

National Model Railroad Association®

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From the Hot Seat! Don Fowler, PSR President president@psrnmra.org

Greetings! I hope this issue of the PSR Dispatch finds you well and that you are enjoying some

quality time with your model railroading. Spring is traditionally known for new birth and growth after the dead of winter. For us model railroaders, this is the time that we generally see a lot of new product releases by our manufacturers and a renewed interest in our projects.

Thanks to Bob Mitchell and his crew for a great time at Cajon's Spring Meet held in Temecula on March 26th. We also conducted our PSR Mid-year Board Meeting during that event. In addition to our regular reports and updates, we received a closing 2010 Convention Report from San Diego Division and a check to the Region for \$1,639 along with a digital projector, purchased from Convention proceeds for presentations at our meetings and conventions. We also received an update on the progress of the 2011 Region

Convention being held in Flagstaff on September 21-25. It's promising to be a great convention that you won't want to miss.

I was able to attend Los Angeles Division Spring Meet on April 30th in Alhambra. Carl Heimberger and his crew did a great job hosting this event with a swap meet, clinics, lunch, contest judging, layout displays, dinner and a Hobo Auction. The event was well attended

WINTER NMRA BOARD O F DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

and we all had a great time. This event will be offered

again next year and I would encourage you to join us

for a great time of fellowship and model railroading.

Our National NMRA Board has promoted Jenny Hendricks to be our organization's first Chief Administrative Officer. Congratulations to Jenny and best wishes for success in her new assignment. The Board also revised our by-laws to add a second vice president so as to better distribute work loads. The Diamond Club fund drive has nearly hit \$100,000 which is 25% of their overall goal to completely scan the photo and document archive for our members to easily access.

The Board unanimously agreed that in the future all merchandise sold by NMRA (including Regions & Divisions) must conform to all applicable NMRA standards. We will also be celebrating the 50 year anniversary of the NMRA Achievement Program this year. The Board is also

> exploring alternative options to our traditional national convention format that include a cruise with a variety model railroading themes ports of call, alternative times of the year to hold the convention, or perhaps a return to the United Kingdom.

Communications Director Gerry Leone reported on a survey provided to nonrenewing NMRA members. He received 526 responses with the most commonly cited reasons as "Didn't see the benefits of

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Division Director

Arizona

Rick Watson
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Cajon Bob Mitchell

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I'd like to thank everyone who took to opportunity to attend the meet in Phoenix. It was a great success. Great clinics, a lot of activity in the contest room, and some additional candidates through their hats in the ring. We now have two candidates for each of the three positions available. That's awesome!

As of the Phoenix meet, we had still not identified a location and/or date for the summer meet. With the Santa Fe convention in Tempe in June, and the Pacific Southwest Region Convention in Flagstaff in September, we agreed to let the membership determine if we would have a summer meet or not. The meet attendees voted during the business meeting and overwhelmingly chose to pass on a summer meet. So, our next meet will be in Tucson, in November. Hopefully many of you will be able to attend the PSR Convention in Flagstaff. The guys have really been working hard to make this an excellent convention. Hotel rooms are filling up fast, so don't hesitate!

It is now time for our elections, I would like to personally thank those that have stepped up to run for office. Since I've been involved in the division, this is the first time we have had two candidates for each of the elected positions. As a reminder, the PSR will process the ballots for Division Director, so candidate statements are in the ballot - be sure and VOTE!

I hope to see you at the 2011 Pacific Southwest Region Convention in Flagstaff!!!

Cajon - Continued from right

This would allow me ample time to work with them in advance of the 2013 convention. It really is not as difficult or time consuming as a lot of members imagine. Prior organizational skills are always a plus, but not a key factor at all. When I became Carl Heimberger's Superintendent, I didn't even know what the job called for. Carl would shoot over an email of what was coming up and I jumped in and got it done.

The Cajon Division has come a long way and needs volunteer's now because of Carl's departure. See me in Barstow or better yet call me right after you read this 951-440-9729, Thanks.

I'm looking forward to a relaxing summer with no events planned until our Barstow meet in October. The date will be announced at a later date.

Temecula's attendance was down this year but not significantly. There were a great number of layouts arranged by Bob Chaparro (thanks Bob) and if you missed the event entirely, you missed out of some really nice layouts. At least that is what I heard... you see, I was "stuck" in one of those great Board of Director's meetings and missed all of the layouts. All kidding aside, everyone had a great time.

A little more about the Temecula attendance needs to be mentioned as it can affect all of our divisions. The layout tour Bob arranged for us was also billed as a layout tour for his private Yahoo Group and all of the layout information was given out before our event. Several of the members I talked to after the event informed me that they decided to skip the event and just go on the layout tour. The Santa Fe Historical Society in San Bernadino was also having an event of the same weekend. The lesson learned here is to try to coordinate events that do not coincide with other events that might draw attendance away from an NMRA event. And, I might add, request that competing layout tours not be planned at the same time.

