

the **NOR-CAL EXPRESS**

CAL STEWART MEET MARCH 18-20

It's not too late to sign up for the Cal Stewart Meet at the Santa Clara Convention Center. You must fill out a registration form and mail it to Mary Ann Nichelini, or call her (# for Robert W. Nichelini is in the TCA Directory). And don't forget to sign up for the Saturday evening fun-filled Banquet (\$30 each).



Above: Ira Keeler's "Atomic Train" as seen at the February meet. Color scheme: bright red with yellow "flashes." See Ira's description on Page 4.

FUTURE MEETS

March 18-20, 2005 Cal Stewart Meet, Santa Clara
April 9, 2005 (M)
May 28, Sacramento (SR)
June 11, 2005 (IH)
July 9, 2005 (IH)
August 13, 2005 (IH)
September 10, 2005 (M)

M = Montera Middle School
5555 Ascot Drive, Oakland
SR = Scottish Rite Temple,
6151 "H" Street, Sacramento
IH = Iron Horse Middle School
12601 Alcosta Blvd San Ramon

Business Meeting: 9:30 AM
Trading: 10-11:30 AM

The Express can be seen in Full Color on the Nor Cal website at: www.norcaltca.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Michael Andrews #95-41371

This will be the first "Presidents Message" I have written using my new laptop. The screen is better than the picture on my TV. I have also set up a wireless internet connection so I can go on the internet anywhere in my house. This is really cool; I can look up anything, or shop for trains on E-Bay anywhere, anytime. So here I am writing and watching my favorite show at the same time. As some of you saw at the January meet, I have been working on my Christmas present. For those of you who were not there it is a Lego kit of a steam engine: a Canadian Pacific 4-6-4 with 1300 pieces. We have been working on it for a couple of weeks, (the kids and me) and are probably about one third done. It is a fine looking locomotive and I hope to have it done by the Cal-Stewart Meet to display it. The Cal-Stewart Meet is (cont'd on Page 4)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

New first time Nor Cal members:

Al Foley, Moraga
Mike Waddel, Lagunitas
Ralph Blandchard, Redwood Valley
Continued on Page 6

Below: Nor Cal member Rene Quihillalt surveys a lineup of engines on his O-gauge layout.



INTERESTING STANDARD GAUGE "SPECIALS" FROM THE JIM MCCARTHY COLLECTION



McCoy TCA Nor Cal Division #1004 Boxcar of 1968



MTH #10-2033 Harmony Creamery Co. car (2002). This is a copy of a very rare Ives #196 car of 1924.



MTH Pacific Fruit Express "200-series" Boom Car—a 49th TCA National Convention Car (2003)



MTH #2032 Circus Water Car (2002). This is based on the Ives #196C flatcar of 1928, with the addition of two "water" tanks. This is an add-on car to the MTH "Ives" Circus Set.

MARX-TRONIC ELECTRIC TRAIN SYSTEM



This not-that-common Marx set #2893 was at the December 2004 meet. The box lid proclaims: The "Train with a Brain - Automatically switches, loads, reverses, couples and uncouples." The battery-operated diesel switcher switches one each red and yellow 4-wheel gondola cars from track to track through a switch, loading barrels automatically, through a sequence that keeps repeating itself (until the battery runs down!). The set contains 6 yellow barrels, 1 gray flagman figure, track, a switch, an uncoupler and a barrel loading platform. The set at the right (on Ebay) contains the original box, original instructions, packing slip and all liners. That box is marked 12/15/62 in pencil on the lid. It sold on Ebay in December 2004 for \$51.00.



LIONEL'S ODDBALL 022A SWITCHES

By Bruce Kubik # 90-31254

Attached are photos of the unusual #022A switches I recently acquired. I obtained them with a #675 engine plus freight 5 cars which were originally purchased in 1947, and the switches were added the same year. The seller was the original owner and he claimed that nothing was done to any of the trains.

The differences from a standard 022 switch are: (1) there is no bottom cover plate on the switch itself; [Photos 1 and 2] (2) there is no constant voltage plug/receptacle [Photos 4 and 5] and (3) the 0-27

gauge #1122 dual switch controllers were used. Also, it should be noted that they do have the non-derailing feature. [These switches appear to be a Lionel attempt at cost-cutting! - Editor]

As far as I can tell, they were only made in 1947. [A query on the Trains.com "Classic Toy Trains" forum elicited no responses- Editor].



