



Ozark Division of the TCA

President's Convention Report

July 12, 2018

Ozark Division Members:

The 64th Annual TCA Convention was held at The Crowne Plaza in Warwick, Rhode Island from June 23 to July 1, 2018.



Over 400 TCA members plus their guests attended the Rhode Island convention. Convention attendance was so good that the main convention hotel sold out and members were placed in two other hotels in the area. Also attending from the Ozark Division were web master, Jim Bresnahan and his wife Annette and Ozark Division VP Don Miller and his wife Judy.

The financial condition of the TCA is good. We finished 2017 with \$1.7 M in revenues and \$305 K in profits. Membership is currently 22,027 which include all membership categories. There was a net decrease of 875 regular members during the year. New this year was the first deaccession auction of trains and related materials belonging to the TCA. The auction netted over \$8,000. I was fortunate to be able to purchase Lionel's "Paper Train."

To help reduce the decline in membership, the marketing committee has developed the "Win Big" campaign. As proposed, members who sign three or more new, paying members will receive one year free membership. For each new member, the signing member's name will be placed in a lottery to win either a Lionel or MTH "Big Boy." The lottery will be administered by TCA's national business office. Watch for ads in the Quarterly, CTT and OGR for details.

It was emphasized that new members are primarily operators and not collectors. As such we should keep the operator in mind as we promote our chapters and division. It was also emphasized that new members are very social media adept. To that end the Ozark Division will soon be announcing our FaceBook page (ozark division of the tca). If you don't know FaceBook, ask your kids or grand kids. They will be glad to help you.

Convention Activities

There were many tours and activities that the convention attendees could select. Here are some of our member pictures. More pictures can be found on the link at this [PhotoBucket link](#).

I would encourage each Ozark Division member to attend a National Convention. Next year's convention will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Respectfully submitted:

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