

BRANCH LINE

NMRA'S FIRST REGION

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President's Message

Gene Mayer

During our midyear Board of Directors meeting the Board voted to pass 50% of the NMRA subsidy through to the divisions provided that they (1) send their newsletters to all members and (2) include a double sided page of regional information. We approved a modified budget which relies on interest from (1) the region's convention account and (2) the 2000 convention proceeds CD.

Treasurer Larry Altbaum will analyze the projected income and expenses and present the modified budget to the BOD at our November 18 midyear meeting in Santa Cruz. Larry and I are concerned that while we supposedly

would receive \$2 per year for each NMRA member it turns out that we only receive 50 cents for each member who purchased life membership before NMRA switched to an actuarial dues calculation. We must send the Branch Line that costs about \$1 per copy to every member at least once a year.

We believe NMRA should provide the full amount for every member

and cut expenses elsewhere. The Board voted to have Larry and me draft a resolution to that effect and instructed us to ask Ray deBlicke to present it to the NMRA BOD at the Philadelphia convention.

Only about 10% of the membership cast ballots during the recent election for division directors - not surprising as all four candidates were unopposed. There were three write in ballots for the inactive Hawaii Division--one of whom apparently lives elsewhere. He is not on the listing of the 28 members who live

in that state. About 60% (18) of them live on Oahu. I will write to the three persons who received votes and encourage them to organize the division.

The 2006 PCR convention was very exciting for me as I had the opportunity to renew acquaintances with many old (long time) friends. Unfortunately three former friends passed away during the past month. Kel Aiken of Genoa, Nevada came

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to most PCR conventions and had a magnificent HO layout. Dale Darney of Reno was an excellent modeler and manufacturer. He always let me know what was wrong with the way we ran the organization. Ben McLaughlin was a close personal friend who was registrar of the 2002 Redding convention. What was alarming to me is that two of them were younger than me.

VIEW FROM THE LEFT SEAT

By

Dave Connery, PCR Vice-president

As President Gene Mayer notes in his article in the issue, we continue to lose friends and members to “the last train leaving the depot”. Mortality is not really a model railroad topic but it is something we all face. When we first get interested in the hobby it is as a model train operator, or a model builder, or a rail fan or historian desiring to capture a part of the prototype in our own living spaces. Most of us end up as collectors, which is not bad but it is reality.

We all should make some provision for our “collection” now, because one never knows ahead of time when our “last train” will be called. While what we have collected has great value to us, it will probably be something that is in the way when we go. Our families will want to make some arrangements for this material they know they will never use. Having been asked to help dispose of the model railroad equipment of several friends, both those departed and a few who are alive but have dropped out of the hobby, I have some thoughts on this. First, when asked for help with this we all naturally want to do our best but ask any one who has stepped up to this task and it is often the “call from hell”. Properly disposing of a lifetime collection is daunting and can drain a whole lot of your hobby time and energy.

If you have not already made provisions for your

“stuff” I urge you to do so now. It might be included in a will, which makes it clear how you want it to be used. It might be informing those who are close to you what you would like to have done with your railroad material. Just make sure you have talked to the people you expect to carry out these directions and don’t assume telling one person will make it happen, they may pre-decease you!

One possible alternative is to donate your collection to your Club, Division or the Region. This is a way you can financially help your organization and be confident your collection will end up in the hands of fellow modelers who value it. In a way, you can turn what might be a burden for your friends and family into a legacy of sorts, reflecting your support of our hobby. Recently I have been involved in gifts of this type to both Coast Division and PCR. These gifts will materially help both these organizations through some bumpy economic times.

By doing this, your “collection” can do some real good and it is a whole lot better than having it stored in boxes in the garage and perhaps some day being put out at a garage sale or even worse, ending in a land fill. Please don’t wait until “next week” to address this issue.

Silent Auction at River City Express

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Silent Auction of a part of the estate of Keith Heinsohn at this spring’s PCR Convention. The Auction netted over \$2,000 for PCR’s operating account – badly needed in these uncertain times with reduced income and increased expenses. Special thanks go to Ray deBlieck; Kermit Paul, MMR; Dennis Stokley and Chuck Mitchell for their help in inventorying the estate and preparing the items for the auction and thanks also to Rod Smith; Ed Liesse; Brad Lloyd; Jim Long; Stan Keiser and Chuck Mitchell for their help during the auction itself.

Dave Connery

Dwayne Coate Receives 2006 John Allen Award

The John Allen Award is the most prestigious recognition in PCR. While the award is sponsored by Coast Division, the recipient is chosen by a committee composed of all prior recipients. The selection criteria used is someone who exemplifies the attributes of service to the hobby exhibited by legendary modeler John Allen, a PCR member before his passing in 1960.

This year the award was presented to Dwayne Coate, a PCR member who now lives in Sierra Division and who has been active in the hobby for over 30 years. Dwayne has served as Coast Division Chief Clerk, Coast Division Hospitality Chairman, Coast Division Nominations Chairman and handled the Coast Auction bid cards for five years. Dwayne also served as PCR Nominating and Ballot Committee Chairman. Dwayne is an O scale modeler and has been Assistant Chairman for many "O Scale West" meets. He served on the 1981 and 2000 NMRA National Convention Committees and has worked on a number of PCR Convention Committees. In recent years Dwayne has served as the Head Hobo in PCR, presiding over our Hobo Breakfasts.

Very fittingly, he received his award at this year's River City Express Hobo Breakfast.



Photo Caption: PCR Honors Chairman Ray deBlicke presents the coveted John Allen Award to Dwayne Coate at this year's PCR Hobo Breakfast. Photo by Rod Smith

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

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WRITTEN IN THE PCR

STEAM ECHOES, The Railroad Photography of Glenn Beier

Review by Dave Connery

I consider Glenn Beier of Placerville, CA to be one of the really great documenters of western railroads through photography. While the depth of his work that I have been exposed to is not as vast as some of his contemporaries, the artistic and human qualities are unsurpassed. This book is composed entirely of Glenn's photographic work, all of it in black and white. The text in the book is limited to short introductions to each Chapter and well written captions. Actually, the photography is so well done and so engaging, this would be a wonderful story without any written material.

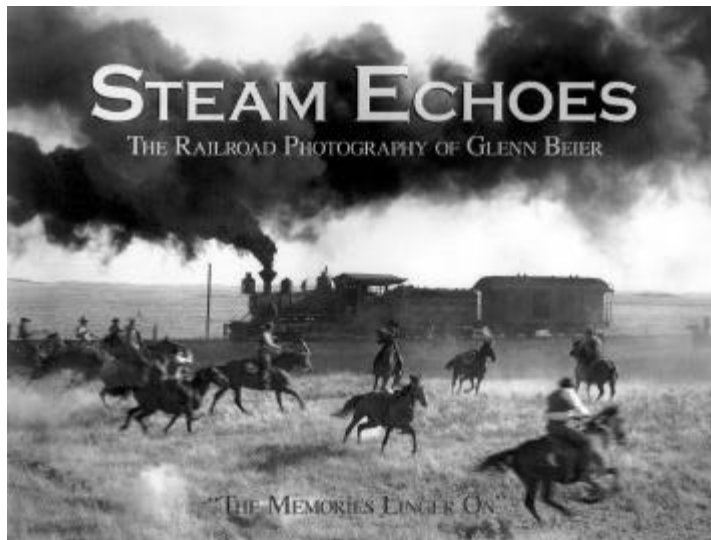
The book contains 12 chapters, mostly organized by railroad. All the railroads featured are western roads and since that has become my area of fascination in the hobby, this material

really hit home. Covered railroads include the Southern Pacific, Sierra Railroad, West Side Lumber Company, Pickering Lumber Company, Feather River Railway, Sacramento Northern, Carson & Colorado Railway, Denver & Rio Grand Western Narrow Gauge and the Hillcrest Lumber Co. Each of the above has a chapter dedicated to it. There is also a chapter that includes photos from the Nevada Northern, Magma Arizona Railroad and South Lumber Mills (Flagstaff, Arizona), and a chapter called "Shooting Stars" of both behind the scenes and publicity photos Glenn took of movie making on the Sierra.

The final chapter is of special interest to modelers.

Glenn was a friend of John Allen, had been inspired by John's modeling and photography while still in Art School and regularly visited John's homes in the Monterey area. It turned out that John, a photographer by profession, had attended the same institute. John was very particular about letting anyone else photograph his layout and Glenn was one of the very few allowed to do so. This chapter includes some photographs of

John's wonderful work I had never seen and in at least three of the photos there appears a Heisler lettered for Glenn's *Angels Camp and Tuttle-town* HO model railroad.



