

MAIL HOOK

SAN DIEGO DIVISION, PSR-NMRA

4TH QUARTER, 2014

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

By Don Fowler

The 2014 Pacific Southwest Region Convention in San Diego has come and gone. Our Convention Committee has conducted a thorough critical assessment and overall deemed the event a great success. Hopefully you were able to attend and enjoyed the festivities. I would be very interested in your feedback (good and bad) so that we can do even better the next time it's our turn to host in 2018. If you've ever assisted with one of these events, you know that things don't go well by accident. It takes a huge commitment of time, effort and resources by everyone. Please be sure to thank the Committee and all of the volunteers who worked so hard to make things work so well. This year's Committee was;

- Convention Chair – Ben Sevier/Don Fowler
- Registrar – Gary Robinson
- Clinics – Pete Steinmetz
- Railettes – Kim Fowler
- Donations – Byron Densford
- Company Store – Ray Inbody
- Operating Sessions – Dick Roberts
- Layout Tours/Swap Meet – Don Ham
- Prototype Tours – Bruce Deck

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Pete Steinmetz

What a convention! Those of you that attended the PSR Convention were rewarded with an excellent experience. There was so much going on attendees had a hard time deciding what to do. As clinic chair, I was rewarded with many positive comments from members that attended the clinics. There was a wide variety of clinics. Most have never been presented in the PSR. People had asked for "Hands on" clinics. There was a "hands on" clinic being given during most clinic hours. There was an outdoor clinic area that proved quite popular. Nobody had to worry about making a mess. Thanks to all the clinicians that helped make our convention a success.

I had to take a little rest after the convention.

Now back to modeling. I have some painting and weathering projects that have been sitting there most of the summer.

We have our Fall Meet scheduled for Saturday November 8 at the San Diego Model Railroad Museum in Balboa Park. More about the Fall Meet elsewhere in this issue.

There haven't been many train shows in Southern California in 2014. That will change a bit in 2015. The Del Mar show will be held in February. It coincides with our Winter Meet. You can go to our meet, then head to Del Mar. The Great Train Show in Anaheim is January 10 & 11, 2015. The Big Train Show June 6 & 7 at the Ontario Convention Center. Don't assume the Big Train Show is just for the outdoor guys. There are modular layouts in all scales. Hopefully there will be another gathering before the end of 2015. I say gathering, because I don't know what format it will take.

Until next time, happy modeling.

Pete Steinmetz

Superintendent's Report from Page 1

- Contests – Rodger Gredvig

The 2014 San Diego Division Member of the Year was Ben Sevier. For many years, Ben has served in many NMRA capacities at the Division, Region and National level. He served as this year's Convention Co-Chairman (his fourth San Diego Convention Committee) and worked very hard to ensure that everything went well. He has served as our Division Director, Superintendent, and is currently our Clerk/Paymaster. Please be sure to pass along your congratulations to Ben and thank him for his many years of service to our organization.

Congratulations also go to Gary Robinson who was elected as the PSR Vice-President. He will represent us well and ensure that our Region "stays on track". Gary previously served as our Division Director and continues to serve as our Newsletter Editor. Kim Fowler accepted the Region Secretary position and continues to serve as our Division Railette Chair. Byron Densford agreed to continue as the Region Historian and Pete Steinmetz will continue his second year as Division Director representing San Diego Division. I also accepted PSR President Carl Heimberger's invitation to remain on the Board as "President Emeritus". As you can see, the San Diego Division is well represented at the PSR Board.

This year's Fall Meet should be a lot of fun. It will be held at the San Diego Model Railroad Museum on November 8th and begin at 9 am. There will be clinics, model judging, lunch, show & tell, and of course, the Hobo Auction. Please remember to clean out your train room and bring some things to donate. We always have a great time and of course, we'll be touring the latest improvements on the Museum's five model railroads.

In the near future, we will be sending out a flier for this year's Division Christmas Party that will feature a change. The model railroad open house will be at our home as usual but this year, we will travel to a nearby restaurant's banquet room for our dinner, games and gift exchange. Because of our event's success, we've outgrown our home so this was the next best idea. You will be asked to RSVP in advance with your meal preference that will include a full dinner, non-alcoholic beverages and dessert. You will be our guest (no charge) but you must RSVP or you won't get to eat.

