



# Atlantic Division Express

Where the TCA began



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

Fall 2017

## IN THIS ISSUE

### President's Letter

### Division Activities

- Anniversary Party & Member's Luncheon Meeting
- Pittsburgh Convention

### Division News

- New Fundraiser Cars
- Annual Event Prizes
- Scheduled Activities
- Volunteers Needed for Traveling Layout & Kids Club activities

### Holiday Places to see—

[Bordertown, NJ Holiday Train Show/Exhibit & Websites to others](#)

### Shows Schedule.

September to December-2017

[Feature Article—Legacy Train Shops - Sattler's Train & Hobby, Haddon Twp. NJ](#)

[What's New At TCA Museum and Library](#)

[Your Layout Photos](#)

[Classified Advertising Info](#)

[Newsletter Contacts](#)

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**ADTCA.com**



One of the many running layouts at the Bordertown Holiday Train Show. See more photos and details on page 4

## President's Letter

It seems that the older we get, the faster time moves on. We're already halfway through the summer! But my TCA to-do list, both for the AD and National, doesn't seem to be shrinking! This is not to say we're not making progress, just that there is much to do. We can use your help in most any area, publicity, newsletter articles, Kids Club events, setting-up the traveling layout at our train shows, nearby Greenberg's shows, and invited local and community events. . Contact me or any board member and lend a hand.

The 63<sup>rd</sup> National TCA Convention was held in Pittsburgh June 24–July 2. The Convention was well attended, including more than 40 members from the Atlantic Division, and over 900 visitors in total. There were great tours, a plethora of layouts in almost every scale and plenty of time to catch up with old friends and make new ones. And of course, the Train Marketplace offered some unique treasures. Special thanks go to my good friends George Starz and Chris DiCianna, the convention co-chairs, and the Fort Pitt committee.

The 64<sup>th</sup> National TCA Convention will be held in Warwick, RI next June. National President, Joe Fanara and his convention committee already have a great week planned for us. Joe made it explicitly clear there is **FREE PARKING**, (making fun of the parking rates in downtown Pittsburgh).

I represented our Division at the annual Board of Directors Meeting. This year there was continued good news for the TCA. With prudent investments, careful spending and the return of more than 1,600 previously dropped members, the TCA is operating in the black for the second straight year. Last October, the

Continued from page 1

Metropolitan Division challenged all the Divisions to donate \$1,000 to the TCA. If all 20 Divisions did so, and National kicked in \$25,000, METCA would donate \$25,000. The challenge was met and the total proceeds from this challenge exceeded \$74,000, which is earmarked for the TCA Endowment Fund. This fund now has a balance of \$251,430, as of mid-June.

The Heritage Membership, which was approved last year, now has 27 members. TCA members that have been continuous members for 20 years and are over the age of sixty can pay a one-time fee of \$1,000; \$500 goes toward dues for ten years, and the other \$500 is a tax deductible gift to the Heritage Fund.

One other item of interest was Eastern Division's release of the results of April's York Meet that was opened to the public for the dealer halls only. Contrary to what has been published elsewhere, this endeavor was quite successful. There were 380 non-members that paid to get into the dealer halls. Including their family members, more than 600 new faces were present at York. In addition, TCA signed up 101 new dues paying members. The dealers (Lionel, MTH, etc.) were extremely pleased with the turnout.

Our traveling modular layout is nearly finished. Hundreds of man-hours have been put into making this a very special layout that both children and adults will enjoy. The main attraction is the amusement park, but there is much more than that. The layout will make its debut at *Model Railroading Days* at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania on August 19 & 20.

It's also time to get ready for our Fall Train Show on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully, Mother Nature will finally be kind to us in our new home at the Sheet Metal Worker's Union Hall and bless us with great weather!

The schedule for our 2018 Train Shows has been finalized. We will have another Saturday show in May, but not on Mother's Day weekend. The dates are: Jan 7, March 4, May 19, Sep 23 and Nov 18. Calendar cards will be distributed in September.

Fall is also the time for our annual election of Board members. Each year four (4) Directors are elected along with either Treasurer/Secretary or President/Vice President. This year you will be voting for the President, Vice President and four Directors. Please take a few minutes to review the candidate's resumes, complete the ballot and drop it in the mail.

Finally, our fundraiser car program is doing quite well. The first run of Wawa cars sold out before delivery, so we ordered and received second batch. We still have some Wawa cars available. The A&P Woodside Reefer is due to arrive this month (August). You can purchase these cars online at [www.adtca.com/shop](http://www.adtca.com/shop). You may also download an order form at [www.adtca.com/download-forms](http://www.adtca.com/download-forms), or call me at the number below to place an order.

Happy Railroading!

