



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

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Spring, 2025

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



2025 SWD 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 to get set up.

Location:

Arcadia Masonic Center
50 W. Duarte Road
Arcadia, CA 91007



Upcoming Meet Dates:

May 4 (first Sunday)
June 1 (first Sunday)
July 13 (second Sunday)

- more to come; see inside...

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.

Next Open House Meet:

Sunday, June 1, 2025.

Repair Clinic: 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.

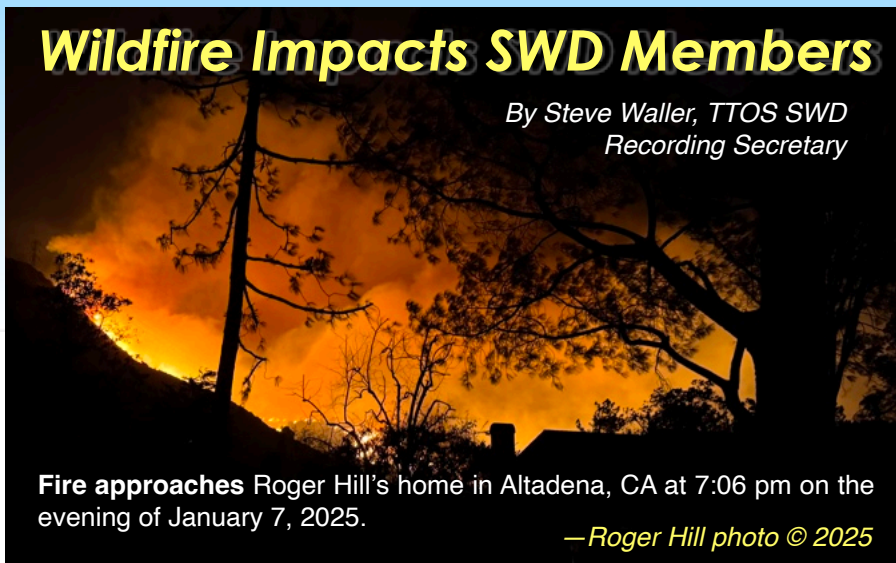
Sellers: Tables are only \$5.00 each!

Call Hollis Cotton
(818) 590-0553
to reserve yours!



Wildfire Impacts SWD Members

By Steve Waller, TTOS SWD
Recording Secretary



Fire approaches Roger Hill's home in Altadena, CA at 7:06 pm on the evening of January 7, 2025.

—Roger Hill photo © 2025

The Eaton Fire was a highly destructive Los Angeles County wildfire, which began on January 7, 2025, at 6:18 p.m. in Eaton Canyon, which adjoins the cities of Altadena and Pasadena, California. The flames were driven by powerful Santa Ana winds blowing south into the foothill communities. The blaze killed seventeen people and destroyed more than 9,000 buildings, becoming the second most destructive wildfire in California history. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation.

At least two members of TTOS Southwestern Division, Bill Brown and Roger Hill, suffered heavy losses, when both of their houses were destroyed by the wildfire.

Roger Hill's tinplate collection
couldn't withstand the flames.



—Roger Hill
photo © 2025,

Club photographer **Roger Hill** lost his home and garage along with the contents. His collection of prewar American Flyer "O" gauge and postwar HO trains were destroyed.

Expanded wildfire coverage continues on page 3...

SWD President's Message: Spring, 2025



**SWD President
Larry Pearson**

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...

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## SWD 2025 MONTHLY MEET DATES

The contract with the Arcadia Masonic Center for the SWD Monthly Meet dates has been signed and approved. The 2025 SWD Monthly Meet dates were set for:

**April 6** (first Sunday)

**May 4** (first Sunday)

**June 1** (first Sunday)

**July 13** (second Sunday);  
avoids 4th of July weekend

**August 2** (first Saturday): LA Live Steamers picnic in Griffith Park; No Arcadia Meet in August.

**September 7** (first Sunday)

**October 5** (first Sunday)

**November 2** (first Sunday)

**December 7** (first Sunday)

All Monthly Meets at Arcadia officially open to Members and guests at 10:00 am, but you may come as early as 8:00 am, but please allow sellers time to get set up.



