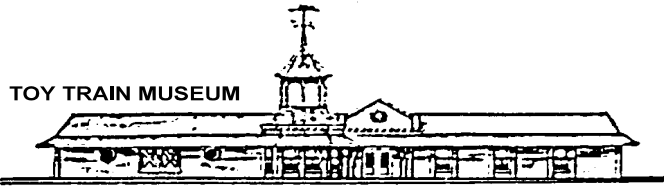


THE LAYOUT



ENJOY A VISIT TO YOUR MUSEUM

THE SOUTHERN DIVISION TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

Winter 2015

VOLUME 50 NUMBER 1



Photo Above: Huge Turnout at the Jacksonville Meet

Inside This Issue:

- Southern Division Trolley Update
- Largo and Palm Beach Meet Stories
- Jacksonville Meet Recap
- Zitnik Trains Open House



Southern Division Trolley Update

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Special Thanks to Clark & Ilene Vegazo

Clark and Ilene Vegazo hosted their annual open house/party/car show on November 13th, showing off their incredible collection of Postwar Lionel trains with nearly 300 postwar sets on display with almost another 100 sets still in boxes.

Clark's friends and neighbors also brought 50 vintage (real) cars! Our thanks to Clark and Ilene for hosting this annual event.

Address Changes

Please inform the Southern Division Secretary Dienzel Dennis (see contact info on this page) of all address changes. Please do not send address changes to the editor of *The Layout* as that will only delay processing.

**Check out the Southern Division Website: www.tcasoutherndivision.org
Webmaster: Jake Jacob**

President's Message



Brad Woodward

My guest columnist this quarter is Jan Athey, Librarian at TCA Museum, Strasburg, PA.

Hi, Southern Division Members!

Did you know that the single most comprehensive source of information on toy trains is only a phone call or email away at TCA's National Toy Train Library? Yes, this phenomenal collection of paper and ephemera was donated and purchased by and for TCA members over the past 30 years so that current and future members would be able to enjoy access to the most extensive source of information on your hobby in the world!

In addition to almost every book and magazine ever written about toy trains, the Library also contains a collection of 2000+ photos dating back to the late-19th Century; a collection of auto, hardware and electrical supply company catalogs; and rare original company documents such as scrapbooks, business records, blueprints and much more.

Early history of the Library:

- 1) TCA member, Anna Manson, first took the initiative to start a library in 1980 by collecting and organizing the first small collection of toy train books at the Toy Train Museum.
- 2) By 1984 a Library Committee was formed, led by Ron Morris, who is still Library Chair today. Several other, original members such as Phil Ritter, Bill McKay and Carl Kruelle remain on the Committee.
- 3) The first physical space occupied by the Library was a small room adjoining the Museum gift shop. In 1984 a part-time librarian was hired, a computer and photocopy machine were added, and members were asked to donate books to build the Library collection. They received an overwhelming response.
- 4) The Library Committee assists the Librarian with answering reference questions, sets policies, implements fundraising projects, makes recommendations on budget and purchasing, assists with jobs such as assembling bookshelves and sorting magazines.
- 5) Within its first decade the Library was filled to capacity, with every bookshelf and filing cabinet crowded with books and paper. A shortage of space forced it to store material offsite, exposing parts of the collection to less than optimum conditions with a lack of temperature and humidity control.
- 6) In the mid- to late-1990s the Library struggled to preserve its collection as TCA deliberated as to whether or not to maintain its burgeoning collection.

Next time, I can provide information about the Library covering from 2000 on when the decision was made to construct a new library. **We welcome your questions! ! Contact information:** Jan Athey, Librarian, PO Box 248, Strasburg, PA 17579 PH: 717-687-8976 Email: ref-library@traincollectors.org

"Thank you, Jan, for sharing." Brad A TERRIFIC BENEFIT of being a TCA Member!

"Keep Trackin' Those Trains"

www.tcasoutherndivison.org

Southern Division Members:

As we enter into the Fiftieth Anniversary Year for the Southern Division; we once again ask for your assistance with a project we started five years ago. Prior to our forty-fifth anniversary, we asked members for past issues of both "The Newsletter" and "The Layout" for our archives.

