

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION DISPATCH

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION



ARIZONA
CAJON
LOS ANGELES
SAN DIEGO



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Board of Directors

President, Gary Butts, MMR
President@PSRNMRA.org

Vice President, Pat Raymer
VicePresident@PSRNMRA.org

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Director@AZdiv-nmra.org

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Director@CajonDivision.org

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Director@LADiv-nmra.org

San Diego, Pete Steinmetz
Director@SanDiegoDivision.org

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Don Fowler, MMR
PastPrez@PSRNMRA.org

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Membership@PSRNMRA.org

Contests

James Keena
Contest@PSRNMRA.org

Achievement Program

Carl Heimberger
APt@PSRNMRA.org

Historian

Per Harwe
Historian@PSRNMRA.org

"Chief Hobo-in-Charge"

Ed Hall, MMR
Hobo@PSRNMRA.org

Nominations

Vic Cavalli
Nominations@PSRNMRA.org

Editor

Kevin Spady, AIA
PSRDispatch@PSRNMRA.org

Webmaster

Dan Moran
Webmaster@PSRNMRA.org



VAN NUYS LOCAL 2020

SEPTEMBER 9TH - 13TH 2020

SAVE THE DATE! The 2019 Arizona convention is behind us and was an excellent event. You can look forward to even more model railroading fun in Van Nuys, California in 2020! It's never too early to start planning ahead for next year's PSR Convention. More info at www.psrconvention.org/VanNuysLocal2020/.

Note from the Editor: If you are interested in publishing an article in the Dispatch, drop me a line or send me an article at PSRDispatch@PSRNMRA.org. I am always interested in new content as long as it pertains to events or activities of interest to model railroaders in the region. Remember that publication of articles gives you credit towards your Authorship AP if you are attempting to achieve your MMR! I hope everyone had a great fall and will have a happy and enjoyable holiday season!





The PSR BACKSHOP



Gary Butts, MMR, President

I hope that you had the opportunity to attend our Pacific Southwest Region Convention this year. Our Arizona Division did a fantastic job preparing for the "Arizona Junction" event and it showed. I know that a lot of our members were not able to make the journey to Arizona but the rewards found in attending our conventions outweigh the effort to get to them tenfold. In this case, the welcome reception barbeque at McCormick-Stillman park set the tone for the whole event featuring three beautiful club layouts under one roof of all different scales. Outside, the 15" gauge live steamer held my attention for a long time while getting the particulars from the friendly engineer. Oh yea, Sandy and I had to take a turn around the park grounds behind the beautiful little engine. What fun! And the burgers weren't bad either.

Back at the Hotel, which by the way was very nice, things got under way early with the Cajon Division and PSR board of director's meetings held back to back. Although these meetings are often held with the doors closed to reduce outside noise and minimize distractions, they are open to all Division and Region members. These meetings are key to deciding where our efforts and money are going. Reports are presented by all committee chairmen to keep all of our BOD members up to date and to solicit suggestions from the other board members when desired. Although we do not encourage lengthy discussion from non-board members at these meetings (the General Membership meetings held at the convention and at the mid-year meeting are expressly for that purpose) you can get a feel for efforts that are being put forth by the various committees to insure that your PSR NMRA experience is as interesting and enjoyable as possible.

Anyway, the convention clinics started early and all of the ones that I was able to attend were not only new to me but were top notch. The presenters were great and I got several new ideas (and a make and take tree- thanks, Don) to bring home for Sandy and my new layout expansion. Yes, our layout is finally going to grow past its 4 x 8 size! Although I regrettably did not have time to join any of the layout tours, the reports from those that

did were all great. The contest room was full of great models and it showed at the awards banquet with many of the models receiving merit awards.

If you are at all interested in the NMRA Achievement Program (Master Model Railroader) I suggest you consider volunteering to join the model evaluation team at one of your Division or our Region events. Don't worry if you have never been an evaluator, you will be teamed with experienced evaluators for guidance and you will get a first hand view of what the program is looking for when judging models for the contest and evaluating them for the AP merit awards. The Hobo breakfast was and always is a fun get together with members from our other Divisions and often from other Regions and even other countries!

The Convention wrapped up with the Awards Banquet featuring Tony Koester as our guest speaker and the presentation of the various model contest award and model merit award presentations. It is at the Banquet that we take the time to appreciate the outstanding contributions to our Divisions and Region by select individual members that have gone out of their way to make our NMRA model railroading experience more enjoyable. Each of these special volunteers are presented with the coveted Member of the Year bell trophy for their contributions. A very big "Thank You!" goes to these individuals and also to the whole Arizona Convention volunteer team for putting on a really great Convention for all of us to enjoy.

