



Coast Dispatcher

#193

September 2016

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

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

Next Division Event
September 25, 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.....Build a Memory-final installment N scale—Frank Markovich, Mike Blumensaadt
11:00 AM.....Building Paper models Part 2—Jim Eckman
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 PMTimesaver Results, Raffle – afterward Auction continues if required

9:30 AM – 12:15 PM:

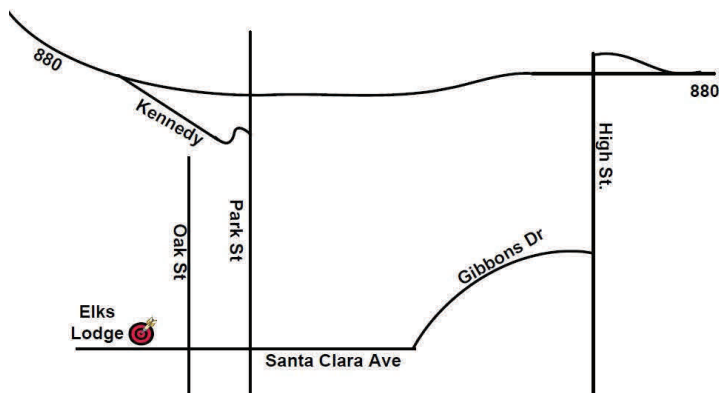
Model Contest– Steam, Maintenance of Way, Structures, Traction and Passenger.

Photo Contest– Working on the Railroad model or prototype

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.

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Coast Division Superintendent's Report

By Frank Markovich

Our next event will be September 25th at the Elks Club in Alameda. Address is: 2255 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda, CA 94501 You will be getting a card with the directions.

There will be two clinics:

At 10:00 AM Mike Blumenstaadt and I will be doing the final Build a Memory clinic on the 'N' scale logging layout to include more on scenery, doing the electrical and final thoughts.

At 11:00 AM Jim Eckman will be doing a 2nd clinic on Paper models – this is a hands on clinic and will go further than his last clinic. It should be great! Those attending will get to build a model and bring it home!!!!

We will have a round table with Howard leading it.

Of course the regular items such as a large auction and many door prizes. I even won a door prize in June.

Model Contest:

Steam, Maintenance of Way, Structures, Traction and Passenger.

Plaques will be awarded at the meet and photos of the models will be shown during the business meeting. Also, bring show and tell. Remember you get an extra door prize ticket for bringing a model or a photograph!!

Also we can judge models for achievement awards at the event!!!

We have purchased a new PA for the Division.

There are quite a number of individuals who have earned Achievement Awards the past few months so we will also honor them at the meet (event).

One month after our event is the PCR directors meeting so if there is anything that you would like me to bring up at the PCR directors meeting please let me know at the meeting or send me an email – frank@frankmarkovich.com.

The week before the event is Los Altos Train days. Mike Blumensaadt and I will be representing the NMRA with our Build a Memory – Plan on attending and let me know if you would like to help at the event. It really takes about 4 people to help at this event. We picked up one new member last year and I made some reconnections with old friends. Lots of children that are eager to watch trains!

Also coming up is the 200th issue of the Coast Dispatcher. We would like to make it special so any ideas or submissions would be great!

The last event (or meet):

There were 90 in attendance at this event (meet). We had members from all of the divisions in the PCR. We also had 531 items in the auction. This was by far the most we have had in some time. There were 25 items donated to the division and we raised over \$100 for those items for the division. I saw items in all of

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the major scales (N, HO and O scale). Even a few narrow gauge items. Not so much brass – just a few – but lots of other cool items. This next event promises to have another large amount of items for sale. If you are bringing stuff to sell, I suggest that you bundle small items together. That will give you a better chance of getting the most money for your items. Also make sure that you attach the auction cards to the items so that the cards and the item don't come apart. Put small items in a box or clear bag with the card attached.

Two clinics were given and both were well attended. Mike Blumensaadt and I did the next steps on "Build a Memory". This is an 'N' scale project layout that is just 2 feet by a little less than 4 feet. It will fit in the back seat of most cars and is totally built on foam. We will do part 3 at the next Coast event. Part 3 will cover electrical, structures and misc. towards building and moving the layout. One person can move this layout by themselves. This will be the last clinic in the series. Mike and I have done 7 clinics so far on this program and I would like someone to step up and run the program going forward. Please see me if you are interested. It has been both a success and a great recruiting tool for the NMRA. Mike and I would be willing to help anyone who wanted to try it.

