

MAIL HOOK

SAN DIEGO DIVISION, PSR-NMRA

4TH QUARTER 2006

Director's Report

By Don Fowler

"You can't get cornered in a roundhouse!"

Well, we survived another convention and all the feedback has been positive. A big "THANKS" to all who contributed to this successful venture. It was a lot of work but well worth the effort. In addition to serving as the Chairman of this year's convention, his continual service as Superintendent of the San Diego Division, and editor of the "Mail Hook" and "PSR Dispatch", Ben Sevier now also serves as our Pacific Southwest Region President. If you have the opportunity, please convey your appreciation to him for all of his hard work and dedication to our membership. Although he's a MoPac man, I have sincerely enjoyed working with him and will continue to support his leadership.

Should you find yourself in a position of discussing the advantages of NMRA membership with someone, don't forget one important aspect; **friendship**. It's always great to meet others who share our great hobby, appreciate the skills that they bring to the table, discuss/debate prototypes/scale/era, or help someone new get started in the hobby.

What I wasn't conscious of while this was all going on over the years was the depth of the evolving relationships that have resulted.

Although model railroading was the tie that brought us together, I have found that the resulting friendships go much deeper than that. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to interact and assist my railroading friends with non-railroad aspects of life, some in good times and some not so good. I never gave it much thought; it's just what friends do for each other.

This year, it was my turn to be on the receiving end. In addition to the usual ups and downs that occur, I moved into a more challenging job assignment, my wife was diagnosed with a crippling disease, and my oldest son was seriously injured and nearly killed in Iraq. Any one of these would have been more than enough but I'm not complaining. In fact, I'm very grateful that it was no worse than it was.

What really took me by surprise and overwhelmed me was the outpouring of caring and support from my model railroad friends. I didn't publicize these things because I figured everyone had their own problems and didn't need to be troubled with mine. Word spread anyway and boy was I surprised. Offers of support came from all over our Division and from others in our Region as well. It meant so much to our family to know that others cared and were keeping us in their prayers. Those prayers paid big dividends, by the way!

I tell you all this to make two important points; THANK YOU for your friendship and don't forget to emphasize how important this is to our organization. If the measure of success is based upon our friendships, I am truly a rich man! The Fowler's have much to be grateful for this holiday season and our NMRA family is big on that list. From our home to yours, have a great holiday season and an exciting new year of model railroading!

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Superintendent's Report

By Ben Sevier

Better late than never! This issue of the "Mail Hook" is very late, and is actually standing in for 2 issues! My only excuse is that the Convention took all the available resources, leaving no time or energy to get a newsletter out. The coming year won't have that problem.

The "Back to the Future in 2006" Convention went very, very well, overall. We had a great attendance (185 registered attendees), interesting tours, fantastic clinics, and of course the outstanding layouts that abound in San Diego. The only downside was that we were competing with the Mira Mar Airshow, which had an adverse impact on public attendance at the Train Show. All the feedback from attendees was that they had a very good time, and enjoyed the convention immensely - the only negatives I've heard concerned the fact that we had "too much to do and see", which is what was intended. If you didn't come, you missed a grand time!

The event schedule for next year is being worked on, and we could use your input - what would you enjoy seeing or doing that the Division could provide? There will be a Division Business Meeting during Don Fowler's Open House on Saturday, January 13th - plan to come and help us plan the year.

Speaking of "helping out", there are several positions on the Division "Board" that need help (check the listing on page 7). A volunteer organization relies on just that, volunteers, and that means **you**. If you have some time and enthusiasm to contribute (not much time required, for that matter), let me know and we can discuss the opportunities.

Anyway, the events planned so far include Don's Open House, the Annual Swap Meet (see the next page) and Winter Meet at the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum in February, and a joint event with the Cajon and LA Divisions up in Perris in March - Details will be available later on that (watch the Division web site - www.sandiegodivision.org - for more info). Other ideas being floated include visits to the various model railroad clubs in our area, "road trips" to places of interest, layout tours, and perhaps even some

Division Member of the Year

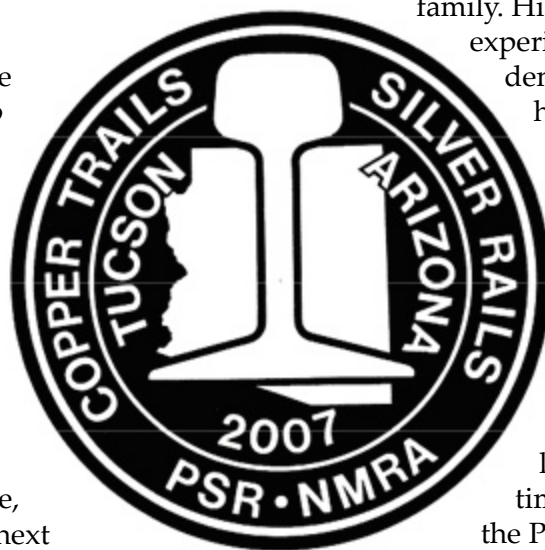
By Don Fowler, Director

Bob Moore was born in Jonesboro, AR and grew up around the "Cotton Belt" (St. Louis Southwestern Railway). In 1956, a neighbor in Evenson, IL got him interested in model railroading. He installed his first couplers upside down but he says they ran fine, just not with anything else. When he moved to Los Angeles, he befriended Whit Towers who took the photos for his first article in the NMRA Bulletin (now Scale Rails).

