



Coast Dispatcher March 2006

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

March 5, 2006

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

9 AMDoors open. Free Door Prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets. (See note on page 9 about prizes)
9:30 AMGet Auction Cards.
10 AM“DCC Roundtable” a two hour special
10 AM“Operation Lifesaver”
12 NoonBusiness Meeting
1 PMAuction starts
1:30 PMContest Results – afterward Auction continues
3:30 PMRaffle –afterward Auction continues if required

9 AM – 1:15 PM:
Photo Contest: Model Photos
Model Contest: Freight Car, Caboose, Maintenance of Way
Allen Fenton Switching Contest

Activity details are on pages 4 through 8.

June 4, 2005

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

9 AM Doors open. Free Door Prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets.
9:30 AM Get Auction Cards.
10 AM TBD
11 AM TBD
11 AM “Model Railroad Roundtable” hosted by Jerry Littlefield
12 NoonBusiness Meeting
1 PMAuction starts
1:30 PMContest Results – afterward Auction continues
3:30 PMRaffle –afterward Auction continues if required

9 AM – 1:15 PM:
Photo Contest: Computer Enhanced Photos
Model Contest: Structure, display, self propelled cars & traction
Allen Fenton Switching Contest

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

Coast Call Board

Director: Kermit Paul
Ph: (925) 935-1859

Superintendent: John Marshall
Ph: (925) 461-0206
email: ntrak@sbcglobal.net

Chief Clerk: Tom Crawford
Ph: (510) 790-0371
email: CrawfordT@ASME.org

Paymaster: Bob Ferguson
Ph: (925) 228-6833
email: BobPCRCO@aol.com

Achievement: Kermit Paul
Ph: (925) 935-1859

Auction: Bill Burket
Ph: (408) 926-0331
email: wgbamthog@mailcity.com

Auction Accounting: Bill Swindell
Ph: (925) 372-6996
email: Bill.Swindell@clorox.com

Clinics / Meet: John Marshall
Ph: (925) 461-0206
email: ntrak@sbcglobal.net

Publisher, Coast Dispatcher:
Tom Vanden Bosch
Ph: (650) 369-8305
email: tom-marian@attglobal.net

Editor, Coast Dispatcher:
Tom Crawford
Ph: (510) 790-0371
email: CrawfordT@ASME.org

Roundtable Facilitator:
Jerry Littlefield
(925) 837-4309
email: jkittle@ix.netcom.com

Layout Tours: (vacant)
Meeting Sites: (vacant)
Membership: (vacant)

Model Contest: John Sing
Ph: (650) 372-0765
email: singj@us.ibm.com

Nominations: Dave Connery
Ph: (925) 735-0134
email: deconnery@aol.com

Photo Contest: Pat La Torres
Ph: (650) 988-1776
email: duhnerd@pacbell.net

Publicity: Steve Wesolowski
Ph: 408-252-4192
email: swezz@comcast.net

Quartermaster: John Marshall
Ph: (925) 461-0206
email: ntrak@sbcglobal.net

Registration: Earl Vasconcellos
Ph: (510) 843-8007

Switching Contest: Mark Schutzer
Ph: (650) 369-0481
email: mark.schutzer@sbcglobal.net

Web Master: Kevin Hurley
Ph: 831-728-1934
email: kmhurley01@charter.net

In This Issue

Upcoming Events.....	1
Call Board	2
Superintendent's Report ..	3
Model Contest.....	4,5 &6
Suntan Special.....	7
Photo Contest	8
Auction Report.....	8
NMRA Membership Application	9
Newsflash-prizes	9
Meet Location Map	10



Sign up to help with the Suntan Special. See page 7 for details and open positions.

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

Best Wishes for the New Year.

Well, it's that time of the year again. The Christmas tree is at the curb, the decorations are put away for another year and the fruit cake is back in storage and hopefully by now the buzz of New Year's Eve has worn off. Did you make your New Year's resolutions? Have you broken any or all of them already?

What can we look forward to in the coming year for our division, region and association? My crystal ball is still hung over so I'm not even going to guess. But I do know this. Your board of officers for the division will do their very best to make sure that you get the most out of your participation in division activities.

