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VOL. 28 SEPT/OCT
NO. 5 2010

REMINDER: SWD DUES FOR 2010-2011 ARE NOW DUE!!!

THE SOUTHWESTERN LIMITED

LARRY PEARSON CALVIN SMITH HERBERT MAYER
PRESIDENT EDITOR PHOTOGRAPHER



Toll Free* 1-877-333-8447—Call this Number & Tell a Friend

* Grinch Hotline for Cal-Stewart 2010

Boy Scout Raises \$\$ for Eagle Scout
Community Service Project
with a Toy Train Layout



Hans Gripkey, son of SWD member Bruce Gripkey, with his fundraiser Lionel O gauge layout attended the June SWD Train Meet to sell raffle tickets. Note the model of Han's Eagle Project in the center of the layout between the tunnel and roadbed.
photo by David Nissen

Editor's Note: We are pleased to share Hans Gripkey's Eagle Project in Tehachapi, California from start to finish.

My Eagle Scout Community Service Project started with my dad and I brainstorming ideas for a suitable project. After considering suggestions of people in my scout troop, and looking over lists of possible projects from different sources, my dad and I went cruising around town and looking for

(continued page 9)

Cal-Stewart 2010 Brochures in the Mail!!!

By now you should have received a Cal-Stewart 2010 brochure, even if it had your correct first name and mailing address but a different last name! We regret that a shuffling of the last names occurred in a portion of the first mailing. **The brochure you received is YOURS.** You may also download the brochure with registration materials from our websites:

www.cal-stewart.org or ttos-sw.org.

Cal-Stewart 2010

Six Weeks to Fantasy Christmas

by David Oth

PANIC: If you think this is close at hand, how do you think I feel? Pressure — Yes! Fun—a **BIG YES!** Trains and Toys under a massive tree reaching to 21 feet high. **WOW!** Now is the time to contact Dave Oth or Hollis Cotton and show off your favorite item

and, with our Fantasy Theme, anything goes! **GRAPH-ICS:** see 10 unique never before seen banners to colorize this festive event. **TOY TRAINS:** Expect the usual semi-load of trains throughout the hall and in auctions.

BOY SCOUTS: We pay a significant Tribute Saturday 8:45 am to Boy Scouts for their 100th Anniversary in the Foyer — Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard presents Commendation to Scouts and lights the Tree to kick-off CS2010. **RACES:** Yes, Pincus is back and the “Track is Jumpin’”. **CELEBS:** Engineer Bill’s daughter Kathryn Makensen salutes with us her father of the 1950s TV fame many of us remember, and Joy Lane of *Our Gang/Little Rascals* returns with video remembrances. **DISPLAYS:** 1896 Victorian living room with Carlisle & Finch still running, 7 Boy Scout competing Layouts, BSA 1910 and 2010 Christmas Camps with tents and BSA gear, RR Equipment and much more. **ATTEND:** THAT’S YOUR TASK, DON’T MISS THIS ONE — It’s True Fun and Fantasy. **REGISTER NOW FOR CAL-STEWART 2010, NOVEMBER 19-21!!!**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

LARRY PEARSON, President
Southwestern Division,
2010-2011
1108 West Palm Ave.,
Burbank, CA 91506
(818) 848-2653



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 Southwestern Division of TTOS, and its Members and Officers, or the editor and publisher of *The Southwestern Limited*.

CAL-STEWART 2010

The annual **Fall Cal-Stewart Train Meet** is *the* major annual event of the Southwestern Division of the Toy Train Operating Society (TTOS-SWD). We put it on all by ourselves, including the manpower, all the funding and even the event insurance. The planning of it is the primary topic of each TTOS-SWD monthly Board Meeting, with at least half of each Meeting taken up with this discussion. We are always working to make Cal-Stewart more user friendly and better attended, and to keep costs down.

