



The Daylight Observation

Contents

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Spring Meet in San Luis Obispo | 1 |
| 2014 PCR Convention | 2 |
| Corrections to last issue | 2 |
| Dave's Dispatch | 3-4 |
| National Train Day 2014 | 3 |
| Letters to the Editor | 4 |
| Contest Report | 5 |
| Winter Meeting Minutes | 6-7 |
| Coming Events | 6 |
| SoCalOps Invite..... | 7 |
| Paymaster's Report | 8 |
| In Memoriam | 8 |
| Welcome New Members | 8 |
| LD/OPS SIG Meet | 9 |
| GEHAMS Train Show | 10 |
| GEHAMS Open House..... | 11 |
| Daylight Meet Fresno..... | 12 |
| Achievement Program | 13-15 |
| Andrew Merriam MMR | 14 |
| Model Citizen Program | 15 |
| NMRA EduTRAIN..... | 16 |
| Trains NEWSWIRE | 16 |
| New Daylight Logo Art | 16 |

Spring Daylight Meet to be Held During Coast Rails 2014 Convention



The spring meet of the Daylight Division will be held during the 2014 PCR convention in San Luis Obispo on Friday, 10:30 AM, in the Owl Room at the Sands Inn & Suites, 1930 Monterey Street. The meet will consist only of a business meeting to fulfill the requirements of our by-laws to hold quarterly business meetings. There will be no clinics, no door prizes, and no layout tours. There will also be no registration fee for the meet. Models and photos can be entered in the PCR contests.

Convention registration will not be required to attend this meeting. However, it is hoped that you will have already registered for the convention. You can either register at the convention or you can register online. Day fares are also available for \$35 if you can't stay for the entire 5 days of the convention. If you haven't registered for the past 5 conventions, you can get the special "First Timer" rate of \$69.

For more information about the convention, see:

www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/

Come for the meeting, stay for the convention! See you in San Luis Obispo!

Daylight Call Board

Superintendent

Dave Grenier • Grenida@pacbell.net

Director

Paul Deis • Curlyp2@gmail.com

Chief Clerk / Paymaster

Bob Sexton • rdsexton57@gmail.com

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Clinics Coordinator

Doug Wagner • Carldw@aol.com

Parliamentarian

Brewster Bird • Mec569@aol.com

Observation Editor

George Pisching •
Gmpisching@netzero.com

Coast Rails 2014 Convention.

If you aren't registered yet, you can still sign up to come to enjoy all PCR 2014 has to offer.

All info, details, schedules and everything you need to know are on our website: <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html>

Taxes Got YOU TOO Busy To Register Today?

If you forget to/just Can't register today, you still have 1 more week!

You can Register online, via Phone or via snail mail. Or at <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2014/registration.html>

Pacific Coast Region NMRA / SLO RR Museum Coast Rails 2014 PCR Convention, Trains to Hadley Jct. April 30 - May 4, 2014, San Luis Obispo, California <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html>

Alert!! Alert! (I'm told the world Needs more 'lerts!)

It's not too late to sign onto the waiting list for the **Modeling With The Masters** clinics. Anyone signing up after April 14 will be placed on a waiting list with no guarantee of having materials for the clinics. Go to the convention website to learn of last minute openings.

<http://pcrnmra.org/conv2014/mwtm.html>

You can get all the information--well most of it---on the Coast Rails 2014 PCR Convention, in San Luis Obispo, April 30 - May 4, 2014, by visiting the Coast Rails 2014 web site at: <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html>

We are still counting on our attendees to donate their new or nearly new extra items for the door prizes. Please consider helping out.

Bring your personal favorite kit or scratchbuilt items for display or better yet enter them into the model contest. A great way to rate your prizes.

Bring Your Contest/Display Entries & Door Prize Donations

If you ARE registered, then I'd like to remind you to:

- 1) Bring some of your current work to enter or display AND
- 2) consider bringing a Door prize(s) to donate/find a new home for.

Like a new/unused tool, kit, new or nearly new book or any other modeling item(s) YOU'll never use but someone else could enjoy. Like, you won a cool Door Prize in a Scale you'll NEVER model in? Maybe that never happens to Rubber Gagers & Scalers like me, but your Modeling "Practice Makes Perfect?" may vary, considerably, from what I enjoy! ;-))

Correction to Winter Observation

Sir:

The current newsletter includes a section supposedly showing photos from George Gibson's and Andrew Merriam's layouts. Although George is an accomplished modeler, the photographs are actually of **Logan Bertolette's** and Andrew Merriam's layouts.

