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THE SOUTHWESTERN LIMITED

VOL. 23 MAR/APR NO. 2 2004 LARRY PEARSON PRESIDENT CALVIN SMITH EDITOR MERVYN LEW PHOTOGRAPHER



President's Message

LARRY PEARSON, President, Southwestern Division, 2004-2005 1108 West Palm Ave., Burbank, CA 91506 (818) 848-2653, (818) 994-4890 to leave a message

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AT THE MONTHLY MEETS!



In my January, 2004 President's Message, I asked for your participation and support at the monthly meets, and your response has been most gratifying! The January 11th meet was larger than we had seen in some time, and the February 8th meet was larger still. Board Member Hollis Cotton spent some time circulating through

the February meet and reported many happy attendees, both buyers and sellers. We are working very hard to make our meets a happy experience, and if you have any concerns or suggestions, please write me or call at the above phone numbers. Our goal is to fill the hall completely with tables and move the operating layouts to the lobby area. If you can bring something to sell or display, please come and buy a table to support the club and help defray the costs of renting the hall. To paraphrase the Ford ad: "If you haven't looked at Southwestern lately, LOOKAGAIN".

We are looking at ways to make the monthly meets a more fun experience. We are primarily an S and O-gauge club, but it doesn't have to stay that way. HO Gauge has a very strong following out there, and I feel that we should get involved in that too. Let me know if you want to bring HO trains to trade, and we will advertise that on the Meet announcement postcard that we send out. Without advance notice, HO sales will probably not be very good. We have also been offered a 4'x8' HO layout for free! It still needs some work to complete it, but does someone want to take this on?

How would you like to have the Train Races at a few of the monthly Meets? This was suggested by Member Dale Manquen, and it sounds like a great idea to me. The Train Races are very popular at Cal-Stewart, and we could set them up a couple times

a year at Arcadia. We could even have technical seminars on how to create a winning race locomotive. Yes, those trains that win the races at Cal Stewart are not completely stock!

Electric Norman (Norman Keller) finds that he will no longer be able to sell train parts at all our monthly meets like he has done in the past. He is not getting any younger, and it is quite a strain on him to set up all those parts for just a few hours of selling. He will sell more infrequently, and we will notify you on the post card when he will be selling parts. However Norman has been attending our meets, and will be happy to answer your repair questions. He also sells parts by mail. You can reach him by calling (818) 764-7765. I do have some basic repair parts available at my train repair table - light bulbs, wire, brushes and brush springs - and maybe I can help you out. I do not sell parts when Norman sells parts. Does anyone want to get into the parts business?

THE WEB SITE

We are in the process of re-doing our Southwestern Division Web Site with a new web master, Harold Shapiro, who is one of our Southwestern Members. Harold has volunteered to do the work free of charge, and has proved his capabilities with the excellent TCA Western Division web site that he created and manages. Over the past year we have paid a professional web designer to do the work at considerable expense to us, and we need to cut our operating costs and replace paid work with volunteer work. We expect the transformation to be completed in the next month or so. If you know Harold and see him, give him hearty thanks and a hug. Harold is going to save us a lot of money in the future. Bruce Lazarus has volunteered to act as the liaison with Harold for web site content. Bruce can be reached at (818) 225-1710.

SECURITY

Don Stotts has been in charge of security at the monthly meets and Cal-Stewart for several years now. He will be retiring from his full time job in early 2005 and will be moving to a new home in Colorado. Before he leaves, he would like to train his replacement, and we need a volunteer to do this. This is a very important job at Cal-Stewart, but is not a very big thing at the monthly meets. Please contact me at the above phone numbers if you can do this for us.

(continued on page 2)

SAVE THE DATE!

CAL-STEWART MEET 2004 DATES ARE NOVEMBER 12-14, 2004
AT THE PASADENA CONVENTION CENTER, EXHIBITION BUILDING

President's Message continued from page 1 THE MEET DATES

We have worked hard to set up out 2004 calendar to avoid conflicting with other meets, and I think that we have succeeded. We tried to schedule our monthly meets on the second Sunday of every month, but could not do this on every month due to Arcadia availability or special weekends. We will not be having a meet in April because the second Sunday falls on Easter, and we couldn't get another suitable Sunday that month. We invite you to attend the TTOS Southern Pacific Division Meet at Anaheim on Sunday, April 25th. Call Craig Robinett at (714) 620-5640 for meet information or visit www.ttos-sp.com.

At the January Meet, I asked those in attendance if they would like our monthly meet to be on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. There was virtually no interest for Saturday, but it appeared by a show of hands that Friday and Sunday were about equal in popularity. I asked the Arcadia Masonic Center for their thoughts, and they feel that Friday night traffic on the 134 freeway and on Santa Anita Ave. would make it very difficult to attend a Friday night Meet. When Santa Anita Park is open for horse racing, Santa Anita Ave. is completely at a standstill. So we will continue with our Sunday Meet day.

