

**NEWSLETTER FOR THE CAJON
DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC
SOUTHWEST REGION - NMRA**

VOL 23 NO 1 JANUARY 1995



EDITORS NOTE

We are starting a new year with a new editor and looking for new members. With this in mind I am reprinting an article I wrote for a local publication recently. It is aimed at people new to the hobby so if you have a friend or relative showing interest in model railroading let them glance at it. We are also distributing some copies to hobby shop counters for their customers.

I AM A MODEL RAILROADER!

This seems like a simple statement at first glance, however let's qualify that. What scale? What gauge? Are you a scale modeler...or a tinplater? Do you build your models to the "Nth" degree, from a prototype, or do you prefer to freelance with your own "prototype"? We can go on and on here, but the point is, there is plenty of room for anyone interested in railroading, whether it be modeling or just armchairing it and reading about real railroads. Did I say "real" railroads, just ask any model railroader and I am sure he or she will tell you their railroad is very real. In this article we will talk about model railroading in a generic sense and cover some tips on getting started in the hobby.

To begin it doesn't matter where you're interests lie, there is something for everyone. If you like long trains and have little room try N scale, if the old eyes are not what they used to be there is the larger G scale. You don't have much room and like G scale, there are large scale modular clubs. With most you can build a module and participate in an informal manner. No strict operating procedures, in fact you don't even have to build a module, just bring your "stuff" and "run what you bring." The two fore mentioned groups are but two of several other scales. HO is the most popular modeled scale and there is O scale and also S scale, and then there are off-shoots of each one of these called *narrow gauge*. Narrow gauge is the same scale as the individual groups mentioned, but the track or rails are closer

Continued page 2

SUPERINTENDANTS REPORT

I am happy to report the October meet in Las Vegas was a huge success. Approximately 80 people attended. We started by setting up the Las Vegas Modular's club layout, by the 10am opening everything was ready to go...until someone said "where are the trains?" They had forgotten to bring the trains. Paul Mickelson to the rescue, he pulled out a nice little heisler and some log buggies to save the day.

We also had good attendance for the swap meet and retail vendors, some coming all the way from Utah.

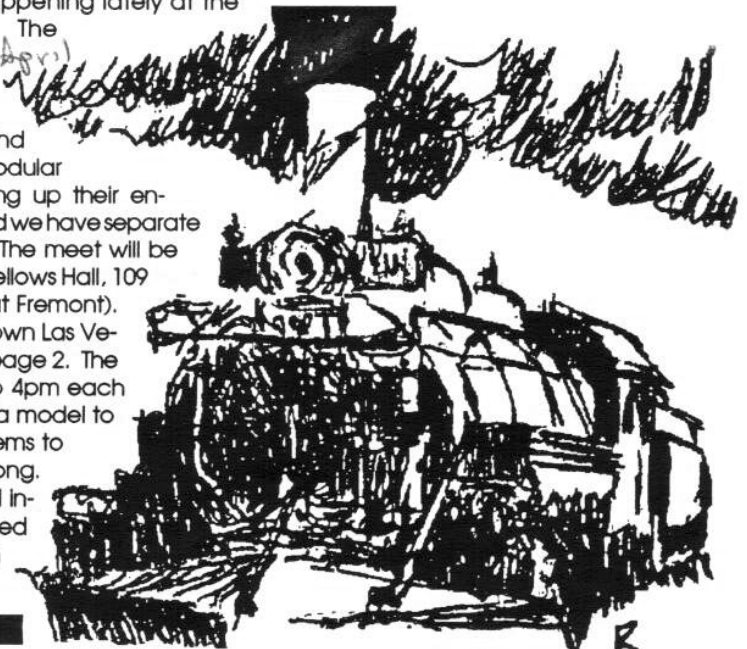
Ed Martin gave a very detailed account on detailing reefer cars. He passed out samples of some neat detail parts. Had he circulated a pair of trucks I would have had a complete car, but I had to give it all back. Steve and Don Peters gave a slide show on Union Pacific engines that inspired many to think about some locomotive models they've been putting off. Thanks to all three clinicians, they did a wonderful job.