As I have mentioned in previous articles, I was planning on the PSR Division Convention in 2013 to take place in Riverside. I am now giving this second thoughts as it will be competing with the 2013 Narrow Gauge Convention to be held with a week of ours in Pasadena. With this in mind, I need to rethink the location and maybe, just maybe might be looking at revisiting the Knott's Berry Farm location once again. That was a great site and terrific convention thanks to Jan Wescott and all her dedicated staff. It would also be a good location to draw as many members to attend... especially those who remember it for the great convention it was.

Here is a note to my members that all of the Divisions have expressed so many times over the years. We need a dedicated individual to step up to the plate to assume the duties of Superintendent... NOW.

Activity Reports



Los Angeles

Mary Barstow director@ladiv-nmra.org



San Diego

Gary Robinson director@sandiegodivision.org

Time to write my final Director's Report.

When asked by prospective members what will the NMRA do for me, I like to point to the many valued friendships that have resulted from my involvement with the organization. I hear this question a lot. The secret is to get active. My plea to those who join and then just read the publication or disappear under their layout is to speak up and tell your local division you are ready to help. Divisions need many members to keep running smoothly. It is tough to do everything yourself and much more fun when you are part of a team. What can I do to help? Just say those magic words and you will be on your way to making friends who will be supportive and helpful as you become more immersed in the hobby.

Los Angeles Division wants to hold events designed to benefit the membership. Our Fall Model Railroad Train Show is open to the public. The event is always great fun and a unique opportunity to share the hobby with interested families. SpringRail—the event we held April 30th in Alhambra—was created to provide our members with an opportunity to get together, learn, and have fun. It was a perfect team effort. While SpringRail is in its infancy, the event I am confident will become a must for LA Division members. Where do you need me? I would be happy to help out. These sentiments were expressed by several of our members on April 30th. It's great to hear those words. With your help, we will continue to have an outstanding division.

It is always a pleasure to meet extraordinary modelers. I am gratified to know all of you. You are truly awesome.

As they say, GOOD TIMES.



The San Diego Division has been continuing its monthly events since concluding the last pacific Southwest Regional Conference in September. We've held two successful quarterly meets, at which we had entertaining and informative clinics, Building Pine Trees from Scratch, Completing contest paperwork, using the Tam Valley Products Frog Juicer, and Ways to Improve Your Railroad for Successful Operation. Also, our last quarterly meet included an annual swap meet. This year it wasn't as well attended as in past years, in part because the availability of the venue forced us to delay our meet a week, from the second to the third weekend, and we encountered significant competition in the form of the Sn3 Symposium layout tours, and the WPM Meet in San Bernardino. Nonetheless, those in attendance had a great time. We'll continue our pattern of layout tours and quarterly meets through the remainder of the year, and move the February swap meet back to the second Saturday next year. We'll also be changing the time of day for some upcoming meets, to evaluate whether this may be more convenient for members.

We've started discussing the possibility of leveraging our (in)famous scenery clinic to introduce our great hobby to more young people and possibly expand our membership. The St. Lawrence Division (SLD) currently does this, and our scenery clinic would lend itself to the curriculum nicely. We've initiated discussions with the SLD aimed at deciding the most effective way to structure, market, site, and present such a program. This may be an effective way for other divisions within the region to educate the public and expand their membership. We will be happy to share whatever information we develop with any other division that may be interested. A copy of the write-up from the Niagara Frontier Region Flimsy is attached for your information. There is more information available at the SLD web page, at http://sld-mrr101.cee.carleton.ca/. To summarize, this program is run in two sessions, six months apart. The first session is a general introduction to the hobby, and the second session is a hands-on scenery clinic. There is a nominal charge for the second

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Fireman's Seat

Carl Heimberger, PSR Vice President vp@psrnmra.org

In thinking of what value I could bring to the Pacific Southwest Region as Vice President, I keep coming back to the same thought, there needs to be a way to unify the efforts of each Division so that local events and regional events will draw from a more Region wide base of the members. Don Fowler and I had a short discussion about this at the April 30th, LA Division SpringRail 2011 event. This was the second year LA Division put on the event and it was expanded to include a swap meet, 10 - clinics, a Z scale modular layout, contest for merit awards and popular vote, Mexican Fiesta Dinner and Hobo Auction. Don's comment at the end of the event was he plans to be back next year and bring some other members with him. I agreed to attend the next San Diego event on May 14th and do a clinic - as small a gesture as this is, it is clearly a step in the right direction.

So how do we improve this cooperative effort? The first obvious answer is to coordinate division events so they are not on the same weekend and even better not the same month as other planned events. Secondly, each Division could include the coming events of the other division as part of their upcoming event schedule and encourage their members to attend other Divisions events. And finally with the annual PSR convention less than 5 months off it should be noted this convention is not just for the membership of the Host Division but is an event all Divisions should support and actively promote to their memberships.