Cal-Stewart 2010 continues to use the newly constructed Pasadena Convention Center Exhibit Halls A & B. The ground level 53,500 sq. ft. hall allows us to host the entire Meet in one large well-lit room, eliminating the problems attendees and sellers had with the split hall arrangement that we were forced to use prior to 2009. Now, table sales, the annual Ralph Johnson Memorial Display, layouts, Auctions, the Mervyn Lew Memorial Sunday Raffle and the Steve Marinkovich Memorial Train Races and Demolition Derby are all in the same large well-lit room. **If you missed Cal-Stewart 2009, plan on attending Cal-Stewart 2010. It's going to be a great meet!!!**

You all should have received your 2010 Cal-Stewart Registration Brochure several weeks ago. The brochures were printed and shipped to the National *TTOS Bulletin* printer in time for the July/August mailing, but TTOS National's financial situation has caused a several month delay in publication. So we had to have them shipped back and had to construct our own mailing list, which includes names purchased from *Classic Toy Trains* Magazine and TCA (Cal-Stewart is a joint TTOS and TCA effort). The new combined list has 10,000 names, compared with 3,000 names on last year's mailing. As a result of the much larger mailing, we expect a significantly larger attendance at Cal-Stewart 2010. The mailing was done in two batches, and the first mailing had a problem that caused some of the last names to be incorrect, causing confusion and concern. If your brochure arrived with someone else's last name in place of your last name, please be assured that our master records are correct, and that this problem will not occur in the future. We became aware of the problem after the brochures were mailed and we started getting calls, and it was too late to fix it. The second mailing did not have this problem. If you misplaced your brochure, or did not receive one, you can download copies

of the registration package from our Cal-Stewart website, www.cal-stewart.org. Or call me and I will mail you a copy.

Be advised that **all people ordering tables and other sellers sharing them must fill out a blue "Sellers Certificate" and enclose it with your paid registration**. You will then be issued a "Sellers" badge. There is no additional charge for a Sellers badge if you are not buying a table. All people selling taxable merchandise off tables must be paid registered and must have a "Sellers" marked badge.

People are calling and asking "can I still get a table?" Absolutely! The new larger hall will allow us to set as many tables as you desire. We prefer that you pre-register and purchase tables at that time. However, you can register and purchase tables on-site on Friday, Saturday, or even Sunday with no late charges. You will get a better table location if you pre-register, and it helps us to better plan the floor layout. If you purchase tables on site, you will get "what is left".

Key to making the finances of Cal-Stewart work is the annual **Cal-Stewart Souvenir car**. The funds generated from the sale of these Souvenir Cars allows us to keep the costs for the attendees of Cal-Stewart at the absolute minimum. The Meet itself is priced on a break-even basis. The profit comes from the car sales. The 2009 Cal-Stewart cars are the PEP O MINT LIFESAVERS® tank cars, both in "O" and "S" gauges. Orders for the PEP O MINT LIFESAVERS® cars were taken until approximately the end of May, 2010 before we placed the order with Lionel. We don't want any left-over cars to have to store and sell, so each car is a sellout, although we do order extra cars for breakage and shipping loss. Also, Lionel usually makes 5% extra cars to cover returns, so we usually can handle late orders. Delivery of the "O" gauge cars is expected in October, 2010. The "S" gauge cars are scheduled for December, 2010 delivery. We are now taking orders for the 2010 Cal-Stewart BUTTER RUM LIFESAVERS® tank cars ("O" and "S" gauges) until the end of March, 2011. Fliers for the BUTTER RUM LIFESAVERS® Tank Cars are included with the 2010 Cal-Stewart brochure. Cal-Stewart registration and the annual Souvenir Car project are handled by **Bruce and Elaine Lazarus**. Bruce and Elaine work year around on these projects, which include the design, the flier design and distribution, the taking of the orders, the answering of the questions, the shipping of the cars, and taking care of lost and damaged cars. The year around effort is enormous, and we cannot thank Bruce and Elaine enough for their work. **Please support Cal-Stewart by buying our Souvenir Cars.**

THE 2010 TTOS NATIONAL CONVENTION

The 2010 TTOS National Convention was held in San Antonio, Texas, during the week of August 3-7. It was a much better Convention than last year's Chicago Convention, but was more poorly attended. I estimate about 60 registrations, compared with about 90 for Chicago. Why the poor attendance? Mostly, no one wants to be in San Antonio in August. Yes, it was in the upper 90's in the afternoon, but everything, including the tour busses, was air conditioned. The high point was layout tours of three layouts on Wednesday and Friday nights. I attended every tour except the Thursday tour because I was attending the annual Board of Directors Meeting. I had a great time. The 2011 TTOS Convention is at Charleston, South Carolina. **Plan to attend.**

(continued on page 11)

JOHN PINCUS IS BACK!!! Get Your Engines Ready for the Train Races and Demolition Derby Sunday at Cal-Stewart 2010

