



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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at 1:00 PM**

**Sands Inn and Suites**

**1930 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, California**

**Minutes**

**A. QUORUM VERIFICATION / CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM

The following voting members of the Board were in attendance:

President Pat La Torres

Vice President Ed Merrin

Redwood Empire Division Director Dave Croshere

Sierra Division Director Mel Jones

Coast Division Director Mark Schutzer

Daylight Division Director Paul Deis

The following Ex-Officio member was in attendance:

Secretary Lisa Gorrell

Others present were:

Branch Line Editor Chuck Harmon

Publications Mgr Gus Campagna

Non-Rail Mary Moore-Campagna

**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**

Director Paul Deis moved that the minutes of the October 12, 2013 board meeting be approved.

The motion was seconded by Mel Jones. The motion passed.

**F. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

F.1. President Pat LaTorres submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.

- F.2. Vice President Ed Merrin submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- F.3. Treasurer Larry Altbaum submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes. Director Dave Croshere moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Director Mark Schutzer seconded. Motion carried.
- F.4. The Secretary had no separate report.

### **G. DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

- G.1. Daylight Division Director Paul Deis submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- G.2. Coast Division Director Mark Schutzer submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- G.3. Sierra Division Director Mel Jones submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- G.4. Redwood Empire Division Director Dave Croshere submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.
- G.5. Hawaiian Division is currently without a Director, and there has been no activity.

### **H. Department Reports**

- H.1. Administration Department  
There was no report.
- H.2. Membership Department  
There was no written report. President Pat LaTorres stated he forwards the End of Month (EOM) from National to the Directors and Officers.
- H.3. Publications Department  
Gus Campagna passed out copies of the old PCR brochure and an updated newer brochure with cleaner text and images. He would like more examples of images. There is \$100 left in the budget. The pdf can be sent to each division where they can print out what they need. There was a question of whether to disband the brochure committee but it will remain in place until Mid-year meeting.

The website was doing a great job and each of the division sites looked good, too.

The *Branchline* has 12 copies of each issue in storage. As long as there is money in the publications committee they will keep printing.

- H.4. Convention Department  
2014 – San Luis Obispo Convention Chair Terry Taylor welcomed us to the convention.  
2015 – Newark Convention Chair, Dave Parks. No report.

2016 – Sacramento Convention Chair, Scott McAllister. No report.

2017 – Don Fowler, President of PSR spoke of a possible joint PSR/PCR convention in the south San Joaquin Valley in Fall. He would like to do it in 2016.

2014 PSR Convention – Ben Sevier spoke about the PSR convention in San Diego Sep 3-7, giving a run down on some of the activities.

#### H.5. Contest Department

Contest Department Manager Giuseppe Aymar submitted a written report which is attached to the record copy of these minutes.

General Issues. There was concern that the Convention host committee is to supply a meal to contest judges. This requirement is in the Contest Directory but not in the Manual of Operations or in the Convention Manual. It was proposed to have a Convention Directory Committee. President Pat LaTorres stated he would get together with Ray deBlieck, Paul Deis, and the Board of Directors. He would like to see a proposal for next Mid-year meeting. Committee charged to look at the Convention Handbook are Ray deBlieck, Carol Alexander, Giuseppe Aymar.

#### H.6. Achievement Program Department

There was no report.

#### H.7. Non-Rail

Mary Moore-Campagna thanked Dorothy Dietz. She asked that if there is an official Non-Rail function, should talk beforehand.

Non-Rail at division level, we need stuff for people who are not crafty. She would like to see some brainstorming for ideas.

### **I. OTHER REPORTS**

There were no other reports.

### **J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### J.1. Brochure.

See Publications report above.

This item is still open.

#### J.2. Hawaiian Division

President LaTorres reported that there are still 13 members in the Division. No action was taken.

This item is closed.

## **K. NEW BUSINESS**

### **K.1. Newly Elected Director.**

Dave Grenier took office as the Daylight Division Director.