Upon settling in Washington state, he became the Superintendent of the PNR and edited their newsletter. While there, he earned his first Achievement Award for "Dispatcher" by writing programs and dispatching on the club layout. He was also the General Convention Coordinator for his Region and subsequently held Clinic Chair positions on two other conventions.

More recently, Bob served as Clinic Chair for the 2002 PSR Convention and was the Prototype Tour Chair for the 2006 PSR Convention. He has given numerous clinic presentations himself on scenery as well.

In addition to model railroading, Bob has led a very interesting life as a decorated military officer, an acclaimed physician, and raised a wonderful family. His model railroading talents and experience combined with his pleasant demeanor and willingness to help have made Bob a strong asset to the San Diego Division.



"prototype" events or tours. Thoughts? Ideas? Requests?

The next PSR Convention will be in Tucson, AZ in September, 2007. From what they've published so far, it looks like it should be a great time. Information is available in the PSR Dispatch, and on the PSR web site. I plan on going, and it'd be great if we had a large San Diego Division "contingent" - so, sign up and plan to attend.

Well, that's it for now. I'm looking forward to seeing you at our events during the year. Oh, yes, I'd also like to meet your friends in the hobby who haven't yet attended our events - bring one along to the next one, and show them what a great time we have. May you have a fantastic 2007!

SAN DIEGO DIVISION PSR-NMRA



Annual Model Railroad Swap Meet

Saturday, February 10th, 2007

Doors Open - 8:30am (Setup at 8:00am) - Close at 11:30am

Assembly Building, Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum

2040 North Santa Fe Avenue, Vista, CA

**BUY
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TRADE**

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**Model Railroading Public Invited!
Admission is \$1.00 to members
of the National Model Railroad
Association.**

All Others - Adults \$2.00

Children 12 & under - Free

Seller Tables - 2.50 per half table

Division Winter Meet Follows



**HAVE MORE FUN -
BRING A FRIEND**

Directions

From Interstate 5 take the S-78 East to the Melrose Drive exit. Head North (left turn) on Melrose Drive to North Santa Fe Avenue (S14). Make a right on North Santa Fe Avenue (S14). Proceed on North Santa Fe Avenue to Museum Way (1st Stoplight). Make a right on Museum Way

From Interstate 15, take S-78 West to Escondido Avenue exit. Turn right on Escondido Avenue. Proceed to South Santa Fe Avenue (3rd Stoplight) & Make a Left on to South Santa Fe Avenue (S14). Proceed on South Santa Fe Avenue (it will become North Santa Fe) to Museum Way. Make a Left onto Museum Way.



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.

Lego City Visiting Exhibit

November 21st, 2006 - January 26th, 2007

Come and enjoy this spectacular display visiting us for the Holiday Season

DIVISION ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Don Fowler - Layout Tour & Open House:

From the coast: Go EAST on SR 52, exit at Mast Blvd. Turn LEFT on Mast and proceed for 3.3 Miles. Turn LEFT on Magnolia and proceed for 2 blocks. (From East County: Take Magnolia NORTH). Turn RIGHT on 2nd street and proceed for 2 blocks. Turn LEFT on Cleary and proceed 1 block. Turn LEFT on Holborn and proceed for 2 blocks. Turn RIGHT on Sayers Court and proceed to #10768. This is a cul-de-sac, and parking can be very tight. (619) 258-3529.

San Diego Division Annual Swap Meet

- Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum

Assembly Building: From Interstate 5 take the S-78 East to the Melrose Drive exit. Head North (left turn) on Melrose Drive to North Santa Fe Avenue (S14). Make a right on North Santa Fe Avenue (S14). Proceed on North Santa Fe Avenue to Museum Way (1st Stoplight). Make a right on Museum Way

From Interstate 15, take S-78 West to Escondido Avenue exit. Turn right on Escondido Avenue.

