



Coast E-Dispatcher June 2010

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 13, 2010

**Mountain View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St, 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..... Developing a web site for your railroad by John Sing
11:00 AM..... Details make the difference and MORE! by Brad Lloyd
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: Structure, Display/Diorama, Self Propelled Cars & Traction

Photo Contest: Railroad Structures

Allen Fenton Timesaver Switching Contest (until 3:15)

* Auction actually starts as soon as Business Meeting ends.

Layout Tours

June 19 –20, 2010

-South West Bay-Steve Williams and Robert Bowdidge coordinators
Details on Page 5

Division Meet

September 12, 2010

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

Model Contest: Steam Locomotives, Diesel & Other Locomotives, Passenger Car

Photo Contest: Diesel

Clinics: TBD

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Super Notes

By Mark Schutzer

As I write this I have just returned from the Silver Rails PCR convention in Reno. It was a real winter adventure getting to Reno on Wednesday with the big snowstorm on Donner Pass. The trip was well worth it though.

The convention featured the usual fare of clinics, layout tours, and op sessions. The highlight of the convention was on Saturday when 140 convention goers took a 3 hour train ride on the Virginia and Truckee railroad. I've been to Virginia City many times but I have never seen view of the backcountry that you get from the train. After a great barbeque lunch in Virginia City we all boarded the train for the return trip down the hill to Carson City. I was a long day but well worth it!

Congratulations to Ray Ritch and his team for putting on a great convention!

At the PCR convention Rod Smith (our Director) announced that Steve Wesolowski is the Coast Division's Member of the Year. Steve works tirelessly at promoting the NMRA at all the local train shows and hobby shops. Congratulations Steve, you deserve the recognition!

The June Coast meet will be at a new site thanks to Paul Martin of the Job's Daughters. The meeting will be at the Masonic Lodge in Mountain View. See the new location details on page 1. Please be sure to thank Paul and the Job's Daughters for their efforts when you pick up your lunch at the next meet.

I hope to see all of you at the meet on June 13th; yes it is on the second Sunday in June.

Model Railroad Appraisals
Estate Planning and Disposal
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Hours:

Wed & Fri: 12-8 Thu: 12-5
Sat: 12-6; Sun: 12-3

Phone (650) 692-9724
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The Director's Cut

By Rod Smith

Well, another PCR convention has come and gone. The Sierra Division showed us they know how to put on a convention! The venue, John Ascuaga's Nugget Resort, was superb. If you missed it, you missed a great one. While the trip over Donner Pass was a bit of a challenge on Wednesday, the convention was packed with interesting activities. The clinic schedule was filled with informative subjects, including many about the local railroad, the Virginia and Truckee. The contest room displayed some beautiful models and crafts for our enjoyment. The Non-Rails had a hospitality suite running during the convention where they collected donations to give to a local battered women's shelter as well as provide cookies to hungry conventioners. Local modelers provided Ops sessions and layout tours every evening. Almost everyone took the tour to Carson City and the new V&T steam train ride from there to Virginia City. Then, of course, there was the well attended banquet and awards ceremony. The speaker, Bob Larson, is a WP retiree and regaled us with tales of his experiences running on the highline and other sections of the railroad. Many of the winners of the model contest were from Coast Division. I couldn't write fast enough to get all their names down but the awards will be noted in the next Branch Line along with pictures. They are spectacular. A special thank you is due to our own Mark Schutzer though for his time consuming work getting a picture of each winner in the contest which was displayed on the wall as each award was announced. This effort really added to the contest awards presentation. Thanks Mark.

I'm happy to announce Steve Wesolowski is the Coast Division Member of the Year for 2010. Congratulations Steve; we really appreciate all the work you do to make Coast Division run. On a personal note, I was shocked and honored to be given the President's Award this year. Never saw that one coming, but I am sure pleased.

