



ALL ABOARD!!

Winter 2015

Newsletter

Music City Chapter TCA

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President's Message

The 21st annual Christmas Show is now history, but what a day! We had a little over 1200 adult paid admissions and a growing number of children.

Please take a moment to view the photos taken by vice president John Blake. John captured the "train-filled" day's events with his camera -- from the selling floor, to the layouts, and kids winning the great train sets. The pictures tell the story. Thanks, John. Please visit the website page at www.dixiedivisiontca.com for the link to the photos.

A sincere THANK YOU for a job well done goes to the members of our chapter and other TCA members who committed to work hours hauling the layout trailers, running the train layouts, setting up and taking down our trading floor, registration, working at the door (Dick and Claudine Stirn), donating door prizes and many other jobs that make our show a success.

A special thank you to Vic Petrone, Treasurer, for working the registration of vendors from September to December and for being there on Friday to ensure every vendor had their tables, and also for working the door all day on Saturday. Vic has always done an outstanding job on our shows.

Another special thank you to Joseph Marabeti, Secretary, for taking time to select the train sets given as door prizes, advertising the show, and providing the announcements throughout the day of the show. Both of these officers start months in advance to make sure our show shines!

Also, thank you to all the dealers and club members who attended and participated during the show. You are the heart of the show. Without you, there would not be a show.

As much as the adults come to buy trains, the kids come to see the trains run. A special "thank you" to Dale Beagle, Chuck Campbell, and Owen Collins for bringing their layouts. Together with the club's layouts, the kids had plenty of entertainment.

We are now looking ahead to our Spring Show on April 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Donelson First Baptist Church on Lebanon Road. Contact Vic Petrone to sign up for tables. TCA members get in FREE!

In closing, I would like to mention the 61st TCA National Convention 2015 in New York City from June 20-28. From the great trips and tours to the 72,000 square foot meeting and exhibit space that adjoins the Doubletree host hotel, there will be a fun filled week for all. Go to tcaconvention.org for all the information.

See you at the Spring Show!

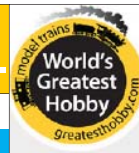
Ron Hirst
President

In Sympathy



Shirley Wehby
Welch, wife of Lee,
passed away on
January 30, 2015.

She pursued a career in teaching for 35 years until retiring in 1995. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Lee, her family, and friends.



21st Annual Christmas Toy Train Show Winners of the Lionel Train Sets

At the 21st Annual Christmas Toy Train Show, the Club purchased five complete Lionel Train Sets for the drawing held during the Show.

Owen Lord, Ashland City, TN
"The Polar Express"

Jack Thurman, Columbia, TN
"New York Central Flyer"

Henry Deese, Gallatin, TN
"The Polar Express Freight Set"

Mike Hummer, Clarksville, TN
"Harry Potter Passenger Set"

Nolan Pritchett, Martin TN
"The Polar Express"



**Congratulations
to each of our
Young
Collectors!**

Meet Announcements

March 7
Dixie Division Meet
The Catoosa Colonnade
Old Mill Road
Ringgold, GA

For information, call (423) 894-1284
or (423) 842-6094

Music City Chapter Correspondence - Email, Please!

Chapter correspondence can be sent to you more frequently and with updates and reminders through email. Email is a faster and less expensive method of communication. If you use email or changed your email address, please send that information to Petrone.V@comcast.net. Include your name and TCA member number.

Thank you.



Train Trivia

Submitted by Joseph Marabeti

The Pennsylvania Railroad, also known as the PRR or the Pennsy, was not only the largest railroad in the U.S. for much of its existence, it was also the largest corporation in the world.

Question: What popular board game's original U.S. edition features the PRR as one of its spaces?

Answer: Monopoly.

Music City Chapter 2014 Statement of Operations

Bank Balance as of	\$17,892.49
January 1, 2014	
Spring Show	\$15.84
Summer Show	\$205.50
Christmas Show	\$3,962.26
Miscellaneous	\$3,241.94
Income/Expenses	
Bank Balance as of	\$18,834.15
December 31, 2014	



Music City Chapter TCA

Dixie Division Spring Train Meet

**Saturday, April 18
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Donelson First Baptist Church
2526 Lebanon Road
Nashville, TN**

**No Admission Charge for
TCA Members**

Tables Are Available - \$10 each

**For information, call
(615) 646-2232
or Email
mcctca@comcast.net**

**Registration forms are available at
[http://www.dixiedivisiontca.com/i/mc/tca_
meet_April_2015.pdf](http://www.dixiedivisiontca.com/i/mc/tca_meet_April_2015.pdf)**



**There will be a business meeting at 9:00 a.m.
prior to the trading.**

Editor's Note

Our 2014 Christmas Toy Train Show was well attended by adults and children alike. Many of those in attendance left with packages and smiles on their faces.

However, there are people whose expectations we failed to meet. One such attendee wrote that she was disappointed with the show. She attended with her son, grandson, niece, and her granddaughter.

Initially, she did not know why she should have to pay \$7 to shop for toys. She felt that our advertisement regarding the children's play area was misleading. It was a "very, very small area with a couple of trains and 10 to 20 children all waiting to play." And finally, she had to continually say, "don't touch" to the children as she walked around the hall. This was not a good experience for her and her family.

But, let's be fair. As most of you know, there are costs associated with putting on a show of this type. Starting with the rental of the hall, tables, and chairs from the Fairground and including the expenses associated with advertising, printing, postage, mailings, etc. Consequently, there is a nominal admission fee to attend the show.

While the show is open to the public, it is not solely designed for young children. There are train collectors and operators of all ages in attendance. However, there is an emphasis on children as evidenced by the 6'x8' layout that many of the estimated 200 children in attendance enjoyed. During our show, 5 children who participated in the drawing for children 12 and under were winners of Lionel "ready to run" train sets. In addition, there were 4 operating train layouts on display and running throughout the day for all to see. The Music City Chapter layout included a color camera and monitor which showed the movement of the train as it ran along the layout.

Finally, supervising the children's behavior in a setting where expensive items are displayed for sale is appropriate and necessary. No one wants to pay for a broken toy.

Playing with toy trains allows children to develop their creativity as well as an appreciation for the hobby. I hope she and her family find a more suitable venue to do that.

**Joseph R. Marabeti
Editor**