



SHORT LINE

Sierra Division * Pacific Coast Region * National Model Railroad Association



The
**World's
Greatest
Hobby!**

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The 2019 PCR Convention, in concert with the Feather River Rail Society, is but a month away! Indeed, the convention officially begins on Thursday morning, May 2, at the McClellan Convention Center in Sacramento. There will have a registration table set up at the hotel Wednesday afternoon and evening, May 1 for early arrivals.

The Diamond Rails Forever committee has a compiled a variety of clinics, model railroad tours, operating sessions, and visits to prototype facilities. They have even thrown in a few non-railroad related tours that promise to be of interest to everyone.

The Feather River Rail Society, with their primary focus on the history of the Western Pacific Railroad, also has a slate of clinics and other activities that coordinate well with the NMRA. Why not take part in all that is being offered during this joint convention?

As the host division, Sierra has several members on the convention committee and all have been working on the details and features for the past year. And the culmination of all this activity is on the horizon.

Please see the summary schedule on page 7, the links to the convention website on page 8, and the registration form on page 9. (You can also register online. See the Registration link on page 8).

You will also find more information in the PCR Branch Line which should be available online at the PCR website the first week of April.

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

All of the details are available on the Diamond Rails Forever website.

<http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/>

Sierra Division Callboard

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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**, 2260 Cherry Glenn Ct., Chico, CA 95926 or by email to :

From the Superintendent

This Past February the Sierra Division enjoyed a fun operating session at the Sacramento Model Railroad Historical Society and a great meet with lots of participation and an excellent clinic. The write up of those adventures begins on page 12.

Our next meet will be in August (we're skipping the May meet this year because we will all be at the PCR Convention). For now, the plan is to hold the meeting in the morning at the Fair Oaks Public Library and then reconvene at Hagen Park in Rancho Cordova for a BBQ lunch and an afternoon with the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers.

With our next meet being four months in the future, you have plenty of time to prepare for the contests, Modeling - Structures You Have Built During the Last Six Months, Photography - Tracks and Structures, and Arts & Crafts. There is also time to figure out what to bring for our "Show And Tell" session. We had a bunch of different topics shared in February and I extend a special thanks to those who participated. And don't forget the clinics. If you have an idea for a clinic you might want to offer, let me know and we'll do it!

If four months is not enough time for you to prepare, we have another meet on October 12 in Chico. We're in the early planning stages for October but the current idea is to fill the morning with layout visits and hold the meeting in the afternoon.

For either of these upcoming meets, bring a friend - perhaps someone who as expressed an interest in the hobby but has yet to "let the bug bite". One area of constant focus is increasing our membership and bringing a friend to a meet is a fabulous way to do just that.

Meanwhile, we have a regional convention coming up May 2 thru May 5. There are several pages in this issue devoted to the convention and I invite you to read through them. Also read the April issue of the *Branch Line* which has more extensive convention information. And be sure to visit the convention website: <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/>

One of the favorite opportunities afforded by a regional convention is the chance to attend operating sessions in and around the host city. One such session will be Saturday, May 4th, at Walt Schedler's Colusa Shasta Division. Walt is offering us an opportunity to sign up ahead of time for the various open crew assignments. Please see pages 10 and 11. Walt and Caroline will offer beans at noon as usual, and he assures us that the session will wrap up in plenty of time to return to Mc Clellan for the banquet.

That's All For Now.

High Green To All !



Tips of the Trade Hobby

By Chip Meriam

Let me be right up front. This a shameless teaser. But I ran across something I had to share.

A few weeks back I visited the High Sierra Club in Chico along with Gary Ray. Gary mentioned he was looking for a seamless way to blend a modeled road into a 2 dimensional back drop. High Sierra had an example or two of this as do I in one spot. Gary obviously took what he saw as inspiration to create similar scenes along his Gerber Sub. Here are some remarkable shots from the Gerber Sub at Bella Vista.



