



Coast Dispatcher

June 2012

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

June 10, 2012

Boy Scouts of America Headquarters

1001 Davis St, San Leandro, 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 "Weathering Wood Techniques" by Frank Markovich
- 11:00 AM "Figure Painting" by Jim Eckleman
- 11:00 AM Model Railroad Roundtable moderated by Howard McKinney
- 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.

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Editor's Notes:

You are now reading the Coast Dispatcher, which is only available in electronic version starting with the March 2012 issue. the Coast Dispatcher will only be available on-line. It 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 Crawford.Tom@sbcglobal.net or by going to

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.)

In place of the hard copy Dispatcher, you will get a postcard with information for the upcoming meet.

The Director's Cut

By Rod Smith

The Director's Cut

Hah! Bet you didn't expect to hear from me again. As you probably know, my term has ended and our new Coast Division Director is Mark Schutzer. Due to having to actually work for a living, Mark was unable to attend the Board of Director's meeting in Medford, Oregon and asked me to serve as his proxy there. Since Mark is also the current Superintendent, he asked me to write this column and report on the news from Medford.

The PCR Board of Directors received the results of the recent election. Voter turnout was abysmal! In the Coast Division, for instance, we had two qualified members competing and only 39 people cast ballots. That's out of some 550 members who received ballots. A pretty low percentage, wouldn't you agree. Did you vote? This low percentage was also noted in the other Divisions. It was reported some folks don't vote because they don't want to deface their copy of the Branch Line. We asked the Ballot Committee to look into ways we might encourage better turnout for the next election. A loose ballot folded into the Branch Line as many other organizations use was mentioned.

Other highlights were the presence of both the NMRA Western Area Director, Jack Hamilton, and NMRA Vice President Bill Kaufman. Jack encouraged us to emphasize the Achievement program to help members improve their modeling skills and Bill spoke about ways to grow the organization. The PCR Treasurer was using Skype, and reported our financial picture is OK, but not improving at this time. Dennis Stokely, the Convention Chair, reported on future conventions through 2014.

At the Convention Banquet and Awards, I was pleased to present the Coast Division Member of the Year award to none other than our hard working Superintendent – and new Director – Mark Schutzer. A long overdue honor for all the work he does above and beyond the title he holds. Congratulations Mark. Choosing the recipient is one of the hardest, yet most satisfying duties of the Director.

It has been a distinct honor to represent Coast Division on the Board for the past four years. I hope you have felt well represented and will forgive any transgressions I may have unwittingly made. I am disappointed we made little, if any, progress toward resolving then issues with The 21st Century Limited organization but our new President has promised to follow through on this long overdue item, stemming from 2001. I am cautiously optimistic, but hopeful. Time will tell.

I wish the new Directors from each Division well and especially to Coast's Director, Mark Schutzer. Please give him your support.

Rod Smith – Coast Division Director Emeritus

Super Notes

By Mark Schutzer

Well I hope that everyone had a good time at the convention in Medford. I had a great time and it was good to see everyone and meet a bunch of our PNR friends from the North. Many thanks to Jim Providenza and Ed Liesse for putting together another great convention. I hope you all had a chance to attend.

The results of the PCR elections were announced at the Board Meeting and I learned that you have elected me as your Coast Director. I'll be serving as your Supervisor and Coast Director for the next nine months or so. Thank you for the confidence in me.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help. Thanks to Tom Van Horn for agreeing to take over as our Quartermaster in June. We are still looking for someone to take over the Clinic's Chair position. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested please let me know.

The upcoming Coast meet on June 10th promises to be another good meet. We will be back at the Boy Scouts headquarters building in San Leandro thanks to John Marshall. In addition to the usual faire of clinics, contests, and the auction we will also have several N scale modules set up and operating. If you've ever thought about building a module here's your chance to learn more about them.

See you all at the meet!

Mark Schutzer New PCR Director and Member of the Year

Congratulations to Mark Schutzer who has been elected to replace Rod Smith as PCR Director from Coast Division. Mark took his place on the PCR board at the Annual Meeting held in Medford during the Siskiyou Summit Joint PNR/PCR Convention.

The next evening, at the Convention Banquet, Mark was presented the Coast Division Member of the Year Award.

Congratulations Mark.

Here is a picture of Rod presenting the Member of the Year Award to Mark.

It was very disappointing that less than 7% of NMRA members in Coast Division voted in the election!



