



SHORT LINE

Sierra Division * Pacific Coast Region * National Model Railroad Association



*The
World's
Greatest
Hobby!*

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Can't Paint a Backdrop?

by Norm Morris

Can't paint a backdrop, well neither can I. I have attended several clinics on painting backdrops, but I just can't do it. One of the simplest methods I've tried was just using blue and white paint; you were to paint your backdrop white and before this paint dried paint over it in blue. It didn't work for me. It looked like blue with white streaks in it. I have tried painting mountains, but I find that I can't highlight or make shadows, so again I gave up trying to paint mountains.

I very often take a Sunday drive up into the mountains. However, my Sunday drives are normally on a weekday, I call it my Sunday morning drive, I don't know why be-

cause I normally don't get back in- to late in the afternoon or evening. While driving, I have noticed a number of places that could make beautiful backdrops for model railroads.

I can't paint it, so I came up with another solution. I have read about taking photos in series and stitching them together to make one large, long photo. So this is what I decided to do. I drove up to Crescent Mills east of Oroville on Highways 70, made a left turn on Highway 89 and made a right turn at the first railroad crossing into the valley. I selected a spot in the valley, set up my tripod with my camera and started taking photos at



Norm Morris photo

Sierra Division Callboard

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SHORT LINE

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SHORT LINE is published quarterly by the Sierra Division of the Pacific Coast Region of the National Association. Material may be reprinted with permission.

Articles, photos, tips, or ideas are heartily encouraged and will be enthusiastically accepted! The preferred format would be in Rich Text Format (RTF), with photos as JPEGs, but we will accept any format (from a PC or Mac; MS Word, Simple Text, typed, or handwritten). Send it to your editor by regular mail to **SHORT LINE**, 6601 Ray Family Lane, Magalia, CA 95954 or by email to gerber1926@gmail.com.

From the Superintendent

MODESTO...HERE WE COME!

Many of our members had asked me to try to spread our meetings around to other locations. **Modesto** will be our first stop of the new year. A **BIG "Thanks"** to **Jim Collins** for finding our meeting location, and **Mike McReynolds** for putting together a tour of the **Modesto and Empire Traction Company**. Mike tells me that we may get an inside look at one of the new locomotives during our tour. Please be at the location before **10:00 AM**. Warm clothing and comfortable shoes are recommended. Most of the tour is handicap ac-

cessible. After a **No Host Lunch** at a local eatry, we will be re-convening for a brief business meeting and a couple of clinics. Right now **Howard Shively** has graciously offered to present a clinic on **"Building Storage Boxes for Your Locos and Rolling Stock"**. Handouts will be available.

If you are planning to attend....would you please drop me an email at: scooter923@att.net? We would like to get a headcount for our lunch location. **Hope to see as many of you as possible on the 8th in Modesto.**

Our agenda is as follows:

9:45-10:00 Assemble for M&ET
Tour - 641 S McClure
Rd, Modesto, CA

10:00-11:30 Tour

11:30-1:00 No Host Lunch
(Location TBD)

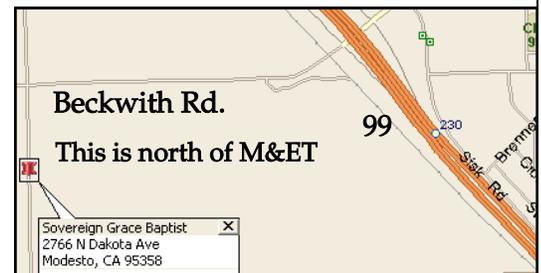
1:15 Business Meeting,
model & photo judging -
Sovereign Grace Baptist
Church 2766 N. Dakota
Ave, Modesto, CA

2:00-3:00 Clinic - How To Build Storage
Boxes for your Models -
Howard Shively

3:00 Clinic (TBD)

4:00 Door Prizes

4:30 Close



From the Editor

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Your humble editor is in need of articles for future issues of **Short Line**. I'm more than happy to help edit photos and/or text. Please contact me if you can help. gerber1926@gmail.com

Scott is looking for members who can put on a **future clinic** or knows of someone who might be willing. This is your association and your help is desperately needed.

COAST RAILS 2014

PCR CONVENTION

The convention is in San Luis Obispo from April 30th to May 4th. There is a discounted rate of \$79 if you sign up prior to January 31. It is \$89 after that. If you have not registered for the past five conventions, there is a special rate of \$69. Check out their web site at: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/registration.html>

TAKING PANORAMA PHOTOS

I have one other hobby than model railroading and that is photography. Because this issue shares ideas for photo backdrops, I felt a primer on taking those photos would be in order.

Cameras with a Panorama Mode

Many point and shoot cameras have this function. If yours does, use it. It will show you the last picture you took and a live view of the next picture so you can line up the images. It also adjusts the camera to NOT change exposure settings.

Cameras without Panorama Mode

Use a tripod if possible. Make sure your camera is level to avoid distortion that can occur between objects when you take an image at an angle. If hand-holding, keep your camera over the same point.

Shoot your pictures in "portrait" orientation (tall photos, not wide photos). This will give you higher resolution photos, however, horizontal orientation will require fewer photos to be stitched but at a lower resolution.

Do not have a polarizing filter on, it will make the sky uneven.

Do not shoot with an ultra-wide angle lens, normal focal length will have less distortion at the edges making it easier to stitch the photos together.

Choose your metering well. Set your metering mode to manual. Scan the entire scene making note of the aperture and shutter speeds and then pick settings in the middle or slightly darker to make sure key details are preserved.

Put your camera in manual mode. You do not want exposure to change between pictures. Do not change ISO (turn off Auto-ISO), aperture, nor shutter speed when you start shooting.

Focus on a point at or near infinity. Turn off auto-focus. Choose an f stop of at least f/8 or f/10 to keep everything in sharp focus. Avoid taking pictures of moving objects including close grasses or branches that are blowing in the wind. They will be difficult to stitch together. There must be "something" in each photo, not just sky or blank walls.