Because this endeavor is paramount to the success of the 2011 PSR Convention I would like each Division to make a serious effort in getting members to attend. As an example if each division would dedicate a page or two of their next newsletter to the merits, importance and benefits of the Arizona PSR Convention in Flagstaff, I am sure it would help increase the attendance.

It should also be noted by the membership that the Arizona Team has put a lot of effort and planning into this convention and they deserve our support. If you have not considered attending, please do and get your registration in soon. I do realize that with gas at \$4.25 + a gallon and for some job security is questionable the trip to Arizona may be a hardship for you, but there are some alternatives that could help cut costs. Car pool

with several other members from your Division or Club and sharing a room will go a long way in cutting the cost to attend this convention. Let's show our support for Arizona, and I hope to see all of you there.

Railettes

Janet Spooner, Railette Chair railette@psrnmra.org

Hi Ladies,

Well, it is time for another Railette article and I really am not sure what to write about, but I bet I will come up with something. As there is no meet this summer, I am busy preparing for the PSR Convention in September. It is being held in Flagstaff. What a beautiful city set in some spectacular surroundings. The plans are all ready in motion for a fabulous time for all of you ladies. Kim Fowler, Diane Forbes, Linda Irick and I are busy planning for three days of fun, make an take, discussion, and gossip. Throw in a wonderful luncheon and you can't ask for much more. Hope you stop by the Railette room and say hi, you might even feel like staying to make something, learn something, or laugh. I would like to ask you to bring to the convention all of those hotel soaps, shampoos, and lotion bottles that you pick up on your travels. We are going to take them, a couple of wash clothes, some creativity, and turn them into gifts that will will be given to a local homeless shelter. We have done this at past conventions and it is a very successful project and the shelters are delighted to get the items.

I know many of you ladies come to the conventions with your husbands and never set foot in the Railette Room. Give us a chance, stop by Thursday 9 a.m. for our Welcome and see if there is something you would like to do, learn, share, or participate in. There may even be something you can teach us how to do. We are always ready to learn new things. Take a chance, you might like it.

Hope to see you in Flagstaff.



Secretary's Report Dave Irick, PSR Secretary secretary@psrnmra.org

The semi-annual Board meeting of the PSR officers was held at the Mary Phillips Senior Center, Temecula, CA on Saturday, March 19, 2011. PSR President Don Fowler presided over the meeting which started at 1pm.

President's Report: In his report President Fowler outlined current information pertaining to the National organization. He also talked about exploring the possibilities for participating in the NMRA National Convention in 2015 as suggested by Didrick Voss. The San Diego Division will look into this request to see if it is a viable project. The mid-year meeting in 2012 is scheduled to be held in Temecula, CA in conjunction with the Cajon Division meet. President Fowler thanked Mary Barstow- Director of Los Angeles for her years of service to the PSR.

David Irick was appointed as the proxy Acting Director for the Arizona Division. Ben Sevier was appointed as the proxy Acting Director for the San Diego Division

Vice-President's Report: In his report VP Carl Heimberger outlined his commitment to encourage members to accept leadership positions in the Divisions and Region. Carl will take on the project of developing job descriptions for the various positions including an average time commitment so perspective officers can get a better idea of the job commitment.

Treasurers Report: Tom Draper reported that we are financially sound and are well within the budget as set for the fiscal year. The Board voted to obtain a Debit and/or Credit card in the name of the PSR Treasurer for Region business.

Division Reports:

Rick Watson – Arizona Division reported two successful meets held in Tucson and Phoenix. The implementation of a \$5.00 annual subscription fee for a print version of the Division newsletter the Spur Line. Rick advised that the Division has a full slate of individuals running in the next election.

Bob Mitchell – Cajon Division reported that their two main events (Barstow and Temecula) were again a success for the Division. The Division has a problem with people taking positions, and then moving out of the Division, creating a vacuum.

Mary Barstow - Los Angeles Division reported

that the Los Angeles Division will host the 2012 Region Convention "The Venture Flyer 2012". Plans are well underway under the leadership of Carl Heimberger for a convention in Venture, CA.

Gary Robinson – San Diego Division reported that the pattern of layout, tours and quarterly meets have been successful and is the pattern that will be followed for the remainder of the year. The Division is discussing the possibility of using their scenery clinic to introduce the hobby to more young people and possibly expand the membership.

Railette Program: Janet Spooner in her report outlined problems with ladies signing up for the Railette Program, supplies purchased and ladies not showing up. Expenses are incurred that cannot be recouped. It was decided to review the non- rail registration and Railette registration at the Flagstaff Board meeting.

Nominations: Tom Draper presented a list of individuals who have agreed to be candidates in the 2011 elections for the position of PSR Director for their respective divisions.

Membership: Debbie Draper reported that we currently have 1,258 members slightly up from last years' total of 1,245 members and down from the 10 year average of 1,321.

Achievements Program: Don Stewart reported that twelve people have earned AP Certificates since the PSR Convention in 2010.

Contest: Bill Jacobs reported on the contest results from the San Diego Convention. Bill outlined a plan to cut down on the inventory of plagues and save the Region money.

