



THE ORDER BOARD

Volume 35, Number 1

Spring/Summer 2007

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TIME TABLE

Division Events

events to be announced

PSR Events

Annual Convention
hosted by the
Arizona Division
September 5-9
Tucson, AZ

Other Events

NMRA Convention
hosted by the Los Angeles
Division of PSR
Anaheim, CA
July 2008

We are happy to
announce events in the
Order Board. Just let us
know by the submission
deadline. See below.

NEXT ORDER BOARD DEADLINE

August 10, 2007

RIVERSIDE GET TOGETHER

Plan to attend the next Cajon Division Get Together on Saturday, June 16th from 9 AM until mid-afternoon at Bob Mitchell's home, 21460 Walnut Drive, Wildomar, CA 92595, 951-440-9729.

Although this is to be a Cajon Division sponsored event, non-members are also being invited. So bring a friend and be prepared to have a good time. This is the first event held in Riverside County since Hemet in 2004.

A Bring-and-Brag session will start around 10 AM. Share a special project or discovered a new modeling technique that works well for you.

Bob Mitchell will be giving a clinic on photo etching, demonstrating how simple it is to make a lot of those small parts you can't get anywhere else. If you can give a short clinic (20-40 minute clinic on scenery or layout construction), please contact Bob as soon as possible. You'll also have a chance to see Bob's layout. See page 7 for photos.

There will be a BBQ in the early afternoon affording a chance to sit down, relax, and chat with you fellow modelers. So what does all of this cost? It is normal to ask for a \$5 donation for the Division.

However, if you bring an auction gift, we will forgive the donation. The gift should be a railroad item wrapped in plain paper. It can be new or an old kit you will never get around to putting together. The items usually bring in around \$5-10 each. This is all in fun. One year Bob bought an old Mantua Locomotive Boiler. That was it, just the boiler. It was a comical gesture from Chuck Nauman and will be on my layout one day as the boiler for a Saw Mill. So, Bob got the last laugh.

As many of you know, Bob produces pine trees for the industry (Perfect Pines). You can tour his shop, see how they are made, and make one for yourself.

Many local hobby shops have closed recently. In an effort to set up a modeler's paradise, Bob has purchased scratch-building supplies from these stores. If you are working on a special project, Bob will be happy to make these supplies available to you, including a complete line of K&S Metal, the complete collection of Evergreen Plastics, a near-complete line of Floquil Paints, and a Mt. Albert Lumber in every size available for HO and other scales, and a substantial line of Woodland Scenic materials.

So mark your calendar and plan on a day of fun.

CAJON DIVISION DIRECTORY

Division Director

Carl Heimberger
714-776-6394
cheimberger@anaheim.net

Division Superintendent
vacant

Membership Chair

Bob Mitchell
21460 Walnut Street Wildomar CA
92595 951-440-9729
perfectpines@coastinet.com

Order Board Editor

Jeff Dimsdale
714-557-4031
dimsdale@occ.cccd.edu

Member Aid Chair

Lynn Austin
702-451-9761
lau86578@aol.com

Contest & Achievement Program Chair

Bill Jacobs
702-456-4476
billj455@yahoo.com

Donations Chair

Joe Thuman

Education Chair

Jim Kociemski
702-270-6338
jimwendy@cox.net

Cajon Historian

Kurt Meisel
702-699-9855
trains4@cox.net

Paymaster

Bob Chaparro
949-770-5158
psrpom239@cox.net

Chief Clerk

vacant

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NMRA CONVENTION - 2008

In July of 2008, the LA Division of PSR will host the NMRA National Convention in Anaheim, and a large number of volunteers will be needed to help run the event. The job is fairly simple; working the registration table, bus layout tour guides, room hosts for clinics, etc. and for the most part a 4 to 6 hour commitment is all that is required.

If you are interested contact Dave Arendes or Joe Villaryo, as they have stepped up to coordinate the volunteers for this convention and they will really need your help. You can contact Joe Villaryo at (714) 348-3947 and Dave Arendes at (714) 546-4484.

PSR CONVENTION REG. FORM AVAILABLE

Everyone,

An updated version (with the addition of the 2007 PSR Convention Registration Form on page 15) of the 4th Quarter 2006 issue of the "PSR Dispatch", published by the Pacific Southwest Region of the NMRA, is now available for viewing or downloading from TrainNet.org at www.trainnet.org/newsletters.html and the PSR web site at www.psr-nmra.org.

