



PSR Dispatch

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

National Model Railroad Association®

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 3 — 4TH QUARTER, 2013

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From the Hot Seat!

Don Fowler, PSR President

president@psrnmra.org



It was great to see everyone at this year's PSR Convention in San Bernardino. I hope that you had as much fun as we did. The Cajon Division crew did such an outstanding job of

hosting this event that we had trouble trying to see and do everything that was offered. Please accept our thanks to everyone who helped to make it such a great success. I would also like to congratulate our Member of the Year awardees for all of their great work this year;

- Jim Tuck – Arizona Division
- Harold Whiteley – Cajon Division
- Andy Jackson – Los Angeles Division
- Pete Steinmetz – San Diego Division
- Carl Heimberger – Pacific Southwest Region

Special thanks to our outgoing Directors for their service, Bob Mitchell (Cajon Division) and Gary Robinson (San Diego Division). These gentlemen were very generous with their time, talent and resources for the betterment of our organization. We also welcome their newly elected replacements, Per Harwe (Cajon Division) and Pete Steinmetz (San Diego Division). As a region, we are truly blessed to have such great people who are committed to our growth and development.

During the convention, we conducted our Annual

PSR Board Meeting on September 25th. Some of the meeting highlights included;

- Update from the 2013 Region Convention Committee (Cajon Division)
- Progress report on the 2014 Region Convention Committee (San Diego Division)
- Projections for the 2015 Region Convention (Arizona Division)
- Creation of a member survey to solicit input for future planning (Los Angeles Division)
- Creation of a Leadership Development Course for current/future officers (San Diego Division)

Here are the highlights from National's Annual Meeting of the NMRA BOD (Atlanta, GA - 07/13-14/13);

- Personnel Changes
 - o Atlantic Director - Kathy Millatt
 - o At-Large World-Wide Director - Mike Brestel
 - o Western Director - Jack Hamilton
 - o Publications Department Manager - Don Phillips
 - o Education Department Manager - Bruce De Young

- NMRA Gallery Exhibit - \$530,000 has been raised and construction will now begin at the CA State Railroad Museum. A total of \$750,000 will be needed to complete the project with a projected opening date in the fall of 2014.

- NMRA 2018 – The NMRA's long range plan is underway under the leadership of Director Jack Hamilton.

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Division Director

Arizona

Dave Irick
Director@AzDiv-NMRA.org



Cajon

Per Harwe
cajondivision@verizon.net



The Christmas season is upon us. It's the time of the year to show off our trains to family and friends at our club's open house and our homes. This is always the best time of the year to share our hobby with others and get those projects finished. Share our hobby with others and see if you can spark the interests in a new modeler.

My wife and I had a great time at the PSR Regional Convention in San Bernardino, CA in September. We wish to thank everyone who donated the many prizes that we hauled back to Glendale. If you were not present, the Arizona contingent did quite well in the raffles and drawings. We look forward to continuing our streak of luck at future conventions.

The Arizona Division held our winter meet in Tucson, AZ on November 9th. We had 105 members and friends in attendance and all had an enjoyable day. As usual, we held three clinics, ladies room, contest room, swap meet, and layout tours. I was happy to see us sign up 4 new members to the NMRA. The contest room was superb with many outstanding models. Our clinicians did an outstanding job with their presentations. Two clinicians stepped forward and offered to present another clinic at the March meet. It really makes me happy to see members involvement and how we come together to make our Division better.

Tucson is the last meet of the calendar year for the Arizona Division; the time has come for us to install our new officers for the coming year. We refer to this as our annual meeting; a time to thank the outgoing officers, introduce the incoming officers, and introduce the Arizona member of the year. Alan Vincent, our Division Superintendent, was elected for another two year term and Stan Sachau was elected as Chief Clerk and Paymaster for the next two years. Congratulations to both of them! I look forward to working together for the next two years. I personally was reelected for an additional two year term as your Arizona Director. Thank you for your confidence in me and I look forward to serving you for two more years.