Communications: Ben Sevier said that we missed two issues of the Dispatch because of various problems. He plans to move the hosting site for our web page to a different server. Ben discussed the cost of sending out Division and Region newsletters and asked if we should have one newsletter with Division pages.

Convention Coordinator: Don Fowler reported that San Diego Convention was a success. Things are going well with the convention committee in Flagstaff. Los Angeles has a plan for 2012 in Venture, CA and the San Diego Division is already looking for a hotel for the 2014 convention.

2010 Region Convention: Ben Sevier presented a detailed final report on the San Diego Convention. There were a total of 170 paid registrations. Ben presented the Region with a check for its share of the profits. Don Fowler reported that a new projector was purchased for the Region conventions.

2011 Regional Convention: Larry Gibbs reported that planning was in the final stages and that the

Secretary - Continued on page 6

Contest Corner



Bill Jacobs, PSR CONTESTCHAIR contest@psrnmra.org

This time of year is kind of the off-season for the contest chairman, but it will soon be time to procure new awards for the Flagstaff Convention, dust off the contest rules to make sure there are no radical (or not so radical) changes that need to be made, and think about building a model or two to enter. Which brings me to the theme of the article-NOW is the time to start getting those entries ready for the contest; that way you won't be hurried come about August.

I know that many of you have not entered a model in a regional contest so I would like to talk a little about a prestigious award that is available to be presented at every regional contest-the President's Award. The President's Award is presented to a modeler who is a first-time regional contest entrant and in the opinion of the Regional President, has entered the finest model of the first-timers. Usually, the President defers to the judging panel and the winner is he or she who has received the highest score of the first-timers. In my opinion, this award is right up there with the Best in Show category because it shows a lot of determination and even a little courage to go for it. So, except this as a challenge, read the rules and the judging guidelines, and build something good!

See ya on down the line. Bill

Election Time

It's that time of year again - the Division Director positions on the PSR Board of Directors are up for election. The Division Directors are charged with overseeing each of their respective Divisions, and representing them (and that means you, the member) on the Board. While this is a volunteer job, it is a very important one, crucial to the continuation of the organization, and one whose primary purpose is seeing that the organization meets the changing needs of the members. So send in your ballots (if you are a voting member of the PSR you will find one in this issue) after selecting your choice, or at least marking down that you are interested in supporting your representative. And next time, maybe you should consider the job, yourself!

Reports - Continued

Secretary

registration and hotel links are available on the PSR web page. The Board will plan on visiting the local committee and check out the hotel in June.

No other business being placed before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 16:55 hrs.

The date, time and location of the next Board meeting will be 13:00 hrs at the Radisson Woodlands Hotel in Flagstaff, AZ on September 21, 2011.

Respectfully Submitted Dave Irick Secretary - PSR

President

membership" (39%), "Not enough value" (31%), and "Can't afford it" (29%). Another 22% cited age or infirmities. The average age of response was 65 or older, reflecting our hobby's aging demographic (fixed incomes) and the poor economy.

Vice President Bill Kaufman conducted a survey of Region Presidents about their views on the three most important things that the NMRA should be doing. One topic of universal concern was securing 501(c)3 non-profit status for regions and divisions. The Board has requested that clinics on this topic be presented at National Conventions and made available to officers on DVD.

Ray DiBlieck, Chairman of the 2011 NMRA National Convention to be held in Sacramento (July 3-9) reported that registrations have exceeded 1,325 and that the hotel room night guarantees have been met. Those attending this convention will be able to visit the exhibit area and view plans for the future scale model railroading exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum.

I'm looking forward to San Diego Division's Spring Quarter Meet on May 14th at the North County Model Railroad Club in Oceanside, CA. It promises to be a great time that will include operations on the Club's great layout, clinics, lunch, contest judging and door prizes. Please join us for a great time and bring a friend.

In the meantime, stay on "track" and we'll see you at Flagstaff!

San Diego

session, and registration is required.

Our division members' participation in the Achievement Program seems to run in spurts. We had another member receive his Motive Power certificate recently. This means we have several members who need only one or two more certificates to receive their Master Model Railroader designation.



Arizona Division

Candidates for Division Director



Dave Irick

For years I have considered running for Director from AZ, due to a lack of time I did not feel I could give the PSR the attention it deserved. Now I am retired, I feel that the time is right.

Secretary is a non-voting appointment by the President; the position has given me access to ideas, directions and programs based on proven results and some failures. I have extensive experience serving positions with other clubs and organizations, including organizing conventions for large groups.

My great love is in the contest room, being an active participant in the contest room, judged contests at Division, Region and National level. The contest room is a learning tool to improve modeling skills and enhance your artistic abilities.

The Arizona Division has seen growth and success in the past few years, our meeting rooms are crowded, we need larger facilities. Our membership base is large, diversified and spread out over 113,635 sq miles of Arizona. As our numbers grow we need to look at adding venues for member's participation. Furnishing more on a limited budget is going to be the challenge. To accomplish some of our challenges we will need the backing and resources of the Region. A strong Director, who knows how the PSR Board works and has, established communication with other Division leaders and PSR Board.

