, featured in our newsletter, was on display at the National Convention. We supplied 75 newsletters to supplement the display. We plan to print the

newsletter on improved stock for future issues. If you have a rare train that could be used for future feature articles please let Chester Zmijewski know.

Our Members' Meet featuring Kids' Club activities is scheduled for September 21st. Please plan to be with us and bring your kids and/or grandkids who will be the future members of our organization. We will have engines to use by those kids who do not have their own. The display will feature blue passenger cars. An MTH operating gas station is the prize for the Meet Raffle and there will be door prizes as well. There will be a Bargain Sale of excess equipment from the traveling layout. This consists of running stock, rolling stock and Plasticville. Proceeds will be used for the new traveling layout.

Malcolm Kates

EDITOR'S NOTES

At the May Meeting of the Board of Directors, it was reported that the membership of the Atlantic Division numbers 1043. This is great news and demonstrates that our efforts to attract new people are beginning to pay off.

The feedback regarding the last issue of the Newsletter has been very favorable. Both the educational aspects and the color format on glossy paper were well received. Unfortunately, this issue may not be as elaborate. However beginning with the Winter issue we will be using glossy paper and at least one color issue per year.

We are planning several new features for the coming year. One of these is an Ask the Experts column that will allow you to submit questions regarding train

collecting. The second will be a Voice of the Membership column where you will be able to state your opinion regarding the way that your organization operates relative to Meets, Social functions, the Newsletter etc.

A note of Correction. In our last newsletter we stated that Nick Ladd supplied the FDNY set at a reduced price. In fact Nick donated the set to the division without cost

Chester M. Zmijewski

THE NTTM EXPRESS

Spring 2003 is proving to be a wet experience for visitors and residents alike here in Lancaster County. Despite that visitation remains on par with the previous year.

The Education and Museum Committee was busy over the winter months. Two new exhibit cases allow visitors to view even more of the collection that was possible previously.

A new exhibit in Historical Hall contains artifacts produced by Lionel other than toy trains.. Perhaps the most impressive part of this exhibit is the Girl's Stove. This has an oven and two burners. The owner plugs it into regular house current, so what we have here is an actual working appliance in miniature! Perhaps children were smarter in the 1930s. This is a "MUST SEE" exhibit for anyone interested in Lionel or children's toys.

The exhibit expands the way the Museum is educating its visitors to the fact that toy trains and their manufacturers were not just a Christmas or Hanukah item; but supplied employment and sustenance to many people on a year round basis.

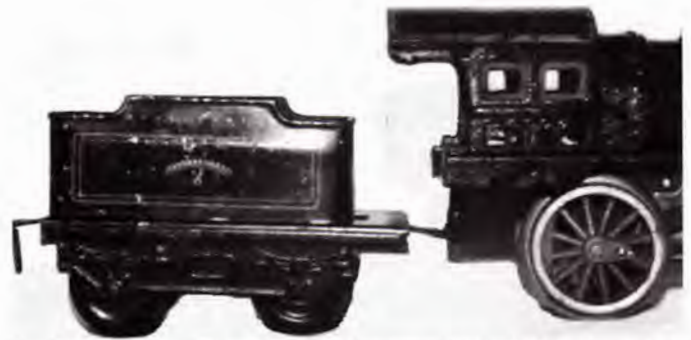
John V. Lupino, Operations Manager TCA

WIND-UP ROUND-HOUSE

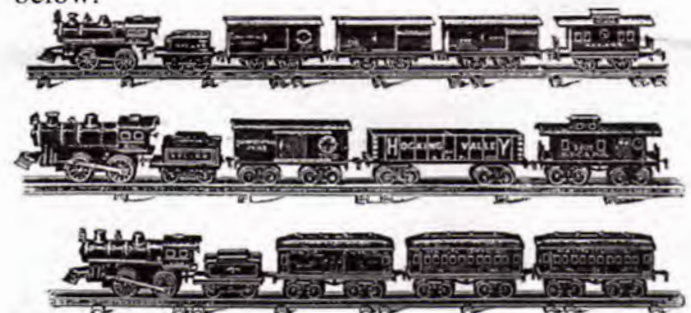


By Henry M. Hermanns 94-39031

My Bing wind-up set has an unusual tender as shown



in the photo. There is a lithographed dial and pointer on the side of the tender in addition to a red double striped box. . My TCA collector friend, Claude Despland, in Switzerland had sent me a copy of an old Bing catalog of 1914 made for the American market. A portion of this is shown below.



Three wind-up sets are shown. The bottom set has the dial and pointer on the tender. Does anyone know what this is supposed to be?

Along these same lines, and just for fun, your editor C.Z. notices that the freight sets shown above have tenders with RR logos; whereas the passenger set has the dial. Shown below is the tender from the editor's Bing passenger set. This tender is of a style similar to the one shown in the top set. However in spite of it being in a passenger set; it has nothing but the red double striped box.



