



Coast Dispatcher September 2005

Coast Division Web Site: http://www.pcrnmra.org/coast/coast_division.htm

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

Welcome to the Coast Division of PCR
Here is what we have planned for the rest of the year:

September 11, 2005
Coast Division Fall Meet
Buscher Middle School, 1111 Bellomy St., Santa Clara, CA
(map on last page)

9 AM Doors open. Free Door prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets. Get Auction Cards.
10 AM Clinic "What's new in DCC", by Don Flehmann
11 AM "Operation Lifesaver" by Steve Ceballos
11 AM "Model Railroad Roundtable" hosted by Jerry Littlefield
12 Noon Business Meeting
1 PM Auction
3:30 PM Raffle

All day long:

Photo Contest: Railfans I've Known

Model Contest: Steam Locomotives, Diesel Locomotives, Passenger Cars

Allen Fenton Switching Contest

Activity details are on pages 4, 5 and 6.

Dec 4, 2005
Coast Division Winter Meet
Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View, CA
(map next issue)

9 AM Doors open. Free Door prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets. Get Auction Cards.
10 AM Clinic "Update on DCC Sound" given by Ogden Lamont
11 AM Clinic "Animation Update" given by Kermit Paul
11 AM "Model Railroad Roundtable" hosted by Jerry Littlefield
12 Noon Business Meeting
1 PM Auction
3:30 PM Raffle

All day long:

Photo Contest: Trains In Action

Model Contest: Favorite Model (Open Category)

Allen Fenton Switching Contest

Come join us and have a great time meeting and learning from other modelers.

Auction participants: Please read Bill Burket's Auction Update for important changes.

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***Super Notes:
Superintendent's Report By John Marshall***

There are three topics that I want to talk with you about this issue.

The planned incorporation of all residents within the Pacific Coast Region and the Coast Division to automatic membership in both the region and division has hit a temporary snag. As a result, the anticipated expansion of the Coast Division has been delayed until such time as the National Headquarters gets their software modifications completed. It is still coming and we should not stop our efforts to make these NMRA members aware of our presence. We need to be proactive in welcoming them to the division and take every opportunity to extend a hand of welcome to them. In that spirit of comradeship I am requesting that the September Dispatcher be mailed to all. If you are receiving our publication for the first time, I urge you to read it thoroughly. Perhaps you didn't know that these ancillary organizations of the NMRA existed, or if you did, you chose not to join and participate in them. If you didn't know we were here to assist you and provide local fellowship in the hobby, shame on us. For that we are abjectly sorry. We want to be your local source for support in your model railroading activities, a resource for your problems, a sounding board for your concerns and provide you with an opportunity to learn more about what is going on in the hobby and advance your knowledge and skills. We invite you to attend the upcoming division meeting which will be on September 11th. A map with directions to the location appears in this issue of the Dispatcher.

The second thing I would like to do is to congratulate Rod Smith on his selection as Division Member of the Year and also for receiving his Achievement Program Certificate. Both of these are major accomplishments. Rod has been a strong support for the Division and Region for many years. His recognition for that service is long over due. Rod also has every right to be proud of completing his AP certificate qualifications. I know that each and every one of you who know Rod have seen him quietly participating in division meets, on various boards and at regional, and when in the area, national conventions. Rod will celebrate his 50 years as an NMRA member, Region member and Division member in September 2006.

The third topic I want to discuss today is the Achievement Program. This program has not received the push in our division that I feel it deserves. A side discussion with Kermit Paul regarding the AP program at the last division meet got me thinking about what I could do to promote the AP program. It reminded me that as Clinic Chairman for the Division for the past 6 or 7 years, I have been remiss in not passing out the points earned by the members of this division for the clinics that they have provided at division, region and national level. With Rod's assistance, [there he is again] I have been able to compile a listing of those members, who, by their providing of clinics have earned points toward their AP certificate. The listing appears elsewhere in this issue. I have also asked the editor to include a copy of the applicable AP form for clinic presentations with this issue. I urge each one of you who has accumulated points to fill out a form and get it to me for signature as quickly as possible. I will sign them and deliver them to the AP chairman, Kermit Paul, as soon as I receive them. Bring them with you to the September meet and I will sign off on them there.

