

# PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION DISPATCH

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION



ARIZONA  
CAJON  
LOS ANGELES  
SAN DIEGO



VOLUME 41, NUMBER 1 1st Quarter, 2023 (Reissued)

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Convention  
Website Link

(control-click)

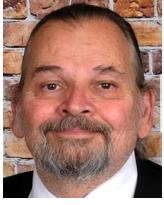
**Our PSR Regional  
NMRA Convention is  
coming up in June!  
Don't forget to regis-  
ter and join us there!**

Editors Note 6/4/2023:

Apparently there was a glitch in the system when I previously issued the Q1 Dispatch and many members, if not all members, did not receive that issue. I am reissuing the Q1 issue to ensure that everyone gets a copy. If you get this as a repeat issue, just ignore the email. Hope to see some of you at the Convention coming up next week!

Kevin Spady





## FROM THE WAYCAR

Pat Raymer—President

It has been a couple of cold and soggy months where we live here in the foothills above Los Angeles. We even had REAL snow, an absolute anomaly at our 1800+ foot elevation. In spite of all the problems the inordinate amount of rain has caused, we can certainly use the rain!

My main focus continues to be the SurfLiner 2024 NMRA National Convention, hosted by the Pacific Southwest Region. There are so many moving parts to a NMRA National Convention that I sometimes feel like I am juggling two raw eggs and a running chain saw! I have to say that I have an outstanding convention committee backing me up, so I do occasionally get a good night's sleep. Some of our team has had to step aside from their positions, which can be anticipated in any project of this magnitude. My thanks to all of you who have invested your valuable time to produce an unforgettable convention experience!

Mona and I have been attending the Great Train Shows in southern California, specifically in Costa Mesa, Ventura, and Victorville, to promote the SurfLiner 2024 convention and in the process have garnered several new NMRA members. It was great to get out and see so many old friends and make new ones. Brian and Karie Neely of Model Train Solutions are on our convention committee and have been instrumental in spreading the word about the SurfLiner 2024 NMRA National Convention on the train show circuit. They travel to locations we would never normally get to, distributing our convention flyers and displaying our convention banner on their booth. Thanks guys!

We will be visiting our friends to the north in the Pacific Coast Region for their Rails by the River Regional Convention at the end of April, where we will be presenting a clinic about the SurfLiner 2024 NMRA National Convention. We are looking forward to getting back to the Sacramento area and squeezing

in a trip to the California State Railroad Museum to see the NMRA sponsored "Magic of Model Railroad-ing" display.

Following that, we are off to Flagstaff in June for our PSR Regional Convention, the Grand Canyon Special, hosted by the Arizona Division. I reflected in my last article how special Flagstaff has been to us in the past, and we are certainly looking forward to an adventurous ride to the rim of the Grand Canyon on a luxury steam train!

Then, in August, we are headed to Texas for the Texas Express 2023 NMRA National Convention. This is the big show of the year, and, as they will tell you, "everything's bigger in Texas"! Again, we will be promoting our SurfLiner 2024 NMRA National Convention while in Texas.

So, as you can see, our calendar is getting rather full in the upcoming months. I hope to see many of you at one or more of these upcoming events. If you do attend, please come up and say hello!

I attended a virtual Region President's meeting recently that was also attended by NMRA President Gordy Robinson and our Region Advisory Council Director Bob Weinheimer and learned of some new initiatives that are in the works. Some of the subjects discussed included a new look at NMRA branding from the divisions on up to the national level and the composition of future national conventions. More to come on this and other subjects later.

In closing, I would once again ask for your assistance with several aspects of the PSR and the SurfLiner 2024 NMRA National Convention. The Nominations and Elections chair position on the regional board will be available after the upcoming Director's election. This position requires only a few hours every year and minimal computer skills. Training will be supplied. For the 2024 convention, if you have a layout (home or club, not modular) that you would like us to include on the 2024 layout tour, please reach out to me at: [president@psrnmra.org](mailto:president@psrnmra.org).

Until next time, See you down the line!