### **K.2. Joint PCR/PSR Convention.**

See above Convention report.

### **K.3. PCR Logo.**

Russ Clover cleaned up the logo for the brochure, it was suggested to perhaps have a more modern logo. Several examples were presented. No decision was made on a new logo but that the board was considering a new logo. Dave Croshere suggested that the region thank Russ Clover for all the work he has done.

This item is open.

## **L. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

L.1. Dave Grenier stated that there can be a generic email address for the brochure that can be re-directed to people.

L.2. Registration for next year is open.

L.3. Next Board of Directors meeting

The next meeting will be on October 25, 2014 at 1 PM location to be determined, but probably Newark, California.

L.4. Chuck Harmon announced that if you don't want your email listed in the Callboard to contact him.

## **M. ADJOURNMENT**

Director Dave Grenier moved that we adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Lisa S. Gorrell  
PCR Secretary  
9/26/14



# PACIFIC COAST REGION

## OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

### Board of Director's Meeting

Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at 1 p.m.

### AGENDA

#### Call to Order

#### Adoption of Agenda

#### Approval of Minutes

#### Officer's Reports

- |                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. President      | Pat La Torres |
| 2. Vice President | Ed Merrin     |
| 3. Treasurer      | Larry Altbaum |
| 4. Secretary      | Lisa Gorrell  |

#### Director Reports

- |                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Daylight Division       | Paul Deis     |
| 2. Coast Division          | Mark Schutzer |
| 3. Sierra Division         | Mel Jones     |
| 4. Redwood Empire Division | Dave Croshere |
| 5. Hawaii Division         |               |

#### Department Reports

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Administration      | Pat La Torres       |
| 2. Membership          | Doug Wagner         |
| 3. Publications        | Gus Campagna        |
| 4. Convention          | Ray DeBlieck        |
| 5. Contest             | Giuseppe Aymar      |
| 6. Achievement Program | Jack Burgess        |
| 7. Non-Rail Activities | Mary Moore-Campagna |

#### Old Business

1. The brochure

#### New Business

1. Joint Convention Proposal with PSR
2. The PCR logo

#### Announcements

#### Adjournment

PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
APRIL 30, 2014, ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

Again, a lot has happened over the last six months, and again not all of it what I would have wanted. But as I said in my mid-year report, it has happened, the region has survived and we will move forward. As always, this report is my perspective on what has occurred and what I would like to see over the next six months – and perhaps a bit beyond. This is not something that is being put out for discussion, it is what I perceive to be the current situation and the future potential for the PCR. Please keep in mind that my attitude as President of the PCR (and the beliefs that I brought in with me as Vice President, seven years ago) is that this board is here first and foremost to serve the members of this region, to look out for the best interest of this region and its assets, and to work towards the advancement and promotion of the hobby of model railroading in Northern California and Nevada – and to a lesser extent, the entire western United States. We are not here to promote anyone's egos or personal agendas (the President included) or to deal with any personal conflicts which they perceive.

To start with, much as I had hoped to avoid this action, I felt the need to request the resignation of Tom Crawford from the position of PCR Secretary. There were situations which had come about that I felt made his staying on in that position to not be in the best interest of the region. That being said, I do feel that Tom had made a serious effort to contribute to the PCR and I truly thank him for the time and energy which he gave to the region over the years since he stepped in to replace Rich Kolm. On the same subject, I would like to thank Lisa Gorell for having agreed to step in on short notice and take over the job – at least through the end of my term as President.

I will touch briefly on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Limited, since I am on their Board of Directors as a representative of the PCR. They did have their annual meeting and addressed some items that were not directly related to the PCR. The one area that I will mention is that their board is looking into a few programs that will be focused on promoting the hobby going forward – primarily in Northern California. One action which has direct application to the PCR is their funding for one of the promotional banners that the NMRA has been providing, for use by the PCR. This banner was purchased at a cost of approximately \$300.00 and has already been used at a number of events where the PCR or its divisions had an official presence. Since I do not feel it would be appropriate for me to comment further on this meeting, I will defer to Ray deBlieck for anything more on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Ltd actions.

