

LA COUPLER



[HTTP://WWW.LADIV-NMRA.ORG](http://www.ladiv-nmra.org)

SPRING 2016



SpringRail 2016 is Coming!!!



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The L. A. Coupler

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SPRING EDITION 2016

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LA COUPLER DEADLINES:

Winter Issue - December 1
Spring Issue - March 1
Summer Issue - June 1
Fall Issue - September 1

The LA Coupler is also looking for submissions, articles, or photos. Please forward them to the Editor at;

essaness@pacbell.net

On the Cover...



A lucky rail-fan catches a Milwaukee Road Hiawatha Passenger train at a crossing on Jeff Traintime's wonderful "Northern Division" Burbank Layout.

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

To:

Save the date - April 23rd!

SpringRail has developed into outstanding event each year and this years looks like it will raise the bar for future events. Some very fine clinics are scheduled along with an indoor swap meet. The Hobo Auction will yet again have items that you just can't do without. For Lunch, pizza will be available for \$7.00. If you bring something to display with the possibility of having the attendees think your offering is the best, lunch is free. Of course if you would like your work evaluated under the NMRA standards that can be done too. For full details visit the divisions website

<http://www.ladiv-nmra.org>

Just above the gray blocked area addressing SpringRail is another gray block area addressing the PSR convention, LA Junction Sept. 21-24 in Culver City at the LA West Double Tree. The convention is in it's final stages of preparation and is coming together nicely. There are several nice tours and we've committed to not cancelling any tour. You'll notice that a private car wine trip is planned to Santa Barbara with breakfast and dinner served on the car. If you are considering taking the private wine car to Santa Barbara let me encourage you to send in your convention application quickly, there are only a few seats left. If you'd rather not spend a few hours tasting wine in Santa Barbara you may want to make special arrangements to continue on with the car to San Luis Obispo. Contact Carl Heimberger to make these arrangements. Contact info is also on the website. Even though

we will not cancel a tour there is a limit to the number that can participate, all tours will by bus and that means the number of seats limits the tour size. Visit the convention website to review the tours <http://www.ladiv-nmra.org> We are making an effort to bring new clinics as well as clinics from scales other than HO. I mentioned a few in my last report. Here are two more I've asked Kevin Spady, a fine modeler, to demonstrate his technique of creating rust. On his On30 modules are some of the best looking rusted vehicles I've ever seen. Mike Stangler, from Slim Gauge Guild, will demonstrate his techniques for painting backdrops. On Saturday we will have a swap meet under a 3,000 sq. ft. tent, that's a lot of floor space. Besides the swap meet, we are planning on Saturday being a family day. For \$25 the whole family can come and enjoy a group of clinics specially developed with children in mind, beside all the other activities that are planned for the conventioners. There will be at least one and possibly to modular clubs running trains in the lobby during the convention.

I'd like to dedicate some of this report to the modular clubs. If you go to the train shows you have seen several modular clubs layouts. If you've not attended a train show you're missing a great day enjoying our hobby. There are some very fine modelers in these clubs and every one of the layouts are worth the time to peruse. If you think all the modular groups are HO you are very wrong. All the scales/gauges are represented at one show or another. Let me list the modules I've seen: Z, N, Nn3, HO (American & European), HOn3, S, O

Continued on Page 18

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OPR:

M.

FORM
21

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

FORM
21*Spring is here again!*

Well, sort of. From last month's intermittent downpours and nippy evenings - you wouldn't know it from the weather! But lately the 80 degree days and temperate nights make it seem more and more Spring-like.

Speaking of Spring, the annual L.A. Division SpringRail event is just around the corner. Once again, we will have a great line-up of activities, with something for everyone. From scenery, to history, to trains, to the other side of the Atlantic, there's bound to be a clinic or two that you won't want to miss. We will also be having our swap meet, which, if last year was any indication, just seems to get better and better. Of course it wouldn't be SpringRail without the ever popular Hobo Auction, where you can try your luck at winning that certain something you just can't live without! Throw in a pizza lunch (for a slight additional charge), and you just can't go wrong! Go to www.ladiv-nmra.org and click on the SpringRail tab at the top of the page for more information.

As I assume my duties as L.A. Division Director, I would like to welcome Ron Varnell to the position of Membership Chairman. Ron has been becoming more involved with the advisory board, and when the membership chairman position opened up, it seemed a perfect fit for him. He truly has a passion for the hobby and is very engaging to speak with. Please be sure to say hello to Ron when you attend one of our events.

One opportunity to meet Ron, will be at the PSR regional convention, L.A. Junction 2016, hosted this year by the L.A. Division. The convention will be held at the Double Tree Hotel in Culver City. It is a beautiful location, with all the amenities required for an outstanding convention. Our welcome reception will be held at Ron's 1,400 square foot layout in nearby Torrance. It really is a must-see!

L.A. Junction 2016 will be a great convention, but not without the help of many people. As you can see in Chief Clerk/Paymaster James Keena's article elsewhere in this issue, there are many volunteers necessary to make the convention a success. Besides the feeling of satisfaction you will get by knowing you helped, it is also a great chance to meet new people. Volunteers will also be able to count their volunteer hours towards an Achievement Program volunteer certificate. As a special thank you this year, all volunteers will receive a convention pin with a ribbon attached.