Please join me for a great time of fellowship and model railroading!

Don

Show & Tell!



Bruce Desk shared his recent layout addition:

"Doughnut Don's was created to honor our immediate past region president. While it is a basic Walters model, the dooughnut was carefully painted to match a "prototype" Krispy Kreme Donut. The frosting is brown silicon seal and the sprinkles are real, protected from ants by a coating of matt medium. Numerous manufacturers populated the patrons."

Bruce Deck photo

* * *

LAYOUT TOURS

July

In July we visited with Bruce Deck and his Olive & Homer Railroad, based loosely on the Southern Pacific. He has quite a nice mainline run, with a good yard, lots of industry, and many detailed scenes. Industrial building names exhibit a liberal amount of humor. The railroad is DCC, and occupies an upstairs room, running around the walls and on two islands.

August

We took August off, as people were preparing their layouts for the September tours.

September

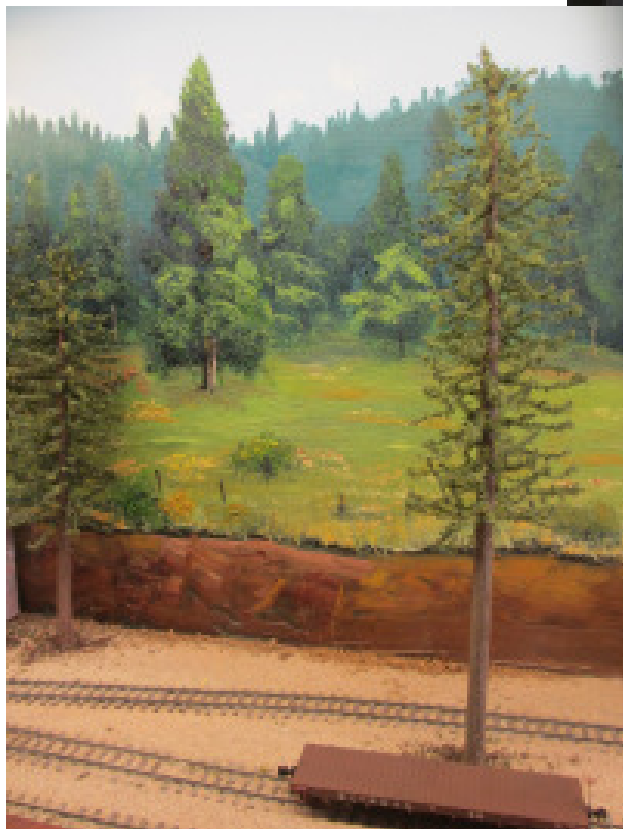
In September we had many layouts on tour, in conjunction with the convention. I hope you got to see some of them. Thanks to all the folks who opened their layouts for us, not only for the convention, but all year long.

October

Duncan McRee was our host in October. His Donner Summit railroad and his Dead Rail Society module were on display. If you missed this opportunity, you should really kick yourself. Duncan's backdrop on the Donner Summit railroad is flatly amazing. It is, without a doubt, one of the best backdrops you'll ever see.



Above: This shot of 462 is only several inches from Duncan's backdrop, but it seems further away. Left: This shot really demonstrates the depth of the backdrop. Below: The detail in Duncan's mountains will astound you. *Gary Robinson photos.*



The detail on Duncan's On30 Dead Rail module is eye-popping, as some of these pictures will attest!



Above: Duncan makes excellent use of printed textures, combined with 3D, to achieve great realism. Right: The tracks over the bridge pictured below left. Note the apparent depth of the scene. Below Right: The wetlands marsh, where the creek empties into the bay. Gary Robinson photos



November

The Fall Meet will be held November 8, so there will be no layout tour this month.

December

Don & Kim Fowler again invite us into their home to see their layouts. You'll find the

Layout Tours, cont'd

Southern Pacific Railway well represented, both in the garden layout and the N scale layout. The degree of detail Don has incorporated in the N scale layout must be seen to be believed. You won't want to miss this one! Following the layout tour, we'll adjourn to a local restaurant for the annual Christmas party.

