



Coast Dispatcher June 2011

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

June 12, 2011

Congregation Etz Chayim, 4161 Alma Street Palo Alto, CA 94306

Notice Date change and new location
(map on last page)

9:00 AM..... Doors open. Free Door Prizes. Buy Raffle Tickets.
 9:30 AM..... Get Auction Cards.
 10:00 AM..... DCC Corner by Mark Schutzer
 11:00 AM..... Rolling Stock of the SP Slim Princess by Matt Buck
 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:

Model Contest: Structures, Traction and Self Propelled, Diorama

Photo Contest: Diesel Locomotives

Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15)

* Auction actually starts as soon as Business Meeting ends.

Division Meet

Sept 11, 2011

Location TBD

Model Contest: Steam Locomotives, Diesel and Other Locomotives, Passenger Cars

Photo Contest: Steam Locomotives

Clinics: TBD

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Editor's Notes:

The NMRA Infolink on page 9 is an experiment. Let me know if you think it is a good idea or not.

Of course one of the reasons I had room for it is that John Sing was unable to do his usual great job of the Contest Section due to work commitments, so I seriously faked it.

I am trying a new font, Calibra. Supposedly it uses a lot less ink than Arial or Times New Roman. What do you think of it.

The E-Dispatcher is the full color and full size version of the Dispatcher which 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

Super Notes

By Mark Schutzer

The next couple of months are a great time to be a model railroader in the Coast division. In July we will have a national convention in our own backyard with the X2011 West Convention being held in both Sacramento and the Bay Area. If you've never attended a national convention you have a great opportunity to see what you have been missing.

Many of us in the Coast Division are directly involved with the X2011 West convention committee and this is sure to be a great convention. I hope you all can attend.

We are still looking for meeting sites for Coast Division meets. As of the beginning of May we still haven't found a site to hold the September meet and we can use your help. Please get in touch with me if you know of a meeting site we can use.

I hope all of you are ready for both the Sonoma Short line mini PCR convention and the upcoming X2011 West national convention.

The Director's Cut

Rod Smith

By the time you read this the Sonoma Short Line PCR 2011 convention will be history. I hope you had a chance to attend and participate in the activities. Don't forget, from July 1-9, you have a chance to enjoy a National NMRA Convention right in our back yard, so to speak. Yes, it is being held in Sacramento, but the first two days are the Advance Section right here in Coast Division - Newark, to be exact. I sure recommend you plan on attending this convention, especially the week in Sacramento. There will be more to do than you can possibly fit in your schedule. The committee has been working hard to arrange layout tours, prototype tours, contests, clinics, special events – you've heard of the California State Railroad Museum haven't you – plus a plethora of additional things to make your head swim. At National's you don't even have to drive to the layouts. Buses will take you there and bring you back. Then, of course, there will be the National Train Show which follows the National convention around the country. I'll guarantee, unless you have attended another NMRA national, you have never seen a train show like this one. Lots of vendors, lots of manufacturers, lots of modular layouts, etc. It is well worth the time to attend and you won't find a cheaper registration fee ever again. Plus, no flights are required to get there. Take the Capitol Corridor train or drive. You won't be sorry unless you don't go.

Rod Smith Coast Division Director

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Menlo Park, CA 94025
(rear of Cindy's Flowers, side door on right)
Tom Van Horn
tomstracksidetrains.com

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Thu & Sat: 12-5

Fri: 12-8, Sun: 10-1

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Coast Division Layout Tours By Dave Parks

Coast Tours At X2011 West July 1-3, 2011

The X2011 West NMRA National Convention in Sacramento will have an Advance Section based in the bay area Friday July 1 through Sunday July 3, 2011. There will be both mini-bus and self guided layout tours that collectively will cover all the Coast Division territory. All layout owners are invited to host tours for these visitors who will be coming from all over the US and many foreign countries. Contact the Area Coordinators below to sign up your layout. In addition to Layout Tours, Prototype Operating Sessions, Railroad Tours, Industrial Tours and a Bay Cruise on the USS Potomac - President Franklin Roosevelt's personal yacht, will be offered in the Bay Area for those registered for this event. X2011west.org

All self-guided personal vehicle layout tours in the bay area are included with Advance Section registration. All layout tours on Friday and Saturday are available with bus transportation as an extra fare option.