I will always be accessible to you and will fight in improve our Region and our Division.

I am asking for the privilege of sitting on the PSR Board as you're representative.



Bob Libbey

I have always prided myself in being an active member of any club or organization I belong to, and this includes the NMRA, the PRS and our Division. I have attended all but one divisional meet and made most of our regional events

But my involvement in the past is not enough. I realized this when I was scrolling down Rick Watson's January, 2011 Spur Line column and read, "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem." He's right! It is time I got off the siding and switch to the mainline.

We have a number of Master Model Railroaders in

our division and many more, like me, who are striving to achieve their own MMR number. We need to work together to help each other achieve that goal, and to develop plans that will help get the younger generations as excited about trains and model railroading as we were when we were kids. They are the future of the NMRA and model railroading.

As Division Director I will continue to build on the successes of our current leadership and I look forward to working closely with the new board to see that we continue to succeed. We will continue to set goals and we will continue to work together as a team to achieve our goals.

I am proud to be a member of the NMRA, our Region and our Division and look forward to seeing it succeed. I humbly, and sincerely, ask for your vote.



Cajon Division

Candidate for Division Director



Bob Mitchell

I am currently the Divisions Director and have also served as the Division's Superintendent during the period of 2005-2009. During that time I co-chaired the Regional Convention in Las Vegas and also volunteered for the National Convention in Anaheim, CA.

During that time I have established a strong email

base that has resulted in a more informed membership and continued participation in events. During the past six years the division's finances have improved to a level of stability enabling us to provide our members with more events at reduced costs.

It has been an honor to serve the members of the Cajon Division and I am looking forward to another two years, after which I look forward to supporting the next Director and Superintendent.



Los Angeles Division

Candidate for Division Director



Bob DeMoss

My name is Robert "Bob" DeMoss, and many of you have seen me at the various Train Shows, manning the NMRA Table. I have been asked to run for Division Director to further serve the Division.

I was invited to attend a L.A. Division Banquet by former Gale Irwin, several years before the 1996 National Convention, and was hooked. I served on the 1996 and 2006 National Model Railroad Conventions, along with several Regional conventions. I have served and enjoyed being Membership Chairman for many years, and in helping others enjoy the Model Railroad experience.

I really enjoy the friendship of my fellow model railroaders, working with them, regarding their model railroads, along with attending Division and National events. I have been a model railroader since I was a teenager, even took a three section shelf layout in my foot locker overseas when I was in the Navy. As Director my job is to work for the Los Angeles Division, the Division Superintendent and all of its members. I will represent the L.A. Division at PSR and NMRA board meetings, and inform the members of matters affecting the L.A. Division.

As my personal goal, being retired, is to attend the National and Regional Conventions for my own benefit and now yours, and to do what I can to increase the knowledge of what the NMRA can do for our members, and you as a Model Railroader.



San Diego Division

Candidate for Division Director





Gary works with the Poway Station Club, designing and building modules. This past year he joined Short Track at the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum. Primarily in HO scale, he operates on several local model railroads, and models some in N scale.

An auditor, small business consultant, and an AVP at a

Fortune 100 company, he retired last year from UCSD, as an Information Technology and system security auditor. He also taught a staff education class on the UCSD financial system.

An NMRA member since 2001, Gary, a clinician at meets and conventions, has served as Registrar for the PSR

Regional in 2006 and 2010, and editor of the San Diego Division Mail Hook for the past four years. The incumbent District Director, he has helped formulate the plans and direction for the Division. Gary served as President, VP, Treasurer, and Board Member of his local professional association chapter, and served in similar capacities in other organizations. He is currently President of Poway Station, Inc., an all-scale modular railroad club

Gary believes the Division and Region are where the members meet the NMRA. We are working to find more ways to make all members feel connected to this organization, and to welcome new members. In that regard, San Diego has made great progress over the past several years. We are still improving communication, and engaging all members, so we all have a positive NMRA experience. The Division has done well, and Gary wants to continue to implement planned improvements.

Rivets & Weld Beads

I mentioned this before, but you really must check these out. For those of you scratchbuilding or superdetailing items, you no longer have to punch or dimple styrene or thin brass sheet. Check out Archer's Fine Transfers web site. Understand that Archer's is primarily a supplier to modelers who build military tanks and similar items, but they also have a great line of three-dimensional rivets and weld beads on different sizes. I used Archer's rivets when finishing up my 1922 Mack Rail Bus. The body is riveted together. The rivets and weld beads are water slide decals on Microscale thin decal film. You apply them before you paint. When you price them, your first

thought is these decals are expensive. I thought so, too, but I used slightly more than one row of rivets on the sheet to complete the Rail Bus. One package goes a long, long way! I bought two packages of rivets and I probably have a life time supply of rivets! I will be using them on the roofs of locomotives, especially my herd of F-units. I have several of the older Athearn F-7s that have the steam heater detail on the rear roof panel. Every time I remove them, I always muck up the rivets around the edge of the panel no matter how careful I am. Now I will take them off with the heater details and replace them with the Archer decals. In fact, I may replace all of the rivets on the tops of my F-units when I detail them. Clark Cooper - Editor, Eastern Iowa Division "Wig-Wag"

Unconventional clinics...bus layout tours plus many self-guided layout tours...the Sierra Railroad, the movie railroad...the Virginia & Truckee Railroad...Advance Section layout tours in the Bay Area...a Railroad Prototype Meet...the Napa Valley Wine Train...

