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WB&A Chapter Newsletter

"The Trolley"

The Official Newsletter of the Washington, DC, Baltimore & Annapolis, MD
Chapter, Eastern Division Train Collectors Association

Web Ste: <http://www.wbachaptertca.org>

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The President's Message

The Officers and Board of Directors of WB&A hope you had a wonderful Christmas, and holiday season. We all extend our hopes to you of a happy and prosperous New Year.

So much has happened over the past three months in your Chapter that I hardly know where to start. Another York Meet has come and gone and those of us who attended immersed ourselves in trains and good friends. That is as good as it gets.

We had our own train show at the Kena Temple in Fairfax this past December 09th and once again, it was a howling success. Over 700 guests and members surveyed the great hall and the treasures offered for sale. Santa was there for the many children who came with their parents and a wonderful time was had by all. Our meets are the result of the hard work by many of your fellow members of WB&A. It is a rare opportunity to meet other members, get to know your Board of Directors and connect with new developments in our hobby. The National Capital Trackers were there with their huge operating layout and Clem Clement lectured on Standard Gauge, the origin of toy trains and how the hobby has grown into the great pastime it has become.

We sponsored our First Annual (maybe??) outing of WB&A Chapter which was heavily underwritten by your Chapter. Approximately 60 members, their families and friends trekked and ate their way by bus, to Strasburg, PA to treat everyone to a great day of trains and train museums. For more on this terrific event see our article in this newsletter.

As you can see WB&A has so much to offer its members. Give us a call, become involved, come to our meets, join us on future excursions, sign up a new member and help maintain your Club, the innovative organization it has become noted for. You will love it, I promise.

Art Tate, President



Treasurer's Report
As Of December 31, 2006

Checkbook Balance January 1, 2006		\$15,552.59
Significant Activities January 1, 2006 thru December 31, 2006		
	Expenses	Revenue
MD Armory 06 Meet	\$2,275	\$3,025
Kena Temple 06 Meet	\$3,311	\$3,824
Newsletter 06	\$725	\$1,166
Club Shirts	\$698	\$386
Membership Dues 06	\$53	\$4,380
Membership Dues 07	\$19	\$1,426
WB&A Web Site	\$303	\$0
WB&A Booth at York 06	\$51	\$0
Kids Korner	\$372	\$235
Mini Meet's June&November	\$851	\$0
2010 Convention	\$4,000	\$0
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$1,292	\$0
Checkbook Balance December 31, 2006		\$13846.45
Certificate of Deposit w/Eastern Savings Bank		\$ 1961.35

Treasurer's Notes: The fall season has been busy for WB&A and your treasurer. We held our second Mini-Meet, conducted our annual Train Meet at Kena Temple in Fairfax, Virginia and organized a bus trip to Strasburg, PA for our members. I've summarized all our financial activities below. Overall, 2006 was a great year! We made a small profit on our two train meets and began funding the 2010 TCA Convention account. I still have club shirts available for \$20 regardless of size. Let me know if you would like to purchase one to wear at the Spring 07 York Meet. We have shirts available in most sizes. You can contact me to check on availability. If you have any other questions or comments feel free to contact me at 703-927-9843 or glen.mackinnon@verizon.net. Glenn

Congratulations to

Garrett Goldstein
David Martino
Nancy Tentzeras

Hope Danielson, Eastern Division Rep.

the newest members of the
WB&A Board of Directors

A BIG Thank You for
volunteering to serve the Chapter!!

Images of our various meets, events, and outings displayed throughout this newsletter are courtesy of Glenn MacKinnon, our resident photographer. A **BIG THANK YOU** to Glenn for capturing all of the wonderful WB&A memories for the chapter.

Secretary's Report
for November 08, 2006
Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting was called to order by Art Tate at 6:30 PM. The Secretary verified that we had a quorum present and any votes taken at this meeting are binding.

