



THE SOUTHWESTERN LIMITED



Vol. 38, No. 4

December, 2021

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

Upcoming Meet:

SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION's first gathering next year is the New Year's Meet on Sunday, January 2, 2022.

Keep your layout looking great in the New Year of 2022 with SWD's help!

Meets take place at:
Arcadia Masonic Center
50 W. Duarte Road
Arcadia, CA 91007



Directions: from the 210 Freeway, exit south on Santa Anita Ave., and go 1.5 miles; turn right on Duarte Road. The Masonic Center is on the left.

We feature: Buying & Selling Trains, Operating Layouts, a 50/50 Drawing, a Live Auction at Noon, Repairs, Test Track, Snacks & Free Parking.

Doors open at 10:00 a.m. Admission is free for Members and \$5.00 for the public. Kids under 21 are free with adult admission.

Sellers: Tables are only \$5.00; reserve with Hollis Cotton (818) 590-0553.

Toy Train Auctioneer: George Blanch (818) 590-8238.

For more info: call Larry Pearson (818) 848-2653, mornings after 8 a.m. The website is www.ttos-sw.org.



Santa says:
"Candy Canes
are the perfect
Holiday Treat!"

Santa Claus Arrives at SWD

With the sound of sleigh bells preceding him, Santa Claus climbed down the proverbial chimney at Southwestern Division in Arcadia on Sunday, December 5th, 2021, bringing tasty treats & lots of Holiday Cheer!

Starting promptly at Noon, the Jolly Old Elf sat on his royal throne in the Masonic Hall lobby for over an hour. Santa made a long list of gifts that the kids (and a few adults) asked for this year.

As always, the number one gift at SWD is an electric train, maybe by Lionel, Williams, or American Flyer. And what features they have nowadays: Bluetooth remote control via a handheld device or maybe a smartphone. Billowing smoke and realistic digital sounds are the order of the day!

This year's Holiday Meet was lots of fun, and we look forward to many more great train meets in the New Year. See the President's Message on next page for more information. *Happy New Year!*

—Steve Waller, Editor

SWD President's Message: December, 2021



LARRY PEARSON
President, 2020-2021
T.T.O.S.
Southwestern
Division

1108 West Palm Ave,
Burbank, CA 91506

Phone (818) 848-2653,
mornings, after 8 am.

*Please be advised that the following article is comprised solely of my own thoughts, opinions, & 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 and publisher of **The Southwestern Limited**. Call me at the above phone number in the mornings after 8 am if you need to get in touch with me. Call, I love to talk...*

~ ~ ~

MONTHLY MEET POST CARD BY EMAIL

Holiday Greetings to all! The December "Post Card" was mailed out as a printed post card as well as an email to those of you we have an email address for. Our web master, **Harold Shapiro**, colorized and re-formatted it and added color photos and emailed it out. I hope you enjoyed it. The Monthly Meet notification by email allows us to send out much more information than we can squeeze onto a printed post card. Starting with the January 2nd Meet, the Monthly Meet announcement will only be sent out by email. I was in charge of the front desk at the December 5th Meet and took email info from several of our Members to use to update our records. Call me at the above phone number or email me with your email information if you have not been receiving our emails. Or see us at the January 2nd Meet at the registration desk. We plan to continue to print and mail the quarterly *Southwestern Limited* newsletter,



and plan to also send it out by email. One of the many advantages to email, is that the recipient can easily forward it to their friends. This might help grow our membership.



SOUTHWESTERN DIV. 2022 MEET DATES

At the SWD December 8 Board Meeting we discussed the 2022 annual Picnic at the Live Steamers in Griffith Park. It has been two years since we last held this picnic on August, 2020, and things have changed since that time. We have lost several of our key workers and others can no longer do the work due to their advancing age. Also, due to the continued ever-changing COVID presence, we are not even certain that we can have an August picnic at this facility. The City of Los Angeles controls access to this property, and they have much stricter rules than L.A. County or the State of California.

