



Coast Dispatcher

#191

February 2016

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

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

Welcome to the Coast Division of PCR

Division Event

February 21, 2016

Alameda Elks Lodge

2255 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda, Ca

9:00 AM.....Doors open. Free Door Prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets.

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

10:00 AM.....Painting Figures II – Painting Tutorial by Mike O'Dorney

11:00 AM.....Building a New Layout using Foam—Frank Markovich, Mike Blumensaadt

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

12 Noon.....Business Meeting

~12:30 PM* ...Model/Photo Contest Results

~12:45 PM* ...Auction starts, Roundtable continues

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

9:30 AM – 12:15 PM:

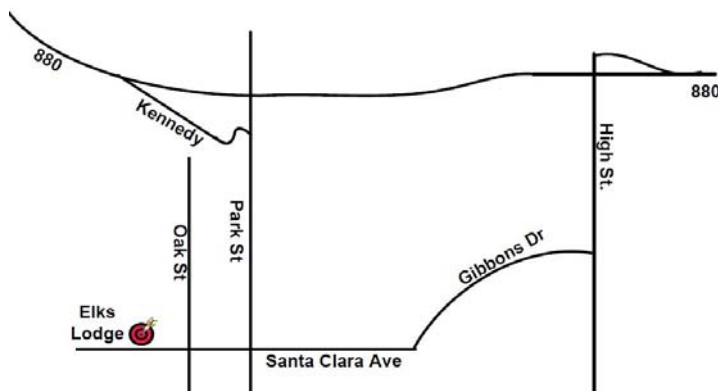
Model Contest– Caboose, Freight Car, and Maintenance of Way

Photo Contest– Railroad Structures

Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15)

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

Directions to the Alameda Elks Lodge



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.

Coast Call Board

Director: Mark Schutzer
Ph: 650-369-0481
Email: mark.schutzer@sbcglobal.net

Superintendent: Frank Markovich
Ph: 408-505-2727
email: frank@frankmarkovich.com

Chief Clerk: Doug Smith
Ph: 925-362-8974 (H)
925-989-0270 (C)
email: funrun27@yahoo.com

Paymaster: Bob Ferguson
Ph: 925-228-6833
email: BobPCRCDD@aol.com

Achievement: Kermit Paul
Ph: 925-935-1859

Auction: John Ameling
Ph: 408-732-0684
email: JAmeling@comcast.net

Auction Accounting: Bill Swindell
Ph: 925-372-6996
email: bill.swindell@value.net

Clinics: Richard Brennan
Ph: 510-895-9852
email: rbrennan@tt-west.com

Publisher, Coast Dispatcher:
Tom Vanden Bosch
Ph: 650-369-8305
email: tom-marian@att.net

Editor, Coast Dispatcher:
Tom Crawford
Ph: 510-790-0371
email: tom@thecrawfordfamily.net

Roundtable Facilitator:
Howard McKinney
Ph: 408-996-1581
email: mckinney@pacbell.net

Model Contest: Jim Eckman
Ph: 650-996-6728
email:
jim_eckman@roninengineer.com

Nominations: Dave Connery
Ph: 925-735-0134
email: dgconnery@sbcglobal.net

Photo Contest: Jim Eckman
Ph: 650-996-6728
email:
jim_eckman@roninengineer.com

Publicity: Steve Wesolowski
Ph: 408-252-4192
email: swezz@comcast.net

Quartermaster: Vacant

Registration: Veronica LaTorres
Ph: 510-317-7456
email: veronicashadlow@yahoo.com

Switching Contest: Eric Moe
Ph: 510-425-4915
email: moerailroadstation@gmail.com

Web Master: Pete Birdsong
Ph: 859-268-1462
email: rrpeteb@gmail.com

Meeting Sites: Steve Wesolowski
Ph: 408-252-4192
email: swezz@comcast.net

Layout Tours: Dave Parks
Ph: 650-961-7644
email: [Bearwestern@comcast.net](mailto: Bearwestern@comcast.net)

