



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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Regular Meeting**

**Saturday, October 29, 2011 at 1:00 PM**

**Tom Crawford's House**

**4337 La Cosa Ave, Fremont, CA**

**MINUTES**

**The meeting was called to order** at 1:03 PM by President Pat LaTorres.

**A. Quorum Verification**

The following voting members of the Board were in attendance:

President Pat La Torres

Vice President Ed Merrin

Redwood Empire Division Director Carol Alexander

Sierra Division Director Mary Moore-Campagna

Coast Division Director Rod Smith

Daylight Division Director John Houlihan

The following Ex-Officio members were in attendance:

Treasurer Larry Altbaum

Secretary Tom Crawford

Others present were:

Audit Committee Chair and Convention Department Chair Dennis Stokely

2011 Convention Chair Steve Sköld

Contest Chair Giuseppe Aymar

Publication Chair Gus Campagna

Member Services Chair Bob Ferguson

Redwood Empire Division Superintendent Stu Benson

Daylight Division Superintendent Dave Grenier

Member Darlene Ferguson

**B. Adoption of the Agenda**

The Agenda was accepted as presented.

**C. Written Communications**

There were no written communications.

**D. Members Comments**

There were no member comments.

**E. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting**

The minutes of the board meeting of May 13, 2011 were approved by consent.

**F. Officers Reports**

- F.1. President LaTorres submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- F.2. Vice President Merrin submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- F.3. Treasurer Altbaum submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. He noted that the Branchline costs about \$9 per year per subscriber, but only brings in \$6. He felt that we should raise the rates, but only \$1 each year for several years to avoid sticker shock. No action was taken.

It was noted that after 21 years Larry would like to retire. President LaTorres stated that he is actively hunting for a replacement. Larry gave a description of the responsibilities of the job.

- F.4. Secretary Crawford handed out a copy of the text of pages 486 and 487 of Section 49 of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised 11th edition applying to Small Boards. A copy is attached to the record copy of these minutes. The salient points which differ on how we have been doing business are that motions need not be seconded, and that when a proposal is clear to all present, a vote can be taken without a motion being introduced and may be by unanimous consent. We agreed to conduct our business this way.

**G. Directors Reports**

- G.1. Daylight Division Director Houlihan submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- G.2.
- G.3. Coast Division Director Smith submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- G.4.
- G.5. Sierra Division Director Moore-Campagna submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- G.6.
- G.7. Redwood Empire Division Director Alexander submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- G.8.
- G.9. Hawaiian Division is currently without a Director.

**H. Department Reports****H.1. Administration Department**

President LaTorres noted that Bill Scott, who has generated all of the PCR awards, is stepping down, so we will need to find a replacement.

- H.1.i **Audit Committee** Chair Dennis Stokely noted that he will be stepping down after the 2013 convention, so we will need to find a replacement. The committee will conduct an audit in 2012.

H.1.ii **Storekeeper** Kevin Hurley was not present, but he now has all the equipment except for the display stand and two laptops, which former Storekeeper Steve Sköld left with Tom Crawford to get to Kevin. Tom will purge any data on the two laptops, and will assess them to determine their viability and sellability.

H.2. Membership Department

There was no report.

H.3. Publications Department

Publications Chair Gus Campagna reported that we have 19 people who are paid subscribers to the Branch Line who have requested not to be sent a hard copy. We have 128 out of region subscribers who have not received their Branch Line in over a year due to an error in using the roster report instead of the boundary report, which shows all subscribers. We will tell National to extend their subscription by one year.

We also need to have an on-line version of the Branch Line that is easier to read. The editor is not interested in taking on this extra burden.

The question of ads came up and Gus will look into it. Dave Grenier knows someone who could do the marketing for us and will discuss this with him.

H.4. Convention Department

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

**2011** The Sonoma Short Line Mini Convention had 88 people and was a success. Steve Sköld submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.

**2012** Joint PNR-PCR convention in Medford, OR: Registrations are moving slowly due to weak advertising.

We agreed that the income will go to the region, not divisions. There are also a number of issues with the contests. These are discussed in the Contest Department report.

**2013** Dennis Stokely submitted a written proposal which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.

**IT WAS MOVED** by RED Director Alexander

**THAT** the Board accept the proposal.

**THE MOTION WAS APPROVED** by consent.

Carol Alexander moved to accept the proposal. The motion was approved.

**2014** The Committee has not yet decided exactly where the convention will be, but it will be in the San Luis Obispo/Paso Robles area.

H.5. Contest Department

Contest Chair Giuseppe Aymar handed out a report on the contest issues we face for the 2012 convention due to the differences between how PCR and PNR conduct contests. A copy is attached to the record copy of these minutes. We agreed that PCR will stick to our contest categories even if PNR doesn't and if PNR people wish to

enter, that's fine too. PCR will buy our own trophies for those categories that PNR doesn't want, and will share the costs for those categories they do want.

H.6. Achievement Department  
No report.

H.7. Non-Rail Activities Department  
Chair Mary Moore-Campagna reported that the NMRA is going to use the term "Sidetracks" to refer to Non-Rail. We agreed that we will not use that term.

#### **I. Unfinished Business**

No reports

#### **J. New Business**

J.1. LDSIG/OPSIG

**IT WAS MOVED** by Coast Director Smith

**THAT** PCR participate in the 2012 LDSIG/OPSIG meet.

**THE MOTION WAS APPROVED** by consent.

J.2. Contest Manual

Contest Chair Giuseppe Aymar proposed that the contest manual be revised to show that all first place awards will be equivalent. Since the Contest Manual may be revised by the Contest Chair with the consent of the Board, the Board provided consent for that change.

J.3. Hobo In Charge

President LaTorres noted that we need a new Hobo in Charge, since Jim Long, who was going to take over for Dwayne Coate, is ill and will not be able to participate any longer.

