



T.T.O.S. Southwestern Division The Southwestern Limited

Vol. 41, No. 2

Summer 2024



Visit www.ttos-sw.org or contact info@ttos-sw.org

Upcoming 2024 Meets:

Southwestern Division's Meets take place once a month. The official start time for a meet in Arcadia is 10am, although you may arrive as early as 8am, but please allow sellers time for set up. The August picnic has special times (see p. 2).

Arcadia Masonic Center

50 W. Duarte Road
Arcadia, CA 91007

2024 Meet Dates:

- July 14 (second Sunday)
- August 3 (first Saturday):
Los Angeles Live Steamers
In Griffith Park (no selling).
- September 8 (second Sunday)
- October 6 (first Sunday)
- November 3 (first Sunday)
- December 1 (first Sunday)



Directions from the 210 Freeway:

Exit Santa Anita Avenue; go south 1.5 miles; turn right on Duarte Road. The Masonic Center shares the parking lot with the Arcadia Library, on the south side of the street.

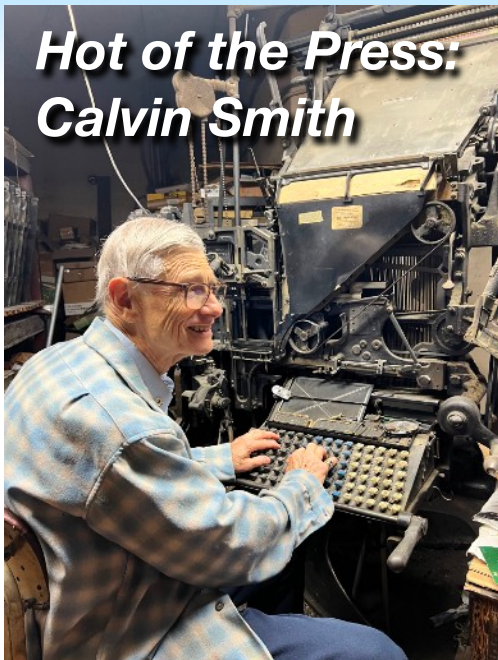
Features: buying & selling of toy trains, with operating layouts, free train repairs, test track, freshly prepared food, free parking and opportunity drawings. The winning 50/50 ticket will be drawn at 11:45 am, followed by a lively auction.

Admission is free for Members and \$5.00 for the public. Kids under 21 are free w/adult admission.

Open House Meets: September & Dec.

Repair Dept: We offer free toy train repairs at our meets, with volunteers Larry Pearson, Joey Giammatteo and Ed Vanderpool at your service. To order parts, see Mike Marple's ad on page 7.

Sellers: Tables are only \$5.00 each. Call Hollis Cotton (818) 590-0553 to reserve yours!



Hot of the Press: Calvin Smith

Calvin Smith with a hundred-year-old Linotype machine at Bickley Printing.

The Xerox prints 350 color copies of our 8-page newsletter in about 2 hours. The next step is to manually fold the newsletter in half, then forward it to the mailer for distribution. Printing technology has come a long way since George Bickley founded the Pasadena business in 1906.

Perhaps you've noticed that Calvin has been selling some truly excellent train sets lately on his tables at the SWD meets. That's because he has decided, after the passing of his wife of 53 years, Phyllis, almost six years ago, that the time has come to thin out his toy train collection.



Rare LIONEL Jersey Central set that Calvin sold recently.

by Steve Waller, editor

Have you ever wondered how our club's newsletter is printed?

Just talk to Calvin Smith, a volunteer on our T.T.O.S. SWD board of directors. Calvin literally grew up running the presses as a youngster. Calvin's father, Samuel Smith, bought Bickley Printing in 1946, putting his son to work as soon as he was able.

Today, Calvin still operates the equipment, both old and new. He prints **The Southwestern Limited** on a modern Xerox DocuColor 242 printer.



Xerox DocuColor 242

Calvin and Phyllis were very involved in charitable projects thru the Methodist Church and the Lions Club, and today, Calvin carries on the tradition. All proceeds from the sales of Calvin's toy train collection goes to support deserving students. *Your support makes a difference!*

SWD President's Message: Summer, 2024



LARRY PEARSON
President, 2024-2025
T.T.O.S.
Southwestern
Division
1108 West Palm Ave,
Burbank, CA 91506
Phone (818) 848-2653,
mornings, after 8:00 am,
or (818) 994-4890 (cell).

