THE LAYOUT

TOY TRAIN MUSEUM

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THE SOUTHERN DIVISION
TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

FALL 2017 VOLUME 51 NUMBER 4

TCA 2017 Convention, Pittsburgh, PA

Joe Fanara accepts the presidential gavel from Charlie Anyan.

Charlie celebrates in his usual, dignified manner.

Right (L-R): SD conventioneers Phyllis & Mark Stevens and Ilene & Clark Vegazo; George Starz (convention co-chair); and Scott & Melinda Griggs from the Dixie Division. Scott is Chief Engineer at Trainz.com.

In This Issue

* SD Board of Directors, et al
* SD President's Message; SD on Facebook; e*Train info
* Vegazos' 10th Annual Open House / Car Show
* Jacksonville Meet Story
* Photos from the Johnsons' Alaska Adventure
* TCA 2017 Convention Photos
* 2017-2018 Upcoming Florida Train Meets/Shows
* Switch List

Inserts / Attachments

1. Map & directions to Vegazos'
2. Jacksonville Flyer
3. Jacksonville Table Registration Form
4. Largo Flyer
5. Largo Table Registration Form

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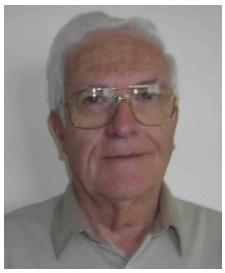

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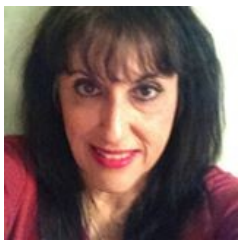

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Address Changes

Please inform **Dienzel Dennis** of all address changes. Do not send address changes to the editor of *The Layout* as that will only delay processing. Thank you.

Check out the Southern Division Website:
www.tcasoutherndivision.org

Members ~

Thank you to the many who changed their receipt of *The Layout* from a paper copy to an electronic copy.

It's a good deal for many reasons:
1) the SD saves printing and postage costs;
2) money saved can be used to partially subsidize future events (this also offsets your annual dues);
3) you'll get to see the photos and graphics in color; and
4) the environment will thank you!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hurricane Irma barreled through Florida as this issue of *The Layout* was going to press. Virtually the entire state was affected, with some areas hit harder than others. Our thoughts go out to all who suffered any damage. Initial reports from Board members indicate that most made it through the storm with minimal damage to property. If there is anything the officers of the SD can do to help any of our members, please contact me.

In June I attended the TCA National Convention in Pittsburgh. It was a trip with many firsts for me including my first time attending a TCA National Convention and first time visiting Pittsburgh. The people were all so friendly and nice, the hotel was lovely with great views of the three rivers, and the trading floor was spacious with a large variety of trains in a dazzling variety of gauges and manufacturers in great condition. The two-and-a-half days of Board Meetings went surprisingly quickly and left me assured that our organization is being led by a terrific group of people who are very conscientious and take their fiduciary responsibilities to our membership seriously. I am very encouraged about the future of the TCA from both a financial and strategic planning point of view. Of course, there was also time for fun as my wife and I were able to tour some amazing layouts and collections, ride the Duquesne Incline, and visit the Horseshoe Curve as well as the Railroaders' Museum in Altoona. I had a great time and look forward to next year's convention in Warwick, RI.

My wife and I also enjoyed a vacation to Alaska this summer. Over the course of several days and separate trips, we rode the length of the Alaska Railroad's main line from Fairbanks to Seward with stops in Denali, Talkeetna, and Anchorage along the way. We also managed to get in a side trip to ride the famous White Pass & Yukon Route – a historic narrow gauge railway from Skagway, AK to the Canadian border at White Pass and back. The views were breathtaking! (photos on p. 6)

As summer fades into fall here in Florida, I think we all look forward to slightly cooler temperatures, a little lower humidity, and the return of our snowbird friends from up north. We also have a great train meet to look forward to in Jacksonville on November 18th. I'd love to see you there! We have more great meets scheduled for January in Largo and February in Fort Pierce. As noted in the last issue, we're always looking for volunteers to help out our Southern Division in many different capacities. So, if you have the time and interest, we'll welcome your involvement. For more about what this could entail, please email or call me.

Happy Collecting!