We have made some changes during the past two years and the new officers and I promise to continue that progress. We are committed to bringing you the best

Sometimes I feel like quoting Prairie Home Companion, but this time it must be modified a bit; it has been a very busy fall season in the Cajon Division. As you all know, we hosted the PSR Convention in San Bernardino and I think that went very well. I like to thank our outgoing director, Bob Mitchell, for a job very well done. My thanks also go out to the convention committee without which the outcome would not have been so great. The clinics went well and the Swap Meet, organized by The Roundhouse Gang, was very popular.

The last day of the convention was also the day of the new Board's first board meeting. We temporarily appointed officers to all empty positions, replaced a few more, and now we have a full board again. We will take care of the formalities with an early election in January 2014 and then we will have a full, properly elected and appointed board. With the addition of two Assistant Superintendents, one for California (eastern section) and one for Nevada, we hope to get our activities out to all areas where we have members.

Our Division Fall Meet was held in Barstow in October. As usual we had the majority of the meet at the Ramada Hotel but because of other bookings there, we had to move the Saturday evening auction to the Harvey House. That arrangement worked well and we are checking in to using the Harvey House for the entire Fall Meet next year.

Cajon Division has started a new web site (www.cajondivision.org), restarted the issuing of our quarterly newsletter, The Order Board, and also started an electronic news bulletin, the eNEWS. The latter is intended to come out between the issues of The Order Board and to contain news snippets and other matters of interest. It is distributed to all members of the Cajon Division and if you are outside of the division you can sign up for it on our website.

It is with pleasure I can report that our membership is growing. I would be way off by saying "by leaps and bounds", but it is growing. One of the goals for our new Board is to see a steady increase in our membership. A step in that direction was taken during the Banning Train Festival in October; the Cajon

Cajon - Continued on page 5

Activity Reports



Los Angeles

Bob DeMoss
director@ladiv-nmra.org

When the October issue of the NMRA Magazine arrived with the article on the "Build a Memory" program and that Los Angeles area was chosen to be one of the areas for this year's trial run, we jumped at the chance. Our Division Superintendent, Carl Hamburger and Mike Ale, Activities Chairman took on the project, along with several other L.A. Division members. As November 16th. was the target date, for the first "How to" class to build this layout. We met several weeks prior to build and assemble the three layout tables, One layout to be completed, with scenery; the second, table with foam installed; and the third, parts cut out and dissembled, ready to be put together on the 16th, to show how it is done.

Since Orange Empire Railway Museum was having their "Thomas the Tank Train Days" on the weekend of November 16th, we felt this would be the ideal location, to hold the "first Class" to build the "Build a Memory" layout and OEM agreed. The "how to" class was held next to the Orange County Modular Layout and created a lot of interest. According to Mike Allee, children were all EYES, watching the trains run on the "Build a Memory" 4 ft. x 4 ft. layout. There was a drawing for the finished layout on Sunday, and a lucky family went home with the finish layout. The Los Angeles Division feels this was a great success and we look forward to next year.

We also had a "BUILD A MEMORY" display at the Long Beach Convention Center Home Show, the weekend before the 16th along with the Orange County Modular Railroad Club layout.

We had our yearly "South Coast Botanic Gardens" Halloween Railroad Show, in which we had seven layouts operating on October 26th and 27th. There were five layouts in the main room, So-Cal "S" Gauger's; Orange County HO Gauge Module Railroaders; the "O" scaler's with their "O" gauge layout and the N-Trak Express combined with the Group 160 for an "N" scale layout.

In one Classroom the 20's - 30's HO layout was operating and the other classroom, the "Z" scaler's had



San Diego

Pete Steinmetz
director@sandiegodivision.org

This is my first column as the new PSR San Diego Director. Gary Robinson has done a great job as director for two terms. My goal is to carry on with the excellent job Gary has done.

PSR San Diego has been very active with our monthly layout tours and quarterly meets. The layout tours have been varied from G and F scale outdoor layouts to some fantastic indoor layouts in multiple scales. Attendance has been good at all the tours.

