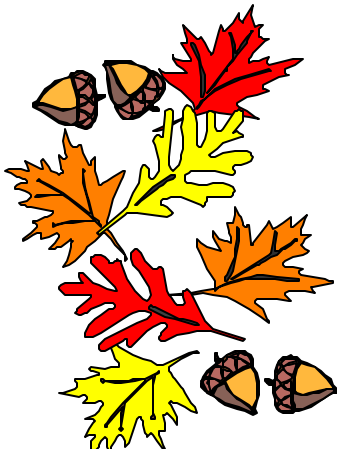




Pacific Northwest Division

# LOGGER

September/October 2007



Registration 2-page Insert  
For the October 27/28<sup>th</sup> meet

Please take the time to fill out the form and return it by the October 18<sup>th</sup> due date – it is very important that we get the information to the fairgrounds personnel so our 2-day public meet will run as smoothly as possible.

See the map to Chehalis on page 7 with the meet information.

Your meet czar,  
Richard Flinchbaugh

**THE FALL OCTOBER MEET IS A  
2-DAY EVENT AND WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!**

**The \$7.00 registration fee is for both days combined.**

**The \$10 table fee includes both days.**

**The dinner on Saturday evening is FREE.**

**However, you must pre-register.** A specific area is provided on the registration form for the dinner registration. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

**There is RV Parking available - \$16 per night – See Registration Form**

**The Blue Pavilion will be open Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.  
for members to set up their tables and the layouts.**

**Silent Auction tables will be set up on Friday and will remain open  
until the 10:00 a.m. closing Saturday morning.**

**There will be no Silent Auction on Sunday. A General Membership meeting  
will be held at 9:00 a.m. with the election of officers for 2008.**

**On-site security will be on duty both Friday and Saturday nights.**

**THE BALLOT FOR THE NATIONAL TCA OFFICERS  
HAS ARRIVED - PLEASE VOTE BEFORE OCT. 1<sup>ST</sup>.**

## 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.

### President

Frank Geczi  
12508-206<sup>th</sup> Pl. S.E.  
Issaquah, WA 98027  
Phone: 425-271-1547  
e-mail: frankgeczi@aol.com

### Vice President

Richard Flinchbaugh  
36066-57<sup>th</sup> Ave. So.  
Auburn, WA 98001-9306  
Phone: 253-939-2228  
Fax: 253-804-3561  
e-mail: rflinchbau@aol.com

### Secretary

J. Michael Bowerman  
4410 231<sup>st</sup> Pl SW  
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043  
Phone: 425-778-8750  
e-Mail: jmbowerman@msn.com

### Treasurer/Logger Editor

Barbara Flinchbaugh  
36066-57<sup>th</sup> Ave. So.  
Auburn, WA 98001-9306  
Phone: 253-939-2228  
FAX: 253-804-3561  
e-mail: rflinchbau@aol.com

### Seattle Chapter President

Richard Walters  
5815 71<sup>st</sup> Ave. W.  
University Place, WA  
Phone: 253-565-2371  
e-mail: walters1221@comcast.net

### Portland Chapter Officers

Steve D'Ambrosia  
21920 SE Mark Road  
Clackamas OR 97015-8756  
Phone - 503-658-4383  
E-mail: [slincoln52@comcast.net](mailto:slincoln52@comcast.net)

### Treasure Valley Chapter President

Bill von Tagen  
1114 N. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Boise, ID 83702  
Phone: 208-345-1728  
e-mail: wvontagen@msn.com

### PNWD BOD Members at Large

John Kirry  
3007 – 79<sup>th</sup> Ave. Ct. NW  
Gig Harbor, WA 98332-8818  
Phone: 253-265-1466  
e-mail: kirry@centurytel.net

### Steve Ramsdell

3886 NE Roosevelt St.  
Bremerton, WA 98311-9633  
Phone: 360-478-6435  
e-mail: sstgram@earthlink.net

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The June division meet at Chehalis was enjoyed by those who attended. The next PNWD meet this year will be the 2 day public event on October 27/28 in Chehalis. The public times will be between 11:00 AM and 4:00 PM both Saturday and Sunday. I am looking forward to see you at the October meet.

**See the information regarding this meet on the special pages in this Logger.**

There will be the normal member only silent auction and sales on Saturday morning prior to the public entrance.

The fall membership meeting will be held on Sunday starting at 9:00 a.m. at which time the election of officers will take place.