There's lots of exciting things happening this year with L.A. Division, and I hope you will be a part of them. I look forward to meeting and speaking with you soon.

Pat Raymer
.....
Director
Los Angeles Division PSR



HELLO FROM THE WEBSITE GUY

Model railroading IS fun!!

At this time I find that a majority of my model railroad hobby time is spent working on models for friends in my train club who pay me for this work. When I started doing this I was afraid that it would take away from my interest in the hobby and it would become too much like work. Boy was I wrong!! I have found that even though I don't make enough money from my custom paint work to quit my day job it does help make ends meet and often really does a good job at getting model railroad equipment into my collection that wouldn't otherwise be affordable. I also never tire of the appreciation my friends show me when I deliver a model. I really enjoy seeing the reaction when the box is opened and for the first time they see their finished model. Another thing that I have found is how much I now relish doing projects for myself. When I do get the chance to work on my own equipment it is something I have chosen out of great interest at the time. I have quite a few modeling projects waiting for my attention and like most of you this can often lead to many projects being started and none finished. Now that time for my own projects is limited it helps me to focus on starting and completing a project I am doing for myself. It also helps me to choose a project I know I can finish in a fairly short amount of time or can work on in addition to my paid work.



Perfect examples are the two Southern Pacific unit trains I have been really interested in modeling for a very long time. One is the sugar beet train that used to run from El Centro to Guadalupe and the other is the Tank Train that ran between Bakersfield and the Los Angeles harbor. The sugar beet train was but a dream until a couple of years ago when one of my train club friends offered me his 11 sugar beet cars. Once I got them I was too busy to add the necessary weight, loads and weathering they needed to make them what I would consider operational. An upcoming 3 day open house my club was having gave me the bug to get these cars going and the inspiration to have a sugar beet train running at the event kept the project on track.

Even though working on that many cars at one time should have seemed tedious, I found that the challenge of squeezing this work into my schedule made me look forward to every aspect of the project. I really enjoyed seeing the cars get closer to being finished and being able to do my other work as well gave me a great feeling of accomplishment. Since then I have added 9 more cars and this time a visit to a private layout gave me the inspiration to get those cars operational. I have 14 more that need detail work and painting so it will be a while before I add them but who knows what fun event will give me the inspiration to work on them.

For the Tank Train, I have been collecting cars since the 1980s. I have 41 cars, most of which are almost ready to go and are waiting for the benefit of my inspiration. I know their time will come, perhaps sooner than later and then I will have a very impressive model of one of my favorite Southern Pacific trains. The nice thing about this train is that since it has been an ongoing project and has come a long way already, once I get going on it the reward of seeing the train completed is that much closer.

We live in a very complicated world and the

Continued on Page 19

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

A note from the new membership guy.

My name is Ron Varnell and I am the new guy for membership for the Los Angeles Division of the NMRA. This is my first time to hold a position in this organization, and I am looking forward to working with all of you to help the membership to achieve the many goals we have.

I have been doing the train thing for about 45 years or so, but did not get serious until about 15 years ago. I now am the proud owner of a 1400 sq. foot layout and have made many friends in the hobbies and enjoy sharing the experience of modeling with everyone. After attending my first National Convention in 15 years last year in Portland, had a great time and met some old friends and made many new ones.

Membership in the NMRA, running on other layouts and reading the many magazines has made it possible to build my new layout. I gave my first clinic at SpringRails last year, and I am looking forward to the two clinics at this coming Convention in Culver City on the 21st of September.

Why join an outfit like the NMRA? I have found many reasons to join, and will not bore you with the list. Someone needs to find their own reasons to join any organization. Maybe

you just want to support the group or maybe you would like to learn more about the hobby or maybe share your ideas with others.

Look into joining your local train group, you might just find that it is an experience that is very rewarding.

Till next time, enjoy the hobby any way you want, alone, with a group, the choice is yours.

Ron Varnell
.....
Membership Chairman
Los Angeles Division

P.S. If you want to visit or learn more about how I built my layout e mail me at Brassrr844@aol.com



FINANCIAL REPORT

5:27 AM
 03/16/16
 Accrual Basis

LADivPSRNMRA
Balance Sheet
 As of March 16, 2016

	Mar 16, 16
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking	
Advisory Board	
Expenses	536.87
Total Advisory Board	536.87
Bank Fees	598.70
Banquet	
Expenses	277.71
Total Banquet	277.71
Build a Memory	
Income	-1,200.89
Total Build a Memory	-1,200.89
Childrens Coloring Boxcar	
Expenses	506.37
Total Childrens Coloring Boxcar	506.37
Elections	
Expenses	913.89
Total Elections	913.89
Freight Fright Modular Meet	
Expenses	299.50
Income	-399.03
Total Freight Fright Modular Meet	-99.53
Regional Convention	
Expenses	10,677.09
Income	-12,850.19
Total Regional Convention	-2,173.10
SpringRail	
Expenses	3,840.50
Income	-3,550.00
Total SpringRail	290.50
Checking - Other	8,054.49
Total Checking	7,705.01
Savings	
Intrest	-0.72
Savings - Other	5,101.36
Total Savings	5,100.64
Total Checking/Savings	12,805.65
Total Current Assets	12,805.65
TOTAL ASSETS	12,805.65
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	12,805.65
Total Equity	12,805.65
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	12,805.65

James L. Keena
 Chief Clerk/Paymaster
 LA Div. PSR NMRA

IT'S TIME TO SPRING INTO ACTION

FORM
45

Winter has left us, and Daylight Savings Time come and gone - in which we truly have again sprung ahead one hour. This is an opportunity to Spring into Action, to set and accomplish goals for ourselves. Clean out the garage or closet, build that kit you been wanting to do. Add some scenery to your layout. Take a train trip.