Photo 1

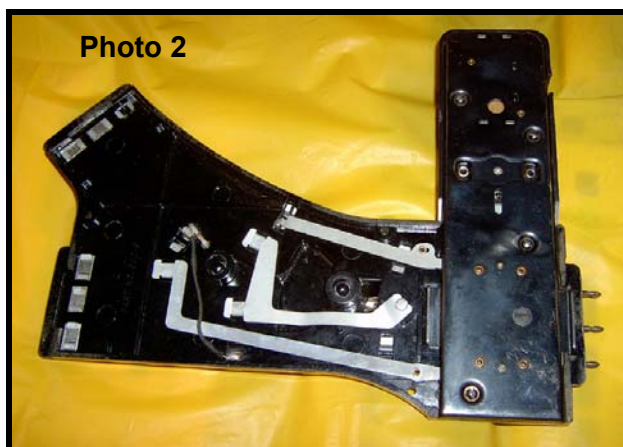


Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5

RAFFLE FOR O GAUGE SOUTHERN PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SET

Nor Cal is continuing to sell raffle tickets (\$10 each) for the Southern Pacific Daylight set. This is comprised of a Williams brass GS-4 locomotive and tender (by Samhonga of Korea) and six matching Lionel aluminum Daylight cars. The raffle will be concluded when 150 tickets are sold— so get your tickets now, from Pete Goodier, at the meetings and at the Cal Stewart. Wouldn't you like to be the lucky winner and add this beautiful set to your collection?



Atomic Train (cont'd. from Page 1) Ira Keeler writes: "The idea for the Atomic Train came from a picture of a small pull toy in the TCA Quarterly. It had porthole windows and a "flash" color design."

"I was looking through my junk box and saw a rusty, scratched up Marx M 10000 observation car, and wondered what I could do with this. I started sketching what an atomic train would look like and I went to work, stripping the car and removing the rust. The car shell was cut off at the front and a

new rounded end was added. The windows were covered with brass strip, a headlight was added, and port holes were drilled. After making front and power truck brackets, a Lionel power truck was installed. After painting, brass grommets were added to the portholes, as were louver-like "gills" and an engine exhaust at the rear. I found another M 10000 car, and made the matching passenger car. "

"I plan to make another version of this train in the future."

President's Message (continued from Page 1)

shaping up just fine. Most of the details are done and it is looking like it is going to be a great show. The two clinics should be very exciting this year; one is on TMCC and the other is about train photography. If you are interested in taking pictures of your trains the photography clinic is for you. We are putting the final touches on the Saturday Night Banquet. We are in need of some table prizes so if anyone has any ideas or anything to donate please let me know. The tickets are going fast so get yours if you have not got them. It also seems that we are in need of an auctioneer, both of our auctioneers have other commitments so we are empty handed. So if anyone is interested please give me a call.

Your Board of Directors has been looking at ways to make our monthly meets a little livelier. We have been seeing an increase in both attendance and in the number of guests at the last few meets (not considering meets on the same day as a GATS show). I would like to see an education segment added in the form of, say, show and tell or people bringing a rare or unusual item to talk about. Please let one of us know if you are interested or have any good ideas.

I would like to take this time to thank all of you who have been working on the Cal-Stewart Meet. It is with your help and service that this meet is a success. I look forward to seeing all of you in March.

Michael Andrews

BAD E-MAIL ADDRESSES

The following Nor Cal members' email has been returned. Please email tcqeditor@sbcglobal.net to update your email address.

Harvey,Chapman,
Andy,DeSmet,
Laurence,Dreyfuss,
Larry,Duke,
David,Dunlop,
Ron,Finger,
John,Foster,
George,Guild,
James,Hartney,

Tim,Hurley,
Clifford ,Johnson,
Robert,Johnson Jr.,
Charles,Koehne,
Paul,LeBrett,
Joseph,Leitgeb,
Richard,Lenart,
Lyle,Leverich,
Bill,MacCullough,

Skip,Marquard,
Al,Padro,
Henrik,P. Livasgani,
Bob,Pinschmidt,
Robert,Ravano,
Stan,Salzman,
Dean,Schumacher,
Kenneth,Shirey,
Willard,Taylor,

Paul,Wells,
Richard,Werner,
Pete,White,
Bill,Widman,
Sterling,Woodruff,
John,Woods,
Richard,Yegan,
Richard,Zanotti,
Mike,Zolna,

At the recent TCA National Board of Directors Management Committee election, 3 members were elected from the Board. These were Chris Allen- Desert Division, Merle Praise- Pacific Northwest Division and Michael Andrews from Nor Cal Division.