I have repeatedly asked for younger Members to step up and get involved with the SWD operations and, so far, no one has responded. Therefore, the Board voted to replace the Saturday, August 6 Picnic with a Sunday, August 7 Monthly Meet at the Arcadia Masonic Center. We have added this date to our 2022 Contract with the Arcadia Masonic Center. There is a 90 day no charge cancellation clause in our contract and we can restore the Picnic date if younger worker volunteers become available.

We have contracted with the Arcadia Masonic Center for the following 2022 Sunday dates: **January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 10, August 7, September 11, October 2, November 6, December 4.** (Note: we've booked February 6, so there's no conflict with Super Bowl Sunday a week later.)

SWD TABLE SALES

We have had several train collections donated to the Club in recent years and are offering them for sale on three tables along the north wall, immediately to the right of the entrance to the trading hall. Board Member **Jon Pincus** is managing the sales, along with his own table sales across the aisle. These sales greatly help defray the costs of operating our Monthly Meets.

The latest collection donation is from the family of **Emmett Van Ness**, a recently deceased Board Member and it contains many high quality items. We very much appreciate your participation with these sales.



JANUARY 2 BOARD MEETING

We have been holding our monthly Board Meetings at Hollis Cotton's Train House in Granada Hills on the Wednesday immediately following the Monthly Sunday Meet. Since the SWD covers all of Southern California and we draw Members from as far away as San Diego and Arizona, many Members who might want to get involved with our club want to see a more convenient location for our Board Meetings.

The Southern Pacific Division of the Toy Train Operating Society holds its monthly Board Meetings at the Brookhurst Community Center immediately following their Monthly Meet. So we are going to try this and hold our January Board Meeting immediately after the January 2 Monthly Meet Auction concludes, usually about 2:30 pm. We will use the auction tables and chairs for our Meeting. I will have printed agendas available at this Meet. Ask me for a copy at the Meet if you

are interested in attending. The agenda is four pages long and tells you who the officers are and what they do, as well as information on everything we do and how we do it. Our monthly Board Meetings normally last about one hour, barring lengthy discussions. Please get involved.



I remind you once again that we urgently need younger Members to take over the operation of our club. As with the Annual Picnic, it is uncertain that our club can continue after 2022.

FOOD SERVICE AT THE MONTHLY MEETS

We are still struggling to find someone to prepare food at the Monthly Meets. **Hollis Cotton** is working on it. As a minimum, we plan to provide donuts and coffee. If you have a solution, call **Hollis** at (818) 590-0553. We are open to using a food truck, but don't know of any licensed to operate in Arcadia. **Calvin Smith** suggests that we purchase Subway sandwiches to sell out of the kitchen. A lady named **Cheryl** is employed by the Arcadia Masonic Center and helps out with the donut sales at the Monthly Meets. She refuses to take money from us, but she is a big help. Tips are accepted.

The SWD Officers and Board Members work very hard without compensation of any kind to make our club the success it has become. Please show your respect for them whenever you encounter them and assist them whenever you can. Most of the current Officers and Board members are senior citizens and we need younger people to step up and begin to take over the operation of our Club.

Please support Southwestern by continuing your Membership, recruiting new Members, making donations to SWD, and attending our Monthly Meets. *As always, hugs to all, and have a Happy New Year 2022!*

—Larry Pearson

'Muzeo Express' Opens in Anaheim, CA

The Elves have been working hard in Anaheim to construct **Muzeo Express** for its sixth year. The exhibit is open thru January 23, 2022. This season, there are a record nine operating train layouts, with equipment of several different sizes: Standard gauge, G-scale, 'O' gauge, O-27, On30 and the smallest being HO.

New this year is a huge, snow-covered "Mountain" layout, that has seven trains running in & out of tunnels and around the perimeter.

Pop-culture icons are well-represented: "The Polar Express," a Pixar "Radiator Springs" layout, and the train from "Toy Story 3," plus "Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends."

