



The Daylight Observation

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SPC 2021 Convention Notes

by Walter Mizuno, Co-chairman, Sugar Pine Centennial
2021 PCR Convention

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Well, the Sugar Pine Centennial 2021 PCR Convention has wrapped up and it was one for the record books. The planning started out for a *normal* in-person convention, but as everyone knows, COVID-19 requirements changed our plans. Late in February the committee decided to cancel the in-person convention and, with only eight weeks left to the planned April 24th convention, decided to offer a one day virtual event in its place, keeping the original convention's name.

As luck would have it, two of our committee members, Bruce Morden and Dave Grenier were also active in the planning for the Rails by the Bay 2021 National Convention which had already shifted to a virtual delivery planned for July. By having the RBTB 2021 tech group join forces with our committee we could work together to deliver our convention and give the folks from RBTB 2021 a chance to rehearse for the theirs. Lots of hard work by our dedicated committee members accomplished the changeover in a short amount of time and plans were formulated to deliver a quality virtual experience for free! Did I mention that many registrants and committee members donated their registration fees to the event? Thank you all.

Many committee members had to reinvent their spots as planning for a virtual presentation was much different than the in-person experience. Unfortunately, some spots had to be eliminated as there wasn't a viable way to continue to offer them virtually. Many of us learned the hard way that putting on a virtual broadcast required split second timing and constant attention to detail. Additional publicity efforts and appearances on John Abatecola's Live Call-in Talk Show really increased the registration numbers. In the end, the final number of registrations received was 287. Not bad for a regional NMRA convention.

The event was well received and survey results indicate that attendees by and large were happy with the convention. We plan to



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Convention (Cont.)

use the information to improve upcoming PCR conventions and perhaps to offer a virtual component at future conventions.

I would like to offer my big thanks to the following convention members who met regularly to put together the convention:

Doug Wagner who was the convention registrar and offered help and views on making the convention better as well as “volunteering” to give a clinic.

Milton SanSoucie who was the convention treasurer, kept the books, and still had some time to create and produce the popular convention car and appear on a Meet the Modeler segment during the convention.

Chuck Harmon was responsible for the event publicity that helped our registration reach unexpected numbers. He also served as the contest chair.

Dave Grenier, who as convention and PCR webmaster, had the huge task of keeping our webpage updated and accurate with all the changes because of the shift to the virtual format. He always did it with the professionalism and an attitude that made working with him so enjoyable.

Bruce Morden who was our clinics chair and did a fantastic job of coordinating our clinicians and supporting them in the transition to producing quality videos for the event. He was always on top of things and willing to help where needed.

Tom Sciara, who was in charge of the Layout Tours and Operating Sessions, did an outstanding job in coordinating with all the layout owners in producing the great videos sharing highlights of the owner's layouts. Besides being a great person to work with, he and Bruce took on the task of supporting the transition to the virtual convention and making sure that all the details were taken care of.

Robert Pethoud was in charge of the convention shirts. Robert took on the added roles of clinic presenter and several moderator positions during the convention. He did yeoman's service for the convention.

Ed Merrin was always present and offered his wisdom and guidance as we made our plans for the convention. Ed volunteered to present his clinic on “Focus Stacking and Low Perspective Smartphone Photography” during the convention.

Mike O'Brien, as Daylight Division Superintendent, made sure that we were able to meet via Zoom and suggested ways to improve the convention. We couldn't have put together the convention without him.

Tom Crawford as PCR's Convention Department Manager offered up information and support as well as answering procedural questions which the committee seemed to have a lot of.

Earl Girbovan as PCR's Contest Department Manager coordinated with Chuck in looking into the possibility of going to a virtual contest format which unfortunately was not possible under

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Convention (Cont.)

the circumstances.

And finally, Bill Scott, who along with me, served as Co-Chair of the event. I couldn't have done it alone and was glad to have him available to bounce ideas off of.

