



President's Perspective

This has been my hardest column to write to date. There's so much going on at METCA, I don't know where to begin!

Your division leaders have been given the green light by TCA National to host the 2015 National Convention! We are already in discussion for a hotel (likely in the Meadowlands). Don Brill, whom many of you know as the host of the Dover, NJ Show, is our Convention Chairman. This is going to be a BIG deal, and Don sure can use your help! At this point, we're planning on at LEAST 2500 people to attend. We have events, side trips, transportation, schedule coordination, and a hundred other things with which YOU can help. Many hands make light work, and while YOU may think you can't do much, what you CAN do will be appreciated! Talk to Don through the METCA website, www.metca.org

We have our BRAND NEW, METCA 2010 fundraising car! If you haven't seen this one already, take a look in this issue of the Waybill... it's awesome! We've been forced to raise our price, but only by five dollars; still one of the BEST fundraising values out there. And this run, like the previous ones, is strictly limited to 500 pieces. We're beginning to wind down this series of cars, so if you've already helped by purchasing the first three, make SURE your collection is complete... and THANK YOU!

We've recently held our division elections. Mario Ciliotta was our Election Committee Chairman this year, and there are going to be some changes on the Board of Directors. Check out the new BOD elsewhere in this issue. While the voter turnout was light, we thank everyone who participated. One of the big changes is the departure of our Vice President, John Bernich. John has chosen to step down at this time; but it was he who was instrumental in taking the reins of the division when it needed leadership in early 2007. His humor will be missed at our BOD meetings, but we look forward to his continued friendship and participation as our Advertising Committee Chairman.

Due to changes in his outside commitments and obligations, Kevin Quinn is stepping down as our Garfield Show Chairman. Kevin's worked hard to get the ball rolling there, and we sure hate to lose his leadership. He chairs his last show for us in January, so METCA is looking for someone to step up and take his place; but our next Garfield Show Chairman won't be going it alone~ Kevin will be there to help guide the way. Contact him through our website, www.metca.org if you'd like to head up the biggest TCA show in northern NJ!

Our Howard Beach show continues to grow as well. This past show was the best yet, and Show Chairman (and newly elected METCA Secretary) Bob Amling has a great report for you inside this issue.

AND METCA's 50th anniversary is right around the corner! We want to plan a few special celebrations and observations for 2011, so NOW is the time to come forward with YOUR ideas!

I look forward to YOUR participation in 2010~ and beyond! See you at the shows!.

AND~ from our home to yours~ A Merry Christmas & happy holiday, with peace and prosperity to all in the New Year!

Scot Kienzlen

Editor's Notes

As another year comes to end, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to help the "Waybill" grow; by submitting an article, or sending in emails with suggestions and comments.

As 2010 approaches, there are lots of changes coming to METCA. We have elected new officials, we are looking to increase the numbers of shows we do and the biggest of all - METCA will host the 2015 National Convention. None of this is possible of course, without the members who volunteer their time and energy. It will take lots of volunteers to make the 2015 convention a reality, so why not volunteer to assist in any way you can. If you cannot volunteer, how about submitting an article for publication in the "Waybill" - we are always looking for new authors.

We will be adding some new sections to the "Waybill", including a classified section for members. We will also be publishing articles about member's layouts and/or interesting pieces in their collection. We will have two layouts featured in this issue. If you would like contribute an article about your layout or an interesting piece in your collection, just drop me an email at newsletter_editor@metca.org

Mario Ciliotta

METCA 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."



These new TCA members' names have appeared in the *“National Headquarters News”* since our last Waybill. If they live in a town near you, why not call them and welcome them to the TCA and METCA!

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Join the METCA Online Discussion Group

To sign up, visit:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/metca/>

Let's hear your thoughts. Get the up to the minute latest news as it happens.

