

METCA's back from the Philadelphia Convention!



METROPOLITAN DIVISION
TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION™



Metropolitan Division Waybill

Train Collectors Association

Vol. 35 Issue 3

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TCA MISSION STATEMENT

To develop an appreciation of and to preserve an important segment of history~ Tinplate Toy Trains~ through research, education, community outreach, fellowship, establishment of collecting standards, and to promote the growth and enjoyment of collecting and operating toy, model, and scale trains.

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Train Collector's Association Application

www.tcamembers.org/membership/application.pdf

Metropolitan Division (METCA) Application

www.metca.org/documents/application.pdf

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TCA National Website

<http://www.traincollectors.org/>

The views expressed by the contributors to this publication are their own and not necessarily those of the Waybill editor or of the Train Collectors Association



Inside This Issue:

Part 2 of the standard gauge mini layout build. Larry and the Long Island Sound. Updates from the 2014 Philly Convention and much more!

Coming in the next Waybill:

More updates on the 2015 TCA Convention hosted by METCA. The final part of the standard gauge build up. Answer to abandon in METCA as well as the next mystery location.

Asking for your help!

...This is your Waybill Folks! We want to hear from our MIGS about what they are doing in this hobby. Send us news, a photo(s), or a story. I want to see your name in the byline! Send your info to eusdesa@yahoo.com

On The Cover:

"GG1 locomotive #4935"

One of 140 built for the Pennsylvania Railroad from 1935 to 1943. Source: 95wombat at

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/95wombat/5737113808/>

Answer to Abandoned in METCA's previous cover:

The Glenwood Power Station in Yonkers NY. Built by the New York Central Railroad company in 1906, it powered the railroad for 30 years. Credit: Alex Greig, Mail Online, Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2380357/Gates-Hell-Eerie-pictures-abandoned-Yonkers-power-station-built-1906-used-backdrop-zombie-movies-brutal-gang-initiations.html#ixzz36yUqQkrd>

Coffee With Stu



Time is a precious commodity. With such a limited amount of it, we (your METCA BOD) have had to pick and choose what we focus our efforts on. The 2015 Convention consumes much more of my time than I ever imagined, and hence, you might not be seeing too much activity on the Division level. Fear not, we're here working hard for you, making sure that our Division puts on a great event.

If you want to see how we're making out, check out the new permanent TCA convention website www.TCAconvention.org

We plan to soon be getting our train shows up and running again, it's just quite a challenge to have all the pieces fit into place. While we work on that, please visit us at the area Greenberg Train Shows. We have a display at each one in Edison and Somerset. Stop by and say "hi".

Enjoy the upcoming fall train season. If you make it to the York Train Meet, we'll have a large booth in the Silver Hall adjacent to the registration desk for use in promoting the 2015 Convention. We're working on a special piece of rolling stock, but it may or not make it in time. Literally, the paint might not be dry (not joking, that's how close they'll be to being ready for sale).



Look familiar?

Try **DASH**
Collector-ModelTrains.com

DASH is a new web site just for model railroaders. Free collection management. Super deals on trains. A great place to sell your own items. Great price guide updated daily with real sales data. Mobile apps and more.

-Just for Division Members!

Register on DASH as a division member and get full access of the DASH mobile apps, as well as discounts to everything on the site. DASH is free to use. Register today!

Collector-ModelTrains.com/dash/METCA

Welcome to part two of the standard gauge layout build. In part one I went over the requirements I had to stay within for this build as well as what I hoped the final layout would look like. In this part I will discuss the building of the table and the budget used so far for materials. So let's begin our table build.

If you're like me you usually have left over lumber and materials lying around from past projects. So before I headed out to my local home improvement center I took stock of my inventory. Lucky for me I had four brand new 2X4s which would be perfect the frame of the new table. From this point I drew up the table design based on a 24" on center surface. The table would be 4'X6' so with my four 2X4s I was able to create the frame and 2 joists. Because the table is smaller then a full sheet of plywood, the single sheet gives the table a rigid base. I also wanted to reduce the build time by using prefab screw in legs.

