



The Daylight Observation



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DAYLIGHT DIVISION

Volume 20, Issue 4

Fourth Quarter, 2006

Fall Meet Starts at Pigott's in Merced, Migrates to Mariposa for Layout Tours

Daylight Division's fall meet will assemble at Charlie and Babbet Pigott's home in Merced on the morning of November 4th and then move on to the Mariposa area to tour layouts at Bob Jakl's and Ray Price's.

We will start out about 9:00 with coffee and donuts. Charlie's layout will be open for everyone to enjoy his "Okie-Dokie Oaks," then we'll hold our business meeting. We will leave for Mariposa at 10:30. Everyone is urged to start out at Charlie and Babbet's so we can form car pools. (Besides, maps to

the layouts will only be available there.)

The Pigott's home is located in central Merced at 652 W. 25th Street. A map and directions are included in this issue of *The Daylight Observation* for your convenience. (See direction on page 4.)

Layout descriptions

Bob Jakl's O-Scale layout has long been a highlight of Daylight meets in the Mariposa area. Bob has a generous out-building that is packed with lots of rolling stock and operation. This 50's era layout

is fully scenicked and operates flawlessly. If you haven't seen it before, be prepared to be blown away!

Ray Price's HO layout features rolling stock from B&O, B&M and other favorite roads of Ray. He has scratch-built lots of museum quality buildings for us to enjoy. A local artist painted the layout background. The layout is accessed by a stairway to a room over his garage.

One other layout may be included in the tour, but that has not been confirmed in time for publication in this issue of the *Daylight Observation*.

Lunch

A no-host lunch will be held at Mariposa's Miner's Inn, which has an operating G-Scale railroad.