GROWING THE MEMBERSHIP

Approximately 70 Members of Southwestern did not renew their Membership last June, and we need these people back. If you know of anyone who did not renew, or can help us recruit new Members, we need your help in doing this. The dues not only pay for the costs of our mailings and publications, but help offset the costs of renting the Arcadia Masonic Center. Growing our Membership is very important to funding our activities.

In a cost saving move, The Southwestern Limited is being reduced in size for the time being.

DOOR PRIZES AND RAFFLE

Board Member Walter Olson has volunteered to re-vitalize this and acquire some new and different prizes. We are always interested in donations or discounted items to purchase for prizes. Walter can be reached at his home phone number (323) 660-4569.

I've run out of room for this message. The subjects will be continued. Please call me at the above phone numbers if you have questions or comments. Call anytime, I love to talk.

Larry Pearson, President

Southwestern Division Officers 2004-2005

President Larry Pearson
Vice President Vince Gargulio
Recording Secretary Jerry Price
Membership Secretary Larry Kirk
Treasurer Mike Cunningham

Immed. Past President Gary Keck

Board Members: Peter Beam, Hollis Cotton, Mike Galante, Fred Kramer, Mike Morgan, Walter Olson, Jon Pincus, Calvin Smith, Irwin Zigmund.

Patronize your local Hobby Store

Welcome to Members Who Joined in February!

The following joined Southwestern Division at the February Meet: Noel Hall, Dena Hall, Robert Pool and Robert Meisner. It is great to have former members rejoin and to welcome brand new members to Southwestern Division!

2004 Cal-Stewart Display Theme: Marx Trains

Plan now to share your Marx trains and accessories in the 2004 Cal-Stewart Theme Display. Contact Hollis Cotton (818) 781-4910, Display Chairman. Assisting Hollis are Hilly Lazarus and Dave Otth.

Layout to Fullerton Railroad Days

May 1 & 2 our Southwestern Division Layout will be displayed at the Fullerton Railroad Days. Layout Chairman Al Vierich needs members to assist in greeting the public and passing out literature about our club. Here is an excellent opportunity to share model railroading with the general public and the advantages of belonging to a model train club. Sign up at the March meet to help at Fullerton Railroad Days or call Al Vierich (818) 347-1818.

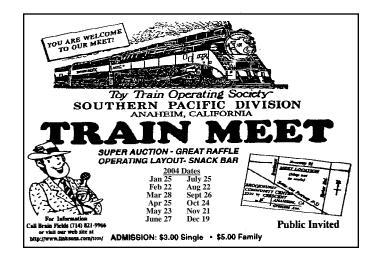
Drawing Winners at Dec, Jan & Feb Meets!!!

Winners of the Attendance Drawings won some great cars. **December Meet:** Fred Kramer, Missile Car; Gary Hoover, MTH Tank Car; Larry Kirk, Missile Car; David Athman, MTH Tank Car; **January Meet:** James Pelling, PFE Reefer; Frank Soranno, MTH Car Carrier; Ernest Renn, Missile Carrier. **February Meet:** Peter Beam Santa Fe Tank Car; Ervin Hahn, Mobile Tank Car; Jon Pincus, Mobile Tank Car.

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Minutes of the SWd Board of Directors Meeting February 11, 2004

Board Members Present: Peter Beam, Larry Kirk, Roy Bell, Kurt S. Bondi, Hollis Cotton, Mike Cunningham, Gary Keck, Fred Kramer, Walter Olson, Larry Pearson, Jon Pincus, Jerry Price and Calvin Smith.

The meeting was called to order by President Pearson at 7:15 p.m.

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

A layout report was to be made by Al Verick, however, he was not in attendance.

Our web-site is currently not up to date and we were told that Harold Shapiro has gaciously accepted the responsibility to correct our site free of charge to the club. His goal is to make the web-site user friendly and informative. A motion to accept Harold as our Webmaster was proposed by Roy Bell and seconded by Fred Kramer. The final vote to accept Harold was unanimously passed.

Cal-Stewart for 2004 theme was suggested by Hollis and it will be a MARX TRAINS display. Walter Olson will handle all future raffle events and is trying to upgrade the prizes. He hopes to have everything up and running by May.

The Board voted to have all future meetings at Frank's Restaurant and the next meeting will be March 23, 2004 at

7:00 p.m.

The Sunday meetings will let the sellers in at 10:00 a.m., buyers at 11:00 a.m. and public at 11:30 a.m. The business meeting will be at 1:15 p.m., then the auction and door prizes to follow.

Bruce Lazarus will advertise our meeting dates in various magazines.

Since Vince Gargulio was not at the meeting, it was decided that Fred Kramer would be the guest Auctioneer at the next meet.

A joint meet with Southern-Pacific Division is in the works for the month of April.

