



Coast Dispatcher #198 December 2017

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

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

Next Coast Division Event

December 3, 2017

Boy Scouts of America Headquarters
1001 Davis St, San Leandro, CA.

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

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

10:00 AM.....Part 2 of "Modeling Logging in N-Scale" by Tom Knapp MMR

11:00 AM....."Model Parts using a Service Bureau" - by Richard Brennan

11:00 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,. Afterward Auction continues if required

9:30 AM – 12:15 PM:

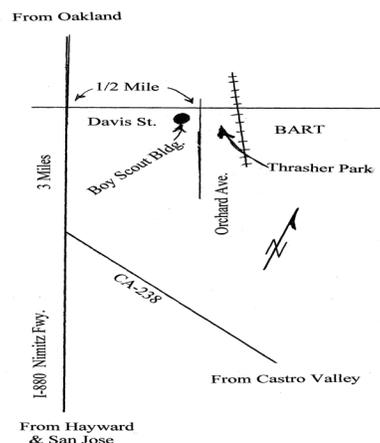
Model Contest– Diesel and others, Freight Cars, Display/Diorama and Caboose

Photo Contest– Trains as Art

Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15)

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

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.

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Editor's Notes.

The 200th issue is only 2 issues away. We will be looking for input on the history of the Dispatcher.

Coast Division Superintendent Report

By Doug Smith

Lots of information this time. There are many reports in this newsletter, so read on and hear from others who make the Division go. Also take a minute to go to our web site and look over the Call List. It's a pretty impressive collection of talent. More on that later.

Let's start with our calendars handy, whether they're the festive NMRA version next to your phone like in my house, any of many digital options, or a pad of post-its on the counter. Our Coast Division meeting dates are set for 2018. They are as follows:

March 4th at the Elks Club in Alameda
June 3nd at the Boy Scouts' in San Leandro
Sept 23rd at the Elks Club in Alameda
December 2nd at the Boy Scouts' in San Leandro.

The dates are set with our hosts and rents remain as last year. We are fortunate and thankful to have these venues.

The recent layout tour was a big success. We were welcomed to seven home layouts and two clubs. More folks and clubs volunteered to be open, but there is only so much time in the day. Dan Rom and I carpoled and made it to every stop - not for long as there was a fair amount of driving even for a "South Bay" location. We got to Silicon Valley Lines just as they closed, but were welcomed in just as everywhere else. Thanks to all who opened their layouts. Thanks also to David Griffy and Bill Goodenough for their efforts to make this happen. This was their first try at this and they did a great job. There will be more tours! Different parts of the division and different layouts, timing TBD. If we couldn't fit your club or layout on the tour this time, there will be more chances.

Have you been to the NMRA web page lately? Take a peek, browse around. Ours is a national organization that does a lot for the hobby. We draw from a great deal of talent across the country and beyond. As members we don't have to do everything, lucky for us, but there are many things we can do. Every niche in the hobby has a group of sharp and motivated folks, developing things like DCC standards to the track gauges that we all use. But we're not everything to everyone. Clubs fill an important role. Other groups like RPM, SIGs and even Round Robin Groups do great work and add to our enjoyment of the hobby. Take a look into the Branchline, incidentally put out by volunteers in the PCR, your NMRA region. Towards the back you'll see a list of the clubs and groups that have functions within the area of the PCR. How many of those have you visited?

Looking for a new challenge? Maybe a way to help out the Division? There are always opportunities to help out. Having a backup for each function at a meet or between meets is always a good thing. Try something out. You may find out that you really like it - or really don't! At the next meet think about that with the folks you have contact with. If they couldn't do that job today, who would? Could you? Check the call list too for those who perform important Division functions. Not everyone can be at the meets.

Auction Notes. Please read the auction report elsewhere in this issue. Some changes are coming, and

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some places where we've let things slide are being tightened up. Information will be posted to the web site as it gets finalized. This has been a lot of work on the part of many folks and it's for the best overall for the auction. Give everyone a little patience and the afternoons will run smoother. You'll see.

We're getting into club show season. Get out and see some clubs you may have missed. Big things are happening. The LD/OPS SIG is coming in January. If you haven't been to one of those you're missing out. Lots of things to do. Winter time is working on the layout time too. Make sure you're ready to make or take some giant steps.

If it all sounds like too much, it can be. NMRA is a big organization, but the members –you – get to pick and choose from a lot of things and contribute where you want to. And if just coming to meets every quarter makes you happy, we're happy to have you do that. That's all for now. Hope to see everyone December 3rd in San Leandro.