Membership: Veronica LaTorres
Ph: 510-317-7456
email: veronicashadlow@yahoo.com

In This Issue

February Event.....	1
Call Board	2
Editor's Notes.....	2
Publicity Report.....	3-5
Clinics.....	5
Director's Cut	6
Superintendent's Report ...	6-7
February Clinics	7
Auction Report	8
Model/Photo Contest	8-9
New Auction Chair	10
Registrar's Report	10
Coast History Snippet	10
NMRA Infonet.....	11-13

Editor's Notes

You will notice that this Coast Dispatcher is labelled as #191. The Dispatchers were numbered until #127 in March 2000. There is some confusion as to whether there were issues for June 2000 and September 2000, so I am assuming there were issues for those meetings. There are also several errors. For example there were 2 #42s and 2 #44s but no #12 or #47. Also we can find no copy of 26 or 27, but the time frames don't work (i.e. there was only one quarter between issue #25 and #28)

If you simply count the quarters since August 1968 when issue #1 was issued, we should be at issue 191, and other than the errors shown above, when I did a count of the issues since #127 this would indeed be the 191st issue and the 200th issue should be in June of 2018, representing exactly 50 years of the Coast Dispatchers.

More to follow when we get closer.

**Tom Crawford
Editor, Coast Dispatcher**

Publicity Report
Steve Wesolowski
Taking It To The Streets, 2016 PCR/FRRS Convention

In less than 3 months, on **April 20 to 24, 2016**, our 72nd PCR Convention, [Taking It To The Streets](#), being held with the Feather River Rail Society's annual convention will be happening in/around the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Modesto, on 1150 9th Street.

PCR/FRRS 2016 Hotel Reservations

Reservations for the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Modesto at our special convention price, \$109 for a king or double bed room, are now available! Instructions for making reservations by phone are on our web page <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2016/hotel.html> A link for making reservations online is also available from the website directly. Book before March 30th to get the special rate.

Early Bird Registration Ends February 1st!

Beat our Groundhog Day Deadline: the Early Bird Registration \$89 Special Deal ends 1/31/16. The **\$89** Registration Package includes Full Registration, the Awards Banquet, and PCR Breakfast. The Registration Package is \$99 starting Feb 1, 2016. There is no fare difference between Rail & Non-Rail registration. We have Youth Registration for \$50 & Single Day Registrations for \$40. You can print mail in forms or register online for PCR 2016.

The cost is the same for FRRS or PCR/NMRA registration. We plan separate banquets due to differing group goals, but with hopefully a no-host combined mixer beforehand. Otherwise all Registrants should have equal access to any/all of our combined activities, with one exception: NMRA rules require NMRA membership for any FRRS member entering any judged NMRA contest. Of Course, for models, photos or other items brought for Non-Judged Display, NMRA membership isn't required.

If you haven't attended a PCR Convention in over 5 years, a special "First Timer" \$79 fare is for anyone who hasn't enjoyed the last 5 PCR conventions. Why? Our committee plus many other members find most valuable benefits of NMRA membership are the opportunities we enjoy when we gather at our conferences.

PCR/NMRA + FRRS = More Train Fun for All

Because we are co-hosting and co-locating PCR's 2016 Convention with the Feather River Rail Society's Annual Conference, this will offer everyone attending more train fun options than usual, with FRRS Clinics in addition to the many usual PCR Clinics, plus more outside activities.

Any Two groups working together requires more coordination, so some offerings are taking longer to plan. I'm sure there will be changes by when you read this, and more by April 20. Keep visiting our web page at <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2016/index.html> for the latest info on all activities and keep checking for updated and new answers for your questions to appear. As I've written before, combined conventions means we'll enjoy more presentations on a wider range of topics, plus more outside activities for all, with details still being worked out.