What's coming up? Well of course each Division has events scheduled and they can be found on the Division's web sites as well as the PSR web site calendar of events. Our new PSR webmaster, Dan Moran, is making a special effort to keep the web site Region calendar up to date so you can look there for regional and divisional event information. Specifically, the major Region events for you to make plans to attend are the Region's mid-year event and BOD meeting usually held in conjunction with the Cajon Division meet in March and next year's "Van Nuys Local" Convention hosted by our Los Angeles Division in September. The midyear meet will be held in La Quinta (Palm Springs area) and the 2020 Convention will be held in (surprise!) Van Nuys. Make plans to attend these events to have a great time, learn some new modeling techniques and see old and meet new friends. I personally look forward to seeing you there!



From the **V.P.**

Pat Raymer, Vice President

In the past, I have sometimes struggled over what the subject of my Dispatch article should be. Such is not the case this time. In fact, the subject of this article will be the subject of most of my communication with you for the next 10 months.

As Chairman of the PSR 2020 convention, I am proud to present Van Nuys Local 2020, hosted by the Los Angeles Division. If you did not attend the Arizona Junction 2019 convention, you may not yet be aware of the L.A. Division's convention plans for next year. Van Nuys Local 2020 will be unlike any previous PSR convention.

Let's begin with a brief overview of our convention location. Van Nuys, California is centrally located in the San Fernando Valley. It has gone from a Spanish rancho to many acres of orange groves to a major metropolitan area of greater Los Angeles. There is a long railroad history here. The Southern Pacific and Pacific Electric inter-urban lines once crossed the valley. Now, Union Pacific freight, Amtrak, and Metrolink commuter trains ply the rails.

Don't let our Pacific Electric Red Car logo mislead you. This convention isn't just about street cars. We are offering a wide variety of activities-something for just about everyone. My goal for Van Nuys Local 2020 is affordability and accessibility.

Our convention venue is the Airtel Plaza Hotel. It offers all the amenities you would expect for a PSR convention. We have secured an outstanding rate of \$119.00 / night with a \$4.00/day parking fee including in and out privileges. This is a truly remarkable rate for the Los Angeles area.

One of the comments (complaints?) I often hear about the Los Angeles area is the traffic. As a native Southern Californian, I can tell you that I am no happier about the traffic situation than you are. Although we can't eliminate the traffic, we can do our best to alleviate its impact on you. If you are flying into Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), you need only to hop on the Flyaway bus and for \$9.75 it will take you to the Van Nuys Flyaway

station, where you will be picked up by the hotel shuttle. No need for Uber, Lyft, a taxi or a rental car. If you are flying in to Bob Hope Airport in Burbank (BUR), you can catch the Metrolink train to the Van Nuys station and be picked up by the hotel shuttle. How about taking the train? What a novel idea! You can take Amtrak to Los Angeles Union Station and then take the Surfliner or Metrolink to the Van Nuys station where...well, you get the idea. No need to deal with the traffic!

So now you've gotten to Van Nuys. Now what? If you recall, I said this would be unlike any previous PSR convention. Our plan is to hold clinics and non-rail activities at the hotel in the morning and evening times, leaving the afternoons open for layout tours, prototype tours, and non-rail activities, all by bus. Again, no driving necessary! Any evening layout tours or operating sessions will be accomplished by ridesharing.

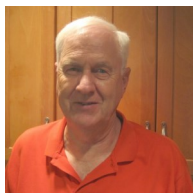
As far as clinics are concerned, we have a great line-up, with many new offerings. There will be several hands-on make and take clinics, including a start to finish structure build and an amazingly realistic yet simple method for making surf/rapids water effects.

One of our prototype tours will be to a working Union Pacific freight yard. Our clinician, a Union Pacific freight conductor, will present a clinic at the hotel describing the activities at the yard, and then we will visit the yard to see the action.

Our non-rail offerings include a visit to San Antonio Winery, L.A.'s oldest continuously operating winery, and a trip to Suiho-En Japanese Gardens. At the hotel there will be a ladies boutique, Wine and Paint, yoga, bingo, and more.

There is so much more to the Van Nuys Local 2020 PSR convention than I have room to describe here. We are diligently working to add more exciting activities. Watch your email for updates. Register soon and the welcome reception, awards banquet, and membership meeting breakfast will be included in your registration fare. To register and make your hotel reservations go to: www.psrconvention.org/VanNuysLocal2020/.

See you down the line!



Arizona

Frank Baker, Director

The Arizona Division 2019 PSR Regional Convention:

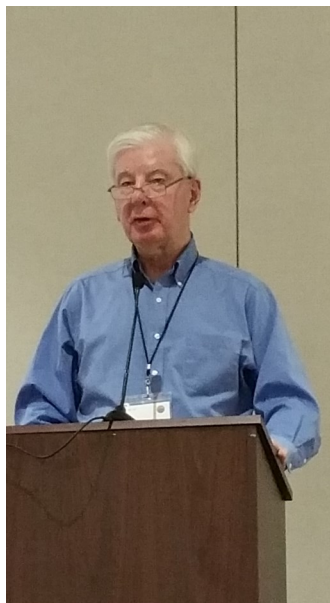
After more than two years of planning by a committee of twenty four NMRA members and another twenty helpers during the convention, the convention concluded on Sunday, September 29th. Officially, our convention attendance was 269. The majority of the convention attendees came from within the region, but we had many folks from outside of our region including Florida, Connecticut, New Jersey, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Nevada, Indiana, Utah and several other states. The farthest attendee was from Nova Scotia. We can contribute this to the advertising and layout articles published in Model Railroader Magazine, NMRA Magazine and other communication mediums.