Voting Members in attendance were as follows: Art Tate, Stan Dobrzycki, Glenn MacKinnon, Nicholas Tentzeras, Dan Danielson, Bob Heine, Fred Krochmal, Garrett Goldstein, Mary Jackson and Carol McGinnis. **Also present,** Pete Jackson, Dave Martino, Nancy Tentzeras, and Phyllis Krochmal

Items that the Board discussed included the following:

- Treasurer Glenn MacKinnon reported that the checking account balance as of November 08, 2006 is \$12,628.48.
- As of November 08, 2006 we have 275 members total.
- The board voted unanimously to make the Membership Dues \$18.00 a calendar year for all members allowing all members now to receive the Quarterly Newsletter via U.S. Mail.
- We will be having our Maryland Meet on February 03rd, 2007 at the Annapolis Armory. We are also making plans to have a Meet in November 2007 at the Annapolis Armory more details will follow.
- Garrett Goldstein reported on the progress of the upcoming Kena Meet on December 09th, 2006.
- Nicholas reported on the Chapter Underwritten/Sponsored bus trip to Strasburg to visit the TCA's National Toy Train Museum, The Pennsylvania Railroad Museum, and to ride the Strasburg Railroad Holiday Train, giving a brief overview of the itinerary which is available on the website.
- The board welcomed the three newly elected Board of Directors who were in attendance as guests, Dave Martino, Garrett Goldstein, and Nancy Tentzeras.

The next WB&A Board of Director's meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM January 10th, 2007 at the home of Art and Rita Tate.

The Secretary's Report was accepted as Published. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:
Nicholas Tentzeras, Secretary WB&A Chapter

Setting up the Trains Under the National Christmas Tree By Clem Clement

It was a dark and stormy night—no it wasn't: it was a clear and chilly morning as we crossed the Potomac inbounds to setting up the trains on the Ellipse. The city looks so good getting all decorated for the holidays..

Benny Leonard, Glenn Mackinnon and I got thru security based on our good manners and linguistic skills. Our regular parking space for setup has been beyond a heavy security fence-gate. This year the entire gate was not there. Jim was very glad to see us as it was only himself and one other worker today. Bill has been sick so we were needed. John Zampino showed up soon after us and we all got to work. The two outside loops had been done as were the 3 inside ones. The three wood-based cities needed track installation and wiring. The over and under loop was a work-in-progress. We labored for several hours resulting in all loops being set except one. We finished the day by powering up the layouts. All were good except the one I wired into a dead short. We put out a few test engines and cars, but the bulk of the rolling stock was yet to be put out.

Preparations for THE MAN to come tomorrow and light the tree seemed to be going OK, but a little behind. Even though the entire event costs \$90,239,457,034,957,096.03, they cut out lunch today; and no coffee and bagels this morning. We were all psychological, thus the workers took lunch time and got behind. Fortunately Benny went to the snack bar and got us coffees and I had some stale snack bars in my car, or we would have starved to death on the lawn. Jim's daughter came later with Italian subs to save us all.

The National Tree looks very nice with its new plastic tear-drop lights. Up close they are fake looking, but at a distance they look fine. The 56 State and Territory small trees were proudly set and decorated, which are new each year, whereas the National Tree is permanent. The VA tree looks especially sharp.

We rolled out at the beginning of rush hour, sore, feeling that we had made real progress that day. The next day they worked in the morning and by noon or so security took over to prepare for the big lighting ceremony. Again I was not asked to sing and that is goood!

I truly love this activity of setting up the trains for our National Capital.



National Christmas Tree



Look who just joined WB&A!!!

