



Volume 38, Number 1

Temecula March 2010

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TIME TABLE

PSR Events

Jim Simmons Las Vegas Mini Meet April 10, 2010

Cajon Division BBQ Live Steamers Park Riverside Date: TBD

NMRA Photro Contest April 20, 2010

Cajon Division

Presents

TEMECULA 2010

Always a Spectacular Event And this year is no Exception!



March 19th, 20th, and 21st

This is the Third Annual Cajon Division Temecula Meet and Pacific Southwest Region Mid-Year Board Meeting.

The 3rd annual Temecula meet is on for March 19, 20 & 21 at the Mary Phillips Senior Center, 41845 Sixth Street, Old Town Temecula.

CAJON DIVISION DIRECTORY

Division Director Bob Mitchell 21460 Walnut Street Wildomar, CA 92595 951-440-9729 cajondivsion@coastinet.com.

Division Superintendent

Carl Heimberger 714-776-6394 cjheimberger@gmail.com

> Paymaster Charlie Abbott 8224 Impatients Ave Las Vegas, NV 89131 702 658-9506 crabbott1@aol.com

> > Chief Clerk Vacant

Order Board Editor Gary Covington III 1714 Larkspur Dr. Placentia, CA 92870 714-961-8373 garyiii@hotmail.com

Webmaster Dale Tripp dat7719@daletripp.com 702-897-7009

Contest & Achievement Program Chair Bill Jacobs

702-456-4476 billj455@yahoo.com

Membership Chair Larry Dewsnup 702-431-1116 Dewsnup@cox.net **Caion Historian** Kurt Meisel 702-270-6338 trains4@cox.net Member Aid Chair Lynn Austin 702-451-9761 lau86578@aol.com **High Desert Foreman** John King 760-367-9633 tanking@juno.com **Education Chair** Vacant

"City of Las Vegas 2009" Recap

By Darrel Lansing

The **Texas Station Hotel & Casino** in North Las Vegas is one of those nice "off the strip" spots that the locals like to go to. It featured not only the convention center, but a multiplex theater and a bowling alley. (All in one building so one doesn't need to leave the casino for very long.)

When we arrived at the registration desk, it was quick and easy to check in. Then we got our pile of convention goodies. We decided to attend the "**Bowling for Trains**" event later that night. , but first I talked Kevin into a quick side-trip to visit **Lynn Austin's** home and layouts. Lynn is a gracious host and very



skilled modeler. He has opened up his home for regional meetings before. This time, besides his own Sedona & Pacific On30 layout, there were also several HO scale layouts, an informal modular group and one in a spare bedroom. There was also an outdoor On3 layout attached to the property line. Lynn even had to plow snow off the outside line during a freak Vegas snow storm last winter.

The bowling turned out to be a great way to meet other PSR members and have fun at the same time. And of course, we don't need to discuss my scores.

The clinics are always one of the highlights of a convention to me. It's a chance for model railroaders to share knowledge they have and for others to learn new ways to do things they might not have thought of.

Kevin and I started off the day with the clinic "Tips to building better models" by **Don Stewart**. It featured information that a beginner could use, as well as tips for seasoned modelers looking to improve their work.

I've always been impressed with how creative we model railroaders can be. We can take some household "do-hickey" or "What's it and make it work for us. Case in point... I never thought that after my Xacto blades went dull, instead of throwing them out, I could use them for scribing and scrapping styrene. Now I know. (And knowing is half the battle!).

Lansing-Cont on pg 4

DOWN THE LINE

By Bob Mitchell

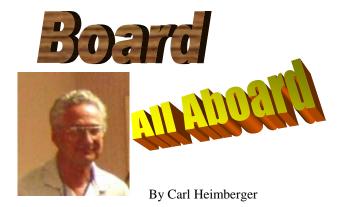


Our Temecula 2010 event (March 19th-21st) will be my first experience as your new Director and I am looking forward to working with **Ben Sevier** and the newly elected Division Directors. It is an opportunity to share some of the changes our Division has implemented over the last four years during my reign as Superintendent. During those four years **Carl Heimberger**, our past Director, and I have enjoyed being team members and working with all of our volunteers to expand the Division's event calendar. But first I would like to recap some of the events that have made the Cajon Division what it is today.

