



## Coast Dispatcher March 2014

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

Division Meet

March 23, 2014

Janet Pomeroy Center

207 Skyline Blvd, San Francisco, CA

- 9:00 AM ..... Doors open. Free Door Prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets.  
 9:30 AM ..... Get Auction Cards.  
 10:00 AM ..... "Build A Memory" the framework and foam sub-roadbed by Mike Blumensaadt and Frank Markovich  
 11:00 AM ..... ON3 Timesaver w/stub switches by Eric Moe  
  
 11:00 AM ..... Model Railroad Roundtable moderated by Howard McKinney  
                                  Theme: Dead Rail Demo  
 12 Noon ..... Business Meeting  
 ~1:00 PM\* ..... Auction starts, Roundtable continues.  
 1:30 PM ..... Model/Photo Contest Results – afterward Auction continues  
 3:30 PM ..... Timesaver Results, Raffle – afterward Auction continues if required

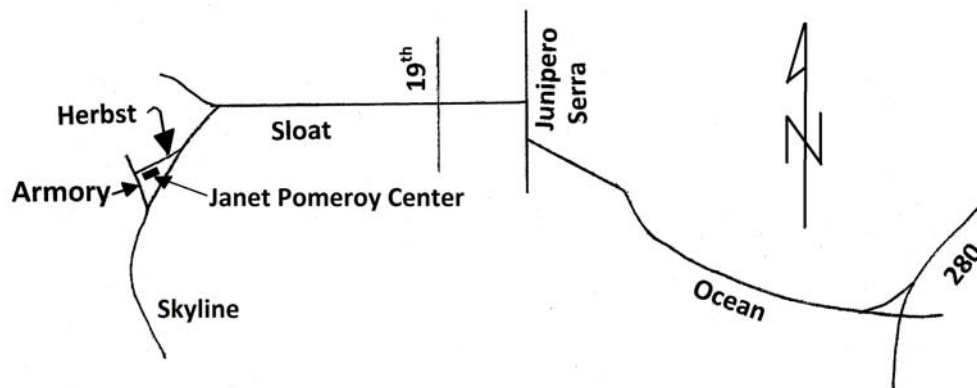
9:30 AM – 1:15 PM:

Model Contest: Caboose, Freight Car, Maintenance of Way

Photo Contest: Railroad Structures

Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15)

\* Auction actually starts as soon as Business Meeting ends.



From East Bay, get to **I-280 S in San Francisco**

Take exit **51** to merge onto **Ocean Ave**

Turn right onto **Junipero Serra Blvd**

Turn left onto **Sloat Blvd**

Take slight left onto **Skyline Blvd**

Turn right on **Herbst Rd**

Turn left on **Armory**

The Center will be on the left

From South, get to **I-280 N in San Francisco**

Take exit **47** to **CA-15** toward **Pacifica**

Take exit **508** onto **Skyline Blvd**

Go 4.7 miles and take sharp left on **Herbst Road**

Take left on **Armory**

The Center will be on the left

Some maps say you park on Zoo Road

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**Editor's Notes:**

I am actively hunting for articles and stories about your layouts. If you would like to share your layout, let me know and I will work with you to write a story, up to and including visiting it and taking pictures. Contact me at [tom@thecrawfordfamily.net](mailto:tom@thecrawfordfamily.net)

The Coast Dispatcher is available on the Coast Division Website.

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

You may also subscribe to the Dispatcher for free by contacting Tom Crawford at [tom@thecrawfordfamily.net](mailto:tom@thecrawfordfamily.net) or by going to

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Coast\\_Dispatcher](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Coast_Dispatcher)

and signing up. When you do this, you will get an e-mail with a direct link to each new version. (we do it this way because people with slower internet connections can download at their leisure as opposed to having it slow down their e-mail.)

All Coast division members now get post-cards providing important information for the upcoming meet.

## ***The Director's Cut***

***By Mark Schutzer***

This time of year is a good time to be a model railroader. I hope all of you were able make the LDSIG/ OPSIG meet in January. This was a great day of clinics, socializing, layout tours, and great operating sessions. This year's meet was held at the Elks Club in Alameda and this was a great old building. If you couldn't make it you missed a great weekend of railroading.