Nancy Tentzeras	Germantown, MD
Phillip Walter Schruaffer III	Baltimore, MD
Art Haubold	Arlington, VA
Mike Agro, SR	Pasadena, MD
Vassily Schulgin	Chestertown, MD
Wayne Patt	Front Royal, VA
Tyssen Becker	Alexandria, VA
Dianne E. Dodds	Fairfax, VA
R.T. Medrow	Waldorf, MD
Bernard Oppel	Fairfax, VA
R. Charles McGinnis	Ellicott City, MD

Membership Report by Carol Redman McGinnis

Renewal memberships are rolling in. 2007 Dues are \$18.00 and you get a mailed copy of our newsletter, admission to mini meets, and all the other benefits which are noted throughout this newsletter. Usually the membership form would have been included in our October newsletter. It was not because last year we went to the on-line version. In addition, the transition process required clarification and decisions that made it imperative that we wait.

We now have a new Membership Director – Carol Redman McGinnis, who is working diligently to assure that you each have a good experience when dealing with membership because you are the chapter. We are putting together a database with as much information as can accurately be determined. This includes previous members and their WB&A numbers, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses. As former members return to the fold they will be assured of retaining their WB&A number. We will also be publishing new members names so that if a fellow member is in your neighborhood you can meet and get to know them.

We are taking steps to work on all of this based on the input from you, our members. We look for any and all methods to assure a strong chapter, with your help. We are coming into exciting times with vibrant local meets and the 2010 Convention on the horizon. Keep in touch with Carol at membership@wbachaptertca.org. Her phone number is in the TCA directory.

Historian's Corner by Carol Redman McGinnis

In early 1964 train collectors in the Baltimore area were holding informal get-togethers. Bob Marshall, CM-HR-37, recalls that Al Roth, CM-55, would host members in his basement on Friday and Saturday nights. They would talk trains, swap stories, and generally have a good time. This group was looking to expand, with the next move being to “apply to National for a Chapter to be named WB&A in honor of the old Washington, Baltimore, and Annapolis trolley line.” (Now you can understand our trolley logo)

In the 1960s, those early years of TCA, the National organization was struggling with the model of Divisions, and the concept of how Chapters could be developed to promote local meets. Thus a Chapter would be able to function under the umbrella of the Division having the legal authority and insurance to host local meets.

At the Eastern Division meet in April, 1964 Al Roth (the Founding Father of WB&A) proposed a motion which Wendell Roth, 59-359, seconded, and the Board of Directors discussed permission to form a new **Division**, to be named “**DIXIE DIVISION**.” The Board of Directors of Eastern discussed

presenting this motion to National. Lou Redman amended the motion to define the boundaries of the proposed Division to be specified as the area south of the Mason-Dixon Line (excluding New Jersey and Delaware), the stretch south of the Ohio River, and East of the Mississippi. (Grandiose I must say!) The information was included in the April Eastern Division minutes and it was approved provided all requirements at the National level are met by the proposed new division. This information is contained in the minutes dated 4/18/64 and housed in the TCA archives located at the Toy Train Reference Library.

Newly discovered documents, specifically the minutes of Eastern Division WB&A chapter in Baltimore, August 28 and 29, 1964 state that in June of 1964 at the National Convention Board Of Directors meeting in Chicago it “was learned that in June, 1961 National decided that no new divisions should be formed in an area where one was already in existence. Therefore a new chapter has been formed as of **June 28, 1964** which came to be known as the WB&A chapter.” So the previously posted date of October, 1964 is revised.

Allen E. Crotts
TCA 95-41208



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**Dec. 9 Show to Celebrate Anniversary of
 Standard Gauge Toy Trains**

By Joanne Richcreek

Courtesy of Fairfax Times Newspaper

"Ain't she sweet?" Clem Clement asked in an admiring tone of voice. "She" weighs between 5 and 7 pounds, defines the term "all the bells and whistles" and travels by rail. And this year is her 100th birthday. Joshua Lionel Cohen manufactured his first standard gauge toy trains in 1906. Defined by the 2 1/8 inches that separate the inside edge of the electrified tracks upon which they ride, Lionel marketed these behemoths of toy trains successfully until 1938.



Though smaller toy trains that post-date the Depression years and World War II became the new standard bearer, Clement counts himself among the 20 percent of today's collectors who remain hooked on the standard gauge toy trains.

