



ZERO MILE POST

Newsletter of the Terminus Chapter - Train Collector's Association

NOV/DEC 2015

VOL. 1 • NO. 6

This Newsletter Is On-Line

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT ARNO BAARS	VICE-PRESIDENT BILL FREY
SECRETARY TOMMIE TURNER	TREASURER RICK HEMER



MISSION STATEMENT:

To preserve an important segment of history - Tinsplate Toy Trains
Through research, the establishment of collecting standards, education, community outreach and fellowship, and to promote the growth and enjoyment of the hobby.

New Officers Elected for 2016

The slate of officers was brought to the membership and accepted in resounding fashion. They are as follows:

President: Arno Baars
Vice-President: Bill Frey
Secretary: Tommie Turner
Treasurer: Rick Hemer

As we move forward into the new year, the board is looking forward to serving you; the membership. We are actively perusing ways to make your membership and involvement better. Thanks for believing in us.

TERMINUS CHAPTER NEWS

T-C ANNUAL HOLIDAY MEET

The annual T-C Holiday train meet in Alpharetta is closing in. Tables for the meet are going fast, be sure to reserve yours today before it's too late.

DISPLAY TABLE GOING RED & GREEN!

Don't forget, our Display Table at the Dec. 5th Train Meet will feature your *RED & GREEN* trains.

'IN-TRAINING' WITH RICK HEMER

This issue, Rick looks into an oddball transformer found at our May Meet. ~ Page 7

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAIN SHOWS

Bill Frey starts a new column and fills us in on area train shows and events. ~ Page 6

Also, the registration form for the Dec. Meet is included!



Terminus Chapter

Next T-C Train Meet: Dec. 5th 2015



Curt Jester with a table full of great deals at the T-C meet.



The next Grand Prize: A limited run MTH Southern Water Tower

Join fellow TCA members for all the fun, camaraderie and new treasures found at a TCA sponsored train meet!





The Prez Sez...

It's been a busy couple months for us in the Terminus Chapter and for myself.

We had my

Rides & Rails event at the farm followed by another great T-C train meet, and then that trip north to the hallowed grounds of York.

So I just got back from a wonderful fall York week. One of the reasons it is good for me, is I get to spend the week with my wife, Carolyn. Plus, it didn't suck that the weather was nearly perfect the whole week. So nice in fact, we kept thinking we were in the wrong place!

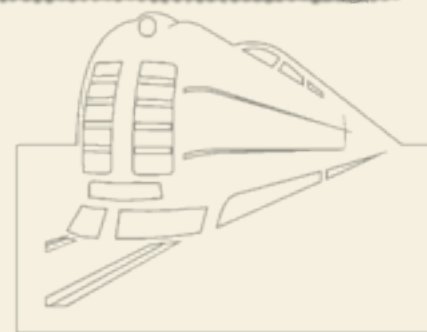
We left on Monday, a day earlier than usual as we had to deliver a few of Carolyn's rescued ponies to a man in South Carolina. So we figured with the added time to an already long trip, we would leave the day earlier, drop off the ponies and trailer (to be picked up on the way home), and then drive to northern Virginia to stay the night. We had a nice drive and Carolyn got to spend some time with the new keeper of the ponies. We hit the road again heading north and got a room for the night in New Market, VA, just three hours shy of York. Got on the road early the next morning being sure to get my trusty co-pilot to the nearest Starbucks before it was too late!

Our goal for the day was to hit the hotel bandit meets on our way to our friends house in Lancaster where we spend a couple of nights. We drove into the "Holidome" around 10am and enjoyed a couple hours there looking at trains and catching up with friends. I ended up buying a big pile of trains from a guy I seem to buy from every York. Except this pile was much

bigger. I usually don't find much at the bandit meets, maybe a piece or two at the most. This time I ended up with two dozen pieces! All good of course. Good thing we brought the truck.