Coming up in March we have our quarterly Coast meet at the Pomeroy Center in San Francisco. We have the usual slate of clinics, socializing, and the auction.

The PCR convention is coming up in April down in San Luis Obispo and promises to be another great convention. It's also a good chance to meet some new folks from the central / southern area of the state. You still have time to sign up if you haven't yet had a chance.

There are always great clinics and tours at the convention. This year there are a couple great train rides available including a ride over Cuesta. There's another round trip train ride from SLO to Santa Barbara that sounds like a great tour.

I hope you all have chance to get involved in all these great activities!

Mark

## ***Auction Report***

***By John Marshall***

### **"The big estate auction is finally done"**

Auction cards 1 through 500 will be available for this meet!

If you want or need your cards early, notify  
John Marshall at [jkmarshall43@gmail.com](mailto:jkmarshall43@gmail.com).

Please be sure to include your mailing address in your request.

John Marshall

## **Coast Rails 2014**

**By Doug Wagner**

Haven't yet registered for the Pacific Coast Region's Annual Convention, Coast Rails 2014, in San Luis Obispo, yet? Well, what are you waiting for? You've only got 2 more months until the April 30 to May 4 convention starts! Registration is only \$89.00 and if you are attending a PCR convention for the first time, it's only \$69.00. If you haven't yet registered for the convention, please go to the Coast Rails 2014 web site at [www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/](http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/).

The Coast Rails 2014 committee has been working hard to line up some great activities for you. The following tours will be offered at the Coast Rails 2014, San Luis Obispo PCR Convention:

- Hearst Castle Tour (Thursday)--\$73.00
- Pacific Coast Railway Tour (Saturday)--\$60.00
- Fillmore & Western Railway Tour (Sunday)--\$82.00
- Over the Cuesta Tour (Wednesday)--\$53.00
- Wine Tasting Tour (Friday)--\$60.00
- Santa Barbara Tour (Thursday)--\$85.00

Tour descriptions and further tour information is available at the Coast Rails web site at [www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/outside.html](http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/outside.html). But remember, to be able to go on the tours, you first have to register for the Coast Rails 2014 Convention.

At Coast Rails 2014, we'll be having a **Modeling with the Masters** (MWTM) program. Clark Kooning, Master Model Railroader, from Toronto, Canada, is coming to San Luis Obispo to present a series of hands-on make-and-take clinics. MWTM programs are usually offered only at NMRA National Conventions, where they sell out quickly. Please reserve your seat for these MWTM clinics by Monday, March 31, 2014, or by Saturday, March 22, 2014, for Building a Turnout Using Fast Tracks (Dates subject to change.).

MWTH Clinics being offered are:

- Building a Laser Structure Kit
- Scratch Building in Styrene
- Learning to Build a DPM™ Kit Properly
- Building a Turnout Using Fast Tracks
- Scratch Build a Cattle Ramp
- Scratch Build a Puddle Jumper Bridge

Find full info on MWTM webpage at: [www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/mwtm.html](http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/mwtm.html). For a full listing of the schedule of events and clinics for the Coast Rails 2014, please visit the Coast Rails web site at <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/sched.html>. If you have already registered for the convention, please keep up with all the updates and changes by going to the Updates web page at [www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/news.html](http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/news.html). Please visit the Coast Rails 2014 web site at [www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html](http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html), to fully appreciate all that the Coast Rails 2014 committee has put together to offer all PCR members, at this convention

If you have any questions, please contact Coast Rails 2014 Registrar, Doug Wagner at [carldw@aol.com](mailto:carldw@aol.com), or by phone at (661) 589-0391. Operators are standing by!

## ***Coast Division Superintendent Report March 2014***

***Frank Markovich***

First of all I want to wish everyone Happy Holidays from the Coast Division. Our next meet is, March 23, 2014 at:

Janet Pomeroy Center in San Francisco  
207 Skyline Blvd (between Lake Merced Blvd & Herbst Rd)  
San Francisco, CA 94132

It will start at 9:30 AM. There will be two clinics and a roundtable. I really want to encourage entries into the contest so there will be an extra door prize again for every entry in model or photo even if it is just show and tell. At this time the clinics are Build a Memory – doing the framework and foam sub-roadbed – beginners but there will be enough for even master modelers in this – given by Mike Blumensaadt and myself, then Eric Moe will be a continuation on the Timesaver – he will be showing an On3 Timesaver that uses stub switches. It will be worth going just to see that in action!

