

SPUR LINE

Volume 47 Issue 3

September 2012

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FALL MEET - ARIZONA DIVISION, PSR, NMRA

Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012 - Tucson, Arizona *More info and schedule on page*



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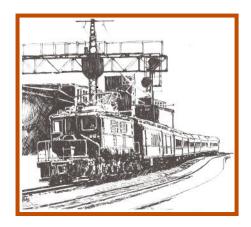








FROM THE EDITOR



The long, hot summer is almost over and it is time for another Spur Line issue packed with lots of photos and interesting articles on recent model railroading events here in Arizona and the PSR Division.

IN THIS ISSUE: For those of you that do not know of Verryl Fosnight or his railroad empire, In this issue you will find a story and photos of his **Union Pacific "Wyoming Division" Model Railroad Club** layout under construction in Cornville. Verryl and his team are constructing an awesome layout. The layout in Cornville is housed in a 4,000 sq. ft. building with an adjacent shop of 1100 sq. ft. The article and photos will amaze you. This is worth a trip now that it is getting cooler!

Another added feature added in this and subsequent issues will be a Buy / Sell / Swap page. Looking for that special something? - send me an email @ SpurLine@AzDiv-nmra.org .of your Buy / Sell / Swap / items and it will be added to the next Spurline. A quick reminder, keep it simple, and concise. Please limit the number of items.

While Flagstaff attendance was not huge, the weather contributed to a great day, especially for those of us traveling up to the high country. The clinics were very interesting and informative. While the contest room was less that full, the models presented were excellent. The day ended with a Golden Spike ceremony and BBQ at John Lovely's. A special thanks to Cynthia Lovely and her friends for the wonderful selection of food.

David Hall has a celebration planned for **National Railroad Month**. Help David by bringing a young friend, son, grandson, or Scout Troop to his open house on December 1st. This is an event not to be missed. Come see David's world of railroads and his numerous layouts on display. Please contact David if you have any questions.

Al Hovey, chairperson for the "Rails along the Rio Grande 2013" in Albuquerque next year sent in this article. This looks to be an action packed event next June 6-9, 2013.

Bob Libbey reports on the "Ventura Flyer" PSR event held in Oxnard, California. Along with his report are Bob's photos of the event, layout tours and a train ride on the Fillmore and Western. Everyone that attended had a busy and wonderful time. Enjoy the photos of the events and contest room. Michael Gross was the keynote speaker and train enthusiast. He even attended the swap meet Saturday morning. Four people were presented the 2012 "Member of the Year" award. Bob Mitchell Chairperson, presented the next PSR event agenda—" Gateway to Cajon Pass" scheduled for September 2013. more about that inside. Bob has an exciting agenda. Check it out.

R.B. Trombley submitted an interesting article about **Trains in Death Valley**.

Most importantly, there is a new meet location in Tucson. Let your friends know of this change. We want to make sure that no one misses out on the next great meet. **See you in Tucson**.

One final notice, this is your magazine and if you have any ideas of what else you would like to see included, please drop me an email. **ENJOY**.

SPUR LINE NEWSLETTER

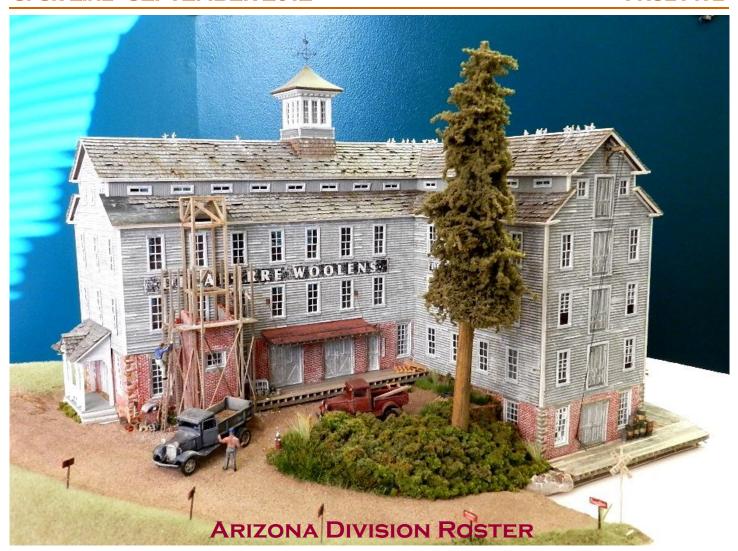
The "SPUR LINE" is the official publication of the Arizona Division, Pacific Southwest Region, National Model Railroad Association (NMRA), and is published three times a year in Scottsdale, Arizona. The "SPUR LINE" is available to all members of the NMRA who live in Arizona.

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

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 creditied to the NMRA Author Achievement Certificate. If you are interested in submitting articles, event information, or other information of interest to the members of the Division, please follow these guidelines:

- 1. Preferred method is by email to the Spurline editor with the submission attached as a word text document.
- 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 are: December 1st., April 1st. and July 1st.





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FALL MEET - ARIZONA DIVISION, PSR, NMRA

Saturday, November 10, 2012 - Tucson, Arizona

NEW DEPOT St. Odilia Catholic Church

7570 N. Paseo Del Norte, Tucson, Arizona

(Map on last page) Meet Contact: Richard Dick (520)790-5356

REGISTRATION

Bring your membership card

\$7.00 - Coffee Provided; FREE - If you join the NMRA at Registration.

\$3.00 - If NMRA member under 21 years of age. (Bring your membership card.)

FREE - Non-member joining the NMRA and PSR at registration

FREE - Non-member guest accompanied with member

SCHEDULE

9:00 am - Registration opens. Enter contests until noon.

10:00 am - Meet Begins with Welcome and Introductions

10:05 am - CLINIC: "Realistic Operations for Model Railroaders" - R.B.Trombley, PhD, MMR

11:00 am - Business Meeting and door prize drawings

11:45 am - Break for lunch at a restaurant of your choice

1:00 pm - CLINIC " Making RR Track Guard Rails" - Bob Libbey

2:00 pm - CLINIC:" Modeling an Art Deco Building" - Art Carlton

3:15 pm - Announce contest winners, door prize drawings.

5:00 pm - 6:00 Layout tours

CONTEST

A complete line up of NMRA contests is planned. We are including Levity, Favorite Train and the ever popular photo contest. The Favorite Train subject will be "**TANK CARS**" with a maximum of ten cars/locomotives,. The Levity category will be "**CABOOSE HOP**". Bring your favorite model for the popular vote Favorite model contest and share it with other attendees. You must be a member of the NMRA to enter contests.

Give our contests a try. You may win an award!

Tables will be available at 8:30 AM after the sellers' registration is paid. AZ Division Swap Tables are free for members with a quality donation to the door prize collection. Swap Tables for non-members is \$10.00 with a quality donation of a door prize.

RAILETTES: A fun & exciting project activity is planned for the ladies. We promise that you are going to laugh and have a good time making it. Come join in on the fun!

** **WANTED** **

GOOD QUALITY MODEL KITS, TOOLS, RR EQUIPMENT, ETC. FOR DOOR PRIZES AT THE MARCH 10TH MEET IN PHOENIX.

DIRECT FROM THE DIRECTOR - DAVID IRICK



We just completed another successful event in Flagstaff, I hope that everyone had a good time and enjoyed the cooler weather. My thanks go out to the Flagstaff crew for hosting the event and to John and Cynthia Lovely for hosting a cookout, at their home on Saturday evening, for the Golden Spike Ceremony of the San Timoteo and Live Oak Railway.

Our next meet will be held in Tucson on November 10, 2012. Mark that date on your calendar and be sure to attend. Watch the Arizona Division website for directions to the new venue, we have secured larger facilities

to better accommodate the larger crowds. Watch for additional details to follow as things are finalized.

The Arizona Division has purchased a new projector for clinicians to use at meets. We put off this purchase for a long time due to the cost, but we found it a must to join the 21 century. Now days everything we do is on computers; our clinicians are using PowerPoint or a like program for their presentations so in order to bring the best to you, we opted to make this necessary purchase.

In March, I attended the National Train Day at the Arizona Railway Museum in Chandler, AZ. They had in the neighborhood of 24 cars that you could walk through plus a number of local clubs and vendors were there with tents set up. It was a great morning visiting with everybody and touring the exhibits. The crowd was estimated to be around 3000 visitors. If you have not visited the Arizona Railway Museum in Chandler I encourage you to think about it this coming fall as they are closed for the summer. Visit their website at www.azrymuseum.org for hours and dates.

There is a new club organizing on the West side of the Phoenix area, the "West Valley Railroad Historical Society". The group has started a new layout in the back of Jack's Trains, 7021 N 57th Dr., Glendale 623-930-5596, if you are interested contact them. Jack's is located one block east of the square in downtown Glendale.

In Flagstaff I was introduced to Verryl Fosnight, who is building a very large layout in Cornville, AZ, and yes that is right in the middle of nowhere. Verryl has built a 50 x 75 foot building behind the Dollar Store to house the UP Wyoming Division Model Railroad Club. I stopped by on the way home from Flagstaff and I was quite impressed by his undertaking. You can contact Verryl at ver-rylf@gmail.com or check his yahoo group at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wyoming_division. If you are interested, Verryl is looking for modelers to join him, so give him a call.

On the Region front I don't have anything to report at this time. We will have our next Board meeting at the Region Convention in Venture, CA on September 5th. Watch for your next issue of the Region newsletter 'The Dispatch", which will contain your ballot for President and Vice President. Please take the time to vote.

I know that Ventura is a long drive from Arizona but please consider joining us, I have no doubt that by the first of September, this will be a welcome relief from the AZ heat . As always, I know, we all will have a great time. As stated in my last column we have to opportunity to see new layouts, hobby stores and railroad hot spots in the Northern Los Angeles area.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Ventura, CA in September or in Tucson in November.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT—ALAN VINCENT



NO REPORT AT THIS TIME.

ALAN HAS INJURED HIS

BACK WHILE HELPING HIS

MOM MOVE AND HAS

UNDERGONE SURGERY TO

CORRECT THE PROBLEM.



