



PSR Dispatch

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

National Model Railroad Association®

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Volume 36 Number _

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PSR Dispatch Online

June 16, 2018

Welcome to the PSR Dispatch Online, bringing you up to date news and events in the Pacific Southwest Region ~ NMRA

EVENTS

2018

July

Officer Elections

Wed, Sept 12th

PSR BOD Meeting

Wed, Sept 12th -

Sunday, Sept 16th

PSR 2018

Convention

San Diego, CA



Beach Ops 2018

PSR Convention

San Diego, California

September 12 - 16, 2018

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

beachops2018/

New Members

Please Welcome these New Members to the PSR

David Bailey, Whittier, CA
Paul Christiansen, Upland, CA
Fred Churchill, Santa Monica, CA
Alden Cohen, Surprise, AZ
Roscoe Dabney III, Payson, AZ
John Eckert, Prescott, AZ
Kurt Geitzenauer, Queen Creek, AZ
Jc Gennevee, Las Vegas, NV

The 2018 PSR Convention in San Diego is now just over **2 months** away!! If you have not registered to attend yet, there is still time! Go to the website and do it today!

Kenneth Hecker, Fullerton,CA
Bettye Henry, N Las Vegas,NV
James Henry, N Las Vegas,NV
Robin Hollis, Phoenix,AZ
Michael Jubby, Glendale,AZ
Travis Kemp, Kayenta,AZ
Mark Lestico, Long Beach,CA
Ana MacKenzie, Redondo Beach,CA
Stan Marcus, Newport Beach,CA
William Neitzke, Cave Creek,AZ
Oliver Nusser, Casa Grande,AZ
William Pope, Oceanside,CA
Bill Reyes, Irvine,CA
John Robertson, Tucson,AZ
Ron Smolinski, Sun City,AZ
Bill Tichenor, Mesa,AZ
Peter Treuherz, Newbury Park,CA
Robert West, Phoenix,AZ

PSR Forums

The PSR member forums are now open on the PSR web site at: www.psrnmra.org

Click on the Forums tab, register your account, and participate in discussions, get up to date info on events, and ask questions of fellow members of the PSR and NMRA.

Do it TODAY!

From the Editor:

Do you have an interesting article that would be of interest to members of the PSR? If so, please email them to psrdispatch@psrnmra.org. If the article is more than a couple of paragraphs long, the full article will be stored on the PSR Website, and linked from the article. One image

The Convention begins on Wednesday, September 12th, and ends Sunday, September 16th, 2018. Events include clinics, layout tours, prototype tours, auction and banquet.

The theme of the convention is model railroad operations. There will be clinics on operations sessions, model building, scenery and other topics, operating sessions on well known local layouts, layout tours (many featured in the modeling publications), the PSR Contest Room, modular layouts at the hotel, Railette events, and many other activities to keep you interested, informed and entertained. There are also other concurrent event as part of the Convention - Wednesday night is the Welcome Reception at the San Diego Model Railroad Museum. Saturday is the Model Railroad Swap Meet sponsored by the Short Track Railroad, a model railroad club at the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum.

The site of the Convention is the Marriott Courtyard in San Diego ~ click on the Hotel tab above for more information, and reservations are open.

San Diego being a major vacation destination, there are of course many activities available for you and your families: great restaurants, beautiful beaches (and September is one of the best months to visit), zoos and parks, and incredible weather.

The website is up with lots of information, schedules and other details, and the Company Store is live for registrations and Extra Fare items.

<http://www.psrconvention.org/home>

the article. One image may be part of the newsletter - any additional images will be stored on the PSR Website, and linked from the article. This allows for the newsletter to be easily read on a members device (computer, tablet or phone), with a full article or large images available as they choose.



PSR Links
[Website](#)
[Facebook](#)



Members Only Forums
Now Open on the
NMRA Web Site
www.nmra.org
Registration Required

PSR Officer Elections

Elections for the PSR Officer Positions of President and Vice-President are being held in July. If you are interested in running for one of these positions, please contact the Nomination Committee chairman by email at [Nominations](#), or by phone at (602) 953-1681.