An email I received from **Bob DeMoss**, LA Division, about sums it up;

"Congratulations on putting on a "Fantastic" convention...Convention equal to NMRA Nationals. Clinics were First Rate...Some months ago, understood that you were having a hard time finding layouts... you outdid yourself, some very unusual layouts."

Eight years ago **Jan Wescott** stepped forward as the Division's Director and brought the Nevada and California members closer together with the planning of an event in Barstow-a sure stroke of genius. She also gave us the Chinese Auction that the Cajon Division is now famous for.



Now that we all have had some time to recover from the Las Vegas 2009 PSR convention and Barstow 2009 it is time to get back to the business of providing the membership with quality local meets.

Rick Fulkerson and his team are doing an outstanding job with monthly operating sessions in Las Vegas, and a variety of meets planned for the next several months. We do however need several members to step up and do some meets for the **Orange/Riverside** area this next year. If you can spare just a few hours of your time we can use the help, what we need is a host and place, the division will arrange for the clinics if you do not have one, and do the promotion. So please consider lending a hand and giving something back to the division who has over the years provided you with quality events.

Back to the 2009 Convention, both **Bob Mitchell** and I would like to thank all of you who stepped up to the plate and helped in the planning and running of the City of Las Vegas Convention. It was a blast putting it on and through a good team effort we came within just a few attendees of setting a convention record. That is amazing considering the country was and still is in the middle a recession. I do hope all who attended enjoyed the experience and if there is anything that you think we could have done better please drop me a line, not to complain but to

Mitchell Cont on Page 6

Heimberger Cont on Page 6

Lansing-Cont from pg 2

After a break for a quick bite it was onto the DecoderPro Clinic with **Ben Sevier**. I first discovered this useful freeware program by the JMRI Project (http://jmri.sourceforge.net/) at the 2008 National Convention in Anaheim Ca. I've been programming my decoders with it ever since. Dealing with CV's, and changing sound settings and other things when programming DCC decoders can be nerve racking.

DecoderPro make it simple and painless with an easy to use interface that lets your computer *talk* to your decoders on the program track. By using a LocoBuffer USB interface (available online or at some hobby stores) it's easy to change and customize your DCC settings. The clinic walked you through the basics of using DecoderPro. Then Ben went on to show off some of the "bells and whistles" of the program itself. One note... I learned it's important to have the *latest* version of DecoderPro. With more and more DCC Decoders hitting the market, each upgrade of the program usually has the latest Decoder data updated.

The next day, Friday we were back early at the Texas Station for the departure of the layout tour to Pahrump Nevada. The town of Pahrump is located in a valley on the other side of the famous Red Rock natural preserve west of Vegas. It's rapidly becoming a retirement Mecca and also a suburb of the fast growing city of Las Vegas.

Once we reached the town, this tour started with at stop at a local community center to view the 14 x 24 HO scale layout of the **Pahrump Valley Modular Railroad Club**. I had never heard of this club before this tour. I, along with members of my own Modular club from Southern California that were on the tour where very impressed with the layout. There where many well done buildings and good creative ideas. One of the things we really liked were that on several modules where small signs that told details about different mini-scenes or buildings. It was a great way to get the viewer interested in the detail of the d i f f e r e n t

Lansing-Cont on pg 12

TEMECULA 2010 LAYOUT TOURS

Exciting and Informative Layout Tours

There are at least three excellent layouts lined up for your enjoyment. Possibly more by Meet Day.

Temecula Riding Layout

The first is in Temecula and is an outdoor layout that you can ride. It is about 15 minutes away.

Fallbrook Historic Model

The second layout is HO Gauge and is located in Fallbrook. The layout is modeled after the SP branch called the Friant Dam branch. When the real line was completed the line went away. Jay has modeled the line using prototype steam power. The layout is in a seperate room with a meeting area.

