



GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

MAIN LINE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE'

by Dave Brown

What a summer! On the fourth Saturday in July we had a very successful Summer Cactus Meet and three weeks later we had a very fun Beat the Heat bus trip. Thank you's go out to all who helped in those events.

The fourth Saturday of August is our regular monthly meeting and our "Guess the Heat Meet". Bring your train car with the number you think the temperature will be at 11:00 AM that day. The closest without going over will win six monthly raffle tickets. If all guesses are over, the closest will win. Good luck. After the meeting come to the Streets of New York at 12th Street and Northern for an after the meeting lunch.

September is our Mini Meet at the church. Janet Mattern will be taking reservations for tables which are free to GCMR members. October is our pizza meet and annual raffle drawing. There is no meeting in November, leaving the Christmas party the first Sunday in December as the last meeting in 2017.

We have several special events coming up through the end of the year. First is Railfair in October. November has two events, both on the same weekend; the Desert Division's fall swap meet and our trailer's trip to California for Cal Stewart in Glendale, CA. We will be running on the weekends in early December at the Western Railroad Park in northern Phoenix. More on these events soon.

At the June meeting, there was a long discussion on modules. The only decision written in stone was the

decision to scrap the old "O" gauge modules. In fact the legs from those modules were up for sale at the July swap meet. Talk of the Lionel modules was to introduce that as a possible replacement for the old "O" modules. Why the Lionel LCCA modules? Because we are tired of reinventing the wheel when it comes to modules.

The system that was just scrapped is the third go around at "O" gauge modules, and they still didn't work right without a lot of work. Bill Lazenby and Herb Andreen set up, sight unseen, the Lionel LCCA's module at the swap meet in February of this year. Both indicated that it was very easy for just the two of them to do.

That's a system we need - light, and easy to set up. Lionel has spent the time to figure out how to do it correctly! So why should we try to design some other system when someone has done the work for us? It's just like if a group of HO members wanted GCMR to get into HO modules, I would insist that they follow the "N track" format for those modules.

What experience do I have with N track? None, but I know that it's an international standard and that they have fixed any bugs a long time ago. Too bad N track has no standards for tinplate. Short of that, the Lionel LCCA is the next best shot for the benchwork.

Now is it going to be "O" gauge only or multi gauge? That up to you. I propose that be on the ballot for officers this year. We can vote on whether it's "O" gauge or multi gauge. That way everyone's voice will be heard.

Enough for now, see you on Saturday.

MEET WRAP UPS

by Glenn Saber

Cactus Meet: This swap meet was surprisingly GOOD for a show that was down on attendance over 2016. We had a \$2,345.04 net profit. Just a hair better than the 2016 summer swap. Thank you for everyone's hard work :-)

Also, the Fellowship Center has been reserved for the 2018 Winter Cactus to be held on Saturday, February 17th.

I will try to rework the 2018 Vendor flier to include GCMR's entrance/security measures as part of the signature block.

Beat The Heat: Here are the final figures on this year's Beat The Heat bus tour. Negotiating with Via Transportation got the bus reduced from \$1112.91 to \$975.00 (a savings of \$137.91), so we lost only \$46.52 :-). Fun trip with five open houses visited, including S and G gauge.

VALLEY METRO RECEIVES AWARDS FROM TRANSIT, TECH GROUPS

From Trains Newswire

Industry and tech groups are recognizing Valley Metro for its efforts in light rail and transit development. So far this summer, the Phoenix-area transit agency has received three awards.

ESRI, a geographic information system software company, recently presented the agency with its 2017 special achievement in GIS award. The award recognizes the agency's ridership data portal for its outstanding efforts in GIS technology. According to

Valley Metro, the data portal provides access to customized transit ridership records.

The American Public Works Association Arizona Chapter has also presented the agency with the 2017 Public Works Project of the Year for Valley Metro's Northwest light rail extension initiative. The Northwest light rail extension is a 3.2-mile light rail line that extends rail service north on 19th Avenue from Montebello to Dunlap Avenue. The extension, which opened in March 2016, serves about 5,000 riders per day.