## THE PSR BACKSHOP

Gary Butts, MMR  
Vice President

It's raining again. Although rainy season usually means more time on the model railroad (and it has) it has been hard on my exercise routine and another of the activities I look forward to each couple of weeks. I have managed to finish a couple of locomotive projects and you will see them at the next celebration of models event, but our operation session crew meets have suffered. We have a small group of five to seven guys (and gals) that get together approximately twice each month to swap stories, show and tell, and talk and run trains in a more or less prototypical manor.

Unfortunately, several of our crew travel a significant distance to get to the layout and since we operate after dinner in the evening the trip home can be a trial if it is raining. Well, we meet on Tuesday evenings and the weather has been spot on for the last three to four weeks in a row causing us to postpone our get-together one week after the next to the point that we have not run trains for over a month. Several of us are working toward our Achievement Program Dispatchers certificate and are getting close after over a year of sessions and this is not helping!

Hopefully, Spring will arrive soon and we can all get on with our warm weather plans.

Meanwhile, work continues on toward planning of our 2024 NMRA National Convention. Some of the long lead items are getting nailed down and most of the committees are getting into some kind of motion. Currently there are 24 sub-committees made up from 37 of our active PSR membership working to make this Convention a success and an enjoyable event for everyone.

We get together once each month to ensure that everyone is up to speed and to offer help and suggestions to each committee as required. If you would like to have some fun and get to know the active group of our PSR members, consider contacting Pat Raymer, myself or anyone currently working on the project to see how you could add your touch to the project.

I'm not sure how many of our members really know just how our corner of the National Model Railroad

Association works and just who is involved with the technicalities of making our Region viable and active for all of us to enjoy. I will leave the recognition of our many Divisional personnel to the Division newsletters, but I am going to take up some column space to highlight those running the PSR so that you can take the opportunity to recognize them for their efforts the next time you see them at an event.

**Annette Palmer** (Cajon) is in charge of all of our PSR Non-Rail events. She helps secure venues for attendance at our regional conventions and often coordinates activities, clinics, along with the local division Non-Rail chairs for the enjoyment of both rail and non-rail members and guests.

**Per Harwe** (Cajon) is our PSR historian. Per maintains all of the Region's archives. He is responsible for keeping our PSR history alive by maintaining lists of our past officers, member of the year recipients, and keeping a record of our past publications. He also is the keeper of our Region Convention Car, patch and pin display which can be viewed at all of our regional conventions.

**Carl Heimberger** (Cajon) is the PSR Achievement Program Chairman. Carl has the responsibility of maintaining the high standards of the NMRA Achievement Program within our Region. All AP applications from all of our divisions are routed through Carl for review and approval before they are sent to NMRA Headquarters for final approval and issue. If there are any questions or problems regarding the PSR NMRA, Carl is the last stop before NMRA headquarters.

**Pete Steinmetz** (San Diego), Member Service. Pete maintains and distributes all of our region membership records. It is up to Pete to coordinate with NMRA HQ for any discrepancies or missing information regarding individual memberships and to ensure that all of our division officers and editorial staff have current contact information for each of our members.

**Marshall Wales** (Arizona) designs and keeps our PSR web site up to date. It is his job to post and keep current any changes to our web site directory. He maintains our email alias distribution system to ensure that emails to our president and Board members, etc. get to the current member in those positions. He also works with the division web personnel to coordinate the PSR site events list and maintains the Dispatch newsletter Archive.

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## THE PSR BACKSHOP

Gary Butts, MMR  
Vice President

**Kevin Spady** (Los Angeles) is the editor in chief of our PSR Dispatch newsletter. It is Kevin's responsibility to gather up columns from each of our division and region officers and put the information together along with current, future and past events and organize them into a readable format for all of us to read. He maintains the editorial schedule and is obligated to produce the Dispatch at least four issues each year as required by our PSR By-Laws.

**Vic Cavalli** (Los Angeles) heads up our nominations and elections committee. It is up to Vic to gather nominations for our regional elections which include the Region President, Vice President and all of our Division Directors and to publish these nominations and conduct the pertinent elections in a timely manner. He established deadlines and reports the results of these (secret) elections to the Board of Directors at their conclusion.