INTERESTING OBSERVATIONS

By Charlie Weber

If you are one of those post war Lionel collectors

who seem to be proliferating in recent years who are interested in complete boxed sets you must own the Greenberg Lionel Sets books. There are two postwar books, one with catalogued sets and the other with uncatalogued sets. These are both authored by Paul Ambrose, et. al. and contain a wealth of convenient information.

Among the more interesting uncatalogued sets are three from a "Gifts Galore" series. All three are rather mundane in respect to the trains themselves. One could put the sets together without boxes and set box with relative ease and low expense. What is special is that the set boxes are imprinted with "Gifts Galore" in an attractive script by Lionel. This is very unusual. Most uncatalogued sets simply have a special number on the set box or perhaps the name of the store for whom they were put together. One of these sets is #149. Check it out¹.



Figure 1.

On e-bay this May was offered the Catalog in which Set #149 is advertised. So, we copied it and present it here for your perusal. This is the 1956 "Gifts Galore" catalog. Figure #1 shows the front page whereas Figure #2 shows the centerfold (Yeah, I like this kind



Figure 2.

of centerfold too) which is the advertisement for the train set. Sure would like to look at this catalog and see what other things could have been bought.

1. *Greenberg's Guide to Lionel Trains, 1945-1969, Volume IV, Uncatalogued Sets, Ambrose and Algozzini, First edition, 1992, p. 70*

In the Atlantic Division Express, Autumn, 1985, issue #60 I did an article about the differences between the little flag stanchions found on many Lionel prewar electric style locomotives (248, 250, 252, 253, 254). It was an exhaustive study to come up with the differences and the years when each type was used. The information was summarized and now appears in the appropriate Greenberg book.¹ In this article, it was mentioned that the maroon 253 sometimes has standard gauge sized flag stanchions. Since the maroon 253 is believed to be the first color of 253 locos to be produced; I always felt that the use of these stanchions was from the first year of 253 production.

Now I am not so sure about this. First I have gotten a grey 253 and it has the standard gauge stanchions. Secondly, and I don't know how I missed this until recently, is that the grey 253 pictured with maroon 607, 608 cars as a Macy Special set in the TCA "Standard of the World" book² has the standard gauge stanchions!

Along comes the locomotive shown in the photo on e-bay. (I didn't get it!) Here we have a dark green 253 with the standard gauge stanchions. Of course, sometime in the last 75 years the dark green top could have been put on a frame and mechanism from a maroon or grey 253 or, more unlikely; someone took off the original stanchions and put on the

standard gauge ones. I am leaning toward all three colors being from uncatalogued sets. The stanchion difference is what would be one of the differences



that distinguish a catalogued from an uncatalogued item.

As usual, I am soliciting your opinions especially if you have any definitive information regarding this question. For that matter, I would like to hear from anyone who has a dark green 253 with the standard gauge size stanchions.

1. *Greenberg's Guide to Lionel Trains, 1901- 1942, Vol. II, p. 36.*

2. *Lionel Trains, Standard of the World 1900-1943, 2nd Edition, TCA,p.123.*

Recently, Glenn Stinson called to tell me that he had a couple of "Billy & Ruth" catalogs for sale on e-bay. I stopped by and inspected the lot and eventually "landed" the lot. There was a "throw in" catalog remnant: 12 pages of a 68 page Christmas catalog from "Hurleys", Broadway and Pine in Camden, NJ. (I never heard of the firm; but they must have been popular with you people from across the river as they had 6 stores in Jersey and one in Wilmington, DE). With the help of one our librarians at Delaware Valley college and Dick Robinson, I have been able to date this catalog remnant to 1955. There is a full page ad shown below for a Marx train set and I thought that some of our members would be interested in seeing it. No set number is listed but the train consist is readily discernable. Notice that most of the accessories are cardboard. Also of note to cardboard collectors is that the 23 piece trestle set is from "Bob Irwin Products". Lastly I must mention the small print as it gave me a chuckle: "The big electric locomotive, with bronze bearings, and all other cars are accurately scaled models of real trains". YEAH, RIGHT!!

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CAMDEN, N. J.

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IT'S EASY TO SHOP WITH
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on all dates indicated in black blocks.
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Your Credit is Good!

Associated in Atlantic City, Englewood, Englewood, Fremont, Hurley

87-PIECE *Electric* **TRAIN**
and TRESTLE Set

AC-DC

LIMITED SUPPLY

13.95

HILL CLIMBING
LOCOMOTIVE
SPEEDS OVER
AND UNDER
ELEVATED
TRESTLE

First Time At This Price!

THE SET YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED IS NOW AVAILABLE TO YOU TO KEEP YOU HAPPY AS A GIFT FOR YOURS EVERY DAY... 87 wonderful pieces that are being introduced for the first time... the electric locomotive, with bronze bearings, and all other cars are accurately scaled models of real trains.

