



**PACIFIC COAST REGION
OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 1:00 PM

Board Room, 3rd Floor, Executive Conference Center

John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel, Sparks, NV

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM by President Ron Plies

A. Quorum Verification.

The following voting members of the Board were in attendance; President Ron Plies

Vice President Pat La Torres

Redwood Empire Division Director Carol Alexander, Daylight Division Director John Houlihan

Sierra Division Director Mary Moore-Campagna

Coast Division Director Rod Smith.

The following Ex-Officio members were in attendance

Treasurer Larry Altbaum

Secretary Tom Crawford

Others present were

Daylight Division Superintendent Dave Grenier

PSR President Ben Sevier

PSR Convention Chairman and San Diego Division Superintendent Don Fowler

Audit Committee Chairman Dennis Stokely

X2011 National Convention Chairman Ray deBlieck

Storekeeper Steve Skold and Carol Skold

PNR Office Manager Ed Lisse

Sierra Division member Mel Jones.

RAC Director Bob Ferguson

Coast Division Member Darlene Burgess.

B. Adoption of the Agenda.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Moore-Campagna and seconded ...

THAT the agenda be adopted

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

C. Written Communications.

There were no written Communications.

D. Members Comments.

Director Alexander noted that a DVD of the slide presentation from the 2009 Banquet will be on sale for \$10 at this convention. The 2010 slide presentation will be just under 30 minutes.

E. Approval of the Minutes.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Alexander and seconded ...

THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on October 24, 2009 be approved.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

F. Officers Reports:

President Plies submitted a report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. He stated that we have wonderful support and that the convention is going well. We are in the initial planning stages for the joint convention with PNR. More on that later.

PSR President Ben Sevier and PSR Convention Chairman and San Diego Division Superintendent Don Fowler were introduced, as were Ed Lisse from PNR and Sierra Division Member Mel Jones.

Vice President La Torres submitted a report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. He mentioned that the NMRA is starting to focus more on Regions and Divisions and that a Regions and Divisions Guidebook based on input from the regions is in progress, spearheaded by Bill Kaufman, Pat LaTorres and Tom Crawford, all of PCR.

Treasurer Altbaum submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. He reported that the finances of the Region continue to be stable but with a small negative cash flow, mainly due to increased Branchline costs and declining interest on our asset accounts. We have the assets to cover, but do not wish to continue the negative flow. One of the problems is that currently our assets are in Chase, and since we are transfers from Washington Mutual, we are treating as second class citizens with second class rates of return.

More details are given under agenda item K- 1, budget.

Secretary Crawford reported on his efforts to re-organize and consolidate the files, and his review of the By-Laws and Manual of Operations. Proposals will be discussed under new business. We discussed how to make the files and history available to all. Tom will investigate possibilities and report at the next board meeting.

G. Directors Reports:

- G.1. **Daylight Division Director Houlihan** submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. He had no further comments.
- G.2. **Coast Division Director Smith** submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. He had no further comments.
- G.3. **Sierra Division Director Moore-Campagna** submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. She further reported that those who helped with Railfair last year will get first choices for the 2010 Railfair. She also

reported that Chuck Gartner is terminally ill with cancer. She thanked Mel Jones for all his support for the division. (Secretary's Note: Chuck died while the convention was in progress.)

G.4. **RED Director Alexander** submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. She had no further comments.

G.5. **Hawaiian Division Director Minton** was unable to submit a report or attend this Board meeting.

H. Department Reports:

H.1. Administration Department.

H.1.i **Storekeeper Steve Skold** submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.

H.1.ii **Ballot Chairman Jim Providenza** submitted a report of the elections which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. All of the incumbent Directors ran unopposed and were re-elected.

There was some discussion about the issues with the instructions with the ballots as distributed. The board agreed that the ballots should be written by the Ballot Committee chairman, not the Branchline Editor. We agreed that no vote was required to decide this, and that the Secretary would simply pass this information on to the Ballot Committee Chairman.

H.2. Membership Department.

Membership Chairman Doug Wagner submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. The details were discussed in the unfinished business part of the agenda.