**Nick Lisica** (Los Angeles) is the Secretary of the Region. It is Nick's responsibility to record and maintain the minutes from all official Region Board of Directors and special meetings and to get them approved. He is the primary source for information from past board decisions as recorded in the minutes. It is also his job to certify quorums at all Regional meetings that involve the potential for a vote from the membership or Board of Directors.

**Ed Hall** (Cajon), Chief Hobo-in-Charge. Ed is responsible for the social relationships with our sister NMRA regions at the general membership level. He brings a sense of frivolity to the organization by maintaining the recognition of cross-regional convention attendance primarily through the annual Hobo Breakfast he is responsible for and holds at each PSR Convention.

**Don Fowler** (San Diego) is our current Past President. Don's job is to keep us on track as we move forward in time by use of his knowledge of what has and has not worked in the past. His experience with our by-laws and manual of operations often gives the Board

of Directors immediate access to what we can, cannot and should do as it affects the Board's decisions.

**Mike Allee** (Cajon) runs our contests. Mike is responsible for making sure that all of our Region contests align with our PSR contest rules. It is his job to ensure that the submitted models are judged fairly and securely. He must recruit evaluators with experience, display the models appropriately, insure that model paperwork submittals are done correctly and that the models get back into their owners hands after the contest. Mike announces the awards and is responsible for award certificates and plaques presented at the convention awards banquet.

**Joel Morse** (Cajon) is the PSR Treasurer. Joel is our money man. He is responsible for securing and maintaining our PSR bank treasury and any credit or debit cards used in the conduction of our corporation business. He is the keeper of our budget records and is responsible for maintaining an accurate account of our income and expenditures. He writes reimbursement checks for individual authorized expenses and reports on the state of all of the above at each meeting of the Board of Directors. Since the PSR is now a single corporation with our divisions covered as part of the parent, Joel gathers and collates the finances from all of the divisions and is responsible for the overall corporation tax reporting and any burdens.

The balance of the Board of Directors we all know and probably have a good idea of what they do. The Division Directors: **Terry Fearn** (Arizona), **Harold Hel-land**, MMR (Cajon), **Vic Cavalli** (Los Angeles) and **Pete Steinmetz** (San Diego), the PSR Vice President: **Gary Butts**, MMR (Cajon) and finally the PSR President: **Pat Raymer** (Los Angeles).

It is because of the time and dedication that these members put forth that we all get to benefit from the enhancement to our hobby that being a member of the Pacific Southwest Region brings to us. The next time you see one of these guys be sure to thank him and maybe even consider joining this great team to lend your contribution to the hobby. There are many open positions and you can help.





## Cajon

Harold Helland, Director

I hope everyone is enjoying 2023 as it is March already and we are just getting started on a great year for model railroading. The Cajon Division started a fun program this year which allows NMRA members to visit other members home layouts. The intent is not just to show off NMRA member accomplishments, but to allow guests to ask questions about building a home model railroad and to socialize with other members. As members will see, some home model railroads center around majestic landscapes with logging or coal operations. Other home model railroads are based on small towns and moving product between towns. There will be examples of N Scale, HO Scale and G Scale model railroads waiting to be seen by our members. The first home model railroad was a visit to Joel Morse's N Scale New York, Ontario and Western Railway which is designed for operations through the Catskill Mountains. The second home model railroad visit was to Gary and Sandy Butts' freelance Gary and Sandy Railroad. This is an HO Scale model of rural California designed for operations with an elevated mine and logging area. Look for emails about additional home model railroad tours.

The Cajon Spring Meet will be held April 22, 2023 at the Messiah Lutheran Church courtyard at 6625 Dale Street, Buena Park. The Spring Meet will run from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and feature Clinics, Swap Meet, Hobo Auction, Modelers Show and Tell, Celebration of Models, a General Membership Meeting, and an Awards Ceremony. Pizza and soft-drink lunch will be provided for all who attend this event. This year the cost will be \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the Cajon Spring Meet.