Logan J. Bertolette

Fresno, CA (FNO)
2650 Tulare St.
Santa Fe Station
Fresno CA 93721

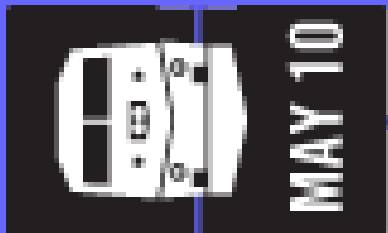
10:30 AM to
12:30 PM

We will have an Amtrak booth with lots of train information, giveaways, maps, activity books; train coloring station; and Operation Lifesaver booth.

2014

2014
DAY

W A T I O N A L
M O D E L
R A I L
T R A I L
M A I L



From the Super's Desk

DAVE'S DISPATCH

By Dave Grenier



Our first meet of 2014 was held February 22, at the HobbyTown USA store in Fresno. We had a good turnout with 26 attendees. It was another fun-filled day of clinics, contests, white elephant auction, layout tours and more in the Daylight Division.

First-time meet organizer **Bob Sexton** did a yeoman's job getting the refreshments, clinics, layout tours and the venue lined for us. I applaud his efforts and want to thank him for a job well done. He pushed through some frustrations along the way and put together a fun meet for us all.

I also want to thank our hosts, HobbyTown USA, for letting us use their meeting room/workshop.

After signing in, entering contests, enjoying some refreshments and "Meet & Greets", **Bob Pethoud** presented his clinic, "Cheap Trees: Making Trees for Modelers with Little Money and Less Talent". Bob showed us how to make deciduous trees using the twisted wire method, as he described in his article published in the January 2014 issue of "Model Railroader" magazine. We got to try our hand at twisting bundles of florist wire into an armature for the structure of the tree. Because this method was so quick and easy, Bob then showed a second method of making cheap trees using furnace filter material and wood skewers. Bob will be presenting his clinic again 7:00 PM, Wednesday, April 30, during the upcoming Coast Rails 2014 PCR Convention, April 30 to May 4, 2014, at the Sands Inn and Suites in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Brewster Bird then presented his clinic "Operations on Visalia's Kelsey Street and Shirk Street Sidings". He described daily rail operations in the Visalia Industrial Park, starting with a brief overview of Visalia's railroad history and the kinds of products shipped on the railroad. Using a projected satellite map of the area, Brewster showed us how to use the prototype for planning model railroads with the LDSIG LDE (Layout Design Element) approach. Brewster will also be presenting his clinic Thursday evening at 7:00 PM during the aforementioned Coast Rails 2014 PCR Convention in San Luis Obispo.

After the clinics, we took a short break to setup for the Daylight business meeting. All the usual activities, welcoming and introduction of first-timers and guests, previous meet minutes, paying of bills, reports, and announcements were completed.

It was announced that **Chuck Harmon** had completed his seventh AP Certificate, Master Builder Structures, and had been named Master Model Railroader #529. Congratulations to Chuck for his accomplishment.

Continued on next page.

Letters to the Editor:

Thanks For A Great Meet!

Sun Feb 23, 2014 11:50 am (PST) . Posted by: [choochoodoug](#)

I want to thank Bob Sexton--and his helpers---for a great meet, at the HobbyTown, in Fresno, on Saturday!

We had an excellent tree-making clinic, presented by Robert Pethoud. Robert had this very same clinic published in January's.

Brewster Bird presented a clinic that did help me understand better operation on the San Joaquin Railroad, in Visalia, that I will be adopting on my home layout.

One of the layouts that we visited was one that we had never seen. It is an HO layout, based on the Chicago Northwestern, through Illinois.\

We actually DO learn things at the Daylight Division meets ! Please make an attempt to attend one, next time one is your area-- you maybe pleasantly surprised at what you'll learn

Doug Wagner, Registrar
Coast Rails 2014 PCR
Convention
Bakersfield, California
carldw@aol.com
(661) 589-0391

Dave's Dispatch

The Daylight Division has a new logo, thanks to Russ Clover. Russ needed a Daylight logo for a PCR project he was working on, but the logo file he had become too degraded to use. I didn't have anything better, so he made a new one and sent it to me. The membership voted on and adopted the new logo, as shown on the Daylight website: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/daylight/>

The Favorite Model contest was won by **John Houlihan** for his O scale Max Gray AT&SF #2035 caboose and the Favorite Photo contest was won by **Tom Van Horn** for his photo of the Railtown Machine Shop. **Brewster Bird** won the \$25 door prize drawing and **Don Smith** won the drawing for a pair of David Tutweiler prints. The drawing wasn't for both prints; Don just had the winning tickets for both drawings!