J.4. Director Terms

There is poor continuity of the board when all 4 directors term out at the same time. Because sometimes a director only serves one term, it is inadequate to simply offset the terms. One logic put forth was to elect 2 directors in odd years and 3 in even years, and use a one time 3 year term for those moving to the odd years. It was decided that the bylaws committee would look into changes to address this. The committee was also asked to look into more terms than 2.

Ed Merrin was added to the By-Laws Committee position vacated by Dave Connery, so that the committee is now Tom Crawford, Gus Campagna, and Ed Merrin,

#### **K. Budget**

Treasurer Altbaum provided a proposed budget (part of the Treasurer's Report)

**IT WAS MOVED** by Director Moore-Campagna

**THAT** the budget be approved

**THE MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote.

**L. Announcements**

## L.1. Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Wednesday May 2, 2012 at 1 PM at the Red Lion Hotel in Medford, OR unless otherwise advised.

**M. Adjournment**

**IT WAS MOVED** by Director Alexander

**THAT** the meeting be adjourned.

**THE MOTION WAS APPROVED** by a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Tom Crawford  
PCR Secretary

**WRITTEN DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD**

Listed by Agenda Item

<b>B</b>	<b>Agenda</b>
	2011-10-29 PCR Board of Directors Meeting Agenda.pdf*
<b>E</b>	<b>Minutes for Approval</b>
	2011-05-13 PCR Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.pdf*
<b>F</b>	<b>BOD Reports</b>
F.1	2011-10-29 PCR President's Report.pdf*
F.2	2011-10-29 PCR Vice President's Report.pdf*
F.3	2011-10-29 PCR Treasurer's Report.pdf*
F.4	Roberts Rules of Order for Small Boards.pdf
<b>G</b>	<b>Director's Reports</b>
G.1	2011-10-29 PCR Daylight Directors Report.pdf*
G.2	2011-10-29 PCR Coast Director's Report.pdf*
G.3	2011-10-29 PCR Sierra Director's Report.pdf
G.4	2011-10-29 PCR RED Directors Report.pdf*
<b>H</b>	<b>Other Reports</b>
H.4	2011-10-29 Convention Report.pdf
H.4	2013 Convention Proposal.pdf
H.4	2011-10-29 Sonoma Short Line final report.pdf*
H.5	2011-10-29 PCR Contest Report for Siskiyou 2012.pdf

\* Distributed prior to the Board meeting

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
**OCTOBER 29, 2011, ANNUAL BOARD MEETING**

With my first six months as President of the PCR having been more than a bit active, I'll try to touch on most of what I see as important that has occurred during this period. Since this is my first report from this position it may be a bit long winded, but you're now forewarned. I'm sure that I'll miss something, but I'm equally sure that this fine Board of Directors will helpfully point out these omissions, in an effort to assist me.

First on the list is X2011 West, the 2011 NMRA National Convention, which was held in Sacramento this past July. While this was not a PCR production, the event was held within the borders of the PCR and pretty much the entire committee was composed of current or former PCR members, so it was the perception of the PCR that the attendees saw during that event. Further, PCR members (as well as others from throughout the NMRA) stepped up to the plate to provide the volunteer manpower, without which these events would never get off the ground. For this I thank every member of the region, it was a shining example of the quality of our membership! There were over 2,000 attendees from all across the NMRA and from every continent, with the exception of Antarctica (which appears to have a relatively low number of model railroaders as permanent residents). While there were a few unfortunate incidents during the week, I feel comfortable in saying that none of these reflected badly upon this region. An interesting note for those that wander into the contest rooms during conventions, this year they had the highest number of judged models entered since they began tracking this and the PCR was very well represented. Also, I believe that this convention made it quite clear to both the general membership AND the national BoD that an event of this nature can be put on without requiring the high cost of some of the recent convention registrations. How, or if there is any action regarding this remains to be seen.

A separate activity, though closely associated with X2011 West was the membership recruitment at the NMRA booth in the National Train Show (NTS). I was a little disappointed that there were not many PCR members (especially Sierra Division, since the bulk of the market was probably from their area) that spent time working this booth, there were still somewhere around 200 new members signing up to join the NMRA/PCR. Most of these new members were on the RailPass program, so now it's up to us on the regional and especially divisional level to contact these folks and encourage them to sign up for a full membership as their RailPass expires. I'll have more on the membership subject a bit later in this report.

Speaking of conventions, I would like to take a moment to thank the committee that put together the Sonoma Short Line/2011 PCR Convention one more time. This group not only showed us how to have a lot of fun in a (very) short time period, but also managed to cover their costs while keeping the cost to attendees low as well. In the same manner, I want to express my excitement at where the folks putting on the Siskiyou Summit/ joint PNR/PCR 2012 regional convention are heading. Everything that I've seen on this event points to a grand time had by all. Also, we will soon be looking at a new regional Convention Chair, since Dennis Stokely may soon be stepping down

(I've heard rumors of with the conclusion of the 2013 PCR convention, in the San Ramon/Pleasanton area), which is just one more job that will need to be filled in the not too distant future.

I had the opportunity to attend two Daylight Division meets this past year and encourage everyone on the board to try and visit at least one meet outside their division each year, just to get a feel on how the rest of the region is going. It is always an eye opening experience, to see that there are other ways to put on a divisional meet. There is always something that can be learned and then brought back to share with the folks at home.