The agency was also presented with the Southwest Transit Association Spotlight Award for its unique way of educating riders on alternative modes of public transportation. The agency's "change your game plan" campaign uses board games and testimonials from agency customers to showcase the benefits of using alternative modes of transportation.

NEW FEATURE

by Peter Atonna

Some GCMR members may be aware that I collect "paper". That is Lionel and America Flyer catalogs and other publications as well as a Model Railroader and other historic railroad "paper". One of the more elusive publications was the Lionel in house publication, All Aboard.

We sometimes forget that Lionel, in its heyday, was a major manufacturer and employer in the New York, Northern New Jersey area. Like many companies, they published an in-house magazine for their employees. Although recognizing what they made, much of the magazine focused on what any company would - employee doings, management exhortations for better production, weddings and deaths as well as

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descriptions of how the many departments are run. As Lionel employed many women, the magazine even had a monthly “women’s fashion” feature page!

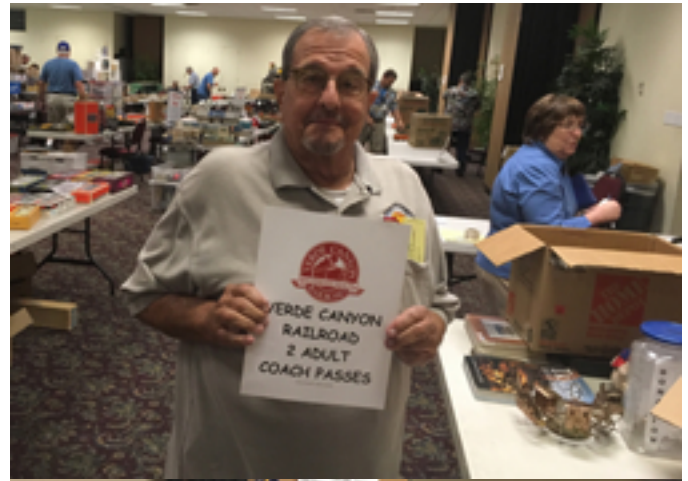
Over the years I’ve been able to collect only a few of the All Aboard’s. They show up on Ebay, but sell for prices that are at least twice what I am willing to pay. During a presentation at this year’s TCA national convention by Bob Osteroff about Lionel History, he mentioned his CD’s of the All Aboard magazine. Bob has put onto CD’s a huge assortment of Lionel, Flyer and other tinplate paper. So, I went to his table and there he has a three disc set of the All Aboard magazines. They were published from 1946 to the late ‘50s when the financial condition of the company yielded many cutbacks.

So, starting in this issue, I thought I would share with you a page or two from the magazine to give you an insight into the inner workings of Lionel.

BIG EVENTS

Between hosting the summer Cactus Meet and taking the bus to the Beat the Heat meet, GCMR members have had a very busy month. Here are some photos taken by John Draftz and Dave Brown and Peter Atonna from these events.

Cactus Meet





The 2017 Official Bus Tour Photo

Arriving at the Atonna's and in between rain storms. The rain gods smiled: We had 0.6" of rain just as we arrived for the open house. Then another 1.0" dumped right at the end of the open house! But the bus gang stayed dry.