We are still missing the following issues of "The Newsletter":

- 1967 Volume One: Numbers 1 through 3
- 1968 Volume Two: Numbers 1 through 4
- 1969 Volume Three: Number 1
- 1971 Volume Five: Number 4

If you have any of these issues, please consider a donation to the Division; if you do not wish to give up an original copy, please consider having a professional photocopy made so we can complete our collection.

Thank you, John Bailey Contact John.bailey@disney.com

The Meet Story - 1st Quarter 2016 – Tampa Bay Area
The MINNREG Building, Largo FL, Saturday, January 23, 2016
(EARLY SETUP TIME ON FRIDAY)

The TCA Southern Division's first meet of 2016 will be held Saturday, January 23, at the Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Avenue North, Largo, Florida 33773. **Table Holder setup will be Friday from 3-6 p.m. and Saturday from 7-9 a.m.** During setup time, the building will be open to table holders and helpers only. On Friday we must be out of the building NLT 6 p.m. Tables cost \$20 each for TCA Southern Division members. Non-Southern Division TCA member tables cost \$30 each. The meet will be open to TCA members only at 9 a.m. and the public from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Plenty of free parking is available. Food is available at reasonable prices.

Meet Host Charles Anyan may be reached at (727) 345-0288 or canyan1@tampabay.rr.com. During set up times, call his cell phone at (727) 459-8681.

Meet Hotel Our Meet Hotel is the Suburban Extended Stay Hotel, Clearwater, FL, 6500 Ulmerton Rd, Largo, FL 33733 (727) 532-4800 – suburbanhotels.com or largofrontdesk@gmail.com. See Meet Hotel Story.

Membership Meeting - We will hold a membership meeting at 8:30 a.m. to discuss items of interest and business, and significant items from the Board of Directors' meeting.

2016 Southern Division Dues Renewal: The Treasurer, Mike Powell, will be present to accept your 2016 dues (\$10) if you have not yet paid them.

Operating Layout: We will have at least two working layouts, including, possibly, a LEGO layout.

Open Layout: (NOTE: The following is tentative, based on condition of layout – check a week before or at the meet if you are interested in touring the layout.) The Suncoast Model RR Club is opening their layout for visitors during and after our meet on Saturday, so be sure to visit. You will see over 8 HO-scale miles and 15 N-scale miles of mainline fun. The layout is only a few short blocks away and is well worth the effort to get there. Suncoast Club's Layout Address: 12355 62nd Street N., Suite A, Largo, FL 33733. To get there: Turn right out of the Minnreg Bldg. parking lot onto 126th Avenue heading east. Turn right at the stop sign onto 62nd Street heading south. The Layout Building is on the left about one half block south on 62nd Street.

Directions

Meet Hotel: Suburban Extended Stay Hotel, Clearwater, FL, 6500 Ulmerton Rd., Largo, FL 33771 (727) 532-4800 - suburbanhotels.com or largofrontdesk@gmail.com

This Suburban Extended Stay hotel is very nice. The rooms have kitchen facilities and wi-fi. This one is almost right around the corner from our meet. The TCA rate is \$61 for one bed and \$71 for two beds. It is a cheaper rate if you book for two nights or more. You must mention TCA or Train Collectors to get this rate. Dates for this availability are January 21-25, inclusive.

Directions to the hotel –

From Highway 19 Southbound – take 66th Street exit (State Route 693) – go to 2nd stoplight & turn left onto Ulmerton Rd. Hotel is one block on the right.

From Highway 19 Northbound – turn left on Ulmerton Rd (Hwy 688). Go to 66th St., make a U-turn & go back one block to hotel.

I-275 Southbound, take the Ulmerton Road exit (Hwy 688). Drive west to 66th St. and follow directions as above.