The PNWD went to two year terms for elected officers in 2003. Because of the 2 year terms, the PNWD BOD agreed to alternate the elections to elect the Vice President, Secretary and a member at large one year and the President, Treasurer and a member at large the following year. The terms for Vice President, Secretary and one member at large will end this year. At present we have one nominee each for Vice President, Secretary, and the member at large position that will expire this year. If any of the other members would like to volunteer for a position they can contact the Nominating Committee Chair William Hollingsworth. You can be a member of any Chapter to be a division officer.

Steve D'Ambrosia agreed to be president of the Portland chapter. He is supported by other Portland members that help open and operate the layouts at the Aloha mall.

Dick Walters is resigning from his post as the Seattle Chapter President at the end of the year. I thank Dick for being the president and the fantastic job he has done for the Seattle Chapter. The Seattle Chapter needs a volunteer to replace Dick Walters as president. Any member that is willing to become the Seattle Chapter president will be supported by the PNWD president.

The Treasure Valley Chapter will bring their "hands-on-layout" for children to operate. The Seattle and Portland Chapters will support the "hands-on-layout" as required. The Treasure Valley chapter layout reflects the current interest of computer-savvy kids and provides them an educational opportunity to learn how to operate trains with walk-around remotes.

The Seattle chapter provided a "hands-on-layout" for a train show at the Lake City Pioneer Days in Seattle on the weekend of August 3 and 4. This was a very successful show. See the article and pictures in this edition of the Logger. The PNWD is working to do a train show at the Children's Hospital the first weekend in December.

Here's looking forward to a rewarding fall and winter collecting and operating toy trains for the enjoyment of both children and adults in our area.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank Geczi  
President of the PNWD TCA



The Seattle chapter provided a “hands-on-layout” for a train show at the Lake City Community Center on the weekend of August 3 and 4. This was in conjunction with the Lake City Pioneer Days Festival, part of Seattle Seafair. For this show we constructed a layout and incorporated some ideas from the Treasure Valley Chapter layout.

The layout consisted of three independent loops of track. One was a Christmas Village with a Polar Express train and the two additional loops contained amusement park rides and an operating warehouse.

A nice Northern Pacific Service Station Set was acquired from Jim Barbee and Steve Ramsdell donated a diesel engine. The PNWD bought 2 TMCC boards which Steve installed in both locomotives. Frank Geczi’s Polar Express Set, which Frank had updated to run with the TMCC controllers as well, was surrounded by many ceramic Christmas buildings that Ken MacIntosh had donated.

Over the 2 days, there were approximately 150 children running the trains. Some of them stayed for more than an hour or kept coming back. When they finished their turn, each child was given a badge to signify they had successfully run the trains. Here is the badge that Barbara Flinchbaugh created for the occasion:



All the members that supported it concluded that it was a great show for the children and adults.

Like the Treasure Valley chapter, we needed volunteers to support the activity. Initially, on Thursday, Frank Geczi, along with Richard and Barbara Flinchbaugh and Ed and Patti Anderson helped to set up the display. Twelve of our Seattle Chapter Members volunteered to help, including Don Thieman, Tom Albertine, Mike Bowerman, Matt Graves, Larry May, Steve Ramsdell, Rich Shaffner, Dennis Tichi and Dick Walters. Additionally I appreciated the help and wish to thank all members that supported the train show. (See pictures on the following pages)

We are now in the planning to do the same at the Children’s hospital the first weekend in December if the hospital will provide us a room and allow the PNWD to set up the trains.



Submitted by Frank Geczi, President PNWD



Pictures courtesy of Patti Anderson & Frank Geczi

## Greetings from the Seattle Chapter!

As we get into the fall time of the year, at least one thing is certain: **Elections !**

Aside from those campaigns that will be catching our attention at the state and local levels, your Seattle Chapter is also holding our yearly election of officers.

We have four elected positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Every TCA Pacific Northwest Division member in good standing is eligible to run for office. The Chapter elections are to be held in November 2007.

At present the incumbents in the offices of Vice-President (Chet Vetter), Secretary (Tom Borrud) and Treasurer (Dick Rock) are seeking re-election, while the current President (Dick Walters) will be seeking the office of Secretary of the Pacific Northwest Division. More than one person may be on the ballot for any of our elected positions.

We are inviting, encouraging and soliciting members to step forward to run for the office of President. Please call (253 565 2371) or e-mail ([walters1221@comcast.net](mailto:walters1221@comcast.net)) Dick Walters if you have questions regarding the position and desire to have your name placed upon the ballot. Our Division President Frank Geczi can also be contacted for information about this position. All board positions are important to the smooth and successful functioning of our Seattle Chapter, and we ask that you step up to the call!

