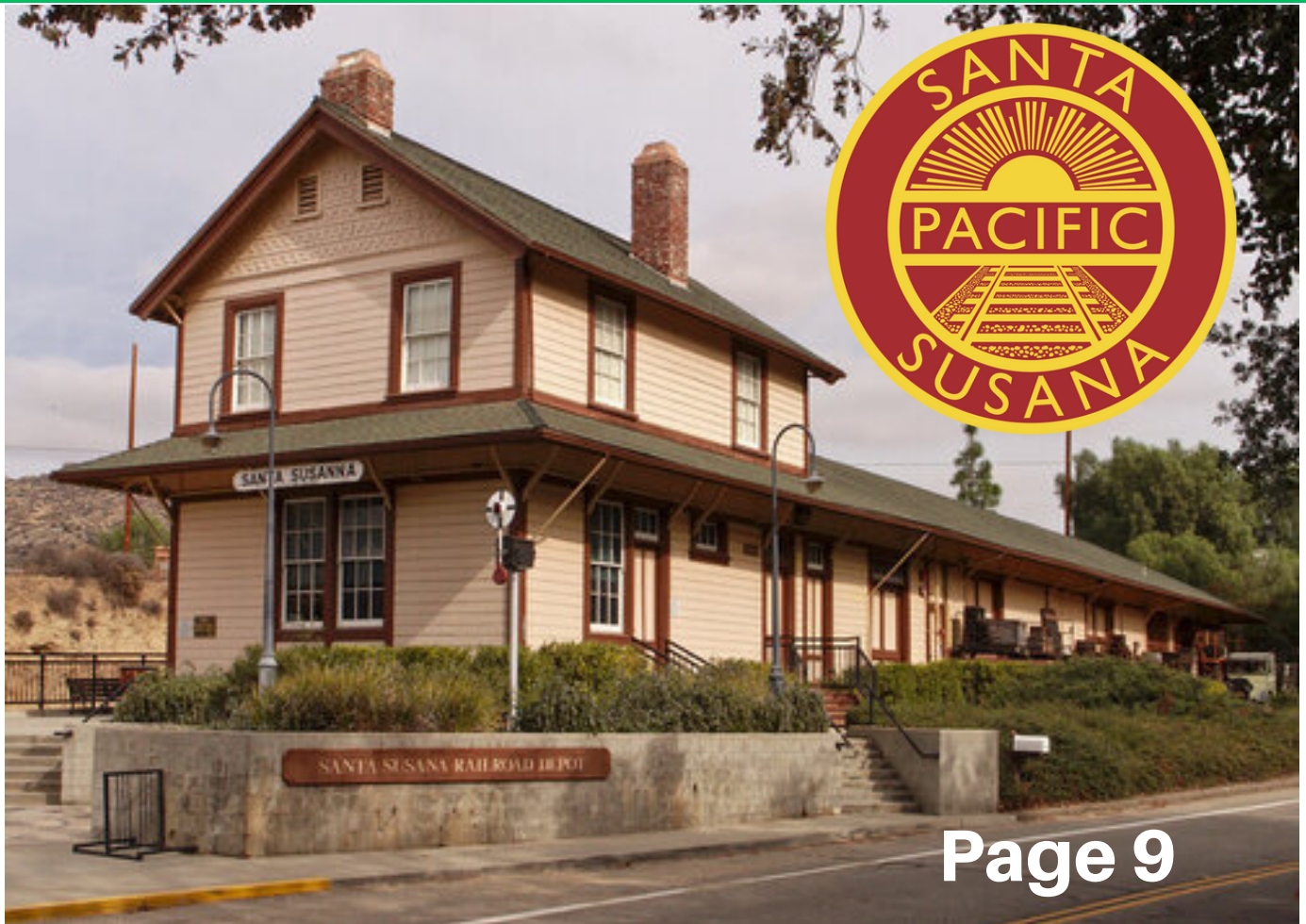




# LA Coupler

*The Newsletter of the Los Angeles Division of the NMRA*



**Page 9**

## *In This Issue*

LA Div. Banquet

Santa Susana Pacific Open House

...and more!