After the requisite bit of grumbling about me being a slave driver, Gary agreed to put together a story on how he accomplished these illusions - which he did. But to read the story you will have to go the April issue of the PCR *Branch Line*. You see, I have a reciprocal arrangement with the *Branch Line's* editor and I owed him one. What I did not share with him was this set of photos.

Once Gary gets over his view of me as a slave driver, I'll approach him about offering a clinic on this very subject.

SIERRA DIVISION

Next Meeting: August 10
Fair Oaks

9:30 AM - Noon
Fair Oaks Public Library
11601 Fair Oaks Blvd.

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
Hagen Park - Rancho Cordova
2197 Chase Drive
BBQ Lunch and Live Steamers

SEE MAPS BELOW

TIMETABLE

February 9
Sacramento

May 2 - 6
PCR Convention
Sacramento
(no division meet)

August 10
Fair Oaks
Rancho Cordova

October 12
Chico



SHORT LINE

Jun 10 for the Jul Issue

Sep 10 for the Oct Issue

Dec 10 for the Jan Issue

Mar 10 for the Apr Issue



May 2 - 5, 2019
Sacramento, CA

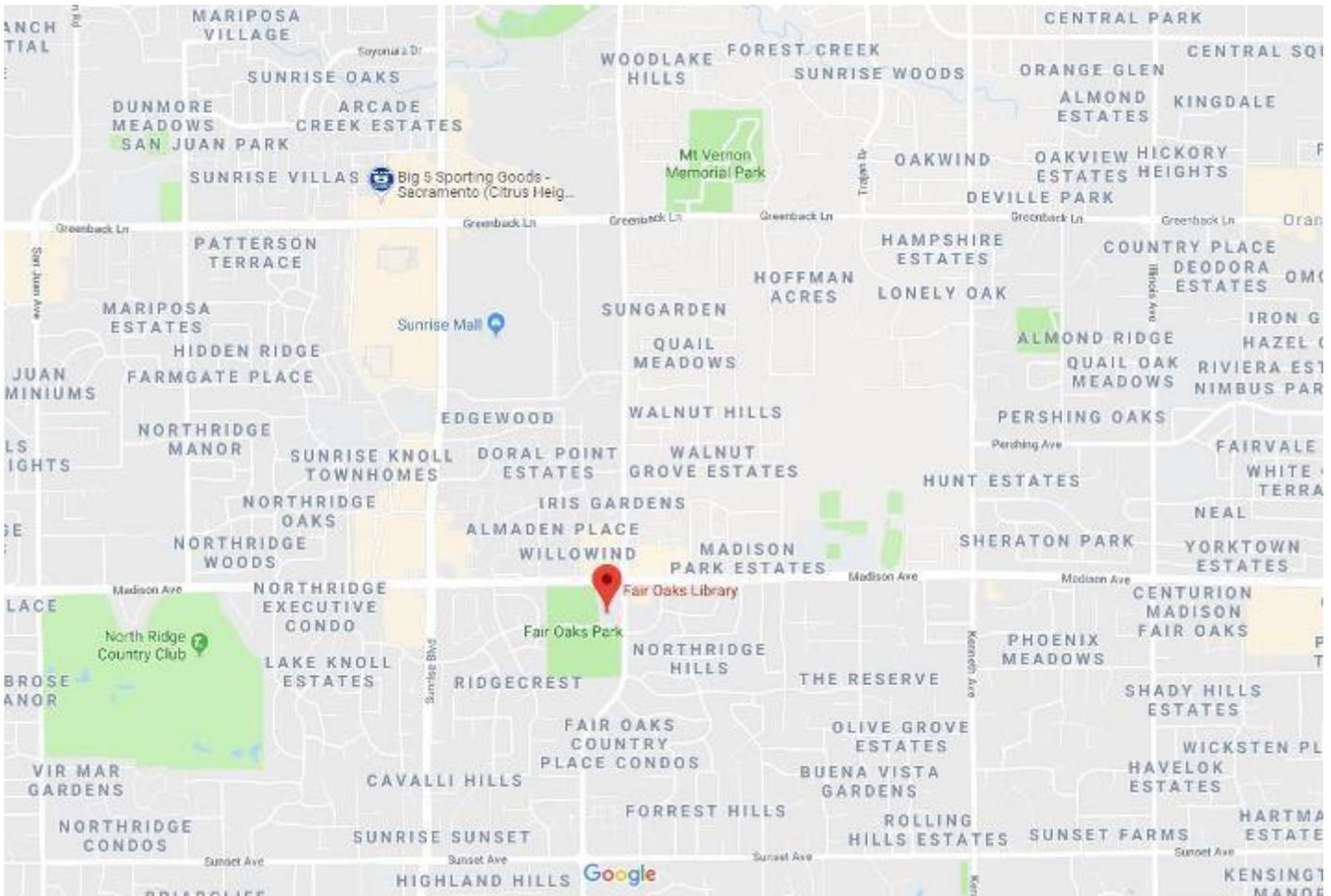
August Contest Categories:

