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TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION MISSION STATEMENT:

"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."



2017 Winter PNWD TCA Meet @ Moose Hall in Chehalis 03/05/17 Starting at 9AM

We, the Board of Directors, are looking forward to hosting the Winter Division Meet. These meets are great for our train club community and bring friends from far and near together. We will have raffles, men's and ladies, and the usual great breakfast and luncheon fare hosted by the Moose Ladies. We will be having an auction after the luncheon or start shortly before with Dick Walters as the auctioneer. So come with a smile on your face and a big appetite and enjoy each other's company. We hope to see you there!

Great Times at the Puvallup GTE Train Show

Another great time was had by all as the Treasure Valley, led by Lloyd Gilkey & Dan Brown, brought their traveling layout to the show in November. It is always fun to share community with people we do not see often but think good thoughts about. They are a fun-loving & very tight-knit group. I had the good fortune to have dinner with them and the comradery is very evident. We hope to have them back in 2017 for the show.

Division Loses Another Icon: Frank Geczi, Sr.

As most of you know the Division lost a very important person who was instrumental in seeing us be successful. Frank Geczi, passed away in late January. He was President of the Division before myself. He, along with Dick & Barb Flinchbaugh, had the last great TCA Convention. This was the 2005 Seattle Convention that everyone still talks about. He is survived by his wife, Gloria and their children. I will keep you posted if I receive any Memorial Service information.





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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The year 2016 was a great year for our train club. We are a vibrant group who enjoy, or have a passion, for keeping our selves young through collecting trains of our childhood. This and the fellowship of the divisional community is as good as it gets after God and Family.

Now, 2017 is upon us. I look forward to always renewing these friendships through the Division Meet and Chapter get-togethers. Our next Division Meet will take place on the 5th of March at the Chehalis Moose Hall/1400 Grand Avenue/Centralia, WA. I say, "Centralia", because you have to Google it this way for directions.

Last year and the beginning of 2017 have seen some very nice people "get off the train of their earthly life". With the passing of Frank Geczi, Doug Cederberg & Tom Baldwin we lost people who were not only great supporters of our endeavors, but were just "nice" people. Our prayers go out to their respective families.

I came up with some older photos of our Division start. Plus I wanted to pay tribute to the 6th living "oldest TCA" national number. This belongs to CM-170 William "Billy" Lowe. See the article about Billy on page 5. Also some of the 'giants' in the Northwest Toy Train Scene are pictured and I am sure you will remember many of them. They were as an eclectic group of individuals as a lot of us current members are.

It is time to get your "Caboose to Pittsburgh" for the 2017 National Convention. It is my belief it will be as successful as the 2005 Seattle Convention was. It is in the heart of TCA Train Country and these are just a blast and a way to make friendships from all over the country. I hope to see a couple of you there as Sheila and I will be going.

We will have a difficult act to follow in the Seattle Chapter. Dick Walters has decided that his run as President is coming to an end in June. I have talked to Dick about what he might want to do for us. We agreed that he will lead the charge to be in control of all internet happenings for the Division. This means web page & Facebook operation. Although the chapters have their own Facebook sites they will provide information to Dick and vice-versa so to keep all the sites up-to-date on happenings. Also Dick will still be the Auctioneer for the Division and Seattle Chapter. Dick is a Division/Chapter core-member who is very involved. He can "make it happen" and happen properly!

Remember, you can help us, by telling friends how great our community is. Friends are always welcome as guests and hopefully you can help us gain new members. Thanks for being a part of our Wonderful Division.

The Best, Rick

Seattle Chapter News



Dick Walters
President

Our Christmas meet with lunch was again the best attended meet of 2016. Our members, family and guests enjoyed a great variety of food, drink and camaraderie. I personally give a ‘tip o’ the engineer’s hat and a ‘well-done’ to my wife, Sandy Walters, for her advance meal planning and food acquisition!

The cold-weather clothing drive, for this meet, aided the FISH Food Bank. We successfully raised two large tables of clothes as well as money for the cause. Our two live auctions capped off a meet where we had over 40 tables of trains for sale and a layout set-up for running and testing equipment.

Let’s keep our momentum going in 2017. We will continue to have the very popular ‘show and tell’ sessions during our membership meetings. I always encourage those who may wish to contribute their particular items of interest, whether train related or railroad related, to contact me to schedule.

Your continued support through your attendance is what really keeps your Seattle Chapter vibrant. I want to thank one and all for your continued support. We are exceeding last years attendance and I hope to see all of you at our remaining meets in 2017.

Portland



Peter’s picture to follow in the next Logger.

Peter Schuytema
President

The next meeting of the Portland Chapter of the TCA is this Sunday, February 18, 2017 beginning sometime around 9:00 AM.

We had yet another double-digit turn-out at the December meet. What's more impressive is that track time was at a real premium. Seems like everyone brought one (or more) trains to run. Although the recent inclement weather contributed to a challenging work week, the forecast for this Sunday is sunny and clear. The forecast also predicts clear tracks and plenty of opportunities to run your outfits.

Below from the TTOS Waybill done by Dennis Egge on the TTOS/TCA Christmas Party:

“This year our event was attended by our TCA Division President Rick Dunn who surprised us by supplying everyone in attendance with a bag of Almond Roca Candy.....well done Rick! I also want to thank our Portland TCA Chapter President Peter Schuytema for his efforts in providing a large number of Raffle prizes.”

Treasure Valley Chapter



Lloyd Gilkey
President

Boise Chapter will be setting up the train table at the Boise Public Library at Ustick and Cole February 18th and 19th for the public to operate. This is an annual event that follows the same type of event that was help at the main library in January where 350-400 children participated. Both of these events are for five hours on Saturday and four hours on Sunday. The layout will then be set up again for a one day event at the Hope House on March 11th which is a home for disadvantaged children.

