

Coast Dispatcher March 2007

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 18, 2007
Buchser Middle School, 1111 Bellomy St., Santa Clara, CA (map on last page)

9:00 AM Doors open. Free Door Prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets.

9:30 AM Get Auction Cards.

10:00 AM...... Thunder on the Mountains, by Ogden Lamont

11:00 AM...... Building Walls by Dave Connery & Brad Lloyd

11:00 AM...... Model Railroad Roundtable hosted by Jerry Littlefield

12 Noon Business Meeting

1:00 PM Auction starts

1:30 PMModel/Photo Contest Results – afterward Auction continues

3:30 PM Timesaver results, Raffle –afterward Auction continues if required

9:30 AM - 1:15 PM:

Photo Contest: Trains In Action

Model Contest: Caboose, Freight Cars, Maintenance of Way Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15 PM)

June 3, 2007 Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View, CA

9:00 AM Doors open. Free Door Prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets.

9:30 AM Get Auction Cards.

10:00 AM...... Show and Tell Session (2 hours)

11:00 AM Model Railroad Roundtable moderated by Jerry Littlefield

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:

Photo Contest: Model Railroad Photos

Model Contest: Structure, Display/Diorama, Self Propelled Cars & Traction

Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15)

Read the article on page 6 about the E-Dispatcher.

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Layout Tours: (vacant)

Membership: (vacant)

In This Issue

Upcoming Events1
Call Board 2
Superintendent' Report. 3
Suntan Special Report 4
Suntan Special Form 5
E-Dispatcher6
Meeting Sites 6
Registrar's Report 6
Elections 6
Layout Tours 6
In Home Clinics7
Model Contest7, 8 & 9
Photo Contest9
Timesaver 9
Meet Location Map 10



This issue has some good color pictures in it. To see them in all their glory, go to our website at http://www.pcrnmra.org/coast

We now have an E-mail version— the E-Dispatcher. It has more information than we can fit in the 10 page limitation of the mailed Dispatcher. Examples are registrar's Report details, and information on the budget. It also has a larger number of pictures. Read the article on page 6 on how to get the E-Dispatcher.

Super Notes

To: Coast Division Membership

From: John Marshall

Subject: Division status as of 1/12/07

I had fun at the December Meet and I sure hope that you did too. We had a lot of items in the auction and every item (almost) sold. I was really glad to see so many members stay through the whole auction. There were some really terrific items there and a lot of brass. Thanks to everyone that brought items to sell and to all you lucky buyers as well. That 10% fee that we collect from the sellers is our primary source of support. With postage and printing costs always going up, those auction fees go a long way in supporting the division.

I want to remind you [and you will see it numerous places in this issue] that the March meet has been moved back to the 3^{rd} Sunday of the month instead of the first Sunday. That's right, the March meet will be on <u>Sunday March 18^{th} </u>.

So please mark your calendar now so you won't miss it. This meeting is very important for more than just the auction and raffle. It is our bi-annual election meeting. All 3 of the elected officer positions are due and this meeting will determine who your officers are for the next 2 years.

We are going to be doing something a bit different at the June meet as well. We are going to forgo the usual clinics and provide "show and tell" tables for members to bring something to talk about. Got a favorite model, building, lantern collection, patch, badge or track nail collection you want to show off? This is the time and place to do just that. Bring your photo collection, your telegraph key and repeater or what ever interests you and we will provide a table for you. There won't be a lot of structure to it, other members can wander up to you whenever and talk to you. You don't need a script, you don't have to make up a PowerPoint presentation, just bring what you want to talk about and have at it. If you are interested in participating, please let me know by e-mail [ntrak@sbcglobal.net] or by phone [925-461-0206] and we will reserve you a table and have a sign for your topic.

We will have the Model Railroaders Roundtable. Jerry tells me we had a good turnout at the 'second section' edition at the December meet so he has agreed to continue hosting both morning and afternoon sessions for us to get involved.