GET WELL SOON!



CHIEF CLERK & PAYMASTER REPORT

BY: JIM TUCK



63 attended the June meet in Flagstaff--once again at the Flagstaff Federated Community Church. The group included 55 NMRA members, 5 visitors, 1 renewal and 2 new NMRA members. Three of the guests were brought by Arizona Division members under Alan's competition. Each of the following has credit for one guest:

March: Alan Barnes, Vernal Fosnight and Matt Furze June: Barry Bertani, Art Carlton and Alan Vincent

With approval of the *gang of three*, the division purchased a projector for meets. It can run slide shows from a USB device, but PowerPoint presentations must be converted first. It seemed to work well, and saves having to plug and unplug laptops if every clinician has their program on a device. Email me for the address for the conversion. It's called EasyMP Slide Convertor.

Account balance January 1, 2012	\$5,102.07
INCOME	
Meet Registration NMRA Member Registration Company Store Sales Swap Meet Table Sales Donations	\$1,204.00 \$296.00 \$184.50 \$40.00 \$3.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,727.50
EXPENSES	
Spur Line Distribution & Printing Meet Locations Meet Expenses Railette Expenses NMRA Member Registration Meet Equipment (projector) Miscellaneous	\$986.11 \$126.00 \$397.05 \$111.92 \$295.95 \$492.51 \$30.25
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,439.79
Account Balance July 5, 2012	\$4,389.78





** WANTED **

VOLUNTEERS TO CONDUCT CLINICS FOR THE SPRING MEET.

30-45-60 MINUTES SLOTS AVAILABLE.

CONTACT ALLEN VINCENT AT (623) 249-7553

FROM THE CONTEST ROOM / FLAGSTAFF/DAVE IRICK



Why did we not see you in Flagstaff? The weather was beautiful and the friendship was outstanding. Our summer gathering usually has the lowest attendance of our three events and unfortunately Flagstaff this year was not an exception. We had only two modelers submit models for judging in the contest room, three in the photo contest and only one favorite train entered.

We knew going into the event that things could be slow, therefore we had already planned to hold a teaching day for our judges.

A meeting was held with all judges before they started judging; we discussed the duties and responsibilities of a judge. The "Achievement Program Judging Guidelines" were reviewed in depth and we discussed how to evalu-

ate a model. We stressed building up the modeler's efforts instead of pointing out the negative. We discussed having a positive attitude and reward the efforts and talent put into the model by the modeler.

I suggest that anyone interested in the contest room and how we judge visit the NMRA website, under Achievement Program and click on Judging Guidelines.

It will be a wakeup call for anyone who thinks negative about the judging system to read the guidelines, because judges have rules and standards that they must follow. Each section on the scoring sheet is judged by three people separately and the average of the three scores is what will be awarded to the modeler.

Another very good article is by Bob Hamm MMR, NMRA National Contest Chair, titled "A Grand Celebration at Grand Rapids" in the NMRA Magazine, July 2012. Bob stresses the positive and encourages participation. I suggest that you take the time to read this outstanding article, as it will make the process more informative.

I think that what we need to learn; is that the contest room is not a showcase for the master builders. More than likely you probably build models at home just as good as or better than we see in the contest room. Let's change the attitude as Bob said in his article and encourage all modelers to come out of the closet and bring in their models for show and tell or better yet enter into judged contest.

I would like to try something new in Tucson this fall if I can work out the logistics. I would like to see judging in the morning, then have everyone who has anything in the room from favorite train, to contest model, to show and tell, be in the room with their models at around 12:30pm. At that time they can converse with everyone and show off their model or favorite train. This will give you and the modelers the opportunity to confer with the judges and fellow modelers and exchange points, ideas, tricks of the trade and review the models. Under our current method we award the scores at the end of the day and you do not get the opportunity to see how the models were scored earlier or converse with the modeler.

I want to give more exposure to the modeler who has spent many hours building something that he or she is proud of. They deserve the opportunity to show you how they accomplished what they did and for you to show them appreciation for their efforts.

JUDGING IN THE CONTEST ROOM / ALAN BARNES



The Flagstaff contest judging started with a general discussion of procedures and definitions. We had a general discussion on scratchbuilding. I want to talk in more detail here about scratchbuilding. There is a distinction between the AP definition of Scratchbuilt and the scratchbuilding score. For a model to be considered scratchbuilt in the AP program, greater than 90% of the total parts count must be fabricated by the modeler from "basic shapes" minus any exempted parts like; couplers, motor, light bulbs, car brake fittings, etc. See the NMRA web page for a complete listing of exempted parts. Exempt parts can be scratchbuilt for bonus points, but the scratchbuilding total cannot exceed 15 points. Basic shapes include; "I-beams, scribed siding, embossed brick sheets, wire, and scale lumber. Assemblies such as ladders, or

detail castings such as door and window castings, (Including cast wall sections with windows, doors or other features) are not considered basic shapes. For the AP distinction complexity of the fabricated parts is not considered.

The **Scratchbuilding Score** of zero to fifteen points is based on the percentage of parts that are scratchbuilt by the modeler and the complexity of those parts. Operating; doors, windows, brake gear etc. would earn a higher score than non-operating items would. Make sure you mention in the construction and scratchbuilding sections that these items are operating. Modelers who develop their own plans, from photographs etc. should receive a higher score than those who use kit or commercial plans (include copies of your plans in the documentation). These scratchbuilt plans may be sketches.

In between the totally scratchbuilt parts and the commercial parts are the parts I call kitbashed parts. These are "non-basic" parts that are modified by the modeler to fit the need. Again, there is a complexity factor. Changing a boxcar into a log car, as the prototype did, takes more planning, skill

and effort than changing the brake wheel from a vertical staff to a side mount or deck mount. I believe that this work should receive scratchbuilding points as well. Construction photos will show the amount of work involved (see attached picture1 of modified box car body prior to detailing).



(cont.) Below is the list from the Scratchbuilt section on the contest form I used for my log car conversion with the parts count inside the parenthesis.

Original unmodified kit parts: Placard(1), Truck screws(2).

Kitbashed Parts: Boxcar body(1), Underframe(1), Coupler pocket covers(2), Log bunks(4), Ladders(2), Base paint color (custom mix).

Replacement Parts: Grabs(10), Stirrups(4), Trucks(2), Brake Wheel(1), Brake platform (1), various decals from miscellaneous sets.

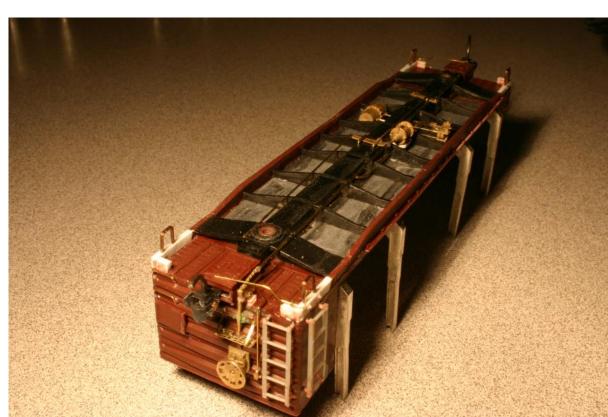
Exempt Parts: Couplers(2), Brake Reservoir(1), Brake cylinder(1), Triple valve(1), Brake clevis & levers(3), Release valve (1).

Scratchbuilt Parts: ladder supports(8), sill extensions and ends(8), freight door rails(14), weights(2), uncoupler lift bars(2), uncoupler lift bar eye bolts(2), brake system mounts, pipes and rods(14), removable logs(14), deck boards(80), nail/bolt holes (over 500), bolt heads(30), bark shavings.

A higher scratchbuilt score could have been obtained by scratchbuilding the exempt brake equipment, grabs and stirrups. I have also scratchbuilt brake platforms from scraps of metal grating for other models after this log car. I used brass parts and metal trucks for additional weight in this model.

Remember that not all judges will be as knowledgeable about the part names as the modeler, so choose your descriptions/displays accordingly. Duane Buck sometimes includes a board illustrating the scratchbuilt parts and their assemblies. This takes extra time and materials, but probably generates a higher scratchbuilt score by reducing naming confusion and the effort to locate the scratchbuilt parts. Construction photos also serve this purpose.

The second construction photo shows the scratchbuilt styrene sill extensions and ends indicated in the list above. The photo helps the judges determine the complexity of the work. (see attached photo picture 2).



(cont.) If you have an additional unmodified part and can display it next to the modified part, this also helps the judges determine the complexity of the work. (see attached photo picture 3).



I hope this discussion will assist you in maximizing your scratchbuilding score. by: Alan Barnes

DERAILED

Lenny Smith.....The Casa Grande Trader

CONTEST RESULTS - FLAGSTAFF DIVISION MEET

JUNE 23, 2012

Best In Show

Delabarre Woolen Mill—Frank Baker—Merit Award winner*

Rolling Stock—Open

1st Place - CB&Q boxcar #99459—David Irick—Merit Award winner*

2nd Place—CB&Q Flatcar #89567—David Irick—Merit Award winner*

3rd Place—CB&Q Wood Gondola #41435—David Irick—Merit Award winner*

Rolling Stock—Kit

1st Place—ATSF Stock/Dump Car #58543—David Irick—Merit Award winner*

Favorite Train

1st Place – Food Train—Roger von Seeburg

Favorite Model

1st Place – **Delabarre Woolen Mill**—Frank Baker
2nd Place -"S" Train & Tower" - Bill Winans
3rd Place – **Chippy Hollow Hardware**—Richard Petrina

Photography

Model - Color

1st Place – The Ghost Train to Ely - Allen Greger 2nd Place – Preparing for Today's Run - Allen Greger 3rd Place – KSC on Display - Bob Libbey

Model - Black & White

1st Place – Empty Gondola - Bob Libbey

Prototype - B&W

1st Place – **Braketime**—Bob Libbey

Photography (cont.)