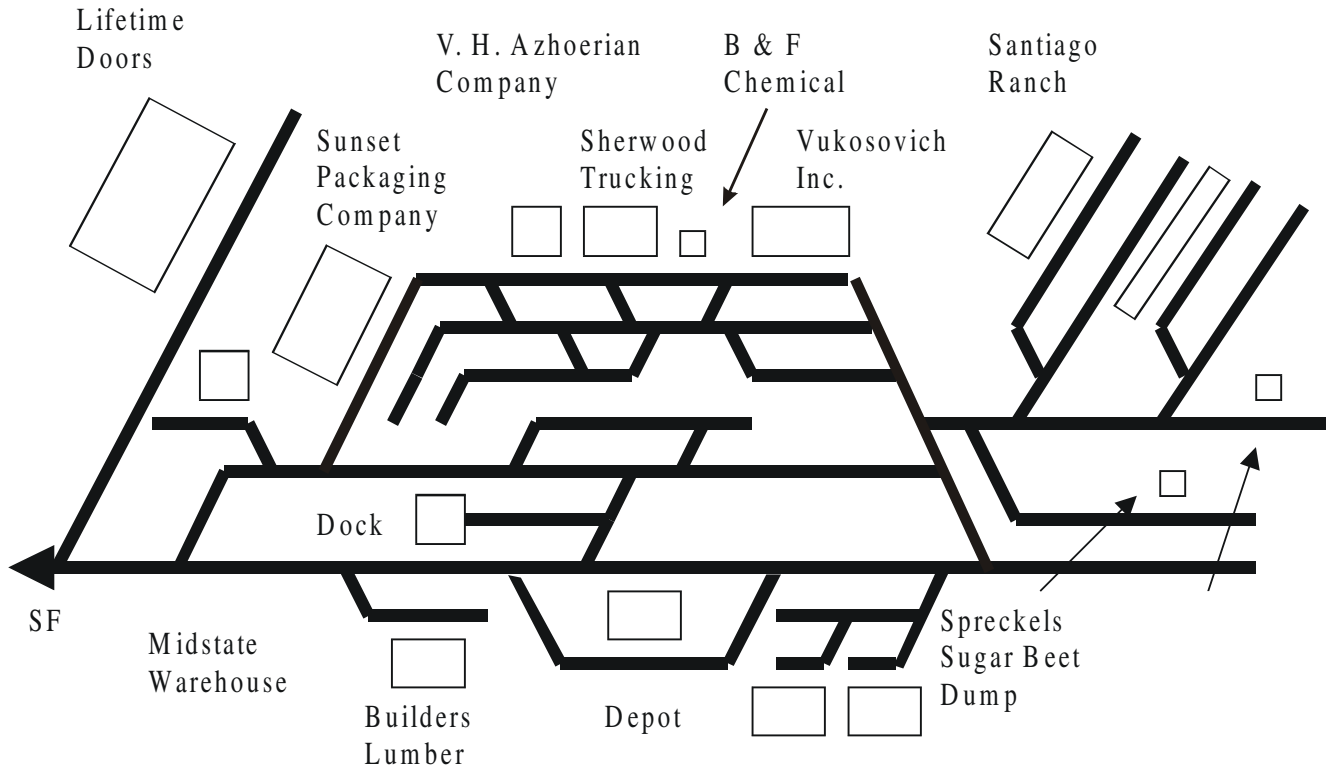
Contents

<i>November Meet</i>	1
<i>Member Aid</i>	2
<i>SLO Meet Report</i>	3
<i>Directions to Meet</i>	4
<i>Director's Report</i>	5
<i>Sierra Memories</i>	5

The Answers are Out There

By Bob Pethoud, Member Aid

Los Banos Milepost 140.4



In the last issue we talked about selective compression as a technique to change a prototype track arrangement into something more easily modeled. SP trackage through Los Banos in the 1980s is shown above and it is clearly a candidate for such treatment, unless you have a large room to devote to this one town.

The obvious method for cutting this track plan down to size is to start with a photocopy of the complicated actual plan and use a pair of scissors to cut away the unwanted tracks. After you've eliminated the less important or duplicated tracks, whatever is left is what you will model. Your focus in this process is on what is unimportant so that you can remove it.

I've found, though, that with track plans of the complexity of Los Banos and larger there are so many features that even after eliminating the clearly secondary tracks there

are still too many left to model effectively. In these cases I like to try a variation on the technique that I call selective accretion. The end result is the same, but the process is reversed—instead of cutting away the dross, I build up the yard one track at a time. If I were only going to use one turnout to create Los Banos, which one would it be? One end of the house track that goes behind the depot? A spur to serve one of the beet dumps? How about a long spur to serve the five or six industries on the east side of the yard (top of the drawing)? Then I add a second and a third, and so on, either until I feel I have captured the essence of the prototype or until I have used as many turnouts as I feel I can afford.

That's all for this time. As always, feel free to write with questions and/or comments. Send them to pethoud@comcast.net

Summer Daylight Division Meet at San Luis Obispo

by Terry N Taylor

The Summer Daylight Division Meet was held at Mary Carole & Hilding Larson's place Saturday on the 26th of August and may have set an attendance record for recent years. There were 50 persons who enjoyed the fabulous lunch of tri-tip, beans, several salads, bread and a very nice chocolate cake set out by Mary Carole & Hilding. Over all attendance was about 60 as there were some persons who either had to leave early or came in late.

The meet started between 9 to 10 with registration, contest entries, snacking on the refreshments, running the timesaver switching layout, viewing Hildings layout and of course socializing with old friends and making new ones.

After welcoming remarks, Glenn Geissinger gave a very enjoyable clinic featuring twenty minutes of railroad movies that he had taken circa 1960 including the West Side, Pickering, the Sierra and the Santa Maria Valley. He has since then copied these movies over onto dvds that are now available. His email is ggeissinger@charter.net for those of you who want to check with him as to availability and price.

Doug Wagner blew us away with a multimedia slide show on the Sunset Railway that was shared between the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe to the west of Bakersfield. Very nice! We then went upstairs for lunch. I got the fun of presenting a clinic on the railroads in the Stockton area circa 1953 and how my layout models that area to a group of very well fed individuals.



Everybody had a great time visiting Terry Taylor's layout.

Next was the Daylight Division Business Meeting and general announcements including the contest winners and the door prize winner. Paul Deis then conducted the White Elephant Auction with some very choice items going on the block with a lot of laughter over a couple of auction items that may not have been so choice. Rick Anderson did his usual excellent job of preparing maps for the layout open houses and operating sessions at Charlie Burns's, Hilding Larson's, and Terry Taylor's.