Start taking pictures from the left and sequence as you rotate to right of scene. Have 30% to 50% overlap in each one. Try to maintain the same vertical plane – easy if you have a tripod and have leveled it prior to shooting. If shooting without a tripod, just stand in one place and rotate.

Hopefully this is enough information to get you started in taking some photos for your own photo background. Your own photos printed on matte paper will be more vivid than commercially printed ones and unique to your layout. If you are not printing your own, check the internet for prices. The cheapest I found was \$2 per square foot but you were limited to 12" x 36". Internet sites that would print up to 36" x 10' started at \$4 per square foot. You can choose the height and length. I have included some links on techniques for using photo backdrops on your layout in the digital version of **Short Line**. <http://www.pcrnmra.org/sierra/index.html>

Can't Paint FROM PAGE 1

one end of the valley until I rotated to the other end of the valley.



Mountain peak at end of series, reversed to continue. (Gary Ray photo)

By taking these photos and series you can make what is call panorama view. While taking the photos, you must overlap your individual image by 15% to 40%, but no greater than 50%. Try to stay in the same position and keep your camera at the same level for each shot. Using a tripod and rotating head can help you achieve this consistency.

Now that you have the photographs taken, you need to enter them into your computer and use a computer software program that will do photomerge panorama. You may now come up with a very nice background for model railroad. The program that I use is called Photoshop Elements 10, but there are other programs that can do the same thing.

Now comes the problem, getting it printed. I went to a local printing shop that had a wide format printer and showed them what I wanted and asked about costs. To do my layout would have been too costly. So I decided to do it myself.

I need to buy a new printer because my old one wasn't printed correctly. The colors were way off as this

printer must've been about 5 to 10 years old. I decided to buy a new one. My old one only printed up to 8.5" by 14". I went online to the Epson web site (www.epson.com) and selected the cheapest printer that could print 13" by 19", and selected the model Artisan 1430 and one pack of 13" x 19" matte photo paper. This cost me only \$345.98 plus tax including shipping compared to over \$400 at the local print shop and I ended up with a very nice printer.

So by using computer software for stitching the photos together and making panorama view and printing I now have a 44 foot backdrop that I love. I did have to reverse the panorama a few times in order to get that 44 feet, but I still think it looks great even though you may see the same mountain only in reverse in two or three spots on my layout.

If I can do this, then anybody can. All you need to do is follow the instructions in the software package that you have.



Mountain and trees hide corner, 3-D fence on right. Other areas of layout have vegetation glued to backdrop, photo lumber stacks on cover page are mounted on foam core away from backdrop to give depth. (Gary Ray photo)

I went to the local home improvement center and bought two sheets of Masonite and I had it cut 11" x 8"; this way I could get four pieces out of each sheet. These sheets are mounted to the back of my layout up against the wall.

To get the photographs square, you need a guillotine cutter. This is a cutter that can cut through several sheets at one time that has a clamp to hold all the

sheets firmly in place. I have one but mine is too small for 19 inch paper, so I went to my local print shop and had them cut out the photos, for which I paid them only five dollars.

Now before mounting the photos on layout, layout the photos to make sure that they lineup with each other and put them in order from first to last. The first photo should be the first one you want to mount.

On the backside of the photographs I use a permanent spray adhesive by Krylon. You spray on the back side of photograph and mount one photograph

at a time. Starting at one corner with the first photo, I would line up the top edges of the photo to the top edge of the Masonite background board in a corner. Once you have it lined up you need to press it firmly to the backboard. Then I grab the next photo, spray it, and by lining up to top edge and the very end of the first photo, I mount it. I do this continuously until all the photos were mounted.

Now I have a very good backdrop that I am proud of.

Can't Paint | Page 18

SCRATCH BUILT OUTHOUSES



1st



2nd



3rd

Tom Campbell received 1st place in our Oct. 12th contest for his well equipped outhouse, Jim Collins 2nd, and Gary Ray 3rd.

February 8, 2014 Photo Contest Future Contest for May 12

The photo contest will be model railroads—on a layout or diorama. Photo content must be arranged and taken by the entrant and not have won in any local, regional, or national event. Both B&W and color may be entered. Limit of 3 pictures in each category. Pictures need to be at least 5" x 7" but not over 8" x 12" and need not be mounted. (PCR contests require mounting.) PCR rules and categories can be found at <http://www.pcrnmra.org/pcr/contest/PCR-Photo-Contest-Entry-Form-2010.pdf>

February 8 Weathering Contest

The modeling contest will be weathering steel cars. John-Henry Martin's clinic that will be presented at the October 12 meet should be of great help.

MODELING ~ Trees — any type from a single to a whole forest.

PHOTOS ~ Prototype subject in black and white. 3 entries per person. Same rules as always.

Future Contest for August

MODELING ~ Buildings — Enter one of your favorite buildings; can be kit, kit-bashed, or scratch-built.

PHOTOS ~ Prototype track and/or structure in color. 3 entries per person.

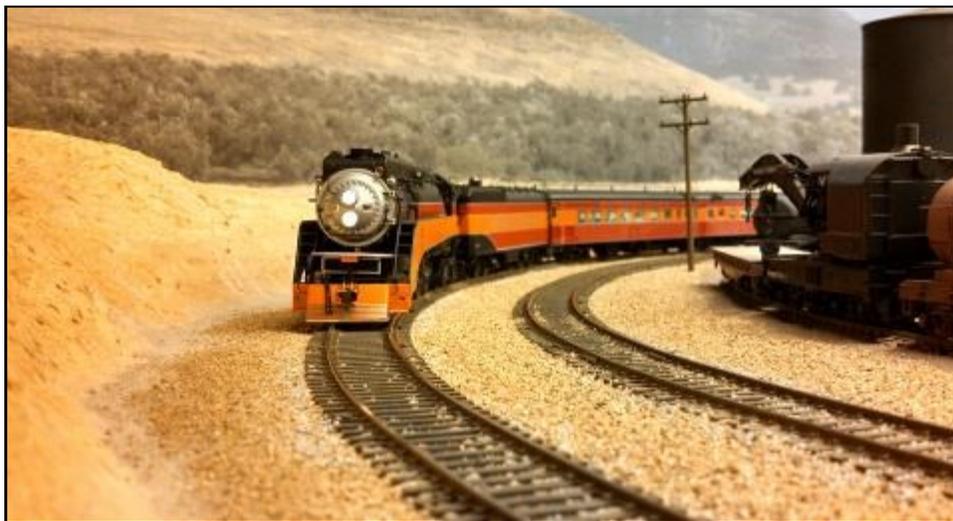
Future Photo Contest for Oct.