Following the auction, there were three layout tours, starting with **John Houlihan's** basement-sized O scale layout featuring mostly Southern Pacific locomotives and a working signal system. Since the December layout tours, he added "water" flowing under the bridge on his swinging entry gate. Looking good, John!

The second layout was the 24' x 11' HO layout of **John Ptacek and Trina Easton** depicting the Chicago & North Western railroad in June of 1955, during the days of John's youth. Their layout showcases the "Route of the 400" passenger trains, as well as freight operations. The layout is controlled by Digitrax and most engines have custom sound decoders installed.

The third layout was the **Fresno Model Railroad Club's** HO Daylight Valley Lines. The Fresno Yard and mainline serves various valley communities, with a branchline to Friant and the adjacent lumber and gravel businesses. Valley agriculture is also well-represented, as is the community of Selma, where the depot is located.

Thanks to all that opened their layouts for the layout tours. We appreciate being able to visit you often to see your progress. Keep up the good work!

The next Daylight Division meet will be a business meeting only at 10:30 AM, **FRIDAY**, May 2, 2014, in the Owl Room at the Coast Rails 2014 PCR Convention at the Sands Inn & Suites, 1930 Monterey Street, in San Luis Obispo. See the website for all the details.

See you in SLO!

Dave Grenier, Superintendent, NMRA PCR Daylight Division

Division Contest Chairman

Daylight Contest Report

by Chuck Harmon,



At the February meet in Fresno, we had contests for favorite model and favorite photo. As I was out of town that week end, **Bill Kenney** kindly stepped in to manage the contest and present the awards. Thanks for your help, Bill.



John Houlihan captured the favorite model award with his Max Gray O-Scale ATSF caboose #2035. Congratulations, John. That's an old name in the hobby.

Tom Van Horn entered a photo of the Railtown Machine Shop, which garnered the most votes to win favorite photo. Congratulations, Tom. I wish I would have gotten to see it.



Since the May meet will be a business meeting only during the Coast Rails 2014 PCR Convention in San Luis Obispo, there will be no Division contest. However, you need to ready up your models and photos to bring to the PCR contest room that week. The contest room is, coincidentally, in the *Daylight Room* at the Sands. The room will be open for viewing and receiving entries all day on Wednesday, April 30 through Friday May 2. The room will closed for judging on Saturday the 3rd.

I will be on duty much of the time in the contest room to help take the dreads out of paperwork and otherwise assist you with your entries. Daylight Division is fast gaining a reputation for modeling skill, what with 2 new MMRs this year. Let's show our stuff to the other divisions ... after all, this convention is in our Division and hosted by mostly Daylight members.

The contests will be conducted according to the PCR contest Directory. The Contest will be open for all categories. There will be Photo Contests as well as Arts and Crafts. A display only category will be provided for those who do not wish to compete in the regular contest.

If you are working toward Achievement Program certificates in any of the modeling categories (i.e.: Master Builder Cars, Master Builder Locomotives or Master builder Structures) now is a good time to find out if you can earn a Merit Award (87-1/2 points). Judges will also be glad to evaluate your work and give suggestions on how to get that Merit Award.

Hope to see you, along with your entry!

Upcoming Events:

☞ April 30-May 4, 2014. Coast Rails PCR Convention, San Luis Obispo.

☞ April 30, 2014. PCR BOD meeting 1:00 PM San Luis Obispo

☞ May 2, 2014. Daylight Division business meeting, San Luis Obispo.

☞ May 4, 2014. PCR Annual Business Meeting, 10:AM San Luis Obispo.

☞ August 16, 2014. Daylight Division Meet, Gary Siegel's, Santa Barbara.

Daylight Division – PCR/NMRA

Winter Business Meeting, Fresno, CA February 22, 2014

By Robert Sexton, Chief Clerk

Call to order: at 12:13PM by Superintendent Dave Grenier.