Now that I had done all the damage I could at the Holidome, Carolyn and I enjoyed a delightful lunch. I heard about this little place just up the road in Dover, called the Moonlight Café. My good buddy Clem Clement said it was one of the best meals he and his wife have had in York, plus Ms. Sandy raved of the crab cakes stuffed with gorgonzola cheese and apples. So, being the thoughtful husband, and knowing that Carolyn loves crab cakes herself, I thought it was the perfect time to give her this treat. And let me say, it didn't disappoint one bit(e). The food was great. All homemade, real fresh food, and just plain delicious. Carolyn was very pleased with the Crab Cake Paninis and I with the Eggplant Parm Paninis. Down on the farm, we are pretty spoiled by eating really good food. So when we go out to eat, it needs to be good. This was. So good in fact, we made reservations for a Thursday night dinner... we *had* to try the dinner menu! And yes, Carolyn had the stuffed crab cakes for dinner.

One of the other reasons we left a day early was to accommodate the picking up of my new train room shelves in neighboring Hershey, PA. Being only a short drive from where we stay in Lancaster, it made sense to do it before the York fairgrounds activities got started. So, doing what any smart person would do (the Tom Sawyer story comes to mind), I bribed my buddies Rick Hemer and Barry Lewis with a good breakfast at the Hershey Pantry to come help me load the shelving. Soon after breakfast,



some 800 feet of the Trainshelf aluminum shelving (www.trainshelf.net) was loaded neatly into the truck.

The rest of Wednesday was filled with a few outlet mall stops for the wife and the National Toy Train Museum's library for me. After that, it was back to Lancaster for a dinner party held by my hosts. It is a great place where a couple dozen collectors from all over come and enjoy the trains and fellowship. It is always a wonderful gathering, this year was no exception.

Thursday brought the start of the Eastern Division TCA show and it was business as usual, except were not unloading train boxes in the rain or cold weather. We had a good show, I sold a bunch of stuff and only brought a few things. Since I am still a little weak from the chemo treatments, I decided not to walk around too much. That meant I was at my table most of the time engaging friends, both old and new, in some mindless train talk, seems I'm pretty good at it. As usual, the days at the fairgrounds seemed to



This little nondescript restaurant was the highlight of our York week. The food and service was outstanding.



A view of the Great Lawn and the cars brought by fellow Terminus Chapter members, friends and colleagues.



Bob Major brought his Willys-Jeep all dressed in olive drab.

Prez Sez ~ Continued

pass by in no time at all. Before we knew it, we were packing up (not in the rain) and preparing for the journey south. Thanks a bunch to Barry Lewis for helping with the load out, it really helped us a lot.

We hit the road shortly after the playing of "Happy Trails" (a York tradition at 2pm closing) and drove south. Since we had to make the detour to pick up the trailer, we opted to find a place to stay for the night. Which proved a little harder than usual thanks to the race at Charlotte Motor Speedway and Virginia Tech hosting Duke on the gridiron. We were able to find a place in between the two events, somewhere in Wytheville, VA. We also found out at dinner a little later, that we dodged a major traffic jam as VT lost to Duke in the 4th overtime. We must of passed by right before the game ended. Whew!

The rest of the trip was uneventful as we picked up the trailer and finished our trek home. Overall, a great week in York and the extra day allowed us to make it a very relaxed trip, never feeling rushed. It might just become a regular thing... as will eating at the Moonlight Café.

'RIDES & RAILS' PUT ON A GREAT DAY

The third Saturday in September marks the date of my car and train day here at the farm. We had wonderful weather and a great turnout. There were twenty-one vehicles on the Great Lawn and over sixty guests. Many of the guest made generous contributions to Carolyn's Horse Rescue effort, we thank you all for your kind donations. We are in the process of forming a 501(c)(3) for that venture, so soon all contributions will be tax deductible.

The guest that were there can attest to the great spread of food that was served; all grown on the farm. From the hamburger and beef sausage dogs, to the sweet potato soufflé and pie. It was all very delicious thanks to Carolyn and our friend Jason.

ANOTHER GREAT T-C MEET

As you will read in the article about the Sept. 26th train meet, it was another good one. We sold all sixty tables and had a steady flow of members and public thru the door. Read about it on the next page.

Look for the registration form for the Dec. 5th meet. One note, the online registration indicates that the tables are 8', when in fact the tables at the American Legion

are only 6'. We will make the change to the online form, but wanted everyone to know.