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In Memory of Paul Doyle

By John Bernich TCA 89-28368

It was at a September show that I heard of Paul's passing and I was deeply moved. Our hobby has lost a great man. You see, if you knew Paul, you knew of his great knowledge of tin plate toy trains – domestic and foreign. If you were to ask Paul a question, he usually had all the information at his fingertips and he would always share his knowledge with anyone. How many times I would go to his table at a show and find him surrounded by people discussing their finds and sharing stories with him. Paul always had time to talk to me and anyone else who approached him.

Paul wrote the Hafner section of the Greenberg book – “Early American Toy Trains”. When I purchased the book, I had him autograph it because I knew he was someone special. There are so many personal things that I do not know about the man so for the future I invite anyone to share their thoughts of Paul in future issues of the “Waybill”. I would love to read about his legacy, just as I loved talking to him.

He was a very special colleague and friend and he will be missed.

Yours truly,
John Bernich
Vice President, METCA

My 9 X 6 Layout

By Bill Osbun TCA 08-62653

Merry Christmas and Seasons Greetings to All. May you and your families find happiness and peace this holiday season. Growin up I always had a train around the tree - be it N scale, HO, Garden and now O 3 Rail. It was always a family affair starting on Thanksgiving and going right up to Christmas, setting up our holiday train display. When I got married my wife took an instant liking to the trains and became my partner in making up the display. When our two daughters came along they got involved. When they were a little older they would add their toys, stuffed animals, Barbie Dolls and accessories, army guys - you name it and it found it's way onto the display. We loved the whole process of designing a new display. My wife became a big collector of Dept 56. She had to pick and choose which buildings to set up as she had too many to display. The trains would run every night to the delight of our friends, relatives, neighbors and their children. Many a night those trains ran to midnight and beyond. The whistle would drown out Johnny Carson! Then It all had to come down and be packed away. How depressing. No trains until next Christmas. How I missed them! One year the Christmas tree and display didn't come down till March.



Five years ago I finished the basement and had enough room for a 9 x 16 foot layout. It is made in sections that bolt together for easy set up and dismantling. It's big enough to run some long trains without having the engine chase the caboose and it also displays everyone of my wife's Dept 56 collection! The following March I was going to take the layout down when my wife came down stairs and asked what I was doing. I told her Christmas was over a few months ago and I was going to start taking down the layout. No No No was her reply! This was the first time that she could bring out all of her Department 56 buildings and figures to display - this wasn't coming down any time soon! And it wasn't in the way of anything!

The layout is 4 ft up off of the floor and has 4 independent loops, 3 on the main level and 1 loop crossing above the other 3. The basement lights are on a dimmer so to dim down the lights and see all the lighted buildings and accessories along with the loco head lights and passenger car lights making their way around the layout. Kids love the horn and whistle buttons. I'm amazed the transformer buttons still work after all these years! I hope you get as much enjoyment from your trains as I do. I hope that you also share your train layout with others. Trains make children happy and make adults children again. Me - I never grew up. And I still believe!



METCA Train Show

Sunday, January 10, 2010

Highballing into the future by honoring our past

Garfield Boys' and Girls Club

490 Midland Ave, Garfield, New Jersey

METCA/TCA members admitted at 8 AM ~ General Public at 9AM ~ Show Runs until 2 PM

All table holders must be TCA members, no exceptions. Pre-registration (non-refundable fee) received 10 days prior to the show with S.S.A.E. will be mailed out; all other tags will be available the day of the show. Reserved tables held until 9AM only. Table holders admitted at 7:00 AM for set-up. **Please bring your own handcarts.** (Limited quantity available at Boys Club)

We invite TCA members to stay for the METCA business meeting immediately following the show!

Get all the latest METCA info by visiting the website www.metca.org

New Vendors! Door prizes! New Friends! Great trains!
Come see our popular INTERACTIVE display layout!



Present this flyer at the door to receive \$1 off Adult Admission (kids under 16 Free, Adults \$4.00)



Directions to the Garfield Boy's Club: PARKWAY SOUTH TO EXIT 159. BERGEN TOLL PLAZA. STAY TO YOUR RIGHT FOLLOW EXIT FOR NORTH MIDLAND AVE SADDLE BROOK. STAY ON NORTH MIDLAND AVE GOING SOUTH 2 MILES . BOYS CLUB ON LEFT.