I hope many of you are looking forward to the PSR Convention this summer. The Grand Canyon Special will be held in Flagstaff, Arizona June 7 – 11, 2023 at the Drury Inn and Suites.

The highlight of the convention will be a steam train ride to the Grand Canyon. The convention also has all the usual activities including clinics, layout tours, rail-fanning and a banquet with guest speaker Dale Angell, The Toy Man. I encourage all Cajon Division members to consider attending the PSR Convention in Flagstaff, Arizona.

The Pacific Southwest Region was awarded the 2024 NMRA National Convention to be held in Long Beach. The planning process for the convention is in progress, and will be a joint effort of all four PSR Divisions. SurfLiner 2024 will be held at the Long Beach Convention Center August 4 through August 11, 2024, with the base operation at the Westin Hotel. Please consider joining the SurfLiner 2024 Convention Team and contributing to the success of the 2024 NMRA National Convention.



## Awards Program

Carl Heimberger, AP Chairman

This report is going to be limited as I had a few hiccups this last month first being a under slab water leak and my office was the area all the new piping went through and then my computer took a dump. So I will not be listing members who have gotten awards in this issue as I am still working on getting the new computer up and running with all the data from the old unit. I will catch up with that in the next issue.

I would however like to bring your attention the series of articles Cinthia Priest is writing about in the NMRA Magazine on her quest to MMR. She is spelling out the requirement in a vary simple way and if becoming a MMR is not on you mind it will at least open up your mind on what the program is really designed to do. The program is actually designed to help you become a better modeler and I know that from experience. My first entry into the AP for merit

Continued on next page

got 88 points, my last entry the Virginia and Truckee Virginia City car barn got 123 points. Sure I am a competitive kind of guy but by taking the comments from the contest room evaluators seriously my skill have improved ten fold. So, do not sell yourself short, enter something and look at the evaluators comments and watch your skill improve. At least that was my experience. Today I am one turnout, a track plan and four scratch built cars from my MMR. It is not a test but actually a lot of fun.



## Arizona

Terry Fearn, Director

Hello to all the PSR members from the NMRA Arizona Division.

We are continuing our program of monthly division Zoom calls and quarterly meets, which are well attended. On March 11, our spring meet was held in Scottsdale. We had 50 attendees. Clinics were presented on model railroading Hints and Tips and Tools. Bruce Petrarca, our AP Manager gave an in-depth discussion about the AP program and maximizing points. Our summer meet will not be held due to the 2023 convention in June.

Planning is nearly complete for the 2023 PSR convention, hosted by the Arizona Division. The Grand Canyon Special will be held in Flagstaff, AZ on June 7-11, 2023. The March 2023 NMRA Magazine included an article about the upcoming convention and charter train trip on the Grand Canyon Railway. Please visit our website for more information and to register for the convention and train trip. Our convention headquarters is the Drury Inn and Suites, adjacent to the High Country Convention center in downtown Flagstaff, next to the Northern Arizona University campus. Book your room at the Drury Inn using the special convention rate. Included in the rate is complementary breakfast, complementary evening drinks and snacks and free covered parking.

The Flagstaff depot is blocks away from the hotel and hosts daily Amtrak service and approximately 80 BNSF freight trains. Other points of interest in Flagstaff

are the Riordan Mansion State Park, Museum of Northern Arizona, and Pioneer Museum. Layout tours will be featured the day before the convention in the Phoenix area and after the convention in Flagstaff, Williams, and Cornville.

Three simultaneous clinics are planned for the full day on Thursday and Friday: Two flights of clinics are on modeling topics and the history of local railroads. Other clinics will cover northern Arizona and the Grand Canyon: The canyon's history, geology, geography of the surrounding area. Also on the schedule is a swap meet, hobo auction and awards banquet on Saturday night.