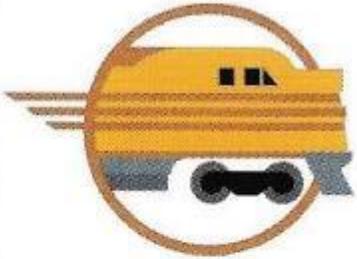
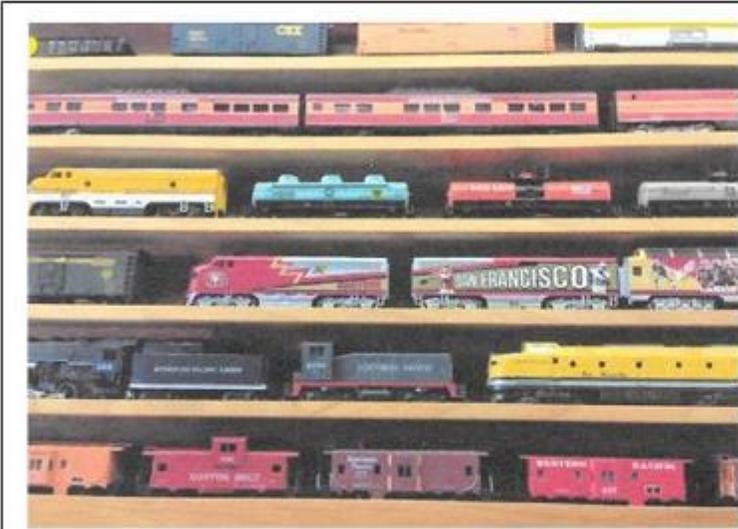
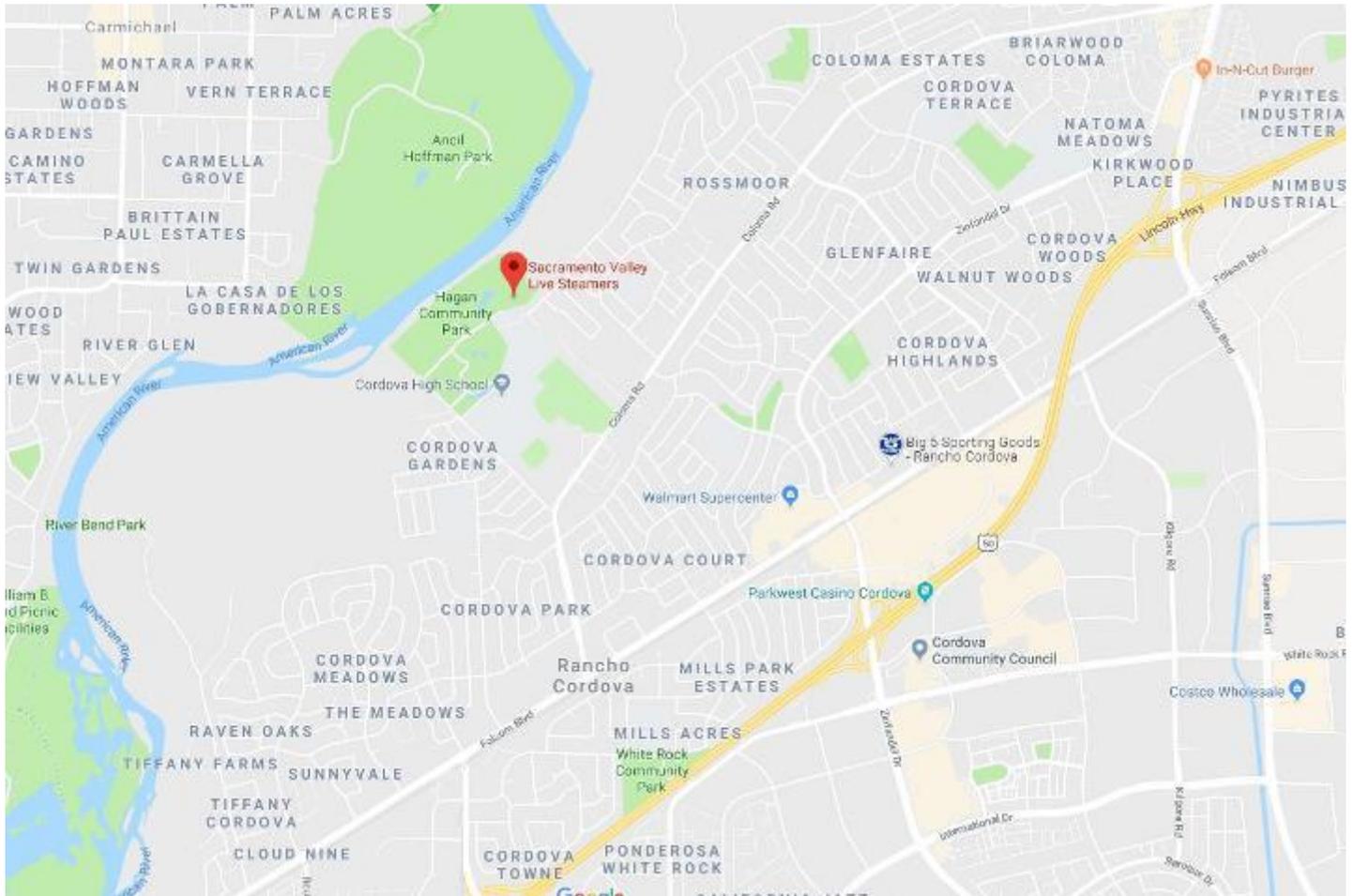
Modeling: Any Structure You Built In The Last 6 Months