<u>Slide</u>

1st Place – July93 Afternoon Arrival—Allen Greger 2nd Place—July93 Stopped @ Depot—Allen Greger

Model Construction: (* Indicates Merit Award Winner)

Contest Room Judges: Alan Barnes MMR, Richard Petrina, Bruce Petrarca, Jon Wolfe, Art Carlton, Frank Baker, Dan Thompson, Duane Buck

CONGRATULATIONS! KEEP ON BUILDING THOSE MODELS

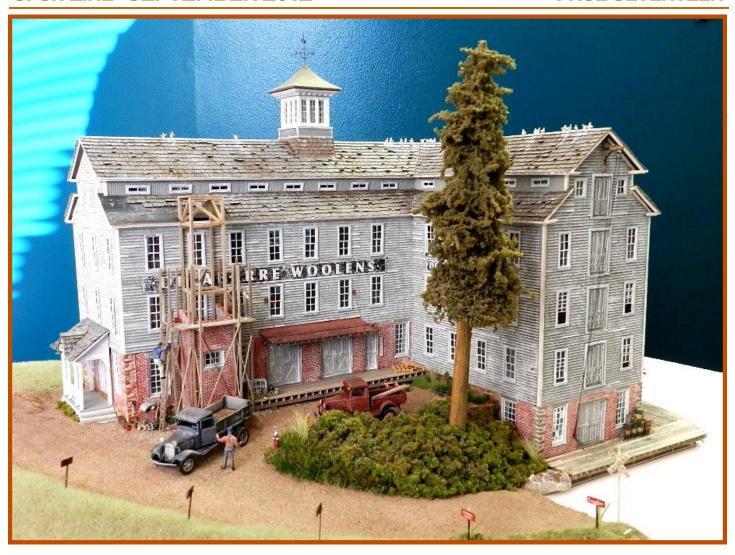
MAKE SURE TO BRING YOUR

MODELS, PHOTOS, AND LENNY'S CHALLENGE ENTRIES

TO TUCSON ON NOVEMBER 10TH!!!

Who's head is this? (answer on page 42)

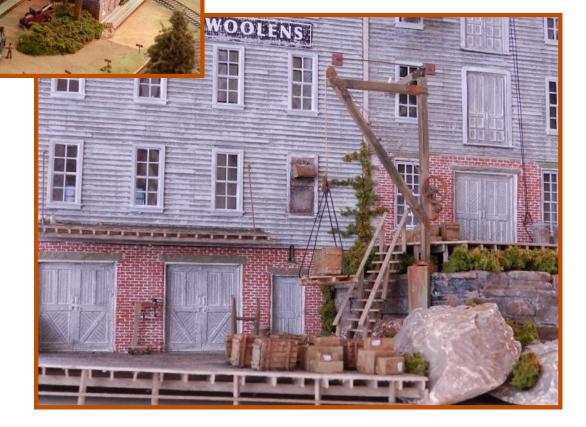






CONGRATULATIONS!
BEST IN SHOW FRANK BAKER
MERIT AWARD
WINNER



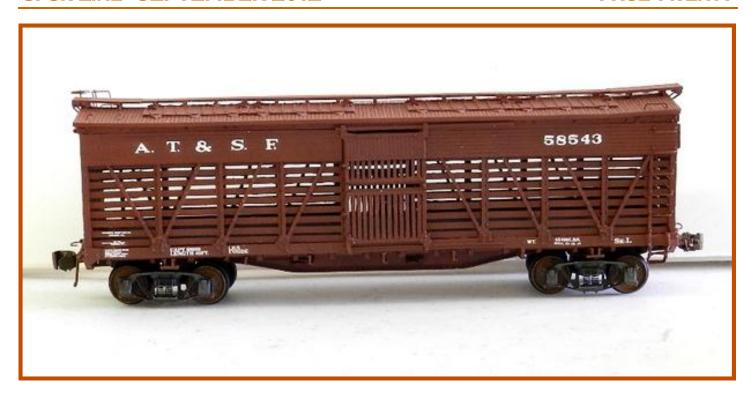






3rd Place—Rolling Stock—
Open
Wood Gondola #41435 Wood
David Irick—Merit Award Winner





1st Place—Rolling Stock—Kit

ATSF Stock / Dump Car #58543

David Irick



Favorite Train

1st Place
Food Train

Roger von Seeburg

Favorite Model
1st place
Delabarre Woolens Mill
Frank Baker



Favorite Model
2nd place
"S" Train & Tower
Bill Winans





Favorite Model
3rd place
Chippy Hollow Hardware
Richard Petrina

PHOTOGRAPHY-MODEL COLOR



Model Color
1st place
The Ghost Train @ Ely
Allen Greger

Model Color 2nd place Preparing for Todays Run Allen Greger



Model Color 3rd place KSC on display Bob Libbey

PHOTOGRAPHY-SLIDES

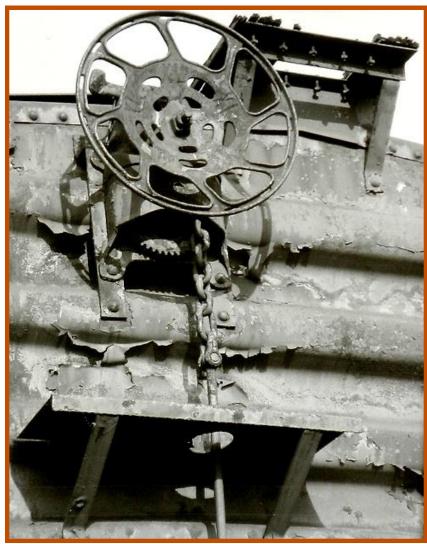


Slide
1st place
Arriving
Cumbres
Allen Greger

Slide
2nd place
July93
Stopped at
Depot
Allen Greger



PHOTOGRAPHY - BLACK & WHITE



Prototype B&W
1st place
Breaktime
Bob Libbey

Model—Black & White 1st place Empty Gondola Bob Libbey



CONTEST ROOM JUDGES

Alan Barnes MMR, Richard Petrina, Bruce Petrarca, Jon Wolfe, Art Carlton, Frank Baker, Dan Thompson, Duane Buck





ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

BY: DON STEWART

More Statements of Qualifications (SoQs) were approved from the Arizona Division. They have been presented. The nine Certificates have been awarded to:

Paul Chandler Association Volunteer Region Certificate 314 **Paul Chandler** Model Railroad Author Region Certificate 315 **Paul Chandler Electrical Engineer** Region Certificate 316 **Paul Chandler** Chief Dispatcher Region Certificate 317 Alan Barnes Master Builder – Cars Region Certificate 318 **Bob Libbey** Civil Engineer Region Certificate 320 **Paul Chandler** Civil Engineer Region Certificate 321

Gordon Geiger Master Builder – Structures Region Certificate 323

Bob Libbey Model Railroad Scenery Region Certificate 324

Two additional Arizona Division Members have turned in Statements of Qualifications. They are:

John Lovely / Motive Power and Bob Libbey / Structures

Bob is intent on achieving his MMR Certificate within the next 18 months. His Structures Certificate is the fifth of the seven he needs. *Looking good Bob!*

At the Division Meeting there were 19 models entered and 13 earned merit awards. There were some great models at the meet.

I will be busy generating Merit Awards for the Arizona Division as there were 25 more Merit Awards earned at a structure building marathon the following weekend. A couple of MMRs came to teach the crew how to build different types of structures. Resin, modular, laser cut, scratchbuilt and paper structures were built. A total of six structures in 3 days (and some nights).

Keep building those great models!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM
CHECK THE NMRA WEBSITE AT: WWW.NMRA.ORG/ACHIEVEMENT





COMING EVENTS



Gateway to Cajon Pass 2013 PSR Convention

Sponsored by the Cajon Division $September~25^{th} \sim 29^{th}, 2013$

Hilton Hotel

Very Special Convention Rate \$89.95 per night

San Bernardino, California

Convention Highlights

Prototype & Bus Tours

CEMEX Plant, Victorville

Barstow Engine Facilities

UP Hump Yard Tower & Operations

Throttle a Locomotive at the

Orange Empire Railway Museum

http://www.psrconvention.org/sb13/index.html

Welcome BBQ ~ Live Steamers Park

Operation Sessions

Outstanding Clinicians

Modeling with a Master Builder/Mfg.

Our Famous Chinese Auction, 200+ Items

Bingo for Trains, Tuesday Night the 24th

Visit our Display at the 2012 Ventura Flyer Convention and Receive the Unbelievable

Special Registration Rate of only \$65 (Includes the Banquet)

Register at this Convention

or Use PayPal Online at

http://www.PSRConvention.org/ SB13/index.html

September 12-15, 2012
32nd National Narrow Gauge
Convention

Seattle, Wa.

November 10,2012

Arizona Division Fall Meet

Tucson, AZ

March, 2013
Arizona Division Spring Meet
Sun City, AZ

April 18 –21, 2013 8th annual Winslow Days

Winslow, AZ

RAILETTES BY: JANET SPOONER

Flagstaff was a quiet time for the Railettes. We did not have very many in attendance but those who were that had a cool day up the pines. We made small wreaths for decoration. The afternoon was cut short as I was under the weather and left early. But all in all it was still a fun day.

The convention in Ventura is fast approaching and we have a fun time planned for all of you. Starting on Thursday morning with a welcome of coffee and goodies. Then, we will have our unique gift exchange. All you need to do is come, enjoy and get to meet all of the ladies. This is the time to meet your fellow Railettes and have some fun time. I can guarantee you will have a few laughs. The Railette room is frequently known for its laughter and fun. There will also be time to gossip..er...exchange information and solve the world's problems. After lunch, Diane Forbes will have us make and take some fabric flowers (all supplies included) and then small decorated boxes that can either go on a Christmas tree or be place marker. On Friday morning, we will have a chance to discover how to make scenery for railroads. This will give us a chance to see what our husbands spend their time on in their Railroad room. The San Diego Division will be giving this clinic to both Rails and Railettes and there will be a \$5.00 supply fee. Come and see what is going on the world of rails.