See you in Chehalis on the 5th of March. There will be a discussion, at the BOD, about thoughts of doing the Division Meets differently. We will have nomination of officers for the office of President and Treasurer. It is important to give your input so please try to make it.

In 1958, a small band of train enthusiasts, met to start the PNW Division of the TCA. I bring this up to remind you all of our heritage. It is also to pay tribute to William "Billy" Lowe. He is the 6th oldest National TCA number still living, CM-170. You can see many of our mentors in these photos. I hope you enjoy.

**TRAIN COLLECTORS
QUARTERLY**

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION ORGANIZING MEETING
Story on page 5

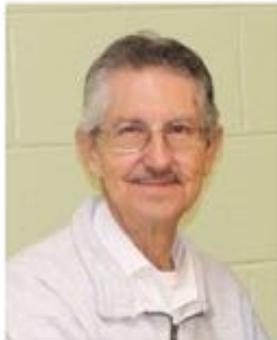
Top picture, Front Row: Two of Clint Smith's sons, Russ Hafdahl, Ted Ahlberg's son,
(l. to r)
Dutch Ottenbacher, Dr. Champaign, Bill Loew Sr.
Second Row: Elmer Gustafson, Bill Loew, Mrs. Russell, two guests of
Russell's, Ralph Russell, Bill Eouma, J. Michel, Stan O'Brien
Back Row: H.E. Brinkhopke, George Houle, Clinton Smith, John Resch,
Jack French, Ted Ahlberg, Paul Karsmo, Chas. Sipe, Otto Tanner
Bottom picture:
Son of Clinton Smith



1963 WEST COAST TCA CONVENTION - PORTLAND, OREGON

FRONT ROW - Steve Stanley, ? , Bill Bouma, Russ Hafdahl, Paul Korsmoe, John Cox, Al Cox, Son of Raymond Scheetz, Son of Raymond Scheetz, Dick Hopkins.

BACK ROW - Everett, Murray, Bob McCoy Jr., Bob McCoy, George Sirus, Frank Merrill, Bob Scott, Ted Ahlberg, Elmer Gustafson, Perry Jackman, Raymond Scheetz, Bill Loew, George Hopkins, Jack French, Ron French.



Billy Loew, TCA #CM-170, has had a passion for trains. He has a love for prewar & postwar Lionel since he was a young man in the 1940's. His father and mother would take him on train trips, in the NW, and when they arrived it is said the first stop was the train store. Also his father worked for the Northern Pacific Railroad for many years as a machinist. His love for trains is not his only passion. His other passion was his job at the U of W Dental School and the other collecting passion is antique automobiles. His 1958 Cadillac and 1930's Packard are 'dream-boats'!. Hats off to Billy and here's to many more years of friendship!

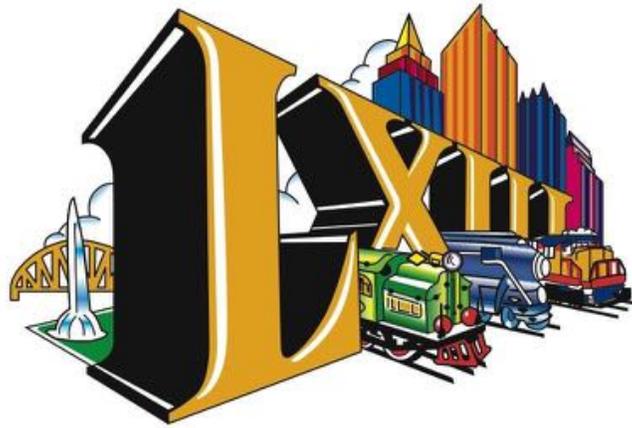


Upcoming Train Shows in the Northwest



UNWMRC Train Show February 25-26, 2017 Monroe, WA Evergreen State Fairgrounds

TCA National Convention
June 24th-July 2nd, 2017
Pittsburgh, PA



The TCA National Convention, this year hosted by the Fort Pitt Division, promises to be one of the best in years (since the 2005 PNWD). From the Welcome Party to the Banquet there will be much excitement and fun for all. Their tours are fabulous and the layouts are as top-notch as a collector/operator could come across. So make your arrangements to get there on their website: www.TCAconvention.org. You will not be sorry!

Get Your Caboose to Pittsburgh for the 2017 TCA Convention



Holiday Happenings at PNWD Chapter Events



Photo's from the Seattle Christmas Party and the Joint Portland TCA-TTOS Holiday Banquet. Fun was had by all and the fellowship & comradery was "off the charts". Thanks to all of the people who made these events possible! Your hard work and dedication was rewarded by all the smiles.

DIVISION & CHAPTER MEET SCHEDULES

PORTLAND

Held the 3rd Sunday of the month at the Aloha Mall/18631 SW TV Highway at the corner of SW185th Ave/Aloha, OR 9a.m. to 1p.m. Meeting and Auction
Contact: Peter Schuytema 503 363-5831
email: pschuytema@comcast.net

SEATTLE

Held the 2nd Sunday of the month at the Lake City Community Center/12531-28th Ave NE Seattle, WA. Doors open at 8:30a.m. Table Sales @ 9am
Contact: Dick Walters 253 565-2371
email: walters1221@comcast.net

TREASURE VALLEY/BOISE

Meets held at various member places on a monthly basis.
Contact: Lloyd Gilkey 208 939-1338
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**2017 Winter Meet in Centralia @
The Chehalis Moose Lodge
03/05/17**

**2017 Spring Meet in Centralia @
The Chehalis Moose Lodge
06/04/17**

**RICK DUNN
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FIRST CLASS MAIL