The truly unique aspect of Glenn Beier's work for me, over and above the wonderful shots of equipment and railroad scenes, all with an artists eye for composition, are the people. In nearly every photo you see rail-

roaders going about their tasks of running a railroad. You can't help but feel the professionalism, dedication to their tasks and easy competence of the railroad workers in Glenn's photos. The feel of railroading just flows out of the pages. As the note at the bottom of the cover sheet says; "The memories linger on."

Steam Echoes is published by Timber Times, Inc. P.O. Box 219, Hillsboro, Oregon <http://www.timbertimes.com/>. The book is 11" x 8 1/2" in horizontal format is 288 pages long and sells for \$58.95.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

By Jack Burgess, MMR

Continuing our discussion on the various AP certificates, this month we will talk about the requirements for the Master Builder - Structures. Like the other certificates, the actual requirements for this category are available on the Internet at the NMRA site. You can also get a copy of the requirements by calling me.

A number of different types of models qualify as structures, including all types of buildings, factories, bridges, cranes, ships, etc. The basic requirement for the Master Builder - Structures certificate is to build twelve (12) structures with at least six different types of structures represented. (The intent of the requirement for different structures is to encourage the individual to model a variety of structures.) A brick building and a wood building would qualify as different types of structures as would a station and a water tank, even if both of the latter were built from wood.

There are a few qualifications for the twelve structures. First, one of the six types must be a bridge or trestle. Note that this bridge does not need to be a major structure but can be a simple bridge over a creek or even a vehicle bridge. If you don't need a bridge on your layout, you can build the bridge as a separate model.

Next, each of the twelve structures must be super-detailed with either commercial or scratch built parts. "Super-detailed" means that it has considerably more detail than usually expected. Some "more expensive/extensive" kits (such as the Finescale line) could meet this qualification, as long as craftsmanship is shown in assembly of the kit. Otherwise, look at the prototype and include in your model the details that you normally see in prototype buildings, including signs, electrical fixtures and meters, rafter tails, window details, etc.

In addition to being super-detailed, at least six of the twelve models must be scratch built. Note that you

can use commercial scribed styrene or wood and still meet the requirement for a scratch built model. Finally, you must score at least 87½ points on six of the twelve models. This can be via a PCR or Coast Division model contest or by having the models judged for a Merit Award.

To summarize these qualifications, you need to build twelve super-detailed structures representing at least six different types of structures including at least one bridge or trestle. At least six of these structures must be scratch built. Finally, you must score at least 87½ points on at least six of the structures.

Once you complete these requirements, you can submit a Statement of Qualifications that identifies the models and the commercial parts used, etc. The easiest way to do this is to simply attach the model contest form, which includes this information and also documents your score. Send the completed form to your Divisional AP representative, along with a photocopy of your NMRA membership card and you are on your way toward another certificate!

If you have completed all of these requirements, you submit a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) along with a photocopy of your NMRA membership card and you are on your way toward another certificate!

I am happy to announce that John MacDougall has been awarded an AP certificate for Model Railroad Author. Congratulations!

In addition, Marlin Costello has been awarded his certificate for Master Builder Motive Power. This last certificate qualified him for Master Model Railroader and he was honored as Master Model Railroader No. 368 at the just-completed PCR Convention on in Sacramento. Marlin qualified for a Golden Spike award in February 1998 and used that as inspiration to work his way through the Achievement Program. He was awarded AP Certificates for Electrical, Civil,

(Continued on page 6)

PCR 2006 Financial Summery

Larry Altbaum, Treasurer

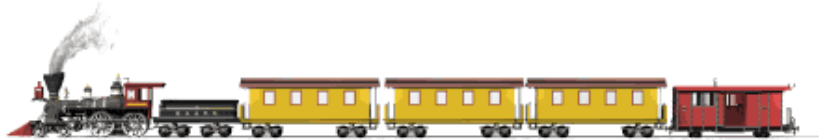
The change to NMRA single membership has made this a tumultuous year for the Region, and this is reflected in deferred income (the dues rebates from national) and a resulting decline in assets. The operating loss for the year approached \$3000, but indications are that the current year will see sufficient funds to continue programs and provide aid to the Divisions in carrying out their programs. The reserves generated over the last few years have stood us in good stead, permitting an uninterrupted flow of Region activities, particularly the publishing of the Branch Line and the great annual conventions.

Specifics –

Operations	
Income	\$5542.22
Expense	\$8446.09
Net loss	\$2903.87
Convention Excess	\$2605.35
Combined Loss	\$298.52
Current Assets	\$78,773.90

(Assets include convention reserves and an annuity account for Life Members.)

The future looks very good. The single dues membership will decrease the Region's expenses and membership workload, and projections are for a balanced budget, keeping the concept of paying for on-going operations with current income, retaining sufficient reserves to cover any contingencies, and protecting the interests of our life members.



(Continued from page 5)

and Scenery later in 1998, Volunteer and Chief Dispatcher in 2000, Author in 2005, and Motive Power this year. Congratulations Marlin!

If you are interested in the AP Program or Golden Spike Program, contact me for more details. My phone number, and e-mail address are listed in the Call Board on Page 22.

Non-Rail Activities

By **Mary C Moore-Campagna**

The PCR's Non-Rail program is designed to provide PCR members and convention attendees with entertainment and fellowship; and this year's convention was another example of how PCR makes all attendees feel included. The convention's Non-Rail program, ably chaired by Kay Warner, featured a guided tour to a noted orchid grower in the area, where the tour attendees were able to see all different types of orchids and ask questions about how to grow them successfully. Following the "garden" theme, Emmy Connery presented a highly informative clinic on the different types of insects that can be found in gardens, and how they can be useful.

For the craft-oriented conventioners, Marilyn Long led a caravan to explore many of the local quilt shops (the shopkeepers were delighted to see us: we contributed significantly to the local area economy) and demonstrated her technique for creating unique pieced quilt forms.

The evenings brought the traditional staples of the PCR Non-Rail program: "Thursday Night at the Movies" (the

featured selection this year was "The Harvey Girls", starring Judy Garland) and "Friday Night Bingo", where all convention attendees and their guests were welcome to participate. And once again, the Art and Craft section of the contest was well represented, including some entries from "first-timers". Another traditional activity was the Non-Rail Luncheon, at which a local charity is honored as the recipient of homemade quilts and blankets contributed by the Non-Rails. This year's recipient was the High-Risk Neonate Unit of the U.C. Davis Medical Center.

Many thanks go to Kay Warner for coordinating an excellent program, to Carol Skold and Bill Scott for their hard work on the contest, and to all the clinic presenters and attendees for providing an enjoyable experience for everyone. It's very encouraging to see more new people come and find out for themselves how much fun a PCR convention can be, for both model railroaders and their "support section"!

Editor's Notebook

By
Gus Campagna, Acting Editor

This issue is very late and I offer my apologies. I did not even miss this issue until Dave Connery asked if he could be sent another one since his must have gone missing in the mail. I do not know what has happened to Stephen Johnson our editor, but calls and e-mails to him go unanswered. I checked with the printer and found out that they did not have the July-Sept issue, so I went ahead and gathered the information that I could and put out this late edition. The next Branch Line will also be on a late schedule. The call for articles has gone out and the deadline will be pushed back to October 12th.

I am also apologizing for not getting the Branch Line Extra to the Division Editors for inclusion in the third quarter editions. The schedule for that publication is the first of July, October, January, and April. Work was crazy for a while, but has now slowed to a much more sustainable pace.

Contact me at gus@campagn.com or by phone on my cell at 415-990-3777



Coast Division Report

June, 2005

By Tom Crawford, Chief Clerk

The last meet, held on June 4, 2006 at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, was enjoyed by 104 members and friends. 1 was a member of Coast Division who was a first time attendee, and 4 were guests. There were 4 members from Redwood, 6 from Sierra 1 from Daylight, and 1 from SLO.

The clinics included a presentation on "Utilities Above and Below the Ground" by Tom Crawford and Jerry Littlefield's ever popular roundtable, which had to go into extra innings, reconvening after the business meeting.

The Rainbow Girls provided hot dogs, polish dogs and chili with potato salad for lunch.

The business meeting was called to order at 12 Noon by Chief Clerk Tom Crawford, acting as a short version of Superintendent John Marshall who was out of town. We had updates on the various conventions either just past of getting ready to occur. Of particular interest are:

- The River City Express on May 3-7 at the Doubletree Inn in Sacramento was a great success.
- The Garden Railway Convention is at the Santa Clara Convention Center July 3-9.
- The X2006 SPH&TS (Southern Pacific Historical and Technical Society) convention will be July 12-16 at the Hilton Oakland Airport.
- We will have the Coast Division Annual banquet on September 30 at the Three Flames Restaurant in San Jose. There is a separate article on that elsewhere in this Branchline.

Coast Division will be sponsoring the 2007 PCR convention, the Suntan Special in Santa Cruz. We still need a few volunteers. Contact Kevin Hurley if you can help.