We can't forget the "Tech Group" individuals who helped us pull off our virtual convention. Without them, the convention would not have been successful. Phil Edholm, who helped spearhead and organize the virtual event, along with Cydney George-Abatecola supported our efforts and helped us understand what needed to be done and helped us achieve our goals. John Abatecola supported us with information on presenting in the video format and allowed us to get much needed exposure on his channel. And lastly, Seth Neumann, who provided technical advice and steered us toward our goal to offer the virtual event, and did it in a way that we could understand.

Thanks everyone, we couldn't have done it without you. 🚂

From the Superintendent

by Mike O'Brien, Daylight Division Superintendent

I would like to start by thanking all those involved in the recent Sugar Pine Centennial 2021 PCR Convention this past April..

As I commented in my previous report, what started out as a regular convention with all the planning that was put forth all boiled down to the Covid-19 rules and regulations as they were in April at the time forcing a decision at the last minute to cancel. Well let's say, was almost canceled. The convention committee from the Daylight Division had the foresight to consider a potential cancellation and had a backup plan in the works. So without breaking stride the committee switched from an in-person convention to a virtual online convention. Consideration was given to the fact that there was the big national Rails by the Bay convention coming up later in the year that was



most likely going to have to go virtual also. So, the committee called up the gang on the coast, threw a few suggestions their way, asked if they could share some of their expertise with virtual meetings and use the Sugar Pine event as a test platform for presenting a virtual convention.

In all that transpired the Daylight gang and our friends from over on the coast figured a way to switch over to the virtual side of life and with very limited time they managed to pull off a 9th inning, game winning - walk off home run and delivered a big win for the home team.

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**The Daylight Observation
The Official Publication of
the
Daylight Division,
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The Daylight Observation is published quarterly to inform members of division activities and to provide educational articles for the advancement of railroad history and the art and science of model railroading. It is distributed to all members of the Division and to officers and newsletter editors of other divisions in the PCR.

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Superintendent (Cont)

I would also like to THANK all those who signed up for and attended the Sugar Pine event. We appreciate your support and loyalty to the Division, PCR and NMRA. The Convention was a complete success, well beyond any of our expectations. Many helped with their generous donations to make a great event for all, in which we were able to offer a completely free event and ended up going worldwide. We set some new benchmarks and milestones for having an online convention.

During the Sugar Pine Centennial 2021 Awards Presentations, three members were singled out for their contributions to our Division. I would also like to send congratulations to this year's winners of three prestigious awards.

Bruce Morden, of Carpinteria, Ca was named as the newest recipient of the prestigious John Allen award. It is presented annually to the individual who the selection committee, consisting of all living recipients of the John Allen Memorial Award, feels best exemplifies John Allen's support for the model railroad hobby through personal involvement and willingness to assist others in their pursuit of the hobby.



Doug Wagner, of Bakersfield, Ca, was named by PCR President Chris Palermo as the newest recipient of the President's Award for Division Services. The NMRA President's Award for Service to the Division is awarded by the NMRA President to one individual in a Division in each Region per year, who has done outstanding "beyond-the-call-of-duty" work to make his or her local Division effective, engaging, and welcoming to members.



Individuals are recommended to the NMRA President by the NMRA National Board of Directors, National Officers or Region

Presidents, as appropriate, and preferably always with the guidance of the Region Officials.

Robert Sexton, of Clovis, Ca, was named by Daylight Director Ed Merrin as the 2021 recipient of the Daylight Member of the Year Award. Similar to the NMRA President's Award, it is awarded by the Division Director to one individual in the Division who has done outstanding work to make his or her local Division effective, engaging and welcoming to members, visitors and guest of the Division.

Congratulations, Bruce, Doug and Robert! Job Well Done. Thank you all for your collective efforts. The Division definitely benefits from what you do and have done for our region.