H.3. Publications Department

No report.

H.4. Convention Department.

Convention Department Chair Dennis Stokely submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. He also gave the following summary:

2010. This year we have more than 240 attendees, with 30 first timers and 11 new NMRA members (Secretary's note: final count of registrants was 256 minus those who cancelled.)

2011 Mini Convention in RED will be Friday May 13 through Sunday May 15, 2011.

2012 PNR is very interested in having a joint convention in Oregon.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Houlihan and seconded .. .

THAT we continue to discuss the joint convention with PNR

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED on a voice vote.

(Note: Ed Leisse is the PNR rep.)

2013 At this time Dennis is unable to find anyone in Coast Division to head the convention.

H.5. Contest Department

No report.

H.6. Achievement Department

No report.

H.7. Non-Rail Activities Department

Chair Mary Moore-Campagna noted in 2001 the regional president (Ray deBlieck) wanted to have non-rail activities throughout the year. After 8V2 years we are moving along well and have gotten to the point that Mary is not the chair or assistant chair for any convention. PNR has no non-rail activities and they are looking forward to the joint convention to learn some things. Suzie Madsen will be the non-rail chair for the joint convention.

We need to find out if other regions have non rail. In PSR they have gone back to the term "Railettes" which is basically convention based only.

I. Unfinished Business:

I.1. NMRA 2011 Convention in Sacramento

Convention Chair Ray deBlieck noted that we will own 80% of the convention, including 80% of the risk and 80% of the income. This weekend, Tom Draper and Henry Jordan will meet with the committee and then the Facility people in Sacramento. There are quite a few committee openings. They need help from PCR in advertising for volunteers. About 25% of the registrants so far are non-rail. They will hold their registration to \$99 until September 1. They are able to hold their costs down because they do not have the expensive NMRA infrastructure to support.

I.2. Audit of Financial Accounts

Audit Chair Stokely handed out a hardcopy report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.

MOTION: It was moved by Vice President LaTorres and seconded...

THAT the audit be accepted.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED on a voice vote.

I.3. Written Agreement with 21st Century Limited Inc.

Director Houlihan requested that the PCR be named as the benefactor if 21st Century Limited were to be dissolved. We also floated the idea of having a PCR rep on the 21st Century Limited Board. Ray deBlieck was receptive.

21st Century Limited Chairman Ray deBlieck gave a copy of the following 21st Century Limited corporate documents to President Plies, which the secretary will distribute to the Directors separately:

- Articles of Incorporation

- Statement of Purpose and Position

- Investment Policy Bylaws

We agreed that Ron Plies and Ray deBlieck will meet to bring to the next board meeting a resolution of the issues between PCR and 21st Century Limited.

I.4. Membership Brochure

(Secretary's note: this was not shown on the agenda, but was indeed an unfinished business item.)

Two brochures were passed around, one in color and one in black and white. Director Houlihan asked the president to investigate options for the brochure with the membership chairman and send a motion to the board for approval.

Director Moore-Campagna stated that she will write some suggestions the board has to Doug and Chuck.

Treasurer Altbaum will also look at other options for printing costs.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Houlihan and seconded...

THAT the Publications Department be authorized to produce a membership brochure in color.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED on a voice vote.

As a result of the discussion it became clear that we need a mechanism to conduct business via e-mail. Secretary Crawford was charged with presenting at the midyear board meeting a proposed revision to the Manual of Operations to accomplish this.

J. New Business

J.1. 2012 Convention Coordination

A motion will be presented at the Midyear board meeting.

J.2. Changes to Manual of Operations.

Secretary Crawford noted that in the course of preparing for the meeting and organizing all of the Secretary's stuff he noticed some discrepancies and inconsistencies in the Manual of Operations. The first was section 6.C.2, Member Services Committee. It had no function.

MOTION: It was moved by Vice President LaTorres and seconded

THAT the following text be added to Section 6.C.2: "The committee is the designated recipient of membership reports from the NMRA to distribute as appropriate."

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED on a voice vote.