## SWD ANNUAL DUES RENEWAL

SWD annual dues are renewed on July 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year. You will be sent via mail the 2024-2025 Dues Renewal letter in June, 2024. Our dues will remain at \$30.00. We will continue to honor your Southwestern Division Membership for three (3) months, ending with the October Meet date. There is no additional fee for late renewals, but the renewal fee remains \$30.00 until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

**The SWD Officers and Board Members** work very hard without compensation of any kind to make our club the success it has become. Please show your respect for them whenever you encounter them and assist them whenever you can. Most of the current Officers and Board members are senior citizens and we need younger people to step up and begin to take over the operation of our Club.

**Please support** the Southwestern Division by continuing your membership, recruiting new members, making donations to SWD, & attending our Monthly Meets. **As always, hugs to all, and run your trains often!**



*- Larry  
Pearson*

**Southwestern  
Division President**

## New Members of SWD:

**Jan. 2025:** Paul Brownell, Daniel DeOrnellas, Gordon Henderson, Rudy Salinas

**Feb. 2025:** Peter Roney, Embert Dias, Lee Dudacek, Douglas Friend

**Mar. 2025:** Steve Randall, Darwin Winfrey



# Southern California Wildfires Impact SWD

- Continued from page one....

At right, two chimneys and some rubble is all that is left of Roger Hill's home in Altadena. The property borders Eaton Canyon.

**Bill Brown** lost not only his home, but with it, he also lost the **Jerry Brown** collection to the fire, consisting of his late father's family-built Standard Gauge streamliners, which were originally produced in very low numbers more than 40 years ago. Bill Brown displayed a selection of these streamliners at the TCA National Convention in Burbank, CA, in August, 2021. (See photo below.) For more info, visit <https://tcawestern.org/brown.htm>.



After the death of avid toy train collector John Parker in 2018, Cathy Brown (John Parker's daughter and Bill Brown's wife) brought a portion of John's toy train collection to Altadena, years prior to the wildfires. Unfortunately, both the John Parker collection and Jerry Brown collection were total losses, along with the trains that Bill had collected.

Bill Brown asks that club members who become aware of any Jerry Brown standard gauge equipment for sale to please let him know. The family would like to acquire items that are similar to what was lost. Please send an email to: [browntrain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:browntrain@sbcglobal.net).

Our hearts go out to Cathy & Bill Brown and Roger Hill on the loss of their homes and their toy train collections. We wish them the very best, as they proceed on the road to recovery.

As shown above at the 2021 TCA National Convention in Burbank, Bill Brown exhibited several prime examples of Standard Gauge streamliners that were produced by his father Jerry Brown. From top to bottom, we see the Union Pacific M-10000, the UP M-10005, the Illinois Central Green Diamond and the Milwaukee Road Hiawatha set. All these trains were lost to the fire. To learn more about the manufacture of the streamliners, read Arno Baar's book "Not Your Daddy's Standard Gauge" (far right.)

At right, the massive size of the rare Standard Gauge Union Pacific M-10005 by Jerry Brown becomes readily apparent.





# January 5th Meet: Happy New Year 2025!



2025 Meet photos by Roger Hill & Steve Waller

Lori Walters points out her miniature dream house to husband Pat Walters.



Bill Elliot, congratulated by Linda Kramer, was the first 50/50 winner of the New Year!



Standard Gauge is "King of the Rails." Just ask Steve Eastman or Richard Keppel.