Steve

SD on Facebook

Check out the Southern Division's Facebook page. It was created and is maintained by Linda Johnson, wife of President Steve Johnson. Search for **Train Collector's Association-Southern Division.** We ask you to "Like" the page and send photos and articles to post. We also post information about upcoming TCA-SD meets and are hoping to reach people not reached with our other advertising. The more "Likes" & "Shares" we get, the broader our exposure to others that may not be as familiar with this wonderful hobby! Photos which include children seem to get the most "Likes," but please make sure you have prior, parent/guardian permission. Email your submissions directly to Steve: Sjohnson@fljdcpa.com, and he'll get them to Linda to post. Thanks for your help!

The Southern Division extends its sincerest condolences to Steve Johnson on the recent passing of his mother.

The Southern Division extends its sincerest condolences to Jim Spangler on the recent passing of his wife.

YOU ARE INVITED . . .
on Friday, November 3, 5 - 9 PM . . .

. . . to Clark and Ilene Vegazo's 10th Annual Open House / Classic Car Display!

If you attended last year's event, you'll remember the camaraderie, fun, delicious food, really cool classic cars, and live band. They'll be back!

The band rocked out!

Clark and Ilene recently returned from a three-week vacation in the Pacific North-west. Clark had an unreserved surprise - a "Cab-Ride" in the 2-8-2 Tank engine of the Mt. Rainier Railroad. Check out the train video that he shot and uploaded to You Tube. Go to www.youtube.com, then search for title "CAB-RIDE, Mount Rainier RR!" under his youtube name - "Train Man." https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zelj9QQhlk0&t=24s

Make Tracks to Jax, November 18, 2017

Everyone is again invited to the Morocco Shrine Auditorium (MSA), 3800 St. Johns Bluff Road S, Jacksonville, FL 32224. The location has very easy access off of I-295 (the east side of the loop). We will again have operating layouts including some returning favorites. The MSA is a well known venue in Jacksonville. We will be utilizing the Activity Building which has a separate entry in the rear of the facility with its own dedicated parking lots. It is fully handicapped accessible. There will also be a large Craft Fair in the front half of the building the same day as our train meet.

Meet Hours: 9 AM to 10 AM for TCA members only and open to the public from 10 AM to 3 PM.

Admission: $5.00/person with free admission to a child 12 and under when accompanied by an adult, or any adult accompanied by a child 12 and under.

Freebie Table: We will continue our Jacksonville tradition of a freebie table. We all have a story of how somebody gave us something free when we were first starting out to get us on our way. Bring items that are "kitbashing" candidates - those old cars that are missing trucks, items ugly enough to not need weathering, toys for the kids, those little train items that you have kept but don't know why, that HO caboose that you keep wondering why you have at all, or simply something you just do not have a need to keep. It always amazes me to see how happy folks are that someone is still willing to share the hobby and expect nothing in return. I already have a couple of plastic bins that I will be filling to give away. PLEASE do not bring old toy train magazines or recent catalogs.

Hotel: The MSA has an offer with the Holiday Inn Jacksonville E 295 Baymeadows at 11083 Nurseryfields Drive, Jacksonville phone (904) 854-8000. They offer a rate of $84 a night for those coming to events at the MSA. The exit off I-295 (again, the East side of the loop) is Exit 56, Baymeadows. To get their special pricing, please contact the hotel directly and mention that you are coming to an event at the MSA. There are many hotels in the area in a wide variety of prices, and staying at the beach is a consideration as it is only 8 miles away.

Food: Coffee, drinks and snacks will be offered for sale by the MSA. With the location being just 3 minutes from the St. Johns Town Center, there are restaurants to suit everyone from casual fare to gourmet with several new ones since just last year. Or go eat the Swedish meatballs at the brand new Ikea which is scheduled to open before Nov 19th. There is also the very popular Top Golf less than a mile away which is now open (think of a 3-story driving range for those who want more fun).

For anyone with money left in their pockets after the train meet, **Hobby World** now on Blanding Boulevard in Orange Park will offer any TCA member a 15% discount on any purchase made on November 18th excluding items called net items where the items have an actual net cost to them that would be more than the list price minus 15%. See Patrick or Chet and they will do their best even on these items (mostly RC car and some of the large locomotives).