Russ Keil  
Atlantic Division President  
(609) 320-3957  
[Russ.Keil@comcast.net](mailto:Russ.Keil@comcast.net)

## 47th Anniversary Party & Members' Luncheon Meeting

The Division's 47th Anniversary celebration and Members and their guests Luncheon Meeting at Peppers's Italian Restaurant on Sunday, May 21st was attended by 33 members and 19 guests. The food was delicious and the service was excellent; and visiting with old and new friends is always great. After dessert.

Russ Keil gave an overview of the Division's plans and activities for the coming year, fund-raising cars availability and delivery dates and news about the TCA.



## 63rd National TCA Convention in Pittsburgh (2017)



The displays and activities were excellent and the river cruise activity was spectacular. The views from the hotel were great. The 'Welcome' party was *different*—if interested, ask me about it at our next show.



Tom Wagner, AD Vice President

## Division News - Our New Cars



Two new fundraising cars can be ordered using the new online store on the division's website or you can download an order form and mail with your payment. These will also be available at the **Division table** at our Shows.

The first part of the O gauge Wawa Box car order (6464 series) has been sold out and shipped while the 2nd portion is more than half sold out. Wawa car orders will ship immediately from our inventory. The S scale (American Flyer/Gilbert) A&P Woodside Reefer is expected in August 2017.

Also available is a 3-pack or 6-pack of the A&P wood-sided reefer and consists six different car numbers (**733 to 738**) priced at \$149.99 and 279.99, plus shipping.

Last year's *Philadelphia Pretzel Factory Boxcar* (Sale price-\$39.99) is also available. See picture at [www.ADTCA.com](http://www.ADTCA.com)

The prices are \$69.99 for the Wawa car and \$52.99 for A&P. Each may be picked-up at our Show or mailed for \$10.00. See Web-site for pricing for the 3 & 6-pack and other instructions regarding shipment. Contact Russ Keil for shipping costs outside our region. For additional details and order forms, visit our website at [ADTCA.com/shop](http://ADTCA.com/shop) or call. ***Have an idea for a future car? Call Glenn Stinson or Russ Keil.***

## Coming Events / Activities

**Annual Event:** The Annual Event fundraiser information will be mailed in a few weeks; the prizes are shown below—winner chooses one. Details will be included in the mailing. Additional tickets are available on request.



*Continued from page 3*



Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, 300 Gap Rd., PA Route 741, Strasburg, **Model Railroad Days**, Saturday, August 19th & Sunday, August 20th. Watch operating model trains in action and see static exhibits including the Lower Susquehanna Valley Modular Railroaders, Strasburg Model Railroad Club, and the **Train Collectors Association Atlantic Division's new layout.**



Sunday, September 24, 2017 at Sheet Metal Worker's Union Hall, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia: Open 8 AM to Members then open 9 AM to 1 PM to the public.

## Division News

### KEEP THE TRAVELING LAYOUT ALIVE

One of Atlantic Division's goals is to promote train collecting and recruit new members. We use the Atlantic Division Traveling Layout to help us to attract new members and encourage interest in model trains with the young and renew interest in young at heart.

We are at a point that our Traveling Layout volunteer group needs help. You will normally see the same faces at our shows and events attending to running the trains. We need some new and younger members to help.

This year the Division will have a new layout that will be easier to transport and set-up. For our train shows, we need a set-up and take-down crew and a few members to tend to operations. Once the layout is running, there will be plenty of time to attend the meet.

For events where the Traveling Layout is displayed—Pennsylvania Railroad Museum Model Railroad Days, Greenberg shows—show entry is free. When the layout is invited to local and community events, for example, Quaker City String Band Holiday party, refreshments are always provided; if interested, contact Terry for availability. While there, we keep the trains running, answer questions, and encourage interest in the hobby.

Without your help and support, the Traveling Layout will be unable to survive. Without the layout, the tool to promote and recruit new members will be lost.

If you are willing to spend some time volunteering, please contact any AD board member or the following Traveling Layout members below.

TERRY L. TRICKEL, e-mail: [northernfinds@yahoo.com](mailto:northernfinds@yahoo.com) (484) 920-8129

BOB LUBONSKI, e-mail: [bkubonski@gmail.com](mailto:bkubonski@gmail.com) (856) 608-9265

RUSS KEIL, e-mail: [russ.keil@comcast.net](mailto:russ.keil@comcast.net) (609) 320-3957

Thank You for your support, TERRY L. TRICKEL, Layout Chairman

## KIDS CLUB

### CALLING ALL OLD KIDS

The Kids Club needs your help to provide activities and opportunities at our train shows.

Just as our Traveling Layout serves to attract new members and encourage interest, the Kids Club provides opportunities to learn about how things work, pick up technical skills, and have fun with others.