Larry Pearson is calling all prior members who have not renewed this year. It was decided that all late renewals are going to be charged \$25.00 for the remainder of the year.

The meeting ended at 9:18 p.m.

Kurt S. Bondi, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the SWD Board of Directors Meeting March 23, 2004

Attendance: Board members Kurt Bondi, Mike Cunningham, Mike Galante, Larry Pearson, Walter Olson, Vince Gargulio, Larry Kirk, Fred Kramer, Bruce Lazarus, Jerry Price and Calvin Smith; members Toni Deneve and Al Vierich.

The meeting was called to order by President Pearson at 7:15 p.m. at Frank's Restaurant. Larry Kirk started to act as ecording secretary until Kurt Bondi, Recording Secretary arrived.

It was brought to the Board's attention that Mike Morgan may resign from the Board.

Since Kurt Bondi is leaving the area, Jerry Price has volunteered to be the Recording Secretary for the remainder of the term. It has been proposed that we ask Alan Rebis to become a Board Member if he so desires.

Due to lack of help at the front desk during the train meets, we may ask Dena Hall to work on the front desk if she is able. It may be possible that the club may have to pay people to operate the food concession as they require extra help.

Vince suggested that we form a Finance Committee in order for us to know the income and expenses and keep a tighter reign on our checking account balances. The committee is to be forumlated with the Treasurer as chairman, raffles, auction, table

The Layout Corner

Welcome to the Layout Corner! Before this update starts, I want to say a big THANK YOU to Animal, Fred Kramer and Calvin Smith who set aside the time to talk to all the visitors at the model Train Expo in Pomona in March. not only did they talk, but they gave out 400 information and schedule sheets for our Southwestern Division. The Layout Team really appreciated your help!!!

It took about seven hours to set up the layout this time because a lont of the layout team brought more of their accessories to enhance the layout. Hal Rothenberg put together a really neat carnival. The kids got a big kigk out of it. Erv Hahn brought new power with his power sub station. Chris Kee added to the freight yard with his custom build rolling cranes and Mike Morgan added his MTH bank to accept money fron anyone. Just kidding, Mike! The layout mbmers also bring all their locomotive power and folling stock. So, THANK YOU TEAM, you are what makes it happen.

Our President Larry Pearson was there to support the layout and our Division. Larry is really puting a lot of time and effort forth to make the Division move forward. So, let's get behind him

Because of the down sizing of the NMRA show in Glendale, there wasn't enough room for our layout this time.

May 1 & 2 is Fullerton Railroad Days and we will be there. Come out and say hello on May 1, but set aside May 2 for our Division Meet at Arcadia.

We are developing plans for you to use the Division Layout starting in june. We have completed the retracking and wiring and will be publishing the game rules for you to run your trains at the Division Meets.

Again, thank you all who come out to support our efforts at theses special meets.

Al Vierich, Layout Chairman

sales and membership chairmen and the Cal-Stewart chairman. The motion was seconded by Fred Kramer. Bruce questions as to who should be on the board. Qualified members only who know how, where and why the money is spent. Suggested members be appointed by the board annually.

Our next train meet is May 2, 2004. Walter contacted GATS to see whether or not we can schedule our meets so that they do not conflich with each other for Cal-Stewart and other events.

Vince stated that Electric Norman may come to our meets—we need a parts dealer. So to lighten his work, we may help with loading and unloading of his parts from the truck.

Cal-Stewart has been pre-paid. Erwin Zigmond was compensated for his tax and bookkeeping serivce.

Al will do our club layout; however, he will not co-ordinate the layouts for Cal-Stewart. Don Stotts will be asked who he considers able to take over security when he leaves.

Co-ordinating meeting dates with TCA and SP will be Walter's job.

Craig Robinette offered to do our Saturday night auction at Cal-Stewart and pay us. The Board declined the offer.

Next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, April 13, 2004 at 7 p.m. at Frank's Restaurant.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Kurt S. Bondi, Recording Secretary

TRAIN COLLECTIONS PURCHASED

Having been a member of TTOS Southwest since 1970, many of you know me, and the reputation of my store and my auctions. Should you get serious about selling your collection, please give me a call. I will buy your entire collection, and you will receive a fair price for each and every piece. Or, If you prefer, I will sell your collection at auction.

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Southwestern Division Meets

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2004: Mar 21, Apr *No Meet*, May 2, June 13, July 11, Aug 14-Member Appreciation Picnic, Sept 12, Oct 17, Nov 12-14 Cal-Stewart, Dec 12

Breakfast 9:30 a.m.; Seller Setup 10:00 a.m.

Members 11:00 a.m. Public 11:30 a.m.—Admission \$5.00

Membership Meeting 1:15 p.m.; Auction 1:30 p.m.

Attendance Drawing 2:30 p.m.

Auction resumes until done

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