July 1 – 3, 2011 July 1 Friday afternoon – Santa Cruz area
 July 1 Friday evening – South East Bay area
 July 2 Saturday morning – South West Bay area
 July 2 Saturday afternoon – North East Bay area
 July 3 Sunday – North West Bay area and on-the-way to Sacramento

Chair	David Parks	bearwestern@comcast.net	(650) 961-7644
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South West Bay	Steve Williams	spwilliams@gmail.com	(408) 857-6787
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Monterey Bay/Salinas	Robert Bowdidge	bowdidge@earthlink.net	(408) 723-1925
Web Coordinator	Steve Williams	spwilliams@gmail.com	(408) 857-6787

The Loss of a Few Good Men

Bob Booth, a Coast Division Member passed away on Saturday, April 2nd. I do not have any details.

Dennis Hill, 4D-PNR Superintendent and former PCR and Coast Division member (he lived in Castro Valley), passed away on Tuesday April 12 at 5:50 PM.

Ken Liesse informed us that Dennis was stricken with an abdominal aneurysm earlier in the day and rushed to the hospital. Unfortunately, he had lost a lot of blood before surgery and the doctors could do nothing for him.

Bennett Woll passed away on Saturday, April 16th. The April 19th SF Chronicle had a very complete obituary.

Steve Wesolowski's Publicity column on page 5 talks about all three.

Publicity Report By Steve Wesolowski

As I write, PCR Sonoma Short Line is in 3 weeks, May 13-15, our next Coast Meet is June 12th & NMRA's Extra 2011 starts off July! I'm excitedly anticipating seeing many of YOU at any of these, bringing YOUR ideas, models, knowledge & love of trains to share with the rest of us.

It is YOUR contributions, What YOU Bring, that forever will enrich my brain, improve my trains and enhance the rest of my life. It is Your enjoyment, knowledge and enthusiasm YOU bring and Share when You are there I'll remember after it ends too soon, our Shared Train Fun together.

If not for You and All the Others there, most especially all the Volunteers who help plan, facilitate, create & help make real our Train Fun together, I wouldn't be there enjoying our fun and its fleeting AHA! moments, too! '

Since reaching 59 last month (funny how every age seems 'old' to some, young to others), I've been thinking a bit about my own mortality & how much time I've left (unknown) to Enjoy More Trains PLUS the rest of my Fun, which makes the Less Fun, even Not Fun times which usually fill the Majority of each of our individual lives worth living through.

I mostly Try to be a Glass Full Optimist so when Having Fun, my glass often spills on any nearby! Trying to 'enjoy' the less fun/draggy times, I often find/invent a silver (or, even just shiny) lining for most dark clouds passing over. It helps.

During April I've learned via the PCR List our Train friends Bob Booth, Dennis Hill and Bennett Woll have passed away, and off-list Roy Whitaker of Coast Division has also left us. I've considered how I'll miss each one's unique contributions to our future Fun Train events, what each has contributed to my past Train Fun and the rest of that small portions of our lives we spent together. I'm sure there are others who left You & I & We'll miss, each one for many special personal reasons.

When Tom Crawford asked for another Dispatcher Publicity column, as usual I had no clue what to write. I always want to share something different, hopefully worth the paper, ink & electrons consumed to share my ideas. I slowly realized Why I Volunteer to honestly struggle sometimes to find something to write, other times I kick my own butt to help organize and then staff Recruiting & Info tables at Yet another GTE show, or really struggle some times to fairly evaluate/judge models or crafts in categories I've not entered at our train gatherings. Why Did I volunteer ?

I think most of my column inches are spent urging You & Others to Attend or Volunteer to help Our Train Fun events happen, so I can enjoy them too, learn from Your & Other's Clinics, Visit Your & Other's layouts, look at & learn from Your & Others models & crafts; even ride trains some of you build, engineer, stoke the fires or conduct on. Thanks!

