

METCA WAYBILL



January- March 2010

Metropolitan Division – Train Collectors Association



Standard Gauge
comes to GARFIELD!

Show Registration
Forms INSIDE!

Collector's Corner:
A little to the left
A little to the right

Long Island Sounds~
our newest columnist!

Who is METCA's Member of the Year?

Metropolitan Division Waybill

Train Collector's Association
Vol. 33 Issue 1
January-March, 2010



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TCA MISSION STATEMENT

To develop an appreciation of and to preserve an important segment of history~ Tinsplate 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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www.METCA.org

Discussion
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/METCA/>

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Train Collector's Association Application
<http://www.tcamembers.org/membership/application.pdf>

Metropolitan Division (METCA) Application
http://www.metca.org/html_files/metca_application_2010.pdf

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TCA National Website
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The views expressed by the contributors to this publication are their own and not necessarily those of the Waybill editor, METCA or the Train Collectors Association.

Inside This Issue:

We are thrilled to bring you this latest incarnation of your METCA Division Waybill. It is jam-packed with all sorts of fun and educational (is that a dirty word?) stuff, and we'll continue to make changes as time goes on. In addition to the usual show forms and reports, we're pleased that Stu Rankin has an article about surprising variations in a common gondola .

As you thumb thru the Waybill, take a look at some of the shorter items. Take a look at the new members' names; you never know if one just might be a neighbor or friend!

Don Brill has once again taken charge of the upcoming METCA Mini Meet. This has always been fun at the Clinton Diner in NJ~ look for the pre-registration form and join us in August. Larry Leskowski has a very informative "Long Island Sounds" column. Welcome our newest columnist and see what's going on there!

And, while we won't do this every year, we are honoring one of our METCA MIGS (Member In Good Standing) with a Member Of The Year Award. Be sure to read about this great volunteer.

One of the highlights of our January Garfield show was the introduction of an operating Standard Gauge layout. Sam Deo and Scot Kienzlen put together an impressive, 3-loop display that ran during the entire show! Take a look, and watch for this layout at future shows!

So sit back, get comfortable, and take your time with YOUR new Waybill~ it's one of the many benefits of your METCA membership; yes, YOU'RE one of our METCA MIGS! So if YOU have an idea for a Waybill article, contact me at newsletter_editor@metca.org

And coming in the next Waybill:

So you want a train show in your own backyard

We'll give you the lowdown on how to startup

We unveil our 2015 TCA Convention logo

Great colors with a "Metropolitan" flavor!

What's up with the METCA website?

METCA's IT guy Mario Cilliotta gives you the scoop

What is the Open Door?

METCA gets involved!

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On the Cover:

Could it be? A previously unpublished photo from the archives of Joshua Lionel Cowen's personal family collection? No, it's not Lawrence in the 30's. It's one of half a dozen or so kids who had a great time at our Garfield, NJ show in January with our Standard Gauge display. Surrounded by trains (literally), family and friends.... Does it get any better than that?



October 10, 2010 GARFIELD NJ SHOW

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----- cut here and send in -----

January, 2010 Garfield Show Report

~ by Kevin Quinn

As the Garfield Show Chairman I am pleased to report that the Garfield show was another METCA success. The reason for that success? YOU! Yes, you, the loyal METCA and TCA members that support the show, either by taking a table or two or by coming out and taking the time to visit those people who have things they'd like you to buy. I am going to list some of those members later because they deserve to be recognized for their support to the division.

After the final counts were tallied we had just over 250 people come through the door. (Editor's note: this is substantially higher than when we started the Garfield show just 2 years ago!) The show had 22 dealers spread out over 56 tables and three manufacturers from the METCA territory display their products. Representing **JLM Trains** was Joe Mania; **AristoCraft's** John Mikesh was on hand; and Rob Pisani was there for **Atlas!** Thanks to them for attending and showing support.



