



The Daylight Observation

Official Publication of the
Daylight Division, PCR / NMRA
Volume 27, Issue 2
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Spring Meet in Bakersfield May 11, 2013

by Doug Wagner

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Saturday, May 11, will be the day for the next Daylight Division meet, in Bakersfield. The meet will be held at the **Coco's Bakery Restaurant**, located at 955 Oak St, Bakersfield, CA 93304. We have the meeting room reserved for that day, from 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM. For those wanting to have breakfast, after arriving in the meeting room, you may order breakfast off the menu beginning at 8:30 AM. The meeting room is at the rear of the main dining area of the restaurant Just tell the hostess you are here for the model train meet or Doug Wagner's group.

Meet sign up and contest entries, will be from 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM. Instead of clinics, 2 videos will be shown. The first video is, "Bakersfield", produced by A Bird Flying by Night Productions. This video shows contemporary prototype railroad action around the Bakersfield area and is done with no narration or music. The second video, "Southern Pacific Central California Mainline", is a Pentrex Production. This video shows beautiful vistas, interesting locations, ample California sunshine, and mainline activity that make SP's Central California Mainline a show you'll enjoy again and again! Immediately following the end of the videos, we will be having the quarterly business meeting. At the closing of the business meeting, we will be holding our White Elephant auction.

After the closing of the meeting activities, the layout tours begin. The first layout tour will actually help you celebrate National Train Day, which just so happens to also be May 11, at the Amtrak Station. Two modular layouts will be on display at the Amtrak Station. One is a freelanced HO layout, complete with some animation. The other, is an N scale modular layout, depicting Southern Pacific operations over the Sierra Nevada's, complete with snow sheds located at Truckee, California. Every year, communities around the country, join together to celebrate the ways trains matter to their towns. On Saturday, May 11, 2013, Amtrak will join communities across America to celebrate the importance of trains to their town at the sixth annual National Train Day. More than 200 communities are expected to host events at local train stations, railroad museums and other locations commemorating this year's theme, *Trains Matter*. "National Train Day invites communities big and small to share the importance of trains as a vital transportation

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(More about the meet on page 2)

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Bakersfield Meet (Continued)

option and engine of economic development and employment,” said Amtrak Chief Marketing & Sales Officer Matt Hardison. In addition to events in Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Chicago and Los Angeles, Amtrak is expanding its efforts to support events in many local markets across the country served by America’s Railroad®. Event offerings will vary to include train equipment displays, family-friendly activities and local dignitaries. Additional events and information will be added to the website frequently. In addition, rail passengers and enthusiasts are invited to share why trains matter to them via Facebook or @natltrainday.

Continuing the layout tours, we will make a visit to the Golden Empire Historical & Modeling Society’s 2 layouts—HO and N scale. Both layouts are currently “in progress”, but we do operate trains on a regular basis. We will probably be running trains over the layouts for the visit, but can’t make any promises, but at least you can visit Central California’s largest HO and N scale layouts. Members will at least be there working on the layouts when we drop by for a visit.

The final destination on our layout tour will be an N scale layout. The layout is a freelance shelf N-scale layout with 150 actual running feet of mainline. It is set in the northwestern US during 50-60’s with early diesel and some late steam era locomotives. Many of the structures are kit bashed and scratch built. Some of the structures are completed ‘boxed’ kits. Turnouts are hand-throws. There is a fiddle yard at one end and a curved sorting yard at the other end. The track plan is a modified folded “dog-bone”. The layout is about 7 years old & DC controlled with one mainline. The layout is approximately 80% completed.

We hope you can make it to Bakersfield and look forward to seeing many of your smiling faces, Saturday, May 11th. If you require any more information concerning the May 11th, Bakersfield Daylight Meet, please contact Doug Wagner, by email at carldw@aol.com, or at 661-589-0391.

DAVE’S DISPATCH From the Super’s Desk By Dave Grenier



The Iron Horse Express 2013 PCR Convention in Dublin is history! If you missed it, I’m sorry because you missed a great convention. Some 260 others didn’t miss it and were rewarded with a week’s worth of activities jam-packed into 5 days! Forty-six “first timer” attendees registered for the convention, setting a new record. There was truly something for everyone, including a wide variety of clinics, layout tours, operating sessions, non-rail activities, a steam excursion, speeder rides,

contests, banquet, a tour of the Lawrence Livermore National Lab, and lots more.

