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Jul.-Sep. 2015

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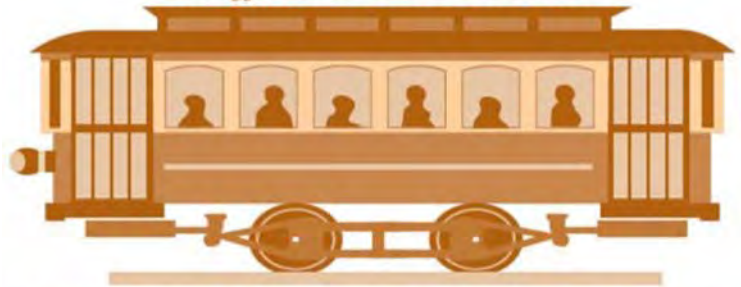
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"The Trolley" The Official WB&A Newsletter



WB&A Chapter - Eastern Division - Train Collectors Association
Established 1964

From the President's Desk

Dear All,

We are mid-way into 2015 and it seems that the ice and cold from this past winter is finally thawing out as the heat of the summer moves in to take its place. Your Board has been busy over the last three months and is looking forward to the next few months.

In May the long anticipated joint train show with our friends of the VTC took place. By the feedback received members from the two Clubs enjoyed getting to know one another and seeing old friends. This event should remind us all that while we may belong to a particular train club, what binds us all together is the hobby. Let it not be said that the WB&A does not entertain and find ways to promote and welcome all to the hobby while also inviting them to be part of the bigger umbrella of the TCA and the WB&A.

I'm happy to report that our first "How To Session" held at Toy Trains and Collectibles and hosted by Dan and Hope Danielson was a big success. We had great folks there to help kick off the day and teach those in attendance how to work on some of the repairs needed on one's trains. I would like to thank everyone who was there to teach and show and those that came to learn and steal a bit of knowledge from those offering it up to take. Our next How To Session will be on scenery and that will again be hosted by Dan and Hope at their store Toy Trains and Collectibles in Manassas, Virginia, please stay tuned for more information and/or reach out to Nada Boswell at: wba.boswell@gmail.com.

We also held a free event for the members at the Baltimore Streetcar Museum and while some of you did come out to enjoy the day with Nada and others, we were surprised to not see many of you out for the day. So my question is how do we get you to partake in the events? FREE I thought was a good start, but maybe not? In addition to free, our friends at the Museum provided many opportunities to ride the streetcars and to hear the stories of the streetcars and we even had a few members with items to sell inside the Museum along with the Museum's store.

If you receive my eblast you know that Dave Eadie is looking for a "show of hands" if you'd be interested in a J-611 trip sometime next year. If so, send him an email at dbeadie@verizon.net to let him know and when he has a list of interested folks he'll start looking into the event and get back to you on a date, time and cost, etc. It would be great if the WB&A could take up a large portion of the ride, what a great way to come together as one Club!

Speaking about the J-611, I'm pleased to say that your Board is presenting a check of \$500 towards the project on behalf of the WB&A. We believe that the work that has been done is an example of keeping the hobby alive. While we all cannot be at the controls of this magnificent train, it is hoped that this contribution will allow you **(Cont'd on Page 2)**

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Treasurer's Report as of June 4, 2015

By Glenn MacKinnon

The hot summer season is here! The big kickoff was last weekend with the Manassas Rail Fest and Norfolk and Western's 611 back in action! As always, the Rail Fest was lots of fun. Six modular layouts were running in the pavilion and hundreds of rail fans enjoyed the show. The National Capital Trackers layout operations included a gondola carrying a large fake stuffed rat. Each trip around the layout, the rat was greeted with multiple looks of surprise and lots of laughs. Many WB&A members participated in the weekend events and had fun! Some ran toy trains, some rode 611 and others volunteered as car hosts. 611's arrival at the Old Town Manassas Train Station was spectacular. The station's platform was packed with waiting passengers and rail fans jammed together on either side of the track as the train approached.

The Chapter's financial activities for January-June 4, 2015 are summarized below. If you have any other questions or comments feel free to contact me at 703-927-9843 or glen.mackinnon@verizon.net.

Check Book Balance—Jan. 1, 2015 \$33,725.37
Check Book Balance—June 4, 2015 \$35,927.23

Significant Activities Jan. 1, 2015 through Jun. 4, 2015

	Expenses	Revenue
MD Armory Mar 2015 Meet	2540	3250
VTC/WB&A Joint Meet	979	842
Membership Dues 2015	96	4052
Newsletter 2015	641	
WB&A Trailer Sale	67	1500
Sale of Trailer Contents		404
Kids Korner	364	15
Baltimore Street Car Museum	544	
Fire Up 611	500	
Train Set for Drawing	304	240
Web Site	560	
How To Sessions	151	
Miscellaneous Expenses	1460	



TOP TEN WB&A BENEFITS

- 1 Fun and Fellowship with your Train Friends
- 2 Wealth of information available from other collectors, operators and layout builders.
- 3 A wonderful opportunity to participate at the local level in the world's greatest hobby.
- 4 Free admission to local WB&A Train Shows. (Show advertised in local newspapers).
- 5 Free admission at Members Only WB&A Swap Meet.
- 6 Receive quarterly the WB&A Newsletter "The Trolley".
- 7 Access to the chapter website - <http://www.wbachapter.org>
- 8 Share in the excitement of the Toy Train Hobby.
- 9 Serving as a committee member or officer at the local level is very rewarding.
- 10 Buy, Sell, Trade with local train enthusiasts.

Share Your Memories

Please send any train-related articles, stories, and/or print-ready photos for consideration in any upcoming publication of "The Trolley" or on the Chapter Web Site. Send via e-mail to:

pullenp@gmail.com

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES
FOR Oct.-Dec. 2015 TROLLEY
September 10, 2015**

(President's Message Cont'd) all to know you have a small part in its continued operation.