Jon Pincus, chairman for The Train Races and Demolition Derby reminds everyone The Races and Derby are scheduled for Sunday only at Cal-Stewart 2010. Volunteers are needed to help. Please contact **Jon Pincus Chairman, 818-889-1005.**

Classes for Train Races

- 1) Stock (Non-modified)
 - A. Steam with brush type motors
 - B. Steam with can type motors
 - C. Diesel with single brush type motor
 - D. Diesel with dual brush type motor
 - E. Diesel with single can motor
 - F. Diesel with dual can motor
 - G. Pre-War Electric
- 2) Modified:
 - A. Modified steam with brush motor
 - B. Modified steam with can motor
 - C. Modified diesel single motor
 - D. Modified diesel dual motor
- 3) Unlimited Modified (Must be electric powered by track power)

Demo Derby

1. Plastic vs Plastic
2. Die Cast vs Die Cast

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12 NOON TO 1 P.M.**

**AUCTION AREA
The Exhibit Hall**

*Bring something for
Show & Tell
— A train or toy!*

Everyone is welcome!

4 Auctions at Cal-Stewart 2010

Silent Auction at the King Welcoming Party

**Saturday Daytime Auction
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Saturday Evening Premium
Auction**

Time to be announced

**Sunday Auction
12 noon to 3 p.m.**

**Contact Vincent Garguilo
(818) 956-5396**

Cal-Stewart 2010 Auction Chairman

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01/10-12/10



THE WORD FROM THE AUCTION BLOCK

BY VINCE GARGUILLO

Hello again. I'm back. I'm sorry I missed the last few issues. They just slipped by me and I didn't get the articles done. But here I am, and I'll try to bring you all up to date.

By the time you read this, the convention has come and gone, and I hope as many of you as could, went. I would have liked to have gone, but I could not. I hope those of you that went had a good time and found some good trains. It's always fun to go to other parts of our great country to look for trains. Also it's summer and vacation time. Time to travel, have fun with the family, and look for trains. I talked to Larry, our president, when he got back from the convention and he said he had a great time and the tours were great. He didn't find any trains as he never got to the trading hall because the tours were opposite the trading hall hours. Oh well, better planning next time.

Also, how about the member appreciation picnic at the LA Live Steamers. It's always one of the best events of the summer. All you can eat, you get to ride on the trains, you get to go next door to Travel Town, and you get to visit and socialize with fellow club members and friends. Well, the member appreciation picnic at the live steamers was everything we said it would be and a whole lot more. We ordered a full one third more of everything for this year and we had such a great turnout, we will have to raise that for next year. Every one I talked to said the food was good and they had a great time. So if you didn't get to come, you missed a great party. Make it a must for next year.

Of course at the Live Steamers Picnic there is no selling or trading of any kind. We don't get back to sales until our September Open House Meet.

Speaking of meets, has any one noticed that the past meets have all been great? The tables have had lots of great trains, and a good variety of trains. We are still getting the collections at the tables and in the auction. The auctions have been very active, with a great variety of trains and train related items. We have seen some old friends who haven't been to our meets in a while, but are coming back and bringing stuff for our auction. The audiences have been strong and very active in buying. Prices have been good; at least both the buyers and sellers have been happy with the results. There hasn't been much pre-war going through the auction, mostly post war, and new stuff. The prices on post war have been good, but the new stuff is still very soft on its prices. And I still don't know why??? It doesn't get any better than the stuff their putting out now. The technology is great, the paint and graphics are awesome. The electronics and sound systems are something to behold. But still the resale of new stuff is slow and soft.

Of the two more meets before Cal-Stewart, we just held the September Open House meet, with Mike Marple and lots of table sales. Our auctions are always really great at these meets. Plan on attending our meets and bring money.

Cal-Stewart is shaping up to be a barn burner. All indication is that it will be much bigger than last year. WE STILL NEED COMMITMENTS for the Saturday Night Premium Auction! I

want to advertise the lots to bring in a bigger crowd. Help me out; commit some quality items for the auction. Please contact me at 818-956-5396.

REMEMBER VINCE'S LAW, this hobby is a virus and extremely catching. Give it to some one. They may be your next buyer, or my next auction seller, or buyer. This is a fun hobby, share it with others.

Until next time, come to the auction, bring trains to sell, and money to buy, but most of all come and have FUN with us. See you at the AUCTION.

