SPRING

NEWS

from the Toy Train Operating Society Sacramento Valley Division

2003

President's Message

by Jeff Silvera

Hello, everyone. I hope you all had a Happy New Year's celebration! I know the last year flew by too fast for me. I think we as a club had a very good year. We achieved some great accomplishments and improvements to our club layout. We had a good River City Meet. We took on a few new shows. We had a great canned food and toy drive. We also welcomed some great new members.

Our members, the Hornors, were very busy. Jack has gone from the 4 by 8 foot layout he had in Benicia when I first met him to a layout that has earned him the very first TTOS "Ward Kimball Operator of the Year Award". A very nice article on how Jack and George Ann created a Layout that took over the living room of their new home in Galt appeared in the February 2003 Classic Toy Train Magazine. Jack, you have accomplished what most of us Operators could only hope to achieve, and in such a short time! You two truly are our "Operators of the Year".

So until our April 5 meet, let's all just keep our trains running smoothly and always right on time! Don't forget the Cal-Stewart February 28 through March 2. There will be no SVD March meet at Sierra II Center. We will be at the Sacramento Cal-Expo GATS show March1 -.2. Also, don't forget to sign up for the TTOS National Convention in Denver, August 21 through Aug 24. It will be a good time for all!

Membership News and Notes

by George Ann Hornor

We're pleased to welcome three new members: Thomas Donnell from Grass Valley, Jack Korvink from Sacramento, and Connor Powell and his father, Kevin, also from Sacramento. Also, Kevin Anderson's son, Jarrett, is a new family member. You'll see Connor and Jarrett running trains on the modular layout and helping Norman and his crew.

I have just mailed renewal notices to those of you who haven't paid your 2003 dues. I'll bring the new membership cards to the April meeting, and after that I will mail cards to those of you who are unable to attend that meeting. I'm sure you will notice that the cards are tastefully done in the colors of the Sacramento Kings! (O.K., I couldn't do silver, but it's close.) In May, I will compile a new membership directory, so be sure that you renew in time to be included. And remember there is a \$5 penalty if you renew after the April meeting date.

George Ann Hornor, Membership Chair

BEND DE

SVD MEETING on March 1st at Sierra II Center

Show and Tell

By Richard Zanotti



Clarence Hanks shows his locomotive model carved from real coal at the December meet

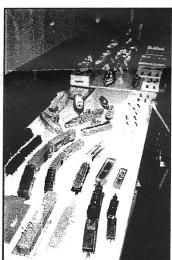
We had a display of Christmas related items at our December meeting. They included a village, people, train layout, and operating signs from the Dollar Tree; a Grinch Christmas track toy, and a Schilling composite reproduction of the Mickey Mouse clockwork handcar. **Jeff** brought in an animated Hallmark ornament that had a miniature train layout on it.

At our January meeting Ira Keeler, a retired model maker from Lucas Films, made

a presentation and displayed many of his great models. We also had a display of reproduc-

tion lithoed clockwork toys. They included: a Roy Rogers rocking horse, a Ping-Pong tournament, a rocket ship that stands up, and a hopping reindeer. **Jean Hathaway** brought in an U.S. Models 0 gauge model of a diesel locomotive. Jean thinks that this model was the prototype for one of Lionel's early diesel locomotives.

Our February Show & Tell was great. Paul gave a talk on restoring old beat up cars. Jerry Azzaro shared his early Gilbert American Flyer HO kits. He compared 0 gauge models with S gauge and H0



Toy boats dominated the February Show & Tell

gauge models. It seemed that Gilbert copied models exactly from one gauge to the other gauge, changing only size. We also had a display of antique tin boats. **Jean Hathaway** brought in his pristine collection of Sutcliffe boats. **Pete White** shared his collection of Lionel, Arnold, Ingersol, Wolverine, Hornby, Sakai, Retro 1-2-3, and Dayton boats. **Clyde Easterly** shared a Dayton boat. **Don Rosa** shared a very unique flat car. I shared some Fleschman, Arnold, Bing, Carrette, Marx, and Wolverine boats. I also had some books and catalogs on toy boats for reference.



Ira Keeler displays some of his hand made tin-litho items at the January Show & Tell

As you know, we will not be having a March meeting, due to Cal-Stewart. Please bring in and share your Cal-Stewart finds at our April meeting [That is what collecting is about]. Pete Keesling might bring in his Carlisle and Finch layout for our April meeting, if he can work it into his schedule. As always, you can bring in whatever you want. It is your Show & Tell.

Holiday Donation Cornacopia

SVD members again proved their generosity with donations brought to the December meet for the Sacramento Children's Home.



