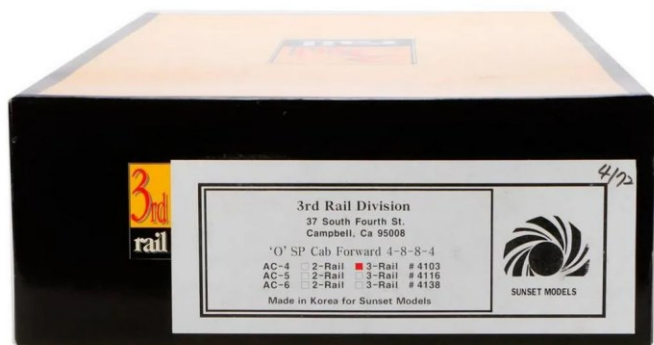


## GET ON TRACK! TURNER AUCTIONS + APPRAISALS PRESENTS THE ARMOND CONTI COLLECTION OF MODEL TRAINS, PART 2

**200 Lots Go Up for Bid on Sunday, January 29**

**SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA, January 18, 2023** – Turner Auctions + Appraisals is pleased to present The Armond Conti Collection of Model Trains, Part 2, on Sunday, January 29, 2023, at 10:30 am PST. Featuring 200 lots from the estate of a Northern Californian who collected trains for over 75 years, the sale presents a variety of fine, distinctive, and desirable pre-war and post-war train offerings – some new old stock, some unused, and many in their original boxes. These include locomotives, tenders, and cabooses; numerous sets and groupings; and a wide selection of train cars, including flat, passenger and baggage (Madison, Baby Madison and Heavyweight among them), fire, milk, dump, refrigerator, box, freight, coach, vat, and missile and helicopter cars. There are also many accessories on offer: besides switches, transformers and Gargraves track, there are loaders for logs and oil drums, gatemen, platforms, a coal elevator, nuclear reactor, burro crane, automobiles, billboards and street lights, and more. Many lots are Lionel model trains; other manufacturers in the sale are MTH, 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail, K-Line, Atlas, Williams, KMT, Kusan, LGB, and REA/Polk. Most are O gauge. *(Read about Armond Conti and his collection, below.)*



Turner Auctions + Appraisals begins its online auction on Sunday, January 29, 2023, at 10:30 am PST; sale items are available for preview and bidding now. The auction will be featured live on multiple platforms: LiveAuctioneers, Invaluable, Bidsquare, iCollector, and Turner Auctions + Appraisals' free mobile app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Apps ("Turner Auctions"). All are easily accessed through 'Upcoming Auctions' at the company's website: [www.turnerauctionsonline.com/upcoming-auctions/](http://www.turnerauctionsonline.com/upcoming-auctions/).

Here are some highlights of the upcoming sale (see details in the online catalog):

**Lot 16: Lionel Postwar 2240 Wabash F-3A and F-3B**

**2240 Wabash F-3A:** Horns, steps, trucks and couplers intact. Corrosion on horns. Paint has heavy wear spots in usual areas. Horn battery compartment is clean. Nose decal is yellowed. Horn sticker is partly missing. **2240 Wabash F-3B:** Steps, trucks, and couplers intact. Rust spots on step mounts. Estimate: \$200-\$400. (Photo, top right)



**Lot 70: Williams SP GS-4 4-8-4 Daylight No. 5600 O Gauge Loco & Tender.** Williams Electric Trains Southern Pacific 4-8-4 GS-4 Daylight No 5600 O Gauge in original packaging with shipping carton. Estimate: \$200-\$400. (Photo, top left)



**Lot 119: Lionel Southern Pacific Daylight F-3 A-B-A: 8260, 8261, 8262.** In dusty original packaging. Estimate: \$200-\$400. (Photo, middle right)



**Lot 34: Lionel 2552 Canadian Pacific Vista Dome Aluminum Passenger Car.** With wear from use. Estimate: \$100-\$200. (Photo, middle left)



**Lot 91: Lionel 6-14065 Accessory No 463 Nuclear Reactor Model.** In original box. Estimate \$150-\$250. (Photo, bottom left)

**Lot 196: LGB 4059 Flat with Autos, 4061 Gondola, 4066 Log Car, 4065 Caboose.** LGB 4059 Flat Car with Automobile Load in original box with sleeve. New old stock. Sleeve is shelf worn. LGB 4061 Gondola in original

box. New old stock. Box is shelf worn. LGB 4066 Log Car in original box with sleeve. New old stock. Sleeve is shelf worn. LGB 4065 Caboose in original box with sleeve. New old stock. Sleeve is shelf worn. Estimate \$150-\$250. (Photo, bottom right)





**Lot 37: Lionel 2333 New York Central F-3 Dummy & 2333 Powered F-3.** Lionel New York Central F-3 A-A Clean battery chamber. Screen tops. Need cleaning. Boxes stamped 2333P and 2334P and master box. Flaps are worn. Estimate: \$100-\$200. (Photo, left)