Vince Garguilo, Auctioneer
SWD Auction Chairman

2011 South Western Division

Meet Schedule

(subject to change)

Mark your calendars now for Sundays 2011:

January 9, February 13, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 10, August 6 (Saturday-tentative date of Membership Picnic), September 11, October 2, Cal-Stewart November 18, 19, & 20, December 4.

Welcome New Members!!

Larry Pearson, SWD president) is pleased to welcome new and returning members to Southwestern Division.

Joining recently for 2010-2011 (July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011) are Harry Mycroft, Edward Walton, Randy Giroux, Leo Rubel, Darryl Gaslan, William Dookis, John Lyons, Bill Steinburg, and Gary Paul. Also, renewing are Anthony R. Lamb, Robert A. Worth, Daniel D. Hernandez, Mike Silvera, Edward Sam-sen, and Salvador A. Abitria.

A hearty "Welcome aboard"!!!

Pennsylvania Keystone Special Cal-Stewart Public Drawing Prize

Lionel's Pennsylvania Railroad Keystone/Special set (6-30096) will be given to the lucky winner of the Public Prize Drawing held on Sunday afternoon, November 21st at Cal-Stewart 2010. Featuring an all new die cast 0-8-0 engine, the set includes the 80 watt transformer, searchlight car, boxcar, and illuminated caboose. FasTrack makes for an easy setup.

This prize is provided through the generosity of **The Train Shack, Inc.** and Calvin and Phyllis Smith. (See The Train Shack ad on page 3).

The July 2010 Meet



Tables full of trains & accessories



David Nissen's Layout (I)
Southwestern Division Layout (c&r)



Testing a repair; waiting for the auction;
checking parts.



A happy seller — a happy buyer



Where are the skimmers? Where are the booms?

In Memory — Ed Karper

Southwestern Division extends our sympathy to the family and friends of Ed Karper who passed away in September. Ed, a former member of Southwestern Division, attended our meets several times a year, including Cal-Stewart and had an extensive knowledge of toy trains.

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Another Great Day in the Park

by Stephen J. Waller, Los Angeles Live Steamers

TTOS-Southwestern Division's picnic was held on a pleasantly warm Saturday, August 14, 2010 at the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum in Griffith Park. SWD TTOS President Larry Pearson organized an energetic team of roughly a dozen volunteers from TTOS-SWD and brought enough food to satisfy about 350 hungry people.

Two dozen volunteers from the Los Angeles Live Steamers made sure everyone got a ride over their beautiful 1 1/2 mile long pike. There were plenty of trains running on the 7.5 in. gauge track, including the club's new steam locomotive No. 8, several diesel freights, plus a special appearance by an ever-smiling Thomas the Tank Engine. The Disney Barn was open, and TTOS member Steve Eastman set up his incredible L-shaped layout, running Marx O gauge trains at dizzying speeds, under the shade of a tall pine tree.

Thanks to everyone who spent the day with us and a BIG thank you to the volunteers from both clubs. Herb Mayer's fantastic photos of the event can be seen in their full glory at:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/mayer8ha/sets/72157624748761114/with/4902439501/>

For more information on the LA Live Steamers, go to www.lals.org.

Highlights of the Picnic through the Lens of Herbert Alfred Mayer The Official SWD TTOS Photographer

Saturday, August 14, 2010 was a scheduled work day for LALS members, including engine and car routine maintenance and repairs, plus gardening along the right of way.



A transfer table assists owners moving engines and cars from the storage barn to the static work stations.



Diesels ready for servicing.



Checking out this little beauty.



A closer look at the "inners" of one of the diesels.

Photo at right: All 1 1/2 miles of track must be free of grasses, vines, leaves, and branches. Plus vines, shrubs and trees must be trimmed back to not impede trains. All trimmings are bagged and conveniently hauled out on work trains which also transport work tools.



The BEST Treat of the Picnic: Riding the LALS Members' Trains!!!!



A new addition, Steam Engine No. 8 with tender, passenger cars and caboose is club owned and operated by the Los Angeles Live Steamers.



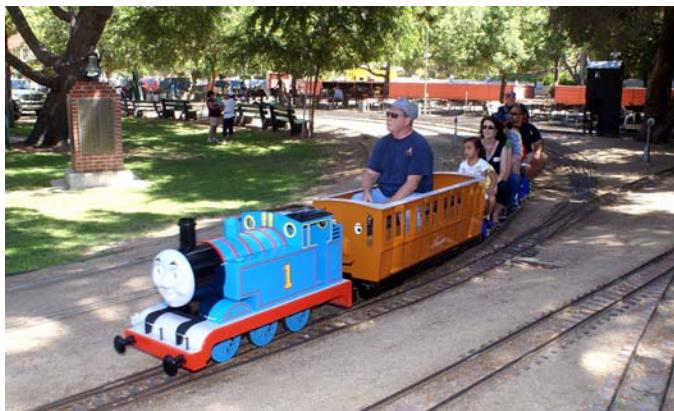
Number 8 crossing the bridge above the meadow. Note the steam blast towards the left.