The March meet will offer a couple of spectacular clinics. Steve Ceballos from Operation Lifesaver will be joining us at 10AM to bring us up to date on their program and invite us to participate in their operations.

We will also have a very special 2 hour Round Table clinic on DCC. Presenting this clinic will be Jon Miller, Don Fiehmman, Howard McKinney and Ogden Lamont. If you have any questions about DCC this is the forum to bring them to. If you need help with anything related to DCC or DCC sound, this is the forum for you. With this group of guys acting as moderators, this could turn into the DCC version of a shark feeding frenzy!

This special 2 hour Round Table will replace the regularly scheduled Model Railroad Round Table hosted by Jerry Littlefield this time only.

NMRA Update

This is a topic best left to others. I won't go there. I just want everyone in the territory served by our division to know that they have an open invitation to attend and are encouraged to participate in our activities and enjoy the fellowship of those who regularly attend.

Your volunteer Board of Officers and Committee staff are doing everything possible to make your attendance a pleasurable experience. We have fun making sure that you have fun.

Division Model Contest by John Sing

December 2005 Model Contest Recap

As was stated in the previous Coast Dispatcher, the 2006 objectives for Coast Division Model Contest will be to provide:

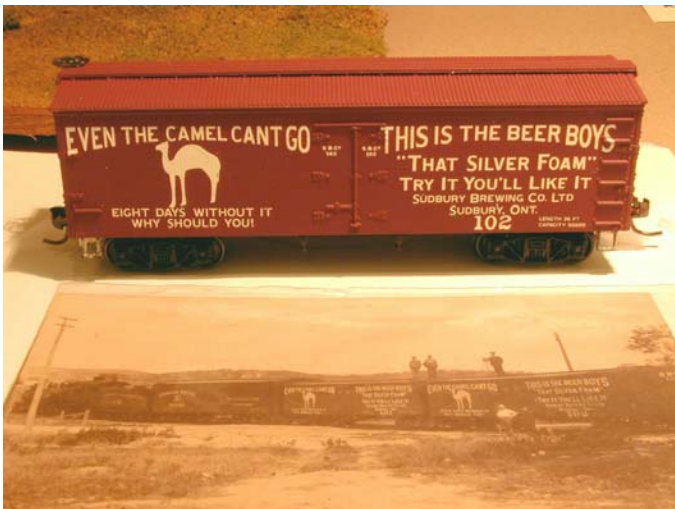
- A Showcase and forum for sharing our modeling with each other
- A attractive, well-run venue for fair, friendly show competition
- A vehicle for inspiring and enhancing our Division's individual and collective modeling skills, enjoyment of our hobby
- A positive, fun, and worthwhile experience for all participants

We had a nice experience of that in December 2005. Thanks to all the participants, who put on a great show for the rest of us. There was a constant flow of people by the table, chatting, kibitzing, inspiration, enjoyment, modelers meeting each other, comments like 'how did you do that'?

The category was "Favorite Model", and entries included an Nn3 shortline freight train with 0-6-0T loco, an HO San Diego Trolley, an N scale piggyback train, an HO Market Street Rwy streetcar, and N scale Alco S2; by popular vote, the results were:

3d place: Kenneth Martin –
Sudbury Brewing Co. reefer

2nd place: Tom Vanden Bosch -
Colorado Midland reefer



and first place goes to.....

Division Model Contest (continued)

(ta-da:!) 1st place: Mark Schutzer - SP Cab Forward 4103, circa 1950



Thanks to all who participated; you made it a great show for us all!

I extend to you an invitation to participate in the March 2006 edition of Model Contest. Bring a finished model to share, whether by entering the Popular Vote or For Show Only.

March 2006 Model Contest

There will be three categories :

- Freight Car
- Maintenance of Way
- Caboose

Results will be determined by Popular Vote.

It's not necessary to win; what is more valuable for you is the experience of participating; we'll provide a well-run, well-lit, positive place to share the results of your modeling time, effort, tenacity, joy, and pride.

The Show and Tell table will be open for all. Bring your work-in-progress. Let us see what's coming down the line.

In the process, you'll give us a way to get to know you and your modeling better. You'll meet other members who could be helpful and be friendly resources, sources of ideas, expertise, or just plain friendly helping hands. You'll provide inspiration to us all. You'll help prospective members see what NMRA membership is all about. And you'll make the camera shutterbugs go crazy.