I worked in the Contest Room assisting PCR Contest Chair Giuseppe Aymar in preparing and printing the various certificates and awards for contest entrants. There were more contest entrants than at last year’s joint convention with the PNR in Medford. There were also 15 Achievement

(More of Dave on Page 3)

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Send a business card along
with a check for \$40.00 and
we'll print it for the next 4
issues. See the OBS editor's
address on the back page, or
give it to him at a meet.***

Dave's Dispatch (Cont.)

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The Daylight Observation is published quarterly to inform members of division activities and to provide educational articles for the advancement of railroad history and the art and science of model railroading. It is distributed to all members of the Division and to officers and newsletter editors of other divisions in the PCR.

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Program Merit Awards earned. The quality of the modeling was excellent this year.

Because of my working in the Contest Room, in addition to the clinic I presented, I only attended one clinic, "Conversation with the NMRA President", presented by NMRA President Charlie Getz, of course. He shared a lot of exciting news about the NMRA. In no particular order, fundraising for NMRA's "The Magic of Scale Model Railroading" exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum has reached \$550,000 of the \$700,000 needed, allowing the NMRA to request construction bids for the exhibit. Three bids have been presented so far. Once the \$700,000 has been raised and a contract awarded, construction can begin.

Charlie stated that no membership money is being used for the CSRM exhibit. Only donations for this special project and a matching donation of \$250,000 from an anonymous donor will be used. When asked why California and not some other state got the exhibit, Charlie responded that the NMRA had contacted several other museums in eastern states, but none were interested in having the exhibit. The CSRM has been very accommodating to the NMRA and jumped at the chance to have the exhibit. What this means is that 600,000 people a year will be exposed to the hobby of scale model railroading!

In other developments, the Kalmbach Memorial Library will also be moved to California from NMRA Headquarters in Chattanooga, TN, to become part of the CSRM Library. What this means is that NMRA members automatically become members of the CSRM Library with all the rights and privileges of membership at no cost. The NMRA will also fund a halftime dedicated library person, giving NMRA members priority service. Without the library in the building, selling off the headquarters building may be the next step. The office staff would be moved to a leased office in a better neighborhood, costing the NMRA much less than maintaining their own building. The only problem is selling the building, as it is in an industrial area, with a stagnant quarry pond across the street. Look at Google Maps for 4121 Cromwell St, Chattanooga, TN and you'll see what I mean.

In other exciting news, Charlie said the NMRA is working on creating a program with companies like Lowes and Home Depot to give NMRA members the contractor's discount of 30% off purchases. Other companies are also being considered for the discount program.

He also announced that because of recent changes to IRS laws, regions and divisions can get their own 501(c)(3) status under the umbrella of the parent NMRA's 501(c)(3) status, as is done with the Boy Scouts and Red Cross. When this happens, the PCR will delete its own 501(c)(7) status and fall under this umbrella. Hopefully, Daylight can also do this, as we have neither status now.

However, before Daylight Division can become a 501(c)(3) organization, there will most likely have to be some changes made. Having been treasurer of a 501(c)(3) organization for 8 years, I have some idea of what is

(More of Dave on Page 4)

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Dave's Dispatch (Cont.)

involved. We will most likely need new by-laws written for this millennium and maybe even a constitution or similar document. We will also have to have regularly scheduled board (think Division Operations Committee) meetings. I'm sure we'll learn more as things progress, but it's not too early to start thinking (again!) about revising our by-laws. The current by-laws can be found on the Daylight website at: http://www.pcrnmra.org/daylight/pdf/DD_ByLaws-121283.pdf

The next PCR convention is in the Daylight Division in San Luis Obispo. Convention Chairman Paul Deis and his committee are working to put together a fabulous program for us. The website is open for business

and accepting "Early Bird" registrations at: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/>

Our last meet was held February 23, 2013, at the Yosemite Falls Café in Fresno. We started off with a no-host breakfast, followed by the meet itself. George Pisching presented his clinic "Another Idea in Light Weight Construction: The Terrain", which he also gave at the recently completed PCR convention. Chuck Harmon then followed with his clinic on preparing for the AP Master Builder Cars certificate. Both clinics were very enjoyable and informative.