Photo: Tracks & Structures

(limit of 3 photos - at least 5 X 7 but not over 8 X 12)

Railroad Arts & Crafts





PACKRATT TRAINS & TOYS
Matt Padgett

546 Kentucky Street - Gridley, CA 95948
530-797-9264 packratt1@gmail.com

Open Wednesday thru Friday 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM and Saturday 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM



NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC.

**Wow! Did you know there's a new
NMRA Member Benefit?**

It's the NMRA Partner Program!

**Model railroad manufacturers are partnering
with the NMRA to offer discounts to NMRA
members.**

**Current members log in to www.nmra.org .
At the Members Menu, go to the NMRA
Partnership Page to see who's on the list,
discounts offered, and how to order. New
Partners are coming on board every month,
so check back often.**

**If you're not yet a member, here's another
great reason to join and get more fun from
your hobby with a membership in the
world's largest model railroad organization.**

www.nmra.org

**A proud
Partner with**



“QwikLook” Master Schedule

NOTE: Traditional lunch and dinner breaks not shown.

All times are estimates only. Check back often for more accurate times.

WEDNESDAY, May 1

12:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Registration Desk open (Ballroom Foyer at Lion’s Gate Hotel)

THURSDAY, May 2

8:30 AM – 6:00 PM – Registration Desk open (McClellan)

8:30 AM – 8:00 PM – Contest Room open

9:00 AM – 9:00 PM – Non-Rail Hospitality Room open

8:30 AM – 10:00 PM – Clinics

8:30 AM – 9:00 PM – Vendor Room open

6:30 PM – 10:00 PM – Operating Sessions (Rocklin & Morada)

FRIDAY, May 3

8:30 AM – 6:00 PM – Registration Desk open (McClellan)

8:30 AM – 8:00 PM – Contest Room open

9:00 AM – 9:00 PM – Non-Rail Hospitality Room open

8:30 AM – 10:00 PM – Clinics

8:30 AM – 9:00 PM – Vendor Room open

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM – Non-Rail Lunch

1:00 PM – 10:00 PM – Operating Sessions (Auburn, Morada, & Sac.)

SATURDAY, May 4

6:30 AM – 8:30 AM – Hobo Breakfast

8:30 AM – Competition – Contest Room closed for Judging

8:30 AM – 4:30 PM – Registration Desk open

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Vendor Room open

8:30 AM – 4:30 PM – Clinics

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM – Non-Rail Hospitality Room open

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM – Operating Sessions (Colusa & Sacramento)

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM – Pickup Contest Entries, AFTER judging is completed; also after Banquet

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM – Social Hour

6:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Banquet & Awards Presentation - Speaker, Charlie Getz, NMRA Past President

9:00 PM – 10:00 PM – Pickup ALL Contest Entries by 10:30 PM

SUNDAY, May 5

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM – PCR Breakfast

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – PCR Membership Meeting

LINKS TO THE CONVENTION WEBSITE

HOME PAGE <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/>

CLINICS <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/clinics>

LAYOUT TOURS <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/layout-tours-op-sessions>

OP SESSIONS <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/operating-sessions>

