



Coast Dispatcher

#203

March 2019

Coast Division Web Site: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/coast>

Pacific Coast Region Web Site: <http://www.pcrnmra.org>



Next Division Event: March 2, 2019

Elks Lodge 2255 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, CA

9:00 AM.....Doors open. Free Door Prizes.

9:30 AM – 12:15 PM:

Model Contest – Steam, Traction, MoW, Non-revenue, Passenger Cars and Structures, Square Foot Diorama

Photo Contest – Unpowered rolling stock, model or prototype

Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15)

9:30 AM.....Get Auction Cards.

10:00 AM.....Clinic: Making Fences for your Layout - Part 2, Metal Fences - Earl Girbovan

11:00 AMV.....Visiting the YV - Jack Burgess MMR #136

11:00 AMModeler's Roundtable - Bring your Modeling Questions...discuss... get Answers.

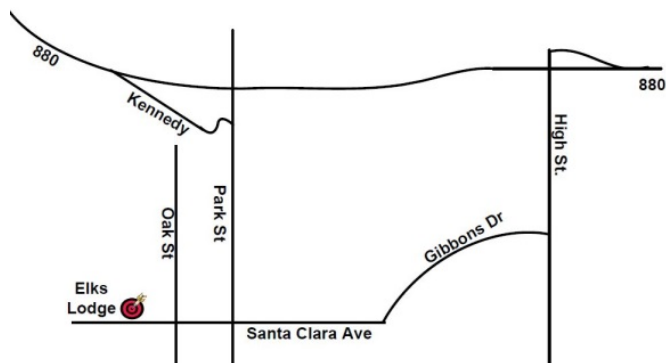
12 NoonBusiness Meeting

~12:30 PM*Model/Photo Contest Results

~12:45 PM*Auction starts, Roundtable continues

3:30 PM.....Timesaver Results, Door Prizes– afterward Auction continues if required

* Contest results immediately after business meeting. Auction starts immediately after contest results.



From the North:

Take Highway 880 south.

Take exit #39B/23rd Avenue/Alameda onto Kennedy St.
Turn right onto 23rd Ave and then bear right onto 29th
which becomes Park. Turn right on Santa Clara.

From the South:

Take Highway 880 North

Take Exit 38, High St. Turn left on High St.

Bear Right on Gibbons. Turn right on Santa Clara.

The Elks Lodge is on the right just past Oak St.

There is parking in the back.

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Director's Report ***By Frank Markovich, MMR***

Just a few items:

The PCR Board has decided to go to online for the Branchline starting in one year. The reason is that the Branchline printing and mailing is costing more than budgeted. It is putting the PCR in the hole financially each year. While there is no reason to worry in the near future, the long term problem is that within a number of years the PCR will be working in the red.

The board really wrestled with this and looked at a number of options and investigated other regions. Most of the regions have gone to online only.

The PCR convention for this year will be in Sacramento. Register early for the discount and book a room. There are a slightly limited number of rooms. Here is the website: <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/>. The hotel is only \$109 a night – very reasonable.

The election is coming up. Be sure to vote. It is online also but if you do not have an email on file with the NMRA you will get a paper ballot.

For the convention, if you have anything you would like me to bring up with the board please email me at: frank@frankmarkovich.com. I will not be at the March Coast meet as I will be out of town at the Pacific Loggers Convention.



Superintendent's Report ***Doug Smith***

Convention Updates: We have a site and dates for the 2020 PCR Convention. It will be hosted in Coast Division from April 30 through May 3, 2020 at the Sheraton Crown Plaza in Concord CA. It's a great facility with large meeting rooms, plenty of clinic space, and access to many railroad destinations. Room rates will be much more reasonable than we were able to negotiate at many other potential sites. Contracts may have been signed and we're working through the next level of big things. The plan is to roll out the 2020 web site in a state that's ready to accept reservations during the 2019 Diamond Rails Forever gathering. We are working with the Western Railway Museum in Rio Vista for a private tour and train ride one of the days. There may be convention news elsewhere in this edition so read on. The team is being put in place at this writing, so expect a lot of progress in the following weeks. There's always room for a few more good team members, so if you'd like to help with the convention please see Chris, Earl or myself.