The Non Rail committee did a fantastic job of planning and offering a wide variety of events during the convention. From painting at a local brush bar, to museums, there was a variety of events every day.

The Sheraton Hotel provided a wonderful location, excellent service and took care on any problems that might have arise. Kudo's to everyone at the hotel. Convention clinics were abundant with some 60 plus clinics without any repeats. All these clinics had a negative affect on layout tours in Tucson and Prescott on Thursday. Layout attendance on Thursday was small. The distance could have also played a part in the low visitation rate in Tucson and Prescott. We know that the layouts open on Thursday were some distance from the convention hotel and to those that ventured out to see lay-outs, thank you.

I have received many thank you emails, phone calls and letters from folks that attended the convention. One individual actually sent a letter with accompanying photos to each layout owner that he visited. This was a very nice idea on his part. One of his comments was quite amusing. "I will watch for another PSR Convention or maybe even a NMRA National Convention to come to Phoenix" Well, thank you for your kind words, but since all NMRA National conventions occur in the summer months and summer in Arizona would not be a good convention attraction, we will pass on a National Convention in Arizona idea, but thank you for enjoying this convention.

I cannot thank everyone enough for making our convention the success it was. From planning, helpers, and attendees, the convention was a great success. We did have one complaint. The complaint was about our guest speaker.



Yup, Tony Koester! **The complaint was that he did not talk long enough!** His stories about folks he worked with in the hobby were absolutely hilarious and this individual wanted more.

With tongue in cheek, I told Tony that I had a complaint about his speech and dragged out my final words. He was on pins and needles for a moment, but realized that I was only kidding. He is a great guest, knowledgeable modeler and a new friend. As division director

and convention chair, I told Tony that I was responsible for getting him a gift for his speaking at the convention. Well, what do you give guy that has been in the hobby as long as he has and is very detailed on what he displays on his layout. I mentioned this to him well before the convention, knowing what the answer might be. Only after he visited my layout, did he indicate that he had a building in mind for his layout.

A special thanks to the guys from TCS Sound. They came a long way to demonstrate their products and were pleasantly surprised by the reception they received. I received an email from Stephen Koffel after the convention with three video attachments. Here is the link which is now on their website:

<http://tcsdcc.com/arizonajunction>.

At every regional convention, the Division Director picks an individual that qualifies for the "Member of the Year"



This year, the Arizona Division "Member of the Year" is Lenny Smith. Lenny contributes to this wonderful hobby and organization everyday. He plays trains, talks trains and probably sleeps trains, but that is between he and his wife. Lenny is a true people person. Always has a smile on his face and is a very talented modeler. It turns out that Lenny even knows Tony Koester and shared a few train experiences at the convention.



Arizona

Frank Baker, Director

Continued from Page 5

As many of us know that have been involved in prior conventions, there are times when a brief respite is required. Don Stewart received the convention cars at a very late date, only to require assembly of the bodies to the undercarriage, trucks, couplers, convention logo to all the cars. Don spent countless hours a couple of evenings making sure that everyone that ordered an assembled car, would be able to pick it up at registration. To Don, we all say thank you for your time and effort on this portion of the convention. Don sat down on the sofa behind the registration desk, only to be photographed taking a quick respite. You deserved it. Thank you for all your hard work.

To everyone that joined us at the PSR Regional Convention and



to all my convention committee members, thank you for all the time and effort you contributed to this event.

See you all next year in Van Nuys!

Tucson Meet Update

Contest Room

We had eight entries some were for display only. There were four merit awards.

Jeff Liedl – /Structures open / Truck & Radiator
Repair Shop – 95 points

Jim Spice – / Rolling Stock open / D&S Gon
Tourist Car – 97 points

Alex Dirks – /Motive Power / 8-40CW 102 points

Alex Dirks / Motive Power / Conrail 6068 103 points

BEST OF SHOW / Jeff Liedl / Ore House

Clinics

Wayne Wesolowski resented a captivating clinic on some the many things he has learned over the years to make modeling easier and better. He showed modeler A and modeler B as examples of the right and wrong way to do things. He also demonstrated how to make a mold and castings. This was a great clinic. Wayne is not only a great modeler, but a good presenter. We hope to have Wayne do more at the spring meet.