We'd like to thank Don Ham, MMR, for his work in setting up layout tours for the past several years. You've done a great job, and we've had a lot of fun! We'd also like to wish Kirk Treanor good luck as he takes over for Don. We're sure Kirk will follow in Don's successful footsteps. Ed.

* * *

Welcome New Members

New members keep our organization vital by bringing new ideas and enthusiasm to our group. Each month, we list the new members since the last issue, and run a short background on those who are willing. This may help both the new members and existing members identify those in the group with similar interests. To submit background, contact me or Pete Steinmetz, Membership Chair. Ed.

John Witt, Tierra Santa	Brain Van Waay, Oceanside	Gabe Flores, Santee
Robert Behm, Mira Mesa	Wesley Noel, Encinitas	John Yearger, Santee
Jim Martin, Escondido	Tim Foote, Chula Vista	Timothy Miller, San Diego

Please introduce yourselves to these new members at our next event, and make them feel welcome.

* * *

NMRA News

NMRA News

This from John Stevens, NMRA Secretary:

With nominations and petitioning now closed, the following is the official slate of candidates for the 2015 election:

President

Charlie Getz Jack Hamilton (By-petition)

VP Administration

Clark Kooning Dave Thornton

VP Special Projects

Gerry Leone

At Large North American Director

Bob Ferguson	Vincent Gallogly	Alan Saatkamp	Paul Voelker
Bob Weinheimer	Peter Youngblood		

Eastern District Director

Joe Gelmini

Pacific District Director

Mike Bartlett Kelly Loyd



NMRA Secretary John Stevens reports that there will be a new ballot distribution system this year, and that the election process is scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2015.

* * *

November 2014

San Diego Division - Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 SD Div Fall Meet
9	10	11	12	13 Short Track Ops Session,	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28	29

December 2014

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Short Track Ops Session, AGSEM	12	13 SD Div Layout Tour & Party
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2015

				1 New Years Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 SD Div Layout Tour
11	12	13	14	15 Short Track Ops Session, AGSEM	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Short Track Clinic, AGSEM	30	31

SCHEDULE OF PSR-NMRA EVENTS

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

From various sources. Events may have been submitted by sponsors. Send corrections, additions, and future events to the editor at mailhook@sandiegodivision.org. Events should be of interest to San Diego Division members. List not all-inclusive. Division-sponsored events are listed in **bold** typeface.

2014

November

- 8 **San Diego Division Fall Meet**, San Diego Model Railroad Museum, Balboa Park. for more info, contact meets@sandiegodivision.org.

December

- 13 **San Diego Division Layout Tour & Christmas Party**, Don Fowler, Santee, CA. layouts@SanDiegoDivision.org

January 2015

- 10 **San Diego Division Layout Tour**, TBA layouts@SanDiegoDivision.org

February

- 14 **San Diego Division Winter Meet**, Clairemont Christian Fellowship Church, 4570 Mt. Herbert Ave, San Diego, CA. meets@sandiegodivision.org

March

- 14 **San Diego Division Layout Tour** TBA layouts@SanDiegoDivision.org

April

- 11 **San Diego Division Layout Tour** TBA layouts@SanDiegoDivision.org

May

- 9 **San Diego Division Spring Meet**, Short Track RR, Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2024 N Santa Fe Ave, Vista, CA Meets@sandiegodivision.org

June

- 13 **San Diego Division Layout Tour**, TBA layouts@SanDiegoDivision.org

July

- 11 **San Diego Division Layout Tour**, TBA layouts@SanDiegoDivision.org

August

- 8 **San Diego Division Summer Meet**, Poway Community Park Auditorium, 13094, Civic Center Dr, Poway, CA.
23-30 **NMRA National Convention & Train Show**, Portland, OR. www.nmra2015portland.org/

