



T.T.O.S. Southwestern Division The Southwestern Limited

Vol. 43, No. 1

Spring, 2026

Visit www.ttos-sw.org or contact info@ttos-sw.org



2026 SWD Meets:

Southwestern Division's Meets take place once a month. The official start time for a meet in Arcadia is 10AM, although you may arrive as early as 7AM, but please allow sellers time to get set up.

Location:

Arcadia Masonic Center
50 W. Duarte Road
Arcadia, CA 91007



Upcoming 2026 Meets:

April 12 (second Sunday)

May 3 (first Sunday)

June 7 (first Sunday) Open House with "New Attendees Only" drawing for a toy train set. (For more meet dates, see p. 2)

Directions from the 210 Freeway:

Exit Santa Anita Avenue; go south 1.5 miles; turn right on Duarte Road. The Masonic Center shares the parking lot with the Arcadia Library, on the south side of the street.

Features: Buying & selling of toy trains, with operating layouts, free train repairs, test track, freshly prepared food, free parking and opportunity drawings. The winning 50/50 ticket will be drawn at 11:45 am, followed by a lively auction.

Repair Clinic: We offer free toy train repairs at our meets, with volunteers Larry Pearson, Joey Giammatteo and Ed Vanderpool at your service. To order parts, see Mike Marple's ad on page 7 or visit Corey Friend's tables at the meet.

Admission is free for Members and \$5.00 for the public. Kids under 21 are free w/adult admission.

Sellers: tables are only **\$5.00** each!

Club members:

Call Hollis Cotton at
(818) 590-0553
to reserve yours!



LIONEL, LLC sold to Round 2, now part of the "Lionel Brands Group"

LIONEL BRANDS GROUP PRESS RELEASE

March 4, 2026, New York, NY —

"Round 2, a leading collectibles company, along with portfolio company Praesidian Capital, today announced it has acquired **Lionel, LLC** ("Lionel"), a historic brand that has been beloved by generations of fans and collectors for more than 125 years. The transaction creates the Lionel Brands Group, a bigger, fan-first home for the brands and categories collectors care about most." Click on the logo to right for more or visit <https://www.lionelbrands.com/>



"The deal unites two category leaders under one roof, giving the newly formed company the ability to strengthen its investment in product development and storytelling while enhancing what already works best for each brand and honoring the heritage and authenticity that have defined Lionel for more than a century. To accomplish that goal, the leadership and product teams behind both brands will remain in place.

"The acquisition builds a stronger platform for adjacent product categories and shared fandom, while continuing to rely on the leadership and product development teams that know these brands best. Round 2 and Lionel bring complementary products and capabilities, additional opportunities in licensing, and increased ability to show up as an even more important partner to key retailers. The acquisition closed on March 2. Transaction details were not disclosed."

The Lionel Brands Group features 13 product lines, including:



MPC Model Products re-issues classic model kits and is not currently involved with the train line, while **Lionel Racing** handles the 1/64th & 1/24th scale NASCAR* die-cast cars. No immediate changes were announced for the venerable **LIONEL TRAINS** brand.

*NASCAR is an acronym meaning the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing.

SWD President's Message: Spring, 2026



LARRY PEARSON

President, 2026-2027

T.T.O.S.

Southwestern
Division

1108 West Palm Ave,
Burbank, CA 91506

Phone (818) 848-2653,
mornings, after 8:00 am,
or (818) 994-4890 (cell).

Please be advised that the following article is comprised solely of my own thoughts, opinions, and experiences, and does not necessarily convey the beliefs and thoughts of the T.T.O.S. Southwestern Division (SWD), and its Members and Officers, or the editor & publisher of **The Southwestern Limited**.

Call me at the above phone numbers in the mornings after 8:00 am if you need to get in touch with me. Alternatively, you can email me at lpears1941@att.net. Call, I love to talk...

SWD 2026 MONTHLY MEET DATES

The contract with the Arcadia Masonic Center for the SWD Monthly Meet dates has been signed and approved. The 2026 SWD Monthly Meet dates remaining are:

April 12 (second Sunday, due to Easter)

May 3 (1st Sunday)

June 7* (1st Sunday)

July 12 (second Sunday, due to 4th of July)

August 1 (1st Saturday): LA Live Steamers picnic in Griffith Park.

