



GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

MAIN LINE

AUGUST, 2020

Volume 29

Number 8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Brown

I'M BACK!!! For those who were wondering what happened to me over the past two months, I was down with covid. It started just before the June meeting and finally was over just after the July meeting. I didn't have to spend any days in the Hospital, how ever I did check myself into the emergency room .

At the same time, I took my wife in. The test confirmed I had it, though it took ten days to get the results. I slept a lot, didn't eat for a week, lost about 30 pounds, and got bored binge watching DVDs.

Now that's over, it time for trains. Covid is still peaking around and has had its effects on all our activities. We have lost this month's Beat the Heat bus swap meet and tour, and we will be talking about the Mini meet at the August meeting.

We still have the election for the board member happening, so get your vote to Bill Richardson before the meeting this month. This month's show and tell is our "Guess the Heat" meet.

Bring you car or engine where the last two or three numbers match the National weather service's temperature for 11:00am on that day. The closest without going over will win six monthly raffle tickets.

For the future, as stated earlier we will see if we are able to do the mini meet in September. If

for covid reasons show that we can't, we will still have a monthly meet that day. It will be just a regular meeting. It will include the drag race meet.

The next event will be Railfair. As of right now, one thing we do know is that the layout building will be closed to the public this year. What is not known right now is if the City of Scottsdale will be getting the tents for cover. With no tents for shade, I doubt that we will go.

Hopefully by meeting time we will have a better idea of what Scottsdale will be doing. Also in the air is TCA's meet in November. It depends on how covid is doing, and what the Shriner's will allow.

One option that TCA is looking at is to move the meet to Park and Swap which is out side. Time will tell.

The TCA, GCMR P&P joint Christmas party is a go, though the number of people at each table will be limited, so get your reservations in early.

CALENDAR

GCMR meets are held at 9:00am in the Parish Hall of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at 1212 East Glendale Avenue in Phoenix, located on the north side of Glendale, just east of the traffic light at 12th St. It is easily reached off the Glendale Exit of either I-17 or SR 51. Go east from I-17 or west from SR 51 to 12th Street.

August 15 - Beat the Heat meet and bus trip to Prescott **CANCELLED**

August 22 - GCMR meet - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

THE MEETING IS ON!

+ wear a mask

+ keep safe distance
during the meeting

September 26 - GCMR meet - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church - Mini Meet?

October 24 - GCMR meet - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

October 31 - AMRS swap meet - Adobe Mountain Park

November 7 - Desert Division fall auction - Paradise Valley United Methodist Church

MEETING MINUTES

by Bill Richardson

The meeting was called to order at by Past President John Draftz.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

John Draftz informed the membership that President Dave Brown was unavailable and had asked John to fill in for him again. Bill Richardson gave the Secretary's Report noting there are 42 club members. Glenn Saber gave the Treasurer's Report noting the amount of money available in our bank accounts.

OLD BUSINESS:

For those living under a rock, this is your last reminder that the "Beat The Heat" meet on August 15th has been cancelled.

Bill Richardson reported that he has received six ballots so far for the BOD position being vacated by Rich Fortmeyer. It was decided that the GCMR

(Peter Atonna or John Draftz) would send an E-blast mail to all members reminding them to pick one of two candidates (John Kendig or Doyle Bain), and email their pick to Secretary Bill Richardson. The decision will be announced at the August membership meeting.

So far, the September mini meet, scheduled for Saturday, 26th at Our Saviors Lutheran Church, is still pending. A final decision will be made at the August membership meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

TCA Desert Division President, Chris Allen, informed us about the possibility of holding the TCA November swap meet outdoors. As things progress he will keep us informed.

Chris also informed us that the Christmas Party at the Double Tree is still on. The Double Tree has made changes regarding indoor dining and social distancing. Again, as things progress, he will keep us informed, and we will keep you informed.

We have been informed by our P&P friends that the model railroad building out at McCormick Stillman Railroad Park will be closed to the public until January 1st, 2021. Members only are allowed in until then. Railfair is scheduled for October 3-4 and is still pending. The City of Scottsdale will need to make their decision.

The Adobe Mountain swap meet is still scheduled for Saturday, October 31. This may change. Note, this is also Halloween.

The AMRS December open house at Adobe Mountain Railroad Park is still on, but like many things, it is pending. It is still GCMR's position that we will participate with our mobile trailer the three weekends before Xmas.