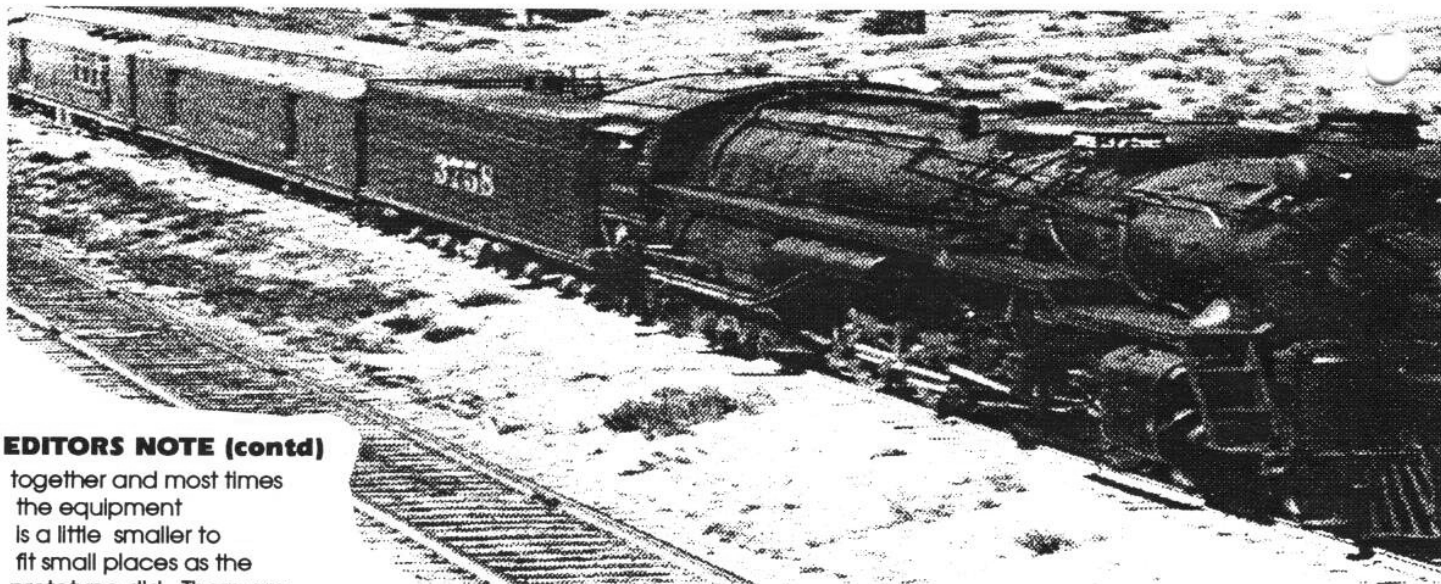
Our next meet will reflect some of the positive things happening lately at the previous meets. The meet in March ~~April~~ will be a 2 day affair taking place on the 22nd and 23rd. The Modular Club will be setting up their enhanced layout and we have separate rooms for clinics. The meet will be held at the Odd Fellows Hall, 109 North 9th Street (at Fremont). This is near downtown Las Vegas, see map on page 2. The hours are 10am to 4pm each day. If you have a model to display or some items to sell bring them along. Come on over and inspire or get inspired and have some fun in Las Vegas.

CONTEST REPORT

The next meet will have judges available to judge any and all models. I have seen some very high quality modeling lately and would like to encourage people to the next step, the Achievement Program. It is not as difficult as you may think. I am only two categories from my MMR, please call me if you would like some information on where to start, 702-739-7270. As I said I would like to encourage you to participate in the Achievement Programs, however if this is not your "cup of tea" enter a model anyway. It is fun, you're probably better than you think and you just might inspire us to do something we never thought of. I look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas in March.

Ed Hall





EDITORS NOTE (contd)

together and most times the equipment is a little smaller to fit small places as the prototype did. There are also clubs or groups in all scales along with hobby shops that are willing to help a novice or seasoned craftsman.

So far we got you covered whether you're a joiner or a loner, information and assistance is available. If you're a little hesitant about asking for help from these sources try a magazine or how-to book. There are several publications available, I'll mention a few here like Model Railroader and Railroad Model Craftsman, they are the two mainstream magazines covering a broad spectrum of model railroading with information for teens through master modelers. They cover first projects to computerized control systems. For the large scale modeler there is Garden Railways and Outdoor Railroader, here again there are several specialty magazines for live steam of different scales and gauges. As you progress there are even more specialized publications such as the Narrow Gauge Gazette, Mainline Modeler, O Gauge Railroading, Classic Toy Trains and many more including prototype magazines as well.

Stuff...we've read a couple magazines, joined a club or just got some information from a friend or hobby shop, now we need stuff. There are many places to buy model railroad equipment. A hobby shop is the most likely place to start since they will be able to offer advice, service and have more variety to choose from. If they don't have it in stock they can usu-

ally get an item in a week. Of course when you talk to a model railroader no hobby shop can live up to their expectations, but most do a good job. I have been told by experts though, there is a great hobby shop in Denver that has everything, sort of the great hobby shop in the sky. There are also mail order houses and toy stores, some are better than others. Use common sense you usually get what you pay for, and sometimes just back order notices.

