

MAIL HOOK

SAN DIEGO DIVISION, PSR-NMRA

2ND QUARTER 2006

Director's Report

By Don Fowler

"I've spent most of my time & money on trains.

The rest I've just wasted!"

On March 18, 2006 Superintendent Sevier and I attended the Region's mid year Board of Director's Meeting held at San Diego's Al Bahr Shrine, site of our 2006 convention next October. Aside from the regular activity reports, several items of interest were presented and discussed.

President Hall reminded everyone that the ballots for the Region President election would be distributed in the next PSR Dispatch. He asked that nominations be submitted asap.

Director Heimberger (Cajon Division) presented his final 2005 Convention report, stating that the event was deemed a great success but financially broke even with a minimal profit.

Superintendent Sevier (San Diego) gave a 2006 Convention update and hosted a tour of the Convention facility and adjoining hotel. At the time of his report, the committee had confirmed 85 registrations, 24 clinics, two prototype tours, a train show, layout tours, Railette activities, patch/pin/convention car design, and the awards banquet.

Director Buck (Arizona) submitted a bid for the 2007 Convention in Tucson, AZ.

Vice President Megard gave an update on the upcoming 2008 National Convention to be

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held in Anaheim, CA. All Divisions will have the opportunity to assist with the convention volunteers will be needed!

A discussion was held regarding the consolidation of the four Division's resources for coordination and facilitation of our annual Region Conventions (See PSR Dispatch for details). I volunteered to prepare a staff study to examine the feasibility of this concept to be presented to the Board at our October meeting.

A second discussion pertained to sending the PSR Dispatch to members via e-mail with the intent of saving printing and postage costs to the Region. With the new NMRA membership structure, all NMRA members are automatically members of their geographic Region (in our case, the PSR). However, unless they (you) specifically subscribe to the Region newsletter (PSR Dispatch) on your membership renewal, it is not part of the membership. This has an impact on newsletter costs. E-mail versions would be received faster with larger content and include color photos. Region elections are held in the second quarter, so a "hard copy" mailing to all members will be done to ensure all can vote. All region members will be encouraged to provide input on their individual preference.

Locally, we enjoyed some great events during the first quarter. In addition to great fellowship at some cool home layouts, we had a great turnout for our Division's Winter Meet at the Short Trak Club's new headquarters at the Antique. There was a tasty pot luck, two neat clinics, and of course, the club's fine modular layout. Thanks to the Club for hosting and all who helped make it a great meet.

We've got more great events planned for our second quarter, including our Annual Division Swap Meet (see the schedule for details). Bring a friend and sell some of your old stuff. Who knows what hard to find treasures might show up?!?!?!

Layout Meets & Tours

By David Balser, Layout Tour Chairman

It's been a busy year so far. In January we made our (now) annual visit to Don Fowler's house to check up on his fantastic 'N' scale layout, and to get a first view of his new 'G' scale layout in the back yard. This will be one to watch - can you imagine modern SD's and double-stacks in 'G'? In February we visited the back yard of Steve Seidensticker to see and operate his "Gopher Canyon Line", another "large scale" layout. Lots of fun. And in April we visited John Constans in Cardiff to see how he is coming along on his new 'Sn3' layout. Nice modeling, and will be well worth a visit again later.

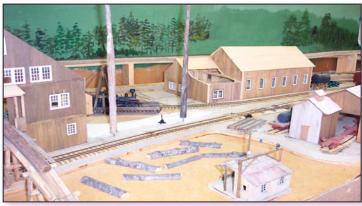
For our May tour we've been invited to the new home of the North County Model Railroad Society, where they are busy setting up their new permanent layout. Located above Henry's Market in Oceanside, hard work has paid off. Now able to run trains, scenery construction is going strong, four bridges having already been installed. Their working days are Thursday and Saturdays, with anywhere from 15 to over 20 members at each session, out of a total of 38 members.

For the June tour I received the following special invitation from Poway Station Model Railway Club (www.powaystation.org): Members of Poway Station will set up many of their modules in the Templar's Hall at Old Poway Park on the weekend of June 24-25, 2006. We invite the San Diego Division to use this as the June mini-meet. Although we will be open to

the public as well as Division members on Saturday, we will endeavor to set up a reception area where Division members can partake of the usual refreshments between noon and 3PM. We're not sure exactly what modules we will operate that weekend (depends on how

much work we get done between now and then), but possibilities include Arizona and northern California logging, northern California wine country, mid-western grain elevator, and engine service facilities, among others. Some modules are complete, and others are under construction.