The next two years, you will hear a lot more from me regarding the AP program. I will be working toward my certification and I sincerely hope all of you will as well.

From The Coast Division Clinic Chairman. 7/18/05
 NMRA point accrual chart

Points Earned For Live Clinics			
Item	National	Region	Division
Given At NMRA Sponsored Events	6	4	2
Given at NON-NMRA Sponsored Events	3	2	1

The following Coast Division Members have earned points toward their certificate as Achievement Program Author.
 [This listing may not include all points earned at the National level]

	<u>Division</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>National</u>
John Ameling		4	
Dave Biondi		32	6
Jack Burgess		8	
Bill Burket		8	
Dave Connery		20	12
Les Dahlstedt		16	12
Ray deBlieck		4	
Don Fiehmman		12	
William Fleisher		4	
Charlie Getz		8	
Jeffrey Heller		4	
Byron Henderson		4	
Tom Knapp		8	
Richard Kolm		20	
Jonathan Kwei		4	
John LaBarba		4	
Ogden Lamont		8	
Pat LaTorres		4	
Brad Lloyd		8	12
Jim Long			6
Rob Mantler		4	
John Marshall		16	24
Peter McCorkell		4	
Chuck Mitchell		4	
Seth Neumann		12	
Kermit Paul		8	6
Mark Schutzer		12	
Reg Schaffer		4	
Steve Smith		20	
Tony Thompson		12	
Jim Vail		4	

Division Model Contest

The results of the Model Contest in June were:

1st place Structures went to Andrew Merriam of SLO-Daylight Division (Andrew was also judged to meet his AP requirements with this model.)

1st place Display went to Mike Blumensaadt

1st place Self Propelled and Traction went to Alf Modine.

The categories for the September Meet are steam locomotives, diesel & other locomotives, and passenger cars.

Future Categories are:

December 2005: "favorite model" (open category).

March 2006: freight car, caboose, and maintenance of way.

June 2006: structure, display, and self propelled cars & traction.

September 2006: steam locomotives, diesel & other locomotives, and passenger car.

The list above includes all nine recognized model contest categories. Note that "diesel and other locomotives" includes heavy electric and all locomotives other than steam. Self-propelled and traction cars are a separate category. Displays are all dioramas or groups of models with significant scenery. All model contests will be decided by popular vote. It is also possible to have models judged separately for AP rating at the modeler's request.

We are looking for someone to run the model contest. All you have to do is lay out the table, have ballots available, and give the results of the balloting at the end of the day. The Categories are fixed in their rotation throughout the year. If you are interested, contact John Marshal.

Division Photo Contest By Pat LaTorres

In the June photo contest on "Model Photographs", Mark Schutzer won First Place, Tom Crawford won Second Place, and Mark Schutzer won Third Place.

September's theme will be "Railfans I've known."

The Coast Division Photo Contest has started to grow again. Unfortunately we can still use more entrants. This is a popular vote contest, so don't worry about the photo being "Great Art", just try to stay with the subject heading for each meet. The subject for the June meet will be "Model Photographs".

That means any photos of model trains, in any scale (EXCEPT 1:1) are acceptable. I would really rather not have any computer created photos, they'll have their own chance in the future. To help plan for September and December, here are the subjects for these future meets. The September subject will be "Railfans I Have Known". So get those photos taken of your "friends" on rail photo outings -- just remember, they may have photos of you also. The December meet will again be "Trains In Action". This means action photos of trains and or railroad equipment. Photos of static equipment is NOT included in this subject (we had some issues at the last meet, which I hope will be avoided this time).

All photos should be matted (inexpensive, reusable mattes can be had at most art supply stores) and should be between 5X7 and 11X14 in size. Hope to see your work soon.

Auction Update by Bill Burket**THIS IS IMPORTANT FOR AUCTION PARTICIPANTS – PLEASE READ.**

At the recent board of directors meeting a motion was placed on the floor and passed to have more auction cards printed for the regular auction. As with everything these days the price of printing has gone up and the cost to the division is 38 cents per card for printing. 10,000 cards have been ordered which gets us the best price. To offset the cost and still provide quality auctions to our members all starting bids both silent and regular auctions will start at \$1.00. Like a lot of you I remember when we had cards printed free through members and the minimum bid was 10 cents. Those days are gone and I don't think the minimum of \$1.00 for a starting bid is asking too much. I do realize that this will take some getting use to so if you forget and place "Open" on your starting bid the auctioneer will start at no less than \$1.00. This also applies to the silent auction. Your board is doing the best we can for you, the member. We also have committee head vacancies that have been empty for several months and meeting locations are harder to find due to higher rents for facilities.