PHOTOS ~ Prototype trains in action. Lots of advance time to get out and take some pictures.

Model Railroad Photo Backgrounds

by Ryan Dora (photos by author)

One of the simplest and most effective ways you can enhance the overall appearance of your model railroad layout is adding a scenic background. The idea is simple; you want to create depth and distance in your scenes. This can be applied to any size layout with a little bit of planning. A lot of modelers tend to complete this first before any bench work is started. The reason is because of the accessibility it allows one to be able to work on the area without having to reach over and destroying what's already there.



Traditionally backgrounds were hand painted using your standard acrylic or water based paints.

Normally a sky blue was first applied then maybe a few mountains, trees and clouds were added. This method can be very well done if you or a fellow modeler you know has the talent.

The next level of scenic backgrounds using today's great technology is digital



photography. You can actually go out and take your own pictures of scenery you want on your layout. Then with a little help from your local imaging center you can print them out. If photography is not your thing, then you can choose from several commercial manufactures. That's what I did when adding my backgrounds. I found some fantastic scenes that fit into my modeling landscape from BackDrop Warehouse. Here is the link;

<http://www.backdropwarehouse.com>

After placing my order and receiving my scenes in the mail, I very easily installed them. I had already nailed 1/4" thick hardboard that I purchased from my local Home Depot around my layout. They were cut in 12" by 8' long sections and nailed to the wall. I then used double sided tape to attach the

background scenes to the hardboard. It was that easy.

The last important thing you want to do is make your layout scenery blend into the background. Use similar colors in your ground cover, ballast, trees, bushes etc. With this simple project you can really make your layout stand out. Happy modeling.

(See more of Ryan's modeling at his website :

<http://ryansp4449.wix.com/spmodeling>)

Photo Backgrounds | Page 11

A Look Back at the Sierra Division October 12th Meet

by Gary Ray (photos by author)

Twenty-six members attended and viewed a slide show by John-Henry Martin on weathering steel boxcars. Afterwards, a hands-on clinic gave members a chance to weather their own cars.



John-Henry displayed many examples of his weathered cars. Remember that the upcoming contest is weathered steel cars.

(Jim Collins photo)



David Rainwater, Senior Park Aide and Volunteer Coordinator at Railtown, 1897 State Historic Park, presented a slide show using the division's new screen entitled "Preserving the Legacy of Steam Railroading and Volunteer Opportunities at Jamestown." The presentation included pictures from the past as well as the present. David shared that they have 160 volunteers with many opportunities for men and women to participate in at the park. Training is in March. Contact Railtown if interested. <http://www.railtown1897.org/contact-us>



Ed Pultz demonstrated modification of switches for selective power routing.

Dave Bayliss and Giuseppe Aymar shared how to become a Master Model Railroader (MMR). They are judging Jim Petro's transfer caboose.



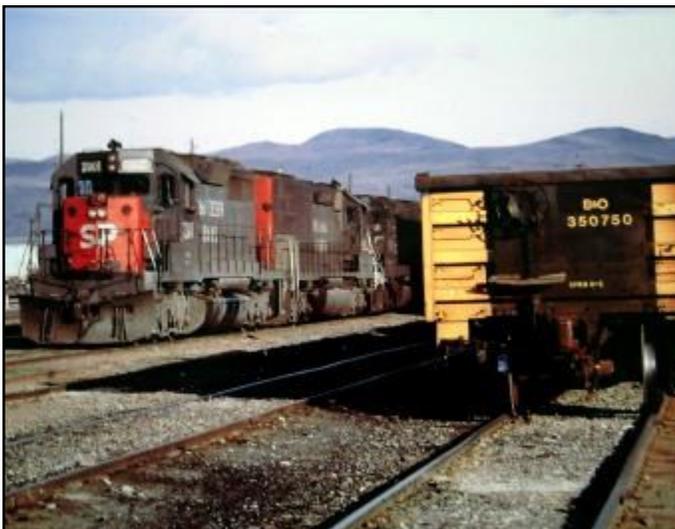
The photo contest was divided into two categories: Steam Locos and Diesel Locos. In the steam category Gary Ray placed 1st and tied Walt Schedler for 2nd. Dan Evans placed 3rd. Gary Ray placed 1st and 2nd in the diesel category and Norm Morris and Walt Schedler tied for 3rd. There were seventeen entries in the photo contest.



2nd place steam photo by Walt Schleder.



3rd place steam photo by Dan Evans.



3rd place diesel photo by Walt Schleder.



3rd place diesel photo by Norman Morris. 1st and 2nd place photos by Gary Ray are on page 10. More meet photos in digital edition.

