

Pacific Coast Region of the NMRA
HIGHLIGHTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2006

By Rich Kolm, PCR Secretary

The meeting was held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Sacramento on the first day of the PCR Annual Convention "River City Express." Board members present were President L.E. "Gene" Mayer, Vice-President Dave Connery, Treasurer Larry Altbaum, Secretary Rich Kolm, Directors Kermit Paul (Coast), Doug Wagner (Daylight), and Jim Long (Sierra), and Director-proxy Gus Campagna for Ron Plies (Redwood Empire). Also present were Ray deBlieck, Director on the NMRA Board, and various Department Managers and Committee Chairpersons.

- **Purpose and Objectives.** Vice-President Dave Connery presented a statement of Purpose and Objectives to help guide PCR as it moves forward under the new NMRA organization. The intent is to have a strong program of activities to retain members, which in turn will support an organized effort to bring in new members. The Board adopted the statement of Purpose and Objectives, which will become a preamble in the Manual of Operations.

- **Improved communications and sharing the NMRA dues rebate.** The first issue of the *Branch Line* each year is sent to every PCR member, and the other three issues go only to members who subscribe through their NMRA dues. Region contact with all members at least four times per year is very important. Gus Campagna, Manager of the Publications Department, proposed a comprehensive plan to send PCR news to all members through the Division newsletters. After considerable discussion, the Board adopted a program in which the Division editors will be asked to add two pages of Regional news (two sides of one sheet) to their newsletters during each of the last three quarters of the year. The Publications Department will prepare and furnish the copy in coordination with the Division editors. In exchange, PCR will distribute 50% of the annual NMRA dues rebate to the Divisions. PCR currently gets \$2.00 per year for each year-to-year and actuarial life member and \$0.50 for each non-actuarial life member.

- **Budget for fiscal year 2006.** Treasurer Larry Altbaum presented a proposed Budget which was approved by the Board with the addition of sharing the NMRA dues rebate with the Divisions for publication of Regional news and interest income from the 21st Century Convention account. He pointed out the large disparity in the amount of annual dues rebated by NMRA (see paragraph above). President Mayer will address this disparity through the Regional Advisory Council.

- **Election of Division Directors.** Jim Providenza, Chairperson of the Ballot Committee, reported that Doug Wagner and Kermit Paul were re-elected in Daylight and Coast Divisions, and Jim Long and Gus Campagna were elected in Sierra and Redwood Empire Divisions. There were three write-in votes in the Hawaiian Division, which has no active organization. This will be reviewed for resolution at the next Board meeting.

- **Appointments.** President Gene Mayer announced the appointments of Doug Wagner as Manager of the Membership Department and Ron Plies as Chairperson of the Membership Promotion Committee. He also will appoint a Chairperson of the interim Nominations

Committee to seek and evaluate candidates for the upcoming election of President and Vice-President. [It was reported later that Bill Kaufman accepted the appointment.]

- **MMRs.** Kermit Paul, Director from Coast Division, announced that Jack Verducci and Marvin Costello are each receiving the Master Model Railroader award.

- **Conventions.** Dennis Stokely, Manager of the Convention Department, reported on planning and preparations for the 2007 Convention “Sun Tan Special” in Santa Cruz. He said he is looking for chairpersons and proposals for PCR conventions in the Coast Division in 2009 and in the Redwood Empire Division in 2010. Chairperson John Houlihan presented his proposal for the 2008 Convention “Sierra Memories” in Fresno, which was accepted by the Board.

- **Changes to Contest Directory.** Bill Scott, Manager of the Contest Department, presented changes to the Contest Directory, which were approved by the Board. The changes are necessary to make the Directory consistent with last year’s amendments to the PCR Manual of Operations.

- **Disposal of items from the Heinsohn estate.** Vice-President Dave Connery reported that items received from the Keith Heinsohn estate were inventoried. Those of intermediate value would be sold at this Convention in a silent auction. High value items may be sold through eBay and lower value items through the Coast Division auction.

- **The next Board Meeting** will be on November 18, 2006, in Santa Cruz. The agenda will be posted on the PCR website prior to the meeting.