



MAIL HOOK

SAN DIEGO DIVISION, PSR-NMRA

JULY 2002

Convention Time!

Well, we're down to less than 45 days and counting. The convention committee has been working hard to bring you one of the best conventions you've ever been to, and it's time to see for yourself what we've done!

To date we have over 120 confirmed registrants, and I keep looking in the mail every day for more – what's keeping you from sending yours in?? The registration form, along with the "extra fare" sign up forms, is on the web at www.trainnet.org, and inside this issue of the "Mail Hook". Sign up today!!

Highlights:

Our keynote speaker will be Mr. Hal Carstens, publisher of "Railroad Model Craftsman" and head of Carstens Publishing. He will speak on "The Future of Model Railroading" at the Saturday night Awards Banquet.

As of last count, we have 33 clinics, on everything from prototype practices to building a layout. These are guaranteed to teach you something new about your hobby, so register now so you don't miss out.



September 12 - 14, 2002
Mission San Luis Rey
Oceanside, California

Layout Tours - these will be self-guided tours of over 30 layouts of all types, all scales, indoor and outdoor. Some have been featured in articles in the magazines, and all are worth seeing.

Prototype Tours - sign up now for tours of the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, the Santa Fe Depot, the "Red Line" trolley facilities and BNSF yard, Bell Gardens (take a ride on the large scale train), and the Orange Empire Rail Road Museum.

The Railettes have a number of events planned for your non-rail family member, including tours, classes and a party. More

information inside this issue.

For the "Hobo's", a breakfast is planned at a local restaurant, so don't forget to see if you can find your "mark" on the place mats....

For those who enjoy getting real bargains, both silent and regular (non-silent) auctions will be run – all we need is for people (you!) to bring those items you have been storing to "take to a swap meet sometime", along with funds to pick up those things you just can't live without. Minimum lot bid will be \$25.00.

As always, and a very important part of the convention, there will be a contest room with NMRA judging for models and photo's.

And, last but not least, the "Train Show", which is open to the public, promises to be a lot of fun. There will be various operating layouts (7 at last count, in all scales), vendor tables (bring money), live steam and large scale operations outside, and door prizes.

See you there!

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Railroading Merit Badge

by Rodger Gredvig, MMR

For three Sunday afternoons during the month of June, a group of Boy Scouts, representing three Troops (4, 685, and 278), worked at completing their Railroading Merit Badge by building an Ntrak module. This year the scouts made an end loop for the Mountain Division and blue branch line. This will provide continuous running capabilities for a stand alone display.

By designing a simple structure from Atlas bridge extensions the scouts built a headframe with an operating mine skip. It was just a matter of a few cuts and assembling it just like a kit. They also tried their hand at a simulating a waterfall using cereal box wax paper as a translucent sheet covered with clear silicone chaulking cascading on to "wet" rocks (glossy finger nail polish) culminating in a cloud of foaming spray (aquarium filter floss). They cast their own retaining walls and rock out outcroppings, as well as cutting strata in wet plaster the old fashioned way. Looks of wonder and satisfaction appeared when they took brush and spray water bottle in hand and began a free for all, dashing and slopping latex earth colors over their creation. Each scout got to experience laying track and soldering connections. Then they finished it off by making their own ground cover (dying sifted sawdust with boot polish and rubbing alcohol), laying ballast, and applying decals to bridges with their Troop number, in essence signing their work. You can see photos of the finished module on-line at:

<http://geocities.com/patsyluecht/Rodger>.

There is much more to the badge: developing timetables, identifying signals, listing RR jobs, explaining safety protocols, and appreciating the history of railroading in America.



**Best Western
Marty's Valley Inn**
3240 Mission Avenue
Oceanside, California 92054
1-800-747-3529

Convention Hotel

Builders of the Ntrak module and recipients of this year's Railroading Merit Badge are Alex Frakes, P.J. Yurczyk, and Derek Adour from Troop 685, Michael Olson and Ken DeLaBarre of 278, and Paul Bush of Troop 4. Congratulations!

During the PSR Convention in September we will have a separate BSA display with two 4-foot modules sandwiched between two new end loops for continuous running. We plan to have scouts operate this display and hand out literature for both general model railroading and the RR Merit Badge in particular. There is a need for interested scouts and adult supervisors to man shifts during the 3 day Convention. Contact RR MB Counselor, Rodger Gredvig if you can participate. E-mail: pgredvig@nethere.net or (858) 571-7118.



In the News!