Dorr Altizer
Webmaster, www.TrainNet.org

BE ON THE CONVENTION LAYOUT TOUR

Home layouts are needed for display during the NMRA's 2008 Convention. The Convention will take place from July 13 through July 19 in Anaheim.

The Convention Committee is seeking quality layouts in all scales that will be at least fifty percent completed by July 2008. The layout owner need not be an NMRA member to participate in the layout tour program.

The layout tour program will cover a very broad area of Southern California, stretching from Santa Barbara to San Diego and the Inland Empire areas of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

If you have a layout or know model railroaders who may wish to participate in the tour program, please contact:

Bob Chaparro, Layout Tour Coordinator
NMRA 2008 "Anaheim Special" Convention
22372 Canaveras
Mission Viejo, CA 92691-1608
949-770-5158, psrpom239@cox.net

If you have questions about hosting a layout tour, please contact Bob for a "Frequently Asked Questions" sheet or to discuss the tour program with him directly.

CLINIC CORNER**BEST LITTLE TURNTABLE IN CALIFORNIA (WITH APOLOGIES TO TEXAS)***By Mark Carnighan*

It may not be common to find a product review in this newsletter, but a new product has come out that must be heralded for its virtues. The new wonder is the new Walthers Built-up Turntable. It is available in both N Scale (130 ft Dia.) and HO Scale (90 ft and 130 ft). While there have been many turntables kits in the past as well as a few built-up units, this is the most complete unit I have seen in over 30 years. While the unit does seem at first to high priced (\$300.00 list) when compared to most base kit turntables, the real value is not in its pre-assembly but the integrated indexing control.

But let's not discount the value of the pre-assembly. For any one who has actually tried to mount the track on a turntable bridge they can appreciate the difficulty in properly centering the track on the bridge, both along its length as well as from side to side. The quality of the unit itself is very good, and it is well packed so it arrives in good condition. The unit is a typical girder type bridge with a concrete pit (both are made of plastic of course).

Installation is very simple as the unit has three major components, the pit, the bridge, and the control panel. The instructions for the unit are very good with only one error in the template (in N scale), the pit diameter as drawn does not match the diameter given. The number is the correct size. Once dropped in its hole and secured with the provide clamps, you just have to plug the single cable attached to the pit into the control box. There are only two pair of wires that needs to be connected to the control box, one pair for the power to the bridge motor and controller and a second pair that is the track power. I connected the track power through a switch so I could safely hold an engine on the bridge. The pit itself is very shallow as there is no motor hanging below the pit.

Once the pit is in place you only have to install the lead tracks and storage tracks. The ends of the rails should be glued to the lip around the pit edge and trimmed and filled as necessary to clear the bridge. I ran around the pit walls with an index card to catch the rail ends that projected and filled them down. I also made sure to place tape over the center hole to keep out any fillings. When I was done I tipped the whole unit on its side (one of the advantages

of modules) and blew out any debris with a can of air. It is VERY important to keep the molded gear track around the pit edge clean as the bridge has a drive gear that uses this track. You will have to wire up the lead and storage tracks like you would on any turntable, either DC or DCC. The individual tracks will need separate power connections if DC (and not a bad idea in DCC either, turning a track off is good for safety sometimes as well as diagnostics). One critical issue is to remember to flip the track polarity of the leads at one half of the turntable (north rail vs. south rail). The unit has a self-reversing bridge, and the pit has two locations marked on the underside of the pit lip for the point where the bridge reverses. The instructions state that you cannot install an operating track at those two locations, but you can place dummy tracks. As all the stopping locations are programmed by you, the stalls and lead tracks can be have any spacing you want and can vary. The 10 degree spacing in the instructions is to match the Roundhouse kit by Walthers.

Operation is where this unit really struts its stuff. All the mechanisms are located in the bridge unit itself, and the bridge simply drops in place. The center of the bridge has the various contacts that engage the brass wipers in the bottom of the pit. The ends of the bridge rest on the molded ring track at the pit edge. Once power is turned on for the first time you just press the SET and ZERO buttons as per the instructions and the unit is initialized. The control box is very simpler with two small buttons in the corner, ZERO and SET. There is a pair of larger buttons in the middle of the box with raised arrows. One button turns the bridge to the left the other to the right. While the bridge is DCC compatible, meaning you can run DCC track power to it, the unit is not currently controllable by DCC. The only control issue is the possible interference with the zero location sensor and infrared signals from a wireless throttle.