In this issue you'll see that it's that time again where your Board is looking for interested members to become part of the Board. What I have learned and have been given from my experience has been beyond words. I started out wanting to volunteer for the 2010 Baltimore Convention and before I knew what happened I was voted in as the President of the WB&A. It certainly has been an amazing eight or so years. Now, I'm looking for others who want to be part of the Board and run for the 2016-2017 term. I hope you will want to run and be part of making the WB&A the Club everyone wants to be part of, so come on and give it a whirl, you may be surprised by what you have to offer to us all.

I'm so pleased to announce that the work done on our Facebook page by Sarah is complete and she challenges us all to take a look and to hit **LIKE** on **(Cont'd on Page 3)**

(President's Message Cont'd) the page and to share it with all of our friends. Hitting *like* is such a little thing to do, but what a huge difference it can make for us. Remember to post train related items to the page and save the other items for your personal page, we truly want to keep this page a train related page; we appreciate everyone's understanding and honoring of this. You can read about this more, look for Sarah's update here in the Trolley.

The remainder of 2015 will be busy ones for your Board and I hope you will continue to provide your comments/suggestions. As a reminder, if you find yourself with a bit of free time, we can always use a hand or two. Let it not be said that this Club is run by the BoD, it takes all of us to make it run like a well-oiled train, it takes all of us to make it a Club we want to be part of, it takes all of us to partake in events to make it doable and it takes **communication** to make it a better Club and one you want to continue to be part of.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen A. Hall
President of the WB&A

WB&A General Business Meeting November 1, 2014

Chapter President Colleen Hall called the meeting to Order at 10:05 am. There was a quorum for the meeting to continue.

Old Business

Secretary's Report - Nada Boswell distributed the June 1, 2014 General Business Minutes for review and discussion. There was a motion to accept the minutes as written made by Jim Kinder, seconded by Mike Ferrante and unanimously accepted.

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Glenn McKinnon provided the Treasurer's Report. The Club is in good financial shape at this time. Line items were discussed. The Vienna meet made a profit despite bad weather. A fee to reserve the hall for the joint VTC/WB&A meet has been paid. Emailing the newsletter has reduced our cost from \$4,200 last year to \$1759 so far this year. As of now \$1,389 in drawing tickets have been sold which covers our cost for the set and door prizes for swap meets. It is recommended that the trailer used to transport layouts for meets be sold as there is damage to them and would take a lot of money to fix them plus tags and insurance are due soon. The trailer will be moved to Dan Danielson's store location in Manassas and put up for sale. Money has been spent doing the project for Tom Lantry and more will be spent, however the club will be reimbursed by the Lantry's. The Website costs are for the domain name and cost to maintain. The election cost \$815 to mail out the ballots. A motion was made by Clem Clement to accept the report, seconded by Bob Heine and unanimously accepted.

Membership Report - Dave Eadie reported we have 310 total members, 28 were new last year.

230 have paid for 2014, Dave will send notices. So far 65 have paid for 2015. 2 drawings will be held for \$100

gift certificates - one for new members in 2014 and one for paying 2015 dues prior to December 31, 2014. Dave obtains list of new TCA members from our area and sends them an invitation to come to our meets free of charge. We have gotten 15 new members from the Annapolis and Vienna meets from this effort.

A suggestion was made that research be done to see if membership renewal and payment could be done online. This will have to be researched through the website.

Several layouts were operating before and after the meeting as well as a swap meet to show the benefits of membership

New Business

Eastern Report

Dan Danielson noted that Jim Kronz will be President until 12/31/2014 and then remain on the Board of Directors as Past President.

Every table was sold at the October York meet so it continues to attract train collectors.

The Red Click issue has been closed and it is time to put it behind us.

Election ballots will be coming out very soon for Eastern Officers and Board of Directors, please be sure to vote.

There were "O" and "HO" layouts in the White Hall at York. It is hoped that the National Capital Trackers will be back at York, so far tentative for April 2016.

The Eastern Division website is down to a virus, there is a dummy site up now but the problem has not been fixed. Per Jim Kronz all computers were sent back to Apple for a complete sweep to try to resolve the issue.

It is noted that in-house security people at York will be wearing a black vest that says SECURITY on the back.

Per Jim Kronz the dues increase has not been as harmful as feared. It took over a year for it to affect all members as dues are collected every quarter based on the date the member joined TCA. The July 1, 2014 billing was the last to raise dues for the remaining members. TCA is losing 1.5 %-2% of the members per year due to aging as the average age is 69 ½. The Division is financially sound with no outstanding law suits and the York meets continue to be good. For the October meet 11,094 preregister and over 1,000 at the door. October 2013 was 13,500, April 2014 was slightly over 12,000.

Discussion was held as to the possibility of opening York to the public on one day - possibly Saturday. This is not an option as per an agreement with the Pennsylvania Governor's Office there is no sales tax collected on non-dealer sales however if anything about the meet changes that agreement is voided. All dealers must have a sales tax agreement with Pennsylvania. The Fairgrounds are rented from 8:00 am Monday to 12:00 pm Sunday to allow time for all the necessary setup and teardown. Any changes to try to go public would affect registration, security and attendance, particularly as it relates to guests. Guest may attend one time but must be with a member, the goal is to get them to join TCA, should it become a partly open public meet our membership could be adversely affected.

Vienna Meet

The meet was held Saturday September 13, 2014 at the

Vienna Firehouse. The hall was opened Friday afternoon for table holder set up and approximately ½ of the table holders took advantage of that timing. It then reopened at 7:00 am for remaining table holders to set up. A local family provided an 8x10 layout and operated it during the meet. All 55 tables were sold and, despite rain during the show, a profit was made. There was an operating layout on display at the old Vienna Train Station that same day so it is suggested we cross advertise with that group.