North County RR Club Layout

The third layout is the **North County RR Club** in Oceanside.

This club was featured in the Scale Rails sometime back. It is above Boneys market in Oceanside on Oceanside Blvd.

The scenery is beautiful and they use Digitrax DCC.



The Third Annual Cajon Division Temecula Meet March 19, 20, & 21, 2010

It is that time again. The 3rd annual Temecula meet is on for March 19, 20 & 21, at the Mary Phillips Senior Center, 41845 Sixth Street, Old Town Temecula.

Event Schedule:

<u>Event Schedule:</u>								
Friday, March 19 th ,	at Mary Phillips Center							
6:00 pm	Per-registration and Social.							
7:00 pm	Bingo for trains.							
Saturday, March 20 th , Mary Phillips Center								
7:30 am	Registration (Pre-Register and save time)							
8:00 am	Clinics							
9:30 am	Clinics							
11:00 am	Clinics							
8:00 am	Model contest entries,							
Judging at 10:00 am,								
	Model Pick up by 4:00 pm							
1:00 pm	PSR Mid-Year Board Meeting							
Saturday, March 20 th , Orange Emperor Railroad Museum, Layout Tours.								
1:00 pm	Hot Dog lunch at the Museum (only for full package registrants)							
1:00 pm	Self guided layout tours, pick up maps at registration							
Saturday, March 20th, Silent Auction, Dinner and Chinese Auction at								
<u>"Pat & Oscar's Restaurant"</u>								
5:00 pm	Silent Auction starts (Sellers, please come early to fill out							
	seller's bid cards)							
6:30 pm	Dinner and Awards Ceremony							
0.00								
8:00 pm	Chinese Auction							
8:00 pm 9:00 pm	Chinese Auction Settlement for Silent Auction.							
9:00 pm								
9:00 pm	Settlement for Silent Auction. ^t , Orange Empire Railway Museum Shop Tours and Photo-ops, Steam Locomotive Cab Rides							
9:00 pm <u>Sunday, March 21</u> ^s	Settlement for Silent Auction. ^t , Orange Empire Railway Museum							
9:00 pm <u>Sunday, March 21^s</u> 8:00am	Settlement for Silent Auction. ^t , Orange Empire Railway Museum Shop Tours and Photo-ops, Steam Locomotive Cab Rides							
9:00 pm Sunday, March 21 ^s 8:00am	Settlement for Silent Auction. ^t , Orange Empire Railway Museum Shop Tours and Photo-ops, Steam Locomotive Cab Rides (the Cab rides are only \$20 payable at the museum)							
9:00 pm <u>Sunday, March 21^s</u> 8:00am <u>Event Fare</u> Full Package: clinic	Settlement for Silent Auction. ^t . Orange Empire Railway Museum Shop Tours and Photo-ops, Steam Locomotive Cab Rides (the Cab rides are only \$20 payable at the museum) cs, hotdog lunch, layout tour, dinner and auctions							
9:00 pm <u>Sunday, March 21^s</u> 8:00am <u>Event Fare</u> Full Package: clinic Full Registration	Settlement for Silent Auction. ^t . Orange Empire Railway Museum Shop Tours and Photo-ops, Steam Locomotive Cab Rides (the Cab rides are only \$20 payable at the museum) cs, hotdog lunch, layout tour, dinner and auctions n\$30.00							
9:00 pm <u>Sunday, March 21^s</u> 8:00am <u>Event Fare</u> Full Package: clinic Full Registration Clinics, layout to	Settlement for Silent Auction. ^t . Orange Empire Railway Museum Shop Tours and Photo-ops, Steam Locomotive Cab Rides (the Cab rides are only \$20 payable at the museum) cs, hotdog lunch, layout tour, dinner and auctions n\$30.00 our (No lunch)\$10.00							
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9:00 pm <u>Sunday, March 21^s</u> 8:00am <u>Event Fare</u> Full Package: clinic Full Registration Clinics, layout to Dinner and auc For pre-registration conta	Settlement for Silent Auction. ^t . Orange Empire Railway Museum Shop Tours and Photo-ops, Steam Locomotive Cab Rides (the Cab rides are only \$20 payable at the museum) cs, hotdog lunch, layout tour, dinner and auctions n\$30.00 our (No lunch)\$10.00							

Mitchell-Cont from pg 3

Jan's was a tough act to follow and seemed it could not be improved upon. However, since then we have met the challenge and now have an expanded meet in Temecula, California during March, which has also been the site of the PSR mid-year board meeting for three years running. Our attendance reached 196 about 40 more than Carl and I were actually expecting and only a few short of a Regional attendance record.