We are busy planning for the 2014 PSR Convention. There are a lot of new activities being planned. I am director of clinics and am already booking some new and different clinics. Many of the clinicians are very experienced modelers, but first time presenters at PSR conventions. I have a track called "Smelly, Dirty, and Messy". It will be held outdoors. We are also planning some "Hands On" clinics. Our hotel, The Courtyard Mission Valley is well set up for meetings. Our clinic rooms are spacious, with good hookups for AV. I especially noticed the acoustics in the clinic rooms. Definitely first rate. The sleeping rooms are spacious. Wi-Fi is fast and free. There are also a number of restaurants within walking distance.

I am still looking for clinicians. If anyone is interested, contact: director@sandiegodivision.org There is some sad news to report. North County Model Railroad Society was evicted from their home by the new owners of the market. Frazier Farms originally said they could stay, then presented them with a one months notice to vacate. The layout has been dismantled. Thousands of hours of hard work gone. They are currently looking for a new home.

All NMRA members and guests are invited to attend our quarterly meets. Our web site lists dates, times, and locations. <http://www.sandiegodivision.org>



Cajon - Continued on page 5

Fireman’s Seat

Carl Heimberger, PSR Vice President
vp@psrnmra.org

“NMRA the best kept secret ever”. Do not scratch you head and try and figure out what that statement means. I will explain it later as it took me over 18 months to realize this is a true statement. Eighteen months ago I was approached by Jeff Smith, of RailMasters Hobbies to help him with the planning of the 33rd National Narrow Gauge Convention. And at that time I gave him a “maybe answer” as I was in the middle of planning the 2012 PSR Convention in Oxnard, but after attending the first planning committee meeting, I was hooked and on board. Why, because for years I have been hearing nothing but how great the National Narrow Gauge is at putting on a convention, and I wanted to see what they did that we did not. My assigned task was to find and schedule clinicians for 75 hours of clinics. Others on the team were chair and co-chair, layout tours, prototype tours, venders, modular layouts, contest room, registration, advertising, time table and layout tour books, special events, website and AV support for all convention clinics/events. In all there were 17 of us on the convention committee and all of us are members of NMRA - you will see why this is also important later on.

Because there is no official governing body that over sees the NNGC, it is up to each year’s committee to set the program for their convention, although it does somewhat follow what has been done in previous years. The other thing that I found refreshing was that as a team we all respected each other’s areas of responsibility. Sure we had a few discussions on some of the things each member was doing in their area but it never came to members walking way with bad feelings. And once the convention started if we as committee members saw an area that was in need of help such as registration we all jumped in and did what it took to get the job done.

Now let me get back to my statement “NMRA the best kept secret ever”. At the closing program on Saturday, August 30th, numerous awards were given out for entries in the contest room, the Special Awards, and the inductees to the Narrow Gauge Hall of Fame. During these presentations one of the presenters makes the statement “wasn’t this convention great and it was done without the NMRA”. To say I was just a little taken back would have been an understatement knowing that the convention team was 100% NMRA members. Obviously this presenter thinks NMRA did something really bad to him but like others that I have run into in

New PSR Members May - November 2013

First	Last	City	ST	DIV
John	Adams	Glendale	AZ	AZ
Kurt	Alexander	Woodland Hills	CA	LA
William	Barz	Victorville	CA	CJ
Thomas	Beecher	Tucson	AZ	AZ
Ray	Benson	Prescott Valley	AZ	AZ
Adele	Boyles	Laguna Hills	CA	CJ
Donald	Briggs	Hemet	CA	CJ
Bob	Burke	Rimrock	AZ	AZ
Jo	Burke	Rimrock	AZ	AZ
Gary	Byrne	Laguna Nigiel	CA	CJ
Bob	Calicchia	Los Alamitos	CA	CJ
Chris	Callaway	Tempa	AZ	AZ
Major	Cephas	Anahiem	CA	CJ
Eric	Cook	Pasadena	CA	LA
Robert	Cossaboom	Prescott	AZ	AZ
John	Diesing	Gilbert	AZ	AZ
Ralph	Edwards	Phoenix	AZ	AZ
Brian	Eshelman	San Diego	CA	SD
Craig	Faris	Glendale	AZ	AZ
Mike	Gatherer	Big Bear City	CA	CJ
Derek	Griffin	Carson	CA	LA
Allen	Gross	Tampa	AZ	AZ
William	Hansen	Glendale	AZ	AZ
Ray	Hayes	Rowland Hts	CA	LA
Paul	Hooper	Hemet	CA	CJ
Paul	Hottenstein	Fountain Hills	AZ	AZ
Bob	MacKenzie	Redondo Beach	CA	LA
Constance	Manogian	Cave Creek	AZ	AZ
John	Manogian	Cave Creek	AZ	AZ
Wanda	McCargar	Laguna Beach	CA	CJ
Matthew	McInerny	Glendale	AZ	AZ
Robert	Mearns	Las Vegas	NV	CJ
Lynn	Miller	Joshua Tree	CA	CJ
Steve	Moss	Temecula	CA	CJ
David	Nagy	Burbank	CA	LA
Sek	Ng	Diamond Bar	CA	LA
Kevin	Paige	Fountain Hills	AZ	AZ
John	Parrish	Upland	CA	CJ
Richard	Scott	Mesa	AZ	AZ
David	Simpson	Yuma	AZ	AZ
Charles	Smith	San Jacinto	CA	CJ
Tom	Stash	Tucson	AZ	AZ