I-275 Northbound, take the Roosevelt Blvd. exit (Hwy 686). Don't miss this turn or you will wind up in Tampa. Keep left and go west/north to where Roosevelt merges into Ulmerton road. Follow directions as above.

To get to the meet, from the hotel: Turn right onto Ulmerton, go one block & turn right on Highway 19. Stay in the right lane and go to the next street exit (62nd St.). Follow 62nd about two blocks to 126th Ave. The Minnreg Bldg. is just to the right of the stop sign.

To get back to the hotel, continue west on 126th Ave. to 66th street. Turn right & go to the first stop light, which is Ulmerton. Turn right, and you are back at the hotel.

Directions to the Meet from Elsewhere: Follow directions from above to get to 66th Street. Turn east on 126th Ave. Go to the first stop sign. The Minnreg Bldg. is on the right.



THE PALM BEACH GARDENS MEET STORY

3rd Year at New Train Show Location

Saturday, February 13, 2016

On February 13, Southern Division will hold its spring train show in the St. Mark's gym in Palm Beach Gardens. The gym is only 1.5 miles from I-95. We moved the date from March in anticipation of drawing even larger crowds than we have had in the past since there are far fewer competing events in February than there were in March. We have space for 130 tables plus several layouts. The Palm Beach area has responded well to train shows in the past, and we anticipate strong attendance. In addition we have expanded our advertising campaign to reach more people than ever before. We have a few operating layouts committed to the show but we can always use more. If you know of one that is available or have any other table requests, please contact Al Galli: algalli@embarqmail.com or 772-219-7653. Hope to see you at the show.

**LOCATION: St. Mark's Church Gym, 10635 Gardens East Dr.,
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 at Burns Road**

Directions:

From the North - take I-95 to the South Military Trail, Exit 79C. From Military Trail, turn left onto Burns Road. Cross A1A, then turn left onto East Gardens Drive.

From the South, take I-95 Exit 79A. Go east. Take first right on RCA Blvd. Follow RCA Blvd. to A1A highway. Turn right (south). Go to next light and turn left on Burns Road, then left on Gardens East Dr.

From the Turnpike take Exit 109, PGA Blvd East. Turn right on RCA blvd. Follow directions as above.

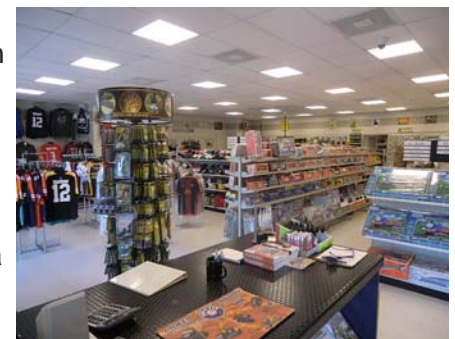
Contact: Al Galli 772-219-7653, algalli@embarqmail.com

Open House – Tampa Bay Area (Largo) by Charles Anyan, Largo Meet Host

We will have an open house for TCA Southern Division members and their families on January 22, 2016 (Friday night before the Largo meet). It will be at Southern Division member Dave Zitnik's new train store (**Zitnik Trains**) in Pinellas Park, FL, 5193 73rd Ave. N, Pinellas Park, FL 33781. **Phone:** (727) 201-9668. Many of you know Dave and Gale from all the train shows they attend in Florida.



Note that the store, which just opened this past August 1, is painted in Green and Gold, Southern Division colors. Nice touch! Dave and Gale have a very wide variety of trains for sale, from G to Z scale. The trains are new and vintage, including new Christmas items, like Thomas the Tank Engine, Polar Express, etc. There is a large assortment of scenery items, a parts department, and a repair department.



They have graciously invited our division to enjoy an evening of viewing and talking about trains and also to have some food and drink. You might even find some trains that you need. I know I have found several (OK, lots) of trains there at very reasonable prices.

Open House hours are 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. There will be plenty of food and refreshments. For further information, contact the store's website at www.zitniktrains.com.

