

NMRA PCR Rails Across the Bay 2009 Layout Tours

Layout Tour Protocol

All registrants to the NMRA PCR Rails Across the Bay Convention April 15 – 19, 2009 in Newark are eligible to participate in Layout Tours. Addresses, maps and directions to these layouts and venues will be available. All layouts are no smoking, no touch and not handicap accessible unless otherwise indicated. Normally, pictures for personal use can be taken, but not for publication without the host's permission. Observe the rules-of-the-railroad - look only with your eyes, admire only with your words and take only a lesson learned. Be sure to check the special supplementary sheet with the maps for the latest open hours update. Have a great time as a tourist.

Accucraft Company – Wednesday April 15, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM in Union City. A special collection of large-scale (1:20.3 and 1:32) highly detailed brass rolling stock has been assembled for PCR tourists. Featured in the exhibit will be both live steam and electric locomotives, maintenance of way, caboose, a "goose" and other models from the firm's extensive product list. Website: www.accucraft.com/

Bob Brown - Wednesday April 15, 7:00 to 10:00 PM in Los Altos. "Tuolumne Forks". 28' x 28' On3 Sierra logging & mining RR, highly detailed and sceniced. The layout includes 3 sawmills, a stamp mill, a resort hotel & lots of scratch-built structures. Many of Bob's prize winning models are incorporated into the layout. Bob is editor and publisher of the *Narrow Gauge & Short Line Gazette*. Bob also has the On30/O standard gauge Shoehorn Mining Co wharf and mine layout, the HO Diablo Valley shelf layout, and a garden railway. Extensive collection of models from the hobby's pioneers of 50-70 years ago. DCC

Jack Burgess – Thursday April 16, 7:00 to 10:00 PM in Newark. "Yosemite Valley RR". HO replica of the Yosemite Valley RR fills a two car garage. Complete scenery with exceptional detail prototype modeling. Recreates August 1939 on the Yosemite Valley RR with exact duplication of locos, rolling stock, buildings, scenes, and scenery. 90 scratch-built structures. The rolling stock is scratch-built, resin & styrene kits. Operating style is prototypical, and tightly structured, reflecting 1939 practices. NCE DCC

California Central Club – Friday April 17, 7:00 to 11:00 PM and Saturday April 18, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Santa Clara. California Central Lines, HO & Hon3 freelanced California-based mainline railroad extending from the San Francisco Bay Area to points north/east. 1000ft mainline, dual-gauge branch-line including five mainline towns. Fully sceniced with backdrops painted by Mike Kotowski. Transition era operations include both steam and diesel freight and passenger trains. Prototype operations with a branch-line interchange. Located in the historic Agnew depot built for the narrow gauge South Pacific Coast in 1877. Telephones. Digitrax DCC. *Railroad Model Craftsman*, February 2000, *Model Railroader*, February 1988. .

Jim Dias – Thursday April 16, 7:00 – 10:00 PM in Newark. Western Pacific 3rd Sub (Feather River Canyon), HO. Oroville (staging) to Portola in the spring of 1938 in a 20' X 20' fully sceniced. Beautiful rendition of Keddie Wye. Adjunctive scenic logging railroad. Walk around design features operations scheme adapted from WP timetable. Prototype operations. System One/NCE DCC control (many locos are sound-equipped), pre-prepared switch-lists, and sequence timetable. September 2001 *Model Railroader*, May 2000 *Railmodel Journal*, and July 2000 *Railroad Model Craftsman*.

Charles Catania – Wednesday April 15, 1:00 – 5 PM and Sunday April 19, 12:00 to 5:00 PM in Gilroy. "Chittenden, Pajaro & Coyote RR". 13' x 21' HO Southern Pacific Coast Division from Watsonville to San Jose in the 1940-1953 era. The mainline is three loops, around-the-room on two levels with a helix. Fascia mounted panels provide walk around train and route management using C/MRI computer hardware and custom software. Digitrax with radio throttles, are used for locomotive control. An electrically interlocked swing gate provides access to the center of the layout. Dave Biondi painted the backdrop that depicts the west foothills. Scenery is 5% complete.