Superintendent. Grenier welcomed new members, 1st timers and guests, including Dave Smith of Fresno and Nathan Smith of Hobbytown USA, Fresno.

Minutes: Motion by Doug Wagner to approve minutes of the May 11 meeting as read. Motion seconded and carried.

Paymaster Report: Motion by Brewster Bird to approve the Paymaster report as submitted. Motion seconded and carried.

Bills presented for payment: 1. Bob Sexton meet refreshments \$31.49. 2. Doug Wagner meeting notice postcards/stamps ~60.00. (Receipts were not presented at the meeting. Amount is approximate.)

Motion by Doug Wagner to pay bills presented. Motion seconded and carried.

Director's Report: Paul Deis. Report was given by Dave Grenier. A report was made by Doug Wagner on preparations for the San Luis Obispo Convention.

Superintendent's Report and Announcements: Dave Grenier.

Elections are in progress for PCR Director. Ballots must be postmarked no later than April 15, 2014. Ballots are available on page 21 of the Branchline.

Chuck Harmon has been named as Daylight Contest Chairman.

A new Contests page is on the division website at <http://www.pcrnmra.org/daylight/contests.html>.

Next Daylight Division meet will be May 2, 2014, 10:30 AM at the Coast Rails Convention in San Luis Obispo. This will be a business meeting only with no clinics door prizes or tours. Photos and models should be entered in the PCR contests. There will also be no charge.

Upcoming events:

- March 8-9, 2014, GEHAMS Train Show Bakersfield
- March 8, 2014 Winterail 2014, Stockton
- March 23, 2014, Coast Division meet, San Francisco

Continued on next page.



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SoCalOps 14 5/29 - 5/31/14 Open Registration & Invitation

Posted by: "Al Daumann"
sp-blackwidow@sbcglobal.net

Fellow Operators,

The Southern California Operations (SoCalOps) layout owners and clubs in the Greater Los Angeles area would like to cordially invite operators from outside the Greater LA area to SoCalOps-2014, planned for Thursday May 29th through Saturday May 31st, 2014, with limited bonus sessions on Wednesday evening May 28th and Sunday morning / early afternoon June 1st. SoCalOps-2014 is the follow up to the successful initial pilot event, SoCalOps-2012, held in June 2012 with about a dozen attendees on five layouts.

Eleven "main event" layouts and two "bonus session" layouts are currently planned for SoCalOps-2014. Slots are still available, but will be filled in a "first replied, first registered" order.

Additional information can be obtained at:

<http://www.socalops.com>

To request registration or other information, please contact me at:

sp-blackwidow@sbcglobal.net

(preferred) and / or

socalops2014@gmail.com

Al Daumann, SoCalOps-2014
Coordinator

- April 30, 2014. PCR BOD meeting 1:00 PM San Luis Obispo
- May 2, 2014. Daylight Division business meeting, San Luis Obispo.
- April 30-May 4, 2014. Coast Rails PCR Convention, San Luis Obispo.
- May 4, 2014. PCR Annual Business Meeting, 10:AM San Luis Obispo.
- August 16, 2014. Daylight Division Meet, Gary Siegel's, Santa Barbara.

Old Business: Meets now start at 9:00 AM.

New Business:

· Supt. Grenier showed the updated Daylight Division logo created to replace the logo derived from an old scan to improve graphic quality. Discussion ensued. On a motion by George Pisching, seconded, the logo was adopted with an option to include a version sans border.

· Supt. Grenier then stated that there was consideration by the PCR BOD to attach the defunct Hawaii Division membership to the Daylight Division. Discussion ensued. On a motion by Bob Sexton, seconded, a recommendation to add the Hawaii members to the Daylight Division was adopted to be forwarded to the BOD.

Good of the Division: Discussion on the Bakersfield show ensued. There will be no official Division presence. Brewster Bird volunteered to display the NMRA banner at his booth.

Contest Winners:

- Favorite Model – Caboose: John Houlihan, Santa Fe (ID #5).
- Favorite Photo: Tom Van Horn "Shop Scene".

Door Prize: The \$25 door prize was won by Brewster Bird.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 1:12 PM on a motion by George Pisching, seconded and carried.

Submitted by Bob Sexton.



In Memoriam

Tom Towner passed into eternal rest 4-2-2014 with his loving wife Mary caring for him.

