



THE SIDE TRACK

NEWS

from the Toy Train Operating Society
Sacramento Valley Division

WINTER

2022

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad. - Miles Kington

Jerry Azzaro, editor

President's Message

by Ed Strisar, SVD President

12/17/22: Just returned from another fantastic TTOS-SVD Annual Potluck. TTOS-SVD has been celebrating these annual luncheons since we had our meetings at the Sierra 2 Center on 24th street in Sacramento.

This year everyone had great conversations with fellow members and enjoyed some very tasty food. We thank all who attended and thank **Rose Craighead, Kathleen Silvera, and Lisa Stanton** for making this event so enjoyable. In addition to canned goods, \$210 was collected by **Jeff Silvera** who will be taking the donations to the Sacramento Children's Home and Saint Mark's.

At the potluck, your president provided a short synopsis of TTOS-SVD in 2022 and a short review of what we can expect in 2023.

TTOS-SVD members were not a happy lot at the beginning of 2022. In addition, in February we lost longtime member **John DeHaan**. John had previously served as TTOS-SVD President, Vice President, Treasurer, and National Vice President. We lost **Pete White** just a short time prior to losing John, another longtime member.

In the springtime **Dave Burke, Bob Phillips, and Ed Strisar** took a trip to scenic Rancho Seco and returned the club layout

to Sacramento. We thank Dave and Bob for their valued assistance.

In May, **Bryan Stanton** organized a work party at **Elias Amaral's** ranch to disassemble the club layout. Approximately fifteen club members showed up on that Saturday. This is a great example of what our members can do. Additionally, Bryan has been instrumental in inventorying and selling the contents of the club trailer.

In the fall, **Bryan** managed another successful TTOS-SVD River City Train Meet.

At our November monthly meeting, club members present elected **Dave Burke** to the position of Secretary replacing **Jack Ahearn** who faithfully served as our previous Secretary. Thank you Dave and Jack.

Acting President **Ed Strisar**, Acting Vice President **Jeff Silvera**, Treasurer **Bryan Stanton** and Membership Chairperson **Barbara Rohrs** agreed to another term, and members present at the meeting approved. **Rose Craighead** will remain as our Webmaster. Rose has been busy posting past articles of TTOS-SVD printed material to the TTOS-SVD web site. **Bob Phillips** will administer the Show and Tell program.

We expect 2023 to be a very good year for TTOS-SVD. We will be visiting railroad related locations and exploring other fun activities - and we look forward to visiting local restaurants.

Your TTOS-SVD board wishes everyone the best in 2023 and look forward to seeing everyone again at our TTOS-SVD events.

October 15th meeting

Photos by Barbara Rohrs



November 19th meeting

Photos by Lisa
and Bryan Stanton



Photos by Barbara Rohrs



November 19th Show and Tell

Photos by Jack Ahearn

Information provided by Jack Ahearn

Bill Bender brought his Lionel AT&SF box car on which he installed a self designed, scratch built and wired prototypical Flashing Rear End Device (FRED). Bill also showed a Lionel early coach car. The yellow-sided period car is topped with a raised gray colored clerestory roof for air and daylight vents. Bill stated that this Lionel car is considered to be a rare find.

Jack Ahearn displayed another in his series of 'Small Layouts are Fun' 36 x 40 inch layouts. This time his rather small layout featured a rather small farm. Notice that there are no crops growing on the equally small field. The reason given is that up to a few days ago, this small acreage field yielded rather small seasonal pumpkins that had just been picked and loaded onto three rather small trucks to be delivered just in time for Thanksgiving.

For some unexplained reason, lifelong Gilbert American Flyer S-Gauge admirer and collector **Jeff Silvera** paid \$140 for a book about Standard Gauge and brought it to Show and Tell.

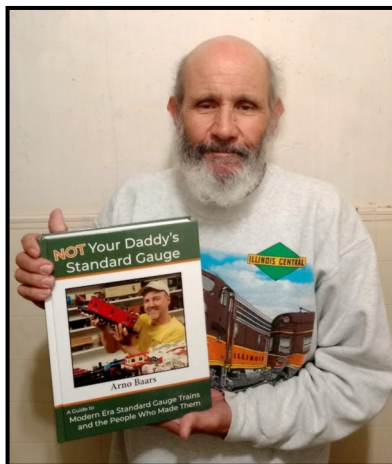


PHOTO GALLERY

2022 River City Toy Train Meet

We didn't get everyone, nor did we get everyone in focus.



