

METCA NEWSLETTER

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METROPOLITAN DIVISION OF T.C.A.

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DIRECTORS:
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DAVID WEGGELAND

NOVEMBER 1982

METCA MEET DATES FOR 1983 (At Garfield, NJ Boys Club)

February 20th - May 15th - September 25th - November 12th

NOMINATIONS FOR 1983 TCA NATIONAL ELECTIONS

Nominations of METCA Members as candidates for TCA National Offices must be made from the floor during the business meeting at Garfield, NJ on November 14th. Please do not nominate anyone who has not signified a willingness to run for office.

METCA NEWSLETTER CORRESPONDENCE

We ask the readers of METCA NEWSLETTER to address all correspondence to John H. Bonnett, Editor at 271 East Mt. Pleasant Ave, Livingston, NJ 07039

EDITORIAL

Your METCA Officers extend our warmest Holiday Greetings and our wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Remember that finest additions to Your Train Collections are those that were once under some other small boy's Christmas Tree.

METCA SOAPBOX

The METCA SOAPBOX Article from the September 1982 METCA NEWSLETTER is herewith reprinted in order to present the letters which follow in their proper perspective.

METCA SOAPBOX

TCA in 1982 has become a strong nationwide organization with upwards of 15,000 members. As we grow in numbers it has become increasingly difficult for any individual member or group of members to present or advance any new suggestions or complaints to the larger membership.

Neither the Quarterly nor the National Headquarters News now present any forum for these individual ideas, and to attempt any contact with the entire membership by mail involves the expenditure of hundreds of dollars.

METCA NEWSLETTER now offers a forum in which more than 10% of the National Membership can be reached and in addition the Secretaries of all other TCA Divisions:

METCA NEWSLETTER will publish any serious letter from any TCA Member regarding the National affairs of TCA. Letters must contain members signature and should be limited to 200 words.

(OVER)

TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION



JOHN G. PARKER, SECRETARY
3225 Evening View Rd
Anahiem, CA 92807
714 637-0262

9 September 1982

Mr. Joe Francis
P.O. Box 207
South Amboy, NJ 08879

Dear Mr. Francis:

Your criticism of the TCA Newsletter and Quarterly is a surprising piece of news that METCA finds it necessary to publish to it's readers. If you want to offer a forum - fine, but, please do it in a positive manner.

The member who has something to say to the TCA membership has a number of ways to do it.

1. To buy or sell trains - the "Interchange" published in the newsletter;
2. A factual article on trains - to the Editor - Bruce Manson;
3. A complaint on a train deal - to the Membership Committee - Don Schwab;
4. A comment on the National Business Office - a letter to the President - Joe Bak, the Secretary - John Parker or the Business Office - Betty Perini;
5. A comment on the Toy Train Museum - a letter or call to Bruce Manson.

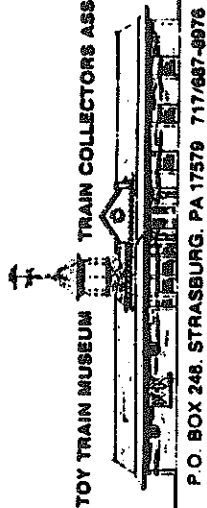
Bruce Manson in his letter has summarized the position for the Quarterly very well. The communication between the membership and the National Officers seems to be working well, and as Secretary, I receive and answer many letters each month, as does the Business Office METCA as a Division of ICA is required under the TCA By-Laws, Article IX, Section 1 - to send a copy of the "Minutes of Meeting" to the National Secretary and President within 30 days of the meeting." I have not been receiving copies of your newsletter, as National Secretary? The offending September issue was received via Bruce Manson. Please undertake to mail a copy of each of your METCA Newsletters to the TCA Secretary and President as required.

I would suggest that you include all the National Officers in your mailing if you feel the need to improve the communication between your members and the National.

Sincerely,

John Parker
John Parker
National Secretary

c: ~~John Parker~~ Joe Bak, Bob Robinson, Don Schwab, Larry Battley, Frank Hare, Bruce Manson



TOY TRAIN MUSEUM TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 248, STRASBURG, PA 17579 717/687-8976

September 1, 1982

Mr. Joe Francis
PO Box 207
South Amboy, NJ 08879

Dear Joe,

I received the Metca Newsletter for September this morning and read with interest your Metca Soapbox request. I am replying solely as Editor of the T.C.A. Quarterly and in no other capacity. The guidelines for the Quarterly as postulated in the T.C.A. Board Policy Book is as follows:

The T.C.A. Quarterly is for the purpose of publishing material of an historical timplate nature, the operation of/and collecting of timplate, stories about collectors and their collections, and material of like nature.

When I became Editor in the Spring of 1979, I instituted a column called the Drumhead and at that time laid the ground rules for this column in my Editor's column from which I quote, "We ask only that this column be kept to 'train talk' exclusively, keeping politics and personalities for the 'Tuesday Night Hot Stove League.'" I have been delighted with members responses to this column, and the Drumhead in the October Quarterly will be three pages.

I do feel that T.C.A.'s strength comes from a strong, forceful, and dedicated leadership. At present, in my opinion, any member who has 'new suggestions or complaints' can obtain an audience beginning with his or her division president and work up the ladder.

One thing that members seem to appreciate most about our organization is the lack of controversial and worldly discussions either in our publications or at our meets. . . this is a hobby and an escape from the soapboxes of the times.

Again, good luck.

Sincerely,

Bruce D. Manson, Jr.
Bruce D. Manson, Jr.
Museum Director and
Editor of the Quarterly

BDM, Jr.:pka
cc National Officers
Sybil Feyh
Neil Price