



Winter in Florida!



WINTER 2023

VOLUME 57

NUMBER 1

PINELLAS PARK (TAMPA BAY AREA) MEET STORY

February 11, 2023

Meet Host: Guy Ateniese, 727-480-7909, gateniese@tampabay.rr.com

We're returning to our beautiful location from 2020 and 2022 - the Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center, 4951 78th Ave. N., Pinellas Park, FL 33781 (<https://www.pinellas-park.com>).



Set Up for table holders will be Friday, 10:00A-5:00P and Saturday, **8:00-9:00A** (per contract with the venue). During set up, the building only will be open to table holders and authorized helpers. **Remember to list on the Registration Form the full name(s) of any helpers. All helpers must be a family member or a current TCA member in good standing, unless pre-approved by the meet host or a board member.**

Tables: 8 feet, SD members: **\$25** per table for 1-3 tables or \$20 per table for 4+ tables; TCA non-SD members: \$30 per table. Due to many early table pre-sales (table holders from other meets and repeat table holders), tables are limited. It will be a first-come, first-served basis. **Send your completed Table Registration Form with payment in advance of the meet.** There will be no "holds" or "pay upon arrival" due to several no-shows in the past leaving us with empty unsold tables.

Board of Directors Meeting: Friday the 10th at 3:00P in the venue. Advise VP Mike Mills in advance if you plan to attend.

Hours: 9:00A for TCA Members only; **9:30A SD Members' Meeting;** 10:00A - 3:00P to the public

Admission: \$5.00/person and free admission to a child 12 and under when accompanied by an adult. All children 12 and under will receive a free gift at the check-in table.

Activities: door prize drawings for adults and children throughout the day; drag races; Scavenger Hunt for families; and kids' play area

Food: A food truck may be on site, but there are several nearby restaurants (Cheddars, Firehouse Subs, Popeye's Chicken, McDonald's, etc.) from which to choose.

Open House: Dave and Gale Zitnik again have graciously agreed to host an open house at their store, Zitnik Trains, 5193 73rd Ave. N., Pinellas Park from 6:30-8:00P on Friday the 10th. Sandwiches, snacks, desserts and beverages will be provided. Zitnik Trains is in very close proximity to the meet venue. Phone 727-201-9668.



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Attachments / Inserts

1. SD 2022 3Q Treasurer's Report
2. SD 2023 Budget
3. Pinellas Park Table Registration Form
4. Southern Division Status Report
5. Volunteer Form

**The Southern Division Board of Directors,
Webmaster, Legal Counsel, Technical Director, and *The Layout Editor***



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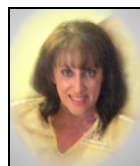
*Reminder: Southern Division membership is
open to all TCA members in good standing.
If not already a TCA member,
you may join TCA when you join the SD.



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If you were able to attend all or part of the November 19th Lake Nona events,
we're sure you had a great time. Can you find your picture
in one or more of the photos on this page or pages 3,4 and 6?



President's Perspective
by
Mike Setzer

Happy New Year, everyone. I hope you had a safe and wonderful holiday season.

I take this opportunity to compliment Mike Mills and Bill Trappen for their hard work in preparation of the November 18th and 19th events in the Orlando area. Sadly, the November 18th barbeque and train rides were canceled. But the November 19th train meet, dinner and show & tell were great fun. Of course, Santa was a big hit. Enjoy the pictures in this issue.

Our next division show is scheduled for Saturday, February 11 in Pinellas Park. Hope to see you.

It's unfortunate that another notice and form regarding volunteerism in the Southern Division accompany this newsletter. But again I encourage you to give serious consideration to what you can do for your division.

My wife and I wish each and every one of you and your loved ones a healthy, happy 2023.

Mike



Above, L-R: Mary Irene Dexter, Linda Mixon and Barbara Mills did a great job at the check-in table.



Above: Al Matey



Above: SD member Ed Richter holding his grandson Eddie, named after him. It's never too early to get the little ones hooked on trains.



Above: John DiCrisi

Lake Nona Fun



Above: John Collins



Left: SD President Mike Setzer presented the 56th Anniversary President's Award to Barbara Mills for her "continuing dedicated work in support of the Southern Division of the Train Collectors Association."
Congratulations, Barbara!



Above L-R: John Lang, Rosemary and Bill Trappen



Left: Meet Host Mike Mills (with Mike Setzer trying to photobomb)



Above L: with Richard and Judy Tashjian
Above R: with Rosemary Trappen



Left, L-R: Mike Setzer, Mike Mills, Richard Tashjian and Marianne Napolitano

more Lake Nona Fun

L: Greg & Barbara Christian's layout - - the inset shows a Lionel operating airplane accessory which has been temporarily modified with a special "aircraft" representative of the season.