Sacramento Valley TTOS annual River City Toy Train Show was held on October 1. It was great to be at our old stomping grounds, the Sacramento Scottish Rite Center. Vendor tables sold out ensuring a wide variety of trains for sale. Attendees eagerly purchased vintage and new trains in Standard, O, HO, N and G gauges, as well as track, transformers, accessories, and parts. The show featured four personal layouts that were enjoyed by train enthusiasts young and old. Of course, it was hard to

miss the ear-to-ear smile of the young train set drawing winner. Many thanks go out to the club volunteers for making this show a success. We'll see you next year!

- Bryan Stanton



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Jack Ahearn's portable layouts

As seen at the River City meet, Jack always goes for the fine detail. In this 36 x 40 inch layout, he cleverly used HO miniatures to create an interesting and appealing city street scene. Of course it is out of scale with the O-27 track and trolley ... but on a tinplate layout, what really is "scale"?



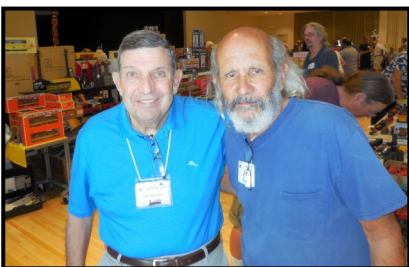
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SVD visits Phil and Emma Fravesi for a grand event

Members were invited to lunch and to visit Phil's fabulous layout following the October 15th membership meeting

Photos by Phil



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Annual Holiday Potluck Luncheon—December 17th

Photos and captions by Jack Ahearn



Lisa Stanton and Chuck Brasher start to dish up their Christmas Party luncheon.



Bill Bender explains to Ed Strisar detail on the model church.

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Bill Bender's S&T layout display showing his Dad's Lionel Christmas 1954 present. (Train Replaced later in life)



Another Shot of Bill Bender's obviously replaced and renamed 1954 Locomotive & Tender.



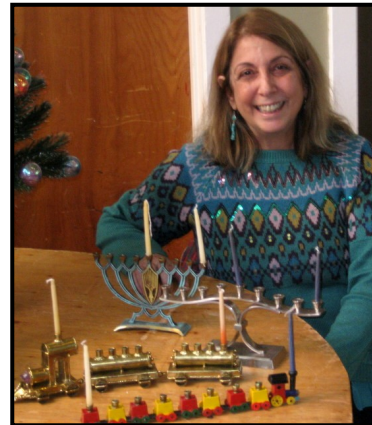
Rose Craighead smiles for the camera while Emma and Phil Fravesi feast.



Jeff Silvera, Chair of our Annual Children's Donation project starts to load up his sleigh.



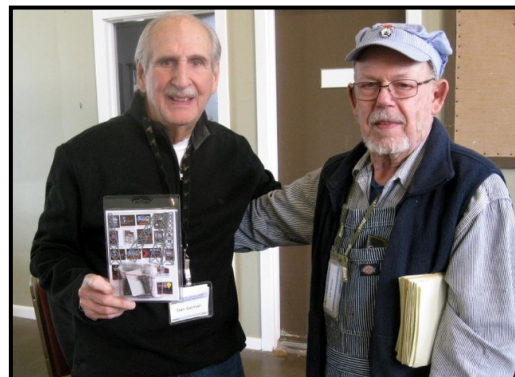
Barbara and Keith Anderson give big smiles as they start filling their plates.



Lisa Stanton displays her S&T Hanukkah items.



Lisa and Bryan Stanton at the buffet.



Ed Strisar presents Lucky Bucks certificate to Stan Salzman.

Down the track

Upcoming events of interest to SVD members (SVD events are in **BOLD**)

January 21, 2023: SVD Meeting, St. Mark's Church, Sacramento*

January 28-29: Great Train Expo, Sacramento

February 18: SVD Meeting, St. Mark's Church, Sacramento*

March 18: SVD Meeting, St. Mark's Church, Sacramento*

May 27: TCA Sac-Sierra Show, Scottish Rite Center

***Meetings begin at 9:30 AM**

BRING YOUR SVD and TTOS NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Contact us:

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Membership questions: Barbara Rohrs - (916) 730-1415 tjbrr@hotmail.com

Website: www.ttos-sv.org

TTOS-SVD Mission Statement:

Our mission is to bring together persons interested in the hobby of collecting and operating toy trains. The focus of activities shall be on promoting the best interests of the hobby through fellowship, a sense of good will, camaraderie within the membership, and exposing the general public to the hobby, encouraging greater interest in it and increasing membership.