The winners of the Model Contest were:

Diorama:

1st Place = Andrew Merriam from SLO for a derelict derrick

Structure:

1st place = Alf Modine for an O scale scratch built North Shore Skokie Valley Lines Station . Alf's station also received a Merit Award (i.e. > 87.5 points) from the Achievement Program judges Kermit Paul and Bob Wurthlin.

2nd place = Steve Wesolowski for an HOn3 water tank.

Traction:

1st place = Andrew Merriam for a Denver and Rio Grande Western self propelled coach.

2nd place = Andrew Merriam for a Pacific Electric Baggage RPO

3rd place = George Freisleben for an SF Muni Streetcar and a Pacific Electric PCC.

John Sing will get the photos posted with his usual speed. He was taking pictures all afternoon. Although we didn't mention it in the credits, there was a sizable display of items on our "Show and Tell" table.

The categories for the September Meet are: Steam Locomotives, Diesel Locomotives, and Passenger cars. There will also be another "Show and Tell" in any category. This is an opportunity to put something out there just to show your stuff, and ask for feedback (if you want it.)

The winners of the photo contest for computer enhanced photos were:

1st Place: Mark Schutzer

2nd Place: Mark Schutzer

3rd Place: Steve Wesolowski.

By the way, Mark's first place entry involved taking several pictures of a model that was very close up, and having each photo focus on one part (the depth of field was too great to focus on the whole thing) and then melding them all together into one photo that was all in focus. Mark used a free program you can download from the web called Combine Z 5. Check it out.

The category for the September meet will be Trains in Action.

The winners of the switching contest were:

1st Place Brake Person: Steve Wesolowski 9:04

It should be noted that Jim Radkey got his best time ever as a Brake Person at 5:04, but this got him promoted to Senior Brake Person, so he was identified in the Brake Person category.

1st Place Senior Brake Person: Bill Burkett 4:28

2nd Place Senior Brake Person: Tom Crawford 5:30

3rd Place Senior Brake Person: Alan Havens 6:00

The Auction had a total of 603 items, and the silent auction had 11 items.

Using our new logic, we had three raffle prizes, one for \$75, and two for \$25. Also using our new logic, we had 13 door prizes. In addition, we had a "Superintendent's Special" a surprise \$50 gift certificate to "Just Trains" in Concord.

(Our new prize logic approved by the Board is that there will be 1-\$75 and 2- \$25 Raffle prizes, and that all proceeds from the previous raffle will be used to buy door prizes for the next event, with a \$50 minimum.)

Our next meeting will be September 10 at Bucsher School in Santa Clara. See the Coast Division upcoming events for more details.

Coast Division Upcoming Events

December 3, 2006

Division Meeting

Bay Area Computer Museum
Hwy 101 at Shoreline Avenue
Mountain View

The following clinics will be offered:

10 AM TBD

11 AM "Operation Lifesaver"

11 AM "Model Railroad Roundtable"
Jerry Littlefield

12 Noon Business Meeting

1 PM Auction

1:30 PM Announcement of contest winners

3:30 PM Raffle

9:30 AM – 1:15 PM:

Photo Contest:

Model Contest: "Favorite Model" (Open Category)

Allan Fenton Switching Contest



Daylight Division Report

By

Doug Wagner

Short notice report from the trenches:

Daylight Division had a great meet in San Luis Obispo August 26th, 2006 at the home of Hilding and Mary Carole Larson. Again, great food, fellowship and fun. The Larsons's supplied the meals, tri-tip, SLO beans, great tossed salad and a deeply rich chocolate cake. Good White Elephant auction, Paul Deis officiating, auctioned off a new Branchline Pullman among other things.

Clinics included Doug Wagner's tale of the Sunset Railroad; well produced for a first time PowerPoint, replete with Patriotic theme as an intermission. Layout tours included Charles Burns N scale Surf Line (lots of work since our last visit), Hilding Larson's UP and Terry Taylor's ATSF. Had about sixty participants. That's all for now,
Brewster



Redwood Empire Division Report

By Steve Skold

Redwood Empire Division
Steve Skold

RED's Spring meet has been changed to Saturday June 3rd at the Napa Fairgrounds, the home of the Napa Valley Northern Model Railroad Club. Doors will be open at noon and the meet will start at 1:00PM. After a short meeting and introduction of RED's new Director, Harold Mentzer will do a clinic on logging.

The following meeting will be our summer picnic on Sunday August 13th. It will be held at Westside Farms, the home of Ron Kaiser. RED will supply soft drinks and charcoal. It will be pot luck. Bring your own steaks or chicken or hamburgers to BBQ and something to share. Ron promises to have his Western Pacific mainline ready for operation and if it is a hot day, he has air conditioning in his train barn. There will be a hayride for the kids (and those adults who want to participate) on the Kaiser wagon pulled by either two Percheron or two Shires (BIG HORSES).

We are in the planning stages for the Fall meet in November which will celebrate RED's 45th Anniversary. It may also be on a Saturday with a pot luck lunch.

Our February meet was held at the Monroe Hall in Santa Rosa. We had 20 people attending. Thanks go to Don Cabrall's daughter who provided the meeting facility. Bill Williams did a clinic on railroad signals showing inexpensive ways to make signals for operation on your layout. That was followed by a discussion on the future of RED considering the additional expense of additional members due to the recent reorganization of NMRA. The conclusion was to continue as we have been doing and see if we can get new blood interested and new ideas for meetings and finances. Nolan Alexander will have an article in the next RED Call Board reviewing all the discussion. Winner of the Special Door Prize was Dave Turner who got a one year subscription to his favorite model magazine. More information on meeting sites with maps are available at our Website: <http://home.earthlink.net/~campgus/>

Layout Design and Operations Special Interest Groups News

By Seth Neumann

The big summer operations news was the OP SIG sessions at the NMRA National convention in Philadelphia. I was fortunate enough to participate in 3 official sessions and one unofficial session. The local OP SIG coordinator, Jim Dahlberg did a super job of accommodating all comers and there were several of us from the PCR. It seems like the Susquehanna is the WP of Eastern PA/Western NJ and there were several layouts modeling it or inspired by it. I spent a lot of time waiting for the interlocking at Sparta Jct on more than one layout.

For the rest of the summer I've been alternating coasts as I've been working on an assignment with a client based in the Boston area. The great news is that a friend in the OP SIG was able to introduce me to an operator in Rhode Island (a 1 hour drive from my client) who has weekly oper-

ating sessions. So while life on the road has its challenges, I've gotten my Ops fix every Thursday evening. The lesson is, if you find yourself traveling, ask around or put out a request on the OP SIG list and you may find yourself on the extra board. Another lesson is that week night op sessions are fun. You can run for 2 or 3 hours, do one or two jobs and have your weekend free.

We have a pretty full schedule of ops events coming up next year:

* PCR/LD/OP SIG meet week after Superbowl, Feb 10-11

* BayRails (OPs Event - preference given to visitors from out of the area) March 8-10

* PCR Convention Santa Cruz May 2-7

* And of course the OP and LD activities at the Detroit National in July



Sierra Division Report

By

Dick Witzens

30th INTERNATIONAL RAILFAIR COMING SOON

International Raifair will be here before you know it, on November 11 and 12, 2006, so mark your calendars now.

This will be the Thirtieth Anniversary of one of the biggest and best model railroad shows in northern California, if not the entire West. This annual show in Roseville fills all the Placer County fairgrounds exhibit halls and their annexes, and spills over to several outside activities and exhibits. Hours will be Saturday 10 AM to 5:00 PM, and Sunday 10AM to 4:00 PM. Admission by donation, \$6.00, kids under 12 free. Parking \$1.00.

We're expecting at least 13 American and European style model railroad layouts in scales from Nn3, to indoor and outdoor LGB, and live steam. We also expect to have an operating handcar from the California State Railroad Museum, offering free rides. There will be a small kid powered wooden train set for the toddlers, with chairs nearby to give parents a break. We're also expecting over 50 vendors offering new and used model railroad related items for sale.

This event has been Sierra Division's main fund raiser each year. We share sponsorship with three other model railroad clubs. The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers will be there with their portable track, and will offer train rides for \$1.00. As usual, the Train Mart consignment store will help model railroaders get some cash for their no longer wanted model railroad related items. The local Rainbow Girls will provide snack bar service with thier usual good and inexpensive food. The local Moose Lodge will host the Saturday night banquet. So, you can see that a lot of organizations and their members benfit from this show.

For added attractions, Roseville is home to one of the largest Union Pacific rail yards. Tthere are several excellent hobby shops in Roseville, Sacramento and other nearby communities. Roseville is also home to a number of hotels and motels.