Until then make your plans for Sacramento. The hotel has opened up room reservations. The clinic list has become extensive. Operating sessions are coming together well. Even though they got a bit of a late start the recent activity has been impressive. I'm sure it will be a great event.

Coast Meet – December at the Scouts: Our most recent meet was in San Leandro on December 2nd. Highlights were two clinics presented by Earl Girbovan and Richard Brennan. Richard filled in after an anticipated presenter had to withdraw for health reasons. Earl talked about fences – wire, vertical board and horizontal wooden varieties. Very informative and well received as you might imagine. Richard walked through photo research on the web. A great presentation generating lots of questions and good ideas. Thanks to both. Our business meeting followed. Future events discussed were the 2019 PCR in Sacramento (Tom Crawford), the OPSIG meet in Petaluma (Seth Neumann), GTS shows in San Jose and Pleasanton, and holiday open house shows at many local

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clubs. The GTS shows have been fun lately. We've been having several modeling projects worked at the tables so show goers can see how different things are done. These meets are a great way to meet people and get the personal side of the NMRA out there.

Possible rent increases at meeting sites is a fact of life, and a discussion was joined about possible ways to cover those expenses. No decisions, but it's something that will take some forward planning. There were auction buying and selling questions, and some confusions were cleared up for a number of folks. Thanks to all for their inputs and opinions. More of both are always welcome. Options are always a good thing.

A special contest will be held at our March meet. The Square Foot Modeling Challenge is generating a lot of interest. Any scale, any subject, any technique may be used, as long as there is some railroad track and the footprint of the scene is 12" x 12". Rules and guidelines are posted on the Coast Division web site. Thanks to Jesse Walden for bringing this contest idea forward and taking the lead.

The Division officer election was the other main topic of discussion. If you have a nomination or are interested in serving as Superintendent, Chief Clerk, or Paymaster you are encouraged to contact our nominations chair Dave Connery. Currently we have one candidate for each of the three offices. Dave's contact info is on the Coast Division call board. I also introduced Craig Matoza as the new Auction chair. Craig succeeds John Ameling who did a fine job and steps down with our thanks.

A full contest table was a highlight of the day. See Jim Eckman's report elsewhere in this edition for a report.

And with that the auction began. We had over 500 items of many scales and descriptions that found new homes.

GTS Update: The Coast Division's tables have been confirmed for the February 23-24 show in San Jose and the March 23-24 event in Pleasanton. Recently we have had working, as in working on the railroad, displays at our booth. These show some of the process between buying trains or materials from the vendors at the show and having a scene or operating item on the railroad. Some of our displays have included scenery building demonstrations, backdrop painting ideas, scratch building locomotives, basic rolling stock weathering, structure building on an AP level, switching operations on the Timesaver, and more. If you're interested in participating at these upcoming shows please find Steve Wesolowski on the call board.

One of the fixtures at our GTS displays for the past few years has been the Build-A-Memory layout. This layout is looking for a new home. One family move and diminishing garage space at other homes have brought this about. If you have the space and motivation to take on a new layout, or have an outreach activity that may be a good home for the layout please contact either myself or Chris Palermo.

All for now. See you in Alameda.



MarchClinics By Richard Brennan

Clinic sessions at the March 3rd Coast Division gathering in Alameda:

10:00 - Making Fences for your Layout - Part 2, Metal Fences - Earl Girbovan
Earl's dioramas are known for their prize-winning attention to detail
, including highly realistic fences.

This second clinic of a series will focus on building chain-link and
other metal fences.

11:00 - Visiting the YV - Jack Burgess MMR #136

This visit to the Yosemite Valley Railroad will include both layout photos
and prototype views of some of the same scenes, as well as stories to go
along with them.