Don't worry about going up against some of the fabulous modelers in the PSR. Remember at one time they too where starting out and doing their first scenery work. Friday afternoon I am planning to do some jewelry making with you. What exactly we are going to make



is still up in the air. I am debating between 2 different necklaces. Of course, what ever I pick it will have matching earrings (either pierced or clip) and possibly a bracelet. Friday evening is the auction, which is always a great deal of fun. Hopefully, they will have some items the will pique our interest. On Saturday morning, we will once again be making the washcloth gifts that will be donated to a local shelter. Last year in Flagstaff, we made over 85 of these items, which was a record for us, and hope to break our record in Ventura. So remember to bring those soaps and shampoos, that are in every hotel room and we will put them to good use. Last, but not least, is the Railette luncheon. We have a choice of either a Caesar or Cobb salad with the usual accompaniments. The luncheon will be the end of Railette activities and I hope to see you at the banquet on Saturday evening. Everything is in place for you to have a great time at the Ventura convention, hope to see you there.





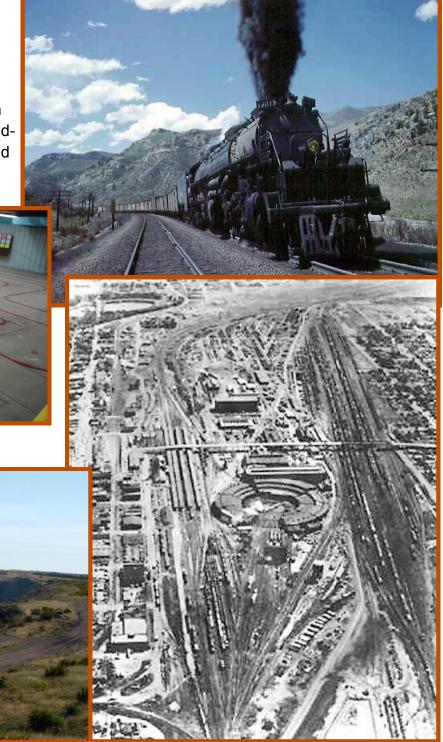
Verryl Fosnight's

Union Pacific's "Wyoming Division"

Verryl is a man with a dream. A dream to build a railroad layout. Not just any railroad. Verryl and his friends have begun to build the Union Pacific's Wyoming Division. If you have not been to or seen his layout, here are some details on this is a mammoth undertaking.

The empty building with the benches are laid out on the floor. The building size is 50 x 75 feet. The layout has 41 inch aisles with the bench widths 24 to 39 inches wide.

The building is empty no more. A team of modelers is rapidly changing the land-scape on the inside of this building. And what a landscape this will be!



Staging bench, 39 inches wide and 50 feet long. Most of the Cheyenne freight yard is on the top level along with the Frontier Oil refinery. The far end of the two levels will later be joined by the staging helix to allow staging access to either end from either level. The open box along the front of the lower level is the DCC wire chase which will contain the command bus, power district breakers and terminal strips for the power districts. The benches all have 1 1/2" square tube welded steel legs and skeletons with the rear side of the lower level made up of a sheet of 1/2" plywood on edge. The bench tops are 1/2" plywood.

The open grid 1 x 6" support under the 1/2" plywood bench top and the welded steel supports. The front edge of the steel supports have a flat plate welded to it to facilitate attaching the 1 x 6" wood fascia with flat head self tapping machine screws made to drill into and through steel, although we cheated and used pilot holes.

The main helix, 2 tracks, 39" radius inner curves, 11 foot straights, 1.3% grade. The turns are separated by 3/8" all thread rod every 3 feet. Straight 1/2" plywood boards aoubt 10" wide and supported for straightness with angle steel make up all the end sections as well as the 11 foot long side sections. The beams over the tracks at either end of the straight sections later supported 1/8" cables with turnbuckles to support the curved ends (made from stright sections). This was to enable a 7 x 12 foot staging yard to be slipped under the helix from one end to rest on a shelf under the helix. This staging yard represents Portland at the northwest end of the Oregon Short Line (OSL) that branches off the Wyoming Division at Granger, Wyoming. In the background is the bench work from Cheyenne up Sherman Hill, and back down to Laramie at the end of the bench completed so



The helix is in a temporary location until the tracks and turnouts are laid and tested and perfected up to Laramie. Rudimentary operations will be run from staging out of the picture to the far left, around through the helix and back down the helix to the lower level and back to Ogden, all in the interests of getting trains running by this fall and having some operations to test concepts and track work. When we are satisfied, we will let the helix down off the blocks and onto the built in casters so



it can be rolled to a second temporary spot two benches over to the left, where more testing will be done, after those benches are completed and track laid. That will take us from Cheyenne to past Rock Springs in west Wyoming for longer test and operation running. When this second phase is completed, or deemed satisfactory, the helix will be set down on its casters and rolled to its final location at the end of the bench work (the middle of the layout), and then the final tracks laid and tested. There the helix will stay permanently.

The staging helix is shown in the next picture. It is also double track with a 39" radius inner track but 3 foot long straight side sections. Consequently, because the track length is shorter that the main helix track, it takes nearly 5 turns to climb the same height, 21 inches, as the main helix (3 turns). Also piggybacked on the staging helix structure are two turning loops, one for each level. Thus, passenger trains can leave the layout on the lower level west of Ogden, turned on the loop and return to Ogden from the west as if they had been to San Francisco or Los Angeles (or east of Cheyenne, turned on the upper level loop and return to Cheyenne from the east as if they had been to Chicago). the upper level loop is easy to see in the photo; the ends of the lower level loop are under the roll of plans on the lower level.

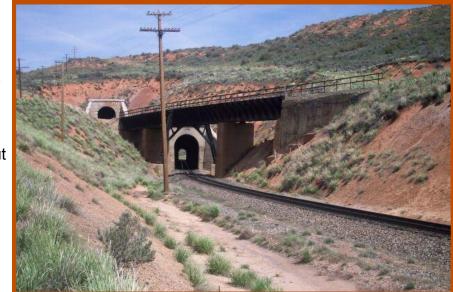
Cookie cutter track roadbed is made by sawing through the bench top and raising the cut out strip, straight or curved, to mount it on risers at the proper grade level. When the grade rises enough (Cheyenne is the zero elevation reference), spline roadbed becomes the norm. This photo shows the spline roadbed being set to its final grade by Mike Nelson and Lorne Noyes of Prescott one of the many times they came over to help. Since the layout is so large we can afford the luxury of the full 30 foot prototype inter track spacing that UP used. That is why the single track splines look so wide--because they are. We now have cork on this section of roadbed and are laying track here.

Beside the 50 x 75 foot layout building is a 30 x 35 foot shop building with radial arm saw, steel abrasive saw, drill presses and other heavy tools for mass production of components, especially steel (no chips or grinding residue wanted in the layout building).

The layout building has a 7 foot by 75 foot gallery suspended from the ceiling for visitors and for the eventual dispatcher. There are no posts inside the layout building, even for this excellent viewing mezzanine. We also have two bathrooms and a small kitchenette for snacks and coffee.

And remember. We are building this layout from the ground up for operations, and we figure we will need 20 to 30 operators for a full session when the railroad is completely done (tracks, anyway). So come to see us, get acquainted and get in place for some fantastic operations--100+ locomotives (6 Big Boys, 5 Challengers, all three turbines, 9000 (2-12-2's) Mallets, 2-10-2-s and the little 4-8-4's (FEF's), plus early diesels, and streamliners galore--enough for 8 12 car passenger trains per session plus heavyweights. We will feature helpers up Sherman Hill west of Cheyenne and up the Wasatch east of Ogden, Passenger trains, long (30 car freights all on double and triple track mains) yards at Cheyenne, Laramie, Rawlins, Rock Springs, Green River, Evanston and Ogden, coal mines at Reliance and Superior and the Energy Development Spur, Cement at Holcim, Soda mining at Alchem, Westvaco, and the Laramie Tie Treating Plan, Soda treating at Dyno Noble (the latter two now superfund sites!), long PFE unit trains with 6 foot ice docks (3 total plus smaller ones), plus the OSL and Portland staging and the Park City Branch plus Denver in staging via the Speer Wye south of Cheyenne. We will probably use time table and train order operations with lots of extras. I am working on a continuous operations scheme that will never cease. That is it will pick up where the last one stopped (with all trains either in staging or in a yard on the mains) as if nothing had happened since the last session. That means no restaging and all that busy work--only track maintenance and cleaning in between sessions. so hopefully you won't get roped into that arduous task of restaging the layout.

We hope all will come visit us on Cornville Road which leaves Interstate 17 and runs due west to Cottonwood, AZ. Just 5 miles from Cottonwood, **immediately behind** (south) of the Family Dollar store is where we hang out about 40 hours per week M-F 8:30 to 4:30 or so. But if you are in the area on Saturday or Sunday, call me at 562 458-9589 or at my home at 928 282-2722.



COMING EVENTS



Rails along the Rio Grande 22 CD 33

CONVENTION & TRAIN SHOW



Hosted by Rio Grande Division #6, Rocky Mountain Region, National Model Railroad Association



June 6-9, 2013

Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid North

OPSIG LAYOUTS CLINICS SPEAKER TOURS

VENDORS-MODEL CONTESTS-REGISTRATION-HOTEL-ALBUOUEROUE-UP NIGHT-BNSF NIGHT

www.RARG2013.org contact AlHovey@comcast.net

Photo courtesy of MRCOG/NMRX

COMING EVENTS (CONT)

RARG 2013 Pre-Convention Operating Sessions June 4- 6, 2013

The purpose of a railroad is to move cars and trains loaded with commodities from point A to point B and make a profit.

Model railroaders enjoy emulating the prototype railroads using operating sessions to move cars and trains from point A to point B for fun. Would you like to participate in an operating session? If yes, you can join us as a complete beginner or an operator being somewhat familiar with Sequential Running, Timetable-Train Orders, Track warrants and Train Control Systems.

All layout operating sessions will be defined by your level of experience and the number one goal is having fun operating. Layout operating sessions will be limited to a certain number of engineer/conductor crews as requested by the layout host. The operating sessions will be closed to the public; however, most layouts will be open to the public some time during the convention.