Virtual is becoming the "normal" way to conduct meetings. The Division converted over to ZOOM for the most part to present our quarterly meetings in an easier format for members to attend meetings, the biggest issue being drive times to meetings. The Virtual meeting has pretty much solved that issue. The Covid-19 situation also helped prove it to be a feasible medium to conduct online conventions. Zoom in its basic form is a free app or desktop program. Most devices have access to Zoom. When the email invite is sent out join by clicking the link, usually in blue, and you'll be redirected to the meeting. If you haven't downloaded the app or program, the link will assist you in getting that set up. From there its available and ready to use. Our average attendance has stayed consistent over the past year, *(we could do a lot better if more would join in)* and we will continue to do the ZOOM meetings in the current form until the end of 2021. We have decided in the upcoming 2022 fiscal year to go back to a hybrid type of division meeting, providing the Federal – State – Local Covid19 restrictions are lifted by then. The plan is to revisit the round robin style of meetings if possible, but using Zoom to facilitate those who find driving to attend is an issue. We have secured a location at Tina Marie's new downtown location on the ground floor of the GEHAMS Club house for the first annual meeting in 2022 being held in Bakersfield February 12th,

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Superintendent (Cont)

2022. This will be our first person-to-person/virtual meeting since the beginning of the Covid-19 issue began back in 2020. As an incentive to get members out of their coach seat we are giving a \$25 Gift Certificate from Central Coast Trains for each the first 3 meetings and a \$100 end of the year meeting for the Daylight Division/NMRA members attending meetings.

Thursday, August 26, 2021 via ZOOM

- 7:00 PM
- Presentation/Clinic, Joe Heumphreus of Santa Barbara, *The Pros and Cons of Large Scale Modelling*"
- \$25 Central Coast Trains Gift Certificate for Daylight Division/NMRA members attending the ZOOM meeting will be drawn at end of ZOOM meeting (must be in ZOOM meeting to qualify for drawing).

Thursday, November 18, via ZOOM

- 7:00 PM
- \$100 Central Coast Trains Gift Certificate for Daylight Division/NMRA members attending the ZOOM meeting will be drawn at end of ZOOM meeting (must be in ZOOM meeting to qualify for drawing).

Please check the Daylight website for details as they are being worked for updates.

Please keep an eye out in the PCR - Daylight Division publications for updates concerning future meetings and other affiliated NMRA groups with their virtual meetings and get-togethers. There is something happening almost every weekend for model railroaders and lots during the week. See our websites for more info.

Also last but not least I would like to thank Milton SanSoucie for taking the Clerk/Paymaster position. He will be taking over from the acting C/P Robert Sexton who has filled in for the last year and a half. Milton will be moving from the Fresno convention Treasurer to the Daylight Division position. Thanks to Bob for his service and to Milton for filling the position.

One last item which is very important is that each one of us in the upcoming year needs to help promote the hobby to our younger crowd. Suggestions and ideas are welcome to bring younger people to model railroading. One easy one that could be accomplished is by coordinating with various schools, and youth oriented organizations to share your Daylight Division experiences thru online presentations and virtual layout tours to show off what can be accomplished in this hobby. Just about all young people have a cell phone, notepad or some device that they have access to. Having access to ZOOM is a great way to spread our knowledge around 🚂

From Our Director

by Ed Merrin, Daylight Division Director

Good grief! We (meaning the Daylight Division) have emerged unscathed and energized from some of the craziest and most tumultuous times ever endured by a model railroad organization.



For all this, the Daylight Division might best be tagged The Courageous One-Hundred-Ten.

Yes, our grand plans to host an exciting and fun PCR Convention were

squashed by the intrusion of world-wide events beyond our control. And of course, I'm referring to COVID-19, a collection of events and circumstances that will rival things such as the Dust Bowl, Pearl Harbor, and the Civil War as a disrupter of everyday lives.

But did that stop us? Never. Instead, the carefully selected representatives of the 110, officially known as the Sugar Pine Centennial 2021 Convention Committee (check the convention website for their names), elected to forge ahead into the Great Unknown. That decision, to do a virtual convention with only a few weeks to put it together was, by all accounts, extremely

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Director (Cont.)

successful, and may have set a precedent or standard for such things in the future. Of course, this success might never have happened without the help of a group, mostly from Coast Division, but with a few from other Divisions, who were making plans to do something similar on a larger scale for the upcoming National. They basically used Sugar Pine as a test ground and practice experience to refine the mechanics of how to do something that is usually left to broadcast and media professionals (a few of them actually fell into that category) rather than model railroader volunteers.