"I never stopped loving the big stuff," said this Fairfax resident and the vice president of the 30,000-member national Train Collectors Association.

Born in Woodbury, N.J., in 1937, Clement got his first Lionel train at the age of 3. "I cried. I couldn't play with it," he said in recalling his mother's dread in having the youngster play with a toy that ran on electricity. Today, the train, Lionel Engine No. 8976, carrying "Pennsylvania" on its side, sits on a shelf in an upstairs room - actually, two rooms - full of toy trains in his home.

An aunt soothed his tears by buying him a set of five Hafner trains that, when wound up, would run on the same track. Yes, Clement has them, too. "They talk to me," he said. As for the value of toy trains, Clement stressed the importance of color and, naturally, has an early Lionel caboose. It's color? Orange.

In discussing the value of toy trains, Clement noted that their color is very important. Because many trains were stored in cold, dry attics, the paint should be intact. What harm them today are the ultra-violet rays of neon lights. "They cook the color out of the paint," he said. And though much later toy trains incorporated sturdier plastic parts, Clement ran a set on his homemade track and admitted it did not talk to him like a set of rickety, old standard gauge trains.

"Rattles and bangs and crashes" and "wheels slapping the track" are what he likes to hear.

Reminder!!!

Do you know someone who has not renewed their WB&A membership? If so, please remind them of the great benefits we offer and ask them to renew their membership today.



***Train Show at Kena Temple a Great Success!!!
By Garrett Goldstein***

The WB&A Train Show at Kena Temple in Fairfax, VA was a terrific event and a big success for both dealers and show attendees alike! More than 600 people participated in the event, which was held on December 09, 2006. The day prior, WB&A members assisted in any way they could in setting up the tables for the dealers and preparing the door prizes, membership, and ticket tables as well. By the end of the night there were over 75 tables set up filled with trains for sale. The show was ready for opening Saturday morning at 8:00 AM for TCA members to actively sell and trade prior to the show opening to the Public at 9:00 AM when all the activities got underway.

Mary Jackson greeted everyone at the door and collected over \$1700 at the gate, while Diane Dobrzycki walked through the crowd and sold over \$300 in 50/50 raffle tickets, congratulations to winner, Debbie Geiser. Carol McGinnis along with Nicholas Tentzeras were busily signing up new WB&A members.



The National Capital Trackers and the T-Trackers were on hand running their wonderful layouts all day for children of all ages to enjoy along with Monty Smith who was operating a great Lego Train layout .

Clem Clement gave a riveting discussion to over 25 show attendees on the celebration of 100 years of Standard Gauge, the origin of toy trains and how the hobby has grown into the great pastime it has become.



Allen Crotts, aka the Train Doctor, was actively assisting folks with their troubled treasures.

Throughout the show, Carol McGinnis kept us informed of all the activities that were going on and giving away door prizes donated by KMA Junction in Manassas, Springfield Station in Kingstowne, and Catoctin Mountain Trains in Thurmont as well as board members, Stan & Diane Dobrzycki, Fred & Phyllis Krochmal, and Nicholas & Nancy Tentzeras.



To the delight of parents and children, Santa was also on-site and had a wonderful time taking pictures with children.

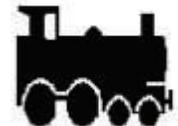
Special thanks to our volunteers and door prize contributors, KMA Junction, Springfield Station, and Catoctin Mountain Trains as well as the Kena Temple staff. We could not have done it without you.

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**All Aboard to Strasburg
WB&A Holiday Outing
By Art Tate**

On December 16th, 2006 we sponsored the First Annual (maybe) Outing of the WB&A Chapter. The excursion was financially underwritten by your Club in an effort to offer additional benefits to our membership. Approximately 60 members, their families and friends trekked, by bus, to Strasburg, PA to treat everyone to a great day of trains. Thanks to our friends, Nicholas and Nancy Tentzeras for making the arrangements for the continental breakfast provided on the bus, everyone was well fed and watered to sustain us on our two hour journey north.