The roundtable will be led by Howard again and the kick off topic will be on Dead Rail with a demo of it installed in an On3 engine.

Again I am going to show some video's after the business meeting. I am open as to what to show but plan on doing movies from the Kalmbach series "Dream, Plan, Build". These are excellent movies and the ones I will show will be mainly on modeling.

Again the auction made a sizeable amount due to the large estate. We had over 600 items and had to close taking items. We will be having more estate items at the next auction from other estates. The auction is very important as it is the main method of raising money for our division. This has allowed us to not have to charge admission as many other divisions charge per meet. We had two clinics and the room was packed for both of them. We also had over 100 people sign in. This was about double the number that we had for the previous meet.

We had two clinics.

The first was: [C/MRI](#) meets Arduino - Seth Neumann and Chuck Catania. Below is a picture of Chuck doing the clinic.



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The 2<sup>nd</sup> one was The Adventures of WP 688 - by Katy Dickinson. Both clinics were well attended and I heard very positive comments on both clinics.



Howard McKinney led the roundtable with demonstrations of sound in small places. He had a handout on where to get some of the very small speakers and showed a sugar cube speaker that seemed to fill the room with sound. Very impressive.

We had Robin and Mary doing the concessions. I want to thank them for stepping up.



Next meet contests:

Model Contest: Caboose, Freight car, Maintenance of Way

Photo Contest: Railroad Structures

Switching Contest

*(Continued on page 7)*

**(Continued from page 6)**

Pictures from GTE in Pleasanton of the HO Build a Memory layout.



If you are interested in more information on the Build a Memory program email me.

Frank

*(Continued on page 8)*



*(Continued from page 7)*

## ***Coast Division Contest Report December 2013***

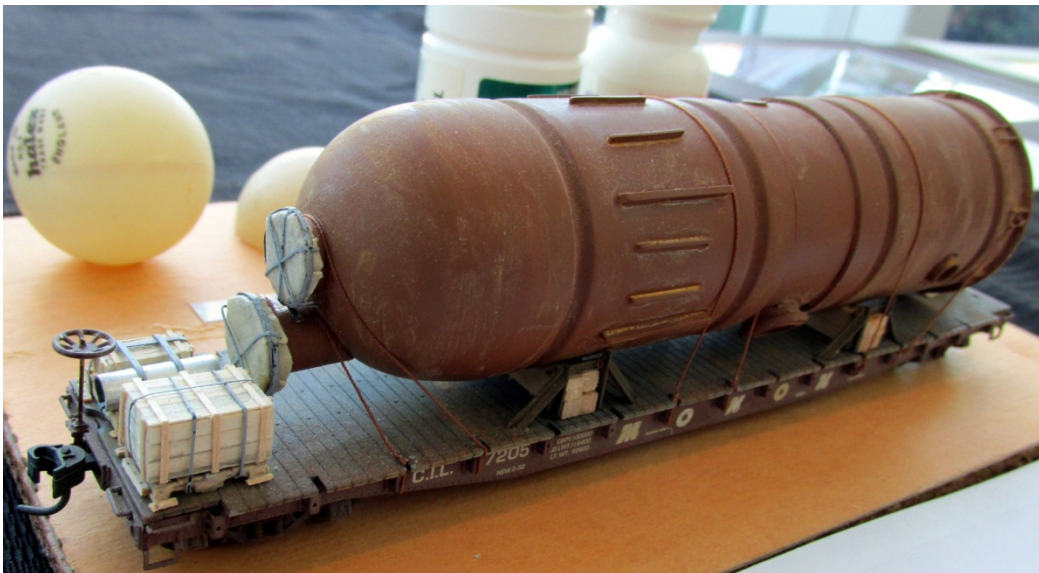
***Frank Markovich***

There were four models entered this time.

1st place Frank Markovich's "Stone Storefront", a detailed diorama with a removable roof for the building and lots of junk lying around.



2nd place Al Kuhn's "Cylindrical Load" which showed how realistic loads could be made from household items.