The next Daylight Division Meet will be Nov 4 in Merced. Our meets are open to all interested parties. Please don't forget to bring that favorite photo, artifact or model to display. Also "White Elephants" for the auction. The cost of the Meet is usually a couple of dollars for admission (or a dollar more if you are not an NMRA member) to cover the cost of soft drinks and snacks.



Paul Deis asks "What's your bid?" for White Elephant auction.



No, we didn't have a field trip to Gaviota, That's Charlie Burns' layout at Morro Bay, in N Scale!

Directions to the November meet.

From north of Merced:

Go south on Highway 99 to the 16th Street off ramp in Merced. Take the 16th street off ramp and make a hard right at the bottom to go west on 16th Street.

Turn right on G Street and go 0.7 miles to West 25th Street.

Turn Left on 25th Street and go 0.6 miles to the Pigott's.

From south of Merced:

Go north on Highway 99 to the 16th Street off ramp in Merced. Take the 16th street off ramp and bear right at the bottom to go west on 16th Street.

Turn right on G Street and go 0.7 miles to West 25th Street.

Turn Left on 25th Street and go 0.6 miles to the Pigott's.



National Model Railroad Association

Membership Application

Pacific Coast Region / Daylight Division

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ NMRA # (if a renewal): _____

I want to become a member of or renew my membership in the National Model Railroad Association. I have checked below the type of membership I desire and have enclosed the proper amount in a check payable to "NMRA". I understand that membership in the NMRA includes my affiliation with a Region and Division based on my address above. I also understand that I must subscribe to the National and Regional publications in order to receive them.

Regular Member w/National Subscription and Region Subscription	\$ 51.00
Regular Member w/Region Subscription Only	\$ 39.00
Family Member (must have Regular Member as sponsor) – Provide Name:	\$ 9.00
Student Member (under age 18 or under 23 w/valid student ID Card)	\$ 24.00
Sustaining (clubs, businesses, associations, etc.) includes National Subscription and Region Subscription	\$ 84.00
RailPass Trial Membership (6 months w/ National Subscription and Region Subscription – new members only)	\$ 12.95
Total	

Send all membership applications to: NMRA, 4121 Cromwell Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37421

Director Rants and Raves

Doug Wagner, Daylight Division Director

Since November is time for the state elections, it bears to mind, that the Daylight Division's election will be held in January. The only problem is——only one person has volunteered——yes, I said volunteered——to agree to run for each position of Superintendent and Paymaster/Clerk! There is one more meeting to accept nominations for the two Daylight Division's elected positions——Superintendent and Paymaster/Clerk (secretary/treasurer).

For Superintendent, Pat Boyle, of Coarsegold, was nominated. Pat graciously stepped in and took over last year as the new Daylight Division's Superintendent, and has graciously allowed his name to be placed in nomination for the next 2-year term. For Paymaster/Clerk, Terry Taylor, of San Luis Obispo, has had his name placed in nomination (over his objections, of course!) for the next 2-year term for that position. What I'm leading up to here is that both these people have served before——Pat in another Division——and Terry 4 years, ago. In fact, if you'll look at everyone's name on the positions of leadership of the Daylight Division, they have served before and for a long time. So please, next time there are nominations or officers of the Daylight Division, or a vacant position (yea, there are those, also!), please consider the position, because these guys have all done their time, and deserve a well deserved rest——at least for a while! OK, I'll get off my soapbox, and get on with other things.