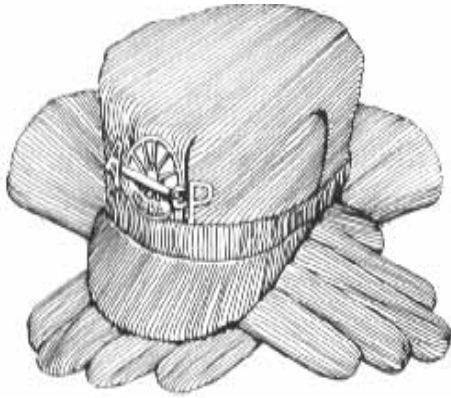
After the clinics, we went right into the obligatory business meeting. (See the minutes elsewhere). Due

to technical difficulties, we were unable to publish a printed version of the *Observation*, along with the ballot for Superintendent and Chief Clerk/Paymaster. Because of this, the election has been rescheduled to the May meet. At this writing, it looks like it may be moved to the August meet.

Following adjournment and the White Elephant Auction, we left for four layout tours, including new member John Stahl's HO Southern Pacific Lines, Chuck Harmon's HO San Joaquin Central, Marlin Costello's HO Goshen and Goosechase Shortline RR, and George Pisching's HO layout with some of his lightweight modules in use. Thanks to all the layout owners for opening their layouts to us. We greatly appreciate your hospitality.

The next Daylight Division meet will be May 11, 2013, at Coco's Bakery Restaurant, 955 Oak Street, Bakersfield. We will order off the menu for breakfast starting at 8:30 AM. Registration starts at 9:30 AM, along with the usual refreshments. The meet starts at 10:00 AM. Doug Wagner is planning a full slate of events for us. (See his write-up elsewhere.) Be sure to mark your calendars and make the journey to Bakersfield for a fun-filled day.

DAYLIGHT DIVISION PAYMASTER REPORT 04/10/13				
Prepared by: Dave Grenier, Superintendent				
2/23/13 Fresno Meet				
Income				
Registrations		\$		102.00
Raffle Tickets				52.00
White Elephant Auction				47.00
Total Income				\$ 201.00
Expenses				
Door Prize		\$		25.00
Total Expenses				25.00
Net Income				\$ 176.00
Meet Attendance				
NMRA Member				23
Non-NMRA				2
Total Attendance				25
Breakdown by County				
Fresno				9
Kern				5
Merced				2
San Luis Obispo				4
Tulare				3
Sierra Division, PCR				1
Pacific Southwest Region				1
Total Attendance				25
CASH ASSETS				
Date	Checking Account	Debit	Credit	Balance
12/31/12	Balance per Bank			\$ 3,314.44
02/23/13	Office Supplies (Cks 148, 149)	17.86		3,296.58
04/02/13	Deposit, Cash on Hand		347.52	3,644.10
04/10/13	Checkbook Balance			\$ 3,633.50
	Over/(Under)			(10.60)
04/10/13	Total Cash Assets			\$ 3,644.10



ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

What is the AP?

By Dave Grenier

So what exactly is the Achievement Program? According to the NMRA website, “In simple terms, the Achievement Program (AP) is a travel guide to help you on your journey through the world of model railroading. The AP also provides incentive to learn and master the many crafts and skills necessary in the hobby of model railroading. With the completion of each category, you will be issued a certificate acknowledging your achievement.”

“The AP requirements are a set of standards, but they can also serve as a set of guideposts for those who are new, near-new, and not-so-new to the hobby. Not because they lead to some sort of official pat-on-the-back, but because they are a source of ideas for projects that can help us learn to become better modelers.”

“Briefly, the AP is a system of requirements for demonstrating a superior level of skill in various aspects of our hobby. It covers not only building various types of models, but also building other things, which are important to the hobby, such as scenery, structures, track work, and wiring. It also recognizes service to the hobby and the NMRA, which are important as well.”

There are eleven different AP categories in which a certificate can be awarded. The requirements for each category are beyond the scope of this article, but are described in detail on the NMRA website (www.nmra.org/achievement). The eleven categories are grouped into four areas:

Railroad Equipment

Master Builder – Motive Power

Master Builder – Cars

Railroad Scenery

Master Builder – Structures

Master Builder – Scenery

Master Builder – Prototype Models

Railroad Construction and Operations

Model Railroad Engineer – Civil

Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical

Chief Dispatcher

Service to the Hobby and NMRA Member

Association Official

Association Volunteer

Model Railroad Author

Although there are eleven different AP categories, a member only needs to meet the requirements for seven categories, with at least one from each of the four areas, to qualify for the eventual, and ultimate, goal of Master Model Railroader (MMR).

