



Pacific Northwest Division

LOGGER

July 2006

OK - Imagine a large room filled with tables all chocked full of trains and accessories and lots of members chatting, selling & trading. In the back of the room is a GREAT layout provided by Mike Bowerman. Kids Club members having fun, selling trains and running around. Then imagine these same people with family and friends at a sumptuous Barbeque with all the fixin's, a big cake and a late evening auction.

If the picture in your mind is in living color then it's the same ones I had until my wife deleted them in our camera.

Next time I'll have a backup.

*****PICNIC*****

Who: All Div. Members/Friends/Family

When: July 23rd, 1pm

Where: Ed & Pat Anderson's

**For all the scoop, read the flyer
Enclosed for directions, and what
to bring.**

KIDS CLUB

**SAY GRAMPS, UNCLE JOHN, DAD,
And BEST BUDDIES,**

**TCA needs your HELP in continuing our
Train Collecting legacy. Bring a-kid to a meet.
We have a "Kids Club Gift" for each New
Member that signs up with our Division at
a meet.**

"See KIDS CLUB membership form Enclosed"

June 2006 President's Message

During the last three months several things have happened. Some good and one that was sad.

The Division Meet in Ellensburg, June 3 & 4, 2006, was a great meet for trading, socializing, watching operating trains and food. 55 Members registered for the meet which includes early and door registrations. Additionally there were another 60 dependents and friends of the members that joined in the activities. Mike Bowerman set-up an operating layout for the members and general public to enjoy during the two day event. 77 Trading tables were set up for the Saturday swap meet for both the members and the public. On Saturday evening, a fantastic member's only barbeque and social event took place at the end of the trading day and this was followed by an auction of a portion of Jim Barbee's collection. On Sunday, a few more members arrived to spend just one day and the meet was also open to the public. The meet really provided the public with an enjoyable event to watch trains running and the opportunity to buy toy trains and accessories. There was one young boy that was absolutely crazy about trains and several of our members "sold him some new trains, track, transformers etc. at very good prices" and then his parents also got involved and bought him some more items for his upcoming birthday. To quote Bill Hollingsworth, one of our long time TCA members, "any boy that will play with trains will never get in trouble". How true, Bill.

Last month was the TCA national convention held in San Antonio Texas. Although members from all divisions were represented the Pacific Northwest Division only had three members attend along with our renegade member, Merle Parise. were appreciated by the Lone Star Division.

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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At the arrival in the convention hotel the treasurer of the Lone Star Division desperately needed an additional table prize for the banquet. A call was placed to Dick and Barbara Flinchbaugh to determine if the PNWD could help. Barbara made a call to Lionel which provided 66 operating Disney cars at a minimum price. They were ordered and sent directly to the hotel. These cars were appreciated by the Lone Star Division.

The convention tours ran okay with a couple of scheduling problems like the problems that occurred in Seattle. San Antonio was a great city with their river walk and historic sites. There was a lot to do and see on the scheduled tours, walking in San Antonio and by automobile. It was a good convention.

One of our members William (Lou) Lauderbaugh passed away last month. He was introduced to his first Marx train by his dad who had a red Commodore Vandy under the tree for his first Christmas. It was soon joined by a black CV and Lou and his dad loved to run the trains, which Santa set up each year. This introduction to Marx trains turned Lou into a Marx train collector. Even in his final weeks, he was involved with his trains, finding a co-owner for the list, telling Joy (his wife) to return the coffee pot and fund that he managed for the local TCA chapter and even making an eBay purchase. The PNWD TCA will miss Lou. He will be laid to rest on his beloved Whidbey Island.

An important issue that still needs to be addressed is getting more people interested in toy trains. This is a PNWD and TCA national problem. Next of course is to get them to sign up as active members of the TCA. To do this we need to have members bring collectable trains (including new trains) for show and tell and trains to run on simple loops. It is important to have trains running on a table with some operating accessories. The Operating trains will draw more interest in trains from visitors and children than just seeing the merchandise on the tables. If the PNWD members know that they would learn from the show and tell they would be more inclined to attend the meets.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank Geczi
President PNWD TCA

For Sale or Trade: I am selling the last of my HO, mostly all are NOB, Also have “O” list “SASE”
Bill Hollingsworth, 24018 SE 132nd Way, Issaquah, WA, 98027 PH# 425-392-1104

AHM-Rivarossi. NYC gray Hudson Streamliner, NOB \$60, PRR green 5 stripe GG-1 ,NOB \$60,
ATSF 0-8-0 Switcher, NOB \$60, Pen-Central Alco RS-2, NOB \$20 Mantua Street Car in Box 2/1
\$20,Atsf 0-8-0 w/ new boiler front, no tender, parts or repair \$10.