We have recently converted to DCC operation, and Division members may have an opportunity to drive a train around the layout. Come early and bring the family. Old Poway Park, 14134 Midland Road, Poway, hosts a certified Farmer's Market Saturday mornings, from 8-11:30 (see http://www.ci.poway.ca.us/oldpoway/farmer.html). Have lunch at the Hamburger Factory next door, the



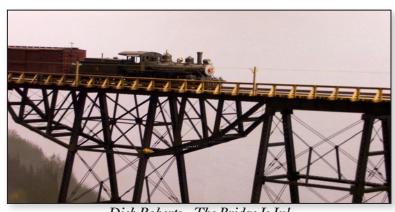
John Constans - Sn3 - In the Woods

Sidewalk Sundae Shop across the street, or picnic under the shady oaks in the park. Ride the trolley (see http://www.powaymidlandrr.org/default. htm - Sorry, the steam loco is out of service right now, and may or may not be restored by the end of June. Check the web page for current status.) Stop in to see the Poway Station layout and chat with the guys. Cap your day with a visit to the Rail Baron Hobby Shop across the street, one of North County's newest treasures. Other attractions in the park include the Poway Historical Society

Museum (behind the Hamburger Factory), the Blacksmith Shop, and restored turn-of-the-century homes. Templar's Hall is the big, barnlike structure, off the carriage turn by the fountain. Look for the Model Train Show banner.

In July we are invited to the home

of Justin Rasas, who is busy building a layout that is best described as a mountain railroad with sightings of Denver & Rio Grande Western and Southern Pacific trains mixed in with a standard gauge shay or two moving loads of ore or lumber. The single track mainline is plagued with severe



Dick Roberts - The Bridge Is In!

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YOUR PIKE?

by Gerry Leone, MMR

(From the NMRA Membership Services and Promotions Department)

The Pike Registry, part of the NMRA's Membership Services and Promotion Department, is one of the lesser known services of the NMRA, yet it's been around almost as long as the organization itself. By sending in an application to program manager Dick Schneider, along with a \$10 donation, NMRA members can register the name and reporting marks of their model railroad in the Official Register of Model Railroads (ORMRR) for two years. In return they receive an official registration certificate along with a CD of the current ORMRR. (Printed versions are also available to those without computers.)

The ORMRR is a tremendous resource for those who travel and would like to visit model railroads during their trip. The Register lists names, addresses and phone numbers of registrants, along with visitation preferences.

Studying the ORMRR is fun in and of itself. Currently it contains well over 500 pikes, some of which are as yet unbuilt. Among those appearing are prototypical names such as Union Pacific and Burlington Northern. But others have registered more whimsical names, such as the Kneedy & Lackamoney and the Downe & Owlte. It makes for great reading.

The Pike Registry was updated and streamlined last year and is now a self-supporting volunteer-run part of the NMRA Membership Services and Promotion Department. Besides the fun of receiving an official certificate and the ORMRR, it gives members a great way to make a small donation to the NMRA.

For details on how to get your pike registered, visit the NMRA website at

http://www.nmra.org/pikereg.

Layout Meets & Tours (cont)

grades that come close to that of a roller coaster providing constant challenge to the motive power. The 4'x19' layout is 70% complete and is located in a two car garage that still functions as a two car garage.

With the "Back to the Future in 2006" convention now just a few months away we will be holding off on any more tours - we need to give these guys time to prepare their layouts for the Convention layout tours. We will start up again with various monthly activities next year.

Del Mar Fair - An Invitation

Jim Wirt, Short Track Railroad Club

The members of the Short Track Railroad Club would like to extend an open invitation to all members of the San Diego model railroad community to join us at the San Diego County Fair in operating our N-Trak layout. This layout has been a very popular part of the fair for many years, and is a great way for you to "run trains" and talk to the public about our great hobby.

We are now in the process of filling in the schedule for operations at the Fair. We will be there all day, every day the fair is open beginning June 10 through July 4. Operating hours will be 9:30 AM to Fair closing (either 10:30 or 11:30 PM).

We are going to be in the same building as last year but in a better spot, probably with a larger layout. Guests operators are encouraged to bring and run their N scale equipment.