SIERRA DIVISION

Next Meeting: Saturday, Feb. 8

Place: Modesto & Empire Traction

641 S. McClure Road

Modesto, CA

Time: 9:45 AM to 4:30 PM

TIMETABLE

May 10

August TBA

October TBA

SHORT LINE

DEADLINES

April 11 for the May issue

July 3 for the August issue

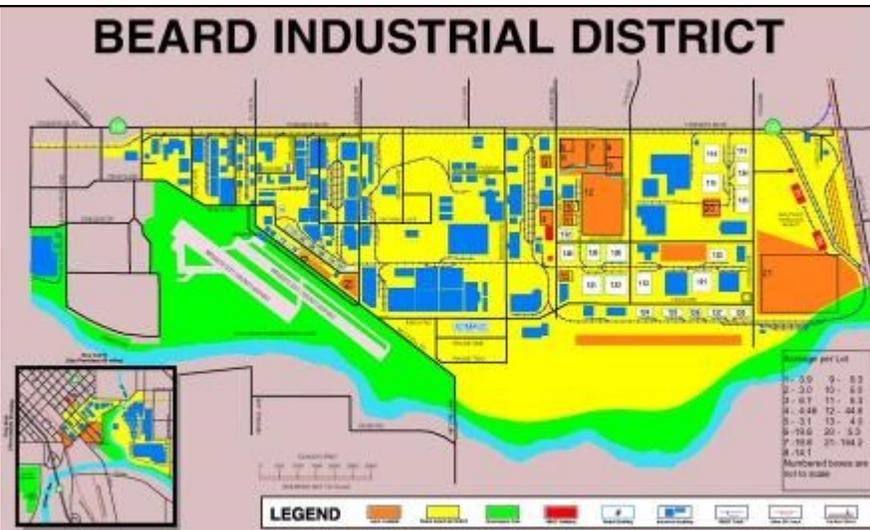
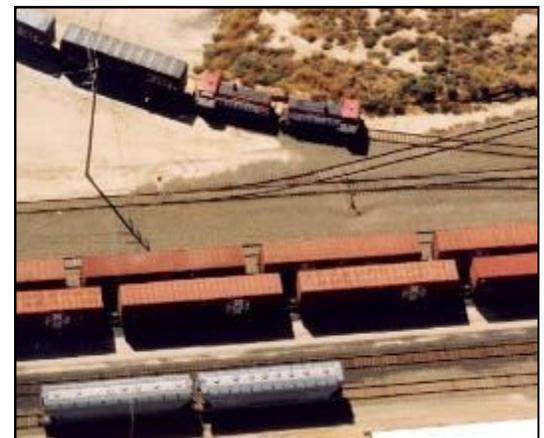
Sept. 7 for the Oct. issue

New member photos are on page 14 digital edition.

Come Tour February 8th

Modesto & Empire Traction Co.

M&ET's 2000Hp
Railpower GenSet
December 2008

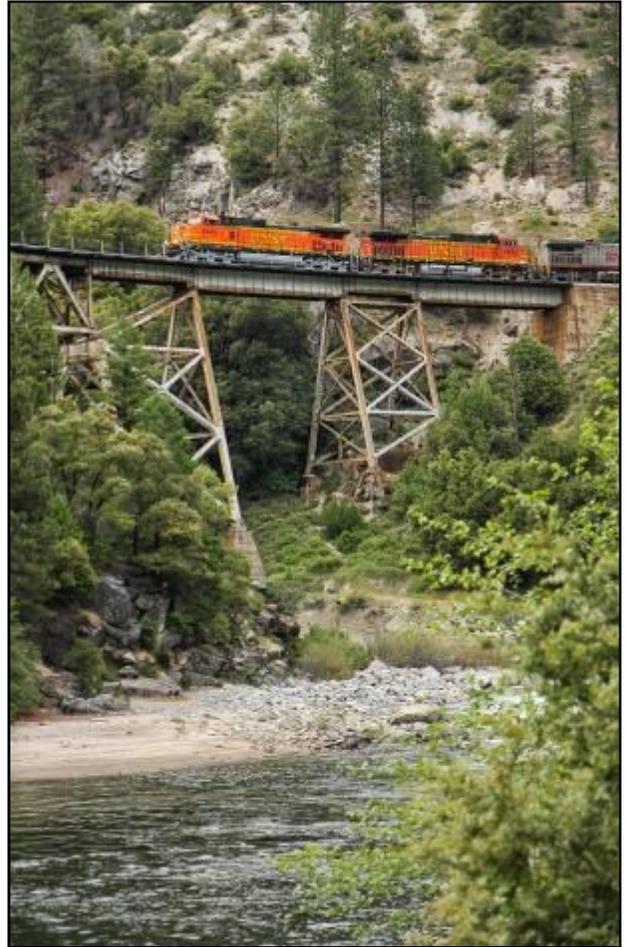


Mike McReynolds contracted the Modesto & Empire Traction Company have arranged a tour for our February 8th meet. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

The M&ET has 28 miles of industrial track with connections to both BNSF and UP. They service over 50 industries in the Beard Industrial District using 8 Railpower GenSets.



Photos courtesy of
Modesto & Empire Traction Company



Gary Ray had the first place photos in steam and diesel locomotives. UP 844 was photographed in September of 2010 on it's way to Sacramento. The BNSF photos was taken in May of 2010 in the Feather River Canyon.

Gary had two photos tie for second place in steam and one in diesel locomotives.



Abandoned NorthWestern Pacific (ex California Central Traction) GP7 in Eureka, CA, is heavily rusted and graffitied in August of 2013. This is one of four locos abandoned there along with three ex Southern Pacific GP9Es.

Looking Back October Meet FROM PAGE 9



A smiling Larry Beardsley shared his beautifully completed NorthEastern Scale Models Yard Warehouse from our laser kit building contest. It is still not too late to share.



John-Henry Martin and his wife share his slide show on weathering for the group.



Some of the products and tools that John-Henry Martin uses in weathering.



Dave Russell and Larry Beardsley look on as Larry begins his demo on weathering.



Dave Bayless gets ready to weather. (Jim Collins photo)



John-Henry and his wife set up this module display of his weathered cars.



I appreciate that Jim Collins has helped with photography. Photo to left is his.



Membership Chairman and photographer Jim Collins admiring weathered boxcar.



Dave Bayless reads Jim Petro's documentation prior to awarding point for Jim's caboose.