To set up the turntable for the first time you have to store the track locations into the memory of the unit (good news it doesn't forget when you turn the power of or remove the bridge). You start by pressing the ZERO button to set the bridge to its built in zero position. You then move the bridge to any track you want to program into memory by using either the LEFT or RIGHT button until it is close to the track you want. You can then fine tune it by going back and forth with the two buttons until the track is lined up to your satisfaction. Then you just press and hold the SET button until the POS light comes on steady. Now that position is set. The thing to remember is that the position is set for one end of the bridge. If you want to rotate the bridge 180 degrees you have to program the other end as well. When I programmed

see **Clinic**, page 4

Clinic, continued from page 3

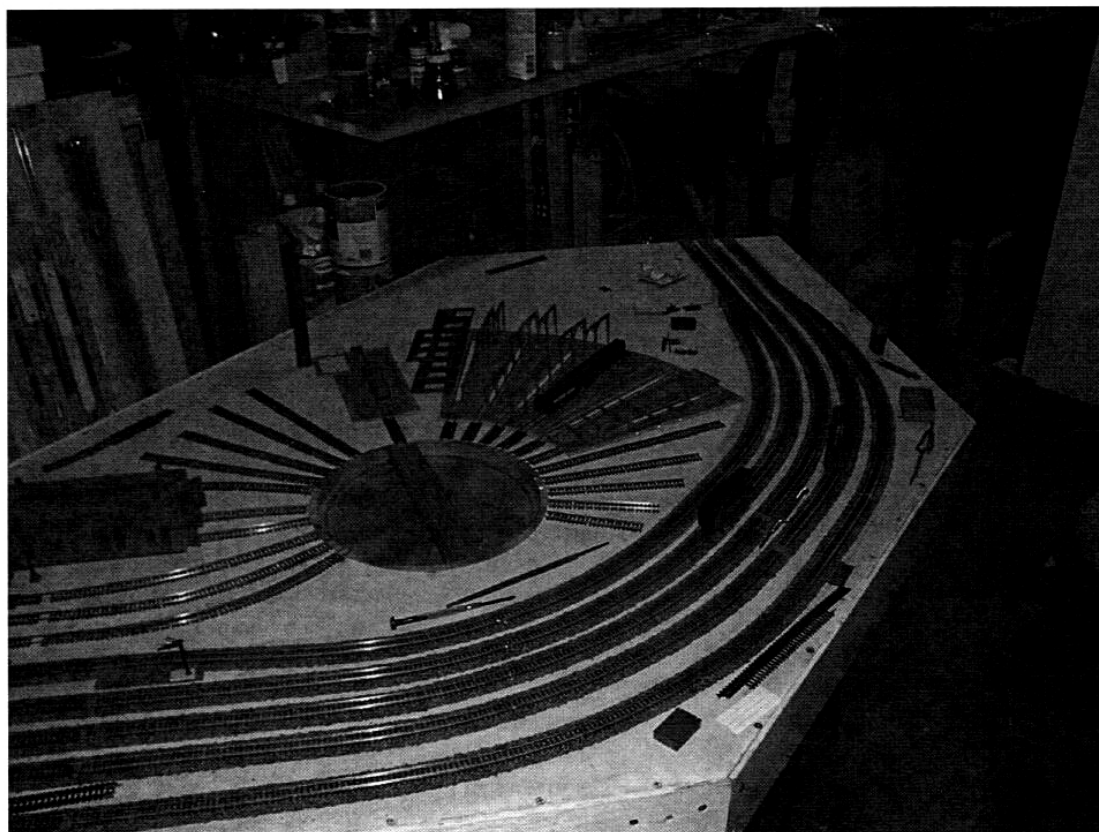
my turntable I used the end with the control booth as the programmed end. The only tracks I also lined up the other end to and programmed were the lead tracks (3 in my case). This allows me to turn an engine around. Normal operation has the engines entering the turntable from the lead tracks onto the end of the bridge without the control booth, then lining up the booth end of the bridge with the stall to park the engine on. To send out an engine the booth end is lined up with the desired stall, the engine backed up onto the bridge, then the booth end lined up with the departure lead. As the bridge track is auto reversing

Once all the tracks are in memory, or as many as you want for now because you can add more anytime, you can select a track by pressing either the LEFT or RIGHT button and the bridge will turn to the next programmed position and slowly stop. If you want to by-pass several tracks along the way you can hold either button down while running and release when the bridge is past the last track. The bridge will then stop at the next track as normal. When the bridge is lined up with a stored position the POS indicator lights

up. To clear an unused position just let the bridge stop at the location to clear, then press the SET button and hold until the POS light goes out.

