

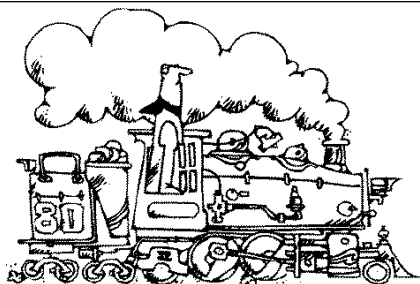
PSR DISPATCH

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

National Model Railroad Association®

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 4 — 4TH QUARTER, 2003

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From the Hot Seat!

Ed Hall, MMR, PSR President

trained@cox.net

I hope everyone had a great summer; I'm looking forward to cool weather again. *Arizona Express 2003* was a great success thanks to **Roger von Seeburg** & **Don Stewart** and the convention committee. At the awards ceremony **Dick Greatorex** was honored as **PSR Member Of The Year** for all of his work as the Webmaster and Host of the PSR website. I had the pleasure of talking with Dick and his wife Maurine during the banquet. I was fascinated by the depth of his involvement with the Internet; he is also involved with maintaining pages for the NMRA® website. Thank you, Dick, for all of your help with the PSR and a great conversation.

Time marches on; when we are young we want time to speed up, as we get older we want to slow it down a little so we may savor some of the good things. We also like to spend more time with friends. As time goes by we have to say goodbye to some friends and hello to new ones.

This is the last *PSR Dispatch* that **Dorr Altizer** will edit. He's done a wonderful job as Editor for the last 8 years and I will miss him and his little "<g>" very much. Dorr has accepted the position of the NMRA® National Model Railroad Convention Publications Manager and since he's a Life Member of the PSR and the NMRA® we may hear from him once in a while; I sure hope so. **Ben Sevier** will start the New Year as the new *PSR Dispatch* Editor and he will be a fine addition to the PSR staff. Welcome, Ben.

Our Historian, **Bob Faley**, is also leaving. Bob has done a remarkable job putting together the PSR Convention Car Collection shown at the 2003 Phoenix Convention. Bob put a lot of effort into the Collection and it showed as it contained every convention car that the PSR has had! I never knew that some of the cars existed. They were displayed in their travel case (that protects the cars) and the Collection will be at future conventions for all PSR members to enjoy. Thanks again, Bob, for providing a great start to keeping the history

of the PSR alive. **Robert Chaparro** has taken possession of the Collection and will bring it to the next convention.

Jan Wescott, Cajon Division Director, has accepted the position of NMRA® Education Chair so the PSR Education Chair is now vacant.

We have new faces in the PSR staff. In addition to Ben Sevier (applause), we also welcome **Janet Spooner** as the Railette Chair (more applause) and **David Irick** as Secretary (even more applause). Janet has been involved with the Railettes for many years and is very excited to help out. While talking with her in Phoenix she expressed great enthusiasm to get started and she will give a spark of life to this almost dormant position. David will keep track of all the discussions at our Board of Directors (BOD) meetings. He has his work cut out for him as documenting all the PSR business is a very important and necessary position.

In this issue we have an assignment for you. No, not homework; just a survey to fill out and return. During the BOD meeting at the *Arizona Express 2003* convention we had a lengthy discussion about non-members attending PSR conventions. The BOD had voted on the issue last year but questions kept coming up so we readdressed the issue. Discussion went on and on without any clear decision, so the BOD decided to bring the question to the members. There are many pros and cons about non-members attending PSR conventions. As the BOD is a small percentage of the PSR membership, we felt this issue should be decided by the entire membership of the PSR. The BOD will then integrate the will of the majority concerning this issue into the Manual of Operations. Please respond to the task and send in your vote. If you have any questions or need clarification on this issue, please talk to your Division Director or any BOD member. Remember this is **your** Region and **your** right to vote.

Thank you for your attention, now it's time to go build something and have some fun. See you at the next stop.

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www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/psr/psr.html
and click on their email address in the appropriate section.

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Join the Staff of the *Pacific Southwest Region*

The Education position is vacant and the Historian position will be vacant in mid-November. If you're interested in either of these

interesting jobs, contact Ed Hall, MMR at trained@cox.net, (702) 564-6176, 213 Nightfall Terrace, Henderson, NV 89015-2753.



PSR DISPATCH

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Articles may be emailed to bwsevier@sbcglobal.net, or surface mailed to 12793 War Horse Street, San Diego, CA 92129-2219. Photographs (prints only) should be surface mailed. Digital images may be emailed or surface mailed. Mailed items may be on a 3.5 inch PC disk, standard CD, handwritten, typed (new or good clean ribbon) or printed on any type of printer. All photographs, disks and CD's will be returned after publication if requested.

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23/4	21 October 2005

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SAN DIEGO DIVISION

www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/sdiego/sdiego.html

NEW ITEMS ON THE PSR HOMEPAGE

1 - Current issues (in PDF format) of the *PSR DISPATCH* and all four of the Division newsletters. 2 - The *Arizona Express 2003 Contest Results* plus color photos of 1st Place entries. 3 - Registration Form (in PDF format) for the "Rails to the Verdugos" Convention to be held on September 15 to 19, 2004 in Glendale, CA.

BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

Back issues for *PSR DISPATCH* and all four of the Division newsletters are available in PDF format from TrainNet.org at www.trainnet.org.

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IN THIS ISSUE

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 4 — 4TH QUARTER, 2003

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 - From the Hot Seat! | 11 - PSR Achievement Program |
| 4 - Division Director Activity Reports | 12 - Photos from the Chinese Auction |
| 6 - Arizona Express 2003 Final Report | 14 - PSR Contest Corner |
| 7 - PSR History Department | 18 - Arizona Express 2003 Model Contest Results |
| 8 - Switching Off the Mainline | 29 - Book Review: A Convention Guide |
| 8 - J. William (Bill) Kress Obituary | 29 - Railway Post Office |
| 9 - Convention Registration Status Survey | 30 - Flag Stops |
| 10 - PSR Needs an Education Chair | 31 - View from the Birdwater & Raspberry |
| 10 - The 2004 Convention Logo | 32 - Membership Application |



Division Director

ARIZONA

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The last 18 months have been difficult ones for the Arizona Division. Most members know the strife within the Division. I am asking the Division members to look forward now as we have closed the 2003 PSR Convention. It was held in Phoenix and appears to be a success, though not as well attended as the past conventions held in Arizona. Several members stepped forward in July to help the committee in a time of need. This was done for several reasons. Primarily for the members of the Pacific Southwest Region who just wanted to attend a convention and enjoy themselves. If the discussions I heard were any indication, the attendees enjoyed themselves.

There were a few new innovations in the convention activities (Modeling with the Masters, Chinese Auction) and many of the expected events were held (clinics, contests, layout tours and camaraderie). Warm weather (by Phoenix standards) allowed the indoor activities to be held in comfort.

There is a survey in this issue of the *PSR Dispatch*. Please complete it and mail it in so your opinion may count. This survey deals specifically with the issue that split the Division. Let the PSR Board of Directors know what you want, especially if you feel strongly one way or the other. If the response from the Arizona Division is low, the BOD will conclude that the problem has been blown out of proportion to the issue and may keep the decision to limit attendance to members only. If you want non-members to attend, return your survey to let the BOD know.

Starting my two-year term as Director, I want to develop new (or enhance old) ideas for activities the Division members may enjoy. Contact me by e-mail, phone, regular mail or in person at one of the Division meets to discuss ideas and how we can act on them. If you have a thought, want to discuss something, want me to take something to the PSR BOD, let me know. I am your conduit to the PSR; use me!

I really want to try to pull the Division together so we can enjoy the strength, camaraderie, and family kinship we used to have. Let us work toward the positive! Today's life is full of negatives, put them aside for the fun of model railroading. If it is not fun, help me find a way to make it fun. It is a team effort, let's work like a team! 🚂

See the *Arizona Express* 2003 Final Report on Page 6.

CAJON

JAN WESCOTT
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On behalf of all the members in the Cajon Division, I would like to extend our appreciation to Dorr Altizer for his 8 years of outstanding service as the Region's Editor. His dedication to publish a professional newsletter that is the *PSR Dispatch* as we know it today is certainly a tribute amongst his many credits of achievement and contributions made during his tenure. Dorr, we say thank you and wish you all of life's best.

On the same note, we would also like to say thank you to Bob Faley for all his work as the Region's Historian. What he has been able to accomplish in his short tenure of two years is amazing and certainly representative of his dedication. If you have been reading his column, you will have noted that he has now secured 20 years of all the past issues of the *PSR Dispatch* and convention cars. Thanks, Bob, for all you've done in providing our Region with a history of its roots and preserving its memories. Our prayers are with you and hope you'll soon be able to enjoy life in better health.

Many kudos and thanks to Roger von Seeburg, Don Stewart and the entire Phoenix Convention Committee for an excellent production of the 2003 PSR Convention. The Cajon Division is proud to have been able to be an active participant and share in its success. It was super fun. A job well done to all.

This issue of the *PSR Dispatch* signals the end of another year. We are preparing to cap off 2003 with two big events to close out what has been another successful year in our Division. On November 14-16 we will host our Second Annual Model Railroad Celebration Meet in Barstow, California and on December 13th we are sponsoring a Christmas Train Show in Henderson, Nevada. We invite everyone to Cajon Country; come and join the fun. Details of these events are in the current issue (3rd Qtr.) of the *Order Board* available online (see Page 3 for the URL) or by visiting our private website at www.cajondiv.org for a copy of the event flyer. Here's wishing you and yours a very happy holiday season. 🚂

Editor's Addendum

Photos taken during the Chinese Auction, organized and run by Jan Wescott and her "Glowin Cajon Crew" from the Cajon Division, are located on Pages 12 and 13.

PSR DISPATCH — 4th Quarter, 2003

Activity Reports



LOS ANGELES

MARY BARSTOW, MMR
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My second term as director has begun. I am pleased to represent the Los Angeles Division and will work conscientiously to serve the needs of our membership. Communication is really important. I need to hear from you with your ideas and ways you might be able to help. The more actively involved you are, the more you will enjoy the NMRA®. That perfect opportunity is now. We need your help with our convention next September in Glendale. The more the merrier as the saying goes!

Many of us have recently returned from attending *Arizona Express 2003* held at the Embassy Suites in Phoenix. We had a great time. Many thanks to Don Stewart, Roger Von Seeburg, and their team, for presenting a convention full of interesting and informative activities.



I did get to a few layouts and clinics but mostly I stayed at the "Rails To The Verdugos" table to offer registrations for our upcoming convention next year (September 15 - 19, 2004). We are all pleased with progress thus far.

A number of issues were discussed at the Board of Directors Meeting in Phoenix. It was decided to take a survey of the PSR members. Your response will help us decide if and how non-members may attend regional conventions. A surcharge to non-members seems to be a possible solution. We want interested model railroaders to have every opportunity to discover what happens at a regional convention.

Los Angeles Division thoughts now turn to Model Railroad Month this November and the model train show that we are planning. Our show, open to the public, will be November 1st and 2nd and will be held at Ayers Hall at the Arcadia Arboretum. It will be a great opportunity for everyone to see model trains of all scales. Some of the best modeling in Southern California will be represented. 




SAN DIEGO

RODGER GREDVIG, MMR
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As we come to the close of another year and begin planning for 2004 we have some notable accomplishments within the Division. Last year we began collaborating with Let's Talk Trains (www.letstalktrains.us) who maintain a web radio broadcast on the vast subject of trains in general. The local NMRA® was given an half hour each Saturday morning to speak to the Model Railroading aspect of the subject. Thanks to dozens of volunteers we had speakers interviewed on everything from modeling scenery to the structure of the NMRA®, local clubs and other organizations, and dozens of modeling techniques. Although the subject has not been totally exhausted (so far we've arranged 36 shows), we are going to put it into hiatus until more modelers can be enlisted. You do not have to be in the San Diego area to participate - it is done over the phone. (Contact me if interested). Along with TV and newspaper interviews we had wide media exposure this past year.

As reported previously, we expanded our newsletter and postcard reminders, nearly doubling our circulation which in turn nearly doubled participation at local Meets, mini-tours and other functions. The Mini-tours (once a month) have proven to be real crowd pleasers. Some of the tours include clinics and short business meetings to introduce newcomers to the operation and purpose of the Division. Several new tours and new members were a direct result of this campaign.

