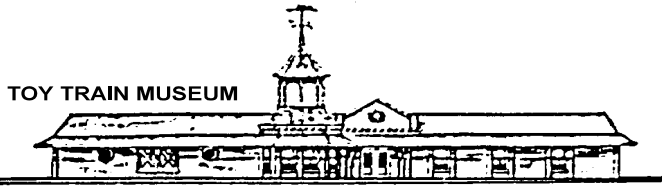


# THE LAYOUT



ENJOY A VISIT TO YOUR MUSEUM

## THE SOUTHERN DIVISION TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

Spring 2014

VOLUME 48 NUMBER 2



**Above: Dienzel give prizes to Southern Division Kid's Club Members  
Below: A Kid's Club Member watches Mike Powell's Z Gauge Layout**



**Coming Soon— For the Southern Division 50th Anniversary—  
*The Layout* in 3-D!  
(Sorry—special 3-D glasses not included)**

# Southern Division Board of Directors, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster



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## 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.

The Deadline for the next issue of *The Layout* is June 15, 2014

Check out the Southern Division Website: [www.tcasoutherndivision.org](http://www.tcasoutherndivision.org)  
Webmaster: Jake Jacob



## President's Message



Brad Woodward

The TCA National Convention will be held in Philadelphia from June 21 through June 28, 2014. Philadelphia is an easy drive up I-95 and makes for a good family vacation. The national convention offers over 20 train layout tours, several train rides, access to the Steamtown site and many historical tours. It's a fun time for fellowship. *See You There!*

We've had some great Southern Division Train Shows in Florida. Back in January Charlie Anyan had a great train show with over a 100 tables at Largo. Charlie has booked the site again for January 2015. Al Galli hosted a show in March at our new location in Palm Beach. Al had great attendance for this meet and has booked another train show there for next March (2015). Tim Evert and Al Michelini are working on the Venice train show on Sept 6, 2014, at Ramada Inn Resort. (over 950 attended the last year's show). Jeff Sawyer with Steve Johnson are putting together a terrific train Show for Nov. 22, 2014, in Jacksonville (This is a Florida/Georgia event) It will become a large show with Georgia and Carolina collectors attending. Arnie Travitsky has hosted many of train shows in the Orlando area but due to health issues has decided to step aside from hosting future train meets. Thanks Arnie for all of your energy. We are looking for a new host and co-host for the Orlando area. *Please let me know if you are interested in hosting a show or can assist with hosting a meet.*

Richard and Judy Tashjian will be setting up a recruiting booth for new TCA-SD member on May 10, 2014, at the Gold Coast Railroad Museum in Miami, FL, for Railroad Days. I thank Richard and Judy for their efforts.

Finally, I want to thank all the volunteers for staffing the front desk at each train meet.  
*"Keep Trackin' Those Trains"* BRAD WOODWARD, TCA-SD President

## CHARLIE ANYAN ELECTED TCA NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

The election for national TCA officers was completed last month. Charlie Anyan was nominated and elected to the office of Vice President of TCA. He previously was the President of the Southern Division, and, in his nominating resume, he stated that he would try to serve in the national office as he did in the division, trying to do his best for the TCA. Working with the National Treasurer and other national officers and Division Presidents, his first priority is to help to get the TCA on a firm financial footing.

The other elected officers are: President – Katie Elgar – Desert Division  
President Elect – Wayne Sheriff – Western Division  
Treasurer – Bob Mintz – Southern Division  
Secretary – Christie Wilson – Desert Division

Officer's terms become effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

It is interesting to note that all of the incoming TCA officers are from far west and far south divisions. Is this the wave of the future?

## Upcoming Meets/Train Shows

### Upcoming TCA shows—See the meet stories in the next issue of The Layout

TCA Southern Division - Venice, Florida, September 6, 2014

Jacksonville, FL, November 22, 2014

### Non-TCA meets, but sponsored by a TCA member

**Regal Railways** – Joe Schramm –for info, contact Joe at [joe@regalrailways.com](mailto:joe@regalrailways.com); 727-441-2159

Knights of Columbus Hall, Port Richey, FL, June 21, 2014; Lopez Inc. Hall, Pinellas Park, FL August 23, 2014; Elks Hall, Englewood, FL October 18, 2014; Citrus County Fairgrounds, Inverness, FL November 1, 2014; Lopez Inc. Hall, Pinellas Park, FL December 6, 2014.

### Non-TCA Meets

**Golden Spike** - FL State Fairgrounds, Contact Charles Miller, [rrshows@aol.com](mailto:rrshows@aol.com), 703-536-2954, Tampa, FL, June 7 and 8, 2014, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Deland, FL Contact Charles Miller, [rrshows@aol.com](mailto:rrshows@aol.com), 703-536-2954, July 12, 2014

**Schultz Space Coast Trains**, Azan Shrine Temple, Melbourne, FL, [Schultzspacecoasttrains.com](http://Schultzspacecoasttrains.com), 321-591-2641, June 7, 2014, Sept. 6, 2014, December 6, 2014.