Register Now at www.RARG2013.org

You must register for the convention to be able to sign up for the operating sessions. Operating slots will be available on a first come-first served basis. There is a \$10 deposit for each session with the money being refunded to you when you show up at the scheduled operating session. A standby list will be built for each operating session.

Santa Fe & Oklahoma Southern Railroad

Lynn Garrison will host a beginner operating session on her freelanced HO "Santa Fe & Oklahoma Southern Railroad" layout set from Oklahoma City south to Ardmore, OK. Her layout features a mid sized yard with a 4 stall roundhouse and turntable. Industries includes a flour mill, rock crusher, food warehouse, farmer's co-op, warehouse for mixed goods and an oil delivery spot. The layout features exceptional painted backdrops and scenery that she did herself. Lynn will host 4 engineer/conductor teams using a car card system and Digitrax simplex system. Some throttles available, bring your own if you can.



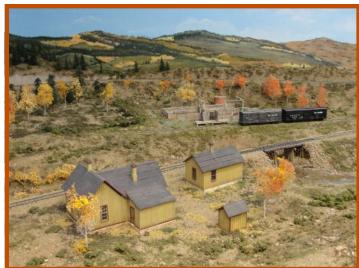
RICE READING

Missouri Pacific Coffeyville Subdivision

Joe Rogers will host a beginner operating session on his freelanced Free-mo HO "Missouri Pacific Coffeyville Subdivision" set in southeastern Kansas. Some of the key industries to be served include an ADM Corn Sweetener plant, 2 elevators, an oil supply company plus two interchanges. Operation is via switch lists and car cards and Joe uses a Digitrax simplex system. Joe will host 4 engineer/conductor crews. Some throttles are available or bring your own if you can.

....continued on next page

COMING EVENTS (CONT)



Denver & Rio Grande Narrow Gauge 3rd Division

Art Lorenz will host an intermediate operating session on his "Denver and Rio Grande Narrow Gauge 3rd Division" Sn3 layout running between Salida, Marshall Pass & Gunnison, Colorado. Art has 400+' of mainline and the emphasis will be on the steps it takes to get a steam train out of town and over the line. Art will host 4 engineer/conductor teams. Operation is via car cards and he uses a Digitrax simplex system. Some throttles available or bring your own if you can.

Denver & Rio Grande Alamosa Division

Bob DuBois will host an intermediate to advanced operations on his D&RGW Alamosa Division featuring his standard gauge La Veta Pass route and narrow gauge San Juan Route. Power includes steam and early standard gauge diesel. Operation is via car cards and waybills with a sequence based operating scheme. Bob will host 6 engineer/ conductor crews. Bob uses a Digitrax system using both simplex and duplex throttles. Some throttles available or bring your own if you can.



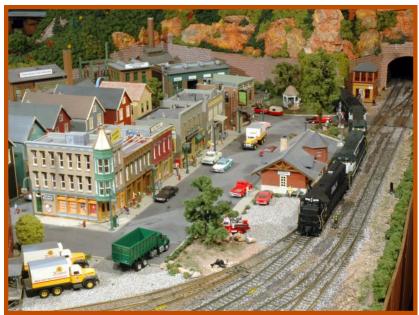
Oklahoma Belt Line

John Moore will host an advanced session on his "Oklahoma Belt Line" including the Santa Fe and Rock Island Lines. The Belt line is an HO industrial switching railroad which is loosely based on operations in Oklahoma City during the late 1940's and early 1950's. John runs his layout using a modified car card system and operators must be able to read train orders, messages and instructions. John will host up to 6 engineer/

conductor teams. DCC is Digitrax simplex. Some throttles available or bring your own if you can.

....continued on next page

COMING EVENTS (CONT)



JB & N "The Empire" Railroad

Bill Sedivec will host an advanced operating session for modelers who have experience operating on layouts. Bill uses "Ship It" and car cards on his JB & N. The locals call Bill's layout "The Empire". The setting for his freelance railroad is southern New York state and the multilevel features 385' of main line connected by two helices. Over 100

engines are used to shuttle 600+ cars on his layout. Bill runs his layout with a CTC system, the layout is fully signaled and uses a Digitrax simplex system. 9 engineer/ conductor teams are needed to run a session. Some throttles are provided or bring your own if you can.

Register Now at www.RARG2013.org



Rails along the Rio Grande

CONVENTION & TRAIN SHOW



Hosted by Rio Grande Division #6, Rocky Mountain Region, National Model Railroad Association



June 6-9, 2013

OPSIG LAYOUTS CLINICS SPEAKER TOURS VENDORS-MODEL CONTESTS-REGISTRATION-HOTEL-ALBUQUERQUE-UP NIGHT-BINSF NIGHT

www.RARG2013.org contact AlHovey@comcast.net Photo courtesy of MRCOG/NMRX

Rails Along the Rio Grande 2013 Pelle Soeborg

Guest Speaker and Clinician



Website: http://www.soeeborg.dk/hobbyeng.html

Pelle K. Soeborg is a graphic designer in Farum, Denmark. In the early 1990s, several *Model Railroader* magazines caught his attention, and he has been a model railroader ever since. A trip to the United States in 1992 added to his

interest in modeling United States prototypes.

Pelle has written a number of articles for *Model Railroader*. His images have been featured in MR calendars in addition to Woodland Scenics and Walthers catalogs. He is the author and photographer of the book, *Mountain to Desert: Building the HO Scale Daneville & Donner River*, by Kalmbach Books, which demonstrates modeling techniques through the construction of his home layout. In addition to model railroading, Pelle enjoys slot car racing, oil painting, and photography.

Books by Pelle:

Essential Model Railroad Scenery Techniques Mountain to Desert: Building the HO Scale_Daneville and Donner River Rebuilding a Layout_From A -Z Done in a Day

Pre Convention Operating Sessions June 4-6, 2013 RARG 2013 Convention June 6-9, 2013 Train Show Friday and Saturday, June 7-8, 2013

www.RARG2013.org

Sponsored by the Rio Grande Division 6, RMR, NMRA

OPEN HOUSE

In recognition of NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD MONTH we are having an open house on Saturday, Dec 1st from 4 to 7 PM at 14209 N. 70th Way. All scout troops, youth groups and special needs organizations are welcome. There are ten layouts in four different scales, all fully scenicked with lots of hands on operation. You can view a 5 minute video at – youtube.com – just type – open house train show scottsdale – in the search box. Anyone with Thanksgiving visitors who might be interested can stop by Saturday, Nov. 24, just call ahead to let me know. Dave Hall-480-998-3881. Anyone with a portable layout who would like to bring it over is welcome to do so.





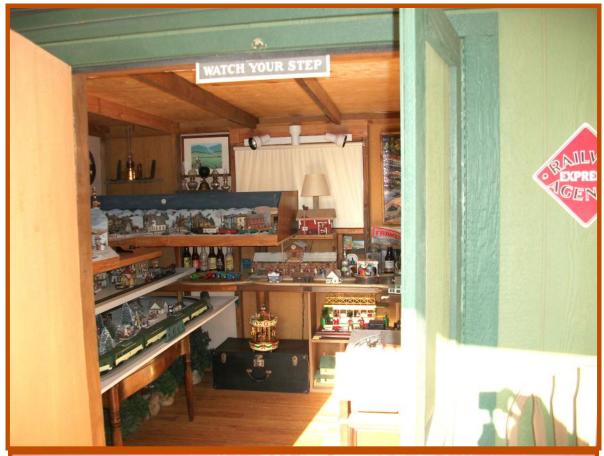




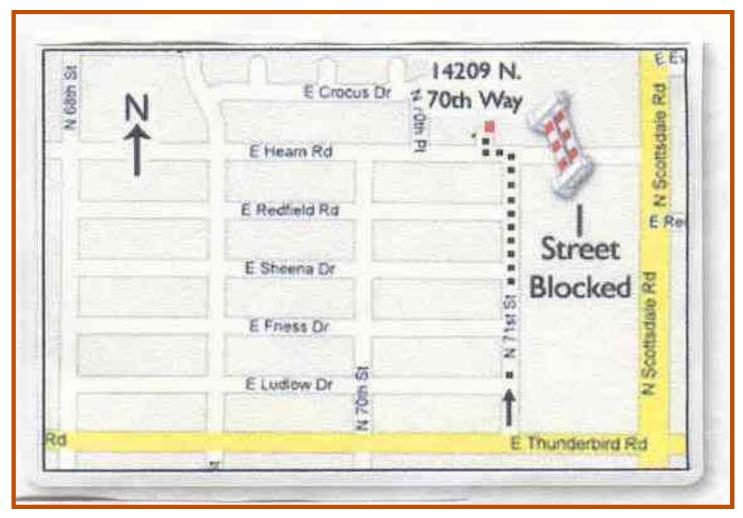












Bring a friend to see David's spectacular layouts. Groups are welcome. Any questions, call David Hall @ (480) 998-3881.

Question on page 16: The back of the head quiz is: BOB LIBBEY



Welcome to the Arizona & Southwest Model Railroad Society

PSR AZ DIV SUMMER REPORT-BOB LIBBEY



What's one of the greatest advantages of having the Summer Meet in Flagstaff? We get to escape the 100+ temperatures in the lower elevations of Arizona. On Saturday June, 23rd, 2011 we once again made use of the Flagstaff Federated Church and this event was no exception.

A huge benefit of attending Division Meets is the information you can learn through attending the clinics or by judging contest entries or by just talking to other members. If you've attended the Division Meet in Flagstaff before the first thing you learn is that Flagstaff plays hosts many events throughout the year and many of those events are scheduled on the same day.

Last year there was a weekend long parade that coincided with our meet and this year there was a marathon run on the same weekend. What did they all have in common? They all made use of Aspen St and all the streets around it. This made it challenging getting to the church on time, if you will. Thanks to some very helpful traffic directors they allowed us to drive through the marathon and park on Aspen and adjacent streets so no one ended up having to walk a marathon getting to the meet. Parking is always a premium here and this was one time where arriving early really paid off.