Last October I mentioned the “Building A Memory” program that the NMRA was going to promote in cooperation with Home Depot, Athearn Trains, Walthers, and Woodland Scenics, to try and help folks get involved in the hobby of model railroading. While the NMRA has officially moved this program off of the front burner for a bit, two Coast Division members, Frank Markovich and Mike Blumensadt have been working with Charlie Getz on rolling this program out on a very limited basis. They have set up at a few train shows around the S.F. Bay Area with a positive response from attendees at these shows. Hopefully there will be more on this by next October.

One other item that is under consideration is a possible change in the PCR logo. While the initial concept came up in the discussion of the New Member brochure and as of right now is not an “official” action of the region. There has been some discussion on-line regarding the new designs and later in this meeting we may cover it mor in depth. The point is that Russ Clover has presented some possible designs, which we may also discuss – LATER.

At the October meeting I had an opportunity to congratulate Giuseppe Aymar and Frank Markovich for achieving the level of M.M.R., well now get to extend those congratulations to Chuck Harmon and Andrew Meriam – both from Daylight Division – for also getting their M.M.R.s ! I would again like to thank the folks in all four of our mainland divisions that have been working hard to promote the Achievement Program, by encouraging their members to work toward earning the various A.P. certifications. This is one of the programs that make the NMRA something special.

I’m sure that there are things that I have missed and we may hit on them later on in this meeting – or not.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat LaTorres, President, PCR/NMRA



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

Vice President's Report  
April 23, 2014

To the Board of Directors:

As my time as Vice President begins to wind down I decided to stick with the theme I established at the beginning, and that is the issue of our aging membership. Not that I have any answers for you all, and not that I can point to any significant accomplishments in this area other than to keep putting the matter out front. You might say I nag a lot.

There is a major challenge ahead for our organization, but whether or not to meet it depends on a major decision, a fork in the road. In short, we need to establish what proportion of our priorities go to doing things to keep our current membership happy versus making the organization attractive to a younger audience. The two are not always compatible. If you emphasize the first, eventually we all pass on and with it the organization. But if you go with the second, there is no guarantee that younger people will choose to join in large enough numbers to keep the organization viable.

It is important to separate the NMRA's problem from that of the model railroading hobby in general, and in some recent comments on the PCR Yahoo board I can see that that is not always so easy to do. There are plenty of younger model railroaders, and there are plenty of things for them to do without having to join NMRA. Whether it's RPM, Opsig activities, N-track or Free-Mo, local clubs, you don't have to look far for modelers in their fifties, forties, thirties, even twenties, who are active and excited about the hobby but aren't inclined to join us. Maybe they would at some point, but the figures (for what they are worth, more later on that) don't support it. There is no backfill of members who join at the age many of us did. My impression, albeit not backed up by a data analysis, is that many of the new members we see now are basically our peers.

We are not the only organization to experience this. I recently pointed out an article about the declining involvement in golf. Russ Clover shared a piece about the struggles of the model yacht club in Golden Gate Park. And on and on.

Our approach so far has been limited to designing brochures that we hope have more appeal outside of our little in-group and to encourage taking a look at the content of our organized activities with the goal of widening their allure. It's way too soon to evaluate whether these are useful approaches or not, or whether we have the commitment to keep them up long enough to tell. But I have some recommendations to consider that are more

about attitude than about concrete plans.

My first suggestion is to minimize the time we spend bemoaning the changes in society that make what we do less appealing to our younger brethren. These changes are here, there're not going away, and to be mired in crabbing and complaining about them only makes us look old and irrelevant, which in fact is our fate if we continue that. The older generation has been griping and complaining about the young for many generations, and those baby faced (and thin) young ones that we find so many faults in will someday do the same. Instead, we should be working on the fork in the road that I spoke of at the beginning of this report. How much to cling to the past, to maintain traditions, versus adapting and changing should be what we mumble and grumble about.

