

MAIL HOOK

SAN DIEGO DIVISION, PSR-NMRA

APRIL 2005

Superintendent's Report

By Ben Sevier

Lots of model railroading going on! We (the San Diego Division) are responsible for some, but other big events are coming to San Diego this year. The 'N' Scale Collectors Association is having their convention here this summer, and the Southern Pacific Historical Society will be in town in the fall. Our own monthly layout tours continue (some great ones in the months ahead), and the PSR Convention is close enough for an easy day trip up in Buena Park in September. Lots of things to keep you energized and active in the hobby!

Planning for the "BACK TO THE FUTURE!" 2006 PSR Convention here in San Diego next year continues. The committee is working to come up with activities to show everyone just how much San Diego has going for it in modern railroading (full-scale and model), along with interesting clinics, a train show, and much more. Speaking of the convention committee, we're still in need of help - there are several chairman positions available (list below), and if you don't have time to be a chairman, we can use your help in other ways - just give one of us a call. We could really use someone with experience in publicity (advertising, marketing, etc.). Publicity can have a great affect on how successful the convention is (the better the attendance, the more that can be offered) - if you

have expertise in this area, or know someone who does, let me know.

Committee	Chairman
Convention Chair	Ben Sevier
Co-Chairman	vacant
Registration	Gary Robinson
Publicity	vacant
Program	Chuck Hart
Contest	Rodger Gredvig
Railette	Kim Fowler
Awards	vacant
Train Show	vacant
Clinic	Don Fowler
Layout Tours	Dave Balsler
Prototype Events	Bob Moore
Transportation	Gordon Miller
Displays	vacant
Auction	vacant
Country Store	Milt Perkins
Banquet	George Boggs

Speaking of conventions, the 2005 PSR Convention is Buena Park is just around the corner - September will be here very soon (can you believe?). If you haven't signed up yet, there's an ad in this issue with contact information - or you use the form in the last PSR Dispatch. It is looking like it will be a really good convention, with lots to do and see. The San Diego Division will be presenting a hands-on clinic on scenery (great clinic - don't miss it!), and we already have a number of our members who have signed up. Have you? No! Why NOT? I'll be looking for you there!

Lastly, if you haven't already done so, be sure and VOTE for a new Division Director. Rodger has done a great job the past 4 years, but he is termed out. Check the latest Dispatch for the candidate statements and a ballot - make your selection and send it in TODAY!

See you at the next layout tour!

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Layout Meets & Tours

By David Balsler, Layout Tour Chairman

Turnout at the layout tours this past few months has been great! We've been averaging about 24 people showing up each month, a great turnout! Everyone's had a great time, and come away with both ideas and the urge to "get something done" on their own projects. To continue the action, we will be visiting some old favorites, thanks to the willingness of Max Schwanda, Jay Styron and John Sigurdson to once again open their layouts to our "inspection."

May: If you want to experience the "fun" as in the old slogan of "Model Railroading is Fun", do not miss visiting

the layout of Max Schwanda in May! Max and his wild band of operators have been running every Friday night for years. The layout is located in a special building Max built in his backyard and is the home of an "O" scale railroad that runs on a timetable with a fast clock. I have operated on this railroad, and if you are not on the ball you will be in big trouble with the dispatcher and the rest of the crew. The railroad is 100% complete and has great looking buildings, rolling stock, and Pennsy style locomotives, some of which are historic. The backdrop is over 60 years old and was once part of the display at the 1939 Worlds Fair. Two highlights of my last visit were seeing one of Max locomotives testing the strength of the bumper at the end of a yard track and learning about how Max prepares his crew for operation by using "Stingers" for lubrication. While a lot of folks out there are counting rivets and designing their 49th track plan (and that might be fun for them), Max and his gang are getting a lot out of the hobby by having a lot of fun.



Max Burton - Log Lift

June: Jay Styron, a member of the La Mesa model railroad club, is building a prototype model of the Fryant branch of the Southern Pacific near the Fresno area. He also has built a special room on his house to build his railroad and all of the track work is in and a DCC system is used to move beautifully built prototype locomotives and rolling stock around the layout. The last time we visited we saw very nice benchwork with the fascia extending all the way to the floor giving the "Pike" (when is the last time you used that word!) a finished look. Since then he has added buildings and scenery. Although the railroad is far from complete, it is well worth seeing a great piece of work in progress.