Los Angeles Division  
Pacific Southwest Region  
National Model Railroad Association, Inc.  
[www.ladiv-nmra.org](http://www.ladiv-nmra.org)





# Features

- Director's Report..... 4
- Superintendent's Report..... 5
- LA Division Banquet..... 7
- Financial Report..... 8
-  Santa Susana Pacific Open House..... 9
- Advisory Board Contact List..... 13
- Upcoming Events..... 14

## ***A Note from the Editor...***

*I'd like to apologize for the delay in the recent issue, Recent eye surgeries have made computer work difficult at best, and impossible at worst. I appreciate your patience!*

# LA Coupler Deadlines

# Publication Team

*The LA Coupler is always looking for submissions, articles, photos, or ideas. Please reach out to the Editor for more information:*

**Lisican@gmail.com**

## Submission Deadlines

*Spring Issue: February 1*

*Summer Issue: May 1*

*Fall Issue: August 1*

*Winter Issue: November 1*

*Editor:*

**Nick Lisica**

**1709 E Erie St**

**Long Beach, CA 90802**

**Lisican@gmail.com**

*Issue Photographers:*

**Nick Lisica**

**John McGreevy**

*Electronic PDF Distribution:*

**Kevin Spady**

## ***Publication Information for the LA Coupler***

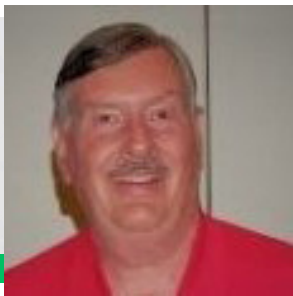
The official publication of the Los Angeles Division, Pacific Southwest Region (PSR), National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). The LA Coupler is published quarterly by the Los Angeles Division of the National Model Railroad Association and is available online at: [www.ladiv-nmra.org](http://www.ladiv-nmra.org)

All materials, articles, and advertising must be submitted to the Editor and in an electronic format. Contact us for a copy of our submission guidelines. Advertisers may contact the Editor to request guidelines and a rate card. Subscribers with an e-mail address on file will receive the PDF version. Copyright 2022, LA Division Pacific Southwest Region, National Model Railroad Association.

Permission to reprint granted to all affiliates of the NMRA. Others may request permission to reprint from the Editor.

Except for Official Reports, opinions expressed are those of the author, and do not necessarily represent those of the LA Division, PSR, or the NMRA.

**Thank you for supporting the LA Division!**



# Director's Report

- Vic Cavalli

News from around the Pacific Southwest Region (PSR)... Regional first.

Where a greatest amount of activity is currently occurring, of course, is in the final preparations for SurfLiner 2024 NMRA National Convention and Train Show, August 4th – 11th, in Long Beach, CA. Rather than repeat all the information already available on-line, I will simply remind you of the website: [www.surfliner2024.org](http://www.surfliner2024.org); where the most current convention and hotel reservation details may be found.

A trio of shout-outs to the membership of the HO-scale Pasadena Model Railroad Museum, along with NMRA members Joel Morse (for his N-scale New York, Ontario & Western Railway) and Jeff Traintime (for his HO-scale Northern Division/Milwaukee Road Railroad). Each layout was highlighted, respectively, in the December 2023, January 2024, and February 2024 issues of the NMRA Magazine – each a wonderful, informative read.

One last Convention item, if interested in assisting with/helping host convention activities, contact Convention Chair Pat Raymer at [President@psrnmra.org](mailto:President@psrnmra.org). One can never have too many volunteers.

A heads-up on a piece of PSR executive-level news – elections of the Region's September 2024 – September 2026 President and Vice President positions will occur approximately mid-year;

a bit earlier than usual due to our hosting of the National Convention. Both current officer holders are termed out, so neither may run for their current office again. While the official request for candidates will be forthcoming shortly, should you be interested in running for either office, please contact PSR Nominations and Elections Chair John McGreevy at [nominations@psrnmra.org](mailto:nominations@psrnmra.org).

Normally, I continue this report with a list of activities occurring within the PSR's other non-Los Angeles divisions. As I started assembling that list for this edition of the LA Coupler, I found my collection of open houses, meets, and other such activities being primarily a relisting of the Upcoming Model Railroad and Prototype Events column found at the end of this, as well as every other, issue. So, rather than repeat everything twice, please refer to the rear of this newsletter for a complete listing of sponsored events (along with many others) occurring outside the boundaries of our Division.

Details are available within the contents of the associated Division's website:

Arizona Division: [www.azdiv-nmra.org](http://www.azdiv-nmra.org)

Cajon Division: [www.cajondivision.org](http://www.cajondivision.org)

San Diego Division: [www.sandiegodivision.org](http://www.sandiegodivision.org)

And, that concludes this quarter's Regional report. Should you want, drop me a line.



# Superintendent's Report

- Jeff Smith

Greetings Members,

As your Division Superintendent, I'm delighted to share some updates and exciting opportunities within our vibrant community. Let's dive into the latest from the NMRA LA Division.

**Growing Stronger Together** We're thrilled to welcome five new members who joined us in April, bringing our current membership total to 210. A hearty welcome to our new members, and a big thank you to everyone for your continued support and enthusiasm. Your dedication to the hobby is what makes our Division thrive.

**Layout Tours Show Your World** We are organizing a one-day layout tour and invite you to showcase your model railroading masterpiece. If you have a layout you'd like to share with fellow enthusiasts, please let us know. It's a wonderful way to connect and inspire within our community.