Giuseppe Aymar explains scoring matrix to Superintendent Scott McAllister.



NEW MEMBERS



The Sierra Division was glad to welcome to new members at our meet. Dave Hilmes (above), Graham Hollingworth (right) & John Caramagno (far right).



The Sierra Division meets are a good place to learn new skills and just enjoy fellow modelers.





**PCR/NMRA
Coast Rails 2014
PCR Convention
April 30 - May 4, 2014
Sands Inn & Suites
1930 Monterey Street
San Luis Obispo, CA**

RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
Coast Rails 2014
c/o Doug Wagner
14008 Tierra Blanca Ave.
Bakersfield, CA 93314
E-mail: CoastRails2014@pcrnmra.org
Website: www.pcrnmra.org/cony2014
Visit the website to pay by credit card

Please Print

Registration Form

Hosted by: Daylight Division, PCR / NMRA

Last Name		First Name		First Name (for Name Badge)		
Address			City		State Zip Code	
Home Phone		E-mail Address			NMRA # or SLORRM (Membership Required)	
Registration Type (Please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Model Railroader <input type="checkbox"/> Non Rail <input type="checkbox"/> Youth				NMRA Region (if other than PCR)		
Available to Volunteer on <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Times:						
I can help more. Have a Volunteer Coordinator contact me <input type="checkbox"/>						
Primary Scales and Interests <input type="checkbox"/> HO <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> Narrow Gauge <input type="checkbox"/> SLORRM <input type="checkbox"/> Other:						
Will you attend the Hobo Breakfast at the Apple Farm? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, How many Hobos? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No						
ADDITIONAL REGISTRANT LIVING AT SAME ADDRESS (Use another form for more than 1)						
Last Name		First Name		First Name (for Name Badge)		
Registration Type (Please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Modeler <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Rail <input type="checkbox"/> Youth			E-Mail (if Different)		NMRA #	
Available to Volunteer on <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Times:						
I can help more. Have a Volunteer Coordinator contact me <input type="checkbox"/>						
Primary Scales and Interests <input type="checkbox"/> HO <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> Narrow Gauge <input type="checkbox"/> SLORRM <input type="checkbox"/> Other:						
<i>All Fares include Clinics (except MWIM Clinics), Layout Tours, and Saturday Night Awards Banquet Ticket</i>						
<i>Day Fares do NOT include Saturday Night Awards Banquet.</i>						
FARES: Please fill in QTY and Total				QTY	Unit Cost	Total
Early Bird Registration (through January 31, 2014) (Full Fare is \$89.00)					79.00	
Full Fare Registration (after January 31, 2014)					89.00	
First Timer - PCR Members who have not registered for the past 5 conventions.					69.00	
Non-Rail or Spouse Registration (spouse can be modeler)					69.00	
Youth Registration (12-18 years old or student)					50.00	
Additional Saturday Night Awards Banquet Ticket (Included in all Registrations except Day Fares) (For non-attending spouses/SOs coming to nothing else and not otherwise registered)					20.00	
Day Fare <input type="checkbox"/> Wed <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs <input type="checkbox"/> Fri <input type="checkbox"/> Sat					35.00	
Non-NMRA member must either join the NMRA or SLORRM to register. *Student is any person 18 years and under or student 19-25 years old.		6 month Rail Pass (allowed one time only)			9.95	
		NMRA membership with NMRA magazine			66.00	
		NMRA membership without NMRA magazine			44.00	
		* Student membership with NMRA magazine			32.00	
		PCR Branch Line newsletter subscription			8.00	
		SLORRM Individual Membership			36.00	
		SLORRM Family Membership			60.00	
Swap Meet Half Table					5.00	
Swap Meet Full Table					10.00	
Total from Page 2						
Payment by <input type="checkbox"/> Check** <input type="checkbox"/> Cash (Use website for credit card)					TOTAL	
** Make Checks Payable to: "Coast Rails 2014" No Refunds After April 9, 2014						

Panoramic Photos FROM PAGE 3

Here are some quick links that I found when I was looking up information on photo backdrops. Hopefully it is a starting place for you. I didn't take time to organize nor make pretty—just my notes. Hope they help get you started.

I've long followed the construction of Jim Six's layout. He uses photo backdrops very effectively. He often collaborates with Tom Johnson who does remarkable work with them. I've included a few links to them.

Self adhesive: <http://rgsrr.blogspot.com/2013/08/photo-backdrops.html>

Printer to choose: <http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/node/13708>

Blending foreground to photo & single sheets between buildings: <http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/node/13536>

Photoshop & HP for NV: <http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/node/13406>

Complete process with a 1 hour video: <http://2railoscale.blogspot.com/2011/12/photo-backdrops-made-easy.html>

And part 2 – 27 min video: <http://2railoscale.blogspot.com/2012/02/photo-backdrops-made-easy-part-2.html>

General info: <http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/node/15591>

Photo backdrop repository for sharing background photos: http://www.flickr.com/groups/mrh_photo_backdrop_repository/

37 page pdf – background options by Marshall Abrams http://www.trainweb.org/BackdropFigures/making_backdrop.pdf

Free download Buildings, signs, interiors, how to: <http://www.gatewaynmra.org/model-railroad-downloads/>

Photographing your scale buildings and vehicles to add to backdrop: <http://www.kitforums.com/viewtopic.php?f=7&t=5414>

Jim Six photos <http://www.gr2012.org/apps/photos/album?albumid=11516286>

Forum on photo background – scroll down some Jim 6 http://forum.atlasrr.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=70187

Tom Johnson's layout – many scenes only 6" deep – matches foreground to backdrop – several pages of pictures

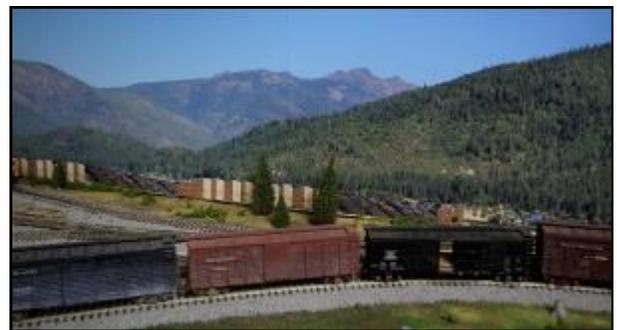
<http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/node/8934>

Jim Six background blending starts on page 10, 12, 14, 15 <http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/node/14150?page=10>

Can't Paint FROM PAGE 4

Here are some more photos of Norm Morris's layout. Photos were printed at home and mounted on Masonite.