OP SESSION PREFERENCES <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/op-sessions-preferences>

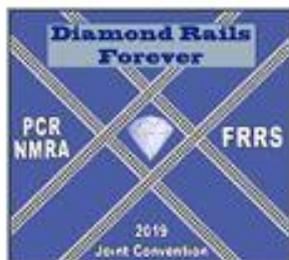
PROTOTYPE AND SPECIAL TOURS <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/prototype-tours>

CONTESTS <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/contests>

NON RAIL <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/non-rails>

REGISTRATION <http://pcrnmra.org/conv2019/registration>





**PCR/FRRS
Diamond Rails Forever 2019
PCR/FRRS Convention
McClellan Conference Center
5411 Luce Ave
McClellan Park, CA
May 2 - 5, 2019**

RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT TO:

Diamond Rails Forever 2019
c/o Gus Campagna
1915 William Drive
Palo Alto, CA 94301-5024

E-mail: drf2019registrar@pcrnmra.org
Website: www.pcrnmra.org/conv2019

Please Print

Registration Form

Visit the website to pay with PayPal or credit card

Last Name		First Name		Name for Badge		
Address			City		State Zip Code + 4	
Home Phone		E-mail Address			NMRA or FRRS #	
Registration Type (Please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> PCR <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Rail <input type="checkbox"/> FRRS				NMRA Region or Club Affiliation		
Available to Volunteer on <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"/> WP <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____						
ADDITIONAL REGISTRANT LIVING AT SAME ADDRESS (Use another form if more than one)						
Last Name		First Name		Name for Badge		
Registration Type (Please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> PCR <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Rail <input type="checkbox"/> FRRS		E-Mail (if Different)			NMRA or FRRS #	
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"/> WP <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____						
FARES: Please fill in Qty. and Form will compute the total						
				Qty.	Unit Cost	Total
NMRA/FRRS Registration Pkg. (reg. banquet, & brkfast) (Early Bird has ended)					155.00	
NMRA & FRRS Registration ONLY					80.00	
First Timer Pkg. (PCR Members who have not registered for the past 5 conventions)					115.00	
Non-Rail or Spouse Registration (includes non-rail lunch, no banquet or breakfast)					40.00	
NMRA & FRRS Banquet only					50.00	
PCR Breakfast only					25.00	
Youth Registration (12-18 years or student)					70.00	
Day Fare (No Banquet) <input type="checkbox"/> Wed <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs <input type="checkbox"/> Fri <input type="checkbox"/> Sat					40.00	
Convention Polo Shirt <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL <input type="checkbox"/> 4XL <small>(Shirts for p/u at convention closed, shirts will be shipped to registration address.)</small>					39.00	
Convention Car (ea) [Tidewater Southern, HO-scale, 50' PS1 car by Kadee]					37.89	
Convention Car (Set of 2)					73.61	
Join FRRS (reduced rates for convention)		Active membership			25.00	
		Family membership			40.00	
Join the NMRA (must be member of NMRA or FRRS to attend)		9 month Rail Pass (allowed one time only)			19.95	
		Full NMRA membership/PCR subscription			75.00	
Payment by <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Cash (Use website for credit card or PayPal) Make checks payable to: Pacific Coast Region of the National Model Railroad Association				TOTAL		
No Refunds After April 10, 2019						