In section 10.A.2 the Division Member of the Year is improperly called the "PCR Member of the Year" Award. It was agreed that this was a "scrivener's error" and Secretary Crawford should just fix it as scrivener's amendment.

It was decided that rather than go through all of the items Secretary Crawford had, that he prepare proposed amendments for the midyear board meeting.

K. Budget

Treasurer Altbaum reviewed the budget status and proposed that we sell ads in the Branchline to offset the deficit. One of the problems is that since Chase took over

Washington Mutual we are treated like second class citizens and do not get the same rates as "pure" Chase accounts. Some ideas were put forth to deal with this, including changing to another bank (Bank of America CDs get 1%) or getting TVA bonds, which currently earn 4.5%:

The Board by common consent agreed that Larry should look into the TVA option and take action.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Moore-Campagna and seconded...

THAT: "The Board specifically authorizes the Treasurer to investigate and act upon any investment opportunities that he deems appropriate for the benefit of the PCR.

Furthermore, he shall be held harmless for any adverse results that may occur as a result of decisions he makes in that capacity."

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED by a show of hands, 5 for and 1 against.

MOTION: It was moved by Vice President LaTorres and seconded...

THAT the budget be approved.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED on a voice vote.

L. Announcements:

L.1. **Director Alexander** asked that if we wish to address fundraising, we put it on the midyear board meeting agenda.

L.2. **Next Board of Directors Meeting** — It was decided the next Board of Directors meeting will be October 23, 2010 at 1 PM at the Findley Community Center Manzanita Room, 2060 West College Ave, Santa Rosa.. Dinner afterwards will be at the Skold's house.

M. Adjournment:

MOTION: It was moved by Vice President LaTorres and seconded...

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Tom Crawford
PCR Secretary

WRITTEN DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD

Listed by Agenda Item

B.	Board of Directors Meeting Agenda 2010-04-28*
E.	PACIFIC COAST REGION BOD Minutes 10-24-09*
F.1	Presidents Report 2010-04-28*
F.2	Vice Presidents Report 2010-04-28*
F.3, K.1	2010 Annual Treasurer Report*
G.1	Daylight Division Directors Report 2010-04-16*
G.2	Coast Division Directors Report 2010-04-28*
G.3	Sierra Division Director Report 2010-04-28*
G.4	RED Director Report 2010-04-28*
H.1	Storekeeper Report 2010-04-28*
H.1	PCR Election Results 2010*
H.2	PCR Membership Report 2010*
I.2	Audit Report
I.4	Black and White Brochure
I.4	Color Brochure
L. 1	21st Century Limited Articles of Incorporation
L.1	21st Century Limited Statement of Purpose and Position
L. 1	21st Century Limited Investment Policy
L. 1	215t Century Limited Bylaws
L.3	Facility Information for Midyear Board Meeting

* Distributed prior to the Board meeting

PCR Presidents Report

April 28th 2010

I am beginning to sound like a broken record but the PCR is alive and well at this writing. Considering all the things that have happened this last year in our nation our organization is still doing very well. I have not seen the treasurer's report as yet, but I am sure we will see that the balance in our account is still strong and will get stronger as the economy revives. I thank Larry Altbaum for all the work he puts into this office and know it is not an easy assignment to have to manage these funds and the books that go with it. It is all the good people in the different offices from the PCR Board of Directors and other regional officers and staff to the division personnel who make this regional work in such sync. Are we the best Region in the NMRA? I sure think so, because we have had and do have the outstanding leadership that this region has enjoyed over the years. If you ask what are we doing right that keeps us thriving, one does not have to look very far to see. Just open the door and go out and look at what is going on at this convention. Every year since I took office I have wondered if this year's convention could be as good as the last one and every year it is. When I took office we had that wonderful convention in Santa Cruz and following it was the one in Fresno, followed by last year's in Fremont. The chairmen and their committees all did outstanding jobs in putting these events on for our enjoyment.