(The two top photos were by Norm and the remainder by Gary Ray.)



I intentionally left wall showing so you can see how effective these photos are.



Lumber stacks photos set out from backdrop on foamcore. Below fence is placed in front and plants are glued on.



MODEL RAILROADS OF THE PCR

by Gary Ray

This is the fourth and final report on the **PCR Iron Horse Express Convention** held in Dublin, CA, from April 3rd to the 6th, 2013. The three previous issues of Short Line contained the rest of the coverage. So much to see and write about, so little time. There were so many great layouts, it took a long time to write about them all. I hope you enjoy visiting these layouts and gain some ideas from the coverage. **If you Google most of the railroads, especially the clubs, you will find many related sites for each with videos and/or pictures.**

There were many opportunities to operate on various layouts. Consider signing up for an op session at one of this year's **PCR convention in San Luis Obispo** when the schedule comes out.

I can't wait to see all the wonderful layouts down there.

Kermit Paul's

Lone Pine & Tonopah

The Lone Pine and Tonopah is an imaginary railroad operating during World War II. It is loop to loop with a branch line occupying a 27' x 44' room under the house. Sector plate staging is in an adjacent room.

It is interesting that the first time I visited Kermit's layout it was in his garage. The basement was dug out under the existing house and the layout reconstructed and more than doubled in size. It has a 36" minimum radius and uses Progressive Cab Control. Kermit is the master of animation and lighting effects. He also gave a tour of his workshop which houses tools such as a CNC milling machine and laser cutter. He demonstrated his new 3-D printer.

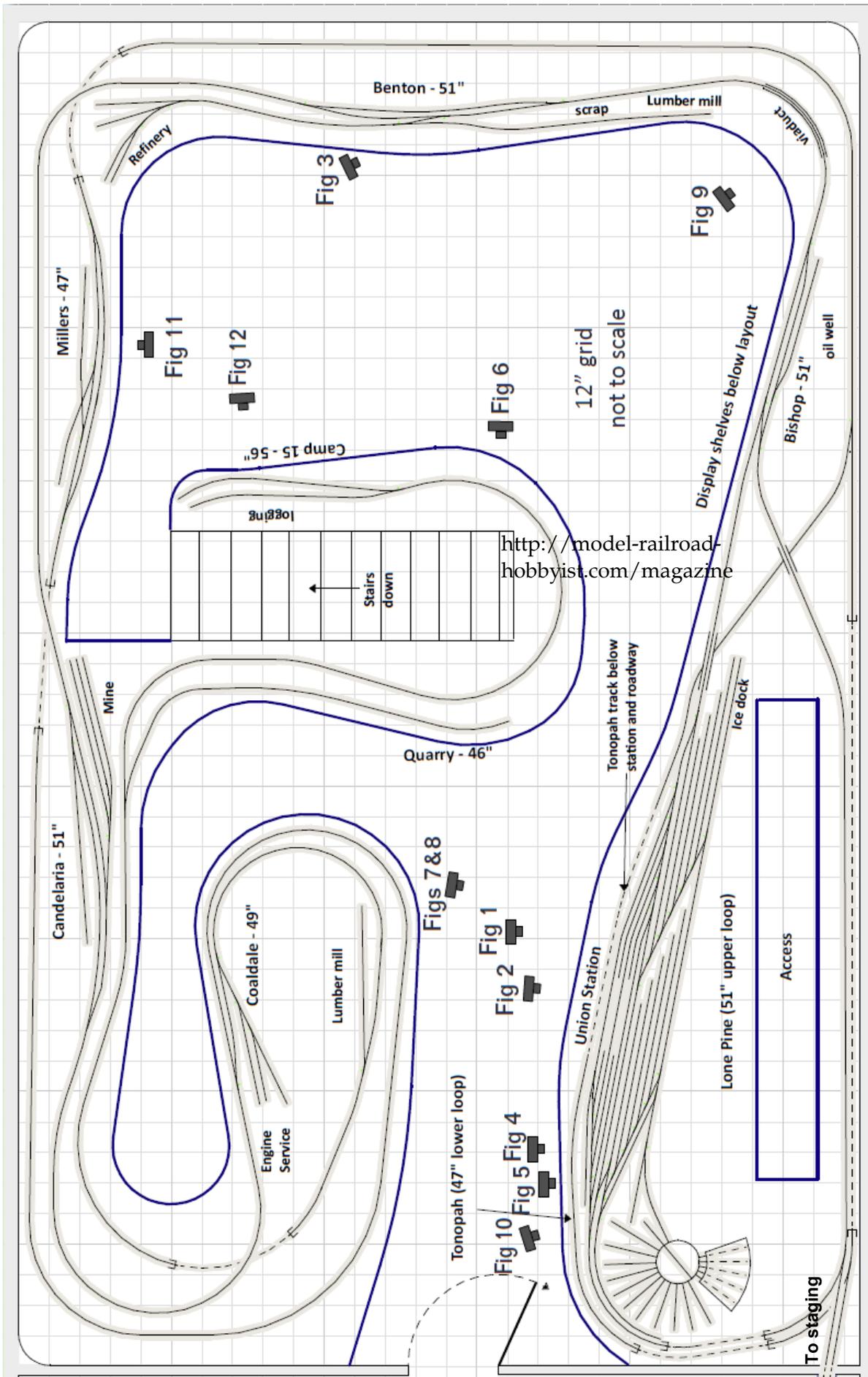
I had a chance to spend a three hours operating on this fantastic layout. Operations uses on-car way-bills where information is carried on a magnetic, two-sided disc on the car.