A Frisco diesel takes a spin on the pike.



The SP diesel loaded with passengers.



The always smiling Thomas the Tank engine thrilled children.



The UP Engineer answers questions of a by-stander.



Southwestern Division thanks members of Los Angeles Live Steamers for running their trains for our 2010 Picnic.

Steve Eastman and Family brought this chock-full of details Marx O gauge L-shaped layout which was enjoyed by everyone.

Pictures by Herbert Alfred Mayer

Chow Time at the SWD/Los Angeles Live Steamers Picnic!

We fed over 300 attendees hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixin's, salad, chips, cookies, sodas and water.



The hungry crowd at Kountry Kitchen!



The cooks: Hollis Cotton, Larry Pearson,
Bruce Lazarus, Jerry Moser.
Not pictured, Vince Gargiulo



Elaine Lazarus and Arlene Berns managed
the condiments, salads, and cookies.

Center photo by Herbert Alfred Mayer
Far left & right by Phyllis Smith



Far Left: Visitors had the opportunity to visit the Disney Barn filled with memorabilia.

Left: One of Walt Disney's original engines, currently under restoration.

Right: Once again Steve Waller was our liaison for the wonderful picnic with the Los Angeles Live Steamers and in charge for the day.

(3 photos by Phyllis Smith)



TRAIN COLLECTIONS PURCHASED

Having been a member of TTOS since 1970, many of you know me and the reputation of the store I ran for 32 years, along with the high profile auctions I've held since 1980. Should you decide to sell your collection of trains and/or toys, please think of me. I will buy your entire collection for cash and you will receive a fair price for each and every piece. Or, if you prefer, I will sell your collection for you in one of my special event auctions, at a cost of only 10% to you.

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07-09-12-10



Meet Dates 2010

Jan. 24 Feb. 28
Mar. 26 Apr. 25
May 23 June 27
July 25 Aug. 22 &
Sept. 26 Oct. 24*
Nov. 7 Dec. 19**
All meets are on the
4th Sunday except
Mar., Nov., & Dec.
* Picnic at OERM
** Open House Meet

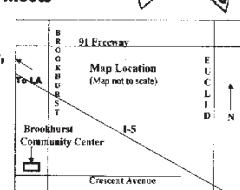
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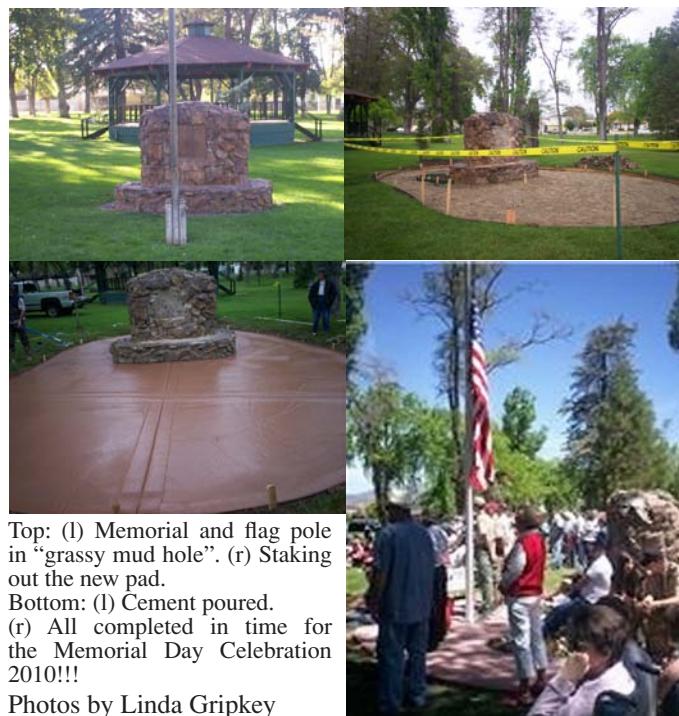
Eagle Scout Project (continued from page 1)

My Eagle Scout Community Service Project started with my dad and I brainstorming ideas for a suitable project. After considering suggestions of people in my scout troop, and looking over lists of possible projects from different sources, my dad and I went cruising around town and looking for anything that might need doing. When we drove around Philip Marx Central Park here in Tehachapi, I saw it. I came up with this idea from the countless times our family has gone to the park over the years and noticed that the memorial was sitting in a grassy mud hole and the flagpole was discolored, kind of sad looking and was hardly ever used. When there were ceremonies around there, people would almost always have to stand in the mud or wet grass. My dad and I both agreed that this would work for my project.