Get involved with local and neighboring Division events. Give a Clinic and share your modeling insights, tricks and knowledge. Volunteer to assist your fellow model railroaders, help is always needed and welcome, even for just an hour or two will make a big difference in success of meets, clinics, events and conventions. Volunteering gives you the enjoyment and opportunity to meet and interact with old friends, acquaintances and to meet and gain new ones.

Your upcoming PSR Regional Convention has lots of openings and options for volunteering, help is needed in the following areas:

- Registration Desk
- Company Store
- Clinic Room Hosts
- Contest Room Security
- Contest Judges for NMRA Merit Evaluations
- Bus Captains for Layout and Prototype Tour
- Hobo Auction Runners
- Convention Guides
- Swap Meet Assistants

So Spring into Action, contact your Division Superintendent, President, Director or Chief Clerk to let them know you willing to help make your PSR Regional Convention a Success!

Remember to register for the 2016 L. A. Junction PSR Regional Convention, Online Registration is available at

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

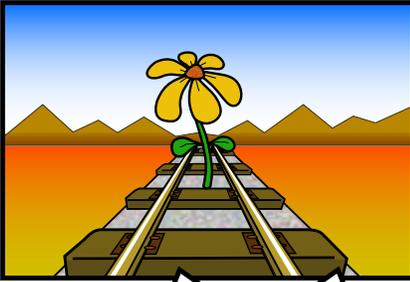
Sincerely,

James L. Keena

.....
Chief Clerk/Paymaster

Los Angeles Divison PSR NMRA





Los Angeles Division - NMRA

SPRINGRAIL 2016

• *Swap Meet* • *Clinics* • *Lunch*

***SAME
LOCATION!!!
FREEWAY
CLOSE!!!***

Saturday

April 23rd, 2016

Swap Meet 7:00am - 10:00am

Clinics from 8:00am until 5:00pm

FREE COFFEE & DONUTS AVAILABLE IN THE MORNING

*** PIZZA LUNCH AVAILABLE - \$7.00 ***

Clinics for the Beginner to Advanced Railroad Modelers!

- * *Making Realistic Water Effects*
- * *Application of Static Grass*
- * *Easy Flatcar and Gondola Loads*
- * *Realistic Hillside Scenery*
- * *History of Railroads*
- * *Weathering Diesel Locomotives*

PLUS MUCH MUCH MORE!

Ample Parking Available!

Children 12 and under Free!!!

***Model Judging!
Bring a Model
Get a Free Lunch!***

Entrance Fee - \$20.00

Vendors:

Swap Meet Spaces available

\$10 per space.

Tables Provided!

Swap Meet Vendor Information/RSVP to:
Lloyd Lehrer email @ lloydlehrer@gmail.com



MESSIAH LUTHERN CHURCH

6625 Dale St.

Buena Park, CA 90621

Near the 5 and 91 Freeways



ALL ABOARD!!!

What are you waiting for!

You have not yet signed up for the 2016 PSR Convention “LA Junction” that is being sponsored by the LA Division of the Pacific Southwest Region NMRA. Well, you will be really missing out on a great convention. Here are some of the highlights of the convention. It starts out on Wednesday, September 21, at 1:00 pm with clinics at the hotel and at Ron Varnells layout in Torrance. At 6:30 pm the Welcome Reception will start at Ron Varnells layout which will include dinner and drinks sponsored by the Original Whistle Stop – Pasadena CA. You will also have the opportunity to operate on Ron’s layout, and just hang out with some fellow model railroaders.

Thursday, September 22 starts out with a full schedule of clinics, layout tours, contest room, Op’s sessions, modular layouts at the hotel and prototype tours. First prototype tour will be via Los Angeles Union Station by Metro Light Rail to their new Gold Line Maintenance Facility in Monrovia. There will also be a second tour which will be a 2-1/2 hour walking tour of Los Angeles Union Station that will take you to areas not normally open to the public. Both these tours will originate at the hotel and you will be transported by bus to LA Union Station and back. At 6:30 pm there will be the General PSR Membership Meeting followed immediately by the Hobo Auction. This is always a fun social event with snacks and a No Host Bar.

Friday, September 23 starts with 48 delegates boarding the “Silver Splendor”, originally the Burlington Route Denver Zephyr Vista Dome “Silver Buckle” for a trip to Santa Barbara. Trip will return around 8:00 pm (Note Silver Splendor tickets must be purchased in advance and is limited to first 48). For the rest of the convention delegates we have a full schedule of clinics, contest room, op’s sessions and layout tours through 9:00 pm.