COAST DIVISION CHANGES

By Dave Connery

Roundtable Moderator – Howard McKinney is taking over the position of Roundtable Moderator. Special thanks to Jerry Littlefield who has filled this responsibility for nearly 10 years. Previous to that Jerry worked on the Coast Auction Committee and prior to that served as PCR Director from Coast Division. Jerry also worked on Regional Convention Committees in 1995 and 2003 and served as the Transportation Coordinator for the NMRA National Convention in 2000. We all thank Jerry for his dedicated service to the Division and look forward to seeing his smiling face at future Coast Meets.

Quartermaster – Tom van Horn has become the new Quartermaster for Coast Division, replacing John Marshall in this position.

John has also requested that he be replaced as Coast Clinics Chair but will remain as Coast Auction Chairman. John has been doing three or four jobs in the Division simultaneously over the past dozen or more years and we all appreciate the great effort and enthusiasm he has put into insuring our Division runs smoothly. In addition to the three jobs just listed, John served four years as Division Superintendent and has worked on at least five Regional Convention Committees during this same timeframe.

We are currently seeking a new Clinics Chair for the Division. If you would be willing to help in this very important position please contact either Mark Schutzer or Dave Connery – contact information appears in the Call Board elsewhere in this issue.

Auction Report by John Marshall

Total of Sold Items 212

John

Tom's Trackside Trains
558 Santa Cruz Ave
Menlo Park, CA 94025
(rear of Cindy's Flowers, side door on right)
Tom Van Horn
tomstracksidetrains.com
Hours:
Thu & Sat: 12-5
Fri: 12-8, Sun: 10-1

Phone 650-692-9724
Fax 650-321-1764

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: jkmarshall43@gmail.com

Goodbye, Siskiyou Summit! Welcome, Iron Horse Express!

Steve Wesolowski, Coast Division & 2013 PCR Convention Publicity Volunteer

As we descended into California returning from Medford Oregon, I began mentally down-shifting my former bus driver's brain into compound low for several long steep downgrades ahead. That is when I started focusing my headlights on next year's PCR Convention Destination: Holiday Inn Dublin in Dublin, CA, April 3-7, 2013.

The Next thing I did was "tune"(bookmark) my browser to <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2013/> because I knew I would be returning over the next eleven months many times to see what's new about our 2013 PCR convention. I recommend you also visit, bookmark and return to the 2013 PCR IHE website. Here's a taste of what's there:

Registration

While at the Iron Horse Express website, you learn if you Register Early, we are offering a discount of \$10.00 off the normal full-fare registration, to those who register by midnight January 31, 2013. After 1/31/13, normal full-fare registration will be \$89.00. Non-Rails registration is \$69.00. Once again the special "First Timer" fare of \$69.00 is available to PCR members who've not registered for the past 5 conventions. All the above fares include clinics, layout tours, operating sessions, and Saturday's Awards Banquet. But, Youth registrations at \$50.00 and one-day fares at \$35.00 per day do Not include the banquet. The Annual PCR Members Breakfast is also not included and is an extra-fare activity, but is only \$5.00, and well worth it, IMNSHO. (in my Not so humble opinion, if you haven't seen this acronym before) (editor's note. The \$5 is to prevent people from signing to go and then not showing up, and then we pay for the no shows))

Our Hotel

The Iron Horse Express 2013 Convention Hotel is the [Holiday Inn Dublin](#), 6680 Regional Street, Dublin, located near the interchange of I-580 and I-680, North of 580 and West of 680. We passed it on our drive home from the Siskiyou Summit, and it looks big enough for our needs!

Our Convention special room rate is \$79.00 per night, single or double occupancy. Reservations can be made [online at the website](#) (use the link from our website) using Group/Convention Code "RRA" or by calling the hotel directly at 1-925-828-7750. When calling, use Group Block Name "RRA".

As always, our convention committee must commit to a block of room/days as the incentive to get access to all of the space needed for the clinics, contests, banquet and other events offered to our attendees, so I/we encourage you to stay at our convention hotel. Besides the fact that I don't know of any other place to stay in the area that could cost any less, after just returning from the 2012 PCR/PNR convention one week ago, I know nothing else helps you enjoy More Train Fun from 8AM until past 11PM than staying where the vast majority of train fun is happening! Even more fun comes from being able to hang with your Train Friends (both New and Old) knowing you don't have to drive home to bed.