Neil Chichizola - Thursday April 16, 7:00 to 10:00 PM and Friday April 17, 1:00 to 5:00 PM in San Carlos. Southern Pacific O scale 14' X 26' purpose built room. Late steam and early diesel SP bay area branch line. Track complete with about half scened. Hand laid turnouts. Many examples of craftsman kit and scratch-built rolling stock.

Dave Connery - Thursday, April 16, 2:00 to 6:30 PM in San Ramon. The "Sierra Carson & Truckee" is a two level HO layout in a 10' X 17' garage room. 1929 era Sierra Railway on the lower level from Oakdale through Jamestown and Sonora to the West Side Mill with a branch to Angels Camp. Upper level is the Virginia & Truckee including Reno, Carson City, Minden, Gold Hill and Virginia City. 100% scened. NCE DCC. Featured in *Railroad Model Craftsman* and *Model Railroader*.

The South West Side Lumber Company is a Garden Railway in Fn3 (1:20.3 scale) and loosely models the West Side Lumber Company. Trestles, bridges and a waterfall. Rolling stock is mostly scratch-built or craftsman kits. Bachmann geared locomotives are battery powered with sound and radio control.

Bob Dupont – Thursday April 16, 7:00 to 10:00 PM and Friday April 17, 1:00 to 5:00 PM in San Mateo. The "Tall Pine Timber Co" is a 17' X 19' fully scened O & On3 layout. 30 car O Scale trains can be accommodated. Super-detailed MOW and circus trains. Featured in *Railroad Model Craftsman*, *Model Railroader*, *NG&SL Gazette* and many other pubs.

Bill Dwyer – Friday April 17, 7:00 to 10:00 PM in Alameda. HO layout. Check Maps for availability

Rick Fortin – Sunday April 19. 12:00 to 4:00 PM in San Jose. Valley Division, Fourth District (ATSF). Proto-freelanced extension of the Santa Fe in the early 1970s modeled from the Central Valley town of Chico to McCloud just south of Mt. Shasta. Purpose built 25'x 47' room with 410 feet mainline in a double deck point to point configuration.. Dispatcher, interlocking tower, a large yard with two switch crews and a hostler, a small yard with a full time switcher, heavy duty mainline freight action with some passenger, local switching, and a branch line. *Railroad Model Craftsman*, Nov 1999, *Layout Design Journal/News*, Winter 1998, *Layout Design Journal/News*, January 1998, website: www.fortinweb.com/swsf. FRS Radios. NCE DCC.

Charlie Getz – Thursday April 16. 7:00 to 10:00 PM in San Carlos. "San Juan Central". The famous HOn3 project layout built by Malcolm Furlow based on narrow gauge railroads in Colorado. It appeared in *Model Railroader* from November 1983 to August 1984 as a project layout, and a separate book was published on it. Charlie, well-known *Narrow Gauge and Short Line Gazette* author, has restored the layout and is the fifth owner. The layout will soon be moved to the California State RR Museum for permanent exhibit.

Ed Gregory – Friday April 17, 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM and Saturday April 18, 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. "Bull Horn Flats RR". HO and N scale layouts located in two 12' X 30' loft rooms of a functional church. Very innovative use of space. The N layout formerly resided in the Niles Depot.

Hiller Aviation Museum – Wednesday April 15 thru Friday April 17, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, except Friday until 3:00 PM in San Carlos. European style HO operating layout is a special limited time attraction. Detailed scenery is modeled after contemporary scenes of rural central Europe. This little known, but very high quality flight museum has an extensive collection of historical and high tech flight interpretive displays. Worth a visit. Layout will be dismantled starting at 3:00 PM Friday. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$6 for seniors and youth. Website: www.hiller.org/

Ed Loizeaux– Wednesday April 15, 7:00 – 11:00 PM and Friday April 17, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Los Altos. "New York Central System, Valley Division" is a large S/Sn3 layout with mid summer generic east coast scenery. Very high quality and detail throughout. The mighty NYC dominates, but the WSLCo also has a lot to show. DCC, CMRI, and JRMI all work together to provide automatic signaling and dispatching on the mainline. The layout has appeared in *Model Railroader*, *Railroad Model Craftsman*, *Mainline Modeler*, *Great Model Railroads 2005* and the *NG&SL Gazette*.

