



Coast Dispatcher December, 2008

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 are our next few events.**

Division Meet

December 7 , 2008

**Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View, 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.....Clinic - Free-Mo-N, N-Scale Modular System, by Dave Faulkenburg**
- 11:00 AM.....Clinic - AARP Driver Safety Program Overview for Seniors, by Bill Blum**
- 11:00 AM.....Model Railroad Roundtable moderated by Jerry Littlefield**
- 12 Noon.....Business Meeting**
- 1:00 PM(or when Business Meeting ends) Auction starts, Roundtable continues**
- 1:30 PMModel/Photo Contest Results – afterward Auction continues**
- 3:30 PMTimesaver Results, Raffle – afterward Auction continues if required**

9:30 AM – 1:15 PM:

Photo Contest: Model Photos

Model Contest: Favorite Models

Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15)

Division Meet

March 1, 2009

Buchser Middle School, 1111 Bellomy St., Santa Clara, CA

Model Contest: Caboose, Freight Cars, Maintenance of Way

Photo Contest: Working on the Railroad

Layout Tours

March 7-8, 2009

Monterey Bay and Salinas

Details on Page 5.

April 4, 2009

Coast Division Banquet

El Patio Mexican Restaurant, 37311 Fremont Blvd, Fremont, CA

Details on Page 3.

Coast Call Board

Director: Rod Smith
Ph: 510-657-3362
Email: railgeez@aol.com

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

Chief Clerk: Tom Crawford
Ph: (510) 790-0371
email:
Crawford.Tom@sbcglobal.net

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

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

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

Auction Accounting:
Bill Swindell
Ph: (925) 372-6996
email: bill_swindell@value.net

Clinics: 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:
Crawford.Tom@sbcglobal.net

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

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: (510) 317-7456
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: Randy Homan
Ph: (408) 2012589
email: rhoman3@sbcglobal.net

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

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

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

Layout Tours: Dave Parks
Ph: 650 961-7644
email:
[Bearwestern@comcast.net](mailto: Bearwestern@comcast.net)

Membership: (vacant)

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This Dispatcher is full to the brim. I just plain ran out of room, and had to chop articles to stay within my 10 page limit.

The full version of the Dispatcher is called the E-Dispatcher and is distributed by E-mail. It is also available on the Coast Division Website.

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

You may subscribe to the E-Dispatcher for free by contacting Tom Crawford at
Crawford.Tom@sbcglobal.net



CFC 12286

Federal Employees! For the first time, the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) will be included in your annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) to be conducted at your workplace. To offer the NMRA your support please designate #12286 on your CFC contribution form.

Super Notes

By John Marshall

It's that time of year when the Holidays quickly approach that we often think of what we might find under our Christmas tree or Hanukkah bush as the case may be. For a lot of folks, there may not be anything waiting there and possibly not even that tree. For them this will not be a very Merry Holiday Season. The current financial mess has us all concerned and perhaps a bit scared too. The wishes I have for each one of you and your families this Holiday season are for good health, a good roof over your heads and a job or financial resources to see you through this financial storm. May the new year bring you joy, prosperity and the warmth of family love.

The March meet will be my last as Superintendent but as of the December meet, I will be serving as your Auction Committee Chairman. Don't get me wrong, I won't be replacing Bill Burket. Nobody could do that. I plan on acting as a coordinator and will be overseeing the operations of the Committee. I do not plan to do any auctioneering. You couldn't stand that and you don't deserve that. The crew we have knows well enough how to do their jobs so I am going to let them continue at it. If the December meet is where you shop for your own Christmas present as I do, then let's all get out there and bring something to put in the auction. Who knows, what may be your trash is bound to be somebody else's treasure.

Dave Connery, our Nominating Committee, has been busy and has assured me that he has a full slate for the election in March. Up for election are the offices of Superintendent, Chief Clerk and Paymaster. Dave will also be taking nominations from the floor at the December meet.