Six of us, all RR friends, visited him on Wednesday. Tom was so amazed that people had driven so far to say goodbye. What a wonderful thing it is to have good RR friends.

Tom always reminded me of a saying - "It's nice to be nice." Tom was indeed a "Nice man" and a good friend. He will be missed more than he could possibly know. Sent by Walt Schedler.

Daylight Division's Newest Members

Welcome Aboard!

Name City/State Joined

- Mark Passwater Ridgecrest
1/3/2014
- Bill Obermeyer Atascadero
1/8/2014
- Christopher Howard Boron
2/6/2014
- Chuck Ellison Arroyo Grande
2/21/2014



Paul Deis' Garden Railway will be on Tour during the PCR Convention 2014.

Daylight Division PCR-NMRA

Paymaster Report 03/31/2014

by Robert D. Sexton Division Paymaster

| Date | # | Payee | Memo | Cat | Pay | Dep | Balance |
|-----------|-----|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----|--------|--------|---------|
| 1/1/2014 | | Beginning | Checking Balance | | | | 3908.48 |
| 2/21/2014 | 159 | Cash [change for meet] | | | 100.00 | | 3808.48 |
| 2/22/2014 | 160 | Hobbytown raffle prizes prizes | | | 60.00 | | 3748.48 |
| 3/7/2014 | | | Deposit [Cash] | | | 296.00 | 4044.48 |
| 3/26/2014 | | | Deposit [Cash] | | | 62.50 | 4106.98 |
| 3/31/2014 | | | Ending Checking Balance | | | | 4106.98 |

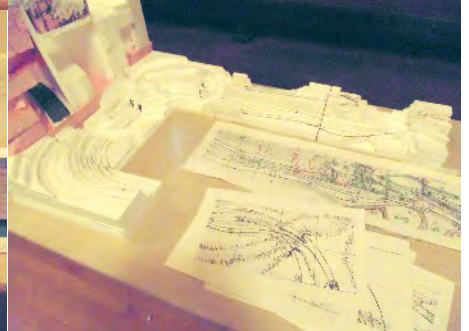
| Date | # | Payee | Memo | Cat | Exp | Inc | Balance |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----|--------|--------|---------|
| 1/1/2014 | | Beginning | Cash Balance | | | | 0.00 |
| 2/21/2014 | | Cash Draw [for meeting] | | | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| | | Meeting: | registrations | | | 121.00 | |
| | | | raffle | | | 60.00 | |
| | | | auction | | | 38.00 | |
| | | | prizes | | 25.00 | | |
| | | | misc | | | 2.00 | 196.00 |
| 2/22/2014 | | February 2014 meet | | | | 196.00 | 296.00 |
| 3/7/2014 | | Deposit [Checking] | | | | 296.00 | 0.00 |
| 3/10/2014 | | PCR-NMRA March members rebate | | | | 62.50 | 62.50 |
| 3/26/2014 | | Deposit [Checking] | | | | 62.50 | 0.00 |
| 3/31/2014 | | | Ending Cash balance | | | | 0.00 |

Submitted by Bob Sexton.

Layout/Operations SIGs

Annual West Coast Meet

Was held at Alameda Elks Lodge in January. A new location and a lot of new ideas were presented to a large gathering. The event included lunch, snacks and tours.





Happenings in the Daylight

GEHAMS Train show

By John Houlihan



Several groups of railroaders traveled from Fresno to Bakersfield on March 8th to see the offerings at this annual train show. Our group arrived around noon to be greeted with some departing Fresnoans with their great finds. One person acquired a kerosene switch lantern in unused condition for half the price of an eBay auction.

Once inside, our group split up as each of us had our own ideas of what to look for. One person bought anything that looked like a bargain. I only bought useful stuff, such as a bunch of small rail ranging from code 82 to code 55. I model in O scale, and want to use this for really light industrial trackage, or maybe a model of an agricultural dry yard. It would work at a saw mill or mine. Trees are another item that is not scale specific, so I got one that looked interesting, maybe like a digger pine.

The several modular layouts there and were fun to watch the running trains. One had operating signals, and the operators were very responsive with answers to questions as to how they did it. This particular layout had a reverse loop at one end and a five fingered turntable at the other end.

After rounding up our group, we headed out to Sandcut, Caliente and the loop. The path to the collapsed tunnels was open, so we visited that area also.