11:00 - Modeler's Roundtable - Host: Mike Blumensaadt MMR #579

A discussion of Topics as they arise... Questions/Answers/Information...



Registrar's Report By Ronnie LaTorres

(Meet in SAN LEANDRO /DEC 2018)

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Number from COAST (C) | 80 |
| Number from REDWOOD (RED) | 5 |
| Number from SIERRA (S) | 4 |
| Number from DAYLIGHT (DAY) | 0 |
| GUESTS: Mary AND Tom Z | 2 |
| FIRST TIMERS: | 0 |
| / TOTAL REGISTRANTS: | 89 |

As of Sept. 1,2018 = \$72 dollars with NMRA magazine
Rail Pass (0): (\$19.95 each/6 mo): (0) CHARGE) /

1. CHECK / (0) CASH \$5.00

New Membership (0): (0) CHARGE) /
(0) CHECK / (0) CASH \$0.00

Renewal (0): (0) CHARGE) /
(0) CHECK / (0)CASH \$0.00

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP Money In: \$5.00

New Request: Gary Kruse \$5.00

BADGE FOR: Jeffrey Klurfeld (GREEN auction
committee),Chris Harris (2NAY) \$0.00

George Downs and Rob English (2NAY) \$0.00

(0) BADGE X \$5 EACH: TOTAL BADGE Money In:
\$5.00

COST FOR PRIZES: -\$50.00 out/REIMBURSED(yes)
\$0.00



Nominations
Coast Division Election
Dave Connery, MMR, Nominations Chair

At the March Meeting we will hold an election of officers to manage the Division for the upcoming two years. The positions of Superintendent, Chief Clerk and Paymaster are all open. Because our Director, Frank Markovich, is currently running for the position of PCR Vice-president we will also elect a member to complete Frank's final year as Director, in the likely event he is elected – since he cannot be both a Director and Vice-president simultaneously.

The Nominating Committee is submitting the following list of candidates for these positions:

Superintendent Doug Smith (incumbent)
Chief Clerk Brian Booth
Paymaster Bob Ferguson (incumbent)
Coast Director Lisa Gorrell

Any member interested in becoming a candidate for any of these positions should contact Dave Connery, see contact information in the Call Board section of this newsletter.

Immediately prior to the election nominations will be open to the floor. Any member nominated must be present and agree to run for the office and do the job if elected. If the nominated member is not present then a signed note attesting to the member's willingness to run for the office and do the job if elected is required.

In a separate but equally important election, during the current time-period all PCR members with a valid e-mail address on file will receive an electronic ballot to elect a PCR President and Vice-president for the coming two years. Those without a valid e-mail address will get a ballot in the mail. It is very important that all members vote, even when the nominated member is running unopposed.

A Little Irish Humor from Dave:

McGinty was retiring and had bought a plot of land ready to build a bungalow. His friend, Riley, said, "Why d'ye not buy one of those railway carriages they're selling? Ye'd have a ready-made bungalow." Sometime afterwards McGinty was sitting in a deckchair in the rain, puffing at his pipe. Riley happened to come along and said, "Are ye crazy sitting there in the rain?" McGinty said, "No. 'Tis very awkward. Ye see. . . I bought a non-smoker!"



Auction Report

By Craig Matoza

Here is the Auction Committee report for the December 2018 Division Train Event .

SHORT PROFIT STATEMENT December 02, 2018

| SECTION | ITEMS SALES | PROFIT |
|--------------|-------------|--------|
| REGULAR | 537 6225.00 | 695.00 |
| SILENT | | |
| TOTALS | 537 6225.00 | 695.00 |
| NO Bid Count | 130 | |

The Coast Division 50 Years Ago ***(From Issue # 3, February, 1969, of the Coast Dispatcher.)***