New Members - Continued on Page 7

Reports - Continued

President

- EduTRAIN – NMRA’s clinic matrix program is under development to provide new ideas for topics and presentation techniques.
- Marketing – “Build a Memory” is a project offered this fall by Home Depot as a Saturday morning hands on clinic that will show participants how to build a 4’x 4’ layout. New member retail benefits/discounts are also being explored.
- National Conventions – The Board awarded the 2017 Convention bid to Orlando, FL. Kansas City provided an informal presentation for 2018.
- Finance – CFO Frank Koch reported that NMRA finished 2012 with an increase in assets more than \$280,000 over the previous year.
- NMRA Magazine – Stephen Priest, MMR, reported that NMRA Net developer kits are now available and that he’s looking for a technical writer/columnist on DCC issues.
- Video Recording Policy – The current policy is being revised regarding the recording of convention clinics.
- NMRA Executive Handbook – Currently being revised by President Charlie Getz.
- Vertical Integration – The proposed consolidation would put all U.S. Regions & Divisions under National’s 501c3 status without individual application.
- Awards
 - Fellow of the NMRA - Ed & Gay Liesse & Werner Meer
 - Meritorious Service Award – Bob Hamm, MMR
 - President’s Award – Bob Brown, HLM, MMR, Howard Goodwin, John Lowrance, MMR, Page Martin and Ben Sevier
 - Honorary Life Member Award – Bob Gangwish & Gerry Leone, MMR
 - Distinguished Service Award – Russ Larson, & Lewis Polk
 - Pioneer Award – Rollin J. Lobaugh & Robert (Bob) Rands

I hope that you and your family enjoy a wonderful holiday season!

Vice President

the past, they cannot tell me what that really bad thing is. Here is a case where we as the NMRA did not let it be known that we were the driving force behind this convention, shame on us. And as far as the Neigh Sayers go rather than just sitting back and complaining about how bad the NMRA is why not get involved and change the organization if you think it is that bad? Clearly

it has to be obvious to all of us that the hobby is in decline and if we continue to fragment the hobby it will surely disappear forever. So we as dedicated Model Railroaders need to set aside our differences and come together as a united group to promote this fantastic hobby that has something for everyone.

Arizona

possible programs. Your officers, staff, and the Scottsdale Model Railroad Club are focused and working hard planning for the PSR convention in 2015. The Scottsdale club has taken the ‘bull by the horns’ and is building an impressive program for us. The Scottsdale club has filled most of the convention core positions with their club members. I am always impressed when I see a group or club step up and say “we will handle this for the Division”. It is a big job hosting a convention, so let’s volunteer to help the Scottsdale club. The more people that volunteer the easier the job is for all and the more fun we all will have. One of the greatest privileges I have as Arizona Director is to announce the Arizona Division Member of the Year. That announcement was made at the PSR Regional Convention in San Bernardino, CA; I was privileged to hand the coveted bell to our outgoing Chief Clerk and Paymaster Jim Tuck of Flagstaff, AZ. Everyone agrees that Jim did an outstand job as Chief Clerk and Paymaster, mentor for grade school students interested in the hobby, and coordinator for our June meets in Flagstaff. Jim’s leadership, willingness to help in anyway needed, and community involvement is an example for all of us to follow. We all are proud of calling Jim our friend. That takes us to the future! In 2014, we will be holding our next all day meet in Sun City, AZ on the second Saturday in March. Check the Division newsletter, the Spur Line, for complete details. Again, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of you. Make this season a time to enjoy family and friends. Run those rails around the Christmas tree just like you did when you were a kid. Remember, we Railroaders never grow up.

