

**Oct.-Dec.  
2011**

# **METCA WAYBILL**



**Vol. 33  
Iss. 8**

**Metropolitan Division – Train Collectors Association**



**Happy 50th METCA!**

Metropolitan Division Waybill  
Train Collector's Association  
Vol. 33 Issue 8

**Board of Directors 2010-2011**

President~ Scot Kienzlen  
Vice President~ Stu Rankin  
Secretary~ Robert Amling  
Treasurer~ Sam Deo  
Director~ Kevin Quinn  
Director~ Rem Hunnewell  
Director~ Don Brill  
Director~ Pat Scurzo\*

\*deceased; vacancy to be filled in 2012

**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.

**CONTACT METCA**

**Website**

[www.METCA.org](http://www.METCA.org)

**Discussion**

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

**Correspondence, membership and mail issues:**

METCA Secretary  
2023 Coyle St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11229

**Talk to me directly**

Scot Kienzlen, President  
973-945-1401

**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](http://www.metca.org/html_files/metca_application_2010.pdf)

**Train Collectors Association National Officers**

**President**~ Paul Edgar

**President-elect**~ Carol McGinnis

**Vice-President**~ Robert J. Obara

**Secretary**~ Christie Wilson

**Treasurer**~ William J. Kotek

**Operations Manager**~ John V. Luppino

[jluppino@traincollectors.org](mailto:jluppino@traincollectors.org)

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:**

Check out Part Two of Pete Czachor's article, The '76 METCA car. President-Elect Stu Rankin has a few things to say, and METCA election results are in; find out the new face of your Board of Directors. Plus, we have a new show venue in 2012; registration inside. MORE 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration photos are just a few minutes away! And see our NEW 2012 METCA MINT CAR!

*So...* grab a cup of coffee, thumb through and enjoy!

**Coming in the next Waybill:**

Stu Rankin hosts his first "sit down" with you~ Details on our first-ever METCA college scholarship~ We gear up for the 2015 convention~ And MORE METCA history!

**With sincere thanks and appreciation to  
GREG CATANESE**

Who has handled METCA's Waybill printing

**On the Cover:**

Yep, it's all about friendship! Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party at the NJ Hi-Railers was a great success. See what all the fun was about inside this issue~ and be sure to check out OTHER photos and get MORE information about upcoming METCA activities on our website, [www.metca.org](http://www.metca.org)

~Scot Kienzlen

In 2004, the New Year's resolution was simple- "Expand my circle of O gauge friends". Well, boy, howdy have I been blessed! Never did I think that in a very short period I'd find the friends who would help to work and make the METCA Division into what it is today.

There are so many to thank. Former TCA National Presidents Gordon Wilson and "Clem" Clement for their encouragement and guidance; former METCA Presidents Steve Siniawa and John Bernich, who gave way to us, understanding the need for change. To Rem Hunnewell and Kevin Quinn for being my strength at the very beginning of that change; to Bob Dobrowolski and Sam Deo for support in our early 'parking lot' meetings. To Bob Amling who, at our very first Meet 'n' Greet, decided to step up for ALL METCA members on Long Island. Stu Rankin, whose chance purchase of two, \$10.00 gondolas from me at NJ Transit's Hoboken Terminal in 2005, has done yeoman's work in putting this division on sound financial footing. Don Brill is working toward a lifetime dream of having his/your division host a national TCA convention. All of these men have chosen to accept the challenge of changing your division for the better. My words of thanks and gratitude cannot begin to fully express the love and admiration I have for each of them.

And to you, the over 450 METCA MIGS~ ladies and gentlemen, thank you, one and all. Your continued support~ with your division dues, your patronage of our shows, encouragement of our ideas and making your own suggestions have shown you DO care about METCA, even back when we were told, "it won't work". YOU have helped to prove otherwise. YOU have helped to move METCA to new heights by volunteering at the 2015 National TCA Convention. You've supported our highly successful and ongoing mint car fundraisers. You've helped write Waybill articles, shared ideas and experiences, and made it a point, somewhere, to introduce yourselves or somehow express your support. My friends, this would not have been possible without YOU.