Board of Directors

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SHOW AND TELL:

The Theme for July was "your favorite railroad car".

+ Glenn Saber showed us his "G" scale caboose which is the last car he needed to complete his train.

+ John Kendig showed us his "HO" Land O'Lakes car that his father actually made.

+ Dana Price showed us his "Pure Oil" tank car. His father used to own a "Pure Oil" gas station.

+ Bill Richardson showed us his American Flyer "S" gauge 24419 reefer. This is a car from his original AF set from 1957 and now worth about \$800.

+ John Zaval brought in a Lionel 6414 auto transport (with cars on it, his favorite cars, haha). This was made from 1955-1966 with ten variations.

+ John Draftz showed us his KLine auto transport flatcar, and his KLine train cars made from Marx dies running with his KLine engine.

GCMR HISTORY CONTINUES

by John Draftz

In February **1992**, a President's column was added to the newsletter.

Christmas party was great.

GATS show was in April.

Trailer at fall GATS was popular.

Trailer expenses need four shows a year income.

At present, there are two GATS & Christown. Joint event with Gadsden Pacific possible.

Changes to meetings to make them more attractive to members was discussed.

Letting public run personal trains on club layout was suggested.

In February, a new storage for the trailer was sought. Bill Schulte can help.

Regular meetings on 4th Saturday when possible.

\$1 table rental fee removed.

May meet moved out of Sunnyslope.

Prescott meet in August.

Trailer to at two malls, GATS twice & Railfair.

In March, the Sunnyslope carnival was noted as having gone well.

Peter encouraged members to run trains.

Switches removed from layout.

Trailer was well received at GATS.

Gadsden Pacific meet in June.

Possible bus to Tucson presented.

In June, it was noted that the location for our May meet wasn't the best. Attendance was a concern.

Prescott meet in August. Railfair in October.

We have 93 members.

The bus to Tucson was cancelled.

Christown at end of October.

In July, an article on outdoor railroading was presented.

Gadsden Pacific members to visit in July.

Our May meet profits ranged from \$250 to over \$800.

March '92 is our 20th anniversary of founding. June is the anniversary of the division.

Members went to P&P after the meeting.

A member said he didn't want negative stuff in the newsletter.

In August, past presidents were honored and given a sticker for their badge.

Previous officers were given plaques.

Concerns for trailer were presented. Peter may have alternative.

Rebuttal to negative comments concern was presented.

Prescott meet in August.

In September, a 20th anniversary celebration is planned in October.

Railfair in October. Christown in November.

Gadsden Pacific dissolved after museum incorporation.

A-frame trailer idea presented.

In October, a free storage location for the trailer found.

Cal-Stewart in November. Turkey meet in November. GATS in December. Christmas party in December.

Railfair was a success.

Current trailer used to make money for new one. In November, Tom Stange given life membership.

20th anniversary celebration went well.

Kids needed in hobby.

Frank won't run again. He encouraged operations.

In February **1993**, the old trailer was used for the last time [not really].

The Christmas party went well.

The needs and opportunities of Sunnyslope were noted.

\$7 initiation fee added to cover badge cost.

Annual events calendar created.

Sahuaro Central meet in February.

Layout visits, trips, presentations, etc. were discussed.

A Boy Scout railroad badge was presented.

The Tucson meet and May raffle information were presented.

The trailer was used at GATS.

Sunnyslope Winter Carnival report was presented.

Joint picnic in March. GATS in April.

In April, a theft at Nor-Cal was noted and a picnic report presented.

A mystery box prize was created.

We have 101 members.

Tucson meet in June. Prescott meet in August.

Commercial area at our May meet proposed.

Construction on new trailer started.

In June, a Tucson meet report and our May meet report were made.

The idea of finding a small collection for the meet auction was presented.

Having no shows at the meet was discussed.

New trailer work progressing. Will need to dismantle the old trailer.

The newsletter was sent to ALL TTOS members in the state.

In July, the new trailer is almost ready for work.

Lionel Railroader Club info was presented.

A tinsplate report was presented.

A mid-summer meet was discussed.

A report on the new trailer was made.

Phoenix may be the site for another national convention.

Our May meet was noted as being our largest money maker.

Sahuaro Central in October.

In August, a report on a summer meet was given.

#1-gauge loop to be on new layout.

Club name change proposed.

Work on new layout to be done over Labor Day weekend.

Old trailer up for sale.

Phoenix will host the '99 national convention.