July: The mid-summer tour will be hosted by none other than John Sigurdson, MMR. John has done more for our Division and Region than most and has helped many of us with his years of experience in the hobby. John's "Dakota & North Western" is an "experience" you don't want to miss. He no longer has his 'N' scale railroad, but he has plenty to do! In the same room he is building an O-Scale railroad with On3 and On30 branchlines. If the weather is good he may have his outdoor O-Scale railroad running. His shop is worth the trip and you can spend hours picking up tricks of the trade about building things - it quickly becomes obvious why he is a Master Model Railroader. I could write paragraphs about John and his railroads, but I will only say "don't miss the opportunity to visit with one of the real model railroaders".

The May tour at Max's house will be on



Mike Colursado - Downtown

Saturday the 21st from 12:00 noon to 3:00pm. The June tour at Jay's house will be on Saturday the 11th from noon to three. The July tour at John's house will

be on Saturday the 9th from 12:00 noon to 3:00

pm. Directions for all the tours will be sent to you by postcard the week of the tour. If you don't get a postcard call me at (760) 436-6139 and I will get



Styron - 2003

you directions. Layout tours are primarily for members, but you are encouraged to bring along friends who are interested in the hobby.

Thanks to a great response from layout owners, the calendar is full for the remainder of the year. As of now, the schedule looks like this:

August - we will be visiting Escondido again to see the layout of Don Ham.

September - the "Dominy Brothers" have invited us for another visit to their very interesting Del Mar layout and train room.

October - Frank Tepedino has invited us to his Tierrasanta home to tour his layout in it's own special room.

November - for National Model

Railroading Month a road trip is planned to the "other part" of the Division, to see Joel Shank's outstanding 'S' scale layout in Brawley.

December - for the year's finale we are invited to see how Steve Harris's fantastic layout (recently in MR) continues to develop in Valley Center.

All the layouts are well worth your time - make a note on your calendar today for each of these dates.

We're starting the search for next year's tours, as well as putting together the tour list for the 2006 PSR Convention. If you would like to volunteer, give Dave Balsler a call at (760) 436-6139, or email him at dbalsler@adelphia.net. The main criteria is that at least part of the layout is running - we're not judging, and we don't care if it's not "finished". It's a great experience for all, and we would all love to see what you are doing...



Sigurdson - 'O' - 2004



Pacific Southwest Region - NMRA 2005 Annual Convention September 7th thru 11th, 2005

Knott's Berry Farm® Hotel & Resort
7675 Crescent Avenue
Buena Park, California 90620
Free Parking!

Convention Website: <http://www.psr-nmra.org/>

Winter Meet - February 2005

The San Diego Division Winter Meet was held at Peach Lutheran Church. The events included a clinic by Gary Robinson on "Plans from Pictures", a White Elephant swap, a pot luck luncheon, and some general Division business. We had 24 members show up, and all had a great time!



Making a point

Chuck, Milt and Bob

What ya got to swap?

George and Jim



Lunchtime! Potlucks are always interesting



Photos on this page by John Sigurdson and Ben Sevier. If you have photos you'd like to share of Diviion events, please send them to the Mailhook Editor

Spring Meet - May 2005

The San Diego Division Annual Swap Meet and Spring Meet were held at the Poway Community Center on May 14th, 2005. The morning started off with the swap meet - not as many sellers showed up as was hoped, but there was a good selection of items. About 11:30 the swap meet was cleared out, we had lunch (potluck - lots of chicken!), then it was time for Division business - elections and other items. Then, two clinics: Jim gave one on using the IRDOT detectors in hidden track, and Tony gave one on basic weathering of rolling stock. Frank Tepedino had his PRR work train on hand for judging - very interesting model. All in all, it was a great day.



Weathering Clinic

Tony



Making a sale!



Lunchtime!



Multi-tasking - our intrepid paymaster collecting and selling



San Diego Model Railroad Museum

RAIL TOWN EXHIBIT at the San Diego Model Railroad Museum Currently on exhibit through August 21, 2005.

Toy Train Gallery "Rail Town" Exhibit
An animated Lionel train exhibit featuring city buildings which come to life such as a fire station, car wash, movie theater, miniature train store, operating 3-rail trains, and a state-of-the-art lighting system

which depicts a day to night lighting atmosphere every fifteen minutes.