Cajon

Division had an information booth at the Festival where we informed the public about NMRA. We did not get any sign-ups at the Festival but several people expressed serious interest in NMRA and gladly accepted both the Rail Pass and regular membership applications. I am eagerly looking forward to the next membership roster to find out how successful we were.

I have the privilege to belong to a 100% NMRA

Contest Corner

Bill Jacobs, PSR ContestChair
contests@psrnmra.org

The Contest at the Gateway to Cajon Pass Convention had 37 entries, 18 photographs, two arts and crafts, and 17 models. There were seven Merit Awards among the models. The judges were: Dave Irick (Chief Judge), Todd Scott, Duane Buck, Tom Boyles, Bob Olds, Chuck Nauman, Gary Butts, Gary Robinson, Jim Keena, Jim Phillips, and Jack Eierman. Here are the results:

ARTS AND CRAFTS

1st General	Carolyn Weber	Scarlet Beauty
<u>Best in Show</u>	Carolyn Weber	S. P. Herald

PHOTOS

3rd Color Model	Bob Batt	Daylite
2nd Color Model	Margrit Stallings	Maintenance of Way
1st Color Model	Bob Batt	RGS 455
3rd Color Prototype	Eric West	Fillmore Railfest
2nd Color Prototype	William Buss	Chicago Union Station
1st Color Prototype	Ken Weber	93 at Ely
<u>Best in Show</u>	Annette Palmer	Nile Canyon Coupling

MODELS

Steam Locomotives

1st (Merit Award)	Gary Butts	LIRR G5s #35
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Diesel Locomotives

3rd	Bob Olds	Tidewater & Western F3A/F3B/F7B
2nd (Merit Award)	Ed Hall	SP PA2 #6041
1st (Merit Award)	Duane Buck	GN #127

Freight Car

2nd	Jim Keena	PE #6241 Gondola
1st	Jim Keena	LV #13788 Gondola

Structure On-Line

1st (Merit Award)	Duane Buck	Water Treatment Plant
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Structure Off-Line

1st (Merit Award)	Charlie Abbott	Butte Mercantile
<u>Thumb's Levity Award</u>	Jim Fuhrman	Dracula Diesel/Wicked Witch of the West

Favorite Model (Popular Vote)

<u>Best of Show</u> (Merit Award)	Charlie Abbott	Butte Mercantile
	Duane Buck	50,000 Gallon Tank



**Best of Show - Model
Duane Buck - Arizona**



**Best in Show - Photo
Annette Palmer - Cajon**



**Best in Show - Arts & Crafts
Carolyn Weber - LA**

Reports - Continued

Cajon (cont)

club, The Orange County Modular Railroaders. This club is very active in participating in train shows around the Southland. It is our intention to try to have the NMRA information booth at as many of those shows as possible. If the show is in a location in another division, we will do a joint effort with that division. That will be the case in early November when we will participate at the Long Beach Home Show. The booth will be manned by members from both the Los Angeles and the Cajon division. I am looking forward to another good contact opportunity with the public and hopefully get some more members to our organization.

L. A.

two layouts operating.

We will now start planning for Springtail, 2014 and other events.

New Members - Continued

First	Last	City	ST	DIV
Bo	Stith	Phoenix	AZ	AZ
Victor	Thies	Mission Viejo	CA	CJ
Bruce	Turner	Grand Terrace	CA	CJ
Chris	Walls	Tolleson	AZ	AZ
Eric	West	S Pasadena	CA	LA
Jennifer	Westholm	Tucson	AZ	AZ
Robert	Wilkinson	Phoenix	AZ	AZ
Ron	Williams	Lancaster	CA	LA
Al	Wilson	Gold Canyon	AZ	AZ

Please welcome these new members to the Region and your Division. Be sure to reach out to them and invite them to meets, activities and layout tours.