I compiled a shopping list which included one 4x8 sheet of 7/16" ply, three 1X6s for skirting material and/or support, table legs and mounting hardware as well as green indoor/outdoor carpet to represent grass. With all the materials purchased as well as the cost of the four 2X4's I had at the house the total came to \$120. I'm sure it could be built cheaper if thinner plywood is used and 2X3's were substituted for the 2X4's. But I know my boys will be playing with this a lot and I wanted something sturdy.

The frame itself is simple; 2x4s are cut to 72" for the length and 45" for the width. Once assembled the outside of the frame will be 48"X72" or 4'X6'. I will then add the two inner supports, 24" on center to add strength to the table top. As you can see I built this similar to a wall or floor as it makes a light weight, strong structure.



Once the frame was assembled I cut the plywood down to size and mounted it to the frame. Once this was completed the weight of the table quickly went up but so did the strength. Also, it is always advisable to have a helping hand when building anything, especially when it comes to using power tools. As you can see my helper Jake is very proud of the work he did using a screw gun.



Once the frame was built, plywood attached and the leg brackets installed (in the picture above they are the silver corner braces) I moved the table into the basement. The 28" legs simply screw on but I felt they were a little flimsy so I used the 1X6 as a support band half up the height of the legs. This not only added stability to the table but if I decided to integrate a lower shelf into the table down the road this support band will act as the shelf bracket. Below is the table on its back showing the support, in the next and final addition you will see the table on its legs.



Stay tuned for the next waybill to see the finished layout.

Our 2014 Lionel Erie Lackawanna Mint Car was delivered earlier this year. Have you ever wondered what these look like before entering the postal system for delivery to you? This photo shows 120 boxes on a skid at the Post Office. Shipping all the cars required 3 trips like this. Due to the volume of packages that we send, they let us in the backdoor early.



Our Atlas O Manhattan Brewing Company 40' Woodside Reefers have just arrived. And when I say "just arrived", I mean they haven't even been unpacked yet. Here's what 48 3-rail sets and 12 2-rail sets look like fresh off the loading dock.



We have a few of the Erie Lackawanna Mint Car still available and we have 2 sets of the Atlas Reefer available. We're also taking orders for the Entenmann's Tank Car. You can find order forms under the "merchandise" tab on www.metca.org or give me a call.





LONG ISLAND SOUNDS

Larry Laskowski



Summertime fun on Long Island and our clubs getting ready for the Fall/winter railroad season. Ready folks?

Tom Lamb tells us that **The St James Model Railroad Club** is replacing mainline track to prepare for the 2014/2015 open houses. The club meets Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM in the basement of the Mills Pond House. The layout is 38'x48' and features 9 trains running at one time, a subway line, a circus, a haunted ghost town and plenty of cities and villages. Check it out. They are at the Mills Pond House, 660 Route 25A, Saint James, NY. Check <http://stjamesmodelrailroadclub.weebly.com/>



Steve Scagnelli of the **Trainmasters of Babylon** club invites you to visit their layout with a 4000 square foot Train room at 120 Schmitt Blvd. Farmingdale NY. Bench work and mainline track work is now complete. They have lots of wiring to do over the course of the summer and fall and the layout will be operable for the 2014/15 Open House season. The scenery committee has the landscape projects working. Check out the photo with the high trestle installed. Open House dates for the 2014/15 season are November 29th and 30th, December 13th and 14th, January 3rd and 4th and January 31st and February 1st. Show times are 12 Noon to 4 PM. The club's location is convenient to the LIE so come out and help with the layout, participate in the layout building as well as accumulating a bunch of friends who like you are into trains. Check TMB's website www.tmbmodeltrainclub.com

Central Operating Lines is progressing with their new layout at 50A Carlough Road in Bohemia NY, near the Long Island MacArthur airport. The club reports 4 mainlines are operational and work is now focused on scenery and details. Look at the Flatiron Building just erected and placed on the layout in downtown Check out that downtown scene on the right. An open house schedule is part of future planning but you can see these folks at their swap meets in Farmingville, starting October 5th .the largest show in Suffolk County. Be sure to check back on the COL website www.coltrains.com for more info and directions.