Getting back to the subject of membership, I've already talked with our V.P., Ed Merrin regarding this and he has agreed to be the point man, working with our regional Membership Chair, as well as the divisional membership folks in this direction. The last issue of the Branchline had a listing of these new members as well as their home towns, so the rest is on us. This has been an ongoing problem throughout the NMRA, not so much the recruiting of members, but the retention of those that join when their initial term expires. I would ask each of our Divisional Directors to help on this project, at least in coordinating things with you divisional Membership Chairs. The fact is, we need to figure out what our members are looking for and then work out some ideas to deliver this if possible. Something needs to be done to both stem the tide of departing members and to encourage new, and hopefully younger folks to become members. This is the only way to grow our organization.

Going further on this, at the last Coast Division meet, as well as at a few of the train shows where I've worked the NMRA recruitment table, there have been more than a few instances where there were no membership applications on hand for new and potential members. This is something which needs to be addressed directly. There is no reason to not have applications at any "official" PCR (or divisional) event. Along the same lines, at another recent divisional meet, I heard members tell folks wandering in, "this is a private meeting, the facility will be open to the public later." Again, I see no reason that we are not inviting "wandering travelers" into our meets to see what is going on. Yes, we can let folks know that for a variety of reasons some of the activities may be restricted to members only. But, we should still welcome them with open arms, if they would like to sit in and observe, so that they can get some idea of who we are and what we have to offer. I know that each case may be unique, but there has to be a way to remove the bushel basket that is covering our lantern. As long as we present our divisions and the region as some sort of cloistered order, that holds to ancient rites that have been in place since the 1950s, we aren't going to attract younger members that have both feet firmly placed in the twenty-first century. Do I have all of the answers? An emphatic NO! Do I know that we can do better? And equally emphatic YES!

As everyone on this board knows, all of the Divisional Directors are going to term out next year, which means that we will be moving forward without a lot of continuity in the guidance of the region. I ask that all of the directors make it clear to their replacements that they will be available for consultation IF it is desired. On the other hand, here is an opportunity to move forward with little or no past baggage (i.e. "We always did it that way.") to inhibit new and creative ideas in the operation of the PCR. With the number of operating positions that are open on the regional "Call Board", I'm hoping that all of you will still make an effort to help guide our region as we move forward. Going beyond that, I'm going to challenge every Divisional Director on this board to

present some ideas on how we can start the region moving forward again at the next meeting. The one advantage for you folks is that the next meeting will also be your last meeting as a director for at least two years. The other side of that coin is that I'm going to place that same challenge before your successors and they are going to be here for at least two years to enact some of these ideas.

For some time it has been a bit of a joke that Divisional Directors actually had an easier job than Divisional Superintendents within the PCR, though I do know that all of the current directors have always taken their jobs quite seriously and have made a concerted effort to serve the members. But, it just sort of seemed like there wasn't all that much to do at the regional level. Well, I am going to make an effort to change that perception, by actually presenting work for the directors to do while serving on the board. I fully believe that being a director or serving as regional president or vice-president should not be some sort of "survival" award for being long time members. These are working positions that are intended to serve the needs and interests of the regional membership. Going forward, I hope to spread that belief to others in the region and encourage them to serve the membership in a productive manner. Again, this is not to imply that the directors that I've seen on this board have not been doing so. I just believe that there is more that the regional board can do to assist our divisions.

I have three major goals that I'm hoping to make over the next two – or, hopefully four years. The first will be to increase our ACTIVE membership. That is, start seeing more of our members involved in NMRA activities on both the regional and divisional levels. The second, is to increase the perception that the region BoD and the regional structure in general is working for the betterment of the members on the local/divisional level. I firmly believe that the real strength and effectiveness of the NMRA is at this level. The third goal is to develop a greater depth of personnel resources to serve both the region and our divisions. It would be nice to have more than one nominee for any given position at both the divisional and regional levels. It would also be nice to not have to keep rotating the same members through all of the positions that need to be covered. And it would be REALLY nice to not have to ask our members to serve in some positions for terms of ten or fifteen (or longer!) years. To do this we need to convince people that it is truly a privilege to donate some time to help improve their region and/or division. And, that volunteering for one of these positions is not a life sentence. I'll also be asking for help on these two matters (especially the second).

As I said at the beginning of this report, I'm sure that I missed something – or more likely, several somethings. But, I feel that I've placed enough on the table to keep things busy for at least two years. We'll see about longer sometime in 2013.

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



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

Vice President's Report  
October 7, 2011

To the Board of Directors:

This being my first report to the board as PCR Vice President I want to communicate to the Board what my proposed focus of activity will be and what first steps I have taken in that direction.

President Patrick LaTorres has recently commissioned me to deal with the issues of membership recruitment and retention. These issues cover problems identified and discussed elsewhere, including in my candidate statement. There is an aging of the membership in PCR and in NMRA in general that has the potential of jeopardizing the future of the organization. We have become aware that there are active modelers who choose not to join NMRA, possibly because it doesn't address their needs or interests, and possibly for other reasons. There is no shortage of hypotheses and opinions on the nature and reasons for our problems, but not very many facts.

My initial plan had been to use NMRA provided data to define the PCR membership more carefully in terms of age and years of membership, and then to strategize with Division officials on ways to reach out to what we think and hope are new potential members. Unfortunately, this plan has so far turned out to be a bust due to extremely poor and unreliable data provided us in the form of quarterly membership data spreadsheets.

To briefly illustrate how poor this database is, there are 1372 entries. This figure includes a number of institutional memberships, a few double entries, and some family memberships, but still gives us over 1300 memberships. However, the data for these members is incomplete or flawed. For example only 661 member entries include a date of birth. Some of these birthdays are clearly inaccurate, including for one allegedly five year-old member and one with an age of ninety-six! The dates of joining are far worse, with many entries in as far off into the future as 2015 (no, that is not a renewal date).

Obviously, we will need to collect information on our own. It will be helpful to define the age distribution of PCR, and also to identify younger members to interview regarding their perceptions of what is attractive and what is not about our organization. Any

thoughts and feedback from the Board will be welcome.

Thank you all for your indulgence.