Saturday, September 24, which is the last day of the traditional PSR Convention, brings the Hobo Breakfast, a swap meet, clinics, op’s sessions and layout tours until 5:00 pm. In addition there is going to be a special set of clinics for beginning modelers, kids and families. There will be a special admission fee just for this Saturday for non members of the NMRA of \$25 which will include the NMRA Rail Pass. Starting at 6:30 pm will be the Annual PSR Award Banquet.

Sunday, September 25, will have a full line up of layouts to tour for members wanting to see some on their way home and also the opportunity to have Brunch at the Magic Castle (Note the Magic Castle is an extra fare that must be purchased in advance limited, tickets available).

The Convention Committee has put a lot of effort into planning a first rate convention just for you, so don’t pass up this opportunity to have some fun and enjoy great fellowship with other model railroaders. Check out our web site <http://www.psrconvention.org/lajunction/>. Note: you can register on line with Pay Pal.

Carl Heimberger
.....
President PSR



FROM THE PAST

FINE TUNING YOUR RUNNING GEAR

If you've been in the hobby for any length of time your collection of stuff gets away from you. In an effort to file all the papers I've collected from, your guess is as good as mine, I came across a 39 page, 8½ by 11, stencil graph document about modeling hints. There's a table of contents but no title page, date, or author. Although some of the hints do have an author. This is the twelfth article I've reproduced under this byline. Some grammatical and spelling errors have not been corrected.

XIII HONING IN YOUR ENGINES RUNNING MECHANISM

Moe Mechling (author to many of the suggestions)

You will need the following:

- * Assorted brass washers 0 to 000 Concor or Hobbytown
- * 3/32 x .010 & .015 Fibre washers Kadee
- * Timesaver Lapping compound 1 lb. cans Timesaver Products Co. of Ill.
3800 Podlin Dr. Chicago, IL. 160131
475 Elliott Ave. W. Seattle, WA. 98119
- * Yellow 80 Fine or 100 Very Fine for brass, babit, aluminum, bronze and plastic or
- * Green 111 Fine or 333 Very Fine for cast iron, steel and hard bronze

First you will have to decide if you wish to keep the present drive train and motor. You may decide on a new Maxon motor, if you do you will need several items. Shaft sleeves, bracket (NWSL), ball joint or slip coupling (Hobbytown, Grandt, Kemtron, Leetown), drive gears (Hobbytown, NWSL, Grandt, Kimtron). Actually any combination of these may be chosen. A word of caution, the Hobbytown was not made for high speed operation. The ball and the inside of the socket must be rued

on the lathe and the socket must be loose enough to give 1/16" of horizontal movement before the ball gets tight. The Maxon motors must have NO end thrust.

If you have chosen a NWSL gear box you will have to do the following: file the flash and the areas where the castings go together. Remove just enough from the insides to insure nothing is holding them apart. Clean flash from around the worm bearing seats. Try different fibre washers on either side of the drive and idler gear. You will have to file them till they fit. A PFM caliper will find you the depth of each casing boss. Add these two together, subtract the thickness of the gear the hub, divide by two and subtract .002, this will give you the washer thickness plus clearance. Fit brass washers on the worm shaft to take up the end play.

In using the NWSL gear box it is necessary to remove at least one driver from the wheel set. Use the axle on the old set of wheels. Make sure the center of the axle is knurled, if not, knurl it using the edge of a file. Use a piece of hard wood in a vise to support the axle while rolling the knurl on. Caution, some PFM engines have tapered axle ends. Make sure the wheel goes back on the end it came off. Press the old gear off the axle and press the new one back on, then put the wheel in quarter. If you have no quartering device. Put a drop of marking dye or magic marker on a section of both wheel treads before disassembly. Lay your precision square across the driver faces. Take care not to get on a crank or axle boss or a counterweight. If it is impossible to miss them place matched shims behind the square at the part. Scribe a fine line across the wheel treads, remove the wheel toward the blade of the square. To put the wheel back on line the marks up visually with the axle edge and push on finger tight. Check the

Continued on Page 19

IN MEMORIAM

Cynthia “Cindy” DeMoss
1941 - 2016



In 2004 we purchased a 33 foot Motor Home, as I was nearing retirement. We traveled cross country many times, attending NMRA Conventions. Taking a month to get to the convention, sightseeing the United States, Canada and Mexico. We visited National parks, Museums with Doll collections, Railroad Museums and railroad sights. We would be gone two to three months and we loved every minute of it.

At the Model Railroad Conventions, she would go on the tours with me, take the Train rides, attend clinics with me, and seeing the home layouts. She enjoyed the Conventions, as much as I did, even though she was not a model railroader, she was a Railroader in spirit.

She would always bring home more dolls and Teddy Bears to add to her extensive collection from these trips.

Cindy made many Model Railroad friends, attending the NMRA Conventions. We would often visit them on these trips, going to and coming from the Conventions, seeing their layouts and their friend's layouts. Several of our railroad friends also had Motor Homes, and they would always look for our Motor Home at the RV parks, near the Convention, as our Motor Home was very easy to recognize, as it

had Train Decals on back and sides.

I would take and set up my portable layout at train shows. She was always with me and enjoyed talking with the model railroaders.