The San Diego Model Railroad Museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building in Balboa Park and is the largest exhibition of model railroading in North America measuring over 28,000 square feet. The Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 -- Children under 15 are FREE. For more information about events at the Museum call (619) 696-0199 or visit our website at www.sdmodelrailroadm.com.

MONTHLY LAYOUT MEET LOCATIONS

Max Schwanda (May) - The May Tour will be at 5290 Gaylord Place, San Diego. Max's place is between the 5 and 805, south of the 52. Take Genesee exit off of 52, and go south. Turn right on Appleton (which becomes Merrimac). Turn right on Gaylord Drive to Gaylord Court, then left on Gaylord Place to the end of the cul de sac.

Jay Styron (June) - Join us at the Fallbrook home of Jay Styron at 1647 Colina Vista. To get there, take I-15, exit at S76 Pala Road. Left on 76 Pala Road. Right on Old 395 just past gas station. Left on Reche Rd. Near top of hill, watch for speed limit sign. At the sign, hit your left turn signal. Just past crest of hill, turn left on Colina Vista. If you miss the turn, you'll have to drive down the hill to turn around safely, so watch for it. Directions from I-5: Exit at 76 East in Oceanside. Take 76 East to Gird Rd. (About 15 miles) Left on Gird to Reche Rd. Right on Reche to

top of hill. Right on Colina Vista to 1647. Park on road where marked above house, or SUV's can park where marked in field below. Note: access to layout room may be too difficult for those with limited mobility and is not practical for wheelchairs. This is a hillside home, and the layout is downhill and around back.

John Sigurdson (July) - We visit the Master at his home in Escondido. To get there, take the Via Rancho Parkway exit off of I-15 and go East. Follow Via Rancho Parkway around the curve as it becomes Bear Valley Parkway, past San Pasqual Road, past the High School and on to Mary Lane. Turn Right on Mary Lane, and go up the hill around a couple of curves. Parking is on the road (narrow road - pull off into the shoulder. The layout room is through the carport and into the building on the left.

Online - Web Sites of Interest

Train Net: www.trainnet.org

Rail Pictures: <http://www.railpictures.net/>

NMRA: www.nmra.org

PSR: <http://www.psr-nmra.org/>

Cajon Country 2005 Convention: www.getnet.com/~dickg/nmra/psr/2005conv.html

San Diego Division: www.getnet.net/~dickg/nmra/sdiego/sdiego.html (PSR) or

www.sandiegodivision.org (local)

Cajon Division: www.cajondiv.org

San Diego Model Railroad Museum: www.sdmodelrailroadm.com

San Diego Rail Sites: www.sandiegorail.com/index.html

Carrizo Gorge Railway: <http://www.carrizogorgerailway.com/>

The Overland Trail: www.overlandtrail.com

May 2005

San Diego Division - Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Convention Planning Committee 7:00pm	13	14 Layout Tour Max Swanda 12:00 - 3:00
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Annual Swap Meet & Spring Meet - Poway
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2005

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Convention Planning Committee 7:00pm	10	11 Layout Tour Jay Styron 12:00 - 3:00
12	13	14 Del Mar Fair Starts	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July 2005

					1	2
3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9 Layout Tour John Sigurdson 12:00 - 3:00
10	11	12	13	14 Convention Planning Committee 7:00pm	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 / 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

SAN DIEGO DIVISION STAFF

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Nominations:	Chuck Hart	858 748-6816	pce@cox.net
Publicity:	(vacant)		

Mail Hook

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

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

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Delivery: The "Mail Hook" is available in hard copy (paper) format through subscription and at San Diego Division events. Normal distribution is through email delivery or on the Division and PSR websites.

Submissions: Contributions of articles or photos on any railroad or model railroading topic of interest to the membership are welcome. There is no compensation, but published articles can be credited to the NMRA® Author Achievement Certificate. If you are interested in submitting articles, event information or other information of interest to members of the Division, please follow these guidelines:

1. Preferred method is by email to the editor, with the submission attached as a text document. Also accepted are: text document on floppy disk, printout from laser or ink jet printer, or typed using new ribbon.
2. Keep in mind that submissions may be edited for length or formatting, or not used at the discretion of the editor.
3. Submission deadlines: July 16, 2005, October 15, 2005, Jan 15, 2006
4. If you wish submission materials returned (i.e., photos), please send a stamped, self addressed envelope.