Plans for 2004 will continue to develop the Mini-tour concept and to improve our exposure to local clubs and RR organizations. We established a Club Liaison position who will be responsible for coordinating events with local clubs and keeping them apprised of the Division and how we can interface. Another goal is to host clinics at several area hobby shops in order to provide a service to both the beginner and the serious hobbyist while maintaining a good rapport with the hobby stores (who are often undercut by the discount warehouses). By re-constituting planned Road Trips we also hope to broaden our appeal to include the railfan. We will also be encouraging and supporting efforts at the Antique Steam & Gas Engine Museum who have established a permanent north county RR exhibit and library (a modular building is being installed as this is written).

With a full time Publicity Chairman, Clinic Chairman and Club Liaison, along with other plans, we look forward to an even more successful year in 2004. 

Arizona Express 2003

Pacific Southwest Region Convention, September 11 - 14, 2003 Phoenix, AZ

Final Report

ROGER VON SEEBURG & DON STEWART, CONVENTION CO-CHAIRS

rvonseeburg@att.net, Snpow@aol.com



WOW! The convention was a success. The doors opened on time and nearly all of the activities happened as planned. We had a great time and received many favorable comments on clinics, layout tours, Modeling With the Masters, the Chinese Auction, the hotel and the fact that the convention took place. This was very gratifying.

There were a total of 153 registrants (net) who attended. There were a number of cancellations for various reasons. We met the hotel's room night requirements. At the time of writing this article, we believe that the convention is in the black.

The model and photography contests were well populated with entries; the full results are available in this issue of the *PSR Dispatch*.

There were some things that were canceled for various reasons. One clinic was canceled and two or three others the clinician failed to show up for one session. The shuttle bus to the swap meet was canceled because there was insufficient interest in advance and it was a very expensive offering. The Railette tour to the chocolate factory was canceled because there was not enough people to meet the chocolate factory minimum requirement. All in all, the transportation was a bust. There just was not enough interest to cover the expenses.

A full written report will be presented to the PSR Board of Directors (BOD) at a future date.

Allow us to acknowledge the volunteers who gave of their time and expertise to present clinics or open their layouts for the enjoyment of those who attended.

Clinics

Dorr Altizer – Publishing a Hobby Newsletter
Duane Buck – Improving Freight Cars
Paul Chandler – SP Lathrop Subdivision
Dave Connery – Finished Scenery
John Determan – Painting
Barry Draper – Surface Mount LEDs
Kevin Feeney – Live From the East Coast...
John Fiscella – Improve Passenger Trains
Don Fowler – Details Make the Difference
Tom George – Scratch Building Ala Carte

Charlie Getz – NMRA Long Range Plan
Allen Gross – Oddball Logging Equipment
Phil Hanna – Colorado Depots
George Lopez-Cepero – Bridges & Bldg AZ RR
Bob Moore – Scenery from the Laundry Room
Don Morrison – Military Railway Service
Dan Napoliello – Alaska Railroad
Chuck Nauman – Model Trees for Model RR
Allen Pollock – A Chat With the NMRA Pres.
Tony Quilici – Building an SP FP7A
John Roberts – The NMRA Insurance
Lenny Smith – The 30 Minute Paint Job
Don Stewart – Steam Locos, How they Work
Denny Surufka – Getting the Hitch Out

Modeling With The Masters

Clark Kooning, MMR
Al Boos, MMR

Ladies Fashion Show

Marty Burman

Layouts

Bob Adler – HO Scale, Peoria
Jerry Oyler – G Scale, Peoria
Udo Meyer – HO, N, Sn3, Waddell
Chuck Christ – HO Scale, Phoenix
Bill Gall – HO Scale, Phoenix
Dan Hoag – G Scale, Phoenix
Ron Mei – HO Scale, Phoenix
Kal Miller – G Scale, Phoenix
Harold Shelton – HO scale, Phoenix
Sun-N-Sand MRRC 2 – N Scale, Phoenix
Thunderbird MRRC – HO/Hon3, Phoenix
Scottsdale MRRC – HO Scale, Scottsdale
Sun-N-Sand MRRC – N Scale, Scottsdale
Scottsdale Live Steamers – Scottsdale
Paradise & Pacific MRRC – O, Scottsdale
Nelson Steinmetz – S Scale, Scottsdale
McCormick RR Park Museum, Scottsdale
Roger Brendecke – HO Scale, Tempe
Jim Knollmiller – HO Scale, Tempe
Ed Dunshie – G Scale, Mesa

Continued at *Arizona Express* on page 9

PSR DISPATCH — 4th Quarter, 2003




PSR History Department

BOB FALEY, PSR HISTORIAN
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As some of you may already be aware, this will be my last column as PSR Historian. Personal and medical reasons lead me to this decision. I did want to publish one last Thank You to all those members who have helped me to establish some archives for the Pacific Southwest Region.

Contributions such as convention cars, back issues of the *PSR Dispatch*, mementos and trivia articles made

my job easy. I hope you give the next Historian the same support that you have given to me. There is still much to be done in order to retrieve information from the past and it can only be done with your contributions.

Trivia: One last item from the past. You've all seen the convention logo from the recent Phoenix convention, so below you can see the logo from the first PSR convention in 1984, also held in Phoenix. 

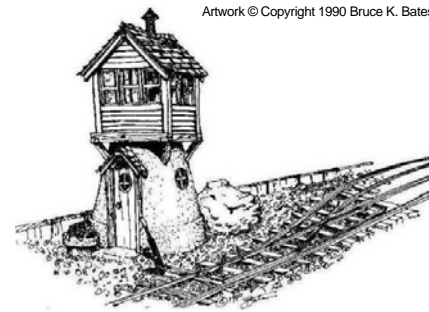


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See page 3 for our low rates.

Switching Off the Mainline, the Editor Takes a Different Route

DORR ALTIZER, EDITOR
dorr@trainnet.org




As many of you may have noticed from other columns, this is my last issue as Editor of the *PSR Dispatch*. My first issue (4th Quarter, 1995) featured Duane Buck's "Best of Show" EMD Model 40 Switcher (from the "Alive in '95" convention) on the first page, so I was off to a good start. In the ensuing eight years I've had a lot of fun creating each issue and I've had the pleasure of working with many fine individuals, too numerous a list to print here, so I'll just use this article to say **"Thank You Very Much!"** to all of you.

As a Life Member of the PSR and the NMRA® I'll continue to attend Arizona Division meets and the occasional PSR convention but now I'll just be a POM (Plain Ordinary Member). In my capacity as Webmaster for TrainNet.org and TadLane.com, I'll also continue to be the online host for all five PSR newsletters, which is my way of supporting the PSR in all its future endeavors.

It's now time for me to take a different route in my NMRA® activities. I'm now the Publications Manager for

the NMRA® National Model Railroad Convention, which will run all national conventions commencing in Philadelphia, PA, in 2006. For starters, we've created a new centralized web site at www.rrconv.org - this will soon be the main place to get national convention info.

So I'm turning over the *PSR Dispatch* editing duties to a new Editor, Ben Sevier. A model railroader for about 42 years and a member of the NMRA (on and off) for 30 years, Ben became active in the San Diego Division about four years ago and has edited the Division's excellent newsletter ("Mail Hook") for the past two years.

Ben is building a DCC-based HO layout that follows the prototype practices of the fallen flag Missouri Pacific Lines (MP, T&P). When he's not playing with his trains, Ben is a computer network engineer, manager and software developer. I'm sure than Ben has some interesting routes planned for the *PSR Dispatch* and I'm really looking forward to seeing those new routes in the coming years. 

In Memorium J. William (Bill) Kress

This is to announce the passing of long-time NMRA® and PSR member J. William (Bill) Kress. He was a native of Massapequa Park on Long Island, living there until he and his family relocated to the Phoenix-Tempe, Arizona, area in 1969.

Bill joined the NMRA in the mid-1940s as member #0748, becoming a Life Member in 1946. He also was member #1689 of the PSR and member #057 of the Thunderbird Model Railroad Club of Phoenix since 1971. He served on the Board of Directors of this club and as Vice President and President.

Model Railroading was an enormous part of Bill's life, both in New York and Arizona. The model railroads in his homes on Long Island and in Tempe were gathering places where model railroaders would meet, run their model equipment, and socialize. While living in the Phoenix area, he worked in hobby shops and had his own shop - Bill's Caboose.

Bill was a member of the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society, the Arizona and Philadelphia Chapters of the PRRT&HS, the Arizona Railway Museum, the National Railway Historical Society and the NRHS Long Island Sunrise Chapter.

Bill is survived by his wife Betty, his son William Jr., daughters Nancy and Deborah and four grandchildren.



Convention Registration Status Survey from the PSR Board of Directors

DON STEWART, ARIZONA DIVISION DIRECTOR
Snpcw@aol.com

This copy of the *PSR Dispatch* contains a "Convention Registration Status Survey from the PSR Board of Directors" in which the PSR Board of Directors (BOD) is seeking your opinion on an important question that concerns the general membership.

Last year the BOD made a decision that everyone attending the PSR Annual Convention must be an NMRA® member. The consequence of this decision created much dissension amongst members within the Region and especially within the Arizona Division.

Because of the difficulties experienced, the PSR Board is revisiting this issue and seeks your input to make a decision that will be in the best interest of all. It is their desire not to have this issue become divisive for any of its Divisions and members.


Originally there were major NMRA® insurance issues that weighed heavily upon the Board's initial decision to implement the membership requirement policy at the Annual Convention. The insurance issue has been

clarified and is no longer a factor in this matter.

Generally, the PSR Board feels there should be visible benefits to NMRA® members when they attend the PSR Annual Convention. To provide this benefit, an additional charge of \$10 to \$20 is being proposed for non-members wishing to attend. Each Convention Committee would determine the actual amount of the premium within that range.

Proponents in favor of allowing non-members to attend by paying a surcharge contend that the Convention is ideal event to expose and educate non-members to all that we do as members and provide an experience that allows non-members to want to join rather than be required to join.

What is your opinion? Should the PSR Board change current policies in order that everyone expressing interest be allowed to attend our Convention?

Please take time to seriously consider this issue and mail in your response. 

(Editor's Note: The survey is inserted in the center of this issue.)

Arizona Express - continued from page 6

Banquet Guest Speaker

Charlie Getz

Chinese Auction

Jan Wescott & the "Glowin Cajon Crew"

We also want to acknowledge the committee who worked very hard to prepare this event for your enjoyment. You have already seen their names in the last issue of the *PSR Dispatch*.


Last, but not least, we want to thank those who joined us in Phoenix for the Arizona Express 2003 PSR Convention. Those who were unable to attend missed a good time.

We Pause for an Important Announcement

In the 3rd Quarter 2003 issue of the *PSR Dispatch*, in our article titled "Crew Change in Phoenix", we reported the following:

"The PSR BOD has agreed to place the PSR membership requirement for attending the PSR

Convention on the meeting agenda at the September meeting. This will not change the requirements for this year, but will be a topic of discussion for future events."

We are pleased to report that the PSR BOD discussed the subject and they have decided to put the question to the PSR membership. We encourage all PSR members to seriously consider this question and mail in your response. Please look for the Survey inserted into this issue of the *PSR Dispatch*. 



PSR Needs an Education Chair

JAN WESCOTT, NMRA® EDUCATION CHAIR
wescvegas@lvcn.com



You can be the coupler and the key link in communication between the NMRA® Education Department and our Region.

Please review the below responsibilities and give serious consideration as to whether you can be our Region's Representative. The Region's Education Chair becomes part of the National Education Department's staff and therefore counts towards your Official's AP certificate.

Changes and growth are a way of life. In order to keep up with the times, we need to be informed and just as important we need to educate others what we do. The responsibilities of Region Education Chair are not overwhelming nor overly time consuming. And while it is expected the duties of this position will continue to evolve as the Department does, below is a summary outline of basic responsibilities.

- ‡ Someone to be the contact person between National and Region. To be that key link that will receive education information and disseminate it down to all of the Divisions in the Regions.
- ‡ Someone who will write a column in their Region newsletter ("Education News") to ensure all members get the word of education happenings.
- ‡ Someone who can prepare statistical reports twice year to keep National informed as to what type of education programs are conducted in the Region (i.e. clinics, contests, youth programs, etc.)
- ‡ Someone who can periodically provide a list of clinicians and clinic titles held to our National Education Clinic Chair.