The second clinic was by Bill Swindell on "Power on Board" or "Dead Rail". The room was packed and Bill gave lots of information on putting the receiver and batteries in locomotives (HO scale and Larger). He also gave a similar clinic at the Garden RR convention in Santa Clara in early Jul

The Roundtable, led by Howard McKinney was also well attended. About 10 people there including Charlie Getz (head of the NMRA). Topics were on events around the area and other various topics. I really enjoyed the lively discussion. Howard has been leading this for a number of years now. He will also lead at our next event.

Had over 20 door prizes.

We announced starting a special clinic series on hands on building. At our next event Jim Eckman will give another clinic on paper structures. It will be another one where the participants will build a model at the clinic to take home.

Next will be one on building a wood structure kit. This will be October 15th. Cost will be only for the cost of the kit. More information at the Sept 25th meet.

Below are some of the announcements made:

- Awards going forward will be plaques.

- Schedule of contests will be online soon.

- Special Clinics – outside of regular meets and a hands on.

 - First one will be in October. It will be Structures

 - Next one will be on building cars.

At our next meet Jim Eckman will do part 2 of building paper structures.

Achievement

Not much activity until recently.

Have judged 4 more in the last month and helped submit another one.

You can talk to me or call me about judging.

PCR has a new Treasurer - Bob Osborn.

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Trying the PA again – this went well and we will purchase one for the next meet.

Today we had a brief slide show on the models in the contest. Richard Brennan is preparing that. This went well. I want to thank him for this as it really added to our event.

We ended at 3:45 even with a very large auction. Our next meet is September 25th back at the Elks club in Alameda. Please note the contest categories and bring a model to enter or for show and tell.

Clinics :

Mike showing Scenery Techniques.

Full house at Bill's Clinic



Some random shots of the Auction and Business Meeting.



Upcoming Volunteering Opportunities

Steve Wesolowski

Coast Division Publicity Volunteer

Lately, I've had little to say/been able to say very little, so You haven't 'heard' from me, in print, or in person. After enjoying PCR/FRRS 2016 in Modesto with about 200 other train lovers, unfortunately I've been mainly 'enjoying' what I call the Recurring 6-week (seems like 3 Months!) Cough. Because I like to think I've maybe learned to use fewer words-- to speak with less coughing-- and I've only a few things to say, I'll try to be terse. (I'm so sorry most of you fell off your chairs laughing at the idea I could **ever** be terse.)

As a result of my dumb cough, I missed the National Garden Railway Convention, except for the Public Day at their Train Show, where, between coughs, I thoroughly enjoyed the G gauge John Allen TimeSaver at the NMRA booth. Trying the Time Saver in G was so much fun, I did it twice-- only 20 seconds faster my second time. My best time was about 4 minutes slower than the fastest time of the day, so I was pleasantly surprised my second fastest time of that day won me a lovely Hartland Locomotive Works bright yellow Mack Loco with the 2016 NGRC logo! My thank yous to Ronnie LaTorres, for volunteering to time me PLUS Eric Moe and several others I don't know for bringing, setting up and running the G TimeSaver for me and many others to enjoy! Plus, Hartland for donating several loco prizes. I already owned their Mack locos I use for cleaning track and a couple of their Rail cars, so I know how well they run.

The Great Train Show Calendar, at <http://a83.fe4.myftpupload.com/schedule/>, only has 2 shows within Coast Division comin up-- November 26-7 in Pleasanton and February 25-6 in San Jose. You can also enjoy shows in Santa Rosa, Sacramento, et al, I'm writing this to strongly urge you to consider volunteering some time at the Pleasanton and San Jose shows, to help us answer questions/spread the word about how NMRA membership increases **your** enjoyment of our shared hobby; really how NMRA, PCR & Coast Division benefits you.

Today, I'm not going to extol the many benefits of volunteering to help others enjoy more train fun at these events, except to say the more you're involved, the more train fun you'll enjoy. If you volunteer you should enjoy a couple hours of quality fun & trains with others who share your interest in trains. If you only Try it, You may like it, and it's free!

Besides volunteering for the GTS shows, of course there **are** other train events you may also enjoy volunteering to help us spread the word about how NMRA membership increases **our/your** enjoyment of our hobby. Many train related events in California are listed on our PCR Master Calendar at <http://www.pcrnmra.org/pcr/calendar/calendar.shtml>. The International Railfair in Roseville, Division meets and many other fun train events are in the calendar.