Mark Boyd received an e-mail from former Nor Cal member David Dansky, as follows: "My dear brother Steven died on 8 January 05 after a so called 'minor' operation. He loved going to the train meets and made a lot of friends among Norcal members. I've been moved by all the cards and condolence from NorCal members." [I would like to] express my deep appreciation to all those who took the time to extend their sympathy. I'll see you at Norcal in March."

The officers and members of Nor Cal extend their condolences to David on the loss of his brother.

FIRST MEMBERS ROSTER OF NOR CAL DIVISION OF TCA

By Warren Heid #HR60-433 Nor Cal Club Historian

The following people were members of this Division when it was first formed in 1957 [Mark Boyd reported that initially Nor Cal was the "Central Coast Chapter" of the Western Division; this designation lasted for only a few months, apparently]:

William Austin	San Francisco	William Loundes	Berkeley
George Critler	San Francisco	Ted Murray	San Rafael *
Ronald Decker	San Francisco	Leo Noftz	Vallejo
William Grant	Lafayette	Louis Roberts	Pleasant Hill
Leland Hieronymous	Oakland	William Saunders	San Jose *
Wilton "Red" Hill	San Francisco	Albert Scheuermann	Alameda
Fred Hines	San Rafael	Bernard Scheuermann	Alameda
George Janes	San Francisco	Richard Schaich	San Francisco
Leon Jacobson	San Francisco *	John Weybrew	San Francisco

* still members of TCA

The first three presidents: Wilton "Red" Hill CM-23 (1957/58), Fred Hines CM-136 (1958/59), and Ted Murray CM-176 (1959/60).

The first meeting I attended was in June of 1959 at Will Saunder's home in San Jose, as a guest of Bill Lowndes. The meetings were held at the homes of various members with the location depending on the previous meeting location.

MORE LIONEL SMITHSONIAN DREYFUSS HUDSON PHOTOS



Photos courtesy of Sandi

Smithsonian Locomotives Update (refer to the Dec. 2004 Express): The 2-rail locomotive/ and tender shown here sold on EBay 12/04/04 for \$2,749.99 These photos indicate the fantastic, and delicate, detail that makes this a display piece, rather than a loco to flog around the layout.

A 3-rail version sold on 12/12/04 for \$909.09

Another 2-rail version sold on 1/17/04 for \$1,284.00 (a bargain! It was mistakenly described as being the 3-rail version.)



Nor Cal Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 1/13/2005

Meeting convened January 13, 2005 at 8:00 PM Aladini Restaurant, Lafayette, CA.

Voting members present: President Mike Andrews, VP Bob Nichelini, Editor Rich White, Secretary Mark Boyd, Immediate Past President Cliff Jarrard, Sac-Sierra Chapter President Jack Ahearn

Also present: Karl Schmidt, Bob Spivock, Mary Ann Nichelini, Jack Rodgers

Absent: Treasurer Bunk Coleman

President Mike Andrews called the meeting to order with a Welcome

Meet dates and locations reviewed, changes as necessary M/S/C

February 12, 2005 at Montera Middle School in Oakland

March 18, 19, & 20, 2005 Cal Stewart Meet at Santa Clara Convention Center

April 9, 2005 at Montera Middle School in Oakland

May 28, 2005 Scottish Rite Temple in Sacramento

June 11, 2005 at Iron Horse Middle School in San Ramon

July 9, 2005 at Iron Horse Middle School in San Ramon

August 13, 2005 at Iron Horse Middle School in San Ramon

September 10, 2005 at Montera Middle School in Oakland

October 8, 2005 at Montera Middle School in Oakland

November 19, 2005 at Montera Middle School in Oakland

December 10, 2005 at Montera Middle School in Oakland

Internet discussion: Spade Net has reimbursed Norcal for unused portion of funds. Rich White will work on relocating www.norcaltca.com on another server.