If you feel this is something you can do, please contact PSR Trustee Bob Sherlock or President Ed Hall to offer your services! 🚂

The 2004 Convention Logo

DAVE COX, MMR, 2004 CONVENTION CHAIR
david23star@1stnetusa.com

Our logo represents all the railroads that have served the Glendale, California area. The logo shows the Verdugo Mountains, named for Corporal Jose Maria Verdugo, the original land grant owner. The mountains rise 2,300 feet above the central part of Glendale. The building represents the "Casa Verdugo" - the original was a ranch house in the original Spanish land grant in 1798. In 1904 the Los Angeles Interurban Railway Co.(part of the Pacific Electric) acquired the ruins of the original building and restored it as a restaurant and called it the "Casa Verdugo." The Pacific Electric then extended their track up Brand Blvd. to the restaurant, which became a popular tourist attraction. The Casa Verdugo was located only one block north of our convention hotel. The site is now a public library named the Casa Verdugo Branch. By the way, the convention hotel, The Glendale Hilton, is located on top of the former Pacific Electric R/W that served Burbank, CA.

The first railroad in Glendale was the Southern

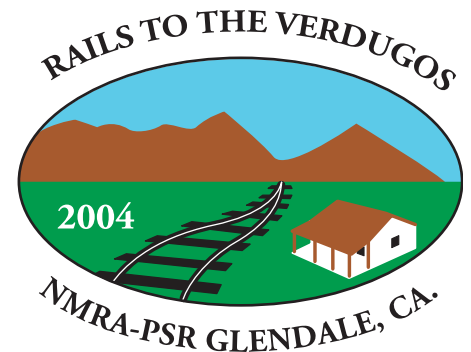
Pacific, which was built in 1874. The first depot wasn't built until 1888

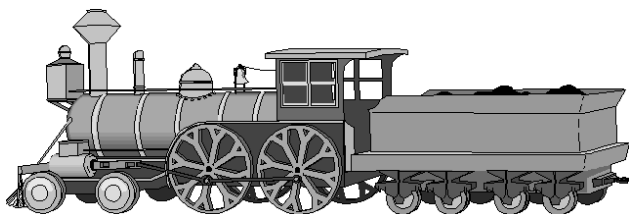
and that was in the community of Tropic, located just south of Glendale. In those days the depot was used for the transportation of strawberries which were grown by local Japanese settlers. The Community of Tropic was annexed into the City of Glendale and the present station built in 1924.

The second railroad to operate in Glendale was the Pacific Electric, which ran from 1904 until 1955.

The next railroad built in Glendale was the Glendale & Eagle Rock in 1909. After four years of operation this traction line was incorporated into the Glendale & Montrose Railroad. This line lasted until 1930.

Other railroads that have served and continue to operate in Glendale are the Union Pacific, Amtrak and Metrolink. Today the Glendale station is very busy with over 100 trains using it each weekday. 🚂





PSR Achievement Program

DON STEWART, AP PROGRAM MANAGER
Snpw@aol.com

This last year has been an exceptional one with the awarding of 18 Certificates to the Region Members. These talented and dedicated individuals are:


	Division	Certificate Awarded
Dale Jones	Los Angeles	Master Builder – Cars
Paul Schmitt	San Diego	Master Builder – Cars
Bill Brooks	San Diego	Master Builder – Scenery
William Jacobs	Cajon	Association Volunteer
Alan Barnes	Arizona	Master Builder – Scenery
Alan Barnes	Arizona	Master Builder – Structures
Alan Barnes	Arizona	Model Railroad Author
Alan Barnes	Arizona	Association Volunteer
Alan Barnes	Arizona	Chief Dispatcher
Alan Barnes	Arizona	Master Builder – Electrical
Brian Block	Cajon	Master Builder – Cars
Brian Block	Cajon	Master Builder – Structures
Charles Nauman	Cajon	Association Volunteer
Harold Shelton	Arizona	Master Builder – Scenery
Harold Shelton	Arizona	Master Builder – Structures
Harold Shelton	Arizona	Civil Engineer
Harold Shelton	Arizona	Electrical Engineer
Brian Block	Cajon	Master Builder – Motive Power



Golden Spike Awards are another way the Achievement Program bestows recognition for a job well done. Those individuals who qualify for the Golden Spike Award have built layouts that are above the standard home layout. They've demonstrated several items and submitted a single sheet of paperwork to the Division AP Chair who verified that the layout meets the standards and then that paperwork is submitted to the Regional Manager (me) who creates the award. The approved form is then sent to National for publication. The following individuals qualified for a Golden Spike Award last year:

Recipient	Division
Michael Kressen	Cajon
Charles Christ	Arizona
Ron Tucker	Cajon
David Balser	San Diego
Alan Barnes	Arizona
Robert B. Olds	Cajon
Steven L. Harris	San Diego
Bob Ketrenos	Cajon
Jim Hanna	San Diego
Charles Nauman	Cajon



These people will be glad to help you with your models and paperwork to obtain your certificates. Even if you do not want to have your models judged, their ideas and techniques can be useful in your own modeling. Talk with these individuals, share ideas and have them give you hints and tips on your models. It will pay off in better models. Models you can be proud of and service you can provide that really gives back to you. As the saying goes, try it, I am sure you will like it. 

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOBBY SHOP!



Jan Wescott, Brian Block,
Dorr Altizer, Roger von Seeburg,
Jim Hinkle

In the background is the ticket
sales table with Bill Jacobs,
Dave and Kathy Villeneuve
and Dave Dunaway

George and Virginia Boggs,
Arnt and Kay Tonnessen



Lynn Austin buying tickets from
Dave and Kathy Villeneuve

Hard at work: Loretta Block,
Jane Jacobs and Bill Jacobs





Arizona Express 2003



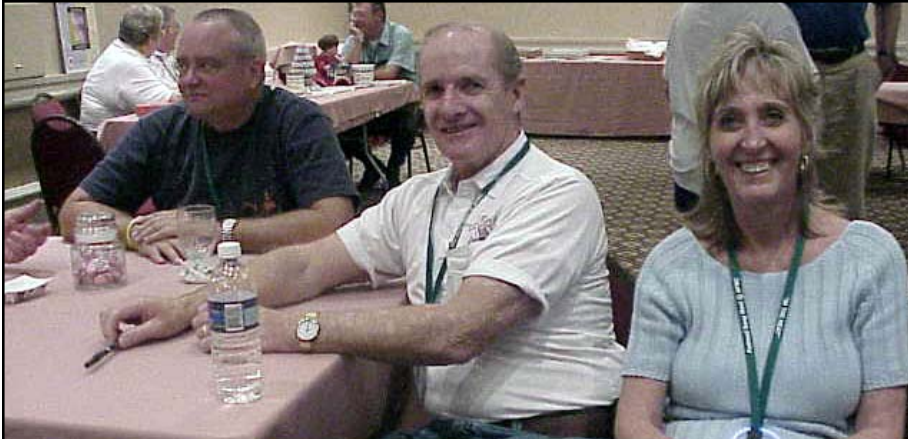
Photos from the Chinese Auction

All Photos by Robert Wescott

Dorr Altizer, Roger vonSeeburg,
Jim Hinkle, Lynn Austin
and Dave Dunaway



Larry and Alicia Dewsnap (on
right) sitting next to a man that
the photographer didn't know,
but who was obviously enjoying
himself.



Jeff Sickelsteel and Mike Cooke,
Orange County "N"giners



Jan Wescott with Mike Cooke

In the background is Dave Cox,
Los Angeles Superintendent



Flag Stops

Lindsay Smith, PSR Member Aid

wlindsays@adelphia.net



If you send the club notices to me, I will forward to the *LA Coupler* and *PSR Dispatch* editors. I also send the data on to Dick Greatorex for the NMRA web pages. Anyone can copy and reprint my stuff to promote the hobby, rail travel, RR history, and railroad safety. Last changes entered on 6 Sept., 2003.

2003

NOVEMBER

14 - 16 - Cajon Div. Railroad Month Celebration. Barstow Ramada Inn, 1511 E. Main Street, Barstow CA 92311. Chinese Auction, Clinics and More. Contact Jan Wescott (702) 566-0856 wescvegas@lvcn.com watch www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/psr See www.cajondiv.org for flyer. See Western American Railroad Museum <http://www.barstowrailmuseum.org/index.html> for companion opportunity.

15 San Diego Division Monthly Layout Meet — Jay Kolinsky, Charlie Baker. Noon

Pasadena MRC Fall Show: Our 63rd Year: 5458 Alhambra Ave., Los Angeles CA. (323) 222-1718 Open House Donations: Adults \$3, Children \$1 (under 7 free when accompanied by an adult) Contact Joe Behan joe@behan.com <http://www.pmrrc.org/#OPENHOUSE>

Saturday, Nov 8 1-5 PM and 7-10 PM

Sunday, Nov 9 1-5 PM

Tuesday, Nov 11 7:30 PM - 10 PM

Saturday, Nov 15 1-5 PM and 7-10 PM

Sun, Nov 16 1-5 PM

9, 11, 14, 15, 16 Orange Empire Railroad Museum Ticketed Event

A Day Out With Thomas - Tickets are \$14.00 except for children under 1 year - <http://www.oerm.org>. 2201 S. "A" St., Perris CA 92570, (909) 657-2605 info, (909) 943-3020 office.

DECEMBER

6, 7 GATS, San Diego, CA. Del Mar Fair Grounds. 11 AM – 5 PM. \$7.00. See www.GATS.com for discount and details. (630) 834-0652

6, 7, 13, & 14 Orange Empire Railway Museum Santa Trains. Perris CA

13 Cajon Div. CHRISTMAS TRAIN SHOW. Henderson, NV Convention Center, 200 S. Water St. 10 to 4PM. With Silver State Div. TTOS. Admission \$5.00 adults, \$2.00 youth (8 and up) Contact Jan Wescott (702) 566-0856 wescvegas@lvcn.com watch www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/psr See www.cajondiv.org for flyer.

13 San Diego Division Monthly Layout Meet – Dick Trotter. Noon. El Cajon

2004

JANUARY

10 San Diego Division Monthly Layout Meet – Don Fowler. Noon. Santee

FEBRUARY

13 - 15 - 19th SN3 Symposium. Pasadena, CA. Slim Gauge Club sponsorship. Jeff Smith (626) 441-6272 or smith@pacbell.net <http://home.pacbell.net/smith>

14 San Diego Division Winter Meet & Contest. TBA

20 Model Vehicles Unlimited Swap Meet. All scales 1/87 may dominate. The Veterans' Memorial Building at the corner of Culver Blvd. and Overland Av. in Culver City, CA [approximately 5 miles north of L.A. International Airport]. 11 – 3 PM. Admission \$3.00. Bob Kelley at kellfam@prodigy.net, or at (310) 837-6787 [leave a message if you get the answering machine]. You can also contact Rich Johnson at (310) 454-8075, or check out their new website, www.modelvehiclesunlimited.com.

21 San Diego Division Monthly Layout Meet – TBA. Noon.

14

PSR DISPATCH — 4th Quarter, 2003

28, 29 The Model Train Expo. Sat. 10 – 5; Sun. 10 – 4:30 Adults \$8.00 Jr. under 11 free. Fairplex, Pomona, CA Bldg. #4.
www.modeltrainexpo.com On Track Productions.

MARCH

13, 14 Los Angeles Div. Model Train Show. Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Dr., La Cañada Flintridge, CA 9 – 4 PM Garden fees: Adults \$5, students and seniors \$3, kids (5-12) \$1, under 5 free. Info: Mary Barstow (310) 377-9762.

13 San Diego Division Monthly Layout Meet – TBA. Noon.

APRIL

10 Pomona Valley Model Railroad Club (PVMRC). 8 -12 Swap Meet, 9- 4 Open house. 132 E. 1st Street, Pomona, CA. Club phone 909 865 7035. Garey and First SE corner. Lindsay Smith (909) 599-0182 or wlindsays@adelphia.net see www.pvmrrc.org

17 San Diego Division Monthly Layout Meet – TBA. Noon..

MAY

8 San Diego Division Spring Meet. Poway Community Center. 1000 to 1500 (3PM)

22 San Diego Division Monthly Layout Meet – TBA. Noon.

JUNE

3, 4, 5, 6 - The Big Train Show. Queen Mary, Long Beach, CA. www.bigtrainshow.com. Public Sat 1 – 6; Sun. 1 – 4.