A highlight of the convention will be a shop tour (not normally open to the public) of the Grand Canyon Railway on Friday of the convention. On Saturday, the railroad will run a special excursion train behind steam locomotive #4960 for NMRA members and guests. The excursion train offers multiple classes of service; however, the First Class and Luxury Parlor cars are nearly sold out. There are still seats available in the Pullman and Coach cars. There will be a two-hour layover at the Grand Canyon and photo run-by on the return trip. Don't wait to make your convention and train reservations. We hope to see you in



## Los Angeles

Vic Cavalli, Director

Year 2023 has thus far seen the Los Angeles Division help support the Cajon Division staff their recruiting booth at the Great Train Show – Costa Mesa, February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>; as well as operating our own table at the Great Train Show – Ventura the following weekend. Six (6) new NMRA members were enrolled at the Ventura, CA event; 5 residing within the Division's boundaries!

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## Los Angeles

Vic Cavalli, Director

Likewise, we continue to plan for our Division's annual Membership General Meeting – to be centered around a family-based picnic this year – and likely two or three additional Division sponsored home/club layout open houses.

The Division also continues to hold its monthly *Sand House Chat* “Zoom” Sessions the first-Thursday of the month. Sessions are open format (i.e., any railroad, railfanning and/or model railroading topic is “fair” game) and available to any and all PSR members – of which ~50% attending are now from outside the L.A. Division. Contact [VicCavalli@comcast.net](mailto:VicCavalli@comcast.net) for further details.

While constantly on the lookout for anyone interested in volunteering (at any and all levels), we continue to slowly move forward; redefining the benefits we can provide given the human resources available. We are especially pleased to announce the addition of **John McGreevy** onto our Advisory Board effective February 2023. John replaces Bob DeMoss (moving out of area) as Membership Chair and Benefits Team Lead.

Providing support to next year's NMRA National Convention, *SurfLiner 2024* – to be held in Long Beach, CA, August 4-11, 2024 – has imposed a heavy toll upon the remaining additional volunteer hours that might be used to hold more local Division activities. For example, L.A.'s Advisory Executive Council has resolved it will not hold a *SpringRail 2023* event this year [possibly no *FallRail* or *SpringRail* events this or next year either].

However, between holding monthly *Sand House Chat* sessions, our annual Membership General Meeting and Picnic, as well as quarterly Division-sponsored home/club layout visitations, we are anything but inactive.

As usual, I recommend you check out new offerings on our L.A. Division website [www.ladiv-nmra.org](http://www.ladiv-nmra.org);

especially the current issue of our quarterly newsletter, the *LA Coupler*, [www.ladiv-nmra.org/index.php/news-and-information/la-coupler-newsletter/current-edition](http://www.ladiv-nmra.org/index.php/news-and-information/la-coupler-newsletter/current-edition).

Until next quarter's report, happy model railroading to you!



## Historian's

Per Harwe, Historian

I have come to see the Historian position a little bit like a Librarian: We don't write so much information ourselves, we rather collect what is already out there. And with that in mind I believe I have come about as far as I can on my own behalf. I have completed my predecessor's collection of all available cars, badges and pins from the PSR conventions going back to the inception of PSR.

My latest effort has been to collect convention information, location, theme, logo and responsible organizers. In spite of an unfortunate mishap with the PSR website this is now retored and available for viewing on <http://www.psrnmra.org/index.php/library/historian-corner/conventions-of-the-psr>

I am in the final phase of collecting names and years of service for the elected officials of PSR, see: <http://www.psrnmra.org/index.php/library/historian-corner/officials-of-the-psr> This has some missing information in it and I seriously am asking all of you to fill in the missing fields. I have gone through all archived newsletters that I can access and this is as far as I can go.

The listing of “Member Of The Year” list is almost complete and here I am also asking for contributions to fill the empty spots. <http://www.psrnmra.org/index.php/library/historian-corner/member-of-the-year>



## San Diego

Pete Steinmetz, Director

This will be my final column as Director of the San Diego Division. Director is an elected position and has term limits (Novel concept). I have served two consecutive terms and can't run for a third. Termed out. The next time you read a San Diego Directors column, it will be written by someone else. We have looked hard and have found a good candidate. Our election will be in April.

It has been rewarding serving as Director for the last four years. I like to think that, as part of the San Diego leadership team, I helped to move the San Diego Division and the PSR forward.