GARDEN STATE PARKWAY NORTH TO EXIT 157 RT 46 EAST TO OUTWATER LANE. TOP OF RAMP MAKE RIGHT. GO 1 LIGHT MAKE LEFT ONTO MIDLAND AVE. BOYS CLUB ON LEFT.

RT 80 WEST TO EXIT 62 MIDLAND AVE. SADDLE BROOK FOLLOW SIGNS AROUND TO THE RIGHT FOR MIDLAND AVE. SADDLE BROOK ONTO PHELE AVE. AT LIGHT MAKE RIGHT. GO 1 BLOCK MAKE LEFT ONTO MIDLAND AVE. TAKE MIDLAND AVE 2 MILES TO GARFIELD BOYS CLUB ON LEFT SIDE

- Please reserve _____ table's at the Oct 11th Show @ \$20.00 ea. \$ _____
- YES! I want to GET A 4th Table for FREE!!
- I am a METCA Division member! My dues are current! Admission is FREE!!! \$ 0.00 -----
- Please allow _____ Adult (age 16+) Admission fee(s) @ \$4.00 each \$ _____
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Name: _____ Phone(_____) _____

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Complete this **PRE ~ REGISTRATION** coupon and return with check and S.S.A.E. to:

METCA Show, c/o Kevin Quinn, 25 Lincoln Ave Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

Or call (201) 712-9481 for additional Information

Standards Statement: I agree to comply with all of the rules and regulations of the Train Collector's Association (TCA) and its Divisions and Chapters in effect from time to time, specifically including all the rules and regulations of all TCA committees and any actions and rulings of all TCA Committees. I also agree that all items sold by me to any TCA member or at any TCA sponsored meet shall be sold on the basis that I represent all such items are authentic and in the manufacturer's original condition unless I have caused item to be appropriately marked as a restoration or reproduction.

Long Islands Sounds

Larry Laskowski – TCA #91-33858

“The Long Island Club Scene Winter 2009-2010”

As the Holiday season approaches, our thoughts turn to trains and all the great layouts we have seen over the years. The layouts at the Lionel and American Flyer showrooms in Manhattan, Macy’s Herald Square and the Scale O Gauge layout in the Lackawanna’s Ferry Terminal are but memories to us. But there are many club layouts in our areas that have great layouts and are in full open house season. So here is what is going on at a few on Long Island.

Central Operating Lines had a full schedule during the thanksgiving weekend, and second weekend in December. In January the hours are from 12Noon to 5Pm on the show days. Easy to get to off the Long Island Expressway at exit 60. See the website, <http://www.trainweb.org/centoplines/> for complete information.

Trainmasters of Babylon has done a lot of work on their layout. It features wide mainline curves, stations and a subway/El route. Great to see. They are located on Route 109 on the way to Babylon. They had a full show schedule on November 7-8, 28-29th, and December 12-13. Check their website for dates in January. Their hours are 12-4pm on show dates. Complete info is on their website at <http://www.tmbmodeltrainclub.com/>.

The Nassau Lionel Operating Engineers have a new layout which is progressing rapidly. If you have not seen this layout for at least a year, you will be surprised by the progress they have made. Did you see them at their annual show, on December4-5-6 or on December 11-12-13? It was great!! Check their website for information about club nights and pay them a visit!. They are on Hempstead Turnpike, just east of the Wantagh Parkway. See their Website, <http://www.nloe.org/> for directions and complete info.

