J......

Virginia Train Collectors Association



March 2023 Newsletter Volume 46, No. 2

President's Side Track By Wayne Antoniazzi



Greetings all! Well, where did February go? It seems like it just began and now it's over! Well then, on to business.

First off, I hope everyone enjoyed Russ Dolbear's presentation on pre-war, that's Pre-FIRST World War Lionel's at the January meeting. Honestly I can't say I'm particularly excited by ancient Lionels but Russ's presentation was top-notch, humorous, extremely well-done and held my interest from beginning to end, a great show! Well done, Russ! And thanks! And I hope everyone enjoyed the 'Mini-Meet!' A great idea on Russell Youens part!

Our next Meeting is Thursday, March 16th Meeting at different location at Westchester Commons, <u>153 Perimeter Dr, Midlothian</u>

(Between Target & Office Max), in the same place as the Spring Train Show. The featured presenter at is **Doug Riddell**, former Amtrak Engineer, and Author of **2 Auto Train books**! I'm sure you all know what the Auto Train is and would like to know more about it. Personally, I remember the original Auto Train passing through the Marine base at Quantico, VA on the RF&P when I was stationed there in the mid-1970s and it was quite a sight to see roaring through the base! So I'm looking forward to Doug's presentation and so should you. **Please bring examples of Amtrak Auto Train Engines & Cars** (all gauges) to the meeting, so we can enjoy the Model train versions represented through the years. While we really want to enjoy your company at the meeting, you can also watch the program **LIVE** on our Facebook Page <u>www.facebook.com/</u> <u>VirginiaTrainCollectors</u>. You need a Facebook account to watch and it will just show-up on our page when it starts about 7:15pm, or watch any of our program videos later at your convenience. By the way, there'll be no March '*Mini Train Meet*' before the meeting.

Last month we sent Emails & Postcards to announce our **SPRING TRAIN SHOW**, **March 18-19, 2023** also at **153 Perimeter Dr**. I'll leave it to our Events Director, *Russell Youens*, to give out the pertinent details in his **'All Aboard'** column **(Page 3)** but I will say this, **Volunteers are Welcome** (*MORE than Welcome*) for **TABLE SET-UP** at **Noon** on **Thursday**, **March 16**th. As this is the first big show since last fall I'm really looking forward to it. So come along and bring a friend! *Spread the 'gospel*,' I'll be there helping with a few others, but ALL are



Welcome. Get with Russell (<u>irvouens@verizon.net</u> 702-467-7550) for duties and please remember 'Many Hands make Quick Work!' Don't think you aren't needed, you certainly are!

We are up to EIGHT promised articles for another publication of our VTCA 'OBSERVATION' magazine, but as stated before we need a minimum of TEN varied ARTICLES to make it happen. We're almost there, but not quite. And as said, any articles pertaining to toy trains, all Gauges, all Makes, all Models, all Operating Systems, all aspects and all Eras up to and including the present (Modern & 3D printing) are welcome! So step up folks, I know you're out there and you've got it in you. And don't we all like to brag JUST a little about what we've got? (contact me at jerseynuke@gmail.com).

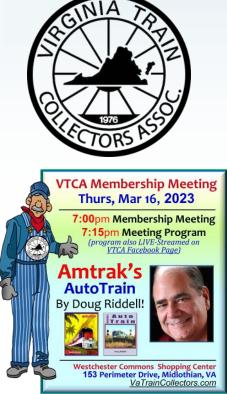


And a brief plug for the **VTCA 45th Anniversary 'Virginia Heritage' Club Cars.** They are on-hand and can be purchased at the upcoming meeting, Spring Train Show or at Tiny Tim's Trains & Toys in Ashland, by phone (804 -368-0063) or by mail (Form **Page 5**) & on our website under the Marketplace Tab. *I've got mine, how about you?* Remember, as with all specialrun Club Cars there's a limited amount and once they're sold out there

will be no more of that item, so don't hesitate and miss out. This is an easy acquisition of a oneof-a-kind collectible and a great way to support the club.