- ⇒ *Banquet details were provided, along with a registration slip.*
- ⇒ *Robert Dupont won the contest to name the newsletter, with his entry: "Coast Dispatcher."*
- ⇒ *The upcoming meeting would be at the Walnut Creek Festival Recreation Center*
- ⇒ *Door prizes of an O scale observation car, HO box car, and two books would be provided, as well as refreshments courtesy of the Railettes.*
- ⇒ *The agenda included a movie on the Southern Pacific, a clinic by Bill Kennerly on adapting prototype operation to model operation*
- ⇒ *The Walnut Creek HO club layout hosted the group prior to the meeting.*
- ⇒ *Winton Brown displayed a live steamer fired up, and Al Delaney displayed his tinplate collection.*
- ⇒ *The Contest was for Steam Loco, freight cars , cabooses and structure kits.*



Publicity Report

By Steve Wesolowski

Happy Model Railroading/Raining/Snowing Season's Greetings, fellow modeling Earthlings!

Around this time of year, do you also find the shorter days, cold, rain, snow, these 30 to 90 MPH wind gusts seem to 'encourage' you indoors more, perhaps to do some modeling? Well, you're not alone in having a strong desire to sit near your chosen favorite source of heat – vent, fireplace, cast iron stove, glowing red coil, soldering iron, acetylene torch, or what-ever keeps your toes and fingers, body & spirit warm enough to work on your current favorite model/project(s).

It's no coincidence this is also Train Show season, when I 'awake' from my too infrequent (ask anyone) quieter state to exhort & encourage YOU to volunteer/enjoy local train shows as a participant. Volunteering is more fun than being a paying observer/attendee. Volunteering to represent Coast is such fun, I can't even call it work: I CAN promise you Will NOT sweat or get blisters, so it's much easier and even more enjoyable than your favorite Honey-Do yard work!

That's enough pre-amble BS: We'd enjoy YOUR company at the NMRA/PCR/Coast Division Volunteer tables February 23-24 @ the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds in San Jose, and/or March 23-24 @ Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. For More Info: <http://greattrainshow.com/schedule/>

If you plan to come anyway, why not volunteer a couple hours at the NMRA/PCR/Coast Division Volunteer tables? Share your enjoyment of trains with some new friends who like trains. Your volunteer time may be credited towards your Volunteer AP Certificate.

When you volunteer, your show admission is free: just wear your Coast Badge and any NMRA or PCR shirt. Although parking and transportation are your responsibility, you could arrange to carpool with other volunteers. Some of us enjoy demonstrating our hobby by doing some actual modeling! Train people always enjoy watching train modeling. You could maybe add some finishing touches to your One Foot Challenge entry for our March Coast Meet? We rotate taking breaks to enjoy the show and help other train lovers and their parents by answering questions. Our Coast Division TimeSaver should be there to teach by doing both young and old how fun Operations can be.

If you have any questions or want to volunteer for either show, please contact Doug Smith, Frank Markovich or me: our contact Information is on the Call Board in this Dispatcher.

I hope you decide to enjoy some train fun in the company of friends, answering questions and otherwise helping others enjoy trains at a local show. Trains are always more fun in the company of friends. Happy Trains to you until we meet again.

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WITLESS vs CLUELESS

*The adventures of Rivets O'Reilly
and Larry Loungecar*

As originally published in the Mid Central Region Division 10 Newsletter, *The Lantern*.



Larry: Hey, Rivets, good to see ya again! Whatcha been doin' lately?

Rivets: Hi, Larry; good to see you, too. I'm glad you asked. You know how in business they do skills assessments? Well, I've been thinkin' about my modelin' skills like that - you know, trying to figure out where I need improvement.

Larry: Gee, Rivets, you could'a just asked ME!

Rivets: Yeah, right! Thanks a LOT, Larry.

Larry: Aw, c'mon, Rivets - I was just jokin' - what'd you come up with?

Rivets: Well, I could use some improvement in lots of areas, Larry - paintin', decalin', weatherin', structure and rollin' stock buildin' - I'd like to improve my knowledge in electricity, etc. - lotsa stuff, Larry. But I decided where I need to concentrate most is in lyin'.