We look forward to 2012 with great enthusiasm. Stu leads the charge as METCA grows and develops. We are but 2.5 years away from having all the final planning for our 2015 TCA National Convention hosting (we need to start advertising and registering people, starting June, 2014). METCA sponsors its first-ever college scholarship in 2012. We continue to innovate through new show venues, new ideas and YOUR support!

And so~ thank you... to the friends I've made at Garfield and Howard Beach train shows, and at our Clinton Diner mini-meets, and our Meet'n'Greets, and even at non-affiliated train shows. To TCA Division Presidents, past and present, with whom I've had the honor to work and socialize. And to those friends, nationally and internationally, I've met at York, at the TCA Museum, through correspondence and through online forums, thank you... for sharing this great hobby we call model railroading. Thank you for sharing your thoughts, your time, and your friendship. Now, the division is in YOUR hands.

Let's keep the ball rolling.....

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## President's Perspective

~ Stu Rankin

... and keep in mind that a rolling stone (or ball) gathers no moss. As your incoming President, I enthusiastically look forward to keeping that ball rolling. I invite all of you to join me in that effort. However, first, I must say that Scot has been such a tremendous leader of METCA these last several years. He's been the driving force behind the new direction that METCA is heading in. For that new direction, I hope everyone joins me in saying THANK YOU SCOT!

I'm very excited about the incoming METCA Board of Directors for the 2012-2013 term. We have several new faces on the Board. That's a great thing. We also had a wonderful slate of candidates that ran in the election. I thank you one and all. There are a handful of areas that I'd like to see us focus on over the next couple of years. In no particular order, they are: expanding and promoting our Kids Club, continuing our preparations for the 2015 Convention, gaining additional exposure of our involvement in our support of this wonderful hobby, and increasing involvement from you, our membership.

Being involved in METCA has brought me a tremendous amount of satisfaction. I am so proud of the things the Division has accomplished. Also, I never could have imagined how many good friends I would have made. There's a lot more to this hobby than just the trains.

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## And beginning next issue..... Coffee With Stu!

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## METCA Election Results for 2012-2013 term

The METCA Election Committee (Scot Kienzlen, Joe Mania, Kevin Quinn) met at 2 pm on November 13, 2011, to confirm and tabulate ballots for the election of Directors and Officers for the 2012-2013 term. The Election Committee tabulated a total of 147 ballots. Two ballots were deemed invalid for the following reasons:

- 1.) No name or TCA number on return address (invalid ID)
- 2.) One member voted twice (one ballot discarded)

### **Officers:**

President: Stu Rankin~ 144 votes  
 Vice Pres.: Steve Musso~ 137 votes  
 Treasurer: Sam Deo~ 88 votes  
 Secretary: Bob Amling~ 88 votes

One write-in vote for V. President:  
 John Koenig~1

### **Directors:** (4 needed)

Larry Laskowski~ 113 votes  
 Rem Hunnewell~ 110 votes  
 Don Brill~ 106 votes  
 Ben Fioriello~ 100 votes  
 Jeff Corrick~ 72 votes  
 Erol Gurcan~ 37 votes



Three write-in votes for Director:  
 Paul Grigoas~ 1  
 Scot Kienzlen~ 1  
 John Koenig~1

These ballots and counts were confirmed by all EC members for accuracy. All essential documents relating to the election have been submitted to the Division Secretary, and are kept in accordance with METCA bylaws. Its work completed, the Election Committee was disbanded with sincere thanks for their due diligence. Thanks to all METCA members who participated in this bi-annual event.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Scot Kienzlen  
 METCA Election Committee  
 Chair



## METCA Dues

Currently METCA Dues are due on 12/31 of each year. On November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year METCA's database program automatically puts a \$5.00 charge against the record of each Member In Good Standing (MIGS). Those that have paid multiple years in advance have their dues automatically paid., and their balance is reduced by \$5.00. If you haven't paid ahead; then the best thing to do is check your METCA ID card. There is a "Valid Thru Date" on the front of the card. If that date is 12/31/2011 and you haven't paid your dues recently then your dues are due. Paying your dues on time will ensure that you don't miss any Waybill issues or other METCA communications. It will also ensure that your new card will be printed and mailed in time for you to attend METCA events.