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*(Continued from page 8)*

3rd place Earl Girbovan's "Machinist Company". It has peeling paint and rustic shingles.



Also entered was Ken Martin's "CB&Q 40' RPO", I like the old cars, I hope he keeps bringing them.



There were nine photo contest entries.

1st place was Pat LaTorres' "Switching Richmond", nice photo effects made this photo look more like a painting.

2nd place Stephen Skold's "Cal-Western", a black and white grabbed while leaning out of a train. Amazing!

3rd place Robert Bowdidge's "Sparks, Jan '06" has a happy worker, must be quitting time.

Other entries included:

Karen Palmer's "Niles Canyon RR" and her "Photo of Photographer"

Tom VanHorn's "Mt. Emily Shay" and his "UP on Bridge"

Kenneth Martin's "Meet at Nemo"

Ronnie LaTorres' "Keddie Wye"

Next meet contests:

Model Contest: Caboose, Freight car, Maintenance of Way

Photo Contest: Railroad Structures

Switching Contest

*(Continued on page 10)*

## ***Coast Rails 2014 PCR Convention is in SLO!***

### ***(AKA PCR '01, New & Improved Version!)***

As you read elsewhere in this Dispatcher issue, our PCR Convention returns to beautiful San Luis Obispo this year, starting 9AM April 30 through 8PM May 4! Frequent Dispatcher readers should recall from my (way too many) earlier rants (er, "columns"):

1) PCR's 2001 SLO Convention was my first train convention. The Pacific Coast Railway Tour is why I went, not knowing about Layout Tours, Clinics and other fun activities.

2) In 2001, I both Registered and arrived late Friday and left early. I will not make those mistakes again and neither should you! Keep reading and I'll explain why:

As our Registrar, Doug Wagner, wrote elsewhere in this Dispatcher, during PCR 2014 we have six most excellent outside tours plus six modelling With The Master's (MWTM) Clinic varieties taught by Clark Kooning, MMR, for registered attendees to enjoy. Visit [www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html](http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html)

Those Outside Tours and MWTM Clinics are in addition to all the other train fun you should expect to enjoy during our PCR Conventions: Clinics, Layout Tours and Operating Sessions, Contests, LD/OPS SIG events, Swap Meet, Banquet, Hobo Breakfast, Non-Rail activities, and More.

Because we are co-hosting this convention with the San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum, Saturday there will be Speeder Rides, a Hot Dog Lunch and more fun at the museum nearby.

Plus, there are many other Central Coast fun activities happening in/near San Luis Obispo for you to enjoy before, during, or after PCR 2014.

#### **BUT, Register NOW!**

What Doug did not emphasize enough, in my opinion:

If you want to enjoy **ANY** Outside Tours or MWTM Clinics, **Please Sign up Before April Fool's Day.**

April 1st is our deadline for these great opportunities: when we must decide if we might have to cancel any of these fun events, because of not having our minimum number of reservations to cover costs.

Yes, every Outside Tour and MWTM Clinic requires a small fee **in addition to your Registration.** But, Everyone involved with providing these activities are Volunteers, so fees only reimburse our costs. You won't ever enjoy Any of these fun opportunities for less \$!

#### **Keep Visiting our Website!**

The most current Information on Coast Rails PCR 2014 Trains to Hadley Junction, including all tours and MWTM is available at the Coast Rails web site at [www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html](http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/index.html)

You can register online or download, print and snail mail your form from our website, or call Doug Wagner on the phone to register! You'll make Doug's day even brighter! Please register today if you want to enjoy more train fun with us in SLO! Please do it before March is over!

#### **Volunteer: For More Fun!**

If you're coming to PCR 2014, consider volunteering to help us, for more convention fun. You could enjoy helping our other volunteers judging contest entries or many other activities! I know you will enjoy your convention even more by volunteering with some of the nicest people, and also earn credit towards your Volunteer Certification in the NMRA Achievement Program.

#### **Donate Door Prize(s)**

Besides soliciting door prize donations from many fine manufacturers of model railroad stuff and publications who've been generous in the past -- and we anticipate some wonderful stuff for Coast Rails 2014 -- we're also soliciting door prizes from all our registered attendees.

