



The Daylight Observation



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DAYLIGHT DIVISION

Volume 19, Issue 3

Third Quarter, 2005

San Luis Obispo Meet August 27 at Hilding Larson's

Clinics:

- Low-Cost Sound Installation in HO locomotives, by Kurt Brown
- How to Paint Trees on a Background, by Mary Carole Larson
- Recent Movement of UPs Big Boy, by Hilding Larson

Layout tours:

Greg Drummond, Hilding Larson, Terry Taylor, Charlie Burns

Time Schedule:

- 9:30 to 10 - Registration, Refreshments, Switching, Model Contests
- 10 to 10:10 - Welcome
- 10:15 to 11:15 - 1st Clinic
- 11:15 to 12:00 - 2nd Clinic
- 12:00 to 12:45 - Lunch: \$5.00 (Tri Tip / salad / beans / bread) prepared by the Larsons with help from Katherine Chong
- 12:45 to 13:30 - 3rd Clinic
- 13:30 to 14:00 - Business Meeting, Contest results & Announcements
- 14:00 to 14:15 - Layout Tours Briefing
- 14:15 to 15:00 - White Elephant Auction
- 15:00 to 19:00 - Layout Tours & Op Sessions

Hilding Larson's House is just south east of San Luis Obispo at 7050 Lewis Lane (see maps on page 2).

From the North

- Take 101 South to San Luis Obispo
- Take the Marsh St exit 202A - go 0.8 mi
- Turn right at Broad St - go 2.7 mi
- Continue on Broad St - go 0.1 mi
- Continue on CA-227 - go 0.8 mi
- Continue on Edna Rd - go 0.7 mi
- Turn right at Los Ranchos Rd - go 0.6 mi
- Turn right at Country Club Dr - go 0.5 mi
- Turn left at Lewis Ln - go 0.2 mi

From the south

- Take 101 North to Arroyo Grande
- Take the Price St exit - go 0.2 mi
- Bear right at Price St - go 0.1 mi
- Turn right at Hinds Ave - go 0.0 mi
- Continue on Price Canyon Rd - go 4.8 mi
- Turn left at Edna Rd - go 2.0 mi
- Turn left at Los Ranchos Rd - go 0.6 mi
- Turn right at Country Club Dr - go 0.5 mi
- Turn left at Lewis Ln - go 0.2 mi

Santa Barbara Meet Report

June 18, 2005

By Doug Wagner

The meet started with a welcome to all attendees by Bruce Morden and a quick explanation of what to expect at the meet. Then Gary Siegel gave a walking tour of his new Garden Railroad, which is still under construction.

Tom Turner and Bruce Morden then did a combined clinic about how to operate on Gary Siegel's L&N layout. Afterward, the new operators had a hands-on clinic, presented in 2 parts. The first part of the clinic was "What Happens In A Railroad Yard". This clinic gave us a hands-on learning tool by using the Ashland and Dent yards on Gary's layout. The 2nd part of the clinic was titled, "On The Road Again: Mainline Train Operations, Including Dispatching. The crews got hands-on

See Santa Barbara Meet on page 2

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Chief Clerk/ Paymaster Reports

The meet at Gary Siegel's in June was a lot of fun. The major plus was a full-on operating session. Twenty of our members and guests took part in the pre-run training. I had the opportunity to run Fowler Yard with son James. It was fun. Adds two hours to operations certificate.

My understanding is that the meet in SLO will feature the famous San Luis Obispo barbeque tri-tip & Beans at Hilding Larson's.

Financial Report

August 10, 2005

Checks to deposit: \$21.00

Cash to deposit: \$162.00

Cash on hand: \$311.07

Before deposit of \$183.00.

Total Balance: \$1,201.25

Respectfully submitted,
Brewster Bird

Santa Barbara Meet (Continued from page 1)

learning by using actual trains on the L&N layout.

After the clinics, we took time out for some beans, and then operated on Gary's layout all afternoon.

The next meet will be in San Luis Obispo, on August 27, hosted by Hilding Larsen. And you can't beat that tri-tip lunch—complete with dessert—for only \$5.00!

The November Daylight meet will probably be in Bakersfield, on either November 5 or 19. One of the items being lined up is a replica of a Southern Pacific Plan #22 Depot, built into a residence's bedroom. The Golden Empire Historical and Modeling Society, of Bakersfield, will host this meet. If the weather is pleasant enough, we can then head on up to the Tehachapi Loop for some rail-fanning.