The donation table overflowed with food and toys donated by SVD members at the December 7th meet. President **Jeff Silvera** presented them to the Sacramento Children's Home (www.kidshome.org) on behalf of our Division.



Marty Maxwell adds to the donations while Stan Batynski looks on.



Clab Layout News

By Norman LaClair

The layout is currently being remodeled and we are getting a lot of positive feedback from people, which makes all of us who are doing the work feel really great. The upgrade began about 1½ years ago, with an access gate being added so that we who are no longer able to crawl under the tables can more easily reach the center.



Stan Batynski and Norman LaClair built the gate. The layout was then painted Lionel orange and blue. A separate project was the building of a test track unit for members to use. This was painted Flyer yellow and blue. As with the layout, Stan did the wiring and Norm the construction.

In June of 2002 we resumed the major rebuilding of the layout. First, all track was removed and indoor/outdoor carpeting was glued to the table tops. We then brought the three wide sections out of storage and added them to the layout configuration. These were also given the carpet treatment. All the track was then reinstalled.

The layout was further enhanced with the addition of Lionel, Flyer and Marx trestles, along with a handmade wooden one for the Standard Gauge line built by **Mike Boyd.** (Take a close look at **Mike's** masterpiece, it is a close copy of a classic Flyer 1920s trestle.)

All of the members who staff the layout at shows had several discussions and took a vote as to ways to add activity to the layout. Our idea was



Action accessories will populate the layout's wide sections

to add operating accessories to the layout by changing the track configuration in the wide sections. The accessories we chose are the icing station with car, log loader, two rotating beacons, a switch tower, two oil der-

ricks, and a Flyer cattle loader. Wiring of the accessories is not yet complete, but should be done by the spring of this year.

We are also having one additional wide layout section built by **Phil Fravesi.** This will increase the largest layout footprint to 14 x 26 ft. This new section will allow us to add even more accessories!

The members who donate their time and skill to the layout project are Jeff Silvera, Mike Boyd, Kevin Anderson, Paul Wells, Norman LaClair, Jack Hornor, Tom MacConnell, Bob Milton and Andrew DeSmet.

The layout crew is in complete agreement regarding the value of the layout as a public relations tool that enables the club to present to the public the enjoyment of running trains as a hobby. Ours is one of the very few clubs who operate Standard Gauge equipment, this always bring "Oohs and Aahs" from the crowds.



Inside Pacific Bowl Complex
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Model railroading in all sizes!

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SVD Volunteers Honored at January Meet

At the January meet, layout tour coordinator **Jack Ahearn** presented tokens of SVD appreciation to fellow members who opened their homes for layout visits during the previous year:



John Freitas



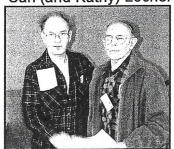
Barry Garland



Carl (and Kathy) Locher



Pete White



Francis Eister



Roy Kilday



Tom MacConnell



Jack (and George Ann) Hornor

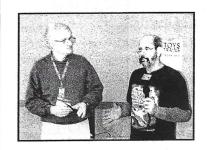


John McLeod



Bill Wilson

President **Jeff Silvera** thanked the many volunteers who help keep our SVD "on track"...



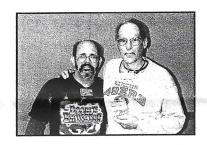
... Stan Batynski for his work organizing our very successful River City Meet ...



... Carl and Kathy Locher for managing the River City Meet registration . . .



. . . George Ann
Hornor for keeping
track of us all as
Membership Chair . . .



... **Jerry Azzaro** for editing and publishing the "Side Track" . . .



. . and **John Shelton** for keeping us supplied with coffee and baked goods at every SVD meet.





Sacramento Valley Division Toy Train Operating Society



February 2003

TO: All Sacramento Valley Division Members

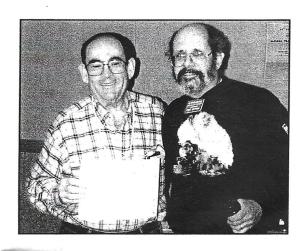
FROM: Jeff Silvera

FP	COIVI. Jell Silvera
Thank you for choosing me to be president for the next two years. Your other officers and I are always looking for ways to improve our club. It would help us if you would complete this short survey.	
Na	me: Date:
1.	Several other divisions have picnics and trips in addition to the regular meets. Would you be interested in participating in similar activities?
2.	Some possibilities include visiting the Western Railway Museum in Rio Vista, riding the Yolo Short Line, visiting the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers, and tours of the rail yard in Roseville. Do you know of others?
	And would you help organize the trip?
3.	Must these special activities be on a Saturday? How about Sunday afternoon?
4.	Would you like to have a picnic at a summer meet?
	Can you help organize that?
5.	Are you interested in continuing the layout tours after the meets?
	If so, could you help plan the schedule?
6.	Would you like to go back to layouts we have visited previously?
	If so, are there any in particular?
7.	Do you have an operating layout or one under construction that you would be interested in showing? Remember that many of us need ideas for smaller layouts.
8.	Do you have ideas about how to attract new members? (Use back of page, if necessary.
9.	Do you have other ideas about how to improve the club?
Ple Ap	ease feel free to answer any or all of the questions. You can return the form to me by mail or at the ril meeting. You can also send your ideas by e-mail, or talk to me or any of the officers at any meeting

Thanks for your cooperation.