National added the old Gadsden Pacific to the AT&NM.

Two GATS, Christown & Railfair planned for new trailer.

Four gauges planned for new trailer: O, S, HO & Std along with push button accessories.

Old layout stripped and track to be sold. New track to be on new layout.

Sunnyslope displays may be in October.

California to tax sellers at meets.

In September, a Prescott report was made.

Articles on Christmas traditions were presented.

In October, the newsletter was sent to all TTOS members in the state. A pitch was made for people to join the club.

In November, the three names for the club were: AT&MN, Arizona, and Grand Canyon.

Skirting for the new trailer planned.

A Railfair report was given.

Trailer worked great but was too tall for the Ramada.

A letter of concern for the public at conventions was presented.

A Cal-Stewart report was made.

Jim Bong's open house was noted.

The new trailer to be at the Sunnyslope party.

In January **1994**, we had media coverage of an LTI-provided, donated train set.

Over 100 people at the Christmas party.

The new name is Grand Canyon Division.

Members encouraged to buy-sell at meetings.

Newsletter contributions encouraged.

Report on the SCC Christmas party was made.

Members don't want public sales at conventions.

Description made of new trailer fabrication.

In February a new masthead was introduced.

The calendar of events was presented.

GATS, Christown, Valley West & Biltmore are planned.

Two spring picnics are planned – one w/TCA & one w/MLS.

Trailer was at the SCC Winter Carnival.

An article on Hi-Rail was included.

We have 117 members.

In May an article on Railsounds was presented.

Info on the August Beat the Heat meet was presented.

In August an All Arizona meet report was presented.

The history of "Big Blue" was presented.

In September shirts 'n hats were made available.

A convention report was given.

In October the Fall Festival had 130.

National approved Phoenix for the '99 convention.

Trailer display report was made.

Show dates for the new trailer were given.

An article on infrared sensors was presented.

Badges are now available.

In December Peter A is the new editor.

Over 135 at the Christmas party.

A SCC report was made.

In January 1995, the 1995 calendar was presented.

Home visits were scheduled.

TCA didn't want a joint picnic.

Peter asked for articles, photos, cartoons, etc. for the newsletter.

Member profile of Bill Bahle presented.

An article on various O-gauge products was included.

In February, the annual raffle will be a Lionel Hudson.

Member profile of Bob Dennison presented.

\$50 drawing each meeting from ticket stubs started.

Product review of K-Line S-2 and Lionel EP-5 included.

Wiring of new trailer started.

In March will be a joint picnic with the MLS with a tour of their facilities.

A Plasticville report was included.

In April, product review of TTUX cars made.

Member profile of Bill Mack presented.

Continued Plasticville report made.

In May, a GATS report was made.

Member profile of Duane Howard presented.

Product review of Lionel Alco RS-4 made.

In June, a report on the May meet was given.

Member profile of Jerry Calkins presented.

Product review of MTH GP-30 made.

Valley West mall report given.

In July it was noted that the Fall Festival will be two days.

Member profile of Pete Coleman presented.

Report on Adobe Dam made.

Membership survey results presented.

NMRA Phoenix convention noted.

In August the All Arizona report was given.

In September, Ray Korte was named TTOS Operator of the Year.

A national convention report was included.

Member profile of Don Biniac presented.

Report on McCormick park made.

In October, the sale of LTI was noted.

Casa Grandee Railroad Days schedule presented.

Member profile of Richard Gayle presented.

Fall Festival report given.

In November, the death of Guy Stillman was noted.

Christown report given.

Jim Bong Christmas open house noted.

In December, the Goulden Coolidge museum opening was noted.

Member profile of John Horne presented.

In January **1996**, report on GATS and other public train displays made.

Future events noted.

March picnic to be with MLS again.

Member profile on Mike Shea presented.

The new CEO of Lionel was noted.

Sound upgrades to hobby noted.

In February, the trailer will be at GATS in March.

Member profile on Fred Hunter presented.

In March, the death of Ray Korte noted.

Raffle prize of Lionel Hudson noted.

In April, March picnic to be Ray Korte, Jr. Annual Picnic and Swap Meet.

GATS report made.

Member profile on Dale Downey-Koenig presented.

In May, Amtrak stopping Phoenix service noted.

Trailer to be at Valley West mall AKA Manistee Town Center.

Verde Canyon RR trip planned.

In June, member profile on Paul Anstett presented.