I purposely stayed away from specifics trying to make the point *there is something for everyone* in this hobby, so if you're looking for something enjoyable to help you pass time or enjoy life a little better, check out model railroading. I would like to add even if you're not a joiner do join the *PSR* and *NMRA* you get good information, meet some good people and get involved to what ever degree you like. **DO IT!**

TIME SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 25 & 26 GATS SHOW
LAS VEGAS

MARCH 4TH KNOTTS BERRY DINNER
BUENA PARK, CA

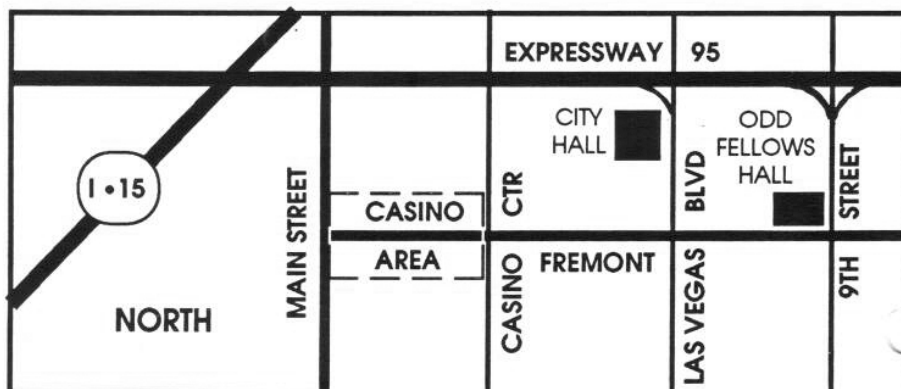
APRIL 22ND & 23RD MEET LAS VEGAS

MAY 20TH RODGER CLARKSON MEET
RIVERSIDE, CA

JUNE TBD FULLERTON MEET

OCTOBER 21ST & 22ND LAS VEGAS

NOVEMBER 18TH VICTORVILLE MEET





WELCOME ABOARD

Volunteers are needed for the 1996 Convention Committee for **Long Beach Limited/NMRA 1996**. You can be a part of an exciting venture. If you are interested please contact :

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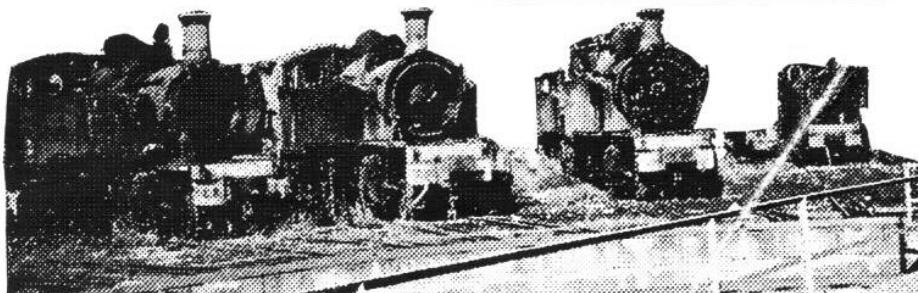


On this note we are also looking for information or news to publish in the ORDER BOARD. If you have a tip, a small plan, project or switching puzzler to share with other PSR members, please send it along. Drawings do not have to be professional, just send a sketch with notes, we can make it pretty. We hope to publish quarterly, if you know a dealer who would like to advertise please have them contact the ORDER BOARD for our reasonable rates. The resulting funds will help to publish and improve the ORDER BOARD.

**THE ORDER BOARD 702-647-1313
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LOST SOULS...

Rusted hulks stare at turntable at Regua, Portugal shops thinking back to more glamorous days.