*Please be advised that the following article is comprised solely of my own thoughts, opinions, and experiences, and does not necessarily convey the beliefs and thoughts of the T.T.O.S. Southwestern Division (SWD), and its Members and Officers, or the editor & publisher of **The Southwestern Limited**. Call me at the above phone numbers in the mornings after 8:00 am if you need to get in touch with me. Alternatively, you can email me at lpears1941@att.net. Please call, I love to talk.*

~ ~ ~

SWD ANNUAL DUES RENEWAL & PICNIC

SWD annual dues are renewed on July 1st of each calendar year. You should have received a letter from the post office which has the 2024-2025 Dues Renewal form. Our dues haven't changed: still just \$30.00/year. If your payment is late, your Southwestern Division Membership remains in place for three (3) months, ending with the October Meet date. There is no extra charge for late renewals, but the fee remains \$30.00 until July 1, 2025.

We invite you to attend the 2024 T.T.O.S. Southwestern Division Member Appreciation Picnic, located at the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum in beautiful Griffith Park. The address is 5202 Zoo Drive, which is about a half mile east of Travel Town.

The event starts at 11:00 am on Saturday, August 5, 2023. Food service stops at 1:30 pm. The last train leaves the station at 2:30 pm. Free parking in the gravel lot on the east side of the facility.

Enjoy hamburgers & hot dogs, with all the trimmings, and chips, baked beans, cookies, sodas, etc.

All riders must be at least 34" tall to ride (no infants in carriers or on laps), and weigh less than 350 pounds. Handicapped riders must be able to transfer to a straddle-type riding car, and be able to sit upright for at least 20 minutes. Animals are never allowed to ride.

The picnic is for *dues-paid* SWD Members, their families and invited guests! Please, children must be supervised at all times during this event. Sorry, no train sales permitted at the park.



A scene from the 2023 picnic.

Although this is called a "Member Appreciation Party," SWD members are encouraged to invite friends, family and neighbors to this fun event.

The price for the picnic is \$8.00 per person, in advance, by mail. (Kids under 12 are free.) Reservations are due Sat., July 29th. Look for the picnic flyer in the SWD dues letter you received, which will also be available at our July 14th Meet and the TCA Western July 27th Meet.

I want to thank all the Board Members and attendees at our Monthly Meets and the annual August picnic for making our Club the biggest & best toy train club on the West Coast!

New Members of Southwestern Division:

April, 2024: William Brown, Bill Huff, Steve Roll

May, 2024: Douglas Friend

June, 2024: Alexander Bars, Andrew Halpern, Joe Luna, Tony Luna, Bruce Peterson, Brad Rife

Bruce Lazarus Remembered

Bruce Lazarus passed away on Thursday, May 16th at the age of 80. Bruce had been experiencing failing health in recent years. Bruce joined T.T.O.S. Southwestern Division (SWD) back in the 1970's (#4470) and had an extensive collection of American Flyer Wide Gauge, 0 gauge and S-gauge trains. But this is not what makes Bruce so extra special to me and to our Club.

I became president of SWD in 2004, and I inherited a disaster. We had only about \$7500 in the bank, an insufficient amount to operate our Club and Cal Stewart. However, we had in storage about \$65,000 in unsold Cal Stewart souvenir cars that we were paying to store. You can't pay the bills with souvenir cars.

I remember table sales at one meet as only eleven tables. The good news about all this is that I got Bruce Lazarus as part of the deal. He was a member of my Board of Directors when I took it over. Fred Kramer (our 50-50 Drawing Manager) had a bottling business with a warehouse and volunteered his warehouse to store the cars at no charge.

Bruce immediately went to work marketing the unsold cars and in six years sold all of them at full list price. Also, Bruce was in charge of Cal-Stewart Registration, table sales and Souvenir Car design purchase and marketing. Instead of pre-buying the Souvenir cars, like we had been doing (and buying way too many), Bruce set it up so that we would pre-sell the cars and then place the order. In this way, when the cars arrived, all of them were sold and there was nothing

left to store. Bruce arranged for a fulfillment center to receive and ship the cars, so we had nothing to store. And we got the money up front and earned interest on it until the cars were delivered. Thus, we finally started making money on our Cal-Stewart Souvenir Car program. And our Club became, and continues to be, financially sound. Bruce played a big part in this.



The rent that we pay for the Arcadia Masonic Center covers over 100 8-foot tables (as many as they have), including setup and take down, the lobby and kitchen, a large storage closet, and a public address system. We get the hall for 24 hours, if we need it. They also let us set up the hall on Saturday night for no additional charge.