One of the highlights of the show was a Standard Gauge floor layout provided by Scot Kienzlen and Sam Deo. Three loops on an 8x16 carpet were a

big hit with the kids (young and old). Thanks guys. I have to say since being involved with METCA and going to different shows, this show in particular was just plain fun. There was a lot of laughing and joking around with friends. There were smiles and happy faces; an all-around great METCA camaraderie. And of course, the food was terrific!



This being my last show as Chairman, I would like to thank a bunch of people who had helped me along the way. As always, the **GARFIELD BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB & THE GARFIELD COACHES ASSOCIATION** was very supportive of the show right from the start. A big thank you to both organizations. Bob Amling, Rem Hunnewell (Train Doctor), Scot Kienzlen, Grace Grootenboer & John Bernich for their help and guidance.

Even a partial list of members and dealers who have helped make the show a success for the division is long: Bob Amling, Rem Hunnewell (Train Doctor), Joe Mania, Grace Grootenboer, Bob Dobrowolski, Tom Blasi, Ed Ferrera, Norbert Hornstein, John Lomio, John Bernich, Stan Ozga, Tony Dudynski, Wayne Mahalick, Mike Marotta, Sam Constan, Steve Siniawa, John Zieleniewski, Frank Duke, John Mikesh, Gary Drolshagen, Ike Shalom, Pat Scuorzo, Paul DiNatale, Rich Sapelli, Al Spero, Don Brill. **Thank you all!**



In closing, I'd just like to say it was a pleasure to serve as the chairman of the Garfield Show. While serving in this capacity I have made new friends

and have learned more about the hobby I enjoy so much. I wish the new Chairman and METCA much success with future shows at Garfield. **Our next show at Garfield is on October 10.** See ya around!

WELCOME NEW TCA MEMBERS!

If these new TCA members live near you, why not give them a call and welcome them to METCA!

- Shahlan Aldabagh, Branchburg, NJ 908-253-8113
- Stanley J. Geyer, Medford, NY 631-289-3487
- Robert Holowach, Blauvelt, NY 845-365-0228
- Aidan M. McCormack, Port Washington, NY (unlisted)
- Robert J. Messina, Staten Island, NY 718-983-6549
- Rosemary Rehus, Glen Ridge, NJ 973-748-0848
- Michael G. D'Amico, Bernardsville, NJ 908-204-1928
- Jack Bartman, Walden, NY 845-778-0415
- John R. Castagna, New Hyde Park, NY 516-746-0692
- Michael G. D'Amico, Bernardsville, NJ 908-204-1928



President's Perspective

As we yet again shift the look of the Waybill (remember, we've gone from a few random individual pages to an actual newsletter to black and white photos to color pages, and now easing into a magazine-style format), your BOD begins to wrestle with budgetary concerns. We realize we've gotten a really good 'jump start' with our division cars; and the growing number of METCA MIGS has increased the dues-paying members base. THANK YOU!

We've taken that funding and purchased a division-owned computer and related software to help us more efficiently and effectively serve all our members. We've created an online presence on several levels, and we've embarked on a new-look website. We've been able to provide member perks such as free coffee at our shows, and Anderson connectors for our Module Group members. And, we've been able to produce some great new issues of the Waybill four times per year, including two, 12-page full color issues.

But, as many of you know, the METCA Division Car series was always designed as a short-run series. That series ends with our next car, which will debut as our 2011 car later this year. So~ without the money generated from those, where does the division go from here? We have some ideas, but the answer to that lies largely with you, the METCA Division member.

We can start with the Waybill. We've set it up as a pretty sharp, eight page affair published four times annually, and your annual \$5.00 dues payments generally cover it. Your division's newsletter is recognized in TCA as one of the best. We like the idea of color, and we bet you do too. However, color printing is substantially more expensive than B&W.

Therefore, we're asking~ are you (or do you know) a printer who would be willing to help your METCA Division (a non-profit, 501 c-3 organization) with the printing costs? If so, please contact me.