Proceed to South Santa Fe Avenue (3rd Stoplight) & Make a Left on to South Santa Fe Avenue (S14). Proceed on South Santa Fe Avenue (it will become North Santa Fe) to Museum Way. Make a Left onto Museum Way, watch for signs

San Diego Division Winter Meet - Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum Assembly Building: From Interstate 5 take the S=78 East to the Melrose Drive exit. Head North (left turn) on Melrose Drive to North Santa Fe Avenue (S14). Make a right on North Santa Fe Avenue (S14). Proceed on North Santa Fe Avenue to Museum Way (1st Stoplight). Make a right on Museum Way

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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/>

Copper Trails / Silver Rails PSR 2007 Convention:

<http://www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/psr/2007conv.html>

San Diego Division: www.sandiegodivision.org

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: <http://www.carrizogorgerailway.com/>

The Overland Trail: www.overlandtrail.com





George Boggs won a "First Place - Non-revenue Car" award at the "Back to the Future in 2006" PSR Convention in October, 2006. Several things are noteworthy about this car: it is very large scale (1 1/2"), is a working weed killer on George's outdoor layout at his place in Ramona, and not only won a First Place award, but a Merit Award as well. It's good to see our local modelers win awards. Good job, George!

Bring in a friend. Bring home a locomotive.

Sign me up as an NMRA member and enter me in the drawing!

____ Regular NMRA member: \$36/year, all rights and benefits but no Scale Rails

____ Regular NMRA member: \$48/year, all rights and benefits including Scale Rails

Other membership package options are available. Visit www.nmra.org for details.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of referring NMRA member (print) _____

Referring member's NMRA# & expiration _____

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Expiration _____ Cardholder signature _____
Month Year

Mail to:
NMRA Membership Contest
4121 Cromwell Rd.
Chattanooga, TN 37421

From November 1 through January 31, when you get someone to sign up for a new NMRA membership you'll both come out winners! Each month we'll draw names of three new members. Those new members and the NMRA members who referred them will each win their own Atlas®, Kato®, Bachmann® or Life-Like® loco.

And even if your friend doesn't bag a prize, as a new NMRA member they'll still come out a winner because they'll have all the benefits of the greatest model railroad organization in the world.

So pass along this sign-up form along to a non-member today! Then start polishing those rails.

OFFICIAL RULES: Contest open to U.S. residents only who are either National Model Railroad Association, Inc. (NMRA) members in good standing on November 1, or individuals who haven't been NMRA members for 2 years or more. Properly completed Membership Entry forms must be received by 1/31/07 to be eligible. Names will be entered in drawing only after new membership has been fully processed. Renewals for existing memberships will not be credited as new memberships. NMRA officers and directors, paid or contracted NMRA employees and their immediate families are not eligible, nor are contest sponsors and business firms contracted by either the NMRA or those sponsors, their employees and their immediate families. Odds of winning random drawings are dependent on the number of eligible entries received. Contest void where prohibited by law. No substitution of prizes. Winners must execute an affidavit of eligibility and release, and agree that their names and/or likenesses may be used for advertising/publicity purposes by the NMRA without further compensation, except where prohibited. By participating, entrants agree to these rules and that the decision of the NMRA President in all matters relating to the contest shall be final. Winners names may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: NMRA, 4121 Cromwell Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37421.



January 2007

San Diego Division - Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Layout Tour - Don Fowler, Santee - Noon to 3:00pm
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2007

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Division Swap Meet & Winter Meet, AG&SEM
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March 2007

				1	2	3 Combined Meet - Perris
4 Combined Meet - Perris	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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Publicity:	(vacant)		

Mail Hook

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Submissions: 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 new 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: Jan 15th, 2007, Apr 16, 2007, Jul 16, 2007, Oct 14, 2007

4. If you wish submission materials returned (i.e., photos), please send a stamped, self addressed envelope.



GREAT LAKES EXPRESS 2007
P. O. BOX 336
WARREN, MI 48090

Registration e-mail:
nmraconventionregistration@charter.net



DIVISION SUMMER PICNIC

We had a great time at the Summer Picnic in Old Poway Park in August. Events included eating (it was a picnic after all), riding the trolley, and a tour of the Engine House of the Poway-Midland Railroad. The engine house has been doubled in size since our last tour, and it's quite impressive, as are the various projects they have planned. All photos by Ed Hatch.



Chowing down!



Let's see - dogs or hamburger...



Looks like serious business!



Hmmm, at 1:160 I would need...



Trolley Fun!



If it will hold the engine, it should hold us...

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: www.powaystation.org

Short Track RR at the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum

2040 N. Santa Fe

Vista, CA 92083

760-941-1791

Info: www.agsem.com/strr.html

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

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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.

New ☐ *Renewal* ☐ *NMRA #* *PSR #*

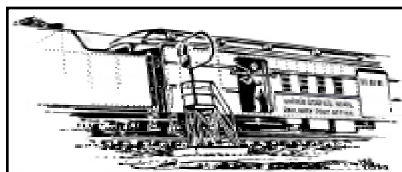
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MAIL To: Gary Robinson, Membership, 2319 Conway Drive, Escondido, CA 92026 email: grobbedobbie@yahoo.com



M A I L H O O K

c/o Ben Sevier, Editor
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San Diego, CA 92129



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