At the Board of Directors meeting, reports indicated the PCR is in pretty good shape and all programs are running smoothly. The 2011 National NMRA convention Chair indicated plans are progressing for a fine time in Sacramento. Put it on your "must do" list. One interesting development is a proposal for the Sierra Division, which is ten times larger in area than Coast, to form subdivisions to allow members to meet without having to cross the sierra's all the time. These won't be new divisions, just subs to the whole division. The procedure is more common in the east and it will be interesting to see how it works here in the west.

See you at our next meet, June 13, in Mountain View. Details are elsewhere in this issue.

Rod Smith
Coast Division Director

Coast Division Layout Tours

By Dave Parks

2010 Coast Tours Schedule

Below is the remaining 2010 schedule for Coast Tours. The layout list and description are available on-line in advance of the tour date. Maps and address information are available using your email address as your ID and your NMRA number as your password. If we do not have your current email address, please contact one of the coordinators or Web Coordinator Steve Williams.

Let Us See Your Layout.

Let us know if you would like to offer your layout for touring. There are no minimum standards for completeness, just an accurate description to help tourists evaluate their level of interest. An empty room with a detailed plan may hold the attention of many in a similar mode. Others will be only want to see a finished layout (has anybody ever actually seen a finished layout?)

June 19 –20, 2010 - South West Bay- Steve Williams and Robert Bowdidge coordinators

September 18 – 19, 2010 - North West Bay - Pete Cressman coordinator

December 11 – 12, 2010 - South East Bay - Bob Osborn and Don Marenzi coordinators

Chair	David Parks	bearwestern@comcast.net	(650) 961-7644
North East Bay	Andy Schnur	schnurae@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
Web Coordinator	Steve Williams	spwilliams@gmail.com	(408) 857-6787

Coast Publicity Report Steve Wesolowski

Thank You, Jim, Dave and Chuck

Because Jim Long, Dave Connery and Chuck Mitchell volunteered at Pleasanton Y2K Great American Train Show PCR/NMRA table, Robin and I enjoyed PCR's Silver Rails Sparks Convention last week. Thanks, guys!

I spotted San Jose's Y2K National Train Show in the paper. I went to find less rusty Lionel track for my trains I'd found in Dad's garage after he died. I was awed to find Model Railroading thriving 32 years after I'd left! So many trains and layouts in so many scales! Somehow I heard about Pleasanton's GATS, where I re-joined NMRA and PCR & Jim, Dave and Chuck invited me to the next Coast Meet. Because they and MANY others volunteered I've enjoyed 10 years of train fun: 1 International, 5 National, 10 Regional and many Local Train events, visited many fine layouts, ridden many trains and become an active modeler again, all because of Volunteers.

My 1st Convention was PCR 2001 in SLO, where I met the Left Coast HOn30 Group. The Elsie revolutionized my layout building and modeling; we became closer friends enjoying Karl Hovanitz' great Pacific Coast Railway Narrow Gauge bus tour. I've made friends, learned and seen something new at every train event, including a decade of Coast GATS/GTE shows. Somehow, I add to my trains at every GATS/GTE; at one I became an Nn3 modeler! I enjoy meeting people who share my love of trains, pointing them to local resources so they enjoy trains more: their local clubs, hobby shops and quarterly Coast meets. Meeting/talking with many people, volunteers enjoy the GTE more. Join Darrell Dennis, et al at the next show, July 17-18, at Santa Clara County Fairgrounds (www.trainexpoinc.com). IF you volunteer, you'll learn new ideas, about other train events, and enjoy the other volunteers.

I'd intended to write asking you to bring someone 'new' to the next Coast meet, a 'stranger' you met somewhere (a hobby shop?) who also enjoys trains: often called "Each One Bring/Teach One". Robin and I discussed this idea we've both tried, but it's hard for many to talk to strangers. However, at GTE shows we meet many people who actually pay to come and enjoy trains, so this idea is more likely to work. I invite YOU to volunteer because everyone finds different 'strangers' easier to approach: having more volunteers increases the odds a 'newbie' finds one of us easy to talk with. So, IF you're attending San Jose's GTE join us at the PCR/NMRA table & enjoy an hour or more with Coast friends: wear your nametag and get in free and you'll still enjoy the show. Email Darrell Dennis or me if interested.