While you can not select stall or track locations by entering a position number like some more expensive units, this turntable is very easy to use and program. It is literally point and shoot. When my NTRAK modules with the Turntable were at the Anaheim GATS show they were a big hit. The turntable worked like a charm and I was pulling locomotives in and out of the roundhouse and turning them around with ease. Or as much as some of them would work as a few of the locomotives needed cleaning. I was able to some of the other modelers how easy the unit was to operate. I have seen a number of turntables installed on different layouts and clubs and they are not all always working, or are to complex for everybody to use. This will not be the case with this new unit, and for the price it is much cheaper than putting all the elements together yourself. This unit should also be less prone to damage due to any attempted "Armstrong" operation.

The photo is of the turntable and module during construction and shows the layout of the tracks.



**MALFUNCTION JUNCTION
HOBBIES**

5455 PLAINVIEW AVE.
LAS VEGAS, NEV. 89133

LYNN AUSTIN 702-451-9761

Your ad could go here.

Contact Bob Mitchell
perfectpines@coastinet.com
951-440-9729

Next year for those of you who are not aware the PSR Convention will be the NMRA National Convention in Anaheim. This event is being lead by the LA Division but it is really a PSR project, so LA is looking for key volunteers from each of the four divisions. The incentive for volunteering is that at the end of the convention any profit that is derived will be split between the divisions based on the number of volunteers for that division. And in some cases if you volunteer to do a bus layout tour the tour is no cost to you as the tour guide. The down side is that with the 2008 convention being the National Convention, in 2009 it is Cajon's turn to host the PSR Convention and we will lose the spring board we normally get from the previous years PSR Convention.

And lastly every two years there is an election for the Directors of all four Divisions, and this is the year elections will be held. Results will be announced in the summer edition of the Dispatch and new officers will take office at the PSR Convention in Arizona. A call for nomination will be announced in the next PSR Dispatch.

FROM CARL'S WORKBENCH



Well once again, with a Hercules effort from Bob Mitchell, the Cajon Barstow Meet this last November was an overwhelming success. It featured new and exciting clinics, the always popular Chinese Auction, and of course the Harvey House Train Show. Although attendance was down from past years we still managed to make a handsome profit.

The Cajon Board also held a short meeting to discuss a joint Division event for the last spring in the Temecula area. Our goal is that each of the three California Divisions LA, San Diego, and Cajon would have some part in the planning and coordination of this event and if a profit was made it would be split between the Divisions. We are looking for a few key volunteers to work on this event, please contact me as the division needs your help.

As you should all know by this time the 2007 PSR Convention is going to be held in Tucson, Arizona, from September 5th to the 9th and if you have not registered yet you should do that soon. This past weekend I attended the mid year PSR Board meeting at the convention hotel and it is an excellent facility, and the team from Arizona has put together a great convention featuring clinics, layout tours and prototype tours. If you have not made your reservations you should do so now, the Sheraton is a four star hotel and the convention room rate is only \$74, that is a real deal as it includes Breakfast.

Carl Heimberger,
Cajon Division Director

SUP'T ELECTION SET

Ted Scott, Nominations Committee Chair

It is time for the Cajon Division to elect a Division Superintendent. The superintendent's job is to assist members within the division in planning and executing division events. The superintendant works with the local membership to develop successful events, helps obtain NMRA insurance, and assists with publicity.

One member has stepped forward to run for this critical position. That is Bob Mitchell. You will receive a ballot by separate mailing to allow all members, those who subscribe to the **ORDER BOARD** and those who do not, to vote.

CARLA MITCHELL PASSES

For those of you who know our beloved Bob Mitchell it is sad to report that his wife Carla passed way this past March. I know that all of the members of the Cajon Division are thinking of Bob and his family in their thoughts and prayers.

– Carl Heimbueger

**2007 PSR CONVENTION
COPPER TRAILS - SILVER RAILS
2007 PSR CONVENTION
SEPTEMBER 5 TO 9, 2007
TUCSON, ARIZONA**

**GREETINGS FROM THE
CONVENTION CHAIRMEN**

By: Rick Wheeler & Richard Dick, Co-Chairmen

It's 2007, and before long, the "Copper Trails ~ Silver Rails" 2007 PSR Convention will be here. We've arranged for a great place to stay and hold the convention, the Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites. The rooms are very nice suites and the hotel has all the amenities! The clinics, contests and other convention activities will be held at the hotel. The Sheraton Hotel & Suites is located in a quiet area of town and is very near a good medical facility and good shopping and dining. The committee encourages you to register at the hotel as this helps to offset the cost of the meeting rooms.

