



THE SHORT LINE



SIERRA DIVISION, PACIFIC COAST REGION, NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
JULY 2009

Superintendent's Report July 2009

Jim Long, Sierra Division Superintendent

We have some exciting things happening in Sierra Division. There has been some discussion on the PCR Yahoo List about several subjects. This is a group of PCR Members that share ideas, announcements, and stories about PCR, Division, and Model Railroading etc. You can join this list by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PCR-nmra/> and asking to join. I would encourage you to join and find out what is happening in PCR and Sierra Division. One of the most recent discussions has been around Sierra Division members asking for help by others in building their railroads. This started me thinking about the Round Robin group that I belonged to before I moved from the Bay Area to Cameron Park. This is a group of 6 to 10 modelers that got together once a week and worked on each other's projects. The person that served as host has to have projects for each person to work on for the evening. They also provide refreshments for the group. In return they get several people working on their railroad. This gets a lot done and provides a great social time. The group I belong to has made lifelong friends because of this association. The common point of all of these people has been membership in NMRA, PCR and the local division. I would encourage you to join a group and to join the PCR Yahoo Group.

On the PCR Yahoo group some people have requested help. I told them that I would list their names and contact information in the Sierra Division Short Line. If you would be willing to join them and help with their project, have fun, get to know each other please make contact with:

1. Walt Schedler, Colusa, CA., 530-458-8383,
waltschedler@yahoo.com
2. Dennis Drury, Plumas Lake, CA, 916-747-2313,
dennis95747@yahoo.com
3. Dave Armstrong & Jeff Adams, Turlock, CA
davidnorma720@sbcglobal.net
4. Bertt Blanchard, Waterford, CA., 209-345-6553,
amtrakeng@yahoo.com

If you would like to have your group or potential group listed here please let me know. I will list them in a future Short Line

The next Sierra Division Meet is the summer picnic on August 8. It will be held at the West End Beach in Truckee. We will be at the Southwest Picnic Area #1. We will have lunch about noon. Sierra Division will supply hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, chips and drinks. There is an admission charge but the division has paid it. There will be swimming but be warned about the water temperature.

Remember we will be about 6,000 feet. We will have our business meeting. The model contest will be MofW equipment. After lunch and the meeting we will take a look at the Truckee Donner Railroad Society museum located in town. They have some old pieces of rolling stock for us to see. Nelson Van Gundy has agreed to let us come and see his layout. It is an indoor and outdoor large scale layout that goes into his neighbor's back yard as well as his. George Sauerbier will open up his home so we can see his HO Civil War Modules. His models are made from photographs so they match very close. Many of them have 500 figures. You need to see these. **We would like you to RSVP so we know how much food to get for the picnic. Please contact Jim Long at 530-676-1798 or jimclong@sbcglobal.net and I will put you and your family on the list.**

The Fall Sierra Division Meets is on October 10. It will be at the Arcade Library in Sacramento. It is at 2443 Marconi Ave which is just a few blocks west of Bruce's Trains. We will be starting at 1 PM which gives you plenty of time to go to the hobby shop. The contest category is freight cars. We will also be having the special Sunrise Feed Mill Contest. We had 24 kits given out in May so we should have a good contest at this meet. We have one left as I am writing this. Please finish building them and bring them on October 10.

The International Rail Fair will be November 14 and 15 at the Roseville Fairgrounds. This is a very important event for Sierra Division as it is our fund raiser. Mary will be setting a list of times for volunteers for these days. Volunteering to help will get you admission to the Rail Fair and a ticket for the Banquet on Saturday night. Please sign up with Mary Moore-Campagna. She will have more information at the picnic and the October Meet.

Looking to the future we will have an Election coming up for Sierra Division Director. The election is handled by PCR. We will have nominations at the October Division Meet. The election will be in the winter and the Director will start their term at the PCR Convention in Reno. It is a 2 year term.