For all TCA members and their guests who attend, the T-C will once again serve lunch as thanks for your support throughout the year. We appreciate everyone taking the time to attend our meets and other activities, we couldn't do it without you... plus, it wouldn't be as fun!

Thanks for putting up with more of my bi-monthly ramblings. I hope to see you at an upcoming Terminus Chapter event.

ADD

*President,
Terminus Chapter
(and Newsletter Editor)*



The Terminus Chapter was in high gear at the Rides & Rails event.



The display table was filled with Union Pacific trains. G gauge, Standard, O, O-27, S and even some H0.



Jim Long was the lucky (and happy) winner of the Grand Prize.

Terminus Chapter Train Meet - Recap

SEPT. 26TH - VFW POST 5408, ACWORTH, GA

The weather outside was rainy all morning, but the atmosphere inside was electric. This was our second event at the VFW in Acworth, and for the second time we sold out of all sixty tables (3rd show in a row). All the tables seemed to be filled with train goodies of all kinds. Many of the members have been very complimentary of the new locale and it seems to suit our needs very well. We are currently working with the management at the VFW to possibly add more tables for future needs, and some other details to make the day that much better for our members and guests.

The VFW has worked hard to please us and are happy to have us. They have plenty to offer us and have done what they can to make it work. In fact, they had a slight problem as the woman who was supposed to run

the snack bar did not show up. They quickly remedied the situation and had someone else man the station. It wasn't long after, that the smell of french fries and burgers was wafting thru the hall. I believe I saw many happy customers.

The Atlantic S-Gauge Modular Group was there operating their 2-rail trains. A neat addition to the display was the really cool Erector ferris wheel that one member brought. It could be seen spinning on the front corner of their modular layout. Roger Branka also brought his kid-friendly layout and it seemed to be busy all day. I don't think any of the trains had a break as kids, young and old alike, were playing trains.

Some may feel the rain may have kept people away, but I talked to a few people who walked in the door and their view was a bit different. One patron was driving by wondering what to do with the kids on such a rainy day, when

behold, they saw the signs for our Train Show and stopped. So, in some cases, the rain played a good role in the success of the train meet.

The day was also filled with the distribution of numerous door prizes and giveaways. I think we set a record with the amount we were able to give away. First off, A spirited auction took place between a couple of Terminus Chapter Presidents, it was for a free night's stay at the BRIDGEVIEW B&B in Pennsylvania, owned and operated by former Terminus member Keith Latimer. But alas, Past-President Bob



3 generations of Keller's enjoying the trains on Roger Branka's layout.

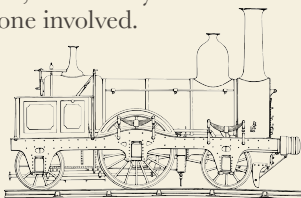
T-C Sept. 26th Train Meet ~ Continued

Kettel was the victor of the prize. We also gave away a \$50 cash prize to one of our lucky table holders, and Bill Stitt walked away with a heavier wallet. Another bonus was a \$50 gift certificate from TRAINZ.COM that went to Alan Koornick to surely help fund a future train purchase. Ultimately, Jim Long may have been the happiest winner of the day as he was the proud recipient of the Grand Prize, a Lionel 0-6-0 Dockside switcher. He told me that he had ordered one from Lionel recently and finally received it a few weeks back, that is after waiting over a year to receive it. Now he has two! I know for sure it will get some good use on his

layout.

The display table was stacked with Union Pacific items from all different gauges and eras. It was neat to see all the different trains that were brought for exhibition. Thanks to everyone who participated, it was well worth it and our best display to date.

Overall, it was a very good train meet. The officers of the Terminus Chapter were very pleased with the turnout, the facility and the efforts of everyone involved.



Bill Granville helping a customer at the meet.