From Bob Trnka we hear that the **Nassau Lionel Operating Engineers** are diligently working on several projects. The final touches and adjustments to the track work and bridges are being done on the Great Gorge area. The urban city at the layout's south end is ongoing, several building and streets are in place and the platforms, supports and stairs for the depot are completed. In addition we have begun installation of a scale prototypically operating signal system. Our goal is to have everything completed for the 2015 TCA tour. Look to the first two weekends in December 5-7th and 12-14th, Fridays 8-10PM and weekends 1-4PM for the next shows. More info at the club website <http://nl oe.org/>

The Railroad Museum of Long Island has a complete schedule for their locations at Riverhead and Greenport NY. RMLI's annual Railfest will be held on August 23rd and 24th, 10am-5pm. There will be train layouts, Exhibits, the METCA table and train racing, plenty of food, music and fun. You can get there via the LIRR also. At 416 Griffing Avenue Riverhead, New York you can ride on the historic 1964 -1965 World's Fair LIRR Park Train, celebrating its 50th anniversary. The museum is open Saturdays and Sundays at 10AM through the summer. Check <http://www.rml i.us/RMLI/Welcome.html> for details.



Well that's the news from Long Island. See you here soon at our clubs.

For the first time in TCA history, the National Convention will be visiting the Big Apple. I want each and every member of METCA Division to consider yourself personally invited to attend the 2015 Convention in the New York metro area. This week long event will be unlike any other; there's a reason that New York City is one of the world's most popular destinations.

The first half of the week will consist of the "best of the best" trips and tours. During the week we'll have something for everyone; train related activities including a combination steam train and riverboat cruise, a tour of Grand Central Terminal, a trip to the TCA Headquarters, Museum, and Library in Strasburg PA and more; history related tours such as a visit to the home of FDR with lunch at the world-renowned Culinary Institute of America, a tour of Sleepy Hollow (yes, of headless horseman fame) and more; military themed tours such as West Point and the aircraft carrier Intrepid; science and technology related tours such as the Cradle of Aviation and the Thomas Alva Edison laboratory and more. Finally what trip to New York wouldn't be complete without the most famous NYC sights; a daytime ride on the Circle Line going completely around Manhattan, a visit to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, or an emotional visit to the 9/11 memorial and museum, and more.

In addition to trips and tours, the second half of the week will include the Welcome Party with a decidedly local "flavor", the sunset Dinner Cruise along the illuminated Manhattan nighttime skyline, home layout and collection visits (some world class and some more modest), and the concluding Banquet. Not to be left out is the trading hall swap meet. Here's your chance to find that item for your collection from a new/different set of vendors than you normally see at your local meets. We'll also have participation from some of the hobby's leading train manufacturers.

As we all know, the weather in the northeast is particularly nice in June. Although spring will be behind us, typically the hazy, hot and humid dog days of summer haven't begun yet. This really will be a once in a lifetime experience to have a TCA National Convention in such a location.

Be prepared to have the time of your life as you put yourself in a New York state of mind. I really hope that I do see you in June 2015. For further details and complete descriptions of every trip, tour and event, check out the new permanent TCA convention website at: www.TCAconvention.org



News from the 2014 Philadelphia Convention

I would just like to share with the group a few things about the convention in Cherry Hill. Although Renee and I were there only Friday and Saturday, we had a fantastic time. We made new acquaintances in TCA and share good times with our friends. The hotel was great, the rooms were nice, the food was good and they seemed very accommodating to the conventions needs.



I would also like to say the Atlantic Division did a great job with the convention. They put a lot of hard work and effort into this and it showed with positive results. Congrats on a great convention. Well done Atlantic Division.



As far as our METCA table was concerned, this was our best yet. A big thank you goes out to the convention staff for putting together a great table(s). We had a flat screen playing a CD about New York City. We had our banners hanging. We had tables of 2015 convention shirts and fundraiser cars being sold. We gave away 2015 convention decals, magnets and buttons promoting our turn at the big show.