Clinicians Needed!

We are currently compiling a resource list of members who are willing to provide training on various aspects of model railroading to be provided at meets, shows and conventions. General topics may include bench work, track, electronics, scenery, operations, engines & rolling stock, maintenance, history, or any other related topics.

There are many talented modelers within our Division who have developed or refined many techniques and skills. In order to expand our membership and support each other, these skills need to be shared.

If you would like to contribute your talents to help support our hobby, please contact our new Clinic Chair Don Fowler for further information. We welcome experienced clinicians and newcomers as well. Assistance is available for developing presentations if desired. The more you invest in our Division, the more you'll get out of model railroading.



SCHEDULE OF PSR-NMRA EVENTS

May 2005

May 14 - SD Division Annual Swap Meet -
9:00am 'til 11:00am - Poway Community Park
Auditorium. Poway, CA Tables and admission
free to members. Tables \$1 per 1/2 table.
Public admission \$.50, children under 12 free.
Parking is free.

May 14 - SD Division Spring Meet and Annual
Membership Meeting - 11:30am 'til 3:00pm
- Poway Community Park Auditorium, Poway

May 21 - Sat 12:00 noon - Monthly Layout Meet
- Max Schwanda, Clairemont

June 2005

Jun 11 - Sat 12: noon - Monthly Layout Meet - Jay
Styron, Fallbrook

July 2005

Jul 3 - 11 Cincinnati Limited 2005 NMRA
Convention, [http://www.cl2005.com/home.
htm](http://www.cl2005.com/home.htm)

Jul 9 - Sat 12:00 noon - Monthly Layout Meet -
John Sigurdson, Escondido

August 2005

Aug 13 - Sat 11:30am 'til 3:00pm - **SD Division
Summer Meet/Picnic** - Ramona, CA

Aug 20 - Sat 12:00 noon - Monthly Layout Meet
- Don Ham, Escondido

September 2005

Sep 7 - 11 **Pacific Southwest Region Convention.**
Cajon Country. Sponsored by Cajon Division.
Radisson Resorts Knott's Berry Farm, Buena
Park CA. Contact Jan Wescott (702) 566-0856.
wescvgas@cox.net www.cajondiv.org.

Sep 17 - Sat 12:00 noon - Monthly Layout Meet
- Art Dominy, Del Mar

October 2005

Oct 8 Sat 12:00 noon - Monthly Layout Meet -
Frank Tepedino, Tierrasanta

November 2005

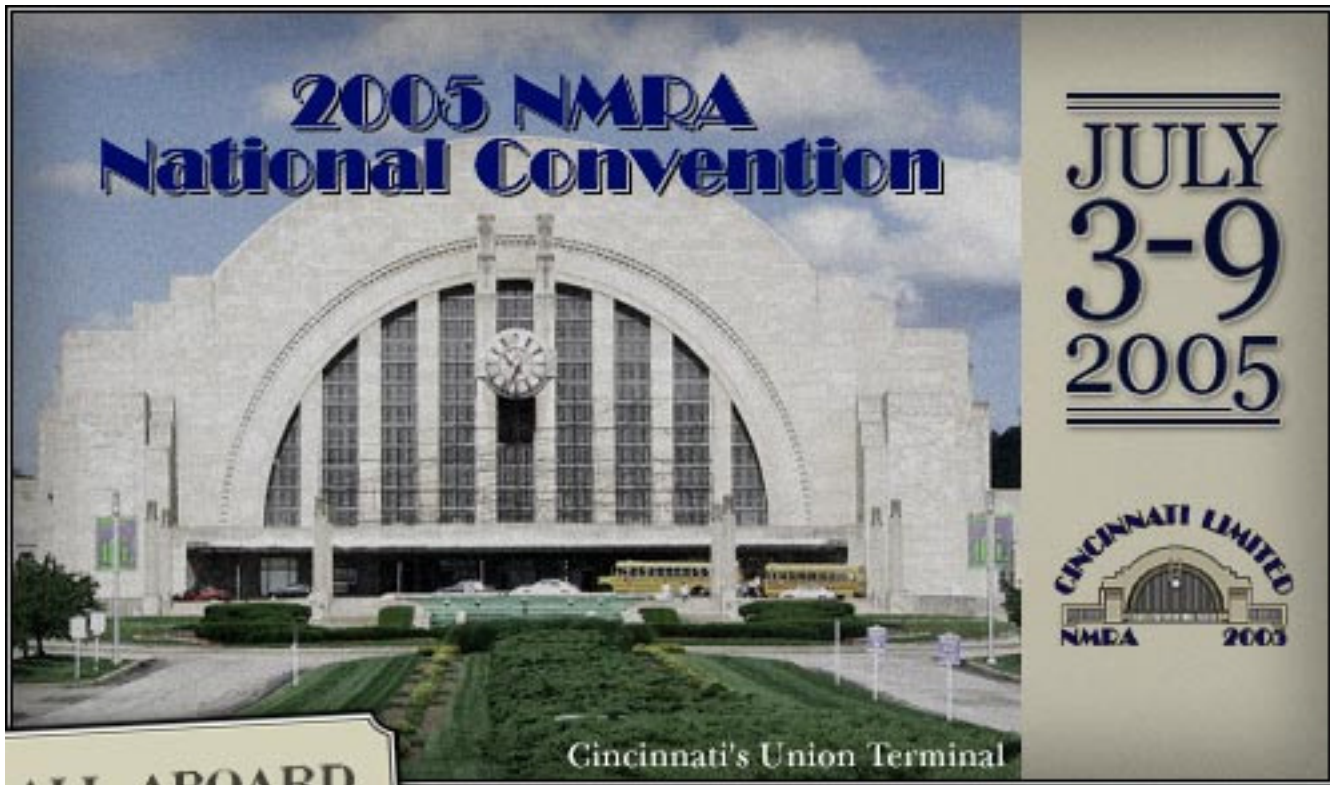
Nov 12 - **SD Division Fall Meet** - San Diego
Model Railroad Museum, Balboa Park