And if that isn’t enough to tempt you, here is one that surely will get you out east. Martha Clara Vineyards is hosting a model train event at the winery and tasting room during the 5 weekends in January. So you can squeeze them in between New Years and the Super bowl. At the moment, Central Operating Lines, Trainmasters of Babylon, Nassau Lionel Operating Lines, Long Island Toy Train Locomotive Engineers and Sunrise Trail will have operating exhibits and/or modular layouts for your viewing pleasure. So enjoy seeing your favorite train running on the layouts while sipping on a great Chardonnay. Hours are 12-5 pm on show dates. The Railroad Museum of Long Island is nearby as well. There are many fine restaurants open all year round out east now so you can make a day of it. Martha Clara is at 6025 Sound Avenue in Riverhead. Visit Martha Clara on the web <http://www.marthaclaravineyards.com/> for complete info and directions

Well that’s it METCA’ers. Hope to see you this winter at one of our great train shows.

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Member Layout – Sam Deo “Prewar With a Modern Flare”

Several years ago I decided to replace my postwar collection with prewar trains. I've always liked the look of the prewar models with their bright brass and chrome piping and vibrant colors. When my wife Donna and I bought our house, my goal was to build a simple layout that allowed me to run and showcase my trains while keeping within a limited size space. The layout itself is 5'x 13' in an offset dog bone shape. I'm running 4 main-lines, two freight on the lower level and two passenger lines up top.

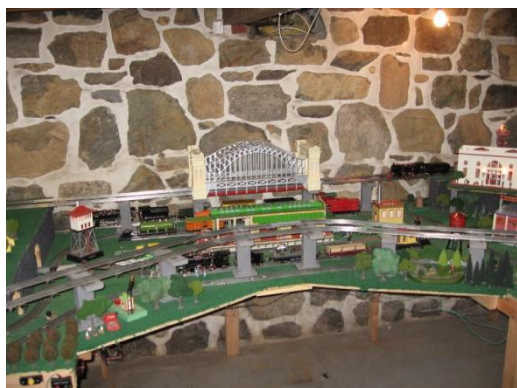


All my locos are modern reproductions, mostly made by MTH. I think it's great that I can combine the look of prewar tinsplate with the modern functions of today's models with smoke and digital sound; it's the best of both worlds in my opinion. My locomotives are a MTH 260, MTH 259, complete MTH 1694 Ives set and a Lionel Classic 44 set. All but the Lionel are contemporary versions. My buildings are a mix of original Marx and Lionel as well as modern reproductions from MTH and new pieces like the Lionel Factory.



For the most part, my layout construction, design and scenery are basic. The entire layout is covered in indoor/outdoor carpet, green was used for grass and grey represents rocks. The trestles for the second level are pieces of 2"x3" capped with 1"x3" and painted primer grey for a simple concrete look. For power I'm running 2 MTH 4000's and have the optional remote control readily available if I decide to wander around the layout.

Recently I've been adding a few animated accessories. Even though they don't exactly fit the prewar era they still look right at home on my table. I'm also populating my layout with figures and trees to add a little more life and depth. I plan to add some more figures and trees in the near future and I plan on building a glass roof canopy near my passenger station loosely based on the original Ives platform.



All in all, I think my layout has a good mix of original prewar pieces and reproductions as well as modern pieces that reflect the tinsplate style of the 20's and 30's. I'm still busy looking for new pieces to add to my set and I hope to expand the layout with a Leland monorail sometime in the near future. Until then I'll continue to enjoy one of the world's greatest hobbies.

*Largest TCA Show in the Metropolitan, NY Area!!!!
Now 100 Tables!*



METCA Train Show

Saturday Feb 13, 2010

St. Helen's Church Hall

8309 157th Avenue Howard Beach, NY 11414-2625

FREE admission for TCA members with a valid METCA membership card!!!!

METCA/TCA members admitted at 8 AM ~ General Public at 9AM – 3PM

All table holders must be TCA members, no exceptions. Pre-registration (non-refundable fee) received 10 days prior to the show with S.S.A.E. will be mailed out; all other tags will be available the day of the show. Reserved tables held until 9AM.

Table holders admitted at 6:00 AM for set-up.

