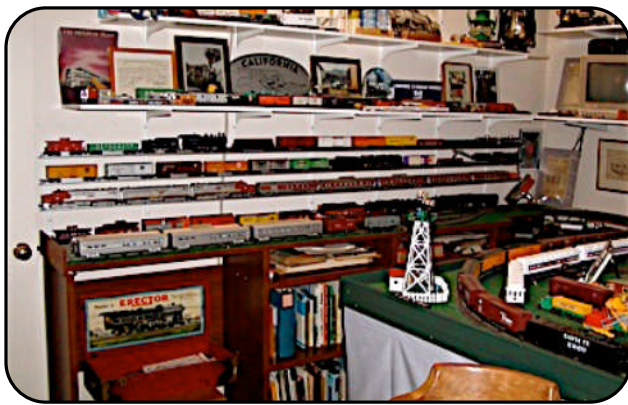




NEWSLETTER

Lively Livermore

Sixteen club members traveled to Alan Teruya's home in Livermore for our October club meeting. The Freedom Train shared track time with the California Zephyr and an A.T.S.F. freight consist on Alan's upstairs layout while we scanned the shelves of his train room for undiscovered treasures. Among other things I found a Hudson Erector set "Number A", Gilbert Chemistry Experiment Set, Lab Technician Set, Microscope and Lab Set, Atomic Energy Set, Electric Eye, and Erector Set. There were also number of railroad lanterns and other railfan souvenirs as well as system timetables for the Western Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads. A New Haven freight set shared shelf space with a Sante Fe passenger set, an A.F. Game Train, and assorted American Flyer pieces. There was even a photograph of the Canadian Pacific 2860 "Royal Hudson" which many of us have ridden in years gone by when it made excursion runs from the north shore of



Vancouver, B.C. up to Squamish. Actually, there has been an extensive re-fit of the 2860 in recent years which cost about \$250,000 and was funded totally through donations. It is once more on the rails out of its home base at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park in Squamish, B.C. and rumor has it that it will be making tourist runs during the upcoming 2010 Winter Olympics which will take place near Vancouver and Whistler Mountain.



The club meeting started at 8:45 P.M. and lasted for about one and a half hours. I passed along the good news that our long time club member, friend, and local legend, Jake Jacobsen, was recovering at home from a successful heart valve replacement operation and would be back at his computer keyboard outbidding us all on eBay auctions in no time at all.

Paul Guaraglia reported that there are rumors of a Lionel store opening up in New York, possibly for Christmas, as well as a 10% rebate from Lionel on purchases made from the 2009 #2 catalogue. This is Paul's "Meteor" game which was produced by Gilbert and seems to resemble Chinese Checkers. Paul also brought 1/64 remote control cars, a wooden train, and an S gauge "Sledster" fire truck.





Top: Another Gilbert learning activity

Bottom: Only a few missing pieces

Don Matthies said that he watched the new Lionel A.F. Big Boy operating on 31" radius track at the York, PA. T.C.A. meet. We're all eager to see this locomotive in person and it sounds like the long wait is almost over.

Don also brought along a Electrical Engineering set which seemed to be missing only the screwdriver and instruction booklet. Someone may have substituted a horseshoe shaped magnet for the original bar magnet as well. If he could just find some N.O.S. parts in a dusty warehouse somewhere and a seller who is willing to stick to the original price sheet, the screwdriver would only cost him 20 cents and the bar magnet would set him back a whole quarter dollar.

Alan's daughter proudly displayed a milk shake machine that was produced by the A.C. Gilbert factory. In the interests of safety, Alan had replaced the crumbling original electrical cord with a modern three prong version and grounded the metal housing. We'll have to bring ice cream, milk, and butterscotch next time to test his handiwork.

Vice President, Paul Moreci, reminded us that club elections are imminent. After a brief discussion it was decided that we would accept nominations from now until the January 2010 club meeting at which time we would vote. Any members who are interested in serving as club president, vice president, or secretary are encouraged to "toss their hat into the ring" and guide this mighty Wurlitzer into the future.

Paul also verified that the date for the club Christmas dinner is set for December 5th at *The Ranch* in Hayward. This is the same location as last year and we have the room from 6:30 P.M. until closing.

IMPORTANT !! Please read this and reply to Paul Moreci:

If you intend to attend the Christmas dinner on December 5, 2009 you need to contact Paul before **November 30th** to tell him the number of people in your party and your dinner choices. All dinners will include salad, vegetables, french bread, butter, coffee or tea, dessert, tax and tip.

1. Prime Rib dinner \$31
2. Broiled Salmon dinner \$27
3. Teriyaki Chicken with rice dinner \$25

Call Paul at home: **650-341-6003**
or cell phone: 650-520-0557

If leaving a message, please speak slowly and clearly.

Payment will be collected at the restaurant on the night of the event.

At the October meeting, the club decided to continue our traditional Jerry Wood Toys for Tots program which has been coordinated by John Dalton. We ask that you bring two new, unwrapped gifts (one boy, one girl) to the Christmas dinner that would be suitable for any age from toddler to 18 years old. Non-violent toys only, please, some of these kids have been through some rough times. For the price of a rusty, three step gondola you can put a smile on a child's face on Christmas morning and do your own heart some good too.