



OZARK DIVISION NEWSLETTER MARCH 2022

Welcome to the first edition of the online Ozark Division Newsletter. First, we must recognize our previous Newsletter editor, Jon Lundvall. Jon took over the Newsletter duties in 1986. It borders on the unbelievable that Jon committed his time and resources to this document for over 35 years. Jon certainly deserves a big THANK YOU from the Ozark Division membership.

This is my first publication as the newly created position of Ozark Division Communications Editor. In addition to my Newsletter responsibilities, I am also responsible for the Divisions' Facebook page, web site and email communications. Jon Lundvall has agreed to serve as the Division's Historian.

I am looking forward to working with and for each member of Division.

Don Miller – Ozark Division Communications Editor 06-59842.

A word from our President Rob English

Hello fellow collectors and operators. My name is Rob English, and I have been given the honor to serve as Ozark Division President for the next term. I look forward to carrying on what my predecessor - Don Miller- started, much better communication for the divisions, and I hope to continue driving the improvement. I would like to see increased Chapter meeting with a learning component to them, such as the recent Gateway Chapter meeting, in which we learned about how to spot fakes in Lionel boxes (boy, there were some really good fakes!) from Greg Hake, and about Lionel Prewar Hudson's from Lloyd Taaffe, and a presentation on the Ives 3257 by Eric Strackeljahn. All three presenters are acknowledged subject matter experts and Longtime TCA Ozark division members.

I am an avid prewar collector and operator. Both Standard / Wide Gauge and 0 Gauge. I started with modern trains in the 1990s with all the bells and whistles. Raised my kids around them! In the mid-1990s I joined the TCA and met some prewar collectors here in St Louis, and that led to selling most all the modern, building a rather large tubular track layout, and switching to the prewar trains. I enjoy repairing, collecting, and operating.

Michael Deitz 70 – 3240

We all have Covid quarantine stories, some good, so not so good. I doubt any of those stories compare to this one. It seems that Dr. Deitz and his wife Anne have a business interest in New Zealand called Train World. They went to visit, as they do every year, in the winter of 2019. Covid hit in New Zealand, as it did worldwide, and they were trapped; quarantined for 18 months.

When they were in New Zealand in the first place is quite a story. It seems that Michael, an eye surgeon, was in Perth Australia to give a speech on radial keratotomy. While in the part of the world they wanted to do some sight-seeing and were convinced to travel New Zealand. Falling in love with the New Zealand summers (our winters) they returned often for skiing trips and vacations. Ultimately, Michael became involved in a business arrangement with the owner of a train museum called Train World.

Train World is in Napier, New Zealand. Napier, a coastal city on New Zealand's North Island, is set amid the renowned wine-producing region of Hawke's Bay. Trainworld is a 30' by 60' train museum of mostly Marklin and Hornby HO trains. In 2006 the manager walked out and Michael assumed full time responsibility for the museum's operation. By 2014, the Deitzs' realized it was time to discontinue operations and in 2019 they went to New Zealand to oversee the transition to another museum. As they were getting ready to return to the United States, Covid 19 hit and they remained quarantined until 2021.

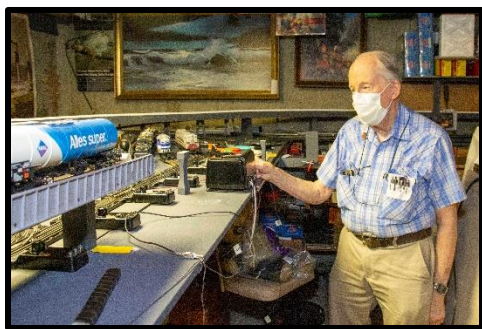
Michael got his start in trains with a Marx 0-4-0 when he was 5 ½ or 6 years old. Unfortunately, his father thought trains were a waste of time and young Michael did not get much support in adding to his trains.



Nonetheless, trains, Erector sets and all things mechanical, fascinated Michael during his youth. He and neighborhood boys would pool their track and create complicated track plans. To the left, Michael points at a black and white picture of the complicated layout he had created when in his teens.

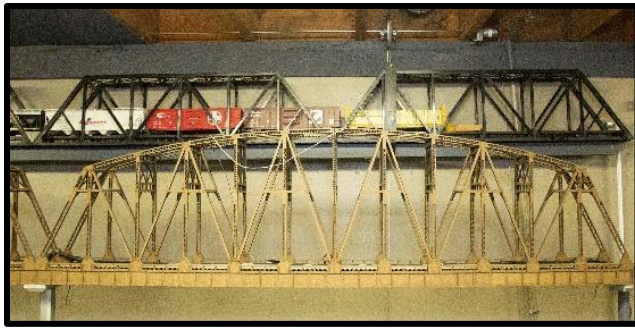
As I entered the Deitz's attractive suburban home in Prairie Village, KS, I was greeted by 6 gigantic suitcases. It seems that before leaving New Zealand, Michael and his wife Anne wanted to keep as many of their favorite trains as they could. Well beyond the 50 lbs. limit on aircraft luggage, Michael had to air

ship the suitcases back to the United States.