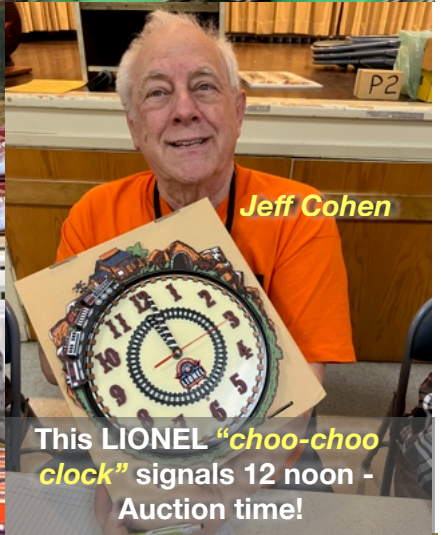
Ed Vanderpool has fun fixing old trains!



Stuart "Bart" Grey, flanked by his sisters Christine (left) and Caroline Poindexter, wishing you a Happy New Year!



Jeff Cohen



This LIONEL "choo-choo clock" signals 12 noon - Auction time!

Sakai streamlined steamer A-4800

BLZ electric PRR locomotive



Ives 3243 white MTH repro

No. 7E brass LIONEL repro





# February Valentine's Meet: We Love Trains !



A T.T.O.S. guest won the big prize in February. You don't have to be a member to win!



Linda & Fred Kramer

T.T.O.S. guest Fernando



Eric Nissen re-rails a UP M-10000



The LIONEL Illinois Central 4002 "City of Miami" rounds the bend on the club layout.



Mark Alkofer photographs John Wright (rear) Larry Pearson & Joey Giammatteo at the T.T.O.S. repair clinic.



Renée's pulled pork special was a big hit this month!



LIONEL Milwaukee Road 265 emerges from the shed with a long passenger consist.



It's elbow-to-elbow at the February Meet!



Larry Tozzi was our special guest auctioneer in February.



# March Meet: Happy St. Patrick's Day!



James Kroeger wins the big 50/50 prize drawn by Fred & Linda Kramer.



Auction Mgr. George Blanch offers an American Flyer #4000 boxcab electric.



Ulus Ekerman's Western Pacific GS-6 in a LIONEL "What If" paint scheme.



We had to use a wide-angle lens to show the big turnout in March.



Rick Oberlander visits with Lisa Amen at her sales table.



To find a larger GG-1 than Steve Eastman's Jim Waterman locomotive in Standard Gauge, you'd probably need to visit the huge Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania in Strasburg, PA.



David Nissen's reliable Marx 2-4-2 pulls a long string of automobile flatcars.



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**TTOS-SP's "Trains & Coffee"** in the parking lot at Madres Brunch, 2099 E. Orangethorpe Ave, Buena Park, California 90621 - Sat. April 12th from 9 AM – 12 Noon. See website for info: <https://ttos-sp.org/>



## TOY TRAIN MEET

Monthly Train Meets  
Educational Displays,  
Trains for Sale,  
Super Auction,  
Great Raffle,  
Operating Layouts,  
Kids Corner & Snack Bar


**Meets:**  
April 26th - Train Show at TCA-W.  
(See ad at right.)  
May 11th  
June 22nd



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

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

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



## ALL ABOARD!

### TCA Western Division

**Arcadia Community Center**  
**365 Campus Drive**  
**Arcadia, CA 91007**

2025 Saturday Meets: 10 AM start time (9 AM setup)  
**Meets: April 26 (w/TTOS-SP), May 24, Aug. 23, 2025**  
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](mailto:info@tcawestern.org).  
Visit our website: [www.tcawestern.org](http://www.tcawestern.org), for more events, rules & display themes.  
For more info, phone Jon Lang, President, at (310) 871-8315 (talk or text).  
Follow us on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Socal's%201st%20and%20Oldest%20Toy%20Train%20Club) "Socal's 1st and Oldest Toy Train Club"



## All Gauge Toy Train Association

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


Website- [www.agtta.com](http://www.agtta.com)  
Contact- Norm Rosen: [ncrosen@gmx.com](mailto:ncrosen@gmx.com)

**2025 Meets**  
April 12  
May 17  
June 14  
July 19





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## THE SOUTHWESTERN LIMITED™

**Newsletter Editor:** Stephen J. Waller

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