

New Members Frequently Asked Questions.

❖ What is the best way to meet new people in the club?

- Volunteer for even a few hours and you will have the satisfaction of helping you club and you will meet new friends.

- Volunteer to work at an RMD Auction. RMD auctions are usually twice per year currently in March and October. Preparation for the auction involves going to a member's home to lot auction items into auction packages. This can be a great learning experience. On the day before the auction members volunteer to set up the lots of trains in the auction hall. During the auction members can volunteer to display trains to the audience as they are auctioned off, record winning bids in the computer system or even be the auctioneer. At the end of the auction members volunteer to collect auction items for winning bidders as they checkout. Others volunteer to take and record payments. The side benefits to volunteering at an auction are that you get to preview auction items while you work, you get to see trains of all sizes and periods up close and you get to work with and meet RMD members.

- Volunteer at an RMD Train show as a Floor Walker. Floor Walkers volunteer primarily to walk the show for a half or full day during show hours. They assist the public with answers to questions, provide show security for sellers and help RMD sellers by watching sales tables when a seller needs to take a quick break. The side benefits to volunteering as a floor walker are free show registration, meet RMD members and sellers, see what is for sale and who has the best bargains. Floor Walking is one of the best ways to meet RMD members.

- Volunteer to help setup for an RMD Train Show. Setup for train shows usually starts at 8:00 am the Friday morning before the show. Table cards need to be placed on each table, tables need to be checked against the floor, layouts need their boundary corners marked on the floor prior to opening the doors, badges need to be handed out to members as they arrive for setup, a loading dock manager is needed to keep the dock traffic moving, door prizes need to be organized, ticket booths need to be setup, the RMD membership/information booth needs to be setup, and signs need to be placed in the correct places.

- Volunteer at an RMD Train show to help with the Boy Scout Merit Badge Program. The merit badge program is a win-win program for the RMD. Kids learn about real and toy trains while earning a merit badge. They also get to see layouts and toy trains as they do this. In the end many

scouts and their parents get introduced to the hobby. Volunteers man stations for a few hours at time teaching scouts about trains.

- Volunteer at an RMD Train show to help with the RMD Kids Club. The RMD Kids Club needs volunteers for a few hours at a time. Tasks include running train races, help with the Build-A-Layout program, help with the Kids Club layout, help with the kids video theater or at the Holiday show help Santa.
- Volunteer at an RMD Train show to help with the clinic program. The clinics need help before the show with room setup, planning and scheduling.
- Volunteer at an RMD Train show to help at the RMD membership/information booth. Volunteers sign up for several hours to help the public become RMD members, announce door prizes and clinics and hand out door prizes.
- Volunteer at a RMD Train show to help setup the RMD Modular Layout. Sign up at www.rmdtoytrains.org. While your there sign up for a time period to run trains. It's free and you get to interact with other RMD members as well as the public.

❖ **Why do I have to be a national TCA member to join and be a member of the RMD?**

- The RMD is a division of the Train Collectors Association based in Strasburg Pennsylvania. Per the RMD Bylaws **“The Division shall be formed, operated and governed by the TCA Articles of Incorporation, TCA By-Laws and the TCA-RMD Constitution and ByLaws.** Also per the RMD Bylaws “Membership is open to any person in the Division area who collects or operates tinsplate trains, who collects any items relating to tinsplate trains, or who professes a serious interest therein **and is a TCA member in good standing.**

In other words you must be a TCA member to be a member of the Rocky Mountain Division, which means if you drop your TCA membership we must drop you from the RMD membership until your TCA dues are paid.

❖ **When are RMD Annual Dues paid?**

- RMD Dues are currently \$20 and are due the last day of February each year. You will receive a bill in the US mail or by email in early February. If you don't receive a notice call the RMD secretary. The contact information

for the RMD Secretary is in the front of the directory, in the Tidbits emails or at www.rmdtoytrains.org/contactrmd.html

❖ **When are TCA Annual Dues paid?**

- TCA Dues are due each year in the quarter of the year that you joined the TCA. You will receive a bill in the US. If you don't receive a notice call the TCA National Business Office at 717-687-8623.

❖ **Why should I register for RMD train shows if I don't have sales tables?**

- Even if you are not selling at an RMD Train show you should register. There are several benefits to registering:
 - The single registration fee gets you and your family into the show for both days.
 - Registered members and their family get to attend the TCA only show time - usually 1 hour before the show opens to the public each day.
 - Registered members and their families are given ID badges, which allow sellers to sell to RMD members with no sales tax. Sales to the public or those without ID badges require the payment of sales tax. ID badges also help introduce you to other RMD members and their families.
 - You should register even if you are a floor walker. Registering gets you and your family a badge and saves you from paying sales tax. Registration fees are waived for floor walkers.
 - **Always Pre-Register** if you can. You can register at the door but the registration fee will be much higher. Pre-registration makes it easier on the volunteers running the show. Your badges and other registration information will be mailed to you before the show.

❖ **What is the Tidbits email system and how do I signup?**

- The Tidbits Email system is the primary means of communication between the RMD and its members. Email contains the latest RMD news items, show registration information, auction information, meeting notifications, Banquet information, etc.

❖ **When is the RMD Banquet what is the agenda?**

- The RMD annual banquet is held in place of the December business meeting. RMD Members and their spouse or significant others are invited.

❖ **What can I sell at a train show?**

- All scales of Toy and model trains, all train related items, scenery and layout related items. Train related books, magazines, pictures and videos.

❖ **How do I sign up to run trains on the RMD Modular Layout?**

- RMD members can sign up to run trains on the RMD layout at [www.
http://rmdtoytrains.org/RMD Modular Layout.html](http://rmdtoytrains.org/RMD%20Modular%20Layout.html).

❖ **Do I have to collect sales tax at a meet?**

- Sales tax must be collected on all sales to the public. Sales between RMD members, identified with RMD Train Show ID badges, are exempt from sales tax.

It is very important that you keep an accurate record of sales to the public! Record all sales to the public. At the end of the show fill out the RMD sales tax card. Submit the card and sales tax payment to the designated RMD Tax person. RMD will pay sales tax as a club on the RMD tax license. The tax rate for each show is on the tax card and is on the preregistration information sheet. If you have any questions ask the Meet Chairman or the Designated Tax Person.