One major goal has been to give members value for their dollar. With our monthly activities presented by the San Diego Division, we feel we have shown our members value for their dues. All PSR Members are invited to participate in San Diego activities.

It has been rewarding seeing how the division has grown over the years. Our membership has been growing steadily and is at its highest number ever. Our monthly layout tours/meets have been well attended. We have found some outstanding new layouts, and gained some members in the San Diego area. Our quarterly meets have been fun and interesting. I want to thank all members for your support and hope you will show the same cooperation and enthusiasm with the new San Diego Director.

My PSR activity switches to booking clinics for the 2024 NMRA National Convention in Long Beach.



## PSR Treasurer

Joel Morse, Treasurer

### PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION 37

#### TREASURERS SPRING 2022 DISPATCH REPORT

##### SUMMARY:

During the period November 1, 2022, through February 28, 2023, there were only a small number of PSR financial transactions, both deposits and credits, all of which occurred in February 2023. On the deposit side, the Region received \$2,486.35 from the San Diego Division for the Back on Track Regional Convention.

On the Credit side, we paid out the \$349.00 for our portion of the Cajon Division Storage locker, \$32.98 for Arizona Website Hosting and \$164.86 for Regional Awards.

The February 28, 2023, Bank Statement indicates that the Region has \$24,249.38 in the Region Checking Account. Note that the PSR provided \$10,000 in "seed money" to the 2024 Convention Committee.

##### PSR Wells Fargo Checking Account:

**Region Assets as of October 31, 2022: \$22,219.54**

**Region Assets as of February 28, 2023: \$24,249.38**

**Net Change this period: \$2,029.84**



Images from Randsburg, California, a historic mining town located along US Highway 395 between Ridgecrest and Boron. Gold and Silver were the chief exports from this Kern County location.





## The Show Room

Mike Allee, PSR Contest Chair

### SHOWROOM - LET ME EXPLAIN....

At one time models were displayed in the *Contest Room*. That title never did describe what really goes on in the room. The NMRA changed the name to *Celebration Room*. This name has never really caught on with most of the membership still referring to the *Contest Room*. *Display Room* would be a good term except some of the items to display are entered are undertake the title Display and other items displayed are entered into the Merit Award category. So I'd like to call the room the *Showroom*. It will never catch on.

There are many items entered in the Display category for any number of reasons, and there are evaluation categories for a merit evaluation. The latter causes apprehension in fellow modelers. Craftsmen are unsure if their model will meet the award level. Getting past this trepidation can be difficult. I believe much of the problem lies with not fully understanding the merit numerical evaluation system. The evaluators, not judges, are evaluating how well something was done, as well as how much of the listed criteria in a category is part of the model. That means if something is well done but not much of the listed criteria is part of the model a lower evaluation (numerical value) would be given and vis versa if not done well. But that does not mean the model has to be museum quality or even living room coffee table quality.

If you're one that doesn't care about earning certificates recognizing your ability but would like to show your models, then by all means enter your model(s) in the Display category. Read no further unless you are curious about what the certificate is all about.

It may be difficult for you to swallow but there are many of the MMRs that are average (school grade C modelers.) There are eleven categories in the

Achievement Program (AP) of which one must master seven to become a Master Model Railroader (MMR). Many of the models at a show in the Display category are there because the modeler is unsure of their skill and are "testing the waters". Most of these models should have been entered in the Merit category.

Once you get past the uncertainty of your modeling ability, either by fellow modelers telling you that the model is well done, by the Popular Choice portion of the "Showroom" activities, or just guts enter your model(s) for evaluation. Receiving a merit award is an uplifting feeling.

Here's how the model merit system works. To receive a Merit Award in one of the model categories the model must receive at least a "C-". A model out of the box, even a difficult model, built perfectly is not a "C-". But if you were to modify structurally or added details the model can move into or above the "C-" territory. For example, an Athearn "Blue Box" could and have earned a certificate. How, remove the cast grab irons and replace with individual wire ones, either bought or made (made would get more points), using wire add the piping to the brake system, add a load, etc. On a structure down spouts, utility connections, interior detail, etc. done.