Each registrant has a chance to win a door prize, whether you donate one or not, but if you donate, there are more prizes to win! And, you could be a guaranteed winner in another way: create more room at home for model railroading! We're looking for donations of good as new or new kits, ready-to-run equipment, new (or in excellent condition) books, DVDs, tools, or other modeling items from all convention attendees.

If you have any useful modeler's items you find surplus to your needs, bring them and donate them for door prizes. We'll help you find them a new home. Donations in all scales are welcome.

Many Happy Trains to You Until I see You in SLO!

Steve Wesolowski

Coast Rails PCR 2014 Trains to Hadley Junction

Publicity Flak Volunteer



## ***Working On A Model Railroad in Oklahoma -part III***

***By Tom Vanden Bosch***

For this installment I'm a little short of words but I thought photos to illustrate what I've outlined in the first two installments might be of interest. The first photo on the right illustrates the construction of the layout room inside the "barn". The photo looks West. The horizontal beam in the background is the base of the mushroom at Stillwell. The ladder and toolbox are in what will be the U-shaped peninsula with Spiro on the toolbox side and Sallisaw on the ladder side. The Arkansas River crossing will be between the two where the tape on the floor shows where the "U" will connect the two walls.

The horizontal beams will support a new ceiling for the layout room with the associated electrical and air conditioning equipment/piping.



The next photo shows construction of the layout in the area under the mushroom. The track bed in the foreground is for the Missouri Pacific that will cross the KCS in Sallisaw, to the right of the photo. The KCS mainline from Sallisaw North will pass along the backdrop. In between the two, the site of Crown Zellerbach creosoting plant is being prepared.

*(Continued on page 12)*



The next photo shows the South side of the layout room under construction. The off-white wall on the left is the dividing wall between the layout room and the workshop/lounge/office/dispatching area. The wall under construction on the left of the photo will be the dividing wall between Marble City on the right and St. Clair Lime on the left. The mainline and branch to the lime plant will circle around the end of the wall under construction. The mainline will be climbing and will be at about chest level at the curve and will be well above the lime plant on its way to the mushroom and Stilwell. The corner of the worktable in the lower left is about at the future location of Heavener yard.



The construction is well advanced in this photo of the location of the town of Poteau. The photo is taken from the future location of the North (railroad) end of Heavener yard. The structure on the right is the support for the end of the mushroom; Westville and Watts will be located along the aisle wall. This photo illustrates the complete enclosure of

the peninsula dividing wall with fascia and or backdrop. The narrow fascia above the layout fronts a shelf under which are the lights. As you can see from the photo the shelf becomes a convenient storage place and continues to be that way to this date.

Well that's all for this time. Hopefully my photo scanning will improve and I can show you some photos of the layout as it exists today in the next installment.

## ***InfoNet-News For January, 2014***

***By Tom Draper***

### **eBay GivingWorks Program**

The NMRA participates in eBay's GivingWorks program. GivingWorks allows eBay users to donate a portion of winning auction prices to their favorite charity. Here is how it works. When you are selling any item on eBay, simply specify the 'National Model Railroad Association' as your chosen charity. Set a percentage of the final selling price to donate and let eBay do its work. If your item sells, the percentage you pre-select goes to the NMRA, and you keep the balance. An additional benefit to the seller is that eBay will reduce your final listing fees by the same percentage. If you donate 25% of the final auction price to the NMRA and your item was \$100, the NMRA receives \$25, you receive \$75 and your final listing fees from eBay are reduced by 25%.

Does it have to be train related items for sale? No, past winning auctions have included cell phones, iPhones, toner, calendars, manuals, and of course trains.

You can even donate directly from the NMRA GivingWorks page.

So now, if you are changing eras, selling unused rolling stock or upgrading your latest smartphone, sell it on eBay and specify the NMRA as your favorite charity.

Simply start by visiting <http://givingworks.ebay.com>, enter 'National Model Railroad Association' in the search box in the upper left corner and the rest is easy.

Alan Anderson  
Fundraising Dept. Manager

*(Dispatcher editor's note: Info about the NMRA Midyear Board meeting has been removed since the meeting is over. )*

If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer. You'll find those addresses at [www.nmra.org](http://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](mailto:tcdraider@aol.com) with the corrected information.

Regards,  
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