We run three shifts per day, all of which will have at least one experienced Short Track member, but it takes at least 3 (preferably 4 to 5) operators during a shift. If you wish to help out for a full shift, or just drop by for a couple hours, I am sure that will be fine.

If you are interested, contact Pete Steinmetz via email at petest50@att.net, or give him a call and leave a message at (760) 943-0590.

We will appreciate your help, and you are guaranteed a great time!



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The "Back to the Future in 2006" PSR Convention is issuing a call for volunteers to help with all the various tasks of actually putting the convention on - ticket takers, assistants, docents, helpers of all sorts. If you are willing to help, we will find a task for you! Please contact the committee at sddiv@sbcglobal. net, grobbiedobbie@yahoo.com or (760) 839-5877.



San Diego Model Railroad Museum

Permanent Exhibits: The San Diego County Relief Map – this exhibit features a computerized interactive display and depicts the terrain of San Diego and Imperial Valley as well as the traditional rail lines and stations.

Toy Train Gallery "Rail Town" Exhibit – The Toy Train Gallery comes to life with animated buildings featuring a fire station, car wash, and an exact replica

of the Lionel factory in Lindenwold, NJ. Also on display are Lionel collectibles dating back to 1915 and original prints of Lionel artwork.

Coming Events

Sun - June 11th, Circus Family Day, 11:00am - 2:00pm

MONTHLY LAYOUT MEET LOCATIONS

May - North County Model Railroad Society, 1820 Oceanside Blvd, 2nd floor of Henry's, Oceanside. Directions: Take I-5 to Oceanside Blvd, go EAST on Oceanside Blvd. Go one block past I-5, and look for Henry's Market on the LEFT (NORTH) side of the street. Park in the parking lot, and go in the main entrance of the store. At the left of the entrance doors is an elevator to the 2nd floor. The club room is across from the elevator on the 2nd floor.

June - Poway Station Modular Railroad Club, Old Poway Park, Midland Road, Poway.

Directions: From I-15 southbound - Take the Camino del Norte exit and go EAST on Camino del Norte, which becomes Twin Peaks Road. After about 2.5 miles, turn RIGHT on Midland Road and proceed SOUTH to the park on your right. From I-15 northbound, or I-5 - Take SR56 (Ted Williams Parkway) EAST to Twin Peaks Road (next light after the Outback Steakhouse). Turn RIGHT on Twin Peaks Road, then RIGHT again on Midland Road to the park

July - Justin Rasas, 10260 Waterridge Circle, San Diego - From the north, I-5 to I-805, take the SORRENTO VALLEY RD exit, turn LEFT at the bottom of the exit ramp. Turn LEFT onto VISTA SORRENTO PARKWAY (<0.1 miles). Turn RIGHT onto Lusk Blvd (0.5 miles). Turn RIGHT onto Wateridge Circle (0.3 miles). Follow Wateridge Circle almost half way around until you see the Wateridge Townhome community and enter the complex. Turn LEFT inside the complex. Turn RIGHT immediately after the pool area. Go straight down the hill to which you'll pass two buildings on the right. I'm located at end of the second building 10260, unit 222. There is a map at the complex entrance if needed. From the south, I-805 NORTH to exit VISTA SORRENTO PARKWAY. Go straight at the end of the exit ramp (across Mira Mesa) onto VISTA SORRENTO PARKWAY. Turn RIGHT onto Lusk Blvd (0.5 miles) and follow the remaining directions noted above.

Online - Web Sites of Interest

Train Net: www.trainnet.org Rail Pictures: http://www.railpictures.net/

NMRA: www.nmra.org PSR: http://www.psr-nmra.org/

Back to the Future in 2006 Convention: www.getnet.com/~dickg/nmra/psr/2006conv.html

San Diego Division: www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/sdiego/sdiego.html (PSR) or

www.sandiegodivision.org (Division)