Terminus Chapter Community Outreach Project Set For December 2nd, 2015

ATLANTA RONALD McDONALD HOUSE ~ DECATUR, GA ~Dave Rodgers

Once again, the Terminus Chapter TCA is moving forward with its annual Community Outreach Project. This effort offers an opportunity for Terminus Chapter to "give back" to the community which serves us all. Our Chapter is marking the fifth consecutive year of community service and charitable giving. Our focus this year is once again directed toward the Ronald McDonald House Charities-Atlanta and their *Gatewood House* located at Emory University.

In early December of this year, we will be providing a full meal for all current residents and staff of this facility. The Terminus Chapter will also be donating a *Thomas the Tank* wooden train play set for their use in the play room. The set will consist of a table, trains and accessories provided in part by our friends at LEGACY STATION.

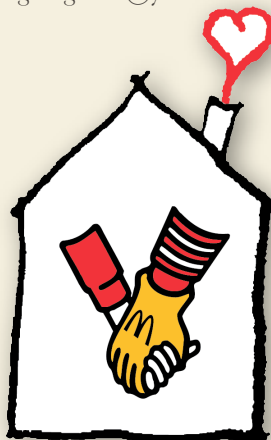
The ARMHC is dedicated to serving the needs of children by providing housing and support to families of ill and injured children being

treated at local hospitals. Volunteering for this worthwhile project is a rewarding experience and a great opportunity for all who wish to give.

For more information about this event or to donate additional *Thomas the Tank* items, please contact Dave Rodgers via email at: gahighrail@yahoo.com



Mr. Rodgers addressing the membership about this years community outreach project at the Atlanta Ronald McDonald House.



**RONALD McDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES
ATLANTA**

'Round Town with Bill Frey

AREA TRAIN SHOW RECAPS & UPCOMING EVENTS ~ NOV-DEC, 2015

With this issue, I will start a new column that gives a brief look at the Atlanta area shows, both past and approaching shows. It will be an easy way for everyone to be in the loop.

RECAP

October 19-24, 2015

YORK, PA TRAIN WEEK: For the handful of Terminus Chapter TCA members that I saw up in York, PA for the TCA Eastern Division York Train Meet, we were all very blessed with the best week of weather that anyone can ever remember having in York. The first three days were excellent with the 'Bandit' meets at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, the old Billy Budd Hotel, and the two fire halls. The TCA Show at the York County Fairgrounds was even more impressive as loads of TCA members flocked to pursue their quests. We saw a lot of familiar faces, had some great meals, enjoyed a few tales, and even found a thing or two... including our eventual way home. What a week it was. Which brings up the big question: How long away is April??

UPCOMING

Here is a quick look at some upcoming shows.

November 21-22, 2015

GREENBERG TRAIN SHOW: (Cobb Galleria in Marietta, GA) The Terminus Chapter will have a TCA Outreach table at the GREENBERG TRAIN SHOW. The table will be located on Row C at table 6. Please stop by to see what is new with the TCA and if you have some time, please feel free to help us out by manning the table for a while. It's not too hard, we just talk trains with the show patrons. We are promoting the TCA and the benefits of our membership as well as to promote our next Terminus Chapter TCA Train Meet. Also at this show, the Atlantic S Gaugers will set up and run their modular layout. We will be on the lookout for you.

December 5, 2015

TERMINUS CHAPTER TCA TRAIN MEET: (201 Wills Road, Alpharetta, GA) Our holiday meet is fast approaching. Please make your plans to register soon for your table. These tables sell out early so make your plans soon. As a special treat, the Terminus Chapter will provide a free Chick-Fil-A lunch to all members and their guests. We look forward to seeing you there. And, remember to bring

your green & red train item to place on our popular Display Table during the Train Meet.

December 12, 2015

22 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TRAIN SHOW: (Nashville, TN) The Music City Chapter TCA will once again host their Christmas Train Show. This show has grown to be one of the highlights of the year for all who attend. They have plenty of tables and operating layouts, plus lots of great door prizes.