The next day we went back to the park and took measurements of the memorial and the area around it. We also took pictures of the area and decided on the shape for the concrete apron to be put around the memorial and the position of the flagpole. After the measurements were taken, we went home and made drawings scaling it to 1/4 in scale per foot. Then we transferred the drawing to graph paper to allow for accurate proportions in the next step.

After the drawings were finished I took them to my Boy Scout meeting to seek the approval of my Scoutmaster, Chuck Reuter, and my assistant Scoutmasters, Jeff Brill, Chris Webber, Wesley Clare, Mike Sanders and Jim Grissom. All of them approved and said I should have no problems with getting this project approved by every organization required. After the meeting I went home and we decided that a visual scale model would better convey the project than pictures or drawing could. We returned to the park to ensure that our measurements would not conflict with any trees and that it would fit in the available space.

When we started to build the model, we used leftover scenery supplies and techniques my dad has used over the years to build model train layouts. It took several days to finish the entire model and it clearly depicted all aspects of the project in a nice



Top: (l) Memorial and flag pole in "grassy mud hole". (r) Staking out the new pad.
Bottom: (l) Cement poured.
(r) All completed in time for the Memorial Day Celebration 2010!!!

Photos by Linda Gripkey

In Memory of Gary Reay 1940 to 2010

by Roy Bell

I met Gary about 1984, probably at a TTOS or TCA meet. In those days, before eBay and Craigslist, we looked in the Recycler to find trains. One Thursday morning Gary picked up the Recycler and I bought the donuts. We dug through the paper looking for trains. If there was anything promising, we would pool our cash and Gary would drive out to see what he could buy. On this one occasion, I'll never forget, Gary went out and bought a Marx prewar train and some Lionel postwar. Then he met a fellow who had a Lionel 9E in orange. As I recall the price was about \$300. Gary only had about \$170 Cash left. He did everything he could to raise some more cash. When he finally got back to the Orange 9E, the owner said he had decided to give it to his DAUGHTER.



Gary Reay

Gary worked for various auto dealers as a service writer: Nissan, Honda, Buick. If he had to give a customer a ride home, he'd ask if there were any trains in the house. He would also look for garage sales and even stop if he saw a man standing in his garage with the door open. One lead took us to Simi Valley or Thousand Oaks. This fellow had an Ives standard gauge set in the BOX in the rafters in the garage. We got it down and tried to explain that we could give it a better home in an air-conditioned house. The fellow said he'd like us to put it back where it was, he had it as a kid and wasn't ready to get rid of it yet. Over the next few years we kept hearing stories from other train people who must have met the same fellow with similar results.

Gary and I did train meets, swap meets, and toy shows all over California, even to York on one occasion. What a great time we had.

When my kids got married, Gary and Bea came to the weddings. When Gary and Bea's kids got married we were there. I have film from Shaver Lake where my daughter Diane got married. Gary and Bea were on the dance floor and his knee locked up. It looks funny on the video but that was probably an early indication of the problem he was going to have with that knee for the rest of his life.

My daughter Diane and Gary's daughter Julia sold raffle tickets at Cal-Stewart. That was in the late 1980s. I still meet train people asking about Diane and Julia.

After more problems with his health, he stopped coming to meets, but he still hunted, repaired, operated, and bought and sold trains. The last hunt was from a referral he got from an older lady he met while at dialysis earlier this year. When we arrived, he could barely get up the steps to the house. The train was a battered early MPC missing almost everything but the track. His health couldn't stop him but it slowed him down.

He was a good friend and had a good heart. I'll miss him and so will a lot of other train people.

Eagle Scout, continued from page

Opfermann, and arranged a meeting with him to explain my project at the monument site. I met with him, my dad and our Scoutmaster Chuck Reuter. I explained the project and showed him my proposal and model. After looking at everything he agreed that the project was needed and would be of great benefit to our community. He had my project proposal put on the agenda for the next board meeting that Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009.