PSR Election Committee



From the Hot Seat

Don Fowler - President

HOW DID I GET HERE?

On the occasion of my recent birthday, I paused to reflect on my life and review the mistakes, successes and memorable events that have taken place along the way. Have you ever reflected on how you became involved with model railroading, what shaped your path, and how your modeling tastes have brought you to where you are today? Have you ever shared that story with anyone? Here's mine:

I was born in 1957 and raised in Rock Island, IL. At the age of four, I received my first train set and Dad created my first train layout on a 4' x 8' sheet of plywood. It was awesome and we spent a lot of quality time building and operating the layout. In 1969, at the age of 12, our family moved to Southern

California where my dad went to work for the Southern Pacific Railroad. At Christmas time that year, I saw my first N scale train set at a White Front department store. I guess I got the message across and it showed up on Christmas morning.

Throughout junior high and high school, I somehow gravitated toward fellow classmates who were model railroaders and we enjoyed our hobby together throughout those years. Even in college, I had a model railroad in my room at the dorm. I began my professional career, got married, started a family and continued modeling all along the way. One year while visiting the San Diego County Fair, my sons and I discovered the Short Track Club's modular model railroad. Club members invited us to operate and encouraged us to return with our equipment to run trains on the layout throughout the fair season.

That led to joining their club and the NMRA. In 2002, I was asked to help with the PSR convention hosted that year by San Diego Division which was a very positive experience. Shortly after the convention, I was asked to accept the Division Clerk/Paymaster position by Ben Sevier. That led to a Director position on the Region Board and Superintendent of the San Diego Division. A few years later I was elected President of the PSR for two terms. I also served as the Clinic Chair and was recently re-elected to the President position again. Along the way, thanks to many friends and resources I learned to become a better modeler and in 2013, became a Master Model Railroader.

My model railroading path has been very interesting and enjoyable. I never realized how much I would learn and the valuable lifelong friends that I would make along the way. So now here I am, Region President,

San Diego Division Superintendent and building my largest model railroad to date, drawing on all the skills and friendships that I have accumulated over my past 57 years of model railroading.

So now you know my story but I'm curious about yours. We have so much to learn from each other and the NMRA helps to make that possible. Why not consider an article for the **Dispatch** regarding some of your model railroading experiences? I'm interested and I'm sure many others are too!

See you at the PSR Convention in San Diego!
Don



Secretary

Dave Irick

The PSR Board of Directors meet at the Orange Empire Railway Museum during the Cajon Division Meet on April 28, 2018. All members of the Board, elected and appointed, were present except for Tom Draper, Treasurer.

The official Minutes of the meeting are available for reading and download [HERE](#) in PDF format.



Arizona Division

Frank Baker - Director

The Arizona Division has been quite busy with the recent change of officers. Prior to the Division Meet last November to introduce the new officers, we met to discuss our division objectives for the next two years. This list was shared with all the division members during the November meet. We have also made changes to the meet format including free lunch and a movie and a Best of Show cash award of \$25. This was done to increase attendance, add to the contest room and retain members for the entire meet.

We are also asking some of the clubs in the state to provide updates. The "West Valley Railroad Historical Society" has changed their name and location. Their new name is "Arizona Railroad Historical Society" and will be located in the Arizona Capital Museum. This will be a major undertaking by the members of this NMRA club and they are seeking help with every facet of the layout, including fund raising.

Richard Petrina, our new Division superintendent, has been busy finding new and exciting clinics. He is also working on meet agenda's for a year in advance.

Last fall we created a Division NMRA table banner and upright banner. We have been attending swap meets and other railroad events here in the state. We are presenting the NMRA to non-members and reminding

current members to renew. We had a sign up sheet with name, email and phone. A follow up email was sent out thanking them for stopping by the booth.