For more details, go to the national Website, [TCA.org/kids](http://TCA.org/kids). For involvement in this at the local level, contact Leon Duminiak, Kids Club Coordinator at [lduminiak@verizon.net](mailto:lduminiak@verizon.net), phone 215-355-1647.

## Holiday Model Train Open House/ Events 2017

BORDENTOWN TRAIN SHOW



### Bordentown Annual Holiday Train Show/Exhibit:

Nov 24, 2016 – Nov 26, 2016,  
12:00 noon to 8:00 pm

Old City Hall, 13 Crosswicks Street, Bordentown, NJ

### DETAILS:

Historic Bordentown City is the place for a magical railroad trip back in time. The annual model train displays are housed in the Old City Hall on Crosswicks Street and shows numerous fully running layouts with model villages and scenes as well as displays of memorabilia, Christmas toy trains, etc.

Admission is free for everyone. The show is open every weekend from Nov. 24 through the middle of the December.

Co-builder/operator  
Zig Targonski, 13-68487



### Holiday Model Train Open House/ Events 2017

Abington Lines Model Railroad Club  
Black Diamond Society of Model Eng.  
Burlington County Model Railroad Club.  
Cheltenham Hill Model Railroad Club  
Royersford Modular Model Railroaders  
Schuylkill Valley Model Railroad Club  
Saint Alban's Railroad Fellowship

abingtonlines.org  
bdsme.org  
bcmrc.org  
cheltenhamhillmrr.org  
royersfordmodular.org  
srmrrc.com  
starr-mrc.org

Noon - 4: 12/2,3,9,10,30,31  
Not yet scheduled  
Not yet scheduled  
Not yet scheduled  
Not yet scheduled  
Noon - 4: Nov 25,26, Dec 2,3  
Not yet scheduled

*Ed. The Web sites shown above were verified on July 23, 2017 and reported as shown. Each held viewings in 2016 and presumably will update their information as soon as dates and times are set.*

## Fall Schedule: September to December, 2017

DATE	SHOW	LOCATION
Aug. 5-6, 2017	Greenberg's	MD State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD
Aug. 12-13, 2017	Greenberg's	Garden State Expo Center, Edison, NJ
Sept. 9, 2017	Lehigh Valley Show	Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th St., Allentown, PA
Sept. 10, 2017	Hamburg	Hamburg Fire Co. Field House, Pine St., Hamburg, PA
Sept. 17, 2017	Gilbertsville	<b>CANCELED</b>
<b>Sept. 24, 2017</b>	<b>At. Div. – TCA</b>	Sheet Metal Worker's Union Hall, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd. Phila. PA
Oct. 1, 2017	Tom's River Train Show	Elks Lodge 1875, 600 Washington St., Tom River, NJ 08753
Oct. 7-8, 2017	Scale Show	MD State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD
Oct. 19-21, 2017	York	York Fairgrounds, 334 Carlisle Ave., York, PA
Oct. 29, 2017	Wayne Train Show	Wayne PAL Hall, 1 PAL Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470
Nov. 5, 2016	Brick Train Show	Brick Elk's Lodge, 2491 Hooper Ave., Brick, NJ
Nov. 11-12, 2017	Allentown First Frost	Allentown Fairgrounds, 17th&Chew Sts., Allentown, PA
<b>Nov. 19, 2017</b>	<b>At. Div. – TCA</b>	Sheet Metal Worker's Union Hall, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd. Phila. PA
Nov. 25-26, 2017	Greenberg's	Garden State Expo Center, Edison, NJ
Dec. 2-3 2017	Greenberg's	MD State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD
Dec. 3, 2017	Gilbertsville	Gilbertsville Fire Hall, Rt. 73, Gilbertsville, PA
Dec. 9-10, 2017	Greenberg's	Lebanon Valley Expo Center
Dec. 17, 2017	Montvale Train Show	St. Joseph HS, 40 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Montvale, NJ
Dec. 23, 2017	Wayne Train Show	Wayne PAL Hall, 1 PAL Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470
Dec. 30-31, 2017	Greenberg's	Garden State Expo Center, Edison, NJ

## FEATURE ARTICLE

### SATTLE'S TRAINS AND HOBBIES

14 Haddon Ave. Haddon Township, New Jersey 08108 (phone: 856-864-7136)

Sattler's is one of the oldest hobby/toy train stores in continuous operation in the Atlantic Division boundaries. The store opened in 1955 as a full-line hobby and craft store selling model kits, trains, crafts and art supplies. In 1956 they became an Authorized American Flyer dealer. It never sold new Lionel, concentrating on AF, and HO and N scale from Atlas, Bachmann Spectrum, Broadway Limited, Kato, and Walthers.