For all those who arrived early to help set up the contest room, thank you. The photo display easels are a two or three man job and even having just rebuilt them they are cumbersome to construct. Jon Wolfe and Contest Room Chair, Dave Irick, don't forget you can get Volunteer Points for helping with set up AND for tear down. Those points add up quick you just have to keep track of them.

While we were tending to the contest room, Jim Tuck, Chief Clerk and Paymaster, got everything set up in the main room and we were ready to roll. By days end Jim had checked in 63 registered members and 2 new members.

The Railettes were set up in a room off to the side of the clinic room so they were able to work in piece. While down in numbers, Janet Spooner still had the scissors cutting and the glue drying as they enjoyed a day of crafting.

Something else down in numbers again was the contest room entries. Two photo catagories – B&W Prototype and B&W Model – only had one entry and the others didn't have any. There was only one structure, but man was it a good one. Frank Baker out did himself again. To say his structure deserved to win best of show is an understatement. The detail was phenomenal. It's no wonder his Morristown & Erie Railroad—Western Division, is such a treat to visit.

Likewise with car entries there weren't many but those that were there were amazing.

With the swap meet tables set up in the same room as the clinics the Flagstaff group announced that sales would cease during clinics to keep the noise down. This was just one of the many great decisions they made during the day.

With the clinics set up as 45 minute clinics and a day full of scheduled events it was important to keep to the schedule. This leads us to the next great decision the Flagstaff group did. Jim Tuck was positioned at the back of the room but in the direct line-of-sight of the clinician. Jim held up a 10, 5, 0, -5 and -10 sign to let the clinician know how much time was left. No one attending had any clue this was going on and it kept the day's events flowing beautifully. Again, great idea.

(cont.) Speaking of clinics...the general consensus was that the clinic topics were also well thought out and varied. This is not something that can always be said for our Division Meets. We started with Ted Ferkenhoff's, Railroading and the Bomb – Nuclear Trains at the Hanford Engineer Works. Absolutely fascinating describes this clinic. Who ever knew that our government had a car that it would add to a consist that contained nuclear and radioactive materials? Ted's use of now "unclassified" government material, photos and other info made for a great presentation. I've researched the Chicago and Alton and GM&O railroads all my life and never knew that this government car traveled on their tracks. Many Sante Fe modelers learned this fact during this clinic too.

John Lovely gave his clinic on, *European Train Travels*. Again, I have never attended a clinic on European Train Travel. By the time this clinic was over I was ready to pack my bags and head to Europe.

Dave Nash presented us with, *Scenery of the Mesa and Mountains*. I have known Dave to be a great modeler, but I never knew his ability to make trees from Sage and other natural materials was this good. Before his clinic was even done there were many of us asking to buy the trees he had with him. When he said mentioned that all the trees he had with him were going to be used as door prizes, everyone was happy. To say the least they were some of the first prizes snatched up. I hope to bribe Dave the next time I see him so I can add more of his trees to my layout. You can never have enough GOOD trees.

Trackside Scenes to Model, by Al Hovey was the final clinic of the day and it was another one where I wished it went longer. Using pictures he shot during a recent rail-fanning trip added to the realism of the presentation. By the time Al was done I was ready to go home and model some more.

During the business meeting we got to meet Verryl Forsnight, who is building a massive railroad empire in Cornville, AZ. Verryl has built a rather large building for his dream layout and a rather large building for his shop to build his dream layout and he invited everyone up to take a look at it. I believe he said he will be able to fun 89 engines at a time when fully finished. Like I said...a dream layout.

It was also brought up during the business meeting that in an era where clubs are dwindling and hobby shops are going by the wayside, it was reported that Jack's Trains in Glendale, AZ, has expanded to a new building. The new building is housing the newly formed West Valley Railroad Historical Society. This 100% NMRA club already has a dozen members, including a couple new to the NMRA. They meet on Monday nights at 7pm and are currently taking applications for membership. Call, Jack Miller, at 623 930-5596 or me, Bob Libbey, at 623 363-1102 for more information.

The highlight of the day was John Lovely's Golden Spike ceremony. This took place after the Division Meet and was truly amazing. How many people do you know that have built a railroad and actually finished it? It takes years of hard work and dedication to achieve this milestone. Congrats to John for getting there. **LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE IN TUCSON.**

** **WANTED** **

GOOD QUALITY MODEL KITS, TOOLS, RR EQUIPMENT, ETC. FOR DOOR PRIZES AT THE NOVEMBER 10TH MEET IN TUCSON.



2012 PSR CONVENTION—VENTURA FLYER



FROM THE PSR Los Angeles Meet-Ventura 2012 By Bob Libbey



If you missed our PSR Regional Convention, the Ventura Flyer, in Oxnard, CA that took place in September, you missed a great time with friends, great local food, great hands-on clinics, excellent layout tours, a great train ride and much more. I'm happy to say we did have a good showing up with 20 people from our division in attendance. Good numbers considering this convention was a long way to travel for anyone in the AZ Division. Thankfully the next Regional Convention is a bit closer.

One of the many highlights of this convention quite frankly wasn't really train related. Originally from Missouri and now in the Phoenix area I haven't seen the Pacific Ocean but a few times and I have to say getting to experience it was something I was looking forward to. Long before the convention arrived I was anticipating a great seafood meal with a just-caught, fresh-off-the-boat menu and I knew we'd find a restaurant to fit the bill.

And we did. It was called the Fisherman's Catch, just a few miles from the convention. They served us well with mouth-watering clam chowder and a lobster sandwich big enough for two. This place was truly amazing and I have to say the crab cakes are also recommended. This place was very wise to have one of their brochures placed in the registration packet as I know several people who paid them a visit and who also enjoyed the food. A number of us we went back a second time.

What is turning out to be one of the most fun and popular convention activities actually takes place the first night of the convention...Bingo For Trains. This is open to all convention goers and is growing in popularity. As you could guess by the name winners get train related items to pick from. As an added bonus there were so many prizes available that we actually finished with the planned bingo games and then continued to play just because there were still prizes left to win. I have already emailed a letter of thanks to Chooch Enterprises for donating the prize that I won.

Thursday started the clinics. Thanks to Courtyard by Marriott, for providing ample space in four different rooms. We had many options to pick from and were very comfortable all day long no matter which clinic we attended. With clinics going from 8am – 9pm being comfortable isn't overrated. The chairs were just padded enough to be comfortable without being so comfortable that you wanted to take a nap...although every once and awhile you could look around and catch someone snoozing.

What I heard most people comment about though was how nice it was to have so many hands-on clinics where you got to take something home with you. Normally you go to a clinic and you get some paperwork and maybe the presentation printed out for you.

This time around attendees were walking away with newly made trees from Tom Boyles' clinic, a built and weathered background building from Jimmy Simmons' clinic, trees and a sceniced mountain from Mark Williams' clinic, trees and scenery from the San Diego Division clinic and all the people who attended my clinic learned how to weather with Bragdon Weathering Powders and then took home all of the Scale Detail resin castings AND all the powders and brushes when they were done.

All of the clinics were great (I attended 16 of them) and I have to admit I was one of those who enjoyed making and taking something home with me. It was great to see so many people really excited about what-ever-it-was they got to build or weather and then take it home with them. Thank you to all the companies who donated their goods so we could have such a good time. Personally I hope we see more of this hands-on type of clinics at all of our meets in the future. It's important to note that the PSR is our division and, more specifically, it's your division. If there is something you would like to see or do at a convention please speak up and call or email your Division Director, Dave Irick and let him know.

Numerous tours were planned including the Fillmore and Western Railway Prototype tour. Along with seeing the Pacific Ocean this was the other scheduled event I was really looking forward to. We were told all along that if we had 50 attendees sign up to go that we would have the entire train to ourselves and would have a trip only offered to the PSR convention attendees that included lunch on the train, a tour of the rail yard complete with turntable demonstration and more. Needless to say we had more than enough people and this trip didn't disappoint. There's just something about riding a train that makes you smile and there were lots of smiles on this trip.

We arrived back from our train ride in time for a quick dinner, another clinic and then the always fun Hobo Auction. I have to say it is amazing how quick a 4 hour span of time can go by. I also have to say that The Los Angeles division has figured out how to put on an auction: Make sure you have twice as many prizes as you have people and everyone goes home a winner. Congrats to all the AZ Division folks who took home a total of 28 items.

Saturday morning started with a swap meet and let's face it, it doesn't get much better than a swap meet full train-related goodies. After that we had our contest judging. Let me just say if you haven't seen the photos of the contest entries make sure to check them out. Of the 18 models entered 16 received merit awards and all were exceptional.

One of the two that stick out was Frank Baker's entry. With hundreds of detail parts added his attention to detail on his structures is incredible. This entry he actually started in 2009 and just now finished. All the entries were great, but Frank's took the cake. Not only is Frank a great Spurline Editor but he is also an amazing modeler.

The other entry that sticks out was built by Gary Butts. His track work was being judged for merit awards for the AP Civil Merit Certificate. To achieve the Civil Certificate you have to scratch build a switch, a crossover, a double crossover (or a host of options) and then achieve at least 87.5 points on each. I've judged a number of these and have even gone through this process myself but I've never seen anything like what Gary presented at this convention. His model was incredibly intricate.

Saturday night's much anticipated banquet lived up to the hype as our guest speaker was renown actor and railroad enthusiast, Michael Gross, whom you will remember from Family Ties and the Tremor's Trilogy, among others. His lifetime involvement and enthusiasm of railroads and model railroading made for an enjoyable evening. One of the things that has always impressed me about him is how reachable and unassuming he is. He came in early and attended tsome clinics, perused and purchased some box cars nort on his inventory at the swap meet, mulled around talking to folks...no ego, no attitude...just a model railroader like you and me.

Toward the end of the banquet all of the awards are given out and again the Arizona Division did great. Bob Batt and I took numerous ribbons from the photos we entered and for the first time I get to hang on my wall the Best of Show – Photo Contest plaque. Bob won this at last year's PSR Convention and has already told me he will win it again next year. Sounds like a challenge to me.