Division member Bob Moore has had a third article accepted for publication by the North Alabama Railway Historical Society (NARM). It concerns the Middle Tennessee and Alabama Railroad, a now defunct line located per its name. His parents were raised in this area and one relative rode it back and forth to school daily.



NOTICE



The Pacific Southwest Region Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, at 1:00 pm. The location will be the Mission San Luis Rey conference center in Oceanside, California

The Mission San Luis Rey is located between Interstate 5 and Interstate 15 on Highway 76 in North San Diego County.

Directions:

From Interstate 5:

Exit Highway 76 - Head East approximately 4 miles to Rancho del Oro exit - Mission will be on your left.

From Interstate 15:

Exit Highway 76 - Head West approximately 15 miles to Rancho del Oro exit - Mission will be on your right.

All PSR members are eligible and urged to attend the meeting of **their** board.

RAILETTES

**A PERSONAL INVITATION!
PLEASE JOIN US FOR FUN, LAUGHTER
AND ADVENTURE AT THIS YEAR'S
"MISSION POSSIBLE 2002"
PSR CONVENTION**

WE'LL BEGIN ON THURSDAY MORNING BY ISSUING YOU A WARM WELCOME AT OUR RAILETTE BREAKFAST. RENEW OLD FRIENDSHIPS, MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND RECEIVE DETAILS OF ALL THE GREAT EVENTS WE HAVE PLANNED FOR YOU!

THE REST OF THE WEEK WILL INCLUDE :
TOURS: MISSION SAN LUIS REY, THE SITE OF THIS YEAR'S CONVENTION; BERNARDO WINERY, SHOPS AND GARDENS WHERE WE'LL BE HAVING OUR RAILETTE LUNCHEON; CARLSBAD VILLAGE, INCLUDING ANTIQUE SHOPS & BOUTIQUES, SIDEWALK CAFES AND SCENIC BEACHES. WHEN WE'RE NOT TOURING WE'LL BE CRAFTING BEAUTIFUL MOSAIC VOTIVES, DECORATIVE PLATES, GARDEN SHED COASTERS AND SEVERAL STAMPING PROJECTS.
WIN A DOOR PRIZE OR TWO AT OUR "BUNCO PARTY".

SO, PLEASE COME AND JOIN THE FUN!



Online - Web Sites of Interest

Train Net: www.trainnet.org

NMRA: www.nmra.org

PSR: www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/psr/psr.html

Mission Possible 2002 Convention: www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/psr/2002conv.html

San Diego Division: www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/sdiego/sdiego.html



NOTICE



The Pacific Southwest Region General Membership meeting will be held on Sunday, September 15, at 9:00 am. The location will be at Marty's Valley Inn at 3240 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, California 92054

Marty's Valley Inn is located between Interstate 5 and Interstate 15 on Highway 76 in North San Diego County.

Directions:

From Interstate 5:

Exit Mission Avenue - Head East approximately 1.75 miles to Best Western Marty's Valley Inn on your left.

From Interstate 15:

Exit Highway 76 - Head West approximately 17 miles to Mission Avenue, continue West on Mission - Hotel will be on your right.

All PSR members are urged to attend the meeting of **their** Association

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RAILFAN ROAD TRIP

by Steve Ulmer

During the third week in August the "Grand Canyon" chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society is having their Canyon Rails 2002 convention in Williams, Arizona, just south of the Grand Canyon South Rim. As one of their "extra fares", a convention train headed with the Santa Fe Northern 4-8-4 steam locomotive #3751 will run from Los Angeles to Williams and return to LA after their week long convention. Having organized other road trips in the past, I was approached again by friends about putting together an overnighiter to chase (observe) and shoot (photo) this historic locomotive as it makes its way through Los Angeles, over the Cajon Summit, and on through the Mojave Desert.

Here is the general plan, with some details yet to be fine-tuned. You and your friends are welcome to join in. I've already put a credit card hold on a couple of 15 passenger vans and several rooms at the Ramada Inn in Laughlin, Nevada.

Santa Fe Northern 4-8-4 steam locomotive #3751 will run...

We will meet in Oceanside for breakfast at 6am, departing about 7am for the LA Union Pacific Terminal. The "3751" is expected to depart at 10am headed out Metrolink's San Gabriel Subdivision to San Bernardino. This is a train-chasing trip, not a

train-riding trip. No photo stops or runarounds are planned for the riders of the train because it will be on the main line. In the van, we will be in the best position to watch and take photos.

The "3751" is scheduled to arrive Needles, California late afternoon. The convention train patrons and our tour group will lodge for the night in Laughlin, Nevada. The accommodations that await us at the Ramada Inn all have two queen beds. The hotel has a turn of the century railroad theme and on my last visit, had a nice model railroad gift shop. The following morning, the "3751" will depart for the convention in Arizona, and we will spend the day railfanning back to San Diego.