**TROPHIES! Locomotive Drag Races are for kids 5 – 15 years old TROPHIES!
FREE SIGNUP! Bring your favorite engine or use ours!
3 Operating Layouts << N - 0 – Standard >>**

Future Show Dates:	Garfield, NJ Sunday, January 10, 2010 Kevin Quinn at (201) 321-6619 for info
NOTICE:	Howard Beach, NY Saturday, February 13, 2010 Bob Amling at (718) 541-8619 for info
	Garfield, NJ Sunday, October 10, 2010 Kevin Quinn at (201) 321-6619 for info
	Howard Beach, NY Saturday November 20, 2010 Bob Amling at (718) 541-8619 for info

DIRECTIONS: East Bound Belt Parkway Exit 17 - Take exit 17 toward Cross Bay Blvd/Woodhaven/Rockaways. Turn right at Cross Bay Blvd -proceed 2 blocks to 157 Av. Make right on to 157 Av. Proceed to 83-09 157 Av. Hall is on corner of 157th and 84th St. Westbound BP use 17S, Rockaways follow Cross Bay Blvd S. as above.

Table Reservations PLEASE NOTE THE REDUCED PRICES! WE SAVE SO YOU SAVE!

Please reserve _____ 8' table's at the February 13th Show @ **\$20.00** ea (admission included). \$_____

YES! I want to GET A 4th 8' Table for FREE!

Total of Check or Money Order: **Payable to METCA** \$_____

Name: _____ Phone(_____)_____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Complete this PRE ~ REGISTRATION coupon and return with check and L.S.S.A.E. to:

METCA Show, c/o Bob Amling 2023 Coyle Street, Brooklyn, NY 11229-4013 nyshows@metca.org 718-541-8619

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Bring this Flyer for \$1.00 Off \$4 Admission



“The Lionel Display Layout, an Update”

by Larry Laskowski – TCA #91-33858

Earlier this year, we saw the news that Lionel LLC had graciously donated the Visitors Center layout from Chesterfield Michigan to the Railroad Museum of Long Island. I had subsequently reported in detail, the work of the Museum’s member volunteers to disassemble and move this layout last spring from Michigan to New York, a considerable undertaking. I am happy to report that the folks at the Museum have been working diligently to prepare the new home for this magnificent layout so that once again, the layout will be open to visitors and train enthusiasts of all ages and from all parts of the world.

The Museum is renovating what is referred to as the Freeman Building in the Museum’s Riverhead location to house this 14 feet by 40 feet display layout which can operate up to ten trains. The layout was constructed to emulate the original Lionel display layouts once located at the Lionel Corporation’s original headquarters at 15 East 26th Street, across from Madison Square Park in New York City. I know that some of you may have a nostalgic moment recalling your visits to the Showroom, viewing all the new Lionels in operation and getting the latest Lionel catalog to dream on.



The Museum is planning to make this possible once again for you in 2010. To date, volunteers have removed all the Steam Engine Parts that were once stored in this building. The old wall coverings and insulation were removed in preparation for new stud walls and sheetrock. New exit doors have been added and the Museum's volunteer architect is spearheading the effort to obtain the appropriate permits from authorities. These folks are looking forward to getting started with the construction and ultimately, reassembling the layout and operating trains on it once again for us.



Photos of the building cleanout will give you an idea of how the work is progressing. I will be updating progress in future editions of the “Waybill”. Needless to say, a work and undertaking of this nature is a large task. The folks at the museum could sure use your help. If you are interested in participating in this project, why not contact the folks at the museum and volunteer your time to help out. You may become a member of the Museum if you prefer. You may contact the Railroad Museum of Long Island at info@rmli.us or Mr. George Faeth at sea139@optonline.net. These folks will appreciate your help. Come be part of an extraordinary event to bring the magic of Toy Train History back to New York’s Metropolitan area and our METCA region

The January 10th show in Garfield, New Jersey is just a month away.

Table registrations are coming in early so please reserve your tables now. Buy 3 tables at \$20.00 each and get the 4th free.