So where does this put us now? As pandemic restrictions fade away do we need any of this virtual stuff? If there is something there to hang on to, how should it be used?

I don't pretend to have firm answers to these questions, but the good news about virtual activities is that the issue of geographic distance just isn't there. People can meet even if they live hundreds (or thousands) of miles apart. For Daylight distance is a major problem. Just for comparison, RED (my home Division) has about the same number of members. But these members are predominantly clustered in two major areas, central Sonoma County and Marin County. The major population centers in these two places (Santa Rosa/Petaluma and San Rafael) are only about 45 minutes apart. And Santa Rosa is only about 50 miles from San Francisco, the northern outpost of Coast Division. So Daylight may be particularly suited to including some form of virtual program on an ongoing basis.

There are a few obstacles, apart from planning the form and content on what that would include. The big ones are equipment and "tech savviness." These days most members have computers/tablets/phones and an internet connection, but those that don't are out in the cold. Perhaps they have a computer but the internet connection doesn't have the speed to handle things like Zoom sessions. Perhaps the computer is old and slow and upgrading is an expense that is out of reach. And even if all that is up to snuff, lots of people have computers and what not but never

had the occasion to use the kind of software that has various of buttons and quirks to deal with. The experience can be frustrating and to some not worth the effort. The participation in our recent Division meet was not overwhelming. How much of this is due to these issues?

All in all, the virtual "revolution" has been good for Daylight. In fact, I don't know how I would have carried on as Director without it. I've been attending PCR Board meetings, Daylight Division meets, and even an informal round robin type of group based in Fresno/Bakersfield without leaving Santa Rosa! Which brings us to another topic.

The fact that Daylight was able to serve as the pioneer says a lot about a core group of members who have extensive experience in running the Division, organizing conventions and meets, publishing newsletters and articles, and putting together social and modeling events of all kinds. As a group they have an impressive resume of awards and accomplishments. Their impact on PCR over the years is out of proportion to their numbers. They are up to grappling with all this. But....

It's the same group of guys over and over, and they ain't getting any younger. Some of them have rotated through the available leadership positions at least once. One member had to hold both Superintendent and Director jobs simultaneously, with no end in sight. Fortunately, we have had a few people step up recently (e.g., Mike O'Brien as Superintendent, Bob Sexton as Chief Clerk/Paymaster to be succeeded by Milton Sans Soucie) to add to the mix.

But what about my job? Remember, I was appointed by the PCR President because a candidate for election could not be found. And I am not even a Daylight member! PCR Directors serve two year terms (my first is up this Spring). If I run for election to serve a second consecutive term, that's it! The PCR By Laws would prevent me from running for a third. Should we be grooming my replacement?

More food for thought. "See" you at Rails by the Bay in July! 🚂

Better Division Meets

by Robert Pethoud, Member Aid

I'm told that our Daylight Division currently has around 100 members. I would never have guessed that number from attendance at our recent quarterly meets, which has consistently hovered around a dozen. One might have expected that the virtual nature of the last few events to have increased our numbers, since travel—with its associated costs in both time and money—is not required. The meets are free and can be enjoyed from the comfort of your own home, so where is everybody?

Truth be told, though, we were experiencing declining attendance long before the pandemic moved all our meets to the Zoom platform. I suspect that a basic reason for this is we have simply not been able to schedule enough interesting attractions to draw a crowd. Speaking just for myself, the chance to see scale models, clinics and layouts is a large part of a meet's appeal. If my response is anywhere near typical, an obvious way to increase our meets' attendance would

be to increase the numbers of models, clinics and layouts included at each one. An equally obvious question then presents itself: who's going to bring those models and present those clinics? The answer is unavoidable: it's only us, guys; we're not going to be flying in any guest speakers.