**Silver Springs Lions Train Show**, National Guard Amory, 90 SW 20th St., Ocala, FL, June 14 and 15, call 352-694-6391

**Brevard Train Expo**, May 17th 2014, Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E Hibiscus Blvd, Melbourne, FL Contact Dave Hastings, 321-914-3888, [dave\\_hastings@rocketmail.com](mailto:dave_hastings@rocketmail.com) or Bud Gilbert 321-987-6737 [Cookie0696@aol.com](mailto:Cookie0696@aol.com)

### Promotion & Attendance at Train Meets

In order to promote awareness and thus attendance, we will print a schedule of upcoming shows in each quarter's Layout and at our Southern Division website ([www.tcasoutherndivision.org](http://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 have already 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 Steve Johnson (email: [sjohnson@fljdcpa.com](mailto:sjohnson@fljdcpa.com) or call: 305-335-1752) and let him know. Steve will get flyers to you to take to the meet and leave out for others. If possible, please give Steve at least a week or more notice to ensure he has time to get the appropriate flyers to you. Thanks for your help!!

## **Southern Division of TCA Board of Directors Meeting, Friday, January 24, 2014**

The meeting in the MinnReg Building was called to order at 4:12 p. m. Secretary Dennis called the roll with the following in attendance. President Brad Woodward, Past President Anyan, Vice President Johnson, Secretary Dennis, and Communication Director Harris. Treasurer Powell was not in attendance due to family matters. Past President Travitsky arrived before the meeting was concluded.

A motion by Johnson, with a second by Dennis, was passed stating that we would keep the 2014 budget the same as last years until we can meet again with our treasurer in attendance. The quarter report and the Venice meet report were accepted as previously presented by our treasurer by means of an email.

There was no report from the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee since neither of them was present at the meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed that; "Southern Division dues would be waived for officers who are listed in the The Layout. Any meet host will have their dues waived for the year following their meet." This will begin in January, 2014.

The president will select a nominating committee for next year's slate of officers.

A discussion was had concerning the front table workers at our meets. Action was deferred and tabled.

We discussed ways to increase the value of our Kids Club program. We next discussed our door prize program and ways to enhance it without over spending. We decided to continue on as in the past.

Charles Anyan and Arnie Travitsky will get together and decide how to get the train signs to our next meet site. Mr. Anyan reported on the silent auction items and the process to use during our meet Saturday. He also elaborated on the problem of selling out all the tables (109) and then dealers having to back out for various reasons at the last minute. He was down more than 10 table holders from previous bookings.

The fraud on our bank account was corrected with no damage financially to our club. The bank worked well with us on this, covered all our problems, and we now have a new account.

The President's report consisted mostly of registration cards from previous meets and means of contacts for future meets. Printed list and suggestions were distributed. Vice President Johnson stated that he had nothing in particular to report. Secretary Dennis stated that all officers received a printed report from him by email earlier in the week. This reported that we have 428 active paid up members, 1 honorary member, 34 known deceased members, and 264 inactive past members who have not paid their dues for 2014. Therefore, we have 727 entrees in our data base. He also added that at the end of 2013, we had 502 active members. This is a much larger than usual decrease to begin a new year and part of it was due to the increase in national dues starting this year. As always, please inform Secretary Dennis of any changes in your address, telephone, email, etc. We want to stay in touch with our members but can only do so if our member information is correct and up to date.

Linda Harris, Communication Chair, could not find an acceptable bill board at a price we were willing to pay for this meet. However, she did get a lot of free advertising in various media in the area. She is currently working on ads for all our future meets.

The train show reports show that the Largo meet for tomorrow is in good shape and ready to go. Al Galli is progressing at a steady pace for our Palm Beach Gardens Show on March 23, 2014. Steve Johnson has set the date for the Jacksonville show and it will be Nov. 22, 2014. This is the week-end before Thanksgiving. We are currently working on more meets including one in the Central Florida area to take the place of the Maitland event.

The open house tonight will be at the Linda Harris home where we will see the collection of her late husband and long time SD member and Tinplate Tycoon, Steve Harris. Visitation hours are from 7:00 to 9:00 p. m.