Now we come to this year and Ray Rich, Jim Long and their committee have come up with another outstanding convention. Next year in the Redwood Division we have plans for a mini-convention to be held in Santa Rosa to augment the National convention which will be in Sacramento in July of 2011. Stephen Skold , Carol Alexander and their committee have indicated that they plan the best mini-convention you have ever attended. Last but not least, is the 2012 joint convention with the PNR which will most probably take place in Medford, Oregon. The details are still being worked out. I just returned from a train show in Eugene and was approached by many members of the PNR who were very excited about this convention even to the point of stepping up and volunteering to help put it together. As Dennis Stokely stated in a post back to me after learning of my encounter, it is great to have people so excited about something like this and asking to be a part of it. This event is looking very positive.

I am encouraged with what I am seeing from the Divisions and their leadership as things keeps moving forward. We have if not the best, certainly one of the best organizations in the NMRA. Everyone, keep the faith and keep up the good work.

Ron Plies MMR 409

PCR President

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT
April 28, 2010, ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

The past six months has been pretty quiet, though things have been going on. I'll try to touch on the few matters which I've been aware of and/or involved in.

The Regions and Divisions yahoo group has continued to work and grow. More importantly, the Regional Guidebook has actually started taking form, thanks to the efforts of several members on the group and the editing efforts of Bill Kaufman. I've been acting as Bill's proofreader, so I'll get blamed for all of the surviving typographical and grammatical errors – which should make my mom the school teacher downright proud. Also, Tom Crawford and I have been working together to assemble the Contest section of the book and feel that we may have a workable piece. Associated with this is a section on “Fun” contests, which gets away from the traditional AP style judged contests and even wanders off from the conventional popular vote contests. I can make a copy of either, or both documents available to anyone that is interested. In the same way, all of the sections which Bill has put together so far are available in the Files section of the R&D group and I would strongly recommend that all on this board take the time to look through these. There are a lot of ideas from other regions and divisions throughout the NMRA that we might be able to put to good use here in the PCR. This has probably been the most substantial item worked on in the past six months and I feel it is important that we keep our eyes open for new ideas. It's also been a really good sign that a lot of the ideas have come from members within our own region.

Doug Wagner has made some serious progress on his member solicitation and retention projects, especially the brochure which he's put together. I only mention this, because these two areas were tasked to me some three years ago when I sat down in the V.P.'s seat. Beyond that, I take no credit for anything which Doug has accomplished, this is entirely his work of art and he's provided us with a fine tool, if we're smart enough and choose to use it.

Finally, this is the first convention to make use of our updated contest rules, so please take some time to visit the contest room and see if we're going in the correct direction. There were some major changes that we adopted at our last meeting, but as with anything new, until we make use of it we won't know how well it works. Also, the contest judging is on Friday night this year, so I would invite anyone on the board that wants some extra work to please come by and join us in the festivities. I would like to thank Bill Scott for continuing as our Regional Contest Chair, and I would really like to thank Steve and Carol Skold for all of the time and effort which they put in while working pretty much in the background to support our regional contest program. These two (and especially Carol!) Are the glue which seems to hold everything in place.

I believe that this covers what I have to add to this meeting regarding activities of the past six months.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat LaTorres, V.P., PCR/NMRA

PACIFIC COAST REGION
of the
NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report

April 20, 2010

The finances of the Region continue to be somewhat stable, though income continues to decline. BranchLine subscription revenue has decreased slightly compared with 2008, but the major impact is a substantial reduction in interest rates. PCR has realized an operating deficit for the year exceeding \$1700, as compared to a \$105 excess last year. I expect this situation to continue into next year, as reflected in the \$2430 projected operating deficit. This results from increased BranchLine costs (both printing and postage) and reduced revenue from interest on capital assets. That said, in spite of my firm conviction that operating costs should be covered each year by current year income, I believe we can weather an additional period of this until the interest market improves. Recall that the best rate I could obtain when the Life Savings account came due almost a year ago was about 2 percent, a substantial drop from the 3.45 percent we had previously earned. The situation is now worse, which I will discuss at the meeting. (You will note on the balance sheet that we no longer have a Convention Savings account, and the funds are being held temporarily in the Convention Checking account.)