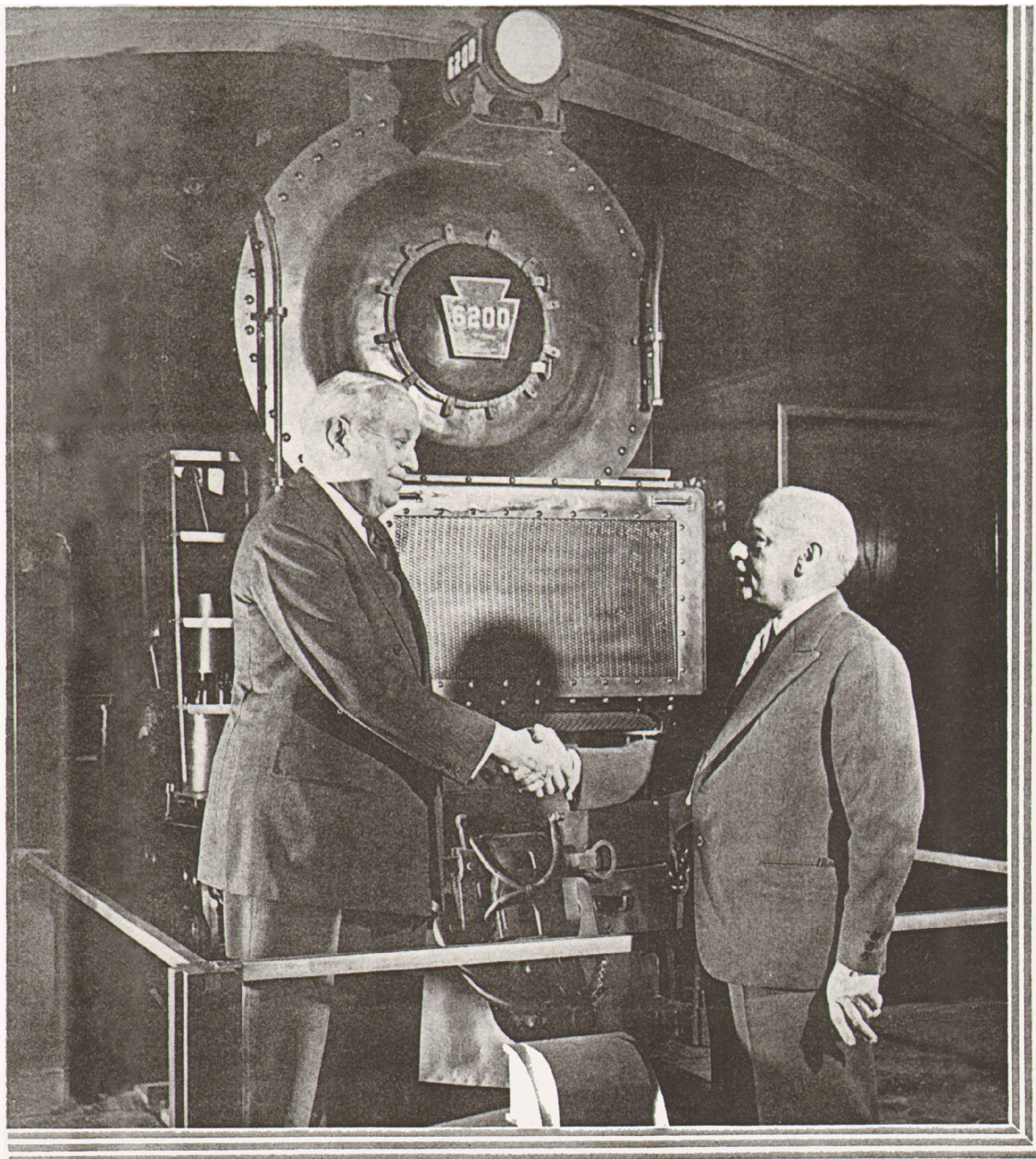
at Marlin Benson's



Dave at Mark Ziven's diorama



The bus gang at Paul Janowski's



*George LeBoutillier,
N. Y. Zone Vice President
of the Penn. R. R., retired,
greets J. L. Cowen,
Chairman of the Board,
The Lionel Corporation.*

LET'S TAKE A TRIP TO LIONEL IN NEW YORK!

ALL of us are familiar with the Lionel plant at Irvington—with the gardens, the recreation house, the other points of interest.

But few of us here have been to New York City where, at 15 East 26th Street, Lionel boasts one of the finest showrooms in the country. Here, in a modern, colorful setting, amid indirect lighting, Lionel trains and accessories are shown in wall display cases, on table layouts and against a scenic panorama that includes models of the Grand Canyon and Niagara Falls.

Every year thousands of people flock to this handsome showroom, including not only children and fathers but buyers from department and other stores throughout the United States.

For our first page of Lionel history, here is a page from the first issue of *All Aboard*, November 1946. Here we see a fairly rare photo of Joshua Lionel Cowen at the entry to the Lionel showroom in New York. As his son, Lawrence became CEO of Lionel after the war, Lawrence was shown most of the time in the magazine.

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The 2017 Cactus Summer Meet is now history and what fun it was! All ran smoothly and the visitors had a great selection to choose from.