We handed out flyers and information handouts about our tours for next year. We got excellent feedback from people saying how prepared we are and wanting to come to our 2015 convention. Again, an outstanding job by the convention staff who put this together and made it work. Thank you again for putting your time and efforts into the table to market our 2015 convention. I greatly appreciate it.

With that being said, now it is METCA's turn. We are one year away from putting on the big show for TCA. So if you are not motivated yet, now is the time. We need everybody to get involved. It's time to get all of our membership on board. It's time to get TCA members who dropped their MIG status back in the game. Just spending two days at the 2014 convention was more than enough time to motivate us to help put on the best TCA convention, yet, in 2015. Get involved. Be part of TCA's big show. You will make new friends, learn new things about trains, you will share good times with friends. You will be part of METCA history!

Again, great job by the Atlantic Division for a successful 2014 convention. An even better job (said with a bias) by our 2015 METCA convention staff for putting on an excellent marketing table. A great job done by all. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated. METCA division-
-"go ape in 2015, Kevin Quinn



A letter from our President

I hope the METCA BOD is as pleased with the effort of the Convention Committee as I am. Our first official promotional effort for the 2015 Convention took place at the 2014 Convention in Cherry Hill the last week of June. We had GREAT participation by a number of Convention Committee members and even non-committee members.

The vibe around the 2015 Convention was very, very positive. The biggest complaint we heard was that people want to visit all of our trip destinations instead of picking only 1 per day. That's a good problem (for us) to have.

Many people, even those at the National level, complimented us on how far along we are. They even said we're ahead of schedule. While that was nice to hear, the schedule is moving at a million miles an hour, so if we let up, we'll be behind before we know it. Being at the 2014 and seeing how well it ran, pointed out all the little details that we still need to address.

When you see these guys (and gals) please thank them for all their hard work. If it wasn't for them, there wouldn't be a convention.

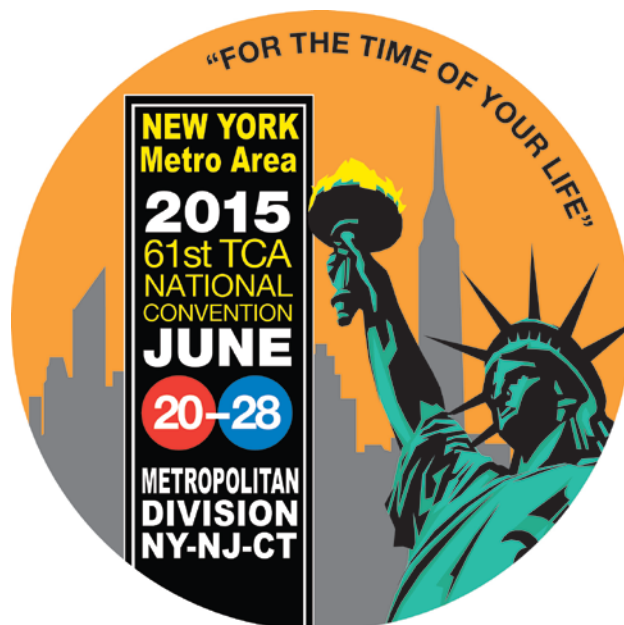
Tuesday of Convention Week started with Rick Tedesco helping me unload my pack-to-the-gills SUV and getting most of the Convention Store set up. While I was in meetings on Wed and Thurs, a number of the team pitched in to help out and then more showed up for Fri and Sat ... (in no particular order) Doug Schembs (I know Lois stopped by for a little also), Rich and Ellen Levow, Bernie and Marilyn Callen, Steve Musso, Kevin and Renee Quinn. [Convention Team, please point out if I missed anyone]

Our sales of merchandise seemed to do well (I'm still working on determining remaining inventory). People liked the convention logo (thanks Don and his daughter Linda Brill). While we had every size shirt imaginable, people still wanted different colors and/or wanted a pocket. Once I'm done with inventory, we'll see if we can address this, even if only to a limited extent.