If you still wish to receive the Waybill in print version, then there is an additional charge of \$5.00 per year. Paying this charge ahead has advantages, because you will avoid any increases caused by increased printing costs.

Payments should be made in check form payable to METCA and mailed to:

METCA Secretary  
 2023 Coyle St  
 Brooklyn, NY 11229-4013

Any questions may be directed to me at [secretary@metca.org](mailto:secretary@metca.org) or by phone 718-541-8619.

Bob Amling  
 METCA Secretary

**Advertisers note: Beginning with METCA Waybill Volume 33, Issue 8 (Fall, 2011), we will suspend advertising in the Waybill. Thank you for your past support.**



## A Rare Car, Indeed! Part II

~Pete Czachor

As I mentioned in my First Article, I had been in possession of a prototype '76 METCA Club Car since 1976. My Pacemaker car had the reverse lettering with the "TCA" in yellow and the "METCA Division" and "1976" in black. My '76 METCA prototype car was recently won on eBay for \$565!

It was during the eBay Auction that a fellow TCA member in Michigan, Joe Timko, contacted me through eBay's email. The history I wrote up in eBay for my '76 METCA Club Car attracted Joe. Further email exchanges brought out the fact that Joe had collected a few "variable" Club Cars over the years as well. Please refer to the following:

**Picture: METCA 1A**



"Reversed Lettering" - Yellow "TCA" and black "METCA Division" and "1976"

**Picture:METCA 1B**



Rubber stamped Club information on car chassis

*Note: Joe bought the above in L & J Hobbies, Portage, MI. in 1997*

**Picture: METCA 2A**



"Reversed Lettering" - Yellow "TCA" and black "METCA Division" and "1976"

*Note: Joe obtained this on eBay from a Seller in California in 2007.*

**Picture: METCA 2B**



Paper label-"SPECIAL METCA Color Reversed"- looks like it was done on a typewriter!

Joe also supplied a Spreadsheet with approximately thirteen '76 METCA Club Cars with some variations. He does have cars with the correct "TCA" in black and "METCA Division" and "1976" in yellow, but a few without any rubber stamping information on the chassis at all! One of the variations was bought in York in 2005 and the other on eBay in 2005.

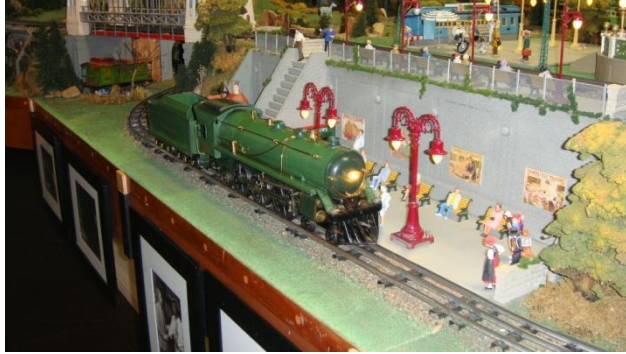
I wish to thank Joe for allowing me to share his '76 METCA Collection information and to give permission to share it with our fellow TCA/METCA members. I certainly got an education and hope my fellow members will as well.



# Long Island Sounds

~Larry Laskowski – TCA #91-33858

Well we celebrated METCA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in grand style at the METCA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary banquet at the New Jersey HiRailers' wonderful layout in Paterson New Jersey. Bob Amling and Stu Rankin did a great job in putting this party together for METCA and TCA members. Several Long Islanders were among the 74



members and guests at the gala and it sure looked like everyone was having a great evening.