December 19, 2015

MAGIC VALLEY CHAPTER TCA TRAIN SHOW: (Pelham, AL) If you need something to do this weekend, perhaps pay a visit to our neighboring TCA friends in Alabama. The Magic Valley is holding their train show in Pelham, which is just south of Birmingham. The show is open to the public and will have many layouts on display. For more information about this meet, contact Richard Ward at 205-706-2657 or meadowoodone@aol.com

That pretty much wraps up 2015, but don't forget that the fun doesn't stop there. There is plenty good stuff coming up in the beginning of 2016. The GOLDEN SPIKE train show will be back in mid January, and I plan to be there. The SOUTHERN MUSEUM OF CIVIL WAR & LOCO HISTORY in Kennesaw will host their *Trains, Trains, Trains* event. This is always a fun day. Then the first weekend of February marks the Easley train show in SC. There is usually something for everyone at Easley.

Until next time, happy training!



The Atlantic Coast S Gaugers - Georgia Division will set up at the Greenberg show in November.

Goettmann Who? IN-TRAINING ~ WITH RICK HEMER

At a recent Terminus chapter meet, T-C president Arno Baars found an early transformer with a red painted cast iron case manufactured by O.J. GOETTMANN of Pittsburgh, PA. Now, what was it?

Mr. Goettmann was a pioneer in the manufacture of low voltage transformers for electric toys and bells. According to Polk's Business Directory for Pittsburgh & Allegheny Counties, Oscar J. Goettman first appears in 1905 as an employee of HOLTZER-CABOT ELECTRICAL COMPANY. From 1908 through 1928 he is listed as the owner of GOETTMANN ELECTRICAL SUPPLY CO. In 1929 his name is listed without the company.

The following information is from the 1914 O.J. GOETTMANN catalog. Listed output voltages assume 110 volts input. Their were four different models suitable for toy trains catalogued: The *Type D* has four binding posts on top and depending on which posts are used, output 4, 6, 7, 11, 13 and 17 volts. The *Type D.S.* is similar but with an added regulating switch (step-type) to more easily control voltage. Both the *Type D* and *Type D.S.* are rated at 65 watts. The larger *Type C* and *Type C.S.* transformers are rated for 100 watts capacity and capable of higher output voltages, 20 and 23 volts respectively. They feature five binding posts with the difference between the two being the addition of a regulating switch on the *Type C.S.* to more easily adjust voltage. (*Interestingly, the step-type regulator switch is opposite from most transformers, with power 'off' being to the right and by moving the lever counter-clockwise, the voltage increases.*)

Only the finest construction methods and materials of the day were used, including an enameled cast iron case outside and a "non-aging silicon alloy steel core" inside. All toy transformers were furnished with a detachable eight foot reinforced flexible cord and plug, a receptacle, two three amp fuse plugs and two flexible wires to connect to the track. The catalog also states that they are the originator of the safety fuse in-line to protect both the train and transformer.

The catalog itself is interesting as the cover reads "THE

GOETTMANN LOW VOLTAGE TRANSFORMERS" and has a drawing of a *Type C.S.* transformer connected to an oval of track upon which sits an Ives #1125 steam loco pulling three #129/130 series passenger cars. The caption inside the track reads "MINIATURE RAILWAY". The year and edition, 1914 *Fourth Edition*, are on page 1, toy transformers are listed on pages 6 thru 10. There are 24 numbered pages total plus the covers.

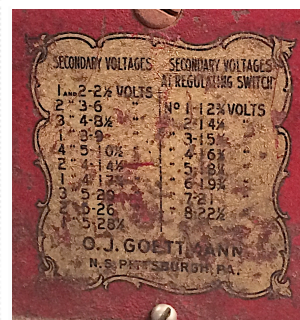
Also worth noting, my research on the transformer was going slow, so I contacted TCA librarian Jan Athey. Jan was able to obtain a copy of the 1914 *Fourth Edition Goettmann* catalog

from the Smithsonian Libraries. She also provided valuable information from the city of Pittsburgh historical records.

The NATIONAL TOY TRAIN LIBRARY in Strasburg, PA is a key benefit available to all TCA members and is open full time for browsing and research. If you can't visit in person Jan Athey, librarian, and the Library Committee are available to assist you and welcome your questions. The library can be contacted by phone at: 717-687-8976, e-mail: ref-library@traincollectors.org or mail at: PO Box 248, Strasburg, PA 17579. At TCA's website www.traincollectors.org members can search the Library's online database which, although an ongoing project, at this time contains approximately 25,000 records of items in the collection. Research fees are: First 1/2 hour free, additional research \$10-per hour; photocopies cost \$0.25 per page plus postage.