My Scoutmaster, my dad, mom, fellow scout Mark Reuter, and myself were present at that board meeting. I explained my project in front of the entire TVRPD council. All members of the council approved my project. City manager Greg Garrett, donated three green metal benches on behalf of the City of Tehachapi to be placed on the concrete apron at a future date by the city.

Building the Fundraiser Lionel Train Layout

When we decided to build a train layout to raffle off to raise money for my Eagle Scout project, I was glad to be doing something a little different. It was to be a four by eight foot layout featuring Lionel O gauge trains that you might see in a hobby or toy store in the mid fifties.

After we drew out the basic design, mom and dad went to Home Depot to pick out one by two's for the framework. When my parents came back from Home Depot, I unloaded the wood and stacked it in the back yard under a twelve by sixteen foot tarp we put up for shade. Dad wanted to get started right away, however the weather turned nasty and it snowed enough to delay us. Glues, adhesives and paint don't work well in cold weather, so we had to wait. At least the tarp was keeping everything dry. Later in the week it rained some, but the weather was getting warmer and we had to get started. Saturday we built the framework. This was made up of two eight foot long one by two's and nine four foot long cross pieces. I drilled pilot holes, dad put some wood glue on the joint and I ran a screw in with the drill. In a few hours we were done with the frame, and it looked like a huge side to a baby's crib. Then we let the glue set. A few days later, it snowed again, delaying us further. Later we made some progress, gluing and nailing down a layer of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. foam core (foam core helps deaden the sound). We then glued a sheet of 3/8ths plywood to the top of the foam core. We covered the top of the plywood with heavy boxes and then covered everything with mover's pads. A small space heater underneath kept it warm enough for all the glue to set even though it was in the high twenties overnight and more snow was on the way. At least the tarp kept the rain and snow off of the layout.

That Saturday morning, after breakfast, dad called us out to glue the green felt down. This gave the layout an overall backdrop grass look for putting scenery on later. Using flooring adhesive and a trowel, dad started at one end and put down an even layer of the glue. As he got to the other end of the layout, the cold air made the floor adhesive stiff and hard to work with. The three of us, my mom was also helping, stretched the sheet of green felt tight like a drumhead and slowly lowered it down onto the glue covered plywood. Using a staple gun, we went around the entire layout stapling the felt over the edge while keeping the top nice and tight. Before the glue set, my dad cut out the areas where roads and parking lots would be. These were later painted black with white stripes. Due to the cold stiffening the glue, we covered the whole project in blankets and put a heated oil radiator style space heater underneath and let the floor glue cure. Then we left it all alone.

After the felt went on, everything started falling together rather quickly. I painted the underside of the layout flat black and we started laying the track and screwing it in place. The wiring underneath went in and on April 22nd, a train ran on our creation for the first time. The Tehachapi Loop Model Railroad Club had an upcoming train show and we wanted to make that



Building the frame on a blustery night with snow and rain threatening. Gluing in cold weather is a challenge. Photo by Linda Gripkey



An early showing, with Dad Bruce Gripkey operating the layout while Scout Hans sold raffle tickets. Photo by Linda Gripkey

the first time and place that we ran it and sold raffle tickets for it. There were still a lot of details and scenery left to do, but the trains ran, all the accessories worked properly and we took it on the road. In the next several weeks we took it to K-Mart in Tehachapi a few times, several toy train collectors' swap meets in the Los Angeles area, doing scenery and detail work between events and had it completely finished at Tehachapi depot's Grand Opening on June 5th. I find it amazing how this train layout could instantly transport even the most elderly viewer back to their childhood.

I get the idea of careful planning more now than ever before. When we were cutting wood in the early stages of construction, my dad would say things like 'measure twice and cut once'. His methodical and slow way of doing things annoyed me, but we made few if any mistakes and the only thing we had to re-do were a couple of places that the track needed tweaking. This layout was designed to slide into the back of my dad's van and the two of us could take it anywhere and set it up for display in a matter of minutes. We had made removable legs with removable wheels so when taken out of the van, it could be wheeled around like a hospital gurney.

In total, we sold 287 of the 300 raffle tickets at \$5.00 each and raised most all my project funds with this layout. The winner was a train collector from one of the LA collectors' clubs and was like a little kid when he came and picked it up. This was a great fundraising project and was indeed different.*

*Editor's Note: the lucky winner of the layout was Southwestern Division member Al Vierich!!!