Ed Merrin

**PACIFIC COAST REGION**  
**of the**  
**NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION**

**Treasurer's Report**

October 2, 2011

The finances of the Region continue to be somewhat stable, though income continues to decline. BranchLine subscription revenue and interest income has decreased somewhat compared with early 2010. A one-time offset to these declines (and those experienced in recent years) is the income derived from the sale of assets (estate merchandise and convention materials) realized during the X2011West NMRA convention in July. This has resulted in PCR having an **operating** return for the first half of the year of about \$150, as compared to a nearly \$1500 deficit last year. The situation will decline in the second half of the year, resulting in a deficit of about \$1350 by year's end. You will notice that the BranchLine is realizing less revenue, and as print runs get smaller, costing more per copy to produce and distribute. 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. In fact, when the Life CD came up for renewal last month, the best we could have realized in a mid-term CD would have been 0.30 to 0.50 percent through Chase. As such, I have moved these funds into the Convention Savings account, but will continue to account for them separately.

As I noted in the Annual report in May, I have been using convention proceeds to augment operating funds to keep this area solvent. It is important, though, to recognize that the cost of supporting our member subscriptions continues to exceed the income derived. Our subscription related income for the first six months (including the interest from the Life Savings account) is about \$1670, while the cost to produce and distribute the BranchLine is over \$2970. Even including the rebate from National retained by the Region, the publication is still about \$600 underfunded for the first half of the year. A return to reasonable returns from our investable assets will significantly improve this issue.

In summary, the finances of the Region are stable, and we have more than sufficient reserves to weather the current financial climate. It may be prudent, however, to begin thinking about an increase in the BranchLine subscription fee within the next few years.

I will see you at the meeting on October 29. I will, however, be away for about three weeks prior to that. Please email me at [emerbaum@msn.com](mailto:emerbaum@msn.com) or call me on my cell, (510) 912-1076, with any questions or comments should you wish prior to the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Larry Altbaum*

Larry Altbaum

Treasurer

## Pacific Coast Region - NMRA Budget

	Adopted 2011 Bud.	Actual 2011 6 Mths.	Projected	Projected Variance	Proposed 2012
<b>Operating Income</b>					
Life Interest	<b>400.00</b>	<b>242.92</b>	<b>280.00</b>	<b>(120.00)</b>	<b>100.00</b>
BL Subscriptions	3,150.00	1,425.00	3,000.00	<b>(150.00)</b>	3,000.00
From Nat'l	2,200.00	1,341.00	2,600.00	400.00	2,600.00
Other	800.00	<b>1,034.92</b>	<b>1,100.00</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>400.00</b>
Bank Interest	<b>150.00</b>	<b>31.64</b>	<b>90.00</b>	<b>(60.00)</b>	<b>120.00</b>
				0.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	6,700.00	4,075.48	7,070.00	370.00	6,220.00
<b>Operating Expense</b>					
Operations					
Member Services	50.00	0.00	0.00	<b>(50.00)</b>	50.00
Member Promo.	150.00	0.00	100.00	<b>(50.00)</b>	150.00
Achievement	150.00	0.00	100.00	<b>(50.00)</b>	150.00
Supplies	100.00	0.00	400.00	300.00	100.00
Bank Charges	10.00	<b>(42.00)</b>	<b>(42.00)</b>	<b>(52.00)</b>	10.00
Fees & Taxes	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	20.00
Accounting	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Branchline					
Printing	<b>4,600.00</b>	<b>2,414.31</b>	<b>4,900.00</b>	300.00	<b>5,200.00</b>
Postage	<b>1,900.00</b>	<b>554.14</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	<b>(700.00)</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>
Supplies	100.00	0.00	0.00	<b>(100.00)</b>	100.00
Division Support	1,200.00	663.50	1,250.00	50.00	1,300.00
Projects		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Web Page	240.00	119.70	239.40	<b>(0.60)</b>	250.00
Awards	300.00	199.07	200.00	<b>(100.00)</b>	250.00
Misc.	100.00	0.00	50.00	<b>(50.00)</b>	100.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	8,920.00	3,928.72	8,417.40	<b>(502.60)</b>	9,180.00
<b>Operating Excess/Deficit</b>	<b>(2,220.00)</b>	<b>146.76</b>	<b>(1,347.40)</b>	---	<b>(2,960.00)</b>
<b>Convention Income</b>					
Conv. Exc.		494.93	494.93	494.93	
<b>Total Income</b>		494.93	494.93	494.93	
<b>Convention Expense</b>					
<b>Total Expense</b>		0.00		0.00	
<b>Convention Exc/Def</b>		494.93	494.93	494.93	
<b>Total Excess/Deficit</b>	<b>(2,220.00)</b>	641.69	<b>(852.47)</b>	---	<b>(2,960.00)</b>