Be sure to check the special website the Sheraton has prepared for us, as this is the website to get our convention rate. Use:

www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=0609255077&key=EA6B0

- or - call the Reservations number: 1-(800) 325-3535. The hotel direct number is (520) 323-6262.

FEATURES

PROTOTYPE TOUR

The prototype tour will feature intermodal shipping, rail car repair and concrete tie manufacturing facilities.

- **Arizona Railcar** (a small A.A.R. certified car shop), **Port of Tucson**, and **L. B. Foster Company**

Hardhats will be supplied where needed. Solid toed sturdy foot-ware is required on this tour. No open toed shoes or sneakers will be permitted.

Please also note that cameras and cell phones are not allowed on the L. B. Foster Company property. Please observe this restriction.

SPECIAL INTEREST TOUR

- **ASARCO Mineral Discovery Center**

MODELING WITH THE MASTERS

- Open Car Loads [HO & N]
- Introduction to Casting & Mold Making [O, S, HO, N]
- Introduction to Styrene [HO & N]

CLINICS

Prototype

- Riding the rods over Tehachapi
- Santa Fe Heavy Weight Business Cars
- A View From the Cab
- SP Operations in Arizona's Copper Country

Modeling

- Essential Equipment for Airbrushing
- Modeling in Foam
- Cactus Country - how to make it that way
- The Lincoln Funeral Train
- Almost 50 years of modeling tips and ideas
- How to build and detail passenger cars
- The Care and Service of N & HO Scale Locos
- Making Realistic Pine Trees
- Making Plastic Look Like Wood
- The Rolling Characteristics of Freight Car Trucks
- Sky, Clouds & Trees – easy techniques for backdrops (Two parts)

DCC Topics

- Comparison of Sound Decoders
- Making Commercial turnouts operate reliably & DCC Friendly
- How do I get the sound out?
- DCC is Fun!

Insurance & Estate Planning

- You can't take it with you!

SPECIAL OPERATING SESSIONS

- Gorden Geiger – Scale :HO & HOn3, River City & Western, N. Central Tucson
- Gary Gutierrez – Scale: HO, S. P. Miami Branch (Digitrax DCC powered), N.E. Tucson
- Paul Chandler – Scale: HO, Southern Pacific R.R., N. Tucson

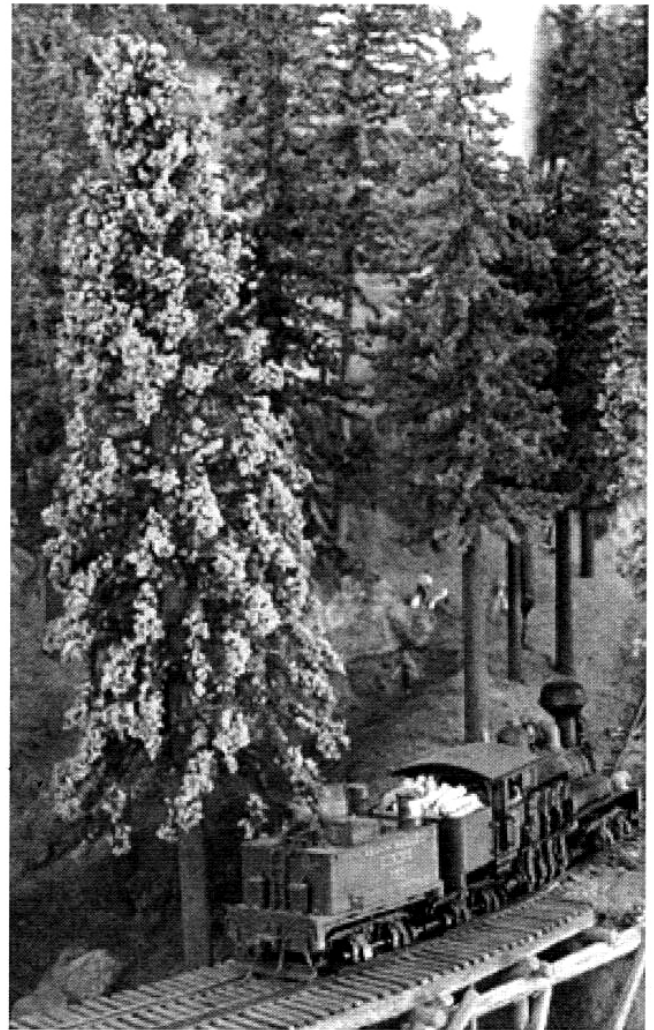
LAYOUT TOURS

- Arizona & Southern Model Railway Society, Modular layout At the Hotel, Scale: N
- Tom Compton, Scale: HO, AZ Stormy & Southwestern, J6 Ranch (Benson)
- Dave Cristofani, Scale: Lionel, Toy Train Fun, SaddleBrooke