25 members paid their dues at the meet. It was suggested that we look at a later date for the Vienna meet. Money was made at both meets as opposed to the Kena meets however some table holders would like the meet to be held later in the year. Dan and Tom will check on later dates and possibly a new location. The firehouse hall is on the 2nd floor and despite a small elevator it is difficult for table holders to set up and tear down.

The benefit to the firehouse is that they held tours of the facility, gave hats to the kids, etc., however it is located in a very busy area near a school and park with limited parking available. Perhaps moving the date later in the year will help with that.

Joint VTC and WB&A meet

The meet will be held Saturday, May 9, 2015 at the Eagles Lodge in Fredericksburg. The cost will be split 50/50 between the clubs. Each club will have ½ the tables to sell - if they do not sell all of their tables by a specific date (TBD) the other club can try to sell them. Door profits will be split 50/50. It is important that everyone promote this and other meets to maintain interest in toy trains. The E-blast is important in this effort to get information out and helped us connect with the VTC to set up this meet. Some are members of both clubs so promoting it helps us all but every member promoting through Facebook and other social media sites will enhance that effort. Flyers will be available if anyone wants to post them at local stores, etc. National Capital Trackers will have a layout and Train Doctor Allen Crotts will be there..

Annapolis 2015 meet

Art Tate who had chaired this meet for several years is no longer able to do so. John Buxton, Bob Goodrich, Colleen Hall, Dave Eadie and Bob Ferguson will be working together to make the meet continue. A contract has been signed and deposit made for the March 14, 2015 show. Ads have been placed in Classic Toy Trains and O Gauge Railroading. Fliers and table holder forms are being developed. National Capital Trackers will do a layout once the space is determined for them.

Flyers should be placed at the after Christmas Greenberg Show. Perhaps a tie in can be made with Ebay sellers to deliver items at this and other meets.

Jim Kronz noted that the last Annapolis show was great. The venue and the layout with the kids playing with the wooden trains were amazing. Glenn noted that we now have our own set which can be used at Kids Korner and other events. Thomas the Tank Engine is a big draw as an operating layout.

There is a \$1200 roughly budget for advertising; Bruce Greenberg helps to get local newspapers to cover the event.

The E-blast gets the word out as does TTML, our website and Facebook with no money spent.

Trailer

The trailer contains 4 - 4x8 tables plus transformers, rolling stock and buildings but so much maintenance is needed to be able to use them that the trailer and items will be sold. The original cost was \$2,500 and a price will be determined to sell it. It is a 6x10 enclosed trailer, wood paneled with lights, etc.

Upcoming events

The next train store open house will be at Dan Danielson's Toy Trains and Collectible, 7215 New Market Court, Manassas, VA on 11/22/15 from 1-4 pm (the store opens at 10:00 am). There will be door prizes, sale items, snacks and drinks plus WB&A members receive a discount.

John Buxton will have an open house in early January. He collects Dorfan trains and will have them on display and operating at the Weber Farm Store near his home.

Baltimore Streetcar Museum event will be held on May 16, 2015 in Baltimore. Last year's event went very well with rides, swap meet, visit to working areas of the site, etc.

Mary and Pete Jackson

A plaque was presented to Pete and Mary in recognition of their many years of service to WB&A. Mary is finishing her final term as a Board Member. Both have served on the Board and spent many years running the very popular Kids Korner at the York meets. Their ongoing work for the hobby has been greatly appreciated by all.

Election Results

Ballots were counted by 3 members - Dave Eadie, Bob Goodrich and William (Bill) Moss were elected to the Board and Dan Danielson was elected as Eastern Division Representative.

Lantry Project

Mark Boyd as editor of the TCA Quarterly has requested help to finalize an article for the Quarterly. Arne Meyrow will assist with photos, etc. and the article should appear early next year.

Door Prizes

Winners were Steve Bosma, John Howser and Ed Kirk. A motion to adjourn was made by Dan, seconded by Jim and the meeting adjourned at 11:30

Membership Moments by David Eadie

I would like to thank the 205 members who have paid their 2015 dues, many doing so at one of our events held though out the year. Doing so saves the club time and money of not sending out reminder notices. If you cannot attend any of our remaining events this year, please use the renewal form in this newsletter or the one in our website (www.wbachapter.org) to pay your 2015 dues. We have only 3 events scheduled the remainder of the year; the October York Show, the Vienna Firehouse Show on October 31st, and the mini meet in Baltimore on

November 7th . Your WB&A membership card should have a brown "15" sticker on it. If you only see "14" or something earlier, and wish to remain a member please send in your dues now.

We just concluded our first joint meet with the Virginia Train Club in Fredricksburg, VA and the second WB&A Appreciation Day at the Baltimore Streetcar Museum. The VTC Joint meet was packed with trading tables with the National Capitol Trackers O Gauge modular Layout and our own Train Doctor, Allen Crotts and Parts Dealer, Robbie Schroder. We had a steady flow of buyers all day including many of you dropped by the WB&A table to pay your 2015 dues and prepay your 2016 chapter dues. We thank you for doing so.

For those attending our latest mini meet, we had on display, one of this year's two drawings, the first is a Standard Gauge # 138 5 car Tinplate Set. Also, as a drawing will be held for a 2015 MTH N&W 4-8-4 J and Passenger Set from the 2015 Vol 2 catalog. Information on both drawing items can be found in this newsletter.

N&W 611 is back !!