Cajon Division: www.cajondiv.org

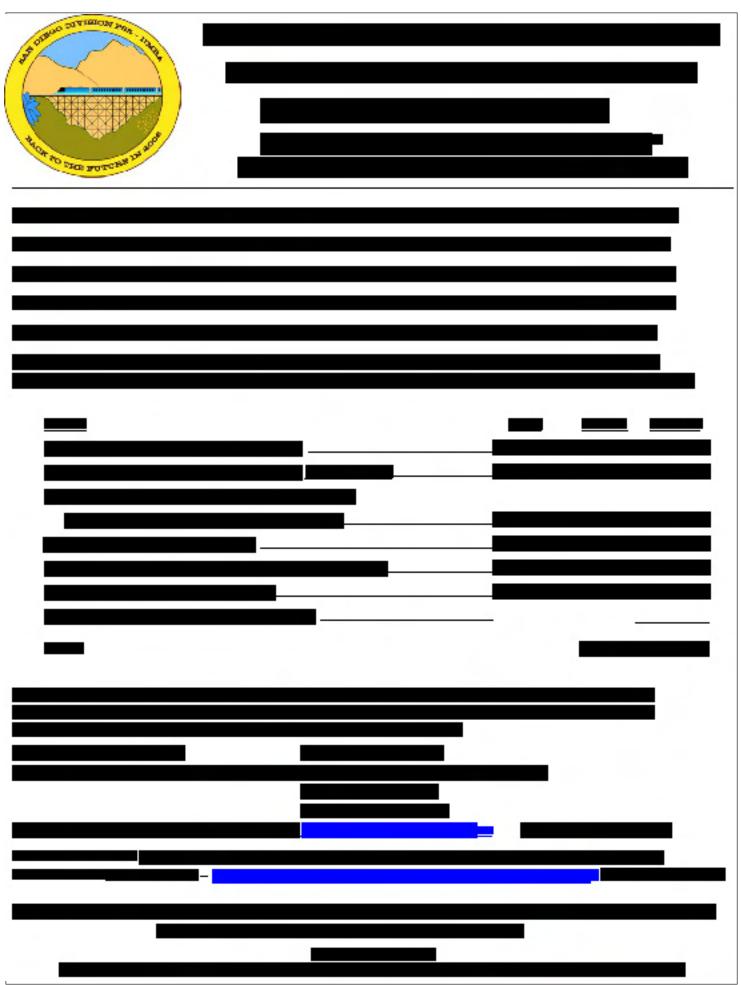
San Diego Model Railroad Museum: www.sdmodelrailroadm.com

San Diego Rail Sites: www.sandiegorail.com/index.html

 $Carrizo\ Gorge\ Railway: \underline{http://www.carrizogorgerailway.com/}$

The Overland Trail: www.overlandtrail.com





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	an Diego Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Suriday	Monday 1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			7		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Spring Meet Hilltop Park 11:30 - 3:00
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Layout Tour NCMRRS 12 - 3:00
Convention Planning Committe	22	23	24	25	26	27
6:00pm 28	29	30	31			
	Memorial Day	,				
June 2006						
				1	2	3
1	5	6	7	8	9	10
						Del Mar Fair
Convention Planning Committe	12	13	14	15	16	17
6:00pm	Del Mar Fair	Del Mar Fair 20	Del Mar Fair 21	Del Mar Fair 22	Del Mar Fair	Del Mar Fair 24 Div. Event
Del Mar Fair	Del Mar Fair	Del Mar Fair	Del Mar Fair	Del Mar Fair	Del Mar Fair	Poway Station 12:00 - 3:00
25 Convention Planning	26	27	28	29	30	12:00 - 3:00
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July 2006						
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2	3	4 NMBA Na	5 tional Convention - P	6	7	8
Del Mar Fair	Del Mar Fair	Independence Da		Illideipilla, FA		
Convention Planning	10	11	12	13	14	15
Committe 6:oopm	i i	18	19	20	21	22 Layout Tour
6:00pm	17					Justin Rasas 12:00 - 3:00

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Mail Hook

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Responsibility: Except for official reports, all opinions expressed are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the San Diego Division or its parent organizations.

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<u>Submissions</u>: Contributions of articles or photos on any railroad or model railroading topic of interest to the membership are welcome. There is no compensation, but published articles can be credited to the NMRA® Author Achievement Certificate. If you are interested in submitting articles, event information or other information of interest to members of the Division, please follow these guidelines:

- 1. Preferred method is by email to the editor, with the submission attached as a text document. Also accepted are: text document on floppy disk, printout from laser or ink jet printer, or typed using <u>new</u> ribbon.
- 2. Keep in mind that submissions may be edited for length or formatting, or not used at the discretion of the editor.
- 3. Submission deadlines: Jul 16, 2006, Oct 15, 2006, Jan 15th, 2007, Apr 16, 2007, Jul 16, 2007
- 4. If you wish submission materials returned (i.e., photos), please send a stamped, self addressed envelope.