Layouts, Tours & Other Outside Fun

As I write this, I know there will be local layouts to self-tour, although no Operating Sessions are yet

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

planned. But, as the Layout Design & Operations SIG folks are facilitating their Weekend in Sacramento in 10 days, I'm hoping after that's over, there will be more info and maybe some Ops Sessions. Stay Tuned.

Our volunteers are today completing plans for tours of the Modesto & Empire Traction Company (www.metr.com) Main Shops for Saturday and a bus tour of the Central California Traction Company's (www.cctrailroad.com) operations at the Port of Stockton earlier in the week, at additional cost, still TBD. Check our website for more tour plans as more info is available.

Likely on Thursday there'll be several one hour tours to the Downtown Tinkertank, Modesto's first public MakerSpace- a community resource where people come together to create, invent, build, learn, make and do. Tinkertank is just 5 blocks from our hotel. For more info about Tinkertank and the tools it offers to members, visit www.downtowntinkertank.com

Friday afternoon a Bus tour to the Sierra Railway is planned for \$65 additional, for the first 90 registrants who sign up. A guided tour of the Sierra Railway Shops and Railroad excursion are included in this tour, which should last approximately 6 hours. More details still to come.

Clinic Presenters, Layout Owners, Additional Local Possibilities

As I write this, we still have some Clinic time slots available. Please contact our Clinic Chair, Mary Moore-Compagna via mod2016clinics@pcrnmra.org ASAP if you're interested in presenting your clinic topic(s) for our Taking it to the Streets attendees.

If you or your group have a layout anywhere near Modesto you would enjoy sharing, please contact our Layout/Prototype Tour Chair, Scott Inman via mod2016layouts@pcrnmra.org to coordinate sharing your layout with others before, during or after our convention.

Maybe you know of or have contact information for an interesting activity, tour, event or location in or near Modesto you think our PCR 2016 attendees would enjoy visiting? If so, please contact our Layout/Prototype Tour Chair, Scott Inman via mod2016layouts@pcrnmra.org with the contact information to make it happen, etc. Maybe you know THE only person who can facilitate a tour of somewhere/something interesting in or around Modesto? Let Scott know.

Convention Car

Our Convention car is an Atlas HO 53' Double Door Evans Box Car lettered for M&ET, in 4 M&ET road numbers, at \$25 for one car and \$90 for a set of all 4 numbers, with separate PCR 2016 Logo Decals to satisfy even those who don't want PCR 2016 'graffiti' on their M&ET cars!

Enjoy Your #1 NMRA and/or FRRS Member Benefit

When I attend Conventions/other train lover gatherings, I realize these gatherings are among the Best benefits of my NMRA membership. During train conventions, I enjoy sharing and learning more about trains (both prototypes and models) during the Presentations, Clinics, Layout and Prototype Tours offered. I enjoy my time with & sharing enthusiasms for & interests in trains with other train people, enjoying trains with friends both new and old! My closest train friends I've met at train conventions since PCR 2001 in SLO, my first train related convention.

The active people I've enjoyed trains with at these train events are also most responsible for most of the train fun I've enjoyed these last 15+ years. Meeting them has opened my eyes to more fun train possibilities than I can ever possibly enjoy!

I know that, for many, funds available for spending on train entertainment are limited. I've always found among the best investments are attending train events I've been lucky to attend.

I've also found the high quality of the Layouts, Tours, Clinics and Contest Entries at PCR conventions

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

equals those of National conventions I've enjoyed, including NMRA, Narrow Gauge, Historical Society and Garden Railway gatherings.

PCR/FRRS2016 + You Volunteer = More Train Fun for You!

Volunteers make all conventions possible: Volunteers are the lifeblood of any convention and Taking It To The Streets 2016 is no exception. You volunteering mean less tasks for every volunteer, and also gives you more chances to make new train friends and spend more time in the company of others you may already know!

After you decide to come, I hope you also decide to volunteer your skills to help PCR/FRRS 2016 be even more fun and successful for everyone because of YOUR contribution!