2014

November

- Now - 20** **TINxTEN - A Century of Tinplate Trains**. San Diego Model Railroad Museum, 1649 El Prado, (Balboa Park) San Diego, CA.
2, 4 **Slim Gauge Guild Open House**, 300 S Raymond Ave, Pasadena, CA (in the basement). Sat 10am - 6pm, Tue 6pm - 10pm. www.slimgaugeguild.com/
8 **Arizona Division Fall Meet**, St. Odelia Church, 750 North Paseo Del Norte, Tucson, AZ. 9-4, \$10. Clinics, contests, layout tour. More info at the web page www.azdiv-nmra.org/Meets/Meets.html
8-9, 11, 15-16 **A Day Out with Thomas**, Orange Empire Railway Museum, Perris, CA.
13-2/9/15. **A Celebration of Walt's Trains**. The Walt Disney Family Museum, 104 Montgomery Street, The Presidio, San Francisco, CA. 10am - 6pm mst days. www.waltdisney.org/trains
15 **Cajon Division Meet**, Henderson Convention Center 200 Water Street Henderson, NV. 9-3, \$5. Clinics, swap meet, show & tell, membership meeting. cajondivision.org/Cajon_Images/Events%20Images/Events-14/Henderson%20Fall%202014.pdf
15-16, 18, 22-23 **Pasadena Model Railroad Club Open House**, 5458 Alhambra Ave, Los Angeles, CA. www.pmrrc.org/#OPENHOUSE for details.
29 **Model Railroad Fellowship Day**, RailMaster Hobbies, 9812 Belmont St. Bellflower, CA 10am - 6pm www.railmasterhobbies.com/
- #### December
- 27** **Model Railroad Fellowship Day**, RailMaster Hobbies, 9812 Belmont St. Bellflower, CA 10am - 6pm www.railmasterhobbies.com/
- #### January 2015
- 10-11** **Great Train Expo**, Anaheim Convention Center, 800 West Katella Avenue, Anaheim CA <http://www.greattrainexpo.com>
31 **Model Railroad Fellowship Day**, RailMaster Hobbies, 9812 Belmont St. Bellflower, CA 10am - 6pm www.railmasterhobbies.com/

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SCHEDULE OF PSR-NMRA EVENTS

September

12 San Diego Division Layout Tour, TBA layouts
[@SanDiegoDivision.org](mailto:SanDiegoDivision.org)

16-20 Pacific Southwest Region Convention,
Millenium Resort & Villas, Scottsdale, AZ.
www.azdiv-nmra.org/

* * *

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

February 2015

14-15 Great Train Expo, Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260
Jimmy Durante Blvd, Del Mar, CA. more info:
<http://www.greattrainexpo.com>

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A Ride on the Texas State Railroad

by Dan Conway

This article first appeared in *The Semaphore*, the newsletter of the North County Model Railroad Society, and is re-printed here with permission. Ed.

Tucked away in a remote corner of eastern Texas, and I mean remote, is the Texas State Railroad. My wife Lise and I were driving from Florida to Carlsbad in April of 2012. Instead of following I-10 from Jacksonville, FL to Tucson and then taking the I-8 to San Diego, we wanted to visit friends in Allen, Texas, just north of Dallas, so we turned north off the I-10 in Louisiana and, following blacktop roads, we eventually crossed from Louisiana and stopped for the night in Joaquin, Texas. The motel was decent, but there wasn't a decent restaurant in town. In fact, there wasn't really much of a town, and what town there was, was "dry". So, a cold beer after driving 8 hours was out of the question. We ate cheese and crackers we had with us for dinner that night.

The next morning, after another 1½ hours down the blacktop, we arrived at Rusk, TX. Signs guided us into a pretty park surrounded by trees, where there was a handsome old station and a water tower. Standing in the station were seven well-maintained red heavyweight passenger cars. Two had their window glass removed to make them into open tourist cars. One was an open-platform observation car.

I had ordered tickets in advance over the internet, so we picked them up in the station, and visited the gift shop. Suddenly, I heard the sound of a locomotive bell, and I ran out onto the platform, just in time to see a beautiful 2-8-0 steam locomotive passing the parked cars on the second station track. It continued past the turnout to the track occupied by the passenger cars, then stopped, reversed, the switch was thrown, and the 2-8-0 backed up slowly and coupled onto the waiting train. I took several pictures, and then stood below the cab, talking to the engineer.

