

Louisiana Chapter – Lone Star Division of TCA
Minutes for the General Membership
Meeting April 6, 2008
Held at the home of Bill Harrison

Opening

The President called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Quorum Call – Members present: Clay Fourrier, Wynne Friedrichs, Paul Gipson, Bill Harrison, George Hogh, Richard Kater, Mort Kelly, A.L. Levy, Chip Mann, Dick Mitchell, Charlie Roose, Michael Sandras, Mike Sciavicco, Carroll Thompson, Cliff Tonguis, Russell Trahan, Charles Wayne, and James Webb.

Prospective member present – Jim Liverett

Reading of the last meeting minutes was offered. Russell Trahan moved to dispense with reading of minutes, second by A.L. Levy – passed unopposed.

Reports

Treasurer – Membership is at 38 paid members with \$2,485.94 in deposits. A.L. Levy moved report be accepted – second by Clay Fourrier – received unopposed.

The exclusive subject of this meeting as presented by Bill Harrison is preparation for the May 24 TCA meet. A KC hall in Gretna has been secured with Bill meeting them in the next few days to sign a contract.

Setup will be held on Friday afternoon and evening – 2 TO 7 PM.

Saturday Meet times are:

- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. will be the meet
- 8 a.m to 9 a.m. TCA members only
- 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. will be open to the public.

TCA members only will be allowed to sell during the meet. All, including the general public can buy.

The hall owns 45 tables – additional tables will have to be located and rented. Bill will find a supplier. The Hall can easily hold 100 tables.

The hall will sell all concessions and keep all proceeds from the sales.

For members concerned about items after setup – Bill WILL ENSURE the hall to be PROPERLY SECURED PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE.

Meet organizational issues:

1. Members will need TO USE PERMANENT TCA name tags OR UTILIZE A TEMPORARY created ON SITE.
2. Two part tickets obtained for entry/door prizes – Chip will obtain.
3. Trophies HAVE BEEN obtained for meet recognition – Lone Star/CHAPTER Awards
4. Chapter will have a table to display unusual – rare items.
5. Pricing – Tables \$18 ea
 - a. Entry fees \$3 adult and \$1 child 12-18.
 - b. Preliminary count of tables made
 - i. Bill Harrison – 12
 - ii. Mike – 8
 - iii. Clay for BR club – 1
 - iv. Charlie R – 2
 - v. Club for contest – 1
 - vi. Mike Sandras – 1
 - vii. CLUB FOR SWITCHING-2
6. Would like to have layouts for people to see.
7. A.L. Levy has volunteered to contact S-Gauge club about setting up. Need to know how much sq footage is needed for layout.
8. Discussion of Busy Bee layout and Mighty Complex.
 - a. Mort says Mighty Complex needs work – boards warped. CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW AT BILL'S HOME
 - b. Busy Bee needs to be tested and a voltage regulator needs to be obtained. RUSS TRAHAN VOLUNTEERED TO SUPPLY A VARIAC.
 - c. Cliff has layout in his warehouse and INSPECTION BY BILL INDICATES THEY ARE WELL STORED AND PROTECTED
9. Clay Fourrier will check Baton Rouge Mid-South club and others in Baton Rouge to see if they want to setup layouts at the meet.
10. Ticket sales should be done in shifts. Signup is as follows:
 - a. 9 -11 – A.L. Levy
 - b. 11-1 - Richard Kater
 - c. 1-3 Clay Fourrier
11. It was recommended that forms be available at the show for new members to signup. Chip will arrange for Forms.

Advertising

1. Mike Sandras says he can get information on WWL Morning Show
2. Also suggested Spuds McConnEl radio show
3. Bill has listed information in the TCA online forum
4. Bill HAS LISTED AN ANNOUNCEMENT in THE O Gauge RR forum
5. It is too late for national magazines
6. Bill will send announcement to his customer list
7. Clay Fourrier has experience in advertising and has volunteered to coordinate the announcements.
8. Chip will contact Pat Halpin to obtain list of Lone Star members to send a mailing to.

Next club meeting will be held in June. Bill asked for volunteer to host. Chip Mann and Clay Fourrier volunteered to host at the Greater Baton Rouge Model Railroad Club layout in Jackson Louisiana. A date was not set but will be announced later.

Wynn Friedrichs proposed that the club purchase wooden whistles that could be given out to children. The whistles can have whatever we want printed on them and the cost is approximately \$1.57 each. After discussion it was decided to purchase 100 and give them to children attending the meet. Bill Made a motion that 100 be purchased for the meet and it was seconded by Mort. Voice vote of the club and the issue passed unanimously. It was suggested that we print the logo and the website address on the whistles – Clay will get with Wynn to confirm correct information.

Unfinished Business

Mort Kelly announced that some club items still remained in inventory and asked what should be done with them. After some discussion it was decided through voice vote that the items would be used as door prizes at the meet.

Announcements

The Gulf Wind Chapter of the TCA is having a meeting in Milton Florida on Saturday April 12.

Motion to Adjourn at 4:55. Meeting Adjourned.

Chip Mann

Secretary – Louisiana Chapter – Lone Star TCA