Larry: You mean, like lyin' on your back workin' on the layout from underneath, or lyin' in bed thinkin' about what you're gonna do next?

Rivets: No, I mean lyin' through your teeth, Larry. Think about it. Rosie doesn't believe any of my lies about how much money or time I spend on the layout any more. I need some creative ideas here.

Larry: Yeah, Rivets, I see what you mean.

Rivets: And that's only for starters - take scenery: it's supposed to be a believable lie about the time and place of this railroad, ain't it? But how believable is it? Or the sound system, or the lighting - it's all lies, one way or the other, Larry. You see what I mean? Our whole purpose is to lie about everything.

Larry: Gosh, Rivets, I never thought about it that way. I've been to lots of clinics at some of the shows and conventions, and even here at the Division meetings, but I never heard of a clinic on lyin' before.

Rivets: Neither have I, Larry; it's a real tough one. Where is the help we really need from this organization? I don't know what to do about it, either, but somethin' needs to be done.

Larry: Well, I know what I'm gonna do, Rivets.

Rivets: You do? What's that, Larry?

Larry: I'm goin' fishin'. Most of those guys can lie like crazy. Maybe I'll learn some new techniques. See ya around, Rivets.

Rivets: Hey, wait for me!



Editor's Notes

By Pete Birdsong

Is no news good news? Although we usually have *some* news each month, we're fortunate that most of the time there is nothing really earth-shattering or traumatizing going on in the division to report.

I'm hoping it stays that way in 2019.

As usual, let me know if there are things you'd like to see in the newsletter, and don't be afraid to submit your own articles, pictures or comments, especially humor. (Thanks to Dave Connery for his contribution this month, which is included under his article.)

Thanks. *Pete*



Model and Photo Contest Report

By Jim Eckman

December 2nd, 2018

See all the entry photos and descriptions on the following pages.

Diesel and others

No entries.

Caboose

1st Place – Graig Matoza's HO Yosemite #15 caboose, a fine finish on lovely model.



Other entries:

Pat LaTorres' Tower Lumber Company Caboose TLC32, that's a giant (1:20.3)!



Display

1st Place – Bruce Feld's awesome Grand Union – Trenton NJ, we seldom see much traction and this was a doozy, from the pavement and the overhead wires to the structures and trolleys.



Other entries:

Phil Edholm's 6'x2' On30 Module *Sierra City*, a sweet module from the local On30 group, some great structures and details and of course narrow gauge trains. You can find out more at: http://www.ccc-on30.org/ccc_on30.htm



Freight Cars

1st Place – Pat LaTorres' Flat Car w/load TLC27, and that's an impressive load.