Our Convention Reserve is now nearing \$50,000. To weather the current financial climate, I propose using these funds to augment our operational needs until the situation improves. It is important, though, to recognize that the cost of supporting our member subscriptions far exceeds the income derived. Our subscription related income (including the interest from the Life Savings account) is about \$4250, while the cost to produce and distribute the BranchLine is over \$7000. Even including the rebate from National retained by the Region, the publication is still about \$1500 underfunded. A return to reasonable returns from our investable assets will significantly improve this issue.

Please call me on my cell, (510) 912-1076, with any questions should you wish prior to the meeting. I look forward to seeing you in Sparks.

Respectfully Submitted,

Larry Altbaum

Larry Altbaum
Treasurer

Pacific Coast Region - NMRA Budget

	Adopted 2009 Bud.	Actual 2009	Variance	Initial 2010	Revised 2010
Operating Income					
Life Interest	1200.00	769.35	(430.65)	650.00	600.00
BL Subscriptions	3650.00	3481.50	(168.50)	3100.00	3200.00
From Nat'l	2300.00	2277.00	(23.00)	2400.00	2400.00
Other	800.00	0.00	(800.00)	800.00	800.00
Bank Interest	1350.00	677.28	(672.72)	600.00	400.00
Total Income	9300.00	7205.13	(2094.87)	7550.00	7400.00
Operating Expense					
Operations					
Member Services	50.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Member Promo.	150.00	0.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
Achievement	150.00	0.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
Supplies	100.00	42.00	58.00	100.00	100.00
Bank Charges	10.00	0.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Fees & Taxes	20.00	20.00	0.00	20.00	20.00
Accounting	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Branchline					
Printing	4900.00	5061.54	(161.54)	5300.00	5200.00
Postage	1850.00	1960.26	(110.26)	2000.00	2200.00
Supplies	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Division Support	1200.00	1120.50	79.50	1200.00	1200.00
Projects	0.00	221.24	(221.24)		
Web Page	265.00	239.40	25.60	250.00	250.00
Awards	300.00	270.00	30.00	300.00	300.00
Misc.	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total Expense	9195.00	8934.94	260.06	9730.00	9830.00
Operating Excess/Deficit	105.00	(1729.81)	(1834.81)	(2180.00)	(2430.00)
Convention Income					
Conv. Exc.		2286.68	2286.68		
Total Income	0.00	2286.68	2286.68		
Convention Expense					
Total Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Convention Exc/Def	0.00	2286.68	2286.68		
Total Excess/Deficit	105.00	556.87	---	(2180.00)	(2480.00)

Note - Items in bold are discussed in the Treasurer's report.

March 31, 2010

**Pacific Coast Region - NMRA
Income Statement**

	12 Months Ended Mar/10 =====	12 Months Ended Mar/09 =====	Variance Fav/<Unf> =====	% Var =====
Income				
PCR NMRA Rebate	\$2,277.00	\$2,406.00	(\$129.00)	-5.4%
PCR BL Subscriptions	3,481.50	3,600.00	(118.50)	-3.3%
Convention Proceeds	2,286.68	1,519.25	767.43	50.5%
	-----	-----	-----	
TOTAL Income	8,045.18	7,525.25	519.93	6.9%
	-----	-----	-----	
Expenses				
Supplies - Operations	0.00	3,364.04	3,364.04	100.0%
Supplies - Achiev. Prog.	0.00	201.33	201.33	100.0%
Postage - Operations	42.00	0.00	(42.00)	
Postage - Branchline	1,960.26	1,950.03	(10.23)	-0.5%
Printing - Branchline	5,061.54	5,025.62	(35.92)	-0.7%
Awards - Operations	0.00	143.15	143.15	100.0%
Awards - President	270.00	0.00	(270.00)	
NMRA Division Rebates	1,120.50	1,184.00	63.50	5.4%
Taxes, Fees, Licenses	20.00	0.00	(20.00)	
Web Services	239.40	249.40	10.00	4.0%
Misc. Expenses - Operations	221.24	(0.52)	(221.76)	-42646%
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TOTAL Expenses	8,934.94	12,117.05	3,182.11	26.3%
	-----	-----	-----	
OPERATING PROFIT	(889.76)	(4,591.80)	3,702.04	80.6%
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Other Income & Expenses				
Life Interest	769.35	1,202.71	(433.36)	-36.0%
Convention Interest	677.28	995.80	(318.52)	-32.0%
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TOTAL Other Income & Expenses	1,446.63	2,198.51	(751.88)	-34.2%
	-----	-----	-----	
PROFIT BEFORE TAXES	556.87	(2,393.29)	2,950.16	123.3%
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NET PROFIT	\$556.87	(\$2,393.29)	\$2,950.16	123.3%
	=====	=====	=====	