NEWS FROM:

Dick Walters, Seattle Chapter, President

Seattle Chapter welcomes all members and their families and friends to our summer meets. The fourth Sunday of each month with the doors open at 9:00AM, table trading and coffee beginning soon thereafter. Members pay \$4.00 at the door. Just because the weather is nice and warm doesn't mean the trains have to be put on the back-burner until school starts in September. We have been enjoying more member attendance this year than last year, and there have always been over 20 tables of GREAT train items to buy, sell and trade.

Any Questions? Please call Dick Walters at #253-565-2371 or e-mail at walters1221@comcast.net.

NEWS FROM:

Tom Steeves, Portland Chapter President

See our Flyer enclosed on meet information and how to find us. Meets are still the third Sunday of each month so mark your calendars for July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, & November 19. December 3 is the TTOS/TCA Holiday Dinner meet, December 17 is our 7th annual open house, so make sure to bring all you children, grandchildren & neighborhood kids. A GREAT Christmas gift would be to enroll them in TCA's Kids Club.

NEWS FROM:

Bill von Tagen, Treasure Valley Chapter President

Seattle Chapter members Russell Howry and David Siehl will be moving to Boise shortly and are looking forward to meeting all of the Treasure Valley members.

MY COUSIN DOUG
"A Train Story"

In 1946 my cousin Doug and I both got our first new train sets from our Grandpa Lon. We were both just 4 years old at the time. The sets came with the 672 engine and whistler tender and all the great cars like the 3459 Aluminum Auto dump that had the blue lettering, the 2460 Crain car, the 2420 working caboose with the searchlight and the Pipe car with real pipes. We also got the Auto Coal loader, with the blue generator, a set of rail yard signs, coal in a bag, a whole bottle of smoke pellets, track, an a ZW transformer. To top it off we also got the 145 signalman. We were lucky little guys.

My set grew slowly compared to Doug's. His dad added the coveted 3462 Milk set, I got the Marx talking station, he then got the cow set, and I got the Rotary beacon. My set usually only came out at Christmas, his was always somewhere on the floor, and as Doug's family grew (5 more brothers & 1sister) his set some how grew smaller and finally disappeared all together. Mine on the other hand was still in the original boxes and still looked new.

It wasn't really until 1980 when a friend told me he collected trains and invited me to attend a Nor-Cal meet in Oakland, CA. Shortly thereafter I joined TCA, and I started to add to my collection in earnest. My 1946 set still looks (almost) new, although the boxes show some wear, and I now have several of the 3462 Milk car sets.

Doug never got into trains as he grew older, I however got the BUG. Now my Son has his own collection, and is a TCA member, my Grandson has his own sets, and is a Kid club member, and my collection can always use another train or accessory.

SO YOU TELL ME, how many Doug's do you know, who might like to get back into collecting, trains?

ALL you have to do is ASK. I know I will.

Article written by: TCA member Dave Howry

Riding trains in the good ol' Days

I grew up never more than a block away from the line used by the B&O and Reading between Philadelphia and New York City. This heavily traveled pike provided an endless view of engines and cars except for the B&O's articulated steamers. I would play at the railroad, often climbing the rocks which protruded from a cut. When I saw a Mother Hubbard and three 54' coaches filled with commuters, I knew it was time to go home for dinner. I was intrigued by those Camelbacks, and when at York, I always go by the turntable at Strasburg (PA.RR Museum) to see the surviving Camelback from the Reading. I remember the poor firemen who stood on the back platform with no shelter from the rain, hail, snow and wind, and in the summer I felt sorry for the engineer as he sat next to the boiler and could not escape the heat.