And of course we will have the auction and the raffle drawings, the switching contest and all the other fun things that our meets encompass.

I plan on being there and I sure hope you will too.

John Marshall



Suntan Special: Register Today -- Discounts End Soon By Steve Wesolowski, PCR 2007 Publicity

If you haven't registered yet, the sooner the better: the \$10 Early Registration Discount ends on February 1st/ the \$30 First Timer/Long Lost PCR Member's Discount ends March 1st.

In Bakersfield last weekend I said this to a good buddy at the train show who said he never registers early because he doesn't know until the last minute if he can attend. I know for some this is true, but the earlier you register the easier it is for us to plan events, so we offer discounts: If you can, help us organizers & your wallet by registering ASAP. Thanks!

As I told many others in Bakersfield, PCR 2007 in Santa Cruz is fun for the entire family, even those who aren't real train foamers like some of us, so plan to bring your family along and consider staying an extra day or more to enjoy some other fun in the area, like the Aquarium, UCSC Arboretum, Cannery Row, Point Lobos, Carmel, Monterey and Big Sur's many lovely beaches and coastline, before the schools let out for Summer and everywhere is more crowded. All Convention Lodging includes Full Breakfast, which helps everyone begin full days of Big Fun fully fueled!

I know the costs of lodging and transportation can make it a hardship/impossible for some to attend conventions. If you are coming alone I ask you to consider sharing your room maybe with someone you know who can't or otherwise wouldn't attend. Since Registration with Convention Lodging really includes all Breakfasts & Saturday's Dinner, sharing room and/or transportation costs can mean the difference that allows a younger or older member of your club or other train friend to attend. Sharing a room or transportation with someone may be the deciding factor in attending, maybe for someone you know. I've shared rides & rooms at several conventions, leaving more \$ for meals, tours, and rides to many great layouts I would never have seen otherwise Plus I've made new friends! Ride Sharing and Room Sharing Work, so please consider both. Layout touring with others helps me visit more layouts, AND others always point out something I would have missed. I've learned Sharing is definitely worthwhile.

I've saved my best idea for last: Volunteer for the Suntan Special. Whenever you volunteer, you always receive more than you give. We all enjoy conventions only because of volunteers. Plus, even if you share just a little time, you will learn more about trains from other volunteers. My reward for sharing a little time since 2001 has been the pleasure of meeting, working and learning with others, including Jim Long, Dave Connery, Ed Liesse, Bob Ferguson, Gus Campagna, Bill Scott, Kermit Paul, Pat Latorres, Mary Moore-Campagna, Mark Schutzer, Chuck Mitchell, Jack Verducci, Bill Burket, Tom Crawford, Kevin Hurley, Ken Lunders, so many others.

The more who volunteer, the more fun we all have, not because each of us needs to do less, but because each one brings new talents and ideas. I look forward to more of us helping each other, and learning more from each other! I understand we still have some openings to fill, like working in the Store, coordinating SIGs and Proto Tours, and maybe others. Please contact Kevin Hurley, Tom Crawford or me if you are interested in joining our winning team by volunteering. You won't regret it, I can promise you!

I sincerely hope you can join our fun on the PCR's Suntan Special, in Santa Cruz May 2-6, 2007!

Steve Wesolowski



PCR/NMRA SUNTAN SPECIAL 2007 Convention

RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
SUNTAN SPECIAL

4337 La Cosa Ave Fremont, Ca 94536

E-mail Crawford.Tom@sbcglobal.net

University Inn & Conference Center May 2-6 2007

Hosted by: Coast Division, Pacific Coast Regions, National Model Railroad Association

