



Coast Dispatcher June 2016

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

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

Next Coast Division Event

June 5, 2016

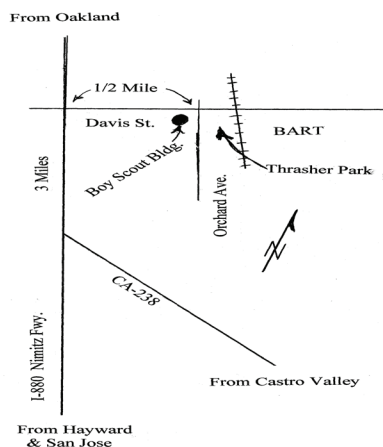
Boy Scouts of America Headquarters

1001 Davis St, San Leandro, CA.

- 9:00 AM.....Doors open. Free Door Prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets.
- 9:30 AM.....Get Auction Cards.
- 10:00 AM.....Build a Memory part 2 by Mike Blumenstaadt and Frank Markovich. We will cover putting track down, shaping foam, plaster clothe and basic scenery base.
- 11:00 AM.....Battery powered DCC for HO and Larger by Bill Swindell. This clinic will discuss how to run battery powered DCC on your HO layout. The same process can be applied to S & O scales. At present, this configuration is not a solution for N scale.
- 11:15 AM Model Railroading Round Table moderated by Howard McKinney. Bring your issues and questions.
- 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– Structure, Display/Diorama, Self-propelled cars and traction
- Special Contest - Modified Cabooses from RTR train sets, special award
- Photo Contest– Unpowered rolling stock, model or prototype
- Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15)
- * Contest results immediately after business meeting. Auction actually starts immediately after contest results.

June Special Event - Vendor Showcase: We will be inviting model railroad-related vendors from the PCR to set up informational displays about their products, showing samples, providing product details and ordering information. Due to site restrictions, there will be NO direct table sales, but how-to-order information is welcome."

Directions to the Boy Scout Headquarters



From the North:

Take Highway 880 south.

Take Exit 34, Davis St.

Turn Left on Davis. Go 0.7 miles to the BSA Headquarters, 1001 Davis St.

From the South:

Take Highway 880 North

Take Exit 34, Davis St.

Turn Right on Davis St. Go 0.7 miles to the BSA Headquarters, 1001 Davis St.

Coast Call Board

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

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

Chief Clerk: Doug Smith
Ph: 925-362-8974 (H)
925-989-0207 (C)
email: funrun27@yahoo.com

Paymaster: Bob Ferguson
Ph: 925-228-6833
email: BobPCRCd@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: Stanley Keiser
Ph: 510-791-1504
email: sbkeiser@juno.com

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

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

In This Issue

September Event	1
Call Board	2
Editor's Notes	2
John Marshall	3
Superintendent's Report ...	3-5
Director's Report	6
Auction Report	7
Registrar's Report	7
Round Table Changes	8
Model Contest Changes	8
Model and Photo Contests	9-11
NMRA Infonet	12-13

Editor's Notes.

Change is in the wind. There are two short articles on Page 8 about changes in the contests and changes in the Round Table. These changes are intended to increase participation in both. Take a look and we'll see you at the event.

We also will have a few vendor tables where the vendor can show off their wares. (Not for sale due to Boy Scout Rules)

JOHN MARSHALL, AN IMPORTANT MEMBER OF COAST DIVISION, PASSES

By Dave Connery

Coast Division has lost a very strong supporter with the passing of member John Marshall on March 28, 2016. John served as Clinics Chair March 1999 to March 2012; Quartermaster March 2002 to March 2012; Superintendent April 2005 to April 2009; Auction Chair December 2008 to December 2015 and was the Coast Member of the Year in 2004. John had been fighting some very difficult health issues for several years and in January suffered a stroke, paralyzing the left side of his body. He spent time in the hospital and then undergoing Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy at the Pleasanton Nursing Center. He died peacefully at home under the loving care of his wife, Ilene.

The Coast Division provided John with a plaque thanking him for his many years of extensive service as a volunteer for the Division.