OUR REGULAR CREW SIGN UP FOR PCR MAY 4TH 10-3 OP SESSION

You get first priority. PLEASE RESPOND WITH YOUR FAVORITE JOB.

BEANS AT NOON AND WE WILL END IN TIME TO GET BACK TO THE CONVENTION BANQUET

JOB ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Superintendent** **Walt Schedler**
2. **JMRI SCHEDULER/Planner** **Ed Zeis**
3. **CHIEF TRAIN DISPATCHER (W. R. PETTY) -** **Denis Drury**

UNION-HOURLY

4. **Crew Dispatcher**
5. **Car Clerk/Runner** **Perry Hunt**

ROAD ENGINE CREWS – SCHEDULED MAIN-LINE TRAINS and TURNS

6. **VAL.** Crew A – SCHEDULED TRAIN Engineer/**Conductor**/Brakeman - **pcr**
 7. **Val.** Crew B – SCHEDULED TRAIN Engineer/**Conductor**/Brakeman – **pcr**
 8. **Val.** Crew C – SCHEDULED TRAIN Engineer/**Conductor**/Brakeman -
 9. **Val.** Crew D – SCHEDULED TRAIN Engineer/**Conductor**/Brakeman – **John Hunt**

 10. **Mnt.** Crew A – SCHEDULED TRAIN Engineer/**Conductor**/Brakeman – **pcr**
 11. **Mnt.** Crew B – SCHEDULED TRAIN Engineer/**Conductor**/Brakeman – **pcr**
 12. **Mnt.** Crew C – SCHEDULED TRAIN Engineer/**Conductor**/Brakeman –
 13. **Mnt.** Crew D – SCHEDULED TRAIN Engineer/**Conductor**/Brakeman –
- EXTRA BOARD Backup Crew**
14. **Val.** Crew E -
 15. **Val.** Crew F

16. Mnt. Crew E -

17. Mnt. Crew F -

YARDMASTERS AND YARD CREWS

18. **NORTH YARDMASTER [Station Agent]** In Yard Operations – “Herder” **Sam Cook**

- DUNY Herder, Foreman of Engines, Redding Herder

19. **DUNY North Yard Hostler/(Engine Foreman/Switchman/Herder)** - **pcr**

- Hostler, House Track switcher – plus #18 Job
- Bunker Oil/Diesel Fuel unloading/switching
- Gerber/Redding outside Yard Crew (Engine Foreman/herder)

20. **SOUTH YARDMASTER [Station Agent]** In Yard switching operations – **Andrew King**

21. South Yard Crew (Engine Foreman/Switchman/Herder) West End – **pcr**

22. South Yard Crew (Engine Foreman/Switchman/Herder) East End -

23. “**Dunsmuir Local**” DUNY/DUSY Engineer/Conductor - **pcr**

24. **GERBER** Footboard Yardmaster-[**Station Agent**] – (**sit down job**) -

25. **Gerber-Redding**

Turn **pcr**

26. **McCloud RR Yard / Black Butte West End** – **YM** Foot Board Foreman – **pcr**

- McCloud **YM** Foot **Board** Foreman
- McCloud - (Engineer/Switchman)
- Black Butte West End **Foot Board** Foreman