Stu arranged for a very limited run of 25 of the METCA 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Mint car, uniquely lettered to commemorate the November 5<sup>th</sup> event. These were awarded as a table prize with two cars awarded for each table of 10. The folks at OGR Publishing, Ready Made Toys, TW TrainWorx (TW Design), Weaver Models, Atlas O, Kalmbach Publishing, A National Sports League, [www.beyond-real.com](http://www.beyond-real.com) and Lionel Trains

graciously donated some fabulous raffle prizes and we thank you for your generosity. Ben Fiorello did make good on his promise to donate one of his 99 Ballantine reefers as a raffle prize. It's a real nice car and I can personally attest to that since I was the lucky raffle winner. It looks great on my layout. Thanks Ben!

Oh yes! We had a nice time running trains on the HiRailers' great layout. Among the highlights were the latest Challenger operating in Legacy. The sounds and smoke were great. Those that brought a



loco had the chance to run it on this layout. The Tom Snyder Standard Gauge layout was in operation with some of Tom's Trains. During the evening, we had the pleasure of seeing a METCA member's very rare Boucher green pacific running on this layout. It really looked great with several State cars in tow. It truly was a rare treat for those that were there. Thank you for the hospitality,



President Ben Fiorello and Chef Vinny for the tasty dinner. This was a great party and those that were there are all for doing it again. Sign up for METCA 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary party coming in 2012?

Holiday season is upon us and trains are a part of the festivities. Central Operating lines, Nassau Lionel Operating Engineers and Trainmasters of Babylon will have their club layouts open on various weekends from Thanksgiving right up to Christmas. Check their schedules and come visit. Enjoy the trains and layouts and tell the members about the great work they are doing. Bring the youngsters; be they your children or grandchildren. There will be special trains for the youngsters and a good chance for a Santa visit at these shows. Additionally, Central Operating Lines will take their club on the road, having a modular railroad layout at the Ward Melville center in Stony Brook Village on the first and third weekends in December. Come say hello. The Railroad Museum of Long Island's Lionel layout from Chesterfield Michigan makes its last run for the season on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. They will have an open house at the Greenport site on the first weekend in December. I have it on good authority that Santa Claus will be in attendance. Check these folks out.

I have enjoyed keeping you up to date on Long Island happenings in the Toy Train Hobby during 2011, METCA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. I would like to take the opportunity to wish all our METCA members and readers, a very happy and joyous and safe Holiday season. May a train be circling your tree this year!



METCA MIGS Kenny Martin displays his Ft Knox Anniversary car



Renee Quinn checks out her Ft Knox Anniversary car while still squeezing the winning chip as METCA Webmaster Jeff Corrick looks on.



The view from the control tower as the METCA door prizes are disbursed



METCA MIGS Ed Gerson displays his wining chip to his wife Mickey

Expanded 50th Anniversary coverage can be found on page 9 of the electronic Waybill. Make sure the METCA Secretary has your email address to get the electronic version.

### ~In Memoriam~

It is with profound sadness and deep regret we must inform you of the sudden and unexpected passing of our good friend Owen Sturm, who passed away three days after attending METCA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Owen was a true supporter of the METCA division, and was recognized & admired on the on-line OGR forum as "Paulinskill". His smile, good sense of humor and knowledge of the hobby will be missed by many.

The METCA Board of Directors extends sincere sympathy and condolences to the friends and family of Owen Sturm.



# Upcoming METCA Events~ Be Part of Them!

## February 11, 2012 HOWARD BEACH NY show

### Table Reservations ONLY!



Please reserve \_\_\_\_ 8' tables at the February 11, 2012 Howard Beach NY Show @ \$25.00 each (admission included) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (required) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ TCA# (required) \_\_\_\_\_

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

**METCA Show**, c/o Bob Amling 2023 Coyle Street, Brooklyn, NY 11229-4013 [nysnows@metca.org](mailto:nysnows@metca.org) 718-541-8619

**TCA 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.

## ...AND CHECK OUT OUR ALL~NEW VENUE!

### APRIL 29, 2012 MT. ARLINGTON, NJ SHOW

#### 30 tables only Table Reservations ONLY! 30 tables only

**PLEASE NOTE THE REDUCED PRICES! WE \$AVE SO YOU \$AVE!**



Please reserve \_\_\_\_ 8' table(s) at the ALL NEW April 29<sup>th</sup> Mt. Arlington, NJ Show @ \$20.00 each (admission incl.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