March 31, 2010

Pacific Coast Region - NMRA
Balance Sheet

	Mar/10 =====	Mar/09 =====	Inc/<Dec> =====Var=====	% ==Var==
ASSETS				
Current Assets:				
Cash				
General Checking	\$6,362.64	\$7,750.48	(\$1,387.84)	-17.9%
Convention Checking	46,142.00	4,854.44	41,287.56	850.5%
Life Savings	29,541.76	29,884.61	(342.85)	-1.1%
Convention Savings	0.00	37,000.00	(37,000.00)	-100.0%
TOTAL Cash	82,046.40	79,489.53	2,556.87	3.2%
Accounts Receivable	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	-100.0%
Convention Adv. Recv.	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.0%
TOTAL Current Assets	84,046.40	83,489.53	556.87	0.7%
TOTAL ASSETS	\$84,046.40	\$83,489.53	\$556.87	0.7%
LIABILITIES				
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
CAPITAL				
Retained Earnings	83,489.53	85,882.82	(2,393.29)	-2.8%
Year-to-Date Earnings	556.87	(2,393.29)	2,950.16	123.3%
TOTAL CAPITAL	84,046.40	83,489.53	556.87	0.7%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	\$84,046.40	\$83,489.53	\$556.87	0.7%

Daylight Division Directors Report

Quarterly meetings are well attended by the locals with some driving the 125 miles to make all the meets. I want to thank the Coast and Sierra Divisions for the help in adding to the convention car collection. The public layout tours arranged throughout the division are well attended. No items for submission to the board were received by me.

John Houlihan, Daylight Division Director

Coast Division Report
PCR Board Meeting – April 28, 2010
John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel, Sparks Nevada

The Coast Division has experienced another successful year. Our quarterly meets have been well attended, both by Coast Division members as well as PCR members from other divisions. While the total number of attendees has decreased from prior years, we still have a good turnout for our clinics, auctions, and contests. Several estates have been donated to the Division, and their sales through the auction have helped us meet our expenses.

We lost one of our regular meeting sites in 2010 due to the remodeling of the Computer History Museum in Mountain View. It looks unlikely we will be able to return to this site after they complete their project, due mostly to the proposed rental fees they will be charging. We continue to enjoy the facilities of Buchser Middle School in Santa Clara, and will be meeting in June, for the first time, in the hall of the Job's Daughters organization. We have a challenge finding new meeting sites due to our needs for clinic rooms and auction tables, plus seating for the 100 or so members who attend. Our Superintendent, Mark Schutzer has appealed to all members to try to find added sites around the Division, but the South Bay seems to be our main location for available, affordable sites. The Job's Daughters continue to provide a snack bar for us at each meet.

Once again, The Layout Design SIG, Operations SIG and Coast Division collaborated on a weekend meeting in Santa Clara with presentations and layout operating sessions. It was a huge success and required relocation for more space than previously available to accommodate the attendance. It continues to grow in popularity, with folks coming from around the country to attend.

Rod Smith – Coast Division Director



Director's Report 4/28/10

I. Division meets and other events

The Sierra Division has participated in two events since the last Board of Directors' meeting in October:

- 1) Our major publicity and fundraising event, International RailFair, was held at the Placer County Fairgrounds in Roseville on Saturday and Sunday, November 14 and 15. The attendance this year was up considerably from last year – there were 1400 paid admissions on Saturday (as opposed to 1183 last year) – and everyone appeared to have a good time. The Sierra Division was once again blessed with willing volunteers from all around the PCR, which made a big difference in our ability to staff our stations (ticket window and TimeSaver/Info Booth). Many thanks to all who participated – your help was deeply appreciated!