I'm reminded of something that happened when I started my public-school teaching career, back in the

Bronze Age. One day during my first year, we had an awards assembly, at which trophies were presented to all the outstanding athletes and certificates were given to those students who had perfect attendance. I was disappointed that academic achievement was not acknowledged at all. I questioned that oversight and it quickly became clear that if I wanted academic excellence to be rewarded, I would have to set up a program to do it myself. So I did. I established criteria for recognition, informed all the students and faculty, gathered the information about the qualifying students, ordered certificates and

trophies, got the local newspaper to report the names of the winners, and presented the awards at an assembly myself.

My plan was that I would get the program rolling and then other faculty members would be inspired to help and, eventually, take it over from me. Boy, was I naïve. I ran the academic awards program single-handedly for the more than 20 years I taught at that school. The other teachers and the administrators liked the program and the recognition it brought to the school, but were unwilling to put in much effort to sustain it. The downside of the program for me was that I had to spend a lot of time over the years keeping it going. The upside was seeing the joy and pride on the faces of the award recipients and feeling my own sense of pride in a job well done.

The lesson I take from my academic awards program experience is that if we want more and better attractions at our Daylight Division meets, we will have to create them ourselves. The bad news, then, is that we'll each have to work hard to improve the meets and then—more bad news—we'll have to continue our efforts because no one is likely to take over the reins from us.

But there is also some good news. I suggested we should have more models, clinics, and layouts to share, but those don't have to be finished models, 45-minute clinics, or in-person layout tours. Instead of one or two lengthy clinics at a meet, why not have five or six 10- to 15-minute show and tell spots, in which an attendee does something like the following:

- Shows a model he or she is working on, finished or not, and tells how he/she got to that point, maybe even asking the audience for suggestions on how to proceed from there.
- An armchair modeler who hasn't built anything shares an interesting article or book he or she has read or narrates what he/she learned from a clinic or layout tour at a convention.
- Shares one of the many virtual layout tours or model railroad clinics available on YouTube.

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Answers (Cont.)

- Asks for help designing a layout to fit into a room of given dimensions and constraints.
- Shares a personal anecdote, experience, or photo(s) relating to the hobby.



To give you a better idea of what I mean, I've included two photos with this article. The prototype photo is of a loading dock in Helena, Montana which I took several years ago. The other photo shows the model of the dock that I built after I returned home. There is no way I could talk (nor would anyone listen) for 45 minutes about how I built and finished that simple model. But I think I could entertain and inform for about 10 minutes. If you want to hear that talk, I expect you to show up for the next division meet!

As always, until next time you can reach me with questions and comments at pethoud@comcast.net



Achievement Program - Chief Dispatcher

By Dave Grenier, AP Chairman, Daylight Division

In this installment, we will review the requirements for the Chief Dispatcher certificate. About 50% of Master Model Railroaders have earned this certificate, showing that prototypical operation is of strong interest to serious model railroaders.

As is true with many of the AP certificates, don't read more into the requirements and make them more difficult than they are. There are basically only two requirements to earning this certificate,

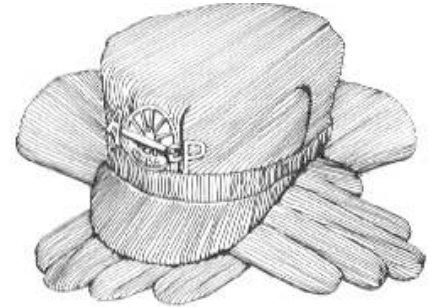


operations and documentation.

OPERATIONS

To qualify for this certificate, you must have participated in the operation of a model railroad, either home or club, for not less than 50 hours. A minimum of 10 hours each must

have been served in three of the five categories listed below, one of which must be #5, Dispatcher.