The Reading had a spur which turned north at Cheltenham station and went to New Hope, PA. Near New Hope it crossed the trestle made famous in the 1914 movie "Perils of Pauline". It was in that film that actress Pearl White was tied and placed upon the trestle to be run over by a train. Actor Crane Wilbur saved her and that trestle has been famous ever since.

One year the city built a new bridge across the three-track mainline. I happened by just after the big "I" beams were put in place. I was 11 years old at the time and I started to cross the beam while straddling it. It was about 50' long. I had gotten over the center of the first track and glanced up to see a train headed for me! I was scared silly, but I hugged the beam rather than attempting to move away. The engineer must have been coasting; there was no chug and minimal smoke. I will NEVER forget what it looks like to see straight down a huge stack about 4 feet away! For the first time in my life I did not count the passenger cars and I never told my parents until I was an adult.

When the Reading created the Royal Blue in the early thirties, thousands of people lined the track to see the classic varnish passing. When it passed the spot where I usually stood it was gaining speed. Such a change in styling was thrilling to all of us who were still in the big depression. I also viewed hospital trains in 1942-43 carrying wounded servicemen. The cars had big windows and men were visible in casts and bandages. This sobering sight could not be forgotten, and little did I know that within 2 years I would join their number.

In those days the Union News Co. hired men to pass through cars selling candy, cookies, ham sandwiches, warm cokes, apples, oranges, and other snacks. You could buy a ham sandwich for ten or fifteen cents at a store, but on the train it was .35c. A popular story at the time concerns a passenger who bought a ham sandwich, lifted the top piece of bread and asked the vendor if he had made the sandwich? The vendor replied "yes". Then he asked if he had cut the meat? Again the vendor said "yes". Then the passenger replied, "You almost missed it".

Article written by: TCA member, Bill Hollingsworth.

STOLEN TRAINS RECOVERED (Well Almost)

I had just rented a storage locker behind the garages at my apartment complex, when to my dismay two days later I found the door standing open, and all of my trains, and collectable game sets gone. Gone also was my dad's orange and black had cart, you know the one he takes to all of the meets, as he put it "For the last 25 years".

Panicked I called the police, notified the complex management, my dad, and then started calling train stores, pawn shops and the like. My dad called Dick Flinchbaugh for any other ideas, and Dick suggested I call the people advertising in the newspaper who buy trains. On my first call I had to leave a message, but on my second call I hit pay dirt. The individual had seen all of my trains, and in fact had purchased the set my dad had given me. My first call message also called back and said that he had seen the trains, and had made an offer, but for less than they wanted, and that they were to get back to him.

Armed with this information I contacted the police again, and they arranged for us to meet with the individual who had bought some of my trains, and then with the other individual to set up a buy-sting operation to retrieve the rest. The two individuals who had seen my trains were both TCA members and were extremely helpful in providing information to the police.

Before the police could do the sting they ran onto the car that had been carrying my trains around, and arrested the woman, who later confessed. They haven't gotten the other persons involved, but do have all of my trains in custody.

That's why I say (Well Almost)

Once the District Attorney releases my trains they will be back on my new shelves, and not in storage. I really appreciated the honesty of the two TCA members who gave the police enough information to apprehend the Thief, but am also very grateful to Dick for his Sage advice, and am extremely happy to be a member of such a great organization as is TCA

Article submitted by: TCA member Russell Howry

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Check out your web site @
www.traincollector.org

The Logger can be viewed in color

CALENDAR OF EVENTS PNW DIVISION

Division Meets 2006

- * June 3 & 4, Ellensburg
- * October 29, Chehalis

Division Meets 2007

- * February 11, Chehalis
- * June 9 & 10, Ellensburg
- * November 4, Chehalis

Portland Chapter Meets

The Portland Chapter meets are held the 3rd Sunday of the month at the Aloha Mall, 18631 SW Tualatin Valley Highway @ corner of SW 185th Ave., Aloha, OR 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Meeting and Auction, Tom Steeves (503) 644-2325

2006

Seattle Chapter Meets

The Seattle Chapter meets are held the 4th Sunday of the month at the Lake City Community Center, 12531-28th Ave. NE, Seattle WA, Meeting 9:45, Trading 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Dick Walters, (253) 565-2371

2006