Steve Wesolowski, Coast Publicity

Auction Committee Report By John Marshall

As chairman of this committee, I want to thank each of the loyal volunteers who have been showing up to work the Division auctions. Unfortunately, there are just not enough to go around. To do the job of running the auction effectively, we need 10 workers up front all the time. The crew has been understaffed for the last couple of meets and this is wearing down the guys and gal who have been the stalwarts. We have no reserves to support our activities and unless we find some additional people, I may lose some who are running on near empty.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! The auction committee is looking for 5-6 additional members who are willing to aid in the auction activities. This is not hard work but it does mean that you are active throughout the auction. It doesn't mean you can't bid on things. Some of our committee members are active buyers as well. We need your help. Are you willing to assist? Contact me at the meet or at my E-mail address published in the news letter.

John

Model Contest / Photo Contest / Show and Tell / Volunteers Report by John Sing

We had one of the best turn-outs in recent memory at the March 2010 Model Contest / Show and Tell / Photo Contest. Here's a view of our tables:



Model Contest

Competition level was very high. For the first time since I've been doing Model Contest, we had a Triple Champion.

By Popular Vote, 1st Place in all three categories Caboose, Freight Car, and MoW - to Bob Wirthlin, MMR, the winner and Triple Champion! Have a look and enjoy Bob's models:

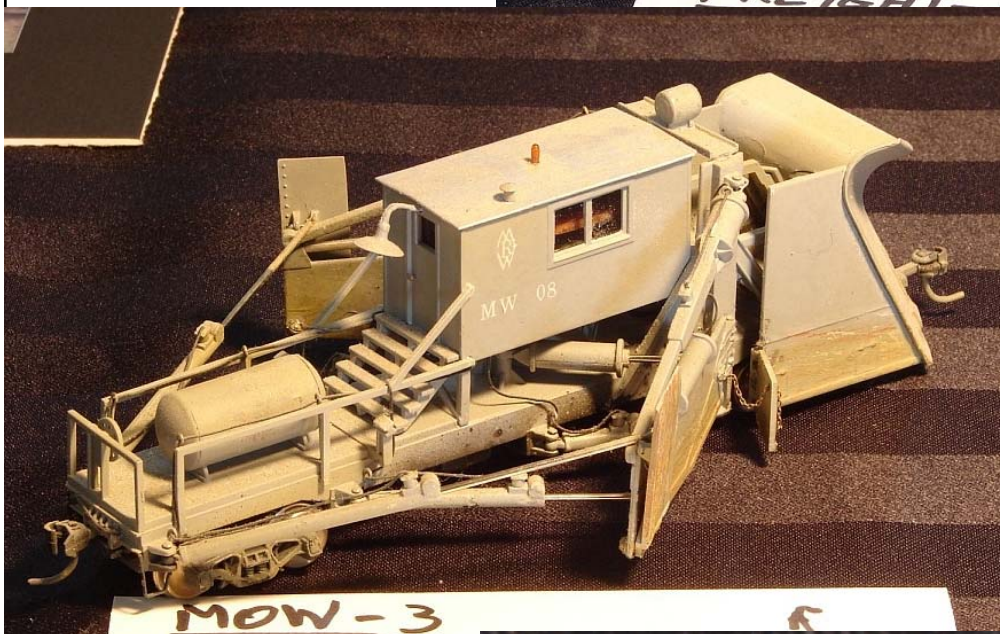
1st Place Caboose:
Midland Rockies Western
140



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1st Place Freight Docents Re-building boxcar



1st Place MOW: Jordan Snowplow

And congratulations to all the other worthy entrants:

Caboose 2nd Place to Robert Ray, Z scale BN Extended Vision:



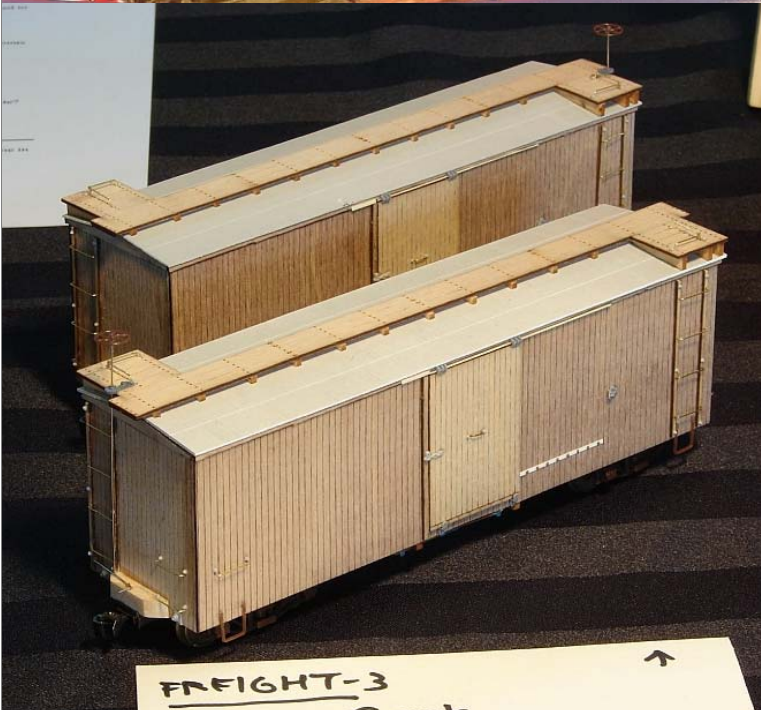
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Caboose 3d Place to Kenneth Martin, Burlington Side Door:



Freight Car 2nd Place to Frank Markovich, flatcar:



Freight Car 3d Place to Jim Eckman, SR&RL boxcars:

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)



MOW 2nd Place to Frank Markovich:

MOW 3d Place to Kenneth Martin:



Photo Contest

We also had a wonder Photo Contest.

1st Place for "Georgetown Loop Locomotives" to Ken Lunders:



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2nd Place for "Sierra RR" to David Armstrong:



3d Place for "Eureka & Palisade" to David Armstrong:



Show and Tell

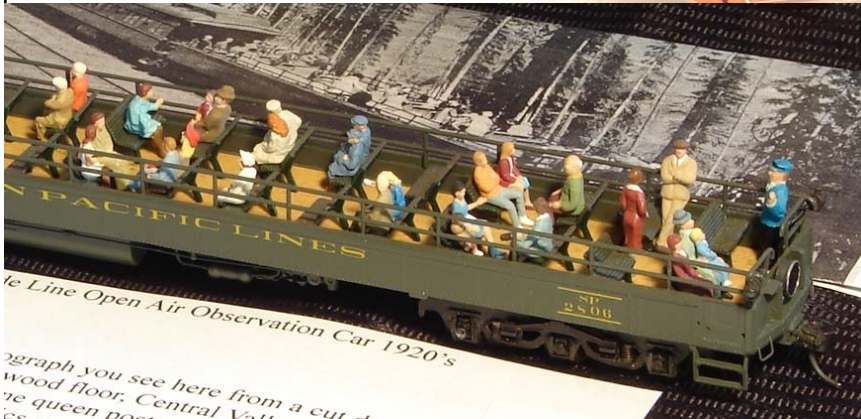
We also had a wonder Show and Tell, just superb. Here's examples:

Guest Doug Jones' diorama:

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

13-year old Alvin Ho's N scale models:



Bill Dwyer's exquisite SP open-air observation car:

Alf Modine's superb O scale models, submitted for Achievement Award judging:



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(Continued from page 12)

Robert Ray's scratchbuilt Z scale cabooses:



Paul Ingraham's Canadian Pacific Slocan Lake Barge:

Terry Hurley's stucco Mission:



(Continued on page 14)

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Coast Division People

Most importantly, some of our newest Coast Division Volunteers - thx to you, we have our Coast Division quarterly meets:

New switching chair Steve Parks:



New Photo Contest chair Keith Wandry:

And of course, our Members enjoying the meets.

