



# Pacific Northwest Division L O G G E R

July/August 2009

## HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY



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## PIONEER DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!!!

We've done it before – let's do it again.  
Many children remembered what fun they had the first time our division participated in the Pioneer Days activities the end of July and returned last year to run the trains again. Let's not disappoint them this year.

See the President's Message on page 2 for details.



## THE JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup> MEET AT THE MOOSE LODGE.

What a day we had on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The day started with a fabulous breakfast at 7:00 a.m. After a short business meeting (see Minutes on Page 5) the sellers were very busy. We had a silent auction that always draws a lot of attention and by 11:30 – the great lunch was ready. Steve D'Ambrosia brought up trains from two of the PNWD members for a lively auction and many, many people stayed around to participate in the bidding. Fantastic items brought great prices and everyone went home happy. See the pictures on pages 3 and 4 that Frank Geczi took. Great job, Frank.

We are looking forward to the next Division Meet which will take place on November 1, 2009. See you there!!!

### TCA Mission

*To develop an appreciation of and to preserve an important segment of history – Tinplate Toy Trains – through research, education, community outreach, fellowship, establishment of collecting standards, and to promote the growth and enjoyment of collecting and operating toy, model and scale trains*

The views expressed by the contributors to this publication are theirs and not necessarily the view of the Editor, Pacific Northwest Division or the Train Collector's Association.

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The June PNWD meet at the Moose Lodge was successful. We had a hot breakfast prepared by the lodge woman and a beef stroganoff lunch prepared by the lodge men.

Everybody enjoyed the food.

The breakfast was \$6.00 and lunch was free. At the November 2009 PNWD meet the cost of both breakfast and lunch will be \$6.00. If you want lunch you must pay the \$6.00 for both meals. There is no free lunch anymore.

After lunch there were four successful auctions presented by Steve D'Ambrosia. This included 29 MTH items, 29 Lionel items and 7 miscellaneous of Stan Zajdel collection and 43 Lionel items of Steve Peterson collection.

Support is required for the Lake City Pioneer Days festival on July 30-31<sup>st</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup>. On Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., help will be needed to set up the operating layout. Operating the trains for the children will start at 12:00 noon on Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> and continue to 6:00 p.m. each day. There will be three trains running operated by the children. The PNWD members will give the children some simple instructions on the operation of the TMCC controller. We give them the controller and they operate the trains. We need PNWD members to help set up the trains, instruct the children and monitor them to prevent any derailments. The PNWD members who supported this last year really enjoyed the experience. We also need help with the tear-down on Saturday after the event closes at 6:00 p.m.

If you are willing to support this event you should contact Frank Geczi at 425-271-1547 or e-mail [frankgeczi@aol.com](mailto:frankgeczi@aol.com).

The World's Greatest Hobby Tour at the Western Washington Fairgrounds, Puyallup Washington. This event will occur Saturday and Sunday, November 21-22. I am working to get the Treasure Valley Chapter to bring their hands on layout. This will make it easier to set up. The support for this event will require at least 10 TCA members from the Seattle and Portland chapters each day. Put this event on your schedule. It was a great success in Portland two years ago.

Frank Geczi  
President, PNWD

### The proposed 2015 TCA Convention in Seattle?

**The Membership voted unanimously against hosting this convention. Please see business meeting minutes on page 5 submitted by Dick Walters, PNWD Secretary.**





Here are 3 pictures that show off the great area we have for the sellers to set up their trading tables at the Moose Lodge.



The lighting is really great and there is ample room for nice wide aisles.



Larry May and Al Merris looking over all those trains



Dick Flinchbaugh and Tom Steeves are certainly intent on finding out what is in that book



David Dansky's tables – what beautiful trains are on his sales tables



Another view of David's tables – Is that a Blue Comet Set?



John Tarrant and Ray Dumke keep busy with their long row of tables.



Michael Chandler checking out Dennis Mooney's trains



Floyd Nichols is busy looking over those auction items



David Howry also looking over the auction items.



Steve D'Ambrosia setting up all those auction items. What a great area he had to work with – loads of room and very well lighted.

**PORTLAND CHAPTER – ALOHA MALL LAYOUT** (Photos & info courtesy of Rob Cook, Portland Newsletter Editor)

The May meet was held on a beautiful spring day,

..... AND an appearance by a junior TCA member -- more on that story below



The guy with the "service with a smile" smile is Minh Woodman, shown here with his "Uncle Tom" Steeves and a Rio Grande steamer belching smoke. Minh is 6 years old and is just crazy about trains. He has 1 set each of N, HO and O. He is very mature for his age, very responsible in his handling of the trains and is a whiz operating the CAB-1 controller. AND ... he is fluent in *both* English and Vietnamese! Minh will be attending First Grade in September.

Tom and chapter President Steve D'Ambosia have even volunteered to build a layout for Minh at his home in Molalla so he can get a few practice laps in. *And* Uncle Tom is Minh's sponsor for the TCA Kid's Club! Pretty cool .....



**Terry Parker's colorful Rio Grand set enters the outskirts of Pittsburg, PA.**

### Minutes of the General Membership Meeting June 7, 2009 Moose Hall, Chehalis WA

9:00 AM: Meeting called to order by President Frank Geczi

The General Membership Meeting minutes from February 8, 2009 were read and approved by the membership

**Treasurer's Report** Barbara Flinchbaugh reported funds on hand up to the start of this meet were \$9,488.22. A motion was made to accept this report. The motion was seconded and approved by the membership.

**Old Business:** The November 1, 2009 Division meet will be again held at the Moose Hall and includes a \$5.00 meet fee. Those purchasing breakfast during advance registration will again at that time be offered lunch for no additional cost.

**Lake City Pioneer Days:** Division members are encouraged to participate in the set-up, running and tear-down for this event. The days where assistance is needed are July 30-31 and August 1, 2009. Interested persons need to contact President Frank Geczi. This call to action will again be solicited at subsequent Chapter meets.

**New Business:**

Consideration has been presented for the Pacific Northwest Division to host the 2015 TCA National Convention. Discussion ensued pertaining to this opportunity.

**A motion was made for the Pacific Northwest Division to host the 2015 TCA National Convention.**  
**The membership unanimously voted NO for such participation.**

Barbara Flinchbaugh has been appointed by President Frank Geczi to complete the current term of Division Treasurer, through 2010.

9:20 AM: Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Walters

Secretary

TCA Pacific Northwest Division

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

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**NEWSLETTERS -- ENJOY!!!**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Portland Chapter Meets

The Portland Chapter meets are held the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Sunday of the month at the Aloha Mall,  
18631 SW Tualatin Valley Highway @  
corner of SW 185<sup>th</sup> Ave., Aloha, OR 9:00  
AM to 1:00 PM, Meeting and Auction,  
Contact - -

Steve D'Ambrosia, 503-658-4383

### Seattle Chapter Meets

The Seattle Chapter meets are held the 4<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday of the month at the Lake City  
Community Center, 12531-28<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Seattle  
WA, Doors open 9:00 AM, Contact - -

Mike Bowerman. 425-778-8750

The next Seattle Chapter meet will be July 26th