Registration Form

Fo place credit card order go to our website http://www.pcrnmra.org/cony2007/

To place credit card order go to our website http://www.pcrimira.org/conv2007/										
Last Name			First Nam	ne		First Na	rst Name (for Name Badge)			
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Address				City			State	Zip C	ode	
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Home Phone E-mail Address						NMRA # (Membership Required)				
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Registration Type (Please check one) NMRA						IRA Reg	Region (if other than PCR)			
☐ Model Railroader ☐ Non Rail ☐ Youth										
Primary Scales and Interests										
(Check all that apply)				N □ O □G □Narrow Gauge □ Other:						
ADDITIONAL REGISTRANT(S) LIVING AT SAME ADDRESS (Use another form for more than 1)										
Last Name						First Na	st Name (for Name Badge)			
Registration Type (Please check one)					lroader 🗆	Spouse				
All Fares include: Seminars, & on Saturday a train ride from Santa Cruz to Roaring Camp & steam train ride to										
summit of Bear Mountain and back, a banquet at Roaring Camp & train ride back to Santa Cruz										
FARES: Please fill in and total						Q	ΓY U1	nit Cost	Total	
Early Registration prior to January 31, 2007							1	105.00		
Full Registration after January 31, 2007							1	115.00		
First Timer (or have not registered for past 3 conventions) for PCR Members						ers		85.00		
Only - Early Registration (before March 1, 2007)								0 = 00		
First Timer (or have not registered for past 3 conventions) for PCR Members Only, Leta Project action (March 1, 2007, April 1, 2007, only)							95.00			
Only - Late Registration (March 1, 2007-April 1 2007 only) Non NMRA member must join the NMRA, 6 month Rail Pass							9.95			
Spouse Registration or Youth Registration (12-18 years or student)							70.00			
Children for Roaring Camp (under 12)							50.00			
Ball Cap with Logo – one size fits all							15.00			
Pocket T-Shirt with Logo M L XL							18.00			
Pocket T-Shirt with Logo							21.00			
Shirts - Polo w/ Pocket and Logo (Check Size) \(\subseteq XS \) \(\subseteq S \) \(\subseteq M \) \(\subseteq L \) \(\subseteq XL \)								25.00		
Shirts - Polo w/ Pocket and Logo (Check Size) □ 2XL □ 3XL □ 4XL								28.00		
Shirts - Polo w/ Striped trim (Check Size) □XS □ S □ M □ L □ XL								32.00		
Shirts - Polo w/ Striped trim (Check Size) □ 2XL □ 3XL □ 4XL								35.00		
Convention Car – Granite Rock Hopper Car (HO Only)								15.00		
Set of 5 Convention Cars – Granite Rock Hopper Car (HO Only)								60.00		
Payment by Check** Cash [Use website for credit card]							TC	TAL:		

UNIVERSITY INN & CONFERENCE CENTER

611 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz 95060 (831)-426-7100

Book online at: http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2007/hotelreg.shtml

Room rates (includes full breakfast)

Single \$89.00 Double \$89.00 Triple \$99.00 Quad \$109.00

Website: http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2007
Questions - E-mail questions@pcrnmra.org

12/05/06 Rev # 9.4

^{**} Make Checks Payable to: "PCR Convention 2007"

Check out the E-Dispatcher By Tom Crawford

The Coast Dispatcher usually has more information than we can cram into 10 pages, so we end up paring it down. Suggestions have been made to make it better, such as going to smaller type, reducing the amount of white space, wrapping text around some of the pictures instead of a lot of white space and editing the more verbose articles. We have done a number of these things, some of which you see in this issue. We will be doing more of them.

However, there are a number of people who want more stuff.

So, we are now starting a new version called the E-Dispatcher. It is a full color version of the Dispatcher with less editing down, and more complete information on things we could not include in the Dispatcher.

The Dispatcher will be aimed at getting basic information out to all people, and the necessary publicity to make sure that everyone knows what is going on and has a good sense of the important issues we have. It is sort of like the front page of your local newspaper.

The E-Dispatcher will have more in depth information. Sort of like adding the second section to your paper, expanding on the stories. For example, the E-Dispatcher will have issues the Board is working on , as well as reports that may be pertinent to all members.