As most of you know the N&W 611 J had its first excursion the weekend of June 6 out of Manassas, VA. We thought it would be fun as a club to ride her next year when she returns for the Manassas Railfest in June, 2016. If you are interested please contact me (dbeadie@verizon.net) with the number of people in your party so we may get a head count on those interested.

WHAT TOY TRAINS MEAN TO ME

Clem Clement

Mother and I were walking the boards in Atlantic City after the hurricane on '44 and feeling sad about all the damage when sticking out of the storm-moved sand, I saw the top of a Lionel standard gauge #104 bridge. I made a dash for the abandoned bridge but the Quaker in Mother said no; yet, today I still see that bridge that for years I yearned to have. The thrill of seeing a toy train or layout continues as strong today as when Daddy bought me my first set at age four. The places I've been and the friends I've made because of these little toys have coddled me and shaped me into what I am today. In times of stress and disappointment, a train repair job, attending a meet,



A happy Clem (Then Rich) Clement with his new Lionel freight set.

or a visit with a fellow train lover, will bring solace and cheer to carry me over the next hill. Happiness is toy trains.

As I have written before, the trains and TCA have been wonderful to me during military and industry tours. We would arrive at a new assignment, look up a local TCA member and find ourselves welcomed to the new environment by a new friend with a shared common bond.

I'm amazed at the psychological value of these brightly painted toys. After a good day at work, they lay in wait and may not get my attention. Then on challenging day, they seem brighter and full of encouragement. Do I believe in ghosts-sure. Am I happier having a train that has been played with, rather than a mint unsold piece with no kid-DNA on it, you bet. I am wowed with home-did pieces as I try and put the story together: who built it and why, who loved it, and why does it need a new home? I wonder and dream. Sometimes I can track down the real story and other times I fantasize adventures for my new piece.

When I climb onto my train table to fix a wreck, I remember fishing the main beams for the train table out of the Delaware River with my Daddy in the late 40's. Did he know trains would mean so much to me? One uncle interested in my every new layout designs and ideas traded that knowledge for teaching me auto mechanics. Does he know he began my engineering skills?

What do you see in these little toys? Comforting memories of Mom and Dad? Playtime with buds? Dear times watching your own kids/grandkids play trains? Dollars spent? Skills acquired and honed restoring and repainting? Happiness? Dreams? Escapes?

I do find that I am as happy when a friend makes a great find as I am if the item falls my way. For me it is not about the dollar value, but the collecting and sharing values. It is the fun of the story on how it arrived and what will happen next that is so good.

As a kid from South Jersey, I always wanted to be "an expert in my field." Professionally I tried this, but never felt I attained that title, although I was a damn good Air Force pilot. I brought every airplane I flew in back home safely. All were reusable again except two! I commanded two flights taking those two airplanes to the "Bone Yard" in Tucson, Arizona. There they were to be scrapped for the reuse of their parts and aluminum billets. Mine was the last pilot's DNA and sweat on their controls. (Each time my crew and I gathered at the bird's nose for a round of thank you's for her protecting her aircrews and for her service to America.)

With the toys I could study and study continuing to gather knowledge in depth about manufacturing, construction and marketing. I have written many articles and contributed to several books technical and non-technical. There is a need however, a drive from within which leads me to write the touch-feely type material I offer. The need to communicate feelings, joys and comfort I have gained from these toys which is as strong today and it was when I was an inarticulate child.

These toy trains seem to be a catalyst to open conversation and connect to others both socially and in business. Many times during a marketing meeting (***Cont'd on Page 7***)



View from the Observation Car

By George Tsakiris

Farewell Catoctin Mountain Trains & Hobbies – Glad I Knew Ya’

March 2015 marked the end of an era as Paul and Marsha Johnson closed Catoctin Mountain Trains and Hobbies after 25 years. This modest sized train store in Thurmont Maryland earned a great reputation for good selection, great service, competitive prices, good advice, and down home personal friendliness. In short, Paul and Marsha ran the type of local hobby shop many of us remember when we were growing up and the hobby shop was *the* place to go and hangout.



Photo: Matthew Panagos

While the store was not large in size it had a large impact for the O scale train enthusiast in the DC metro area and beyond. It was common to go to the store and run into various train friends, some members of the WB&A or the National Capital Trackers. Often folks came as far as Prince William and Loudon Counties in Virginia and further. You always got a warm greeting, good advice, and found yourself having a friendly chat with Paul, Marsha, and the various folks who dropped by. Chats would be about



Paul is shown chatting with a customer and providing good caring service. (WB&A Photo)

trains, train events, repairs, various characters that came to the store, our children, Thurmont, restaurants, politics and corruption, etc. You always found time to relax and always felt welcome!

When I first started going to the store Paul was handed a Pennsy K4 that had given me troubles almost continuously and had been in for repairs (at another shop) several times. The problems were sometimes intermittent and usually developed after running for at least 15 minutes. Over the course of several months, Paul took it to his repair guy three times and then finally to MTH for repair. That still didn't work, so Paul brought the engine back to MTH a second time....then it was finally fixed. Paul didn't sell me the engine, wasn't making a lot of money, if any, over the repair but was always friendly, understanding and was persistent in getting it fixed. After that I became a loyal customer!!

The store also supported various train organizations, would donate trains, train sets, catalogues, and the like for various events. A member of the train community!



WB&A Photo

Paul and Marsha hosted or sponsored events, including several WB&A Days at the store. The photo above shows a few familiar WB&A folks during the WB&A Day in February 2013.

Friends would call and we'd plan a trip to the store and have lunch in Thurmont, making it an outing. Sometimes this was triggered because some new items had been delivered or repairs ready for pick but just as often to go, browse, and hang-out.

You can still find Paul and Marsha in the Blue Hall at the Eastern Division York shows.