In July, an 8x15 building at Adobe for trailer approved.

Member profile on Bob Herrick presented.

Purchase of Korte home and collection by Terry Johnson noted.

White Mountain Model Railroaders club in Show Low noted.

In August, convention report made.

Trailer survey included.

In September, member profile on Ron White presented.

Preview of Lionel products included.

In October, Fall Festival report made.

Casa Grande Valley Railroad Days noted.

In November, Christown report made.

December Christmas party noted.

In December, member profile on Ken Burling presented.

Trailer survey results presented.

AND SOME THOUGHTS FROM JOHN

Once upon a time there was Ives. Later there were American Flyer and Marx, K-Line, and others. Now there's MTH. All have the common factor of non-existence yet their "toys" live on. Even Brand L isn't the same as it once was but people still want and buy it.

The "good stuff" that was made will survive. The lesser items will survive but the demand won't be as significant. The bottom line is get what you want when you want at a price you're willing to pay. The law of supply and demand will be the tempering factor in your decision.

Of course, if your logic is to "buy low, sell high" and make lots of money, be prepared to wait a long time and maybe lose money.

In the meantime, play with your "toys" and enjoy the hobby.

MISSING THE FELLOWSHIP AT TRAIN MEETS?

By Terry Gibbs

This is the longest I have gone without attending a train meet since 1975 when I was 12 years old. Last year, I did the 875 mile round trip to LA five times to go to train meets. I go to hang out with collectors and talk about toy trains. I miss them.

If you're missing the fellowship of train meets, I have put together an online forum for collectors of trains made before 1969. There is no cost.

Right now, it's mostly people interested in Lionel trains from the 1910-25 period because that's what I collect, but there are some posts about trains from the 1930s and the postwar period. There is also a section where we are sharing our layouts. Sign up at: <https://www.train99.com/forum/>

Also, Joe Algozinni is doing Zoom meetings for postwar Lionel collectors as part of his Toy Train Hall Of Fame. Last week I sat in. I was only going to check out just the first hour as I had things to do, but got caught up and spent the whole two hours. It was fun, and well worth the time.

The next Zoom session is on August 12th. They also have a Facebook discussion group. Membership is \$10 a year which gets you access to the Facebook group and the Zoom meetings. The money goes to defraying costs and putting content online. More information at <https://toytrainhalloffame.com>

The TCA has an online group that is based on emails and a Facebook page. Mostly the Facebook page seems to people talking about TM videos and drive by posters asking questions asking about the value of their trains. Recently, one of the drive-by posters found trains in the garbage and posted

pictures. They were C&F and Howard #2 gauge trains from about 1910, along with Lionel standard from the 1920s! Some of the TCA online offerings require membership, but many do not. See <https://traincollectors.org/page/TCAWebsites>

Now on to my layout

THE LAYOUT TAKES SHAPE

by Terry Gibbs

When I left off last month I was just starting to do the plaster on the central mountain. The mountain is designed to block the view across the layout and give me a place to put my Lionel prewar houses. I did three coats each a different color, and then scrubbed it with wire brushes. In a few places I leaned a bit a too hard and cracked the plaster. These cracks look quite realistic, but I resisted the urge to bash the mountain with a rubber mallet to see what would happen.

Unfortunately the camera card failed so the in progress pictures are gone. I am doing time lapse video, but don't know how to make it visible online. From looking at the video it seems I spend about 20 percent of my time cleaning. Also from looking at the video I was surprised at how much time the dog spends in the basement with me. In the future, I'll get the video up for you.

Anyway, I got the mountain done. It looks pretty good. I have to put the cars and figures on, and the bases of the trees need some dirt on them. I have more trees and houses, but I think there are enough trees now. I did put aside a bunch of other kinds of trees for other areas.

I'm missing some street lamps. I know I have brown and maroon #58 lamps. I'll add them when I find them.

Below, here's the mountain.