While we are on that tack, I would like to touch on a "touchy" subject right now. The subject is this bid brouhaha that has arisen about changing a logo. In my opinion, the anguish about this goes far beyond simply having different opinions about relative merits of making a change. It has to do with hanging on to the familiar. Regardless of how it turns out, however, I would like to point out that we have the services now of an accomplished and professional grade graphic artist working on this with us. And it comes free of charge. But this opportunity may not always be there for us.

Finally, I like to point out that information is power. And, unfortunately, our information is imperfect. Here's an example – just today I scanned the March membership report for RED. I counted 137 members, but for 54 of them (39%) there is no date of birth listed. I haven't had the chance to check the other PCR divisions, but let me ask how it is we are going to track our membership age based on less than 2/3 of the membership? Discussing the reasons for this is beyond the scope of this report, but given the importance of membership age in our ongoing dialog I find this unfortunate.

Respectfully,

Ed Merrin  
Vice-President, PCR

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

**Treasurer's Report**

April 21, 2014

The financial trend over the last few years has continued unabated. That is, our expenses continue to exceed our operating income. The change made to the BranchLine subscription rates is beginning to be realized, and I expect it to continue upward so long as subscribers renew. Printing and postage rates do continue to increase (notwithstanding the apparent reduction from the previous year, an artifact of the dates the bills were received and paid relative to the March 31 end of the fiscal year). You should also note that about \$400 of the "other Branchline" costs is due to the imposition of a California use tax, paid and passed through to us by the printer. This year we experienced a loss of over \$1,200, even considering an excess of revenue from the 2013 convention of nearly \$1,700. Hence, our operating loss is nearly \$3,000.

Beyond those comments above, things have not really changed. We do have sufficient resources to maintain our programs, and I do not see the need to make significant changes. That said, however, we should do all we can to increase our membership and increase our income.

I will not be with you at the meeting or convention. Should there be any questions or comments, please contact me at 510-912-1076 (Cell) or at [emerbaum@msn.com](mailto:emerbaum@msn.com) before April 28.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Larry Altbaum*  
PCR Treasurer

## Pacific Coast Region - NMRA Budget

	Adopted 2013 Bud.	Actual 2013	Variance	Initial 2014	Revised 2014
<b>Operating Income</b>					
Life Interest	70.00	36.97	(33.03)	45.00	40.00
BL Subscriptions	3,200.00	3674.14	474.14	4,400.00	3,800.00
From Nat'l	2,250.00	2001.00	(249.00)	2,200.00	2,000.00
Other	400.00	0.00	(400.00)	400.00	400.00
Bank Interest	75.00	53.03	(21.97)	60.00	50.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,995.00</b>	<b>5765.14</b>	<b>(229.86)</b>	<b>7,105.00</b>	<b>6,290.00</b>
<b>Operating Expense</b>					
Operations					
Member Services	50.00	0.00	(50.00)	50.00	50.00
Member Promo.	150.00	118.75	(31.25)	150.00	75.00
Achievement	150.00	0.00	(150.00)	150.00	225.00
Supplies	100.00	30.67	(69.33)	100.00	100.00
Bank Charges	10.00	0.00	(10.00)	10.00	10.00
Fees & Taxes	20.00	0.00	(20.00)	20.00	20.00
Accounting	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Branchline					
Printing	5,200.00	5099.37	(100.63)	4,800.00	5,100.00
Postage	1,500.00	970.53	(529.47)	1,300.00	1,300.00
Other	100.00	845.35	745.35	800.00	850.00
Division Support	1,300.00	989.00	(311.00)	1,100.00	950.00
Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Web Page	250.00	219.44	(30.56)	250.00	240.00
Awards	250.00	406.07	156.07	350.00	350.00
Misc.	100.00	0.00	(100.00)	100.00	100.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>9,180.00</b>	<b>8679.18</b>	<b>(500.82)</b>	<b>9,180.00</b>	<b>9,370.00</b>
<b>Operating Excess/Deficit</b>	<b>(3,185.00)</b>	<b>(2914.04)</b>	270.96	<b>(2,075.00)</b>	<b>(3,080.00)</b>
<b>Convention Income</b>					
Conv. Exc.		1676.03	1676.03		
<b>Total Income</b>		1676.03	1676.03		0.00
<b>Convention Expense</b>					
<b>Total Expense</b>		0.00	0.00		0.00
<b>Convention Exc/Def</b>		1676.03	1676.03		0.00
<b><u>Total Excess/Deficit</u></b>	<b>(3,185.00)</b>	<b>(1238.01)</b>	---	<b>(2,075.00)</b>	<b>(3,080.00)</b>