Approximately five years ago, after many falls, I had paramedics take Cindy to Hospital. She would not get hurt, but this was happening all too frequently. Shortly after, she was diagnosed with Parkinson Disease. She fought hard and was a brave woman to put up such a fight. It was hard on both of us and I had Caregivers come in and take care of her. I took several trips without her, as it was impossible for her to travel this last two years. Her friends always asked, where is she?

Parkinson Disease took her from me. February 23, 2016. She is now in God's hands.

I appreciate all your thoughts and prayers. I know she is here in spirit and I will miss her. I was lucky to spend the last forty years with her and having her as my Wife.

Sincerely, thank you,
Robert DeMoss,
Santa Fe Southern "C" RR

2016 SANTA SUSANA RR HISTORICAL SOCIETY SWAP MEET SCHEDULE



2016 SWAP MEETS:

**AUGUST 27, 2016
OCTOBER 22, 2016**

7:00 AM TO 4:00 PM, SWAP MEET

<http://www.santasusannadepot.org/Clubhome.html>

All scales are welcome. Railroad related books, magazines, art and memorabilia will also be available for purchase.

Open house at layout from 10 am to 4 pm.

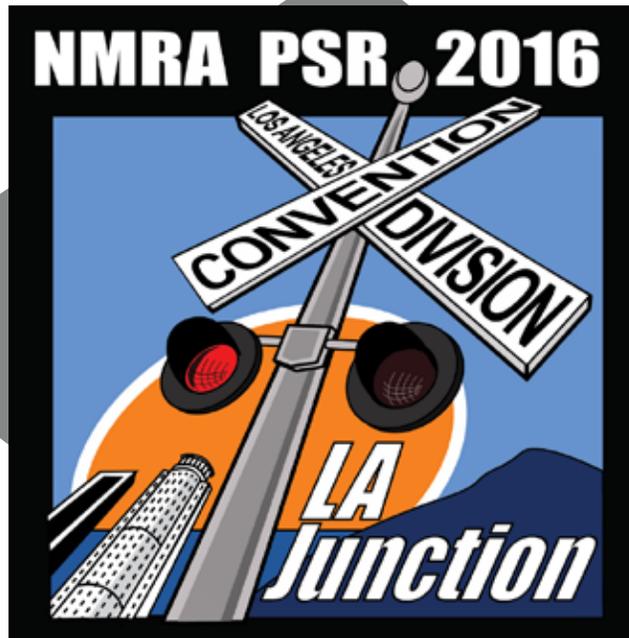
Santa Susana Park Pavilion. 6503 Katherine Road, Simi Valley, CA.

Link to map: <http://tinyurl.com/ptbo8zm>

Vendor table info, contact David Putnam, (661) 753-6006 or email:
events@santasusannadepot.org



2016 PSR/NMRA Convention “L.A. Junction”



September 21st – 25th 2016

Convention Hotel
The DoubleTree Hotel, Westside/Culver City



Close to LAX Airport, 405 & 105 Freeways



Los Angeles Junction
Pacific Southwest Region Convention
September 21-24, 2016
 Presented by: Los Angeles Division, PSR
 Double Tree Los Angeles Westside, 6161 W. Centinela Ave.
 Culver City, CA 90230 1-866-8199-5320



Group Code: NMR Cutoff Date for Group Rate Reservation is August 30, 2016

NMRA #: _____ Registration Date: _____

Name (s)* (1) _____ (2) _____

* As you want to appear on your badge

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State & Zip _____ Cell _____

E-Mail _____

Region & Home Div: _____ Primary Scale _____

Item	Qty	Each	Total
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Registration & Banquet (__ Beef __ Salmon __ Veg)		\$ 115.00	
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Registration Only		\$ 75.00	
Adult Family (with NMRA Member) Registration & Banquet (__ Beef __ Salmon __ Veg)		\$ 90.00	
Adult Family (with NMRA Member) Registration Only		\$ 65.00	
Youth (with NMRA Member) Registration & Banquet (__ Beef __ Salmon __ Veg)		\$ 80.00	
Youth (with NMRA Member) Registration Only		\$ 55.00	
Non NMRA Member Surcharge (Includes Signup for 6 Month Trial NMRA Membership)		\$ 10.00	
Banquet Only (__ Beef __ Salmon __ Veg) Saturday		\$ 85.00	
Ladies Rail Fan Lunch		\$ 20.00	
Convention Patch		\$ 5.00	
Convention Pin		\$ 5.00	
Convention Shirt Men's S M L XL Short Sleeve or Pocket Polo (Circle Size & Type)		\$ 30.00	
Convention Shirt Men's 2XL 3XL 4XL Short Sleeve or Pocket Polo (Circle Size & Type)		\$ 35.00	
Convention Shirt Lady's S M L XL Short Sleeve or Polo (Circle Size & Type)		\$ 30.00	
Convention Shirt Lady's 2XL 3XL 4XL Short Sleeve or Polo (Circle Size & Type)		\$ 35.00	
Convention Car HO Scale		\$ 30.00	
Convention Car N Scale		\$ 24.00	
(Extra Fare)			
MetroRail Maintenance Facility Tour (Includes Bus & Light Rail Transportation) ◆		\$ 32.00	
Silver Splendor Dome Car Trip to Santa Barbara (Includes Breakfast & Dinner served in the car) - Friday ▲◆		\$ 135.00	
Los Angeles Union Station Behind the Scenes Walking Tour (Includes Bus Transportation) ◆		\$ 37.00	
Magic Castle Brunch & Magic Show - Sunday Morning ▲		\$ 62.00	
Total			