As the year goes on, I'll touch on other "real world" concerns as we work together to make our METCA Division in TCA one of which to be proud. In the meantime, enjoy your trains, enjoy your train friends, and talk to folks about ALL the different aspects of this hobby. Let them know you're proud to be part of METCA; and that you'd like THEM to feel that pride, too!

We can't do it without YOU!

~ Scot Kienzlen

OUR NEXT METCA EVENT!

JOIN US FOR GREAT FUN AND GREAT FOOD!

-----cut off and send in-----



METCA'S THIRD ANNUAL MINI MEET
SPACE Reservations ONLY!
OUTDOOR EVENT AT CLINTON DINER, Saturday August 21, 2010



Please reserve ____ 10'x10' space(s) at the **AUGUST 21, 2010 CLINTON DINER MINI MEET @ \$10.00** each \$ _____

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Email Address _____ TCA# (required) _____

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METCA MINI MEET c/o Don Brill, 39 Sixth St. Dover, NJ 07801 (973) 361-0723**

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METCA Member of The Year

While the Member Of The Year award is not an annual event for METCA, there is one individual your Board of Directors would like to recognize for his outstanding efforts and dedication to help make the METCA Division one of the fastest growing divisions in all of TCA.

We met **Bob Amling** back in 2007, when we had our first METCA Meet'n'Greet at Nassau Hobbies on Long Island. After sizing us up for awhile (he had to make sure we were legit), Bob approached Scot Kienzlen and quietly said, "I have a venue for a train show. It's yours if you want it." Well, we jumped at the chance, Bob volunteered to be the show chairman, and immediately started making plans for METCA's first-ever show east of the Hudson River.

We can tell you, Bob dug in! With his ideas and enthusiasm, he quickly became part of the motivated group to build METCA. In each of his first three shows, Bob had to move the venue to a larger and larger location! We're now at St. Helen's church in Howard Beach, with two floors available to us. He's encouraged the very popular train drag races for kids, complete now with trophies! Participation from vendors, TCA membership and the public continues to grow at the shows; but Bob hasn't stopped there. He's been Rem Hunnewell's right-hand man over the past 2 years as we developed MemberTies and other electronic methods of building and maintaining contact with our METCA MIGS. He's the original author of the Waybill's "Long Island Sounds" column (Larry Leskowski now handles that duty). He coordinated our highly successful Meet'n'Greet at the Central Operating Lines' club layout. Practically single-handedly, he promoted and championed the TCA and METCA on Long Island. He's been the leading proponent for METCA wear and METCA merchandise (check out the website for details and a growing list!). And now, he's taken on the role of your METCA Division Secretary.

For his energy, enthusiasm, continuing participation and dedication to METCA, **we are pleased to recognize Robert Amling as the METCA Division's Member Of The Year.** Be sure to thank Bob when you see him!



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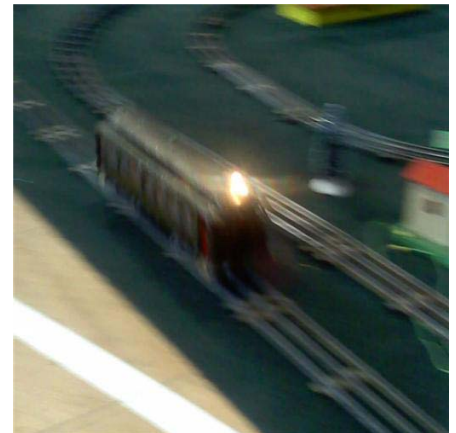
Standard Gauge at Garfield

~ Scot Kienzlen

As a member of the Standard Gauge Module Association (SGMA), I participated in the group's first-ever display at York in October, 2007. Since then, I haven't been able to do much with it. But, I do like watching Standard Gauge run! And so, a few months ago, Sam Deo and I decided we'd set up Standard Gauge like it was meant to be run~ on the floor! Our 3-loop, 8x16 floor layout was unveiled this past January at the Garfield show. Setup



was easy and we had trains running even before the show started (see the photo in Kevin Quinn's report). We were fortunate that Joe Mania brought an original Lionel No. 10 Interurban to run. And run it did! This was built in 1910, making it a ONE HUNDRED YEAR OLD train that worked! It was the height of toy train technology 100 years ago~ and it had a light! Imagine, touching toy train history that old... I can tell you, it's waaay cool! We also had an unusual request from one young train enthusiast who wanted to know, "Can I sit in the middle?" Well, sir, he (and the other half a dozen or so kids who asked) were very well behaved. Yep, we'd do it again.