In addition, there's the nostalgia of a 1950s-style "Postwar" pike, a "Plasticville" town, plus "The Night Before Christmas" and "East Coast Standard Gauge" layouts, circa 1920s. Lionel Trains (with an assist from Marx, Williams, and MTH) are running throughout the exhibit.



Muzeo Express crew at the Grand Opening.



"Plasticville" by Steve Markusic & J Keeley.



Lionel 249E restoration by Bill Senyak.



The Postwar Layout with a young admirer; created by Lois & Larry Carpenter.



If it's broke, Larry Pearson can fix it.



Mr. Conductor reads "The Polar Express" aloud, prior to screening the 2004 movie.

J Keeley layout; Kelly Chidester photo.

Muzeo Express is helmed by Project Director Wayne Sheriff and Project Coordinator J Keeley.

Crew members include (in alphabetical order): John Bowman, Lois & Larry Carpenter, Steve Eastman, Bob Lemberger, Cathy & Steve Markusic, Glenn Olson, Larry Pearson, and Diane & Bill Senyak, and Steve Waller as Mr. Conductor.

The Muzeo Museum and Cultural Center is located at 241 South Anaheim Boulevard, Anaheim, CA 92805. Reservations are recommended. **Walk-ins:** be sure to call ahead to the gift shop during operating hours at (714) 765-6450 to check that the museum isn't closed for a special event. *Masks are required!*

Muzeo Express operates Wed. - Sun., 11am to 5pm; closed Monday & Tuesday. Admission: \$10 for Adults, \$8 for Students & Anaheim residents, \$7 for Seniors, Children & Military. See Muzeo's website for details and reservations: <https://muzeo.org>.

Special thanks to John Bowman for his research. Photos by Stephen Waller, Therese Mahoney, and Muzeo Interim Executive Director Kelly Chidester.



"Thomas & Friends"
frolic on the layout by
Glenn Olson.



Wayne Sheriff & Bob Lemberger
created the Mountain Layout.



**"The Mountain" layout is Muzeo's
biggest ever, measuring 13' x 24' with
peaks 10 feet high. It features seven
trains of various gauges.**



**Steve Markusic, Bill Senyak
& John Bowman smooth the
right-of-way.**

More Muzeo photos on bottom of page 7.

Scenes from the December SWD Meet



SWD Holiday Meet
photos by Steve Waller.



Clockwise from top: (1) View from the stage, (2) Ulus Ekerman & Hal Rothenborg run Holiday trains, (3) George Blanch auctions a donation to the club, (4) Calvin Smith & Tina Corsello try conversing thru masks (5) Denyse & Jeff Meyer won the 50/50 Drawing, (6) Holiday sales galore, and (7) center, is David Nissen's amazing tubular Triple-Decker, featuring Santa & his reindeer, with needlepoint buildings by Helen Nissen.

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Monthly Train Meets

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Super Auction,
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Kids Korner & Snack Bar**



PUBLIC INVITED: 10:00 TO 2:00
DONATION: \$5.00 PER PERSON / FAMILY

For information visit our website
or call Jeff Meyer our President at (909) 851-9846



Next Meets:
Jan. 23rd
Feb. 27th
Mar. 27th
(4th Sundays)

2022 Meets:
Jan. 8th
Feb. 12th
March 12th
(2nd Saturdays)

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



Train Collectors Association Western Division

Celebrating 67 Years!



Upcoming Meets in 2022:

We plan to return to our 4th Saturday format
at a new location in the New Year!
Please see the TCA Western website for the
latest information: www.tcawestern.org

Stephen J. Waller, President
626-710-7768 (evenings)

Robert Caplan, Vice-President
213-369-2446 (daytime)



All Gauge Toy Train Association

San Diego, California

AGTTA Saturday Meets 9 AM to NOON
St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
6556 Park Ridge Blvd.
San Diego, Ca 92120

BUY AND SELL TRAINS
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Contact: Norm Rosen at ncrosen@gmx.com
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