Volunteers Are Needed for Cal-Stewart 2010

To Our Membership: As in the past, we are actively looking for people to be assistant to our Cal-Stewart Committee Chairs. Please let us know if you can help. Although we realize that asking you to commit in advance is difficult, please indicate your Anticipated status. Time shifts are available and we DO need the help!!!

Name _____ Club _____ Club Number _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Office Phone (_____) _____ FAX (_____) _____

I would like to help in the following area(s): **November 19, 20, 21, 2010**

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Comments
Setup (Friday 8 a.m. until done: Many last minute duties: Taping and numbering tables, assisting dealer setup, etc.)				
Registration (Friday afternoon 2-7 p.m. " " (Saturday morning 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. " " (Sunday 9 a.m.-3 pm.)				
King Party (Friday Setup, drawing/silent auction, security)				
Auction (Saturday Regular (daytime) " " (Sunday Regular)				
Security (Friday " " (Saturday " " (Sunday)				
Clean-up (Sunday 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., until done)				

Mail to Larry Pearson, 1108 West Palm Ave., Burbank, CA 91506 or Call Larry at 818-848-2653.

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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 Southwestern Division of TTOS, and its Members and Officers, or the editor and publisher of *The Southwestern Limited*.

CAL-STEWART 2010

The annual Fall Cal-Stewart Train Meet is *the* major annual event of the Southwestern Division of the Toy Train Operating Society (TTOS-SWD). We put it on all by ourselves, including the manpower, all the funding and even the event insurance. The planning of it is the primary topic of each TTOS-SWD monthly Board Meeting, with at least half of each Meeting taken up with this discussion. We are always working to make Cal-Stewart more user friendly and better attended, and to keep costs down.

Cal-Stewart 2010 continues to use the newly constructed Pasadena Convention Center Exhibit Halls A & B. The ground level 53,500 sq. ft. hall allows us to host the entire Meet in one large well-lit room, eliminating the problems attendees and sellers had with the split hall arrangement that we were forced to use prior to 2009. Now, table sales, the annual Ralph Johnson Memorial Display, layouts, Auctions, the Mervyn Lew Memorial Sunday Raffle and the Steve Marinkovich Memorial Train Races and Demolition Derby are all in the same large

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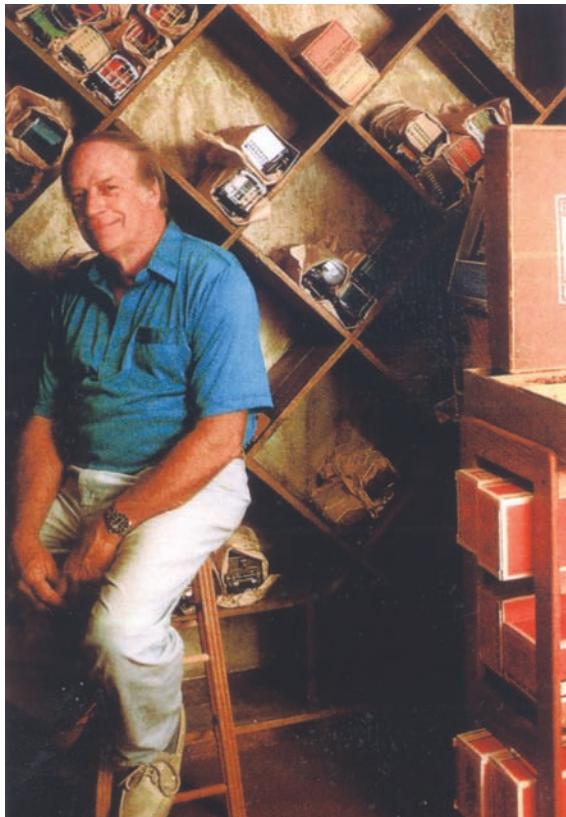
Robert Langton
Cell: 626-241-7686 • 626-799-3723

01/10-12/10

Fabulous S-Gauge Layout on Display

The S-Gauge Layout at Robert Langton's home in Pasadena will be available for viewing Saturday evening, Nov. 21, 2010. Details will be in your Cal-Stewart packet. **So, Register NOW so you won't miss out on all the fun at Cal-Stewart 2010.**

TRAIN COLLECTIONS WANTED



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Contact Hollis Cotton, T.T.O.S. No. 5356 for Your Construction Needs