Dealers: Tables are all 8 feet long and cost $20 for TCA-SD members and $30 for TCA members not currently members of the division. Do the math. If you plan to rent more than one table, it saves you money to join our division. Even with only one table, join the division and get the newsletters and benefits for exactly the same you were going to pay if you rented the table without joining. REMEMBER PLEASE: All helpers must be a current spouse (no exes) or a current member of the TCA in good standing (no exes). If any dealer needs access to electrical power, we have it (no extra charge), but indicate that on the registration form (included in this issue) so your table is placed near an outlet.

Set up: Early set up for dealers and layouts is currently scheduled for 3-7 PM on Friday, November 17th and 7-9 AM on the day of the meet. All dealers are asked to contact the meet host by email the week of November 6th to confirm that these will be the hours for set up. Admission to the hall will not be permitted before 3 PM as the table set up and marking off locations will still be occurring during the afternoon before 3 PM. Staff will not be at the facility until 7 AM on Saturday.

Directions: From I-295 East Beltway heading south, take Exit #51 Beach Boulevard exit and turn right (west) and a quick left turn onto St. Johns Bluff Road South. From I-295 East Beltway heading north, take Exit #52 Town Center Parkway / Univ of North Florida exit, turn left (west) and a quick right onto St. Johns Bluff Road heading north (you can't go south). The Morocco Shrine Auditorium has a very large sign and is a very prominent structure on the west side of St. Johns Bluff Road.

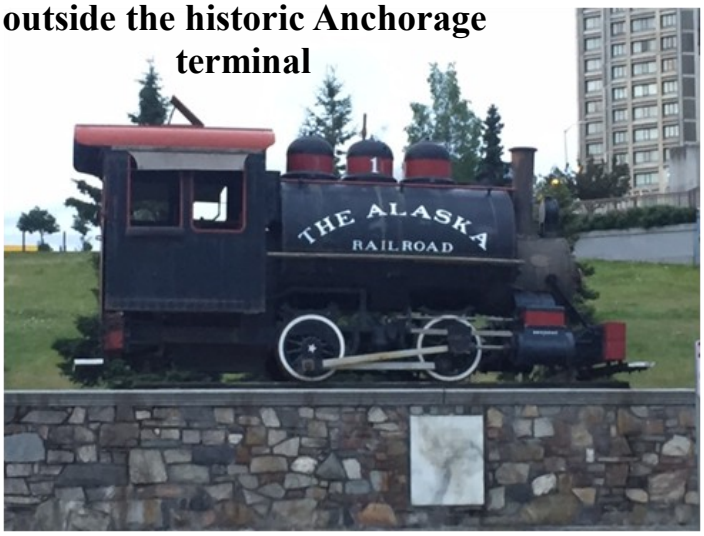
Meet Host: Chuck Bryner, 606 Chivas Court, Orange Park, FL 32073, (904) 272-7060 before 9:00 PM please as our house gets up at 4:00 AM for work. Email: bryner@comcast.net.

Make Tracks to Jax

Good location, *trains*, layouts, *trains*, shopping nearby, *trains*, dining, *trains*, Ikea, *trains*. Did I mention *trains*?
Hope to see you in November.