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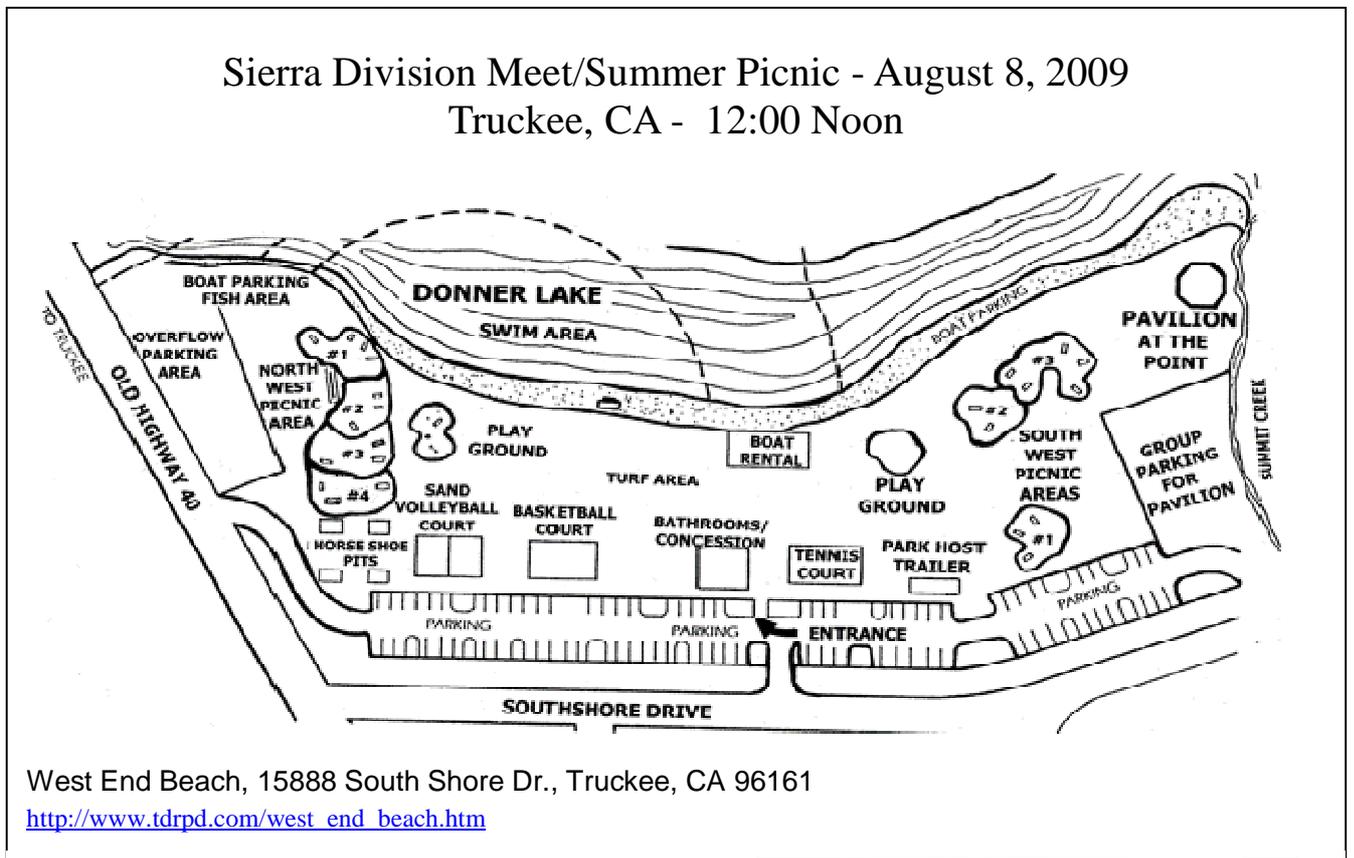
Speaking of Reno the Silver Rails Convention will take place on April 28 - May 2, 2010. It will be held at the Nugget

<http://www.x2011west.org/> The web site should be up and running by the time you get this. Please take a look.

Hotel in Sparks. We have an exciting 5 days planned for you. I hope you all attend. You can find more information at <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2010/> Registration is open and I would like to see a large turnout from Sierra Division. Sierra Division is the host and sponsor of this convention.