POWERFUL
TRANSFORMER
STARTS, STOPS &
REVERSES TRAINS

Realistic
23-PIECE
TRESTLE
SET
INCLUDED

YOU GET ALL 87 PIECES

- Electric Locomotive
- Coal Tender
- 3 Cars
- Truck
- Transformer
- Truck
- 23-Pc. Trestle Set
- 25-Pc. Lilloboard set at Railroad accessories in Full Color
- 18 Sections of Track

USE YOUR CREDIT FOR ALL CHRISTMAS PURCHASES

Ed Note: Since your editor is one of those, "people from across the river"; I decided to take a look at this store. The photo below gives you an idea of the current status of this department store in downtown Camden, NJ at Broadway & Pine Street. No more toys.



REMINISCENCES OF HOWARD KLUMPP

By Ed Kapuscinski

In May of this year, the organization lost a knowledgeable and long-time collector; as well as a Rapper and my friend. "You say, a RAPPER ????" Yes, when Howard and I were together, which was quite often, we would Rap about trains and mostly about Lionel. We both had a fetish for "Odd Ball" trains and their accessories. You can not believe how many weird variations of these items are floating around. For example, did you know that Lionel had things made in Hong Kong long before their move from Michigan to China?

We also Rapped about our trips to train shows, conventions and Florida. There was never a dull moment when we were together. When we drove, he was the driver and I was the navigator. Oh what a mistake!! We always got lost and I would say to him, "Don't worry, I was lost here before".

Traveling and train meets were never dull. With a keen eye for oddball things; it was that one step closer that determined which one of us got the item. It seems that we both thought alike. If one of us got something that the other did not have; we both searched until we found another. We must have had a reputation. Once at York, we stopped at one table and the owner said, "How are you doing guys? Take what you want, leave what you think its worth and have a nice day." With that he walked away from his table.

It is a shame that he didn't have anything that we wanted.

I guess that we were like brothers. We would always argue; but if anyone else tried to butt in we would be on them like flies on you know what. We went way back and shared many good memories of our trips and dealings. So all I can say is, "So long good friend and buddy, I really miss you".

BITS AND PIECES

Every once in a while we received poems and humorous items from Howard Klumpp. Here is the last bit of humor we received from Howard before he passed away.

Smile

When a man called a motel and asked how much they charged for a room, the clerk told him that the rates depended on the room size and the number of people. "Do you take children?" asked the man. "No," replied the clerk. "Only cash and credit cards"

OK, OK I Get It

Anytime you see a young man open a car door for his girlfriend, either the car is new or the girlfriend is.

My wife wanted to see the world, so I bought her an atlas.

Mother makes what is known as a sponge cake. She borrows the butter, she borrows the eggs...

DID You Know?

More than 50% of the people in the world have never made or received a phone call!

If you sneeze too hard, you can fracture a rib!

Chester M. Zmijewski

The following statements were prepared by Bob Robinson, Bill Miles and Stan Petty and approved by both the Atlantic Division and the National Board of Directors.

ATLANTIC DIVISION TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the mission of the Train Collectors Association through education and local civic

activities while providing fellowship and enjoyment of the hobby for our members.

VISION STATEMENT

Atlantic Division will:

- Provide opportunities for members of TCA living in the Division's territory to further develop their interest in all aspects of the toy train railroading hobby through train meets, trading and grading standards, publications, educational programs, civic activities which support and advance the hobby of toy trains and
- Be strong through a growing membership and increased member satisfaction.

ATLANTIC DIVISION STRATEGIC ISSUES

1. Publish a meaningful and timely newsletter and other literature about toy trains and the hobby.

2. Provide meaningful and regular train meets
3. Promote fellowship among our members.
4. Protect our membership from fraud through seminars, publications and knowledge of TCA Collecting Standards.
5. Support both physically and financially; the research and publishing of articles about toy trains, their manufacture, history and use; including the people and places associated with the hobby.
6. Develop and support charitable public efforts through the use of toy trains.
7. Present the hobby to the public in a manner that advances interest in the enjoyment, education and preservation of all toy trains.

Atlantic Division Annual Raffle



This beautiful scale detailed Lionel M1 4-8-2 3-rail, Catalog No. 6-38056 is the prize in our annual raffle. The drawing will take place on November 23, 2003 at the Atlantic Division Meet. The ticket price is \$5.00.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 9 July 2003 all bills have been paid within the approved budget.

The checking account balance is:	\$2006.11
The savings account balance is:	\$16780.47
Cash on hand	<u>\$300.00</u>
	\$19086.58

George E. Nelson, Treasurer

published four times a year. Anyone having material they would like published should submit it to the editorial office. The material need not be in polished form. We will accept Want adds and For Sale adds from individual members.

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ATLANTIC DIVISION LOCAL

Barring derailments or other unforeseen obstacles to normal operations, the Atlantic Division Local is