Our first visit was to the TCA Toy Train Museum. Keystone Division President, Paul Edgar and his wife Liz (former WB&A members) greeted us upon our arrival. The Edgars and Museum Director, Ron Morris, conducted us on a first-class guided tour. What a masterpiece the TCA has put together for its members. Toy Trains are displayed from the very beginning of the twentieth century to present day. We viewed



trains that only a few of still exist and also trains worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. If it existed in the toy train



hobby, the Museum has it. Several operating displays captivated all of us and prompted many of us to promise to finish that layout we have at home. The children were transfixed by the unending panorama of trains, lights and noises that assailed them. Needless to say, they loved it. There is a magnificent library that has our entire hobby documented and cataloged that is available to any TCA member. The TCA Toy Train Museum

is a treasure that has been assembled for all of us. If you have not been there, you owe it to yourself to make the Museum a priority in your travels. Our heartfelt thanks to

Paul and Liz Edgar and Ron Morris for their warm welcome and enthusiasm they showed WB&A and their guests.

Our next stop was to the Strasburg Rail Road where we enjoyed lunch during the train ride that took us through the beautiful rolling countryside of the Amish. It was a thrill to ride on a genuine steam train right out of the past. The ladies raided the gift shop once again and it was on to our final destination, the Pennsylvania Rail Road Museum.

The Pennsylvania Rail Road Museum is another of those "must see" places that preserves the magic of the glory days of railroading. Huge steam engines, first generation diesels, freight and passenger cars are on display. These steel giants are one of the main forces that built our country as we know it today.



We were able to walk and sit in these monuments to days gone and get a small hint of what life was like for our grandparents. To see and touch them as we were able to do, instills a feeling of awe and history that can be experienced in very few places.

After we reluctantly boarded the bus for the trip home, guess what? It was time to eat **again**. We stopped at the Old Country Buffet and once more ate until we could barely walk. It was a long, full day of wondrous sights and sounds and one that we will not forget. Join us at WB&A and see things you never saw before.



What Do I Get for My WB&A Dues?

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- ◆ Parts Dealers ~ Train Doctor
- ◆ Train Related Seminars
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- ◆ Door Prizes ~ Layouts & Fun for Kids

Two Mini Meets per Year

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- ◆ Train Races
- ◆ Fun with Your Train Friends

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2010 Convention Update

The next 2010 Convention Meeting will be held on February 10, 2007 at the home of Dan and Hope Danielson in Gainesville, VA at 1:00 PM. Anyone interested in being a part of the pre-convention planning or would like to help at the convention please call Dan Danielson at 703.743.2153 or Eileen Rollyson at 703.573.8822 for further details.



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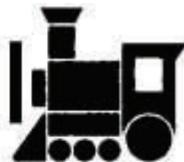
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**Congratulations to our own WB&A
Members for being elected to
Eastern Division Board of Directors**

**Sam Geiser ~ President
Jim Kronz ~ Treasurer
Brian Reilly ~ Secretary
Robert Heine ~ Director**



**Congratulations to Clem Clement
for being elected Vice President of
TCA National.**

November Get Together

Our November 4th mini meet was held at Frances Fuchs Early Childhood Center in Beltsville, Maryland. This site proved to be an excellent venue for our group. The multipurpose room held several tables full of trains and train paraphernalia. There were about 50 people in attendance. There was plenty of food for breakfast and lunch. Toys were collected for Toys For Tots that was donated to the Marine Reserve Unit in Parkville, Maryland.

Shown for the enjoyment of all was a video of the 7th National Convention that was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This video came from the collection of Lou Redman, TCA-3, and was of some interest to members. There was plenty of camaraderie and story telling. Just what we want from such a gathering. The bi-annual meeting started about 10:30 and the reports from the president, secretary, treasurer, and membership were all accepted. Dan Danielson gave a brief report on the 2010 convention, and Brian Reilly spoke about York.