The engineer told me that he had been an engineer on the Union Pacific, but got tired of irregular hours and being away from home so much, so he found the job as chief engineer for the Texas State Railroad. He said, "I sure understand why they replaced these steam engines with diesels. These things are complicated to run and hard to maintain. But they sure are fun. I love my job." We talked a bit about how diesels are run using gauges and digital controls, but a steam engine is run by feel, sound, just sensing when a wheel is about to slip. The engineer said "On this engine, the drivers feel like they are turning a bit to the side just before they lose their bite on the rail, so I know I need to back off a bit on the throttle until the wheels feel solid again. That's just something you learn."

He told me about their problem with owls. Owls land on the rails, and sit looking down the line, waiting for some mouse or squirrel to move out of cover onto the tracks, so they can take off and catch a meal. The problem is, the engineer said, was that half the time the owls are looking down the track away from an approaching train, and a lot of them get mashed by the pilot. "I don't know why they call owls 'wise'", he said.

He then told the story of a time when he was in the cab of a Union Pacific locomotive, waiting on a siding for another train coming the opposite direction to pass. He noticed that the light in one number board above the windshield on the approaching locomotive appeared to be flashing on and off, which was very

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A Ride on the Texas State Railroad (con't)

unusual. As the other locomotive passed, he saw that there was an owl that been hit by the number board and had become stuck up there. He got on the radio and the other train stopped, and a crew member who was a wildlife enthusiast climbed up and got the owl off the number board. It was alive, and he took it to a vet later that day and it was eventually released back into the wild. Again, the engineer said "Wise old owl? Ha!"

The locomotive that was going to pull our train was 2-8-0 number 300, an 83 ton locomotive built for the US Army by Baldwin in 1917. It was shiny and had a nice paint job with yellow highlights. The engineer gave us its history. Although built as #396 for the Army in 1917 for service in France in World War I, #300 had never left the US. It was diverted from France and sent to the Norfolk, VA, Navy Yard as #649. It was eventually assigned to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana and was then sold around 1945 to the S. Bender Iron Works in Shreveport, LA. It was sold to the Tremont & Gulf Railway, a lumber-hauling railroad operating over 76 miles of track in Louisiana, in March, 1947 as #28, and was sold again on 26 June 1955 to the Temple Lumber Co. in Pineland, Texas. At some point it was put on static display, possibly in Lufkin, TX, before it was acquired by the Texas State Railroad and restored to running condition with the number 300.



Left: Tremont & Gulf Railway 2-8-0 No. 28 at Winnfield, Louisiana on January 27, 1952. Photo - David S Price Collection

The engineer noted that while 2-8-0 locomotives are called "Consolidations", those built for the military were called "Pershings", for General of the Armies "Black Jack" Pershing, who commanded the American Expeditionary Forces fighting in Europe in World War I. The engineer also told me that #300 used 45 gallons of oil per mile, and used 6,000 to 7,000 gallons of water over its 50 mile run at the museum.

The museum also has, in operating condition, #400, an 87 ton 2-8-2 built by Baldwin in 1917. They were working to restore #201, a 79 ton 4-6-0 built

by A. L. Cooke in 1901; #500, a 137 ton 4-6-2 built in 1911 by Baldwin for the Santa Fe Railway; and #610, a 224 ton 2-10-4 "Texas" type built by Lima in 1927.

The Texas State Railroad operates over a line originally established in 1881 as a narrow gauge railroad, which was later converted to standard gauge. There was a large prison at Rusk, and the railroad was built by inmates to transport hardwood that was used to fuel the furnaces at the prison-operated iron smelter at Rusk. The smelter supplied iron for, among other uses, the columns and dome for the Texas State Capitol building in Austin.

The line from Rusk was extended and in 1909 it reached Palestine, Texas, and agriculture and commerce along the route flourished. In 1913 the prison stopped operating the iron smelter and was converted to be the state mental hospital. The railroad ceased operations in 1921 and the line was leased to the Texas & New Orleans (Southern Pacific). The Texas Southeastern Railroad leased the line in the 1960 and operated it until 1969. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department took the line over in 1972 and created a State Historical Park, which opened to the public on July 4, 1976 as part of the country's Bicentennial Celebration. The Parks Department operated the railroad until December, 2007, when American Heritage Railways was contracted to take over management and operation of the Texas State Railroad.