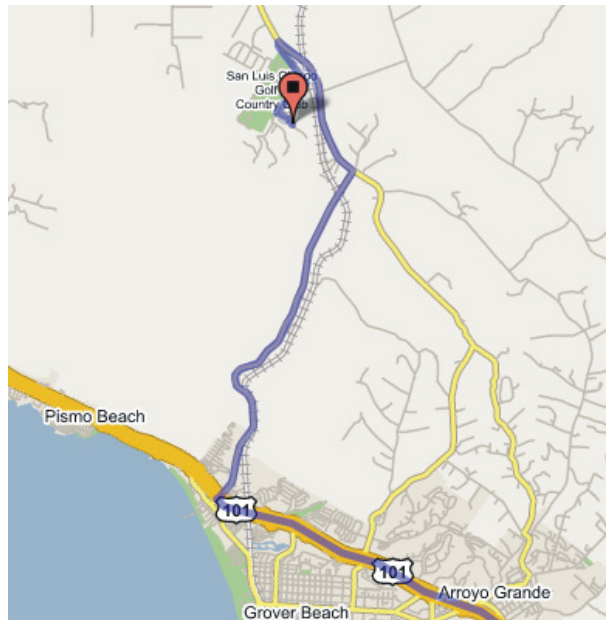
Who says we don't have fun at Daylight meets!

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| The Daylight Observation | |
| The Official Publication of the Daylight Division, PCR/NMRA | |
| Volume 19, Issue 3 | 3rd Quarter, 2005 |
| <p>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.</p> <p>Copyright 2005, Daylight Division, Pacific Coast Region, National Model Railroad Association. Permission to reprint is hereby granted to all other affiliates of the NMRA. Others may request permission to reprint from the editor:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chuck Harmon 1644 E. Goshen Ave. Fresno, CA 93720 Phone (559) 299-4385 e-mail: harmonsta@aol.com</p> | |

From the North



From the South



Detail Map



To Country Club Drive

Steaming Along the Line (Report from the new Super)

Well it's been quite a while since the election and you haven't heard anything from me. Shame on me. Well, I have been busier than I expected and I apologize to everyone in the Daylight Division. So where do we go from here? Well it's off to San Luis Obispo for the next division meet. Hilding Larson and the Thursday night boomers have been busy planning a fun filled day.

We hope to see everyone there.

Paul

The Answers Are Out There

Bob Pethoud, Member Aid

Those of us who have been in this hobby for a few decades like to point out the big changes that have taken place since we began model railroading. A typical work session today is much more likely to involve, say, a decoder installation or drybrushing grime on a preassembled gondola than painting a brass locomotive or scratchbuilding that gon. But the basics are still the same: it's still all about creating a realistic miniature scene and then animating it with moving trains.

We've seen in this column over the last several issues that many publications of thirty or forty years ago still have fresh answers to today's modeling questions. But this time I would like to point out some gaps—areas of model railroading where I have not found such “classic” information sources. If you think of some book, article, or DVD that fills one of them, please write or email me with your review. Here are the gaps:

Wiring: The leap from analog to digital control has made a nearly unbridgeable break with the past. All of the older titles were produced before the advent of DCC and, thus, cover in great depth the intricacies of block control. There are a few recent volumes dealing with DCC, but they do not cover any other aspects of wiring and, in time, will likely come to be considered “pioneering” rather than “classic.”

Scenery: There are many excellent scenery references available, the books being perhaps less useful than the many magazine articles and videos being produced. However, each seems to deal with a particular type of terrain or technique; it's harder to find a compilation that includes anything like a complete course on scenery. Also, many of the commercial materials suggested may be hard to find in some regions of the country or after

the passage of a few months or years.

Painting and decaling: Who needs it? Everything now comes pre-painted and pre-lettered. I exaggerate, but only slightly. Here, as with scenery, products—particularly paints—change so rapidly that older reference works soon become obsolete. Again, up to date information is readily available from videos and magazine articles, but don't necessarily expect to find out how best to use some product you already have on hand.

Weathering: This topic is still very relevant, at least until more manufacturers add weathering to all their RTR freight cars. There must be as many weathering techniques as there are substances to drip, blow, or scrub onto models. You find a new one described near the end of each construction article in any model railroad periodical. I feel the time is ripe for someone to compile and organize a large variety of them. Any takers?

Until next time, contact me with questions and comments at pethoud@comcast.net.

Volunteers needed for 2008

The year 2008 is an important year for the Daylight Division. We will be hosting the PCR Convention. It takes the efforts of many people to present a great time for all participants. I am looking for volunteers for the position of web master, layout tours and non-rail activities. These positions need to be filled soon so that planning can start immediately. Please contact me at rubyjohn@comcast.net. Include your address and phone number. I will send you PCR's description of what that position entails.

John Houlihan, Chairman, Sierra Memories 2008

The new single dues structure will mean many changes for the PCR and Daylight Division. Bill Scott has provided the following FAQs to help explain some of these differences. (Ed)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Post September 2005 PCR Membership Treatment

1. Q. Will I have a PCR Membership Card?

A. No, you will receive an NMRA Membership Card only and you will have all PCR and Division Membership privileges if you reside within PCR

2. Q. Will I receive the PCR *Branch Line*?

A. When your current PCR membership expires you must subscribe to our newsletter through the NMRA. PCR Life members will be treated as life subscribers. If your PCR and NMRA expiration dates do not coincide, a short term subscription fee may be requested to cover the period between your PCR expiration date and NMRA date.