Jesse Poole did an in-depth presentation on the use of LCC at the Arizona Museum Layout. They also had a demonstration board to show the various components in action. Jesse is a big fan of LCC and believes in the products.

Lunch was provided by the Division. We had sub sandwiches and chips. We watched a video by Bob Mitchell on scratch building structures.

Swap Meet

There were four people that had tables.

Door Prizes

There were lots of prizes

Layout tours

There were three tours of some very nice layouts. Joe Galdi, Werner Kroebig and Pail Buhrke

Attendance

Was a little low. About 45 people. Much of this was due to the Annual Gadsen-Pacific Model Train Show

We will make every attempt not to conflict with this swap meet next year.

Spring Meet

The Spring Meet will be held on April 4th at the Mountainside Methodist Church in Scottsdale, AZ.





Los Angeles

Mona Raymer, Director

I hope you had a wonderful summer and are enjoying the autumn so far.

Since my last article, Pat & I attended the PSR Regional Convention, held September 25th thru 29th. It was hosted by the Arizona Division in Scottsdale, AZ. It was a fun filled whirlwind of clinics, prototype tours, contest room, hobo auction, hobo breakfast, swap meet and banquet. I spent most of my time manning the registration table to sign up attendees for our upcoming convention, Van Nuys Local 2020. But, one of the non-rail activities I was lucky enough to be able to attend was the Brush Bar, where an instructor walks you through the steps of painting a picture. Most of us attending had never painted any type of "art" before but we were all excited to become artists! The AZ committee had decided that we would paint a hummingbird, the results are shown in the picture below. Everyone had a great time and it was wonderful to see all of the talent in the room! I would like to, once again, thank the entire Arizona convention committee for all of their great work and hospitality!

On October 5th, the Los Angeles Division co-sponsored the L.A. Area Prototype Modelers Meet held in Bellflower. There was a swap meet, clinics, door prize drawings and numerous prototype models on display. Always an enjoyable time!

On October 26th and 27th, the Los Angeles Division hosted our Annual Freight Fright event at the South Coast Botanic Gardens in Palos Verdes. We had 5 modular gardens in a

variety of scales plus a live steam and garden railroad set up to run their trains and show the general public what a wonderful hobby scale modeling is. We also had a time saver and toy train layout for the children to play with. This event is always very well attended and this year was no different. It is so nice to see all of the families enjoying watching the trains and the excitement on the faces of the children.....future model railroaders!

The upcoming events for the Los Angeles Division in 2020 are as follows:

- **Feb. 22: Annual General Membership Meeting and Banquet: Central Grille**
801 N. Central Ave.
Glendale, CA 91203
- **April 18: Annual SpringRail Meet**
College Ave. Church of the Nazarene
8221 College Ave.
Whittier, CA 90605
- **Sept. 9th – 13th: Van Nuys Local 2020 Convention**
Airtel Plaza Hotel
7277 Valjean Ave.
Van Nuys, CA 91406

If you haven't already done so, be sure to register for our convention soon to get the best price!

I look forward to seeing you at some of these events.

Wishing you a very Happy Thanksgiving and wonderful holiday season!

Until next time....Happy Modeling!





San Diego

Pete Steinmetz, Director

The San Diego division has been busy lately. Our summer Meet and Swap Meet was a lot of fun. We had quite a few tables. As usual at swap meets sellers selling to other sellers was very successful. We had a fun hands-on weathering clinic. Don Fowler manned the grill and cooked us some tasty burgers and dogs.

Our October Layout Tour was at the North County Model Railroad Society in Oceanside. We were part of their Swap Meet and Model Train Show.

San Diego Division had a table where we were recruiting members. If someone signed up and paid at the table, a Railpass was only \$10.00. The San Diego Division paid the other \$10.00. We got one new member.

The division participated in the 100th Anniversary of the San Diego and Arizona Railroad held at the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum in Campo.

The division had a table and also set up N Scale modules. We were talking to attendees and attempting to recruit new members. We offered the same deal. If someone signed up and paid on the spot, it only cost \$10.00. We were thrilled that we signed up 2 members. We will keep operating our table at other events in the division.

The museum certainly had a lot of activities. There were train rides, antique cars, antique fire apparatus, presentations, reenactors, and all the equipment the museum has to offer. There was a catered lunch, but tickets needed to be purchased in advance. A PSR San Diego member and Campo Museum member chartered the Santa Fe Café-Lounge Observation 1509.



Southern Pacific 2353



Santa Fe observation Car 1509



SD Division N-Scale layout display



Cajon

Jeff Herrmann, Director

2019 has been a great year for Model Railroading in Cajon Division! We have had several great meets and significant attendance from our Division at National and Regional NMRA Conventions and Special Interest Group (SIG) Conventions.