The Next Newsletter will be in May, along with our next Meeting featuring Ray Bruce and Layout Scenery techniques. Until then, Happy Easter and enjoy the Spring Weather!

That's all for now. See you at the Meeting and at the Show!



Inside this Issue

President's Side Track1
2022 Board of Directors2
Train Show Updates2
Take Me Home with You2
All Aboard News
Table Reservation Form3
Marx Water Tower Rehab4
New Club Car Order Form5
2023 VTCA Renewal Form5
Another Word for Friendship6
VTCA Marketplace6
Dealers Corner7
New Members7
York Show Registration7
Future VTCA Mtg & Events8
VTCA History8

Member Access to Website VaTrainCollectors.com Access Code = Year VTC Founded

[1]**VTCA Board of Directors**

President Wavne Antoniazzi

Russell Youens Vice President Treasurer (Interim) John Wheeler Secretary Sonja Myers

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE



Rick Barron Bob Buehler Bill Crowe Suzanne Hemingway **Curtis Hofstetter Glen Hornberger** Jim Miller

TRAIN SHOWS

VTCA Spring Train Show Mar 18-19, Midlothian, VA Westchester Commons VATrainCollectors.com

York Train Show April 20-23, York, PA York Expo Center EasternTCA.com

Ashland Train Day April 29, Ashland, VA Downtown Historic Ashland AshlandVirginia.com/trainday

Shenandoah Valley Model Train & Railroading Show May 7, Fishersville, VA Augusta Expo

Big Train Show June 2-3, Johnson City, TN George L Carter Railroad Museum Etsu.edu

VTCA Summer Train Show August 5, Suffolk, VA Nansemond Academy VATrainCollectors.com



NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Share your Model **Railroad and Collectiong Stories**

Please Send Articles & Photos to Editor **Sonja Myers** by the **25th** of each month (Email Preferred)

Sonja.H.Myers@outlook.com 9487 Cool Spring Rd, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 804-334-1825

Please Take Me Home With You!" Wayne Antoniazzi



"Please take me home with you!"

Huh? Well I started looking at an exhibitor's display and there it was in all its gunmetal glory, a pre-war Lionel 259e, and with a tank car, a flat car, and a caboose along with it, and in nearly new condition!

Now honestly I'm not particularly interested in pre-war tinplate. I'm not a rivet-

Well, there I was doing a walkthrough at our Charlottesville show, looking around to see if there was anything I might be interested in and adding to the Have you ever collection. heard a "voice" as you passed by a table, just something that made you stop and take a look? Well, it happened to me.



counter by any means but I like my trains to look as authentic as reasonably possible, toylike trains don't interest me, but that 259e and its consist caught my attention, the thing was as cute as a button! Not only did it say "Please take me home with you!" once, but every time I walked past it. "Hmmm" I said to myself, "I'll think about it."

Now there was a LOT of good stuff at the show, a number of things I might have picked up but that voice didn't stop.



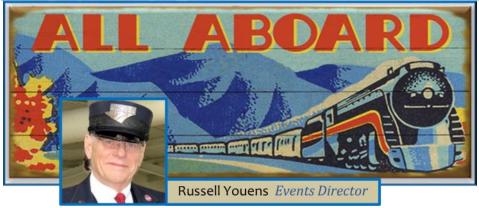
"Please take me home with you!" OK, why fight it? Т bought it!

You know something? I've really gotten attached to the thing! I had a ball running it on the layout! I even set up a mini -layout around a small Christmas tree on the dining room table 259e to run the

around! And since she's into 1930's nostalgia the wife likes it too!

I'm glad I listened to the voice! How often do you get to 'Party like it's 1939?'

Į.......



It looks as if winter has passed us by, so we are moving forward with our annual SPRING TRAIN SHOW, again at *Westchester Commons*, March 18-19, 2023. This time we have been moved to a bigger venue very close to the other site, at 153 Perimeter Dr, Midlothian next to the *Office Max* store. I am expecting 100 selling tables and 2 working layouts presented by the River City 3 Railers and the Silver Rail Club.