2013 Outside Train Fun Activities Planned

As usual for the PCR, 2013 IHE activities will include enough clinics, layouts to tour, operating sessions to join, PLUS more than enough other outside activities that none of us attendees will possibly enjoy them all, although some of us always try! ;-).

Of course, at this stage in PCR 2013's planning the details and schedules of all outside activities are still being worked out. But, I know we are currently planning the following outside fun: a tour of Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, where I used to work-- a very interesting lab which develops much more interesting research than just nuclear ordinance. Train and Speeder rides on Niles Canyon Railway are being worked out by many of the same people who arranged the same fun for 2009's Rails Across the Bay. A tour of the Military Vehicle Technology Foundation in Portola Valley is also planned, as are a tour of the Eugene O'Neil house and local Winery tours. Stay tuned to our website as these fun activities are firmed up and I hope maybe more are added.

Clinics, Layout Tours and Operations

We already have many Experienced Clinicians signed up so everyone attending should be able to learn something/ many new and interesting things if they want to, and more clinics are still being added. Stay tuned for more clinics and more details....

I also know from having visited many before there are many nearby exciting world-class layouts in all the scales and gauges from N to Fn3 already signed up for 2013. I look forward to seeing many again and some for my first time. I know I missed seeing any layouts in Medford this year, perhaps mainly because of a bad cough I had (still have), so I'm really looking forward to visiting and operating on some of the many layouts open during 2013's IHE.

Similarly, I look forward to operating on some layouts for my first time during a convention. We have so many pleasant, talented and passionate OPSIG and DesignSIG people in our area I'm certain anyone who wants to help operate a layout will have just the help they want so they will have a good time.

Models, Arts & Crafts

Before I forget, I want to encourage everyone to start planning and working on creating some new models and crafts today to share your Model and Railroading passions with us at IHE in 2013.

For various reasons, none of my model building projects were ready for 2012 in Medford, but I hope to have some interesting and fun stuff to share with you in 2013. I did bring some photos to share in Medford, and one even earned a 2nd place ribbon.

I thoroughly enjoyed the pleasure of helping Mary C. Moore-Compagna with judging most of the very beautiful Arts and Crafts entries in Medford, in addition to the challenges of judging the Structure models. I honestly can never say enough about how much I enjoy and learn every time I volunteer to help judge Arts, Crafts and Models.

Volunteers & Swap Meet

Which reminds me: we can always use more Volunteers to help us with our (actually, Your) conventions. I'm certain you have many talents and experience that will help us all have even more fun together in Dublin, and we'll enjoy working with your help. Check out the Volunteer page on our website for some ideas where we can use your help. More hands always makes the work load lighter and more fun.

One place to volunteer: We are planning a Swap Meet and could use some volunteers to help with that. Visit the Swap Meet page on our website for more information

Summary

If you've EVER attended ANY PCR convention before, you should already know what you can expect from our experienced Convention Volunteers, Clinicians, Layout Builders and Operators in the Bay Area: several days of Train Fun enjoyed with the great company of interesting and fun fellow modelers who live both within Coast Division and many other Divisions and Regions.

If you haven't attended a PCR Convention in several years/ever, I can nearly guarantee you this: IF you enjoy trains, You Will Enjoy Several Days of Train Fun in the company of many others who, like yourself, enjoy sharing their train fun and love of trains with others. I hope you can start planning today to join us in Dublin on Wednesday April 3 through Sunday April 7th, 2013.

Lastly: Thank You, Siskiyou Summit Volunteers!

In spite of a bad cough slowing me down, I had a Very Wonderful time enjoying the fruits of all the Volunteers from both PCR AND PNR who I understood mostly came together in person ONLY during the convention last week.

EVERYONE did a great job of working out all the many details and differences smoothly, so I want to praise and thank you all for several fun train days together. I only wished we had a couple MORE days to enjoy even more train fun together!

2012 is a very tough convention to follow, but I can promise you this much: All of our Volunteers we'll all do our very best to have even more train fun waiting for you in Dublin next year if you attend!

Many Happy Trains to You, until we meet again!