- 2) The annual Sierra Division banquet was held on February 28, 2010 at Cabos Restaurant in Granite Bay. The business portion of the meeting was primarily the final report on Railfair; and the entertainment portion was a screening of the 2008 world premiere of “The Perils of Patience: Terrible Trackside Tribulations”. (The fact that two of the original cast members and the sound effects/music director were in attendance at the banquet made it even more interesting.)

II. Upcoming events

1. Our next event will be the Spring meet, which will be held on Saturday, May 8 at 1:00 p.m. at the South Natomas Library in Sacramento. The program for the meet will be a clinic called “Get Acquainted With Sawmills” conducted by Jim Zeek.

2. The Sierra Division Summer Picnic meeting will be held some time this summer (probably in August). We are still evaluating dates and locations for the picnic at this time.

3. Just as a heads-up: this year's International RailFair will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 13 and 14. We will be starting our volunteer recruitment at the Summer Picnic; however, anyone who knows they'll want to volunteer can contact me to let me know. (I will also be sending out a notice to all of last year's volunteers thanking them again for their service to the division and asking if they are interested in volunteering again this year.) Just as a reminder: all volunteers on

either day will receive free entrance to the show on both days as well as a complimentary Saturday night banquet ticket.

III. 2010 PCR Convention

What can I say?? – It's finally here, and so are we! I hope everyone has a wonderful time and enjoys the hospitality, scenery and activity of our "Silver Rails" convention. (Sorry, no melodrama this time...)

IV. 2011 NMRA Convention

The arrangements for the 2011 National Convention continue to progress. The committee members have been actively soliciting help for various positions and continue to search for additional volunteers. (There will probably be more substantive information to report at the mid-year PCR Board meeting this fall.)

V. Other Items of Interest

1. We are very happy to report that Lori Brandon, our friend and colleague who has provided us with great entertainment at our banquets in the past, has completed her cancer treatment successfully and has been declared "cured". Obviously, she will have to undergo periodic checkups for the next few years; but at this point, the situation looks much more favorable. I saw her husband, Dave Rainwater (the "strolling fiddler" on the train in Jamestown), at a concert in January and gave him a "we're thinking of you" card to give to Lori from all of their friends in PCR. He thanked us and said that he and Lori have appreciated all the positive support from their NMRA friends.

2. The Sierra Division officers have been discussing the feasibility of starting a new division or subdivision in the northern Nevada area. With all the increased participation from Sierra members in the Reno/Carson City areas during the events of the past couple of years, we would like to see whether there would be enough interest (and "critical mass", as it were) to merit starting a group specifically for the purpose of putting on regular PCR activities in northern Nevada. There will be a meeting at the convention on Thursday afternoon in one of the clinic rooms to discuss the idea (please see your program for the exact time and location of the meeting). Anyone would be interested in attending is invited.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moore-Campagna
Sierra Division Director

Redwood Empire Division

Director's Report

April 2010

The Redwood Empire Division has been quite busy in the past six months. The Division produced and sold a calendar featuring photos of NWP steam locomotives. The photos were taken by former R.E.D. member Harold "Dusty" Miller. Calendar sales have been quite good and the financial picture for the Division has improved.

The Division is preparing to host the PCR Convention in 2011 and plans are moving along well. The Convention Chairman, Steve Skold, is forwarding a report under separate cover.

Division attendance at meets is mostly steady but participation in "show and tell" and contests is up. Programs are becoming more interactive with "hands-on" themes which seem to be revitalizing the membership.

The Division has committed to participating in a local train show this fall which we hope will rekindle public interest and increase new membership.

On Thanksgiving Day, 2009, the Division lost one of its favorite sons. Harold W. Mentzer Jr. passed in his home with his family around him after a long battle with cancer. Harold is greatly missed already and the list of his contributions and honors is remarkable. He was a past President and Director of PCR; a published author, expert on building bridges and an outstanding modeler; National Trustee; Division Superintendent; Convention Chair; John Allen Award recipient; Member of the Year; AP Program Chair; mentor and good friend.