Directions to the store: From Highway 19, exit at Park Blvd. N. Go west to the McDonald's at Park Blvd. and 52nd Street (just past 49th Street.) Zitnik's Trains is just behind McDonald's. Look for the big Zitnik's Trains sign. From I-275, take the Gandy Blvd./Park Blvd. exit, and go west (Gandy turns into Park.) Follow instructions as above.



**SOUTHERN DIVISION TCA
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY
1966-2016**



SOUTHERN DIVISION 50th ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR CAR

50th ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR TROLLEY CAR UPDATE (as of 11/30/2015)

Unfortunately, the day **after** the last issue of *The Layout* went out with the trolley order form insert, we found out that Seymour Knight, who we had contracted with to decorate the trolleys, had passed. He hadn't started on our project yet, and our trolleys to be decorated are still at his shop.



The 50th Anniversary Committee diligently has been looking for a replacement decorator. Our search started at the October York Meet by soliciting recommendations and talking with a few of the recommended members. So far we've contacted 8 different members who have been recommended for custom decorating trains. We still have ongoing discussions with two of them.

Obviously, there will be a considerable delay from our original schedule which was to receive the trolleys by year-end 2015 and start distributing them at the Largo meet in January. Plus, they will not be ready for our second 2016 meet at Palm Beach Gardens in February. Our third meet isn't until September in Venice, so we're now hoping to have them completed in time to start handing out at Venice. Also, there is likely to be a cost increase to us because (1) our discussions with new decorators so far have indicated that they could not do what Seymour was planning to do at the price he quoted us; and (2) the trolleys will have to be shipped at least one more time than we had planned and possibly twice. So, to minimize costs we're looking at an easier way to decorate the car which will likely be considerably different than the design we advertised and for which we received orders.

For those who already ordered a trolley, thank you for the order and for supporting the Division. Because of the delay and the uncertainty of the cost of the completed new trolley design, we will have to start over once we have an agreement in place with a new decorator. We have voided your check. In addition to checks I returned directly to members at the Jacksonville meet, voided checks from everyone else were mailed back in the envelopes you provided along with a brief note of explanation. They were mailed on November 25th so you should have received it by now.

Hopefully, we can have an agreement in place before the next issue of *The Layout* goes out and have a new order form included with it. Thanks for your patience and stay tuned. Bill Trappen, Co-chairman, SD TCA 50th Anniversary Committee

Upcoming 2016 Florida Meets/Train Shows

Upcoming TCA shows—See the Meet Stories in *The Layout* TCA Southern Division, **January 23, 2016**, Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Avenue North, Largo, Florida 33773, Contact Charlie Anyan (see Meet Story in this issue of *The Layout*). **February 13, 2016**, St. Mark's Church Gym, 10635 Gardens East Dr., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 at Burns Road, Contact Al Galli, 772-219-7653

Golden Spike - Volusia County Fairgrounds, Deland, FL; **54th Florida Rail Fair, Saturday and Sunday, January 9th and 10th, 2016**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; **38th Jacksonville Rail Fair, Saturday, February 13, 2016**, Prime Osborne Convention Center, Jacksonville, FL; **55th Florida Rail Fair, Saturday, April 9, 2016**, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Deland, FL. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Contact Charles Miller, 703-536-2954 or 386-736-8185, email rshows@aol.com; website www.gserr.com

Regal Railways Shows – for info, contact Joe Schramm at joe@regalrailways.com; 727-441-2159, All shows 9 am- 2 pm; **January 16, 2016**, Englewood, FL Elks Lodge, 401 N Indiana Ave 34223; **February 13, 2016**, Columbia Club #1, Port Richey, FL 5850 K of C Drive, 34668; **March 5, 2016**, Winter Haven, FL, 401 3rd Street SW, 33880; **March 12, 2016**, Colombian Hall (formerly K of C), 2000 Neptune Road, Kissimmee, FL, 34744; **April 2, 2016**, Pinellas Park, FL, Lopez Hall (former K of C) 7177 58th St. North, 33781; **May 21, 2016**, Brooksville, FL, Hernando Fairgrounds, 6436 Broad Street, 34601; **May 28, 2016**, Inverness, FL Citrus Auditorium, 3610 Florida Ave 34450; **June 25, 2016**, Columbia Club #1, Port Richey, FL 5850 K of C Drive, 34668