SCHEDULE OF PSR-NMRA EVENTS

May 2006

- 13 Annual San Diego Division Swap Meet 9:00am to 11:30am at Hilltop Recreation Center, Oviedo Road, San Diego Open to the public. Table setup begins at 8:00am. For more information, visit www.sandiegodivision.org or email sddiv@sbcglobal.net
- 13 San Diego Division Spring Meet at Hilltop Recreation Center, San Diego. Meet begins at 12 Noon after the Swap Meet. Clinics, model contest, pot luck lunch, other activieis. Visit www.sandiegodivision.org or email sddiv@sbcglobal.net for more information.
- 20 San Diego Division Layout Tour. North County Model Railroad Society, 1820 Oceanside Blvd., Oceanside CA. More info and directions available in the Mail Hook online at www.sandiegodivision.org
- 21 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net

June 2006

- 11 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net
- 24 San Diego Division Layout Tour. Poway Station Model Railroad Club, Templar Hall, Old Poway Park, 14134 Midland Road, Poway, CA. More info and directions available in the Mail Hook online at www.sandiegodivision.org
- 25 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net

July 2006

- 9 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net
- San Diego Division Layout Tour. Justin Rasas,10260 Wateridge Circle, San Diego CA Info and

- directions available in the Mail Hook online at www.sandiegodivision.org
- 23 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net

August 2006

- 6 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net
- 12 San Diego Division Summer Meet & Picnic. Visit <u>www.sandiegodivision.org</u> for more information.
- 20 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net

September 2006

- 10 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net
- 24 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net

October 2006

- 8 "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention Committee planning meeting. Peace Lutheran Church, San Diego, CA Ben Sevier, Chairman, sddiv@sbcglobal.net
- 11 to 15 Back to the Future in 2006 PSR Convention
 Al Bhar Shrine & Ramada Inn, San Diego,
 CA. Visit www.sandiegodivision.org for more
 information, or the PSR website online at www.
 trainnet.org.

November 2006

4 San Diego Division Fall Meet at the San Diego Model Railroad Museum. Visit www.sandiegodivision.org or email sddiv@sbcglobal. net for more information.

Model Railroad Clubs in San Diego

San Diego Model Railroad Museum

Balboa Park, San Diego

Info: www.sdmodelrailroadm.com

La Mesa Model Railroad Club (HO)

Info: LaMesaClub@att.net San Diego 3-Railers (O) Info: (619) 690-4358

San Diego Model Railroad Club (HO & O)

Info: www.sdmrrc.org

San Diego Society of N Scale (N)

Info: www.sdsons.org

North County Model Railroad Society (HO, N)

1820 Oceanside Blvd, Oceanside

Info: 760-722-7366

Poway Station Model Railroad Club

Old Poway Park, Poway Info: <u>www.powaystation.org</u>

Short Track RR at the Antique Gas & Steam

Engine Museum 2040 N. Santa Fe Vista, CA 92083 760-941-1791

Info: Modeltrains@agsem.com

If you would like your club listed, or have news of interest, contact the Club Liason, San Diego Division

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Military \$2.50, Tuesdays free to all

NMRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - PSR Please accept my application for membership renewal or new membership in the NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, which includes the PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION and my local PSR Division. NMRA# PSR # NewRenewal Name Address City State Zip Phone Birth Date Scale Email Occupation NMRA Membership Type - circle your choice of options 1 Year 2 Years Total Member - All rights and benefits - does not include NMRA Scale Rails \$33.00 \$66.00 NMRA Scale Rails subscription - Must be an NMRA member to subscribe \$12.00 \$24.00 PSR Dispatch subscription - Must be NMRA member to subscribe \$8.00 \$16.00 Family - Spouse or minor child of above member in good standing. No NMRA Scale Rails or voting rights. Provide family members name and date of birth here: \$9.00 \$28.00 Student - any person 18 yrs and under or student between the ages of 19 - 25 yrs possessing valid student \$22.00 \$44.00 ID. All rights and benefits and NMRA Scale Rails Sustaining - Mandatory for group memberships (Clubs, Associations, Businesses). All rights and benefits \$90.00 \$180.00 and NMRA Scale Rails TOTAL DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYMENT ENCLOSED (Make checks payable to NMRA)

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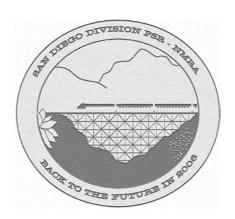
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