...and the California State Railroad Museum...

More information from X2011 West, 530 Fig Tree Lane, Martinez, CA 94553 www.X2011West.org or catch us on Facebook





"Rails to Rims" Flagstaff, Arizona 2011

http://www.psrconvention.org/flagstaff11

This year's event is being hosted by the Arizona Division (www.azdiv-nmra.org) of the Pacific Southwest Region, NMRA. The festivities begin on Wednesday, September 21st and end on Sunday, September 25th, 2011. There will be over 30 prototype and model railroad oriented clinics, operating sessions at both home and the Flagstaff Model Railroad Club layouts, and prototype tours.

Registration

Convention registrations may be made on line at our website or through conventional mail with check or money order. There is a copy of the registration form in this issue of the Dispatch, and it can be downloaded from the convention website - http://www.psrconvention.org/flagstaff11

Merchandise

Convention items will be available for pre-order on line (early bird discount), and during the Convention at the Company Store. Logo embroidered/embossed selections include polo shirts, pins, patches, and commemorative cars (HO & N scales). Please refer to the Convention website "Extra Fare" list for photos, details and pricing (coming).

Facilities

This year's Convention will be held at the Radisson Woodlands Hotel on historic Route 66 in Flagstaff, close to many attractions including the historic downtown area, the Flagstaff passenger depot (with Old 2-Spot - a 2-8-2 logging steamer), the Lowell Observatory, Northern Arizona University, and many fine restaurants.

Board Meeting

The PSR Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 21st at one p.m. at the Convention Hotel. All current NMRA members are welcome to come by and observe.

Clinics

Clinics will be offered on a variety of topics related to railroading and modeling techniques. (more details coming)

Layout Tours

Flagstaff and surrounds is home to a several talented model railroaders who have graciously offered to open their home layouts to our convention guests. This group is quite diverse in scale, locale, and time frame. Tours will be self guided and maps will be provided for attendees.

Operating Sessions

The Flagstaff Model Railroad Club, home of the Mountain Pacific Lines (a bridge line connecting Phoenix and Provo Utah) will be hosting operating sessions through the Convention. Several local modelers have also graciously volunteered their layouts for operating sessions. Orientation will be provided prior to the scheduled operating sessions. It is recommended to sign up on the Convention website well in advance for these activities because they will fill up fast.

Prototype Tours

The Flagstaff area is home to two tourist rail lines that provide a unique scenic experience. The keynote tour is the Grand Canyon Railway shop facilities in Williams with a visit to the Fray Marcos (site of the proposed Arizona State Railroad Museum) and NRHS rolling stock at the shop. Schedule and costs (if any) are being finalized and will be posted on the web site. Tour arrangements are also being finalized for rail operations at the Camp Navajo

Army Depot. Northern Arizona is home to amazing scenery and many spectacular railfanning locations. A field trip is being planned to the Johnson Canyon Tunnel and Steel Dam historic locations and the Ash Fork Museum and detailed guides will be provided to other railfan locations.

Non Rail/Railette Activities

Janet Spooner, our Railette Chair, has planned a wide variety of activities that include craft projects, a ladies vender show, bingo, a "Chick Flick" movie night, and a luncheon. There will be plenty of fun activities for spouses and significant others. As a major tourist destination, Flagstaff offers many non-rail activities for the entire family. Some of the West's most beautiful country surrounds Flagstaff, from the Coconino National Forest and the San Francisco Peaks (12,633 feet/3,851 meters) to the Red Rocks of Sedona to the rugged deserts of neighboring Native American nations. Grand Canyon National Park, Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument, Wupatki National Monument and Meteor Crater are all within easy driving distance, as are many more archaeological treasures and attractions. Visits to the Lowell Observatory, Museum of Northern Arizona, Arizona Historical Society-Pioneer Museum, the Arboretum of Flagstaff, Arizona Snowbowl (Scenic Skyride to 11,500 ft), Riordan Mansion State Historic Park and Northern Arizona University would also be worthwhile.

NMRA Contests

The PSR Contest Room welcomes all categories of NMRA model & photography entries and will announce and present awards at our banquet on Saturday evening.

Auction

On Friday evening, we will be presenting both live and Chinese Auctions. The live auction offers open bidding on items offered by attendees and other selected items, and the Chinese Auction is conducted with raffle tickets. We frequently find unusual and rare items at great value at these events.