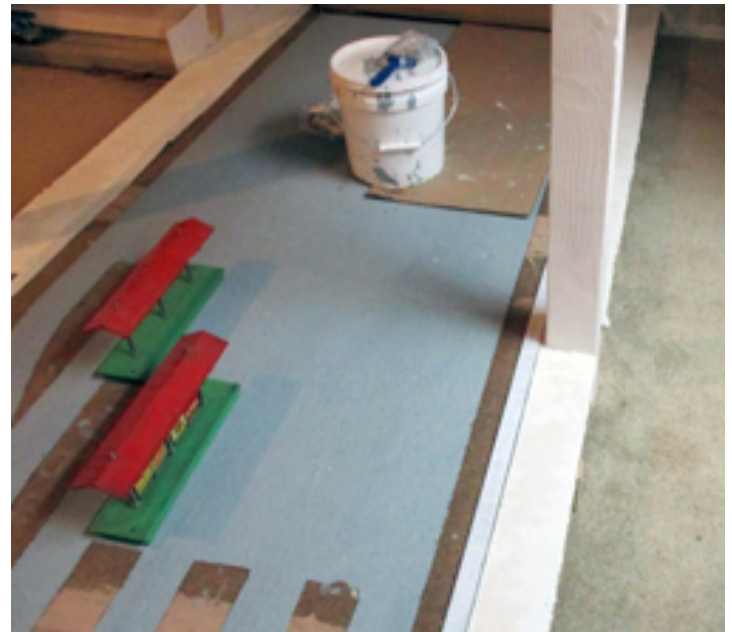
Gilbert has paint recycling, so I went and got a five gallon bucket of tan for the dirt, and gray for the roadbed. The paint was free and they had a nice selection of stains and dyes available for the taking. I saved at least a hundred dollars there.



I tested the gray for the roadbed. First, I painted then broadcast sand. After it dried I swept up the loose sand and painted over. I also tried painting and then working the sand into the wet paint with the brush. The second option works better and has the advantage of being faster and requiring less clean up. You can see my tests in the station area.

I made a cardboard box to put the station on and will use the ends of the sidewalk material to make steps up on the sides. I'd love to get a bunch of beat up 153 block signals and put the heads on the wall below the station.

With the roads I tried to do colored plaster. The color in the plaster means I don't have paint that might damage the rubber tires on my 80-100 year old Tootsie toys.



I failed. The black roads you see have large lighter areas. I think I can dye it using some fabric dye I grabbed at the paint recycling center.

You can see the roads in the pictures of the mountain, and in the picture below

The area at the end of the mountain with the Scheonhut village was a success though. Because I couldn't get under the layout there, I cut grooves for the wires with a circular saw, and then after wiring up the lights filled the grooves with a plaster and sawdust mix. The road covered it well, and when I put grass in, it will have a light texture. Photo 07 here.



At this point the layout should go fast. It's basically just painting and throwing grass or working in sand.



PS I did post pictures of the layout in progress in the forum my website. See my previous article about it. The forum is a place where collectors of trains made before 1970 share their trains. I started the forum because I unable to hang out with other collector at train meets. It's free and anyone is welcome to participate, but we only talk about trains made before 1970. <https://www.train99.com/forum/>

WORKING WITH “JR”

by Chris Allen

I received a call from a member asking for some help. He had a friend “JR” that had a small layout that needed help, but because of the covid, he did not feel comfortable visiting him. He asked if I could help, and after a little more discussion I agreed. I called JR and exchanged some information and told them I would see them the next day.

I arrived, toolbox in hand, and was greeted by JR and his wife. After a very quick introduction and a warning from his wife that he was extremely hard of hearing we walked into a small bedroom where his 027 layout was setup. Just a simple loop of track with a passing siding powered by a KW.

Much of the layout was using the original Lionel green solid hookup wire and lucky for me it was above the layout so I just coiled it all up and rewired a couple of fresh lockons to some speaker zip cord I had in the bottom of the toolbox. We had the layout back up and running in little time.

During this time I learned that JR was from Texas and loved postwar oil derricks, of which he owned two. His trains were nothing special except to him and were well run and loved. JB Weld was everywhere, and I’ve learned on subsequent visits that JR likes to tweak his layout. If it’s not screwed down into the plywood it will be changed out the next time I visit.

JR just celebrated his 98th birthday in June and this simple layout brings him joy either in his efforts to tweak it or just have the trains run.

Because he does not have access to “real” train parts he often improvises. On my last call I learned that one of his 455’s wasn’t working. Seems my friend had an automobile lamp wired into the derrick and in the process the thermostat got broken and as you can imagine the heat from the auto bulb warmed up more than just the bubble tube.

If you have a trashed 455 base that needs a new home, I have the perfect home for it.



Here is that oil derrick base that needs help



Here is JR and his layout

I genuinely enjoy working with JR. His mind is sharp and his ability to keep his trains running is unique. I mean a Tabasco bottle to keep the Walker Beam working? Who would have thunk?