**Slim Gauge Guild Open House** Mark your calendars for the Slim Gauge Guild's Open House at 300 S. Raymond Ave (Basement), Pasadena. Join us on June 2nd from 10 AM to 6 PM and again on June 4th from 6 PM to 10 PM. Don't miss this opportunity to see some fantastic modeling work up close!

**Member Spotlight** We're excited to introduce a new section in our newsletter: Member Spotlight. This is your chance to shine! If you'd like to feature your projects, layouts, or any aspect of your model railroading journey, please send us your stories and photos. Let's celebrate your amazing work.

**Upcoming National Events** The National Convention and National Train Show are just around the corner. If you're planning to attend, remember to register soon. These events are fantastic ways to learn, shop, and meet other model railroaders from all over the country.

**We Want Your Ideas** The LA Division is always looking for fresh ideas to enrich our community. If you have suggestions for activities, events, or any other initiatives, please reach out. Your input is invaluable.

**Connect with Local Members** Interested in connecting with other NMRA members near you? Let us know, and we'll help facilitate. It's always a pleasant surprise to discover fellow hobbyists in your own neighborhood. Thank you again for being such an integral part of the NMRA and the LA Division. We couldn't do it without you. Stay on the rails and highball the green!

Warm Regards, Jeff Smith  
Superintendent, LA Division



The 2024 NMRA National Convention  
"Surfliner 2024"  
will be in Long Beach from August 3 to 11, 2024

Did you know that the Pacific Southwest Region will be hosting the National NMRA Convention in Long Beach in 2024? Do you have a layout that you would like to share during the convention layout tours?

***WE NEED LAYOUTS FOR THE LAYOUT TOURS!!!!!!***

If you would like your layout to be on the tour or, if you are building a layout and think it will be tour ready by August of 2024, please contact Tom Selinske at [Layouttours2024@gmail.com](mailto:Layouttours2024@gmail.com), or Morrie Fleishman at [mefleishman@cox.net](mailto:mefleishman@cox.net) (949-351-7715) to get your layout added to our layout list. We will be reviewing all potential layouts over the next year to develop our layout tours and are looking for those awesome layouts that are hiding away in your basement or spare room! Detailed requirements for inclusion in the layout tours will be coming out in the next couple months. This is a first call for layouts and there will be plenty of time to finalize your participation over the next year.

This convention is attended by a huge audience from around the globe and this is a chance to show off your modeling skills and railroad creations! In addition to the recognition of your peers, your layout may qualify for an NMRA Golden Spike award and can earn credit for other NMRA MMR Achievement Awards.

If you, or anyone you know, may be interested, please have them contact Tom or Morrie.



# Los Angeles Division Annual Banquet

In March, the Los Angeles Division held its annual Membership Banquet, at Frantone's in Cerritos. About two dozen members came out, and by all accounts, a good time was had by all.





# Financial Report

4/30/2024

-Kevin Spady

## U.S. BANK SILVER - BUSINESS CHECKING

U.S. Bank National Association

### Account Summary

	# Items		
Beginning Balance on Apr 1		\$	15,425.37
Customer Deposits	1		373.00
<b>Ending Balance on Apr 30, 2024</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>15,798.37</b>

## *First Thursday of the Month* Sand House Chats!

**WHAT:** Sand House Chats is your chance to find out what others in the Los Angeles Division have been up to the previous month

**WHEN:** Held the first Thursday evening on each month starting at 7:00pm (chats typically last about an hour)

**FORMAT:** Roundtable style, very informal, no agenda ...via the Zoom app

**WHO:** Available to all members of the Los Angeles Division

**HOW TO JOIN:** Contact [VicCavalli@comcast.net](mailto:VicCavalli@comcast.net) for your *free* link



# Santa Susana Pacific NMRA Operating Session

The Santa Susana Pacific was host to the latest NMRA Los Angeles Division Open House. Guests were invited to visit, railfan, and even operate the layout. During our visit, my son was given the task of switching the town of San Pedro, then delivering his train to the nearby yard for sorting.