Schultz Space Coast Trains, Azan Shrine Temple, 1591 W Eau Gallie Blvd, Melbourne, FL, 32935. Contact Schultzspacecoasttrains.com, 321-805-1963, **March 5, 2016; June 4, 2016, Sept 3, 2016, and Dec. 3, 2016**

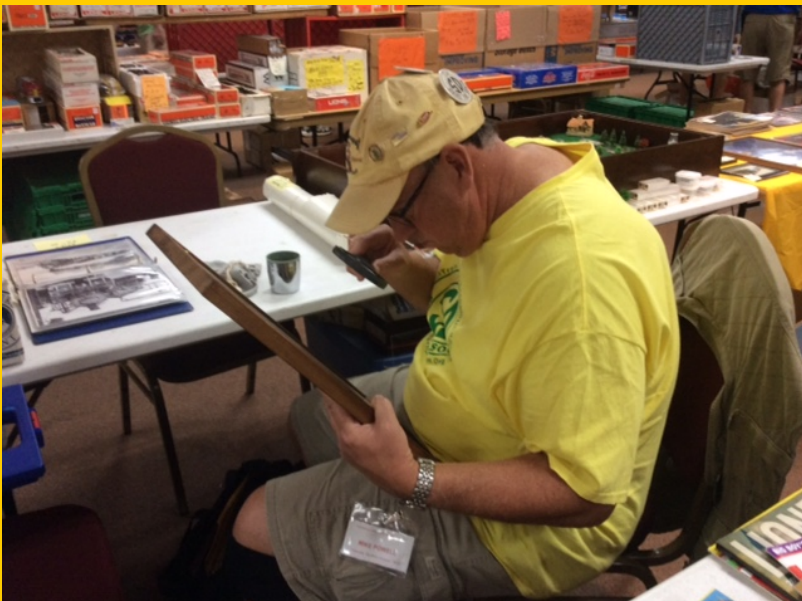
Villages Model Railroad Club Model Train & Railroad Show and Sale, Saturday and Sunday, February 6-7 2016, 9 am—4 pm Saturday, 10 am-3 pm Sunday, Savannah Regional Recreations Center 1545 Buena Vista Boulevard, The Villages, FL 32162, Phone 352-205-4322 or 352-751-3034, email amgoldho@reagan.com

Jacksonville Meet Recap by Chuck Bryner

What do you get when you have six operating layouts, a sellout of vendor tables, a new larger location and nearly double the attendees of the past years? You have one of the “you should have been there” train meets. In this era of shrinking local train meets, we seem to be on the path to actually growing. With 400 people through the door, we had our best attendance since we re-started the Jacksonville TCA meet 5 years ago. Nine people signed up to become Southern Division members. The freebie table had a constant flow of items donated to be given away to anyone who wanted them and was again a huge success. One family who took home a free plastic train set has already contacted me and their son will find a brand new electric train set under the tree on Christmas morning as he has definitely caught the bug. The new location at the Morocco Shrine Auditorium gave us plenty of space to incorporate multiple layouts from northern Florida clubs and individuals. A huge round of applause to the Atlantic Coast S-Gaugers, Mr. Gary Horne, Ocala Model Railroaders,

Flagler Model Railroaders and the First Coast Model Railroad Society. As a well-known venue in the area, it was easier to find and attracted a larger crowd. Do not despair if you missed it as we will be back next year with

tentative plans to add workshops to the meet. So mark your calendars for the last Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 20, 2016 and we'll see you in Jacksonville.



**Board of Directors Business Meeting
SD TCA – Nov. 20, 2015 – Jacksonville, Florida**

The quarterly business meeting was called to order at 3:03 p. m. by President Woodward. Secretary Dennis called the roll with the following in attendance. Brad Woodard, Dienzel Dennis, Treasurer Mike Powell, Vice President Steve Johnson, and IPP Charles Anyan. Linda Harris and Arnie Travitsky could not attend due to personal matters. Members Bill Trappen and Chuck Bryner would join us later.