We were only selling about half the hall capacity and were charging \$10 for tables. Bruce suggested that we reduce the table cost to \$5.00. This seemed stupid to me, but we tried it. Table sales more than doubled, so we took in more money with \$5 tables than with \$10 tables. In recent months, the hall has been a sell-out.

I could go on-and-on about what Bruce did for us. He never wanted to be an Officer in the Club, just a faithful Board Member. He once referred to himself as my "indentured servant" (slave).

Bruce is survived by his wife Elaine, his son, Bryan, and two grand-daughters. Bruce will be very much missed by all of us who knew him.

- Larry Pearson

**President
Southwestern Division**

SWD April Meet: Spring has Sprung!



Waterman Standard Gauge locomotives on the ready track.
—Steve Eastman photo



Ulus Ekerman (far right) running the club layout.



Youthful Guest Jullian (front) pulled Hollis Cotton's winning 50/50 ticket, as Linda and Fred Kramer watch the fun!



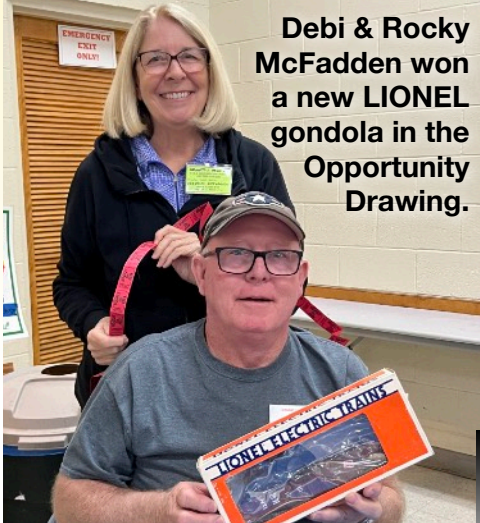
Dora & Lisa make a deal!



Great turnout at the April Meet!



Auction Mgr. George Blanch sells another big lot!



Debi & Rocky McFadden won a new LIONEL gondola in the Opportunity Drawing.



Meet photos by Steve Waller (unless otherwise noted.)



Marsha & Rudy Felix selling post-war trains in April.

May 2024 - Memorial Day Remembrance



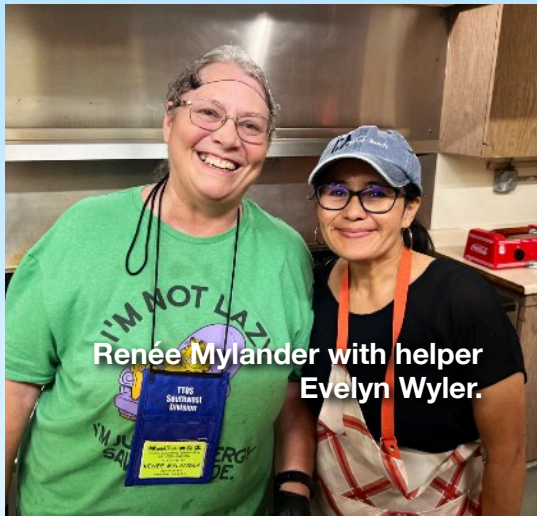
Bob Wall won the 50/50 drawing in May.



Joey Giammatteo (L) & Ed Vanderpool (R) fixing trains for free!



Photos (right & above) by: Renée & David Mylander



Renée Mylander with helper Evelyn Wyler.



Arcadia Park "Field of Honor" Memorial Day Weekend - 2024 (Arcadia Rotary Club)



LIONEL Pennsy #3701
Vision Line Custom Run 2231690



LIONEL #1941
Department of Defense Veranda Turbine

SWD June Meet: Say Hello at Our Open House!



Lots of action in June!



Larry Pearson welcomes members and guests to the Open House meet.



Bob Carlson with his wife Cindy.



Jim Kenney won the 50/50 drawing, awarded by Linda & Fred Kramer.



Margie & Al Vargas have a LIONEL Power Station on their sales table (in rear).



Eric Nissen's Std. Gauge layout, adorned with trains from Steve Eastman, Jeff Meyer & Bill Senyak.



Mike Marple brought thousands of train parts, with the help of Susan Gallacher. See their ad on page 7.



Larry Tozzi fills in as the auctioneer in June.



Hal Rothenberg scans the "O" gauge layout.

Support Our **Southwestern Limited** Advertisers!



Pegasus HOBBIES

CARS • PLANES • HELICOPTERS • JETS
GAS CARS • BOATS • MODELS • TRAINS
DIE CAST • GAMES • KITES • CAR REPAIR

909-982-6507

Mon Closed • TF 11-7 • Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 11-5

**1458 W. 7th St.
Upland, CA 91786**

www.pegasushobbies.com

THE ORIGINAL

Whistle Stop INC.