Above: with The Villages Model Railroad Club



Above: Richard Tashjian's Lionel Wartime Fiberboard Freight Train ("No Vital Wartime Materials Used")



Above: The Villages Model Railroad Club with their Thomas the Tank Engine display



Above: Todd Davis, assistant meet host, and Mike Mills



Above: Ed and Sandy Richter

Minutes - TCA Southern Division Board of Directors Meeting
via Zoom
November 15, 2022

A Train Collectors Association (TCA) Southern Division (SD) Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting was held November 15, 2022, beginning at 1:10 PM EST. The meeting was called to order by President Mike Setzer.

Secretary Dienzel Dennis called roll with the following board members in attendance: President Setzer; Vice President Mike Mills; Secretary Dennis; Treasurer Mike Powell; Communications Officer Bill Trappen, and Past President Charlie Anyan. A quorum was present. Invited guest participating: *The Layout* Editor Mary Anyan.

Mr. Mills reported on the status of the division's Volunteer Request form mailed with the fall 2022 newsletter. Of 349 active members, only 2 forms were returned to him; and one was from a non-TCA SD person. The board again discussed the lack of volunteerism by division members and agreed that another, more strongly worded article should be included in the winter 2023 newsletter.

Regarding the November 18th and 19th trifecta of events in Orlando: 1) Mr. Trappen reported that the November 18th train rides and barbeque scheduled at the Pembertons' property are canceled. He phoned everyone who signed up and paid. Fortunately, no deposits had previously been paid to the food vendor or table rental company. For those unaware, Bruce Pemberton's outdoor railroad cars and track were damaged by Hurricane Ian. After repairing that damage, rain from Hurricane Nicole flooded the lakes near his property which caused more damage. The board sincerely thanks the Pembertons for their willingness to host this event. 2) Mr. Mills reported that the November 19th meet is on track and promises to be a fun-filled event. Currently, all tables in the Lake Nona Middle School cafeteria are reserved, and 30 vendors are signed up, and 6 layouts will be on display. He has advertised extensively and expects a large attendance. 3) Mr. Trappen stated that since he received no nominations for awards from the awards committee, he proposes that the awards ceremony be postponed until the February 11, 2023, train show in Pinellas Park. This will give the board time to review prospective nominees. The board was in agreement.

Mr. Dennis reported that as of this date, the SD Membership Roster contains 349 Active, 505 Inactive, and 102 Deceased members.

Mr. Powell and the board reviewed:

The SD 2022 3Q Treasurer's Report, previously emailed to the board.

Motion: The Southern Division Board of Directors approves the SD 2022 3rd Quarter Treasurer's Report as written. Motion unanimously was approved.

The SD FY 2023 Proposed Budget, previously emailed to the board.

Motion: The Southern Division Board of Directors approves the SD 2023 Proposed Budget as written. Motion unanimously was approved.

Mr. Trappen reported on his Communications Officer's activities since the last board meeting. He: 1) prepared the Southern Division input for the complimentary ¼-page ad and calendar of meets column for the December issue of the TCA National HQ News; 2) made 1,000 copies of the revised Orlando Meet Flyer which added the info about Santa Claus's visit. That many copies were made because they were to be distributed at three local train shows; however, one show was canceled; 3) attended The Villages and the Melbourne train shows, placed copies of the division's Orlando Meet Flyer on the information table and also walked around the shows reminding TCA table holders and SD members about the meet and gave them table and events registration forms; 4) attended the October York meet, placed copies of the division's Orlando Meet Flyer on the information table near the Silver Hall (with permission from the meet chairman) and also walked around the show reminding TCA table holders and SD members about the meet and gave them table and events registration forms; 5) contacted SD member Gary Fischel who agreed to make copies of the flyer to display at the Ocala Train Show on November 5th; 6) contacted Dienzel Dennis who agreed to make copies to take to the November 2nd club night at Roundhouse South; 7) visited the Lake Mary History Museum and gave them copies of the revised flyer (all of the original flyers they were given in July had been distributed); 8) gave copies of the flyers to SD member Jeff Mayer to display at his train booth at a local antique shop; and 9) visited a local Nemours Children's doctor's office and gave them flyers.

Mr. Trappen read the SD Webmaster's Report which previously had been emailed to him by Bill Porter: 1) The website is working well, and no budget changes are anticipated for 2023; and 2) He is ready to update the Home page with the new dues and membership notice upon Treasurer Powell's approval. Mr. Trappen added that approval has been received, and the dues notice is now on the website.

Mrs. Anyan reminded the board that items for the winter 2023 newsletter are due to her not later than December 1. She asked that many photos of the Orlando meet, dinner and Show & Tell be taken and emailed to her ASAP after the events.

(continued on p. 6)

Minutes - TCA Southern Division Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom, November 15, 2022 (cont'd.)