1. Engineer (Mainline freight, passenger, or Wayfreight):

a. Mainline Passenger or Freight Engineer: Shall run their train in a manner that simulates the prototype, following the rules of the model railroad being used, and operating according to the signal system (if present) or by direct instruction of the Dispatcher.

b. Wayfreight Engineer: Will meet the requirements of Mainline Engineer. In addition, he or she shall perform all required switching with approval from the Dispatcher in a manner not to adversely affect the overall railroad schedule or operations.

Operating in a prototype manner includes no "jack rabbit" starts or sudden stops during normal operations.

Chief Dispatcher (Cont.)

2. Yardmaster (or station master):

a. Yardmaster: Runs the freight yard. He or she makes up trains with the appropriate cars in the desired numbers to have trains ready when the timetable or Dispatcher requires them. Generally, the Yardmaster operates the switch engine, but in a large yard could direct other yard engineers.

b. Station Master: Is in charge of the passenger station and all passenger switching. He or she makes up trains with the appropriate consists so that the trains are ready when the timetable or Dispatcher requires them. Terminating trains are broken down appropriately and the cars are serviced and stored as needed. Through train switching is accomplished.

3. Hostler (or power desk):

a. Hostler: Shall run the engine facilities. He or she shall have each locomotive facing the correct direction, double-headed or lashed up, ready for the Engineer to easily leave the engine area. Service to locomotives shall be simulated. Returning locomotives are placed in their appropriate stalls or tracks. On layouts with advanced control systems, the Hostler can handle assignment of locomotives to the appropriate engineer's throttle.

b. Power Desk: Decides what is the correct motive power for each train. Assigns throttle control to the motive power. When assignment is finished, he or she returns control of that motive power to the Hostler, or to off.

4. Towerman (or traffic manager or road master):

a. Towerman: Operates one or more towers (control panels) on a layout. He or she sets up appropriate routes at the correct time under direction of the timetable or the Dispatcher. Reports train passings to dispatcher if required.

b. Traffic Manager: Determines which cars come and go from each industry, and the amount and location of traffic, and specifies the route. May create a computer program to do this automatically.

c. Road Master: The operating trouble-shooter and repair person. He or she keeps things moving smoothly. Can take track in or out of service.

5. Dispatcher: Coordinates all train movements, either by sequence, timetable and fast clock, or other operating system.

This experience shall be accumulated on one or more model railroads having at least two mainline trains plus yard switching in simultaneous operation. Some system of freight and passenger car movements, including road switching, shall be used for controlling train activity.

For our purposes, "operation" means simulating prototype-like railroad operations on a model railroad. Simply running trains or "chasing cabooses" around the layout, or "fun runs", although enjoyable, does not satisfy the requirements of the Chief Dispatcher certificate.

TIP: Staple your Chief Dispatcher Record of Activities Form (page 4 of the SOQ) into a manila folder and bring it to any operating session in which you participate. The layout owner or dispatcher during an operating session can verify the tasks and time you spent operating. Though preferable, these do not have to be NMRA members if the operating sessions can be verified if needed. Remember, it is MUCH easier to get this information as you accumulate it, rather than doing it when you are getting ready to submit your application.

(Reference:

<https://www.nmra.org/definitions#witness>)

DOCUMENTATION

The applicant shall also do the following: (the use of a computer to accomplish these requirements is acceptable):

1. Prepare a schematic drawing of a model railroad layout meeting the operating conditions described in the operations requirement and indicating all pertinent simulated distances.

Normally, this would be a diagram of one of the layouts you put in your qualifying time on - but there is no requirement that it must be. The drawing must be neat and readable, but it does not have to be in ink.

2. Develop a timetable appropriate to this model railroad, simulating prototype time, covering a period of eight hours or more, during which at least three scheduled mainline trains move in each direction.

Continued on Page 10

3. Develop an operating train chart (graph) which interprets the above schedule for timetable operation of the model railroad. Indicate at least one train meet on the schematic drawing required above in #1. Show the positions of the trains involved and describe the action, giving pertinent time and movement data to effect the meet.