MODEL RAILROADING SPECIALISTS
SINCE 1951

(626) 796-7791
FAX (626) 796-7566

2490 E. COLORADO BLVD.
PASADENA, CALIF. 91107

www.thewhistlestop.com info@thewhistlestop.com

“Trains & Coffee” outdoor meets - Sat., July 13th: 8:00 am to 11am, & Sat., Oct 12th: 9am-Noon at Madres Brunch, 2099 E. Orangethorpe Ave., Placentia, CA 92886. Info: www.ttos-sp.org.




TOY TRAIN MEET

Monthly Train Meets

Educational Displays,
Trains for Sale,
Super Auction,
Great Raffle,
Operating Layouts,
Kids Korner & Snack Bar



2024 Meets:

- July 28
- Aug 25
- Sep 22
- Oct 27
- Nov - Tulare
- Dec 13 - 14

PUBLIC INVITED: 10:00 TO 2:00
DONATION: \$5.00 PER PERSON / FAMILY

Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Ave. - Anaheim, CA

www.ttos-sp.org
For information visit our website
or call Jeff Meyer our President at (909) 851-9846



ALL ABOARD!

TCA Western Division

Arcadia Community Center
365 Campus Drive
Arcadia, CA 91007



2024 Saturday Meets: 10 AM start time (9 AM setup)
July 27, Aug 24, Sept 28, Oct 26 & Dec 21

LIONEL Test Track, Train Layouts, Refreshments, FREE toy train repairs.
Located south of the 210 Freeway, between the Santa Anita & Baldwin Ave. exits.
For trading table reservations: email info@tcawestern.org.
Visit our website: www.tcawestern.org, for more events, rules & display themes.
For more info, phone Bob Caplan, Auctioneer, at (213) 369-2446
“Celebrating our 70th Anniversary”



All Gauge Toy Train Association

San Diego, California

Buy & Sell Trains, Snack Bar & Super Raffle

AGTTA Saturday Meets 9am to Noon
St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
6556 Park Ridge Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92120

Website- www.agtta.com
Contact- Norm Rosen: ncrosen@gmx.com

2024 Meets

- July 20
- Aug. TBA
- Sept. 21
- Oct. 19
- Nov. 16
- Dec. 14



GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

Bringing Arizona tin-platers of all stripes together for fun and activities...

Monthly meetings, huge swap meets, twice-yearly traveling layouts, and lots of camaraderie!

Info: Dave Brown eaglefour@juno.com
Visit our website: www.gcmrr.org
Grand Canyon Model Railroaders



MIKE'S
trains & hobbies

111 1/2 S. 'H' St., Lompoc, CA 93436

To order Parts: call 805-736-6747 or email: mike@mikestrainslompoc.com
website: www.mikestrainslompoc.com
or go to: facebook.com/MikesTrains/

Order your parts from Mike Marple today!





THE TRAIN SHACK, INC

SERVING ALL YOUR MODEL RAILROAD NEEDS SINCE 1985

ALL SCALES G-N VINTAGE TO NEW
AUTHORIZED FACTORY SERVICE
DIGITAL INSTALLATIONS
HOUSE CALLS & CUSTOM LAYOUTS
WORLD WIDE SHIPPING

1030 N. HOLLYWOOD WAY • BURBANK, CA 91505
www.trainshack.com (818) 842-3330

Return Address:

Larry Pearson
1108 West Palm Ave.
Burbank, CA 91506

Time Dated Material
First Class



THE SOUTHWESTERN LIMITED™

Newsletter Editor: Stephen J. Waller
Publisher: Bickley Printing Co.

The Southwestern Limited newsletter is published 4 times per calendar year by T.T.O.S. Southwestern Division. © 2024 T.T.O.S. SWD

President: Larry Pearson
Vice President: Renée Mylander
Recording Secretary: Stephen J. Waller
Membership Secretary: Nancy Giammatteo
Treasurer: Manny Gonzalez
Board Members: Danny Blanch, Jeff Cohen, Hollis Cotton, Fred Kramer, Jerry Moser, David Mylander, Jon Pincus, Hal Rothenborg, Calvin Smith



**I BUY OLD
TRAINS & TOYS!**
ALL SCALES, ANY CONDITION
CASH PAID TODAY!
Allen Drucker 949-548-4704
Email: OldNewport@gmail.com

TTOS Southwestern Member Since 1970