In a nutshell, inspire yourself to finish that project that you've been meaning to get to! Bring something to share that you've completed some time ago but never entered. Show off a little (smile!) You'll be glad you did. And we all love it.

Available: NMRA Model Judging for Merit Points or Contest Prep

At your optional choice, we will have available for you NMRA model judging for any models that you enter into Model Contest, or bring For Show Only.

The results will be private, and there will be *no effect* on the Popular Vote results.

You can find out how you would have done from our qualified panel of Coast Division judges, who will focus on helping you with positive, friendly ideas for further improving your model.

If you are preparing an entry for Regional/National convention Model Contest, this is a superb way to refine and prepare.

Remember too that any model that you are proud of, you may bring it and have it privately judged for a Merit Award (Merit Awards count towards Master Model Railroader (MMR). Take advantage of a low-effort way to see how close your prize model is. Even if you know that your particular model may not quite just yet be MMR level, it's be fun to learn (and gain help and resources) on what you would need to do to get that model to that level.

In closing:

There is a lively ongoing discussion as the best path that NMRA Model Contest, both at our Coast Division level, as well as the Region/National level, should take as it evolves in the future. I'd love to hear your comments.

Upcoming Model Contest Categories:

June 2006:	Structure, display, self propelled cars & traction
September 2006:	Steam locomotives, diesel & other locomotives, passenger car
December 2006:	"Favorite model" (open category)

John Sing



Suntan Special NewsFlash #1, by Steve Wesolowski, Publicity

Welcome to my first Dispatcher Blurb on the Suntan Special May 2007 PCR Convention, to happen in lovely Santa Cruz, at the UCSC Inn on Ocean Street (Nr the County Gov't bldg & jail if we get too rowdy).

Our Convention Chair, Kevin Hurley, has volunteers for most convention assignments:

Convention Chair — Kevin Hurley
 Convention Secretary — **volunteer needed**
 Convention Treasurer — Dave Loveless
 Registrar — Tom Crawford
 Publicity — Steve Wesolowski
 Layout Tours — Dave Connery
 Prototype Tours — Clinics Chair - John Marshall
 Door Prizes — Jim Radkey, Andy Schnur
 Stores — **volunteer needed**
 Hobo in Charge — Dwayne Coate
 Non-Rail Activities — Mary Moore-Campagna
 Convention Car — Kevin Hurley
 Contests — Bill Scott
 Contests Assistant — Pat LaTorres
 Special Interest Groups — **volunteer needed**
 Convention Webmaster — Kevin Hurley
 Dennis Stokely — PCR Convention Chair
 Facilities Planning — **volunteer needed**
 Time Saver — Mark Schutzer
 Banquet Coordinator — **volunteer needed**

You can see there are still a few volunteer positions open, if you want to help our convention be even more Fun and Successful. Kevin asked me to volunteer at the last Coast Meet: since Publicity mainly means generating enthusiastic verbiage, Kevin knew where best to use me.

The convention hotel, the UCSC Inn will cost \$89 per night, including a Full breakfast, because UCSC Inn houses students on the Meal Plan: Meal Plan breakfast was great when I was a UCSC student in the 70's, because of Alumni event meals I know that hasn't changed: Such a Deal!

Another great deal is Convention Registration: Currently it should be about \$100 for attendees with Significant Others costing between \$40-60, but that INCLUDES the banquet AND the Train ride to and from Roaring Camp's recently built Banquet hall from Santa Cruz.

Even in these early planning stages, we plan on raffling Four cab rides for the four Roaring Camp train rides; Santa Cruz to/from RC banquet, RC Banquet to/from the top of the mountain. Stay tuned for more details.

A GraniteRock hopper is the Convention Car: the proto looks really nice.

Santa Cruz weather in May is generally heavenly, so don't forget your sunscreen.

Welcome aboard the Suntan Special.

Division Photo Contest By Pat LaTorres

In the December photo contest on "Trains in Action", Brian Booth won First Place, Mark Schutzer won Second Place, and Seth Neumann won Third Place.

March's theme will be "Model Photos"

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 March meet will be "Model Photos." This should be straight photos – no computer enhancements. We will give everyone a chance to show off their computer enhanced photos in June.