A trip to the basement reveals a huge oval of tracks running around the edge of the basement. Two of the loops are 2 – rail O scale. The third loop is 3 – rail O gauge. Michael was always an aggressive collector. He was hooked on getting one of every number. By 1990 he had collected all the F3s, Geeps etc. Needing a new turn for his model railroading interests he became fascinated with two rail scale. He sold most of his Lionel collection to fund his new addiction to the highly detailed O scale locomotives.

Michael has always been a tinkerer. On the left the bridge in back is mounted on wire rope and pulleys. With a flip of a switch, he can raise or lower a complete train. Stored in the up position, available to run



on his layout when lowered. Lots of mechanical details on the layout were fun to see and hear Michael describe how they work.

Finally, included below are a couple of pictures from the layout. First, a scale NYC Hudson.



Second, is a favorite mine, a scale Big Boy running through his work bench. I might find it hard to get much work done.



Finally, our congratulations to Michael for keeping the hobby alive for over 50 years. (Since I interviewed Michael, he has moved from his Prairie Village home.)

My \$3.00 Box Car.

I am sure all of you have had special moments in the train collecting hobby. My best moment, of course was Christmas 1955 when Santa delivered a 2245 Texas Special F3 set to the Miller home. But a close second came the following year.

I grew up on the Great Northern branch line between Sioux Falls, SD and Yankton, SD. In the little town of Davis SD, just barely over 100 people. If you think of the Great Northern railroad, you probably think of the Empire builder that ran between Minneapolis/St. Paul and Seattle. If that route was the backbone of the GN, the route through Davis was more like the fingernail. A freight and a gas-electric (doodle bug) combine ran through Davis, both the freight engine and the gas-electric were painted in the famous orange and green Empire Builder color scheme.



It was an after Christmas sale at Lewis Drug in Sioux Falls, SD that attracted my mom and I. This drug store was a forerunner to stores like K Mart and the early Walmarts. A store that had greatly expanded its products well beyond the typical drug store. The big thing was that they had LIONEL Trains before Christmas. They always had a layout/display of Lionel's best. The displays were probably the "dealer" layouts that they purchased from Lionel. The one at the left that appeared in Classic Toy Trains, fits my recollection. None, the less, I was fascinated by the trains.

Every year, after Christmas, they would move the items that did not sell to a corner of the store to be sold at ½ price. In 1956 the after Christmas sale items included a few orange and blue Lionel train boxes. I can still remember the box that had 6464-450 Great Northern boxcar printed on the end. I had studied the Lionel 1956 catalog from cover to cover repeatedly. I knew immediately that the box car it contained was a colorful Great Northern in the Empire Builder colors. There it was, ½ the normal \$5.95 price.

Even \$3.00 was a big investment for me in 1956. Every Saturday I would get two quarters for my weekly allowance. One of the quarters was immediately taken to the variety store in downtown Davis. A former



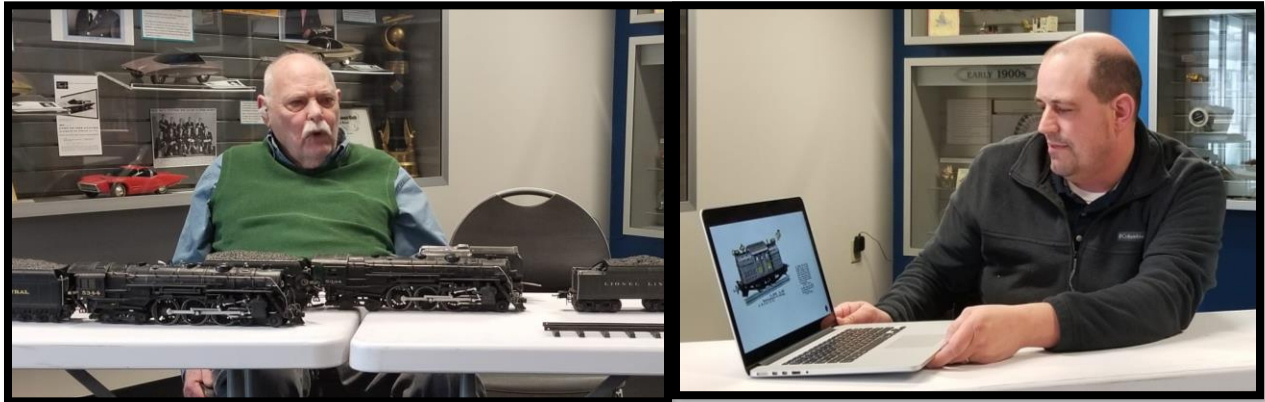
drug store, they still had a soda fountain, A chocolate shake was twenty-five cents. That left me with twenty-five cents of discretionary income. Twelve weeks to save the \$3.00 for the half price box car. There may have been some Christmas money added in, but I plunked down the \$3.00 and the 6464-450 was mine. That car has seen a lot of "track time" over the years, it is now retired to a

display shelf amongst her sister 6464 box cars. Every time I look at the car, it brings back memories of that after Christmas sale and my \$3.00 box car.