Don Stewart, our AP Chairman, took home not one, but two well-deserved plaques for his contest models. The highlight of the award ceremony was when the NMRA PSR AZ Division Member of the Year Award was called. This awards deservedly went to Frank Baker, our Spurline Editor, who has taken what was a 6 page newsletter and turned it in to the 60 – 80 plus page newsletter it has become. His hard work and dedication is the talk of our PSR region and even National has taken notice. Congrats to all the winners from our AZ Division.

It's hard to believe it's been over a year since registering for the 2012 PSR Regional Convention:

The Ventura Flyer. It's also hard to believe I've now been out to Oxnard, CA, experienced the convention, got to travel and enjoy the company of a car load of friends and again made some excellent memories. Now it's back to settling in to the daily grind of work again.

Thankfully I have several hundred photos to share with everyone. They will remind me of the fun that was had. Since I registered for the 2013 PSR Regional Convention, *Gateway to Cajon Pass*, in San Bernardino, CA while I was in Oxnard I now have that to look forward to next year. Our PSR Regional Conventions really are a blast. I hope to see more of you at next year. Here is the link to the 2013 convention: http://www.psrconvention.org/sb13/index.html







Arizona Division Member of the Year for 2012

Every year the Arizona Division chooses one person who exemplifies the meaning of volunteering. This person who we feel is worthy of special recognition for their contribution to the Division. This year I am extremely proud of all our staff members and volunteers. I never miss an opportunity to brag on our Division to the other Division and Region members that I meet. You all are the best.

But one person I feel stands out in the crowd and he is a real tree killer. Frank Baker our Spur Line editor is an energetic, enthusiastic, hard working member. Frank has transformed to Spur Line from a small struggling pamphlet to a book three times a year. I'm sure that all of you appreciate the 50 plus page newsletters that Frank publishes for us. But do you realize all of the time and hours of work that go into every issue? Frank is constantly on the phone with me and other contributors prodding us the get our columns in on time. He has the patience of Job

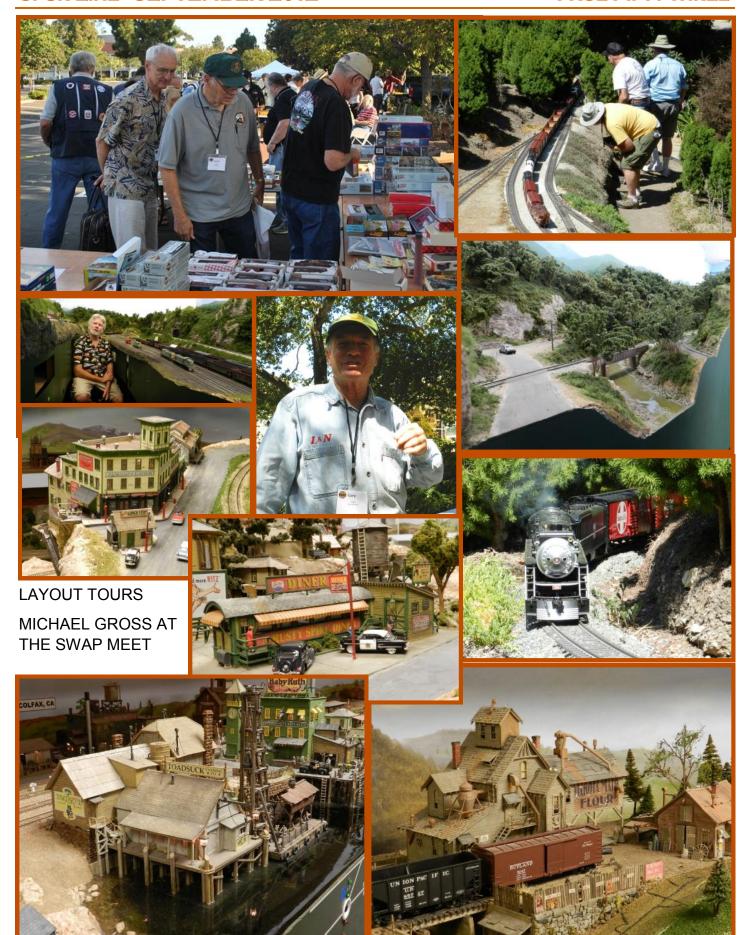


with some of us but somehow he rounds up all the columns, articles and pictures together in a newsletter.

Frank Baker is our Arizona member of the year for 2012. Thank you Frank for all that you do for us, you are enriching the enjoyment, knowledge and communications of model railroading for all of us in the Arizona Division.

DAVE IRICK







PSR CONTEST RESULTS / OXNARD

ARTS AND CRAFTS:

1st Needlework Eleanor Batt Tatted Necklace

2nd General Carolyn Weber Memories of Santa Fe

st General Janet Spooner Red Bamboo Necklace

Best in Show Nancy Inbody Hobo Quilt

PHOTOS:

1st Color Model Frank Baker Rainbow Beverages

2nd Color Model Robert Batt UP Passing George's

3rd Color Model Bob Libbey 6015 at Dock

1st Color Prototype Robert Batt 0-6-0

2nd Color Prototype Bob Libbey Steam on Snow

3rd Color Prototype Rodger Adams Ventura Spur

Best in Show Bob Libbey Glendale Dairy

1st B/W Prototype Bob Libbey Santa Fe Caboose

2nd B/W Prototype Robert Batt Lost

MODELS:

Steam Locomotives

____1st (Merit Award) Jim Keena G&D #36 Mallet

2nd (Merit Award) Gary Butts KJ Lumber #11 Climax

Diesel Locomotives

1st (Merit Award) Duane Buck GN #260 F3 A/B

<u>Passenger Car</u>

1st (Merit Award) Gary Butts G&S Coach

2nd (Merit Award) Gary Butts G&S Combine



Freight Car

1st (Merit Award) Don Stewart D&RGW Flat 6302

2nd (Merit Award) Jim Keena Pennsy Boxcar 2185

3rd (Merit Award) Don Stewart On30 Log Car

Caboose

1st (Merit Award) Don Stewart D&RGW 0573

2nd (Merit Award) Jim Keena G&D #9

Structure On-Line

1st (Merit Award) Duane Buck Water Tower

2nd (Merit Award) Duane Buck Snow Shed

3rd Neil Fernbaugh Cove Creek Brewing

Structure Off-Line

1st Neil Fernbaugh Skid Row

Display Off-Line

1st (Merit Award) Micheal Wolf Ndebele Tribal Houses

Best of Show

(2 Merit Awards) Frank Baker Rainbow Beverages

President's Award

Gary Butts KJ Lumber #11 Climax

Favorite Model Award

1st Frank Baker Rainbow Beverages

2nd Micheal Wolf Ndebele Tribal Houses

3rd Jim Keena G&D #36 Mallet



EARLY RAILROAD PASSENGER SERVICE TO DEATH VALLEY, CALIFORNIA By

R. B. Trombley, MMR

Most people when they hear of Death Valley think of it as the hottest, driest and lowest place in the United States. In fact it is a superlative desert of streaming sand dunes, snow-capped mountains, multicoloured rock layers, water-fluted canyons and 3 million acres of wilderness. Home to the Timbisha Shoshone people and to plants and animals unique to the harshest desert. This writer has been to Death Valley many, many times mainly to do geological work on the Ubehebe volcano for the National Park Service. It is indeed a beautiful and wondrous place to visit. What most people do not know is that Death Valley, at one time, had a working railroad that served for many years.

And so, Death Valley's history is a fascinating one – even with its own unique railroad history. Parties en route to the gold fields of California in 1849, seeking a route to avoid the High Sierra Nevada snows of winter, found themselves in this unknown territory and underwent terrible suffering with many dying. Wagons had to be destroyed for fuel and oxen for food. One party on its way out under guidance of two young men who had discovered a way to the settlements, named the place, "Death Valley". Most of the tales of Death Valley revolve around the borax works of that era and the twenty-mule teams that would carry the borax, after being mined, out of Death Valley at the Harmony Borax Works to the railhead at Mojave, California (see Fig. 1),a 165 mile stretch with no railroad.



Fig. 1. A twenty-mule team and prospectors with their burros pulling some borax.

But Death Valley also has its own unique railroading history as well, with many interesting tales and stories to be unfolded. The following is but one of those stories of circa 1926.

In the early days of auto travel, the surfaced highway east of Los Angeles, California, ended in San Bernardino, with branch roads to Ryan and Death Valley being so primitive and lonely that people hesitated to travel them. Taking advantage of this timidity, the Pacific Coast Borax Company extensively promoted use of its own standard-gauge Tonopah & Tidewater (which neither started in Tonopah nor ended in Tidewater) and the narrow-gauge Death Valley railroads.

The Narrow Gauge Death Valley Railroad was built in 1914 to haul Borax from the mines in Ryan, CA to the Tonopah & Tidewater Railroad some 20 miles away at Death Valley Junction (see Fig. 2)., CA. The upper part of the line required extensive grading and many high trestles. The maximum grade was 3.5% and curves were as sharp as 24 degrees. The railroad scheduled a single daily excursion, except for-Monday when a mixed train would amble across the desert at 15 miles per hour. A Baby Gauge railroad was constructed to bring the borax from the various mines where it was "dumped" via a transfer trestle (see Fig.

Fig. 2. On display at the Borax Museum in Death Valley National Park is a fairly well preserved small wheeled Consolidation that had been used to haul ore.

The two transcontinental lines – the Union Pacific and the Santa Fe – where then persuaded to promote package tours to the area during October to May. Through-Pullman service in standard sleepers would be

offered between Caliente and Beatty, and Los Angeles to Beatty on an every-other-day basis, and in either direction. Initially, the Pullman would be run three times weekly, with the service increased to daily runs the following year. New cars were added to the line to handle the anticipated influx of tourists.

Fig. 3. Another view of the Consolidation a Death Valley's Borax Museum.