Sales of the American Flyer brand continued until the 1970's when the owners decided to focus exclusively on HO and N scale, ready-to-run sets and kits. They also stopped selling crafts, art supplies and model kits to focus exclusively on model trains, repairs and accessories. This was in response to seeing their primary customers (kids from the '50's and '60's') now grown-up with little interest in model kits and paint-by-number products. Gone is the 'in-store' traffic on a Saturday afternoon with their allowance money to buy a model kit of a WWII battleship or a 1955 T-Bird kit.

When the 'collector craze' started in 80's, Sattler's bought and sold vintage Flyer and Lionel but it was not a big part of their business. In the 90's, the development of DCC and digital sound quickly caught on with the scale modelers who wanted to convert their existing equipment or purchase new equipment. It was a boom-time for



*Continued on page 7*

Continued from page 6

the store but their customer base continued to age and the youth were not into model trains. Now, most of their customers are adults and occasionally they would come in with their children to try to get them interested, but it is hard to compete with the video game craze.

By the end of the 90's the internet was the place for shopping for the latest equipment and Sattler's never established an internet presence. They wanted to provide personal service that comes with dealing face-to-face with customers.



Currently, as with the larger scales, equipment continues to improve and new items are being manufactured. Today's equipment runs better, sounds realistic, and is expensive. Other than Bachmann no one is making entry level HO or N Scale equipment. By selling quality HO and N scale trains, parts and accessories, Sattler's continues to provide personal service to an aging group of serious modelers.

From the heyday of the 50's and 60's when 5 people manned the store on a Saturday afternoon to today-a one man operation-Sattler's continues to provide personal service, advice, and warranty repairs. Try getting that from some person on



eBay that does not know a train from a flower pot.

*I am hoping to make this an ongoing article about the current operating legacy train/hobby stores of the area. The places we could not wait to go to at Christmas and on our Birthdays.*

Mike Hudek, 90-32044

## What's New at the TCA Museum and Library



The National Toy Train Museum and Library has been busy over the summer. The museum staff has been helping visitors and guests enjoy the exhibits plus the layouts featuring the new light dimming system. The librarian continues to inventory and add new items to the library collection. This June, the TCA celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup>



anniversary of the museum and library with a party for our guests and visitors. Over 500 people attended the celebration and adults and kids had a fun time all day with a coloring station, a bouncy house, a corn hole game, freshly popped popcorn, a photo station with props and entertainer Ray Owen singing railroad songs.

Admission was 40 cents for all ages and people were encouraged to come and go all day, which was well received. Our friends at the Red Caboose told their guests to come join us as well. More photos and information about the event is available on the

### **Lionel's 921 Three Section Scenic Park – 1932-1933**

Lionel achieved greatness during the early 1930's just in time for the peak of the depression. Along with giant state sets and Blue Comet's, elaborate accessories were produced. Power stations, round house sections, replica's of the famous Hellgate bridge and station terraces were produced to enhance the effect of every layout. But the largest accessory of the period was the 921 three section Scenic Park produced from 1932 -1933 that measured 85 inches long and 31 1/2" wide.



Described in the 1932 catalog, Lionel's advertising prose was as elaborate as the scenic park itself. "It seems as though a fairy Godmother had waved her wand over a beautiful countryside and transformed it into miniature form. By placing this park in the center of your layout, you will add that touch of life so necessary to the enjoyment of model railroading." "The Lionel Scenic Park is a miniature plaza with grass plots and flowering shrubs. Steps rise along the terrace to the landscaped homes and bungalows. A real suburban effect is created. Shade trees and hedges make the scene more colorful. The grass is almost real."

### **Your Layout Photos**



What do you do when your attic is full of old trains, stations, parts and assorted junk accumulated from over 50 years of train collecting?

If you are Bob Robinson, you find ways to use the piles of junk to create unique additions to his train layout. This photo shows a station Bob created from several junk 124 Lionel stations plus parts from a 126 Lionel station.

If you have a scene on your layout that you would like included in a future issue of the "Express", please send the image to Glenn Stinson

### **Wanted or For Sale Advertising (next issue deadline—October 31, 2017)**

#### **WANTED:**

Lionel Lionmaster cab forward **S.P. locomotive 6-11107** cataloged in 2006 and 2007. Contact: Ernst Leser (79-13494), ernstleser@verizon.net

*Editor:* Bob Wittendorf, [rwitten14@gmail.com](mailto:rwitten14@gmail.com), PO Box 5021, Limerick, PA 19468; (m) 484-478-2470

*Up-Coming Events:* Win Becker, [williamhbeckerinc@gmail.com](mailto:williamhbeckerinc@gmail.com)

*National's Library*—Glenn Stinson, [jstinson@sprynet.com](mailto:jstinson@sprynet.com); *News/Articles/Stories/Help*—Bob Robinson, [carolsfancy@gmail.com](mailto:carolsfancy@gmail.com)