I am going to try and start a method to deliver this Short Line electronically. This is to save money for printing and postage. I have started a Yahoo Group for this. You can find this group at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Sierra_Division_Short_Line/ I think you can request to join this group or I can add your name and e-mail address. You will then be able to download the Short Line from the files section. I will send out an e-mail each time the Short Line is ready to be read. I will also attach the file to the e-mail if it is small enough. There is a limit on attachments to e-mails that come from Yahoo Groups. If you would like to be on the list please contact me at jimclong@sbcglobal.net

The planning for the X2011 NMRA National Convention is going ahead. We are still looking for layouts for the layout tour. Many of these will be self guided layout tours. Layouts of all descriptions are needed. We are also looking for people to present clinics. We would like to have some clinics about the Sacramento area and the Trans Continental Railroad. You should be able to find more information at



Member of the Year: Ed Pultz



Happy Birthday Mary

Sierra Division Report

Bob Warner, Chief Clerk

If you are reading this and it sounds new, you missed a great meeting, you did!! Sierra Div. met at the Sacramento Model Railroad Historical Society's club house on May 9th and had a fun packed day. Arrangements had been made for us to hold our division meeting first at a church hall across the street. In the traditional meaning of our organization, Mary Moore-Campagna announced the results of the election (railroading) of officers, all positions remain the same; Jim Long – Superintendent, Bob Warner – Chief Clerk, and Al Rowe – Paymaster. The Div. has a need for a Membership Chairman, no pay for light work. Let Jim Long know if you can help in this way.

The Sierra Div. kitbash contest was explained and kits and contest rules were distributed to those willing to take the challenge. The kits are Walther's Sunrise Feed Mill. The Div. purchased 25 kits and so far 24 have been distributed to members for the nominal cost of \$5. The idea is to encourage members to try some new modeling techniques by changing and working with an existing plastic kit building. Contestants must use ~50% of the kit and let their imagination run wild. You can build the kit as described and add details, kit bash it or build it into small diorama. Mostly we want members to have fun and improve modeling skills with plastic materials and have the experience of entering a model in a contest. The Div. and other contests are a way to share your modeling ideas. So win, loose or draw everyone who enters or views the contest learns something. We will have a blind popular vote for winners at our October meeting.

Mary Moore-Campagna then announced the Sierra Div. Member-Of-The Year Award. This year's winner is one of Sierra's most dedicated and active members, Ed Plutz. Congratulations Ed!

Ray Ritch is the chairman of the 2010 PCR convention in Sparks, NV. It will be called Silver Rails and will include clinics at the host Nugget Hotel and events at the Nevada Railroad Museum, local clubs and a ride on the Virginia and Truckee Railroad from Virginia City down to or near Carson City. Dates are April 28th to May 2nd. It was decided that a box car in both HO & N scale will be offered as convention cars. Look for more information and signup forms to follow. Jim Long surprised Mary Moore-Campagna with a flower bouquet to honor her birthday and then she was serenaded by the Sierra Div. choir to a rousing arrangement of Happy Birthday.

At each Div. meeting we have a model contest. The winner this time was Karen Keifer for her excellent N-scale models of wood buildings and a wonderful wood cabin diorama. MW is the topic for our summer picnic and Freight Cars for the fall meeting.

The meeting then adjourned to the Sacramento Model Railroad club house, where a hot dog or hamburger lunch was available. All during the day the club offered Division members a chance to operate on their Narrow-Gauge RR. Many took advantage of this opportunity. The main HO club layout is in the middle of a major make-over. The project is well under way and the track plan and scenery are definitely going to be a delight to all that will see it when we host the NMRA Convention in Sacramento.

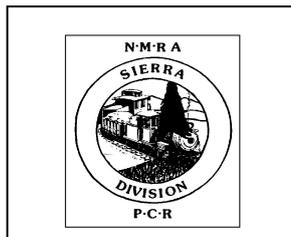
Remember that the International Railfair is coming up in November (14th&15th). This is our main source of income and we all need to be available to help man ticket sales and the switching layout and other jobs. A signup sheet will be future meetings.

May Contest - Structures



All the July contest entries were by Karen Keifer. They are **N scale!** and feature scale fidelity and detail not often seen even in O scale.

Sierra Division Contests are judged by popular vote of the Members present. The AUGUST CONTEST will be Maintenance of Way



THE SHORT LINE
Donald U. Schmitt, Editor
1318 Johnson Avenue
Marysville, CA 95901

Submissions to the Short Line: Photos, Prototype information, Modeling tips, News of coming events, etc are welcome. They may be submitted to Donald Schmitt, 1318 Johnson Ave, Marysville, CA 95901, email <duschmitt@comcast.net>.