### Fall/ winter meet schedule:

September 23, 2007

October - No chapter meet- Division Meet –

November 25, 2007 (Chapter elections)

December - No chapter meet

January 27, 2008

February 24, 2008

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of the participating members, their family members and our Chapter Board of Directors for making the past two years a most successful experience. The future holds even better things! *Thank you!*

On behalf of your Chapter Board of Directors, we hope you all have had a fine summer, and may we all eagerly look forward to a beautiful fall and Holiday Season!

Dick Walters

President, Seattle Chapter

---

## W a n t a d s

### WANTED

TCA Pacific Northwest Division 1995  
Seattle National Convention McCoy  
Standard Gauge Box Car "Pike Place  
Market".

Please contact:

**Dick Walters**

**253-565-2371 or**

**e-mail: [walters1221@comcast.net](mailto:walters1221@comcast.net)**

### FOR SALE

022 Switch Controllers – New Wire \$5.00

022 Switches. All Work! New or Good Wire & Bulbs.

Have 7 pair and 2 singles.

\$40 Pair Singles \$20 ea. or \$300 for all

UCS These tracks work. New or Good wire

\$7.00 ea. or \$5.00 for \$30

Seattle Convention Cars NOB. 4 cars. \$400

736 Berkshire & 2761 6 wh. Tender. Ex. \$375

**Bill Hollingsworth 425-393-1104**

## Riding the Rails in the Good Old Days – Part V A Ride on a French Train, 1944

We disembarked from the troopship in Marseilles harbor using cargo nets. We were taken to an ancient stone quarry by “ducks” (amphibious vehicles). We moved up the Rhone River Valley, then eastward to Lyon. Shortly after Lyon, we unloaded and made our way through the Vosges Mountains. We then entered an area of rolling hills and forests. My company had orders to take a road junction from the Germans. It was snowing which did not make digging in any easier. When my foxhole was about half way down, the Germans discovered us and laid down a barrage. As I was prostrate in the snow, a ricochet struck my right leg and fractured my femur with a diagonal crack about 9 inches long. When the barrage lifted, I was carried by stretcher to a field hospital and the next day to an evacuation hospital. It was really a resort hotel with about 100 beds in the ballroom. The railroad was about 300’ away.

In two or three weeks I, with most of the other men, was carried to the rural train station in front of the hotel, I could not see much of the locomotive since I was immobile. I had a full body cast on with a steel bar between my knees. Only my arms and the lower left leg could move. When I saw the cars I was astounded; they appeared to be American box cars with four wheel trucks, much superior to the wooden European cars with four wheels. Inside the cars, cots were mounted to the walls. I was placed in the left front corner of the car; a location which was to become significant. The train moved fast and stopped infrequently. About 3:30 a.m. I was awakened by violent shaking of the car as it bounced across the cross-ties. As it came to a halt the back end of the car suddenly went up to about a 35 degree angle. I was in the corner and my cast had broken. Pandemonium reigned outside as people shouted and ran to and fro. In about 15 minutes a person came into the car and explained that someone, presumably a saboteur, had thrown a steel mat across the tracks. It was one of the mats used by the Air Force to make runways in muddy or sandy fields. The locomotive had rolled about 50 feet down an embankment, killing the engineer and causing the fireman the loss of a leg.

It was then that I learned that there were three cars ahead of my car; a baggage car, a supply car and a kitchen car. I was in the first car with patients. Had those three cars not been there my feet would have been a few feet behind the tender.

Another train came from Paris to take us there. As I was carried along the track to the other train, I could see the engine and tender at the bottom of the embankment. On the way to Paris, I had occasion for serious thinking. The bullet that broke my leg could have killed me. If those 3 cars had not been in the train, I would have been only a few feet from the tender and the reason I was in France was the war. To this day I remain dedicated to the work of God which includes the settlement of human differences by peaceful means. War creates deep and abiding hatred but caring about people and their needs leads to peace.