# Santa Susana Pacific NMRA Operating Session



# Santa Susana Pacific NMRA Operating Session



# Santa Susana Pacific NMRA Operating Session



My hometown of Spreckels, Ca. is represented through this impressive sugar beet refinery scene



# Advisory Board Contact List

## OFFICERS

<b>Director</b> <b>Vic Cavalli</b> director@ladiv-nmra.org (805) 680-5826	<b>Superintendent</b> <b>Jeff Smith</b> superintendent@ladiv-nmra.org (562) 867-5627	<b>Paymaster</b> <b>Kevin Spady</b> kspady@att.net (818) 644-7170	<b>Chief Clerk</b> <b>Nick Lisica</b> Lisican@gmail.com (831) 594-7640
--	---	--	---

## TEAMS, COMMITTEES, and CHAIRS

### Members' Services Team

**Team Chair and Membership Recruitment/Retention – John McGreevy**

membership@ladiv-nmra.org (805) 907-2367

**Members' Services Chair - Mike O'Brien**

mike@corbu.us (626) 487-8768

**Events Scheduling - Vacant**

### Communications Team

**Team Chair and LA Coupler Editor - Nick Lisica**

lisican@gmail.com (831) 594-7640

**LA Coupler Assistant Editor - Vacant**

**Social Media (Zoom) Manager - Kevin Spady**

kspady@att.net (818) 644-7170

**L.A. Division Webmaster - Kevin Spady**

kspady@att.net (818) 644-7170

**L.A. Division Assistant Webmaster – Vacant**

**Publicity/Graphics Manager – Nick Lisica**

lisican@gmail.com (831) 594-7640

**AContests/Achievement Program Chair – Gary Butts, MMR**

gary.cajon@gmail.com (714) 842-4980

**L.A. Division Historian - Vacant**

**Nominations and Elections Chair - John McGreevy**

**Non-Rail Coordinator - Vacant**

# Upcoming Model Railroad & Prototype Events

## Areas Covered:

Counties of Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Mono, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara & Ventura + National Conventions

Last updated: *2/01/2024*

## Recurring

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays - Los Angeles Model Railroad Society "Work" Sessions, Harbor City  
Saturdays - Belmont Shore Model Railroad Club Visitation, San Pedro  
Saturdays - Corona Model Railroad Society Open House, Corona  
1st Thursday of Each Month - Los Angeles Division Sponsored "Sand House Chat" Zoom Session  
2nd Saturday of Each Month - Trains & Coffee Swap Meet, Duke's Cafe Parking Lot, Placentia  
3rd Saturday of Each Month - Arizona Division Zoom Session  
Last Saturday of Each Month - "Model Railroad Fellowship Get-Together" - RailMaster Hobbies, Bellflower

## Upcoming

*May 18 – Arizona Division's Monthly Zoom Meet*  
*May 24-26 – O Scale / S Scale / Narrow Gauge West, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Santa Clara, CA*  
*May ?? – Steve Kazarian's Model Railroad Layout Open House, NV*

*June 15 – Arizona Division's Monthly Zoom Meet*  
*June ?? – Timm Martin's Model Railroad Layout Open House, NV*

*July 13 – Trains & Coffee Swap Meet, Placentia*  
*July 20 – Arizona Division's Monthly Zoom Meet*  
*July 27 – Roundhouse Gang Model Railroad Swap Meet, Old Santa Fe Station, San Bernardino*

*August 4-11 – NMRA National Convention, the "SurfLiner 2024" and Train Show, Long Beach*

*September 11-14 – National Narrow Gauge Convention, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

*October 12 – Trains & Coffee Swap Meet, Placentia*  
*October 19 – Roundhouse Gang Model Railroad Swap Meet, Old Santa Fe Station, San Bernardino*

For inclusion, please send announcements at least 3 months in advance to:  
[VicCavalli@Comcast.net](mailto:VicCavalli@Comcast.net)

# Advertisement Guidelines

## *Interested in Advertising in the LA Coupler?*

Please note that advertisements in the *LA Coupler* need to be related to the hobby of model railroading (including prototype railroading). All ads are to be supplied by the owner and published at the discretion of the *LA Coupler* editor and/or the LA Division Advisory Board. If you have questions about the guidelines, please reach out to the editor at [Lisican@gmail.com](mailto:Lisican@gmail.com)

Publishing guidelines for ads are as follows:

Ad space is sold on an annual basis (four issues, published quarterly), for a full, ½, ¼, or ⅛ page sized ad

**A commitment for two issues is requested up front (totaling 50% of the total costs), a full year commitment would receive a discount of 10% on the price.**

	Full Page Ad	Half Page Ad	Quarter Page Ad	Eighth Page Ad
Annual Cost	\$100	\$60	\$40	\$25
Minimum 2 Issue Commitment	\$50	\$30	\$20	\$12.50
Full Year Discount (less 10%)	\$90	\$54	\$36	\$22.50

**Payments are to be made to the LA Division NMRA. Please contact the editor for details.**

**Funds from advertising go directly toward supporting your Los Angeles Division of the NMRA.**



**For more information on the NMRA  
please visit [www.NMRA.org](http://www.NMRA.org)**

*Special Thanks to Railmaster Hobbies*

*9812 Belmont St.  
Bellflower, CA 90706  
(562) 867-5627  
[www.railmasterhobbies.com](http://www.railmasterhobbies.com)*

**Thank you for supporting the LA Coupler!**