We just wrapped up two great fall division meets. The first, was our traditional October meet in Buena Park, CA. Over 40 in attendance: three outstanding clinics; a kit build session (kit was included in regular meet fare); hobo auction; swap meet; AP Evaluations; and modeling contests including a special "Halloween theme" category. We also had N-Track Express and the OC T-Track clubs set up their modular layouts for all to enjoy and "run trains."

On November 16th we held a special division meet in historic Boulder City, Nevada; the city that built the Hoover Dam. We had over 40 in attendance here too. The meet was held at the Nevada State Railroad Museum. We had a full program including: swap meet; clinic: *Tuning Cars for Trouble Free Operation* by Mike Allee; tour of the museum (including HO and O Scale model layouts in a 1914 UP Chair Car); and a ride on the train that dates back to the 1930's when the Boulder Branch Line was constructed by the Union Pacific Railroad to service the Boulder Dam project.

Our first meet of 2020 will be *Desert Rails* on March 27-29 in Palm Desert, CA. This will be a great meet to bring along your spouse as we will have the Homewood Suites Hotel as our home

base and access to the Desert Museum and Zoo. See our website for details as they become available <https://www.cajondivision.org/>

Congratulations to Joel Morse who was recognized at the PSR Convention in Mesa, AZ as The Cajon Division Member of the Year! Joel is an avid N-Scale Modeler who regularly hosts open houses and operating sessions on his home "New York, Ontario and Western Railway" 1950's era layout. Joel has been active in our division for more than 10 years and has served as Paymaster for the past 3 years.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank and recognize our good friend Dennis Ivison who has served with distinction as the Cajon Division Superintendent for the past three years. Dennis has been a true servant leader to our division and model railroading and has worked really hard to upgrade our meets and events, something we all have benefited from. At the PSR Convention in Mesa, AZ in September, Dennis was recognized at the PSR Member of the Year!

Dennis and his family are making plans to move up the California coast in the very near future. He has already packed up his magnificent On30 home layout that has been featured several times in *Narrow Gauge Gazette* and other publications, and put his home up for sale. We will miss Dennis for his hard work and dedication to our Division, not to mention his great sense of humor! Best wishes to Dennis and his wife Christine and they move on down the line!





Editors Notes

Kevin Spady, Editor

I wanted to share my experiences at the PSR convention in Mesa, AZ. I have to say I had a great time and the event, although never flawless, was extremely well done; with great clinic presentations, auctions, build-it clinics, and interesting events outside of the convention. I wanted to focus on the events outside of the convention hotel because I thoroughly enjoyed them while I was there. If you were not able to get to the convention, but are visiting Phoenix/Mesa sometime in the future these are wonderful places to spend a couple hours:

The Hall of Flame, while not specifically a RR attraction has the largest collection of fire fighting apparatus in the world, with over 90 fire fighting vehicles on display. They have a Santa Fe hose and ladder truck on display which was only one of a multitude of beautifully restored vehicles.



AT&SF Hose and ladder truck



Just one of several museum display rooms

Another exceptional outing was the ride on the Verde Canyon Railroad following the Verde River through

the beautiful mountains of Arizona near Sedona. The railroad traverses about 20 miles of relatively inaccessible red-rock terrain following the Verde River between Clarkdale and Perkinsville. The day had perfect weather with pleasant 80 degree temperatures and beautiful partly cloudy skies. Our group had a reserved parlor car all to ourselves as well as access to an open air observation car. Perkinsville has a



FP7 diesel electric locomotives—only 2 of 10 remaining

wonderful little depot in desperate need of restoration, but perfect for modeling purposes!

I also visited the Arizona Railway Museum in Chandler, just a few miles east of Mesa. It is a non-profit museum that has a broad selection of mid-century rolling stock and locomotives. Be aware, that if you visit in summer months it is an outdoor museum and can be very warm! I had the pleasure of walking through several original Pullman and Santa Fe passenger cars that are in original condition. The museum has several interesting cars including a streetcar,



Southern Pacific #2562

caboose, an SP crane car, several diesel locomotives as well as Southern Pacific locomotive #2562.



PSR Membership

Pete Steinmetz, Membership Chair

Membership is growing slightly for the PSR Region.

June 2019 total 1032. October 2019 total 1044.

San Diego has been trying a new approach to recruiting members. At the PSR San Diego October Layout Tour held during the North County Model Railroad Society Swap Meet and Train Show we had a table. We were selling some donated items and recruiting for new NMRA and Railpass members. If the person signed up for the 9 month Railpass and paid on the spot, they only had to pay \$10.00. The San Diego Division paid the other \$10.00.

We will also repeat this recruitment table at the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum's 100th Anniversary of the San Diego and Arizona Railway. The matching payment is only good if the person signs up and pays at the event.

We will be refining this effort with signage and different approaches to recruit new members.

We are also having members demonstrate skills at our public tables. Build a kit, weather a car, something to get the audience attention. Cajon division did this at the Great Train show in Costa Mesa and it attracted curious people to the table.