Superintendent Markovich displayed the plaque at the February 21st Coast Event and the plaque was presented to John on February 26th during his stay at the Rehab center by Frank Markovich, Rich Brennan and Dave Connery.

Thanks to Tom Crawford for his help in researching John's many contributions to the Division. John will be greatly missed by his many friends in our Division and the Pacific Coast Region.



Coast Division Superintendent's Report Frank Markovich

We had over 100 in attendance at the February Event. The sign in sheet had 106 with 83 in the division and a few from other divisions, and there are always a few who do not sign in. There were over 30 door prizes so many went home with a prize. Note that door prizes are drawn mid-way through the auction. You can also purchase additional door prize tickets at the door.

There were 4 new comers including a lady whose last name was Newcomer. We had people from at least 3 other divisions. Our division is one of a very few that is increasing in number. Bring a friend so that they can see what happens.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

There were two clinics presented and both were full. One was by Mike O'Dorney. It was on figure painting part II. Richard Brennan set up a light and a video feed to project exactly what Mike was doing. Fantastic clinic! Then Mike Blumenstaadt and I did a clinic on Build a Memory – this was a getting started clinic. We went over working with ridged foam, laying out the track etc. While it sounds like a beginner's clinic there were many questions from seasoned modelers. We will do a follow up at the next meet on fastening the track down, doing plaster cloth, painting the ground cover and application of ground cover. It will be a work clinic. Members may even be called up to try some of the techniques themselves. I am very excited about this project as it is of a logging line and that is where my main interest lies. It is also in a very small space of 2 feet by just over 3 feet. It is a layout that almost anyone would have space to build. We will also have the light and camera setup so members can see exactly what we are doing.

Howard led the Round Table – not many did it this time but I want to encourage those of you who go to the events that this is a great opportunity to ask questions. Howard is one of the best model and layout builders in the area. It will be very open going forward so bring your ideas or questions on any modeling topic. I plan on being there at least part of the time.

We tried out a new public address system and with one minor issue it worked well. The stands we had are not correct for the system and are non- standard. The current system is very old and large. We have had numerous issues with it so we decided to upgrade. At this meet we will try another option before the Coast Division purchases a new PA.

The auction had over 350 items in it, ranging from 'N' scale up to 'G' scale and everything in between. There was something for almost everyone. This next meet will have 25 items at the start that are donated to the division – most from an estate but I will also put some items in the auction for the division.

For the contest we will have many models that placed in the PCR convention in Modesto including the model that won "Best in Show". We are also going to photograph all of the models and as the results are announced project the corresponding model to the front of the room. Also for the contest, starting at the following event we will go to a new format that is elsewhere in this issue. Bring your models for the contest or for show and tell. If you need your model(s) judged for an achievement award let us know and we will judge them.

The National Garden Railroad convention is also coming up in early July – the same week as the NMRA national convention. Some have said they will attend both. We may need one or two people to work the NMRA table (I am assuming that we will get one for this event)

We had a plaque made for John Marshall who sadly passed away a couple of weeks after we presented him with a plaque.

Our next event is June 5, 2016 at the Boy Scout Center in San Leandro.

I am now both Superintendent and Director of the Coast Division. My term as Superintendent runs out early next year. If you have any ideas or concerns please contact me: frank@frankmarkovich.com

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

I didn't take pictures of anything but the clinics this time so I don't have more than that but below are some of the clinic pictures:



Mike and Frank going over cutting the foam



Clinic attendees – crowded room



Clinics room packed with Richard introducing the clinic



Figure painting clinic with video projection

- this wowed the audience!
-



Mike and Frank with first steps
This layout is 2 feet by 54 inches with
lots packed into it.

Coast Directors Report

Frank Markovich

This was my first time as a director and as such more of a learning time. Here are some of the important items: 1. Coast Member of the Year was presented to Seth Neumann. He has been doing so much for the operation SIG that as a group we cannot thank him enough.

One item discussed at length was equipment and who should be in charge of it. We decided that one person in each division should be in charge. If the equipment is loaned out the person borrowing it is responsible for it's safekeeping and for getting it back to the division. We did have a problem last year at the PCR that the Coast projector (actually belongs to the PCR but the Coast is in charge of it) was not returned and lost. We did get a replacement but we would like to avoid that in the future.