Submitted by Wm. “Bill” Hollingsworth

**YOUR 2008 DUES FORM IS INCLUDED.  
THIS IS YOUR DIVISION – WE ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS TO  
PARTICIPATE - - BRING YOUR ITEMS TO THE MEETS  
REMEMBER - - YOUR ‘stuff’ MIGHT BE SOMEONE’S TREASURE**

# SEE SPECIFIC SHOW INFORMATION ON FRONT SHEET

## Meet Schedule – Saturday, October 27th

- 8:00 a.m. Hall Opens  
8:00 to 10:00 Registration and admission desk is open

### SILENT AUCTION HELD ON SATURDAY ONLY

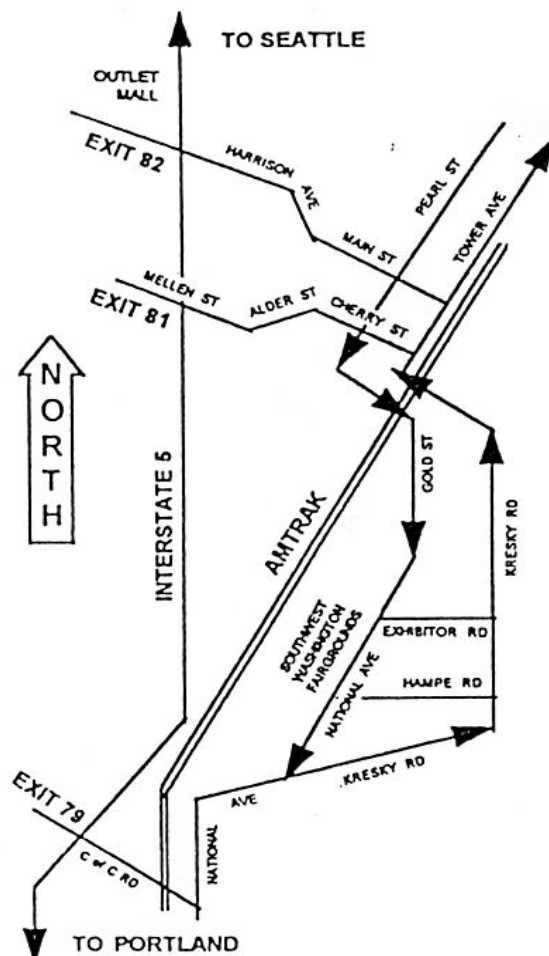
**Silent Auction Start is 8:00 Fee is \$1.00 per lot – sheets at the front desk!**

**SILENT AUCTION ENDS AT 10:00 A.M. - - - PUBLIC ADMITTED AT 11:00 A.M.**

- 8:00 to 10:00 Membership Desk Open to pay 2008 Dues  
11:00 to 4:00 Public admitted  
5:00 Dinner will be served to pre-registered members and family

## Meet Schedule – Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00 a.m. Hall Opens  
8:00 to 10:00 Registration/Admission desk is open  
8:00 to 9:00 Membership Desk Open to Pay 2008 Dues  
9:00 MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
General meeting which includes the election of officers  
11:00 Public is Admitted  
4:00 Meet Closes



## FIRST CLASS MAIL

Barbara Flinchbaugh, Editor  
 Train Collectors Association  
 Pacific Northwest Division  
 36066-57<sup>th</sup> Ave. So.  
 Auburn, WA 98001-9306



**REMEMBER**  
**YOU CAN SEE THE LOGGER IN**  
**BEAUTIFUL COLOR – JUST LOG ON TO**  
**OUR WEBSITE: [www.traincollector.org](http://www.traincollector.org)**  
**ENTER THE SITE & click on**  
**NEWSLETTERS -- ENJOY!!!**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**DON'T FORGET THE BIG FALL MEET - -**  
**OCTOBER 27/28 (2 day meet) OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

### 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 Tom Steeves (503) 644-2325

Sept. 16, Oct. 21 and Nov. 18 – regular third Sunday meets

October 27/28 – Winter Division Meet – Chehalis

November 17-18 Great Train Expo in Puyallup, WA at the Western Washington Fairgrounds – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ([www.trainexpoinc.com](http://www.trainexpoinc.com))

December 15-16 Great Train Expo in Ridgefield, WA (north of Vancouver at the Clark County Fairgrounds 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ([www.trainexpoinc.com](http://www.trainexpoinc.com)))

December 16-Annual Open House for the public (Noon-4:00 p.m.)

### 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, Dick Walters (253) 565-2371

Sept. 23, – regular 4th Sunday meets

October 27/28 – Winter Division Meet – Chehalis  
 (No Seattle Chapter Meet in October)

November 17-18 Great Train Expo in Puyallup, WA at the Western Washington Fairgrounds – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

November 25 - regular fourth Sunday TCA meet

December 15-16 Great Train Expo in Ridgefield, WA (north of Vancouver at the Clark County Fairgrounds 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ([www.trainexpoinc.com](http://www.trainexpoinc.com)))

No December meet in Seattle