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The **Lion Roars**



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A LCCA Convention Memory Maker

Christmas in the Atrium



The holiday layout in the fully-decked-out atrium of the hotel is an amazing example of creativity at Christmas with toy trains.



A D&H diesel heads homeward and passes a Christmas tree sales lot. Realistic scenes like this adorn the layout and each vignette tells a story.

by Bob Carter RM 6620

Several years ago when the Gaylord Texan Hotel in Grapevine, TX, sought a train exhibit as an operating display for their annual Lone Star Christmas event, they probably couldn't have foreseen the result – a holiday destination attraction with lots of “Wow!” power.

Mike McLintock (RM 27393), President of the Lone Star Hi-Railers, and its members – many of whom are also LCCAers – embraced the concept and, as they say, “The rest is history.” This photo essay shows their achievement – a memory-making model railroad that kids (of all ages) may remember for a lifetime. 🚂

Photographs by Bob Carter



The North Pole Central passes the Hogwart's Express train. One can wonder if Harry Potter and his friends are aboard.



The lighting display in the atrium contains 1.5 million bulbs – quite a “light show” for the holidays!



Roger Farkash (L) applies snow to the layout with tips from George Watson.



Patty Gilbert fluffs up the snow around a holiday tree on the layout.



A Christmas freight pulled by a Milwaukee Road F-3 rumbles past the local Christmas tree lot.



Santa pulls a “Coke Express” along the route for refreshment.

Answers to A Lionel Puzzlement

1. D, 2. K, 3. I, 4. C, 5. H, 6. F, 7. L, 8. G, 9. M, 10. A, 11. O, 12. N, 13. E, 14. B, 15. J.