We have now experienced our second round of layout tours by our new chairman Dave Parks and his committee. They are doing a fantastic job. I personally want to thank them for all the work they have put into coordinating and scheduling these layout tours. If you have not participated, you are really missing out. If you have gone on the tours, please share your experiences with Dave and let him

**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**

know how much you enjoyed the visits to other member's home layouts. I know I appreciate what they have been doing and have told them so. Dave and the guys, Keep up the good work. The layout tours are a success again.

We get together each quarter for more than just the auction or the clinics or the raffle. Oh sure those are fun. But we get together because we share an important thing in our lives. We share our hobby. Some of us enjoy building models or doing scenery or operating or just armchair layout planning but we all love trains. And we like to get together with others who do too. If you know someone who is not a member but loves trains, bring them as your guest. If you know someone who used to be a member but has dropped out, invite them to come with you to the meet. It's time to get active in sharing your hobby.

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Coast Division Banquet April 4, 2009 El Patio Mexican Restaurant, 37311 Fremont Blvd, Fremont, CA

The restaurant is across the street from the historic Centerville Depot, which is an active train station on the Capital Corridor line. The dinner will be at 5:30 PM, timed so that people who want to take the train can take the train to Centerville, enjoy dinner and a presentation with time to catch the last train home.

The Social hour will start at 4:30PM and Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM. The presentation will start at approximately 6:15 PM and we should be done by 7:30PM.

For those travelling by train, the incoming trains are 2:39 PM westbound and 2:49 PM eastbound (okay, you'll have to blow an hour and a half in Centerville before the social hour) and the trains going home leave at 8:09 PM (westbound) and 8:19 PM (eastbound).

Tickets are \$20 per person, and will be available for \$20 at the December Coast Division Meet. If you wish to go but cannot make it to the December or March Meets, send a check for \$20 per person to

Tom Crawford
4337 La Cosa Ave
Fremont, CA 94536

If you have questions, call 520-790-0371

Bill Burket Lifetime Recognition Award

The September Meet was Bill Burket's last meet as our auction chair after 40 years on the committee, and the last 18 years as chairman after the original chair, John Dennis, passed away.

To commemorate his 40 years of service, John Marshall presented him with the Coast Division Lifetime Recognition Award, the first such plaque ever awarded by Coast Division.



Bill has asked me to put the following in the Dispatcher.

I wish to thank the Coast Division Board, Officers and Membership for the wonderful Lifetime Recognition Award that I was given. This means so much to me for all the friends and acquaintances that I have made over the past 40 years. Thanks to all of you again from the bottom of my heart. The award was completely overwhelming and is a beautiful addition to my John Allen Award and Coast Division Member of the Year Award. I was so overcome with emotion at the meet and I just couldn't believe the standing ovation. Coast Division will always have a special place for me on my journey through life. I promise I won't disappear totally. I have a few extended family matters to attend to and hope to see you all later next year. Thanks and keep the model railroad spirit alive!

Bill Burket

The following is Bill's last Auction report. John Marshall will take over as Auction Chair.

Auction Report By Bill Burket

We had a good turnout at the September meet. There were 524 items in the auction of which about 40 were brass. This was the best showing of brass that we have had to date. This was a great boost to the Coast Division auction. So, remember to clean out your closets of those kits, models, half built projects and the brass that you will never use. Ten percent of your sale goes to fund the quarterly meets and quality clinics that volunteers put on at each meet. Besides that, each meet is a great place to meet and exchange ideas with other modelers. Keep up the good work and let's try to fill up the brass section with 50 items. Item numbers 51 to 100 are reserved for brass. Clean out those closets and remember to bring a friend. New members will insure the great meets of Coast Division for years to come. Thank-you to you the members for your participation! Lastly, please volunteer and give your new auction chairman John Marshall your support. Thanks!

Bill Burket - Auction Chairman Emeritus

Timesaver Corner By Mark Schutzer

Due to a glitch (the clock died) we did not have a timesaver contest at the September Meet. Come see us at the next meet and try your luck against the Timesaver. To quote Tom Van Horn "It's a lot of fun and you have to try it because it's FREE!"