(This side for your additional comments)

Thanks, Don!



Don Rosa received special recognition at the December 7th SVD meet for his service to the Division as Vice President and former President. President Jeff Silvera did the honors.

Gold Coantry Model Railroad Train Show and Sale

Date: Sunday April 13, 2003

Time: 10am - 4pm (Sale Hours)

Location: El Dorado County Fairgrounds, Placerville (Main exhibit building)

(Placerville Drive exit off Highway 50)

Entry Fee: \$1.00 (A bargain)

Visit the real Shay locomotive under restoration at the museum, right next door to the show.

Seller space is available. Tables are \$15.00 Bring a nice layout to run and receive one table free.

For information contact Tom MacConnell at 530-626-3640 (leave a message if no answer)

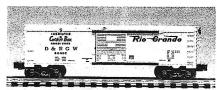
2003 Convention Car News

by Stan Batynski

Get Gases or a Box of Cookies - by Rail

The Linde Industrial Gases box/tank cars and the Denver & Rio Grande "Cookie Box" boxcars rode the rails to deliver these time-sensitive products. The D&RGW had 77 Cookie Boxcars and Linde had several hundred box/tank cars. Read on to learn a bit about the prototypes and the TTOS National Cars.

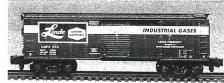
The February 2003 Order Board cover featured the Lionel O-gauge 6464-style Cookie Box boxcar and the Lionel-American Flyer S-gauge box/tank car as the TTOS National Cars for 2003. The Linde box/tank car is the first of its kind to be produced in S-gauge. The color ad for these cars will be mailed with the TTOS Bulletin in early March.



The Rio Grande's famous "Cookie Box" specially equipped, dedicated service boxcars were unique to Denver. The Rio Grande listed these cars in their roster as

"Specially equipped and assigned to bakery goods loading out of Denver, Colorado." The Cookie Box cars were used in the United Biscuit Company's baked goods service out of their Denver bakery to regional distribution centers throughout the West. The United Biscuit Company, founded in 1853 and later renamed as Keebler Bakery in 1966, was actually the source of the loadings. UBC / Keebler reported that it had a network of 14 bakeries between Philadelphia and Salt Lake City by 1944. As a side note, Kellogg purchased Keebler in March 2001 and the Denver Keebler Bakery was closed in May 2001.

Linde owned a sizable fleet of type "XT" boxcars between 1940 and 1992. XT stood for a boxcar housing an insulated, vacuum-



jacketed tank for transporting cryogenic or supercold liquefied gases. The boxcar provided the tank with some protection from the sun's heat and the weather. During shipment, external heat would eventually enter the tank to warm the cryogenic gas and raise the internal tank pressure. Safety valves were provided to allow the excess pressure to escape. The shipments of cryogenic gases were very time sensitive. In theory, if the delivery were delayed long enough, there would not be any product left in the tank due to venting out the safety valve.



Down the track

February 28 - March 2: Spring Cal-Stewart meet, Santa Clara

March 1-2: SVD Modular Layout at GATS, Cal-Expo Sacramento

March 2003: No SVD meet

April 5: SVD Meet - Sierra II Center

April 13: Gold Country Model Railroad Show: El Dorado County Fairgrounds

April 25-26: TCA Eastern Division Spring York Meet, York PA

May 3: SVD Meet - Sierra II Center

May 3-4: 4th Annual Flyer Fest West, Galt

May 24: Sac-Sierra Train Show, Scottish Rite Hall, Sacramento

June 7: SVD Meet - Sierra II Center

June 24-29: TCA National Convention, Ontario CA

August 21-24, 2003: TTOS National Convention, Denver CO

November 7, 8 & 9th, 2003: Fall Cal-Stewart meet, Pasadena CA

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SVD MEETING on March 1st at Sierra II Center



TTOS Sacramento Valley Division Attn: Jerry Azzaro jerry_azzaro@juno.com 291 Bella Vista Way San Francisco, CA 94127-1811





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