This year, Sierra Division will be responsible for staffing the parking lot Saturday morning, the ticket booths all weekend, and the Sierra/PCR/NMRA information area, with a kids' wooden trian set, and our On30 Timesaver layout. The Timesaver is used to give our guests a bit of hands-on train running, and is an important part of the show's Junior Engineer program for kids. Of course, we also need to set up and tear down the Sierra items before and after the show and cleaning up in one of the exhibit halls.

Sierra Divison will need lots of help to carry out our share of the duties. Volunteers helping out for at least two or three hours, in return get not only the satisfaction of helping the Division, but a free pass for both days of the show, free parking, and a free dinner at the Saturday evening banquet for show participants. Dinner choices are chicken or Swiss Steak. Dinners include salad, vegetable, and dessert. (Extra banquet tickets will be available for \$10.00. Banquet tickets typically sell out quickly with an early deadline, so sign up early. The banquet includes the chance to buy raffle tickets for a wealth of door prizes. Proceeds from ticket sales go toward offsetting show expenses.

To volunteer, contact Dick Witzens at witzrr@surewest.com or (916) 684-1987.

See www.internationalrailfair.com for more show information.

HIGHLIGHTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGS

MAY 2006

By Rich Kolm, PCR Secretary

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS met on May 3 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Sacramento, which was the first day of the PCR Annual Convention "River City Express." Board members present were President L.E. "Gene" Mayer, Vice-President Dave Connery, Treasurer Larry Altbaum, Secretary Rich Kolm, Directors Kermit Paul (Coast), Doug Wagner (Daylight), and Jim Long (Sierra), and Director-proxy Gus Campagna for Ron Plies (Redwood Empire). Also present were Ray deBlieck, Director on the NMRA Board, and various Department Managers and Committee Chairpersons.

- **Purpose and Objectives.** Vice-President Dave Connery presented a statement of Purpose and Objectives to help guide PCR as it moves forward under the new NMRA organization. The intent is to have a strong program of activities to retain members, which in turn will support an organized effort to bring in new members. The Board adopted the statement of Purpose and Objectives, which will become a preamble in the Manual of Operations.

- **Improved communications and sharing the NMRA dues rebate.** The first issue of the *Branch Line* each year is sent to every PCR member, and the other three issues go only to members who subscribe through their NMRA dues. Region contact with all members at least four times per year is very important. Gus Campagna, Manager of the Publications Department, proposed a comprehensive plan to send PCR news to all members through the Division newsletters. After considerable discussion, the Board adopted a program in which the Division editors will be asked to add two pages of Regional news (two sides of one sheet) to their newsletters during each of the last three quarters of the year. The Publications Department will prepare and furnish the copy in coordination with the Division editors. In exchange, PCR will distribute 50% of the annual NMRA dues rebate to the Divisions. PCR currently gets \$2.00 per year for each year-to-year and actuarial life member and \$0.50 for each non-actuarial life member.

- **Budget for fiscal year 2006.** Treasurer Larry Altbaum presented a proposed Budget which was approved by the Board with the addition of sharing the NMRA dues rebate with the Divisions for publication of Regional news and interest income from the 21st Century Convention account. He pointed out the large disparity in the amount of annual dues rebated by NMRA (see paragraph above). President Mayer will address this disparity through the Regional Advisory Council.

- **Election of Division Directors.** Jim Providenza, Chairperson of the Ballot Committee, reported that Doug Wagner and Kermit Paul were re-elected in Daylight and Coast Divisions, and Jim Long and Gus Campagna were elected in Sierra and Redwood Empire Divisions. There were three write-in votes in the Hawaiian Division, which has no active organization. This will be reviewed for resolution at the next Board meeting.

- **Appointments.** President Gene Mayer announced the appointments of Doug Wagner as Manager of the Membership Department and Ron Plies as Chairperson of the Membership Promotion Committee. He also will appoint a Chairperson of the interim Nominations Committee to seek and evaluate candidates for the upcoming election of President and Vice-President. [It was reported later that Bill Kaufman accepted the appointment.]

- **MMRs.** Kermit Paul, Director from Coast Division, announced that Jack Verducci and Marvin Costello are each receiving the Master Model Railroader award.

- **Conventions.** Dennis Stokely, Manager of the Convention Department, reported on planning and preparations for the 2007 Convention "Sun Tan Special" in Santa Cruz. He said he is looking for chairpersons and proposals for PCR conventions in the Coast Division in 2009 and in the Redwood Empire

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(Continued from page 12)

Division in 2010. Chairperson John Houlihan presented his proposal for the 2008 Convention “Sierra Memories” in Fresno, which was accepted by the Board.

- **Changes to Contest Directory.** Bill Scott, Manager of the Contest Department, presented changes to the Contest Directory, which were approved by the Board. The changes are necessary to make the Directory consistent with last year’s amendments to the PCR Manual of Operations.

- **Disposal of items from the Heinsohn estate.** Vice-President Dave Connery reported that items received from the Keith Heinsohn estate were inventoried. Those of intermediate value would be sold at this Convention in a silent auction. High value items may be sold through eBay and lower value items through the Coast Division auction.

- **The next Board Meeting** will be on November 18, 2006, in Santa Cruz. The agenda will be posted on the PCR website prior to the meeting.

THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING was held on **May 7** at the DoubleTree Hotel in Sacramento, the last day of the 2006 PCR Convention “River City Express.” President L.E. “Gene” Mayer presided and there were 49 PCR members present. President Mayer, Vice-President Dave Connery, and Secretary Rich Kolm covered various aspects of the May 3 Board meeting. Bob Warner, Chairperson of this 2006 Convention, commented about the various convention activities and said there was a total of 235 registrants. He thanked the Committee for their hard work in making it a success. Kevin Hurley, Chairperson for the 2007 Convention in Santa Cruz, described the program for “Sun Tan Special.” The next Annual Business Meeting will be at the 2007 Convention.



Pacific Southwest Region



Back to the Future in 2006

October 11 - 15, 2006
San Diego, CA

Location:
Convention - Ramada Inn & Conference Center
Train Show - Al Bahr Shrine

Registrar: Gary Robinson -
grobbedobbie@yahoo.com

Website:
<http://www.sandiegodivision.org>



**PCR/NMRA
SUNTAN SPECIAL
2007 Convention
University Inn & Conference Center
May 2-6 2007**

RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT
TO:
SUNTAN SPECIAL
4337 La Cosa Ave
Fremont, Ca 94536
E-mail Crawford.Tom@sbcglobal.net

Hosted by: Coast Division, Pacific Coast Regions, National Model Railroad Association

Registration Form

To place credit card order go to our website <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2007/>

Please Print

Last Name		First Name		First Name (for Name Badge)	
Address		City		State	Zip Code
Home Phone	E-mail Address			NMRA # (Membership Required)	
Registration Type (Please check one)			NMRA Region (if other than PCR)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Model Railroader <input type="checkbox"/> Non Rail <input type="checkbox"/> Youth					
Primary Scales and Interests (Check all that apply)		<input type="checkbox"/> HO <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> Narrow Gauge <input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
ADDITIONAL REGISTRANT(S) LIVING AT SAME ADDRESS (Use another form for more than 1)					
Last Name		First Name		First Name (for Name Badge)	
Registration Type (Please check one)		<input type="checkbox"/> Model Railroader <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Youth			
➔ All Fares include: Seminars, & on Saturday a train ride from Santa Cruz to Roaring Camp & steam train ride to summit of Bear Mountain and back, a banquet at Roaring Camp & train ride back to Santa Cruz					
FARES: Please fill in and total			QTY	Unit Cost	Total
Early Registration prior to January 31, 2007				105.00	
Full Registration after January 31, 2007				115.00	
Non NMRA member must join the NMRA, 6 month Rail Pass				9.95	
Spouse Registration or Youth Registration (12-18 years or student)				70.00	
Ball Cap with Logo – one size fits all				15.00	
Pocket T-Shirt with Logo <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL				18.00	
Pocket T-Shirt with Logo <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL <input type="checkbox"/> 4XL				21.00	
Shirts - Polo w/ Pocket and Logo (Check Size) <input type="checkbox"/> XS <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL				25.00	
Shirts - Polo w/ Pocket and Logo (Check Size) <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL <input type="checkbox"/> 4XL				28.00	
Shirts - Polo w/ Striped trim (Check Size) <input type="checkbox"/> XS <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL				32.00	
Shirts - Polo w/ Striped trim (Check Size) <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL <input type="checkbox"/> 4XL				35.00	
Convention Car – Granite Rock Hopper Car (HO Only)				tbd	
Payment by <input type="checkbox"/> Check** <input type="checkbox"/> Cash [Use website for credit card]			TOTAL:		

** Make Checks Payable to: "PCR Convention 2007"

UNIVERSITY INN & CONFERENCE CENTER 611 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz 95060 (831)-426-7100