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

Layout Tours Dave Parks Coast Tours 2009 Schedule

The 2009 Coast Tours will be the weekend following the Coast Division quarterly meetings. The preferred distribution of tour maps is on-line and free. Hard copy map sets are available only by pre-ordering from a member of the Coast Tours committee (contact below). The map packet cost is five dollars per tour weekend and distribution is at the Coast Division meeting preceding each tour weekend. PCR convention tours maps will be distributed to convention registrants.

March 7 – 8, 2009 - Monterey Bay and Salinas – Robert Bowdidge coordinator

April 15 - 19, 2009 - PCR convention tours. Layouts tours will extend about 25 air miles from the convention site in Fremont, CA. Bob Osborn and Don Marenzi coordinators.

June 13 – 14, 2009 - North East Bay - Andy Schnur coordinator.

September 12 – 13, 2009 - South East Bay - Bob Osborn coordinator.

December 12 – 13, 2009 - North West Bay - Pete Cressman coordinator.

On line is the primary distribution method for information and maps. However, tour maps will be available at the preceding Coast Division meeting if pre-ordered. The cost will be \$5. In addition to the above tours we intend to sponsor a tour of the southern part of the PCR Redwood Empire Division with Ernie Simard coordinator. This includes Napa, Solano and Sonoma Counties. Other Tours outside the Coast Division boundaries are being planned. Please let us know if you would like to have your layout on the tour. There are no minimum layout standards, just an accurate description of what you have.

Coast Tours Coordinators:

Chair David Parks
bearwestern@comcast.net (650) 961-7644

North East Bay Andy Schnur
Schnurrae@netzero.com (925) 283-4476

South East Bay Bob Osborn
bob@cmrailroad.com (925) 484-4136
Don Marenzi
donmarenzi@aol.com (510) 794-3469

North West Bay Pete Cressman
gabi2pete-friends@yahoo.com (415) 641-9379

South West Bay Steve Williams
spwilliams@gmail.com (408) 857-6787

North Beyond the Bay Ernie Simard
esimard@yahoo.com (707) 762-9163

Monterey Bay/Salinas Robert Bowdidge
bowdidge@earthlink.net (408) 723-1925

Please Send Us Your Email Address

We are assembling a data base of PCR and Coast Division email addresses. The use of email is much faster, less time consuming and will save a significant expense as opposed to using the US Mail. Please help us assemble this data base by sending an email with your name and the words "PCR Email" in the subject line to Steve Williams at spwilliams@gmail.com. We hope to do all tour notices via email and the web sites. The email address database will be only for the use of PCR and Coast Division event communications and not distributed to any third party.

Editor's Note: These guys have done a bang up job, and need to be commended. If you have not gone on a layout tour, ya gotta do it!

It's Train Show Time again! Steve Wesolowski, Coast Division Publicity Chairperson

Once again, along with Fall's colors, GTE & other fun model train shows return to our area.

I want to thank all the volunteers who helped staff the PCR/NMRA Membership and Information tables last month at Santa Clara County Fairgrounds: Stanley Keiser, Chuck Mitchell, Pat & Ronnie LaTorres, Kevin Hurley, Dave Lovelless, Don Stewart. We gave away 4 Cases of free magazines, with a limit of 2/person! Most of those mags Kevin Hurley donated--Thanks, Kevin!

I think we encouraged a few people to join NMRA, as we primarily helped many enjoy our hobby more by answering their questions, showing some how to play the Timesaver, and encouraging many to come to our next Coast Division meet December 7th and our next convention in Fremont.

We all enjoyed the various modular train groups running, from Z to G gauge, including Robert Ray's 1st & 2nd Place winning Anaheim 2008 modules. We managed to find a few model bargains, in addition to meeting many new train loving people of all ages.

The next GTE show in Coast Division is 11/29-30 in Pleasanton, CA at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. See: <http://www.trainexpoinc.com/schedule.html> for more information. If you help us half a day to spread the word about the train fun we enjoy in Coast Division, you also get in free. If you are Interested, please email me at

swezz@comcast.net

Another of the best Model Railroad shows in PCR is coming November 8th & 9th to the Placer County Fairgrounds in Roseville, CA: International Railfair. Railfair is the main fundraiser for PCR Sierra Division, run entirely by volunteers, who also qualify for a free dinner! I know Mary C. Moore-Campagna is still looking for volunteers; contact her at marycmoore@campagna.com

In addition to model trains and vendors, Railfair also has Live Steam trains to ride and other interesting train fun in addition to and different from what the GTE shows offer. See: www.internationalrailfair.com

I hope to volunteer with you in Pleasanton and Roseville!