Both of these events have brought forth some wonderful volunteers whose efforts made the PSR Regional Convention in Las Vegas a surprising and overwhelming success. I especially want to thank Charlie Abbott, our Treasurer, and his staff. Also, I want to thank **Dave Pantoja** who helped me with the clinics, all the clinicians and those who volunteered their layouts for tour and everyone else who had a helping hand with this convention. Great job one and all.

So what lies ahead? Already I have appointed **Rick Fulkerson** of Las Vegas as Assistant Superintendent. And we now have layout tours and op-sessions in Las Vegas on a regular basis. Carl and I are planning on a free BBQ in Riverside at the Live Steamers Park in early summer this year with a follow up free BBQ in Las Vegas sometime in December as a way of saying thanks to all of our members. This would give us four major events spaced about 3 months apart.

Event registration has been up since we starting taking Credit Cards and we are now in a position to purchase items for redistribution through our auctions from estate sales .

Mitchell-Cont on pg 14

Heimberger-Cont from pg 3

tell me how to do it better, I do not claim to have all the answers.

And do not forget we get to do this all over again in $3 - \frac{1}{2}$ years, but in the mean time please support **San Diego**, **Arizona**, and **Los Angeles** with their upcoming conventions.

Equipment Donations

I would also like to give a big Thank You to **Jeff Sicklesteel** who donated around \$2,000 worth of N scale trains and cars to the Division. Some of this items will be in the silent and /Chinese Auction at Temecula. So all you N Scale members be sure and check them out, this is new cars and engines still in the original boxes. Again "THANK YOU" Jeff.

Transferring Your Collection

Finally, like me a lot of us are getting older and over the years we have amassed some fairly large collections of train stuff. And in some cases our kids or wife have no idea what to do with all this junk once we go to the big train ride in "Heaven".

Here is a thought if you want your collection to go to people who do appreciate the hobby, donate the collection to the **Cajon Division** or **your Home Division** to use in auctions or other fund raising events for the division.

This has a threefold benefit.

One: the equipment will be going to people who enjoy the hobby ,

Two: The Cajon Division is a non-profit 501-C corporation and your donation may be tax deductable.

Three: It allows the division to make some extra money for Operating Expenses. This in turn helps keep the cost of future events low and cost effective for the membership. So keep this in mind as an option. -0The Orange Empire Railway Museum in Perris is operating their Steam Locomotive on the 20th and 21st during our Temecula event.

We will be raffling off a Steam Experience Saturday Night.

You need not be present to win...Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be purchased prior to and during the event.

(Actual Steam Experience will be for a future date and does not coincide with this event)



Here is the description from the Museum Web-Site http://www.oerm.org/pages/calendar.html#Steam Experience

"The **Steam Experience** is the ultimate day for anyone who has ever wanted to operate a real steam locomotive. Participants arrive at 7:30 am and spend the morning with the crew learning about both the engine and helping get it ready for operation. Then it's off to the Mainline for a full hour behind the throttle! Your Steam Experience will be an unforgettable memory, or it also makes a great gift. Cost is \$499".