Is there a resurgence in Standard Gauge? I don't know~ but look at this: Bert Schuck wrote a great TCA Quarterly article about remotoring a No.6; Joe Mania is making reproduction parts and trains; Lionel and MTH are jointly producing pre-war style, brightly colored tin trains, Allan Miller recently did an OGR editorial about his epiphany with tin trains, it looks like the SGMA will be at the TCA's Baltimore Convention, and METCA's layout drew A LOT of attention!

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November 20, 2010 Howard Beach NY SHOW

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

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-----cut off and send in-----

Howard Beach Report

~ Bob Amling

Saturday, February 13 marked the sixth METCA train show in NY in a little over two years. We have continued to grow at every show. This show marked the first time that we had a waiting list and actually turned vendors away. **Some of our vendors have already pre-registered for the next show in November!** METCA received many favorable comments from vendors as well as show participants. We had 7 people join or rejoin METCA at the show and also signed up a new TCA member whose interest was only kindled when he inherited his father's standard gauge a year or two ago.

The TMB train club (**Trainmasters of Babylon**) was with us at the first NY METCA show and continues to support the show with operating layouts and expert knowledge of DCS, TMCC and Legacy equipment. Once again **Brooklyn NTrak** brought their operating modular layout with some great scenery for all to enjoy.

Thank you to both clubs!

A staple feature of our NY show since February, 2008 has been the locomotive drag race. **Mark Ranzie** brought this concept to the show at Broad Channel and has continually improved the operation with his between show handiwork. The races are a real hit with the kids. Pictured here is a photo finish of one race as well as the ribbon and trophy winners of the day, along with **Nick and Amanda Ranzie**. Nick and Amanda help the younger kids enjoy the races. Thank you Mark for your continued support of METCA!



There are many people who make this show a great one; but in particular I'd like to thank METCA MIGS **John Belpanno** and **Mario Cilliotta**. Without their help setting up the hall, hanging those roadside signs and manning the door, this show wouldn't happen.

The Howard Beach show was covered by a reporter from the Queens Chronicle! He approached me and said that he wanted to capture some of the unique items at the show as well as other interesting subjects. I pointed out some of the tables that displayed some unusual and antique trains. He then interviewed **Bob Doyle**, former METCA **President John Bernich**, and **Richard deDufour**. He took several photos at each of their tables. He was also interested in the children at the drag races as well as **The Train Doctor**, AKA Rem Hunnewell. Hope to see YOU in

November at **Howard Beach!** (editor's note: To see the Chronicle article, which is linked to our website, visit www.metca.org)

Help METCA reduce costs!

Submit your email address to secretary@metca.org

Long Island Sounds

Larry Laskowski – TCA #91-33858

Most of us recall our first exposure to toy trains and the model railroading hobby with fondness and detailed recollections of a first Lionel, American Flyer or Marx Train set and layout. Fast forward to the present and it's a different world out there. It is important for hobbyists and clubs to "promote model railroading", especially among younger folks. Model Railroad clubs on Long Island do a great job "promoting model railroading". Club open houses are the prime venue for this work from October through early Spring with many shows around the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Lots of youngsters happen to bring along parents and grandparents to share in the fun. The youngsters are wide eyed and want to take everything in. It's a fascinating world to them just as it was to you some years back, perhaps longer than you want to think about.