FOOD SERVICE - both Saturday (pizza & drinks) and Sunday (hot dogs & drinks). Morning coffee and donuts will be available both days. There is a nominal charge for this and it helps offset the cost of the show. Your support is always greatly appreciated.

TABLE SET UP - will begin on **Thursday at noon** and if you have some free time and muscles, help would be greatly appreciated even if to set up chairs. Sellers can do Early Set-Up on **Friday** beginning at **Noon till 5pm**, and again early **Saturday 7-9am**.

HOURS - Show will run Saturday from **9am till 4pm**, and Sunday **9am till 3pm**. Please plan on staying till the end of both days as we expect a large crowd of Train Enthusiasts. The shopping center has already put up our big entrance Banners and all stores have been provided with Posters and we are having new Yard Signs printed. Again, Word-of-Mouth is our best advertisement and I encourage you to tell your friends and neighbors about our show. We look forward to seeing all our Club Members and Guests in Mid-March.



SPRING TRAIN SHOW Outdoor Kiddie Train Ride (Saturday Only 11am-2pm) will take show participants and their kids from the show location across to the River City 3 Railers modular showroom, which is only one block down from the show. The price of the train ride will be included in the show ticket, and parent (s) must accompany children under 12. EVERYONE will have to have a ticket to ride. Thanks to the RC3Rs for helping with this event.

Summer Tidewater Show

We are thrilled to put this show back on the calendar for **Saturday, August 5th** at **Nansemond Academy** (3373 Pruden Blvd, Suffolk, VA). We are excited to see all our Tidewater Members & Guests and encourage your participation. *Details to follow in the May newsletter.*

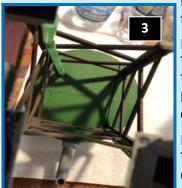
Keep on track for a Great Train Year !

Spring Train Show & Sale	Oring Train Now & SaleMarch 18-19, 2023 Sat 9-4, Sun 9-3 Westchester Commons, 153 Perimeter Drive, Midlothian, VA						
Table Reservation - Hurry, Only a few Tables Left							
VTCA Member #			Non-Member				
Name			Name				
Phone			Phone				
Email			Email				
6 Foot Table	\$40 x	\$	6 Foot Table	\$45 x	\$		
VTCA Seller Registration		\$8.00	Seller Registration		\$8.00		
Helpers/Guest (Names?)	\$8 x	\$	Helpers/Guest (Names?)	\$8 x	\$		
	Total	\$		Total	\$		
Mail Table Reservation & Re	gistrations w/C	Checks (payabl	e to VTCA) to:				
Russell Youens, 110 Slash Drive, Ashland, VA 23005 Questions? 804-368-7898 jryouens@verizon.net							
Join or ReNew Now VaTrainCollectors.com [NOTE: All Checks Cashed AFTER Show]							

Ĵ

Marx Water Tower Rehab by James Cox









4

This Marx Water Tower Photo 1 has been part of our toy train collection since 1957. For years I have wanted to modify it to make it more lifelike. For instance, there was no visible way for water to get up into that nice large cylindrical water tank! Also, the colors did not seem quite right, and the shiny plastic tank legs and base seemed kind of hokey to me. Nevertheless, I love this Water Tower, with its memories of childhood fun at every Christmas during the whole stretch of Christmas vacation, with the 4'x8' layout board taken down from its spot leaning against the corner bedroom wall and installed in its proper place between the door to the hall and the two twin beds. The back of the train board was painted to match the bedroom wall, and was not at all



noticeable during the school year when there was little time for trains.

In Photo 2 you can see the newly painted Water Tank. The legs are still shiny plastic, but this old Water Tower looks much more lifelike than before, with its Vallejos Flat Green paint job on the tank and Vallejos Sky Gray on the top lending realism to the scene.