I know I'll miss Bob Booth's Creative Energy and Ideas he shared building beautiful models, some built from \$1 Coast Auction cars, plus his answers to my questions about How, What & Why Bob built something for a Contest or for Show & Tell. I know I'd learn even more about modeling from Bob's future models, his talents and future suggestions: too late now.

I think I mostly got to know Dennis Hill & enjoy him by entering and judging models with him at PCR Conventions, while talking about ours and other's models before, during and after Judging. I recall Dennis, Diane and I talked some time in UCSC Inn's parking lot after the Sunday AM PCR meeting, while many others drove away, and times we enjoyed during PCR Conventions, some Coast meets and a GTE or two. I'll know I'll miss Dennis' help & contributions Judging in Sonoma.

I mostly came to know Bennett Woll Volunteering together during GTE shows. Bennett shared his ideas how to improve our reaching GTE attendees. Like most volunteers, Bennett always gave 110% of his energy sharing his love of trains and even pushed for a Mini-Meet at his Condo's meeting room, until Bill Kaufman presented The Belt Line recently: afterwards we looked over the former Belt Line's roundhouse and former Belt Line customer buildings from Bennett's rooftop, a very special afternoon of train fun we enjoyed with some New & Old Train friends, because Bennett pushed to make it happen. A year before the Mini-Meet, Bennett emailed me, in Feb. 2010 the Chief of Oncology at Kaiser "last April 1 gave me four months to live." We both laughed when I said he was living proof enjoying trains (or, maybe N Scale?) helps us live longer (2 years + 2 weeks more for Bennett). His positive attitude planning more Mini-Meets is how Model Railroaders think: I can't die yet because I still have kits to build! or clinics to attend! I'll always remember Bennett's Humor and Optimism.

I wrote this column to share What I've Learned from Bob, Dennis and Bennett. I believe I Learned and Enjoyed More Train Fun with both Dennis and Bennett because we Volunteered together. We spent more time together & I learned more because they gave more by Sharing their time with us.

Similarly with Bob: because Bob shared More of himself by building and bringing his models to our Train gatherings, I also learned more from Bob Booth. Others I mentioned and even more than I'll ever have room to list have enriched my life in those short Fun moments we spend enjoying something together.

So, if We want More Fun at Train events we Could all bring Something More. That includes Volunteering, Models and Crafts to Judge Or Show & Tell, Opening your Layout for Visits, Help us find Places to Meet, Giving a Clinic: There are so many opportunities & ways to share Your talents & Time. When You Contribute, we All Enjoy More! Every meeting I look forward to seeing You and someone "New" because everyone brings their own unique train interests. I've No idea what I'll learn from someone I've never met, or even those I know, who often share and teach me something new. I hope to see You Soon and hope you also bring someone or something new, extra or only You to Share with us. I'll try to bring more, too!

Steve Wesolowski, Coast Publicity guy

Auction Report by John Marshall

Entries in Silent Auction 20

Entries in Live Auction 213

Total no bid items 31

This is a really poor showing for the auction. We had some unique and interesting items and some junk.

But, the low number of items should be of major concern to us.

The total dollars are falling off and the revenue for the division is dropping.

John

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Model Contest / Show Tell / Photo Contest Report By John Sing

Editor's Note: John was not available so this is the best we can do right now.

When he is back , he will post everything on the website and you can see the results online at:

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

Model Contest

The categories were "Caboose," "Freight" and "MOW".