50 year celebration of Norcal Division brainstormed.

Logo will be modified by Mark Boyd to read "Northern California Division" and delete "San Francisco Bay Area".

"Kid's Club" discussion: We need someone to take over this job.

Meet Activities proposals:

Begin a show and tell at meets

Door Prize meet drawing for \$20 certificate to be used at specified meet.

Cal Stewart

Advertising: Shops, CTT, and all previous venues will be revisited.

Packet Stuffing Party at Mark's on Sunday March 13th at 1 PM

Clinics: Richard White, Jack Hornor, Joe Toscano? Bob Robinson?

Layouts reviewed by Jack Rodgers (chair)

Banquet: entertainment, Mark will make a contact with Greg Schindel. Need table prizes.

M/S/C to purchase stand alone Power Point software if not otherwise located.

2011 TCA National Convention. Mark asked if there was interest in Norcal Division hosting this. Currently there is interest in the Sacramento area from the Sac-Sierra Chapter. Dan Martin will be out in Spring to scope out properties with Mark Boyd. Mike Andrews asked to be included.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 PM.

Mark C. Boyd, Secretary Norcal TCA, tcqeditor@sbcglobal.net

Welcome New Members (Continued from Page 1)

New members who have rejoined after one or more years:

Lou Cartalano, Los Altos Walter Davis, Grass Valley

Charles Koehne, Glenn CA John Rinaldi, Mountain View

Nor Cal Division members whose TCA National dues are delinquent (you must keep your national dues current to remain a Division member):

83-20102 Carmelita Clarke, San Francisco dropped as of February 3, 2005

97-45558 Dave Kury, Coyote CA dropped as of May 2, 2004

79-14860 Laurence Samuelson, San Jose as of February 3, 2005

89-30032 Percy Sanders, Berkeley as of February 3, 2005

79-14751 Michael Seibert, Morgan Hill as of February 3, 2005

89-30035 Larry Willour, Livermore as of February 3, 2005

01-52993 Gaylord Rundle, Alameda as of February 3, 2005

03-55734 Bruce Hartley, Cupertino as of May 2, 2004

03-56812 Randy Cevello, Walnut Creek as of February 3, 2005

Nor-Cal Express
Richard White, Editor
7 Francisca Drive, Moraga,
CA 94556-1583
Phone: (925) 376-5821
Email: toytrain13@hotmail.com

- Wanted:** Tender for Bassett-Lowke O-gauge Compound, BLACK version with British Rail emblem. This is a 6-wheel tinplate tender. Hermann Pelz (650) 574-4652
- Wanted:** French O-gauge "scale-like" trains by Munier, Fournereau, Marescot, etc. Hornby O-gauge tender for GWR "County of Bedford" loco. Old HO gauge metal train kits by Varney, Mantua, Roundhouse, Blue Line, etc. Weston HO gauge metal figures. Richard White (925) 376-5821
- Wanted:** American Flyer prewar 3/16 scale die cast metal cabooses; 2-tone green #1625 type streamlined O-gauge passenger cars. John April (925) 254-4436
- Wanted:** Buying Marklin, Hag, Fleischmann, and other European trains. Dennis King (530) 877-4392
- Wanted:** European toy trains in HO and N gauges- Marklin, Fleischmann, Trix, Arnold, Hag, and what have you. Paul Canton (650) 579-0836
- Wanted:** Wooden trains and toys manufactured by the Seaver Toy Company, Burbank, California. The name is usually stamped on the bottom of the toy. Fred Albers (559) 781-1713

Northern California Division Train Collectors Assn.
Treasurer's Quarterly Report--Quarter Beginning
1 October 2004 Ending 31 December 2004

Assets Beginning Balance

Checking Account.....	2 431.02
Savings Account.....	17 651.93
Convention Center Deposit.....	3 540.00
Total.....	23 622.95

Income

Savings Interest.....	11.45
Annual Dues.....	50.00
Total.....	61.45

Expenses

Meet Location Rent.....	909.00
Meet Coffee.....	195.00
Holiday Party.....	2 557.00
Newsletter.....	380.68
Member Awards.....	415.68
Office Supplies.....	214.25
Cal-Stewart Preparations.....	962.50
Total.....	5 634.11