In the Jan/Feb 2023 *Gazette*, Charlie Getz, describes buying an old AHM plastic kit for \$5 and upgrading it to a fine scale - his term. Looking at the pictures I'm sure this would earn a merit award. If you haven't read the article Charlie also writes about E. L. Moore and how he influenced manufactures to produce many of his models in plastic.

What's a "C-"? 87.5 points of 125 points equals a "C-". A roadblock placing your model for evaluation seems to be judging form 902. It turns out that how to fill in the form causes the problem. Here are a few basics. Never write in prose. Never write "I ...", it is understood you did whatever. Use phrases in bullet format. (Used wire sizes # to represent the brake piping.) It's obvious you installed the wires, or they

wouldn't be there. The evaluators are not interested in your writing ability they're interested in your modeling ability.

There are five categories on the form, go to the NMRA website and lookup Form 902. (Dark blue chose "Contests" under Education. In the dark blue column under Contest choose Forms and select "D. Model Contest Judge's Score Sheet #902". Then in the dark blue column select "AP Judging Guidelines". This will show you an explanation of what the judges use to evaluate each of the categories. At the bottom of each of the categories there is a matrix the judges use to arrive at a numerical value. Take the time to evaluate your model. If your evaluation adds up to eighty-eight points or more then enter the model at the next Showroom event.

Once you've entered your model for evaluation don't forget to get the judges score sheet when you pick up your model at the end. Compare your score to the one given. A good learning experience. On the back of 902 or on a separate sheet you should receive comments from the evaluators. You should find the comments helpful. If you don't receive comments tell the Contest Chairman, he'll speak to the evaluators about doing their job and possibly not ask them to participate at some later date. When volunteering to be a judge you'll not only be helpful to the meet but more importantly you'll learn how modelers do things which in turn will make you a better modeler.

This program is to make better modelers but if you look at the whole program (AP) it also requires you to become an active member in the organization. The more active you become the more modeling friends you will have and enjoy the hobby even more. I know I have. If you've read this far and are still working give this hobby some time, become a limited time active member. When you retire this hobby can take up the time that was dedicated to work, something a retired person needs, staying active.

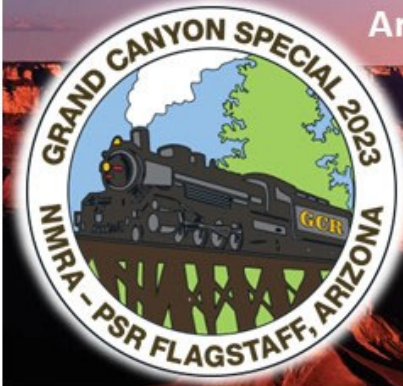


A few images from the Oregon Heritage Railway Museum.

A "must visit" museum if you are ever in Portland.

# NMRA / Pacific Southwest Regional Convention

Arizona Division / Flagstaff, Arizona June 7 – 11



Model Railroading Convention

June 7 – 9

Chartered Steam Train to the  
Grand Canyon

Saturday, June 10, 2023

It's the Countdown  
to the Convention

Please don't let these  
important dates slip by!!



• **Rooms at the Drury Hotel** for the Convention discounted price expire on Monday, May 15. Don't miss this great low price! Rooms are almost sold out.

• **Train Reservations** should be made on or before Monday, May 22. Two cars are sold out and the remaining Pullman & Coach are nearing capacity. This will be a great ride!

• **Box Lunches on the train** must be ordered by Wednesday, May 10.

• **Convention Tickets** are available—click the “Register Now” tab and then “Register (Individual). The banquet room is filling to capacity. Get your ticket now.

• **Swap Meet Tables** can be purchased in advance. Get your table reserved for **Friday afternoon, June 9**—Call Craig Faris at 623 340-3529, or [cafaris@cox.net](mailto:cafaris@cox.net).