People were so excited about everything to see and do in the New York area, there were a number that wanted to sign up and register on the spot. I have a feeling that this is going to be a great convention if we keep our noses to the grindstone.

Please join me in a heartfelt THANKS to the 2015 Convention Committee.

Stu





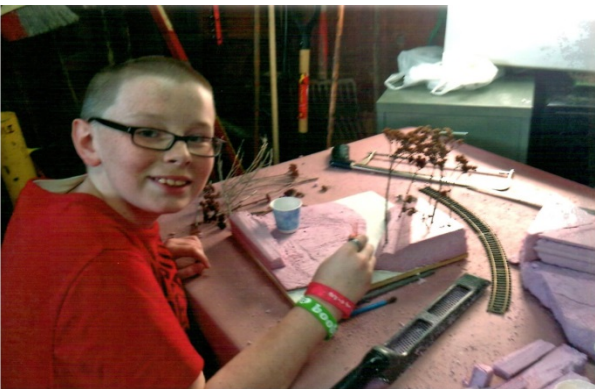
A Night at the Museum 2014 for John Alexander

By Ken Schaeffer TCA 12-67689

On Saturday, April 4, 2014, the Railroad Museum of Long Island and the Metropolitan Division of the Train Collectors Association partnered for its second annual “**Night at the Museum**” at Riverhead, New York. Parents and children attended the event to learn scenery building techniques from members of **METCA** and the **RMLI**. It was a fun event for all. Students turned foam boards, local vegetation, paint, artificial grass and tracks into colorful dioramas. They learned basic layout electricity and practiced how to solder wires.

As the session began, chatter informed us the participants were local residents who had previously visited the museum. One mother stated she was raised in Ronkonkoma, NY. Later, she said her residence was now Milton, PA, a small town about forty miles south of Scranton. We were surprised to have people five hours away at the workshop! She said since she lived in a small town, workshops such as this were not offered in her vicinity. Her search on “**Rail USA, New York Museums**” gave information about our “**Night at the Museum.**” Having longtime friends with whom she could stay, Debbie Strezenec and son John Alexander made the trip.

John Alexander hoped to learn how to complete the layout which occupies one quarter of his basement. He is a regular subscriber to “**Model Railroader**” magazine. Although there are many articles written about scenery, a hands-on experience gives him the confidence to start the process. His love of trains has brought him to **Steamtown National Historic Site**, a place he loves because steam is his favorite power source. He has also been to the “**Miniatur Wunderland**” in Hamburg, Germany. Thoughts of being able to duplicate scenery such as this are on his mind. He also wishes to visit the “**Durango and Silverton Railroad**” in Colorado because he has never ridden a narrow gauge railroad. Since he is off to an early start in the railroading hobby, it seems this energetic fifth grade student will fulfill his dreams.



Updates and information from METCA

METCA Secretary's mailing address is changing on September 20, 2014.

Please correct any files or envelopes that you have in your possession.

The new address is:
METCA Secretary
5 East Warwick Ct
Farmingdale NJ 07727

Note: This does not affect orders for Division Cars or Convention Merchandise.

Dues Reminder

Fall is here! It's time to check your METCA membership card for an expiration date. If your card has a 2015 or later date on it you are in good shape. Otherwise your dues are due by the end of 2014. Your Secretary would appreciate receiving your dues as early as possible; because I have volunteered to help the 2015 Convention Registration Committee which will get very busy on January 1st. If your card has a date of 2015 or later; **DO NOT DESTROY IT!!!** Your card is valid until the last day of the year printed on it. You can help METCA realize savings in printing and mailing costs by paying your dues ahead. Multi year cards are laminated. Dues are still \$5 per year and the paper Waybill is \$10 per year. E-Waybills are FREE!