(Continued on page 8)

Coast Tours June 16-17, 2012

South of the Bay

By Dave Parks

The week following the Coast Division Meet, Coast Tours is sponsoring a weekend of layout tours in the area South of the Bay on the weekend of June 16 and 17, 2012. The tourist area encompasses southern Santa Clara County and Monterey County. The cities of Santa Cruz, Watsonville, Gilroy and Salinas are included. Chuck Catania (contact below) is recruiting layouts for this event. Most layouts will only be open a portion of this weekend and if you would like your layout to be included contact Chuck (see below). Although this tour weekend features only the southern Coast Division geography, some layouts outside this area may be open. Maps and directions will be available on the Coast Division Web site about a week before the tour weekend.

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

| | | | |
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| North Beyond the Bay | Ernie Simard | esimard@yahoo.com | (707) 762-9163 |
| Web Coordinator | Steve Williams | spwilliams@gmail.com | (408) 857-6787 |

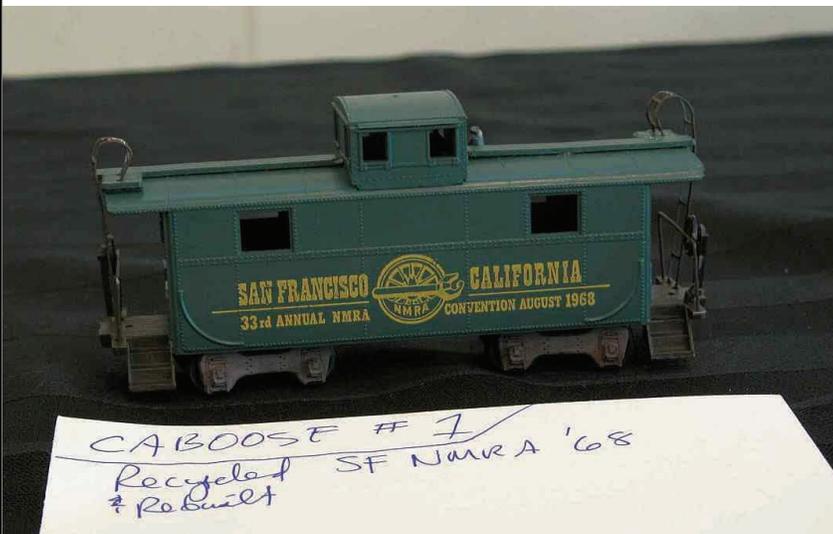
Model Contest/Photo Contest/ Show & Tell

Report

By John Sing

Model Contest

Run by Mr. Keith Wandry substituting for John Sing, with help from Steve Wesolowski!

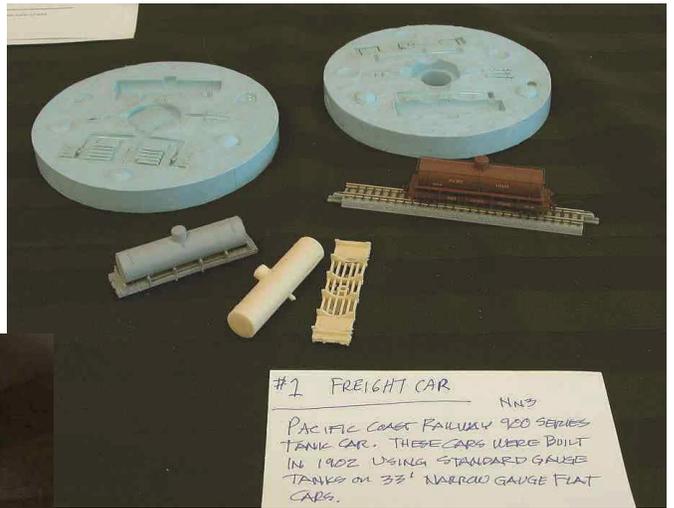


1st Place: Caboose by Steve Wesolowski, for his (Work In Progress) 1968 SF NMRA Convention Caboose auction Rebuild/Recycle (thanks to Bill Brown for the idea).

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

1st Place: Freight by Thomas Knapp, for a Nn3 Pacific Coast Ry. Tank car with Resin molds displayed.