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

Sep 30, 2011

Pacific Coast Region - NMRA  
Income Statement

	6 Months Ended Sep/11 =====	6 Months Ended Sep/10 =====	Variance Fav/<Unf> =====	%Var =====
<b>Income</b>				
PCR NMRA Rebate	\$1,341.00	\$1,112.00	\$229.00	20.6%
PCR BL Subscriptions	1,425.00	1,505.00	(80.00)	-5.3%
Equipment Proceeds	75.00	0.00	75.00	
Convention Proceeds	494.93	0.00	494.93	
Merchandise Sales	959.92	0.00	959.92	
	-----	-----	-----	
TOTAL Income	4,295.85	2,617.00	1,678.85	64.2%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Supplies - Operations	0.00	319.94	319.94	100.0%
Supplies - Member Promo.	0.00	53.94	53.94	100.0%
Postage - Branchline	554.14	879.53	325.39	37.0%
Postage - Achiev. Prog.	0.00	16.20	16.20	100.0%
Printing - Branchline	2,414.31	2,277.84	(136.47)	-6.0%
Awards - Operations	0.00	174.52	174.52	100.0%
Awards - President	199.07	0.00	(199.07)	
NMRA Division Rebates	663.50	548.00	(115.50)	-21.1%
Taxes, Fees, Licenses	20.00	0.00	(20.00)	
Web Services	119.70	119.70	0.00	0.0%
Bank Service Charges	(42.00)	0.00	42.00	
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	3,928.72	4,389.67	460.95	10.5%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>OPERATING PROFIT</b>	367.13	(1,772.67)	2,139.80	120.7%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>Other Income &amp; Expenses</b>				
Life Interest	242.92	296.09	(53.17)	-18.0%
Convention Interest	31.64	2.30	29.34	1275.7%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Other Income &amp; Expenses</b>	274.56	298.39	(23.83)	-8.0%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>PROFIT Before Taxes</b>	641.69	(1,474.28)	2,115.97	143.5%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	\$641.69	(\$1,474.28)	\$2,115.97	143.5%
	=====	=====	=====	

Sep 30, 2011

Pacific Coast Region - NMRA  
Balance Sheet

	Sep/11	Sep/10	Inc/<Dec>	%
	=====	=====	====Var=====	==Var==
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Current Assets:</b>				
Cash				
General Checking	\$9,940.11	\$4,589.97	\$5,350.14	116.6%
Convention Checking	45,178.13	45,144.30	33.83	0.1%
Life Savings	29,388.30	29,837.85	(449.55)	-1.5%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Cash</b>	84,506.54	79,572.12	4,934.42	6.2%
	-----	-----	-----	
Convention Adv. Recv.	1,000.00	3,000.00	(2,000.00)	-66.7%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Current Assets</b>	85,506.54	82,572.12	2,934.42	3.6%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	\$85,506.54	\$82,572.12	\$2,934.42	3.6%
	=====	=====	=====	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>CAPITAL</b>				
Retained Earnings	84,864.85	84,046.40	818.45	1.0%
Year-to-Date Earnings	641.69	(1,474.28)	2,115.97	143.5%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	85,506.54	82,572.12	2,934.42	3.6%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL LIAB. &amp; CAPITAL</b>	\$85,506.54	\$82,572.12	\$2,934.42	3.6%
	=====	=====	=====	

## **Roberts Rules of Order, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition, Section 49, Boards**

(Believe it or else, Roberts no longer has paragraph numbers. What you see is what you get)

page 486, Line 11

### **Conduct of Business in Boards**

GENERAL PROCEDURE. The executive board of an organized society operates under the society's bylaws, the society's parliamentary authority, and any special rules of order or standing rules of the society which may be applicable to it. Such a board may adopt its own special rules of order or standing rules only to the extent that such rules do not conflict with any of the rules of the society listed above. It may protect itself against breaches of order by its members during board meetings, and against annoyance by nonmembers, by employing the procedures outlined on pages 645-49, but the maximum penalty which may be imposed upon a disorderly member of the board is that he be required to leave the meeting room during the remainder of the meeting. A board that is not a part of a society can adopt its own rules, provided that they do not conflict with anything in the legal instrument under which the board is constituted.

Under the general parliamentary law, business is transacted in large boards according to the same rules of procedure as in other deliberative assemblies. In smaller boards, these rules apply as far as practicable, with the exceptions noted below. In any case, a board can transact business only in a regular or properly called meeting of which every board member has been notified—or at an adjournment of one of these meetings (pp. 93-94)—and at which a quorum (a majority of the total membership unless otherwise specified in the bylaws or established by the constituting power) is present. (See also Electronic Meetings, pp. 97-99.) The personal approval of a proposed action obtained separately by telephone, by individual interviews, or in writing, even from every member of the board, is not the approval of the board, since the members lacked the opportunity to mutually debate and decide the matter as a deliberative body. If action is taken on such a basis, it must be ratified (pp. 124-25) at a regular or properly called board meeting in order to become an official act of the board.

A record of the board's proceedings should be kept by the secretary, just as in any other assembly; these minutes are accessible only to the members of the board unless the board grants permission to a member of the society to inspect them, or unless the society by a two-thirds vote (or the vote of a majority of the total membership, or a majority vote if previous notice is given) orders the board's minutes to be produced and read to the society's assembly.

At regular board meetings the executive committee, if there is one, should be required to make a report of its activities since the last board meeting. No action need be taken on this report, which is generally intended as information only.

PROCEDURE IN SMALL BOARDS. In a board meeting where there are not more than about a dozen members present, some of the formality that is necessary in a large assembly would hinder business.

The rules governing such meetings are different from the rules that hold in other 30 assemblies, in the following respects:

- Members may raise a hand instead of standing when seeking to obtain the floor, and may remain seated while making motions or speaking.
- Motions need not be seconded.
- There is no limit to the number of times a member can speak to a debatable question.\* Appeals, however, are debatable under the regular rules—that is, each member (except the chair) can speak only once in debate on them, while the chair may speak twice.
- Informal discussion of a subject is permitted while no motion is pending.
- When a proposal is perfectly clear to all present, a vote can be taken without a motion's having been introduced. Unless agreed to by unanimous consent, however, all proposed actions must be approved by vote under the same rules as in larger meetings, except that a vote can be taken initially by a show of hands, which is often a better method in small meetings.
- The chairman need not rise while putting questions to a vote.
- If the chairman is a member, he may, without leaving the chair, speak in informal discussions and in debate, and vote on all questions.\*\*

EFFECT OF PERIODIC PARTIAL CHANGE IN BOARD MEMBERSHIP. In cases where a board is constituted so that a specified portion of its membership is chosen periodically (as, for example, where one third of the board is elected annually for three-year terms), it becomes, in effect, a new board each time such a group assumes board membership. Consequently, when the outgoing portion of the board vacates membership, all matters temporarily but not finally disposed of (see pp. 90-91), except those that remain in the 5 hands of a committee to which they have been referred, fall to the ground under provision (c) on page 237. (See also p. 502, 1. 26 to p. 503, 1. 2, regarding the continuity of matters that have been referred to a special committee appointed by the board.) If the board is one that elects its own officers or appoints standing committees, it chooses new officers and committees as soon as the new board members have taken up their duties, just as if the entire board membership had changed. The individual replacement of persons who may occasionally vacate board membership at other times, however, does not have these effects.