With the new dues structure within the NMRA I hope this will bring more members and participation to the meets. An increase in clinics and auction items would be a boost for Coast Division. Don't forget that items 51 through 100 are reserved for your brass items and that we accept any item related to railroading from N Scale to prototype and everything in between. Please do your part for Coast Division. I remember when we had an annual picnic and an annual banquet! If enough of you would step forward to help I do believe that we could see these fun social events come back. We'll see you all at the next meet September 11th and bring a model railroad friend for a day of fun activities and friendship.

Bill Burket - Coast Division Auction Chairman

Allan Fenton Switching Contest by Tom Van Horn

The June Meet had the Allan Fenton Switching Contest running well. The winners were:

Student

First Place: Trevor Fenlon

Brake Person:

First Place: Tony Sapienza, 09:03 minutes. Second Place: Lindy Brun, 09:06 minutes

Third Place Jim Radkey 09:28 minutes. This was pretty tight with the first three finishers within 25 seconds of each other.

Senior Brake Person:

First Place: Mark Schutzer Second Place: Edward Richards Third Place: Alan Havens

Conductor (7 car)

First Place: Mark Schutzer Second Place: Tom Crawford Third Place: Edward Richards

Mark pulled off such a sweet maneuver on this win that he had to recreate it so we all could see it again.

Try the contest at the September Meet. It is fun, free and enjoyable.

Mark Schutzer is replacing Tom Van Horn as coordinator due to Tom's workload. See the Tom's Trains ad elsewhere in the Dispatcher.

Modeler's Roundtable by Jerry Littlefield

At the June Meet, the group was small but interesting.

They started with cameras. Digital is the only way to go. It was so interesting that I forgot to take notes.

Rod Smith demonstrated a prototype magnetic un-coupler for use under the layout. It is manually operated and fabricated from ordinary materials.

We discussed using SCOTCHLOK electrical connectors. Al Massi has used them recently. No report yet on how he likes them. We now have more data and will revisit this topic at the next meet

How do you get a 727 from Wichita, Kansas to Renton, Washington? By train, of course. There will be a how-to model in the July SCALE RAILS. (Editor's note: It was there.)

While this clinic is scheduled for 1 hour, I will keep it open until about 3 pm or we run out of participants

Director Nominations by Dave Connery

At the next Coast Meet I will be accepting nominations for the Position of Coast Director (our representative on the PCR BOD). Our current Director, Kermit Paul, MMR, has agreed to run for a second term.

Please see me if you have questions about what this position requires.

***Model Railroad Appraisals
Estate Planning and Disposal***

John Marshall

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Tom Van Horn

tomstracksidetrains.com

Hours:

Wed & Fri: 12-8 Thu: 12-5

Sat: 12-6; Sun: 12-3

Phone (650) 692-9724

Fax (650) 692-9725

NMRA MEMBERSHIP by Bob Ferguson

Regular Member - Enjoys all of the rights and privileges of membership in the NMRA & PCR, plus receives the NMRA monthly magazine "Scale Rails/The Bulletin", the quarterly PCR Branchline and a Division's newsletter; Cost - \$51.00 for one (1) year.

Affiliate Member - Enjoys all of the rights and privileges of Regular membership in the NMRA, PCR and a Division but does not receive "Scale Rails/The Bulletin". Cost - \$39.00 for one (1) year.

Family Member - The spouse or minor child of any above member in good standing. A family member must be linked to a primary Regular, Affiliate or Life Member. Family Members have no vote in elections, cannot hold an office, and do not receive the publications. Family Members will receive their own annual renewal notices and membership cards from the NMRA. Cost - \$9.00 for one (1) year.