Over the past 6 months, we have concluded that we need to change part of the presentation. In the past, we gave them documentation for registering for the NMRA, hoping that they would take it home and fill it out. We have seen no result from this effort, (assuming that the registration form was lost, misplaced or discarded.) We will be promoting the \$19.95 / 9 month NMRA Railpass, and encouraging them to sign up right there and then. We hope that this is more effective.

Arizona will be the host for the 2019 PSR Regional Convention. Planning is well underway with the hotel selection and guest speaker confirmed. The convention will represent all of Arizona, versus prior Arizona conventions in Flagstaff and Tucson. NMRA members from around the state have been asked to contribute to helping with the convention centrally located in the 'Phoenix area. We have a wonderful hotel rate and a great guest speaker. We have made some format changes to the convention. Clinics will be held in the morning and evening hours. Layout tours will be from noon to 6 pm., allowing attendees to see layouts in Tucson, The Phoenix valley and other locations within a reasonable driving time.

Membership: We lost two very active members this past year: Duane Buck and Jon Wolfe. We have received an email from a Cajon member that he will be moving to Arizona after retirement.

We will be assigning a by-laws committee at the next meet to review and revise our current by-laws and bring them in line with current NMRA practices.



Cajon Division

Gary Butts - Director

What a fun couple of weeks! Having just returned from our Henderson, Nevada Spring meet which came just one week after our OERM meet in Perris, I am still saturated with model train thoughts. The new Orange Empire Railroad Museum venue for our annual California Spring meet worked out great! Although the clinic rooms required a little walking to get from one to the other, the extra leg stretch between clinics was a welcome respite for many of us. The new clinics were well attended and I saw smiles everywhere. It is really nice to have the Spring meet in a location with trains all around everywhere and the great reception that we got from the OERM Staff was a welcome relief from the somewhat sterile treatment our group was used to in Temecula. The drive was about the same for Sandy and I and the Ayers Hotel was really nice. Tons of food at the Banquet and a great hobo auction finished off the evening and insured that we will be using this venue again next year.

The contest room had some great models and three Achievement Program Merit awards were earned. Carl Heimberger was presented his AP Author Achievement Award and in addition, he has assumed the position of Achievement Program Chairman for our PSR Region, relieving Don Stewart who has served as AP Chairman for many years. Thank you, Don! Per Harwe, our outgoing Cajon Director, was presented with an appreciation award for his four years of service as our Cajon Division Director. In addition, four members of the Green River Modular club earned their Golden Spike awards and will be presented with their "Cajon Spikes" at our next meet.

Our Henderson meet was also a fun event. We took a turn at this meet and changed things up a bit. We had our usual swap meet, but this time the first table was free to NMRA members and we closed the swap down after the buying frenzy was over to make room for a new Hands-On tree making clinic presented by Jeff Herrman, our membership chairman. After a little grumbling about closing the swap for the clinic, I noticed that everyone that attended was happily building trees all over the place. I managed to make a two pine trees and a deciduous and Sandy did about the same. The clinic went over the 1-1/2 hours allotted and could have easily gone longer. This meet also featured a hot dog and chip lunch that was included in the attendance fare and Ed Hall did the honors as the chef at the BBQ. After a short membership meeting/briefing we jumped into a mini Hobo auction with the normal uneven item distribution that seem to be part of the fun. We adjourned to finish up the day with a layout tour to Nevin Wilson's beautiful "Las Vegas and Tonopah Railroad" HO layout. Nevin has managed to capture the color and

texture of the many facets of the desert in a precise way that is amazing.

Coming up- Don't miss our CIM3 event (Cajon Invitational Module Modelers Meet) next month on Father's day weekend with five local modular railroads participating for fun and assisting select boy scouts with their Railroad Merit Badge requirements. This is a three-day event at an amazingly low price including food and parking. This event is for Club and NMRA members only (+1 Guest/member) and is not open to the public. Achievement Program evaluations and a roving Golden Spike evaluation crew will be on hand to help with paperwork and to offer pointers if asked. Bring your models with you! No contest, no pressure, just AP paperwork and evaluations. See the Cajon Web site for details: CajonDivision.org.