The Texas State Railroad offers two classes of service on its trains. Premium Lone Star Class provides reserved seats at tables in air-conditioned cars, soft drinks and snacks with beer and wine available for purchase, and a choice of an Adults Only car for ages 18 and up, or a Family Car for all ages. Standard Seating is available in coaches with windows that open and close, and in open-air coaches with window glass removed and bench seats. A box lunch is included with each ticket.

A Ride on the Texas State Railroad (con't)

Trains leave the station at Rusk with the locomotive at the head of the train. On the outward run, the car behind the locomotive is the observation car. The trains run 25 miles through woods and farmland – the scenery is nice but not dramatic – to Palestine, where a station and large picnic area are located inside a wye for turning the locomotive. When the train arrives, the locomotive is uncoupled and moves ahead on the track where it takes on water from a hose on the ground. The passengers exit the cars, pick up their box lunches, and take seats at tables in the grassy area inside the wye. From here they can watch the locomotive being turned for the return trip. A “gun fight” show takes place during the lunch stop, and “bandits” rob passengers while the train is moving, with money taken being given to charity. Lectures are given about cowboys, including a very long presentation in our car about the “Lone Ranger” which Lise and I didn’t really enjoy – a costumed man explained the fictional life of a fictional character in excruciating detail in a very loud voice for most of the return journey.

For the return trip, the train’s consist was:

Baldwin 2-8-0 number 300

Cars: #9 open coach; #8 open coach; #6 coach; #1 combine/snack car/handicap access to train; #2 coach/Lone Star Class family car; #4 coach/Lone Star Class adults-only car; #5 Lone Star Class café – observation car.

Car #5 was formerly used by many of the Governors of Texas as their private car. It had a large kitchen at the front end with an enormous cast iron stove, a dining area, and a lounge area with an observation platform at the rear. The car has been restored, including the dishes and silverware, and both the dining area and lounge area have tables for 2 or 4 persons.

The entire trip lasted from the 11AM departure from Rusk to return to the Rusk depot at 3:30PM. From 10:30 AM, steps are rolled up to both sides of the cab of the locomotive and passengers can visit the cab of the steam locomotive and talk to the crew. There are good opportunities at Rusk and Palestine to get close to the locomotive, and to take photos. There is an RV park and campground available at the depot in Rusk. Rusk is about 3 hours’ drive southeast of Dallas. This was an interesting trip, but not as visually interesting as riding the Virginia & Truckee or Nevada Northern, which are closer to the North County Model Railroad Society.

But number 300 is a beautiful locomotive. Some photos follow.



Left: Backing up to couple to passenger cars waiting at station platform in Rusk, TX



Left: #300 coupled onto café/ observation car # 5 and rest of train at Rusk depot.

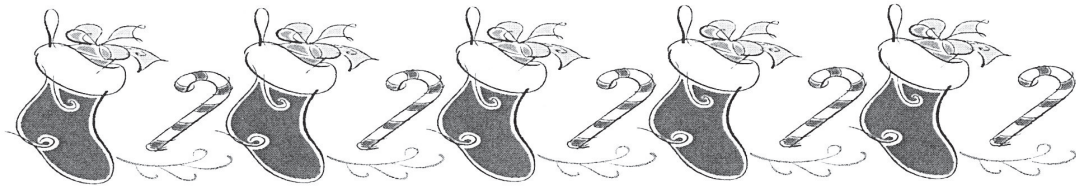
Below: Talking to the engineer at the depot at Rusk, TX. Steps ready for cab visits by passengers before departure.



Left: Taking on water and getting a bit of oil at wye at end of line in Palestine, TX.



All photos Dan Conway



*San Diego Division Holiday Party
And Ugly Sweater Contest
Saturday, December 13th, 2014*

Open House at the home of Don & Kim Fowler

10768 Sayers Court
Santee, CA 92071
2pm - 5pm

*Dinner Party and gift exchange to follow at the
Ranch House Restaurant*

11510 Woodside Ave Ste F
Santee, CA 92071
6pm - 10pm

Everyone: Please wear your ugliest Christmas sweater - there will be a prize for the ugliest sweater!