[HTTP://UCSCINN.COM](http://UCSCINN.COM) Use Rate Code PCR

Convention Website: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2007>

Room rates (includes full breakfast)

Convention Questions - E-mail questions@pcrnmra.org

Single \$89.00

Double \$89.00

Triple \$99.00

Quad \$109.00

The Suntan Speical

Publicity Part One

I want to encourage you to Register NOW for PCR's Suntan Special at <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2007/index.shtml>

It will be in Santa Cruz, May 2-6 2007, at The UCSC Inn. Previously, I wrote how Family Friendly Santa Cruz is, with Monterey Bay, the Aquarium, miles of coastline and about many fun places for you & your family within an hour's drive of the UCSC Inn. I've said our housing is Family Friendly: \$89/night (plus tax); includes FULL Breakfast! Registration at \$105 is a bargain, including Saturday's Banquet at Roaring Camp, AND FOUR Real train rides: to/from Roaring Camp to Santa Cruz's Boardwalk (along the former SPC NG mainline) AND Steam train rides up/down Bear Mountain before the banquet. Spouses/SOs/Youths (12-18) are only \$70 for all of Saturday's events. More info: www.roaringcamp.com/ Convention Car: an HO GraniteRock Hopper. Proto Tours planned include GraniteRock's Quarry, Davenport Cement Plant, a food processing plant, & more TBD.

Besides the above, WHY should You Attend PCR 2007? Because of PCR's many Quality Clinics, many nice layouts in/near Santa Cruz to see, including many I personally enjoy seeing again, plus others I've never seen. For Example:

A Couple Layouts

In the September Coast Dispatcher, I asked members in Santa Cruz, Monterey or Santa Clara County with a home or club layout other modelers could enjoy visiting in May to contact myself or Kevin Hurley, so we could pass that info on to Jim Vail. Jim is coordinating Layout Tours, and Jim's wonderful HOn3 layout will be open!

Soon, two members contacted me about opening their layouts for PCR 2007! First Ray Turner of San Jose emailed me the URL of their proto G gauge layout I missed during the NGRC, :

<http://www.mysticmountainarts.com/MMRR/>

I'm confident many other excellent layouts in Santa Clara County will be Open the same day. I'm looking

forward to seeing Ray's and others I haven't seen. Every layout I've toured, no matter what scale(s), has taught me.

Then Keith Beard called to invite me to the Monterey & Salinas Valley Model RR Club September 9. Their website is: <http://www.msvrr.org/>

Visiting the MSVRR has been on my To Do list since 2001, when I saw MSVRR's modular HO/HOn3 layout in Carmel and met Kim Beard & Ken Burns, who were both working on 2.5" Scale projects!

This February, after 8 years, Kim first steamed up his 2.5" scale RGS #41; #41's website is <http://www.projectrgs41.org/> The MSVRR is in the former REA bldg, next to the Salinas Amtrak Station. Outside the club next to the Amtrak Main, I saw #41 burning coal & pulling a D&RGW Gon, Flat & Boxcar up and back on 100 feet of temp 7.5" gauge track. Also outside are SP 0-6-0 #1237, an SP caboose restoration, plus other SP artifacts in good condition, well protected by a chain link fence.

Inside, the club is adding large expansions, while still operating DCC HO trains, as Monthly Open Houses are required for their occupancy. Much scenery is done, some areas are being framed; parts of MSVRR are in all stages of layout construction: by May will be a lot more. Also inside the club is a display case containing most of what is left of John Allen's Gorre & Daphetid RR. I saw 3 of John's NMRA First Place Awards, some tenders, freight & passenger cars, parts of trestles and two main control panels, all variously damaged from the fire/smoke, all very lovingly salvaged and displayed. Kim's brother Keith now lives in John's/G&D's last home in Monterey. Keith has been working with others documenting as much of John Allen's surviving photographic and other works which still exist with others on the GandD Yahoo list.

All MSVRR members I met that day are eager to schedule their May 2007 Open House hours around the Suntan Special. If you ever wondered what's left or wanted to see any of the G & D/John Allen's model-

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Tales of the Santa Cruz Northern

By
Jim Providenza

Cut Apart Again...

It seems that every so often I report that the Santa Cruz Northern is once again "No longer 90 or 100% complete". Of course it never really is, I just sometimes like to think so. Sometimes I'm talking about changes in scenery or structures, but not often. Those sorts of things are usually incremental, or if not, do not really affect the ability of the railroad to continue to operate. Other changes are more major...

At the beginning of the summer the Maintenance of Way crew (otherwise known at the Northern California Nameless Group Round Robin or NCGRR) received orders to rebuild the east and west switches at Doughertys and install two new switches into parts of the Beroldingen Lumber mill there. Each switch has its own story, it seems.

The east switch at Doughertys has moved twice in the last 10 years, each time shifting 3 or 4 actual feet "east" as the siding at Doughertys has grown. Doughertys is now the longest siding on the railroad and can hold a train consisting of three units and 25 cars. It is used regularly during op sessions for meets and passes. Unfortunately, the current location of the east switch has put it physically out on the top, exposed level of the helix, sitting directly on the Masonite hardboard subroadbed. It is a handlaid switch and every spike hole is predrilled through the ties and into the hardboard with a #73 drill chucked in my Dremel Mototool. No quite as painful as it sounds, but not as easy as working with Homasote! Of course, the latest version of the east switch ended up having some geometry problems... It is a curved switch and the radii were never quite as smooth as they should be... and it seems there was this issue of cross-elevation... and maybe there is a hump in the track on the siding just past the frog... the performance was acceptable over the long run.

Well, we took it down to the hardboard, got out the level and a long straight edge, and spent several

Thursday evenings just getting a subroadbed that was truly level. Morgan has spent another several evenings spiking down a new set of rails; looking down the rails is now a pleasure! One more evening should have it back in working order. Operation will be vastly improved!

The west switch also suffered from a geometry problem, but over the years since I originally built it I could never really diagnose the problem. The inside radius is a minimum of 26.5", the minimum mainline radius, but we could never successfully run the Perishable with its pig trailers through the diverging route. The west switch is handlaid and curved like its counterpart at the other end of the siding, but unlike the east switch which is out in the open and easily accessible, the points of the west switch are within an inch of the east portal of Tunnel No. 3. At least it is next to the aisle! I decided since we had taken the east end out of service and were cutting into the main to install switches into Beroldingen I would also totally rebuild the west switch. This was also a good opportunity to relay the rest of the main through Doughertys with code 83 rail to help distinguish the main from the siding and from some of the code 55 rail in Beroldingen Lumber.

So, out came the code 70 rail, and I spent some serious time laying out the new west switch. What I decided was that the lead, the distance between the points and the frog, was too short. This apparently created a sharp "bend" in the path a train taking the diverging route. Moving the frog an inch further away from the points and relaying the approach of the siding to the frog resulted in a much smoother movement through the diverging route - the cars of the Perishable are now happy - though the crew of the Perishable may not be if the dispatcher routes them into the siding!

The first of the two switches into the Beroldingen Lumber mill complex ties the tail of the plywood spur into the SCN main. Not really what I had originally

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planned, but better than continuing to try to work parts of the mill from the inaccessible wye at the other end of the complex! Ron and Ernie did a fine job building both of these switches using continuous wing / closure / point rails. Not the way I would do it, but then I gave them the job to do and it will work just fine! One thing I did do myself was join up the code 55 from the spur to the code 83 of the diverging route. I used code 83 rail joiners with one side of one end flattened – pretty standard stuff. But it is really startling to see the difference in rail heights when they are actually married together.

The second switch Ron and Ernie built leads to a new area for the Beroldingen mill – a loads / empties track for log cars! This trackage is located next to the west end of the siding, essentially at the base of the small peninsula. Those of you who have visited the SCN over the years will recall that after the 2000 National in San Jose we rebuilt a good chunk of the upper level when we moved the main peninsula out eleven inches. The original upper level three track stub staging was hidden under the summit siding at Sergeants and

ended at the base of the small peninsula. The 2000 rebuild swung the main around the opposite direction from what it had been and across the garage doors to the opposite side of the garage and a new station and open staging. I left two of the original hidden staging tracks in place at the time. Their elevation is the same as Doughertys. We tore out the scenery at the west end of Doughertys at the base of the peninsula and connected the former stub ended staging tracks into the new switch coming off the main. Loaded log trains will move from the Fall Creek & Alba RR at Fall Creek Jct. to Doughertys, swap loads for empties, and return to Fall Creek Jct. Linton von Beroldingen is already preparing a couple of former SP Baldwins for FC&A log train service and some particularly funky log cars have already showed up on the new trackage in anticipation of future log shipments!

The rest of the NCNGRR crew has been busy elsewhere on the SCN on the summer Thursday evenings they have been over. We'll take a look at what Bill, Clark, Otis and Paul have been up to next time!