Don't miss this Photo-Op on Saturday and Sunday

Also

*Friday Night Mixer and Bingo for Trains

 *Saturday Morning Clinics (9)
 *Saturday Afternoon Layout Tours

 *Saturday Afternoon Hot Dog Feast at the Orange Empire RR Museum (1pm)
 *Saturday Afternoon Silent Auction at Oscars by the Pond Starting at 5pm (An opportunity to sell those items that have been gathering dust at home)
 *Saturday Night Dinner and Chinese Auction

 *Sunday Morning Photo-Op at the Museum

More Information and Registration Form to follow soon Bob Mitchell at 951-440-9729 or cajondivision@coastinet.com

Temecula 2010 has Many Clinics Available to Pique the Intellect

Temecula 2010 Clinics

Jim Fuhrman's - "Surprise" Clinic

Jim has promised that this will be an engaging discussion of a model railroading topic. Given that he has done an eclectic collection of clinics at past division and region events, consisting of Santa Fe's Fabulous F Unit, The Decoder Doctor, Toys to Treasures, his Five-wire System for Improving Diesel Locomotive Operations, and some others, we can only guess at the topic for this Temecula 2010 meet. Full details will be revealed when you arrive at registration.

Joe Villaryo – Decaling

If you missed this clinic at Barstow this past year it is worth attending in Temecula. Joe explains how he makes his own decals, how to prep the surface to be decaled, and how to apply the decal. This is a live demonstration that covers all the steps for producing professional looking decaled cars and locomotives.

Todd Scott – How to Ballast Track

Todd's clinic will demonstrate how to successfully ballast your track. He will show you how to prep the road bed, discuss how to weather the rail, apply the ballast without spending days at it, and how to fix the ballast so it will stay put.

Rick Fulkerson – How to cast realistic looking rock

Rick will demonstrate the method of casting plaster rock from rubber molds. He will show how to prepare the molds, mix the plaster, pour the plaster into the molds, remove the finished casting and place it on the layout.

Bob Mitchell – How to build coved backdrops

Bob will lead you through the steps on how to blend son-a-tube into the corners of you back drop to eliminate those square corners. As always you will find Bob's clinic entertaining and come away with a simple solution to build backdrops.

Temecula 2010 Advanced Clinics Contain Valuable Information

Temecula 2010 Clinics (cont)

Jimmy Simmons – Introduction to Weathering Powders

This clinic will Introduction you to Weathering Powders - Simple Ways to Add Realism to Your Models Plus -How to Create Realistic Metal Effects, Galvanized Metal & Rust Techniques. The clinic will introduce you to weathering powders from the different commercial brands available, the different tools used, wet/dry applications, and clean-up. By using simple techniques see how the use of powders can add texture and realism to your models. Powders can be used alone or in combination with other mediums such as paint, stencil magic, dull-coat and alcohol.

> - Learn how powders can make anything look like real metal from old steel to galvanized effects.

- Use powders to create realistic rust in minutes.

Brian Block – Building a bottle house

Brian is in the process of developing a kit for his award winning "Bottle House Model". He will show you how he cut the acrylic rods that formed the bottles and how the walls are built up bottle by bottle. Brian is a Master Modeler and his clinics are always entertaining and informative, a must attend clinic.

Justin Rasas – Train Control: Where is it and where is it going?

Track a little dirty? Tired of those annoying skips in power and sound? Then you will not want to miss this clinic. Justin discusses DC, DCC, RC (Remote Control), and what lies ahead in the future. Clinic covers Decoder installation, on board batteries for RC operations, and the Lenz and QSI super capacitors. Note: these super capacitors are a great solution to dirty track interruptions of power and sound.

Carl Heimberger – Plywood Central to finished landscape in $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.

There really is no mystery to creating believable landscape on your layout and you do not need to spend hours placing each rock, blade of grass or chunk of ballast. Carl will take you through some easy steps that will change that sheet of plywood you call a layout to photo ready layout. Topics covered will include creating simple land form, creating realistic looking dirt because it is dirt, adding vegetation and other landscape and scenic elements.

Scenes From "City of Las Vegas 2009"





Waiting my turn at Bowling for Trains

Highballin' it on Rich Fulkerson's HO Layout

That is Bill Jacobs running the main yard, Gary Wilson running Diablo on the lower deck, Bill Graebel, engineer and Joe Dorner, conductor running one freight, Brian (out of photo to the right) and Dave running the other freight and RL out of sight. Notice the concentration of most of the group.