NEED ELECTRICITY?(limited accommodations, please circle) Yes No

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (required) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ TCA# (required) \_\_\_\_\_

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

**METCA Show**, c/o Scot Kienzlen 605 East Vail Rd. Landing NJ 07850 [trainbud@optonline.net](mailto:trainbud@optonline.net) 973-945-1401

**TCA 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.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE EVENT WILL BE PROVIDED UPON RECEIPT OF YOUR PAID REGISTRATION**

Get all the latest METCA info by visiting the website: [www.metca.org](http://www.metca.org)

**ATTENTION:** This is a FIRST~EVER event for METCA at this location. **Tables ARE LIMITED** and we expect to sell out. **Train drag races with prizes, door prizes, displays and quick access to Route 80** will make this a well-attended event that you won't want to miss. **Make your reservations TODAY!**



And here's our METCA MINT CAR for 2012! LIRR~ The Route of Dashing Dan! Quantities are LIMITED! Only 500 will be produced!! Visit [www.METCA.org](http://www.METCA.org) for ordering yours NOW!



# The METCA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet

On November fifth, toy train lovers from across the region gathered at the New Jersey Hi-Railers for the METCA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet.

The festivities kicked off as the near-capacity crowd of MIGS enjoyed a meet 'n greet hour – drinks and hors d'oeuvres – while talking trains with old friends.

There was also plenty of time to buy raffle tickets and browse a delightful array of Chinese auction items – trains and more – all donated through the tireless efforts of the METCA BOD members who organized the evening.

For members like me, who had never had the pleasure of visiting the NJ Hi-Railers enormous facility, the hour was barely enough to explore their amazing series of layouts.



*The largest 3-rail layout in the US*

The main room houses the largest 3-rail layout in the US, as well as a wonderful Standard Gauge layout, donated to the Hi-Railers by the family of train aficionado Tom Snyder. In a side room, there is a layout where a mobster met his demise in “The Sopranos,” even the original signal board from Grand Central Station. What a treat! Kudos to the Hi-Railers – which leads me to...

Dinner! Our hosts had provided a sumptuous spread of eggplant parmesan, antipasto, pasta salad, chicken marsala, and many other delicacies... Everything was uniformly delicious, and the ‘service with a smile’ was provided by the hi-railer chefs.

After the feeding-frenzy, Master of Ceremonies and METCA VP, Stuart Rankin, took the microphone to greet the assembled members and guests – and give away stuff. Moving from table to table, ably assisted by cohort (and BOD member) Bob Amling, numbers were



*MIGS gather for the 50th Anniversary METCA Banquet*

drawn, and one lucky winner from each table received a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lionel METCA Banquet Mint Car – only 25 in existence.

Next came the raffle drawing. Many cool prizes were given out, but my favorite moment of the evening was when an NFL superbowl gift package went to a very excited young man. He had placed his tickets in the jar near a wonderful array of items donated by Stu Rankin’s wife, Alicia. As the young man walked up to claim his loot, he looked around and asked, “Which one did I win?” At Stu’s reply, the boy’s eyes lit up like a 154 Crossing Signal: “You mean I get all of it?”



*VP Stu Rankin rallies the troops.*

Sad to report, your humble correspondent, in spite of many rows of raffle tickets lined up in front of him, won nothing. Sigh. But my partner and I did go home with a great pair of METCA mugs. BOD wife Renee Quinn informed me I should have purchased raffle tickets from her – she sells the *good* ones. I shall remember that in the future.

I was doubly lucky that evening for the chance to chat for a bit with long-time METCA member, 2015 Convention Volunteer, and all-round great guy, Owen Sturm. Owen passed away unexpectedly just three days later. He will truly be missed. It did serve to remind me what wonderful friends I’ve met through this hobby – and to appreciate the time I get to spend with them at great events like this one.

Many thanks to our gracious and generous hosts, the NJ Hi-Railers, and to the METCA board members who donated their time to organize a memorable evening. All this doesn’t happen by accident.

*--Jeffery Corrick (aka Clint Jefferies)*