September 6* (1st Sunday)

October 4 (1st Sunday)

November 1 (1st Sunday)

December 6* (1st Sunday)

Note: The asterisks (*) above denote Open House Meets, featuring special drawings for first-time attendees. The hope is that it will attract new members from this promotion. Thanks to Cory Friend for supplying the train sets required for the prizes.

REMEMBERING ROY BELL

Roy Bell was born October 13, 1936 and died on January 18, 2026 at the age of 89. He was TTOS #575 and was formerly the President of TTOS Southwestern Division. A celebration of Roy Bell's life was held on February 7, 2026 at the home of Janitta Keck, which I attended with several other SWD club members. We watched a video and swapped stories about Roy. Please click on the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slhs6nj66Ss>. We will all miss Roy Bell.



NEW SWD BOARD MEMBERS

SWD elects its Officers for two-year terms. 2025 was an Election year for 2026 - 2027 term. The positions were uncontested, so all were re-elected by acclamation at the Dec. meet. For a complete list, see the staff box at the lower right corner of page 8. The Board of Directors has appointed two new members to the board, as seen below: **Bill Elliott** (left) & **Joe Ubrun** (right).



OTHER CLUB BUSINESS

Have you renewed your SWD Dues yet? Our dues are still just \$30.00 per year. There is no additional fee for late renewals, but the renewal rate is fixed at \$30.00 until July 1st, 2026. (The dues schedule is not prorated, except for new members.) Please renew with Nancy Giammatteo at the SWD front desk.



Our newest members are Rudy Salinas and Evan Chapman. *Welcome aboard!*

SWD President's Message: Bill Elliott

BILL ELLIOTT JOINS SWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I am pleased to announce that the SWD Board of Directors appointed Bill Elliott to the Board, effective February 1st, 2026. Bill is extra special to me because he introduced me to our club back in 1980, right after he joined. Bill currently clerks our monthly Auction and helps to put things away after the monthly meets.

Bill and I belonged to a Chevrolet Corvette Club that was named 'Corvettes Unlimited'. Back in the early 1970's, you could purchase a decent used Corvette for under \$1000, and the club membership consisted mostly of single young men in their 20's and 30's. The Club met at the dealership of our sponsor, Baher Chevrolet, located in Northridge, which had meetings every Wednesday evening, and we had a scheduled event each weekend. The events consisted of things like car shows, slalom racing, car rallys, blue chip bowling, miniature golfing, over night parties, car repair clinics, and much more. This club was a way of life for the membership at that time. Today, this kind of fun is impossibly expensive, and who has the time?

As I recall, one day in 1980, Bill asked me if I liked toy electric trains. Bill's love was American Flyer S-Gauge. I still had my Lionel trains from the 40's and 50's and a

fold down from the wall O-27 layout that my dad built to run them on. I told Bill that I loved vintage Lionel trains, but where do you get them? I knew nothing about train stores or train clubs. Bill said that I needed to join TTOS. The meetings back then were at the same Masonic Hall that we are currently using, but on Friday nights. I attended my first Friday night Meet, and my life has never been the same. Lionel trains were always fairly expensive, and my parents couldn't afford what I really wanted. But now everything I ever wanted as a child was for sale at our monthly Meets. I still had the original catalogs.



The first train I bought was the 2343 Santa Fe diesels. Those locomotives were always at the top of my want list, but my parents couldn't afford them. After I bought all the vintage Lionel "0" gauge trains that I ever wanted, I have expanded to pre-war Lionel, American Flyer, and Ives Wide Gauge trains. My house now is full of boxes of trains, and I have to stop this madness!

All this because of Bill Elliott...

Please support the Southwestern Division by continuing your membership, recruiting new members, making donations to SWD & attending our monthly meets. *As always, hugs to all, and run your trains often!*

- Larry Pearson

TTOS Southwestern Division President

TTOS Southwestern: Happy New Year 2026!



Richard Keppel re-rails a Std. gauge hopper car on Eric Nissen's layout.