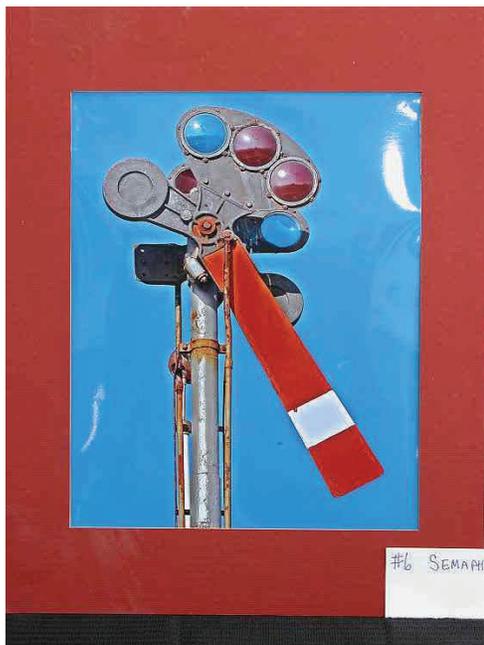


#1 FREIGHT CAR Nn3
 PACIFIC COAST RAILWAY 900 SERIES TANK CAR. THESE CARS WERE BUILT IN 1902 USING STANDARD GAUGE TANKS ON 33" NARROW GAUGE FLAT CARS.



The Model Contest categories for upcoming meets are:
 June 2012: Structure, Display/diorama, Self propelled cars & traction.
 September 2012: Steam locomotives, Diesel & other locomotives, passenger car.
 December 2012: Favorite Model(Open Category).
 March 2013; Caboose, Freight Car, Maintenance of Way?

Photo Contest
 Run by Mr. Keith Wandry
 Railroad Structures

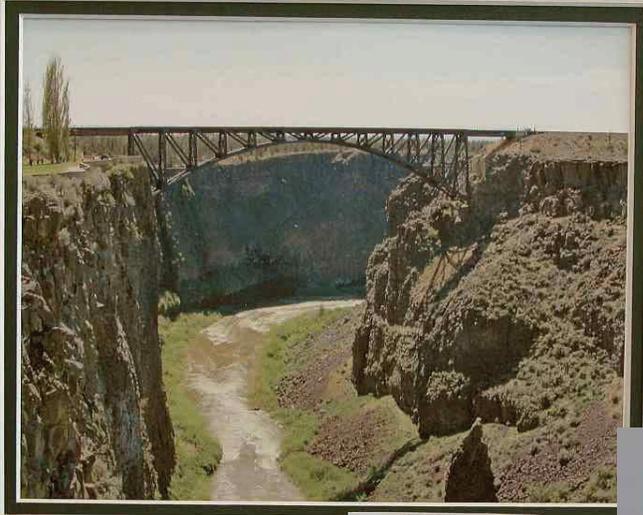


1st place: 'Semaphore' by Stan Keiser

#6 SEMAPHORE

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)



#3 CROOKED RIVER BRIDGE

2nd Place: 'Crooked River Bridge' by Tom Van Horn



#1 RC WATER TOWER

3rd Place: 'Roaring Camp Water Tank' by Steve Wesolowski

Other entries included:



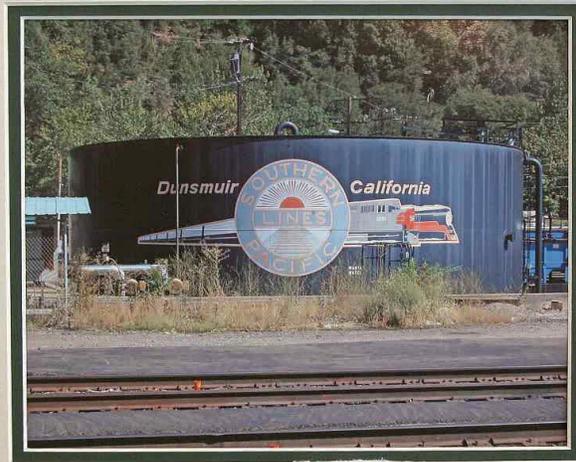
#2

San Francisco Rail Waterfront

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

Dunsmuir SP Water Tank



#4 Dunsmuir
RAILROAD TOWN

Wig Wag



#15 W
CLASS

The Photo Contest categories for upcoming meets are:
June 2012: Diesel Locomotives,
September 2012, Caboose,
December 2012: Steam Locomotive

Show and Tell Here are some selected Show and Tell models



Thanks to 16 year old Alvin Ho for his displaying his N scale 1950's Rock Island Hybrid ALCO RS-2/EMD Geep on the diorama used for his March 2012 RMC/ Dremel Kitbashing Award article, which won more than one award at Extra2011.