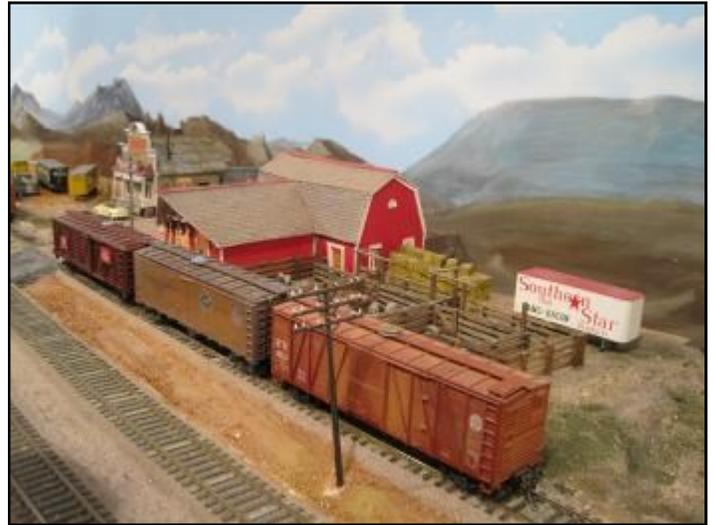


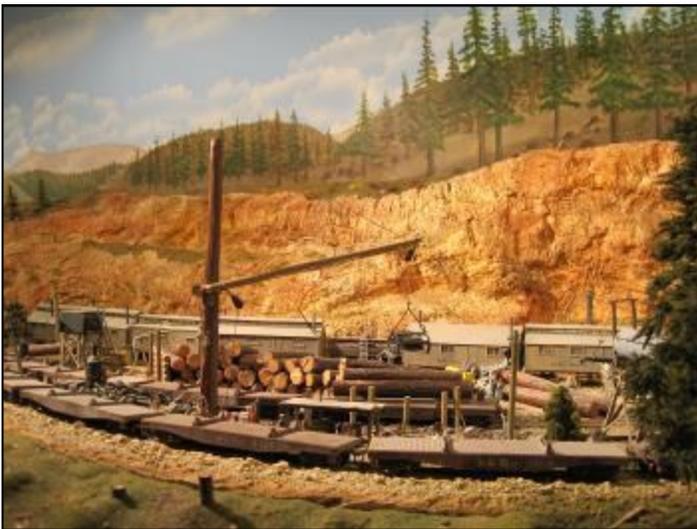
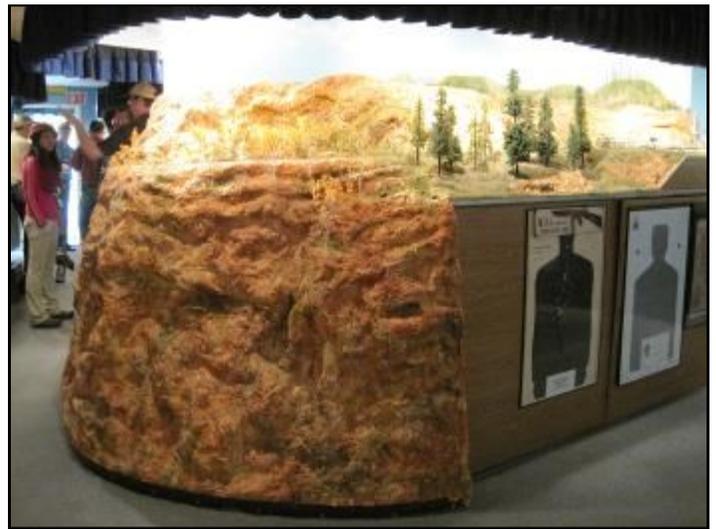
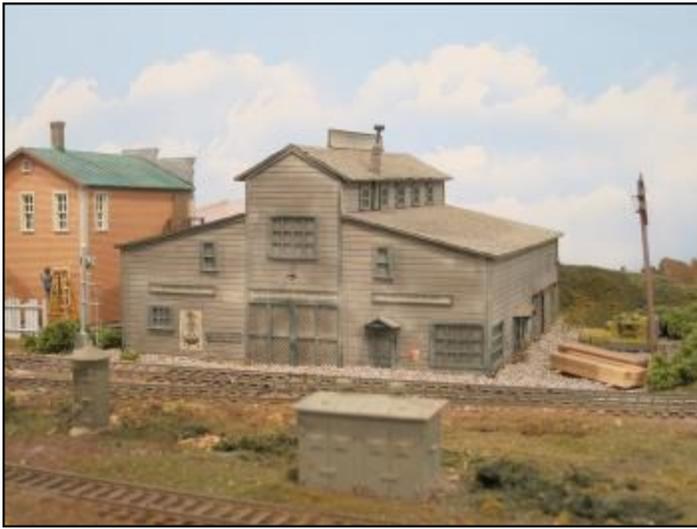
Tank cars in Lone Pine have washers that are used in operations to identify destination. Kermit Paul at his dispatcher's panel. The sec- tor plate staging is behind and to the right of





Track diagram courtesy of **Model Railroad Hobbyist**. The figure numbers on the track plan refer to the article in MRH in their March, 2011 issue. This issue and all back issues can be downloaded for free at: <http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/magazine>. Model Railroad Hobbyist is a wonderful resource that can be downloaded or read on computers, tablets, or smart phones. Best of all, it is FREE! Go to: <http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/magazine>





If you were at Camp 15, you would actually load the logs by remote control.