The Trainmasters of Babylon (TMB) hosted open house shows on 7 weekends from November through February. Their layout has new added features including a newly scenic mountain area and bridges, new trolley line and a wonderful animated circus. The photo says it all; everyone taking in the wonderful layout and trains in operation. TMB has a members operating night every third Friday from 8 PM; you may want to pay them a visit and check out their layout.

The Nassau Lionel Operating Engineers (NLOE) hosted successful open houses on the weekends in December. They are working on a new layout twice as large as their previous layout in Levittown. Much work has been done with scenery and



great structures on this layout. They are on Hempstead Turnpike just east of the Wantagh Parkway. The folks at Central Operating Lines (COL) have introduced their new 2 track NYC El type subway which connects with a brand new town. There is an intermediate station and the line is automated with service to all stations. They have everything from BMT standards to the new R142's in service. You can see from the photos how reminiscent of New York, Brooklyn and Queens ELS and their neighborhoods this new part of the Layout. It reminds me of Jamaica Ave in Brooklyn and Queens. Stop by and see these folks on a Friday night if you are nearby. Clubs on Long Island reach out to each other at this time of year. NLOE sponsored a club night in January and folks from



TMB, COL, LITTLE, and JLS, a Large Scale club on the East End were there. Similar nights are planned by TMB at their club and at COL. Plenty of refreshments and camaraderie! Outreach is expanding through display of Modular Layouts at new locations and shows. Watch for an article about these in an upcoming Waybill.

One of the areas we need to expand is our work with the young folks. Most clubs participate with groups such as scouting organizations. COL had a Cub Scout Night in February. In addition, clubs such as the COL, have Junior Members. We are looking to have events run by these members. We hope soon to have an Open House event completely organized and run by our Junior Members. Letting younger members have their weekend event can be advantageous toward promoting the hobby among their peers.

So there you have it; promoting our hobby on Long Island. It is in keeping with TCA and METCA objectives and important if we want to sustain our hobby. See how you can do this for some newcomers and get them to enjoy the hobby you have come to enjoy over the years.

Also I will remind you that on Long Island, at the Railroad Museum of Long Island's Riverhead Location, work is continuing on the installation of the Chesterfield display layout which Lionel LLC graciously donated to the Museum. This layout was built in the style of the great display layouts once displayed at the Lionel's showroom in Manhattan, and right now the Museum needs your help. Once they start the building process this spring they can use any help that volunteers are willing to supply. So if you can spare some time or wish to join the museum give them a call and tell them Larry L from COL sent you. This is a great way to promote our Model Railroading Hobby. The Grand Opening for this Lionel Display Layout is set for April 9, 2011!

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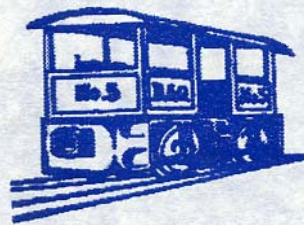


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Collectors Corner

~ Stuart Rankin

A Little to the Left, A Little to the Right



The Lionel 16328 Nickel Plate Road Gondola is a relatively common and inexpensive piece of rolling stock. However, that does not mean that it's uninteresting. Granted, its yellow graphics on the gray body leave a lot to be desired, but the placement of those same graphics can lead to a most satisfying "hunt" for the two variations of this car. As you can see in the above photos, on one variation, the graphics (Lionel Blt. Date) start in the 2nd panel from the left and on the other variation, the graphics start in the 3rd panel from the left. At the other end of the car, the graphics (Nickel Plate Road) end either in the 3rd or 2nd panel from the right. The number of empty panels between the graphics on both cars is the same, it's just that one car has all of the graphics shifted towards the left and the other car has all of the graphics shifted towards the right. Both cars feature the same positioning of the graphics on each side of the car. There is another similar set of variations for the Lionel 6254 Nickel Plate Road Gondola. Although the 6254 features yellow graphics on a black gondola, it also has a "left" variation and a "right" variation.

Check out METCA's ALL-NEW website!

www.METCA.org

"Bridging the Tri-State area"