**Pacific Coast Region - NMRA**  
**Income Statement**

	12 Months Ended Mar/14	12 Months Ended Mar/13	Variance	
	=====	=====	Fav/<Unf>	% Var
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Income</b>				
PCR NMRA Rebate	2,001.00	2,089.00	(88.00)	-4.20%
PCR BL Subscriptions	3,674.14	3,409.98	264.16	7.70%
Convention Proceeds	1,676.03	2,428.00	(751.97)	-31.00%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	7,351.17	7,926.98	(575.81)	-7.30%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Supplies - Operations	30.67	0.00	(30.67)	
Supplies - Achiev. Prog.	0.00	162.00	162.00	100.00%
Postage - Operations	0.00	45.00	45.00	100.00%
Postage - Branchline	970.53	1,656.35	685.82	41.40%
Postage - Achiev. Prog.	0.00	49.56	49.56	100.00%
Printing - Branchline	5,099.37	5,068.99	(30.38)	-0.60%
Printing - Member Promo.	118.75	299.49	180.74	60.30%
Awards - Operations	0.00	346.86	346.86	100.00%
Awards - President	406.07	0.00	(406.07)	
NMRA Division Rebates	989.00	1,031.00	42.00	4.10%
Taxes, Fees, Licenses	0.00	20.00	20.00	100.00%
Use Tax - Branchline	199.44	189.28	(10.16)	-5.40%
Web Services	219.44	239.40	19.96	8.30%
Misc. Expenses - Branchline	645.91	595.87	(50.04)	-8.40%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	8,679.18	9,703.80	1,024.62	10.60%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>OPERATING PROFIT</b>	(1,328.01)	(1,776.82)	448.81	25.30%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>Other Income &amp; Expenses</b>				
Life Interest	36.97	51.92	(14.95)	-28.80%
Convention Interest	53.03	66.14	(13.11)	-19.80%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Other Income &amp; Expenses</b>	90.00	118.06	(28.06)	-23.80%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>PROFIT BEFORE TAXES</b>	(1,238.01)	(1,658.76)	420.75	25.40%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	(1,238.01)	(1,658.76)	420.75	25.40%
	=====	=====	=====	

**Pacific Coast Region - NMRA  
Balance Sheet**

	3/31/2014 =====	3/31/2013 =====	Inc/<Dec> ====Var====	% ==Var==
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Current Assets:</b>				
Cash				
General Checking	5,857.26	6,969.07	(1,111.81)	-16.00%
Convention Checking	44,334.79	42,281.76	2,053.03	4.90%
Life Savings	29,501.60	29,464.63	36.97	0.10%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Cash</b>	79,693.65	78,715.46	978.19	1.20%
	-----	-----	-----	
Convention Adv. Recv.	2,000.00	4,000.00	(2,000.00)	-50.00%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Current Assets</b>	81,693.65	82,715.46	(1,021.81)	-1.20%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	81,693.65 =====	82,715.46 =====	(1,021.81) =====	-1.20% =====
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>				
HOBO Payable	216.20	0.00	216.20	
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL Current Liabilities</b>	216.20	0.00	216.20	
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	216.20	0.00	216.20	
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>CAPITAL</b>				
Retained Earnings	82,715.46	84,374.22	(1,658.76)	-2.00%
Year-to-Date Earnings	(1,238.01)	(1,658.76)	420.75	25.40%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	81,477.45	82,715.46	(1,238.01)	-1.50%
	-----	-----	-----	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; CAPITAL</b>	81,693.65	82,715.46	(1,021.81)	-1.20%