Gentlemen: Please bring a wrapped, non-scale specific railroad item (\$10 limit) for gift exchange

Ladies: Please bring a wrapped gift (\$10 limit) for gift exchange.

*Please RSVP to (619) 258-3529 by December 5th,
indicating your choice of entrée:*

*Fried Chicken
Steak
Grilled Talapia*

Please join us for fun, food and fellowship!



Scottsdale Express 2015
Pacific Southwest Region Convention
September 16-20, 2015
 Presented By: Arizona Division, PSR
 Millennium Resort, 7401 N. Scottsdale Road,
 Scottsdale, AZ 85253-3548 1-800-243-1332

NMRA #: _____ PSR # _____ Registration Date: _____

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

* As you want to appear on your badge

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State & Zip _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Region & Home Div: _____ Primary Scale _____

Item	Qty	Each	Total
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg & Banquet (Beef Chicken Veg) (By 09/07/14)		\$60.00	
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg & Banquet (Beef Chicken Veg) (09/08/14 to 03/31/15)		\$75.00	
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg & Banquet (Beef Chicken Veg) (04/01/15 to 09/20/15)		\$95.00	
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg without Banquet (By 09/07/14)		\$60.00	
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg without Banquet (09/08/14 to 3/31/15)		\$65.00	
Adult Rail (NMRA Member) Reg without Banquet (04/01/15 to 09/20/15)		\$85.00	
Adult Family Member (with NMRA Member) Reg & Banquet (Beef Chicken Veg) (By 09/07/14)		\$60.00	
Adult Family Member (with NMRA Member) Reg & Banquet (Beef Chicken Veg) (09/08/14 to 03/31/15)		\$70.00	
Adult Family Member (with NMRA Member) Reg & Banquet (Beef Chicken Veg) (04/01/15 to 09/20/15)		\$90.00	
Adult Family Member (with NMRA Member) Reg without Banquet (By 09/07/14)		\$40.00	
Adult Family Member (with NMRA Member) Reg without Banquet (09/08/14 to 03/31/15)		\$45.00	
Adult Family Member (with NMRA Member) Reg without Banquet (04/01/15 to 09/20/15)		\$50.00	
Youth Member Reg & Banquet (Beef Chicken Veg)		\$45.00	
Youth Member Reg (without Banquet)		\$15.00	
Banquet Only (Beef Chicken Veg) Saturday (09-19-15)		\$40.00	
Wine Tasting - Saturday (09-19-15)		\$25.00	
Ladies Lunch - Friday (09-18-15)		\$15.00	
One Day Reg Only		\$15.00	
Non-NMRA member surcharge (applied to Rail Pass if eligible)		\$10.00	
BBQ - Wednesday (09-16-15) Evening		\$12.00	
Convention Patch		\$5.00	
Convention Pin		\$5.00	
Convention Shirts Men's Polo (Pocket w/Logo) S M L XL Circle Size		\$30.00	
Convention Shirts Men's Polo (Pocket w/Logo) 2XL 3XL 4XL Circle Size		\$35.00	
Convention Shirts Women's Polo (No Pocket w/Logo) S M L XL Circle Size		\$30.00	
Convention Shirts Women's Polo (No Pocket w/Logo) 2XL 3XL 4XL Circle Size		\$35.00	
Prototype Tours (Extra Fare)			
Tour of Valley Metro Light Rail Operations & Maintenance Center - Thursday (09-17-15 AM)		\$15.00	
Tour of Maricopa Live Steamers at Adobe Mountain Park - Thursday (09-17-15 PM)		\$15.00	
Tour of UP Wyoming Division in Cornville & Ride Verde Canyon Railroad (includes Lunch) - Friday (09-18-15)		\$125.00	
Operations Session on UP Wyoming Division in Cornville (includes Lunch) - Saturday (09-19-15)		\$25.00	
Total			

Credit Card Visa M/C Circle Card Type

Card Number: _____ CV# _____ Cash

Issued To: _____ Please Print _____ Check

Expiration: _____ Signature: _____ C/C

Make checks payable to: PSR 2015 Convention Send registration form and payment to:

Debbie Draper, PSR 2015 Registrar, 10837 N. 34th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85028-3310

Registrar's contact information: Email: zdraper@aol.com Phone: 602-953-1681

Convention Hotel: Millennium Resort, 7401 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85253-3548, 1-800-243-1322

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Mail Hook

The "Mail Hook" is the official publication of the San Diego Division, Pacific Southwest Region, National Model Railroad Association (NMRA®), and is published quarterly in San Diego, California. The "Mail Hook" is available to all members of the NMRA® who live in San Diego and Imperial Counties.