The first issue of the E-Dispatcher has 15 pages as opposed to only 10 for the Dispatcher. Admittedly, the Dispatcher is double columned, which saves space, but we chose not to use double columns for the E-Dispatcher because some will read it on the screen and columns are hard to read on screen.

The E-Dispatcher will be automatically sent to everyone who joins the Coast_Dispatcher Yahoo Group. If you want to join, simply go to Yahoo! then "Groups" on the left margin, and then enter "Coast_Dispatcher" in the search box. Or call Tom Crawford for help.

The E-Dispatcher will also be on the Coast Division Web Site.

Meeting Sites

Right now all of the Coast Division Meets are held in the South Bay (Mountain View and Santa Clara. We think this is not good for our members who live in the northern and eastern part of our Division. Therefore we are looking for some northern sites.

What we are hunting for is someone who lives in these areas and is familiar with possible sites and can help us find a suitable location or two. If you fit into this category and are wiling to help, please contact our superintendent, John Marshall at 925-461-0206 or email him at ntrak@sbcglobal.net

Registrar's Report By John Amerling

At the December meet we had 110 Attendees, 99 from Coast Division, 10 from neighboring Divisions, and one guest.

There were 181 door prize tickets handed out (those who come with their name badge get two tickets).

There were 714 raffle tickets sold.

We had 13 door prizes and 7 raffle prizes The raffle prizes included \$225 in gift certificates, and the two volume set Western Pacific Pictorial set.

We also sold 1 full membership and 1 rail pass.

More details are available in the E-Dispatcher.

Elections by Dave Connery

At the March Meeting we will elect the Superintendent, Chief Clerk, and Treasurer.

The Nomination Committee confirmed that the incumbents were willing to run again.

John Marshall is the superintendent and is willing to run again.

Tom Crawford is the Chief Clerk and is also wiling to run again.

Finally, Bob Ferguson is the Paymaster, and he is willing to run again.

The bylaws require that the Nomination Committee identify two candidates for each position. Anyone interested in serving in one of these positions should contact Dave Connery.

Nominations will be received from the floor but anyone nominated must indicate their willingness to run for the office and serve if elected.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Layout Tours

For many years, the Coast Division had layout tours of member layouts. We would like to start this practice back up. The idea would be to have at least one tour per year, probably in November when other activity is low

The logic would be that in the Dispatcher we would publicize when our next tours would be, and ask for members who were interested in showing us their layouts on the tour. The tour would not necessarily be on only one day, but a sequence of days that made the most sense.

We are now looking for someone to coordinate these tours. This person would be the person that interested members would contact, and the coordinator would come up with a schedule that made the most sense.

If you are interested in helping us get this started again, please contact our Superintendent, John Marshall at (925) 461-0206 or email him at ntrak@sbcglobal.net

In Home Clinics

Many of our best modelers have developed excellent modeling techniques. Much of the equipment and layouts needed to demonstrate these techniques cannot simply be hauled to a Convention or Division Meet. They need to be demonstrated at the demonstrator's layout or shop.

For many years, Coast Division handled this by having In Home Clinics, where members would go to the home of the expert, and the expert would give a demonstration to a small group, of under, say, 5 or 10 people.

We would like to revive this practice. We can publicize in the Dispatcher to get clinics, but we need someone to be the contact point that potential presenters contact, and who would coordinate these.

There would be no deadline or fixed number of clinics as would be the case for division meets, but rather just a contact person who was told by presenters of their availability, and then coordinated the timing of the clinics.