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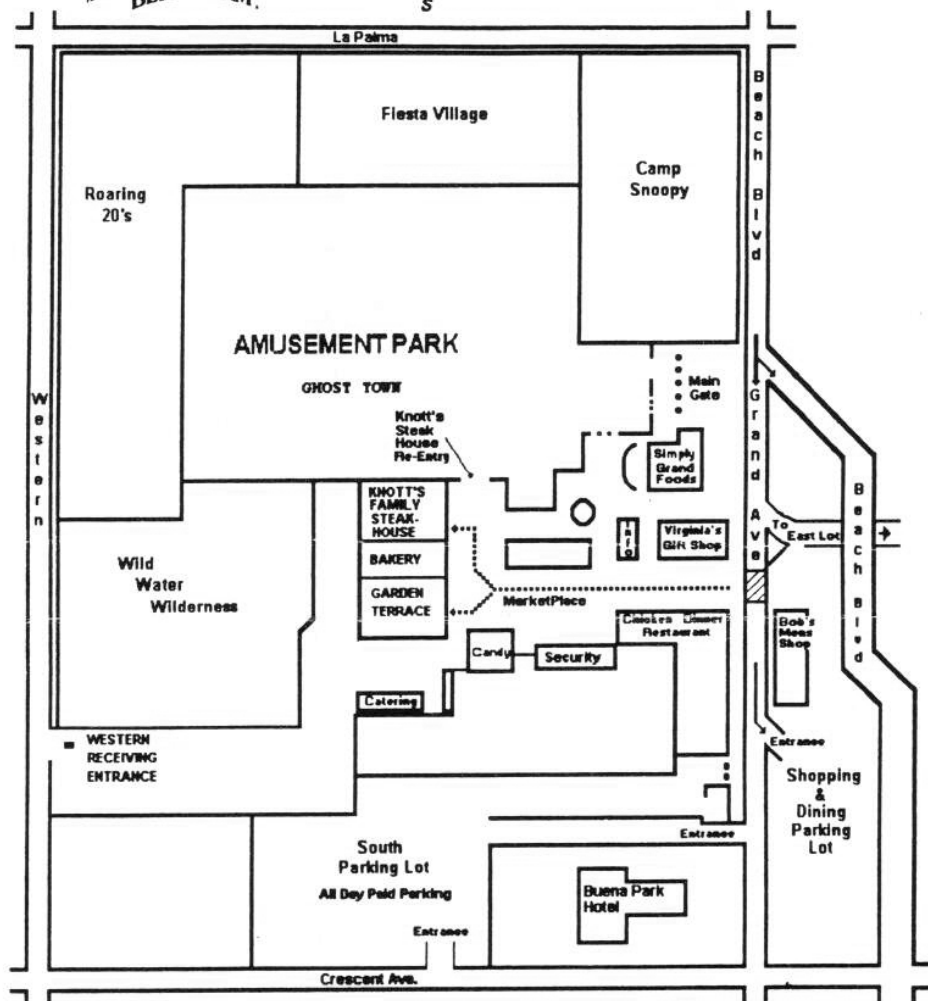
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LOS ANGELES/
CAJON DIVISION BANQUET

Knott's
BERRY FARM



**BANQUET
MAP**



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NOTE: Should you not validate your parking ticket, you will be required to pay up to \$10.00 after 3 hours when parking in our Shopping And Dining Lot. Amusement Park/All Day Parking is available at \$5.00 per day. Prices subject to change.

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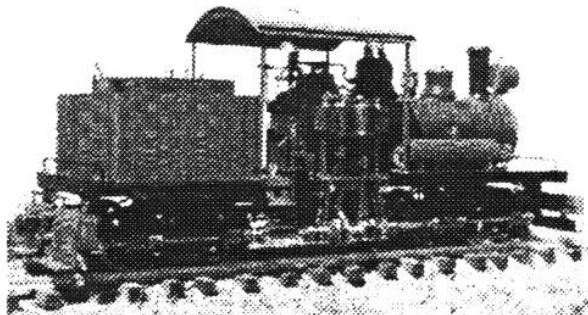
2 TRUCK
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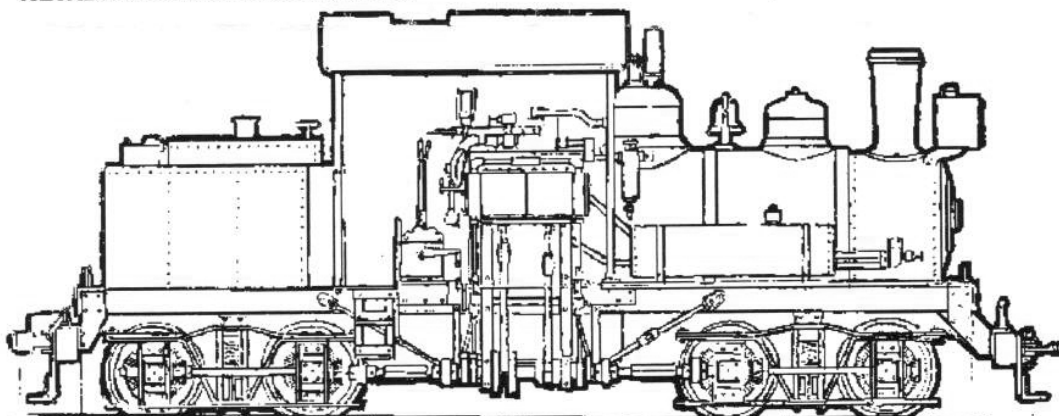
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