In an effort to add more realism to this old Marx Water Tower, I then painted its legs and bracing with Vallejos Chocolate Brown to lend a rustic air to this rural steam era structure **Photo 3**. By then I had also painted the ladder to match the Water Tank. To take care of the

problem of depicting the water supply pipe, I installed a soda straw Photo 4 between the tank and the ground and painted it flat green.

In this photo, the new paint scheme Photo 5 helps this water tower look right at

home on our layout in progress. The water supply pipe is visible.

I replaced the soda straw water supply pipe with a carefully painted cardboard tube **Photo 6** cut from a paper towel center cardboard tube. This represented Water Tower design for more northern climates or for water towers at a higher elevation **Photo 7**.

This was the last step in my kit bashing project for this venerable Marx steam era railroad Water Tower.





VTCA 45 th Anniversary Virginia Heritage Boxcar						
 Purchase In-STORE , By-PHONE or By-MAIL Purchase In-STORE , By-PHONE or By-MAIL Mail this FORM & Payment to: Tiny Tim's Trains & Toys 104 S. Railroad Ave, Ashland, VA 23005 804-368-0063 						
VTCA 45th Anniversary 'Virginia Heritage' Car # Quantity						Totals
BOXCAR ORDER			1976	×	\$85	=\$
Name		Members	2021	×	\$85	=\$
VTCA#		ž	вотн	×	\$160	=\$
Address		LI S	1976	×	\$90	=\$
		NON- Members	2021	×	\$90	=\$
Phone		W	BOTH	×	\$170	=\$
Email	Total Cars			SUB- TOTAL		
Delivery	(STORE Pick-Up \$0) OR (Add SHIPPING \$10/Car)					=\$
	Credit Card FEE (If Applicable) \$3.00					=\$
	Checks Payable to 'VTCA'					
	TOTAL PAID =\$					

-All Forms Available Online at VATrainCollectors.com



\$30 Email N	lewsletter Only, OR	\$40 Mailed Newsletter (Checks payable to VTCA)				
Mail this Form	(or a Copy) with Payment t	: VTCA, PO Box 29776, Ri	chmond, VA 23242			
Name		VTCA #	Directory (Yes / No)			
Street			Spouse			
City, State, Zip		Phone (Home)	Phone (Home)			
Email		Phone (Cell)	Phone (Cell)			
	Circle (or Write	e-In) All that Apply				
ERA	GAUGE	MANUFACTURER	Related Interests			
PreWar	G or STANDARD	Lionel	Layout (Yes / No)			
PostWar	O (3-Rail, 2-Rail)	MTH	Legacy / DCS / DCC			
Modern	S	American Flyer	Repair / Restore			
	но		Other Clubs			
	N					
Other	Other	Other	Other			

VTCA is Another Word for Friendship!

By **Curtis Hofstetter** 82–331 I have said this before: Our VTCA membership is more than just buying and selling trains! When I walked into the building at Westchester Commons for our January meeting, I received many friendly greetings. I felt like a kid again, joking & laughing. Where else can you spend a few hours with so many friends who like trains as much as you do?



We had all gathered to enjoy **Russ Dolbear's Pre-War Lionel Train** Presentation. Russ did not disappoint us.

Anytime Russ shares his train collecting knowledge with his matchless enthusiasm, *it's always Fun*!

Sitting among new and longtime friends, I was grateful we could all attend and have fun. We are grateful that our friend Russ Dolbear is healthy & gave us another of his entertaining presentations.

I wasn't the only one feeling like a kid last evening! Bob Buehler walked up and handed me a trolley he had just picked up that afternoon in Harrisonburg, VA. I believe you will agree that VTCA Membership is another word for Friendship!

Lionel Trains for SALE!