And, If you know of ANY train related events within PCR you notice are NOT listed in the PCR Master Calendar, PLEASE email Dave Grenier with the details. Dave will add them to the PCR Calendar, so other train lovers may learn about and maybe enjoy them too! A link to Dave Grenier is at the top of the calendar. Writing this, I saw a couple missing; I'll email Dave!

Thanks for reading. I hope to see you enjoying local train events. Until we meet again, Happy Trains to You!

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Model and Photo Contest Report June 5, 2016

Jim Eckman

We had an amazing amount of Show and Tell

Traction and Self Propelled

No Entries

Structures

1st place – Doug Smith's "The Dining Car"

A great example of how a few stock items, ingeniously modified, can create an elegant little scene. Train themed logo was taken from a food truck company that may have started out in one of these.



Dioramas

No Entries



RTR Caboose (Special Contest)

1st place - Kenneth Martin's C&S Caboose

Ken designed and printed a 3D interior for it, he used Tinkercad. A great demo of how simple 3D can be and still add complicated details. Doug Smith donated a special prize.

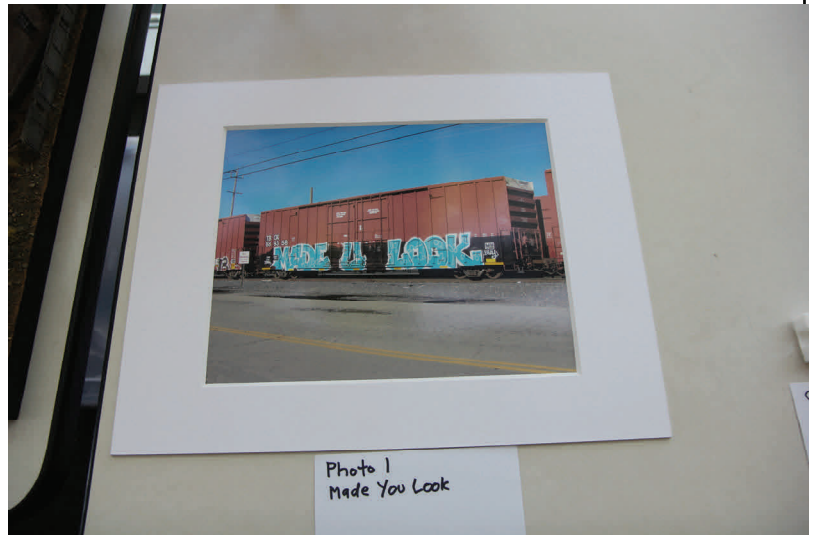
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Photos - Unpowered rolling stock, model or prototype

1st place – Tom Van Horn's "Made you look"

While I'm not a giant fan of graffiti, it can be impressive (think Banksy, graffiti artist) and part of the modern railroad scene. A pretty amazing example of urban art.

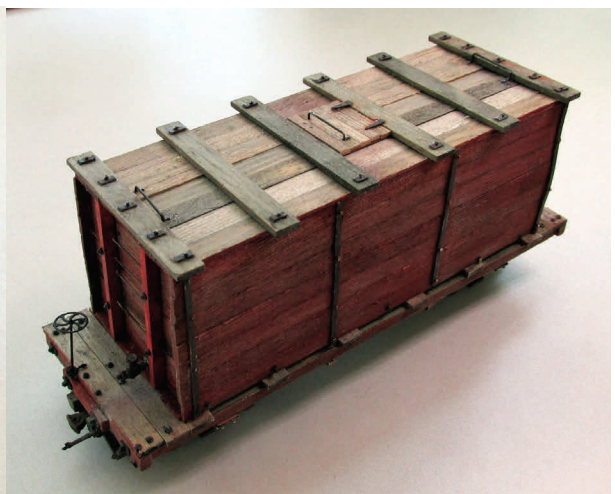
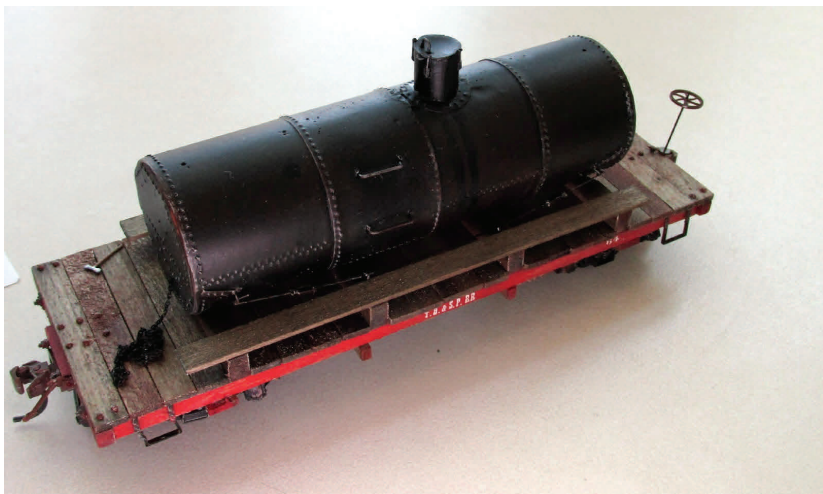