E-Waybills now have extra content. This is the norm when there's more content than will fit on the number of pages that can be mailed at standard postage costs. In the future other special features may also be added to the E-Waybill. If you would like to receive the Waybill electronically, send your Email address to the METCA Secretary at secretary@metca.org. Don't forget to update your METCA and TCA personal information when you change your email, telephone or home address.

Payments should be made in check form payable to METCA and mailed to: METCA Secretary, 5 East Warwick Ct, Farmingdale, NJ 07727. Any questions may be directed to Bob Amling at secretary@metca.org or by phone 718-541-8619.



Let's face it – model railroading can be an expensive hobby! Keeping track of your trains isn't the most fun thing to do, but it is smart – both for you and your family.

Here are some tips to help you get organized. Rather than taking out a notepad and pencil, do yourself a favor and use your computer. Hey, it's what computers are good for! And rather than just opening a spreadsheet and starting to type, there is a new free web site just for this called DASH (www.Collector-ModelTrains.com).

Click to register for a free account. Then, click on the Catalog tab. You can click on the links to find your items, or you can search. (Hint: Try searching for manufacturer's model number first.) When you find an item you have, click Add to Collection. If you see an item you want, click Add to Wanted.

DASH records this info in your "My Collection" area (you'll see the tab for that too next to Catalog.)



*The Catalog has more than 90,000 model train items.
Find your item and click Add to Collection.
You can see that other people have or want your item.*

In the My Collection area, you can upload your own photos, put in the grade and condition of your item (new/used, C-7, scratched, etc.) as well as recording private info such as your cost. This is only the beginning of what you can do with your collection on DASH, but it is a good start. You can click on the Contact form on the site if you get stuck and you should look at the quick videos on the site too.

**Just for
Division Members!**

Included for free with your METCA membership is a free upgrade to DASH Club level. This gives you full access to the mobile apps in DASH, as well as waives Community fees and gives a discount to DASH's price guide. To get your free upgrade, go to:

Collector-ModelTrains.com/dash/METCA

I recently purchased a rather large train collection. While going through the collection I came across this hat. It is a Carhartt engineer's hat, nothing special except for the large sewn on material in the front. A large Lionel circle L with "Treasure House Garfield NJ" on the left and on the right "New Jersey's leading Lionel dealer". To me this is an incredible find. It's a fantastic piece of local train collecting history. Those of us collectors who live in Bergen county and northern NJ are familiar with Bill Vagel's Treasure House. Many people and collectors bought or had their trains repaired there. To quote the late Pat Scuorzo from a METCA waybill:

It was the "Madison Hardware", of New Jersey, so to speak. It was located, where else but in Garfield NJ. "Treasure House" was the place to go for trains, parts and repairs. It was also a Friday night meeting place for many members of METCA.

After Bill Vagel closed shop on Friday nights we gathered at a local pizza place. We talked about trains, what new items we picked up and so forth. Many of those who attended were Bill Vagel, Joe Ranker, Doc Robinson, Joe Francis, Matt King, Fred Weber, Jerry Van Dyke and I. On some of those Friday nights we had the presence of Mr. Lenny Dean, from Lionel. He would tell us about new items coming from Lionel, out of the Irvington, NJ plant. Some of those people are no longer with us today and I will always remember those Friday night get-togethers, with other collectors and friends."

On a more personal part of the Treasure House my Father (Ed) and Uncle Jerry took the bus as kids to Garfield to visit the great train store. My father, now 76, remembers walking into the store around 1950 and seeing display shelves on both walls and circle of track in the window. He also remembers the work counter on the right hand side of the store. My mothers' friend also married his son Bobby. I remember as a young boy Bobby having a Pepsi delivery truck with not just soda in it, but trains in it also. Bill Vagel and his Treasure House left his mark on many train collectors and operators. It doesn't take much to reminisce about good times. In this case all it took was a hat. If you have any stories or fond memories of the Treasure House and Bill lets hear them.



Abandoned in METCA

Hi MIGS! Here we are again, abandoned in METCA. I received a few emails from you folks regarding the last issue, I guess it was a little too easy; I'll just have to work harder!

So how about this one, any ideas?