It was good to see all the folks come out. We had four door prizes that went out to deserving members who could answer a number of questions. The most interesting door prize question was "What was the age of Lou Redman when TCA was founded?" This brought about some wild-eyed guessing and although no one actually knew the response, eventually the right answer was secured. You'll have to talk to someone who went to the meet to find out the answer!

Thanks to all who were able to come. We'll see you at the Annapolis Armory in February, Masonic Temple in Virginia in June, and back here in Beltsville next November. Have a Blessed New Year!

More Train Fun in Korea by Glenn MacKinnon



In our last issue, I wrote about the Korean workforce at the Materiel Support Center-Korea (MSC-K) converting U.S. Army Cargo Trucks into Yard Switchers. The Korean National employees that worked in the metal shop at

MSC-K were master craftsmen and known throughout the peninsula for their metal working skills. On their own they designed and built the MSC-K train from scrap metal, a surplus warehouse tractor, five unserviceable warehouse trailers and a few gallons of paint. Evidence of their outstanding workmanship is obvious in the picture of the partially finished caboose. The train was un-



veiled during MSC-K's Organization Day in October 1996 where Janet and I happily accepted the "keys" to the 0-8-0 Steamer, four passenger cars and the caboose. Since then, it has become a major attraction at many

events at Camp Carroll and in the surrounding Korean communities.



New WB&A Website Design Launched January 01st!!

The WB&A Chapter website <http://www.wbachaptertca.org> has a new look and feel; thanks to all who participated in our online survey earlier letting us know what you wanted. Take a look and see all the new features and enhancements there are. Visit the web site often as more features will be added on a regular basis.



Eastern Division TCA President's Message by Sam Geiser

A new year is upon us as well as a new Board of Directors for Eastern Division TCA. Thanks to all who supported your fellow WB&A members we welcome Jim Kronz as treasurer, Brian Reilly as Secretary and Bob Heine as a Director and look forward to continuing to work with Hope Danielson who is now WB&A Eastern Division Representative. I will be following the great leadership of Clem Clement, who is now TCA National Vice President.

Spring York is just around the corner and your York Team is hard at work to produce another quality event. Get ready. Our future goals and objectives are to: change our computer system to allow for a more effective registration and record keeping process, continue to allow early set-up for our dealers and members, design a system to ensure our members enjoy the show until the closing at 2:00PM Saturday, review ways to keep our entrance and table costs at its current level, and explore ways of reducing our registration mailing costs. We look forward to working with an great group of volunteers who give of themselves freely to keep the spirit and dedication of our train family alive and well. See you at York. Happy Train Days to all! Sam

York—By the Numbers

By Clem Clement

Vice President TCA

Past President of Eastern Division TCA



Fall 2006 York is in the books and another great York it was! Many thanks to all who helped produce another spectacular York event. Here are the numbers:

14,639 individuals registered for the Meet.

9,446 individuals registered were TCA members. This means that 31.5% of the entire TCA membership attended the October 2006 York Meet..

3,530 of the total registrants were spouses/significant others.

1,166 of the total registrants were children.

997 members registered at the door. (Included in the 14,639 above)

1,452 members were over 65 years young.

440 guests

193 RV's parked on the fairgrounds. (Another real York Meet bargain at \$35 for 4 days.)

1,857 tables at one table per member in the Member Halls (Blue, Red, White and Silver).

275 booths/tables in the dealer Halls (Orange, Purple and Brown Halls)

How about them numbers!