27. **MT SHASTA / K-FALLS FOOTBOARD YARDMASTER-[STATION AGENT]** -

- Mt Shasta Local –or call for crew
- SP House Track
- SP/McCloud RR **Interchange Yard** - **Foot Board** Foreman
- Black Butte Foot Board Foreman – **Wye Track** controller
- Siskiyou Staging Crew – **Foot Board** Foreman
- K-FALLS HERDER Staging Crew – **Foot Board** Foreman

February Meet - Sacramento, CA

Story by Chip Meriam, Photos as noted

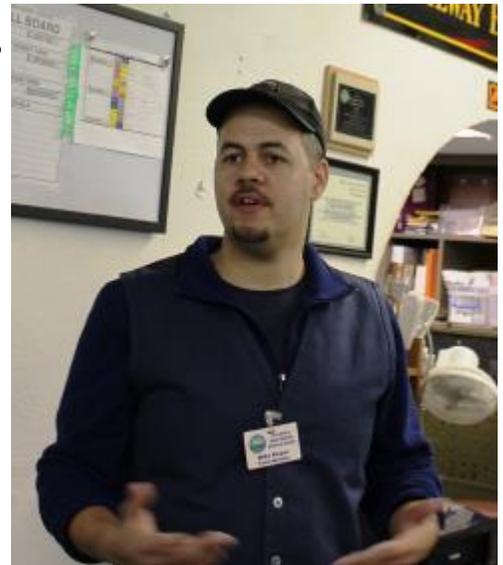
SMRHS OP SESSION



Welcome from SMRHS President, Bill Calmes
(photo: Chip Meriam)

We Made Our Annual Trip to the Sacramento Model Railroad Historical Society on Saturday morning, February 9. Most of us arrived shortly after 9:00 AM and our welcome and orientation began at 9:30 under the direction and welcome of SMRHS President, Bill Calmes and Train Master for the day, Mike Roque.

The first trains were scheduled out at 10:00 AM. Multiple crews were busy until 12:00 noon and by the session's end there were still trains that needed to be moved.



Mike Roque, Train Master
(photo: Chip Meriam)



Ed Zeis and Tom Van Horn Working Martinez
(photo: Chip Meriam)

Our Sierra Division members were teamed with SMRHS operators so each crew had someone familiar with the line.

Through routes were running from Sacramento's 12th Street Yard through Marysville, Oroville, and the Feather River Canyon to Keddie with some moving on to Quincy. Other routes ran through Davis and Martinez to West Oakland.

Along the line, local crews worked at R Street in Sacramento, Oroville, and West Oakland east to Martinez.



Bill Calmes, Tom Van Horn, Tom Ebert at 12th Street Yard
(photo: Chip Meriam)



Gary Ray & Marvin Schurke at Keddie Yard
(photo: Chip Meriam)

"Continued on Page 13"

February Meet (ct'd.)

SMRHS OP SESSION

The SMRHS standard gauge layout, The Sierra Central, is fully signaled, controlled with Digitrax DCC, and dispatched from a prototype size Union Switch and Signal CTC machine and JMRI software. The railroad is about 95% "scenicked" with spectacular replications of the Sacramento Shops, Table Mountain, the Feather River Canyon, and the Keddie Wye. Several photos of the Sierra Central have been featured in recent issue of the *Short Line* (all are available on the Sierra Division website, <http://www.pcrnmra.org/sierra/shortline.html>).



Mike O'Dorney & Walt Schedler at R Street
(photo: Chip Meriam)

Following the OP session the SMRHS fellows put together a cheeseburger and hot dog barbecue that we were able to enjoy for only \$5.

SMRHS will have open hours during the PCR Convention this May.



Steve Folino Readies the Grill
(photo: Chip Meriam)



"Silver Streak" Bayless with The Zephyr Through Oroville
(photo: Jim Collins)

February Meet (ct'd.)