There are a total of four directors in the PCR and there are three new ones, besides myself, there is now Steve Skold for the Redwood Division and Tom Van Horn for the Sierra Division with Dave Grenier for the Daylight Division.

Approval of the appointment of Vic Cavalli to the position of Audit Committee Chairperson. Vote was unanimous for approval.

The group also discussed the following proposal:

In order to allow Superintendents to earn AP credit for their roles, should we:

- a. Make them voting members of the PCR Board of Directors? or
- b. Combine the offices of Superintendent and Director?

This is still open but the directors are investigating it.

Carol Alexander said she is moving but within the PCR so she will stay on as VP. Ed Merrin stays as president of the PCR.

Future conventions are next year at Bakersfield, and the following year in Rohnert Park. 2019 is still being discussed. We may host the 2019 convention but more to come on that.

We have a critical opening in the PCR for a treasurer. If anyone is interested, please contact Ed or myself.

Contest were well attended – I heard that there were 86 entries in the various contest: model, photo and crafts. I helped judge crafts and learned quite a bit in the process.

There were some great outside activities – I really enjoyed going to Tinkertown and the outing on the Sierra RR. There were lots of clinics and besides giving one I went to about 10 clinics.

Lastly, I would like to thank the past Director Mark Schutzer for the great job he did the past few years.

Auction Report***John Ameling***

Here is the Auction Committee report for the Feb 21, 2016 Division Train Event

Total Items Sold	356
No Bid Items	32
Auction net	\$506.50

Richard Brennan volunteered as our fourth auctioneer. This can be a hectic task, but Richard maintained a good sense of humor throughout the afternoon. For the moment I think we have a great group of auctioneers with Bill Burket, Don Shortt, Clark Stewart, and Richard Brennan.

Please let me know if you are interested in either being an auctioneer, or helping organize the auction items. Organizing items is critical for a smooth running auction

Thanks

John Ameling
Auction Committee Chair

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

Here is the Meeting Attendance from the February Division Event

Coast Division	83
Daylight Division	2
Hawaiian Division	0
Redwood Empire Division	9
Sierra Division	4
Guests (Coast)	6
(Daylight)	2
New Members	.2
(VICKI NEWCOMER,CRAIG MATOZA)	
Total Attendance	106

Round Table Discussion Changes

By Tom Crawford

Once upon a time the Round Table discussions had no “focus,” but rather were simple informal get togethers where people could come in with any questions or problems they had and everyone would simply join in and talk about it.

At some point we decided that it would be better to have focused discussions where the subject was known ahead of time so people could know what the subject was and plan accordingly.

Well, we were wrong. Attendance dropped. We have talked to people who used to come and don't come any more and the bottom line is that they didn't like the structured forums and wanted the old informal wide open discussions.

So, we are going back to the old way. For the next Coast Event in June, expect the Round Table discussions to be like in the old days. We'll see how it goes.

Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Model Contest Changes

By Tom Crawford

We have noticed that the participation in the model contests is declining, so we have made some changes to the format and logic to be more consistent and more interesting. There is some experimenting going on here, and we would love to hear your feedback on the changes we make.

First we have come up with a standard format for the type of models in the contest each time.

The models for the first and third Division events of the calendar year (usually but not always March and September) will be: Steam, Maintenance of Way, Structures, Traction, and Passenger.

The models for the second and fourth Division events of the calendar year (usually but not always June and December) will be: Diesel/Other Self Powered, Caboose, Display, and Freight car.

We will start this new logic with the September meet.

Next we have decided to increase the recognition of our modelers. We have several ideas that we will be trying. The first is one we are taking from the PCR conventions. Those of you who have been to a convention will notice that when they have the awards presentation, they have a photo of the winning entries. We will try doing this at our June event and see how it goes.

We will also be working on improving the award plaques.

If you have some other ideas of things that may entice more people to participate in the contests, let us know and we will see what we can do.