PSR Elections Coming Up Your Input is Needed

The current terms of the PSR President and Vice President are coming to an end in September at the Annual Membership Meeting during the 2014 PSR Convention in San Diego. If you know of someone who is interested in either of these positions, or are interested yourself, please contact Tom Draper prior to the Mid-Year BOD meeting in March, 2014:

Tom Draper, HLM DSA
Nominating Committee Chairman
10837 N. 34th Place
Phoenix, AZ 85028-3310
(602) 953-1681 email: TCDRaider@aol.com

Notice of Meeting

The Mid-Year PSR Board of Directors meeting will be held March 29, 2014, 1:00pm to 5:00pm at the Cajon Division Temecula Meet, Temecula, CA.

Any items to be discussed should be submitted to the PSR Secretary or one of the Division Directors prior to the meeting.

All interested members are encouraged to attend.

Uniting Railroad Modelers
Model Railroad Convention

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION
NMRA®

September 3rd – 7th, 2014
Courtyard Marriott
Hotel Circle South
San Diego, CA 92108

Clinics ~ Auction ~ Layout Tours
Prototype Tours and Activities
Model Railroad Operations
Model & Photography Contest
Family Activities

CONVENTION SWAP MEET
Public Invited
Saturday, September 6th, 2014
9:00am to 2:00pm

BUY
SELL
TRADE

Parking Lot
Courtyard Marriott
San Diego, CA 92108

ALL
SCALES

Seller Tables Available to Registrants & General Public
Convention Registrants - Free Admission
All Others - Admission at Door - Children 12 and Under Free

Visit The "Uniting Railroad Modelers" Website For Details, Registration And Up To Date Information

<http://www.psrconvention.org/SanDiego2014>

Convention & Swap Meet hosted by the San Diego Division, PSR, NMRA – www.sandiegodivision.org

PSR DISPATCH — 4th Quarter, 2013



Uniting Railroad Modelers 2014
Pacific Southwest Region Convention
September 3-7, 2014

Presented by the San Diego Division, PSR, NMRA®
Marriott Courtyard, Hotel Circle, San Diego, California

Reg # _____

NMRA #: _____ Registration Date: _____

Name(s)*(1) _____ (2) _____

**As you want it to appear on your badge*

Address _____ Phone (pri) _____

City _____ State & ZIP _____ Phone (alt) _____

E-Mail** _____ ***E-Mail is the preferred communication method*

Region & Home Division _____ Primary Scale _____

My trains run on: _____ DC _____ DCC _____ Other _____

REGISTRATION TYPE	QTY	EACH	TOTAL
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg, Banquet, & Raffle (09/30/2013-03/29/2014)	_____	@ \$75.00	_____
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg only (03/30/2014-07/31/2014)	_____	@ \$75.00	_____
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg only (after 08/01/2014)	_____	@ \$90.00	_____
Adult Family Member, with NMRA member, Reg, Banquet, & Raffle (09/30/2013-03/31/2014)	_____	@ \$65.00	_____
Adult Family Member, with NMRA member, Reg only (03/30/2014-07/31/2014)	_____	@ \$65.00	_____
Adult Family Member, with NMRA member, Reg only (after 08/01/2014)	_____	@ \$75.00	_____
Youth (10-17, with paid adult), Reg Only	_____	@ \$15.00	_____
Single Day – Indicate Day [] Thur [] Fri [] Sat	_____	@ \$15.00	_____
Banquet Only	_____	@ \$35.00	_____
Non-NMRA member surcharge (applied to Rail Pass if eligible)	_____	@ \$10.00	_____
Extra Fare from reverse (when posted)	_____		_____
Total \$			_____

Would you be interested in helping out while at the convention? _____ 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: San Diego Division Send registration form and payment to:

Gary Robinson, PSR 2014 Registrar, 2319 Conway Drive, Escondido, CA 92026

Registrar's contact information: Email: grobbedobbie@yahoo.com Phone (760) 839-5877

Convention Hotel: Marriott Courtyard, 595 Hotel Circle S, San Diego, CA 92108

Reservations: [Book your group rate: NMRA Pacific SW Conference](#) or 619-291-5720.