Rails Across The Bay

**Steve Wesolowski,
PCR 2009 Fremont
Publicity Person**

In case you don't know: PCR's 2009 Convention will be held at the Fremont Marriott April 15th-19th. The theme of YOUR convention, Rails Across the Bay, is explained in more detail on our website, www.pcrnmra.org/conv2009/, under the heading "Why RAB?" but we selected this theme because it reflects the rich and colorful history of railroading in the greater San Francisco Bay Area. Our committee is actively encouraging clinics and other activities that reflect upon this rich history, and I will cover more about that in my column in the next Dispatcher.

Today I'll quickly cover some advantages of having Rails Across The Bay in Fremont & attending:

Our proximity to the Niles Canyon Railway/Pacific Locomotive Association gives us the opportunity of planning a Special Steam Train Ride (for a small fee) that Friday from Niles to Sunol and return trip which includes a stop for a guided shop tour of the Brightside yard. There should be plenty of time for pictures. We also are planning Speeder Rides in Niles Canyon for Thursday (also for a small fee).

Our location within the SF Bay Area allows many opportunities to ride public rail transit, including BART, CalTrain, Amtrak before, after and during our convention, in addition to many world class fun daily destinations in San Francisco, Silicon Valley, the East Bay and many places in between.

I think of our PCR Conventions as another way of enjoying the same World Class Clinics, SIGs, Layout Tours, Models, Photographs & Crafts as I've enjoyed at NMRA conventions.

I think this way because so many of the same Clinic Presenters, Photographers, Model Builders and Craftspersons who share their skills at the National Conventions also share their knowledge and skills with us at our PCR conventions: in addition to the about 10% of NMRA members who are PCR members, PCR conventions also bring many from other regions, some of whom also present clinics.

Some main differences I see between PCR and NMRA Conventions are:

--PCR Layout tours are mainly self guided & usually within 35 miles of our hotel,

--PCR Conventions are about half as long, so hotel stays cost at least that much less,

--Fewer people attend PCR conventions: you have more opportunities to meet everyone.

--Same Quality Clinics offered, less frenzied/fewer multiple tracks, more relaxed/human scaled.

--Usually, much less travel time and expense for any PCR attendees (Anaheim, maybe about equal).

--Banquet Dinner & Entertainment is often included in Registration (as at PCR 2009).

I'll give more specific details about Clinics, Rail & Non-Rail activities, Layouts, SIGs, and all the rest in the next Dispatcher, but until that issue, I Strongly Recommend you look at our growing website often to learn more info than I can possibly fit into print, www.pcrnmra.org/conv2009

If you don't find something on our website that would help you plan for and enjoy our convention, please let us know, so we can make our website even more useful for every one of us.

Today, I urge you to register before rates increase: we offer an "Early Bird" Registration of \$85, a discount of \$14.00 off the Full fare of \$99, to those who register through January 31, 2009. All fares include Clinics, Layout Tours, and Saturday Night Banquet (Banquet not included with Day Fares).

We were very fortunate to negotiate our hotel at the favorable rate of \$89.00/night for a double room for our attendees. In the San Francisco Bay Area this is an exceptional price for a high quality hotel.

The price for a good buffet breakfast at the hotel was also reduced to \$10.00 (tax & tip extra), so you will be able to enjoy the convention without the hassle of finding a good, hearty breakfast each morning. (Our committee met last Saturday after their buffet breakfast: it was great, and cooked to order. Yummy!)

BTW: I live 20 minutes away, during NON 'Rush-hour' traffic, around double that during 'rush' hours. I think I'll stay over one or more nights so I can enjoy more early AM and late PM fun activities.