I have billed out the 15-passenger vans based on 10 riders so we won't be packed in too tight for our two-day summer excursion through the desert. They were a little pricey due to the mileage charge and a best guess factor for fuel was


included. The [low] cost of the Monday night rooms brings the price back down.

Want to go? \$80 per person covers one of 10 seats on the van and one of two beds in the hotel and a lot of train fun for two days. You only need money for food and incidentals. Be advised, this is a MONDAY/TUESDAY outing. We should be back late on Tuesday August the 20th.

If you like trains, you're invited. Bring a friend, or come meet some new folks. I'll reserve a space for you based on the date/time I receive your money (first come - first serve). You may contact me, Steve Ulmer, regarding a reservation anytime prior to 4pm on Friday August 16th. At that time I will make final arrangements for the van and hotel rentals.

I may be reached at (858) 279 5545, or email: sulmer@cts.com, or mail to 10522 El Comal Drive, San Diego, CA 92124. This will be fun.





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"Mission Possible 2002"

September 12, 13, 14, 2002

Presented by the San Diego Division
Pacific Southwest Region
National Model Railroad Association

At the Mission San Luis Rey
Oceanside, California

Convention Registration Form

(Please Print)

Date: ____/____/2002

Name(s): _____

Phone: () _____

Address: _____

NMRA #: _____ PSR#: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Primary Scale: _____

Please indicate how you want each First and Last Name to appear on your name badges: _____

Registration Fares

Adult Rail No. _____ @ \$54.95 _____

Youth 15-20 No. _____ @ \$19.95 _____

(Children 14 and under FREE)

Single Day (which? Thurs. Fri. Sat.) No. _____ @ \$29.95 _____

Adult Non-Rail Program No. _____ @ \$24.95 _____

Total Registration Fares \$ _____

Make checks payable to... "Mission Possible 2002" ... and send along with this form to:

Ben Sevier, Registrar
12793 War Horse Street
San Diego, CA 92129

Phone: (858) 538-9863
email: bwsevier@sbcglobal.net

Cancellation Policy: Full refund, minus \$5.00 fee, when requested by August 13th, and confirmed in writing (email accepted).

**Our convention accommodation of choice is the
Best Western - Marty's Vallen Inn, 3240 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, CA
For Reservations call 1-800-747-3529**



Mission Possible 2002

Registration Information

Please enter the requested information in the form. If previously registered, the ID number is on your receipt envelope, in the upper right hand corner. If this is a new registration, leave the ID blank. If more than 1 person registered from your household, each registrant should fill in a separate form.

Name:	Registration ID:	(if you have it)	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:

Please circle the appropriate answer

I will have an item for the live auction: Y N
 I will have an item for the silent auction: Y N
 I will be entering a model or photo for judging: Y N

Order and Event Sign-up Form

In the spaces below, enter the number of people attending an event or number of items ordered in the Qty column. In the blank rows, enter the Event Name and Code from the schedule of events, the number of people attending, and the cost. Multiply the Qty column times the Cost column in each row, placing the result in the Total column. Add them all up, enter the total in the "Total Due" box, and send your payment in check or money order (no cash) to: Ben Sevier, Registrar, Mission Possible 2002, 12793 War Horse Street, San Diego, CA 92129.

Event or Item	Code	Qty	Cost	Total	Special Instructions
<i>Example Event</i>	<i>EX</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>15.00</i>	<i>15.00</i>	<i>(this is an example entry)</i>
Banquet	BQ		\$25.00		Entree: Beef () Chicken ()
Car	CAR		\$11.00		O () S () HO () N ()
Patch	PTH		\$ 4.50		
Pin	PIN		\$ 4.50		

Total Due:

Mail to: Ben Sevier, Registrar, Mission Possible 2002, 12793 War Horse Street, San Diego, CA 92129



Mission Possible 2002

2002 Annual NMRA-PSR Regional Convention

Presented by the San Diego Division
Pacific Southwest Region
National Model Railroad Association

Oceanside, California
September 11th - 15th, 2002



Dear Division Member,

Believe it or not, the Mission Possible 2002 convention is just over a month away! As promised, here is the additional information about the convention, events, and the area surrounding the convention site.

Attached with this letter is information on the convention schedule, tours and events planned, and a sign-up form for the banquet, tours, events and items from the Country Store. Please be sure to fill in all the requested information, along with some questions to help us plan some of the activities. Look them over, fill them in, and mail back to me with your payment (check or money-order please - no cash).