If you are interested in helping us get this started again, please contact our Superintendent, John Marshall at (925) 461-0206 or email him at ntrak@sbcglobal.net

Show and Tell / Model Contest December 2006 Recap By John Sing The December 2006 Coast Division Model Contest and Show and Tell was the largest of 2006 - very active and very entertaining. We had 8 stunning entries in the



Model Contest and 13 beautiful entries in the Show and Tell. See these models online at the updated Model Contest / Show and Tell / Photo Contest web pages on the Coast Division PCR website at:

http://www.pcrnmra.org/coast/contest.shtml

Thanks to *all* who participated, you put on a great Holiday show and inspired all of us. We hope you enjoyed our admiration of your work: (From left to right: Randy Homan, Chip Morningstar, Ken Martin, Ed Weldon)



Model Contest December 2006

The Lucky Winners by Popular Vote:

1st Place: Andrew Merriam (from San Louis Obispo!)

Southern Pacific Maintenance of Way train

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)
2nd Place: Mark Schutzer

Southern Pacific 4-8-2 Mountain #4357 (Picture in E-Dispatcher or on Website)

3d Place: Bob Booth

Completely scratchbuilt and superdetailed Ore Car (Picture in E-Dispatcher or on Website)

We thank all the entrants for the Coast Division Model Contest, we wish we could have given awards to each of you. Check out the <u>website</u> and enjoy pictures of these great entries:

- Mike Blumensaadt N Engine House
- George Friesleben HO San Francisco Market St Railway streetcar #1234
- Earl Girbovan HO Detailed Barge and Crane
- Kenneth Martin HO Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Tourist Combine #3380
- Tom Vanden Bosch HO Colorado Midland "Hanrahan" Reefer #1208
- Tom Vanden Bosch HO Western Pacific A-B FT #910

We wish we had the space here to publish photos of these models in the Dispatcher – go to the <u>web site</u> and see these entries, you will enjoy them.

In the end, NMRA contests are really about participation and sharing - so Thank You to *all* that entered a model, you put on a great show and inspired the rest of us.



Show and Tell December 2006

We had the largest and most vibrant Show and Tell of 2006 as well at the December meet. Stunning entries all.

Thanks to all who participated in the Show and Tell, we loved seeing your contributions. Go to the web site and have a look:

- Mike Blumensaadt's N Santa Fe Fuel-Foiler piggyback train
- Jim Eckman's layout photos Yosemite Short Line On30 modular layout
- Ken Lunder's HO "Clamity Jane" kit
- Alf Modine's O scale C&NW 4-8-4 Northern
- Jim Manley's Z scale intermodal and Mi-Jack

and especially:

- Bob Booth's Santa Fe Super Chief built from Kaslo kits
- Bob Booth's Southern Pacific Daylight articulated diner
- Bob Booth's Ore Car train
- Bob Booth's Dry Ice reefer first built in 1953
- Bob Booth's Flatcar first built in 1951
- Bob Booth's Steam Donkey
- Bob Booth's Log Puller
- Bob Booth's highly detailed Shay

(all in HO)

Let's keep up the Show and Tell! You're invited to bring one or several of your items of pride to the March 2007 meet to share with us; finished or worksin-progress are welcome. For Show and Tell, we always have it open to any category.

Model Contest Categories for Upcoming Meets

Coast Division Model Contest categories are rotated throughout the year as shown below. Therefore for March 2007, the categories are: Freight Car, Caboose, and Maintenance of Way. Bring your favorites to share! Remember, it's really about participating and meeting your fellow modelers; we all love to see your pride and joys.

March: Freight car, Caboose, Maintenance

of Way

June: Structure, Display/Diorama, Self-

propelled Cars & Traction

Sept: Steam locomotives, Diesel / other

locomotives, Passenger Car

December: "Favorite Model" (open category)

Coast Division Model Contest results for March 2007 will be determined by Popular Vote. Arrive and enter early to get more votes.

Special Event for June 2007 Model Contest / Show and Tell

We are planning for June 2007, during one of the 1 hour morning Clinic time slots, to have tables setup for anyone to participate in a special Model Contest /

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Show and Tell 'Poster' session, in which you may tell us about the model you brought. During that hour, you may move your Model Contest / Show and Tell entry to an available table space, and along with your fellow 'Posters', be available to discuss your model in detail with all of us. We call it a 'Poster' session because we encourage posters, in-progress photos, laptop slide show, documentation, etc. – to let us know about your model.