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.

Bring your photos early to get the early votes.

Auction By Bill Burket

We had a good attendance at our new location at the computer museum. What a super place for a meet and auction!. The auction had a fairly good showing except in the brass category. Remember that the items from 51 thru 100 are reserved for brass so that you have the majority of bidders present.

The upcoming auction will also feature 100 items from a collection liquidation. This is pot luck, you may be surprised at what you may find. So come and see for yourself. Bring a friend and get an extra raffle ticket.

On another note Doug Gross and I are working on the banquet for the Coast Division. We should have the price and the details worked out by the June meet. Right now we are aiming to have it on a Saturday night in September or early October. Stay tuned to this column for further details.

Lastly, a big thank-you from me to all the members who do the grunt work at the meets to make the auction a success. If you are interested in joining the auction committee let me know. See you at the March meet!

**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**

Tom's Trackside Trains

1675 Rollins Rd. Suite B-1
Burlingame, CA 94010
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

This is the new form to use for NMRA Registration



Membership Application



Pacific Coast Region



Coast Division

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ NMRA # (if a renewal): _____

I want to become a member of or renew my membership in the National Model Railroad Association. I have checked below the type of membership I desire and have enclosed the proper amount in a check payable to "NMRA". I understand that membership in the NMRA includes my affiliation with a Region and Division based on my address above. I also understand that I must subscribe to the National and Regional publications in order to receive them.

Regular Member w/National Subscription and Region Subscription	\$ 51.00
Regular Member w/Region Subscription Only	\$ 39.00
Family Member (must have Regular Member as sponsor) – Provide Name:	\$ 9.00
Student Member (under age 18 or under 23 w/valid student ID Card)	\$ 24.00
Sustaining (clubs, businesses, associations, etc.) includes National Subscription and Region Subscription	\$ 84.00
RailPass Trial Membership (6 months w/ National Subscription and Region Subscription – new members only)	\$ 12.95
Total	

Send all membership applications to: NMRA, 4121 Cromwell Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37421

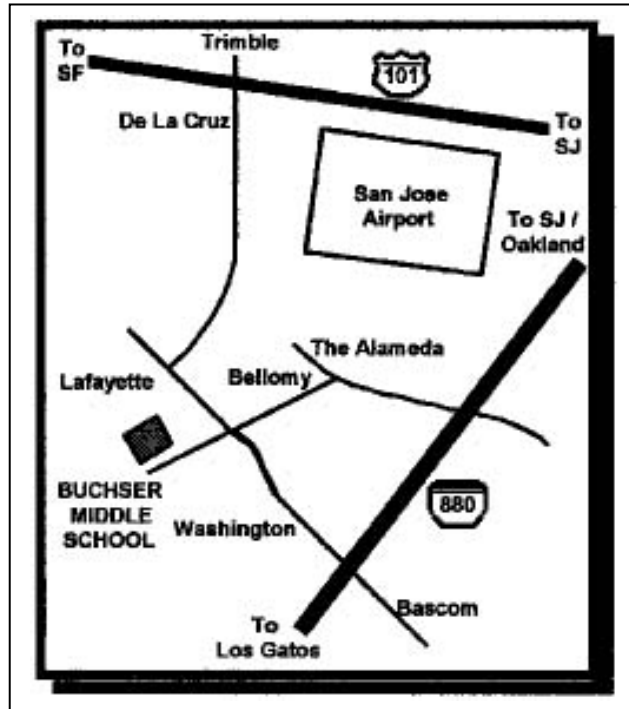
News Flash – Board Votes for More Prizes

At the last Board of Operations Meeting, the Board voted to have 3 raffle prizes – 1 for \$75, and 2 for \$25 each.

Also the value of the purchased door prizes will be equal to the total amount collected from the previous meet's raffle minus the amount of the raffle prizes given out (\$50 minimum). This means that the more raffle tickets we sell, the more money will be used to buy the door prizes for the next meet. Buy those tickets and win two ways.

The next meet will be on March 5, 2006 at
Buscher Middle School 1111 Bellomy St., Santa Clara, CA

Details are on Page 1. Here is the map.



Coast Dispatcher
4337 La Cosa Ave
Fremont, CA 94536