Hobo Breakfast

On Saturday, September 24th our day begins with our annual Hobo Breakfast scheduled for the Crown Railroad Cafe. This event is open to all attendees who have attended a Region or National convention outside of their home region and their guests. If you've never been involved as a "hobo" before, you won't want to miss it.

Swap Meet

Saturday morning we will be hosting a swap meet at the Convention hotel and we are encouraging all who plan to attend to bring their unwanted items to swap or sell. Sellers will be charged a table fee and there will be no charge to convention attendees who wish to shop. This event will also be open and advertised to the public, who will be charged an admission fee.

Awards Banquet

Saturday evening we will gather for our annual banquet where Contest, Division and Region awards will be presented. This "Extra Fare" item is available by reservation on our Convention website.

Membership Meeting

Our closing event on Sunday, September 25th will be our annual membership meeting held at the Convention hotel and open to all NMRA members. Annual reports will be delivered, new officers installed, and a raffle for door prizes round out the meeting. Home layout tours and operating sessions will be available throughout the remainder of the day.

If you haven't and your schedule allows - get on board and register today - you'll miss a great time if you don't! Also, our Convention Hotel is filling up and the weekend coincides with Northern Arizona University's Parents Weekend - timely reservations are advised. Convention reservations are available through the PSR website or by mailing in the registration form.

For more details and up to date information, go to: http://www.psrconvention.org/flagstaff11
Questions please contact Larry Gibbs (flagmrrc@gmail.com) or phone 928-779-2282.



Rails to Rims Flagstaff 2011

Pacific Southwest Region, NMRA®

2011 Convention September 21 – 25, 2011
Presented by the Arizona Division
Radisson Woodlands Hotel, Flagstaff, Arizona

NMRA #	Registration Date					
Name(s)* (1) *As your want it to appear on your badge	_ (2)					
Address	Phone (F	Pri)				
	Phone (Sec)					
Email						
Region/Home Division						
Registration Type		Qty	Each	Total		
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg Only @ \$80.00 (6/1 – 7/31)						
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg & Banquet @ \$110.00 (6/1 –	7/31)					
Non- Rail(Spouse, or Adult Fam Mem) w/NMRA member, Reg	Only @ \$80.00 (6/1 – 7/31)					
Non- Rail(Spouse, or Adult Fam Mem) w/NMRA member, Reg	& Banq. @ \$110.00 (6/1 - 7/31)					
Guest with NMRA member, Banquet Only @ \$30.00 (4/1 – 7/3	1)					
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg Only @ \$90.00 (8/1 -)						
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg & Banquet @ \$125.00 (8/1 -)						
Non- Rail(Spouse, or Adult Fam Mem) w/NMRA member, Reg	Only @ \$90.00 (8/1 -)					
Non- Rail(Spouse, or Adult Fam Mem) w/NMRA member, Reg	& Banq. @ \$125.00 (8/1 -)					
Additonal fee for non-NMRA member (RAIL PASS 6-month trial	NMRA membership @ \$9.95)					
Single Day Registration \$30.00/day (Circle Desired Day)	Thurs Fri Sat					
Would you be interested in helping out while at the conv	ention?	Yes	No	, thanks		
Would you be willing to give a clinic? Topic:		Yes	No	, thanks		
Operating session interest?	-	Yes	No	, thanks		
Make checks payable to: Arizona Division	(c/o Larry Gibbs; 1400 E Appalad	chian; Flags	staff, AZ 860	004)		
Convention Hotel: Radisson Woodlands (Reserva	ation information/link on PS	R Websi	te)			
Registrar's Use Only: Cash \$ Check \$ Registration # Posted://	#Da	ate:	<u> </u>			
Cancellation policy: Full refund, less \$5.00 fee per registrant, wh						

Flag Stops

Lindsay Smith, PSR Member Aid wlindsays@adelphia.net

We have amassed this information from various sources. Some of the events have been submitted by sponsors. Please send corrections, additions and future events to me at wlindsays@roadrunner.com. I can also be reached at (909) 599-0182. I encourage the use of this list to promote the hobby and help others enjoy railroading and modeling. Notice we often use railroad time; i.e., "1300" is 1 PM PST.