At the "hands on" Manufactures Clinic by Sidetrack Laser kits, company founder Larry Cantrall would take us step-by-step in starting the assemble of an HO scale laser cut model of the AT&SF station from Colton Ca.

The Depot at Colton Ca. was a joint facility for both the Santa Fe and Union Pacific railroads. Colton is located on the old Los Angeles Division of the AT&SF just south of San Bernardino.

Scenes From "City of Las Vegas 2009"



The Pahrump Valley Modular Railroad Club had a very nice layout on display.



One of the things we really liked at the Pahrump Valley Layout were the small signs that told details about different mini-scenes or buildings

. Sue Jerrems home. Beside a G scale layout that runs along a lake, Sue also has several full-size rail cars in her yard. These include a passenger/chair car that has been made into a library, a Union Pacific Caboose, a small 0-4-0 engine and a box car



Lansing-Cont from pg 4

The **Pahrump Valley Modular Railroad Club** may be fairly new, but they put on a great display for the tour. We got an extra treat when one of the club members invited the tour group to view his home layout. It took up half of his garage, and was on rollers to allow easy access to the backside. His wife, who teaches painting at the senior center, had painted a very large and impressive backdrop for the layout on the wall of the garage. It was quite a sight to see.

From there it was a quick bus trip to the backyard railroads of **Lou Banning**. The



Pahrump Valley & Armargosa is a railroad that Lou has spent 16 years working on. It's a combination of his G scale garden railway (With 1300 feet of track) and his live steam 3300 foot, 1 ¹/₂ foot gauge railroad. The garden railroad winds thru the natural desert plants and over a small pond. It features several operating trains on separate loops of track. Besides touring the G scale layout, we had a chance to ride behind a diesel powered train around the 1 1/2 foot gauge line. It was quit a nice trip. The line travels around the garage/workshop area, past the steam-up pit, and then around Lou's house. It then crosses over itself several times before arriving back at the station. A pleasant shack lunch on the shaded lawn behind the Banning home

finished off the tour before returning to Las Vegas.

That evening ended with the Chinese Auction back at the Texas Station convention center. There were plenty of model railroad items to bid on at the auction. Several well known manufactures, including **Athearn**, **Blair Mill Laser Kits, A-line & Classic Metal Works** among others donated items to the event. Everyone there had a great time. It was a great end to what had been a fun day.

Saturday, the last day of the convention was going to be a busy one. This was to be the day of the clinic I was most looking forward to. At 8am was the "hands on" manufactures clinic by **Sidetrack Laser kits**. Company founder, **Larry Cantrall** would take us stepby-step in starting the assemble of an HO scale laser cut model of the AT&SF station from Colton Ca. The Depot at Colton Ca. was a joint facility for both the Santa Fe and Union Pacific railroads. Colton is located on the old Los Angeles Division of the AT&SF just south of San Bernardino.

The station is a fine example of the mission style Santa Fe favored for its Southwestern depots. Having rail fanned Cajon and the surrounding area many times; I'd seen the station itself quite often.

The building is still standing today along the tracks of the BNSF railway. Its passenger days long gone, it's now part of a tank car and truck loading faculty for the ADM Chemical Company.

When the clinic was done, Kevin and I tried to visit several of the layouts before returning to the hotel for the banquet that night. First stop, **Sue Jerrems** home. Beside a G scale layout that runs along a lake, Sue also has several full-size rail cars in her yard. These include a passenger/chair car that has been made into a library, a Union Pacific Caboose, a small 0-4-0 engine and a box car.

(۲ **NMR** U

Las Vegas Mini-Meet hosted by Jim Simmons *No Charge to Attend*

Saturday, April 10, 2010 Time: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Layout: HO Scale - Boston & Maine Connecticut River Line is a 14'X19' point to point with two levels, two reversing loops and a four turn helix. Some of the areas being prototyped are Bellows Falls VT, Cavendish Cut VT, Springfield MA, White-field Junction NH, Frankenstein Trestle and Crawford Notch. Operation is DCC and cab control with wireless DCC throttles.