Crucero, 220 miles east of Los Angles in San Bernardino County, was to be the transfer point at which the Pullman cars would be dropped and switched to the T & T tracks for the ninety-six mile run north to Death Valley Junction. From here, visitors would ride the last twenty miles to Ryan via a gasoline-powered combination express and passenger rail car on the Death Valley line. It was called a Brill car (see Fig. 4).). A passenger motor car built by J.G. Brill Company in November 1928 and numbered 5 was put in service to haul passengers between Death Valley Junction and New Ryan until the line was abandoned in December 1931. The locomotives and motor car were moved the U.S. Potash Company in Carlsbad, New Mexico where the car operated until retired in 1956. In 1967, the car was donated to the Laws Railroad Museum and moved by rail and truck to Laws, arriving November 27, 1967.

At Ryan, large Union Pacific seven-passenger touring buses used in the Zion-Bryce Canyon tours during their summer season, would meet the people and transport them to the Inn. It was advertised that travelers could leave Los Angeles at six o'clock in the evening and be snugly settled at Furnace Creek Inn the next morning. According to T & T's general agent, cost of the entire side trip, including Pullman fares between Crucero and Death Valley Junction, fares on the Death Valley Railroad between Death Valley Junction and Ryan and return, bus tickets, hotel accommodations for one night at Furnace Creek Inn, and meals for two days, was set at an incredible \$42.00! Happy Railroading!



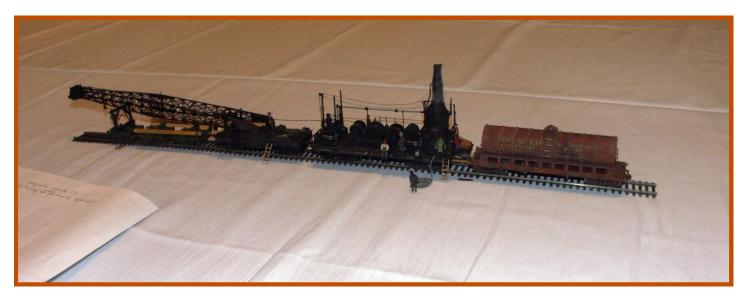
Fig. 4. The Brill car built by J.G. Brill Company in November 1928.

NMRA NATIONALS / 2012 / GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Arizona's very own Allen Gross has again taken the top honors at the recent NMRA National Convention in Dearborn, Michigan. Actually, Allen came away with three honors. The awards included "The Peoples Choice—Best in Show", Railroad Model Craftsman "Craftsman Award" and the Gold Award. No other modeler has achieved five years in a row for the "Best in Show'.







ARIZONA CLUBS

Flagstaff

Flagstaff Model Railroad Club

Scales: HO, HOn3, and N

Contact: Larry Gibbs (928) 779-2282 On the web: http://flagmrrc.org/

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Gilbert Model Railroad Club

Scales: HO

Contact: Joe Padberg (480) 626-5289

On the web: www.gmrctrains.com

Goodyear

Pebble Creek Model Railroad Club

Scales: HO and G

Contact: Bruce Petrarca (623) 935-4837

On the web: www.pcmrc.org

Phoenix

Black Canyon Model Railroad Club

Scale: HO

Contact: Harold Shelton (602) 242-0751 On the web: http://www.bcrraz.net/

Grand Canyon State Model Railroaders

Scale: HO modular

Contact: Bob Gibbs (480) 968-1760 On the web: www.GCSMR.org

Ponderosa North

Scales: Round Robin

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On the web: www.arizonarails.com/pncpage

Thunderbird Model Railroad Club

Scale: HO

Contact: Larry Platt

On the web: www.trainweb.org/tbird

Prescott

Central Arizona Model Railroad Club

Scales: Multiple

Contact: Steve Bumgardner (928) 775-3184

On the web: www.camrrc.com

ARIZONA CLUBS

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On the web: www.scottsdalemodelrrclub.org

Scottsdale

Sun'N'Sand Model Railroad Club

Scale: N

Contact: Mark Vanacore (602) 410-1110

On the web: www.sun-n-sand.org

Sun City area

Sun City Model Railroad Club

Scale: HO

Contact: Bob Batt (623) 734-6377

Sun City West Model Railroad Club

Scales: HO and N

Contact: Bob Butler (623) 556-5179

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Tucson

Arizona & Southwest Model Railroad Society / Tucson NTRAK

Scale: N

Contact: John Scott (520) 250-2800

On the web: http://home.comcast.net/~tucsonntrak

Rincon West Garden Railroad Club

Scale: G

Contact: John Lawrence - johnlaw1931@hotmail.com

Southern Arizona Society of Model Engineers (SASME)

Scales: HO and HOn3

Contact: Richard Dick (520) 790-5356

On the web: www.sasme.org

Yuma

Yuma Model Railroaders

Scales: Multiple

Contact: Lee Stoermer (928) 344-9417

On the web: www.yumamodelrailroaders.org

Sun Lakes

Short Line Model Railroad Club

Scales: Open to all scales

Contact: Dave Olson (480) 895-7411

Show Low (NEW)

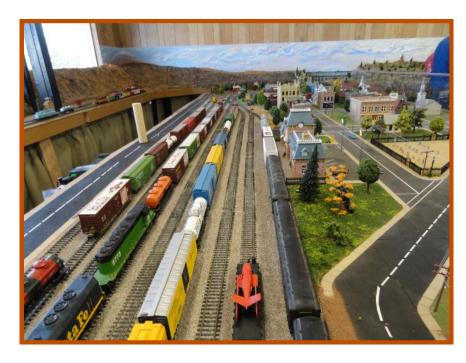
Silver Creek Railroaders

Scale:HO

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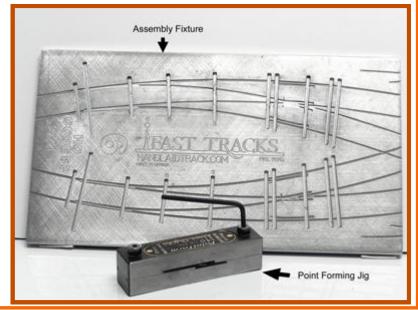
#8 code 83 curved turnout assembly fixture 30"/21" radius \$50

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#8 code 70 double slip switch fixture and point forming tool \$75

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1997 Cajon Zephyr	\$0.50	19
1999 Flagstaff	\$0.50	144
2007 Tucson	\$0.50	142

West Valley Railroad Historical Society, Glendale, AZ - By Bob Libbey

It seems like any more all we hear about is another Hobby Shop closing or another Railroad club folding. Quite frankly given these hard economic times it's no wonder. Discretionary income is harder to come by and justifying money spent on hobbies is getting harder and harder. You really have to focus on value and when it comes to railroad clubs you have to focus on the fun factor as well if you want to thrive.

There is a *new* group in Glendale, AZ doing just that, emphasizing value and fun: The West Valley Railroad Historical Society that is focusing on the history of railroading in the Phoenix, Glendale and the West Valley. They are an HO & N scale group that is a 100% NMRA club located in the same building as Jack's Trains in downtown Glendale, 7021 N 57th Dr, Glendale, AZ 85301 and after 5 weeks of existence are already up to 13 members, 5 of which are new to the NMRA.

It is amazing how much they have gotten accomplished in just 5 weeks: The Board of Directors has been formed, the HO track plan has been drawn up and approved by the membership, benchwork for the first phase of the permanent 20' x 28' HO scale layout is compete, plywood and foam is down and track laying is underway. With a membership comprised of novice to experienced modelers the nearly 100% participation has been working well for everyone.

Additionally the N Scale modular layout plans are underway. The N scale modular plans include an approximately 15' x 15' layout that will be set up in front of the building and run during the numerous outdoor activities that Glendale hosts. i.e. Glendale Glitters, the Chocolate Festival, the Blue & Jazz Fest, et al. Also the N Track modules being built will be used for larger N scale hook ups at various train events around the state.

Underway also are regularly scheduled clinics. The first was a clinic on L-Girder benchwork and coming up are clinics on wiring, soldering, scenery and rolling stock maintenance just to name a few. These clinics all take place at the WVRHS and provide that added value we were talking about earlier.

Working toward being a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, the society meets every Monday at 7pm but the fun and camaraderie actually begins much earlier as the members meet at one of the eateries that blanket downtown Glendale at 5:30pm. Every other Monday is a work night and right now at least one Saturday a month is reserved as a work session, with coffee and donuts served before work commences. Other activities outside of the WVRHS doors are also being developed.

If you'd like more information on the West Valley Railroad Historical Society call Jack's Trains at (623) 930-5596 or Bob Libbey at (623) 363-1102 or just come by any Monday night.

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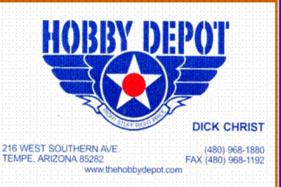
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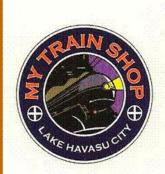
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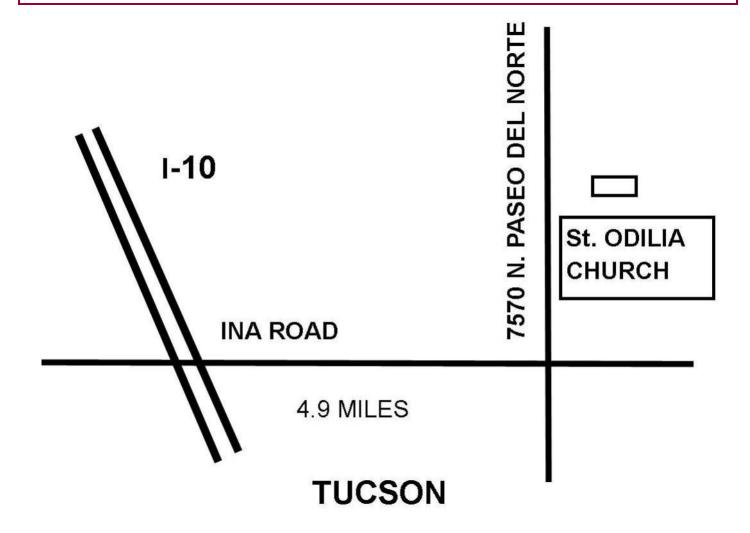
SPUR LINE

Official Publication of the Arizona Division, PSR, NMRA Frank Baker, Editor

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