Alaska RR locomotive heading out of Fairbanks

JOHNSONS' ALASKA ADVENTURE



outside the historic Anchorage terminal

WP&Y snowplow on display in Skagway

WP&Y Alaska, US & British Columbia, Canada border

WP&Y heading into one of several tunnels

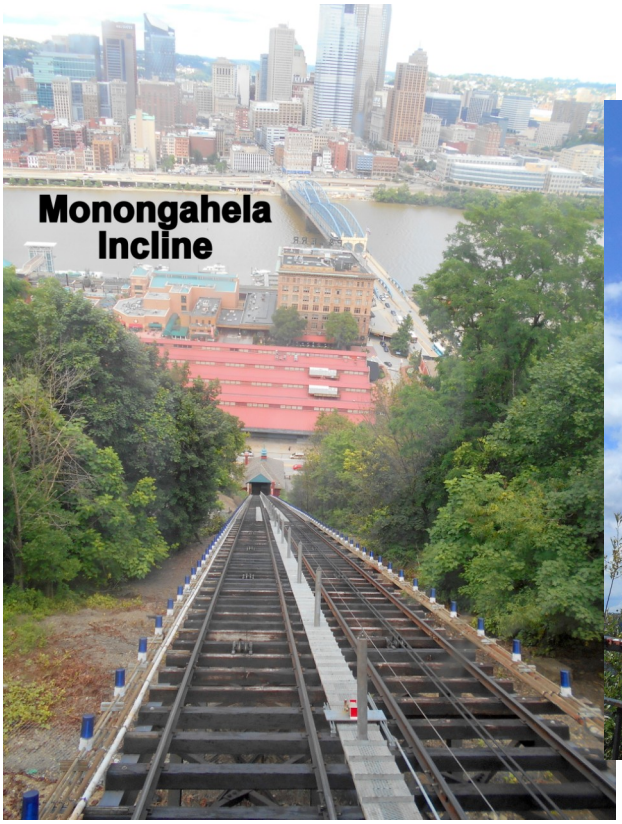
vintage WP&Y steam locomotive

TRAIN MEET SIGNAGE: If anyone has or has knowledge of the location of train meet signs that are put on streets around venues, please contact VP Jay Zschau. The signs seem to have disappeared over the past couple of years. They are important and are to be stored between meets at the SD's storage space at Zitnik Trains in St. Petersburg. Thank you for checking.

TCA 2017 Convention
Pittsburgh, PA

Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown

view from convention hotel toward “the point”
(3-rivers confluence)



Monongahela Incline looking up!

At one time, there were 22 working funiculars (inclines) in and around Pittsburgh; only 2 remain operational - the Duquesne and the Monongahela.

Above: Standing, L-R: Gary & Carol Licko and Ilene & Clark Vegazo. Kneeling is the "Just Ducky Tours" boat captain. These authentic, World War II amphibious vehicles were built in 1944 and 1945 by General Motors.

Right: Kevin Quinn, METCA division president, presented a "check" for $25,000 (or, as Kevin termed the amount, "25 Large") to Charlie for the TCA (METCA Endowment Fund Challenge).

gazing at a seemingly endless train by Station Square

V.I.P. Party at the Victorian home of Fort Pitt member John DeSantis. John restored this home to period, and the top three floors are devoted to trains.

An acting troupe (sans Charlie) provided entertainment at the party. (another dignified Charlie moment)

The kitchen and food were wonderful!

What? No "3M Command" picture hanging strips back in the day?!

It may be difficult to see, but there's a pull chain over the commode! Wow!

A silent auction and food stations were the order of business at the Welcome Party.

Future president Fanara rocked out with the Dixieland Jazz Band provided at the Welcome Party!

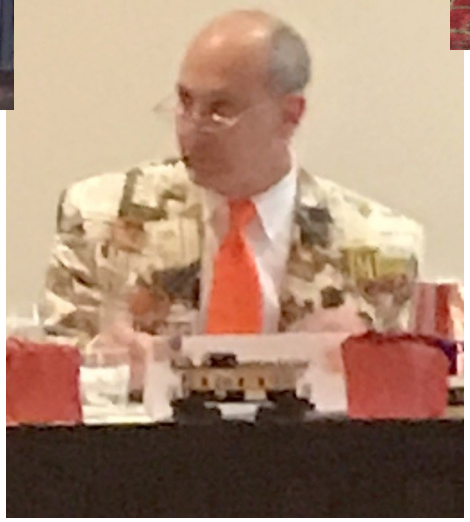
The banquet halls were packed to capacity.

Sam Merando, Fort Pitt Division President and convention host

The Banquet was a wonderful conclusion to a jam-packed and fun-filled week.

We remember!

George Starz sporting his own train jacket (Lou Redman's was on display during the convention).



The Southern Division thanks the TCA National, the Fort Pitt Division members, and everyone else who made the convention happen. As you can see by the list at right, it "takes a village."

The SD will host the 2020 convention in Jacksonville, and we're counting on *your* help as SD members.

official convention cookie
"They were tasty, too!"

2017-2018 Upcoming Florida Train Meets/Shows

October 7, 2017: 61st Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Arena, 3150 E. New York Ave., **Deland** 32724 (**Golden Spike**, Charles W. Miller, 3106 N. Rochester St., Arlington, VA 22213, 703-536-2954, email: rrshows@aol.com. Website www.gserr.com

October 14: Elks Lodge, 401 N. Indian Ave., **Englewood** 34223 **(Regal Railways**: 727-244-1341; all shows 9A-2P, Adults $5, children 12 and under free; **EARLY BIRD** $7 by reservation; vendors and model train layout; lunch available Joe_@regalrailways.com; www.regalrailways.com**)**