Mr. Anyan reported for Pinellas Park meet host Guy Ateniese that currently 36 tables have been sold for the February 11, 2023, show. The table registration form again will be included with the winter newsletter.

The board discussed the feasibility of continuing train meets in the Fort Pierce area, and Mr. Setzer said he would like to find a meet host.

Mr. Setzer reported that at the October York show, a convention committee meeting was held. He reported that TCA Convention Chairman Bob Keller discussed the 2025 Jacksonville Convention and asked him if the Southern Division would be willing to host and pay for only the Welcome Party with the national office handling everything else. Mr. Keller advised that he would like to speak directly with the SD board members regarding this. Mr. Setzer advised him that he will first discuss this with the SD BOD. A discussion followed, with the consensus that SD board members will speak with SD members from the Jacksonville area who plan to attend the Orlando events on November 19th to ask if they are willing to volunteer to coordinate the welcome party. Mr. Setzer will then advise Mr. Keller.

Mr. Setzer also discussed: 1) The 11th Annual Toy and Train Show on December 10th & 11th at St. Mark's School in Palm Beach Gardens whose profits go to the Derrick Dean Wagner Foundation. Mr. Setzer will assist meet host Will Wagner who has asked if the SD will consider taking over this show in 2023 or 2024. A discussion was held.

At 1:38 PM EST, the board went into Executive Session and came out at 1:43 PM EST. The board will review in a future meeting.

2) The model train outing he would like to offer to the SD membership in Bushnell. This site offers a new train venue, a museum, a G-scale layout plus HO, O and S-gauge displays, and outdoor rides on a 7.5" G-scale railroad. An old-fashioned swap meet and an SD membership meeting could be held on the property. Mr. Setzer volunteered to be meet host. Proposed cost per person would be \$10 to include the train ride, museum tour and snacks. The board discussed this, and the general consensus was that this should occur in late March but will be revisited during a future board meeting. The board solicits comments and interest from the membership. 3) Another possible SD member outing – a Murder Mystery Train Ride in Fort Myers. Mr. Setzer reported that a private train car for SD members and guests can hold a maximum of 50 people, and the cost would be \$120 per person to include dinner and the train ride. The board solicits comments and interest from the membership, and this will be revisited during a future board meeting. 4) An SD member expressed a desire to host a train meet in south Florida. Mr. Setzer agreed to contact this member to further discuss and will report to the board in a future meeting.

Mr. Trappen advised the board that it would be advantageous for the division to contract with a printing company in the Orlando area, closer to his home. The board agreed, and the necessary follow-up steps will be taken.

Mr. Trappen requested the board discuss the disposition of two, pre-production prototype 2020 Convention souvenir water towers as he had been contacted by Mr. Johnson who had found the two water towers in his garage. Mr. Johnson will make arrangements to have them brought to Orlando by one of the Jacksonville SD members who plans to attend the November 19th meet. After discussion, the board decided to revisit this subject during a future board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM EST.

Respectfully submitted:

Dienzel Dennis

Secretary

still more Lake Nona Fun

Right: Mike Mills and Mike Setzer presented a generous check to Christina Batts, on-site manager of the Ronald McDonald House. The donation was for use of their meeting room for the SD's post-meet dinner and show & tell.



Upcoming Florida Train Meets/Shows 2023

For the latest updates, check first with the meet/show hosts by phoning or referring to websites.

Jan. 14-15: 79th Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Lawrence Arena, 3150 E. New York Ave., **Deland** 32724 Sat. 9A-4P, Sun. 10A-3:30P, Charles Miller 703-536-2954 rrshows@aol.com (www.gserr.com) (**Golden Spike**)

Jan. 21: Toy and Train Show, Hernando County Fairgrounds, 6436 Broad St., **Brooksville** 34601 (Vendors and Model Train Layouts, lunch available, Adults \$5.00, children 12 and under *free*, Hours 9A-2P, EARLY BIRD reservation (8-9A) \$7.00, www.regalrailways.com) (**Regal Railways**)

Jan. 21-22: Annual Train Show, Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 S.E. Dixie Hwy., **Stuart** 34996, 9A-3P both days; contact Gary Hawken 772-692-9017, hawkenga1@outlook.com (Martin County Model Railroaders)

Feb. 4: 44th Jacksonville Model Train and Railroadiana Show, Prime Osborn Convention Center, 1000 Water St., **Jacksonville** 32204 (**Golden Spike**)

Feb. 4-5: The Villages Winter Expo, Savannah Regional Center, 1545 Buena Vista Blvd., **The Villages** 32162 (9A-4P Sat./ 10A-3P Sun.) contact Sam Mathis 352-750-2433, sammathis1118@gmail.com or Cecil Byrd 352-693-4079, cecilbyrdjr@gmail.com (**The Villages Model Train Club**)

Feb. 11: Train Show (Southern Division), Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center (Meet Story and Table Registration Form in this issue!)