BYOT: *Bring Your Own Trains* – Most trains will be able to have a turn around the layout. Check with Jim for the requirements.

Lunch: Backyard Bar-B-Que – Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Beverages, Sides Dishes and Dessert. Donations welcome.

Clinics:

- 1. Introduction to Weathering Powders
 - a. Create realistic galvanized metal effect.
- 2. Dry brushing Techniques
- 3. Others Still Pending

Please contact Jimmy Simmons if you are interested in demonstrating a tip or technique

Show & Tell: Tables will be set up in the backyard for showcasing your work. Bring your best weathered train or model building.

Spouses: Please bring your spouse for coffee and conversation

Address: 3512 Natural View Street Las Vegas, NV 89129 Email:<u>mrboyjrs@gmail.com</u> Phone: 702-449-6900 (see <u>www.cajondiv.org</u> Events page for map link) Lansing-Cont from pg 12

Next up...

Rich Fulkerson and his Rialto Diablo & Arizona HO Scale Layout. I'd met Rich briefly at the Bowling event and this was a chance to see his well done layout. The Rialto Diablo & Arizona is a short line in Arizona. It interchanges with the AT&SF. Rich has taken hand-laying track to a new level with smooth running track work and well done scenery. Rich offered to let us run a train, or be yardmaster but due to time we had to decline his offer.

After resting a bit it was time to head to the banquet. The banquet guest speaker **Charlie Getz.** Charlie is one of the senior-vice presidents of the **NMRA**. He spoke of how the NMRA had just stopped an attempt in the courts to get a fraudulent patent for DCC Decoders revoked. If it had passed that would have taken away sound DCC decoders from manufactures. If this happened, the model railroad industry would have been nearly destroyed. It was a great speech and the capper to an even greater PSR Convention.

A big "thank you" to the likes of **Ben Sevir, Bob Mitchell, Carl Heimberger, Mary Barstow** and **Don Fowler**. As well as all the others who worked so hard to make this "City of Las Vegas-PSR Convention 2009" a great success. -o-

MALFUNCTION JUNCTION HOBBIES

5455 PLAINVIEW AVE. LAS VEGAS, NV 89133

LYNN AUSTIN 702-451-9761

Mitchell-Cont from pg 6

Our plans are to fill all of our Chairman vacancies in the coming months. We especially need a Publicity Chair to get all of our news out to the various publications. I plan to appoint additional co-chairmen so we can better serve both Nevada and California on a more localized basis and as a combined team for the entire Division. I need help setting up a Yahoo Chat Room so our members can contribute and exchange ideas, this will require someone with Chat Room experience. It is also a great way to reach beyond our current membership and advertise our upcoming events.

Already Carl and I are discussing the 2013 PSR Convention which we hope to have in Riverside, California. I would like volunteers to step forward even this early in advance so we can set up email conferences. Remember, the gift of volunteering is rewarded by a lifetime of memories and enjoyment. And it takes so little effort when we do it as a team.

I am also looking for member(s) to volunteer to help the Division work with local Boy Scout Troops and other youth groups. You can expect to see an Ad-Hoc group formed soon to set up programs that would be of interest to youth groups.

Finally, I hope to see all of you in Temecula this March. Please note: the dates had to be changed from an earlier email that went out about 2-3 months ago. It now coincides with the Orange Empire Railway Museum's "Steam Experience" and the opportunity to take a cab ride in a 2-6-2 Prairie Locomotive and even win a chance to the be engineer at the throttle in the future. -o-

The NMRA Photo Contest

Bill Jacobs, AP/Contest Chair

Click the Shutter and Win a Steam Cab Ride!



With the single click of a shutter, you could find yourself riding for a full

day in the cab of an historic mainline steam locomotive operated by the Union Pacific!

It <u>can</u> happen if your photo is the winner of the *National Model Railroad Association's* 75th Anniversary Photo Contest.

Your day-long cab ride will begin in **Cheyenne, WY** in **May, 2010**, behind some mighty big steam power on its first leg of an excursion.