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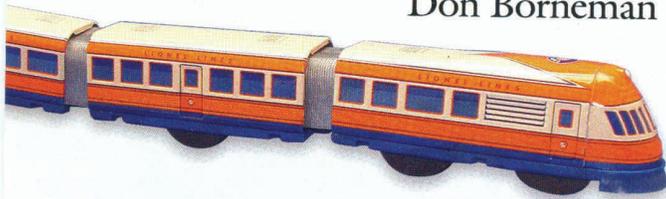



Upcoming Train Shows

Train Show/Meet	Date(s)	Contact
WB&A Annapolis, MD	Feb. 03	410-766-9100
York, PA	Apr 19-21	703-222-2982
Falls Church Mini Meet	June 03	WB&A Only
York, PA	Oct 18-20	703-222-2982
Beltsville Mini Meet	Nov 03	WB&A Only
WB&A Kena, VA	Dec 8	703-731-4073

Lionel Trains

Don Borneman



6309 Dewey Dr.
Columbia, MD 21044

410-730-1798
hotsho2go@aol.com

MODEL RAILROAD OPEN HOUSE

Baltimore Society of Model Engineers (BSME) invites WB&A members to its Open House Sunday January 28th, February 4th, 11th and every second Sunday in 2007, open from 1 to 5 PM. Admission by Donation. They are featuring two large operating layouts of **HO & O** Scale Model Trains and Trolleys. **BSME** is located at 225 W. Saratoga St. Baltimore, MD 21201. For further information call 410.837.2763. Visit them on the web at <http://www.modelengineers.com>

NOTE: NEW WB&A WEBSITE ADDRESS
<http://wbachaptertca.org>

Sam's Train Wrecks by Sam Geiser

Trains were forever running off the track on the pioneer railroads. Some tickets even imprinted an agreement making the passengers subject to call if needed to replace the engine or cars back on the rails.

One of the chief causes of derailments in the past and right up to the present is broken or faulty rail. Most of the first tracks in America were laid with "strap" rail, which was constructed by placing long iron straps on top of wooden beams. Timber was cheap and plentiful in this country and iron was scarce and expensive. "Strap" rail was the only form of rail that could be rolled in American mills up to 1844. "Strap" rail was used from 1830 to 1850.

A defect of the "strap" rail was that the rolling action of the train wheels tended to bend the iron straps so that eventually they worked loose. Then the spikes would not hold and the end of the rail with its sharp point could stick up far enough to become caught under a wheel, rip it up from the wooden sill and tear through the floor of a car. These "snakeheads" as they were called, created havoc when they tore into a car full of passengers.

Arbutus Train and Toy Show

Admission
\$4.00
Children under
12
FREE with an
Adult

Location: Arbutus Volunteer Firehall ~ 1/4 m. off beltway Exit ~ 12A
Southwestern Blvd. Time: 9:00 AM ~ 1:00 PM ~ 1st Table ~ \$15.00 ea.
Additional Table ~ \$10.00 ea. Tables at the door ~ \$18.00 if available.
Table fees must be in 30 days before the show date. Dealer setup ~ 7:00 AM.
For information contact Frank or Sunny Vacek ~ 410-465-3782 (Evenings 6-9 PM)



2007 Shows

Sunday, March 11th, Sunday September 30th, Saturday December 15th

CHILDHOOD MEMORIES CAPTURED in SILENT FILMS (Part II)

By Bob Heine

In my Part I installment printed in the autumn WB&A Chapter Newsletter, I reminisced about my pre-teen friends and I in 1962 having grabbed a Bolex wind-up movie camera and our making of a short 8mm monster movie equivalent to the 1957's sci-fi hit "The Amazing Colossal Man". We used my 7' x 4' scenic Lionel O gauge layout as a "realistic" backdrop for our 1st film complete with detailed Plasticville buildings.

We had just mailed several finished color rolls off to Kodak for processing in Long Island City, but we weren't done yet! During that same Christmas vacation we purchased additional rolls of rather pricey Kodachrome and commenced with making a follow-up monster movie called "The Iguanodon" using the same basement layout. Our movie plot began with miners excavating a frozen dinosaur from a "Yukon" snow pile (actually on 259th St., Queens). The starring role of the slinking creature in this 2nd endeavor was a tiny 4" pet salamander found in the Catskill Mountains earlier that year. This icy dinosaur wakes up from his Jurassic slumber due to a lack of refrigeration during a Plasticville town power blackout. And he then breaks thru the back wall of a Littletown supermarket to wreak havoc on our poor town, mostly sans people.