Somehow the railroad knew we were coming and ran a lot of trains, almost like it was modeling railroading at its finest, plugging up all the tracks at the loop area with too many trains. At Caliente, four trains headed up hill, one after the other. At the loop, three came down, making the congestion for us to enjoy.

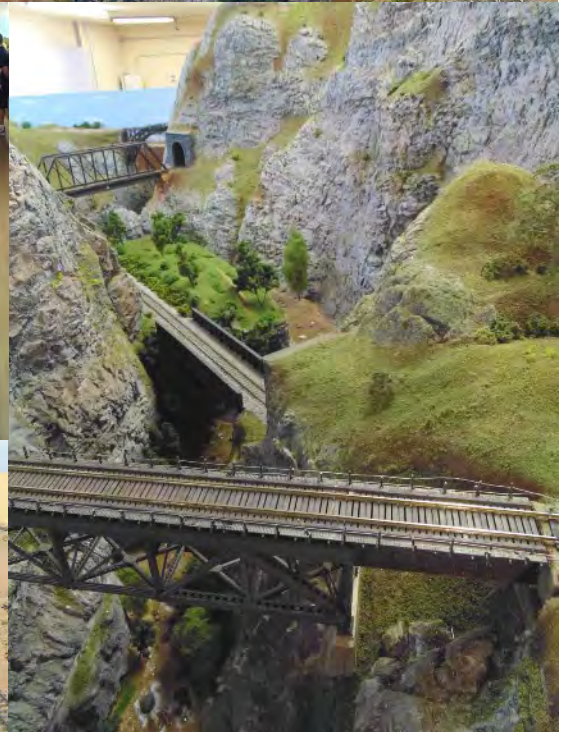
After dinner at one of the local Basque restaurants, we headed to the GEHAMS to see the modeling action. One of our group had not



GEHAMS March Open House

Photographs by George Pisching

The Golden Empire Historical and Modeling Society of Bakersfield, California held an openhouse on Saturday night of the Bakersfield Model Railroad Swap Meet. Great layouts.





Our HobbyTown USA host was Jason.



What's with all the finger pointing?

Daylight Meet Held at Fresno's HobbyTown USA

Photographs by George Pisching

Clinics were presented by Robert Pethoud and Brewster Bird. Don Smith won both of the Tutweiler Prints. The World Famous White Elephant Auction led by auctioneer Dan Seames was a fun success.



ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Master Builder – Cars Certificate

By Dave Grenier



This time we'll be discussing the second of two certificates in the Model Railroad Equipment category, namely the Master Builder – Cars certificate.

First, we'll start with a definition. What is a "car"? A "car" is just about anything that runs on rails and is NOT self-propelled (if it's self-propelled, it's Motive Power). This includes freight cars, passenger cars, maintenance of way cars (including equipment such as cranes), cabooses, cable cars, unpowered (dummy) locomotives, etc. Actually, if you have a model which is self-propelled, but is a model of something that was designed to carry something (besides itself), such as a rail car; it can be used as one of the qualifying models for Motive Power or Cars, but not both.

To qualify for this certificate you must build eight operable scale models of railroad cars.

“Operable” means the models must be able to roll on the track, negotiate a curve, and be pulled by something. It does not mean that every door, valve, or other moving feature of the car must work as the prototype does. (On the other hand, any operating features that you do include in your car are likely to increase your score. (More about this later.))

The models can be any scale and/or gauge. Here's a perfect opportunity to try a scale different than your primary scale. After all, the AP is about learning more about the hobby. What better way to learn something new than to try a different scale? Who knows? You might just be pleasantly surprised by the experience. Give it a try!

There must be at least four different types of cars represented in the eight models, one of which must be a passenger car. This is to show that you can model the different types of cars, not just variations of the same type of car. For example, a 40' boxcar and a 36' reefer are two different types of cars, but a 40' boxcar and a 50' boxcar would be the same type of car, unless there were significant differences in the construction methods used to build each car. On the other had, a steel-decked flat car and a wood-decked car would be considered the same type of car, but a regular flat car and a depressed-center car would be considered different because it is a substantially different kind of car to build. You can even build 4 identical boxcars, plus a flat car, a reefer, a gondola, and a passenger car and still meet the requirement for four different types of cars.

Each of the eight models must be superdetailed with either commercial parts or scratch built parts, which earn extra points. When considering

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Achievement Program Report

Andrew Merriam is Now MMR #533

Andrew Merriam has earned the title of Master Model Railroader #533.