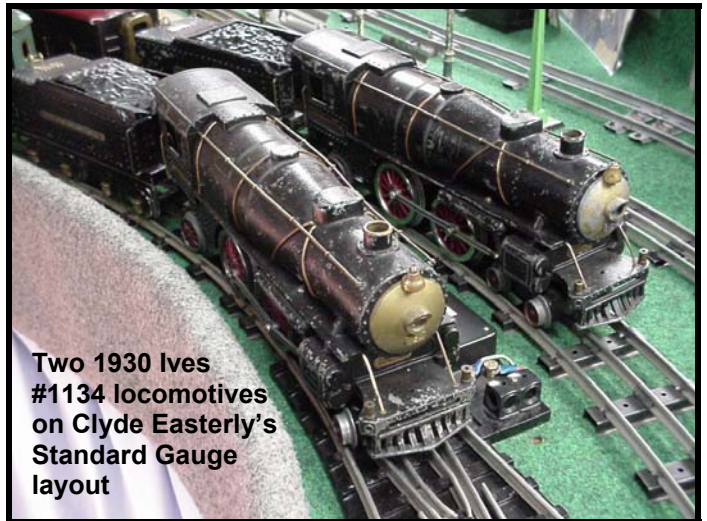
Assets Ending Balance

Checking Account.....	5 014.91
Savings Account.....	7 163.38
Convention Center Deposit.....	3 540.00
Montera Prepaid Rent.....	1 582.00
Cal-Stewart Raffle Prize.....	750.00
Total.....	18 050.29

Change Of Assets..... -5 572.66

Respectfully Submitted,

Burrell R. Coleman Jr., Treasurer



NOR CAL DIVISION OFFICERS

President	Michael Andrews
Vice President	Bob Nichelini
Past President	Cliff Jarrard
Sac-Sierra President	Jack Ahearn
Secretary	Mark Boyd
Treasurer	Bunk Coleman
Newsletter Editor and Webmaster	Richard White

TOY TRAIN AUCTION

Bonhams/Butterfield will be featuring a toy and train auction the weekend of the 27th of February (Friday and Saturday preview). We will have some interesting lots of Standard Gauge, Dorfman, McCoy, Lionel, AF as well as an array of toys and soldiers. We are located at 220 San Bruno Avenue in San Francisco. Interested parties can call me at (415) 503-3366 or attend the preview on Friday or Saturday. We will have about 75 lots of toys and trains. Kindest regards, Jim Friedman, Appraiser



TIN PLATE JUNCTION

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Trains, all gauges; layouts; die cast
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681- 4th Street, Oakland (510) 444-4780

*10% Discount with check or cash, 7% with
credit cards on most items for current Nor Cal*

TCA members

Website: www.Tinplatejn.com



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Tues-Fri 10-5:30 PM

Thurs. 10-7.00 PM

Sat. 10-5:00 PM

Sun. 11-4.00 PM

Joan Bradford, Owner

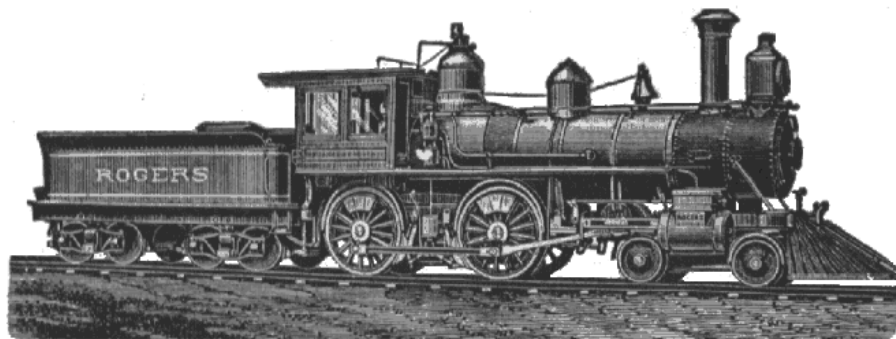
Website: www.just-trains.com

(925) 685-6566

FAX: (925) 685-7997

the **NOR-CAL EXPRESS**

Submit all address changes to:
Secretary Mark Boyd—
e-mail: norcaltca@spade.net



Courtesy of Ken
Houghton Rail Images