I am looking forward to seeing you in September.

Ben Sevier
Registrar

Schedule of Events

Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

Event Code	Event Description	Cost	September 11			September 12			September 13			September 14			September 15			✓
			AM	PM	EV	AM	PM	EV	AM	PM	EV	AM	PM	EV	AM	PM	EV	
REG	Registration																	
TD	Tour Desk																	
CS	Store / Silent Auction																	
CR	Contest Room																	
CLI	Rail Clinics																	
TA	Train Show					Setup Only	Reg Only											
LA	Live Auction																	
NR	Non-Rail Activities					Non-Rail Lounge Open												
NB	Welcome Breakfast																	
NP	Bunco Party	\$5.00																
NMT	Mission San Luis Rey Tour	\$4.00																
NWT	Bernardo Winery Tour	\$32.50																
NCT	Old Town Calsbad Tour	\$10.00																
NC1	Class - Decorator Plate	\$5.00																
NC2	Class - Stamping Crafts	\$10.00																
NC3	Class - Mosaic Votives	\$6.00																
NC4	Class-Potting Shed Coasters	\$10.00																
BOD	Region BOD Meeting																	
MBR	General Membership																	
LT	Layout Tours Open																	
BG	Bell Gardens Tour	\$15.00																
AGS	AG&S Museum	\$15.00																
RL	Red Line Trolley/SF Depot	\$15.00																
OEM	Orange Empire RR Museum	\$22.00																
HOB	HOBO Breakfast	No Host																
BQ	Banquet	\$25.00																

DIVISION SUMMMER MEET & FAMILY PICNIC

Saturday, August 10th

11am to 4pm

at ROHR PARK in Chula Vista

Take 805 to Sweetwater Road East (in the National City area)

Take Sweetwater Road (watch for the jog at Willow) to Rohr Park Gate "B"

Park in the parking lot and look for Pavilion 12

- it's near the Chula Vista Live Steamers roundtable, but inside the tracks!



**BBQ grills available: charcoal, chips and sodas provided by the SD Division
(also paper plates, plastic utensils and napkins)**

COME ONE, COME ALL TO THE **Fifth Annual BOCCE-BALL TOURNAMENT**

Teams of Two---Trophies to the winners

Starts at 1:00 **Anyone can play!**

REAL STEAM TRAIN RIDES

(for kids of all ages)

lawn games for all - playground for the kiddies - shade in the pavilion

SCHEDULE OF PSR-NMRA EVENTS

August 2002

Aug 6 - Tue 7:00 pm - **Mission Possible 2002 Committee meeting** - Escondido

Aug 10 - Sat 11:00 am - **S.D. Division Annual Picnic** - Rohr Park, Chula Vista

September 2002

Sept 11 - Wed 1:00 pm - **PSR Board of Directors meeting**, San Luis Rey Mission, Oceanside, CA

Sept 12-14 **Mission Possible 2002 PSR Convention** - San Luis Rey Mission, Oceanside, CA

Sept 15 - Sun 9:00 am - **PSR Annual Membership Meeting** - Marty's Valley Inn, 3240 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, CA

October 2002

Oct 7 - Mon 7:00 pm - **S.D. Division Business Meeting** - SDMRRM

Oct 19 - Sat 8:00am - **SD Model Railroad Museum Fall Swap Meet** - SDMRRM.
Contact: Pete Munoz - 619-293-0162

November 2002

Nov 9 - Sat 5:00 pm - **S.D. Division Fall Meet** - San Diego Model Railroad Museum

January 2003

Jan 6 - Mon 7:00 pm - **S.D. Division Business Meeting** - SDMRRM

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

November 2002

Nov 9, 10, 11 - 7:30 am to 5:00 pm - **A Day With Thomas** - Orange Empire Railroad Museum, Perris, CA

Nov 16, 17 - 7:30 am to 5:00 pm - **A Day With Thomas** - Orange Empire Railroad Museum, Perris, CA

Submissions

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 for 2002/2003: October 19, 2002; January 18, 2003; April 19, 2003; July 19, 2003; October 18, 2003.



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MAIL HOOK

LOOK INSIDE FOR THE LATEST NEWS!

- Convention Time! Enrollment Forms!
- Convention News and Events!
 - Where's the Summer Picnic?
 - What else is happening?

Details in this issue!



MAIL HOOK

c/o Ben Sevier, Editor
12793 War Horse Street
San Diego, CA 92129

A quarterly publication of the **San Diego Division**
of the **Pacific Southwest Region**
of the **National Model Railroad Association**

