



## **Coast Dispatcher December 2005**

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  
Here is what we have planned for the next two meetings

**December 4, 2005**

**Coast Division Winter Meet**

**Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View, CA**

(map on last page)

**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**

Activity details are on pages 4, 5 and 6.

**March 5, 2005**

**Coast Division Spring Meet**

**Buscher Middle School, 1111 Bellomy St., Santa Clara, CA**

(map next issue)

**9 AM Doors open. Free Door prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets. Get Auction Cards.**

**10 AM TBD**

**11 AM TBD**

**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: TBD**

**Model Contest: Freight Car, Caboose, Maintenance of Way**

**Allen Fenton Switching Contest**

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

### Coast Call Board

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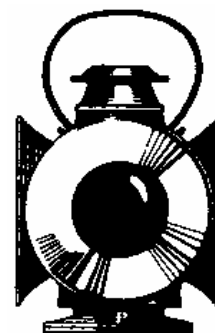
Page 4&5 – Model Contest

Page 6 – Photo Contest & Director Nominations

Page 7 – NMRA Membership and Application.

Page 8 – Next Meet Location.

Editor's Note: I'm playing around with the format to try to put more interest and not just report on the results of contests etc. Because of personal time constraints (daughter got married in the middle of all this), I did not get everyone's feed back before I chopped and modified as I felt appropriate. My apologies to those whose work I modified or faked. Feedback is appreciated.



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

What is an all volunteer organization?

The Coast Division is an excellent example of what an "all volunteer organization is". We rely on the members of the organization to volunteer to stand for elected office, we rely on members to step forward to fill vacant slots on our committees and to spend their time working to the best of their abilities to promote the hobby in their area of interest and expertise. No one in our organization gets paid for the time that they spend. The volunteer's only reward is seeing their fellow members availing themselves of the opportunities and activities that the division provides for them. They see their fellow members entering the contests that are put on, attending the clinics that are provided, participating in the auction, testing their skills on the timesaver and participating in the quarterly business meeting. That is the only way we get paid. Currently, we have a number of vacancies on our operating committees. We need volunteers to fill those vacancies. Please take a look at the list and, if you can spare an hour or two a week and perhaps a Sunday once a quarter, please consider volunteering for a position. We really need your help.

Around the Division.

In that vein, I want to announce that we have two new members to our Division Staff. John Sing has volunteered to be our "Model Contest Chairman" and Mark Schutzer has agreed to be our "Timesaver Master Operator". I am certain that both these gentlemen will do a great job for us in the coming years. Please join with me in welcoming them.

NMRA Update

Well, the expected 'September Rush' didn't materialize due to software problems at the National Headquarters. Who hasn't experienced a new product roll out problem from time to time? We have been advised that the project is finally getting back on stream. The effective roll in date for all members in a region territory becoming members of the region organization has been pushed back to 1/1/06. We have also been advised that the renewal notices now being sent out from the NMRA have the correct information on them and the correct subscription fees for our home region news letter. You can even subscribe to multiple region news letters if you want to. It doesn't take much to figure out that that's a tad late for us to get them the news about the December 4 Division Meet though. Ok, so the kickoff is 4 months behind schedule. What does that do for us? Well, it gives us some more time to plan for a really great March '06 Division Meet! How can we make the March '06 meet a blow out you say? One way would be for everybody to show up to welcome these new people properly to the division activities, shake hands with someone you haven't seen before and say HI, let them know that you are glad to have them with us and take the time to show them around and show them all of the things that the division offers for them.

**Division Model Contest by John Sing**

Hi, all,

I'm John Sing, newly volunteered Coast Division Model Contest chairperson. No, I'm not a Master Model Railroader, nor am I even a experienced contestant. But I did volunteer in order to to learn and expand my modeling by participating in our Division.

My personal vision for managing our Coast Division Model Contest is to provide:

1. A forum for showcasing and sharing our modeling with each other
2. A attractive, well-run venue for fair, friendly show competition
3. A vehicle for inspiring and enhancing our Division's individual and collective modeling skills and enjoyment of our hobby

Our Coast Division Model Contest can be much more than a contest; I think it can be our quarterly inspirational show.

Consider bringing a model you've built that you are proud of but never displayed or entered. Consider finishing a project that has been waiting for inspiration (or a deadline!) to get completed.

I invite you to participate if you'd like, and bring a model whether for judging, or for show only, to the December Model Contest.

The category for December 2005's meeting is:

"Favorite Model" (open category)

This will be a Popular Vote contest via secret balloting. You are welcome to bring a model "For Show Only".