Don Miller 06-59842 – Ozark Division Communications Editor

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Gateway Chapter, St. Louis



On February 19th, 2022, the Gateway Chapter got together at the Museum of Transportation in St. Louis. The meeting was well attended although a few members were missing due to knee replacement operations.

We had 3 very informative presentations. Greg Hake led off with a presentation on Lionel original boxes vs fakes. Greg explained the lengths to people will go to fake an original box. This will be an ongoing series of presentations by Greg. Lloyd Taaffe then spoke on prewar Lionel Hudson locomotives and the differences. He brought a Lionel 700E, a 700K locomotive and a 763 locomotive to illustrate his presentation. Eric Strackljahn shared information on Ives 3257 locomotives and the outfits they pulled.

Show and tell highlights included several pieces from the Lionel archives

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 7th at the Transportation Museum. We look forward to Greg Hake's continued presentation.

Heart of America Chapter, Kansas City



Our February Layout Tour was graciously hosted by Dwight and Elizabeth Carmichael. The evening tour was 6pm to 8pm on Friday, February 25, 2022. Everyone enjoyed Dwight's extensive collection and layout.

Additional photos can be found on our Facebook Group page – Heart of America TCA Train Club

Central Missouri Chapter, Columbia, MO



Central Mo's Layout

The Central Missouri Chapter of the TCA participated in the 43rd Hobo Joe Train Show presented by the Columbia Missouri Parks and Recreation Department held at Paquin Towers on March 19, 2022. The event featured Z, N, HO, S, O, and G gauge operating train layouts, local authors who have books about the area's history with railroads especially the MKT, Wabash, and Missouri Pacific, train related activities for the children, and experts in model railroading sharing their information. Approximately 600 people attended the exhibits.

We are also diligently working toward our 25th Annual Swap meet will be held on November 5th from 9AM to 3PM at the Columbia Senior Activity Center, 1121 Business Loop 70 East, Columbia, MO.

Meetings for the Central Missouri Chapter are generally on the first Wednesday of each month. The meetings are held in the basement of the house at Rock Quarry Park, 2002 Grindstone Parkway, Columbia, MO. The dates for the next meetings are April 6, May 4, *June 8 (the second Wednesday in June)*, and July 6. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM.

Our Facebook page is mid-motrainclub.

Train Related Activities in the Ozark Division geographical Area

March 26th Lake of the Ozarks Train Club Show, 9am-3pm, 1064 N. Business Rt. 5, Camdenton,

Apr 2 -3, 2022, The Rocky Mountain Train Show – National Western Complex, 4655 Humboldt St, Denver, CO 80216, 10:00 AM - Sun Apr 3, 2022 4:00 PM MDT The National Western Complex, 80216

April 9, 2022: The Sons of the American Legion Spring Train Show
10:00 am - 3:00 pm, Dupo American Legion Post #485, 200 South 5th Street, Dupo IL 62239
Admission \$3, Children 12 and under FREE
For more information call Dirk Reynolds at (618) 973-2237 or email comptrain2002@yahoo.com

April 30 from 10 to 3 at The Iron Spike in Washington, MO

April 28-30, 2022: TCA Eastern Division - York Meet
York State Fairgrounds, 334 Carlisle Ave, York, PA 17404

May 7, 9am-4pm & **May 8**, 10am-2pm Marceline Train Show, 124 E. Ritchie, Marceline, MO (contact there is: Dennis VanDyke, [660-734-2195](tel:660-734-2195), d.vandyke0@icloud.com)

May 14, from 10 to 3 at the Meramec Elks Hall in Imperial, MO

May 14, S Gauge Club Train Meet (TCA HOA will be attending as their May event)
The Corkhouse, 508 Armstrong, Kansas City, KS

May 21 from 9am-4pm & **May 22** from 9am-3pm - The Nebraska Iowa Railroaders Train & Toy Show
Omaha Sports Complex 14706 Giles Road, Omaha, NE
For more information: www.NebraskalowaRailroaders.com

Ozark Division TCA 2021 Financial Report:

Beginning Balance January 1, 2021		\$12,169.69
Income:		
Admissions		
Membership	\$550.00	
Table Sales	\$160	
Misc.	\$1425.00*	
Subtotal	\$2,135.00	\$14,304.69
Expenses:		
Advertising		
Bank S/C	\$125.04	
BOD /President		
Displays		
Hall Rental		
Postage		
Printing/Office Supplies		
Refunds		
St. Louis Gateway Chapter	\$813.88	
Table Rental	\$25.00	
Train Show Table		
TCA Annual Appeal		
TCA New Member Appl.		
Web-Site M/R	\$723.71	
Misc.		
Subtotal	\$1,687.63	\$12,617.06
Balance as of September 30, 2021		\$12,617.06

Respectfully Submitted
Jon Lundvall
Secretary/Treasurer

Included in balance is \$2560.14 being held for St. Louis Gateway Chapter, Ozark
Division net balance \$10,056.92

*Sale of gifted trains to St. Louis Gateway Chapter

2022 OZARK DIVISION BOARD DIRECTORY

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