We need to find venues that are not traditional train shows to set up and introduce the audience to model railroading and NMRA membership.



PSR Treasurer

Joel Morse, Treasurer

I was pleased to be able to attend the Regional Board Meeting held during the PSR 2019 Arizona Junction Convention in Scottsdale this past September, and get a chance to meet the other Region Board Members. This was the first opportunity I have had to attend a Region Board Meeting since taking up the position of Region Treasurer, and it was very educational. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend any other aspects of the convention, so I am looking forward to the 2020 Convention in Van Nuys (LA Division). It was also my pleasure to distribute the second half of the annual Membership reimbursement to each of the Divisions, a total of \$935.00. This reimbursement is the portion of national dues that are shared with the local divisions, based on membership numbers; Arizona-\$316.00; Cajon-\$302.00; Los Angeles-\$201.00 and San Diego-\$116.00.

During this period we also provided rebates to the Arizona Division, LA Division and Cajon Division to cover the cost of purchasing new projectors to use for clinics at Division Meets and Regional Conventions.

The October 31, 2019 Bank Statement indicates that the Region has \$35,053.20 in the Region Checking Account.

Region Assets as of October 31, 2019:

Wells Fargo Checking Account: \$35,053.20



Achievement Program

Carl Heimberger, AP Chairman

Hard to believe it has been two months since the 2019 PSR Convention in Mesa AZ. It was nice to see the contest room filled with lots of fine models, photos, arts & crafts, and railroadiana. Eighteen Merit Awards were issued at this convention so congratulations to the following modelers:

- Vic Cavalli, LA (1-Car)
- Charles Schwartz, AZ (1-Structures)
- Allen Gross, AZ (1-Structures)
- Bill Tichenor, AZ (1- Structures)
- Gary Butts, Cajon (2-Structures)
- Andrew Arney, AZ (2-Cars)
- Richard Hock, Cajon (1-Structures)
- Don Stewart, AZ (5-Cars)
- Steve Hollenbach, AZ (1-Cars)
- Jim Spice, AZ (1-Cars)
- Carl Heimberger, Cajon (2-Structures)

Although it is an interesting experience entering some of your work in a Convention Contest Room it is not the only way one can receive a Merit Award. If you have a home layout, we can set up a team to come to you home and evaluate your work in all the AP categories.

I belong to a module group or Free-mo how do I get evaluated? If you can set up your modules in a garage or patio that works. Or if you are going to have them at a train show, we will also go there to do the evaluations. If you have a team come to your place or at a show it is helpful to have the paperwork filled out ahead of time and even have it reviewed by your local AP manager so the time can be spent looking at your work not revising the paperwork.

Again, do not over think the paperwork. Just a page or two is all that is needed. We do not care about the history of the prototype you modeled but more on how you built your model. If you are not sure if what you are building is Kit or Scratch just send me a quick e-mail telling me what you are planning to do and I

will provide a clarification.

Also do not sell your local NMRA meets short, most of them have a contest room, so that is an excellent place to have your work judged/evaluated.

I know it is sometimes hard when you do not get the score you think you should have deserved. After all you spent many hours building the model. But rather than telling yourself I will never enter anything ever again. Think of it as a learning experience. In discussing this with our Dispatch Editor at the last convention he stated, "Model building is about the journey and not the destination."

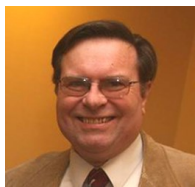
The question you have to ask yourself is "Did I have fun building this model? If the answer is yes, then wasn't the journey worth the trip? After all this hobby is about having fun and broadening your modeling skills. Look at the judges' comments they are meant to be constructive. I just finished a scratch built HOn3 water tank car, modeled after the V&T water car # 1, and got a Merit Award but I did lose some points because I forgot the ratchet on the brake wheel. You can be sure I will not make that mistake again!

As I have stressed in the past, the PSR Awards Program Team is always here to assist you, so if you have any questions please contact your division AP Manager or myself. We will review your information and let you know if anything is missing. If your work cannot be brought to a division meet or convention it is possible to set up a date and have a team come to your home to evaluate your work.

Your local AP managers are:

- Arizona – Bruce Petrarca, MMR
- Cajon – Gary Butts, MMR
- Los Angeles – James Keena
- San Diego – Paul Schmitt, MMR

Modeling skills can only be learned by repetition the more you work at it the better you will be at it. So just have some fun and build something.



The Show Room

James Keena, PSR Contest Chair

2019 PSR Convention

The Show Room this time was held at 2019 Pacific Southwest Regional Convention in Mesa, Arizona. There was a very good selections of models, photos and displays that was enjoyed by all attendees. There was a wide verity of prototype and model photos in both color and black and white for people's choice popular vote. A total of 78 items were entered into the Show Room for display, popular vote or for Merit Evaluation.