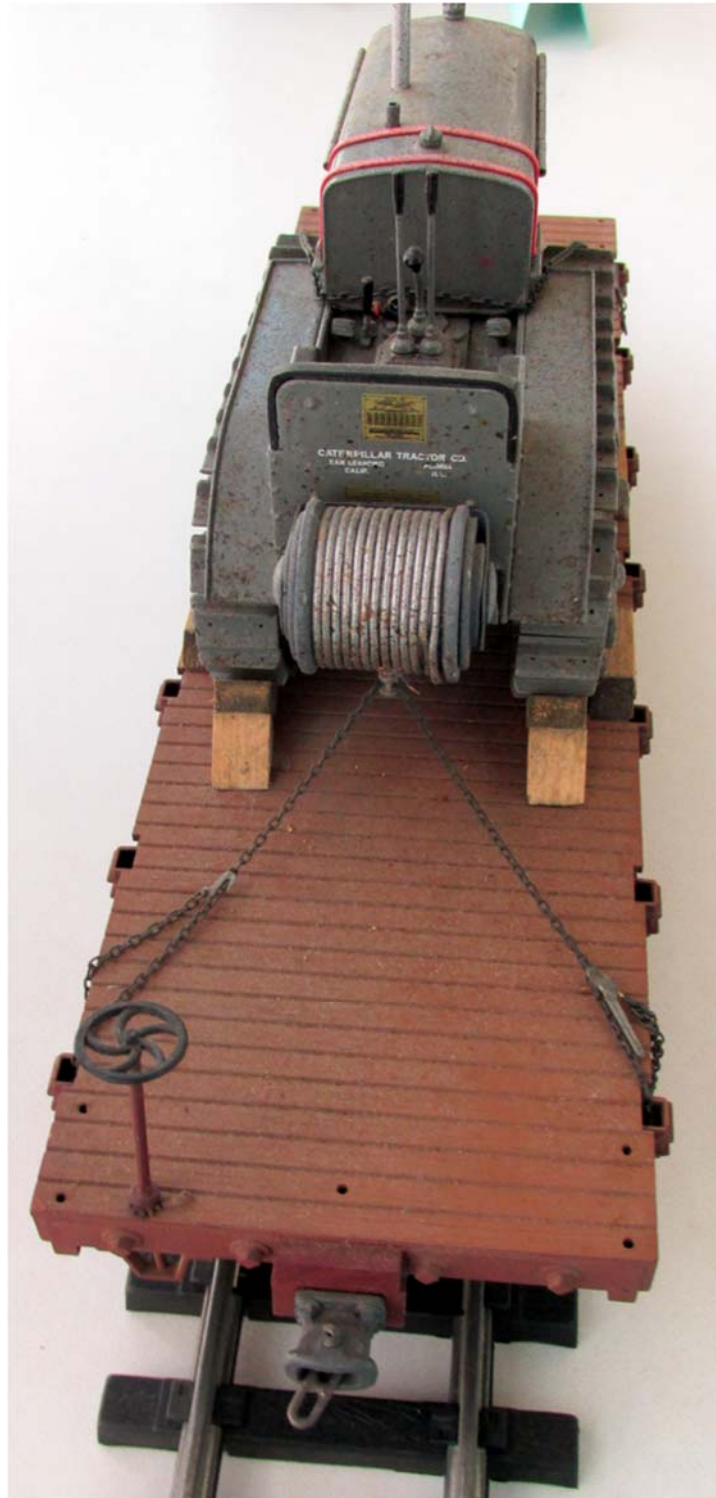


Photo Contest – Diesel Locomotives model or prototype

1st Place – Eugene Brichacek's *UP2687a Tier4 GEVO Blast Through Fire Smoke at McClellan, CA from Roseville*