Bay Area S Scalpers

Modular Layout

The Bay Area S Scalpers' modular layout was set up in the lobby of the convention. It is a double track mainline with a 53" radius along with a couple of crossovers and sidings. Modules are constructed to NASG standards with have been adopted as NMRA standards. Individuals own each module. The Bay Area S Scalpers is a rotating visiting with club meetings in different members homes where there is usually an operating S scale layout.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.bayareasscalers.org/>



Lee Johnson is at the throttle of SP consolidation 2561 on the Bay Area S Scalpers' modular layout.



Silicon Valley Free-moN

Silicon Valley Free-moN is an informal group of folks in the San Francisco Bay Area who are building N-scale modules following the Free-moN standard. Modules are constructed close to eye-level (50") and are usually based upon actual locations.

DCC is used for control. Prototype modules have scenes from New Mexico, Texas, and California.

More information can be found at:

<http://www.sv-free-mon.org/>



Silicon Valley Free-moN member Steve Williams



HOBBY SHOPS

Thanks to the efforts of members we have an updated list of hobby shops throughout our region. A big thank you goes to **Dave Grenier** for consolidating them into this list. It can also be found on the PCR website at: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/pcr/links/links.shtml#hobbysshops>

I know there was a hobby shop in Carson City in 2012 that was open for the High Sierra Tour. Are they still in business. I also found Reno Rails in Reno. Could someone comment on them and notify Dave Grenier or myself—Gary Ray at gerber1926@gmail.com

Sierra Division

- [Walt's Trains & Electronics](#) – 334 Market Street (inside Picket Fence Antiques), Colusa, CA, (408) 431-1660, (866) 924-3044
- [Roger's Railroad Junction & Hobbies](#) – We offer craftsman kits, general kits and a vast selection of detail items in HO, HOn3, On30, N and Z scale items. 105 S. Sacramento St, Lodi, CA, (209) 334-5623
- [Paradise Hobbies](#) – Primarily RC, but has RR items and modeling materials. 491 Pearson Rd, Paradise, CA, (530) 877-6447
- [Railroad Hobbies](#) – Everything from Z to G scales. 119 Vernon St, Roseville, CA, (916) 782-6067
- [The Western Depot](#) – Northern California's most complete source for your model railroad needs. 1650 Sierra Avenue, Suite 203, Yuba City, CA, (530) 673-6776.

Coast Division

- [Just Trains](#) – Over 3000 square feet of model trains and supplies. 5650 Imhoff Drive, Concord, CA, (925) 685-6566
- [BCT Hobby & Crafts](#) – 201 McCray St, Ste C, Hollister, CA, (831) 635-0537
- [Loco-Booze Electric Train Shop](#) – 260-D Main Street, Redwood City, CA, (650) 368-1254
- [J & M Hobby House](#) – 1660 Laurel St, San Carlos, CA, (650) 593-5019
- [Franciscan Hobbies](#) – **CLOSING 1/31/2014!** 1920A Ocean Ave, San Francisco, CA, (415) 584-3919
- [Chan's Trains and Hobbies](#) – 2450 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco, CA, (415) 885-2899
- [D & J Hobby & Crafts](#) – Lots of scratch building materials and supplies. 5205 Prospect Rd, Ste 160, San Jose, CA, (408) 252-1266
- [Hobbies Unlimited](#) – 937 Manor Blvd, San Leandro, CA, (510) 351-7112
- [Gator Games & Hobbies](#) – Good source for Vallejo Paints. 4212 Olympic Ave, San Mateo, CA, (650) 571-7529
- [Talbot's Hobbies](#) – 445 South B Street, San Mateo, CA, (650) 931-8100
- [Train Shop](#) – 100% trains, discount prices, super selection. 1829 Pruneridge Ave, Santa Clara, CA, (408) 296-1050
- [AeroMicro](#) – Good source for some parts and adhesives. 2090 Duane Ave, Santa Clara, CA, (408) 496-6699

Daylight Division

- [Central Coast Trains](#) – On the way to and from Coast Rails 2014 and 15 miles from the Convention Hotel in San Luis Obispo! 7600 El Camino Real, #3, Atascadero, CA, (805) 466-1391
- [Doug's Hobbies](#) – 2029 Chester Ave, Bakersfield, CA, (661) 328-1234
- [Hobbytown USA](#) – 102 E. Barstow Avenue(@ Blackstone NE corner), Fresno, CA, (559) 435-3342
- Bulldog Trains & Hobbies – 2818 E. Belmont Ave, Fresno, CA (559) 475-0060
- Sam's Trains & Collectibles – 111½ South H Street, Lompoc, CA (805) 448-3912
- [Mike's Trains & Hobbies](#) – 111 South H Street, Lompoc, CA (805) 736-6747 (Call for hours)
- Law's Hobby Center – 855 Marsh St, San Luis Obispo, CA (805) 544-5518
- California Hobbies – 5118 Hollister Ave, Santa Barbara, CA (805) 964-6563
- [Gold Coast Station](#) – 125 W. Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA, (661) 822-9254
- [Trains Etc.](#) – 114 W. Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA, (661) 822-7777
- Visalia Hobbies – 2139 W. Whitendale Ave, Visalia, CA, (559) 734-8072

Redwood Empire Division

- [The Loose Caboose Hobbies](#) – 820-A Third Street, Napa, CA, (707) 258-1222
- [Dollhouses, Trains & More](#) – 300 Entrada Drive, Novato, CA, (415) 883-0388
- [Fundemonium](#) – 171 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA, (707) 762-9200
- [Dauth Hobbies](#) – 224 Greenfield Ave, Suite 2, San Anselmo, CA, (415) 454-3087
- [Feather River Train Shop](#) – 25 Mitchell Blvd., Suite 14, San Rafael, CA, (415) 499-0664
- [Mossy's Trains](#) (formerly Poggies Trains) – 100 Foley Street, Santa Rosa, CA, (707) 545-7643

Any others? Updates? Send e-mail to [Dave Grenier](#)