3. Q. Will I receive the PCR "Official" publication?

A. All NMRA members living within PCR will receive the annual "Official" publication. We plan on making this the Jan-Mar issue of the *Branch Line* initially.

4. Q. If I choose not to subscribe to the *Branch Line*, how will I know what is going on and will I be allowed to participate?

A. The *Branch Line* will continue to be posted to the PCR web site. All NMRA members living within PCR or a Division will be treated equally.

5. Q. By subscribing to the *Branch Line*, what do I receive that non-subscribers do not receive?

A. You will receive four issues per year of the *Branch Line* mailed to your address.

6. Q. Will I continue to receive membership renewal notices from PCR?

A. No. Beginning in September 2005, all membership renewal and subscription matters will be handled directly by the NMRA office in Chattanooga. All Regular, Associate and Student NMRA members will receive a renewal notice that will include an opportunity to subscribe to the Regional newsletter (*Branch Line*). NMRA Life members who are not PCR Life Members will need to subscribe to the *Branch Line* separately.

7. Q. How will my division obtain address labels for our Division newsletter?

A. Divisions will continue to receive labels from PCR based on the membership files maintained by NMRA Headquarters. There will no longer be a PCR Membership Services manager maintaining a membership data file but there will be a PCR manager converting NMRA files to labels at the Division's request.

8. Q. Who will receive the Division newsletter?

A. Each Division will need to decide who gets their newsletter. This is a major expense for Divisions. Divisions may elect to send their newsletter to all NMRA members living within their Division boundaries, only to NMRA members who subscribe to the PCR Branch Line (i.e. those really interested in local activities) or may set up some form of newsletter subscription.

9. Q. How will PCR members living outside the PCR region be treated?

A. NMRA members who live outside PCR's area will be able to subscribe to the *Branch Line* at the time of their NMRA Renewal. They will be members of their local region and automatically receive the official publication of that region. PCR life members living outside PCR will be treated as *Branch Line* subscribers.

10. Q. What publications will NMRA members receive?

A. All NMRA members will receive the NMRA Bulletin and their local Region's annual "official" publication. They must subscribe to receive Scale Rails and any Regional newsletters they desire. NMRA Life Members will receive

Scale Rails as a part of their NMRA Life Membership.

11. Q. How do I become a Life Member?

A. NMRA ceased offering Life Memberships in February, 2005. PCR ceased offering Life Memberships in May, 2005. All existing NMRA and PCR Life Members have been “grandfathered”

12. Q. Why are these changes being made?

A. In 2004 a change to the NMRA Regulations was approved by a large majority of NMRA members who voted, implementing a long range plan and new Regulations (modified former By-laws and Constitution) for NMRA. As a part of this change, a single membership and dues structure was implemented; a more streamlined NMRA governing Board was established and the subordinate relationship of the Regions to the National organization was confirmed.

13. Q. My 5 Year PCR Membership doesn't expire for two more years but my NMRA membership will expire this year. Will I continue to receive the *Branch Line*?

A. Membership/subscription to PCR has always been contingent on maintaining an NMRA Membership. Beginning in September there will no longer be a separate PCR data base. If you fail to maintain your NMRA membership you will not be included in any PCR mailings or lists.

| NMRA Membership | PCR Membership | Branch Line | Scale Rails | Official PCR Pub | NMRA Bulletin |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Regular | Regular | Note 1 | Subscribe | YES | YES |
| Regular | 5- Year | Note 6 | Subscribe | YES | YES |
| Regular | Non-member | Subscribe | YES | YES | Subscribe |
| Student | Regular | Note 1 | Subscribe | YES | YES |
| Student | Non-member | Subscribe | YES | YES | Subscribe |
| Associate (5) | Regular | Note 1 | Subscribe | YES | YES |
| Associate (5) | 5- Year | Note 6 | Subscribe | YES | YES |
| Associate (5) | Non-member | Subscribe | YES | YES | Subscribe |
| Life | Regular | Note 1 | Provided | YES | YES |
| Life | 5- Year | Note 1 | Provided | YES | YES |
| Life | Life | Note 2 | Provided | YES | YES |
| Life | Non-member | Note 3 | Provided | YES | YES |
| Family | Family | Subscribe | NO | NO | Subscribe |
| Family | Non-member | Subscribe | NO | NO | Subscribe |
| Rail Pass | Non-Member | Note 4 | Provided | YES | YES |

Notes:

1 - Treated as Branch Line Subscriber until PCR membership expires, then must subscribe with NMRA for delivery.

2 - Treated as a Branch Line Subscriber for life.

3 - Must subscribe but will not get a renewal from NMRA (We will need to solicit in annual mailing).

4 - One-Time 6 Month trial membership - must subscribe to Branch Line at time of first renewal.

5 - With “menu driven” renewals, associate and regular memberships become the same.

6 - Treated as BL Subscriber until PCR and/or NMRA membership expires, must renew with NMRA to continue delivery.

SUPERINTENDENT

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