12 San Diego Division Monthly Layout Meet – TBA. Noon.

JULY



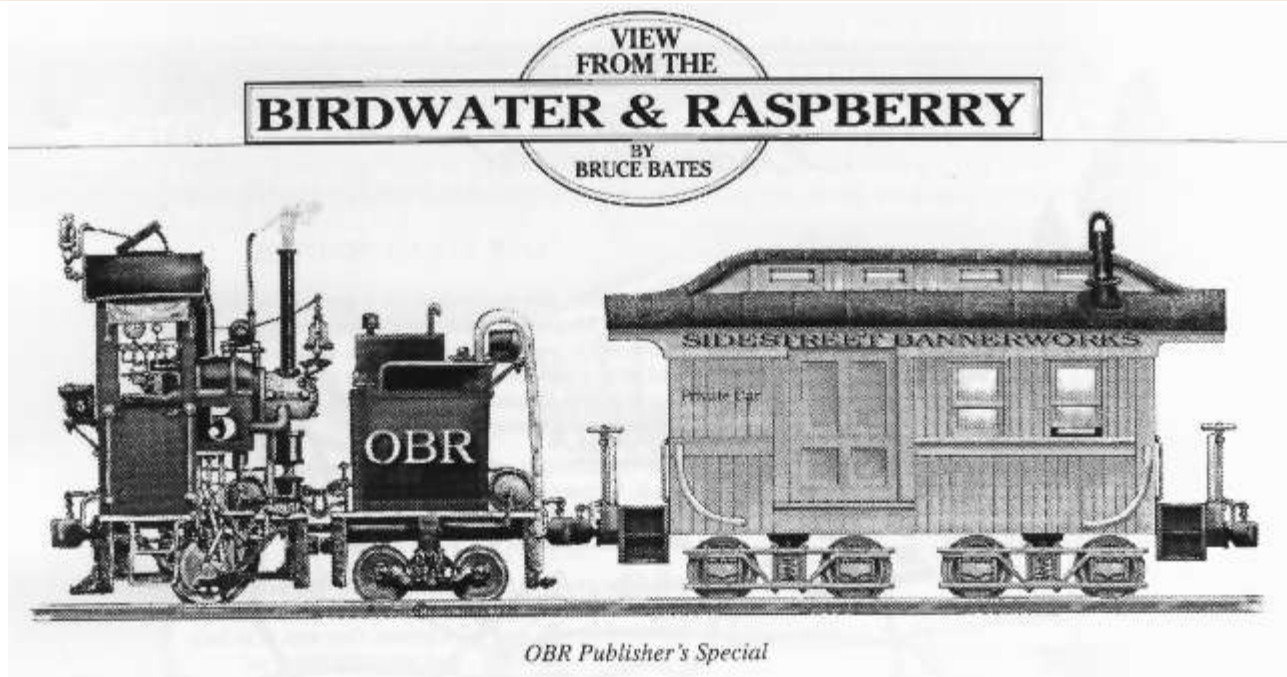
4 - 11 - “Puget Sound Express” NMRA 2004 National Convention. Seattle, WA. Information and Registration: Dave Kreitler, (425) 831-5131, rrnut@msn.com. General Information: www.nmra2004.org

10 San Diego Division Monthly Layout Meet – TBA. Noon.

SEPTEMBER



15 - 19 - “Rails To The Verdugos,” Pacific Southwest Region Convention. Sponsored by Los Angeles Division, celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Glendale Hilton Hotel, Glendale, CA. Two day train show. Information: Mary Barstow, MMR, 6930 Clovercliff Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275-3002, (310) 377-9762, Fax: (310) 377-5565, pvpacific@earthlink.net



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View the full range of art from Mr. Bates on the web at <http://bates-r-us.org> and contact him via email at bruce@bates-r-us.org

PSR Contest Corner

DUANE E. BUCK, PSR CONTEST CHAIR

buckgnry@earthlink.net



Another great PSR convention has come and gone. It is always a very nice experience to be reunited with old friends and to meet new people with the hope that they will also become old friends. We sometimes forget that the best reason for joining the NMRA® and PSR and actively participating is because of the camaraderie, the sharing of common interests with others.

With regard to the convention contest room this year there is good news and bad news. The good news is that there were 42 entries in the photo contests with some really high quality inputs; there were five entries in the arts and crafts contests, the most ever in a PSR contest, and there were 34 entries in the model contest, 32 for judging and

two for the popular vote "favorite model" contest only. This was an excellent turn out considering there was only a single entry in arts and crafts and three entries less in the model contest than at Oceanside last year.

The bad news – a single person submitted all five entries in the arts and crafts contests (Ed. - and none displayed a railroad theme). Although the entries were of excellent quality, it would've been nice to see more entries and the concomitant higher level of competition. In the model contest only 14 people submitted the 34 contest entries. Wouldn't it have been wonderful to have seen 34 people submitting entries? This comment is not intended to discourage multiple contest entries but to express a desire to encourage a broader participation base.

Arizona Express 2003 PSR Convention Contest Winners


 indicates Merit Award

Model Contest




Steam Locomotives – Open

- 1st Place – Tom George (Arizona) - HO Beyer-Garratt 4-8-2 + 2-8-4
- 2nd Place – Tom George (Arizona) - HO Erie Camelback 0-8-8-0

Diesel And Other Locomotives – Open

- 1st Place – Don Stewart (Arizona) - HO BN Fuel Tender capable SD 40-2 #8153 
- 2nd Place – Don Stewart (Arizona) - HO BN Fuel Tender equipped SD 40-2 #8003
- 3rd Place – Ken Rhoads (Arizona) - HO AT&SF F45 #5947

Diesel And Other Locomotives – Kit

- 1st Place – Duane Buck (Arizona) - HO GN GP9 #680 
- 2nd Place – Alex Dirks (Arizona) - HO SP Tunnel Motor 
- 3rd Place – Alex Dirks (Arizona) - HO SP C44-9W "DASH-9" 



Passenger Cars – Open

- 1st Place – Tom George (Arizona) - HO Swedish Restaurant Car
- 2nd Place – Ken Rhoads (Arizona) - HO SP Sunset Observation Car



Passenger Cars – Kit

- 1st Place – Tom George (Arizona) - HO Chapel Car "Evangel"
- 2nd Place – Ed Hall, MMR (Cajon) - HO AT&SF Lounge/Obs Car "Vista Canyon"

Freight Cars – Open

- 1st Place – Clark Kooning, MMR (NFR) HOn3 Bear Mountain Hopper (Rock Car) 
- 2nd Place – Clark Kooning, MMR (NFR) HOn3 Bear Mountain Hopper (Rock Car) 
- 3rd Place – Bob Anderson (Arizona) - On3 CMS&P&P Stock Car #163

Freight Cars – Kit

- 1st Place – Don Stewart (Arizona) - Sn3 D&RGW High Side Gondola #1573 
- 2nd Place – Don Stewart (Arizona) - Sn3 D&RGW Wood Box Car #3000 
- 3rd Place – Charles Nauman (Cajon) - HO SP 50' Flat Car w/steel coil load.

Cabooses – Kit

- 1st Place – Rodger Gredvig, MMR (San Diego) - N SP Baywindow Caboose #1540

Non-Revenue Cars – Open

- 1st Place – Don Stewart (Arizona) - HO BN Fuel Tender Tank Car #15 

Non-Revenue Cars – Kit

- 1st Place – Ken Rhoads (Arizona) - HO AT&SF Pile Driver & Boom Car
- 2nd Place – Ken Rhoads (Arizona) - HO AT&SF “Belen” Derrick & Boom Car
- 3rd Place – Don Stewart (Arizona) - Sn3 D&RGW Derrick OP


Structures-On-Line - Open

- 1st Place – Robert Wescott (Cajon) - HO Timber Overbridge
- 2nd Place – Tom George (Arizona) - HO Casa Grande Station

Structures-On-Line - Kit

- 1st Place – Tom George (Arizona) - HO Saratoga Coal Co.

Displays-On-Line - Open

- 1st Place – Kevin Loeff (Arizona) - HO SP Santa Monica Depot 

Traction – Open

- 1st Place – Tom George (Arizona) - HO Swedish Electric Class DL
- 2nd Place – Bob Anderson (Arizona) - On3 ISU Line Car
- 3rd Place – Tom George (Arizona) - HO Toonerville Trolley

Ingenuity

- Roger Gredvig, MMR (San Diego) - Lighting – SP N Scale Caboose


Thumbs/Levity

- 1st Place – Allen Gross, MMR (Arizona) - The Fly “N” Scotsman
- 2nd Place – Anonymous “Dorr’s Dilemma”

Special Awards

- PSR President’s Award** – Bob Anderson (Arizona) - CMS&P&P Stock Car
- Convention Chairmen’s Award** – Alex Dirks (Arizona) - SP Tunnel Motor Diesel
- Judge’s Award** – Kevin Loeff (Arizona) - SP Santa Monica Depot
- Favorite Model (Popular Vote)** – Brian Block (Cajon) - Bottle House

Best Of Show

- Allen Gross, MMR (Arizona) - HO Truss Rod Logging Car  (117 Pts.)

Photography Contest

Black & White Print – Prototype

- 1st Place – Charles Nauman (Cajon) - Coaster
- 2nd Place – Ken Rhoads (Arizona) - Grading the Right-of-Way
- 3rd Place – Ken Ducat (Arizona) - Tunnel City Junction
- Honorable Mention – Ken Ducat (Arizona) - “The Charmer”

Color Print – Model

- 1st Place – Charles Nauman (Cajon) - AT&SF #102
- 2nd Place – Bob Adler (Arizona) - CE&W #679 At Boss & Sears
- 3rd Place – Don Stewart (Arizona) - Waving to #486
- Honorable Mention – Bob Adler (Arizona) - CE&W Steam (Loco) Crossing Logging Bridge.

Color Print – Prototype

- 1st Place – Charles Nauman (Cajon) - Intermodel West
- 2nd Place – Ken Rhoads (Arizona) - #497 Taking Water
- 3rd Place – Charles Nauman (Cajon) - W/B at Bealville
- Honorable Mention – Charles Nauman (Cajon) - Little Speeder

Color Slide – Model

- 1st Place – John Roberts (MER) “Workin” The Mill
- 2nd Place – John Roberts (MER) Westbound Chessie Cabin
- 3rd Place – John Roberts (MER) Eastbound at Eagle Rock

Color Slide – Prototype

- 1st Place – Charles Nauman (Cajon) - BNSF Meet
- 2nd Place – Charles Nauman (Cajon) - BN in Crozier Canyon
- 3rd Place – Allen Gross, MMR (Arizona) - Grand Canyon RR Winter #1
- Honorable Mention – Allen Gross, MMR (Arizona) - Grand Canyon RR Winter #3

Best Of Show

- Ken Rhoads (Arizona) – (Color Print – Prototype) #3571 At Hells Canyon

Arts & Crafts Contest

General – Kit

- 1st Place – Grace Jerry (Arizona) - Christmas Long Stitch & Crewel

General – Pattern

- 1st Place – Grace Jerry (Arizona) - Crocheted Baby Blanket

General – Original

- 1st Place – Grace Jerry (Arizona) - “Share a Cup of Tea” Plastic Canvas
- 2nd Place – Grace Jerry (Arizona) - Easter Bunny Crocheted Pin

Best Of Show

- Grace Jerry (Arizona) - (Needlework – Pattern) “Love, Honor & Negotiate” Counted Cross Stitch

Clearing Up “Open” vs. “Kit”

While entering model construction contest categories, Open or Kit, is the decision of the contestant, there appears to be some confusion regarding this issue.

The “Open” category is for models that are more than 50% scratchbuilt or are deemed, by the entering contestant, to have significant modifications and/or a quantity of added details to warrant being judged in the Open contest.

The “Kit” is intended to provide a competition class for kit models upon which the modeler has made improvements and has added details or made modifications and are judged in the kit contest.