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ing, PCR2007 will be the time.

Two Clinics

Kim and Ken also proposed presenting two clinics to me that day. (These two clinics may be held at the MSVRR, because transport, setup & operating their 2.5" scale models would then also be available during the MSVRR's open house.)

Kim's clinic will be Building a Live Steam Locomotive. Ken Burns' clinic will be Scratchbuilding Rolling Stock (2.5" scale). If they hold their clinics back to back together, then Kim can fire up #41 as a demo for his clinic and Ken can run and supervise #41 while Kim teaches his clinic.

Most of the techniques they've demonstrated to me that they used, including custom milling car sidings, and making their own stirrups and grabirons, and modifying commercially available details like couplers, do apply to scratchbuilding in other scales, down to Nn3. Scratchbuilding is scale independent; I know because I scratchbuild in 2.5", HOn3/30 and

Nn3.

Volunteer!

Since my first PCR Convention, 2001 in SLO, I've volunteered before or during every one: I learn new skills from other volunteers I've never met AND those I already know. Because PCR Volunteers ALWAYS help other Volunteers succeed, so don't worry you'll be left to sink or swim alone. I've never been given any new task that overwhelmed me. With more volunteers, ALL volunteers have more time to enjoy our convention. We can always use more volunteers: I encourage You to Either email me at swezz@comcast.net or Kevin Hurley at khurley@pcrnmra.org, if you want to help or have questions. You can help make the Suntan Special more fun for everyone, including yourself, by volunteering. Try it!

We hope to see you there! Steve Wesolowski, Suntan Special Publicity Chair, swezz@comcast.net

2006 Contest Report

#	Category	Score	First Name	Last Name	Entry Description	Special Awards
16	Structure-Open	103	Joseph	Aymar	Canyon Diablo Bridge	Best in Show
34	Prototype Slide	110	Pat	La Torres	Williams Loop	Best in Show
38	Trains in Action-Print	110	Mark	Schutzer	UP Mixed Freight des. James	Best in Show
53	General-Pattern	121	Kristy	Webster	Infant Christening Gown	Best in Show
1	Freight Car-Open	68	Steven	Wesolowski	1880 Carson & Colorado Boxcar #342	
3	Freight Car-Kit	45	Joseph	Aymar	6 tank cars	
5	Passenger Car-Novice	28	Gene	Mayer	SP Combine #2581	
7	Steam Loco-Open	101	Mark	Schutzer	Espee AC-4 Cab Forward #4103	
		100	George	Mill	2-8-8-2 Triplex	
		94	Mark	Schutzer	Espee Pacific #2467, P-8	
		78	George	Miller	6 cylinder Shay	
8	Steam Loco-Novice	57	Steven	Wesolowski	0-6-0 T Switcher #24, NN3	
9	Steam Loco-Kit	92	Thomas	Knapp	Nn3 K-28	
		48	Darryl	Huffman	On3 8 ton Porter	
10	Diesel-Open	67	Pat	La Torres	Cotton Belt SD40t-2	
		66	Pat	La Torres	SP SD 40t-2	
		28	Hadley	Webster	HO Scale Western Pacific FTA-B	
12	Diesel-Kit	37	Joseph	Aymar	SP 6324&6305	
16	Structure-Open		Glenn	Joesten	Yard office & shop 12" scale	
18	Structure-Kit	79	Bob	Booth	Abandoned house	
		77	Bob	Booth	vintage gas station	
19	MoW-Open	95	Bob	Booth	Pile driver	
		90	Bob	Booth	Pile driver tender/crane	
		41	Steven	Wesolowski	Nn3 C&C#11MOW flatcar	
22	Display-Open	81	Darryl	Huffman	Alaska Packers Association	
24	Display-Kit	43	Darryl	Huffman	Logging skidder	
27	Traction-Kit	25	Steven	Wesolowski	Nn3 Boxcab # 9	
34	Prototype Slide	90	Pat	La Torres	workng down the canyon	
		70	Pat	La Torres	west bound along the river	
		50	Pat	La Torres	Poe siding	
		30	Pat	La Torres	Pulgaat speed	
35	Model Color Print	90	Pat	La Torres	Fickle finger of fate	
		70	Seth	Neumann	Avery Washington on the SP & S	
		50	Stephen	Skold	Shasta Yard	
			Mark	Schutzer	Espee 4353 Mountain in Dayllight	
			Stanley	Keiser	A moment in the loco shops	
36	Model B&W Print	90	Mark	Schutzer	Espee 2467 Portrait	
37	Prototype B&W Print	90	Pat	La Torres	Shay	
		70	Stanley	Keiser	The diamonds at stockton	
		50	Pat	La Torres	SP 44	

#	Category	Score	First Name	Last Name	Entry Description		
38	Trains in Action Print	90	Seth	Neumann	Stack train at Pulga		
		70	Brian	Booth	2472 Southbound		
		50	Mark	Schutzer	Espee 2472 Excursion		
			Stephen	Skold	Kingston Flyer		
		Stephen	Skold	New Zealand Pacific			
		Pat	La Torres	Williams Loop			
		Doug	Wagner	Westbound BNSF at Summit, CA			
		Doug	Wagner	Union Pacific Westbound, Summit, CA			
		Stanley	Keiser	Old & new SP			
		Ed	Merrin	Boston & Maine 1973			
		Stanley	Keiser	SP 5623			
		Ed	Merrin	Duncans Mills			
		Pat	La Torres	Feather River Canyon at Speed			
		39	Other Prototype Print	90	Ed	Merrin	Valve Gear
				70	Pat	La Torres	Oakland Nocturne
50	Seth			Neumann	Conductor Joliffe on the ground at DP		
	Mark			Schutzer	Railfan in search of a train		
	Stanley			Keiser	The new UP speeders		
Brian	Booth	#488 Chama New Mexico					
40	Tracks & Structures Print	90	Mark	Schutzer	Reno branch line		
		70	Ed	Merrin	Bakersfield 1962		
		50	Stanley	Keiser	The signals are all red		
			Doug	Wagner	Union Pacific Depot at Riverside, CA		
			Doug	Wagner	Looking out from the ATSF Sta. at San Berdoo		
48	Railroadiana-Orig	93	Susan	Swindell	Steam eng. Pot holder		
50	Needlework-Pattern	103	Susan	Swindell	Crocheted dish cloth		
51	Needlework-Original	118	Lynne	Maddy	Picture of Grandparents		
53	General-Pattern	119	Susan	Swindell	Quilted wallet		
		103	Lynne	Maddy	Quilted Dresden Plate		
		90	Susan	Swindell	Care bear tote bag		
54	General-Original	74	Susan	Swindell	Baby quilt		
99	Noncompetitive Display		Ken	Williams	TV / screen shot out		
			Ken	Williams	Converted container to junkyard		

The above listing shows the results from the River City Express Contest. Thanks go out to all the modelers who took the time to enter and to the Judges who took time from other convention activities and to the contest room staff, who put in lots of hours to make this contest a winner in everyone's book.

Club Info

ALAMEDA COUNTY CENTRAL RAILROAD SOCIETY
ACCRS is located at the Alameda Co. Fair Grounds, Pleasanton. A 30 by 100 foot room has O and HO layouts. Open to the public every Friday, 6 to 10 PM, they operate continuously during county fairs and special events. Annual dues: \$24, \$15 initiation fee; Jr membership for ages 12 to 18 (with sponsor), free. Contact: Gary Lewis 925-455-8135 E-mail: glslewis@comcast.net

Web: www.pleasantonmodelrr.org/index.html

ANTIOCH MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

The Black Diamond Lines is an HO club located at 425 Fulton Shipyard Rd, Antioch. Scenery is 95% complete and there is a lot of operating action. In 2006 we celebrate our 25th year of operation (anniversary cars available). We meet Tues. and Fri., 7:30 to 10:00 PM. Runs are the 3rd Fri. of the month. Contact: President Tom Lutrel, 925-609-7093

Web: www.blackdiamondlines.org

BAY AREA NTRAK MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

BANTrak MRC invites N scale modelers to visit us at the Wells Fargo Express Room, Southern Pacific Railroad depot, 902 Loring Ave., Crockett, on Wed. and Sat., 10 AM to 3 PM. Contact: Bob Lewis, 925-283-6838

E-mail: BobLewis1@sbcglobal.net

BAY AREA Z MODULE COOPERATIVE

BAZ is a group in the SF Bay Area interested in developing and displaying Z scale modules. Members are building them to the "Z-Bend Track" Module miniModuleZ specs Anyone in Northern California interested in Z Scale railroading is welcome to join us. We meet Sundays 10 AM to 5 PM at members houses

Contact: Robert Ray pray59@sbcglobal.net

Yahoo group: groups.yahoo.com/group/BAZ_modules

CALIFORNIA CENTRAL MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

The CCMRC is located in the old Agnew depot (Santa Clara) of the Southern Pacific (4185 Bassett St.) directly across from the Lafayette St. gate of Agnew State Hospital. The theme of the 15' x 50' HO club is western railroading running from the Bay Area to Southern Oregon. We meet Fri., 7:30 to 11 PM. Operating sessions the 1st and last Fri. of the month. Contact: 408-988-4449 (operating nights), or Wayne Cohen, 408- 779-0707.