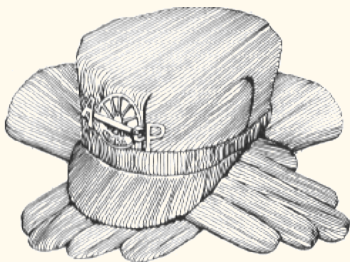
Congratulations to Andrew for his accomplishment.

Presentation of his MMR certificate may be made at the Coast Rails 2014 Awards Banquet, 5/03/14, in San Luis Obispo, if it arrives in time for the convention.

Andrew earned the following AP certificates on the track to MMR:

- Master Builder Cars
- Master Builder Structures
- Master Builder Scenery
- Master Builder Prototype Models
- Model Railroad Engineer Civil
- Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical
- Model Railroad Author

Dave Grenier,
AP Chairman,
Daylight Division



Oceano Depot with an AMTRAK train passing by. Oceano Depot will be open for tours during the convention, as will two local AMTRAK excursions.

which parts to super-detail, consider removing the molded on ladders, grab irons, and brake wheels the car came with and replace them with separately applied parts. Don't forget the car's underside details, as the judges will be looking for the under frame brake details. This also earns extra points.

In addition to being superdetailed, at least four of the eight models must be scratchbuilt, while the remaining cars can be commercial models that you have super detailed. To be considered as "scratchbuilt", at least 90% of the model's pieces and/or parts must be constructed or fabricated by the modeler. Use of commercial detail parts will not disqualify the model as being "scratchbuilt."

The following items are specifically excluded from the "scratchbuilt requirement": wheels; couplers; light bulbs and electronics; trucks; brake fittings; marker lights and drumheads; paint, decals and the like; basic shapes of wood, plastic, metal, etc. Basic shapes are things that builders of the prototype would have used as raw materials. For example, an "I" beam would be a basic shape, but a commercial door or window casting would not. Also consider that although these parts are exempt from the scratchbuilt requirement, they may be scratchbuilt to earn up to 15 additional bonus points.

All models must be super detailed either with scratchbuilt parts or with commercial parts. To be considered "super detailed", the model must have considerably more detail of excellent quality than is usually expected. The quality of the detail is more important than the quantity. Models that are cross-kitted, modified kits, parts built, or extensively altered to a different prototype may also be considered as "super detailed". The phrase "real individual craftsmanship is demonstrated" is key and figures in both the letter and the spirit of this and other AP qualifications.

You must earn 87.5 or more points on four of the eight models in AP Merit Award judging. Note that the other four models don't even have to be judged! The four models are judged on the quality of the craftsmanship, including the finish and lettering, the quantity of details and amount of scratchbuilt parts, and how well it captures the look of the prototype. Up to 15 extra scratch-building points may be awarded if the modeler builds some or all of the parts exempted from the scratch building requirement, but the total scratch building score cannot exceed 15 points.

AP Merit Award judging can be done in one of two ways: 1) at an NMRA-sponsored contest at a convention or division meet; 2) arrange for judging at another time separate from a convention or meet. You can bring your work to where the judges are, or they will even come to you! When you're ready to have your models merit judged, contact the Daylight Division AP Chairman (me!) to setup a time and place. My contact information is listed on the last page of the *Observation* and on the Daylight Division website at:

<http://www.pcrnmra.org/daylight/callboard.html>

The final requirement for the Master Builder – Cars certificate is to submit a Statement of Qualification (SOQ), which includes detailed descriptions

Continued on Next Page.



Two car building examples shown at this quarter's meeting.



(Above) The SP Daylight crosses a coastal trestle on Andrew Merriams layout. (Below) The Bitter Creek and Western RR is a 7½" gauge operation is running a train with passengers.

Both of these layouts will be open for self guided tours during the PCR Convention 2014.



of each of the eight model and photocopies of all of the Merit Award certificates. The detailed descriptions must identify all scratchbuilt features, all commercial components used, and materials used in building the model. Copies of the plans you used are not required, but may be submitted. If the model is a kit, whose kit is it? Photos of the models are helpful, but not required. Also include a copy of your NMRA membership card. Submit the completed SOQ and all materials to the Daylight Division AP Chairman, Dave Grenier (me again!). My contact information is listed on the last page of the *Observation* and on the Daylight Division website at: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/daylight/callboard.html>

For a couple of great articles on superdetailing cars, take a look at the May 2014 issue of *Model Railroader*. On pages 52-57 there are step-by-step instructions for scratchbuilding a caboose. In the March 2008 issue of *Scale Rails*, there is an article on upgrading an Accurail hopper car by removing the cast on details and replacing them with separate commercial parts and brass wire. To locate more articles on scratchbuilding cars, or other modeling subjects, check the Trains.com Magazine Index at: <http://trc.trains.com/magazineindex/>

For more information about the Master Builder – Cars certificate, visit the NMRA website at http://www.nmra.org/education/achievement/ap_cars.html.