Feb. 12: Zitnik Trains Spring Parking Lot Swap Meet & Open House, 5193 73rd Ave. N., **Pinellas Park** 33781 (9A-1P) 727-201-9668 (**Zitnik Trains**)

Feb. 18-19: RealRail's 44th Annual Train Show, Bradenton Area Convention Center, 1 Haben Blvd., **Palmetto** 34221 (Sat. 10A-4P, Sun. 10A-3P) David Fontaine, 941-685-2221, david_f_34205@yahoo.com (**Real Rail**)

Feb. 25: Toy and Train Show, Knights of Columbus, 2000 Neptune Rd., **Kissimmee** 34744 (**Regal Railways**)

Mar. 25: Toy and Train Show, Lopez Hall, 7177 58th St. N., **Pinellas Park** 33781 (**Regal Railways**)

Apr. 1: 80th Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Lawrence Arena, 3150 E. New York Ave., **Deland** 32724 9A-4P (**Golden Spike**)

Apr. 15: 18th Railroad Day Festival and Car Show, 45383 Dixie Ave., 1000 Water St., **Callahan** 32011, 9A-4P (904-879-3406, www.wnhsfl.org) (**West Nassau Historical Society**)

Apr. 20-22: Train Show, **York, PA (TCA Eastern Division)**

Apr. 29: Toy and Train Show, Florida National Guard Armory, 8551 W. Venable St., **Crystal River** 344429 (**Regal Railways**)

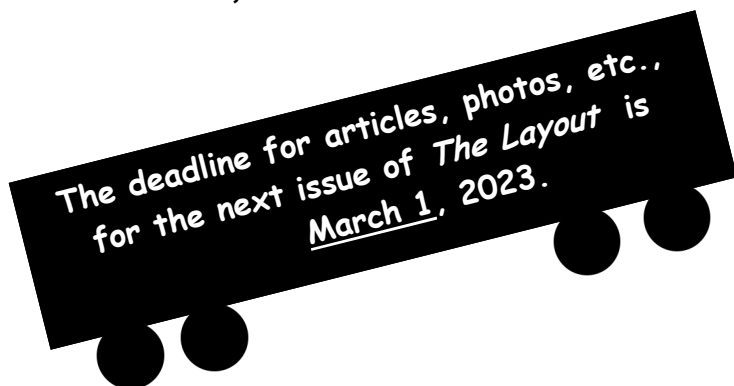
May 20: Toy and Train Show, Hernando County Fairgrounds, 6436 Broad St., **Brooksville** 34601 (**Regal Railways**)

Please send notices of upcoming Florida train meets/shows to Mary Anyan, maryanyan.mia1@gmail.com.

Promotion and Attendance at Southern Division sponsored Train Meets: In order to promote awareness and thus attendance, we list a schedule of upcoming shows on our Southern Division website as well as in each quarter's *The Layout*. We also promote these meets with flyers about upcoming shows available at non-SD sponsored train shows, 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 **Bill Trappen** (bill9678@aol.com or phone 407-365-7860). Bill will get flyers to you to take to the meets and leave out for others. If possible, please give Bill at least 10 days' notice to ensure he has time to get the flyers to you. Thanks for your help.

Train Collectors Association
Southern Division
P. O. Box 2381
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SWITCH LIST

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

I am always looking to **buy** pre-war, post-war and modern era O gauge trains as well as G gauge and Marklin trains. I am in Hobe Sound in Southeast Florida. Al Galli, 772-219-7653, alfredgalli@comcast.net

TCA Skytop Observation Car + TCA A & B Shells. **All mint**. Asking \$200 for all. Vince Coffman, 407-678-7448

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). Contact Chris Lucibello: 2483 Pinellas Point Dr. S., St. Petersburg 33712, 727-867-3465, email: karen.lucibello@verizon.net

For Sale: Lionel 6357-50 AT&SF illuminated caboose. This is the caboose that goes with the 2555W outfit, The Father & Son Set. \$675.00
Augie Staebler, 813-690-2205, astae@aol.com

Wanted by Alaska Railroad Collector, Lionel Alaska #9117 TCA marked black covered hopper from 1978. Comes with no box. Any condition accepted except completely destroyed. Don Fleishman, 772-281-2316

Switch List is a **free** service to members in good standing of the TCA and SD. Send your ad (space permitting) for trains for sale/wanted/trade to Mary Anyan via email: maryanyan.mia1@gmail.com.

If you do not have email, contact Bill Trappen: 407-365-7860.

Your ad automatically will renew in each issue of *The Layout*, until **you** cancel.

Note: per TCA rules and regulations, your full name must be listed and the words "make offer" cannot appear.