Those who have built models from basic kits, as a starting point, should give first consideration to entering the kit contest, not the open, unless major (with emphasis on major) modifications and detailing has been accomplished. Look to an analogy in the old saying, “Never bring a knife to a gunfight”.

Thank You, Contest Entrants & Judges

In wrapping up this year’s convention contest activities, thanks go out to those who shared their work with us through the contest entries and to those who took the time to judge the entries.

The judges (in alphabetical order) were:

Models

John Determan
Alan Barnes
Phil Everett
Hal Fritz
Allen Gross, MMR
Darryl Oesterle
Ken Rhoads
John Sigurdson, MMR
Don Stewart
Dan Thompson

Arts & Crafts

Nancy Boggs
Connie Buck

Photography

Connie Buck
Lowell Spooner



Editorial Comment

This item is by **Randy Lee**, Editor/Publisher of *Model Railroading*, as it appeared in the May 2003 issue. Randy has generously granted republishing permission.

Competition... a Dirty Word?

JUDGING from the ever declining number of entries in local, regional and national model railroad contests, it would appear that the concept of competition is rapidly losing its viability in our hobby. I find this extremely troubling.



I just returned from the annual convention of the NMRA's Rocky Mountain Region, where I had a really enjoyable time. It was held in Pueblo, Colorado, this year, and provided opportunities to see a number of great layouts, including Fred Carlson's Gladstone & North Houghton (Nov/Dec 2000) ... and others that I hope to feature in future issues. Everything about the convention was super. ... the clinics, banquet and hobo breakfast, the railfanning, the train show ... everything that is, except the contest room.

Now don't get me wrong, there were some nice models ... but there were only SEVEN entries - three in the diesel/other motive power category (one was a railcar), and only one freight car and three structures. I can't remember a regional contest with so few entries. There wasn't a single steam engine ... or even a road diesel for that matter. ... no passenger cars ... or cabooses ... or MoW...or a single diorama. There was no N scale, no S scale, no O scale, no G scale ... and only two narrow gauge entries. And this is the Rocky Mountain Region? I could hardly believe what I didn't see.

It is not my intention to pick on the RMR; this type of poor showing has affected most areas. But why is this problem growing? First off, let's get rid of the notion of "the" reason; the reasons are many, and several are worth mentioning. Many of the reasons modelers choose not to compete in contests have been with us since the birth of our hobby, so let's move past them quickly:

- 1) There have always been modelers who have dominated contests. While some modelers have been discouraged because they felt they could never compete with (insert name here), others have used that person as a benchmark for excellence.

- 2) There have always been those who object to how the judging is done. The perfect way to judge a modeling contest will probably never be found.
- 3) There have always been other demands on our time. While there are more these days, the choice is still ours to make on how we are going to use our free time.

With these classic reasons behind us, I'd like to address what I believe are two new reasons. The first is societal, and the second is pragmatic. I see a growing trend in our schools, and society in general, that shuns personal excellence and encourages mediocrity. Our competitive nature is giving way to the fear of hurting someone's feelings. Rather than encouraging and rewarding excellence, there is an ever-increasing trend to eliminate competition. Schools have multiple valedictorians (or none at all) ... and even sporting events where there are no winners or losers. After all, if you don't compete you can't lose, right? Or do you just automatically lose?


While society seems to increasingly encourage personal mediocrity, it has, on the other hand, demanded perfection in the products we buy. Society has seemingly concluded that products should make up for our shortfalls. If you question that, just think about all of the lawsuits against automakers that blame a design or manufacturing flaw rather than the reckless or "mediocre" skills of the driver. A side effect of this demand has been commercial models of truly exquisite beauty and complexity. But the downside is that many modelers have decided it is impractical to build their own model when they can just lay out a few (or quite a few) bucks for a ready-to-run version. We are no longer just competing against fellow modelers; we're also competing against the standards set by commercial products. Unfortunately, fewer modelers are willing to put their efforts to the test. And because of that I believe we all suffer.

So what's your reason for not competing?

Randy Lee
Editor/Publisher
Model Railroading

This article certainly provides some great food for thought. Thank you to Randy Lee for his permission to share these thoughts with you.

Closing Comment

As Dorr Altizer ends his tenure as the *PSR Dispatch* Editor, I would like to say "Thank you, my friend, for all of your efforts in behalf of the PSR." It has been great working with you. You and your sense of humor will be missed. 

Arizona Express 2003

Model Contest Results

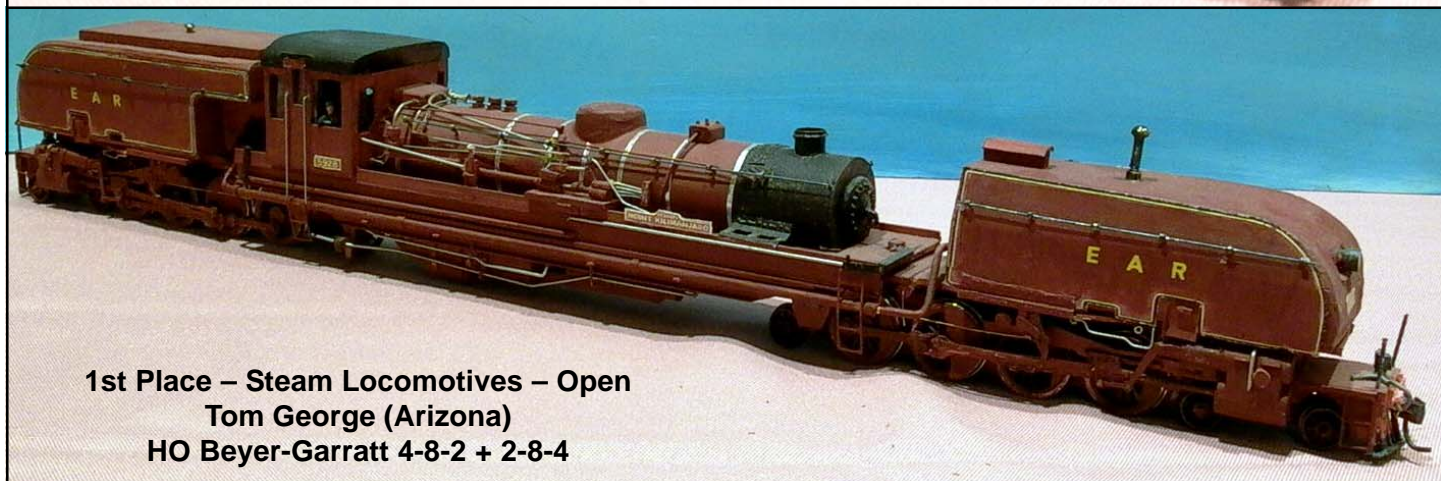
All Photos by Dorr Altizer



1st Place – Diesel And Other Locomotives – Open
Don Stewart (Arizona)
HO BN Fuel Tender capable SD 40-2 #8153



1st Place – Non-Revenue Cars – Open
Don Stewart (Arizona)
HO BN Fuel Tender Tank Car #15



1st Place – Steam Locomotives – Open
Tom George (Arizona)
HO Beyer-Garratt 4-8-2 + 2-8-4



Arizona Express 2003

Model Contest Results

All Photos by Dorr Altizer



1st Place – Traction – Open
Tom George (Arizona)
HO Swedish Electric Class DL



1st Place – Passenger Cars – Kit
Tom George (Arizona)
HO Chapel Car "Evangel"

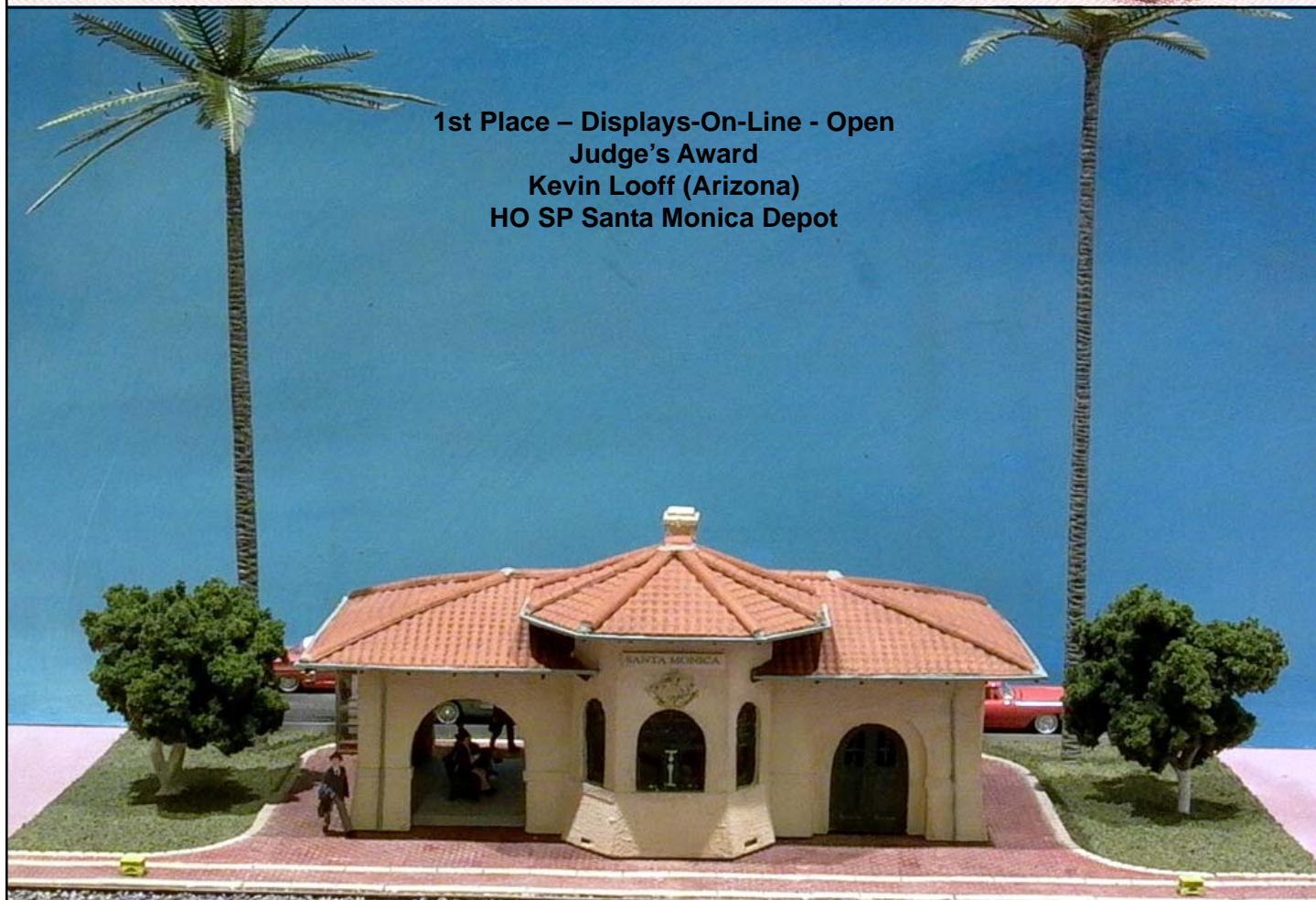
Arizona Express 2003

Model Contest Results

All Photos by Dorr Altizer



1st Place – Diesel And Other Locomotives – Kit
Duane Buck (Arizona)
HO GN GP9 #680