Alvin Ho doing Switching Contest:



(Continued from page 14)

David Falkenburg
and Stephen Wil-
liams playing with N
scale sound locos:



See you for our next Meet on June13, 2010 (note the date is 1 week later than normal). Also note our new location:

Masonic Lodge
890 Church Street
Mountain View, CA 94041 .

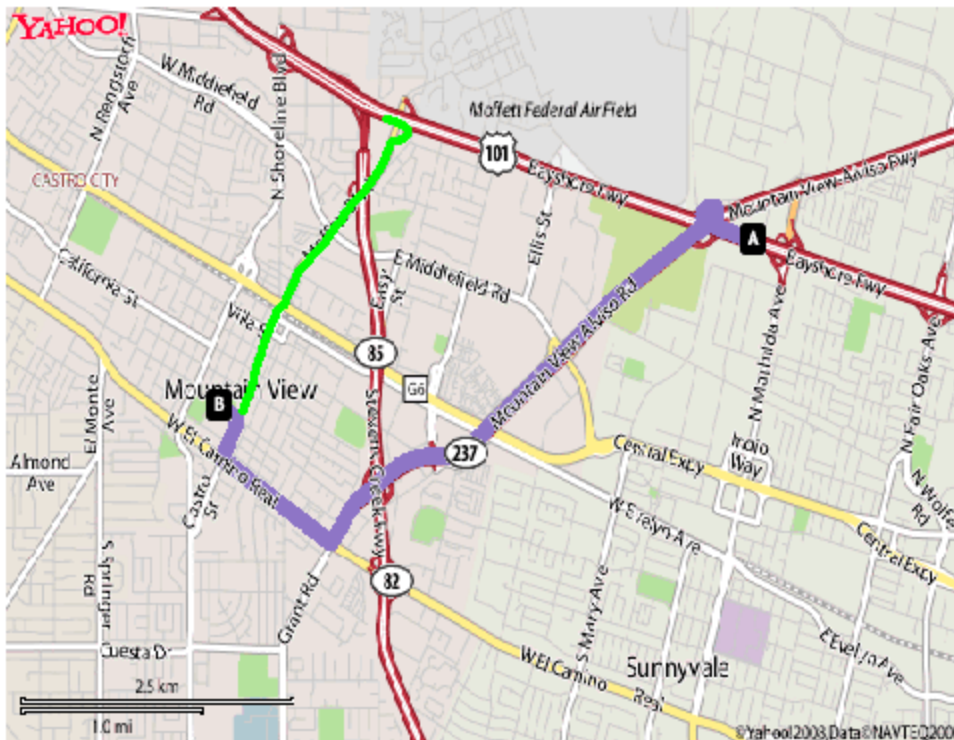
The categories for Model Contest are: Structure, Display/Diorama, and Self-Propelled Cars & Trac-
tion.

The Photo Contest theme is: Railroad Structures.

John Sing
NMRA PCR Coast Division Model Contest chair-flunkie and webmaster-dude:

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

**The next meet will be on June 13, 2010 at the
Mountain View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St, Mountain View, CA
Details are on Page 1. Here is the map.**



From Northbound 101, take Hwy 237 West (fat purple line) Go 2.9 mi and turn right on W El Camino Real and go 0.7 mi. Turn right on Castro Street. Take the second left onto Church Street. Go 0.1 mile. The Masonic Lodge is on the North East corner of Franklin and Church Street.

From Southbound 101 (thinner green line), Take exit #398A/Moffet Blvd. Turn left on Moffet Blvd and go 1.6 miles (Moffet changes to Castro at Central) Turn right on Church Street. Go 0.1 miles. The Masonic Lodge is at the on the North East corner of Franklin and Church Street.

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