The actual number of models entered this time was limited in some categories, but there was lots of quality craftsmanship. It was also encouraging to see that there are members who were willing to display and share their models for fellow members to enjoy. In addition, NMRA Merit Evaluations were conducted on 33 models, of which 18 earned Merit Awards with scores of 88 points or greater. Here are the results of the contest with the earned merit evaluation scores where applicable along with those winning people's choice popular vote:

Diesel Locomotives

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 st Place | Spreckels Sugar Company Diesel No. 2 by Nick Lisica |
| 2 nd Place | GE U-5B MRS by James Keena |
| 3 rd Place | Coke Train Locomotive by Joacuin Hegemann |

Traction & Self Propelled

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 st Place | D&RGW Motor Car # 592 by Don Stewart |
| 2 nd Place | Low Cost Passenger Service by Denis Ranke |

Freight Cars

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 st Place | D&RGW Stock Car # 5519 by Don Stewart
Earned Merit Evaluation 92 Points |
|-----------------------|--|

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 2 nd Place | D&RGW Refrigerator Car # 56 by Don Stewart
Earned Merit Evaluation 90 Points |
|-----------------------|---|

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 3 rd Place | D&RGW Gondola # 1456 by Don Stewart
Earned Merit Evaluation 88 Points |
|-----------------------|--|

Caboose

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 st Place | D&RGW Short Caboose # 0577 by Andrew Arney
Earned Merit Evaluation 111 Points |
| 2 nd Place | D&RGW Short Caboose # 0575 by Vic Cavalli
Earned Merit Evaluation 106 Points |
| 3 rd Place | D&RGW Caboose # 0540 by Don Stewart
Earned Merit Evaluation 89 Points |

Non-Revenue

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 st Place | CS/CW Work Car by Andrew Arney
Earned Merit Evaluation 89 Points |
| 2 nd Place | Snow Crab by Jim Spice
Earned Merit Evaluation 88 Points |
| 3 rd Place | Wood Water Tank by James Keena |

Structures On-Line

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 st Place | Tesoro Station by Gary Butts
Earned Merit Evaluation 114 Points |
| 2 nd Place | Bear Creek Trestle by Carl Heimberger
Earned Merit Evaluation 112 Points |
| 3 rd Place | Keeler Engine House by Gary Butts
Earned Merit Evaluation 102 Points |

Honorable Mention

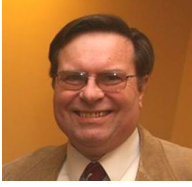
M&St.L Passenger & Freight Depot by Charles Schwarts
Earned Merit Evaluation 100 Points

Honorable Mention

Rico Station by Steve Hollenbech
Earned Merit Evaluation 94 Points

Honorable Mention

NYC Float Apron by Richard Hock
Earned Merit Evaluation 89 Points



The Show Room

James Keena, PSR Contest Chair

2019 PSR Convention Continued

Structures Off-Line

- 1st Place Brass and Iron Foundry by Bill Tichernor
Earned Merit Evaluation 91 Points
- 2nd Place 1920's Barn by Carl Heimberger
Earned Merit Evaluation 90 Points
- 3rd Place Logging and Tractor Repair by Bill Tichernor

Display Off-Line

- 1st Place Bait Shop by Nick Lisca

Favorite Train

- 1st Place 20 Mule Team Borax by Don Vest
- 2nd Place 1829 Rocket Steam Locomotive by Annette Palmer

Thumbs Award

- 1st Place Fermer's Markit by Annette Palmer

Photos Color Model

- 1st Place Rocky Point Trestle by Charlie Nidever
- 2nd Place Argo Tunnel by Charlie Nidever
- 3rd Place San Joaquin Daylight Tehachapi Scene by Robert Diepenbrok

Photos Black & White Model

- 1st Place Whistle Stop at Chile Caliente by Charlie Nidever
- 2nd Place Steamed Bacon by Joacuin Hegemann
- 3rd Place Speed by Joacuin Hegemann

Photos Color Prototype

- 1st Place Steamed Up by Joacuin Hegemann

- 2nd Place Rails at Sunset by Joacuin Hegemann
- 3rd Place Morning with the Eureka by Joacuin Hegemann

Photos Black & White Prototype

- 1st Place K-36 Mikado by Charlie Nidever
- 2nd Place Double Heading in the Rain by Charlie Nidever