Nov 19 - Sat 12:00 noon - Monthly Layout Meet
- Joel Shank, Brawley (road trip)

December 2005

Dec 3 & 4 - Sat & Sun - GATS - membership table

Dec 10 - Sat 12:00 noon - Monthly Layout Meet
- Steve Harris, Valley Center



Model Railroad Clubs in San Diego

San Diego Model Railroad Museum

Balboa Park, San Diego

Info: www.sdmodelrailroadm.com

La Mesa Model Railroad Club (HO)

Info: LaMesaClub@att.net

San Diego 3-Railers (O)

Info: (619) 690-4358

San Diego Model Railroad Club (HO & O)

Info: www.sdmrrc.org

San Diego Society of N Scale (N)

Info: www.sdsons.org

North County Model Railroad Society (HO, N)

Oceanside

Info: (760) 746-4779

Poway Station Model Railroad Club

Old Poway Park, Poway

Info: www.powystation.org

Short Track Railroad (N)

Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, Vista

Info: modeltrains@agsem.com

San Diego Garden Railway Society

Info: www.sdgrs.com

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

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1649 El Prado, Balboa Park

Open to the Public

Tuesday through Friday 11:00 - 4:00

Saturday - Sunday 11:00 - 5:00

Admission: Adults \$5, Students \$3, Seniors \$4

Military \$2.50, Tuesdays free to all

Membership Application Pacific Southwest Region - National Model Railroad Association

Name _____ Date _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Telephone (____) _____ Email _____
 Primary Scale _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____
 New Renewal PSR # _____ NMRA # _____ Exp. Date _____

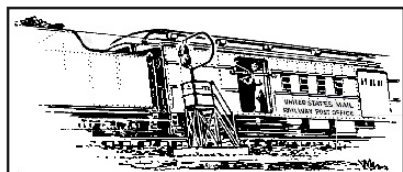
<u>Class of Membership</u>	<u>NMRA</u>	<u>PSR*</u>	<u>Both</u>
Regular	\$45.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$7.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$52.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Youth (under 20)	\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$2.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$32.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Affiliate (no bulletin or local publications)	\$23.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$4.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$27.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Family	\$ 9.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$1.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/>

* You MUST be a member of the NMRA to be a PSR member

For information on NMRA activities, contact the San Diego Division Membership Chairman:
 Gary Robinson, (760) 839-5877.

Please send this application and your check or money order made payable to "Pacific Southwest Region, NMRA".

Mail to: PSR-NMRA Membership, Gary Robinson, 2319 Conway Drive, Escondido, CA 92026



MAIL HOOK

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 San Diego, CA 92129



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