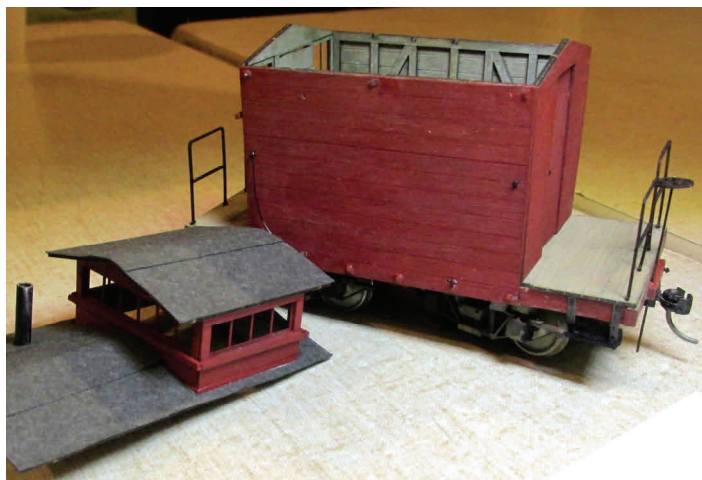
Model and Photo Contest Report February 21, 2016

Jim Eckman

Freight Car

No entries.

Caboose



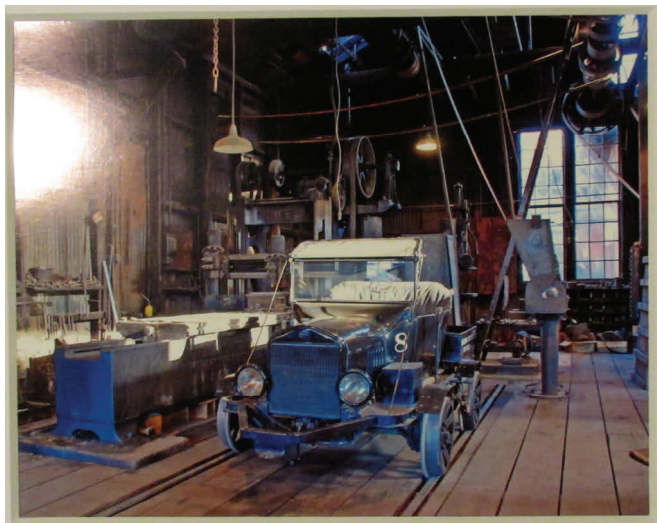
1st Place – Frank Markovitch entered two kit built West Side cabooses, #3 and #5. They were both equally popular.



Maintenance of Way (MOW)

No entries.

Photo Contest



1st Place – Tom Van Horn's Shop 8

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

Other entries –



Tom Vanden Bosch's *Menlo Park Station – Night*



Tom Van Horn's *Lone Yard*



Tom Van Horn's *Denair*

Show and Tell

Howard Lloyd brought in a scratch built structure.



(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)



Bill Burket brought for pieces of old Coast Division memorabilia.

Timesaver

Eric Moe breaks in a guest into the mysteries of the timesaver.



NMRA InfoNet News For April, 2016

Tom Draper

Welcome to the NMRA InfoNet News (Infoblast) For April, 2016

Canadian Pacific halts takeover bid of Norfolk Southern

Canadian Pacific Railway's bid to acquire fellow rail giant Norfolk Southern came to an end following months of contentious back-and-forth squabbling and amid heightened scrutiny from the Obama administration on antitrust issues.

Canadian Pacific said that it would no longer pursue the takeover, which it has proposed publically despite Norfolk Southern's repeated rejections.

It also withdrew a resolution that would have required Norfolk Southern shareholders to vote on whether to force deal talks.

"No further financial offers or overtures to meet with the NS board of directors are planned at this time," Canadian Pacific said in a statement.

Norfolk Southern has repeatedly asserted that a merger would draw intense regulatory scrutiny, saying there's a good chance it would have been rejected.

The company also questioned the value of Canadian Pacific's offer and said it could perform well on its own.

The deal's demise comes as the Obama administration has increased scrutiny of mergers in recent months, including the Treasury's department scuttling recently of the proposed Pfizer-Allergan pharmaceutical match-up and the Justice Department's lawsuit to block the oilfield services merger of Halliburton and Baker Hughes.