NOTE: If you are a new NMRA Member, please complete the Member application for yourself as a Regular or Affiliate member first. Then complete a separate Member application for each family Member. If you are a current NMRA Member adding a family membership, please complete the Member application for the Family Member and note in the "Special Interests, Prototype & Modeling" section of the application your NMRA Member Number and Name for the Family Member to be Linked.

Student Member - Any person under the age of 20 years (date of birth mandatory on the application). Enjoys all of the rights and privileges of Regular membership in the NMRA, PCR and a Division. Cost \$29.00 (US) per year.

Sustaining Member - Mandatory for all group memberships such as Clubs, Associations, Corporations or other Businesses. Sustaining membership includes all the rights and privileges of Regular membership. Cost - \$90.00 for one (1) year.

(The NMRA is a 501 (C) (3) nonprofit educational organization and your professional association as a sustaining member allows the NMRA dues portion (\$78.00) as tax deductible. Any individual may also support the NMRA as a sustaining member in which 1/2 the cost of membership is eligible as a tax-deductible donation. Cost - \$39.00 (US) per year.)

For further information, contact the PCR Member Services Department at:
PCR Member Services, 530 Fig Tree Lane, Martinez, CA 94553



NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NMRA # _____ EXP. DATE _____ Email address: _____

PHONE () _____ SCALE (S) _____

_____ NMRA for one year at \$51.00 (Includes all official publications)

_____ NMRA Sustaining Member at \$90.00 (Includes all official publications)

_____ NMRA Youth at \$29.00 (Includes all official publications)

_____ NMRA Affiliate at \$39.00 (No "Scale Rails/The Bulletin", includes PCR "Branchline" and Division pub.)

_____ NMRA Family Associate at \$9.00 (No official publications for Family members)

Send application form and remittance to: PCR Member Services, 530 Fig Tree Lane, Martinez, CA 94553.
Allow 3-6 weeks for processing.

**Next Meet will be on September 11, 2005, 2005 at
Buscher Middle School, 1111 Bellomy St. Santa Clara, CA**

Clinics for the September Meet:

“What’s new in DCC”, by Don Flehmann

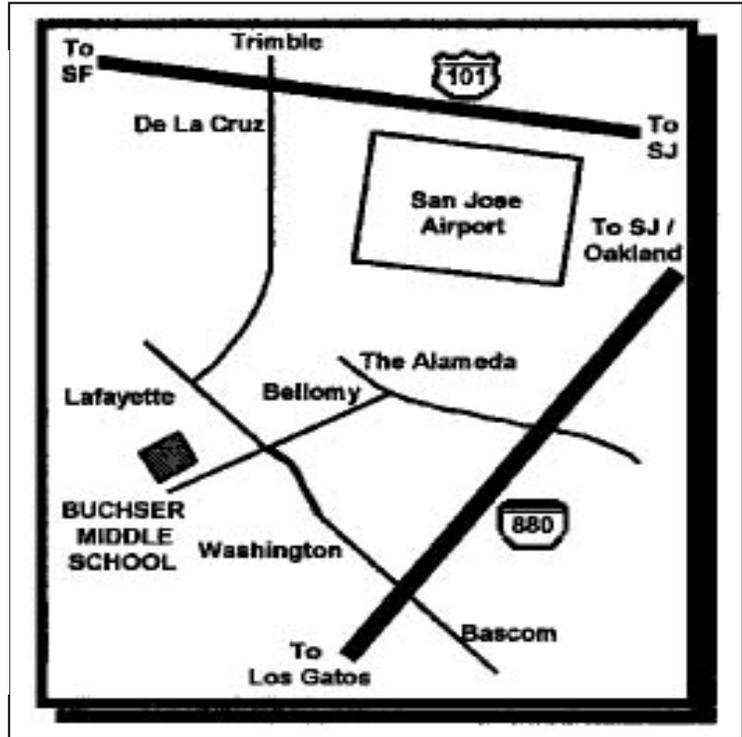
“Operation Lifesaver” by Steve Ceballos

“Model Railroad Roundtable” hosted by
Jerry Littlefield

Plus the Auction, Model and Photo
Contests, and the Switching contest

See the details on the front page.

Editor’s note: this format is a new
experiment. Comments on format and
content gratefully accepted. Contact Tom
Crawford at CrawfordT@asme.org



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