Show and Tell

Pat La Torres' Saw Filer's Shack



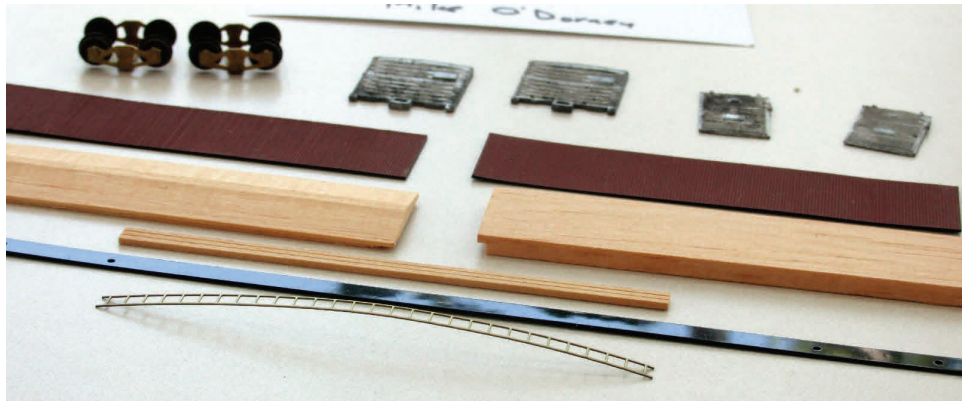
Frank Markovich's On3 Water and Tank Cars



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Mike O'Dorney's
TT car kit



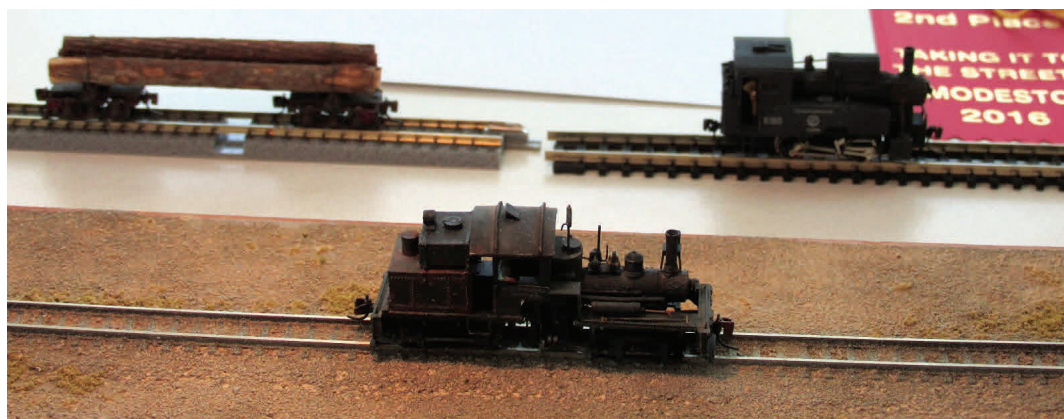
Earl Girbovan's Assorted award winning structures
from the Modesto contest



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Tom Knapp's assorted award winning rolling stock from the Modesto contest, break out your microscopes!



Bob Wirthlin's "Hobby Shack" with animations, Bob showed us the working animations and the gear needed to make it work, wow!