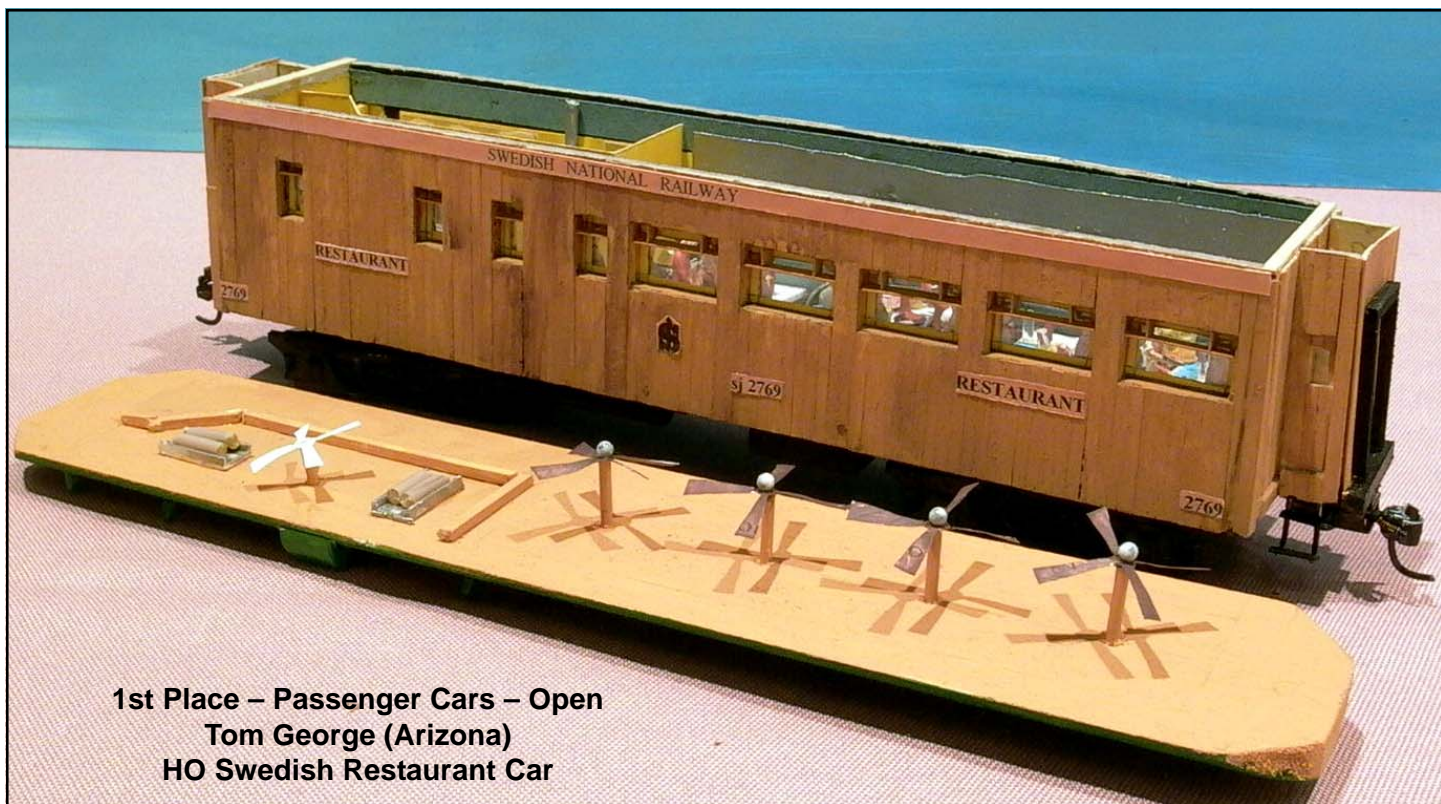
1st Place – Displays-On-Line - Open
Judge's Award
Kevin Loeff (Arizona)
HO SP Santa Monica Depot



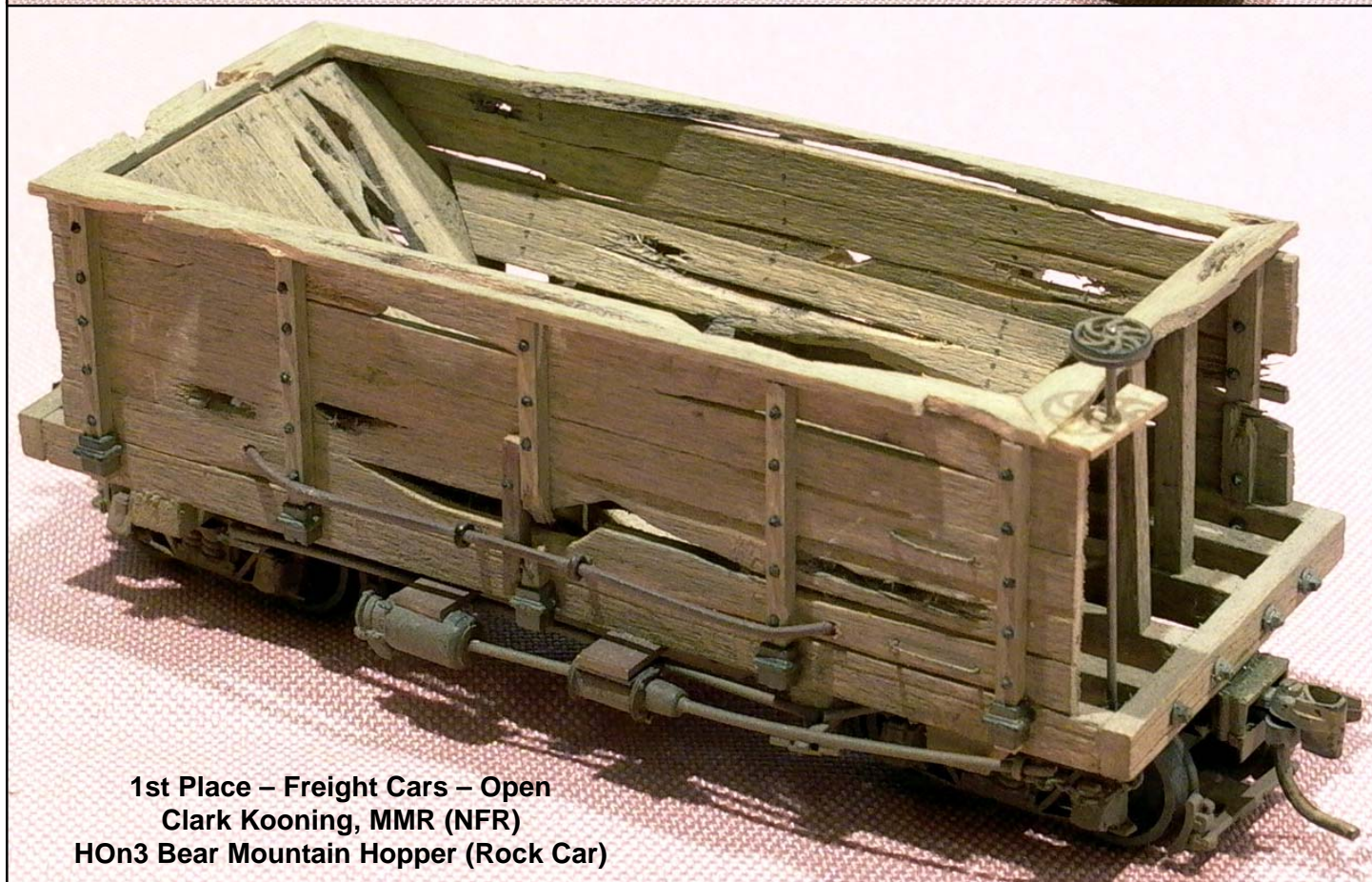
Arizona Express 2003

Model Contest Results

All Photos by Dorr Altizer



1st Place – Passenger Cars – Open
Tom George (Arizona)
HO Swedish Restaurant Car



1st Place – Freight Cars – Open
Clark Kooning, MMR (NFR)
HO n3 Bear Mountain Hopper (Rock Car)

Arizona Express 2003

Model Contest Results

All Photos by Dorr Altizer



1st Place – Freight Cars – Kit
 Don Stewart (Arizona)
 Sn3 D&RGW High Side Gondola #1573



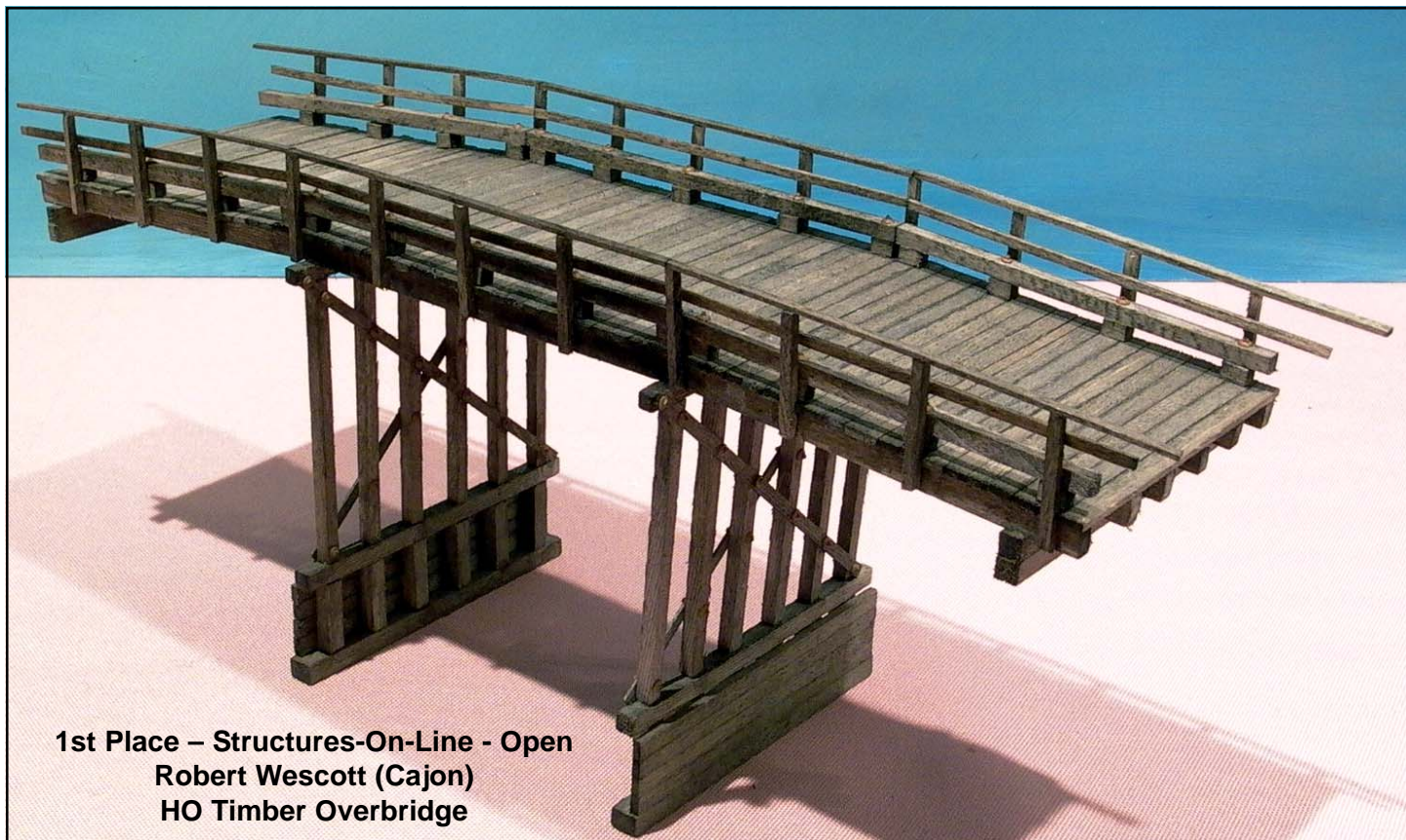
1st Place – Cabooses – Kit
 Ingenuity (Lighting)
 Rodger Gredvig, MMR (San Diego)
 N SP Baywindow Caboose #1540