The Toy Transformer found at our TCA train meet. Although missing the cord, the heavy cast metal case is in good shape.



The fancy gold decal on the O.J. Goettmann transformer states the voltages available; both fixed and variable.

Future Events & Train Meets

~ CLICK THE SHOW NAME FOR MORE INFO ~

GREENBERG'S TOY & TRAIN SHOW

November 21st-22nd • 10am-4pm
Cobb Galleria Centre • Atlanta GA

TERMINUS CHAPTER TCA HOLIDAY MEET

December 5th • 9am-2pm
American Legion, Post #201 • Alpharetta GA

22ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TRAIN SHOW

December 12th • 9am-4pm
Music City Chapter TCA • Nashville TN

MAGIC VALLEY CHAPTER TCA TRAIN SHOW

December 19th • 9am-4pm
Pelham Civic Complex • Pelham AL

TRAINS, TRAINS, TRAINS

January 30th-31st, 2016 • 9:30am-5pm
Southern Museum of Civil War & Loco History • Kennesaw GA

2016 ANNUAL TRAIN SHOW

February 6th-7th • 10am-5pm (4pm Sun.)
J.B. Owens Sports Complex • Easley SC

EASTERN DIV. TCA YORK MEET

April 14th-16th • York PA



Terminus Chapter
Train Collectors Association - Terminus Chapter

TOY AND MODEL TRAIN SWAP MEET

DECEMBER 5TH 2015

American Legion POST #201
201 Wills Road | Alpharetta, GA

Operating Train Layouts
New and Antique
Toy & Model Trains
Parts • Appraisals



ADMISSION:
General Public - \$7.00/person
TCA Members - \$3.00/person
Children ages 16 and under are FREE

Show Hours: 9am-2pm
OPEN TO GENERAL PUBLIC

Note: No trading or selling outside the meet hall. Table holders are asked to abide by the show hours and not leave early so all patrons can be served. Attendees agree to comply with all rules and regulations of the TCA.



ZERO MILE POST

FROM:
TERMINUS CHAPTER • TCA
1459 Highway 54
Moreland, GA 30259

NOV/DEC 2015 Vol. 1 • No. 6

MAIL TO:

Member
4321 First Street
Anytown, State ZIP





TERMINUS CHAPTER TCA HOLIDAY TOY TRAIN SWAP MEET

AMERICAN LEGION POST #201
IN ALPHARETTA, GA

Dec 5, 2015 • 9:00 - 2:00
(set-up Sat. 7am-9am, Business Meeting 8:45am)

Admission: \$3 for TCA Members ~ \$7 for the General Public
Children ages 16 and under are FREE

AMERICAN LEGION POST 201 • 201 Wills Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30009

DIRECTIONS: From 400, take exit 10. Go west on GA-120/Old Milton Parkway.
Travel west on Old Milton Rd for just over 2 miles and turn right onto Wills Rd.
American Legion Post 201 is on the left. Just look for the Helicopter!

All Table Holders Eligible for a \$50 Cash Prize

TO GUARANTEE YOUR TABLE(S), PLEASE MAIL
COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

Tommie Turner
1401 Hopedale Ct.
Lawrenceville, GA 30043

Table Reservation Deadline:
Dec 1, 2015

For Info on Event, call 770-339-4246



**Bring A Red & Green Train
Item for the Display Table!!**



Please Make Check Payable to: TERMINUS CHAPTER-TCA

NAME _____ TCA# _____ - _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE# (____) _____ - _____

☐ 6' Tables - buy 3 get 4th FREE! Qty ____ (x) \$15.⁰⁰ \$ _____

☐ I will wear my Terminus Chapter badge

☐ Request my table(s) next to: _____

☐ Spouse ☐ Child (free admittance) _____

**All table requests must be accompanied by payment. Tables are sold on a 1st come, 1st served basis.
Reserve your tables by mail or online at: www.dixiedivisiontca.com/registration-terminus-chapter**