Registrar's Report***Ronnie LaTorres***

Meet in San Leandro, June 2016

Attendance

Coast Division	74
Redwood Empire Division	4
Sierra Division	7
Daylight Division	0
Other (Hawaii)	0
Guests	4
First Timers	0
Total	89

Income

New memberships	1	\$44.00
New Badges	1	5.00
Door Prize Income	\$77.00	
Door Prize Expenses	<u>-\$27.00</u>	
Door Prize Net income		<u>\$50.00</u>
Net Income		\$99.00

Auction Report***John Ameling***

Here is the Auction Committee report for the June 5th 2016 Division Train Event

Total Items Sold	526
No Bid Items	77
Auction net	\$ 736

We currently have a strong group of auctioneers. Clark, Don, and Richard did a great job with the June meet. We still need volunteers to help organize the auction items and hand them off to the auctioneers. Please contact me if you can help. My contact information is given on the Call Board on page 2.

Thanks

John Ameling
Auction Committee Chair

Welcome to the NMRA InfoNet News (Infoblast) For July, 2016**Education Services at the Division Level**

**By Bruce De Young, MMR
Education Department Manager**

As you probably know, the NMRA is a 501 (C) (3) nonprofit educational organization. Clearly the various programs and services that fall under the Education Department are essential to earning and keeping this designation. Let me quickly summarize those programs and services that fall under the umbrella of the Education Department. In no particular order they are: the Contest Program; the Achievement Program, the Modeling with the Masters Program; the EduTRAIN® Clinic Program; the Boy Scout Merit Badge Program; the SIG Program; the Data Sheet Program and finally, the beginners section of the NMRA website. That is a rather large umbrella!

The actual implementation of these Educational Programs occurs in various ways at the National, Regional, and Divisional levels of our three-tiered organization. But the focus of this particular column is what these educational services might actually look like at the Division level. As you look around at all the Divisions, you will see a lot of variability. Some Divisions have an active Boy Scout Program while others do not. Many incorporate one or more clinics into every event they schedule, while others might only do that at what they call "Mini-Conventions". The Achievement Program certainly depends heavily on active promotion at the Division level and most Divisions make provisions at their event to both evaluate models and publicly present earned certificates within the AP Program. Although most Divisions do not regularly schedule formal Model Contests, many do incorporate Popular Vote Contests as a regular feature of their events. And on it goes.

Up until now, the only way one Division might learn what other Divisions are doing was by perusing the on-line newsletters of other Divisions, most of which are available through links under the Regions & Divisions tab on the NMRA's website, or by actually attending the events of neighboring Divisions. Now there is another way. The Officers and Board of Directors asked for the development of a Division Superintendents' Handbook. This Handbook was presented to them in February at their Mid-Year Meeting in Atlanta.

This new Handbook contains a wealth of information useful to Division Superintendents/Presidents and others in leadership positions at the Division level. Included in that information is a collection of 'best practices' from Divisions around the NMRA and many of those best practices focus on the delivery of the educational services and programs mentioned above.

The Handbook will soon be emailed to all Region Superintendents by Steve August, our RAC Director. He will ask that the Regions forward the Handbook to all their Division Superintendents. The Handbook will also be available on the NMRA website in the Member's Only side of the site.

Hopefully this Handbook will prove helpful to Divisions as they help the NMRA deliver its educational programs at the local level.

Two exciting new NMRA t-shirts available!

**By Jenny Hendricks
Chief Administrative Officer**

We're pleased to announce two new NMRA t-shirts will be available at the Indianapolis convention, and following that, in the NMRA Company Store.

The t-shirts come in S, M, L, XL, and XXL and are gray with "NMRA blue" printing.

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The first design features the phrase, "Ask me about model railroading!" on the front, with the NMRA logo and "We make it more fun" slogan on the back.

The second shirt features the NMRA logo and "National Model Railroad Association" type on the front, and, on the back, the NMRA logo and the words, "It's where real model railroaders belong."

The shirts are priced at \$12 each or two for \$20 (one of each or two of the same). Shipping from headquarters will be an additional \$6.

Show the world you're an NMRA member with one of these brand new shirts!

NMRA Awards Presented at the 2016 Convention in Indianapolis

The following NMRA Awards were presented at the 2016 NMRA Convention in Indianapolis, IN.

Honorary Life Member (HLM)

Tony Koester

Distinguished Service Award (DSA)

Andy Sperandeo

President's Award (PA)

Mike Brestel
Chuck Diljak
Gary Hoover
Gerry Leone, MMR
Ed Molenkamp
John Schindler
Mark Shafer
Larry Swigert
Robert Weinheimer, MMR