\*However, motions to close or limit debate (15, 16), including motions to limit the number of times a member can speak to a question, are in order even in meetings of a small board (but not in meetings of a committee; see p. 500), although occasions where they are necessary or appropriate may be rarer than in larger assemblies.

\*\*Informal discussion may be initiated by the chairman himself, which, in effect, enables the chairman to submit his own proposals without formally making a motion as described on pages 33-35 (although he has the right to make a motion if he wishes).

## Daylight Division Report

The division has had three well-attended quarterly division meets since the May report. The locals in the Santa Barbara, Fresno and San Luis Obispo areas showed up in good numbers with several first-time attendees at all meets. Several of the new members that had signed up at X2011 were in attendance at the August meet in Fresno and the October meet in Oceano, as well as our honorable PCR President Pat LaTorres, along with his competent advisor, Ronnie.

The May 21<sup>st</sup> meet in Santa Barbara was hosted by Gary Siegel in his backyard, home to his fabulous outdoor #1 scale SP Santa Cruz Division layout. Joe Heumphreus also brought his large scale Timesaver layout, which drew several boomers to the challenge. Bruce Morden presented a hands-on clinic on making eucalyptus trees, common to the local area. Following his clinic, Bruce led a discussion on railroad traffic control systems, from timetable and train order through CTC, wrapping up with a tour of Gary's CTC board that controls his indoor HO scale L&N layout. Returning outside, Joe Heumphreus gave a "short" clinic on railroad electricity, including tips he's learned over the years. After a pizza lunch, we had the usual business meeting, followed by layout tours and long drives home for those of us in the Central Valley.

The August 20<sup>th</sup> meet was held in the Fig Garden Regional Library in Fresno. PCR President Pat LaTorres presented his clinic on "Railroad Photography", covering equipment and image composition for award-winning shots. Dave Grenier, our AP Chairman, then presented his "Achievement Program Demystified" clinic explaining the ins and outs of the AP, how to figure Author points and Volunteer time units, how to complete the various forms, and much more. After the clinics, we went right into the business meeting, and then we left the library for a late lunch and layout tours, followed by much shorter drives home for many of us.

The October 8<sup>th</sup> meet was held at the historic SP Oceano Depot, in Oceano (San Luis Obispo County), in conjunction with the Central Coast Railroad Festival, a 5-day celebration of railroading in the area. The Daylight Division was advertised as a Festival participant on their various promotions, with our logo right on top. Paul Deis presented a hands-on clinic on weathering freight cars, sponsored by Bragdon Enterprises. Attendees could weather their own cars or use HO and 1:20.3 cars provided by Paul, but you couldn't take his home. Terry Taylor followed with his presentation on Santa Fe operations in the Central Valley, with a little twist -- all the photos were of wrecks! On a positive note, an increase in the number of entries for the contests was noted at the meet. Newly-appointed Contests Chair Steve Biggs took in many more model entries than usual. After a lunch break, we had the business meeting and awarded plaques for favorite models, followed by layout tours. At the business meeting, the choices for the National convention were brought up, including a cruise from Seattle to San Diego were mentioned. Several attendees were interested in the cruise.

The Achievement Program is alive and well in the Daylight Division! We currently have 12 members actively pursuing a total of 32 AP certificates. Six Statement of Qualification forms for 3 members were recently submitted to the Region for processing. The following have been awarded since the May report:

Golden Spike Award:                      Ron Baker, John Drazin, Terry Taylor, Bob Pethoud

Chief Dispatcher:	Rick Fulkerson
Model Railroad Author:	Chuck Harmon, Terry Taylor
Association Official:	John Houlihan
Association Volunteer:	Terry Taylor

John Houlihan

Daylight Division Director

**Coast Division Report**  
**PCR Board Meeting – October 29, 2011**  
**Fremont**

Coast Division members are decompressing from the X2011West convention in Sacramento. Many of the committee were from Coast, and all members are thankful for their efforts to make X2011W a very successful endeavor. I think all who attended had a great time and learned some new techniques. It sure was handy having a car there to carry the train show booty home!

We held our June meet at the Temple of Congregation Etz Chayim in Palo Alto. The facility was exemplary and the hosts most gracious. A new venue is always a challenge, but Coast members and guests made it work. The Congregation indicated a willingness to have us return for another meet sometime. Perhaps it will happen. Another new venue was the site of our September meet, the Janet Pomeroy Center in San Francisco. This site exceeded our needs for space, though the clinic room was a bit on the small side, and there was no screen for the slides. Jim Betz was very resourceful though and cobbled up a screen from a roll of butcher paper, which worked adequately for the meet. Another option for the clinic area was discussed. This site was blessed with plentiful parking, too.

Coast looks forward to working with the LDSIG and OPSIG groups to hold another meet in Santa Clara early next year. These meets are very interesting and have good layout tours and operating sessions available. They have proven popular over the years and folks come from great distances to attend.

