



THE DIXIE FLYER



WINTER 2018

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Division News & 2018 TCA Convention

It is hard to believe that the Holiday Season has come and gone. I hope everybody had a great Christmas and I wish you a Happy New Year. I especially enjoyed Christmas Day. I believe part of the reason is because, like so many of you, that is when I received my first train set. I can still recall how I felt when I first saw that train running around the layout. It presented me with a hobby that never left me. The Dixie Division had a good year last year and that

is due in part to your participation. We were one of the few divisions that had an increase in membership. On average, our division loses 60 members every year either to death or members not renewing their TCA memberships. We all need to be recruiters for new members so we can be able to replace our losses and add to the overall club membership.

I would like to encourage all of you to bring kids to our train meets. We are very fortunate to have Nikhil Jammalamadaka and his father to run our Kid's Club. They attend most of our meets and they have games for the children to play as well as door prizes. They also have membership applications for the TCA Kids Club and the TCA Youth Club. Therefore, please bring your grandchildren or invite a friend with children to come to our train meets. For our hobby to continue, we must get this generation involved in trains.

Our Division is very fortunate to have members to arrange and set up meets and take leadership roles at them. I want to thank the Division Officers and the Chapter Officers for all they do.

The Terminus Chapter under the leadership of Bill Frey, Dennis Farrar, Rick Hemer and their Board of Directors not only puts on train shows in the Terminus Chapter area but they also host a breakfast at Christmas time at the Ronald McDonald House near the Children's Hospital. They serve breakfast to parents of children who are in the hospital and their siblings. They also give presents to these kids.

The Music City Chapter under the leadership of Ron Hirst, Joe Marabeti, Vic Petrone, and their Board of Directors have one of the largest Christmas shows in the division. At the last Christmas show in Nashville, they had over 1100 paid admissions to the meet and they gave out 6 train sets to kids attending the show.

The Volunteer Chapter under the leadership of Bill Teppenpaw and John Carden has hosted a couple of shows and are working extremely hard to build up the Volunteer Chapter membership. There are many other members that work behind the scenes to make our meets enjoyable. All of these people are volunteers who give a lot of their time to make sure we all enjoy ourselves at the train shows. If you see any of these volunteers, please take a moment and thank them for their service.

The Dixie Division will be celebrating our 30th anniversary at our March 17th train meet in Ringgold, GA. The division has purchased 5 train sets as a part of our celebration. We will give one to each of our chapters and we will give 2 away at our March 17th show. As part of our 30th anniversary celebration all members who pre-register will be served lunch. I hope you will come and enjoy the fun and fellowship as we celebrate this special anniversary. There will be other door prizes as well.

The 64th TCA National Convention will be held this year in Warwick, RI. on June 23 – July 1, 2018 and is hosted by the New England Division. It will be held at the Crowne

Plaza Hotel. I would like to encourage you to start making your plans early. There are many wonderful tours set up. Please visit the Convention website at www.TCAConvention.org for more information.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you at one of our upcoming train meets and in Warwick RI in June.

Sincerely,
Bob Keller
Dixie Division President

**DIVISION UPDATE
TREASURER'S REPORT
JANUARY 14, 2018**

Beginning Balance:	\$2,745.06
Income:	
Terminus Chapter Support 12/2/17 meet	\$ 78.00
Music City Chapter Support 12/9/17 meet	300.00
Terminus Chapter Support 9/23/17 meet	98.00
Income Total:	\$476.00
Expenses:	
Kathy Drewin Website Charge	\$136.00
Kathy Drewin Website Hosting '18	180.00
Expenses Total:	\$316.00
Ending Balance:	\$2,905.06
Alan Evans, Treasurer Dixie Division - TCA	

DIVISION /CHAPTER UPDATE - UPCOMING MEETS

March 17, 2018: Dixie Division, Catoosa Colonnade, Old Mill Rd., Ringgold, GA.

April 7, 2018: Terminus Chapter, VFW Post #5408, 4764 Cobb Parkway NW, Acworth, GA.

April 14, 2018: Music City Chapter, First Baptist Church Donelson, 2526 Lebanon Rd., Nashville, TN.

September 22, 2018: Terminus Chapter, VFW Post #5408, 4764 Cobb Parkway NW, Acworth, GA.

December 1, 2018: Terminus Chapter, VFW Post #5408, 4764 Cobb Parkway NW, Acworth, GA.