Los Altos History House – Thursday April 16 thru Sunday April 19, 12:00 to 4:00 PM in Los Altos. Two train exhibits are featured in this community museum. This town was founded as a Southern Pacific railroad

speculation. A special exhibit downstairs features a 1:8 scale SP pacific and a large interpretive display explaining how the railroad, its executives and land speculators coalesced to their mutual profit. Upstairs the permanent gallery contains an operating model train diorama to illustrate the historic role of the SP on the peninsula.

Don Marenzi – Wednesday April 15, 7:00 to 10:00 PM and Sunday April 19, 10:30 AM to 4 PM in Newark: An HO Alaskan railroad that could have been, but was not built. Garage size two level layout. Set in 1976 the principal traffic consists of coal, copper and forest products southbound; and supplies and fuel northbound, including supplies for the Alaska Pipeline. Motive power is mostly 1st and 2nd generation EMDs with some early ALCo power running out their last miles. Scenery 20% complete. FRS radios. Easy DCC wireless throttles.

John Marshall - Thursday April 16, 7:00 to 10:00 PM in Pleasanton. "The Penn-Ohio Transportation Company". C-shaped 17' x 11' N-scale layout features NYC and PRR in the late 1940's to early 1950's. The two railroads somewhat parallel to each other and share trackage rights. Middle Tier of Pennsylvania and Ohio with a little West Virginia thrown in. A major town has a passenger station, an industrial area and a river harbor area. Purpose built layout building. Masonite spline roadbed. 90% sceniced. NCE DCC. Limited handicap access.

Otis McGee – Saturday April 18, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Oakland. HO double decked, mushroom style model of SP's Shasta Division from Redding, CA to Klamath Falls, OR. Purpose-built 1,200 sq ft loft. Designed by the late and legendary John Armstrong. Operations faithfully follow the prototype using a modified 1952 timetable & train orders and a real CTC machine. 400 foot with hand laid turnouts. Fully signaled from Redding to Black Butte. Hand painted backdrops. Many key prototype structures in and around Dunsmuir. Computer support with C/MRI hardware and JMRI software. NCE DCC. Website: www.spsshastaroute.com

Howard McKinney – Wednesday April 15, 7:00 – 10:00 PM and Friday April 17, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in San Jose. Freelance On3 Denver Rio Grande & Western Railroad is a point-to-point railroad running between Victoria, CO and Notell, CO. 1930's to 1940's eta. Dual gage trackage at Victoria connects to common carrier railroads. Both C&S and RGS have trackage rights on this DRG&W division. Lumber and logging dominate the 7 by 19 foot room with 5 by 6 foot dogleg extension. Hand laid track is complete. Scenery is almost finished with many major structures. NCE DCC. Soundtraxx Tsunami sound.

Rich Melconian –Thursday April 16, 7:00 – 10:00 PM and Friday April 17, 2:00 – 6:00 PM in Belmont. "AT&SF RR". HO model of the 1980's era Santa Fe in the foothills of California. Some off era steam and "Chief" passenger trains. The single track mainline and sidings with long turnouts to accommodate 25 fifty-foot freight cars. Two yards and numerous industries support extensive switching. Code 83, 70 and 55 rail appropriate to the scene. 70% sceniced. A duck-under is removable if required for access.

Rod Miller– Wednesday April 15, 7:00 – 10:00 PM and Friday April 17, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in Palo Alto. Great Basin Lines is a 15' X 48' O scale Southern Pacific transition era layout. Designed for operation using stacked staging loops. Most of the mainline is double decked with some scenery and tunnels. Extensive model machining capability. No parking in driveway.