Director's Report ***Frank Markovich***

The PCR Board meet on October 21st. Here are some of the highlights:

Fires – we talked about the fires and if any members lost their homes and no one knew of any members affected.

Convention, plans are moving ahead for the PCR in Rohnert Park. The bad news is that there are no viable groups sponsoring 2019 yet. Ray is still looking for a location that is suitable. Much discussion about the costs increases.

Constant Contact - This is the program that helps us with email to the organization.

The board has approved electronic voting. This will take place for the next election. There is an option for paper ballots for those who do not have internet.

There are a number of open positions for the PCR. This includes someone to do the audit, a new editor for the Branchline, among other positions. These openings will be put in the next Branchline.

Membership has held steady over the past year.

Purchase of new photo racks has been approved. These sit on top of a table and are much better than what we used before.

PCR approved Co-Sponsoring the 2019 NNGC in Sacramento. I am on the board of the NNGC and Steve Skold will be the PCR representative.

Layout Tour Report

Dave Griffy

September 30th, 2017 Mini Tours

The September 30th, 2017 Mini Tours had 9 layouts in northern Santa Clara County open for visiting. Of the layouts open, half had new and interesting features and about half were layouts that were very well known nationally: A good mix in the tradition of “something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue”. Approximately 70 individuals requested tour information. Reviewing the post tour comments with those who had opened their layouts indicates that approximately 50 NMRA visitors visited one or more layouts. As this was a tour that covered a limited area and that was not associated with a convention, we feel that this was a success and should be repeated.

More Tours

With the holidays upon us and with less that favorable weather coming on, and with other organizations having conventions and tours and Xmas Open Houses, it appears that spring will be the logical time to repeat in a different area. The logical date would be the Saturday before or after the Coast Division Meet in the Spring. At this point, we are asking for some input:

Which area would the Division like for the mini tours to occur? Northern Santa Clara County just did it and the 2018 Convention is in the north bay. The Meets have been in northern Alameda County. That makes San Mateo County, Southern Alameda County, Contra Costa County, etc. appear to be the logical areas. Please let me have your input via e-mail to d.griffy@comcast.net.

- Secondly, if you would like to have your layout toured, please let us know. This will help us decide where to have the next mini tours. We would like to have at least six potential layouts to be toured before announcing the tour and making a general call for folks to open their layouts for tours.

Remember “Model Railroading is Fun” and the “More the Merrier”.

Dave Griffy

Layout Tour Chair

Director Nomination

Dave Connery, MMR – Coast Nominations Chair

The Nominations Committee is nominating Frank Markovich for a second term as PCR Director from Coast Division. At the December 3rd Coast Meet we will open nominations from the floor for other candidates for this position. In accordance with our By-laws Article V, Section A “Nominees from the floor shall be asked publicly by the Nominating Chairperson of their desire and willingness to be elected to the position. A person who is nominated from the floor, but is not present at the time of nomination, may not be placed on the ballot unless the Nominating Chairperson receives a written statement of desire from the nominee prior to the submission of the slate of candidate to PCR.” The Coast Nomination(s) will be provided to the PCR Ballot Chairman on December 4, 2017. The election will be conducted electronically for the first time. Paper ballots will also be available in the Dec-Mar [Branch Line](#).

Auction Report

John Ameling

Here is the Auction Committee report for the Sept 24th, 2017 Division Train Event and the Board of Operations meeting on Oct 16th

Total Items Sold	392
No Bid Items	98
Auction net	\$1087.70

Once again Joe Cernitore stepped up to handle the auction while I was out of town. Thanks a lot Joe. There has been a number of discussions of late regarding how we should handle the Quarterly Auction. In the July BOO Meeting Bob Ferguson, Pat LaTorres and I volunteered / were drafted to redo the Auction rules. The rules have been re-written and agreed upon by the three committee members, but we were short on the boo members.

We will present the new rules to the general membership at the Dec 3rd quarterly meet and the new rules will be implemented at the March 2018 meet.

You can read both the new Coast Division Auction Rules and some guidance on how to enter and price your auction items on the Auction page of the Coast Division Website:

<http://www.pcrnmra.org/coast/auction.shtml>

As always, we encourage people who want to improve the auction, please get involved. We always need more help.

Thanks

John Ameling

Auction Committee Chair

Registrar's Report

Ronnie LaTorres

Here is the Meeting Attendance from the September Division Event

Coast Division	80
Daylight Division	9
Redwood Empire Division	4
Sierra Division	0
Guests	5
Total Attendance	74
First Timers	2

Income:

2 Badges @\$5 \$10.00
 Ticket Donations \$10.00
 Total Income \$20.00

Expenses:

Prizes -\$50.34
 Total Expenses -\$50.34

Publicity Report

Steve Wesolowski

With the arrival of the rains, Train Show season arrives. Since you're reading this Coast Dispatcher, I assume you like trains, so I assume you'll attend one (or more) trains show in or near the Coast Division.