The best special FX scene was at a whistle stop, when our Iguanodon pushes over a line of stationary blue-striped Santa Fe' Pullmans and in doing so he subsequently flies over one passenger car completing a full "360" flip while airborne, only to then land on all "fours". To this day I assume the momentum of our underhanded tipping over of the Lionel passenger train caused the folded Scotch magic tape on the salamander's front paws to free him like an Olympic gymnast going over a vaulting horse apparatus. Getting this stunt on film was just luck (1st take) since we shot these movies in sequence to keep splicing to a minimum. After waiting what seemed like weeks for film processing, we then collaborated in editing out the resulting mistakes frame-by-frame on a manual crank Kalart splicer using special glue.

Our 11-year old male attention spans being what they were, the filming on this venture was put on hiatus 'til 1963 as we returned to Public School "191" at the end of our winter break. I was told that our star salamander died in his/her sleep not soon afterward, so needless to say, "The Iguanodon" was never completed. Fun times!?

Stan's Trolley Tidbits

Before Baltimore City ever thought of a street car, horse drawn carriage taxis called Hackney coaches were the only means of mass transportation, which was an expensive means of transportation .

In 1859 an ordinance for horse drawn trolleys by rail was signed into law by Mayor Thomas Swann, a former President of the B&O. RR. The ordinance was passed putting the horse drawn trolleys on rails so that the horses could pull more weight.

The trolley line ran from the outskirts of Baltimore to downtown and also to the other side of Baltimore.

It wasn't until 1885 that the idea of adding an electric motor to the trolley car was thought of. To be continued.....

What they call progress in Baltimore City.....

At first, there were street cars running thru the heart of the downtown business section of Baltimore City at Howard Street.

The rails were then covered up and buses were only running on Howard Street.

Howard Street was then closed off and made it into a mall.

Then what do they do. THEY OPEN HOWARD STREET UP AGAIN PUTTING LIGHT RAIL THERE.



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Volunteers Wanted

Anyone interested in helping out at the Ice Cream Social on Friday Night of the York Meet and/or the Coffee and Doughnut Breakfast Saturday Morning of the York Meet to contact David Martino at dmartino@burnip.com or calling him at 703.670.6400

Nancy Tentzeras
WB&A Newsletter Editor
12453 Quail Woods Drive
Germantown, MD 20874-1545

Falls Church Mini-Meet, June 3, 2007, 9:00 am. Business meeting 10:30. Free Donut Breakfast & Lunch.
Directions: From the Beltway, take 66 East, take RT 29 South off 66, Right at light, pass Firehouse, right on W. Jefferson, right on Little Falls to Masonic Temple at 411 on left.

***“Get on Board” for the
WB&A “Toy Train Show & Sale”
February 03, 2007***

Show opens at 9:00 AM and ends at 3:00 PM

Admission: \$5.00

Children Under 12, Military, and WB&A Members Admitted Free.

***Now at the Annapolis Armory!!
18 Willow Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401***

***THE ONLY TRAIN MEET IN THE ANNAPOLIS AREA
THE SHOW WILL BE ADVERTISED FOR THREE DAYS IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS***

Directions: Going U.S. 50 East toward Annapolis, take Parole Exit (#23), left onto West Street for ¼ mile, left on Hudson Street, and into the Armory on Willow St. Going US 50 West, take Parole Exit, bear left (away from Jennifer Rd), left on West St. and follow the directions above.

***CONTACT ART TATE TO REGISTER FOR A TABLE!!!
PHONE: 410.766.9100
EMAIL: ANNAPOLIS_MEET@WBACHAPTERTCA.ORG***