CARQUINEZ MODEL RAILROAD SOCIETY

Formerly the Vallejo Model Railroad Club, we moved from the Solano Co. Fairgrounds, and are developing a track plan to fit our 36' x 60' room, located on the 2nd floor of the Odd Fellows (IOOF) Lodge, 645 Loring Ave. We are deciding if we will model a prototype or freelance road. We meet Wed., 7:00 to 10:00 PM. Contact: 510-787-6703 (recorder) Mail: P.O. Box 4057, Vallejo, CA 94590-0405

E-mail: LoggingRR@aol.com or LambertRP61@comcast.net

Place "Carquinez Model RR Society" in subject line.

Web: www.CarquinezMRS.org

COASTAL VALLEY LINES

The CVL is an informal association of novice to advanced model railroaders who live in Sonoma County. We meet at 7:00 PM the

1st Thu. of the month. We operate our HO modular railroad at local public shows. Contact: Brad Squires, 707-568-4298 or Don Hanesworth,

707-823-9615 Web: <http://home.pacbell.net/jrolston/>

EEL RIVER VALLEY MODEL RAILROADERS

The Eel River Valley is an HO club with a NWP-layout series of modules under construction. We meet Fri., 7:30 PM at the Humboldt County Fair Grounds Commercial Building NW corner, Ferndale. Contact: Ron Plies, 707-725-9063 Mail: P.O. Box 950, Fortuna, CA 95540

ELSIE

The Left Coast (Elsie) HO30 group invites anyone interested to join us. We use existing standards for module construction but are not merely a modular group. Contact: Al Sandrini in Bakersfield, 661-322-7955; John Spelce in Martinez, 925-228-3279; or Ken Lunders in Cupertino, 408-777-9572.

GOLDEN EMPIRE HISTORICAL & MODELING

SOCIETY, Bakersfield GEHAMS, founded in 1987 and in their current location since March '94, is dual-scale with a 30' x 100' HO, and a 18' x 80' N based on SP's route from Bakersfield to Mojave with Tehachapi Loop. Though under construction, mainlines are in with monthly operations. Contact: Doug Wagner 661-589-0391 E-mail: carldw@aol.com

GEHAMS web: www.gehams.com

GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM/EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

Located at 900-A Dornan Dr. in Miller-Knox Regional Park at Point Richmond. Meetings and behind the scenes tours Fri., 7:30 to 10 PM, and Wed., noon to 4 PM (when we typically work on the layouts). New members welcomed in all our scales, O, HO and N, including narrow gauge and traction. Contact: 510-234-4884 or 510-758-6228 (to 8 PM) For info or to schedule special shows, E-mail: John Edginton, EBMES Pres, jedginton@edg-law.com

Web: www.gsmrm.org

HUMBOLDT BAY & EUREKA MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

The HB&EMRC meets at their clubhouse and layout at 10 West 7th St., Suite #C in Eureka, on Sat., 7:00 PM. Visitors are always welcome. Business meetings the 1st Sat of the month, 7:30 PM. Contact: David Berriman P.O. Box 915, Arcata, CA 95518 707-825-7689

MOTHER LODE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

The MLMR meets Wed, 7:00 PM in the old historic primary school building in Sutter Creek. Additional meetings normally held 9:00 AM Sat. We are a fully DCC modular HO club. Contact: Joe Stafford, 209-245-5016

NAPA VALLEY MODEL RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Located at The Napa Valley Expo, (fairgrounds), 575 Third St.,
(Continued on page 21)

Napa, our railroad runs from Napa to Ukiah with offline connections to Stockton and Portland, has 700 feet of mainline, and large classification yards at each end. The layout is never finished, as we are always rebuilding and improving! Era is 1940 to present. Member owned rolling stock stresses reliability and realism. We meet Fri. 7:30 PM to 12, with formal runs the 2nd Fri. of the month. Info: John Rodgers 707-226-2985 E-mail: NapaJohn@napanet.net Web: www.nvmrc.org

Nn3 ALLIANCE

Our 700 members in nine countries model narrow gauge in "smaller scales". Nn3 describes 3', 3'6", and meter gauges, modeled in N or 2MM Scales. Our local portable exhibition layouts and modules regularly appear at conventions and shows. The Nn3 Handbook, 140 pages with 400 illustrations, covering all aspects of small scale narrow gauge, is available through the address on the web site. Official mailing address: The Nn3 Alliance, PO Box 6652, Chesterfield, MO 63006

Web: www.Nn3.org <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nn3/>

SACRAMENTO MODEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established in 1948, the SMRHS is located at 1990 Grand Ave., Sacramento. Modeled as the Sierra Central RR, both HO and HO_{N3} layouts. HO layout is being rebuilt to depict SP/WP prototype. Open Wed. and Fri. nights, 7:30 PM. Contact: 916-927-3618 E-mail: d.megeath@comcast.net Web: www.smrhs.com

SACRAMENTO MODULAR RAILROADERS

Most of our events are operating sessions, where we make up trains in our large switch yard, and send road crews out to switch cars into and out of industries at the towns along the main line. The club owns a large main yard, the corner modules, some special modules, and some rolling stock. Members own their own modules and rolling stock. Contact: Dick Witzens, 916-684-1987 Web: <http://saccentral.railfan.net/>

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY

The SJVGRS was founded in July of 1995 to promote the joy of building and operating Garden Railways. We have grown to over 70 families in the Central Valley, meeting monthly at member's homes to spend the afternoon sharing our hobby, weather permitting. Dues: \$25 a year for a family. Contact info: Richard Emerson 559-439-7173 E-mail: emerson.r@worldnet.att.net Web: <http://home.att.net/~sjvgrs/train/>

SAN LEANDRO HISTORICAL RAILWAY SOCIETY

The SLHRS models the SP from Oakland/San Leandro to just east of Norden using the tri-level Donner Pass plan featured in the March '98 Model Railroader. It's housed in the former S.P., San Leandro depot, located at 1302 Orchard Ave., San Leandro (just off Davis St.). Work sessions Sat. 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM and Tues. 7:30 - 9:30 PM, business meetings the 1st Fri. at 7:30 PM. Contact: Pat LaTorres, 510-276-3121 E-mail: duhnerd@pacbell.net

SAN LUIS OBISPO MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

SLOMRC members are actively engaged in HO, N, and G scales. Work & run sessions on our N-scale layout most Saturdays. With a nearly 4000 scale ft class yard and 3 scale miles of run, we are actively seeking new members to run with us! Evening meetings on the 2nd Tue. of every month. Web: www.trainweb.org/slomrc/index.html

E-mail: slomrc@kingdomhobbies.com

E-mailing list: groups.yahoo.com/group/SLOMRC

SILICON VALLEY LINES

The SVL is located at 148 E. Virginia St., San Jose. We meet Fri. 7:30 to 11:30 PM, with business meetings the 1st Fri. and operating sessions the last Fri. of the month. Our HO layout utilizing DCC for realistic operations, computer-generated train orders and radio-based dispatching.

E-mail: svl@siliconvalleylines.com

Web: www.siliconvalleylines.com

SOUTH BAY HISTORICAL RAILROAD SOCIETY

SBHRS invites interested modelers to visit us in the historic Santa Clara CalTrain Depot, 1005 Railroad Ave., Santa Clara, Tues. 7:00 to 10:00 PM or Sat. 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Contact: 408-243-3969

SOUTH COAST SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS

We meet every 3rd Tues. at 7:30 PM, and other times. The club has no address, but consists of enthusiasts of all scales and prototypes in the Santa Barbara area, and has a collection of railroad books and videos for loan to members. Activities includes operations and work sessions at member layouts, and field trips. Membership is \$2 per month. Contact: Secretary Walter Naumann, 805-564-1359 E-mail: WINaumann@aol.com

TIDEWATER SOUTHERN RAILWAY HISTORICAL

SOCIETY INC., Manteca Formerly the Manteca Model RR Club (org '73), TSRHS reorganized and incorporated in 1990.