Secretary Dennis reported that the minutes of the last meeting were approved electronically and posted in the latest issue of our "Layout"

The Presidents report will be dispersed throughout the meeting. Mr. Johnson's VP report consisted mostly of his information concerning his wife starting a SD club page on Facebook. Steve will prepare an article to be included in the next "Layout" outlining this project. Thanks to Linda Johnson for her efforts in this endeavor. All members are encouraged to sign up and like this web site, and to also submit pictures and articles to be included in this media. Steve also informed us of the local T. V. (Morning News 4) interview with him and host Chuck Bryner advertising our show tomorrow.

Dienzel Dennis, Secretary, followed up his distributed report by stating that we currently have 425 active members and 1 honorary member. During the past 8 years we have had 44 deceased members along with 295 who have not renewed for the current year. There are 765 entrees in our data base. As usual, inform the secretary of any change in address, emails, phone numbers, etc.

Mr. Powell presented his treasurers report to the board for approval. He will submit it to the Layout for printing.

Charles Anyan, National President Elect, reported on the state of the TCA. A balanced budget was approved for the current year (2015-16) and they are currently working on one for the following year (2016-17).

No communications report was given since Linda Harris was not in attendance.

Chuck Bryner, joined our meeting and brought us up to date on tomorrows meet. Our new hall seems to be much better, all tables have been sold out, advertising has gone well, and we expect a great event tomorrow. We will have 6 operating layouts for public viewing. The NMRA and Operation Lifesaver will be participating.

The board offered a special thanks to Chuck for all the hard work and effort put into making this a great meet. We have firmed up the date for next year at this venue for November 19, 2016. Another room will be available for next year with no additional cost. Also, the large stage may be used if necessary. The board directed Steve Johnson and Charles Anyan to update our meet host guidelines and include the suggestions Chuck presented.

Charles Anyan, our meet host, has the Largo meet for Jan. 23 well under way; and also Al Galli is progressing on his plans for the Palm Beach Gardens meet on Feb. 23, 2016. The budgets for these meets were approved as presented.

Old Business:

Arnie Travitsky and Charles Anyan are working on getting candidates for the next election of Southern Division.

A motion was passed that "all outside train meets, not only SD, will be listed in our magazine regardless of the date or time."

Bill Trappen reported on the 50th anniversary committee's work and the problems that have developed. One of our venders passed away and therefore we will not be able to have our Trolleys painted and decaled as previously planned. We are in the process of finding another method of processing these units. Bill will elaborate on this in a special article in the next "Layout". The board voted to have two 50th anniversary parties. One will be for the West Florida on Saturday night, Sept.10 at the Venice Train show. The other party will be for East Florida at Bruce Pemberton's home with the live steam and "S" gauge layout on Saturday afternoon & evening, November 5. An old fashion train swap meet will possibly be arranged where we sell out of our car trunk or a blanket on the ground. Remember those Days???

We hope most of you will make at least one of these celebrations and that many of you will gather with the Officers and Directors for both events.

New Business:

We talked about the possibility of a new show in Vero Beach. We were given a written presentation from a member interested in hosting this meet. We will study this and discuss at a later date on a conference phone call.

Again, we debated the best method of continuing our Kids Club. Brad Woodward volunteered to Chair this Venture and he is provided a \$500.00 annual budget. He presented some good ideas and we think that maybe we can finally make some headway with the future of our club and hobby. He will start a 4 page Newsletter to be mailed out in advance of meets to Kids Club members living within that vicinity.

We also entertained discussion on how to increase the HO hobby inside the Southern Division. This will be a continued item in the future.

With no other business to be discussed, we voted to adjourn at 5:02 p. m. Dienzel Dennis, Secretary, SD of TCA

**The Deadline for the next issue of *The
Layout* is March 1, 2016**