Lastly, we all hope everyone who attends will bring at least one of their models, photos or crafts, whether just to display or to enter for competition. This way everyone will have more to share, enjoy, discuss and learn from: it is by seeing others' works I learn the most.



**PCR/NMRA
RAILS ACROSS THE BAY
2009 Convention
Marriott Hotel, Fremont CA
April 15-19 2009**

RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT TO:

Rails Across the Bay
c/o Tom Crawford
4337 La Cosa Ave
Fremont, Ca 94536

E-mail: PCR2009Conv@PCRNMRA.org
Website: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2009>

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

Registration Form

To place credit card order go to our website <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2009/>

Last Name		MMR #?	First Name		First Name (for Name Badge)	
Address			City		State	Zip Code
Home Phone	E-mail Address				NMRA # (Membership Required)	
Registration Type (Please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Model Railroader <input type="checkbox"/> Non Rail <input type="checkbox"/> Youth				NMRA Region (if other than PCR)		
Primary Scales and Interests (Check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> HO <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> Narrow Gauge <input type="checkbox"/> Other:						
ADDITIONAL REGISTRANT LIVING AT SAME ADDRESS (Use another form for more than 1)						
Last Name		MMR #?	First Name		First Name (for Name Badge)	
Registration Type (Please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Modeler <input type="checkbox"/> Non Rail <input type="checkbox"/> Youth		E-Mail (if Different)			NMRA #	
All Fares, except Day Fares, include Clinics, layout tours, & Saturday Night Banquet						
FARES: Please fill in and total				QTY	Unit Cost	Total
Early Registration prior to January 31, 2009					85.00	
Normal Registration after January 31, 2009					99.00	
First Timer - PCR Members who have not registered for the past 5 conventions					75.00	
Spouse Registration					70.00	
Banquet Only (only for spouses who will be coming to nothing else)					45.00	
Youth Registration (12-18 years or student)					50.00	
Day Fare (No Banquet) <input type="checkbox"/> Wed <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs <input type="checkbox"/> Fri <input type="checkbox"/> Sat					45.00	
Non NMRA member must join the NMRA		6 month Rail Pass (allowed one time only)			9.95	
		Full NMRA membership/PCR subscription			61.00	
Hobo Breakfast (for qualified Hobos only)					11.80	
Niles Canyon Railway/Brightside Tour					TBD	
2 nd Prototype tour					TBD	
1 st Non Rail Tour					TBD	
2 nd Non Rail Tour					TBD	
Shirts - Polo w/ Pocket and Logo (Check Size) <input type="checkbox"/> XS <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL					25.00	
Shirts - Polo w/ Pocket and Logo (Check Size) <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL <input type="checkbox"/> 4XL					28.00	
Ball Cap					15.00	
Convention Car -(HO Only)					TBD	
Set of 5 Convention Cars -(HO Only)					TBD	
Swap Meet Table Rental 1 table - Read rules on web site - Initial here _____					15.00	
Swap Meet Tables Rental 2 tables - Read rules on web site - Initial here _____					25.00	
Swap Meet Table Electrical Power (5 amp max.)					5.00	
Payment by <input type="checkbox"/> Check** <input type="checkbox"/> Cash [Use website for credit card]					TOTAL:	
** Make Checks Payable to: "PCR Convention 2009" No Refunds After April 1, 2009						

Marriott Fremont Silicon Valley Hotel 46100 Landing Parkway, Fremont, CA 94538 510-413-3700

\$89.00, Single or Double

Reservations at the convention rate (prior to 3/25/09): 1-800-455-6712 or 510-413-3786 and mention Market Code NMRC

Or, online go to: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sjcfm?groupCode=nmrnmra&app=resvlink&fromDate=4/15/09&toDate=4/19/09>

Registrar's Report

By John Ameling

There were a lot of early arrivals, but over all attendance was down with a total of 89. This was two more than the poorest attendance I've recorded since March '00.

However, the people who attended were quite generous in their raffle purchases. \$164 was not a great amount, but raffle sales averaged \$1.84 per attendee. Good participation.