Located at the San Joaquin Fairgrounds, Building 1, (corner of Airport and Charter Ways (Hw 4), Stockton), a 2,400 sq. ft. alcove houses a large HO layout depicting the Tidewater Southern, several Valley towns, and museum display cases. We meet 6 - 8:30 PM Thursdays. Contact: Ben Cantu, 209-825-7215 Mail: PO Box 882, Manteca, CA 95336 E-mail: bcantu@SQ50.com

TRI-CITIES MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

The TCMRC meets in the restored Niles Depot at 36997 Mission Blvd., Fremont. The club has both N and HO layouts. Work nights are Fri., business meetings the 1st Tues. and operating sessions the 1st and 3rd Sun. of the month Contact: Stanley Keiser, 510-791-1504

Web: <http://nilesdepot.railfan.net/>

WALNUT CREEK MODEL RAILROAD SOCIETY

The WCMRS, located at 2751 Buena Vista Ave, Walnut Creek, is open the last Fri. of the month from 8 to 10 PM for operations. Fares are \$1 for 6-12 and seniors over 60 and \$2 for adults. Membership is always open to interested HO modelers. Contact: 925-937-1888 (recorder)

Web: www.wcmrs.org

If you would like your club listed, send a brief description and contact information to 1915 William Drive, Penngrove, CA 94951-9524



National Model Railroad Association



Pacific Coast Region

Membership Application

Last Name:		First Name:
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone:	NMRA # (required if renewal)	

I want to become a member of or renew my membership in the National Model Railroad Association. I have checked below the type of membership I desire and have enclosed the proper amount in a check payable to "NMRA". I understand that membership in the NMRA includes my affiliation with a Region and Division based on my address above. I also understand that I must subscribe to the National and Regional Publications in order to receive them.

Regular member with National and Regional Subscription	\$51.00
Regular member with Region Subscription only	\$39.00
Family Member (must have a Regular Member as sponsor) - Provide Name:	\$ 9.00
Student Member (under the age of 18 or under 23 with valid Student ID card)	\$24.00
Sustaining Member (Clubs, businesses, associations, etc.) Includes National & Regional Subscriptions	\$84.00
RailPass Trial membership (6months with National & Regional Subscriptions — New members only)	\$12.95
TOTAL	

Send all membership applications to: NMRA, 4121 Cromwell Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37421

The Golden Spike Award

The Golden Spike Award will be awarded to any NMRA member who does not hold MMR status. It will be administered by the Regional and Divisional Achievement Program Chairman under the direction of the National Achievement Program Chairman. AP regulations and definitions apply for scratch built and super detailed. To qualify for the award the member must complete the following checklist, obtain the signature of the Divisional AP Chairman, or another NMRA member designated by the Divisional AP Chairman. The Divisional AP Chairman will submit the signed form to the Regional AP Chairman who will issue the Golden Spike Award Certificate.

Qualifications for the Golden Spike Award

- Rolling stock (Motive power and cars)
 - _____ Display six (6) units of rolling stock (Scratch built, craftsman, or detailed commercial kits).
- Model Railroad Setting (Structures and Scenery)
 - _____ Construct a minimum eight (8) square feet of layout.
 - _____ Construct five (5) structures (Scratch built, craftsman or detailed commercial kits). If a module has less than five structures, additional ones separate from the scene may be used.
- Engineering (Civil and Electrical)
 - _____ Three (3) types of trackage required (turnout, crossing, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial trackage may be used.
 - _____ All installed trackage must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously. (Double-track main, single-track main with sidings, and block or command control).
 - _____ Provide one additional electrical feature such as powered turnouts, signaling, turnout indication lighted buildings, etc.

Member _____ NMRA# _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Scale _____ Type of Pike _____

Verification by _____ NMRA# _____

PCR CALLBOARD

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS (BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

• President	L.E. "Gene" Mayer	(916) 359-6934	GeneFWRR@aol.com
• Vice-President	Dave Connery	(925) 735-0134	deconnery@aol.com
• Treasurer	Larry Altbaum	(925) 736-8160	emerbaum@msn.com
• Secretary	Rich Kolm	(510) 538-8973	IronhorseK@comcast.net
• Director, Daylight Division	Doug Wagner	(661) 589-0391	CarlDW@aol.com
• Director, Coast Division	Kermit Paul, MMR	(925) 935-1859	(no e-mail)
• Director, Sierra Division	Jim Long	(530) 676-1798	jimclong@sbcglobal.net
• Director, Redwood Empire Div.	Gus Campagna	(415) 990-3777	campgus@earthlink.net
• Director, Hawaiian Division	(vacant)	<i>Hawaiian Division is not active</i>	
• NMRA Regional Advisory Council	L.E. "Gene" Mayer	(916) 359-6934	GeneFWRR@aol.com

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

• Manager	L.E. "Gene" Mayer	(916) 359-6934	GeneFWRR@aol.com
• Budget & Finance Committee	(President, Vice-President, and Treasurer)		
• By-Laws & Manual Committee	Dave Connery	(925) 735-0134	deconnery@aol.com
• Nominating Committee Chair.	Bill Kaufman <i>[interim appointment for election of Pres. and V-Pres.]</i>		
• Ballot Committee Chairperson	Jim Providenza	(415) 472-6715	rrjim@aol.com
• Honors Committee Chair.	Ray deBlieck	(510) 521-9778	RaydBCS@aol.com
• Storekeeper	Steve Skold	(707) 539-1782	SandCSkold@aol.com
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• LRP Implementation Chair.	Dave Connery	(925) 735-0134	deconnery@aol.com

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• Member Services Chairperson	Bob Ferguson	(925) 228-6833	BobPCRC@aol.com
• Asst. Chairperson	Jim Long	(530) 676-1798	jimclong@sbcglobal.net
• Membership Promotion Chair.	Ron Plies	(707) 725-9063	ron@ronpliesinsurance.com
• Member Aid Chairperson	Rod Smith	(510) 657-3362	Railgeezer@aol.com
• Education Chairperson	Chuck Mitchell	(925) 462-0291	cbmtrains@comcast.net
• Special Interests Coordination	Dave Parks	(650) 961-7644	bearwestern@comcast.net

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• Manager	Gus Campagna	(415) 990-3777	campgus@earthlink.net
• Editor of the <i>Branch Line</i>	Stephen Johnson	(916) 375-1953	CV12Steve@pacbell.net
• Circulation Manager	(vacant)	---	---
• Publisher (for the record)	Bob Ferguson	(925) 228-6833	BobPCRC@aol.com
• Webmaster	Kevin Hurley	(831) 728-1934	khurley@pcrnmra.org

CONVENTION DEPARTMENT

• Manager	Dennis Stokely	(925) 828-1990	stokely4@aol.com
• Convention Host Committee Chairpersons:			
• 2007 Santa Cruz	Kevin Hurley	(831) 728-1934	khurley@pcrnmra.org
• 2008 Fresno	John Houlihan	(559) 435-0874	john@irishtracklayer.com

CONTEST DEPARTMENT

• Manager	Bill Scott	(559) 298-7715	vallyflyer@aol.com
• Division Contest Chairpersons:			
• Daylight Division	Bill Scott	(559) 298-7715	vallyflyer@aol.com
• Coast Division	John Sing	(650) 372-0765	singj@us.ibm.com
• Sierra Division	Norman Morris	(530) 742-6930	normanmorris@sbcglobal.net
• Redwood Empire Division	Steve Skold	(707) 539-1782	SandCSkold@aol.com
• Model Contest Chairperson	(vacant)	---	---
• Photo Contest Chairperson	(vacant)	---	---

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM DEPARTMENT

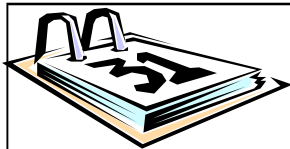
• Manager	Jack Burgess, MMR	(510) 797-9557	jack@yosemitevalleyrr.com
• Division AP Chairpersons:			
• Daylight Division	(vacant)	---	---
• Coast Division	Kermit Paul, MMR	(925) 935-1859	(no e-mail)
• Sierra Division	Dave Bayless	(530) 887-8880	---
• Redwood Empire Division	Harold Mentzer	(707) 226-5153	HSMentzer@aol.com

NON-RAIL ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT

• Manager	Mary Moore-Campagna	(530) 426-9055	marycmoore@campagna.com
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Calendar

December 9-10, 2006: Napa Valley Model
Railroaders **Model RR Holiday show** during the
Santa's Helper Holiday Craft Faire

October 11-15, 2006: **PSR Convention** in San Diego

October 21, 2006: **Sierra Division Meet**, Truxel Rd.
Library, Sacramento

November 4, 2006: **Daylight Div. Meet** Merced

November 11-12, 2006: International Railfair
Roseville

November 18-19, 2006: Napa Valley Model
Railroaders **Model RR Holiday show** during the
Gifts-n-Tyme Holiday Craft Faire

November 25, 2006: **Redwood Empire Division
Meet** Monroe Hall, Santa Rosa

December 3, 2006: Coast Division meet