Would like to Sell ALL or SOME will E-mail Photo of Items. (9576,9577,9578,9579, 9580,9588 all in OB) 8002 OB, 8764 OB, 8765, (8364 OB, 8363 OB, 8468) 2343 ABA, 53, 624, 8551 OB, 2332, (8363, 8468, 8364) 132, 133, 256, 3727, 50, 7600 OB, 9154 OB, 9801 OB some O Gauge Switches *Make an Offer!* I live in Williamsburg

Don Young olddw@juno.com 757-903-2763

6



MTH Realtrax & DCS

O MTH RealTrax

Over 500 ft of lightly used track Under \$2.00/section 10" / 30" / 15 Switches O42 Curves & Controllers Buy it All as Low as \$500

MTH DCS System

(TIU/HandHeld Remote) Under \$600 MTH DCS 24000

Under \$400

Won't Last Long Call Russell Youens 702-461-7550 jryouens@verizon.net

Bob's Trainz 4U

(All items priced with FREE SHIPPING) VTC 25th Anniv #7601 Steam Engine \$150 **Complete VTC 15th Anniv** Lionel 7 car Passenger Set \$25 each or set for \$125.00 Lionel 2128190 2021 Christmas Boxcar \$60 (2) VTC 1999 NYC Crane Tender NIB \$39 BCR (Batt Comp Replacement) for PS1 & PS2 Engines BCR-9volt NEW \$29; BCR2 (Batt Comp Replacement) for PS2 Engines BCR2-3volt NEW \$25; CALL Bob Buehler (570) 847-7533 Buehlster@aol.com

Marketplace ADs

Send to Editor by the **25th of the month**. Sonja Myers—*Editor* <u>Sonja.H.Myers@outlook.com</u> 804-334-1825

VTCA Marketplace

List it Here & on the VTCA Website for FREE and reach a wider audience!

Lionel & Marx Sale

Lionel 6472 reefer-C7 w/OB-1 pin missing on door-\$10 Lionel 6465 tank car-C8 with OB-\$10 Lionel 6-17209 B&O boxcar -C8 with OB-\$20 Lionel KW Transformer C-7, No Box \$40

WANTED:

Olive Metal Tank for Marx Army train-C7 or better Lionel 264 red engine only -early version Call/Email with questions -pictures available

Shipping is actual USPS cost

Rudy King 306 South Orange Avenue Dunn NC, 28334 910-892-4000 theclinch@nc.rr.com

Amer Flyer S Gauge COLLECTION

Selling entire lifetime collection of Gilbert S Gauge American Flyer. (Separately or Entire Collection)

Includes Locomotives, Diesels, Passenger Cars, Rolling Stock, Track, Transformers & Books. Includes the rare 353 Circus Loco in mint condition.

353	631	912	960
354	632	916	961
447	633	930	962
499	643	937	963
625	649	960	24833
630	655		
	447 499 625	447633499643625649	447 633 930 499 643 937 625 649 960

Many others in Mint Condition, but all functioning & well maintained.

ENTIRE Lionel 'O' Collection

All mint and in their original boxes. Never run & will sell items separately. Email me for Either list at:

C. THOMAS SOMMA

tsomma@odu.edu

ä

Dealers Corner

For Members of the VTC who have a related Toy Train Business

HOBBY SHOPS

Dale's Train Station

Lionel, MTH, Bachmann, Atlas, Athearn Including large selection of Old Trains **Wed-Sat 10am-5pm** 5880 Poplar Hall Dr, Norfolk, VA 23502 (757) 461-3636 Fax (757) 461-6800

The Rail Yard

WE SELL: Lionel and MTH Also HO and N Scale Plastic Cars, Planes, Ships & Military Kits Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm 7547 Williamson Road Roanoke, VA 24019 (540) 362-1714 Fax (540) 362-8925

Rail Tales

O, HO, Marklin HO, HOn3, N, G *Trains, Models, Repairs,* Layout Construction **Tue-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 12-6** *705-C Dale Avenue Charlottesville, VA 22903* **(434) 984-1170** <u>Www.RailTalesVA.com</u>