Carol Alexander

Jim Providenza
PCR Ballot Chairman

16 Drakes Cove
San Rafael, CA 94903
H: 415/472-6715
C: 415-720-2662
rjim@aol.com

April 19, 2010

To: Board of Directors
Pacific Coast Region

Re: Ballot Chairman's Report,
Ballot Count, 2010 PCR Election

I will be unable to attend our 2010 Silver Rails convention.

I have counted the PCR Directors Ballots received by April 15, 2010 for the 2010 PCR election. I certify the results of the election are:

Coast Division:

Rod Smith, unopposed, 34

Daylight Division:

John Houlihan, unopposed, 28

Redwood Empire Division:

Carol Alexander, unopposed, 29

Sierra Division:

Mary Moore-Campagna,
Unopposed 26

There was once again serious confusion among the members as to how to cast their ballots. A total of 53 ballots were cast. On 23 of the ballots, the member cast a vote **for each of the four candidates**. The other 30 ballots were properly marked with only one candidate selected. Since all four candidates ran unopposed, the issue did not affect the outcome of this election.

After the 2008 election I recommended that we add the following wording (modified as needed for the specific election) to the ballot. I would request that the board take this matter up and advise me if there is agreement to do so.

“Vote only for the candidate(s) in your division. For example, if you are a Coast Division member, vote only for Coast Division candidates. Put an “X” in the box after the name of the candidate you vote for. **Voting for candidates in more than one division will automatically disqualify your ballot!**”

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Provenza
PCR Ballot Chairman

April 28, 2010-- Storekeeper Report—Steve Skold

PCR table top display—Dave Connery

Media Projectors (4)—John Marshall,Gus Campagna,Jim Long,
Dave Grenier

Keith Heinson Collection—Ray de Blieck

2000 NMRA Convention Store items—Dave Connery and Ray de
Blieck.

Photo Racks—Steve Skold

Model Contest lights - Bill Scott

Tug of war—Jim Long

Convention car display--Jim Long

Projector stands (2) One owned by RED and one by NWPRRHS
and are available for PCR meetings.

IBM Think Pad I --Steve Skold
20GB Hard Drive, 512MB RAM
XP Home Ser Pack 1, Modem & CD Rom Drive
MS Office Pro (2002)

IBM Think Pad II --Steve Skold

20GB Hard Drive, 128 MB Ram

XP Home Ser Pack 1, Modem and CDROM Drive

MS Office Pro (2002)

PCR Membership Department Report

by Doug Wagner

After getting a lot of input, I'm presenting, for your consideration. 2 examples for brochures. The first one is a black and white that was done on a regular copying machine, by Office Depot. The cost to do 500 of these is around \$34.00. That was no typo -- \$34.00 -- at Office Depot.

The color brochure, was put together by Chuck Harmon, and was done by a professional publisher. These particular copies were done by Kinko's Publishing Services. The cost of doing 500 of this brochure, which includes the folding, is \$322.11. The cost to do the same brochure, in black and white, is \$301.78.

The other option is to have a real professional publisher do it, American Press, of Fresno. They quoted a price of \$367.00, for 500 color brochures and \$126.00 for 500 black and white brochures; 1,000 color brochures would run \$398.00 and \$150.00 for 1,000 black and white brochures.. The difference in the 500 and the 1,000 copies is, that the printer has to set up a master copy to run, and the more you have copied, the less cost for each brochure. I would recommend going with the color brochure, as it looks better than black and white.

The other item I was looking into was a welcome new members letter. I think this would be better if each individual division handled their own welcome letter, than have a Region welcome letter. I haven't polled the divisions yet, to see if they already sneed out welcome letters. It might serve us better, if each division sent out their own welcome letters. This brochure is a partial welcome letter, spelling out all the services provided to the PCR member.

That's it for my report. If anyone has any questions, or comments, please contact me via my email at carldw@aol.com .