As stated earlier, Catoctin Mountain Trains and Hobbies had a large impact on many of us in the hobby and will be missed. This store with its extended circle of friends is what people will remember when someone wants to know what made a local hobby shop so special.

I'm glad I knew Ya!





WB&A 2015 Drawing Number 2
 Item: Standard Gauge Set – NO BOXES
 #38 Locomotive, #112 Gondola, #113 Cattle Car, #116 Ballast Car and #117 Caboose.
 All Lionel with TCA Stickers for the Restoration Work

Send a check to WB&A Treasurer,
 Glenn MacKinnon,
 6908 Trillium Ln, Springfield, VA 22152.
 (1 for \$5 or 6 for \$20)
 Only 300 Tickets are being sold.
 Drawing to be held in Jan, 2016

WB&A FACEBOOK UPDATE—May 2015

As mentioned in the most recent edition of “The Trolley” newsletter, the WB&A Facebook page has undergone some changes. Are you unfamiliar with Facebook? No problem! Even if you are not a Facebook user, you can still access the chapter’s page by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/wba.chaptertca>. By visiting the page, you will have access to a variety of posts, such as photos from recent events, quick links to the weekly e-blast, information regarding upcoming events, and more! Already a Facebook user? If yes, please be sure you have “liked” the updated page. By “liking” the page; in addition to seeing posts, you can make them too. In creating posts to the page, we ask they be related to the hobby. Please spread the word!

Elections for Officers and Board Members

Elections for Officers and Board Members are coming up later this year, in fact, the next Trolley will have the ballots in it. A Nominating Committee has been formed consisting of Dan Danielson, Dave Eadie and Bill Moss. Candidates are needed for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and 3 Board Member Positions. Anyone interested in running for one of these positions should contact Dan, Dave and/or Bill and they will provide you the details. Emails are: Dan – postwar@comcast.net, Dave -dbeadie@verizon.net, Bill – 1train-man027@verizon.net.

Members are urged to become candidates to continue the forward movement of the WB&A and the prominent

role it plays under the TCA/Eastern umbrella. You would be an asset to the Chapter and would serve to help us find even more ways to serve our members and the toy train hobby.

The slate of candidates will be set by September 1 and ballots will go out. Ballots will be counted at the November General Business meeting and the new Board will serve their 2 year terms beginning January 1, 2016.

(What Toy Trains ... Cont’d) or just while meeting someone new, I lightly mention something about collecting toy trains, and if it strikes a chord with the listener from that point on, business/conversation is easier. Maybe it is the child in all of us or the magic of the toy... Even when speaking with a Russian General, their toys came up and he proudly spoke of attending Pioneer Village youth instructional camp in his youth.

Being in TCA gives me a sense of belonging to something good. I find friends every where I go and a sense of belonging to a very special group that is both comforting and nurturing.

One time I was described as bleeding train related thoughts—I can deal with that. They are my strength and lifelong interests.

I can’t wait for the next train-related happening.

Clem

Retired and slowin down...

**WB&A 2015 MEMBERSHIP
NEW/RENEWAL APPLICATION**

Return with Self Addressed Stamped Envelope & a check/money order for \$18 payable to WB&A.
Mail to: David Eadie, 7825 Wintercross LN, Springfield, VA 22152

Name _____
TCA# _____ WB&A# _____
Address _____ Apt# _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code + 4 _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
E-Mail _____
Signature _____

Please contact David Eadie at 703-451-4149
or dbeadie@verizon.net with any questions.

***Don't Miss Out on the chance
to win the WB&A Drawing for a new Premier Line
MTH J-Class Passenger Set!***

**4-8-4 J Class Speciality Passenger Set
w/Proto-Sound 3.0**



Product Line: Premier

Roadname: Norfolk & Western



Shipping Date: MAR. 2015

4-8-4 J Class Speciality Passenger Set w/Proto-Sound 3.0 - Norfolk & Western

Set Features: Norfolk & Western 4-8-4 J Class Steam Engine (Cab No. 607), (1) 70' Streamlined Baggage Car, (2) 70' Streamlined Coach Cars, (1) 70' Streamlined Observation Car

Product Number: 20-3574-1

M.S.R.P. \$ 1349.95



***Contact any WB&A BOD Member for tickets, or send a
check to Treasurer, Glenn MacKinnon, 6908 Trillium Ln, Springfield, VA 22152.
Your tickets will be sent by return mail to you.
(1 for \$5 or 6 for \$25) Only 500 tickets are being sold.
Drawing to be held in January.***

Features Set Features

- Die-Cast 4-8-4 Steam Locomotive
- 4-Car Passenger Car Consist

Locomotive Features

- Die-Cast Boiler and Chassis
- Die-Cast Tender Body
- Authentic Paint Scheme
- Real Tender Coal Load
- Die-Cast Locomotive Trucks
- Engineer and Fireman Figures
- Metal Handrails and Decorative Bell
- Metal Wheels and Axles
- Remote Controlled Proto-Coupler
- Kadee Coupler Mounting Pads
- Prototypical Rule 17 Lighting
- Constant Voltage Headlight
- Operating Firebox Glow
- Operating Marker Lights
- Operating Numberboard Lights
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Norfolk Southern workers welcome the return of the only remaining 4-8-4 "J" class locomotive!

(Norfolk-Southern Photograph)



Allen E. Crotts
TCA 95 - 41208



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Baltimore Streetcar Museum, May 16, 2015



Scenes from the Joint VTC & WB&A Show



Historian's Corner

July, 2015

60 years ago, in 1955, TCA began issuing their premier publication the Train Collectors Quarterly. Better known as the TCQ this publication is renowned for its information on a wide variety of subjects and as a dynamic resource. Of note is that there is no, yes I repeat NO, advertising. TCA has been fortunate that they have been able to continue this publication without having to rely on advertising income.