Currently we are looking for help in the following areas during the convention: Registration Desk, Company Store, Clinic Hosts, Contest Room, Contest Judges, Switching Contest, Swap Meet and the Non-Rails Hospitality Room.

If you would like to help out for an hour or two during the convention in any of the above positions, please contact Dan Evans, at devan@volcano.net

We're also still looking for Organizing Committee Volunteers, for Non-Rail Activities, SIG Activities, and the Company Store. Contact Scott McAllister if you'd like to join our team in those roles. I always find some time and way(s) to volunteer my help every train convention I've enjoyed, because I always meet and get to know better more interesting people who share my love of trains.

Join us in Modesto **April 20 to 24, 2016** for [Taking It To The Streets!](#) Until then, Happy Trains! Keep building your models, taking train pictures and creating railroad themed arts & crafts to bring and share with us in Modesto. We look forward to sharing our train enjoyment with you!

Steve Wesolowski, Publicity Volunteer for PCR 2016, Taking It to the Streets

Clinics

By Richard Brennan

10:00 - 11:00 Painting Figures II - Painting Tutorial Mike O'Dorney

Mike will follow-up his first figure painting tutorial with a live demonstration of his production/painting techniques.

We will use a video feed into the LCD projector to show his work on-screen for everyone in the room.

11:00 - 12:00 Building a New Layout using Foam Frank Markovich and Mike Blumensaadt

Frank and Mike will talk about Building a New Layout using foam... continuing the Build-a-Memory series.

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

The Director's Cut

By Mark Schutzer

As I write this I'm coming to the end of my second term as Director and this will be the last Director's update from me. Frank Markovich is running for Director and I'm sure he will do a great job as my replacement.

I'm coming to the end of seven years as an officer in Coast Division, four years as your Superintendent, and four years as your Director with one year serving in both positions.

I'd like to think that over the time I have helped to leave the Coast Division in at least as good or better position today than when I became involved. Over the years the membership numbers have been declining, this has been a trend for a long time and isn't unique to our hobby. Fewer members mean less attendance at meets and declining proceeds from our main source of funds, the Auction at the Coast meets.

Several years back we were running a year over year deficit as the Auction proceeds were not able to cover our primary expenses of Meeting site rental and the printed Coast Dispatcher. We made a change a few years ago to go to an online electronic version of the Dispatcher and ever since we have been covering the expenses. In addition we were very fortunate to have a couple very large estates sold off through the Auction and that gave us a very nice boost to our bank account. With the new model of the electronic Dispatcher we continue to cover our expenses today. Coast has healthy financial reserves in the bank and our balance has roughly doubled in the past seven years.

I won't be going anywhere and I'll still be at all the Coast Meets (and yes I will still be running the lunch stand) but it's time to say goodbye as your Director.

That's all for now,

Mark

Coast Division Superintendent's Report

By Frank Markovich

Coast Division Report January 7, 2015

Another great event – here are some of the highlights:

I stayed until the very end. For those who want deals in the auction this is the way to do it. I sold more than I bought this time – First time sold items in a number of years.

Attendance was 95 – a little higher than last year. This despite the poor weather – it was raining. There

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

were 2 new members and a couple of members who renewed.

Two great clinics: Jim Eckman on Paper Models – the people built a paper model and were able to take it home. This is the first in a series of make and take. No cost to those who attended. I built one of these at Pleasanton at the GTE Show in November – it is now on the Build a Memory layout. Looks good even close up. We plan on more make and take clinics in the near future.

Then Mike Blumenstaadt gave a clinic on Civil War RR. While I didn't attend I did video tape it and it was fantastic. Mike is an expert on the subject and has articles on the Layout in a number of Model RR magazines include Model Railroader. Most people do not really know how important the railroads were to both the North and the South. The various movies that have trains in them are not 100% historically accurate but are close and lots of fun. My favorite is the "Andrews Raiders" but "The General" with Buster Keaton is another fun one.