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Shorty_Caboose by Frank Markovich

UTLX tank car by Tom Vanden Bosch



Yard Tower N by Alvin Ho

Allen Fenton Switching Contest

Steve Peters, Switching Contest Chair

Brakeman (5 car problem)

- 1st place: 5:43 Stan Keiser
- 2nd Place: 7:01 John Sutkus
- 3rd Place: 10:15 Chris Drome

Senior Brakeman (6 car problem)

- 1st place: 4:38 Tom Crawford
- 2nd Place: 5:41 Steve Wesolowski
- 3rd Place: 6:00 Tom Van Horn



NMRA InfoNet

As I promised last month, here's the remainder of the news that came out of the winter Board of Directors meeting, held February 8 & 9, 2012, in Las Vegas.

News from the Board meeting:

- The NMRA has a new **Development Department Manager**, charged with seeking out new donation sources and methods, and coming up with ways to expand our fundraising potential. Alan Anderson of Salt Lake City, UT, volunteered to fill the slot, which had been vacant for several years. In his full-time job, Alan works with a Salt Lake City area chamber of commerce.
 - The "**Cruise Convention**" idea was officially declared "not popular enough to pursue." Initial estimates, dictated that the idea receive approximately 800 firm commitments from NMRA members, and only about 300 were received via the survey, which was printed several times in *NMRA Magazine* and also sent to Sacramento convention attendees.
 - The NMRA is in the final stages of selecting a **volunteer Marketing Department Manager**. To date, several professional candidates have responded to a "help wanted" ad in *NMRA Magazine*. The Marketing Director will help the NMRA identify ways to retain and re-rail members, as well as recruit new ones.
 - Jenny Hendricks, NMRA Administration Director, reports that the number of **RailPass members who convert** to Regular members has reached the 80% mark. Congratulations to all of you whose hard work has made this goal a reality! Maybe we should try for 90- 100%?
- The Celebration of Models in Grand Rapids will introduce a **new contest award** in memory of Dean Freytag, the "Dean of Styrene" and former national Contest Chair. The award is funded by a donation given to the NMRA in memory of Freytag and is named "The Dean Freytag Industrial Structure Award." The winning structure will be selected by the Contest Chairman.

In other news:

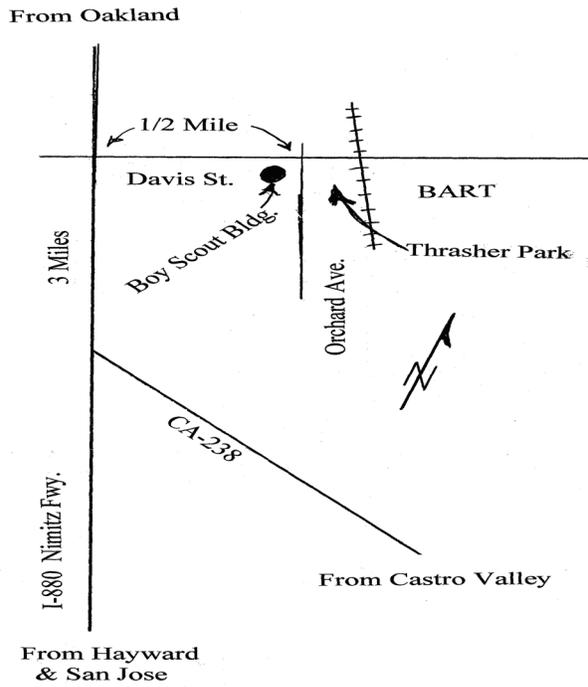
- **White River Productions**, the company that prints *NMRA Magazine*, announced that it has purchased the assets of the now-defunct magazine, *Model Railroad News*. NMRA Secretary Bob Gangwish reports that the **updated version of the Executive Handbook** is now posted on www.nmra.org and can be downloaded.

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.

*And if you're changing email addresses, please let me know at this email address: **NMRA-infonet@earthlink.net***

*-Gerry Leone, MMR
NMRA Communications Director*

The next meet will be on June 10 2012 at the
Boy Scouts Headquarters, 1001 Davis St, San Leandro, CA
Details are on Page 1. Here is the map.



From the North:
Take Highway 880 south.
Take Exit 34, Davis St.
Turn Left on Davis. Go 0.7 miles to the BSA Headquarters, 1001 Davis St.

From the South:
Take Highway 880 North
Take Exit 34, Davis St.
Turn Right on Davis St. Go 0.7 miles to the BSA Headquarters, 1001 Davis St.