



# Atlantic Division EXPRESS

Where the TCA began



Spring 2009

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This has been a very busy time for the Atlantic Division as you will see from the pictures that I have included in this issue. First of all we had our usual November Meet. During the meet the kids had a great time. We also had a visit from our National President, Clem Clement.

Next we were invited to a Greenberg Train show at the Valley Forge Convention Center to display our Traveling Layout. It was enthusiastically received by many youngsters. We recruited a number of them into the Kids Club and gave out several applications to interested adults as well

Finally thru the efforts of National we were asked to bring our layout to the Philadelphia showing of The World's Greatest Hobby Show on Tour. This was held at a brand new Expo Center in Oaks, PA. This show was a smashing success. Over 50,00 people attended the two day show. The roads leading to the expo center were jammed with cars. We signed up about 100 youngsters to the Kids Club and several adults.

After all of that we are ready for some rest. However that is not to be since we must continue planning for our turn at hosting the National convention in 2014.

This is a big election year. I have appointed Robert Huppman as chairman of the nominating committee. We will be electing a President, Vic-President and four Directors. If any of you are interested in running for any of these offices, please contact Bob.

Chester Zmijewski

## THE NOVEMBER MEET

At the November meet Clem Clement brought some very unusual hand made cars.



*A Very unusual tank car with a removable end*



*A very unusual Gondola. Shows that you can make railroad cars from anything*

Young Brandon Becker drew the winning ticket for the drawing



*And the Winner is!*

in our major Annual Fund Raising Event .The prize was won by Bill Buck, whose beaming face is shown on the next page..

Uncataloged set 6206E an O-27 set brought by Larry Murphy has a



*Bill Buck, The Winner*

Gun Metal 1689E with a 1588TX tender . Probably a Sears set.

Next some pictures of the Exhibit that featured Streamliners and other classic trains.



**THE GREENBERG SHOW**

We were invited to display our traveling layout at the Greenberg Show in December. It was well received and enjoyed by many kids. Many of these Terry Trickel, who handled the layout managed to recruit for the Kids Club. One of the most attentive ones was a little girl named Ivy who is shown in one of the pictures below.



*The Set*



*The Set Boxes*





*A great young audience*



*There is little Ivy*

### THE WORLD'S GREATEST HOBBY SHOW TOUR

The next event to which we were invited was the WGHS held in early January at a newly opened Convention Center in Oaks, PA. We were scheduled to share exhibit space with National. We displayed our traveling layout.



*The layout was a hit with the youngsters*

This show attracted over 50,000 visitors during the two day event. It is believed to be the largest attendance at any train related show in the world. The crowds were so big that the roads coming into Oaks were completely filled with traffic. Some of our members who scheduled to man our display claimed delays of up to two hours. You can see some of these crowds in the following pictures.

Terry Trickel and his crew enrolled over 100 kids into the Kids Club.



*The National Display with Clem and his wife*

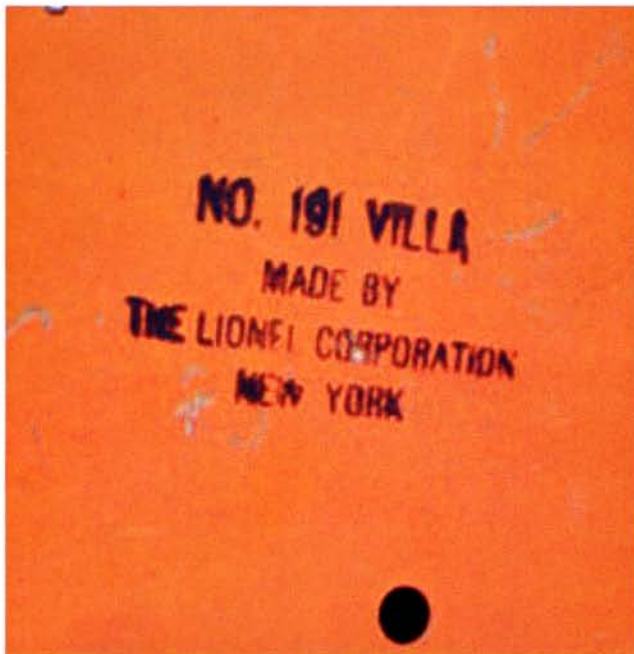
## AN UNUSUAL FIND

By Richard Zipin

Several months ago I purchased a lot of several Lionel Villas at an auction. I only wanted to keep one and have been placing the others on eBay. One of them was a No. 189. However, in viewing the pictures of one for listing, I thought I made a mistake but I did not. As you can see from the pictures, this is a 189 Villa that is stamped 191 on its base. I have labeled this villa, Lionel Manufacturing Plant, Monday Morning.



*Looks like a 189 Villa*



*The base of this Villa*

## MORE ON THE AF CABOOSE

Eric Hundertmark, TCA 80-1533

I have some information on the AF caboose that Joe Fisher described in the Winter 2008 Express, and the separate AF accessory pictured on the next page. I have not found the publication that published the information I refer to yet, but many years ago I remember seeing a description of just such an accessory in what may have been an interview with Maury Romer.

The accessory I remember being described was proposed in the early 1950s, but was never put into production. The idea was to simulate the handing of train orders from an operator on the ground to the conductor in the caboose. The unit on the ground utilized a modified base from the 758 Sam the Semaphore, like the accessory in the photo. The caboose operated similar to a 977, but was designed before the 977.

The train orders were a small piece of steel, and they would stick to a magnet in the hand of the conductor. I hesitate to make any certain claims on the basis of two photos, but the description of the caboose is completely consistent with this, and I believe the caboose is probably not a mock-up of the 977, but a mock-up of an earlier item that never went into production. Perhaps someone else can remember where this information was published and confirm what I suspect.

## LATE BREAKING NEWS

The Board of Directors has authorized a Members' Meeting and Luncheon. It will be held May 17th at The Westover Country Club. More details will follow. But Save the Date.

The Board is also considering getting the e-mail addresses of all Atlantic Division members who have them and communicating electronically. This would save a lot of money in postage and is currently used by most other Division.

Finally, I would like to publically express the thanks of the Division to John Weiss 08-62138 for his very generous financial gift to the Division. Thank you John.

## ATLANTIC DIVISION EXPRESS

The Atlantic Division Local is published four times a year. The editors are actively seeking new articles for publication. Anyone having material they would like published should submit it to the Editorial Office. The articles need not be grammatically correct we will put them into the proper format.

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