**Daylight Division Report**  
**PCR Board Meeting – April 30, 2014**  
**San Luis Obispo**

The Daylight Division held two successful meets in the time since the last Board Meeting. November 16 in San Luis Obispo at the San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum. 28 members and 20 Guests attended.

February 22 in Fresno at Hobby Town.

Chuck Harmon was named Contest Chair, filling the vacancy left by the sudden passing of Steve Biggs this past October.

Chuck Harmon and Andrew Merriam were awarded Master Model Railroader Certificates #529 and #533.

Much effort has been applied by many members of the Daylight Division, with assistance from members of other divisions in preparing the 2014 PCR Convention. I wish to give special thanks to Steve Wesolowski for stepping in to take over Publicity late into the game and knocking the ball out of the park.

Paul Deis  
Daylight Division Director

**Coast Division Report**  
**PCR Board Meeting – April 30, 2014**  
**San Luis Obispo**

The Coast Division held two successful meets in the time between the last Board Meeting. Our December meet was held at Boy Scout headquarters in San Leandro and the March meet was held at the Janet Pomeroy Center in San Francisco

Finding meeting sites continues to be an ongoing concern and Frank Markovich spends a lot of time finding sites. We have the June meet lined up at the Boy Scout HQ but as of yet do not have a site for the September meet. Most meeting sites want more money than we can afford to pay so the choices are limited.

Attendance at the San Leandro meet is in the range of 100 people while the San Francisco site only draws about 60 people. We have completed the large estate Auction so the number of items in the Auction is tending down again.

Coast continues an active recruiting effort with Steve Wesolowski and crew leading a team of volunteers manning a table at the Bay Area train shows.

Coast Division continues to look for volunteers to man a whole host of positions. One of the biggest challenges continues to find enough volunteers to fill all the positions. In many positions the same folks have been doing the same job for a long time and folks are getting burned out. This seems to be an ongoing problem in all volunteer organizations.

Mark Schutzer  
Coast Division Director



## Director's Report

Sierra Division April 30, 2014

I. The Sierra Division has had one meet since the last Board of Director's meeting in October, 2013.

1. On February 8<sup>th</sup> the meeting was held in Modesto, California. It began at 9:30 a.m. with a tour of the Modesto and Empire Traction Company's shop facilities. Our guide was Mike McReynolds. Harley Rice of M&ET was also there to answer any questions. Members were allowed to climb into the cabs of two of their eight Railpower GenSets. After a break in the weather the tour continued outside. There was a pizza luncheon with a short business meeting. Russ Clover has helped in updating Sierra Division's new logo. It was voted on and approved by the 23 members present and has already been applied to name badges and contest ribbons. International Rail Fair last November was again successful as we made a profit even after having to payout \$200 to another group to do our share of the clean up due to a lack of volunteers. Klaus Keil presented a look at Cuban steam used on the sugar plantations from his 2001 visit. Most were 100 years old and of American manufacture. Ben Canter presented a power point look back at the history of Tidewater Southern Railway. Door prizes were donated by Roger Johnson of Reno. Thank you, Roger. Photo and modeling contests were judged. Walt Schedler won first in both modeling and photography and Dave Bayless was second in modeling and Jim Collins took second in photography.

II. Upcoming Events.

1. Our meet and annual picnic will be held May 24, 2014 in Lone, California, during Lone Rail Fair and Vintage Motorfest. There will be Speeder rides from Lone to Martell and back. For additional information see Sierra Division Short Line.

2. Our August 9<sup>th</sup> meet will be held in Chico, California, hosted by Dave Neighbors.

3. October 11<sup>th</sup> meet will be held in Sacramento, California, hosted by Scott McAllister.

III.