Prizes

Raffle

- Train Shop (purchased) \$50.00 Gift Certificate
- Tom's Trackside Trains \$50.00 Gift Certificate
- Superintendent (Donated) \$50.00 Gift certificate from Just Trains Book

Door Prizes

- Zona saw Labelle 104 oil
- General ruler & gauge
- Woodland Sceinics tweezers
- Bragdon weathering caulks
- General pin vise – large grip
- Paid \$48.28

Total Paid \$148.28

Attendees

Coast Division	81
Sierra	4
Redwood	3
Daylight	
Other	1
Guests	3
Total attendees	89
- First timers (Included in division count)	3

Editor's Note: This is John's last report. Randy Homan will be taking John's place. Thank you, John for your efforts.

Model Contest / Show and Tell Report by John Sing

We had a great turnout for Model Contest at the Sept 2008 meet - all were superb and we all enjoyed greatly seeing these wonderful models for us to enjoy. Special thanks to Tom Van Horn of Tom's Trackside Trains for urging two of his clients to enter - their entries were outstanding and we would not have seen them otherwise. Special thx to Steve Wesolowski, Mark Schutzer, Pat and Ronnie LaTorres, and Tom Crawford for helping out on the Model Contest / Show and Tell in Sept 2008, as I was out of town on business.

By popular vote, the lucky winners were as follows. Just by entering, *everyone* is a winner!

Model Contest

1st Place Diesel: Tom Crawford for a graffiti laden Niles & Western GP38-2 in HO:



2nd Place Diesel: Steve Anderson, for his superdetailed Southern Pacific NW-2 in N:



1st Place Steam: to Mark Schutzer, for Southern Pacific 2-8-0 #2500 in HO:



2nd Place Steam: to Bob Booth, another of his 'dollar kits' highly detailed Shay in HO - way to go Bob for showing us how to take everyday 'junk' and turn it into stellar models:



3rd Place Steam: to Paul Ingraham, for his detailed State RR of Thailand 2-6-0 in N - photos can't do justice to this little gem:



1st Place: Alan Havens - "Sierra RR /Engine House"



1st Place Passenger Car: to Bob Booth, for his Santa Fe Dome in HO:



2nd Place : Steve Wesolowski - "Porter Locomotive at Ardenwood"



2nd Place Passenger Car: to Bob Booth, for his Southern Pacific Daylight cars in HO:



3d Place: Pat LaTorres - "Westside #5 at Castro Point"



Show and Tell

We also had great participation and wonderful models in our regular quarterly Show and Tell table. This quarter, our table featured Anaheim National NMRA Convention 2008 contest winners! :



As always, you can see all of these quarterly results, and all the entries, at our Coast Division Meet Report web page, go here, we have the last *twelve* meet results up and online at : <http://www.pcrnmra.org/coast/contest.shtml> Come out and bring a model for December 2008!

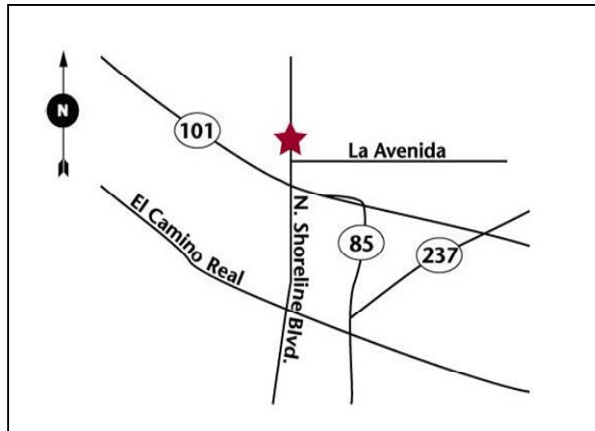
Photo Contest

We had wonderful entries in the photo contest as well, all were great. By popular vote, the lucky winners were:

Either for our annual Model Contest "Favorite Model" contest (open to any category) , or for Show and Tell if you prefer instead.

December is always a good show, we always love to see whatever you wish to share with use. See you on December 7th!

The next meet will be on December 7, 2008 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.

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.

The Museum Entrance faces the North Parking Lot. The door will be locked but will be manned.

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