Alf Modine – Wednesday April 15, 7:00 – 10:00 PM in Cupertino. O Scale Chicago and Northwestern & North Shore Line. Includes Chicago Interurban and CSL street cars. Loaded with prize-winning models. The heavyweight C&NW "400" was featured in July 1986 MR. Trackwork is complete with partial catenary.

Seth Neumann – Wednesday April 15, 1:00 to 5:00 PM in Mt. View: Union Pacific Niles Canyon. HO layout set in the East Bay Area in 1999. 400 sq. ft. purpose built room. Former Western Pacific San Jose and 1st Subdivisions, now the UP Niles, Oakland and Milpitas Subdivisions. The railroad is a branch line that supports an Auto plant (NUMMI) and a number of smaller industries. The Dispatcher and a unique Yard Clerk control operations using Track Warrants and Switch Lists. A Dispatcher computer screen shows occupancy and turnout status. NCE DCC, FRS Radios.

Bob Osborn – Thursday April 16, 7:00 to 10:00 PM in Pleasanton. An HO layout modeling the Chicago & Mackinac Railroad (C&M) in northern Michigan. The C&M is set in 1967 and runs from Fort Wayne, Indiana to

Mackinaw City, Michigan. The layout includes the route from Grand Rapids to Mackinaw City. 300' of single track mainline with numerous passing sidings is in a partial mushroom design nicknamed "the Bridge Route", it carries considerable bridge traffic from Mackinaw City to Fort Wayne to interchange with the Pennsylvania RR and various other railroads. Track complete with some scenery and structures. Easy DCC. Website: www.cmrailroad.com

David Parks – Wednesday April 15, 1:00 to 5:00 PM and 7:00 to 10:00 PM in Los Altos. Cumberland West - Western Maryland and B&O in Cumberland, MD in 1953. The layout is single layer in a 1200 sq. ft. room with Mole staging. Backdrop closely follows the prototype. Base scenery and a few structures. Both railroads are coal dominated. The WM local trains service many on-line coal mines. The B&O uses touch-screen tower operations and focuses on coal train marshalling at Keyser, WV. Coal Managers regulate coal business operations. The op session may involve elements of either or both railroads depending on crew. Multi-channel telephone system. Digitrax DCC. Website: www.geocities.com/dpbowm/

Kermit Paul – Sunday April 19, 1:00 to 5:00 PM in Pleasant Hill. "Lone Pine & Tonopah RR". Western Pacific inspired HO scale layout set in the 1940's WWII era. Features way freight operations and a very large city scene with a Union Station, large yard, and engine servicing facilities. The city features moving vehicles, chase lights on theaters, moving dancers at the USO, as well as other animation. A 1943 WP CTC machine controls the mainline. Operation is by walk-around throttles with progressive cab control and working trackside signaling. Featured in *Model Railroader* and *Railroad Model Craftsman*. Fair handicapped access

Jim Providenza – Sunday April 19, 12:30 to 4:30 PM in Terra Linda. "Santa Cruz Northern RR" from San Jose to Santa Cruz. Fully sceniced. Very sophisticated timetable and train order operation. Double decked in a garage. Sound, helpers and agent/operators using train order boards. Operations closely adhere to prototype practices with through and local freights, a unit train, passenger operations, yard and interchange. Dispatcher works with two Agent/Operators, a Yardmaster, a Trainmaster and train crews. May 1996 *Model Railroader*, November & December 2002 *Railroad Model Craftsman*, December 1999 *Railmodel Journal*, *Great Model Railroads Volume #35* video, Telephone communications. Lenz DCC. Website: www.statebelt.org/scn

Jim Radkey – Friday April 17, 7:00 to 10:00 PM and Saturday April 18, 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon in Albany. The BNSF Pink Lady Sub" (HO) is freelanced and occupies a 21 by 17 foot garage. It is based on the Pink Lady Mine (PLM) in the Warner Mountains, located in the extreme North Eastern corner of California. There are three decks of track that follow the walls and a central peninsula. The train line-up has 3 Locals, 2 Drag freights, expedited through traffic and various extras as required. Currently the layout has no scenery, but it has some mock-up buildings in industrial areas. FRS radios. (5 channel radios are used if there are insufficient FRS radios, so bring both if you have them). NCE DCC.