4. Develop or adapt a system of operation for the layout, including all the necessary forms and explanations for their use for controlling car movements, train makeup, and operation in a prototypical manner. Members of the same club or home layout operating group who are applying for the Chief Dispatcher certificate can use copies of the same paperwork for requirements 1 and 4, but each must develop and submit their own timetable and train chart (even if they are all copies of the same one). Another possibility would be to have all the members who qualified submit their application at the same time. and just use one set of the paperwork for #'s 1 & 4.

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION

After completing the above requirements, submit a completed Statement of Qualification form, [2006-soq-dispatch](#), which shall include the following:

1. Forms and drawings meeting the above documentation requirements.
2. Description of the jobs held and the approximate number of hours in each.
3. The signed witnessed "Certification of Operation Form" showing that all the requirements have been met and the applicant has operated a model railroad in a prototypical

manner.

4. A copy of your NMRA membership card.

Submit the required documentation to the PCR Achievement Program Manager, Jack Burgess.

The full requirements for this category are available on the NMRA website at <https://www.nmra.org/dispatcher>. You can also get a copy of the requirements by contacting me, either by phone, e-mail, or letter.

Look at *Scale Rails*, September 2008 issue, page 10, for a very long, but informative article, complete with drawings and samples of what it takes to earn this certificate. Don't be overwhelmed by this article, as it presents much, much more information than is actually needed to earn the AP Chief Dispatcher certificate.

There have been no AP certificates awarded since my last report.

If you have any questions or want to learn more about the Achievement Program or Golden Spike Award, call me at (408) 431-8989 or e-mail me at grenida@pacbell.net. 🚂

Daylight Membership by County

| County | #Members |
|-----------------|----------|
| San Luis Obispo | 25 |
| Kern | 22 |
| Fresno | 21 |
| Santa Barbara | 16 |
| Tulare | 10 |
| Madera | 1 |
| Merced | 3 |
| Mariposa | 2 |
| Total Members | 100 |

Daylight Division Membership Gauge

| |
|------------------------|
| May 31, 2020—103 |
| June 30, 2020—104 |
| July 31, 2020—107 |
| August 31, 2020—108 |
| September 30, 2020—106 |
| October 31, 2020—103 |
| November 30, 2020—104 |
| December 31, 2020—105 |
| January 31, 2021—106 |
| February 28, 2021—104 |
| March 31, 2021—103 |
| April 30, 2021—101 |
| May 31, 2021—100 |

Membership Missives

by Doug Wagner, Membership Manger

With the Pacific Coast Region's Annual Convention, *Sugar Pine Centennial 2021*, now in our rear-view member, I can now get back to my "normal" administrative duties. And you thought I was going to say get back to getting things accomplished on my home layout. Surely you can't be serious. I am serious—and don't call me Shirley! But I was able to get some things done to my home layout during this Pandemic shutdown.



First, though, I would like to thank all the Daylight Division members who helped make the Virtual Sugar Pine Centennial 2021 a great success. What, you didn't know we still had a convention? Even though the in-person convention was cancelled, in the short 2-month period to get the virtual convention all nailed down, it came of as a great success. If you didn't ZOOM in, you missed some great

presentations—and even missed out on winning the grand door prize—a \$100 gift certificate from Central Coats Trains, of Atascadero. And besides, it was **FREE**, so the price was right. We had folks ZOOM in all the way from England and Australia. But the winners of the gift certificates were won by out-of-staters. Oh well, better luck next time! OK, on to membership stuff.

We know it has been a very tough year for everyone—and model railroaders were no exception. With practically any type of meetings, events and other get togethers being

PCR Callboard Updated

An updated Callboard is available on the PCR website with the following changes:

PCR President – Frank Markovich
 Vice President – Chip Meriam
 Secretary – Mike O'Dorney

Other updates:

RED Superintendent -- Paul Weiss
 Pete Birdsong's title changed to "Editor, Proactive Communications"
 Daylight Chief Clerk-Paymaster - Milton SanSoucie

cancelled left and right, it was very difficult to plan any in-person events, whatsoever. However, it's appearing that we are **FINALLY** able to see that light at the end of the tunnel of this dreaded Pandemic shutdown.