▲ This Extra Fare Reservation is non-refundable unless tour is canceled by Convention Committee

◆ Tour is Limited to 48 Persons

Credit Card Visa M/C Circle Card Type

Card Number: _____ CV# _____ Cash _____

Issued To: _____ Please Print _____ Check _____

Expiration: _____ Signature: _____ C/C _____

Month Year

Make Checks Payable to: Los Angeles Division

James Keena, PSR 2016 Registrar, 12341 Heritage Springs Drive, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

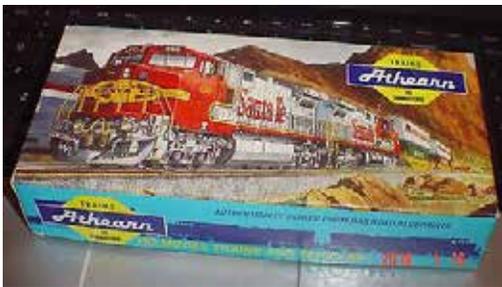
Registrar's Contact Information: Email: pjkeenawhittier@msn.com Phone: (562) 325-3846

Form 10-11-15

THE LOS ANGELES DIVISION MEETING & DINNER



Keynote Speaker
Jeff Smith and his wife Leticia



On March 26th, 2016 the Los Angeles Division hosted its annual “Membership Meeting and Dinner.” This year it was held at the Sizzler Restaurant on Sepulveda Blvd. in Torrance. The outgoing Superintendent Michael Allee opened the meeting which welcomed visitors and praised a year full of activities and events. A part of the evening’s events was the installation of the new 2016 Board Officers, which include Michael O’Brien as the new

Superintendent, and James Keena was overwhelming re-elected to LA Division Chief Clerk/Paymaster. Congratulations to both. The event was capped off by keynote speaker Jeff Smith from Railmaster Hobbies. Remember, the Membership meeting and dinner is open to all NMRA members. It is a great opportunity to meet and hang with new friends and enjoy some good food and company. We hope to see you next time!

THE LOS ANGELES DIVISION MEETING & DINNER



Introducing our new Superintendent
Michael O'Brien (L) and Paymaster James Keena (R)

(2 & 3 rail), On3, On30, G, and 1½ inch (a display), even a G live steam modular setup. There's even I guy selling train sets that you could operate in your lunch box. I've had the opportunity to visit with members of many of these clubs. Every club is unique. There are a lot more modular clubs than there are stationary clubs. If you've been thinking about, or if you haven't been thinking about, participating in a club, a modular club could be the way to go. Many of these clubs are looking for members. I'm sure there is one that has unique qualities that would just right for you.

Finally, my term is up. I'd like to thank everyone that has taken the time to make the activities of the LA Div. an enjoyable experience and worth the time to participate. If your participation has been just to attend an event I'd like to suggest that you get more involved. When I returned to the hobby

in 2008 I soon got involved with the division. At that time there were six people running the division on an advisory board. Anyone can join other than the superintendent, chief clerk/paymaster, and division director. These are elected positions. Presently nineteen division members have found their way to the advisory board meetings, everyone of them has become a valuable asset to the board. More members would be welcome. The board holds a meeting once a month on the second Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Glendale Model Railroad Society building in Hahn Park, behind the tennis courts. Hahn Park is north of 134 and a block west of Pacific Ave.

Michael Allee
.....
Superintendent
Los Angeles Division PSR

**FLAT SPOTS:
FEATURING RON WESTLUND**



" Hey Harry,
I don't think that's the train controller!"



Los Angeles Division NMRA
Next Board Meeting
Thursday, April 14th 7:00 PM
GMRRS
619 Hahn Ave. Glendale CA. 91203



From the Website guy: (Continued from Page 5)

stresses we have to deal with on a daily basis can make life difficult to enjoy. Having a hobby, like model railroading is an important way to relieve some of these stresses. The skills we use for modeling often have nothing to do with the skills we use to earn a living, so they can be a welcome break from the day to day routine. The ability to have models of your favorite pieces of railroad equipment, whether you create them or buy them ready to go is immensely rewarding. For me, going out and seeing the prototype in action or looking at photos from times past helps me to appreciate the models in my collection. Not to mention the abso-

lute joy of creating the environment for the models to operate in, whether it is a club layout or one at home. Railroads have had and continue to have such importance in our world, we should all take a moment to appreciate how lucky we are to have this passion about our model railroad hobby.

Tim Johnson
.....
Webmaster
Los Angeles Division PSR



From the Past: (Continued from Page 11)

alignment, using the square. Squeeze hard to keep in alignment and press to gauge. Loctite or Aoron Alpha sets it.