Rod Smith  
Coast Division Director



## Director's Report 10/29/11

### **I. Division meets**

The Sierra Division meeting planned in June for a photography expedition up the Feather River Canyon (to utilize the skills acquired at the April meet) was rained out; so the division has held two meets since the last Board of Directors' meeting in May:

- In August, a meeting was held in Carson City featuring a trip on the Virginia and Truckee Railroad (as well as attendant sightseeing and lunch). The trip featured the elongated run, with the trip lasting 1-1/2 hours in each direction. (We had originally intended to have our summer picnic meet that weekend at the Nevada County Fairgrounds, but the county fair was taking place that weekend; so we rescheduled it for October.)
- The rescheduled October meet was held at the Nevada County Fairgrounds, where we were hosted by the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Historical Model Railroad members. We were treated to a tour of their layout, which features a fairly complete model of the entire Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railway from Colfax to Nevada City which they have been working on for many years. After a cookout lunch (featuring hamburgers grilled by our chef/superintendent) and a short business session, the meet continued with a trip to the Nevada County Railroad Museum.

### **II. Other Events**

1. The NMRA National Convention was held in Sacramento this past July and was a resounding success. Many thanks to all committee members, attendees and others involved with the convention. It was great to have an opportunity to show off our "local modeling talent" to people from around the world. While we were unable to organize a large number of people from the Sierra Division to staff the NMRA booth at the train show (*perhaps because many of them were also on the Convention Committee and were completely fried by that point*), we did get a number of inquiries from various people about Sierra Division activities. As our division newsletter, the Sierra Short Line, is now available online in vibrant color, we encouraged people to take a look at it and find out about our upcoming activities.

2. The Northern Nevada layout tour previously organized by Chuck Gardner at High Sierra Hobbies, which was renamed the “Chuck Gardner Memorial Model Railroad Layout Tour” in his honor, will be held the first weekend in November (the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>). The tour includes layouts in the Reno-Sparks area, Fallon, and the Carson City area. Maps can be found at <http://www.highsierramodelrrtour.com/>.

3. Our major publicity and fundraising event, International RailFair, will be held this year on Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13. We are looking forward to working with our usual complement of PCR volunteers to help staff the Ticket Booth and the Information/Timesaver table. Thanks in advance to all who have volunteered.

4. We will once again be hosting an NMRA information booth at the California State Railroad Museum’s Small Train Weekend on November 25 and 26 (Friday and Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend). We will be setting up the TimeSaver for the attendees (especially the younger ones) to operate. We will need volunteers to staff the booth in 2 or 3-hour shifts (volunteers will get a pass to the museum so they can see it during their visit). Please contact Jim Long at [jimclong@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimclong@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested in volunteering.

5. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing economic circumstances, we decided once again to forego a Sierra Division Banquet this year. We still hope to be able to resume the tradition in the future.

### **III. Elections**

Since our current Division Director (moi) will be termed out next May, we have been actively recruiting candidates for the office. At this time, we have one person who has agreed to run for the office of Division Director.

We are also looking towards next year’s elections, as we will need to elect a new Superintendent. Unfortunately, Jim Long’s health has deteriorated to the point where he will be unable to run for office again at the end of his term next year. Our Chief Clerk and Paymaster have expressed their willingness to run again, but we need to start recruiting Superintendent candidates as this is a pivotal job in this division. I have a potential candidate in the pipeline and will be talking to him at greater length in the next couple of months. In the meantime, we are encouraging anyone interested in running for any of the division offices to talk to either me or Jim Long, and we will be happy to answer any questions about what the job(s) would entail.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moore-Campagna  
Sierra Division Director

## **Redwood Empire Division Director's Report October 2011**

Since the last Board of Directors' meeting in May, the Redwood Empire Division has elected new officers, Stewart Benson is the new Superintendent and Verne Alexander is the new Chief Clerk. It is very satisfying to have two long-time members step up to these positions. The outgoing officers are giving the "new comers" a lot of support to make the transition.

We just finished the Annual Train Show at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds last weekend (Oct 14, 15 and 16). The show was held in conjunction with the Annual Home Show and had good attendance. All scales and gauges were represented by layouts and displays. The Z-scale running with DCC was pretty impressive and a new Hon3 module group from the Santa Rosa area also displayed their modular layout with some very impressive modeling.

R.E.D. is going to be changing from a printed and mailed newsletter to an on-line newsletter. Without a regular revenue stream the Division just cannot continue to cover printing and mailing costs. Those members who simply must have a printed copy can subscribe for a small fee and continue to receive a copy via the postal service. We see this as an opportunity to include more artwork and photos in full color and we won't be restricted by page counts to keep postage low.

R.E.D. is still looking around for some activity or product that will produce a regular revenue stream to the Division. We haven't found the right activity or product but we keep floating ideas to each other and haven't given up yet. We are able to keep our costs quite low but we would like to offer the membership more and many of our ideas require funds to make them work.

The current Director's term is coming to a close and the Division officers are looking for someone to step up and take the job. We have a few candidates in mind who would be assets to the PCR Board and we'll be talking up the idea over the next couple of months.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol N. Alexander

**CONVENTION DEPARTMENT REPORT**  
**Submitted October 27, 2011**

**Sonoma Short Line**

**Santa Rosa May 13-15, 2011**

The 2011 Mini convention was held at the Finley Community Center in Santa Rosa. The attendance was 88 registrants and the convention was in the black a total of \$989.86 thanks to the excellent work of Chairman Steve Skold and his committee. The surplus has been allocated between the Redwood Empire Division and PCR

**Siskiyou Summit**

**Medford, OR with PNR May 2-5, 2012**

The MOU issues have been resolved and the agreement signed. There is a joint committee in place with Jim Providenza from PCR and Ed Liesse from PNR serving as co-chairs. The convention currently has 85 registrations in hand.