Let your creativity run wild. It's all sharing and entertaining with the details of your pride and joys. We hope you'll all enjoy this.

So put a reminder on your calendar for June 2007 meet and we look forward to seeing you. ©

Photography of your models

We continue our Coast Division service of photographing (with your permission) your models and supplying you with quality digital picture, as a part of your participation in either Show and Tell and/or Model Contest. As you can see from the new web site updates above, (with your permission) your participation and photo of your model will be placed on the quarterly Model Contest / Show and Tell web site.

Optional: take advantage of NMRA Judging, available to you at any Coast Division Meet to any Model Contest participant. You can have an entry judged (all results are private if you desire) for:

Achievement Program Merit Points
Regional/National Contest entry preparation 'dryrun' and friendly expert advice

Or, just to see how you would have done (and receive the best of very friendly, private, expert suggestions)

We are lucky in Coast Division to have a wealth of expertise and experience available – you'll be happily surprised by the benefits you'll receive by bringing a model to the Model Contest and asking for it to be privately judged.

So, bring your models and share with us for either Show and Tell or Model Contest!

We're looking forward to seeing you.

John Sing Coast Division Model Contest Chair-flunky

Photo Contest By Pat LaTorres

The theme was: "Trains as Art"

There were eleven entries. All of them were artistic, noteworthy, and creative, and every one is worthy of award and mention.

Thank you to all who brought your photo to share, we all love seeing your work.

Click on any of the thumbnails below to see a larger copy of the Photo Contest Entry. By popular vote, the lucky Photo Contest winners were:

1st Place: "Rotary" by Pat LaTorres 2nd Place: "Switch Points" by Rod Smith 3rd Place: Climax Fire Box" by Bennett Woll

March's theme will be "Trains in Action"
This means *action* photos of prototype trains and/or equipment. (Note: photos of static equipment is not included in this category)

All photos should be matted (inexpensive, re-usable mattes can be had at most art supply stores) and should be between 5x7 and 11x14 in size. Hope to see your work there!

Results are determined by Popular Vote. Bring your photos early to get the early votes.

Timesaver Switching Contest By Mark Schutzer

The winners of the Timesaver Switching contest in March were:

Brakeperson (5 car)

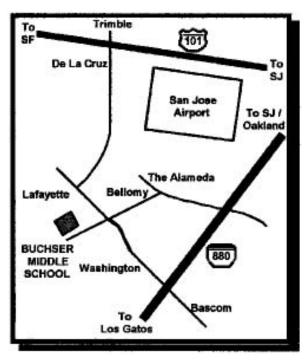
1st Place: Joe Driscoll 5:15 - First time. Promoted to

Senior

Second Place: Chip Morningstar 7:25

Senior Brakeperson (6 car) 1st Place: Tom Crawford 5:46 2nd Place: Alan Havens 7:05 3rd Place: Dennis Stokely 8:10

Conductor (7 car) or "Problem from Hell." No takers (Tom and Mark were too busy—ha! ha!. What's your excuse, Alan?) The next meet will be on March 18, 2007 at Buchser Middle School, 1111 Bellomy St., Santa Clara, CA Details are on Page 1. Here is the map.



From San Francisco: Take Highway 101 South. Exit on De La Cruz, and follow for about1.7 miles until De La Cruz bears right and becomes Lewis. Turn Left on Lafayette and continue 0.6 miles to the school on your right at Bellomy.

From The East Bay: Take Highway 880 South. Exit at Bascom. Turn Right and continue north on Washington. The Street will dog leg and change to Lafayette. Right after the dogleg, the school is on your left at Bellomy.

Coast Dispatcher 4337 La Cosa Ave Fremont, CA 94536