Speaking of free, all METCA migs get free admission to the show.

Scheduled for the January 10th show is author Jim Schmitt. He will sell signed copies of his new book about the NYS&W RR

Also scheduled is the debut of the METCA Operating Module Layout and last but not least the

GARDEN RAILROADERS of NORTHERN NJ will set up their G scale loops. Some manufactures like Aristo Craft and Delux Innovations will have products on display. Volunteers are always welcome in helping out with the show.

For more info on future shows visit <http://www.metca.org> and look at ‘Shows and Events’.

If you have any questions, please call me at (201) 712-9481 or email at kquinn@njtransit.com.

Kevin Quinn

Show chairman

METCA's OCTOBER GARFIELD SHOW..... SWEET

by Kevin Quinn – TCA #98-47167

If you had a taste for sugar Metca's October show was the place to be. Not only were the trains hitting that sweet spot. Metca heightened the sugary experience with a little early Halloween motif courtesy of Metca member Grace Grootenboer. Dealer's tables were covered in black and orange table covering with bowls of candy. That's right every table holder had a bowl of candy mixed in with their trains. We are just happy that there were more trains than candy. Once again our table holders dazzled us with delectable looking trains of all sizes, shapes, gauges and ages. The show had something to satisfy everybody's sweet tooth.



On behalf of Metca I would like to thank all of our candy coated dealers and table holders who showed their support for Metca. Also I would like to thank Metca members Frank Duke, Joe Mania and Bob Dobrowolski for bringing their sacchariferous layouts. Metca is also very fortunate to have some train manufactures attend and show off their products. John Mikesh from Aristocraft, Joe Mania of JLM Trains and Dave Ferrari of Deluxe Inovations. Thank you for attending. All three NJ companies are in the Metca boundaries. The combination of our table holders and our loyal patronage made another Garfield show successful. I would like to acknowledge the great support from the Garfield Boys & Girls Club and Lana from the Garfield Coaches Assoc. Metca appreciates their support for the show. Any member wishing to get involved and volunteer to help with our shows, please feel free to contact me. Once again I would like to thank all who attended and participated in the show.

Hope to see you at our upcoming shows

Kevin Quinn
Garfield Show Chairman

2010 – 2011 METCA Election Update

As you have probably have guessed, the 2010-2011 METCA Election has come to an end. It was my pleasure to serve as your Election Chairman and I would hope that another would volunteer to be Chairman for the next election.

I would like to thank everyone who ran for a position, everyone who worked with me on the election committee and especially everyone who mailed in their vote.

The results are as follows:

President: Scot Kienzlen
Vice President: Stu Rankin
Secretary: Bob Amling
Treasurer: Sam Deo

Board of Directors

Don Brill
Rem Hunnewell
Kevin Quinn
Pat Scuzo

I would like to wish our newly elected officers and board members, all the best of luck and success for their plans for METCA for the year ahead.

Mario Ciliotta
Election Chairman

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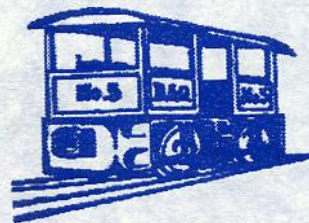


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Howard Beach Show November 21, 2009

Bob Amling 80-15029

The Howard Beach show was once again sold out! We had three operating layout and the Drag Races in addition to the sellers tables. Bert Schuck provided the Standard Gauge layout that measured approximately 4' x 15'. Bert delighted children and adults alike with vintage trains and trolleys [Photo 1].



Ken Morgan brought along a Standard Gauge set to run. The Standard Gauge layout incorporated a Burplasma Tunnel, shown in [Photo 2] and a Hellgate Bridge. Also seen in [Photo 2] is Steve Musso's O Gauge layout. Steve is seen demonstrating DCS to John Belpanno. Steve responded with his TMCC/DCS demonstrator layout when we realized that the METCA Modules were not ready for primetime due to family and work commitments. Brooklyn NTrak provided the third layout. They were shortchanged on space to allow room for vendors. The NTrak layout is pictured in [Photo 3].