The first six issues were published from 225 Harrison Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA. The seventh issue came through editing and distribution at the "new" address, 251 Dickson Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA from which it was published until 1970. It was then transferred to 7115 Church Avenue, also in Pittsburgh. All these years were edited by Lou Redman, CM-3.

The initial issues had the new member listings and the interchange point mailing list. These were eventually transferred over to the National Headquarters News publication where they remain today. If you get time to read go through some of the older issues. It's fascinating stuff!

Yours in Train-ing.
Carol R. McGinnis, 95-41066



A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME VISIT TO N&W 611

by Dan Rollyson (TCA 72-4393)

During the latter part of 2014, Eileen and I were fortunate to have received an invitation to participate in a once-in-a-lifetime experience--a guided tour to visit the famous Norfolk & Western Railway (N&W) streamlined Class J 4-8-4 locomotive, No. 611, as she was being restored to operating condition. The locomotive is the property of the Virginia Museum of Transportation in Roanoke, Virginia. The restoration work is currently underway at the North Carolina Transportation Museum (NCTM) in Spencer, North Carolina and is being accomplished via a partnership with the Virginia Museum of Transportation.



James Stump, Jr., Vice Chairman of the Fire Up 611! Committee, Dan and Eileen Rollyson enjoy delicious Lexington Barbecue

We arrived in Spencer on the morning of January 7, 2015 and had lunch at the Lexington Barbecue restaurant with our tour guide, Mr. James Stump, Jr., Vice Chairman of the Fire Up 611! Committee. Lexington, North Carolina

is famous for its barbecue and it's easy to see why. This was by far the best we have ever had. After lunch, we followed Mr. Stump for the short drive to the Spencer Shops at the NCTM.

After a brief check-in at the Barber Junction Visitors' Center, we were then taken on a whirlwind tour of the 37-bay Bob Julian Roundhouse, which houses approximately 40 restored locomotives and railcars, as well as many exhibits of modes of transportation other than rail.

At the far end of the roundhouse, Mr. Stump opened the door to the bays used for railway locomotive and equipment restoration.



Turntable and Bob Julian Roundhouse

And there she was--the magnificent 611 in all her glory,

albeit minus her shrouding, cylinder casings, and many other parts which are currently being refurbished. One thing became immediately apparent about the 611: she is a big locomotive. Her size becomes even more obvious when one is standing a mere arm's length away from her firebox.



Dan Rollyson standing by firebox and trailing truck

A close inspection of the 611's exterior reveals what a complex machine a modern steam locomotive is. The 611 was designed to travel 300 miles between on-the-road servicing. This was possible because 611's designers and builders at N&W were able to equip her with many reliable state-of-the-art components, all of which had to perform in concert with one another while she was on the road. For example, the on-board lubrication system provided oil and grease to over 200 points, many of which previously would have to be lubricated by hand.

The next phase of our tour was to view some of the actual work in process. Fortunately, both Cheri George, volunteer fireman for the 611



Work in progress --611 undressed

and Tom Mayer, boilermaker with Steam Operations Corporation, were on hand to explain the intricacies of steam locomotive restoration to us. At this point, volunteers and contractors were working on the installation of staybolts

and flues. Staybolts are the devices used to hold the firebox sheets in position and to counteract the pressure inside the boiler. The 611 has 2,200 flexible staybolt caps, all of which were removed, inspected, and either re-applied or replaced. Flues are the long tubes inside the boiler through which the hot gasses pass to produce steam.

Following a brief walking tour of the repair bays, we stepped next door to the back shop, where many of 611's parts are being stored prior to their restoration and reinstallation on the locomotive.



James Stump, Jr. holds the 611 independent brake handle, 611 Fireman Cheri George, and Dan Rollyson holds a new staybolt.

The back shop, which has recently been opened to the public, currently houses a number of non-railroad transportation artifacts such as automobiles, trucks, fire engines and even aircraft. As our guided tour ended, we thanked Mr. Stump for his hospitality after assuring him that we would return to the NCTM in the future when we would have ample time to observe and study all of its artifacts in greater detail. We then returned to our motel after picking up some goodies at NCTM's excellent gift shop.



Interior of firebox and firebox door



Front flue sheet



Interior of 611 smokebox



Inside view of right cylinder head



Steve Morgan working on staybolt

The 611 is scheduled to be back in mainline service very soon and will be pulling several fan trips. Both the Virginia Museum of Transportation and the North Carolina Transportation Museum are "must see" destinations for anyone interested in the history of railroading and steam locomotives in particular. To keep current with the 611's status and to view the schedule of fan trips, the following websites are recommended:

Virginia Museum of Transportation (VMT):
www.vmt.org

North Carolina Transportation Museum (NCTM):
www.nctrans.org

Fire Up 611!: www.fireup611.org

Finally, for those who are unable to ride behind the real 611, MTH will be bringing out an "O" scale version of the N&W Class J during the coming months of 2015. Happy railroading!

Photos by Eileen Rollyson (TCA 80-14962)



611 nose (her famous "bullet nose")



611 grates stored in the back shop.



Nathaniel Watts assembles staybolt heads.



Super heater and transverse arch pipes from the 611.



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Prewar O Gauge Study Group Report

by Clem Clement and Bruce Greenberg

On May 2, 2015, 14 members of the O Gauge Study Group met to study prewar Lionel O Gauge freight cars, 800-807, 820-822, 831, 901-902: Charles Almond, Nada Boswell, Gerry Chandler, Clem Clement, Jeffrey Dulberg, Dan Feighery, Philip Graves, Jim Gray, Bruce Greenberg, Chick Little, Carol McGinnis, Robby Schroeder, Jim

Warrington and Alex Weihmann. Dan and Alex photographed over 150 freight cars. Gerry photographed the study group. (Gerry and Alex are not shown below.) Doug Gordon was not able to attend but brought over 50 cars for study. We enjoyed the fine repast Linda Greenberg provided and the special camaraderie of the day.