There being no more business, we adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Dienzel Dennis,  
Southern Division Secretary

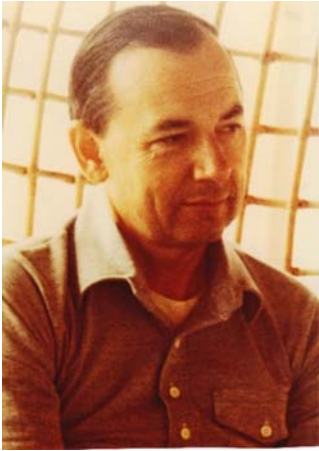


# Photos from The Palm Beach Gardens Meet





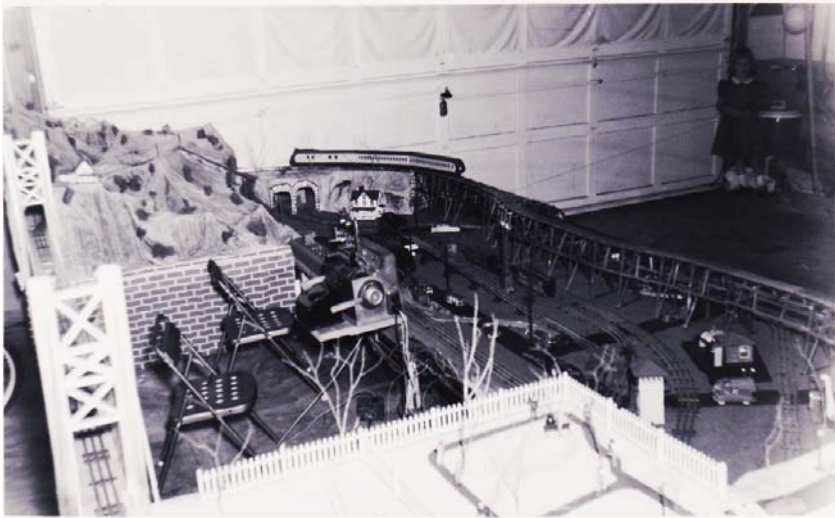
## Sad Tidings—Robert Klenner Jr. by Robert Klenner III



Those of you that knew my father may recognize some of what follows. To say that Dad and I had different perspectives on life is putting it mildly. While I lived at home, we agreed on very little and while the disagreements were loudly argued, what we did agree on was not often discussed. However, each year on the day after Thanksgiving, while most of the neighbors were starting to decorate their homes, it was time for us to get out the plywood and the carriage bolts and start assembling what was known in our home as the Christmas Garden.



Each year the Christmas Garden was different, not just in what was in it, but also in size and configuration. In 1960 it was 8 by 8 feet with a single tunnel, three O gauge trains and the only operating accessory was a Lionel Bascule bridge. I



was 7 years old and I thought it was great. At the time I had no idea where this was going to lead.

Each year that followed, the Christmas Garden became larger and more complex. Sometimes it was rectangular, sometimes a horseshoe shape with a suspension bridge made of 1 x 6, clothesline rope and crab twine, but there were always mountains with tunnels.

When I was 10, Dad showed me how to wire up the houses using cut up strings of Christmas tree lights. The next year he showed me how to solder the wires to the rails (who needs lock-ons). We cut up wooden match sticks to

make insulated track pins and took clippings from the arborvitae tree in the backyard to make the trees.

When I was 12, Dad showed me how to make the roads using a roll of roofing tar paper, a 1 by 6 for a straight edge and a linoleum cutter. To this day I still wonder why neither of us wound up at the emergency room. As the years went on more of my ideas and efforts were included, but Dad always had the magic technique for plastering the mountains and he was an artist with a can of spray paint. Most years Santa brought at least one new (to us) train. They weren't wrapped and under the tree. They would have magically appeared on the rails when you went out to the garage on Christmas morning.





## Continued from previous page

Dad would spend his spare time during the year hunting the garage sales and goodwill stores to make the magic happen.

In mid-1969 came Dad's greatest "find". One Friday night, right after dinner, Dad left the house with my Mom's station wagon. When he came home several hours later the entire car, including the front seat, was filled with boxes. He hurriedly unloaded the boxes into the garage and left again. When he returned, well after 10 PM, there were still more boxes in the car and green painted sheets of plywood tied to the roof. We spent the rest of that weekend going through those boxes. I'm sure Dad would have liked to have Santa bring these trains, but there was no way he could have hidden all of this. Those boxes and plywood were the remnants of what had been an operating layout of Lionel O-gauge. It had belonged to a Children's Home and had become too much for them to maintain and so they had decided to sell. This was the foundation for Dad's postwar collection.



Robert Klenner Jr. poses with the train layout.



As Dad had clearly been bitten by the bug, he joined TCA in January of 1970. The last Christmas Garden at Dad's where I participated in the construction was during Christmas of 1970 and it was a 16 by 16 foot L-shaped layout with six trains, a fully operating switchyard where you could change the locomotives or the makeup of the trains, and it had at least a dozen operating accessories.

I always thought it was the very best layout we ever built.

Dad,  
Thanks for the memories...and for keeping the pictures.

Robert Klenner III

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## Photos from The Palm Beach Gardens Meet



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[candklucibello@verizon.net](mailto:candklucibello@verizon.net)

**FOR SALE: LIONEL POSTWAR, PREWAR, LTI, MTH, Have MTH RAILRAX TRACK**, curves, straights. **ARNIE TRAVITSKY, 873 CYNTHIANNA CIRCLE, ALTAMONTE, SPRINGS, FL. 32701 arni99@aol.com 407-260-8599 LSASE FOR LIST.**

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