Also recently the Justice Department said it opposed a voting-trust structure that Canadian Pacific had proposed to the Surface Transportation Board, which reviews proposed railroad mergers.

Under the proposal, Canadian Pacific would have acquired Norfolk Southern, Canadian Pacific's stock would have been placed in trust and its current CEO would have become CEO of Norfolk Southern before an antitrust review could be completed, according to the Justice Department.

From USA Today – Nathan Bomey

In Memoriam – Lee Riley

"Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Lee Riley was the son of the late Luther and Miriam Riley of Baltimore and served with honor in the 175th Infantry Regiment. 29th Infantry Division of the Maryland National Guard from 1965 to 1970.

"He was a kind man whose lifelong passions were model railroading, riding live steam trains throughout the world, folk and blue grass music, the West Virginia and Western Maryland mountains, and his wife and family.

"A distinguished member of the hobby industry for nearly 50 years, Lee's professional career began in 1967 as one of original staff members of Pro Custom Hobbies in Catonsville, Maryland. He was director of product development of Associated Hobby Manufacturers before joining Philadelphia-based Bachmann Industries Ltd., the world's largest model train maker, in the 1980's as Director Product Development and later Vice President of Product Development until his death. During his career, he also worked or consulted for GSB, Lionel, Life-Like Products, MDC, Model Power, TYCO, Westside Models, and others.

"Lee was a longtime active member of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) and received the association's prestigious Pioneer Award and the Distinguished Service Award. He was inducted into the Model Railroad Industry's Hall of fame in 2004. He was also a valued member of the NMRA Howell Day Museum Committee, representing industry interests and bringing a wealth of knowledge and history.

"He was widely known as an innovator in the model train industry. He is the inventor or co-inventor on eight industry patents granted by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

"Lee was one of 100 volunteers who helped bring America's history to the country by participating in the rebuilding of the T-1-class, No. 2101, the first steam engine to pull the American Freedom Train, during the nation's Bicentennial celebration. The steam engine remains on display at the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum in Baltimore.

"In lieu of flowers, Lee's family suggests making a donation to the development of the NMRA's Magic of Scale Model Railroading Exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum in Lee's memory. <https://donations.nmra.org>.

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

Considerations When Inviting Speakers To Your Convention

I've been asked to give clinics and after-dinner talks at venues literally around the world since 1969. I very much appreciate the honor, as do others who receive similar invitations.

There are several considerations that we should all be aware of, however, that will help to avoid anyone being in an embarrassing or financially untenable situation. Based on decades of presenting talks and on discussions with others who are often asked to do this, I have prepared a list of expectations and customs.

Speakers asked to give a talk in their home Region or Division do not usually expect to have any expenses covered. It's just part of being an active and participating member of a Region or Division.

When I was elected At-large Director, Worldwide, one of my first proposals was to compensate those who are asked to give clinics at National Conventions. When the officers and directors worked through the numbers, however, it quickly became apparent that any significant compensation such as free lodging or even registration would cause the basic registration fee to grow significantly. That said, in my view clinicians who attend the National only for the day they present their clinic should, at a minimum, be allowed to register at a one-day rate. Even though it is a distinct honor to be asked to give a clinic at a National Convention and counts toward an Achievement Program certificate, perhaps some means of offsetting expenses for National clinicians will one day be worked out by the leadership team and convention hosts.

Those who are invited to give clinics or after-dinner talks at Regions other than their home Region cannot be expected to cover their own major expenses, including transportation, lodging, and banquet costs. They should expect to cover their own non-banquet meals, tours, and other extra-fare costs. But it is simply unfair to expect popular speakers to spend significant hobby funds to "entertain your troops," as they are often invited to numerous conventions each year. The costs quickly become prohibitive. The model railroad publications do have budgets for staff travel, but such budgets are usually very limited.

Many travel schedules and budgets are set up at least a year out; my own travel schedule tends to fill up two or three years in advance. So as soon as you have a date set for your event and a person delegated to round up a slate of clinicians and the after-dinner speaker, immediately reach out to those you hope can help you make your convention a resounding success.

Tony Koester, NMRA At-large Director, Worldwide (2005–2013)

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