1. The train store that opened in Carson City, Nevada a year ago is now closed and gone.

Respectfully submitted,

Mel Jones

## RED Director's Report 2014

Since the PCR's fall meeting the RED had a very successful meeting at Sturgess Saw Mill in Sebastopol. This is a live steam demonstration of a working steam saw mill. Watching huge log cut in this manner is fascinating. RED contributed \$5.00 for each attendee's lunch and many spouses were in attendance.

At our most recent meeting we were able to tour the North Western Pacific Historical Society yard in Petaluma. Several cabooses and passenger cars are in various stages of restoration. There is nothing like taking a close up look at the old prototype equipment. These types of outings seem to draw a good attendance and offer a change from the norm.

At our regular meetings we are still having a very popular 'Show and Tell' session conducted by Giuseppe Aymar. Everyone has a chance to bring in their latest and greatest model to show off while explaining the item's finer points. This gives everybody an opportunity to be heard.

Dick Foster is continuing to do a great job as Superintendent. His latest brain child was to bring in a questionnaire as to what the membership wanted to do at our quarterly meeting. All that was required was to check the boxes of activities they would enjoy at our meetings. This has encouraged the planning group as to new directions to pursue.

The RED is in good shape and staying flexible seems to keep the membership interested.

Dave Croshere

## Contest Report

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014

There is a need to clarify in “ **black and white** “ what is expected of a Convention’s Host Committee in regards to supply meals to the judges.

Appendix D-IV of the PCR Contest Directory states specifically:

**“The Host Convention Committee is expected to provide refreshments during judging (e.g. continental breakfast on Saturday morning or sandwiches and beverages Friday night). “**

There were ongoing discussions by this year’s Host Committee of not offering the meal to the judges. Eventually it was agreed, as late as April 23rd to follow the current directive and offer such lunch.

In light of slim profit margins potentially facing future Host Committees, should we remove this obligation and allow each Host Committee to arbitrarily decide if it is in their best interest to offer the lunch to the judges or should we strictly enforce the mandate. If the latter, the Host Committee needs to be made aware of this requirement at Convention’s bidding time.

The lunch has been a good recruiting method; we need approximately twenty bodies (judges) to run a fair and speedy judging of the PCR Contest. Given that we average two hundred attendees at our Regional Conventions, one can clearly see that we need 10% of the attendees to volunteer for judging. That is a high expectation, and the lunches bring in a few more folks that otherwise would not have offered to participate. Remember, judges sacrifice Convention time ( not attending Clinics or Tours ) to be in the Contest room.

We are working diligently at increasing the number of entries every year by promoting at the Divisional level; this has led to a steady increase in entries, emphasizing the importance of Contest at our Regional Conventions. More entries mean more time needed for judging balanced by a healthy number of judges.

Respectfully submitted by

Joseph Giuseppe Aymar, MMR

PCR Contest Manager

To: PCR President Pat LaTorres  
From: Jim Providenza, Ballot Chairman  
Date: April 26, 2014  
Subject: Results of the PCR 2014 Division Directors Election

Pat:

As stated in the Branchline, ballots for the 2014 Pacific Coast Region's Division Directors Election were due by Saturday April 15, 2014. On April 25th I opened and counted the ballots with the following results:

Coast Division Director:  
Mark Shutzer: 14

Daylight Division Director:  
Dave Grenier: 5  
Jim Gilmore (Write In): 1

Redwood Empire Division Director:  
Dave Croshere: 15  
Stewart Benson (Write In): 1

Sierra Division Director:  
Mel Jones: 20

Seven ballots were voided as the members voted for all four candidates despite the instructions on the ballot.

I certify that Mark Shutzer, Dave Grenier, Dave Croshure and Mel Jones have been elected Directors of their respective divisions.

I will keep the ballots for 90 days unless directed otherwise.

Sincerely,

Jim Providenza  
Ballot Chairman