Each clinic was standing room only.

There were about 400 items in the Auction and there were over 25 items for door prizes.

7 photos in the contest but only one model. It was excellent. Pat LaTorres won both model and photo contest. Please bring more models for the contest even if they are only Show and Tell. I am going to bring something for show and tell. Remember you get an extra door prize ticket for bringing a model be it for the Contest or Show and Tell.

We did not have a roundtable at the event this time but will have one in February. Howard is working on a topic

Our next event is February 21 at the Elks club in Alameda. Great location. Clinics are not quite set yet.

Announcements are; PCR convention in Modesto April 22 – 24, Westside Reunion April 16, 2016 in Sonora, Sierra Seminar the following day April 17, 2016.. Contact Frank Markovich if interested frank@frankmarkovich.com.

Charlie Getz announced that we are adding many from other countries.

Also Pat announced that we will need a new NMRA PCR VP. Anyone interested please contact me or Pat LaTorres.

Fun day overall and I had lots of fun meeting with many members. Stay tuned for some news on a day of clinics – a Saturday. Richard Brennen and I are working on the details.

Now for some modeling techniques from Frank:

Try some of the newer paints out there that are used in the gaming world. I have been using MIG, and Vallejo paints now for some time. These are acrylic's that can be used straight or in an airbrush. Very thin and they have shades. They are great for painting figures and for painting castings. I will have a model at the meet with some of the details painted with these great paints. Also the wood on the model was colored using Pan Pastels. This is another great way to finish a model simply and easily. I have been using Reaper Miniatures Brand "Metallic Paint" – it is fantastic for painting castings to get a metal finish. I like Blackened Steel and Tarnished steel best. Website is reapermini.com.

With all of the above I first prime and castings or figures with Tamiya primer – usually the grey primer – it gives a good base to work from.

Auction Report ***By John Ameling***

Here is the Auction Committee report for the December 6th Division Train Event

Total Items Sold	316
No Bid Items	48
Auction net	\$332.60

We still need volunteers for the auction committee and for the Auction Training Program. Contact me if you can help. My contact information is given on the Call Board on page 2.

Thanks
John Ameling
Apprentice Auction Committee Chair

Model and Photo Contest Report December 6th, 2015

Jim Eckman

Favorite Model

There was one entry

1st place – Pat LaTorres TLC #35 On30 Caboose



(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

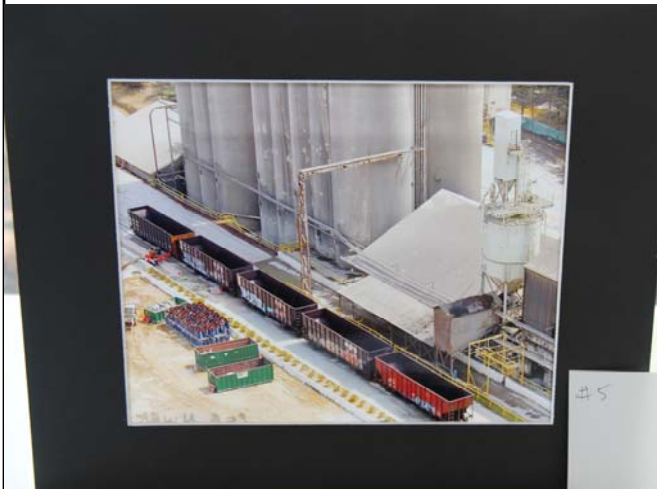
Favorite Photo



1st Place - Pat LaTorres Pickering Lumber Company #12



2nd Place – Kenneth Martin ATSF 8001



3rd Place (3 tied photos) - Ronnie LaTorres—Davenport Cemex Plant



Tom Van Horn – Sierra Turntable

Tom Van Horn—Granite Rock #10



New Auction Committee Chair

As you may know, John Marshall is unable to continue on as Auction chair. John Ameling has volunteered to take over. We wish Jon M a speedy recovery, and wish John A success as the new Auction Chair.