**Lot 54: Lionel Postwar 6464 Box Cars,**

**6361, 6436, X6454, 2452, 6042, 6456.** Lionel Postwar Rolling Stock 6464-250 Western Pacific Box Car in original Lionel Toy Corporation window box. 6464-75 Rock Island Box Car, 6464-400 Baltimore and Ohio Box Car, and 6464-200 Pennsylvania Box Car, all in original Hagerstown boxes. 6361 Log Car with logs in original The Lionel Corporation box. 6436 Red Lehigh Valley Hopper - appears un-run. X6454 Pennsylvania Box Car - dusty 2452 Black Pennsylvania Gondola 6042 Blue Lionel gondola - dirty, rust on axles and wheels 6456 Black Lehigh Valley Gondola in original tattered box missing some flaps, rust spots on wheels. Estimate: \$100-\$200. (Photo, right)



**– PREVIOUS PHOTOS –**

**Lot 25: Lionel Sears General Set. 1882, 1882T, 1866, 1885, 1887.** Lionel Sears General Set 1882 Western and Atlantic Locomotive / Black and Orange - missing whistle; 1882T Western and Atlantic Tender / Black and Orange; 1866 Western and Atlantic U.S. Mail Car / Brown and Yellow - roof scratches; 1885 Western and Atlantic Coach / Brown and Blue - roof scrapes at corners; 1887 Flat Car for Horses / Brown with yellow fences - 6 horses, 2 each Black, Brown, White. No boxes. Estimate: \$200-\$400. (Photo, page 1, top right)

**Lot 58: Sunset Models 3rd Rail #4103 3-Rail "O" SP Cab Forward 4-8-8-4.** Sunset Models 3rd Rail O Gauge 3-Rail Southern Pacific Cab Forward 4-8-8-4 AC-4 #4103 in original packaging with shipping carton. Estimate \$800-\$1,200. (Photo, page 1, lower left)

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**About Armond Conti & His Collection**

Born and raised in San Francisco, Armond Conti attended St. Ignatius High School and graduated from San Jose State in Industrial Technology. He met his wife Chris in the late 1950s, when they were both audience members of the popular radio show of Don Sherwood, who billed himself as the "world's greatest disc jockey." In 1964 the Contis and their then-three children moved to Livermore, California, then San Jose, where Mr. Conti worked as a nuclear engineer at General Electric for over 35 years, until he retired.

Armond Conti collected model trains for over 75 years, introduced to a lifelong passion around age 4, with a Christmas present from his parents. He continued to build and enhance his collection through the years, adding top-quality model trains from train shows and online sources. Perhaps no surprise as an engineer with an



interest and skills in mechanics and technology, he also began to repair model trains for others, working after his day job at Bill's Train Station in San Jose for over 15 years. He also set up an 18' x 18' shop in his backyard to pursue this aspect of his train hobby. His train layouts burgeoned as well, increasing as his homes got bigger: first at the top of his San Jose garage, where the layout platform hung down two feet from the ceiling and Mr. Conti would stand on a ladder to work on it. Later, when Mr. Conti moved to a nearby town, his train layout expanded to one-third of the basement of the family's large and spacious new home.



Through the years, Mr. Conti enjoyed 'train chasing' with fellow train buffs, and visiting the Tehachapi Loop near Los Angeles, an engineering feat completed in 1876, where he would go watch trains with his son Mike and others. As Mike said, his dad liked trains because they were "big, noisy, and kind of cool." These traits were shared with Mr. Conti's other lifelong hobbies – muscle cars and World War II airplanes. *(Photo left, train buffs Armond Conti, right, with his grandson Greg Conti at the Tehachapi Loop Overlook)*

Now, with Mr. Conti's passing, the family has decided to part with the collection for several reasons: no one has the same love of trains that Mr. Conti did, the family has other interests, and the model train hobby takes up a lot of space. Fellow enthusiasts who share Mr. Conti's passion for model trains are sure to benefit from and enjoy the astute rewards of collecting for over seven decades.

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#### **ABOUT TURNER AUCTIONS + APPRAISALS**

Based in South San Francisco, Turner Auctions + Appraisals was founded by Stephen Turner to expand and complement the capabilities of Stephen G. Turner Associates, an auction and appraisal consulting firm founded in 2004. Turner Auctions + Appraisals presents online auctions in diverse categories of personal property ([www.turnerauctionsonline.com](http://www.turnerauctionsonline.com)). Among them are Fine Arts, Decorative Arts, Asian Arts, Toys, Jewelry, Militaria, Ethnic Arts, and others. The company offers a range of auction and appraisal services for buyers, sellers, and collectors. Online auctions are held several times a month. Working with leading live and online auction houses on the West Coast since 1991, Turner is a professional appraiser of personal property and seasoned auctioneer. His areas of expertise include fine art, decorative arts, antiques & residential contents. The company welcomes consignments and appraisals.

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