The METCA Drag Races were a big hit once again as the kids competed for ribbons and trophies. The Drag Race team consists of Mark Ranzie, his wife Michelle and their children Amanda and Nick. Mark's friend Dan Trembinski helps Mark with the track setup. In [Photo 4] two of the racers display their steeds. In [Photo 5] we see the 1st and 2nd place winners of the 1st heat. Photos 6 displays the ribbons and trophy that are competed for throughout the show.



The Grand Trophy Winner and his runner up are pictured with Bob Amling, METCA NY Show Chairman in [Photo 7] after a long day of racing.

Kevin Quinn, METCA NJ Show Chairman paid us a visit and enjoyed the show. John and Mario play a big part in setting up the show the night before and then spend most of the day manning the gate. What a team!

Bob studies his price list looking for prices to cut [photo 8]. Bob also provided invaluable help with the show setup Friday night.



The Train Doctor was on hand answer questions and make repairs.

Our host, The St. Helen's HNS were a little camera shy at this show; they provide a tremendous amount of help during show setup and take down. As always Sal's kitchen turned out the best breakfast sandwiches, sausage 'n peppers, chilli, hotdogs, and pastry of any train show.

Come on out to the next Howard Beach show on February 13; and see for yourself what a great show it is! The coffee is on me!

BEHIND THE SCENES
THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 2009 LIONEL STORE AT ROCKEFELLER CENTER
BY STUART RANKIN, 87-25191

In mid-October 2009, Lionel announced that they would be opening a retail store in New York City at the Rockefeller Center complex from November 1, 2009 through January 5, 2010. They even established a website for the store, www.LionelNewYork.com. Through the great working relationship that your METCA Officers have with Lionel (the author would like to specifically thank Tom Nuzzo, Lionel's Events Manager), we were granted access to the store while it was being set-up on October 27, 2008. For more info on Tom Nuzzo, see the *Sidebar* later in this article.

Many of you may have visited the store yourself or seen photos of the completed store on the various model train websites. However, no one has seen photos of how the store was put together. Through an agreement with Lionel, we are proud to present to you, our METCA Members, an EXCLUSIVE look at how TW TrainWorx can transform a vacant New York City storefront into the first ever Lionel Store (and in record time, no less).

As they say, a picture is worth a thousand words, so instead of trying to describe how the store was created, I've compiled this photo-essay that should tell the story. ENJOY!!!



The view of the outside of the Lionel Store. There is no indication of the magic that this happening inside. Note the reflection in the windows of Radio City Music Hall which is right across the street.



When the store opened, these large windows allowed passers-by to see the operating layout in the window. Who is that guy under the layout? See the *Sidebar* later in the article.



The cash register area was a temporary workbench.



Joe Fea on the left. Roger in center. Tom on right.



Lionel Electric Trains in NEON. WOW!!!



Empty display cases soon to be filled with goodies.

Continued on the next page.



The large banner begins to unroll. What excitement.



Joe, Roger Farkash, and William Finkel stand back to admire the work of Roger and TW TrainWorx.



Hey, wait a minute, the banner is too long. That's OK, it's nothing that a sharp utility knife can't fix. Nobody will ever know. It turned out PERFECT.



The completed store after it opened. METCA Member Erol Gurcan discusses the finer points of Lionel Trains with the very friendly and knowledgeable store staff.

SIDEBAR - LIONEL'S TOM NUZZO



The photo to the left shows Lionel's Tom Nuzzo hard at work. Tom plays with (umm, I mean, works with) more trains than most of us can imagine. As Events Manager, Tom is responsible for maintaining approximately 50 independent loops of track on layouts displayed throughout the METCA region. Grand Central Terminal, FAO Schwartz, Macys, Newark's Gateway Center, the Lionel Store (and others)... Tom is responsible for keeping them all in top operating condition. He does that very well.