John Ameling



Registrar's Report

Ronnie LaTorres

Meet in San Leandro, December 2015

Attendance

Coast Division	84
Redwood Empire Division	6
Sierra Division	3
Daylight Division	2
Other (Hawaii)	0
Guests	3
Total	96

A Little Bit of Coast Division (Dispatcher) History

Tom Crawford

This is the first of a series of snippets about the history of the Coast Dispatcher.

The first Coast Division Newsletter came out in August, 1968 as the Coast Division News as a replacement for the quarterly flyer, which was used to announce the division meetings and their locations. There was a survey to come up with a name in issue #2, and Issue #3 came out as the Coast Dispatcher. The name has stuck.

Lunch at the Coast Division meets was provided by the Railettes, who used the money to pay for their "adventures" like bus rides to SF, among other things.

Welcome to the NMRA InfoNet News (Infoblast) For December, 2015

Reference: NMRA Conventions The following is a listing of the NMRA Conventions by year and city from the first one in 1935 to the latest planned one for St. Louis in 2020

By Year

By Year					
No.	Year	City	No.	Year	City
1	1935	Milwaukee	43	1978	Dearborn
2	1936	Chicago	44	1979	Calgary
3	1937	Detroit	45	1980	Orlando
4	1938	Buffalo	46	1981	San Mateo
5	1939	New York	47	1982	Washington DC
6	1940	Milwaukee	48	1983	Winnipeg
7	1941	Peoria	49	1984	Kansas City
8	1942	Rochester	50	1985	Milwaukee
9	1943	Cincinnati	51	1986	Boston
10	1944	Pittsburgh	52	1987	Eugene
	1945	No Convention	53	1988	Birmingham
11	1946	Detroit	54	1989	Houston
12	1947	Oakland	55	1990	Pittsburgh
13	1948	Atlanta	56	1991	Denver
14	1949	Denver	57	1992	Columbus
15	1950	Milwaukee	58	1993	Valley Forge
16	1951	New York	59	1994	Portland
17	1952	Portland	60	1995	Atlanta
18	1953	Toronto	61	1996	Long Beach
19	1954	Chicago	62	1997	Madison
20	1955	Baltimore	63	1998	Kansas City
21	1956	St. Paul	64	1999	St. Paul
22	1957	Houston	65	2000	San Jose
23	1958	Pittsburgh	66	2001	St. Louis
24	1959	San Diego	67	2002	Ft. Lauderdale
25	1960	Chicago	68	2003	Toronto
26	1961	Cleveland	69	2004	Seattle
27	1962	Montreal	70	2005	Cincinnati
28	1963	Indianapolis	71	2006	Philadelphia
29	1964	Philadelphia	72	2007	Detroit
30	1965	Vancouver	73	2008	Anaheim
31	1966	Cincinnati	74	2009	Hartford
32	1967	Miami Beach	75	2010	Milwaukee
33	1968	San Francisco	76	2011	Sacramento
34	1969	Minneapolis	77	2012	Grand Rapids
35	1970	St. Louis	78	2013	Atlanta
36	1971	London	79	2014	Cleveland
37	1972	Seattle	80	2015	Portland
38	1973	Atlanta	81	2016	Indianapolis
39	1974	San Diego	82	2017	Orlando
40	1975	Dayton	83	2018	Kansas City
41	1976	Chicago	84	2019	Salt Lake City
42	1977	Denver	85	2020	St. Louis