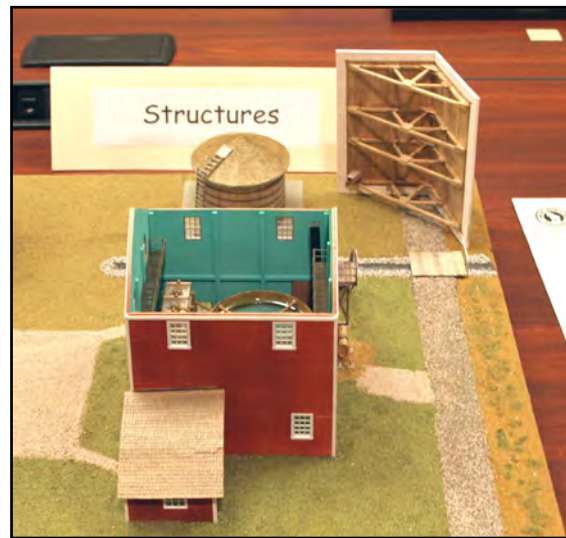
Room Rate \$99.00 per night, plus taxes.

Model Contest Winners - Continued



1st General - Arts & Crafts
Scarlet Beauty
Carolyn Weber - LA

1st Place - Model
Structure Online
Water Treatment Plant
Duane Buck - Arizona



1st Place - Model
Diesel Locomotive
GN #127
Duane Buck - Arizona

1st Place - Model
Steam Locomotive
LIRR #35
Gary Butts - Cajon



1st Place - Model
Freight Car
LV #13788 Gondola
Jim Keena - LA

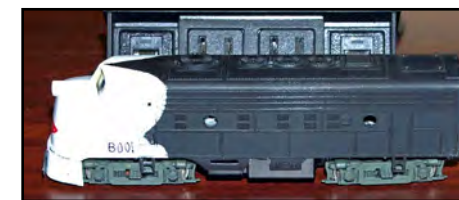


1st Place - Model
Structure Off line
Butte Merchantile
Gary Butts - Cajon

1st Place - Photo
Color Model
RGS #55
Bob Batt - Arizona



1st Place - Photo
Color Prototype
#93 At Ely
Ken Weber - LA



Thumbs Levity Award
Dracula Diesel & Wicked Witch of the West
Jim Fuhrman - Cajon





NMRA - Infonet-News

NMRA ECONOMICS – PART 1 - A VERY BRIEF INTRODUCTION

This provides a very broad perspective of NMRA economics. Subsequent articles will provide more detail on individual elements and explain how we fund the various parts of our organization. We have committed to place the annual audit results and budgets on the website once it is redesigned. The IT department is busy with other higher priority work and this project is a bit down the list.

The NMRA is a not a club but is a non-profit corporation, must conduct its business in strict accord with laws and regulations, and must have an annual outside professional audit (We pass with no major issues.). Like many corporations, we have multiple “business” units (four) and each plays a role in our overall financial strategy. Each of the four units serves a specific purpose and we manage them accordingly. The four units are Operations, NMRA Magazine, Non-Dues Programs, and Howell Day Museum (HDM). The first three are interdependent while HDM is treated as an independent financial unit, but still a part of the NMRA. The overall strategy is that the first three units balance each other every year. We do plan for a small surplus in each annual budget to cover unexpected opportunities or expenses during the year.

Within each unit, there are income and expense streams that are budgeted, tracked, and monitored. The challenge is to balance the first three against today’s mix of member services, while finding ways to increase net revenue so that improvements and/or new services and benefits can be provided. We can also choose to redistribute our resources to change the mix of member benefits. As an example, in 2013 the BOD chose to increase the budgets for IT and Marketing so that we could increase our reach and communication to members and non-members over the next few years. The website is being redesigned and responsibility for some content is moving to the Department Heads. The increased Marketing effort includes membership applications in all mail orders from several major suppliers, distribution of materials at railroad museums, and a trial of the Build A Memory initiative.