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Submissions: Contributions of articles 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 diskette, 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 for publication: January 2, April 1, July 1, and October 1.
4. If you wish submission materials returned (i.e., photos), please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your submission.

From the Editor...

"The hurrieder I go, the behinder I get." I'm sure many of you have heard this, and just as many have experienced it. Well, it struck me, AGAIN, while preparing this issue. Just as I was nearing completion, my computer went down. Apparently, I had installed a new piece of software it didn't like.

There are some interesting things for you in this issue, though. Dan Conway has written another of his great tourist railroad visitation articles, along with some good pictures. Dan's travels benefit us all, by his sharing of his experiences. Thanks, Dan.

We've got the Christmas party and Ugly Sweater contest coming up, that should be fun! We'll start with a layout tour at Don and Kim Fowler's home, then move the food to a restaurant in Santee, as we've outgrown the Fowlers' capacity. See the flyer in this issue for more info.

You'll also find a registration form for the 2015 PSR convention. I know it's early, but some of the Extra Fare items are sure to fill up, and you don't want to miss out.

The NMRA National Convention and Train Show are in Portland this year. It's closer than it's been, or will be, for several years. Plus, you can get there by train (the Coast Starlight)! I'm already signed up, are you?

Finally, I'm always looking for interesting articles. Something you've done, a trip you've taken, or something you're building on your layout. I can help you with the editing if you write something up.

Whatever you do over the holidays, I hope you have a great time, and I hope trains are involved.

Gary

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: (858) 538-0930

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)

*If you would like your club listed, contact
the Club Liason, San Diego Division*

Oceanside. Info: (760) 722-7366 www.ncmrs.org

Poway Station All Scale Modular Club

Info: www.powystation.org

San Diego Free-Mo (HO)

<http://sdfreemo.org/>

San Diego Garden Railway Society

Info: www.sdgrs.com

San Diego S-Gaugers

Info: <http://sites.google.com/site/sdsgaugers/Home>

Short Track Railroad Club (N)

Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, Vista

Info: www.shorttrackrr.org

ZoCal Group (Z)

Info: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ZoCal>

Online - Web Sites of Interest

NMRA: www.nmra.org

PSR: www.psrnmra.org

NMRA National Convention <http://www.nmra2015portland.org/>

San Diego Division: <http://www.sandiegodivision.org/>

Arizona Division: www.azdiv-nmra.org

Cajon Division: www.cajondiv.org

Los Angeles Division: www.ladiv-nmra.org/

San Diego Model Railroad Museum: www.sdmodelrailroadm.com

San Diego Rail: www.sandiegorail.com



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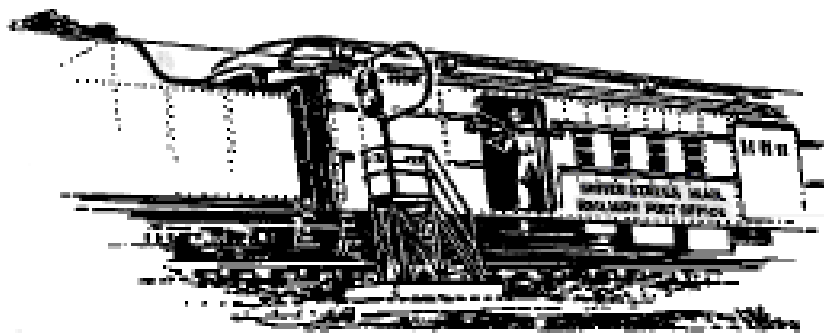
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Saturday - Sunday 11:00 - 5:00

Admission: Adults \$8, Students \$3, Seniors \$6

Military \$4, under 15 free; first Tuesdays free to all



MAIL HOOK

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 - Upcoming Layout Tours!
 - NMRA Election News
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