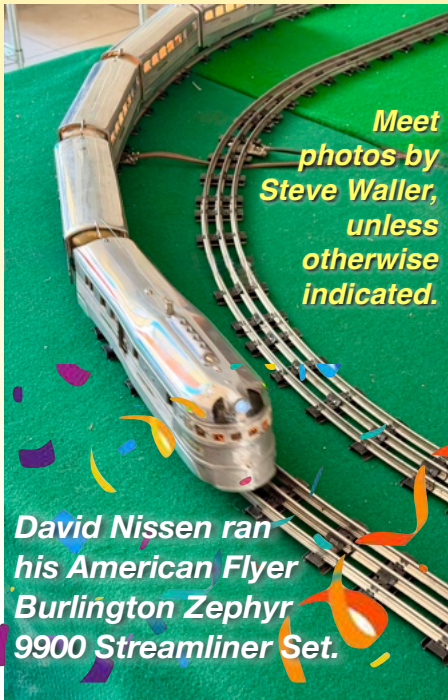
Dale Kopic checks out the plastic-wrapped 747 fuselages-on-flatcars along Ulus Ekerman's club layout.



Corey Friend's train tables are always well-stocked.



Renée Mylander left the Café long enough to pick up her 50/50 winnings from Fred Kramer.



Meet photos by Steve Waller, unless otherwise indicated.

David Nissen ran his American Flyer Burlington Zephyr 9900 Streamliner Set.



LIONEL 1403 freight set in Excellent condition (including perfect decals on the 221T tender) was offered for \$125. It sold quick!



February is a Great Time to Love Your Trains!



Ulus Ekerman with his CAB-1 remote control.



Philip Maddox checks the Greenberg Guide.



Jim Kenney won the February 50/50 from Linda Kramer.



Dorfan 427 station (circa 1930) restored by Steve Eastman.



David Nissen loves his LIONEL-MPC 8702 Southern Crescent locomotive.



Drake Whitlock sells vintage American Flyer "S" scale equipment.



Full house at the February auction.



Holly Tozzi cooks up a Burger Combo in the Café.



Larry Pearson at the Repair Clinic.

'Open House' Meet at Southwestern Division



Larry Pearson won the 50/50 drawing!



Lots of trains for sale!



Denyse Myer admires a pastel McCoy Standard Gauge freight train. (Photo by Jeff Myer.)



Ulus Ekerman runs his LIONEL Great Northern 2-6-6-2 "What If" #1855.

SKU: 6-85180



This LIONEL battery-operated General locomotive has a water vapor smoke effect. SKU: 712127



Lionel 1835E from TCA's recent auction of the Roger Hill Collection.



A lineup of McCoy Std. Gauge diesel switchers brought by Steve Eastman, Jeff Meyer & Eric Nissen.

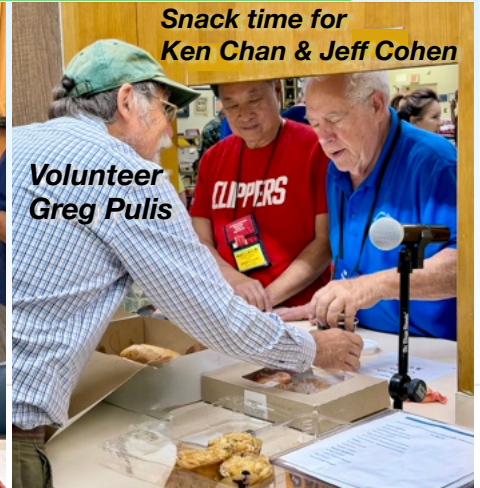


Standing room only at the March auction.



Fred Kramer

Diane Planiden won an HO train set.



Snack time for Ken Chan & Jeff Cohen

Volunteer Greg Pulis

Support Our 'Southwestern Limited' Advertisers!

THE ORIGINAL
Whistle Stop INC.
MODEL RAILROADING SPECIALISTS
SINCE 1951

2490 E. COLORADO BLVD.
PASADENA, CALIF. 91107
www.thewhistlestop.com

(626) 796-7791
FAX (626) 796-7566
info@thewhistlestop.com

The Train Shack
SERVING ALL YOUR MODEL RAILROAD NEEDS SINCE 1985



All Scales Z-6. Vintage to New
Digital Installations & Repairs
Custom Layouts & House Calls
Authorized Factory Service for Many Brands
World Wide Shipping

1030 N. Hollywood Way Burbank CA, 91505 818-842-3330
www.trainshack.com Email: thetrainshack@yahoo.com

TTOS-SP's "Trains & Coffee" in the parking lot at Bryant Ranch Center, 23621 La Palma Ave, Yorba Linda, California, 92887 - Sat. April 11th from 9 AM - 12 Noon. See website for more info: <https://ttos-sp.org/>

TOY TRAIN MEET
Monthly Train Meets
Educational Displays

2026 Meets:
Apr 26, May 31
Jun 28, Aug 23
Sep 27, Oct 25
November 22
Dec 11-12
(Super Meet)

Trains for Sale
Super Auction
Great Raffle
Operating Layouts
Snack Bar

All Aboard to Anaheim!