Toy Trains & Collectables

Lionel, MTH, American Flyer Bachmann, Williams, Atlas, Kato 7216 New Market Court Manassas, VA 20109 (571) 379-5497 Dan and Hope Danielson

Tiny Tim's Trains & Toys

Lionel, MTH, Bachmann, Atlas, Williams, Athearns, Kato Sue Hemingway—*Proprietor* Russell Youens—*Trainmaster* **Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-4** 104 S Railroad Ave, Ashland, VA 23005 (804) 368-0063

www.TrainAndToystore.com Facebook—Tiny Tims Trains & Toys

Train Town Toy & Hobby

N-HO-O-G, Largest O Store in SC Open Wed—Sat 128 W Richardson Avenue Summerville, SC 29483 (843) 695-8944

The Train Loft

O Gauge Trains & Accessories! MTH, Lionel, Atlas O, K-Line **Tues-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 12-5:30pm** 4007B Country Club Rd Winston-Salem, NC 27104 **336-760-9817**

Jeff Konczal – 25 years of service TrainLoft.com

VTCA SHOW SPONSOR Cabin Fever Auctions

Jared Schoenly 12 Wright Avenue Spring City, PA 19475 (800) 789-5068 CabinFeverAuctions@gmail.com



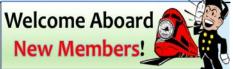
TRAIN REPAIR

George's Train Service

Authorized MTH Service Center Train Repairs and Parts All Gauges and Makes Contact: George Galyo (757) 572-4390

Backshack Train Repair Shop

Lionel, AF & Marx Contact: Howard Miller (804) 739-3086



Andy deMontpellier

2320 Littlefox Dr, Henrico, VA 23233 804-741-1969 (h) 804-514-6025 (c) ademontpellier@verizon.net S Pre Post Mod American Flyer Layout Legacy DCS Repair/Restore Train Collectors of America

Gary Hrobuchak

1910 Tunbridge Dr, Henrico, VA 23238 804-301-2759 (C) <u>ahrobuchak@aol.com</u> HO Mod Layout

Joe May

7115 Cutlett Rd, Bealeton, VA 22712 **703-843-7343** (c) <u>jwjkmay20111@gmail.com</u> **O Lionel MTH**

Hunter Worthington

8129 Mimosa Hill Ln, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 **804-357-2916** (c) <u>Thdawg1025@gmail.com</u> N Postwar DCC



Register Now

York Train Show York Expo Center, 334 Carlisle Ave, York, PA

YorkRegistration.org

Register NOW by Mail, Online or by Phone 814-928-0196



j......



Virginia Train Collectors Association

PRE-SORT STANDARD US POSTAGE

PAID RICHMOND, VA PERMIT #3022



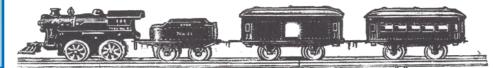
PO Box 29776

Richmond, VA 23242

VTCA Meetings & Events

Mar 16 - Doug Riddell's Auto Train Mar 18-19 - Spring MIDLOTHIAN Show May 18 - Ray Bruce Scenery Aug 5 - Summer SUFFOLK Train Show Sept 9 - Annual Picnic Meetings at Westchester Commons Perimeter Rd, Midlothian, VA

Train Collections are like 4 Leaf Clovers, Hard to Find, Lucky to have!



Stay Up-to-Date with VTCA on Facebook and our club website VATrainCollectors.com

Meeting - Mar 16, 2023 7pm (3rd Thurs)

Virginia Train Collectors Association

The VTC was founded in 1976 when a group of local train collectors came together to form the club. Forty-Five years later and counting the Virginia Train Collectors are going strong with almost 300 active members. While the majority of our members reside in Virginia, we also have members who live in many other states. The Club remains true to its original cause which is to **Promote the Hobby of Collecting and Preserving Toy Trains**.

In 2018, the club became the Virginia Train Collector's Association (**VTCA**) with 501c3 status.

Meeting at Westchester Commons 153 Perimeter Rd, Midlothian, VA