WHO ARE THESE MASKED MEN???



WINNERS!

RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS:

Bill Richardson - Lionel 6-19671 Model Shop Display Car
 John Kendig - AF 6-48486 NASG Box Car
 Dana Price - MTH 30-4185a NYC Tank Car
 Glenn Saber - Lionel 6-12891 Refrigerator Tractor/Trailer

MYSTERY BOX WINNER

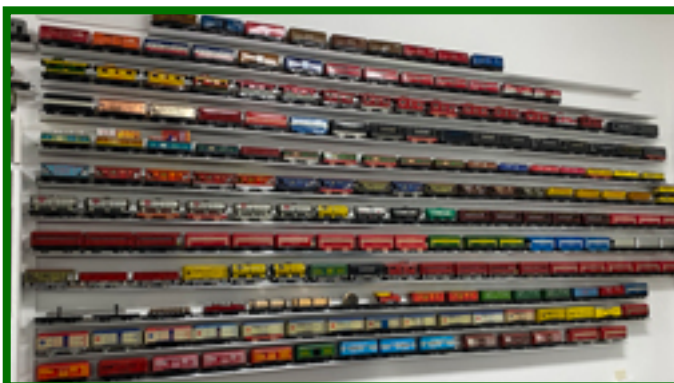
Bill Richardson - Lionel 6-36815 ATSF Moe & Joe Operating Flatcar

MONTHLY 3-2-1 RAFFLE WINNER

John Kendig - who won 3 more tickets to the 3-2-1 annual raffle



**Marx collection of approximately 500 cars and engines
for sale. Contact Ty Hitt at 530-363-0774 (Prescott)**



Michael Broggie is the son of Roger Broggie, one of the original Walt Disney Mousketeers. Michael has published the definitive book on Walt Disney and his trains, "Walt Disney's Railroad Story". He has just put much information into a delightful DVD in which he narrates an overview of Walt and trains, including some neat video of his live steam layout at his home.

Michael lives in Prescott and is a member of the Central Arizona Model Railroad Club.

"Walt Disney's Railroad Story" now available as a one-hour DVD

Michael Broggie, whom many know as a Walt Disney historian with eight titles in print, recently produced a DVD based upon his award-winning book, "Walt Disney's Railroad Story."

This book has sold over 25,000 copies and describes in detail the connection between the master showman and American railroad history.

The new DVD is an original, high definition production featuring historic still pictures, film clips and images from his multimedia computerized presentation, which he has given throughout the country for the model train industry's World's Greatest Hobby on Tour. Michael appears in this one-hour production as the presenter of Walt's railroad story. When he decided to do a DVD, he contacted a professional production facility in Scottsdale, Sneaky Big Studios. Reducing 100,000 words of text and hundreds of images into a 60-minute presentation was a daunting task that took several months. Cost was another consideration. After spending \$10,000 on pre-and post-production, he wanted the resulting DVD to be published in Prescott and priced at only \$20. Lee Wise, a former colleague at Prescott Police Department's video studio, was contacted and agreed to manufacture the discs and print the cover jacket.

If GCMR members are interested in adding this \$20 DVD to their library, please contact Michael at 928-778-1850 or visit www.carolwood.com/store. Satisfaction is guaranteed and personalization is available. Makes a great gift.



“I Know a Top Secret!”

“You see, for four years I’ve waited for my Lionel Train.

“And I was glad to wait—because LIONEL was busy helping Uncle Sam win the war.

“And now that the war is over the great LIONEL factory is busy turning out trains again.

“I’ve had a pre-view of what’s coming. Oh boy!—what wonderful new locos and cars! What super-super accessories!

“And, sh-h!

“I’ve been let in on a TOP SECRET. Too amazing and thrilling to be released now! But in 1946—Lionel says the secret will be known to all the world.

“I’m proud of my LIONEL. I can hardly wait for what’s coming. But I’ve given my promise not to tell. So—MUM’S the word.” (P.S. “I can tell you this—there will be limited quantities of Lionel Trains on sale this Christmas!”)

LIONEL

NEUMAH, CLARENC
709 MARVELAND A
YORK, PA.
GOMP-21-32

**AND NOW THE SECRET WE WANT TO KNOW IS WHEN
THE PANDEMIC IS BEHIND US AND LIFE AND OUR
HOBBY CAN RETURN TO NORMAL**