The agreement between the regions specifies a payment of \$12 per registrant be made to the respective regions. A question has surfaced concerning the use of those funds, and if any portion would be allocated to the Divisions. At the time we negotiated the agreement, my assumption was the \$12 per registrant would remain PCR funds since there is no official "host" division or other organization with PCR. However, there is no reason, all or a portion could not be allocated to the Divisions if the Board so desires. We just need to decide on a methodology.

**Coast Division**

**Dublin, CA April 3-7, 2013**

There is committee partially organized and we have an attractive proposal from the Holiday Inn Express in Dublin to present for formal approval at the end of this report. The Holiday Inn is within walking distance of BART for a non-driving alternative for Bay Area registrants, and the proposal offers a good room rate for out-of-town registrants.

**2014**

**Daylight Division**

Tentative selection for convention is in San Louis Obispo, or nearby city. No date has been determined as yet.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Stokely

Sonoma Short Line final report.

Redwood Empire Division hosted the 2011 Mini-Convention and this is the mini report. The Sonoma Short Line convention was both an aesthetic and financial success. We had 58 pre registrants which caused us some concern. There were 30 walk ins that put us over the top. We made a profit of \$989.86 which was split equally with RED and PCR for a total of \$494.93 each. One innovation was to provide both breakfast and lunch at a modest price and the proceeds went to RED. Mary Moore-Campagna was responsible for this. Once again, I want to thank Gus Campagna for all his work and guidance in helping make this a successful event.

Steve Skold

Chairman

At present, we are in the process of developing a program for the Contest that satisfies both Regions. PNR and PCR have largely divergent views on how to approach the Contest, thus negotiations are well under way between John DeSteeze and myself, nailing down exactly how the Contest will be run.

**Issue #1-** by far the most challenging.

PNR has long advocated under the direction and stern hand of Jack Hamilton, MMR and AP Regional Chairman, that points scored in the Contest ( even if they exceed 87.5 ) cannot and will not be used to issue Merit Awards. Only separate AP judging of the model will confer or not confer Merit Awards. Historically, PCR has used the Contest's scores to issue Merit Awards. The NMRA stand on this ( as per Bob Hamm, National Contest Chairman ) is that Contest scores can be used to issue Merit Awards. Under further scrutiny, I found that in reality those scores issued in Contest, are then sent to the AP Regional Chairman who then decides whether or not to issue Merit Awards.

I conferred with Jack Burgess, MMR and PCR AP Chairman. He feels that Contest scores should be allowed to issue Merit Awards. In fact he pointed out that Frank Koch, AP National chair, has sent out to all Regional AP chairs the names of the Merit Awards recipients based on the scores of the recent NMRA Convention 's Contest. This indicates that PCR follows National policies. ( Also see article in the Nov. 2011 NMRA magazine page 8 by Bob Hamm " The entries that are greater than 87.5 points are eligible for AP Merit Awards. A list of those is being sent to the entrants' region AP Chairs who will issue the awards. Contest does not perform that function". I guess if one looks closely, one would have to define " eligible". In PCR "eligible" has been interpreted as affirmation of Contest points being the basis for assigning Awards.

With the blessing of Jack Burgess I have made the following determination on the issue, to keep everyone happy and still follow the regulations. Siskiyou 2012 will keep Contest and AP judging separate. The Award Ceremony will not mention Merit Awards based on Contest points. PCR will however confer to any PCR member who receives 87.5 points a Merit Award, to be mailed By Jack Burgess after the Convention.

**Issue #2-** PNR wants to eliminate Arts & Crafts as judged entries and make it by Popular Vote.

With the help of Mary Moore-Campagna and Sandy Skold, PCR is affirming their stance in maintaining A&C in the Contest forum. I will draft a letter to go to John DeSteeze stating such, once I receive the facts from Mary on how PCR intends to run A&C.

**Issue #3-** PNR wants to eliminate many categories in Contest. They think they are redundant and want to streamline both the judging and the costs of plaques. PNR does not want youth and novice categories, wants to join "kit" and "open" into one single category, wants to consolidate "on-line" and

“off-line” structures and displays, wants to eliminate modules as a category and consolidate it with displays. Any comments from the gallery?

**Issue #4-** Plaques and ribbons. I took it upon myself (PCR) to procure awards paraphernalia. I am in the process right now of procuring costs from a local vendor. Up to now PCR has used a vendor located in Clovis. Unless the costs are widely divergent, I will switch to local vendor.

Here it gets sticky. Under PCR rules, next year’s Convention pays for the awards of the previous year Convention. The Mini Convention in Santa Rosa did not use many awards ( Bill Scott has not yet given me the figures for the replacements ). So this joint Convention ( PNR & PCR ) would fund the replacement awards. However , this joint Convention likely will be dispensing more awards than usual; the likelihood of more entries into different classes for example. It would then be encumbered upon next year’s PCR Convention to replace these awards. Not fair!!! I suggest that Siskiyou 2012 would pay upfront for its own awards, while next year’s PCR would then replenish the awards used for the Mini Convention. Any comments?

**Issue # 5-** Contest registration formats. Both Regions have their own format, yet all the entries for PCR members have to be cataloged in our registration system to maintain continuity. Any suggestions?

**Issue #5-** Contest budget allotment. Seems to be \$ 750.00. Is that within our usual limits? I have asked Convention Co-chairs to confirm or deny, but so far no answer. Comments please.

**Issue #6-** I am insisting judges are offered lunch ( brown bag ) as per PCR practices. I feel this is a nice gesture that would entice more people to participate since they would have to give up most of the day to judge. PNR is against it.

**Issue #7-** PNR wants to limit award ceremony at Banquet to ten minutes or less so as to not “ bore “ the banquet audience. I would like a ceremony that is well managed, to the point, with slides of the winners as per PCR usual standards. This would run into 20 minutes. Suggestions?

**Conclusion:**

More to come, but we are making progress.

**Appendix:**

After this, I demand paid vacations and paid counseling.