SIERRA DIVISION MEETING

Following our visit to SMRHS, we assembled at the First Christian Church on Folsom Blvd. for the afternoon meeting. For the first time in four years, Jim Collins did not open the meeting. Chip Meriam has assumed the Division Superintendent job so Jim was able to sit down and relax a bit—but just a little bit. If you take a closer look at the photo captions you'll see that Jim was busy gathering digital memories for the *Short Line*.

During the business meeting we heard from several of the PCR Convention Committee members about the plans for the upcoming Diamond Rails Forever in Sacramento. Dave Bayless has put together a broad selection of clinics. Gary Ray is arranging for layout tours and operating sessions. Brian Witt is spearheading the prototype facility tours and tours of general interest.

Our clinic for this meeting was “How To Model Traffic On Your Layout”, brought to us by Dr. Tony Thompson of Signature Press. This was the same clinic Dr. Thompson offered at the PCR convention last April in Rohnert Park. He logically described how rail traffic is created, what sorts of carloads might arrive and depart from various lineside industries, what sorts of cars might be carrying those loads, and a host of prototype references for carloads and car types from various railroads.

Following the clinic we were treated to four “Show and Tell” stories from some of our members. Walt Schedler demonstrated a custom, yet simple, coupler installation method. Ken Martin told us about the availability of 3D printers at a Sacramento area library. Dave Bayless brought some of the conifer trees that were the subject of his article on making evergreen trees that appeared in the July 2018 edition of the *Short Line*.



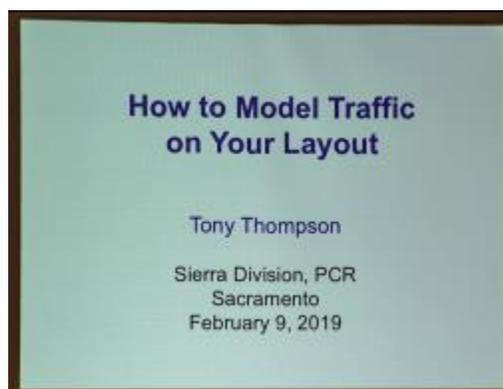
Chip Meriam Starts the Meeting
(photo: Jim Collins)



Brian Witt Talks Tours
(photo: Jim Collins)



Tony Thompson Talks Train Traffic (photo: Jim Collins)



“Continued on Page 15

February Meet *(ct'd.)*

SHOW AND TELL

Klaus Keil spoke on modeling shipping containers. He will be offering a clinic on shipping containers at the 2019 PCR convention this coming May in Sacramento.

Karle Mahler showed off a beautiful O Scale locomotive made from Legos.

The contest categories were modeling, Structures, and Photos, Model in Black and White. The lone photo entry was from Walt Schedler. The three top structures were Gary Ray's General Store, 1st place; Walt Schedler's MOW Yard and Speeder Shed; and Chip Meriam's Vecino Theatre. See the contest photos on the next page.

There will be no Division Meet in May because will all (hopefully) be at the Diamond Rails Forever Convention in Sacramento. The next slate of contest will be at the August meet in Fair Oaks, The categories will be Any Structures You Have Built In The Last Six Months - Modeling, Tracks and Structures - Photos, and Railroad Arts and Crafts.



Ken Martin's Library 3D Printing Samples
(photo: Jim Collins)

we



Sneeze Free Trees by Dave Bayless
(photo: Jim Collins)



Karle Mahler Built this O Scale Engine Using Legos
(photo: Jim Collins)

February Meet (ct'd.)

CONTEST WINNERS



1st Place Photo

Walt Schedler

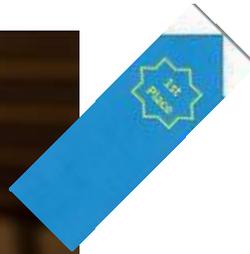
(Jim Collins photo)



"Continued on Page 17"

February Meet (ct'd.)

CONTEST WINNERS



1st Place Model Structure

Gary Ray

(Jim Collins photo)



2nd Place Model Structure

Walt Schedler

(Jim Collins photo)



3rd Place Model Structure

Chip Meriam

(Jim Collins photo)