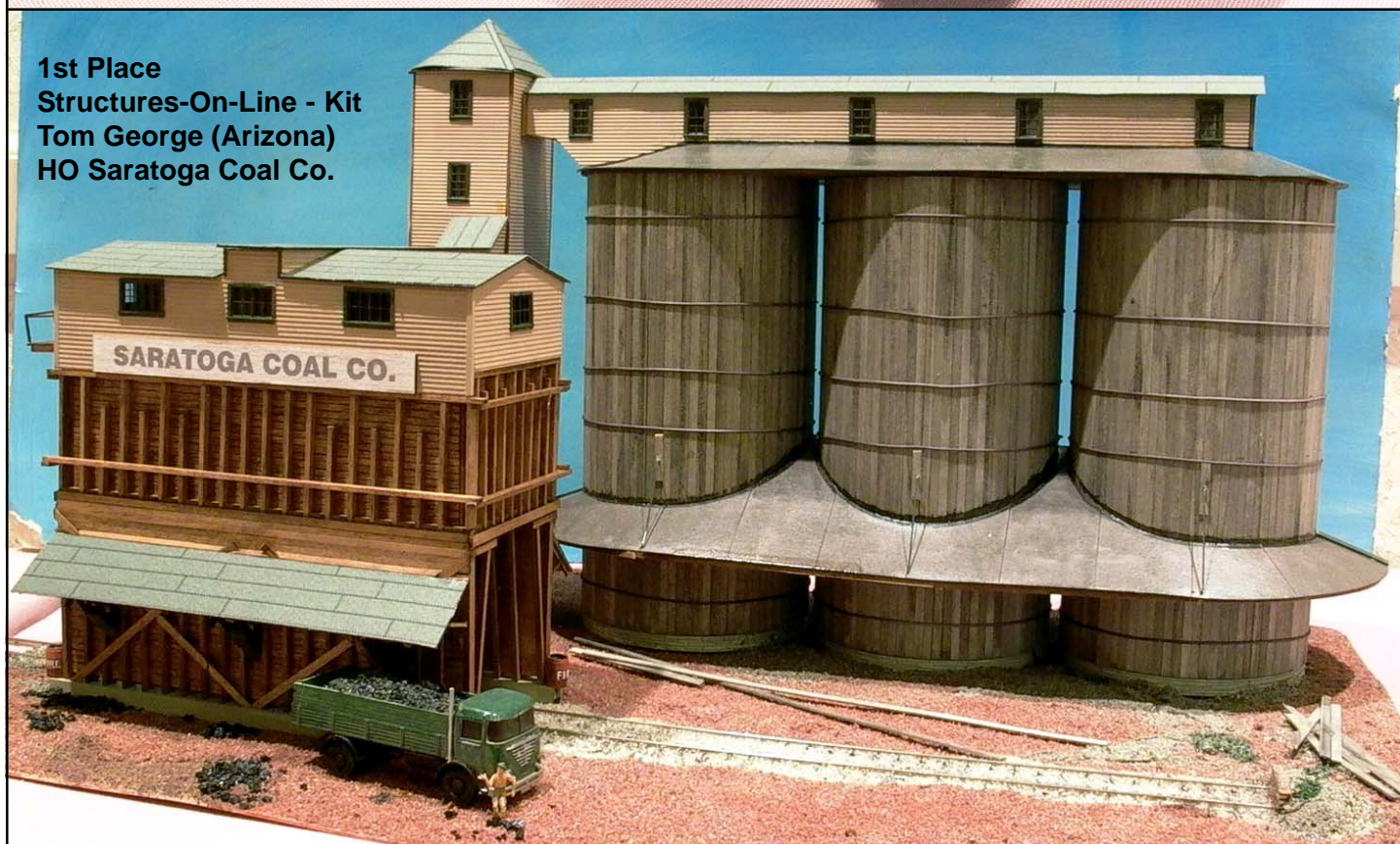
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Model Contest Results

All Photos by Dorr Altizer



1st Place – Structures-On-Line - Open
Robert Wescott (Cajon)
HO Timber Overbridge

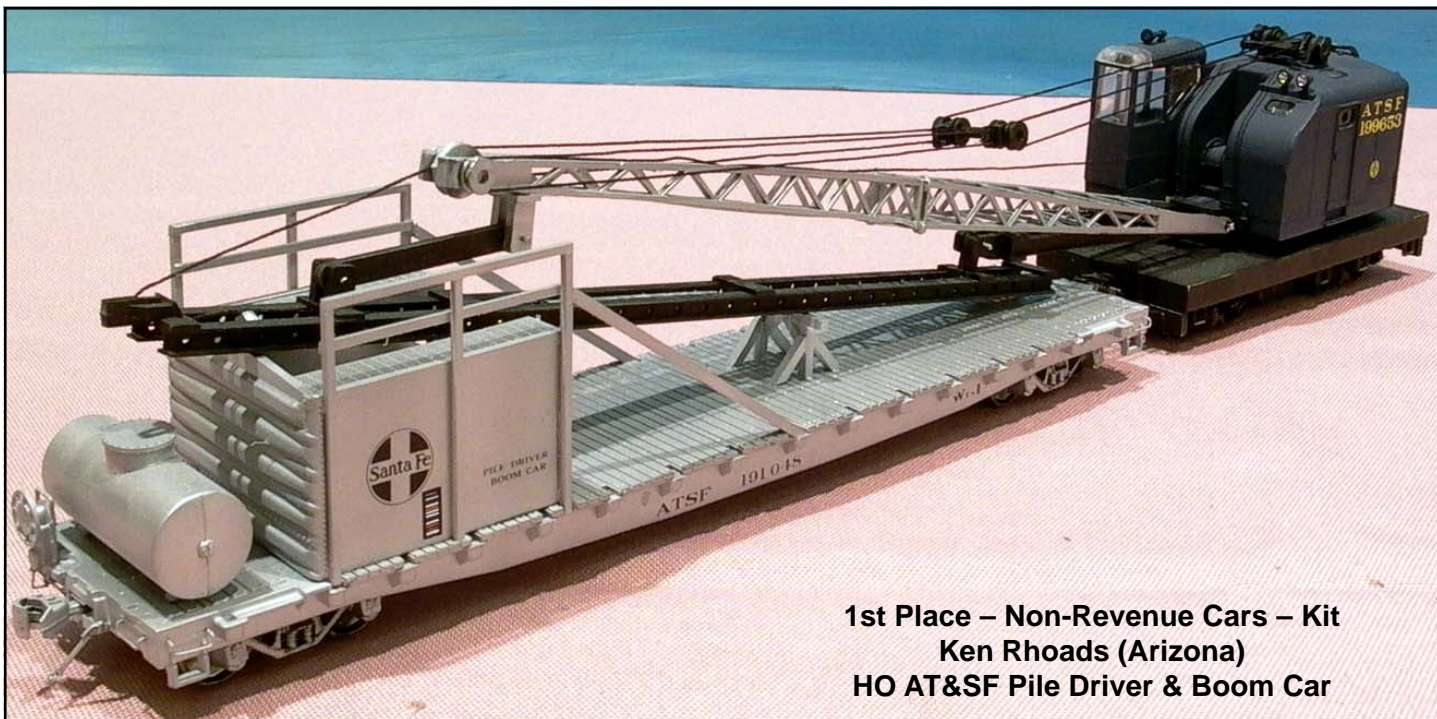


1st Place
Structures-On-Line - Kit
Tom George (Arizona)
HO Saratoga Coal Co.

Arizona Express 2003

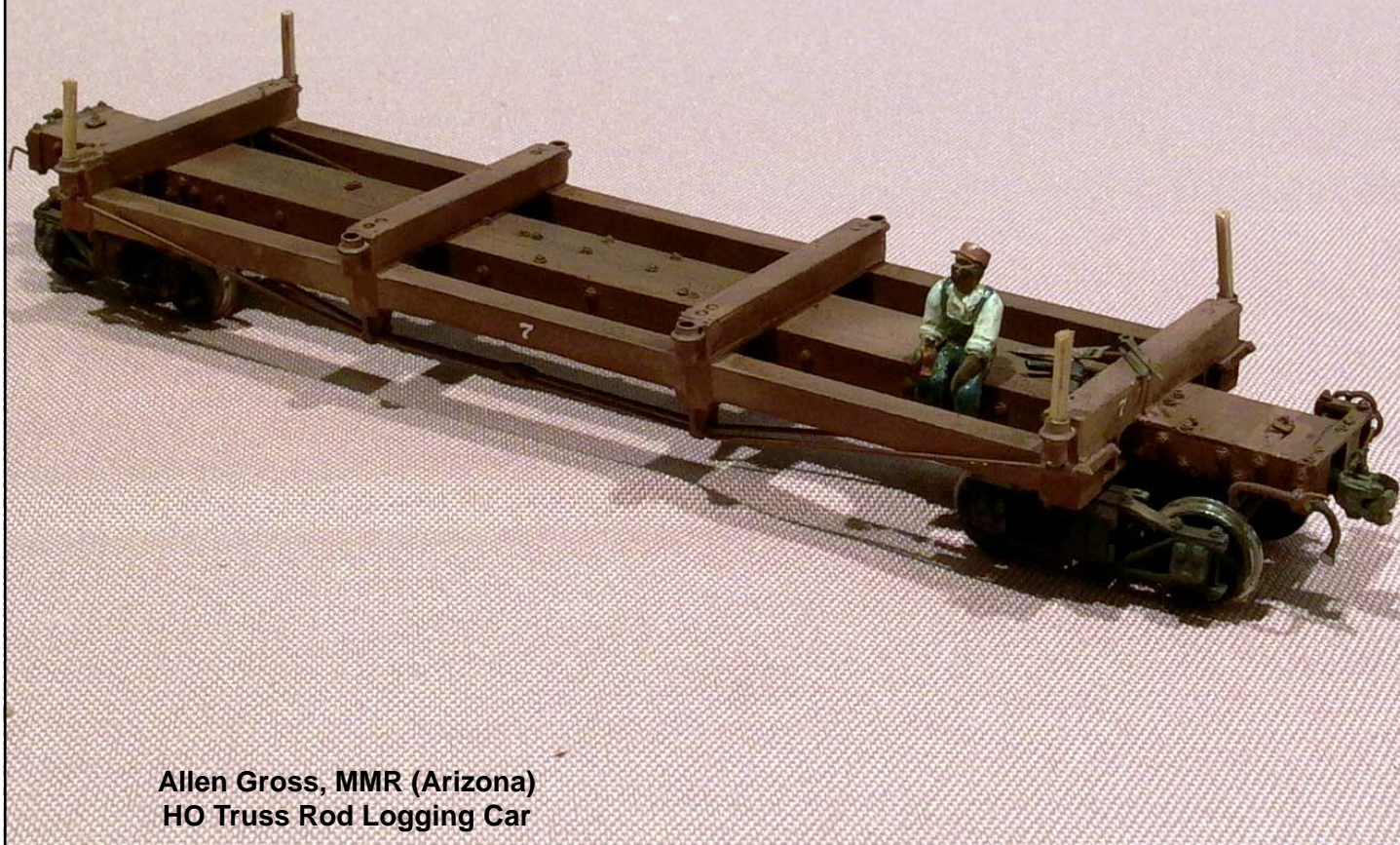
Model Contest Results

All Photos by Dorr Altizer



1st Place – Non-Revenue Cars – Kit
Ken Rhoads (Arizona)
HO AT&SF Pile Driver & Boom Car

Best Of Show



Allen Gross, MMR (Arizona)
HO Truss Rod Logging Car



Arizona Express 2003

Model Contest Results

All Photos by Dorr Altizer



2nd Place – Steam Locomotives – Open
Tom George (Arizona) - HO Erie Camelback 0-8-8-0



2nd Place – Passenger Cars – Open
Ken Rhoads (Arizona) - HO SP Sunset Observation Car



2nd Place – Diesel And Other Locomotives – Open
Don Stewart (Arizona) - HO BN Fuel Tender equipped SD 40-2 #8003



2nd Place – Passenger Cars – Kit
Ed Hall, MMR (Cajon) - HO AT&SF Lounge/Obs Car "Vista Canyon"



2nd Place – Diesel And Other Locomotives – Kit
Alex Dirks (Arizona) - HO SP Tunnel Motor



2nd Place – Freight Cars – Open
Clark Koening, MMR (NFR) - HO N3 Bear Mountain Hopper

Arizona Express 2003

Model Contest Results

All Photos by Dorr Altizer



2nd Place – Freight Cars – Kit
Don Stewart (Arizona) - Sn3 D&RGW Wood Box Car #3000



2nd Place – Traction – Open
Bob Anderson (Arizona) - On3 ISU Line Car



2nd Place – Non-Revenue Cars – Kit
Ken Rhoads (Arizona) - HO AT&SF "Belen" Derrick & Boom Car



3rd Place – Diesel And Other Locomotives – Open
Ken Rhoads (Arizona) - HO AT&SF F45 #5947



2nd Place – Structures-On-Line - Open
Tom George (Arizona) - HO Casa Grande Station



3rd Place – Diesel And Other Locomotives – Kit
Alex Dirks (Arizona) - HO SP C44-9W "DASH-9"