In earlier Coast Dispatchers, I've related how much more train fun you have at these shows if you volunteer to spend time with others representing NMRA, PCR and Coast Division.

NMRA volunteers at The Los Altos Train Show had so much fun with the Time Saver, they earned the Best of Show award for having the Most fun exhibit of Train Days! Every Volunteer who shared their time and energy deserves credit for winning the Best of Show Award, mainly by sharing our love of trains, including the TimeSaver. I especially credit Doug Smith for bringing his fresh energy to Los Altos Train Days: IMO, just by being a "new" person to Volunteer with, Doug reminded me how much fun volunteering can be. I enjoyed all the other volunteers, too!

I hope YOU consider volunteering & sharing your train energy with us, too! Most people I meet/volunteer with at Train themed gatherings have increased both my knowledge AND enjoyment of trains -- everyone teaches me something new about trains, or some other common interest-- most train people have multiple active interests & hobbies.

Some Upcoming Trains shows:

International Railfair, Nov. 11-12 in Roseville. The Sierra Division welcomes Coast Volunteers! Contact Mary Moore-Compagna if you're interested in volunteering.

The Great Train Show returns Thanksgiving weekend, November 25-26, to the Alameda County Fairgrounds; January 6 will be in Sacramento; March 10 returns to Santa Clara Fairgrounds. To volunteer, contact Frank Markovich, Doug Smith, Pete Birdsong or me.

"New" Volunteers are always welcome to share their love of trains at our PCR Info Tables at these events. Volunteers enjoy free admission, other Volunteers & attendees. I encourage everyone to Volunteer; you will enjoy these events even more. I guarantee you'll learn by volunteering, and very likely make more new train friends! It's easy &

Fun: No experience needed! If you're interested? Contact Frank Markovich, Doug Smith or me. Our Contact information is on the Coast Call Board on page 2 of this Coast Dispatcher.

Many Happy Trains to Everyone, until we meet again! Hopefully, Volunteering to help others enjoy more Train Fun!

Model and Photo Contest Report

September 24th, 2017 Event

Jim Eckman

Steam

1st Place – Tom Knapp’s Free-lance 0-8-8-0 Mallet Logging Locomotive mostly scratchbuilt with a commercial etching for the cab and various detail parts. It’s based loosely on the Uintah logging locomotive, a lovely Nn3 model on a Marlin chassis.



MOW/Non Revenue

No entries

Structures

No entries

Traction

1st Place – Bruce Battles 3D printed Green & Cream Trolley #172, while it required assembly and some filing, it’s an awesome demonstration of the future of modeling. The fit and finish are first class on this HO model and if I recollect correctly Bruce did the pattern work and shipped it off to Shapeways.



Passenger

No entries

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Photo Contest - Tracks and Structures

1st Place – Eugene Brichacek’s *West End of Shed 47*. My photo doesn’t do justice to the excellent original.



Show and Tell

Ken Adams brought in some photos of the SP coast right of way. They are beautiful.



Clinics for December
Richard Brennan

Here are the clinics for December

10:00 Clinic 1: Part 2 of "Modeling Logging in N-Scale" by Tom Knapp MMR.

Tom will build upon his earlier clinic a year ago on logging and log transport... featuring a display of his N-scale logging modules as shown at the August NNGC in Denver. Discussion will include the 'Cameo' layout concept, with attention to special effects and lighting.

11:00 Clinic 2: "Model Parts using a Service Bureau" - by Richard Brennan

You don't have to OWN computer-driven tooling to create unique model parts; The variety of commercial services available to Bay Area modelers is expanding in quantity, capabilities, and materials. This session will talk about available 2D and 3D services that modelers can use to create model components.

11:00 Modelers' Round Table - Open Discussion



NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC.

**Wow! Did you know there's a new
NMRA Member Benefit?**

It's the NMRA Partner Program!

Model railroad manufacturers are partnering with the NMRA to offer discounts to NMRA members.

Current members log in to www.nmra.org . At the Members Menu, go to the NMRA Partnership Page to see who's on the list, discounts offered, and how to order. New Partners are coming on board every month, so check back often.

If you're not yet a member, here's another great reason to join and get more fun from your hobby with a membership in the world's largest model railroad organization.

www.nmra.org