As you well know by now, all in-person National Model Railroad Association national and local events, including us, here in the Daylight Division, were non-existent for the last 15 months. Meeting virtually with ZOOM and other Social Media outlets was the only way it seemed us model railroaders were able to have any semblance of meets or events. We have held 3 Daylight Division ZOOM meets in the last year, and will have 2 more—on August 26th and November 18th.

However, we want to get back on track with the beginning of the New Year, 2022. We will be having an in-person meet, in Bakersfield, Saturday, February 12th. Details are still being worked out such as clinics and layout tours, but we will finally be able to share that model railroader camaraderie that we have not been able to enjoy these last 15 months. For our last 2 ZOOM meets, for the August 26th ZOOM meeting, we will be having a "door prize" drawing of a \$25 Gift Certificate from Central Coats Trains Model Railroad Shop, of Atascadero. And for the November 18th ZOOM meeting, we will be offering a \$100 Gift Certificate from Central Coats Trains Model Railroad Shop, of Atascadero, for any Daylight Division member who joins us for the ZOOM meetings. The \$100 gift certificate will be just in time for the Christmas shopping season!

We hope you will join us so that we can continue to share model railroad ideas and just to talk some "model railroading" with other modelers. Then we'll be able to actually meet face-to-face once more, beginning February 12th.

That's it for now. May all your signals be green! 🚦

Observation Schedule

| Issue | Articles due |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Fall (Oct-Nov-Dec) | Sep. 10 |
| Winter (Jan-Feb-Mar) | Dec. 10 |
| Spring (Apr-May-Jun) | Mar. 10 |
| Summer (Jul-Aug-Sep) | Jun. 10 |

July 6 – 10, 2021 - Rails by the Bay NMRA 2021 Virtual National Convention, via Zoom Webinar platform. More than 70 clinics, 48 layout tours, 4 prototype tours, Modeler's Showcase, Live Q&A Sessions with layout owners, and more! See the website for more.

CANCELLED - July 9 – 11, 2021 - National Train Show® in conjunction with 2021 Convention

July 11, 2021 - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Spring 2021 Model Train Swap Meet & Open House, Black Diamond Lines Model Railroad Club, 425 Fulton Shipyard Rd, Antioch, CA.

August 26, 2021 - Daylight Division meet via Zoom.

September 8 – 11, 2021 - Orange Blossom Special 2021, NMRA PSR 2021 Convention, Hosted by Cajon Division, Hilton Hotel / Orange County Airport, 18800 MacArthur Blvd, Irvine, CA

October 1– 3, 2021 - Central Coast Railroad Festival, San Luis Obispo and Northern Santa Barbara Counties, CA., Hosted by San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum, 1940 Santa Barbara Avenue, San Luis Obispo, CA.

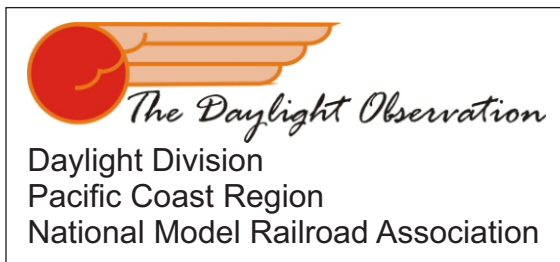
October 2, 2021 - 1:00 pm, Pacific Coast Region Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom. All PCR members welcome.

November 18, 2021 - Daylight Division meet via Zoom.

2022 and FUTURE EVENTS

January 28 – 30, 2022 – Bay Area Layout Design & Operations Weekend, Sponsored by Pacific Coast Region-NMRA, Layout Design SIG, and Operations SIG.

February 12, 2022 - Daylight Division Meet via Zoom and in person. GEHAMS club house in Bakersfield. 🚂



Daylight Observation
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