The total annual NMRA budget varies, but about \$2.3 million in 2013. This may seem like a lot but remember that it includes the annual convention, the National Train Show, and a major fund raising effort by HDM in 2013. Each area has its own budget which is reviewed by a Department Manager, the Finance Committee, and then approved by the Board of Directors on an annual basis. Each fiscal year starts with a zero budget and we build it based on the funds needed to deliver the agreed and planned programs. The chart below shows how the 2013 budget was distributed between the four units.

NMRA 2013 BUDGET (\$ Thousands)

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>
Operations	668	720
Magazine	352	441
Non-Dues Activities	871	673
Howell Day Museum	458	456
Total	2,349	2,290

This has been a very brief introduction. Over the next year, I’ll expand on each of the four areas and provide an introduction to the various types of assets and liabilities that make up the NMRA. If you have any questions or thoughts, my contact information is in the Magazine and on the website.

Frank J. Koch, NMRA CFO

Flag Stops

Lindsay Smith, PSR Member Aid
wlindsays@adelphia.net

December

7, 8 **Great Train Show. Del Mar Fairgrounds**
14 **Hemet MRC Christmas Open House. 1030 to 1600. Dynamic Hobbies, 811 E. Florida Ave. (951) 925-9331**

2014

January

11, 12 **Great Train Expo. Anaheim Convention Center. Hrs. 10 AM - 4 PM**
18, 19 **Annual Train Days Celebration at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands. Organizer Ken Kirkwood is looking for modelers to demonstrate how to build rolling stock, structures and scenery during this event. Interested persons should contact Ken at 909-790-5997.**

March

8, 9 **Winterail, Stockton, CA**
29 **Western Prototype Modelers Train Show. 0830 to 1700. San Bernardino Santa Fe/Amtrak Depot, 1170 West Third Street, San Bernardino. <http://railroadprototypemodelers.com/sbdmeet.htm>**

April

30 to May 4 **PCR/NMRA Coast Rails 2014 Convention will be held April 30 to May 4, 2014, in San Luis Obispo. Website: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html>**
13 to 19 **NMRA Convention 2014, Cleveland OH. www.2014cleveland.org**

September

3-7 **PSR 2014 Convention, “Uniting Railraod Modelers”, Marriot Courtyard, San Diego. Info: <http://www.psrconvention.org/SanDiego2014/>**

2015

August

23 to 30 **NMRA Convention 2015, Portland OR www.nmra2015portland.org**

2016

July

3 to 10 **NMRA Convention Indianapolis, IN www.nmra2016.org**

2017

NMRA Convention Orlando, FL

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PSR Dispatch

Published quarterly by the Pacific Southwest Region of the National Model Railroad Association®.

Material for publication must be received by the deadlines shown in the Submission Schedule, below.

Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors or the editor and are not necessarily those of the PSR. Permission to quote is granted by giving credit to the PSR, the PSR Dispatch and the individual authors.

Email articles to: psr-dispatch@sbcglobal.net, or surface mail 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 standard CD or DVD, 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. Questions or Comments? Email the editor: psrdispatch@sbcglobal.net

Printed by:
Electronic Printing Solutions,
4898 Ronson Court, Suite B
San Diego, CA 92111

The "PSR Dispatch" is composed using Adobe "InDesign CS".
Headline Fonts: Bell Gothic
Text Fonts: Adobe Caslon

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4 - Directory of PSR Officers and Volunteers

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Submission Schedule and Planned Topics

Issue	Deadline
32/1	19 January 2014
32/2	20 April 2014
32/3	19 July 2014
32/4	21 October 2014
33/1	19 January 2015
33/2	20 April 2015
33/3	20 July 2015

Topics

PSR 2014 Convention Info

Officer Elections, 2014 Convention updates

PSR 2014 Convention Issue

Convention Reports, Contest Results

PSR 2015 Convention Info

Director Elections, 2015 Convention Updates

PSR 2015 Convention Issue

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