First Place Caboose:

NYC Standard Way Car by: Tom Vanden Bosch



First Place Freight:

CN 8 hatch Reefer by Tom Vanden Bosch

First Place MOW:

NYC Clearance Car by Al Kuhn



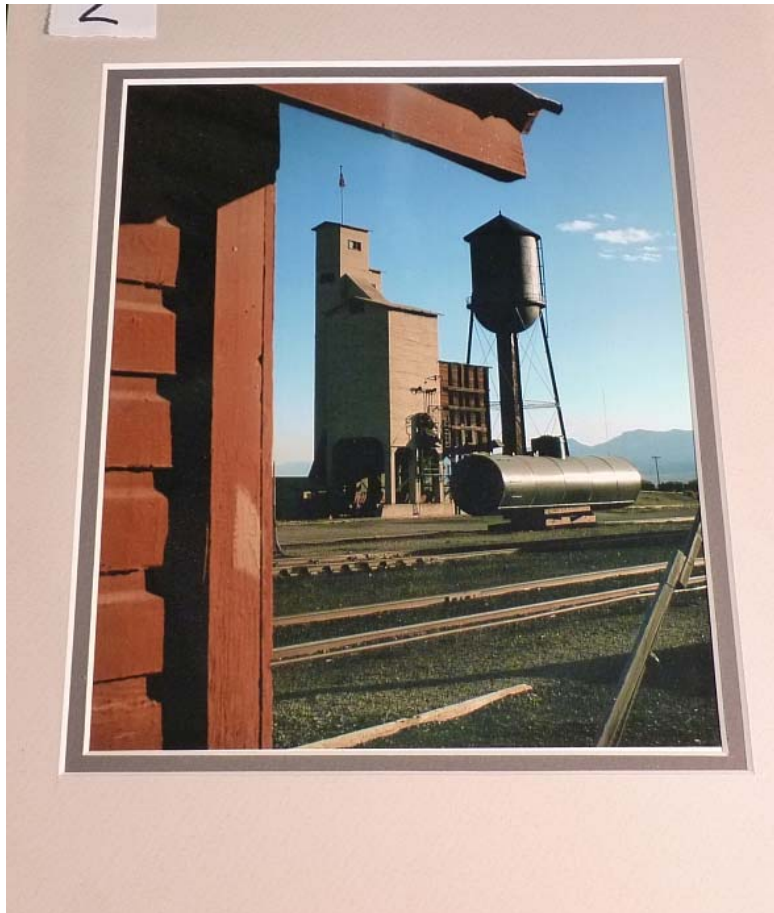
(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

Photo Contest

First Place:

Coal and Water, Ely, NV by Ken Martin.



John Allen Timesaver Switching Contest

Brakeman

1st Place	Heinz Brinks	5:17
2nd Place	Eugene Brichacek	9:41
3rd Place	Jim Smyrak	13:44

Senior Brakeman

1st Place	Tom Van Horn	5:17
2nd Place	Tom Crawford	5:32
3rd Place	Steve Williams	5:39

NMRA Infolink

Welcome to the April 2011 edition of Infolink!

- Plans for [The Gallery Exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum](#) are moving into high gear. To date, organizing and fund raising actions have raised two pledges of matching funds from anonymous NMRA member donors. One donation is for \$50,000 and the other is for \$250,000. Current plans call for the exhibit to be opened by the end of 2012. You'll find out all the details of the exhibit in the May issue of *NMRA Magazine*.

- A special "[Carpet Cutting Ceremony](#)" (the indoor equivalent of a Ground Breaking Ceremony) for the Gallery Exhibit will be held on Thursday evening during the x2011 Convention. All are invited.

Speaking of x2011, if you haven't yet registered for the X2011 West NMRA Convention to be held in Sacramento in July, you should register now! If you have already registered, it is time to sign up for tours and operating sessions before they fill up! For more information and/or to register or sign up for tours, go to www.x2011west.org.

The "Members-Only" area of www.nmra.org is currently open to all members. Although content is still being added, right now the area houses copies of all Region and Division newsletter articles cited within the last year by Jim Zinser in his bi-monthly "Division Business Car / NMRA@Home" column in *NMRA Magazine*. In addition the "NMRA magazine classics" section of the Members-Only area will contain classic articles from past issues of *Scale Rails* magazine and *The Bulletin*. We'll be adding new material all the time so check back often.