PUBLIC INVITED: 10:00 TO 1:00
DONATION: \$5.00 PER PERSON / FAMILY

Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Ave. - Anaheim, CA

www.ttos-sp.org
For information visit our website
or call Jeff Meyer our President at (909) 851-9846

ALL ABOARD! 2026 Meets
TCA Western Division

Arcadia Community Center
365 Campus Drive
Arcadia, CA 91007

2026 Toy Train Swap Meets: 10 AM start (9 AM setup)
Saturdays: April 25, May 23, Aug 22, Oct 17, Dec 19

Operating Train Layout, Repair Service, Refreshment & Auctions
At the SW edge of Santa Anita Golf Course, near Huntington Drive & Holly Ave.

Western Division members, reserve free selling tables: email info@tcawestern.org.
Visit our website, www.tcawestern.org, for a list of the display table themes.
For more information, phone Jon Lang: (310) 871-8315 (talk or text)
Follow us on facebook "Celebrating Our 72nd Anniversary"

AGTTA
All-Gauge Toy Train
Assoc. San Diego, CA

Buy & Sell Trains, Snack
Bar & Super Raffle

AGTTA Saturday Meets 9am to Noon
St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
6556 Park Ridge Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92120

Website- www.agtta.com
Contact- Norm at ncrosen@gmx.com

2026 Meets
April 18
May 16
June 20
July 18
Aug. TBD
Sept. 19
Oct. 17
Nov. 21
Dec. 19

American Flyer
SN3

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
S GAUGERS
Est. 2005
PROMOTING 3/16" MODEL RAILROADING

<http://socalsgaugers.org/>

HIGH RAIL SCALE

MIKE'S
trains & hobbies

111 1/2 S. 'H' St., Lompoc, CA 93436
To order Parts: call 805-736-6747 or
email: mike@mikestrainslompoc.com
website: www.mikestrainslompoc.com
or go to: facebook.com/MikesTrains/

Order your parts from Mike Marple today!

Pegasus
HOBBIES

CARS • PLANES • HELICOPTERS • JETS
GAS CARS • BOATS • MODELS • TRAINS
DIE CAST • GAMES • KITES • CAR REPAIR

909-982-6507 We Buy Collections!
Mon Closed • T-F 11-7 • Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 11-5
www.pegasushobbies.com 1458 W. 7th St.
Upland, CA 91786

Grand Canyon Model Railroaders: See website - www.gcmrr.org or email Dave at eaglefour@juno.com

Return Address:

Larry Pearson
1108 West Palm Ave.
Burbank, CA 91506

Time Dated Material

First Class



THE SOUTHWESTERN LIMITED™

Newsletter Editor: Stephen J. Waller

Webmaster: Harold Shapiro

Publisher: Bickley Printing Co.

The Southwestern Limited newsletter is published 4 times per calendar year by T.T.O.S. Southwestern Division. © 2026 T.T.O.S. SWD.

President: Larry Pearson

Vice President: Renée Mylander

Membership Secretary: Nancy Giammatteo

Recording Secretary: (vacant)

Treasurer: Manny Gonzalez

Directors-at-Large: (alphabetically, by last name):
Hollis Cotton, Bill Elliott, Cory Friend, Fred Kramer,
Jerry Moser, David Mylander, Jon Pincus,
Calvin Smith, Joseph Ubrun and Steve Waller.



Milepost 38 TOY TRAINS

6452 Industry Way, Westminster, CA 92683

Phone (714) 892-9471 www.milepost38.com

Store hours - Mon thru Sat: 11AM to 5PM. (Closed Sunday.)



Southern California's Largest "Big Train" Store

- Specializing in larger train gauges (O & G). *Biggest Lionel Trains dealer in Orange County!*
- Features manufacturers like LGB, MTH *RailKing*, American Flyer, Williams, *Piko*, & more.
- Will buy your old train set. Visit our [We Buy Trains page](#) online for details.
- We also offer web-based sales through our [eBay store](#) under the "milepost38" listing.
- Covers more than 3,000 square feet, and with [Arnie's Trains](#) (HO & N-scale) next door, comprises a Model Trains Super Center featuring 7,000+ square feet of trains & accessories.