Arizona Express 2003

Model Contest Results

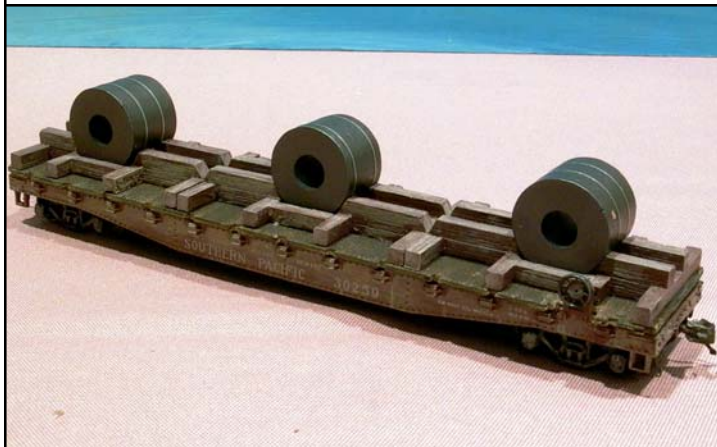
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3rd Place – Freight Cars – Open
PSR President's Award
Bob Anderson (Arizona) - On3 CMS&P&P Stock Car #163



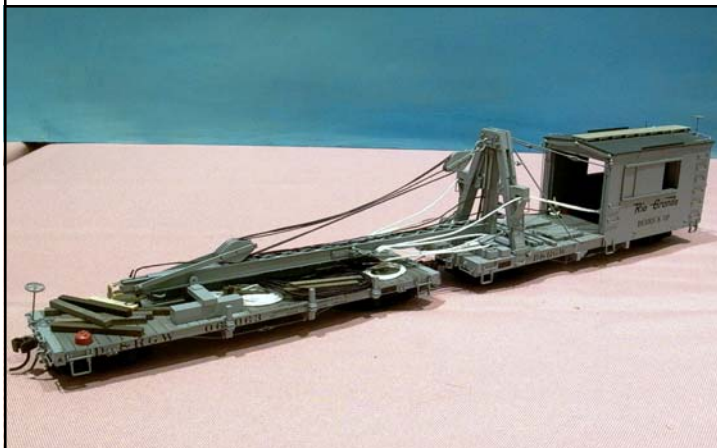
3rd Place – Traction – Open
Tom George (Arizona) - HO Toonerville Trolley



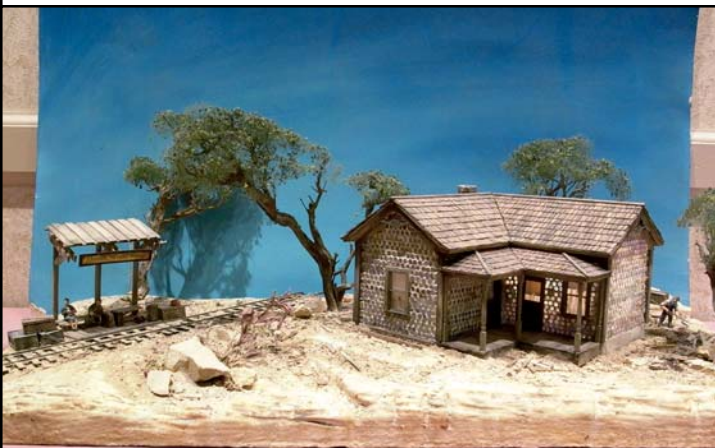
3rd Place – Freight Cars – Kit
Charles Nauman (Cajon) - HO SP 50' Flat Car w/steel coil load



Convention Chairmen's Award
Alex Dirks (Arizona) - SP Tunnel Motor Diesel



3rd Place – Non-Revenue Cars – Kit
Don Stewart (Arizona) - Sn3 D&RGW Derrick OP



Favorite Model (Popular Vote)
Brian Block (Cajon) - Bottle House

Arizona Express 2003

Model Contest Results

All Photos by Dorr Altizer



Favorite Model
Brian Block - Plymouth Diesel



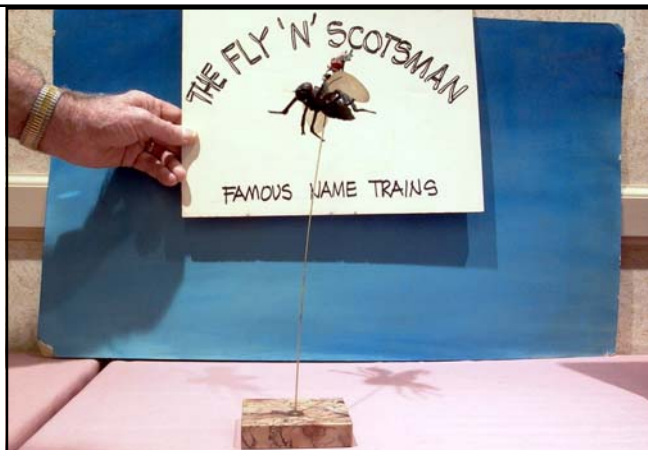
No Award - Non-Revenue Car (Kit)
Ken Rhoads - AT&SF Utility Car #190859



No Award - Diesel Locos (Open)
Tom George - A&W ALCO C-415



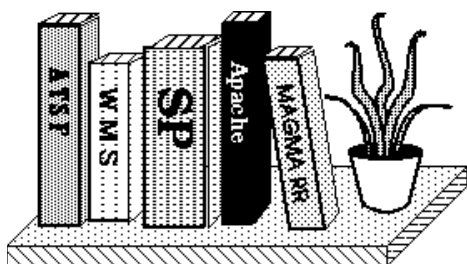
No Award - Traction (Open)
Dave Cox, MMR - Pacific Electric Motor XP3025A



1st Place – Thumbs/Levity
Allen Gross, MMR (Arizona) - The Fly "N" Scotsman



2nd Place – Thumbs/Levity
Anonymous "Dorr's Dilemma"



“Planning & Executing A Regional Convention”

Author: Roger C. von Seeburg

DORR ALTIZER, EDITOR

dorr@trainnet.org

As the author says in the opening sentences of the Introduction, “The responsibility of planning and executing a regional NMRA® convention can be overwhelming. It doesn’t have to be that way.” In the ensuing 34 pages, plus appendices, Mr. von Seeburg explains (and shares his considered opinions) in clear, concise language exactly how to plan and execute a successful (and fun!) convention. He takes pains to apologize for those opinions, but the book would be much less useful, and not nearly as enjoyable reading, if those opinions were left out.

The whole process is laid out in a very smooth, easy to follow format. The author discusses every conceivable topic from “Where to Start” through the responsibilities of convention committee members to the preparation of a final report for use by future convention planners.

The 16 page section titled “Convention Chairmen” is the heart of the book and goes into great detail about each committee position, including ideas on how each position interacts with other committee members. But my favorite section of the book is titled “Other Items to Watch.” Those

10 pages are jam packed full of useful information, insightful tips and, yes, opinions. I’ve read and reread those pages several times, learning something new on each rereading.

One key point that the author reiterates in several places is that planning a successful (and profitable) convention must be considered a business venture. Doing otherwise puts the whole process on a direct route to a major train wreck and this book will go a long way towards preventing such a wreck from ruining the experience for everyone.

In *my* considered opinion, the appendices alone are worth the price of the book. Included are templates for a budget and the entire planning process plus ten pages of charts and tables (labeled “Historical Data”) of information from past conventions that will answer questions that many convention committee members won’t even know they have.

The book is only available directly from the author at 309 E. Beck Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85022-3009. The cost is \$12 plus \$2.50 shipping/handling per copy. **The bottom line:** If you’re involved in planning a convention, or might do so in the future, *buy this book now!*

Railway Post Office

(An open letter to all PSR Members)

My Friends,

As some of you know, former PSR Historian Bob Faley recently put together a portable display of collector cars from past PSR conventions. This is the same display that was exhibited at the Phoenix Convention in the registration room. What you probably didn’t know was that only one person took the trouble to contact Bob about the display. OK, I know that all of us receive only occasional acknowledgement for our efforts on behalf of the PSR, so why am I even mentioning this? Because that one person made a point of contacting Bob to trash his effort. In that person’s opinion, the display was cheesy, lacked a finished appearance and should have been redone using a professional-looking wood case.

Most of you probably don’t know Bob Faley, but he is an elderly man, living quietly in a retirement community and suffering through the later stages of debilitating diabetes. Although he has volunteered many hours of service in other NMRA® regions over the years, he is unable to give as much



of himself now as he did in the past. He no longer drives, has very poor vision and is unable to operate power tools or even his own simple layout. The display, as done, was what he could muster. I think it was a very decent effort and I know the persons I saw admiring the display in Phoenix also thought so.

So I ask that if any of you thought the display was a little better than “cheesy”, please let him know. Bob certainly would appreciate hearing this from you. He can be reached at Bob Faley, 27850 Espinoza, Mission Viejo, CA 92692-2156, (949) 770-2521, Email: bklynomad@cox.net

Thank you. And because it isn’t said enough, thank all of you for what you do to make this a great and enjoyable hobby.

Bob Chaparro

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Pacific Southwest Region - National Model Railroad Association®



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Telephone () _____ Occupation _____

Primary Scale _____ Date of Birth _____

New [] Renewal [] PSR # _____ NMRA # _____ Exp. Date _____

<u>Class of Membership</u>	<u>NMRA®</u>	<u>PSR **</u>	<u>BOTH</u>
Regular	\$45.00 []	\$7.00 []	\$52.00 []
Student (Under 20 Years)	\$30.00 []	\$2.00 []	\$32.00 []
Affiliate (No Bulletin or Local Publications)	\$23.00 []	\$4.00 []	\$27.00 []
Family	\$ 9.00 []	\$1.00 []	\$10.00 []

**** YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE NMRA® TO BE A PSR MEMBER.**

Send this application and your check (made payable to "Pacific Southwest Region, NMRA") to: PSR - NMRA, Debbie Draper, 10837 N. 34th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85028-3310. For information on NMRA® or PSR Life or Affiliate Life Membership, contact Debbie at zdraper@aol.com or (602) 953-1681.

Referred By: **PSR DISPATCH**

PSR DISPATCH

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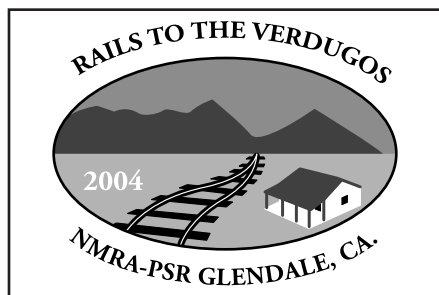


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September 15 - 19, 2004



Registration Form

Name		Primary Scale		Date	
Address		City			
State	Zip	E-Mail		Telephone ()	
NMRA#	PSR#	Other NMRA Region		Other Region#	
		Before 4-1-04	After 3-31-04		
Full Fare Names		# @ \$60	# @ \$70	\$	
Non-rail Names		# @ \$50	# @ \$60	\$	
Teen (13-20) Names		# @ \$25	# @ \$40	\$	
Youth (under 13 with paid adult) Names		# free	# free		
Single Day (circle day) Thursday Friday Saturday Names		# @ \$25	# @ \$30	\$	
Banquet Entrees:		# top sirloin	# chicken	# vegetarian	Total # @ \$30 \$
Convention Car: HO scale is Athearn S.P. flat car with two trailers		#		@ \$12 \$	
Convention Car: N scale is Model Power S.P. flat car with two containers		#		@ \$8 \$	
				TOTAL \$	
Payment Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check / Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Discover CC No: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Exp Date: <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> Make check or money order (U.S. funds) payable to: L.A. Division Send completed form and payment to: John Oliver, Registrar 29011 Geronimo Dr. Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, 90275-3034 Cancellation Policy: Must be notified in writing by August 15 (there is a \$5 service charge)					
The convention hotel will be the Glendale Hilton 100 West Glenoaks Blvd. Glendale, CA, 91202 For reservations call 1-800-956-5466 or HILTON.COM, GLENDALE, RESERVATIONS GROUP CODE NMA Special rates are \$89 single/double per night, \$10 each additional person. Mention you are attending the PSR model railroad convention (otherwise the regular rates are \$149 per night).					