You are ready to put the lapping compound in. Mix it with light oil (plastic compatible). Apply a small amount on the face of one gear with a tooth pick; and on the worm. DO NOT load the casing full. Try to keep it out of the worm bearings, lap these separately if needed. Either install or run with rubber tubing on an old motor to break in. If the gears are out of round you may have to add more compound. The action on the compound is

chemical, if you add it cuts, if you let it run it will lap then polish. The cutting live of the compound is ½ hour from the mixing time. At this time all action stops. It is not supposed to be necessary to wash it out but I use denatured alcohol and an ear syringe to clean the parts, then lube with Labelle Lubricants 106-T.

Michael Allee
.....



A Union Pacific U50 takes a ride on a transfer table on Ron Varnell's A&EW RR



A TALE OF TWO LAYOUTS:



Michael Heine

In the Far flung Southern California neighborhood of Burbank, there is a tale of two home layouts. While it not uncommon to have multiple layouts depicting the Tehachapi Loop, Cajon Pass, or perhaps remote Mojave – what makes this story unique is here we have two Model Railroaders who chose to model a common railroad, a similar era and comparable sized layouts - all the while living literally 6 blocks apart, and never aware of the other until now.

Each one chose to model a railroad some 2000 miles from sunny California, the Milwaukee Road. One in the 1950s the other in the 1970s.

Mike Heine's HO "Kingsbury Branch" models the Milwaukee Roads Northside's Chicago heavy switching district of the 1970s. He prefers an intensive switching layout which challenges you to weave in and out of tightly packed industries to find and spot your cars at the appropriate destination. This is a territory of switchers and short wheelbase diesels in which you might have 4 cars to work, or again might have 15! Mike began his layout in earnest back in 2007 and has fully utilized every available inch of his 9' X 11' "L" shaped empire. It is a double deck layout – with a cleverly hidden helix connecting the 2 levels.



Jeff Traintime

Jeff Traintime has created a HO Midwest wonderland not far from Mike Heine. His layout is the Milwaukee Road "Northern Division" modeling Southern Wisconsin in the late 1950s. Jeff likes to represent the scenic passenger and freight runs of the era recreating vivid memories of his youth and of a bygone era. His 13' X 20' layout is a multi-deck connected with a hidden helix and offers you, as a scale railfan, many incredible vantage points and period snapshots just around each and every corner.

Both DCC equipped layouts offer an incredible attention to details and running. And the only reason they were aware of each other's existence is for Bob Chaparro and his ongoing Southern California Layout Tours. Both of these layouts, along with many many more amazing railroads will be open for visits as part of the 2016 Los Angeles Division NMRA Convention. If anything, it proves the value of "stepping outside" our miniature worlds and seeing what others might be doing as well. One of the greatest resources available to us – is each other. And the NMRA, along with local hobby shops, clubs, and private layouts are all there to maximize the hobby to its fullest. Who knows what you might find a few short doors from yours!



Contests: A Celebration of Models

The National Contest Staff has been working hard over the past nine years to put into place an interesting and varied program, which we have dubbed A Celebration of Models, Photos & Crafts. Why the change? Because it's so much more than just the judged contest of years ago with a menu of activities from the venerable judged event to popular vote, to show and tell and more. And, of course it's more than just about the models: photos, passes, arts & crafts and module events are included as well. It's much less about who wins, but more about sharing our accomplishments and techniques, teaching and learning and perhaps most important encouraging and inspiring each other.

Some years ago we added the People's Choice Awards, a direct entry, popular vote contest including models, photo and arts & craft and the Model Showcase, a non-competitive, display-only event for complete or in process models or other railroad oriented projects. Both have minimal paperwork. We followed up by adding a Kit Built Contest to run in parallel with the Scratch Built Contest and then later added an Afternoon of Meet the Modeler, Photographer, and Craftier event comprising a show & tell for all entrants and attendees on Tuesday. On Thursday we added a morning Score Review Period for the judged contest (Kit and Scratch) to allow contestants to discuss and ask questions of the judges and staff which is followed by the Awards Ceremony and Reception in the afternoon.

Other popular events have been upgraded as well. The Photo Contest has transitioned to the digital age and includes several new awards. The People's Choice Awards now includes categories for Favorite Train, Photo Match, Photos, the Thumbs Award

(for the most humorous model) and Arts & Crafts, a perennial favorite, with non-rail fan attendees. Last but not least is the Module Contest, which is held at the National Train Show and is open to non-members who participate in the show.

Whichever you choose, we on the National Staff take our jobs very seriously and are dedicated to bringing you a positive and rewarding experience. It makes no difference to us whether you are a well known veteran or a first timer, you and your entry will be treated with care and respect.

Now you'll still see us refer here and there to the Contest, Contest Staff, Contest Room, Contest Chair and so on, but you should know that in our hearts what we are really holding is A Celebration of Models, Photos & Crafts.

We sincerely hope one of these events will stir your blood and get you excited enough to bring an entry. But read on there is much more including; help with the contest forms, the who, what and where of the various events and finally the detailed rules and judging guidelines for all of the contest events. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call, write or email me.