Andy Schnur – Sunday April 19, 1:00 to 5:00 PM in Lafayette. C&O Alleghany Sub. The C&O Alleghany Sub layout is over 500 sq. ft. of completely sceniced mountainous terrain representing the southern West Virginia landscape.. Coal hauling and steam power railroading at its best centers on the famous Hinton yard. Code 70 flex-track. Recently converted to DCC to support formal operations. A major expansion has been recently completed which doubles the layout size. Featured on the cover of *Model Railroader* 2/2005

Gary Schrader – Sunday April 19, 1:00 to 5:00 PM in San Jose. "ATSF & SP". O scale 20' x 40' layout set in the 1947-1951 timeframe. Double track mainline, 6 track Union Station, 13 track yard, huge 14 stall roundhouse with 18 more outside tracks. All track is hand laid and completed. About 50% of the scenery is done including a large curved timber trestle & 2 other bridges. All engines & cars are highly super-detailed to exactly match specific prototypes. Control is by DCC. Check out the complete, accurate 14 car *Daylight* train and 11 car *Super Chief*.

Gordon Searle – Wednesday April 15, 7:00 to 10:00 PM in San Jose. "Captosoquel & Watsonville" is an N scale Southern Pacific prototype, 1950's era, coast line and Santa Cruz branch line. 15' X 4' nominal with 90% sceniced. 1944 FRA freight cars, SP Daylights, Larks, and Suntan Special with stainless steel and red letter-boards. The power pool consists of Alco PA's and EMD E9's in Daylight paint scheme, F3 and F7 in black widow, GS4 4449, a pair of SD7s also in black widow scheme.

Silicon Valley Lines Club – Friday April 17, 7:00 to 10:30 PM in San Jose. 1800 sq feet freelanced double deck national railroad with a minor HOn3 branch. 19 control blocks and several large staging yards. Diesel era freight hauler with numerous steam engines held over from an earlier period. Many thru freight and passenger trains support a number of switching locals and trains hauling commodities required by on-line industries. A large central yard for block switching and classification. The passenger terminal has 4 through tracks to support a variety of passenger trains. Touch screens augment route control. FRS radios and NCE DCC. Website: www.siliconvalleylines.com/home.html

Tom Tomasello – Wednesday April 15, 1:00 to 5:00 PM in Morgan Hill. "The Thomas County Narrow Gauge RR". 6' X 12' On30 freelanced narrow gauge railroad very loosely inspired by the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad. The modeled portion of this fictitious line is located in the rolling hills of western California near the coast range, south of the Bay Area. The time frame is the pre-war 1940's. 80% complete. Custom photographic backdrop and many highly detailed scratch built structures.

Tri-Cities Society of Model Engineers (aka Niles Fremont Train Club) - Thursday April 16, 1:00 to 5:00 PM and 7:00 to 10:00 PM; Friday April 17, 7:00 – 10:00 PM, in Fremont. HO and N scale layouts. The temporary layouts are used as a focus for holding clinics on bench work, track laying, scenery construction techniques, DCC wiring, decoder installation and prototype operations concepts. Run trains on the demo layouts and review plans for the new club location in the restored Niles Passenger Depot and Freight House. The club is temporarily housed in a vintage Firehouse at 3723 Darwin Drive, Fremont, CA 94555. View the exterior of the historic depot at 36997 Mission Blvd, Fremont, CA 94536 (510) 797-4449

Steven Van Meter – Friday April 17, 7:00 to 10:00 PM and Saturday April 18, 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon in Alameda. "Southwestern Pacific RR" This is a large N scale layout representing generic Bay Area Southern Pacific and Western Pacific in the 1950's steam to diesel transition period. It incorporates a completed old layout as a starting point, and scenery on the new areas is progressing nicely. Control is NCE DCC and control panels are in SP livery. There are plenty of nice structures in place. Two new staging yards are being added.

Revised: 4/10/09 dag