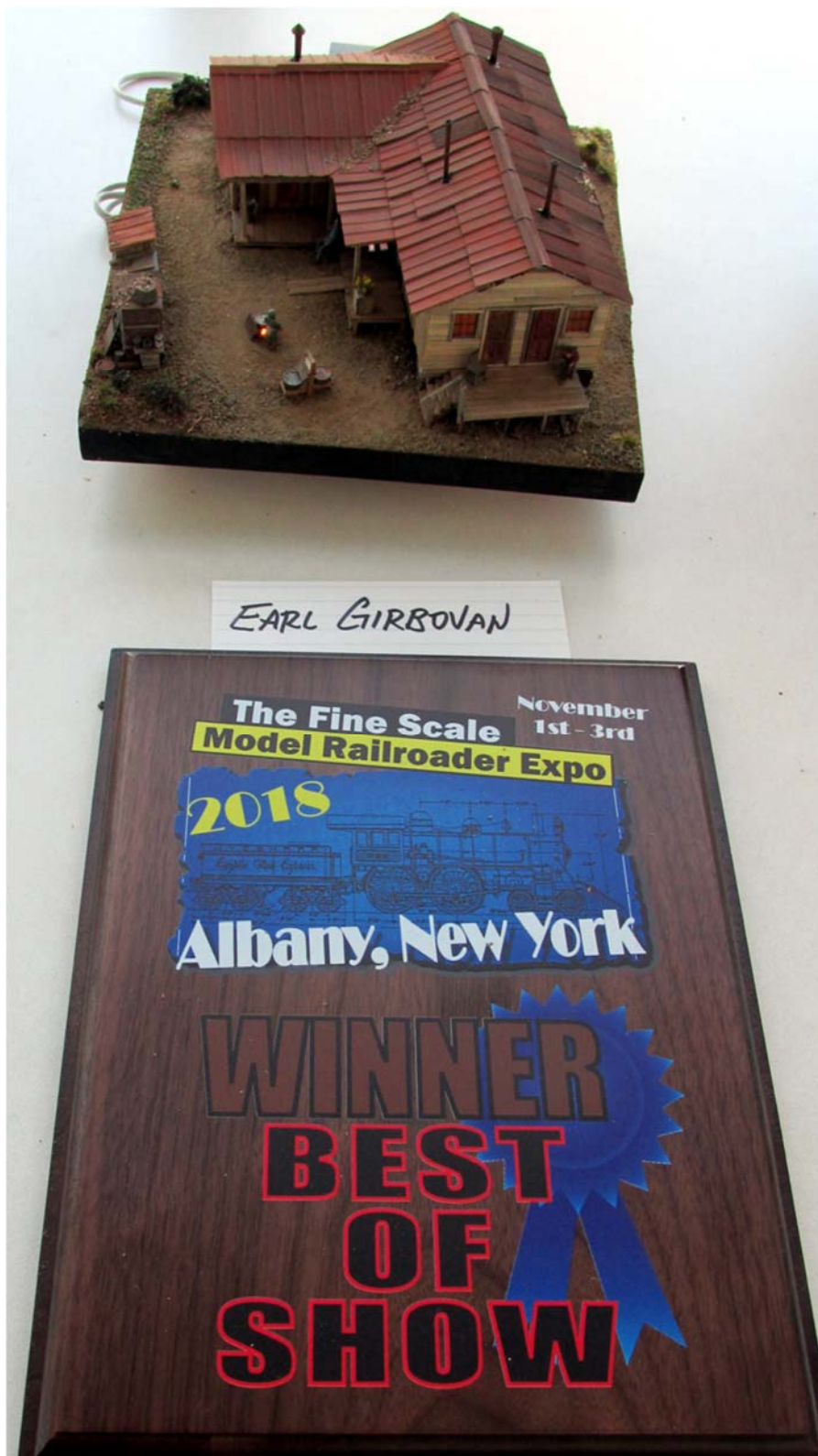


Other entries:
Jim Gray's *CalWestern Alco 1990's*



Show and Tell

Earl Giorbovan brought in his great contest winning structure with lights and a fire.



I brought a Haunted House paper structure kit that I downloaded from Clever Models that I built for Halloween titled *Affordable Bay Area Housing*, which is probably the true horror.



CHALLENGE

BUILD A ONE FOOT MODEL RAILROAD DIORAMA

☆☆BE PART OF THE PCR-COAST DIVISION☆☆
 ☆☆ONE FOOT CHALLENGE☆☆

~~~~~

The Coast Division of PCR/NMRA is inviting YOU to participate in our first
 ☆☆ ONE FOOT CHALLENGE ☆☆

The purpose of the challenge is to have FUN
 and be creative with your modeling skills

We will strut our stuff and oohs and aahs at the
 SPRING 2019 Coast Division Meet



RULES

The diorama must be a
 square 12 inches by 12 inches

Any scale, any era, any theme

The diorama must be railroad related and include
 a railroad track of any length



SMALL PRINT

To participate in any official activities, one needs to be a NMRA member
 The diorama must sit flat, be self-contained and easily movable



✓ **Judging** ✓

1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will be by POPULAR VOTE of COAST members attending



→ PRIZES ←

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

Everyone will be so proud of you. It's a challenge not a contest. No prizes

Questions, comments, **signing up** (expressions of interest)

Jesse Walden, unofficial acting interim chairman CDOFC*
jesse.cpw@gmail.com

*Coast Division One Foot Challenge