Arts & Crafts General

- 1st Place San Francisco Cable Car by Annette Palmer

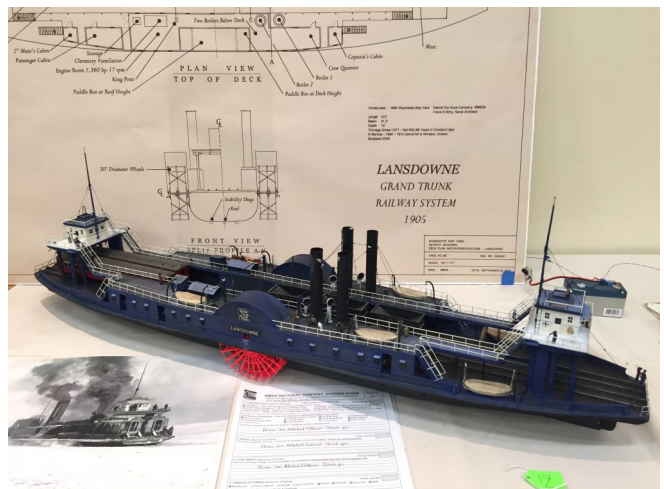
Arts & Crafts Needlework

- 1st Place Classic Rail Journeys Quilt by Mrs. Paul Stoner
- 2nd Place Japanese Kumihimo Braided Jewelry by Tatiana Gutierrez
- 3rd Place Japanese Kumihimo Braided Jewelry by Tatiana Gutierrez

Railroadana

- 1st Place Tie Pajaro Valley Consolidated Checks by Nick Lisica
- 1st Place Tie Santa Fe Emblem by Annette Palmer
- 2nd Place C & O Ash Tray by Roberta Fleishman

- Best of Show** Car Ferry "Lansdowne" by Allen W. Cross
Earned Merit Evaluation 123 Points



Car Ferry "Lansdowne" by Allen W. Cross



The Show Room

James Keena, PSR Contest Chair

As you can see from the results, there were a few entries in some categories with steam locomotives and passenger cars that did not have any entries. I encourage you to bring your models for Merit Evaluation or at least to display or be part of the People's Choice Popular Vote. Who knows, you could be our next recipient of an award and recognition.

If you are working on obtaining your NMRA achievement certificates or your Master of Model Railroading, your next opportunities to display or have merit evaluation performed on your models, arts, crafts and photos are coming up at the following five currently scheduled events that I am aware of at this time:

- ♦ March 28, 2020 at the Cajon Spring Meet in Palm Springs, CA
- ♦ April 18, 2020 at the Los Angeles Division SpringRail in Whittier, CA
- ♦ May 2, 2020 at the PCR Convention in Concord CA
- ♦ July 15, 2020 at the NMRA National Convention in St. Louis, Missouri
- ♦ September 11, 2020 at the PSR Convention in Van Nuys, CA

The NMRA achievement program is both educational and provides recognition of your accomplishments in modeling as well as acknowledgement of your efforts of promoting model railroading. Look forward to seeing you and your models, arts, crafts and photos at a future event.



Spreckels Sugar Company Diesel No. 2 by Nick Lisica

2019 PSR Convention Continued

Photos by James Keena and Kevin Spady



GE U-5B MRS by James Keena



D&RGW Short Caboose # 0577 by Andrew Arney



CS/CW Work Car by Andrew Arney

2019 PSR Convention Continued



VMRA NATIONAL CONTEST JUDGING FORM
(MRA Form #802 Rev. C, 5/8/09 All previous forms obsolete. Please print.)
Entry Name TESORO STATION Points Awarded _____
Maximum 40 points)
Description that best applies to your model
- SEB struc. + details (>90%) ☐ Kit Bash - Multi kit/diagram parts assembly (>90%)
☐ Kit Built - Per kit plan (>90%) less than 10% modification (<25%) No fee

Tesoro Station by Gary Butts



Bear Creek Trestle by Carl Heimberger



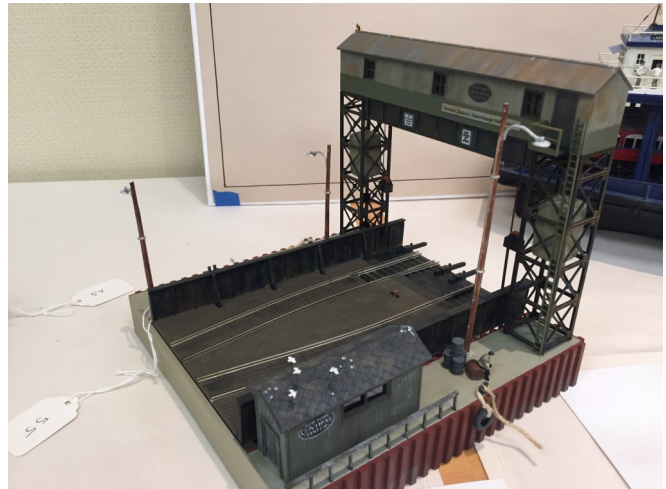
M & St.L Passenger & Freight Depot



Brass and Iron Foundry by Bill Tichernor



Logging and Tractor Repair by Bill Tichernor



NYC Float Apron by Richard Hock

VAN NUYS LOCAL

2020

Sept 9th - 13th 2020

**SAVE
THE
DATE!!!**



- * *Banquet*
- * *Prototype Tours*
- * *Layout Tours*
- * *Clinics*
- * *Much - Much More!*



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