October 28: Columbian Club of Osceola County, 2000 Neptune Rd., **Kissimmee** 347449 **(Regal Railways**, above**)**

November 4: Lions Club Show, First Christian Church, 1908 E Fort King St., **Ocala** 34471, 9A-3P, contact Bob Chadwick at 352-694-6381

November 18: **Jacksonville**,10A-3P **Meet Story in this issue**. **(TCA Southern Division)**

November 18: Hillsborough County Fairgrounds, 215 Sydney Washer Road, **Dover** 33527 **(Regal Railways**, above**)**

December 2: Lopez Hall (former K of C) 7177 58th St. North, **Pinellas Park** 33781 **(Regal Railways**, above**)**

December 2: Azan Shrine Temple, 1591 W Eau Gallie Blvd., **Melbourne** 32935 **(Schultz Space Coast Train Show**, www.Schultzspacecoasttrains.com, 321-805-1963**)**

December 9-10: 9th Annual Toy and Train Show, St. Marks School Gymnasium, 3395 Burns Rd., **Palm Beach Gardens** 33410, Sat: 9A-3P, Sun: 11A-3P Contact Will Wagner, 561-373-9603, Derrickwagnerfounda-tion@gmail.com or wwainc@comcast.net; website www.DerrickWagnerFoundation.com

December 16-17: Tampa Model Show, Florida State Fairgrounds, 4800 U.S. 301, **Tampa** 33610 **(Golden Spike**, above**)**

January 6, 2018: Hernando County Fairgrounds, 6436 Broad St., **Brooksville** 34601 **(Regal Railways**, above**)**

January 13-14: 62nd Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Arena, 3150 E. New York Ave., **Deland** 32724 **(Golden Spike**, above**)**

January 20-21: Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy., **Stuart** 34996 9A-3P both days; contact Bill Smet 847-331-0440, email cgwbill@aol.com

January 27: Minnreg Hall, 6340 126th Ave., **Largo** 33773, 10A-3P Meet Story in the next issue. **(TCA SD)**

February 10: Jacksonville, Prime Osborn Convention Center, 1000 Water St., **Jacksonville** 32204 **(Golden Spike**, above**)**

February 17: New Lake Civic Association, 8330 Civic Rd., **Port Richey** 34668 **(Regal Railways**, above**)**

February 24: Fenn Center, 2000 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce 34982, 10A-3P Meet Story in the next issue. **(TCA SD)**

Please send notices of upcoming Florida train shows to Jeff Mayer, jcjmayer@gmail.com or call 321-297-0501.

Promotion and Attendance at Train Meets

In order to promote awareness and thus attendance, we will print a schedule of upcoming shows in each quarter's *The Layout* and on our Southern Division website (www.tcasoutherndivision.org). Another way these meets are promoted is by having flyers about upcoming shows available at each show, thus marketing to folks who already have evidenced an interest in trains by attending the show. We are looking for TCA SD members to assist in that distribution. If you plan to attend any train-related meets, shows or other events, please contact **TCA SD Vice President Jay Zschau** (email: jayz@penningtonlaw.com or phone 727-784-8490) and let him know. Jay will get flyers to you to take to the meet and leave out for others. If possible, please give Jay at least a week or more notice to ensure he has time to get the appropriate flyers to you. Thanks for your help!

Train Collectors Association
Southern Division
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St. Petersburg, FL 33710-3724

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St. Petersburg, FL 33730-9541

SWITCH LIST

Are you ready to **Sell** or **Thin out** your **Train and Toy collections**? Please call **Dick Wilsen** (Sarasota): **941-374-2288**.

American Flyer Trains by A. C. Gilbert. Buy, sell, repairs done. Diesel bushings redone. Single motor, $25; Double motor, $40 (includes general servicing and parts). Call or write Chris Lucibello: 2483 Pinellas Point Dr. S., St. Petersburg 33712; 727-867-3465, email: karen.lucibello@verizon.net.

Switch List is a free service to Southern Division Members. Send your ads (space permitting) for trains for sale/wanted/trade to Mary Anyan. **Ads must be renewed prior to each issue of *The Layout*.** You may renew your ad for **one** issue at a time by contacting Mary via email, **mia1@tampabay.rr.com**, or snail mail, 1800 Follow-Thru Rd. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33710.

The deadline for articles, photos, etc. for the next issue of *The Layout* is

December 1, 2017. Thank you.