<u>June</u>

- 4, 5 Santa Susana RR Historical Soc. Swap Meet and Open House. 7:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. In the Santa Susana Park Pavilion. 6503 Katherine Rd. Simi Valley CA Admission \$2.00 for adults. Info contact events@santasussanadepot.org
- 4, 5 The Big Train Show, Ontario Convention Center, CA. ALL SCSALES http://www.bigtrainshow.com/ On Track Productions (949) 679-0616
- 5, 7 Slim Gauge Guild MRC Open House. 300 S. Raymond Ave (Basement), Pasadena, CA 91105 Sun 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM Tue. 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM Info: Jeff Smith (818) 590-1729 jeff@slimgaugeguild .com www.slimgaugeguild. com
- OERM and the City of Perris 9th Annual Car and Motorcycle Show. 9 to 5 Admission to OERM grounds is free, regular prices apply for train ride tickets (\$12 adults, \$8 children 5-11. See OERM. org Schedules.
- 16--19 Santa Fe Railway Hist. & Modeling Soc. Conv. 0800 to 2000. Phoenix, AZ 85001 Eric Hiser, ehiser@msn.com http://atsfrr.net/convention/index.htm
- Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum Model RR
 Train Show. Open 0800. Donations \$2/person Children <12 free. Sellers pay \$10.00 for 8' table
 plus \$5.00 Tehachapi Business License. Contact
 Carol Westover (661) 823-7832 tehachap@yahoo.
 com (no final "I".)
- 18, 19 OERM Pacific Electric Weekend. Plus Southern California Traction Club HO Layout. Sunday Barbeque noon to 2 PM. Admission to OERM is free, regular prices apply for train ride tickets (\$12 adults, \$8 children 5-11). Advance paid reservations are required for the BBQ. See OERM. org Schedules.
- 21, 22 The Big Train Show. 10am to 6pm on Sat and 10am to 4pm on Sun. Ontario Convention Center, 2000 E. Convention Center Way, Ontario,

- CA General Admission for adults is \$9.00 presale; \$12.00 at the door. Children 12 and under are admitted free. Additional events see http://www.bigtrainshow.com/ Contact: 888- 271-2978
- 25 Model Railroads of Southern California Tour. Long Beach-South Bay area.

<u>July</u>

- 3 9 2011 NMRA Convention, Sacramento, CA www. x2011west.org
- 8 10 Southern Pacific Historical and Technical Society 2011 Conference. San Luis Obispo, CA http:// www.sphts.org/convention/
- 10 OERM Fall Railroadiana Meet. 9AM to 5PM. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 5-11, or included with an all-day pass for trolley and train rides \$12 adults, children 5-11 \$8. OERM members have free admission. Exhibitors, setup begins at 7 am, bring your own tables and chairs, space available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Non-members exhibitor fee is \$18, and helpers are also \$18. Exhibitor admission begins at 7 am at the member's entrance off of Mapes Rd. 23 Roundhouse Gang Model RR Club Swap Meet. 730am to 11am. Janet Goeske Senior Center, Corner of Streeter & Sierra St., 5257 Sierra St., Riverside \$3.00 donation at door. Spouses and under 18 are free. Vendor tables \$12 when reserved in advance, and \$14 at the door if still available For vendor reservations contact Gary Wintergerst 100 S. LaSalle St., Redlands, CA 92374 gwinterg@verizon.net 909-794-3153 Or Larry at 951-686-7890
- 23, 24 Great Train Expo Pomona, CA: 1000 1600. Fairplex, 1101 W McKinley Ave, Pomona, CA 91768. Admission \$7, kids under 12 free. Parking \$9. Successor to the Great American Train Show (GATS) http://www.trainexpoinc.com/ (630) 608-4988

<u>September</u>

21-25 Pacific Southwest Region, NMRA, Convention. Radisson Hotel, Flagstaff, AZ Larry Gibbs Flagstaff MRC flagstaffmrrc@gmail.com (978) 699-2449

<u>October</u>

Roundhouse Gang Model RR Club Swap Meet. 730am to 11am. Janet Goeske Senior Center, Corner of Streeter & Sierra St., 5257 Sierra St., Riverside \$3.00 donation at door. Spouses and under 18 are free. Vendor tables \$12 when reserved in advance, and \$14 at the door if still available For vendor reservations contact Gary Wintergerst 100 S. LaSalle St., Redlands, CA 92374 gwinterg@verizon.net 909-794-3153 Or Larry at 951-686-7890



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

THE

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http://www.cajondiv.org/

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- 1 Current issues of the PSR DISPATCH and all four of the Division newsletters (in PDF format).
 - 2 PSR Governing Manuals
- 3 Main Sites for the 2010

Conventions

4 - Directory of PSR Officers and Volunteers

To send email to anyone in this directory, go to the PSR Web Site www.psrnmra.org

and click on their email address in the appropriate section.

Submission Schedule and Planned Topics

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
29/3	21 July 2011
29/4	21 October 2011
30/1	19 January 2012
30/2	21 April 2012

Topics PSR 2011 Convention (Flagstaff) details Convention Reports, Contest Reports PSR 2012 Convention (Riverside) info Officer Elections, 2012 Convention Info, updates

NMRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - PSR

Please accept my application for membership renewal or new membership in the National Model Railroad Association, which includes the Pacific Southwest Region and my local PSR Division.

New		Renewal		NMRA#			PSR	#	
Name									
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Member - All rights and benefits - without subscription to NMRA Scale Rails					\$39.00	\$78.00			
PSR Dispatch subscription - Must be NMRA member to subscribe					\$12.00	\$24.00			
Family - Spouse or minor child of above member in good standing. No NMRA Scale Rails or voting rights. Provide family members name and date of birth here: Name: DOB:				\$7.00	\$14.00				
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