This may seem daunting to some of you, but please don't get discouraged. There is also a “starter” award for those modelers that are new to the AP, the Golden Spike Award. We'll go over the Golden Spike Award in the next installment of the series.

For more information on the Achievement Program, contact the Daylight Achievement Program Chairman, Dave Grenier.

Note from the pinchhitter...

This issue of the Daylight Observation was prepared by former editor Chuck Harmon who agreed to put together this on-line only version during illness of Editor George Pisching. In addition to his illness, George's computer has suffered problems due to upgrading the operating system. We wish George and his computer a swift recovery. Hope to see you soon!

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Dave Grenier at 12:30 PM

Welcome of new members, first timers and guests

Welcome to new NMRA and Daylight Division member, John Stahl

Previous Meet Minutes Read

Motion to approve minutes as read, by Rick Fulkerson, second by Ed Hall

Approved

Paymaster Report Read

Motion to approve Paymaster's report as read, by George Pisching, second by Neal Fernbaugh

Approved

Bills presented for approval

Raffle manager, Mike O'Brien, presented bills of \$8.98 for a new sign holder for the meets raffle prize announcements, and \$8.88 for the post cards used for the raffle drawing.

Motion to approve bills presented, by Doug Wagner, second by George Pisching

Approved

Director's Report

By Daylight Division Director Paul Deis

The NMRA Model Railroad Museum has received a grant of \$500,000 of the \$750,000 needed to build the museum display in the California State Railroad Museum.

Upcoming convention in Dublin, California, April 3rd to 7th

Need all NMRA members to please update their emails with the NMRA office in Chattanooga.

Superintendent's Report

By Daylight Division Superintendent Dave Grenier

The next Daylight Division meet will be in May with a date and location to be determined

Iron Horse Express 2013 PCR Convention, April 3-7, 2013, in Dublin, California

GEHAMS annual model train show, March 9-10, 2013, in Bakersfield, California

NMRA HQ office has begun sending out news and announcement via emails. So, that's why it is very important that you keep your email up to date

Old Business

Division Elections

Nominations for Superintendent and Chief Clerk/Paymaster has been extended through May Ballot will be sent out soon and be counted at the May meet.

Don Smith withdrew his name from nomination for Superintendent

New Business

Elections for Superintendent and Chief Clerk/Paymaster has been delayed due to computer glitches

Discussion concerning future meets

Would like to hold the summer meets on the Coast—Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo area

May have the Daylight Meet, in October, in conjunction with The Central Coast Railroad Festival, which is October 10-14, 2013. More information to follow

Motion by George Pisching, second by Doug Wagner to purchase certificates for companies that donate items for the meeting raffle prize drawings

Approved

Future Meets

May—Tehachapi ???

August—Santa Barbara ???

November—San Luis Obispo, in conjunction with The Central Coast Railroad Festival ???

Good of the Division

The 2014 PCR convention will be held, in San Luis Obispo, April 30-May 4, 2014.

The Southern Pacific Historical and Technical Society will be holding their annual convention, in Fresno, in October, 2013.

Coast Rails 2014 needs a co-chair for clinics for the convention. John Houlihan graciously volunteered.

George Pisching is trying to establish The San Joaquin Historical & Modeling Society. Contact George Pisching for further information.

Iron Horse Express 2013 PCR Convention can always use volunteers for all positions

Contest Winners

Favorite Model - Maintenance of Way - George Gibson HO Ditcher with Tender

Favorite Photo - Steam Locomotive - Tom Vanhorn's Shay

Next meet contest: Favorite Models - Logging Models; Favorite Photo - People working on the railroad

Door Prize Drawing Winner of \$25.00

Dave Grenier

Adjournment

Motion by Mike O'Brien and second by Jim Elliott to adjourn

Approved

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM

Submitted by Doug Wagner

Directions to the Meet

To get to the meet, if you are coming from the north on Highway 99, take exit #25/California Ave/Civic Center. Turn left onto California Ave.; then take ramp to stay on California Ave.; then turn right onto Oak St. If you are coming in from the south, of Bakersfield—on Highway 99—turn right onto California Ave.; then turn right onto Oak St. After turning right onto Oak Street you will see—on your right—a Hampton Inn, and just past the Hampton Inn—and on your right—you will see the Coco's Restaurant. Pull into the parking lot and come around to the front of Coco's, to enter the dining area. The meeting room will be on your right and toward the back of the main dining area.

MAP



**Daylight
Observation**

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Pacific Coast Region
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