Don't hesitate to contact me for more details. I think by now you know where you can find my contact information.

Model Citizens: A Model Railroad Documentary

From: "Robert Chaparro" <chiefbobbb@verizon.net>

Hello neighbors. Below are links to two short video clips from the Model Citizens: A Documentary Project website operated by San Diego-based documentary film maker and journalism professor Sara Kelly.

Sara has begun interviewing model railroaders and railfans from around Southern California about our hobby and the fascination trains have for so many of us. Eventually scores of people from all phases of the hobby, including layout owners, club members, hobby shop operators, model railroad photographers, collectors and others, will be interviewed with many of the video interviews appearing in the eventual movie.

“San Diego: A Moving View.” At about 0:50 this clip features an on-board ride on the San Diego Model Railroad Club's HO layout.

<http://vimeo.com/83910454>

“The Layout Move Redux.” This is a clip about moving a layout from Glendale to San Diego. <http://vimeo.com/77322608>

The project website is: <http://modelcitizensmovie.com/>

As the project progresses more video clips will appear on the Model Citizens website.



Home » Railroad News » News Wire »

California may bypass Tehachapis on high speed rail route

Published: May 5, 2011

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The California High Speed Rail Authority may pursue a route through Grapevine, Calif., that would miss the Tehachapi Mountains, KBAK News in Bakersfield, Calif., has reported. The “Grapevine” would be a change of policy from earlier plans, but the authority says the alignment would be preferable.

Earlier plans had called for a Tehachapi routing via Palmdale, Calif., because it would be less mountainous than the grapevine route. The authority said it would also present fewer seismic problems and be less expensive.

However, it would also be approximately 25 miles longer. And further studies say the Tehachapi alignment might require more tunneling than previously thought, which would lead to higher costs.

The authority will now launch a detailed study of the two alternatives to decide which would be preferable.

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EduTRAIN Program

Posted by: "Robert Blake" robert_blake@sbcglobal.net

It looks as though discussion has been restarted in this Regions and Divisions Yahoo group, but at the risk of being premature, I'd like to introduce another thread - EduTRAIN.

Work is continuing on this new NMRA program and we are introducing it to the membership this year. An introductory article is scheduled for the March issue of the NMRA Magazine, and I am working on presentations to be given at several regional conventions and the National Convention this year. An initial Train the Trainers class was held in November.

We will begin soliciting nominations for EduTRAIN courses before spring. One of the critical items for us is establishing a 'Board of Education' to review these nominations and approve them within the EduTRAIN guidelines. Once approved, courses will be available for re-use by regions and divisions at local conventions.

EduTRAIN courses, by definition, are teaching courses, intended to help model railroaders learn knowledge or skills necessary to become better model railroaders, regardless of whether they are novice or advanced in the hobby. Existing presentations or labs are welcomed, but likely will need some rework before becoming approved.

I'm making preliminary plans to attend different regional conventions this year to introduce and explain EduTRAIN and am also looking for candidates for our Board of Education to help with the process of reviewing and approving course candidates. Ideally, BOE members will be experienced model railroaders from different regions. A background in education or training is preferable, but not absolutely required.

I'm asking for help in identifying candidates for the BOE and for interest in having one or more EduTRAIN presentations at regional conventions this year.

Thanks. Bob Blake 12136 Tower Hill Road, Sawyer, MI 49125;
(269) 426-4463 (H) / (203) 788-1342 (C)

Daylight Division's New Logo

The Daylight Division has a new logo, thanks to Russ Clover.

Russ needed a Daylight logo for a PCR project he was working on, but the logo file he had become too degraded to use. I didn't have anything better, so he made a new one and sent it to me. The membership voted on and adopted the new logo, as shown on the Daylight website:

<http://www.pcrnmra.org/daylight/>