Judging will be available in December for any models desiring NMRA Achievement Program Merit Points.

In 2006, the categories are tentatively planned to be:

March 06: Freight car, cabooses, and MOW

June 06: Structure, display, and self-propelled cars and traction

Sept 06: Steam locos, diesel and other locos, passenger car

For the longer term in 2006, we are discussing bringing back the formal Model Contest judging.

Why?

Here's my personal thought.... what if Merit Award judging or contest entry isn't about "you vs. the judge" or "you vs. them"? What if it was really about.... "you vs. you"?

Think of entering models in our Model Contest, or submitting models for NMRA Achievement Program and Merit Points, as an opportunity to self-inspire and self-improve your modeling skills and raise your enjoyment.

**Division Model Contest (continued)**

We have an awful lot of really good guys in our Division. I mean REALLY good guys. Guys who are willing to help. Guys who are willing to offer advice and constructive criticism. Guys who are friends enough to be fair, impartial, objective judges when the time comes.

By providing formal judging by our qualified judges in future Model Contests (for those who chose it), we can activate this process of sharing wisdom, experience and advice. That would mean you who enter (and all of us) would always come out a winner. That sounds like good stuff to me.

Comments? Thoughts?

Much more for me to learn, and I'd love to hear from you.

Drop me a email at: [singj@us.ibm.com](mailto:singj@us.ibm.com)

Or call me at home: 650-372-0765



**1<sup>st</sup> Place, September**  
**Mark Schutzer**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place September**  
**Alf Modine**

**Division Photo Contest By Pat LaTorres**

In the September photo contest on "Railfans I have known", Mark Schutzer won First Place, Sweth Neuman won Second Place, and Tom Van Horn won Third Place.

December's theme will be "Trains in Action"

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 December meet will be "Trains in Action".

This means action photos of trains and or railroad equipment. Photos of static equipment are 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.

**Director Nominations by Dave Connery****COAST DIVISION DIRECTOR NOMINATION**

Nominations for the PCR Director from Coast Division will close on November 25, 2005. The Director is our representative on the PCR BOD and sits on the Coast Board of Operations. The term of office is 2 years beginning during the PCR Board Meeting which will be held on May 3, 2006. Our current Director, Kermit Paul, MMR, has agreed to run for a second term. If you are interested in running or know of someone you would like to have considered for inclusion on the ballot, contact Dave Connery, (925) 735-0134 or [deconnery@aol.com](mailto:deconnery@aol.com).

Dave Connery

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

**8211 Moller Ranch Drive  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
Ph: 925-461-0206 Fax: 925-461-9061  
Email: [ntrak@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ntrak@sbcglobal.net)**

**Tom's Trackside Trains**

**1675 Rollins Rd. Suite B-1  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
Tom Van Horn  
[tomtracksidetrains.com](http://tomtracksidetrains.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

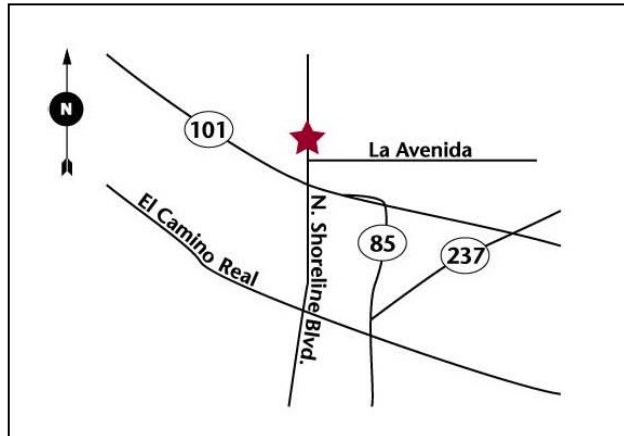


PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

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.

The next meet will be on December 4, 2005, at the  
Computer History Museum 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View  
Details are on Page 1. Here is the map.



From San Francisco: Take Highway 101 South. Exit Shoreline Blvd. At the light, turn left onto N. Shoreline Blvd. After going over the freeway and crossing through the light (La Avenida), take an immediate right into the first driveway. You are there: Entrance faces Shoreline Blvd.

From San Jose: Take Highway 101 North. Exit Shoreline Blvd. At the light, turn left onto N. Shoreline Blvd. Take an immediate right into the first driveway. You are there: Museum Entrance faces Shoreline Blvd.

**Coast Dispatcher**  
**4337 La Cosa Ave**  
**Fremont, CA 94536**