Jim Warrington (left) and Charles Almond (right) are studying an 831 Flat Car. Jim and Charles brought cars to study.



Chick Little (left) and Jeffrey Dulberg (right) are studying an Ives labelled Lionel caboose. Chick brought cars to study.



Dan Feighery (above) specialized in hard to photograph details. Alex Weihmann, not shown, photographed many cars.



Left to right, Jim Warrington, Clem Clement, Bruce Greenberg, Jim Gray and Dan Feighery with many cars. Jim prepared a data collection form for the 901 and 902.



Left to right, Carol McGinnis is preparing index cards for the photographers, Nada Boswell is studying an 804 Box Car and Philip Graves is checking a reference with Bruce Greenberg. Philip brought two original sets.



Clem Clement (left) and Robby Schroeder (right) are studying 802 Cattle Cars. Clem and Robby brought cars to study.

Clem's recent service –related activities

This diatribe for sure will put you into nappy land. I have been asked about what I'm doing lately, so here goes...

It seems my life is about service on a bit of different kind from my Military duties... I have a friend who sez do what you can do and what you are the best at. Working with families to promote fun and communication seems to be my gift, so I share it willingly via the tin toys and old cars as the medium. At a viewing recently, we had 4 model A Ford's out as the deceased had Model A's as well. They were helpful to the grieving family and friends in fostering communication and opening up feelings about the dearly departed.

In Mid November 2014 we set a multi-gauge, multi-club layouts in the Rockville senior center. This event benefits the Senior Center and the Rockville Lions Club. We assemble and operate layouts in G, Standard, O, HO, N, TT gauges. Another TCA member and I run the Loco doctor station repairing anything that comes in. We had about 700 in attendance enjoying the trains and all the pizzazz that goes with them.



NCTRR trains around the National Christmas Tree
2013

Each year for the last 15 or so, I and other members of the National Christmas Tree Railroad setup and operate 12 loops of G gauge trains around the National Christmas tree in President's Park behind the White House in Washington, DC. I thrill at this chance to see and talk to some of the thousands of park guests who come to see the National Christmas Tree in all its splendor, the 56 state, territory and DC smaller Christmas trees, music, Santa's workshop and our running trains. This is a huge effort requiring over 30 of us in shifts to do the setup and visit the trains twice daily to start them in the morning and then shut them down at night. The trains run 12 hours a day outside, starting from the tree lighting date the first Thursday in December until New Years Day. We run in all weather and only shut the trains down for high wind, ice and heavy show. The trains remain in place over each night. We could use more youthful volunteers to help us with the heavy lifting, so many happy faces and interesting conversations. We are known as "The Train People" to all who stop by.



Fairfax Station Model Train Show: S gauge layout built by the late Bob Tufts now operated by Thom McKinney 2014



Kids waiting for the G Gauge special to clear the tunnel: Fairfax Station Tran Show, Christmas 2013.

The first weekend in December is the Fairfax Station Model Train Show. I and fellow Train Collectors Association member Chaplain Jim Warrington started 26 years ago. We set this up in the reconstructed Fairfax Station made famous during the civil war by Clara Barton's activities there, leading to her concept of the Red Cross. It is designed as a cross-hobby event with trains of most gauges and antique cars in the station frontage. We have a real caboose filled with trains and a speeder on the property as well. I'm a former board member of the museum station. 800 attended last fall's successful event. It is the biggest fund raiser the station does and many members turn-out to make it happen. I bring one of my antique cars and serve as a Loco Doctor as well. This is the starter of the Christmas season for many of us.

Standard and Gauge I table top layout at the Manassas Candy Factory, 2015



Manassas Candy Factory show: For the second week in December we run O gauge and standard gauge trains in the restored Manassas Candy Factory in Manassas, VA, across the tracks from the famous old Manassas Railroad Station. With other members of the National Capital Trackers we assemble and operate two layouts. I build the table top as a 3 loop setup. Two loops are standard gauge and one is prewar European gauge 1. This year we hosted over 1800 trainics at the 5 day event. On the Saturday of the show the Virginia Railway Express operated several Santa trains. Many those customers also came in to see our Santa and the trains. The town leadership is most pleased with our efforts. Attendees bring canned food or toys or cash for SERVE.

Each year in February, I open up our home for fellow Trainics, car clubbers, neighbors and friends for 'Old Car and Train Day at Sandy and Clem's.' We host on average 250 folks including many kids to enjoy our home, trains, olds cars, both mine and those belong to guests, and a wondrous spread of dishes brought in by the attendees. Ms. Sandy makes some basic dishes plus her famous Chocolate fondue. This year one lady brought a dish of BARK which was most popular. We had plenty of snow this year so attendance was down. Those 100 or so had a fine time playing trains, eating and enjoying each other's company. We'll do the 42nd annual event next winter to better weather, I hope.



Bauer Spiral Railway waiting for kids to come play

In March, I set up a 1920's Bauer spiral railway at the train meet in Annapolis, MD. Many of the kids had to try operating the old toy. The hand drawn elevator takes the roller coaster car to the top and gravity (and luck) gets back down to the waiting elevator for another trip. We had lots of laughs and joy from the kids playing. I also operated some prewar trains on the NCT layout in the meet. Many of the 500 attendees were happy to see old tin trains operate as well as the modern hi-tech versions.