And we'll make sure you're there when the conductor yells "All aboard!" because the winner **will also receive airfare** (up to \$500), two nights in a hotel, plus transportation to and from the excursion.

If you're an NMRA member in good standing, all you have to do is submit a photograph depicting one or more models of **UP equipment** and/or **structures** in a realistic scene.

Your photo will be judged for prototype fidelity of both the modeling and the scene, as well as for photographic art. You can submit color prints, color slides, or digital files on CD.

To be eligible, your photo must be <u>postmarked</u> by April 15, 2010 (or originated in transit by a third party service such as FedEx or UPS), and received no later than **April 20**.

Only one photograph may be submitted per envelope, but there's no limit to the number of photos you can submit.

All photos become the property of the NMRA, which may use the photo in any manner it chooses.

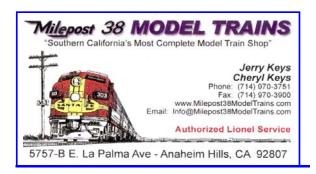
In addition, participants agree to provide the NMRA with the original medium of the photo (negative, transparency, or digital file) if requested.

Send your entries to:

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., 514 Dover Place, St. Louis, MO 63111.

And if you send a print, be sure to protect it from bending!

So get modeling and shooting right away. Because this May you <u>may</u> be behind a few horses in Wyoming!



<u>What's going on at</u> NMRA National!

Gerry Leone, MMR NMRA Communications Director

For this month's edition, I thought I'd include some highlights of **Departmental reports** that will be submitted to the Board of Directors at the BOD meeting in San Diego. Again, all members are welcome to attend. It will be at the Courtyard by Marriott, in San Diego's Old Town.

These items in the 88-page document of Departmental reports caught my eye as being information your members may like to know:

- The <u>complete Milwaukee Con-</u> <u>vention package</u> is available in the February issue of *Scale Rails*, as well as being on the convention's website at <u>www.nmra75.org</u>.
- In 2009, only 5,809 <u>Boy Scout</u> <u>merit badges</u> for Railroading were awarded, out of 1,930,058 total badges. If you're interested in the Scouting Program, please contact National Boy Scout Coordinator J o h n S t e v e n s a t <u>snevets4@bellsouth.net</u>.
- The 157 models displayed at the Hartford convention were the **greatest number of models** in the past 10 years. St. Louis, in 2001, came in second with 114 models.
- The Milwaukee convention will now include a <u>Kit Built classification</u> for the judged modeling contest.
- From May 1 through December 21, the <u>Achievement Program</u> department awarded 87 Golden Spikes, 294 Certificates of Achievement, and 13 MMRs.

- The Kalmbach Memorial Library will soon be publishing a reprint of <u>Nelson C. Brown's</u> <u>"Lumber,"</u> a sister book to the previously published <u>"Logging."</u> That book not only sold out, but is one of the most successful KML book projects to date.
- Dean Freytag's <u>"The History,</u> <u>Making, and Modeling of</u> <u>Steel"</u> is in its second NMRA printing, and the most recent press run of <u>"The Postwar</u> <u>Freight Car Fleet"</u> is close to selling out.
- The Hartford convention officially had <u>1025 attendees</u>. There were <u>253 NMRA memberships</u> sold at the National Train Show to walk-ins.
- In 2009, 153 25-year NMRA membership certificates and <u>136</u> <u>50-year certificates</u> were sent out.
- Large Scale Track and Wheel Standards will be presented for consideration by the Board during the mid-year meeting and are expected to be adopted.
- At the end of 2009, the Milwaukee convention had over <u>500</u> registrations.

If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Board member or Officer. You'll find those addresses at <u>www.nmra.org</u> or in S c a l e R a i l s .

And if you're changing email addresses, please let us know at this e m a i l a d d r e s s : <u>NMRA-infonet@earthlink.net</u> "CITY OF LAS VEGAS CELEBRATION" We extend our thanks and appreciation to the following suppliers and manufacturers for their generous donations and support of **LAS VEGAS 2009**

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