The NMRA remains active with the two model railroad podcasts mentioned in a previous edition of the InfoNet News. The NMRA is now sponsoring "The Model Railway Show" podcast, produced by well known modelers Trevor Marshall and Jim Martin. Their website is www.themodelrailwayshow.com. And Board Member Clark Kooning, along with other NMRA members, continues to appear as a regular guest on the "Model Rail Radio" podcast. Their website is at www.modelrailradio.com. Both of these podcasts can be downloaded directly from their websites, or via iTunes.

- We're still looking for stories of what your Division or Region does for [National Model Railroad Month](#). Write a 200-word summary and send it to me at this email address. Thanks.

Notice of 2012 elections. The following NMRA Officers and Board of Directors positions are open for election in 2012: President, Vice President-Administration, Vice President-Special Projects, Eastern District Director, Pacific District Director, and At-Large North America Director. Please check the NMRA Executive Handbook located at http://www.nmra.org/national/organization/nmra_organization.html for the extent of the districts affected and qualifications. All candidate names for consideration by the Nominations Committee shall be submitted to Didrik Voss, da-voss@pvmtengr.com, no later than June 15, 2011.

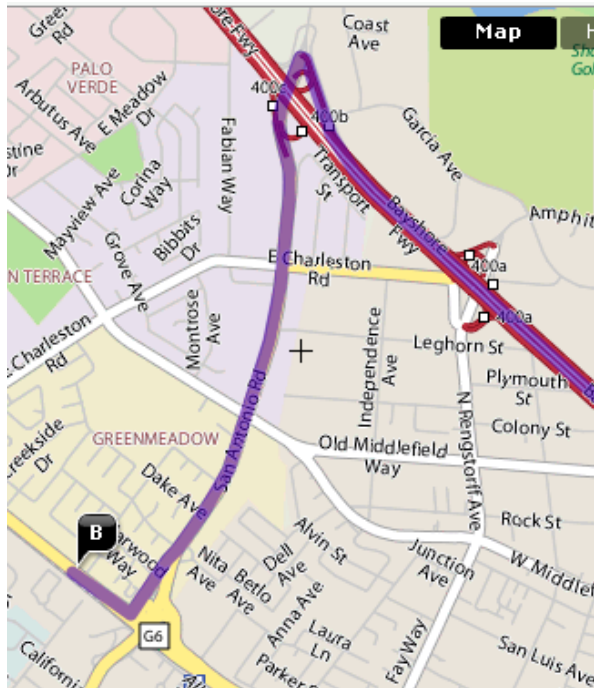
An error crept into last month's InfoNet News: The [Summer Board meeting](#) will be held prior to the Sacramento x2011 Convention on Friday, July 1, 2011 (not Thursday, June 30 as previously reported). The meeting is usually held at the Convention hotel, but the exact start time and room number will be announced when available. Remember, it's the responsibility of Region and Division officials to pass along this information to members.

The NMRA is looking to identify and recognize any [model railroad clubs that were formed in 1935 or earlier](#) that are still in existence. We would like the name of the club and when it was founded. A picture from the early years would be appreciated. Send the information to Dave Thornton - NMRA Vice President of Administration, Email DThorn5552@aol.com or mail to 2027 Jeffrey Drive, Troy, MI 48085-3816.

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 or in NMRA Magazine.

-Gerry Leone, MMR
NMRA Communications Director

The next meet will be on June 12, 2011 at the
Congregation Etz Chayim, 4161 Alma Street Palo Alto, CA 94306
Details are on Page 1. Here is the map.



From San Francisco:

**Take Highway 101 South. Exit
Take exit #400C/SAN ANTONIO RD SOUTH onto
SAN ANTONIO RD - go 1.4 mi
More below**

From The South and East Bay:

**Take 101 North. Exit #400C/SAN ANTONIO ROAD
toward LOS ALTOS go 0.33 mi
Turn left on SAN ANTONIO RD go 1.36 mi**

From Either:

**Bear right on SAN ANTONIO RD go 0.2 mi
Turn right on ALMA ST go 0.18 mi
Arrive at 4161 ALMA ST, PALO ALTO, on the
right**

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