- Gadsden Pacific Toy Train Operating Museum, Scale: N, HO, Am. Flyer, Lionel, G, W. Tucson
- George Feltovic, MMR, Scale: O (2 rail) Traction New Haven, N.Y. & W R.R. Central Tucson
- Rick Wheeler, Scale: Sn3, Rio Gande Southern SaddleBrooke
- Gary Copus, Scale: N, Central Tucson
- Bob Heslinga, Scale: HO Trolleys, The Sun Tran Demonstration Project, SW Tucson
- Raymond Taylor, Scale: O & On30, Turtle Creek R.R. Benson
- Bob Knoll, Scale: N, Consolidated Copperstate Lines, Gila Subdivision, N.E. Tucson
- Ron Kuykendall, Scale: HO, HOn3, Sn3, Western Eclectic N.W. Tucson
- Gary & Peggy Martin, Scale: 1:22.5 Garden, Eagle Mountain R.R. N. Central Tucson
- Brian Miller, Scale: Lionel, O, Central Tucson
- Arliss Powell, Scale: HO, Crekin' & Akin R.R. West Tucson
- Southern Arizona Society of Model Engineers, Tucson & Southwestern R.R., Central Tucson, Scale: HO & HOn3

FROM BOB MITCHELL'S LAYOUT

See this application of *Perfect Pines* and others at the Division Get Together at Bob Mitchell's home on June 16th.



FOR COMPLETE CONVENTION INFORMATION:

www.trainnet.org/newsletters.html

SUPPORT FIRMS WHICH HELP THE DIVISION

The following firms have supported us through donations for our fund raisers. Please remember them when you visit your local hobby shop.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Accurail Inc. | Kadee Quality Products |
| A-Line | LARC |
| Athearn | Malfunction Junction |
| Aztec Manufacturing | Hobbies |
| Bar Mills | Micro Engineering Company |
| Bowser Manufacturing | Microscale Products |
| Blair Line | Midwest Products Co., Inc. |
| Centerline Products | Northeastern Scale Lumber |
| Circuitron | OK Engine Company |
| Classic Metal Works | Perfect Pines |
| Design Preservation Models | RAM Track |
| Evergreen Scale Models | Tomar Industries |
| Hudman Publishing | Walthers |
| Intermountain Railway Company | Woodland Scenics |
| | Xuron Corporation |

**Do you know someone
who will purchase an ad?**

Contact Bob Mitchell
perfectpines@coastinet.com
 951-440-9729

NMRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - PSR

Please accept my application for new or renewal membership in the National Model Railroad Association,
including membership in the **Pacific Southwest Region** and my local **Cajon Division**.

New Renewal NMRA # _____

Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip code _____
 E-mail _____ Birth date _____ Scale(s) _____
 Phone _____ Occupation _____

Circle your choices for NMRA membership.	One Year	Two Years	Total
NMRA membership including all rights and privileges including NMRA <i>Scale Rails</i>	\$48.00	\$96.00	_____
NMRA membership including all rights and privileges except NMRA <i>Scale Rails</i>	36.00	72.00	_____
<i>Pacific Southwest Region Dispatch</i> subscription (NMRA membership required)	8.00	16.00	_____
Family membership (spouse or minor child of NMRA member in good standing, no <i>Scale Rails</i> or voting privileges) Name _____ Date of Birth _____	7.00	14.00	_____
Student membership including all rights and privileges including NMRA <i>Scale Rails</i> (any person 18 years of age or under or a student under the age of 26 years with valid student ID)	24.00	48.00	_____
Sustaining member including all rights and privileges including NMRA <i>Scale Rails</i> (mandatory for group membership such as clubs, associations, and businesses)	96.00	192.00	_____
Total Dues and Subscription Payment Enclosed			_____

Check payable to **PSR-NMRA** VISA MC Discover Am Ex Card # _____
 Name on card _____ Expiration date _____

Mail application and payment to: Bob Mitchell, 21460 Walnut Street, Wildomar, CA 92595

The Cajon Division, Inc.
c/o Bob Mitchell
21460 Walnut Street
Wildomar, CA 92595

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Mailing Label Goes Here