



# Music City Chapter TCA

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# ALL ABOARD!!

## Spring/Summer 2020

### Newsletter

## *President's Message*

As I write this Newsletter, the world remains gripped by the ongoing threat of the coronavirus. While there are many questions that remain unanswered at this time, I encourage each of you to follow the recommendations of the CDC to ensure your safety.

Let me thank all of you who attended our March show and those of you who did not out of an abundance of caution. I respect your decision.

The attendance at our show was down by about 50%. This includes both dealers and attendees. Even with the lower attendance, several of the dealers that I spoke with had better than average sales. Apparently, the folks who did attend were serious buyers.

Division President Bob Keller and Secretary Don Webb attended our show and spoke about the 2022 TCA National Convention to be held in Nashville. Several of the officers met with them on Friday prior to the show to help with the planning process. The Music City Sheraton will be the location for the convention activities. Both Bob and Don will be here several times this year setting up tours and venues for this event. We will need volunteers to assist the convention participants with getting from one location to the next.

Several of the members have offered to host layout tours. And others have already volunteered to help with the logistics. We need your support to make this convention an overwhelming success. More to come on this in the months ahead.

During this national pandemic, enjoy some time with your family and, if possible, spend some time with your trains. Stay safe.

*Joseph Marabeti*  
**President**

### **The Show is Cancelled!!!**

#### **Nashville Train Show - August 22, 2020**

The Summer Train show will not be held because of concerns over the Coronavirus. While we are disappointed, the Officers and Members of the Board believe that the safety of our members, dealers and participants is our highest priority. Refunds will be made to those of you who have paid for tables.



## What Did You Do During Covid-19 Stay at Home?

In early May, I sent an email to our members whose email addresses are on file. I asked "What were you doing during the long pandemic lock down?" Let me share some of your responses.

Clifford Jacobsen from Scottsville, KY was constructing a train building. The building, once completed, will have an operating layout and a workshop. Clifford has been selling items that he has built on eBay. His on-line marketing efforts have gone global.

Clifford was encouraged to pursue his passion for this project from his good friend Nolen Brunson. Nolan is completing his own layout, which he hopes to have ready for the layout tours during the 2022 TCA National Convention in Nashville.

Chapter Treasurer, Vic Petrone, dusted off his custom painted post war L&N and NC&StL F3 units. The livery for these engines was painted by our very own L&N authority Virgil King. The L&N F3 is pulling an aluminum streamline L&N passenger set from MTH. The NC&StL engine is pulling a set of Madison passenger cars from Williams.

We heard from Jim Tully, formerly with South Bound Trains of Murfreesboro. Jim moved to Florida and sent several pictures of a 4'x 8' layout he built in his new home. He is able to run multiple trains simultaneously and has incorporated an impressive amount of detailed scenery and accessories.

Since his retirement, Dick Page has been working on the lawn and landscaping his yard. In addition, this year he is repairing some outdoor decking in anticipation of his daughter's wedding this summer. Best wishes!

Several weeks ago, I spent a morning helping Ernie Wiggers disassemble part of his extensive O gauge layout. The bench work was made with 2'X6's, 2'X4's and 3/4 inch plywood ... heavy. The new layout would be smaller and more manageable. The old Lionel tubular track will be replaced with Gargaves track. Unfortunately, there is no way to incorporate all of the accessories, buildings, etc. into the new layout.

Our Club Vice President, John Blake, has been keeping me up to date on all the national news. Balancing the sadness of this Covid-19 pandemic, John has included some of the best political cartoons suitable for publication. Thank you, John.

I spoke with Ron Hirst who has been adding scenic

details to his American Flyer layout. He built a train depot and added some lights, trees, and roads. Ron is waiting for an American Flyer 4-6-2 he ordered over a year ago. Patience.

This is just a sampling of the folks we've heard from. If you have a story that you would like to share with the Club, please send it to me at [jxmarab@gmail.com](mailto:jxmarab@gmail.com).

### In Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families and friends of Bobby Gentry and John Deter, Music City Chapter members who passed away earlier this year.

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### Meeting of the Officers and Members of the Board

In observing the social distancing recommendation, the Officers and Members of the Board did not meet in person. However, there were multiple communications over the last several weeks concerning the status of the August train show. The cancellation notice has been sent via email and published in this Newsletter.

### Wilson County Fair Cancelled

The Wilson County Fair scheduled for August 13th thru 22nd will not be held this year due to concerns over COVID-19.

## Train Trivia --

### Encore Presentation

*Submitted by Joseph Marabeti*

North American steam locomotives are categorized by their wheel arrangement.

In this system numbers are assigned to the leading, driving and trailing wheels of the locomotive.



Answer: "The Whyte System."