Bob Hamm

.....
NMRA National Contest Chairman

460 Grand Ave.

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

2016 LOS ANGELES DIVISION DIRECTORY

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MODEL TRAIN & RAILROAD EVENTS:

April

- 9th Cajon Division Meet, Temecula
9th San Diego Division Layout Tour
9th NMRA PSR BOD Meeting. Temecula Senior Center – Board Room, 41845
6th St., Temecula, CA 92590
9th - 10th LAMRS Spring Open House. www.lamrs.org Free Admission
14005 South Crenshaw Boulevard, Unit G Hawthorne, CA 90250 10:00am to 4:00pm
Swap Meet Saturday 10am to 4:00pm Contact:
Lloyd Lehrer, Manhattan Beach CA (310) 951-9097
20th -24th PCR Convention, Modesto
23rd L.A. Division SpringRail, 6625 Dale Street, Buena Park, CA
23rd & 24th City of Fillmore Spring Rail Festival. 9:00am - 5:00pm.
Central Park, Central Ave. & Main St., Fillmore, CA 93015
27th - 30th ProRail (Beach Rails) San Diego Model Railroad Museum, Balboa Park,
San Diego CA
30th Western Prototype Modeler Meet, Encounter Christian Church,
10012 Ramona St., Bellflower, CA
30th Railroad Days, Fullerton
30th Glendale Model Railroad Fall Open House 619 Hahn Ave. Glendale CA.
10:00am to 4:00pm

May

- 1st Railroad Days, Fullerton
1st Glendale Model Railroad Fall Open House 619 Hahn Ave. Glendale CA.
1:00pm to 4:00pm
2nd Glendale Model Railroad Fall Open House 619 Hahn Ave. Glendale CA.
7:30pm to 10:00pm
7th - 8th Elk's Lodge Custom Car & Model Train Show, Lancaster
14th San Diego Division Spring Meet, Vista
21st Daylight Division Meet, Bakersfield
21st Santa Susana Railroad Historical Society Swap Meet, Simi Valley
7:00am to 10:00am. Open House starts at 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Santa Susana Park Pavilion.
6503 Katherine Road, Simi Valley, CA.
21st & 22nd The Big Train Show, Sat 10-1700, Sun 10-1600 Ontario Convention and Visitors Bureau,
2000 E. Convention Center Way, Ontario, California 91764 <http://bigtrainshow.com/>

June

- 5th & 7th Slim Gauge Guild Open House, Pasadena
11th San Diego Division Layout Tour
22nd to 26th Santa Fe Railway Historical & Modeling Society Convention Wichita, KS

July

- 3rd to 10th NMRA National Convention, Indianapolis, IN

MODEL TRAIN & RAILROAD EVENTS:



August

- 13th San Diego Division Summer Meet, Vista
- 27th Santa Susana Railroad Historical Society Swap Meet, Simi Valley
7:00am to 10:00am Santa Susana Park Pavilion. 6503 Katherine Road, Simi Valley, CA.
Link to map: <http://tinyurl.com/ptbo8zm> . Vendor table info, contact
David Putnam, (661) 753-6006 or email: events@santasusannadepot.org
<http://www.santasusannadepot.org/Clubhome.html>
Open House starts at 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

September

- 10th San Diego Division Layout Tour
- 10th - 11th High Desert Modular Model Railroad Club Show, Newhall
- 21st to 24th PSR/NMRA Regional Convention, Culver City, CA
- 25th Model Railroads of Southern California Layout Tour Southern California
- 21st -26th Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society Convention, Palm Springs
Info: Ed Hall spedsd45@yahoo.com
- 22nd - 26th Orange County Model Engineers Fall Meet, Costa Mesa

October

- 6th - 9th Model Railroads of Southern California Layout Tour,
San Luis Obispo & Northern Santa Barbara Counties
- 7th - 9th Central Coast Railroad Festival, San Luis Obispo &
Northern Santa Barbara Counties
- 15th - 16th Renaissance Festival & Model Train Show, California City
- 22nd Santa Susana Railroad Historical Society Swap Meet, Simi Valley
7:00am to 10:00am Santa Susana Park Pavilion. 6503 Katherine Road, Simi Valley, CA.
- 29th - 30th Freight Fright Modular Meet, South Coast Botanical Gardens, Palos Verdes, CA

November

- 2nd Highland Park Society of Model Railroad Engineers, Inc. Open House
7:00 to 10:00 PM
- 5th Highland Park Society of Model Railroad Engineers, Inc. Open House
Noon to 5:00 PM
Glendale Model Railroad Fall Open House 619 Hahn Ave. Glendale CA.
10:00am to 4:00pm
- 6th & 8th Slim Gauge Guild Open House, Pasadena
- 6th Highland Park Society of Model Railroad Engineers, Inc. Open House
Noon to 5:00 PM
Glendale Model Railroad Fall Open House 619 Hahn Ave. Glendale CA.
1:00pm to 4:00pm
- 7th Glendale Model Railroad Fall Open House 619 Hahn Ave. Glendale CA.
7:30pm to 10:00pm



MODEL TRAIN & RAILROAD EVENTS:



2017

January

7th & 8th The Great Train Show. Anaheim Convention Center,
800 W. Katella Ave., Anaheim, CA 92802-3415 Anaheim, CA
<http://www.greattrainexpo.com/>

30th La Mesa Club in San Diego Railroad Museum will hold
its TT&TO 1950's Operating Session

July

30th to August 6th NMRA Convention, Orlando, FL.



2018

August

5th to 12th NMRA Convention Kansas City MO