The next Board of Director's meeting for the Pacific Coast Region will be taking place in Santa Cruz, on November 18th. If anyone has any items that you, the Daylight member, would like to have discussed at the Director's meeting, please email me (the preferred method) at carldw@aol.com, or by phone at (661) 589-0391, and I'll have it put on the meeting agenda to be discussed. I have volunteered to head the Membership Committee of the Pacific Coast Region, and one of the items we will be working on is the problem of membership recruitment and membership retention. At the next Daylight meet, in Merced, I will be asking everyone what they feel is the reason they joined the Daylight/PCR and have retained their membership. I will also be asking why you feel that people have not joined, or let their membership lapse. The reason I want to get feedback is to get replies back from the grass-root areas, and not just try to think up a reason why people don't join or retain their membership. Also, what would be helpful is if any of you have had unpleasant episodes with the NMRA/PCR/Daylight, I would like to know about these. This way we can formulate problems areas, and possible solutions, to report to the Board of Directors' on November 18th. Ron Piles, of the Redwood Division, and I will be spearheading this report, so please let me know of anything——good or bad——about the NMRA/PCR/Daylight.

Well, that's it for this issue. Please try to make it to as many Daylight Meets as you can! We actually have fun at these meets, with all the different clinics to learn new methods for modeling, visiting and operating on great layouts, and just the camaraderie of model railroaders!

Sierra Memories 2008 Convention

John Houlihan, Convention Chairman

The committee met September 30 at the Ramada Inn. Contracts were signed for the various rooms needed for convention activities. More pricing information is being gathered on the convention car. The usual administrative stuff was discussed. The committee chairs have been asked to start a list of volunteers to assist them in the completion of their duties. If you would like to help, let me know of your availability. Most of the work is at the time of the convention. Duties such as registration desk, contest room, computer store, etc. E-mail me john@irishtracklayer.com.

The Daylight Observation The Official Publication of the Daylight Division, PCR/NMRA

Volume 20, Issue 4

4th Quarter, 2006

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.

Copyright 2006, Daylight Division, Pacific Coast Region, National Model Railroad Association. Permission to reprint is hereby granted to all other affiliates of the NMRA. Others may request permission to reprint from the editor:

Chuck Harmon

1644 E. Goshen Ave.

Fresno, CA 93720

Phone (559) 299-4385

e-mail: harmonsta@aol.com

SUPERINTENDENT

Pat Boyle
31349 Apache Road
Coarsegold, CA 93614
(559) 642-2954
e-mail: patnt@sti.net

CHIEF CLERK/PAYMASTER

Brewster Bird
1122 W. Princeton
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 732-6096
e-mail: mec569@yahoo.com

MEMBER AID

Bob Pethoud
460 W. Vartikian
Fresno, CA 93704
(559) 438-7705
e-mail: pethoud@comcast.net

OBSERVATION EDITOR

Chuck Harmon
1644 E. Goshen
Fresno, CA 93720-2756
(559) 299-4385
e-mail: harmonsta@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP

Doug Wagner
14008 Tierra Blanca Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93312
(661) 589-0391
e-mail: carldw@aol.com

INDUSTRY LIAISON

Vacant

DIRECTOR

Doug Wagner
14008 Tierra Blanca Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93312
(661) 589-0391
e-mail: carldw@aol.com

CONTESTS

Bill Scott
341 Evergreen
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 298-7715
e-mail: vallyflyer@aol.com

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Bill Scott
341 Evergreen
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 298-7715
e-mail: vallyflyer@aol.com

CLINICS

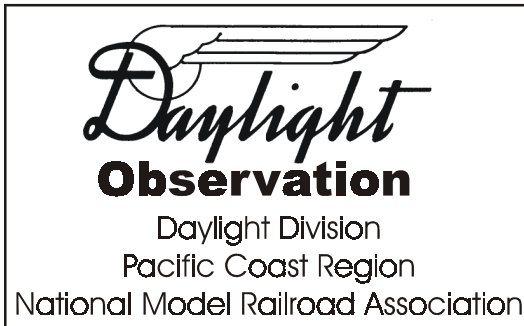
Doug Wagner
14008 Tierra Blanca Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93312
(661) 589-0391
e-mail: carldw@aol.com

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Brewster Bird
1122 W. Princeton
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 732-6096
e-mail: mec569@aol.com

2008 PCR CONVENTION

John Houlihan
2682 W. Palo Alto
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 435-0874
e-mail: rubyjohn@comcast.net



**Daylight Observation
1644 E. Goshen Ave.
Fresno, CA 93720-2756**

*Return Postage Guaranteed
Address Correction Requested*