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

By City

By City					
City	Year	No.	City	Year	No.
Anaheim	2008	73	Milwaukee	1935	1
Atlanta	1948	13		1940	6
	1973	38		1950	15
	1995	60		1985	50
	2013	78		2010	75
Baltimore	1955	20	Minneapolis	1969	34
Birmingham	1988	53	Montreal	1962	27
Boston	1986	51	New York	1939	5
Buffalo	1938	4		1951	16
Calgary	1979	44	Oakland	1947	12
Chicago	1936	2	Orlando	1980	45
	1954	19		2017	82
	1960	25	Peoria	1941	7
	1976	41	Philadelphia	1964	29
Cincinnati	1943	9		2006	71
	1966	31	Pittsburgh	1944	10
	2005	70		1958	23
Cleveland	1961	26		1990	55
	2014	79	Portland	1952	17
Columbus	1992	57		1994	59
Dayton	1975	40		2015	80
Dearborn	1978	43	Rochester	1942	8
Denver	1949	14	Sacramento	2011	76
	1977	42	Salt Lake City	2019	84
	1991	56	San Diego	1959	24
Detroit	1937	3		1974	39
	1946	11	San Francisco	1968	33
	2007	72	San Jose	2000	65
Eugene	1987	52	San Mateo	1981	46
Ft. Lauderdale	2002	67	Seattle	1972	37
Grand Rapids	2012	77		2004	69
Hartford	2009	74	St. Louis	1970	35
Houston	1957	22		2001	66
	1989	54		2020	85
Indianapolis	1963	28	St. Paul	1956	21
	2016	81		1999	64
Kansas City	1984	49	Toronto	1953	18
	1998	63		2003	68
	2018	83	Valley Forge	1993	58
London	1971	36	Vancouver	1965	30
Long Beach	1996	61	Washington DC	1982	47
Madison	1997	62	Winnipeg	1983	48
Miami Beach	1967	32			

By: Tom Draper

**** Correction –**

In last month's (November) NMRA InfoNet News there was an error in the candidate names for the position of Atlantic District

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

Director. The candidates are Kathy Millatt and Peter Bowen.

Also, Roger Ferris was awarded a NMRA Fellow Award at the 2015 NMR Convention.

An article from Frank Baker, Acting NMRA Marketing Director:

I received my first train set at the very early age of two. Along with my early entry into the hobby, came a desire to know more about how this wonderful toy worked. I was hooked. While that train set no longer exists, I grew up surrounded by trains. Up until I was nine, The Erie Railroad was 4 houses up the street. My neighbor was Grif Teller, the famous artist for many PRR calendars. He also had a Buddy "L" set that I would drag out of his garage and set it up in my backyard. At nine, we moved to another town and the DL&W was my new neighbor. Trains were part of my formative years. This is a wonderful hobby and the achievement program has helped me in many ways. Friends and fellow modelers know that I have a passion for scratch building structures. Before retirement, I was Director of Sales & Marketing for an Arizona based company, with customers around the world. I retired six years ago and really immersed myself into the hobby, just ask my wife. Since then I have been the editor of our division newsletter and publicity chair for our 2015 regional convention.

Earlier in the year I raised my hand letting Charlie Getz know of my interest in the NMRA marketing position. At our PSR regional convention in September, Charlie announced this to everyone. We all know that the hobby is changing much like everything else in the world. Today's young are more interested in that little black box called a phone and seem to dwell on its ability to do almost everything. Our population is aging, adults are working more and the hobby is seeing declining in numbers.

Bringing back the heyday of model railroading is probably an impossible task, but developing new and exciting elements of the hobby across a broad spectrum of age related hobbyists or potential model train enthusiasts, might just work. This is going to be a challenge and will require thinking "out of the box" and the help of everyone to refine, create, and implement new solutions to attract a new generation of model railroaders and retain many of the existing members. I look forward to working with everyone in this challenging position and having your help to excite, inform and grow the NMRA.

NMRA

Frank C. Baker

Acting NMRA Marketing Director

If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer. You will find those addresses at www.nmra.org or in the NMRA Magazine

If the person holding a region or division office changes, or their email address changes, please contact me at tcdraider@aol.com with the corrected information.

Regards,

Tom Draper – HLM, DSA, FA, MSA, PA
Director – Support Services