Last fall our Greenberg Train Study Group helped produce the "Greenberg's Guide to Lionel trains, Standard and 2 7/8" gauges, 1901 to 1940" book was released. We gathered at Author Bruce Greenberg's home for several sessions to study, document, and photograph standard gauge trains. We made several discoveries and gleaned new data from the many train samples that were assembled. What a

thrill that was for me to participate, well as, and cosponsor the study group meetings. We are very proud of our results. The book is available for sale through Bruce Greenberg.



Greenberg study group in action, May 2015

Recently, we have had two study group meetings working on early prewar Lionel O gauge locos and rolling stock. We have about 30 folk in the group, with about 15-20 attending each time. This will result in a series of 4 volumes on prewar Lionel O gauge trains and accessories. With this effort, I will have contributed to 17 train books in the Greenberg series.



Some of my homey-dids on display at the NTTM 2015.

The Train Collectors Association has a fine library and toy train museum located in Lancaster, PA (Next door to the Red Caboose motel.) I'm honored during the 2015 season by having 36 of my collected home madetrains on display. These I have gathered from many sources, not built by me. I marvel at the skill sets, ideas and construction techniques employed to build these models. From house parts, kitchen containers, cut thread spool for flanged wheels, split pins and anything from the toolshed or barn that might build a toy for a child during the depression or

our wars. Clearly these were built by loving hands to replace, or excite a child who would have not been able to have one otherwise. I do wonder why the families of these folk artists don't want to keep the treasure gramps built for them.

I was interviewed by Senator Bill Bradley for his Sirius radio show "American Voices." In the 15 minute session in March, we talked about the train hobby and how it has grown and changed over the years. Also how kids love trains and how helpful trains are in family and group communications. The sights and sounds in the little toys performing on their rails, seems to bring the best out of folks and joy and fun prospers.



NCT playing trains under the cover of the USMC 2015

Later in March, 2015, we setup a large modular O gauge layout in the rotunda of the United States Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, VA. We operated for their two day family program at the museum. 2700 Marines and their friends and family enjoyed our efforts. I met a retired Navy Chaplain docent, who expressed his appreciation for our service to men and women and their families and counseled to be the best we can be in what ever we are doing at the moment.

In the spring, WB&A held its first education session at Dan and Hope Danielson's Toy trains and Collectables store in Manassas, VA. Al Crofts did a demonstration on cleaning and tuning an American Flier S Gauge loco. He demonstrated how easy and straight forward the task was. I gave a talk with samples on how to clean train bodies. We expect to do other sessions in the future, the next one being on scenery building. All in attendance enjoyed the learning experience and camaraderie.

April 9, 2015, I led a group of National Capital Trackers to set up and operate a 32-40 foot modular train layout in the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, DC. This is on the property where Lincoln's summer home is located. This facility and a similar one in Pensacola Florida houses 1600 military vets of all services. The men and women have no place to go and are cared for in their retirement/disability years. It is a very impressive facility. There are several horse chestnut trees on the beautiful

grounds. (I carry a lucky horse chestnut in my pocket at all times.) We ran trains for them for 4 hours in their community center. The comments, their responses, their actions, even in wheel chairs; with extremities missing, with difficult physical challenges, told us we made a difference to these heroes. Most of the time I had something in my eyes.



Semiannually, I update and publish a "HOW TO" document as a guide to the huge toy train meet Eastern Division, TCA conducts in York, PA. The 135 page document gives the daily schedule of events, times for meetings, road construction, helpful hints, local restaurants we like, and county-wide tourist attractions. It takes about a month to glean out all the changes, confirm websites, road construction and meeting information and assemble it in useful form. I love this task. <<http://tcaetrain.org/2darticles/tca/york0415/Clem's-Primer-April-2015.pdf>>

Up coming events for me include running some of my trains at the 61st TCA National convention in North Jersey as well as giving a seminar on the future of our hobby.

Then hopefully we will have some downtime for rest and recuperation !





Upcoming Train Shows

July 26, 2015	Hamburg Dutch Train Meet Hamburg, PA
Sep. 12, 2015	Hagerstown Model RR Museum Trainfest Summer 2015 Train sale
Sep.13, 2015	Hamburg Dutch Train Meet Hamburg, PA
Sep. 20, 2015	Gilbertsville Train Show Gilbertsville, PA
Sep. 27, 2015	Arbutus Shows Arbutus, MD
Oct. 24-25, 2015	Great Scale Model Train Show Timonium, MD
Oct. 31, 2015	WB&A Toy & Train Show, Vienna, VA
Nov 7, 2015	Business/Swap Meet, Overlea, MD
Nov 28, 2015	Hagerstown Model RR Museum Train sale
Dec. 19, 2015	Arbutus Shows Arbutus, MD



Look who just joined WB&A!!!

Claude Bernard	Laurel, MD
Clarence Heppe	Hughsville, MD
Charles Wagner	Gainesville, VA



Norfolk & Western J # 611 on her maiden run

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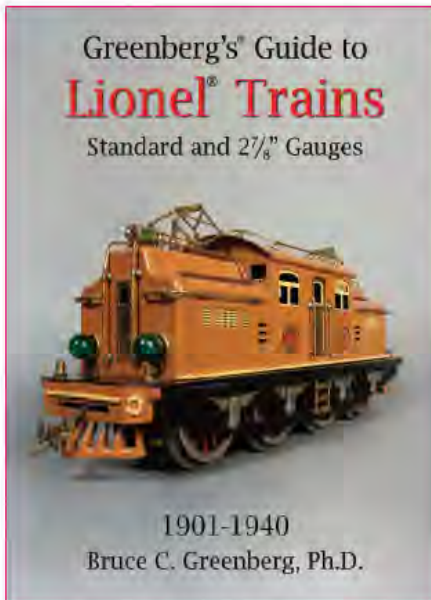
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