#### Other Convention Events Include:

- Ice Cream Social on Wednesday Night at 7 PM
- Hobo Breakfast, Thursday Morning at 7 AM
- Membership Meeting, Thursday at 8 AM
- Hobo Auction Thursday at 7PM
- GCR Engine House Tour in Williams, Friday 10AM
- Railfanning at the Amtrak Depot Friday Evening 7PM

#### Extra Fare Opportunities are Also Scheduled:

- Oeno Wine Bar, Thursday 1 – 3PM
- Riordan Mansion Tour, Friday 1PM
- Bearizona—any time, ½ price admission
- Building with Frank Baker—Friday 1 – 5 PM
- And don't forget to visit the many sights in Flagstaff

Saturday is the Steam Train Excursion to the Grand Canyon!

Use the Link Below or the QR Code

Go to the Website for More Information but Sign up NOW!

[psrconvention.org](http://psrconvention.org)





2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION

**SURFLINER**



**LONG BEACH, CA  
AUGUST 4 - 11**



**WWW.PSRNMRA.ORG**

HO  
SCALE

# June 24, 2023

10:00am ~ Round Trip Pass ~ 2:00pm

## SUSQUEHANNA & BLUE MOUNTAIN RAILROAD



All NMRA Members (and guests!) are invited to tour Chuck Fisher's terrific HO Scale Susquehanna & Blue Mountain Railroad. The layout, set in Northeastern Pennsylvania following WWII, models a small town railroad doing what it can to survive.

Light Refreshments Will be Provided

1338 Misty Ct., Diamond Bar, Ca 91765

Please RSVP by June 21 to Chuck Fisher (909) 239-2147 / [ChuckFisher43@gmail.com](mailto:ChuckFisher43@gmail.com)



# Call for Candidates

The Pacific Southwest Region (PSR) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) has the following offices coming open for election:

**Arizona Division Director**  
**Cajon Division Director**  
**Los Angeles Division Director**  
**San Diego Division Director**

Any member in good standing with the NMRA (or who is applying for such membership) and living within the boundaries of their Division (e.g., the *Arizona Division* Director lives within the State of Arizona) may run for these offices. The elected candidates will assume office for a period of two (2) years, starting on September 16, 2023.

Duties and responsibilities of the office:

A **Division's Director** is the individual responsible through whom all National and Regional information and programs are funneled through. A Director's duty includes attending all meetings of the PSR Board, reporting on the status of their Division, and presenting all questions or initiative action from their home territory. As a member of the Board, he/she is an officer of the Region and in all deliberations and voting is acting not only on the behalf of their Division's members but primarily in support of the objectives of the Region as a whole.

It is strongly recommended all individuals thoroughly review both the PSR's *By-Laws* and *Manual of Operations*, fully understand their contents, prior to submitting their name for candidacy. Copies of both documents are available for viewing and/or downloading on the PSR's website: [www.psrnmra.org/index.php/library/governance](http://www.psrnmra.org/index.php/library/governance).

Submission of candidacy needs to be delivered to the PSR Nominations and Elections Chair, e-mail address: [VicCavalli@comcast.net](mailto:VicCavalli@comcast.net), **no later than April 16, 2023**.

## Why should you join the NMRA?

### Camaraderie:

- Making new friends that share the common interest in model railroads;

### Learning:

- Being able to get assistance and answers to questions you have;
- Gaining education on improving your modeling skills through hands-on how to do clinics at NMRA sponsored meets and conventions;
- Access an extensive NMRA online library of plans and photos;

### Connection to the Hobby:

- Monthly magazine that is available either online or printed;
- Monthly email newsletters from National along with quarterly Regional and local Division newsletters;
- Access to online video layout tours and clinics on U-Tube NMRA library and Facebook pages.
- Discounts at local hobby shops and online retailers;

## NMRA YouTube Channel

If you have access to the internet take a minute to check out the NMRA YouTube Channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBbDHVLodgxn8otpnudMsHdQMucCzcTWD>

While it is challenging to watch videos live during the week if you are a working person, these video recordings of the presentations give you access to many events you might not otherwise get to see.



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Kevin Spady, AIA, Editor  
NMRA Pacific Southwest Region  
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Glendale, CA. 91206